

Massachusetts Department of Correction Quarterly Report on Admissions and Releases

Calendar Year 2023
Quarter 1



Executive Office of Public Safety and Security
September 2023

Maura T. Healey, Governor
Terrence M. Reidy, Secretary of Public Safety and Security



Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

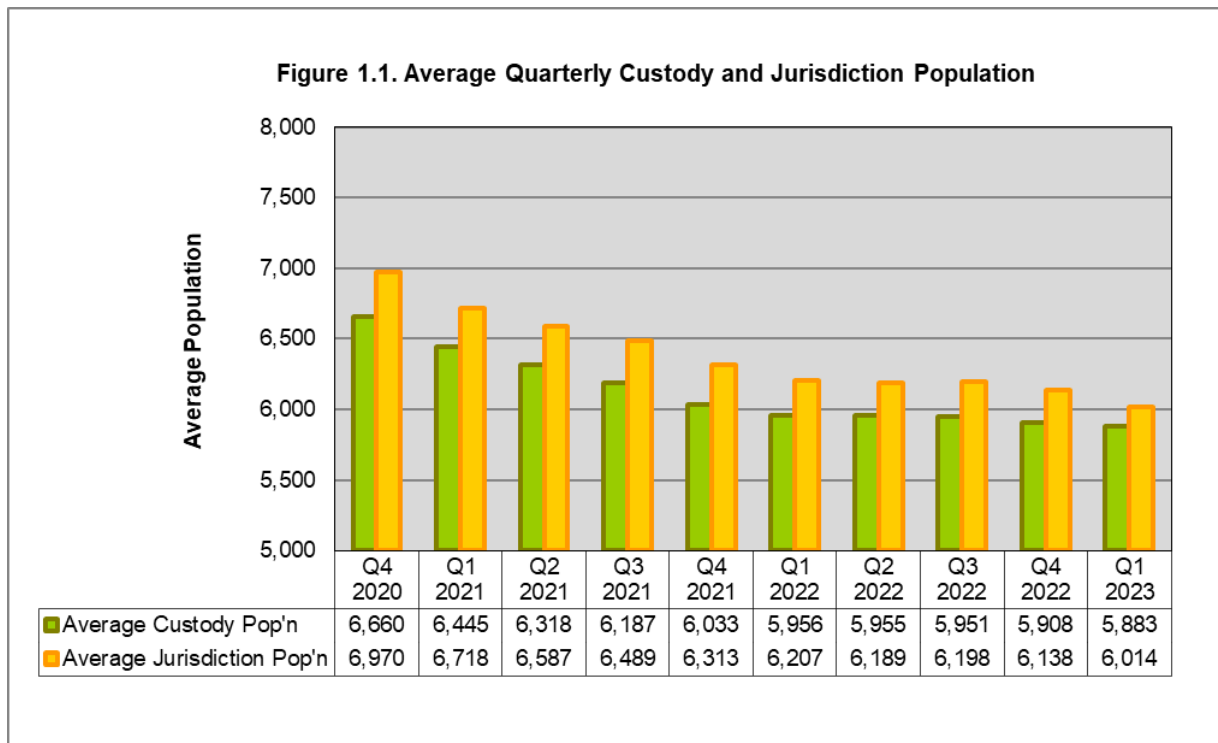
- Between the fourth quarter of 2022 and the first quarter of 2023, the MA DOC custody population saw a decrease of 25 individuals. During the ten-quarter trend period starting in Q4 2020, the average custody population has decreased 11.7%. The jurisdiction population decreased 2.0% or 124 individuals from the previous quarter and dropped 13.7% since the fourth quarter of 2020.
- The criminally sentenced population increased less than 0.1% from the last quarter, the first increase since the first quarter of 2012, and dropped 13.1% since the beginning of the trend period. The civil commitment population decreased 22.5% from the previous quarter and fluctuated around a flat line of 544 individuals during the ten-quarter trend period. The MA DOC pre-trial population decreased from the previous quarter and averaged 46 detainees.
- Overall quarterly admissions to the DOC decreased to 885 from the previous quarter, a decline of 5.4%. Releases went down 11.6% to 918. This resulted in an admission-to-release deficit of 33 individuals in the first quarter, 2023.
- Criminal admissions increased 31.9% from the previous quarter and surpassed releases by a 455 to 398 margin in the first quarter of 2023, adding 57 people to the DOC population. Overall, the DOC released 976 more criminally sentenced individuals than admitted during the ten-quarter trend period.
- New court commitments remained to be the leading admission type for male admissions (84.4%), followed by parole violators (13.2%) and transfers (1.9%) in the first quarter of 2023.
- Of the 31 female criminal admissions in the first quarter, 83.9% of them were new court commitments, 12.9% were parole violators and 3.2% were transfers. They were very close to the top three admission types of male admissions for the same quarter.
- Parole to community (50.4%) continued to top the list of male criminal release types, followed by expiration of sentence to community (29.1%) and expiration/parole to outside authority (12.0%) as the top three release types in the first quarter, 2023. They stayed as the top three release types consistently in the ten-quarter trend period.
- Expiration of sentence to community (52.2%) was the leading female release type in the first quarter of 2023, followed by parole to community (39.1%).
- Male civil admissions decreased in the first quarter to 314 from 472 of the previous quarter, the lowest in the ten-quarter trend period. Releases went down to 395 from 530, also the lowest in the ten-quarter trend period. Female civil admissions and releases stayed unchanged from the previous quarter at 16 and 17 respectively.
- In the first quarter of 2023, there were 100 Pre-trial admissions and 108 releases, resulting in an admissions-to-release deficit of 8 detainees for the quarter. More releases of female detainees (92) than admissions (83) contributed the deficit for the 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 5,883 individuals in the first quarter of 2023. This population decreased by 25 individuals or about 0.4% from the previous quarter. From the fourth quarter of 2020 through the first quarter of 2023, there was a decrease of 777 individuals, or 11.7%, from the custody population.

