Virginia Criminal Sentencing Commission
September 4, 2024

Virginia Pretrial

Data Project:

Preview of Findings
for 2021 and 2022
Cohorts



Virginia Pretrial Data Project Overview



The **PRETRIAL DATA PROJECT** was established in 2018 to address the *significant lack of data available* to answer questions regarding various pre-trial release mechanisms, conditions of pretrial release, appearance at court proceedings, and public safety.



The Project was an *unprecedented, collaborative effort* between numerous state and local agencies representing all three branches of government.



The 2021 General Assembly passed legislation directing the Sentencing Commission to continue this work.

The Commission's first report was submitted December 1, 2022.



Virginia Pretrial Data Project Overview



E-Magistrate System

- Defendants brought before magistrates



Pretrial and Community Corrections (PTCC) Case Management System

- Defendants on pretrial services agency supervision
- Defendants on active local probation



Data for the Project is obtained from numerous agencies.



Court Case Management Systems

- Case dispositions and FTA
- Defendants released on summons or charged by direct indictment



Central Criminal Records Exchange

- New in-state arrests
- FTA



Circuit Court Case Management System

- Case dispositions and FTA
- Defendants released on summons or charged by direct indictment



Corrections Information System (CORIS)

- Defendants on active state probation



Circuit Court Case Management System

- Case dispositions and FTA
- Defendants released on summons or charged by direct indictment



Compensation Board- Local Inmate Data System (LIDS)

- Jail committals and releases
- Lengths of stay

Compiling the data requires numerous iterations of data cleaning, merging, and matching to ensure accuracy when linking information from each data system to each defendant in the cohort.



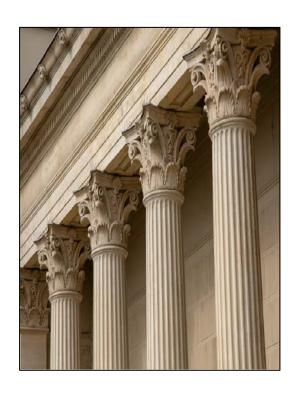
More than 500 data elements are captured for each defendant.



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3

Virginia Pretrial Data Project Study Cohorts



NEWEST COHORTS

Commission staff selected individuals with pretrial contact events during CY2021 and CY2022.

For individuals with more than one contact event during the period, only the first event was selected.

FOLLOW-UP PERIOD

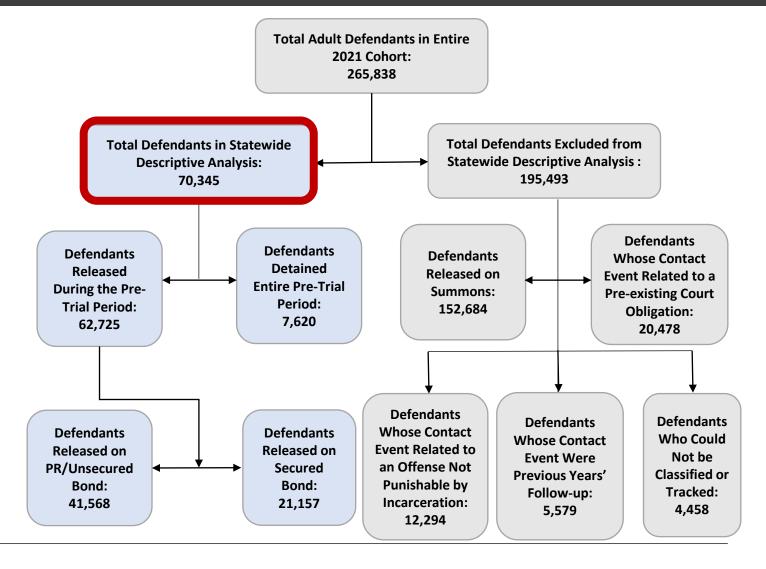
Individuals are tracked for a minimum of 15 months or until disposition of the case, whichever occurs first.

- For the CY2021 cohort, follow-up ended March 2023.
- For the CY2022 cohort, follow-up ended March 2024.



