

Racine County -- Jail Data Review

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Overview

VRJS, Inc. reviewed the database of inmate population for the Racine County Jail managed by the Sheriff's Department. We obtained a much larger sample than previous agreed to because the Sheriff allowed access to the computer system and we withdrew a larger sample of the 2004 admissions. The most difficult effort included finding the appropriate data among the large database. The current system is very complex and to someone unfamiliar with the structure, it constituted a challenge to find the correct linkages to develop needed relationships. We could still improve reporting with continuing work on the data system.

The linkages to the court's data are difficult and impede much of what we would like to achieve. Courts only allow very limited access to the data due to many reasonable factors and considering that, the data system is supported by the State. The jail's data does contain some court-related information that appears to be entered independent of the courts data entry. We can only assume that this is staff-intensive and redundant, but also causes differences in data. That is unavoidable when redundant entry is required.

Each prisoner is likely to face more than one charge. It is difficult or nearly impossible to summarize inmate data without defining the most serious charge for each prisoner. VRJS, with the help of jail staff, developed a priority for charges and applied the premise that felonies are more serious than misdemeanors and then forfeitures or summons are less serious. The State defines levels of A, B, C, etc. We also tried to simplify the charges by grouping them in crimes against persons, crimes against property, drugs, alcohol, public order and traffic.¹

The current data does not answer all the questions asked by the County. Much of this is due to the natural limitations of the database. The data is not structured to answer some of the important issues. The links to courts data and data limitations minimized the needed comparison of periods to events and criminal histories. Criminal histories are not included and summarized in the jail's database in a way that would permit us to provide summary information about that past or historic background for the defendants.

We think the County will appreciate much of the reported information and desire to pursue some information in more detail and with differing views. VRJS hopes to help withdrawing the needed information.

Data Collection Review

The following data resulted from two separate downloads of data from the Sheriff's computer system. The downloads reflect our perception of the most important elements. It is entirely possible that more familiar eyes will see objects that we can improve and will guide us to accomplish improvements.

The download included the jail's 2004 inmate population and VRJS dissected the available data in several ways. We looked at all charges for those booked or admitted to the jail during 2004

¹ See Appendix E for example of breakdown.

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and then we attributed a most serious charge to each person. Review of charges shows the types of charges that got prisoners to the jail. More detail is provided in several appendices showing very detailed list of charges and bond amounts.

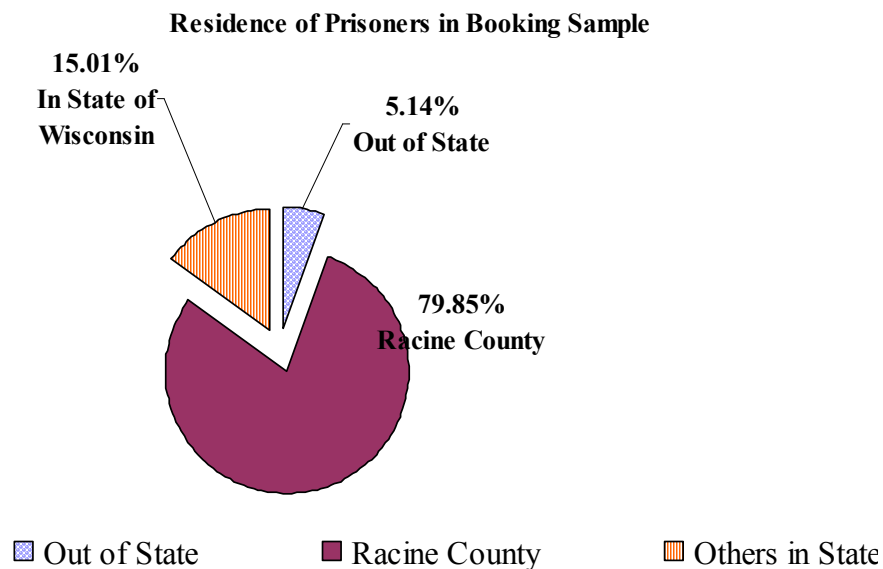
The numbers shown in the report's tables include summary numbers that sometime differ slightly due to the differences in sources within the database and what elements we are looking at. Blank data is often eliminated instead of reporting it in the table itself. No database can be exact due to the volume and complexity of the information. These differences are natural and not due to any intent to deceive the reader.

