



Bernalillo County Metropolitan Detention Center Monthly Report – May 2024

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Criminal Justice Reforms and the Jail Population

Table 1. MDC Quick Population Figures by Month

Quick Population Figures	May 23	Dec 23	Jan 24	Feb 24	Mar 24	Apr 24	May 24
In Custody Average Daily Population	↗ 1,483	1,396	↗ 1,439	↗ 1,485	↘ 1,484	↗ 1,537	↘ 1,509
Average Community Custody Program	↗ 46	46	↗ 47	↘ 44	↗ 45	↗ 47	↗ 49
Average Total Jail Population (w/CCP)	↗ 1,529	1,442	↗ 1,486	↗ 1,529	= 1,529	↗ 1,584	↘ 1,558
Monthly Bookings	↗ 1,513	1,446	↗ 1,683	↘ 1,639	↗ 1,703	↘ 1,679	↘ 1,668
Bookings Ages 18-24	↗ 206	172	↗ 243	↘ 226	↗ 274	↘ 246	↘ 223
Monthly Releases	↗ 1,525	1,435	↗ 1,635	↗ 1,647	↗ 1,677	↘ 1,612	↗ 1,730
Average Length of Stay (in Days)	↘ 36.6	30.2	= 30.2	↗ 32.7	↘ 30.7	↘ 29.6	↗ 33.1
Total Consecutive Days 1,950 or Less	3,358 (>9 years)						

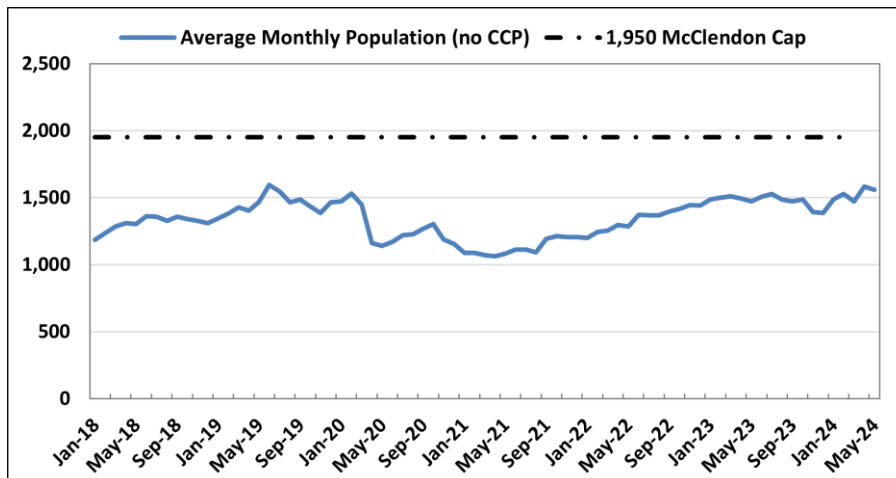
*Arrows show increase or decrease in counts from prior month, except for 2023, which indicates if the equivalent month of the following year is an increase or decrease.

Report Highlights

- The MDC population has been below the 1,950 cap for more than nine consecutive years.
- The MDC population (on-site) in May 2024 decreased by 28 (<1.8%) from April 2024.
- Bookings decreased by 0.7% from April 2024 to May 2024 and releases increased by 7.3% over the same period.
- The LOS in May 2024 increased by 3.5 days (11.8%) from April 2024 (29.6 to 33.1).
- Short-term returns to custody (within one month) post-COVID have remained lower than pre-COVID.
- In March 2024, 45.7% of motions were denied or dismissed by the courts and 51.2% were granted.

The MDC jail population decreased to a historic low in March 2020 and then began increasing in October 2021. In May 2024, the average monthly population was 1,509, a decrease of 28 inmates (1.8%) from April 2024.

