



## 2022 JAIL INFORMATION

Housing Information \* Booking & Charge Statistics \* Jail Incidents  
Inmate Services \* Courts & Transportation Unit  
Community Work Program \* Medical Unit  
Financial Reporting \* Jail Staffing \* Jail Needs/Maintenance  
Operational Improvements

IC 36-2-13-12. Sec. 12.

**(b) The Sheriff shall file with the county executive an annual report of the condition of the county jail and any recommended improvements in its maintenance and operation. The report shall also be filed with the county auditor and maintained as public record.**

As added by Acts 1980. P.L. 212. SEC. 1.

## HOUSING INFORMATION

1. The rated capacity of the LaPorte County Jail is 368 beds.
  - a. The jail inmate population was over 368 for 21 days in 2022.
  - b. The average daily inmate population count was 334 in 2022.
  - c. The highest one-day population of inmates was 387 / lowest was 294 in 2022.

## BOOKING STATISTICS

	Number	Percentage
Total Detainees	4010	100.00%
Adult Males	3009	75.04%
Juvenile Males	0	0.00%
Adult Females	1001	24.96%
Juvenile Females	0	0.00%
Adult Unknown	0	0.00%
Juvenile Unknown	0	0.00%

### **Population Origin (Based on Billing)**

Parole Hold – DOC	3	0.07%
IN Dept of Correction	81	2.02%
HEA 1006 – DOC F6 Felons	1	0.03%
United States Marshal	1	0.03%
Other Agencies	23	0.57%

### **Percentage of Population by Race or Ethnic Origin**

White Male	1737	43.32%
White Female	645	16.08%
African American Male	1002	24.99%
African American Female	298	7.43%
Hispanic Male	233	5.81%
Hispanic Female	51	1.27%
Native American Male	6	0.15%
Native American Female	1	0.03%
Indian Male	6	0.15%
Asian Male	8	0.20%
Asian Female	2	0.05%
Unknown Male	17	0.42%
Unknown Female	4	0.10%

**Total Number of New Admissions/Releases**

Admissions	4010
Releases	4004

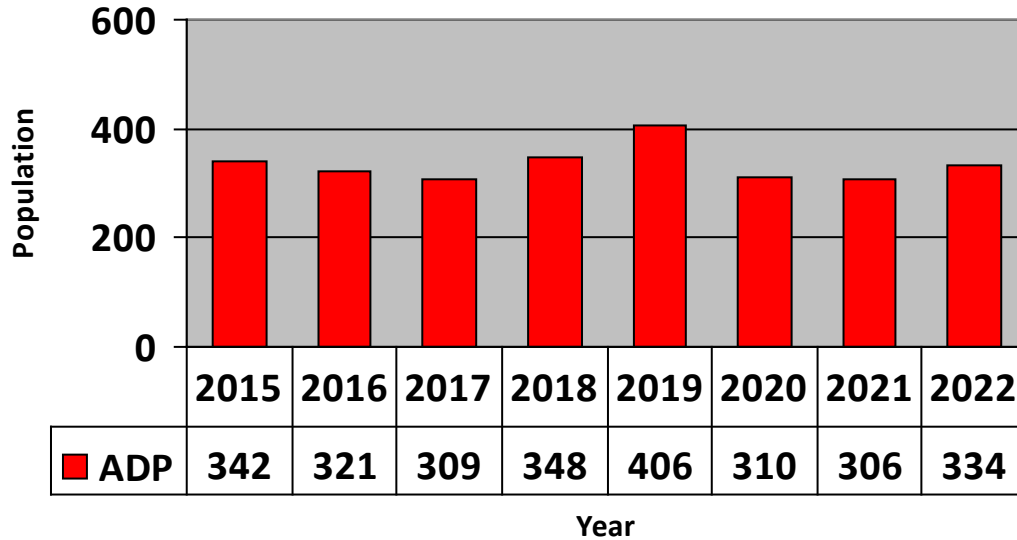
**Top Ten Offenses**

OFFENSE DESCRIPTION	COUNT
FAILURE TO APPEAR	791
REVOC/SUSP/SENT	741
OPER WHILE INTOX – MISD.	540
WANTED OTHER DEPT.	493
DOMESTIC BATTERY (F)	266
OWI ENDANGERING A PERSON (M)	214
RESISTING LAW ENFORCEMENT (M)	203
DOMESTIC BATTERY (M)	176
POSS. OF MARIJUANA	154
POSS. OF METH (F)	153

