

# 2022 Annual Report

County of Volusia Division of Corrections

Department of Public Protection

Joseph DeMore, Director



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# ABOUT VCDC

## Design Capacity:

VCDC: 899

VCCF: 595

**Total: 1,494**

As the mission statement of the Volusia County Division of Corrections (VCDC) indicates, the Division is committed to providing a safe and secure facility for the benefit of the community and the individuals who are housed at the facility. One of the primary responsibilities of the Division is to maintain the physical facilities that it manages. These facilities include the Volusia County Branch Jail (VCBJ) and the Volusia County Correctional Facility (VCCF).

The Volusia County Branch Jail (VCBJ), opened in 1987, has a design-rated capacity of 899, while the Volusia County Correctional Facility (VCCF) opened in 1977 and has a design-rated capacity of 595. Combined, VCDC has a design-rated capacity of 1,494. Design-rated capacity represents the number of inmates that the facility is designed to hold at any given time, not the maximum number of inmates that can be held. While efforts are continuously made to manage the size

of the jail population, there are times that the

population can exceed the design rated capacity due to the variety of external influences on the jail population.

### Mission Statement

*The mission of the Volusia County Division of Corrections is to protect the community by maintaining a secure jail that also is safe, humane, and constitutional in operation.*

To maintain a manageable jail population, VCDC staff pay close attention to a multitude of statistics regarding various aspects of the jail population and respond as needed by working closely with other stakeholders in the criminal justice system to include local courts and pre-trial services as well as the State Department of Corrections.

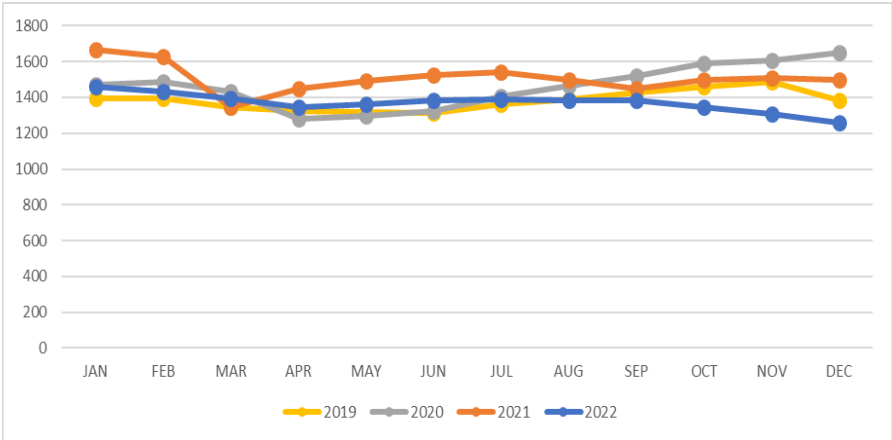


Additionally, VCDC meets quarterly with the Public Safety Coordinating Council (PSCC) to share data and information with other stakeholders in the Volusia County Criminal Justice system, including judges, county council members, and the Volusia County Sheriff's Office, among others. This year, Councilman Ben Johnson represented the Volusia County Council, and Chief Judge Clayton served as the representative for the courts. These meetings are announced and open to the public.

# VCDC POPULATION

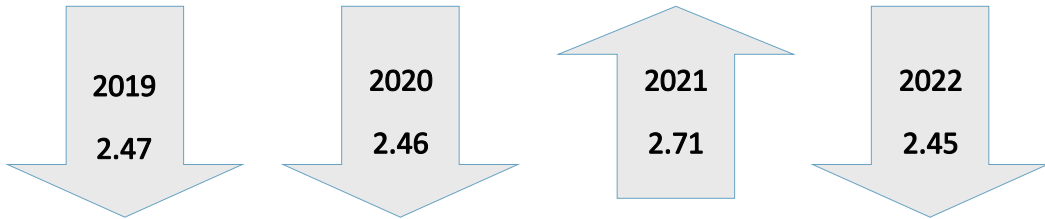
The primary indicator of the size of the jail population throughout the year is the average daily population, which is an average of the actual number of inmates recorded at a specific time each day. The average daily population (ADP) in 2022 was **1,382**. Figure 1 demonstrates the trend in ADP by month from 2019 through 2022. The ADP is monitored closely throughout the year to identify trends and allocate resources appropriately.

