

Annual Adult Probation Data Book 2023



COUNTY OF SANTA CLARA PROBATION DEPARTMENT

Developed by the Research and Development Unit, 2024



2023 ADULT PROBATION DATA

INTRODUCTION: VISION AND MISSION

VISION

The County of Santa Clara Probation Department is deeply committed to transforming the lives of our community members involved in the justice system and creating a safe, healthy, and equitable community.

MISSION

The mission of the County of Santa Clara Probation Department is to exemplify excellence in Probation Services and promote community safety through compassion and a culture that values diversity, equity, and inclusion.

OVERVIEW

The County of Santa Clara Probation Department Adult Division Data Book provides insight into the adult justice process and reflects the state of the local adult justice system. The Annual Adult Division Data Book presents data on Adult Probation clients as of Dec 31, 2023, including information on arrests/citations, Correctional Assessment Intervention System (CAIS) risk assessment results, principal service needs, and impacts of AB109.

2023 Clients At A Glance

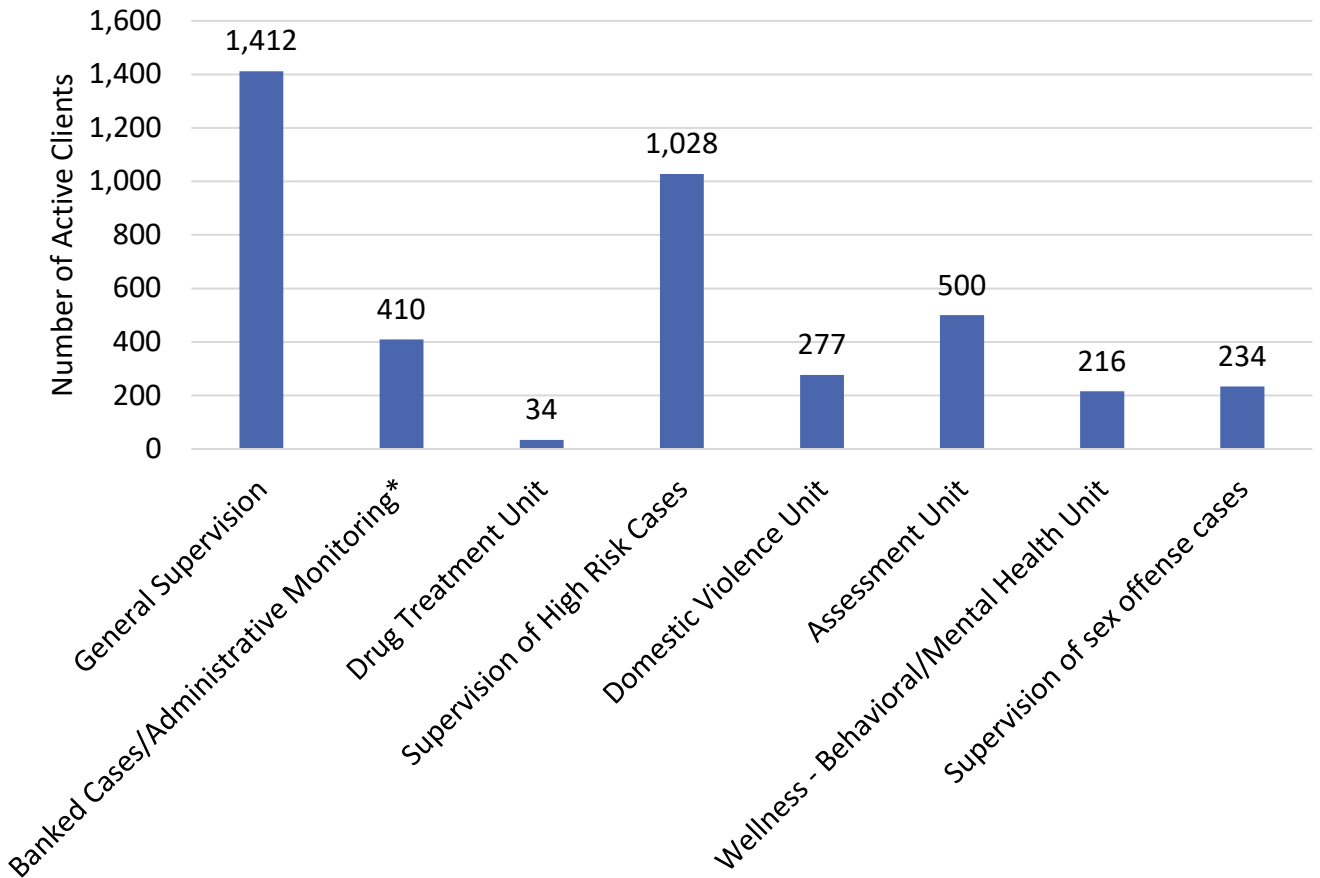
As of December 31, 2023, a total of 4,542 adult clients were active on formal probation, Post Release Community Supervision (PRCS), and Mandatory Supervision (MS). Most active clients are male; most clients are Latino, and the majority are between the ages of 25 and 44 years old.

2023 ADULT PROBATION DATA

Distribution of Active Clients by Supervision Unit

As of December 31, 2023, the majority of clients supervised by the Probation Department were in the General Supervision Units and the Supervision of High-Risk Cases Units (PRCS).² As of March 2024, the Department reorganized the Adult Division to include specialized supervision units for Family Violence/Domestic Violence which will be reflected in the 2024 report, this reorganization was in response to information related to increases in these types of cases. As of this report Family Violence cases were reported in General Supervision.

Number of Active Clients by Supervision Units (N = 4,542)



² Probation's Drug Treatment Unit is currently winding down as a specialized supervision unit. By September 2024, drug and alcohol treatment will be incorporated into all supervision units; clients who otherwise would be assigned to the Drug Treatment Unit are being assigned to the Wellness Unit or to the unit most suited to the specific supervision needs of the client.

* Banked Cases/Administrative Monitoring cases require limited supervision. This unit's POs provide limited supervision in cases that do not require field supervision. POs monitor compliance with court ordered terms and conditions of probation; collection of restitution; reporting probation violations to the court.

