

Prison Population Projections and Capacity

Fiscal Year End	Prison Population		Prison Capacity*		Difference between Current Projection and SOC	Difference between Current Projection and EOC
	Previous Projection	Current Projection	Standard Operating Capacity (SOC)	Expanded Operating Capacity (EOC)		
2019	36,628	36,128	32,682	38,225	(3,446)	2,097
2020	36,820	36,452	32,682	38,225	(3,770)	1,773
2021	37,115	36,867	32,682	38,225	(4,185)	1,358
2022	37,273	37,231	32,682	38,225	(4,549)	994
2023	37,488	37,433	32,682	38,225	(4,751)	792
2024	37,910	37,702	32,682	38,225	(5,020)	523
2025	38,317	38,039	32,682	38,225	(5,357)	186
2026	38,840	38,377	32,682	38,225	(5,695)	(152)
2027	39,215	38,901	32,682	38,225	(6,219)	(676)
2028	N/A	39,268	32,682	38,225	(6,586)	(1,043)

Source: SPAC, Prison Population Projections: FY 2019 to FY 2028. The prison capacity figures were supplied by Prisons Administration of NC DPS

*While the state's prisons have been operating near Expanded Operating Capacity (EOC) for many years, it should be noted that DPS bases its facility staffing levels on Standard Operating Capacity (SOC), which is the capacity that promotes a safer environment for staff and inmates. In addition, some prison units are not able to achieve full efficiency due to facility age, location, and infrastructure.