

MARCH 2022

TREUTLEN COUNTY, GA JAIL TRENDS

**RURAL JAILS
RESEARCH HUB**
UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA

The University of Georgia, in partnership with the Treutlen County Sheriff's Office, examined data on jail bookings between January 2019 and June 2020 to understand the jail trends in Treutlen County, including why numbers have grown in recent years. The results from this partnership are below. This fact sheet presents information related to the charges for people entering jail in Treutlen County and their demographic characteristics. It can be used to learn more about local jail incarceration and talk about potential options for changes in policy and the community.

TOP FINDINGS



41% of people booked into the Treutlen County Jail between January 2019 and June 2020 were charged with traffic or motor vehicle-related charges. Many of these bookings were not for dangerous driving, but rather for license suspensions that stemmed from unpaid fines.



Overall, most booking charges fell into three broad categories: traffic or motor vehicle-related (41%), drug-related (27%), and probation or parole violations (9%). Most of these charges were nonviolent.

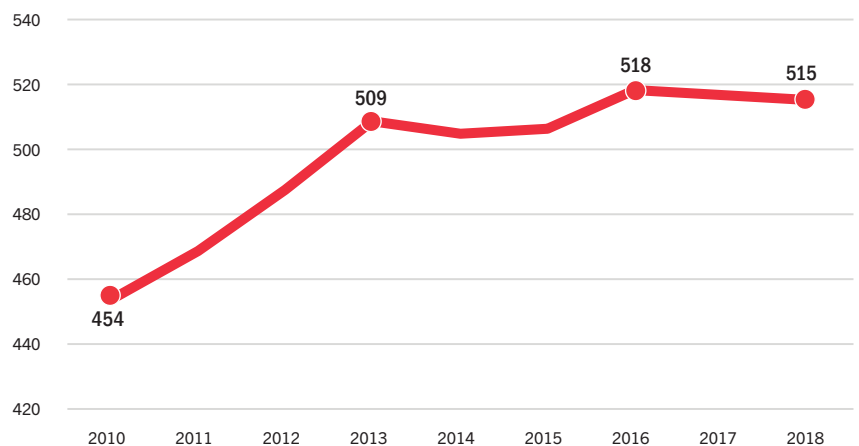


African Americans were over-represented in Treutlen County Jail bookings at 1.5 times their percentage in the county population.

THE INCARCERATION RATE HAS INCREASED SINCE 2010.

From 1970 to 2010, the jail incarceration rate in Treutlen County increased by 281% from 119 per 100,000 people to 454 per 100,000 people (not shown). Between 2010 and 2018, the jail incarceration rate rose further, by 14%. The 2018 rate was 515 per 100,000 people, which is 1.2 times higher than the Georgia jail incarceration rate of 422.

JAIL INCARCERATION RATE PER 100,000: 2010-2018



BOOKING TRENDS



JANUARY 2019–JUNE 2020

NUMBER OF CHARGES PER BOOKING

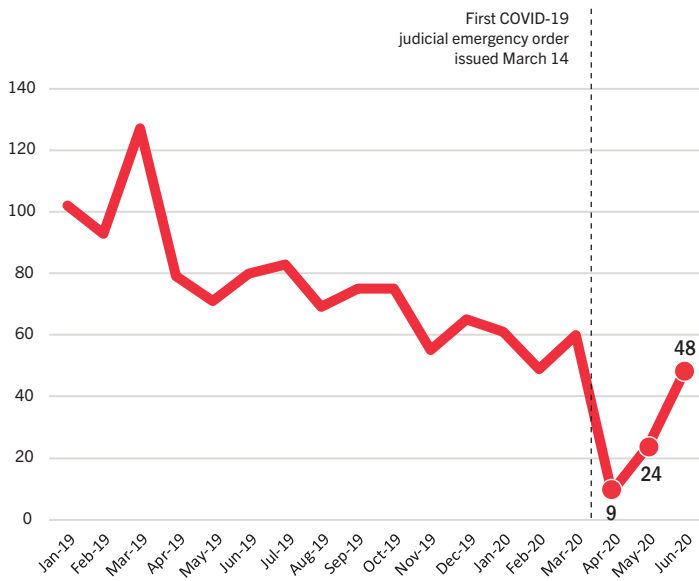
One Charge
58%

Two Charges
23%

Three Charges
10%

Four or More Charges
8%

MONTHLY BOOKINGS



JAIL BOOKINGS DECREASED BY 49% AT THE BEGINNING OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC BUT INCREASED IN MID-2020.

In an average month in 2019, 81 people were booked into the Treutlen County Jail. During the first six months of 2020, at the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, bookings dropped by 49%, to 42 bookings on average per month.

In April 2020, there were only nine total bookings, none of which were for probation or parole violations. Only five bookings included more than one charge and just one booking was a hold for another county. Bookings increased again in May (24) and June (48) of 2020.

MOST JAIL BOOKINGS WERE FOR NONVIOLENT CHARGES.

The most common charge categories were traffic or motor vehicle-related (41%)*, drug-related (27%)** and probation or parole violations (9%). This is in line with the most frequent charge categories across all seven counties included in the Rural Jails Research Hub. With some exceptions, these are nonviolent charges. Six percent of all charges were for criminal procedure violations, most commonly failure to appear in court.

* Note that the category for traffic or motor vehicle-related charges is very broad and includes everything from seat belt violations to vehicular homicide.

