



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

Report Date: December 11th, 2024

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

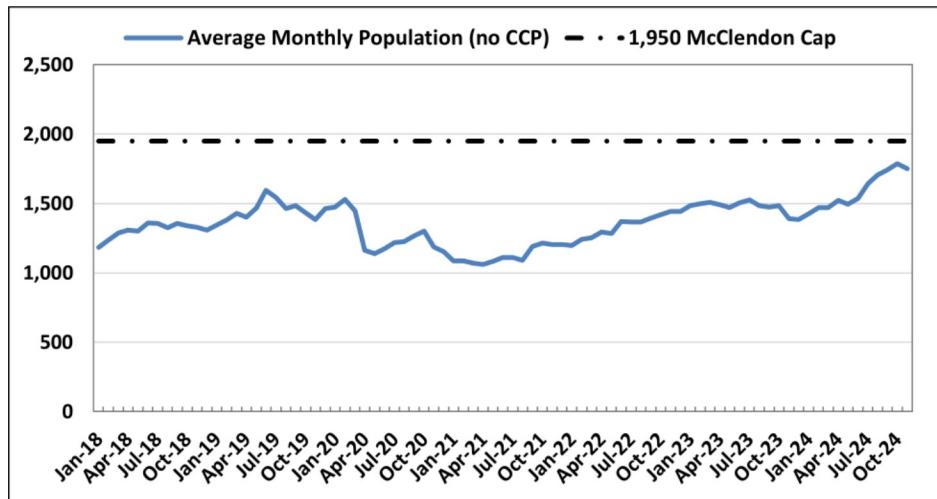
Quick Population Figures	Nov 23	June 24	July 24	Aug 24	Sep 24	Oct 24	Nov 24
In Custody Average Daily Population	↗ 1,406	↗ 1,552	↗ 1,662	↗ 1,726	↗ 1,766	↗ 1,803	↘ 1,760
Average Community Custody Program	↗ 45	↗ 52	↘ 47	↘ 46	↗ 50	↗ 53	↗ 58
Average Total Jail Population (w/CCP)	↗ 1,451	↗ 1,604	↗ 1,709	↗ 1,772	↗ 1,816	↗ 1,856	↘ 1,818
Monthly Bookings	↗ 1,533	↗ 1,699	↗ 2,043	↘ 2,041	↘ 1,870	↘ 1,784	↘ 1,647
Bookings Ages 18-24	↗ 236	↗ 225	↗ 261	↘ 260	↘ 243	↘ 213	↗ 217
Monthly Releases	↗ 1,517	↘ 1,554	↗ 2,054	↘ 1,942	↘ 1,793	↗ 1,839	↘ 1,597
Average Length of Stay (in Days)	↗ 35.5	↘ 29.4	↘ 25.6	↗ 24.1	↘ 28.6	↗ 29.4	↗ 29.8
EOM In Custody Population (23:59)	↗ 1,459	↗ 1,634	↘ 1,578	↗ 1,701	↗ 1,745	↘ 1,704	↗ 1,794
Total Consecutive Days 1,950 or Less					3,671 (>10 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 November 2024 the average daily population was 43 fewer inmates compared to October 2024 (see table 1). The average daily population in October 2024, was the highest in nine years.
- The average daily population in November 2024 was 25.2% higher than November 2023
- On average bookings have been increasing since October 2023 and peaked in July 2024 and August 2024 with more than 2,000 bookings. The increase in the jail population is a result of increased bookings and the increased length of stay of confined inmates.
- Part of the increase in bookings is individuals with felony charges and felony warrants.
- In November 2024, 40.4% of motions were denied by the courts and 55.6% were granted. This continues the trend of an increasing portion of motions being granted.
- Conservatively approximately 40% of the jail population on any given day is actively being served by the PSU.
- Substance abuse diagnoses account for 50.3% of all diagnoses in the PSU.
- Inmates listed as having an SMI comprised 20.8% of the jail population.

In November 2024, the average daily population was 1,760, an increase of 354 inmates (25.2%) from November 2023. Since June 2024 the average monthly population has increased 13.4% from an average of 1,552 inmates to an average of 1,760 inmates in November 2024. While the monthly in custody average population has decreased from the previous month, there were days where the daily population was 1,800 inmates or more. The highest population day in November 2024 was (not including CCP and RDT) November 12<sup>th</sup>, in which there were 1,831 inmates at 03:00am.

