

# 2025 Analysis of Prosecutor Data

## Report Pursuant to Public Act 19-59

### Introduction

In July 2019, *AN ACT INCREASING FAIRNESS AND TRANSPARENCY IN THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM (PA 19-59)* was enacted. Section 4-68ff of the Connecticut General Statutes, created by the public act, requires the Office of Policy & Management (OPM) to submit a report to the Criminal Justice Commission (CJC) annually in July, beginning in 2020.

This report marks the sixth edition of OPM's Criminal Justice Policy & Planning Division (OPM CJPPD) annual analysis of data provided to OPM pursuant to PA 19-59. Data for this year's analysis were again provided through the Division of Criminal Justice, comprising information collected directly within its *eProsecutor* digital case management system as well as derived from judicial records supplying that system. The data analyzed consisted of the charges and cases disposed within a given calendar year across the state. DCJ's supplied dataset contained nearly 250,000 records regarding cases and the 245,169 distinct charges associated with the cases disposed in 2024.

For 2025, OPM utilizes this data to build upon the analytic approach employed in prior reports as well as to further explore and refine the metrics collected directly by DCJ and first analyzed for our 2024 report. Our report highlights metrics describing prosecutorial involvement in court outcomes over the duration of these cases. In our sixth edition, the ability to monitor trends over time is one important feature of this analysis. However, the transition in data providers beginning with the 2023 case data may contribute to observed differences in case and charge activities compared to preceding years. For that reason, we make limited year-to-year comparisons for descriptive purposes.

### 2024 Outcomes

(percent change from 2023 outcomes)

#### Total Cases Disposed:

93,354 (↓ -13.5%)

Cases with guilty disposition:

29,634 (↓ -8.1%)

Diversion-linked cases:

18,961 (↓ -2.5%)

#### Total associated charges:

245,169 (↓ -16.8%)

Charges resulting in guilty disposition:

44,101 (↓ -7.0%)

#### Number of individuals with disposed case:

61,750 (↓ -10.3%)

Number with at least 1 guilty disposition:

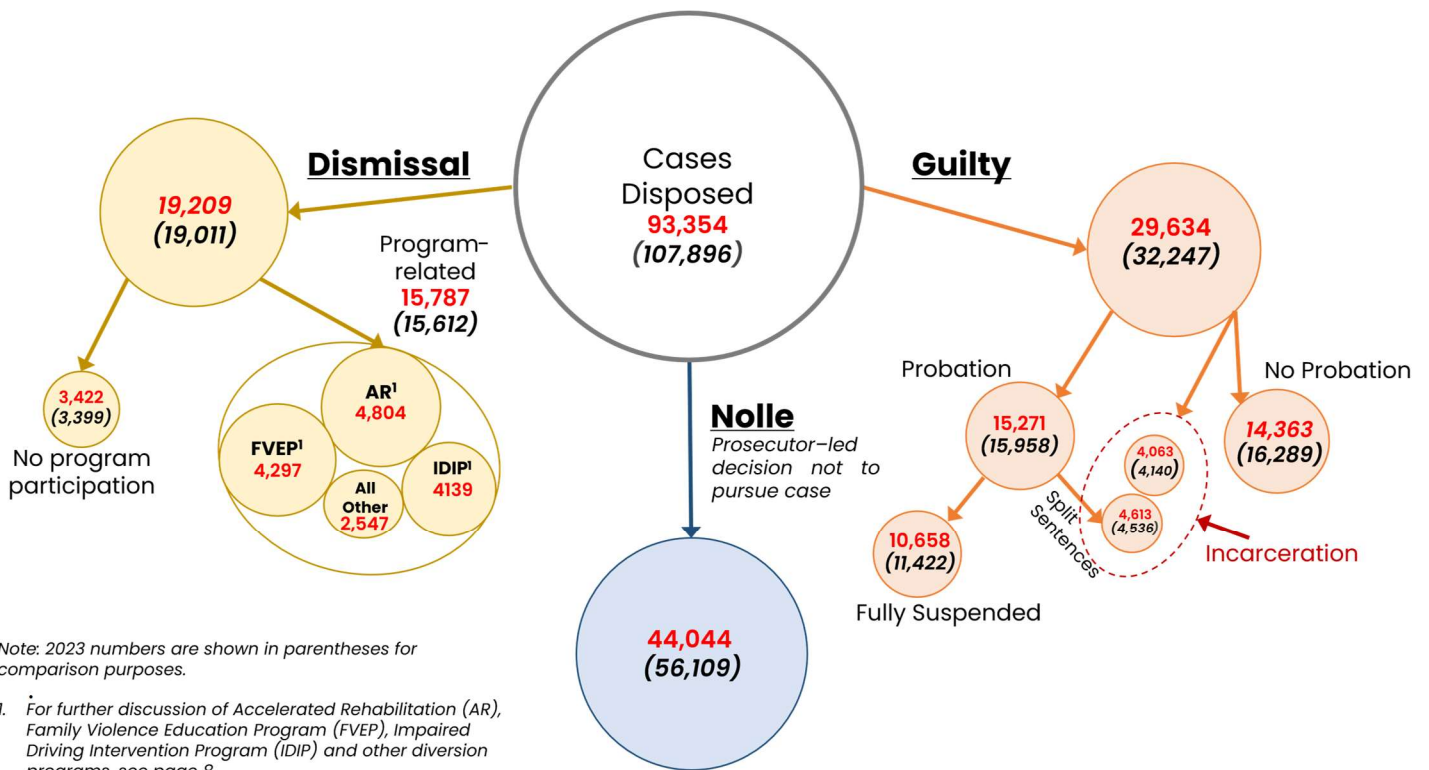
20,918 (↓ -7.7%)

# 2025 ANALYSIS OF PROSECUTOR DATA

## Overview of 2024 Case Flows

Consistent with prior analyses, OPM CJPPD again examined cases disposed during the most recent calendar year. According to the data revealed by DCJ, prosecutors were involved in disposing **93,354 cases** in 2024. **Chart 1** below depicts the vast majority of outcomes for cases disposed in 2024. Consistent with previous years, the three most frequent case outcomes in 2024 consisted of “**nolle**”, **guilty** and **dismissal** dispositions, together comprising **99.5 percent** of all closed cases again.<sup>2</sup>

**Chart 1: Key Case Outcomes, 2024**



<sup>1</sup> See page 9 for further discussion of prosecutorial uses of the nolle.

<sup>2</sup> A small number of remaining cases disposed with either prosecutors declining to prosecute (410) or, in limited instances, disposing with a not guilty verdict (57).

