

2024 ORLEANS PARISH JAIL POPULATION

By the numbers

Mayor's Office of Criminal Justice Coordination

1300 Perdido Street, 8W03
New Orleans, LA 70112



Letter from the Commissioner 2024 Orleans Parish Jail Population by the Numbers

As you read this report, I implore you to remember that these numbers are not just statistics—they represent people, both victims and those accused of crime, they reflect our community, its challenges, and the responses of leadership and policymakers at the local, state, and federal levels. These numbers reflect complicated realities, and understanding these trends helps us better address the needs of our residents and ensure a criminal legal system that is fair, just, and effective.



At the Office of Criminal Justice Coordination, we remain steadfast in our commitment to public safety and community well-being. We believe that we can safely reduce our jail population through innovative and responsive programs that serve both individuals and the broader community. A justice system that prioritizes rehabilitation, support services, and alternatives to incarceration not only improves outcomes for individuals but also strengthens the overall safety and stability of our city.

This work would not be possible without the dedication and collaboration of our criminal legal system partners. I am deeply grateful for the efforts of law enforcement, court officials, service providers, and community organizations who work every day to promote coordination and public safety. I also want to extend my sincere appreciation to my team at the Office of Criminal Justice Coordination for their unwavering commitment to this mission. Together, we are striving to create a system that is responsive, equitable, and reflective of the values of our community.

Thank you for your continued support and engagement in this vital work. By working together, we can build a safer, healthier, and more just Orleans Parish for all.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Tenisha Stevens". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Tenisha Stevens

Criminal Justice Commissioner
City of New Orleans

SUMMARY

- On average, **1,366 people** were detained daily in the Orleans Justice Center 2024, a **21.9% increase** from the average daily population of 1,120 people in 2023.
- Incremental monthly increases in the average jail population accrued to a stark rise in the average daily jail population over the course of the year: in December 2024, the average daily jail population was **21% higher** than the average daily jail population in January 2024.
- New Orleans detained, on average, over **588 people per 100,000 parish residents**, nearly double the national rate of 199 people detained in jails per 100,000 US residents.
- In 2024, **9,353 jail admissions** to the Orleans Justice Center took place, an increase of 15.5% from the 8,096 jail admissions that took place in 2023.
- In 2024, the jail made **9,096 releases**, an increase of 16.6% compared with the 7,795 jail releases that took place in 2023.
 - Over two-thirds of those released in 2024 had a jail stay of 13 days or fewer, and just over half were released from jail custody within 2 days of admission.
 - 86.9% of those admitted to the jail in 2024 had been released from jail by 15 January 2025.
 - At a per diem rate of \$130.17 per detained person, the total cost of detaining people who were released from jail in 2024 was \$61,510,401.63.
- The average length of stay for all people released in 2024 was **52 days**, and the median length of stay was 2 days.
- Racial disparities in jail admissions and jail detention persisted in 2024, even when controlling for population size differences by race.
 - Black/African American people were admitted to the jail at 2.4 times the rate of white people, per 100,000 New Orleanians by race.
 - Black/African American people were detained in the jail at 4.7 times the rate of white people, per 100,000 New Orleanians by race.

GUIDING MODEL, CENTRAL QUESTION, + METHODS

Three interrelated factors directly impact the jail population: jail admissions, jail releases, and lengths of jail stays.

Drawing from definitions from the Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS) and continued dialogue with key stakeholders, including the Orleans Parish Sheriff's Department (OPSO), the Office of Criminal Justice Coordination (OCJC) uses the following definitions for the three factors that impact jail population:

Jail admissions: The transfer of custody from an arresting agency (like the New Orleans Police Department) to OPSO. When jail detainees are charged with additional offenses, OCJC uses the earliest booking date as the date of jail admission.

Jail releases: The termination of jail custody by OPSO. A person may be released from jail and return to the community (for example, when released on bond after First Appearance); released to a custody of a law enforcement officer from another jurisdiction; or transferred to the custody of the Louisiana Department of Corrections or state mental health facility.

Length of jail stay: The difference, in days, between the date of jail admission and the date of jail release.

This annual report aims to address this central question: **What can 2024 jail admissions, jail releases, and lengths of jail stays tell us about observed changes in the jail population?** The analyses and data visualizations presented here are based on tabulations of person- and charge-level data from the Orleans Parish Sheriff's Office for persons admitted to or released from the jail in 2024, using measures drawn from the BJS and other trusted sources. In addition, we joined Magistrate and Criminal District Court case-level data to jail tables to generate Public Safety Assessment measures.



Figure 1 (above, at right). Jail population model.

2024 JAIL POPULATION

On 1 January 2024, 1,245 people were detained in the jail. The jail population was at its lowest for the year on 9 March, when 1,185 people were in jail custody, and reached its highest occupancy on 15 November, when 1,567 people were detained in the jail. On the last day of the year, 1,489 people were in jail custody. (See Appendix A, Table 1.)

In 2024, the day-to-day jail population increased, on average, 0.01% daily; this is continuation of a trend observed in 2023, when the day-to-day jail population also increased by an average of 0.01%. Larger daily fluctuations in the daily jail population were observed on holidays and festival days and the days immediately following.

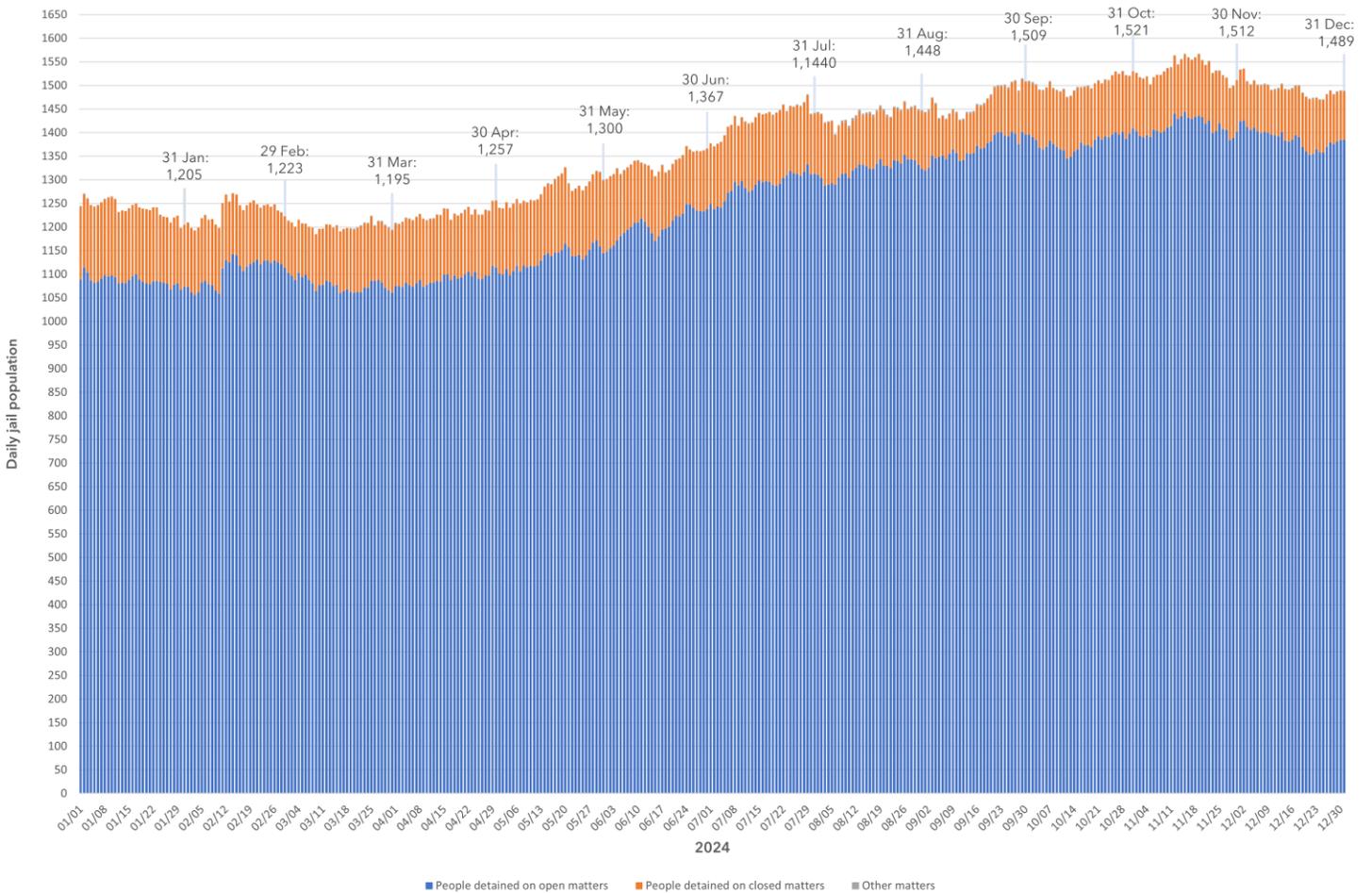


Figure 2. Daily jail population in 2024 by legal status (open matters, closed matters, and other matters) and end-of-month jail population snapshot figures.

Average daily jail population in 2024

On average, 1,366 people were detained daily in the Orleans Justice Center 2024, a 21.9% increase from the average daily population of 1,120 people in 2023 (2024 median population = 1,374 people; standard dev. = 121.0).

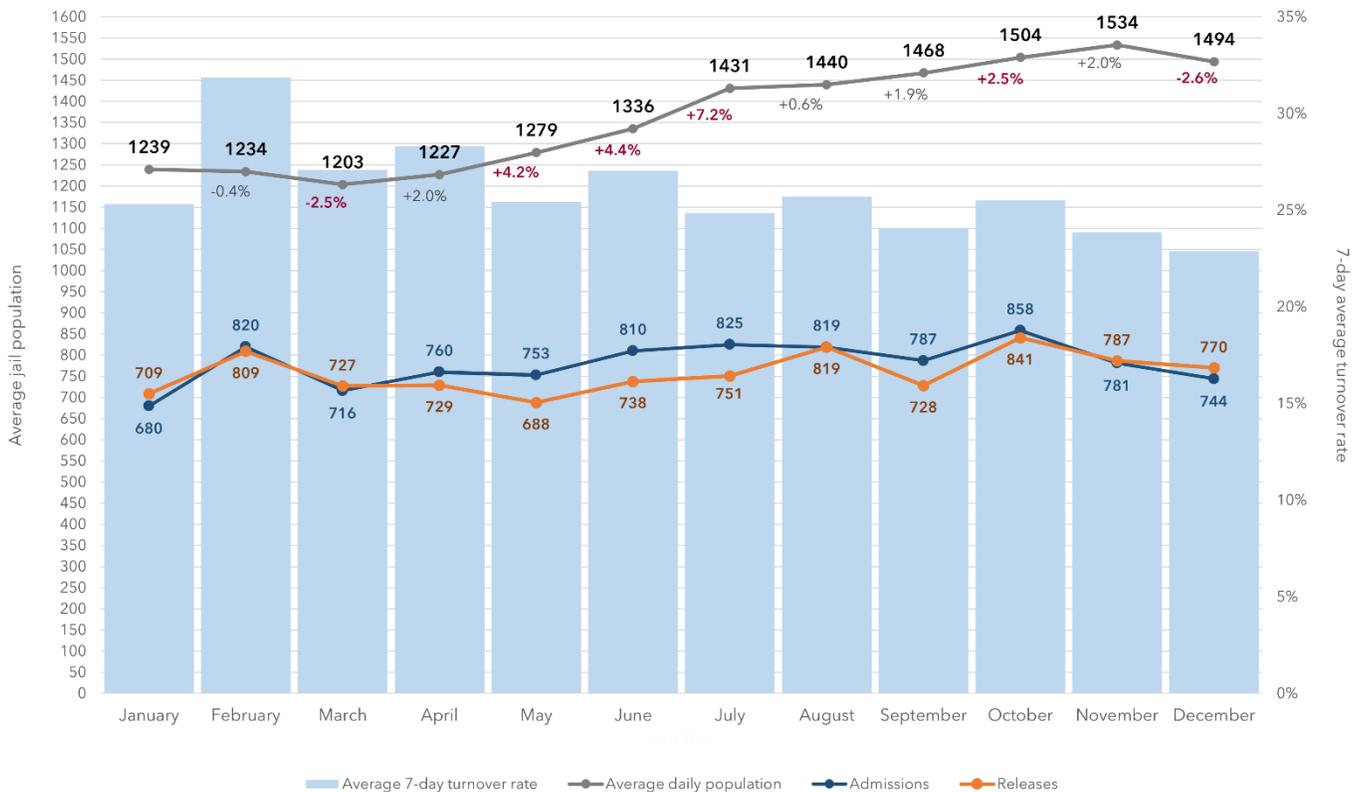


Figure 3. 2024 Average daily jail population by month; month-to-month percentage change in average population; total monthly jail admissions; total monthly jail releases; and 7-day average turnover rate.

The average daily jail population increased month-to-month at an average rate of 1.8%. However, the incremental increases accrued to a stark rise in the average daily jail population over the course of the year: in December 2024, the average daily jail population was 21% higher than the average daily jail population in January 2024.

Notable increases in the average jail population took place four times during the year. From April to May, the average jail population increased by 4.2% from 1,227 detained people in April to 1,279 in May. In June, the average jail population increased by another 4.4% to 1,336 people in custody. In September, the average daily population increased again by 2.5%, from 1,468 people in August to 1,504 in September.

On average, 90.5% of the 1,366 people detained in the jail in 2024 were in custody on “open matters”; that is, they were detained while their cases were still in progress and had not yet reached a final disposition and/or their probation, parole, or warrants were unresolved. 9.2% of 1,366 people detained, on average, in 2024 had been sentenced; their cases were “closed”; having been sentenced, they were awaiting transport to a Department of Corrections or mental health facility. The remaining 0.02% included people detained in the jail on other matters, such as writs and remands.