**Figure 1. MDC Population (no CCP) by Month**

## In Custody Demographics

Table 2 reports demographic information on inmates held in custody on the last day of the month. The mean age of inmates in November 2024 was 36.7 years of age, this is the oldest population the jail has had since January 2023. This month also has the highest proportion of 40+ year old inmates (35.1%),

In November 2024, similar to previous months 27-39 year olds (48.8%) comprised the largest age group in the MDC and the smallest age group was 18-26 year olds (16.1%). Male inmates comprised 81.8% of the population and females inmates were 18.2% of the population. Hispanic inmates comprised 49.9% of the population followed by White (29.0%), Black (8.1%), Native-American (7.3%), and other/unknown (5.6%). The age, gender, and racial/ethnic composition of the MDC has remained largely unchanged.

**Table 2. In Custody Population Figures**

In Custody Population Figures	Aug 24 (N)	Aug 24 (%)	Sep 24 (N)	Sep 24 (%)	Oct 24 (N)	Oct 24 (%)	Nov 24 (N)	Nov 24 (%)
IC Population	1,701	100%	1,745	100%	1,704	100%	1,794	100%
Male	1,401	82.4	1,432	80.3	1,387	81.4	1,467	81.8
Female	300	17.6	313	17.9	317	18.6	327	18.2
Mean Age	36.0	100	36.3	100	36.5	100	36.7	100
18-26	310	18.2	303	17.4	292	17.1	289	16.1
27-39	826	48.6	862	49.4	819	48.1	875	48.8
40+	565	33.2	580	33.2	593	34.8	630	35.1
Hispanic	870	51.1	856	49.1	834	48.9	896	49.9
White	502	29.5	506	29.0	509	29.9	520	29.0
Native American	105	6.2	125	7.2	110	6.5	131	7.3
African American	146	8.6	160	9.2	160	9.4	146	8.1
Other/Unknown	78	4.6	98	5.6	91	5.3	101	5.6

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

## Psychiatric Services Unit (PSU)

Since at least 2010 the various medical contractors at the MDC have maintained a daily list of whom is a client in the PSU for operational purposes. This list includes various types of information and allows the contractor to track who is in the PSU, when they were last seen, when they will next be seen, if they have a serious mental illness, and their diagnoses. We use this list to broadly report who in the PSU monthly.

Importantly in a review in which we compared the PSU daily list to the MDC custody list we found there were individuals listed on the PSU daily list who had been released from the MDC and were not in the MDC on the listed date. Of the 777 inmates listed on the PSU daily list for November 8th, 2024, 60 or 7.7% had already been released. This was considerably fewer compared to October when 15.1% had already been released. We do not know how many individuals who were in PSU were not listed on the PSU daily master.

The next set of tables reports on the PSU daily list inmates who matched to the MDC confined list. This list included 717 inmates on November 4th, 2024, and comprised 39.6% of the jail population of 1,812 less CCP. Because not everyone who is in the PSU is on the PSU daily list, we know this is a conservative estimate.

According to the medical contractor 149 (20.8%) individuals were listed as having a serious mental illness (SMI). Individuals had between 0 and 7 diagnoses with an average of 2.4 diagnoses per person in the PSU. Within the PSU 102 clients (14.2%) had no diagnosis listed. Table 3 reports the count of diagnoses. Interestingly, 102 individuals did not have a diagnosis listed.

**Table 3 Diagnoses**

Diagnosis Count	Count	Percent in PSU
0	102	14.2
1	128	17.9
2	131	18.3
3	172	24.0
4	118	16.5
5	52	7.3
6	13	1.8
7	1	0.1

The daily list reports whether an individual had an SMI or not. We do not know how the medical contractor determines whether someone has an SMI. Various criteria that are used to determine an SMI include a qualifying diagnosis and demonstrating a functional impairment that can include difficulties in maintaining a diet or hygiene and frequent difficulty in completing tasks. SMI is often under diagnosed. As noted earlier 149 (20.8%) of the individuals listed on the daily list had an SMI. Thirty-three inmates were missing information on whether they had an SMI.

Table 4 lists individuals who had one of four diagnoses that are typically considered serious mental

illnesses and the individuals with these diagnoses that were also listed as having an SMI. Fifty-two individuals had one of these common diagnoses, however, not everyone in the PSU with one of these diagnoses was listed as having an SMI. Five individuals diagnosed with major depressive disorder, two with bipolar, and four with schizophrenia were not listed as having an SMI.

