

House  
Legislative  
Oversight  
Committee



Full Report: Study of the South Carolina

# Department of Corrections

*Wednesday, September 21, 2022*

The background of the page features a large, faint, circular seal of the House of Representatives of South Carolina. The seal contains the text "HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES" at the top, "SOUTH CAROLINA" at the bottom, and the Latin motto "DUM SPIRO Spero" on the right. In the center of the seal is a depiction of a palmetto tree, a ship, and a plow, symbolizing the state's history and industry.

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# Department of Corrections

*Wednesday, September 21, 2022*



South Carolina  
House of Representatives  
Legislative Oversight Committee

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AGENCY SNAPSHOT

**CHALLENGES:**



Current:

- Retention of staff for correctional officers and medical staffing
- Increased demand for expansion of health services
- Contraband cell phones
- Decrepit buildings from deferred maintenance needed due to lack of funding
- Hepatitis C treatment due to lack of funding

Emerging:

- Managing a more violent population due to security threat groups
- Meeting the requirements and care needed for the aging prison population
- Aging buildings with deferred maintenance

**SUCCESSES:**



- Settled decade old mental health lawsuit
- Increased salaries for correctional officers, food service and mental health staff
- Working with cell phone industry to minimize contraband cell phones in SC prisons
- Closed 5 prisons
- Centralized pre-release functions for male inmates and developed a pre-release center at Manning

**MISSION:**



The Department of Corrections strives to protect The **SAFETY** of inmates and the public, provide **SERVICE** and rehabilitation for inmates, and be a **STEWARD** of professional excellence



**HISTORY:**

In 1866, the South Carolina Legislature passed an act to transfer the control of convicted and sentenced felons from the countries to the state and appropriated \$65, 000 for construction and maintenance of a state Penitentiary.

**ORGANIZATIONAL UNITS:**

- Program, Reentry, and Rehabilitative Services
- Operations
- Health Services
- Administration
- Police Services
- Legal and Compliance



**RESOURCES:**

*Fiscal year 2018-29*

\$454, 639, 466

In State Funding

6,108

Available FTE positions (of which 4,811 are filled)