



# RI Office of Management and Budget Performance Report

RI Department of Corrections

April 11, 2013

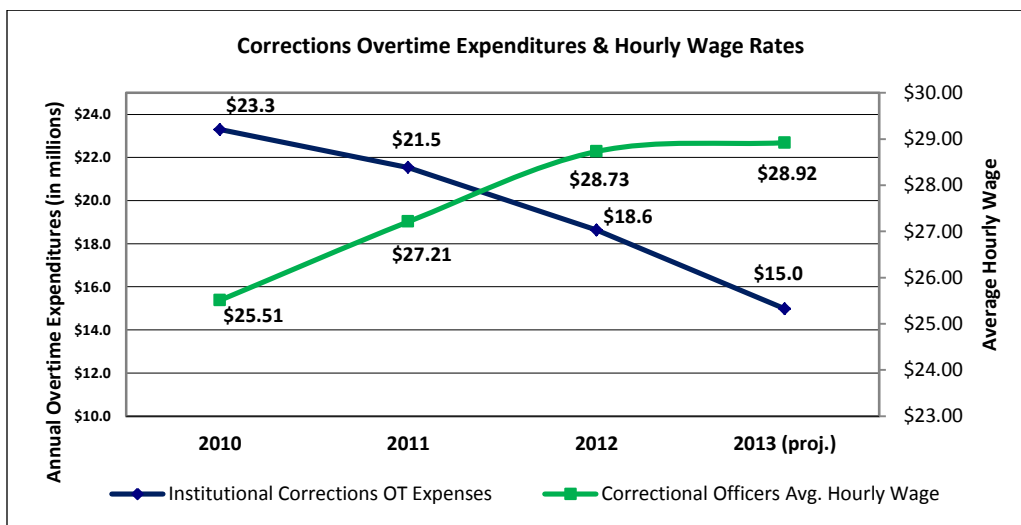
## Corrections Budget – Fiscal Year 2013

Expenditures for the Rhode Island Department of Corrections (RIDOC) in FY 2013 are primarily funded from general revenue (93.5 percent), with federal funds, restricted receipts and operating transfers accounting for 6.5 percent. RIDOC’s largest category of expenditure is personnel (86.3 percent) followed by operating expenses (7.9 percent) and capital purchases (5.2 percent). The tables below illustrate budgeted expenditures in FY 2013.<sup>1</sup>

Source	Amount	Percentage
General Revenue	\$184,546,757	93.5%
Federal Funds	3,034,940	1.5%
Restricted Receipts	73,362	0.0%
Operating Transfers	9,723,190	4.9%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$197,378,249</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Category	Amount	Percentage
Personnel	\$170,387,873	86.3%
Operating Supplies & Expenses	15,558,073	7.9%
Assistance & Grants	1,193,908	0.6%
Capital Purchases & Equipment	10,238,395	5.2%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$197,378,249</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

RIDOC projects \$15.0 million in general revenue expenditures for overtime in FY 2013.<sup>2</sup> Because overtime is a significant component of personnel costs, RIDOC has been working to decrease overtime usage among correctional officers. RIDOC has reduced overtime expenditures from \$23.3 million in FY 2010 to a projected \$15.0 million in FY 2013 – a decline of 35.7 percent. This reduction is noteworthy in light of the 13.4 percent increase in the average hourly wage rate of correctional officers during that period, from \$25.51 in FY 2010 to an estimated \$28.92 in FY 2013. The graph below illustrates the reduction in overtime expenditures in RIDOC’s budget and the change in average hourly wages. The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) will continue to work with RIDOC to improve overtime management, including enhancements to data collection and analysis.



