

2024 Annual Report

MADISON COUNTY ADULT PROBATION

Carl Chambers
CHIEF PROBATION OFFICER

Judges of Madison County Circuit Courts



Judge Angela Sims



Judge Steve Koester



Judge Andrew Hopper



Judge David Happe



Judge Scott Norrick



Judge Mark Dudley

Probation Officers

Carl Chambers, CPO

Doug Taylor, ACPO

Patrice Dixon, Supervisor

Colton Beardsley

Susan Bentley

Lesley Best

Tim Buck

Justin Eubanks

Natalie Griner

Zach Idlewine

Brenda Johnson

Morgan Johnson

Melissa Leonard

Shantale Long

Michaela Maricle

Ryan Mason

Jenny McDaniel

Matthew Miller

Callee Richardson

Renee Walker

Tim Warrum

Support Staff

Shanda Moore, Office Manager

Holly Burchette

Janelle Dodson

Amanda Landaker

Naomi Sandefur

Brad Duncan

Chief's Report

The Madison County Adult Probation Department views 2024 as a successful year. We saw a year-over-year increase in our user fee collections, successfully obtained all three of our IDOC performance measure goals and had zero staff turnover for the year.

In 2024, we levied \$1,272,684 in fees and collected \$793,991 which yielded a 62.3% collection rate, up from 53.4% in 2023 and 44.5% in 2022.

For the IDOC grant, we must set three goals we hope to achieve during the year and this year we set three that we felt would be beneficial for the department and the community as a whole: increase the amount of field visits by 10% from the prior year; increase the amount of urine drug screens collected from the prior year; and increase the number of incentives to sanctions to the standard 4:1 ratio—which we fell short of the prior year (3.5 : 1)

The first goal, home visits, we obtained it by completing 1,499 home visits in the year resulting in holding probationers accountable, and in some cases, removed firearms, drugs, and paraphernalia from numerous homes. The second goal, increasing urine drug screening, was also obtained and we collected 2,379 urine drug screens for the year with a 35.4% positivity rate showing a decrease from 43% in 2023. Finally, we issued more incentives (5:1) than sanctions resulting in less violations being filed.

This year was an enlightening one as we saw numerous guest speakers at our staff meetings over the course of the year—19 in total—giving us insight into local and regional community partners that offer substance abuse treatment, in-patient treatment, sober-living facilities, sex offender registry, and more. In total, it allowed us to obtain 12.5 hours of continual educational units toward our yearly total.

Even though we saw an increase in our collections for the year, we had another year of running a deficit in our electronic monitoring program. Had we not had IDOC grant funding supplementing salary and fringes for an employee, we would have shown a deficit of \$81,759 for the calendar year. We are thankful that we receive grant dollars for the program and only incurred an actual deficit of \$15,739 for the year. We are concerned that future funding may be impacted by upcoming state legislation, and we may face fiscal issues with electronic monitoring if legislation is not favorable toward the Indiana Department of Correction. With the upcoming CY2026 grant cycle and budget cycle, I will be requesting more funding from our local county council to provide more financial assistance in our probation operations.

