



## Bernalillo County Metropolitan Detention Center Monthly Report – April 2024

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

Table 1. MDC Quick Population Figures by Month

Quick Population Figures	Apr 23	Nov 23	Dec 23	Jan 24	Feb 24	Mar 24	Apr 24
In Custody Average Daily Population	↗ 1,506	1,406	↘ 1,396	↗ 1,439	↗ 1,485	↘ 1,484	↗ 1,537
Average Community Custody Program	↘ 49	47	↘ 46	↗ 47	↘ 44	↗ 45	↗ 47
Average Total Jail Population (w/CCP)	↗ 1,555	1,453	↘ 1,442	↗ 1,486	↗ 1,529	= 1,529	↗ 1,584
Monthly Bookings	↗ 1,404	1,533	↘ 1,446	↗ 1,683	↘ 1,639	↗ 1,703	↘ 1,679
Bookings Ages 18-24	↗ 222	236	↘ 172	↗ 243	↘ 226	↗ 274	↘ 246
Monthly Releases	↗ 1,370	1,517	↘ 1,435	↗ 1,635	↗ 1,647	↗ 1,677	↘ 1,612
Average Length of Stay (in Days)	↘ 39.0	35.5	↘ 30.2	= 30.2	↗ 32.7	↘ 30.7	↘ 29.6
Total Consecutive Days 1,950 or Less	3,327 (>9 years)						

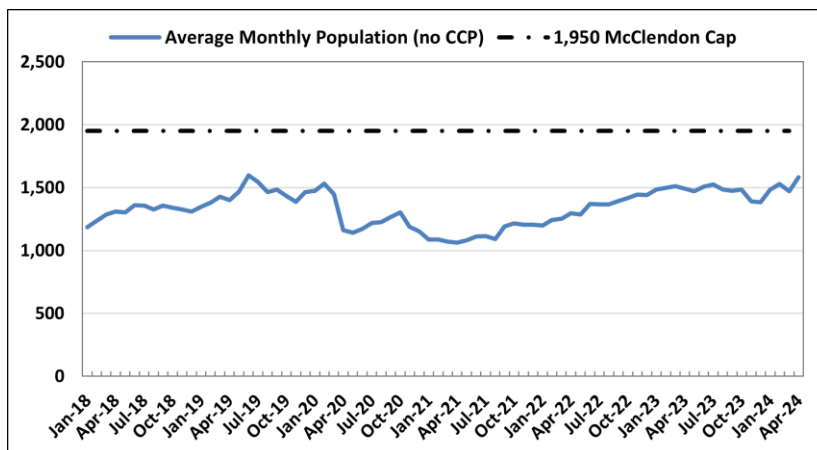
\*Arrows show increase or decrease in counts from prior month, except for 2023, which indicates if the equivalent month of the following year is an increase or decrease.

#### Report Highlights

- The MDC population has been below the 1,950 cap for more than nine consecutive years.
- The MDC population (on-site) in April 2024 was 1,537, an increase of 3.6% from March 2024.
- Bookings decreased by 1.4% from March 2024 to April 2024 and releases decreased by 3.9% over the same period.
- The LOS in April 2024 decreased 3.6% from March 2024 (30.7 to 29.6).
- Short-term returns to custody (within one month) post-COVID have remained lower than pre-COVID.
- In April 2024, 41.4% of motions were denied or dismissed by the courts and 54.3% were granted.

The MDC jail population decreased to a historic low in March 2020 and then increasing in October 2021. In April 2024, the average monthly population was 1,537, an increase of 3.6% from March 2024. The MDC population has increased from just over 1,400 to just over 1,500.

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. The mean age of the jail remains approximately static at ~35 years of age. The largest age group within the jail was the 27-39 age group. Male inmates were a larger population than female inmates. Over time, racial demographics remained approximately static.

