



Oregon Judicial Department

Unrepresented Crisis – May 2025

Key Insights

[Unrepresented Trends](#)

The total number of unrepresented persons and unrepresented cases increased May 1, 2025, with 4,397 unrepresented persons and 4,780 unrepresented cases ([Figure 1](#) and [Figure 2](#)). While the rate of growth remains slow, the number of unrepresented cases has increased by 43.9% and the number of unrepresented persons has increased by 46.3% since June 1, 2024.

Daily updates are available on the [Unrepresented Dashboard](#) on the OJD website.

[Unrepresented – Out of Custody](#)

The average number of days a person with an out-of-custody felony case is unrepresented continues to increase to an average of 124 days in April 2025, a 36.3% increase from the average in May 2024 ([Figure 4](#)).

[Unrepresented – In Custody](#)

The average number of days a person is unrepresented and in custody on any case continues to decrease with an average of 14 days in April 2025, matching the lowest level in the past year. ([Figure 5](#)).

[Criminal Case Filings](#)

Criminal case filings increased from March 2025 to April 2025 to 6,044 cases, an 11% increase from May 2024 ([Figure 6](#)).

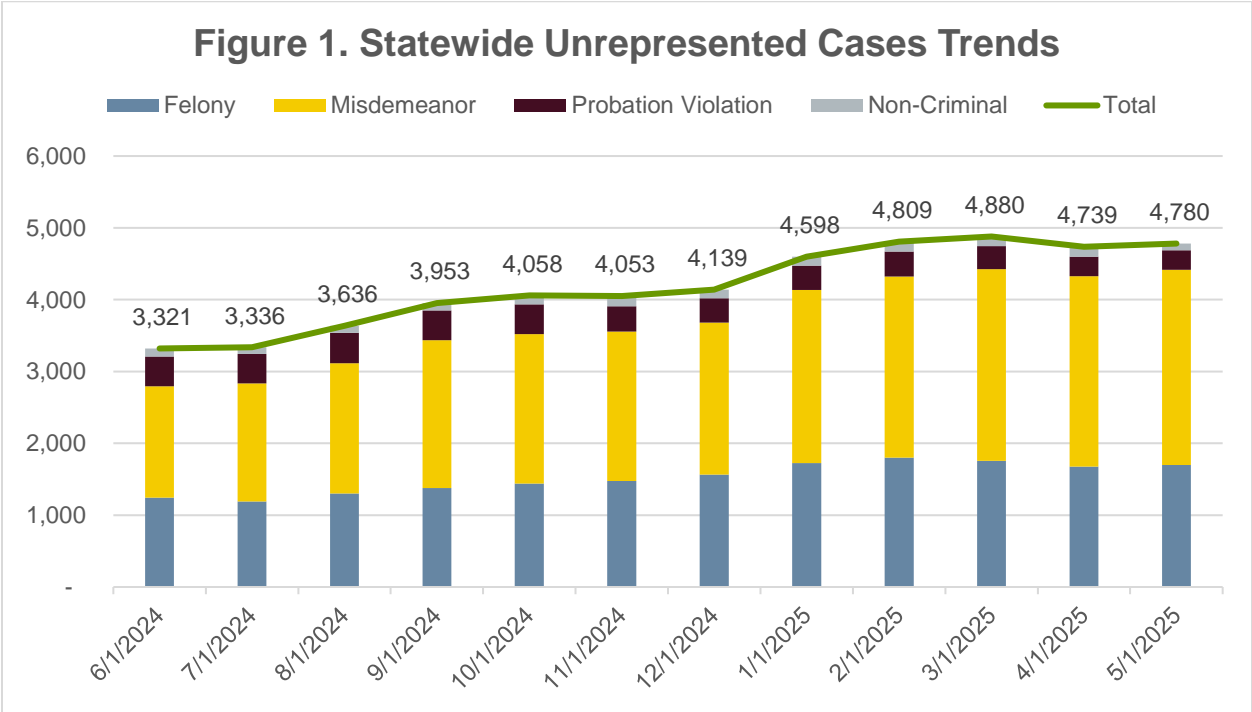
[Unrepresented by County](#)

Multnomah, Washington, Jackson, Marion, Douglas, Coos, Klamath, and Union counties continue to have the highest number of unrepresented persons in Oregon ([Figure 7](#)).

