FISCAL SNAPSHOT

OFFENDER SUCCESS SERVICES

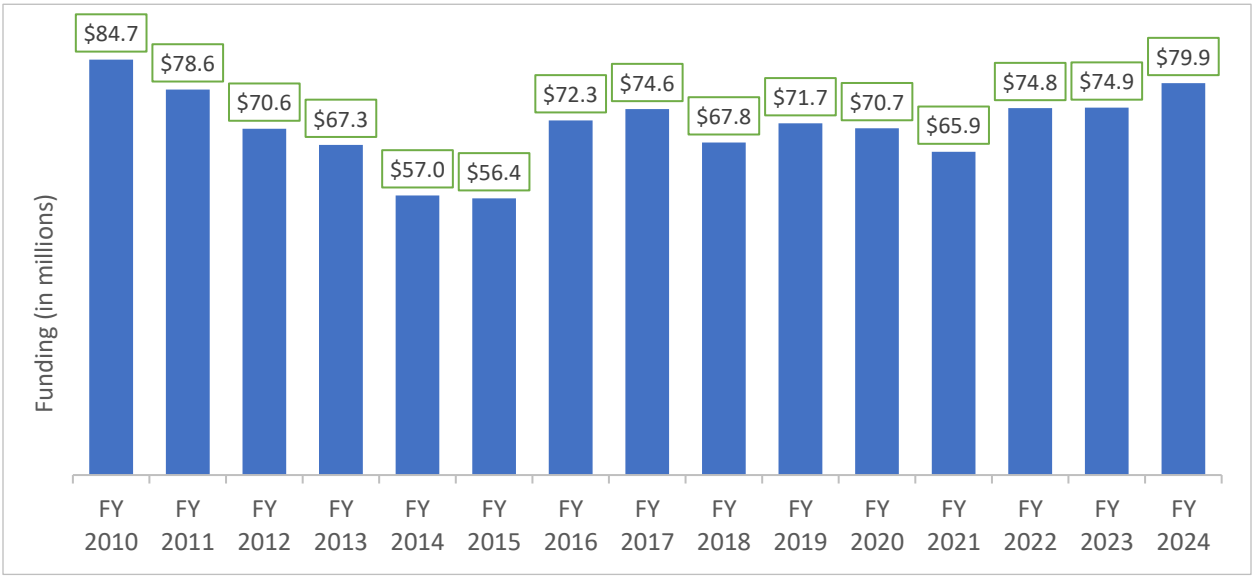
Date: July 2025 **Analyst: Robin R. Risko**

Summary

Offender success programs and services aim to reduce recidivism and support self-sufficiency. Programs and services are offered to offenders throughout the time they are under the department's jurisdiction. The primary goal is to ensure that offenders have the tools and resources necessary to be successful after exiting prison. Programs and services vary based on the individual needs of offenders. Assessments are completed to evaluate specific individual needs so that programs and services can be tailored to the learning styles, motivation, abilities, and strengths of each individual. Criminogenic behavioral needs at various stages of the criminal justice system are also assessed in order to promote successful interventions and rehabilitation.

Background

Staff members are housed at each correctional facility and include educators, school staff, institutional parole agents, specialists and analysts that oversee various programs within correctional facilities and contracted services in the community, parole release staff, vital documents staff, and staff that focus on employment opportunities for individuals in the criminal justice system. The goal of these professionals is to foster change and success for those in prison, as well as for those on parole or probation. Major areas of focus include improving programs and services for probationers, offering evidence-based programs, providing a variety of educational opportunities, managing the technical aspects of the parole release process, providing in-reach services that serve as the bridge between incarceration and the community, providing community supports for parolees, developing mentoring opportunities, and focusing on employment. Further information can be found on the department's website at Offender Success.

Funding

Spending from the following line items is included in the table below: Education/Skilled Trades/Career Readiness Programs, Enhanced Food Technology, Higher Education in Prison, Offender Success Community Partners, Offender Success Federal Grants, Offender Success Programming, and Offender Success Services. (For a more detailed explanation of how funding is expended, please see Line Item and Boilerplate Summary. In FY 2013-14, appropriations for community-based programs were reduced and funding was reallocated to correctional facilities for offender success-related programming to occur before inmates were released from prison, instead of upon release. In FY 2015-16, all offender success-related staff positions and funding throughout the budget were reorganized into one area, leading to the appearance of a major increase in funding for offender success. Decreased spending in fiscal years 2020 and 2021 can be attributed to the COVID-19 pandemic.