



Criminal Justice Report

Jan – Mar 2010



Prepared by the County Manager's Office

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 to allow residents and stakeholders to conveniently track progress and share information about the efficiency and effectiveness of the Mecklenburg County criminal justice system.



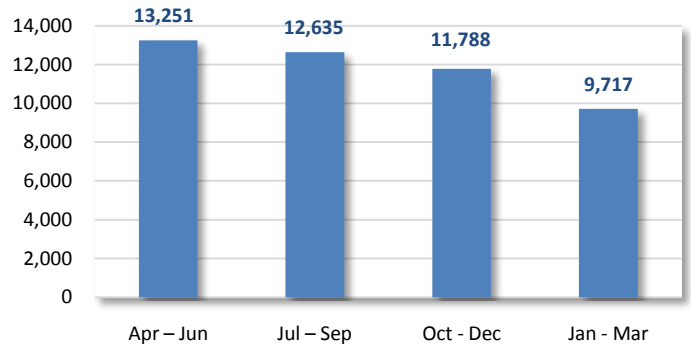
	Apr – Jun	Jul – Sep	Oct - Dec	Jan - Mar	YTD Average	Reference
Law Enforcement						
Total UCR Part I Reports	13,251	12,635	11,788	9,717	11,848	Fig. 1
UCR Rate (Reports/100k Citizens)	1,417	1,351	1,260	1,009 ¹	1,259	
Jail						
Arrests Processed	11,345	10,781	9,675	10,245	10,512	
Average Daily Population	2,399	2,324	2,336	2,158	2,305	Fig. 2
Average Length of Stay (days)	17.3	18.3	20.3	18.4	18.6	
% Pretrial Population	67%	72%	71%	68%	70%	Fig. 3
% Sentenced Population	12%	10%	9%	11%	11%	Fig. 3
% Federal Population	19%	20%	20%	21%	20%	Fig. 3
Pretrial Services						
Number Interviewed	10,956	11,031	9,881	9,942	10,453	
Number Released	1,175	1,283	1,101	1,054	1,153	
Average Supervised Daily	-	-	-	1,968	1,968	
Revocations	133	115	106	131	121	
Magistrate						
Number Charges Recorded	20,712	21,148	18,643	19,045	19,045	
% Charges Given Secured Bond	91%	91%	91%	86%	90%	
% Charges Probable Cause Found ²	99%	99%	99%	100%	99%	
Superior Court						
Felony Cases Filed	2,201	2,539	2,367	2,555	2,416	Fig. 5
Felony Cases Disposed	2,689	2,730	1,925	2,805	2,537	Fig. 5
Felony Clearance Rate	122%	108%	81%	110%	105%	Fig. 5
% Cases Pending <=365 Days	83%	80%	80%	97%	85%	Fig. 4
% Cases Disposed <=365 Days	74%	79%	78%	95%	82%	Fig. 4
Felony Trials	57	72	45	55	57	
Average Time To Disposition [†]	295.9	263.7	261.4	257.6	-	
Median Time to Disposition [†]	228	233	211	199	-	
District Court						
Non-DMV Criminal Cases Filed	14,391	14,667	13,164	13,124	13,837	Fig. 6
Non-DMV Criminal Cases Disposed	13,438	15,350	13,164	14,284	14,059	Fig. 6
Non-DMV Criminal Clearance Rate	93%	105%	100%	109%	102%	Fig. 6
% Cases Pending <=365 Days	93%	94%	94%	94%	94%	
% Cases Disposed <=365 Days	95%	93%	98%	98%	96%	
Non-DMV Criminal Cases Trials	250	316	245	309	280	
Average Time To Disposition [†]	119.2	114	113.2	129.2	-	
Median Time to Disposition [†]	67	66	68	77	-	
Prosecutor						
Dismissals (with and without leave)	1,411	1,397	996	1,499	1,326	
Guilty Pleas Accepted	1,211	1,243	870	1,236	1,140	
Dismissals following Deferred Prosecution	7	6	5	8	7	
Public Defender						
New Cases Assigned	-	6,862	5,312	5,502	5,892	
Cases Closed	-	-	-	-	5,212	
Cases per Attorney	-	-	-	-	-	
Cases Assigned to Private Attorney	-	4,205	3,870	3,959	12,034	
Probation						
Admitted	-	-	-	-	-	
Average Supervised Daily	-	-	-	-	-	
Probation Violations	-	-	-	-	-	
Electronic Monitoring						
Admitted CMPD	-	-	-	-	-	
Average Supervised Daily CMPD	-	-	-	-	-	
% Successful Terminations CMPD	-	-	-	-	-	
Admitted MSCO	-	-	-	-	-	
Average Supervised Daily MCSO	-	-	-	-	-	
% Successful Terminations MCSO	-	-	-	-	-	
Structured Day						
Admitted	21	21	21	35	25	
Average Supervised Daily	62	62	70	82	69	
% Successful Completing	46%	42%	56%	39%	46%	
S.T.E.P. Courts						
Admitted	108	142	121	119	123	
Total Served	391	413	397	353	389	
% Successfully Completing Program	46%	46%	44%	50%	47%	

¹ Based on estimated 2010 population 963,363 (Source: Charlotte Chamber of Commerce)

² Values are rounded.