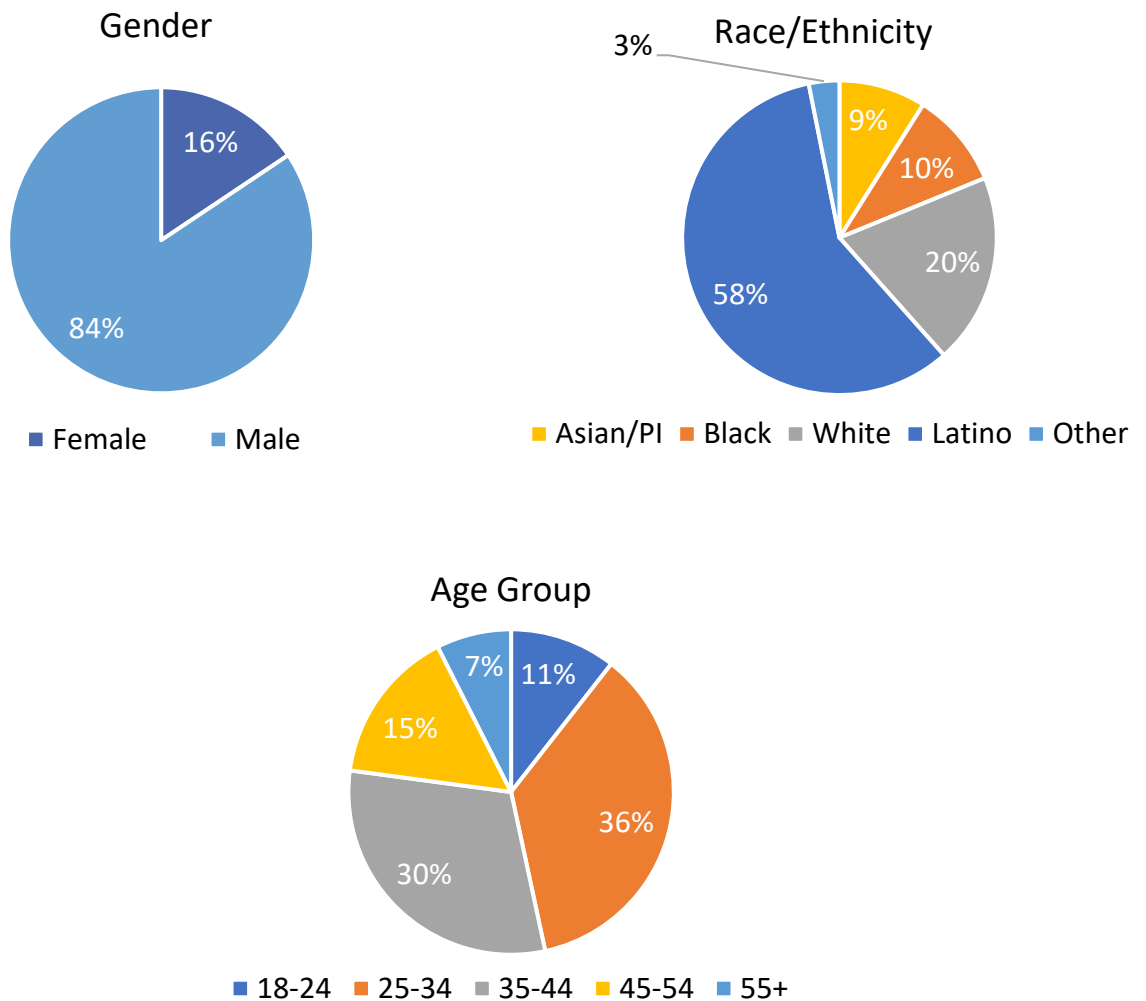
2023 ADULT PROBATION DATA

2023 Clients At A Glance

Demographics of Active Clients

As of Dec 31, 2023, most active clients are male; most clients are Latino, and the majority are between the ages of 25 and 44 years old.

Demographics (N=4,542)



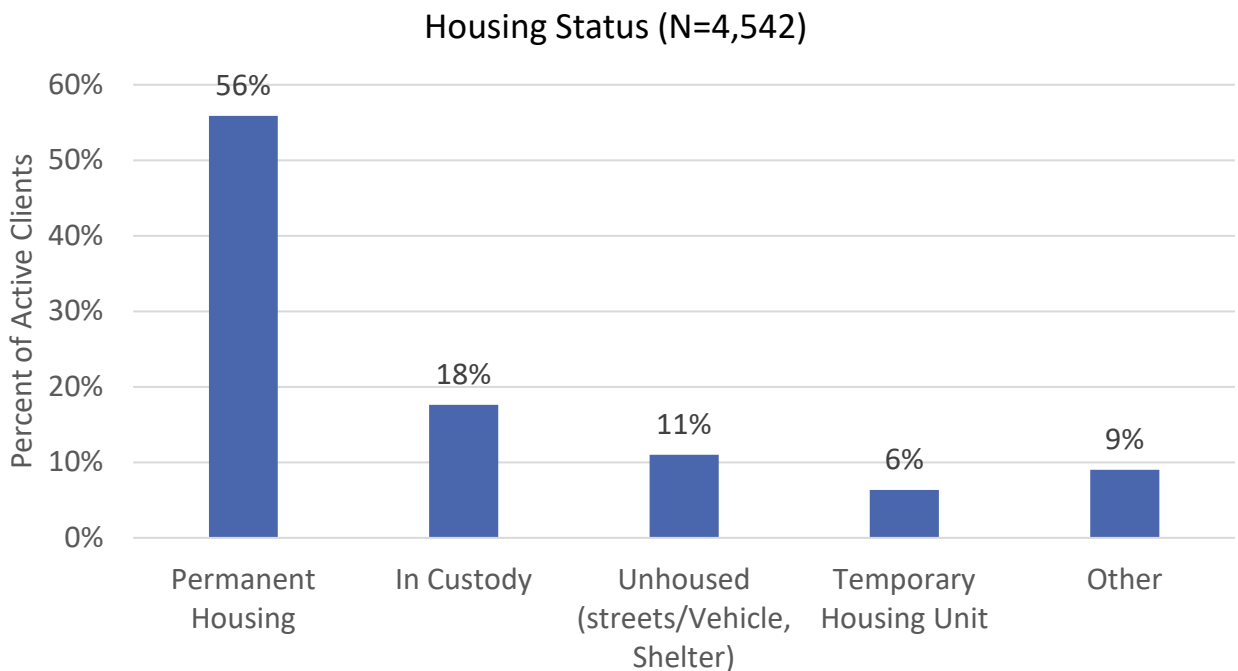
2023 ADULT PROBATION DATA

2023 Clients At A Glance

Housing Status of Active Clients

As of Dec 31, 2023, 56 percent of clients have permanent housing, 18 percent are in custody, six percent have temporary housing, 11 percent are unhoused, and an additional nine percent classify as other.

