The Agency

Department of Corrections

Agency Operations

The Rhode Island Department of Corrections contributes to the protection of society by providing appropriate, safe, secure, and humane control of offenders, while actively assisting and encouraging offenders to become productive and law abiding members of the community.

Additionally, the Rhode Island State Parole Board is budgeted as a unit of the department, but has independent programmatic decision-making authority.

Collectively known as the Adult Correctional Institutions (ACI), there are eight separate, occupied facilities, which have a total current capacity of 3,922 beds. In FY 2004, the average institutionalized population was 3,554. The department also provides supervision of offenders in the community (home confinement, probation and parole). By the end of FY 2004, the number of probation and parole cases serviced totaled 27,015. The average number of offenders on home confinement was 311. Other major functions performed by the Department of Corrections include serving other state, municipal, and non-profit agencies through the Central Distribution Center, performance of all grounds maintenance activities at the Pastore Center and other public grounds, and operation of Correctional Industries, which provide work opportunities for inmates and services to governmental agencies and non-profit organizations, ranging from printing to modular workstation furniture construction and installation.

Agency Objectives

To operate a full and balanced correctional program which is consistent with public safety, reflects sound and progressive correctional policy, and is sensitive to the need for fiscal responsibility in the use of public resources.

Statutory History

R.I.G.L. 42-56 established the Department of Corrections as a department in 1972 and defines the department's role as both custodial and rehabilitative. Section 4 was amended in 1991 to reflect an internal reorganization. Sections 20.2 and 20.3 were amended in 1989 to authorize community confinement programs. The Parole Board is authorized under R.I.G.L. 13-8, and probation and parole services are authorized under R.I.G.L. 12-18. Parole supervision responsibilities, formally added in 1938 in R.I.G.L. 13-8-17. R.I.G.L. 42-26-13 establishes the Criminal Justice Oversight Committee to maintain several facilities within their respective population capacities. Victim Services is authorized under R.I.G.L. 12-28-3. Women's Transitional Housing is authorized under R.I.G.L. 42-56.20.5

The Budget

Department of Corrections

	FY 2003	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2006
	Actual	Actual	Revised	Recommended
Expenditures by Program				
Central Management	8,798,758	9,340,791	11,033,164	10,730,327
Parole Board	924,503	829,524	1,085,611	1,173,970
Institutional Corrections	122,865,496	126,819,996	136,931,094	136,094,286
Community Corrections	11,227,023	11,271,164	13,466,803	14,229,804
Internal Service Program	[11,521,591]	[12,145,689]	[13,216,551]	[13,560,549]
Total Expenditures	\$143,815,780	\$148,261,475	\$162,516,672	\$162,228,387
Expenditures By Object				
Personnel	127,947,997	131,582,140	135,680,681	135,106,379
Other State Operations	13,205,774	14,032,068	15,814,312	14,285,860
Aid To Local Units Of Government	-	-	-	-
Assistance, Grants and Benefits	1,303,215	1,275,862	1,309,009	1,159,009
Subtotal: Operating Expenditures	\$142,456,986	\$146,890,070	\$152,804,002	\$150,551,248
Capital Improvements	1,358,794	1,371,405	9,712,670	11,677,139
Capital Debt Service	-	-	-	-
Total Expenditures	\$143,815,780	\$148,261,475	\$162,516,672	\$162,228,387
Expenditures By Funds				
General Revenue	137,096,214	143,881,389	148,105,766	146,602,300
Federal Funds	3,127,232	1,800,396	10,860,192	9,308,564
Restricted Receipts	2,456,374	1,811,063	216,739	136,875
Other Funds	1,135,960	768,627	3,333,975	6,180,648
Total Expenditures	\$143,815,780	\$148,261,475	\$162,516,672	\$162,228,387
FTE Authorization	1,538.0	1,522.0	1,586.0	1,589.0
Agency Measures				
Minorities as a Percentage of the Workforce	11.9%	12.1%	12.3%	12.5%
_				
Females as a Percentage of the Workforce	22.8%	23.5%	24.0%	24.2%
Persons with Disabilities as a Percentage of			_	
the Workforce	0.9%	0.9%	0.9%	1.0%