Multnomah, Washington, and Douglas saw increases in the number of unrepresented persons between April 1 and May 1, 2025; but the other counties saw decreases.

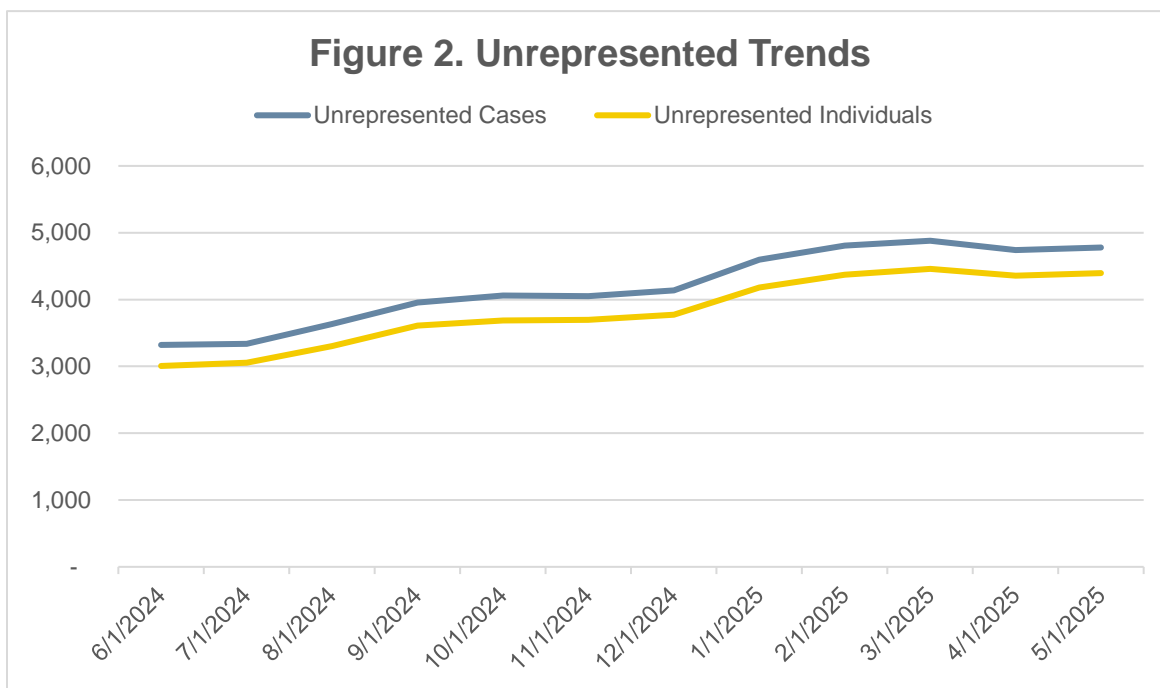
Unrepresented Trends

Figure 1 shows the number of unrepresented cases by case type. **The number of unrepresented cases increased slightly to 4,780 cases on May 1, 2025**, a 1% increase from April 1, 2025. Unrepresented misdemeanor and felony cases increased, while unrepresented probation and non-criminal cases decreased between April 1 and May 1.