# 2025 ANALYSIS OF PROSECUTOR DATA

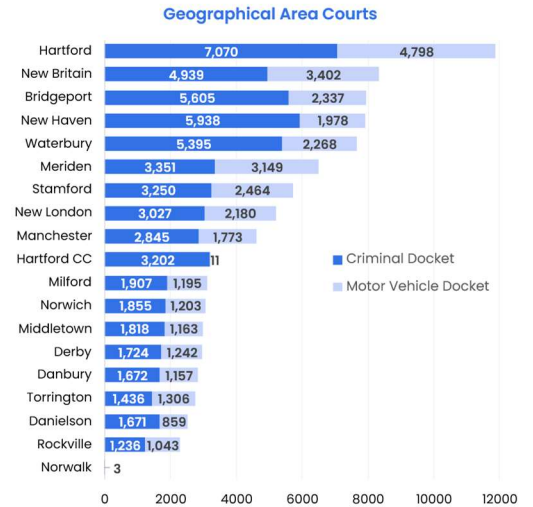
## Case Types & Court locations

Cases enter Connecticut criminal court either via the criminal case docket or the motor vehicle case docket. In 2024, cases entered from the motor vehicle docket comprised **37 percent** of cases disposed in Geographical Area (GA) criminal courts. These cases largely consist of misdemeanor offenses (see p. 4) and prosecutors exhibited considerable discretion in processing, frequently seeking to nolle the case following compliance with motor vehicle regulations in lieu of a conviction (see p. 9).

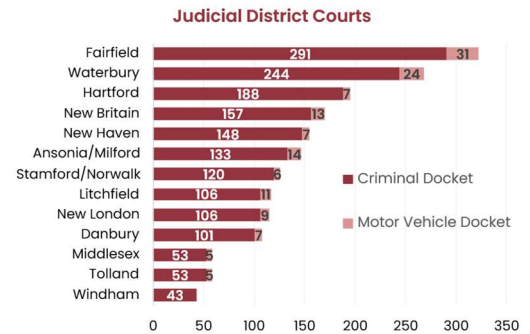
Prosecutors in GA courts continued to handle the majority of cases disposed in 2024, again comprising **98 percent** of all cases, similar to 2023. Cases begin in GA, or Part B, criminal courts, while the most serious cases, typically involving class A and B felonies, may be transferred to Judicial District (JD), or Part A, courts. **2 percent** of cases overall disposed in Judicial District (JD) courts in 2024 (see **Chart 2**), taking a median of **22 months** to close. This exceeds the median of **9 months** across cases heard in GA courts, owing to the investigative and evidentiary complexity of JD cases.

For cases disposed in 2024, OPM also analyzed the volumes associated with domestic violence as indicated in judicial data. **22,513** cases, or nearly a quarter of all cases disposed in 2024, were designated as involving domestic violence, **98 percent** of which were handled by prosecutors in GA courts. **Chart 3** displays the share of cases disposed involving domestic violence by GA court district arranged by total case volume.

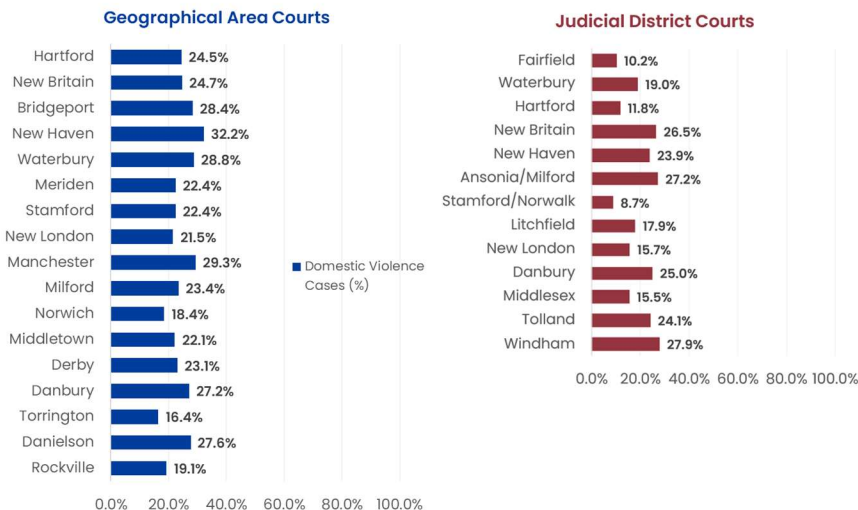
**Chart 2: Cases disposed by court type & location**



Note: Norwalk GA cases were consolidated into Stamford GA.



**Chart 3: Share of Cases Identified as Domestic Violence, 2024**



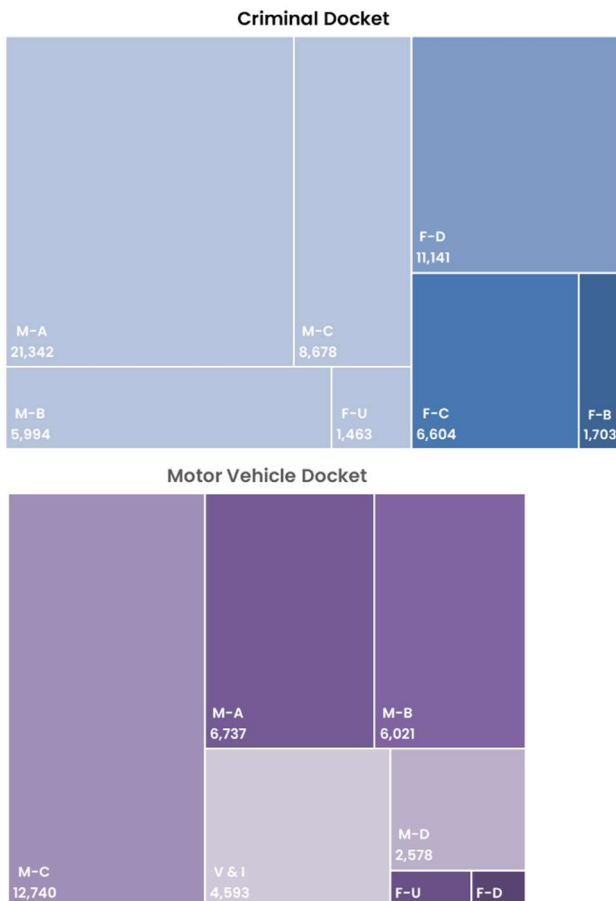
# 2025 ANALYSIS OF PROSECUTOR DATA

## Key Charges

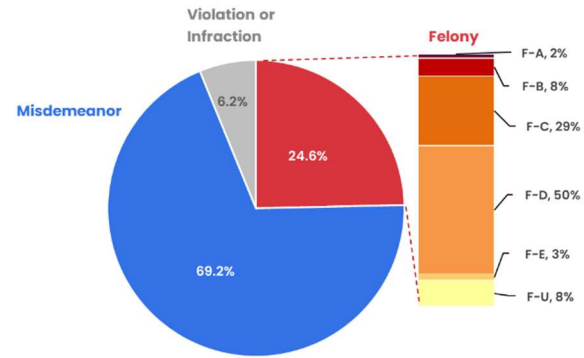
Of **245,169 total distinct charges** associated with cases disposed in 2024, misdemeanors again accounted for the most significant charge on just under **68 percent** of all criminal and motor vehicle cases (see **Chart 4**). Felonies comprised **25 percent** of cases, with again more than half of these having Class D felonies or below as their most serious charge. The remaining **12 percent** of cases had violations or infractions as their most serious charge, an increase in share from 5 percent observed in 2023.

