



March 26, 2024

24-09

BC Prosecution Service releases further bail data

Victoria – The BC Prosecution Service (BCPS) announced today further bail data manually collected between November 2022 and December 2023. Summaries of the results of the manually collected bail data are attached to this media statement. An initial [media statement](#) on preliminary bail data was released on April 24, 2023.

In summary:

- between November 2022 and December 2023, the BCPS collected data on almost 4,800 bail hearings
- Crown Counsel sought restrictive bail conditions in approximately three quarters of these hearings and sought detention in the other quarter. Judges ordered detention in less than half of these cases (approximately 41%)
- Crown Counsel sought pre-trial detention in almost a third of the bail hearings for crimes of violence. Judges ordered detention in less than half of these cases (approximately 43%)

The BCPS policy on bail and a related information sheet can be found at:

[Bail – Adults \(BAI 1\)](#)

[Bail information sheet](#)

Media Contact: Damienne Darby
 Communications Counsel
 bcpsmedia@gov.bc.ca
 236.468.3832

To learn more about BC's criminal justice system, visit the [British Columbia Prosecution Service website at: gov.bc.ca/prosecutionservice](#) or follow [@bcprosecution](#).

BC Prosecution Service - Bail Hearings for Accused Persons in Custody
Preliminary Results for Manually Collected Data

Measure	Fall 2022 (pre bail policy change) Nov 7 - 20	Fall 2022 (post bail policy change) Nov 28 - Dec 11	Winter 2023 Feb 27 - Mar 12	Spring 2023 May 29 - Jun 11	Summer 2023 Sep 11 - Sep 24	Fall 2023 Dec 4 - Dec 17
# BAIL HEARINGS ^{1,2}	779	772	764	758	851	831
# Accused files dealt with ³	1,376	1,314	1,403	1,404	1,521	1,506
Avg # Accused files per hearing	1.8	1.7	1.8	1.9	1.8	1.8
# Hearings - accused identified as Indigenous ⁵	166	129	148	123	177	162
# Hearings - at least one of the accused files dealt with a breach ⁶	251	240	207	215	238	235
# Hearings - at least one of the accused files dealt with an outstanding warrant ⁷	458	479	470	443	465	483
# Hearings - at least one of the accused files dealt with a violent offence ⁸	402	404	359	374	438	378
# Hearings - at least one of the accused files dealt with an intimate partner violence matter ⁹	222	197	203	166	212	189
# Hearings - Crown sought restrictive bail conditions ¹⁰	583	590	598	565	647	651
# Hearings - Crown sought a detention order ¹¹	196	182	166	193	204	180
# Hearings - detention order was granted ¹³	87	74	59	77	93	74
<i>% Hearings - accused identified as Indigenous</i>	21%	17%	19%	16%	21%	19%
<i>% Hearings - at least one of the accused files dealt with a breach</i>	32%	31%	27%	28%	28%	28%
<i>% Hearings - at least one of the accused files dealt with an outstanding warrant</i>	59%	62%	62%	58%	55%	58%
<i>% Hearings - at least one of the accused files dealt with a violent offence</i>	52%	52%	47%	49%	51%	45%
<i>% Hearings - at least one of the accused files dealt with an intimate partner violence (IPV) matter</i>	28%	26%	27%	22%	25%	23%
<i>% Hearings - Crown sought restrictive bail conditions</i>	75%	76%	78%	75%	76%	78%
<i>% Hearings - Crown sought a detention order</i>	25%	24%	22%	25%	24%	22%
<i>% Hearings - detention order was granted - as proportion of all bail hearings</i>	11%	10%	8%	10%	11%	9%
<i>% Hearings - detention order was granted - as proportion of bail hearings where Crown sought detention</i>	44%	41%	36%	40%	46%	41%

Data Source: Manual data collection by staff of BC Prosecution Service (BCPS) to capture data not readily available in the province's criminal case tracking system (JUSTIN).

Notes:

1. Data is for in-custody accused bail hearings on BC Prosecution Files only - Federal Prosecution files excluded.
2. Number of in-custody accused bail hearings. A bail hearing was recorded once for each substantive bail appearance per accused per day. It was recorded only for a completed bail process, once the judicial interim release decision was rendered. Out-of-custody applications relating to bail (including the vacating of warrants) and consent remands were excluded.
3. Number of accused files dealt with since an in-custody accused bail hearing could deal with one or more accused files.
4. For each in-custody accused bail hearing, data captured key information for all accused files dealt with at the hearing. If an accused had multiple files, criteria such as accused Indigenous status, presence of a violent offence, etc., was recorded if any of their files met that particular criteria. For example, if an accused had 3 files dealt with at a bail hearing and at least one of their files was for a violent matter, and at least one of their files included a breach (even if they are different files), then staff would record "yes" against each of those criteria.
5. Accused bail hearing where the accused self identifies as Indigenous.
6. Accused bail hearing where at least one of the accused's files relates to a file(s) being added to a bail hearing where the accused is on bail on an (other) outstanding matter(s) which is back before the court pursuant to section 524.
7. Accused bail hearing where at least one of the accused's files had an outstanding warrant(s) at the time of arrest.
8. Accused bail hearing where at least one of the accused's files includes an offence involving violence or a weapon (in the broad s. 2 definition). This includes any offence where violence is used, threatened, or attempted.
9. Accused bail hearing where at least one of the accused's files involves an intimate partner violence matter.
10. Number of in-custody accused bail hearings where the Crown sought restrictive conditions. This could include conditions to protect public safety by restricting or limiting an accused's activities or freedom, but excludes outright detention.
11. Number of in-custody accused bail hearings where the Crown sought detention.
12. The total number of hearings in #10 and #11 above equals the total number of bail hearings reported in this table.
13. The number of detention orders granted reflects judicial decisions at a bail hearing to order an accused to be detained in custody.
14. November 4, 2022 - BCPS Crown Counsel directed to manually tracking data on in-custody accused bail hearings for a five week period starting November 7, 2022.
15. November 22, 2022 - BCPS implemented a revised Bail - Adults (BAI 1) policy.
16. The week of November 21-27, 2022 has been excluded as it is the week the transition in bail policy occurred.