The **jurisdiction** population averaged 6,014 individuals in the first quarter of 2023, decreasing 2.0% or 124 individuals from the previous quarter. Over the ten-quarter trend period, the **jurisdiction** population is down 956 individuals or 13.7%. See Figure 1.1 below.*



The criminally sentenced population went up less than 0.1% or 4 individuals from the last quarter to 5,547, the first increase since the first quarter of 2012. For the ten-quarter trend period starting in the fourth quarter of 2020, it dropped 13.1%. The civil commitment population decreased 22.5% from the previous quarter and fluctuated around a flat line of 544 individuals during the ten-quarter trend period. The MA DOC pre-trial population decreased this quarter from the previous quarter and averaged 46 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.

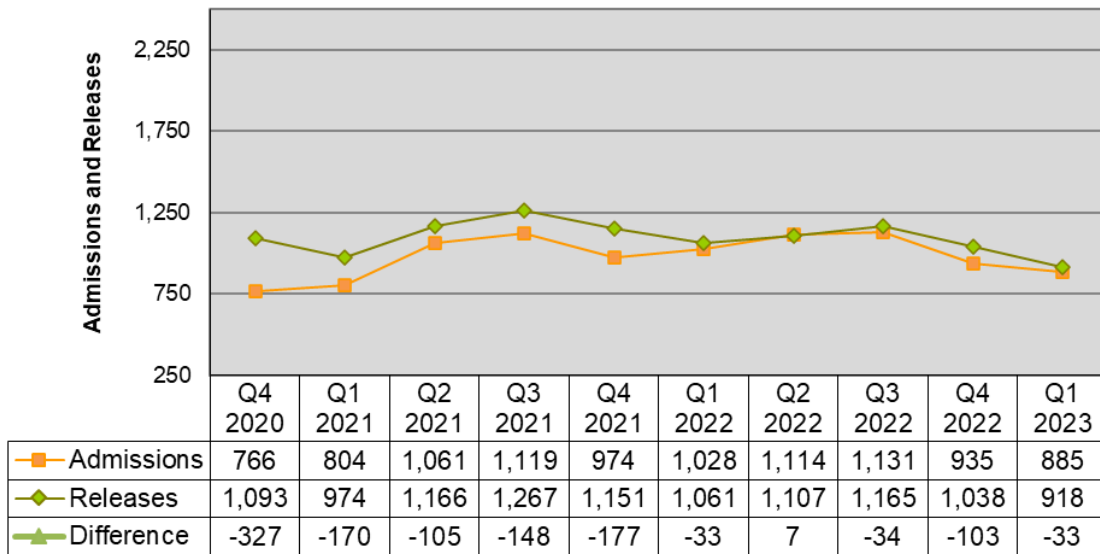
Figure 1.2. Average Quarterly Jurisdiction Population by Commitment Type



