

Budget Brief – Utah Department of Corrections

EOCJ-UDC-01

SUMMARY

The Utah Department of Corrections (UDC) is responsible for the housing and rehabilitation of offenders. The UDC focuses on protecting the public by housing sentenced offenders and works to help these offenders become law-abiding citizens.

The Department of Corrections is also responsible for the following activities:

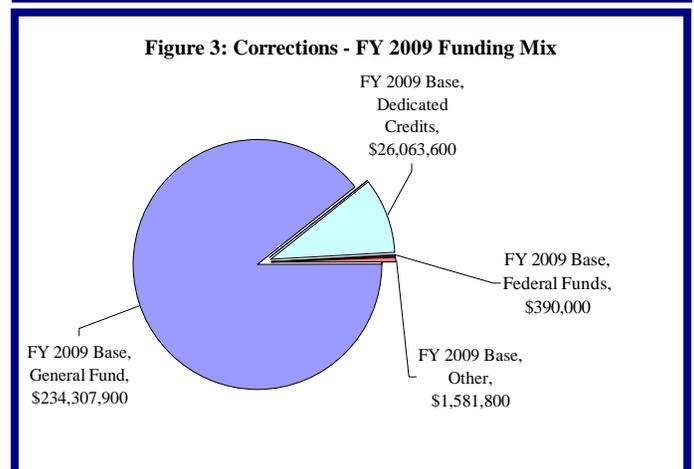
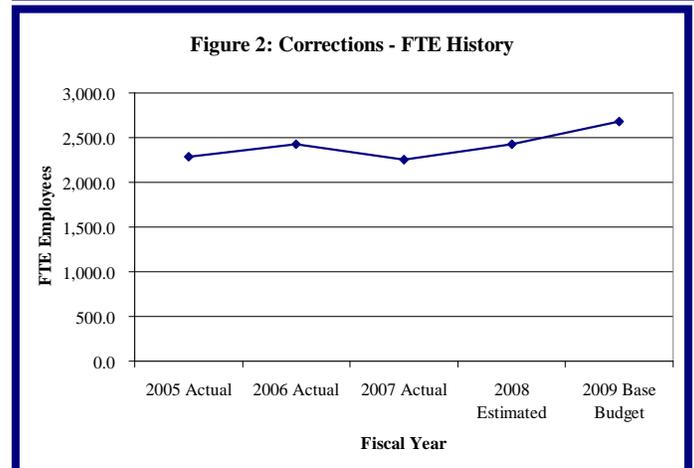
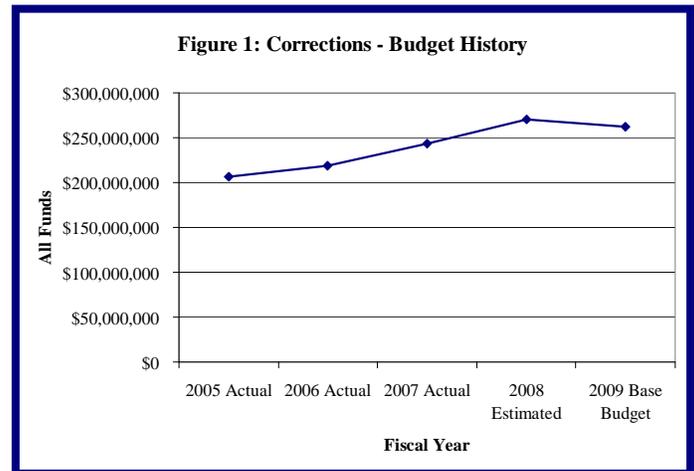
- State prison operations including rehabilitation programs such as substance abuse and sex offender treatment programs
- Supervision of probationers and parolees living in the community
- Prison Work Programs

ISSUES

Two issues are at the forefront of any discussion regarding the Department of Corrections: (1) Correctional Officer (CO) compensation/retention and (2) prison population growth.