Figure 1. MDC Population (no CCP) by Month



In Custody Demographics

The In Custody Demographics displays basic information regarding the jail's racial, gender, and age demographics (see Table 2). The mean age of the jail fluctuated between approximately 35-36 years of age. The largest age group within the jail was the 27-39 (49.1%) age group, the smallest group was 18-26 (17.3%) and the remaining group consisted of inmates who were age 40+ (33.6%). Male inmates (84.0%) were a larger population than female inmates (16.0%). Over time, racial demographics remained approximately static. Hispanic inmates (50.9%) remained the largest demographic, followed by White (28.7%), Black (8.1%), Native-American (7.6%), and other (4.7%).

Table 2. In Custody Population Figures

In Custody Population Figures	May 23	Dec 23	Jan 24	Feb 24	Mar 24	Apr 24	May 24
IC Population	1,519	1,422	1,460	1,464	1,552	1,553	1,502
Male	1,279	1,181	1,230	1,230	1,298	1,304	1,262
Female	240	241	230	234	254	249	240
Mean Age	35.7	35.8	35.7	35.9	36.0	36.2	36.3
18-26	281	269	254	264	282	277	260
27-39	767	701	780	742	779	778	737
40+	471	452	426	458	491	498	505
Hispanic	758	720	714	730	766	760	765
White	440	412	428	419	447	449	431
Native American	112	96	106	118	118	122	114
African American	163	132	146	139	142	150	112
Other/Unknown	46	62	66	58	79	72	70

*As of the last day of the month at 23:59. Excludes CCP.

Psychiatric Services Unit (PSU)

From the medical contractor we receive a list of everyone who is a PSU client every Friday. Using this list, we report the following information. On the first Friday of May 2024 (May 3rd, 2024), the PSU list included 666 people and comprised 41.2% of the jail population of 1,618. According to the medical contractor 156 (9.6%) individuals were listed as having a serious mental illness (SMI). Individuals had between 1 and 8 diagnoses with an average of 2.4 diagnoses per person in the PSU.

Table 3 reports four diagnoses that are typically considered serious mental illnesses. 58 individuals had one of these diagnoses. Of the four diagnoses the highest percentage was schizophrenia at 0.7% (27 patients) and the lowest percentage was bipolar at 0.6% (9 patients).

Table 3: PSU SMI Diagnosis Count and Percentages

Diagnosis	Count in PSU	Percent in PSU	Percent in Jail
Major Depressive Disorder	12	1.8%	0.7%
Bipolar	9	1.4%	0.6%
Schizoaffective Disorder	10	1.5%	0.6%
Schizophrenia	27	4.1%	1.7%

The remaining 98 clients with SMI had one or more diagnoses of: Substance Induced Psychotic Disorder (SIPD), Intermittent Explosive Disorder (IED), Sedative uses Disorder, Mood Disorder Not Otherwise Specified (NOS), Depression, Benzodiazepine Use Disorder, Alcohol Use Disorder (ETOH), Opiate Use Disorder, Polysubstance Abuse, PTSD, Methamphetamine Use Disorder, Anxiety, Adjustment Disorder, Disruptive Mood Dysregulation Disorder (DMDD), Personality Disorder NOS, and Psychosis NOS.

Table 4 reports the count and percent of diagnoses in the PSU and the jail population. Of clients with SMI there is an average of 1.6 diagnoses. This table duplicates individuals because they often have comorbid diagnoses, or more than one diagnosis. For example, a patient with diagnoses of Sedative Use Disorder, Alcohol Use Disorder, Opiate Use Disorder, Posttraumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), Methamphetamine Use Disorder, and Anxiety would be listed in the table for each diagnosis. The largest percentage of diagnoses is Methamphetamine Use Disorder at 5.3%, followed by Opiate Use Disorder (4.4%), and PTSD (3.8%). Substance abuse diagnoses account for 13.1% of all diagnoses in the PSU and 5.4% in the MDC. These have decreased since the first Friday in April.

