



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

ROY COOPER
GOVERNOR

MANDY COHEN, MD, MPH
SECRETARY

February 2, 2021

SENT VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

The Honorable Joyce Krawiec, Chair
Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on
Health and Human Services
North Carolina General Assembly
Room 308, Legislative Office Building
Raleigh, NC 27603


The Honorable Donny Lambeth, Chair
Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on
Health and Human Services
North Carolina General Assembly
Room 303, Legislative Office Building
Raleigh, NC 27603

Dear Chairmen:

Session Law 2013-417, Section 1, requires the Department of Health and Human Services to report annually to the Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Health and Human Services, on the number of individuals denied assistance per this section. SL 2013-417, Section 1, requires a county department of social services to verify whether an applicant for or a recipient of Food and Nutrition Services benefits or Work First program assistance has a status of fleeing felon or parole/probation violator. If such status is determined, the applicant for or recipient of assistance shall be denied or terminated from said assistance. This report provides a data summary of the number of individuals denied and/or terminated from assistance during calendar year 2019. Pursuant to the provisions of law, the Department is pleased to submit the attached report.

Should you have any questions regarding this report, please contact Susan Osborne, Assistant Secretary for Operations, at Susan.Osborne@dhhs.nc.gov.

Sincerely,

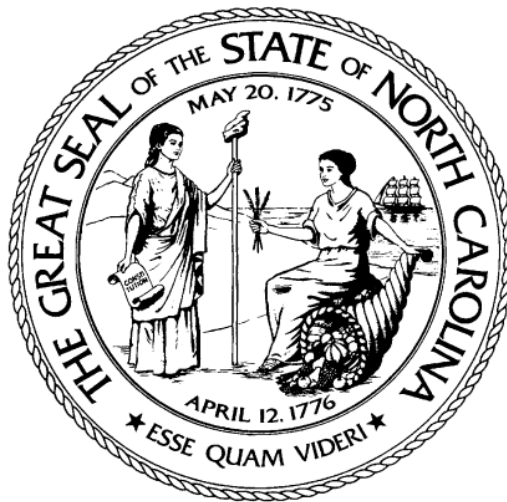
DocuSigned by:

on behalf of
B21899BA92B341B
Mandy Cohen, MD, MPH
Secretary

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Share Arrest Warrant Status of Applicants for Public Assistance

**Session Law 2013-417,
Section 1**



**Report to
The Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Health and
Human Services**

by

NC Department of Health and Human Services

February 2, 2021

INTRODUCTION

Session Law 2013-417 requires the Department of Health and Human Services to report annually on the number of individuals denied assistance per this section. Session Law 2013-417 requires a county department of social services to verify whether an applicant for or a recipient of Food and Nutrition Services benefits or Work First program assistance has a status of fleeing felon or parole/probation violator. If such status is determined the applicant for or recipient of assistance shall be denied or terminated from said assistance. This report provides a data summary of the number of individuals denied and/or terminated from assistance during calendar year 2019.

BACKGROUND

The Social Security Act defines the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) as programs of public assistance. The SNAP program, known as Food and Nutrition Services (FNS) in North Carolina, is designed to promote general welfare and to safeguard health and well-being by raising the levels of nutrition among low-income households. North Carolina's TANF program, known as Work First, provides parents with short-term services and cash assistance to help them become employed and move toward self-sufficiency. Grandparents, relatives caring for their relative children and legal guardians may apply for assistance for a child to prevent the child's entry into the foster care system.

The Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996, Public Law 104-193 (PRWORA) amended both SNAP and TANF regulations to prohibit individuals from receiving assistance who are classified as fleeing felons or violating a condition of parole or probation. Session Law 2013-417 serves to support and further enhance the existing regulations.

The Department maintains an Online Verification System (OVS) to assist county social/human services agencies in determining program eligibility for applicants and recipients. OVS is comprised of a series of data matches, one of which provides criminal history data. The data is obtained by matching applicant/recipient files with the North Carolina Department of Public Safety. The match results assist the county agencies in determining if the applicant or recipient meets the program requirement of not having the status of a fleeing felon or parole/probation violator. The matches are completed at initial application, household composition changes and at eligibility redetermination for all adult household members.

Program policies also require households to answer questions regarding the criminal history of adult household members and to attest to the accuracy of their statements. Applicants for and recipients of assistance are verbally informed by FNS and Work First program staff that certain felons and parole/probation violators are prohibited from the receipt of assistance. If this information becomes known to the agency, the individuals are terminated from assistance and the issued benefits recouped from the household unit.

NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS DETERMINED INELIGIBLE DURING 2019

For calendar year 2019, 401 individuals were identified as fugitive felons or parole/probation violators and were determined ineligible to receive assistance. This translates to 391 individuals for the FNS program, 6 of which had a combined status of fugitive felon and parole/probation violator. There were 10 individuals determined ineligible for the Work First program, including 2 individuals with the combined status of fugitive felon and parole/probation violator. This data includes applicant individuals and individuals in households where the other household members are otherwise eligible for assistance. The following chart provides a listing by county of the number of ineligible individuals. The data is sourced from the North Carolina Families Accessing Services through Technology (NC FAST) automated case management system.

Number of Denied or Terminated Applicants/Recipients: January 1, 2019-December 31, 2019

County Name	Fleeing Felon		Parole/Probation Violator		Combined Status of Fleeing Felon & Parole/Probation Violator		Total Denied or Terminated	
	FNS	Work First	FNS	Work First	FNS	Work First	FNS	Work First
Alamance	3	0	3	0	1	0	7	0
Alexander	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Alleghany	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Anson	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Ashe	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	0
Avery	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0
Beaufort	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Bertie	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Bladen	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Brunswick	0	0	8	0	0	0	8	0
Buncombe	3	0	2	0	0	0	5	0
Burke	7	0	2	0	0	0	9	0
Cabarrus	0	0	5	0	0	0	5	0
Caldwell	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Camden	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Carteret	3	0	3	0	0	0	6	0
Caswell	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Catawba	7	0	0	0	0	0	7	0
Chatham	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	0
Cherokee	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Chowan	0	0	3	0	0	0	3	0
Clay	0	0	2	0	0	0	2	0
Cleveland	1	0	3	1	0	0	4	1
Columbus	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0
Craven	1	0	6	0	0	0	7	0

County Name	Fleeing Felon		Parole/Probation Violator		Combined Status of Fleeing Felon & Parole/ Probation Violator		Total Denied or Terminated	
	FNS	Work First	FNS	Work First	FNS	Work First	FNS	Work First
Cumberland	4	1	14	0	0	0	18	1
Currituck	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0
Dare	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Davidson	0	0	4	0	0	0	4	0
Davie	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Duplin	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0
Durham	6	0	3	0	0	0	9	0
Edgecombe	1	0	7	0	0	0	8	0
Forsyth	12	0	12	0	0	0	24	0
Franklin	3	0	0	0	0	0	3	0
Gaston	2	0	4	0	0	0	6	0
Gates	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Graham	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Granville	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	0
Greene	0	0	5	0	0	0	5	0
Guilford	3	0	9	0	0	0	12	0
Halifax	0	0	2	0	0	0	2	0
Harnett	1	0	2	0	0	0	3	0
Haywood	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0
Henderson	0	0	2	0	0	0	2	0
Hertford	1	0	11	0	1	0	13	0
Hoke	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0
Hyde	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Iredell	2	0	6	1	0	0	8	1
Jackson	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Johnston	3	0	0	0	0	0	3	0
Jones	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0
Lee	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0
Lenoir	0	0	2	0	0	0	2	0
Lincoln	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0
Macon	0	0	2	0	0	0	2	0
Madison	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0
Martin	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
McDowell	2	0	3	0	0	0	5	0
Mecklenburg	7	0	9	4	0	0	16	4
Mitchell	0	0	2	0	0	0	2	0
Montgomery	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0
Moore	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	0
Nash	0	0	5	1	0	0	5	1

County Name	Fleeing Felon		Parole/Probation Violator		Combined Status of Fleeing Felon & Parole/ Probation Violator		Total Denied or Terminated	
	FNS	Work First	FNS	Work First	FNS	Work First	FNS	Work First
New Hanover	7	0	11	0	0	0	18	0
Northampton	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Onslow	2	0	7	0	0	0	9	0
Orange	0	0	3	0	0	0	3	0
Pamlico	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pasquotank	12	0	1	0	0	0	13	0
Pender	0	0	4	0	0	0	4	0
Perquimans	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Person	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0
Pitt	1	0	23	0	1	0	25	0
Polk	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Randolph	3	1	2	0	0	0	5	1
Richmond	2	0	1	0	0	0	3	0
Robeson	1	0	12	0	1	0	14	0
Rockingham	7	0	5	0	0	0	12	0
Rowan	1	0	6	1	0	0	7	1
Rutherford	3	0	3	0	0	0	6	0
Sampson	0	0	2	0	0	0	2	0
Scotland	0	0	3	0	0	2	3	2
Stanly	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Stokes	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	0
Surry	1	0	3	0	0	0	4	0
Swain	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Transylvania	1	0	2	0	0	0	3	0
Tyrrell	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Union	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Vance	0	0	4	0	0	0	4	0
Wake	3	0	7	0	0	0	10	0
Warren	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Washington	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Watauga	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Wayne	1	0	3	0	0	0	4	0
Wilkes	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Wilson	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0
Yadkin	0	0	2	0	1	0	3	0
Yancey	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Statewide Total	134	2	257	8	6	2	397	12