Corrections Offender Housing

Mission

To protect public safety and promote offender rehabilitation through the maintenance of safe, secure correctional facilities.

Summary of Activities

The **Department of Correction** (DOC) currently houses 18,401 adult male felons. Of these offenders, 16,682 are housed in one of 24 prison facilities located around the state. Another 953 are housed on a contractual basis in out-of-state private sector prison beds, while 1,166 are in county jails. Counties are reimbursed for the cost of housing state prisoners, at a rate of $35 per day. The adult female population is 1,271, of which 66 are in county jails.

40% of adult offenders are incarcerated for crimes against other persons. 23% have been convicted of property crimes, with another 19% incarcerated for substance abuse violations. 20% of offenders are housed in maximum security prisons, 70% in medium security, and 10% in minimum security facilities. Indiana also maintains a "super-maximum" facility for the most violent offenders.

At their time of incarceration, 29% of offenders have sentences with lengths of 1-2 years, 19% at 2-5 years, 29% at 5-10 years, 7% at 10-15 years, 9% at 15-20 years, and 20% at 20 years and over. There are currently 44 offenders assigned to Indiana Death Row.. There are also currently 61 males under the age of 18 housed in adult facilities. The average age of an adult male offender is 33 years.

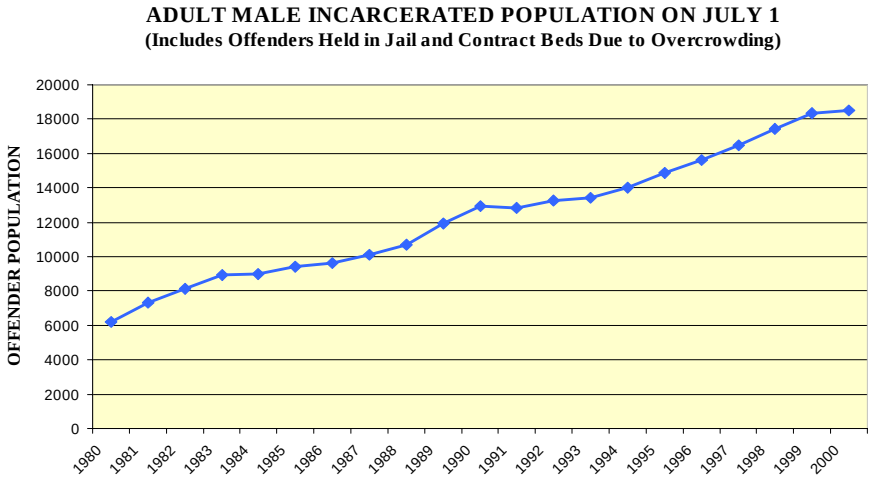
The DOC Central Office provides a number of coordinating services for Indiana's correctional system. It is responsible for assigning offenders to the most appropriate facility and program, as well as maintaining offender records and scheduling offender release. Offenders are placed in the least restrictive appropriate security levels for the protection of the public and offenders. Using modern equipment, technology, and techniques, DOC staff are prepared for handling disturbances, high-risk offenders, and the care of staff in high-stress situations. Through the efficient transfer and movement of offenders, the DOC ensures that housing facility resources are maximized.

External Factors

The number of adult offenders housed by the DOC has increased from 6,426 in 1980 to 19,874 today, an increase of 209%. As these trends continue, greater expenditures are required to build new prisons and provide guards and other prison personnel. The most recent long-term population forecast indicates by July 1, 2009, population levels will be:

Adult Males 23,170
(3,042 over rated capacity)
Adult Females 1,645
(522 over rated capacity)

Contributing factors to this increase include better law enforcement techniques, longer statutory prison sentences, and an increased emphasis on incarceration for persons convicted of certain crimes.



Evaluation and Accomplishments

Despite the ever increasing offender population, the DOC has been able achieve great success in maintaining the safety of the public, staff, and offenders. It has maintained a low number of escapes and a low number of major disturbances. In fact, the Special Emergency Response Team (SERT) has not been activated for a major disturbance in the current biennium. The DOC is working to establish performance measurements regarding the safety of offenders and staff.

Plans for the Biennium

1. Implement a new pay scale for adult offenders.
2. Continue to employ private sector companies to supplement DOC bed count.
3. Classify offenders to the proper security levels in order to maximize public safety.
4. Research the feasibility of private sector alternatives to transport offenders.
5. Continue to train and prepare emergency response teams.
6. Identify a facility at each classification level to implement a Youth Incarcerated as Adults Program. Identified facilities will create a plan to separate affected population for programming and housing.

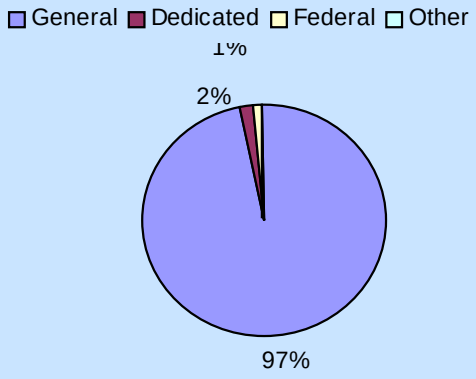
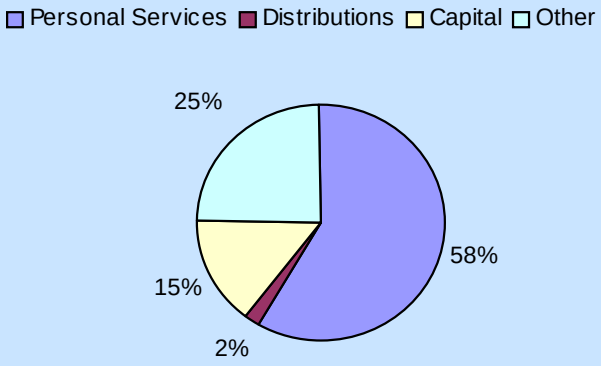
Special Initiatives

Miami Correctional Facility Phase II, $26.6 million annually. The completion of the Miami Correctional Facility will add 1,632 beds to the DOC for the incarceration of adult males. The total cost of operations, including Phase I, will be approximately $53 million. Average daily per-offender costs will be $47.52, less than comparable private correctional facility costs of $48.21 (CCA Marion County). The staffing ratio will be maintained at 3:1.

New Castle Correctional Facility, $34.1 million annually. The DOC is building an intensive treatment facility that will house 1,868 offenders and create a therapeutic substance abuse community. It will contain elements of the Department's Sex Offender management and Monitoring Program, and also house the Department's Special Needs (assisted living, hospice, infirmary, and mental health) populations.

Program: 0410	FY 1999	FY 2000	FY 2001	FY 2002	FY 2003
Appropriation (All Funds)	$356,353,136	$418,340,025	$436,346,100	$499,415,125	$510,984,275
Expenditures	$380,114,624	$440,864,464	$471,347,896		

Sources of Funds
FY 2001 (Approp)



Uses of Funds
FY 2001 (Approp)