Structured Sentencing Statistical Report



Fiscal Year 2024

North Carolina Sentencing and Policy Advisory Commission

Structured Sentencing Statistical Report for Felonies and Misdemeanors



Fiscal Year 2024

JUNE 2025

The Honorable Charlie Brown
Chairman

Michelle Hall
Executive Director

North Carolina Sentencing and Policy Advisory Commission

www.NCSPAC.org

SENTENCING AND POLICY ADVISORY COMMISSION MEMBERSHIP

Hon. Charlie Brown, Chairman
District Court Judge

Natalia Botella
Attorney General's Office

Hon. Danny Britt, Jr.
State Senator

Hon. Warren Daniel
State Senator

Hon. James Gailliard
Private Citizen, Governor's Appointee

Lindsey Granados
Advocates for Justice

Hon. Dudley Greene
State Representative

Tammera Hill
Department of Adult Correction

Hon. R. Gregory Horne
Conference of Superior Court Judges

Joseph Houchin
Lieutenant Governor's Appointee

Hon. Darren Jackson
Post-Release Supervision & Parole Commission

Hon. Tracey Johnson
Association of County Commissioners

William Lassiter
Department of Public Safety

Sheriff Garry McFadden
Sheriffs' Association

Vacant
Academic Member

Hon. Charles Miller
State Representative

Hon. James Mixson, III
Association of Clerks of Superior Court

Hon. Mujtaba Mohammed
State Senator

Luther Moore
Retail Merchants' Association

Hon. Fred Morrison, Jr.
Justice Fellowship

Hon. Reece Pyrtle, Jr.
State Representative

Calvin Suber
Commission Chairman's Appointee

Hon. Scott Ussery
District Court Judges' Association

Hon. Michael Waters
Conference of District Attorneys

Elizabeth Watson
Victim Assistance Network

Patrick Weede
Bar Association

Chief A.Z. Williams
Association of Chiefs of Police

Hon. Valerie Zachary
Court of Appeals

Vacant
Community Colleges System

SENTENCING AND POLICY ADVISORY COMMISSION STAFF

Michelle Hall
Executive Director

Ginny Hevener
Associate Director for Research

John Madler
Associate Director for Policy, Staff Attorney

Tamara Flinchum
Senior Research & Policy Associate

John King
Senior Research & Policy Associate

Meghan Boyd Ward
Research & Policy Associate

Julio Cazares
Research & Policy Associate

Melissa Lugo
Research & Policy Associate

Sierra Satterfield
Research & Policy Associate

Dylan Saunders
Research & Policy Associate

Shelley Kirk
Administrative Secretary

TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION i

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS FY 2024 FELONY CONVICTIONS iii

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS FY 2024 MISDEMEANOR CONVICTIONS iv

SECTION I: FELONY CONVICTIONS AND SENTENCES IMPOSED 1

FELONY CONVICTIONS IN FY 2024 1

OFFENDER CHARACTERISTICS 1

Figure 1: Convictions by Sex and Race 1

Figure 2: Convictions by Age and Sex 2

SUPERIOR COURT DIVISION AND DISTRICT 2

Figure 3: Convictions by Superior Court Division 2

Figure 4: Convictions by Superior Court District 3

MONTH OF SENTENCING 4

Figure 5: Convictions by Month of Sentencing 4

TIME TO SENTENCING 4

Figure 6: Median Time to Sentencing (Months) by Offense Class 4

METHOD OF DISPOSITION 5

Table 1: Convictions by Method of Disposition and Offense Class 5

Felony Pleas in District Court 5

Table 2: Top 5 Convictions for Class H and Class I Felony Pleas by Court 6

OFFENSE CLASS AND PRIOR RECORD LEVEL 6

Table 3: Convictions within the Felony Punishment Chart 7

Figure 7: Convictions by Offense Class 8

Figure 8: Convictions by Prior Record Level 8

Figure 9: Convictions by Offense Class and Prior Record Level 8

PUNISHMENT IMPOSED 9

Figure 10: Convictions by Type of Punishment 9

PUNISHMENT IMPOSED WITHIN THE FELONY PUNISHMENT CHART 9

Table 4: Convictions and Sentences by Offense Class and Prior Record Level 11

PUNISHMENT IMPOSED IN DISCRETIONARY CELLS 12

Figure 11: Punishment Imposed in Discretionary Cells 13

PUNISHMENT IMPOSED BY CRIME TYPE 13

Figure 12: Convictions by Crime Type 13

Table 5: Convictions and Sentences by Crime Type 14

ACTIVE PUNISHMENT 14

SENTENCING RANGE 14

Figure 13: Sentencing Range 15

Figure 14: Sentencing Range by Offense Class 15

Table 6: Sentencing Range by Offense Class and Prior Record Level 16

Table 7: Sentencing Range by Crime Type 18

SENTENCE LOCATION WITHIN THE SENTENCING RANGE 18

Table 8: Sentence Location within the Sentencing Range by Offense Class 19

Table 9: Sentence Location within the Sentencing Range by Crime Type 19

CREDIT FOR TIME SERVED 20

Figure 15: Credit for Time Served by Offense Class 20
Figure 16: Credit for Time Served by Crime Type 20
INTERMEDIATE AND COMMUNITY PUNISHMENTS 21
PROBATION LENGTH AND SUSPENDED SENTENCE BY TYPE OF PUNISHMENT 21
Table 10: Average Length of Probation and Average Suspended Sentence by Offense Class and Type of Punishment 22
Table 11: Average Length of Probation and Average Suspended Sentence by Crime Type and Type of Punishment 23
SENTENCE LOCATION WITHIN THE SENTENCING RANGE 23
Table 12: Sentence Location within the Sentencing Range by Offense Class 24
Table 13: Sentence Location within the Sentencing Range by Crime Type 24
CONDITIONS OF PROBATION 24
Figure 17: Probation Conditions for Convictions with Supervised Probation 25
Table 14: Probation Conditions for Convictions with Supervised Probation 26
NO PROBATION ORDERED 26
SPECIAL ISSUES 26
DEATH AND LIFE SENTENCES 26
HABITUAL STATUS OFFENDERS 27
Figure 18: Habitual Felon Convictions by Offense Class 27
Figure 19: Sentencing Range by Offense Class for Habitual and Non-Habitual Felons 28
Figure 20: Offense Class of the Most Serious Offense Associated with Habitual Felon Convictions 28
Table 15: Top 5 Most Serious Offenses Associated with Habitual Felon Convictions 29
FIREARM ENHANCEMENT 29
CRIMINAL GANG ACTIVITY ENHANCEMENTS 29
ADVANCED SUPERVISED RELEASE 30
DRUG TRAFFICKING CONVICTIONS 30
Table 16: Drug Trafficking Convictions 31
ATTEMPTED DRUG TRAFFICKING CONVICTIONS 32
Table 17: Attempted Drug Trafficking Convictions 32

SECTION II: MISDEMEANOR CONVICTIONS AND SENTENCES IMPOSED 33
MISDEMEANOR CONVICTIONS IN FY 2024 33
OFFENDER CHARACTERISTICS 33
Figure 21: Convictions by Sex and Race 34
Figure 22: Convictions by Age and Sex 34
DISTRICT COURT DISTRICT 34
Figure 23: Convictions by District Court District 35
MONTH OF SENTENCING 36
Figure 24: Convictions by Month of Sentencing 36
TIME TO SENTENCING 36
Figure 25: Median Time to Sentencing (Months) by Offense Class 36
OFFENSE CLASS AND PRIOR CONVICTION LEVEL 37
Table 18: Convictions within the Misdemeanor Punishment Chart 37
Figure 26: Convictions by Offense Class 38
Figure 27: Convictions by Prior Conviction Level 38
Figure 28: Convictions by Offense Class and Prior Conviction Level 38
PUNISHMENT IMPOSED 39

Figure 29: Convictions by Type of Punishment 39
PUNISHMENT IMPOSED WITHIN THE MISDEMEANOR PUNISHMENT CHART 39
Table 19: Convictions and Sentences by Offense Class and Prior Conviction Level 40
PUNISHMENT IMPOSED BY CRIME TYPE 41
Figure 30: Convictions by Crime Type 41
Table 20: Convictions and Sentences by Crime Type 41
ACTIVE PUNISHMENT 42
AVERAGE LENGTH OF ACTIVE SENTENCES 42
Table 21: Average Length of Active Sentences by Offense Class and Prior Conviction Level .. 42
CREDIT FOR TIME SERVED 43
Figure 31: Credit for Time Served by Offense Class 43
Figure 32: Credit for Time Served by Crime Type 43
INTERMEDIATE AND COMMUNITY PUNISHMENTS 44
Figure 33: Probation Ordered by Type of Punishment 44
Figure 34: Probation Ordered by Offense Class 45
PROBATION LENGTH BY TYPE OF PUNISHMENT 45
Table 22: Average Length of Probation by Offense Class and Type of Punishment 46
Table 23: Average Length of Probation and Average Suspended Sentence by Offense Class and Type of Punishment 47
Table 24: Average Length of Probation by Crime Type and Type of Punishment 48
Table 25: Average Length of Probation and Average Suspended Sentence by Crime Type and Type of Punishment 49
CONDITIONS OF PROBATION 49
Figure 35: Probation Conditions for Convictions with Supervised Probation 50
Table 26: Probation Conditions for Convictions with Supervised Probation 50
NO PROBATION ORDERED 51

SECTION III: TRENDS FOR FELONY AND MISDEMEANOR CONVICTIONS 52
TRENDS FOR FELONY CONVICTIONS 52
VOLUME OF FELONY CONVICTIONS 52
Figure 36: Felony Convictions 52
TIME TO SENTENCING 52
Figure 37: Median Time to Sentencing (Months) 53
OFFENDER CHARACTERISTICS 53
Figure 38: Convictions by Race 53
Figure 39: Convictions by Age 54
OFFENSE CLASS AND CRIME TYPE 54
Figure 40: Convictions by Offense Class 54
Figure 41: Convictions by Crime Type 55
Figure 42: Top 5 Felony Convictions 55
PRIOR RECORD LEVEL 55
Figure 43: Convictions by Prior Record Level 56
Figure 44: Offenders with Zero Prior Record Points 56
PUNISHMENT IMPOSED 56
Figure 45: Convictions by Type of Punishment 57
TRENDS FOR MISDEMEANOR CONVICTIONS 57
VOLUME OF MISDEMEANOR CONVICTIONS 57
Figure 46: Misdemeanor Convictions 57

TIME TO SENTENCING 58
Figure 47: Median Time to Sentencing (Months) 58
OFFENDER CHARACTERISTICS 58
Figure 48: Convictions by Race 58
Figure 49: Convictions by Age 59
OFFENSE CLASS AND CRIME TYPE 59
Figure 50: Convictions by Offense Class 59
Figure 51: Convictions by Crime Type 59
Figure 52: Top 5 Misdemeanor Convictions 60
PRIOR CONVICTION LEVEL 60
Figure 53: Convictions by Prior Conviction Level 60
PUNISHMENT IMPOSED 60
Figure 54: Convictions by Type of Punishment 61
Figure 55: Percent with Active Sentence where Sentence Length Equaled Credit for Time Served 61

APPENDIX A: MAPS OF JUDICIAL DIVISIONS AND DISTRICTS 62

APPENDIX B: ADDITIONAL FELONY CONVICTION DATA BY JUDICIAL DIVISION AND DISTRICT 65
Appendix B, Table 1: Convictions by Superior Court Division, District, and County 66
Appendix B, Table 2: Class H and Class I Felony Pleas by District, County, and Court 68
Appendix B, Table 3: Type of Punishment and Average Length of Active Sentence by Superior Court Division and District 70
Appendix B, Table 4: Sentencing Range by Superior Court Division and District 72

APPENDIX C: TOP 5 CONVICTIONS BY OFFENSE CLASS 74
Appendix C, Table 1: Top 5 Convictions by Offense Class 75

APPENDIX D: ADDITIONAL FELONY CONVICTION DATA BY CRIME TYPE AND OFFENSE 78
Appendix D, Table 1: Type of Punishment and Average Length of Active Sentence by Crime Type and Offense 79
Appendix D, Table 2: Sentencing Range by Crime Type and Offense 82
Appendix D, Table 3: Sentencing Range by Offense Class 85

APPENDIX E: ADDITIONAL MISDEMEANOR CONVICTION DATA BY JUDICIAL DISTRICT AND COUNTY . 86
Appendix E, Table 1: Convictions by District Court District and County 87

INTRODUCTION

Structured Sentencing is the method of sentencing offenders in North Carolina. It classifies offenders on the basis of the severity of their offense and on the extent and gravity of their prior criminal record. Based on these two factors, Structured Sentencing provides judges with sentencing options for the type and length of sentences that may be imposed.

Structured Sentencing is based on the following principles:

- **Sentencing policies should be truthful**: Sentence length imposed by the judge should bear a close and consistent relationship to the sentence length actually served.

- **Sentencing policies should be consistent**: Offenders convicted of similar offenses, who have similar prior records, should generally receive similar sentences.

- **Sentencing policies should be certain**: Sentence should be clearly mandated based on the severity of the crime as measured by the harm to the victim and the offender's prior record.

- **Sentencing policies should set priorities for the use of correctional resources**: Prisons and jails should be reserved for violent and repeat offenders, and community-based programs should be used for nonviolent offenders with little or no prior record.

- **Sentencing policies should be balanced with correctional resources**: Sentencing policies should be supported by adequate prison, jail, and community resources.

The North Carolina Sentencing and Policy Advisory Commission has the continuing duty to monitor and review the criminal justice and corrections systems in this State to ensure that sentences remain uniform and consistent, and that the goals and policies established by the State are being implemented through sentencing practices.[1] The Commission produces *The Structured Sentencing Statistical Report* annually to help perform that duty.

Detailed information about felony and misdemeanor convictions and sentences imposed under Structured Sentencing during Fiscal Year 2024 (July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024) is presented in the report. These data reflect the laws and practices in place during this time. Only cases where an offender was convicted and sentenced for a crime that was committed on or after October 1, 1994 – the effective date of Structured Sentencing – are included. The report presents information on the number of felony and misdemeanor convictions, the distribution of felony and misdemeanor convictions within their respective punishment charts, the type of punishment imposed, as well as data about several other issues.

Information for felony convictions is presented in Section I, while information for misdemeanor convictions is presented in Section II. Section III examines trends for felony and misdemeanor convictions. Details regarding the substance and application of the sentencing laws under Structured Sentencing are provided in the Commission's *Structured Sentencing Training and Reference Manual*.

[1] *See* N.C. Gen. Stat. (hereinafter G.S.) § 164-43(d).

REPORTING OF CONVICTIONS AND SENTENCES

A *SENTENCING EPISODE* IS IDENTIFIED FROM COURT RECORDS AS THE SENTENCE IMPOSED FOR THE *MOST SERIOUS CONVICTION* ON A GIVEN DAY OF COURT.

The report is based on data entered into the Administrative Office of the Courts' (AOC's) legacy criminal case index and integrated case management systems by the court clerk following the imposition of the sentence. The report covers all North Carolina counties. The unit of analysis is convictions disposed of in a *sentencing episode*.[2]

While a sentencing episode involves one offender, in the reporting time frame an offender may be represented by more than one sentencing episode (meaning that within the fiscal year the number of offenders will be the same as or less than the number of sentencing episodes reported). For the sake of simplicity, throughout the report, the unit of analysis is referred to as "conviction."

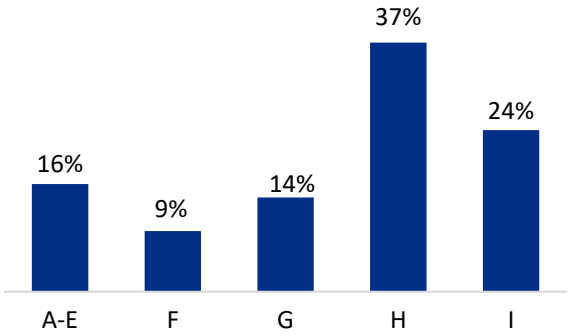
During FY 2023, the AOC began transitioning from its long-standing database, Automated Criminal Infraction System (ACIS), to Enterprise Justice (Odyssey). The data reflected in this report are based on data migrated or entered into Enterprise Justice for the counties in which implementation had begun by the end of July 2024 and on data entered into ACIS for the remaining counties. As implementation continues, more data in this report will be based on information entered into Enterprise Justice.

[2] The report's unit of analysis differs from convictions reported by the AOC due to the use of different methodologies and purposes for analyses. As a result, direct comparisons between the two measures should be avoided.

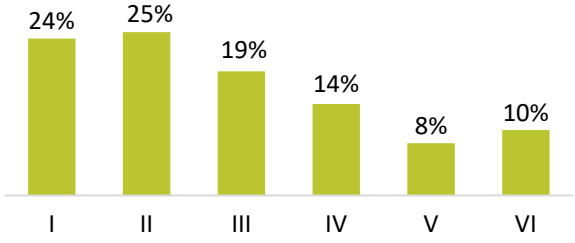
SUMMARY OF FINDINGS
FY 2024 FELONY CONVICTIONS

Sentences imposed for felony convictions are based on the Felony Punishment Chart, which takes into account offense seriousness and the offender's prior criminal record. During FY 2024, sentences for 27,088 felony convictions were imposed.[3] The majority of felony convictions were for Class H and Class I offenses (61%); most convictions (49%) were in Prior Record Levels I and II. Of the four crime types, non-trafficking drug offenses (30%) accounted for the largest percentage of felony convictions.

Convictions by Offense Class

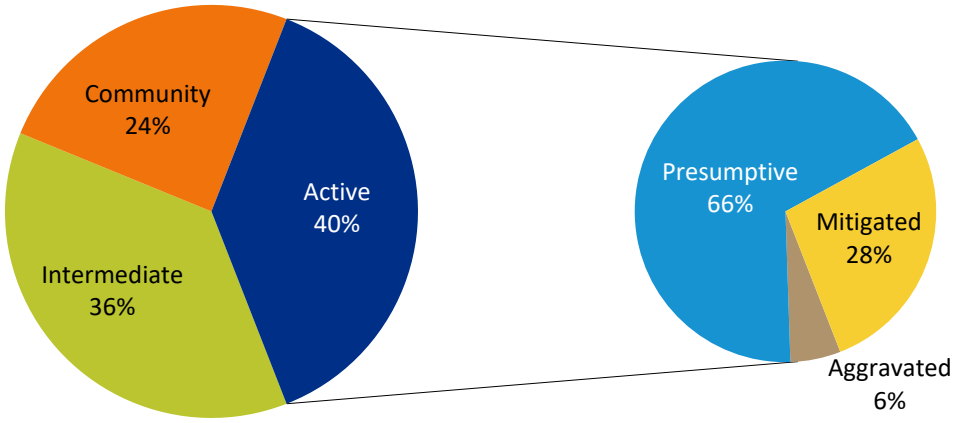


Convictions by Prior Record Level



Forty percent (40%) of felony convictions resulted in an Active punishment, 36% resulted in an Intermediate punishment, and 24% resulted in a Community punishment. Sixty-six percent (66%) of all active sentences were within the presumptive range, 28% were within the mitigated range, and 6% were within the aggravated range. All offenders with an Intermediate punishment and 94% of offenders with a Community punishment received supervised probation. Overall, the average probation length was 24 months and the average minimum suspended sentence was 10 months.

Punishment Imposed



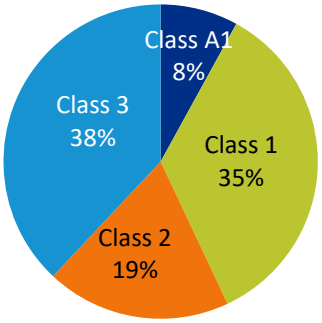
Sentencing Range

[3] This number excludes sentences imposed for drug trafficking and violent habitual felon convictions, which are subject to mandatory penalties.

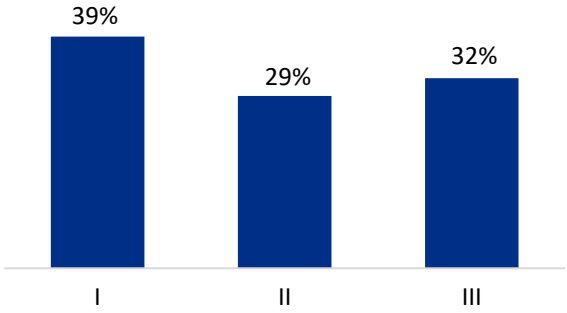
SUMMARY OF FINDINGS
FY 2024 MISDEMEANOR CONVICTIONS

Sentences imposed for misdemeanor convictions are based on the Misdemeanor Punishment Chart, which takes into account offense seriousness and the offender's prior criminal record. During FY 2024, sentences for 99,088 misdemeanor convictions were imposed under Structured Sentencing.[4] Thirty-eight percent (38%) of convictions were for Class 3 offenses and 39% of convictions were in Prior Conviction Level I. Of the five crime types, traffic offenses (43%) accounted for the largest percentage of misdemeanor convictions and person offenses accounted for the lowest percentage (8%).

Convictions by Offense Class

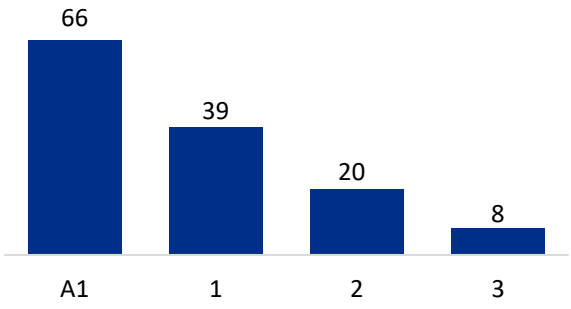


Convictions by Prior Conviction Level

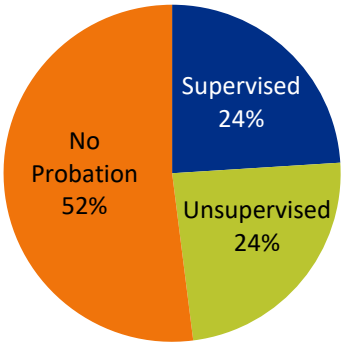


Twenty-nine percent (29%) of misdemeanor convictions resulted in an Active punishment, 3% resulted in an Intermediate punishment, and 68% resulted in a Community punishment. The average active sentence imposed was 32 days. Among offenders receiving a Community or Intermediate punishment, 24% received supervised probation, 24% received unsupervised probation, and 52% had no probation ordered. Overall, the average probation length was 15 months for supervised probation and 13 months for unsupervised probation.

Average Active Sentence by Offense Class (Days)



Type of Probation Ordered



[4] This number excludes Driving While Impaired (DWI) convictions, cases disposed of by magistrates, and local ordinance offenses.

SECTION I: FELONY CONVICTIONS AND SENTENCES IMPOSED

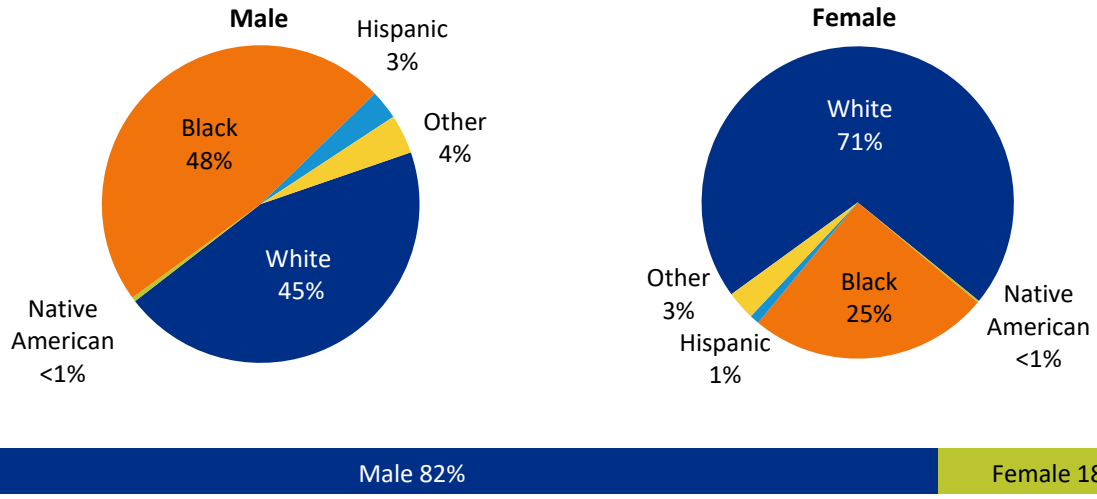
FELONY CONVICTIONS IN FY 2024

Overall, sentences for 27,088 felony convictions were imposed during FY 2024. (This number excludes sentences imposed for drug trafficking and violent habitual felon convictions, which are subject to mandatory penalties. Information regarding convictions for these offenses is summarized in the Special Issues section.) For many of the tables, information on 503 convictions (or 2%) was excluded due to data discrepancies. These convictions did not fit within the appropriate cell in the Felony Punishment Chart due to discrepant offense classes, prior record levels, or for other reasons (such as consecutive sentencing or extraordinary mitigation). Such exclusions are noted at the end of each table.

Offender Characteristics

This section provides a breakdown of convictions by offenders' sex, race, and age. Of the 27,088 felony convictions in FY 2024, 82% were for males (*see* Figure 1). Forty-nine percent (49%) of offenders were White, 44% were Black, and a small percentage were Hispanic (3%), Native American (<1%), or Other (4%). The largest percentage of male offenders were Black (48%), while the majority of female offenders were White (71%).

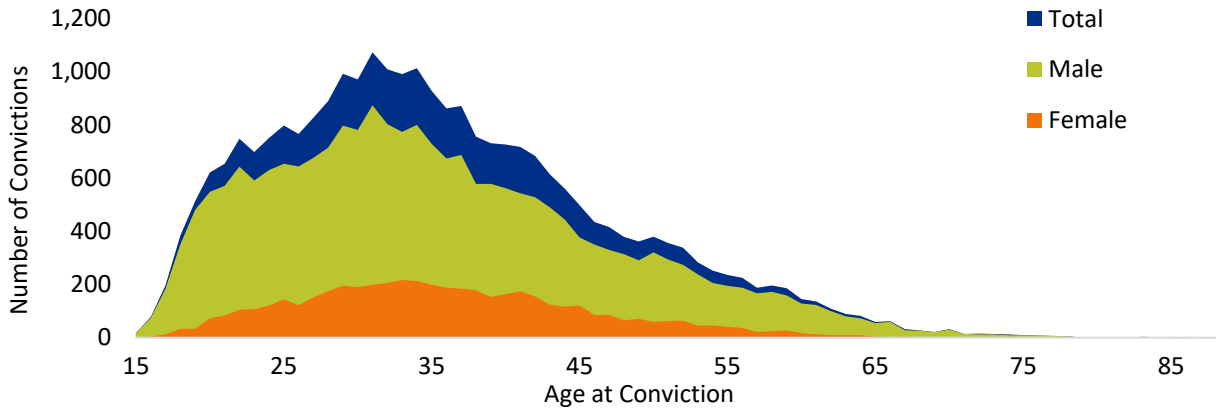
Figure 1: Convictions by Sex and Race



SOURCE: NC Sentencing and Policy Advisory Commission, FY 2024 Felony Statistical Report Data

Based on age at conviction, 4% of felony convictions were for offenders 21 years or younger, 29% were 21-30, 34% were 31-40, 20% were 41-50, and 13% were 51 years or older. The average age at conviction was 37 years. Figure 2 shows the volume of male and female offenders by age and illustrates that the volume of offenders peaks in the early thirties and then generally declines as age increases.

Figure 2: Convictions by Age and Sex

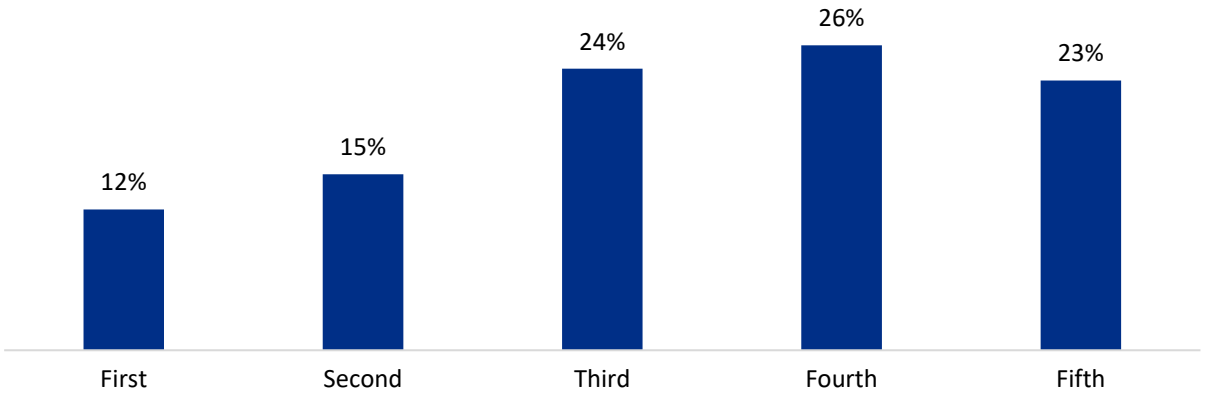


Note: Of the 27,088 felony convictions in FY 2024, 24 were excluded from this figure due to missing data.
SOURCE: NC Sentencing and Policy Advisory Commission, FY 2024 Felony Statistical Report Data

Superior Court Division and District

Figure 3 shows the variation in the distribution of convictions across the state. Nearly three-fourths of felony convictions were in the Third, Fourth, and Fifth divisions. The Fourth Division accounted for the most felony convictions, while the First Division accounted for the fewest.

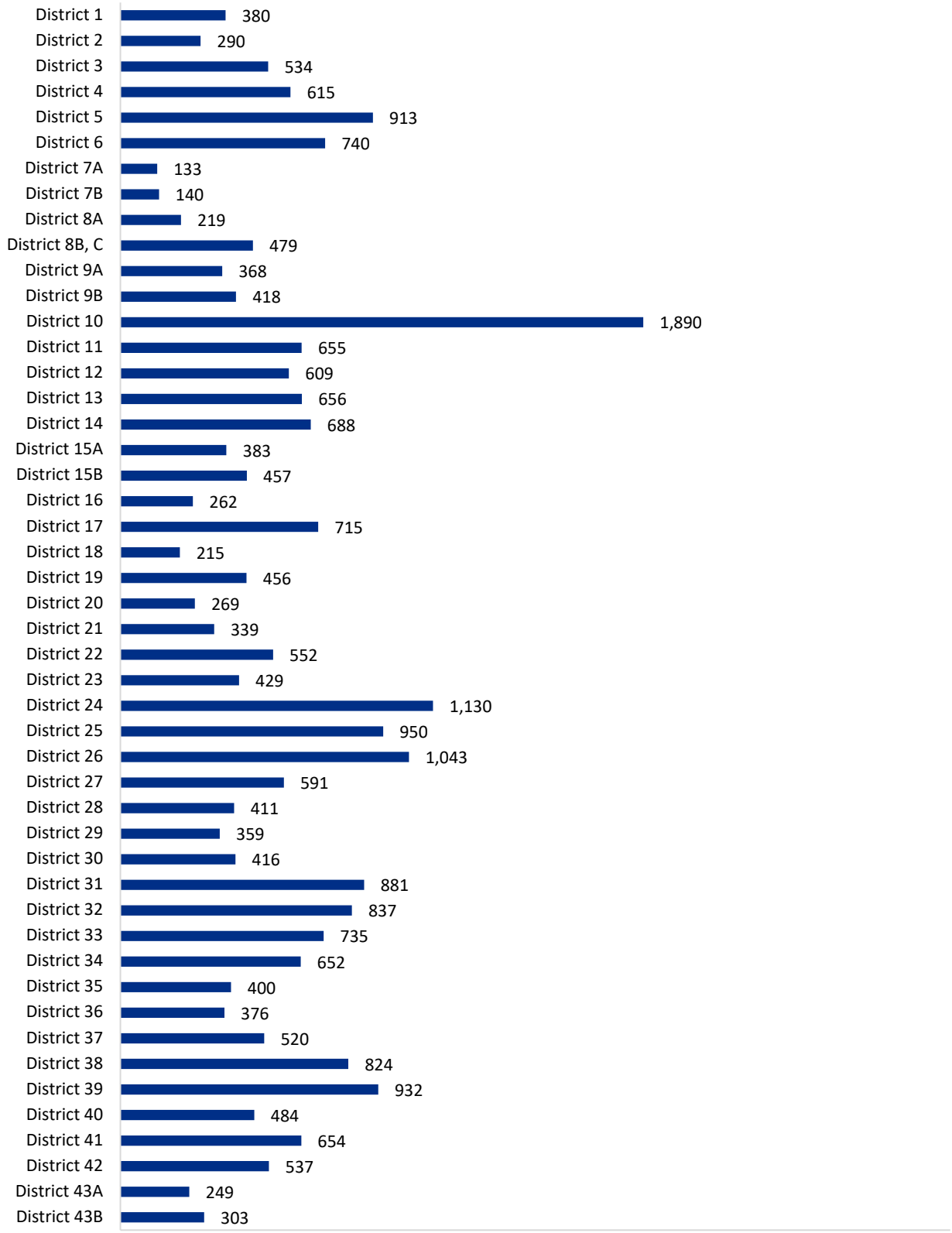
Figure 3: Convictions by Superior Court Division



SOURCE: NC Sentencing and Policy Advisory Commission, FY 2024 Felony Statistical Report Data

Figure 4 provides the total number of felony convictions for each Superior Court district. The highest volume of felony convictions was in District 10 (Wake County), District 24 (Guilford County), and District 26 (Mecklenburg County); the lowest volume was in District 7A (Halifax County), District 7B (Bertie, Hertford, and Northampton Counties), and District 18 (Chatham and Orange Counties). Appendix A contains a map of Superior Court divisions and districts; Appendix B, Table 1 provides information on the total number of felony convictions for each Superior Court division and district within the context of county population.

