



# THE RISING COSTS OF INCARCERATION: CRIMINAL INVESTMENT DECISIONS ©

## Introduction

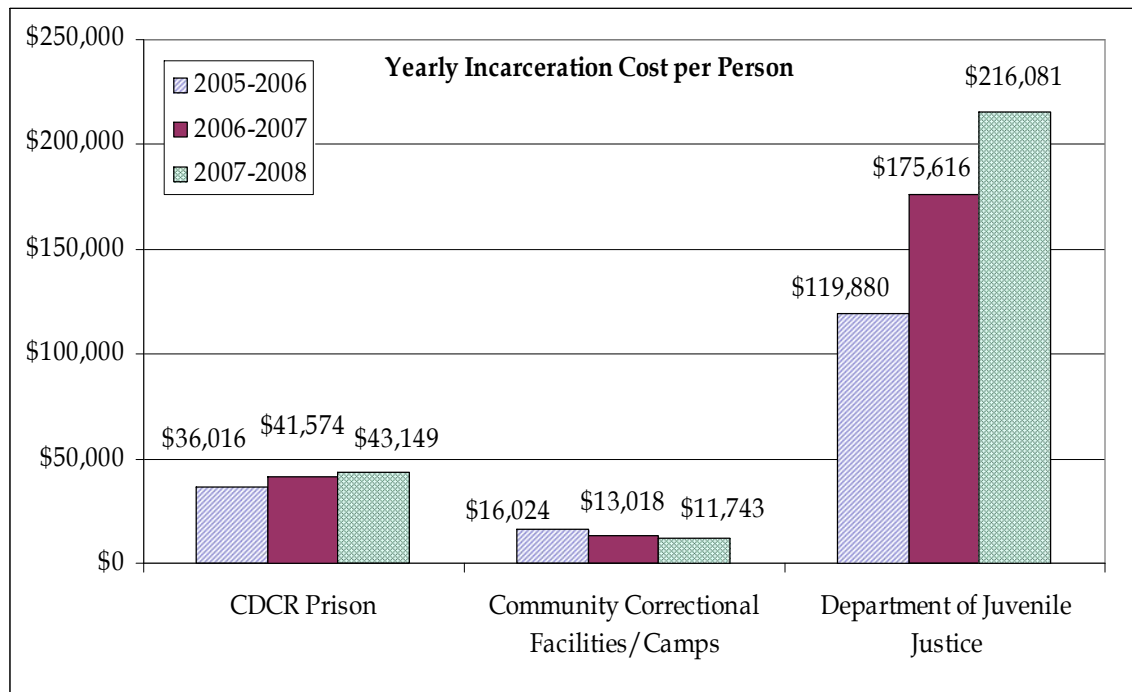
The State of California has more than doubled the amount of money spent on incarceration since fiscal year 1998-1999. Between 1986 and 1997, the state built 19 new correctional facilities. In 1998-1999, the yearly budget for the California Department of Corrections was \$4,061,703,000.<sup>1</sup> According to the Governor's Budget Projections for the Fiscal Year 2007-2008, it will cost \$9,776,618,000<sup>2</sup> to run the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR). California's prison population is at an all time high of more than 171,000 people and 31 of the state's 33 prisons are currently operating over-capacity.<sup>3</sup>

## The Basic Facts

The governor proposes spending \$216,081 per person in the 2007-08 fiscal year for youth and young adults incarcerated by the Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) and \$12,804 for each person under DJJ parole supervision.<sup>4</sup>

In 2005-06, the state spent only \$9,460 for each student in Oakland, \$7,592 for each student in San Francisco and \$8,158 for each student in West Contra Costa (Richmond)<sup>5</sup>. (See Table 4)

Figure 1: Yearly Incarceration Cost Per Person For CDCR and Department of Juvenile Justice 2005-06 through 2007-08<sup>6</sup>





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## Alternatives

- If the counties were provided with the funds going to DJJ to incarcerate youth and young adults, Alameda’s share would be \$ 28,738,773, Contra Costa’s share would be \$ 16,206,075 and San Francisco’s share would be \$7,562,835. (See Table 5)
- Rather than blindly increasing funding for a correction system that does not work, we need to stop investing in criminal justice and begin investing in community justice. Community justice investments begin by adequately funding the basic needs of children and their families including health, housing, education and training, and youth development programs. It continues by diverting funds from the criminal justice system for incarceration and re-directing them to providing support services needed by young people who do come into contact with the criminal justice system. Finally, it uses programs, such as transformational mentoring, to provide intensive, community-based programs and supports to youth for whom prevention and early intervention have not worked.

