

MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION

Quarterly Report on Admissions and Releases in the Massachusetts Department of Correction

First Quarter 2022





Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

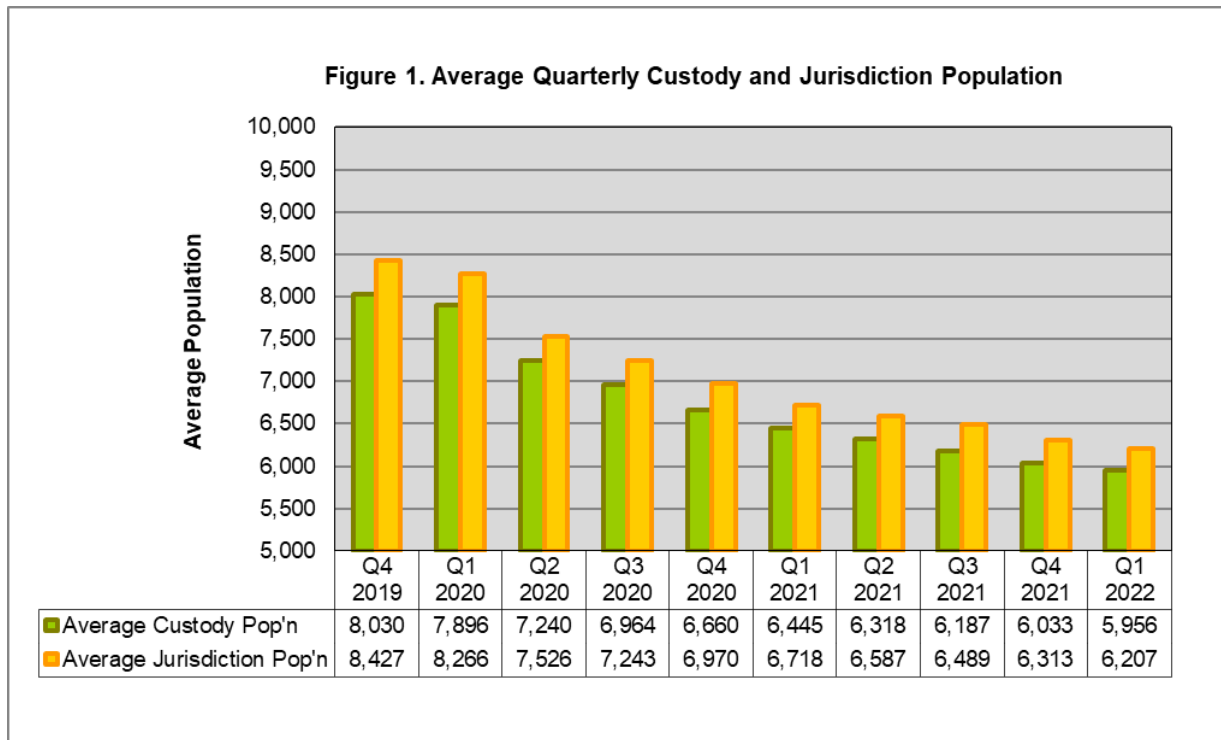
- Between the fourth quarter of 2021 and the first quarter of 2022, the MA DOC custody population saw a 1.3% decline. During the ten-quarter trend period starting in Q4 2019, the average custody population has decreased 25.8%. The jurisdiction population dropped 1.7% from the previous quarter, and down 26.3% since the fourth quarter of 2019.
- The criminally sentenced population went down 1.5% from the last quarter and dropped 27.1% since the beginning of the trend period. The civil commitment population decreased 3.9 percent from the previous quarter and fluctuated around a flat line of 556 inmates during the ten-quarter trend period. The MA DOC pre-trial population saw little change, increasing by 1 this quarter from the previous quarter and averaged 66 detainees.
- Overall quarterly admissions to the DOC increased to 1,028 from the previous quarter, a gain of 5.5%. Releases went down 7.8% to 1,061. This resulted in a smaller admission-to-release deficit in the first quarter, 2022 than the fourth quarter, 2021.
- Criminal releases continued to outnumber admissions by a 418 to 405 margin in the first quarter of 2022, contributing to the shrinking of 13 inmates from the DOC population, the smallest drop since the outbreak of the COVID-19. Overall, the DOC released 2,231 more criminally sentenced inmates than admitted during the ten-quarter trend period.
- New court commitments remained to be the leading admission type for male admissions (84.2%), followed by parole violators (13.9%) in the first quarter of 2022. New court commitments were also the predominant admission type for female admissions with 88.0%. The share of parole violators as the second male criminal admission type fell back to the pre-COVID-19 pandemic level for the second time in a row.
- Parole to community (47.1%) topped the list of male criminal release types, followed closely by expiration of sentence to community (30.7%) and distantly by expiration/parole to outside authority (10.7%) as the top three release types. Parole to community in the first quarter continued to be higher than in the quarters before the COVID-19 outbreak.
- Expiration of sentence to community (35.3%) took the lead as the leading female release type in the first quarter of 2022, followed by expiration of sentence to community (29.4%) and expiration/parole to outside authority (17.6%) as the top three female release types.
- Male civil admissions and releases in the first quarter went down to 519 for admissions and 539 for releases, a drop of less than 2% for both from the previous quarter. Female civil commitment admissions decreased from 9 of the previous quarter to 5 and female civil releases dropped from 10 to 9 in the first quarter of 2022.
- In the first quarter of 2022, pre-trial admissions (99) and releases (95) decreased about 20% and 25% respectively from the previous quarter. Both male and female pre-trial admissions and releases contributed to the declines of this quarter.

NOTE: Beginning in March of 2020, the number of individuals being admitted to and/or released from Massachusetts Department of Correction facilities has been significantly affected as a result of the impact of the global COVID-19 pandemic on the criminal justice system in Massachusetts.

CURRENT POPULATION AND OVERALL TRENDS

The MA DOC **custody** population averaged 5,956 inmates in the first quarter of 2022. This population decreased by 1.3% from the previous quarter. From the fourth quarter of 2019 through the first quarter of 2022, there was a decrease of 2,074 inmates, or 25.8%, from the custody population.

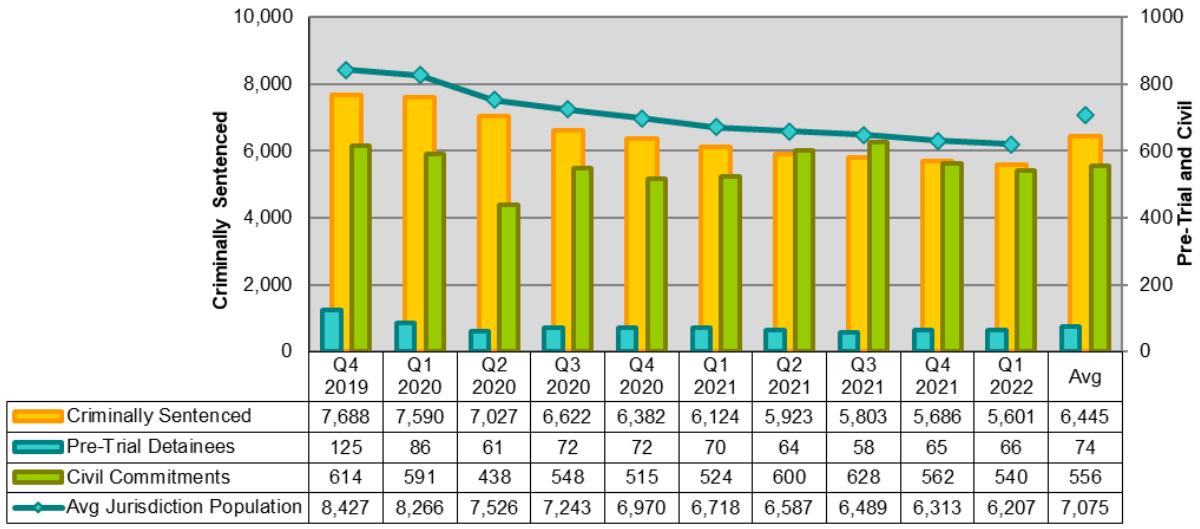
The **jurisdiction** population averaged 6,207 inmates in the first quarter of 2022, declining 1.7% from the previous quarter. Over the ten-quarter trend period, the **jurisdiction** population is down 2,220 inmates or 26.3%. See Figure 1.1 below.*



