



#652
April 13, 2021

Report to the Mississippi Legislature

Issue Brief: Mississippi Department of Corrections Accountability Program Inventory

PEER: The Mississippi Legislature's Oversight Agency

The Mississippi Legislature created the Joint Legislative Committee on Performance Evaluation and Expenditure Review (PEER Committee) by statute in 1973. A joint committee, the PEER Committee is composed of seven members of the House of Representatives appointed by the Speaker and seven members of the Senate appointed by the Lieutenant Governor. Appointments are made for four-year terms, with one Senator and one Representative appointed from each of the U.S. Congressional Districts and three at-large members appointed from each house. Committee officers are elected by the membership, with officers alternating annually between the two houses. All Committee actions by statute require a majority vote of four Representatives and four Senators voting in the affirmative.

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The Committee assigns top priority to written requests from individual legislators and legislative committees. The Committee also considers PEER staff proposals and written requests from state officials and others.

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April 13, 2021

Honorable Tate Reeves, Governor
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Members of the Mississippi State Legislature

On April 13, 2021, the PEER Committee authorized release of the report titled ***Issue Brief: Mississippi Department of Corrections Accountability Program Inventory.***

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Timmy Ladner".

Representative Timmy Ladner, Chair

This report does not recommend increased funding or additional staff.

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Mississippi Department of Corrections Accountability Program Inventory

Summary: The Mississippi Department of Corrections (MDOC) expends over half of its financial resources on providing for the health and safety of inmates, maintaining the security of the state’s prisons, and total costs of housing state inmates in private prisons and county-owned regional facilities. While expenditures on adult prison-based intervention programs account for less than two percent of MDOC’s total estimated expenditures, research shows a high likelihood that the long-term return on dollars invested in well-run intervention programs, shown by high-quality research to be effective in reducing recidivism, will exceed costs, in some cases by large amounts.

Background

MISS. CODE ANN. Section 27-103-159 (1972) requires the development of an inventory of state agency programs/activities for use in the budgeting process, including estimated expenditures, FTEs, and identification of intervention programs. MDOC began working with legislative staff in 2014 to create an accountability program inventory and provide a more detailed overview of its expenditures and staff responsibilities.

Key Terms

Accountability Program

Defined by PEER as a discrete set of activities upon which state resources are expended, designed to achieve a specific outcome(s) or objective(s).

Intervention Program

Defined by the Results First Initiative as a systematic set of activities or practices that engage specific participants to achieve a desired outcome(s), e.g., prevent recidivism, and that may be subjected to experimental review for efficacy.

Direct Program Expenditures

Includes dollars spent on individuals directly responsible for providing the intervention program to inmates and on materials used to teach or implement the program.

Performance Measure Facts Reported by MDOC in FY 2020

- MDOC’s prison population slightly declined.
- MDOC’s recidivism rate was 37.4%.
- Mississippi’s prisons were more violent.
- MDOC has a large number of vacant correctional officer positions.

What were MDOC’s total expenditures in FY 2019 and FY 2020?

MDOC’s estimated expenditures totaled approximately \$343.8 million in FY 2019 and approximately \$348.5 million in FY 2020.

What were MDOC’s largest expenditures in FY 2019 and FY 2020?

By major object, MDOC expended over half of its budget on contractual services, 58% (\$199 million) in FY 2019 and 61% (\$213 million) in FY 2020.

The chart below shows MDOC’s top three largest expenditures by accountability program for FY 2019 and FY 2020. As shown in the chart, MDOC’s largest expenditures were for providing onsite medical care and housing state inmates in private prisons and county-owned regional facilities.

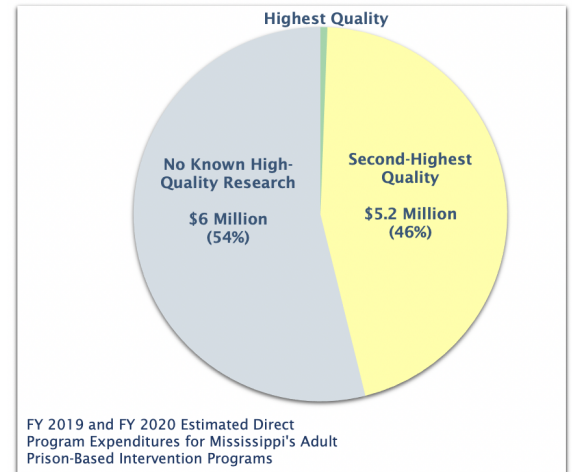
Accountability Program	Estimated Expenditures	
	FY 2019	FY 2020
Onsite Medical Care provided through a Contract	\$53 Million (15%)	\$53 Million (15%)
Total Cost to House State Inmates in Private Prisons	\$44 Million (13%)	\$53 Million (15%)
Total Cost to House State Inmates in County-Owned Regional Facilities	\$39 Million (11%)	\$38 Million (11%)
Total	\$136 Million (39%)	\$144 Million (41%)

How much did the twenty-one adult correctional facilities spend on adult prison-based intervention programs, including level of research quality, during fiscal years 2019 and 2020?

Mississippi's twenty-one adult correctional facilities housing state inmates reported approximately **\$11.3 million** (\$5.8 million in FY 2019; and \$5.5 million in FY 2020) in total estimated direct program expenditures on prison-based intervention programs in FY 2019 and FY 2020. Expenditures on prison-based intervention programs accounted for less than two percent of MDOC's total estimated expenditures during both fiscal years.

As shown in the chart to the right, approximately **46%** of the total estimated direct program expenditures for prison-based intervention programs were on programs shown to be effective in reducing recidivism by high-quality research. However, it is not known whether these programs are being implemented with fidelity to program design.

Also, as shown in the chart, expenditures for intervention programs with no known high-quality research supporting their effectiveness in reducing recidivism accounted for **54%** of total intervention program expenditures. A majority of these expenditures were for life skills and various alcohol and drug abuse treatment programs.



What steps can the state's adult correctional facilities take to improve the impact of adult prison-based intervention program dollars on reducing recidivism?

1. Move financial resources out of intervention programs with no known high-quality research on their effectiveness into programs that high-quality research shows to be effective in reducing recidivism.
2. On an ongoing basis, evaluate the implementation of all programs supported by high-quality research to ensure programs are delivered with fidelity to the critical elements of program design. To achieve the monetized benefits that will accrue to the state and society from a reduction in recidivism, it is more effective to faithfully execute a few high-quality programs than to execute many high-quality programs poorly.

MDOC's Adult Prison-Based Intervention Program Facts

- There is wide variation in the intervention programs (e.g., cognitive behavioral therapy, vocational education, religious programs) offered by each of the state's twenty-one adult correctional facilities.
- Only one program, Restorative Justice, meets the high standard of "evidence-based" research set forth in MISS. CODE ANN. Section 27-103-159 (1)(a) (1972).
- Six prison-based programs or program categories met the standard for high-quality research based on levels 3, 4, or 5 of the Maryland Scientific Methods Scale.
- PEER identified thirteen programs supported by high-quality research showing their effectiveness in reducing recidivism that could be implemented by the correctional facilities in place of programs unsupported by known high-quality research in Mississippi's inventory.

Accountability Program Inventory Background

MISS. CODE ANN. Section 27-103-159 (1972) (H.B. 677, 2014 Regular Session) requires:

- the development of an inventory of state agency programs/activities for use in the budgeting process beginning with the Mississippi Departments of: Corrections, Education, Health, and Transportation;
- estimated expenditures and full-time equivalent (FTE) positions for each agency program;
- the categorization of programs as intervention or nonintervention and all intervention programs as evidence-based, research-based, promising, or other; and,
- the identification of agency and program premises, goals, objectives, outputs, and outcomes, as well as any other indicator or component staff consider to be appropriate, such as evidence of a program's adherence to best practices.

For purposes of the program inventory and in order to distinguish programs from budget programs, a program in the inventory is known as an **accountability program**, which PEER defines as a discrete set of activities upon which state resources are expended, designed to achieve a specific outcome(s) or objective(s). All programs provided by or funded through state government are included in the inventory, regardless of funding source or who carries out the program (e.g., state employees, contractors). The collection and reporting of performance and expenditure data at the accountability program level allows legislators and agency staff to obtain a deeper understanding of what agencies are accomplishing with public funds.

Purpose of Issue Brief

The purpose of this issue brief is to provide policymakers with an inventory of Mississippi Department of Corrections (MDOC) accountability programs for fiscal years 2019 and 2020, including expenditures and FTEs for each program. The brief also includes selected performance measures reported by MDOC from FY 2016 to FY 2020.

To estimate MDOC's expenditures and FTEs by accountability program, PEER reviewed data reported in the state's accounting system, Mississippi's Accountability System for Government Information and Collaboration (MAGIC), and the state's human resource system, the Statewide Payroll and Human Resource System (SPAHRs). PEER also reviewed performance and intervention program data submitted by MDOC.

In order to determine which of the MDOC's intervention programs are shown to be effective by high-quality research¹ if properly implemented,² PEER examined the research contained in the Results First Clearinghouse Database (<https://www.pewtrusts.org/en/research-and-analysis/issue-briefs/2014/09/results-first-clearinghouse-database>).

¹ PEER defines high-quality research as an evaluation for which the program received a ranking of at least level three on the Maryland Scientific Scale, which requires a control group (see MISS. CODE ANN. Section 27-103-159 (1) (g)).

² Unless intervention programs shown to be effective through high-quality research are implemented with fidelity to program design, they will not achieve the reductions in recidivism reported in the research.

MDOC's Estimated Expenditures and FTEs by Accountability Program for Fiscal Years 2019 and 2020

Creation of MDOC's Accountability Program Inventory

Beginning in 2014, to provide the Legislature with a more detailed overview of expenditures and staff responsibilities, MDOC and Legislative staff:

- worked to change MDOC's budget from one budget unit with eleven budget programs to eleven budget units with twelve budget programs;
- established cost centers in MAGIC to estimate expenditures and identified staff in SPAHRS for each of MDOC's accountability programs; and,
- identified prison-based intervention programs in Mississippi's twenty-one adult correctional facilities.

MDOC's estimated expenditures³ totaled approximately \$343.8 million in FY 2019 and approximately \$348.5 million in FY 2020. By major object, MDOC expended approximately 90% of its funding on contractual services and salaries, wages, and fringe benefits during both fiscal years.

MDOC's total estimated expenditures increased from \$343.8 million in FY 2019 to \$348.5 million in FY 2020.

By major object, MDOC expended over half of its budget on contractual services, 58% (\$199 million) in FY 2019 and 61% (\$213 million) in FY 2020. MDOC's contractual services expenditures were primarily for medical services, inmate housing provided by private prisons and regional facilities, food services, and institutional utilities.

Salaries, wages, and fringe benefits made up approximately 29% (\$101 million) of MDOC's total estimated expenditures in FY 2019 and approximately 28% (\$98 million) in FY 2020. In FY 2020, salaries, wages, and fringe benefits at the three state-operated prisons accounted for approximately 57% of total personnel expenditures, followed by 31% within community corrections, and 10% for staff located in MDOC's central office. As of January 31, 2021, MDOC had 2,490 positions, 1,653 employees, and 837 vacancies, a total vacancy rate of 34%.

During both fiscal years reviewed, by budget unit and budget program, Medical Services, Private Prisons, and Regional Facilities accounted for over 50% of MDOC's estimated expenditures.

MDOC expends over half of its financial resources on providing for the health and safety of inmates, maintaining the security of the state's prisons, and housing state inmates in private prisons and county-owned regional facilities.

To compile MDOC's accountability program inventory for FY 2019 and FY 2020, PEER used data reported by MDOC in MAGIC and SPAHRS.⁴ The accountability program inventory is an additional way to report MDOC's total estimated expenditures presented

³ PEER estimated accountability program expenditures by using data reported in MAGIC and SPAHRS. It should be noted that there are differences between MDOC's expenditures in the program inventory and expenditures reported in MDOC's FY 2021 and FY 2022 budget requests submitted to the Legislative Budget Office (LBO) because expenditures are estimated for each accountability program using the two databases, and due to the timeframe in which agency budgets are submitted to LBO.

