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Public Accounts and Estimates Committee

Inquiry into the 2025-26 Budget Estimates

The Hon. Enver Erdogan MLC
Minister for Corrections

Wednesday 4 June 2025



Corrections system overview

**5,700+**

People employed across the corrections system

**6,409**

People in prison in Victoria (as of 30 April 2025)

**8,423**

People in Victoria on parole, supervised court orders, court reparation orders (as of 30 April 2025)

**40.5%**

Proportion of people in prison **on remand** (as of April 2025)

**19**

Facilities in Victoria –
13 publicly operated prisons,
3 privately operated prisons*,
2 post sentence residential
facilities, 1 transition centre

**34**

Community Corrections
locations throughout Victoria

Investing in our corrections system



The cost for
Corrections outputs
in 2025-26 is forecast
to be \$1.9 billion

- \$1.628 billion for **Prisoner Supervision and Support** to ensure safe, secure and humane containment of prisoners
- \$279 million for **Community Based Offender Supervision** to ensure effective supervision of offenders in the community



Total estimated
capital expenditure
2025-26 of
\$90.7 million

- \$8.8 million for **Prison system capacity expansion and security upgrades**
- \$81.9 million for **Men's prison system capacity**



Western Plains
correctional Centre
will open in mid 2025

- \$1.1 billion **new maximum security men's prison**
- Opening with an initial capacity of **665 beds**
- Capacity will then expand by a **further 312 beds**

2025-26 Budget

The 2025-26 Budget will ramp up capacity in the adult prison system and continue programs that are key to reducing reoffending.



Ramping up capacity in Victoria's prisons

\$727 million to ramp up the capacity in our prisons and youth justice centres including to:

- open almost 1,000 adult prison beds
- recruit 400 roles in adult corrections
- increased workforce training and capacity of rehabilitation and remand-focused programs
- expand primary health and forensic mental health services to meet the increased demand.



Supporting a safe and effective Corrections system

\$19.5 million to continue:

- employment supports to prevent recidivism
- culturally appropriate supports for Aboriginal women
- transition supports for people in custody with mental health needs and Aboriginal people
- supports for women in the criminal justice system and preventing gender-based violence
- progress corrections system recommendations from Yoorrook Justice Commission to reduce the cost of mobile phone calls made by people in custody.

Delivering a better corrections system



Raw imprisonment rate per 100,000 population

- Victoria – **114.9**
- NSW – **187.8**
- National average – **202.9**



Average daily time out of cells (hours)

- Victoria – **10.1**
- NSW – **8.3**
- National average – **9.0**



Participation in employment

- Victoria – **94.8%**
- NSW – **88.6%**
- National average – **79.1%**



Participation in education and training*

- Victoria – **30.0%**
- NSW – **16.9%**
- National average – **25.7%**

Source: Report on Government Services 2023-24, published in January 2025

*Note that different calculation methods are used across the states and territories

Reducing reoffending

Victoria's rate of return



To prison

- Was **39.3%** in 2023-24
- The national average was **43%** in 2023-24
- Victoria's expected outcome for 2024-25 is **37.1%**



To corrective services within two years of discharge from a Community Corrections Order

- Was **11.8%** in 2023-24
- The national average was **25.0%**
- Victoria's expected outcome for 2024-25 is **11.1%**



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Thank you.