

March 3, 2016

L E G I S L A T I V E A N A L Y S T ' S O F F I C E

LAO 
75
YEARS OF
SERVICE

Overview of Population and Budget Trends for CDCR

Presented to:

Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Subcommittee No. 5

On Corrections, Public Safety and the Judiciary

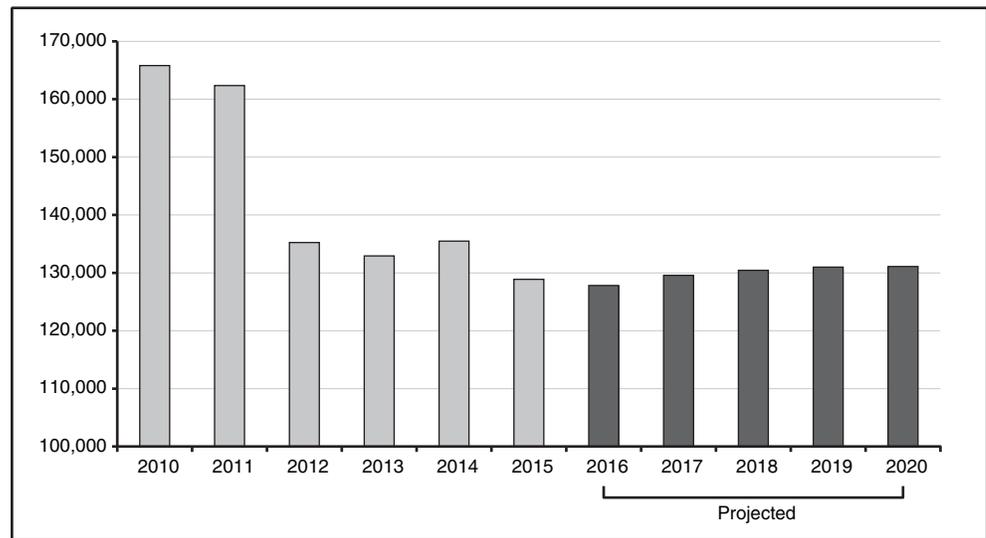
Hon. Loni Hancock, Chair





Inmate Population Has Declined Dramatically in Recent Years

Population on June 30



- ☑ **Population Has Declined Since 2010.** The inmate population declined by about 37,000 inmates (22 percent) from 2010 to 2015—from 166,000 to 129,000—due to various statutory changes.
- ☑ **2011 Realignment.** The majority of the above decline is attributable to the realignment of certain low-level felons from the state to counties. The realignment, which was implemented in October 2011, reduced the state prison population by tens of thousands of inmates within a couple years.



Inmate Population Has Declined Dramatically in Recent Years

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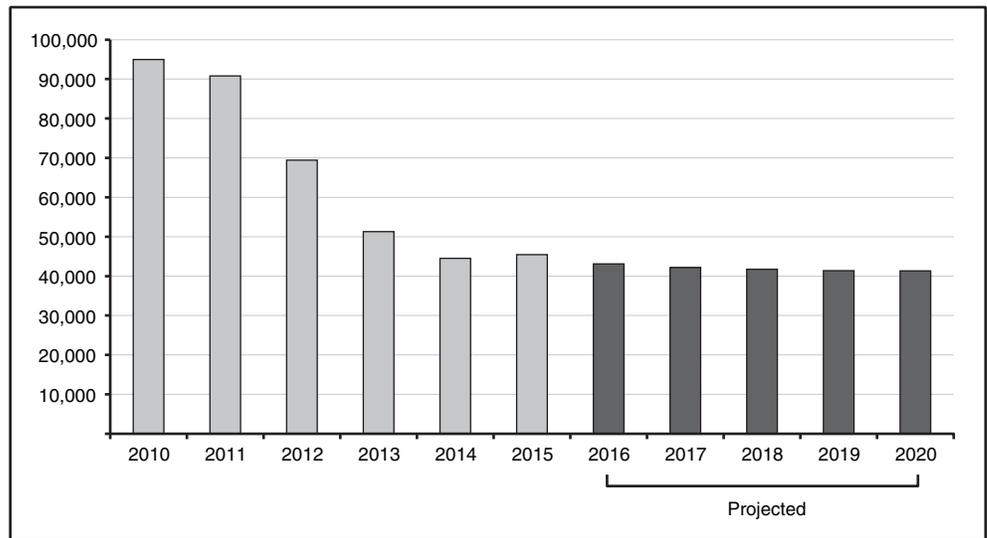
- ☑ ***Other Policy Changes.*** Other policy changes have also reduced the prison population in recent years. For example, Proposition 47 has reduced the prison population by several thousand inmates. The measure, which was approved by voters in November 2014, reduced penalties for certain offenders convicted of nonserious and nonviolent property and drug crimes. In addition, court-ordered policy changes implemented in 2014 and 2015 (such as an increase in the amount of sentence reduction credits that inmates can earn) have also reduced the prison population by several thousand inmates.

