

Marion alcohol sales more than \$1.9M last year

STAFF REPORT

An analysis of Marion’s monthly alcohol tax and license fee receipts since the city went wet in 2019 shows that – aside from January, which is always inflated because annual license renewals are included – late summer consistently produces the strongest alcohol sales.

August ranks as the highest month on average, generating roughly \$7,500 in receipts, which translates to more than \$150,000 in alcohol sales. June follows closely behind at just over \$7,100 in receipts, reinforcing a clear early- to mid-summer peak in local alcohol spending.

On the other end of the spectrum, July is surprisingly the weakest month of the year. Even though it sits in the middle of the summer season, July averages just \$5,300 in alcohol receipts – the lowest of any month. Local officials say a cursory review of July’s figures indicate that perhaps some of that month’s sales were paid late, rolling them into August. However, historically, August figures appear normal.

December, May and September round out the upper tier of Marion’s typical sales months, each averaging between \$6,500 and \$6,900 in receipts. The pattern shows Marion’s alcohol economy reliably building through the spring, peaking in early and late sum-

Annual Sales | Other Data

Here is information on receipts from Marion’s alcohol tax and alcohol license fee since alcohol sales became legal in the summer of 2019. The data show tax receipts collected by the city, the percentage of increase over the previous year and an estimate of all alcohol sales in the city for each year since 2019.

Year	Tax Receipt	% Increase	Est. Sales
2019	\$12,700.91	n/a	\$254,018
2020	\$71,577.36	463.56%	\$1,431,547
2021	\$80,514.09	12.48%	\$1,610,281
2022	\$86,082.50	6.91%	\$1,721,650
2023	\$89,782.45	4.29%	\$1,795,649
2024	\$95,140.45	5.96%	\$1,902,809
2025	\$67,026.97	n/a	\$1,340,539

mer, and then rising again during the holiday season.

In 2025, after a sluggish midsummer, Marion’s alcohol tax and license-fee revenues have rebounded sharply in the final months of 2025, positioning the city to finish the year slightly ahead of last year’s pace. A reverse calculation of sales – based on the city’s 5 percent regulatory fee – shows just how dramatic the late-year turnaround has been.

Through the first half of 2025, monthly receipts largely trailed 2024. February and March both came in lower than the previous year, and by July the slowdown had deepened.

Marion’s Alcohol Tax & Licesne Fee Receipts

Month	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
January		\$8,050.47	\$8,913.91	\$9,030.00	\$9,879.52	\$12,551.52	\$12,550.19
February		\$3,935.57	\$5,041.89	\$8,023.00	\$8,442.14	\$7,287.39	\$6,059.56
March		\$3,859.66	\$5,449.06	\$5,646.00	\$5,684.57	\$5,825.57	\$5,588.66
April		\$4,423.59	\$6,090.19	\$6,236.00	\$6,286.12	\$7,400.07	\$6,335.48
May		\$5,854.39	\$6,455.80	\$6,553.00	\$6,633.48	\$8,472.03	\$6,764.10
June		\$7,942.36	\$6,209.13	\$6,987.28	\$7,543.02	\$7,013.53	\$7,344.18
July		\$6,209.13	\$6,205.10	\$6,940.31	\$7,247.73	\$7,497.69	\$3,077.74
August	\$600.00	\$7,640.55	\$8,637.98	\$9,252.52	\$9,383.57	\$8,330.67	\$8,680.63
September	\$596.72	\$6,143.43	\$7,077.83	\$6,202.48	\$6,272.55	\$8,559.28	\$10,626.43
October	\$3,407.66	\$5,793.60	\$6,120.14	\$6,856.58	\$7,779.80	\$6,694.76	
November	\$2,819.87	\$5,905.22	\$7,313.06	\$6,930.15	\$6,829.82	\$7,451.24	
December	\$5,276.66	\$5,819.39	\$7,000.00	\$7,425.18	\$7,800.13	\$8,056.70	

The city collected just \$3,077.74 in July, translating to approximately \$61,500 in sales – one of the lowest months since Marion approved alcohol sales in mid-2019. The closure of Mulligan’s bar and restaurant at the golf course likely contributed to some of the decline.

