
BUDGET UNIT BRIEF – FY 2025

Fiscal Services Division

July 1, 2024



Ground Floor, State Capitol Building

Des Moines, Iowa 50319

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Adult Correctional Institutions — Mount Pleasant Correctional Facility

Mount Pleasant Correctional Facility

The Mount Pleasant Correctional Facility (MPCF) was established in 1976 as a temporary unit to hold 144 offenders. The MPCF operated as a medium security facility and was the primary location for the treatment and housing of males convicted of sex offenses until FY 2017, when the majority of that population was moved to the Newton Correctional Facility. In 2016, the MPCF was reclassified as a minimum security facility with a focus on preparing offenders for reentry to the community. As of 2023, the facility has a capacity of 940 male offenders. Core programming includes substance abuse programming and cognitive/batterers education. Through Southeastern Community College, offenders at the MPCF can receive a High School Equivalency Test (HiSET) degree, literacy certificates, vocational education, and special education. The MPCF receives annual funding from a General Fund appropriation in the Justice System Appropriations Bill.

The MPCF was built in 1860. The facility operated as a shared campus with the former Mount Pleasant Mental Health Institute (MHI), which was under the control of the former Department of Human Services (DHS). The MPCF previously had a 100-bed women's unit that served incarcerated females with special needs. This unit closed in FY 2014, and the offenders and budget were transferred to new buildings at the Iowa Correctional Institution for Women at Mitchellville.

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.

More Information

Department of Corrections: doc.iowa.gov
LSA Staff Contact: Molly Kilker (515.725.1286) molly.kilker@legis.iowa.gov

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 also is 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 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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