Bernalillo County Monthly Jail Population Report

Data Covering: August 2019 Report Date: September 15, 2019

Prepared for Bernalillo County by the Institute for Social Research

By: E. Ferguson and H. De La Cerda with S. Laird



MDC POPULATION AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE REFORMS

INSIDE THIS

Bookings, Releases, and LOS	2
Community Custody	2
Petty Misdemeanor	3
Recidivism	3
In Custody Bonds	4
Preventive Detention	5
Notes	5

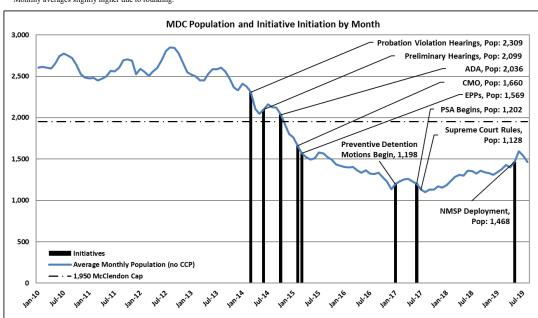
Report Highlights

- The MDC average onsite ADP decreased from 1,597 in June 2019 to 1,465 in Aug 2019.
- Bookings and releases decreased from June to August of 2019.
- 2.5% of the jail population is being held simply because of a bond.
- Recidivism has been calculated as a quarterly rate rather than monthly rate.
- On August 31, 2019 approximately 262 inmates were in custody with a granted or pending PTD motion.

- Jail population is affected by two factors: the number of bookings and the length of stay.
- Population reduction initiatives have helped reduce the length of stay which, combined with reduced bookings, has decreased the jail population. Recently, the MDC population has increased.

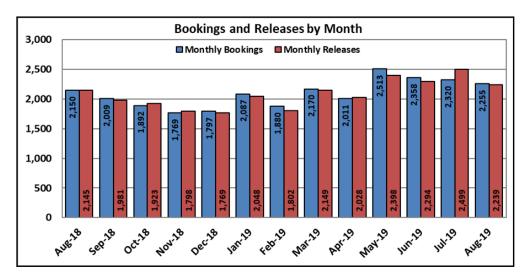
Quick Population Figures	Mar-19	Apr-19	May-19	Jun-19	Jul-19	Aug-19
On-Site Average Male Population	1,163	1,151	1,197	1,300	1,260	1,189
On-Site Average Female Population	258	242	263	288	277	268
On-Site Average Infirmary	7	8	9	9	8	8
On-Site Average Daily Population (ADP)	1,428	1,401	1,469	1,597	1,545	1,465
Average Community Custody Program	93	87	94	83	82	72
Average Total Jail Population (w/CCP)	1,521	1,488	1,563	1,680	1,627	1,537
Monthly Bookings	2,170	2,011	2,513	2,358	2,320	2,255
Monthly Releases	2,149	2,028	2,398	2,294	2,499	2,239
Average Length of Stay (in Days)	22.5	20.5	21.8	18.9	25.8	20.8
Total Consecutive Days 1,950 or Less				1,754		

^{*} Monthly averages slightly higher due to rounding

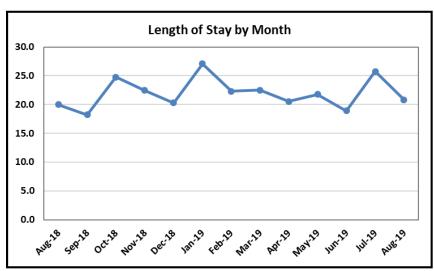


• The MDC population began increasing in late 2017. This increase continued through June 2019. From June 2019 to July 2019, the MDC population decreased 3.3% to 1,545 in July and then down another 5.2% to 1,465 from July to August 2019.

Bookings, Releases, and Length of Stay (LOS)

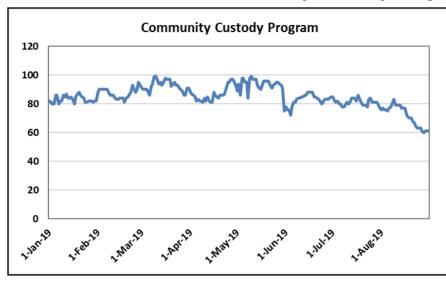


- From June to August 2019, bookings decreased by 4.4% (103). Releases also decreased from June to August 2019, by 2.5% (55).
- The number of bookings and releases were higher in August 2019 than in August 2018. There were 4.9% (105) more bookings in 2019 and 4.4% (94) more releases.



- The LOS for August 2019 was 20.8 days, 5.0 days (19.4%) lower than the LOS of 25.8 days in July 2019.
- The LOS in August 2019 was slightly higher than the LOS in August 2018, 20.8 days in 2019 compared to 20.0 days in 2018.