That downward trend reversed sharply in late summer. August receipts climbed to \$8,680.63, equal to more than \$173,600 in sales, and September surged to \$10,626.43,

or an estimated \$212,500 in sales. It was the highest September on record and nearly \$2,100 more in receipts than the same month last year.

Although final figures for October through December 2025 are not yet available, early trends suggest the city is tracking above last year’s pace. For comparison, Marion collected \$6,694.76 in October 2024, \$7,451.24 in November, and \$8,056.70 in December, amounts that translate to monthly sales in the range of

\$134,000 to \$161,000.

Since the city went wet in 2019, alcohol-related revenue has generally climbed each year. Annual receipts rose from about \$13,000 in the partial year of 2019 to more than \$95,000 in 2024. In accordance with Kentucky law, the city is only allowed to use its receipts from the alcohol tax and fees for law enforcement, regulation and administration of the local Alcohol Beverage Control effort.

Crittenden County Detention Center



DETENTION CENTER REPORT

November 20, 2025

The Crittenden County Detention Center report is provided monthly to magistrates during Crittenden County Fiscal Court meetings. The inmate count is an average for last month.

- Federal Inmates \$57 Per diem
- State Inmates \$35.34 Per diem
- Lyon County Inmates \$36.00
- Other County Inmates \$40.00

LAST MONTH CASH FLOW	
Total Receipts	\$189,825.67
Disbursements	\$292,608.33

JAIL CENSUS	Oct 2025 Avg	Sept 2025 Avg	Montly Average 2024
State Inmates	84.5	87.9	75.38
Federal Inmates	53.3	52.2	67.69
Other County Inmates	21.5	27.7	21.82
Critenden County Inmates	18.1	18.4	19.86
TOTAL INMATES	177.4	186.2	184.75
Highest Daily Count	195	198	195.67
Lowest Daily Count	166	182	178.75

Last Month	REVENUE	October 2025	September 2025	Montly Average 2024
State Housing Payments		\$92,590.80	\$93,191.58	\$81,220.16
Federal Housing Payments		\$94,164.00	\$89,319.00	\$116,235.25
Federal Transport Payments		\$9,654.40	\$8,413.69	\$13,566.71
Lyon Co. Housing Payments		\$22,680.00	\$26,856.00	\$21,399.00
Other County Housing Payments		\$440.00	\$2,880.00	\$1,802.17
Weekend/Work Release		\$1,040.00	\$560.00	\$477.33
TOTAL HOUSING		\$220,596.20	\$221,220.27	\$234,709.79
Last Month	ANALYSIS			
Cost of Crittenden Inmates		\$22,440.00	\$22,080.00	\$19,290.67
Numbers of Co. Housing Days		561	552	602.83
County Daily Housing Rate		\$40.00	\$40.00	\$32
Avg Daily Population Co. Inmates		18.1	18.4	19.86

Judge Rogers headlines luncheon

STAFF REPORT

Crittenden County Chamber of Commerce will host a Lunch & Learn with Family Court Judge Brandi Rogers at noon Thursday, Dec. 4 at Farmers Bank. Rogers will discuss her journey

to the Family Court bench and the broader economic impact of family stability on local communities.

Tickets are \$15 and include a build-your-own pasta bar. They can be purchased through the

Chamber’s website or by scanning the QR code on promotional materials around Marion. Seating is limited.

The Lunch & Learn is sponsored by Edward Jones and H&H Home & Hardware.

CHARGES

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\$100,000 bond. They are scheduled for arraignment Dec. 11 in Crittenden District Court.