As housing status is updated every time clients report a change, the information below is the point in time. POs contact clients at regular intervals, determined by risk level, and inquire about any changes in housing status at every contact. If there has been a change in housing status, the change is recorded in the case management system, overwriting previous statuses.³



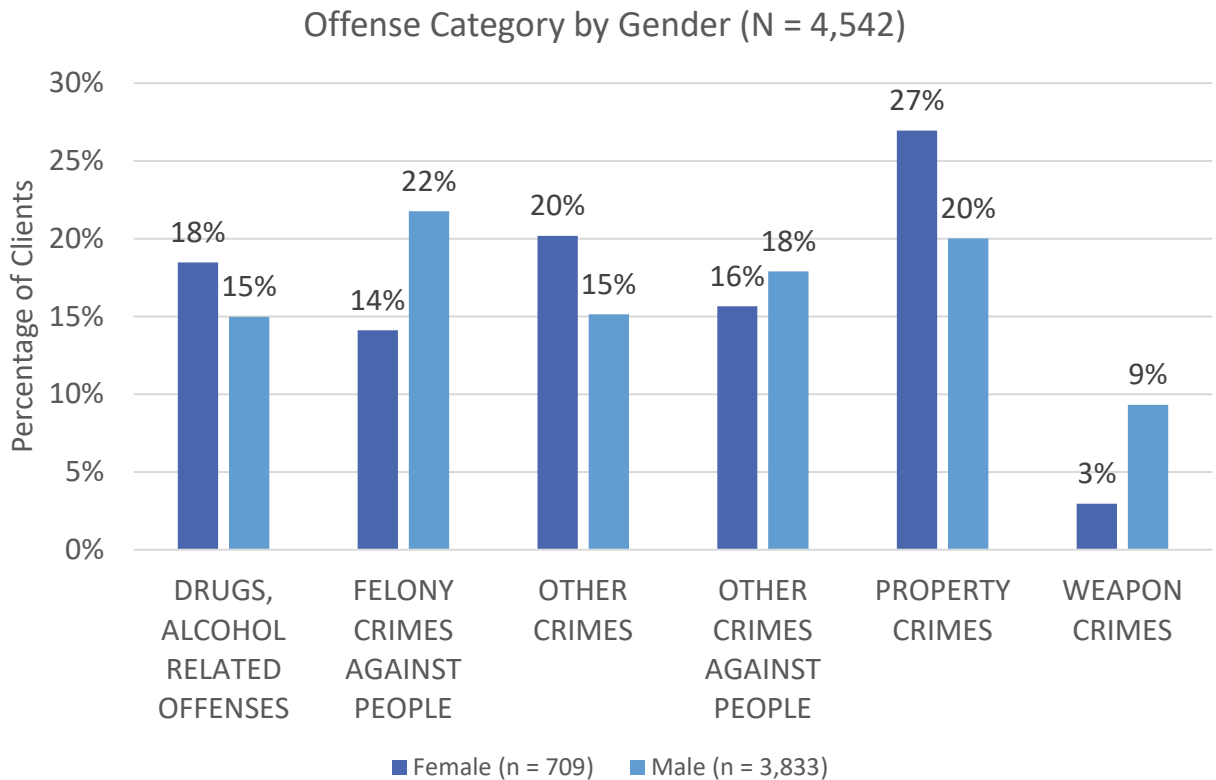
³ "Other" included Hospitalized, Residential Treatment Facilities, Sober Living Environment, Transient Housing Unit and other housing status.

2023 ADULT PROBATION DATA

2023 Clients At A Glance

Offense Categories by Gender

Male clients were more likely to commit Felony Crimes Against People (22 percent, n=834) and Weapons Crimes (9 percent, n=357). In contrast, female clients were more frequently involved in Property Crimes (27 percent, n=191) compared to male clients (20 percent, n=767). Some clients may be counted more than once due to multiple crimes committed in one instance or case.