Pretrial Data Project CY2021 Cohort (UPDATED)

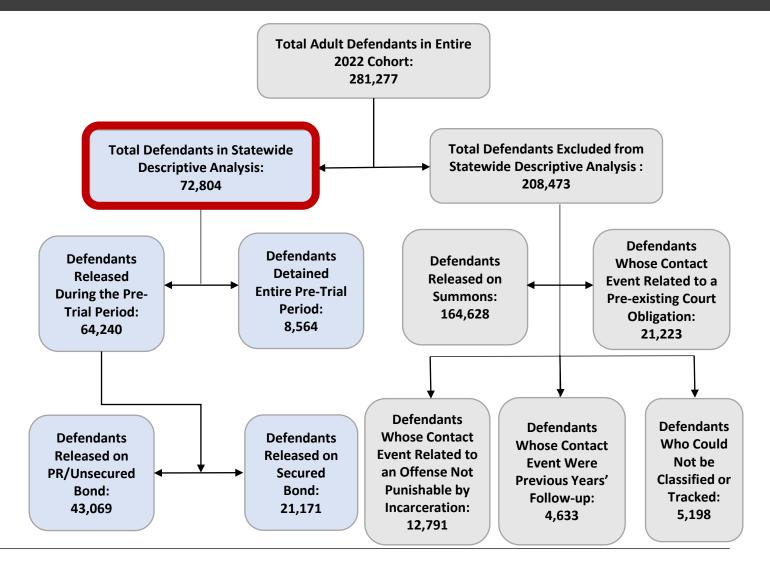
The analysis focuses on adult defendants whose contact event included a criminal offense punishable by incarceration where a bail determination was made by a judicial officer.





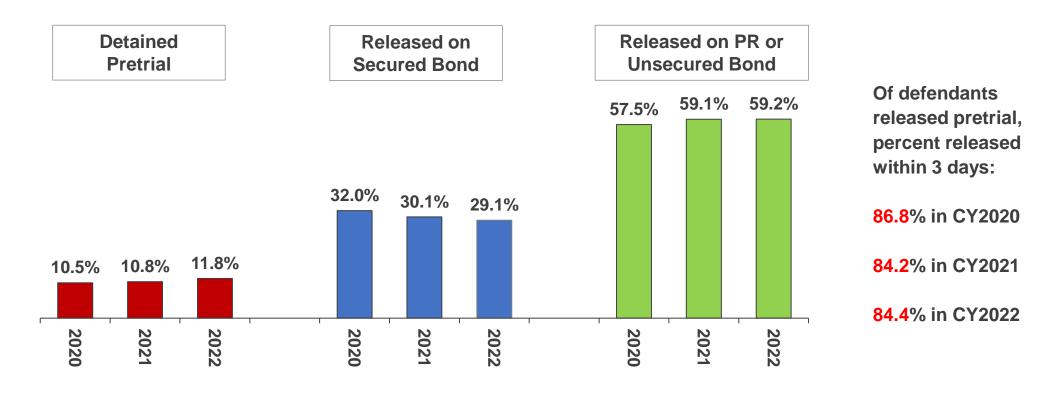
Pretrial Data Project CY2022 Cohort (UPDATED)

The analysis focuses on adult defendants whose contact event included a criminal offense punishable by incarceration where a bail determination was made by a judicial officer.





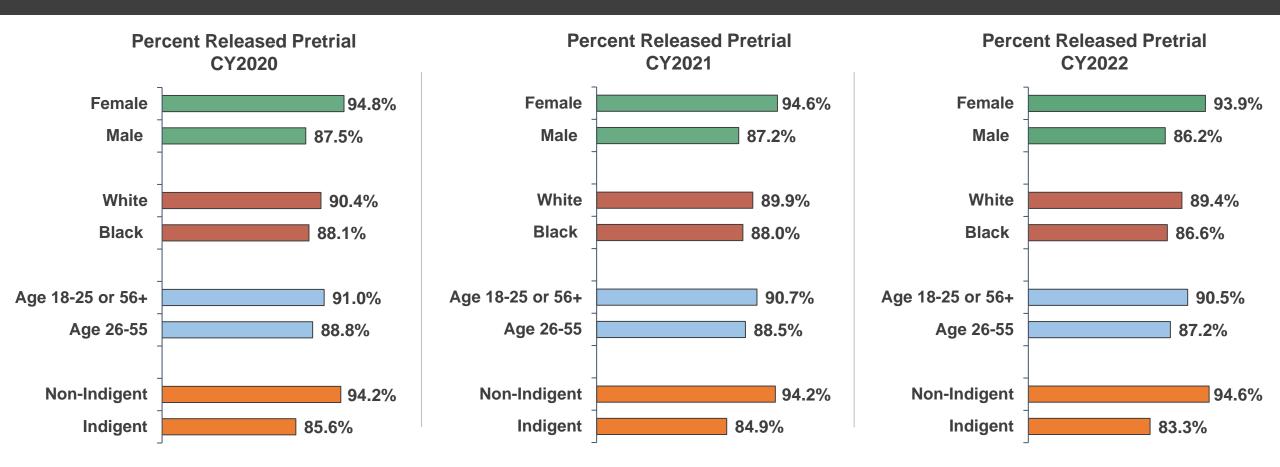
Pretrial Release Status of Defendants in CY2020, CY2021 & CY2022 Cohorts



This analysis is based on pretrial contact events that included a criminal offense punishable by incarceration where a bail determination was made by a judicial officer.