⁴ In 2014, PEER began the process of identifying MDOC's accountability programs by interviewing MDOC's staff and reviewing the Department's employee data, organizational chart, legislative budget requests, and other internal documents.

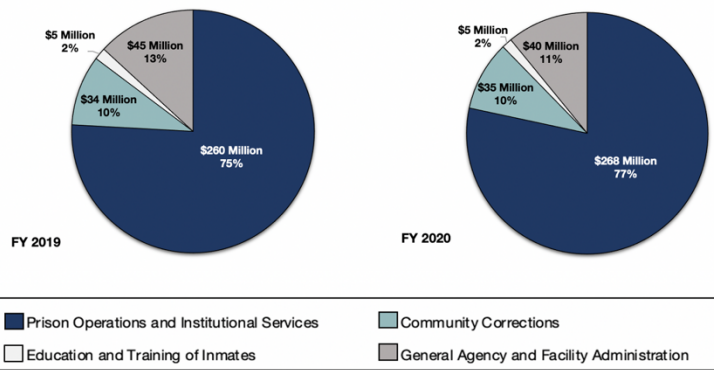
on page 2. The inventory allows legislators to drill down into MDOC’s budget to understand how much the Department expends on activities within each of its budget units and programs. Appendix A on page 16 provides estimated expenditures and FTEs by accountability program for each of MDOC’s eleven budget units.

In FY 2019 and FY 2020, PEER identified 59 accountability programs and classified each program in the following four broad categories:

- prison operations and institutional services (e.g., institutional security, medical care, food services, private prisons, regional facilities, local confinement);
- general agency and facility administration (e.g., executive management, human resources, property management and building services);
- community corrections (e.g., probation and parole services, community work centers, restitution centers, parole board); and,
- education and training of inmates (e.g., intervention programs).

As shown in Exhibit 1 on page 3, accountability program expenditures in the prison operations and institutional services category totaled approximately \$260 million (75% of total estimated expenditures) in FY 2019 and \$268 million (77% of total estimated expenditures) in FY 2020. The next largest expenditures were for general agency and facility administration which totaled approximately \$45 million (13% of total estimated expenditures) in FY 2019 and \$40 million (11% of total estimated expenditures) in FY 2020. Community corrections expenditures accounted for approximately 10% of total estimated expenditures in both fiscal years. As discussed on page 7, MDOC spends less than 2% of its total estimated expenditures on education and training programs for inmates.⁵

Exhibit 1: MDOC's Total Estimated Expenditures by Broad Category in FY 2019 and FY 2020



Source: PEER analysis of data reported in MAGIC and SPAHRS.

Exhibit 2 on page 4 provides annual estimated expenditures and FTEs⁶ for the ten MDOC accountability programs with the largest expenditures, accounting for 75% of MDOC’s total estimated expenditures in FY 2019 and FY 2020. In both fiscal years, by

⁵ Because MDOC contracts with regional facilities and private prisons to house state inmates, the total estimated expenditures reported on intervention programs for the accountability program inventory in this section do not include regional and private facility expenditures. For a breakdown of intervention programs self-reported by the county-owned regional correctional facilities and private prisons, refer to discussion beginning on page 6.

⁶ PEER calculated FTEs for each accountability program by dividing the number of person hours expended on the program for each fiscal year by 2,080 (i.e., the total person-hours that one full-time employee is paid for in one year, which is equal to 52 weeks multiplied by 40 hours per week).

accountability program, the cost to provide inmates medical care (onsite and offsite) and the cost to house state inmates in private prisons were MDOC's largest expenditures.

Exhibit 2: Annual Expenditures and FTEs for the Ten MDOC Accountability Programs with the Largest Expenditures, Accounting for 75% of MDOC's Total Estimated Expenditures in FY 2019 and FY 2020

FY 2019

Program Category	Accountability Program	Estimated Expenditures	FTEs
Prison Operations and Institutional Services	Onsite Medical Care provided through a Contract	\$53 Million (15%)	0.00
	Total Cost to House State Inmates in Private Prisons	\$44 Million (13%)	0.00
	Total Cost to House State Inmates in County-Owned Regional Correctional Facilities	\$39 Million (11%)	0.00
	Institutional Security	\$33 Million (10%)	716.18
	Debt Service for Private Prisons	\$22 Million (6%)	0.00
	Offsite Medical Care (e.g., hospital, specialty care)	\$21 Million (6%)	0.00
Community Corrections	Probation and Parole Services	\$16 Million (5%)	211.84
General Agency and Facility Administration	Executive Management	\$14 Million (4%)	17.19
Prison Operations and Institutional Services	Food Services	\$12 Million (3%)	10.24
	Local Confinement Reimbursement	\$7 Million (2%)	0.00
Total		\$261 Million (75%)	

FY 2020

Program Category	Accountability Program	Estimated Expenditures	FTEs
Prison Operations and Institutional Services	Onsite Medical Care provided through a Contract	\$53 Million (15%)	0.00
	Total Cost to House State Inmates in Private Prisons	\$53 Million (15%)	0.00
	Total Cost to House State Inmates in County-Owned Regional Correctional Facilities	\$38 Million (11%)	0.00
	Institutional Security	\$29 Million (8%)	646.24
	Offsite Medical Care (e.g., hospital, specialty care)	\$24 Million (7%)	0.00
	Debt Service for Private Prisons	\$22 Million (6%)	0.00
Community Corrections	Probation and Parole Services	\$16 Million (5%)	217.47
Prison Operations and Institutional Services	Food Services	\$10 Million (3%)	8.56
General Agency and Facility Administration	Executive Management	\$10 Million (3%)	12.8
Prison Operations and Institutional Services	Local Confinement Reimbursement	\$8 Million (2%)	0.00
Total		\$263 Million (75%)	

Note: In this exhibit, all expenditures are rounded to the nearest million. Percentages do not total to 100% because expenditures in this exhibit are for the ten MDOC accountability programs with the largest expenditures, accounting for 75% of total estimated expenditures in FY 2019 and FY 2020.

Appendix B on page 20 provides a brief description of all MDOC accountability programs, including total estimated expenditures for FY 2019 and FY 2020.

Source: PEER analysis of data reported in MAGIC and SPAHRS.

As shown in Exhibit 2 on page 4, MDOC expended approximately \$73 million (\$52 million + \$21 million) in FY 2019 and \$77 million (\$53 million + \$24 million) in FY 2020 on providing onsite and offsite medical care (separate accountability programs) to inmates in MDOC's custody. Combined, these two accountability programs accounted for over twenty percent of MDOC's total estimated expenditures and were MDOC's largest expenditures in both fiscal years.⁷ According to MDOC's legislative budget request, in FY 2020, the cost per inmate per day for medical care was approximately \$13.10.

During both fiscal years, Centurion of Mississippi, LLC, (Centurion)⁸ provided onsite medical, dental, pharmacy, and mental health care services to inmates in MDOC's custody at the three state-operated facilities, the county-owned regional correctional facilities, private prisons, community work centers, restitution centers, and the Governor's mansion. Pursuant to its contractual agreement with the medical services provider, MDOC is responsible for the costs of all offsite specialty care referrals, emergency room visits, transportation (e.g., ambulance), and inpatient admissions for hospital care expenses. In a review of MDOC's offsite medical care expenditures in MAGIC, PEER determined a majority of these expenditures were for miscellaneous services provided in a hospital setting (e.g., emergency room visits, overnight hospital stays, surgical procedures).

As shown in Exhibit 2 on page 4, in both fiscal years, MDOC's next largest expenditure, by accountability program, was the cost to house state inmates in private prisons. Expenditures for this program increased from \$44 million in FY 2019 to \$53 million in FY 2020. According to MDOC's legislative budget request, private prison expenditures increased due to the transfer of inmates from Parchman to the Tallahatchie County Correctional Facility. MDOC's goal during FY 2021 is to transfer inmates from the Tallahatchie County Correctional Facility to another private prison at the same or lower per diem rate.⁹ According to MDOC's monthly fact sheet published on its website, as of February 1, 2021, there were no state inmates housed within the Tallahatchie County Correctional Facility.

⁷ Refer to Appendix A on page 16 for additional medical services expenditures (e.g., offsite security) accounting for approximately one percent of MDOC's total estimated expenditures in FY 2019 and FY 2020.

⁸ As of October 6, 2020, MDOC entered into an emergency contract with VitalCore Health Strategies, LLC, (VitalCore) to replace Centurion as MDOC's onsite medical care service provider for a period of one year (October 6, 2020 to October 5, 2021).

⁹ During FY 2020, the cost per day per state inmate housed at the Tallahatchie County Correctional Facility was \$63.72. According to MDOC, the cost per day per state inmate housed either at the East, Marshall, or Wilkinson County Correctional Facility ranged from a low of \$30.15 to a high of \$42.94 in FY 2020.

Inventory of Mississippi’s Prison–Based Intervention Programs for Fiscal Years 2019 and 2020 and Identification of those Programs Supported by High–Quality Research

It is important to note that the financial and programmatic data collected from Mississippi’s adult correctional facilities for prison-based intervention programs presented in this issue brief are self-reported by MDOC and the facilities and are unaudited.

Defining High–Quality Research

PEER defines “high-quality research” as any research study meeting either of the following two standards:

- the definition of “evidence-based program” included in MISS. CODE ANN. Section 27–103–159 (1)(a) (1972): “a program or practice that has had multiple-site randomized controlled trials across heterogeneous populations demonstrating that the program or practice is effective for the population;” or,
- Level 3, 4, or 5 of the Maryland Scientific Methods Scale (SMS).

Appendix C on page 29 presents the defining elements of research, by level of research quality.

Mississippi’s twenty-one adult correctional facilities housing state inmates reported approximately \$11.3 million (\$5.8 million in FY 2019; and \$5.5 million in FY 2020) in total direct expenditures on prison-based intervention programs in nine broad program areas for FY 2019 and FY 2020.

PEER created an inventory of prison-based intervention programs¹⁰ offered by the state’s twenty-one correctional facilities (state-operated, regional (county-operated), and private)¹¹ for fiscal years 2019 and 2020.

The correctional facilities reported offering adult prison-based intervention programs in nine broad program areas: correctional education (basic skills), correctional education (post-secondary), vocational education, alcohol and drug abuse treatment, cognitive behavioral skills training and therapy, multi-purpose programs, restorative justice, life skills, and religious programs.

Exhibit 3 on page 8, provides a list of Mississippi’s adult prison-based intervention programs for FY 2019 and FY 2020, being offered by correctional facility and categorized by quality of research supporting the program’s effectiveness in reducing recidivism. Each facility provided direct program expenditures, which include dollars spent on individuals directly responsible for providing the program to inmates and on materials used to teach or implement the program. These expenditures were self-reported by the facilities and have not been audited for accuracy by PEER. Several of the programs in the exhibit, located at the county-owned regional correctional facilities and private

¹⁰ The Results First Initiative defines an intervention program as a systematic set of activities or practices that engage specific participants to achieve a desired outcome(s), e.g., prevent recidivism, and that may be subjected to experimental review for efficacy.

¹¹ While there were state inmates housed at the Tallahatchie County Correctional Facility during FY 2020, PEER did not include programs offered to inmates at this private prison. As of February 1, 2021, MDOC has transferred all state inmates out of the Tallahatchie County Correctional Facility and into other facilities in the state.

prisons, were provided to inmates by volunteers (e.g., community colleges, local churches, and community groups) at little or no cost to the facility or the state.