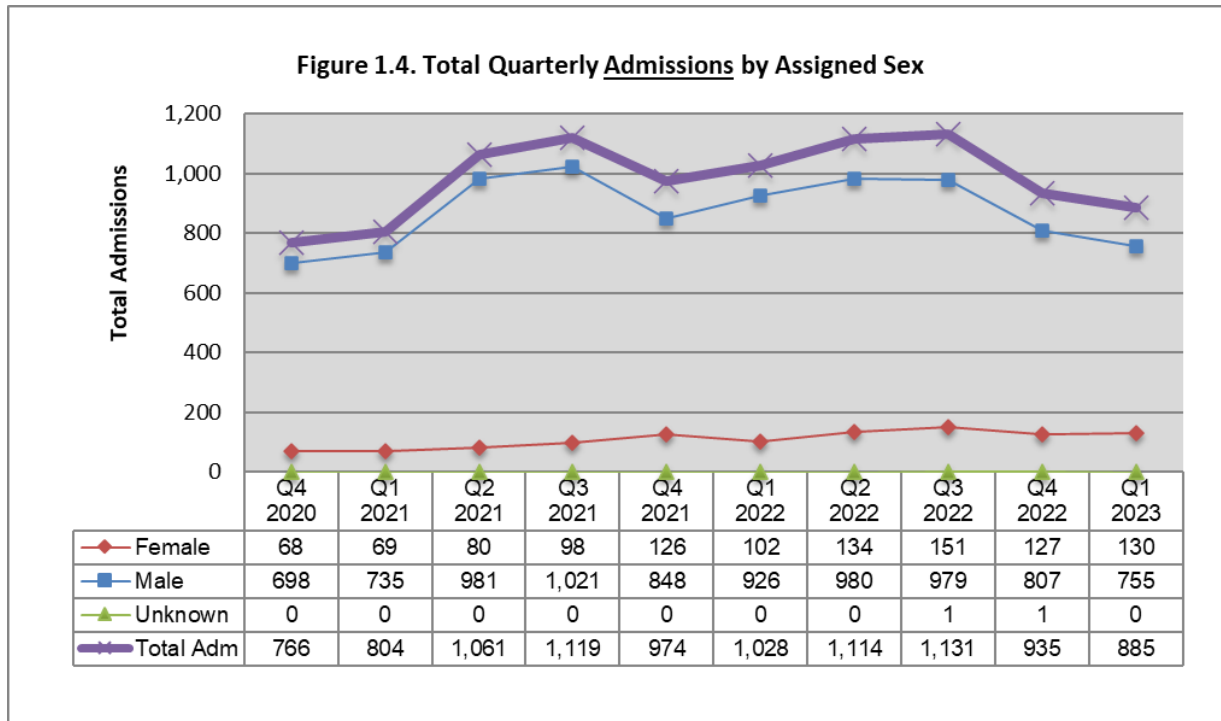
OVERALL ADMISSIONS AND RELEASES

Overall quarterly admissions to the DOC decreased to 885 from the previous quarter, a decline of 5.4%. Releases decreased 11.6% to 918. This resulted in an admission-to-release deficit of 33 individuals in the first quarter, 2023, the ninth quarterly admission-to-release deficit in the ten-quarter trend period. See Figure 1.3 below.

Figure 1.3. Overall Quarterly Admissions and Releases



Male admissions in the first quarter decreased from 807 to 755, a drop of 52 admissions from the previous quarter. Female admissions went up from 127 to 130, an increase of 3 individuals. Consequently, the total quarterly admissions dropped from 935 to 885. See Figure 1.4 below.



Male releases in the first quarter declined from 915 to 786. Female releases, on the other hand, went up from 122 to 132. The total releases declined from 1,038 to 918 in the first quarter, 2023. See Figure 1.5 below.