**Figure 1: ADP Trend 2019—2022**

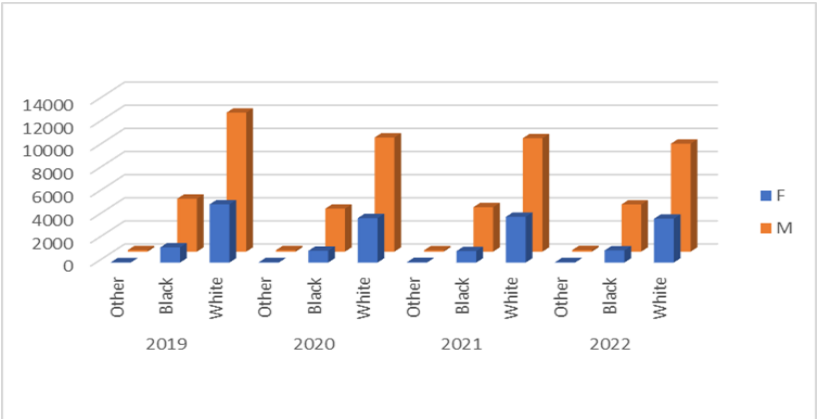


The annual ADP is used to calculate the incarceration rate for the County of Volusia. In 2022, the incarceration rate resumed its downward trend that had been observed in 2019 and 2020 with a rate of **2.45** incarcerated persons per 1,000 in Volusia County. The dramatic increase in incarceration rates for 2021 is likely due to an increased ADP resulting from increased numbers of state inmates awaiting transfer due to COVID restrictions.

## Incarceration Rates, 2019—2022



**Figure 2: Inmate Demographic Profile 2019—2022**



## Inmate Demographic Profile

Consistent with prior years, the largest demographic group at VCDC was white males (50%) with the next largest group represented by black males (22%). In 2022, almost 74% of inmates booked were male, while approximately 26% were female.

# ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

As the organizational chart on page 6 indicates, the staff of VCDC work under the direction of a Director and has several unique areas of responsibility to include administrative services, security, case management, and

## Responsible for:

- Budget
- Purchasing
- Central supply
- Mail
- Inmate accounts
- Payroll
- Research
- Contracting

maintenance. Each area is crucial to the day-to-day operations of the facility.

Managing the nearly 18,500 inmates that come through the doors of VCDC each year involves a team of people, many of whom are non-sworn, civilian employees. One area comprised entirely of civilian employees is Administrative Services. Staff members in this area have responsibilities which include budgeting, payroll, purchasing, inmate account management, and central supply, to name a few. Without the work of administrative services staff, security staff and case management could not focus as closely on the task of managing inmates.

One vital area of administrative services is inmate accounts. VCDC manages all inmate commissary accounts, which can include monies that are deposited upon intake (i.e., the inmate had cash on them when they were booked) or that family or friends have deposited into their accounts from outside of the jail. Online resources such as **accesscorrections.com** make it easy for family and friends do to so. Staff in administrative services manage several million dollars of deposits and charges every year.