As shown in Exhibit 3, the type and number of programs offered at each facility vary widely. While all of the facilities reported offering some type of life skills training, none of the programs reported were offered at all facilities. For instance, twenty facilities offered alcohol and drug abuse treatment, eighteen facilities offered correctional education (basic skills), seventeen facilities had religious programs and services, and twelve facilities reported offering vocational education. Appendix D on page 30 lists the type of vocational skill training provided by facility. As the appendix shows, the facilities offer vocational education in a combined total of twenty-three skill areas.

In both FY 2019 and FY 2020, prison-based intervention program expenditures accounted for less than 2% of MDOC's total estimated expenditures. However, Results First reports a high likelihood that the long-term return on dollars invested in well-run intervention programs that high-quality research shows to be effective in reducing recidivism will exceed costs, in some cases by large amounts. As discussed on page 3, while the vast majority of MDOC's financial resources are expended on providing for the health and safety of inmates and maintaining the security of the state's prisons, there is an opportunity to improve the outcomes (i.e., recidivism) by more strategically investing the limited resources currently expended on adult prison-based intervention programs.

Approximately 45% of the total estimated direct expenditures reported by Mississippi's adult correctional facilities for prison-based intervention programs were on programs shown to be effective in reducing recidivism by high-quality research.

Mississippi's adult correctional facilities reported estimated direct expenditures of approximately \$2.7 million (45% of total estimated direct program expenditures) in FY 2019 and \$2.5 million (45% of total estimated direct program expenditures) in FY 2020 on programs shown to be effective in reducing recidivism by high-quality research. As Exhibit 3 on page 8 shows, based on the published research reviewed by PEER and the intervention programs submitted by the correctional facilities for the inventory, only one program, Restorative Justice, qualifies as high-quality research by meeting the high standard of "evidence-based" set forth in MISS. CODE ANN. Section 27-103-159 (1)(a) (1972). The following six prison-based programs or program categories met the standard for high-quality research based on Levels 3, 4, and 5 of the Maryland Scientific Methods Scale: vocational education, correctional education (basic skills), correctional education (post-secondary), Interactive Journaling (cognitive behavioral therapy), Thinking for a Change (cognitive behavioral therapy), and Therapeutic Communities (alcohol and drug abuse treatment).

As shown in Exhibit 3, the East Mississippi Correctional Facility did not report expenditures for Therapeutic Communities. In order to have a better understanding of how much is being spent on prison-based intervention programs shown to be effective in reducing recidivism by high-quality research, it is important for all facilities to maintain and report expenditure/participant data for each program.

The following three programs accounted for approximately one percent of estimated direct expenditures: Cognitive Skills Training, Moral Reconciliation Therapy, and Inside Out Dad. Cognitive Skills Training was shown by high-quality research to have no effect in reducing recidivism. The program was only offered at one facility and provided by volunteers at no cost to the state. In addition, Moral Reconciliation Therapy, also a cognitive behavioral therapy program, offered at six facilities, was shown by high-quality research to have mixed effects in reducing recidivism. As shown in Appendix F on page 32, there are two cognitive behavioral therapy programs supported by high-quality research showing their effectiveness in reducing recidivism that could be implemented in place of Cognitive Skills Training and Moral Reconciliation Therapy. One of the possible replacement programs, Thinking for a Change, is already being offered at two of the facilities reporting to offer Moral Reconciliation Therapy. In addition, the research-base for Inside Out Dad did not have adequate methodological rigor to determine the impact of the program on recidivism. As shown in Appendix F, there is one parenting program (i.e., Parenting Inside Out) supported by high-quality research that the five facilities could use as a replacement program for Inside Out Dad.

Appendix G on page 35 contains a brief description of each prison-based intervention program in Mississippi's inventory, categorized by the quality of research supporting the program.

Over 50% of the total estimated direct expenditures, reported by Mississippi's adult correctional facilities, for prison-based intervention programs were on programs with no known high-quality research supporting their effectiveness in reducing recidivism.

As shown in Exhibit 3 on page 8, the state's adult correctional facilities estimated having expended approximately \$3 million (54% of total estimated direct program expenditures) in FY 2019 and \$2.9 million (54% of total estimated direct program expenditures) in FY 2020 on prison-based intervention programs with no known high-quality research supporting their effectiveness in reducing recidivism. A majority of these expenditures (approximately 80%) were on life skills and various alcohol and drug abuse treatment programs (refer to Appendix E on page 31 for a list of alcohol and drug programs, by facility). As noted in Exhibit 3, the pre-release program offered at the three state-operated prisons is an umbrella of services that includes Smart Start, Thinking for a Change, and other job assistance and educational programs. While Thinking for a Change is a program shown to be effective in reducing recidivism, PEER found no high-quality research supporting the effectiveness of the other programs offered as part of this service.

Appendix F on page 32 describes thirteen programs supported by high-quality research showing their effectiveness in reducing recidivism that could be implemented by the facilities in place of the programs unsupported by known high-quality research in Mississippi's inventory.

There are opportunities for MDOC to improve the impact of the state's limited adult prison-based intervention program dollars.

There are steps that MDOC and the state's adult correctional facilities can take to maximize the impact of their limited adult prison-based intervention program dollars:

- 1. Move financial resources out of programs with no known high-quality research of their effectiveness into programs that high-quality research shows to be effective in reducing recidivism.** Appendix F on page 32 provides a list of programs supported by high-quality research that Mississippi's adult correctional facilities could consider implementing in place of programs in the inventory without a known research base. For instance, Appendix F lists six alcohol and drug abuse treatment programs shown by high-quality research to be effective in reducing recidivism, any of which would be a less risky investment of public dollars than the dollars currently being expended on programs with no known evidence supporting their effectiveness in reducing recidivism. Similarly, the state funds expended on cognitive behavioral skills therapy and training programs (e.g., Moral Reconciliation Therapy) with no known high-quality research showing their effectiveness in reducing recidivism could be replaced with high-quality research cognitive behavioral therapy programs such as Thinking for a Change and Enhanced Thinking Skills. Additionally, state funds expended on various religious programs with no known evidence supporting their effectiveness in reducing recidivism could be replaced with the InnerChange Freedom Initiative which is a high-quality research, faith-based prison re-entry program. Last, state funds spent on various types of life skills programs (e.g., Re-invention, Pre-release Life Skills for Prisoners, Relapse Prevention, and Personal Development) with no known evidence supporting their effectiveness could be replaced with Lifestyle

Change and/or Enhanced Thinking Skills programs, both programs target a range of topics for providing prisoners with life skills needed to succeed upon re-entry into their respective communities thereby reducing recidivism.

- 2. Ensure fidelity of high-quality program implementation.** To achieve the reductions in recidivism reported in the research for each program supported by high-quality research, the state's correctional facilities must deliver these programs with fidelity to the critical elements of program design. In order to achieve the monetized benefits that will accrue to the state and society from a reduction in recidivism, it is more effective to faithfully execute a few high-quality programs than to execute many high-quality programs poorly. The following suggested actions relate to ensuring fidelity of program implementation.
 - a. Create a fidelity audit plan for each high-quality intervention program delivered to inmates and assess annually each program's compliance with the critical elements (e.g., program content, program intensity and duration, target population, qualifications of program provider) of successful implementation.
 - b. Monitor intervention program performance on an ongoing basis to ensure that reductions in recidivism reported in the high-quality research are being achieved.
 - c. Minimize the movement of inmates in and out of programs prior to completion. The full benefits of most programs are only realized if the inmate enrolled in a program follows it through to completion.
 - d. Match intervention programs to inmate rehabilitation needs.
 - e. Match areas of vocational skill training to employment opportunities by continuing to work with the Mississippi Department of Employment Security to ensure that there are a sufficient number of available jobs in Mississippi or neighboring states to justify the number of inmates being trained in each area of vocational skill certification offered.
 - f. Time the delivery of intervention programs to inmates to maximize their potential to reduce recidivism.

Selected MDOC Performance Measures from FY 2016 to FY 2020

It is important to note that the performance measure data presented in this issue brief were self-reported by MDOC and have not been verified by PEER for accuracy and reliability.

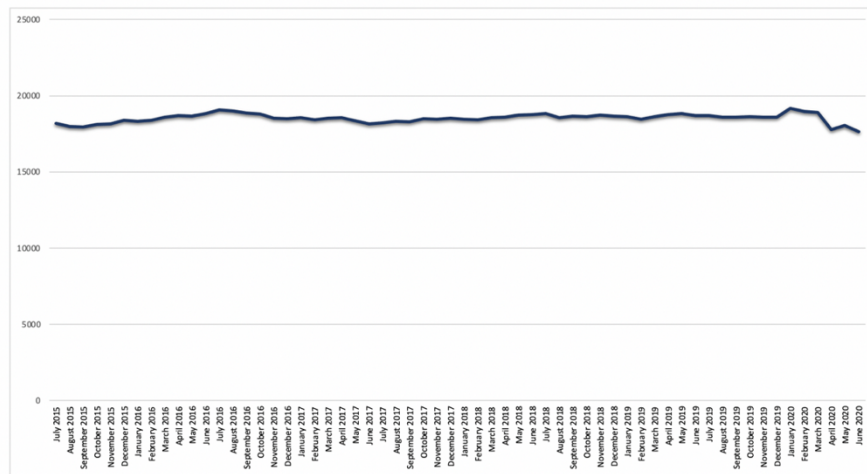
Average Prison Population in Mississippi

As outlined in MDOC’s Policy Manual,¹² MDOC facility personnel are to physically count (at least three counts daily) and report all state offenders housed in any correctional facility. Facility personnel enter the count information into MDOC’s computer system, Offendertrak, for internal use and dissemination by MDOC. To convey this information to the public, MDOC produces daily inmate population reports, monthly fact sheets, and annual reports.

As of June 30, 2020 (the last day of FY 2020), there were approximately 17,463 inmates in MDOC’s custody. Inmates in the state-operated facilities (i.e., Parchman, CMCF, and SMCI) accounted for 44% of the total prison population, followed by state inmates in county-owned regional facilities (24%), and private prisons (20%).

Exhibit 4 on page 12, shows average total prison population in Mississippi’s adult correctional facilities at the beginning of each month, from FY 2016 to FY 2020. For purposes of this issue brief, to determine MDOC’s average total prison population, PEER used data reported by MDOC in its monthly fact sheets and daily inmate population reports, and included inmates in custody at the three state-operated facilities, county-owned regional correctional facilities, private prisons, county jails, and community work centers.

Exhibit 4: Average Prison Population in Mississippi’s Adult Correctional Facilities, by Month, from FY 2016 to FY 2020



Note: Total average prison population presented in this graph does not include offenders being held in temporary housing, such as a technical violation center and transitional housing. MDOC reported the data in its monthly fact sheet at the beginning of each month, usually the first, second, or third day of each month.

Source: PEER analysis of MDOC’s monthly fact sheets from July 2015 to December 2019 and daily inmate population report from January 2020 to June 2020.

¹² PEER reviewed the following MDOC policies: Offender Count and Transport (16-06); Daily Population Reports (06-02); and Annual Population Projections (10-03).

According to data published by MDOC, its average prison population has slightly declined over time. As shown in Exhibit 4 on page 12, the steepest decline in prison population occurred during April 2020, when COVID-19 began affecting the normal operations of government, including those of county jails and correctional facilities. According to MDOC, while inmates are not being released early due to the COVID-19 pandemic, inmate admissions have declined across all admission types. In addition, local authorities could be holding current inmates and arresting fewer offenders due to concerns over COVID-19. As the pandemic is most likely supplementing the decline in MDOC’s prison population, it is impossible at this time to assess with any great accuracy whether or not other factors could be contributing to the decline.