## More Facts on Funding for Incarceration

- Between 2005-06 and 2006-07, DJJ’s per person incarceration costs increased by 46% from \$119,880 per person to \$175,616 per person; the Governor’s projected budget for 2007-08 would increase the costs to \$216,081 and would represent an 80% increase in per person costs since 2005-06<sup>7</sup>. (See Figure 1 and Table 1).
- While DJJ costs per person have risen by 80%, the average daily population has dropped by over 65% (from 3,044 to 1,993)<sup>8</sup>. (See Table 3.)
- Between 2005-06 and 2006-07, DJJ’s per person parole supervision costs increased by over 33% from \$8,396 per person to \$11,209 per person; the Governor’s projected budget for 2007-08 would increase the costs to \$12,804 and would represent an 52.5% increase in per person costs since 2005-06<sup>9</sup>. (See Figure 1 and Table 1.)
- While CDCR cost increases have been much smaller over the same period (19.8%), CDCR will spend \$43,149 per person during the 2007-08 fiscal year. See Figure 1 and Table 1. The cost of room, board and expenses this year at Stanford is about \$46,000<sup>10</sup>.

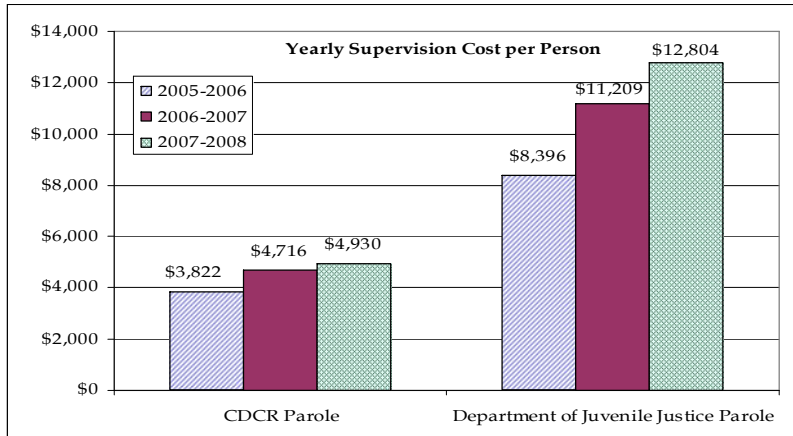
**Table 1: Yearly Incarceration Cost Per Person for CDCR and DJJ, 2005-06 through 2007-08<sup>11</sup>**

Yearly Incarceration Cost per Person	2005-2006	2006-2007	% change	2007-2008	% change
CDCR Prison	\$36,016	\$41,574	15.4%	\$43,149	3.8%
Community Correctional Facilities/Camps	\$16,024	\$13,018	-18.8%	\$11,743	-9.8%
Department of Juvenile Justice	\$119,880	\$175,616	<b>46.5%</b>	\$216,081	<b>23.0%</b>



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**Figure 2: Yearly Parole Supervision Cost of Per Person for CDCR and DJJ, 2005-06 through 2007-08<sup>12</sup>**



**Table 2: Yearly Parole Supervision Cost Per Person for CDCR and DJJ 2005-06 through 2007-08**

Yearly Supervision Cost per Person <sup>1</sup>	2005-2006	2006-2007	2007-2008
CDCR Parole	\$3,822	\$4,716	\$4,930
Department of Juvenile Justice Parole	\$8,396	\$11,209	\$12,804

**Table 3: Average Daily Population for CDCR and DJJ Facilities 2005-06 through 2007-08<sup>13</sup>**

Average Daily Population	2005-2006	2006-2007	2007-2008
CDCR Prison	160,473	163,812	168,239
Community Correctional Facilities/Camps	7,215	8,526	8,275
Department of Juvenile Justice	3,044	2,726	1,993

**Table 4: Education to CDCR Budget Comparisons<sup>14</sup>**

2005-2006	Annual Budget	Number Served	Per Person Expenditure
CDCR	\$7,398,943,000	314,349	\$23,537
Oakland Unified School District	\$367,999,599	38,900	\$9,460
San Francisco Unified School District	\$381,397,349	50,233	\$7,592
West Contra Costa Unified School District	\$241,208,067	29,565	\$8,158
Community College	\$8,006,000,000	1,617,892	\$4,948
California State University (CSU)	\$3,846,000,000	332,223	\$11,577
University of California (UC)	\$4,817,000,000	191,912	\$25,100



