



FY 2025-26 Budget Briefing Summary

Department of Public Safety-Division of Criminal Justice

The Division analyzes criminal justice policy, conducts criminal justice research, and manages related programs and grants.

Summary of Request

Department of Public Safety-Division of Criminal Justice

| Item | Total Funds | General Fund | Cash Funds | Reapprop. Funds | Federal Funds | FTE |
|---|----------------------|----------------------|---------------------|--------------------|---------------------|-------------|
| FY 2025-26 Appropriation | | | | | | |
| SB 25-206 (Long Bill) | 197,025,433 | 97,535,725 | 57,052,350 | 7,576,911 | 34,860,447 | 93.9 |
| Other legislation | \$3,645,580 | \$3,145,580 | 0 | 0 | \$500,000 | 1.0 |
| Total | \$200,671,013 | \$100,681,305 | \$57,052,350 | \$7,576,911 | \$35,360,447 | 94.9 |
| FY 2026-27 Requested Appropriation | | | | | | |
| FY 2025-26 Appropriation | \$200,671,013 | \$100,681,305 | \$57,052,350 | \$7,576,911 | \$35,360,447 | 94.9 |
| R9 DCJ General Fund reduction | -306,609 | -306,609 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Operating common policies | -15,683 | 0 | -37,539 | 0 | 21,856 | 0.0 |
| Prior year actions | 15,527,984 | 312,679 | 15,169,777 | 42,411 | 3,117 | 4.0 |
| Total | \$215,876,705 | \$100,687,375 | \$72,184,588 | \$7,619,322 | \$35,385,420 | 98.9 |
| Increase/-Decrease | \$15,205,692 | \$6,070 | \$15,132,238 | \$42,411 | \$24,973 | 4.0 |
| Percentage Change | 7.6% | 0.0% | 26.5% | 0.6% | 0.1% | 4.2% |

R9 DCJ General Fund reduction: The request seeks an ongoing General Fund decrease for three line items.

Year 1: -\$306,609 General Fund

Operating common policies: The request includes a net decrease of \$15,683 for indirect cost assessments.

Prior year budget actions: The request includes a net increase of \$15.5 million for the impact of prior year budget decisions and legislation.

Prior year actions

| Item | Total Funds | General Fund | Cash Funds | Reapprop. Funds | Federal Funds | FTE |
|--|---------------------|------------------|---------------------|-----------------|----------------|------------|
| SB 25-310 Prop. 130 implementation | \$15,000,000 | \$0 | \$15,000,000 | \$0 | \$0 | 4.0 |
| HB 25-1098 Automated notify victim | 250,000 | 0 | 250,000 | 0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| FY 25-26 Salary survey | 219,625 | 173,747 | 18,894 | 23,867 | 3,117 | 0.0 |
| HB 24-1219 First responder health benefit trusts | 100,000 | 100,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| HB 24-1054 Jail standards recommend. | 30,500 | 15,250 | 0 | 15,250 | 0 | 0.0 |
| FY 25-26 Step Plan | 19,529 | 15,352 | 883 | 3,294 | 0 | 0.0 |
| SB 25-050 Racial classify gov. forms | 15,000 | 15,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| FY 25-26 Training sex offense victim reps. | -100,000 | 0 | -100,000 | 0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| HB 25-1146 Juvenile detention bed cap | -6,670 | -6,670 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Total | \$15,527,984 | \$312,679 | \$15,169,777 | \$42,411 | \$3,117 | 4.0 |

Issues Presented

This is a summary of the briefing issues presented to the Joint Budget Committee by their dedicated non-partisan staff.

Budget reduction options: The Division’s request includes a reduction of \$306,609 General Fund. This issue brief reviews this proposal and \$13.4 million in other options identified by staff.

Incapacitation, deterrence, and crime: This issue brief discusses research about the relationship between imprisonment, criminal sentencing laws, and crime rates. It also touches on the purposes of sentencing. This discussion is partially motivated by forecasts that suggest the State will exceed its male prison capacity in the next fiscal year.

DOC inmates in the community: This issue brief explains and analyzes the response to a JBC request for information. The Departments of Corrections and Public Safety propose changes to community corrections referral timelines and acceptance criteria for certain DOC inmates. The Departments also propose similar changes for the Intensive Supervision-Inmate program. JBC staff’s analysis considers the current allocation of decision-making authority and carceral responsibility. It also considers whether a cost-sharing model might lead to different decisions at a local level. This discussion is partially motivated by forecasts that suggest the State will exceed its male prison capacity in the next fiscal year.

Community corrections cost analysis: This issue brief highlights key findings in a third-party cost analysis of the community corrections system.

For More Information

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To read the entire briefing: Go to leg.colorado.gov/content/budget/budget-documents to use the budget document search tool. Select this department's name under Department/Topic, "Briefing" under Type, and select a Start date and End date to show documents released in November and December of 2025.