

EXECUTIVE DIGEST

KINCHELOE CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTIONS

INTRODUCTION

This report, issued in April 1997, contains the results of our performance audit* of the Kincheloe Correctional Institutions (KCI), Department of Corrections (DOC).

AUDIT PURPOSE

This performance audit was conducted as part of the constitutional responsibility of the Office of the Auditor General. Performance audits are conducted on a priority basis related to the potential for improving effectiveness* and efficiency*.

BACKGROUND

KCI includes the Kinross Correctional Facility and the Hiawatha Temporary Facility. One warden serves as the chief administrative officer for both facilities. The DOC director appoints the warden, who is classified under the State civil service system.

The mission* of the facilities is to protect society by providing a secure setting for prisoners. The Kinross Correctional Facility opened in 1978 and occupies 130 acres, including 113 acres within a secured, fenced perimeter. The Hiawatha Temporary Facility opened in 1989 and occupies 50 acres within a secured, fenced perimeter. The facilities are medium security facilities that house approximately 2,200 male prisoners.

For fiscal year 1995-96, KCI's operating expenditures were approximately \$37 million. As of October 31, 1996, KCI had 539 employees.

AUDIT OBJECTIVES
AND CONCLUSIONS

Audit Objective: To assess the effectiveness of KCI's safety and security operations.

Conclusion: We concluded that KCI's safety and security operations were generally effective. However, we noted reportable conditions* related to tool control, prisoner shakedowns* and cell searches*, weapons qualification, security key inventory, gate manifests*, contraband* detection, and the community liaison committee membership (Findings 1 through 7).

Audit Objective: To assess the effectiveness and efficiency of KCI's prisoner care and maintenance operations.

Conclusion: We concluded that KCI's prisoner care and maintenance operations were generally effective and efficient. However, we noted reportable conditions related to employee meals, prisoner medical clearance, the inventory control program, local purchases, and construction projects (Findings 8 through 12).

AUDIT SCOPE AND
METHODOLOGY

Our audit scope was to examine the program and other records of the Kincheloe Correctional Institutions. Our audit was conducted in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States and, accordingly, included such tests of the records and such other auditing procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances.

Our methodology included testing records for the period October 1, 1993 through October 31, 1996. Our methodology also included a preliminary survey of KCI's operations. This included interviewing various KCI personnel and reviewing applicable policy directives and procedures, reports, and other reference material to gain

an understanding of facility activities and to form a basis for selecting certain operations for audit. We analyzed safety and security, prisoner care, and maintenance activities for compliance with applicable policies and procedures and overall program effectiveness and efficiency. We conducted tests of selected records.

Also, we surveyed certain individuals and businesses requesting input regarding their association with KCI (see supplemental information).

**AGENCY RESPONSES
AND PRIOR AUDIT
FOLLOW-UP**

Our report contains 12 findings and 13 recommendations. KFI indicated that it has either complied with or has taken steps to comply with all the recommendations.

KCI had complied with all 11 of the prior audit recommendations included within the scope of our current audit.