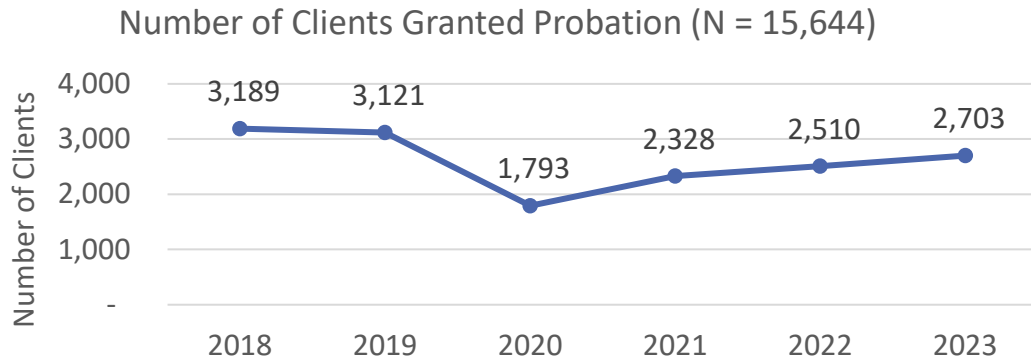


2023 ADULT PROBATION DATA

Adult Probation Division (APD) Trends

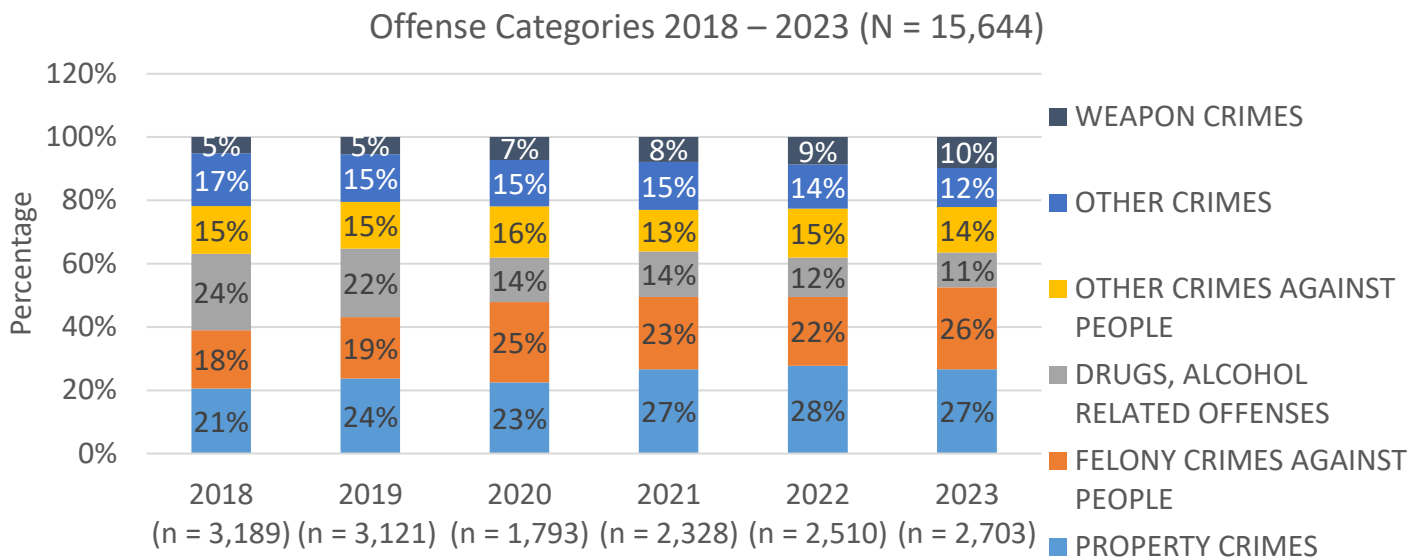
Number of Clients Granted Probation

While the number of clients granted probation annually has decreased from 2018, the number began and continues to trend upward following a dramatic decrease during the first year of the COVID pandemic due to courtroom closures and systemwide delays.



Crime Categories of Arrests/Citations Over Time

Weapons crimes, felony crimes against people, and property crimes have increased over time while drug and alcohol-related offenses declined over time. Note that there was a change in law for charges related to minor drug possession in 2019, a likely factor driving the decrease.⁴



⁴ The DA no longer prosecutes low-level drug possession cases for first and second time offenders. See [Santa Clara County DA Will No Longer Charge Minor Drug Possession Offenses - CBS San Francisco \(cbsnews.com\)](#)

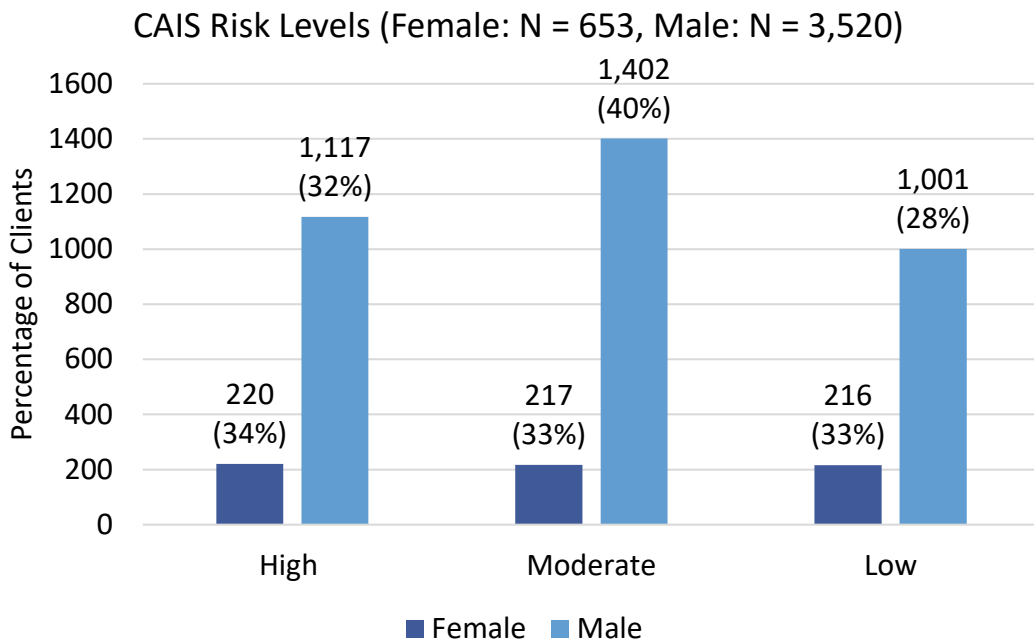
2023 ADULT PROBATION DATA

RISK LEVELS

Clients' risk levels were assessed using the Correctional Assessment and Intervention System (CAIS).⁵ CAIS is administered to all probation clients. In some specialized units, other assessments are completed in addition to the CAIS, such as Ontario Domestic Assault Risk Assessment (ODARA) for intimate partner violence and STATIC-99 for sex offenses.

Risk Levels of Active Female and Male Clients

- As of Dec 31, 2023, 4,173 active clients had a CAIS risk assessment on record and 369 clients were awaiting their CAIS assessment.
- 653 active female clients had a CAIS risk assessment on record; female clients were distributed evenly across risk levels.
- 3,520 active male clients had a CAIS risk assessment on record; most male clients were moderate risk.