When examined by docket type, as shown below in **Chart 5**, nearly **97 percent** of motor vehicle cases involved a misdemeanor or below as the most serious offense. Across cases entering on the criminal docket, however, a smaller share of cases (**63 percent**) involved a misdemeanor or below, with the remaining **37 percent** involving felonies.

**Chart 5: Cases most serious charge by type and class grouped according to case docket type, 2024**



**Chart 4: Cases most serious charge by type and class, 2024**



## 10 Most Frequent Charges from Motor Vehicle Docket Cases Disposed, 2024

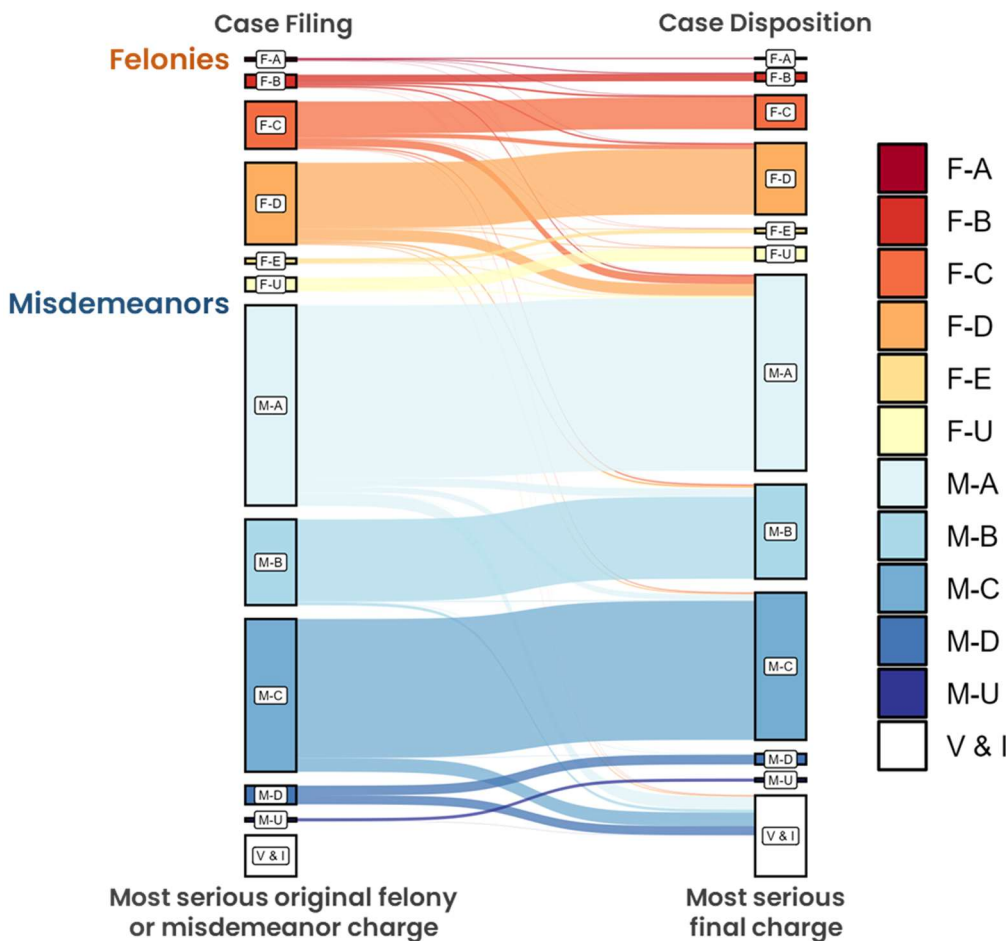
- 14-215/14-215(a)** *Illegal Operation of a Motor Vehicle Under Suspension*
- 14-213b** *Illegal Operation of a Motor Vehicle without Minimum Insurance*
- 14-12(a)\*** *Operating an Unregistered Motor Vehicle*
- 14-227a** *Illegal Operation of a Motor Vehicle Under the Influence of Alcohol or Drugs*
- 14-147(c)** *Improper Use of a Marker/License/Registration*
- 14-236** *Improper Lane Change*
- 14-36(a)** *Operating Motor Vehicle Without a License*
- 14-224(b)(3)** *Evading Responsibility*
- 53a-173\*** *Failure to Appear 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree*
- 38a-371** *Failure to Insure Motor Vehicle*



## 2025 ANALYSIS OF PROSECUTOR DATA

One window into prosecutorial discretion may be trends in changes made to the seriousness of charges over the course of the process. **Chart 6** below depicts the changes, if any, in the most serious felony or misdemeanor charge at the beginning of the case and at disposition. As illustrated, the seriousness of these key charges remains largely consistent across cases. For felonies, the most frequent changes observed involved initial Felony C or D level charges disposing as Misdemeanor A, while for misdemeanors, C and D level charges frequently disposed as violations or infractions.

**Chart 6: Changes between most serious original and disposition charges by type and class, 2024**



### 10 Most Frequent Charges from Criminal Docket Cases Disposed, 2024

- 53a-182** Disorderly Conduct
- 53a-181** Breach of Peace 2<sup>nd</sup> degree
- 53a-61** Assault 3<sup>rd</sup> degree
- 53a-173** Failure to Appear 2<sup>nd</sup> degree
- 53a-125b** Larceny 6<sup>th</sup> degree
- 53a-167a** Interfering with an Officer/Resisting
- 53a-223\*** Violation of Protective Order
- 21a-279(a)1** Possession of a Controlled Substance
- 53-21** Risk of Injury
- 53a-172** Failure to Appear 1<sup>st</sup> degree



## 2025 ANALYSIS OF PROSECUTOR DATA

### Case activities

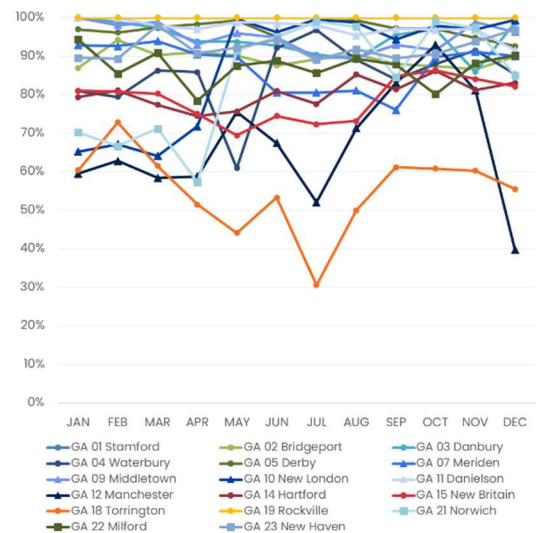
This year's analysis again examines multiple metrics, some collected directly by DCJ, regarding prosecutorial activities during cases. The measures examined for this analysis are presented in this section according to their loose chronological order in case activities. Three measures analyzed in this section are from data collected exclusively within eProsecutor and not sourced from Judicial system records feeding that system: 1) an indicator of whether prosecutors contacted crime victims, 2) the reason for a nolle disposition, and 3) a description of prosecutors' last best offer for a plea bargain.

