

# Supervised Release Annual Scorecard 2019

Supervised Release is a court-ordered program and non-monetary condition that provides community-based supervision and support for individuals with pending cases in New York City Criminal or Supreme Court. The purpose of Supervised Release is to help ensure a person’s return to court, which is the primary criteria used by judges when making bail decisions under New York State law. The program launched citywide in March 2016 and, through the end of 2019, had diverted over 17,000 individuals from jail. On December 1, 2019, Supervised Release eliminated the eligibility requirement that previously limited its use to people charged with misdemeanors and non-violent felonies, in preparation for the bail reform that went into effect January 1, 2020.

## Key Updates for 2019

### 1 PROGRAM EXPANSION

When Supervised Release expanded to serve all pretrial individuals in December 2019, new programming included more specialized staff, smaller case loads, and expanded community based services with more individualized support. Additionally, a new office was launched to oversee the City’s pretrial services agencies, called the Office of Pretrial Justice Initiatives, housed in the Mayor’s Office of Criminal Justice.

### 2 DRAMATIC INCREASE IN INTAKES

During the month of December 2019, judges released many more individuals to Supervised Release compared to the average monthly intakes for the rest of 2019 (average of January - November monthly intakes was 358, compared to 827 in December). Additionally, the charge distribution changed dramatically in December. 65% of Supervised Release intakes were felonies in December vs 52% during the rest of the year. See charts below for top charges.

### 3 PROGRAM OUTCOME STEADY

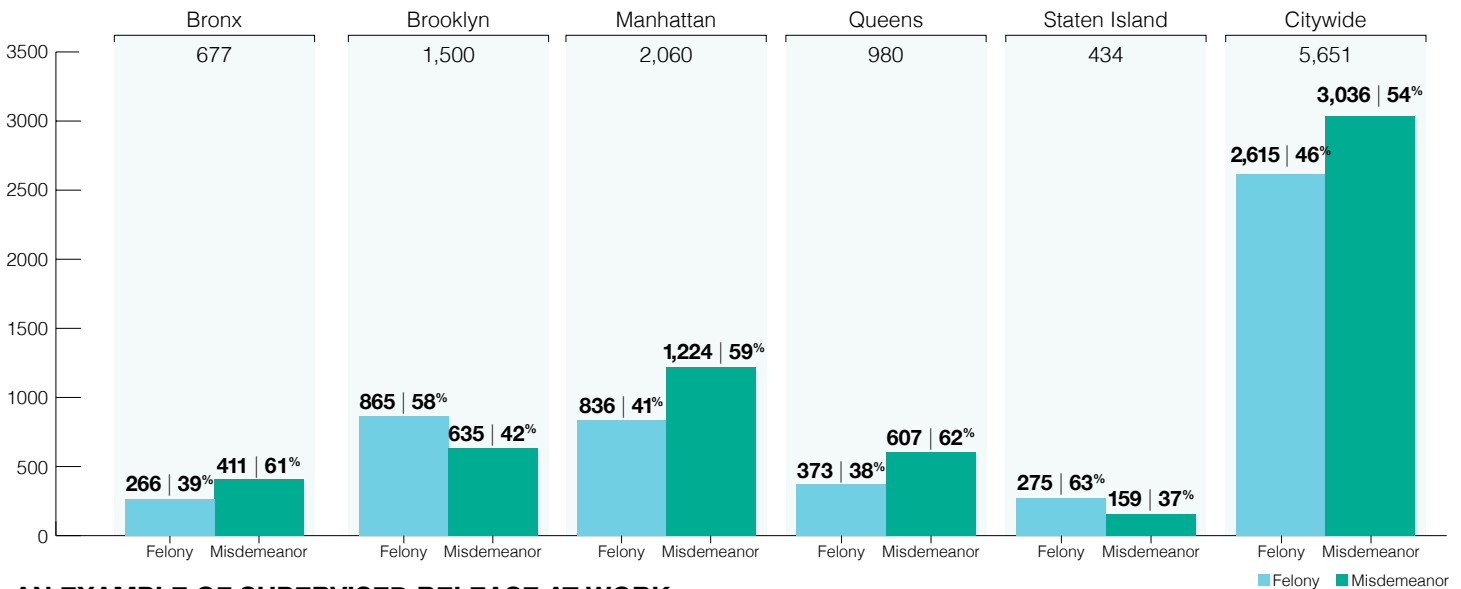
In 2019, court appearance rates and felony rearrest rates for Supervised Release participants remained steady from 2018.

## WHO IS PARTICIPATING IN SUPERVISED RELEASE?

### Borough and Charge

The chart below shows the number of people released to Supervised Release by borough and charge for 2019.