Inmates Incarcerated for the Primary Offense of Drug (i.e., possession, intent to distribute and sale)

In the *MDOC FY 2019 Annual Report*, the most recent publication, MDOC reports that 4,133 offenders, or 20.8% of the total inmate population, were being incarcerated for the primary offense of “Drug” (i.e., possession, intent to distribute, and sale) during FY 2019. In addition to the total inmate population statistics, the *MDOC FY 2019 Annual Report* provides an overview of new admissions to MDOC for drug offenses. Exhibit 5 on page 13 provides the total number of offenders admitted into MDOC for drug possession and intent to distribute and sale (combined) from FY 2016 to FY 2019. As shown in the exhibit, drug admissions for possession and intent to distribute and sale declined from FY 2018 to FY 2019.

According to MDOC, from the first quarter of 2019 to the third quarter of 2020, all new inmates admitted on drug offenses served an average of 38% of their total sentence before being released.

Exhibit 5: MDOC’s Drug Admissions (i.e., Possession and Intent to Distribute and Sale) from FY 2016 to FY 2019

Drug Admissions: Possession					
	Male	Female	Total	Average Sentence (Years)	Average Age at Time of Sentence
FY 2016	1,087	200	1,287	5.5	34
FY 2017	1,140	229	1,369	5.6	35
FY 2018	1,277	278	1,555	5.4	35
FY 2019	1,235	267	1,502	5.4	36

Drug Admissions: Intent to Distribute and Sale (Combined)					
	Male	Female	Total	Average Sentence (Years)	Average Age at Time of Sentence
FY 2016	1,264	188	1,452	7.95	33.5
FY 2017	1,315	185	1,500	8.45	34.5
FY 2018	1,404	193	1,597	9.15	34
FY 2019	1,174	166	1,340	8.75	35.5

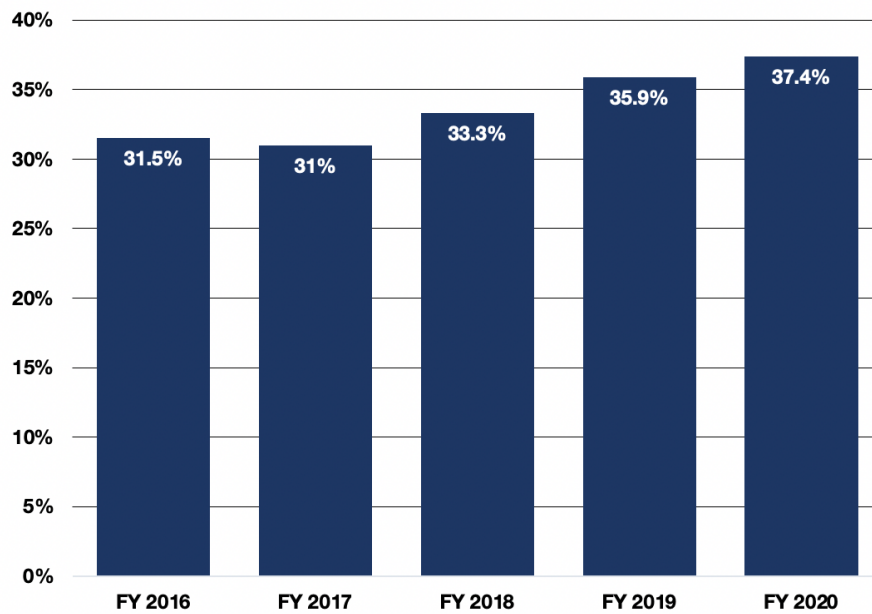
Source: Mississippi Department of Corrections Annual Report(s) for fiscal years 2016, 2017, 2018, and 2019.

MDOC's Recidivism Rate

MDOC reported its recidivism rate, i.e., the percentage of prisoners re-incarcerated within 36-months of initial release. For example, MDOC's recidivism rate in FY 2020 is based on inmates released from MDOC custody in FY 2017. As shown in Exhibit 6 on page 14, the percentage of prisoners re-incarcerated within 36-months exceeded 30% from FY 2016 to FY 2020, with a low of 31% in FY 2017 and high of 37.4% in FY 2020.

As discussed on page 7, the movement of MDOC's financial resources from intervention programs not supported by high-quality research into programs that are shown by high-quality research to be effective in reducing recidivism could help MDOC reduce the number of prisoners re-incarcerated within three years. However, in order to achieve the reductions in recidivism reported in the research, MDOC must then deliver these programs with fidelity to the critical elements of program design.

Exhibit 6: Percentage of Mississippi Prisoners Re-Incarcerated within 36-Months of Release by Fiscal Year



Source: Mississippi Department of Corrections.

Violence in Mississippi's Prisons

As reported by MDOC, Mississippi's prisons were more violent in FY 2020. As shown in Exhibit 7 on page 15, total inmate on inmate assaults increased from 663 in FY 2019 to 853 in FY 2020, an overall increase of 29%. In the five years reported by MDOC, inmate-on-inmate assaults were the highest in FY 2020. By state-operated facility, the Central Mississippi Correctional Facility (CMCF) reported 424 inmate-on-inmate assaults in FY 2020, the largest of any facility.

Exhibit 7: Prison Violence in Mississippi's Correctional Facilities from FY 2016 to FY 2020

Inmate-on-Inmate Assaults

	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020
Parchman	107	159	90	82	85
CMCF	207	265	285	260	424
SMCI	71	34	45	56	32
Regional Facilities	27	21	82	82	109
Private Prisons	198	218	203	183	203
Total	610	697	705	663	853

Inmate-on-Staff Assaults with Serious Injury

	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020
Parchman	56	41	15	26	30
CMCF	49	33	24	22	25
SMCI	48	32	7	2	4
Regional Facilities	9	9	9	0	0
Private Prisons	19	46	28	13	6
Total	181	161	83	63	65

Source: Mississippi Department of Corrections.

Also shown in Exhibit 7, inmate-on-staff assaults with serious injury decreased from FY 2016 to FY 2019, and then increased by three percent in FY 2020. By state-operated facility, Parchman reported 30 inmate-on-inmate staff assaults in FY 2020, the largest of any facility. The regional facilities reported zero inmate-on-staff assaults in FY 2019 and FY 2020.

Correctional Officer Vacancy Rate

MDOC reported the vacancy rate of its correctional officers by each state-operated facility and a total for regional facilities and private prisons. As shown in Exhibit 8 on page 15, the vacancy rate for correctional officers at Parchman was 54% in FY 2020, higher than any other facility and an increase from the previous fiscal year. For the five years reviewed, regional facilities maintained a correctional officer vacancy rate of less than 11%, with a high of 10.7% in FY 2020 and a low of 3.8% in FY 2017.

Exhibit 8: Correctional Officer Vacancy Rate for Each State-Operated Facility and a Total for Regional Facilities and Private Prisons

	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020
Parchman	20.80%	38.20%	50.90%	46.50%	54.10%
CMCF	20.60%	20.60%	28.90%	50.50%	40.10%
SMCI	26.20%	33.90%	44.70%	48.60%	44.90%
Regional Facilities	9.90%	3.80%	8.10%	4.90%	10.70%
Private Prisons	8.20%	15.50%	24.30%	16.90%	18.90%

Source: Mississippi Department of Corrections.

Appendix A: FY 2019 and FY 2020 Annual Total Estimated Expenditures and FTEs¹³ for MDOC's Accountability Programs Categorized by Budget Unit

Budget Unit/Accountability Program	FY 2019		FY 2020	
	Estimated Expenditures	FTEs	Estimated Expenditures	FTEs
Medical Services	\$77,340,825.49	15.01	\$83,049,249.23	16.39
Onsite Medical Care provided through a Contract	\$52,537,198.08	0.00	\$53,038,379.75	0.00
Offsite Medical Care (e.g., hospital, specialty care)	\$20,608,095.44	0.00	\$24,317,516.92	0.00
Offsite Security for Medical Services	\$3,101,292.41	0.00	\$4,376,020.43	0.00
Medical Services and Medical Compliance Staff ¹⁴ and Travel (e.g., physician, health services administration)	\$1,094,239.56	15.01	\$1,317,332.13	16.39
Private Prisons	\$66,117,847.11	0.00	\$74,648,631.03	0.00
Total Cost to House State Inmates in Private Prisons	\$44,316,217.79	0.00	\$52,853,930.57	0.00
Debt Service for Private Prisons	\$21,801,629.32	0.00	\$21,794,700.46	0.00
Regional Facilities	\$38,662,435.04	0.00	\$38,443,993.38	0.00
Total Cost to House State Inmates in County-Owned Regional Correctional Facilities	\$38,662,435.04	0.00	\$38,443,993.38	0.00
Community Corrections	\$35,820,522.86	546.47	\$36,954,012.65	521.00
Probation and Parole Services	\$15,210,966.70	211.84	\$15,762,647.31	208.99
Community Work Centers	\$5,983,984.21	128.68	\$6,181,954.68	98.38
Intensive Supervision Program	\$4,718,961.31	74.35	\$4,680,859.07	78.17
Technical Violation Centers	\$2,653,263.03	54.40	\$2,895,730.59	57.31
Community Corrections Administration and Support	\$2,206,467.12	0.00	\$2,092,242.61	0.00
Resource Assistance Program	\$1,190,266.59	24.21	\$1,182,206.94	23.18
Restitution Centers	\$1,052,878.31	21.09	\$1,078,015.51	22.77
Drug Court Program	\$1,000,906.94	16.54	\$1,134,175.65	18.69
Community Corrections Utilities	\$793,079.72	0.00	\$858,478.07	0.00
Interstate Compact	\$349,491.91	5.96	\$358,356.01	5.14
Employee Training and Professional Development	\$277,551.43	4.08	\$272,990.35	3.56
Property Management and Building Services	\$197,028.25	2.22	\$170,648.51	1.71
Intervention Programs Offered by Community Corrections (e.g., Adult	\$65,901.54	1.59	\$25,660.42	.64

¹³ PEER calculated FTEs for each accountability program by dividing the number of person hours expended on the program for each fiscal year by 2,080 (i.e., the total person-hours that one full-time employee is paid for in one year, which is equal to 52 weeks multiplied by 40 hours per week).

¹⁴ In its budget request, MDOC includes medical compliance staff in its central office budget.

Basic Education (ABE), alcohol and drug treatment) ¹⁵				
Legal Services	\$65,610.16	.69	\$135,996.79	1.04
Human Resources Management	\$38,173.47	.66	\$55,778.69	.84
Information Technology, including Network Administration	\$15,992.17	.15	\$68,271.45	.59
Central Office	\$32,856,390.64	131.73	\$29,529,881.47	124.39
Executive Management	\$13,721,035.88	17.19	\$9,585,698.67	12.80
Information Technology, including Network Administration	\$4,170,213.05	8.12	\$3,675,949.91	9.14
Property Management and Building Services	\$1,482,828.08	3.09	\$1,271,407.21	3.41
Inmate Welfare Fund	\$1,292,511.05	0.00	\$899,437.92	0.00
Records Management	\$1,227,809.60	22.85	\$1,294,082.86	21.36
Accounting and Finance Administration	\$1,002,242.26	15.63	\$985,499.78	12.23
Corrections Investigations	\$922,168.83	13.88	\$791,782.32	12.02
Human Resources Management	\$899,658.80	12.53	\$870,837.08	12.64
Central Office Support to Private Prisons, Regional Facilities, and County Jails	\$602,111.10	8.89	\$625,523.07	8.99
General Agency Support Services	\$581,601.08	0.00	\$1,619,281.85	0.00
Communications and Constituent Services	\$569,934.41	8.63	\$493,071.25	5.94
Victim Services	\$494,343.12	2.50	\$313,954.13	4.28
Probation and Parole Services	\$469,089.45	8.57	\$477,006.61	8.01
Employee Training and Professional Development	\$369,211.73	1.81	\$253,481.50	1.44
Other MDOC Debt Service	\$350,789.59	0.00	\$1,085,786.78	0.00
Intervention Program Administration	\$294,834.39	2.51	\$451,157.21	4.11
Legal Services	\$168,390.15	2.06	\$471,204.19	4.34
Warehouse	\$3,869,315.37	0.00	\$3,919,260.45	0.00
Justice Reinvestment Initiative Phase II	\$89,140.99	0.00	\$136,664.74	0.00
Policy, Planning, Research, and Evaluation	\$85,971.71	1.15	\$166,853.01	1.93
Purchasing and Procurement	\$59,040.28	.81	\$48,688.85	.81
Telecommunications	\$52,900.44	.89	\$55,279.44	.68
Inmate Legal Assistance Program	\$46,840.38	0.00	\$2,092.62	0.00
Intervention Programs Shown to be Effective in Reducing Recidivism by High-Quality Research	\$17,590.50	0.00	\$27,438.24	0.00
Central Office Security	\$14,801.56	.59	\$6,164.48	.23
Central Office Utilities	\$2,016.84	0.00	\$2,277.30	0.00
Parchman	\$32,806,750.72	511.13	\$28,681,482.65	439.93
Institutional Security	\$16,142,905.08	344.04	\$13,845,887.93	292.46
Food Services	\$3,836,181.37	2.42	\$3,159,412.08	2.23
Facility Administration	\$2,156,393.88	26.91	\$1,329,777.69	26.83
Institutional Utilities	\$1,714,727.02	0.00	\$1,785,861.29	0.00

¹⁵ PEER did not review intervention programs offered by MDOC through Community Corrections to determine their effectiveness in reducing recidivism.