The remaining 94 clients with SMI had one or more of the diagnoses listed in Table 5. Most frequently individuals had a diagnosis that included opiates (32), PTSD (17), methamphetamines (41), mood disorder (16), personality disorder (18), alcohol (15), psychosis (11), and substance induced psychotic disorder (22).

**Table 4 PSU SMI Common Diagnoses**

Diagnosis	Count in PSU	Count in PSU and with an SMI	Percent in PSU	Percent in Jail
Major Depressive Disorder	7	2	1.0	0.4
Bipolar	8	4	1.1	0.4
Schizoaffective Disorder	10	10	1.4	0.6
Schizophrenia	30	26	4.2	1.7

Table 5 reports the count and percent of diagnoses in the PSU and the jail population. This table duplicates individuals because they often have more than one diagnosis and as noted earlier on average had 2.4 diagnoses. 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. One-hundred-and-two individuals did not have a diagnosis listed. The largest percentage of diagnoses was Opiate Use Disorder at 49.8%, followed by Methamphetamine Use Disorder (43.2%), and Alcohol Use Disorder (24.3%). Substance abuse diagnoses account for 50.3% of all diagnoses in the PSU.

**Table 5 Diagnoses**

Diagnosis	Count	Percent in PSU	Percent in MDC
Substance Induced Psychotic Disorder	46	6.4	2.5
Intellectual Disability Disorder	5	0.7	0.3
Intermittent Explosive Disorder	3	0.4	0.2
Sedative Use Disorder	21	2.9	1.2
Bipolar Disorder	8	1.1	0.4
Mood Disorder Not Otherwise Specified	43	6.0	2.4
Major Depressive Disorder	7	1.0	0.4
Depression	98	13.7	5.4
Benzodiazepine Use Disorder	15	2.1	0.8
Alcohol Use Disorder	174	24.3	9.6
Opiate Use Disorder	357	49.8	19.7
Polysubstance Abuse	10	1.4	0.6
Posttraumatic Stress Disorder	170	23.7	9.4
Methamphetamine Use Disorder	310	43.2	17.1
Anxiety	146	20.4	8.1

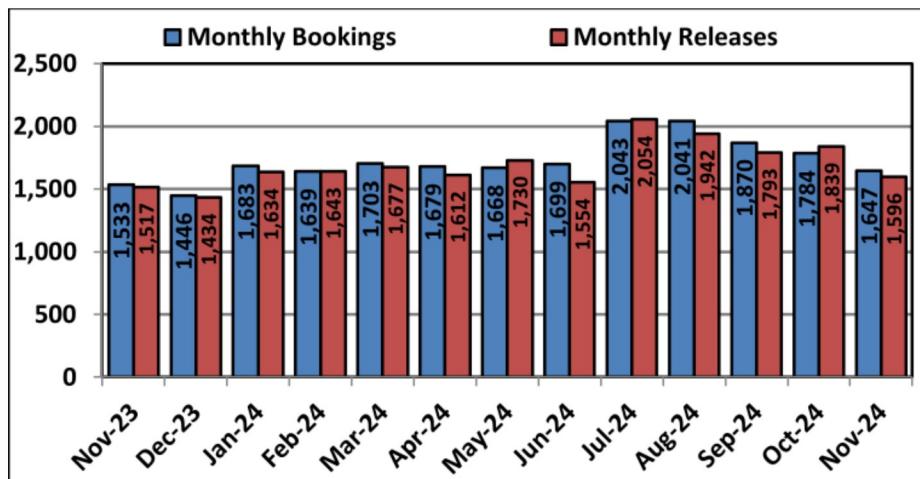
Adjustment Disorder	122	17.0	6.7
Disruptive Mood Dysregulation Disorder	2	0.3	0.1
Traumatic Brain Injury	5	0.7	0.3
Personality Disorder Not Otherwise Specified	122	17.0	6.7
Psychosis Not Otherwise Specified	13	1.8	0.7
Schizoaffective Disorder	10	1.4	0.6
Schizophrenia	30	4.2	1.7
Other	6	0.8	0.3

## 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. There are several ways to look at the number of people held in jails. This section reports length of stay in two ways. First, we report on release length of stay by month. Figure 2 and Figure 3 report the length of stay of inmates released from the MDC in November 2024. This is important because it helps us measure and report on jail churn which reports on the frequency of bookings and length of stay. This is particularly important because jail populations are constantly changing because they hold people pretrial who have not been convicted of a crime some of which will receive some form of pretrial release and people who have been convicted and are serving short sentences under a year. Table 6 reports the length of stay of inmates confined in the MDC on November 30<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at the offend of the month. This measure is important because it provides the range of lengths of stay for the entire population. Both measures are crucial in understanding the population because they tell us about how many people are brought to the jail and their length of stay. This type of information can be used to inform strategies to improve the efficiency of the jail and local criminal justice system.

