

Commission on Public Safety – Findings & Policy Options

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What Works in Public Safety
January 11, 2013

Key Findings

- Oregon's public safety achievements:
 - Historic and sustained crime decline
 - Extensive use of probation in lieu of incarceration
 - An incarceration rate below the national average
 - A prison system focused on offenders convicted of violent and sex offenses
 - Extensive use of evidence-based practices
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Key Findings

Oregon's Prison Population

- ❑ Since 2000, Oregon's prison population has grown by nearly 50% to more than 14,000 inmates.
- ❑ Oregon's incarceration rate has grown more than four times faster than the national average since 2000.
- ❑ Oregon's prison population net is widening to include an increasing number of:
 - Individuals who are statistically at a lower risk to re-offend
 - Individuals convicted of nonviolent offenses
- ❑ Oregon's prison population is forecasted to grow by an additional 2,300 beds over the next 10 years at a cost of more than \$600 million.

Key Findings

Oregon's Prison Growth Drivers

- ❑ An increasing share of convicted felons are sentenced to prison (up to 18% from 2000 to 2011).
- ❑ In 2011 we admitted increasing numbers of individuals who were convicted of less-serious offenses than those admitted in 2000.
- ❑ Offenders are staying in prison longer in 2011 than at any other point in the last decade.

Key Findings

Oregon's Use of Evidence-Based Practices

□ Oregon led the country in its early embrace of evidence-based practices, illustrated by SB 267. However, there is still room for improvement.

- Risk/needs assessments
- Earned time compliance credit for probationers
- Zero tolerance

Policy Options – Overview

Objectives:

- Ensure prison beds are focused on serious violent offenders
 - Incentivize good behavior and reduce the likelihood of recidivism
 - Enhance evidence-based, cost-effective community supervision practices
 - Establish performance objectives and measure outcomes
 - Promote sustainable use of corrections resources
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Policy Options

- Ensure prison beds are focused on serious, violent offenders
 - Modifications to marijuana, DWS, M11, and M57 offenses

Policy Options

- Incentivize good behavior and reduce the likelihood of recidivism:
 - Earned time
 - Transitional leave
 - AIP
 - Earned review for youth offenders

Policy Options

- Enhance evidence-based, cost-effective community supervision practices
 - Structured sanctions, supervision conditions
- Establish performance objectives and measure outcomes
 - Recidivism definition, prison population forecasting
- Promote sustainable use of corrections resources
 - Cost per day, performance incentive funding

Prison Bed Impacts

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(negative numbers indicate averted beds)

10-year DOC projected growth of 2,275 beds

10-year OYA projected growth of 47 beds

2-year DOC Bed Impact	-786
10-year DOC Bed Impact	-2,498
2-year OYA Bed Impact	-31
10-year OYA Bed Impact	-197

Reinvestment Priorities

Invest in:

- Community corrections
- Victim services
- Oregon State Police crime lab and law enforcement leadership training
- Specialty courts

Next Steps & Questions

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