**Table 2. In Custody Population Figures**

In Custody Population Figures	Apr 23	Nov 23	Dec 23	Jan 24	Feb 24	Mar 24	Apr 24
IC Population	1,528	1,415	1,422	1,460	1,464	1,552	1,553
Male	1286	1,177	1,181	1,230	1,230	1,298	1,304
Female	242	238	241	230	234	254	249
Mean Age	35.4	35.8	35.8	35.7	35.9	36.0	36.2
18-26	285	258	269	254	264	282	277
27-39	792	722	701	780	742	779	778
40+	451	435	452	426	458	491	498
Hispanic	753	726	720	714	730	766	760
White	468	401	412	428	419	447	449
Native American	111	95	96	106	118	118	122
African American	158	143	132	146	139	142	150
Other/Unknown	38	50	62	66	58	79	72

\*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 April 2024 (April 5<sup>th</sup>, 2024), the PSU list included 654 people and comprised 41.3% of the jail population of 1,583. According to the medical contractor 161 (24.6%) individuals were listed as having a serious mental illness (SMI). Individuals had between 0 and 9 diagnoses with an average of 2.5 diagnoses per person in the PSU. Within the PSU 87 clients (13.3%) have zero diagnoses listed.

Table 3 reports four diagnoses that are typically considered serious mental illnesses. 63 individuals had one of these diagnoses. Of the four diagnoses the highest percentage was schizophrenia at 3.7% (24 patients) and the lowest percentage was bipolar at 1.4% (9 patients).

**Table 3: PSU SMI Diagnosis Count and Percentages**

Diagnosis	Count in PSU	Percent in PSU	Percent in Jail
Major Depressive Disorder	14	2.1%	0.9%
Bipolar	9	1.4%	0.6%
Schizoaffective Disorder	13	2.0%	0.8%
Schizophrenia	24	3.7%	1.5%

The remaining 99 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. Of the clients who were listed as having SMI there were 25.5% of clients (41 clients) with SMI who have 0 indicated diagnoses.

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 1.7 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 6.4%, followed by Opiate Use Disorder (5.2%), and PTSD (4.4%). Substance abuse diagnoses account for 15.3% of all diagnoses in the PSU and 6.3% in the MDC. These have decreased since the first Friday in March.

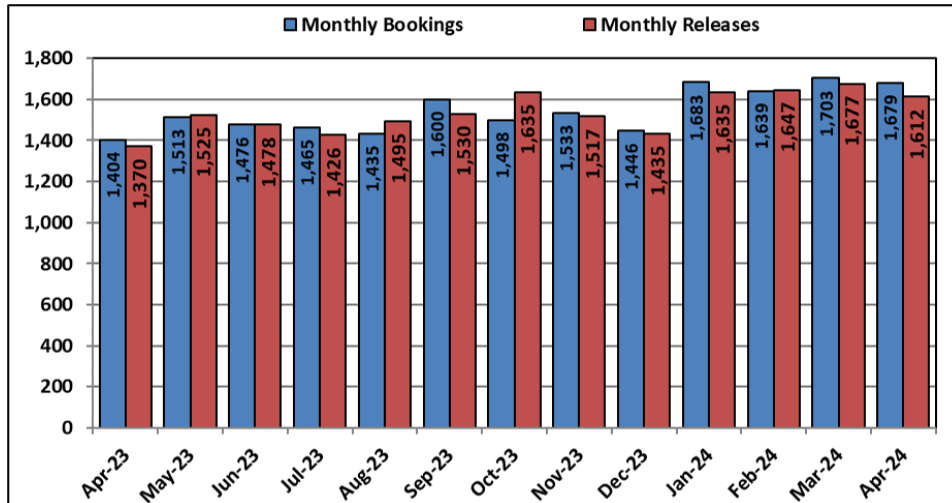
**Table 4: Diagnoses**

Diagnosis	Percent in PSU	Percent in Jail
Substance Induced Psychotic Disorder	0.9%	0.4%
Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder	0.0%	0.0%
Intermittent Explosive Disorder	0.8%	0.3%
Sedative Use Disorder	0.0%	0.0%
Mood Disorder Not Otherwise Specified	2.0%	0.8%
Depression	1.5%	0.6%
Benzodiazepine Use Disorder	0.0%	0.0%
Alcohol Use Disorder	2.6%	1.1%
Opiate Use Disorder	5.2%	2.1%
Polysubstance Abuse	1.1%	0.4%
Posttraumatic Stress Disorder	4.4%	1.8%
Methamphetamine Use Disorder	6.4%	2.7%
Anxiety	2.8%	1.1%
Adjustment Disorder	0.5%	0.2%
Disruptive Mood Dysregulation Disorder	0.6%	0.3%
Personality Disorder Not Otherwise Specified	0.0%	0.0%
Psychosis Not Otherwise Specified	2.0%	0.8%