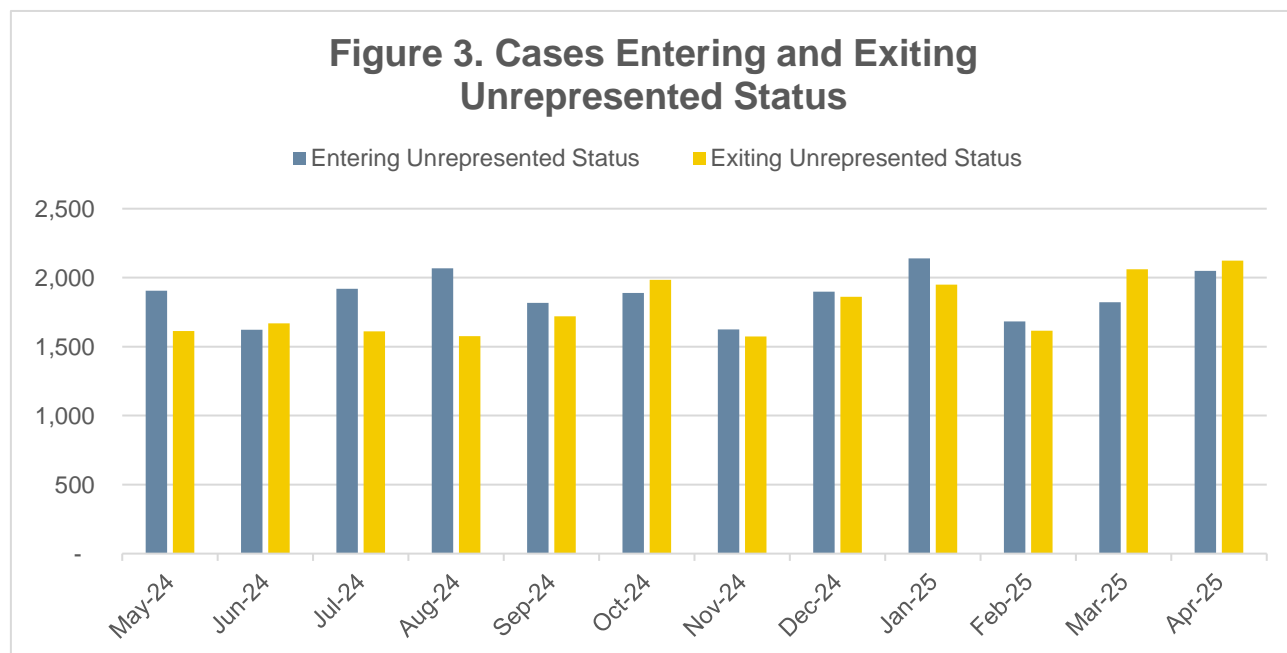
Source: OJD Odyssey Data (eCourt).

Figure 2 shows the number of unrepresented cases and unrepresented individuals. **The number of unrepresented persons increased slightly between April 1 and May 1, with a total of 4,397 unrepresented persons on May 1, 2025, a 0.9% increase over the prior month.**



Source: OJD Odyssey Data (eCourt).

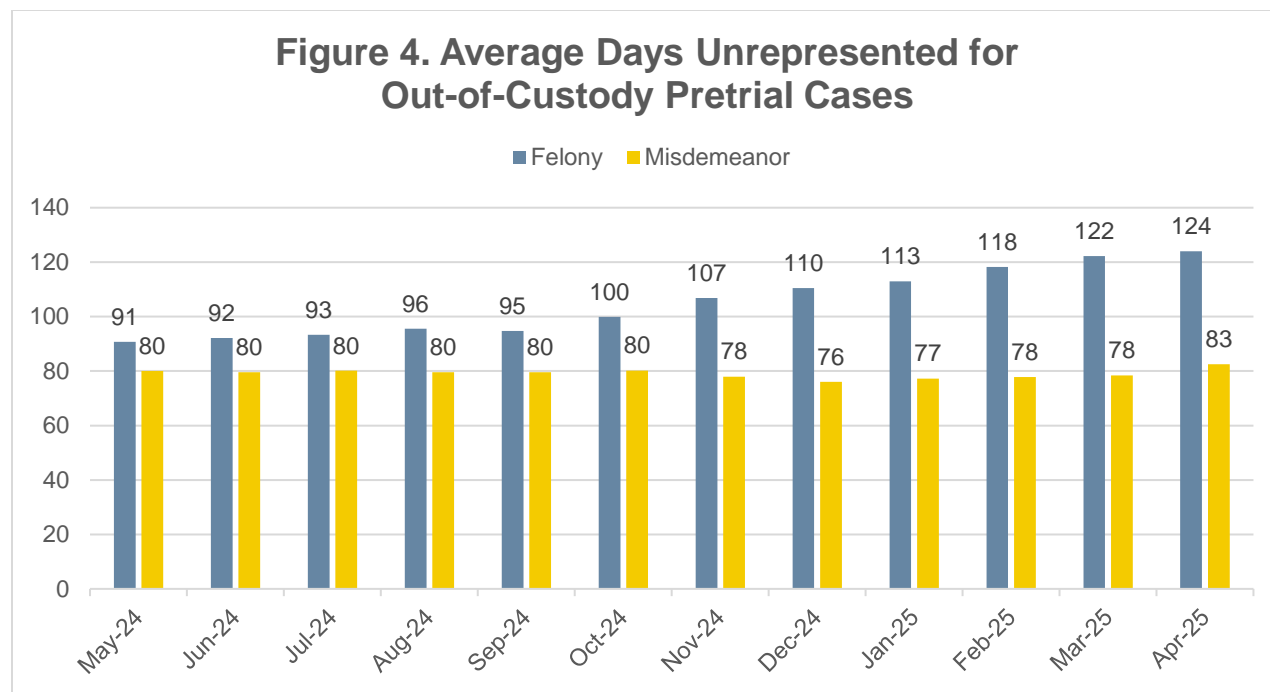
Figure 3 shows the number of cases entering and exiting the unrepresented list each month. For the second month in a row more cases exited unrepresented status than entered; however, 229 more cases entered unrepresented status in April than in March 2025.