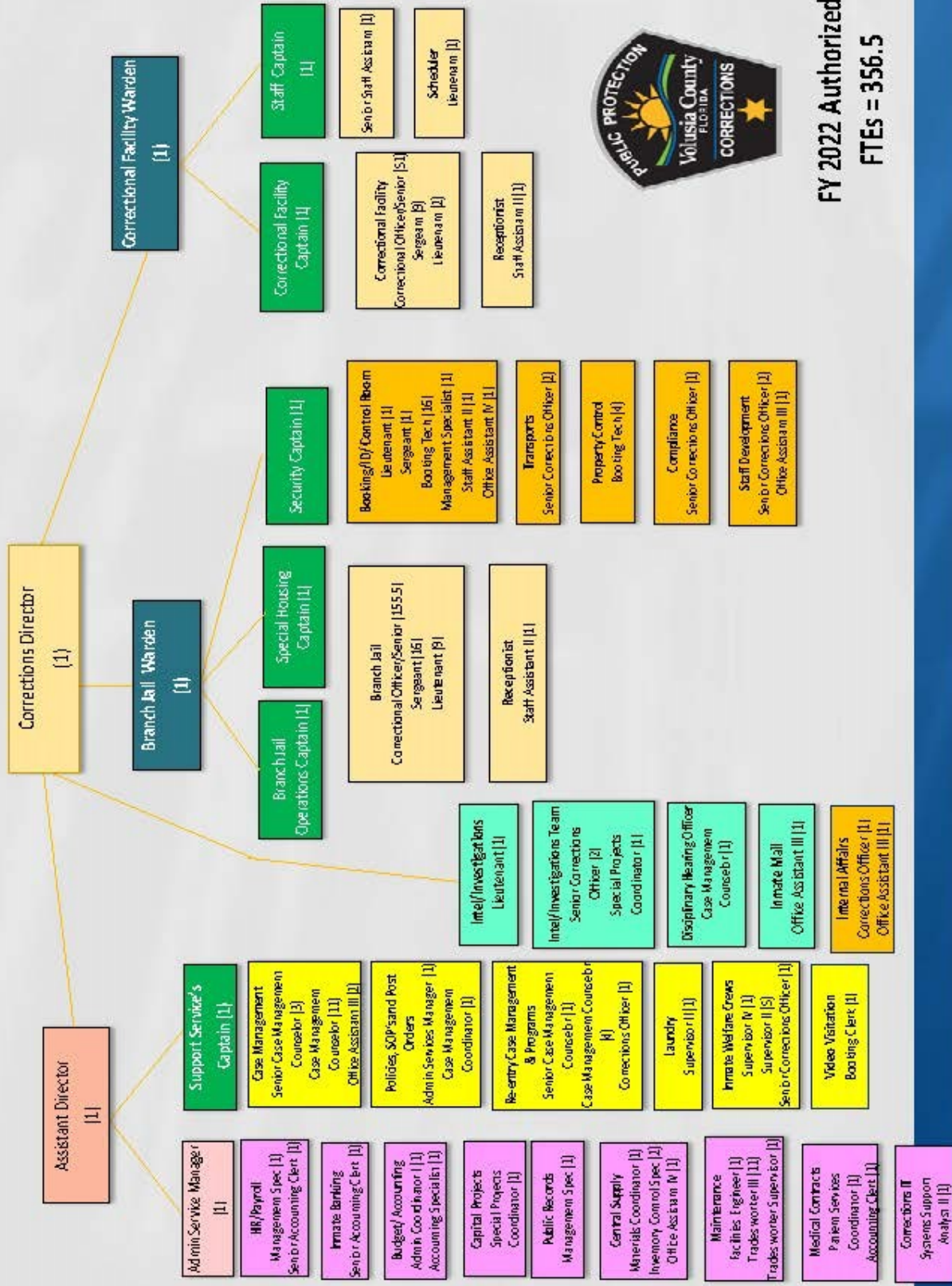


Inmates may spend this money on phone time or commissary items which can include food or hygiene items. Family or friends can also purchase care packages to send to inmates directly without having to deposit money into their accounts. VCDC earns commission on the items purchased for or by inmates which goes directly into an inmate welfare fund. This account may only be spent on items or programs that are for the direct benefit of inmates.

## Major initiatives for Administrative Services staff in 2022 included:

- Organization and stream-lining of central supply
- Created replacement plan for office furniture
- Final acceptance of new jail management systems

# Volusia County Division of Corrections Organization Chart



FY 2022 Authorized  
FTEs = 356.5

# INTAKE/BOOKING

## Identification and Receiving

Officers in the identification and receiving area processed **18,507** people in 2022. While many of these individuals are released soon after intake (through bond or pre-trial release), everyone that comes into the Volusia County Branch Jail is fully processed through the ID and receiving area.

While most bookings proceed smoothly, there are times when the challenge of substance abuse or mental health issues present themselves to officers. Because the ID/receiving area is the first contact that staff at VCDC have with inmates as they are booked, it is crucial that officers recognize emergent needs of inmates in a

timely manner. In 2022, 20% of inmates booked into VCDC self-reported that they were going through substance or alcohol withdrawal at the time of booking. Officers, along with medical and mental health staff in the ID/receiving area identify inmates in need of special housing in a detoxification or mental health housing unit.

**20% of inmates booked self-reported alcohol or substance withdrawal at the time of booking**

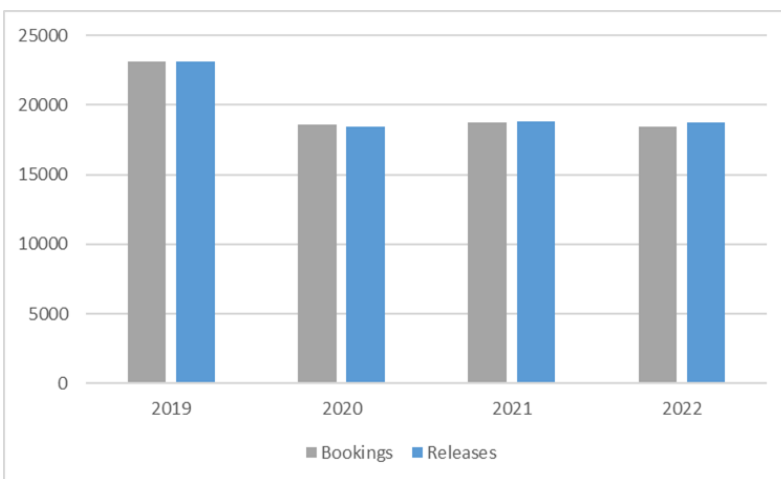
## Booking and Release

Booking officers work to process all information from the arresting officer or court that might impact an individual's stay at VCDC. Additionally, booking officers are crucial actors in the process of managing the jail population. They are able to identify and track individuals who are being held for other agencies or who need to be transported to state prison. By tracking this information, booking officers are able to arrange for pick

up by holding agencies to release those inmates from VCDC custody. When inmates can be moved to the appropriate jurisdiction, it saves Volusia County the cost of incarcerating those inmates.

VCDC has benefitted from declining booking numbers since 2019. As noted, staff work with a number of stakeholders in the criminal justice system to manage the jail population. This has been particularly critical during the past few years as VCDC managed the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.