Property Management and Building Services	\$1,294,921.23	.85	\$1,580,725.24	.74
Offender Services – Initial Classification and Reclassification	\$1,273,324.13	25.47	\$953,109.06	16.38
Intervention Programs Not Known to be Supported by High-Quality Research	\$1,193,972.21	20.73	\$1,030,772.83	13.53
Inmate Transportation	\$862,871.51	22.13	\$972,902.75	25.16
Intervention Programs Shown to be Effective in Reducing Recidivism by High-Quality Research	\$760,153.20	13.02	\$753,127.29	9.98
Corrections Investigations	\$726,938.74	10.69	\$591,712.38	10.35
Auto Shop Services	\$626,243.66	9.75	\$661,170.32	8.19
Human Resources Management	\$387,276.73	6.34	\$392,843.15	5.42
Intervention Program Administration	\$328,146.66	0.00	\$51,466.12	0.00
Records Management	\$295,249.95	6.37	\$389,071.42	7.52
Employee Training and Professional Development	\$288,049.67	4.85	\$330,802.63	5.68
Inmate Legal Assistance Program	\$194,841.62	3.35	\$212,081.59	3.28
Warehouse	\$154,890.04	2.98	\$153,279.41	2.66
Accounting and Finance Administration	\$134,083.87	1.97	\$136,644.82	1.96
Information Technology, including Network Administration	\$105,686.89	2.07	\$98,818.66	1.85
Administrative Remedy Program	\$102,478.38	2.41	\$95,109.28	2.51
Legal Services	\$91,595.02	2.37	\$52,913.00	1.27
Inmate Recreation	\$57,038.03	.74	\$77,248.25	1.22
Telecommunications	\$54,395.15	.99	\$12,476.19	.23
Probation and Parole Services	\$14,788.23	.68	\$10,825.39	.47
Laundry Services	\$9,598.45	0.00	\$3,443.88	0.00
Central Mississippi Correctional Facility	\$30,265,490.85	456.66	\$27,870,666.33	433.49
Institutional Security	\$7,482,809.46	162.47	\$7,147,125.65	161.33
Food Services	\$4,727,038.00	7.82	\$4,004,956.96	6.33
Inmate Reception and Classification	\$4,476,057.87	102.31	\$3,990,111.42	95.70
Facility Administration	\$2,635,997.95	29.56	\$2,170,773.53	27.88
Offender Services – Initial Classification and Reclassification	\$2,000,619.68	38.44	\$1,977,466.51	34.01
Youthful Offender Unit	\$1,659,710.45	34.45	\$1,486,147.78	31.24
Institutional Utilities	\$1,519,927.83	0.00	\$1,363,359.93	0.00
Property Management and Building Services	\$1,361,442.65	.95	\$1,376,841.15	.82
Inmate Transportation	\$779,068.51	19.94	\$663,160.49	17.53
Intervention Programs Not Known to be Supported by High-Quality Research	\$696,102.24	12.18	\$808,595.42	12.03
Intervention Programs Shown to be Effective in Reducing Recidivism by High-Quality Research	\$655,791.40	8.55	\$523,414.12	6.87
Corrections Investigations	\$422,526.70	8.46	\$488,041.72	8.29
Auto Shop Services	\$359,804.35	6.10	\$563,884.78	9.92
Records Management	\$311,223.28	5.45	\$310,427.84	5.24

Human Resources Management	\$229,133.79	4.66	\$147,212.61	2.92
Employee Training and Professional Development	\$210,080.17	3.89	\$132,836.01	2.56
Warehouse	\$156,314.24	3.25	\$172,072.00	3.06
Inmate Legal Assistance Program	\$141,745.58	2.73	\$134,512.24	2.10
Administrative Remedy Program	\$123,806.55	2.83	\$119,272.32	2.63
Intervention Program Administration	\$107,317.27	0.00	\$50,806.25	0.00
Information Technology, including Network Administration	\$64,571.29	.73	\$101,430.14	1.44
Inmate Recreation	\$60,664.95	1.00	\$56,666.31	.79
Telecommunications	\$49,608.17	.89	\$50,223.00	.80
Laundry Services	\$34,128.47	0.00	\$31,328.15	0.00
South Mississippi Correctional Institution	\$20,428,390.45	309.30	\$19,096,419.83	281.94
Institutional Security	\$8,944,218.99	209.67	\$8,333,977.09	192.44
Food Services	\$3,181,353.64	0.00	\$2,888,055.05	0.00
Property Management and Building Services	\$1,357,532.44	.79	\$1,041,334.91	.69
Institutional Utilities	\$1,356,111.81	0.00	\$1,179,473.23	0.00
Offender Services – Initial Classification and Reclassification	\$1,251,910.42	26.11	\$1,255,353.80	23.06
Facility Administration	\$785,975.66	8.46	\$805,981.47	8.40
Intervention Programs Not Known to be Supported by High-Quality Research	\$709,165.54	13.35	\$661,980.12	9.23
Auto Shop Services	\$594,057.97	11.83	\$573,301.77	11.14
Intervention Programs Shown to be Effective in Reducing Recidivism by High-Quality Research	\$560,989.95	10.24	\$510,757.06	7.7
Corrections Investigations	\$359,643.26	6.18	\$478,564.59	7.87
Records Management	\$255,164.53	5.11	\$258,245.39	4.38
Human Resources Management	\$205,436.31	4.09	\$201,632.01	3.16
Employee Training and Professional Development	\$192,832.69	3.79	\$172,198.69	3.23
Administrative Remedy Program	\$134,228.75	2.81	\$168,958.64	2.97
Warehouse	\$133,638.70	2.45	\$139,017.16	2.17
Inmate Legal Assistance Program	\$128,630.65	2.51	\$125,071.53	1.62
Intervention Program Administration	\$94,106.58	0.00	\$20,823.23	0.00
Information Technology, including Network Administration	\$76,973.79	.98	\$103,889.18	1.34
Telecommunications	\$74,597.46	1.13	\$110,143.63	1.55
Laundry Services	\$21,250.81	0.00	\$15,124.54	0.00
Inmate Recreation	\$10,570.50	.08	\$52,536.74	.99
Reimbursement, Local Confinement	\$7,186,162.13	0.00	\$7,680,288.58	0.00
Local Confinement Reimbursement	\$7,186,162.13	0.00	\$7,680,288.58	0.00
Farming Operations	\$1,636,782.67	7.08	\$1,821,728.46	6.50
Farming Operations	\$1,636,782.67	7.08	\$1,821,728.46	6.50
Parole Board	\$697,792.80	7.15	\$674,762.09	5.88
Parole Board	\$697,792.80	7.15	\$674,762.09	5.88
Estimated Total Expenditures	\$343,819,390.76		\$348,451,115.70	

Source: PEER analysis of MDOC data reported in MAGIC and SPAHRS.

Appendix B: Descriptions of MDOC Accountability Programs including Annual Total Estimated Expenditures for FY 2019 and FY 2020, Categorized by Broad Category

Prison Operations and Institutional Services

Onsite Medical Care provided through a Contract

MDOC contracts with a medical services provider to provide comprehensive onsite healthcare services (e.g., medical, dental, mental health) to inmates at the three state-operated facilities, the county-owned regional correctional facilities, private prisons, community work centers, restitution centers, and the Governor's mansion.

FY 2019 Expenditures: \$52,537,198.08

FY 2020 Expenditures: \$53,038,379.75

Total Cost to House State Inmates in Private Prisons

Total costs to house state inmates at Marshall County Correctional Facility, Wilkinson County Correctional Center, and East Mississippi Correctional Facility. Expenditures also included operating expenses at Walnut Grove Correctional Facility. Additionally, in FY 2020, expenditures included the cost of state inmates housed at the Tallahatchie County Correctional Facility.

FY 2019 Expenditures: \$44,316,217.79

FY 2020 Expenditures: \$52,853,930.57

Total Cost to House State Inmates in County-Owned Regional Correctional Facilities

Total costs to operate and house state inmates at the following county-owned regional correctional facilities: Alcorn, Issaquena, Jefferson-Franklin, Leake, Marion-Walthall, Winston-Choctaw, Carroll-Montgomery, Bolivar, Stone, Kemper-Neshoba, Holmes-Humphreys, George, Chickasaw, Yazoo, and Washington.

FY 2019 Expenditures: \$38,662,435.04

FY 2020 Expenditures: \$38,443,993.38

Institutional Security

Expenditures include salaries, wages, and fringe benefits of all security staff, and the cost of security systems, and restraints (e.g., handcuffs, belly chains).

FY 2019 Expenditures: \$32,569,933.53

FY 2020 Expenditures: \$29,326,990.67

Offsite Medical Care (e.g., hospital, specialty care)

MDOC is responsible for paying all offsite specialty care referrals, emergency room visits, transportation, and inpatient admissions for hospital care expenses.

FY 2019 Expenditures: \$20,608,095.44

FY 2020 Expenditures: \$24,317,516.92

Debt Service for Private Prisons

Expenditures for interest on other indebtedness and principal payments on capital leases for private prisons.

FY 2019 Expenditures: \$21,801,629.32

FY 2020 Expenditures: \$21,794,700.46

Food Services

Expenditures for food services include the cost of staff, the contract with Aramark Correctional Services, and kitchen supplies and equipment.

FY 2019 Expenditures: \$11,744,573.01

FY 2020 Expenditures: \$10,052,424.09

Local Confinement Reimbursement

MDOC's reimbursement of the counties for housing state prisoners at the authorized rate of \$20 per day.

FY 2019 Expenditures: \$7,186,162.13

FY 2020 Expenditures: \$7,680,288.58

Institutional Utilities

The cost of utilities at the three-state operated facilities.

FY 2019 Expenditures: \$4,590,766.66

FY 2020 Expenditures: \$4,328,694.45

Offender Services – Initial Classification and Reclassification

The Division of Offender Services is responsible for the classification of each inmate committed by the courts to MDOC. All inmates are initially classified into a custody level and incarceration program, and assigned to an institution/facility that best meets their needs. An inmate's reclassification score sheet is completed annually to ensure the inmate is placed in the least restrictive environment while also ensuring public safety and the security of the institution, staff, and all inmates. Expenditures were for salaries, wages, and fringe benefits of staff responsible for the program.