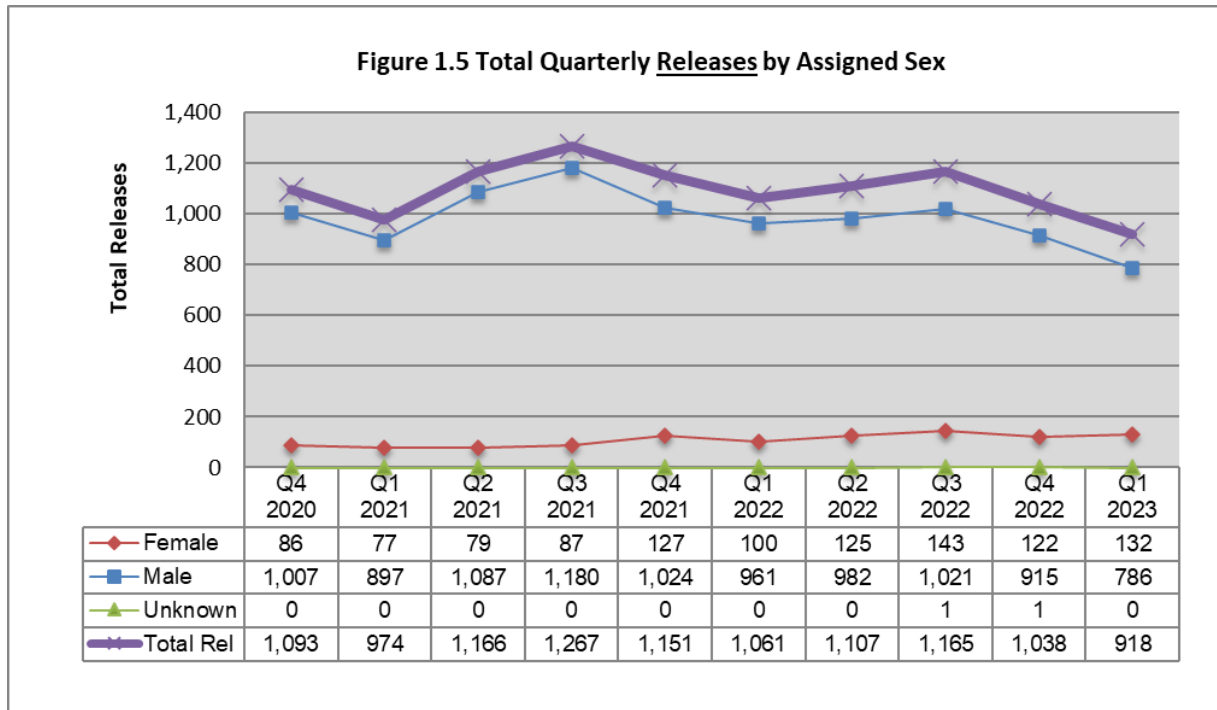


Figure 1.6 shows that male admissions went down from the previous quarter. Male releases dropped as well, down more substantially than admissions. It resulted in a much smaller admission-to-release deficit of 31 individuals in the first quarter of 2023 compared to 108 in the previous quarter.