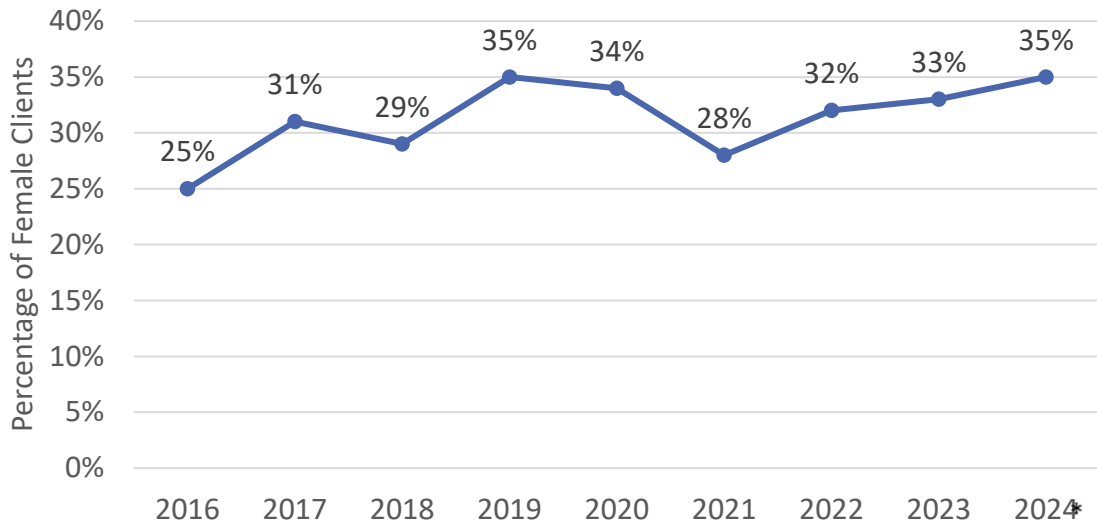
⁵ See <https://evidentchange.org/assessment/correctional-assessment-and-intervention-system-cais/>

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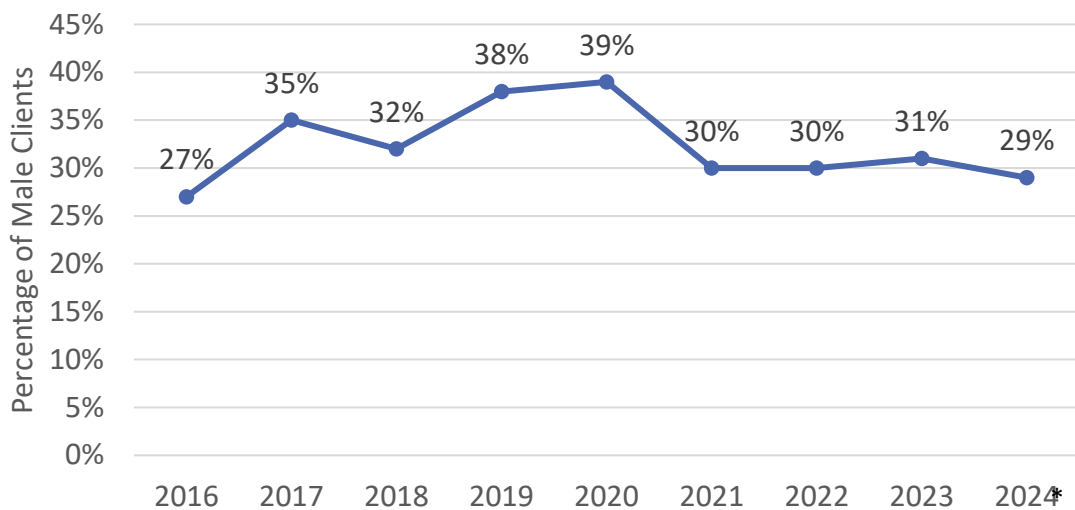
TRENDS IN RISK LEVELS

The percentage of both women and men assessed as high-risk increased from 2016 to 2020, with sharp declines in 2021. From 2021 to present, the percentage of women assessed as high-risk has increased steadily, while that of men has remained stable.

Percentage of Women Assessed as High-Risk



Percentage of Men Assessed as High-Risk



* Note: Through August 21, 2024.

2023 ADULT PROBATION DATA

PRINCIPLE SERVICE NEEDS

- Clients who are assessed High-risk or Moderate-risk are administered Full CAIS Assessment. Of 2,955 clients who were assessed High-risk or Moderate-risk, 1,886 had their assessment on record at the time of this report.⁶
- Among male clients, Alcohol and/or Drugs were identified as the highest need (65 percent), followed by Emotional Factors (58%), Relationship (39 percent) and Criminal Orientation (35%). These needs have consistently been the top 4 needs over the years (2016 to present).
- Due to the passage of Proposition 47 (Criminal Sentences) in 2014, drug convictions have trended downward since 2019. However, while Alcohol and/or Drug-related offenses continue to decline, drug and alcohol treatment persists as one of the highest service needs among Probation's clients.

Male Clients (N = 1,611)

Alcohol and/or Drugs

65%

alcohol and/or drug abuse contributed significantly to their legal difficulties

Emotional Factors

58%

emotional problems (e.g., depression, anxiety) as significant factors in contributing to legal difficulties

Relationships

39%

negative, criminal or abusive relationships that are detrimental

Criminal Orientation

35%

identify with criminal friends, frequently motivated by power and/or monetary gain, etc.

Vocational Inadequacy

24%

lack of capacity to obtain and maintain employment

Manipulative Behavior

21%

interpersonal manipulation contributed significantly to legal difficulties

⁶ Clients granted probation are administered CAIS risk assessment and only administered Full assessment if they're assessed High-risk or Moderate-risk. Hence, it could take up to two months for a client to receive full assessment.

⁷ See [Santa Clara County DA Will No Longer Charge Minor Drug Possession Offenses - CBS San Francisco \(cbsnews.com\)](https://www.cbsnews.com/news/santa-clara-county-da-will-no-longer-charge-minor-drug-possession-offenses/)

PRINCIPLE SERVICE NEEDS

For female clients, Alcohol and/or Drugs was similarly identified as the highest need (75 percent), followed by Emotional Factors (70 percent), Relationships (44 percent) and Family History Problems (43%). These needs have consistently been the top 4 needs over the years (2016 to present).

Female Clients (N = 275)

Alcohol and/or Drugs

75%

alcohol and/or drug abuse contributed significantly to their legal difficulties

Emotional Factors

70%

emotional problems (e.g., depression, anxiety) as significant factors in contributing to legal difficulties

Relationships

44%

negative, criminal or abusive relationships that are detrimental

Family History Problems

43%

Parent/family problems of childhood and adolescence were highly significant in contributing to offender's legal problems.

