



Public Safety Trends and 2024 Session Outlook

November 17, 2023

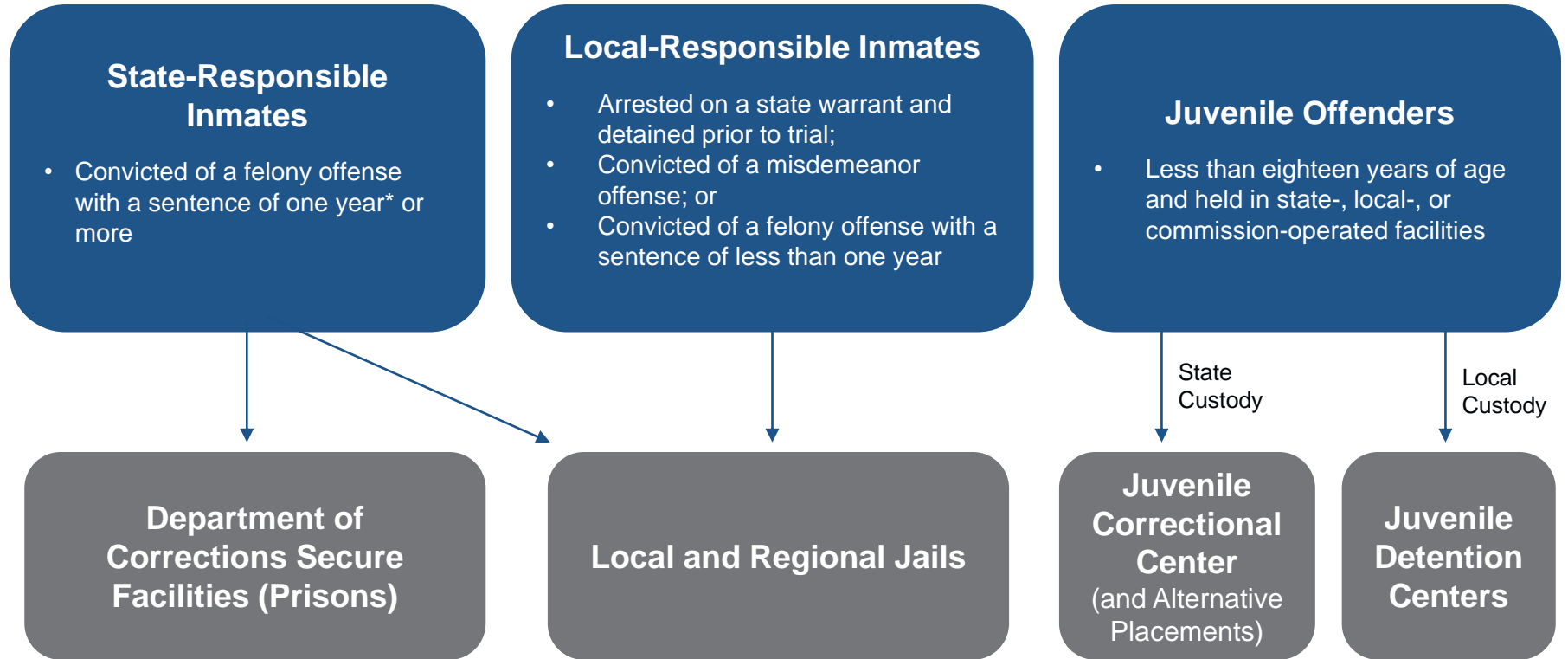
Outline

- 1 Presentation Overview
- 2 Update on Virginia Crime Rates
- 3 Department of Corrections
- 4 Local and Regional Jails
- 5 Department of Juvenile Justice
- 6 2024 Session Outlook – Public Safety and Veterans

Overview

- Trends in crime and the number of criminal offenders inform the annual inmate forecasting process.
- The inmate forecast is used to project whether correctional facilities have sufficient capacity over the next six years.
- Analysis of operating capacity includes physical bed space, staffing, and programmatic needs.
- Both inmate population and correctional capacity impact the budgetary needs of the correctional system.
 - Fixed costs, including infrastructure and personnel, disproportionately drive costs compared to services for each additional inmate (marginal cost).

Overview of Incarcerated Population in Virginia



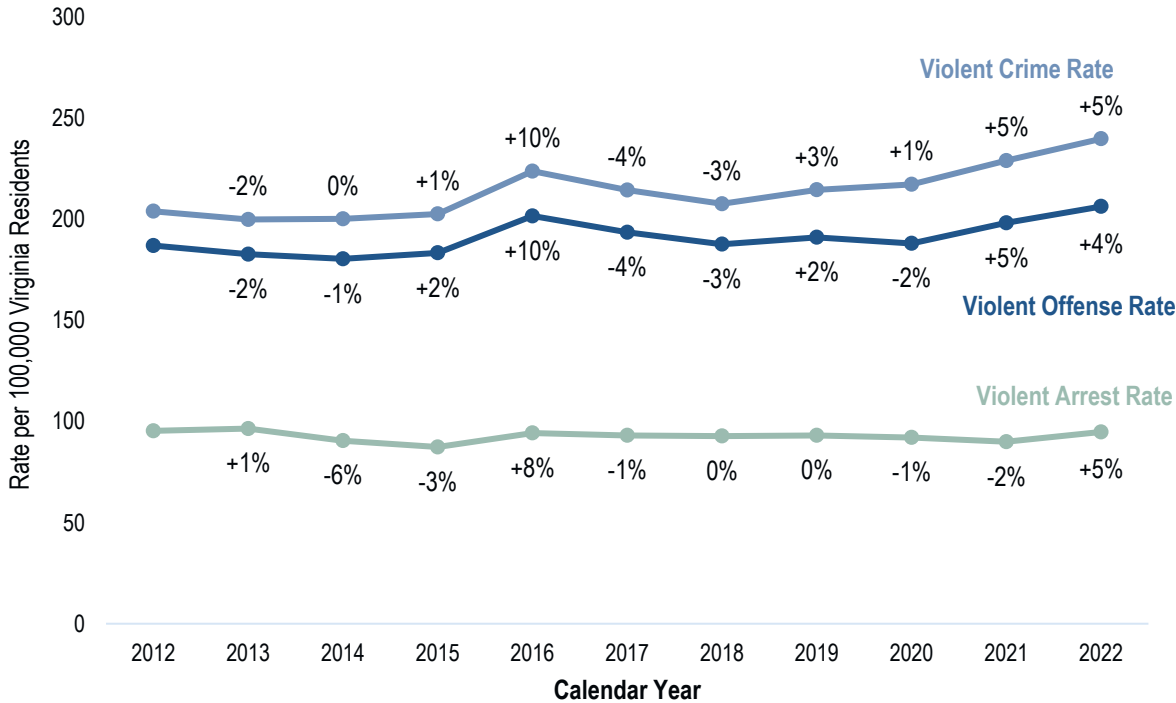
*Or two years for inmates committed before 1995.



Update on Virginia Crime Rates

Virginia's Violent Crime Rate is Increasing

Virginia's violent crime rate has increased each year since 2018.

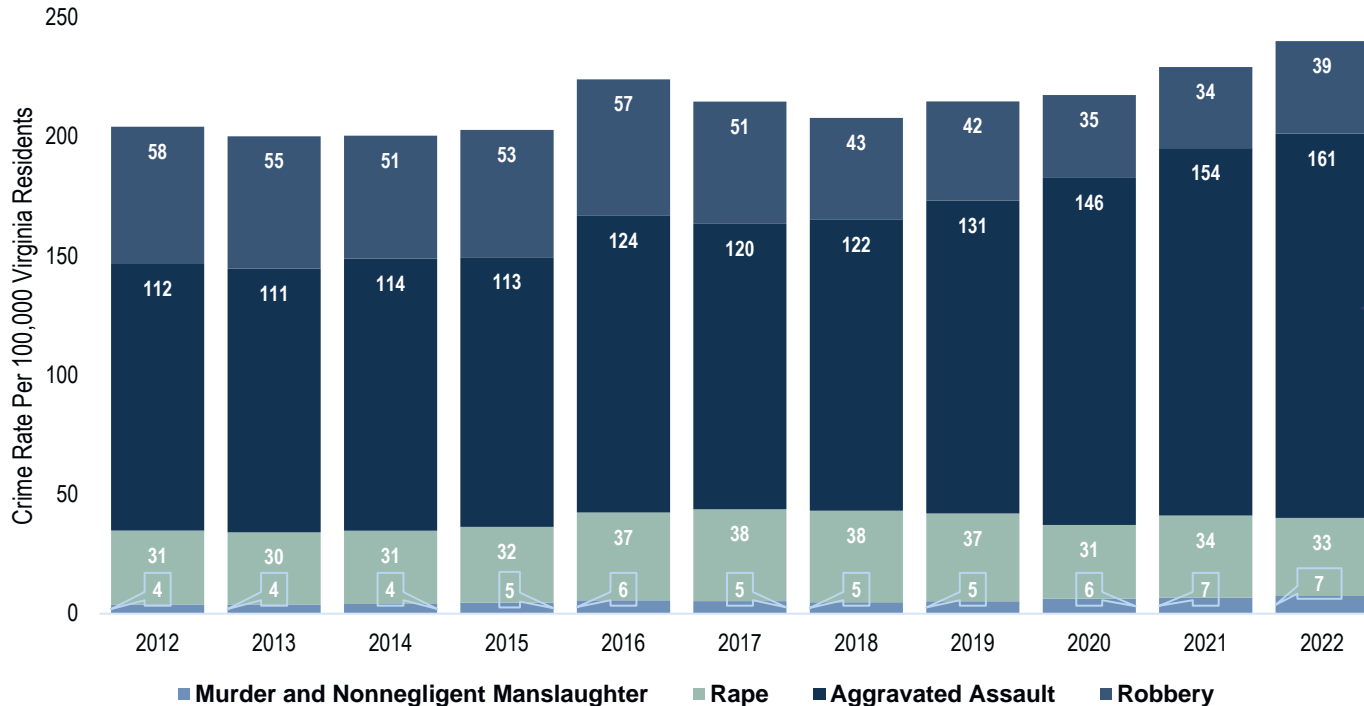


- Preliminary, partial-year data indicates the 2023 violent crime rate may remain steady at 2022 levels.
- Violent crime rates over the past decade are less than pre-2005 rates.
- The difference between the arrest rate and the offense rate is due to: 1) individuals committing multiple offenses; and 2) the clearance rate (percentage of crimes that are solved or closed).