BC Prosecution Service - Bail Hearings for Accused Persons in Custody
Preliminary Results for Manually Collected Data - Violent Offence, Breach and Outstanding Warrant Files

Measure	Measure	Fall 2022 (pre bail policy change) Nov 7 - 20	Fall 2022 (post bail policy change) Nov 28 - Dec 11	Winter 2023 Feb 27 - Mar 12	Spring 2023 May 29 - Jun 11	Summer 2023 Sep 11 - Sep 24	Fall 2023 Dec 4 - Dec 17
At least one of the accused files dealt with a violent offence ⁴	# Bail Hearings ^{1,2,3}	402	404	359	374	438	378
	# Hearings - Crown sought a detention order	122	121	102	101	121	96
	# Hearings - detention order was granted	52	47	36	46	56	46
	% Hearings - Crown sought a detention order ⁷	30%	30%	28%	27%	28%	25%
	% Hearings - detention order was granted ⁸	13%	12%	10%	12%	13%	12%
At least one of the accused files dealt with a breach ⁵	# Bail Hearings	251	240	207	215	238	235
	# Hearings - Crown sought a detention order	102	98	79	88	88	89
	# Hearings - detention order was granted	46	42	36	34	41	35
	% Hearings - Crown sought a detention order	41%	41%	38%	41%	37%	38%
	% Hearings - detention order was granted	18%	18%	17%	16%	17%	15%
At least one of the accused files dealt with an outstanding warrant ⁶	# Bail Hearings	458	479	470	443	465	483
	# Hearings - Crown sought a detention order	97	85	84	91	93	91
	# Hearings - detention order was granted	40	29	33	31	42	33
	% Hearings - Crown sought a detention order	21%	18%	18%	21%	20%	19%
	% Hearings - detention order was granted	9%	6%	7%	7%	9%	7%
At least one file dealt with a violent offence AND at least one file dealt with a breach	# Bail Hearings	137	125	101	96	125	96
	# Hearings - Crown sought a detention order	63	69	52	44	57	43
	# Hearings - detention order was granted	23	29	24	18	26	18
	% Hearings - Crown sought a detention order	46%	55%	51%	46%	46%	45%
	% Hearings - detention order was granted	17%	23%	24%	19%	21%	19%
At least one file dealt with a violent offence AND at least one file dealt with an outstanding warrant	# Bail Hearings	188	215	179	169	190	182
	# Hearings - Crown sought a detention order	58	57	45	35	48	43
	# Hearings - detention order was granted	23	19	19	15	23	17
	% Hearings - Crown sought a detention order	31%	27%	25%	21%	25%	24%
	% Hearings - detention order was granted	12%	9%	11%	9%	12%	9%
At least one file dealt with a violent offence AND at least one file dealt with a breach AND at least one file dealt with an outstanding warrant	# Bail Hearings	61	67	41	37	45	44
	# Hearings - Crown sought a detention order	28	38	17	11	15	22
	# Hearings - detention order was granted	9	14	11	3	8	7
	% Hearings - Crown sought a detention order	46%	57%	41%	30%	33%	50%
	% Hearings - detention order was granted	15%	21%	27%	8%	18%	16%

Data Source: Manual data collection by staff of BC Prosecution Service (BCPS) to capture data not readily available in the province's criminal case tracking system (JUSTIN).

Notes:

1. Data is for in-custody accused bail hearings on BC Prosecution Files only - Federal Prosecution files excluded.
2. Number of in-custody accused bail hearings. A bail hearing was recorded once for each substantive bail appearance per accused per day. It was recorded only for a completed bail process, once the judicial interim release decision was rendered. Out-of-custody applications relating to bail (including the vacating of warrants) and consent remands were excluded.
3. For each in-custody accused bail hearing, data captured key information for all accused files dealt with at the hearing. If an accused had multiple files, criteria such as presence of a violent offence, etc., was recorded if any of their files met that particular criteria. For example, if an accused had 3 files dealt with at a bail hearing and at least one of their files was for a violent matter, and at least one of their files included a breach (even if they are different files), then staff would record "yes" against each of those criteria.
4. Accused bail hearing where at least one of the accused's files includes an offence involving violence or a weapon (in the broad s. 2 definition). This includes any offence where violence is used, threatened, or attempted.
5. Accused bail hearing where at least one of the accused's files relates to a file(s) being added to a bail hearing where the accused is on bail on an (other) outstanding matter(s) which is back before the court pursuant to section 524.
6. Accused bail hearing where at least one of the accused's files had an outstanding warrant(s) at the time of arrest.
7. Number of in-custody accused bail hearings where the Crown sought detention.
8. The number of detention orders granted reflects judicial decisions at a bail hearing to order an accused to be detained in custody.
9. November 22, 2022 - BCPS implemented a revised Bail – Adults (BAI 1) policy.
10. The week of November 21-27, 2022 has been excluded as it is the week the transition in bail policy occurred.