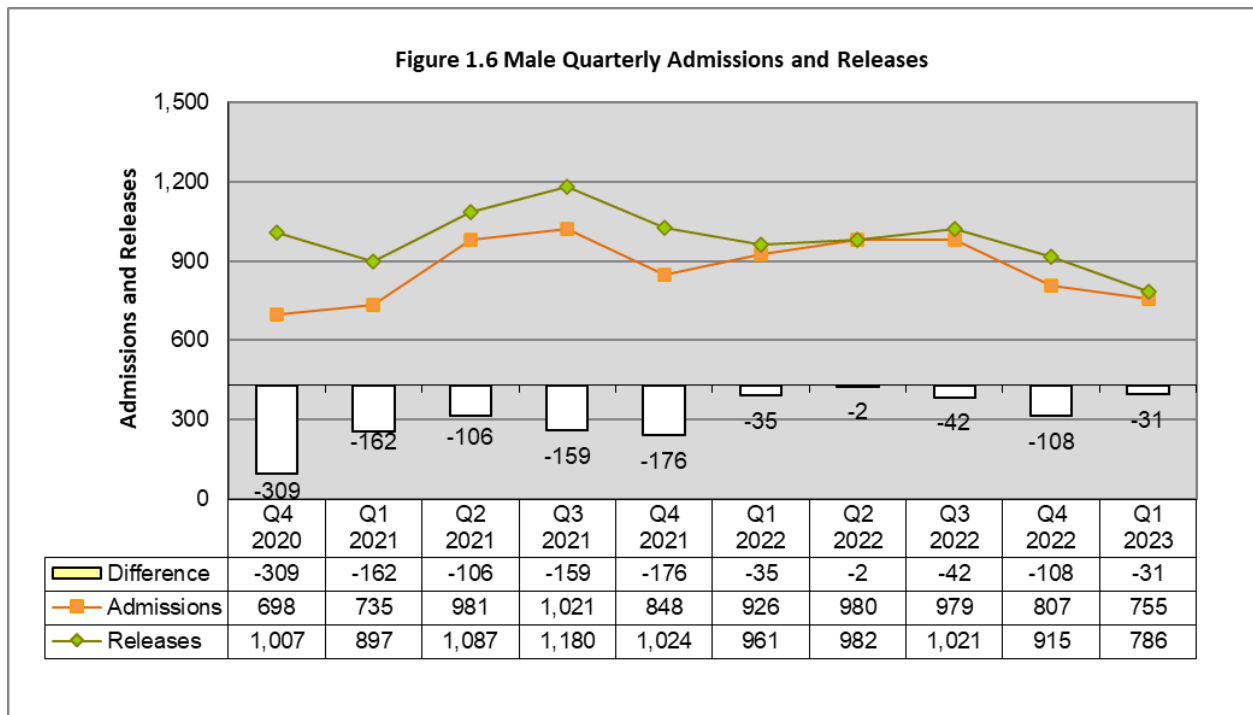
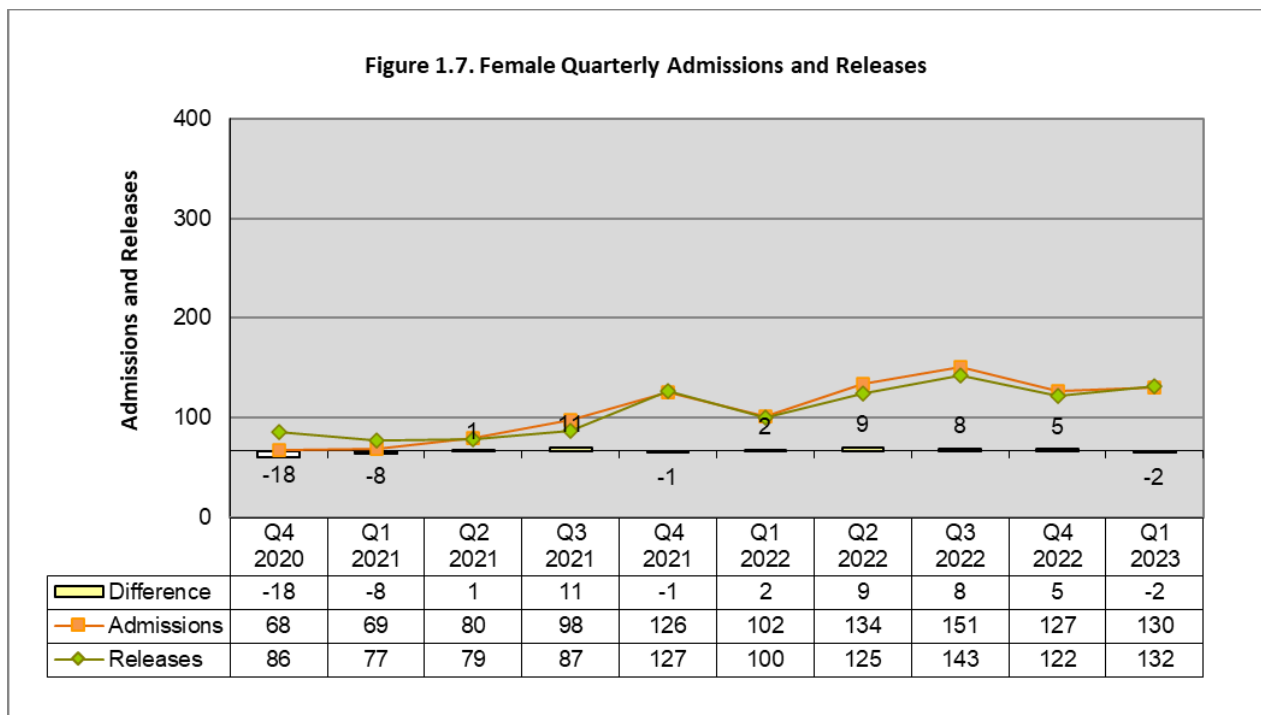
