

Update on
Wake County Public
Safety:
A view from the Courts

District Attorney Lorrin Freeman



Applied Filters

- Fiscal Year: 2025
- District Filter: District Court
- District: 10
- County: All Selected
- CR/CV/IF: All Selected
- Court Level: All Selected
- Case Type: All Selected
- Case Category: Misdemeanors (Traffic), Misdemeanors (Non-MV), Felonies, Infractions
- Highest Charge: All Selected

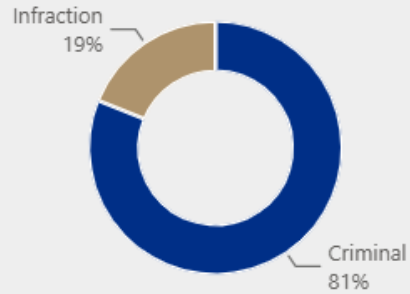
Overview

Filed

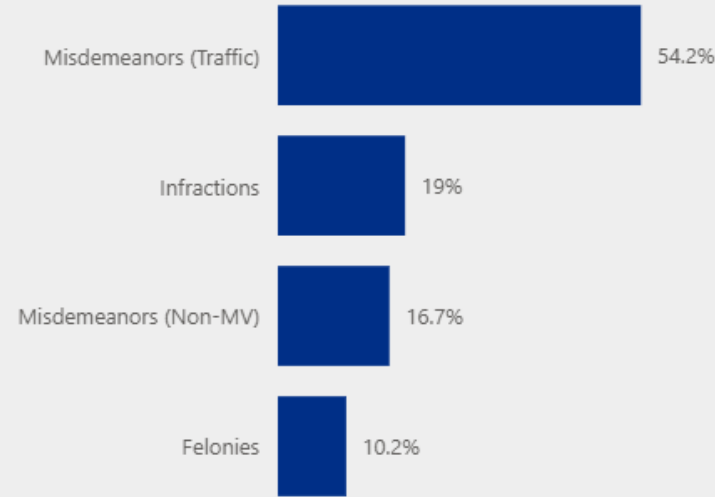
Disposed

Pending

By Case Type

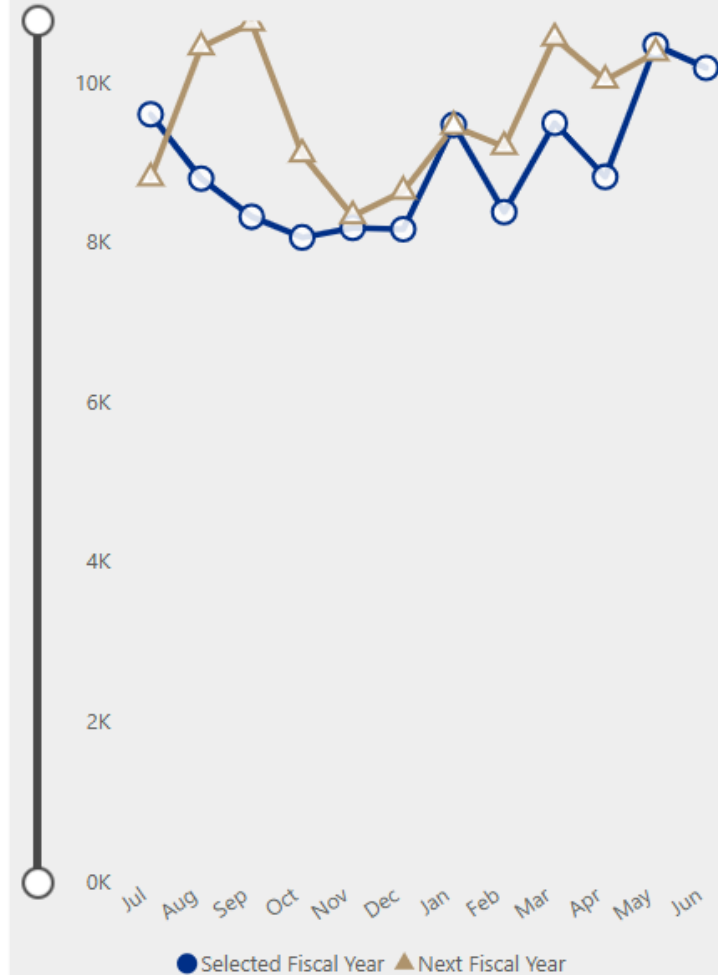


Most Frequently Filed by Case Category



Filed by Month

Selected vs Next Fiscal Year

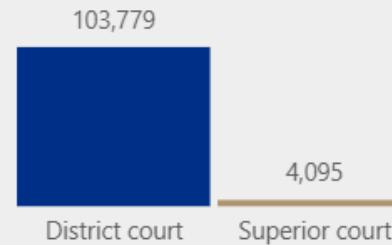


Filed (Cases)

107,874

Filed Last Fiscal Year 109,563

By Court Type





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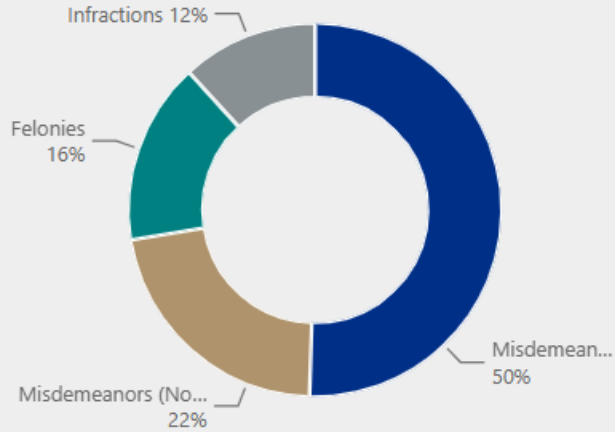
Overview

