

REPORT TO THE LEGISLATURE
Pursuant to P.A. 188 of 2010
Section 417 (1)(a)
County Jail Reimbursement Program

Sec. 417. (1) By March 1, 2011, the department shall report to the members of the senate and house appropriations subcommittees on corrections, the senate and house fiscal agencies, and the state budget director on each of the following programs from the previous fiscal year:

- (a) The county jail reimbursement program.
 - (b) The felony drunk driver jail reduction and community treatment program.
 - (c) Any new initiatives to control prison population growth funded or proposed to be funded under part 1.
- (2) For each program listed under subsection (1), the report shall include information on each of the following:
- (a) Program objectives and outcome measures, including, but not limited to, the number of offenders who successfully completed the program, and the number of offenders who successfully remained in the community during the 3 years following termination from the program.
 - (b) Expenditures by location.
 - (c) The impact on jail utilization.
 - (d) The impact on prison admissions.
 - (e) Other information relevant to an evaluation of the program.

The County Jail Reimbursement Program was established as an incentive for counties to retain locally those felons who otherwise probably would have been sent to prison. It was instituted under language in the FY 1988-89 budget act, and has been maintained through budget acts every year since then. FY 2009-10 was an anomaly: the program existed briefly in October 2009 under the terms of a continuation budget, and, following a veto of the version that was in the FY 2009-10 budget act, was subsequently enacted through a June 2010 supplemental appropriations act (2010 PA 89), which provided for the program from January through September 2010.

In 1998, the County Jail Reimbursement Program was placed in statute as part of an extensive package of criminal justice reforms that included sentencing guidelines and truth-in-sentencing. Public Act 317 of 1998 amended the Code of Criminal Procedure to add a section (MCL 769.35) that calls for the Department of Corrections (MDOC) to operate a jail reimbursement program that “provides funding to counties for housing offenders in county jails who otherwise would have been sentenced to prison.” The act specifies that reimbursement criteria and rates are to be set in the annual appropriations acts for MDOC.

In the years since the program began, changes to reimbursement criteria and rates have been common, reflecting continuing efforts to draft a reimbursement framework that would offer appropriate incentives diverting into jail sentences offenders who otherwise would have received prison sentences. After enactment of comprehensive felony sentencing guidelines, criteria increasingly described reimbursement-eligible offenders in terms of their scores and classification under sentencing guidelines.

The two public acts that provided for the program in Fiscal Year 2009-10 were 2009 PA 104, which was in effect from October 1, 2009 to October 12, 2009, and 2010 PA 89, which took effect June 7, 2010 and applied to January through September 2010.

The October 2009 program maintained the eligibility criteria and rates that had been effect in FY 2008-09. It offered a reimbursement rate of \$43.50 per day for felons sentenced for crimes committed on or after January 1, 1999 (the effective date of sentencing guidelines) who met one of the following eligibility criteria:

- (a) The felon's sentencing guidelines recommended range upper limit was more than 18 months, the felon's sentencing guidelines recommended range lower limit was 12 months or less, the felon's prior record variable score was 35 or more points, and the felon's sentence was not for commission of a crime in crime class G or crime class H under chapter XVII of the code of criminal procedure, 1927 PA 175, MCL 777.1 to 777.69. This describes a "straddle cell" offender (one who may be sentenced either to prison or to a local sanction) with a prior record variable score of at least 35, and a conviction that was not for a crime in one of the two least serious crime classes.
- (b) The felon's minimum sentencing guidelines range minimum is more than 12 months under the sentencing guidelines. This describes a "presumptive prison" offender who must be sentenced to prison unless the sentencing judge departs from the guidelines for "substantial and compelling" reasons.

The January through September 2010 program reimbursed for felons sentenced for crimes committed on or after January 1, 1999, and who met one of the following criteria:

- (a) The felon's sentencing guidelines recommended range upper limit was more than 18 months, the felon's sentencing guidelines recommended range lower limit was 12 months or less, the felon's prior record variable score was 35 or more points, and the felon's sentence was not for commission of a crime in crime class G or crime class H or a "nonperson" crime in crime class F under chapter XVII of the code of criminal procedure, 1927 PA 175, MCL 777.1 to 777.69.
- (b) The felon's minimum sentencing guidelines range minimum was more than 12 months.
- (c) The felon was sentenced to jail for a felony committed while he or she was on parole and under the jurisdiction of the parole board and for which the sentencing guidelines recommended range for the minimum sentence has an upper limit of more than 18 months. This describes a parolee whose guidelines score on the new felony places him or her in either the straddle cell or presumptive prison category.

There were three reimbursement rates in effect for January through September 2010. If the offender's guidelines score indicated a prison sentence, the rate was \$60.00 per day. If the guidelines score was such that either a prison sentence or a local sanction was allowed (a straddle cell), the reimbursement rate was \$50.00 per day if the crime was on a list of designated "group 1" crimes, and \$35 per day if it was not.

