

# Public Safety

## PROGRAM AREA AGENCIES

PUBLIC SAFETY BENCHMARKS .....	D-5
CORRECTIONS, DEPARTMENT OF.....	D-6
CRIMINAL JUSTICE COMMISSION .....	D-9
DISPUTE RESOLUTION COMMISSION.....	D-11
DISTRICT ATTORNEYS AND THEIR DEPUTIES.....	D-12
JUSTICE, DEPARTMENT OF.....	D-14
MILITARY DEPARTMENT .....	D-17
PAROLE AND POST-PRISON SUPERVISION, STATE BOARD OF.....	D-20
POLICE, DEPARTMENT OF STATE.....	D-22
PUBLIC SAFETY STANDARDS AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF .....	D-26
YOUTH AUTHORITY, OREGON .....	D-29

	1999-2001 Actuals	2003-05 Legislatively Adopted at Close of Session	2003-05 Legislatively Approved through Fifth Special Session	2003-05 Governor's Balanced
General Fund	\$1,185,402,205	\$1,344,487,758	\$1,254,747,360	\$1,401,258,530
Lottery Funds	3,303,064	4,722,074	4,857,534	5,032,023
Other Funds	554,754,252	489,639,903	548,693,665	331,138,988
Federal Funds	139,691,358	168,381,640	175,037,551	261,198,035
Other Funds (Nonlimited)	66,908,097	5,160,000	284,896,094	8,115,689
Federal Funds (Nonlimited)	27,149,766	21,359,947	21,359,947	21,359,947
<b>Total Funds</b>	<b>\$1,977,208,742</b>	<b>\$2,033,751,322</b>	<b>\$2,289,592,151</b>	<b>\$2,028,103,212</b>
Positions	8,357	8,664	7,396	8,017
Full-time Equivalent	7,861.43	8,264.86	7,957.38	7,757.58

### Overview

Agencies within this program area are responsible for ensuring the public safety of Oregon's people, property, and natural resources, through trained militia, law enforcement, prosecution, and incarceration of juvenile and adult offenders. Other major program objectives include legal representation of state agencies, consumer protection, and dispute resolution at the local level.

The budget recognizes the need to have a review of the whole public safety system, including the Judicial Department, to determine how to adjust to fewer resources in a balanced way. Expected outcomes of the review include a decision on continuing debt service for construction of the public safety training academy and consideration of a dedicated fund source for specific core public safety services. Finally, this budget focuses on basic safety by

## Public Safety

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providing sufficient funding to continue to manage Oregon's growing prison population -- inmates will serve their full sentences.

### Balanced Budget

In the 2003-05 biennium, nearly all public safety agencies carried-forward the reductions taken in the 2002 Third and Fifth special sessions. Key elements of the public safety program area for the 2003-05 Governor's balanced budget are:

- Funding is provided to incarcerate the projected average monthly population of 12,338 inmates in the state's prisons. These inmates are the felony offenders sentenced for more than 12 months. As the offender population rises to exceed existing capacity, the Department of Corrections will use temporary and county rental beds to accommodate the additional inmates. The budget does not require early release of any prison inmates.
- Felony offenders sentenced to 12 or fewer months are housed in county jails, funded by the state. Counties also provide probation, parole, and post-prison supervision services, again funded by the state. The balanced budget includes funding sufficient to manage an average population of 24,000 per month statewide. The forecasted population is expected to average 32,000. Counties will need to manage the expected populations within reduced resources, perhaps changing the mix of sanctions between jail and community supervision.
- The budget includes 635 sworn officers in the Department of State Police (OSP), including 40 patrol officers restored from the 2002 Fifth Special Session reductions. This is approximately 79 percent of the sworn officer strength in the 2001-03 Close of Session Legislatively Approved Budget. With fewer officers, the Department will reduce coverage of the state's highways, enforcement of fish and gaming laws, protection of natural resources, and investigation of illegal drugs, violent crime, and child abuse.
- The number of OSP sworn officers has decreased by nearly one-third since the 1979-81 biennium, when the voters discontinued funding the Department with highway fund revenues. The decrease in patrol troopers is nearly 50 percent. Any further consideration of dedicated revenue sources for core public safety programs should include OSP patrol services.
- The Department of State Police will continue to operate forensics laboratories in Portland, Springfield, Central Point, and Bend. Laboratories in Salem, Ontario, and Pendleton will close. With significant staff reductions in both the laboratory and identification programs, the Department will have the resources to process 40 percent of its current workload in the 2003-05 biennium.
- The budget includes funding to operate a new facility in the Portland area for the State Medical Examiner and the regional forensics laboratory. An existing building was purchased in the 2001-03 biennium and will be remodeled to the requirements of the two programs. Replacement of existing facilities is a critical life and safety issue.
- The Child Support program is transferred from the Department of Human Services (DHS) to the Department of Justice (DOJ). DOJ, through an inter-agency agreement with DHS, was responsible for child support collection activities in the past, but will now be directly accountable to the federal government for program compliance.
- The balanced budget for DOJ reduces funding to counties by about 25 percent for coordination and support of victims of child abuse and other victim compensation. It also reduces support to criminal appeals, district attorney assistance, Medicaid fraud, and domestic violence grants to counties.

