

**Share Arrest Warrant Status of Applicants for Public Assistance
For Calendar Year 2021**

Session Law 2013-417, Section 1



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

By

**North Carolina Department of
Health and Human Services**

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INTRODUCTION

[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. The law also requires the Department of Health and Human Services to report annually on the number of individuals denied assistance. This report provides a data summary of the number of individuals denied and/or terminated from assistance during calendar year 2021.

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 2021

In calendar year 2021, there were a total of 73 applicants and/or recipients of services who were identified as fugitive felons or parole/probation violators and were determined ineligible to receive FNS assistance. All 73 were receiving FNS services, including 17 classified as a fugitive felon, 52 classified as a probation/parole violator, and four who had a combined status of fugitive felon and parole/probation violator. All 73 were determined to be ineligible for services. There were no individuals determined ineligible for the Work First program under the identified categories. 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.

County Name	Fleeing Felon		Parole/Probation Violator		Combined Status of Fleeing Felon & Parole/ Probation Violator		Total Denied/Terminated	
	FNS	Work First	FNS	Work First	FNS	Work First	FNS	Work First
Graham	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0
Granville	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0
Greene	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Guilford	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0
Halifax	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Harnett	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Haywood	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0
Henderson	1	0	1	0	1	0	3	0
Hertford	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0
Hoke	0	0	2	0	0	0	2	0
Hyde	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Iredell	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Jackson	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Johnston	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Jones	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lee	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lenoir	1	0	1	0	0	0	2	0
Lincoln	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Macon	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Madison	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0
Martin	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
McDowell	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mecklenburg	1	0	3	0	1	0	5	0
Mitchell	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Montgomery	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Moore	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Nash	0	0	2	0	0	0	2	0
New Hanover	0	0	3	0	0	0	3	0
Northampton	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Onslow	2	0	1	0	0	0	3	0
Orange	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pamlico	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pasquotank	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pender	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Perquimans	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Person	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pitt	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0

County Name	Fleeing Felon		Parole/Probation Violator		Combined Status of Fleeing Felon & Parole/Probation Violator		Total Denied/Terminated	
	FNS	Work First	FNS	Work First	FNS	Work First	FNS	Work First
Polk	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Randolph	0	0	2	0	0	0	2	0
Richmond	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0
Robeson	0	0	2	0	1	0	3	0
Rockingham	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Rowan	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0
Rutherford	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sampson	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Scotland	1	0	1	0	0	0	2	0
Stanley	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Stokes	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Surry	4	0	0	0	0	0	4	0
Swain	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Transylvania	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0
Tyrrell	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Union	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Vance	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Wake	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	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	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Wilkes	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Wilson	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0
Yadkin	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Yancey	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Statewide Totals	17	0	52	0	4	0	73	0