Source: Virginia State Police, staff email communication of incident-based reporting data, November 8, 2023. For crime rate counts, crimes against persons are shown by number of victims.

Aggravated Assault is the Primary Driver of the Increase in Violent Crime in Virginia

Virginia's aggravated assault rate increased from 54.7 percent of violent crime in 2012 to 67.1 percent of violent crime in 2022.



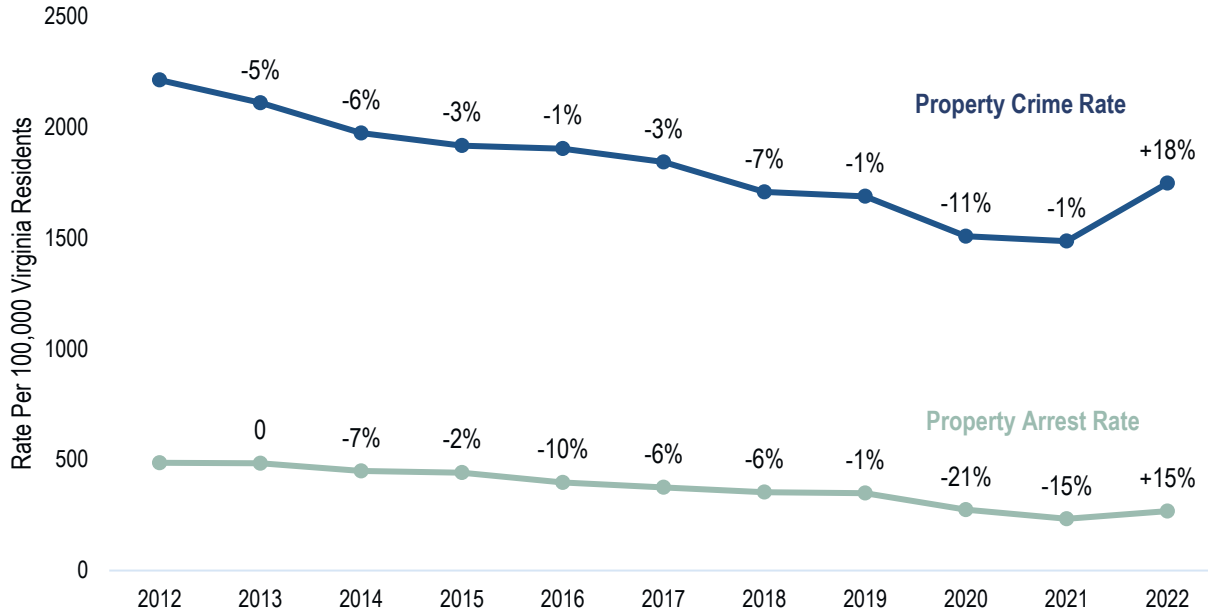
Aggravated assault is an unlawful attack by one person upon another, in which:

- Offender uses (or displays in a threatening way) a weapon; or
- Victim suffers obvious severe or aggravated bodily injury involving apparent broken bones, loss of teeth, possible internal injury, severe laceration, or loss of consciousness.

Source: Virginia State Police, staff email communication of incident-based reporting data, November 8, 2023.

In 2022, Virginia Property Crime Rate Increased for First Time in Over a Decade

Virginia's property crime rate increased to 1,747 crimes per 100,000 in 2022 but is still lower than pre-2018 levels.

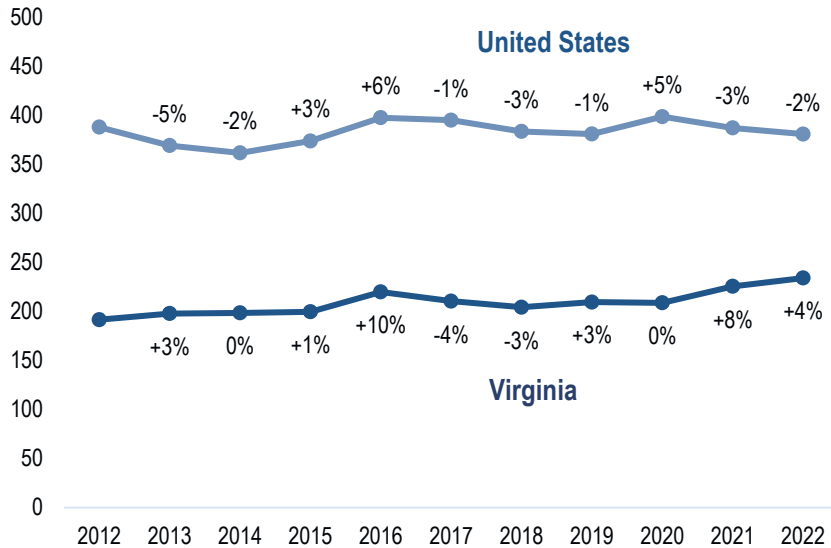


- Preliminary, partial-year data indicates the 2023 property crime rate may slightly decrease (approx. 5 percent) compared to 2022 levels.
- The primary driver of the 2022 property crime rate increase was shoplifting, which increased from 290.6 to 380.6 crimes per 100,000 residents.

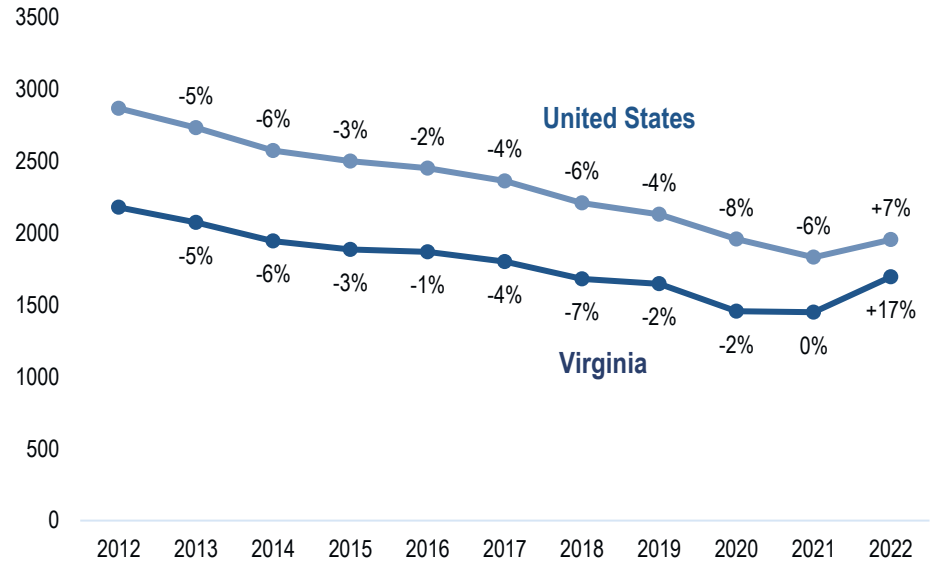
Source: Virginia State Police, staff email communication of summary reporting data, November 8, 2023.

How Do Virginia Rates Compare Nationally?

Virginia's violent crime rate is less than the national violent crime rate, but experienced a greater percentage increase in 2021 and 2022.*



Virginia's property crime rate is less than the national property crime rate, but experienced a greater percentage increase in 2022.*

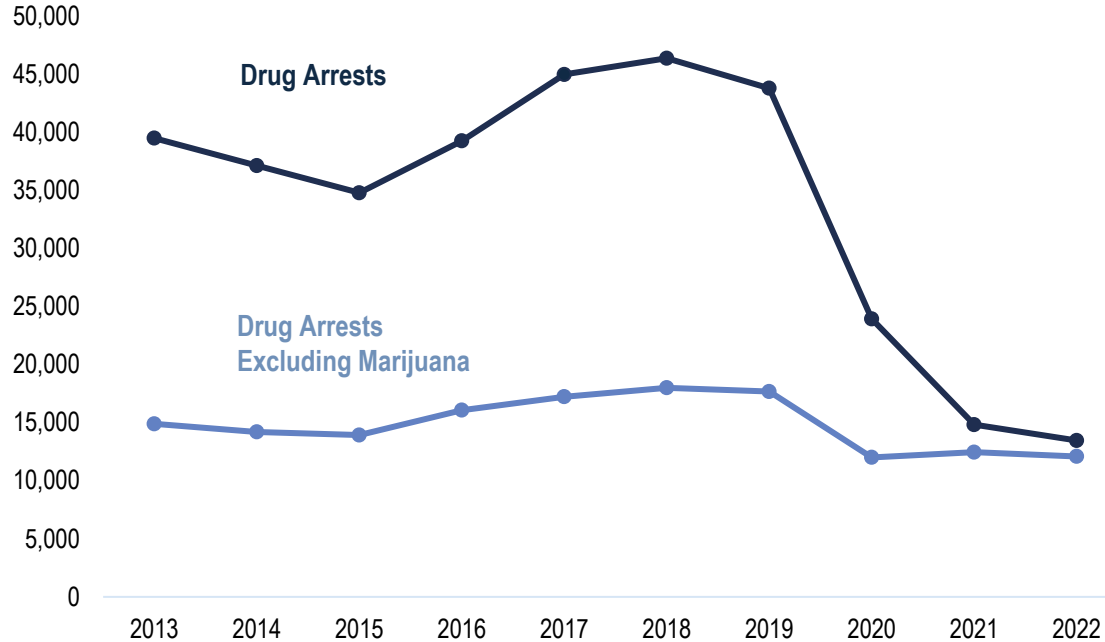


Source: Virginia State Police, staff email communication of FBI summary reporting data, November 8, 2023.

