

Charleston County: 2024 Arrest, Diversion, & Deflection

Formally established in 2015, the Charleston County Criminal Justice Coordinating Council (CJCC) proactively strengthens the local criminal justice system and public safety through data sharing and analysis. The CJCC remains committed to accountability and transparency.

In comparing 2023 and 2024 arrest, diversion, and deflection trends¹:

- **Both arrests where people were taken to jail (custodial) and those where they were not (noncustodial) increased.**
 - Custodial: 9,793 (2024); 8,601 (2023)
 - Noncustodial: 2,683 (2024) 1,959 (2023)
- **Each of the four largest agencies in Charleston County** (Charleston Police Department, North Charleston Police Department, the Charleston County Sheriff's Office, and Mount Pleasant Police Department) **increased custodial arrests in 2024 compared to 2023.**
- **The most common charge where people were taken to jail was first-time driving under the influence (DUI) (1,155 in 2024), nearly doubling in frequency since 2023 (601 in 2023).** This charge was the top charge for both men and women and for those between the ages of 25 and 34.
- **More individuals were admitted into the Tri-County Crisis Stabilization Center (TCSC) and Triage Services, with admissions rising from 195 (2023) to 307 (2024).**

In 2024:

- **There were 836 'Familiar Faces' – individuals booked into the jail three or more times over two years. Together, they accounted for 1,929 bookings, 3,705 charges, and 47,702 bed days. On average, they stayed in jail for 25 days and made up 13% of the local jail population.**
- **There were 128 'Most Visible People' (MVP) – individuals booked four or more times within one year. Together, they used 10,837 jail days, making up 1.9% of the jail's local population for the year, and stayed an average of 16.9 days each time. The most frequent charges were trespassing, shoplifting, and public disorderly conduct.**

¹ All data presented in this document is drawn from the CJCC 2024 Annual Report found here: <https://cjcc.charlestoncounty.org/files/publications/2024-CJCC-Annual-Report.pdf>