Demographics

The first section deals with basic demographics of the jail's population.

Residence of Inmate Population

Eighty percent of the admissions to the jail in the sample of 2004 bookings reported residence in Racine County. In-state residence then added another 15% so that 95% of the prisoners reside in the state.



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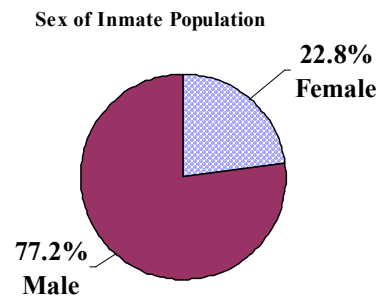
Residence of Prisoners

Out of State	5.14%
Racine County	79.85%
Milwaukee County	7.49%
Kenosha County	3.13%
Walworth County	0.73%
Waukesha County	0.72%
Brown County	0.53%
Dane County	0.36%
FondDuLac County	0.27%
Others in State	1.79%
	100.00%

Sex of Inmate Population

The male population accounts for 77% of the data sample with 23% reported as female.

Race	Female	Male	Total
Asian	0.04%	0.08%	0.12%
Black	11.76%	35.19%	46.95%
Hispanic	1.73%	9.36%	11.10%
Indian	0.09%	0.16%	0.26%
White	9.15%	32.43%	41.57%
Total	22.78%	77.22%	100.00%



The following table distributes the male and female population by the level of education reported in the data sample of 2004.

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Education	Female	Male	Total
Primary School	0.0%	0.5%	0.5%
Middle School	0.3%	2.8%	3.1%
High School Not Completed	8.9%	30.4%	39.3%
GED	0.9%	5.2%	6.2%
High School	5.4%	19.6%	25.0%
Some College	3.2%	6.7%	10.0%
Technical School	0.4%	1.5%	1.9%
Nursing School	0.0%	0.1%	0.1%
Associate Degree	0.7%	1.1%	1.8%
Bachelor Degree	0.5%	1.2%	1.7%
Masters Degree	0.2%	0.3%	0.5%
Juris Doctorate	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Doctorate Degree	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
(blank)	1.9%	8.0%	9.9%
Grand Total	22.5%	77.5%	100.0%

Education

The next table distributes the percentage of inmates in the crime categories by their education level. The bulk of the population are high school or less than high school graduates with 17.6% attending advanced schools above high school.

Education Level	Alcohol	Drugs	Person	Property	Public Order	Traffic	% of Total
Primary School	0.01%	0.03%	0.14%	0.08%	0.13%	0.20%	0.59%
Middle School	0.04%	0.23%	0.96%	0.29%	0.83%	1.05%	3.40%
High School Not Completed	0.66%	5.00%	10.55%	6.16%	12.59%	8.87%	43.84%
GED	0.04%	0.86%	1.53%	0.81%	2.28%	1.52%	7.03%
High School	0.20%	2.70%	6.41%	3.49%	7.80%	6.95%	27.55%
Some College	0.06%	1.27%	1.98%	1.44%	2.94%	3.29%	10.98%
Technical School		0.22%	0.35%	0.26%	0.59%	0.70%	2.11%
Nursing School	0.01%	0.01%	0.05%	0.03%	0.01%	0.01%	0.13%
Associate Degree		0.26%	0.43%	0.22%	0.61%	0.47%	1.99%
Bachelor Degree		0.10%	0.35%	0.18%	0.55%	0.64%	1.82%
Masters Degree			0.13%	0.06%	0.15%	0.15%	0.50%
Juris Doctorate				0.01%	0.01%		0.03%
Doctorate Degree			0.01%	0.01%		0.01%	0.04%
% of Total	1.04%	10.66%	22.88%	13.04%	28.50%	23.88%	100.00%

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Ethnicity

Whites (41%) and blacks (47%) constituted the largest groups of the inmate population with Hispanics at 11%.

