



# Criminal Justice Report

## 2009



*Prepared by the County Manager's Office*

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## Introduction and Overview

The Board of County Commissioners values the safety of Mecklenburg County residents and documents this as a priority in its 2015 Community Vision. As an organization, Mecklenburg County has specific goals of increasing the safety and security of residents and increasing the efficiency and effectiveness of criminal justice services.

In May 2008, the Board created the Justice and Public Safety Task Force to review the criminal justice system and make recommendations to restore its functional effectiveness. The Board-appointed Justice and Public Safety Task Force produced its final report in November 2008. The report included 16 prioritized recommendations designed to make an effective impact on crime and justice-related activities in Mecklenburg County. The Task Force's fourth recommendation called for the creation of a criminal justice system report that would provide transparent and easily accessible information to the public regarding the efficiency and effectiveness of the criminal justice system. This comprehensive report has been produced to give residents a tool to track the progress of the coordinated effort of the County to increase the efficiency, effectiveness, and accountability of the criminal justice system.

The framework for this and future quarterly and annual versions of **Mecklenburg County Criminal Justice Matters** will examine the major elements of the criminal justice system, including:

- Law Enforcement
- Jail
- Pretrial Services
- Courts
- Prosecution
- Public Defense
- Alternatives to Incarceration
- Community Based Programs

Quarterly reports will highlight key events that have taken place within the system and track the system's progress by providing measures that indicate how each area within the system is performing compared to the same time period the previous year. The annual report will summarize the progress the criminal justice system has made during the year towards achieving outcome goals within each of the six areas. The annual report will vary slightly from the quarterly reports, as it will be focused on specific outcome goals for each area within the criminal justice system.

Each edition of **Mecklenburg County Criminal Justice Matters** will be posted and updated at [www.charmeck.org/Departments/County+Managers+Office/CriminalJustice/Home.htm](http://www.charmeck.org/Departments/County+Managers+Office/CriminalJustice/Home.htm) to allow residents and stakeholders to conveniently track progress and share information about the efficiency and effectiveness of the Mecklenburg County criminal justice system.



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	Jan – Mar	Apr – Jun	Jul – Sep	Oct - Dec	YTD Average	Reference
<b>Law Enforcement</b>						
Total UCR Part I Reports	11,208	13,251	12,635	11,788	12,221	Fig. 1
UCR Rate	1,198	1,417	1,351	1,260	1,307	
<b>Jail</b>						
Arrests Processed	11,515	11,345	10,781	9,675	10,829	
Average Daily Population	2,409	2,399	2,324	2,336	2,367	Fig. 2
Average Length of Stay (days)	17.1	17.3	18.3	20.3	18.3	
% Pretrial Population	70% <sup>1</sup>	67%	72%	71%	70%	Fig. 3
% Sentenced Population	11%	12%	10%	9%	10%	Fig. 3
% Federal Population	20%	19%	20%	20%	20%	Fig. 3
<b>Pretrial Services</b>						
Number Interviewed	10,036	10,956	11,031	9,881	10,476	
Number Released	1,381	1,175	1,283	1,101	1,235	
Average Supervised Daily	-	-	-	-	-	
Revocations	121	133	115	106	119	
<b>Magistrate</b>						
Number Charges Recorded	21,106	20,712	21,148	18,643	20,402	
% Charges Given Secured Bond <sup>2</sup>	91%	91%	91%	91%	91%	
% Charges Probable Cause Found	99%	99%	99%	99%	99%	
<b>Superior Court</b>						
Felony Cases Filed	2,619	2,201	2,539	2,367	2,432	Fig. 5
Felony Cases Disposed	2,946	2,689	2,730	1,925	2,573	Fig. 5
Felony Clearance Rate	112%	122%	108%	81%	106%	Fig. 5
% Cases Pending <=365 Days	82%	83%	80%	80%	81%	Fig. 4
% Cases Disposed <=365 Days	75%	74%	79%	78%	76%	Fig. 4
Felony Trials	55	57	72	45	57	
Average Time To Disposition <sup>†</sup>	293.3	295.9	263.7	261.4	-	
Median Time to Disposition <sup>†</sup>	236	228	233	211	-	
<b>District Court</b>						
Non-DMV Criminal Cases Filed	13,972	14,391	14,667	13,164	14,049	Fig. 6
Non-DMV Criminal Cases Disposed	14,006	13,438	15,350	13,164	13,990	Fig. 6
Non-DMV Criminal Clearance Rate	100%	93%	105%	100%	100%	Fig. 6
% Cases Pending <=365 Days	92%	93%	94%	94%	93%	
% Cases Disposed <=365 Days	95%	95%	93%	98%	95%	
Non-DMV Criminal Cases Trials	220	250	316	245	258	
Average Time To Disposition <sup>†</sup>	119.4	119.2	114	113.2	-	
Median Time to Disposition <sup>†</sup>	67	67	66	68	-	
<b>Prosecutor</b>						
Dismissals (with and without leave)	1,623	1,411	1,397	996	1,357	
Guilty Pleas Accepted	1,245	1,211	1,243	870	1,142	
Dismissals following Deferred Prosecution	8	7	6	5	7	
<b>Public Defender</b>						
New Cases Assigned	-	-	-	-	-	
Cases Closed	-	-	-	-	-	
Cases per Attorney	-	-	-	-	-	
Cases Assigned to Private Attorney	-	-	-	-	-	
<b>Probation</b>						
Presentence Reports	-	-	-	-	-	
Admitted	-	-	-	-	-	
Average Supervised Daily	-	-	-	-	-	
Probation Violations	-	-	-	-	-	
<b>Electronic Monitoring</b>						
Admitted CMPD	-	-	-	-	727	
Average Supervised Daily CMPD	-	-	-	-	196	
% Successful Terminations CMPD	-	-	-	-	88%	
Admitted MSCO	-	-	-	-	-	
Average Supervised Daily MCSO	-	-	-	-	-	
% Successful Terminations MCSO	-	-	-	-	-	
<b>Structured Day</b>						
Admitted	24	21	21	21	22	
Average Supervised Daily	75	62	62	70	67	
% Successful Completing	66%	46%	42%	56%	53%	
<b>S.T.E.P. Courts</b>						
Admitted	-	-	-	-	-	
Average Daily Served	-	-	-	-	-	
% Successfully Completing Program	-	-	-	-	-	