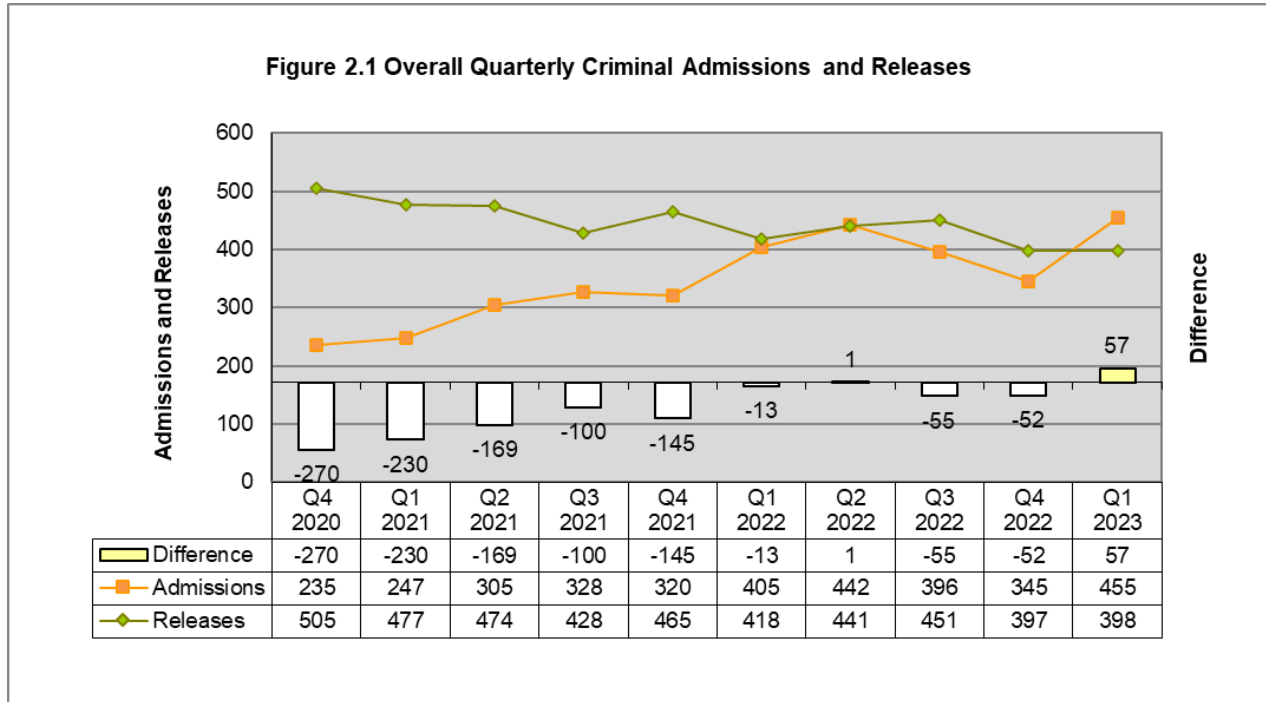