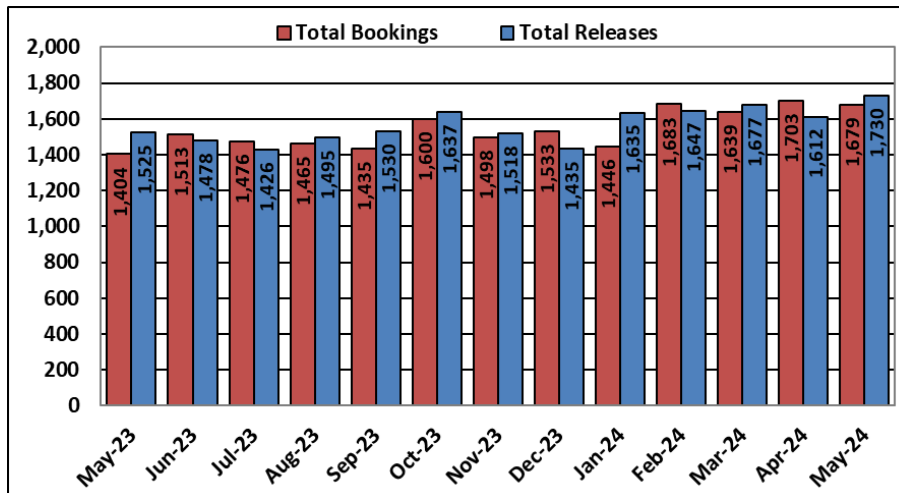
Table 4: Diagnoses

Diagnosis	Percent in PSU	Percent in Jail
Substance Induced Psychotic Disorder	0.9%	0.4%
Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder	0.2%	0.1%
Intermittent Explosive Disorder	0.8%	0.3%
Sedative Use Disorder	0.0%	0.0%
Mood Disorder Not Otherwise Specified	1.8%	0.7%
Depression	1.7%	0.7%
Benzodiazepine Use Disorder	0.0%	0.0%
Alcohol Use Disorder	2.3%	0.9%
Opiate Use Disorder	4.4%	1.8%
Polysubstance Abuse	1.2%	0.5%
Posttraumatic Stress Disorder	3.8%	1.5%
Methamphetamine Use Disorder	5.3%	2.2%
Anxiety	2.7%	1.1%
Adjustment Disorder	0.5%	0.2%
Disruptive Mood Dysregulation Disorder	0.2%	0.1%
Personality Disorder Not Otherwise Specified	2.4%	1.0%
Psychosis Not Otherwise Specified	1.2%	0.5%
No Diagnosis	8.0%	3.3%

Bookings, Releases, and Length of Stay

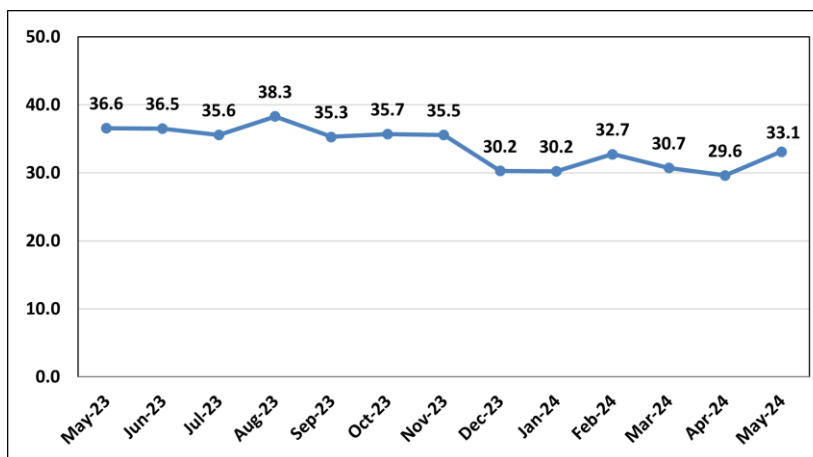
The jail population is affected by two factors: how many people are booked and how long they are in custody. From April 2024 to May 2024, the number of bookings decreased (0.7%) from 1,679 to 1,668 and releases increased (7.3%) from 1,612 to 1,730 (see Figure 2). There were 275 more bookings in May 2024 than in May 2023 (19.6%), and there were 205 more releases in May 2024 than in May 2023 (13.4%).