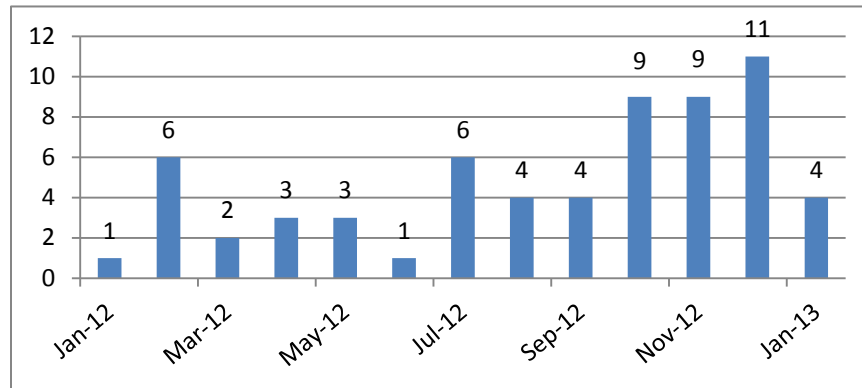
<sup>1</sup> Budget data are based on Governor Chafee’s FY 2013 revised budget request, submitted January 16, 2013. Additional budget information for RIDOC is available at [http://www.budget.ri.gov/Documents/CurrentFY/BudgetVolumeIV/2\\_Department%20of%20Corrections.pdf](http://www.budget.ri.gov/Documents/CurrentFY/BudgetVolumeIV/2_Department%20of%20Corrections.pdf).

<sup>2</sup> For this analysis, RIDOC’s overtime expenditures are defined as those associated with Institutional Corrections operations that are funded by general revenue. FY 2013 Overtime expenditures based on projections at the close of the third fiscal quarter (March 31, 2013).

## INMATE CLASSIFICATION

This measure assesses any delays in the inmate classification process and the transfer of classified inmates to the sentenced facilities, as defined under RI General Laws 42-56-29.

Figure A: Number of Inmates Not Classified Within 120 Days of Sentencing



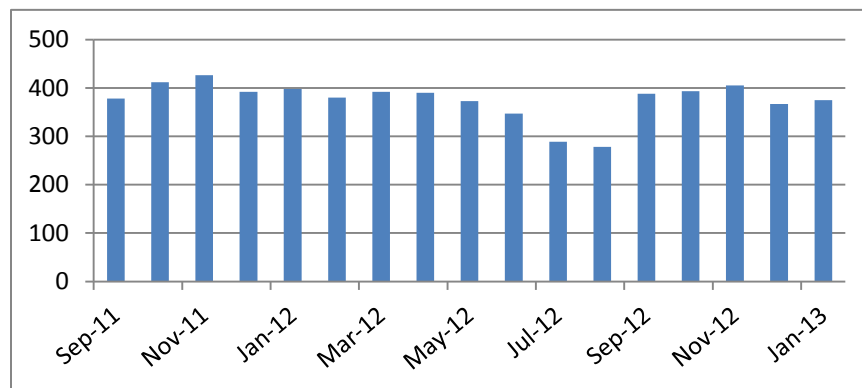
### Key Points:

- RIDOC was previously involved in a federal lawsuit over the conditions of inmate confinement. It was noted that newly sentenced inmates were being held for long periods of time at the Intake Service Center before they were classified and sent to a sentenced facility.
- This measure and data are under review, as technicalities in the definition of “classified” status can skew the numbers.

## EDUCATION SERVICES

This measure reflects the level of program participation for education programs in the Department of Corrections. These programs are intended to prepare inmates for reintegration into the community with improved skill sets.