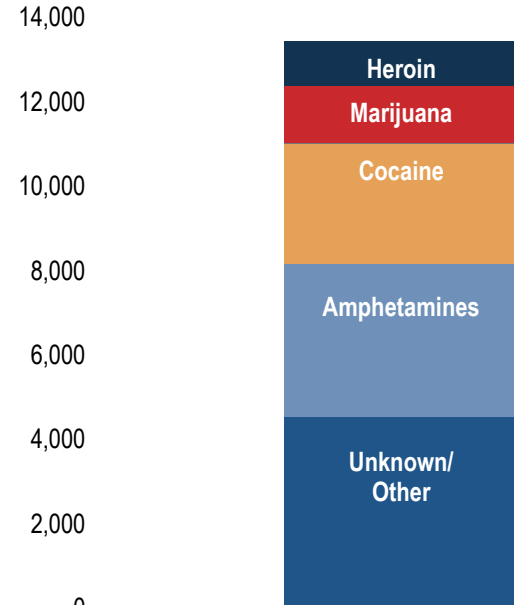
*Note: Caution should be used in interpreting national crime statistics in 2021 and 2022, since the FBI is in the process of transitioning to a different crime data reporting system.

Drug Arrests Declined Significantly Since 2018, Especially After Marijuana Decriminalization

Drug arrests in Virginia decreased 71.0 percent between 2018 and 2022, including a 95.2 percent decrease in marijuana arrests.



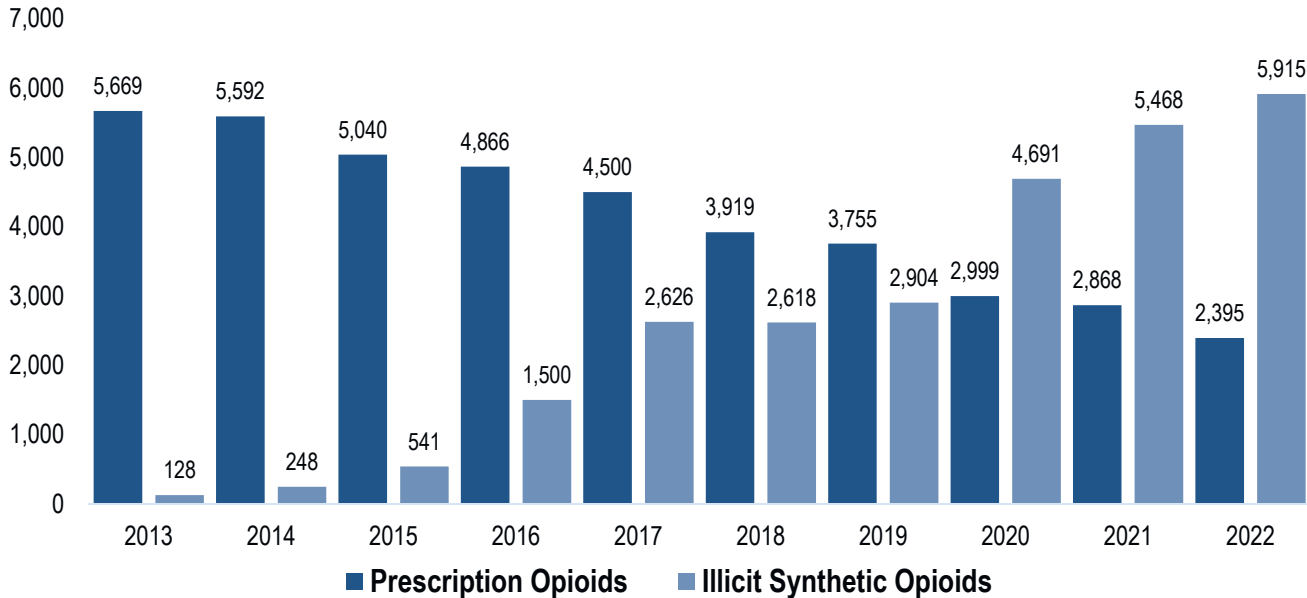
2022 Virginia Drug Arrests By Drug Type



Source: DCJS, Presentation to the Offender Population Forecasting Technical Advisory Committee, July 18, 2023.

While Total Drug Forensic Submissions Have Declined, Fentanyl Submissions Have Dramatically Increased

Over the past decade, case submissions to the Department of Forensic Science (DFS) with prescription opioids have decreased (57.8 percent) but submissions with illicit synthetic opioids are more than 46 times higher, approximately 99 percent of which are fentanyl/fentanyl analogs.

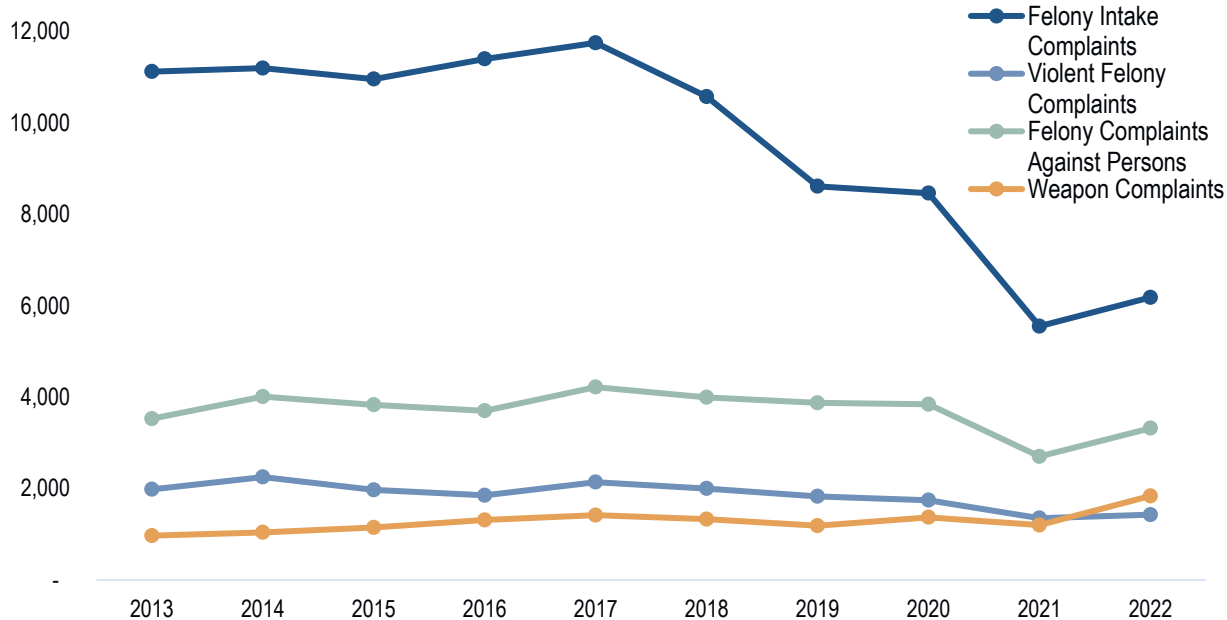


- As drug arrests have declined, DFS controlled substance case submissions have decreased (21.8 percent between FY 2019 and FY 2023).
- However, DFS submissions for other types of evidence have increased.

Sources: DCJS, Presentation to the Offender Population Forecasting Technical Advisory Committee, July 18, 2023; DFS staff email communication October 19, 2023.