FY 2019 Expenditures: \$4,525,854.23

FY 2020 Expenditures: \$4,185,929.37

Inmate Reception and Classification

After sentencing, inmates are generally transported by MDOC staff to the Central Mississippi Correctional Facility for processing. The Receiving and Classification (R&C) process takes place at CMCF. During R&C, the inmates are evaluated and tested (e.g., medical exam, psychological evaluation, education). Expenditures for this accountability program were for salaries, wages, and fringe benefits of staff at CMCF responsible for inmate reception and classification.

FY 2019 Expenditures: \$4,476,057.87

FY 2020 Expenditures: \$3,990,111.42

Warehouse

Includes the storage of inmate clothing, bedding, and supplies, for Mississippi's three state-operated prisons and community corrections. Expenditures include the cost of staff responsible for warehouse operations.

FY 2019 Expenditures: \$4,314,158.35

FY 2020 Expenditures: \$4,383,629.02

Offsite Security for Medical Services

The cost of security for inmates receiving medical services and care offsite. This program is provided through a contract.

FY 2019 Expenditures: \$3,101,292.41

FY 2020 Expenditures: \$4,376,020.43

Youthful Offender Unit

The Youthful Offender School is an accredited school at the Central Mississippi Correctional Facility, which provides academic and vocational services to offenders 17 years or younger who have been incarcerated in the adult system. This program includes the cost of CMCF staff responsible for the program.

FY 2019 Expenditures: \$1,659,710.45

FY 2020 Expenditures: \$1,486,147.78

Inmate Transportation

The cost of MDOC staff to provide inmate transportation services.

FY 2019 Expenditures: \$1,641,940.02

FY 2020 Expenditures: \$1,636,063.24

Farming Operations

The cost of farming operations at Parchman. Expenditures include salaries, wages, and fringe benefits of staff providing the program and other expenses related to farming operations (e.g., equipment).

FY 2019 Expenditures: \$1,636,782.67

FY 2020 Expenditures: \$1,821,728.46

Auto Shop Services

Expenditures include salaries, wages, and fringe benefits of staff providing maintenance and auto shop services at the three state-operated prisons.

FY 2019 Expenditures: \$1,580,105.98

FY 2020 Expenditures: \$1,798,356.87

Inmate Welfare Fund

Inmate welfare fund expenditures include but are not limited to: uniforms and apparel, televisions, beauty and barber purchases, cable, furniture, workout equipment, food, air circulator, etc.

FY 2019 Expenditures: \$1,292,511.05

FY 2020 Expenditures: \$899,437.92

Medical Services and Medical Compliance Staff and Travel (e.g., physician, health services admin)

Medical Services and medical compliance staff provide oversight and contract compliance at all correctional facilities, and coordinate care and hospitalization of all inmates in MDOC custody. Program expenditures include salaries, wages, and fringe benefits for all staff working in medical services and medical compliance.

FY 2019 Expenditures: \$1,094,239.56

FY 2020 Expenditures: \$1,317,332.13

Inmate Recreation

Salaries, wages, and fringe benefits of staff providing recreational services to inmates at Mississippi's three state-operated prisons.

FY 2019 Expenditures: \$128,273.49

FY 2020 Expenditures: \$186,451.30

Laundry Services

The cost to maintain the laundry unit (e.g., laundry detergent, repair to machines) at Mississippi's three state-operated prisons. There were no staff associated with this program.

FY 2019 Expenditures: \$64,977.73

FY 2020 Expenditures: \$49,896.57

Community Corrections

Probation and Parole Services

Probation and Parole Services staff supervise inmates serving sentences in the community in three regions (North, Central, and South). Each region has a Community Corrections Director, who reports directly to the Deputy Commissioner of Community Corrections. Expenditures were for salaries, wages, and fringe benefits for staff responsible for this program.

FY 2019 Expenditures: \$15,694,844.38

FY 2020 Expenditures: \$16,250,479.31

Community Work Centers

Community Work Centers are an alternative facility for inmates to finish serving their sentences. Expenditures include salaries, wages, and fringe benefits and other expenses (e.g., office supplies and materials, linens and bedding, uniforms and apparel) for the following Community Work Centers in FY 2019: Noxubee County, Quitman County, Madison County, Pike County, Wilkinson County, Forrest County, George County (closed 6/30/19), and Harrison County. In FY 2020 there were expenditures for three additional Community Work Centers located in Alcorn County, Flowood, and Yazoo County. This program also includes expenditures for MDOC staff working at the Flowood Restitution and Community Work Center.

FY 2019 Expenditures: \$5,983,984.21

FY 2020 Expenditures: \$6,181,954.68

Intensive Supervision Program

The Intensive Supervision Program (ISP), commonly referred to as “house arrest,” is an alternative program to incarceration in a facility. Inmates on house arrest must wear a monitoring device bracelet at all times. Expenditures include the cost of MDOC staff salaries, wages, and fringe benefits and other expenses (e.g., contractual services, travel) related to operating the program.

FY 2019 Expenditures: \$4,718,961.31

FY 2020 Expenditures: \$4,680,859.07

Technical Violation Centers

Technical Violation Centers (TVC) provide an alternative to incarcerating technical violators for the remainder of their sentence. A TVC houses technical violators for 90 days for first violation, 120 days for second violation, and 180 days for third violation. Expenditures include the cost for two technical violation centers in FY 2019: the Delta Correctional Facility and the Simpson County Technical Violation Center. The Simpson TVC closed on 3/31/18. In FY 2020 expenditures were for the Delta Correctional Facility and Leflore Technical Violation Center.

FY 2019 Expenditures: \$2,653,263.03

FY 2020 Expenditures: \$2,895,730.59

Resource Assistance Program (R.A.P.)

There are 26 R.A.P. program coordinators statewide to assist probation and parole agents in monitoring offenders' treatment needs, employment, and additional barriers to their successful re-entry. Expenditures are for salaries, wages, and fringe benefits for community corrections staff responsible for the program.

FY 2019 Expenditures: \$1,190,266.59

FY 2020 Expenditures: \$1,182,206.94

Restitution Centers

Restitution Centers assist individuals under the supervision of the state in obtaining employment as a condition of their probationary sentence. They are located in Greenwood, Flowood, Jackson, and Pascagoula. Expenditures include salaries, wages, and fringe benefits of staff, and other expenses (e.g., contractual services, commodities, travel) to operate the program. This program

excludes the cost of the Flowood Restitution and Community Work Center. Those expenditures are included in community work centers.

FY 2019 Expenditures: \$1,052,878.31

FY 2020 Expenditures: \$1,078,015.51

Drug Court Program

Drug Court is a specialized court that handles cases of offenders with drug and alcohol dependency. It seeks to rehabilitate offenders through treatment and intense supervision with frequent court appearances and random drug testing. Expenditures include salaries, wages, and fringe benefits of staff responsible for the program.

FY 2019 Expenditures: \$1,000,906.94

FY 2020 Expenditures: \$1,134,175.65

Community Corrections Utilities

The cost of utilities for Community Corrections.

FY 2019 Expenditures: \$793,079.72

FY 2020 Expenditures: \$858,478.07

Parole Board

Expenditures for the parole board, e.g., salaries, wages, and fringe benefits, and travel.

FY 2019 Expenditures: \$697,792.80

FY 2020 Expenditures: \$674,762.09

Interstate Compact

Mississippi participates in the Interstate Compact for Adult Offenders. Under the terms of the compact agreement, MDOC provides courtesy supervision to probationers and parolees from other states in exchange for courtesy supervision of Mississippi offenders residing in other states. Expenditures are for salaries, wages, and fringe benefits of staff responsible for the program.

FY 2019 Expenditures: \$349,491.91

FY 2020 Expenditures: \$358,356.01

General Agency and Facility Administration

Executive Management

Executive Management includes the Commissioner and his executive staff. Other expenses in executive management include but are not limited to: equipment, vehicles, computers and equipment, contract workers, advertising, insurance fees and services, travel, employee assistance program, etc.

FY 2019 Expenditures: \$13,721,035.88

FY 2020 Expenditures: \$9,585,698.67

Property Management and Building Services

Includes the cost of fleet management (e.g., fuel and vehicle expenses), salaries, wages, and fringe benefits for the staff, and other expenses related to the cost of maintenance and repair at MDOC.

FY 2019 Expenditures: \$5,693,752.65

FY 2020 Expenditures: \$5,440,957.02

Facility Administration

Expenditures include the cost of postal services, the superintendent, office supplies and materials, travel, etc. at the three state-operated facilities.

FY 2019 Expenditures: \$5,578,367.49

FY 2020 Expenditures: \$4,306,532.69

Information Technology, including Network Administration

Expenditures for information technology staff, IT help desk, and network administration.

FY 2019 Expenditures: \$4,433,437.19

FY 2020 Expenditures: \$4,048,359.34

Correction Investigations

The Corrections Investigations Division is the investigative arm of the agency. It consists of investigative units located at the central office and each state-operated prison, responsible for: security threats, allegations of mistreatment of inmates, fraternization between staff and inmates, gang activities, assaults, escapes, and employee background checks. Expenditures include the cost of salaries, wages, and fringe benefits for staff.

FY 2019 Expenditures: \$2,206,467.12

FY 2020 Expenditures: \$2,092,242.61

Community Corrections Administration and Support

Administrative and support cost for community corrections and community work centers, including office supplies and materials, travel, janitorial and cleaning supplies, contract workers, etc. Salaries, wages, and fringe benefits for staff are not included in this program. Those expenditures are included in other programs within community corrections.

FY 2019 Expenditures: \$2,208,879.79

FY 2020 Expenditures: \$2,102,648.02

Records Management

Records management staff maintain files on all individuals in custody of and/or under the supervision of MDOC. Expenditures were for salaries, wages, and fringe benefits for staff responsible for this program.

FY 2019 Expenditures: \$2,089,447.36

FY 2020 Expenditures: \$2,251,827.51

Human Resources Management

Human Resources Management consists of recruitment, selection, performance management, and compliance management for MDOC. Expenditures were for salaries, wages, and fringe benefits for staff responsible for this program.

FY 2019 Expenditures: \$1,759,679.10

FY 2020 Expenditures: \$1,668,303.54

Employee Training and Professional Development

This program includes salaries, wages, and fringe benefit expenditures for staff responsible for development, administration, and delivery of training programs for MDOC employees.

FY 2019 Expenditures: \$1,337,725.69

FY 2020 Expenditures: \$1,162,309.18

Accounting and Finance Administration

Activities involve maintaining records of the financial operations and transactions of MDOC through the areas of accounts payable, accounts receivable, travel payments, financial reporting, fixed assets, budget, contract, grants management, and payroll. Expenditures include salaries, wages, and fringe benefits of staff responsible for the program, and other expenses, including contractual services, commodities, and travel.

FY 2019 Expenditures: \$1,136,326.13

FY 2020 Expenditures: \$1,122,144.60

Central Office Support to Private Prisons, Regional Facilities, and County Jails

The cost of central office staff providing administrative support to private prisons, regional facilities, and county jails.

FY 2019 Expenditures: \$602,111.10

FY 2020 Expenditures: \$625,523.07

General Agency Support Services

The cost of general agency support services at the central office (e.g., travel, contract workers).

FY 2019 Expenditures: \$581,601.08

FY 2020 Expenditures: \$1,619,281.85

Communications and Constituent Services

Salaries, wages, and fringe benefits of staff responsible for providing information to the media and the public.

FY 2019 Expenditures: \$569,934.41

FY 2020 Expenditures: \$493,071.25

Inmate Legal Assistance Program

The Inmate Legal Assistance Program (ILAP) is designed to provide legal assistance to all inmates located at the state-operated prisons, private prisons, county/regional facilities, community work centers or approved county jails. ILAP is structured to ensure all inmates have an opportunity to meet with an attorney and/or paralegal and to receive computer generated research and forms upon request. Expenditures include salaries, wages, and fringe benefits of staff, and the cost of office supplies, materials, monthly internet research usage, and notary.