The criminally sentenced population went down 1.5% from the last quarter and dropped 27.1% since the beginning of the trend period. The civil commitment population decreased 3.9 percent from the previous quarter and fluctuated around a flat line of 556 inmates during the ten-quarter trend period. The MA DOC pre-trial population rose 1.5% this quarter from the previous quarter and averaged 66 detainees. See Figure 1.2, next page.

* Each quarter's population is the average of the last day of the month's count for the three months within that quarter.

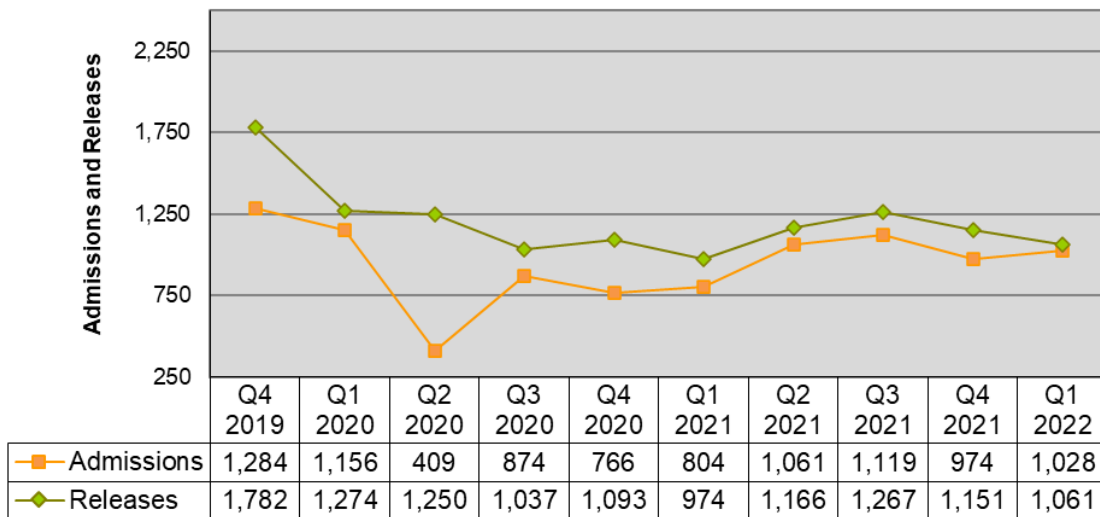
Figure 1.2. Average Quarterly Jurisdiction Population by Commitment Type



OVERALL ADMISSIONS AND RELEASES

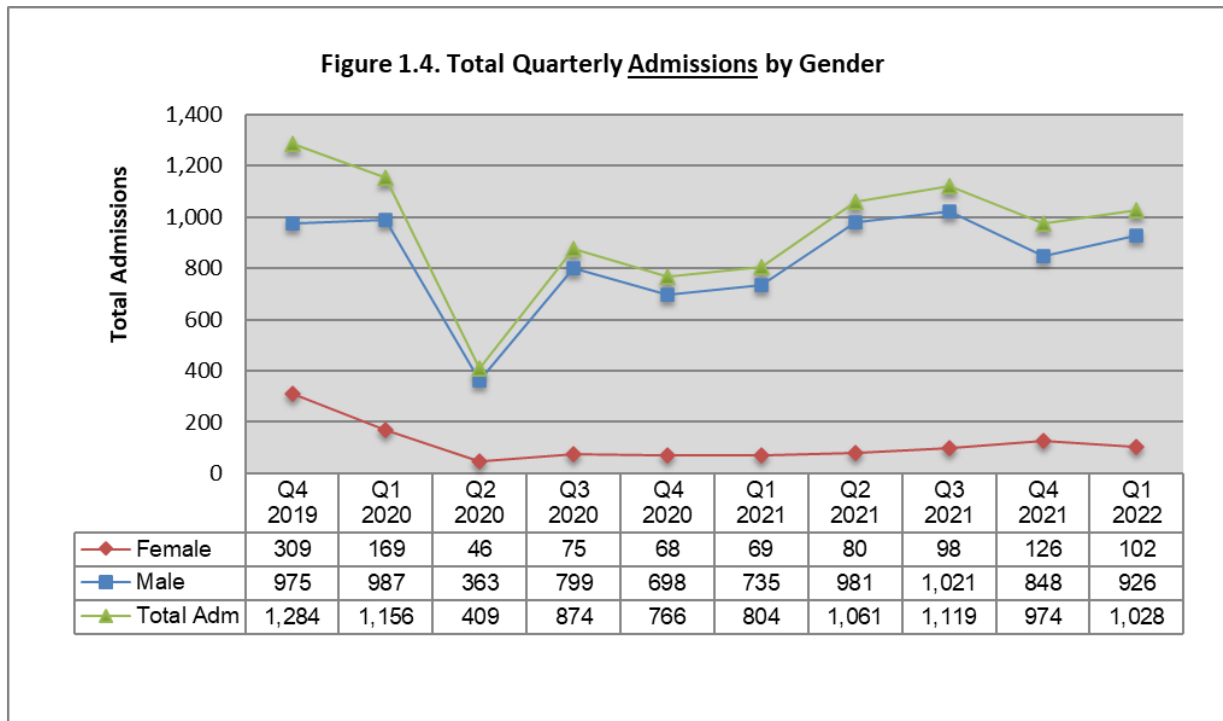
Overall quarterly admissions to the DOC increased to 1,028 from the previous quarter, a rise of 5.5%. Releases decreased 7.8% to 1,061. This resulted in an admission-to-release deficit of 33 inmates in the first quarter, 2022, smaller than the deficit of 177 inmates in the previous quarter. See Figure 1.3 below.

Figure 1.3. Overall Quarterly Admissions and Releases



Male admissions in the first quarter increased from 848 to 926 or a rise of 9.2% from the previous quarter

while female admissions decreased 19.1% from 126 to 102. It reversed the direction of male and female admissions of the previous quarter from the quarter before. See Figure 1.4 below.



Male releases in the first quarter declined from 1,024 to 961 and female releases decreased as well, from 127 to 100. Both female admissions and releases went down from the previous quarter as normally the case in the first quarter of a year. See Figure 1.5 below.