Since a Decade Ago, Juvenile Felony Complaints Have Decreased but Weapon Complaints Have Increased

- **Felony intake complaints** (youth referrals to the criminal justice system) **dipped 34.4 percent during the pandemic then increased 11.3 percent in FY 2022.**
- **Violent felony intake complaints declined 22.4 percent during the pandemic then increased 5.5 percent in FY 2022.**

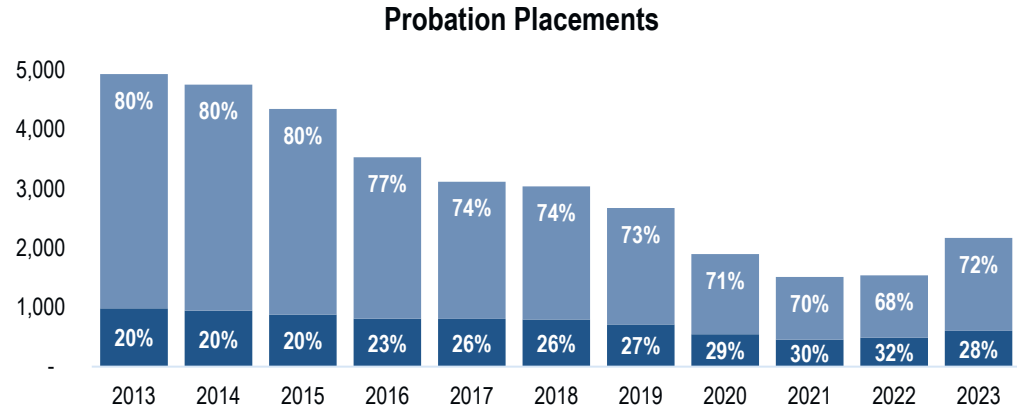
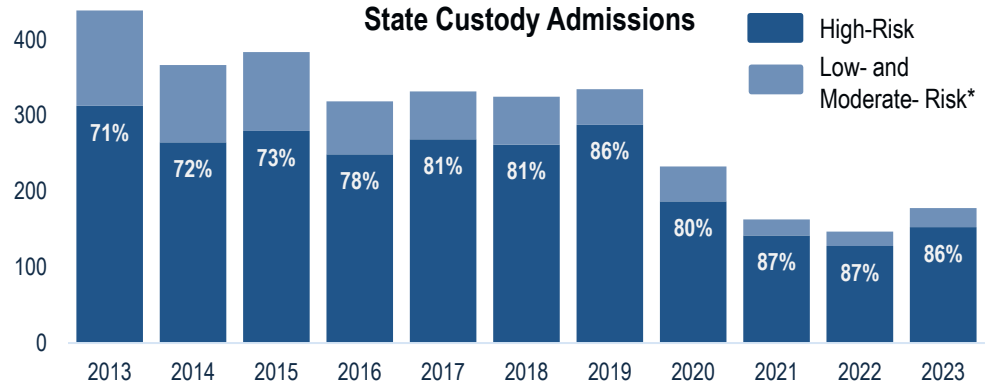


- Felony complaints against persons increased 22.8 percent in FY 2022 but are still lower than pre-pandemic levels.
- Weapon complaints increased nearly 53.0 percent in FY 2022 and are higher than pre-pandemic levels.
- Juvenile intake complaints for all offenses declined steadily from FY 2013 to FY 2022 (from 61,546 to 26,343 complaints), then rose 24.5 percent in FY 2022 (32,803 complaints).

Source: DJJ, FY 2022 Data Resource Guide.

Number of Youth in the System is Lower Than a Decade Ago, but Began Increasing After the Pandemic

- Between FY 2013 and FY 2022, state custody admissions and probation placements declined overall, likely due to: 1) fewer youth being referred to the system; and 2) a proportional increase in the use of diversion.
 - These trends resulted in a higher proportion of high-risk youth in state custody and community supervision.
- In FY 2023, state custody admissions and probation placements at all risk levels increased.
 - The proportion of low- and moderate-risk youth increased more than the proportion of high-risk youth.



Note: *Low- and moderate-risk category includes admissions/placements with unknown risk levels.

Source: DJJ, staff email communications, October 31, and November 1, 2023.



Department of Corrections

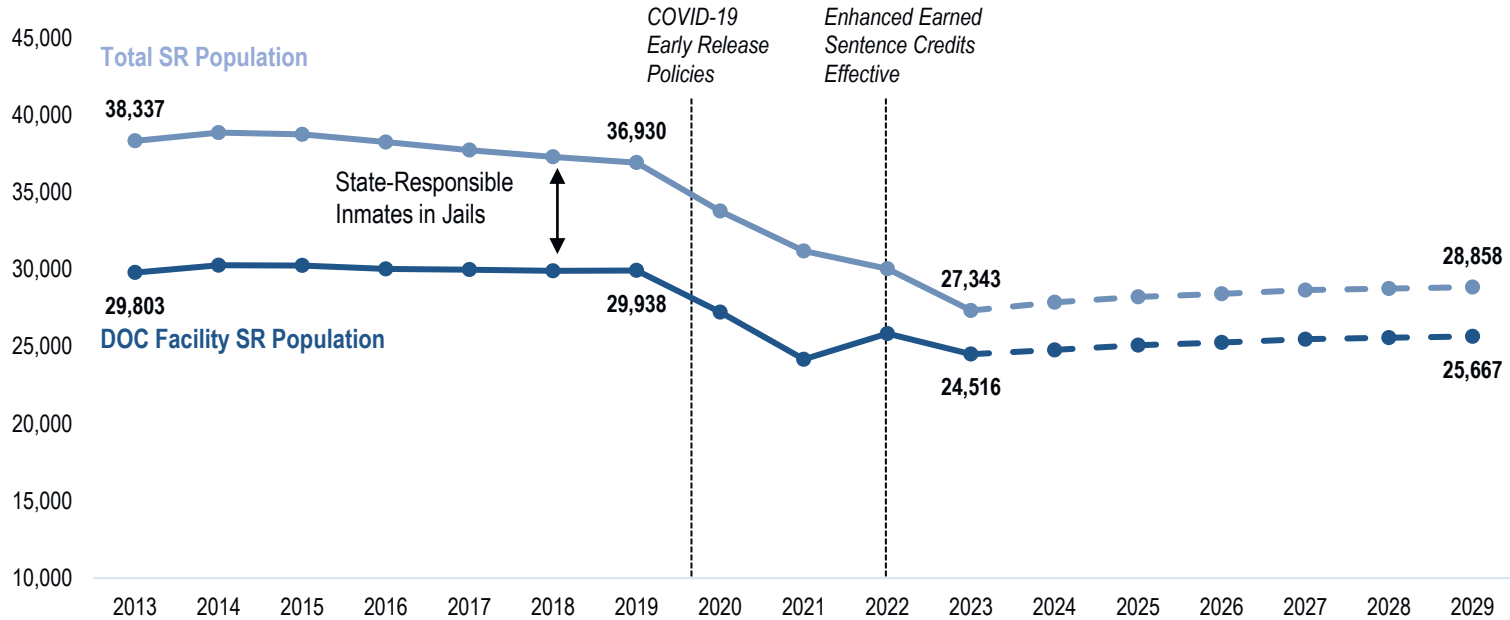
DOC Has a Budget of \$1.4 Billion GF and More Than 13,000 Authorized Positions in FY 2024

- The Department of Corrections (DOC)'s mission is “to help people to be better by safely providing effective incarceration, supervision, and evidence-based re-entry services to inmates and supervisees.”
- DOC manages 38 secure facilities for state-responsible inmates, as well as six Community Corrections Alternative Programs and 43 Probation and Parole District Offices for individuals under community supervision.
- Secure facility operation and services comprise 79.9 percent of DOC's budget and more than 60.0 percent of DOC's filled positions.
 - The remainder is for community supervision, central office administration, and other costs.
- Despite receiving compensation increases in FY 2023, the correctional officer vacancy rate is 28.8 percent, more than twice the average rate before the pandemic (July 2023 data).

Sources: DOC, "About Us" webpage, referenced October 14, 2023; DOC, Management Information Summary Annual Report FY 2022; DPB, Expendwise, FY 2023 data referenced October 14, 2023; DOC, staff email communications, August 23 & October 17, 2023.

Number of Inmates in State Custody Has Declined Significantly Since 2019

The state-responsible (SR) population declined by 9,587 between FY 2019 and FY 2023 and is expected to remain below pre-pandemic levels (June end-of-month populations).



Sources: Secretary of Public Safety and Homeland Security, Report on the Offender Population Forecasts, October 15, 2022; Secretary of Public Safety and Homeland Security, Proposed Offender Population Forecasts, Presentation to the Offender Forecasting Policy Committee, October 4, 2023; DOC, staff email communications, October 20 & October 30, 2023.

Most Significant Impact of Enhanced Earned Sentence Credits Was During Summer 2022

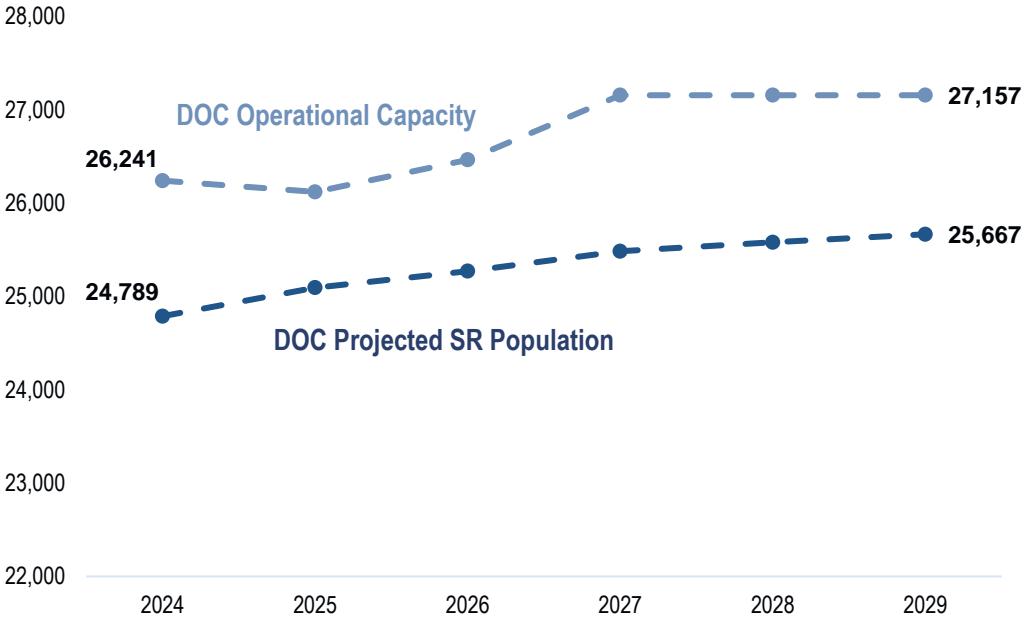
- Enhanced earned sentence credits (ESC) legislation allows inmates with eligible offenses to reduce their sentence (up to 15 days per 30 days served) by earning “good time” credits based on behavior and program participation.
 - Ineligible inmates continue to earn up to 4.5 days per 30 days served, the rate for most inmates prior to enhanced ESC.
- Enhanced ESC was enacted in 2020 and became effective July 1, 2022. It was applied retroactively, resulting in a temporary “bubble” of inmate releases that reduced the DOC facility population.
 - In July and August 2022, 2,676 inmates were released pursuant to enhanced ESC. In FY 2023, 10,826 inmates’ sentences changed due to enhanced ESC.
- In FY 2024, inmate releases appear to have returned to a new, lower “steady state”.
 - Recent monthly inmate releases and probation/parole cases are lower than they were three years ago.
- Based on sample data, approximately 40 percent of inmates are eligible for enhanced ESC with an average sentence reduction of 5.1 months. Shorter sentences decrease the average state-responsible inmate population.
- However, other factors are projected to offset the impact of enhanced ESC on the inmate population, resulting in the 3.5 percent projected increase in the state-responsible inmate population between FY 2024 and FY 2029.

