# Jail Population Reduction Plans Status Report (January – June 2025)

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## Report Summary

For the period of January through June 2025, Sacramento County continued to work to monitor the population of the jail system and support efforts to reduce bookings, lengths of stay, and returns to custody. Highlights of the reporting period include:

- Average Daily Population (ADP) increased slightly to 3,265 in Q2 2025, still below BSCC rated capacity.
- Shorter Jail Stays: Average length of stay for felony cases dropped from 54 days (2024) to 40 days (first half of 2025).
- Community Wellness Response Team (CWRT) referrals surged to an average of 161 per month, up from an average of 47 referrals per month in 2024; mobile responses also up sharply, as Sheriff's Office policy change ceased non-criminal mental health call responses.
- As of June 2025, there were a total of 12,959 individuals released to probation pretrial monitoring since program started; data from September 2025 indicates 81% of pretrial monitoring participants avoid new arrests.
- Prop 36 Impacts: Between March–August 2025, 1,162 bookings included a Prop 36 offense, with ADP for this population nearly doubling (from 109 to 195).
- Mental Health Diversion (MHD) growth continued, with 750 felony MHD decisions (385 granted) and 128 felony MHD graduates in the first half of 2025; court calendars further expanded in August 2025 to meet demand.
- Sacramento County exceeded its DSH Incompetent to Stand Trial (IST) growth cap baseline (233 vs. 217); the county is facing a penalty fine for the first time since the cap was set for FY 2022-23 despite mitigation efforts and specialized programs (Jail Based Competency Treatment Program [JBCT], IST diversion, and Early Access to Stabilization Services [EASS]).
- New jail dashboard launched to provide public, interactive data on bookings, length of stay, and in the future, returns to custody.

## Background

The 2022 Memorandum of Agreement connected to the Mays Consent Decree required the County to produce a plan containing jail population reduction measures, developed with input from relevant community stakeholders. In December 2022, the Board of Supervisors approved the Jail Population Reduction Plans (JPRP), which were based on a jail population study by O'Connell Research using 2021 data and informed by the Public Safety and Justice Agency Advisory (PSJA) Committee and other community groups. The JPRP included 33 individual new and expanded efforts expected to contribute to reducing the jail population. The JPRP was revised in April 2024, with the 33 efforts consolidated into six (6) strategies designed to reduce bookings, lengths of stay, and returns to custody. The strategies are:

- 1. Offer behavioral health interventions before and during a crisis to prevent jail admissions and further justice-involvement
- 2. Maximize initial deflection and pre-arraignment release opportunities for eligible individuals
- 3. Minimize use of county jail for federal and out-of-county inmates
- 4. Reduce time in jail for individuals who can be safely released into the community or placed in alternative care facilities
- 5. Reduce jail admissions and returns to custody from warrants and violations
- 6. Improve service linkages and reduce barriers to treatment, employment, and housing leading up to and following release

Semi-annual JPRP status reports monitor changes in the composition of the jail system. Data provided in each report includes information on Average Daily Population (ADP) of the jail system, bookings, returns to custody, offense severity (felony and misdemeanor), inmate status (sentenced/unsentenced), risk to reoffend scores (according to the Hawaii LSI-R Proxy), and offense types, among others. Additional data trend information may be found throughout each status report in updates on individual strategies, or deep dives that look more extensively into specific programs.

Beyond the information provided in each report, additional information regarding justice system trends is available on the <u>PSJA Reports and Resources website</u>. The county continues to work with O'Connell Research to further explore the changing composition of Sacramento County's jail population to develop greater comprehension of program, policy, and legislative impacts to identify and implement improvements. The PSJA recognizes that there is great community interest in physical plant remediation efforts surrounding the jail system. In general, jail facility improvements (construction, renovation, or retrofitting) are not included in

this report, as that work is primarily focused on improving compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA). The PSJA encourages interested community members to review the semi-annual county status reports that are submitted to the Federal Court for more detailed information about facility plant remediation efforts.

# Bookings, Lengths of Stay, and Returns to Custody

Based on data provided by the Sacramento County Sheriff's Office Jail Profile Survey, the average daily population (ADP) and number of people booked each month have both declined since 2019 (pre-pandemic levels). The ADP remains far below the jail system's BSCC rated capacity. The ADP for the period of January to June 2025 was 3,265, an increase from the ADP of 3,126 in the prior JPRP Status Report. ADP and bookings for Sacramento County's jail system are reflected in Figure 1.

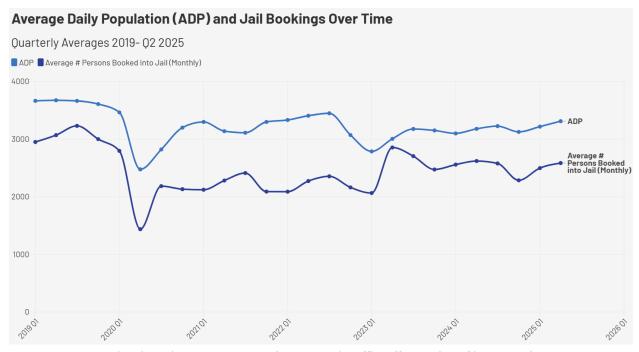


Figure 1: ADP and Jail Bookings Over Time (Source: Sheriff's Office Jail Profile Survey)

While bookings and ADP have increased since the prior reporting period, average length of stay has decreased, shown in

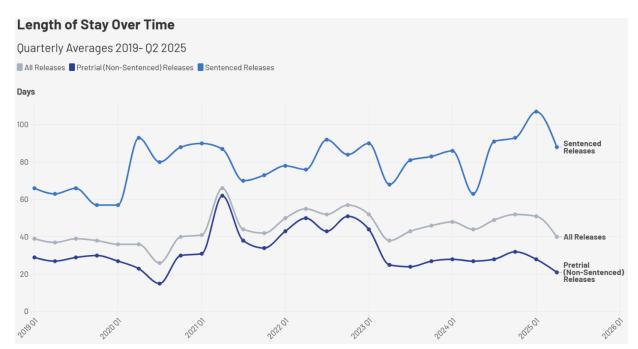


Figure 2.

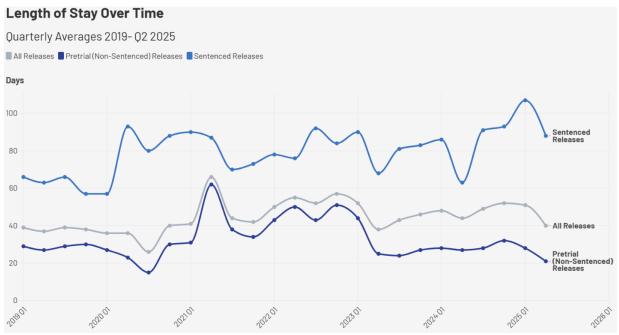


Figure 2: Average Length of Stay Over Time (Source: Sheriff's Office Jail Profile Survey)

Returns to custody rates remain consistent. Figure 3 shows there has been little change in the short-term rate of returns to custody, staying at around 37% of all individuals released being booked into jail one or more times in the twelve (12) month period following release, and a 50% return to custody rate after three years. Return to custody information will be added to the jail dashboard in 2026, providing an interactive format for reviewing this data.

