

# Arkansas Department of Correction Facts Brochure

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*The mission of  
the Arkansas Department of Correction is to:*

**Provide public safety by carrying out the mandates of the courts;**

**Provide a safe, humane environment for staff and inmates;**

**Provide programs to strengthen the work ethic;**

**Provide opportunities for spiritual, mental and physical growth.**

*The vision of the Arkansas Department of Correction is to be an elite correctional organization dedicated to public service through ethical, innovative and professional leadership at all levels delivering superior services to the citizens of Arkansas.*

## **EEO Statement**

In keeping with its mission, the Department of Correction desires to employ individuals who are dependable and sincerely interested in serving the mission of the department. The ADC seeks employees who can handle these important matters in a professional manner.

The ADC is an equal opportunity employer providing equal employment opportunities without regard to race, color, sex, religion, national origin, age, disability or veteran status. This policy and practice relates to all phases of employment including, but not limited to, recruiting, hiring, placement, promotion, transfer, layoff, recall, termination, rates of pay or other forms of compensation, training, use of all facilities and participation in all department sponsored employee activities and programs.

All members of the ADC management staff are familiar with this statement of policy, the philosophy behind it and their responsibility to apply these principles in good faith for meaningful progress in the utilization of minorities and women.

# Management

## Board of Corrections

In 1993, the Arkansas General Assembly amended Arkansas Code Annotated 12-27-101 and placed the Department of Correction under the supervision and control of the Board of Correction and Community Punishment, which assumed the powers, functions and duties formerly held by the Board of Correction (created in 1968) and its predecessor, the State Penitentiary Board (created in 1943).

In August 2001, legislation went into effect changing the board's name to the Board of Corrections. The change became necessary when the name of the Department of Community Punishment changed to the Department of Community Correction.

The board has seven voting members:

- Five citizen members
- Chairman of the Post Prison Transfer Board (Until 1993, the Board of Parole)
- One criminal justice faculty member, employed at a four-year Arkansas university

The board was impaneled July 1, 1993. Each member serves a term of seven years.

## **Director and Staff**

The Director of the Arkansas Department of Correction reports directly to the Board of Corrections as the agency's chief executive, officer, and is responsible for the agency's philosophy, mission and operations.

The ADC has four divisions, which are supervised by a deputy or assistant director. The divisions are ***Administrative Services, Institutional Services, Health and Correctional Programs and Construction and Maintenance***. In addition, the agency has a staff of professionals who report directly to the Director.

The **Public Information and Legislative Liaison** is responsible for releasing information, responding to requests from the media and the public, coordinating tours of department facilities, agency publications, constituency services and assisting members and staff of the Arkansas General Assembly.

The **Attorney** provides assistance to the department on legal matters and has a critical role in the development of policies and procedures, which must comply with state and federal laws. The ADC attorney also represents the Department at Arkansas Claims Commission hearings and on employee grievance appeals.

The **Equal Employment Opportunity and Grievance Officer** monitors compliance with court consent decrees and the Uniform Employee Grievance Procedures, established in 1985 by gubernatorial proclamation. The officer also assists in development of affirmative action plans and efforts.

**Internal Affairs** investigates inmate complaints, suspected criminal activities and serious allegations regarding employee conduct. The division works with

the Attorney General's Office on employee litigation and Arkansas Claims Commission actions. Internal Affairs also coordinates contact with law enforcement agencies concerning alleged criminal activities of inmates and employees.

**Disciplinary Hearings** allow inmates to respond to disciplinary actions filed against them by department staff. A disciplinary hearing officer interviews each inmate, reviews documentation and determines any necessary sanctions. Inmates have the right to appeal through various channels within the ADC.

The **Internal Auditor** performs regular program audits and specific audits requested by administrators. The internal auditor also provides assistance and information to legislative and other external auditors, reviews their findings and initiates corrective action.

### **Administrative Services**

The Administrative Services Division provides support services to all operational units of the department while ensuring agency compliance with state and federal accounting and budgetary procedures.

**Human Resources** assists operational units in all aspects of personnel-related functions including recruitment, hiring, employee benefits, training, staff development and retention of a skilled labor force for the Department of Correction. The Human Resources division has an active recruitment program headed by a full-time recruiter.

**Accounting Operations** is responsible for accounts payable for the department and telephone services for Pine Bluff Complex and Administration Annex East.

**Accounting Control** is responsible for agency fund management activities, administration of federal grants and maintenance of general and subsidiary ledgers, records of fixed assets and insurance coverage.

**Budget** prepares annual and biennial budgets, required financial reports, analysis and monitors agency expenditures.

**Purchasing** procures goods and services for the agency and administers all aspects of its vehicle fleet.

**Information Systems** includes the development, maintenance and evaluation of computer applications, network and equipment installation and employee training.

**Training** provides education for employees, including at least 240 hours of pre-service training for new correctional officers, a 16-hour orientation for non-security personnel and management level training. In-service training is conducted at the Training Academy and other ADC facilities. The academy is accredited by the American Correctional Association.

**Warehouse and Food Services** division is responsible for procuring, storing and transporting food for the department and for menu planning and meal preparation that meets the nutritional and health requirements of the inmate population.

**Research and Planning** section provides analytical and research services that respond to informational needs and assist in achieving the department's overall goals and objectives. It also coordinates the strategic planning process including development of performance measures and collection of data for program evaluation.

### **Institutional Services**

**Security** monitors and evaluates the agency's security procedures and reviews security-related equipment and programs.

**Regional Jails** are operated by the Department at Pine Bluff, Dermott, and Brickeys. They house city, county and state inmates, enabling governmental entities to share construction and operating costs.

**Accreditation** is the process the Department utilizes to develop policies and facilities that meet the national standards of the American Correctional Association. Accreditation enhances program development and improves the inmate's quality of life. All department-owned facilities are accredited by the ACA.

**Boot Camp Program** is a 105-day, military style treatment program for nonviolent offenders. The Boot Camp uses discipline, academic education and substance abuse education to modify criminal behavior and reduce the need for long-term incarceration. An aftercare program is provided to Boot Camp graduates.

**Work Release Program** allows inmates to hold paid jobs in the community while being housed at a correctional facility. The Department of Correction operates Work Release programs at Luxora, Springdale, Benton, Texarkana, Pine Bluff and Wrightsville.

**Pre-Release Programs** at the Wrightsville, Tucker and McPherson Units provide counseling and instruction to inmates nearing their parole eligibility or release dates. The programs provide inmates with information, assistance and opportunities to address anxieties about re-entering society.

**Inmate Grievance Procedure** allows inmates to resolve grievances, complaints and problems through established procedures. Inmates submit grievances at the unit level. Decisions can be appealed to the chief deputy or deputy director of institutions. Unless an extension is agreed upon, the process is completed within 90 days. In emergency situations, immediate action is taken. The ADC's grievance procedure is certified by the U. S. Department of Justice, which means the courts can hold inmate lawsuits until grievance remedies are exhausted.