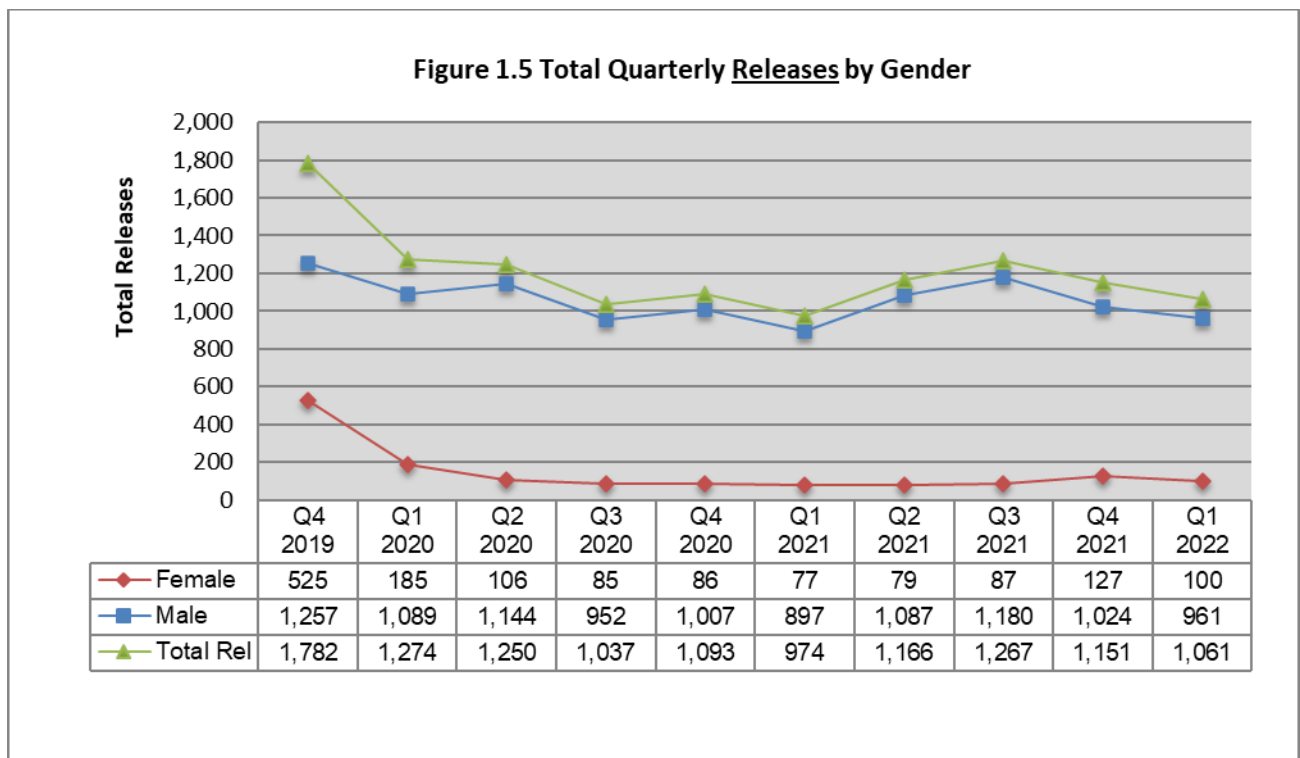


Figure 1.6 shows that male admissions in the first quarter of 2022 increased from the previous quarter while male releases went down. It resulted in a much smaller admission-to-release deficit of 35 inmates compared with 176 more releases than admissions of the last quarter.

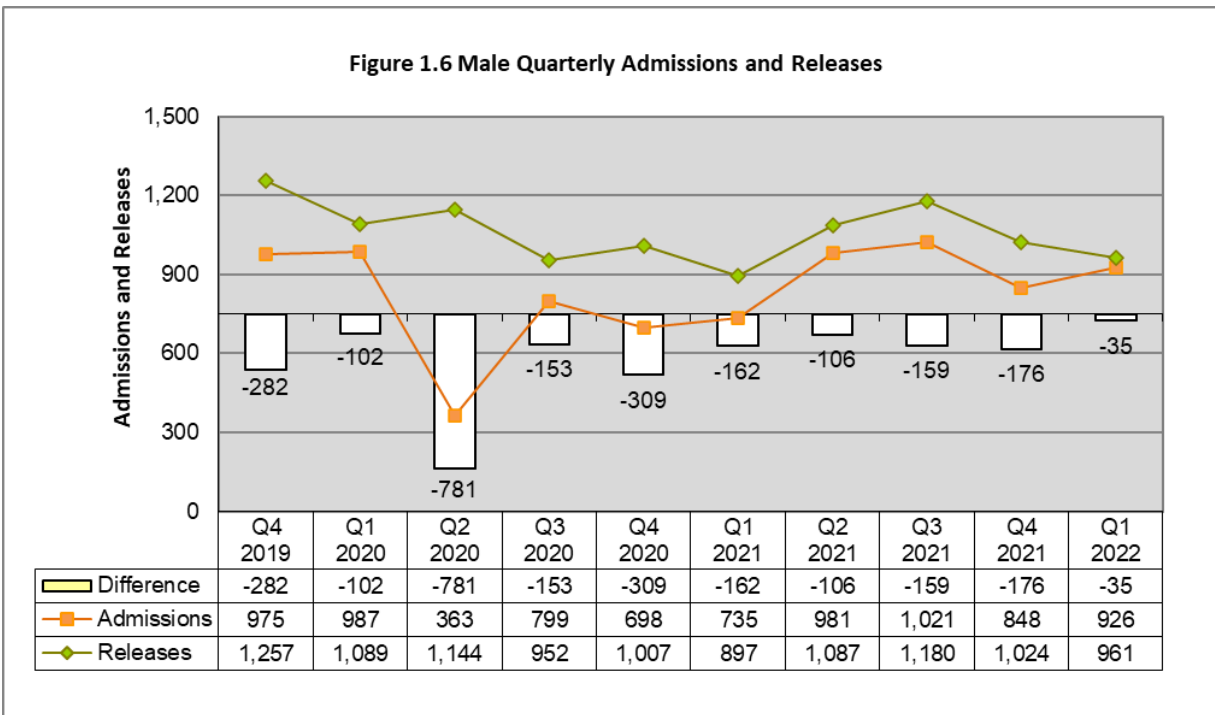
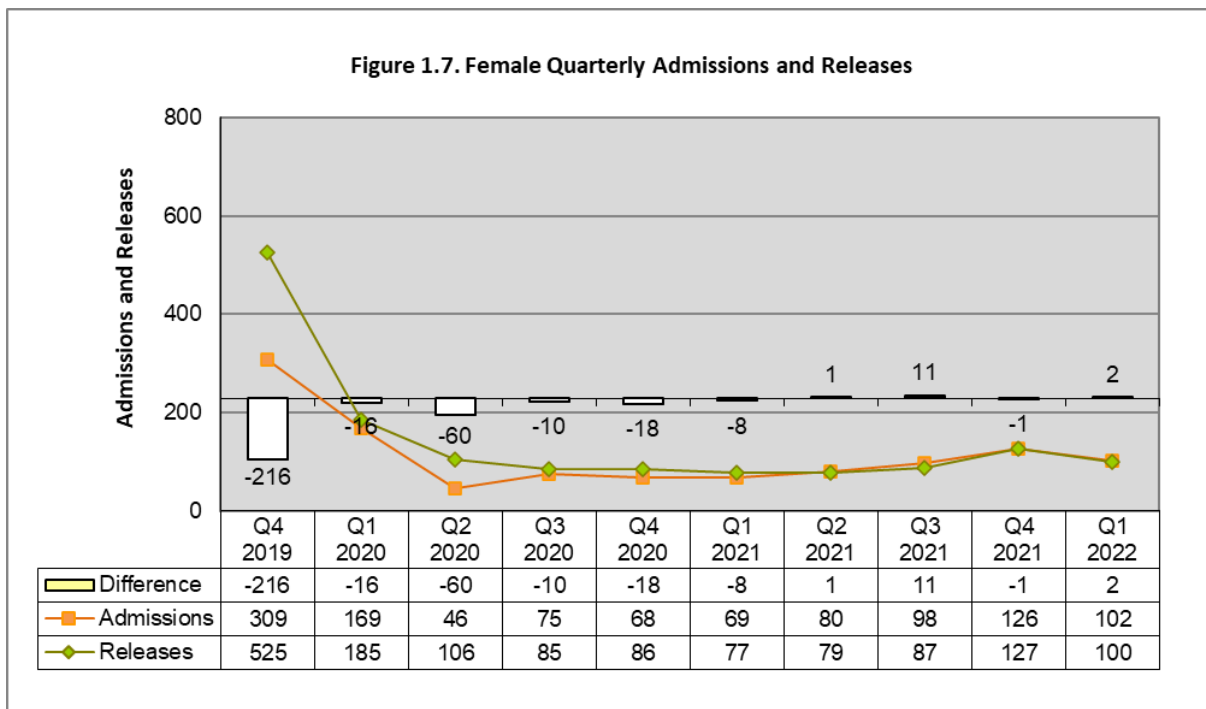
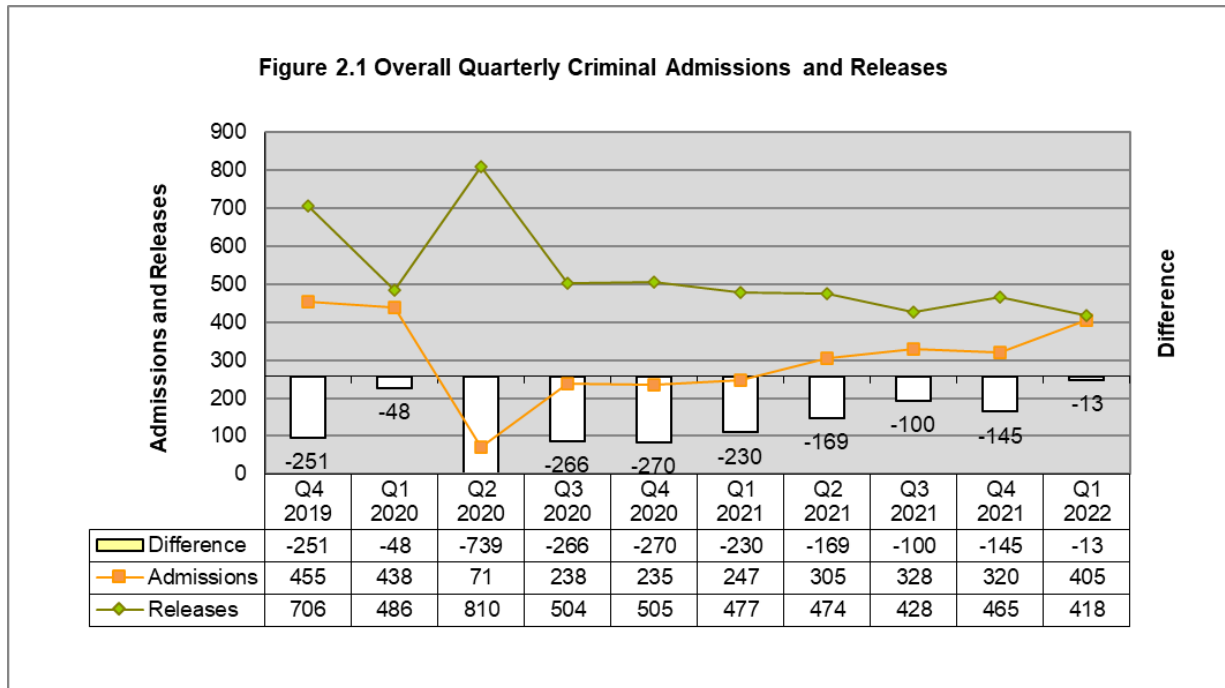


