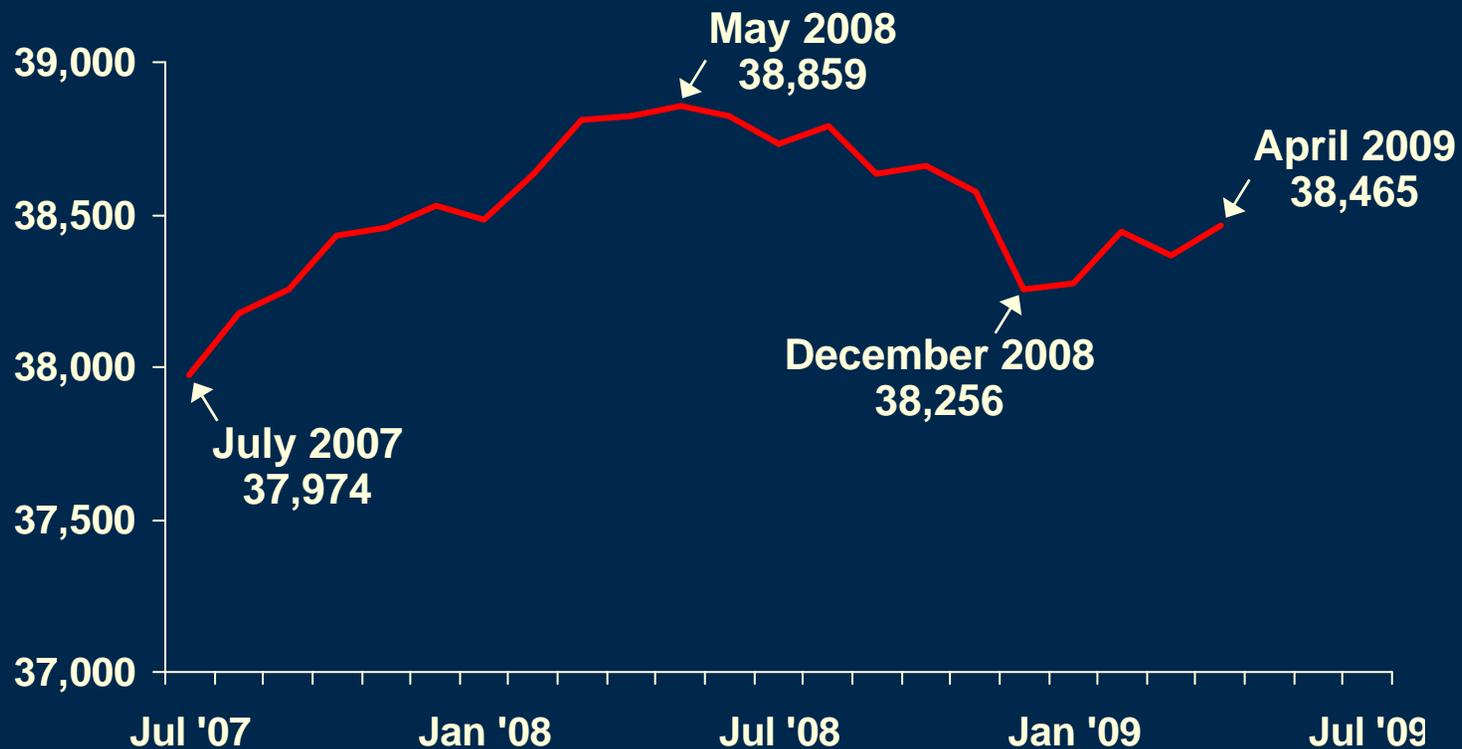




Virginia's Offender Populations

Presentation to the Joint Subcommittee on Public Safety
May 21, 2009

State-Responsible Prison Population FY2008 – FY2009 (through April)

