ENTENCING AND OLICY ADVISORY COMMISSION FELONY CONVICTIONS

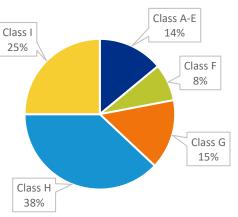
MARCH 2023

FISCAL YEAR 2022

⇒ There were 25,760 sentences imposed in FY 2022 for felony convictions under Structured Sentencing.

NORTH CAROLINA

- ⇒ Felony convictions increased 21% in FY 2022, reflecting the recovery of court system operations, but overall volume remained below pre-pandemic levels.
- ⇒ A large portion (63%) of felony convictions were for Class H and I offenses.
- ⇒ Nearly one-third (32%) of felony convictions were for nontrafficking drug offenses.
 - > 37% of convictions resulted in an Active punishment.



Offense Class Distribution

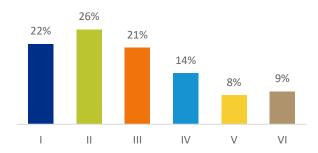
Convictions by Type of Offense

Type of Offense	N	%
Person	4,595	18
Property	7,184	28
Non-Trafficking (NT) Drug	8,022	32
Other	5,600	22

Offender Characteristics

- The majority of felony offenders were male (81%).
- 54% of offenders were White, 40% were Black, 3% were Hispanic, 1% were Native American, and 2% were Other.
- The average age of offenders was 36.
- Almost half (48%) of convictions were for offenders in Prior Record Levels I and II, including 16% for offenders with no prior record points. 17% had serious criminal histories (Prior Record Levels V and VI).

Prior Record Level Distribution



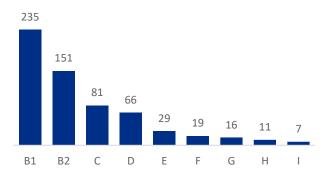
Top 5 Felony Convictions

Offense	Class	Ν
Possess Methamphetamine	Ι	2,164
Possession of a Firearm by a Felon	G	2,096
Breaking and Entering Buildings	Н	1,306
Obtain Property by False Pretense	Н	876
Larceny of Property (>\$1,000)	Н	874

Punishment

- 37% of convictions resulted in an Active punishment, 35% resulted in an Intermediate punishment, and 28% resulted in a Community punishment.
- Just over two-thirds (67%) of convictions with an Active punishment were sentenced in the presumptive range.
- Overall, the average minimum active sentence was 32 months. 87% of offenders with active sentences received credit for time served, with an average credit of 7 months.

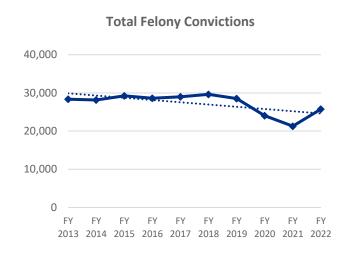
Average Minimum Active Sentence by Offense Class (in Months)



QUICK FACTS: FELONY CONVICTIONS

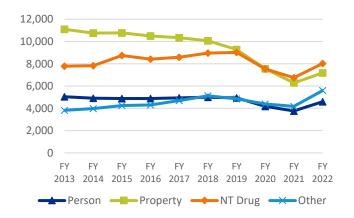
FISCAL YEAR 2013 – FISCAL YEAR 2022

Felony convictions have decreased 9% since FY 2013, with most of the decrease occurring as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. Over the past fiscal year, felony convictions increased 21%.

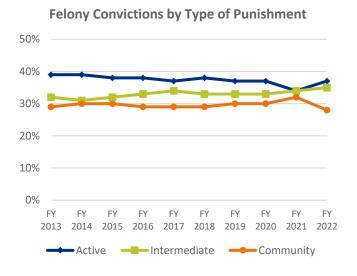


Property and NT drug offenses have accounted for the largest number of all felony convictions over the past ten years. While the volume of convictions for all offense types declined as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, property offenses have consistently declined since FY 2013.

Felony Convictions by Type of Offense

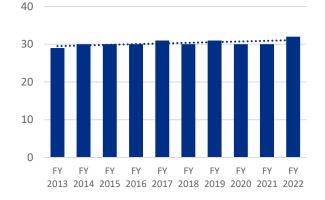


With the exception of FY 2021 (due to COVID effects), the percentage of convictions with an Active punishment imposed has been stable (37% to 39%). Non-active punishments have also been stable for the past ten years (Community at 28% to 30%; Intermediate punishments at 31% to 35%).



Between FY 2013 and FY 2022, the average minimum active sentence ranged from 28 to 32 months, with FY 2022 having the highest average minimum active sentence (32 months).





Note: Figures in this publication generally exclude felony convictions that did not fit within the appropriate cell in the Felony Punishment Chart. However, convictions for Intermediate and Community punishments in cells in which those dispositions are not authorized by the Felony Punishment Chart are included. Average active sentence length calculations exclude death and life sentences.

SOURCE: NC Sentencing and Policy Advisory Commission, FY 2013 – FY 2022 Statistical Report Data

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The Honorable Charlie Brown, Chairman Michelle Hall, Executive Director

For the NC Sentencing and Policy Advisory Commission's *Structured Sentencing Statistical Report for Felonies and Misdemeanors* and all other publications, see the Commission's website: www.NCSPAC.org.