Since November 2023 the number of bookings and releases has increased most months. Of interest there was an increase in the number of bookings beginning in July 2024 when bookings were slightly more than 2,000 for the month. Historically the number of bookings and releases have been similar by month.

**Figure 2. Monthly Bookings and Releases**



The released inmate LOS in November 2024 (see Figure 3) was 29.8 days, (1.4%) 0.4 days more than October 2024, and 5.7 days (16.1%) fewer than November 2023.

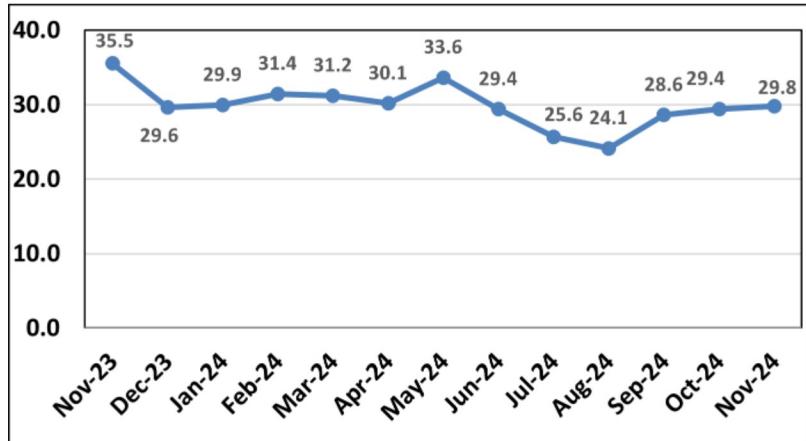
**Figure 3. Released Inmate Monthly Length of Stay of Releases**

Table 6 reports in custody length of stay. This length of stay looks at the confined population on the last day of the month by counting the number of days everyone had been held in the jail on that date. This table reports the median length of stay because it better measures the length of stay. The median length of stay reports the point at which half the inmates stayed more days and half the inmates stayed fewer days. The November median length of stay for all inmates was 64.4 days 0.6 days (0.9%) fewer when compared to October 2024.

**Table 6. In Custody Length of Stay**

In Custody Population LOS	Aug 24 (N)	(%)	Sept 24 (N)	(%)	Oct 24 (N)	(%)	Nov 24 (N)	(%)
In Custody Population	1,701		1,745		1,704		1,794	
In Custody Median LOS All	56.8		58.9		65.0		64.4	
In Custody Median LOS Male	61.2		64.2		71.9		69.2	
In Custody Median LOS Female	30.3		40.0		42.2		44.3	
<1 Day	25	1.5	37	2.1	37	2.2	42	2.3
1-3 Days	131	7.7	101	5.8	94	5.5	89	5.0
4-10 Days	166	9.8	169	9.7	140	8.2	209	11.6
11-30 Days	324	19.0	279	16.0	287	16.8	274	15.3
31-60 Days	244	14.3	306	17.5	265	15.6	258	14.4
61-120 Days	284	16.7	318	18.2	329	19.3	334	18.6
121-180 Days	174	10.2	177	10.1	187	11.0	205	11.4
181-364 Days	211	12.4	222	12.7	229	13.4	238	13.3
365+ Days	142	8.3	136	7.8	136	8.0	145	8.1

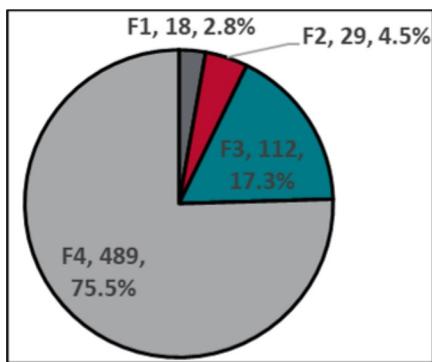
### Bookings by Highest Charge

Table 7 reports bookings by highest charge. Felony bookings accounted for the lowest percentage of bookings into the MDC since January 2023, accounting for 39.5% of arrests. This is an increase from October 2024 (41.0%). Misdemeanors accounted for the next largest percent of bookings, followed by felony warrants, and then the probation and parole violations. Petty misdemeanors accounted for a very small portion of all bookings as did other bookings that includes remands, here for courts, and unknowns.