Charge Category	Asian	Black	Hispanic	Indian	White	% of Total
Alcohol		0.27%	0.20%	0.01%	0.52%	0.99%
Drugs		5.42%	0.99%	0.02%	3.88%	10.31%
Person	0.05%	11.43%	2.76%	0.08%	8.56%	22.88%
Property		6.44%	1.04%	0.03%	5.14%	12.66%
Public Order	0.05%	14.33%	2.67%	0.06%	11.93%	29.04%
Traffic	0.05%	9.15%	3.72%	0.06%	11.15%	24.12%
% of Total	0.14%	47.04%	11.38%	0.27%	41.18%	100.00%

Age of Offender Population

The average of the inmate population sample was 31 years with the most common age (mode) at 28.6, lowest age group was 15 and 16 and highest age was 81 and 78. The age groups distributed to offense category as shown in the following table.

Charge Category	Avg. Age
Alcohol	25
Drugs	29
Person	30
Property	31
Public Order	32
Traffic	32
Average Age	31

Age of Inmate by Charge Level and Sex

The average age of both male and female population shown in the following table distributed according to the charge level of offense.

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Charge Level of Offense	Female	Male	Average
Contempt of Court	34	35	35
Felony Charge	32	29	30
Misdemeanor Charge	32	32	32
Forfeiture	31	30	30
Ordinance	29	28	28
Average Age	31	31	31

Average age of inmate population is shown in the following table distributed by charge level and ethnicity.

Charge Level of Offense	Asian	Black	Hispanic	Indian	White	Avg. Age
Contempt of Court		34	32	45	36	35
Felony Charge	25	29	27	35	31	30
Misdemeanor Charge	25	31	28	34	33	32
Forfeiture	22	29	28		33	30
Ordinance	23	28	26	36	29	28
Average Age	24	31	28	35	33	31

The next table distributes age of the inmate population by sex and charge category.

Category	Female	Male	Grand Total
Alcohol	24	26	25
Drugs	34	29	29
Person	31	30	30
Property	32	30	31
Public Order	31	32	32
Traffic	31	32	32
Grand Total	31	31	31

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Citizenship

Only 3.6% of the population reported being non-citizen with 17% of the data showing unknown citizenship.

Citizenship	
US	79.4%
Other	3.6%
UNK	17.0%

Length of Stay

The length of stay at the jail for each inmate is critical to the evaluation of the factors of growth and crowding. A small change in the average length of stay can result in crowding or additional construction. Assuming continued but stable trend of the number of admissions but experiencing an increase in the average length of stay of 3 days results in over 33,000 bed days or the use of 90 beds daily.

NOTE: See length of stay data at the Courts Handling section on page 17

All jail population management plans include continuing review of the length of stay and monitoring of individual cases. Jail management plans often track offenders who stay at the jail for long periods and jail managers work with criminal justice system representatives to manage the jail's bed days.

Length of Stay by Release Type and Charge Category

Release Type	Alcohol	Drugs	Person	Property	Public Order	Traffic	LOS
Charge/Sentence Satisfied	2.8	15.9	14.9	15.7	11.2	12.7	13.2
Released to Day Reporting	5.2	52.9	73.1	60.3	98.2	11.3	56.7
Huber Walkaway		28.6	19.2	150.8	37.4	35.0	55.3
To Furlough - Long Term		10.2	3.7	27.0	15.5	11.5	10.8
To/By Prob/Parole Off	7.2	61.1	42.3	35.9	28.8	17.9	35.7
To Responsible Party	0.1	0.2	0.3	1.2	0.3	0.2	0.2
To Sturt. Transitional	11.5	34.0	29.5	15.9	28.0	16.3	26.5
TOT OJ - Long Term or End	2.4	50.9	60.2	70.3	57.6	28.4	52.8
TOT OJ - Short Term (Ret)				231.0		141.7	201.2
(blank)		100.8	107.7	89.3	73.4	86.5	93.3
Length of Stay	2.8	27.3	28.0	28.4	16.6	16.1	21.4

Note: TOT refers to the temporary transfer of prisoner from the jail to another agency.