Figure 4: Convictions by Superior Court District

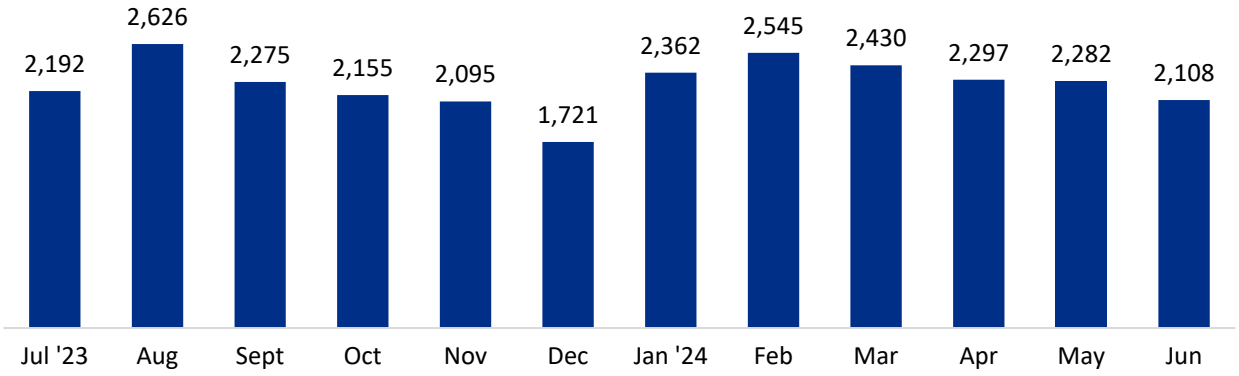


SOURCE: NC Sentencing and Policy Advisory Commission, FY 2024 Felony Statistical Report Data

Month of Sentencing

Figure 5 shows the total number of felony convictions by month of sentencing. Convictions were highest in August 2023 and lowest in December 2023.

Figure 5: Convictions by Month of Sentencing

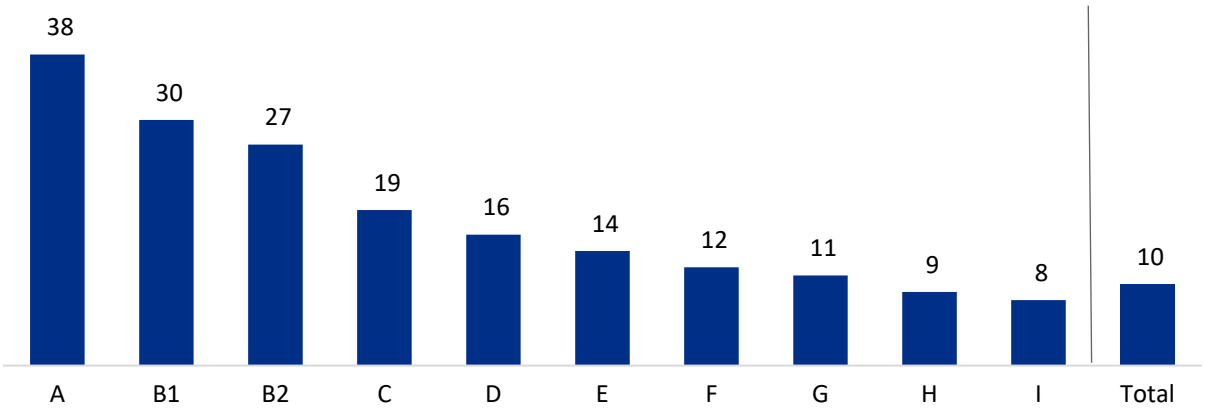


SOURCE: NC Sentencing and Policy Advisory Commission, FY 2024 Felony Statistical Report Data

Time to Sentencing

Time to sentencing refers to the amount of time between the date the charge was filed for the most serious conviction and the date the sentence was imposed. As shown in Figure 6, the median time to sentencing for all felonies was 10 months. Class A convictions had the longest time to sentencing (38 months). Class I convictions had the shortest time to sentencing at 8 months.

Figure 6: Median Time to Sentencing (Months) by Offense Class



Note: Convictions that did not fit within the appropriate cell in the Felony Punishment Chart or that had missing data were excluded from this figure.
SOURCE: NC Sentencing and Policy Advisory Commission, FY 2024 Felony Statistical Report Data

Method of Disposition

Table 1 shows convictions by method of disposition and offense class.[5] Overall, 2% of convictions statewide resulted from jury trials. Higher percentages of convictions resulting from jury trials were found in the more serious offense classes than the less serious offense classes. Generally, as offense seriousness decreased, the percentage of convictions disposed by jury trial also decreased.

Table 1: Convictions by Method of Disposition and Offense Class

Method of Disposition	Offense Class										Total
	A	B1	B2	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	
Guilty Plea	20	363	180	588	802	1,917	2,414	3,670	9,793	6,332	**26,079**
	23%	85%	90%	90%	94%	98%	98%	99%	99%	99%	**98%**
Jury Trial	68	64	21	63	52	31	46	41	71	41	**498**
	77%	15%	10%	10%	6%	2%	2%	1%	1%	1%	**2%**
Total	**88**	**427**	**201**	**651**	**854**	**1,948**	**2,460**	**3,711**	**9,864**	**6,373**	**26,577**

Note: Of the 27,088 felony convictions in FY 2024, 503 (or 2%) were excluded from this table due to discrepant data; additionally, 8 bench trials were excluded from this table.
SOURCE: NC Sentencing and Policy Advisory Commission, FY 2024 Felony Statistical Report Data

Felony Pleas in District Court

Under G.S. 15A-1029.1(a), the Superior Court may transfer a Class H or I felony to District Court for entry of a defendant's plea of guilty (or no contest), with the consent of both parties. In FY 2024, 5,072 felony pleas (31% of all Class H and Class I felony convictions) were accepted in District Court. Not all districts accept felony pleas in district court; ten districts (Districts 6, 10, 13, 15B, 27, 31, 32, 34, 41, and 42) accounted for 72% (n=3,646) of convictions for which felony pleas were accepted in District Court. The median time to sentencing for Class H and Class I felony pleas in District Court was 4 months as compared to 11 months in Superior Court, with little variation by offense class.

Table 2 shows the top 5 felony convictions for Class H and Class I felony pleas in District and Superior Court. Possess methamphetamine was the most common offense for which a felony plea was accepted in both District and Superior Court (16% and 13% respectively). *See* Appendix B, Table 2 for further information on felony pleas in District Court by judicial district and county.

[5] Effective December 1, 2014, North Carolina amended its Constitution to allow a person accused of any criminal offense for which the State is not seeking a sentence of death in Superior Court to waive their right to a jury trial and receive a bench trial. In FY 2024, there were 8 convictions in Superior Court that were disposed of by bench trial.

Table 2: Top 5 Convictions for Class H and Class I Felony Pleas by Court

Court	Offense Class	Total Convictions	
		#	%
District Court (n=5,072)			
Possess Methamphetamine	I	806	16%
Possess Schedule II Controlled Substance	I	436	9%
Larceny of Property (>$1,000)	H	332	7%
Breaking or Entering Buildings	H	308	6%
Obtain Property by False Pretense	H	269	5%
Superior Court (n=11,053)			
Possess Methamphetamine	I	1,392	13%
Breaking or Entering Buildings	H	749	7%
Possess Schedule II Controlled Substance	I	641	6%
Larceny of Property (>$1,000)	H	622	6%
Obtain Property by False Pretense	H	584	5%

Note: Convictions that did not fit within the appropriate cell in the Felony Punishment Chart were excluded from this table.
SOURCE: NC Sentencing and Policy Advisory Commission, FY 2024 Statistical Report Data

OFFENSE CLASS AND PRIOR RECORD LEVEL

Sentences imposed for felony convictions are based on the Felony Punishment Chart, which takes into account offense seriousness and the offender's prior criminal record. The current Felony Punishment Chart (for offenses committed on or after October 1, 2013) is printed on the back cover of the report.[6]

Table 3 shows the distribution of felony convictions within the Felony Punishment Chart. Overall, the highest volume of convictions was in Class H (n=9,864 or 37.1%). The highest percentage of convictions were for offenders in the lowest prior record levels; 24.2% (n=6,422) were for offenders in Prior Record Level I and 24.7% (n=6,561) were for offenders in Prior Record Level II. Relative to other cells in the Felony Punishment Chart, the highest volume of convictions was in Class H/Prior Record Level II (n=2,415 or 9.1%), followed by convictions in Class H/Prior Record Level I (n=2,141 or 8.1%). Sentences imposed for Class A through Class E felonies accounted for 15.7% of felony convictions during FY 2024; 61.1% of sentences imposed were for Class H and Class I felony convictions.

[6] *See* http://www.nccourts.gov/documents/publications/punishment-grids for the corresponding table of maximum sentences.

Table 3: Convictions within the Felony Punishment Chart

Offense Class	Prior Record Level						Total
	I 0-1 Pt	II 2-5 Pts	III 6-9 Pts	IV 10-13 Pts	V 14-17 Pts	VI 18+ Pts	
A	51 0.2%	7 0.0%	9 0.0%	13 0.1%	6 0.0%	2 0.0%	**88** **0.3%**
B1	241 0.9%	95 0.4%	50 0.2%	22 0.1%	14 0.1%	9 0.0%	**431** **1.6%**
B2	113 0.4%	41 0.2%	20 0.1%	13 0.1%	10 0.0%	4 0.0%	**201** **0.8%**
C	176 0.7%	95 0.4%	101 0.4%	112 0.4%	87 0.3%	82 0.3%	**653** **2.5%**
D	327 1.2%	139 0.5%	107 0.4%	102 0.4%	73 0.3%	106 0.4%	**854** **3.2%**
E	874 3.3%	419 1.6%	206 0.8%	175 0.7%	121 0.5%	153 0.6%	**1,948** **7.3%**
F	818 3.1%	577 2.2%	461 1.7%	234 0.9%	156 0.6%	215 0.8%	**2,461** **9.3%**
G	408 1.5%	1,071 4.0%	984 3.7%	658 2.5%	281 1.1%	310 1.2%	**3,712** **14.0%**
H	2,141 8.1%	2,415 9.1%	1,862 7.0%	1,441 5.4%	997 3.8%	1,008 3.8%	**9,864** **37.1%**
I	1,273 4.8%	1,702 6.4%	1,213 4.6%	897 3.4%	541 2.0%	747 2.8%	**6,373** **24.0%**
Total	**6,422** **24.2%**	**6,561** **24.7%**	**5,013** **18.9%**	**3,667** **13.8%**	**2,286** **8.6%**	**2,636** **9.9%**	**26,585** **100.0%**

Note: Of the 27,088 felony convictions in FY 2024, 503 (or 2%) were excluded from this table. Percentages may not add to totals due to rounding.

SOURCE: NC Sentencing and Policy Advisory Commission, FY 2024 Felony Statistical Report Data

Figure 7 shows the percentage of convictions by offense class. The majority of felony convictions (61%) were for Class H and Class I offenses. (*See* Appendix C for the top 5 convictions in each offense class.) As shown in Figure 8, almost half (49%) of felony convictions were for offenders with Prior Record Levels I and II, including 18% for offenders with no prior record points. Eighteen percent (18%) of convictions were for offenders with the most serious prior criminal histories (Prior Record Levels V and VI).

Figure 7: Convictions by Offense Class

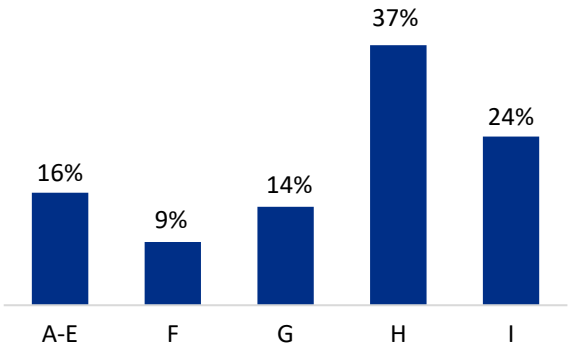
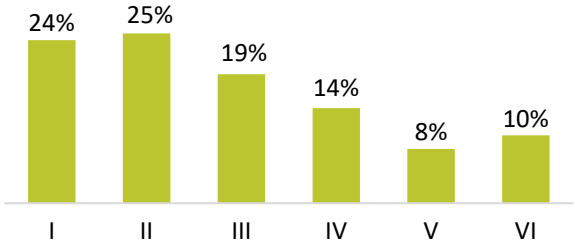


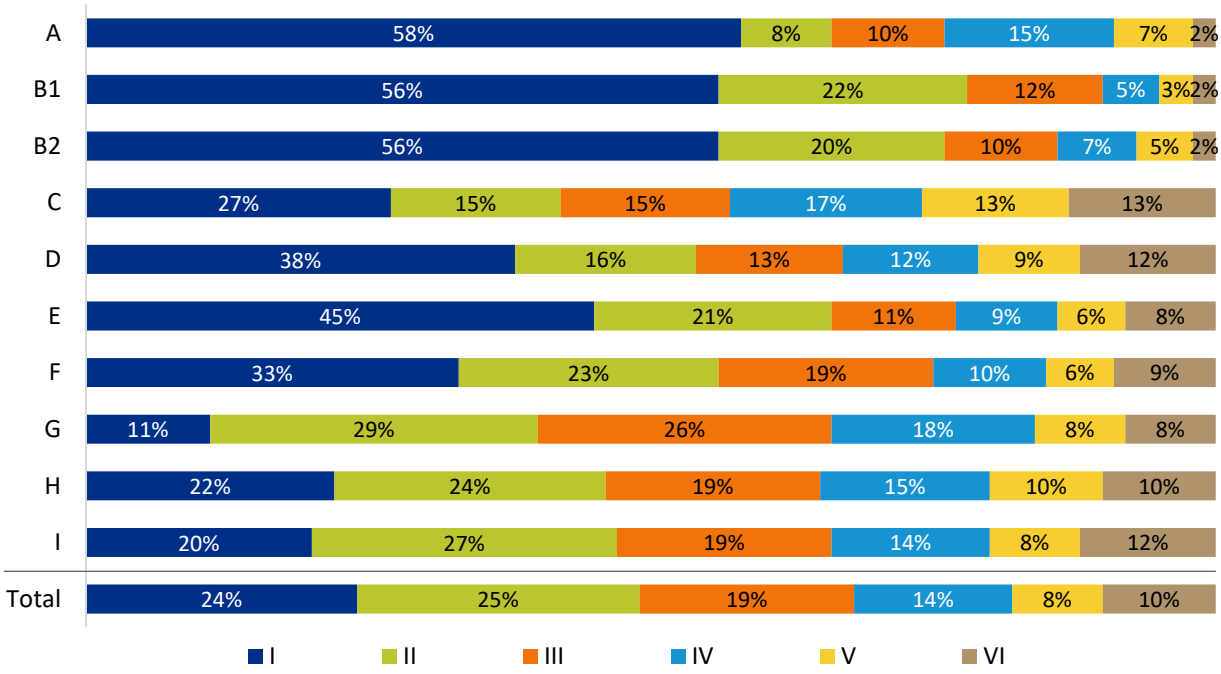
Figure 8: Convictions by Prior Record Level



SOURCE: NC Sentencing and Policy and Advisory Commission, FY 2024 Felony Statistical Report Data

Figure 9 shows the distribution of convictions by offense class and prior record level. The most serious felony offense classes (Class A, Class B1, and Class B2) had the highest percentages in Prior Record Level I (58%, 56%, and 56% respectively). Class C had the highest percentages in Prior Record Levels V and VI (26%). The total distribution of convictions by prior record level most closely resembles that of Class H and Class I because those classes comprise the majority of all felony convictions.

Figure 9: Convictions by Offense Class and Prior Record Level



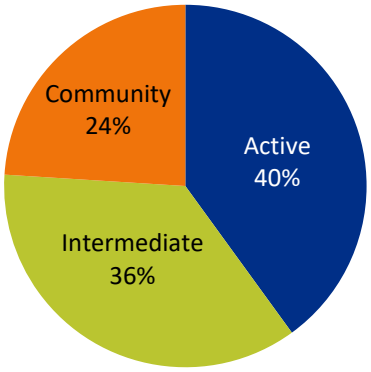
SOURCE: NC Sentencing and Policy and Advisory Commission, FY 2024 Felony Statistical Report Data

PUNISHMENT IMPOSED

This section details the type of punishment imposed (Active, Intermediate, or Community) for convictions during FY 2024. The tables in this section also show the average minimum and maximum sentences for convictions for which an Active punishment was imposed. *The reader should note that this information is based on the most serious sentence an offender received*.

An Active punishment was imposed for 40% of felony convictions, an Intermediate punishment was imposed for 36% of felony convictions, and a Community punishment was imposed for 24% of felony convictions (*see* Figure 10).

Figure 10: Convictions by Type of Punishment



SOURCE: NC Sentencing and Policy Advisory Commission, FY 2024 Felony Statistical Report Data

Punishment Imposed within the Felony Punishment Chart

Table 4 presents felony convictions and sentences imposed within the context of the Felony Punishment Chart (*see* also Table 3).[7] The detailed information provided allows for an examination of the overall number of convictions and type of punishment imposed (Active, Intermediate, or Community), as well as an examination of these data by offense class, by prior record level, and for each combination of offense class and prior record level (i.e., cell). The table also includes the average minimum and maximum sentences for convictions for which an active sentence was imposed.

Data provided in Table 4 indicate instances in which an Intermediate or Community punishment was imposed where they are not authorized under the Felony Punishment Chart (e.g., a Community punishment is not authorized for felony convictions in Class I with Prior Record Level III through Prior Record Level VI; an Intermediate punishment is not authorized for Class I with Prior Record Level I). It is not clear whether these data reflect actual sentencing practices or how information is captured in the AOC's integrated case management systems.

[7] For information on punishment imposed by judicial division and district, *see* Appendix B, Tables 3 and 4.

With the exception of extraordinary mitigation for Class B2 through Class D convictions with 0 to 4 prior record points, a mandatory active sentence is required for Class A through Class D convictions under Structured Sentencing. Class D has an additional exception to the Felony Punishment Chart – an Intermediate punishment can be imposed for Felony Death by Motor Vehicle if the conviction is in Prior Record Level I. In FY 2024, 19 Class D convictions for Felony Death by Motor Vehicle resulted in the imposition of an Intermediate punishment.

As shown in the vertical Total column in Table 4, both the percentage of offenders receiving an active sentence and the length of the active sentence imposed increased as offense seriousness increased. The average minimum sentence for all convictions resulting in an Active punishment (n=10,544) was 35 months. The shortest average minimum sentence was imposed for Class I convictions (8 months). Excluding life and death sentences, the longest average minimum sentence was imposed for Class B1 convictions (236 months).

As shown in the horizontal Total row in Table 4, convictions for offenders in Prior Record Level I resulted in the longest average minimum sentence (62 months). The longer minimum sentences for Prior Record Level I can be attributed to the fact that almost two-thirds (1,120 out of 1,736) of all active sentences in that prior record level were for offenders convicted in the more serious offense classes (i.e., Class B1 through Class E felonies).

Table 4: Convictions and Sentences by Offense Class and Prior Record Level

Offense Class	Prior Record Level						Total
	I 0-1 Pt	II 2-5 Pts	III 6-9 Pts	IV 10-13 Pts	V 14-17 Pts	VI 18+ Pts	
A	**A** A = 51 (100%) n = 51 Life/Death	**A** A = 7 (100%) n = 7 Life/Death	**A** A = 9 (100%) n = 9 Life/Death	**A** A = 13 (100%) n = 13 Life/Death	**A** A = 6 (100%) n = 6 Life/Death	**A** A = 2 (100%) n = 2 Life/Death	**A** A = 88 (100%) n = 88 Life/Death
B1	**A** A = 241 (100%) n = 241 214 min 291 max	**A** A = 95 (100%) n = 95 240 min 318 max	**A** A = 50 (100%) n = 50 261 min 342 max	**A** A = 22 (100%) n = 22 305 min 389 max	**A** A = 14 (100%) n = 14 336 min 426 max	**A** A = 9 (100%) n = 9 364 min 455 max	**A** A = 431 (100%) n = 431 236 min 315 max
B2	**A** A = 113 (100%) n = 113 125 min 174 max	**A** A = 41 (100%) n = 41 142 min 193 max	**A** A = 20 (100%) n = 20 164 min 213 max	**A** A = 13 (100%) n = 13 208 min 269 max	**A** A = 10 (100%) n = 10 218 min 283 max	**A** A = 4 (100%) n = 4 252 min 326 max	**A** A = 201 (100%) n = 201 145 min 197 max
C	**A** A = 176 (100%) n = 176 63 min 104 max	**A** A = 95 (100%) n = 95 68 min 105 max	**A** A = 101 (100%) n = 101 77 min 109 max	**A** A = 112 (100%) n = 112 85 min 117 max	**A** A = 87 (100%) n = 87 100 min 136 max	**A** A = 82 (100%) n = 82 112 min 150 max	**A** A = 653 (100%) n = 653 81 min 117 max
D	**A** I = 19 (6%) A = 308 (94%) n = 327 52 min 77 max	**A** A = 139 (100%) n = 139 59 min 84 max	**A** A = 107 (100%) n = 107 66 min 92 max	**A** A = 102 (100%) n = 102 75 min 103 max	**A** A = 73 (100%) n = 73 83 min 114 max	**A** A = 106 (100%) n = 106 98 min 131 max	**A** I = 19 (2%) A = 835 (98%) n = 854 66 min 93 max
E	**I/A** C = 121 (14%) I = 471 (54%) A = 282 (32%) n = 874 21 min 47 max	**I/A** C = 39 (9%) I = 211 (51%) A = 169 (40%) n = 419 25 min 48 max	**A** A = 206 (100%) n = 206 27 min 48 max	**A** A = 175 (100%) n = 175 31 min 51 max	**A** A = 121 (100%) n = 121 36 min 58 max	**A** A = 153 (100%) n = 153 42 min 62 max	**I/A** C = 160 (8%) I = 682 (35%) A = 1,106 (57%) n = 1,948 29 min 51 max
F	**I/A** C = 126 (15%) I = 429 (53%) A = 263 (32%) n = 818 14 min 26 max	**I/A** C = 87 (15%) I = 261 (45%) A = 229 (40%) n = 577 16 min 29 max	**I/A** C = 54 (12%) I = 179 (39%) A = 228 (49%) n = 461 19 min 32 max	**A** A = 234 (100%) n = 234 21 min 34 max	**A** A = 156 (100%) n = 156 23 min 37 max	**A** A = 215 (100%) n = 215 27 min 42 max	**I/A** C = 267 (11%) I = 869 (35%) A = 1,325 (54%) n = 2,461 20 min 33 max

continued

Table 4: Convictions and Sentences by Offense Class and Prior Record Level

Offense Class	Prior Record Level						Total
	I 0-1 Pt	II 2-5 Pts	III 6-9 Pts	IV 10-13 Pts	V 14-17 Pts	VI 18+ Pts	
G	**I/A** C = 82 (20%) I = 251 (62%) A = 75 (18%) n = 408 11 min 23 max	**I/A** C = 239 (22%) I = 585 (55%) A = 247 (23%) n = 1,071 12 min 24 max	**I/A** C = 171 (17%) I = 510 (52%) A = 303 (31%) n = 984 14 min 26 max	**I/A** C = 77 (12%) I = 281 (43%) A = 300 (45%) n = 658 16 min 28 max	**A** A = 281 (100%) n = 281 18 min 31 max	**A** A = 310 (100%) n = 310 21 min 35 max	**I/A** C = 569 (15%) I = 1,627 (44%) A = 1,516 (41%) n = 3,712 16 min 29 max
H	**C/I/A** C = 1,052 (49%) I = 862 (40%) A = 227 (11%) n = 2,141 5 min 16 max	**I/A** C = 737 (30%) I = 1,228 (51%) A = 450 (19%) n = 2,415 6 min 17 max	**I/A** C = 454 (24%) I = 801 (43%) A = 607 (33%) n = 1,862 8 min 19 max	**I/A** C = 257 (18%) I = 522 (36%) A = 662 (46%) n = 1,441 10 min 21 max	**I/A** C = 135 (14%) I = 331 (33%) A = 531 (53%) n = 997 13 min 24 max	**A** A = 1,008 (100%) n = 1,008 17 min 30 max	**C/I/A** C = 2,635 (27%) I = 3,744 (38%) A = 3,485 (35%) n = 9,864 11 min 23 max
I	**C** C = 994 (78%) I = 279 (22%) n = 1,273 N/A	**C/I** C = 888 (52%) I = 814 (48%) n = 1,702 N/A	**I** C = 398 (33%) I = 815 (67%) n = 1,213 N/A	**I/A** C = 222 (25%) I = 377 (42%) A = 298 (33%) n = 897 6 min 17 max	**I/A** C = 100 (18%) I = 214 (40%) A = 227 (42%) n = 541 7 min 18 max	**I/A** C = 131 (17%) I = 237 (32%) A = 379 (51%) n = 747 9 min 20 max	**C/I/A** C = 2,733 (43%) I = 2,736 (43%) A = 904 (14%) n = 6,373 8 min 18 max
Total	**C/I/A** C = 2,375 (37%) I = 2,311 (36%) A = 1,736 (27%) n = 6,422 62 min 93 max	**C/I/A** C = 1,990 (30%) I = 3,099 (47%) A = 1,472 (23%) n = 6,561 39 min 60 max	**I/A** C = 1,077 (21%) I = 2,305 (46%) A = 1,631 (33%) n = 5,013 31 min 49 max	**I/A** C = 556 (15%) I = 1,180 (32%) A = 1,931 (53%) n = 3,667 26 min 42 max	**I/A** C = 235 (10%) I = 545 (24%) A = 1,506 (66%) n = 2,286 29 min 45 max	**I/A** C = 131 (5%) I = 237 (9%) A = 2,268 (86%) n = 2,636 28 min 43 max	**C/I/A** C = 6,364 (24%) I = 9,677 (36%) A = 10,544 (40%) n = 26,585 35 min 54 max

Note: Of the 27,088 felony convictions in FY 2024, 503 (or 2%) were excluded from this table. Death and life sentences were excluded from the calculation of the average minimum and maximum sentences. This table includes convictions for an Intermediate or a Community punishment in cells in which those dispositions are not authorized within the Felony Punishment Chart.

SOURCE: NC Sentencing and Policy Advisory Commission, FY 2024 Felony Statistical Report Data

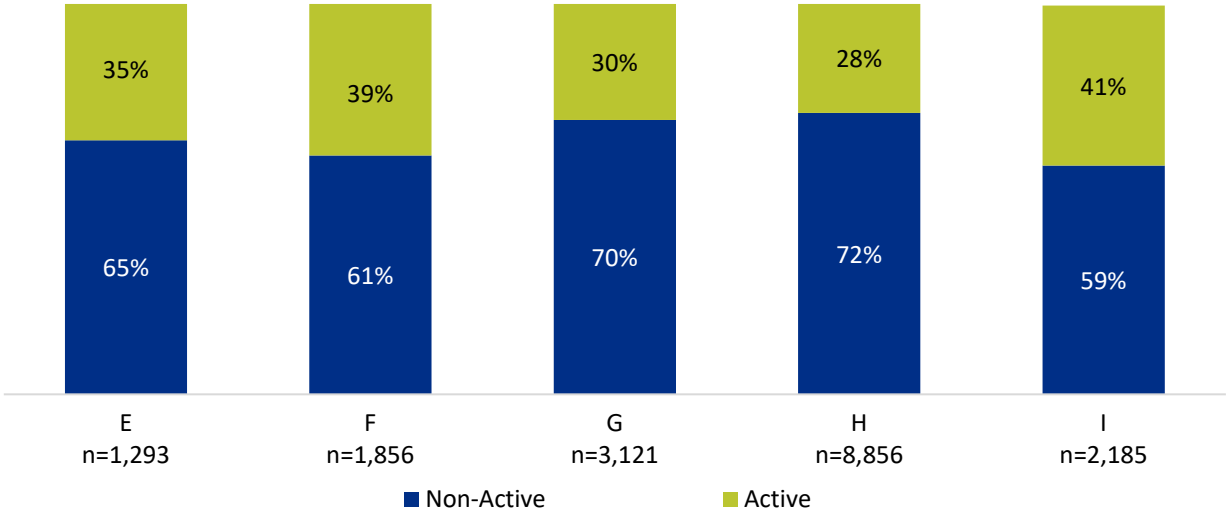
Punishment Imposed in Discretionary Cells

As shown in Table 4, where the judge had the option of imposing either an Active or non-active punishment (i.e., Intermediate or Community punishment), also referred to as discretionary cells, the type of punishment imposed varied based on offense class and prior record level.

Figure 11 summarizes sentences imposed by offense class for discretionary cells with an Active punishment option. Class I convictions had the highest percentage of an Active punishment imposed in discretionary cells (41%), while Class H convictions had the lowest percentage (28%). Compared to other

classes, the higher percentage of an Active punishment imposed in Class I is because the only discretionary cells are for offenders with more serious criminal histories (i.e., Prior Record Levels IV – VI).

Figure 11: Punishment Imposed in Discretionary Cells

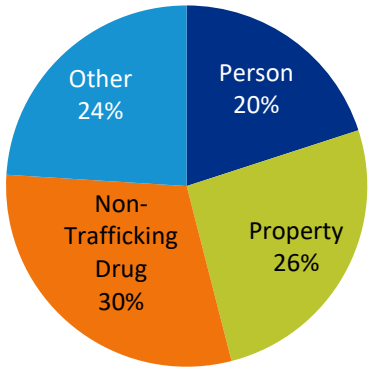


SOURCE: NC Sentencing and Policy Advisory Commission, FY 2024 Felony Statistical Report Data

Punishment Imposed by Crime Type[8]

In FY 2024, person offenses accounted for 20% of convictions, property offenses accounted for 26% of convictions, non-trafficking drug offenses accounted for 30% of convictions, and other offenses accounted for 24% of convictions (*see* Figure 12).[9] For additional data on convictions by crime type, *see* Appendix D, Tables 1 and 2.

Figure 12: Convictions by Crime Type



SOURCE: NC Sentencing and Policy Advisory Commission, FY 2024 Felony Statistical Report Data

[8] In the tables and figures in Section I: Felony Convictions, "Drug" refers to non-trafficking drug convictions.
[9] The other felony category includes convictions for weapons offenses, motor vehicle offenses, and habitual felons.

The type of punishment imposed by crime type is shown in Table 5. Relative to other crime types, convictions for person offenses had the highest percentage with an Active punishment imposed (62%), while convictions for non-trafficking drug offenses had the lowest percentage with an Active punishment imposed (23%). Of the four crime types, non-trafficking drug convictions had the highest percentage with an Intermediate punishment imposed (41%) and the highest percentage with a Community punishment imposed (36%). Table 5 also displays the average minimum and maximum sentence lengths for convictions in which an Active punishment was imposed. The longest average active sentences were imposed for convictions for person offenses (minimum of 69 months and maximum of 100 months).

