



MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION

Quarterly Report on the Status of Prison Overcrowding, Fourth Quarter of 1999

Submitted in Compliance with Chapter 799
Section 21 of the Acts of 1985

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1999 Fourth Quarter Report

Section Twenty-one of Chapter 799 of the Acts of 1985 directs the Commissioner of Correction to report quarterly on the status of overcrowding in state and county facilities. This statute calls for the following information:

Such report shall include, by facility, the average daily census for the period of the report and the actual census on the first and the last days of the report period.

Said report shall also contain such information for the previous twelve months and a comparison to the rated capacity of such facility.

This report presents the required statistics for the fourth quarter of 1999.

This report was prepared by Hollie Matthews Hoover and Suzanne Gesualdi of the Research and Planning Division, and is based on daily count sheets prepared by the Classification Division.

1999 Fourth Quarter Report

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Technical Notes, 1996 to Present¹

¹ For technical notes prior to 1996, please refer to previous quarterly reports.

- The official capacity or custody level designation for each facility can change for a number of reasons, e.g. expansion of facility beds, decrease of facility beds due to fire, or changes in contracts with vendors. In all tables the capacity and custody level reflects the status at the end of the reporting period. The design capacity is reported for correctional facilities in Tables 1 through 6.
- On November 15, 1996, one hundred new modular beds were added to MCI Concord, increasing its design capacity to 614. Ninety-six modular beds were also added to MCI Norfolk, increasing its total to 1,084 beds. Pondville Correctional Center was reclassified from Custody Level 3/2 to Custody Level 3.
- Two hundred and forty-three new modular beds were added to Middlesex (Billerica) House of Correction on November 15, 1996, increasing its total to 874 beds, and the Middlesex county total to 1,035 beds.
- Due to changes in the Massachusetts General Law, DOC consolidated one unit at the Bridgewater Treatment Center and back-filled with general population inmates. These design capacity beds were placed on-line November 8, 1996 and first appeared on the November 12, 1996 daily count sheet. Three hundred additional beds were placed on-line during the third quarter of 1997.
- Due to a DOC policy modification, the security level of MCI-Shirley (Min) was changed from Security Level 3/2 to Security Level 3 during the first quarter of 1996 .
- Where relevant, the population figures for all facilities include both male and female inmates except as shown at Lancaster.
- State inmates housed in the Hampshire County contract program are included in the county population tables, as are all other state inmates housed in county facilities.
- Longwood Treatment Center is a specialized DOC facility which houses primarily individuals incarcerated for operating under the influence of alcohol. Because the inmates are predominantly county sentenced inmates, the inmate count and bed capacity are also included in Tables 3 and 4.
- Beginning with the second quarter of 1998 quarterly report, the following county correctional facilities are presented individually: Bristol Dartmouth, Bristol Ash Street, David R. Nelson Correctional Addiction Center, and Bristol Pre-Release in Bristol County; Essex Middleton and Essex Lawrence Correctional Alternative Center in Essex County; Middlesex Cambridge and Middlesex Billerica in Middlesex County; Norfolk Braintree, Norfolk Dedham, and Norfolk Contract in Norfolk County. Beginning with the third quarter of 1998 report, facilities for Suffolk and Hampden counties are presented individually.
- Nashua Street inmates housed at other facilities are reported in the counts for the facilities in which they are in custody.
- On October 22, 1997, Eastern Massachusetts Correctional Alcohol Center (EMCAC) was renamed the David R. Nelson Correctional Addiction Center (DRNCAC).
- The Souza-Baranowski Correctional Center, a security level 6 facility, was added to the Department of Correction count sheet on November 3, 1998. The facility began housing offenders on November 6, 1998. The average daily population in Table 2 is based on the previous twelve months. Since SBCC was populated for only eleven of the twelve months, the figures in Table 2 for this facility are skewed.
- On April 18, 1995, new security level designations were established according to 103 DOC 101 Correctional Institutions/Custody Levels policy which states:

Custody Levels:

- **Level One.** The least restrictive in the department and is reserved only for those inmates who are at the end of their sentence and have been identified as posing little to no threat to the community. Supervision is minimal and indirect.

- **Level Two.** A custody level in which both design/construction as well as inmate classification reflect the goal of restoring to the inmate maximum responsibility and control of their own behavior and actions prior to their release. Direct supervision of these inmates is not required, but intermittent observation may be appropriate under certain conditions. Inmates within this level may be permitted to access the community unescorted to participate in programming to include, but not limited to, work release, educational release, etc.

