

# LAW, PUBLIC SAFETY, CORRECTIONS, AND SECURITY

## ANALYZING EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT & EARNING DATA

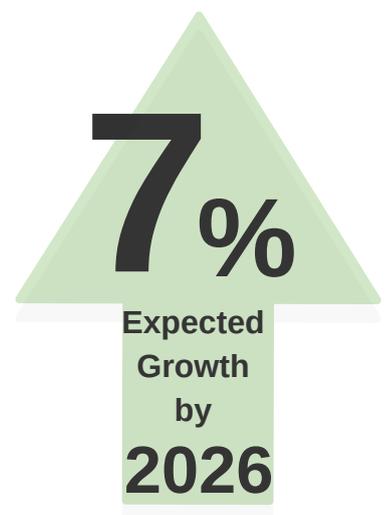


This analysis of the Law, Public Safety, Corrections, & Security cluster in the Commonwealth highlights important information for each of its career pathways—Correction Services; Emergency and Fire Management Services; Law Enforcement Services; Legal Services; and Security and Protective Services. Data and analysis relied on the most recent employment projections for 2026 developed by the Virginia Employment Commission in 2018. The short- and long-term impact of the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic is not and cannot be incorporated. Nonetheless, the analysis presents a possible outlook if all employment sectors quickly recover six years from now from current economic downturns as a result of the pandemic.



### What trends do we currently see? What trends may we anticipate?

- Seven percent employment growth is expected for the Law, Public Safety, Corrections, & Security cluster in Virginia through 2026.
- In 2016, the Security and Protective Services pathway employed the greatest number of people within the cluster (39,683). However, the Emergency and Fire Management Services pathway is projected to experience the highest percentage of job growth (12%) of all pathways in the cluster through 2026.
- The two occupations in this cluster that are expected to see more than 15% job growth by 2026 are Emergency Medical Technicians and Paramedics (20% growth, 1,037 new positions, 437 annual job openings), and Forensic Science Technicians (19% growth, 132 new positions, 100 annual job openings).
- In 2016, nearly forty-one percent of law, public safety, corrections, and security science occupations in Virginia were located in Northern Virginia. Between 2016 and 2026, the growth rate for these occupations tends to be higher than the state average in Northern Virginia, Greater Peninsula, Hampton Roads, Western Virginia, and Region 2000/Central Virginia.





## EDUCATION

Figure 1 shows the predominant level of education and training in each pathway. Education data was determined by Trailblazers based on U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics occupational education and training data. The percentages in the graph below reflect the number of occupations, not the number of workers. For example, the Correction Services pathway consists of three occupations: Two of them require an associate degree or some college with training/certification/work experience (67%), and one requires a bachelor's degree or more with training/certification (33%).