**Table 7. Monthly Bookings by Highest Charge**

Charge Type	July		Aug		Sept		Oct		Nov	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Felony	881	43.1	862	42.2	836	44.7	729	41.0	651	39.5
Misdemeanor	404	19.8	441	21.6	415	22.2	386	21.7	379	23.0
Petty Misdemeanor	51	2.5	45	2.2	53	2.8	46	2.6	46	2.8
Felony Warrants	365	17.9	343	16.8	267	14.3	296	16.6	164	10.0
Misdemeanor Warrants	124	6.1	127	6.2	116	6.2	106	6.0	272	16.5
Probation and Parole Violations	174	8.5	189	9.3	160	8.6	199	11.2	76	4.6
Other	44	2.2	35	1.7	23	1.2	17	1.0	59	3.6

Figure 5 further reports bookings on felony charges for November by separating felony bookings by charge severity. Fourth degree felonies accounted for most felony bookings followed by third degree felonies. Together these two categories accounted for 92.8% of felony bookings.

**Figure 5. Felony Bookings October 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:

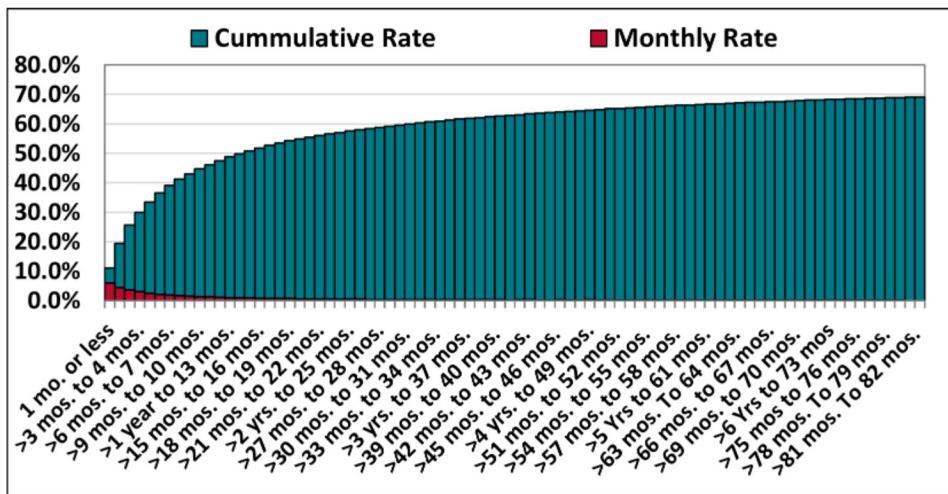
- Unique monthly releases beginning in January 2018 through October 2024. The releases end the month prior to reporting to allow the same follow-up time-period for each month.
- Bookings in subsequent months within approximate one-month intervals (365/12).
- The measure of failure is any new booking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

During the first three months following release from the MDC, 25.5% of inmates return to custody (see Figure 6), increasing to 36.5% within six months. The cumulative recidivism rate increased over time and 69.1% inmates returned to custody for any booking within 82 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.

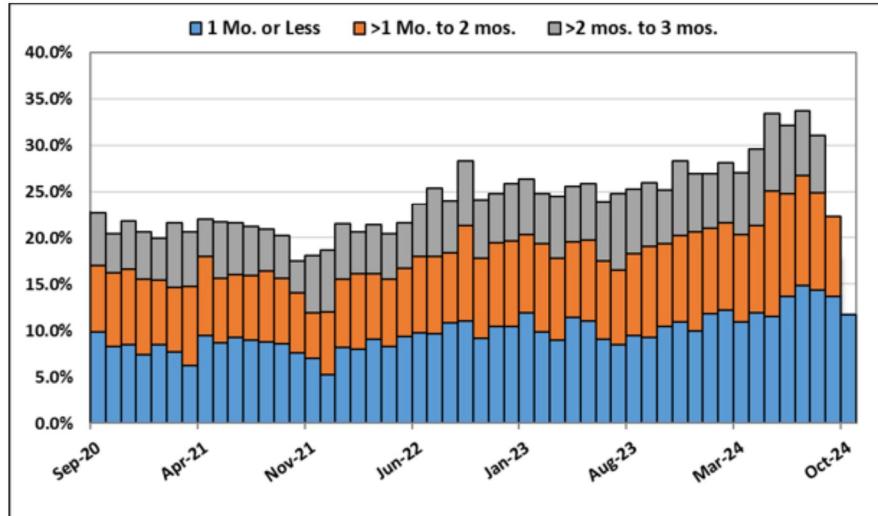
Short-term returns to custody decreased from 12.7% between