- **Level Three.** A custody level in which both the design/construction as well as inmate classification reflect the goal of returning to the inmate a greater sense of personal responsibility and autonomy while still providing for supervision and monitoring of behavior and activity. Inmates within this security level are not considered a serious risk to the safety of staff, inmates or to the public. Program participation is mandated and geared toward their potential reintegration into the community. Access to the community is limited and under constant direct staff supervision.

- **Level Four.** A custody level in which both the design/construction as well as inmate classification reflect the goal of restoring to the inmate some degree of responsibility and control of their own behavior and actions, while still insuring the safety of staff and inmates. Design/construction is generally characterized by high security parameters and limited use of internal physical barriers. Inmates at this level have demonstrated the ability to abide by rules and regulations and require intermittent supervision. However, behavior in the community, i.e., criminal sentence and/or the presence of serious outstanding legal matters indicate the need for some control and for segregation from the community. Job and program opportunities exist for all inmates within the perimeter of the facility.

- **Level Five.** A custody level in which design/construction as well as inmate classification reflect the need to provide maximum external and internal control and supervision of inmates. Inmates accorded to this status may present an escape risk or pose a threat to other inmates, staff, or the orderly running of the institution, however, at a lesser degree than those at level 6. Supervision remains constant and direct. Through an inmates willingness to comply with institutional rules and regulations, increased job and program opportunities exist.

- **Level Six.** A custody level in which both design/construction as well as inmate classification reflect the need to provide maximum external and internal control and supervision of inmates primarily through the use of high security parameters and extensive use of internal physical barriers and check points. Inmates accorded this status present serious escape risks or pose serious threats to themselves, to other inmates, to staff, or the orderly running of the institution. Supervision of inmates is direct and constant. Inmates are confined to their cells at all times, except when they are removed for authorized activities. Inmates within their status, when removed from their cell, are typically under escort and in restraints.

Abbreviations

AC	- Addiction Center	OSCC	- Old Colony Correctional Center
ADP	- Average Daily Population	OUI	- Operating Under the Influence
ATU	- Awaiting Trial Unit	PPREP	- Pre-Parole Residential Environmental Phase Program
CRS	- Contract Residential Services Includes Charlotte House, and Houston House	PRC	- Pre-Release Center
DDU	- Departmental Disciplinary Unit	SBCC	- Souza-Baranowski Correctional Center
DOC	- Department of Correction	SECC	- Southeastern Correctional Center
DRNCAC	David R. Nelson Correctional Addiction Center	SDPTC	- Sexually Dangerous Person Treatment Center
DSU	- Departmental Segregation Unit	SMCC	- South Middlesex Correctional Center (formerly SMPRC)
HOC	- House of Correction	SH	- State Hospital
LCAC	- Lawrence Correctional Alternative Center	TC	- Treatment Center (Longwood)
NECC	- Northeastern Correctional Center		
NCCI	- North Central Correctional Institution at Gardner		

Table 1 provides the DOC figures for the fourth quarter of 1999. As this table indicates, the DOC population (excluding Bridgewater SH, SDPTC, AC, Longwood TC, and county inmates at the Mass. Boot Camp) decreased by 188 inmates, or minus 2%, from the first day of the fourth quarter to the last day of the quarter. At the end of the quarter, the DOC operated with 9,772 inmates in the system, and the average daily population was 9,915 with a design capacity of 8,130. Thus, the DOC operated at 122 percent of design capacity.