Figure 1.7 shows both female admissions and releases decreased and resulted in an admission-to-release surplus of 2 inmates in the first quarter, making it the third surplus quarter in the past four quarters.



CRIMINALLY SENTENCED ADMISSIONS AND RELEASES

Criminal admissions in the first quarter increased 26.6% from the previous quarter while releases decreased 10.1%. Releases remained larger than admissions, contributing to the shrinking of the DOC population by 13 inmates for this quarter. Overall, the DOC released 2,231 more inmates than admitted during the ten-quarter trend period. (Figure 2.1)



In the first quarter of 2022, male criminal admissions went up and releases went down from the previous quarter. The MA DOC released 21 more male inmates than admitted, much smaller than the admission-to-release deficit of 147 inmates of last quarter. Meanwhile female criminal admissions remained flat at 25 while releases decreased from 23 of last quarter to 17, making Q1 2022 the second quarter in a row with an admission-to-release surplus in the ten-quarter trend period. (Figure 2.2)

Figure 2.2. Criminally Sentenced Admissions and Releases by Gender

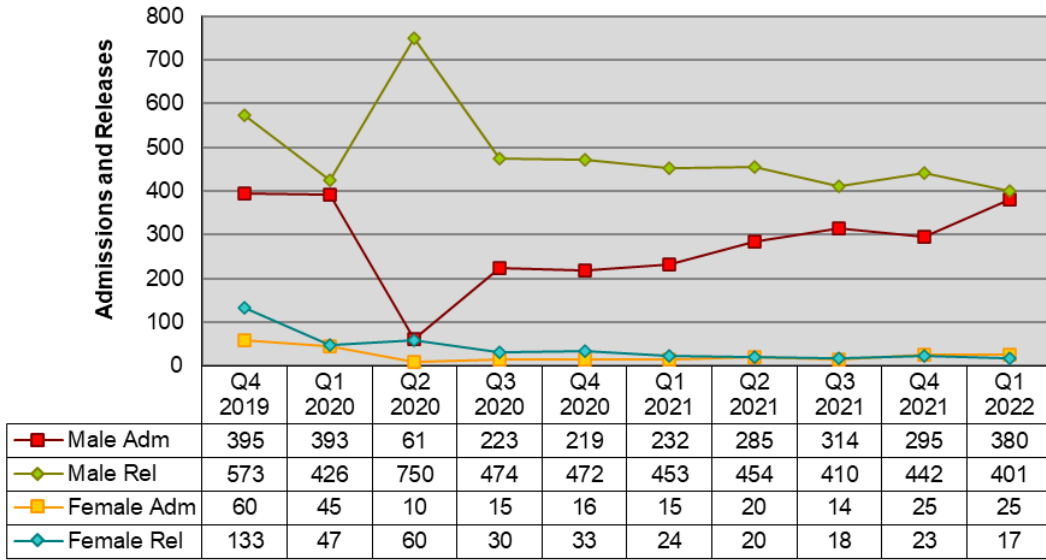
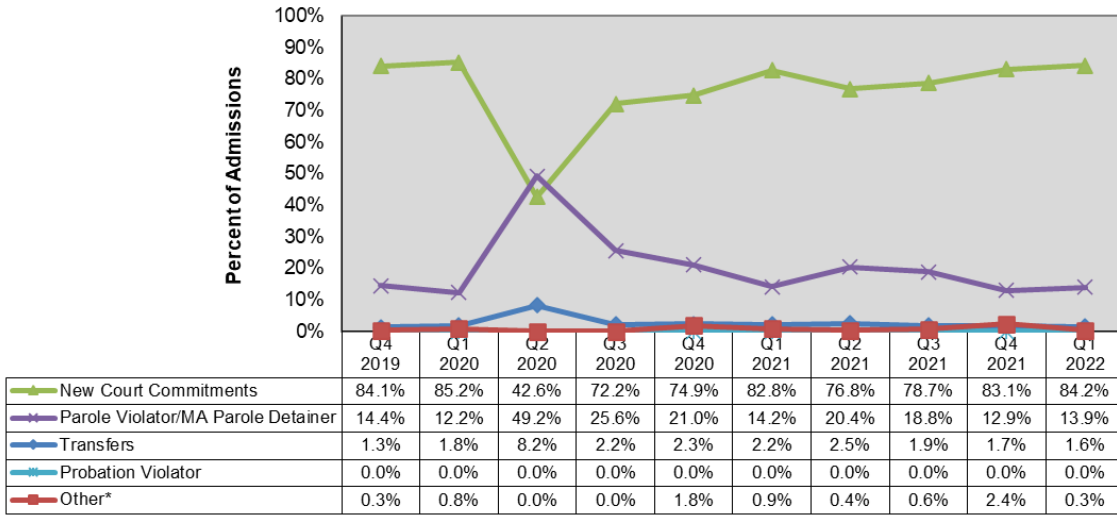


