

Corrections Data Technical Addendum District Task Force on Jails & Justice

October 9, 2019

I. Unsentenced and Sentenced ADP Calculations

The Vera Institute of Justice measured ADP retrospectively by fitting an algorithm to administrative data provided by DOC that calculates the number of people in DOC custody every day for a given time period, as measured by the time between an individual's booking date and release date, and then takes the average of the number of these individuals per the time frame specified. Any limitations with respect to booking and release dates that do not accurately correspond to individual's movement in and out of DOC custody are reflected in our analysis.

To measure ADP by legal status, for "Sentenced" and "Unsentenced" ADP Vera relied on sentence dates on the top charge for a given booking, as flagged by DC DOC. An individual is considered "Unsentenced" during the time between when they are booked into DOC custody and the time they receive a sentence date on their top charge. An individual is measured as part of the "Unsentenced" ADP from the moment they arrive in DOC custody, which extends to individuals pre-arraignment or who, for any other reason were in DOC custody prior to being issued a sentence date on their most serious charge. An individual is considered "Sentenced" during the time after their sentence date and prior to leaving DC DOC custody.

For individuals booked on a violation, here referring to parole, probation, or court order violations, Vera only considered this individual part of the violation portion of legal status if their most serious charge as flagged by DC DOC is indicated as violation. For example, if any individual is booked on both a parole violation and a simple assault charge, and the simple assault charge is flagged as the top charge, Vera did not consider that individual to be part of the "Violation" category in the ADP.¹ Instead, Vera assumed that the time between that individual's booking date and sentence date on the new simple assault charge can be counted towards the overall "Unsentenced" ADP.

Other methods of calculating ADP used by District and federal agencies do not necessarily use the same parameters used in this report, and thus exact calculations may vary between this report and previously published numbers.

¹ Note that the counts provided in the report do not count approximately 31 bookings in 2018 that are labeled as violations due to supervised release, not otherwise labeled as parole, probation, or court order violations. Incorporating these into the counts of overall bookings for all violations in 2018 would raise the number from 1,360 to 1,391, and increase the ADP due to violations from 333 to 343 for 2018.

II. Classification of Holds

With the exception of describing overall ADP by legal status, for nearly every other calculation provided in this report Vera omitted bookings considered to be on a “Hold” for other jurisdictions. This was done to best isolate the population that is directly under D.C. authority, and is not in full or in part under the authority of a jurisdiction which D.C. stakeholders have limited ability to influence or change.

Broadly, there are three ways an individual can be defined as being on a “Hold”:

1. The individual is indicated as being admitted for being held in transit to U.S District Court, Maryland U.S District Court, the BOP, D.C. Superior Court, or any other type of admission for explicit purposes of transfer to another jurisdiction.
2. The individual has a charge indicating a warrant in another jurisdiction.
3. The individual indicates a Writ.

To some extent, this definition of a “Hold” is likely a conservative estimation of holds, in that we probably over estimate to a small extent the number of individuals outside of D.C. authority. For example, the most common reason someone is booked on a hold is that their top charge indicates they may have a warrant for charges in another jurisdiction and will be transferred. It may be that for some of these individuals, they also serve time on separate unrelated charges in the D.C. DOC. However, parsing out parts of time at this level is complex and potentially error prone. Thus, to provide a more accurate overview of the jail population over which D.C. has authority, we elected this more conservative approach.

III. Length of Stay for Bookings by Diagnoses

As mentioned in the body of the report, we assessed both differences in median Unsentenced LOS by diagnoses, and by diagnoses and top charge. This is critically important, as the top charges vary by diagnoses, suggesting comparing only differences by diagnoses is to some extent, failing to control for differences which may be due to different charges. See table six below for top charges by diagnoses.

For each charge, we measured both the median Unsentenced LOS (LOS for violations) as well as the bootstrapped confidence interval of the median and Wilcoxon Ranked Sum test to determine statistically significant differences in the median. Overall, with the exception of felony parole violations, for the top ten top charges, at least one diagnosis group shows significantly longer LOS than the no diagnosis group.

Interpreting results that are not statistically significant is complicated due to wide dispersion of Unsentenced LOS/LOS for diagnosed groups, suggesting extremely varied outcomes, based on our assessment of the 95th percentile confidence intervals for these groups.