## Public Safety

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- The juvenile crime prevention grants that the Criminal Justice Commission awards are reduced in this budget. Between the Criminal Justice Commission and the Oregon Youth Authority, the combined state resource for juvenile crime prevention grants is about two-thirds of the level initially benchmarked.
- The budget includes a legislative proposal to modify provisions in Oregon's tax code that are affecting revenues from the Fire Insurance Premium Tax. These funds support the State Fire Marshal, the Department of State Police arson investigations unit, and the fire training program at the Department of Public Safety Standards and Training. Under current law, 2003-05 revenues may fall by 60 percent or more from the 2001-03 Close of Session forecast.
- The Youth Challenge Program operated by the Oregon Military Department will continue at a reduced level without General Fund due to limitations on available state matching funds. Class sizes will be reduced by about 35 students.
- The balanced budget for the Military Department includes funding for three Capital Construction projects. The Department may request funds from the Emergency Board to purchase property adjacent to the Salem Army Aviation Facility if negotiations over sale price and environmental cleanup costs are successful.

Major programs reduced or not funded in the Governor's balanced budget are:

- Construction of a new public safety training academy is delayed for two years, avoiding debt service costs of \$7.8 million. Following a review of the impact of budget reductions on the state's criminal justice and public safety system, restoration of funding to continue with the construction as scheduled may be recommended.
- Even if the facility were to be built as originally scheduled, the basic police training course would remain at 10 weeks throughout the biennium. The Legislature authorized expansion to 16 weeks in 1997. Facility limitations prevent the agency from expanding beyond the current 10 week program.
- Prison construction is also delayed, which will defer the planned addition of more than 880 beds to the system. As with the public safety training academy, construction decisions are postponed until after the system-wide review.
- Reduction in the Department of Public Safety Standards and Training's operations will impact regional training, distance education, child abuse training, the DARE program, and leadership training.
- Reductions in Department of State Police business services and information systems reduce these functions to minimal levels and may require assignment of sworn officers to perform duties previously performed by non-sworn employees.
- Positions reductions in the OSP Law Enforcement Data Systems will result in elimination of data auditing, training, and production of Uniform Crime Reports. Remaining staff will be limited to system operations and maintenance activities.
- The balanced budget for the Oregon Youth Authority continues over 800 close-custody beds, but mothballs four regional youth correctional facilities and puts 250 close-custody beds out of service. On the community side of youth services, shelter, residential, and foster care beds are reduced, as are juvenile crime prevention grants.

## Public Safety

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- Funding for the Tuition Assistance program in the Military Department is eliminated. Carry-over funds will allow some National Guard members already in the program to continue to receive assistance with post-secondary education costs in the 2003-05 biennium.

Significant organizational changes in the public safety area are:

- The budget includes packages to implement a reorganization of Department of State Police activities, transferring several programs among the different divisions. Transfers include the dispatch centers, Law Enforcement Data Systems, Identification Services, Capital Mall and Legislative Security, and training.