**Figure 3: Bookings and Releases 2019—2022**



# CASE MANAGEMENT/INMATE PROGRAMS

## Classification

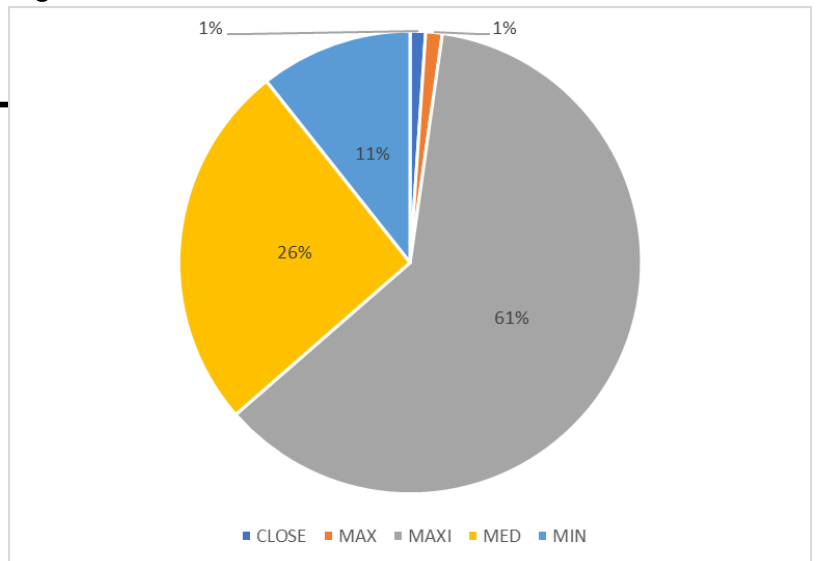
While there are case management counselors that are specifically assigned to reentry efforts, the majority of case management counselors work to classify inmates after intake into the appropriate security level, and manage everyday activities and programming for inmates.

**Case management counselors are responsible for (to name a few):**

- 
- Reviewing criminal history and background to appropriately classify inmates
- Providing for specific needs of inmates with disabilities
- Responding to inmate requests
- Communicating with family members who are concerned about an inmate
- Enrolling inmates in programming
- Reviewing needs of all inmates and coordinating services

Even though most inmates booked into the VCDC are released within 72 hours, case management counselors work diligently to classify all other inmates in a timely manner. Inmates who have not been classified remain in “MAXI” status assigned during intake. As Figure 4 below demonstrates, 61% of inmates booked in 2022 were not classified beyond their intake “MAXI” status. Descriptions of classification statuses are provided below.

**Figure 4: Inmate Classifications 2022**



Close: Inmates with behavior issues or sentenced to Florida State Prison  
MAX: Maximum security  
MED: Medium security  
MIN: Minimum security  
MAXI: Not Classified

Classification involves a review of an inmate’s charges and criminal history to identify any issues that might impact the security level necessary to house the inmate.



# AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS

## Officer and Civilian Employee of the Shift

Every six months, shift assignments are reviewed and assigned. VCDC uses this time of reflection and change to recognize outstanding work by sworn and civilian staff in the prior six months, and award “Officer and Civilian Employee of the Shift” recognitions. Nominees are selected by supervisors, and the winners are voted by all employees and contract staff of VCDC. This award is truly a recognition by supervisors and peers of the efforts made by nominees to strive for excellence. This year, VCDC was pleased to award the following staff with Officer or Employee of the Shift.

- Senior Officer Simone Walters
- Officer Terrance Dowse
- Mrs. Jacqueline Cuevas
- Officer Aaron Winters
- Senior Officer Thomas Prudente
- Mrs. Bindu Marchand

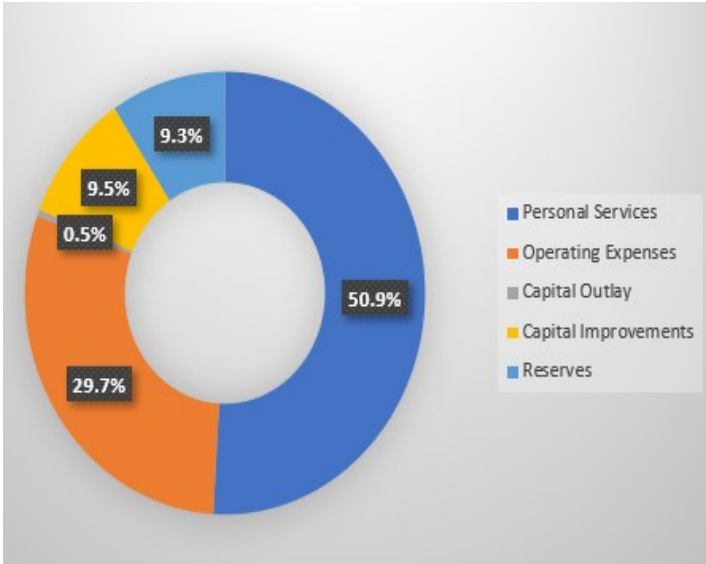
## Correctional Officer and Staff Appreciation Week

Correctional officers and staff can have challenging jobs. It is important to recognize the good work that they do on a day-to-day basis, but it is great to be able to focus attention and treat staff to something special. During Correctional Officer and Staff Appreciation Week, staff were treated to Four Rivers barbeque and Krispy Kreme donuts.



# BUDGET AND STAFFING

Figure 5: Budget Allocation by Category



\$61,880,443 has been adopted for FY 22—23.

## Per Diem

The total operating expenses at the end of the fiscal year is used to calculate the fiscal year per diem, or cost per day for an inmate’s stay (Per diem = (operating budget ÷ FY ADP) ÷ 365) The per diem for FY 2022 came to \$93.61. In other words, to house an inmate it costs VCDC \$93.61 per day (or \$34,167.65 a year). The trend in per diem is shown in Figure 6. There is an indirect relationship between per diem and ADP. This is largely because the operational budget does not fluctuate in the same way that ADP does. ADP can be unpredictable, and the operating budget must account for these fluctuations.

