

FY 2026 Budget Memo Question Response Worksheet
(Internal Use Only)

Title	Requestor	Assigned to
NVJDC Staffing Levels	Mayor Gaskins	Khalid Payenda

Question:

How many staff positions are needed at the Northern Virginia Juvenile Detention Center to maintain a standard level of care to meet regulatory requirements at its current capacity? Additionally, how many positions are required to provide the same level of care based on the current utilization rate?

Response:

How many staff positions are needed at the Northern Virginia Juvenile Detention Center to maintain a standard level of care at its current capacity?

To maintain a standard level of care at the Northern Virginia Juvenile Detention Center that complies with the regulatory requirements with its current maximum capacity of 46 beds, a total of 66 staff members are required. This includes 40 direct care and security staff and 26 administrative and support staff.

Additionally, how many positions are required to provide the same level of care based on the current utilization rate?

A total of 52 positions are required to maintain the same standard level of care based on the current utilization rate, which is the number of positions currently filled and funded in the FY 2026 budget. This includes 28 direct care and security staff and 24 administrative and support staff. The current utilization rate is based on an average daily population of 24 local (Alexandria, Arlington, Falls Church) residents.

Utilization	Staffing Required
24 beds (average local residents)	52
46 beds (maximum capacity)	66
24 beds (budgeted capacity)	52

In a December 2024 utilization report to the Commission, NVJDC staff reported an average daily population of 32 juveniles from July through December 2024. The utilization rate percentage by member jurisdictions (Arlington, Alexandria and Falls Church) was an average of 35% (or 16 of 46 beds) during this same period. Beds for juveniles from non-member jurisdictions are paid using a per diem contracted rate. However, the NVJDC per diem rate does not account for the full operating cost of a juvenile stay because the per diem rate does not guarantee a bed, or the necessary staffing that comes with a guaranteed bed.