Figure B: Number of Inmates Enrolled in Academic Programming



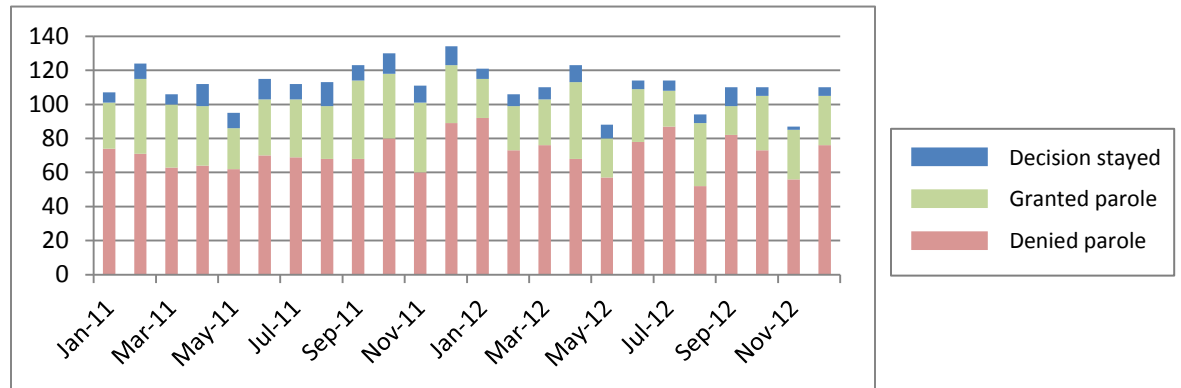
### Key Points:

- All inmates with educational attainment of “some high school” or “less than ninth grade” are determined to have an educational need because they lack a diploma.
- As of March 2013, 47.3 percent of sentenced inmates did not have a high school diploma or a GED.

## PAROLE BOARD

The Parole Board conducts hearings where members evaluate eligible inmates for possible release on parole into the community. Meetings are held on a monthly basis and aggregated annually.

Figure C: Total Number of Parole Board Hearings



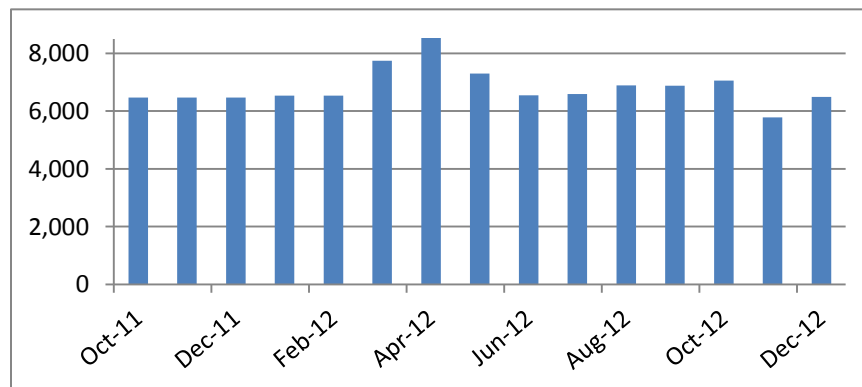
### Key Points:

- In general, the Board is authorized by statute (R.I.G.L. § 13-8-1 et seq.) to consider the early release of incarcerated offenders who have been sentenced to be imprisoned for a period of more than six months and who have served not less than one-third of the term for which they have been sentenced.
- Since January 2011, 28.6 percent of hearings have resulted in the granting of parole.

## VICTIM NOTIFICATION SYSTEM

RIDOC uses the voluntary Victim Notification System (VINES) to inform victims about the status of certain offenders. Victims may inquire about a particular individual through the phone line or the VINES website.

Figure D: Number of Inquiries into VINES



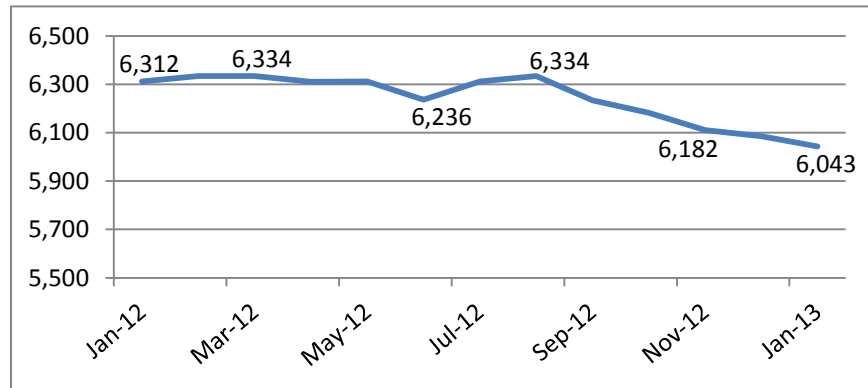
### Key Points:

- VINES provides registered users notice of a particular inmate's release upon completion of sentence, upcoming parole hearings, inmate escape, return from escape, death, transfer to transitional housing, qualification for work release, transfer to an out-of-state-facility, and furlough. Other notifications may be added in the future.
- To register for VINES notifications, call (877) RI-4-VINE or log onto [www.vinelink.com](http://www.vinelink.com)

## ADULT PROBATION

In addition to the 3,200 inmates located on the grounds of the Pastore Center, the Department oversees more than 25,000 adult probation offenders that are based in the community.

Figure E: Number of Offenders on Probation



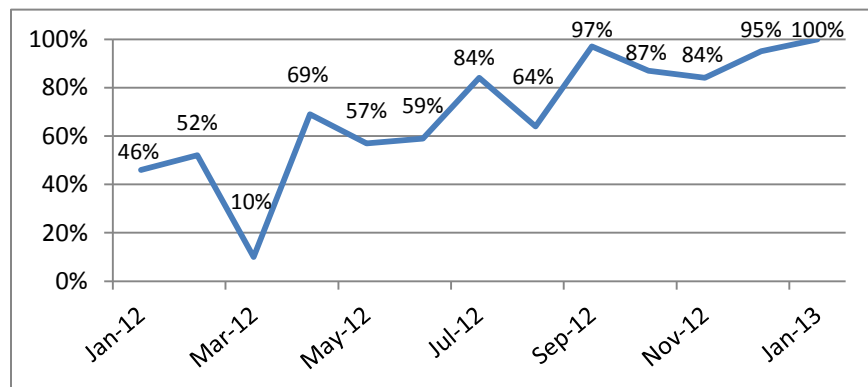
### Key Points:

- The number of offenders on probation affects caseload ratios, measured by the average number of offenders overseen by one probation officer.
- The Department has had a history of high caseloads but has brought averages down over the last several years. This improvement was driven by a reduction in the number of offenders as well as caseload management techniques that moved some offenders to lower levels of supervision when appropriate.

## FIELD VISITS

In addition to the individuals on probation and parole, the Department oversees the Community Confinement program.

Figure F: Percentage of Home Confinees Receiving at Least One Field Visit per Month



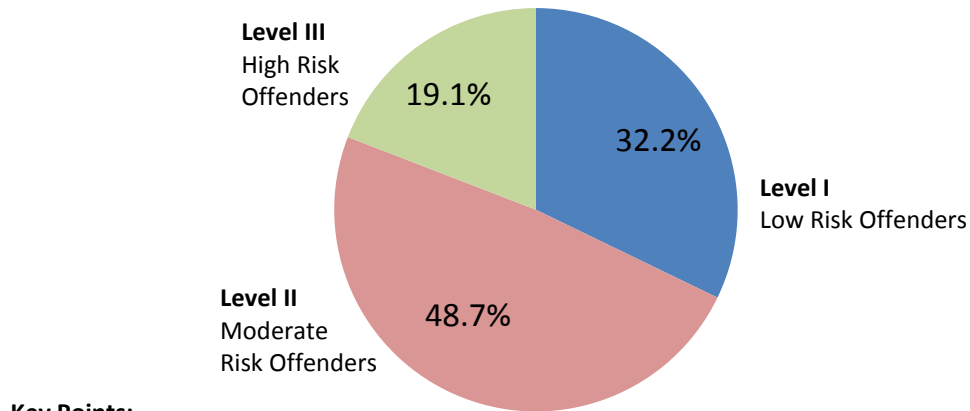
### Key Points:

- Community Confinement is a community-based program that provides an alternative to placement in the Adult Correctional Institutions (ACI). The District, Superior and Family Courts may order home confinement for selected inmates who pose a manageable risk to the community and require structured supervision.
- The Department expects that more frequent visits to home confinees will ensure compliance with conditions set by the Court.