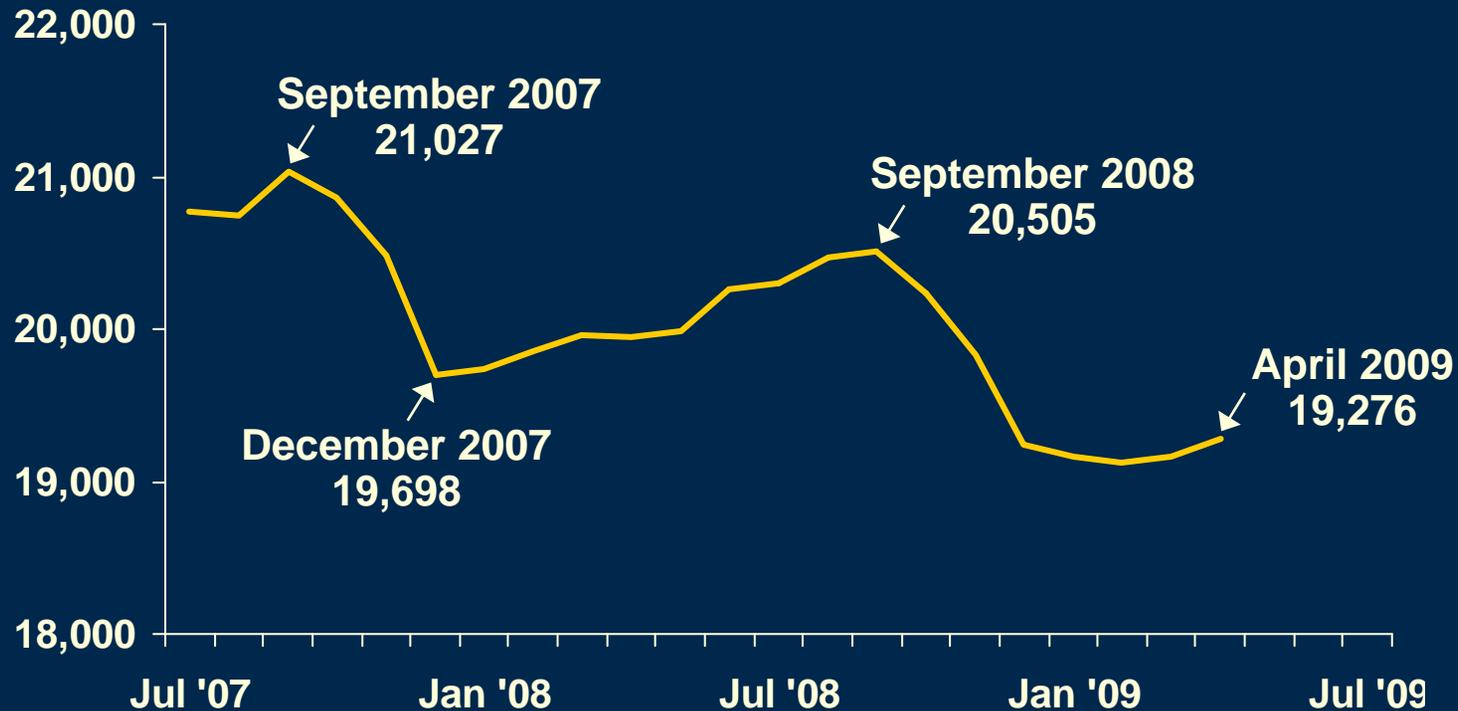


Forecast for June 30, 2009: 39,431
 April 30 population: 38,465

State inmates in jail:

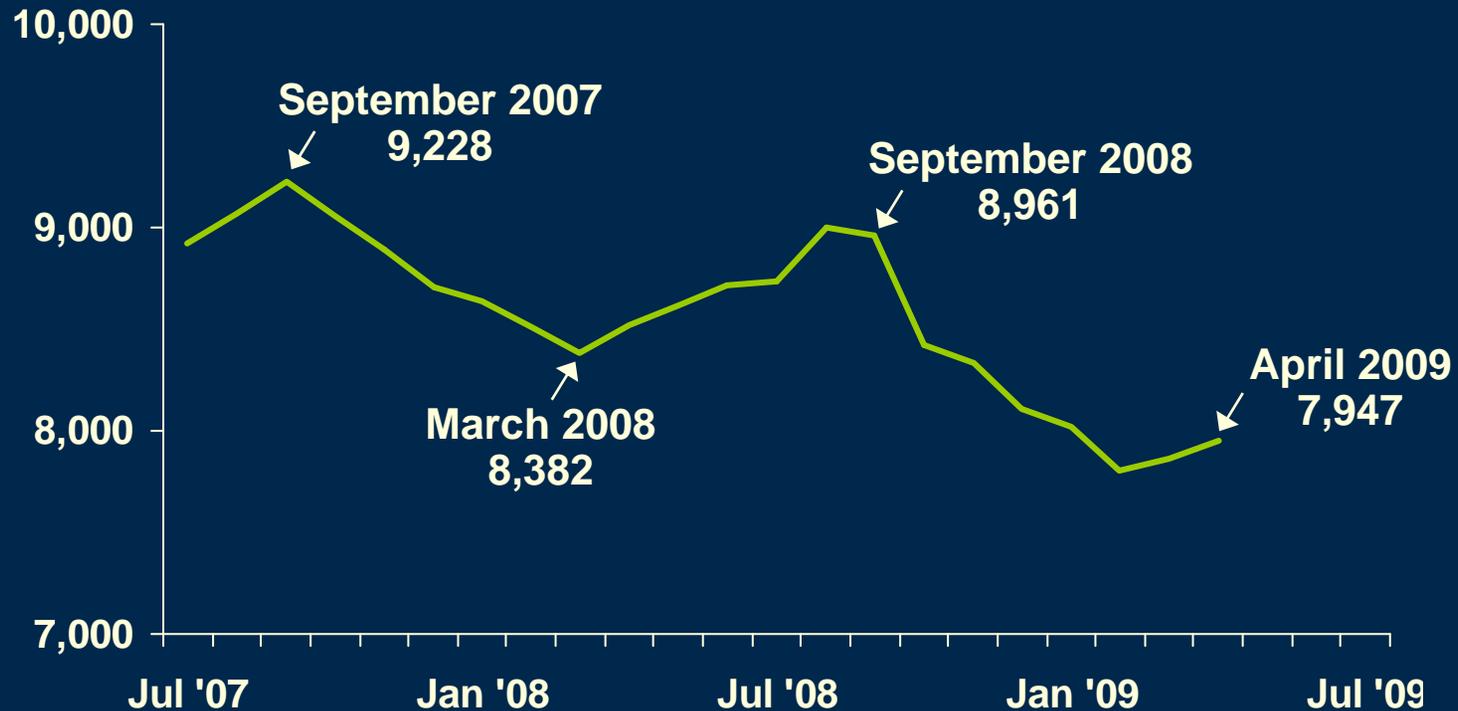
Total number 6,249 (Apr 30, 2009)
 Out-of-compliance 2,578 (May 15, 2009)

Local-Responsible Jail Population FY2008 – FY2009 (through April)



Forecast of average daily population for FY2009: 20,520
Actual YTD average (through April): 19,731

Offenders Awaiting Trial in Jail FY2008 – FY2009 (through April)



Unsentenced offenders awaiting trial account for approximately 43% of the local-responsible jail population.

Factors that may be affecting Virginia's prison and jail populations

- **Backlog of cases for forensic analysis**

The backlog of forensic cases grew dramatically between FY2003 and FY2006.

With additional resources, the Dept. of Forensic Science reduced the backlog by more than 70% by FY2008, alleviating pressure on the awaiting trial population and causing an abnormal shift in jail and prison commitments.

- **Drug offenders**

Third quarter drug arrests in 2008 were nearly 9% below the same period in 2007.

The number of offenders in jail awaiting trial for felony drug charges declined by 26% between December 2006 and December 2008.

Federal data suggest reduced availability of cocaine. The drug war in Mexico appears to be impacting the ability of traffickers to deliver drugs to the U.S.

- **Law enforcement resources**

With tight budgets, police departments may freeze vacancies and reduce paid overtime. This may mean fewer man-hours on patrol and fewer street arrests.

National trends in jail populations

- From June 2007 to June 2008, the nation's jail population increased 0.7%, the smallest annual rate of growth in 27 years.

- Some of the largest jails in the South and Northeast saw declines from June 2007 to June 2008:
 - Charlotte/Mecklenburg Co. - 5%
 - Atlanta/Fulton Co. - 3%
 - New York City - 2%
 - Washington DC - 2%
 - Baltimore + 2%