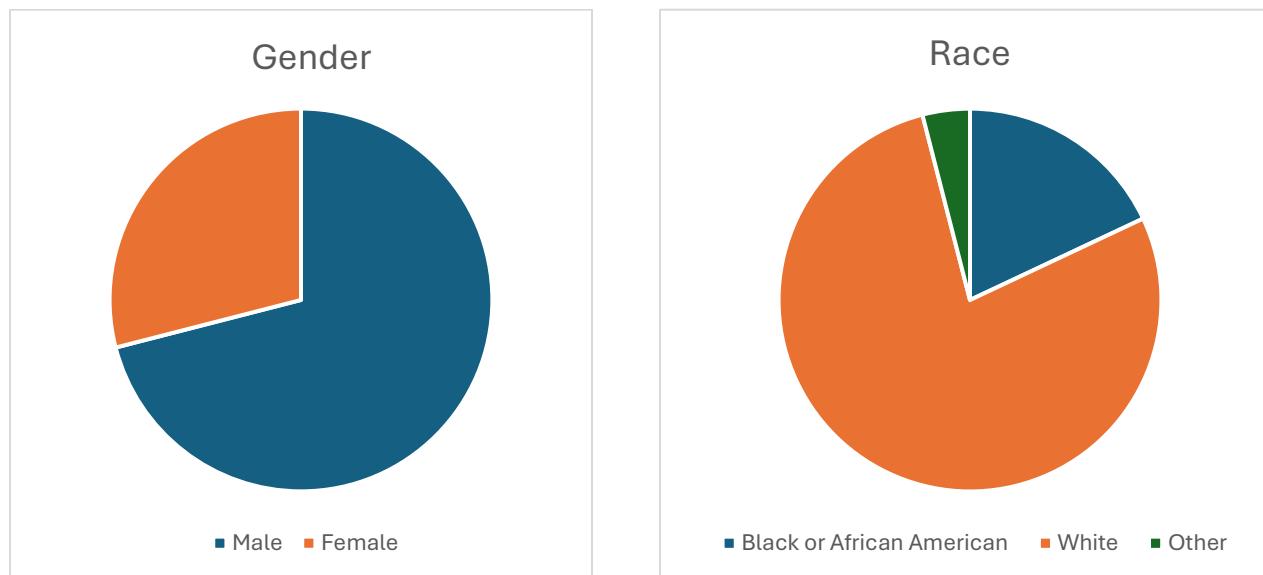
Respectfully,

Carl Chambers, CPO

Supervision

In total, between electronic monitoring and probation supervision we saw a significant decrease in numbers supervised for CY2024—the biggest decrease came from the electronic monitoring population. The breakdown of our clients is still 71% male and 29% female. We saw a decrease in the number of black probationers and an increase in white probationers. Breakdown by races is: 78% white, 18% black and 4% other.

Year	2022	2023	2024
Total Cases	3,627	3,449	3,082



Electronic Monitoring

The Department saw a significant decrease (38%) in electronic monitoring clients for the year. The decrease may be explained by the Prosecutor's 2024 data citing a 56.25% increase in IDOC commitments for the year.¹

Year	2022	2023	2024
Total Clients	483	513	315

Probation Supervision

The Department saw a slight decrease (1.74%) in probation clients for the year.

Year	2022	2023	2024
Total Clients	2,127	2,816	2,767

¹ Hanna, Andrew. Madison County Prosecutor's Office 2024 Year in Review, pg. 14

Received and Closed Cases

In CY2024, the Department received 1,279 new cases and closed 1,319 cases. Of the closures, 664 cases were closed successfully—a completion rate of 50%. Sixty-eight clients were absconded (5%); 348 cases were revoked due to a new offense (26.3%); 204 cases were revoked due to technical reasons (15.4%) and 35 cases were closed for other reasons (2%), such as deceased or entry into Problem Solving Courts. Revocations due to a new offense were down 1.42% from the prior year; revocations due to technical reasons were down 10.13% from 2023.



Exits by Race

Black probationers are over-represented on probation by comparison to the county statistics, representing 18% of the probation population while the county comprises of 8.6%, respectively. While they are overrepresented, it is a slight decrease from the prior year which was 18.6%. White probationers are underrepresented compared to the county population, 78.3% of probation clients versus 84.6% of the county population, respectively. Other races comprise of 3.6% of the client population.