Sources: DOC, Earned Sentence Credit Legislation – House Bill 5148 Report, June 1, 2023; DOC, Monthly Population Reports, December 2014 – August 2023, DOC, staff email communication, October 30, 2023; Secretary of Public Safety and Homeland Security, Proposed Offender Population Forecasts, Presentation to the Offender Forecasting Policy Committee, October 4, 2023.

Projections Show Surplus General Population Beds, But True Operating Capacity is Unclear

- DOC capacity numbers do not reflect beds offline due to staffing shortages.
- DOC has mechanisms to increase capacity when needed.
 - **Double bunking** has previously allowed for approximately 3,000 additional beds.
 - DOC projections assume approximately 2,750 **state-responsible inmates in jails**, a historically low number.
- DOC needs some degree of flexibility to manage unforeseen circumstances and fluctuations in the inmate population.
 - DOC operational capacity does not include specialized beds or differentiate between security levels.
 - Historically, DOC has assumed it needs a “cushion” of approximately 600 beds.

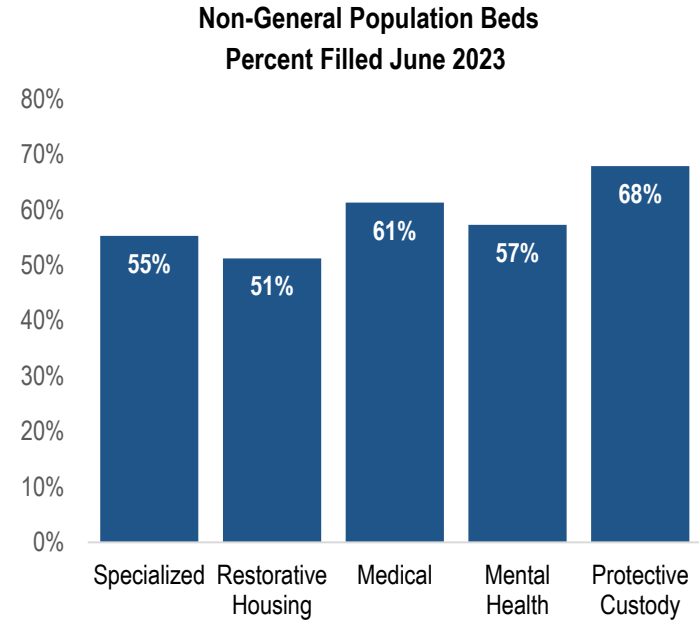
DOC’s facility population is projected to be 1,452 lower than its operational capacity in FY 2024 and 1,490 lower than its operational capacity in FY 2029.



Source: DOC, email staff communication of bed space master plan, October 24, 2023.

DOC Also Has Surplus Non-General Population Beds, but May Need to Revisit “Mix” of Specialty Beds

- 55.2 percent of non-general population (e.g. medical, mental health) beds were filled on average in FY 2023.
 - A decade ago, 89.9 percent of non-general population beds were filled (FY 2013).
 - As previously noted, DOC needs a “cushion” of beds to manage certain situations, like riots or infectious disease outbreaks.
- DOC may need to revisit “mix” of specialty beds to match inmates’ evolving needs.
 - For example, while medical beds overall are undersubscribed, DOC reports needing more of certain types of medical beds, such as infirmary and long-term care beds.



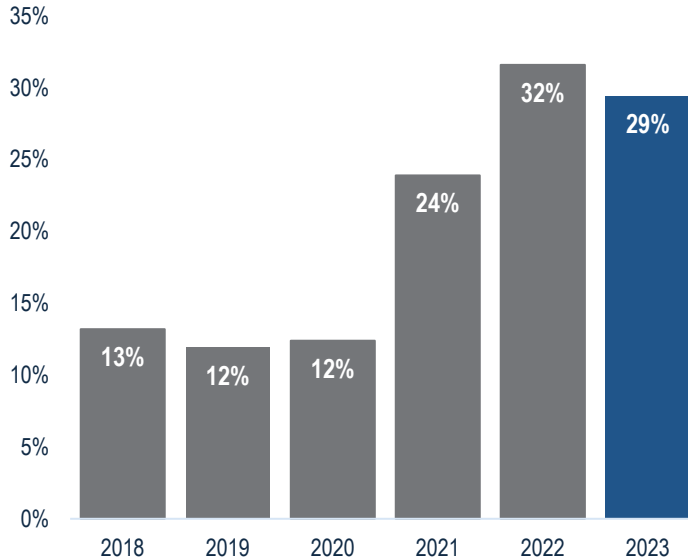
Sources: DOC, staff email communication October 11, 2023; DOC, Annual Report of the Quarterly Report of Demographic, Offense and Health Information of Offenders Incarcerated in VADOC Facilities, 2018 – 2023.

Plans to Expand Long-Term Care and Infirmiry Beds Remain On Hold

- Chapter 1, 2022 Special Session I, directed the Secretary of Public Safety and Homeland Security to convene a work group to assess DOC's capital and operating plan for inmate healthcare service provision.
- The assessment requires consideration of how to best use Beaumont Correctional Center ("Beaumont"), which DOC acquired from the Department of Juvenile Justice in 2020.
 - DOC previously requested transferring authorized capital planning funds to explore using Beaumont as a medical hub, replacing prior projects to expand infirmiry and long-term care medical beds that the General Assembly approved for detailed planning in FY 2021.
 - Workgroup discussions are ongoing.
- According to DOC, the agency does not have sufficient specialty medical beds for inmates needing infirmiry level and assisted living care.
 - There are currently no capital requests before the General Assembly to expand infirmiry and long-term care bed capacity.

Despite General Assembly Investments in DOC Staffing, Correctional Officer Vacancy Rates Pose Operational Challenges

While there was slight improvement in FY 2023, the correctional officer vacancy rate is more than double its pre-2021 level.

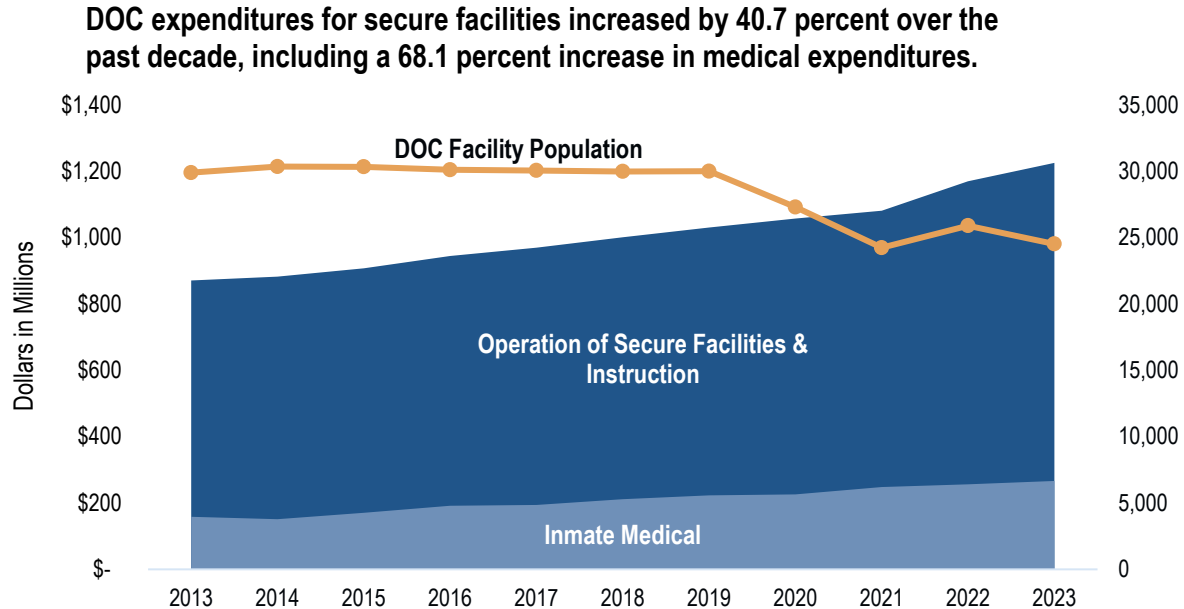


- In FY 2023, the General Assembly increased salaries for DOC security staff, bringing the starting salary for entry-level correctional officers to \$42,000.* DOC recently recommended:
 - Further increasing security staff salaries, bringing the starting salary for entry-level correctional officers to \$46,000 (estimated cost \$14.4 million GF); and
 - Establishing a career progression program for security staff (estimated cost \$12.6 million GF).
- In FY 2023, the General Assembly funded 33 additional mental health clinicians to support inmates (\$2.4 million annually).
 - Over the past five years, the portion of DOC inmates with mental health impairment has increased from 29.2 percent to 33.6 percent.
 - DOC was directed to submit a report summarizing outcomes from the new positions.