Table 5: Convictions and Sentences by Crime Type

Crime Type	Type of Punishment						Minimum Active Sentence (Months)	Maximum Active Sentence (Months)	Total
	Active		Intermediate		Community				
	#	%	#	%	#	%			
Person	3,236	62	1,476	28	550	10	69	100	5,262
Property	2,537	37	2,571	37	1,783	26	13	25	6,891
Drug	1,817	23	3,325	41	2,867	36	15	27	8,009
Other	2,954	46	2,305	36	1,164	18	31	48	6,423
Total	**10,544**	**40**	**9,677**	**36**	**6,364**	**24**	**35**	**54**	**26,585**

Note: Of the 27,088 felony convictions in FY 2024, 503 (or 2%) were excluded from this table. Death and life sentences were excluded from the calculation of the average minimum and maximum sentences.
SOURCE: NC Sentencing and Policy Advisory Commission, FY 2024 Felony Statistical Report Data

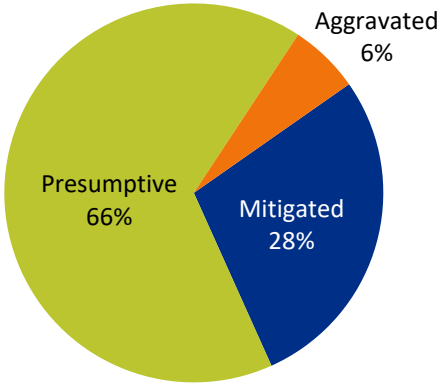
ACTIVE PUNISHMENT

This section summarizes information about Active punishment. During FY 2024, there were 10,544 convictions for which an Active punishment was imposed.

Sentencing Range

Offenders with an Active punishment can be sentenced within the presumptive range, within the mitigated range if mitigating factors are found, or within the aggravated range if aggravating factors are found. Aggravating factors must be found by a jury beyond a reasonable doubt, or admitted by the defendant, while mitigating factors are found by a judge based on a preponderance of the evidence. Class A convictions, which are subject to mandatory life or death sentences (n=88) as well as Class B1 convictions sentenced to a life sentence without parole (n=2), were excluded from this section. Figure 13 shows that 66% of all active sentences were in the presumptive range, 28% were in the mitigated range, and 6% were in the aggravated range. For information on sentencing range for active sentences by judicial division and district, *see* Appendix B, Table 4.

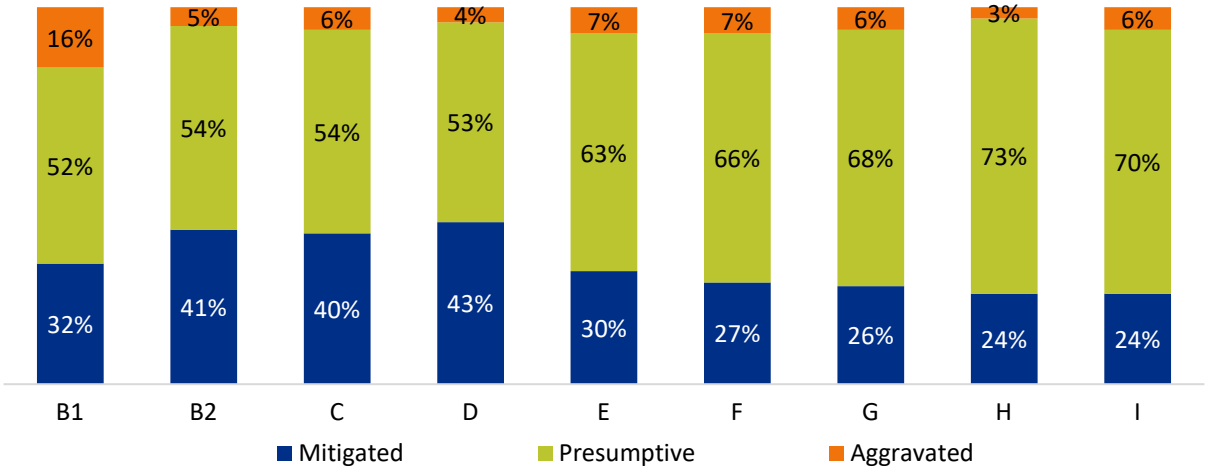
Figure 13: Sentencing Range
Active Sentences Only



SOURCE: NC Sentencing and Policy Advisory Commission, FY 2024 Felony Statistical Report Data

Figure 14 and Table 6 show the distribution of active sentences by offense class and sentencing range; Table 6 also includes data by prior record level. Class B1 felonies accounted for the highest percentage of sentences in the aggravated range (16%). Class B2 through Class D felonies had the highest percentage of sentences in the mitigated range (ranging from 40% to 43%). Convictions for Class B1 through Class D offenses had the lowest percentage of active sentences in the presumptive range (ranging from 52% to 54%). Convictions for Class H and Class I offenses had the highest percentage of active sentences in the presumptive range (73% and 70% respectively).

Figure 14: Sentencing Range by Offense Class
Active Sentences Only



SOURCE: NC Sentencing and Policy Advisory Commission, FY 2024 Felony Statistical Report Data

Table 6: Sentencing Range by Offense Class and Prior Record Level
Active Sentences Only

Offense Class	Sentencing Range	Prior Record Level						Total
		I 0-1 Pt	II 2-5 Pts	III 6-9 Pts	IV 10-13 Pts	V 14-17 Pts	VI 18+ Pts	
B1	Mitigated	77 32%	26 27%	19 38%	5 23%	6 46%	4 50%	137 32%
	Presumptive	120 50%	51 54%	27 54%	17 77%	6 46%	4 50%	225 52%
	Aggravated	44 18%	18 19%	4 8%	0 0%	1 8%	0 0%	67 16%
	Subtotal	**241**	**95**	**50**	**22**	**13**	**8**	**429**
B2	Mitigated	47 42%	19 46%	8 40%	2 15%	4 40%	2 50%	82 41%
	Presumptive	60 53%	20 49%	12 60%	9 69%	6 60%	1 25%	108 54%
	Aggravated	6 5%	2 5%	0 0%	2 15%	0 0%	1 25%	11 6%
	Subtotal	**113**	**41**	**20**	**13**	**10**	**4**	**201**
C	Mitigated	42 24%	36 38%	40 40%	57 51%	43 49%	43 52%	261 40%
	Presumptive	118 67%	53 56%	56 55%	51 46%	41 47%	33 40%	352 54%
	Aggravated	16 9%	6 6%	5 5%	4 4%	3 3%	6 7%	40 6%
	Subtotal	**176**	**95**	**101**	**112**	**87**	**82**	**653**
D	Mitigated	112 36%	49 35%	50 47%	51 50%	40 55%	58 55%	360 43%
	Presumptive	185 60%	84 60%	51 48%	47 46%	32 44%	42 40%	441 53%
	Aggravated	11 4%	6 4%	6 6%	4 4%	1 1%	6 6%	34 4%
	Subtotal	**308**	**139**	**107**	**102**	**73**	**106**	**835**
E	Mitigated	69 25%	40 24%	67 33%	55 31%	42 35%	53 35%	326 30%
	Presumptive	194 70%	117 69%	126 61%	110 63%	67 55%	87 57%	701 63%
	Aggravated	19 7%	12 7%	13 6%	10 6%	12 10%	13 9%	79 7%
	Subtotal	**282**	**169**	**206**	**175**	**121**	**153**	**1,106**

continued

Table 6: Sentencing Range by Offense Class and Prior Record Level
Active Sentences Only

Offense Class	Sentencing Range	Prior Record Level						Total
		I 0-1 Pt	II 2-5 Pts	III 6-9 Pts	IV 10-13 Pts	V 14-17 Pts	VI 18+ Pts	
F	Mitigated	48 18%	48 21%	48 21%	82 35%	55 35%	72 34%	353 27%
	Presumptive	193 73%	172 75%	160 70%	133 57%	93 60%	128 60%	879 66%
	Aggravated	22 8%	9 4%	20 9%	19 8%	8 5%	15 7%	93 7%
	Subtotal	**263**	**229**	**228**	**234**	**156**	**215**	**1,325**
G	Mitigated	11 15%	64 26%	81 27%	77 26%	83 30%	72 23%	388 26%
	Presumptive	61 81%	177 72%	211 70%	201 67%	179 64%	210 68%	1,039 69%
	Aggravated	3 4%	6 2%	11 4%	22 7%	19 7%	28 9%	89 6%
	Subtotal	**75**	**247**	**303**	**300**	**281**	**310**	**1,516**
H	Mitigated	41 18%	103 23%	159 26%	136 21%	122 23%	270 27%	831 24%
	Presumptive	180 79%	330 73%	432 71%	505 76%	385 73%	698 69%	2,530 73%
	Aggravated	6 3%	17 4%	16 3%	21 3%	24 5%	40 4%	124 4%
	Subtotal	**227**	**450**	**607**	**662**	**531**	**1,008**	**3,485**
I	Mitigated	N/A	N/A	N/A	82 28%	50 22%	87 23%	219 24%
	Presumptive	N/A	N/A	N/A	200 67%	169 74%	265 70%	634 70%
	Aggravated	N/A	N/A	N/A	16 5%	8 4%	27 7%	51 6%
	Subtotal	**N/A**	**N/A**	**N/A**	**298**	**227**	**379**	**904**
Total	Mitigated	447 27%	385 26%	472 29%	547 29%	445 30%	661 29%	2,957 28%
	Presumptive	1,111 66%	1,004 69%	1,075 66%	1,273 66%	978 65%	1,468 65%	6,909 66%
	Aggravated	127 8%	76 5%	75 5%	98 5%	76 5%	136 6%	588 6%
	Total	**1,685**	**1,465**	**1,622**	**1,918**	**1,499**	**2,265**	**10,454**

Note: Convictions that did not fit within the appropriate cell in the Felony Punishment Chart were excluded from this table. Life and death sentences (n=90) were also excluded. Percentages may not add to 100% due to rounding.
SOURCE: NC Sentencing and Policy Advisory Commission, FY 2024 Felony Statistical Report Data

The sentencing range for active sentences by crime type is presented in Table 7. Of the four crime types, convictions for person offenses accounted for the highest percentage of aggravated sentences (8%). Convictions for the other offenses category accounted for the highest percentage of mitigated sentences (36%) relative to other crime types.

Table 7: Sentencing Range by Crime Type
Active Sentences Only

Crime Type	Sentencing Range (Minimum Sentence)						Total
	Mitigated		Presumptive		Aggravated		
	#	%	#	%	#	%	
Person	894	28	2,010	64	242	8	3,146
Property	613	24	1,825	72	99	4	2,537
Drug	385	21	1,327	73	105	6	1,817
Other	1,065	36	1,747	59	142	5	2,954
Total	**2,957**	**28**	**6,909**	**66**	**588**	**6**	**10,454**

Note: Convictions that did not fit within the appropriate cell in the Felony Punishment Chart were excluded from this table. Life and death sentences (n=90) were also excluded.
SOURCE: NC Sentencing and Policy Advisory Commission, FY 2024 Felony Statistical Report Data

Sentence Location within the Sentencing Range

Although the Felony Punishment Chart contains a range of minimum sentences for each combination of offense class and prior record level, over three-quarters (77%) of all active minimum sentences were located on one of four specific spots of their respective sentencing ranges – the lowest spot of the mitigated range, the lowest spot of the presumptive range, the highest spot of the presumptive range, and the highest spot of the aggravated range (*see* Tables 8 and 9).[10] Of all active sentences, 20% were on the lowest spot of the mitigated range, 28% were on the lowest spot of the presumptive range, 25% were on the highest spot of the presumptive range, and 4% were on the highest spot of the aggravated range.

As also shown in Table 8, convictions for Class H and Class I offenses had the highest percentages of active sentences located on one of four specific spots of the range (85% and 86% respectively). Convictions for Class C offenses had the lowest percentages of active sentences located on one of the four specific spots of the sentencing range (59%). Class D had the highest percentage of active sentences on the lowest spot of the mitigated range (28%). The majority of sentences for Class G through Class I convictions were located on either the lowest spot of the presumptive range or the highest spot of the presumptive range. Appendix D, Table 3 provides further information about the percentage of sentences in the mitigated range and at the lowest spot of the presumptive range by offense class.

[10] As an example, for Class E with Prior Record Level I the mitigated range includes minimum sentences from 15 months to 20 months, the presumptive range includes minimum sentences from 20 months to 25 months, and the aggravated range includes minimum sentences from 25 months to 31 months. In this case, the four specific spots of the minimum sentence range are 15 months (lowest mitigated sentence), 20 months (lowest spot of the presumptive range), 25 months (highest spot of the presumptive range), and 31 months (highest spot of the aggravated range).

Table 8: Sentence Location within the Sentencing Range by Offense Class
Active Sentences Only

Offense Class	Location in the Sentencing Range (Minimum Sentence)				% on the Four Spots
	Mitigated	Presumptive		Aggravated	
	% Lowest Spot	% Lowest Spot	% Highest Spot	% Highest Spot	
B1	15	15	19	11	60
B2	22	20	18	1	61
C	23	18	15	3	59
D	28	21	15	2	67
E	21	25	24	4	74
F	18	27	24	5	74
G	18	31	25	4	78
H	19	33	31	3	85
I	20	32	29	5	86
Total	**20**	**28**	**25**	**4**	**77**

Note: Convictions that did not fit within the appropriate cell in the Felony Punishment Chart were excluded from this table. Life and death sentences (n=90) were also excluded. Percentages may not add to totals due to rounding.
SOURCE: NC Sentencing and Policy Advisory Commission, FY 2024 Felony Statistical Report Data

Table 9 shows the percentage of sentences imposed on each of the four specific spots of the sentencing range by crime type. Property and non-trafficking drug offenses accounted for the highest percentage of sentences on the four spots of the range (84% and 82% respectively). For person offenses, the highest percentage of sentences imposed were distributed evenly between the highest and lowest spots of the presumptive range (24% each), while the highest percentage of sentences imposed were located on the lowest spot of the presumptive range for all other crime types. The other offense category had the highest percentage of sentences on the lowest spot of the mitigated range. The percentages on the highest spot of the aggravated range were about the same for all crime types.

Table 9: Sentence Location within the Sentencing Range by Crime Type
Active Sentences Only

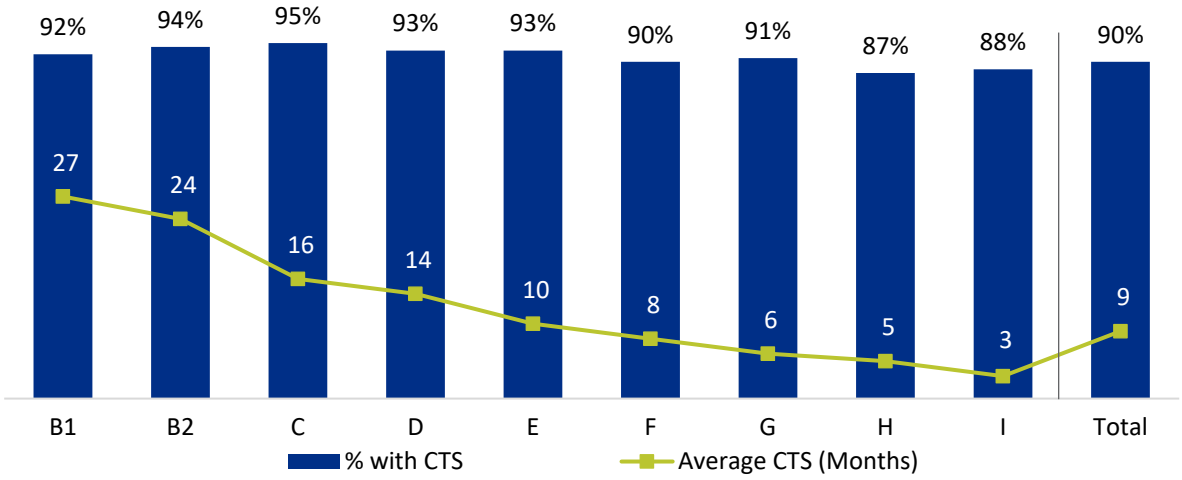
Crime Type	Location in the Sentencing Range (Minimum Sentence)				% on the Four Spots
	Mitigated	Presumptive		Aggravated	
	% Lowest Spot	% Lowest Spot	% Highest Spot	% Highest Spot	
Person	18	24	24	5	71
Property	19	32	31	3	84
Drug	16	33	29	4	82
Other	25	27	20	3	75
Total	**20**	**28**	**25**	**4**	**77**

Note: Convictions that did not fit within the appropriate cell in the Felony Punishment Chart were excluded from this table. Life and death sentences (n=90) were also excluded. Percentages may not add to totals due to rounding.
SOURCE: NC Sentencing and Policy Advisory Commission, FY 2024 Felony Statistical Report Data

Credit for Time Served

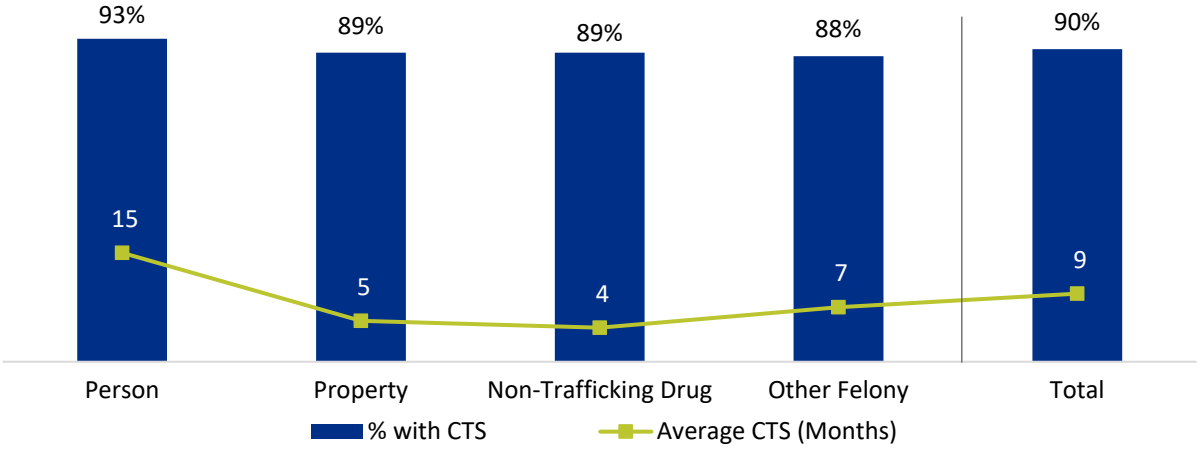
The vast majority (90%) of offenders with an active sentence received credit for time served (referred to as CTS in tables and figures), which is the amount of time an offender spent committed to or confined in a State or local correctional, mental, or another institution prior to sentencing. Figure 15 provides detail on credit for time served for active sentences by offense class. Class H had the lowest percentage of offenders with credit for time served (87%); Class C offenders had the highest percentage (95%). For offenders with credit for time served, the average amount of credit increased as offense seriousness increased, ranging from 3 months (Class I) to 27 months (Class B1); overall, the average amount was 9 months. There was little difference between crime types in the percentage of offenders with credit for time served. Offenders convicted of person offenses had the highest amount of credit for time served (15 months) compared to the other crime types (*see* Figure 16).

Figure 15: Credit for Time Served by Offense Class
Active Sentences Only



SOURCE: NC Sentencing and Policy Advisory Commission, FY 2024 Felony Statistical Report Data

Figure 16: Credit for Time Served by Crime Type
Active Sentences Only



SOURCE: NC Sentencing and Policy Advisory Commission, FY 2024 Felony Statistical Report Data

INTERMEDIATE AND COMMUNITY PUNISHMENTS

Information presented in this section reflects conditions of Intermediate and Community punishments as defined by G.S. 15A-1340.11. An Intermediate punishment requires supervised probation, whereas a Community punishment may consist of supervised or unsupervised probation but does not require either one. This section only includes information on probation conditions that were imposed for an Intermediate or a Community punishment at sentencing. Probation conditions that are subsequently imposed as a result of modifications to probation are not included. It should be noted that some conditions (e.g., local judicially managed accountability and recovery court) are not equally available across the state.

An Intermediate or Community punishment may include one or more of the following probation conditions: house arrest with electronic monitoring; community service; short-term jail confinement(s); substance abuse assessment, monitoring, or treatment; and education or vocational skills development. An Intermediate punishment may also include special probation and/or local judicially managed accountability and recovery court (shortened to accountability and recovery court in tables and figures).[11] Continuous alcohol monitoring may be ordered if alcohol dependency has been identified by a substance abuse assessment; satellite-based monitoring may be ordered if the probationer is a sex offender (as described in G.S. 14-208.40(a)(2)). In addition, conditions may include payment of restitution, fines, or court costs. A single conviction often results in the imposition of more than one probation condition.

During FY 2024, an Intermediate punishment was imposed for 9,677 felony convictions and a Community punishment was imposed for 6,364 felony convictions for a total of 16,041 non-active sentences (*see* also Table 4). Overall, 15,690 convictions received supervised probation, 325 received unsupervised probation, and 26 had no probation ordered. Based on the statutory requirement, all offenders with an Intermediate punishment (100%) received supervised probation. Nearly all Community punishment convictions (94%) received supervised probation, with only 5% receiving unsupervised probation, and less than 1% having no probation ordered.

Probation Length and Suspended Sentence by Type of Punishment[12]

When a sentence of imprisonment for a felony conviction is suspended, and probation is imposed, the probation length must be between 18 and 36 months for an Intermediate punishment and between 12 and 30 months for a Community punishment. Departures from these lengths may occur when a finding is made that a different period is required. Twenty-one percent (21%) of Intermediate probation lengths were for 18 months, 40% were for 24 months, and 17% were for 36 months. Nineteen percent (19%) of Community probation lengths were for 12 months, 26% were for 18 months, and 36% were for 24 months.

Table 10 provides the average length of probation and average suspended sentence by offense class and type of punishment for offenders sentenced to probation. Most convictions with Intermediate or Community punishment where probation was imposed were in Class H (n=6,371 or 40%). Overall, the average probation length was 24 months and the average suspended sentence was 10 months.

[11] Drug treatment court was changed to local judicially managed accountability and recovery court effective March 17, 2022 (Session Law 2022-6, s. 8.2(e)).

[12] The suspended sentence refers to the minimum suspended sentence imposed.

Table 10: Average Length of Probation and Average Suspended Sentence by Offense Class and Type of Punishment

Offense Class	Type of Punishment	#	Probation Length (Months)	Suspended Sentence (Months)
E	Intermediate	682	32	24
	Community	159	31	24
	Subtotal	**841**	**32**	**24**
F	Intermediate	869	30	17
	Community	266	29	16
	Subtotal	**1,135**	**30**	**17**
G	Intermediate	1,627	27	14
	Community	568	25	14
	Subtotal	**2,195**	**26**	**14**
H	Intermediate	3,744	25	8
	Community	2,627	23	7
	Subtotal	**6,371**	**24**	**8**
I	Intermediate	2,736	22	6
	Community	2,718	20	6
	Subtotal	**5,545**	**21**	**6**
Total		**16,015**	**24**	**10**

Note: Convictions that did not fit within the appropriate cell in the Felony Punishment Chart were excluded from this table. This table includes convictions for Intermediate or Community punishments where not authorized under the Felony Punishment Chart. Class D convictions (n=19) were excluded from this table; for those convictions, the average probation length was 37 months and the average suspended sentence was 56 months.
SOURCE: NC Sentencing and Policy Advisory Commission, FY 2024 Felony Statistical Report Data

Across all offense classes, the average suspended sentence was shorter than the average probation length. Class I felonies resulted in the shortest average probation length (21 months) and average suspended sentence (6 months). Class E felonies resulted in the longest average probation length (32 months) and average suspended sentence (24 months). Probation lengths were slightly shorter for convictions with a Community punishment. Additionally, probation length and suspended sentence length decreased as the severity of the offense class decreased.

Table 11 shows average probation length and average suspended sentence length for Intermediate and Community punishment convictions by crime type. Person offenses accounted for 13% of convictions where probation was imposed, property offenses accounted for 27%, non-trafficking drug offenses accounted for 38%, and other felony offenses accounted for 22%. Overall, person offenses resulted in the longest average probation length (29 months) and average suspended sentence (16 months). Non-trafficking drug offenses resulted in the shortest average probation length (22 months) and average suspended sentence (7 months).

Table 11: Average Length of Probation and Average Suspended Sentence by Crime Type and Type of Punishment

Crime Type	Type of Punishment	#	Probation Length (Months)	Suspended Sentence (Months)
Person	Intermediate	1,476	30	16
	Community	545	28	14
	Subtotal	**2,021**	**29**	**16**
Property	Intermediate	2,571	26	9
	Community	1,778	24	7
	Subtotal	**4,349**	**25**	**8**
Drug	Intermediate	3,325	23	8
	Community	2,854	21	6
	Subtotal	**6,179**	**22**	**7**
Other	Intermediate	2,305	25	13
	Community	1,161	22	10
	Subtotal	**3,466**	**24**	**12**
Total		**16,015**	**24**	**10**

Note: Convictions that did not fit within the appropriate cell in the Felony Punishment Chart were excluded from this table. This table includes convictions for Intermediate or Community punishments where not authorized under the Felony Punishment Chart.
SOURCE: NC Sentencing and Policy Advisory Commission, FY 2024 Felony Statistical Report Data

Sentence Location within the Sentencing Range

Although the Felony Punishment Chart contains a range of minimum sentences for each combination of offense class and prior record level, the majority (88%) of all suspended sentences were located on one of four specific spots of their respective sentencing ranges – the lowest spot of the mitigated range, the lowest spot of the presumptive range, the highest spot of the presumptive range, and the highest spot of the aggravated range (*see* Table 12 and Table 13). Suspended sentences were more likely to be located on a spot compared to active sentences (88% and 77% respectively). (*See* Table 8 and Table 9 for sentence location within the sentencing range for Active punishments.) Of all suspended sentences, 6% were on the lowest spot of the mitigated range, 28% were on the lowest spot of the presumptive range, 53% were on the highest spot of the presumptive range, and 1% were on the highest spot of the aggravated range.

As also shown in Table 12, convictions for Class H and Class I offenses had the highest percentages of suspended sentences located on one of four specific spots of the range (90% and 89% respectively). Convictions for Class E offenses had the lowest percentages of suspended sentences located on one of the spots of the sentencing range (80%). Most suspended sentences located on a spot were within the presumptive range (81%). Only 6% of suspended sentences were on the lowest mitigated spot compared to 20% of active sentences on the lowest mitigated spot (*see* Table 8 and Table 9).

Table 12: Sentence Location within the Sentencing Range by Offense Class
Suspended Sentences Only

Offense Class	Location in the Sentencing Range (Minimum Sentence)				% on the Four Spots
	Mitigated	Presumptive		Aggravated	
	% Lowest Spot	% Lowest Spot	% Highest Spot	% Highest Spot	
E	4	26	49	2	80
F	4	26	53	2	85
G	5	32	48	1	85
H	7	28	54	1	90
I	7	26	56	1	89
Total	**6**	**28**	**53**	**1**	**88**

Note: Convictions that did not fit within the appropriate cell in the Felony Punishment Chart were excluded from this table. Due to low numbers, Class D convictions (n=19) were excluded from this table. Percentage may not add to totals due to rounding.
SOURCE: NC Sentencing and Policy Advisory Commission, FY 2024 Felony Statistical Report Data

Table 13 shows the percentage of suspended sentences imposed on each of the four specific spots of the sentencing range by crime type. Little variation was found in the percentage of sentences on the four spots by crime type, ranging from 86% for person and other felony offenses to 90% for property offenses. The majority of suspended sentences were in the presumptive range (either the lowest or highest spot), with little difference between person, property, and drug offenses.

Table 13: Sentence Location within the Sentencing Range by Crime Type
Suspended Sentences Only

Crime Type	Location in the Sentencing Range (Minimum Sentence)				% on the Four Spots
	Mitigated	Presumptive		Aggravated	
	% Lowest Spot	% Lowest Spot	% Highest Spot	% Highest Spot	
Person	4	26	54	2	86
Property	7	28	54	1	90
Drug	6	26	55	1	89
Other	6	31	48	1	86
Total	**6**	**28**	**53**	**1**	**88**

Note: Convictions that did not fit within the appropriate cell in the Felony Punishment Chart were excluded. Percentages may not add to totals due to rounding.
SOURCE: NC Sentencing and Policy Advisory Commission, FY 2024 Felony Statistical Report Data

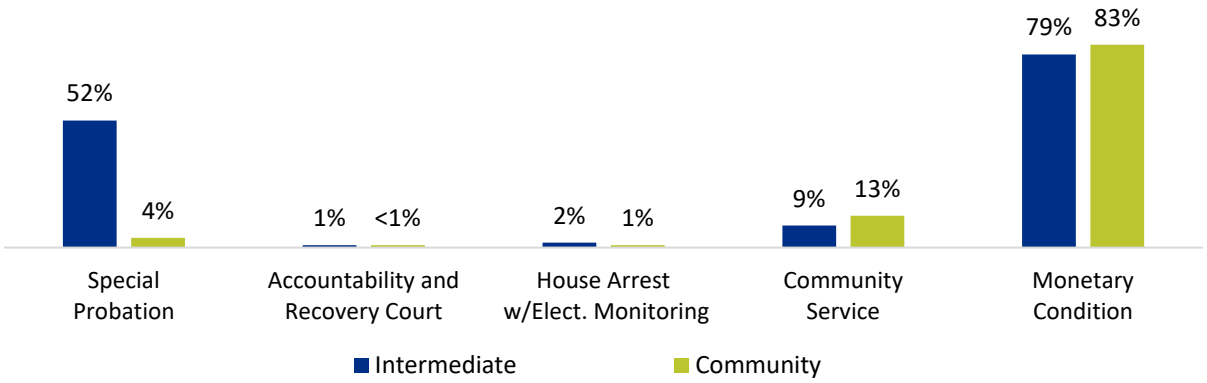
Conditions of Probation[13]

In FY 2024, supervised probation was imposed for 15,690 convictions, 9,677 with an Intermediate and 6,013 with a Community punishment. Figure 17 provides information on the conditions that were imposed

[13] Information reported in this section includes data on select probation conditions captured in the AOC's integrated case management systems and does not reflect the full scope of available conditions for offenders sentenced to an Intermediate or a Community punishment.

for Community and Intermediate punishment convictions with supervised probation. Multiple probation conditions may have been ordered for a single conviction. For Intermediate punishment convictions, monetary conditions and special probation were the two most frequently imposed conditions of probation (79% and 52% respectively). Monetary conditions and community service were the two most frequently imposed conditions of probation for Community punishment convictions (83% and 13% respectively).

Figure 17: Probation Conditions for Convictions with Supervised Probation



Note: A single conviction may result in the imposition of more than one probation condition. As a result, the percentages reported add to more than 100%.
SOURCE: NC Sentencing and Policy Advisory Commission, FY 2024 Felony Statistical Report Data

Table 14 provides detailed information about the conditions ordered at sentencing for Intermediate and Community punishment convictions with supervised probation, including the average length of probation. The average length of probation imposed was 25 months for convictions with an Intermediate punishment and 23 months for convictions with a Community punishment. While there were minimal differences in average length between Intermediate and Community punishment convictions for special probation, differences ranged from 3 to 4 months for the remaining probation conditions. Convictions with house arrest with electronic monitoring had the longest average length of probation (31 months) relative to other conditions of probation.

In FY 2024, unsupervised probation was imposed for 325 convictions with a Community punishment. Of these convictions, 4% (n=14) included community service as a condition of probation and 61% (n=198) were ordered to pay monetary obligations (i.e., fine, restitution, or court costs) as a condition of probation.

Table 14: Probation Conditions for Convictions with Supervised Probation

Type of Punishment		Conditions of Probation (Number and Average Probation Length)					Total
		Special Probation	Accountability and Recovery Court	House Arrest w/ Elect. Monitoring	Community Service	Monetary Condition	
Intermediate	**#**	5,072	121	220	859	7,656	9,677
	Avg.	*26 months*	*25 months*	*32 months*	*26 months*	*26 months*	*25 months*
Community	**#**	244	12	35	800	5,007	6,013
	Avg.	*25 months*	*28 months*	*28 months*	*23 months*	*23 months*	*23 months*
Total	**#**	**5,316**	**133**	**255**	**1,659**	**12,663**	**15,690**
	Avg.	***26 months***	***26 months***	***31 months***	***24 months***	***25 months***	***24 months***

Note: Convictions that did not fit within the appropriate cell in the Felony Punishment Chart were excluded from this table. This table includes information on probation conditions that are captured in AOC's integrated case management systems and are reported regardless of possible errors (i.e., special probation or accountability and recovery court are not authorized conditions for a Community punishment). A single conviction may result in the imposition of more than one probation condition. The row totals equal the total number of convictions with supervised probation, rather than total number of conditions.
SOURCE: NC Sentencing and Policy Advisory Commission, FY 2024 Felony Statistical Report Data

No Probation Ordered

Probation is not required for Community punishment convictions. In FY 2024, 26 convictions with a Community punishment had no probation ordered. As part of the sentence imposed 35% (n=9) of these convictions included payment of monetary obligations (i.e., fine, restitution, or court costs).