**Inmate Transportation** is responsible for transporting and escorting inmates outside department facilities. Inmates are transported for medical appointments, court appearances and unit transfers. During any inmate movement, transportation personnel maintain security and protect property.

**Agriculture Program** provides the majority of vegetables, meat, milk and eggs consumed by the inmate population and generates revenue by selling soybeans, rice, cotton and other cash crops. The department's largest farm operation is located at the Cummins Unit where 14,000 acres are devoted to cash crops, vegetables, hay production and livestock. More than 3,500 acres at the Wrightsville Unit are used for cattle and hay production. The Tucker Unit provides 4,000 acres for rice and soybeans. The East Arkansas



Regional Unit produces cotton, soybeans and wheat on 3,000 acres. A vegetable processing plant is located at the Varner Unit.

**Industry Program** offers on the job training for inmates in manufacturing settings and produces goods for public agencies and nonprofit organizations. Principal operations include digital imaging, janitorial products, garment manufacturing, vinyl products, graphic arts and duplicating, mattress manufacturing, vehicle refurbishing, school furniture repair, furniture manufacturing and athletic/recreational equipment production.

**Classification** is a comprehensive system that determines inmate placement for vocational, work and facility/barracks assignments by evaluating security requirements, programming needs and individual characteristics such as age, offense, criminal history and medical and psychological conditions.

**Emergency Preparedness** is designed to keep the Department in a state of readiness. Through extensive training and by developing procedure manuals and Emergency Response Teams, this system minimizes the impact of major emergencies.

**Canine Drug Detection Program:** The canine teams are used at facilities to search for narcotics and tobacco.

**Vocational Education** is provided by the Riverside Vocational Technical School, established by Act 288 of 1985. Its mission is to equip offenders with marketable skills to aid their re-entry into society. Courses are

individually paced, but usually take about nine months to complete. Courses available to eligible inmates include automotive mechanics, horticulture, cabinet making, cosmetology, welding, data processing, diesel engine mechanics, carpentry/construction, brick and block masonry, computerized accounting, graphic arts, drafting, plumbing and small engine mechanics.

### **Health and Correctional Programs**

**Religious Services** conducts Catholic, Protestant, Jewish, and Islamic services for inmates and provides opportunities for other religious groups to meet in accordance with inmate needs and security procedures. Department chaplains provide a crisis ministry by delivering death and other emergency messages to inmates and assisting them with telephone calls, emergency furloughs and letter writing. Chaplains are available for pastoral counseling and individual care. Community volunteers and Certified Religious Assistants help organize religious activities within the institutions.

**Education** for inmates is provided through the Arkansas Department of Correction School District, created by Act 279 of 1973 and amended by Act 751 of 1985. The district, which is accredited and supervised by the Arkansas Department of Education, provides non-graded programs that enable students to progress individually. Academic testing during intake orientation determines placement. Students are retested at three month intervals and may be promoted to higher levels, with the potential of earning a high school equivalency (GED) diploma. The Board of Corrections has made education mandatory for all inmates who lack their GED or high school diploma and are able to participate.

**Medical Services** include sick call, physician referral, X-ray and laboratory services, prosthetic and pharmaceutical needs, hospital care and specialty services such as cardiology, HIV clinics, chronic care clinics for respiratory ailments, surgery and access to optometry and dental programs. Medical and dental services for inmates are provided by a private contractor. Infirmaries are operated at major units, and a licensed hospital is located at the Diagnostic Unit. Cosmetic and truly elective procedures are not provided.

**Mental Health Services** provides psychological assessment of new inmates and uses the information for classification and determination of additional needs. The ADC has a Special Programs Unit for intensive treatment and specialized assessment and Special Management Barracks for on site management in the southeastern region with transition of mentally ill inmates back into the population, as well as counseling and suicide prevention services. Proactive programs dealing with anger management, criminal thinking, and relapse prevention are available at most facilities.

**Substance Abuse Treatment Program**, supervised by professional staff, is conducted at most facilities. This residential treatment program uses a relapse/recovery approach. After completing SATP, inmates are encouraged to participate in weekly group meetings. In conjunction with SATP, is the Therapeutic Community, a more comprehensive nine-month residential program, which is available at the Tucker and McPherson Units.

**Sex Offender Screening and Risk Assessment** performs evaluations on all adults convicted of sexual offenses in Arkansas to determine the risk-level they could pose to the general public. More than 500 sex offenders are convicted each year.

**Reduction of Sexual Victimization Program (RSVP)** is a voluntary, twelve-month program designed to treat sex offenders prior to release. The program is designed to help sex offenders understand, manage and control sexually deviant behavior.

**Volunteer Services** offers orientation and training to volunteers who provide a wide range of services to inmates. Volunteer programs include Jaycees, Alcoholic Anonymous, Cocaine Anonymous and Narcotics Anonymous meetings, religious and recreational activities, tutoring and counseling.

### **Construction & Maintenance**

**Construction and Maintenance** builds and maintains facilities required for departmental operations. Many construction projects are completed using inmate labor, which provides work and training for inmates and reduces the Department's construction costs by up to 40 percent.

### **Inmate Demographics**

Sex	Male	93.0%	Female	7.0%
Race	White	53.4%		
	Black	45.7%		
	Hispanic	0.7%		
	Other	0.3%		

Average Age of Population: Male = 34, Female = 35  
Average Age of Admission: Male = 33, Female = 35

### **Custody Level**

Maximum: 11%	Minimum: 60%
Medium: 26%	Unclassified: 3%

### **Classification of Inmates**

Class IA	5%	Class III	4%
Class IB	10%	Class IV	16%
Class IC	48%	Class I-P	3%
Class II	14%		

### **Inmate Sentencing Data**

Total Inmates Admitted:	7,132
Total Inmates Released:	6,634
Avg. Length of Sentence for Population:	16 years, 8 mths
Avg. Length of Sentence for Admissions:	7 years, 0 mths
Avg. Length of Time Served:	2 years, 9 mths

### **Offense Breakdown (% of Population)**

**Violent: 42%**

**Non-Violent: 58%**

# Directory

## Central Office

**Established:** 1979

**Location:** Princeton Pike Road, Pine Bluff, Jefferson County

**Mailing Address:** P.O. Box 8707,  
Pine Bluff, AR 71611-8707

**Telephone:** (870) 267-6999

**Fax Numbers:**

Director Staff: **(870)** 267-6244

Chief Deputy Director: 267-6313

Deputy Director of Operations: 267-6304

Deputy Director of Health/Programs: 267-6363

Assist. Director of Institutions: 267-6339

Assist. Director of Adm. Services: 267-6258

Assist. Director of Construction: 267-6617

**Special Operations:** Director's Office and staff, Chief Deputy Director of Institutions, Deputy/Assistant Directors of Administrative Services, Health and Correctional Programs, Institutions and Construction and Maintenance.

