New Orleans making fewer arrests and holding fewer inmates since COVID-19 crisis

**Arrests**
- 35% decline since first week of March (see Exhibit 1)
- Few municipal, traffic, or warrant arrests and no probation/parole violation arrests since the citywide stay-at-home order (Exhibit 1)
- Violent felonies are most common arrest type since stay-at-home order (Exhibit 2)
- 78% decline in drug felony arrests since stay-at-home order (Exhibit 2)
- 68% of misdemeanor arrests are for violent charges (Exhibit 3)
  - Many of which are domestic violence charges that legally require an arrest to be made

**Inmate Population**
- 24% decline in inmates since first week of March (see Exhibit 4)
- As of April 18, 86% of inmates were being held on pending felony charges (Exhibit 4)
- Largest declines in inmates held on warrants or probation/parole violations (Exhibit 4)
- 47% decline among inmates held on misdemeanor charges since the first week of March (Exhibit 4)
- 58% of jail population as of April 18 have pending violent felony charges including 138 inmates held for murder (Exhibit 5)
# Weekly Arrests by Type from March 1st - April 18th 2020

## Arrests Since March 1, 2020:

The steepest declines were evident following school closures and stay-at-home orders:

- Arrests dropped 35% from 245 the week of March 8-14 to 160 March 15-21
- Arrests fell an additional 39% to 98 the week of March 22-28

Overall, arrests have decreased by 56% from 256 the week of March 1-7 to 122 from April 12-18:

- Felony arrests dropped by 37%
- Misdemeanor arrests dropped by 38%
- Warrant arrests dropped by 77%
- Municipal and traffic arrests dropped by 88%
- There have been no standalone probation/parole violation arrests since the week of March 15-21

### Exhibit 1. Weekly Orleans Parish Arrests by Type

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Mar 1-7</th>
<th>Mar 8-14</th>
<th>Mar 15-21</th>
<th>Mar 22-28</th>
<th>Mar 29-Apr 4</th>
<th>Apr 5-11</th>
<th>Apr 12-18</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Probation/Parole Violation</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Municipal/Traffic</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>36</td>
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<td>29</td>
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<tr>
<td>Warrant</td>
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<td>24</td>
<td>98</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Misdemeanor</td>
<td>130</td>
<td>126</td>
<td>92</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>82</td>
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<tr>
<td>Felony</td>
<td>256</td>
<td>245</td>
<td>160</td>
<td>109</td>
<td>82</td>
<td>122</td>
<td>5</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Statewide school closure announced; city events cancelled</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Citywide stay-at-home order issued; bars/ restaurants closed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Statewide stay-at-home order issued</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Exhibit 1.** Weekly Orleans Parish Arrests by Type
Weekly Felony Arrests from March 1st - April 18th 2020

Exhibit 2. Weekly Orleans Parish Felony Arrests

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Other Felony</th>
<th>Drug Felony</th>
<th>Property Felony</th>
<th>Weapons Felony</th>
<th>Violent Felony</th>
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<tr>
<td>Mar 1-7</td>
<td>130</td>
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<td>33</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar 8-14</td>
<td>126</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar 15-21</td>
<td>92</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar 22-28</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar 29-Apr 4</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apr 5-11</td>
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<td>1</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>18</td>
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<tr>
<td>Apr 12-18</td>
<td>82</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>10</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Statewide school closure announced; city events cancelled
Citywide stay-at-home order issued; bars/ restaurants closed
Statewide stay-at-home order issued

Felony Arrests Since March 1, 2020:

Violent felonies increased substantially, from 18 the week of April 5-11 to 38 the week of April 12-18, accounting for 31% of all arrests

- Violent felonies April 12-18 included 2 homicides, 5 rape/sex crimes, 10 robberies, and 22 battery/assault arrests

Felony drug arrests showed steep decline since city/statewide restrictions put in place

- Felony drug distribution arrests dropped 86% (from 21 March 8-14 to 3 April 12-18)
- Felony drug possession arrests dropped 76% (from 23 March 8-14 to 6 April 12-18)