SPECIAL ISSUES

This section reviews sentencing issues of interest including death and life sentences, habitual status offenders, firearm enhancements, gang enhancements, Advanced Supervised Release, and drug trafficking convictions.

Death and Life Sentences

Offenders convicted of first-degree murder may receive a sentence of either death or life without parole. A sentence of life without parole is also required for offenders convicted of Class B1 felonies who are sentenced in the aggravated range in Prior Record Levels V and VI, certain offenders convicted of second or subsequent Class B1 felonies, and offenders found to be violent habitual felons (*see* Habitual Status Offenders). Minors (defined as offenders under the age of 18 at the time of the offense) convicted of first-degree murder may receive a sentence of either life with or without parole.

During FY 2024, 1 death sentence and 86 life without parole sentences were imposed. The 1 death sentence was imposed for a first-degree murder conviction (Class A). Of the life without parole sentences, 82 were imposed for first-degree murder (Class A), 2 for murder of an unborn child (Class A), 1 for second-degree murder (Class B1), and 1 for statutory sex offense with a child less than 15 years old (Class B1). There were 3 minors convicted of first-degree murder who received a sentence of life with parole.

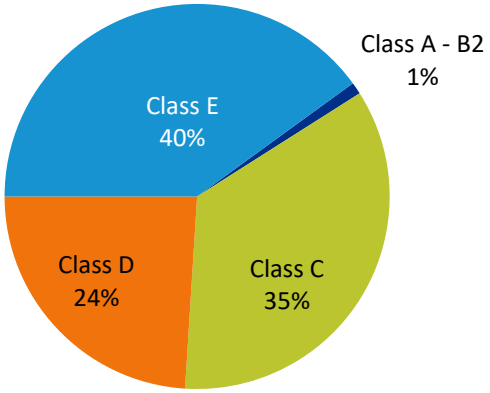
Habitual Status Offenders

A violent habitual felon is an offender who has been convicted of a violent felony (defined as all Class A through Class E felonies), has at least two prior violent felony convictions (each conviction having occurred before they committed the next offense), and has been found by a jury to be a violent habitual felon. A violent habitual felon is sentenced to life without parole. (G.S. 14-7.7 to -7.12) During FY 2024, there were 4 life without parole sentences imposed for violent habitual felon convictions.

A habitual felon is an offender who has been convicted of a felony offense, has at least three prior felony convictions (each conviction having occurred before they committed the next offense), and has been found by a jury to be or admitted to being a habitual felon. (G.S. 14-7.1 to -7.6) A habitual felon is sentenced at a felony class that is four classes higher than the principal felony for which the person was convicted, but under no circumstances higher than Class C.

Figure 18 shows the breakdown of habitual felon convictions by offense class. Overall, there were 807 habitual felon convictions. The highest percentage (40%) were sentenced in Class E. Overall, 94% (n=760) were sentenced to an Active punishment and 6% (n=47) were sentenced to an Intermediate punishment.

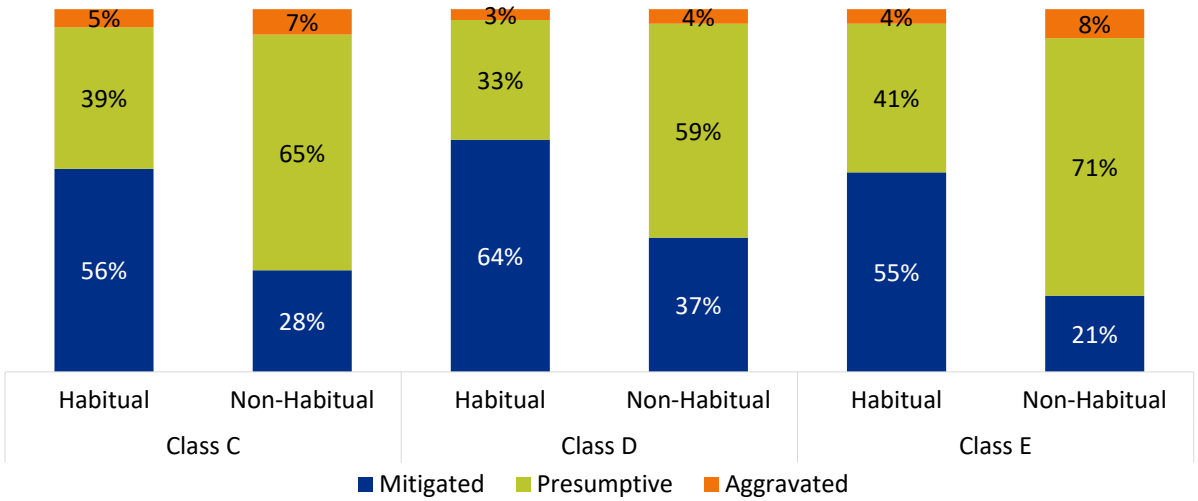
Figure 18: Habitual Felon Convictions by Offense Class



Note: One percent (1%) were convicted of a more serious felony offense (i.e., a Class A through Class B2 felony).
SOURCE: NC Sentencing and Policy Advisory Commission, FY 2024 Felony Statistical Report Data

Figure 19 shows sentences imposed for habitual felon convictions by sentencing range (mitigated, presumptive, and aggravated) as compared to non-habitual felons in the same offense classes. Overall, habitual felons were more likely to be sentenced in the mitigated range, whereas non-habitual felons were more likely to be sentenced in the presumptive range. Habitual felons convicted in Class D received the highest percentage of mitigated sentences (64%).

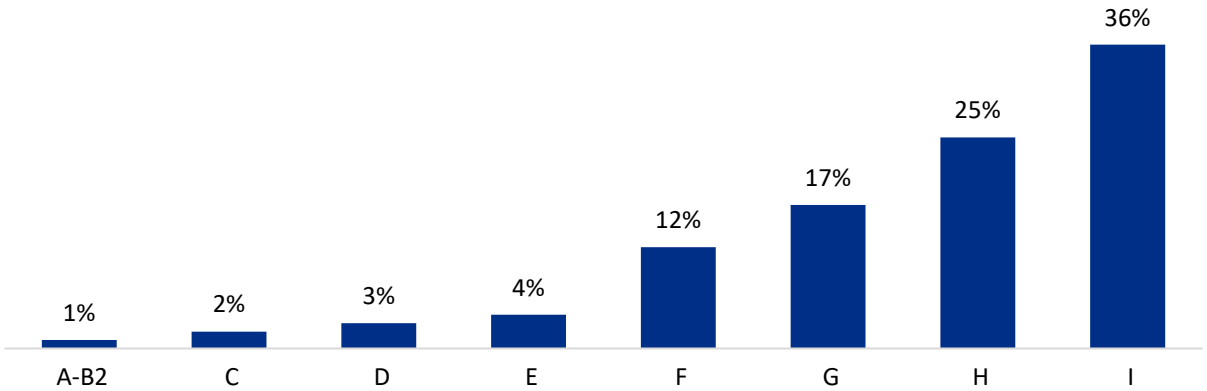
Figure 19: Sentencing Range by Offense Class for Habitual and Non-Habitual Felons
Active Sentences Only



SOURCE: NC Sentencing and Policy Advisory Commission, FY 2024 Felony Statistical Report Data

Figure 20 shows the offense class of the most serious felony offense associated with habitual felon convictions (i.e., the most serious current conviction for which the offender was sentenced as a habitual felon). Sixty-one percent (61%) of habitual felon convictions were for offenders with a Class H or Class I felony as their most serious offense (25% and 36% respectively). In terms of crime type, over one-third (34%) of habitual felon convictions were for offenders with non-trafficking drug offenses as their most serious offense, while 24% were for property offenses, 22% were for other offenses, and 20% were for person offenses.

Figure 20: Offense Class of the Most Serious Offense
Associated with Habitual Felon Convictions



Note: The most serious offense may not be the conviction used to establish habitual felon status.
SOURCE: NC Sentencing and Policy Advisory Commission, FY 2024 Felony Statistical Report Data

Table 15 shows the top 5 most serious offenses associated with habitual felon convictions. It should be noted that this offense may not be the conviction used to establish habitual felon status. It currently is not possible to determine the principal conviction used to establish habitual felon status using data from the AOC's integrated case management systems. Possession of a firearm by a felon and possession of methamphetamine were the most serious offenses that occurred most frequently.

Table 15: Top 5 Most Serious Offenses Associated with Habitual Felon Convictions

Most Serious Offense	Offense Class	#	%
Possession of a Firearm by a Felon	G	90	11
Possess Methamphetamine	I	80	10
Breaking or Entering Buildings	H	37	5
Possess Cocaine	I	34	4
Possess Schedule II Controlled Substance	I	32	4

Note: The most serious offense may not be the conviction used to establish habitual felon status.
SOURCE: NC Sentencing and Policy Advisory Commission, FY 2024 Felony Statistical Report Data

Firearm Enhancement

The firearm enhancement requires the judge to increase an offender's active sentence if the offender is convicted of a felony and the jury finds that they used, displayed, or threatened to use or display a firearm during the commission of the felony. The enhancement cannot be applied if the firearm is used to prove an element of the offense, nor can it be applied to non-active sentences. (G.S. 15A-1340.16A) For offenses committed on or after October 1, 2013, the enhancement requires the judge to increase an offender's active sentence by 72 months if the offender is convicted of a Class A, B1, B2, C, D or E felony, 36 months if the offender is convicted of a Class F or Class G felony, or 12 months if the offender is convicted of a Class H or Class I felony. The firearm enhancement was applied to 1 felony conviction in FY 2024; a 72-month enhancement was applied to a Class B1 felony conviction.

Criminal Gang Activity Enhancements

The gang enhancements require the judge to increase the offense class of the principal felony for which the offender was convicted by one class if the jury finds that the offense was committed as part of criminal gang activity (as defined by statute) and by two classes if the jury also finds that the offender is a criminal gang leader or organizer (as defined by statute). No offender can be sentenced at a class higher than a Class C felony under this enhancement and the enhancement cannot be applied to any gang offense included in article 13A of Chapter 14 of the General Statutes. (G.S. 15A-1340.16E) Neither the criminal gang activity enhancement nor the criminal gang leader/organizer enhancement were applied to any felony convictions in FY 2024.

Advanced Supervised Release

Advanced Supervised Release (ASR) is a sentencing option available for certain offenders receiving active sentences. (G.S. 15A-1340.18) The following offense classes and prior record levels detail eligibility:

Eligible Offense Class	Eligible Prior Record Levels
Class D	I through III
Class E	I through IV
Class F	I through V
Class G	I through V
Class H	I through V

Unless there is objection from the prosecutor, judges may sentence eligible offenders to ASR. Upon completion of certain requirements while in prison, the offender may be released at a reduced minimum sentence (i.e., the lowest mitigated sentence if the sentence imposed was in the presumptive range or 80% of the minimum sentence if the sentence imposed was in the mitigated range). There were 156 convictions with an ASR sentence in FY 2024. Overall, there were 35 ASR sentences imposed in Class D, 31 in Class E, 29 in Class F, 23 in Class G, and 36 in Class H. In addition, 2 ASR sentences were imposed in an offense class in which ASR is not authorized – both for Class I offenses.

Drug Trafficking Convictions

Convictions for drug trafficking offenses and conspiracy to traffic offenses are subject to mandatory active sentences with the following minimum and maximum sentence lengths (in months) regardless of the offender's prior record level.

Drug Trafficking Offense Class	Minimum	Maximum
Class C	225	282
Class D	175	222
Class E	90	120
Class F	70	93
Class G	35	51
Class H	25	39

If the judge finds that the offender provided substantial assistance in the identification, arrest, or conviction of any accomplices, accessories, co-conspirators or principals, then the judge may impose any lesser minimum and corresponding maximum sentence or suspend the sentence and enter any sentence within their discretion. (G.S. 90-95(h)(5))

As shown in Table 16, there were 638 convictions for drug trafficking offenses in FY 2024. The most frequently occurring drug trafficking convictions were in Class F (n=355).

Table 16: Drug Trafficking Convictions

Offense Class and Trafficking Offense		Type of Punishment						Minimum Active Sentence (Months)	Maximum Active Sentence (Months)	Total
		Active		Intermediate		Community				
		#	%	#	%	#	%			
C	Traffic Opium/Heroin	22	92	1	4	1	4	191	241	24
	Consp. Traffic Op./Heroin	2	50	2	50	.	.	108	136	4
	Traffic Methamphetamine	13	93	.	.	1	7	194	246	14
	Consp. Traffic Meth.	2	100	.	.	.	.	158	201	2
	Subtotal	**39**	**89**	**3**	**7**	**2**	**5**	**183**	**231**	**44**
D	Traffic MDA/MDMA	1	100	.	.	.	.	175	219	1
	Traffic Cocaine	10	71	3	21	1	7	122	157	14
	Consp. Traffic Cocaine	1	33	2	67	.	.	88	118	3
	Subtotal	**12**	**67**	**5**	**28**	**1**	**6**	**119**	**154**	**18**
E	Traffic Opium/Heroin	81	94	4	5	1	1	84	112	86
	Consp. Traffic Op./Heroin	1	50	.	.	1	50	90	120	2
	Traffic Methamphetamine	31	94	2	6	.	.	85	114	33
	Consp. Traffic Meth.	2	67	1	33	.	.	65	90	3
	Traffic Other Drug	1	100	.	.	.	.	90	120	1
	Subtotal	**116**	**93**	**7**	**6**	**2**	**2**	**84**	**113**	**125**
F	Traffic Opium/Heroin	173	93	9	5	4	2	65	87	186
	Consp. Traffic Op./Heroin	2	40	2	40	1	20	38	55	5
	Traff. Sub. Cathinones	1	100	.	.	.	.	70	93	1
	Traffic Methamphetamine	130	91	7	5	6	4	64	86	143
	Consp. Traffic Meth.	2	100	.	.	.	.	70	93	2
	Traffic Cocaine	14	93	1	7	.	.	63	85	15
	Consp. Traffic Cocaine	1	100	.	.	.	.	70	93	1
	Traffic Marijuana	1	100	.	.	.	.	25	39	1
	Traffic Other Drug	1	100	.	.	.	.	70	93	1
	Subtotal	**325**	**92**	**19**	**5**	**11**	**3**	**64**	**86**	**355**
G	Traffic Opium/Heroin	1	100	.	.	.	.	10	21	1
	Traffic MDA/MDMA	2	100	.	.	.	.	35	51	2
	Traffic LSD	1	50	.	.	1	50	35	51	2
	Consp. Traffic Meth.	.	.	1	100	.	.	19	32	1
	Traffic Cocaine	63	93	3	4	2	3	33	48	68
	Consp. Traffic Cocaine	3	75	.	.	1	25	35	51	4
	Traffic Marijuana	.	.	.	.	1	100	13	25	1
	Subtotal	**70**	**89**	**4**	**5**	**5**	**6**	**32**	**47**	**79**
H	Traffic Amphetamine	2	100	.	.	.	.	25	39	2
	Traffic Marijuana	9	64	2	14	3	21	21	34	14
	Consp. Traffic Marijuana	1	100	.	.	.	.	25	39	1
	Subtotal	12	71	2	12	3	18	22	35	17
Total		**574**	**90**	**40**	**6**	**24**	**4**	**73**	**97**	**638**

Note: This table reflects all drug trafficking convictions regardless of whether the offense classes are correct or whether the sentences are consistent with the minimum and maximum sentences set forth in G.S. 90-95(h). Non-active sentences and those shorter than mandatory active sentences may reflect the use of the substantial assistance provision or incorrect offense identification. Percentages may not add to 100% due to rounding.

SOURCE: NC Sentencing and Policy Advisory Commission, FY 2024 Felony Statistical Report Data

Attempted Drug Trafficking Convictions

Convictions for attempted drug trafficking offenses are punished according to the Felony Punishment Chart. In FY 2024, there were 882 convictions for attempted drug trafficking offenses (*see* Table 17). Most were in Class F (n=555).

Table 17: Attempted Drug Trafficking Convictions

Offense Class and Attempted Trafficking Offense		Type of Punishment						Minimum Active Sentence (Months)	Maximum Active Sentence (Months)	Total
		Active		Intermediate		Community				
		#	%	#	%	#	%			
C	Att. Traffic Opium/Heroin	31	100	.	.	.	.	73	100	31
	Att. Traffic Meth.	8	100	.	.	.	.	71	98	8
	Att. Other Trafficking	5	100	.	.	.	.	78	105	5
	Subtotal	**44**	**100**	**.**	**.**	**.**	**.**	**73**	**100**	**44**
D	Att. Traffic Cocaine	19	100	.	.	.	.	61	86	19
	Subtotal	**19**	**100**	**.**	**.**	**.**	**.**	**61**	**86**	**19**
E	Att. Traffic Opium/Heroin	46	50	40	43	6	7	28	45	92
	Att. Consp. Traff Op./Heroin	1	100	.	.	.	.	36	56	1
	Att. Traffic Meth.	12	71	5	29	.	.	25	42	17
	Att. Other Trafficking	2	100	.	.	.	.	27	45	2
	Subtotal	**61**	**54**	**45**	**40**	**6**	**5**	**27**	**45**	**112**
F	Att. Traffic Opium/Heroin	162	58	88	32	27	10	18	31	277
	Att. Consp. Traff Op./Heroin	.	.	1	100	.	.	16	29	1
	Att. Traffic Meth.	132	56	85	36	19	8	19	32	236
	Att. Consp. Traffic Meth.	1	100	.	.	.	.	15	27	1
	Att. Traffic Cocaine	8	32	13	52	4	16	18	30	25
	Att. Traffic Marijuana	.	.	1	100	.	.	17	30	1
	Att. Other Trafficking	4	29	8	57	2	14	17	29	14
	Subtotal	**307**	**55**	**196**	**35**	**52**	**9**	**19**	**32**	**555**
G	Att. Traffic Opium/Heroin	2	33	2	33	2	33	14	27	6
	Att. Traffic MDA/MDMA	3	38	2	25	3	38	13	25	8
	Att. Traffic LSD	1	20	3	60	1	20	13	25	5
	Att. Traffic Meth.	3	75	1	25	.	.	18	30	4
	Att. Traffic Cocaine	35	42	36	43	12	14	15	27	83
	Att. Traffic Marijuana	.	.	9	100	.	.	13	25	9
	Att. Other Trafficking	2	100	.	.	.	.	16	29	2
	Subtotal	**46**	**39**	**53**	**45**	**18**	**15**	**14**	**27**	**117**
H	Att. Traffic Opium/Heroin	.	.	3	100	.	.	19	32	3
	Att. Traffic LSD	.	.	1	100	.	.	5	15	1
	Att. Traffic Marijuana	3	11	14	52	10	37	6	17	27
	Subtotal	**3**	**10**	**18**	**58**	**10**	**32**	**7**	**18**	**31**
I	Att. Traffic Meth.	.	.	1	100	.	.	16	29	1
	Att. Traffic Cocaine	.	.	1	100	.	.	8	19	1
	Att. Traffic Marijuana	.	.	1	50	1	50	6	17	2
	Subtotal	**.**	**.**	**3**	**75**	**1**	**25**	**9**	**21**	**4**
Total		**480**	**54**	**315**	**36**	**87**	**10**	**22**	**37**	**882**

Note: Convictions that did not fit within the appropriate cell in the Felony Punishment Chart were excluded from this table. Percentages may not add to 100% due to rounding.
SOURCE: NC Sentencing and Policy Advisory Commission, FY 2024 Felony Statistical Report Data

SECTION II: MISDEMEANOR CONVICTIONS AND SENTENCES IMPOSED

MISDEMEANOR CONVICTIONS IN FY 2024

Overall, sentences for 99,088 misdemeanor convictions were imposed during FY 2024.[14] For many of the tables, information on 10,737 convictions (or 11%) was excluded due to missing or discrepant data.[15] Such exclusions are noted at the end of each table.

The following categories of misdemeanor convictions are excluded from this report:

1) Misdemeanor Driving While Impaired offenses (since they are not governed by Structured Sentencing laws);[16]
2) Cases disposed of by a magistrate; and
3) Local ordinance offenses.

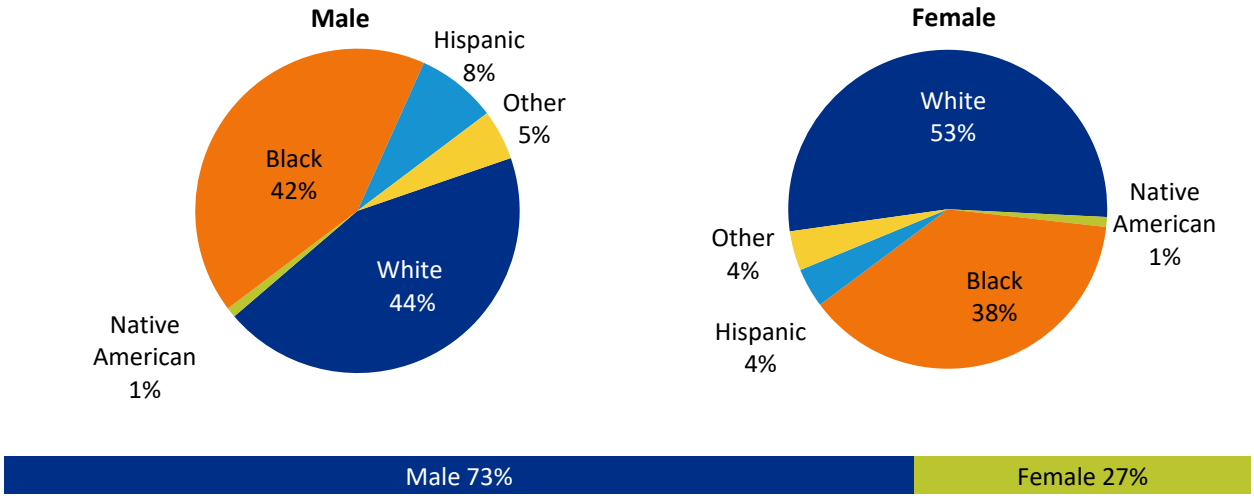
Offender Characteristics

This section provides a summary of misdemeanor convictions by offenders' sex, race, and age. As shown in Figure 21, the majority of misdemeanor convictions were for males (73%). Almost half (46%) of all misdemeanor offenders were White and 41% were Black, 7% Hispanic, 1% Native American, and 5% Other. Among male offenders, 44% were White and 42% were Black; over half (53%) of female offenders were White.

Based on age at conviction, 7% of misdemeanor convictions were for offenders under the age of 21, 31% were 21-30 years of age, 30% were 31-40 years of age, 18% were 41-50 years of age, and 14% were over 50 years of age. The average age at conviction was 36 years. Figure 22 shows the volume of male and female offenders by age and illustrates that the volume of offenders peaks in the early thirties and then generally declines as age increases.

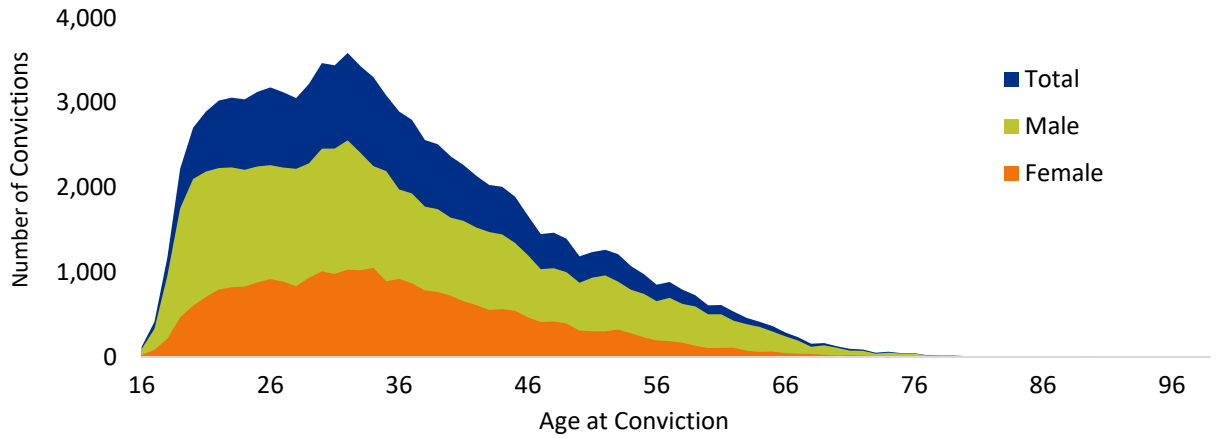
[14] There were 94,451 guilty pleas/bench trials in District Court, and 4,537 guilty pleas and 100 jury trials in Superior Court. For misdemeanor convictions in Superior Court, *see* G.S. 7A-271(a).
[15] With the implementation of Enterprise Justice, an increased number of misdemeanor convictions are missing key sentencing information, including offense class, number of prior convictions, and punishment imposed; these convictions were excluded from most of the tables/figures in this section. The counties in which implementation had begun by the end of FY 2024 accounted for 90% (or 9,615) of the 10,737 convictions that were excluded, resulting in only 69% of data for those counties being reported.
[16] For information on convictions and sentences imposed for DWI offenses, *see* NC Sentencing and Policy Advisory Commission, DWI Convictions Statistical Reports at: https://www.nccourts.gov/documents/publications/dwi-convictions-statistical-reports

Figure 21: Convictions by Sex and Race



SOURCE: NC Sentencing and Policy Advisory Commission, FY 2024 Misdemeanor Statistical Report Data

Figure 22: Convictions by Age and Sex

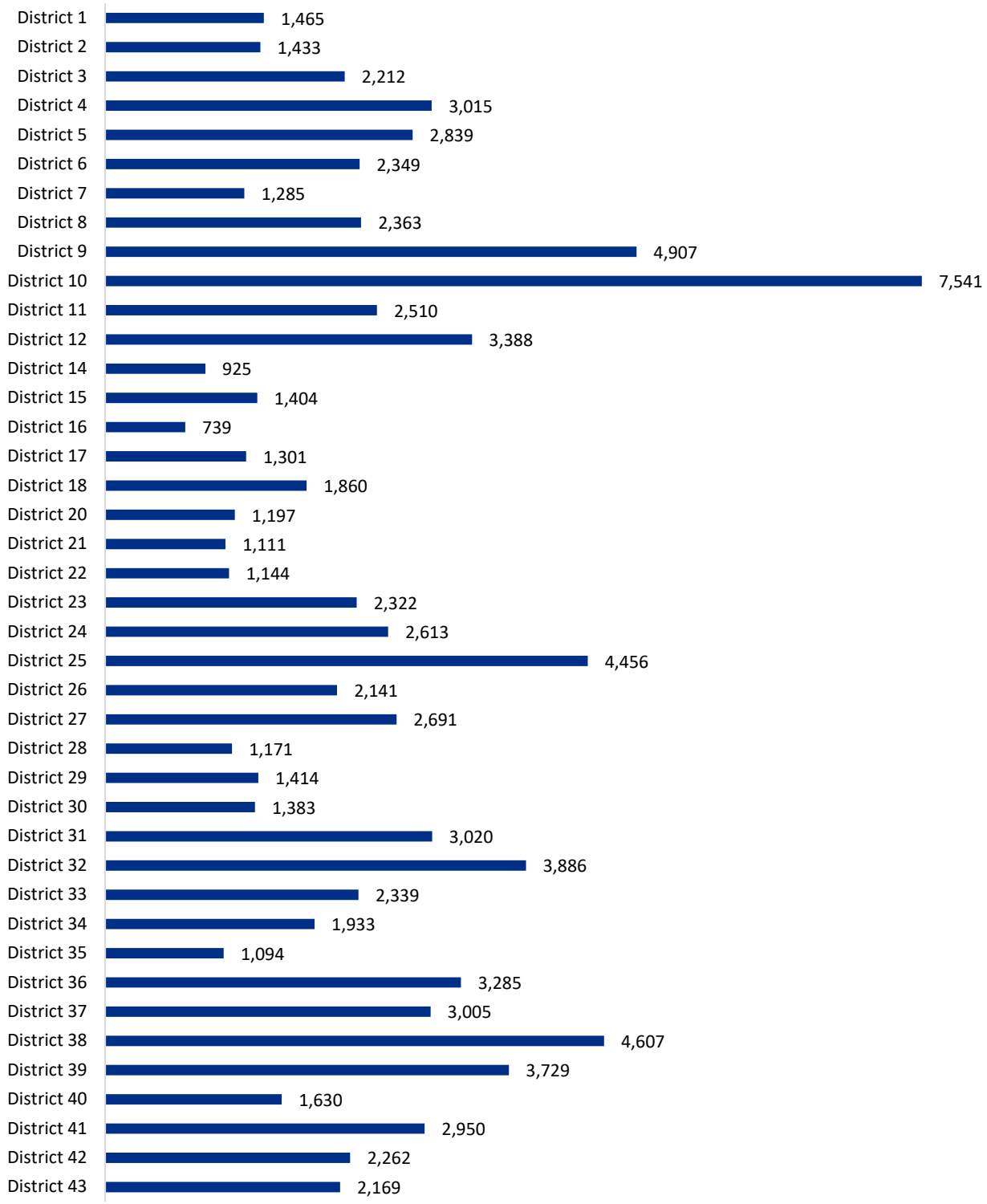


Note: Of the 99,088 misdemeanor convictions in FY 2024, 243 were excluded from this table due to missing data.
SOURCE: NC Sentencing and Policy Advisory Commission, FY 2024 Misdemeanor Statistical Report Data

District Court District

Figure 23 shows the number of misdemeanor convictions for each District Court district. The highest volume of misdemeanor convictions was in District 10 (Wake County), District 9 (Greene, Lenoir, and Wayne Counties), and District 38 (Gaston County); the lowest volume of misdemeanor convictions was in District 16 (Durham County), District 14 (Cumberland County), and District 35 (Avery, Madison, Mitchell, Watauga, and Yancey Counties). Appendix E, Table 1 contains information on the total number of misdemeanor convictions for each District Court district and county within the context of county population.

Figure 23: Convictions by District Court District

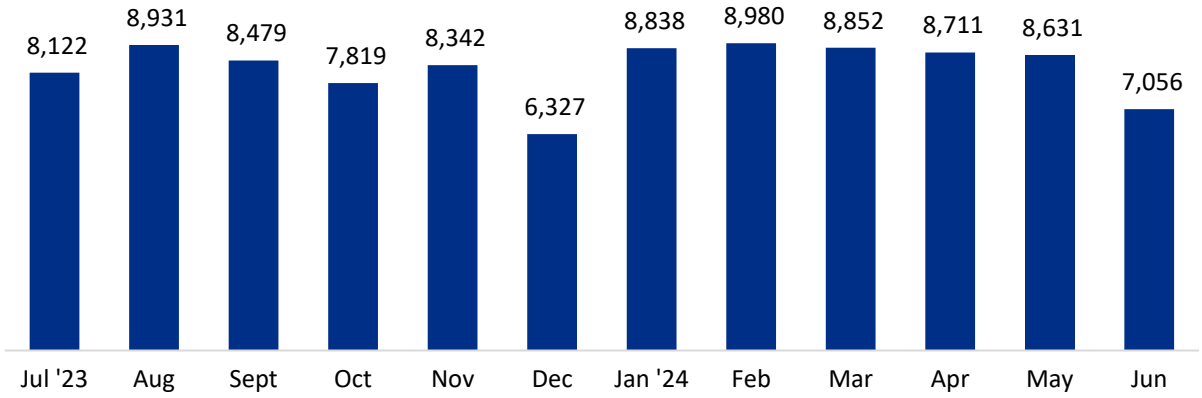


SOURCE: NC Sentencing and Policy Advisory Commission, FY 2024 Misdemeanor Statistical Report Data

Month of Sentencing

Figure 24 shows the number of misdemeanor convictions by month of sentencing during FY 2024. Convictions were highest in February 2024 and lowest in December 2023.