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Average Length of Stay by Charge Category and Level of Crime Charged

Using the highest charge group of the 2004 data sample, the following table shows the average length of stay for prisoners. As would be expected, felony charges, crimes against persons and drugs result in the longest stays at the jail.

Charge Class	Alcohol	Drugs	Person	Property	Public Order	Traffic	Avg. LOS
Contempt Court					29.1		29.1
Felony		74.0	100.6	74.9	73.4	81.5	82.5
Misdemeanor	1.6	13.3	24.4	22.0	12.4	27.0	20.9
Forfeiture	2.2			1.5	4.2	6.1	5.9
Ordinance	4.4	8.3	14.2	8.2	6.3	5.3	6.4
Average Length Stay	4.1	42.6	42.8	35.5	23.1	21.9	30.7

Impact of Length of Stay

The following table shows the count of cases used in the following two tables representing the impact of length of stay on the jail's population.

Length of Stay	Alcohol	Drugs	Person	Property	Public Order	Traffic	Grand Total
1 - 30 Days	86	606	1,369	768	2,017	1,739	6,585
31 - 60		79	186	91	163	130	649
61 - 90		56	123	80	119	60	438
91 - 120		42	72	52	88	44	298
121-150		43	59	38	51	37	228
151 - 200		30	65	41	47	42	225
201 - 250		9	35	16	12	21	93
251 - 300		11	27	5	7	8	58
301 - 350		9	21	3	4	3	40
351 - 400		3	14	2	3	2	24
401 - 450		1	3		3	1	8
451 - 500		1	3				4
501 - 550			1				1
551 - 600		1	2				3
601 - 650		2	1			1	4
Grand Total	86	893	1,981	1,096	2,514	2,088	8,658

The next table computes the days consumed by the data sample of the above population. The 84 inmates that stayed more than 300 days consumed 31,855 days of jail space.

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Length of Stay	Alcohol	Drugs	Person	Property	Public Order	Traffic	Grand Total
1 - 30 Days	353	3,441	8,470	4,438	10,311	9,313	36,326
31 - 60		3,466	8,292	4,140	7,002	5,646	28,546
61 - 90		4,024	9,313	6,015	8,562	4,370	32,284
91 - 120		4,373	7,468	5,468	8,887	4,590	30,786
121-150		5,647	7,914	5,145	6,823	5,056	30,585
151 - 200		5,304	11,327	7,214	8,206	7,223	39,274
201 - 250		1,989	7,661	3,425	2,668	4,629	20,372
251 - 300		3,032	7,317	1,358	1,868	2,191	15,766
301 - 350		2,905	6,818	990	1,293	959	12,965
351 - 400		1,087	5,272	719	1,104	727	8,909
401 - 450		427	1,272		1,229	406	3,334
451 - 500		471	1,433				1,904
501 - 550			549				549
551 - 600		591	1,129				1,720
601 - 650		1,254	610			610	2,474
Grand Total	353	38,011	84,845	38,912	57,953	45,720	265,794

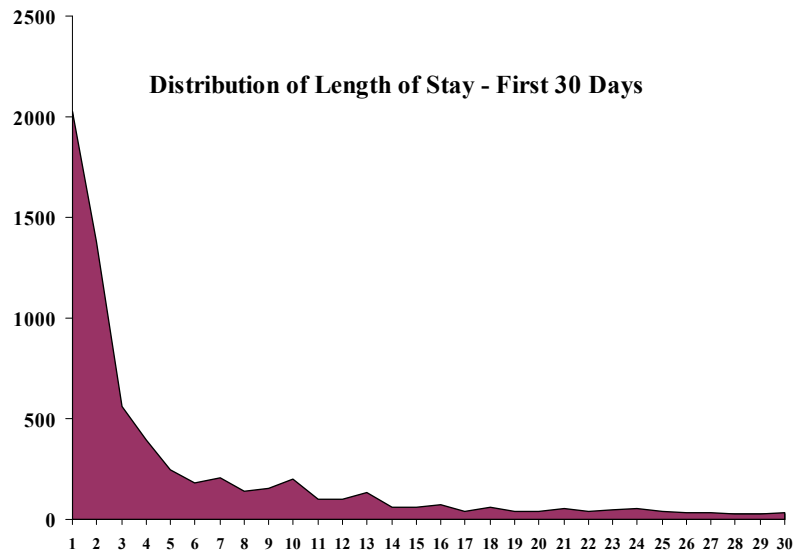
The table above computes the number of days from admission to release for the data sample and includes days in years other than 2004. All of these days are not served in 2004.