Analysis of these three measures builds upon insights from the analysis of 2023 data, the first year where data coverage sufficiently supported analysis. For 2024, reporting generally increased across these three measures compared to 2023, as State's Attorney offices continued to operationalize the entry of information into eProsecutor. Primarily these gains were achieved through the use of cover sheets on case files to record specific fields for eventual entry into eProsecutor. The sidebar on subsequent pages presents estimated reporting percentages for each metric in 2024, grouped by GA and JD-level cases.

Even with improvements in data collection, however, data completeness challenges persist. Again in 2024, we observed significant fluctuations in data collection over time and by court. For instance, **Chart 7** (see right) illustrates the 2024 reporting percentage for the reason for nolle by month across GA court location. Such gaps in completeness inhibit the capabilities of eProsecutor to support more than descriptive analyses of prosecutorial activities. In addition, the manner in which these data are recorded and stored also affects their utility.

While both these data collection improvements and challenges are important to acknowledge, OPM's analysis remains focused on deriving systemic insights from the data made available. Such insights, despite data collection limitations, continue to provide a quantitative basis for considering prosecutors' impact across Connecticut's court system while continued efforts are made to enhance and refine data collection capabilities.

**Chart 7: Reason for Nolle  
Estimated Reporting Percentage  
by Month, 2024**



## 2025 ANALYSIS OF PROSECUTOR DATA

### Victim Contact

Not all criminal cases will have specific victims; cases involving compliance with motor vehicle requirements or many public order offenses are two common examples. When crimes do have specific victims, however, timely outreach is key to a wholistic criminal justice system. Successful victim contact can both collect victim input to inform case activities as well as keep victims notified about key points in the justice process.

Again for 2024, data collected within eProsecutor regarding prosecutorial contact was provided as *yes/no* indicator of whether contact was made. Estimating reporting based on recorded values, **84 percent** of the 50,155 total cases believed to have involved victims in 2024 recorded information about victim contact. We also observed similar victim contact reporting percentage across cases disposed either in GA or JD courts (see right). When reported, successful victim contact was recorded in the majority of cases (**80 percent**), while prosecutors reported no victim contact in **4 percent** of cases.

In Connecticut, court-provided victim services advocates conduct outreach for personal injury crimes. Prosecutors can also contact victims for any types of crimes involving victims, but state law generally requires State's Attorneys do so only *if such victim has requested notification*.<sup>3</sup> Only in criminal cases resulting in the death of another person are State's Attorneys required to notify a member of the immediate family or next of kin.<sup>4</sup>

Determining the full universe of cases when such prosecutorial victim contact would have been required is not readily possible with the data provided for 2024. At minimum, data identifying the cases involving known victims would be necessary, but further detail about contact by victim services advocates as well as victims requesting notification are needed. OPM did examine victim contact reported in cases specifically involving death. In 180 cases identified involving a death in 2024, prosecutors reported successful victim contact in **150**, or **83 percent**. Victim contact was not made in only four cases, while contact was not reported in the remaining **26** cases (**14 percent**).

### Victim Contact: eProsecutor Estimated Reporting 2024

GA cases: 84% reported

JD cases: 83% reported

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<sup>3,4</sup> CGS 51-286 sections d and e



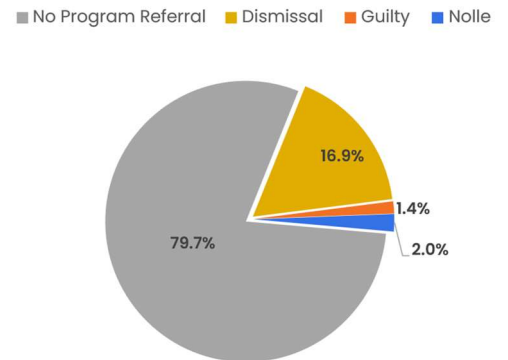
## 2025 ANALYSIS OF PROSECUTOR DATA

### Diversion

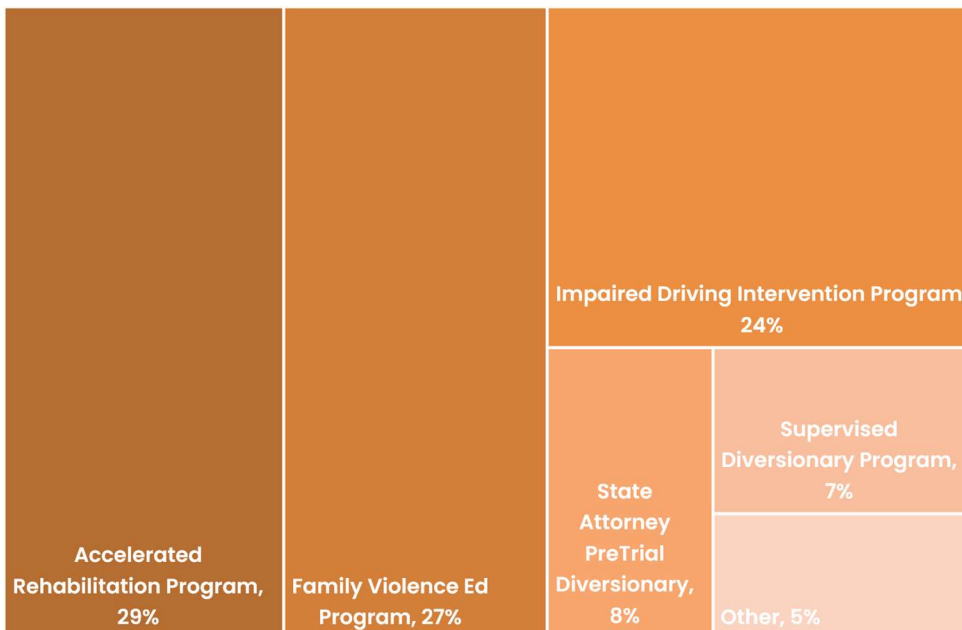
**20 percent** of all cases disposed in 2024 included a referral to a state diversion program (see **Chart 8**), up from 18 percent in 2023. Four fifths of these referred cases were dismissed, signifying that individuals complied with the program requirements and other divisionary conditions. Only **7 percent** of program referred cases, or 1 percent of all disposed cases in 2024, had both a program referral and a guilty disposition, suggesting that only a small proportion of referred cases were not successfully diverted.