## Bookings, Releases, and Length of Stay

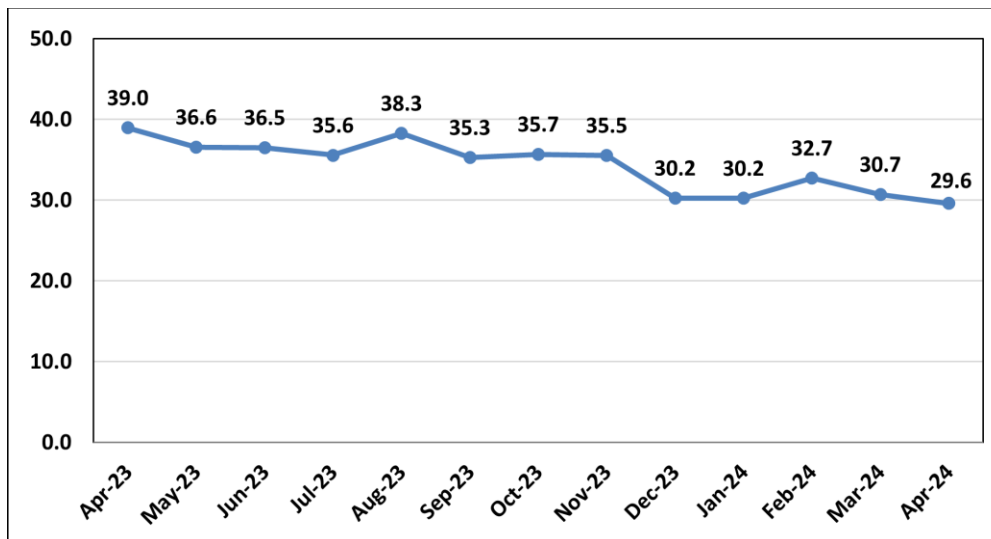
The jail population is affected by two factors: how many people are booked and how long they are in custody. From March 2024 to April 2024, the number of bookings decreased (1.4%) from 1,703 to 1,679 and releases decreased (3.9%) from 1,677 to 1,612 (see Figure 2). There were 275 more bookings in April 2024 than in April 2023 (19.6%), and there were 242 more releases in April 2024 than in April 2023 (17.7%).

**Figure 2. Monthly Bookings and Releases**



- The LOS in April 2024 (see Figure 3) was 29.6 days, (3.6%) 1.1 days fewer than March 2024, and 9.4 days (24.1%) fewer than April 2023.

**Figure 3. Monthly Length of Stay of Releases**

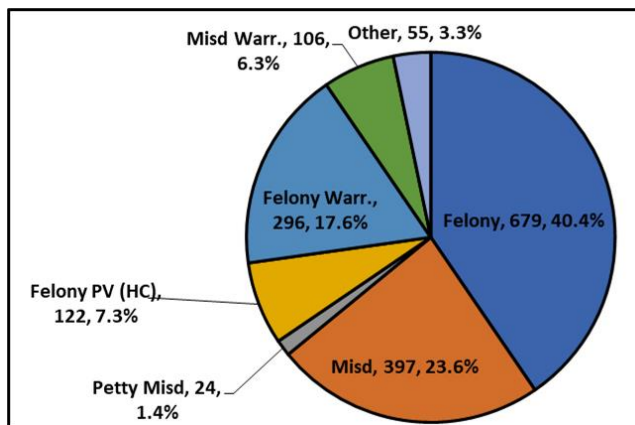


## Bookings by Highest Charge

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).

