## 2022 Watauga County Debt-Based Driver's License Suspension Fact Sheet

In January 2022 Watauga County, NC had 5793 recorded cases with a guilty or responsible verdict and a court mandated fee. ${ }^{1}$ Of these, $51.2 \%$ of cases were in compliance and $48.8 \%$ of cases were in failure to comply (FTC) status. The majority of FTC cases were traffic violations.


## Defendant Statistics and Demographics

- 324 people had 2 or more traffic cases in FTC status.

| County | Total Number of Traffic Violation Cases with a FTC | Total Number of People with a Traffic Violation FTC |
| :--- | ---: | ---: |
| Watauga County | 1959 | 1515 |

- The majority of defendants with a traffic cases in FTC status were White people (84\%). With White men having the most traffic violation cases in FTC status.

| Defendant Race | M | F | U |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | :--- |
| Native American | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Asian | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| Unknown | 7 | 0 | 1 |
| Other | 11 | 2 | 0 |
| Hispanic | 81 | 3 | 0 |
| Black | 120 | 16 | 0 |
| White | 943 | 327 | 0 |

- The majority of defendants with a traffic cases in FTC status were $21-30$ years old ( $40 \%$ ). ${ }^{2}$


[^0]
## Length in FTC Status

- $56.2 \%$ of cases were in compliance after 1 year of receiving FTC status.


| Years to Compliance | White | Black | Hispanic | Asian | Other | Native <br> Ameri- <br> can | UnknownTotal $\%$ <br> of Cases |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| $0-1$ | 1209 | 89 | 39 | 7 | 7 | 2 | 2 | 56.2 |
| $1-2$ | 306 | 31 | 4 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 14.3 |
| $2-3$ | 160 | 14 | 2 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 7.4 |
| $3-4$ | 130 | 10 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 5.9 |
| $4-5$ | 86 | 6 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3.9 |
| $5-10$ | 178 | 19 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 8.3 |
| $10-15$ | 58 | 9 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 2.8 |
| $15-20$ | 17 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.8 |
| $20+$ | 9 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.5 |

- For all traffic cases in Watauga County in FTC status in January 2022, the average length in FTC was 13 years.

| Years in FTC | White | Black | Hispanic | Other | Asian | Unknown <br> Native <br> Ameri- <br> can <br> of Cases <br> $0-1$ | 126 | 14 |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| 10 | 10 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 7.9 |  |  |
| $1-5$ | 280 | 40 | 22 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 0 | 17.7 |
| $5-10$ | 292 | 32 | 25 | 1 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 18.0 |
| $10-15$ | 260 | 19 | 36 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 16.2 |
| $15-20$ | 214 | 18 | 11 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 12.5 |
| $20-30$ | 457 | 40 | 1 | 7 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 25.8 |
| $30+$ | 35 | 3 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2.0 |


[^0]:    ${ }^{1}$ This estimate includes cases with guilty to lesser (GL), guilty (GU), prayer for judgement (PJ), responsible to lesser (RL), and responsible (RS) verdicts.
    ${ }^{2}$ While the age was not provided in the original data, it was calculated from the defendant's birthday and disposition date.