Population in DOC Facilities, October 1, 1999 to December 31, 1999

Custody Level/ Facility	Avg Daily Population	Beginning Population	Ending Population	Design Capacity	% ADP Capacity
Custody Level 6					
Cedar Junction	565	577	560	633	89%
SBCC	887	843	919	1,024	87%
Framingham-ATU	130	137	113	64	203%
Custody Level 5					
OSCC	724	728	722	488	148%
Custody Level 4					
Concord	1,090	1,150	987	614	178%
Framingham	493	476	504	388	127%
Norfolk	1,480	1,488	1,483	1,084	137%
NCCI	959	960	959	568	169%
SECC	302	302	307	456	66%
Bay State	296	296	296	266	111%
Mass. Boot Camp	101	112	101	128	79%
Shirley-Medium	1,091	1,095	1,084	720	152%
*Bridgewater SDPTC	349	348	350	345	101%
Sub-Total	8,467	8,512	8,385	6,778	125%
Custody Level 3					
Plymouth	146	150	132	151	97%
NECC	193	201	179	150	129%
SECC-Minimum	97	94	97	100	97%
Shirley-Minimum	284	281	270	403	70%
Pondville	170	176	163	100	170%
Custody Level 3/2					
Lancaster-Male	121	112	124	94	129%
Lancaster-Female	56	58	48	59	95%
SMCC	188	185	183	125	150%
Sub-Total	1,255	1,257	1,196	1,182	106%
Custody Level 2					
Boston State	88	90	87	55	160%
Park Drive	49	47	50	50	98%
Hodder House	27	30	21	35	77%
Custody Level 1					
Charlotte	10	9	12	15	67%
Houston House	10	11	11	15	67%
PPREP	9	4	10	n.a	
Sub-Total	193	191	191	170	114%
Total	9,915	9,960	9,772	8,130	122%
Bridgewater SH	338	339	353	227	149%
Bridgewater SDPTC	178	175	178	216	82%
Bridgewater AC	81	94	88	214	38%
Longwood TC	141	135	130	125	113%
Sub-Total	738	743	749	782	94%
Grand Total	10,653	10,703	10,521	8,912	120%
Houses of Correction	603	628	596	n.a.	n.a.
Federal Prisons	23	23	23	n.a.	n.a.
Inter-State Contract	250	249	249	n.a.	n.a.

(* See Technical Notes)

Table 2 provides the DOC figures for the previous twelve months - i.e., for the period October 1, 1998 to September 30, 1999. These figures indicate that the DOC population decreased by 234 (-2%) over this twelve month period (excluding Bridgewater SH, SDPTC, AC, Longwood TC, and county inmates at the Mass. Boot Camp), from 10,188 in October, 1998 to 9,954 in September, 1999.

Population in DOC Facilities, October 1, 1998 to September 30, 1999					
Custody Level/	Avg Daily	Beginning	Ending	Design	% ADP

Facility	Population	Population	Population	Capacity	Capacity
Custody Level 6					
Cedar Junction	576	813	576	633	91%
SBCC	715	n.a.	844	1,024	70%
Framingham-ATU	125	138	138	64	195%
Custody Level 5					
OCCC	728	735	728	488	149%
Custody Level 4					
Concord	1,302	1,379	1,139	614	212%
Framingham	505	499	478	388	130%
Norfolk	1,491	1,488	1,485	1,084	138%
NCCI	960	934	958	568	169%
SECC	350	803	303	456	77%
Bay State	294	295	296	266	111%
Mass. Boot Camp	126	120	111	128	98%
Shirley-Medium	1,094	1,103	1,095	720	152%
*Bridgewater SDPTC	348	349	348	345	101%
Sub-Total	8,614	8,656	8,499	6,778	127%
Custody Level 3					
Plymouth	173	174	152	151	115%
NECC	223	213	201	150	149%
SECC-Minimum	95	84	94	100	95%
Shirley-Minimum	307	307	282	403	76%
Pondville	185	175	177	100	185%
Custody Level 3/2					
Lancaster-Male	120	118	112	94	128%
Lancaster-Female	60	62	58	59	102%
SMCC	193	198	185	125	154%
Sub-Total	1,356	1,331	1,261	1,182	115%
Custody Level 2					
Boston State	95	93	90	55	173%
Park Drive	49	49	47	50	98%
Hodder House	28	32	32	35	80%
Custody Level 1					
Charlotte	9	7	10	15	60%
Houston House	10	7	11	15	67%
PPREP	12	13	4	n.a	n.a.
Sub-Total	203	201	194	170	119%
Total	10,173	10,188	9,954	8,130	125%
Bridgewater SH	351	340	340	227	155%
Bridgewater SDPTC	177	189	175	216	82%
Bridgewater AC	92	104	97	214	43%
Longwood TC	137	150	136	125	110%
Sub-Total	757	783	748	782	97%
Grand Total	10,930	10,971	10,702	8,912	123%
Houses of Correction	624	698	628	n.a.	n.a.
Federal Prisons	23	24	23	n.a.	n.a.
Inter-State Contract	258	354	249	n.a.	n.a.

(* See Technical Notes)

Table 3 presents the county figures for the fourth quarter of 1999. The county population decreased by 820 inmates, or minus 7%, from the first day of the fourth quarter to the last day of the quarter. At the end of the quarter, the county system operated with 11,343 inmates, with an average daily population of 11,860 in facilities with a total design capacity of 8,356. Thus, the county system operated at 142 percent of design capacity.