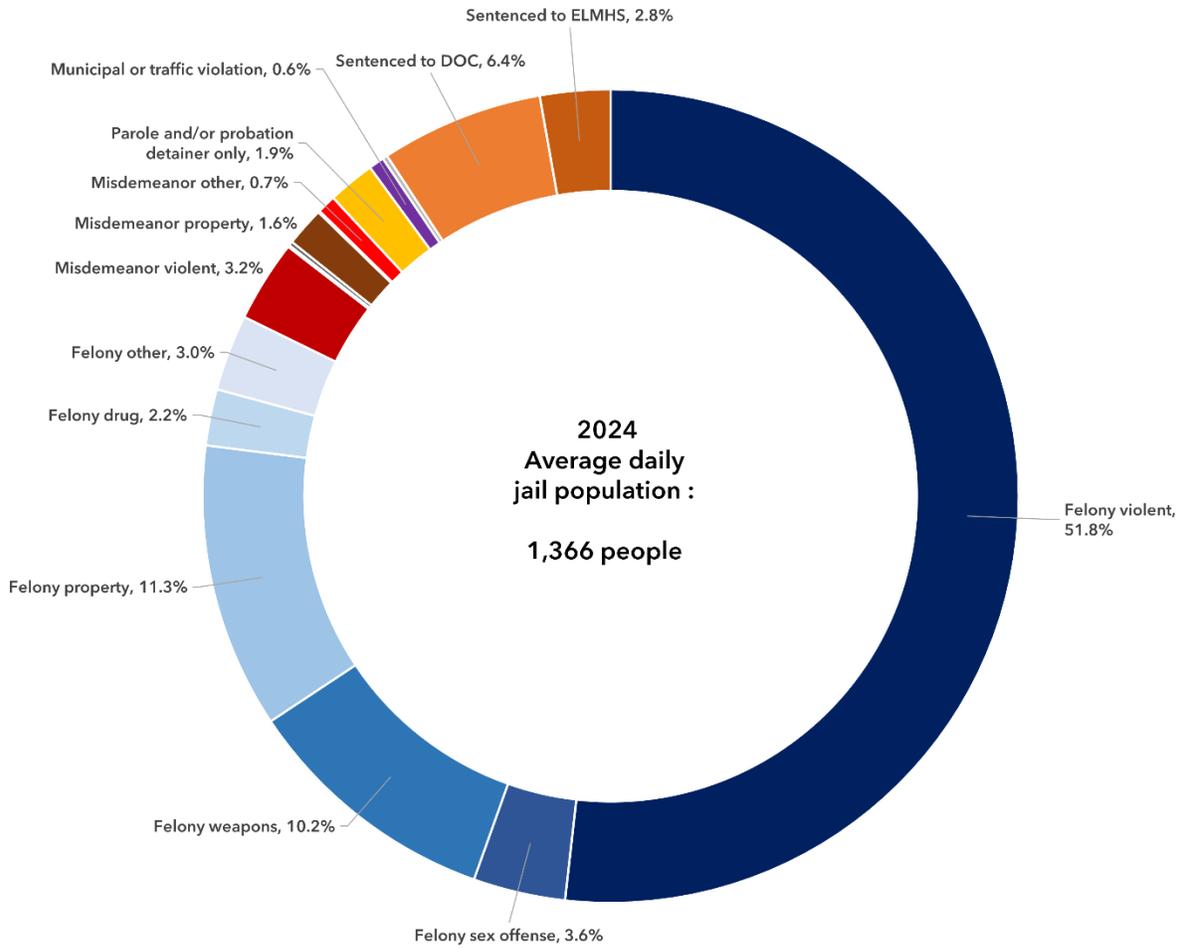


Figure 4. Average daily jail population in 2024 by open, closed, or other legal status, and by most serious charge at booking for detainees with open cases.

82% of people detained in the jail (about 1,236 detainees daily, on average) were in custody for an open felony charge, and 6%, for an open state misdemeanor charge. 55% of those detained, on average, had a violent offense as the most serious charge at booking. (See Appendix A, Table 2.)

On average, more than 4 out of 5 people detained in the jail in 2024 were aged 18 to 44 years as of the last day of the year (80.8%). About 10 youths (0.7% of the average daily population) were in jail custody each day of 2024. 18.4% of the average daily jail population comprised people aged 55 years or older.

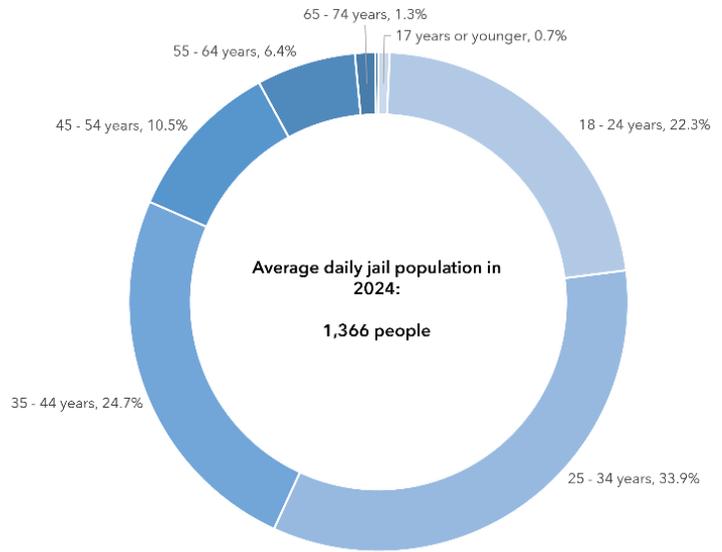


Figure 5. 2024 Average daily jail population by age ranges. Note that age is calculated at the difference in years between date of birth and 31 December 2024, rounded down.

The 2024 average daily jail population was overwhelmingly male and African American. 9 out of 10 people detained in the jail last year were men (90.6% of the average population).

Although New Orleans is a majority-Black city, African Americans are still overrepresented in the average jail population. Black/African Americans comprise 56% of the parish population yet made up 88% of the average daily jail population in 2024.

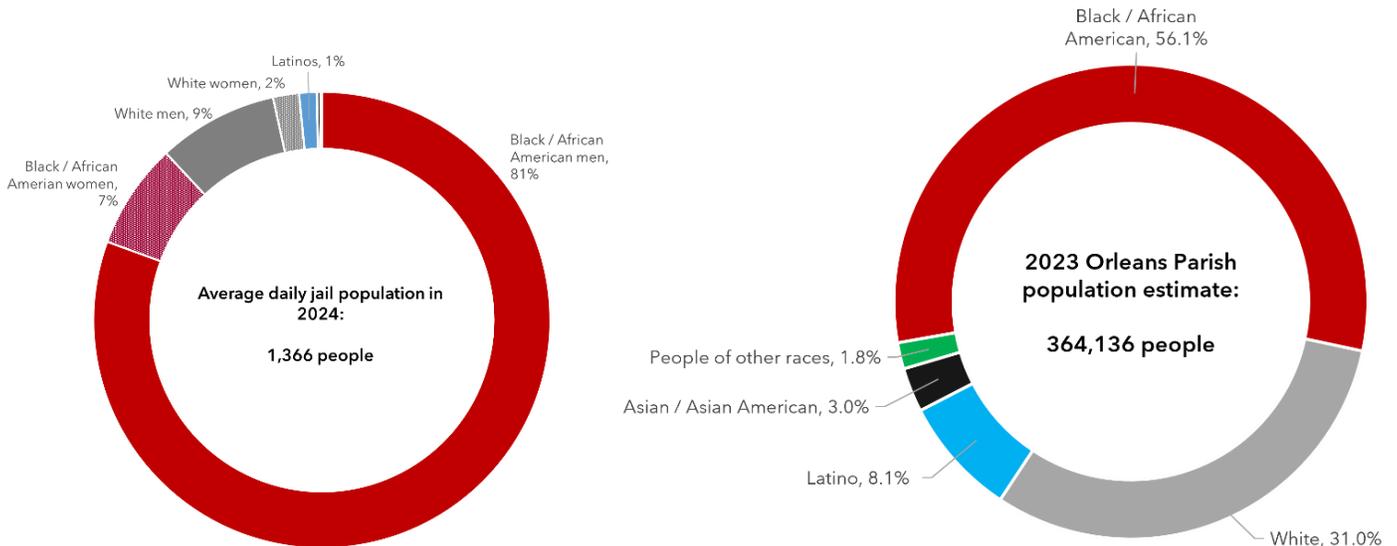


Figure 6 (at left). 2024 average daily jail population by OPSO race categories and sex.

Figure 7 (at right). 2023 Orleans Parish population estimates by Census race/ethnicity categories. Source: US Census Bureau, 2023 American Community Survey data files.

2024 Jail detention rate + relative rate index

In 2024, Orleans Parish 375 people were detained in the jail for every 100,000 residents, nearly twice the US jail detention rate¹.

Looking at the jail detention rates by race, 'wide' disparities between racial groups become apparent. Black people were detained in the jail at nearly 5 times the rate of white people, per 100,000 New Orleans by race (relative rate index [RRI] = 4.7). For every 100,000 Black / African American New Orleanians, 588 Black people were in jail custody, on average, in 2024. For every 100,000 white New Orleanians, 125 white people were detained in the jail last month.

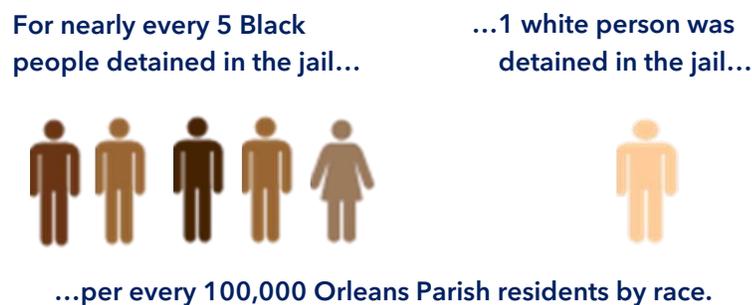


Figure 8. 2024 Relative rate index (RRI) for jail detention rates per 100,000 Orleans Parish residents by race; RRI = 4.7.

What do these measures tell us?

Jail detention rates (JDR) and relative rate indexes (RRI) give us a way to make comparisons between groups of different sizes. For example, we can use the JDR to compare how many people are in jail in Orleans Parish to how many people are detained in jails nationwide, even though the population of New Orleans is much smaller than the US population.

Relative rate indexes are commonly used to measure disparities. Typically, RRI is calculated as the rate of a historically disadvantaged group divided by the rate of the historically privileged group. An RRI greater than 1 strongly suggests that disparities exist. An RRI of 1 suggests that parity – the opposite of “disparity” – exists.

For more information about how we operationalize these terms, please see the glossary in Appendix B or on the OCJC website.

¹ The US jail detention rate was 199 jail detainees for every 100,000 US residents in 2022, the most recent year for which we have figures. Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, [Jail Inmates in 2022 – Statistical Tables](#)

2024 JAIL ADMISSIONS

In 2024, 9,353 jail admissions to the Orleans Justice Center took place, an increase of 15.5% from the 8,096 jail admissions that took place in 2023.

While the total number of jail admissions increased in 2024, the number of admissions for state misdemeanor weapons offenses as the most serious charge at booking decreased by 51.4%, and admissions for felony weapons charges as the most serious offense at booking decreased by 9.6% compared with 2023 figures. New state laws regarding the concealed carrying of firearms took effect in 2024.

The number of jail admissions for misdemeanor property crimes increased by 34.6%, from 384 in 2023 to 518 in 2024. Jail admissions in which felony property offenses were the most serious charge at booking also increased by 13.7% in 2024, compared with 2023 figures.

In 2024, 1,347 jail admissions were for state misdemeanor violent offenses as the most serious charge at booking, an increase of 15.8% compared with the previous year. 2,093 jail admissions in 2024 were for felony violent offenses, a 12.6% increase from the 1,859 jail admissions for violent felonies in 2023.

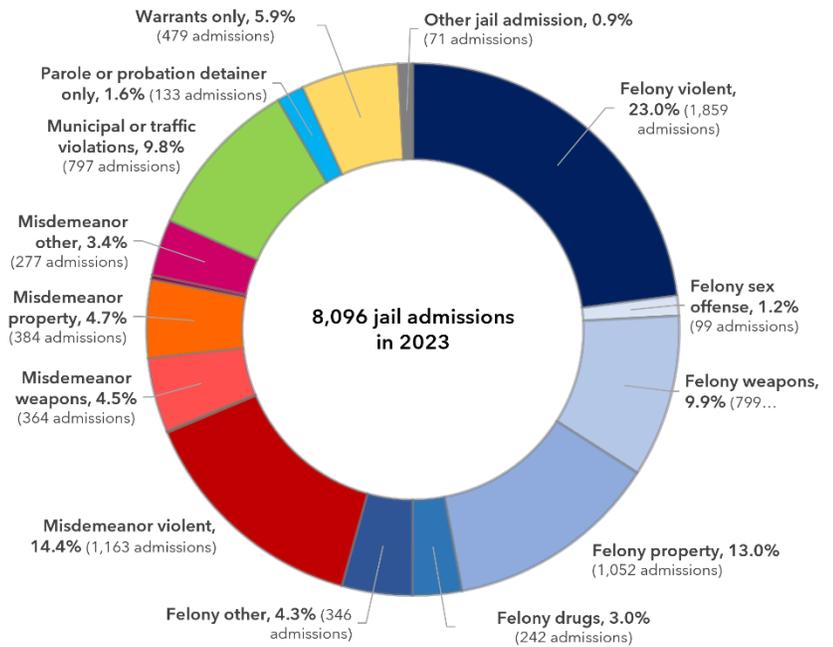
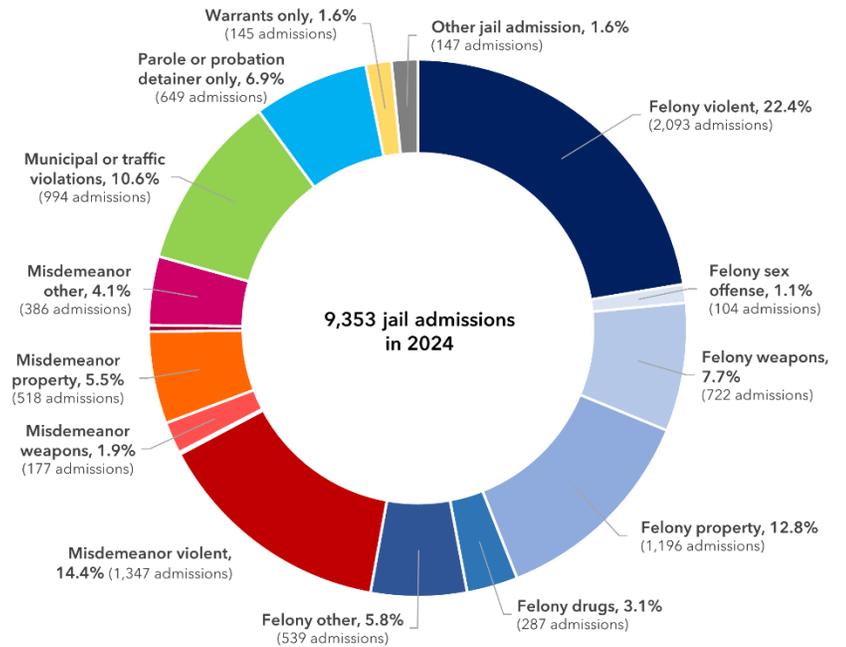


Figure 9 (at top). 2024 jail admissions by most serious offense at booking.
 Figure 10 (at bottom). 2023 jail admissions by most serious offense at

Jail admissions fluctuated month-to-month in 2024, from a low of 680 jail admissions in January to a peak of 858 jail admissions in October. Each month, violent offenses as the most serious charge of admission made up the plurality of admissions, and in total, 37% of all jail admissions in 2024 were for violent charges as the most serious charge at booking. 18% of all jail admissions were for felony and state misdemeanor property charges as the most serious offense at booking, and 11%, for municipal and traffic offenses as the most serious offense at booking.

