

Overview of Inmate Education



Legislative Analyst's Office

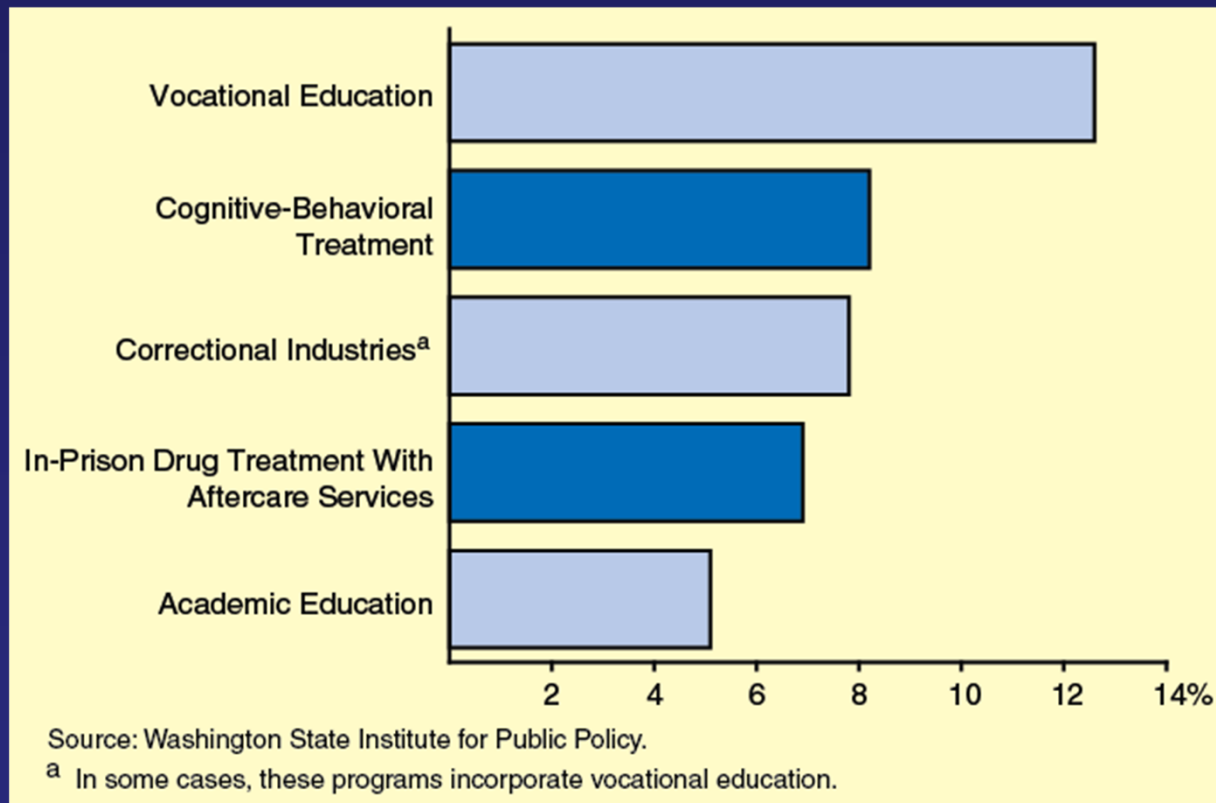
Presented to:
Senate Budget and Fiscal Review
Subcommittee No. 5 on Corrections,
Public Safety, and the Judiciary
May 10, 2011

Value of Correctional Education

- **Improves Level of Education Attainment**
- **Provides Fiscal Benefits to State and Local Governments**
- **Improves Prison Management**
- **Increases Public Safety**

Education Reduces Recidivism

Percentage Reduction in Recidivism (2006 National Data)