Pretrial Release Rates and Defendant Characteristics

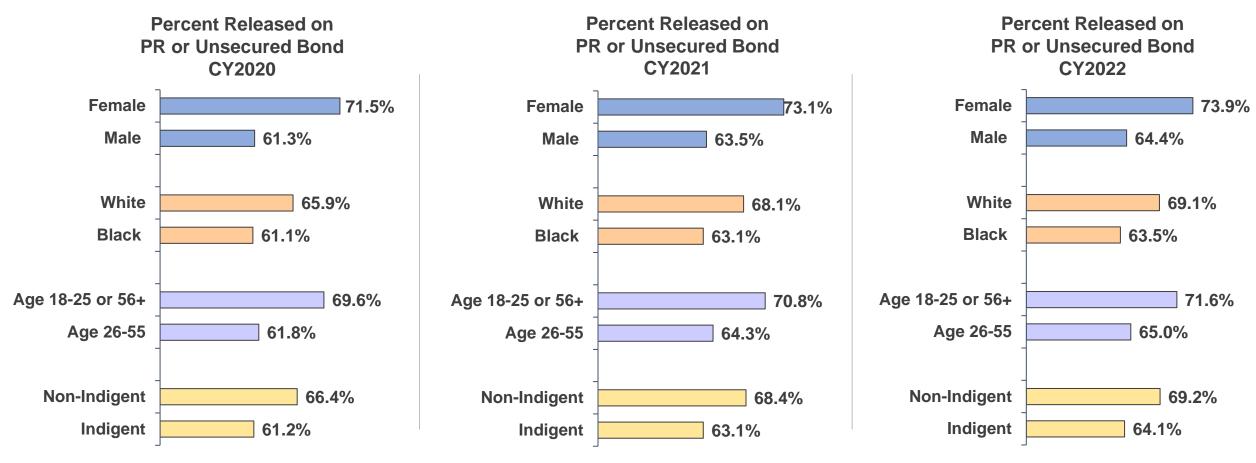




Analysis is based on defendants whose pretrial contact event included a criminal offense punishable by incarceration where a bail determination was made by a judicial officer; however, defendants in other categories or who have missing information are excluded from the chart.

Indigency status is a proxy measure based upon whether the attorney type at case closure in the Court Case Management System (CMS) was noted as a public defender or court-appointed attorney.

Bond Type at Release and Defendant Characteristics





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Analysis is based on defendants who were charged with a criminal offense punishable by incarceration and, following a bail determination made by a judicial officer, were released during the pretrial period.

Indigency status is a proxy measure based upon whether the attorney type at case closure in the Court Case Management System (CMS) was noted as a public defender or court-appointed attorney.

Pretrial Data Project Outcome Measures

COURT APPEARANCE OUTCOME

Whether the released defendant was charged with failure to appear (FTA) or contempt of court for failure to appear during the pretrial period

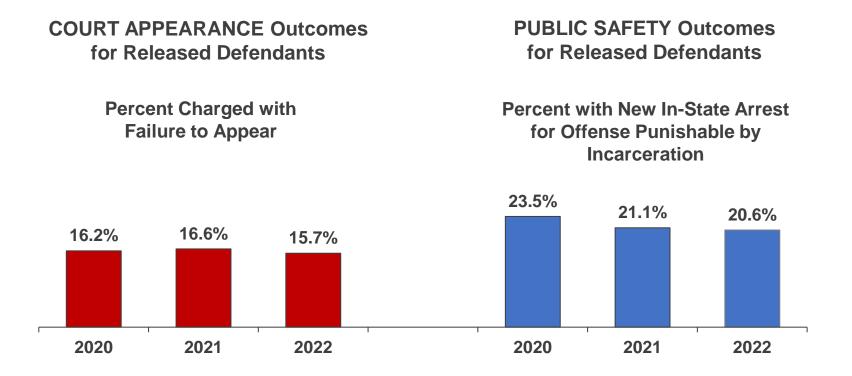
PUBLIC SAFETY OUTCOME

Whether the released defendant had a new in-state arrest for an offense punishable by incarceration during the pretrial period (excluding FTA and probation violations, etc.)

Both offense date and arrest date must be between the first contact event date and final disposition date.



Pretrial Outcome Measures





This analysis is based on the defendants who were charged with a criminal offense punishable by incarceration and, following a bail determination made by a judicial officer, were released during the pretrial period.

Pretrial Data Project Reporting and Deliverables (§ 19.2-134.1)

The Commission's next report is due to the General Assembly on December 1, 2024.

The final data set (with personal/case identifiers removed) must be made available on the Commission's website.

An electronic interactive data dashboard tool on the website must display aggregated data based on characteristics or indicators selected by the user.





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