## Administration Annex East

**Established:** 2000

**Location:** Near the Pines Mall on Harding Avenue in Pine Bluff, Jefferson County

**Mailing Address:** 2403 East Harding Avenue, Pine Bluff, AR 71601

**Telephone:** (870) 850-8510

**Fax Numbers:**

Human Resources: **(870)** 850-8550

Information Technology: 850-8551

Accounting: 850-8494

Procurement: 850-8488  
Inmate Banking: 850-8481  
Sex Offender Assessment: 850-8446  
Farm and Industry: 850-8440

**Special Operations:** Human Resources, Information Systems, Farm and Industry, Accounting, Procurement, Inmate Banking, Sex Offenders Assessment and Screening.

### **Benton Unit**

**Established:** 1974

**ACA Accredited**

**Location:** Five miles south of Benton, off Hwy 67 in Saline County (Arkansas Health Center)

**Mailing Address:** 6701 Highway 67,  
Benton, AR 72015-8488

**Telephone:** (501) 315-2252

**Fax Number:** (501) 315-3736

**Custody Level:** Minimum

**Unit Capacity:** 325 (225 Work Release; 100  
Technical Parole Violator Program)

**Special Operations:** Work Release, Substance Abuse Treatment Program, Education and Regional Maintenance

### **Boot Camp**

**Established:** 1990

**ACA Accredited**

**Location:** 10 miles south of Little Rock, off Hwy 365,  
Wrightsville, Pulaski County

**Mailing Address:** P.O. Box 1000,  
Wrightsville, AR 72183-1000

**Telephone:** (501) 897-5806

**Fax:** (501) 897-1195

**Custody Level:** Minimum

**Unit Capacity:** 212 (62 female inmates; 150 male inmates)

**Approximate Acreage:** 3,500

**Special Operations:** Military style boot camp for first time non-violent inmates, Education, ReAct, and Work Release and Industry for female inmates

### **Cummins Unit**

**Established:** 1902

**ACA Accredited**

**Location:** 28 miles South of Pine Bluff, off Hwy 65 in Lincoln County

**Mailing Address:** P.O. Box 500,  
Grady, AR 71644-0500

**Telephone:** (870) 850--8899

**Fax:** (870) 850-8862

**Custody Level:** Maximum-Medium-Minimum

**Unit Capacity:** 1750

**Approximate Acreage:** 16,500

**Agriculture:** Livestock, field crops, edible crops, feed mill, slaughterhouse and poultry

**Industry:** Vinyl products/silk screening, engraving, garment factory and furniture refinishing.

**Special Operations:** Substance Abuse Treatment Program, Special Management Barracks for mental health, Education, horse operation and canine unit

### **Delta Regional Unit**

**Established:** 1990

**ACA Accredited**

**Location:** Dermott, AR, Chicot County

**Mailing Address:** Route 1, Box 12,  
Dermott, AR 71638-9505



**Telephone:** (870) 538-2000  
**Fax:** (870) 538-2027  
**Custody Level:** Medium-Minimum  
**Unit Capacity:** 400  
**Approximate Acreage:** 90  
**Agriculture:** Vegetable processing  
**Industry:** Janitorial Products  
**Special Operations:** Regional Maintenance, SATP, Education, Narcotics Anonymous Aftercare Program, Anger Control Group and Jail Operations

### **Diagnostic Unit**

**Established:** 1981  
**ACA Accredited**  
**Location:** Pine Bluff Complex, West 7th Street, Pine Bluff, Jefferson County  
**Mailing Address:** 7500 Correction Circle, Pine Bluff, AR 71603-1498  
**Telephone:** (870) 267-6410  
**Fax:** (870) 267-6837  
**Custody Level:** Medium-Minimum  
**Unit Capacity:** 459  
**Approximate Acreage:** 125  
**Special Operations:** Male inmate intake, Special Programs Unit for mental health, hospital facility, construction warehouse, central warehouse, Substance Abuse Treatment Program and Education

### **East Arkansas Regional Unit**

**Established:** 1992  
**ACA Accredited**  
**Location:** Approximately 17 miles Southeast of Forrest

City, Lee County  
**Mailing Address:** P.O. Box 180,  
Brickeys, AR 72320-0180  
**Telephone:** (870) 295-4700  
**Fax:** (870) 295-6564  
**Custody Level:** Maximum-Medium-Minimum  
**Unit Capacity:** 1,432  
**Approximate Acreage:** 2,500  
**Agriculture:** Field Crops  
**Special Operations:** Maximum Security Unit, Jail  
Operations, Canine Unit, Education, Substance Abuse  
Treatment Program and Regional Maintenance

### **Grimes Correctional Facility**

**Established:** 1998  
**ACA Accredited**  
**Location:** Four miles Northeast of Newport, off Hwy  
384, Jackson County  
**Mailing Address:** 300 Wackenhut Way, Newport, AR  
72112-33493  
**Telephone:** (870) 523-5877  
**Fax:** (870) 523-8302  
**Custody Level:** Maximum-Medium  
**Unit Capacity:** 800  
**Special Operations:** Regional Maintenance, Substance  
Abuse Treatment Program, Education and Technical  
Parole Violator Program

### **Jefferson County Jail/Correctional Facility**

**Established:** 1990  
**ACA Accredited**  
**Location:** Pine Bluff Complex, off West 7th Street,  
Pine Bluff, Jefferson County  
**Mailing Address:** 7206 West 7th Street,

Pine Bluff, AR 71603  
**Telephone:** (870) 267-6800  
**Fax:** (870) 267-6808  
**Custody Level:** Medium-Minimum  
**Unit Capacity:** 400  
**Approximate Acreage:** 10  
**Special Operations:** Jail Operations, Education,  
Regional Maintenance and Substance Abuse Treatment  
Program

### **Maximum Security Unit**

**Established:** 1983  
**ACA Accredited**  
**Location:** 25 miles Northeast of Pine Bluff, off Hwy 15,  
Jefferson County  
**Mailing Address:** 2501 State Farm Road,  
Tucker, AR 72168-8713  
**Telephone:** (501) 842-3800  
**Fax:** (501) 842-1977  
**Custody Level:** Maximum  
**Unit Capacity:** 532  
**Approximate Acreage:** 4,420  
**Agriculture:** Field Crops  
**Special Operations:** Death Row, Substance Abuse  
Treatment Program and Education

### **McPherson Correctional Facility**

**Established:** 1998  
**ACA Accredited**  
**Location:** Four miles Northeast of Newport, off Hwy  
384, Jackson County  
**Mailing Address:** 302 Wackenhut Way, Newport, AR  
72112-33493  
**Telephone:** (870) 523-2639

**Fax:** (870) 523-6202

**Custody Level:** Maximum-Medium

**Unit Capacity:** 600 (female inmates)

**Special Operations:** Female Inmate Intake, Regional Maintenance, Substance Abuse Treatment Program, Education, Vocational Education, Pre-Release, Technical Parole Violator Program, Therapeutic Community and Life Skills Program