## SEX OFFENDER CLASSIFICATION

The Sex Offender Board of Review examines those inmates convicted of sex offenses who are being released from RIDOC. The Board assigns a level that determines statutory notification requirements.

Figure G: Classification Levels of Rhode Island Sex Offenders Released (June 2012 – January 2013)



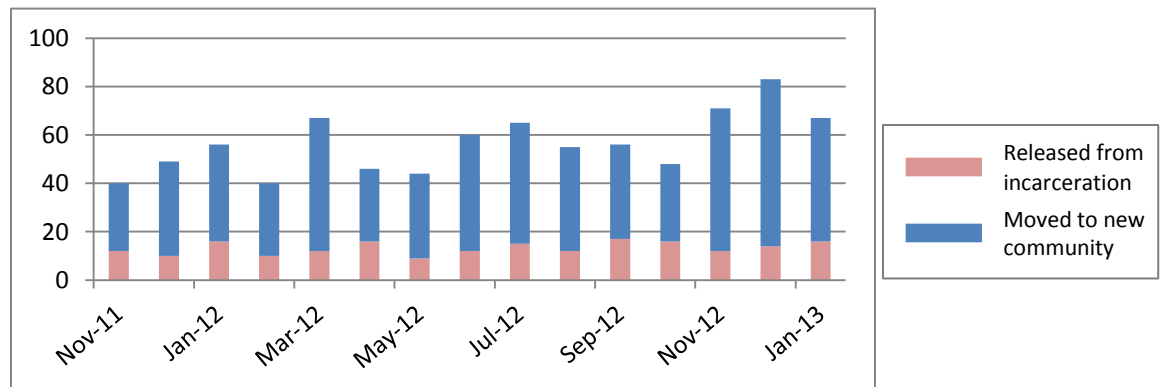
### Key Points:

- According to Rhode Island statute, the level assigned by the Board is associated with an offender's risk level and indicates what type of communication with the public is required upon release.

## SEX OFFENDER COMMUNITY NOTIFICATIONS

Notifications indicate the number of sex offenders determined to be a Level II or Level III, and information is sent to local police departments. Notifications help make the public aware when offenders move into their community.

Figure H: Number of Sex Offender Community Notifications Completed



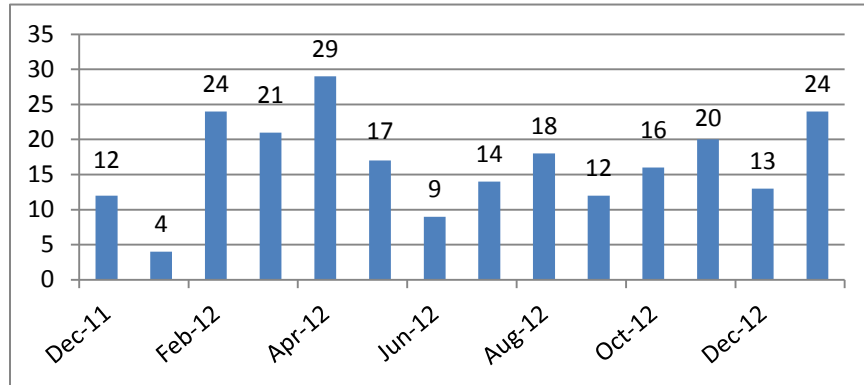
### Key Points:

- In addition to these notifications, a listing of Rhode Island Level II and Level III sex offenders is available at <http://www.paroleboard.ri.gov>
- In the past, RIDOC tracked only community notifications for individuals being released from incarceration (shown in red). In November 2011, RIDOC began tracking notifications for offenders moving from one community to another (shown in blue).

## INMATE FIGHTING

Alongside other data, this measure can reflect inmate climate within the institutions. RIDOC seeks to maintain a safe environment and minimize violence.