The following table distributes the count of cases by percentage of the total to show where the bulk of the number of cases is distributed. The largest segment is the group that stays less than 30 days (76%).

Length of Stay	Alcohol	Drugs	Person	Property	Public Order	Traffic	Grand Total
1 - 30 Days	0.99%	7.00%	15.81%	8.87%	23.30%	20.09%	76.06%
31 - 60		0.91%	2.15%	1.05%	1.88%	1.50%	7.50%
61 - 90		0.65%	1.42%	0.92%	1.37%	0.69%	5.06%
91 - 120		0.49%	0.83%	0.60%	1.02%	0.51%	3.44%
121-150		0.50%	0.68%	0.44%	0.59%	0.43%	2.63%
151 - 200		0.35%	0.75%	0.47%	0.54%	0.49%	2.60%
201 - 250		0.10%	0.40%	0.18%	0.14%	0.24%	1.07%
251 - 300		0.13%	0.31%	0.06%	0.08%	0.09%	0.67%
301 - 350		0.10%	0.24%	0.03%	0.05%	0.03%	0.46%
351 - 400		0.03%	0.16%	0.02%	0.03%	0.02%	0.28%
401 - 450		0.01%	0.03%		0.03%	0.01%	0.09%
451 - 500		0.01%	0.03%				0.05%
501 - 550			0.01%				0.01%
551 - 600		0.01%	0.02%				0.03%
601 - 650		0.02%	0.01%			0.01%	0.05%
Grand Total	1.0%	10.3%	22.9%	12.7%	29.0%	24.1%	100.0%

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The following chart displays that 76% that are released in the first 30-days after booking. The largest volume of 53% is released within the first 24-hours of booking. Clearly, those released after that 30-day period become a small percentage of the jail beds use.



Release Type by Charge Category

The next table shows the percentage distribution of those released by release type and the charge group.

Release Type	Alcohol	Drugs	Person	Property	Public Order	Traffic	% of Total
Charge/Sentence Satisfied	0.99%	8.07%	17.85%	10.31%	27.23%	21.59%	86.04%
Released to Day Reporting	0.01%	0.04%	0.13%	0.08%	0.10%	0.13%	0.50%
Huber Walkaway		0.01%	0.03%	0.03%	0.05%	0.01%	0.13%
To Furlough - Long Term		0.03%	0.05%	0.01%	0.03%	0.08%	0.20%
To/By Prob/Parole Off	0.01%	0.33%	0.78%	0.38%	0.61%	0.50%	2.61%
To Responsible Party	0.05%	0.04%	0.03%	0.01%	0.04%	0.89%	1.06%
To Sturt. Transitional	0.01%	0.08%	0.33%	0.08%	0.25%	0.09%	0.83%
TOT OJ - Long Term or End	0.03%	1.19%	2.49%	1.32%	1.69%	1.89%	8.60%
TOT OJ - Short Term (Ret)				0.03%		0.01%	0.04%
% of Total	1.11%	9.78%	21.68%	12.24%	30.01%	25.19%	100.00%

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Inmate Type and Sex

Using the sample of 2004 admissions, the following table reports the numbers and percentages of admissions attributed to the agencies for primary billing purposes. The table does not report the arresting agency. The field supports the identification of responsible billing agency. If the offender is facing any State charges the housing is attributed to the State category. If the offender is admitted to the jail exclusively on municipal charges, the prisoner is then listed under the appropriate agency.