### **Mississippi Co. Work Release Center**

**Established:** 1975

**ACA Accredited**

**Location:** West of Luxora, Mississippi County

**Mailing Address:** P.O. Box 10,

Luxora, AR 72358-0010

**Telephone:** (870) 658-2214

**Fax:** (870) 658-2678)

**Custody Level:** Minimum

**Unit Capacity:** 121

**Special Operations:** Work Release, SATP and Regional Maintenance

### **North Central Unit**

**Established:** 1990

**ACA Accredited**

**Location:** Three miles North of Calico Rock, off Hwy 5, IZARD County

**Mailing Address:** HC 62, P.O. Box 300, Calico Rock, AR 72519-0300

**Telephone:** (870) 297-4311

**Fax:** (870) 297-4322

**Custody Level:** Medium-Minimum

**Unit Capacity:** 500

**Approximate Acreage:** 500

**Special Operations:** Substance Abuse Treatment Program, Education, Regional Maintenance, Horse Operation and Canine

**Northwest Arkansas Work Release Center**

**Established:** 1980

**Location:** City Administration Building at Springdale, Washington County

**Mailing Address:** 200 East Price Avenue, Springdale, AR 72765-1352

**Telephone:** (479) 756-2037

**Fax:** (479) 756-0445

**Custody Level:** Minimum

**Unit Capacity:** 42

**Special Operations:** Work Release

**Ouachita River Correctional Center**

**Established:** 2003

**ACA Accredited**

**Location:** 100 Walco Lane, Hot Spring Co.

**Mailing Address:** PO Box 1630  
Malvern AR 72104

**Telephone:** (501)467-3400

**Fax:** (501) 467-3430

**Custody Level:** Medium

**Unit Capacity:** 316

**Approximate Acreage:** 488

**Special Operations:** Construction, Regional Maintenance, Gravel Harvesting, Livestock, Education

### **Pine Bluff Unit**

**Established:** 1976

**ACA Accredited**

**Location:** Pine Bluff Complex, off West 7th Street, Pine Bluff, Jefferson County

**Mailing Address:** 890 Free Line Drive,  
Pine Bluff, AR 71603-1498

**Telephone:** (870) 267-6510

**Fax:** (870) 267-6523

**Custody Level:** Medium-Minimum

**Unit Capacity:** 430

**Approximate Acreage:** 125

**Industry:** Upholstery shop

**Special Operations:** Substance Abuse Treatment Program, Work Release, Education, Canine Unit and Horse Operation

### **Texarkana Regional Correction Center**

**Established:** 1983

**Location:** In SW AR Community Correction, Miller County

**Mailing Address:** 305 East 5th Street, First Floor, Suite 810, Texarkana, AR 71854

**Telephone:** (870) 779-3939

**Fax:** (870) 793-1616

**Custody Level:** Minimum

**Unit Capacity:** 119 (Work Release 87, Regional Maintenance 32)

**Special Operations:** Regional Maintenance, Work Release and Education

### **Tucker Unit**

**Established:** 1916

**ACA Accredited**

**Location:** 25 miles Northeast of Pine Bluff, off Hwy 15,  
Jefferson County

**Mailing Address:** P.O. Box 240,  
Tucker, AR 72168-0240

**Telephone:** (501) 842-2519

**Fax:** (501) 842-3958

**Custody Level:** Maximum-Medium-Minimum

**Unit Capacity:** 796

**Approximate Acreage:** 4,420

**Agriculture:** Field and edible crops

**Industry:** Mattress manufacturing, bus and fire truck  
refurbishing, athletic equipment and school desk and  
chair repair

**Special Operations:** Substance Abuse Treatment  
Program, Reduction of Sexual Victimization Program,  
Education, Vocational Education, Regional Maintenance,  
Habilitation Program, Pre-Release, Therapeutic  
Community and Canine Unit

### **Varner Unit**

**Established:** 1987

**ACA Accredited**

**Location:** 28 miles South of Pine Bluff off Hwy 65,  
Lincoln County

**Mailing Address:** P.O. Box 600,  
Grady, AR 71644-0600

**Telephone:** (870) 479-3030

**Fax:** (870) 479-3803

**Custody Level:** Maximum-Medium-Minimum

**Unit Capacity:** 1,100

**Approximate Acreage:** 16,500

**Agriculture:** Vegetable processing plant, field crops and edible crops

**Special Operations:** Regional Maintenance, Substance Abuse Treatment Program, Education, Vocational Education and PASS Program

### **Varner Supermax Unit**

**Established:** 2001

**Location:** at the Varner Unit, Lincoln County

**Mailing Address:** P.O. Box 400,  
Grady, AR 71644

**Telephone:** (870) 479-3030

**Custody Level:** Supermax

**Unit Capacity:** 456

### **Wrightsville Unit**

**Established:** 1981

**ACA Accredited**

**Location:** 10 miles South of Little Rock, off Hwy 365,  
Pulaski County

**Mailing Address:** P.O. Box 1000, Wrightsville, AR  
72183-1000

**Telephone:** (501) 897-5806

**Fax:** (501) 897-5716

**Custody Level:** Medium-Minimum

**Unit Capacity:** 850

**Approximate Acreage:** 3,500

**Agriculture:** Beef Production

**Industry Operations:** Graphic Arts, Furniture Manufacturing and Data Imaging  
**special Operations:** Regional Maintenance, Substance Abuse Treatment Program, Education, Pre-Release Program, Braille Program, Canine Unit and Horse Operation



## History

- 1838** Governor James S. Conway signed legislation establishing the State Penitentiary.
- 1839** A 92.41 acre tract was purchased for the first penitentiary at the site where the Arkansas State Capitol is now located.
- 1842** The first inmate was received, and the first industry program, which was shoe manufacturing, began. Col. Charles Caldwell was appointed as the first administrator but was replaced by N. Faulkner. Faulkner was replaced by James M'Vicar, who served until 1848.
- 1842** The first state penitentiary officially opened.
- 1846** The penitentiary was burned during an inmate riot. After being rebuilt, it reopened in 1849.
- 1847** George Brodie was appointed administrator and served until 1850.
- 1850** John H. Hammond was appointed administrator and served until 1854.
- 1853** The state leased its penitentiary operations to private individuals, an arrangement that continued off and on until the early 1900's.
- 1854** John Hutt was named administrator and served until 1859.
- 1859** Lessee A. J. Ward replaced John Hutt and served until 1870.

- 1861** Legislation allowed good time to be awarded to inmates for good behavior.
- 1863** The U. S. Army seized the penitentiary and operated it as a civil and military prison. Troops hanged 17-year-old David O. Dodd at the penitentiary.
- 1867** After the Civil War, the penitentiary returned to state control.
- 1871** D.A. Tankersley was named superintendent.
- 1872** H.B. Robinson was appointed to serve as superintendent.
- 1873** Legislation established an official lease system. John M. Peck served as the leasee until 1875.
- 1874** Gen. T.J. Churchill was appointed administrator.
- 1875** Zeb Ward was appointed administrator and served until 1883.
- 1884** James R. Miller was appointed administrator and served until 1890.
- 1891** John C. Carroll was appointed administrator and served until 1893.
- 1893** E.T. McConnell was appointed administrator and served until 1901.
- 1894** Several prison buildings were destroyed or severely damaged by high winds during storms. Reconstruction was completed in 1895.