Criminal Orientation

29%

identify with criminal friends, frequently motivated by power and/or monetary gain, etc.

Vocational Inadequacy

26%

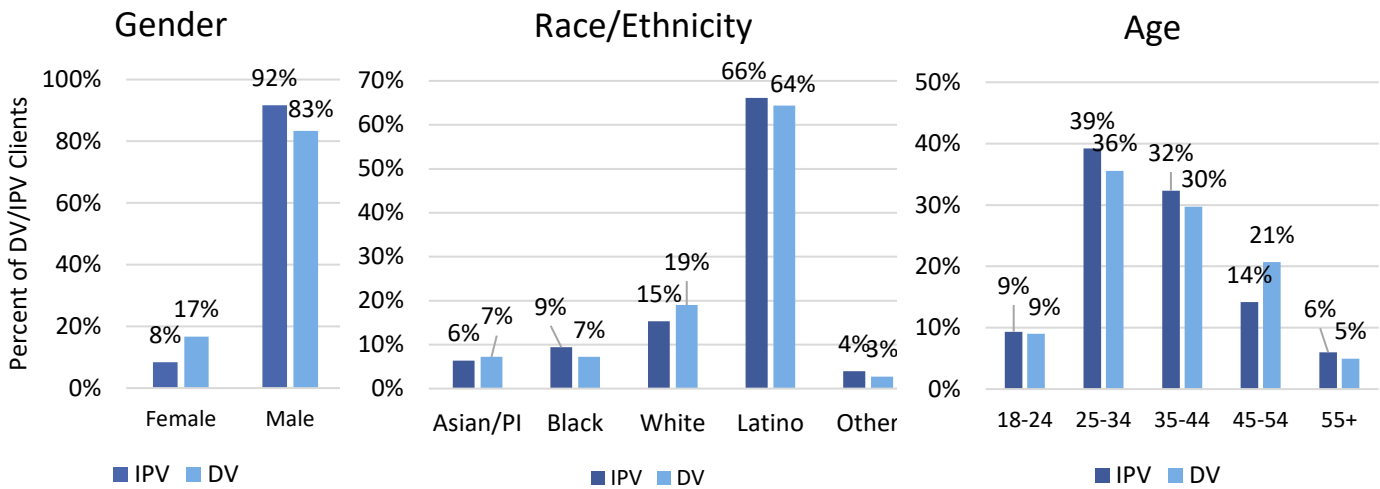
lack of capacity to obtain and maintain employment.

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Domestic Violence/Intimate Partner Violence

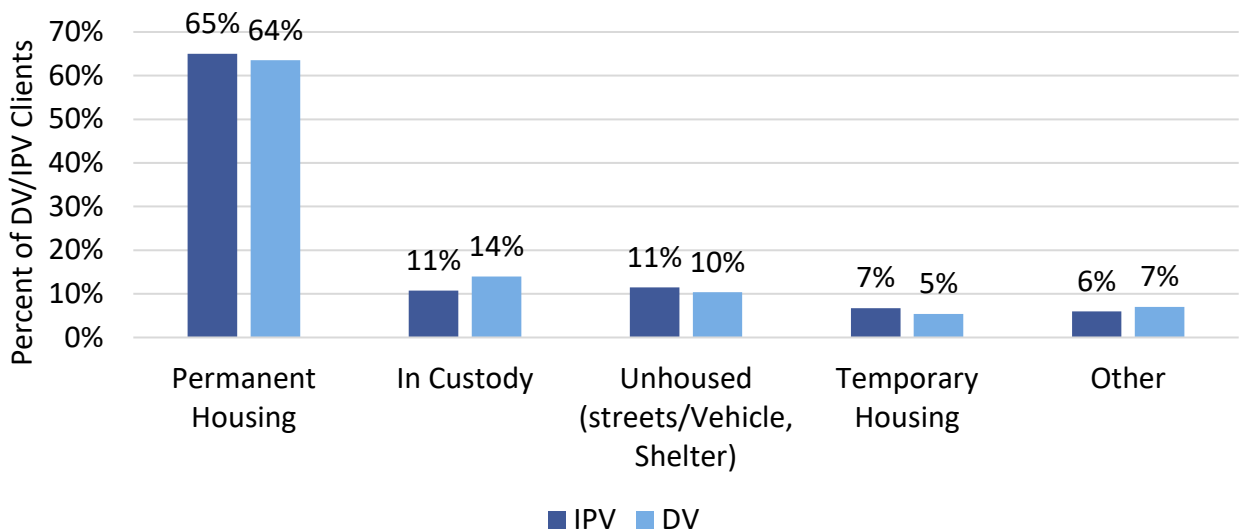
Among 4,542 active clients, 222 clients (4.8 percent) committed Domestic Violence (DV; victim is anyone in the household) offenses and 1,101 clients (24 percent) committed Intimate Partner Violence (IPV; victim is intimate partner) offenses. The demographic profile of these Probation clients is similar to that of the Probation population, overall.

Demographics of DV/IPV Offenders (IPV: N = 1,101, DV: N = 222)



Housing Status of DV/IPV Offenders

Housing Status (IPV: N = 1,101, DV: N = 222)



2023 ADULT PROBATION DATA

Impact of AB109

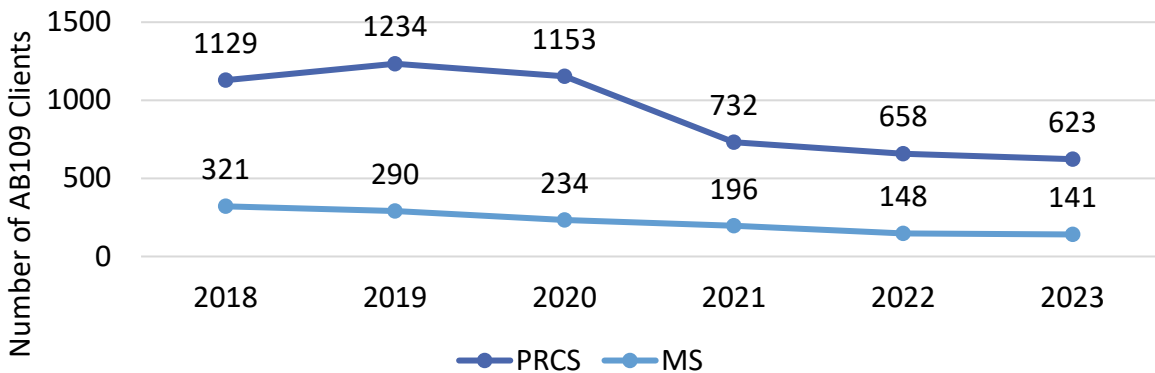
Public Safety Realignment (AB109, April 2011) established a population of Post Release Community Supervision (PRCS) and Mandatory Supervision (MS) clients. PRCS clients are supervised by county probation departments upon their release from state prison. Prior to AB109, PRCS clients were supervised by state parole. MS clients receive a "split" sentence, meaning a portion of their time is completed in local custody, with the remaining balance spent in the community under probation supervision.