Prisoner Attributed to	Count of Female	Count of Male	% of Total
Burlington Town Police		5	0.1%
Burlington City Police	5	26	0.4%
Caledonia Town Police	6	18	0.3%
Wis Dept of Corrections	28	230	3.2%
US Military		1	0.0%
Mt Pleasant Town Police	72	142	2.6%
Norway Town Police	1	1	0.0%
Out of State Agency	1	10	0.1%
Out of County Wisconsin	22	84	1.3%
Racine City Police	332	698	12.7%
Racine County Sheriff	19	104	1.5%
Wis State Patrol Waukesha		3	0.0%
State of Wisconsin	1,317	4,905	76.8%
Sturtevant Village Police	16	26	0.5%
Rochester Town Constable		2	0.0%
Union Grove Village Police		1	0.0%
US Marshall's Service		1	0.0%
Wis Dept Natural Resources	1	5	0.1%
Waterford Town Police		5	0.1%
Wind Point Village Police		2	0.0%
Waterford Village Police	5	10	0.2%

Most Serious Charge

Each prisoner is likely to face more than one charge. It is difficult or nearly impossible to summarize inmate data without defining the most serious charge for each prisoner. VRJS, with the help of jail staff developed a priority for charges and applied the premise that felonies are more serious than misdemeanors and then forfeitures or summons are less serious. Within each level, the State defines levels of A, B, C, etc. We also tried to simplify the charges by grouping them in crimes against persons, crimes against property, drugs, alcohol, public order and traffic.

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The following table shows the number of cases in the high charge sample with distribution in the level of offense category (e.g., felony misdemeanor, etc.) and the charge class (e.g., drugs, traffic, etc.). In the level of offense category, the table shows the misdemeanor group at nearly 53%, felony charges at 19.5% and municipal ordinance violations at 16.6%. Among the charge classes, public order offenses account for 29% and traffic at 24% and then crimes against persons at 23%.

Charge Class	Alcohol	Drugs	Person	Property	Public Order	Traffic	Total	% of Total
Contempt Court					712		712	8.2%
Felony		432	489	325	293	148	1687	19.5%
Misdemeanor	5	448	1420	599	1022	1068	4562	52.7%
Forfeiture	5			2	13	242	262	3.0%
Ordinance	76	13	72	170	474	630	1435	16.6%
Total	86	893	1981	1096	2514	2088	8658	100.0%
% of Total	1.0%	10.3%	22.9%	12.7%	29.0%	24.1%	100.0%	

Bonds Information

Average Bond Set by Charge Group

In this table, we considered all charges for the population instead of the most serious charge and then compared their bond. Detail of this data is included in the appendices.

Category	Average	% of Bonds Set
Alcohol	\$240	0.62%
Drugs	\$6,326	9.40%
Person	\$6,065	29.79%
Property	\$5,003	16.90%
Public Order	\$1,843	25.80%
Traffic	\$1,191	17.47%
Grand Total	\$3,933	100.00%

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Classification

The data sample provided a classification level for most of inmates in the population; however, multiple classifications are recorded as the status changes during the stay at the jail. A snap shot of the population similar to those often provided by the Sheriff's Department show a better representation of the current data for each snap shot view. This data looks at a year's population to summarize the number and types of events. The classification assignment of each prisoner changes during his or her stay due to status change, court proceedings, family issues, attitude, and improved background information.

Classification	% of Total
Administrative segregation	1.3%
AODA program	1.7%
Children first program	0.8%
Criminal (sentenced)	2.1%
Disciplinary segregation	3.2%
Holding cells	10.3%
Huber law inmates	5.6%
Maximum custody-level 3	7.7%
Medical segregation	0.9%
Medium custody-level 2	21.6%
Medical segregation	0.0%
Minimum custody-level 1	36.2%
Pretrial and non-criminal	2.3%
Pretrial Forfeiture	1.9%
Records bureau booking	0.1%
Program inmates	0.1%
Community work service	0.4%
Suicide watch	1.4%
Inmate workers	2.5%

The above table summarizes all classifications applied to all prisoners in the sample during the year. A single inmate may have several classifications during their stay and be reflected in the table above. The typical daily jail "snapshot" of who is in-custody may be a better indicator of the jail's needs.

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Detainers or Holds for Prisoners

Over 4,100 of the 11,000² bookings at the jail during 2004 required a detainer or hold for another agency. This is an area for further review and consideration. The following table shows the number of cases in the sample and the number of days consumed by this group. About 270 cases were dropped from the sample because the release date was not shown. We can assume that those prisoners were still in custody at the time of data sampling.