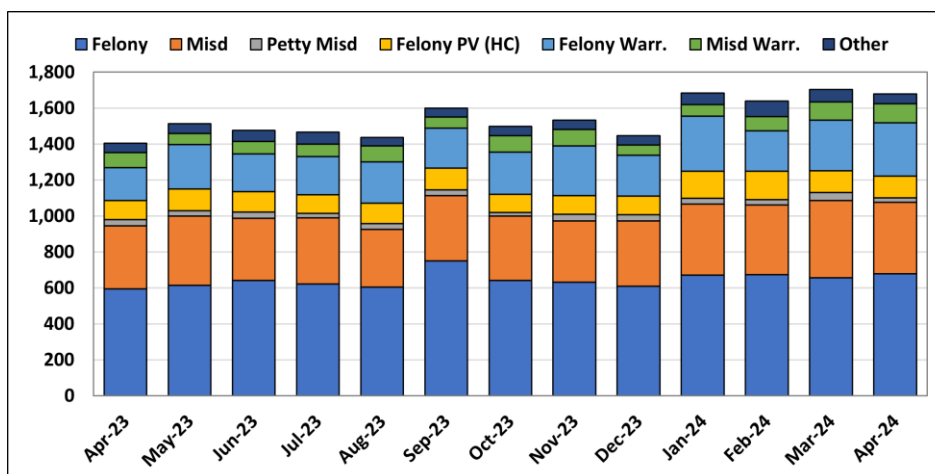
During the month of April 2024, there were 679 felony bookings into the MDC (see Figure 4). This accounted for 40.4% of all bookings. These were primarily 3<sup>rd</sup> (6.3 %) and 4<sup>th</sup> (29.4%) degree felonies. Approximately one in four bookings were for a misdemeanor (23.6%). Felony probation violations (7.3%), felony warrants (17.6%) and misdemeanor warrants (6.3%) accounted for most of the remaining booking charges.

**Figure 4. Bookings by Highest Charge – April 2024**



Compared to April 2023, the number of overall bookings increased 19.6%. The increase in bookings occurred to a slightly higher degree for felony warrant bookings, though there were still increases in the number of bookings for most charge categories, including felonies and probation violations.

**Figure 5. Monthly Bookings by Highest Charge**



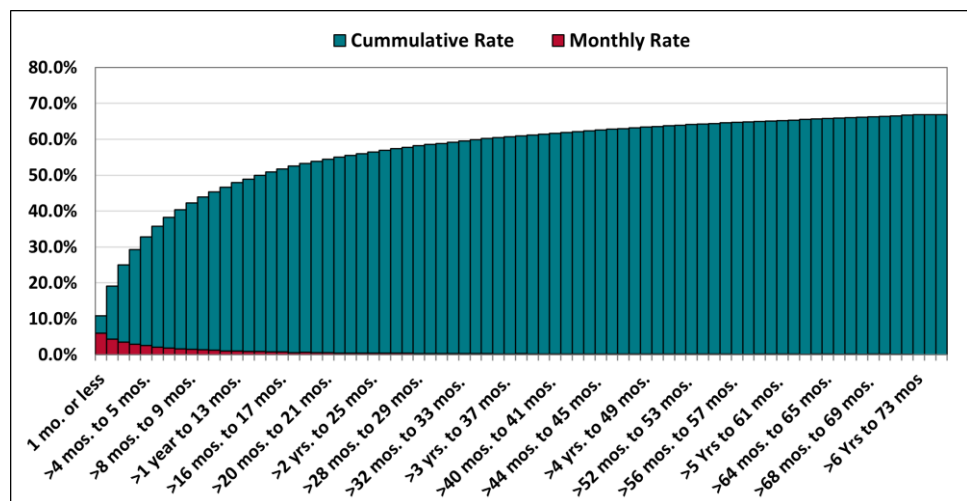
## Recidivism

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 March 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.

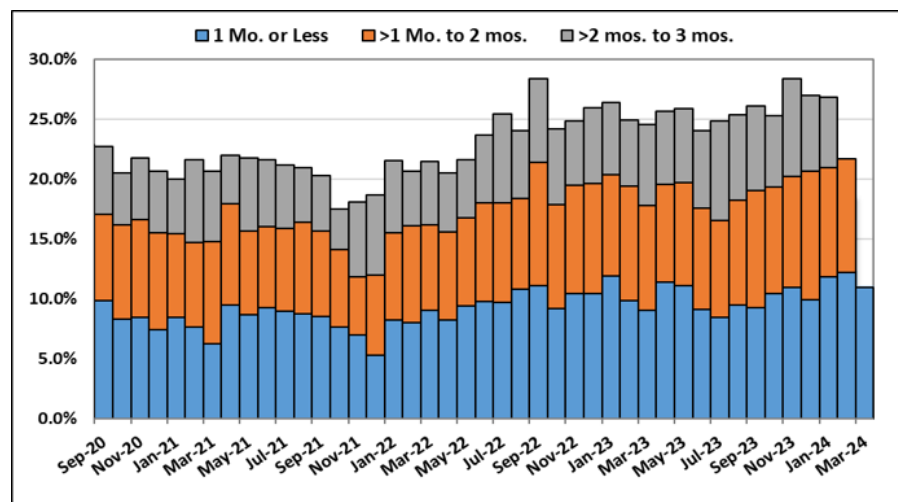
During the first three months following release from the MDC, 25.0% of inmates return to custody (see Figure 6), increasing to 35.7% within six months. The cumulative recidivism rate increased over time and 66.9% inmates returned to custody for any booking within 75 months. Recidivism occurs with decreasing 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 – March 2024**