** Many of these charges are for possession, and some are for trafficking.

TOP 5 BOOKING CHARGES



#1
Traffic or Motor Vehicle-Related



#2
Drug-Related



#3
Probation or Parole Violations

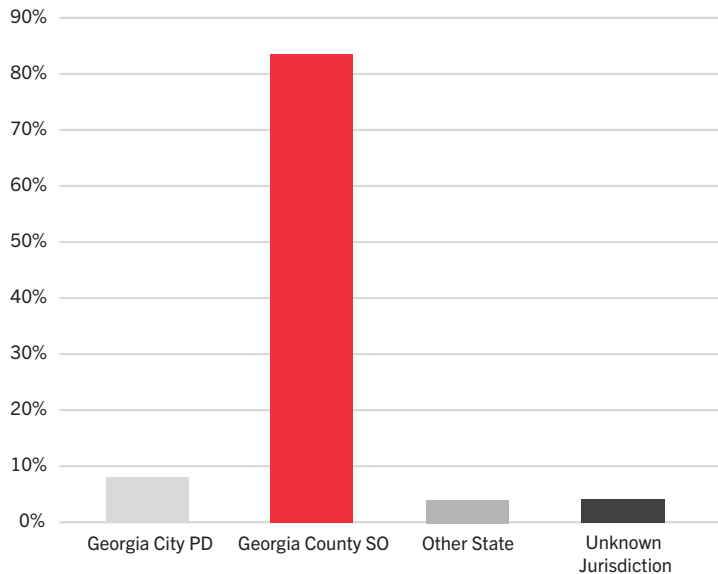


#4
Criminal Procedure



#5
Theft

HOLDS FOR OTHER AGENCIES



PD = Police Department • SO = Sheriff's Office

6% OF JAIL BOOKINGS WERE HOLDS FOR OTHER AGENCIES.

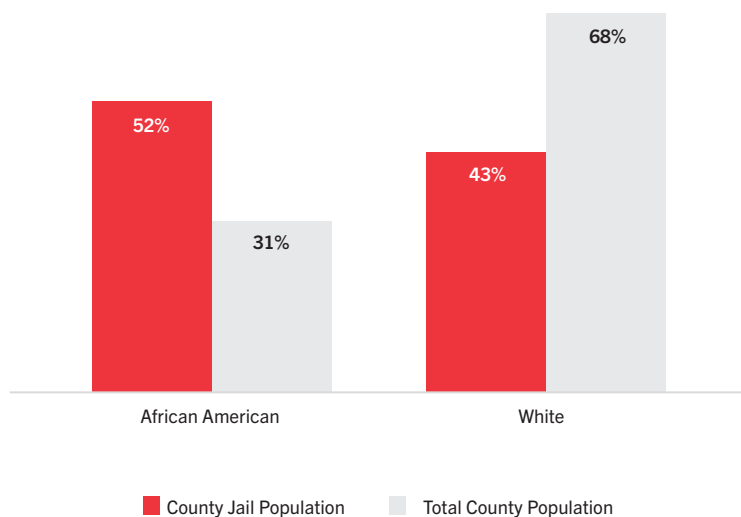
Out of 1,225 bookings, 73 were people arrested by or on behalf of other agencies. Of these holds, 84% were for sheriffs or jails in other Georgia counties, 8% were for Georgia cities, and 4% were for prison agencies from other states.

Of those housed for other counties, the highest percentage (11%) was for Laurens County, which has its own jail.

“Hold” refers to a person detained in a local county jail under the jurisdiction of another agency, such as another county, state corrections, or a federal agency.

OVER HALF OF PEOPLE BOOKED IN THE TREUTLEN COUNTY JAIL WERE AFRICAN AMERICAN. THIS IS 1.5 TIMES THE PERCENTAGE OF AFRICAN AMERICANS IN THE GENERAL COUNTY POPULATION.

RACIAL DEMOGRAPHICS OF TREUTLEN COUNTY JAIL COMPARED TO TOTAL COUNTY POPULATION



African Americans were over-represented in jail bookings (52%) compared to the percentage of African Americans in Treutlen County (31%).

WOMEN MADE UP NEARLY ONE-QUARTER OF JAIL BOOKINGS.

24% of bookings were women. The most common charges were similar for both men and women, though drug-related charges were higher for women (33%) than for men (25%), while probation or parole violations were more common for men (11%) than women (6%).

Overall, the number of women in jail in Georgia increased 23-fold from 1980 to 2015. As of 2019, 15% of people in Georgia jails were women.



TREUTLEN COUNTY JAIL BOOKINGS BY SEX

	Female	Male
Number	300	925
Percent	24%	76%

THE AVERAGE AGE OF PEOPLE BOOKED WAS 30 YEARS OLD. AGES RANGED FROM 17 TO 73 YEARS OLD.

About one-third of all bookings were of young adults between ages 17 and 26. The most common charge categories for this age group were traffic or motor vehicle-related (39%) and drug-related (34%).



Data: This fact sheet uses data provided by the Treutlen County Sheriff's Office for January 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020 and is supplemented by historical data from the Vera Institute of Justice Incarceration Trends Dataset, available on GitHub at <https://github.com/vera-institute/incarceration-trends>, and the Bureau of Justice Statistics Census of Jails, 2005-2019 Statistical Tables available at <https://bjs.ojp.gov/library/publications/census-jails-2005-2019-statistical-tables>. The UGA research team requested data from each county sheriff using a list of desired variables (including demographics, length of stay, and charges) and accepted the data that were provided.

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