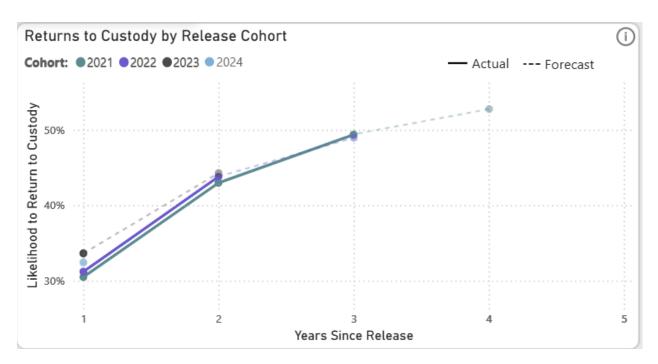


Figure 3: Returns to Custody for People Released in 2021, 2022, 2023, and 2024 After At Least 12 Months (Source: O'Connell Research)

### Jail System Changes in Composition

Since the end 2024, there has been a continued decline in the percent of bookings entering as felonies, with felonies now making up 54% of all bookings, despite the number of bookings being fairly stable. This rate is below 2019/pre-pandemic rates, which shows continuing adjustment from the COVID era where nearly 80% of bookings were felonies. As a portion of total bed days, crimes against persons declined to 32% of all bed days, down from a high of 38%. There was a decline in the average length of stay for felonies, from 54 days in 2024 to 40 days for felonies for those released in the first six months of 2025.

#### Prop 36 Impact

Pursuant to Prop 36, which went into effect December 18, 2024, if someone has two or more prior convictions for drug possession or petty theft, they can now be charged with a felony, even for low-level offenses like shoplifting or carrying small amounts of drugs. The new law targets repeat shoplifters and petty theft offenders and those with repeat possession or sales of substances like fentanyl, heroin, or cocaine. Instead of jail time, eligible individuals can choose court-approved treatment, like rehab, mental health services, or job training. If they complete the program successfully, the charge is dismissed. If they are found unsuitable for treatment, jail or prison

time may apply. A summary of expected impacts from Prop 36 at different points in the criminal justice system case flow process are described in Figure 4.

Sacramento County Superior Court established and facilitates a Prop 36 workgroup that has focused on developing and implementing a Prop 36 HS 11395 Referral Guide, Prop 36 Deferred Entry of Judgement (DEJ) flowchart, DEJ Release Conditions, and Court Order form for Prop 36. The District Attorney's Office has provided the group filing data for Prop 36 drug (HS 11395-repeat drug possession) and theft (PC 666.1-petty theft with priors) offenses to help inform development of operational adjustments. Figure 5 shows Prop 36 criminal case filings for the period of December 18, 2024 to August 8, 2025.

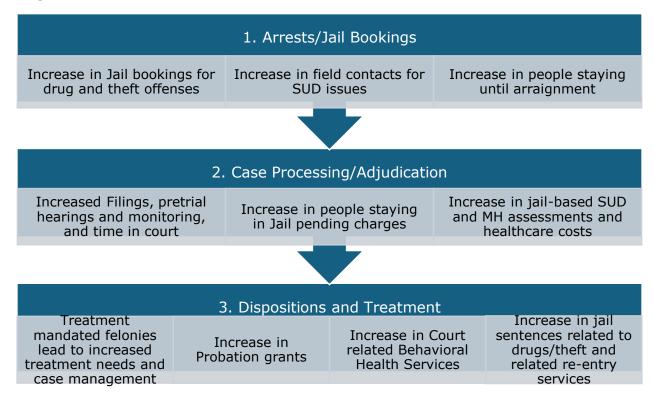


Figure 4: Anticipated Prop 36 Impacts

#### New Proposition 36 DA Filings Number of Filings: 12/18/2024 – 8/8/2025

Charge	Felony	Misd	Total		
HS 11395	79	296	375		
Percent	21%	79%	100%		
Filing Increase since 6/3/25					
Total Filings as of 6/3/25: 251 dockets, 49% increase					
Additional Felonies: 29					

Additional Felonies: 29 Additional Misdemeanors: 95

Charge	Felony	Misd	Total		
PC 666.1	297	58	355		
Percent	84%	16%	100%		
Filing Increase since 6/3/25 Total Filings as of 6/3/25: 336 dockets, 6% increase					
Additional Felonies: 27					
Additional Misdemeanors: -8					

<sup>\*</sup>Data provided by the Sacramento County District Attorney's Office

Figure 5: Prop 36 Filings by District Attorney's Office

In March 2025, the Sheriff's Office started tracking data to monitor weekly total bookings and ADP in jail for individuals with at least one Prop 36 offense at booking. During the nineteen weeks from March 30, 2025, through August 9, 2025, there were 1,162 bookings that included a Prop 36 offense, an average of 61 per week. During the same period, the ADP of individuals with a Prop 36 offense at booking grew from 109 to 195, which represents a growth from 3.3% of total ADP to 6.0% of total ADP.

To better understand changes and impacts, and to identify appropriate operational adjustments to address Prop 36, additional metrics need to be captured that align with expected impacts on arrest, booking, case process, and treatment. Further data capture and analysis aligned with metrics and expectations will be explored and applied based on input from the collaborative Prop 36 Workgroup. Updates and findings will be included in future reports.

#### Jail Population Dashboard

As part of the county's effort to show the ways it is working toward managing its jail population, including the reduction efforts enacted in 2022, a dashboard has been developed to bring consistent information about the

county's jail population, as well as engage stakeholders in the complex nature of the drivers of the jail population. As part of the Mays Consent Decree, the county has moved to present public data about the landscape of the justice system and context around the strategies, mitigation, and system change efforts underway. Under the direction of the PSJA, and with the support of the Sheriff's Office, the county formed a working group to develop, vet, and deliver an interactive dashboard for the public. Although other counties have shown basic information about their jail, Sacramento County is among the few nationwide who are using interactive data to communicate information about their jail population.

The dashboard focuses on key questions, with the ability to filter and explore with responsive charts, including: who is booked into jail, how long do people stay and how are they released, and who returns to jail (future iteration). The goal is to generate better understanding of the flow of people through the jail and monitor progress on implementation of mitigation strategies, as well as assist county stakeholders in creating a shared understanding.

The data mainly focuses on the last five (5) years of people booked, released, or returning to custody. The design of the dashboard is for a general audience of members from the public, and as such will not expose any personally identifiable information (names or identities) of incarcerated persons. The finished project also provides a glossary and user guide with definitions and aids to help users understand the terminology and graphic display decisions made by the dashboard team.

The short-term working group, the Jail Dashboard Think Tank (dashboard team) convened in January 2025 by the PSJA to complete development and deployment of the jail population dashboard. O'Connell Research developed an initial draft of the dashboard as a starting point for the dashboard team. The dashboard has since evolved through decisions from the team that were also informed by input from other stakeholders and community members on the PSJA Advisory Committee. Community member input has been critical for ensuring content is easy to understand and navigate. The jail dashboard is presented in the Power BI application format, which provides user-friendly tools for navigation through different areas that can be broken out.

The Jail Dashboard Think Tank efforts are facilitated by PSJA Analysts and consultant O'Connell Research, Inc. Members work within the Sheriff's

Office, the Department of Health Services (Primary/Correctional Health and Behavioral Health), County Counsel (handling Consent Decree), Public Defender's Office, Conflict Criminal Defender's Office, the Probation Department, Superior Court, and the Department of Technology. In addition to meetings, dashboard progress has been made through correspondence and a shared test environment for members to access. From January through June 2025, the dashboard team met eight times to establish desired content and format. There was also a jail dashboard demonstration to the Criminal Justice Cabinet in June 2025 that produced positive feedback and expansion of the dashboard test environment to the broader range of members in the Mental Health and Incompetent to Stand Trial Workgroup who provided additional input on dashboard edits. The dashboard team is continuing efforts until all phases of the dashboard are completed.

