

Department Name	Probation
Account(s)	3140
Department Function The mission of the Albany County Probation Department is threefold. The Department is committed to providing quality services to all courts in Albany County by conducting Pre-Sentence and Pre-Disposition Investigations, Intake and Diversion Programs, supervising adult and juvenile offenders at levels determined by validated risk assessment tools, and by providing and participating in alternative sentencing programs. The Department also serves the community by including the victims of offender's crime in investigation, case planning and supervision. The Department collects court imposed financial obligations such as restitution and certain offender fees. Finally, the Department is committed to holding offenders accountable through the employment of graduated sanctions as well as providing for and referral to skill-building programs and services that emphasize self-efficacy and positive social adjustment. The department also looks to employ merit credits as incentives for positive community adjustment and as a reward for sustained and measurable achievements.	

Current Year Highlights To date, the Probation Department completed 483 adult Pre-Sentence Investigations for criminal courts and 46 Pre-Dispositional Investigation for Family Court. A total of 116 Victim Impact Statements were prepared and included in those investigations. There are approximately 1,270 adult individuals being supervised on both formal and interim probation at various risk levels. As of this writing, the Juvenile Intake Diversion unit received 201 new juvenile delinquent cases and 128 Persons in Need of Supervision (PINS) cases. This unit supervises an average of 160 juveniles at any given time. To date, Family Court has ordered 37 youth to formal supervision. There are approximately 94 youth being supervised on a formal basis. Additionally, the Department received 114 pre-dispositional Juvenile Release Under Supervision orders from Family Court to date. The Adult Bail Reform/Pre-Trial Release Under Supervision unit continues to see an increase in cases. As of this writing, 648 orders were received from criminal courts. The unit monitors and supervises approximately 575 individuals at any given time. The Department also continues to see an increase in the utilization of Global Positioning Satellite (GPS) tracking devices. At this writing, 346 devices have been installed, with 120 current active GPS cases being supervised. The majority of the GPS cases are within the Bail Reform/Pre-Trial Release Under Supervision unit with the remainder being Gun Involved Violence Elimination (GIVE), Domestic Violence, Sex Offender, Raise the Age and Juvenile Release Under Supervision related cases. The Department continues to conduct significant and meaningful programming which is available to any individual involved to assist them in becoming responsible, product law-abiding members of the community. Such programming includes evidenced based and cognitive behavioral interventions; Project Growth, Career University, Decision Points, Brief Intervention Tools (BITS), Juvenile Accountability Board (JCAB) and Ready, Set, Work. Additionally, the Department conducts NYS Department of Motor Vehicle Pre-Permit and 5 hour Pre-Licensing Courses, Financial Education Groups, Mental Health Peer Support Groups, Parent Project and the High School Equivalency Diploma Program. The Department also maintains an Employment Center and Dress for Success Program. Several juvenile staff were recently trained as <i>Safety First</i> facilitators. The program educates and empowers youth to make healthy choices by encouraging them to abstain from using alcohol and/or drugs. As a result of a DCJS grant award, the Department created a Policy Equity Academy to address racial and ethnic disparities in youth involved in the Juvenile Justice System. Staff are being trained in areas of racial equity and trauma informed care and will be certified to train current and new staff. Having trained staff in these areas will allow us to better serve youth and provide improved, equitable outcomes. Early in 2024, a Medication Disposal Box was installed in the lobby of the Department so that any individual is able to dispose of expired or unwanted medication. As staff wellness continues to be a priority, several wellness/team building activities were conducted this past year.