The sample shows 86,000 days used by those prisoners that indicated a DOC hold of some sort. However, we can also assume that many of these cases also involved local charges. The table shows a sum of all the days for prisoner during their stay at the jail that also had detainers.

Detainer Types		Count and Days Used
DOC - Order to Detain	Count of Detainers	2,101
	Sum of Days Used	58,669
DOC - Rev Order & Warrant	Count of Detainers	367
	Sum of Days Used	27,692
House for Out-Of-County	Count of Detainers	60
	Sum of Days Used	2,724
INS Order to Detain	Count of Detainers	4
	Sum of Days Used	167
Out-of-Co.JOC-Huber TXFR	Count of Detainers	16
	Sum of Days Used	934
TELETYPE HOLD	Count of Detainers	1,181
	Sum of Days Used	21,167
WRIT	Count of Detainers	464
	Sum of Days Used	3,448
Total Count of Detainers		4,193
Total Sum of Days Used		114,801

The following table reviews the average length of time between events in the detainer process. The data consider only those held on detainer. The first column shows the average days between booking into the jail and the issuance of detainer, the next shows the average days from booking to the detainer release order, and the last column shows the average of days between detainer order and detainer release, the last column show the average number of days in jail for prisoners with detainers. Further work could provide greater detail for this group but VRJS would need assistance from the Sheriff's staff to explore methods to determine how to define those that are held only on detainers.

² The sample size used for most tables is less than the number of prisoners admitted (11,000 +/-) to the jail.

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Average of Days Between Events

Detainer Type	Booking to Detainer	Booking to Detainer Release	Days Between Detainer Order & Detainer Release	Days in Jail
DOC - Order to Detain	0.8	22.5	21.8	30.0
DOC - Rev Order & Warrant	42.9	79.5	36.8	92.9
House for Out-Of-County	25.4	44.1	14.5	47.8
INS Order to Detain	73.4	55.6	21.8	55.8
Out-of-Co.JOC-Huber TXFR	4.7	59.2	56.5	58.4
TELETYPE HOLD	4.6	16.4	12.5	18.7
WRIT	0.3	6.1	6.0	7.5
Average Days	5.9	23.7	18.5	29.3

The data indicates that the largest contributors of detainers are the Department of Corrections, State of Wisconsin and Out of County courts and law enforcement.

Detainers By Inmate Type	Count
Wis Dept of Corrections	1783
US Immigration & Natural	2
Out of County WISCONSIN	627
Racine City Police	69
Racine County Sheriff	27
State of Wisconsin	1640
Out of State Agency	3
Other Police Agencies	42
Grand Total	4193

The following table represents the release mechanism for those held at the jail and for whom detainers existed during their stay. Most detainers are satisfied by the release of the prisoner to another jurisdiction for their processing.

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Release Code of Detainer Group	Percentage
To/By Prob/Parole Off	23.5%
To Responsible Party	0.0%
TOT OJ - Short Term (Ret)	0.1%
Charge/Sentence Satisfied	27.5%
To Furlough - Long Term	0.2%
TOT OJ - Long Term or End	35.1%
Released to Day Reporting	0.6%
To Sturt. Transitional DOC	6.3%
Other and blank	6.8%
Total	100.0%

Courts Handling Cases

The following table distributes the data sample according to the court identified in the most serious charge group and by crime category.

Distribution of Inmate Charge by Court Level and Charge Category

Category	Circuit Felony	Circuit Juvenile	Circuit Family	Circuit Misd	Circuit Traffic	Municipal	Probate	% of Total
Alcohol				0.02%	0.12%	0.82%		0.96%
Drugs	5.29%	0.01%	0.02%	4.89%	0.05%	0.12%		10.38%
Person	5.92%	0.01%		16.28%	0.15%	0.64%	0.01%	23.02%
Property	3.82%	0.01%		6.79%	0.06%	1.93%		12.62%
Public Order	3.59%	0.13%	8.16%	12.00%	0.33%	4.80%	0.03%	29.04%
Traffic	1.83%	0.01%	0.02%	3.90%	10.62%	7.60%		23.98%
% of Total	20.45%	0.17%	8.20%	43.90%	11.32%	15.91%	0.05%	100.00%

Charges in the most serious group are assigned to the Circuit Court – Felony level in 20% of the cases and 44% of the case are in Circuit Court – Misdemeanor level.