**Chart 9** below displays the most common program referrals used for diversion in 2024. Six programs again accounted for 97 percent of all diversionary referrals. Accelerated Rehabilitation led with **29 percent** of program referrals, while **27 percent** of referrals were to Family Violence Education. In 2024, the Impaired Driving Intervention Program comprised **23 percent** of program referrals, unlike 2023, where the Alcohol Education Program was the third most frequent referral among cases disposed that year.

**Chart 8: State Diversion Program Referrals**



**Chart 9: Most Frequent Diversion Program Referrals, 2024**



## 2025 ANALYSIS OF PROSECUTOR DATA

### Reason for a nolle

When cases dispose as a *nolle*, a prosecutor has decided not to further pursue prosecuting the case, typically seeking some alternate corrective action instead. This too presents a potentially crucial window into diversionary prosecutorial decision-making. In a prior analysis, prosecutors describe the nolle as a powerful discretionary tool used to resolve cases after spending time working with defendants. Such work can include monitoring a defendant's program or treatment participation, or compliance with a driver's license, motor vehicle registration, or auto insurance, or their participation in a victim/defendant mediation or charitable contribution. Typically, following the completion of these steps and receiving a nolle disposition, a case will remain dormant for up to 13 months pending dismissal with no further additional criminal legal involvement for the defendant.

In 2024, **44,044** cases (**47 percent**) disposed with a nolle (see p. 2), and **410** cases disposed with a similar *not prosecuted* disposition. eProsecutor collects the reasons why prosecutors sought a nolle or to cease prosecution, using one or more dropdown categories to code this information, along with a notes field for further description. In 2024, across total nolle or not prosecuted cases, **86 percent** overall had data categorizing the reason for the nolle, up from 73 percent in 2023.

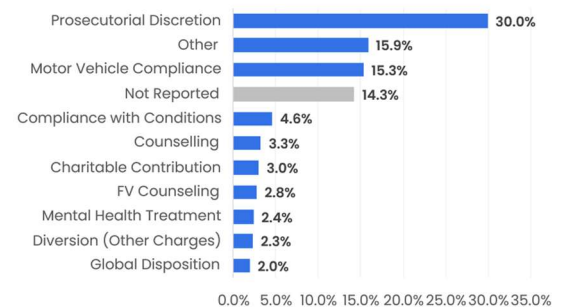
For nolle reasons reported, **Chart 10** (right) shows that **35 percent** of nolle or not prosecuted cases selected *prosecutorial discretion*, with *Other* and *Motor Vehicle Compliance* the second and third most frequent selection for a nolle. Notes accompanied **65 percent** of nolle cases categorized as *other* (4,603 cases). The description *nolle* or similar variations (e.g. *nolle with plea*) were frequent among these. Descriptions with more detail were recorded in free text formats inhibiting their use for aggregate analysis. For this report, OPM attempted to quantify frequently observed patterns within note descriptions. We observed that in **13 percent** of recorded notes, nolle were given in combination with pleas on other case files. **12 percent** of recorded notes referenced referral to diversion programs or treatment, with Family Violence programming most frequent among these. An additional **5 percent** of recorded notes indicated motor vehicle compliance as a condition for the nolle.

### Prosecutorial Diversion: eProsecutor Estimated Reporting Average, 2024

GA cases: 86% reporting

JD cases: 69% reporting

**Chart 10: Ten Most Frequent  
Primary Nolle Reasons, 2024**



## 2025 ANALYSIS OF PROSECUTOR DATA

### Last Best Offer

Data regarding the last best offer for plea bargaining presents a particularly important potential window into prosecutorial decision-making. DCJ collects data on these offers as text descriptions without standardized formats, required when cases are disposed with a guilty conviction. Using this disposition criteria for estimating reporting in 2024, we observed an overall last best offer reporting percentage of **92 percent**. As shown to the right, data collection for this metric did vary when cases disposed at the JD level compared to the GA level.

While the varied data structure makes meaningfully analyzing offer information challenging, for this year's report, OPM attempted to quantify offers based on frequent patterns observed in offer descriptions. For example, last best offer data recorded in eProsecutor frequently contained several variations of phrases like *See Disposition* or specific diversion program abbreviations. We flagged when such patterns appeared, then aggregated across 2024 cases. Most frequently, we identified a last best offer of a sentencing package in over **50 percent** of cases disposing as guilty in which offers were recorded. These offers were commonly entered as variations of a total sentence length, a subsequent duration of executed length or sentence suspension after, as well as a duration of probation. Specific time periods for such offers were recorded in varying ways inhibiting our ability to parse specific time amounts offered for comparing to disposition sentences. However, we did examine such last best offers for a subset of cases disposed at trial. (see p. 11)

*See disposition* and its variants were observed in **14 percent** of cases disposed with a guilty conviction, the second most frequent pattern detected. Unconditional Discharges were offered in **11 percent** of cases, nearly all of these cases disposed in GA courts. Also of note, we identified treatment being offered in **5 percent** of cases disposed with a guilty conviction, consistent across GA and JD courts. OPM will continue to explore methods for meaningfully aggregating and examining this heterogenous descriptive information across cases and time. We likewise encourage DCJ to continue exploring ways prosecutors can record information about last best offers that allow more ready analysis of this activity.

### Last Best Offer: Estimated Reporting Percentage, 2024

GA cases: 93% reported

JD cases: 85% reported



## 2025 ANALYSIS OF PROSECUTOR DATA

### Trial Activity

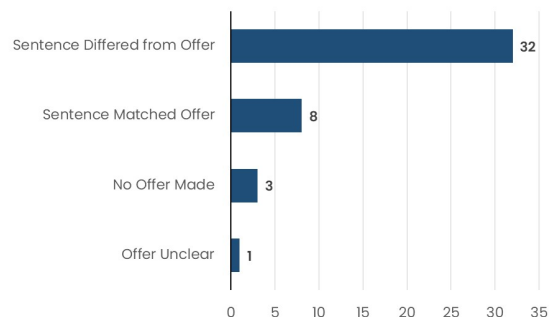
While prosecutors may make plea offers, defendants are responsible for agreeing to and entering the plea to the court. When cases do not resolve via a plea bargain, commonly after a last best offer has been made by prosecutors but not accepted by the defendant, cases will then be added to the court’s trial list in preparation for trial. Most criminal cases in 2024 disposed prior to being added to the list, with approximately just 2,500 cases (**3 percent**) added. Nearly all cases ultimately dispose without the use of a trial, with only **170** cases – or **0.2 percent** of total cases disposed in 2024 – disposed following a trial. This means that of cases making it to the trial list, only **7 percent** disposed by trial. Cases added to the list but disposed prior to trial, typically via plea agreement, took a median of **35 months** in 2024.