As of Dec 31, 2023, 547 clients were supervised under PRCS and 122 clients were supervised under MS. 19 PRCS clients and one MS client were sex offender (PC290) registrants.

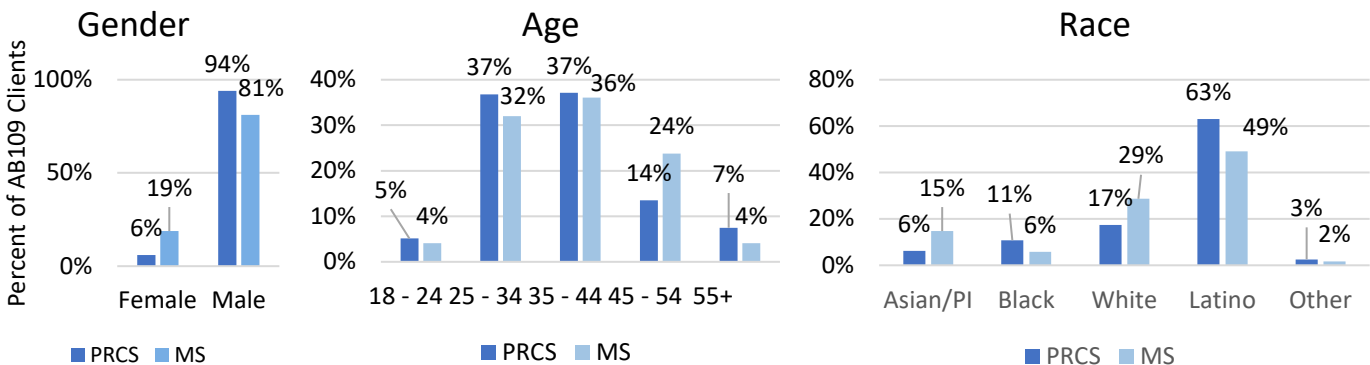
Clients released to Santa Clara County under PRCS and MS have declined steadily over time.

PRCS and MS Clients Trend

PRCS and MS Population Trend (2018-2023: N = 6,859)



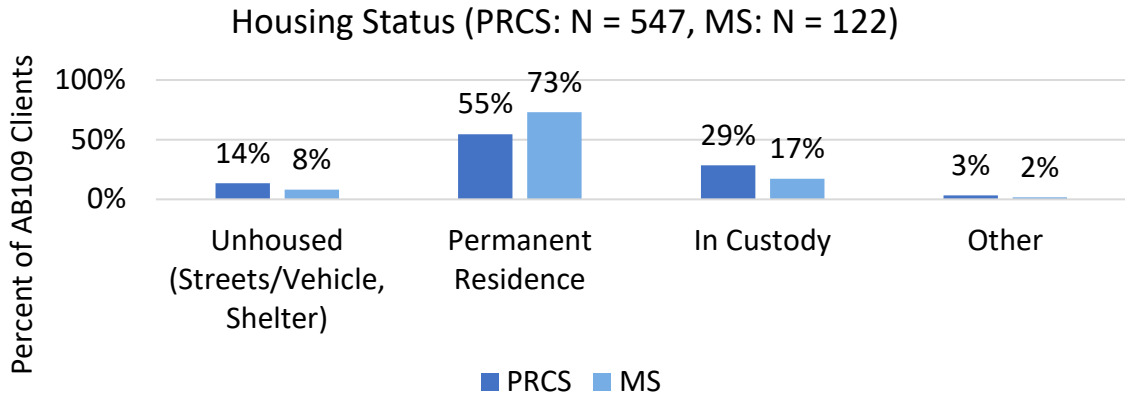
Demographics of AB109 Clients (PRCS: N = 547, MS: N = 122)



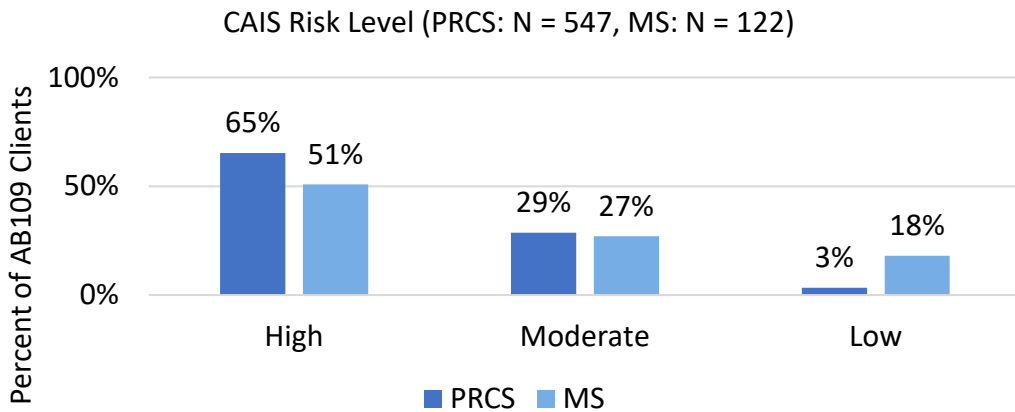
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Impact of AB109