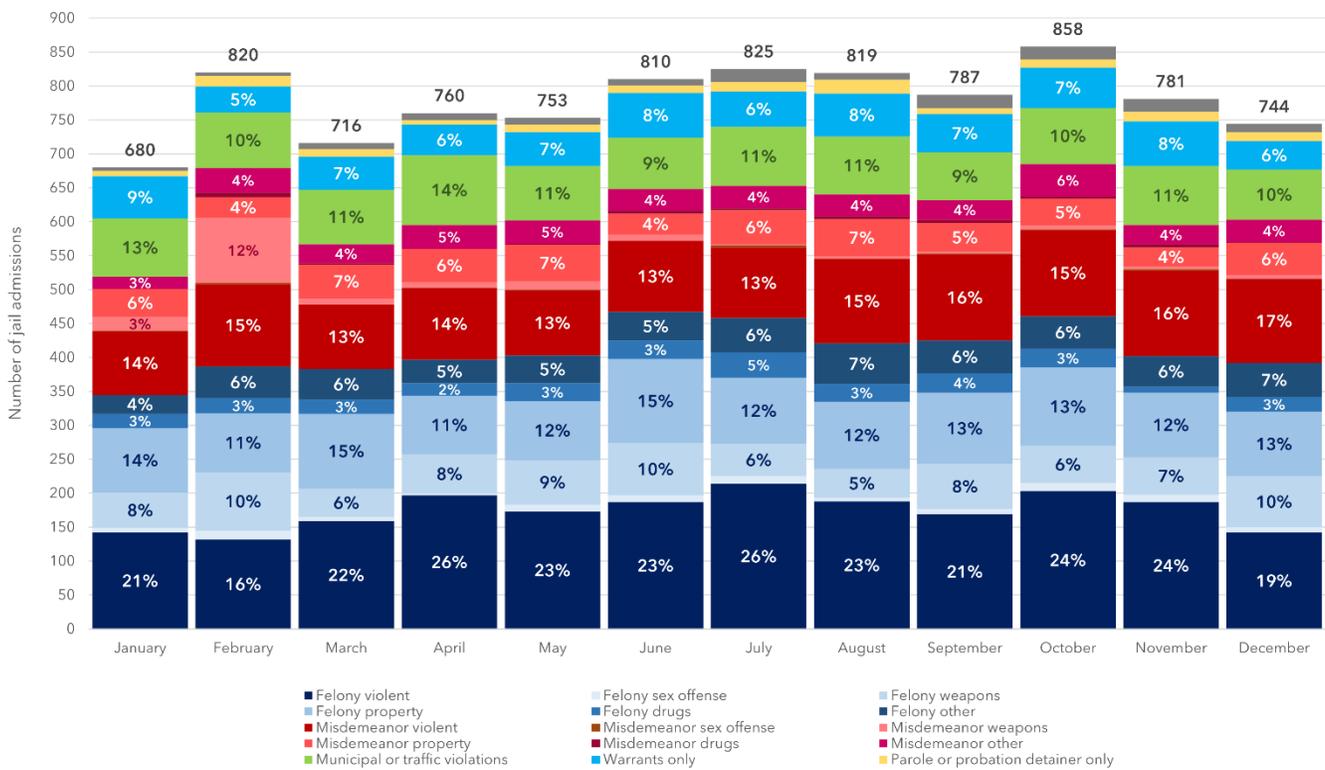


Figure 11. 2024 monthly jail admissions by most serious charge category at booking.

More than 8 out of 10 jail admissions in 2024 (84.6%, or 7,908 jail admissions) were precipitated by an arrest by New Orleans Police Department officers. Louisiana State Police, having expanded patrol of the City beyond the French Quarter last year, were credited with 2.6% of arrests that led to jail admission in 2024.

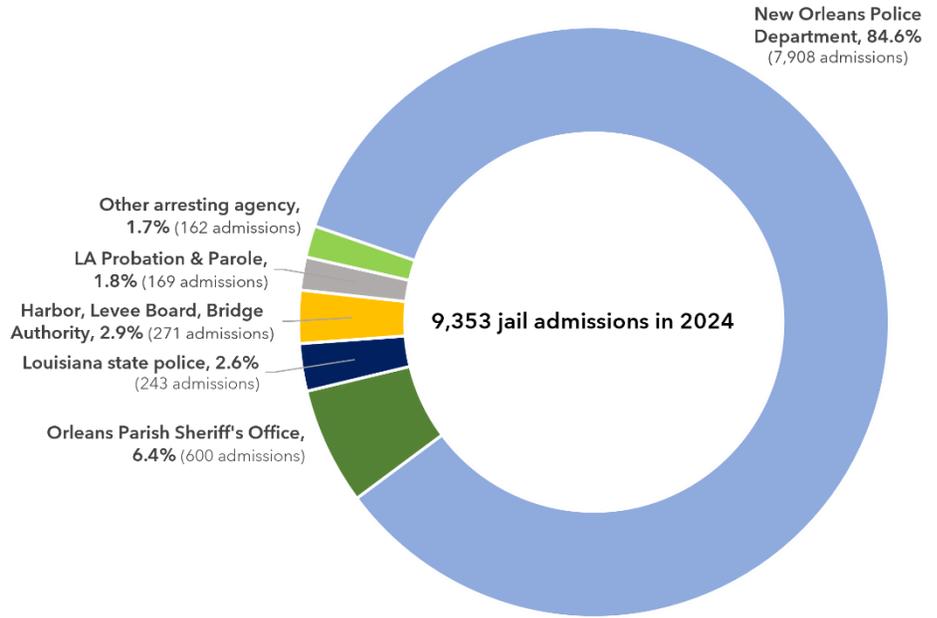


Figure 12. 2024 jail admissions by arresting agency.

For monthly jail admissions by arresting agency, please see Appendix A, Table 3.

Jail admission rate + relative rate index

In 2024, Orleans Parish had 2,569 jail admissions for every 100,000 parish residents. The admission rate for Black people last year was 3,699 per 100,000 African American parish residents; for white people, 1,393 per 100,000 white New Orleanians. The admissions rate for Black is nearly 3 times that for white, per 100,000 Orleans Parish residents by rate (RRI = 2.7).

Nearly 3 Black people were admitted to the jail...



...for every 1 white person admitted to the jail...

...per 100,000 Orleans Parish residents by race.

Figure 13. 2024 relative rate index for jail admission rates per 100,000 Black and white Orleans Parish residents; RRI = 2.7.

Racial disparities are also apparent when looking at admission rates by the most serious charge category at booking, per 100 jail admissions by race.

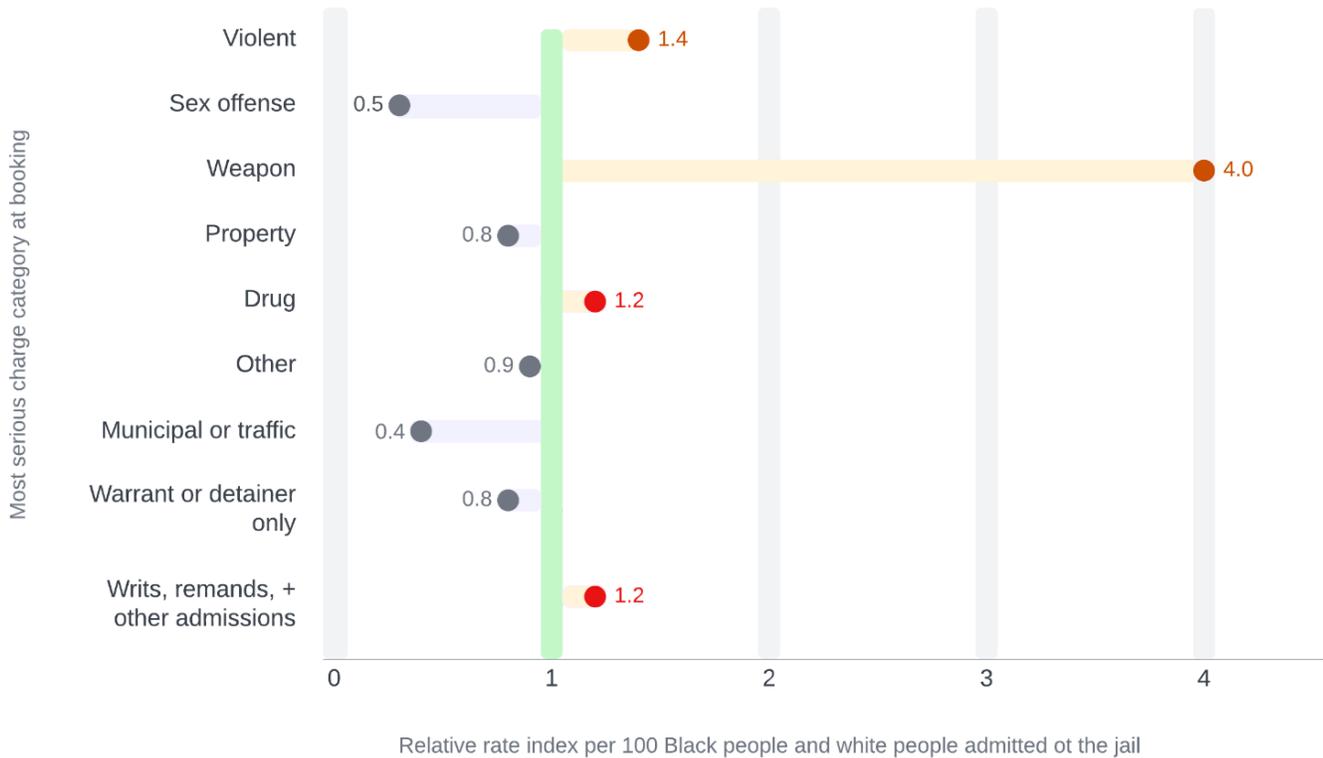


Figure 14. 2024 Relative rate indexes for jail admissions by most serious charge category per 100 jail admissions by race for Black and white people admitted to the jail.

In 2024, 848 African American people with weapons charges as the most serious offense made up 9.1% of all jail admissions, while 44 white people with weapons charges as the most serious charge at booking comprised 0.5% of the 9,353 jail admissions.

Within each racial category, Black people with weapons charges as the most serious offense at booking made up 11.2% of the 7,559 African Americans admitted to the jail in January, while white people made up 2.8% of the 1,571 white people admitted to the jail in 2024. Stated another way: 11 Black people with felony or state misdemeanor weapons charges as the most serious offense at booking were admitted to the jail for every 100 Black people admitted to the jail, and nearly 3 (2.8) white people with weapons charges were admitted to the jail for every 100 white people admitted to the jail.

For jail admissions by OPSO race category and most serious charge at booking, see Appendix A, Table 4.

Thus, the RRI was 4.0 for every 100 jail admissions by race for Black and white people admitted to the jail in 2024 on weapons charges as the most serious offense at booking. Month to month, the RRI for the rate of jail admissions for weapons charges as the most serious charge at booking fluctuated but stayed well over 1 (which denotes parity), even as jail admissions on weapons charges as the most serious offense trended downward after permitless concealed carry laws went into effect on 4 July 2024.