January 2018 and February 2020 to 10.0% from March 2020 to October 2024 (see Figure 7). From March 2020 to October 2024, 11.7% of inmates returned to custody in the first month, 8.6% returned to custody in the second month, and 6.2% returned to custody in the third month.

**Figure 6. Long Term Recidivism – October 2024**



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



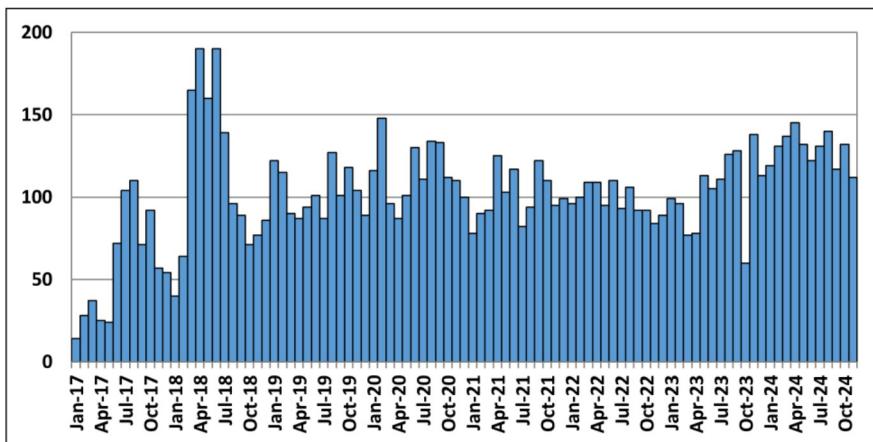
## Preventive Detention Motions

From January 2017 to November 2024, there were 9,712 motions for preventive detention (PTD) filed across 9,094 bookings for 7,634 individuals<sup>i</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.

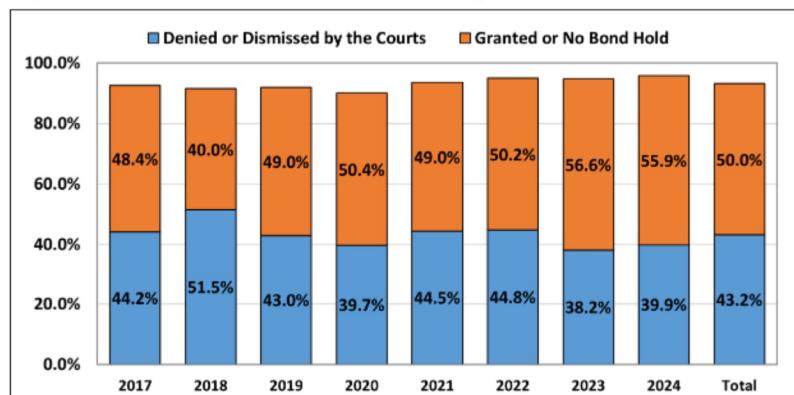
Over the last 12 months, the number of PTD motions filed per month ranged from 112 to 145, with an average of 128 per month (see Figure 8). There were 112 motions filed in October 2024, 26 fewer (18.8%) than November 2023 and 20 fewer (15.2%) than in October 2024.

In November 2024, excluding a small number of pending motions, 40.4% of motions were denied or dismissed and 55.6% were granted. By year, since 2019, a greater portion of motions have been granted than denied (see Figure 9). In 2024, 55.9% of motions were granted and 39.9% were denied or dismissed. Since 2017, 50.0% of motions have been granted and 43.2% have been denied. The remainder were withdrawn (4.1%) or the underlying case was resolved, dismissed, or sentenced (2.7%).

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



**Figure 9. Percent Granted or Denied by Year**



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<sup>i</sup> Approximately 100 of these motions occurred when an inmate was not booked into the MDC, but this is generally uncommon.