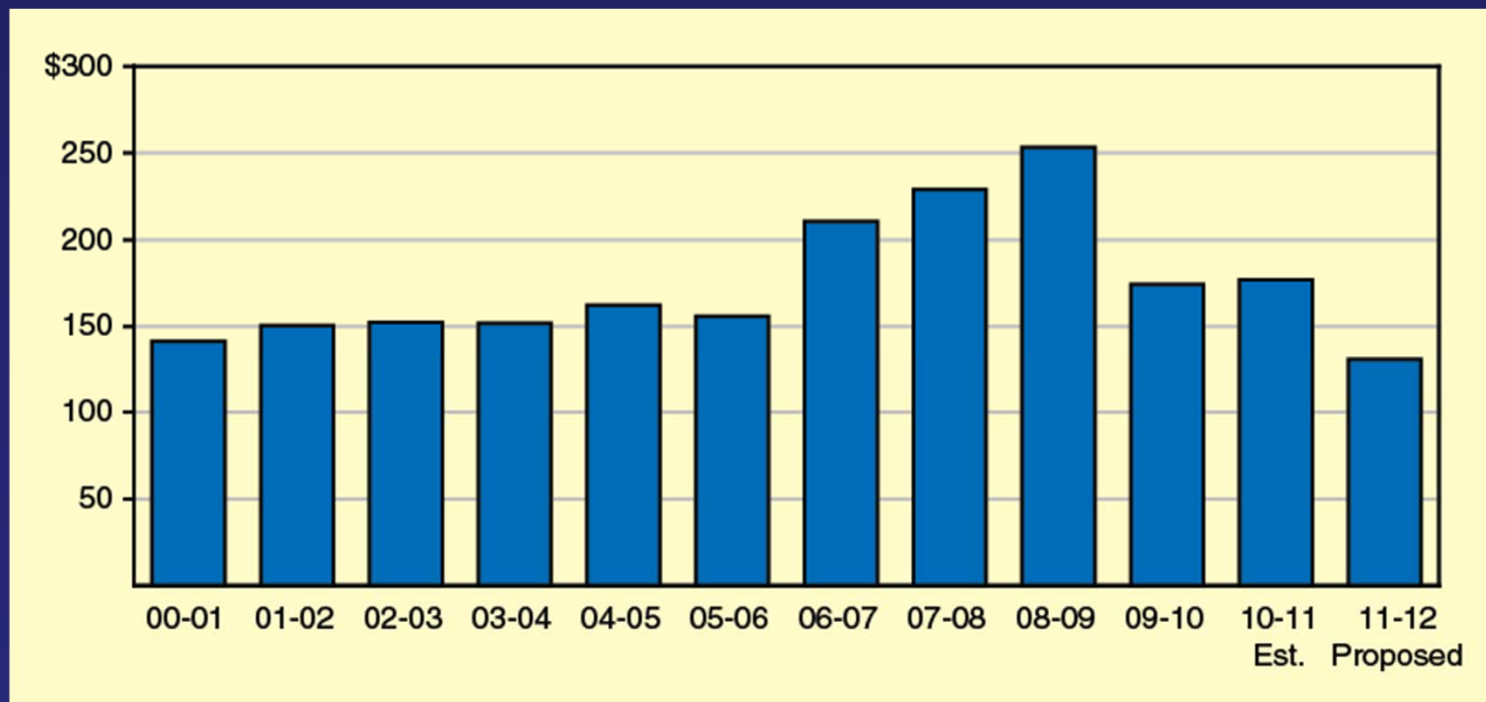


Education Programs Offered by CDCR

- **Academic Education**
- **Vocational Education**
- **Prison Industry Authority**

Spending on Inmate Education Has Decreased in Recent Years

(In Millions)



Many Inmates Unable to Enroll in Education Programs

- CDCR's core academic and vocational training programs enroll only about a third of the inmate population who could benefit from them.
- California compares poorly with the rest of the nation in providing education programs to “high-need” inmates.

Enrolled Inmates Frequently Do Not Get to Class

- On average, 65 percent of all enrolled inmates were in class each day between July 2010 and February 2011.
- Factors that contribute to low attendance rates include lockdowns, staffing vacancies, and the state's process for allocating funding for inmate education programs.

Past LAO Recommendations

- **Fund Programs Based on Actual Attendance, Not Enrollment**
- **Reduce Negative Impact of Lockdowns**
- **Develop Incentives for Participation**
- **Base Funding Decisions on Program Assessments**