Filed

Disposed

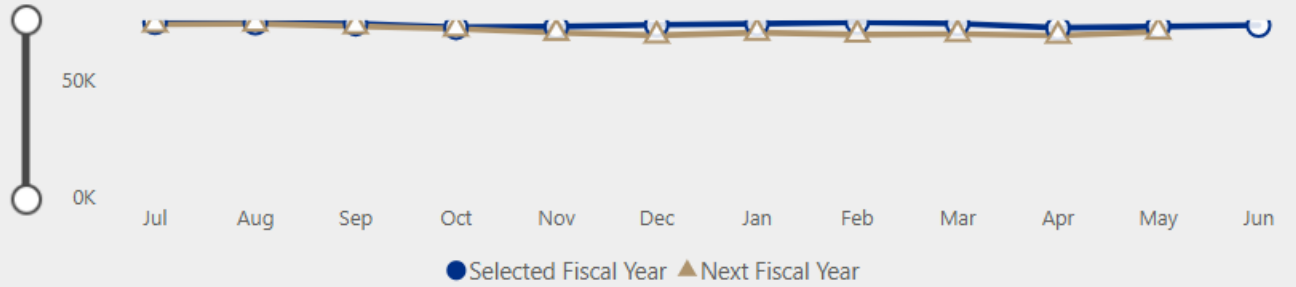
Pending

By Case Type

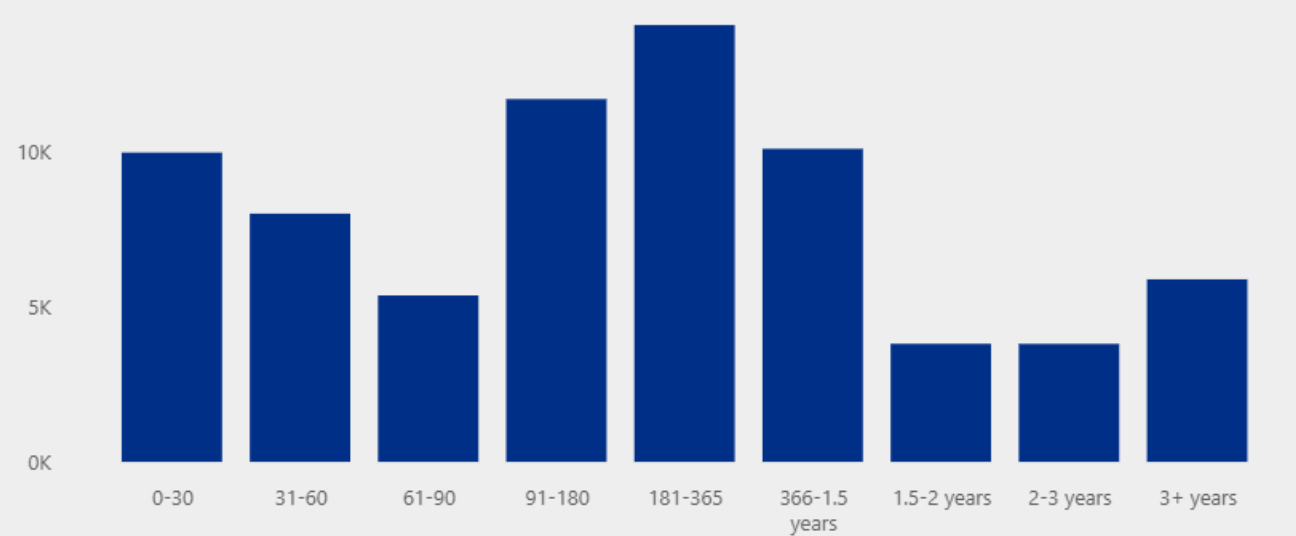


Pending By Month