**Citywide there were 5,651 people in Supervised Release in 2019: 1,024 more people in 2018 (4,627).**



## AN EXAMPLE OF SUPERVISED RELEASE AT WORK

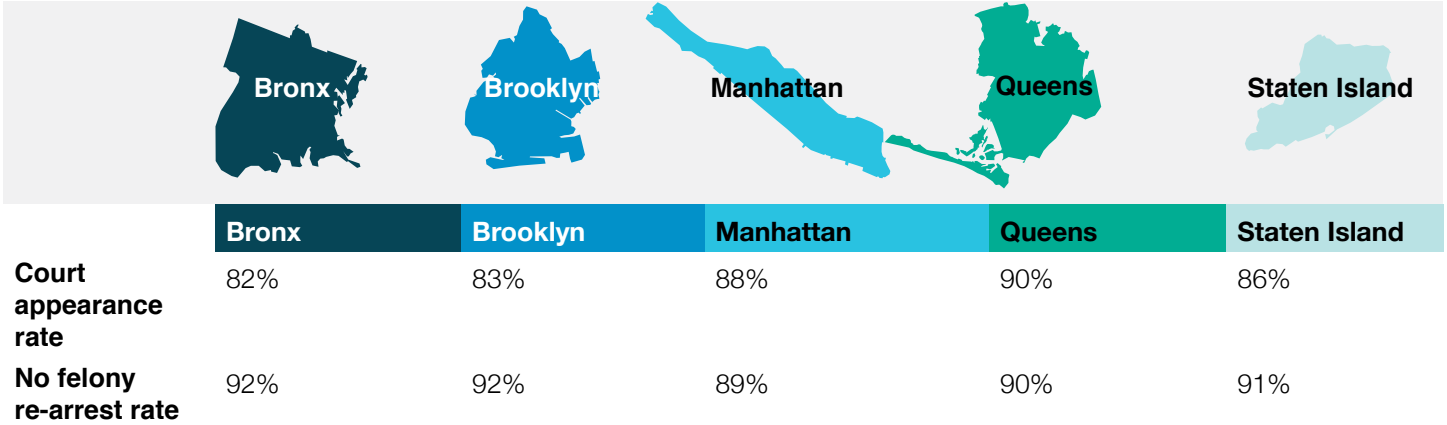
Mr. Smith (not his real name) was living in a shelter when a judge placed him on Supervised Release. Mr. Smith wanted his own apartment but was struggling to navigate the housing system and had faced a number of disappointing roadblocks. His Supervised Release caseworker encouraged him to focus first on finding employment and connected him to a transitional employment program that pays participants to engage in hands-on learning through green infrastructure projects across the city. After a few months of work, Mr. Smith signed a lease on an apartment, his criminal case was dismissed, and his supervision ended.

*1 Data reported in this scorecard, unlike previous scorecards, merges providers data with data collected from OCA.*

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## HOW ARE SUPERVISED RELEASE PARTICIPANTS DOING?<sup>2</sup>

Citywide, 87% of Supervised Release participants attend every court appearance and 90% are not re-arrested for a felony while they are in the program. See the borough breakdown below



**86%**

2018 Court appearance rate<sup>3</sup>

**87%**

2019 Court appearance rate<sup>4</sup>

### Citywide

The court appearance and no felony re-arrest rates stayed relatively stable from 2018 to 2019.

**91%**

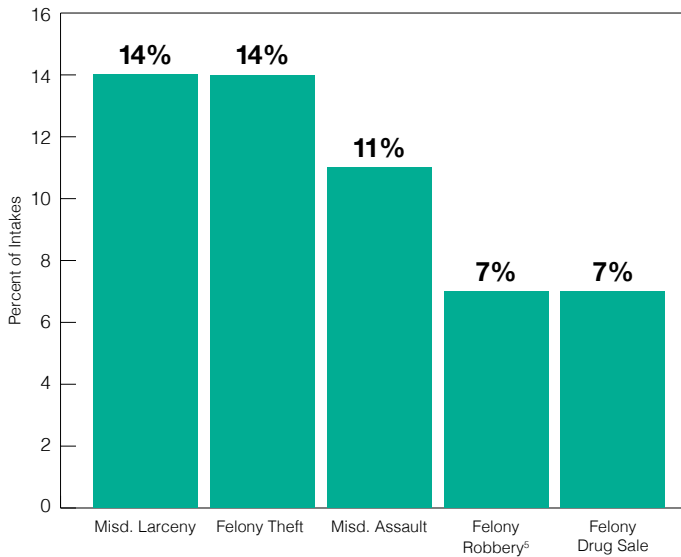
2018 No felony re-arrest rate<sup>3</sup>

**90%**

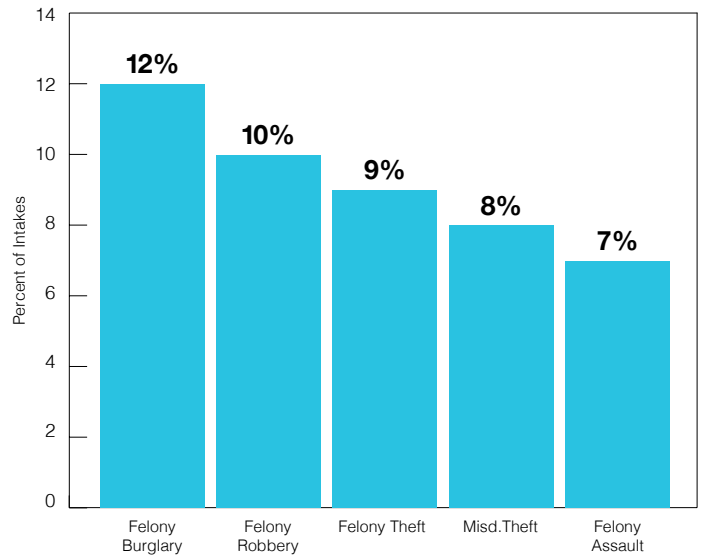
2019 No felony re-arrest rate<sup>4</sup>

## Top Charges for People Released to Supervised Release (before and after the lifting of eligibility requirements)

### January to November 2019



### December 2019



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<sup>2</sup> Data is calculated using clients discharged from the program until the end of 2019 in order to account for the entirety of events that may have occurred throughout the case while under supervision.

<sup>3</sup> Data is calculated using clients discharged from the program in 2018.

<sup>4</sup> Data is calculated using clients discharged from the program in 2019.

<sup>5</sup> This includes robbery in the third degree as well as the few VFO charges that were eligible for youth starting in the summer of 2019.