For example, as shown in Figure 1 below, the median Unsentenced LOS for Non DV Simple Assault for individuals with no diagnoses is nine days, with a 95th percentile confidence interval of the median between two to nine days. For individuals with a SMI diagnosis, the median Unsentenced LOS is 20 days, statistically significantly from the median of no diagnosed individuals, with a confidence interval of 10 – 26 days. The case is similar for individuals with a substance abuse diagnosis or dual diagnoses. For this charge, all differences are statistically significant from no diagnosis, though not different from each other considering the wide dispersion of their Unsentenced LOS. This is not always the case, and for many of the top ten top charges one or more diagnoses groups does not show significant differences in the median from the no diagnosis group, see Table 3 below for details for the top ten top charges.

Figure One: Median PT LOS for Non DV Simple Assault



See Table 3 below for median Unsenteded LOS or LOS for top ten charges with statistically significant differences between individuals booked with no diagnoses and those with a diagnosis. See Table 4 below for the 95th percentile confidence intervals of the median, see Table 5 for total number of non-hold bookings by diagnoses and top charge, and Table 6 for the number of bookings per each charge.

Table 3: Median Unsenteded LOS by charge and diagnoses²

Statute	Description	Base ³	SMI ⁴	SA ⁵	DD ⁶
48 DC 904.01 A1	Poss W/I to Dist A Control Substance	7	97		
22 DC 407	Threats to Do Bodily Harm -Misd	11			17
22 DC 402	Assault With A Dangerous Weapon	31		96	62
7 DC 2502.01	Unlawful Poss of A Firearm	4	89	15	
48 DC 904.01 D	Poss of a Control Substance -Misd	7	14		13
22 DC 404 A	DV Simple Assault	9			15
48 DC 904.01 A1	Dist of A Controlled Substance	12.5		16	
50 DC 2201.05	Driving Under Influence-1st Off	0		0.5	5
22 DC 3211	Theft Second Degree	9		13	10
22 DC 404 A	Non DV Simple Assault	6	20	14	15
	Felony Parole Violation (LOS) ⁷	71.5			
	Probation Violation (LOS)	36	56		57.5

Table 4: 95th Percentile Median CI for Unsenteded LOS by Charge and Diagnoses

Statute	Description	Base	SMI	SA	DD
48 DC 904.01 A1	Poss W/I to Dist A Control Substance	3 – 13	21 – 347	5 – 24	0 - 150
22 DC 407	Threats to Do Bodily Harm - Misd	6 – 24	3 – 27	7.5 – 31.5	13 – 28.5
22 DC 402	Assault With A Dangerous Weapon	5 – 24	13 – 122	53.5 – 119	23 – 104
7 DC 2502.01	Unlawful Poss of A Firearm	3 – 4	3 – 242	3 – 67	3 – 88
48 DC 904.01 D	Poss of a Control Substance - Misd	2 – 11	5.5 – 49.5	5 – 11	8 – 18
22 DC 404 A	DV Simple Assault	7 – 11	4 – 48	7 – 19	10.5 – 21.5
48 DC 904.01 A1	Dist of A Controlled Substance	3 – 10	7 – 51.5	9 – 24	10 – 19

² Results shown are statistically significant at p < 0.05, insignificant results are omitted.

³ No diagnosis

⁴ Serious Mental Illness

⁵ Substance Abuse or Dependency

⁶ Dual Diagnosis

⁷ Violations were assessed using LOS as we do not consider any time spent on a violation to be pretrial.

50 DC 2201.05	Driving Under Influence-1st Off	0	0 – 7	0 – 4	1 – 11
22 DC 3211	Theft Second Degree	4 – 8	6 – 23	8 – 16	9 – 13
22 DC 404 A	Non DV Simple Assault	2 – 9	10 – 26	10.5 – 19	12 – 20.5
	Felony Parole Violation (LOS)	55 – 92	41.5 - 124	61 -86	72 - 90
	Probation Violation (LOS)	27 – 44	44 – 73	34 – 55	47 – 75

