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**2014-15 Biennial Budget - Corrections Dept**

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**Mission:**

Reduce recidivism by promoting offender change through proven strategies during safe and secure incarceration and effective community supervision.

**Statewide Outcome(s):**

Corrections supports the following statewide outcome(s).

People in Minnesota are safe.

**Context:**

Created in 1959 by Minnesota Statute (M.S.) 241.01, the Department of Corrections (DOC) is a service and regulatory agency primarily responsible for the incarceration, care and community supervision of adult and juvenile offenders committed to its jurisdiction. Its activities are influenced largely by actions of the courts and sentencing laws. General fund appropriations comprise more than 95 percent of the agency's total budget. The priorities of the DOC include:

- Providing effective correctional services.
- Holding offenders accountable.
- Changing offender behavior.
- Providing restorative services for victims.
- Engaging staff and promoting safety in the workplace.

Minnesota is committed to serving offenders at the local level whenever possible and reserving state prison beds for the most serious, chronic offenders. The populations of Minnesota's correctional facilities total more than 9,400 adult offenders and approximately 150 juvenile offenders; and DOC agents supervise more than 20,000 offenders on probation, supervised release and parole. Partial funding for community corrections act counties and subsidies for counties participating in the county probation office program passes through the DOC.

**Strategies:**

The DOC incorporates several strategies across three program areas to deliver its mission and to support the statewide outcome of ensuring people in Minnesota are safe. The strategies include:

- Delivery of a safe, secure and humane environment for staff and offenders.
- Use of effective internal controls and proper risk management activities.
- Enforcement of court-ordered or statutory offender sentencing and financial obligations.
- Use of research-based programming (i.e. education, treatment, behavioral health care, mentoring) and disciplinary sanctions to promote positive changes in offender behavior.
- Preparing offenders for successful reentry to Minnesota communities.
- Collaboration with counties, courts and law enforcement.
- Provision of victim assistance, victim notification and other restorative services to individuals and communities.
- Educate and engage all employees to foster awareness of a safe workplace, and ensure compliance with safety, environmental and occupational health standards.

**Measuring Success:**

The DOC measures success by how well its programming (i.e. education, chemical dependency and sex offender treatment, work, transition), security operations, offender supervision in the community, collaboration with the courts and law enforcement agencies (Statewide Supervision System, CrIMNet, etc.) and other responsibilities contribute to the safety of people in Minnesota. At the macro level the impact of DOC activities is reflected by an annually calculated recidivism rate that determines the percentage of offenders who remain law-abiding and out of prison post-release; and by maintaining a pattern of zero escapes from secure facilities.

# Corrections Correctional Institutions

<http://www.doc.state.mn.us/org/facilityserv/>

## Statewide Outcome(s):

Correctional Institutions supports the following statewide outcome(s).

People in Minnesota are safe.

## Context:

The correctional institutions program protects the public through safe and humane incarceration of adult and juvenile offenders. It provides programming to maximize the probability offenders will return to Minnesota communities as contributing, law abiding citizens. The program is responsible for the effective, efficient and safe management of ten state correctional facilities and provision of services to meet offenders' basic needs. It also focuses on changing offender behavior and preparing them for success upon release by providing research-based treatment, educational and work programming. Critical support functions include health care, offender population management, transfer and classification; criminal investigations, intelligence gathering and fugitive apprehension; workplace safety, physical plant maintenance and asset preservation.

Customers include more than 9,400 adult offenders and approximately 150 juvenile offenders committed to the commissioner of corrections. Program activities also serve and protect the general public. The program is funded primarily through general fund appropriations. The agency's prison industry program (MINNCOR) is self-sufficient.