With the newly available version of the jail dashboard, users are able to interact with the dashboard across data points and better understand how different circumstances impact the jail. Follow up efforts by the Jail Dashboard Think Tank will also incorporate additional feedback from the PSJA Advisory Committee (PSJAAC) to help identify any gaps in terminology and needs for further clarity from a non-agency perspective. The PSJAAC input will also help in developing a longer-term roadmap of important data points that will be evaluated for feasibility over time, and to ensure good "public data" principles are used.

Benefits of this approach include increased public knowledge of the jail system and its complexities, providing a way to communicate specific stories or impacts, as well as increased timeliness and consistency in providing responses to requests for information. The figures on the following pages show different views available on the PSJA Reports and Resources webpage.

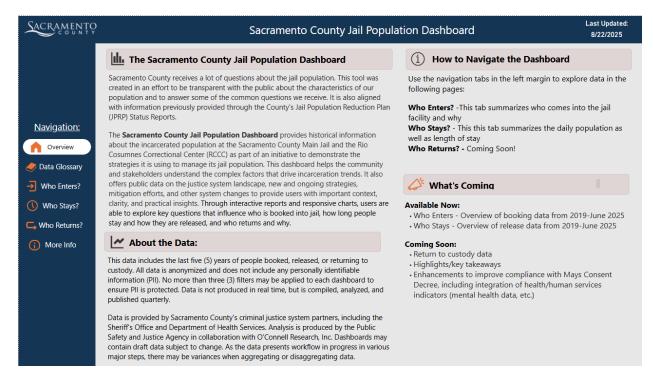


Figure 6: Overview (Source: O'Connell Research)

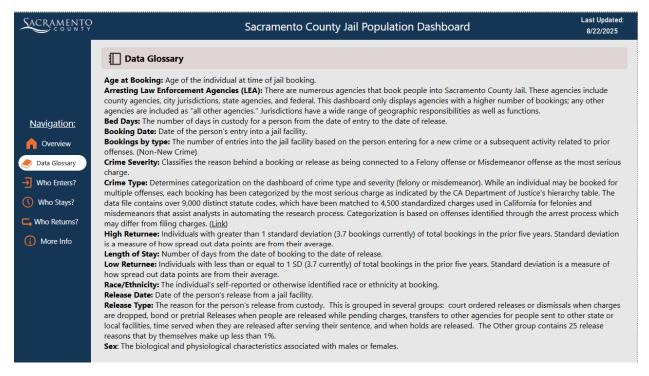


Figure 7: Glossary (Source: O'Connell Research)

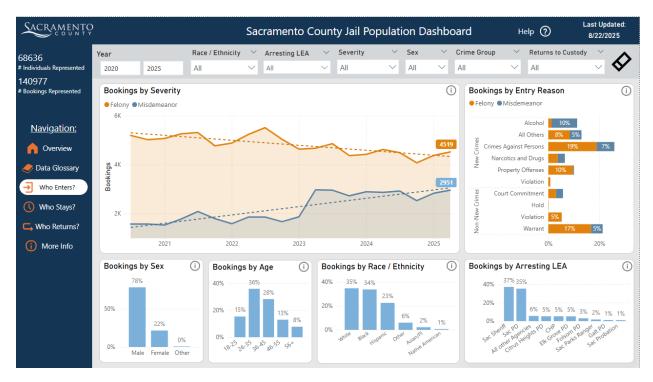


Figure 8: Who Enters (Source: O'Connell Research)



Figure 9: Who Stays (Source: O'Connell Research)



Figure 10: Who Returns (Source: O'Connell Research)

## Strategy Updates

The following pages will detail progress made in each of the six strategies aimed at reducing the jail population. In this report, each strategy includes the following:

- Target/Objective
  - A brief description of the intention behind each strategy. A more extensive description, including a complete Problem Statement, identification of Goals Served, overall Alignment and Relevance, Focus Areas, and associated Elements from the original 2022 Jail Population Reduction Plans may be found in the <u>Revised Jail</u> <u>Population Reduction Plans from April 2024</u>, available on the <u>Public Safety and Justice Agency's Reports and Resources</u> website.
- Progress Toward Measurement Goal(s)
  - The Public Safety and Justice Agency worked with county partners to develop one or more measurement goal for each strategy. Additional goals may be added as new investments occur or new programs become available.
- Required Partnerships for Success
  - While the county was required to develop a jail population reduction plan as part of its obligations under the Mays Consent Decree, the County has very little independent control over the flow into and out of the county jail system. Each strategy includes a brief description of the critical partnerships involved in making demonstrable progress that can result in a lower average daily population through reduced bookings, lengths of stay, and returns to custody.
- Notable Updates
  - Each strategy includes a brief description of the substantial programmatic or systemic changes occurring within the January
     June 2025 time frame that may positively or negatively affect the strategy's overall impact on reducing the jail population.

# 1. Offer behavioral health interventions before and during a crisis to prevent jail admissions and further justice-involvement

#### Target/Objective

Reduce the number of individuals with behavioral health needs entering the criminal justice system by creating resources and improving linkage to timely intervention strategies and services, thereby minimizing crisis escalation, unnecessary arrests, and jail admissions.

#### Measurement Goal

- Increase use of Community Wellness Response Team (CWRT) by 50% in three years (from 2023 baseline) by providing timely behavioral health support to individuals in crises, preventing unnecessary jail admissions when a more appropriate intervention is available.
  - Baseline: The 2023 baseline for CWRT is 15 referrals from 988 per month. This is based on a total of 145 referrals made from March, when CWRT started operating, through December 2023.
  - Outcome Goal: If a 50% increase was achieved within 3 years,
     22.5 referrals from 988 per month on average would be expected.
  - Current Status: January through June 2025, the CWRT received an average of 161 referrals per month from 988, representing a 973% increase from the 2023 baseline of 15 per month, far exceeding the established measurement goal.

#### Required Partnerships for Success

The county cannot reduce the jail population under this strategy without the assistance and shared support of crucial partners. Success in improving crisis care offerings and decisions to choose paths beyond those that result in jail bookings and continued justice-involvement requires collaboration and shared vision among many government and community-based entities. Furthermore, this strategy is supported when community members' knowledge about resources and how to best access them is increased. An asterisk is used to identify the partners whose direct operational authority is not determined by the Board of Supervisors.

- Sacramento County
  - Health Services Department (Behavioral Health Services)

- Probation Department
- Sheriff's Office\*
- Community-based Behavioral Health Providers\*
- Community-based Medical Care Providers\*
- Community Members\*
- City, State, and Federal Law Enforcement Agencies\*

#### Notable Updates

#### **Community Wellness Response Team**

Community Wellness Response Teams (CWRT) include a mental health counselor and a peer with lived experience, who receive requests from 988 or the county's HOPE line, to provide a mobile response to individuals that may benefit from in-person de-escalation services, assess needs and risks, create safety plans, resources and linkage to on-going services. CWRT services are available 24/7.

- January through June 2024, there were 254 CWRT mobile responses. The number of mobile responses per month ranged from 21 61.
- July through December 2024, there were 344 CWRT mobile responses.
   The number of mobile responses per month ranged from 47 81.
- January through June 2025, there were 434 CWRT mobile responses. The number of mobile responses per month ranged from 51 91.

February 2025 saw the highest number of mobile responses (91), which reflects a 333% increase over February 2024, which had the lowest number of mobile responses (21).

