

2011-129 AUDIT SCOPE AND OBJECTIVES—California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation, Juvenile Justice Realignment

The audit by the Bureau of State Audits will provide independently developed and verified information related to the realignment of juvenile offenders from state to local control and will include, but not be limited to, the following:

1. Review and evaluate the laws, rules, and regulations significant to the audit objectives.
2. For each fiscal year beginning in 2007–08, determine the amount of Youthful Offender Block Grant Program (block grant) funding counties have received and expended. Specifically, determine the amount of unexpended block grant funds.
3. For each year since the passage of SB 81, determine the State’s juvenile population in juvenile justice as well as the number of juveniles within the adult prison population.
4. Assess the trends in the number of juveniles tried as adults and sent to prison for each year subsequent to the passage of SB 81.
5. To the extent data is available, determine how many juveniles in juvenile justice were transferred from state to local control subsequent to the passage of SB 81.
6. For a sample of counties, determine the following:
 - a. Whether counties accurately account for their block grant allocations and expenditures.
 - b. The types of services counties provide with block grant funds, and assess whether these services are similar to those provided by juvenile justice.
 - c. Whether counties supplement block grant funds with other funding sources to provide services to juvenile offenders.
 - d. The rates of admission to juvenile justice and to adult prison facilities for each year since the passage of SB 81.
 - e. Whether counties are meeting block grant requirements, including those related to the annual application process and the timely reporting of expenditure and performance outcomes.
7. Determine the extent to which block grant information, including performance outcomes and county financial data, is available to the public.
8. Determine the State’s and counties’ level of oversight and monitoring of the block grant.
9. Determine what enforcement actions the Corrections Standards Authority can take against counties that do not meet block grant requirements and if the Corrections Standards Authority has ever taken any enforcement actions.

10. Review and assess performance standards used and the outcomes reported, including reasonableness of the methods used to develop the standards and whether the standards are applied consistently among counties. Additionally, determine how the Corrections Standards Authority measures counties' success.
11. Based on the data the Corrections Standards Authority has collected, determine which counties have most significantly decreased or increased the rates of admission to juvenile justice and to adult prison facilities since the passage of SB 81.
12. Determine what happens to programs found to be successful and unsuccessful and how much block grant funding the best performing and poorest performing counties receive.
13. Review and assess any other issues that are significant to the realignment of juvenile offenders from state to local control.