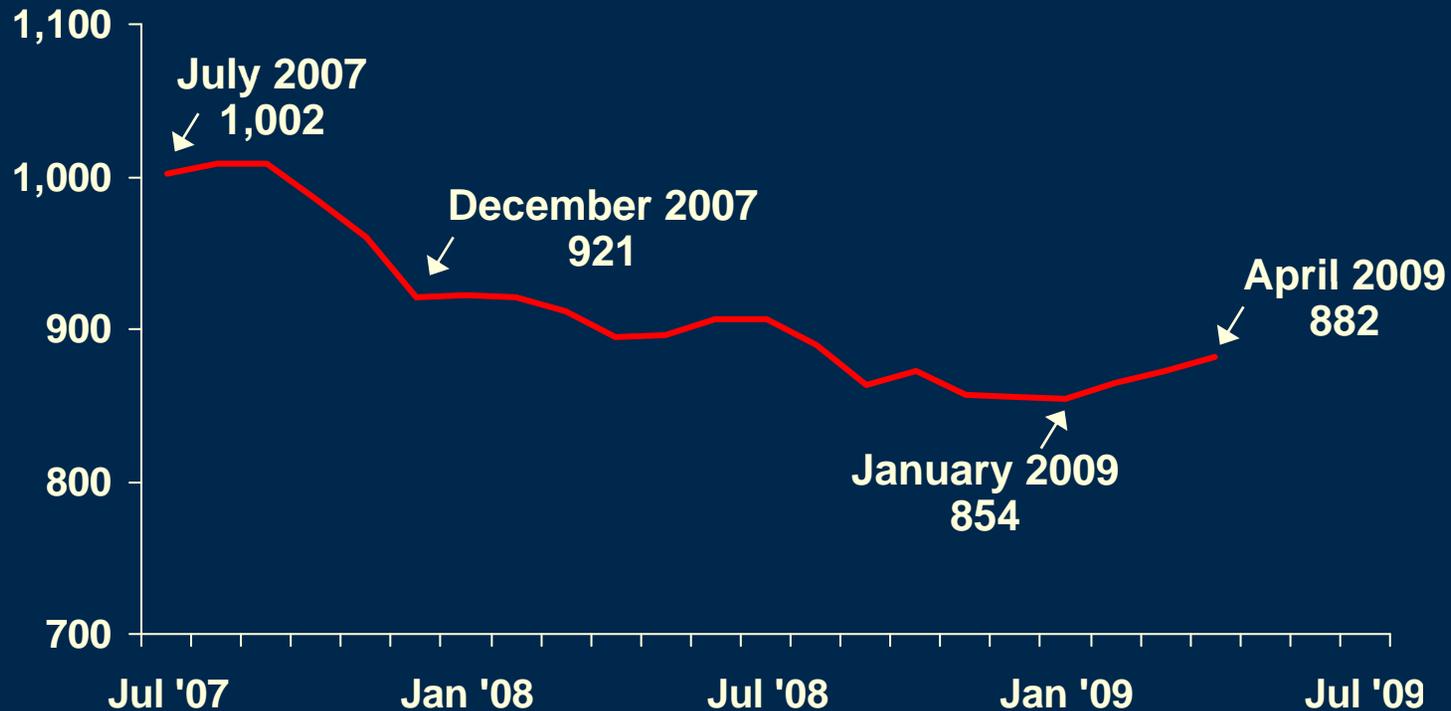
Sources: <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/pub/press/pimjim08stpr.htm>
<http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/pub/pdf/jim08st.pdf>
<http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/pub/pdf/pim08st.pdf>

National trends in prison populations

- From January through June 2008, the nation's prison population increased by 0.8%, compared to 1.6% during the same period in 2007.
- Sixteen states reported decreases in their prison populations from January to June 2008. The rate of growth slowed in 18 other states.
- Some states in the South and Northeast experienced a decline in their prison population from January to June 2008:
 - New York - .7%
 - Maryland - .6%
 - Georgia - .4%
 - North Carolina + 3%