A potential driver of the increase in the period of January through June 2025 is the major shift by the Sheriff's Office in February to no longer respond to non-criminal mental health calls. Since then, Sheriff's deputies only engage if a criminal element is present during a mental health crisis. This change has placed greater responsibilities on CWRT to handle behavioral health emergencies within the Sheriff's jurisdiction.

Table 1 displays available data on 988 calls, and CWRT responses, between January and June 2025 (Program Implementation Updates on the Community Wellness Response Team website).

Month (2025)	Calls for CWRT (988 & Hope Line)	Total Mobile Responses
January	128	74
February	153	91
March	190	90
April	203	65
May	155	51
June	179	63
Total:	1,008	434

Table 1: CWRT Data January - June 2025 (Source: County Behavioral Health Services)

#### **Bilateral Referral Process**

January – June 2025, Health Services facilitated ongoing workgroup meetings on the bilateral referral process to assist with coordination between Behavioral Health Services (BHS) and law enforcement partners, and now also includes the Sacramento Fire Department. The goal is to assist in successful transfers for calls that can be triaged between 911 and CWRT. The workgroup created a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to document BHS' responsibilities and scope of services, as well as those of the partnering law enforcement or fire agency. BHS also continues to promote use of the resource guide for law enforcement partners that was developed in collaboration with partners on this workgroup.

Interoperability between 911, 988, and CWRT has been a major focus to implement bi-directional referrals between emergency dispatch systems and CWRT. This will ensure that 911 dispatchers can transfer non-criminal behavioral health calls to 988 or CWRT and that CWRT can also refer cases back to law enforcement or emergency services when safety risks escalate. The goal is to reduce response delays, improve coordination, and ensure individuals in crisis receive the most appropriate support, whether clinical, community-based, or protective.

A pilot with the Folsom Police Department (Folsom PD) and CWRT began in April 2025, focusing on non-criminal behavioral health calls within Folsom city limits. Folsom PD officers were trained to identify appropriate calls for

CWRT referral, especially those involving individuals in emotional distress, substance use crises and/or exhibiting symptoms of serious mental illness. Folsom dispatchers began using a warm transfer protocol to route eligible calls to CWRT via the 988 system. In some cases, CWRT clinicians coresponded with Folsom officers when safety concerns were present, but no criminal activity was involved. Early feedback was positive around the reduced police presence in sensitive situations and more compassionate care. Some challenges have included delays in transferring calls from 911 to CWRT, sometimes exceeding 30 minutes; immediate access to community members due to agency category (e.g., not categorized as a safety responder, no sirens, inability to park in red zone, etc.); CWRT's coverage in Folsom being limited to overnight hours, indicating expanded staffing needs; and additional training needs on trauma-informed approaches and mental health de-escalation techniques to better align with CWRT's philosophy. As of June 2025, the pilot was considered to be promising with CWRT Advisory Committee recommending continued collaboration and funding to support full integration moving forward. The MOU between the Folsom Police Officers Association and the city that is effective through December 2025 includes provisions for collaborative crisis response protocols, so it is likely there will be continued CWRT involvement.

In addition to the pilot in Folsom, a 90-day pilot program launched on July 1, 2025, by the Sacramento Police Department to test the new referral model. The pilot allows SPD to refer or receive referrals from 988 and CWRT for behavioral health calls. Non-violent, non-criminal calls are warm-transferred to 988 and calls with immediate risk or criminal elements are retained by SPD but flagged for CWRT follow-up. Officers received updated guidance to ensure proper use of the new system. The pilot aims to streamline crisis response by reducing duplication and confusion between agencies, build trust in community-based alternatives to law enforcement, and improve outcomes for individuals in behavioral health crises by connecting them to voluntary, trauma-informed care.

A new pilot program with Sacramento Fire Department (Sac Fire) and the CWRT will launch in October 2025 to improve coordination between emergency medical services and behavioral health crisis teams for non-life-threatening calls. Sac Fire "squad" units, smaller trucks staffed with a firefighter and paramedic, are now equipped to provide co-response or warm-transfer calls to CWRT when behavioral health needs are identified on

scene. These squads also offer services that connect callers to medical professionals remotely. If a mental health need is flagged, CWRT is looped in for follow-up or in-person support. The pilot aims to free up full fire engines and ambulances for high-acuity emergencies while ensuring behavioral health crises are met with appropriate care. CWRT teams receive referrals directly from Sac Fire squads and provide on-site de-escalation, safety planning, and voluntary transport to urgent care centers. The pilot will be evaluated for effectiveness in reducing unnecessary Emergency Department visits and improving client engagement.

#### Co-Response Crisis Intervention Team (CCIT), formerly MCSTs

The Mobile Crisis Support Team (MCST) is now referred to as the Coresponse Crisis Intervention Team (CCIT). This name change reflects the collaborative role behavioral health has with law enforcement in mental health emergencies. The CCIT units respond to calls for service to support individuals experiencing a mental health crisis by providing safe, relevant, and effective intervention including linkage to needed resources and support services. There is a new <a href="CCIT website">CCIT website</a> that provides more information about this collaboration between Behavioral Health Services and Sacramento County Law Enforcement.

CCIT partners with <u>Citrus Heights Police Department</u>, <u>Folsom Police Department</u>, <u>Galt Police Department</u>, <u>Los Rios Police Department</u>, <u>Sacramento County Sheriff's Department</u> - <u>North Division</u> and <u>Central Division</u>.

CCIT can handle a broad spectrum of cases, including individuals posing a threat to self or others, situations involving grave disability, and those events with a criminal component or public safety concern present. Postcrisis, CCIT deploys Peer Specialists to provide ongoing support, resource navigation, and linkage to behavioral health services. This model aims to reduce repeat crises, hospitalizations, and incarcerations.

The CCIT remains dedicated to providing immediate, integrated crisis support within Sacramento County's crisis and justice-involved continuum. The CCIT continues serving individuals of all ages and diversity in Sacramento County by responding to 911 emergency calls for immediate clinical assessment and crisis intervention for individuals experiencing a mental health crisis. CCIT aims to improve outcomes and successful crisis resolution for individuals experiencing mental health crisis by deploying a co-

response team comprised of law enforcement personnel trained in Crisis Intervention Training, a Sacramento County BHS licensed Senior Mental Health Counselor, and a Sacramento County Contracted Peer Specialist.

As noted previously, in early 2025, the Sheriff's Office's announced that deputies would no longer respond to mental health-related calls unless a crime was involved, due to liability concerns. In response to this change, CCIT team hours and partnerships shifted to ensure that all CCITs are being fully utilized. Future status reports will include updated information on CCIT use and deployments.

Calls previously routed to the Sheriff's Office are now triaged through 911 and 988, with CCIT stepping in when law enforcement presence is still required. Updated dispatch protocols have 911 operators now asking targeted questions to determine whether CCIT or CWRT should respond, depending on the presence of criminal activity.

# 2. Maximize initial deflection and pre-arraignment release opportunities for eligible individuals

#### Target/Objective

By reducing bookings at Sacramento County Jail facilities for individuals who can be cited and released in alternate locations, average daily population can be reduced. By promptly releasing low-risk individuals, their length of stay can be minimized.

#### Measurement Goal

- Reduce proportion of bookings released within 24 hours by 10% (from 2023 baseline of 24% to 21.5%)
  - Baseline: The 2023 baseline for the proportion of bookings released within 24 hours was 24%.
  - Outcome Goal: If a 10% decrease is achieved, the proportion of bookings released within 24 hours would be 21.5%.
  - Current Status: In January June 2025, the proportion of bookings released within 24 hours was 24.2%, reflecting a 1% increase from the baseline.