## Strategies:

The correctional facilities program incorporates strategies to meet the agency's mission and to support the statewide outcome of ensuring people in Minnesota are safe. The strategies include:

- Delivery of a safe, secure and humane environment for staff and offenders through policy development, review and enforcement; security rounds and inspections; facility preventative maintenance plans; safety inspections; use of technology systems and equipment that enhance safety and security; and provision of food, clothing, secure housing and adequate living conditions, and constitutionally-required behavioral health services and medical care.
- Providing research-based programming (i.e. education, chemical dependency and sex offender treatment, behavioral health care, release-preparation, mentoring) to promote positive changes in offender behavior.
- Preparing offenders for successful reentry to Minnesota communities by providing research-based transitional services and utilizing medical, behavioral health and sex offender professionals to develop specific release plans for offenders with high needs or classified as high risk.
- Administering an objective classification system to ensure appropriate offender placement in facilities.
- Holding offenders accountable through disciplinary sanctions for inappropriate institutional behavior, investigation of offender criminal behavior, intelligence gathering and assisting law enforcement agencies with criminal investigations.

## Results:

- The recidivism rate is one overall measure of the impact of the correctional institutions program. Other measures that indicate effectiveness are also included:

Performance Measures	Previous	Current	Trend
Percentage of offenders convicted of a new felony (recidivism)	37%	37%	Stable
Percentage of escapes from secure facilities	0%	0%	Stable
Percent change in functioning level for offenders participating in educational programs	37%	42%	Improving
Release planning participation	2,982	3,921	Improving

Performance Measures	Previous	Current	Trend
Fugitive level 3 sex offenders apprehended within 72 hours	89%	97%	Improving

Performance Measures Notes:

1. Recidivism is defined as the percentage of Minnesota-sentenced offenders released from adult correctional facilities who are convicted of a new felony within three years following release. Measurements compare FY 2008 data (previous) to FY 2009 data (current).
2. All other measurements compare FY 2009 data (previous) to FY 2010 data (current).
3. The agency's most recent performance report is located at:  
<http://www.doc.state.mn.us/publications/legislative-reports/documents/FY10PerformanceReport.pdf>
4. Measurements will be updated in the agency's 2012 Performance Report.

# Corrections Community Services

<http://www.state.mn.us/org/communityserv/>

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## Statewide Outcome(s):

Community Services supports the following statewide outcome(s).

People in Minnesota are safe.

## Context:

The community services program provides a broad range of community correctional services to protect the public through offender management and supervision. The program is responsible for supervision (probation, parole, supervised or intensive supervised release) of offenders throughout the State of Minnesota. It provides for risk assessment and community notification of predatory offenders, inspection and enforcement activities of local facilities, administration of grants and subsidies to local corrections agencies, reentry services for offenders released from prison and administration of interstate compacts.

Customers include more than 120,000 adult and juvenile offenders on community supervision statewide, victims, the courts and local law enforcement agencies. Program activities also serve and protect the general public. The department of corrections provides direct supervision to over 20,000 offenders in 55 counties. The rest are supervised by local agencies whose activities are partially supported by program funds that are statutorily passed through to community corrections act counties and counties participating in the county probation office program. The program is funded primarily through general fund appropriation with approximately 60 percent of the budget designated as pass-through.

## Strategies:

The community services program incorporates several strategies to meet the agency's mission and to support the statewide outcome of ensuring people in Minnesota are safe. The strategies include:

- Use of comprehensive assessments to determine the proper risk level and needs of offenders.
- Delivery of cognitive-based programming and use of motivational interviewing by trained staff to promote positive change in offender behavior.
- Identify offenders who may be appropriate for civil commitment and refer the cases to county attorneys.
- Inform law enforcement agencies of address and employment changes in all community notification cases and educate the public at level 3 predatory offender community notification meetings.
- Provision and support of community-based programs such as Sentencing to Service (STS), work release, Institution Community Work Crews (ICWC) and the Challenge Incarceration Program (CIP) to manage lower-risk offenders. Offender work crews respond to natural disasters and complete community work projects under contracts with local units of government and non-profit agencies.
- Collaboration with local corrections agencies and other stakeholders to provide for mental health services, domestic violence prevention, chemical dependency treatment, housing and employment for offenders.
- Inspection and licensing of local corrections facilities and certification of sex offender treatment programs that ensures compliance with Minnesota Rules for security, construction, health and life safety codes.
- Provision of offender pre-release classes and assistance with housing, employment and establishing connections to supportive services in the community for medical, mental health and other services via contracts and grants with local services providers.

## Results:

The recidivism rate is one overall measure of the impact of the community services program. Other measures that indicate effectiveness are also included.