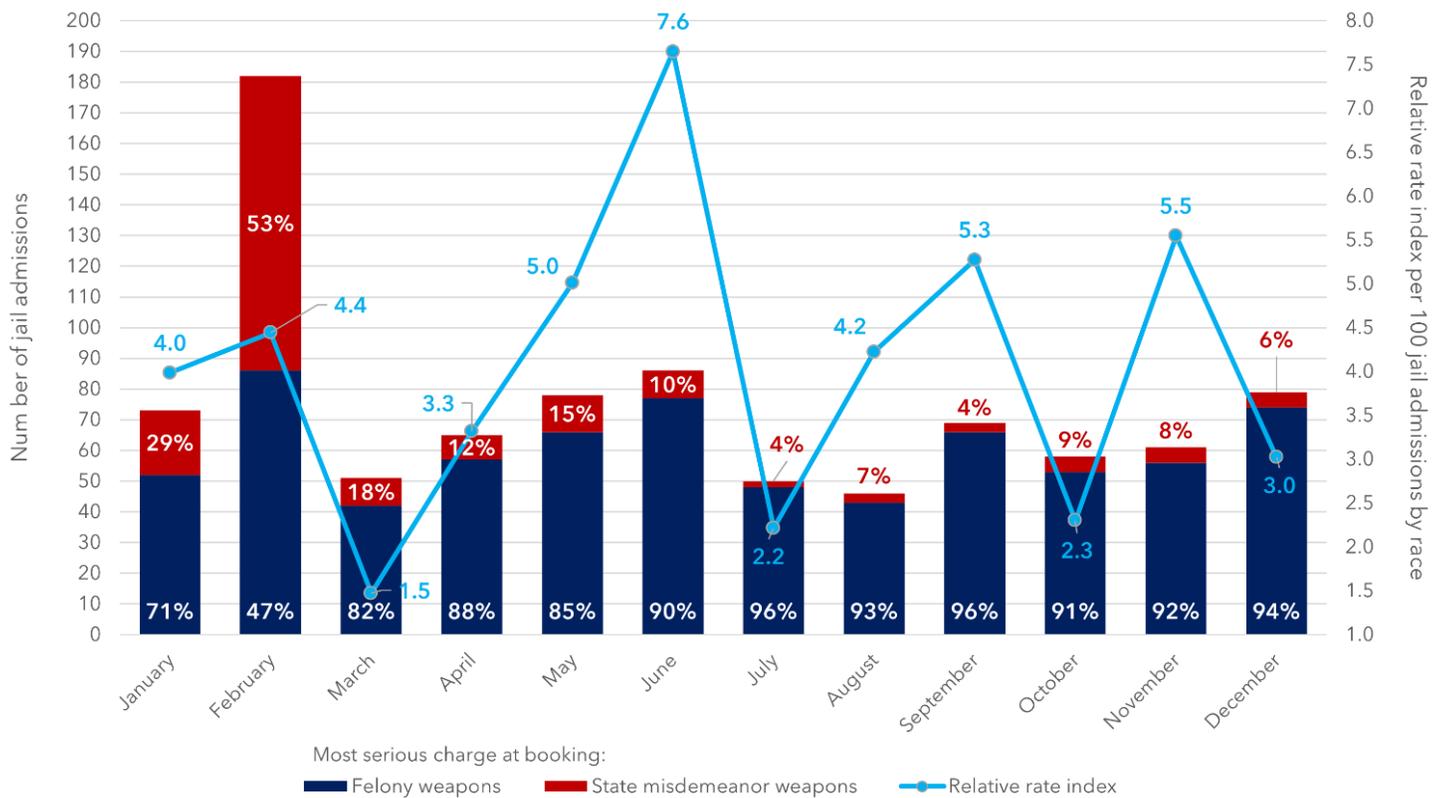


Figure 15. 2024 monthly jail admissions for weapons offenses as the most serious charge at booking and monthly relative rate indexes for admissions on weapons offenses per 100 jail admissions by race for Black and white people admitted to the jail.

2024 JAIL RELEASES + LENGTHS OF JAIL STAYS

In 2024, the jail made 9,096 releases, an increase of 16.6% compared with the 7,795 jail releases that took place in 2023. 86.9% of those admitted to the jail in 2024 had been released from jail by 15 January 2025.

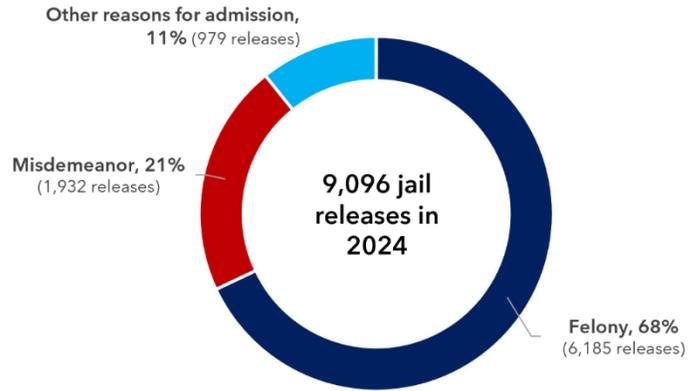


Figure 16 (at right). 2024 jail releases by most serious charge at booking.

The 9,096 people who were released from the jail in 2024 spent a total of 472,539 days in jail. At a per diem rate of \$130.17 per detained person, the total cost of detaining people who were released from jail in 2024 was \$61,510,401.63. In 2023, the 7,795 people who were released that year spent a total of 364,284 days in jail, at a total cost of 47,418,848.28

Over two-thirds of those released in 2024 had a jail stay of 13 days or fewer, and just over half were released from jail custody within 2 days of admission. 12% of jail releases took place 61 days to 1 year after jail admission.

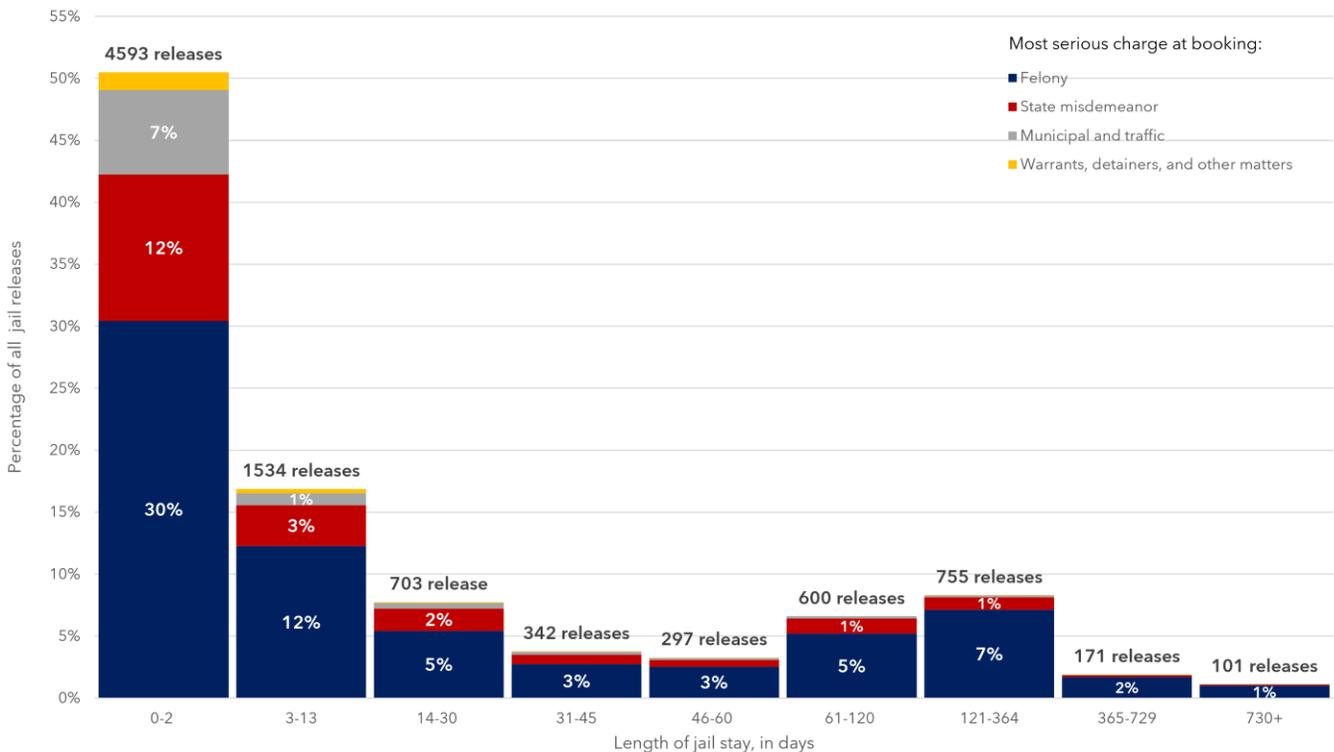


Figure 17. 2024 Distribution of lengths of jail stays by most serious charge category at booking. N = 9,096 jail releases.

Average length of stay for people released in 2024

The average length of stay for all people released in 2024 was 52 days (N=9,096 releases; min = less than one day; max = 3,601 days; standard dev. = 166.8). The median length of stay for all those released was 2 days.

The average length of stay for people who spent more than 2 days in jail was 104 days (n = 4,503 releases; max = 3,601 days; standard dev. = 225.3). Those who were released 2 or more days after admission had a median length of stay of 31 days.

Over two-thirds of those released in 2024 had a felony charge at admission and an average length of stay of 90 days (n = 6,185 releases; min = less than 1 day; max = 3,601 days, standard dev. = 221.2; median = 10 days). The 109 people who had a felony sex offense as the most serious charge at booking had the longest average length of stay at 178 days. 1,968 releasees who had a felony violent offense as the most serious charge at booking spent, on average, 137 days in jail custody - over 12 weeks longer than the average length of stay for all released people in 2024.

21% of those released last year had a state misdemeanor offense as the most serious charge at booking and spent an average of 12 days in jail (n = 1,932 releases; min = less than 1 day; max = 1,325 days; standard dev. = 48.4; median = 1 days). (See Appendix A, Table 5.)

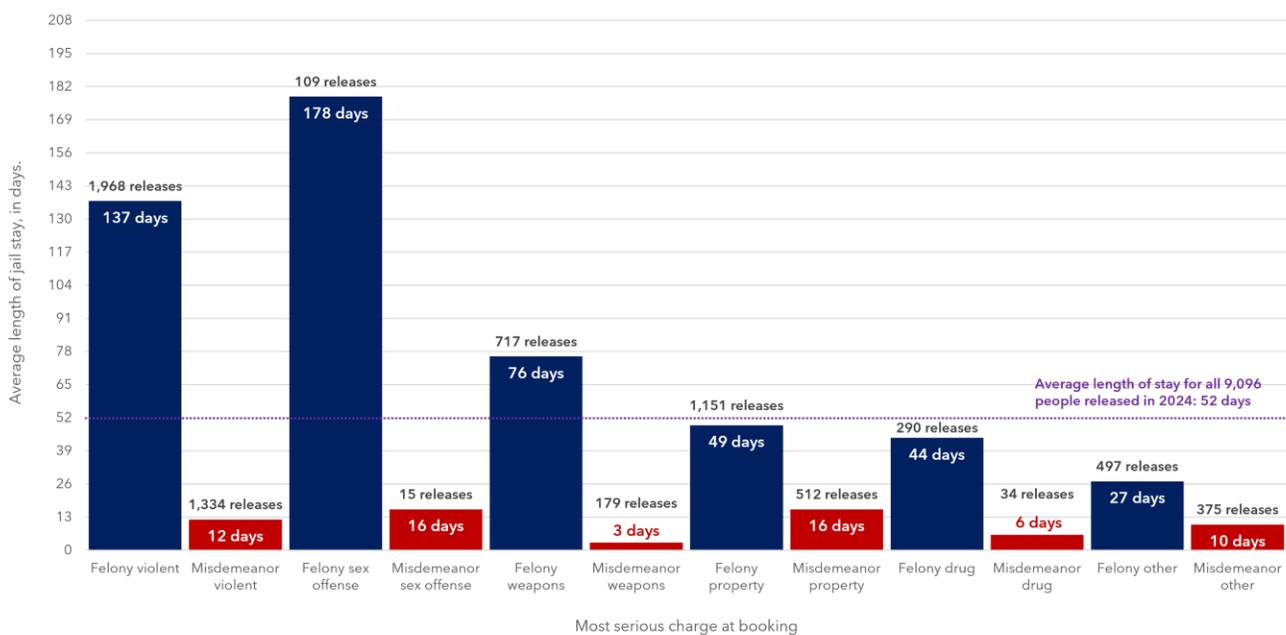


Figure 18. 2024 Average length of jail stays by most serious felony or state misdemeanor charge category at booking. N = 7,181 jail releases.

Racial disparities in lengths of stay persisted in 2024. Last year, Black people who were released from jail spent an average of 4 weeks - 28 days - longer in custody compared with white, Latino, Asian/Asian American people and people of "other" and "unknown" race. African Americans who were released from custody last year spent an average of 57 days in jail, while everyone else spent an average of 29 days in jail last year. (See Appendix A, Table 6.)

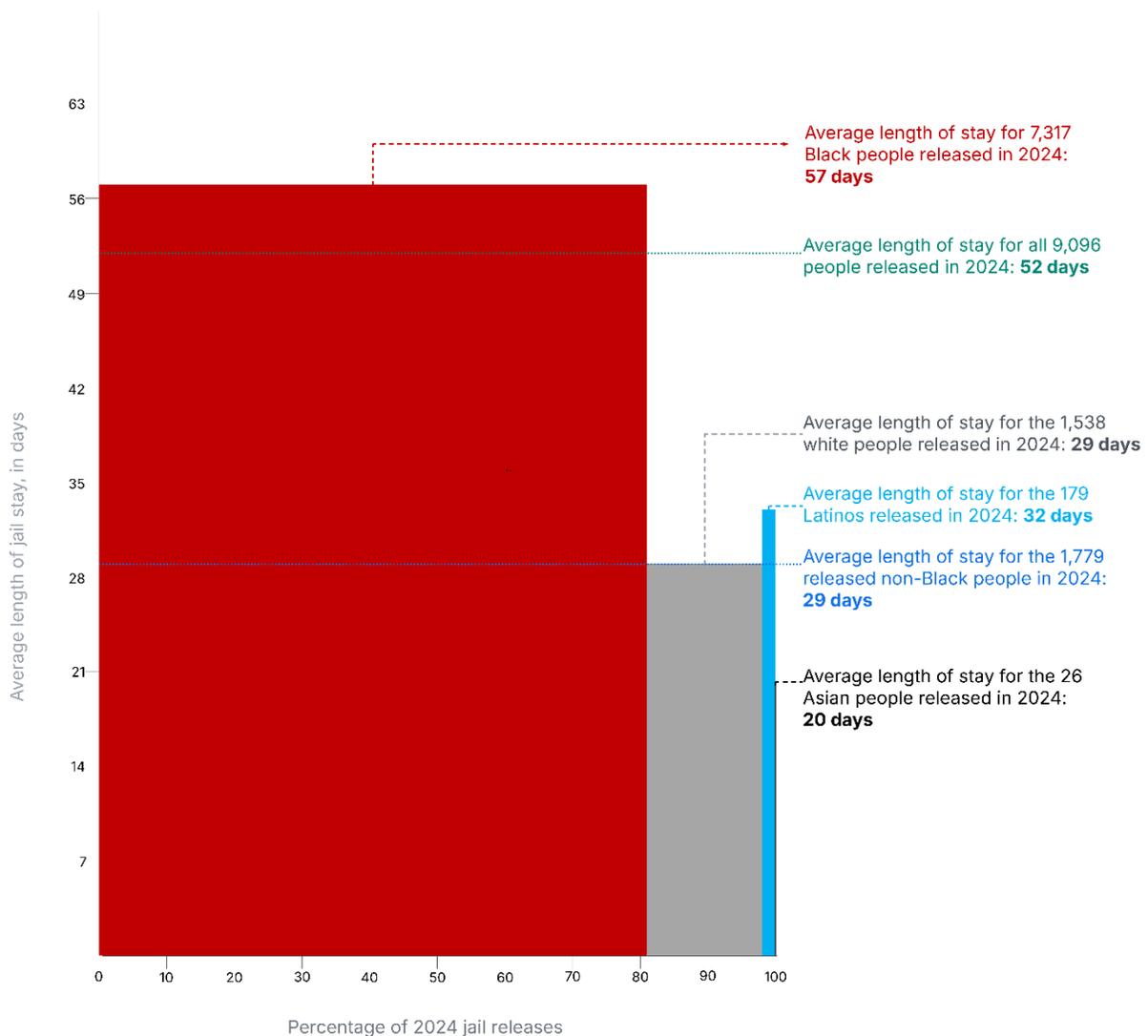


Figure 19. 2024 Average length of jail stays by race categories as a percentage of all people released from jail in 2024. N = 9,096 jail releases.