**AVERAGE DAILY POPULATION**

Year	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Average Daily Inmate Population	342	321	309	348	406	310	306	334
Increase/Decrease Since Prior Year		-21	-12	+39	+58	-96	-4	+28
Percent Increase/Decrease Since Prior Year		-6.14%	-3.74%	+12.62%	+16.67%	-27.59%	-1.29%	+9.15%
Increase/Decrease Since 2015		-21	-33	+6	+64	-32	-36	-8
Annual Percent Increase/Decrease Since 2015		-6.14%	-9.65%	+1.75%	+18.71%	-9.36%	-10.53%	-2.34%

## Average Daily Population 2015-2022



## JAIL IN-CUSTODY DEATHS

In 2022, the La Porte County Jail had one (1) in-custody related death. On June 19, 2022, an inmate was found unconscious within the jail. Dr. John D. Feczko determined the cause of the inmate's death was a natural death caused by cardiac arrhythmia secondary to cardiomegaly and hypertensive heart disease with pneumonia. The in-custody death was investigated by the La Porte County Sheriff's Office Detective Bureau.

## MAJOR DISTURBANCES

There were no major disturbances in 2022.

## NUMBER OF ESCAPES

There was one escape on May 10, 2022. The subject was located within hours and subsequently charged.

## JUVENILES BOOKED INTO JAIL

Males	0
Females	0

# INMATE SERVICES

## La Porte County Jail Programs and Services

The following are Programs and Services offered at the La Porte County Jail to assist with enhancing one's character and lifestyle. These programs are monitored and coordinated by the Director of Treatment Services. These programs are facilitated by community volunteers that have been cleared through the County's screening system and have a desire to support those struggling with various interpersonal issues. These programs were suspended in March 2020 due to the pandemic but resumed in May 2022.

- **Substance Abuse Class:** This program is for court-ordered females and males. This class is a collaborative effort sponsored by the La Porte County Judicial System and La Porte County Sheriff's Department. It is a 28-day, 56-session in-house closed treatment program facilitated by an addiction counselor of Swanson Center Community Mental Health Center. This class is the first of the three-phase intensive substance abuse classes offered by Swanson Center. Successful completion of this on-site class constitutes a court order to complete the outpatient phases two and three of the class. The class requires a \$100.00 evaluation fee using the Indiana Assessment and Needs Survey. Once evaluated, and if they meet the criteria for the class they are ordered to pay a \$450.00 fee for the class and material. The court determines if any referrals are indigent, and fees may need to be waived.
- **AA/NA Groups:** This is an open-ended group offered to both men and women who have not been court-ordered to the Substance Abuse class that are struggling with addiction. This is a voluntary class facilitated by volunteers from the YANA Club.
- **Counseling:** This is a service that is offered upon request to detainees needing brief solution-focused interventions to manage their moods and thoughts. This service is conducted by the on-site Treatment Services Director and any Master-level interns.
- **Foundations of Successful Living:** This is an open-ended 12-week class for both males and females facilitated by one of our volunteer Pastors. Several different topics are studied, processed, and outlined as it relates to positive communication, healthier relationships, life goals, and breaking negative generational cycles.
- **La Porte Literacy Coalition:** This service provides numerous spiritual, inspirational, self-help books, and material on a bi-monthly basis to all detainees. This service is provided on a volunteer basis by the La Porte Ministerial Association.
- **Moral Recognition Therapy (MRT) Class:** This is an open 10-week systematic class that focuses on changing beliefs, behaviors, and habits related to substance abuse and re-entering back into society. The class and material are facilitated by a certified instructor volunteer through a self-help treatment grant funded by La Porte County Drug Free Partnership.