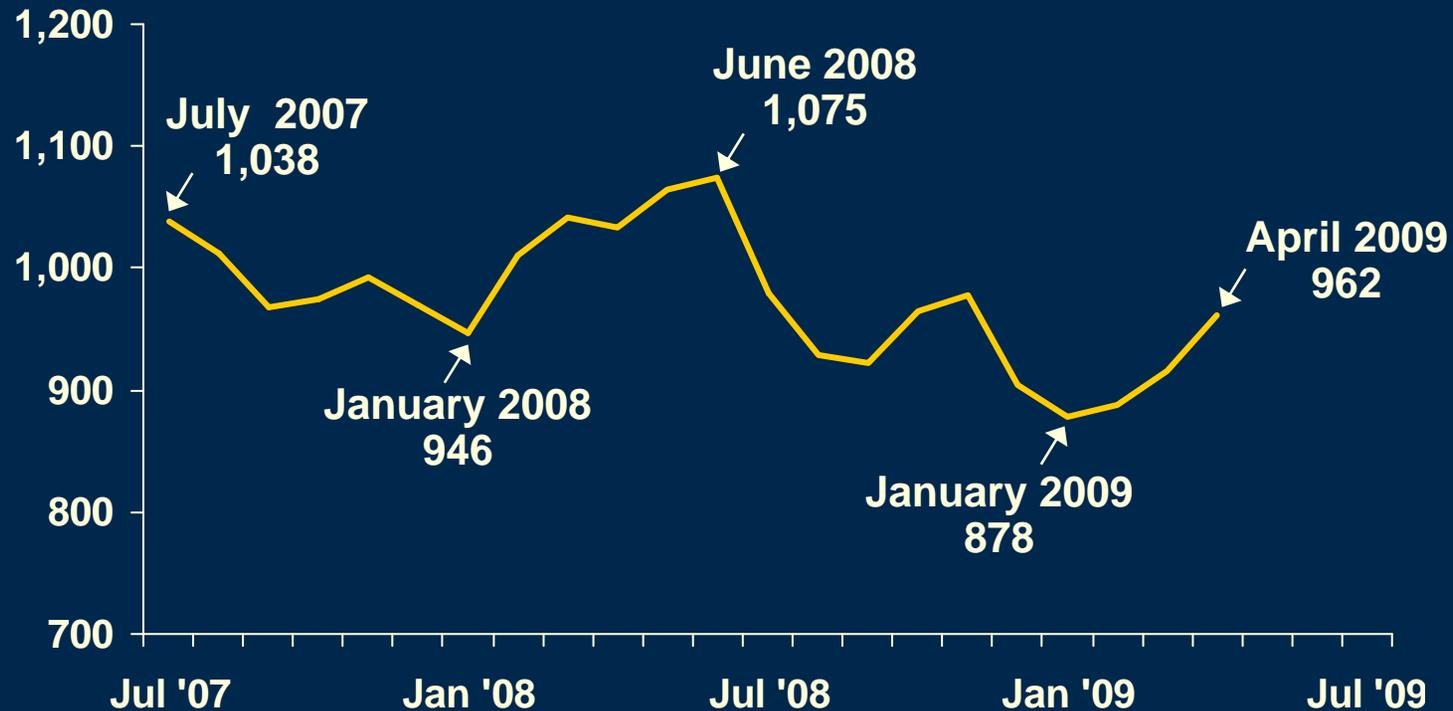
Sources: <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/pub/press/pimjim08stpr.htm>
<http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/pub/pdf/jim08st.pdf>
<http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/pub/pdf/pim08st.pdf>

Juvenile Correctional Center Population FY2008 – FY2009 (through April)



Forecast for June 2009: 847

Juvenile Detention Home Population FY2008 – FY2009 (through April)



Forecast of average daily population for FY2009: 1,000
Actual YTD average (through April): 932

Forecast directive in Appropriation Act

ITEM 381.

Secretary of Public Safety (187)

381. Administrative and Support Services (79900).....
General Management and Direction (79901).....

Fund Sources: General.....

Authority: Title 2.2, Chapter 2, Article 8, and § 2.2-201, Code of Virginia.