Note that the 36 people of "other" races and those with "unknown" or missing race information comprised less than 1% of 2024 releasees. Their lengths of stay are included in the calculation of the average length of stay for non-Black people but are excluded from this data graphic.

2024 JAIL TURNOVER RATE

The 2024 7-day average turnover rate was 26%. Developed by the Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS), the turnover rate measures the flow of people into and out of the jail as a ratio of jail admissions and releases to the average daily jail population. On average, more than 1 in 4 people detained in 2024 had been newly admitted or were about to be released. In 2022, BJS reported a [31% national turnover rate for jails of our size](#).

The 7-day average turnover rate reached a peak of 31% in February and trended downward for the remainder of the year. Concurrently, more people were admitted to the jail than released from March through July and again in September and October.

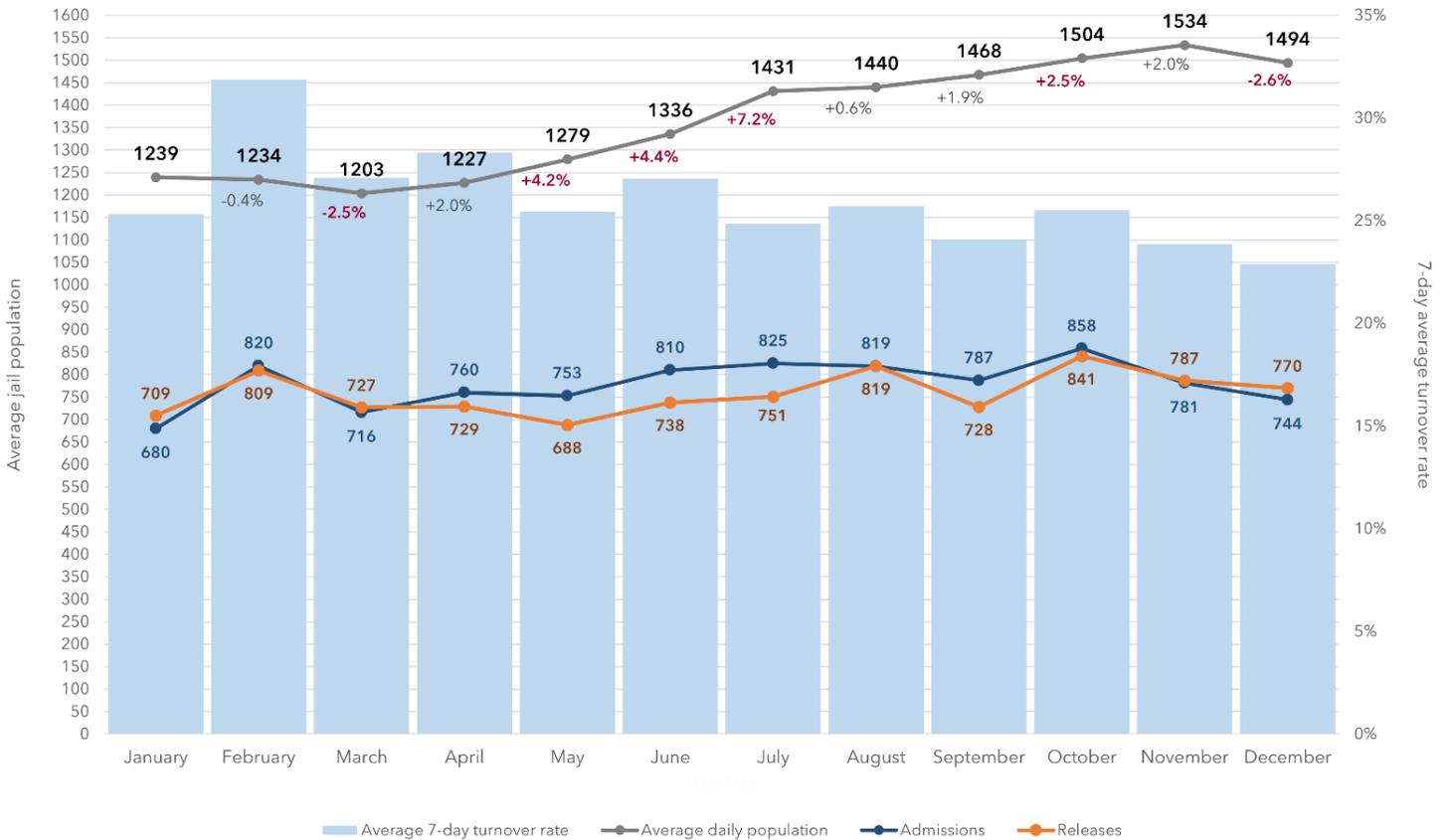


Figure 20. Average daily jail population by month; month-to-month percentage change in average population; total monthly jail admissions; total monthly jail releases; and 7-day average turnover rate in 2024.

Note that this is the same graphic as Figure 3.

2024 PUBLIC SAFETY ASSESSMENTS

What happens after someone is released from jail custody? Did they abide by the release terms set by the judge or magistrate commissioner? Did those who were released show up to their court events? Did they end up getting arrested for new alleged offenses?

This section aims to begin to answer these questions by examining the appearance rates, public safety rates, and success rates of people who had been administered the Public Safety Assessment; had a screening decision made for at least one charge by the District Attorney; and were released from jail in 2024.

About the Public Safety Assessment

The Public Safety Assessment (PSA) is a validated pretrial risk assessment tool used in many jurisdictions around the country, including Orleans Parish. The PSA assesses the pretrial likelihood of a released person 1) failing to appear in court; 2) having a new criminal arrest; and 3) and having a new violent criminal arrest. It is administered before First Appearance by intake specialists from Court Intervention Services' Pretrial Services to individuals who: 1) are 18 years of age or older; 2) were arrested for allegedly committing a crime in the community; 3) had been booked into the Orleans Justice Center; and appeared before a judicial officer for a pretrial release decision.

Administration of the PSA yields a report with a risk level and recommendations for supervision, should the person be released from jail. Risk levels are on a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 being the lowest risk and 5 being the highest risk. In addition, people with "unscored" risk levels had been assessed, but because of the seriousness of their alleged offense, no report of supervision recommendations was generated.

PSA measures

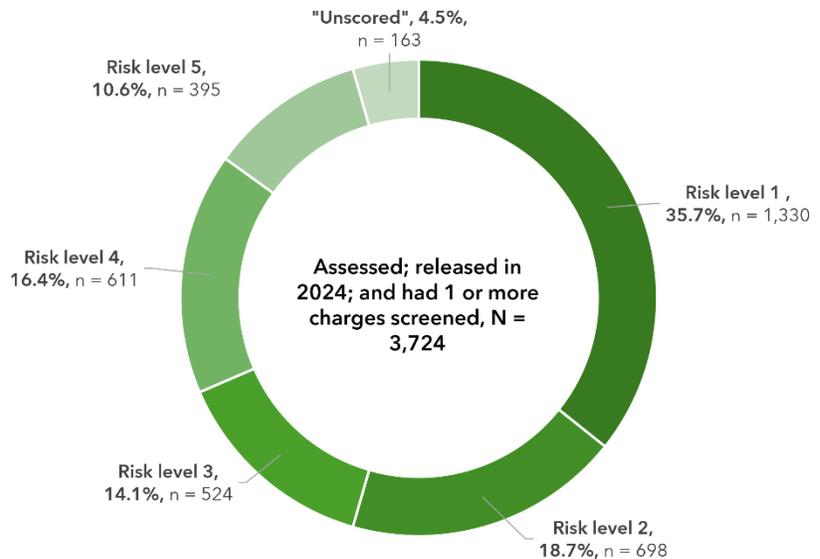
The PSA assesses the likelihood that a detained person, if released, will fail to appear at future court events or commit a new offense leading to arrest and admission to the jail. Accordingly, we generated the following outcome measures:

- Appearance rate, defined as the percentage of assessed and released people who appeared at all their Magistrate Court and Criminal District Court events, out of all assessed and released people.

- Public safety rate, defined as the percentage of assessed and released people who were not arrested on a new criminal offense out of all assessed and released people.
- Success rate, defined as the percentage of assessed and released people who appeared at all court events and were not rearrested on a new charge out of all assessed and released people.

To generate measures, we looked at 3,724 people who met the following criteria:

- Had been administered the PSA at booking; and
- Were released from jail custody in 2024; and
- Had at least one charge screened by the District Attorney.



More than half (54.5%) of those who were assessed, released in 2024, and had at least one charge screened were deemed to be "lower risk" (Risk level 1 or 2).

Figure 21. 2024 jail releasees who had been assessed with the PSA and had at least one charge screened by the District Attorney by PSA Risk Level.

Of the 3,724 who were assessed, released in 2024, and had at least one charge screened, 86.4% had had their cases reach a final disposition - that is, the charges associated with the jail admission were closed due to refusals, acceptance of plea agreements, or trial verdicts.

For more about the methodology of generating these measures, please see Appendix C.

2024 Appearance rate

In Orleans Parish, most people admitted to the jail on felony and state misdemeanor charges make a first appearance before a Magistrate Court judge or commissioner. Their criminal cases remain in Magistrate Court until the District Attorney makes a screening decision. If the District Attorney refuses all the charges, the case effectively ends in Magistrate Court. If the District Attorney accepts at least one charge, the case proceeds to the Criminal District Court. Given this process, we calculated appearance rates for Magistrate Court and Criminal District Court separately.

The Magistrate Court appearance rate was 97.3% in 2024. Of the 3,724 people who were released in 2024, having been assessed and with at least one charge screened by the District Attorney, 3,623 appeared at all their Magistrate Court events. Of the 101 people who missed a court event, 3% truly failed to appear, and an arrest warrant was issued for their failure to appear in court. 10% missed a court appearance but appeared at the next court event, and 87% of the 101 people who missed a court appearance had cases in which all charges were ultimately refused by the District Attorney.

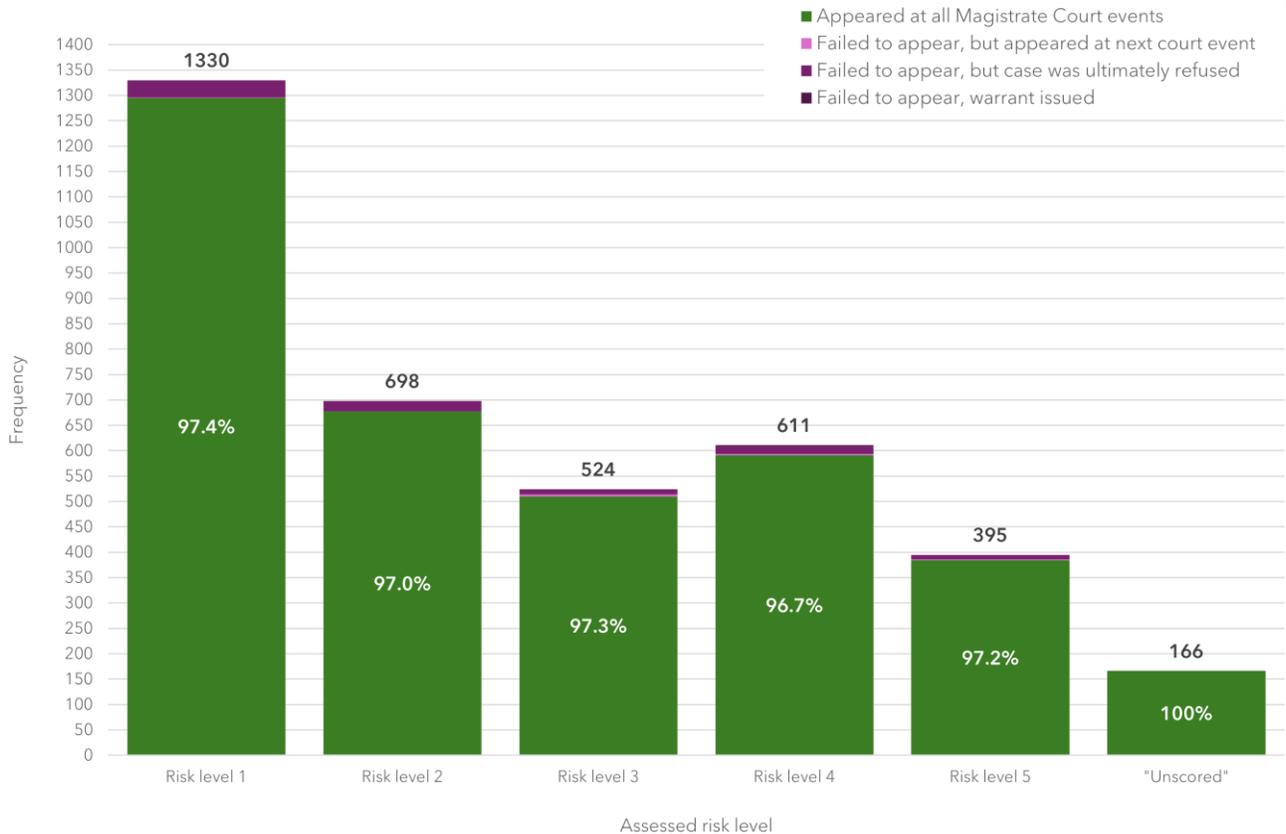


Figure 22. 2024 Magistrate Court appearance rates by PSA Risk Level. N = 3,724 assessed people who were released in 2024 having had at least one charge screened by the District Attorney.