*\$42,000 does not include impact of statewide salary increases. Sources: DOC, staff email communication, October 17, 2023; DOC, Effectiveness of Targeted Increases for Corrections Officers, September 2023; DOC, Annual Report of the Quarterly Report of Demographic, Offense and Health Information of Offenders Incarcerated in VADOC Facilities, 2018 – 2023.

DOC Facility Expenditures Increased Even As Populations and Staffing Levels Declined, Primarily Due to Fixed Costs

- Fixed costs comprise approximately 89.6 percent of inmate costs and 32.7 percent of medical per inmate costs. As a result, population reductions do not significantly impact expenditures unless a facility is closed or partially shutdown.



Sources: Secretary of Public Safety and Homeland Security, Presentation to the SFAC Public Safety and General Government Subcommittees, December 9, 2022; DOC, Monthly Population Reports, June 2013 – June 2023; SFAC Staff analysis of DPB Expendwise data, accessed October 31, 2023; SFAC staff analysis of DOC fall 2023 inmate medical working papers.

DOC Assumed Management of Inmate Healthcare at All Facilities

- DOC transitioned the final eight facilities to in-house healthcare management in October 2023.
 - DOC previously transitioned four facilities between FY 2020 and FY 2023.
 - Before FY 2022, DOC contracted out high-need, hard-to-staff facilities.
- While DOC's internal decision to assume healthcare management of all facilities was informed by information from JLARC, Pew, and others, DOC stated it was not in a position to estimate a cost comparison between continuing vendor management (at some facilities) and transitioning to in-house management.
 - DOC provided expenditure data for the two facilities that transitioned to in-house management in 2021; however, unplanned reductions in population inhibit comparisons before and after the transition.
- For the two facilities that transitioned in June 2023, data suggests DOC was generally able to maintain or increase full-time staffing levels after assuming management.
- Assessment of cost-effectiveness of in-house model will continue to need to be monitored.

Source: DOC, staff email communication, July 18, 2023.



Local and Regional Jails

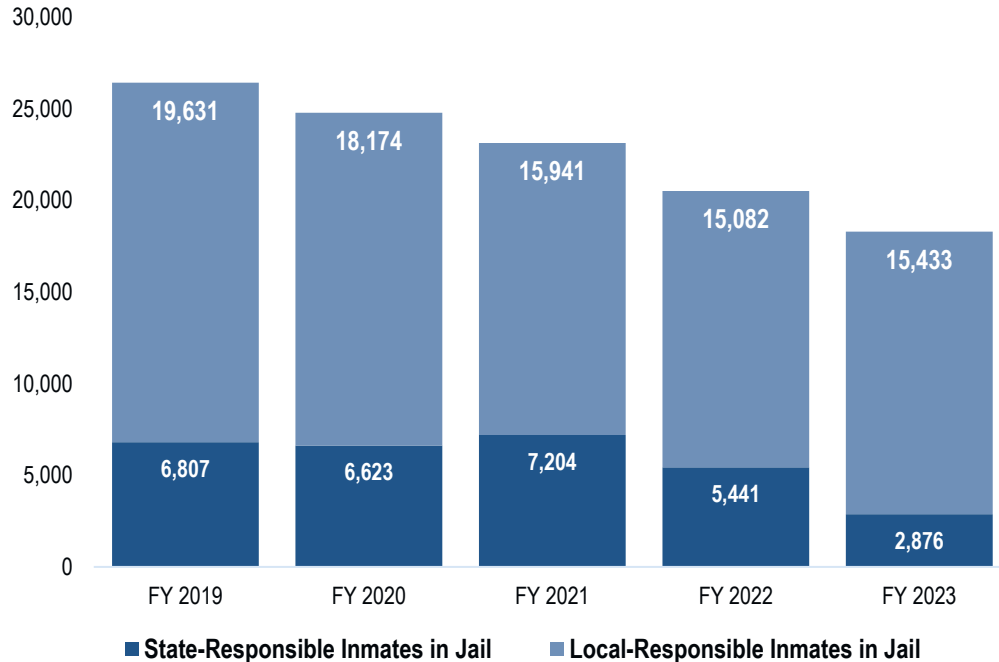
State Reimbursement of Jail Costs Are Based on Both Population and Capacity

- State provides 35 percent of jail costs on average, including:
 - A per diem payment based on inmate population, including \$4 per day for each local-responsible* inmate and \$15 per day for each state-responsible inmate.
 - Salaries for state-funded jail deputy positions, allocated based on rated operational capacity.
- State reimburses jails for up to 25 percent of the cost of constructing, enlarging, or renovating jail projects approved by the Board of Local and Regional Jails.
 - The Board of Local and Regional Jails is required to report on both rated and double-bunking capacity for jail construction and renovation projects, as well as the general fund impact on community corrections programs.
 - Currently, \$101.5 million in bond authority is authorized for the state share of eight jail construction and renovation projects.

*Local-responsible inmate per diem will increase to \$5 on December 1, 2023; state-responsible inmate per diem increased from \$12 to \$15 in 2022.
Source: State Compensation Board, FY 2021 Jail Cost Report, November 1, 2022.

Jails House Both State- and Local-Responsible Inmates

Both the local-responsible and state-responsible jail populations have been declining in recent years.

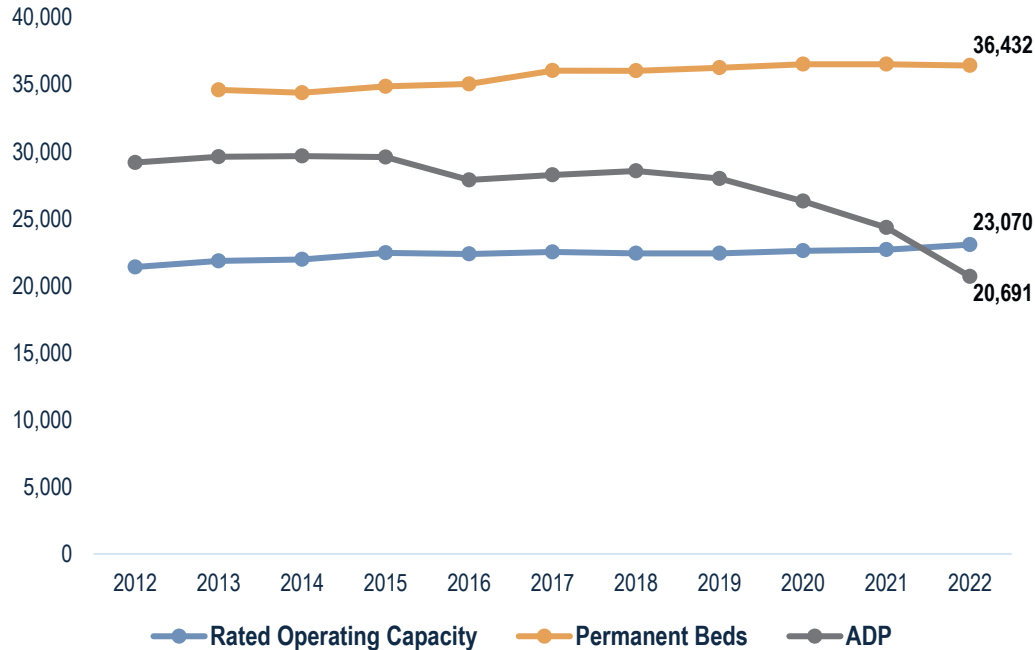


- As a result, the jail per diem appropriation has been reduced by \$13.1 million GF since FY 2021 and is expected to continue decreasing.
- Available state prison capacity has allowed DOC to transfer state-responsible inmates from jails more quickly.
- Jails also house a small portion of local ordinance violators (1.0 percent of inmate days in FY 2021) and federal/out-of-state inmates (5.0 percent of inmate days in FY 2021).

Sources: State Compensation Board, FY 2021 Jail Cost Report, November 1, 2022; DOC, staff email communication, October 30, 2023; Secretary of Public Safety and Homeland Security, Proposed Offender Population Forecasts, Presentation to the Offender Forecasting Policy Committee, October 4, 2023

Jail Population Fell Below “Design” Capacity in 2022, But State Does Not Routinely Survey True Operating Capacity

In FY 2022, jails' average daily population (ADP) fell below their total rated capacity for the first time in more than a decade.