Figure 24: Convictions by Month of Sentencing

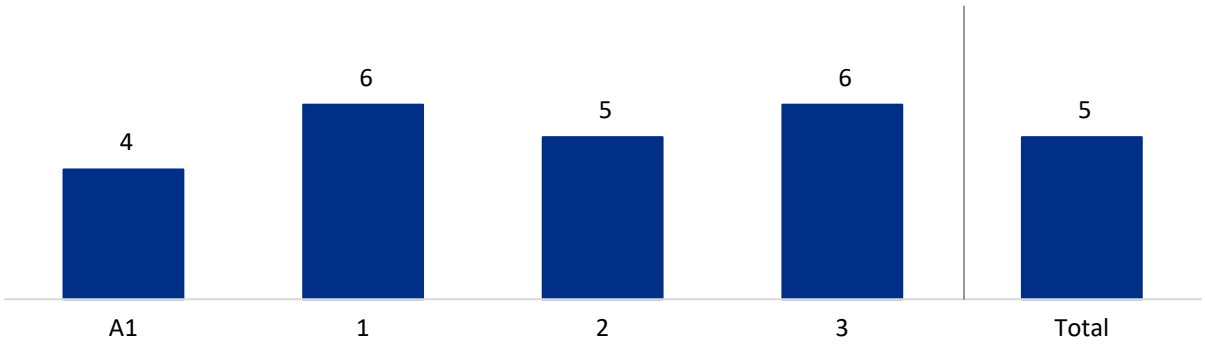


SOURCE: NC Sentencing and Policy Advisory Commission, FY 2024 Misdemeanor Statistical Report Data

Time to Sentencing

Time to sentencing refers to the amount of time between the date the charge was filed for the most serious conviction and the date the sentence was imposed. As Figure 25 shows, the median time to sentencing for misdemeanor convictions was 5 months. Class A1 misdemeanor convictions had the shortest median time to sentencing (4 months).

Figure 25: Median Time to Sentencing (Months) by Offense Class



Note: Of the 99,088 misdemeanor convictions in FY 2024, 11,267 were excluded from this table due to discrepant or missing data.

SOURCE: NC Sentencing and Policy Advisory Commission, FY 2024 Misdemeanor Statistical Report Data

OFFENSE CLASS AND PRIOR CONVICTION LEVEL

Sentences imposed for misdemeanor convictions are based on the Misdemeanor Punishment Chart, which takes into account offense seriousness and the offender's prior criminal record. The current Misdemeanor Punishment Chart (for offenses committed on or after December 1, 2013) is printed on the inside back cover of the report.[17]

Table 18 shows the distribution of convictions within the Misdemeanor Punishment Chart. Overall, 8% of misdemeanor convictions were in Class A1, 35% were in Class 1, 19% were in Class 2, and 38% were in Class 3 (as also shown in Figure 26). (*See* Appendix C for the top 5 convictions in each offense class.) Thirty-nine percent (39%) of convictions were in Prior Conviction Level I, 29% were in Prior Conviction Level II, and 32% were in Prior Conviction Level III (as also shown in Figure 27). Relative to other cells within the Misdemeanor Punishment Chart, the highest volume of convictions was in Class 3/Prior Conviction Level I (n=17,633 or 20%), followed by Class 1/Prior Conviction Level III (n=12,932 or 15%).

Table 18: Convictions within the Misdemeanor Punishment Chart

Offense Class	Prior Conviction Level			Total
	I **0 Prior Convictions**	**II** **1-4 Prior Convictions**	**III** **5+ Prior Convictions**	
A1	1,691 2%	2,706 3%	2,921 3%	**7,318** **8%**
1	6,732 8%	11,551 13%	12,932 15%	**31,215** **35%**
2	8,284 9%	4,609 5%	3,640 4%	**16,533** **19%**
3	17,633 20%	7,198 8%	8,454 10%	**33,285** **38%**
Total	**34,340** **39%**	**26,064** **29%**	**27,947** **32%**	**88,351** **100%**

Note: Of the 99,088 misdemeanor convictions in FY 2024, 10,737 (or 11%) were excluded from this table. Percentages may not add to totals due to rounding.
SOURCE: NC Sentencing and Policy Advisory Commission, FY 2024 Misdemeanor Statistical Report Data

[17] Current and previous misdemeanor punishment charts can also be found on the Commission's website: https://www.nccourts.gov/documents/publications/punishment-grids

Figure 26: Convictions by Offense Class

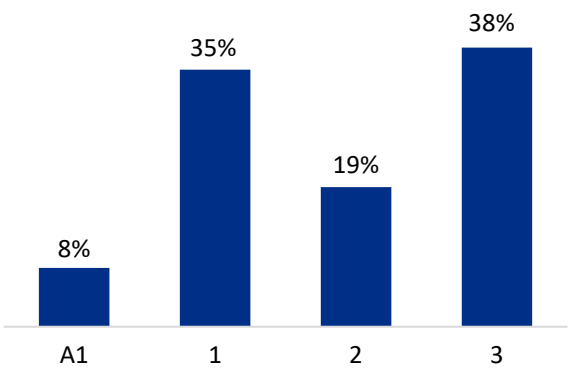
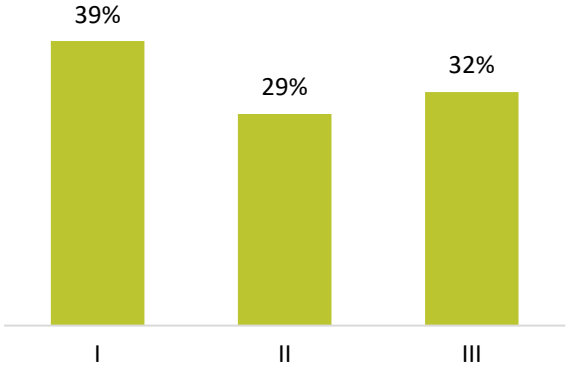


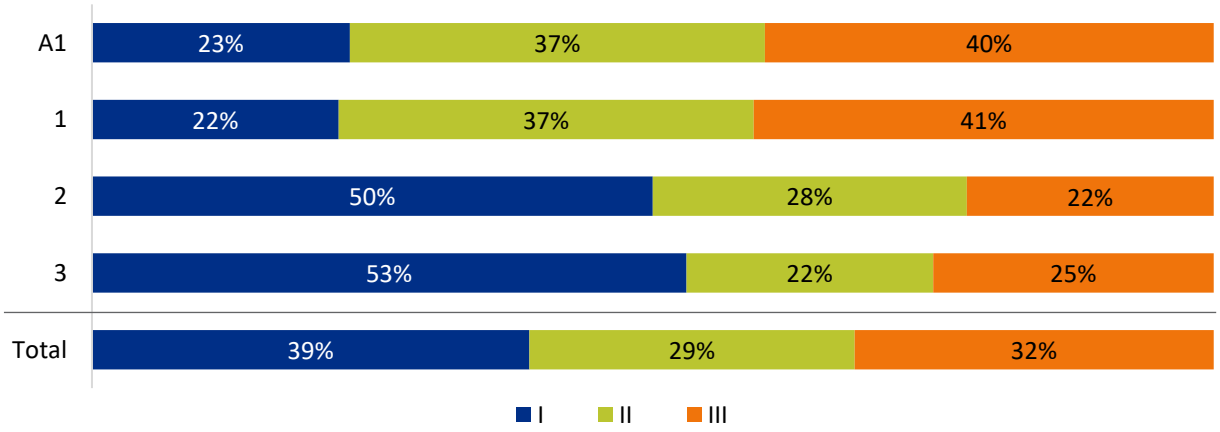
Figure 27: Convictions by Prior Conviction Level



SOURCE: NC Sentencing and Policy Advisory Commission, FY 2024 Misdemeanor Statistical Report Data

Figure 28 shows the distribution of convictions by offense class and prior conviction level. Class A1 and Class 1 misdemeanor convictions had the highest percentage of offenders in Prior Conviction Level III (40% and 41% respectively). Conversely, Class 3 misdemeanor convictions had the highest percentage of offenders in Prior Conviction Level I (53%).

Figure 28: Convictions by Offense Class and Prior Conviction Level



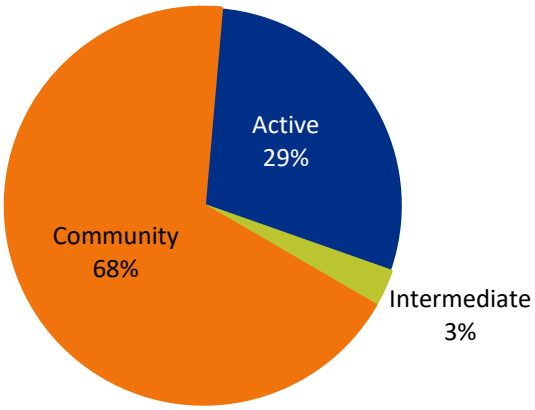
SOURCE: NC Sentencing and Policy Advisory Commission, FY 2024 Misdemeanor Statistical Report Data

PUNISHMENT IMPOSED

This section summarizes information about the type of punishment imposed (Active, Intermediate, or Community) for misdemeanor convictions. It also shows the average sentence imposed and the average time to be served – adjusting for credit for time served – for misdemeanants who received an Active punishment.

As shown in Figure 29, an Active punishment was imposed for 29% of misdemeanor convictions, an Intermediate punishment was imposed for 3% of misdemeanor convictions, and a Community punishment was imposed for 68% of misdemeanor convictions.[18]

Figure 29: Convictions by Type of Punishment



SOURCE: NC Sentencing and Policy Advisory Commission, FY 2024 Misdemeanor Statistical Report Data

Punishment Imposed within the Misdemeanor Punishment Chart

Misdemeanor convictions and sentences imposed are presented within the context of the Misdemeanor Punishment Chart in Table 19. Most convictions – regardless of offense class or prior conviction level – resulted in the imposition of a Community punishment (n=60,599 or 68%). The detailed information provided allows for examination of the overall number of convictions and type of punishment imposed as well as an examination of these data by offense class, by prior conviction level, and for each combination of offense class and prior conviction level (i.e., cell). The table also includes the average sentence length for convictions for which an active sentence was imposed. Convictions for Class A1 and Class 1 misdemeanors accounted for the highest percentage of active sentences imposed relative to other offense classes (39% each), while the percentage of active sentences was lower for Class 2 and Class 3 (25% and 18% respectively). The likelihood of receiving an Active punishment increased as prior conviction level increased. Active sentences in cells in which an Active punishment is not a sentencing option may be due to the use of credit for time served.

[18] Class 3 misdemeanor offenses committed on or after December 1, 2013 for offenders with three or fewer prior convictions are punishable as a Community punishment by a fine only. Of the 33,285 Class 3 misdemeanor convictions shown in Table 18 and Table 19, 26% (n=8,713) were identified as receiving a fine only, with no probation or additional sanctions ordered.

Table 19: Convictions and Sentences by Offense Class and Prior Conviction Level

Offense Class	Prior Conviction Level			Total
	I **0 Prior Convictions**	**II** **1-4 Prior Convictions**	**III** **5+ Prior Convictions**	
A1	**C/I/A** C = 995 (59%) I = 218 (13%) A = 478 (28%) n = 1,691 38 days	**C/I/A** C = 1,452 (54%) I = 358 (13%) A = 896 (33%) n = 2,706 48 days	**C/I/A** C = 1,076 (37%) I = 383 (13%) A = 1,462 (50%) n = 2,921 86 days	**C/I/A** C = 3,523 (48%) I = 959 (13%) A = 2,836 (39%) n = 7,318 66 days
1	**C** C = 4,716 (70%) I = 117 (2%) A = 1,899 (28%) n = 6,732 20 days	**C/I/A** C = 7,061 (61%) I = 396 (3%) A = 4,094 (35%) n = 11,551 27 days	**C/I/A** C = 5,963 (46%) I = 672 (5%) A = 6,297 (49%) n = 12,932 53 days	**C/I/A** C = 17,740 (57%) I = 1,185 (4%) A = 12,290 (39%) n = 31,215 39 days
2	**C** C = 7,353 (89%) I = 20 (0%) A = 911 (11%) n = 8,284 12 days	**C/I** C = 3,177 (69%) I = 98 (2%) A = 1,334 (29%) n = 4,609 17 days	**C/I/A** C = 1,643 (45%) I = 94 (3%) A = 1,903 (52%) n = 3,640 26 days	**C/I/A** C = 12,173 (74%) I = 212 (1%) A = 4,148 (25%) n = 16,533 20 days
3	**C** C = 16,295 (92%) I = 1 (0%) A = 1,337 (8%) n = 17,633 6 days	**C/I** C = 5,736 (80%) I = 9 (0%) A = 1,453 (20%) n = 7,198 7 days	**C/I/A** C = 5,132 (61%) I = 37 (0%) A = 3,285 (39%) n = 8,454 9 days	**C/I/A** C = 27,163 (82%) I = 47 (0%) A = 6,075 (18%) n = 33,285 8 days
Total	**C/I/A** C = 29,359 (86%) I = 356 (1%) A = 4,625 (13%) n = 34,340 16 days	**C/I/A** C = 17,426 (67%) I = 861 (3%) A = 7,777 (30%) n = 26,064 24 days	**C/I/A** C = 13,814 (50%) I = 1,186 (4%) A = 12,947 (46%) n = 27,947 42 days	**C/I/A** C = 60,599 (68%) I = 2,403 (3%) A = 25,349 (29%) n = 88,351 32 days

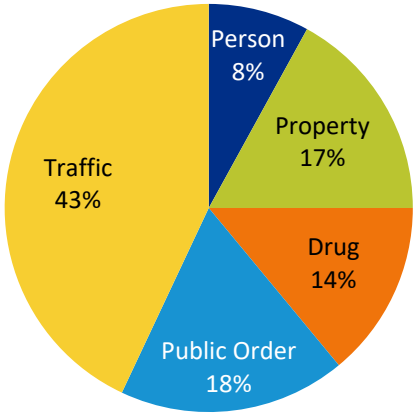
Note: Of the 99,088 misdemeanor convictions in FY 2024, 10,737 (or 11%) were excluded from this table. Active sentences in cells in which an Active punishment is not a sentencing option may be attributed to the use of credit for time served.

SOURCE: NC Sentencing and Policy Advisory Commission, FY 2024 Misdemeanor Statistical Report Data

Punishment Imposed by Crime Type

As shown in Figure 30, traffic offenses accounted for the highest percentage of misdemeanor convictions (43%), while person offenses accounted for the lowest percentage (8%).

Figure 30: Convictions by Crime Type



SOURCE: NC Sentencing and Policy Advisory Commission, FY 2024 Misdemeanor Statistical Report Data

Table 20 contains information about the type of punishment imposed by crime type for misdemeanor convictions, as well as the average sentence imposed and average time to be served for offenders who received an Active punishment. The average active sentence imposed and average time to be served were longest for convictions for person offenses (59 days and 20 days respectively). The average active sentence imposed was shortest for traffic offenses (16 days) and the average time to be served was shortest for public order and traffic offenses (6 and 7 days respectively).

Table 20: Convictions and Sentences by Crime Type

Crime Type	Type of Punishment						Average Active Sentence (Days)	Average Credit for Time Served (Days)	Average Time to be Served (Days)	Total
	Active		Intermediate		Community					
	#	%	#	%	#	%				
Person	2,795	38	815	11	3,731	51	59	40	20	7,341
Property	6,397	43	521	4	7,810	53	41	29	12	14,728
Drug	4,457	36	397	3	7,550	61	30	19	12	12,404
Public Order	7,190	45	462	3	8,257	52	23	16	6	15,909
Traffic	4,510	12	208	<1	33,251	88	16	9	7	37,969
Total	**25,349**	**29**	**2,403**	**3**	**60,599**	**69**	**32**	**21**	**11**	**88,351**

Note: Of the 99,088 misdemeanor convictions in FY 2024, 10,737 (or 11%) were excluded from this table. Due to rounding, the average time to be served may not equal the average active sentence minus the average credit for time served.
SOURCE: NC Sentencing and Policy Advisory Commission, FY 2024 Misdemeanor Statistical Report Data

ACTIVE PUNISHMENT

An Active punishment was imposed for 25,349 convictions in FY 2024. The likelihood of receiving an Active punishment increased as offense seriousness and prior conviction level increased, as did average active sentence length (*see also* Table 19).

Average Length of Active Sentences

As shown in Table 21, time to be served also increased as offense class and prior conviction level increased. Overall, the average time to be served for misdemeanor convictions was 11 days. The longest average time to be served was for Class A1 misdemeanors (24 days).

Table 21: Average Length of Active Sentences by Offense Class and Prior Conviction Level

Offense Class	Average Active Sentence, Credit for Time Served, and Time to be Served		Prior Conviction Level			Total
			I 0 Prior Convictions	II 1-4 Prior Convictions	III 5+ Prior Convictions	
A1	Active Sentence	Days	38	48	86	66
	Credit for Time Served	Days	32	36	48	42
	Time to be Served	Days	6	12	38	24
	Active Sentences	#	478	896	1,462	2,836
1	Active Sentence	Days	20	27	53	39
	Credit for Time Served	Days	20	21	29	25
	Time to be Served	Days	0	5	24	14
	Active Sentences	#	1,899	4,094	6,297	12,290
2	Active Sentence	Days	12	17	26	20
	Credit for Time Served	Days	12	17	18	16
	Time to be Served	Days	0	0	8	4
	Active Sentences	#	911	1,334	1,903	4,148
3	Active Sentence	Days	6	7	9	8
	Credit for Time Served	Days	6	7	7	6
	Time to be Served	Days	0	0	2	1
	Active Sentences	#	1,337	1,453	3,285	6,075
Total	Active Sentence	Days	16	24	42	32
	Credit for Time Served	Days	15	20	24	21
	Time to be Served	Days	1	4	18	11
	Active Sentences	#	4,625	7,777	12,947	25,349

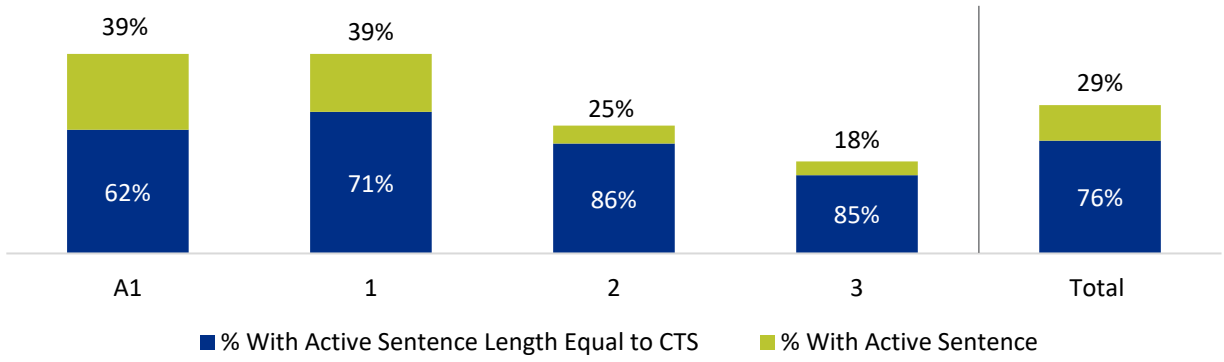
Note: Convictions that did not fit within the appropriate cell in the Misdemeanor Punishment Chart were excluded from this table. Due to rounding, the average time to be served may not equal the average active sentence minus the average credit for time served.
SOURCE: NC Sentencing and Policy Advisory Commission, FY 2024 Misdemeanor Statistical Report Data

Credit for Time Served

Credit for time served (referred to as CTS in figures) refers to the amount of time an offender spent committed to or confined in a State or local correctional, mental, or other institution prior to trial. A misdemeanor offender can be sentenced to time served when an Active punishment is imposed if the term of imprisonment is equal to or less than the total amount of time the offender has spent in pretrial confinement (i.e., credit for time served). Most offenders with active sentences (76%) received credit for time served.

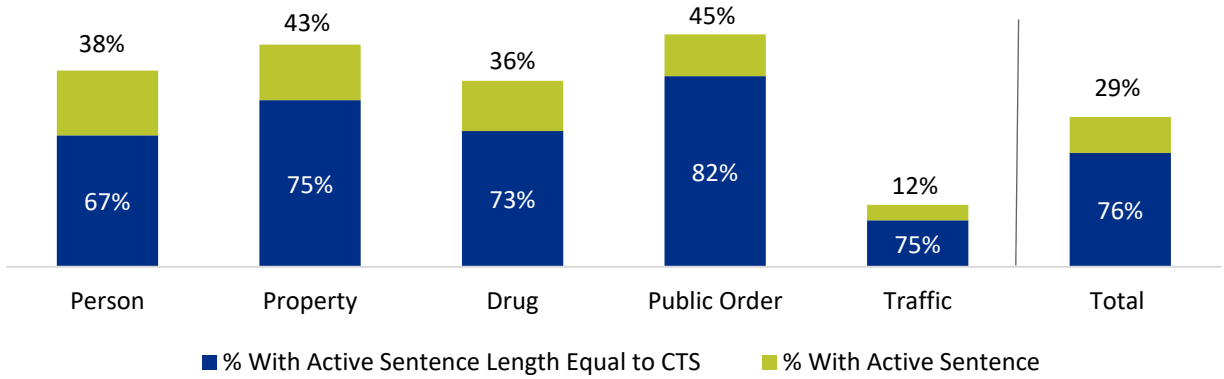
Figure 31 provides detail on credit for time served for convictions by offense class. Of offenders receiving an Active punishment who had credit for time served, 76% received a sentence equal to their credit for time served, potentially indicating a sentence to time served. Class 2 and Class 3 offenses had the highest percentage of active sentences equal to credit for time served (86% and 85% respectively). As shown in Figure 32, public order offenses had the highest percentage of active sentences equal to credit for time served (82%), while person offenses had the lowest (67%). Overall, for convictions where the active sentence length was equal to the credit for time served, the average was 24 days.

Figure 31: Credit for Time Served by Offense Class
Active Sentences Only



SOURCE: NC Sentencing and Policy Advisory Commission, FY 2024 Misdemeanor Statistical Report Data

Figure 32: Credit for Time Served by Crime Type
Active Sentences Only



SOURCE: NC Sentencing and Policy Advisory Commission, FY 2024 Misdemeanor Statistical Report Data

INTERMEDIATE AND COMMUNITY PUNISHMENTS

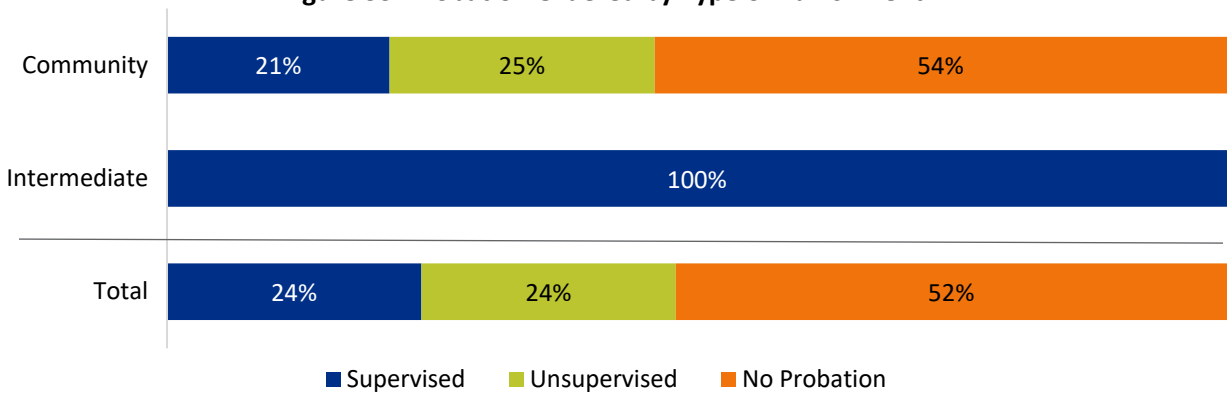
Information presented in this section reflects conditions of Intermediate and Community punishment as defined by G.S. 15A-1340.11. An Intermediate punishment requires a sentence of supervised probation, whereas a Community punishment may consist of a sentence of supervised or unsupervised probation but does not require it. This section only includes information on probation conditions that were imposed for an Intermediate or a Community punishment at sentencing. Probation conditions that are subsequently imposed as a result of modifications to probation are not included. A single conviction often results in the imposition of more than one probation condition. It should be noted that some conditions (e.g., local judicially managed accountability and recovery court) are not equally available across the state.

An Intermediate or a Community punishment may include one or more of the following probation conditions: house arrest with electronic monitoring; community service; short-term jail confinement(s); substance abuse assessment, monitoring, or treatment; and education or vocational skills development. An Intermediate punishment may also include special probation and/or local judicially managed accountability and recovery court (shortened to accountability and recovery court in tables and figures).[19] Continuous alcohol monitoring may be ordered if alcohol dependency has been identified by a substance abuse assessment or satellite-based monitoring may be ordered if the probationer is a sex offender (as described in G.S. 14-208.40(a)(2)). In addition, conditions may include payment of restitution, fines, or court costs.

During FY 2024, an Intermediate punishment was imposed for 2,403 misdemeanor convictions and a Community punishment was imposed for 60,599 misdemeanor convictions for a total of 63,002 non-active sentences. Overall, 15,207 convictions received supervised probation, 15,347 received unsupervised probation, and 32,448 had no probation ordered.

Figure 33 shows the type of probation imposed for Intermediate and Community punishment convictions. Based on statutory requirements, all offenders with an Intermediate punishment (100%) received supervised probation. Among offenders receiving a Community punishment, 21% received supervised probation, 25% received unsupervised probation, and 54% had no probation ordered.

Figure 33: Probation Ordered by Type of Punishment

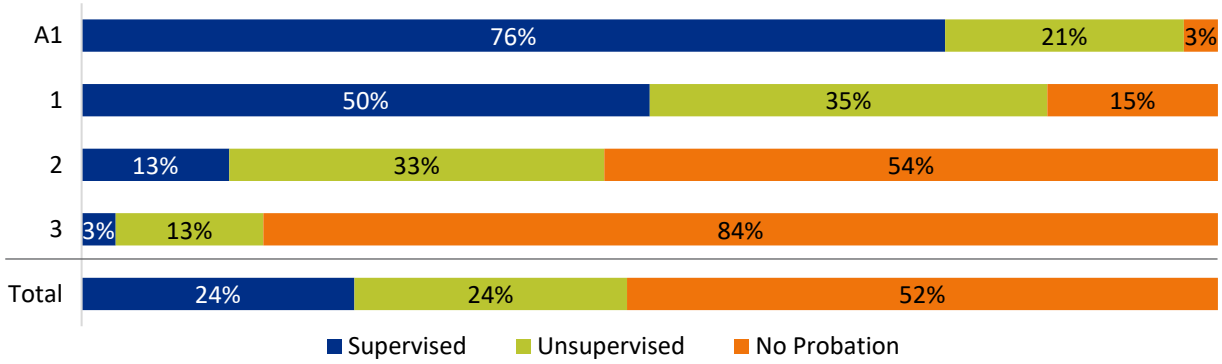


SOURCE: NC Sentencing and Policy Advisory Commission, FY 2024 Misdemeanor Statistical Report Data

[19] Drug treatment court was changed to local judicially managed accountability and recovery court effective March 17, 2022 (Session Law 2022-6, s. 8.2(e)).

Figure 34 examines the type of probation ordered by offense class for convictions resulting in an Intermediate or a Community punishment. As seriousness of offense class decreased, the percentage of convictions with no probation ordered increased from 3% in Class A1 to 84% in Class 3. Conversely, as offense seriousness increased, the percentage of convictions with supervised probation increased from 3% in Class 3 to 76% in Class A1. Around one-third of Class 1 and Class 2 misdemeanor convictions (35% and 33% respectively) received unsupervised probation. The vast majority of Class 3 misdemeanor convictions had no probation ordered (84%).

Figure 34: Probation Ordered by Offense Class



SOURCE: NC Sentencing and Policy Advisory Commission, FY 2024 Misdemeanor Statistical Report Data

Probation Length by Type of Punishment

When a misdemeanant is sentenced to probation, the probation length must be between 6 and 18 months for a Community punishment and between 18 and 24 months for an Intermediate punishment. Departures from these lengths may occur when a finding is made that a different period is required. Nearly three-fourths (74%) of Community probation lengths were for 12 months; 15% were for 18 months. Almost half (46%) of Intermediate probation lengths were for 18 or 24 months (31% and 15% respectively); the most common probation length was 12 months (50%).

Table 22 provides the average length of probation by offense class and type of punishment for offenders sentenced to probation in FY 2024. Overall, the average probation length for Intermediate and Community punishment convictions was 14 months. Class 2 and Class 3 misdemeanors resulted in the shortest average probation length (13 months each) and Class A1 misdemeanors resulted in the longest (16 months). Probation lengths were slightly shorter for convictions with a Community punishment or with unsupervised probation. The highest volume of overall probation sentences was in Class 1 (n=16,083 or 53%).

Table 22: Average Length of Probation by Offense Class and Type of Punishment

Offense Class	Type of Punishment	Average Length of Probation					
		Supervised Probation		Unsupervised Probation		Total	
		Months	#	Months	#	Months	#
A1	Intermediate	17	959	N/A	N/A	17	959
	Community	15	2,451	14	958	15	3,409
	Subtotal	**16**	**3,410**	**14**	**958**	**16**	**4,368**
1	Intermediate	16	1,185	N/A	N/A	16	1,185
	Community	14	8,218	13	6,680	14	14,898
	Subtotal	**15**	**9,403**	**13**	**6,680**	**14**	**16,083**
2	Intermediate	14	212	N/A	N/A	14	212
	Community	13	1,473	13	4,056	13	5,529
	Subtotal	**13**	**1,685**	**13**	**4,056**	**13**	**5,741**
3	Intermediate	13	47	N/A	N/A	13	47
	Community	13	662	13	3,653	13	4,315
	Subtotal	**13**	**709**	**13**	**3,653**	**13**	**4,362**
Total		**15**	**15,207**	**13**	**15,347**	**14**	**30,554**

Note: Convictions that did not fit within the appropriate cell in the Misdemeanor Punishment Chart due to discrepant offense classes, prior conviction levels, or for other reasons were excluded from this table.
SOURCE: NC Sentencing and Policy Advisory Commission, FY 2024 Misdemeanor Statistical Report Data

In addition to the average probation length, the average suspended sentence length for convictions receiving probation was examined by offense class (*see* Table 23). Overall, the average suspended sentence length for an Intermediate or a Community punishment was 54 days. As offense seriousness decreased, suspended sentence length also decreased. Class 3 misdemeanors resulted in the shortest average suspended sentence length (14 days) and, along with Class 2 misdemeanors, the shortest average probation length (13 months each). Class A1 misdemeanors resulted in the longest average suspended sentence length and average probation length (86 days and 16 months respectively). In all classes, the suspended sentences for an Intermediate punishment were longer than the suspended sentences for those receiving a Community punishment.

Table 23: Average Length of Probation and Average Suspended Sentence by Offense Class and Type of Punishment

Offense Class	Type of Punishment	#	Probation Length (Months)	Suspended Sentence (Days)
A1	Intermediate	959	17	96
	Community	3,409	15	82
	Subtotal	**4,368**	**16**	**86**
1	Intermediate	1,185	16	84
	Community	14,898	14	62
	Subtotal	**16,083**	**14**	**63**
2	Intermediate	212	14	47
	Community	5,529	13	34
	Subtotal	**5,741**	**13**	**34**
3	Intermediate	47	13	17
	Community	4,315	13	14
	Subtotal	**4,362**	**13**	**14**
Total		**30,554**	**14**	**54**

Note: Convictions that did not fit within the appropriate cell in the Misdemeanor Punishment Chart due to discrepant offense classes, prior conviction levels, or for other reasons were excluded from this table.
SOURCE: NC Sentencing and Policy Advisory Commission, FY 2024 Misdemeanor Statistical Report Data

Table 24 shows the average length of probation for Intermediate and Community punishment convictions by crime type. Person offenses resulted in the longest average probation length (15 months), while public order and traffic offenses resulted in the shortest average probation length (13 months each). Consistent with the findings for offense class, probation lengths were slightly shorter for convictions with a Community punishment or with unsupervised probation. Of convictions where probation was imposed, almost one-quarter (n=7,226 or 24%) were for property offenses.