Department of Corrections Central Management

Program Operations

The Central Management Program includes the Offices of Director, Legal Services, Internal Affairs, and Administration. Central Management is responsible for the overall direction and resource management of the Department of Corrections. The Office of Director provides leadership, executive-level decision making, and policy direction, and is responsible for media affairs and public relations. The Office of Legal Services provides legal representation and consultation for the Director, administrators, and other employees of the department in a variety of cases. The Office of Internal Affairs monitors departmental activities to ensure the system functions with integrity and legality.

Administration includes all resource management functions of the department. Financial Resources provides central budgeting, procurement, accounting, inventory management activities, and management of inmate accounts to hold personal funds received by an inmate in trust. Human Resources handles all labor relations, personnel, payroll, and training and staff development functions, including recruitment and screening activities relating to the correctional officer pre-service training program. Management Information Services supervises departmental recordkeeping functions, oversees the continued development and maintenance of a comprehensive, computerized data collection and retrieval system, and serves as the department's liaison to the statewide Justice Link Program. Planning and Research conducts program development, research, and evaluation, and the Policy Unit is responsible for the development of internal policies and the analysis of policy issues. Logistical and materials management is the responsibility of the Physical Resources Unit within Central Management.

Program Objectives

To establish the overall direction of departmental policy, and work with the other branches of government and criminal justice agencies in identifying and implementing a sound and progressive correctional policy for Rhode Island; set and administer standards that will qualify the department for accreditation by the American Correctional Association and other relevant review bodies; and develop and coordinate the most expeditious and efficient management controls over information and resource support activities to correctional programs.

Statutory History

R.I.G.L. 42-56 establishes the position of Director of the Department of Corrections, and broadly defines the responsibilities of the Director (R.I.G.L. 42-56-10). Section 4 identifies the specific functions of the Administration Division. R.I.G.L. 12-19-23.1 and 23.2 authorizes the use of intermediate punishments as a sentencing option. R.I.G.L. 42-56-39 requires the attachment of a prison impact statement to legislative bills.

The Budget

Department of Corrections Central Management

	FY 2003	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2006
	Actual	Actual	Revised	Recommended
Expenditures By Subprogram				
Executive	1,413,260	1,497,016	1,744,784	1,894,589
Administration	7,385,498	7,843,775	9,288,380	8,835,738
Total Expenditures	\$ 8,798,758	\$ 9,340,791	\$11,033,164	\$10,730,327
Expenditures By Object				
Personnel	7,698,235	8,048,035	8,483,343	8,322,320
Other State Operations	1,100,073	1,290,308	2,526,364	2,384,550
Aid To Local Units Of Government	-	-	-	-
Assistance, Grants and Benefits	450	2,448	23,457	23,457
Subtotal: Operating Expenditures	\$8,798,758	\$9,340,791	\$11,033,164	\$10,730,327
Capital Improvements	-	-	-	-
Capital Debt Service	-	-	-	-
Total Expenditures	\$8,798,758	\$9,340,791	\$11,033,164	\$10,730,327
Expenditures By Funds				
General Revenue	8,770,470	9,245,518	10,580,897	10,422,167
Federal Funds	28,288	95,273	452,267	308,160
Total Expenditures	\$8,798,758	\$9,340,791	\$11,033,164	\$10,730,327
Program Measures	NA	NA	NA	NA

Department of Corrections Parole Board

Program Operations

Except for those cases prohibited by statute, the Parole Board evaluates and authorizes the conditional early release of inmates who have proven, by their behavior and actions while incarcerated that they are capable of returning to the community as law-abiding citizens to serve the remainder of their sentence. Eligibility for release, which is determined by the Department of Corrections, occurs when at least one third of the sentence has been served. The offender, for the remainder of the term of sentence, is subject to such terms and conditions as the board may prescribe. In FY 2004, the board granted parole in 481 cases and denied parole in 896 cases.