The Criminal District Court Appearance rate was 99.7%. Of the 1,355 people who were released in 2024, having been assessed and with at least one charge accepted by the District Attorney, 1,351 have appeared at all their Criminal District Court events.

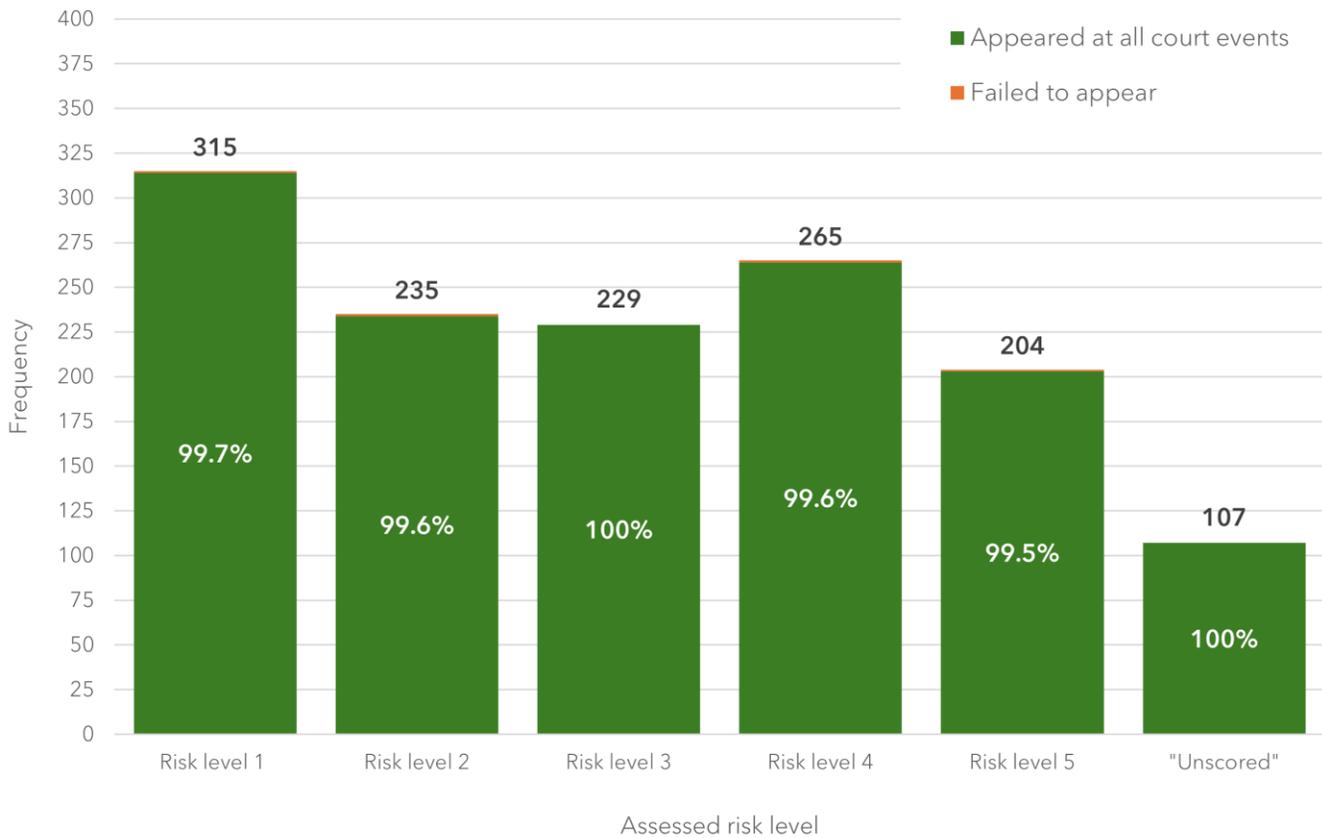


Figure 23. 2024 Criminal District Court appearance rates by PSA Risk Level. N = 1,355 assessed people who were released in 2024 having had at least one charge accepted by the District Attorney.

Of the 1,355 people who were released in 2024, having been assessed and with at least one charge accepted by the District Attorney, 62.6% had reached a final disposition of the charges associated with their jail admission by 31 December 2024. Consequently, the Criminal District Court appearance rate may be subject to change as the cases in progress are disposed.

2024 Public safety rate

The public safety rate was 95.8% in 2024. Of the 3,724 assessed, released, and screened people, 3,567 were not arrested on new criminal charges after release.

Of the 157 people who were arrested on new charges after release, 12 (8%) were arrested on a municipal charge as the most serious offense at booking, and 145 (92%) were arrested on a state misdemeanor or felony as the most serious charge at booking.

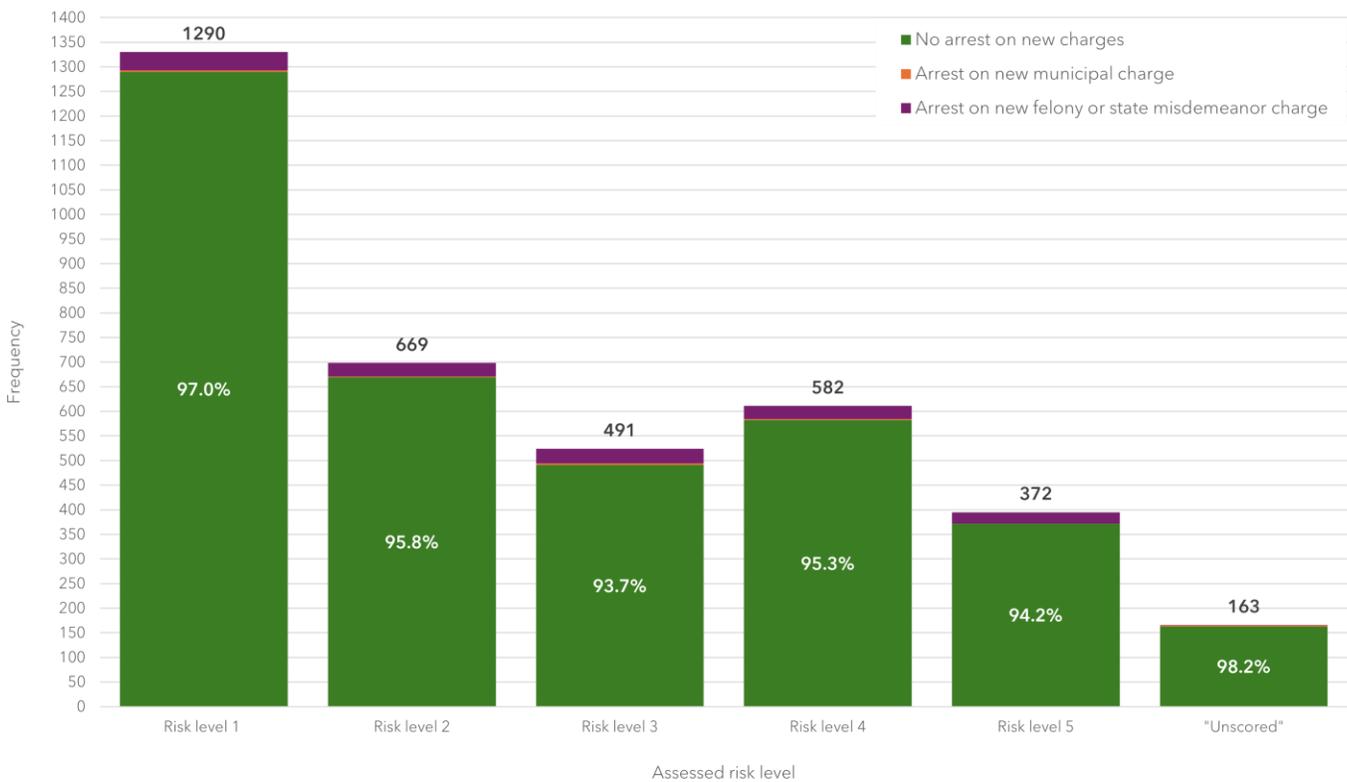


Figure 24. 2024 Public safety rate by PSA Risk Level. N = 3,724 assessed people who were released in 2024 and had at least one charge screened by the District Attorney.

Of the 3,724 who were assessed, released in 2024, and had at least one charge screened, 86.4% had had their cases reach a final disposition. Consequently, the public safety rate may be subject to change as the cases in progress are disposed.

2024 Success rate

The success rate was 93.4% in 2024. Of the 3,724 assessed, released, and screened people, 3,478 appeared at all their court events and were not arrested on new criminal charges.

86.4% had had their cases reach a final disposition. Consequently, the public safety rate may be subject to change the cases in progress are disposed.

“Unscored” and Risk Level 1 had the highest success rates (98.2% and 94.4%).

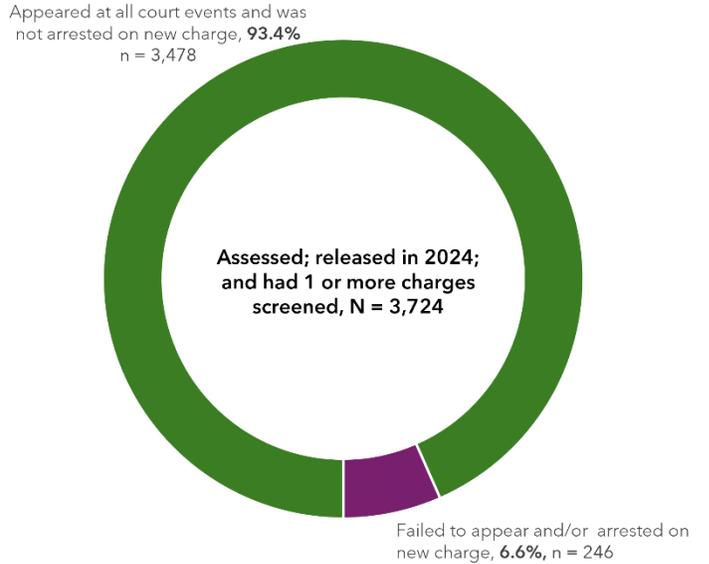


Figure 26. 2024 Success rate. N = 3,724 assessed people who were released in 2024 having had at least one charge screened by the District Attorney.

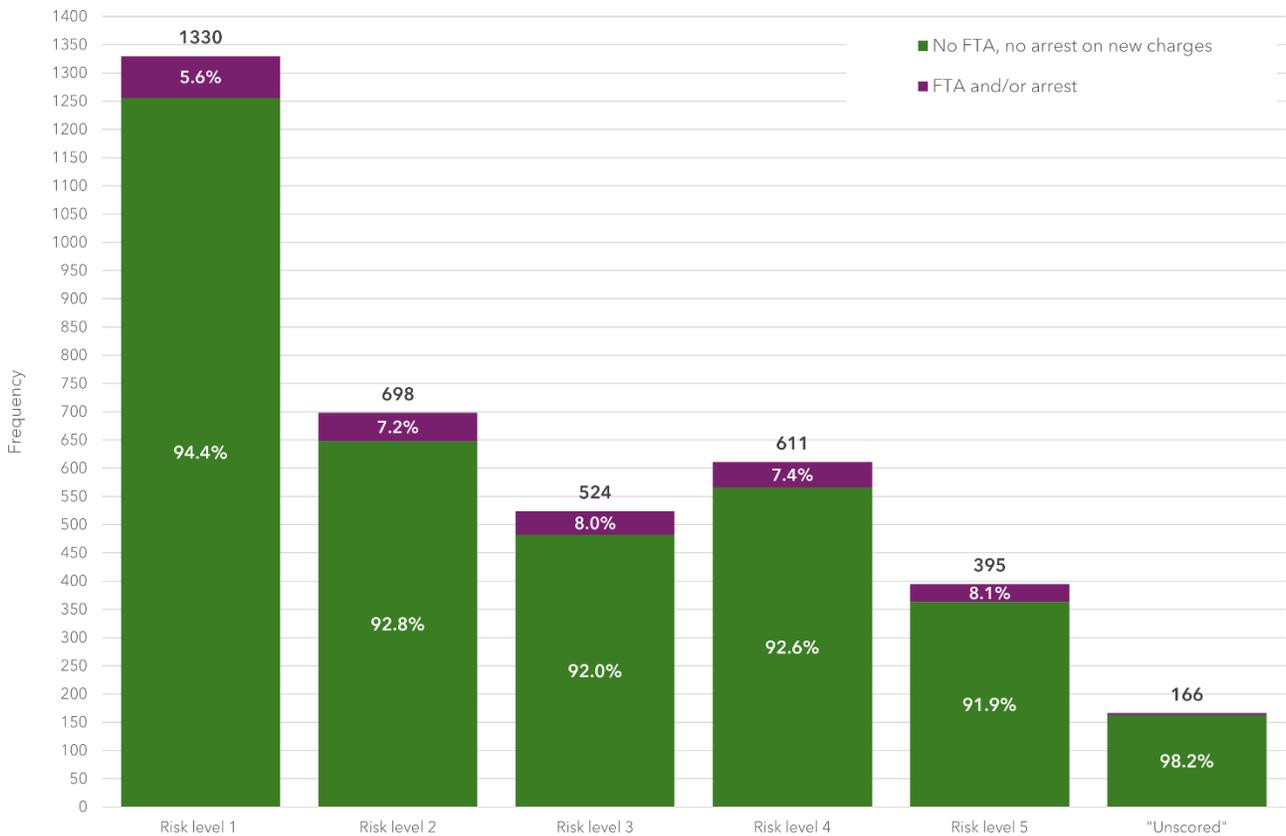


Figure 27. 2024 Success rates by PSA Risk Level. N = 3,724 assessed people who were released in 2024 having had at least one charge screened by the District Attorney.

APPENDIX A: SUMMARY TABLES

Table 1. 2024 Daily jail population by legal status (open matters, sentenced, and other matters).

Note that Table 1 spans 4 pages. Each page displays information for 1 quarter.