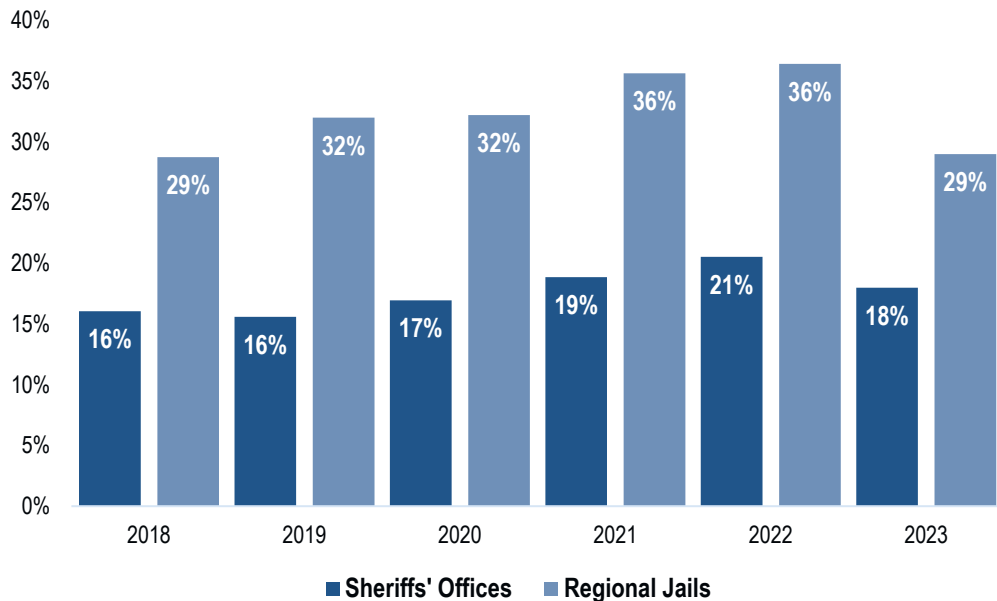


- Rated operating capacity is the “design” capacity established at construction/renovation based on construction standards; permanent beds include additional space through double-bunking.
 - Neither rated nor permanent bed capacity are adequate measures of true operating capacity.
- Neither measure of capacity accounts for staffing and programmatic availability.
- The state would need to conduct a comprehensive survey to develop a true capacity measure for each jail.

Sources: Board of Local and Regional Jails, Jail Bed Capacity Report, FY 2012 – FY 2022; State Compensation Board; Annual Jail Revenues and Expenditures Report, FY 2012 – FY 2022; Secretary of Public Safety and Homeland Security, Proposed Offender Population Forecasts, October 4, 2023;

Upcoming Sheriff Salary Increases May Help Address Staffing Shortages

Vacancy occurrences as a percentage of state positions* for sheriffs' offices and regional jails increased between FY 2018 and FY 2022, then decreased in FY 2023.



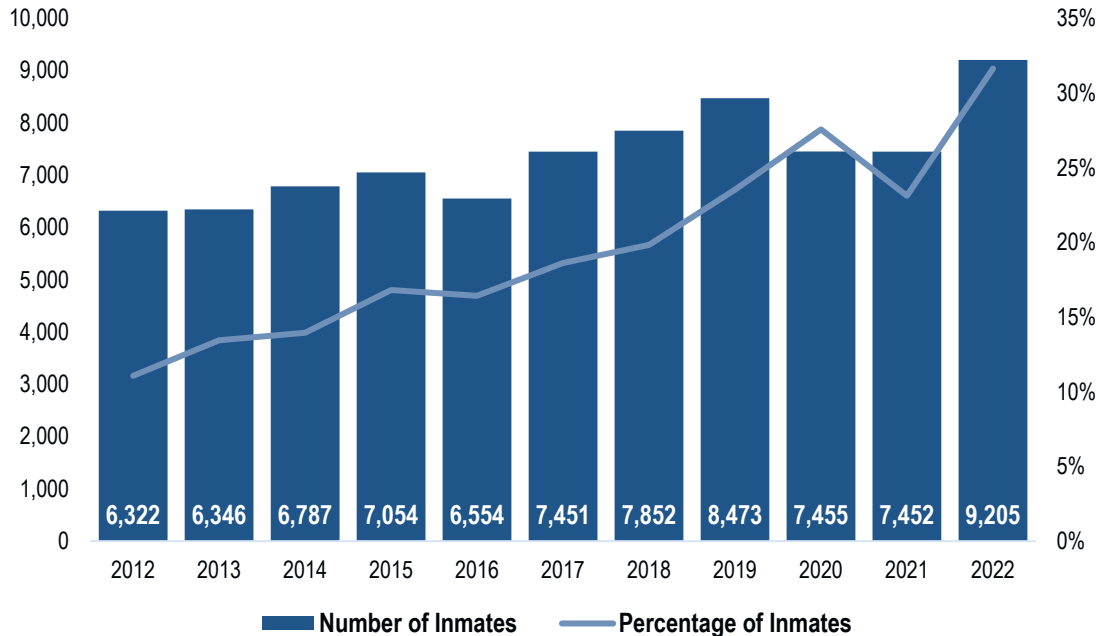
- State vacancy occurrences do not include local positions. Therefore, they indicate retention challenges but do not provide a comprehensive picture of vacant positions.
- In August 2022, entry-level deputy sheriff and regional jail officer state salaries increased from \$35,149 to \$42,000. In December 2023, the corresponding supervisory positions will receive increases of between \$865 and \$4,949 to address compression.**
- Localities supplement state salaries for sworn sheriffs' corrections officers by \$8,648 on average, though the supplement varies by position and by region (FY 2023 data).

*Data does not include local positions. **Does not include impact of state-wide salary increases.

Source: State Compensation Board, email staff communication January 8, 2023.

General Assembly Increased Funding For Mental Health Services in Jails in FY 2023

After a dip during COVID-19, jail inmates with mental illness increased in FY 2022 to 9,205, a 45.6 increase since FY 2012.



- The percentage of inmates with serious mental illness has also increased, from 5.3 percent in FY 2012 to 18.2 percent in FY 2022.
- In FY 2022, jails reported spending \$26.3 million in mental health treatment.
 - Community Services Boards provided the majority of treatment hours.
- In 2022, the General Assembly provided \$17.1 million GF over the biennium to support 125 behavioral health case managers and 127 partially-funded medical and treatment positions to help support new behavioral health standards endorsed by the Board of Local and Regional Jails.

Source: Compensation Board, 2022 Mental Illness in Jails Report. Serious mental illness is defined as schizophrenia/delusional, bipolar/major depressive order, or post-traumatic stress disorder. Percentages are out of 29,090, the number of inmates in jail long enough to have received a comprehensive mental health assessment, if necessary.



Department of Juvenile Justice

Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) Primarily Administers Programs for Youth Referred to the Juvenile Justice System

- DJJ’s mission is “to protect the public by preparing court-involved youth to be successful citizens.”
- DJJ oversees four primary programs and services:
 - **Administer Direct Care Programs** – For youth committed to DJJ’s custody, DJJ maintains the **Bon Air Juvenile Correctional Center (JCC)** and contracts with **seven community placement programs** to supervise, treat, and educate youth in a secure setting.*
 - **Administer Community Programs** – For all youth referred to the juvenile justice system, DJJ provides a continuum of community-based services and manages **30 court services units (CSU)**, which provide intake, probation, and parole services for juvenile and domestic relations courts.
 - **Certify and Partially Fund Local Juvenile Detention Centers (JDC)** – DJJ certifies and helps support 24 JDC operated by localities and multi-jurisdictional commissions for youth detained both before and after a court appearance.
 - **Fund Local Community-Based Programs** – DJJ allocates formula funding to localities to support crime deterrence.
- DJJ has **1,710 funded positions**, with approximately 40 percent at CSU and 36 percent engaged in direct care at Bon Air JCC.

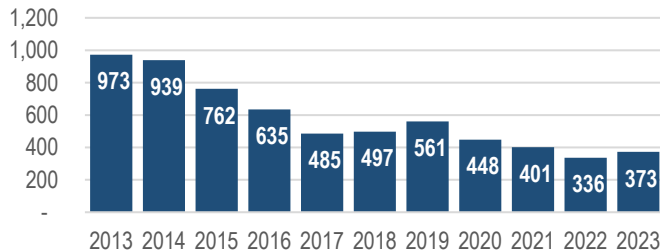
Positions (As of June 2023)	Funded	Filled	Vacancy Rate
Central Office	300	255	15.0%
Medical	84	58	31.0%
JCC	429	202	52.9%
Education	103	74	28.2%
Court Service Units	<u>794</u>	<u>691</u>	<u>13.0%</u>
Total	1,710	1,280	25.1%

*Number of facilities as of June 2022. A small percentage of direct care youth are in placements other than JCC/PPP. Sources: DJJ, FY 2022 Data Resource Guide; DJJ, staff email July 26, 2023.

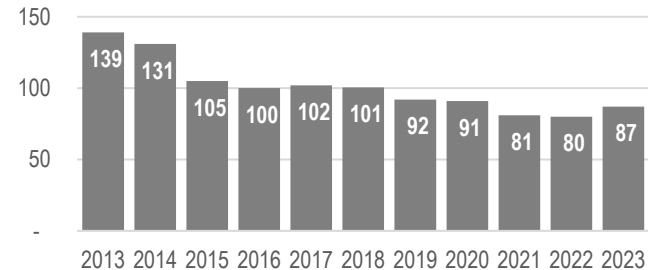
More Than Half of Bon Air JCC Funded Positions are Vacant

- JCC staffing levels have declined significantly over the past decade and the JCC vacancy rate is 52.9 percent.
- In FY 2024, JCC Residential Specialists received a salary increase to partially catch up to the higher salary levels provided to correctional officers in FY 2023.
 - Currently, residential specialists have the same entry level starting salary as correctional officers but lower supervisory salaries.
 - Prior to the FY 2023 correctional officer increase, entry-level residential specialists had higher starting salaries than correctional officers.

