



Legislative Fiscal Bureau

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Joint Committee on Finance

Paper #285

Adult Correctional Facility Populations, Prison Contract Bed Funding, and Inmate Variable Costs (Corrections -- Adult Institutions)

[LFB 2009-11 Budget Summary: Page 217 to 218, #1, #2 and #3]

CURRENT LAW

On May 1, 2009, Corrections had an institutional population of 22,557 inmates. Base funding for prison contract beds is \$17,832,300 GPR.

GOVERNOR

Estimate an average daily population in adult correctional facilities (correctional institutions and centers) and contract beds of 22,767 in 2009-10 and 22,654 in 2010-11. The following table identifies the estimated distribution of this population.

	May 1, 2009 <u>Actual Population</u>	<u>Average Daily Population</u>	
		<u>2009-10</u>	<u>2010-11</u>
Males			
Institutions	18,388	18,031	18,031
Centers	1,703	1,820	1,838
Wisconsin Resource Center	314	344	344
Contract Beds*	853	1,264	1,229
Females			
Women's Correctional System	1,299	1,308	1,167
Wisconsin Resource Center	<u>n/a</u>	<u>--</u>	<u>45</u>
Total Population	22,557	22,767	22,654

*Contract bed populations include inmates held in federal facilities and in Wisconsin county jails.

Provide \$6,447,200 GPR in 2009-10 and \$9,596,100 GPR in 2010-11 to reflect population-related cost adjustments for prisoners in facilities operated by the Division of Adult Institutions. In addition, provide \$6,070,000 GPR in 2009-10 and \$6,079,100 GPR in 2010-11 related to increased utilization of prison contract beds of 1,236 beds annually (a daily average of 1,200 prison beds, six beds, in federal facilities, five in state juvenile correctional facilities, and 25 temporary lock-up beds).

DISCUSSION POINTS

1. Correctional facility costs and contract beds are budgeted based on an average daily population. The table below identifies the average daily population since 1998-99. Over the period, the average daily population has increased 31.9%.

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>ADP</u>	<u>% Change</u>
1998-99	17,691	
1999-00	19,805	11.9%
2000-01	20,447	3.2
2001-02	21,025	2.8
2002-03	21,825	3.8
2003-04	22,331	2.3
2004-05	22,596	1.2
2005-06	22,412	-0.8
2006-07	23,093	3.0
2007-08	23,338	1.1

2. For each budget cycle, the Department of Corrections projects prison populations for the upcoming biennium. Generally, population-related costs are budgeted based on the total operating capacity of the prison system, including food, variable non-food costs (such as clothing, laundry, inmate wages, and other supplies), and variable health care costs (including pharmaceuticals, hospital contracts and limited-term employees). To the extent that prison population projections exceed the total operating capacity, contract bed funding is provided.

3. The prison population projections in Assembly Bill 75 are based on projections by the University of Wisconsin's Applied Population Laboratory (APL). The APL projections forecasted changes in the population structure of the entire state (calculated by age, sex, and race/ethnicity) and assumed similar changes to the populations in prison. This methodology is known as a "ratio method" of forecasting. Based on this methodology, the APL projections estimated an increase to the male prison population of approximately 1.5% annually in the biennium, and no increase or decrease to the female prison population during the time period.

4. Based on a review of recent trends, however, the prison population projections could be modified. The average monthly changes to populations since January, 2008, have generally been declining. Utilizing more recent population data, and assuming a lower growth rate to the male prison population, the average daily populations could be reestimated by -178 in 2009-10 and -14 in

2010-11, resulting in a total prison population of 22,589 in 2009-10 and 22,640 in 2010-11.

5. Unless revised population projections decrease to below the prison system's operating capacity, revised populations do not generally impact population-related costs for food, variable non-food, and variable health care. However, it should be noted that the projected population for female inmates is below the budgeted operating capacity for the female facilities in both years of the biennium. As a result, funding for population-related costs could be modified by: (a) -\$176,500 in 2009-10 and -\$164,000 in 2010-11 for food; (b) -\$127,900 in 2009-10 and -\$117,400 in 2010-11 for variable non-food costs; and (c) -\$340,600 in 2009-10 and -\$328,300 in 2010-11 for variable non-food health.

6. As indicated above, contract bed funding is calculated based on the extent to which population projections exceed the prison system's operating capacity. As a result of the revised population projections, contract bed funding would be modified by -\$3,100,800 in 2009-10 and -\$2,478,100 in 2010-11, for approximately 1,071 beds in 2009-10 and 1,104 beds in 2010-11.

MODIFICATION

Decrease the estimated average daily population (ADP) in adult correctional facilities by 178 in 2009-10 and 14 in 2010-11. As a result of the reestimated ADP, modify funding by: (a) -\$645,000 in 2009-10 and -\$609,700 in 2010-11 associated with population-related costs; and (b) -\$3,100,800 in 2009-10 and -\$2,478,100 in 2010-11 associated with contract bed funding. As a result, populations would be distributed as follows:

	<u>Average Daily Population</u>	
	<u>2009-10</u>	<u>2010-11</u>
Males		
Institutions	18,031	18,031
Centers	1,820	1,838
Wisconsin Resource Center	344	344
Contract Beds	1,095	1,128
Females		
Women's Correctional System	1,299	1,254
Wisconsin Resource Center	---	45
Total Population	22,589	22,640

Change to Bill Funding	
GPR	- \$6,833,600

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