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**Table 5: Estimated Costs for DJJ Incarceration by County for Proposed 2007-08 Budget**

DJJ Population by County of Commitment	December 2006		
	Population Count	% of State Total	Cost @ \$216,081
Alameda County	133	4.9%	\$28,738,773
Contra Costa County	75	2.8%	\$16,206,075
San Francisco County	35	1.3%	\$7,562,835
Tri-County Total	243		\$52,507,683
State Total	2,719	100.0%	\$587,524,239

<sup>1</sup> <http://www.documents.dgs.ca.gov/osp/GovernorsBudget/pdf/yac.pdf>

<sup>2</sup> <http://www.ebudget.ca.gov/pdf/GovernorsBudget/5210.pdf>

<sup>3</sup> As of 5/22/07, only California Medical Facility and California Rehabilitation Center were operating within their designed capacity. <http://www.cya.ca.gov/Visitors/facilities.html>

<sup>4</sup> [http://www.dof.ca.gov/Budget/Budget\\_2007-08/GovernorsBudget\\_2007-08/documents/5210-C&R.pdf](http://www.dof.ca.gov/Budget/Budget_2007-08/GovernorsBudget_2007-08/documents/5210-C&R.pdf)

<sup>5</sup> [http://www.dof.ca.gov/html/Budget\\_05-06/StateHighlights05w.pdf](http://www.dof.ca.gov/html/Budget_05-06/StateHighlights05w.pdf)

<sup>6</sup> [http://www.dof.ca.gov/Budget/Budget\\_2007-08/GovernorsBudget\\_2007-08/documents/5210-C&R.pdf](http://www.dof.ca.gov/Budget/Budget_2007-08/GovernorsBudget_2007-08/documents/5210-C&R.pdf)

<sup>7</sup> [http://www.dof.ca.gov/Budget/Budget\\_2007-08/GovernorsBudget\\_2007-08/documents/5210-C&R.pdf](http://www.dof.ca.gov/Budget/Budget_2007-08/GovernorsBudget_2007-08/documents/5210-C&R.pdf)

<sup>8</sup> [http://www.dof.ca.gov/Budget/Budget\\_2007-08/GovernorsBudget\\_2007-08/documents/5210-C&R.pdf](http://www.dof.ca.gov/Budget/Budget_2007-08/GovernorsBudget_2007-08/documents/5210-C&R.pdf)

<sup>9</sup> [http://www.dof.ca.gov/Budget/Budget\\_2007-08/GovernorsBudget\\_2007-08/documents/5210-C&R.pdf](http://www.dof.ca.gov/Budget/Budget_2007-08/GovernorsBudget_2007-08/documents/5210-C&R.pdf)

<sup>10</sup> [http://www.dof.ca.gov/Budget/Budget\\_2007-08/GovernorsBudget\\_2007-08/documents/5210-C&R.pdf](http://www.dof.ca.gov/Budget/Budget_2007-08/GovernorsBudget_2007-08/documents/5210-C&R.pdf)

<sup>11</sup> [http://www.dof.ca.gov/Budget/Budget\\_2007-08/GovernorsBudget\\_2007-08/documents/5210-C&R.pdf](http://www.dof.ca.gov/Budget/Budget_2007-08/GovernorsBudget_2007-08/documents/5210-C&R.pdf)

<sup>12</sup> [http://www.dof.ca.gov/Budget/Budget\\_2007-08/GovernorsBudget\\_2007-08/documents/5210-C&R.pdf](http://www.dof.ca.gov/Budget/Budget_2007-08/GovernorsBudget_2007-08/documents/5210-C&R.pdf)

<sup>13</sup> [http://www.dof.ca.gov/Budget/Budget\\_2007-08/GovernorsBudget\\_2007-08/documents/5210-C&R.pdf](http://www.dof.ca.gov/Budget/Budget_2007-08/GovernorsBudget_2007-08/documents/5210-C&R.pdf)

<sup>14</sup> [http://www.dof.ca.gov/html/Budget\\_05-06/StateHighlights05w.pdf](http://www.dof.ca.gov/html/Budget_05-06/StateHighlights05w.pdf)