Figure 2. Monthly Bookings and Releases



The LOS in May 2024 (see Figure 3) was 33.1 days, 3.5 (11.8%) days more than April 2024, and 3.5 days (9.6%) fewer than May 2023.

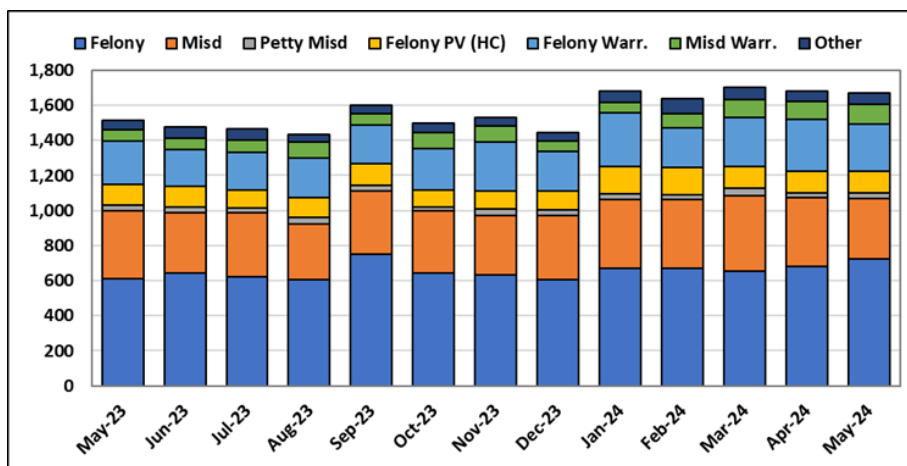
Figure 3. Monthly Length of Stay of Releases



Bookings by Highest Charge

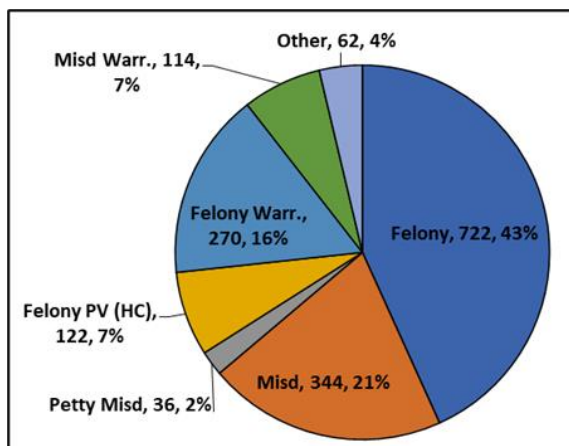
For the inmates booked into the MDC, the highest charge was assigned based upon charges for which the individual was in custody. Over time, the composition of the jail by highest charge has shifted, with larger portions of inmates in custody on a felony charge and fewer in custody on felony warrants and remands (see Figure 4). Compared to May 2023, the number of bookings with a felony increased 17.8% and increased 6.3% from April 2024 to May 2024. Misdemeanor bookings were 10.6% lower when comparing May 2024 to May 2023 and petty misdemeanor bookings were 16.1% higher during the same time period. Felony probation violations stayed equal from April 2024 to May 2024, remaining static at 122. Felony warrants increased by 9.3% from May 2023 to May 2024, and decreased 8.8% from April 2024 to May 2024.

Figure 4. Monthly Bookings by Highest Charge



During the month of May 2024, there were 722 felony bookings into the MDC (see Figure 5). This accounted for 43.2% of all bookings. These were primarily 3rd (5.9% of bookings) and 4th (32.3% of bookings) degree felonies. Approximately 1 in 5 bookings were for a misdemeanor (20.6%). Felony probation violations (7.3%), felony warrants (16.2%) and misdemeanor warrants (6.8%) accounted for most of the remaining booking charges.