Figure 2.3 below shows that new court commitments continued to be the leading male criminal admission type (84.2%) followed by parole violators (13.9%). The share of parole violators as the second male criminal admission type fell back to the pre-COVID-19 pandemic level for the second time in a row.

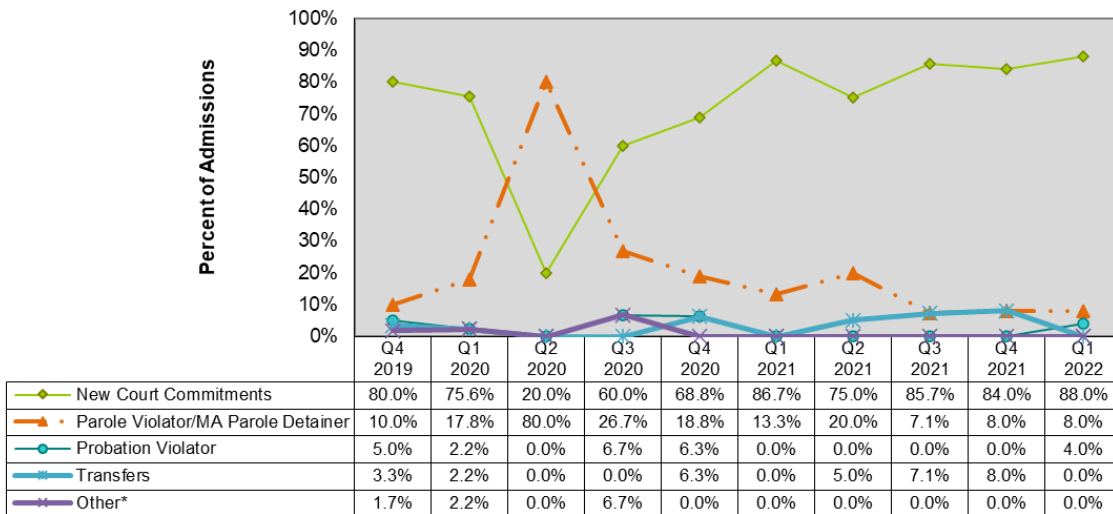
Figure 2.3. Male Quarterly Criminal Admissions by Admission Type



* See appendix for definition of "Other" under "Admissions".

New court commitments (88.0%) also dominated the list of female criminal admissions, followed distantly by parole violator (8.0%) and probation violator (4.0%) as the three admission types. The share of transfers and other fell to 0 in the first quarter of 2022. (Figure 2.4)

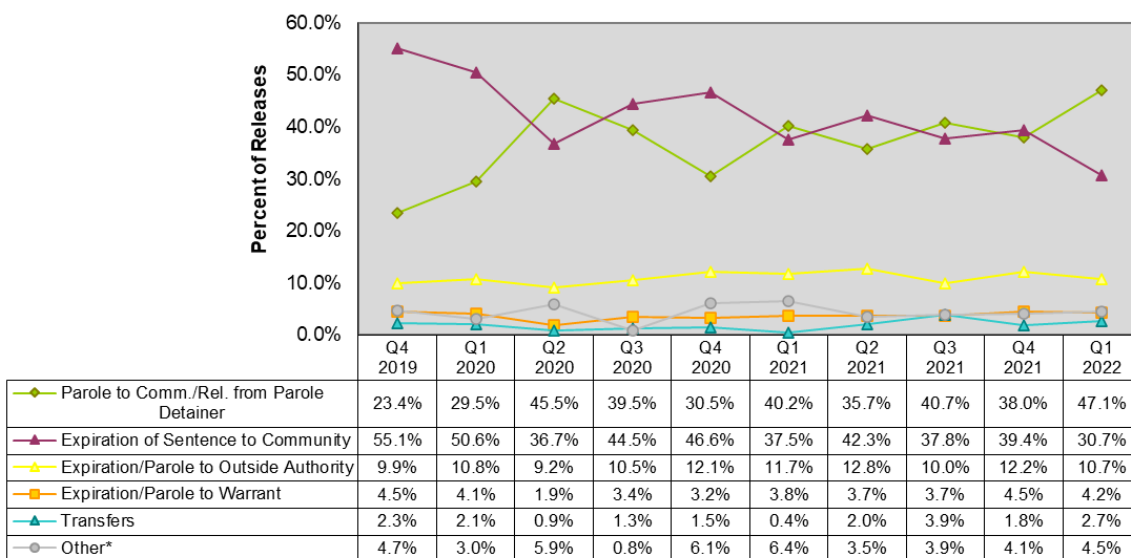
Figure 2.4. Female Quarterly Criminal Admissions by Admission Type



* See appendix for definition of "Other" under "Admissions".

Figures 2.5 describes how male criminally sentenced inmates were released in Q1, 2022 and the quarters prior. In the first quarter of 2022, parole to community (47.1%) tops the list of the release types, followed by expiration of sentence to community (30.7%) and expiration/parole to outside authority (10.7%) as the top three types. Parole to community as the top reason for male releases in the first quarter continued to be higher than in the quarters before the COVID-19 outbreak.

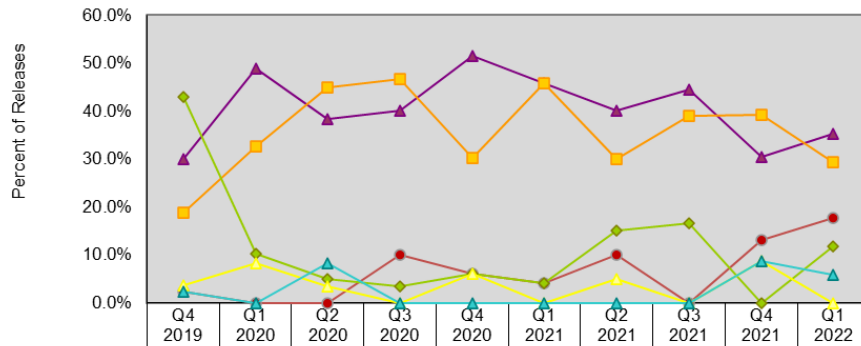
Figure 2.5. Male Quarterly Criminal Releases by Release Type



* See Appendix for definition of "Other" under "Releases".