Table 24: Average Length of Probation by Crime Type and Type of Punishment

Crime Type	Type of Punishment	Average Length of Probation					
		Supervised Probation		Unsupervised Probation		Total	
		Months	#	Months	#	Months	#
Person	Intermediate	18	815	N/A	N/A	18	815
	Community	15	2,283	14	1,243	15	3,526
	Subtotal	**16**	**3,098**	**14**	**1,243**	**15**	**4,341**
Property	Intermediate	17	521	N/A	N/A	17	521
	Community	15	3,835	13	2,870	14	6,705
	Subtotal	**15**	**4,356**	**13**	**2,870**	**14**	**7,226**
Drug	Intermediate	15	397	N/A	N/A	15	397
	Community	14	2,564	13	2,099	14	4,663
	Subtotal	**14**	**2,961**	**13**	**2,099**	**14**	**5,060**
Public Order	Intermediate	15	462	N/A	N/A	15	462
	Community	14	2,298	13	3,369	13	5,667
	Subtotal	**14**	**2,760**	**13**	**3,369**	**13**	**6,129**
Traffic	Intermediate	14	208	N/A	N/A	14	208
	Community	14	1,824	13	5,766	13	7,590
	Subtotal	**14**	**2,032**	**13**	**5,766**	**13**	**7,798**
Total		**15**	**15,207**	**13**	**15,347**	**14**	**30,554**

Note: Convictions that did not fit within the appropriate cell in the Misdemeanor Punishment Chart due to discrepant offense classes, prior conviction levels, or for other reasons were excluded from this table.
SOURCE: NC Sentencing and Policy Advisory Commission, FY 2024 Misdemeanor Statistical Report Data

The average length of probation compared to the average suspended sentence by crime type is shown in Table 25. Person offenses resulted in the longest average suspended sentence (75 days) and the longest average probation length (15 months). Traffic offenses resulted in the shortest average suspended sentence and average probation length (37 days and 13 months respectively). The average suspended sentences and probation lengths for property and drug offenses were similar.

Table 25: Average Length of Probation and Average Suspended Sentence by Crime Type and Type of Punishment

Crime Type	Type of Punishment	#	Probation Length (Months)	Suspended Sentence (Days)
Person	Intermediate	815	18	92
	Community	3,526	15	71
	Subtotal	**4,341**	**15**	**75**
Property	Intermediate	521	17	85
	Community	6,705	14	58
	Subtotal	**7,226**	**14**	**60**
Drugs	Intermediate	397	15	82
	Community	4,663	14	60
	Subtotal	**5,060**	**14**	**62**
Public Order	Intermediate	462	15	78
	Community	5,667	13	47
	Subtotal	**6,129**	**13**	**49**
Traffic	Intermediate	208	14	74
	Community	7,590	13	36
	Subtotal	**7,798**	**13**	**37**
Total		**30,554**	**14**	**54**

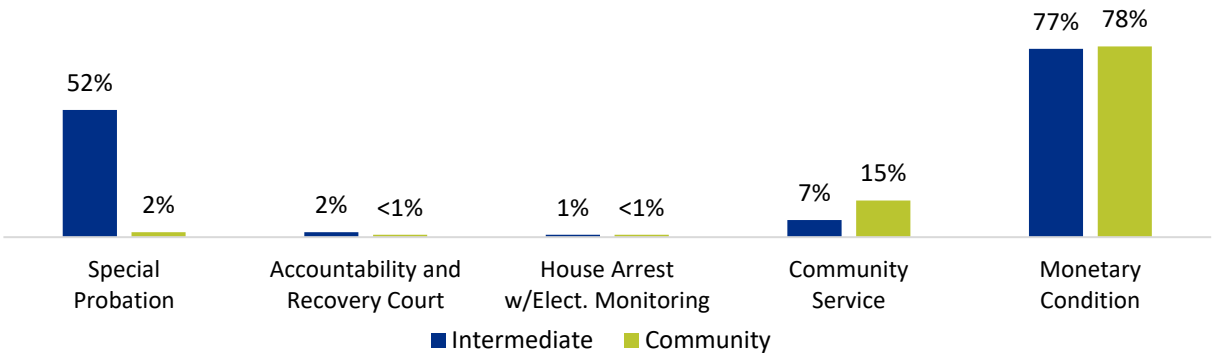
Note: Convictions that did not fit within the appropriate cell in the Misdemeanor Punishment Chart due to discrepant offense classes, prior conviction levels, or for other reasons were excluded from this table.
SOURCE: NC Sentencing and Policy Advisory Commission, FY 2024 Misdemeanor Statistical Report Data

Conditions of Probation[20]

In FY 2024, supervised probation was imposed for 15,207 convictions with an Intermediate or a Community punishment. Figure 35 provides information on the conditions that were imposed for convictions with supervised probation. Multiple probation conditions may have been ordered for a single conviction. For Intermediate punishment convictions, monetary conditions and special probation were the two most frequently imposed conditions of probation (77% and 52% respectively). Monetary conditions and community service were the two most frequently imposed conditions of probation for Community punishment convictions (78% and 15% respectively).

[20] Information reported in this section includes information on select probation conditions captured in the AOC's integrated case management systems and does not reflect the full scope of available conditions for offenders sentenced to an Intermediate or a Community punishment.

Figure 35: Probation Conditions for Convictions with Supervised Probation



Note: A single conviction may result in the imposition of more than one probation condition. As a result, the percentages reported add to more than 100%.
SOURCE: NC Sentencing and Policy Advisory Commission, FY 2024 Misdemeanor Statistical Report Data

Table 26 provides detailed information about the conditions ordered at sentencing for Intermediate and Community punishment convictions with supervised probation, including the average length of probation. The average length of supervised probation imposed was 16 months for convictions with an Intermediate punishment and 14 months for convictions with a Community punishment; differences in average length between Intermediate and Community punishment convictions for most probation conditions ranged from 2 to 3 months. Generally, the average length of supervised probation for Intermediate punishment was slightly longer. Convictions with accountability and recovery court or with house arrest with electronic monitoring as conditions of probation had the longest average length of probation (20 months each).

Table 26: Probation Conditions for Convictions with Supervised Probation

Type of Punishment		Conditions of Probation (Number and Average Probation Length)					Total
		Special Probation	Accountability and Recovery Court	House Arrest w/ Elect. Monitoring	Community Service	Monetary Condition	
Intermediate	**#**	1,248	36	20	173	1,843	2,403
	Avg.	*16 months*	*21 months*	*21 months*	*17 months*	*16 months*	*16 months*
Community	**#**	302	11	7	1,888	9,984	12,804
	Avg.	*16 months*	*18 months*	*18 months*	*14 months*	*14 months*	*14 months*
Total	**#**	**1,550**	**47**	**27**	**2,061**	**11,827**	**15,207**
	Avg.	***16 months***	***20 months***	***20 months***	***14 months***	***15 months***	***15 months***

Note: Convictions that did not fit within the appropriate cell in the Felony Punishment Chart were excluded from this table. This table includes information on probation conditions that are captured in AOC's integrated case management systems regardless of possible errors (i.e., special probation or accountability and recovery court are not authorized conditions for a Community punishment). A single conviction may result in the imposition of more than one probation condition. The row totals equal the total number of convictions with supervised probation, rather than the total number of conditions.
SOURCE: NC Sentencing and Policy Advisory Commission, FY 2024 Misdemeanor Statistical Report Data

In FY 2024, unsupervised probation was imposed for 15,347 convictions with a Community punishment. Of these convictions, 88% (n=13,504) were ordered to pay monetary obligations (i.e., fine, restitution, or court costs) as a condition of probation and 7% (n=1,024) included community service as a condition of probation.

No Probation Ordered

Probation is not required for Community punishment convictions. In FY 2024, 32,448 convictions with a Community punishment had no probation ordered. As part of the sentence imposed, 90% (n=18,772) of these convictions included payment of monetary obligations (i.e., fine, restitution, or court costs) and less than 1% (n=31) included an order to perform community service.

SECTION III: TRENDS FOR FELONY AND MISDEMEANOR CONVICTIONS

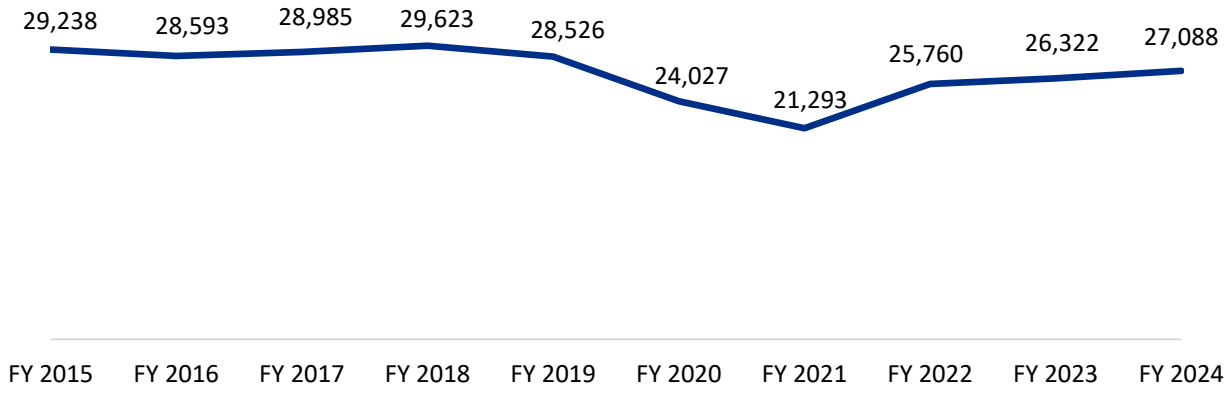
The previous sections focused on a single fiscal year of data (FY 2024); Section III examines trends in felony and misdemeanor convictions. Information is presented on volume, offender characteristics, distribution of convictions by offense class, type of offense, prior record, and punishment imposed.

TRENDS FOR FELONY CONVICTIONS

Volume of Felony Convictions

The number of felony convictions was relatively stable prior to the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic in the last quarter of FY 2020 (*see* Figure 36). Felony convictions declined 25% during the height of the pandemic (from FY 2019 to FY 2021). Felony convictions have increased 27% since FY 2021, including a 3% increase this past fiscal year.

Figure 36: Felony Convictions

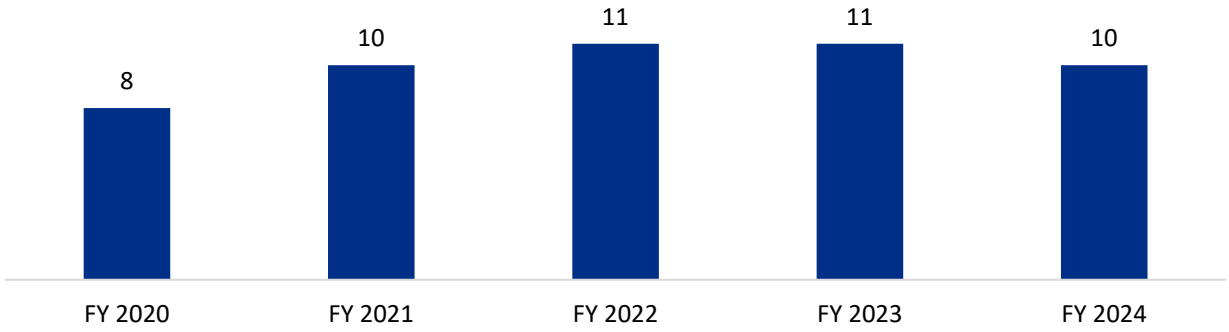


SOURCE: NC Sentencing and Policy Advisory Commission, FY 2015 – FY 2024 Statistical Report Data

Time to Sentencing

Figure 37 shows the median time to sentencing over the past five years. The median time to sentencing was 8 months in FY 2020. The median time to sentencing increased following the COVID-19 pandemic and has not returned to pre-pandemic levels (10 months in FY 2024).

Figure 37: Median Time to Sentencing (Months)

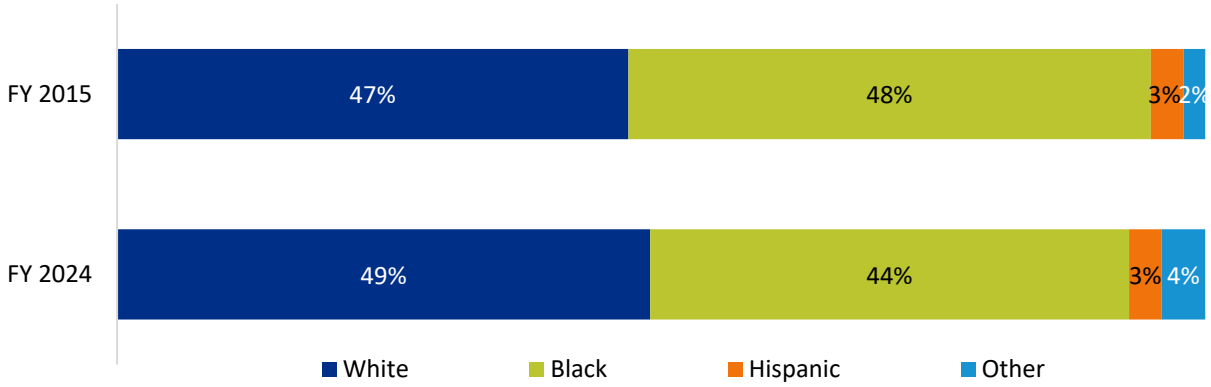


SOURCE: NC Sentencing and Policy Advisory Commission, FY 2020 – FY 2024 Statistical Report Data

Offender Characteristics

The distribution of offenders by sex has remained stable, with males accounting for more than 80% of convictions over the past ten years. White and Black offenders comprised the vast majority of convictions (*see* Figure 38), but their proportion has changed over time. In FY 2024, White offenders comprised a larger percentage of convictions than Black offenders (49% and 44% respectively), whereas ten years ago (FY 2015) the percentages of White and Black offenders were almost equal (47% and 48% respectively).

Figure 38: Convictions by Race

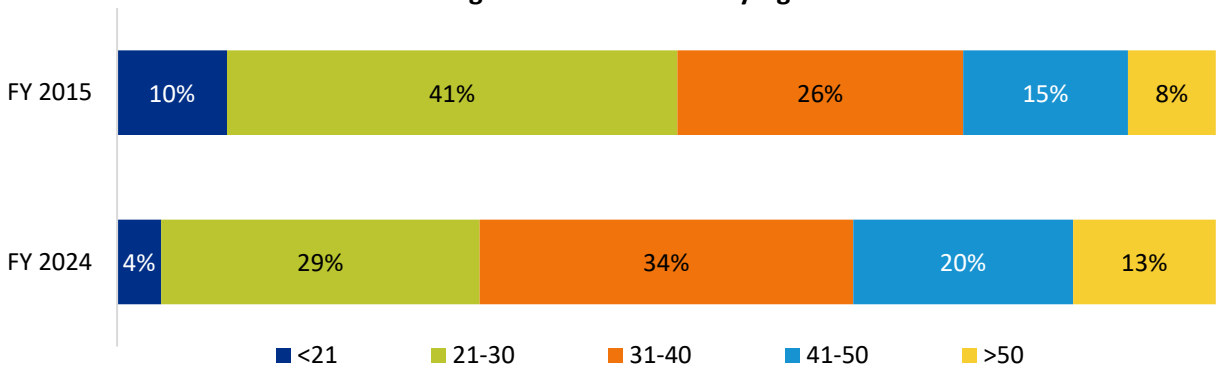


SOURCE: NC Sentencing and Policy Advisory Commission, FY 2015 and FY 2024 Statistical Report Data

Over the past ten years, the distribution of offenders by age at conviction has gradually shifted to an older population, with declines in the percentage of offenders under 21 continuing with the implementation of the Juvenile Justice Reinvestment Act (JJRA) in 2019.[21] As shown in Figure 39, a smaller percentage of offenders were under age 21 at conviction in FY 2024 (4%) than ten years ago (10%). In FY 2015, over half (51%) of offenders were 30 or younger compared to one-third (33%) in FY 2024. Correspondingly, in FY 2024, over two-thirds (67%) of offenders were 31 or older. The average age at conviction increased from 33 years to 37 years over this period.

[21] The JJRA raised the age of juvenile jurisdiction to include 16- and 17- year-olds for non-traffic misdemeanors and Class H and I felonies.

Figure 39: Convictions by Age

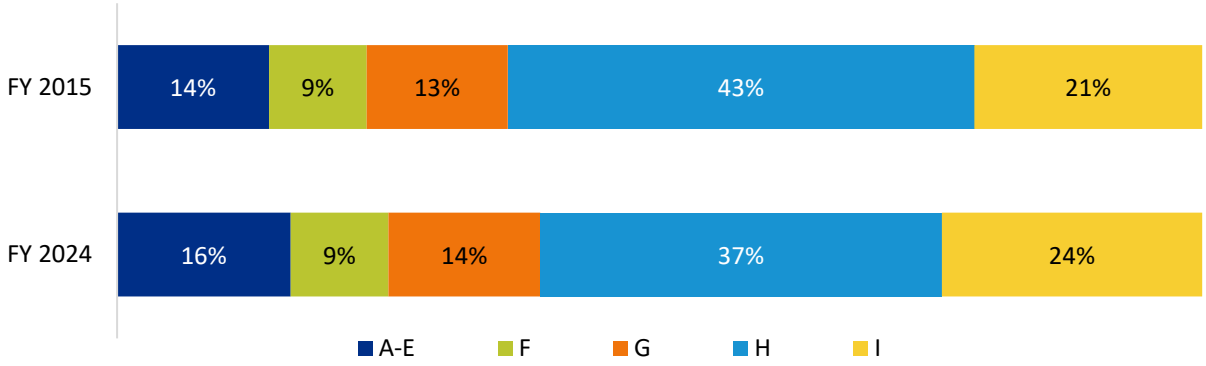


SOURCE: NC Sentencing and Policy Advisory Commission, FY 2015 and FY 2024 Statistical Report Data

Offense Class and Crime Type

The offense class distribution has remained consistent for Class A through Class G convictions, while shifts have occurred for the least serious offense classes (*see* Figure 40). Class H and Class I felonies have comprised the majority of all convictions over each of the past ten years, although the percentage of Class H convictions has decreased and the percentage of Class I convictions has increased.

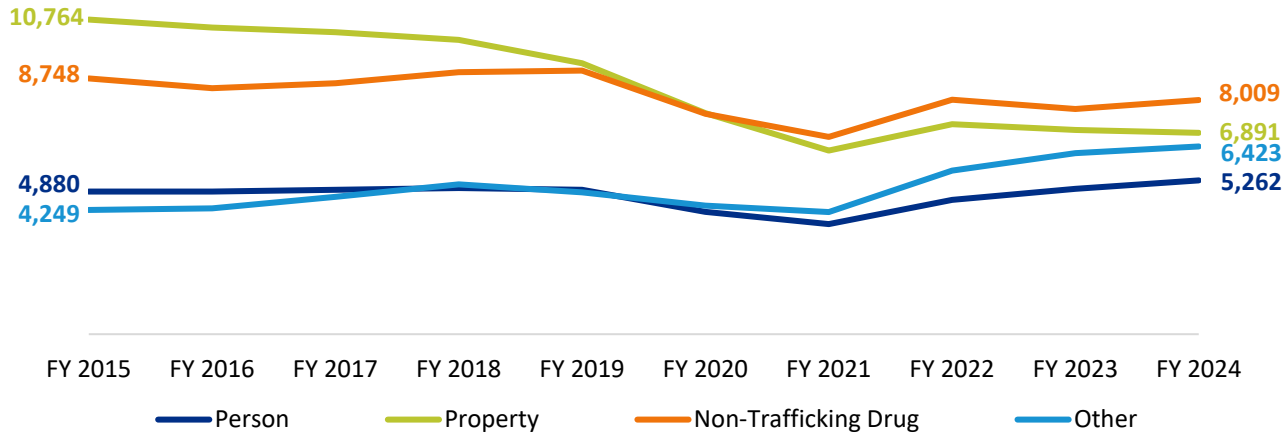
Figure 40: Convictions by Offense Class



SOURCE: NC Sentencing and Policy Advisory Commission, FY 2015 and FY 2024 Statistical Report Data

The volume of convictions for all offense types declined as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic but have since increased (*see* Figure 41). Pre-pandemic (FY 2019), property and non-trafficking drug offenses comprised approximately two-thirds (65%) of all felony convictions, but decreased to 56% in FY 2024. The volume of property offenses remains well below pre-pandemic levels. The volume of convictions in the other offense category has increased over this period, primarily due to an increase in convictions for possession of a firearm by a felon.

Figure 41: Convictions by Crime Type



SOURCE: NC Sentencing and Policy Advisory Commission, FY 2015 – FY 2024 Statistical Report Data

The top 5 most frequent felony convictions in FY 2015 and FY 2024 are displayed in Figure 42. There have been shifts in the top five felony convictions; breaking or entering buildings was the top felony conviction in FY 2015 and possession of a firearm by a felon was the top felony conviction in FY 2024.

Figure 42: Top 5 Felony Convictions

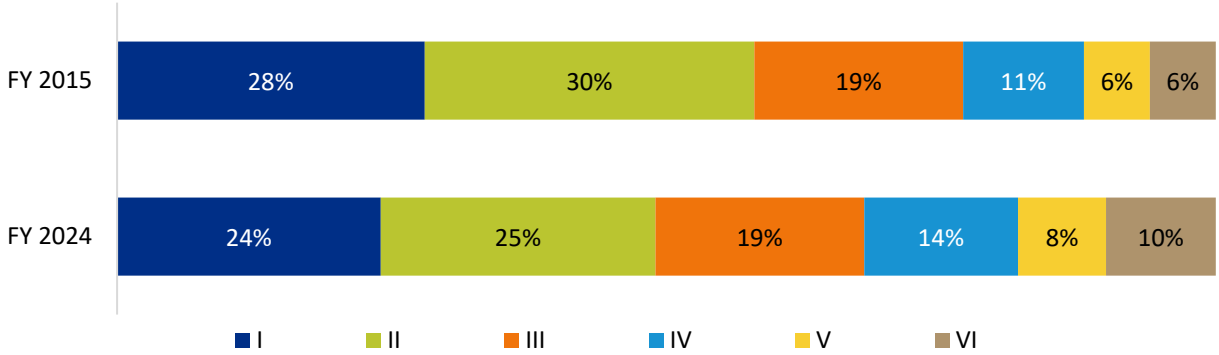
FY 2015	FY 2024
•Breaking or Entering Buildings - Class H •Obtain Property by False Pretense (<$100,000) - Class H •Possession of a Firearm by a Felon - Class G •Larceny of Property (>$1,000) - Class H •Possess Cocaine - Class I	•Possession of a Firearm by a Felon - Class G •Possess Methamphetamine - Class I •Possess Schedule II Controlled Substance - Class I •Breaking or Entering Buildings - Class H •Larceny of Property (>$1,000) - Class H

SOURCE: NC Sentencing and Policy Advisory Commission, FY 2015 and FY 2024 Statistical Report Data

Prior Record Level

As shown in Figure 43, the percentage of offenders in Prior Record Levels I and II has decreased over the past ten years (from 58% to 49%), while the percentage of offenders in the most serious prior record levels (Prior Record Levels V and VI) has increased (from 12% in FY 2015 to 18% in FY 2024).

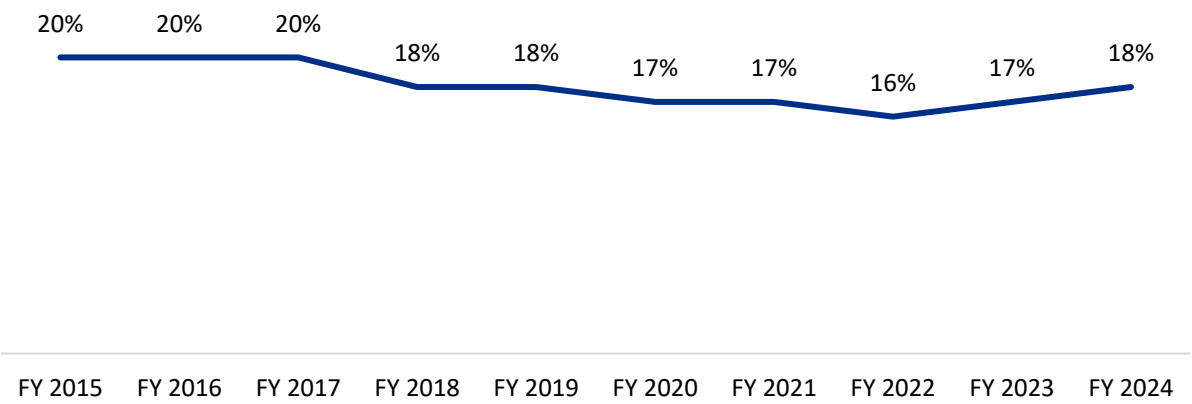
Figure 43: Convictions by Prior Record Level



SOURCE: NC Sentencing and Policy Advisory Commission, FY 2015 and FY 2024 Statistical Report Data

Additionally, as shown in Figure 44, a slightly lower percentage of offenders have zero prior record points compared to ten years ago (20% in FY 2015 and 18% in FY 2024).

Figure 44: Offenders with Zero Prior Record Points

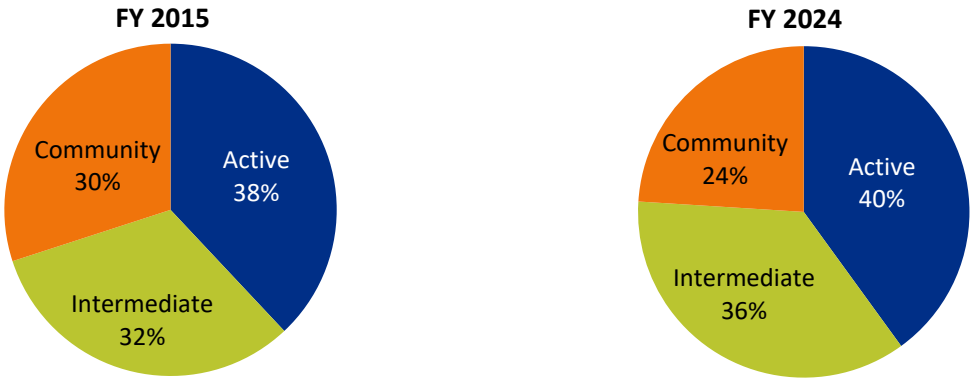


SOURCE: NC Sentencing and Policy Advisory Commission, FY 2015 – FY 2024 Statistical Report Data

Punishment Imposed

Figure 45 shows the distribution of type of punishment imposed in FY 2015 and FY 2024. The percentage of Active punishments was similar (38% in FY 2015 and 40% in FY 2024), while the imposition of Intermediate punishments increased and Community punishments decreased. The overall average minimum sentence imposed for felony convictions sentenced to an Active punishment has also increased (ranging from 30 to 35 months) over the past ten years.

Figure 45: Convictions by Type of Punishment



SOURCE: NC Sentencing and Policy Advisory Commission, FY 2015 and FY 2024 Statistical Report Data

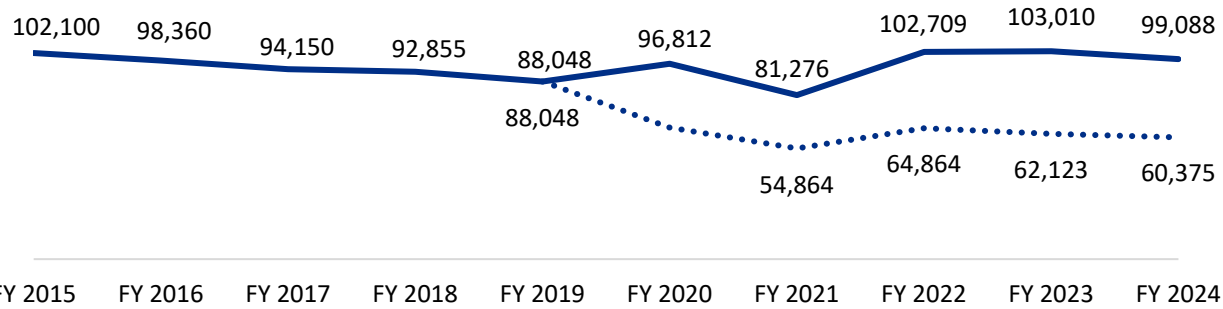
TRENDS FOR MISDEMEANOR CONVICTIONS

As noted throughout the misdemeanor section, a substantial number of misdemeanor convictions are missing key sentencing information and are excluded from analysis. As implementation of Enterprise Justice continues, the effects of missing information will continue to be monitored to determine what changes in trends may be a result of missing data versus actual changes in court practices.

Volume of Misdemeanor Convictions

In FY 2024, there were 99,088 misdemeanor convictions, including 38,713 for Class 2 and Class 3 traffic offenses (*see* Figure 46). The increase in FY 2020 resulted from a methodological change to include Class 2 and Class 3 traffic offenses. Following declines due to the COVID-19 pandemic, misdemeanor convictions have increased 22% since FY 2021; however, misdemeanor convictions decreased 4% from FY 2023 to FY 2024.

Figure 46: Misdemeanor Convictions

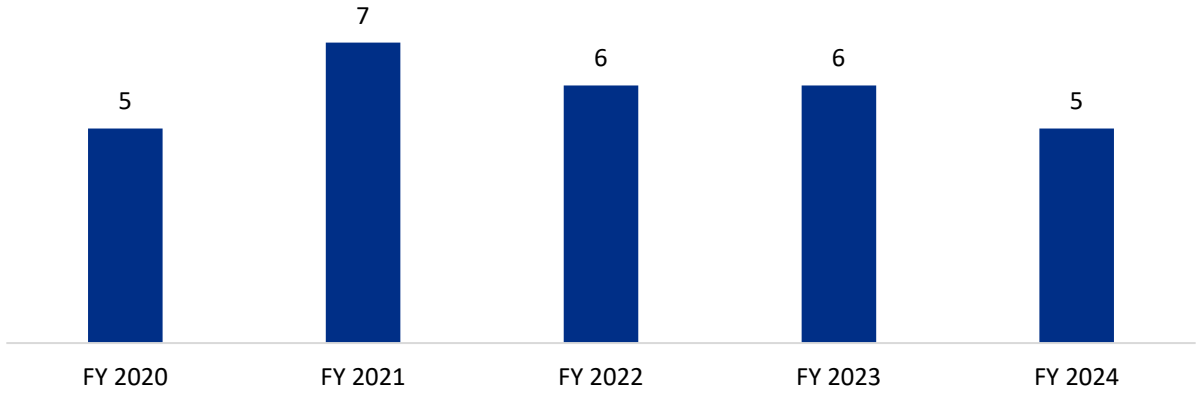


Note: The number under the dotted line represents the number of convictions in FY 2020 – FY 2024 excluding Class 2 and Class 3 traffic offenses.
SOURCE: NC Sentencing and Policy Advisory Commission, FY 2015 – FY 2024 Statistical Report Data

Time to Sentencing

Figure 47 shows the median time to sentencing over the past five years. The median time to sentencing increased during the COVID-19 pandemic and has since returned to pre-pandemic levels.

Figure 47: Median Time to Sentencing (Months)

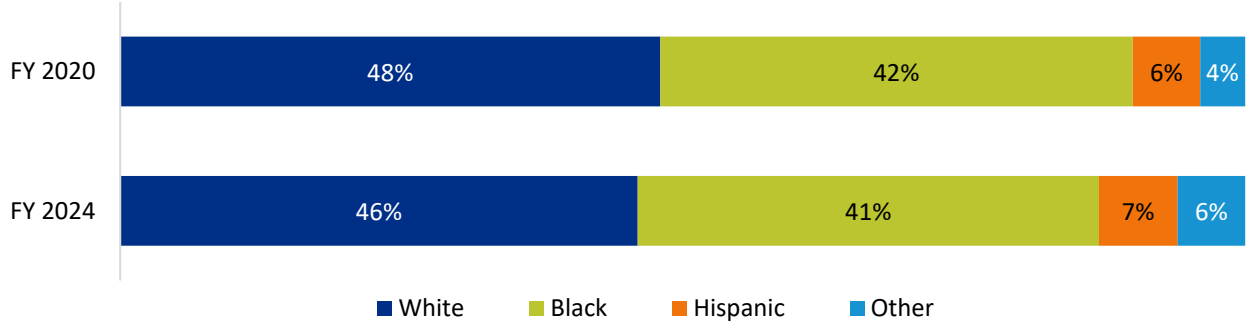


SOURCE: NC Sentencing and Policy Advisory Commission, FY 2020 – FY 2024 Statistical Report Data

Offender Characteristics

The distribution of offenders by sex was similar from FY 2020 to FY 2024, with males accounting for most convictions (72% to 73%). White and Black offenders comprised the majority of convictions in FY 2020 and FY 2024 (*see* Figure 48), with only slight shifts in the distribution.