Table 1 provides data on FY 2009-10 County Jail Reimbursement Program payments and numbers of offenders by county and per diem rate. Total funding available in FY 2009-10 was \$8,209,440: \$6,003,840 in revenues from the Justice System Fund, and \$2,205,600 in state general fund/general purpose revenues. Of that total, \$425,604 was paid out for the period in October 2009 when a continuation budget was in effect. The remainder was fully paid out to counties, with \$84,060 in verified claims going unpaid because funding was exhausted.

The extent to which the program has affected jail utilization or prison commitments is unclear, because the extent to which judicial sentencing decisions are affected by an offender's eligibility is unclear. The elimination of the program from October 2009 to June 2009 did not appear to affect prison commitment rates. Given the complexity of the criminal justice system and the difficulty in isolating the impact of the CJRP from the many other factors that affect sentencing decisions, conclusions about the program's impact on jail utilization or prison admissions are likely to be conjectural.

Table 1: FY 2009-10 County Jail Reimbursement Program Payments

County	\$43.50 Per Diem		\$35 Per Diem		\$50 Per Diem		\$60 Per Diem		Total	
	Inmates	Payment	Inmates	Payment	Inmates	Payment	Inmates	Payment	Inmates	Payment
Alcona	1	\$522.00	1	\$7,455.00	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	2	\$7,977.00
Alger	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00
Allegan	6	\$2,740.50	14	\$40,635.00	3	\$14,450.00	1	\$3,120.00	24	\$60,945.50
Alpena	2	\$1,044.00	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	2	\$1,044.00
Antrim	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00
Arenac	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00
Baraga	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00
Barry	0	\$0.00	15	\$50,890.00	6	\$25,500.00	6	\$15,720.00	27	\$92,110.00
Bay	11	\$4,872.00	11	\$42,875.00	4	\$14,400.00	2	\$6,540.00	28	\$68,687.00
Benzie	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00
Berrien	9	\$4,176.00	9	\$14,665.00	10	\$48,300.00	3	\$9,000.00	31	\$76,141.00
Branch	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00
Calhoun	38	\$17,661.00	51	\$167,370.00	22	\$119,050.00	12	\$78,420.00	123	\$382,501.00
Cass	13	\$6,438.00	10	\$32,270.00	7	\$28,350.00	10	\$69,660.00	40	\$136,718.00
Charlevoix	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00
Cheboygan	2	\$1,044.00	3	\$17,010.00	1	\$5,750.00	0	\$0.00	6	\$23,804.00
Chippewa	4	\$1,870.50	6	\$22,575.00	2	\$650.00	1	\$3,720.00	13	\$28,815.50
Clare	5	\$2,218.50	5	\$15,400.00	3	\$11,900.00	0	\$0.00	13	\$29,518.50
Clinton	1	\$522.00	3	\$12,810.00	2	\$10,550.00	1	\$540.00	7	\$24,422.00
Crawford	1	\$522.00	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	1	\$522.00
Delta	2	\$652.50	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	2	\$652.50
Dickinson	5	\$2,610.00	8	\$30,030.00	4	\$33,900.00	2	\$11,400.00	19	\$77,940.00
Eaton	9	\$4,350.00	26	\$67,935.00	12	\$49,650.00	13	\$41,520.00	60	\$163,455.00
Emmet	2	\$870.00	2	\$10,325.00	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	4	\$11,195.00
Genesee	14	\$6,525.00	20	\$55,790.00	13	\$67,100.00	6	\$39,420.00	53	\$168,835.00
Gladwin	3	\$1,087.50	5	\$11,550.00	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	8	\$12,637.50
Gogebic	1	\$522.00	1	\$245.00	0	\$0.00	2	\$8,820.00	4	\$9,587.00
Grand Traverse	0	\$0.00	1	\$35.00	1	\$50.00	0	\$0.00	2	\$85.00
Gratiot	1	\$522.00	2	\$3,255.00	0	\$0.00	1	\$12,540.00	4	\$16,317.00
Hillsdale	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00
Houghton	5	\$2,610.00	3	\$9,170.00	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	8	\$11,780.00
Huron	2	\$1,044.00	2	\$8,750.00	2	\$19,100.00	0	\$0.00	6	\$28,894.00
Ingham	22	\$9,352.50	76	\$160,195.00	26	\$81,400.00	11	\$44,700.00	135	\$295,647.50
Ionia	1	\$522.00	4	\$11,130.00	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	5	\$11,652.00
Iosco	1	\$522.00	1	\$7,665.00	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	2	\$8,187.00
Iron	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00
Isabella	6	\$3,132.00	9	\$27,020.00	4	\$20,750.00	2	\$12,060.00	21	\$62,962.00
Jackson	21	\$10,657.50	9	\$24,605.00	4	\$15,500.00	2	\$5,040.00	36	\$55,802.50
Kalamazoo	28	\$12,658.50	20	\$47,075.00	16	\$47,450.00	4	\$10,920.00	68	\$118,103.50
Kalkaska	2	\$1,044.00	7	\$26,600.00	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	9	\$27,644.00
Kent	76	\$36,409.50	87	\$235,935.00	42	\$152,650.00	29	\$182,640.00	234	\$607,634.50
Keweenaw	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	1	\$11,640.00	1	\$11,640.00
Lake	0	\$0.00	1	\$1,820.00	0	\$0.00	1	\$4,020.00	2	\$5,840.00
Lapeer	5	\$2,305.50	24	\$90,650.00	6	\$24,300.00	4	\$32,460.00	39	\$149,715.50
Leelanau	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00
Lenawee	4	\$2,088.00	2	\$1,435.00	0	\$0.00	2	\$11,400.00	8	\$14,923.00
Livingston	11	\$4,654.50	17	\$38,780.00	4	\$14,200.00	4	\$27,600.00	36	\$85,234.50
Luce	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00
Mackinac	1	\$522.00	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	1	\$522.00
Macomb	83	\$39,063.00	161	\$410,865.00	56	\$217,250.00	26	\$185,640.00	326	\$852,818.00
Manistee	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00
Marquette	3	\$652.50	8	\$21,840.00	1	\$3,850.00	0	\$0.00	12	\$26,342.50
Mason	4	\$2,088.00	0	\$0.00	3	\$12,500.00	1	\$2,280.00	8	\$16,868.00
Mecosta	5	\$2,436.00	2	\$8,750.00	2	\$17,950.00	1	\$10,620.00	10	\$39,756.00
Menominee	3	\$1,566.00	0	\$0.00	1	\$1,050.00	0	\$0.00	4	\$2,616.00
Midland	4	\$2,088.00	13	\$28,455.00	3	\$24,100.00	0	\$0.00	20	\$54,643.00
Missaukee	0	\$0.00	2	\$1,680.00	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	2	\$1,680.00
Monroe	13	\$5,872.50	6	\$7,840.00	1	\$3,850.00	0	\$0.00	20	\$17,562.50
Montcalm	4	\$1,827.00	2	\$7,000.00	0	\$0.00	1	\$7,500.00	7	\$16,327.00
Montmorency	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00
Muskegon	19	\$8,221.50	19	\$37,135.00	16	\$56,150.00	1	\$1,500.00	55	\$103,006.50
Newaygo	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00