## Efforts to Reduce Cost

Staff across the Division have taken steps to attempt to reduce costs this year, as they do every year. The items listed below represent a sampling of the efforts undertaken this year:

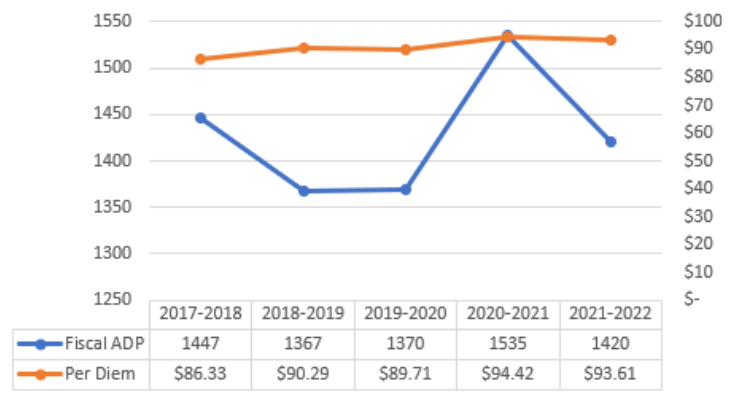
- Reach out to vendors for not just repricing of products, but also look for similar products that may last longer at a similar price.
- Onsite facility team performs scheduled maintenance extending life of equipment and saves on repair costs.
- Reduce medical costs through multi step review of medical claims

## Operating Budget

VCDC is funded largely through the Volusia County General Fund. As such, VCDC employees work diligently to be good stewards of tax payer money, and look for ways to maximize financial resources. In FY 2022, VCDC had an operating budget of \$61,831,429. As Figure 5 demonstrates, the largest area of expense is personnel services at 51% of the operating budget. This is followed by operating expenses at 30%. An operating budget of

Category	Amount
<b>Operating Expenses</b>	
FY 2020—2021 (Actual)	\$52,902,612.22
FY 2021—2022( Actual)	\$48,519,426.75
<b>Adopted Budget FY 2022—2023</b>	<b>\$61,880,443</b>

Figure 6: Per Diem and Fiscal ADP Trend, FY 2018—2022

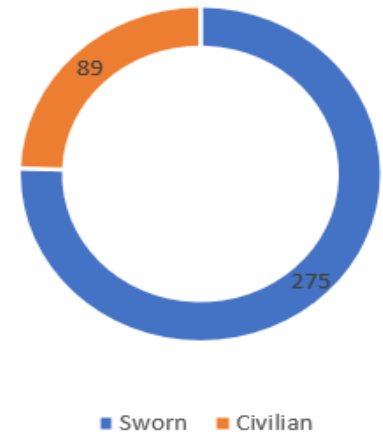


## 2022 Employment

At year end, VCDC had 364 funded positions; 275 sworn officers, and 89 civilian staff. Civilian staff represents 24% of total staff. VCDC continues to experience similar staffing challenges pressuring the private sector and other government agencies. At year-end VCDC had a 22% vacancy rate. Some of these positions are allocated for future capital projects which will add additional bed spaces and in turn require additional staff. After factoring those positions in, the true vacancy rate is 18%.

VCDC is working on recruiting efforts through community outreach events, social media campaigns and signage. Increased staffing levels will reduce mandated overtime, and in turn, help with retention efforts.

Figure 7: Employee Type



<https://www.governmentjobs.com/careers/volusiaco>

Pay and benefits are competitive. Correctional Officers at VCDC receive:

- Tuition and salary pay during Corrections Officer Academy
- Competitive starting salary with increase upon certification
- Advancement opportunities
- Individual and family medical, dental, prescription, life, and vision insurance
- Florida State Retirement, Special Risk
- Nearly 28 days/year personal leave. Accruals start at hire, and accruals increase with longevity of service
- Ten paid holidays
- Short- and long-term disability insurance
- Job satisfaction
- Rewarding career providing a vital service to the community