Date in 2024	Open matters	Sentenced	Other matters	Total daily population	Date in 2024	Open matters	Sentenced	Other matters	Total daily population
01/01	1,089	155	1	1,245	02/16	1,119	127	0	1,246
01/02	1,114	156	1	1,271	02/17	1,107	129	0	1,236
01/03	1,104	156	1	1,261	02/18	1,116	130	0	1,246
01/04	1,087	159	1	1,247	02/19	1,122	130	0	1,252
01/05	1,082	161	1	1,244	02/20	1,126	131	0	1,257
01/06	1,084	162	1	1,247	02/21	1,131	117	0	1,248
01/07	1,091	161	1	1,253	02/22	1,121	120	0	1,241
01/08	1,098	161	1	1,260	02/23	1,129	117	0	1,246
01/09	1,095	167	1	1,263	02/24	1,129	119	0	1,248
01/10	1,098	166	1	1,265	02/25	1,124	119	0	1,243
01/11	1,094	165	1	1,260	02/26	1,129	119	0	1,248
01/12	1,081	151	0	1,232	02/27	1,125	110	0	1,235
01/13	1,082	153	0	1,235	02/28	1,122	109	0	1,231
01/14	1,081	153	0	1,234	02/29	1,114	109	0	1,223
01/15	1,088	152	0	1,240	03/01	1,103	111	0	1,214
01/16	1,096	151	0	1,247	03/02	1,097	113	0	1,210
01/17	1,100	150	0	1,250	03/03	1,088	113	0	1,201
01/18	1,089	153	0	1,242	03/04	1,103	113	0	1,216
01/19	1,084	155	0	1,239	03/05	1,094	114	0	1,208
01/20	1,081	157	0	1,238	03/06	1,099	108	0	1,207
01/21	1,079	157	0	1,236	03/07	1,088	113	0	1,201
01/22	1,085	157	0	1,242	03/08	1,081	118	0	1,199
01/23	1,086	156	0	1,242	03/09	1,065	120	0	1,185
01/24	1,084	142	0	1,226	03/10	1,077	119	0	1,196
01/25	1,082	140	0	1,222	03/11	1,078	119	0	1,197
01/26	1,080	141	0	1,221	03/12	1,087	119	0	1,206
01/27	1,068	142	0	1,210	03/13	1,084	121	0	1,205
01/28	1,078	142	0	1,220	03/14	1,075	124	0	1,199
01/29	1,081	143	0	1,224	03/15	1,078	126	0	1,204
01/30	1,067	131	0	1,198	03/16	1,060	131	0	1,191
01/31	1,074	131	0	1,205	03/17	1,065	131	0	1,196
02/01	1,073	137	0	1,210	03/18	1,068	130	0	1,198
02/02	1,062	136	0	1,198	03/19	1,063	133	2	1,198
02/03	1,056	137	0	1,193	03/20	1,061	134	2	1,197
02/04	1,062	137	0	1,199	03/21	1,063	135	2	1,200
02/05	1,082	137	0	1,219	03/22	1,062	140	2	1,204
02/06	1,086	139	1	1,226	03/23	1,072	136	2	1,210
02/07	1,079	137	0	1,216	03/24	1,071	136	2	1,209
02/08	1,077	140	0	1,217	03/25	1,086	136	2	1,224
02/09	1,066	139	0	1,205	03/26	1,086	116	2	1,204
02/10	1,059	139	0	1,198	03/27	1,088	124	2	1,214
02/11	1,112	139	0	1,251	03/28	1,083	128	2	1,213
02/12	1,130	139	0	1,269	03/29	1,071	132	2	1,205
02/13	1,125	129	0	1,254	03/30	1,066	132	2	1,200
02/14	1,143	129	0	1,272	03/31	1,061	132	2	1,195
02/15	1,140	129	0	1,269					

Table 1, continued.

Date in 2024	Open matters	Sentenced	Other matters	Total daily population	Date in 2024	Open matters	Sentenced	Other matters	Total daily population
04/01	1,075	132	2	1,209	05/17	1,146	155	1	1,302
04/02	1,075	131	1	1,207	05/18	1,146	161	1	1,308
04/03	1,073	138	1	1,212	05/19	1,151	162	1	1,314
04/04	1,082	137	1	1,220	05/20	1,165	161	1	1,327
04/05	1,077	140	1	1,218	05/21	1,158	134	1	1,293
04/06	1,074	140	1	1,215	05/22	1,139	137	1	1,277
04/07	1,081	140	1	1,222	05/23	1,138	143	1	1,282
04/08	1,088	139	1	1,228	05/24	1,141	146	1	1,288
04/09	1,073	144	1	1,218	05/25	1,131	146	1	1,278
04/10	1,078	136	1	1,215	05/26	1,140	146	1	1,287
04/11	1,082	135	1	1,218	05/27	1,152	144	1	1,297
04/12	1,082	136	1	1,219	05/28	1,167	144	1	1,312
04/13	1,086	140	1	1,227	05/29	1,172	146	1	1,319
04/14	1,085	140	1	1,226	05/30	1,159	157	1	1,317
04/15	1,099	140	1	1,240	05/31	1,145	154	1	1,300
04/16	1,100	138	1	1,239	06/01	1,148	153	1	1,302
04/17	1,088	127	1	1,216	06/02	1,155	152	1	1,308
04/18	1,097	131	1	1,229	06/03	1,161	151	1	1,313
04/19	1,091	133	1	1,225	06/04	1,172	152	1	1,325
04/20	1,093	136	1	1,230	06/05	1,181	131	1	1,313
04/21	1,100	136	1	1,237	06/06	1,188	132	1	1,321
04/22	1,106	136	1	1,243	06/07	1,194	132	1	1,327
04/23	1,096	130	1	1,227	06/08	1,200	132	1	1,333
04/24	1,105	132	1	1,238	06/09	1,209	131	1	1,341
04/25	1,091	135	1	1,227	06/10	1,210	131	1	1,342
04/26	1,090	136	1	1,227	06/11	1,218	118	1	1,337
04/27	1,098	138	1	1,237	06/12	1,211	122	1	1,334
04/28	1,097	137	1	1,235	06/13	1,200	130	1	1,331
04/29	1,118	137	1	1,256	06/14	1,187	134	1	1,322
04/30	1,114	142	1	1,257	06/15	1,171	136	1	1,308
05/01	1,102	138	1	1,241	06/16	1,181	136	1	1,318
05/02	1,100	139	1	1,240	06/17	1,195	136	1	1,332
05/03	1,111	141	1	1,253	06/18	1,197	118	1	1,316
05/04	1,098	142	1	1,241	06/19	1,201	119	1	1,321
05/05	1,107	142	1	1,250	06/20	1,214	119	1	1,334
05/06	1,118	141	1	1,260	06/21	1,224	118	1	1,343
05/07	1,106	143	1	1,250	06/22	1,222	123	1	1,346
05/08	1,119	136	1	1,256	06/23	1,229	123	1	1,353
05/09	1,115	137	1	1,253	06/24	1,248	123	1	1,372
05/10	1,118	139	1	1,258	06/25	1,248	116	1	1,365
05/11	1,117	139	1	1,257	06/26	1,241	118	1	1,360
05/12	1,119	139	1	1,259	06/27	1,235	126	1	1,362
05/13	1,129	140	1	1,270	06/28	1,234	126	1	1,361
05/14	1,141	144	1	1,286	06/29	1,233	129	1	1,363
05/15	1,144	148	1	1,293	06/30	1,238	128	1	1,367
05/16	1,139	151	1	1,291					

Table 1, continued.

Date in 2024	Open matters	Sentenced	Other matters	Total daily population	Date in 2024	Open matters	Sentenced	Other matters	Total daily population
07/01	1,249	128	1	1,378	08/17	1,324	110	4	1,438
07/02	1,238	132	1	1,371	08/18	1,334	110	4	1,448
07/03	1,244	132	1	1,377	08/19	1,344	110	4	1,458
07/04	1,241	139	1	1,381	08/20	1,330	116	4	1,450
07/05	1,255	139	1	1,395	08/21	1,330	104	4	1,438
07/06	1,273	139	1	1,413	08/22	1,325	106	3	1,434
07/07	1,277	139	1	1,417	08/23	1,342	110	3	1,455
07/08	1,296	139	1	1,436	08/24	1,340	111	3	1,454
07/09	1,288	126	1	1,415	08/25	1,335	111	3	1,449
07/10	1,298	134	1	1,433	08/26	1,353	111	3	1,467
07/11	1,283	140	1	1,424	08/27	1,343	105	3	1,451
07/12	1,275	144	1	1,420	08/28	1,343	109	3	1,455
07/13	1,278	143	1	1,422	08/29	1,342	113	3	1,458
07/14	1,290	142	1	1,433	08/30	1,332	115	3	1,450
07/15	1,299	142	1	1,442	08/31	1,324	121	3	1,448
07/16	1,295	143	1	1,439	09/01	1,320	121	3	1,444
07/17	1,297	143	1	1,441	09/02	1,326	121	3	1,450
07/18	1,296	147	1	1,444	09/03	1,351	121	3	1,475
07/19	1,289	148	1	1,438	09/04	1,345	115	3	1,463
07/20	1,287	155	1	1,443	09/05	1,349	80	2	1,431
07/21	1,292	155	1	1,448	09/06	1,352	83	2	1,437
07/22	1,304	155	1	1,460	09/07	1,344	84	2	1,430
07/23	1,310	135	1	1,446	09/08	1,355	84	2	1,441
07/24	1,319	137	1	1,457	09/09	1,365	84	2	1,451
07/25	1,314	140	1	1,455	09/10	1,357	84	3	1,444
07/26	1,313	145	2	1,460	09/11	1,340	85	3	1,428
07/27	1,309	146	2	1,457	09/12	1,342	85	3	1,430
07/28	1,317	146	2	1,465	09/13	1,356	85	3	1,444
07/29	1,333	146	2	1,481	09/14	1,355	86	3	1,444
07/30	1,312	126	2	1,440	09/15	1,357	86	3	1,446
07/31	1,313	127	2	1,442	09/16	1,372	86	3	1,461
08/01	1,311	131	2	1,444	09/17	1,366	90	3	1,459
08/02	1,304	134	2	1,440	09/18	1,368	92	3	1,463
08/03	1,288	132	2	1,422	09/19	1,378	92	3	1,473
08/04	1,290	132	2	1,424	09/20	1,382	96	3	1,481
08/05	1,293	131	2	1,426	09/21	1,396	99	3	1,498
08/06	1,290	105	2	1,397	09/22	1,401	97	3	1,501
08/07	1,305	108	3	1,416	09/23	1,401	97	3	1,501
08/08	1,313	109	4	1,426	09/24	1,394	105	3	1,502
08/09	1,314	108	5	1,427	09/25	1,392	101	3	1,496
08/10	1,304	106	5	1,415	09/26	1,402	104	2	1,508
08/11	1,320	106	5	1,431	09/27	1,398	111	2	1,511
08/12	1,326	106	5	1,437	09/28	1,376	112	2	1,490
08/13	1,333	112	4	1,449	09/29	1,401	112	2	1,515
08/14	1,332	104	4	1,440	09/30	1,396	111	2	1,509
08/15	1,329	110	4	1,443					

Table 1, continued.

Date in 2024	Open matters	Sentenced	Other matters	Total daily population	Date in 2024	Open matters	Sentenced	Other matters	Total daily population
10/01	1,396	112	2	1,510	11/16	1,432	127	1	1,560
10/02	1,391	114	2	1,507	11/17	1,429	125	1	1,555
10/03	1,384	117	2	1,503	11/18	1,434	125	1	1,560
10/04	1,368	122	2	1,492	11/19	1,436	130	1	1,567
10/05	1,365	124	2	1,491	11/20	1,433	120	1	1,554
10/06	1,370	124	2	1,496	11/21	1,419	124	1	1,544
10/07	1,383	124	2	1,509	11/22	1,426	125	1	1,552
10/08	1,376	117	2	1,495	11/23	1,399	127	1	1,527
10/09	1,370	119	2	1,491	11/24	1,404	127	1	1,532
10/10	1,365	121	2	1,488	11/25	1,420	111	1	1,532
10/11	1,363	128	2	1,493	11/26	1,408	113	1	1,522
10/12	1,345	129	2	1,476	11/27	1,406	110	1	1,517
10/13	1,349	128	2	1,479	11/28	1,384	110	1	1,495
10/14	1,360	128	2	1,490	11/29	1,389	110	1	1,500
10/15	1,365	130	2	1,497	11/30	1,402	109	1	1,512
10/16	1,379	116	2	1,497	12/01	1,424	109	1	1,534
10/17	1,373	123	2	1,498	12/02	1,426	109	1	1,536
10/18	1,374	124	2	1,500	12/03	1,412	96	1	1,509
10/19	1,369	124	1	1,494	12/04	1,406	95	2	1,503
10/20	1,385	119	1	1,505	12/05	1,411	98	2	1,511
10/21	1,392	118	1	1,511	12/06	1,403	97	2	1,502
10/22	1,385	119	1	1,505	12/07	1,399	101	2	1,502
10/23	1,392	120	1	1,513	12/08	1,402	100	2	1,504
10/24	1,390	121	1	1,512	12/09	1,400	100	2	1,502
10/25	1,396	125	1	1,522	12/10	1,396	93	2	1,491
10/26	1,401	128	1	1,530	12/11	1,395	96	2	1,493
10/27	1,396	128	1	1,525	12/12	1,392	101	2	1,495
10/28	1,402	128	1	1,531	12/13	1,401	101	2	1,504
10/29	1,387	134	1	1,522	12/14	1,383	108	2	1,493
10/30	1,398	122	1	1,521	12/15	1,381	109	2	1,492
10/31	1,410	120	1	1,531	12/16	1,385	108	2	1,495
11/01	1,403	123	1	1,527	12/17	1,395	104	2	1,501
11/02	1,393	124	1	1,518	12/18	1,391	108	2	1,501
11/03	1,390	124	1	1,515	12/19	1,370	113	2	1,485
11/04	1,395	124	1	1,520	12/20	1,360	115	2	1,477
11/05	1,391	111	1	1,503	12/21	1,353	117	2	1,472
11/06	1,406	111	1	1,518	12/22	1,355	117	2	1,474
11/07	1,404	118	1	1,523	12/23	1,365	108	2	1,475
11/08	1,400	122	1	1,523	12/24	1,358	111	2	1,471
11/09	1,403	126	1	1,530	12/25	1,358	111	2	1,471
11/10	1,411	125	1	1,537	12/26	1,370	110	2	1,482
11/11	1,414	124	1	1,539	12/27	1,380	108	2	1,490
11/12	1,440	123	1	1,564	12/28	1,376	104	2	1,482
11/13	1,429	115	1	1,545	12/29	1,382	104	2	1,488
11/14	1,435	120	1	1,556	12/30	1,384	104	2	1,490
11/15	1,444	122	1	1,567	12/31	1,385	102	2	1,489

Table 2. 2024 Average daily jail population (ADP) by legal status, by most serious charge at booking for open status, and by agency, for sentenced.