The Parole Board consists of a full-time Chair who serves a two-year term and six members who serve part time. While the Director of Corrections has general fiduciary responsibility for the board, the Parole Board is autonomous on parole decisions.

The Parole Board, through assigned support staff, conducts pre-parole investigations, compiles relevant information from the Adult Correctional Institutions, the Attorney General, and other sources, and maintains records of all parole board hearings and decisions. By statutory requirement, the Parole Board Chair is now responsible for administering a sex-offender community notification program. In FY 2004, the program made 228 referrals.

Program Objectives

To release to parole those incarcerated offenders for whom a community setting is a more appropriate and productive means of completing their sentence.

Statutory History

R.I.G.L. 13-8 establishes the Parole Board within the Department of Corrections and sets forth the duties and functions. Section 1 was amended in 1993 to provide a full-time Chair, expand the board's membership, and authorize the use of subcommittees. Section 23 mandates that both the state psychiatrist and psychological services provide findings and recommendations to the Parole Board. Legislation established the Parole Board in 1915. R.I.G.L. 11-37.1-15 creates a sex offender review board and requires that the Parole Board notify local enforcement agencies of the release or parole of certain sex offenders. R.I.G.L. 42-20-13 authorizes the Parole Board to use good behavior earned by inmates as a tool to reduce over-crowding as authorized by the Governor.

The Budget

Department of Corrections Parole Board

	FY 2003 Actual	FY 2004 Actual	FY 2005 Revised	FY 2006 Recommended
Expenditures By Object				
Personnel	825,459	732,957	964,570	1,072,652
Other State Operations	99,044	96,567	121,041	101,318
Aid To Local Units Of Government	-	-	-	-
Assistance, Grants and Benefits	-	-	-	-
Subtotal: Operating Expenditures	\$924,503	\$829,524	\$1,085,611	\$1,173,970
Capital Improvements	-	-	-	-
Capital Debt Service	-	-	-	-
Total Expenditures	\$924,503	\$829,524	\$1,085,611	\$1,173,970
Expenditures By Funds				
General Revenue	924,503	829,524	1,052,203	1,140,970
Federal Grants	-	-	33,408	33,000
Total Expenditures	\$924,503	\$829,524	\$1,085,611	\$1,173,970
Program Measures	NS	NS	NS	NS

Department of Corrections Institutional Corrections

Program Operations

The Institutional Corrections Program coordinates the day-to-day operations of the Adult Correctional Institutions (ACI). The ACI functions both as a prison system for offenders sentenced to incarceration and as a statewide jail facility for individuals awaiting trial or arraignment, and includes eight institutions providing the various security levels for both men and women. Each facility is managed by a warden and deputy wardens. Correctional Officer Captains, Correctional Officer Lieutenants, and Correctional Officers provide around the clock supervision of inmates. Facility administrators are responsible for security, as well as for the day-to-day program activities such as education, employment, counseling, and health care.

The program also includes a number of support units. Food Services oversee all food distribution and preparation. The Facilities and Maintenance Unit provides maintenance and repairs to departmental buildings. The Special Investigations and Securities Units oversee security methods and procedures, neutralize disturbances and assist with other contingencies (Tactical Team), and investigate breaches of inmate security. The Classification Unit determines the appropriate custody level and services for inmates, and provides case management services. Inmate Accounts serves as custodian of inmate funds, and the Inmate Commissary sells toiletries, non-prescription health care items, postage, and snack items to inmates. The Records and Identification Unit was moved into this program in FY 2001 from Central Management because the unit serves to support the institutions. Correctional Industries offers vocational training and meaningful work opportunities for inmates within the institutions. The program also is responsible for rehabilitative services. The Health Care unit provides medical, dental and mental health services to the inmate population. Other program services include educational and vocational training, drug treatment, sex-offender treatment, health education, conflict management training, and general reading and law libraries for use by prisoners.

Program Objectives

To maintain secure and humane custody and control of the inmate population to ensure the safety of staff, inmates, and the general public. To maintain a high level of readiness in the facilities in order to respond to disturbances and emergencies. To support the facilities and inmates with such necessities as food, maintenance, counseling, case management, investigative and other technical services. To provide vitally important rehabilitative services, such as health, education, counseling, and life skills/ re-entry training.