Expiration of sentence to community (35.3%) and parole to community (29.4%) continued to split the share of the top two female release types in the first quarter, 2022, followed by expiration/parole to outside authority (17.6%) as the top three release types. Because of the smaller number female releases, female release types have moved up and down more radically than male release types. (Figure 2.6)

Figure 2.6. Female Quarterly Criminal Releases by Release Type



	Q4 2019	Q1 2020	Q2 2020	Q3 2020	Q4 2020	Q1 2021	Q2 2021	Q3 2021	Q4 2021	Q1 2022
Expiration of Sentence to Community	30.1%	49.0%	38.3%	40.0%	51.5%	45.8%	40.0%	44.4%	30.4%	35.3%
Parole to Comm./Rel. from Parole Detainer	18.8%	32.7%	45.0%	46.7%	30.3%	45.8%	30.0%	38.9%	39.1%	29.4%
Expiration/Parole to Outside Authority	2.3%	0.0%	0.0%	10.0%	6.1%	4.2%	10.0%	0.0%	13.0%	17.6%
Transfers	42.9%	10.2%	5.0%	3.3%	6.1%	4.2%	15.0%	16.7%	0.0%	11.8%
Expiration/Parole to Warrant	3.8%	8.2%	3.3%	0.0%	6.1%	0.0%	5.0%	0.0%	8.7%	0.0%
Other*	2.3%	0.0%	8.3%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	8.7%	5.9%

* See Appendix for definition of "Other" under "Releases".

New Court Commitments by Court Jurisdiction

Criminally sentenced new court commitments from Massachusetts court jurisdictions are in the process of recovering from the pandemic. New court commitments grew very closely to the pre-pandemic level in the first quarter of 2022 after the sharp decline in the second quarter of 2020, the first full quarter impacted by COVID-19. It reached 326 in the first quarter. Essex County (74) sent the most criminal new court commitments. Other counties that sent 20 or more new court commitments in the first quarter also include Suffolk (47), Hampden (37), Worcester (37), Bristol (32), Middlesex (28), and Norfolk (20) counties. (Figure 2.7)

Table 2.7. State* Criminally Sentenced New Court Commitments by Court Jurisdiction

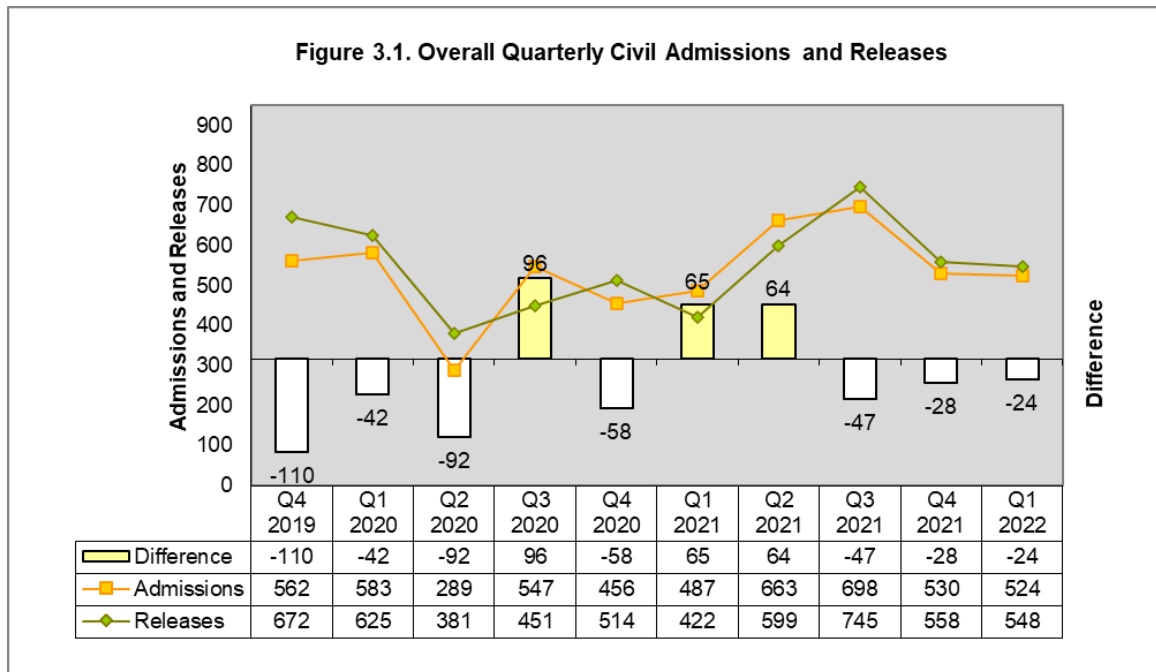
County	Q4 2019	Q1 2020	Q2 2020	Q3 2020	Q4 2020	Q1 2021	Q2 2021	Q3 2021	Q4 2021	Q1 2022
ESSEX	64	57	0	45	37	38	42	45	51	74
SUFFOLK	48	52	4	19	25	30	35	35	33	47
HAMPDEN	27	41	2	10	10	17	29	32	34	37
WORCESTER	34	43	1	11	19	19	24	24	17	37
BRISTOL	46	47	1	21	20	39	35	31	32	32
MIDDLESEX	42	38	4	17	24	18	17	21	37	28
NORFOLK	11	13	2	7	10	7	8	12	13	20
PLYMOUTH	40	27	4	24	15	14	19	15	11	14
BERKSHIRE	8	8	1	1	8	3	1	9	6	13
BARNSTABLE	15	10	1	5	5	5	6	13	11	10
FRANKLIN	3	5	1	0	1	3	2	4	6	7
HAMPSHIRE	2	4	0	1	1	3	3	1	4	7
Total	340	345	21	161	175	196	221	242	255	326

*Excludes county, federal, and out-of-state inmates.

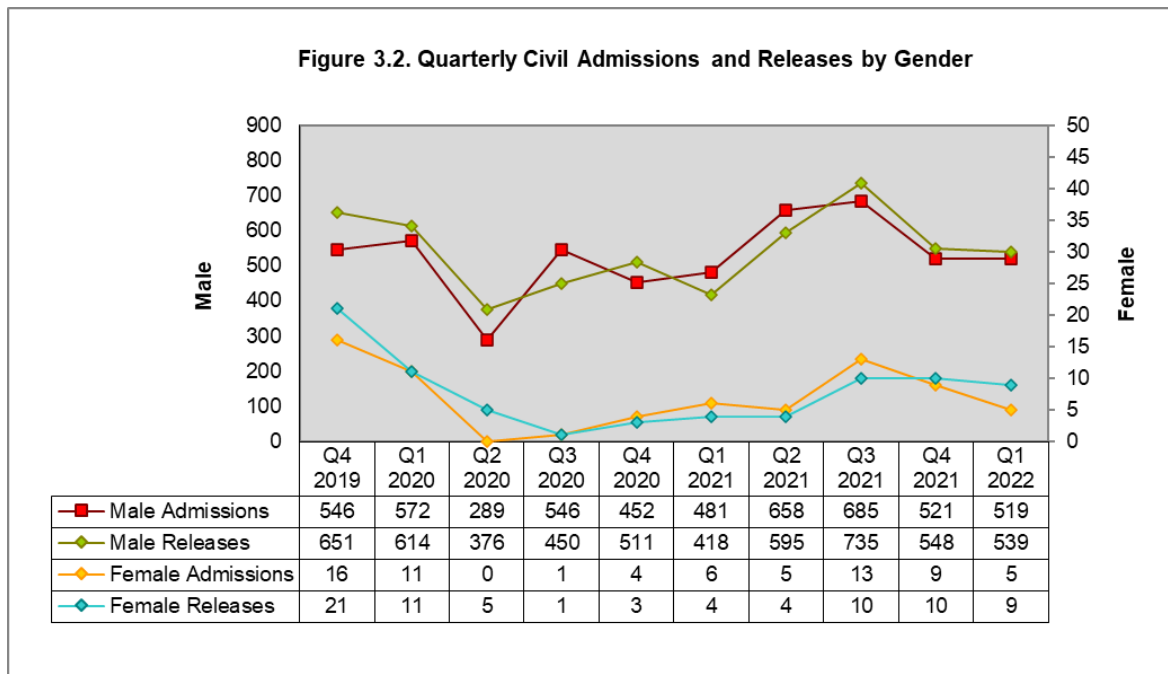
Nantucket and Dukes Counties had no new court commitments to the DOC in the last ten quarters.