Under KRS 507.040, a person is guilty of second-degree manslaughter when they wantonly cause the death of another person. If convicted, the two defendants could face 5 to 10 years in prison.

Elder’s drug-related death was one of three attributed to fentanyl overdose in Crittenden County in the summer and fall of 2023.

A Crittenden Press article published in Feb. 2024, which gained statewide and national attention for its reporting on the local spike in deadly fentanyl cases, highlighted those deaths and the broader impact of illicit opioids on rural communities.

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OCTOBER 2025

Activity Report

Here is Crittenden County Sheriff Evan Head’s monthly activity for his department.

	2024	
	Oct.	Mo.Avg.
Collisions Investigated	6	7.6
Complaints	51	66.8
Papers Served	55	53.0
Unsuccessful Service Attempts	21	5.5
Total Service Attempts	144	104.1
Transports	3	4.3
Special Detail	127	58.7
Training Hours	153	41.1
Verbal Warning	10	24.4
Courtesy Notice	1	—
Criminal Citation	11	17.7
Officer Assist	13	5.7
Building Checks	65	50.6
Total Manhours	979.5	832
Bailiff Court Hours	184	86.7
Cases Opened	4	8.0
Felony Arrests	6	8.8
Followup Investigations	16	29.3
Misdemeanor Arrests	3	10
Motorist Assists	3	8.3
DUIs	0	2.5
Traffic Citations	4	14.1
General Policing	207	156
Call for Service	37	21

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at Crittenden Community Hospital. Under the bid notice, the new contract would take effect Jan. 1, 2026, with annual reaffirmation required each April. Either party may issue a 180-day termination notice.

Bidders were asked to price three staffing alternatives: expanded daytime coverage with two units for part of the day, reduced daytime coverage, or one advanced life support ambulance operating around the clock with on-call backup.

ComCare submitted three options, all centered on one ALS ambulance staffed 24 hours a day.

Its highest-coverage proposal, Alternate 1, includes a second ambulance from 8 a.m., to 6 p.m., and an on-call crew overnight. The subsidy request is \$685,000 a year.

Alternate 2 maintains the 24-hour ALS crew but limits the second truck to an 8 a.m., to 4 p.m., shift with on-call coverage afterward. That plan carries a \$650,000 annual subsidy.

Alternate 3 offers the lowest daytime coverage. It provides one 24-hour ALS ambulance with an on-call crew at all hours,

also at \$650,000 annually.

ComCare also offered an optional \$50,000 annual add-on for county-wide ambulance replacements but recommended the county continue to own its fleet.

A second bidder, AmeriPro Health, which currently serves Caldwell County, submitted three proposals, each including a fully staffed ALS ambulance operating around the clock. The company told the fiscal court its pricing includes ambulances, insurance, fuel and all operational costs, and its model does not include an on-call crew. The proposal would also rely on mutual aid from Caldwell County.

The lowest-cost plan offers one ALS unit staffed by a paramedic and EMT 24/7 at \$491,284 per year.

A second option adds a basic life support ambulance staffed by two EMTs for 10 hours a day, five days a week. That plan totals \$685,472 annually.

AmeriPro’s largest plan adds a Basic Life Saving (BLS) crew for 12 hours a day, seven days a week, bringing the annual cost to \$901,665, or \$75,139 per month.

AmeriPro also suggested in its bid that an interlocal agreement

could be considered between Crittenden and Caldwell counties. Otherwise backups could be provided through a simple mutual aid agreement.

Crittenden County will likely reconsider an ambulance tax on property owners, something it explored a few months ago before scrapping the idea and raising taxes elsewhere. By statute, counties can create an ambulance board and taxing district with the authority to levy a tax up to 10 cents per \$100 of assessed value. A 10-cent tax would generate less than \$500,000 annually.

This calendar year, Crittenden County has supplemented ComCare in the amount of \$382,000. The EMS provider had told the county that it has lost more than \$100,000 under the current contract.

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