Statutory History

The declaration of policy in R.I.G.L. 42-56 establishes both the institutional custody and rehabilitative activities administered under this program. The State Marshals program was transferred to the Department of Administration in 2001. Authorization for inmate furloughs was established in 1976 under R.I.G.L. 42-56-18.

The Budget

Department of Corrections Institutional Corrections

	FY 2003	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2006
	Actual	Actual	Revised	Recommended
Expenditures by Subprogram				
Institutions	86,482,817	87,638,924	96,165,482	94,925,910
Support Operations	16,539,508	17,171,348	16,174,386	16,737,421
Institutional Rehabilitative Services	19,843,171	22,009,724	24,591,226	24,430,955
Total Expenditures	\$122,865,496	\$126,819,996	\$136,931,094	\$136,094,286
Expenditures By Object				
Personnel	108,665,670	112,058,226	113,372,748	112,131,595
Other State Operations	11,546,712	12,134,856	12,587,871	11,167,747
Aid To Local Units Of Government	-	-	-	-
Assistance, Grants and Benefits	1,294,320	1,255,509	1,267,805	1,117,805
Subtotal: Operating Expenditures	\$121,506,702	\$125,448,591	\$127,228,424	\$124,417,147
Capital Improvements	1,358,794	1,371,405	9,702,670	11,677,139
Capital Debt Service	-	-	-	-
Total Expenditures	\$122,865,496	\$126,819,996	\$136,931,094	\$136,094,286
Expenditures By Funds				
General Revenue	116,329,546	123,065,305	125,045,631	122,666,172
Federal Funds	2,943,616	1,175,001	8,334,749	7,110,591
Restricted Receipts	2,456,374	1,811,063	216,739	136,875
Other Funds	1,135,960	768,627	3,333,975	6,180,648
Total Expenditures	\$122,865,496	\$126,819,996	\$136,931,094	\$136,094,286
Program Measures				
Escapes, Attempted Escapes and Acts of Absconding per 1,000 Inmates in the Average Daily Population	3.4	6.8	3.3	3.3
Violent Incidents per 1,000 Inmates in the				
Average Daily Population	NA	18.2	18.2	16.0

Department of Corrections Community Corrections

Program Operations

The Community Corrections Program affords inmates the opportunity to participate in essential rehabilitative services in both their institutions and in the community at large. Like Institutional Custody, this program carries the dual mandate of promoting the rehabilitation of offenders while providing for the protection of the public. The program has two components:

Transitional Services: Programs focus on preparation of offenders for release into the community and support for the offender once released, including discharge planning and case management services. Program services include a Transitional Housing program for women as well as a victim notification program. Work has also begun on developing and constructing a Community Reintegration Center at the Pastore Center. This will be a 200-bed facility for sentenced males who are within six months of release, but who have not qualified for lower custody status or parole. **Community Corrections**: The Probation and Parole Unit provides supervision and services for those offenders who are under the jurisdiction of the court or Parole Board and are subject to certain requirements as a condition for remaining in the community, including special low-ratio supervision and service programs for domestic violence and sex offenders. The Community Confinement Unit supervises through electronic monitoring and other means non-violent offenders sentenced, classified, or paroled to community confinement, a structured alternative to institutional incarceration. Also included is a Risk Assessment Unit.

Program Objective

To provide a sufficient array of correctional services and programs that encourages and assists offenders in modifying their behavior to become productive, law-abiding citizens.

To provide sentencing options for selected inmates who pose a manageable risk to the community.

To provide the courts with accurate and comprehensive information to aid them in effective decision-making.

Statutory History

R.I.G.L. 42-56-1(2) and 10(11) establish the necessity of rehabilitative programs. R.I.G.L. 12-18 establish the probation and parole system. Community Confinement was established in 1989 under R.I.G.L. 42-56-20.2. Work Release was authorized in 1976 under R.I.G.L. 42-57-21. Victim Services is authorized under R.I.G.L. 12-28-3.