Figure I: Number of Inmate-on-Inmate Fights



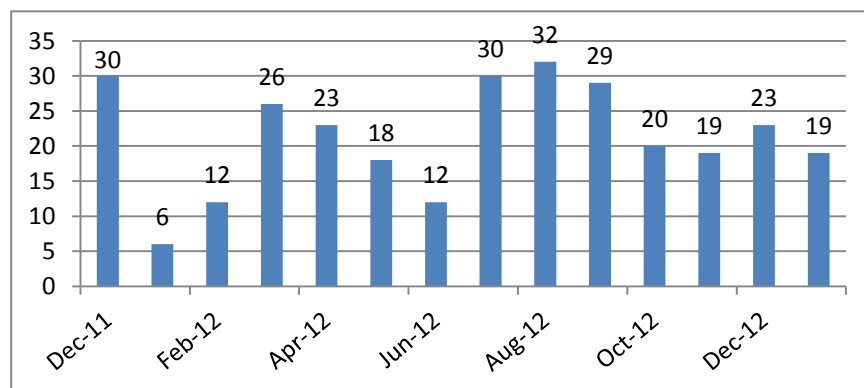
### Key Points:

- RIDOC works to minimize the likelihood of violence through prison management techniques, including identifying gang or other enemy issues and classifying inmates to the appropriate level of security.

## USE OF FORCE ON INMATES

Alongside other data, this measure can reflect inmate climate within the institutions. RIDOC seeks to maintain a safe environment and minimize violence.

Figure J: Number of Instances Requiring Immediate Use of Force



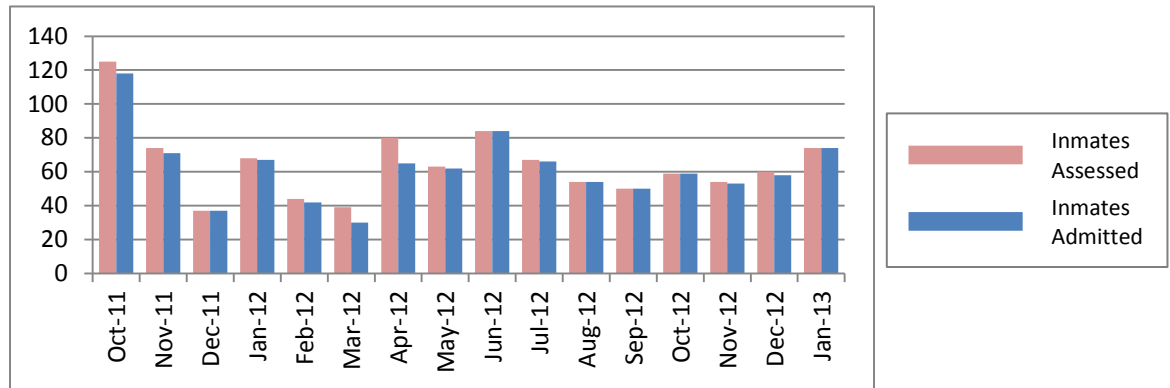
### Key Points:

- The use of force within RIDOC's institutions is guided by the Department's use of force policy and U.S. Supreme Court requirements. Under these terms, correctional officers may use only the amount of force necessary to restore order.

## SUBSTANCE ABUSE

Comprehensive substance abuse assessments analyze an inmate’s need for treatment services. This measure, when considered along with risk and need data, ensures that treatment slots are being used appropriately for those in need.