#### Required Partnerships for Success

The county cannot reduce jail bookings or reduce length of stay under this strategy without the assistance and shared support of crucial partners. Decisions in the field by law enforcement partners, as well as decisions made

through pre-arraignment review will determine the success of this strategy. An asterisk is used to identify the partners whose direct operational authority is not determined by the Board of Supervisors.

- Sacramento County
  - Sheriff's Office\*
- Sacramento Superior Court\*
- City, State, and Federal Law Enforcement Agencies\*

#### Notable Updates

Since December 2023, the Superior Court and its partners implemented a new pre-arraignment review process. This process considers both public safety risk and an individual's ability to pay bail during a review by a magistrate prior to arraignment. Reviews are expected to be completed within approximately 18 hours of booking. Pretrial data was provided by the Probation Department and included assessments and other information tracked for individuals booked through June 2025.

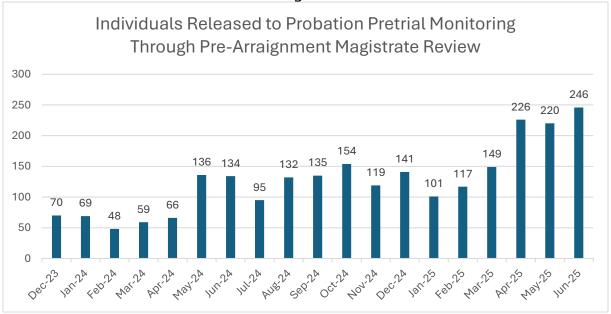


Figure 11 shows the number of individuals released to Probation's pretrial monitoring through the pre-arraignment magistrate review since the process began.

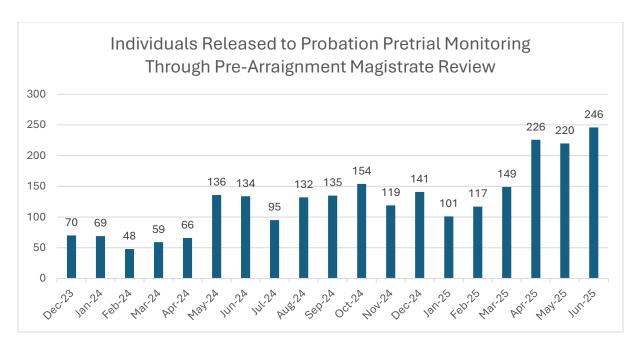


Figure 11: Individuals Released to Probation Pretrial Monitoring Through Pre-Arraignment Magistrate Review by Month (Source: Probation Department)

In general, there have not been sizable changes in the length of stay distribution between 2023 and January – June 2025. Overall comparison of the distribution of lengths of stay from 2023, 2024, and January – June 2025 is shown in Figure 12 below.

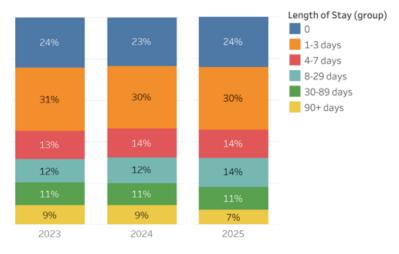


Figure 12: Length of Stay Distribution (2023, 2024, 2025, Jan-Jun 2025) (Source: O'Connell Research)

The proportion of people entering and leaving jail within 24 hours continues to account for nearly a quarter of individuals released. While this population does not contribute significantly to the jail's ADP, it uses jail resources to process these individuals. Figure 13 shows individuals booked for new crimes

and released within 24 hours by arresting agency, by quarter for the first two quarters of each year. The Sheriff's Office (including Rancho Cordova PD) and Sacramento PD are the largest agencies and contributors.

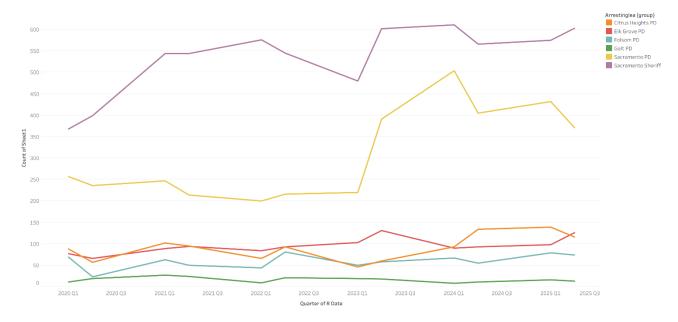


Figure 13: Individuals Released within 24 hours by Arresting Agency for a New Crime Related Booking (Jan- June Time Period) (Source: O'Connell Research)

Of particular interest are individuals booked under California Penal Code Section 853.6, which grants law enforcement officers the discretion to book an individual facing a misdemeanor charge into jail for processing under any of the following circumstances:

- 1. The person arrested was so intoxicated that he or she could have been a danger to himself or herself or to others.
- 2. The person arrested required medical examination or medical care or was otherwise unable to care for his or her own safety.
- 3. The person was arrested under one or more of the circumstances listed in Sections 40302 and 40303 of the Vehicle Code.
- 4. There were one or more outstanding arrest warrants for the person.
- 5. The person could not provide satisfactory evidence of personal identification.
- 6. The prosecution of the offense or offenses for which the person was arrested, or the prosecution of any other offense or offenses, would be jeopardized by immediate release of the person arrested.

- 7. There was a reasonable likelihood that the offense or offenses would continue or resume, or that the safety of persons or property would be imminently endangered by release of the person arrested.
- 8. The person arrested demanded to be taken before a magistrate or refused to sign the notice to appear.
- 9. There is reason to believe that the person would not appear at the time and place specified in the notice. The basis for this determination shall be specifically stated.
- 10. The person was subject to Section 1270.1.

Figure 14 shows the Penal Code Section 853.6 releases by arresting agency, by quarter. The frequent use of this release code for individuals with short stays deserves further analysis to determine the extent to which community-based resources could be better utilized to prevent bookings in certain circumstances, particularly for intoxicated individuals and those requiring additional medical care. In the first six months of 2025, the total number of releases for 853.6 reasons decreased by over 20% for the five (5) police departments and the Sheriff's Office, which make up a vast majority of releases under this code.

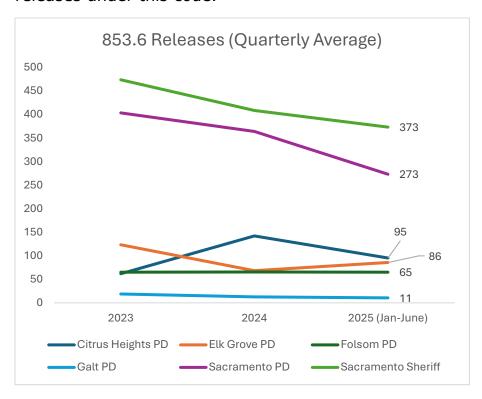


Figure 14: 853.6 Releases by Arresting Agency Source: O'Connell Research

The PSJA is continuing efforts to engage law enforcement partners in increasing access and use of existing <u>behavioral health</u> and housing resources to support efforts to reduce bookings for individuals who can be deflected, diverted, and linked to services.

### 3. Minimize use of county jail for federal and out-ofcounty inmates

#### Target/Objective

Implement strategies to reduce the number of federal, state, and out-ofcounty inmates housed in local jails, optimizing local resources and enhancing operational efficiency.

