

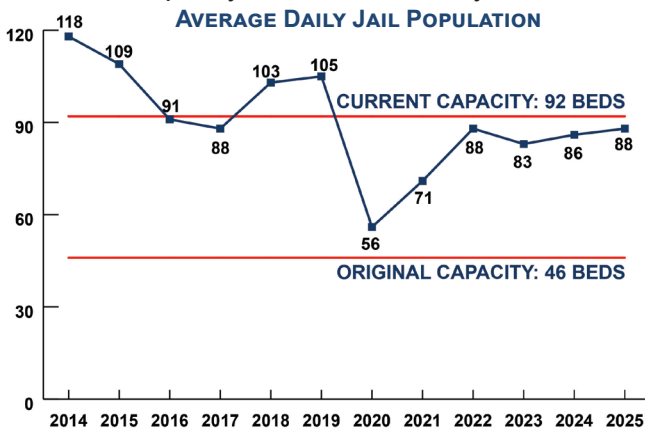


JOHNSON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE & JAIL BOND MEASURE 2026

Johnson County is proposing a \$94.5 million General Obligation (GO) bond to construct a new Sheriff's Office and Jail facility. The project replaces aging infrastructure to improve safety, modernize public safety services, and reduce long-term cost.

The Current Facility (Built in 1981) is Over Capacity

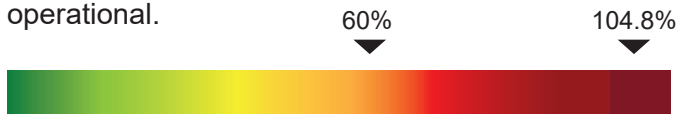
Johnson County's current jail has exceeded its functional capacity for more than 30 years.



The Sheriff's Office and Jail was **designed for 50** employees but is currently **used by over 100** staff.

At the End of Its Useful Life

A 2022 Facility Condition Assessment rated the Johnson County Jail at 104.8% on the Facility Condition Index (FCI). An FCI above 60% is considered "Very Poor," indicating the facility requires substantial repairs and reinvestment to remain operational.



No Longer Meets Standards

- Nine housing units are undersized.
- Current layout limits safe separation of inmates.
- One small medical exam room.
- ADA deficiencies identified.
- Limited space for treatment, visitation, and reentry programs.

Source: Iowa Administrative Code, Chapter 50

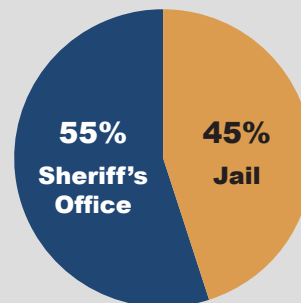
Creating Additional Costs

It costs ~\$62/day per inmate to house out of county. Johnson County has spent \$16.6M on housing inmates out of county from 2001-2025.

What is the Proposal?

"A modern public safety facility combines law enforcement operations, and correctional services, with spaces for medical and mental health support, rehabilitation programming, and community-facing services into one efficient campus."

– Sheriff Brad Kunkel



Sheriff's Office & Law Enforcement

64,770 square feet
(55% of operational space)

Jail

53,730 square feet
(45% of operational space)

The facility is designed to accommodate up to 140 beds, with no more than 120 operational at opening.

A new facility is needed to provide a safe, secure, and functional environment that meets modern standards and supports the well-being of inmates, staff, and the public.



Review the Research

Find further jail statistics and studies on the [County's website](#).

Facility Need	Current	New
Meets Iowa Jail Standards	X	✓
ADA Accessible	Deficiencies Identified	✓
Adequate Housing & Classification	X	✓
Dedicated Medical & Behavioral Health Space	One small exam room	✓
Programming & Reentry Space	X	✓
Secure Attorney & Family Visitation Area	X	✓
Designed for Efficient Staff Supervision	X	✓
Modern Intake & Release Area	X	✓
Adequate Food Service Capacity	At Capacity	✓
Evidence & Investigation Space	Limited	✓
Records & Civil Divisions	X	✓
Staff Exercise & Wellness	X	✓
Training & Public Safety Collaboration	Limited	✓
Sustainable & Resilient Building Design	X	✓

Estimated Tax Impact



\$100,000 Home Taxable Value
 \$88 per year
 \$7.33 per month



Calculate Your Tax Impact

Use the online [Tax Impact Calculator](#) to estimate the annual and monthly impact for your property.

Why Property Taxes?

Under Iowa law, property taxes are the primary funding mechanism available to counties for major public safety infrastructure projects such as sheriff's offices and jails. This approach:

- Provides a dedicated funding source for essential public facilities.
- Allows costs to be spread over time, rather than requiring the full cost to be paid up front.
- Provides lower borrowing costs than many alternative financing methods.
- Keeps decisions local, requiring voter approval before bonds can be issued.
- Ensures the people who benefit from county services help support them.

Timeline

Johnson County's proposed Sheriff's Office and Jail Facility is the result of years of study, planning, and public engagement.



VOTE ON NOVEMBER 3, 2026 BALLOT QUESTION

Shall the County of Johnson, State of Iowa, issue its general obligation bonds in an amount not exceeding the amount of \$94,500,000 for the purpose of acquiring land and constructing, equipping and furnishing a new sheriff's office and jail facility?

A successful bond requires at least 60% voter approval.

LEARN MORE: <https://www.johnsoncountyjailbond.com>