Figure K: Number of Inmates Receiving Substance Abuse Assessment and Treatment



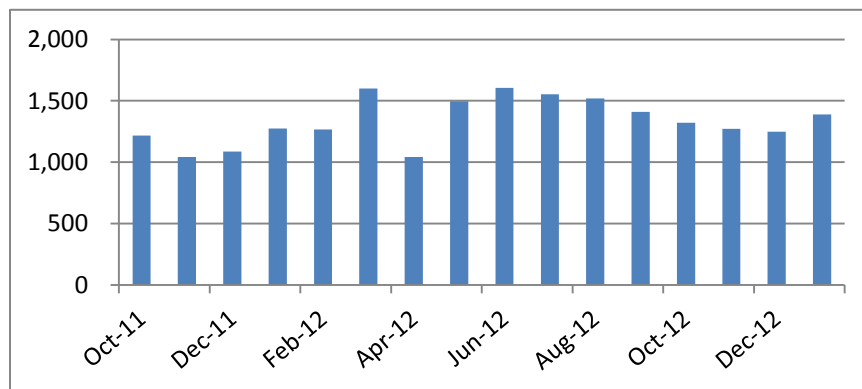
**Key Points:**

- Since October 2011, of the 1,032 inmates assessed as needing substance abuse services, 990 (95.9%) were admitted for treatment.

## PHYSICIAN ENCOUNTERS

RIDOC provides medical services to inmates via department staff and contracted providers.

Figure L: Number of Physician Encounters per Month



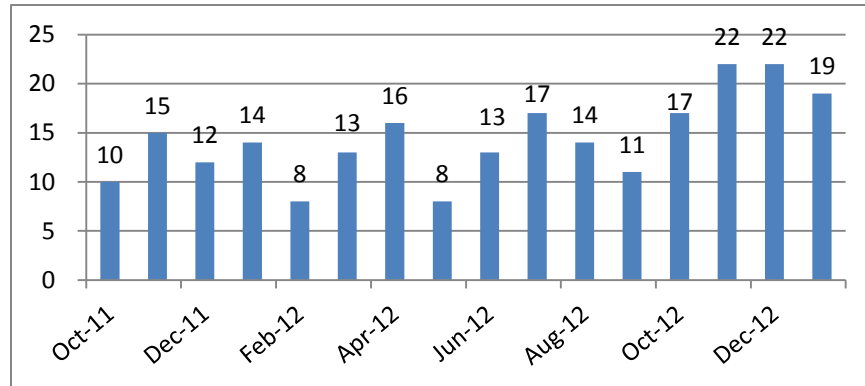
**Key Points:**

- The data above illustrate the number of inmate encounters with physicians or physician assistants in a given month.
- RIDOC uses this measure to determine its responsiveness to the health needs of inmates. Early intervention by medical providers can reduce costs incurred through inmate hospitalization and emergency room usage.

## HOSPITAL ADMISSIONS

Hospital level care is a significant cost to the Department as it involves supervision and medical treatment costs.

Figure M: Number of Hospital Admissions



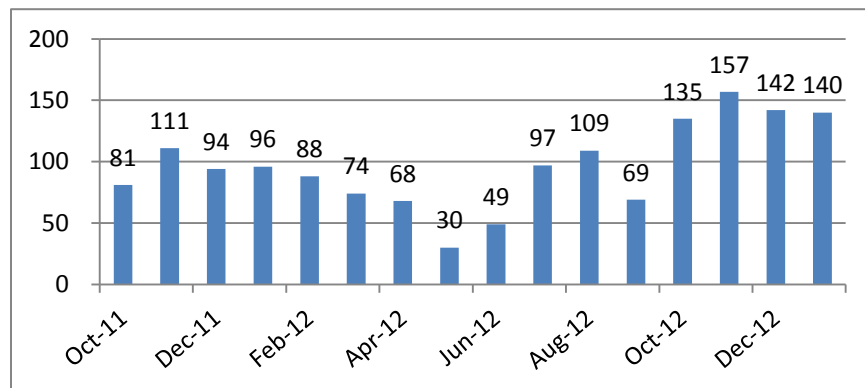
### Key Points:

- RIDOC aims to reduce inmate hospitalization through early intervention in health services when appropriate.
- RIDOC tracks this measure and analyzes patient data to determine the reason for any increases – whether from greater hospitalization by multiple inmates or intensive use by a few inmates.

## HOSPITAL DAYS

Variations in the number of hospital-level care days is partially indicative of the health of the inmate population.

Figure N: Number of Hospital Days



### Key Points:

- RIDOC aims to reduce inmate hospitalization through early intervention in health services when appropriate.
- RIDOC tracks this measure and analyzes patient data to determine the reason for any increases – whether from greater hospitalization by multiple inmates or intensive use by a few inmates.



