

COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Board of Local and Regional Jails

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October 1, 2024

The Honorable Terrance C. Cole
Secretary of Public Safety and Homeland Security
Patrick Henry Building
1111 East Broad Street
Richmond, Virginia 23219

The Honorable L. Louise Lucas, Chair
Senate Finance and Appropriations Committee
13th Floor, General Assembly Building
201 North 9th Street
Richmond, Virginia 23219

The Honorable Luke E. Torian, Chair
House Appropriations Committee
12th Floor, General Assembly Building
201 North 9th Street
Richmond, Virginia 23219

Dear Secretary Cole, Senator Lucas, and Delegate Torian,

Chapter 2, Item 385 D. of House Bill 6001, the Virginia Biennial 2024-2026 budget, states:

“The State Board of Local and Regional Jails 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 judgment 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-bunking capacity, as well as the standard State Board of Local and Regional Jails measure of rated capacity, for each jail shall be presented to the

Secretary of Public Safety and the Chairs of the Senate Finance and Appropriations and House Appropriations Committees by October 1 of each year.”

The summary report of the capacity of the local and regional jails in Virginia is attached. The annualized Average Daily Population (ADP) is provided by the State Compensation Board’s Local Inmate Data System (LIDS). Operational changes in some local and regional jails impacted the annual ADP:

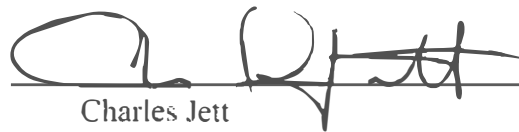
- A fire in the Portsmouth jail relocated inmates to the former Hampton Roads Regional Jail.
- The Rockingham/Harrisonburg Regional Jail was temporarily closed due to plumbing repair.

It may appear that the data establishes sufficient and appropriate bed space in Virginia, this would be an over-simplified analysis. Bed space, or capacity, cannot be analyzed globally; it must be assessed within each individual facility for accuracy. As an example, extra minimum-security bed space in Loudoun County does not benefit the Superintendent in the Northern Neck Regional Jail who needs space for an inmate with severe psychiatric disorders. The overarching issue is the maximum population level for each facility to remain safe and secure for the public, the staff and the inmates.

A “design capacity,” is available for each facility. The “design capacity” is the number assigned to the facility by the architect upon construction. It does not consider changes in the numbers of beds or bunks in cells, changes in staffing systems, improvements in technology or best practices, quality of leadership or the history of the facility. It may be considered that the number of beds in each facility is the marker for the number of inmates that it can safely and constitutionally hold and use that figure as the new capacity of record. This is not an option. While administrators have increased the number of beds in the facilities above the “design capacity,” they have done so to provide flexibility to manage specific needs and fluctuating inmate populations. It is critical for local facilities to have the flexibility to make safety determinations.

Thank you for this opportunity to serve the Commonwealth. Please let us know if we may provide additional information.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Charles Jett', written over a horizontal line.

Charles Jett
Chairman

cc: Chad S. Dotson, Director Department of Corrections
Brian Flaherty, BLRJ Executive Director

Board of Local and Regional Jails 2024 Annual Capacity Report

Jail	Permanent Beds	Temporary Beds	Special Purpose Beds	Actual Capacity Including Double-Bunking	Rated Capacity	ADP 7/1/23-6/30/24 (Compensation Board)
Accomack	96	0	3	99	46	98.98
Albemarle/Charlottesville Regional	329	303	33	662	329	250.71
Alexandria	366	254	3	623	340	293.89
Allegheny/Covington	100	0	9	109	56	73.30
Arlington	711	0	2	713	474	352.38
Botetourt/Craig	269	0	12		124	87.15
Blue Ridge Regional-Amherst	682	21	64	767	340	850.35 (combined all 5 locations)
Blue Ridge Regional-Bedford	96	2	3	101	55	
Blue Ridge Regional-Campbell Co	133	16	3	152	79	
Blue Ridge Regional-Halifax	216	8	9	233	147	
Blue Ridge Regional-Lynchburg	647	25	64	736	429	
Central Virginia Regional	558	30	52	610	442	425.91
Charlotte	69	31	1	101	29	40.17
Chesapeake	747	20	135	703	747	649.26
Chesterfield	526	0	7	350	250	336.04
Culpeper	30	37	7	74	37	78.07
Danville City Farm	120	0	0	120	120	77.44
Danville City	243	0	10	205	213	180.05
Eastern Shore Regional Jail	248	23	12	248	148	49.06
Fairfax County/City	1474	168	155	1574	1260	623.65
Fauquier	120	6	2	120	56	29.75
Franklin	70	0	0		49	45.93
Gloucester	64	3	3	42	42	25.87
Hampton Community Correctional Center	300	5	24	324	308	169.08
Henrico Regional-East	632	0	385	632	458	1098.03 (E/W combined)
Henrico Regional-West	672	43	367	715	329	
Henry	430	24	6	460	400	258.01
Lancaster	42	0	0	42	26	25.66
Loudoun	345	0	44	485	460	238.76
Martinsville	128	0	4	132	79	108.72
Meherrin River Regional-Alberta	596	67	34	697	400	246.52 (A/M combined)
Meherrin River Regional-Mecklenburg	76	35	4	80	115	
Middle Peninsula	290	10	16	300	121	142.70
Middle River	817	0	99	750	396	650.69
Montgomery	115	0	6	115	60	75.68
New River Valley	1183	11	68	1194	859	629.34
Newport News	300	0	9	609	300	437.01

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Jail	Permanent Beds	Temporary Beds	Special Purpose Beds	Actual Capacity Including Double-Bunking	Rated Capacity	ADP 7/1/23-6/30/24 (Compensation Board)
Norfolk	1497	0	392	1889	833	705.36
Northern Neck Regional	496	20	48	516	234	430.07
Northwestern	877	241	155	1118	556	575.25
Page	75	3	0	75	34	72.00
Pamunkey Regional	530	0	64	530	302	345.29
Patrick	130	0	39	169	63	78.91
Piedmont Regional	500	0	0	600	274	312.83
Pittsylvania	72	0	0	72	36	77.40
Portsmouth	1386	0	290	1415	288	156.30
Prince William/Manassas	871	0	4	1320	871	539.07
Rappahannock Regional	1475	614	146	2235	1024	1149.23
Richmond	1638	3	2	1638	1032	536.52
Riverside Regional	0	0	0	1372	1372	1103.06
Roanoke City	822	8	4	834	409	331.59
Roanoke County	147	30	14	177	108	88.74
Rockbridge Regional	128	0	0	128	56	110.96
Rockingham/Harrisonburg	312	0	45		208	294.99
RSW	564	0	73	564	375	302.78
Southampton	103	0	3	103	90	47.64
Southside Regional	254	12	7	254	100	182.93
Sussex	28	0	2	86	28	29.61
Southwest Virginia Regional	1549	315	205	2069	619	1692.91
Virginia Beach	1527	0	3	2037	889	1001.52
Virginia Peninsula Regional	596	0	39	635	290	323.98
Western Tidewater Regional	1070	5	119	900	552	729.06
Western Virginia Regional	1025	75	86	1100	605	652.18

Notes:

1. The Portsmouth City Jail facility originally located at 701 Crawford Street, Portsmouth, VA , closed 5/1/24 due to fire and relocated to the Hampton Roads Regional facility located at 2690 Elmhurst Lane, Portsmouth, VA. The current facility is titled Portsmouth City Jail.

2. The Hampton City Jail closed 2022.