- 1899** The penitentiary was relocated to a 15- acre site southwest of Little Rock. The facility, commonly known as "The Walls," opened in 1910.
- 1901** Reese B. Hogins was appointed administrator and served until 1907.
- 1902** For \$140,000, about 10,000 acres of land was purchased for the Cummins farm. Inmates occupied the site in December.
- 1908** James A. Pitcock was appointed administrator and served until 1912.
- 1912** J. V. Ferguson was appointed administrator and served until 1915. In an effort to abolish the lease system, Governor W. Donaghey pardoned 361 inmates.
- 1913** Act 55 authorized a permanent death chamber within the penitentiary system. Lee Simms, convicted of rape, was the first inmate to be executed by the State of Arkansas.
- 1916** J. T. Burkett was appointed administrator and served until 1920. A 4,420-acre tract of land was purchased for the Tucker farm.
- 1921** Dee Horton was appointed administrator and served until 1927.
- 1926** The death chamber was relocated to the Tucker Farm.
- 1927** A. G. Stedmore was appointed administrator. He was replaced by A. H. Reed, who served until 1928.

- 1928** S. L. Toddhunter was appointed administrator. He served until 1933.
- 1933** Governor J. Futrell closed "The Walls," and the inmates were moved to the Cummins and Tucker farms. T.C. Cogbill was appointed superintendent and served until 1936.
- 1937** Al Reed was appointed administrator and served until 1941.
- 1940** Brozene became the method of inmate currency and was utilized until 1978.
- 1941** T.C. Cogbill was re-appointed administrator and served until his death in 1949.
- 1943** Act 1 created the State Penitentiary Board. The use of striped uniforms for inmates stopped.
- 1949** Lee Henslee was appointed superintendent and served until 1963.
- 1951** Act 351 created a State Reformatory for Women and transferred the functions, Training School for Girls to the State Penitentiary. White females were moved from the State Farm for Women to the Cummins farm. Black female inmates were already housed at Cummins and Tucker.
- 1963** Dan Stephens was appointed superintendent and served until 1965.
- 1964** Charles Fields was the last inmate executed at Tucker before the death penalty was declared unconstitutional.

- 1965** O. E. Bishop was appointed superintendent and served until 1967. In *Talley vs. Stephens*, federal Judge J. Smith Henley restricted corporal punishment use until adequate safeguards could be established, enjoined prison officials from interfering with inmate access to the courts and also required improvements in inmate medical services and care.
- 1966** Governor Orval Faubus ordered an investigation August 19 into allegations of inmate drunkenness, misuse of state property and extortion. Superintendent Bishop fired all free world employees at Tucker. Severe riots erupted September 5 at the Cummins farm. State Police used tear gas to end a September 14 strike attempt by 144 Cummins inmates.
- 1968** Thomas Murton was named superintendent, but replaced by Victor Urban. G. Robert Sarver was appointed commissioner and served until 1971. Thomas Murton alleged that human skeletons found at the Cummins Unit were the remains of inmates beaten to death and secretly buried. A medical examiner's investigation did not positively conclude the remains were inmates. Act 50 reorganized penitentiary system into the Arkansas Department of Correction. In *Jackson vs. Bishop*, the Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals ordered the abolishment of corporal punishment.
- 1969** In *Holt vs. Sarver I*, Judge J. Smith Henley declared several aspects of the prison system to be unconstitutional, issued guidelines and ordered administrators to report corrective

actions. Act 94 provided for early parole of first offenders aged 21 years and younger, unless more than one-third of their sentence was imposed.

- 1970** In *Holt vs. Sarver II*, Judge Henley ruled the Arkansas prison system unconstitutional, the only one in the nation so judged, and ordered the State Correction Board to present a plan of action. State Police were assigned to the Cummins Unit during a riot sparked by inmate demands for racially-segregated housing. Governor Winthrop Rockefeller commuted the sentences of 15 Death Row inmates, which was the entire population of Death Row.
- 1971** Terrell Don Hutto was appointed commissioner and served until 1976. In *Holt vs. Sarver II*, Judge Henley enjoined the prison system from inflicting cruel and unusual punishment on inmates and interfering with their access to court.
- 1972** The U. S. Supreme Court declared capital punishment to be unconstitutional under existing procedures. The Pine Bluff City Council and "Fifty For the Future," a group of business leaders, donated 80 acres for what would become the Pine Bluff Complex. The first prison rodeo was held at the Cummins Unit.
- 1973** Act 279 created the Department of Correction School District. In *Holt vs. Sarver III*, Judge J. Smith Henley, citing continued deficiencies but substantial improvements in prison operations, released the department from his jurisdiction. Petitioner appeals were consolidated into *Finney vs. Hutto*.

- 1974** The first Work Release center, with 60 beds, opened at Benton. The Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals, citing continued shortcomings, ordered Judge J. Smith Henley to retain jurisdiction over the prison system. The Pine Bluff City Council and "Fifty for the Future" donated an additional 49 acres for the Pine Bluff Complex. Death Row inmates were moved from the Tucker Unit to the Cummins Unit. Sixty-seven inmates received certificates at the Tucker Unit during the Department's first G.E.D. graduation ceremony.
- 1975** Capacity at the Benton Work Release Center increased to 225. The 30-bed Mississippi County Work Release Center opened. The 15-bed Booneville Beef Production Facility opened in Logan County. Act 378 authorized the transfer of eligible offenders to an alternative service program.
- 1976** The U.S. Supreme Court declared capital punishment to be constitutional. Female inmates were moved from the Cummins Unit to the 128-bed Pine Bluff Unit. The Barnes School complex in Pine Bluff was leased for an ADC training facility.
- 1978** A new death chamber was built at the Cummins Unit. Brozene use (inmate money) was discontinued and replaced by Scrip coupons.
- 1979** The ADC's Central Office moved to the Pine Bluff Complex. Vernon Housewright was appointed director and served until 1981.
- 1980** The 16-bed Northwest Arkansas Work Release Center opened at Springdale.

- 1981** A. L. Lockhart was appointed director and served until 1992. The state transferred the Boy's Training School at Wrightsville to the Department of Correction, which began using the facility to house 300 adult male inmates. The 250-bed Diagnostic Unit opened at the Pine Bluff Complex. Capacity at the Women's Unit was increased to 146 beds, and the facility was accredited by the American Correctional Association.
- 1982** After 13 years of litigation, federal Judge G. Thomas Eisele ruled the Arkansas prison system constitutional, making it the first state system to be held constitutional after being declared to be unconstitutional. Capacities increased to 420 at the Wrightsville Unit, 488 at the Diagnostic Unit, 175 at the Women's Unit and 50 at the Mississippi County Work Release Center. The capacity was decreased to four at the Booneville Beef Production Facility. The 100-bed Tucker Modular Unit opened.
- 1983** The 32-bed Texarkana Regional Correction Center, the first 108 beds at the Maximum Security Unit and the 200-bed Cummins Modular Unit opened. Capacities increased to 120 at the Tucker Modular Unit and to 70 at the Mississippi County Work Release Center. Lethal injection was named as the state's method of execution. Act 309 enabled the department to enter into contractual agreements with counties for inmate labor. Act 814 allowed housing of inmates in approved locations outside of the department. Act 230 provided for early parole of some nonviolent offenders.