FY 2019 Expenditures: \$512,058.23

FY 2020 Expenditures: \$473,757.98

Victim Services

MDOC's Division of Victims Services (DVS) offers a toll-free line to answer questions concerning inmate status, parole eligibility, inmate location, and all other public information. The DVS also provides victim notifications, per the passage of the Crime Victim's Bill of Rights, once a victim has registered and has updated his or her address and telephone numbers. Expenditures include salaries, wages, fringe benefits, and travel for staff and other expenses related to the program.

FY 2019 Expenditures: \$494,343.12

FY 2020 Expenditures: \$313,954.13

Administrative Remedy Program

Inmates may submit a request for administrative remedy for situations arising from policies, conditions, or events within MDOC that affect them personally (incidents, staff conduct, classification, etc.). Expenditures include salaries, wages, and fringe benefits of staff responsible for the program.

FY 2019 Expenditures: \$360,513.68

FY 2020 Expenditures: \$383,340.24

Other MDOC Debt Service

The costs of principal payments on capital leases and interest on other indebtedness not included in the debt service for private prisons' accountability programs.

FY 2019 Expenditures: \$350,789.59

FY 2020 Expenditures: \$1,085,786.78

Legal Services

The legal division acts as the Department's counsel on administrative matters and is its representative in State and Federal courts. Expenditures are for salaries, wages, and fringe benefits for staff responsible for the program.

FY 2019 Expenditures: \$325,595.33

FY 2020 Expenditures: \$660,113.98

Telecommunications

Establishes communications systems for MDOC. Salaries, wages, and fringe benefits of staff responsible for the program.

FY 2019 Expenditures: \$231,501.22

FY 2020 Expenditures: \$228,122.26

Justice Reinvestment Initiative Phase II (JRI)

The cost of Justice Reinvestment Initiative (JRI) Phase II. Mississippi had been using a risk assessment to inform community supervision, but the JRI legislation required extending use to institutions. The Crime Justice Institute (CJI) conducted a validation study on the existing risk assessment and subsequently developed a new and more accurate assessment for both institutions and community corrections. CJI trained MDOC staff to use the assessment results to guide decision making and develop individualized case plans to target the factors that, when addressed, can reduce an individual's risk to reoffend.

FY 2019 Expenditures: \$89,140.99

FY 2020 Expenditures: \$136,664.74

Policy, Planning, Research, and Evaluation

The Policy, Planning, Research, and Evaluation Department (PPRE) is the central repository for data collection, research, and analysis in order to provide projected strategies for improving MDOC development, management, operations, and policy-based initiatives. Expenditures includes salaries, wages, and fringe benefits of staff responsible for the program.

FY 2019 Expenditures: \$85,971.71

FY 2020 Expenditures: \$166,853.01

Purchasing and Procurement

The Office of Purchasing and Procurement provides support to all departments and is responsible for securing quotes and bids, and processing orders for furniture, equipment, and office supplies. Expenditures include salaries, wages, and fringe benefits for staff and other related expenses.

FY 2019 Expenditures: \$59,040.28

FY 2020 Expenditures: \$48,688.85

Central Office Security

The cost of central office security staff.

FY 2019 Expenditures: \$14,801.56

FY 2020 Expenditures: \$6,164.48

Central Office Utilities

The cost of central office utilities.

FY 2019 Expenditures: \$2,016.84

FY 2020 Expenditures: \$2,277.30

Education and Training of Inmates

Intervention Programs Not Known to be Supported by High-Quality Research

Expenditures for intervention programs not known to be supported by high-quality research at the three state-operated prisons only. Programs included: religious, alcohol and drug, and pre-release. Does not include programs at the county-owned regional correctional facilities and private prisons.

FY 2019 Expenditures: \$2,624,073.75

FY 2020 Expenditures: \$2,501,348.37

Intervention Programs Shown to be Effective in Reducing Recidivism by High-Quality Research

Expenditures for intervention programs shown to be effective in reducing recidivism by high-quality research at the three state-operated prisons. Programs included: adult basic education, post-secondary education, and vocational education. Does not include programs at the regional facilities or private prisons.

FY 2019 Expenditures: \$1,969,691.29

FY 2020 Expenditures: \$1,814,736.71

Intervention Program Administration

Expenditures in this program were for any intervention program expenses (e.g., travel, food for graduation, books, office supplies and materials) that could not be estimated by specific intervention program.

FY 2019 Expenditures: \$824,404.90

FY 2020 Expenditures: \$574,252.81

Intervention Programs Offered by Community Corrections (e.g., ABE, alcohol and drug treatment)

Expenditures for intervention programs offered through community corrections. PEER did not review intervention programs offered through community corrections to determine effectiveness in reducing recidivism.

FY 2019 Expenditures: \$65,901.54

FY 2020 Expenditures: \$25,660.42

Appendix C: Defining Elements of Research, by Level of Research Quality

Level of Research Quality	Defining Elements Presented in the Research					
	Association Between Program and Outcome	Pre- and Post-Program Outcome Measurements	Control Group	Efforts to Rule Out Confounding Variables	Random Assignment of Units to Program and Control	Multiple Randomized Controlled Trials across Distinct Populations
Based on MISS. CODE ANN. Section 27-103-159(1)(a) (1972)						
Mississippi Evidence-based Standard	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Based on Maryland Scientific Methods Scale						
Level 5	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Level 4	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Level 3	✓	✓	✓			
Level 2	✓	✓				
Level 1	✓					

Highest Quality
 Second-highest Quality
 Unacceptable Quality

Source: PEER analysis based on Maryland Scientific Methods Scale and MISS. CODE ANN. Section 27-103-159(1)(a) (1972).

Appendix D: Type of Vocational Skill Training Offered, by Mississippi Adult Correctional Facility

Vocational Skill Training Program	State Prisons			County-Owned Regional Correctional Facilities														Private Prisons			
	Central Mississippi	Patchman	South Mississippi	Alcorn	Bolivar	Carroll-Montgomery	Chickasaw	George-Greene	Holmes-Humphreys	Issaquena	Jefferson-Franklin	Kemper-Neshoba	Leake	Marion-Walthall	Stone	Washington	Winston-Choctaw	Yazoo	East Mississippi	Marshall County	Wilkinson County
Auto/Automotive Body Repair		◆	◆			◆															
Auto/Automotive Mechanic/Tech		◆	◆																		
Automotive Technology						◆															
Commercial Driver's License (CDL) PREP														◆							
Diesel Equipment Repair and Services		◆																			
Small Gas Engine Repair		◆				◆															
Electronic Communication Production		◆																			
Basic Manufacturing							◆														
Basic Electrical/Plumbing			◆											◆							
Plumbing and Pipefitting			◆																		
Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning and Refrigeration		◆												◆							
Carpentry		◆											◆								
Forestry							◆														
Apparel and Textiles	◆																				
Welding		◆	◆						◆												
Barbering																				◆	
Cosmetology	◆																				
Culinary Arts		◆																		◆	
Facility Care Class																					◆
Family and Consumer Science	◆																				
Business Technology	◆											◆									
NCCER																			◆		
Horticulture		◆				◆	◆														◆

Source: PEER analysis of data provided by Mississippi's twenty-one adult correctional facilities.

Appendix E: Prison-Based Alcohol and Drug Abuse Treatment Programs with No Known High-Quality Research Showing their Effectiveness in Reducing Recidivism, by Mississippi Adult Correctional Facility

Prison-Based Alcohol and Drug Abuse Treatment Programs	State Prisons			County-Owned Regional Correctional Facilities													Private Prisons				
	Central Mississippi	Parchman	South Mississippi	Alcorn	Bolivar	Carroll-Montgomery	Chickasaw	George-Greene	Holmes-Humphreys	Issaquena	Jefferson-Franklin	Kemper-Neshoba	Leake	Marion-Walshall	Stone	Washington	Winston-Choctaw	Yazoo	East Mississippi	Marshall County	Wilkinson County
Alcoholics Anonymous**					◆														◆		
Unknown Program Name	◆	◆	◆	◆			◆		◆												
Narcotics Anonymous					◆																
12-Step Program									◆												
Celebrate Recovery							◆		◆		◆			◆	◆	◆					
Keep It Simple Meditation Book					◆																
12-Steps for Overcoming Chemical Dependency										◆											
Conquering Chemical Dependency													◆		◆		◆				
First Steps to a Christ Centered 12-Step Process													◆								
Walking the 12-Steps with Jesus Christ															◆						
Living in Balance***																			◆		
Pathway to Change																			◆		
Nonresidential Journals																				◆	◆

**While Alcoholics Anonymous does meet level 3 on the Maryland Scientific Methods Scale for having a positive effect on child/family well-being, recidivism is not an outcome measured in the research. PEER's report specifically reviewed programs for high-quality research showing their effectiveness in reducing recidivism.

***While Living in Balance does meet level 5 on the Maryland Scientific Methods Scale for having a positive effect on treatment retention and exposure, recidivism is not an outcome measured in the research. PEER's report specifically reviewed programs for high-quality research showing their effectiveness in reducing recidivism.

Source: PEER analysis of data provided by Mississippi's twenty-one adult correctional facilities.

Appendix F: High-Quality Research-Based Programs that Could Replace Mississippi's Prison-Based Adult Correctional Intervention Programs without Known High-Quality Research

Alcohol and Drug Abuse Treatment Programs

The Modified Therapeutic Community (MTC) for Persons with Co-Occurring Disorders

A 12- to 18-month residential treatment program developed for individuals with co-occurring substance use and mental disorders. A comprehensive treatment model, the program adapts the traditional therapeutic community designed to treat substance abuse - to respond to the psychiatric symptoms, cognitive impairments, and reduced level of functioning of the client with co-occurring mental disorders.

Outcome(s) Measured: Reincarceration Rate and Criminal Activity; Substance Abuse; Criminal Behavior; Psychological Problems; Employment; Economic Benefit; and Housing Stability

Source: [SAMHSA](#)

Correctional Therapeutic Community (CTC) for Substance Abusers

An in-prison residential treatment intervention for incarcerated offenders who have histories of multiple drug-involved arrests and chronic substance abuse, are eligible for the in-prison work release program, and are 6 months from prison release. It is designed to reduce any type of re-arrest, increase abstinence from illicit drug use, reduce illicit drug use relapse, and increase post-release employment among participants.

Outcome(s) Measured: Rearrests; Abstinence from illicit drug use; Illicit drug use relapse; and Employment

Source: [SAMHSA](#)

The Amity In-Prison Therapeutic Community

Provides intensive treatment to male inmates with substance abuse problems. Participants volunteer for the program; all participants must reside in the dedicated housing unit during the last 9 to 12 months of their prison term.

Outcome(s) Measured: Reincarceration

Source: [Crime Solutions](#)

Helping Women Recover and Beyond Trauma

Helping Women Recover: A Program for Treating Substance Abuse and Beyond Trauma: A Healing Journey for Women are manual-driven treatment programs that, when combined, serve women in criminal justice or correctional settings who have substance use disorders and are likely to have co-occurring trauma histories (i.e., sexual or physical abuse).

Outcome(s) Measured: Substance use; Aftercare retention and completion; and Reincarceration

Source: [SAMHSA](#)

Forever Free

The Forever Free program at the California Institution for Women (CIW) began as the first comprehensive prison-based substance abuse treatment program in the United States for incarcerated women. The program works to reduce the incidence of substance abuse, the number of in-prison disciplinary actions, and recidivism following release to parole by providing a range of treatment services to meet the needs of participants.

Outcome(s) Measured: Arrests; Reconviction; and Drug use

Source: [Crime Solutions](#)

Interactive Journaling

A goal-directed, client-centered model that aims to reduce substance abuse and substance-related behaviors, such as recidivism, by guiding adults and youth with substance use disorders through a process of written self-reflection. The model is based on structured and expressive writing techniques, principles of motivational interviewing, cognitive-behavioral interventions, and the integration of the transtheoretical model of behavior change.