Current vs Following Fiscal Year



Aging Days



195

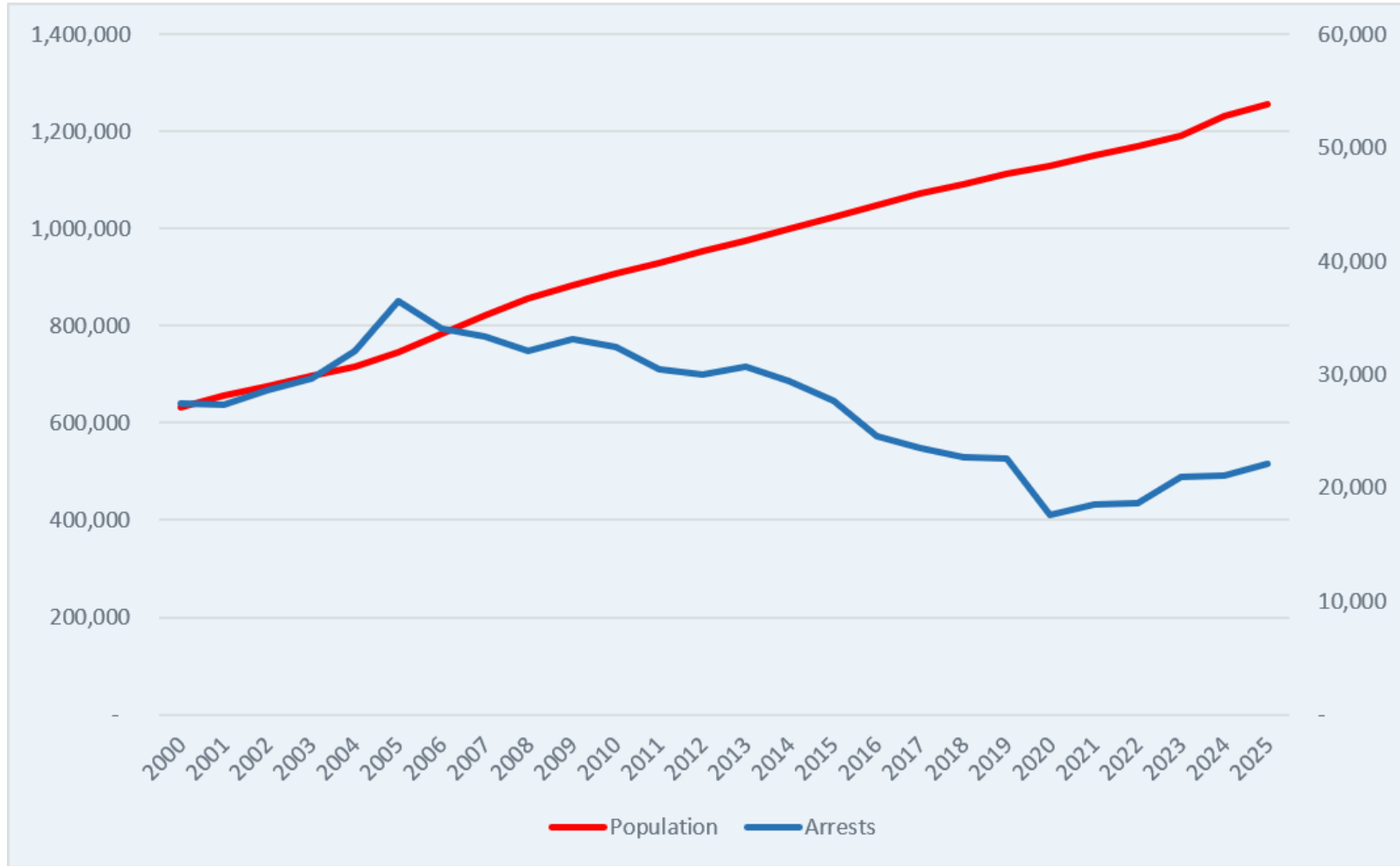
Pending Case Days (Median)