Property-related felony arrests, particularly felony theft and burglary, fluctuated weekly, from a high of 28 March 8-14 to a low of 13 March 22-28
Weekly Misdemeanor Arrests from March 1st - April 18th 2020

Exhibit 3. Weekly Orleans Parish Misdemeanor Arrests

Statewide school closure announced; city events cancelled
Citywide stay-at-home order issued; bars/restaurants closed
Statewide stay-at-home order issued

Misdemeanor Arrests Since March 1, 2020:

Overall, misdemeanor arrests declined 38%, from 47 the week of March 1-7 to 29 the week of April 12-18

- 68% of misdemeanor arrests were violent misdemeanor offenses, including simple and domestic battery charges
- 19% were property-related misdemeanors, such as theft or criminal damage
- 10% were “other” misdemeanors, most commonly for violation of protective orders or resisting an officer

Violent misdemeanors dropped 56%, from 47 the week of March 1-7 to 29 the week of April 12-18
### Weekly OPSO Inmate Population from March 4th - April 18th 2020

The OPSO inmate population dropped 24% from 1,064 March 4 to averaging 804 April 12-18:

- 84% of the inmates on April 18 had remained in custody since at least March 4.

Most inmates are held pretrial for felony charges, which had the smallest rate of decline:

- 79% were felony pretrial inmates on March 4, which rose to 86% of inmates April 12-18.

There was a sharp 60% decline in inmates held for a warrant from 85 March 4 to 34 April 12-18.

Inmates held for misdemeanor, municipal, or traffic offenses dropped 47% from 71 on March 4 to 38 April 12-18:

- A 67% majority of misdemeanor inmates were held for assault or battery.
- On average, one or fewer inmates had only municipal or traffic charges.
- An average of one offender per day was booked for a misdemeanor drug offense and shortly released.

Probation and parole inmates decreased by half.

DOC inmates went down by 35% from 36 March 4 to 23 April 12-18:

- An 85% majority of DOC inmates are participating in a Work Release program.

#### Exhibit 4. Weekly OPSO Inmate Population by Type of Inmate

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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<tbody>
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<td>1,050</td>
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<td>80</td>
<td>808</td>
<td>767</td>
<td>725</td>
<td>702</td>
<td>691</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

*indicates average inmate population

(March 13th) Statewide school closure announced; city events cancelled
City and statewide stay-at-home orders issued; bars/restaurants closed

(March 22-28)

(Mar 29- Apr 4)

(Apr 5-11)

(Apr 12-18)

(March 13th) Statewide school closure announced; city events cancelled
City and statewide stay-at-home orders issued; bars/restaurants closed

(March 22-28)

(Mar 29- Apr 4)

(Apr 5-11)

(Apr 12-18)
**Weekly OPSO Felony Inmate Population from March 4th - April 18th 2020**

Exhibit 5. *Weekly OPSO Felony Pretrial Inmates*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<tbody>
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<td>475</td>
<td>472</td>
<td>469</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* indicates average inmate population

**Overall, there were 18% fewer felony pretrial inmates April 12-18 compared to March 4**

Inmates charged with violent felonies had a narrow 3% decline from 484 March 4 to 469 April 12-18

- Violent felony inmates went from making up 45% of the inmate population March 4 to 58% April 12-18
- The number of inmates held for murder increased from 131 March 4 to 138 April 12-18

Weapons felony inmates had a lower rate of decline compared to inmates with other nonviolent charges

- Weapons felonies consistently accounted for 12%-13% of the inmate population

47% fewer inmates were held for felony property crimes April 12-18 compared to March 4

- Burglary charges accounted for a 60% majority of inmates held for property felonies

Inmates held for drug charges fell by 52%

- Inmates held for drug possession dropped 70% compared to a 39% drop in inmates held for distribution

There was a 30% decline in inmates held for "Other" crimes such as possession of child pornography and failure to register as a sex offender

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City and statewide stay-at-home orders issued; bars/restaurants closed

Statewide school closure announced; city events cancelled
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