CIVILLY COMMITTED ADMISSIONS AND RELEASES

In the first quarter of 2022, the MA DOC released 24 more civil commitments than admitted, which continued the admission to release deficit of the previous quarter. For the ten-quarter trend period, the MA DOC has released 176 more civil commitments than it has admitted. See Figure 3.1.

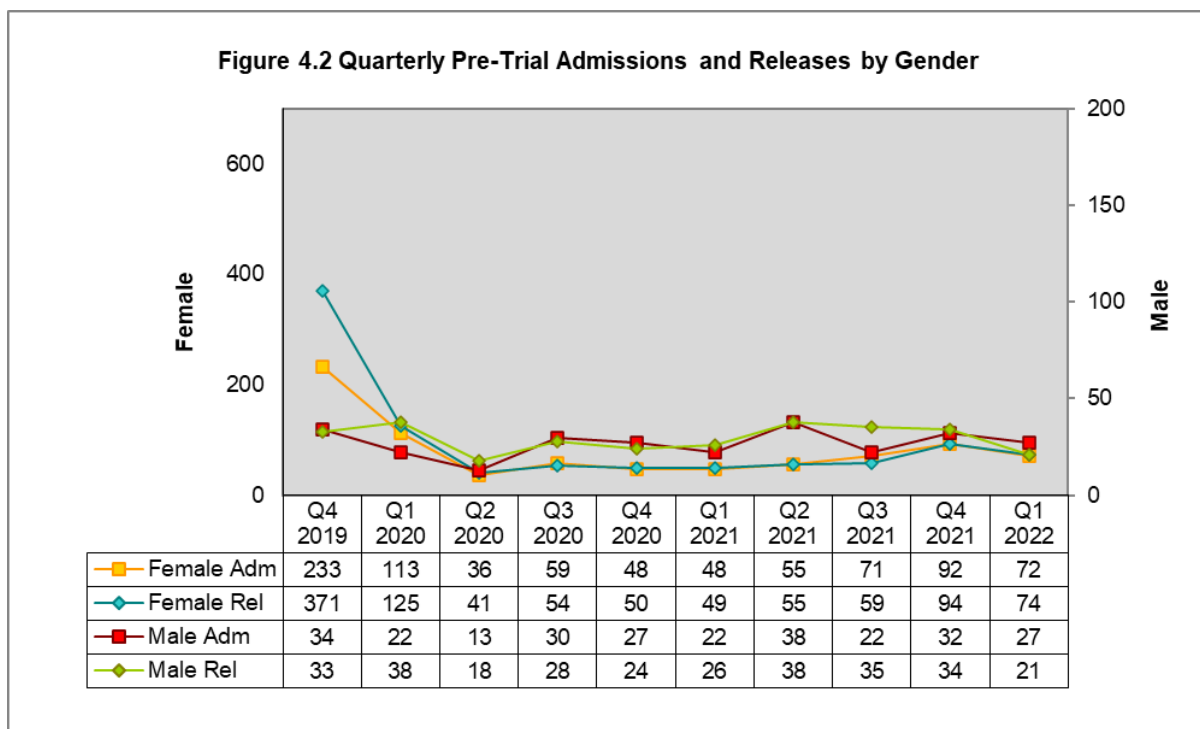
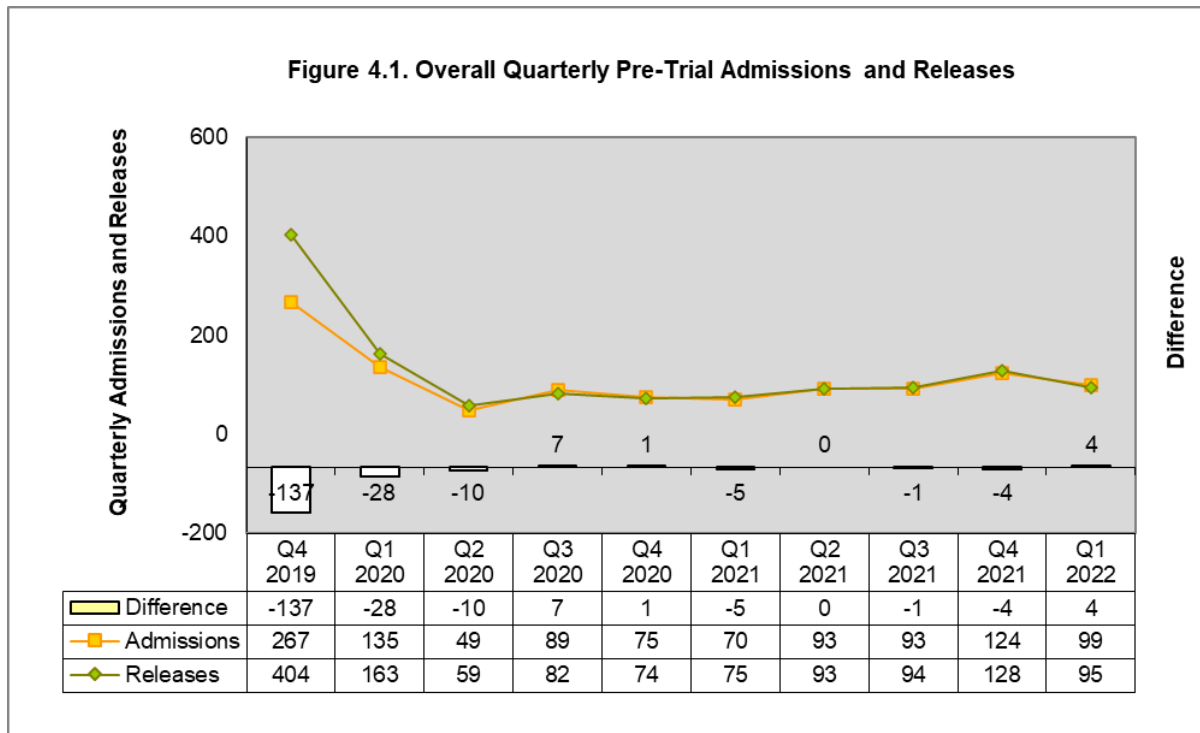


Male civil admissions and releases dropped moderately in the first quarter to 519 for admissions and 539 for releases. Female civil admissions fell as well from 9 of the previous quarter to 5 and releases fell from 10 to 9. See Figure 3.2.



