

County-Level Bail Conditions in North Carolina

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I previously wrote ([here](#)) about the role of money bail in North Carolina and presented 2018 county-level data on the types of pretrial conditions imposed for misdemeanors. I got so many questions about that data that we have produced it in a more comprehensive and user friendly form. Our new downloadable Excel file ([here](#)) contains two tabs, one for highest charge misdemeanor cases and one for highest charge felony cases. As with our previous report, this one presents county-level data from the NC AOC system for last condition imposed. In the default view, state level data is presented at the top of the spreadsheet with county-level data below, and with counties arrayed in alphabetical order. But because it is a downloadable file, users can manipulate the spreadsheet to show, for example, counties arrayed by highest percentage of secured bonds in misdemeanor cases (Figure 1 below) or lowest percentage of secured bonds in those cases (Figure 2 below). The statewide average for secured bonds in misdemeanor cases is 67.6%, but the range is significant, from a low of imposition in 32.9% of cases (Gates) to imposition in 87.6% of cases (Franklin). It also is noteworthy that in 2019 only five counties (Gates, Mecklenburg, Tyrrell, Camden and Hyde) imposed secured bonds in less than ½ of highest charge misdemeanor cases.

The new spreadsheet also includes data on felony cases. Statewide in 2018, secured bonds were imposed in 79.5% of those cases. But again the range is significant, from imposition in 49.3% of cases (Gates) to imposition in 95.4% of cases (Watauga). In a separate report I will present 2019 data to date; stay tuned, there are some interesting developments.

For more information about bail in North Carolina, please visit our web page [here](#).

Figure 1. Conditions of release, highest charge misdemeanor, highest percentages of secured bonds