Number of exits by type and race

Exit	White	Black	Other
Absconded/Warrant	49	14	5
Completed	520	110	34
Revoked – New Offense	261	67	20
Revoked – Technical	158	40	6
Other Closed	26	7	2
Total	1,014	238	67
Total %	77%	18%	5%

In total, the breakdown by race shows all exits were comparable to the populous on probation. However, once broken down by category, black clients were slightly more likely to abscond, be revoked due to a new offense and for technical reasons with percentages showing 20.5%, 19.25%, and 19.6%, respectively. For black clients, they were slightly less likely to complete probation with 16.56% of total completions for the year. White clients were underrepresented in all categories except for completions, which they are represented exactly as populous breakdown (78.3%). For white clients, their exits by absconding, revocation for new offenses and technical reasons are: 72%, 75%, and 77.45%, respectively. Other races were more likely to abscond by percentage of the population at 7.4%; they were more likely to be revoked due to a new offense as well with 5.75% of the total; they were also more likely to complete with a 5.12% percentage for total completions. They were less likely to be revoked due to technical reasons with 2.94% for the year.

Presentence Investigation Reports

In 2024, the Department saw an 11% increase in PSIs completed for the courts. This is the first year since 2019 that the Department has completed over 500 PSIs in a calendar year.

Year	2021	2022	2023	2024
Total PSIs	411	475	492	546

PSIs ordered broken down by Court and by level of offense

	C01	C03	C04	C05	C06
F1	3	2	3	0	9
F2	13	4	12	0	13
F3	8	12	13	0	14
F4	24	15	19	0	22
F5	50	80	59	3	59
F6	23	48	27	5	1
FC	1	0	1	0	0
FA	0	0	0	0	1
MR	0	1	0	0	1
Total	122	162	134	8	120

Circuit Court 5 historically has not ordered very many PSIs because it is mostly limited to Level 6 felonies which can be waived. Circuit 5 ordered two less PSIs and Circuit Court 1 ordered 17 less PSIs than the previous year; Circuits 3 and 4 both ordered 20 more PSIs than the prior year; and Circuit 6 ordered 33 more PSIs than the prior year. It is unclear whether more cases were resolved in the year which may explain the 11% increase in total number of PSIs completed year-over-year.

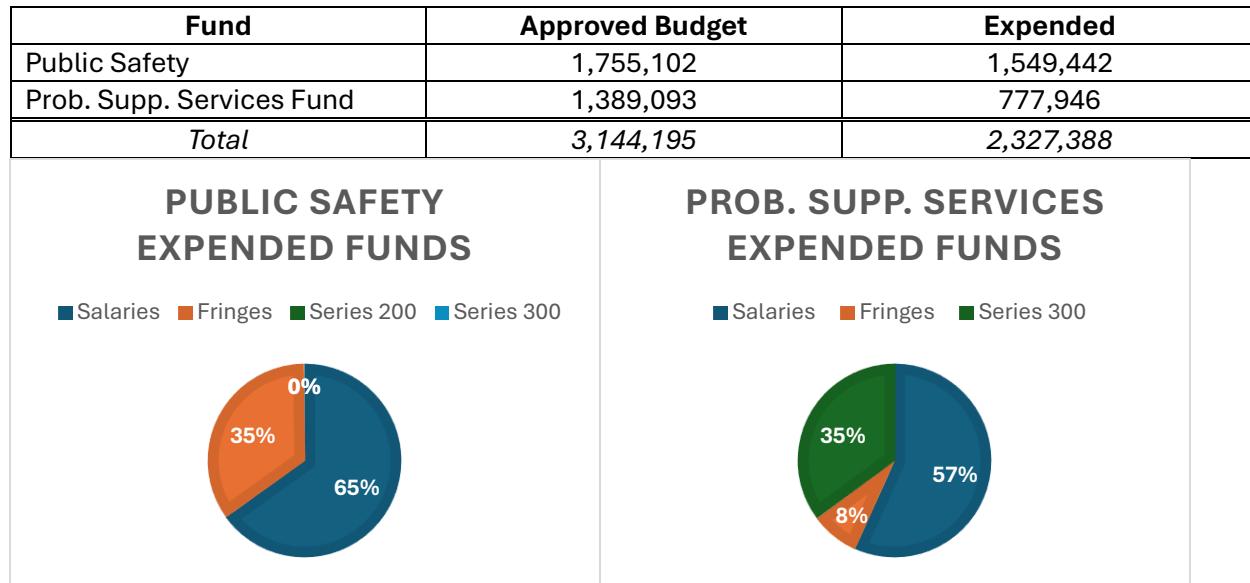
When starting the PSI division of probation, it was our goal to have PSI writers complete no more than 12 reports per month. That amount would yield 432 presentence reports for the year. This year we exceeded that goal by 114 reports. That excess does not warrant an additional person for the PSI division, however, if the trend continues and we see more reports ordered, it is likely that an additional person will be added to help with the PSI caseload. The easiest way, in my opinion, to stay below that number is to continue to waive F6 PSI reports unless necessary.