32%

Pending more than 1 Year

Wake County Arrests & Population



Home / North Carolina / Wake County

FBI UCR data

COUNTY SAFETY REPORT

Wake County Crime & Safety Report

FBI UCR violent crime, property crime, total crime rate, and safety score for Wake County, North Carolina.

PRIMARY SAFETY SIGNAL

80

out of 100, higher means lower reported crime

RATING	TOTAL CRIME	STATE RANK
Low Reported Crime	467.6	#6

VIOLENT CRIME

53.1

per 100K residents

Below national average

PROPERTY CRIME

414.5

per 100K residents

Below national average

TOTAL CRIME

467.6

per 100K residents

Below national average

STATE RANK

#6

of 100 scored counties

1 = safest in state

Wake County Bureau of Forensic Services Budget and Expansions

2015	Budget	~ \$5,700,000
2019	Firearms Laboratory 2 Firearms Examiners	
2022	DNA Laboratory 3 DNA Analysts	
2023	1 Forensic Computer Analyst	
2024	4 Crime Scene Science Specialists	
2025	1 Forensic Chemist	
2026	Budget	~ \$11,400,000

Prosecutor Resource Needs

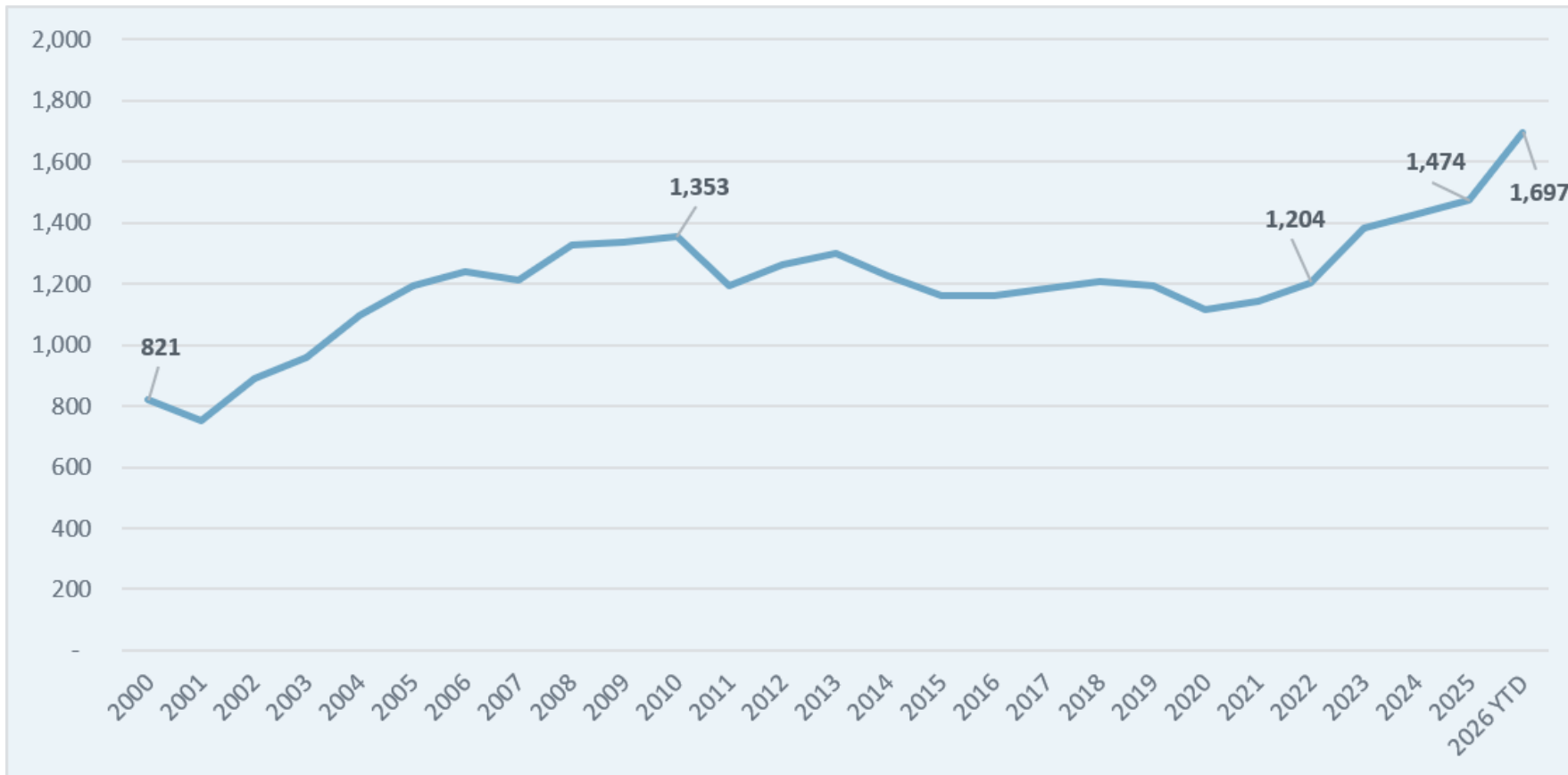
National Center for State Courts Workload Formula Study says our county needs 69.7 prosecutors. Wake County currently has 44 Assistant District Attorneys

FTE Workload Need Calculation Example

	Filings	x	Case Weight (minutes)	=	Workload (minutes)
Case Type A	1,000	x	240	=	240,000
Case Type B	3,000	x	60	=	180,000
Case Type C	500	x	120	=	60,000
Total	4,500				480,000