- 1984** The annual prison rodeo was discontinued by the Board of Correction.
- 1985** Capacities increased to 119 at Texarkana Regional Correction Center and to 324 the Maximum Security Unit. The Booneville Beef Production Facility was transferred to the Wrightsville Unit.
- 1986** Death Row inmates were transferred from the Cummins Unit to the Maximum Security Unit, where the capacity was increased to 432.
- 1987** The 300-bed Varner Unit opened and its capacity was increased to 700 beds. The Women's Unit capacity increased to 288. Act 626 allowed inmates awaiting transfer to the department from county jails to earn meritorious good time. Act 273 provided for additional meritorious good time for job performance. Act 418, the Prison Overcrowding Emergency Powers Act, authorized the Board of Correction to declare a prison overcrowding state of emergency when population exceeds 98% of the rated capacity for 30 consecutive days. The board invoked the Emergency Powers Act for the first time, releasing 96 inmates.
- 1988** The National Commission on Correctional Health Care accredited the ADC's medical services. The American Correctional Association accredited the Varner and Maximum Security Units. The ADC purchased 485 acres for a 300-bed facility at Calico Rock and 90 acres for a 476-bed unit at Dermott. The industry program for female inmates was relocated to the Training

Academy. Capacity at the Wrightsville Unit increased to 550. After 14 years of litigation, the Jones and Davis vs. Hutto class-action lawsuit alleging racial discrimination was settled by consent decree.

**1989** Act 492 established the Boot Camp program. Act 429 provided for additional meritorious good time for inmates completing certain programs while awaiting transfer to the Department from county jails. The Department was reorganized into divisions for operations, administrative services, field services, institutions and treatment services. A deputy director and three assistant directors were appointed by the director. Construction began on a Jefferson County facility to house 328 state inmates and 72 jail inmates. Capacities increased to 650 at the Wrightsville Unit and 900 at the Varner Unit. The American Correctional Association (ACA) accredited the Diagnostic and Wrightsville Units. Act 937 abolished the Board of Pardons and Paroles and the Commission on Community-Based Rehabilitation. The act also created the Board of Parole and Community Rehabilitation.

**1990** Capacities increased to 1,100 at the Varner Unit and 71 at the Mississippi County Work Release Center. The Board of Correction named the Delta Regional Unit at Dermott and the North Central Unit at Calico Rock, and approved a 60-bed Boot Camp program at the Wrightsville Unit. The 100-bed Delta Regional Unit, the 100-bed North Central Unit and the 400-Bed Jefferson County Jail/Correctional Facility opened. In the first Arkansas executions since 1964, John Edward

Swindler was executed by electrocution and Ronald Gene Simmons by lethal injection.

- 1991** Act 771 allowed early release of terminally ill inmates. Act 307 authorized electronic monitoring devices for community supervision. Act 263 created the Correction Resources Commission. Free tobacco rationing to inmates was discontinued. The department purchased 2,949 acres to build a 600-bed facility at Brickeys in Lee County. Capacities were increased to 438 at the Women's Unit, 700 at the Wrightsville Unit, 325 at the Benton Unit, 400 at the Delta Regional Unit and 150 at the Boot Camp and the North Central Unit. Riverside Vo-Tech moved from the Cummins Unit to the Varner Unit. The American Correctional Association accredited Central Office policies and procedures.
- 1992** The Board of Correction named the East Arkansas Regional Unit at Brickeys and set its capacity at 200. All furloughs were suspended after the escape of a furloughed inmate, but Work Release furloughs were later reinstated. A.L. Lockhart resigned as director May 29, and Larry Norris was appointed interim director. Roger Endell was appointed director in November. The Board of Correction adopted by-laws for its operations. The Boot Camp was accredited by the ACA. Diagnostic Unit capacity increased to 567. Rickey Ray Rector was executed by lethal injection January 24, and Steven Douglas Hill was executed by the same method May 7. A federal jury found the department had erred in classifying parole officers as professional employees, which exempted them from overtime

compensation. Because of a court order, the Board of Correction adopted a policy recognizing inmate name changes for religious purposes. A jury found that assignments to Administrative Segregation had not violated the rights of five hoe squad workers.

**1993** Legislation eliminated the Board of Correction and created the Board of Correction and Community Punishment. Parole Services was transferred to the Department of Community Punishment. Some non-violent offenders were transferred judicially from the Department of Correction to the Department of Community Punishment for housing in lower-security community punishment centers. Legislation changed the name of the Board of Parole and Community Rehabilitation to the Post Prison Transfer Board, and enabled offenders to be transferred to community punishment programs. The Arkansas Sentencing Commission was created. Good time was eliminated for sentence reduction and allowed only for computing transfer eligibility to community punishment programs. The Act 814 work/study program and the Act 378 alternative community service program were eliminated. Legislation required the governor to file a 30-day notice with the secretary of state before granting clemency. The Plasma Program was discontinued March 18. Roger Endell resigned as director May 15, and Larry Norris was reappointed interim director. Capacities increased by 400 at the East Arkansas Regional Unit and by 100 at the Jefferson County Jail/Correctional Facility. Capacity at Cummins decreased by 100. Female inmates were transferred from the Pine

Bluff Unit to the Tucker Unit. Male inmates were transferred from the Tucker Unit to the Varner Unit. The Pine Bluff Unit began housing male inmates working at the Pine Bluff complex. The first female hoe squad turned out for work June 16. A chancery court ruled the reimbursement rate for housing state inmates in county jails is set by the state, not the counties. A federal judge declared that prison security outweighs privacy rights of female inmates. An Arkansas Supreme Court ruling allowed inmates to review their files if Arkansas Freedom of Information Act guidelines are followed. Because of a lawsuit filed by the Arkansas Attorney General, an inmate who inherited more than \$500,000 while incarcerated, had to reimburse the state \$13,723.68 for his care and custody. The Delta Regional and North Central Units were accredited by the American Correctional Association. A total of 384 temporary beds were added at the East Arkansas Regional Unit, Delta Regional Unit and Jefferson County Regional Jail/Correctional Facility. An airstrip and parking area opened at the North Central Unit. Larry Norris was named director.