Figure 5. Bookings by Highest Charge – May 2024



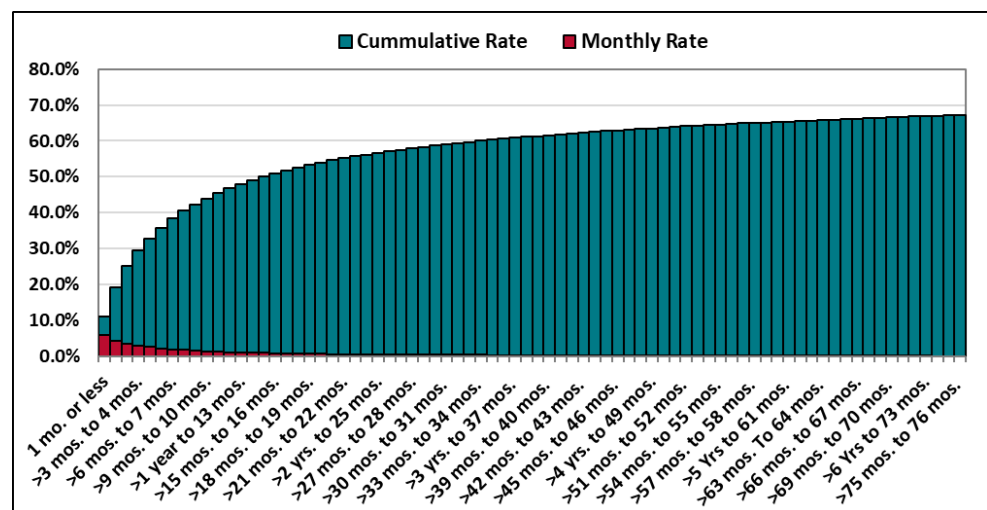
Recidivism

According to the Bureau of Justice Statistics, a recidivism measure requires three items: a starting event, such as a release from a facility; a measure of failure, such as a booking; and a follow-up time period from the starting event. Compared to prisons, jails have a much higher rate of turnover. A preliminary recidivism rate was calculated for the MDC using the following:

- Unique monthly releases beginning in January 2018 through April 2024. The releases end the month prior to reporting to allow the same follow-up time-period for each month.
- Bookings in subsequent months within approximate one-month intervals (365/12).
- The measure of failure is any new booking into the MDC.

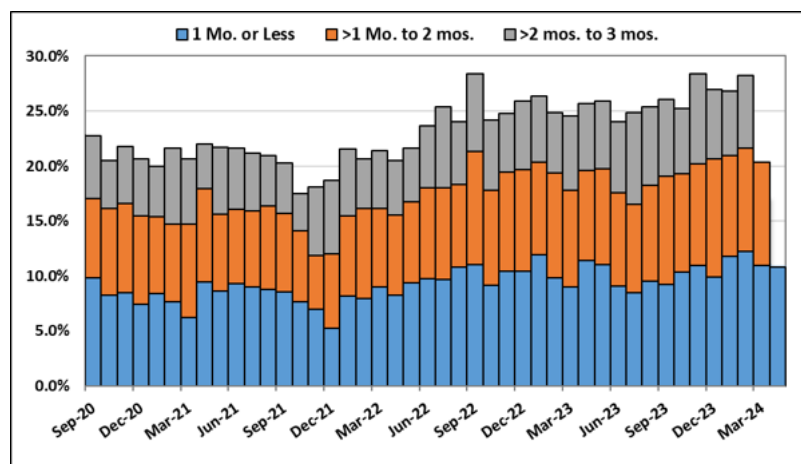
During the first three months following release from the MDC, 25.0% of inmates return to custody (see Figure 6), increasing to 35.8% within six months. The cumulative recidivism rate increased over time and 67.2% inmates returned to custody for any booking within 76 months. Recidivism occurs with decreasing frequency over time, so inmates typically return to custody within a shorter time frame rather than years after release. Phrased another way, if a person is going to recidivate, he or she is at the highest risk to do so within a short amount of time.

