
BUDGET UNIT BRIEF – FY 2025

Fiscal Services Division

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Ground Floor, State Capitol Building

Des Moines, Iowa 50319

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Adult Correctional Institutions — Fort Dodge Correctional Facility

Fort Dodge Correctional Facility

The Fort Dodge Correctional Facility (FDCF) is a medium security prison that opened in 1998. As of 2023, the FDCF has a capacity of 1,162 offenders. The FDCF provides domestic abuse and substance abuse treatment classes, cognitive behavioral therapy, apprentice programs, volunteer opportunities with the local community, and Iowa Prison Industries (IPI) textiles manufacturing. Through Iowa Central Community College, the FDCF provides education opportunities, including High School Equivalency Test (HiSET) classes, literacy, special education, and life skills. The FDCF receives annual funding from a General Fund appropriation in the Justice System Appropriations Bill.

Purpose

The adult correctional institutions (also referred to as State prisons) are responsible for incarcerating offenders sentenced to the custody and control of the Department of Corrections (DOC). These offenders are generally more violent or of higher risk compared to offenders supervised in Community-Based Corrections (CBC). The institutions provide offenders with essential services to reduce risk to the general public upon release due to parole, work release, or expiration of sentence.

Iowa Code chapter [901B](#) provides a continuum of sanctions for Iowa's correctional system. This includes sentencing options where offenders receive nonsupervised sanctions. The Iowa Code chapter provides various intermediate supervision levels by the CBC District Departments. The institutions provide the most severe level of sanction and incarcerate violent offenders and offenders who cannot be safely managed in community settings. About 20.0% of offenders in the State corrections system are incarcerated in the State prisons, while approximately 80.0% are supervised by the CBC District Departments.

Administration

Iowa Code chapter [904](#) creates the DOC and lists each of the nine institutions. It also creates a policymaking Board of Corrections that provides oversight of the DOC rules, policies, and procedures; approves the operating and capital budgets; and makes recommendations to the Governor concerning qualified candidates for the position of the Director of the Department.

The DOC Central Office has direct authority over the institutions, including personnel, staff training, the purchase or sale of real estate, investigations, confidentiality of records, offender supervision and work, the prison farms, and Iowa State Industries (also referred to as Iowa Prison Industries). The Central Office is also responsible for statewide and long-range planning, budget oversight, and establishment of program guidelines in the institutions.

Institutions

The operating costs of the institutions are 99.9% funded from the State General Fund. See the *Fiscal Research Brief* [Prison Population and Capacity](#) for historical budget and population information for the

More Information

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prison system. Each of the nine institutions provides security; housing; dietary services; medical, mental health, and substance abuse treatment; education and job skills training; behavioral and psychological treatment; and recreational activities. Additionally, each prison has a primary focus.

Related Statutes and Administrative Rules

Iowa Code chapters [901](#), [901A](#), [901B](#), [903A](#), [904](#), [905](#), [906](#), [908](#), [909](#), [910](#), [913](#), [914](#), and [915](#)
Iowa Administrative Code [201](#)

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