CONDITIONS OF RELEASE REPORT, HIGHEST CHARGE MISDEMEANOR (Statewide; January 1, 2018 - December 31, 2018), UNC Criminal Justice Innovation Lab 2019																		
STATEWIDE	146,162	67.6%	145,862	67.4%	300	0.1%	61,381	28.4%	2,819	1.3%	43,540	20.1%	15,022	6.9%	8,803	4.1%	216,346	
COUNTY	Total Financial Count	Total Financial %	Secured Bond Count	Secured Bond %	EHA with Secured Bond Count	EHA with Secured Bond %	Total Nonfinancial Count	Total Nonfinancial %	Custody Release Count	Custody Release %	Unsecured Bond Count	Unsecured Bond %	Written Promise to Appear Count	Written Promise to Appear %	Issued as Not Authorized Count	Issued as Not Authorized %	Total	
FRANKLIN	1,309	87.6%	1,309	87.6%	-	0.0%	168	11.2%	7	0.5%	58	3.9%	103	6.9%	17	1.1%	1,494	
ALAMANCE	3,027	85.1%	3,027	85.1%	-	0.0%	431	12.1%	17	0.5%	254	7.1%	160	4.5%	99	2.8%	3,557	
DARE	745	84.9%	745	84.9%	-	0.0%	62	7.1%	1	0.1%	53	6.0%	8	0.9%	71	8.1%	878	
PITT	3,179	84.4%	3,072	81.6%	107	2.8%	506	13.4%	16	0.4%	427	11.3%	63	1.7%	81	2.2%	3,766	
HENDERSON	2,820	83.8%	2,820	83.8%	-	0.0%	378	11.2%	36	1.1%	204	6.1%	138	4.1%	167	5.0%	3,365	
WAKE	10,525	83.6%	10,400	82.6%	125	1.0%	1,986	15.8%	149	1.2%	1,344	10.7%	493	3.9%	74	0.6%	12,585	
BERTIE	318	82.8%	318	82.8%	-	0.0%	47	12.2%	2	0.5%	39	10.2%	6	1.6%	19	4.9%	384	
MCDOWELL	902	82.3%	902	82.3%	-	0.0%	142	13.0%	5	0.5%	30	2.7%	107	9.8%	52	4.7%	1,096	
WARREN	237	82.0%	237	82.0%	-	0.0%	49	17.0%	2	0.7%	36	12.5%	11	3.8%	3	1.0%	289	
BRUNSWICK	1,543	81.1%	1,541	81.0%	2	0.1%	336	17.7%	12	0.6%	312	16.4%	12	0.6%	23	1.2%	1,902	
IREDELL	2,341	80.6%	2,341	80.6%	-	0.0%	510	17.6%	37	1.3%	446	15.4%	27	0.9%	53	1.8%	2,904	
STANLY	1,051	80.1%	1,051	80.1%	-	0.0%	240	18.3%	24	1.8%	164	12.5%	52	4.0%	21	1.6%	1,312	
VANCE	1,280	79.6%	1,280	79.6%	-	0.0%	268	16.7%	19	1.2%	232	14.4%	17	1.1%	60	3.7%	1,608	
GREENE	242	79.3%	242	79.3%	-	0.0%	16	5.2%	-	0.0%	14	4.6%	2	0.7%	47	15.4%	305	
UNION	2,170	78.8%	2,170	78.8%	-	0.0%	522	19.0%	30	1.1%	319	11.6%	173	6.3%	61	2.2%	2,753	
ASHE	525	78.7%	525	78.7%	-	0.0%	131	19.6%	2	0.3%	90	13.5%	39	5.8%	11	1.6%	667	
LEE	946	78.7%	946	78.7%	-	0.0%	238	19.8%	6	0.5%	230	19.1%	2	0.2%	18	1.5%	1,202	
ROWAN	2,111	78.6%	2,111	78.6%	-	0.0%	426	15.9%	17	0.6%	61	2.3%	348	13.0%	150	5.6%	2,687	
WATAUGA	689	78.1%	689	78.1%	-	0.0%	159	18.0%	23	2.6%	16	1.8%	120	13.6%	34	3.9%	882	
LINCOLN	1,358	78.1%	1,358	78.1%	-	0.0%	350	20.1%	11	0.6%	335	19.3%	4	0.2%	31	1.8%	1,739	
NORTHAMPTON	407	78.0%	407	78.0%	-	0.0%	78	14.9%	-	0.0%	77	14.8%	1	0.2%	37	7.1%	522	
GRAVEN	1,512	77.8%	1,510	77.7%	2	0.1%	390	20.1%	57	2.9%	68	3.5%	265	13.6%	41	2.1%	1,943	
FORSYTH	6,150	77.5%	6,150	77.5%	-	0.0%	1,577	19.9%	70	0.9%	614	7.7%	893	11.3%	210	2.6%	7,937	
HERTFORD	494	77.3%	494	77.3%	-	0.0%	88	13.8%	2	0.3%	86	13.5%	-	0.0%	57	8.9%	639	
CABARRUS	2,474	76.5%	2,474	76.5%	-	0.0%	409	12.6%	3	0.1%	72	2.2%	334	10.3%	351	10.9%	3,234	
BURKE	2,045	76.4%	2,045	76.4%	-	0.0%	339	12.7%	68	2.5%	35	1.3%	236	8.8%	291	10.9%	2,675	
CLEVELAND	1,892	76.1%	1,892	76.1%	-	0.0%	538	21.6%	5	0.2%	518	20.8%	15	0.6%	57	2.3%	2,487	
JOHNSTON	2,797	76.0%	2,796	76.0%	1	0.0%	800	21.7%	46	1.3%	744	20.2%	10	0.3%	82	2.2%	3,679	

Figure 2. Conditions of release, highest charge misdemeanor, lowest percentages of secured bonds

