



Michigan
Office of the Auditor General
REPORT SUMMARY

Performance Audit

Report Number:
471-0375-11

Facility Closures and Consolidations

Department of Corrections

Released:
October 2012

As of October 1, 2007, the Department of Corrections (DOC) housed 51,454 prisoners in 42 correctional facilities and 8 camps and, in fiscal year 2007-08, DOC expended \$1.8 billion for prisoner-related costs. From fiscal year 2007-08 through fiscal year 2010-11, DOC's average prisoner population decreased by 5,941 prisoners and the State closed 8 correctional facilities and 8 camps, opened 2 facilities, and consolidated the operations of 8 facilities into 4 facilities. In fiscal year 2010-11, DOC expended \$1.7 billion for prisoner-related costs.

Audit Objective:

To assess the effectiveness of DOC's efforts in developing recommendations for facility closures and consolidations.

Audit Conclusion:

We could not conclude on the effectiveness of DOC's efforts in developing recommendations for facility closures and consolidations because of a lack of DOC documentation. We noted one reportable condition (Finding 1).

Reportable Condition:

DOC had not maintained sufficient documentation to support its basis for identifying and recommending correctional facilities and camps for closure or consolidation. These recommendations involve critical decisions that significantly impact the security of the public, the staffing needs of the facilities, the economy of the local communities, and the operational needs of the State. Without sufficient documentation, the validity of DOC's

recommendations could not be verified (Finding 1).

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Audit Objective:

To assess the effectiveness of DOC's efforts to measure and report actual cost savings from closing and consolidating facilities pursuant to statute.

Audit Conclusion:

We concluded that DOC's efforts to measure and report actual cost savings from closing and consolidating facilities pursuant to statute were effective. Our audit report does not include any reportable conditions related to this audit objective.

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Agency Response:

Our audit report contains 1 finding and 1 corresponding recommendation. DOC's preliminary response indicates that it partially agrees with the recommendation.

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