Courts can have a significant impact on the jail's population and the speed at which in-custody cases are processed by the criminal justice system influences that stay at the jail. The following tables show the average length of stay for the charge groups and distributed to the court of jurisdiction.

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Average Length of Stay by Court Level and Charge Group

Category	Circuit Felony	Circuit Juvenile	Circuit Family	Circuit Misd	Circuit Traffic	Municipal	Probate	Avg. LOS
Alcohol				19	21	26		25
Drugs	29	47	25	30	30	22		29
Person	29	18		31	37	29	25	30
Property	30	19		32	20	29		31
Public Order	31	34	35	32	34	27	33	32
Traffic	33	17	32	33	34	29		32
Average Length of Stay	30	32	35	31	34	28	31	31

The longest lengths of stay are shown in the felony Circuit Court, followed by Circuit Juvenile and Family. The average length of stay for each of the charge groups is comparable except that those charged with alcohol offenses stay the shortest time in jail.

The table above shows the length of stay and the following table contrasts that with the volume of cases attributed to each court by percentage of the total.

Category	Circuit Felony	Circuit Juvenile	Circuit Family	Circuit Misd	Circuit Traffic	Municipal	Probate	% of Total
Alcohol				0.02%	0.12%	0.82%		0.96%
Drugs	5.29%	0.01%	0.02%	4.89%	0.05%	0.12%		10.38%
Person	5.92%	0.01%		16.28%	0.15%	0.64%	0.01%	23.02%
Property	3.82%	0.01%		6.79%	0.06%	1.93%		12.62%
Public Order	3.59%	0.13%	8.16%	12.00%	0.33%	4.80%	0.03%	29.04%
Traffic	1.83%	0.01%	0.02%	3.90%	10.62%	7.60%		23.98%
% of Total	20.45%	0.17%	8.20%	43.90%	11.32%	15.91%	0.05%	100.00%

Conclusion

Racine County contracted with VRJS, Inc. to conduct an additional review of the jail's data to ascertain and report specific information. VRJS, Inc. did not contract to evaluate the criminal justice system practices or to evaluate the norms of incarceration practices. We report our findings of information based solely on the examination of the database. We hope that County officials find value in the reported materials and can use them to develop system improvements or to substantiate previous information. The data is offered so that planning teams can evaluate the current practices of the criminal justice system in its use of the jail resource. We stand ready to answer specific questions about the database and its potential to aid and support future planning. This report is not our final contribution to the County.

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VRJS, Inc. reviewed several previous reports and finds that the Sheriff's previous efforts to describe the jail population are consistent with our findings. As with any data examination, the results can vary to some degree due to differences that occur naturally over time.

The data system records information on individual cases in excellent fashion. A wealth of information is available to users. Mining of information is can be difficult in some areas. The system is best suited, as are most jail software packages, for tracking inmates rather than reporting summary information. This particular system is much better than most other systems that we encounter.

The current system does not record or capture crime history information in a structured format for use in this analysis. We were not able to report the criminal history of the large sample and could not provide that element of the needed information simply because of the structure of the database. Criminal histories are captured at several points during the offender processing but are not or cannot be summarized in the database. One can look up the criminal history of any single prisoner but the system cannot summarize the histories of a large group of inmate population. The difficulty in recording criminal history is complex. With each new arrest, the history changes requiring updates. There is always dispute over the number and accuracy of previous arrests and convictions. Then complications over sentences, probation and serving time further cloud the recording process.

The time between events in case processing from arrest to disposition is one area that we have struggled and been unable to complete as of this date. Additional assistance in understanding the structure of the database is needed to further summarize the times between arrest, charging, sentencing, conviction, serving of time and release. VRJS is committed to completion of this data element and reporting of our findings. The Sheriff's Department continues to provide the needed support to complete this important product.