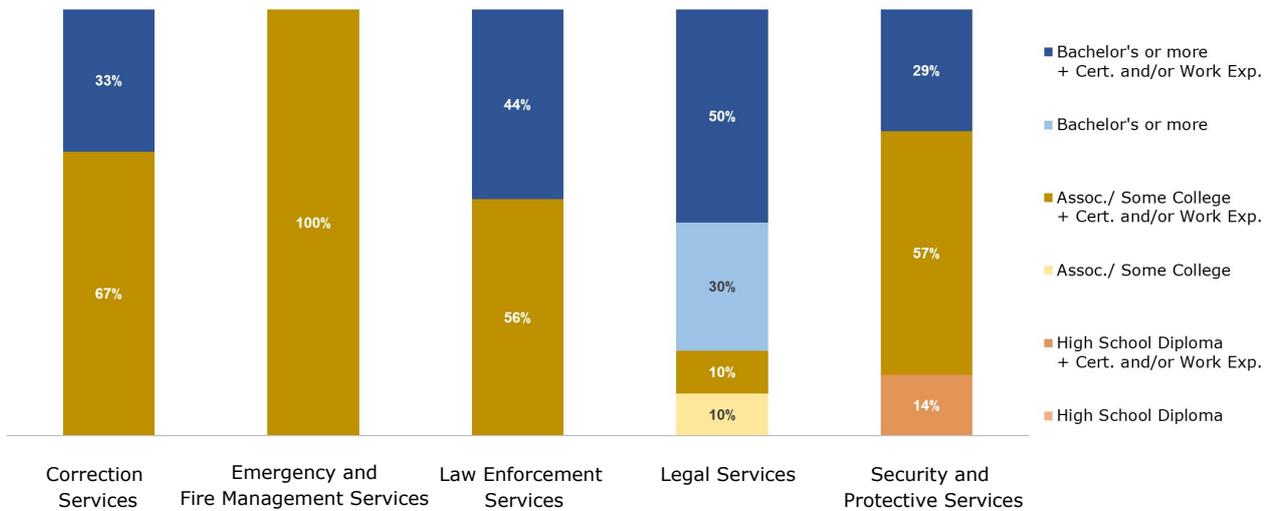


Figure 1: Predominant Education Level for Law, Public Safety, Corrections, & Security, 2016-2026



## EMPLOYMENT

Figure 2 compares the estimated 2016 employment for each pathway to projected 2026 employment levels. Data are provided by the Virginia Employment Commission.

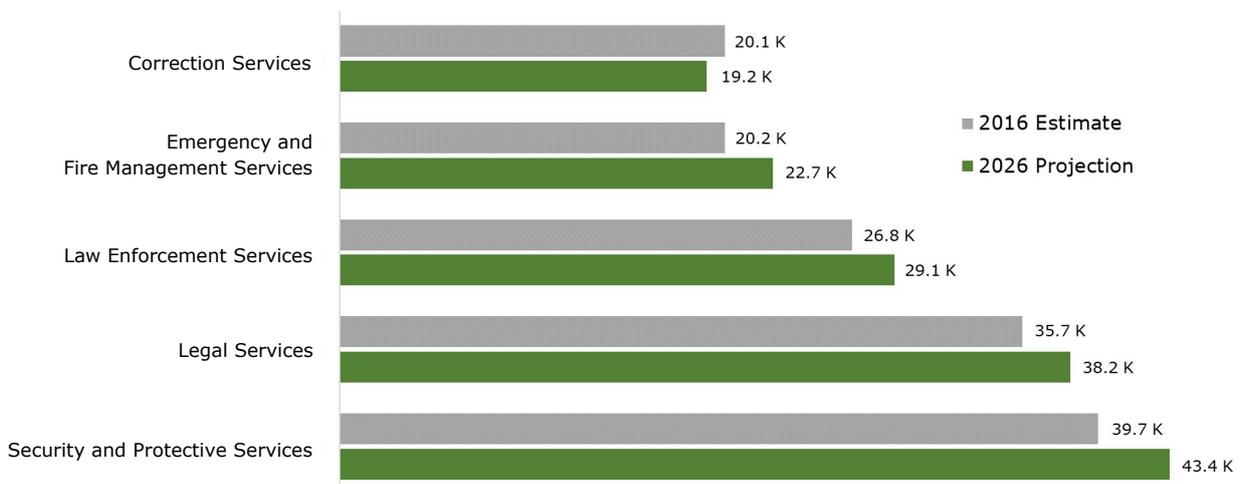


Figure 2: Employment in Virginia for the Law, Public Safety, Corrections, & Security Cluster, 2016-2026

## EARNING AND GROWTH

Figure 3 presents the size and median wages of the occupations in selected pathways with the highest projected percentage of growth. Wage data are provided by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics Occupational Employment Statistics program.

