



PRETRIAL SERVICES AGENCY *for the* DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
PROMOTING PRETRIAL JUSTICE AND ENHANCING COMMUNITY SAFETY

PSA Performance Outcomes: FY 2018-2022

In Washington, DC, most persons arrested and awaiting trial are released, either on their personal recognizance or to the supervision of the Pretrial Services Agency for the District of Columbia (PSA). Below are release rates for pretrial defendants in the Superior Court for fiscal years (FY) 2018 through 2022.

Fiscal Year	Release Rate
2018	94%
2019	94%
2020	92%
2021	85% ¹
2022	85% ²
Average	90%

PSA measures its performance using four key outcomes: judicial concurrence rate, arrest-free rate, appearance rate and continued pretrial release.

Outcome Measure	Target	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022
Judicial Concurrence Rate: Percentage of cases in which initial release orders match PSA recommendations.	70%	81%	78%	79%	84%	76%
Continued Pretrial Release Percentage of defendants who remain on release at the conclusion of their pretrial period without a pending request for removal or revocation due to non-compliance.	85%	85%	87%	85%	89%	89%
Arrest-Free Rate Percentage of defendants who remain arrest free during the pretrial period.	88%	87%	87%	88%	90%	93%
Appearance Rate Percentage of defendants who make all scheduled court appearances during the pretrial period.	87%	88%	88%	91%	92%	89%

¹ The observed reduction in release rate is due to the COVID-19 pandemic. In most years, there are more misdemeanor cases filed than felony cases. Misdemeanor filings tend to result in higher rates of release. In FY 2021, the total number of felony cases filed was 25% lower than that seen in FY2020; however, there was a 38% decrease in misdemeanor cases filed, resulting in an overall reduction in release rate.

²The observed reduction in the initial release rate is due to the COVID-19 pandemic. In FY 2022, initial release rate for felony cases was 39% compared with 56% in FY 2021. Initial release rate for misdemeanor cases in FY 2022 (89%) was, however, similar to that in FY 2021 (87%). The lower initial release rate for felony cases in FY 2022 resulted in a reduction in the overall initial release rate.