



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Board of Local and Regional Jails

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September 23, 2020

The Honorable Brian J. Moran
Secretary of Public Safety and Homeland Security
Patrick Henry Building
1111 East Broad Street
Richmond, Virginia 23219

The Honorable Janet D. Howell
Chairman, Senate Finance Committee
Pocahontas Building (Room E509)
900 East Main Street
Richmond, Virginia 23219

The Honorable Luke E. Torian
Chairman, House Appropriations Committee
Pocahontas Building, (Room W1304)
900 East Main Street
Richmond, Virginia 23219

Dear Secretary Moran, Senator Howell, and Delegate Torian,

Chapter 1289, Item 398 D of the 2020 Virginia Acts of Assembly states that "The Board of Corrections shall include within its reporting formats on the capacity of each local and regional jail, a measure of the actual jail capacity, which shall include double-bunking, with exceptions as appropriate, in the judgement of the Board, for isolation, segregation, or medical cells, or similar units which would not normally be double-bunked. Exceptions to this measure of capacity may also be made for jails which were constructed prior to 1980. A report including the double-bunked capacity, as well as the standard Board of Corrections measure of rated capacity, for each jail shall be presented to the Secretary of Public Safety and the Chairmen of the Senate Finance and House Appropriations Committees by October 1 of each year."

The Survey on Actual Capacity of the Local and Regional Jails in Virginia is attached. The information in this report was gathered directly from local and regional jails in an effort to help the Legislature analyze correctional services in the Commonwealth. The survey shows there are more permanent beds than there are offenders in the system. From July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020, the average daily population was 26,330 inmates. Local

facilities had just over 36,500 beds available to house these offenders, and additionally over 2,300 beds available on a temporary basis.

This data does not conclusively establish that there is sufficient and appropriate bed space in Virginia. Bed space or capacity must be assessed within each individual facility in order to get an accurate picture of the status of the correctional system. For example, extra minimum-security bed space in Loudoun County does not help the Superintendent in Hampton Roads who needs a bunk for an offender with severe psychiatric disorders. Moreover, this data does not address the maximum population level required to maintain safe and secure facilities for the public, staff, and offenders. This cannot be determined because there has not been an analysis of each local facility for a capacity rating.

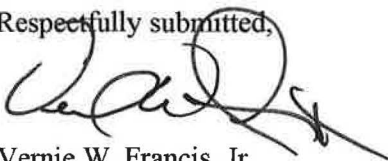
There is a "design capacity" for each facility. The "design capacity" is the number assigned to the facility by the Architect/Engineer (A/E) when it was originally constructed. However, it does not take into account changes in the number of beds or bunks in cells, changes in staffing supervision systems, improvements in technology or best practices, or the history of the facility. In Virginia, nearly all of the facilities have been functioning at a much higher level than the "design capacity" without substantial safety problems for years. In short, the term "design capacity" has little bearing in the field as a factor in determining the number of offenders who can safely occupy a jail.

The capacity figure of record is not simply the number of beds in each facility, and is not the marker for the number of offenders that it can safely and Constitutionally hold. While administrators have increased the number of beds in the facilities to far beyond the "design capacity," this has been done to provide flexibility in order to manage their specific needs and fluctuating offender populations, not so each bunk could be filled each day. Indeed, local facilities typically do not have sufficient staffing to safely fill each bunk. For example, a medium-security cell might be safe with two men in it, or it might not, depending on the men, the cell block, and the available supervision. The manner in which that cell is filled is a serious decision and not one that lends itself to a simple review of the number of available beds. It is important that local officials have the leeway to make critical safety determinations.

A final note on the data provided in this report, one of the main goals of reentry programming is to help reduce recidivism. However, when the local facilities are filled beyond capacity, there are fewer resources to invest in the kind of reentry services and programmatic help that is needed to decrease the chances of recidivism.

Thank you for this opportunity to serve the Commonwealth. If we can provide any more assistance or if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Respectfully submitted,