Source: OJD Odyssey Data (eCourt).

Unrepresented – Out of Custody

Figure 4 shows trends in the average number of days an out-of-custody felony or misdemeanor case is unrepresented by month. The average number of days an out-of-custody felony case is unrepresented continues to increase, reaching an average of 124 days in April 2025. The average time an out-of-custody misdemeanor case is unrepresented also reached a new high for the past 12 months, to an average of 83 days.



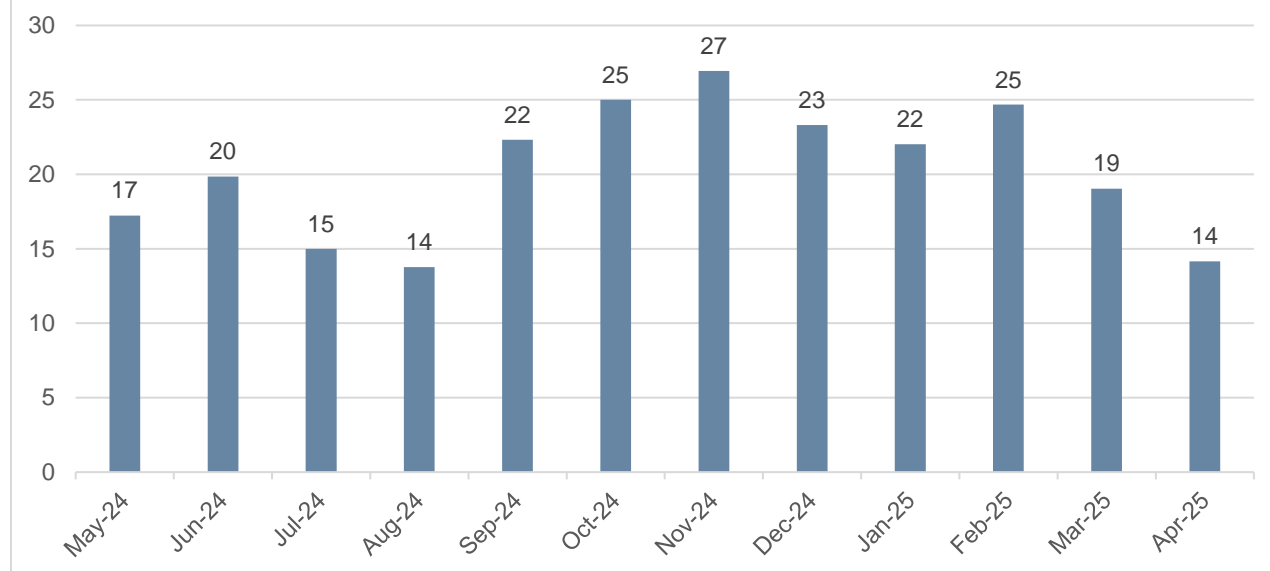
Source: OJD Odyssey Data (eCourt).

