

Bernalillo County Metropolitan Detention Center Monthly Report – January 2023

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Prepared for Bernalillo County by the Institute for Social Research, Center for Applied Research and Analysis
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Criminal Justice Reforms and the Jail Population

Table 1. MDC Quick Population Figures by Month

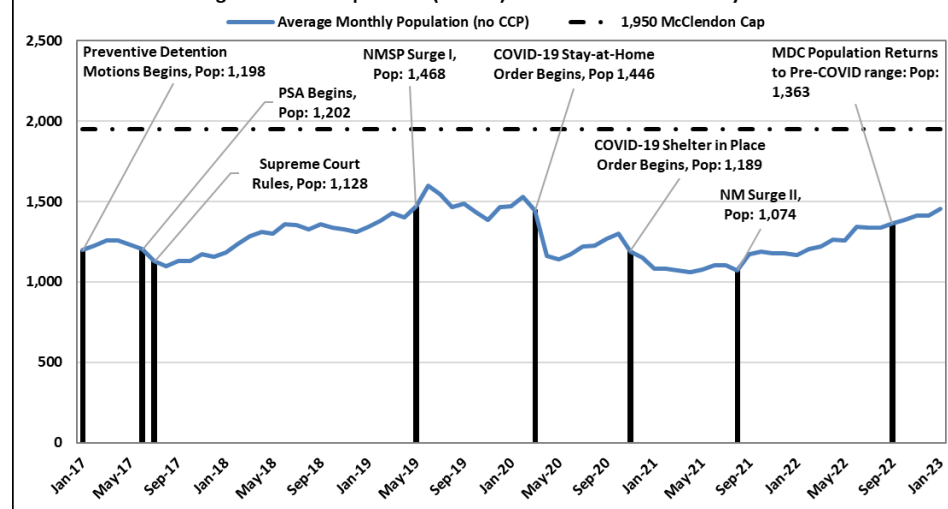
Quick Population Figures ¹	Jan 22	Aug 22	Sep 22	Oct 22	Nov 22	Dec 22	Jan 23
On-Site Average Daily Population	1,211 (↗)	↘ 1,378	↗ 1,404	↗ 1,430	↗ 1,458	↘ 1,455	↗ 1,498
Average Community Custody Program	38 (↘)	= 55	↘ 50	↘ 49	↘ 44	↘ 42	↘ 35
Average Total Jail Population (w/CCP)	1,249 (↗)	↘ 1,433	↗ 1,454	↗ 1,479	↗ 1,502	↘ 1,497	↗ 1,533
Monthly Bookings	1,053 (↗)	↗ 1,393	↘ 1,365	↘ 1,300	↘ 1,283	↗ 1,319	↗ 1,400
Bookings Ages 18-24	184 (↗)	↘ 183	↗ 205	↘ 167	↗ 197	↘ 166	↘ 209
Monthly Releases	901 (↗)	↗ 1,363	↘ 1,343	↘ 1,330	↘ 1,257	↗ 1,327	↗ 1,342
Average Length of Stay (in Days)	25.4 (↗)	↗ 35.7	↘ 26.3	↗ 27.7	↗ 31.6	= 31.6	↘ 28.5
Total Consecutive Days 1,950 or Less	3,003 (over 8 years)						

*Arrows show increase or decrease in counts from prior month, with the exception of 2021, which indicates if the equivalent month of the following year is an increase or decrease.

Report Highlights

- The MDC population in January 2023 was 1,498, an increase of 23.7% from January 2022.
- The MDC population has returned to pre-COVID levels.
- Bookings increased 6.1% from December 2022 to January 2023 and releases increased 1.1% over the same period.
- The LOS in January 2023 decreased 9.8% from December 2022 to January 2023 (31.6 days to 28.5 days).
- Short-term returns to custody (within one month) post-COVID have remained lower than pre-COVID.
- In January 2023, 41.9% of motions were denied or dismissed by the courts and 54.7% were granted.