Table 5: Non Hold Bookings (2018) by Top Charge and Diagnoses

Statute	Description	Base	SMI	SA	DD
48 DC 904.01 A1	Poss W/I to Dist A Control Substance	70	4	63	15
22 DC 407	Threats to Do Bodily Harm - Misd	47	37	36	80
22 DC 402	Assault With A Dangerous Weapon	107	23	64	52
7 DC 2502.01	Unlawful Poss of A Firearm	113	12	101	32
48 DC 904.01 D	Poss of a Control Substance - Misd	49	18	98	95
22 DC 404 A	DV Simple Assault	117	31	70	92
48 DC 904.01 A1	Dist of A Controlled Substance	51	12	149	133
50 DC 2201.05	Driving Under Influence-1st Off	218	4	98	29
22 DC 3211	Theft Second Degree	57	21	116	162
22 DC 404 A	Non DV Simple Assault	103	90	106	230
	Felony Parole Violation	118	40	299	293
	Probation Violation	135	50	188	190

Table 6: Top Charges by Diagnoses⁸

Serious MI Bookings	n	Substance Abuse Bookings	n	Dual Diag. Bookings	n
Non DV Simple Assault	90	Felony Parole Violation	299	Felony Parole Violation	293
Probation Violation	50	Probation Violation	188	Non DV Simple Assault	230
Unlawful Entry	41	Dist of Controlled Substance	149	Probation Violation	190
Felony Parole Violation	40	Theft Second Degree	116	Theft Second Degree	162
Threats to do harm – Misd	37	Non DV Simple Assault	106	Unlawful Entry	150
DV Simple Assault	31	Unlawful Poss of Firearm	101	Dist of Controlled Substance	133

⁸ Counts here exclude individuals on a hold.

Robbery	27	DUI 1 st - Offense	98	Poss of a Control Substance – Misd	95
Assault With a Dangerous Weapon	23	Poss of Control Substance – Misd	98	DV Simple Assault	92
Theft Second Degree	21	Unlawful Entry	73	Threats to Do Bodily Harm – Misd	80

Table 7: Median PT LOS By Diagnoses⁹

	Median PT LOS	95 th Percentile CI Low	95 th Percentile CI High
<i>No Diagnosis</i>	4	3	4
<i>Substance Abuse</i>	11	9	13
<i>Mental Health</i>	15	12	21
<i>Dual Diagnoses</i>	14	13	15

⁹ All results shown here a statistically significant at $p < 0.05$.

IV. Top Charges and Diagnoses Prevalence for Young Adults

The body of this report provides a summary of adult and young adult bookings by top charge category to demonstrate the way in which young adult bookings show a higher frequency of more serious charges. Table 8 below details the top ten charges for adults and young adults. Additionally, young adults were less likely than adults to meet criteria for any diagnoses, though somewhat more likely to meet criteria for a SMI. Table nine below shows diagnoses prevalence among adults and young adults.

Table 8: Top Charges, Young Adults vs. Adults

Top Ten Top Charges, Non-Hold Bookings 2018	YA Bookings	Top Charges Top Charges, Non-Hold Bookings 2018	Adult Bookings
22 DC 4504 A1-Y: Carry Pistol without license	243, 15%	Felony Parole Violation	654, 12%
22 DC 2801: Robbery	124, 8%	Probation Violation	451, 9%
Probation Violation	119, 7%	22 DC 404 A: Non DV Simple Assault	414, 8%
22 DC 404 A: Non DV Simple Assault	110, 7%	50 DC 2201.05 B: DUI 1 st Offense	324, 6%
22 DC 402-Y: Assault With A Dangerous Weapon	82, 5%	22 DC 3211, 3212 B: Theft Second Degree	294, 6%
Felony Parole Violation	77, 5%	48 DC 904.01 A1: Dist. Controlled Substance	273, 5%
22 DC 404 A DV Simple Assault	68, 4%	22 DC 3302: Unlawful Entry	256, 5%
7 DC 2502.01 Unlawful Poss of A Firearm	66, 4%	22 DC 404 A: DV Simple Assault	233, 4%
22 DC 3302 Unlawful Entry	61, 4%	48 DC 904.01 D: Poss Control Subst. Misd	223, 4%
22 DC 3211, 3212 B Theft Second Degree	59, 4%	7 DC 2502.01: Unlawful Poss of A Firearm	194, 4%

