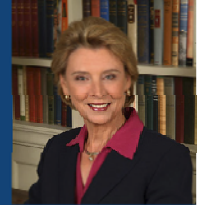




Governor Chris Gregoire

GOVERNMENT MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTABILITY & PERFORMANCE



## Public Safety GMAP Forum Summary

### SEPTEMBER 19, 2008

Prison violence is down, the number of parole violation hearings held on-time is up, and results are mixed on efforts to improve recruitment and retention of corrections workers, according to a GMAP report released today about programs at the Department of Corrections.

Here are several highlights of the written report provided to Governor Chris Gregoire and her leadership team:

- There was a 25% reduction in the rate of violent infractions per 100 inmates between January and July 2008. In addition, there was a 43% reduction between FY 2007 and FY 2008 in the number of assault cases in which benefits had to be paid for medical care or time lost from work.
- A total of 71% of parole violation hearings were held on time as defined in state law during the fourth quarter of FY 2008. While performance remains below the target of 75%, the timeliness of hearings has increased in the past year despite a 13% increase in the number of hearings conducted.
- The Corrections Department exceeded its hiring target for the 12 months ending June 30, bringing on 167 new staff. But more workers than expected left the agency (918 compared with the projection of 728), resulting in the net loss of 23 staff members. The department plans to hire 299 new staff by July 2009 to keep pace with prison expansions.
- Participation met or exceeded targets in 10 of the department's 14 programs to help offenders re-enter the community and reduce repeat offenses. Nine of the programs are based at prisons around the state. Five are community-based.

For more information, visit the Public Safety page:

<http://www.accountability.wa.gov/reports/safety/default.asp>