Figure 1. MDC Population (no CCP) and Initiative Initiation by Month

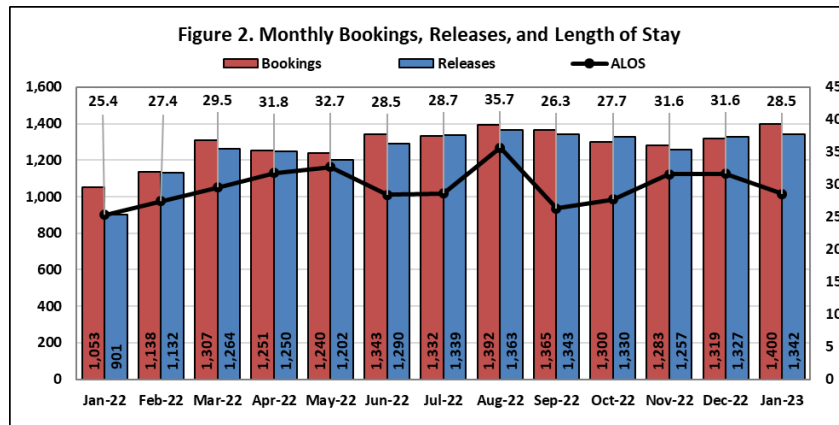


The MDC jail population decreased to a historic low during the Pandemic starting in March 2020. Beginning in October 2021, the jail population has been gradually increasing. In January 2023, the average MDC population was 1,498, 23.7% higher than January 2022. **As of September 2022, the population has reached pre-COVID numbers. Since last September, the population has increased an additional 6.9%.**

¹ Jail Headcounts have been modified accordingly due to MDC's migration to a new jail management system starting in December 2020.

Bookings, Releases, and Length of Stay

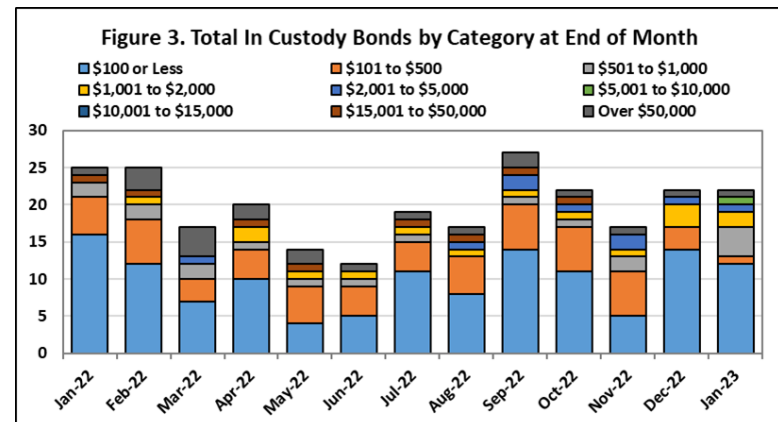
- Jail population is affected by two factors: how many people are booked and how long they are in custody.
- From December 2022 to January 2023, the number of bookings increased (6.1%) from 1,319 to 1,400, and releases increased (1.1%) from 1,327 to 1,342 (see Figure 2).
- There were 347 more bookings in January 2023 than in January 2022 (33.0%), and there were 441 more releases in January 2023 than in January 2022 (48.9%).
- The LOS in January 2023 was 28.5 days, 3.1 days lower than December 2022.
- The LOS in January 2023 was higher than the LOS in January 2022 by 3.1 days, a 12.6% increase.



In Custody Bonds

- At the end of the day on January 31, 2022, there were approximately 1,476 inmates in custody.
- Of these, 22 inmates (1.5%) could have been released if all bonds were paid (see Figure 3).

Of the 22 inmates with a bond, 12 had bonds totaling \$100 or less (54.5%) and one had a bond between \$101 and \$500 (4.5%), four had bonds between \$501 and \$1,000 (18.2%), two had bonds between \$1,001 and \$2,000 (9.1%), one had a bond between \$2,001 and \$5,000 (2.6%), one had a bond between \$5,001 and \$10,000 (2.6%) and one person had a bond greater than \$50,000 (2.6%). There were an average of 20 persons in custody on a bond at the end of the month each month during the past 12 months.