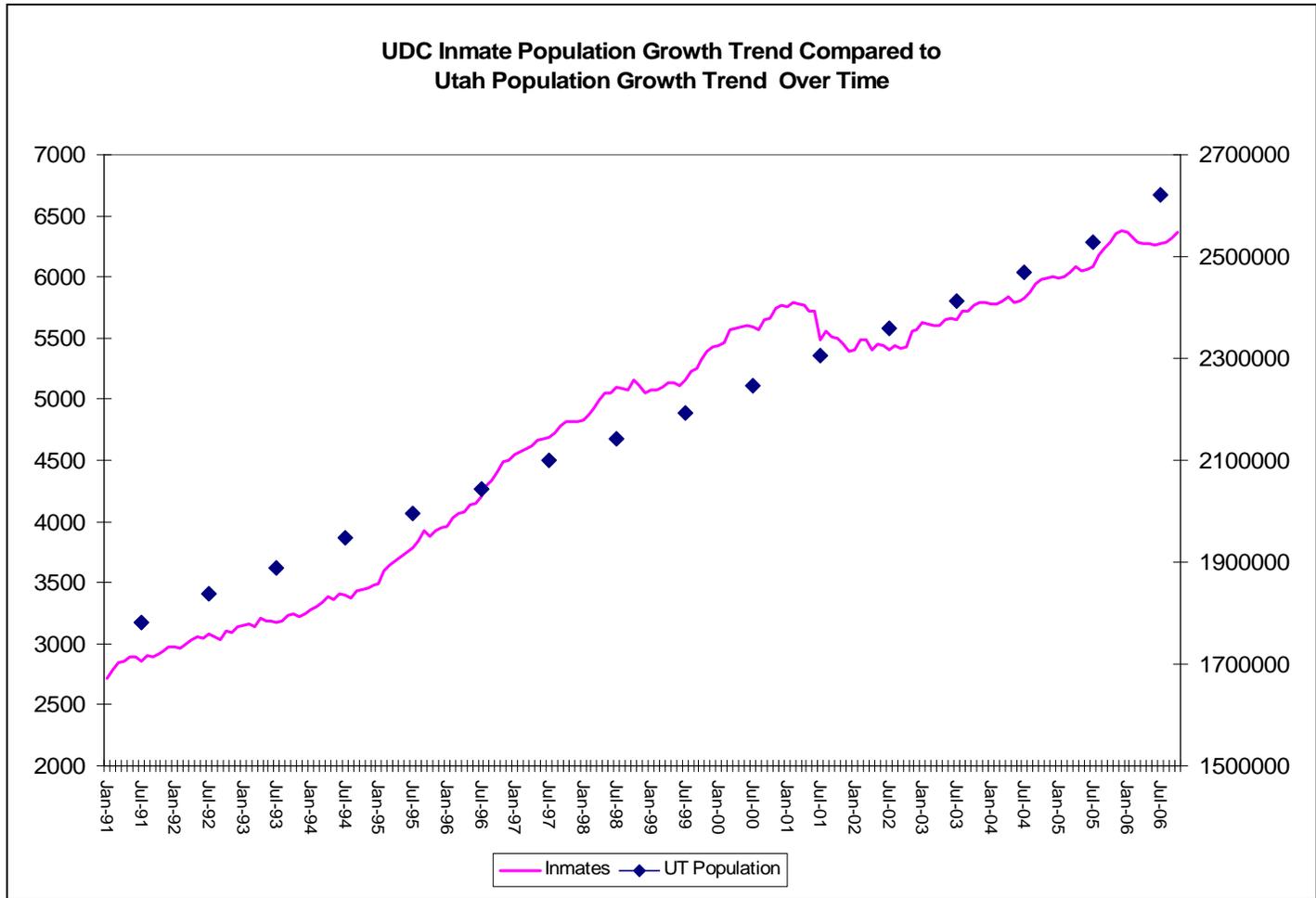
Correctional Officer Compensation/Retention