Population in County Correctional Facilities by County,

October 1, 1999 to December 31, 1999					
Facility	Avg Daily Population	Beginning Population	Ending Population	Design Capacity	% ADP Capacity
Barnstable	255	260	249	110	232%
Berkshire	204	207	191	116	176%
Bristol	1,039	1,079	1,004	666	156%
Dukes	30	31	28	19	158%
Essex	1,296	1,336	1,266	635	204%
Franklin	133	137	129	63	211%
Hampden	1,761	1,777	1,697	1,303	135%
Hampshire	240	255	234	248	97%
Middlesex	1,230	1,289	1,139	1,035	119%
Norfolk	563	580	543	379	149%
Plymouth	1,321	1,318	1,329	1,140	116%
Suffolk	2,311	2,372	2,155	1,599	145%
Worcester	1,267	1,340	1,172	790	160%
Longwood TC	141	135	130	125	113%
Mass. Boot Camp	69	47	77	128	54%
Total	11,860	12,163	11,343	8,356	142%

Table 4 presents the county figures for the fourth quarter of 1999. The following table presents a breakdown of multi -facility counties, by facility.

Population in County Correctional Facilities by Facility, October 1, 1999 to December 31, 1999					
Facility	Avg Daily Population	Beginning Population	Ending Population	Design Capacity	% ADP Capacity
<i>Bristol County</i>					
Bristol Ash Street	152	154	155	206	74%
Bristol Dartmouth	748	773	727	304	246%
Bristol DRNCAC	70	87	61	100	70%
Bristol Pre-Release	69	65	61	56	123%
<i>Essex County</i>					
Essex Middleton	1,032	1,056	997	500	206%
Essex LCAC	264	280	269	135	196%
<i>Hampden County</i>					
Hampden	1,603	1,637	1,521	1,178	136%
Hampden-OUI	158	140	176	125	126%
<i>Middlesex County</i>					
Middlesex Cambridge	251	286	219	161	156%
Middlesex Billerica	979	1,003	920	874	112%
<i>Norfolk County</i>					
Norfolk Dedham	497	505	482	302	165%
Norfolk Braintree	22	26	26	52	42%
Norfolk Contract	44	49	35	25	176%
<i>Suffolk County</i>					
Suffolk Nashua Street	601	633	526	453	133%
Suffolk South Bay	1,710	1,739	1,629	1,146	149%

Table 5 presents the county figures for the previous twelve months. These figures indicate that the county population decreased by 707 inmates, or minus 6 percent, over this twelve-month period, from 12,854 in October, 1998, to 12,147 in September, 1999.

**Population in County Correctional Facilities by County,
October 1, 1998 to September 30, 1999**

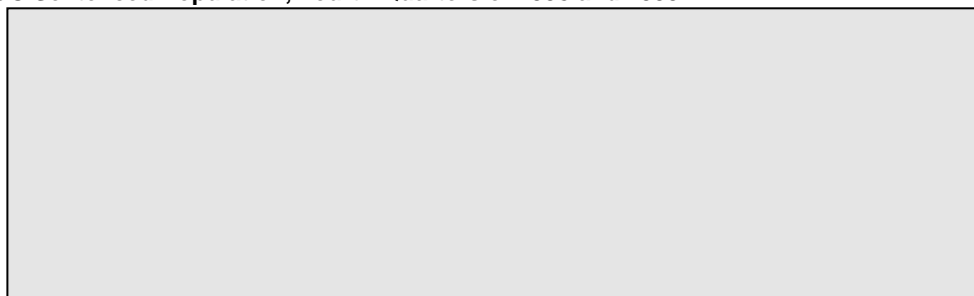
Facility	Avg Daily Population	Beginning Population	Ending Population	Design Capacity	% ADP Capacity
Barnstable	254	251	260	110	231%
Berkshire	221	250	209	116	191%
Bristol	1,082	1,137	1,074	666	162%
Dukes	31	31	30	19	163%
Essex	1,290	1,328	1,324	635	203%
Franklin	144	138	138	63	229%
Hampden	1,792	1,880	1,774	1,303	138%
Hampshire	231	244	255	248	93%
Middlesex	1,352	1,452	1,284	1,035	131%
Norfolk	610	635	578	379	161%
Plymouth	1,357	1,440	1,317	1,140	119%
Suffolk	2,494	2,553	2,373	1,599	156%
Worcester	1,288	1,324	1,344	790	163%
Longwood TC	137	150	136	125	110%
Mass. Boot Camp	50	41	51	128	39%
Total	12,333	12,854	12,147	8,356	148%