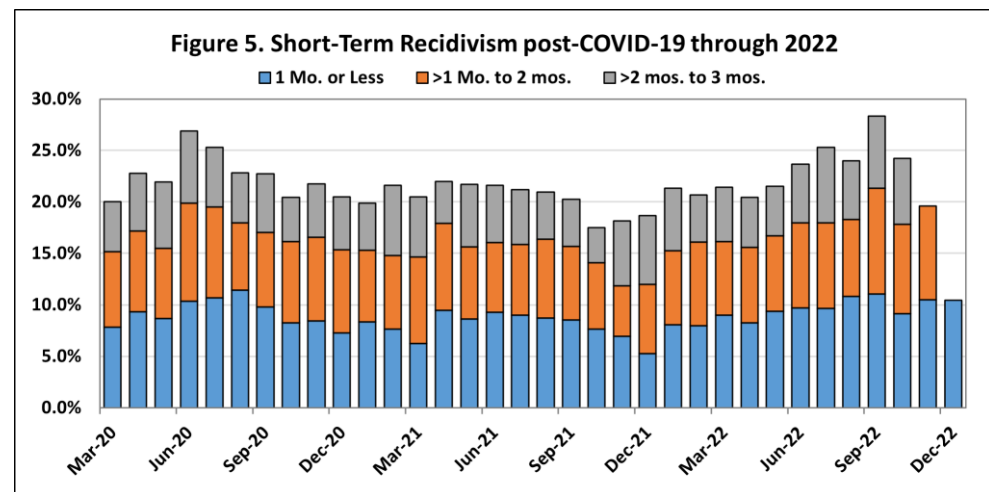
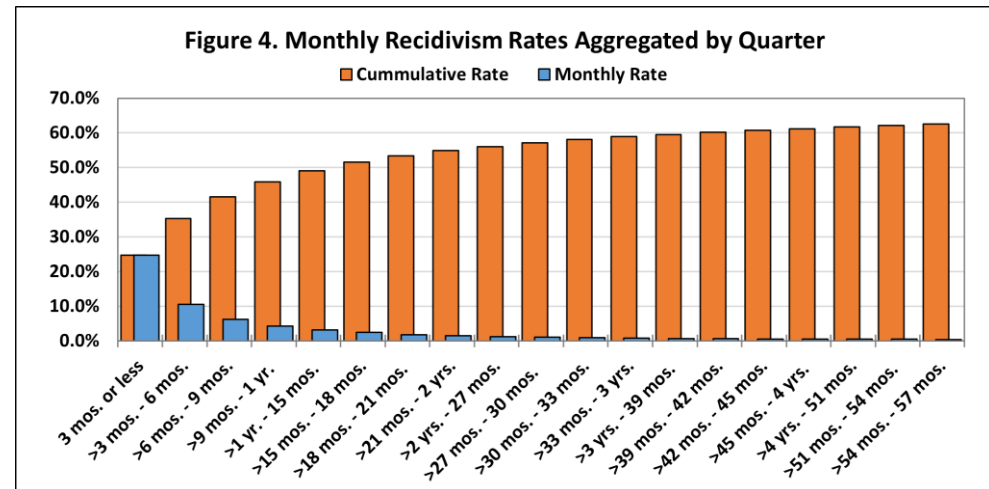
Recidivism

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 December 2022. 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.