#### Measurement Goals and Progress

- Reduce length of stay for detainees with out-of-county warrants by 10% (from 2023 baseline).
  - Baseline: The 2023 baseline bed days used 5,276 bed days for 145 releases.
  - Outcome Goal: If a 10% decrease is achieved, the total bed days would be 4,748.
  - Current Status: In 2025, the number of bed days was 277, indicating a 95% reduction in out of county warrants being the sole holding reason.
- Sustain reduced contract with the U.S. Marshal Service at 100 jail beds (ADP) for detainees facing federal charges.
  - Baseline: The 2021 baseline the federal inmate contract was 300. 2021 is used instead of 2023 because the contract was reduced in 2022.
  - Outcome Goal: The county would sustain an ADP that includes 100 or fewer federal inmates at any given time.
  - Current Status: Use of county beds for federal inmates January
     June 2025 included an ADP of 104, slightly above the 100-bed contract target, but an improvement from the prior period average of 117.

#### Required Partnerships for Success

The county cannot reduce jail bookings or reduce length of stay under this strategy without the assistance and shared support of crucial partners. Decisions by law enforcement partners in the field and in custody when addressing individuals with out-of-county warrants determine the success of

this strategy. An asterisk is used to identify the partners whose direct operational authority is not determined by the Board of Supervisors.

- Sacramento County
  - Sheriff's Office\*
- City, State, and Federal Law Enforcement Agencies\*

#### Notable Updates

In 2025, the Sheriff's Office continued the federal inmate contract to house approximately 100 individuals pending federal court decisions, including provision of correctional health services needed by this population. Ongoing efforts with the Sheriff's Office and law enforcement partners will continue with further data capture, analysis, and potential actions to reduce impacts on the jail from both in and out-of-county warrants. This includes examining ways to resolve warrants more efficiently and additional options for addressing warrants in the field or otherwise address them to reduce length of stay and bookings from warrants. Further work will be summarized in future reports.

# 4. Reduce time in jail for individuals who can be safely released into the community or placed in alternative care facilities

#### Target/Objective

Focusing on safe and timely release directly addresses this goal. Low-risk individuals can be safely released into the community or alternative care facilities.

#### Measurement Goals

- Reduce median length of stay by 10% (from 2023 baseline) for Pretrial Detainees eligible for pretrial release with a monitoring level of three

   (3) or less, defined as more 78% likely to appear in court and be crime free during the pretrial phase for people staying less than 180 days, and no risk of violence staying past arraignment (four or more days), as indicated by the Public Safety Assessment.
  - o **Baseline:** The 2023 baseline was nine (9) days.
  - Outcome Goal: The county would maintain a median length of stay of eight (8) days (reflecting an 11% decline from the baseline).
  - Current Status: Between January to June 2025, the median length of stay was seven (7) days, representing a 22% decline.
- Decrease average length of time by 20% (from 2023 baseline) for individuals with Mental Health Diversion (MHD) decisions from application to decision for felony cases.
  - Baseline: The 2023 baseline was a median of 87 days from application to decision.
  - Outcome Goal: The county would maintain median time to application decision of 70 days (approximately 20% decrease from baseline).
  - Current Status: For Felony MHD cases with a decision between January to June 2025, the median time was 56 days or a 35% decline.
- Reduce average length of stay for sentenced time by 10% (from 2023 baseline) for inmates who represent a lower public safety risk; this includes participants in reentry services and sentencing alternatives (home detention/electronic monitoring, Sheriff's Work Project, etc.).

- Baseline: The 2023 baseline was four (4) days of time sentenced.
- Outcome Goal: The county would maintain an average length of stay (ALOS) of 3.5 days.
- Current Status: Between January to June 2025, the ALOS was
   3.2 days.

#### Required Partnerships for Success

The county cannot reduce length of stay under this strategy without the assistance and shared support of crucial partners. This strategy depends on decisions by defense counsel, the Sheriff's Office, and the Superior Court, with support provided by county and community partners, for success. An asterisk is used to identify the partners whose direct operational authority is not determined by the Board of Supervisors.

- Sacramento County
  - Health Services Department
  - o Public Defender's Office
  - Conflict Criminal Defenders
  - Probation Department
  - District Attorney's Office\*
  - Sheriff's Office\*
- Sacramento Superior Court\*
- Community-based Behavioral Health Providers\*

#### Notable Updates

#### **Pretrial Release**

The population receiving pretrial monitoring services through the Sacramento County Probation Department continues to rise. Since the prior report (with data ending December 2024), 2,306 individuals were released to Probation's pretrial monitoring program for the period of January – June 2025, with the total number of persons released to pretrial monitoring since the program's start (October 2019) reaching 12,959. As of September 2025, 81% of pretrial participants did not incur a new arrest.

As noted in the prior status report, the PSJA recognizes that many community advocacy groups oppose pretrial monitoring and use of the Public Safety Assessment (PSA) and other tools to assess risk based on static factors. However, as every person released to pretrial monitoring would otherwise be contributing to the ADP of the jail system, this is an important

service offering that the county can facilitate to support jail population management and reduction. It should be noted that, while services are offered by the Probation Department, the decision to release an individual with pretrial monitoring conditions is under the sole discretion of the Superior Court.

Probation's pretrial assessment and monitoring is just one aspect of the county's pretrial efforts but provides a significant opportunity as a mechanism for releasing individuals the Court would otherwise keep in custody pending their arraignment or next pretrial hearing. The county views the increase in use of Probation for pretrial monitoring as a positive development in terms of expanding alternatives to incarceration and reducing ADP.

In addition to the risk assessments completed by Probation, defense can and does bring forward available information about a client's needs that have been identified. There is limited time to conduct a full needs assessment prior to arraignment; however, these are woven into other facets of criminal case processing and the behavioral health services continuum of care. For example, needs assessments are completed during the MHD application process.

#### **Mental Health Diversion**

Sacramento County has seen Mental Health Diversion (MHD) grow significantly since eligibility expanded in January 2023. Because the biggest impact on the jail is from felony defendants, there have been ongoing efforts to improve and sustain an efficient Felony MHD process. Felony MHD represents the majority of MHD cases with significant growth each year. In 2022, there were 169 decisions (79 granted Felony MHD). In 2023, there were 589 decisions (374 granted Felony MHD). In 2024, there were 1,115 decisions (622 granted Felony MHD). January – June 2025, there were 750 decisions (385 granted Felony MHD). Ongoing growth in Felony MHD diversion has resulted in expansion and reconfiguration of court calendars two times within a year. Felony MHD court calendar expansion in November 2024 was described in the prior status report and as of this reporting date, MHD court calendars have been expanded again (August 2025). The growth from 2019 through June 2025 is shown in the Felony MHD chart in Figure 15 that identifies Felony MHD application decisions in Sacramento Superior Court.

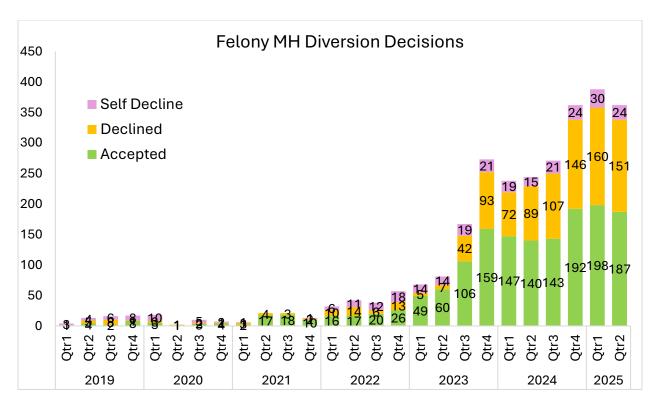


Figure 15: Felony Mental Health Diversion Decisions (Source: Superior Court)

Over time, the county has supported this program by adding staff to the Public Defender's Office, staff to the District Attorney's Office, and staff to the Behavioral Health (BHS) teams to complete assessments, treatment plans, and linkages. Last year, County BHS changes eliminated backlog issues for individuals in custody seeking MHD assessments. Currently, MHD referrals are assessed within about one to two weeks of referral.