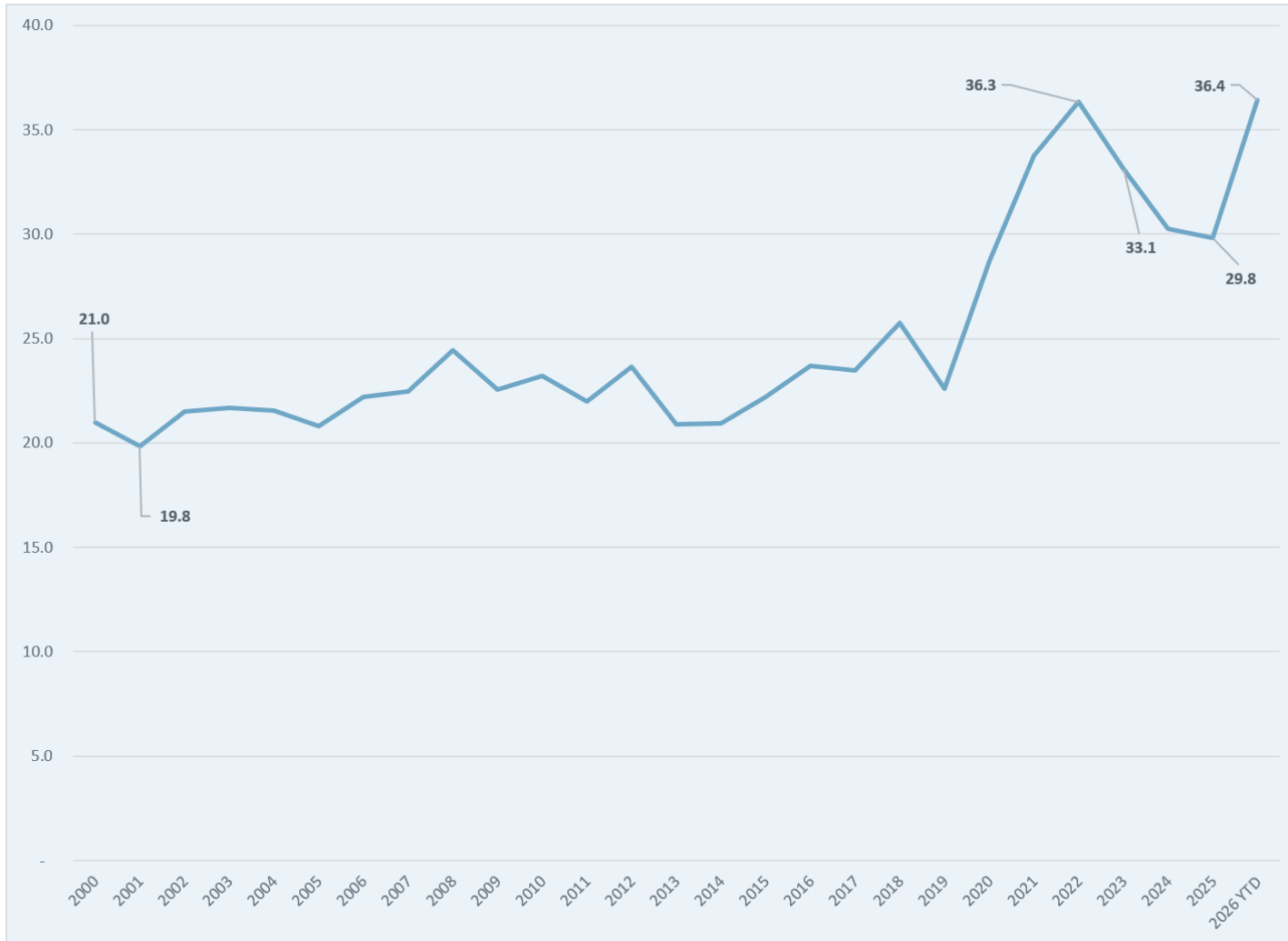
Total Workload (minutes)	÷	Year Value (minutes)	=	Resource Need (FTE)
480,000	÷	80,625	=	5.95

Pretrial Release Policies and Practices



- Wake County Jail ADP increased 107% from 2000 to 2026 YTD
- *2026 YTD Jail ADP is 1,697*

Pretrial Release Policies and Practices (cont.)