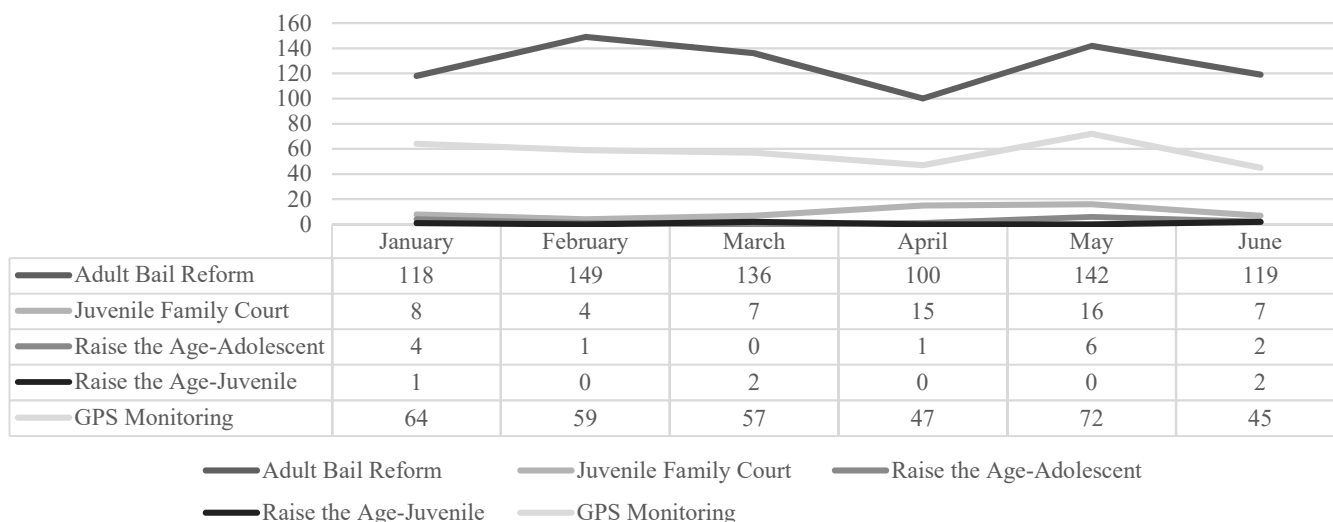
Next Year Projects A plan is in place to become a NYS Anchor training site regionally with neighboring county Probation Departments to be able to conduct a Fundamentals of Probation Practice required training. Several Department trainers will be certified by NYS DCJS Office of Probation & Correctional Alternatives to conduct the Fundamentals training so that the Department may be self-sufficient in this training area.

Link to Website	www.albanycounty.com/departments/probation
-----------------	--

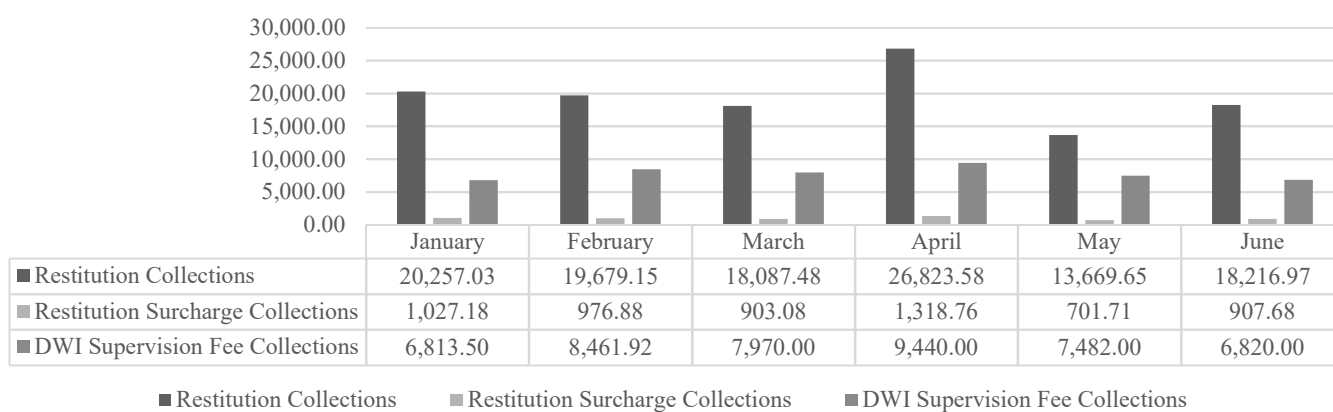
Department Name	Probation
Account(s)	3140

Programmatic Highlights

Albany County Probation Monthly Caseload: Release Under Supervision & GPS Monitoring Jan-June 2024



Albany County Probation Collections Jan-June 2024



The Probation Department serves all Courts in Albany County. Through its Pretrial Release Services, the Probation Department provides all criminal court clients the opportunity to be interviewed to determine eligibility for release from jail. The interview process objectively assesses the defendant's qualifications for release through release on his/her own recognizance (ROR), or, where the court determines the risk of absconding to be greater, through release under supervision (RUS). Program operations include screening, eligibility determinations, monitoring functions where appropriate, and court notification of those who fail to satisfy release requirements. Recently, there has been an increase in the utilization of Probation services to monitor those released prior to sentencing under Bail Reform and Raise the Age using GPS. Nearly 50% of RUS clients' locations are being monitored using GPS devices.