



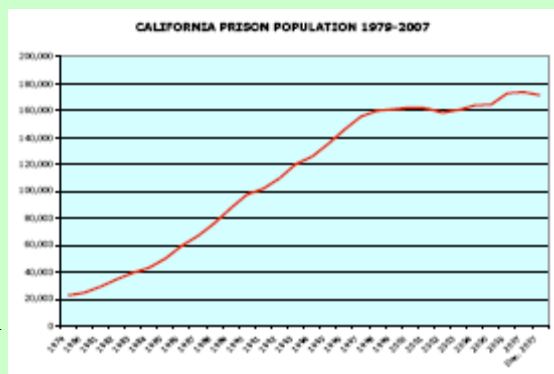
Fact Sheet:

The Governor's proposed 2008-9 Budget

January 2008

The Budget Crisis and the Prison Budget:

- ⇒ The Legislative Analyst is projecting a \$16 billion budget shortfall.
- ⇒ The Governor has proposed that the 'fair' way to balance the budget is that all departments face cuts, nonetheless, the prison budget is slated for a 1.7% increase.
- ⇒ Between 1978 and today, California's prison population has grown over 800% from 21,325 to 170,746. During that period California has built 23 new prisons & 16 community corrections facilities and expanded the state's 11 older prisons. During the same period, California has opened one new University of California campus and two new CSUs.



Early Release and Changes to Parole:

The Governor has proposed some savings in the prison budget which CURB supports: Savings would result through the early release of selected prisoners and summary parole, which are estimated to free up 35,000 prison beds and reduce the number of people in prison by 28,000.

AB900 and the Budget:

- ⇒ AB900 authorizes the state to borrow \$7.5 billion to build 53,000 more prison and jail cells. Each bed will now cost taxpayers \$220,000 for construction alone.
- ⇒ These figures do not include operating costs for the additional 40,000 prison beds which will come from the state's general fund and will undoubtedly increase our already \$16 billion budget shortfall.
- ⇒ The Governor's proposes AB900 spending of \$599 million from the general fund in 08-09:

<u>Project</u>	<u>2008-09</u>
Infill beds	\$140 million
Re-Entry (SCRFs)	\$142.2 million
Medical/Mental Health	\$66.8 million
Expand/Improve Existing Prisons	\$250 million

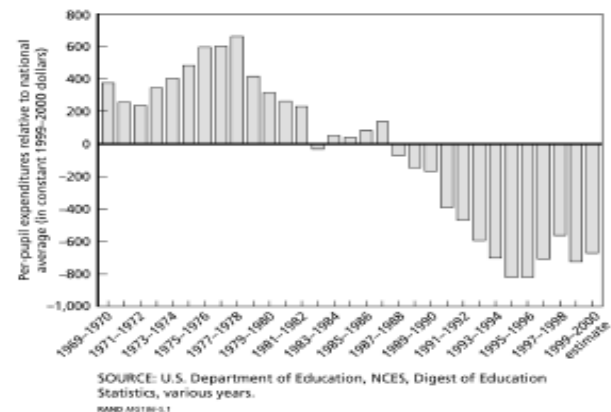
What about funding for health care?

- ⇒ California Ranks #1 in the nation in prison spending, but 47th in per patient healthcare spending. Only Mississippi, Tennessee and New Mexico rank lower than California on spending per patient.
- ⇒ In budget year 2007-08, spending on prisons rose nearly twice as fast as spending on health care. (3.8% increase for health, 6.3% increase for prisons.)
- ⇒ 6.5 million Californians do not have health insurance,
- ⇒ The Governor's budget proposes cutting Medi-Cal by \$1.1 billion or 3.4%, impacting an estimated 6.6 million low income, or 1 in 6, Californians.
- ⇒ Doctors and hospitals will face a 10% cut in reimbursements which will likely result in fewer health care providers willing to serve Medi-Cal recipients. Anthony Wright of Health Access said, "There will be literally millions of people with less access to benefits and providers."

What about K-12 education?

- ⇒ The Governor is proposing cutting K-12 Education by \$1.1 billion, a 5.4% decrease.
- ⇒ The Governor wants to suspend Prop. 98, the voter approved law that guarantees a minimum level of school funding.
- ⇒ Teachers could start receiving law off warnings as early as March 2008.
- ⇒ Bob Wells of the Assn. of CA School Administrators called this budget "the deepest cuts ever proposed in school funding the history of California."

Figure S.1
California's K-12 Public School Per-Pupil Spending Relative to the National Average, 1969-1970 to 1999-2000



What about higher education?

- ⇒ Community College funding is slated to be cut 2.2%.
- ⇒ University of California and Cal State University funding will be reduced \$197 million or 3.1% even with a proposed 10% increase in fees at CSU and 7% increase at UC.
- ⇒ Even with the proposed fee increases, UC projects it will be short \$400 million and the CSU system estimates it's budget will be short \$312 million.

What about Social Services?

- ⇒ The Governor is proposing cutting \$300.3 million from supplemental security insurance (SSI) by suspending cost of living increases for low income elderly, blind or disabled Californians.
- ⇒ Foster care is facing an \$81.5 million cut.
- ⇒ Cal-Works will face a \$476 million cut forcing 75,000 families off cash assistance.

What about our state parks?

The Governor is proposing cutting \$13.3 million from our state parks, closing 43 state parks.

What can I do to stop prison expansion in California?

- Sign our **petition** at <http://www.ipetitions.com/petition/caprisonexpansion/?e>
- Invite CURB to come present our AB900 workshop to your school, organization, church, union, house party.
- **Call your state assembly person or senator** or Senate President Don Perata, **916-651-4009**, or Assembly Speaker Fabian Nunez, **916-319-2046**.

Contact CURB at 510.444.0484 or curb@riseup.net

For more info go to www.curbprisonspending.org