Unrepresented – In Custody

Figure 5 shows trends in the average number of days a person is both in custody and is unrepresented in any case. The average number of days a person is unrepresented and in custody on any case continues to decrease to an average of 14 days in April 2025, the lowest it has been since August 2024.

This chart primarily consists of people who are in custody and are unrepresented either on that in-custody case, another in-custody case, or an out-of-custody case. Because of the variety of circumstances in which being represented and unrepresented in different cases can occur while a person is in custody, this creates complexity in ensuring a person has appointed counsel on all their pending cases. If a person is being held in custody for reasons other than the unrepresented case, they may not be prioritized for appointment of counsel by OPDC because they will remain in custody for other reasons.

Figure 5. Average Days Unrepresented for In-Custody Cases

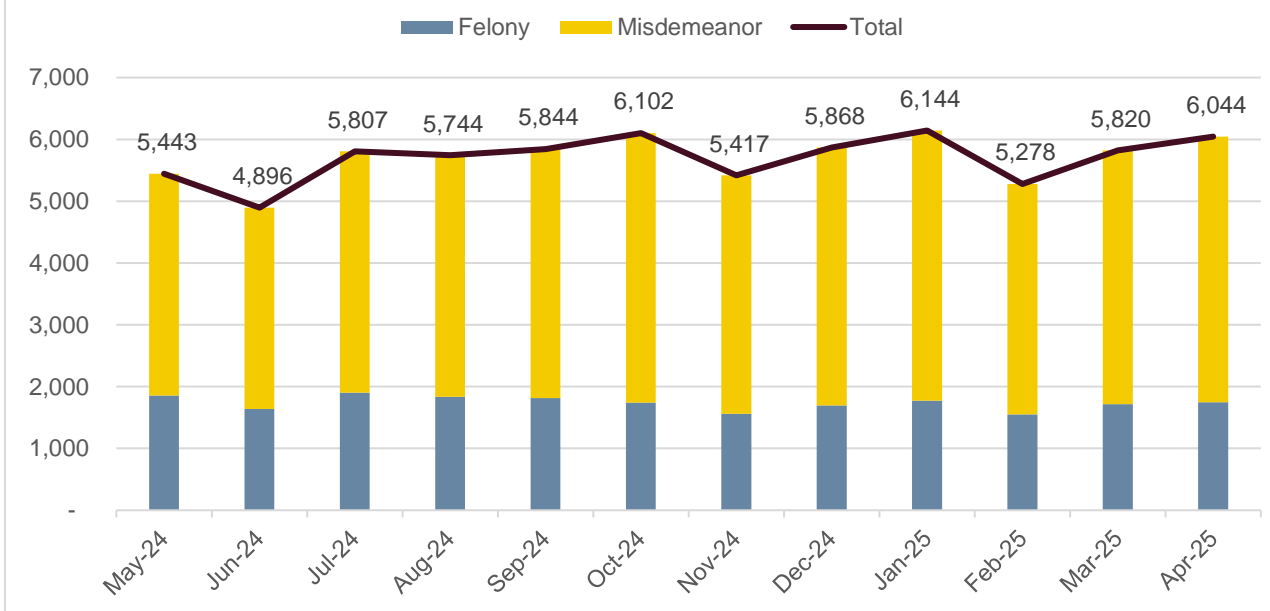


Source: OJD Odyssey Data (eCourt).

Criminal Case Filings

Figure 6 shows the criminal case filing trends since May 2024. Criminal case filings increased 3.8% in April 2025 compared to March 2025.

