



# Jail Population Trend Report

October - December 2017

Prepared by Mecklenburg County Criminal Justice Services Research and Planning

This report identifies and tracks emerging trends that may influence the operation of the detention facilities. The data below captures activity during the second quarter of FY 2018 and compares the observations to those of the previous quarter and year.

## I. Average Jail Population by Facility

Table 1 details the average daily population (ADP) for both Jail Central and Jail North for the current quarter, previous quarter, and the second quarter of the previous year.

Table 1: Quarterly ADP

Location	Oct – Dec 2017 ADP	Jul – Sep 2017 ADP	Oct – Dec 2016 ADP	Percent Change From	
				Jul – Sep 2017	Oct – Dec 2016
Jail Central	1,288	1,383	1,373	-7%	-6%
Jail North	253	276	78	-8%	224%
All Facilities	1,540	1,658	1,452	-7%	6%

Table 2 details the ADP as a percentage of design, operational, and functional capacities of each location. Design capacity is defined as the total number of beds available in each facility. Operational capacity is defined as the number of beds currently available based on staffing and/or budget. Functional capacity is considered the maximum number that can be housed while still permitting the proper segregation and movement of inmates by gender, security risk, and related factors and is defined as 85 percent of operational capacity.

Table 2: ADP as a Percentage of Design, Operational, and Functional Capacity

Location	Oct – Dec 2017 D / O / F %	Jul – Sep 2017 D / O / F %	Oct – Dec 2016 D / O / F %	Facility Capacity		
				Design	Operational	Functional
Jail Central	68 / 79 / 93	73 / 85 / 100	72 / 84 / 99	1,904	1,629	1,385
Jail North	35 / 66 / 77	38 / 72 / 84	11 / 20 / 24	721	385	327
All Facilities	52 / 76 / 90	56 / 82 / 97	49 / 72 / 85	2,945 <sup>1</sup>	2,014	1,712

### Observations:

- Total ADP decreased 7 percent from the previous quarter but increased 6 percent from the same quarter of the previous year.
- Jail North ADP increased 224 percent from the previous year. In the third quarter of FY 2017, female inmates were relocated to Jail North due to the MCSO security project.
- Total ADP was 24 percent below operational capacity during the second quarter of FY 2018.

<sup>1</sup> Includes 320 bed capacity from the Annex

## II. Characteristics of the Jail Population

Table 3 details various characteristics of the jail population such as gender, race/ethnicity, and custody type. As with tables 1 and 2, these characteristics are presented for the current quarter, previous quarter, and the second quarter of the previous year.

Table 3: Characteristics of the Jail Population

	Oct – Dec 2017	Jul – Sep 2017	Oct – Dec 2016
<b>Gender</b>			
Adult Male	1,360 (88%)	1,447 (87%)	1,268 (87%)
Female <sup>2</sup>	132 (9%)	156 (9%)	131 (9%)
Youthful Offender (Male)	48 (3%)	55 (3%)	52 (4%)
<b>Race / Ethnicity</b>			
African-American	1,049 (68%)	1,106 (67%)	991 (68%)
Caucasian	309 (20%)	347 (21%)	278 (19%)
Hispanic	173 (11%)	187 (11%)	167 (12%)
Others	9 (<1%)	13 (<1%)	13 (<1%)
<b>Custody Type</b>			
Pretrial	1,018 (66%)	1,142 (69%)	1,006 (69%)
Sentenced	60 (4%)	69 (4%)	68 (5%)
Federal- U.S Marshals	328 (21%)	325 (20%)	303 (21%)
Federal- Immigration	2 (<1%)	3 (<1%)	1 (<1%)
Federal- 287(g)	4 (<1%)	3 (<1%)	2 (<1%)
Federal- BOP	1 (<1%)	1 (<1%)	1 (<1%)
State Misdemeanant	241 (16%)	197 (12%)	70 (5%)
Probation Quick Dip/Dunk	3 (<1%)	3 (<1%)	3 (<1%)
<b>Bed Type</b>			
Federal Contract	335 (22%)	328 (20%)	305 (21%)
State Contract	241 (16%)	197 (12%)	70 (5%)
Local <sup>3</sup>	964 (63%)	1,133 (68%)	1,076 (74%)

### Observations:

- Local ADP decreased at twice the rate (14% v. 7%) of the overall ADP from quarter to quarter. Local ADP also decreased as both a total number and as a proportion of the total ADP. This signals that an increase in State and Federal contract beds is driving the increase in ADP when compared to the second quarter of FY17.

<sup>2</sup> Due to the small number of occurrences, all youthful female offenders are included in the female grouping.

<sup>3</sup> Local ADP is defined as Total ADP minus both Federal and State Contract beds.

### III. Booking and Release Composition<sup>4</sup>

Table 4 details the average monthly composition and average length of stay for all jail intake types as well as the average monthly composition of jail releases by type. This table compares the current quarter to the second quarter of the previous year.

Table 4: Intake and Release Characteristics

	Oct – Dec 2017		Oct – Dec 2016	
	Avg. Monthly Composition	Avg. Length of Stay (days)	Avg. Monthly Composition	Avg. Length of Stay (days)
<b>Intakes</b>				
State	1,575	24	1,756	20
State Misdemeanant Program	28	58	18	51
Federal – U.S. Marshals	57	102	59	88
Federal – Immigration	9	0	7	0
Federal – 287(g)	19	1	8	1
<b>Released</b>				
State	1,767	-	1,859	-
State Misdemeanant Program	32	-	25	-
Federal – U.S. Marshals	59	-	59	-
Federal – Immigration	12	-	9	-
Federal – 287(g)	52	-	26	-

#### Observations:

- Average monthly intakes for the State Misdemeanant Program increased 53 percent from the previous year while the average monthly Federal 287(g) intakes increased by 152 percent from the previous year.
- The average monthly releases for the State Misdemeanant Program increased by 28 percent and the average monthly releases of Federal 287(g) inmates increased by 101 percent from the previous year.