Short-term returns to custody decreased from 12.7% between January 2018 and February 2020 to 9.4% from March 2020 to March 2024 (see Figure 7). From March 2020 to March 2024, 9.4% of inmates returned to custody in the first month, 8.1% returned to custody in the second month, and 5.9% returned to custody in the third month.

**Figure 7. Short-Term Recidivism – Through March 2024**

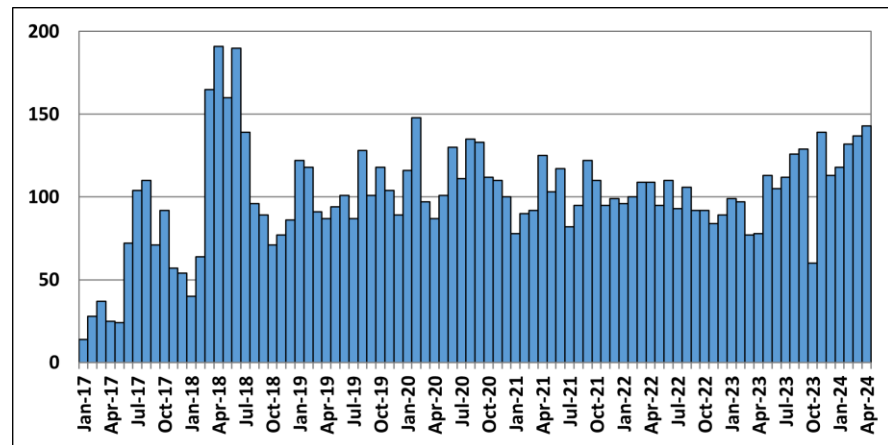


## Preventive Detention Motions

From January 2017 to April 2024, there were 8,837 motions for preventive detention (PTD) filed across 8,266 bookings for 6,972 individuals<sup>1</sup>. 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.

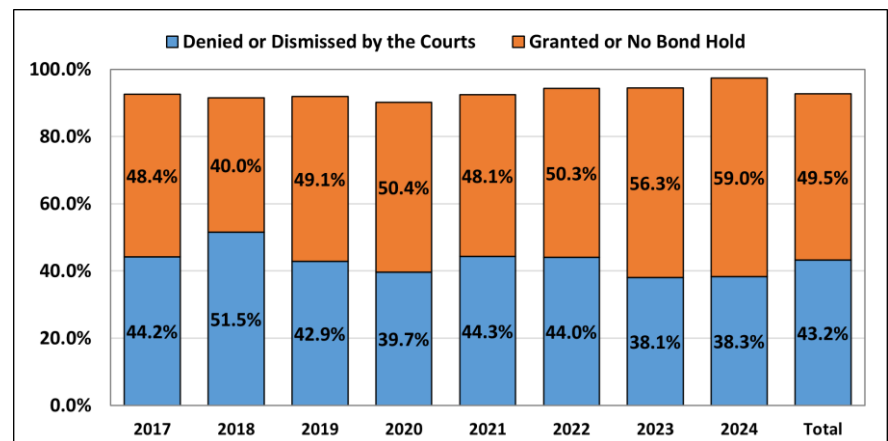
In the last 12 months, the number of PTD motions filed per month ranged from 60 to 143, with an average of 119 per month (see Figure 8). There were 143 motions filed in April 2024, 65 more (83.3%) than 2023 and 6 more (4.4%) than in March 2024.

**Figure 8. PTD Motions Files by Month**



In April 2024, excluding a small number of pending motions, 41.4% of motions were denied or dismissed and 54.3% were granted. By year, since 2019, a greater portion of motions have been granted than denied (see Figure 9). In 2024, 59.0% of motions were granted and 38.3% were denied or dismissed. Since 2017, 49.5% of motions have been granted and 43.2% 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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<sup>1</sup> Approximately 100 of these motions occurred when an inmate was not booked into the MDC, but this is generally uncommon.