Legal status	ADP	% of ADP
<i>Open matters by most serious charge at booking</i>	1,237	90.5%
Violent felony	707	51.8%
Felony sex offense	50	3.6%
Weapons felony	140	10.2%
Property felony	155	11.3%
Drug felony	31	2.2%
Other felony	41	3.0%
Violent misdemeanor	44	3.2%
Misdemeanor sex offense	1	0.1%
Weapons misdemeanor	2	0.2%
Property misdemeanor	21	1.6%
Drug misdemeanor	1	0.1%
Other misdemeanor	10	0.7%
Municipal or traffic violation	26	1.9%
Parole or probation violation	8	0.6%
<i>Other reason for admission or missing information</i>	3	0.2%
<i>Sentenced, by agency</i>	126	9.2%
Louisiana Department of Corrections	88	6.4%
East Louisiana Mental Health System	38	2.8%
Total	1,366	100%

Table 3. 2024 Monthly jail admissions by arresting agency

Arresting agency	2024												Total
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	
NOPD	586	708	612	649	616	679	702	682	640	749	666	618	7,907
OPSO	50	44	44	48	63	50	42	72	48	57	38	44	600
LSP	5	22	7	5	16	19	21	14	50	12	30	42	243
HP, LB, MSRBA	19	19	26	26	23	34	27	18	23	16	24	16	271
LAPP	5	14	25	14	17	18	23	14	15	14	8	9	176
Other agencies	15	13	2	18	18	10	10	19	11	10	15	15	156
Total jail admissions	680	820	716	760	753	810	825	819	787	858	781	744	9,353

NOPD: New Orleans Police Department
 OPSO: Orleans Parish Sheriff's Office
 LSP: Louisiana State Police
 HP: Harbor Patrol

LBP: Levee Board
 MSRBA: Mississippi River Bridge Authority
 LAPP: Louisiana Probation and Parole

Other arresting agencies include the Housing Authority of New Orleans and university campus police departments.

Table 4. 2024 Jail admissions by OPSO race category and most serious charge at booking.

Most serious charge type at booking	Black	White	Everyone else	Total
Violent	2,930	439	61	3,430
Sex offense	79	33	5	117
Weapons	848	44	6	898
Property	1,325	338	40	1,703
Drug	271	47	6	324
Other	730	176	29	935
Municipal and traffic	624	303	67	994
Detainers and warrants only	629	169	5	803
Other jail admissions	123	22	4	149
Total	7,559	1,571	223	9,353
Percentage of all jail admissions	80.8%	16.8%	2.4%	100%

Table 5. 2024 Average length of jail stay by most serious felony or state misdemeanor charge at booking.

Charge category	ALOS, in days	Median LOS, in days	Max LOS, in days	Standard dev.	N releases
<i>Felony</i>	90	10	3,601	221.2	4,732
Violent	137	22	3,601	306.7	1,968
Sex offense	178	25	1,849	315.8	109
Weapons	76	17	776	117.1	717
Property	49	6	680	83.8	1,151
Drugs	44	4	1,637	116.0	290
Other	27	2	894	86.9	497
<i>State misdemeanor</i>	12	1	1,325	48.4	2,449
Violent	12	1	1,325	46.0	1,334
Sex offense	16	3	116	29.9	15
Weapons	3	1	177	14.8	179
Property	16	1	901	53.8	512
Drugs	6	1	62	12.3	34
Other	10	1	1,094	60.1	375
All people released in 2024	52	2	3,601	166.8	9,096

Table 6. 2024 Average length of stay by race.

Race category	ALOS, in days	Median LOS, in days	Max LOS, in days	Standard dev.	N releases
Black / African American	57	3	3,601	180.1	7,317
White	29	1	1,637	86.1	1,538
Latino	32	1	1,036	111.9	179
Asian / Asian American	20	1	173	40.6	26
All non-Black releasees	29	1	1,637	88.3	1,771
All people released in 2024	52	2	3,601	166.8	9,096

APPENDIX B: GLOSSARY

Criminal legal system definitions

AVERAGE MONTHLY JAIL POPULATION. The sum of all the daily detainee counts divided by the number of days in the month. We use an average, rather than a population snapshot (i.e. the daily count on a single day of the month) so that we can report one figure that takes into consideration all the daily counts and day-to-day fluctuations in jail population during the month. In monthly reports, we contextualize the average monthly jail population by reporting the minimum and maximum daily populations and the standard deviation for all daily jail counts in the month.

JAIL ADMISSIONS. We acknowledge that the term, *jail admission*, may be defined differently in correctional, pretrial, and other spaces. Here, we define jail admissions as the transfer of custody from an arresting agency to the Orleans Parish Sheriff's Office following custodial arrests that occurred outside of the jail. Certainly, people can be and are booked on new charges after admission to the jail (for example, for offenses that can only take place within a jail, such as battery of a correctional officer). Our tabulations and analyses only count the initial booking that brought a person from the community into the jail, consistent with the central aims of the report.

JAIL RELEASES. A person's exit from jail custody. Note that the term, *releases*, can refer to releases back into the community (for example, when someone is released on their own recognizance or posts bond); releases to another jurisdiction's law enforcement agency (for example, in the case of someone admitted to the jail on an out-of-state warrant); or releases to the Department of Corrections after sentencing.

LENGTH OF JAIL STAY. The difference, in days, between the date of jail admission and the date of jail release. Note that the length of stay is only calculated for people who have been released from jail to ensure a final, static figure.

AVERAGE LENGTH OF STAY. The mean of all jail stays for people released during the month, calculated as the sum of all lengths of stay for people released during the month divided by the number of people released during the same month. To contextualize our reporting of the average length of stay, we also report the shortest lengths of stay (i.e. the minimum; usually less than 1 day); the longest length of stay (i.e. the maximum); and the standard deviation for all lengths of stay for people released during the month.

MEDIAN LENGTH OF STAY. When a released person has been released from jail custody after a very long jail stay, that person's length of stay can skew the average length of stay upward. We report the median length of stay, the midway point between all observed lengths of jail stays for people released during the month, to provide additional context for interpreting average length of stay. For a given median length of stay, 50% of those released had a length of stay longer than the median.

Criminal legal system definitions, continued

MOST SERIOUS CHARGE AT BOOKING People detained in jail can have more than one charge at more than one level of seriousness. For example, a detained person may have been booked with a felony property charge, state misdemeanor drug charge, while also having an outstanding local warrant. We created “most serious charge at booking” so that we can name the highest-level charge for which a person is being detained. We use a hierarchy of charge categories to determine the most serious charge at booking. In the hierarchy, all charges are categorized into four types: 1) felonies; 2) state misdemeanors; 3) municipal and traffic offenses; 4) warrants, attachments, and Louisiana parole and probation detainers. All felonies are more serious than state misdemeanors, and within the felony and state misdemeanor categories is a sub-hierarchy of offense types, listed here in order of seriousness: a) violent offenses; b) sex offenses; c) weapons offenses; d) property offenses; e) drug offenses; and f) ‘other’ offenses.

AVERAGE 7-DAY JAIL TURNOVER RATE. A measure “borrowed” from the Bureau of Justice Statistics, the average 7-day jail turnover rate aims to capture in broad terms the movement of people into and out of the jail. We calculate the jail turnover rate by dividing the average daily population for the month by the sum of jail admissions and jail releases, multiplying by 7, and dividing by the number of days in the month.

Definitions based on OPSO variables

“LEGAL STATUS”, “OPEN”, AND “CLOSED” MATTERS. “Legal status” is a designation used by the Sheriff to categorize people detained in the jail. There are two types of legal-status designations. People with “open” matters had, at the time of reporting, had cases that had not yet reached a final disposition. People with open matters may also have had active warrants and/or detainers at the time of reporting. Inversely, people with “closed” matters have cases that have reached a final disposition, and any warrants and/or detainers they may have had have been resolved. People with closed matters have been sentenced to a Department of Corrections institution or to the Eastern Louisiana Mental Health System and were, at the time of reporting, awaiting transport to those facilities.

Note that these are designations originate from the Sheriff, for the purpose of categorizing people detained in the jail. *Any reporting of frequencies or percentages involving these categories should not be interpreted as measures related to Court activities.*

ARRESTING AGENCY. We report monthly jail admissions by arresting agency in response to inquiries about possible effects of increased Louisiana State Police patrols beyond the French Quarter. The Sheriff collects “arresting agency” data for every person admitted to the jail, and we tabulate this variable to generate a data graphic that appears in the monthly report. *As this variable specifically relates to jail admissions, our reporting on arresting agency should not be interpreted as a measure of law enforcement activities.*

How we operationalize measures of inequality

DISPROPORTIONALITY AND OVER- AND UNDERREPRESENTATION. We use these terms to compare the demographic characteristics of a group (like people detained in the jail) to the demographic characteristics of the larger community from which most on that group came (like Orleans Parish). When both groups share similar proportions of people by demographic characteristics, we observe proportionality. We observe disproportionality when one demographic group is overrepresented or is underrepresented, in comparison with the demographic characteristics of Orleans Parish.

DISPARITY. We use the term, disparity, to refer to differences in the rates at which something occurs among 2 or more groups. To explore the possibility of disparity in our jail population reports, we first calculate the rate of jail detention per 100,000 New Orleans residents by race/ethnicity. The jail detention rate is the average jail population for a group (say, Black people detained in the jail during the month) divided by the estimated number of Black people in New Orleans, then multiplied by 100,000. Generating a rate per 100,000 is useful when comparing rates between groups of differing sizes (for example, the population of New Orleans, a majority [58%] African American city), we can “control” for the differences in size by comparing rates per 100,000 residents.

Further, we can “relate” the jail detention rate for Black people with that of white people to generate a relative rate index (RRI). To do this, we divide the Black jail detention rate per 100,000 Black people in New Orleans by the jail detention rate for white people per 100,000 residents. By using the white rate as the denominator in the calculation, we effectively index the white rate to 1 and defensibly make the statement that, in December 2023 (for example), Black people were jailed at a rate 4.8 times that of white people. We observe parity – a measure of equality – when the RRI = 1.

Notes about race / ethnicity categories

Our reporting on racial and ethnic demographics of people detained in the jail is based on data collected by Orleans Parish Sheriff’s Office (OPSO) deputies during the jail admission process. OPSO uses the following mutually exclusive categories for race: Black; White; Hispanic; Asian; American Indian; and Unknown. The race and ethnicity categories currently in use by OPSO do not quite align with those used by the US Census Bureau, which defines race and ethnicity as separate constructs.

Our reporting is rooted in an understanding that the inequalities that we observe are reflections and symptoms of systemically racist systems. We view mass incarceration in the US as the cumulative effects of systemic racism that impact everyone’s lives before any one person is ever booked into jail. Accordingly, our reporting about racial disproportionalities should not be interpreted as critiques of Black people or Black culture; nor should it be interpreted as evidence to support detention of more white people to reduce inequalities.

One thing to keep in mind: we use these measures and categories as a kind of shorthand to describe inequalities, but they certainly don’t tell the whole story. Race – like other categories like gender – is a broad social construct that is shaped by history and contains other constructs, like socio-economic status and access to essentials such as education and health care. Accordingly, the purpose of the sections is to highlight some observed areas of inequality, in the hope that it sparks continued conversation about how to make our community more just and equitable.

APPENDIX C: PUBLIC SAFETY ASSESSMENTS

For more information about the Public Safety Assessment and how it is used in the Orleans Parish Criminal District Court, please visit our [OCJC page](#).

Method of generating measures

We wish to acknowledge that there are several approaches to generating outcome measures for the people who have been assessed using the PSA. *For the purposes of reporting on the jail population in 2024*, we elected to focus on people who had been administered the PSA and were released in 2024. Note that the administration of the PSA typically takes place at booking, and this group includes people assessed in 2024 and earlier.

This approach is consistent with the use of PSA as an additional tool for judicial officers (in addition to judicial expertise, experience, and discretion) in setting terms of release. While the PSA is not at all intended as a tool for jail population management, its role as a guide for making decisions about jail release can and does have implications for the jail population.

We further narrowed the group of assessed and released people to those who have had at least one charge associated with their jail admission screened by the District Attorney so that we can report more stable figures.

When the District Attorney accepts or refuses charges, the Magistrate Court matter becomes disposed. Accordingly, the 97.3% Magistrate Court appearance rate should remain unchanged over time.

Success rates, public safety rates, and Criminal District Court appearance rates may be subject to change in the future. At the time of reporting, 86.4% of the 3,724 people who had been assessed, released in 2024, and had at least one charge screened by the District Attorney had had their cases reach a final disposition by the last day of 2024. The remaining 507 people had cases in progress in Criminal District Court as of 31 December 2024, and the possibility exists that they may fail to appear at a court event or get arrested on new offenses before the final disposition of their case. Thus, these rates are accurate and valid as of 31 December 2024 and may change in the future.

Acknowledgements

This report was produced by Theresa RF McKinney, Senior Researcher, Mayor's Office of Criminal Justice Coordination, City of New Orleans, under the supervision of Tenisha Stevens, Criminal Justice Commissioner.

Before joining the OCJC team in 2022, Ms. McKinney worked at the Vera Institute of Justice, the University of California, San Francisco, and the National Council on Crime and Delinquency. She earned a master's degree in qualitative, quantitative, and psychometric research methods from the University of Nebraska - Lincoln. She also holds degrees from Mills College and the California Culinary Academy.

The report would not have been possible without the assistance and support from:

Kate Hoadley
Amiyah King
Bryan Favorite
Keisha Bouie

Adrienne Tobler
De'Anna Lavigne-Lawson
Virginia Ryan
Charles, Anak, and Daisy McKinney

Data for the report came from the OCJC data warehouse established by former OCJC staff Nathaniel Weaver and Mike Geerken.

Regular reporting of the Orleans Parish jail population was initially conducted as part of the Safety and Justice Challenge grant from the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation through a collaboration between the Office of Criminal Justice Coordination and the Vera Institute, New Orleans office.