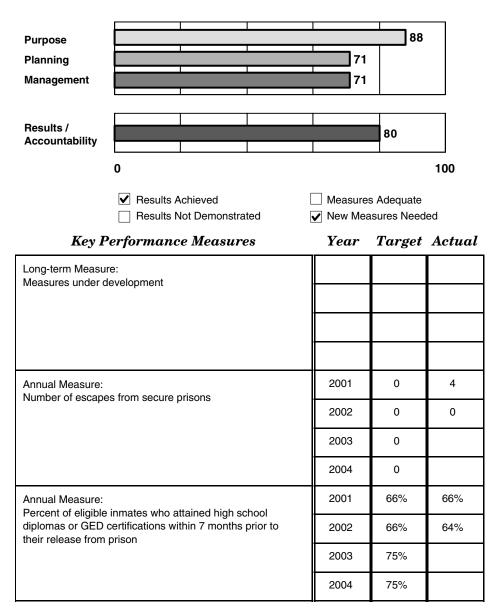
Program: Bureau of Prisons

Agency: Department of Justice Bureau: Federal Prison System



Rating: Moderately Effective

Program Type: Direct Federal

Program Summary:

The Federal Bureau of Prisons (BOP) incarcerates Federal prisoners. At present, the BOP houses approximately 165,000 federal inmates in 102 secure prison facilities nationwide. The 2004 Budget requests \$252 million to activate six new prisons located in various regions throughout the country to help maintain prison crowding at reasonable levels. Funding for opening the new prisons is made available, in part, by using previously appropriated planning and construction resources that are not needed at this time.

The assessment indicates that the overall mission of the BOP is clear. The assessment also indicates a fairly high level of competence in program management, yet reveals weaknesses in the program's long term goal setting and outcome orientation. However, the BOP has committed to the development of long term program performance measures. Strong annual performance measures indicate the program is relatively results oriented. Additional findings include:

1. The BOP has identified broad range, long term objectives but not long term

- 2. The BOP makes inadequate use of contract prison space. Although the BOP has increased the percentage of federal inmates in contract bedspace from less than 1 percent in 1980 to over 16 percent today, the fact remains that many states and localities and private sector prison facilities have a surplus of prison bedspace available for federal use.
- 3. The BOP has insufficient knowledge of, or comparison of costs and services to, similar prison operations in the state, local and private sectors. This makes it difficult to determine whether the BOP provides the best service to the government at the best rate.

In response to these findings, the BOP will:

1. Develop long term outcome-oriented performance goals.

performance goals with measurable, long-term outcomes.

- $2.\ {\rm Make}$ greater use of contracted space for low/minimum/special category Federal inmates.
- 3. Begin using the National Clearinghouse for Prison Bedspace Availability, when it becomes operational, to identify available prison bedspace, and compare locations, costs and services, and ultimately place inmates and detainees in appropriate, cost-effective non-BOP facilities to help ensure that the BOP is able to obtain the best incarceration services for federal inmates at the lowest cost.

Program Funding Level (in millions of dollars)

2002 Actual	2003 Estimate	2004 Estimate
4,182	4,208	4,453