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## Overview of 2022-23 Corrections Budget- May Revise

*Californians United for a Responsible Budget (CURB) is a statewide coalition of organizations working to reduce the number of people imprisoned in California and the number of prisons and jails in the state. We advocate for an investment in justice that centers care, not punishment.*

**Governor Newsom's [2022-23 revised budget Corrections](#) is \$18.6 billion overall,** including about \$14 billion in state funding for **California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR.)** Over \$2 billion is allocated to local community corrections, with nearly a half a billion for enhancing law enforcement activities. Around \$940 million has been allocated to the Board of State and Community Corrections (BSCC), of which \$85 million is wasted on competitive grants to local law enforcement agencies to "combat retail theft." Additional resources are misspent on local law enforcement, with \$20 million for county probation to create mobile probation centers that serve as hubs for pretrial services that would be better administered independently through community-based organizations.

Though there has been significant progress on criminal legal reform over the past decade, corrections spending continues to increase. The state government is still prioritizing punishment driven systems as an answer to public safety, making a shift in priorities as urgent as ever. One of the best ways California can prioritize public safety for all is by closing California prisons. Modest reforms to the system of corrections has led to the announcement of two prison closures, one of which is being stymied by local litigation.

**This budget makes it clear that at least three additional prisons can be closed by 2024-2025.** This information has been long supported by all available data, including a report produced by the state's own nonpartisan Legislative Analyst's Office. **CURB is calling on Governor Newsom to commit to close more prisons as part of the Enacted Budget released in June, as well as cancel any existing prison construction and wasteful "renovation" of crumbling prisons that ought to be shut down.**

Governor Newsom must adopt a concrete plan for prison closure that includes the restoration of communities as a central component. Our campaign to **Close California Prisons** has created a roadmap to shut down at least 10 state-owned prisons by 2025. California must invest cost savings from closed prisons in non-carceral, community-based safety strategies, and create pathways to new

economies for those most impacted by incarceration and prison closure. This is a blueprint for true public safety.

**Population Reduction:** The average daily adult population of people in prison is now projected to be **99,590** FY 2022-23, **a decrease of 5 percent** since January projections. Population is projected to continue a long-term decline. The average daily population of people paroled is projected to decrease by 5,306 to 42,963 in 2022-23, a decrease of 11 percent from spring projections. The parole population is projected to decline to 38,284 by June 30, 2026 due to an overall decrease in prison population and shorter parole terms.

**COVID-19 Expenditures:** May Revision includes a total of \$240.1 million for COVID-19 prevention and response activities, a decrease of \$184.6 million compared to the Governor's January proposed budget.

- Total confirmed COVID-19 cases in CDCR population as of May 2022: 352 imprisoned people and 304 staff.
- Total confirmed COVID-19 Deaths: 254
- The state has provided \$243.9 million General Fund to counties for holding incarcerated persons on behalf of the state, reflecting payments for individuals held in county jails between March 2020 and August 2021. Current projections suggest a total of up to approximately \$44.9 million in additional reimbursements may be issued in 2021-22 as the backlog is reduced and then eliminated.

**Prison Capacity and Closures:** The May Revision affirms a commitment to "right-sizing" California's prison system to reflect the needs of the state. Based on current projections that exhibit ongoing declines in the incarcerated population, and understanding that future policy changes may significantly affect long-range population projections, it "may be possible" to **close three additional state prisons by 2024-25, totalling 5 closures including DVI and CCC.**

- Deuel Vocational Institution (DVI) shut down in September 2021, which is showing consistent with expected savings of **\$150.3 million in General Funds annually.**
- On September 27, 2021, CDCR closed 567 and 500 minimum security beds at CCI and CTF, respectively.
- In April 2021, CDCR announced plans to close the California Correctional Center in Susanville (CCC). As of April 2022, the incarcerated population at CCC was 1,758. The CCC closure is still on hold due to litigation from Susanville Superior Court. **When closed, the state will save \$122 million every year.**

**Infrastructure:** CURB maintains that all spending on infrastructure repairs is wasteful and will not protect incarcerated people nor the public. The Budget Committees on Public Safety must deny CDCR any additional funding for infrastructure projects and direct them to name and prioritize more prison closures. **Closing facilities would allow the State to avoid spending billions of**

**dollars on these projects and invest in providing care and services in the community that people need.**

- CDCR's infrastructure includes more than 43 million square feet of state-owned building space on more than 24,000 acres of land (37 square miles) statewide.
- [Total expenditures for all capital outlay projects](#) is **\$610,009, an increase of 26.6% or \$128.5 million more than what was allocated in the proposed budget in January.**