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STATEWIDE	146,162	67.6%	145,862	67.4%	300	0.1%	61,381	28.4%	2,819	1.3%	43,540	20.1%	15,022	6.9%	8,803	4.1%	216,346	
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GATES	51	32.9%	51	32.9%	-	0.0%	100	64.5%	-	0.0%	100	64.5%	-	0.0%	4	2.6%	155	
MECKLENBURG	10,743	41.8%	10,743	41.8%	-	0.0%	14,245	55.5%	630	2.5%	12,080	47.0%	1,535	6.0%	691	2.7%	25,679	
TYRRELL	41	44.6%	41	44.6%	-	0.0%	46	50.0%	-	0.0%	27	29.3%	19	20.7%	5	5.4%	92	
CAMDEN	38	44.7%	38	44.7%	-	0.0%	46	54.1%	-	0.0%	45	52.9%	1	1.2%	1	1.2%	85	
HYDE	39	47.0%	39	47.0%	-	0.0%	40	48.2%	-	0.0%	40	48.2%	-	0.0%	4	4.8%	83	
CHEROKEE	527	51.8%	527	51.8%	-	0.0%	484	47.5%	8	0.8%	433	42.5%	43	4.2%	7	0.7%	1,018	
HAYWOOD	1,141	53.9%	1,141	53.9%	-	0.0%	965	45.6%	41	1.9%	519	24.5%	405	19.1%	10	0.5%	2,116	
JACKSON	580	54.1%	580	54.1%	-	0.0%	462	43.1%	1	0.1%	378	35.2%	83	7.7%	31	2.9%	1,073	
BUNCOMBE	4,307	55.2%	4,307	55.2%	-	0.0%	3,481	44.6%	30	0.4%	2,072	26.6%	1,379	17.7%	9	0.1%	7,797	
DAVIE	408	55.7%	408	55.7%	-	0.0%	321	43.9%	5	0.7%	315	43.0%	1	0.1%	3	0.4%	732	
TRANSYLVANIA	614	56.0%	614	56.0%	-	0.0%	480	43.8%	26	2.4%	338	30.8%	116	10.6%	2	0.2%	1,096	
ANSON	530	56.7%	530	56.7%	-	0.0%	243	26.0%	4	0.4%	172	18.4%	67	7.2%	162	17.3%	935	
CLAY	101	57.7%	101	57.7%	-	0.0%	74	42.3%	-	0.0%	72	41.1%	2	1.1%	-	0.0%	175	
AVERY	205	58.4%	205	58.4%	-	0.0%	130	37.0%	12	3.4%	9	2.6%	109	31.1%	16	4.6%	351	
SCOTLAND	748	58.8%	748	58.8%	-	0.0%	312	24.5%	13	1.0%	191	15.0%	108	8.5%	212	16.7%	1,272	
CASWELL	173	59.9%	173	59.9%	-	0.0%	113	39.1%	2	0.7%	34	11.8%	77	26.6%	3	1.0%	289	
DURHAM	2,727	61.7%	2,726	61.7%	1	0.0%	1,507	34.1%	36	0.8%	1,079	24.4%	392	8.9%	187	4.2%	4,421	
EDGECOMBE	1,005	61.7%	1,005	61.7%	-	0.0%	563	34.6%	17	1.0%	421	25.9%	125	7.7%	60	3.7%	1,628	
BEAUFORT	533	62.1%	533	62.1%	-	0.0%	191	22.3%	6	0.7%	185	21.6%	-	0.0%	134	15.6%	858	
CHATHAM	507	62.6%	506	62.5%	1	0.1%	292	36.0%	6	0.7%	85	10.5%	201	24.8%	11	1.4%	810	
RICHMOND	979	62.8%	979	62.8%	-	0.0%	268	17.2%	68	4.4%	99	6.4%	101	6.5%	312	20.0%	1,559	
PERSON	504	62.8%	504	62.8%	-	0.0%	223	27.8%	9	1.1%	120	15.0%	94	11.7%	75	9.4%	802	
STOKES	668	62.9%	668	62.9%	-	0.0%	289	27.2%	28	2.6%	216	20.3%	45	4.2%	105	9.9%	1,062	
GUILFORD	8,047	63.2%	8,043	63.2%	4	0.0%	4,506	35.4%	234	1.8%	1,847	14.5%	2,425	19.0%	182	1.4%	12,735	
CUMBERLAND	4,477	63.2%	4,477	63.2%	-	0.0%	2,451	34.6%	30	0.4%	2,384	33.7%	37	0.5%	154	2.2%	7,082	
WAYNE	1,899	63.2%	1,899	63.2%	-	0.0%	1,063	35.4%	21	0.7%	812	27.0%	230	7.7%	41	1.4%	3,003	
YANCEY	148	63.5%	148	63.5%	-	0.0%	80	34.3%	1	0.4%	79	33.9%	-	0.0%	5	2.1%	233	
ORANGE	1,111	63.6%	1,111	63.6%	-	0.0%	614	35.1%	3	0.2%	306	17.5%	305	17.4%	23	1.3%	1,748	

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