Performance Measures	Previous	Current	Trend
Percentage of offenders convicted of a new felony (recidivism)	37%	37%	Stable
Percentage of restitution paid by discharge (average/offender)	87%	82%	Worsening
Value of labor performed by STS work crews	\$5.38 million	\$5.34 million	Stable

Performance Measures Notes:

1. Recidivism is defined as the percentage of Minnesota-sentenced offenders released from adult correctional facilities who are convicted of a new felony within three years following release. Measurements compare FY 2008 data (previous) to FY 2009 data (current).
2. All other measurements compare FY2009 data (previous) to FY2010 data (current).
3. A primary driver in the downward trend for restitution paid is the poor economy. In addition to higher unemployment rates and lower paying jobs, offenders are being charged more fees, result in less discretionary income. The agency plans to implement new processes to collect a larger amount of restitution from offender wages.
4. The value of labor performed by STS crews is based on a rate of \$6 per hour of labor (STS offender workers are not paid.)
5. The agency's most recent performance report is located at:  
<http://www.doc.state.mn.us/publications/legislativereports/documents/FY10PerformanceReport.pdf>
6. Measurements will be updated in the agency's 2012 Performance Report.

# Corrections Operations Support

<http://www.doc.state.mn.us/org/supportserv/>

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## Statewide Outcome(s):

Operations Support supports the following statewide outcome(s).

People in Minnesota are safe.

## Context:

The operations support program provides leadership and core services to ensure consistent and efficient operations and to enable all programs to achieve the agency's mission. The program establishes the mission and major policies for the agency. It is responsible for management of agency planning and performance, internal controls, legal services, communications, business continuity, financial services, human resources, employee development, diversity, offender records, victim assistance and restorative justice. Information technology services are also coordinated with MN.IT Services in this program.

Customers include more than 4,200 agency employees, offenders, victims, state and local agencies, the legislature and citizens. Limited services are provided to the Minnesota Sentencing Guidelines Commission. The program is funded primarily through general fund appropriations.

## Strategies:

The operations support program incorporates strategies to meet the agency's mission and to support the statewide outcome of ensuring people in Minnesota are safe. The strategies include:

- Provide statutorily required activities for the agency, individual employees and offenders in the areas of finance, human resources, legal services, offender records management, and employee development.
- Provide core activities to support the information technology, planning and performance, and diversity units to ensure utilization of best practices and public safety.
- Develop, implement and assess internal controls to safeguard the state's assets and ensure compliance with federal and state regulations and agency policies.
- Partner with the courts and local law enforcement agencies to manage offender information through shared systems (i.e. Statewide Supervision System, CrimNet, MNCHOICE).
- Provide services that ensure the rights and needs of victims are met including victim notification, information and referral services, community training, victim impact awareness, victim-offender dialogue coordination and apology letter assistance. As required by statute, staff also serve on the agency's End-of-Confinement Review Committee responsible for assigning risk levels to predatory offenders upon release from prison.

## Results:

The operations support program provides services throughout the agency, and the recidivism rate is one overall measure of the program's impact. Other measures that indicate effectiveness are also included:

Performance Measures	Previous	Current	Trend
Percentage of offenders convicted of a new felony (recidivism)	37%	37%	Stable
Increase victim awareness of victim/offender restorative options	-	-	TBD
Percentage of invoices paid on time (prompt payment)	99.31%	99.19%	Stable

### Performance Measures Notes:

1. Recidivism is defined as the percentage of Minnesota-sentenced offenders released from adult correctional facilities who are convicted of a new felony within three years following release. Measurements compare FY 2008 data (previous) to FY 2009 data (current).

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2. The agency recently implemented MNCHOICE, a web-based notification system that expands service options for victims. A baseline is being established.
  3. Prompt payment measurements compare FY 2010 data (previous) to FY 2011 data (current). Percentages are calculated and reported by Minnesota Management and Budget using data from the statewide accounting system.
  4. The agency's most recent performance report is located at:  
<http://www.doc.state.mn.us/publications/legislativereports/documents/FY10PerformanceReport.pdf>
  5. Measurements will be updated in the agency's 2012 Performance Report.