



FACT SHEET

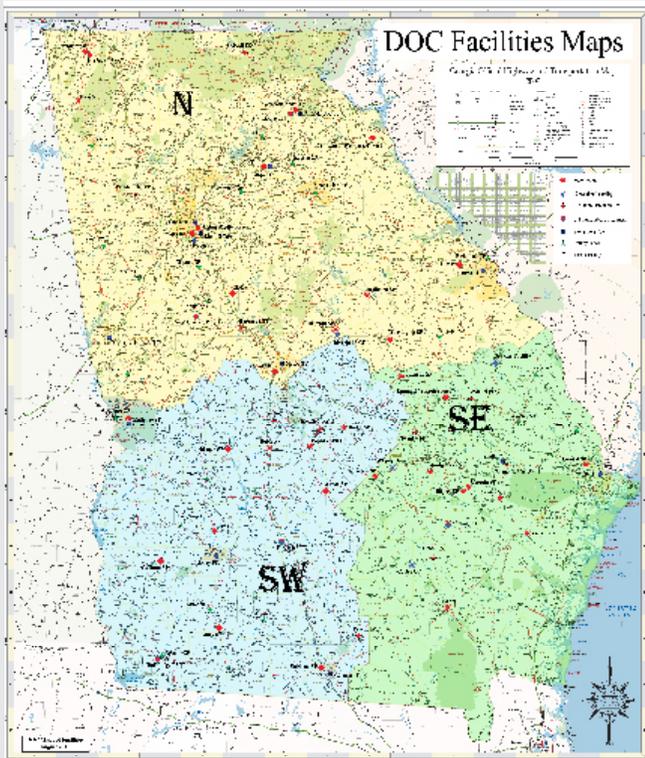
FACILITIES

2020

TIMOTHY C. WARD COMMISSIONER
RICKY MYRICK CHIEF OF STAFF
AHMED HOLT ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FACILITIES DIVISION

The Georgia Department of Corrections (GDC) protects the public by operating secure and safe facilities, while reducing recidivism through effective programming, education and healthcare. GDC has one of the largest prison systems in the United States and is responsible for supervising nearly 52,000 state prisoners within 34 state prisons, 21 county prisons, and 4 private prisons. It is the largest law enforcement agency in the state with approximately 10,500 employees.

REGIONAL OFFICES



PHYSICAL UTILIZATION RATES

Facility Type	Operational Utilization	Physical Utilization
State Prisons	108.2%	94.9%
Transitional Centers	99.2%	98.9%
Probation Detention Centers	91.1%	89.0%
Probation Boot Campsz	70.0%	70.0%
RSATs and ITFs	95.1%	93.0%
County Institutes*	96.5%	96.5%
Private Prisons*	97.4%	97.4%

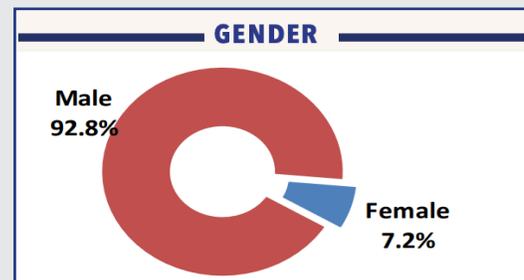
FY2017 Allocation of Cost to Inmate (State Only)

State Prisons	\$61.20
Transitional Centers	\$43.29
Private Prisons	\$48.84
County Institutes*	\$20.00
Jail Subsidies*	\$30.00

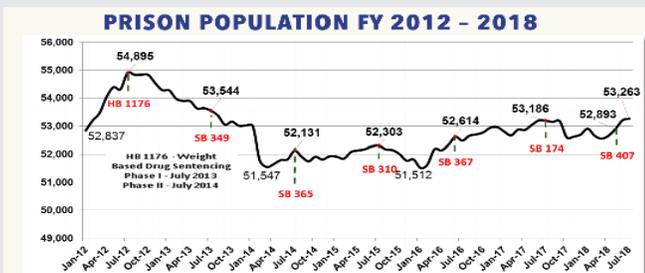
*\$20 per day/per inmate assigned to County Correctional Institutes

*\$30 per day/per sentenced inmate waiting pick-up in county jails beyond 15 days

INMATE BREAKDOWN



INMATE POPULATION & EFFECTS OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE REFORM



Since the first criminal justice reform bill was effective on July 1, 2012 (HB 1176), Georgia's prison population has decreased by 3.0 percent, from 54,895 to 53,263, on July 1, 2018.