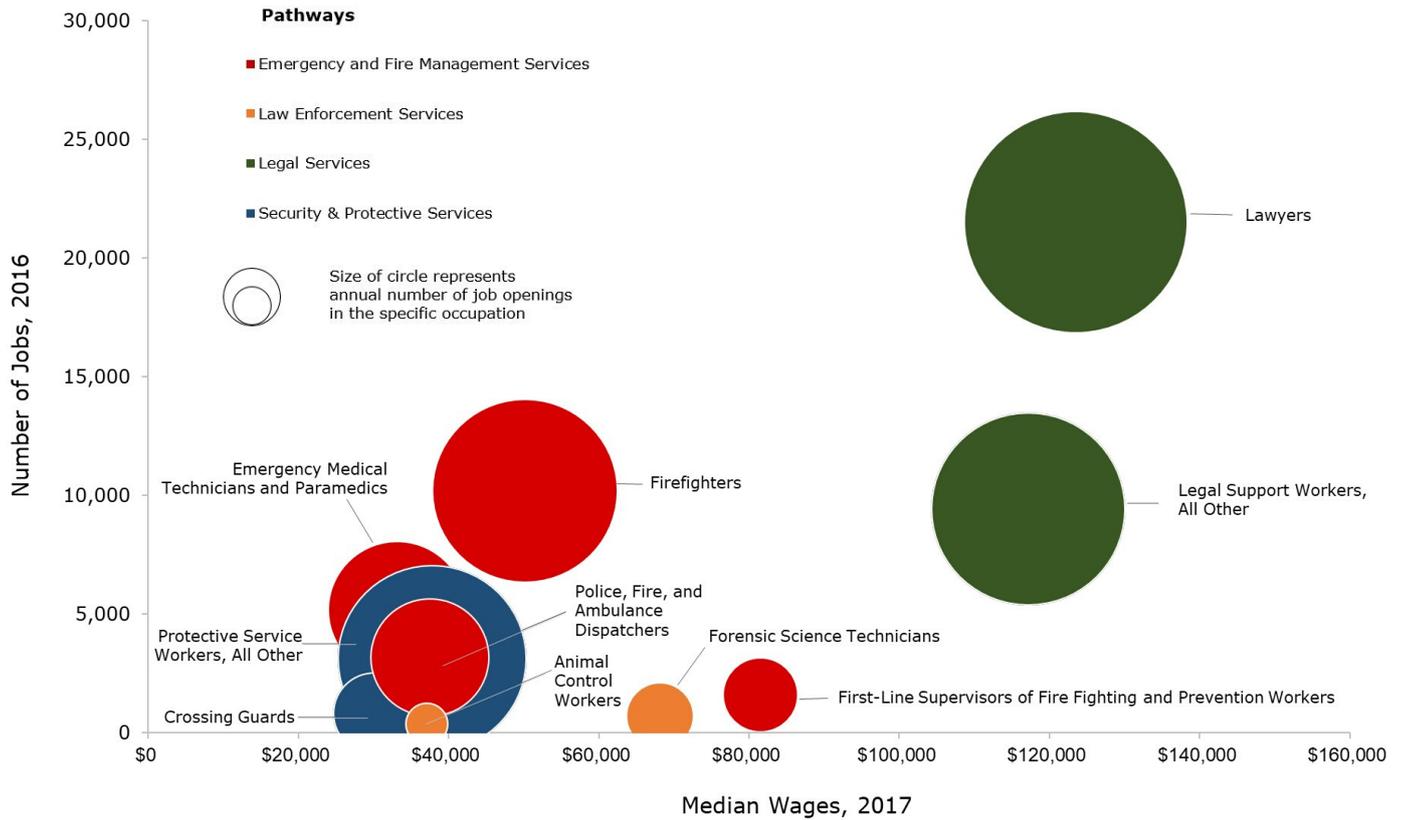


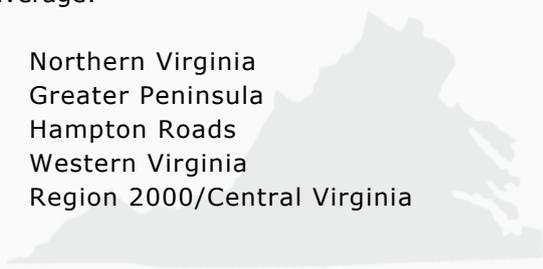
Figure 3: Earning and Growth for Selected Occupations in Virginia, 2016-2026



### Employment Growth by LWIA

In the Law, Public Safety, Corrections, & Security cluster, the following Local Workforce Investment Areas (LWIAs) will experience higher occupational growth rates than the state average:

- Northern Virginia
- Greater Peninsula
- Hampton Roads
- Western Virginia
- Region 2000/Central Virginia



### Nontraditional Occupations

#### Nontraditional Occupations for Females

- Firefighters
- First-Line Supervisors of Police and Detectives
- First-line Supervisors of Protective Service Workers, All Others
- Police and Sheriff's Patrol Officers