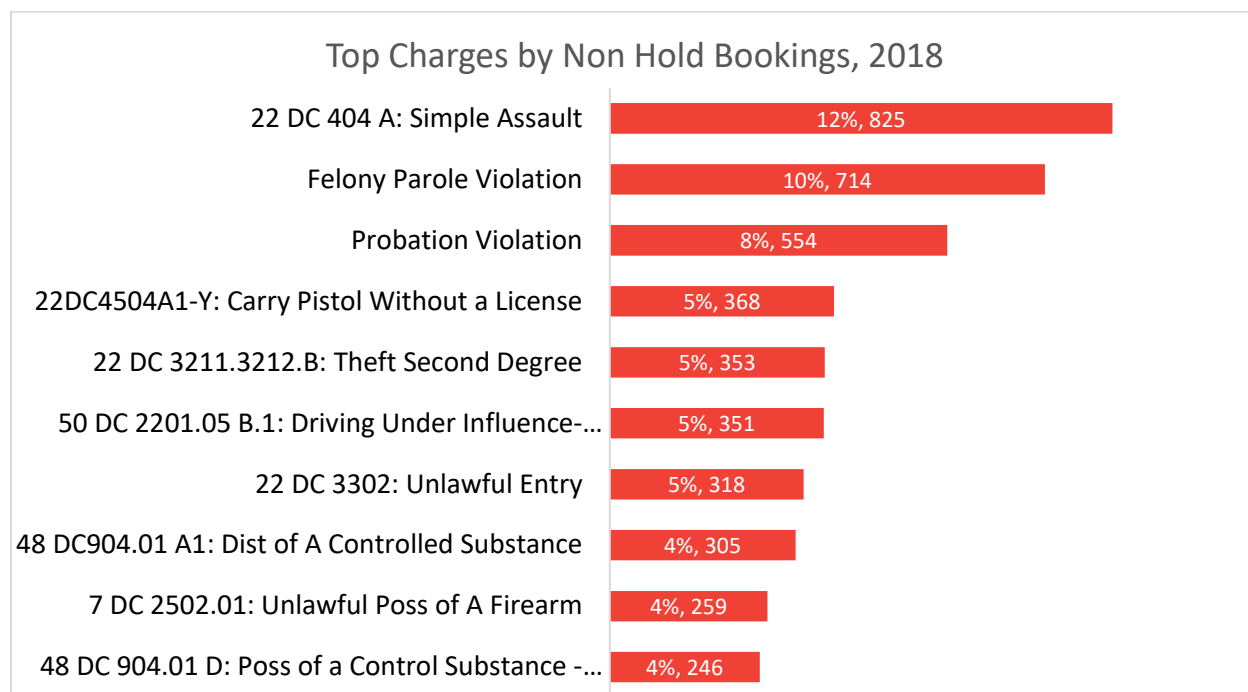
Table 9: Non-Hold Bookings by Diagnoses and Age Group

Diagnoses	Young Adults	Adults
<i>SMI only</i>	11%, 179	8%, 408
<i>Substance Abuse or Dependency Only</i>	25%, 404	30%, 1,597
<i>Dual Diagnoses</i>	13%, 209	35%, 1,843
<i>No Diagnoses</i>	52%, 850	27%, 1,446

V. *Top Ten Top Charges*

In the body of this report, we provided only top categories for the entire DOC population, as this provided a comprehensive summary. In contrast, here we provide the top ten charges, to give a more detailed overview of a smaller portion of all bookings and ADP in 2018. Note here as in the body of the paper we omit individuals considered to be on administrative hold.

Without aggregating charges to the category level, simple assault becomes the most common charge with respect to bookings and third most common with respect to ADP. Questions arose from the Task Force at this point about the extent to which simple assault cases were domestic violence cases. To estimate this, we disaggregated simple assault further into simple assault cases filed in the Domestic Violence division of the D.C. Courts, and those not. Counting simple assaults this way shows that in 2018, there were 527 (or 8% of total non-hold bookings) bookings for “Non Domestic Violence” simple assault, and 298 (or 4% of total non-hold bookings) bookings for “Domestic Violence” simple assault. We see similar revisions for ADP, with Non-DV simple assault showing an ADP of 86 (or 6% of non-hold ADP), and DV simple assault showing an ADP of 39 (or 3% of non-hold ADP).



Top Charges by non-hold ADP, 2018

