



To: The Honorable Michael D. Hurley, Clerk of the Senate  
The Honorable Steven T. James, Clerk of the House

From: Jennifer Franco, Legal Counsel, Massachusetts District Attorneys Association

Date: January 12, 2024

Re: **Annual Report on the District Attorneys' Prosecution Statistics**

---

As required by Chapter 28 of the Acts of 2023<sup>1</sup> the Massachusetts District Attorneys Association (MDAA) submits this report on behalf of the 11 District Attorneys relative to their criminal prosecutions and workloads for calendar year 2023.

While the reports of the individual districts delineating their workloads by charge or category of work are attached, below please find a synopsis of the calendar year 2023 totals per listed category<sup>2</sup> pertaining to the 11 District Attorney Offices:

---

<sup>1</sup>0340-2100. [N]ot later than January 12, 2024, the [MDAA] shall work in conjunction with the 11 district attorneys' offices to prepare and submit a report to the house and senate committees on ways and means and the clerks of the house of representatives and senate; provided further, that the association shall provide said offices with an agreed-upon template for the report to be filled out; provided further, that said offices shall submit said report in a standard electronic format; provided further, that said template shall include, delineated by charge type: (a) the number of criminal cases initiated by arraignment in each department of the trial court; (b) the number of criminal cases disposed of in each department of the trial court; (c) the number of cases appealed to the appeals courts, or of the supreme judicial court, a single justice of the appeals court or supreme judicial court or any other appeals; (d) the number of cases reviewed but not charged; and (e) the number of cases under active management where the case includes charges for drug offenses under chapter 94C of the General Laws, motor vehicle offenses under chapter 90 of the General Laws or firearm offenses under chapter 140 of the General Laws.

<sup>2</sup> Data lists total charges, except "Appellate Work," "Cases Reviewed/Not Charged," and "Other Work," all of which measure cases, investigations or a specific event.

**Superior Court/Youthful Offender:**

Arraigned: 493

Disposed: 404

Actively Managed: 1,256

**Juvenile Court:**

Arraigned: 10,620

Disposed: 10,328

Actively Managed: 20,931

Diversion: 4,094

**Superior Court (Adult):**

Arraigned: 16,185

Disposed: 15,146

Actively Managed: 59,999

**District Court (Adult):**

Arraigned: 296,638

Disposed: 310,229

Actively Managed: 523,499

**Appellate Work:** 3,497

**Cases Reviewed/Not Charged:** 55,927

**Other Work:** 172,694

As also required by the reporting language of line item 0340-2100, please find specific charges below, broken down by court:

**Superior Court/Youthful Offender:**

Motor Vehicle (pursuant to MGL Chapter 90):

Arraigned: 20

Disposed: 5

Actively Managed: 30

Controlled Substances (pursuant to MGL Chapter 94C):

Arraigned: 13

Disposed: 3

Actively Managed: 14

Firearms (pursuant to MGL Chapter 140):

Arraigned: 131

Disposed: 96

Actively Managed: 332

**Juvenile Court:**

Motor Vehicle (pursuant to MGL Chapter 90):

Arraigned: 1,089

Disposed: 1,009

Actively Managed: 1,677

Controlled Substances (pursuant to MGL Chapter 94C):

Arraigned: 290

Disposed: 254

Actively Managed: 616

Firearms (pursuant to MGL Chapter 140):

Arraigned: 858

Disposed: 777

Actively Managed: 1,762

**Superior Court (Adult):**

Motor Vehicle (pursuant to MGL Chapter 90):

Arraigned: 434

Disposed: 344

Actively Managed: 1,018

Controlled Substances (pursuant to MGL Chapter 94C):

Arraigned: 2,512  
Disposed: 2,308  
Actively Managed: 9,440

Firearms (pursuant to MGL Chapter 140):

Arraigned: 3,605  
Disposed: 3,522  
Actively Managed: 8,138

**District Court (Adult):**

Motor Vehicle (pursuant to MGL Chapter 90):

Arraigned: 121,783  
Disposed: 129,024  
Actively Managed: 184,423

Controlled Substances (pursuant to MGL Chapter 94C):

Arraigned: 22,477  
Disposed: 22,536  
Actively Managed: 46,355

Firearms (pursuant to MGL Chapter 140):

Arraigned: 11,665  
Disposed: 12,602  
Actively Managed: 24,245

Attached to this memo are the individual submissions of the 11 District Attorney Offices. The District Attorneys utilize the same outdated case management system (DAMION) but differ significantly in how each office defines its data and inputs and reports that data, as well as whether certain data is even tracked at all. Please also note that, due to administrative staffing issues, not all offices are able to input all cases (especially those in the district courts) into DAMION, resulting in underreporting of cases; and not all offices are able to quickly close disposed cases, resulting in over reporting. Finally, please recognize that the number of actively managed cases remains significant, in part, because of the backlog in court cases due to court closures from the COVID-19 pandemic.