



Focus on Detention Center Facility Conditions Pays Off

Conditions at Office of Justice Services detention centers improve, according to the FMIS Facilities Condition Index.

A dramatic improvement in conditions at the 50 Office of Justice Services (OJS) detention centers has occurred over the past six years, according to the FMIS Facilities Condition Index (FCI).

In October 2006, 21 detention centers were listed as being in "Good" condition, with seven listed in "Fair" condition. Six years later, 32 are now listed in good condition and five are listed in fair condition. Meanwhile, the number of detention centers that were in "Poor" condition six years ago (22) fell to 13 this year.

October 2006

Good 21
Fair 7
Poor 22

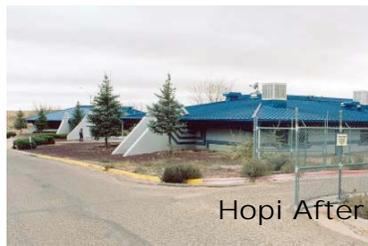
July 2012

Good 32
Fair 5
Poor 13



Hopi Before

The renovation of the old Hopi Detention Center in 2006 is an example of the improvements due to OFMC's focus on facility conditions at OJS detention centers.



Hopi After

The detention center condition improvements are due to an OFMC focus on funding Facility Repair & Improvement (FI&R) projects and Minor Improvement & Repair projects (MI&R). Also, some detention center projects were funded by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA), which was administered by OFMC.

Meanwhile, OFMC provides \$13.5 million annually for Operations & Maintenance (O&M), which is divided among the 50 OJS detention centers. However, another 25 Indian Country detention centers are anticipated to come online by FY2014. Many of the OJS detention centers coming on line by 2014 were constructed in the past decade using Department of Justice (DOJ) funding. However, DOJ is not providing O&M funding for the new facilities.

In 2011, the Office of Inspector General of the Department of the Interior found Indian Country detention centers understaffed and "the facilities themselves are in poor condition." OFMC's Facilities Condition Index lists only 13 of the 50 OJS detention centers as being in "Poor" condition, as of this year.

"Facility conditions inside a detention center deteriorate quickly if they are not consistently maintained," said OFMC Deputy Director Emerson Eskeets. "We have made great strides in getting most of the OJS detention centers in good condition. Soon, we will have many new and refurbished detention centers. There is an opportunity now to maintain them in 'Good' condition for the foreseeable future."