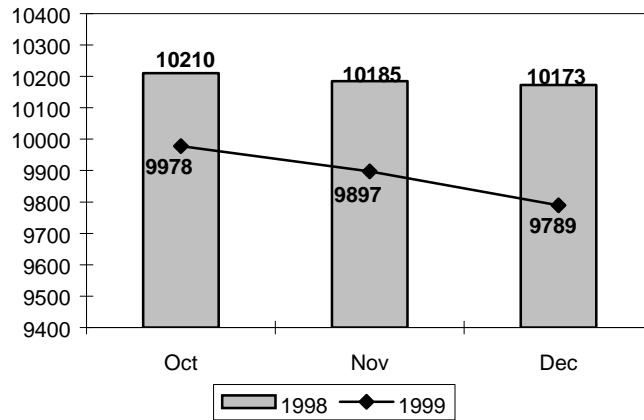
Table 6 presents the county figures for the previous twelve months. The following table presents a breakdown of multi-facility counties, by facility.

Population in County Correctional Facilities by Facility, October 1, 1998 to September 30, 1999					
Facility	Avg Daily Population	Beginning Population	Ending Population	Design Capacity	% ADP Capacity
<i>Bristol County</i>					
Bristol Ash Street	150	211	152	206	73%
Bristol Dartmouth	767	733	768	304	252%
Bristol DRNCAC	88	101	88	100	88%
Bristol Pre-Release	77	92	66	56	138%
<i>Essex County</i>					
Essex Middleton	1,063	1,094	1,050	500	213%
Essex LCAC	227	234	274	135	168%
<i>Hampden County</i>					
Hampden	1,654	1,740	1,641	1,178	140%
Hampden-OUI	138	140	133	125	110%
<i>Middlesex County</i>					
Middlesex Cambridge	261	280	284	161	162%
Middlesex Billerica	1,091	1,172	1,000	874	125%
<i>Norfolk County</i>					
Norfolk Dedham	506	514	503	302	168%
Norfolk Braintree	36	43	26	52	69%
Norfolk Contract	68	78	49	25	272%
<i>Suffolk County</i>					
Suffolk Nashua Street	635	656	635	453	140%
Suffolk South Bay	1,859	1,897	1,738	1,146	162%

Figure 1.

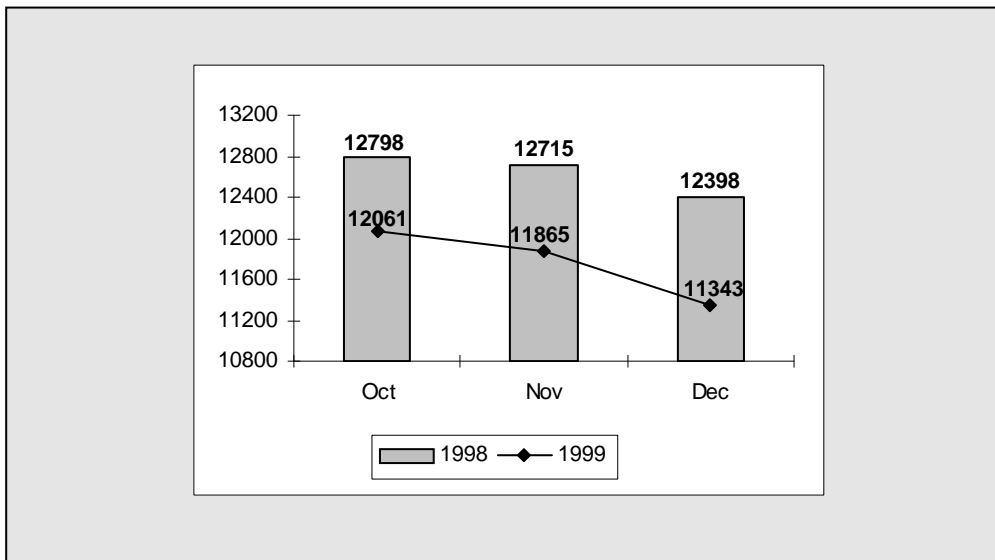
DOC Sentenced Population, Fourth Quarters of 1998 and 1999





The graph above compares the DOC sentenced population for the fourth quarter in 1998 to that in 1999, by month. For October, 1999 the DOC population decreased by 232 inmates (-2%) compared with the same month of 1998; for November, the population decreased by 288 inmates (-3%); and for December the population decreased by 384 inmates, or minus 4 percent.

