



U.S. Department of Justice
Office of Justice Programs
Bureau of Justice Statistics



State and Federal Corrections Information Systems

*An Inventory of Data Elements and
an Assessment of Reporting
Capabilities*

A joint project:

**Association of State Correctional Administrators
Corrections Program Office, OJP
Bureau of Justice Statistics
National Institute of Justice**



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**Data elements described in chapter 5 —
facility management**

Data element

Program management

Type of programs
Program assessment
Date of assessment

Medical services

Number of medical staff
Qualifications of medical staff
Availability of medical staff

Managing facilities

Number of facilities
Number of beds per facility
Number of staff per facility
Number of custodial staff per facility
Facilities generating revenue
Facility generated revenue
Amount of facility-generated revenue
Annual cost to operate facilities
Annual capital costs

Facility management information

Highlights

- Forty-two departments maintain information about the type of in-prison programs available to offenders; 37 report maintaining data about assessments of these programs.
- At most, 25 departments maintain data about the quality and availability of medical staff in prison facilities, and most maintain these data in paper form.
- Thirty-four departments maintain some data about annual operating costs of facilities; less than half maintain data on whether facilities generate revenue and if so, how much.

The Inventory contains 15 questions about correctional facilities, programs and their evaluation, medical care, staffing, revenues, and costs. In the area of program management, the Inventory includes 3 questions about the types of programs and their assessment. On medical services, it asks 3 questions about the number of medical staff, their qualifications, and their availability.* Finally, the inventory includes 9 data elements about the number of facilities, staff, costs, and revenues. Departments were not rated on a full-availability measure for these data elements. Rather, their capability to maintain these data elements electronically is distinguished from their capability to maintain them on paper.

Program management

Program management data are not widely collected. About half of the departments (25) collect data in electronic form on types of programs offered by facilities under their jurisdiction. A third of the departments (17) collect information about programs in paper form only, and about one half of the departments (24) collect evaluation data on programs in electronic form. Most departments (36) do not collect data on dates of evaluation of programs (table 5.1).

*Data elements about medical services provided to offenders are included in Chapter 3, "Managing offenders in corrections facilities."

Data element	Questionnaire item number	In electronic format	In paper format	Have it in any format	Do not collect
Type of programs	208	25	17	42	9
Program assessment*	209	24	13	37	13
Date of assessment	210	6	8	15	36

Note: Data elements with incomplete information are included in 'Have it in any format'. Totals of 'Have it in any format' and 'Do not collect' may not add up to 52 departments due to missing information about individual data elements.
*Several departments do not record this information for all programs.

Medical services offered within facilities

Data about medical services staff in facilities are not widely collected. One half of the departments (25) do not maintain data elements on medical services. About one third of the departments maintain data about medical services offered by facilities in paper format only. For example, 17 departments report having data in paper format on the number of staff who provide medical services; 21 departments report having data elements on the qualifications of medical staff; and 18 departments maintain data on the availability of medical staff (table 5.2). Few of these departments maintain data elements about medical services in electronic form. For example, only 8 departments collect data in electronic form on the number of medical staff that service their facilities.

Data element	Questionnaire item number	In electronic format	In paper format	Have it in any format	Do not collect
Number of medical staff	211	8	17	25	25
Qualifications of medical staff	212	4	21	25	25
Availability of medical staff	213	5	18	23	26

Note: Data elements with incomplete information are included in 'Have it in any format'. Totals of 'Have it in any format' and 'Do not collect' may not add up to 52 departments due to missing information about individual data elements.

Managing facilities

The Inventory included 9 data elements about the management of facilities, including elements about staffing ratios, beds per facility, revenues generated by facilities, and costs to operate facilities. Most of the departments (40) maintain data in electronic form on the total number of facilities, and 35 departments maintain data electronically on the number of beds per facility (table 5.3). More than half of the departments (29) maintain data electronically on the

number of staff at facilities, and 25 departments maintain data elements electronically on the number of custodial staff at each facility. Up to a quarter of the departments report that they do not collect these data elements (table 5.3).

About one half of the departments (25) do not maintain data elements on whether facilities generate revenue. In addition, 25 departments do not collect data on the amount of revenue generated by facilities. However, one quarter of the States collect this type of data on paper records. Almost half of the departments (22) maintain records about costs to operate facilities or on capital costs in paper format only. About one third of them (16) do not collect these data elements. Twelve departments collect cost data in electronic form.

Table 5.3. Number of departments with data elements that describe facility management

Data element	Questionnaire item number	In electronic format	In paper format	Have it in any format	Do not collect
Number of facilities*	214	40	9	49	3
Number of beds per facility	215	35	10	45	6
Number of staff per facility	216	29	11	40	11
Number of custodial staff per facility	217	25	11	36	15
Facilities generating revenue	218	11	13	24	25
Facility generated revenue	219	12	13	25	23
Amount of facility-generated revenue	220	10	14	24	25
Annual cost to operate facilities	221	12	22	34	16
Annual capital costs	222	12	22	34	16

Note: Data elements with incomplete information are included in 'Have it in any format'. Totals of 'Have it in any format' and 'Do not collect' may not add up to 52 departments due to missing information about individual data elements.

*One department can calculate this information from other data elements.

Summary

In general, departments maintain limited information about programs, medical services, and facilities. However, with the exception of data elements about the number of facilities, beds per facility, and staff per facility, few departments maintain any of this information in readily accessible electronic form. Many departments maintain this information in paper form or do not collect it. This is especially the case for medical care and some of the data about facilities for which more than half of the departments do not maintain the data.