Of cases disposed at trial, **52 (31 percent)** resulted in an acquittal for the defendant, with **28** occurring in JD cases. The duration of jury trial cases exhibited more parity in 2024. Cases with at least one conviction lasted a median of **40 months**, while jury trials resulting in acquittal disposed in a median of **39 months** in 2024, demonstrating the judicial resources required for trial cases.

In 2024, **117** cases disposed following a trial with at least one guilty conviction. Of these, **75 (64 percent)** had last best offer information recorded for the case. For this year’s report, we examined last best offers recorded for a subset of cases tried in JD courts with at least one conviction (n=44). We then compared the recorded offer to the sentencing outcome associated with the case. **Chart II** (see right) shows if sentencing results matched the recorded offer or not. When sentencing results differed, we estimate that the incarceration sentence lengths likely increased compared to the recorded offer in 17 cases, while likely reduced in 14, and the change could not be clearly determined in one case.

It is important to note that sentencing decisions ultimately reside with judges, who are precluded at sentencing from having specific knowledge of the last best offer, if any, made to defendants. Sentencing decisions are also informed by judicial pre-sentence investigations reported to the judge before sentencing. All play key roles beyond prosecutorial discretion in observed sentencing outcomes.

**Chart II: Match between Last Best Offer and Sentence for Cases Tried in Judicial District Courts**



## 2025 ANALYSIS OF PROSECUTOR DATA

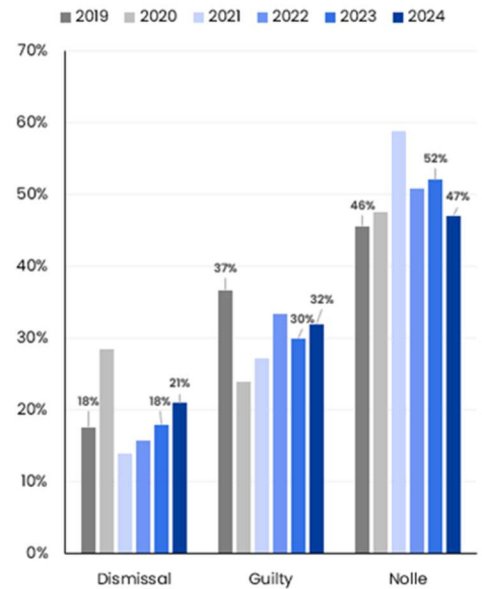
### Case dispositions over time

In 2024, the proportion of cases receiving a nolle declined from prior years, yet remains higher than the proportion receiving a dismissal or guilty (see **Chart 12**). **47 percent** of all criminal cases were nolle, disposing in a median of **6 months** in 2024 data. Cases with a guilty conviction (**32 percent**) increased as a share of total cases compared to 2023 but disposed in a similar median timeframe of **8 months**. Finally, dismissals reached **21 percent** of disposed cases in 2024, taking a median of **15 months** to close, again owing to the diversion programming requirements often utilized in dismissed cases.

**Chart 13** shows these disposition outcomes when examined by docket type, highlighting some differences observed between motor vehicle cases brought in criminal court compared to cases originating on the criminal docket. MV cases had a higher share disposing with a nolle (**52 percent**) compared with **45 percent** of criminal cases. With parity observed among the cases dismissed by docket type, a higher share of criminal cases (**34 percent**) ended with at least one guilty conviction compared to MV cases (**27 percent**).

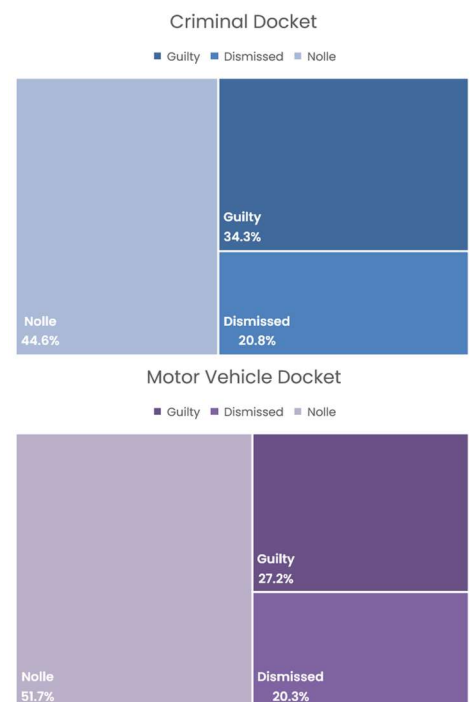
Lastly, disposition outcomes differed notably depending on whether the case disposed in GA or JD courts. Nearly three quarters (**73 percent**) of cases disposed in JD courts disposed with at least one guilty conviction, compared to 31 percent of cases disposed in GA courts in 2024. Alternately, nearly half of cases disposed in GA courts received a nolle (**48 percent**), while just under 1 in 5 cases disposed in JD courts were nolle. Such observed differences serves to further illustrate that JD courts typically hear more severe cases which require different handling by prosecutors and leads to differing outcomes than with cases typically disposed at GA level.

**Chart 12: Key Case Disposition Types, 2019 to 2024**



*Note: Data for 2019 to 2022 analyzed previously from the Connecticut Judicial Branch; 2023 and 2024 data provided by DCJ.*

**Chart 13: Key Case Disposition Types by Docket, 2024**



## 2025 ANALYSIS OF PROSECUTOR DATA

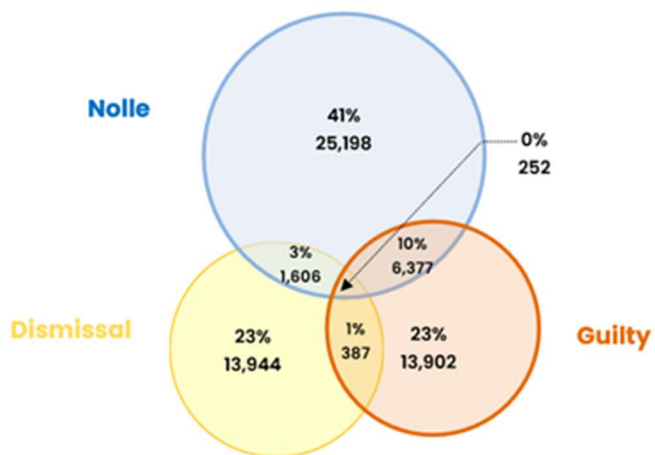
### Individual-level metrics in 2024

OPM CJPPD estimates that there were **61,750** unique individuals associated with the 93,354 cases disposed in 2024, a 10 percent decrease from the 68,840 individuals associated with 2023 disposed cases. Consistent with previous years, however, the majority (**75%**) of individuals had only a single case dispose in 2024 (see **Chart 14**). Still, **nearly a quarter** of individuals had between 2 to 5 cases disposed last year. Approximately **2 percent** of individuals (**1,654**) in the data had greater than five cases disposed within the year, a small but significant population.

