Results of the February 2013 Criminal Justice Estimating Conference

Prepared by the Florida Legislature, Office of Economic and Demographic Research for the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Criminal and Civil Justice, February 20, 2013 Criminal Justice Estimating Conference will typically meet three times a year to "develop official information relating to the criminal justice system, including forecasts of prison admissions and population...for the state planning and budgeting system."

Projections are usually based on current law/current administration.

Principals include staff from the House and Senate, the Governor's Office of Planning and Budgeting, and the Legislature's Office of Economic and Demographic Research. In addition, the Criminal Justice Impact Conference meets to determine the prison bed impact of proposed legislation.

Proposed legislation which creates new felony offenses or increases the penalty for existing offenses may impact the number of prison beds that are needed.

Alternatively, proposed legislation which creates diversion programs or reduces the penalty for existing offenses may impact the number of prison beds that are needed (fewer beds).

CJEC met on July 26, 2012 and on November 19, 2012.

In July, CJEC had projected that FY 12-13 prison admissions would decline by 2.3% from FY 11-12 but in the first four months of FY 12-13, admissions were 2.8% higher than in FY 11-12.

This resulted in a higher forecast in November than in July.

MONITORING PRISON ADMISSIONS TO THE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS SINCE THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE ESTIMATING CONFERENCE HELD 11/19/2012

MONTH	ADMISS ESTIMATE	IONS ACTUAL	MONTHLY OVER/ (UNDER)	CUMULATIVE OVER/ (UNDER)
November 2012	2,602	2,469	-133	-133
December 2012	2,603	2,494	-109	-242
January 2013	2,452	2,859	407	165
		<u> </u>		
Total	7,657	7,822	% Error:	2.2%
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MONITORING PRISON POPULATION IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS SINCE THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE ESTIMATING CONFERENCE HELD 11/19/2012

	POPULA		CUMULATIVE OVER/
MONTH	ESTIMATE	ACTUAL	(UNDER)
November 2012	100,189	100,064	-125
December 2012	100,031	99,835	-196
January 2013	99,711	99,831	120
	0.1%	Error	

5

CJEC met again on February 19, 2013--

After reviewing trends in various indicators, principals decided to keep the November 19, 2012 forecast.

Three-Year Declines

Crime Trends

- Index crimes
- Crime rate
- Arrests

Judicial System Trends

- Felony filings
- Guilty dispositions

New Commitments to Prison

Crime Trends

Declining but at slower rate than prior 2 yrs

Judicial System Trends

Mixed--Guilty dispositions declining at slower rate than prior 2 years but felony filings declining at higher rate than prior 2 years.

New Commitments to Prison

Declining but at slower rate than prior 2 yrs

Current CJEC projected prison admissions compared to July 2012 CJEC:

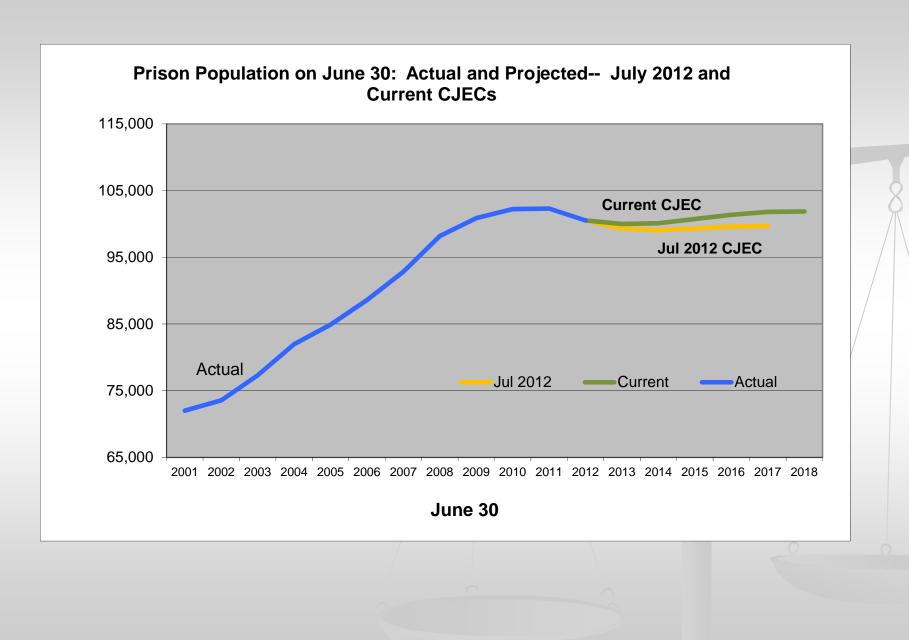
+ 797 for FY 12-13 + 981 for FY 13-14 + 1,014 for FY 14-15

FY 12-13 admissions now projected to be 32,555 -- 0.2% above FY 11-12

Current CJEC projected prison population compared to July's CJEC:

June 30th prison population: + 704 for FY 12-13 + 1,080 for FY 13-14 + 1,442 for FY 14-15

June 30, 2013 prison population projection **100,009**



For Additional Information

Florida Legislature, Office of Economic and Demographic Research

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