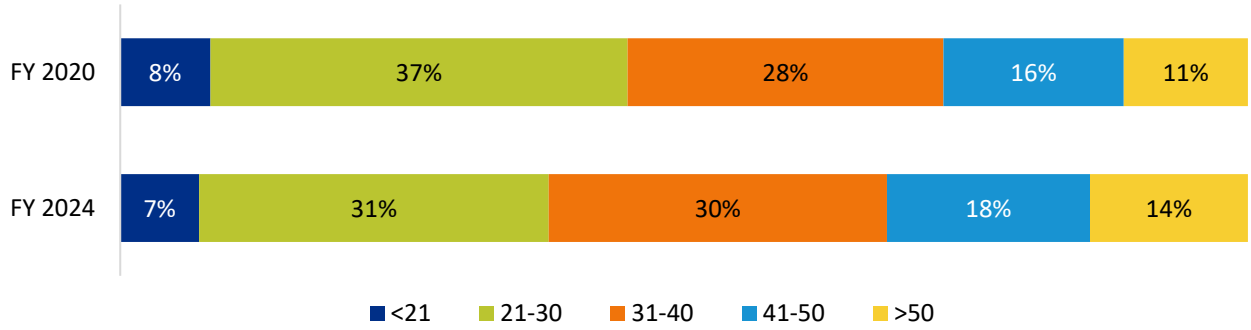
Figure 48: Convictions by Race



SOURCE: NC Sentencing and Policy Advisory Commission, FY 2020 and FY 2024 Statistical Report Data

From FY 2020 to FY 2024, the population of offenders shifted slightly older, driven by a decrease in offenders under the age of 30 and an increase in offenders 41 years and older (*see* Figure 49).

Figure 49: Convictions by Age

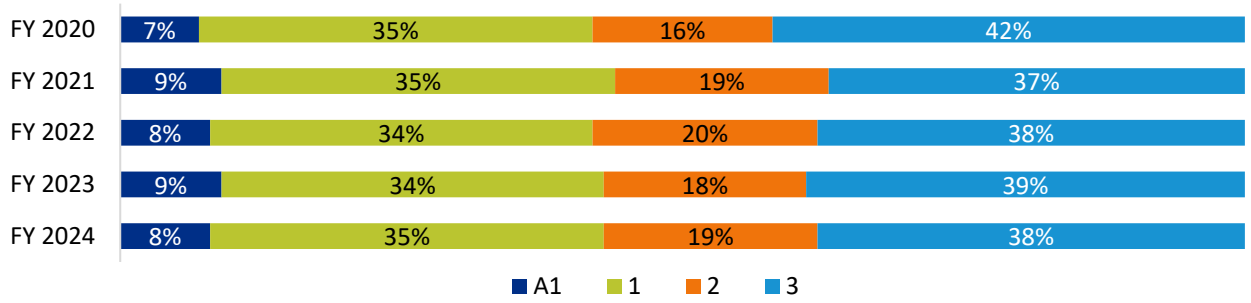


SOURCE: NC Sentencing and Policy Advisory Commission, FY 2020 and FY 2024 Statistical Report Data

Offense Class and Crime Type

The composition of misdemeanor convictions by offense class and crime type were generally consistent across the time period shown (*see* Figure 50 and Figure 51 respectively). Class 3 offenses continued to account for the highest percentage of misdemeanor convictions, followed by Class 1 offenses (38% and 35% respectively in FY 2024).

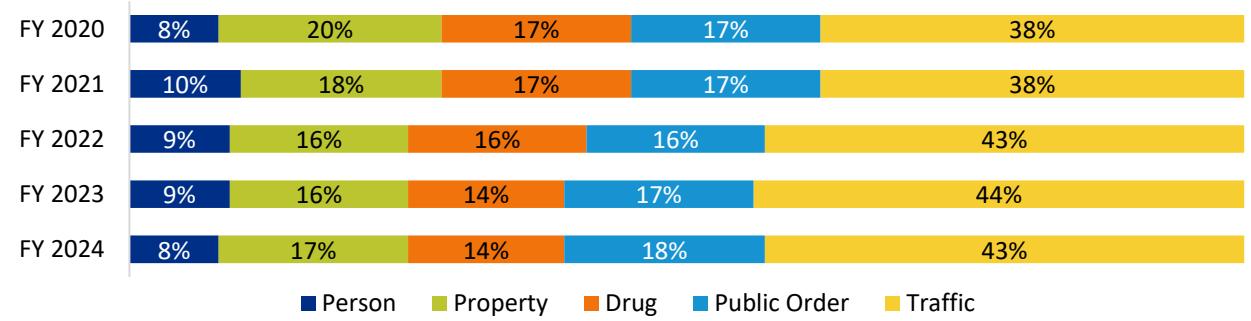
Figure 50: Convictions by Offense Class



SOURCE: NC Sentencing and Policy Advisory Commission, FY 2020 – FY 2024 Statistical Report Data

Of the crime types, traffic offenses accounted for the highest percentage of misdemeanor convictions, ranging from 38% to 44% of convictions.

Figure 51: Convictions by Crime Type



SOURCE: NC Sentencing and Policy Advisory Commission, FY 2020 – FY 2024 Statistical Report Data

The top 5 most frequent misdemeanor convictions are shown in Figure 52. Driving while license revoked (non-DWI) was the top offense both years.

Figure 52: Top 5 Misdemeanor Convictions

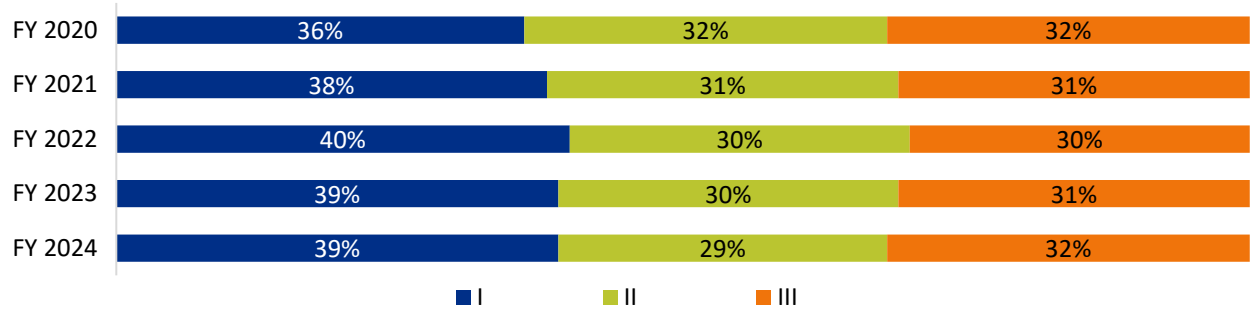
FY 2020	FY 2024
•Driving While License Revoked - Class 3	•Driving While License Revoked - Class 3
•Larceny of Property (≤$1,000) - Class 1	•Larceny of Property (≤$1,000) - Class 1
•Possess Drug Paraphernalia - Class 1	•Possess Drug Paraphernalia - Class 1
•No Operators License - Class 3	•Speeding - Class 3
•Possess Marijuana (up to 1/2 oz.) - Class 3	•Reckless Driving to Endanger- Class 2

SOURCE: NC Sentencing and Policy Advisory Commission, FY 2020 and FY 2024 Statistical Report Data

Prior Conviction Level

As compared to FY 2020, the percentage of offenders in Prior Conviction Level I (those with no prior convictions) increased with corresponding decreases in Prior Convection Level II (*see* Figure 53).

Figure 53: Convictions by Prior Conviction Level

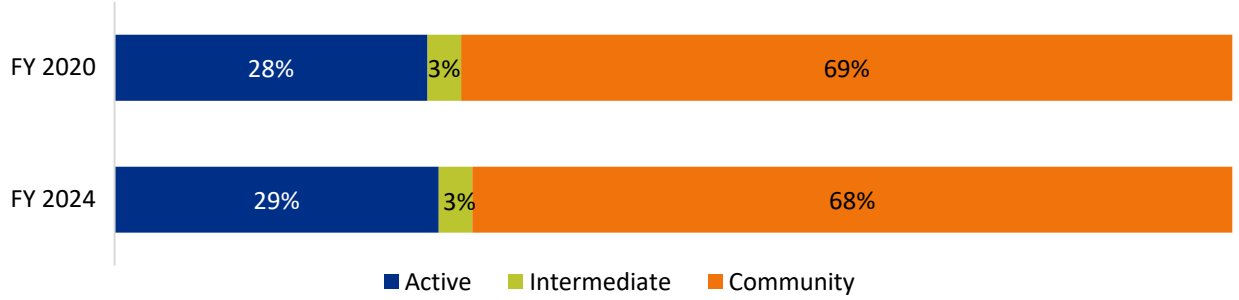


SOURCE: NC Sentencing and Policy Advisory Commission, FY 2020 – FY 2024 Statistical Report Data

Punishment Imposed

The distribution of convictions by type of punishment imposed has remained remarkably consistent over time (*see* Figure 54), as has the overall average sentence imposed for misdemeanor convictions sentenced to an Active punishment (32 days in both FY 2020 and FY 2024).

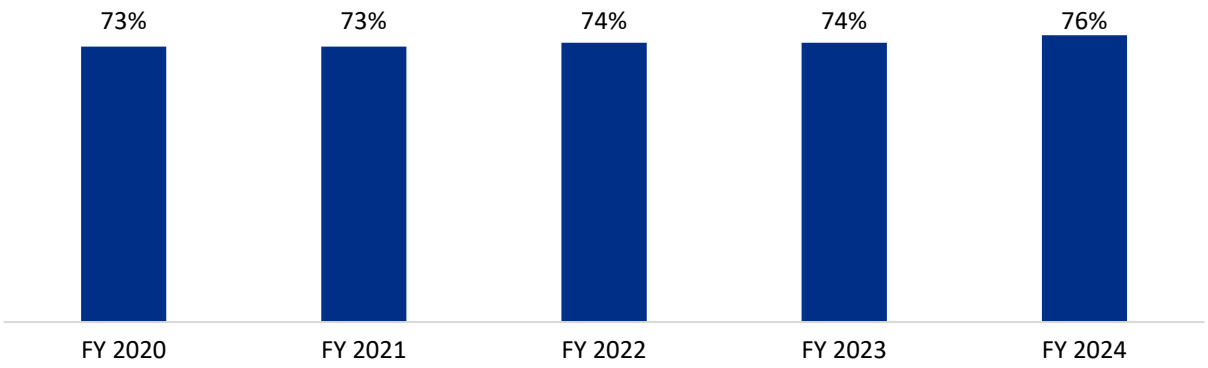
Figure 54: Convictions by Type of Punishment



SOURCE: NC Sentencing and Policy Advisory Commission, FY 2020 and FY 2024 Statistical Report Data

From FY 2020 to FY 2024, most offenders with active sentences received CTS (86% to 89%), with the average CTS ranging from 21 to 22 days. Figure 55 shows the percentage of misdemeanor convictions with active sentences where the sentence length equaled CTS, potentially indicating a sentence to time served. For each year, nearly three-fourths of active sentences equaled the amount of CTS.

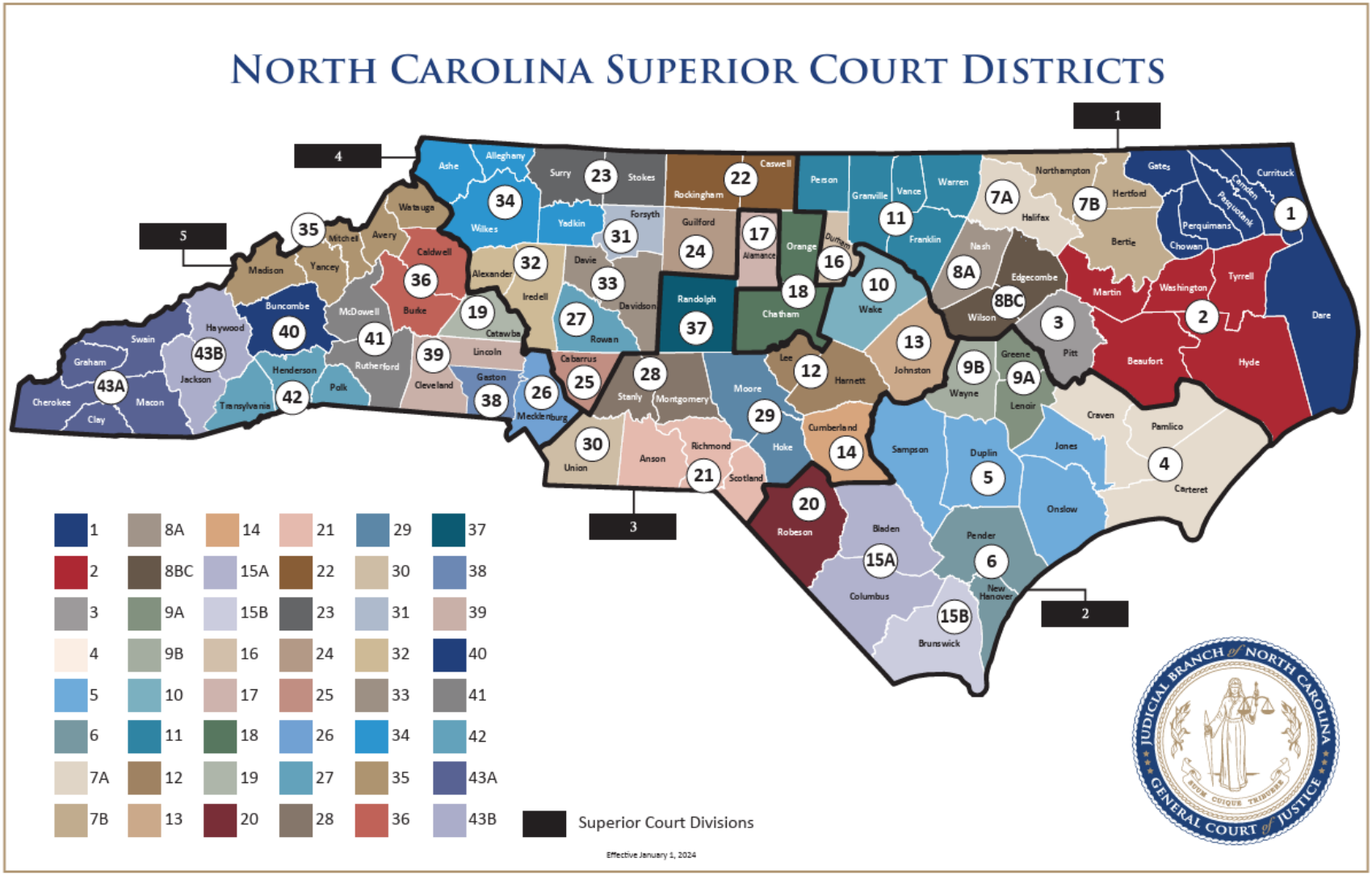
Figure 55: Percent with Active Sentence where Sentence Length Equaled Credit for Time Served



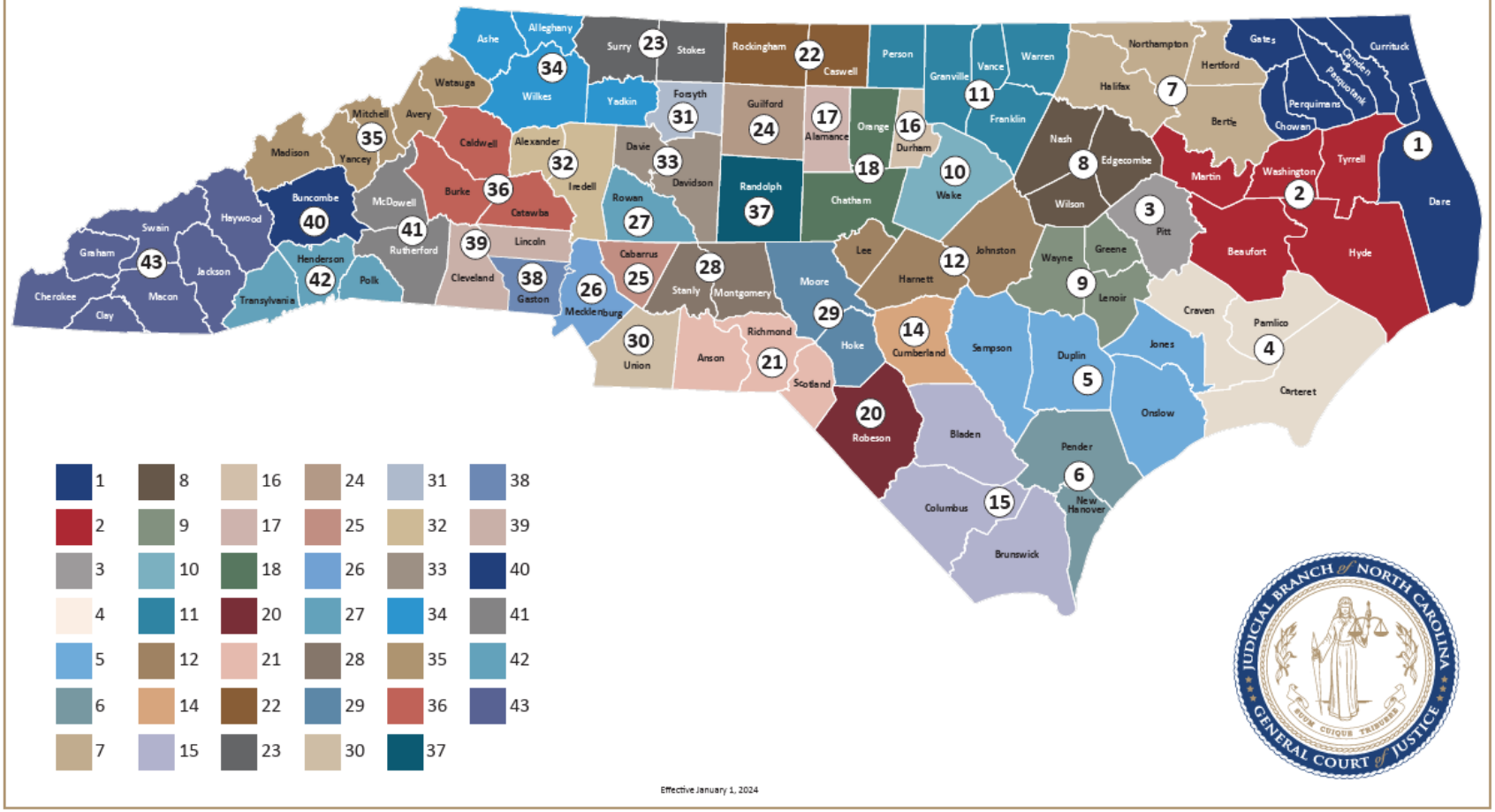
SOURCE: NC Sentencing and Policy Advisory Commission, FY 2020 – FY 2024 Statistical Report Data

APPENDIX A

MAPS OF JUDICIAL DIVISIONS AND DISTRICTS


NORTH CAROLINA SUPERIOR COURT DISTRICTS
1
2
3
4
5
Superior Court Divisions
Effective January 1, 2024
JUDICIAL BRANCH of NORTH CAROLINA
GENERAL COURT of JUSTICE

North Carolina District Court Districts



APPENDIX B

ADDITIONAL FELONY CONVICTION DATA BY JUDICIAL DIVISION AND DISTRICT

Appendix B, Table 1: Convictions by Superior Court Division, District, and County

Superior Court Division, District, and County		Felony Convictions	Convictions per 1,000 Adults (18+)
First Division		***3,092***	***3***
District 1	Camden	30	4
	Chowan	19	2
	Currituck	61	2
	Dare	122	4
	Gates	15	2
	Pasquotank	113	3
	Perquimans	20	2
	Total	**380**	**3**
District 2	Beaufort	141	4
	Hyde	13	3
	Martin	86	5
	Tyrrell	34	13
	Washington	16	2
	Total	**290**	**4**
District 3	Pitt	534	4
	Total	**534**	**4**
District 7A	Halifax	133	4
	Total	**133**	**4**
District 7B	Bertie	46	3
	Hertford	67	4
	Northampton	27	2
	Total	**140**	**3**
District 8A	Nash	219	3
	Total	**219**	**3**
District 8B,C	Edgecombe	160	4
	Wilson	319	5
	Total	**479**	**5**
District 11	Franklin	148	2
	Granville	148	3
	Person	124	4
	Vance	202	6
	Warren	33	2
	Total	**655**	**3**
District 16	Durham	262	1
	Total	**262**	**1**
Second Division		***4,163***	***4***
District 4	Carteret	218	4
	Craven	348	4
	Pamlico	49	5
	Total	**615**	**4**
District 5	Duplin	218	6
	Jones	21	3
	Onslow	439	3
	Sampson	235	5
	Total	**913**	**4**
District 6	New Hanover	628	3
	Pender	112	2
	Total	**740**	**3**
District 9A	Greene	41	2
	Lenoir	327	8
	Total	**368**	**6**
District 9B	Wayne	418	5
	Total	**418**	**5**
District 15A	Bladen	142	6
	Columbus	241	6
	Total	**383**	**6**
District 15B	Brunswick	457	3
	Total	**457**	**3**
District 20	Robeson	269	3
	Total	**269**	**3**
Third Division		***6,603***	***3***
District 10	Wake	1,890	2
	Total	**1,890**	**2**
District 12	Harnett	408	4
	Lee	201	4
	Total	**609**	**4**
District 13	Johnston	656	3
	Total	**656**	**3**
District 14	Cumberland	688	3
	Total	**688**	**3**
District 17	Alamance	715	5
	Total	**715**	**5**
District 21	Anson	86	5
	Richmond	169	5
	Scotland	84	3
	Total	**339**	**5**
District 28	Montgomery	125	6
	Stanly	286	6
	Total	**411**	**6**
District 29	Hoke	126	3
	Moore	233	3
	Total	**359**	**3**

continued

Appendix B, Table 1: Convictions by Superior Court Division, District, and County

Superior Court Division, District, and County		Felony Convictions	Convictions per 1,000 Adults (18+)
District 30	Union	416	2
	Total	**416**	**2**
District 37	Randolph	520	4
	Total	**520**	**4**
Fourth Division		***6,972***	***4***
District 18	Chatham	104	2
	Orange	111	1
	Total	**215**	**1**
District 22	Caswell	45	2
	Rockingham	507	7
	Total	**552**	**6**
District 23	Stokes	170	5
	Surry	259	5
	Total	**429**	**5**
District 24	Guilford	1,130	3
	Total	**1,130**	**3**
District 25	Cabarrus	950	5
	Total	**950**	**5**
District 27	Rowan	591	5
	Total	**591**	**5**
District 31	Forsyth	881	3
	Total	**881**	**3**
District 32	Alexander	**116**	4
	Iredell	721	4
	Total	**837**	**4**
District 33	Davidson	637	5
	Davie	98	3
	Total	**735**	**4**
District 34	Alleghany	41	4
	Ashe	117	5
	Wilkes	333	6
	Yadkin	161	5
	Total	**652**	**6**

Superior Court Division, District, and County		Felony Convictions	Convictions per 1,000 Adults (18+)
Fifth Division		***6,258***	***3***
District 19	Catawba	456	3
	Total	**456**	**3**
District 26	Mecklenburg	1,043	1
	Total	**1,043**	**1**
District 35	Avery	67	5
	Madison	72	4
	Mitchell	73	6
	Watauga	128	3
	Yancey	60	4
	Total	**400**	**4**
District 36	Burke	143	2
	Caldwell	233	4
	Total	**376**	**3**
District 38	Gaston	824	4
	Total	**824**	**4**
District 39	Cleveland	561	7
	Lincoln	371	5
	Total	**932**	**6**
District 40	Buncombe	484	2
	Total	**484**	**2**
District 41	McDowell	261	7
	Rutherford	393	8
	Total	**654**	**7**
District 42	Henderson	377	4
	Polk	80	5
	Transylvania	80	3
	Total	**537**	**4**
District 43A	Cherokee	73	3
	Clay	35	3
	Graham	17	3
	Macon	89	3
	Swain	35	3
	Total	**249**	**3**
District 43B	Haywood	192	4
	Jackson	111	3
	Total	**303**	**3**
State Total		***27,088***	***3***

SOURCES: NC Sentencing and Policy Advisory Commission, FY 2024 Felony Statistical Report Data and NC Office of State Management and Budget, 2023 Population Projections from https://www.osbm.nc.gov/demog/county-projections

Appendix B, Table 2: Class H and Class I Felony Pleas by District, County, and Court

District Court District and County (Superior Court District)		District Court	Superior Court
District 1	Camden (1)	0	22
	Chowan (1)	0	10
	Currituck (1)	1	41
	Dare (1)	4	89
	Gates (1)	0	10
	Pasquotank (1)	0	49
	Perquimans (1)	0	11
	Total	**5**	**232**
District 2	Beaufort (2)	0	86
	Hyde (2)	0	9
	Martin (2)	0	52
	Tyrrell (2)	1	28
	Washington (2)	0	10
	Total	**1**	**185**
District 3	Pitt (3)	18	311
	Total	**18**	**311**
District 4	Carteret (4)	0	138
	Craven (4)	2	204
	Pamlico (4)	0	29
	Total	**2**	**371**
District 5	Duplin (5)	1	151
	Jones (5)	0	16
	Onslow (5)	4	277
	Sampson (5)	0	153
	Total	**5**	**597**
District 6	New Hanover (6)	212	144
	Pender (6)	47	23
	Total	**259**	**167**
District 7	Bertie (7B)	1	29
	Halifax (7A)	8	77
	Hertford (7B)	4	36
	Northampton (7B)	1	15
	Total	**14**	**157**
District 8	Nash (8A)	26	110
	Edgecombe (8B,C)	21	69
	Wilson (8B,C)	39	172
	Total	**86**	**351**
District 9	Greene (9A)	0	22
	Lenoir (9A)	2	159
	Wayne (9B)	0	252
	Total	**2**	**433**
District 10	Wake (10)	797	303
	Total	**797**	**303**
District 11	Franklin (11)	0	84
	Granville (11)	0	89
	Person (11)	0	83
	Vance (11)	0	108
	Warren (11)	0	16
	Total	**0**	**380**
District 12	Harnett (12)	149	102
	Lee (12)	47	66
	Johnston (13)	262	94
	Total	**458**	**262**
District 14	Cumberland (14)	0	301
	Total	**0**	**301**
District 15	Bladen (15A)	68	22
	Columbus (15A)	63	69
	Brunswick (15B)	236	91
	Total	**367**	**182**
District 16	Durham (16)	0	92
	Total	**0**	**92**
District 17	Alamance (17)	15	431
	Total	**15**	**431**
District 18	Chatham (18)	0	49
	Orange (18)	0	44
	Total	**0**	**93**
District 20	Robeson (20)	11	101
	Total	**11**	**101**
District 21	Anson (21)	1	40
	Richmond (21)	0	73
	Scotland (21)	0	33
	Total	**1**	**146**
District 22	Caswell (22)	0	27
	Rockingham (22)	0	332
	Total	**0**	**359**
District 23	Stokes (23)	72	69
	Surry (23)	31	160
	Total	**103**	**229**
District 24	Guilford (24)	73	420
	Total	**73**	**420**
District 25	Cabarrus (25)	225	433
	Total	**225**	**433**

continued

Appendix B, Table 2: Class H and Class I Felony Pleas by District, County, and Court

District Court District and County (Superior Court District)		District Court	Superior Court
District 26	Mecklenburg (26)	0	306
	Total	**0**	**306**
District 27	Rowan (27)	300	80
	Total	**300**	**80**
District 28	Montgomery (28)	0	72
	Stanly (28)	0	171
	Total	**0**	**243**
District 29	Hoke (29)	0	70
	Moore (29)	64	77
	Total	**64**	**147**
District 30	Union (30)	0	267
	Total	**0**	**267**
District 31	Forsyth (31)	332	91
	Total	**332**	**91**
District 32	Alexander (32)	0	83
	Iredell (32)	237	234
	Total	**237**	**317**
District 33	Davidson (33)	167	220
	Davie (33)	31	33
	Total	**198**	**253**
District 34	Alleghany (34)	20	12
	Ashe (34)	56	25
	Wilkes (34)	234	23
	Yadkin (34)	124	6
	Total	**434**	**66**
District 35	Avery (35)	17	19
	Madison (35)	15	35
	Mitchell (35)	24	22
	Watauga (35)	35	52
	Yancey (35)	11	34
	Total	**102**	**162**
District 36	Catawba (19)	9	301
	Burke (36)	0	102
	Caldwell (36)	0	166
	Total	**9**	**569**
District 37	Randolph (37)	118	204
	Total	**118**	**204**
District 38	Gaston (38)	13	460
	Total	**13**	**460**
District 39	Cleveland (39)	14	303
	Lincoln (39)	7	267
	Total	**21**	**570**
District 40	Buncombe (40)	6	251
	Total	**6**	**251**
District 41	McDowell (41)	168	51
	Rutherford (41)	241	82
	Total	**409**	**133**
District 42	Henderson (42)	268	48
	Polk (42)	63	11
	Transylvania (42)	49	9
	Total	**380**	**68**
District 43	Cherokee (43A)	0	46
	Clay (43A)	0	23
	Graham (43A)	0	10
	Macon (43A)	2	51
	Swain (43A)	0	17
	Haywood (43B)	5	109
	Jackson (43B)	0	74
	Total	**7**	**330**
State Total		***5,072***	***11,053***

Note: Convictions that did not fit within the appropriate cell in the Felony Punishment Chart were excluded from this table.
SOURCE: NC Sentencing and Policy Advisory Commission, FY 2024 Felony Statistical Report Data

Appendix B, Table 3: Type of Punishment and Average Length of Active Sentence by Superior Court Division and District

Superior Court Division and District	Type of Punishment						Minimum Active Sentence (Months)	Maximum Active Sentence (Months)	Total
	Active		Intermediate		Community				
	#	%	#	%	#	%			
First Division	***1,227***	***41***	***644***	***21***	***1,147***	***38***	***33***	***51***	***3,018***
District 1	118	33	119	33	123	34	31	49	360
District 2	111	39	69	24	103	36	32	50	283
District 3	233	44	82	15	216	41	34	52	531
District 7A	53	40	16	12	63	48	22	37	132
District 7B	54	39	27	20	56	41	46	67	137
District 8A	98	46	88	41	29	13	35	54	215
District 8B, C	164	35	92	20	209	45	27	43	465
District 11	282	44	70	11	287	45	34	52	639
District 16	114	45	81	32	61	24	39	60	256
Second Division	***1,590***	***39***	***1,176***	***29***	***1,324***	***32***	***34***	***52***	***4,090***
District 4	234	39	74	12	296	49	33	50	604
District 5	279	31	235	26	381	43	36	56	895
District 6	302	42	119	16	304	42	32	52	725
District 9A	187	52	101	28	75	21	25	40	363
District 9B	156	38	198	48	61	15	30	48	415
District 15A	137	36	136	36	105	28	40	59	378
District 15B	186	42	170	38	88	20	30	48	444
District 20	109	41	143	54	14	5	53	76	266
Third Division	***2,800***	***43***	***1,927***	***30***	***1,736***	***27***	***36***	***56***	***6,463***
District 10	964	53	202	11	668	36	31	50	1,834
District 12	244	41	274	46	76	13	37	57	594
District 13	273	42	295	46	78	12	42	65	646
District 14	331	49	134	20	212	31	34	54	677
District 17	277	39	312	44	116	16	36	55	705
District 21	163	49	58	17	111	33	42	64	332
District 28	138	34	179	44	92	22	42	65	409
District 29	125	36	120	35	100	29	31	50	345
District 30	110	27	113	28	183	45	34	54	406
District 37	175	34	240	47	100	19	43	67	515

continued

Appendix B, Table 3: Type of Punishment and Average Length of Active Sentence by Superior Court Division and District

Superior Court Division and District	Type of Punishment						Minimum Active Sentence (Months)	Maximum Active Sentence (Months)	Total
	Active		Intermediate		Community				
	#	%	#	%	#	%			
Fourth Division	***2,631***	***38***	***3,036***	***44***	***1,193***	***17***	***35***	***54***	***6,860***
District 18	110	53	89	43	10	5	45	66	209
District 22	174	32	318	59	49	9	35	54	541
District 23	133	31	163	39	127	30	34	51	423
District 24	457	42	586	53	58	5	40	59	1,101
District 25	241	26	455	48	248	26	28	45	944
District 27	219	37	301	51	67	11	29	46	587
District 31	461	54	270	31	130	15	43	64	861
District 32	264	32	466	56	98	12	32	51	828
District 33	309	43	156	22	256	36	34	55	721
District 34	263	41	232	36	150	23	24	40	645
Fifth Division	***2,296***	***37***	***2,894***	***47***	***964***	***16***	***37***	***57***	***6,154***
District 19	154	34	256	57	42	9	37	58	452
District 26	478	47	524	51	22	2	53	77	1,024
District 35	100	26	230	60	55	14	36	54	385
District 36	107	29	229	62	32	9	29	47	368
District 38	349	44	302	38	148	19	32	52	799
District 39	328	35	416	45	180	19	35	54	924
District 40	216	45	251	52	13	3	32	50	480
District 41	240	37	225	35	184	28	24	40	649
District 42	163	31	140	26	231	43	28	44	534
District 43A	53	22	175	73	12	5	58	84	240
District 43B	108	36	146	49	45	15	37	57	299
State Total	***10,544***	***40***	***9,677***	***36***	***6,364***	***24***	***35***	***54***	***26,585***