- ☑ ***Population Projected to Increase Slightly.*** The California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) projects that the inmate population will reach a level of 131,000 in 2020—reflecting an increase of about 3,000 (or 3 percent) from 2016. This increase is primarily due to a projected increase in offenders sentenced to state prisons by the courts.



Parole Population Has Declined Dramatically in Recent Years

Population on June 30

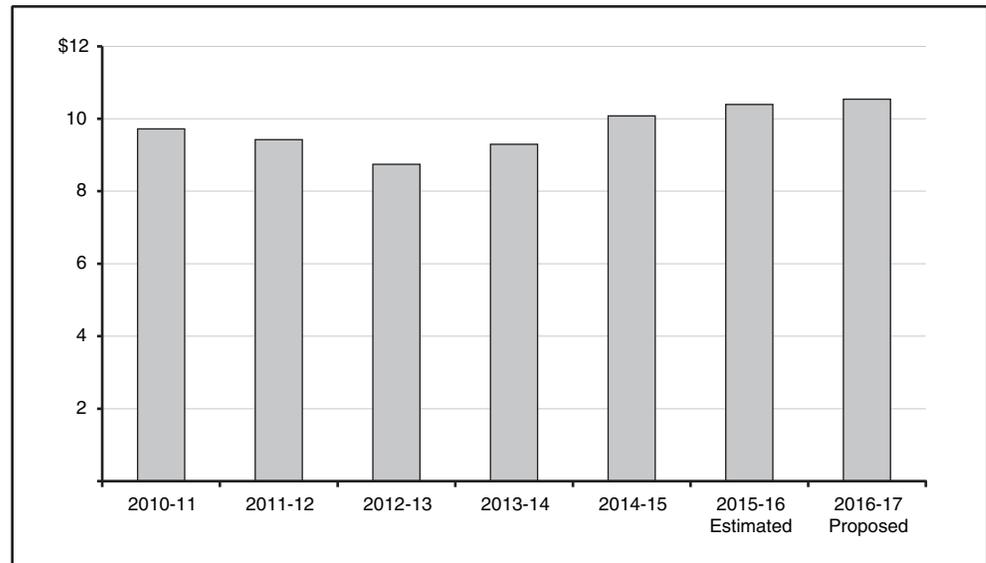


- ☑ **Population Has Declined Since 2010.** The parole population declined by about 50,000 from 2010 to 2015—from 95,000 to 45,000—primarily due to the 2011 realignment.
- ☑ **Parole Population Projected to Remain Flat.** CDCR projects that the parole population will remain relatively flat at just over 40,000 until 2020.



CDCR's Budget Declined Following Realignment, but Has Recently Increased

(Dollars in Billions)



- 2011 Realignment.** The total budget for CDCR declined by about \$1 billion from 2010-11 to 2012-13—from \$9.7 billion to \$8.7 billion—primarily due to reductions made due to the 2011 realignment.
- Budget Has Increased in Recent Years.** CDCR's budget is proposed to reach a level of \$10.5 billion in 2016-17—reflecting a \$1.8 billion increase since 2012-13. This increase is primarily driven by increased costs associated with (1) employee compensation, (2) the activation of a new prison health care facility, and (3) additional prison capacity to reduce prison overcrowding.