The Department has been concerned with Correctional Officer turnover rates for the past several years. According to the Department of Corrections there are 169 vacancies in the Corrections’ officer ranks (104 general vacancies and 65 who are on leave of absence) which is resulting in a disproportionate use of overtime, staff stress, and a reduction in the average total number of years of experience in their security force (75% of the workforce has 0 to 5 years average experience). The current starting wage salary for a CO is \$13.73 per hour. Average correctional officer pay is \$17.06 per hour. County Correctional Officers starting wages are higher in the Wasatch Front counties—for example, Davis County –\$15.84 per hour; Salt Lake County – \$15.92 per hour; Utah County – \$16.58 per hour; and Weber County – \$15.44 per hour. The Draper prison is currently scheduling over 2,800 hours of overtime as a temporary solution to address staffing shortages, with over 25% of the officer workforce working overtime each day.



Prison Population Growth

Since the beginning of Fiscal Year 2005, offenders sentenced by the Courts and housed by the UDC have increased by approximately 528 inmates or 9 percent. As of January 28, 2007, the prison population constituted 6,522 inmates. Current facilities have an operational capacity of 6,650 inmates and a maximum capacity of 6,886 prisoners. The UDC is now approaching operational capacity. According to Utah Code 64-13-38, Emergency Release Procedures due to prison overcrowding can only be initiated if the inmate population has exceeded physical capacity (i.e. maximum capacity) for at least 45 calendar days. In December of 2007, Corrections opened a new 288-bed facility, and an additional 192 bed facility is scheduled to be completed in March of this year. Because of a recent slowing in growth, Corrections may be able to delay the opening of that facility until FY'09. The following graph plots prison population growth for comparison to Utah state population growth.



The Figures detailed in this brief graphically depict budget UDC budget historical information, FTE counts, and the Fiscal Year 2008 funding mix.

ACCOUNTABILITY

On the next page are the Department of Corrections Balanced Scorecard measures. The Balanced Scorecard is a performance measurement system instituted by the Governor for all state agencies. These measures for the Department are done monthly and are a display of overall performance. The Balanced Scorecard measures for the Department include measures such as “One year Parole Recidivism rates” and “Inmate Population versus Operational Capacity”. As an example, included are a number of those measures for both the months of September and December for CY 2007.

September Balanced Scorecard Measures

Indicator	Stat.	Trend	Target	Current	Previous
Percent of max. prison capacity			96.8%	98.6%	98.2%
Inmate population. vs. op. capacity			6,429	6,545	6,517
Convictions for sup. offenders			1.0%	0.9%	1.0%
1-year parole recidivism rate			45.0%	47.7%	49.8%
Staff turnover			0.4%	0.1%	0.1%

December Balanced Scorecard Measures

Indicator	Stat.	Trend	Target	Current	Previous
Percent of max. prison capacity			96.8%	94.9%	97.4%
Inmate population. vs. op. capacity			6429	6523	6527
Convictions for sup. offenders			1.0%	0.9%	1.1%
1-year parole recidivism rate			45.0%	45.6%	44.0%
Staff turnover			0.4%	0.4%	0.3%

BUDGET DETAIL

The primary source of funding for the Department comes from General Funds. Department of Corrections currently has five line items: Programs and Operations, Medical Services, Utah Correctional Industries, Jail Contracting, and Jail Reimbursement. The entire Department has been granted nonlapsing authority for the carry-over of unexpended funds from one year to the next. Nonlapsing status was implemented to effectively manage the uncertain nature of prison population counts and growth of parole supervision. Eighty-nine percent of the Department of Corrections budget is General Fund. The remaining funds are primarily General Fund Restricted and Dedicated Credit revenue.

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

1. The Analyst recommends consideration of an FY 2008 base budget for Corrections of \$262,343,300.
2. The Analyst recommends adding \$8,173,100 of ongoing General Funds for staffing and other related expenses of the 192-bed pod at the Central Utah Correctional Facility (CUCF) to the priority list.
3. The Analyst recommends adding \$2,353,400 of ongoing General Funds for 18 additional Correctional Officers for transportation of inmates to the priority list.
4. The Analyst recommends adding \$3,231,100 of ongoing General Funds for Jail Contract growth to the priority list.
5. Approve non-lapsing intent language for Corrections.