Figure 2.
HOC Population, Fourth Quarters of 1998 and 1999



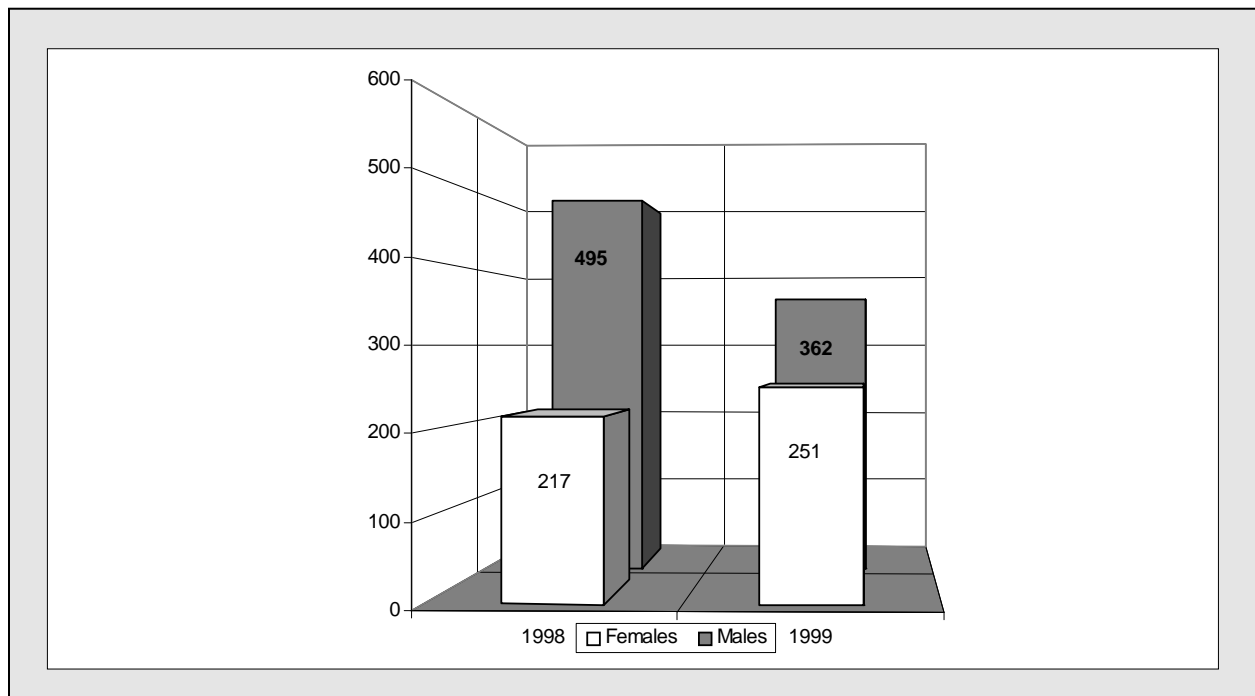
The graph above compares the HOC population for the fourth quarter in 1998 to that in 1999, by month. For October, 1999 the HOC population decreased by 737 inmates (-6%) compared with the same month of 1998; for November, the population decreased by 850 inmates (-7%) ; and for December, the population decreased by 1,055 inmates, or minus 9 percent.

Note: Data for Figures 1 and 2 were taken from the end of the month daily count sheet compiled by the Classification Division.

Table 7 provides quarterly statistics on new, criminally sentenced court commitments to the DOC for the fourth quarters of 1998 and 1999, by sex. Overall, there was a decrease of 216 new court commitments, or minus 8 percent for 1999 in comparison with the number of new court commitments in 1998, from 2,856 to 2,640. Male commitments for 1999 decreased by 232, or minus 12 percent from 1998. Female commitments for 1999 increased by 16, or 2 percent compared to the number of commitments for 1998.

Quarterly DOC New Court Commitment by Sex			
	1998	1999	Difference
Males			
First Quarter	517	478	-8%
Second Quarter	458	417	-9%
Third Quarter	438	419	-4%
Fourth Quarter	495	362	-27%
Sub -Total	1,908	1,676	-12%
Females			
First Quarter	238	242	2%
Second Quarter	239	225	-6%
Third Quarter	254	246	-3%
Fourth Quarter	217	251	16%
Sub -Total	948	964	2%
Total	2,856	2,640	-8%

Figure 3 provides a graphical representation of the number of new, criminally sentenced court commitments to the DOC during the fourth quarters of 1998 and 1999, by sex.



Note: Data for Table 7 and Figure 3 were obtained from the DOC's Inmate Tracking database.