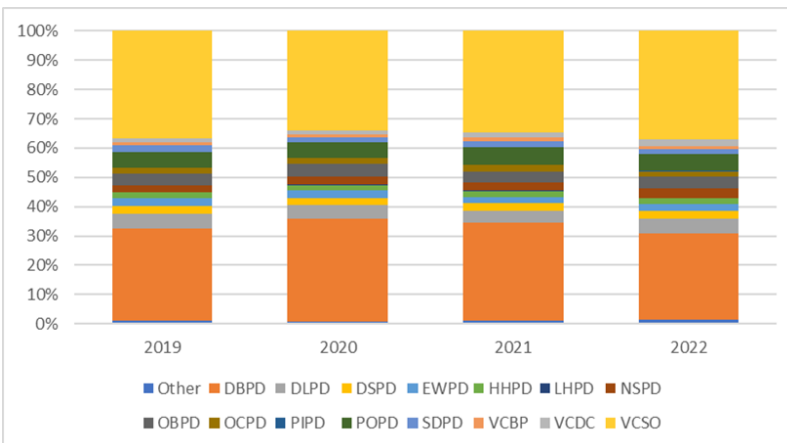
# DATA DETAIL

## Data Management and Research

Managing the jail population is crucial to meeting the safety and security needs of the inmates and staff at VCDC. While VCDC is mandated to house all arrestees for Volusia County and local municipalities, and has little control over who or how many are brought to VCDC, closely monitoring various aspects of the jail population can help appropriately allocate resources, or target areas where VCDC staff can have influence. Regular monitoring and working with other relevant organizations has allowed VCDC to maintain a manageable ADP even in the face of broader population growth in Volusia County and changes in enforcement strategies.

## Arresting Agency

Figure 8: Bookings by Arresting Agency 2019—2022

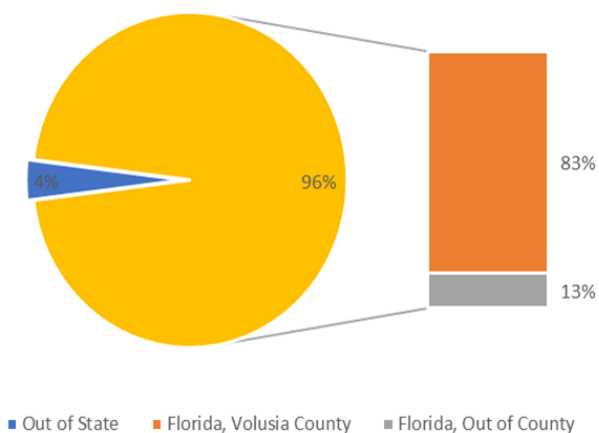


It comes as no surprise that most bookings come from arrests made by the Volusia County Sheriff’s Office (VCSO). As the police department for one of the largest and most popular cities in the county for tourism, Daytona Beach Police Department (DBPD) accounts for the second largest group of arrests for VCDC. Combined, **VCSO and the DBPD account for over 66%** of those booked into VCDC during the year. This falls in line with the arrest statistics since 2019 when arrests from

VCSO and DBPD comprised approximately 67% of arrests for each year.

## Inmate City of Residence at Arrest

Figure 9: Residency at Arrest

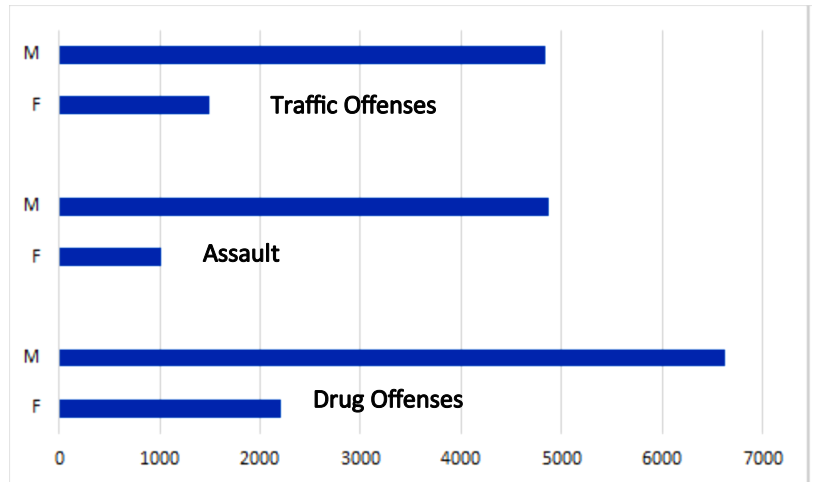


Volusia County is home to several major events, and attracts people from all over the country and world. As such, some might assume that a large portion of people booked into jail would not be local. However, the vast majority (**96%**) of inmates that are booked into VCDC are from Florida; **83% of inmates from Florida resided in Volusia County** prior to arrest.

## Charges

The most common type of new charge in 2022 was related to dangerous drugs as is typically the case in Volusia County. In fact, the most common charges remain fairly consistent from year to year. The top three (3) charge types for 2022 are displayed in Figure 10. For all charge types, males represent the majority of offenders with the exception of commercial sex offenses.

Figure 10: Top 3 Charges by Gender



## Offense Classification

As in previous years, on an average day at VCDC, the vast majority of inmates are being held for a felony charge. In 2022, **85% of inmates had a felony charge** while **15% of inmates were booked on a misdemeanor charge**. Of these, most inmates were non-sentenced. **Nearly 47%** of inmates being held on a felony charge

were not sentenced (i.e., awaiting trial or sentencing).