- **Spiritual Consultation:** This service provides non-denominational and denominational individual sessions focusing on supporting the inner spirituality. This service is offered upon request of the detainee.
- **Women’s Character Studies:** This is an open-ended mentoring group facilitated by the certified MRT facilitator to assist women with defining their character, morals, values, how to improve them, and practice them.

## **COURTS AND TRANSPORTATION DIVISION**

The Courts and Transportation Division is tasked with transporting inmates to and from court, sometimes transporting inmates to and from the Indiana Department of Correction (DOC) and other facilities, administering video arraignments, performing applicant investigations for potential employees, administering the Disciplinary Hearing Board per Indiana Adult Disciplinary statutes, and serving arrest warrants. The unit services all five (5) courts in LaPorte County; three (3) of which are located in Michigan City.

During the pandemic, all the court operations were conducted by video, Zoom meetings or telephonically within the facility. We are still utilizing virtual hearings as it has proven to be a helpful solution to minimizing inmate movement.

The unit stats for 2022:

### **TRANSPORTATION**

1. Transported a total of 409 inmates to court.
2. Administered video arraignment for 6,153 inmates.
3. Traveled 13,275.50 total miles for other related transports (DOC, other county jails, etc.)

### **DISCIPLINARY HEARING BOARD**

1. The Disciplinary Hearing Board heard approximately 304 hearings in 2022.

### **WARRANT SERVICE**

1. The Division served a total of 413 arrests warrants during 2022.

## **COMMUNITY WORK PROGRAM (CWP)**

The Community Work Program was supervised in 2022 by Administrative Deputy Jim Jackson. The program is normally manned by 1 – 2 inmates daily. Due to the pandemic, providing inmate workers to the CWP program was suspended to keep the inmates safe. Various tasks are performed in the community for the following not-for-profit organizations (this is not an all-conclusive list):

- La Porte County Fair
- La Porte Jaycees
- La Porte County Parks Department
- La Porte City Parks Department
- La Porte County Highway Department
- La Porte County Offices
- Low “Waterford” Cemetery
- La Porte County Sheriff’s Office Firearms Training Range
- American Red Cross
- La Porte County Sheriff’s Garage
- La Porte County Solid Waste Program
- Kingsford Heights & Kingsbury VFD
- Steady Stitchers/Dunebrook
- Food Pantry Program at Lewis Bakery
- Snow Removal
  - Around County Complex
  - For senior citizens when requested
- La Porte County 4-H
- La Porte County Home
- La Porte County Building Maintenance
- La Porte County Sheriff’s Office K-9 Training Area
- La Porte County Fair Board
- Michigan City Park Department
- Michigan City Salvation Army
- Bethany Lutheran Church Red, Wine & Brew Fest

A total of 1,795 hours were worked by Administrative Jail Deputy Jackson in 2022 due to inmate workers not being allowed out of the Jail due to COVID. Deputy Jackson has taken on many projects for the community, including: a roadside cleanup for Earth Day, removal of the condemned Grandstand bleachers at the La Porte County Fairgrounds, and daily trash removal from the Jail Division to help lighten the load for the officers. Deputy Jackson’s willingness to help his fellow County employees does not go unnoticed.