PRE-TRIAL ADMISSIONS AND RELEASES

Pre-trial admissions went down to 99 in the first quarter of 2022 while releases declined to 95, resulting in 4 more admissions than releases for this quarter. Both male and female admissions and releases declined from the previous quarter. See figures 4.1 and 4.2.



Pre-Trial Admissions by Court Jurisdiction

In the first quarter of 2022, one-half of male pre-trial detainee admissions came from out-of-state (11) and federal (3). The remaining admissions came from seven counties of Massachusetts with Middlesex contributing 4 admissions, Essex, Plymouth and Norfolk counties adding 2 admissions each and Suffolk, Worcester, and Hampden counties chipping in 1 admission each. Female detainees came predominantly from Middlesex County (69) followed distantly by federal (2) and out-of-state (1) in the first quarter of 2022. Other counties, such as Essex, Norfolk and Plymouth, which used to send more female detainees before the pandemic dropped to zero in this quarter due to the fact that they stopped sending pre-trials to the MADOC starting in Q4, 2019. See Tables 4.3 and 4.4 below.

Table 4.3 Male Quarterly Pre-Trial Admissions by Jurisdiction

County	Q4 2019	Q1 2020	Q2 2020	Q3 2020	Q4 2020	Q1 2021	Q2 2021	Q3 2021	Q4 2021	Q1 2022
Out-of-state	7	12	7	10	6	9	14	3	7	11
Middlesex	4	3	0	3	0	1	5	1	4	4
Federal	10	6	2	2	12	0	3	3	5	3
Essex	1	1	1	1	2	4	1	0	2	2
Plymouth	3	2	0	2	1	0	6	11	4	2
Norfolk	2	0	0	1	1	1	2	0	0	2
Suffolk	3	4	0	7	3	1	4	1	2	1
Worcester	2	8	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	1
Hampden	0	0	1	1	0	3	2	0	2	1
Bristol	2	1	1	0	0	3	0	2	4	0
Franklin	0	0	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	0
Barnstable	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	2	0
Hampshire	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Total	34	38	13	30	27	22	38	22	32	27

*Dukes and Berkshire Counties and Mass Parole have not reported pre-trial males in any of the previous ten quarters.

Table 4.4 Female Quarterly Pre-Trial Admissions by Jurisdiction

County	Q4 2019	Q1 2020	Q2 2020	Q3 2020	Q4 2020	Q1 2021	Q2 2021	Q3 2021	Q4 2021	Q1 2022
Middlesex	149	122	34	57	43	48	52	68	91	69
Federal	5	2	0	0	2	0	1	2	1	2
Out-of-State	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	1
Worcester	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Essex	31	1	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	0
Norfolk	32	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Plymouth	15	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Suffolk	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Total	233	125	36	59	48	48	55	71	92	72

*Barnstable, Berkshire, Bristol, Dukes, Franklin and Hampden counties and Mass Parole have not reported pre-trial females in any of the previous ten quarters.

Appendix Notes and Definitions

Note: This report examines admission and release trends over the past ten quarters for the Massachusetts Department of Correction (MA DOC). Unless otherwise stated, all trends in this report refer to the MA DOC jurisdiction population.

Numbers in this report may vary slightly from numbers in other reports due to the continuous updating of data and information in the Inmate Management System.

Admissions	Inmates who are admitted to a facility of the Department of Correction (DOC), pursuant to a court order, as a transfer from another DOC facility, or pursuant to the execution of a parole violation warrant. Inmates may also be re-admitted after a court release, or pursuant to the execution of an escape warrant (categorized as “Other” admissions).
Civil Commitment or “Civil”	A male who has been committed by a court to Bridgewater State Hospital pursuant to G.L. c. 123, section 7 and 8, 15, 16 or 18; or to the Massachusetts Alcohol and Substance Abuse Center pursuant to G.L. c. 123, § 35; or to the Massachusetts Treatment Center pursuant to G.L. c. 123A; a female who, prior to April 24, 2016, was committed to MCI-Framingham pursuant to G.L. c. 123, § 35; or a female who has been committed to MCI-Framingham, a branch of the Massachusetts Treatment Center, pursuant to G.L. c. 123A.
Criminally Sentenced or “Sentenced”	Individuals who have been found guilty of a criminal offense by a judge or jury and have been committed to a period of incarceration, whether directly or after a violation of probation or parole.
Custody Population	An inmate that is incarcerated in Massachusetts DOC facility.
Expiration of Sentence (Release)	An inmate is discharged from his/her sentence at the expiration of his/her term, less any statutory or earned good time. Statutory good time was eliminated for all offenses committed after June 30, 1994, due to the enactment of the “Truth in Sentencing” law.
HOC	House of Correction, i.e. county jail or correctional facility.
Jurisdiction Population	An individual is considered to be under Massachusetts DOC jurisdiction when the Commonwealth has legal authority over the individual regardless of where the inmate is being held to include those incarcerated in Massachusetts DOC facilities as well as those housed in correctional facilities outside of the Massachusetts DOC (Massachusetts Houses of Correction, other state’s correctional facilities and the Federal Bureau of Prisons).
MA DOC	Massachusetts Department of Correction, i.e. state prison.
MASAC	MASAC is a facility whose institutional focus is to provide services to males civilly committed by the court under M.G.L.,

Chapter 123, Section 35 for detoxification and substance abuse treatment for up to 90 days.

New Court Commitment

Newly sentenced and committed inmates admitted to a committing institution as prescribed by law. Individuals committed by the courts to the Massachusetts Department of Correction (DOC) as a result of a criminal offense. All new court commitments and those individuals who began serving new sentences (e.g., From and After Sentences) during the year are included in this category even if there was no physical release from custody upon the completion of one sentence and the commencement of another sentence. If an individual is committed to the DOC more than once during the current trend period, each court commitment for that individual is counted separately.

Parole (Releases)

Inmates released on parole are under the supervision of parole while in the community and may be re-incarcerated for violating the terms of their supervision. Unless otherwise specified, parole to other authority may include: "Parole to Out of State Sentence", "Parole to Federal Authority", "Parole to Immigration", "Parole to From & After HOC Sentence", "Parole to Warrant", "Parole to From & After DOC Sentence", or "Parole to Civil Commitment".

Pre-Trial Detainee

An individual who is detained prior to trial, but not yet convicted of a crime to include male and female county detainees, male county detainees transferred to state facilities under Massachusetts General Law Chapter 276, section 52A, federal and out of state detainees (both male and female).

Probation Violation

An inmate who has been returned to resume serving a previously imposed sentence (return on a split sentence) following a revocation of his/her terms of probation. Split sentences to the state prison were eliminated for offenses committed after June 30, 1994, pursuant to the "Truth-in-Sentencing" Act of 1994.

Releases

A release occurs when an inmate is released from the jurisdiction of the Massachusetts DOC by way of expiration of sentence, parole, a non-DOC release to other jurisdiction, a court release or other legal release from the custody of MA DOC. "Other" releases include: "habeas to court – received forthwith sentence", "escape", "death", "court release – sentence revoked", and "release to from and after at DOC."

Release to Community

The release of an inmate from the custody of the Massachusetts DOC by way of parole or discharge to the community. Conditions warranting a release to community generally include parole, expiration of sentence, expiration of fine, and court release.