## PERFORMANCE HIGHLIGHT

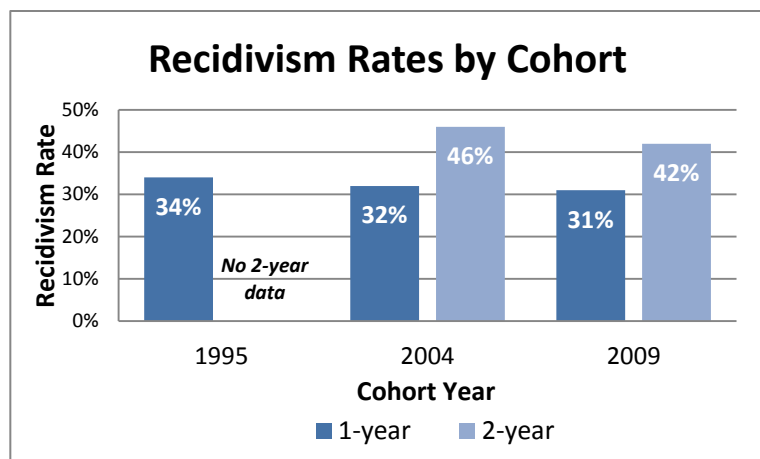
### Recidivism Reduction

#### Improving Rehabilitation of Offenders

The RIDOC's mission includes providing "a range of control and rehabilitative options for criminal offenders." Providing appropriate treatment and services to offenders decreases the likelihood that they will commit additional offenses after release, known in criminal justice as "recidivating." Reducing the state's recidivism rate improves the safety of our communities and saves taxpayer dollars by reducing costs associated with incarceration.

#### Recidivism Rates Declining in Recent Years

RIDOC assesses recidivism rates by cohort – examining all offenders released in a single year and then tracking their progress over a period of time. RIDOC has examined three release cohorts from 1995, 2004 and 2009 to gauge recidivism rates.<sup>3</sup> In 1995, 34 percent of ex-offenders returned to RIDOC's facilities within one year – a rate that declined to 32 percent in 2004 and 31 percent in 2009. After two years, 46 percent of the 2004 cohort returned to custody, compared to only 42 percent in the 2009 cohort. While additional analysis is necessary, the four percentage point change between 2004 and 2009 suggests that RIDOC's efforts to provide better rehabilitative services are having a positive impact.



#### Plans for Additional Improvement

Building on recent progress, RIDOC has established aggressive targets for further reducing recidivism rates. One of the most effective ways to reduce recidivism is to provide offenders with access to the appropriate rehabilitation programs while ensuring that rehabilitation programs follow national best practices and provide the expected outcomes. In 2012, RIDOC was awarded \$800,000 in a Second Chance Act Recidivism Reduction Grant from the U.S. Department of Justice to improve reentry services and substantially reduce recidivism. This grant will help RIDOC improve service delivery so that medium- to high-risk offenders are targeted for the most intensive case management and programming services in prison and in the community. RIDOC expects to reduce recidivism rates by an additional 15 percent within two years of completion of the grant.

In April 2013, Rhode Island was selected to be a partner state in the Pew-MacArthur Results First Initiative, which helps states assess the costs and benefits of adult and juvenile justice programs and use that data in budget and policy planning to maximize results. As part of Results First, RIDOC will collaborate with the Department of Children, Youth and Families, OMB and other stakeholders to determine the most effective rehabilitation programs in reducing recidivism rates in Rhode Island.

<sup>3</sup> Of the three cohorts, only 2004 has three complete years of data. The 1995 cohort has data only from the first year after release; the 2009 cohort has two years of data through 2011, with the third year data under review. For more information about RIDOC's recidivism studies, please see <http://www.doc.ri.gov/administration/planning/docs/RIDOC%202009%20Recidivism%20Study%20Year%202.pdf>.