Figure 1.7 shows both female admissions and releases increased and resulted in an admission-to-release deficit of 2 individuals in the first quarter. It reversed the admission-to-release surplus of the past four quarters.



CRIMINALLY SENTENCED ADMISSIONS AND RELEASES

Criminal admissions in the first quarter increased 31.9% from the previous quarter and releases stayed nearly flat. Releases trailed admissions for the first time in the ten-quarter trend period, adding 57 individuals to the DOC population. Overall, the DOC released 976 more incarcerated individuals than admitted during the ten-quarter trend period. (Figure 2.1)



In the first quarter of 2023, male criminal admissions went up from the previous quarter and releases increased marginally as well. The MA DOC admitted 49 more male individuals than released for the quarter. For the ten-quarter trend period, the MA DOC released 972 more men than admitted. Female criminal admissions increased while releases went down from the previous quarter, ending with an admission-to-release surplus of 8 more individuals for the first quarter, and 4 fewer individuals for the ten-quarter trend period. (Figure 2.2, next page)

Figure 2.2. Criminally Sentenced Admissions and Releases by Assigned Sex

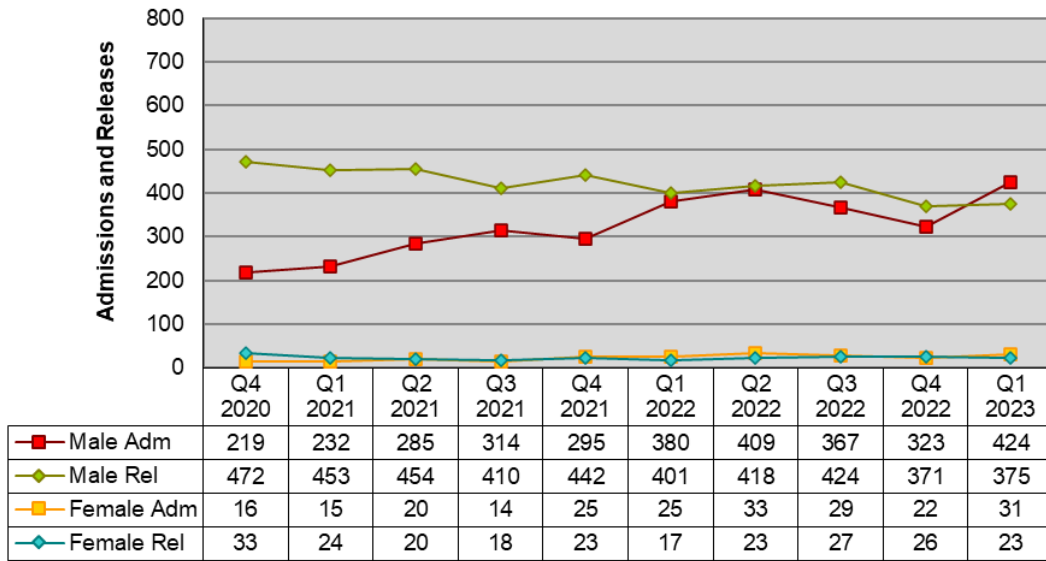
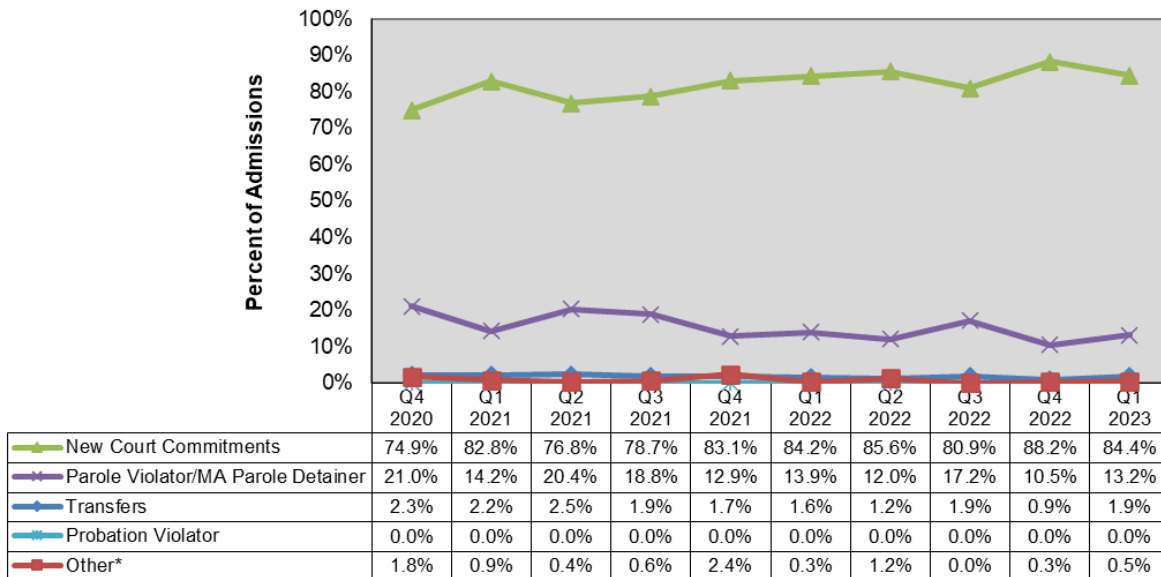


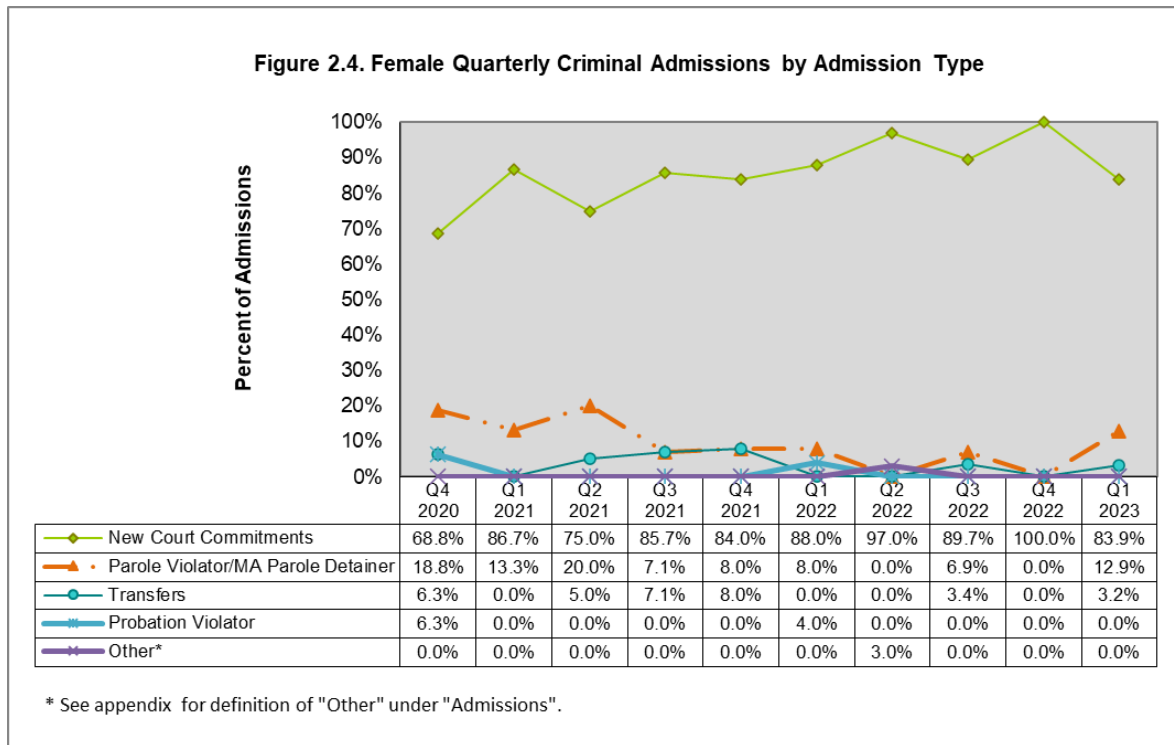
Figure 2.3 below shows that new court commitments continued to be the leading male criminal admission type (84.4%) followed by parole violators (13.2%) and transfers (1.9%) as the distant second and third male criminal admission types in first quarter of 2023.