Outcome(s) Measured: Recidivism

Source: [SAMHSA](#)

Cognitive Behavioral Treatment/Therapy Programs

Thinking for a Change (T4C)

A cognitive-behavioral therapy (CBT) program that includes cognitive restructuring, social skills development, and the development of problem-solving skills.

Outcome(s) Measured: Recidivism

Source: [Crime Solutions](#)

Enhanced Thinking Skills (ETS)

A prison-based, cognitive-behavioral skills enhancement program in England. It is intended to decrease reconviction by targeting participants' thinking patterns and cognitive skills. ETS treatment targets a range of topics such as impulse control, flexible thinking, values and moral reasoning, interpersonal problem solving, social perspective taking, and critical reasoning.

Outcome(s) Measured: Reconviction and Frequency of Reoffending

Source: [Crime Solutions](#)

Life Skills Programs

EMPLOY (Minnesota)

In 2006, the Minnesota Department of Corrections (MNDOC) implemented EMPLOY, a prisoner-reentry employment program. The program was designed to help prisoners take advantage of the work experience and job skills gained through employment with Minnesota Correctional Industries (MINNCOR), the state's prison industry program. In an effort to reduce recidivism, EMPLOY helps offenders locate, secure, and retain employment. Moreover, the program provides inmates with assistance to improve their readiness for post-release employment and offers community support for one year following release from prison.

Outcome(s) Measured: Reconviction; Rearrests; Reincarceration; Revocation; Employment; and Hours Worker per Quarter

Source: [Crime Solutions](#)

Creating Lasting Family Connections Fatherhood Program: Family Reintegration

Program designed for fathers, men in father-like roles (e.g., mentors), and men who are planning to be fathers. The program was developed to help individuals who are experiencing or are at risk for family dissonance resulting from the individual's physical and/or emotional separation (e.g., incarceration, substance abuse, military service).

Outcome(s) Measured: Recidivism; Relationship skills; Knowledge about sexually transmitted diseases; Intention to binge drink; and Spirituality

Source: [SAMHSA](#)

Parenting Inside Out

Parenting Inside Out (PIO) is a 12-week voluntary parent management training program for incarcerated parents. The program is designed to assist participants in improving their interaction with their child and their child's caregiver. PIO aims to provide participants--many of whom have co-occurring substance abuse and mental health problems with greater capacity to improve their cognitive and behavioral skills, which are relevant to such issues as reducing personal stress and symptoms of depression.

Outcome(s) Measured: Parent Stress; Parent Symptoms of Depression; Parent-child Interaction;

Criminal Behaviors; and Substance Use-related Problems

Source: [SAMHSA](#)

Lifestyle Change Program

A psychological intervention for incarcerated males, which addresses the lifestyle concepts around crime, drug use, and gambling. The main objective of the program is to reduce recidivism through introducing program participants to lifestyle changes centering on the identification of conditions, choices, and cognition of crimes.

Outcome(s) Measured: Arrests and Incarceration

Source: [Crime Solutions](#)

Religious Programs and Services

The InnerChange Freedom Initiative

The InnerChange Freedom Initiative is a voluntary, faith-based prisoner reentry program that attempts to prepare inmates for reintegration into the community. The program seeks to promote positive values and address the criminogenic needs of participants by educating inmates in a variety of areas, including substance abuse, victim-impact awareness, life-skills development, cognitive skill development, moral development, education, community reentry, and religion

Outcome(s) Measured: Rearrest, Reconviction, and Reincarceration.

Source: [Crime Solutions](#)

Appendix G: Description of Prison-Based Intervention Programs Offered by One or More of Mississippi's Adult Correctional Facilities during Fiscal Years 2019 and 2020, Categorized by Quality of the Research Supporting the Program

Programs Supported by High-Quality Research

Note: None of these programs have been audited by an external party to ensure that they are being implemented in accordance with the program design specified in the research.

Programs Meeting Definition of “Evidence-Based” in MISS. CODE ANN. Section 27-103-159

Restorative Justice

Restorative justice in the criminal justice system uses victim and offender dialogue to address the harm caused by a crime as well as victims' experiences, interests, and needs. This approach can be practiced using sharing circles, victim-offender mediation, or facilitated face-to-face conferences that include victims, offenders, their families, friends, and other community members. Restorative justice can occur throughout the criminal justice process, from pre-arrest to post-sentence, and can take place in settings such as prisons, therapeutic facilities, and communities.

Programs Meeting Criteria for Levels 3, 4, or 5 of the Maryland Scientific Methods Scale

Vocational Education in Prison

Prison-Based Vocational Education programs teach inmates a specific trade, occupation, or vocation; e.g., auto repair, building maintenance, welding. The primary goal of vocational education is to help inmates develop marketable job skills that can help them to gain employment upon release into the community. For a list of all vocational education programs offered by Mississippi's adult correctional facilities, see Appendix D on page 30.

Correctional Education

Basic Education is an academic instructional program for those adult inmates with a grade level of 0 to 12.9. After pretesting, students enter the program at the level prescribed by test results. The goal is for inmates to advance academically through each level [Literacy, Adult Basic Education (ABE), and General Education Development (GED)] and obtain a general equivalency diploma upon completion of all levels of the program.

Post-Secondary Education at MDOC include programs providing offenders the opportunity to earn an associate's or bachelor's degree in Christian Ministry.

Interactive Journaling

Interactive Journaling is a behavioral modification program developed and designed to encourage personal growth, enhance thinking and writing skills, and promote a higher sense of moral reasoning.

Thinking for a Change

Thinking for a Change is a cognitive-behavioral based program that focuses on changing the criminogenic thinking of inmates. The program includes cognitive restructuring, social skills development, and the development of problem-solving skills.

Therapeutic Communities

Incarceration-Based therapeutic communities are separate residential drug treatment programs in prisons or jails for treating substance-abusing and addicted inmates.

Programs Shown to have No Effects in Reducing Recidivism

Cognitive Skills Training

Cognitive Skills Training uses a combination of approaches to increase inmates' awareness of themselves and others by integrating cognitive restructuring, social skills, and problem-solving. Inmates are taught an introspective process for examining their ways of thinking and their feelings, beliefs, and attitudes. Social skills training is provided as an alternative to antisocial behaviors.

Programs Shown to have Mixed Effects in Reducing Recidivism

Moral Reconciliation Therapy

Moral Reconciliation Therapy is a systematic, step-by-step program that meets weekly. Inmates progress through the steps based on completion of tasks, assignments, and testimonies. The program is designed to address criminogenic factors and reeducate inmates socially, morally, and behaviorally to instill goals and values.

Programs Shown to have Insufficient Evidence in Reducing Recidivism

Inside Out Dad

Inside Out Dad was developed to help incarcerated fathers become better dads while on the inside and help inmates who will be released continue to grow as dads upon release.

Programs Not Known to be Supported by High-Quality Research

Alcohol and Drug Abuse Treatment

Various Alcohol and Drug Abuse Treatment Programs

Alcohol and drug abuse treatment programs in Mississippi's adult correctional facilities use workbook-driven, teacher-guided substance abuse education curriculums. The goal of these programs is to ensure that inmates reenter society understanding the dangers of substance abuse and the implications of their actions. Appendix E on page 31 lists the alcohol and drug abuse treatment programs not supported by high-quality research offered, by facility.

Cognitive Behavioral Skills Training and Therapy

Anger Management

Anger management helps inmates recognize their feelings of anger, learn the causes of their anger, and how to deal with it in a responsible way.

Challenge

Challenge addresses poor communication skills, errors in thinking, limited reasoning abilities, inability to manage emotions, and lack of awareness regarding how one's behavior affects the family, community, and society. The program focuses on assisting high-risk inmates in living a life free of criminal activity, violence, and drug use and emphasizes the importance of building a healthy support system.

Character Development

Character development fosters the growth of core values that nurture ethical, social-emotional, life skills, and academic development in prison and communities. The goal is to prepare inmates for reentry into the community.

Conflict Resolution

Conflict resolution means a process of resolving a dispute or disagreement. It mainly aims at reconciling opposing arguments in a manner that promotes and protects the human rights of all parties concerned.

10-Minute Cognitive Skills

This program uses 10-minute cognitive skills cards and allows inmates to explore their way of thinking.

Thinking for Good

This program focuses on typical criminal thinking issues such as: everyone lies, cheats and steals; no one can be trusted; the rules don't apply; and all relationships are manipulative.

Life Skills

Employment and Job Assistance Training During Incarceration (Pre-Release)

Program provides counseling, educational services, and job assistance for all participants.

Basic and Advanced Computer Skills

The computer program is designed to provide inmates with basic and then advanced skills on the use and function of computers. The goal is to assist inmates with gaining employable and marketable skills to enhance their abilities of being job ready when they reenter the community.

Authentic Manhood

The program teaches men about their general make-up, managing their marriage, fatherhood, working, avoiding traps, and the story behind being an authentic man.

Employment/Life Skills, Life Skills for Prisoners Program, and Aftercare Pre-Release

These programs prepare inmates for the real world by teaching them how to prepare résumés, register to vote, fill out job applications, and apply for employment upon release.

Jail 2 Jobs

Partnership with Northeast Mississippi Community College to provide employable skills to inmates.

Making the Most of Yourself

A 24/7 pod for offenders who are within 24-months of leaving the facility. The program incorporates job readiness, re-entry programming, parenting classes, and other cognitive skills.

Money Smart

The program is a comprehensive financial education curriculum designed to help individuals enhance their financial skills and create positive banking relationships.

Road Map to Re-entry

A 10-session program including both video and group discussion. Each offender is given a workbook and re-entry packet to help them move from incarceration to living in the free world.

Entrepreneurship Class

The class is sponsored by Ole Miss and provides inmates with universal principles that can empower anyone to succeed.

Fatherhood

Fatherhood is a faith-based program designed to meet the parenting skill deficiencies in inmates. It uses the Bible as its manual while implementing handouts and question/answer sessions.

Financial Literacy

Financial Literacy teaches offenders how to be financially literate by knowing how to manage money, i.e., paying bills, borrowing and saving responsibly, and how and why to invest and plan for retirement.

Guitar

Beginners, intermediate, and advanced guitar classes provide training for offenders to learn to play guitar as well as improve their skills with the instrument.

Music/Art Appreciation

The music appreciation component of this program was developed to give inmates the chance to develop both their musical knowledge and skills. The program consists of weekly music theory lessons and hands-on experience playing the guitar, bass, and piano. The arts and crafts component of the program was developed to give inmates a positive outlet for artistic creativity in a cooperative learning environment.

Parenting

Parenting prepares inmates to come together to learn better ways to parent children.

Personal Development

Personal Development is a life skills class that helps inmates grow into more productive citizens in hopes of reducing recidivism, overcoming obstacles, and empowering them to reach their potential and have successful lives.

Re-Invention Class

Re-Invention Class seeks to teach inmates how to take responsibility for their behavior, actions, and life.

Workforce Development

The Workforce Development Program prepares inmates for entering the workforce upon release from custody.

Multi-Purpose Programs

Recidivism Reduction Program

MDOC's Recidivism Reduction Program includes the following five components designed to rehabilitate inmates: academic education, vocational education, cognitive behavioral therapy (mental and social), alcohol and drug abuse treatment, and pre-employment

training. Each component is implemented in 90-minute blocks daily. The duration of the Recidivism Reduction Program is approximately six months.

Religious Programs

Various Religious Programs and Services (e.g., Discipleship, Greek, Prison Bible School)

Religious programs and services offered by correctional facilities include but are not limited to: discipleship, Greek, salt and light, worship services, prison bible school, choir, and bible study. The goal of religious programs is to encourage inmates to become more disciplined in their daily lives by gaining knowledge of the scripture.

Source: Mississippi's twenty-one adult correctional facilities.

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