INMATE POPULATION GENDER BREAKDOWN

Males

- 50,253 incarcerated
- 92% medium or higher security
- 2,357 are veterans
- 44% have prior incarcerations in GA
- 40% have HS/GED education or higher

Females

- 3,617 incarcerated
- 60% medium or higher security
- 47 are veterans
- 28% have prior incarcerations in GA
- 55% have HS/GED education or higher



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INITIATIVES

Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) - GDC complies with federal standards through the investigation of all PREA allegations. There are 57 federal audits required.

Hardening - Due to the more violent prison population and aging facilities, enhancements that would better withstand destruction by inmates (for the purposes of making weapons) were made to physical infrastructures.

- Began in March 2013 at all close-security prisons
- Modifications:
 - Heavy gauge steel fixtures
 - Wall mounted beds
 - Updated lockers, light fixtures, heater vents and shower doors
- Tier Segregation system implemented August 2013
 - Stratification oriented pathway for offenders to successfully transition from Administrative Segregation to lower-security levels
- In 2015, began to harden large, medium-security facilities (Autry, Washington, Calhoun, Dooly, Wilcox and Johnson state prisons)

Cell Phone Interdiction

To fight the growing problem of the introduction of cell phones into our facilities, GDC has implemented the following:

Front line Efforts

- Training - additional training on contraband detection
- Improved Package Screening of items coming in
- Enhanced Staff Screening during shift changes
- Assignment of K-9 to investigations unit to improve communication and coordination
- Establishment of clear chain-of-command
- Secure Evidence Storage Procedures

Technological Efforts

- CellSense: portable, full-body scanner to detect cell phones.
- Infrared cameras: detects heat signatures from objects, animals, people 24/7.
- Through Body Scanners - low dosage x-ray scanner used to scan staff and visitors upon entry into a facility for the detection of contraband.
- Perimeter Netting - expansion of netting to stop contraband throw overs
- Body Orifice Security Scanner (BOSS) - detects hidden contraband

Walker State Prison - Faith & Character Based Program

The only male facility exclusively dedicated to Faith and Character Based programming. Established in 2011, the program has graduated 581 participants. The recidivism rates for those who have successfully completed the program are as follows:

- 1 year: 0.91%
- 3 years: 1.59%
- 5 years: 1.59%

Lee Evidence-Based Prison

Established in 2015, this two-year program utilizes evidence-based practices to determine training for staff & programming for offenders. Program is divided into four, 6-month, phases. Designed for offenders near release and those interested in programming. As of January 2019, 280 people have graduated.

Hancock Evidence-Based Prison

In 2018, the evidence-based program expanded to a Level 5 facility, Hancock SP. Starting on one side of the prison (east), the program is expanding to the west side. As of January 2019, there are 576 participants.

Fire Services

- 19 stations in state prisons
- More than 220 inmates
- Responds to 3,000 calls annually



CHALLENGES

Security Staff Turnover

The GDC mission has been made significantly more difficult due to the doubling of the turnover rate within the correctional officer ranks. Reducing turnover will help offset expenses, reduce legal liability and will increase experience, competency and professionalism of officers. The long-term effect of more experienced and better trained officers will be an agency better equipped to support the Governor's Criminal Justice Reform efforts and to fulfill its stated mission.

Calendar Year	Turnover Rate
2013	28.42%
2014	27.99%
2015	28.89%
2016	28.23%
2017	30.30%

Contraband

Contraband is a national issue with the Corrections system.

Type	FY17	FY18
Cell Phones	6,393	5,233
Drugs	1,101	1,176
Weapons	6,072	7,548
Throw overs	86	74