## **MEDICAL UNIT**

All jails and correctional facilities are required by law to provide medical care to inmates, even for pre-existing conditions. In May 2019, La Porte County entered into a contract with Quality Correctional Care (QCC). As part of this new contract, QCC provides 24/7 nursing coverage to the La Porte County Jail. The upfront expense alleviates litigation expenses in the end. Coming in to our third year in contract, we have seen the benefits. Additionally, all legal avenues are being used by the medical unit to defray the cost to the taxpayers of this medical care. These avenues include:

- claims filed with the inmate’s health insurance company (when available),
- claims filed with Medicaid/HIP (when applicable),
- reimbursement from the Department of Correction (when applicable),

- \$15.00 per visit fee for being examined by the doctor,
- \$15.00 fee for prescription medications,
- \$5.00 for over-the-counter medications,
- \$15.00 fee for unnecessary requests to see a nurse,
- \$15.00 fee to see the dentist.

Following are the approximate medical costs for the years 2019 - 2022 for providing medical care to the inmates:

Year	2019	2020	2021	2022
Medical Costs	\$899,287	\$954,133	\$950,586	\$1,014,142

### **DEPOSITS TO GENERAL FUND**

A total of \$135,228.01 was deposited to the general fund in 2022. The breakdown is as follows:

	Billed	Collected
Housing DOC Inmates	\$124,725.00	\$119,662.50
Inmate Medical Co-Pays	\$26,158.41	\$12,523.24
Restitution by Inmates for Damaging Jail Property	\$18,310.59	\$3,042.27
Total	\$169,194.00	<b>\$135,228.01</b>

### **JAIL STAFFING**

Seventy-two (72) employees comprise the staff of the LaPorte County Jail. Staffing assignments are as follows:

- |                                   |    |
|-----------------------------------|----|
| 1. Administrative                 | 4  |
| 2. Operations                     | 54 |
| 3. Inmate Classification          | 1  |
| 4. Medical Deputy                 | 1  |
| 5. Utility Deputies               | 2  |
| 6. Community Work Program         | 1  |
| 7. Director of Treatment Services | 1  |
| 8. Courts and Transportation      | 7  |
| 9. Information Technology         | 1  |



## **Shift Operations**

In 2022, the Jail Staff operated quite well given the circumstances. The pandemic continued to cause staffing issues while we had employees testing positive. The result was that \$231,358.71 were spent in overtime monies. This amount was an increase of \$62,261.67 from the previous year. A total of twenty (20) new employees were hired. In addition, some of the overtime costs were created by medical emergencies, illnesses, FMLA and inmate transports. Some of the vacancies were caused by Jail Deputies being hired by the La Porte County Sheriff's Office as a Merit Deputy or by other agencies as a law enforcement officer. This demonstrates that the La Porte County Jail continues to provide training and quality performance that prepares our deputies for career advancement. Other vacancies were created by Jail Deputies who resigned for various reasons.

## **Medical Unit**

A Jail Deputy is assigned to the Medical Unit to provide additional security and conduct medical relate transports.

In June 2022, we contracted with a new dental provider, Mid America Health, Inc. This was a result of Dr. Carter's retirement. We were in contract with him for over 30 years.

## **Inmate Classification**

The La Porte County Sheriff's Office is responsible for the housing and supervision of inmates in the Jail.

The Jail currently has one (1) Jail Deputy that performs classification duties full-time. As of October 2019, a Classification Team was organized and trained. Booking Jail Deputies are also trained in classification for initial inmate placement upon book in. This helps keep the holding cells in Processing clear for new intakes. Currently our team consists of eight (8) deputies amongst the ranks.

Inmate classification is a huge issue in corrections. The purpose of classification is to recognize inmates that can be housed together versus those who cannot. The principal is to keep the predators separated from the prey. The system works quite well in preventing inmate problems such as fights, extortion, rapes, etc.

Classification in 2022 returned to somewhat pre-COVID operations. We maintained a screening process; however, we now have designated one male quarantine block and one female quarantine block. This decision was made collectively with our Medical Team and CDC guidelines to institute a 5-day quarantine before a move to general population. We have learned from 2020 that a quarantine block is useful not only to prevent the spread of COVID but to prevent other diseases from spreading throughout general population as well.