**1994** An eight-year investigation ended when the U. S. Attorney General notified the Governor that living conditions at the Cummins and Tucker Units met standards. The Maximum Security and Varner Units were reaccredited by the American Correctional Association. Edward Charles Pickens and Jonas Hoten Whitmore were executed by lethal injection May 11. Hoyt Clines, James Holmes and Darryl Richley were executed August 3. Meritorious furloughs were discontinued in August, after a furloughed inmate absconded. At

the first meeting of the new Board of Correction and Community Punishment, Circuit Judge Randall Williams was selected chairman. A ribbon cutting ceremony was held in September for the department's Prison Museum, which was the second state prison museum in the country. A Boot Camp program for females was approved November 16, and the Boot Camp capacity was increased to 180.

- 1995** The East Arkansas Regional Unit became the first facility to incorporate the new inmate telephone system. Richard Wayne Snell was executed by lethal injection April 19. The meritorious furlough program was reinstated in June by the Board of Correction and Community Punishment. Barry Lee Fairchild was executed by lethal injection August 31. Sgt. Scott Grimes was fatally stabbed November 29, by Maximum Security Unit inmate Alvin Jackson. The Bi-State Detention Center was certified by the Texas Commission Jail Standards.
- 1996** The Department contracted with Wackenhut Corrections Corporation in June to build and manage two 600-bed adult correctional facilities at Newport. Alvin Jackson, who was convicted June 20 of the fatal stabbing of Sgt. Scott Grimes, was sentenced to death for capital murder. The Department contracted with a jail in Bowie County, Texas, to house up to 500 Arkansas inmates. William F. Parker was executed August 8. An Office of Emergency Preparedness was established by the ADC. The Department's oldest and largest facility, the Cummins Unit, was accredited by the American Correctional

Association. With that accreditation, the ADC became one of only nine states to be fully accredited by the ACA. The inmate grievance procedure was certified by the U. S. Department of Justice. A 100-bed barracks was constructed at the Maximum Security Unit. The PASS Program (Prisoners of Arkansas Striving for Success) was created at the Varner Unit to address problem inmate.

- 1997 Kirt Douglas Wainright, Earl Van Denton and Paul Ruiz were executed by lethal injection January 8. Legislation authorized lethal electrified fences at the Department's medium and maximum security facilities. Construction of 200 beds at the North Central Unit and 400 beds at the East Arkansas Regional Unit was completed. New classrooms opened in May at the Pine Bluff Unit. Pastor Silas Johnson was appointed to the Board of Correction and Community Punishment, replacing the Rev. Hezekiah Stewart. Eugene Wallace Perry was executed by lethal injection August 6, and for the first time members of the victim's family could view the execution on a video monitor at the Cummins Unit. A U. S. Department of Justice lawsuit involving the ADC's past hiring and promotional practices of female employees was settled. Construction of the state's first privately managed correctional facilities was completed in December at Newport.
- 1998 The Department began paying wages owed for past compensatory time and overtime earned by correctional officers, with nearly \$7.2 million paid to more than 2,000 officers by the end of the fiscal year. The state's first privately managed prisons,

both 600-bed facilities named for correctional officers killed in the line of duty, opened at Newport in January. The Grimes Unit houses youthful male offenders and the McPherson Unit holds female inmates. An expansion at the East Arkansas Regional Unit added 200 medium and 216 maximum beds. The Boot Camp was named "Best of the Best" by the American Correctional Association. The Board of Correction and Community Punishment adopted a grooming policy requiring inmates to have short haircuts and no beards. Collection of DNA samples began for inmates convicted of violent or sexual offenses after a new state law went into effect in August. Wilburn Henderson was executed by lethal injection July 8. Preparations began for the state's first lethal electrified fence, which will be erected at the Cummins Unit. After raising more than \$185,000 in donations, the new chapel opened at the East Arkansas Regional Unit. A new school building opened at the Delta Unit in May. A graduation record was set when 865 inmates earned their GEDs in ADC classrooms.

**1999** The ADC and the Arkansas Crime Information Center activated the statewide VINE (Victim Information and Notification Everyday) system. Construction began in September on a 468-bed addition at the Varner Unit, which will be the state's first Supermax facility. The Janitorial Products factory opened in September at the Delta Regional Unit. To keep its population from falling below 50,000, the City of Pine Bluff planned to annex the Pine Bluff Complex and its 1,400 inmates. In February, 36 correctional officers were sworn in as certified law enforcement



officers, the first ADC class to complete the training. Officer James D. Cannon was seriously injured in an attack by an inmate at the Maximum Security Unit. Johnie Michael Cox was executed by lethal injection February 16, and Marion Pruett was executed April 12. Alan Willett and Mark Edward Gardner were executed by lethal injection September 8. Governor Mike Huckabee's commutation of Bobby Ray Fretwell's death sentence was the first for a Death Row inmate since December 1970. Governor Huckabee appointed Benny Magness and Drew Baker to the Board of Correction and Community Punishment. Legislation from the 1999 General Assembly placed responsibility for assessing sex offenders with the ADC and required Legislative Council and Board of Correction and Community Punishment review and approval prior to construction of any private correctional facility to house ADC, out of state or federal inmates.

**2000** The Board of Correction and Community Punishment chose a 400-acre site in Malvern as the location of a medium security prison for males. Originally slated for 760 beds, the facility's size was increased to 948 beds. Several sections housed in the Central Office, located on Princeton Pike in Pine Bluff, were relocated to the old Brandon House building on East Harding Avenue. The building was renamed the Administration Annex East, and it became the new home of Human Resources and Information Systems. As part of a new 20-year lease agreement with the county, the ADC began major renovations at the Mississippi Work Release Center. The first 156 beds at the Varner Supermax opened. The housing area is

the first of its kind in Arkansas, and a federal grant provided 90% of the construction costs. After 20 years in the old Barnes School building, the Training Academy moved next door to the Maximum Security and Tucker Units. In January, the ADC went tobacco-free for staff and inmates. All tobacco products were banned. Citing health and safety concerns, the BCCP implemented the ban after a one-year waiting period. The ban applies to buildings, areas inside perimeter fences and ADC vehicles. Construction of Arkansas's first lethal electrified fence was completed at the Cummins Unit. The fence, which carries a current of 5,000 volts, was erected using inmate labor. Christina Riggs, convicted of killing her two children, was executed by lethal injection May 2, becoming the first female to be put to death by the State of Arkansas. David Dewayne Johnson was executed by lethal injection December 19. Dr. Mary Parker was selected as the new chair of the Board of Correction and Community Punishment, which also received two new members. Pastor J. Aaron Hawkins of Fayetteville and Bill Ferren of Pine Bluff were appointed to the board by Governor Huckabee. At the Tucker Unit, Department's last 100-man barracks was to be split into two smaller barracks. As part of its strategic plan and in preparation of performance based budgeting, the ADC developed a new Mission Statement, Guiding Principles and Core Values. Sixty correctional officers were sworn in as certified peace officers, bringing the agency's total to approximately 100. The Constituent Services Office was created to enhance communication with the family and friends of inmates.