Vernie W. Francis, Jr.
Chairman

VF/bc

Attachments: 2020 BOLRJ Jail Bed Capacity Report

**2020 Board of Local and Regional Jails
Jail Bed Capacity Report**

Jail	Number of Permanent Beds	Number of Temporary Beds	Number of Special Purpose Beds	Number of Showers	Number of Toilets/Urinals	Rated Capacity	ADP 7/1/19-6/30/20 (as per Comp Board)
Accomack	103	0	0	11	53	46	103.61
Alb/Charl/Nelson Regional	615	24	32	53	196	329	418.05
Alexandria City	185	149	78	24		340	292.57
Alleghany/Covington	108	3	2	14	64	56	93.99
Arlington County	717	1	184	52		474	302.49
Botetourt /Craig Regional	269	0	12	24	137	124	139.35
Bristol City	132	0	4	11	82	67	148.58
BRRJA - Amherst	692	0	70			340	428.48
BRRJA - Bedford	96	2	3	10		55	83.86
BRRJA - Campbell	133	16	3	12	13	79	117.8
BRRJA - Halifax	209	14	9	18		147	167.7
BRRJA - Lynchburg	753	23	22	52		429	455.46
Central VA Regional	642	16	46	59	144	442	417.13
Charlotte County	96	0	4	9	14	29	76.56
Chesapeake City	1085	286	142	122	239	747	985.21
Chesterfield County	526	0	7	44	200	250	336.13
Culpeper County	75	4	5	7	45	37	67.66
Danville City Farm	95	15	0	18	24	120	115.63
Danville City Jail	334	0	24	28	120	213	227.25
Eastern Shore Regional	260	8	16	21	137	148	77.93
Fairfax County	1339	407	28	134	1094	1260	703.01
Fauquier County	127	0	0	11	53	56	63.2
Franklin County	70	0	0	9	21	49	45.14
Gloucester County	94	0		11	27	42	35.46
Hampton City	589			21	129	468	252.52
Hampton Roads Regional	1422	0	373	100	854	798	917.45
Henrico Regional - East	584	0	71	84	408	458	594.37
Henrico Regional - West	676	77	282	39	312	329	778.36
Henry County	126	0	5	11	48	67	164.89
Lancaster County	46	3	3	8	26	26	18.86
Loudoun County ADC	345	0	44			460	340.31
Martinsville City/Annex	128	0	4	16	34	79	139.76
Meherrin River - Alberta	628	35	34	107	317	400	376.65
Meherrin River - Mecklenburg	100	11	4	24	55	80	17.3
Middle Peninsula Regional	282	20	8	26	93	121	161.78
Middle River Regional	909	0	78	77	399	396	864.91
Montgomery County	94	0	28	15	38	60	89.88
New River Valley	1183	44	110	88	667	859	910.21
Newport News City	615	0	9	46	143	300	439.37
Norfolk City	1925	89	0	91	370	833	890.57

**2020 Board of Local and Regional Jails
Jail Bed Capacity Report**

	Number of Permanent Beds	Number of Temporary Beds	Number of Special Purpose Beds	Number of Showers	Number of Toilets/ Urinals	Rated Capacity	ADP 7/1/19- 6/30/20 (as per Comp Board)
Northern Neck Regional	496	20	48	45	141	234	441.28
Northwestern ADC	874	56	99	84	438	556	559.6
Page County	75	0	0	7	30	34	67.4
Pamunkey Reg	519	89	6	55	271	302	361.52
Patrick County	155	0	0	18	50	63	117.69
Piedmont Regional	680	16	17	37	125	274	563.85
Pittsylvania County	82	65	0	7	47	36	83.32
Portsmouth City	439	56	18	36	270	288	235.05
Prince William /Manassas	1172	8	159	88	481	667	794.46
Rappahannock Regional	1386	9	250	112	898	1024	1317.96
Richmond City	1032	0	100	73	493	1032	749.15
Riverside Regional	2311	0	469	246	1361	1372	1280.48
Roanoke City	777	357	84	42	243	777	480.34
Roanoke County	147	30	14	16	141	108	146.43
Rock/Harrison Regional	312	0	45	47	255	208	266.24
RSW	634	0	74	69	324	375	464.35
Rockbridge Regional	102	25	4	13	54	56	137.49
Southampton County Annex	100	0	3	9	14	90	30
Southampton County	59	0	2	9	42	32	41.79
Southside Regional	260	8	6	18	80	100	143.9
Sussex County	84	0	4	9	39	28	44.3
SWVARJ (Abingdon, Duffield, Haysi, Tazewell)							
SWVARJ - Abingdon	979	163	129	105	406	619	866.53
SWVARJ - Duffield	657	100	103	97	268	405	609.81
SWVARJ - Haysi	455	57	44	48	180	257	307.18
SWVARJ -Tazewell	197	49	15	16	80	95	176.32
Virginia Beach City	1495	0	2	120	648	889	1285.46
Virginia Peninsula Regional	553	0	57	44	348	290	392.24
Western Tidewater Regional	1070	3	119	71	51	552	770.19
Western Virginia Regional	1023	4	82	92	493	605	875.71
Totals:	36532	2362	3697	3140	14,827	22,981	26,469