For context, I've included a chart to show other counties and the number of reports they completed in 2024.

County	PSIs
Hamilton	334
Monroe	143
Johnson	259
Hendricks	230
Tippecanoe	394
Delaware	235

Budget

The Department funds its services through the Public Safety Fund and Supplemental Probation Services Fund. Listed below is the approved amounts and expenditures for each respective fund.



Grants

The Department receives two grants, Indiana Department of Correction Justice Reinvestment Grant and the Madison County Coalition Against Substance Abuse (MCCASA) grant. The IDOC grant primarily funds three full-time probation officers plus most of the fringe benefits. The MCCASA grant funds urine drug screening supplies for our probation clients. Listed below is the amounts awarded and spent in CY2024.

Grantor	Awarded	Expended
IDOC Justice Reinvestment Grant	182,640	182,246
MCCASA	2,500	2,500
<i>Total</i>	<i>185,140</i>	<i>184,746</i>

Claims

We saw a slight increase for CY2024 on our claims. We discontinued the use of Fieldware's Offender Link and opted for a cheaper solution—TCS' Court Fact. Plus, the costs of urine drug screen confirmations rose 4% from the prior year.

Year	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
<i>Total</i>	296,407	270,539	228,957	266,834	273,566

Electronic Monitoring Costs

The Department saw a slight decrease in electronic monitoring costs due to the decrease in clients we supervised for the year. However, we saw an increase in total operating costs (26.21%) due to salary increases mandated by the State of Indiana. We finished the year with a deficit of \$15,739 to run the electronic monitoring program. Had we not had IDOC grant funding for one officer plus coverage of most of the benefits, we would have had a deficit of \$81,759.

Year	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Electronic Monitoring Costs	212,615	202,455	180,563	190,120	185,855
Total EM Operating Costs	457,250	427,759	390,759	398,246	502,643

Electronic Monitoring Collections

The Department saw a 7.32% increase in electronic monitoring collections for CY2024. Yet, with the increase in collections we still operated with a deficit of \$15,739. Absent IDOC grant funding, the deficit would be much larger, over \$81,000. The Department will request additional funding from the County Council for the next budget cycle.

Year	2021	2022	2023	2024
HD Collections	456,628	373,971	392,185	420,884

Urine Drug Screening Costs

The Department saw an increase (11.53%) in the number of UDS administered from 2023 to 2024—2,379 collected for the year—and a 7.6% decrease in positivity rate (35.4% for CY2024) which indicates that more screening acts as a deterrent for probationers. We also acknowledge that there may be some emerging drugs that we are not testing for such as Xylazine, Ketamine, Gabapentin and others which may explain the decrease in positivity rate. We hope to purchase new testing strips in 2025 that will detect some of these increasingly popular drugs. Our costs rose for the year due to incurred shipping costs that we previously did not have to pay, plus the increase in number of units (iCups) purchased for the year.

Year	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
UDS Costs	12,416	22,262	17,568	19,889	26,794

Collections

In 2024, the Department saw a slight increase in our collections, up 6.32% from the previous year. Listed below are the amounts collected by fund type.

Fund type	Amount collected
PUF	313,721
Home Det.	420,884
UDS	7,288
Intra. Trans.	9,817
Inter. Trans.	1,813
Fel. Admin.	60,144
Misd. Admin	4,439
Pre-Trial	116