Figure 6. Long Term Recidivism – April 2024



Short-term returns to custody decreased from 12.7% between January 2018 and February 2020 to 9.5% from March 2020 to April 2024 (see Figure 7). From March 2020 to April 2024, 9.5% of inmates returned to custody in the first month, 8.2% returned to custody in the second month, and 5.9% returned to custody in the third month.

Figure 7. Short-Term Recidivism – Through April 2024

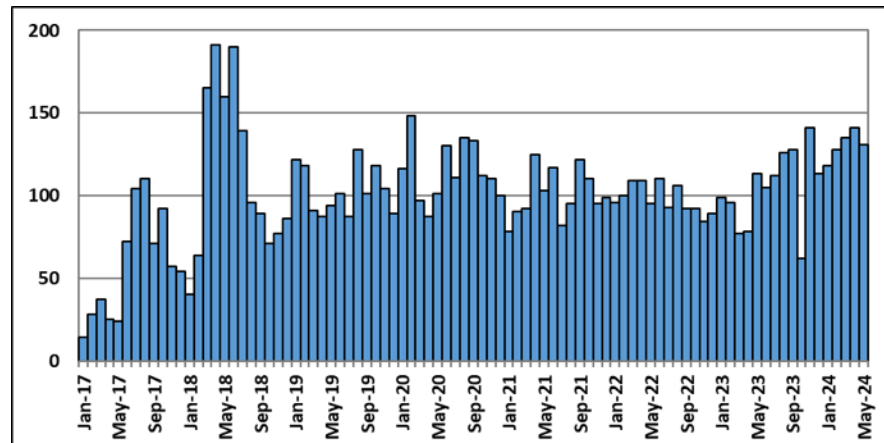


Preventive Detention Motions

From January 2017 to May 2024, there were 8,962 motions for preventive detention (PTD) filed across 8,385 bookings for 7,081 individuals¹. This includes motions filed in both Bernalillo County Metropolitan Court and Second Judicial District Court. The preventive detention motions were filed for a variety of charge types, including shoplifting, burglary, auto theft, assault, and murder.

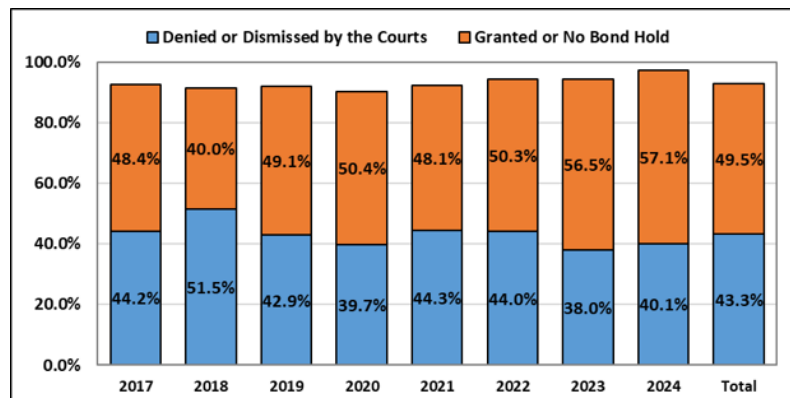
Over the last 12 months, the number of PTD motions filed per month ranged from 62 to 141, with an average of 120 per month (see Figure 8). There were 131 motions filed in May 2024, 18 more (15.9%) than May 2023 and ten fewer (7.1%) than in April 2024.

Figure 8. PTD Motions Files by Month



In May 2024, excluding a small number of pending motions, 45.7% of motions were denied or dismissed and 51.2% were granted. By year, since 2019, a greater portion of motions have been granted than denied (see Figure 9). In 2024, 57.1% of motions were granted and 40.1% were denied or dismissed. Since 2017, 49.5% of motions have been granted and 43.3% have been denied. The remainder were withdrawn (4.1%) or the underlying case was nolle prosecuted, dismissed, or sentenced (3.2%).

Figure 9. Percent Granted or Denied by Year



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¹ Approximately 100 of these motions occurred when an inmate was not booked into the MDC, but this is generally uncommon.