Figure 11: Offense Classification

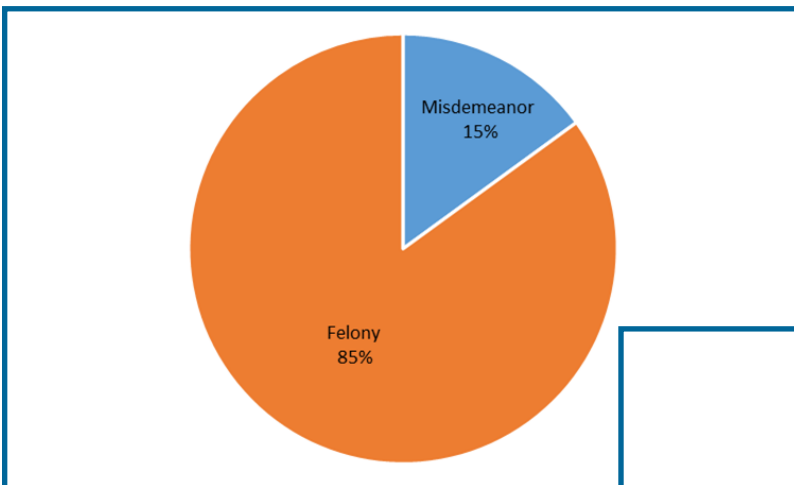
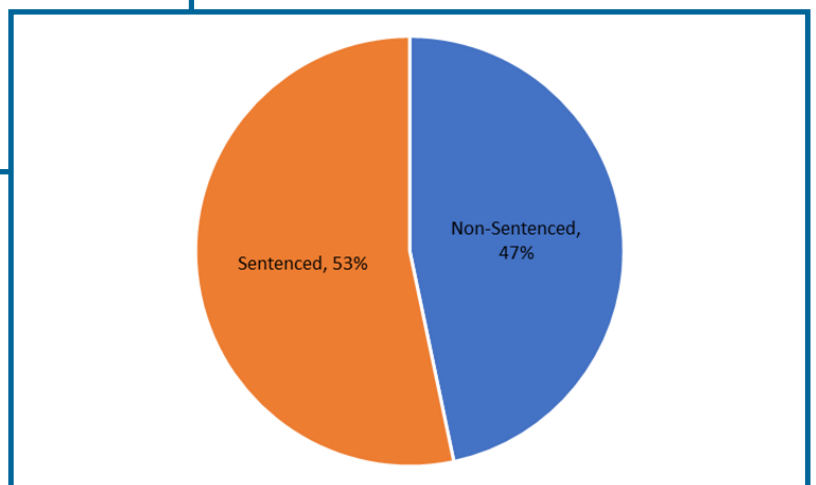


Figure 12: Felony Sentenced vs. Non-Sentenced



## Frequent Fliers

Frequent fliers, or individuals who return to the jail several times throughout the year, persist as an issue for VCDC. Often, these inmates have brief stays which prevents VCDC from offering impactful programming that might provide resources and skills to inmates upon release. While the individual stays for this group of inmates are brief, the **21 individuals** with 8 or more stays were booked into VCDC **232 times**. This totals **2,103 days** served at VCDC in 2022.

**There were 21 individuals booked into VCDC 8 or more times in 2022. These 21 individuals accounted for nearly 1% of all bookings in 2022.**

The 9 most common charges for frequent fliers are presented in Table 3 below. Trespass and alcohol related charges comprise the vast majority of the 310 charges for which frequent fliers were booked.

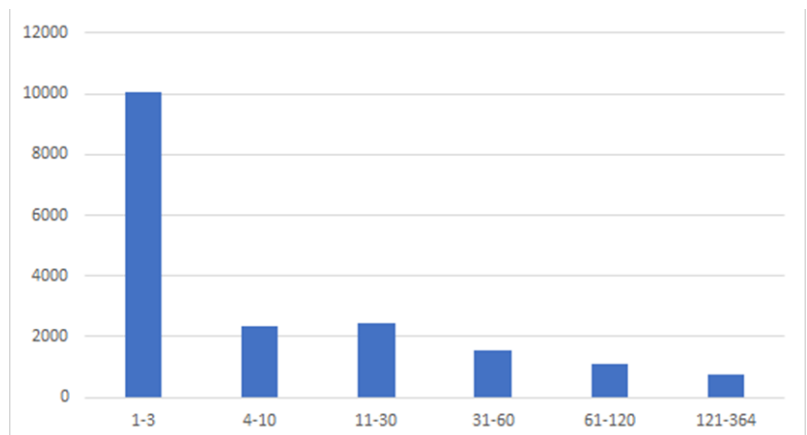
**Table 3: Frequent Flier Charges**

Charge	Frequency
Trespass	146
Alcohol Related Charge	42
Entering/Refusing to Leave Public Property	9
Resisting an Officer without Violence	16
Possession of Paraphernalia	18
Disorderly Conduct	11
Petit Theft	7
Battery	9
Other	52
<b>Total</b>	<b>310</b>

## Days to Release

Inmates released in 2022 spent an average of 24.7 days incarcerated. However, 54% of inmates released in 2022 spent between 1 and 3 days at VCDC. Nearly 88% of inmates released in 2022 were released within 60 days of their booking. If the average length of stay is adjusted to account only for those who stay beyond 72 hours, the average length of stay in 2022 was 66.5 days.