<sup>4</sup> Average length of stay is determined by averaging the reported ALOS for each group in the FY 2018 MCSO Detention Report. The Detention Report calculates ALOS as (Total Bed Days / Number of Jail Intakes). "Bed days" is calculated as the sum of the reported average daily population. An "intake" is defined as an individual receiving a housing assignment (those who bond out or are otherwise released prior to a housing assignment are not considered intakes).

## IV. Average Length of Stay and Jail Bed Days by Release Type<sup>5</sup>

Table 5 examines total number of releases, total number of bed days, and the Average Length of Stay (ALOS) based on the release reason. This table compares the current quarter to the previous year.

Table 5: Characteristics By Selected Release Type

Type of Release <sup>6</sup>	Oct – Dec 2017			Oct – Dec 2016		
	Released	Bed Days	ALOS (days)	Released	Bed Days	ALOS (days)
Secured	1,708 (33%)	11,838 (8%)	7	1,967 (37%)	11,469 (9%)	6
Time Served	415 (7%)	20,715 (14%)	50	481 (9%)	16,383 (12%)	34
Unsecured	998 (19%)	6,969 (5%)	7	1,216 (23%)	8,681 (7%)	7
Dismissed	342 (7%)	9,728 (7%)	28	227 (4%)	7,619 (6%)	34
Probation/Parole	101 (2%)	5,185 (4%)	51	116 (2%)	6,354 (5%)	55
Other Jurisdiction	1,285 (25%)	89,671 (62%)	70	1,026 (19%)	81,878 (61%)	80
Release to Pretrial Services	292 (6%)	1,446 (1%)	5	283 (5%)	1,102 (1%)	4
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,141 (100%)</b>	<b>145,552 (100%)</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>5,316 (100%)</b>	<b>133,486 (100%)</b>	<b>25</b>

### Observations:

- The selected release types decreased by 3 percent from the previous year.
- Total jail bed days associated with Time Served releases increased by 26 percent despite a decrease of 16 percent in the total number of Time Served releases. This indicates that defendants are staying in the jail longer before being released on Time Served.

<sup>5</sup> Bed Days is calculated as the total number of days between the commit date and release date as found in the OMS Release Report (OIRRELDT). The Average Length of Stay is calculated as the total number of bed days divided by the total number of releases.

<sup>6</sup> This list only includes the most common release types and should not be construed as an exhaustive list.

## V. Assessed Risk Level (PSA)

Table 6 represents the total number and distribution of pretrial risk assessments completed by Criminal Justice Services staff. Assessments are categorized based on the date on which they were completed. Risk levels are defined as per the Mecklenburg County Decision Making Framework.

While risk assessments are conducted for all individuals incarcerated at the time of their first appearance hearing at the Mecklenburg County courthouse, the table below should not be interpreted as representing the risk levels of the average jail population.

Table 6: Assessed Risk Level

Assessed Risk Level	Oct – Dec 2017 Assessments	Jul – Sep 2017 Assessments	Oct – Dec 2016 Assessments	Percent Change From	
				Jul – Sep 2017	Oct – Dec 2016
Low Risk	617 (23%)	642 (19%)	551 (19%)	-4%	12%
Medium-Low Risk	220 (8%)	268 (8%)	238 (8%)	-18%	-8%
Medium Risk	623 (23%)	732 (22%)	625 (22%)	-15%	0%
Medium-High Risk	324 (12%)	441 (13%)	392 (14%)	-27%	-17%
High Risk	938 (34%)	1,211 (37%)	1,068 (37%)	-23%	-12%
<b>Total Assessments</b>	<b>2,722 (100%)</b>	<b>3,294 (100%)</b>	<b>2,874 (100%)</b>	<b>-17%</b>	<b>-5%</b>

### Observations:

- The total number of PSA assessments has decreased by 17 percent from the previous quarter and 5 percent from the same quarter of the previous year.
- The proportion of PSA assessments with a score falling in the “Low Risk” category increases by 4 percent from the previous quarter, while the “High Risk” category decreased by 3 percent.

## VI. Trends and Forecasting

In 2017, Criminal Justice Services (CJS) and the Mecklenburg County Sheriff's Office (MCSO) implemented a new jail population simulation methodology which allows CJS and MCSO to forecast the projected jail population at specific intervals given various assumptions about the local justice system. All forecasts, by their very nature, are imperfect and therefore the actual ADP will likely differ from the predicted value in this section; however, this section can be used as an indicator for likely future trends.

### Fiscal Year 2018 Forecast

The FY 2018 jail population forecast was developed in July 2017. While the forecasting process remained unchanged from 2017, several improvements were made to the model which should improve performance in FY 2018. First, the FY 2018 model was designed to incorporate the seasonality that is observed in bookings into the Mecklenburg County jail. Second, the model was tuned to minimize the variance with the FY 2017 observed ADP, which resulted in a higher FY 2018 forecast than would have otherwise been the case. This model tuning allows for the indirect incorporation of various justice system factors such as policy changes, increases in arrests, etc.

Overall, the FY 2018 ADP is forecast to be 1,536 with a March ADP of 1,542.

Figure 2: Observed and Forecast Average Daily Population (July 2017 - June 2018)