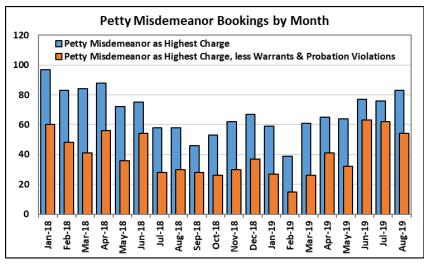
Community Custody Program (CCP)



- CCP population decreased from 76 at the beginning of August down to 61 at the end of August, a decrease of 19.7%.
- The CCP population is 4.1% of the total MDC population.
- The CCP population has fluctuated but remained above 80 from January 2019 to June 2019. From June 2019 to August 2019, the population has generally decreased.

Page 3

Petty Misdemeanor Bookings



- Bookings at MDC were reviewed for new charges with petty misdemeanors as the highest charge. Prior reporting excluded assault and battery charges, but these have been included in the current report. Updated figures are provided for petty misdemeanor bookings overall and petty misdemeanor bookings, excluding warrants and probation violations.
- Since January 2018, there have been an average of 69 bookings a month with a petty misdemeanor as the highest new charge. These bookings may include a warrant or probation violation on additional cases
- Since January 2018, there have been an average of 29 petty misdemeanor bookings as the highest new charge with no warrants or probation violations.
- Petty misdemeanor bookings can include charges such as larceny, shoplifting, traffic violations, criminal trespass, public intoxication, battery, or assault.

Monthly Recidivism

- According to the Bureau of Justice Statistics¹, recidivism measures require 3 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 extending from the starting event.
- Compared to a prison, jails have a much higher rate of turnover. Recidivism rates will vary depending on the length of the time period for the starting event and the follow-up time period.
- A preliminary recidivism rate was calculated for the MDC using the following:
 - Unique monthly releases for each month beginning in January 2018 and ending May 2019. 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 1 month intervals (365/12).
 - The current measure of failure used was any new booking into the MDC.
- Within the first 3 months after release, 26.9% of inmates were booked back into the MDC. An additional 11.0% were booked back into the MDC during the following three months. Within 9 months, 44.8% of inmates had been booked back into MDC. Within 1 year, nearly half (49.3%) of the inmates released by month returned to the MDC. An additional 3.7% returned between a year and 15 months. Within 18 months, 55.2% of inmates released were booked back into the MDC.

Recidivism by Time Period

Tectativism by Time 1 criou							
Time Period of Releases	Total Unique Monthly Releases	Within 3 Months	Within 6 Months	Within 9 Months	Within 1 Year	Within 15 Months	Within 18 Months
Jan 2018 to Feb 2018	4,244	27.0%	38.2%	44.7%	48.6%	51.8%	55.2%
Jan 2018 to May 2018	10,571	27.3%	38.4%	45.0%	49.2%	53.0%	
Jan 2018 to Aug 2018	16,643	26.8%	37.7%	44.7%	49.3%		•
Jan 2018 to Nov 2018	22,147	26.4%	37.6%	44.8%		_	
Jan 2018 to Feb 2019	27,607	26.4%	37.9%		•		
Jan 2018 to May 2019	33,929	26.9%		•			

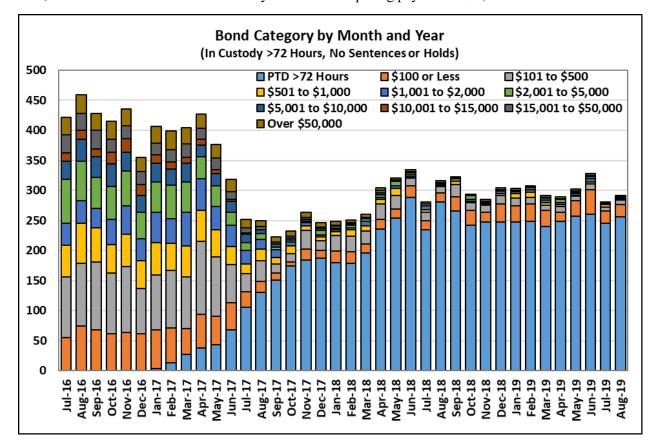
1

In Custody Bond Amounts

- On August 31, 2019, there were approximately 262 inmates in custody on a no bond hold that had a preventive detention motion either granted or pending.
- There were 36 individuals who could be released from custody if all bonds were paid. This accounted for 2.5% of the confined population.
- This excludes any inmate on a hold or who were serving a sentence that would otherwise keep them in custody. This excludes those who had the option to bond out or release to a third party.