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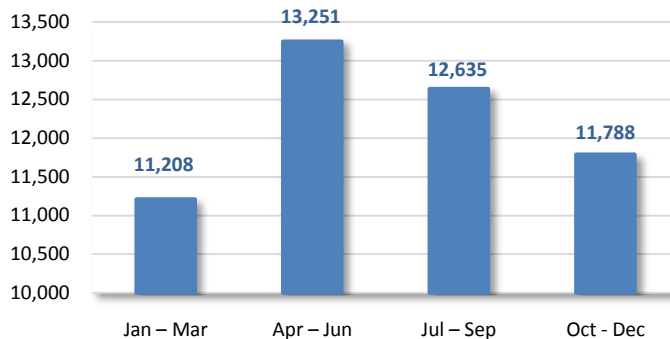
<sup>1</sup> Percentages may not sum to 100% due to rounding.

<sup>2</sup> Approximately 9 percent of charges did not have a bond-type recorded. The values reported here do not include this missing data.

<sup>†</sup> AOC time reports are cumulative and reported on a fiscal year basis (Jul – Jun); as such, the value reported represents the fiscal year-to-date value for all cases as opposed to quarterly values only.

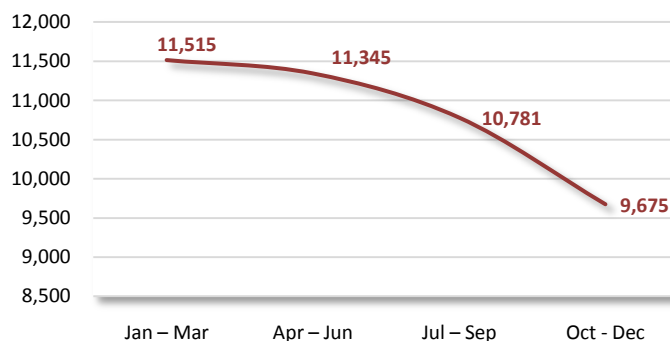
On average, approximately 12,000 UCR Part I reports were recorded each quarter.