Note: Of the 27,088 felony convictions in FY 2024, 503 (or 2%) were excluded from this table. Death and life sentences were excluded from the calculation of the average minimum and maximum sentences. Percentages may not add to 100% due to rounding.
SOURCE: NC Sentencing and Policy Advisory Commission, FY 2024 Felony Statistical Report Data

Appendix B, Table 4: Sentencing Range by Superior Court Division and District
Active Sentences Only

Superior Court Division and District	Sentencing Range						Total
	Mitigated		Presumptive		Aggravated		
	#	%	#	%	#	%	
First Division	***244***	***20***	***927***	***76***	***42***	***3***	***1,213***
District 1	12	10	102	87	3	3	117
District 2	31	28	77	71	1	1	109
District 3	44	19	178	77	10	4	232
District 7A	8	15	44	83	1	2	53
District 7B	8	16	36	72	6	12	50
District 8A	15	15	80	82	2	2	97
District 8B, C	17	10	141	87	4	2	162
District 11	65	23	203	72	13	5	281
District 16	44	39	66	59	2	2	112
Second Division	***408***	***26***	***1,105***	***70***	***62***	***4***	***1,575***
District 4	61	26	165	71	8	3	234
District 5	53	19	211	76	12	4	276
District 6	73	24	209	70	17	6	299
District 9A	34	18	146	78	7	4	187
District 9B	49	32	102	66	4	3	155
District 15A	47	35	83	62	3	2	133
District 15B	61	33	117	63	7	4	185
District 20	30	28	72	68	4	4	106
Third Division	***936***	***34***	***1,692***	***61***	***139***	***5***	***2,767***
District 10	350	37	522	55	74	8	946
District 12	67	27	166	68	11	5	244
District 13	137	51	122	45	12	4	271
District 14	122	37	198	61	7	2	327
District 17	81	29	187	68	8	3	276
District 21	51	31	104	64	7	4	162
District 28	39	28	92	67	7	5	138
District 29	35	28	86	69	3	2	124
District 30	20	18	86	79	3	3	109
District 37	34	20	129	76	7	4	170

continued

Appendix B, Table 4: Sentencing Range by Superior Court Division and District
Active Sentences Only

Superior Court Division and District	Sentencing Range						Total
	Mitigated		Presumptive		Aggravated		
	#	%	#	%	#	%	
Fourth Division	***803***	***31***	***1,648***	***63***	***163***	***6***	***2,614***
District 18	23	21	80	73	7	6	110
District 22	44	25	97	56	33	19	174
District 23	5	4	126	95	2	2	133
District 24	124	28	298	67	26	6	448
District 25	96	40	120	50	24	10	240
District 27	66	30	150	68	3	1	219
District 31	259	57	187	41	12	3	458
District 32	42	16	199	76	22	8	263
District 33	93	30	199	65	16	5	308
District 34	51	20	192	74	18	7	261
Fifth Division	***566***	***25***	***1,537***	***67***	***182***	***8***	***2,285***
District 19	41	27	105	68	8	5	154
District 26	101	21	332	70	41	9	474
District 35	30	30	65	66	4	4	99
District 36	34	32	69	64	4	4	107
District 38	97	28	219	63	32	9	348
District 39	64	20	201	61	63	19	328
District 40	60	28	148	69	6	3	214
District 41	82	34	150	63	6	3	238
District 42	34	21	119	73	10	6	163
District 43A	2	4	46	88	4	8	52
District 43B	21	19	83	77	4	4	108
State Total	***2,957***	***28***	***6,909***	***66***	***588***	***6***	***10,454***

Note: Convictions that did not fit within the appropriate cell in the Felony Punishment Chart were excluded from this table. Life and death sentences (n=90) were also excluded. Percentages may not add to 100% due to rounding.
SOURCE: NC Sentencing and Policy Advisory Commission, FY 2024 Felony Statistical Report Data

APPENDIX C

TOP 5 CONVICTIONS BY OFFENSE CLASS

Appendix C, Table 1: Top 5 Convictions by Offense Class

Class A Felonies	Total Convictions = 88
	#	%
First-Degree Murder	81	92
Murder	5	6
Murder of an Unborn Child	2	2
Class B1 Felonies	**Total Convictions = 431**
	#	%
Second-Degree Murder	242	56
Statutory Rape of a Child 15 or Younger	57	13
First-Degree Statutory Sex Offense	22	5
First-Degree Statutory Rape	16	4
Statutory Sex Offense with a Child 15 or Younger	16	4
Class B2 Felonies	**Total Convictions = 201**
	#	%
Second-Degree Murder without Regard for Human Life	72	36
Attempted First-Degree Murder	32	16
Child Abuse Inflicting Serious Bodily Injury	8	4
Second-Degree Murder	4	2
Attempted First-Degree Forcible Rape	3	1
Class C Felonies	**Total Convictions = 653**
	#	%
Habitual Felon	284	43
AWDW Intent to Kill Inflicting Serious Injury	107	16
Second-Degree Forcible Rape	45	7
Second-Degree Forcible Sex Offense	31	5
First-Degree Kidnapping	28	4
Class D Felonies	**Total Convictions = 854**
	#	%
Habitual Felon	192	22
Robbery with a Dangerous Weapon	190	22
Voluntary Manslaughter	113	13
Discharging Weapon into Occupied Dwelling/Moving Vehicle	81	9
Felony Death by Vehicle	67	8
Class E Felonies	**Total Convictions = 1,948**
	#	%
Habitual Felon	319	16
AWDW Inflicting Serious Injury	307	16
Discharging Weapon into Occupied Property	229	12
Second-Degree Sexual Exploitation of a Minor	162	8
AWDW Intent to Kill	147	8

continued

Appendix C, Table 1: Top 5 Convictions by Offense Class

Class F Felonies	Total Convictions = 2,461	
	#	%
Taking Indecent Liberties with a Child	377	15
Failure to Report New Address as a Sex Offender	286	12
Failure to Register as a Sex Offender	150	6
Malicious Conduct by Prisoner/Throw Substance	137	6
Assault with Serious Bodily Injury	129	5
Class G Felonies	**Total Convictions = 3,712**	
	#	%
Possession of a Firearm by a Felon	2,319	62
Common Law Robbery	359	10
Identity Theft	267	7
Sell/Deliver Schedule II Controlled Substance	64	2
Sell Schedule II Controlled Substance	57	2
Class H Felonies	**Total Convictions = 9,864**	
	#	%
Breaking or Entering Buildings	1,064	11
Larceny of Property (>$1,000)	961	10
Obtaining Property by False Pretense (<$100,000)	860	9
Elude Arrest in a Motor Vehicle with Two Aggravating Factors	629	6
Larceny of a Motor Vehicle	440	4
Class I Felonies	**Total Convictions = 6,373**	
	#	%
Possess Methamphetamine	2,217	35
Possess Schedule II Controlled Substance	1,082	17
Possess Cocaine	622	10
Possess Schedule I Controlled Substance	253	4
Breaking or Entering a Motor Vehicle	221	3
Class A1 Misdemeanors	**Total Convictions = 7,318**	
	#	%
Assault on a Female	2,961	37
Domestic Violence Protective Order Violation	1,140	16
Assault on a Government Official or Employee	982	13
Assault with a Deadly Weapon	606	8
Assault Inflicting Serious Bodily Injury	395	5

continued

Appendix C, Table 1: Top 5 Convictions by Offense Class

Class 1 Misdemeanors	Total Convictions = 31,215	
	#	%
Larceny of Property (≤$1,000)	7,922	25
Possess Drug Paraphernalia	6,825	22
Driving while Licensed Revoked (DWI)	3,817	12
Breaking or Entering Buildings	1,428	5
Communicating Threats	1,088	3
Class 2 Misdemeanors	**Total Convictions = 16,533**	
	#	%
Reckless Driving to Endanger	4,033	24
Resisting Public Officer	3,283	20
Reckless Driving with Willful and Wanton Disregard	1,856	11
Carrying Concealed Gun	1,436	9
Simple Assault	1,342	8
Class 3 Misdemeanors	**Total Convictions = 33,285**	
	#	%
Driving while Licensed Revoked (non-DWI)	13,687	41
Speeding	4,672	14
No Operator's License	3,537	11
Second-Degree Trespass	3,231	10
Possess Marijuana (1/2 ounce or less)	1,308	4

Note: This table includes only the convictions for which an AOC offense-specific offense code was used to record the convicted offense. Convictions that did not fit within the appropriate cell in the Felony or Misdemeanor Punishment Charts due to discrepant offense classes, prior record/convictions levels, or for other reasons were excluded from this table.
SOURCE: NC Sentencing and Policy Advisory Commission, FY 2024 Statistical Report Data

APPENDIX D

ADDITIONAL FELONY CONVICTION DATA BY CRIME TYPE AND OFFENSE

Appendix D, Table 1: Type of Punishment and Average Length of Active Sentence by Crime Type and Offense

Crime Type and Offense	Type of Punishment						Minimum Active Sentence (Months)	Maximum Active Sentence (Months)	Total
	Active		Intermediate		Community				
	#	%	#	%	#	%			
Person	***3,236***	***61***	***1,476***	***28***	***550***	***10***	***69***	***100***	***5,262***
1st Degree Murder	88	100	.	.	.	.	.	.	88
2nd Degree Murder	348	100	.	.	.	.	212	267	348
Attempted/Solicited Murder	50	100	.	.	.	.	150	193	50
Voluntary Manslaughter	116	100	.	.	.	.	66	91	116
Involuntary Manslaughter	47	49	41	43	7	7	21	35	95
Felony Death by Vehicle	51	73	19	27	.	.	68	94	70
Death by Distribution	20	100	.	.	.	.	82	111	20
Armed Robbery	191	100	.	.	.	.	63	88	191
Att./Consp. Armed Robbery	109	63	54	31	9	5	41	62	172
Common Law Robbery	176	49	149	42	34	9	17	29	359
Att. Common Law Robbery	21	42	14	28	15	30	12	23	50
Other Robbery	26	46	22	39	8	14	19	33	56
AWDWIKISI	107	100	.	.	.	.	75	102	107
AWDW Intent to Kill	88	60	43	29	16	11	28	46	147
AWDW Serious Injury	161	52	114	37	32	10	28	46	307
Assault Govt. Official with Firearm	54	63	27	31	5	6	31	47	86
Assault Govt. Official	22	21	53	51	29	28	9	21	104
Assault by Strangulation	74	34	90	41	53	24	11	22	217
Other Felony Assaults	182	43	174	41	64	15	21	35	420
1st Degree Rape/Sex Offense	91	100	.	.	.	.	250	355	91
Attempted 1st Degree Rape/Sex Offense	6	100	.	.	.	.	195	286	6
2nd Degree Rape/Sex Offense	84	100	.	.	.	.	75	148	84
Attempted 2nd Degree Rape/Sex Offense	14	100	.	.	.	.	71	146	14
Statutory Rape/Sex Offense Against Child 15 or Younger	77	100	.	.	.	.	199	298	77

continued

Appendix D, Table 1: Type of Punishment and Average Length of Active Sentence by Crime Type and Offense

Crime Type and Offense	Type of Punishment						Minimum Active Sentence (Months)	Maximum Active Sentence (Months)	Total
	Active		Intermediate		Community				
	#	%	#	%	#	%			
Indecent Liberties with Child	186	49	133	35	58	15	17	30	377
Crime Against Nature, Incest, Bigamy	10	23	13	30	21	48	124	183	44
Sexual Exploitation of a Minor	103	39	120	46	39	15	24	79	262
Child Abuse	59	47	51	41	15	12	52	79	125
Registered Sex Off. Offenses	333	63	131	25	61	12	20	34	525
Other Sex Crimes	128	54	79	33	31	13	73	124	238
Kidnap/Abduction	128	65	55	28	14	7	41	66	197
Attempted, Consp. Kidnapping	1	50	1	50	.	.	97	129	2
Habitual Misdemeanor Assault	36	44	35	43	10	12	12	23	81
All Other Person Felonies	49	36	58	43	29	21	21	36	136
Property	***2,537***	***37***	***2,571***	***37***	***1,783***	***26***	***13***	***25***	***6,891***
1st Degree Burglary	24	100	.	.	.	.	66	91	24
Attempted 1st Degree Burglary	10	71	4	29	.	.	31	49	14
2nd Degree Burglary	28	54	19	37	5	10	15	28	52
Breaking/Entering	643	42	535	35	344	23	11	23	1,522
Attempted Breaking/Entering	10	23	26	60	7	16	7	17	43
Larceny	810	36	862	38	582	26	12	23	2,254
Attempted Larceny	15	19	37	46	29	36	8	19	81
Possess/Receive Stolen Goods/ Property	220	33	268	40	175	26	11	22	663
1st Degree Arson	10	100	.	.	.	.	67	93	10
2nd Degree Arson	21	54	13	33	5	13	24	40	39
Other Arson/Burning	47	49	30	31	19	20	21	35	96
Forgery	32	21	58	38	61	40	10	21	151
Fraud	137	32	192	45	94	22	15	28	423
Embezzlement	12	14	21	25	50	60	18	32	83
Obtain Property by False Pretenses	234	27	341	40	287	33	12	23	862

continued

Appendix D, Table 1: Type of Punishment and Average Length of Active Sentence by Crime Type and Offense

Crime Type and Offense	Type of Punishment						Minimum Active Sentence (Months)	Maximum Active Sentence (Months)	Total
	Active		Intermediate		Community				
	#	%	#	%	#	%			
Att./Consp. Obtain Property by False Pretenses	27	25	50	45	33	30	10	22	110
Habitual Breaking and Entering	31	97	1	3	.	.	38	57	32
Habitual Misdemeanor Larceny	173	76	39	17	15	7	14	28	227
All Other Property Felonies	53	26	75	37	77	38	11	23	205
Non-Trafficking Drug	***1,817***	***23***	***3,325***	***42***	***2,867***	***36***	***15***	***27***	***8,009***
Attempted Drug Trafficking	480	54	315	36	87	10	27	43	882
Sell/Deliver Drugs	114	36	125	39	78	25	16	29	317
Consp. To Sell/Deliver Drugs	10	34	7	24	12	41	15	27	29
Manufacture Drugs	1	7	7	47	7	47	12	24	15
Possession with Intent	368	28	521	39	436	33	11	22	1,325
Drug Possession	604	13	2,059	44	2,012	43	7	18	4,675
All Other Drug Felonies	240	31	291	38	235	31	13	25	766
Other Felony	***2,954***	***46***	***2,305***	***36***	***1,164***	***18***	***31***	***48***	***6,423***
Armed Habitual Felon	1	100	.	.	.	.	120	156	1
Habitual Felon	748	94	47	6	.	.	65	90	795
Habitual Impaired Driving	101	100	.	.	.	.	17	30	101
Weapon Offenses	1,268	39	1,397	43	551	17	19	33	3,216
Motor Vehicle Offenses	359	30	505	43	323	27	12	24	1,187
Crimes Against Admin. Justice	180	49	102	28	85	23	11	23	367
All Other Felonies	297	39	254	34	205	27	31	50	756
Total	***10,544***	***40***	***9,677***	***36***	***6,364***	***24***	***35***	***54***	***26,585***

Note: Of the 27,088 felony convictions in FY 2024, 503 (or 2%) were excluded from this table. Percentages may not add to 100% due to rounding.

SOURCE: NC Sentencing and Policy Advisory Commission, FY 2024 Felony Statistical Report Data

Appendix D, Table 2: Sentencing Range by Crime Type and Offense
Active Sentences Only

Crime Type and Offense	Sentencing Range						Total
	Mitigated		Presumptive		Aggravated		
	#	%	#	%	#	%	
Person	***894***	***28***	***2,010***	***64***	***242***	***8***	***3,146***
2nd Degree Murder	112	32	202	58	33	10	347
Attempted/Solicited Murder	11	22	36	72	3	6	50
Voluntary Manslaughter	26	22	78	67	12	10	116
Involuntary Manslaughter	2	4	32	68	13	28	47
Felony Death by Vehicle	14	27	29	57	8	16	51
Death by Distribution	6	30	14	70	.	.	20
Armed Robbery	91	48	99	52	1	1	191
Att./Consp. Armed Robbery	39	36	63	58	7	6	109
Common Law Robbery	28	16	129	73	19	11	176
Att. Common Law Robbery	3	14	17	81	1	5	21
Other Robbery	7	27	19	73	.	.	26
AWDWIKISI	32	30	68	64	7	7	107
AWDW Intent to Kill	15	17	65	74	8	9	88
AWDW Serious Injury	37	23	114	71	10	6	161
Assault Govt. Official with Firearm	6	11	44	81	4	7	54
Assault Govt. Official	6	27	15	68	1	5	22
Assault by Strangulation	8	11	63	85	3	4	74
Other Felony Assaults	59	32	115	63	8	4	182
1st Degree Rape/Sex Offense	18	20	38	42	35	38	91
Attempted 1st Degree Rape/Sex Offense	3	50	3	50	.	.	6
2nd Degree Rape/Sex Offense	24	29	49	58	11	13	84
Attempted 2nd Degree Rape/Sex Offense	6	43	7	50	1	7	14
Statutory Rape/Sex Offense Against Child 15 or Younger	37	49	38	50	1	1	76

continued

Appendix D, Table 2: Sentencing Range by Crime Type and Offense
Active Sentences Only

Crime Type and Offense	Sentencing Range						Total
	Mitigated		Presumptive		Aggravated		
	#	%	#	%	#	%	
Indecent Liberties with Child	21	11	147	79	18	10	186
Crime Against Nature, Incest, Bigamy	2	20	7	70	1	10	10
Sexual Exploitation of a Minor	15	15	83	81	5	5	103
Child Abuse	17	29	39	66	3	5	59
Registered Sex Off. Offenses	148	44	177	53	8	2	333
Other Sex Crimes	48	38	70	55	10	8	128
Kidnap/Abduction	34	27	87	68	7	5	128
Attempted, Consp. Kidnapping	.	.	1	100	.	.	1
Habitual Misdemeanor Assault	7	19	26	72	3	8	36
All Other Person Felonies	12	24	36	73	1	2	49
Property	***613***	***24***	***1,825***	***72***	***99***	***4***	***2,537***
1st Degree Burglary	9	38	15	63	.	.	24
Attempted 1st Degree Burglary	2	20	7	70	1	10	10
2nd Degree Burglary	3	11	23	82	2	7	28
Breaking/Entering	140	22	484	75	19	3	643
Attempted Breaking/Entering	6	60	4	40	.	.	10
Larceny	194	24	582	72	34	4	810
Attempted Larceny	6	40	9	60	.	.	15
Possess/Receive Stolen Goods/ Property	59	27	154	70	7	3	220
1st Degree Arson	4	40	6	60	.	.	10
2nd Degree Arson	6	29	12	57	3	14	21
Other Arson/Burning	14	30	28	60	5	11	47
Forgery	9	28	19	59	4	13	32
Fraud	43	31	89	65	5	4	137
Embezzlement	2	17	9	75	1	8	12

continued

Appendix D, Table 2: Sentencing Range by Crime Type and Offense
Active Sentences Only

Crime Type and Offense	Sentencing Range						Total
	Mitigated		Presumptive		Aggravated		
	#	%	#	%	#	%	
Obtain Property by False Pretenses	51	22	176	75	7	3	234
Att./Consp. Obtain Property by False Pretenses	7	26	20	74	.	.	27
Habitual Breaking and Entering	5	16	23	74	3	10	31
Habitual Misdemeanor Larceny	47	27	121	70	5	3	173
All Other Property Felonies	6	11	44	83	3	6	53
Non-Trafficking Drug	***385***	***21***	***1,327***	***73***	***105***	***6***	***1,817***
Attempted Drug Trafficking	81	17	357	74	42	9	480
Sell/Deliver Drugs	18	16	91	80	5	4	114
Consp. To Sell/Deliver Drugs	2	20	8	80	.	.	10
Manufacture Drugs	1	100	.	.	.	.	1
Possession with Intent	74	20	277	75	17	5	368
Drug Possession	146	24	423	70	35	6	604
All Other Drug Felonies	63	26	171	71	6	3	240
Other Felony	***1,065***	***36***	***1,747***	***59***	***142***	***5***	***2,954***
Armed Habitual Felon	.	.	1	100	.	.	1
Habitual Felon	430	57	288	39	30	4	748
Habitual Impaired Driving	43	43	53	52	5	5	101
Weapon Offenses	366	29	840	66	62	5	1,268
Motor Vehicle Offenses	74	21	262	73	23	6	359
Crimes Against Admin. Justice	62	34	110	61	8	4	180
All Other Felonies	90	30	193	65	14	5	297
Total	***2,957***	***28***	***6,909***	***66***	***588***	***6***	***10,454***

Note: Convictions that did not fit within the appropriate cell in the Felony Punishment Chart were excluded from this table. Life and death sentences (n=90) were also excluded. Percentages may not add to 100% due to rounding.
SOURCE: NC Sentencing and Policy Advisory Commission, FY 2024 Felony Statistical Report Data

Appendix D, Table 3: Sentencing Range by Offense Class
Percentage in the Mitigated Range and at the Lowest Spot of the Presumptive Range
Active Sentences Only

Offense Class	% Mitigated	% Mitigated and Lowest Spot in Presumptive Range
B1	32	47
B2	41	61
C	40	58
D	43	64
E	29	55
F	27	53
G	26	56
H	24	57
I	24	56
Total	**28**	**56**

Note: Convictions that did not fit within the appropriate cell in the Felony Punishment Chart were excluded from this table. Life and death sentences (n=90) were also excluded.
SOURCE: NC Sentencing and Policy Advisory Commission, FY 2024 Felony Statistical Report Data

APPENDIX E

ADDITIONAL MISDEMEANOR CONVICTION DATA BY JUDICIAL DISTRICT AND COUNTY

Appendix E, Table 1: Convictions by District Court District and County

District Court District and County		Misd. Convictions	Convictions per 1,000 Adults (18+)
District 1	Camden	119	14
	Chowan	160	14
	Currituck	224	9
	Dare	411	13
	Gates	101	12
	Pasquotank	323	10
	Perquimans	127	12
	Total	**1,465**	**11**
District 2	Beaufort	760	21
	Hyde	42	11
	Martin	414	25
	Tyrrell	93	34
	Washington	124	15
	Total	**1,433**	**21**
District 3	Pitt	2,212	16
	Total	**2,212**	**16**
District 4	Carteret	723	12
	Craven	2,123	26
	Pamlico	169	16
	Total	**3,015**	**20**
District 5	Duplin	517	14
	Jones	110	15
	Onslow	1,290	8
	Sampson	922	20
	Total	**2,839**	**11**
District 6	New Hanover	2,003	10
	Pender	346	6
	Total	**2,349**	**9**
District 7	Bertie	141	10
	Halifax	847	23
	Hertford	199	13
	Northampton	98	7
	Total	**1,285**	**16**
District 8	Edgecombe	585	16
	Nash	865	11
	Wilson	913	15
	Total	**2,363**	**13**
District 9	Greene	370	22
	Lenoir	2,124	51
	Wayne	2,413	27
	Total	**4,907**	**33**
District 10	Wake	7,541	8
	Total	**7,541**	**8**
District 11	Franklin	562	9
	Granville	451	9
	Person	590	19
	Vance	643	21
	Warren	264	17
	Total	**2,510**	**13**
District 12	Harnett	841	8
	Johnston	1,790	10
	Lee	757	14
	Total	**3,388**	**10**
District 14	Cumberland	925	4
	Total	**925**	**4**
District 15	Bladen	312	13
	Brunswick	518	4
	Columbus	574	14
	Total	**1,404**	**7**
District 16	Durham	739	3
	Total	**739**	**3**
District 17	Alamance	1,301	9
	Total	**1,301**	**9**
District 18	Chatham	786	12
	Orange	1,074	9
	Total	**1,860**	**10**
District 20	Robeson	1,197	14
	Total	**1,197**	**14**
District 21	Anson	257	15
	Richmond	515	16
	Scotland	339	13
	Total	**1,111**	**15**
District 22	Caswell	243	13
	Rockingham	901	12
	Total	**1,144**	**12**
District 23	Stokes	610	16
	Surry	1,712	30
	Total	**2,322**	**25**
District 24	Guilford	2,613	6
	Total	**2,613**	**6**
District 25	Cabarrus	4,456	24
	Total	**4,456**	**24**

continued

Appendix E, Table 1: Convictions by District Court District and County

District Court District and County		Misd. Convictions	Convictions per 1,000 Adults (18+)
District 26	Mecklenburg	2,141	2
	Total	**2,141**	**2**
District 27	Rowan	2,691	22
	Total	**2,691**	**22**
District 28	Montgomery	515	25
	Stanly	656	13
	Total	**1,171**	**16**
District 29	Hoke	250	6
	Moore	1,164	13
	Total	**1,414**	**11**
District 30	Union	1,383	7
	Total	**1,383**	**7**
District 31	Forsyth	3,020	10
	Total	**3,020**	**10**
District 32	Alexander	688	23
	Iredell	3,198	20
	Total	**3,886**	**20**
District 33	Davidson	1,875	14
	Davie	464	13
	Total	**2,339**	**13**
District 34	Alleghany	186	19
	Ashe	346	15
	Wilkes	985	19
	Yadkin	416	14
	Total	**1,933**	**17**
District 35	Avery	115	8
	Madison	292	16
	Mitchell	203	17
	Watauga	352	7
	Yancey	132	9
	Total	**1,094**	**10**
District 36	Burke	822	11
	Caldwell	1,005	15
	Catawba	1,458	11
	Total	**3,285**	**12**
District 37	Randolph	3,005	26
	Total	**3,005**	**26**
District 38	Gaston	4,607	24
	Total	**4,607**	**24**
District 39	Cleveland	2,388	30
	Lincoln	1,341	17
	Total	**3,729**	**24**
District 40	Buncombe	1,630	7
	Total	**1,630**	**7**
District 41	McDowell	1,025	28
	Rutherford	1,925	37
	Total	**2,950**	**33**
District 42	Henderson	1,331	13
	Polk	496	29
	Transylvania	435	15
	Total	**2,226**	**16**
District 43	Cherokee	162	6
	Clay	49	5
	Graham	98	15
	Haywood	837	16
	Jackson	433	12
	Macon	351	11
	Swain	239	22
	Total	**2,169**	**12**
State Total		**99,088**	**11**

SOURCES: NC Sentencing and Policy Advisory Commission, FY 2024 Felony Statistical Report Data and NC Office of State Management and Budget, 2023 Population Projections from https://www.osbm.nc.gov/demog/county-projections

Disclaimer for AOC Data

These data are from the Administrative Office of the Courts' (AOC) integrated case management systems (Automated Criminal Infraction System, or ACIS, and Enterprise Justice). These data are a snapshot in time and are subject to change from such factors as the sealing or expungement of records, corrections made to data entry, motions, appeals, or other legal actions that may change the nature, status or outcome of a case, and other factors. Data maintained in ACIS and Enterprise Justice are intended for management of caseloads, basic record-keeping, and general statistics. These data reveal nothing about evidence presented or its weight or credibility, the reasons or validity of factual or legal arguments or conclusions presented or made, or any other of the myriad circumstances relevant to the results of any particular case. Therefore, the data should not be used or represented to reflect on the merits of the facts or the outcomes of cases. For that and many analytic purposes, it would be inappropriate and misleading to use these data as a substitute for a review of actual case files and/or transcripts. No analysis of or conclusions drawn from these data may be attributed to the AOC. Neither the analysis nor any conclusions in this report are accepted as accurate or endorsed by the AOC.

Offenses Committed on or after October 1, 2013

Misdemeanor Sentences and Dispositions

Offense Class	Prior Conviction Level			
	I No Prior Convictions	II One to Four Prior Convictions		III Five or More Prior Convictions
A1	C/I/A 1 - 60 days	C/I/A 1 - 75 days		C/I/A 1 - 150 days
1	C 1 - 45 days	C/I/A 1 - 45 days		C/I/A 1 - 120 days
2	C 1 - 30 days	C/I 1 - 45 days		C/I/A 1 - 60 days
3	C Fine Only* 1 - 10 days	One to Three Prior Convictions C Fine Only* 1-15 days	Four Prior Convictions C/I 1 - 15 days	C/I/A 1 - 20 days

DISPOSITION
C – Community
I – Intermediate
A – Active

*** Unless otherwise provided for a specific offense, the judgment for a person convicted of a Class 3 misdemeanor who has no more than three prior convictions shall consist only of a fine.**

Offenses Committed on or after October 1, 2013

Felony Minimum Sentences (in Months) and Dispositions

Offense Class	Prior Record Level					
	I 0-1 Pt	II 2-5 Pts	III 6-9 Pts	IV 10-13 Pts	V 14-17 Pts	VI 18+ Pts
A	Death or Life Without Parole Defendant Under 18 at Time of Offense: Life With or Without Parole					
B1	A 240 - 300 **192 - 240** 144 - 192	A 276 - 345 **221 - 276** 166 - 221	A 317 -397 **254 - 317** 190 - 254	A 365 - 456 **292 - 365** 219 - 292	A Life Without Parole **336 - 420** 252 - 336	A Life Without Parole **386 - 483** 290 - 386
B2	A 157 - 196 **125 - 157** 94 - 125	A 180 - 225 **144 - 180** 108 - 144	A 207 - 258 **165 - 207** 124 - 165	A 238 - 297 **190 - 238** 143 - 190	A 273 - 342 **219 - 273** 164 - 219	A 314 - 393 **251 - 314** 189 - 251
C	A 73 – 92 **58 - 73** 44 - 58	A 83 - 104 **67 - 83** 50 - 67	A 96 - 120 **77 - 96** 58 - 77	A 110 - 138 **88 - 110** 66 - 88	A 127 - 159 **101 - 127** 76 - 101	A 146 - 182 **117 - 146** 87 - 117
D	A 64 - 80 **51 - 64** 38 - 51	A 73 - 92 **59 - 73** 44 - 59	A 84 - 105 **67 - 84** 51 - 67	A 97 - 121 **78 - 97** 58 - 78	A 111 - 139 **89 - 111** 67 - 89	A 128 - 160 **103 - 128** 77 - 103
E	I/A 25 - 31 **20 - 25** 15 - 20	I/A 29 - 36 **23 - 29** 17 - 23	A 33 - 41 **26 - 33** 20 - 26	A 38 - 48 **30 - 38** 23 - 30	A 44 - 55 **35 - 44** 26 - 35	A 50 - 63 **40 - 50** 30 - 40
F	I/A 16 - 20 **13 - 16** 10 - 13	I/A 19 - 23 **15 - 19** 11 - 15	I/A 21 - 27 **17 - 21** 13 - 17	A 25 - 31 **20 - 25** 15 - 20	A 28 - 36 **23 - 28** 17 - 23	A 33 - 41 **26 - 33** 20 - 26
G	I/A 13 - 16 **10 - 13** 8 - 10	I/A 14 - 18 **12 - 14** 9 - 12	I/A 17 - 21 **13 - 17** 10 - 13	I/A 19 - 24 **15 - 19** 11 - 15	A 22 - 27 **17 - 22** 13 - 17	A 25 - 31 **20 - 25** 15 - 20
H	C/I/A 6 - 8 **5 - 6** 4 - 5	I/A 8 - 10 **6 - 8** 4 - 6	I/A 10 - 12 **8 - 10** 6 - 8	I/A 11 - 14 **9 - 11** 7 - 9	I/A 15 - 19 **12 - 15** 9 - 12	A 20 - 25 **16 - 20** 12 - 16
I	C 6 - 8 **4 - 6** 3 - 4	C/I 6 - 8 **4 - 6** 3 - 4	I 6 - 8 **5 - 6** 4 - 5	I/A 8 - 10 **6 - 8** 4 - 6	I/A 9 - 11 **7 - 9** 5 - 7	I/A 10 - 12 **8 - 10** 6 - 8

RANGE
Aggravated
PRESUMPTIVE
Mitigated

DISPOSITION
C – Community
I – Intermediate
A – Active