**Transitional Housing:** CDCR established the Returning Home Well Program during the pandemic to provide emergency transitional housing services to individuals who would otherwise be at risk of being unhoused at the time of their release. The Governor's January Budget included \$10.6 million General Fund annually for three years to continue Returning Home Well while providing the opportunity to assess the ongoing needs of the released population. **CURB opposes any investments that increase the capacity of CDCR. Transitional housing should be entrusted to community based organizations that are not operating under the supervision of the corrections department.**

- The May Revision adds a \$3 million one-time General Fund to provide transitional housing to youth discharged by the Board of Juvenile Hearings in 2022-23. Transitional housing will be available to youth who are at risk of homelessness upon their release to support them in successfully reentering their communities.

**Prop 47 Savings:** The Department of Finance estimates net General Fund savings of \$161.1 million in the 2022-23 May Revision. This is an increase of \$13.8 million over the 2022-23 Governor's Budget projection, due to updated diversion impact estimates. This additional funding will bring the total allocated for these programs to approximately \$608.4 million General Fund since the passage of Proposition 47.

**Staff Misconduct:** The May Revision includes \$5.6 million General Fund in 2022-23 and \$11.4 million ongoing for the Office of Inspector General (OIG) to monitor staff complaints that are handled by institutions and to reflect refinements to the staffing levels for the OIG to monitor CDCR's centralized screening process and investigations conducted by the Office of Internal Affairs. **This may finally highlight the corruption and abuse that Corrections staff has been inflicting on imprisoned people over time, supporting CURB's call for public safety systems to shift away from corrections.**

**(DJJ) Division of Juvenile Justice:** DJJ ceased intake of new youth on July 1, 2021, with limited exceptions. DJJ is scheduled to close on June 30, 2023. **This progress can be directly attributed to youth organizers across the state.**

- The May Revision reflects an estimated average daily population of 641 youth in 2021-22 and 430 youth in 2022-23, which represents a decrease of 16 and 114 youth in 2021-22 and 2022-23, respectively, compared to the Governor's

Budget estimates.

- The May Revision population-related adjustments reflect a decrease of \$6 million General Fund and 32.5 positions in 2021-22, and a decrease of \$15.7 million and 95 positions in 2022-23, as compared to Governor's Budget estimates. Additionally, the May Revision reflects a decrease of \$87.8 million and 554.7 positions in 2023-24 and ongoing in recognition of DJJ's closure at the end of 2022-23.

**Local Law Enforcement:** The May Revision includes additional wasted spending on failed community policing programs and probation departments. Historically, police task forces have terrorized Black, Brown and Indigenous communities, perpetuating and increasing harm, not providing safety. Allocations for local public safety should be granted to community based systems of care, not increased policing.

- \$20 million is allocated for county probation to create mobile probation centers that serve as hubs for pretrial services.
- Post Release Community Supervision (PRCS) as a result of the implementation of Proposition 57- the May Revision includes \$20.9 million one-time General Fund for this program, or a decrease of \$2.3 million from Governor's Budget projections, corresponding with fewer releases of incarcerated individuals than had been projected in Fall 2021.
- Community Corrections Performance Incentive Grant- Due to these ongoing issues, the May Revision contains a total of \$123.8 million General Fund annually through 2024-25 to provide county probation departments with a consistent level of funding based on prior performance, so county probation departments are not unduly impacted by lingering impacts of the pandemic on probation populations, law enforcement practices, or court processes.
- The Governor's Budget included \$6 million annually through 2024-25 and \$500,000 ongoing to support regional task forces combating organized retail theft, and \$5 million ongoing General Fund to support DOJ participation in anti-crime task forces around the state. The May Revision provides an additional \$7.9 million General Fund in 2022-23, and \$6.7 million ongoing, to establish the Fentanyl Enforcement Program. **This brings the total additional resources for DOJ task forces to \$18.9 million in 2022-23.**
- Medicaid Patient Abuse Prevention Act- \$7.8 million (\$6.1 million Federal Trust Fund, \$1.2 million False Claims Act, and \$474,000 General Fund) in 2022-23, and \$7.1 million in 2023-24 and ongoing to fully maximize DOJ's federal grant award to support increased Medicaid fraud and elder abuse investigation and enforcement pursuant to changes in federal law.

For more information visit [curbprisonspending.org](http://curbprisonspending.org) to read [The People's Plan for Prison Closure](#) or email [amberrose@curbprisonspending.org](mailto:amberrose@curbprisonspending.org)

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