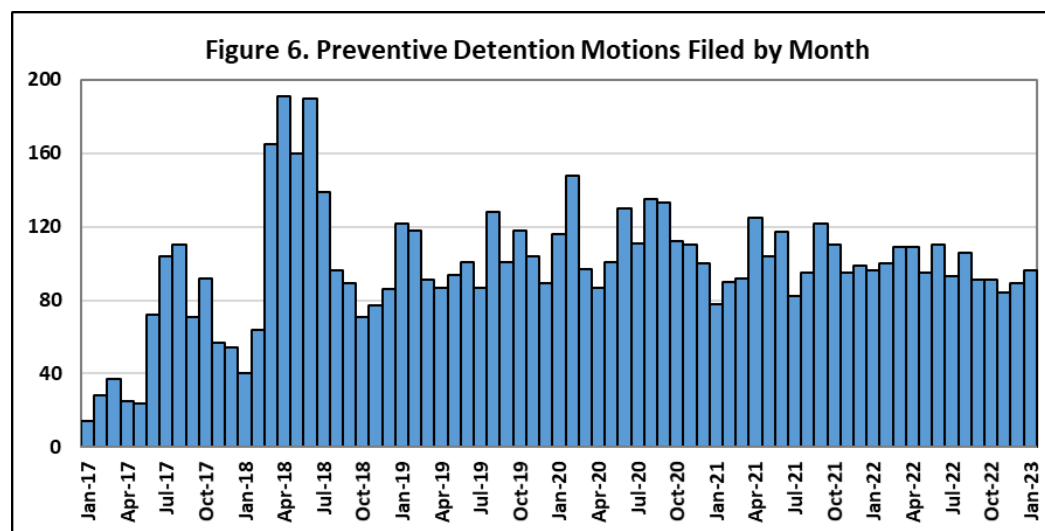
During the first three months following release from the MDC, approximately 24.8% of inmates return to custody (see Figure 4), increasing to 35.3% within six months. The cumulative recidivism rate increased over time to 62.6% of inmates returning to custody for any booking within 57 months, and overall in the last five years, the cumulative recidivism rate was 65.2%. The increase in recidivism rates over time decreases as the inmates return to custody at a decreasing rate over time.

Short-term returns to custody decreased after March 2020 from 12.7% from January 2018 to February 2020 and 8.9% from March 2020 to December 2022 (see Figure 5). From March 2020 to December 2022: 8.9% of inmates returning to custody in the first month, 7.6% return to custody in the second month, and 5.5% will return to custody in the third month.

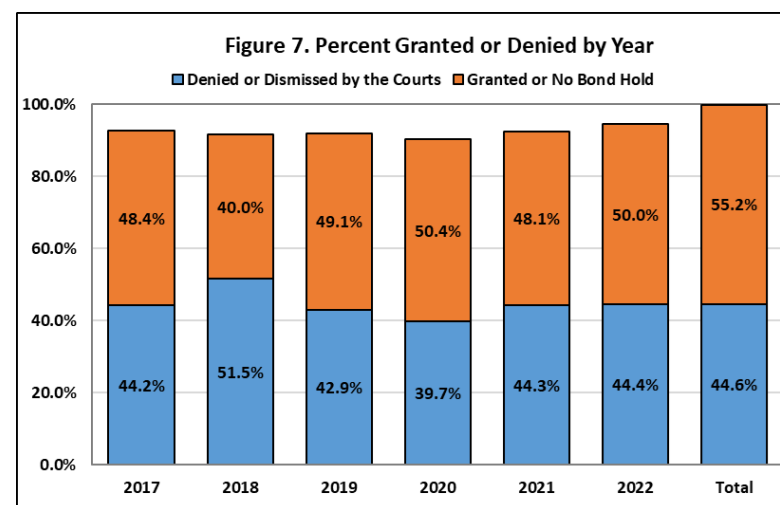


Preventive Detention Motions

From January 2017 to January 2023, there were approximately 7,056 motions for preventive detention (PTD) filed across 6,717 bookings² for 5,733 individuals. 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. During the last 12 months, the number of PTD motions filed per month ranged from 84 to 110, with an average of 98 per month (see Figure 4). There were 96 motions filed in January 2023, the same number of motions filed in January 2022.



At the end of January 2023, there were approximately 43 cases that had a PTD motion pending. These cases were removed from the motion outcomes analysis. In January 2023 41.9% of motions were denied or dismissed by the courts and 54.7% were granted. By year, since 2019, a greater portion of motions have been granted than denied. Since the implementation of preventive detention motions in 2017, 47.6% of motions have been granted and 44.5% have been denied. The remainder were withdrawn (4.5%) or the underlying case was nolle prosequi, dismissed, or sentenced (3.4%).



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² Approximately 100 of these motions occurred when an inmate was not booked into the MDC, but this is generally uncommon.