Residential Services
Filled Positions By Fiscal Year



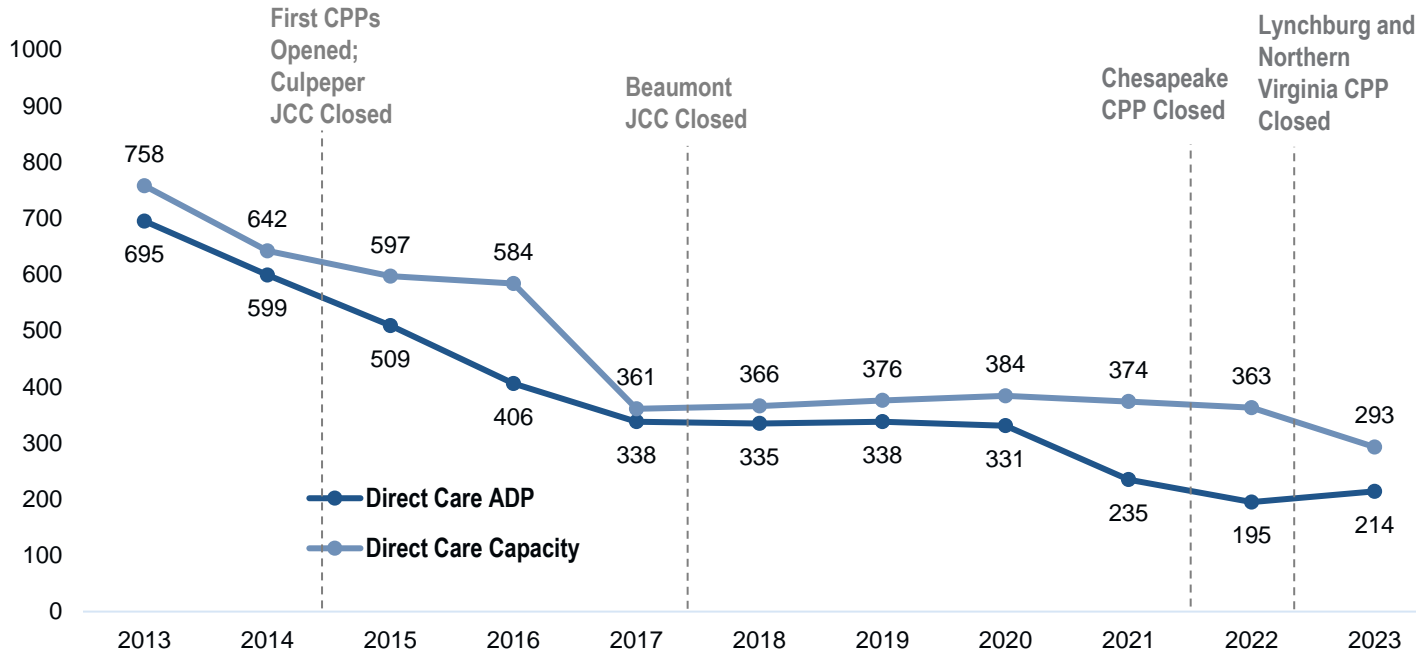
Education
Filled Positions By Fiscal Year



Sources: DJJ, staff email July 21, 2023; DPB, staff email June 16, 2022.

DJJ Decreased Capacity as Youth in State Custody Declined

Between FY 2013 and FY 2023, the DJJ direct care capacity declined by 61.3 percent and the direct care average daily population (ADP) declined by 69.2 percent.

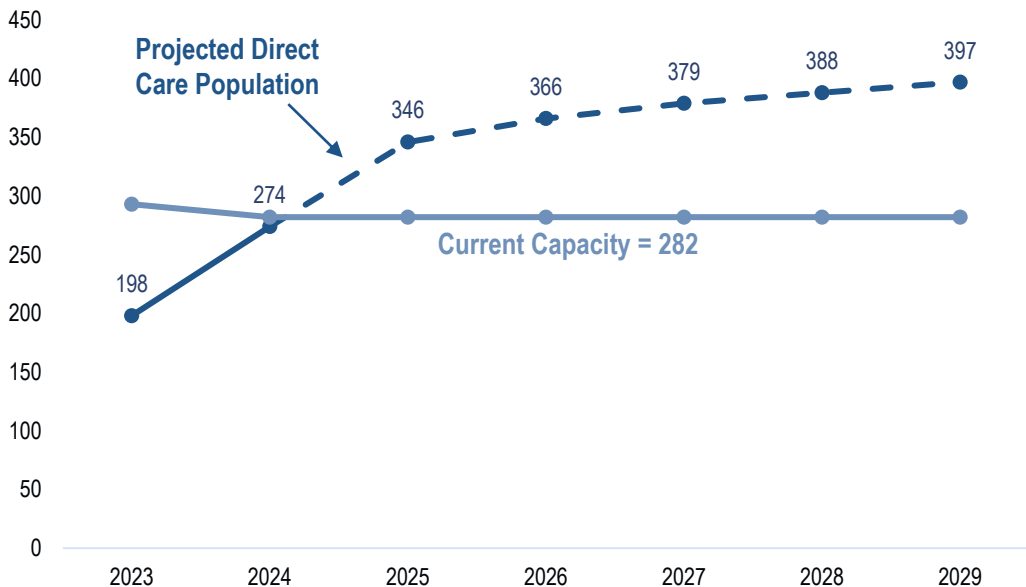


- The decline in the number of system-involved youth likely resulted from both declining juvenile arrests and DJJ Transformation efforts.
- DJJ direct care capacity includes beds at the juvenile correctional center and community placement programs.
 - JCC capacity declined from 738 beds in FY 2013 to 220 beds in October 2023.
 - CPP declined from its peak of 112 beds in FY 2020 to 62 beds in October 2023.

Sources: DJJ, Data Resource Guides, FY 2013 – FY 2022; DJJ, Juvenile Correctional Center Population Data accessed June 30, 2023 and October 31, 2023; JLARC, Virginia's Juvenile Justice System, 2021.

Youth in State Custody Expected to Exceed DJJ Capacity Beginning in FY 2025

Based on preliminary projections, DJJ will have a bed shortage of 64 beds in FY 2025 and 115 beds in FY 2029 if direct care capacity does not increase.



- The increasing population is driven by recent growth in intakes and DJJ’s new length-of-stay guidelines, which increase the average time spent in DJJ custody.
- The General Assembly directed DJJ to report the impact of the new guidelines by December 1, 2023, including: 1) data that informed increasing the length of stay; and 2) any staffing and programmatic needs necessitated by the new guidelines.

Source: DJJ, FY 2024 Juvenile Correctional Center Population Data, referenced October 31, 2023; Secretary of Public Safety and Homeland Security, Presentation to the Offender Forecasting Policy Committee, October 4, 2023.

DJJ Paused Plans to Construct a New Facility and Requested Funding to Reopen Old Housing Units

- In 2016, General Assembly approved capital projects related to new JCC, including detail planning funding.
 - As of June 2023, DJJ spent \$1.9 million toward planning its capital project, primarily on architectural and engineering services.
- A 2017 Task Force recommended two smaller juvenile correctional centers (96-bed and 60-bed), stating the Bon Air facility was not cost effective and did not align with “emerging best practice standards.”
- Local zoning challenges prevented construction of a facility in the eastern region.
- In 2021, JLARC recommended that DJJ “proceed with constructing a smaller juvenile treatment facility on the Bon Air JCC property while locations for other facilities are being determined.”
- Largely due to the length-of-stay guidelines revisions, **DJJ paused new facility construction plans to reevaluate project scope and requested a transfer of \$2.6 million in bond authority (from an outdated Department of Correction’s project) to reopen nine housing units at Bon Air JCC.**



Sources: JLARC, *Virginia's Juvenile Justice System, 2021*; DPB, *Capital Project History and Capital Project Requests databases, referenced September 15, 2023*; DPB, staff email June 28, 2023; VPM, *"Virginia has one youth prison left. Advocates say it's one too many," March 10, 2022.*



Public Safety and Veterans Budget Outlook

Public Safety and Veterans Services Agencies Requested \$294.8 Million GF in Additional Funding

Requested Items (\$ in millions)	Biennial GF \$
DOC Food Services	\$44.9
Virginia State Police (VSP) New Positions	42.3
DOC Vacant Position Salary Increases	35.8
Veterans Care Center Operations	30.0
DOC Utility Cost Increases	19.4
DOC Lawrenceville Contract Increases	11.8
VSP Targeted Retention Bonus	7.5
Victim Witness Assistance Programs	7.2
Other Public Safety & Homeland Security Items	79.2
Other Veterans & Defense Affairs Items	<u>16.7</u>
Total	\$294.8

Source: DPB, Agency Operating Requests accessed November 10, 2023; Department of Veterans Services, staff email communication, October 24, 2023.

Key Takeaways – 2024 Session Outlook

- Violent and property crime trends increased in 2022. Additional tracking and evaluation will be needed to determine post-COVID trends and any potential interventions.
- Funding needs of the correctional system are driven by both population and capacity, which includes physical space, staffing, and programmatic needs.
- The General Assembly may wish to consider a detailed evaluation of state correctional capacity and projected population needs to inform budgetary decisions.
- Department of Juvenile Justice staffing shortages and space issues need to be addressed, especially in the context of the 2022 length-of-stay guidelines revision.
- The most significant agency requests for the 2024 General Assembly Session include additional Virginia State Police positions, food services at the Department of Corrections, and start-up funding for Virginia's two new veterans care centers.