BUDGET DETAIL TABLE

Corrections						
Sources of Finance	FY 2007 Actual	FY 2008 Appropriated	Changes	FY 2008 Revised	Changes	FY 2009* Base Budget
General Fund	218,687,700	234,307,900	0	234,307,900	0	234,307,900
General Fund, One-time	679,700	4,727,200	0	4,727,200	(4,727,200)	0
Federal Funds	11,000	390,000	0	390,000	0	390,000
Dedicated Credits Revenue	25,452,400	21,487,600	(378,200)	21,109,400	4,954,200	26,063,600
GFR - DNA Specimen	515,000	515,000	0	515,000	0	515,000
GFR - Interstate Cmpt for Adult Offender Sup.	29,000	29,000	0	29,000	0	29,000
GFR - Tobacco Settlement	81,700	81,700	0	81,700	0	81,700
Crime Victims Reparation Trust	750,000	750,000	0	750,000	0	750,000
Transfers - Commission on Criminal and Juvenile J	13,100	13,500	175,000	188,500	(175,000)	13,500
Transfers - Human Services	0	161,800	(161,800)	0	0	0
Transfers - Other Agencies	289,900	0	172,900	172,900	19,700	192,600
Beginning Nonlapsing	5,843,500	0	8,458,300	8,458,300	(8,358,300)	100,000
Closing Nonlapsing	(8,458,300)	(100,000)	0	(100,000)	0	(100,000)
Lapsing Balance	(241,700)	0	0	0	0	0
Total	\$243,653,000	\$262,363,700	\$8,266,200	\$270,629,900	(\$8,286,600)	\$262,343,300
Line Items						
Corrections Programs & Operations	172,331,100	187,844,400	4,894,800	192,739,200	(3,902,500)	188,836,700
Department Medical Services	19,896,600	21,224,100	259,600	21,483,700	(1,459,600)	20,024,100
Utah Correctional Industries	20,491,400	17,712,700	0	17,712,700	4,187,300	21,900,000
Jail Contracting	20,618,000	23,976,600	3,111,800	27,088,400	(5,111,800)	21,976,600
Jail Reimbursement	10,315,900	11,605,900	0	11,605,900	(2,000,000)	9,605,900
Total	\$243,653,000	\$262,363,700	\$8,266,200	\$270,629,900	(\$8,286,600)	\$262,343,300
Categories of Expenditure						
Personal Services	148,089,500	166,855,100	1,823,700	168,678,800	135,800	168,814,600
In-State Travel	137,700	84,300	44,900	129,200	(2,700)	126,500
Out of State Travel	76,400	18,300	9,100	27,400	0	27,400
Current Expense	50,118,700	43,081,400	4,004,000	47,085,400	4,353,700	51,439,100
DP Current Expense	5,695,900	2,635,400	3,099,900	5,735,300	(551,700)	5,183,600
DP Capital Outlay	306,500	49,500	(49,500)	0	0	0
Capital Outlay	590,000	272,900	(232,200)	40,700	0	40,700
Other Charges/Pass Thru	38,865,900	48,485,000	951,000	49,436,000	(12,221,700)	37,214,300
Cost of Goods Sold	(227,600)	881,800	(1,384,700)	(502,900)	0	(502,900)
Total	\$243,653,000	\$262,363,700	\$8,266,200	\$270,629,900	(\$8,286,600)	\$262,343,300
Other Data						
Budgeted FTE	2,250.1	2,427.0	0.0	2,427.0	257.4	2,684.4
Vehicles	398.0	395.0	0.0	395.0	1.0	396.0

*Does not include amounts in excess of subcommittee's state fund allocation that may be recommended by the Fiscal Analyst.