## **TRAINING**

In 2022, the employees of the Jail Division received 5,354.25 hours of training. This number equates to an average of 66.93 hours of training received per employee. The state-minimum requirement for annual training hours is 16. A total of twenty (20) new jail employees were hired in 2022, five of which were re-hires. The new employees received a total of 2,560 hours of training prior to working a duty assignment by themselves. This number equates to an average of 170.67 hours of training received per new employee. The state-minimum requirement for new officer on-the-job training hours prior to working a post on their own is 80.

## **JAIL KITCHEN**

The overall cost in 2022 was \$554,338.03, continuing our cost savings of over \$200,000 per year. In addition to the meals that are prepared and provided to the inmates in the Jail, the Kitchen staff is also responsible for providing meals for La Porte County Community Corrections.

In 2022, a total of 27,737 meals were prepared for La Porte County Community Corrections. In 2022, a total of 361,155 meals were prepared for inmates being held in the La Porte County Jail. Thus, a total of 388,892 inmate meals were prepared in 2022 by the Tiger Kitchen staff.

## **JAIL NEEDS/MAINTENANCE**

The Maintenance Department took on many projects throughout the Jail during 2022. A team of maintenance employees are assigned to address matters that arise in the jail. This greatly assists with the maintenance demands of the jail and addressing them in a timely fashion.

1. In 2022, there were 200 work orders submitted for repairs within the jail.
2. HVAC, Plumbing and electrical issues as well as elevators and electronic communication devices will always be an ongoing problem as long as we are in this building. A linear facility design would alleviate a lot of the mechanical issues.
3. As a result of our escape, we worked with Maintenance to rectify some security breaches that were identified as a result of that investigation. We also have emphasized diligence in inspections while conducting security checks with our staff.

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## **OPERATIONAL IMPROVEMENTS**

On January 1, 2022, an updated Jail Division Standard Operating Guidelines manual was issued to all employees. This process took many years to complete; the last manual was issued in 2010. Regular reviews and updates will help keep the manual up to date with current standards.

Security Automation Systems (SAS) completed the installation of the new integrator and camera system. The process was successful, and our staff was highly complimented for their willingness and patience during the transition. Overall, it only took approximately four weeks to fully install the equipment which minimized the time staff had to use keys to operate the facility. We have been very satisfied with the new system.

Since the addition of inmate tablets in 2021, we identified a need for in-cellblock charging stations. A design was developed with safety and security in mind, and subsequently was approved and provided by Securus at no cost to the Sheriff's Office or taxpayers. Thus far we have noticed both inmates and employees benefiting from this addition.

Although we enacted a Use of Force review committee in 2019, we increased the frequency with which the reviews were done. The committee is continuously reviewing every use of force incident. The results are compounding as we provide constructive feedback to our staff as well as minimizing the risk of litigation.

Diversity training has been a mandated training since 2019. We feel we are creating a more well-trained staff by doing so as well as creating a positive work environment.

One of our overall goals is to continue to support our staff. In 2022, we maintained a full staff by budget. Twenty (20) new deputies were hired to replace those who left the Jail Division. The law enforcement climate may not have popularity in places of our country, and we have seen some of that locally. However, we still maintain a full staff and have a hiring list at the end of 2022.

In late 2022, the Sheriff's Office Administration advocated for a substantial increase in salaries for Merit and Jail Deputies. As a result of the Public Safety LIT tax approved by the County Council, they were able to collaborate with the County Council to provide the largest pay raise our department has seen. We are grateful for their efforts and support and have noticed a boost in morale amongst the staff.

Our goals for 2023 are broadening the classification team, implement social media training/policy, and to automate several paper processes to bring the Jail into the technology age.

Respectfully Submitted,



Ronald C. Hoeg  
LaPorte County Sheriff



Captain Andrew Hahn  
Jail Commander

Cc:  
Circuit Court Judge  
State Jail Inspector  
La Porte County Commissioner President  
La Porte County Council President  
La Porte County Prosecutor  
La Porte County Auditor  
File