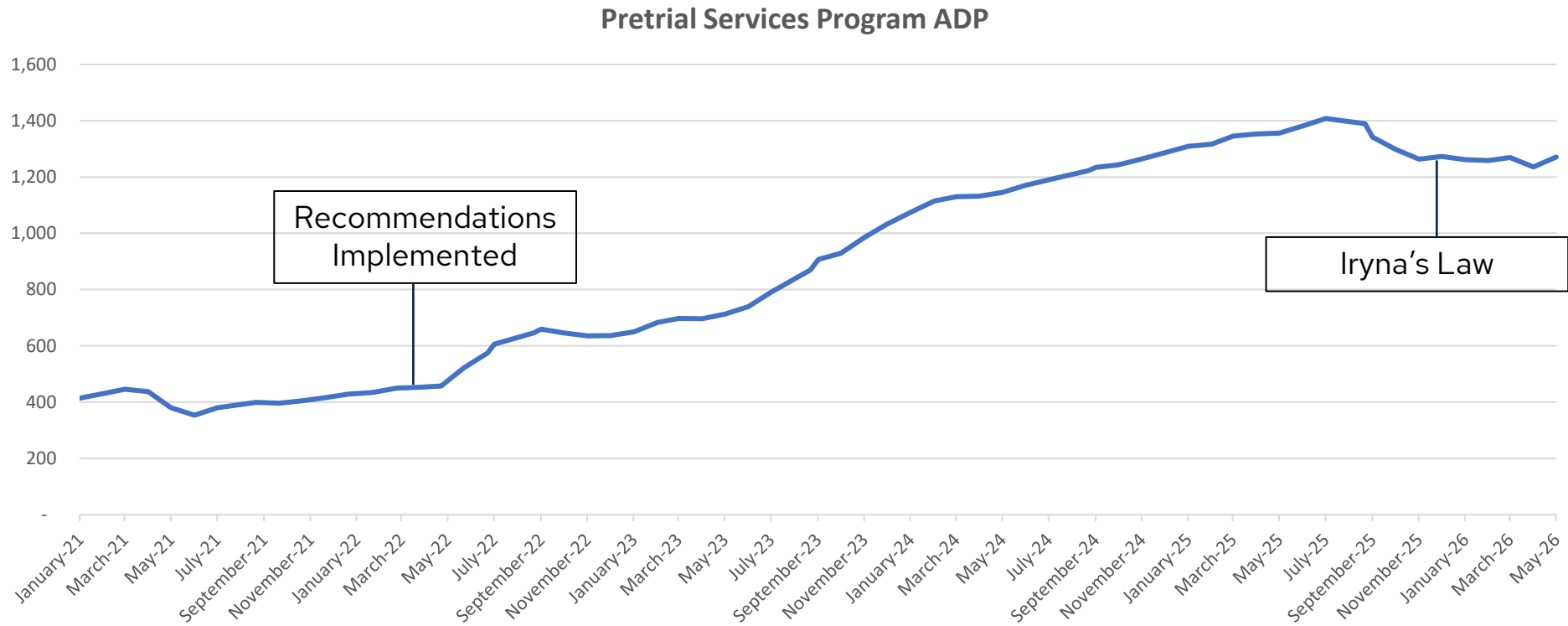
- Wake County Jail ALOS increased 74% from 2000 to 2026 YTD
- Lowest ALOS was in 2001 at 19.8 days; Highest ALOS is 2026 YTD at 36.4 days
- *2026 YTD Jail ALOS is 36.4 days*

Pretrial Policy and Procedure Review- Project Initiatives – December 2021 APPR Learning Site

- Implement Magistrate First Appearance Tool
- Implement Public Safety Assessment at First Appearance
- Increase Pretrial Support Services
- Develop Pretrial Jail Status “Real-Time” Dashboard
- Revise Secured Bond Schedule
- Provide Defense Counsel at First Appearance

Pretrial Reform Effort

- Pretrial Services Program



Who is spending time in the Wake County Detention Center?

- 7,980 pretrial admissions
- Most common pretrial admissions charge was failure to appear on a misdemeanor
- 38 percent pretrial population are being housed for felonies, 39 percent for non-traffic misdemeanors and 13% for probation violations. 78% of those in custody for misdemeanors are charged with Class A1 or 1 misdemeanor
- Only 8 percent of admissions were for 31 days or longer

- UNC School of Government Justice Systems
Research Team analysis of pretrial population for CY 2024

Addressing the Underlying Causes of Crime

- Behavioral Health initiatives
 - Partnership with Southlight and Alliance in providing deferral programs
 - Cross agency collaboration through the Director's Group and the BH/CJ task force
 - Significant County and Court collaboration and partnership

Thank you! It has been an honor

- Questions?