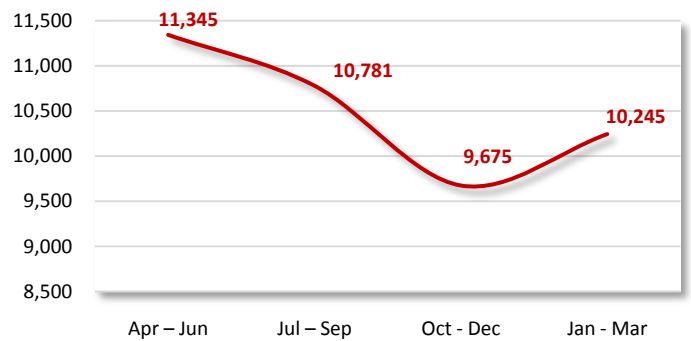
The number of reported UCR Part I crimes continued to decline, down 18 percent from the previous quarter.

Figure 1. UCR Part I Reports Received



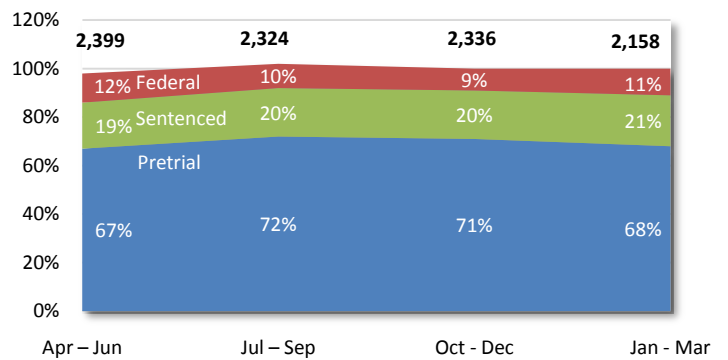
The number of arrests processed increased 6 percent from the previous quarter to 10,245.

Figure 2. Arrests Processed



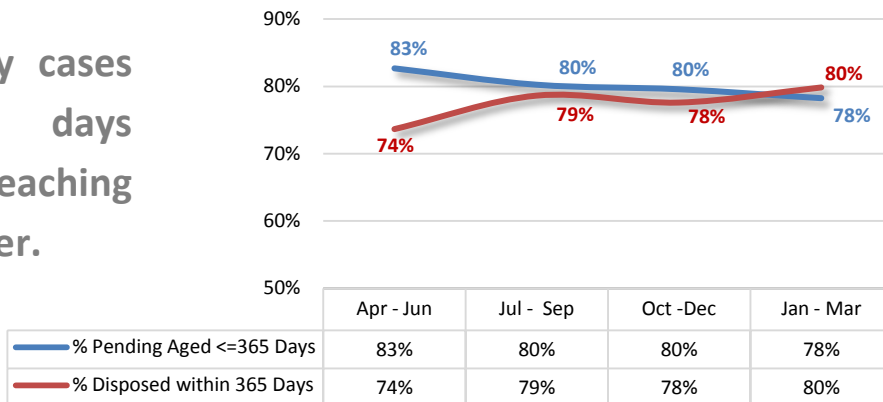
At 2,158, the jail's average daily population was 8 percent less than the average of the previous 9 months.

Figure 3. Average Daily Jail Population



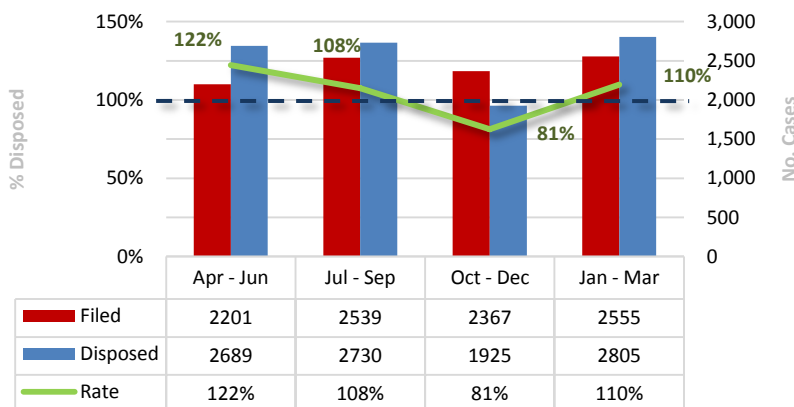
The percentage of felony cases disposed within 365 days continues to increase, reaching 80 percent in the 3rd quarter.

Figure 4. Felony Disposition and Pending Times



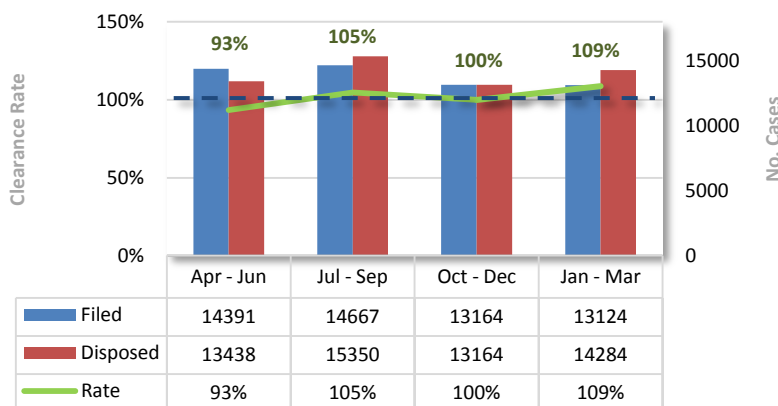
Average clearance rate¹ for Superior Court felony cases exceeded 100 percent over the previous 12-months.

Figure 5. Clearance Rate- Superior Court



The clearance rate¹ for non-motor vehicle criminal cases remained above 100 percent.

Figure 6. Clearance Rate- District Court



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