Figure 1. UCR Part I Reports Received



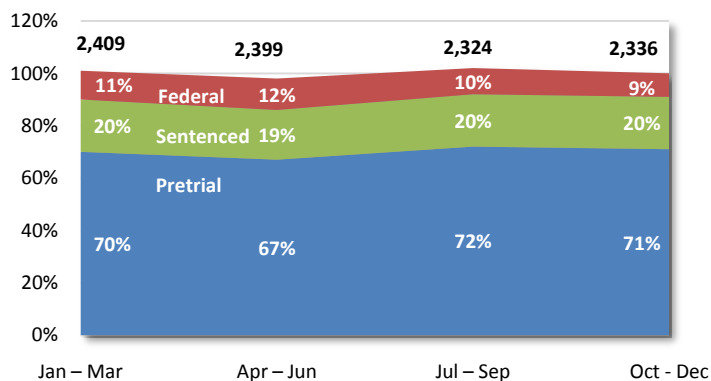
The number of arrests processed each quarter declined from a high of 11,515 to 9,675 (-16 percent)

Figure 2. Arrests Processed



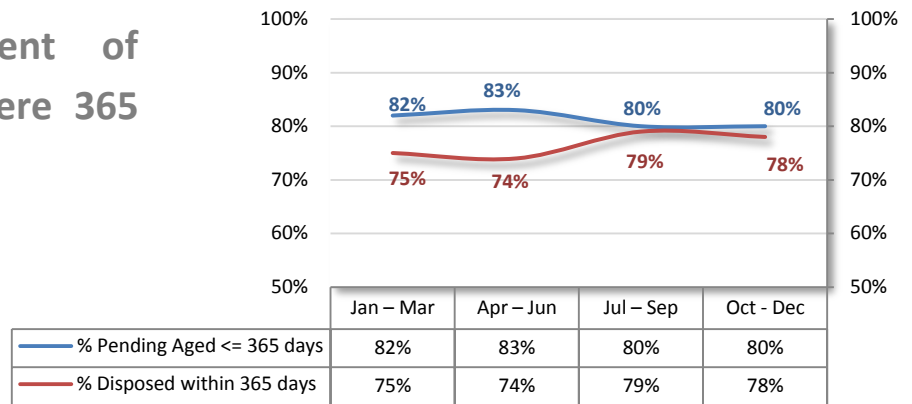
The jail's average daily population remained relatively constant across the year at approximately 2,400 inmates; on average, 70 percent of those incarcerated were classified as Pretrial.

Figure 3. Average Daily Jail Population



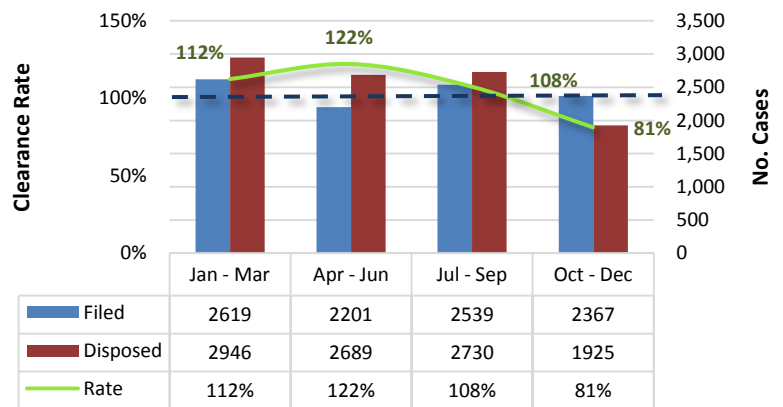
On average, 76 percent of disposed felony cases were 365 days old or younger.

Figure 4. Felony Case Pending and Disposition Times



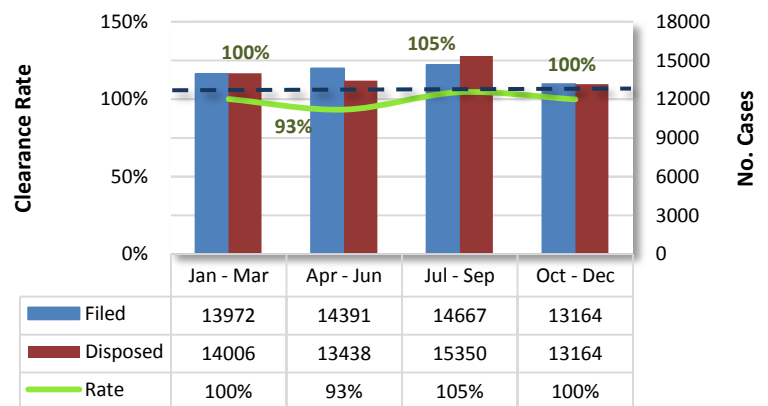
Superior Court recorded an average clearance rate<sup>1</sup> of 106 percent for felony cases through 2009.

Figure 5. Clearance Rate- Superior Court



District Court recorded an average clearance rate<sup>1</sup> of 100 percent for non-motor vehicle criminal cases through 2009.

Figure 6. Clearance Rate- District Court



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1. Clearance Rate is calculated using the National Center for State Courts recommendation *number of dispositions divided by the number of filings*.