The county also expanded the community placement options (outpatient and full-service partnership levels) for forensic populations. Staff have also been added to Probation for monitoring and support in the community for individuals with higher risk that have been granted MHD with monitoring conditions set by the Court.

Data provided by Superior Court also shows promising outcomes with significant growth in the number of Felony MHD graduates increasing from 71 in July – December 2024 to 178 in January – June 2025. Figure 16 shows the number of exits from MHD since 2019, including the reason for exit.

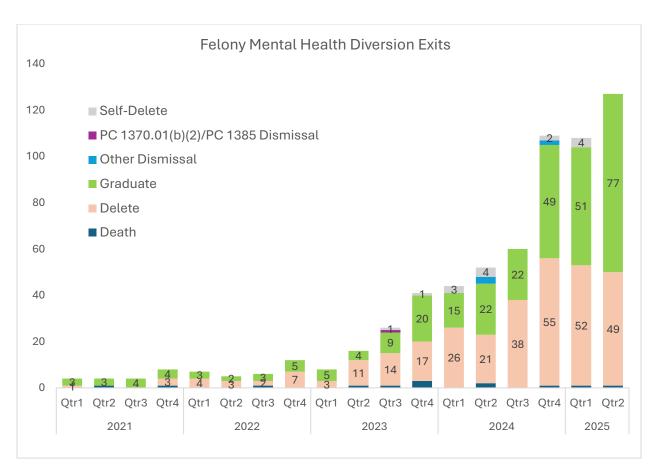


Figure 16: Felony Mental Health Diversion Exits (Source: Superior Court)

#### **Incompetent to Stand Trial (IST) Impacts**

Efforts have been ongoing through Sacramento County's collaborative stakeholder workgroup to identify and implement changes aimed at reducing jail bookings, lengths of stay, and returns to custody for people who have significant behavioral health needs, including implementing strategies and solutions that reduce the number of individuals deemed incompetent to stand trial (IST) on felony charges and committed to the Department of State Hospitals (DSH) for restoration. Pressure to reduce felony ISTs has been placed on counties by DSH through changes to law that established an IST Growth Cap using FY 2021-22 IST commitments in each county. A graduated formula is applied to calculate penalty fines based on the number of IST commitments exceeding the county growth cap. Sacramento County has a Jail Based Competency Treatment (JBCT) program, IST Mental Health Diversion (IST Diversion) program, and Early Access to Stabilization Services (EASS) program supported by contracts with DSH. These programs mitigate growth cap fines under the graduated formula.

Changes to law that went into effect in 2025 changed the IST process in ways that are aimed at reducing IST commitments to DSH. In January 2025, pursuant to  $\underline{SB~1323}$ , IST process changes went into effect, adding the presumption of competency, a new interest of justice standard, and other related changes (PC 1001.36-MHD; PC 1368, 1369, 1370, & 1370.1-IST Determination & Commit Process; WIC 4361-DSH Funding Felony IST Diversion). The current IST process is described in a new Felony IST Process Update 2025 presentation developed by the Mental Health and IST collaborative stakeholder workgroup and publicly posted <a href="here">here</a>. It should be noted that <a href="here">SB~43</a> also went into effect in Sacramento County in January 2025, expanding the definition of grave disability, which may impact the number of individuals conserved as well as those who end up going through the IST process. Currently, it is not clear what impact the changes have had on the number of IST commitments.

Just before completion of this report, Sacramento County was informed there were 233 IST commitments to DSH in FY 2024-25, which exceeds the IST Growth Cap baseline set at 217 IST commitments. An additional 10 IST individuals were removed from the IST Growth Cap count because of a prior DSH commitment on the same case (two removed) and because they were successfully stabilized in jail and through the EASS program and reevaluated as restored to competency (EASS 1372). Ongoing workgroup efforts are now focused on how to address the growth cap penalty as well as identification of changes to reduce the number of ISTs to prevent a penalty fine for FY 2025-26 and improve outcomes for this population.

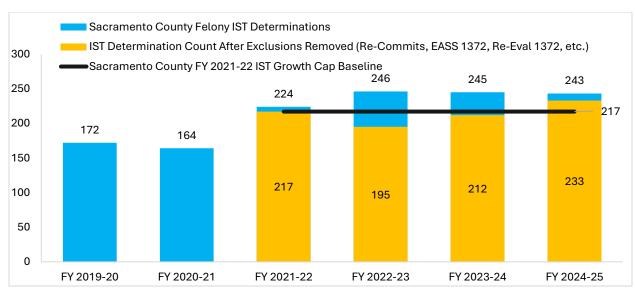


Figure 17: Felony IST Commitments to DSH (Source: CA Dept. of State Hospitals)

#### **Sentencing Alternatives**

There are three elements of the Sheriff's Work Release Bureau.

- Alternative Sentencing Program (ASP)
  - Work community service hours in lieu of traffic fines
  - Working with over 100 area non-profit organizations
- Sheriff's Work Project (SWP)
  - Working at more than 13 sites throughout the county
  - Toy project
    - Participants fix bicycles and/or woodworking, sewing, and crafts for needy individuals in the community.
- Home Detention
  - o GPS monitor, weekly drug testing, alcohol monitoring
  - Allows participants to maintain employment or continue education while fulfilling their Court commitments

From January – June 2025, 949 individuals began participating in Home Detention, reflecting an increase from the prior reporting period. During this period, 962 individuals began participating in Work Release, reflecting an increase from the prior reporting period. Other county efforts, such as the Community Corrections Partnership Advisory Board, are further exploring the use of this program and will be discussing it more in future reports once evaluations are finalized.

# 5. Reduce jail admissions and returns to custody from warrants and violations

#### Target/Objective

This addresses the reduction in bookings and in returns to jail by emphasizing preventive measures and improving reentry services, so individuals are more likely to appear in court and less likely to violate terms and return to custody.

#### Measurement Goals

- Reduce bookings for failure to appear (FTA) warrants by 10% (from 2023 baseline) for people with misdemeanor charges.
  - Baseline: 1,723 bookings occurred related to misdemeanor warrants alone in 2025.
  - Outcome Goal: 1,523 bookings for misdemeanor warrants, with an average stay of 10 days.
  - Current Status: There were 1,214 misdemeanor warrants booked in the first 6 months of 2025, a substantial increase, as well as a length of stay of 14 days for this population.
- Decrease number of persons booked for technical violations of probation (VOP's) with low risk scores excluding VOP's attached to new crimes by 5% (from 2023 baseline).
  - Baseline: 123 individuals booked on VOP's in 2023 for people with low risk scores, excluding VOP's attached to new crimes.
  - Outcome Goal: 115 low risk individuals booked on VOP's, excluding VOP's attached to new crimes.
  - Current Status: 72 individuals low risk individuals booked on VOP's in the first 6 months of 2025 (excluding VOP's attached to new crimes), representing a pace indicating a 18% increase.

#### Required Partnerships for Success

The county cannot reduce bookings and returns to custody under this strategy without the assistance and shared support of crucial partners. This strategy primarily depends on decisions by law enforcement, Probation, and Court partners to take proactive efforts to prevent and resolve warrants and address technical violations of probation. Additional efforts will also be explored to engage local parole offices as well as Probation in more proactively connecting individuals under supervision in the community to support services to prevent violations that result in returns to custody. An

asterisk is used to identify the partners whose direct operational authority is not determined by the Board of Supervisors.