Oakland	187	\$88,348.50	316	\$908,425.00	119	\$495,550.00	34	\$197,040.00	656	\$1,689,363.50
Oceana	1	\$522.00	2	\$4,900.00	2	\$20,500.00	0	\$0.00	5	\$25,922.00
Ogemaw	1	\$522.00	3	\$10,500.00	1	\$5,100.00	1	\$2,460.00	6	\$18,582.00
Ontonagon	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00
Osceola	1	\$522.00	3	\$3,010.00	1	\$12,150.00	1	\$1,680.00	6	\$17,362.00
Oscoda	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00
Otsego	0	\$0.00	2	\$8,260.00	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	2	\$8,260.00
Ottawa	16	\$8,047.50	25	\$56,560.00	10	\$31,400.00	5	\$24,720.00	56	\$120,727.50
Presque Isle	1	\$522.00	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	1	\$522.00
Roscommon	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00
Saginaw	26	\$12,789.00	42	\$143,815.00	17	\$92,600.00	11	\$72,540.00	96	\$321,744.00
St. Clair	22	\$8,743.50	27	\$85,295.00	13	\$45,100.00	0	\$0.00	62	\$139,138.50
St. Joseph	0	\$0.00	5	\$14,805.00	1	\$3,150.00	1	\$1,260.00	7	\$19,215.00
Sanilac	2	\$1,044.00	0	\$0.00	1	\$11,050.00	2	\$17,640.00	5	\$29,734.00
Schoolcraft	0	\$0.00	1	\$7,245.00	2	\$10,850.00	0	\$0.00	3	\$18,095.00
Shiawassee	5	\$2,610.00	3	\$11,445.00	0	\$0.00	1	\$5,340.00	9	\$19,395.00
Tuscola	4	\$1,957.50	5	\$23,450.00	2	\$12,050.00	4	\$16,320.00	15	\$53,777.50
Van Buren	0	\$0.00	8	\$14,245.00	0	\$0.00	2	\$4,440.00	10	\$18,685.00
Washtenaw	19	\$9,265.50	43	\$114,065.00	23	\$92,950.00	5	\$31,320.00	90	\$247,600.50
Wayne	168	\$78,082.50	275	\$557,480.00	161	\$498,450.00	75	\$303,900.00	679	\$1,437,912.50
Wexford	1	\$522.00	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	1	\$522.00
TOTALS	907	\$425,604.00	1,428	\$3,781,015.00	630	\$2,472,550.00	292	\$1,529,100.00	3,257	\$8,208,269.00