Housing Status of AB109 Clients

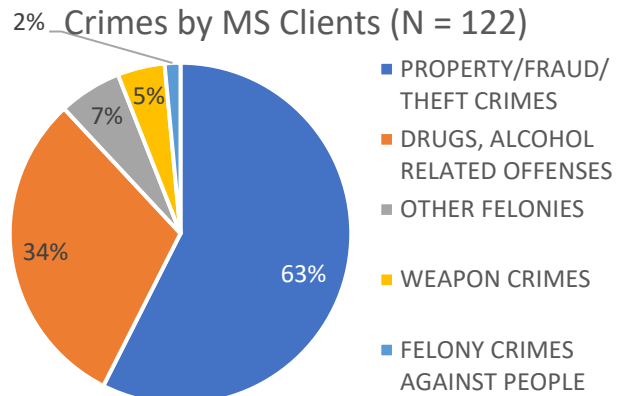
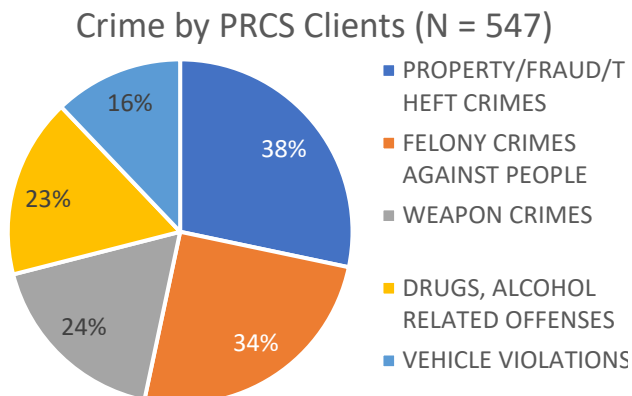


Assessed Risk Levels of AB109 Clients*



* 15 PRCS and five MS clients had assessment pending.

Highest Frequency Crime Categories by AB109 Clients



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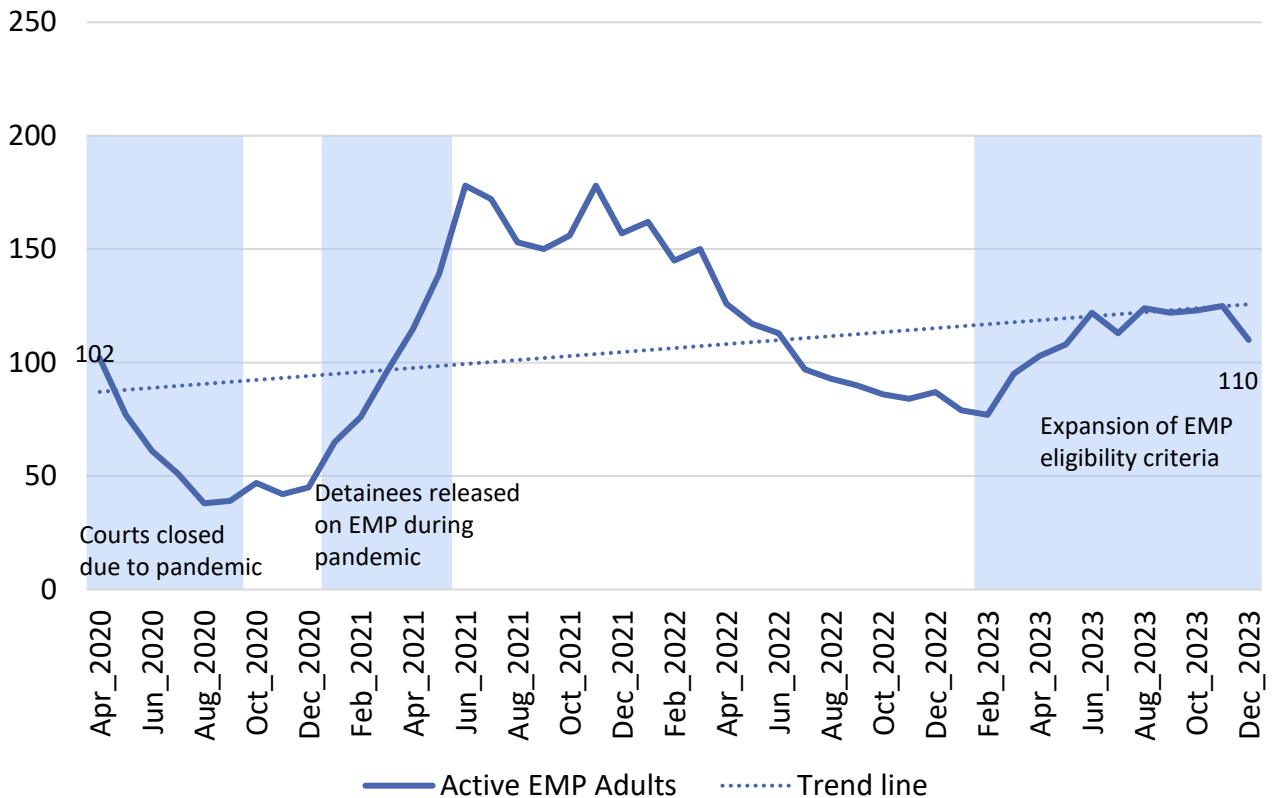
Alternative Sentencing

Electronic Monitoring Program

The Probation Department monitors suitable clients electronically using an ankle monitor, who would otherwise be incarcerated. As a result, these clients may remain in the community maintaining their employment and/or education, attend treatment/counseling services, and pay victim restitution, if applicable.

The current increase in active adult EMP clients, starting around February 2023, is a result of broadening the eligibility criteria for EMP. This expansion made more individuals eligible for EMP supervision who would not have been considered eligible before the criteria were widened.

Active EMP Adults April 2020 - December 2023



Alternative Sentencing

Deferred Entry of Judgement (DEJ)

Eligible candidates are offered the opportunity to voluntarily participate in an alternative sentencing program. Deferred Entry of Judgment (DEJ) clients are not on probation. They do not need to register as narcotic offenders and do not need to submit a DNA sample. DEJ provide clients with an opportunity to have their charges dismissed and their criminal record clear if they successfully complete a drug education program, while maintaining sobriety and staying free from arrest.

Upon being found eligible, the court may summarily grant DEJ if the client pleads guilty to the charge(s) and waives time for the pronouncement of judgment. The court may also refer the matter to the probation department for a report.

As of Dec 31, 2023, there are 83 active clients in the DEJ program.