- Sacramento County
  - Public Defender's Office
  - Conflict Criminal Defenders
  - Probation Department
  - District Attorney's Office\*
  - Sheriff's Office\*
- Sacramento Superior Court\*
- City, State, and Federal Law Enforcement Agencies\*

#### Notable Updates

There has been some increase in bookings for warrants and violations, with warrants slightly lower than in 2023. Figure 18 shows the ADP of the individuals entering on warrants and violations from January 2020 – June 2025, which has been in a similar range since 2021. Warrants will be partially explored during the ongoing Pretrial Study.

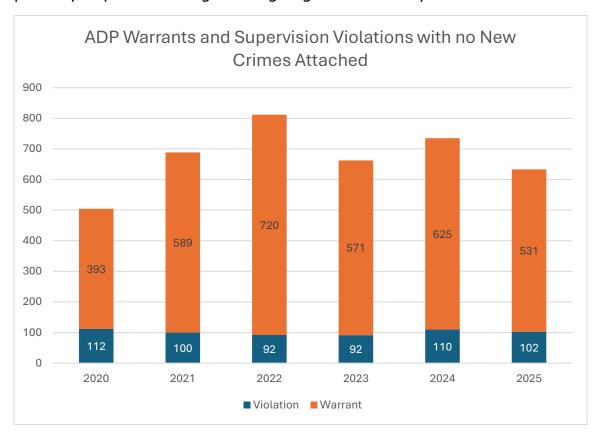


Figure 18: ADP Warrants and Supervision Violations (Source: O'Connell Research)

# 6. Improve service linkages and reduce barriers to treatment, employment, and housing leading up to and following release

#### Target/Objective

Enhanced connections and support can facilitate successful diversion programs, linking individuals to community-based alternatives rather than incarceration, and reentry services that meet housing, treatment, and employment needs.

#### Measurement Goals

- Increase the number of individuals released with discharge plans and linkage to behavioral health by 25% (from 2023 baseline).
  - Data Analysis in Progress: Data collection in this area will be improved through the Prop 47 grant and CalAIM justice-involved initiative, but is unavailable at this time.
- Increase pretrial inmate participation in Sheriff Reentry Services Programs by 20% (from 2023 baseline).
  - O Data Analysis in Progress: PSJA staff will work with the Sheriff's Office to identify the target population, baseline, goals, and status. Anecdotal comments by the Sheriff's Office indicate that reentry services use by pretrial inmates has increased since 2023. If the necessary data cannot be obtained, the goal will be reviewed and possibly revised. Future reports are expected to provide additional information on reentry services. Additionally, other county efforts, such as the Community Corrections Partnership Advisory Board, are further exploring the use of this program and will be discussing it more in the next reporting period.
- Increase the number of individuals released with housing supports at time of release by 10% (from 2023 baseline).
  - Data Analysis in Progress: Data collection in this area will be improved through the Prop 47 grant and CalAIM justice-involved initiative, but is unavailable at this time.
- Increase Probation population participation in employment services by 10% (from 2023 baseline).
  - Data Analysis in Progress: PSJA staff will work with the Probation Department to identify the target population, baseline,

goals, and status. If the necessary data cannot be obtained, the goal will be reviewed and possibly revised.

#### Required Partnerships for Success

The county cannot reduce returns to custody under this strategy without the assistance and shared support of crucial partners. This strategy primarily depends on creation of 24/7 service linkage opportunities and decisions made in custody to ensure that upon release, individuals are offered support services that assist with stabilization and successful reentry into the community. An asterisk is used to identify the partners whose direct operational authority is not determined by the Board of Supervisors.

- Sacramento County
  - Public Defender's Office
  - Conflict Criminal Defenders
  - Health Services Department, Behavioral Health Services and Adult Correctional Health Services
  - Probation Department
  - o Homeless Services and Housing Department
  - Human Assistance Department
  - Sheriff's Office\*
- Community-based Behavioral Health Providers\*
- Community-based Housing Providers\*

#### Notable Updates

#### **Prop 47 Grant Application and CalAIM Preparation**

In October 2024, Sacramento County was awarded an \$8 million grant targeting post-release service linkages through the Proposition 47 Grant Program (Cohort 4) through the Board of State and Community Corrections. Prop 47 grant. This grant was developed in response to work by Sacramento County's Community Corrections Partnership Advisory Board (CCPAB) and Sheriff Community Review Commission, as well as service gaps identified by the Department of Health Services.

The Sacramento County Community Corrections Partnership (CCP) serves as the Prop 47 Local Advisory Committee. The CCP includes representation from justice system, social services system, and community partners. Grant funds are being used to establish a Reentry Opportunities and Access to Resources (ROAR) program. ROAR went live on July 1, 2025; program

updates are provided during CCP/Prop 47 Local Advisory Committee Meetings.

ROAR was originally designed to leverage the new and improved services under Medi-Cal through California Advancing and Innovating Medi-Cal (CalAIM) and specifically the state's justice-involved initiative. The Justice-Involved (JI) initiative aims to connect Medi-Cal eligible members to community-based care, offering them services up to 90 days before their release from custody to stabilize their health conditions and establish a plan for their community-based care (collectively referred to as "pre-release services"). Per the state's Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) requirements, all Counties are required to go live with CalAIM JI initiative by September 30, 2026. Sacramento County originally planned to implement the CalAIM JI initiative ahead of the state's deadline; however, after assessing operational readiness and carefully observing the Statewide rollout, the county has made the difficult decision to defer implementation to align with the deadline. This is being done for three (3) key reasons:

- Process Complexity: Implementation requires establishing 14 new processes, including screening and enrolling eligible inmates into Medi-Cal, documenting medical, behavioral health, and care management services using Medi-Cal billing codes, billing DHCS for services, managing denials and resubmissions, and ensuring post-release care management.
- State Implementation Challenges: The State/DHCS has not yet
  finalized all processes for CalAIM JI, leading to increased manual work
  and bottlenecks for counties that began implementing the initiative in
  October 2024. Medi-Cal must be manually activated through a
  separate database, necessitating manual verifications and casework.
  Additionally, billing processes remain unclear, including which services
  will be billable, causing delays, denied claims, and unnecessary work.
- Workforce Requirements: There are additional workforce
  requirements that this initiative will necessitate. The proposal will
  require adding and hiring approximately 40 positions, which will take
  time to hire, train, and background check for service in the county's
  jails. Additionally, all providers currently working in the jail will need to
  be set up to bill Medi-Cal.

## **Next Steps**

The next report, representing the time frame of June - December 2025, and posted to the Public Safety and Justice Agency website by March 31, 2026, is slated to include:

- Expand Jail Dashboard through team developments to further monitor changes in the jail population and advance overall compliance with the Mays Consent Decree. Incorporate feedback from PSJA Advisory Committee and community to refine terminology and data points.
- Pretrial Services Deep Dive (Part 2): Analyze pre-arraignment release data and impacts in more detail in the next semi-annual report.
- Prop 36 tracking and analysis through ongoing workgroup efforts focused on metrics and operational adjustments across arrest, booking, case processing, and treatment.
- Address IST Growth Cap Penalty, develop and implement strategies to reduce IST commitments below the cap to avoid further fines.
- CalAIM Justice-Involved Initiative preparation, including new staff and aligning operations to meet the September 2026 statewide deadline for Medi-Cal pre-release services.