

Rep. Nuccio Requests for Information for the Subcommittee Work Sessions

Headcount questions:

- 1. What is the authorized headcount, the funded headcount and the filled headcount for your area?**

A: 5,962 Authorized, 5,962 funded, 5,670 filled

- 2. If there is change in headcount (either up or down) please provide an explanation of the change.**
- a. If there is a positive change in headcount, please explain why these positions are needed**
 - b. If these adds are legislatively driven, what piece of legislation is driving the increase?**

A: The Governor's Proposed Budget FY-24-25 Biennium includes funding for fifteen (15) new Correction Officer positions to address enhanced Telephone and Inmate Messaging Security and Monitoring Requirements resulting from increased utilization/volume. Utilization and volume has nearly tripled since these services legislatively changed from a user-supported model to a taxpayer supported model under Public Act 21-54 and Section 52 of Public Act 21-2 of the June Special Session.

The Governor's Proposed Budget also includes four (4) new positions to address the impacts on the Clean Slate legislation on agency records operations.

- 3. Are there any vacant positions in your headcount?**
- a. If yes, how are they budgeted into your plan? (as a full year FTE or partial? Are they fulltime or part time?)**
 - b. What is the anticipated start date of your vacancies? Are they staggered throughout the year, or all anticipated to start on July 1?**

A: The agency currently has FTE vacancies. DOC's workforce is fluid with continuous turnover. Vacancies are budget for the full position and full fiscal year.

- 4. How many vacancies did you have at year end on 06/30?**
- a. How many vacancies did you have throughout the year last fiscal year?**
 - b. How many new hires did you have in the same time period?**

A: The agency is currently recruiting for 324 approved vacancies.

- 5. What is the average cost of an FTE for your area?**

All staff (incl COs)

Avg Salary: \$69,242.89

- 6. What is the average fringe cost of an FTE in the comptrollers area?**

A: Fringe benefits costs are based on the retirement plan in which each employee is enrolled. Average rates, as a percentage of payroll, for FY 2023 are as follows:

	Retirement Plans				
	SERS Reg	SERS HD	ARP	Judges	TRS
SERS Regular	67.40%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
SERS HD	n/a	91.49%	n/a	n/a	n/a
ARP	n/a	n/a	14.60%	n/a	n/a
Judges	n/a	n/a	n/a	111.34%	n/a

TRS	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	38.89%
Unemployment Comp	0.18%	0.18%	0.18%	0.18%	0.18%
Group Life	0.23%	0.23%	0.23%	0.23%	0.23%
Social Security FICA	6.20%	6.20%	6.20%	6.20%	6.20%
Social Security					
Medicare	1.45%	1.45%	1.45%	1.45%	1.45%
Active Health	<u>22.00%</u>	<u>22.00%</u>	<u>22.00%</u>	<u>22.00%</u>	<u>22.00%</u>
TOTAL FRINGE RATE	97.46%	121.55%	44.66%	141.40%	68.95%

Lapse Questions:

1. Were there any lapsing accounts on 06/30?

- a. If yes, what were the accounts?
- b. If yes, what was the lapse balance?

A: Please refer to the Office of the *State Comptroller's Budgetary/Statutory Basis (GAAP Based Budgeting) Annual Report*: [Budgetar 2022.pdf \(ct.gov\)](#).

General Fund agencies: Exhibit B-3 shows, in the right-hand column, FY 2022 appropriations that were continued to FY 2023 for the General Fund.

STF agencies: Schedule C-5 shows the same information for the Special Transportation Fund.

Other Budgeted funds: Schedule C-6.

c. If yes, what drove the lapse? What spending didn't occur that was planned to occur?

A:

PS- In the last 2 months of the fiscal year, significant changes were made with recodes off of 10010 onto Covid funding and retro payments for union contracts. The requested transfer needed from RSA came in slightly under budget.

OE- A transfer was requested during the May FAC hearing, but not received until 06/20/2022. There were only a few days to spend \$4.2 million before the FY closed, and we were unable to make all of the intended payments before FY end.

Stress Management- Funding was received on 06/27/2022, and no expenditures were able to be made before the FY end closure.

Inmate Medical Services- We showed the largest surplus in Drugs and Pharmaceuticals due to an over projection of the usage of Hepatitis-C medications during the pandemic. This surplus was offsetting deficits in other line items. Some of which include overtime and the use of temporary services which continue to trend high as the agency contends with the challenging process of filling medical positions. The transfer of funds into the "Inmate Medical Services" account was required to effectuate the requirements of Section 43 of PA 22-118 which states "Up to \$10,000,000 of the amount appropriated to the Department of Correction, for Inmate Medical Services, in section 1 of special act 21-15 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022, shall not lapse on June 30, 2022, and shall be transferred to the Connecticut premium pay account". DOC had met the \$10 million threshold until the union negotiated lump sum payments were awarded for \$1.3 million.

Board of Pardons & Parole- Retro payments for union contracts came in slightly under budget.

Aid to P & D Inmates- Account is used on an as needed basis, and the need was limited in FY2022.

Volunteer Services- Volunteer services were limited due to agency restrictions due to the pandemic.

Community Support Services- The base CS budget allotment increased from approximately 34M in 2021 to 39M in 2022. In 2022, DOC also received 1.5M in hold back funds and 1.57M in COLA (\$695K more than needed to cover existing CS Contract Cola Payments), bringing the total CS funding available to \$42.5M with contract obligations totaling only \$39M.

2. **If there is a lapsing balance, do you anticipate it carrying forward?**
 - a. **If yes, how do you propose to use that lapse?**
 - b. **Will it be for one-time expenses?**
 - i. **If so, what are those one-time expenses?**
 - c. **If ongoing expense is that expense built into this budget in FY 25?**

A: The Governor's proposed FY 2024-2025 budget does not rely on any carryforwards of FY 2023 appropriations to fund ongoing operations, with the exception of OPM's Reserve for Salary Adjustment account.

Any potential surpluses accruing this FY will be used to offset accruing deficits in PS and OE resulting from the impacts of inflation and from the delay in the closure of the 3rd facility.

APRA

1. **Did you receive any ARPA funding in your department?**
 - a. **If yes, have you assumed the programs/staffing established with the ARPA funding is now in your General Fund budget as an ongoing expense?**
 - i. **If not all, how much?**
 - b. **Are there still ARPA funds included in this budget?**
 - i. **If yes, how much of this budget is continuation of ARPA funding?**
 - ii. **How much ARPA do you still have in the budget that may need to be picked up as ongoing expenses in out years?**

A: The Department seeks to insure long-term sustainability plans for the three ARPA funded programs. Funding for the TRUE and WORTH programs is being utilized for onetime training costs and curriculum development, which will allow the agency to sustain training into the future within available resources.

The Vocational Village project is separately discussed in the agency's responses to the Appropriations Committee's follow up questions from the February 24th budget hearing.

Any ongoing expenses related to ARPA projects would be a policy decision to be addressed by the Governor and Legislature as part of a future budget.

General Questions:

1. **Is there anything you would change about this budget?**
2. **Is there anything you would add to this budget?**
3. **Is there anything you would remove from this budget?**
4. **Is there any legislation that was passed you feel you are not adequately prepared to enforce?**

a. If so, what would we need to change to make it administer-able?

A: No.