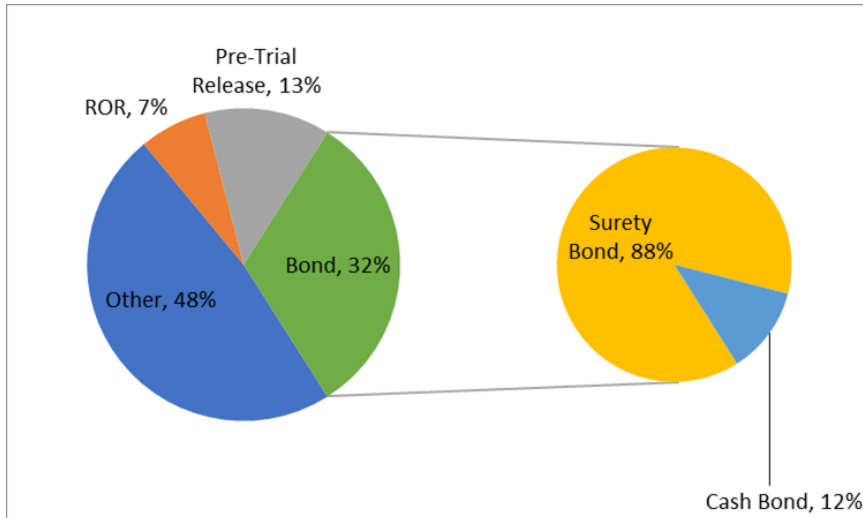
**Figure 13: Days to Release**



## Mechanisms for Release

The single most common mechanism for release is bond, with 32% of inmates released in 2022 released on bond. Bonds can be in the form of either cash bonds or surety bonds. Cash bonds allow an inmate to pay an amount, set by the judge or statute, to facilitate release from jail prior to the resolution of their case.

**Figure 14: Mechanisms for Release**

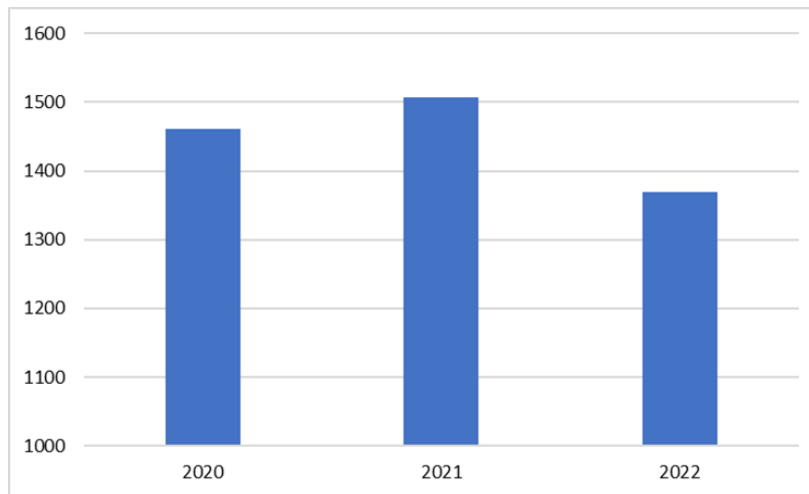


Surety bonds require the inmate to pay an amount set by the judge or by statute, but the payments are processed through a bondsman. Only a percentage of the bond is required to be paid prior to release for a surety bond. Bond allows for inmates to be released prior to their trial, which helps mitigate the size of the jail population.

Pre-trial release also helps to manage the size of the jail population. Pre-trial release staff assess each inmate prior to first appearance to determine whether they would benefit from this type of release. The goal of this program and type of release is to allow offenders to await trial

outside of the jail when there is no concern regarding risk to the community and likelihood of attending trial. Inmates released through pre-trial services often have requirements of release such as no contact with offenders and/or victims, or drug screenings.

**Figure 15: VCDC ADP Trend 2020—2022**



The ADP at VCDC resumed its downward trend in 2022. The staff of VCDC, in coordination with other stakeholders in the justice system work diligently to monitor and manage the jail population in Volusia County, as previously mentioned. Recent years have posed significant challenges to managing the jail population as the entire world dealt with the COVID-19 pandemic. Though the pandemic impacted the jail population as court proceedings and transport slowed, staff of VCDC has worked tirelessly to ensure safe and secure facilities regardless of population challenges.

## Requests for Data

As noted above, the statistics presented in this annual report reflect a sampling of the data that is tracked at VCDC. For clarification of statistics provided, or to request access to VCDC data, contact the County of Volusia Public Information Officer at 386-736-2700.

# Volusia County Division of Corrections

## Department of Public Protection



**Joseph DeMore**

**Director**

### **volusia County Branch Jail**

1300 Red John Drive  
Caller Service Box 2865  
Daytona Beach, FL 32120  
386-254-1555 (Daytona Beach)  
386-736-5918 (DeLand)  
386-423-3370 (New Smyrna Beach)

### **Volusia County Correctional Facility**

1354 N. Indian Lake Road  
Caller Service Box 2865  
Daytona Beach, FL  
386-254-1565 (Daytona Beach)  
386-736-5916 (DeLand)  
386-423-3372 (New Smyrna Beach)

Please visit our website at:

<http://www.volusia.org/services/public-protection/corrections/>