**2001** In August, the name of the Board of Correction and Community Punishment was changed to the Board of Corrections, to reflect the name change of the Department of Community Punishment to the Department of Community Correction. After three and a half years of managing the Grimes and McPherson Units, Wackenhut Corrections Corporation chose not to seek a contract renewal. The ADC assumed management of the facilities in July. Clay King Smith, sentenced to death in Jefferson County on five counts of capital murder, was executed by lethal injection May 8. The rate at which county jails are paid to house state inmates was increased from \$25 a day to \$28 by the Board of Corrections. To partially fund the increase, the reimbursement rate for Act 309 inmates was trimmed from \$25 a day to \$15. Kelly Pace was appointed to the Board of Corrections by Governor Mike Huckabee. For the first time, the three units at the Pine Bluff Complex were placed under the supervision of one warden. Institutional Parole Services was transferred from the Department of Correction to the Department of Community Correction. Gate money was increased from \$50 to \$100 by the Board of Corrections. An inmate search engine was added to the Department's website, allowing internet visitors to view information and pictures of any ADC inmates. The agency's Construction and Maintenance Division was named "Best in the Business" by the Association of State Correctional Administrators.

**2002** Faced with the state's first budget cuts in 14 years, the ADC trimmed more than \$22 million from its operating budget. The 11 percent reduction in funding forced a six-month delay in

opening the first phase of the new unit being constructed at Malvern and delayed opening 200 beds of the Grimes Unit expansion. Construction for 200 beds for female inmates, was planned at the Wrightsville Unit, but put on hold due to the funding shortfall. More than \$1.2 million was paid out to ADC employees in bonuses through the Career Ladder Incentive Program during FY2002 and 451 employees received CLIP promotions. After added emphasis was placed on recruitment and retention, turnover of entry-level correctional officers fell from 42 percent to 37.2 percent.

**2003** In FY2003, ADC spent approximately \$44.11 per day to house each inmate – almost a 4 per cent increase over the previous year. On July 1, 2002, the Department assumed management of the Grimes and McPherson units that had been privately managed by Wackenhut Corrections Corporation. Since opening in January 1998. Convicted murderer Riley Dobi Noel was executed July 9 by lethal injection at the Cummins Unit. The inmate population set a record high when it reached 13,099 in November 2002. More than 1,200 of the inmates were backed up in the county jails due to a lack of prison space. In December, Cummins became the first Arkansas prison to be in continuous operation for 100 years. Cummins received its first inmates by riverboat on Dec. 13, 1902. A century later, it houses nearly 1,800 inmates and is the department's largest and oldest prison.

**2004** During FY2004, Phase I of the Ouachita River Correctional Unit, with 316 beds, opened at Malvern. In Phases II and III, an additional 632

beds will be added to the medium-security men's prison, expected to be completed in 2005. On Jan. 6, convicted murder Charles Singleton was executed by lethal injection at the Cummins Unit for the 1979 death of a Hamburg grocer. He had spent 24 years on death row. The Department received a \$3.8 million loan from the Arkansas Development Finance Authority to assist in building new processing plants at its prison farm and to restructure an existing loan. Plans called for using \$2 million of the loan to build a new milk processing plant and a meat processing and cold storage facility at the Cummins Unit. The remaining \$1.8 million was to be used to restructure a loan the department took out in 1999 to pay for numerous projects. In June 2004, legislators approved funding for a new 200-bed women's unit at Wrightsville. Legislators first approved the project in 1999 but plans were halted in November 2001 because of budget reductions.

## Programs

**Act 309 Program:** Contracts for housing and supervision of eligible state inmates in approved county and city jails for work purposes

**Agriculture:** Inmate work assignments and training in row and garden crop farming, animal husbandry and food processing

**Alcoholics Anonymous, Cocaine Anonymous and Narcotics Anonymous:**

A system of recovery from substance abuse utilizing role models and a 12-step approach

**Anger Management:** Behavior modification program, using ACA's "Cage Your Rage," for inmates who consistently resort to violence rather than problem solving

**Boot Camp:** A **military-style** behavior modification program based on discipline, academic education and substance abuse education. Eligible inmates must volunteer to participate in the program

**College Program:** College courses available for inmates at certain units, potentially leading to an Associate of Arts or Bachelor of Arts Degree

**Construction:** On the job training and work assignments for inmates through the construction and maintenance of Department facilities

**Intake Orientation:** Orientation for new inmates includes: assessment of educational, medical, physical and psychological needs

**Disciplinary Court:** An internal justice system for determining sanctions for rule violations by inmates

**Food Services:** Inmate work assignments preparing meals for inmates and staff

**Habilitation Program:** Housing, work supervision and treatment at the Tucker Unit for developmentally disabled inmates

**HIV and TB Programs:** Prevention, tracking, case management, counseling, treatment, review and research designed to lessen the spread of infectious diseases

**Industry:** Inmate work assignments and on the job training in manufacturing settings producing goods and services for government and nonprofit agencies

**Inmate Panel:** Inmates with good insight into their pathways to trouble share their experiences with groups of children, teenagers and adults

**Jaycees:** Inmate chapters of the community service organization chartered from the national Jaycees

**Library:** Hard cover and paperback books, reference materials and periodicals provided for inmate use

**Medical Services:** Complete medical care for inmates including sick call, hospitalization, surgery, dental, eye care, educational, and rehabilitative programs

**Mental Health Services:** Institution wide operations and services to include: Outpatient treatment and intervention for individuals and groups

**Parenting Program:** Inmate training in parenting and child care skills

**Pre-Release:** A 30-day training program at McPherson, Tucker and Wrightsville to prepare inmates for their return to the community

**Reduction of Sexual Victimization Program (RSVP):** Twelve-month residential treatment of compulsive sexual behaviors, particularly child molestation

**Religious Services:** Worship services, religious materials, counseling and crisis ministry for inmates

**School District:** Class A school district within the ADC, with GED potential for inmates

**Sheltered Living Unit:** Inmate housing at the Diagnostic Unit and Jefferson County Jail/Correctional Facility for the elderly, chronically ill or those recovering from acute illness

**Special Management Barracks:** Housing at the Cummins Unit for inmates with mental health management and counseling needs

**Special Programs Unit:** Housing, work supervision and treatment for inmates with mental difficulties.

**Substance Abuse Therapeutic Community:** Six-month (minimum) comprehensive substance abuse treatment using a modified therapeutic community residential program

**Suicide Prevention:** Mental Health staff regulate assessments on segregated inmates identified with prior suicidal history for more than 30 days

**Technical Parole Violator Program:** Intensive 60-day program for parole violators referred by the Post Prison Transfer Board



**Vocational Education:** Vocational education in 22 areas of study, provided by Riverside Vocational Technical School and funded by the Department of Workforce Education

**Volunteer Services:** Volunteers provide a wide range of services including transportation of inmate families, twelve step support groups and religious services

**Work Craft Program:** Inmates produce leather goods, wooden and cloth artifacts, artwork and the like for sale or gifts to family and friends

**Work Programs:** Inmates are assigned jobs throughout ADC that teach work skills and ethics and are assigned jobs in the community