In Custody Bond Figures	Any LOS	LOS >72 Hours
\$100 or Less	27	20
\$101 to \$500	9	8
\$501 to \$1,000	4	2
\$1,001 to \$2,000	1	0
\$2,001 to \$5,000	1	1
\$5,001 to \$10,000	1	1
\$10,001 to \$15,000	2	1
\$15,001 to \$50,000	1	1
Over \$50,000	2	2
Total	48	36
Preventive Detention (Granted or Pending)	262	256
On-Site Population (End of Month) 1,447		

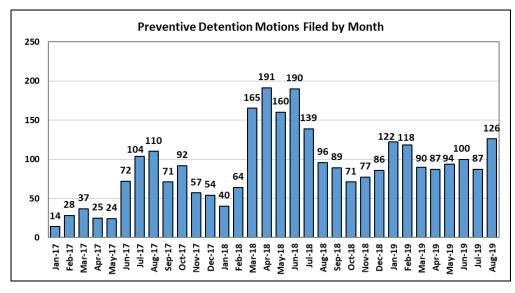
- The number of inmates in custody on a bond excludes inmates who have been in custody less than 72 hours.
- Those with \$100 or less in unpaid bonds² represented approximately 55.6% (20) of the 36 inmates who could be released if all bonds were paid and 1.4% of the confined population. Those individuals with bonds requiring payment of between \$101 and \$500 accounted for 22.2% (8) of those in on a bond and 0.6% of the confined population.
- Overall, 30 inmates out of 36 were in custody with bonds requiring payment of \$1,000 or less.



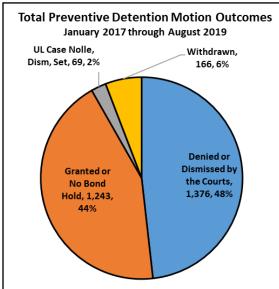
Over time, the number of individuals in custody who could be released if all bonds were paid has decreased. The decrease in the higher categories in particular may have decreased due to the implementation of preventive detention. Lower bond amounts in particular have been addressed by special hearings set by the courts in order to help ensure that financial conditions are not the sole reason low-risk inmates are detained at MDC.

Preventive Detention Motions

From January 2017 through August 2019, there were approximately 2,880 motions for preventive detention filed for 2,680 individuals³. Some individuals have been in custody at the MDC on more than one booking and had more than one unique motion filed. This includes motions filed in both Metro and District Court. During the review of these motions, the hearing outcomes were categorized based on each motion rather than the overall outcome per individual.



There was an increase in the number of preventive detention motions filed in June and July 2017 followed by a decrease in late 2017. Motions increased in 2018 and began to decrease in July of 2018 and then increase again starting in November 2018. There were an average of 96 motions filed per month over the last year.



The preventive detention motions were filed for a variety of charge types, including shoplifting, burglary, auto theft, assault, and murder. As of August 31, 2019, there were approximately 26 cases that had a motion pending. These cases were removed from the monthly outcomes.

- Approximately 4% more motions were denied or dismissed by the courts than were granted (1,376 compared to 1,243).
- In 166 instances (6%) the motion was withdrawn, and in another 69 (2%) the case for which the motion was filed was nolle'd, dismissed, or sentenced.

Notes

- 1. Bureau of Justice Statistics described recidivism in their Recidivism of Sex Offenders Released from State Prison: A 9-Year Follow-Up (2005-14) summary published May 2019. https:// www.bjs.gov/content/pub/pdf/rsorsp9yfu0514_sum.pdf
- 2. Bond amounts reflect the financial requirement that would be needed to be released from MDC. Although cash surety bonds can vary in the percentage that may be required to post bond, if no percent is assigned, it is assumed that this amount would be approximately 10% of the bond amount. In instances where requirements must be met before the inmate can be released, such as the completion of ATP, the individual is considered on hold until that obligation is met. Bonds for the month of August of 2017 were updated in this report to fix a corrected error in removal of individuals in custody less than 72 hours. Bonds on multiple cases were combined to determine the total bond amount holding the individual. An inmate was considered in custody on a preventive detention motion if the motion had been granted or was pending on the last day of the month, the inmate had a hold on at least one case, and the inmate was not serving a sentence on any other case.
- 3. Separate bookings for the same inmate are considered unique.

The UNM - Institute for Social Research (ISR) is a leading provider of program evaluations and policy research in New Mexico. ISR staff members and faculty affiliates also have expertise in the fields of criminal justice, education, economics, substance abuse treatment programs, poverty and homelessness, domestic violence, employee workloads and staffing levels.

For more information on the ISR, please visit http://isr.unm.edu/ or call (505) 277-4257.