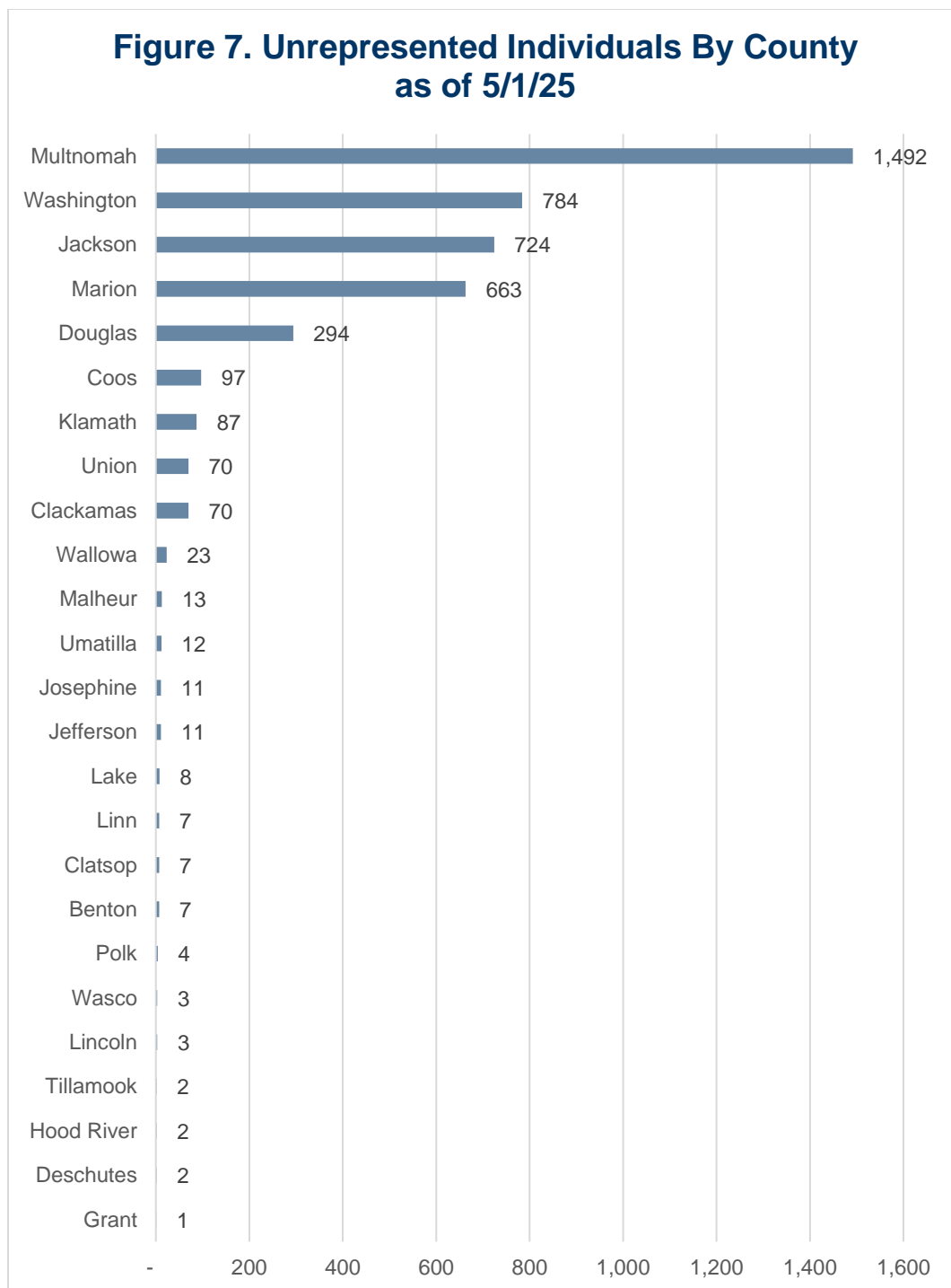
Figure 6. Criminal Case Filing Trends



Source: OJD Odyssey Data (eCourt).

Unrepresented by County

Figure 7 shows the number of unrepresented persons by county as of May 1, 2025. Multnomah, Washington, Jackson, Marion, Douglas, Coos, Klamath, and Union counties continue to have the highest number of unrepresented persons in Oregon. The number of unrepresented persons in Multnomah, Washington, and Douglas counties increased, while the number decreased in the other counties between April 1 and May 1, 2025.



Source: OJD Odyssey Data (eCourt).