The Budget

Department of Corrections Community Corrections

	FY 2003	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2006
	Actual	Actual	Revised	Recommended
Expenditures by Subprogram				
Transitional Services	758,182	1,074,287	2,055,261	1,818,361
Community Corrections	10,468,841	10,196,877	11,411,542	12,411,443
Total Expenditures	\$11,227,023	\$11,271,164	\$13,466,803	\$14,229,804
Personnel	10,758,633	10,742,922	12,860,020	13,580,896
Other State Operations	459,945	510,337	579,036	631,161
Aid To Local Units Of Government	-	-	-	-
Assistance, Grants and Benefits	8,445	17,905	17,747	17,747
Subtotal: Operating Expenditures	\$11,227,023	\$11,271,164	\$13,456,803	\$14,229,804
Capital Improvements	-	-	10,000	-
Capital Debt Service	-	-	_	-
Total Expenditures	\$11,227,023	\$11,271,164	\$13,466,803	\$14,229,804
Expenditures By Funds				
General Revenue	11,071,695	10,741,042	11,427,035	12,372,991
Federal Funds	155,328	530,122	2,039,768	1,856,813
Total Expenditures	\$11,227,023	\$11,271,164	\$13,466,803	\$14,229,804
Program Measures				
Percentage of Closed Cases Successfully Completing Terms of Home Confinement	67.5%	71.5%	71.5%	71.5%

Department of Corrections Internal Service Programs

Program Operations

There are various services required by state-operated programs and activities, which are provided on a centralized basis. The costs of these operations are borne by the user agencies through a charge system, which allocates the costs of delivery of the goods or services. The operations of these programs are shown for display purposes only, since the costs are reflected in the budget of the user agency both on an actual and budget basis. Internal Service Programs operated by the Department of Corrections include the Central Distribution Center, Correctional Industries, and Pastore Center Telephone Operations.

The Central Distribution Center purchases and inventories food and a variety of cleaning, household, and office supplies for distribution to state institutions, other state and local governments, and non-profit agencies. Correctional Industries provides goods and services to other state, municipal, and non-profit entities to include printing, furniture restoration, license plate production, auto maintenance, clothing and linen production, grounds keeping, janitorial, office moving, and a variety of other services. Pastore Services Telephone Operations operates and maintains the Central Telephone System for all agencies at the Pastore Government Center, as well as memoranda of agreement with the Emergency Management Agency, Vocational Rehabilitation, Zambarano Hospital, and other state agencies on administrative and maintenance functions of certain Avaya switches.

Program Objective

To provide the most cost-effective delivery of goods and services to other state programs.

Statutory History

The Director of Administration is authorized by R.I.G.L. 35-5 to establish a system of rotary or rotating funds in any state department or agency. R.I.G.L. 35-5-8 and 9 identify services and procedures for the State General Store. R.I.G.L. 13-7-1, the State Use Law, allows prison-made goods and services to be sold to state agencies, municipalities and non-profit organizations.

The Budget

Department of Corrections Internal Service Programs

	FY 2003	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2006
	Actual	Actual	Revised	Recommended
Expenditures By Object				
Personnel	2,687,593	2,520,253	3,162,870	3,307,294
Other State Operations	8,566,083	9,102,508	9,556,954	9,624,058
Aid To Local Units Of Government	-	-	-	-
Assistance, Grants and Benefits	207,153	213,158	214,135	214,135
Subtotal: Operating Expenditures	\$11,460,829	\$11,835,919	\$12,933,959	\$13,145,487
Capital Improvements	-	88,399	40,062	48,062
Capital Debt Service	60,762	221,371	242,530	367,000
Total Expenditures	\$11,521,591	\$12,145,689	\$13,216,551	\$13,560,549
Expenditures By Funds				
Internal Service Funds	11,521,591	12,145,689	13,216,551	13,560,549
Total Expenditures	\$11,521,591	\$12,145,689	\$13,216,551	\$13,560,549
Program Measures	NA	NA	NA	NA