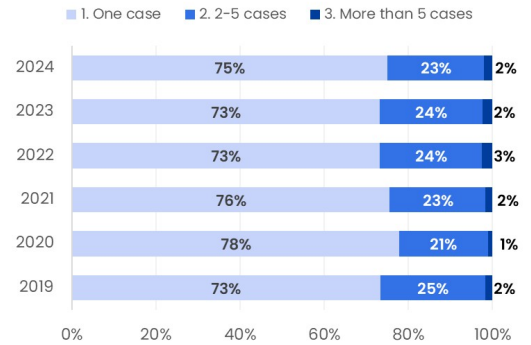
For this year’s report, OPM also examined some criminal history characteristics provided for defendants in 2024, indicating the date of their first ever felony and/or misdemeanor conviction, if any. **Two-thirds** of defendants in 2024 had no previous criminal conviction history. Of the third of defendants with a prior criminal history, nearly 9,000 (**43 percent**) only had misdemeanor criminal convictions. The approximately 12,000 remaining defendants, or **19 percent** of all 2024 defendants, had at least one prior felony conviction preceding the case(s) disposed in 2024.

**Chart 15** below displays the outcomes of individuals’ cases across the three most common disposition types, with **14 percent** receiving multiple verdicts. Nolles remain individuals’ most common case outcome, but **one third** of individuals again in 2024 had at least 1 guilty disposition across cases.

**Chart 15: Individuals’ case findings, 2024**



**Chart 14: Number of cases per person, 2019 to 2024**



*Note: Data for 2019 to 2022 analyzed previously from the Connecticut Judicial Branch; 2023 and 2024 data provided by DCJ.*



## 2025 ANALYSIS OF PROSECUTOR DATA

For this year’s report, OPM CJPPD also examined individuals mix of case disposition outcomes stratified by their criminal history.

**Chart 16** below presents similar venn diagrams of the three most frequent disposition types as Chart 15, this time however individuals are grouped by criminal history categories of no prior criminal history, prior misdemeanor criminal history conviction only, and felony conviction criminal history. Chart 16 shows that in 2024, individuals with no prior criminal history were far more likely to have cases resulting in dismissals only (**29 percent**) compared to the **10 percent** of those with a prior criminal conviction. Alternately, **64 percent** of individuals with a prior felony conviction had cases dispose with a guilty conviction, compared to just **22 percent** of those with no criminal history.

**Chart 16: Individuals’ Case Findings by Prior Conviction History, 2024**



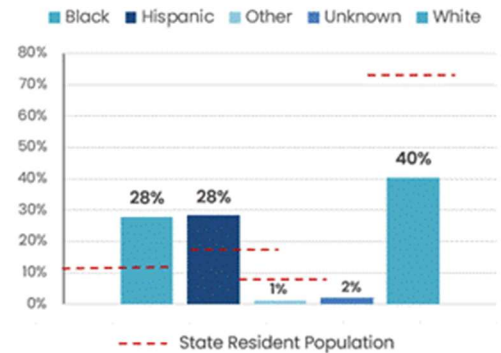
## 2025 ANALYSIS OF PROSECUTOR DATA

### Key issue: Demographic differences

Again for this year’s report, OPM examined cases disposed in Connecticut courts in 2024 according to the recorded race, ethnicity and gender of the cases’ defendants. Consistent with prior analyses, Black or Hispanic defendants are over-represented in court system case dispositions relative to their composition within the state resident population (see **Chart 17**). In 2024, the share of cases involving Hispanic and Black defendants (**28 percent**) were similar between groups, while cases involving non-Hispanic white defendants remained largest at **40 percent**. White defendants, along with those comprising the other non-white category, however are still under-represented in case dispositions relative to their state resident population composition.<sup>4</sup>

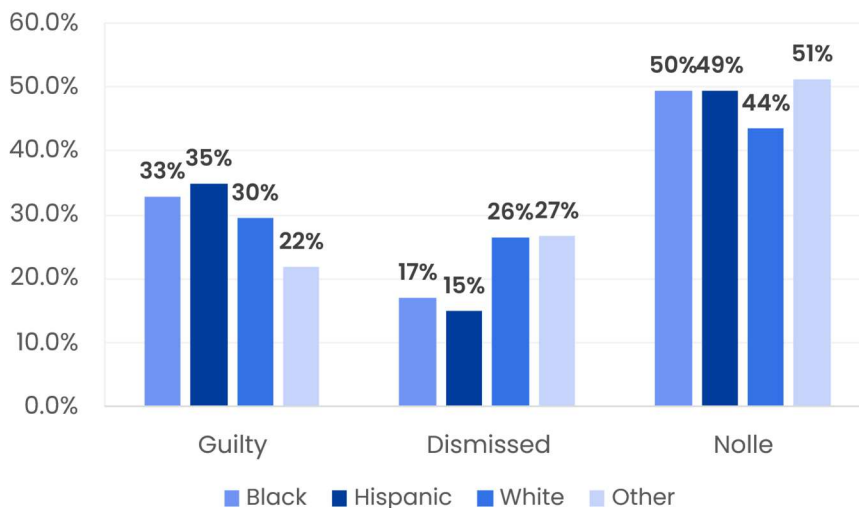
As in previous years, we also examined case disposition outcomes by race and ethnicity (see **Chart 18**). This view provides insight into the case results to which prosecutors contribute, relative to the racial and ethnic disproportionality that exists across cases.

**Chart 17: Defendant race & ethnicity among cases disposed in the Connecticut Courts, 2024**



Source: U.S. Census Bureau - (2021). American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates. Retrieved from Connecticut Data Collaborative: <https://ctdata.org>

**Chart 18: Proportions of key case findings by Race/Ethnicity, 2024**



<sup>4</sup> Note: The *other* category comprises Asian, Native American, and Not Identified individuals as reflected in Judicial Branch case data utilized for analysis.



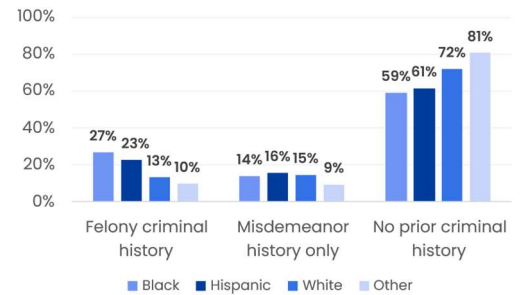
## 2025 ANALYSIS OF PROSECUTOR DATA

A crucial equity concern is the extent to which non-white defendants may be more likely to be convicted in a criminal case than white defendants. Again in 2024, both Black and Hispanic defendants had statistically significant differences (p-value <0.05) in the proportion of cases disposing with guilty convictions or as a nolle when compared to white defendants. There were also statistically significant differences in nolle dispositions observed between the *Other* group (comprising Asian, Native American, and Not Identified defendants) when compared to white defendants. In 2024, white defendants appeared less likely to have received guilty convictions than black or hispanic defendants, and also less likely to have their case nolle than all other groups.