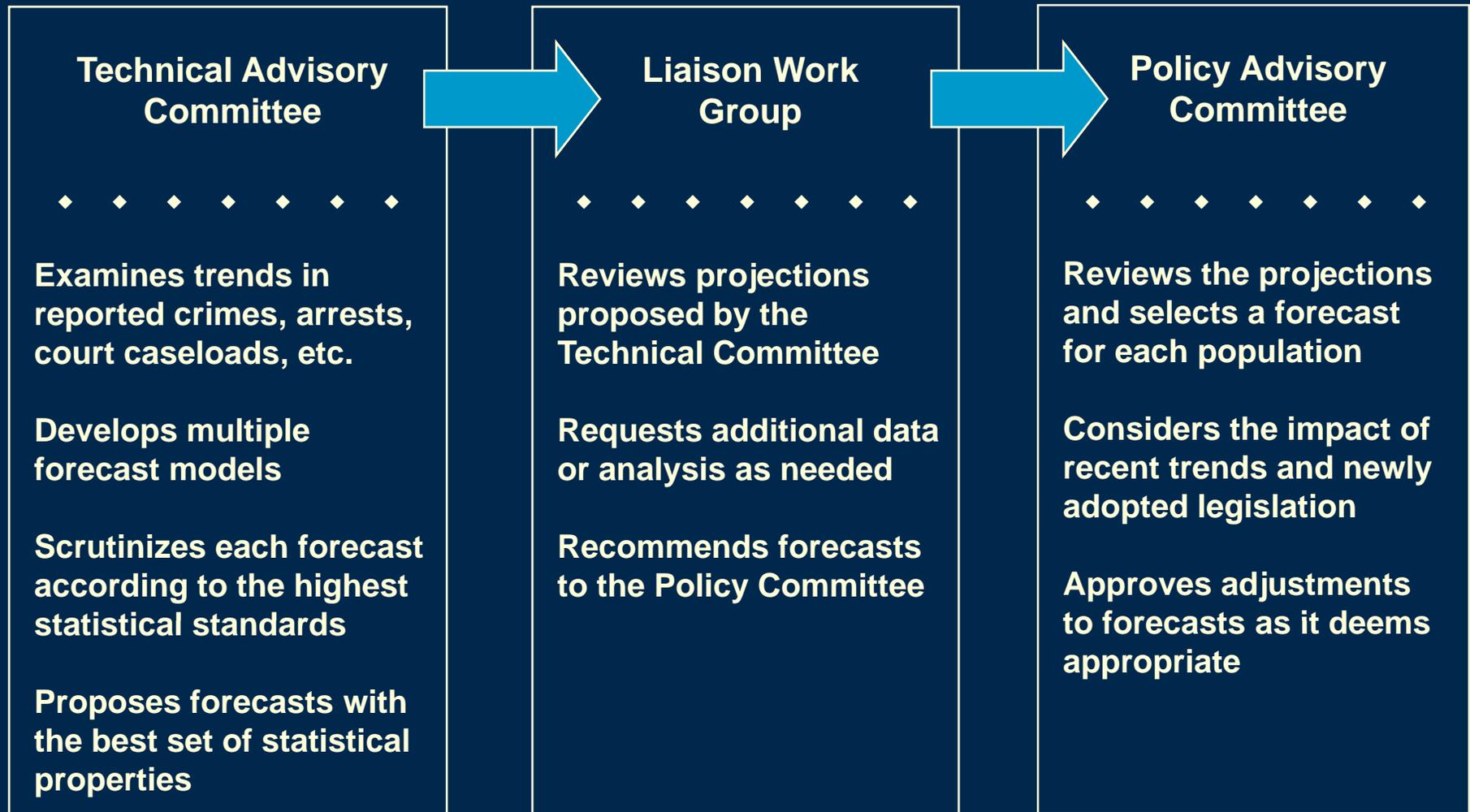
A. The Secretary shall present revised state and local juvenile and state and local responsibility adult offender population forecasts to the Governor, the Chairmen of the House Appropriations and Senate Finance Committees, and the Chairmen of the House and Senate Courts of Justice Committees by October 15, 2008, for each fiscal year through FY 2014 and by October 15, 2009, for each fiscal year through FY 2015. The Secretary shall ensure that the revised forecast for state-responsible adult offenders shall include an estimate of the number of probation violators included each year within the overall population forecast who may be appropriate for alternative sanctions.

Virginia utilizes consensus forecasting

An open, participative process that brings together policy makers, administrators and technical experts from all branches of state government

**Department of Corrections
Department of Juvenile Justice
Department of Criminal Justice Services
Department of Planning & Budget
Compensation Board
Supreme Court of Virginia
Criminal Sentencing Commission
Joint Legislative Audit & Review Commission
Virginia Commonwealth University
Parole Board
State Police
Staff of Senate Finance and House Appropriations
Members of Senate Finance and House Appropriations
Commonwealth's Attorney representative
Sheriff representative
Police Chief representative**

Virginia utilizes consensus forecasting



Forecasting schedule

- **The Technical Advisory Committee will hold its first meeting on May 26 and will work throughout the summer**

 - **The Policy Advisory Committee will meet three times**
 - **August 6**
 - **August 19**
 - **September 15**

 - **Report is due to the General Assembly on October 15**
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