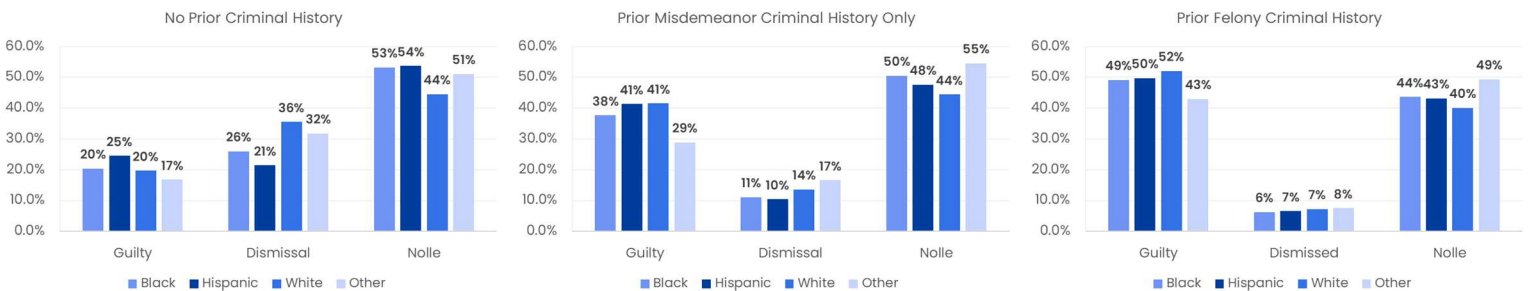
However, as mentioned in past reports, there are myriad other factors to account for to fully consider the extent race and ethnicity might contribute to disproportionate case outcomes. Key among these is an individual’s criminal history, which is a crucial factor contributing to likely prosecutorial case handling. However, in 2024, defendant criminal histories also exhibit disproportionality by race and ethnicity (see **Chart 19** right).

For this year’s report, to account for the effects of criminal history on observed outcomes, we further grouped defendants according to criminal history and then examined the relationship between race/ethnicity and case dispositions within these criminal history groupings. **Chart 20** presents the proportion of case disposition types by race and ethnicity within the three criminal history groupings discussed previously (see p. 14).

**Chart 19: Defendant Race & Ethnicity by Criminal History Grouping**



**Chart 20: Proportions of key case findings by Race/Ethnicity and Criminal History Groupings, 2024**



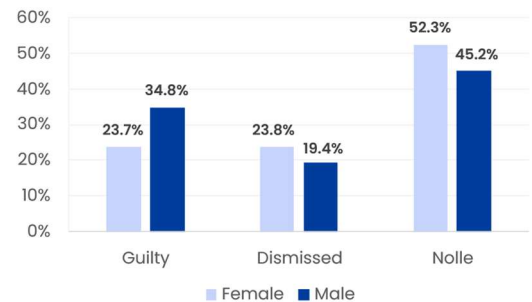
## 2025 ANALYSIS OF PROSECUTOR DATA

While differences across disposition types and race and ethnicity within each criminal history grouping are visible, much of the variance involves nolle dispositions among those with either misdemeanor or without prior criminal history. As shown in **Chart 20**, Black or Hispanic defendants were more likely to have cases nolle in 2024 than white defendants within these criminal history groupings. Importantly, the differences observed in the share of guilty convictions by race and ethnicity were largely not statistically significant within criminal history groupings, **with one exception**: Among individuals with no prior criminal history, Hispanic defendants had a statistically significant difference (p-value <0.05) compared to white defendants in the proportion of their cases disposing with a conviction in 2024.

Finally, OPM again looked at case dispositions by the reported gender of the defendant (see **Chart 21**). As anticipated, the number of cases disposed involving men (just below 70,000) exceeded those involving women (approximately 25,500) in 2024. Accounting for these differences in magnitude, we still observed statistically significant disproportionality in the dispositions illustrated in Chart 21. Female defendants again had a higher share of cases dismissed or nolle compared with male defendants, though differences observed in the share of guilty convictions were not found to be statistically significant.

Taken together, these descriptive measures continue to demonstrate that disproportionality exists by race, ethnicity, and gender across cases in Connecticut courts, and broadly by key disposition outcomes of those cases. That these differences may diminish when accounting for additional factors, as in our examination of guilty convictions by criminal history grouping, is encouraging. Efforts should be made however to identify and better understand the drivers of disproportionality into Connecticut courts, as well as what effect specific prosecutorial decision-making might have upon it. OPM CJPPD shares the considerable public interest in better understanding and elucidating the relationship between Connecticut’s prosecutors and possible disparities in the state’s criminal justice system, and will continue expanding upon this analysis in future reports.

**Chart 21: Proportions of key case findings by Gender, 2024**



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### Conclusion

This year's report marks the sixth edition and OPM CJPPD's second utilizing eProsecutor system data. In conducting this analysis, OPM has continued to develop our understanding the analytic potential of the data provided. Reporting by DCJ has continued improving from initial rollout, as demonstrated in 2024 compared with the year prior. Yet, issues regarding data reporting, quality, and consistency will generate ongoing challenges to using eProsecutor to support robust research into fairness and transparency. Further efforts by DCJ remain needed to assess, validate, and refine the information collected for greater analytic utility. But continued improvements to date are encouraging, as well as analytic approaches developed in support of this report.

While this year's report extends our examination of the criminal cases, case activities, disposition outcomes, and individual characteristics illustrative of the cases upon which Connecticut's prosecutors engage daily, ongoing consideration of prosecutorial transparency is needed. With the availability of eProsecutor data, its analytic potential and challenges, and the public interest in prosecutorial transparency, Connecticut must continue to identify and develop its set of key transparency questions to examine. Such questions may include:

- What is an efficient case processing standard in Connecticut, and how might prosecutors be meeting this standard?
- How are cases distributed across individual prosecutor caseloads, and what staffing resources and experience are utilized in case processing?
- Are similarly situated defendants and their cases handled comparably across courts? Are the outcomes observed independent of defendant attributes like race, ethnicity, gender, income, disability status, and other characteristics?

Consensus on key questions ahead will inform the methodology and data collection necessary to support their study. In doing so, Connecticut can better assess how the systems implemented to date on behalf of *PA 19-59* can either readily support or might further evolve to bolster the state's prosecutorial transparency goals.

This report was produced by the Criminal Justice Policy & Planning Division Research Unit at

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The findings will be presented to the CT Criminal Justice Commission at a future date.