Figure 2.3. Male Quarterly Criminal Admissions by Admission Type



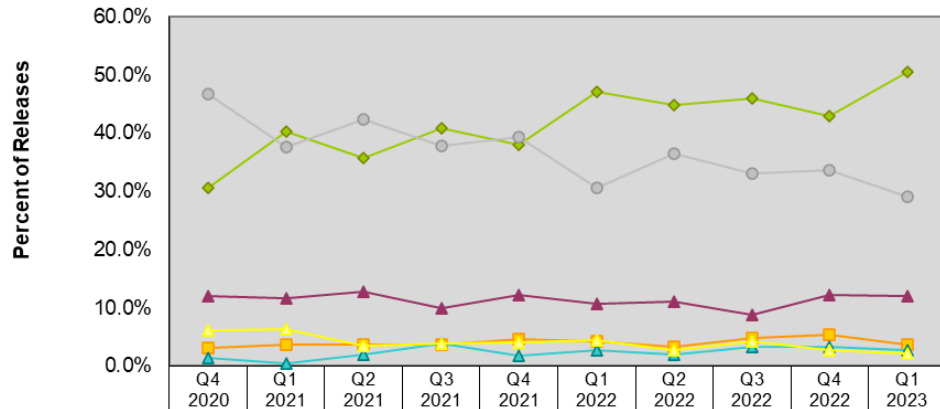
* See appendix for definition of "Other" under "Admissions".

Of the 31 female criminal admissions in the first quarter, 83.9% of them were new court commitments, 12.9% were parole violators and 3.2% were transfers. Despite the substantial difference in the number of male and female admissions, the top three admission types were quite like each other in the first quarter of 2023. (Figure 2.4)



Figures 2.5 on the next page describes how male criminally sentenced individuals were released in Q1, 2023 and the nine quarters prior. In the first quarter of 2023, parole to community (50.4%) continued to top the list of the release types, followed by expiration of sentence to community (29.1%) and expiration/parole to outside authority (12.0%) as the top three release types. They stayed as the top three release types consistently in the ten-quarter trend period.

Figure 2.5. Male Quarterly Criminal Releases by Release Type

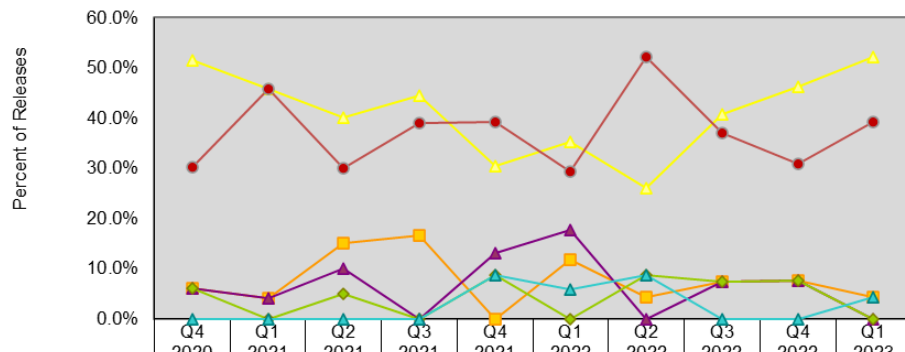


	Q4 2020	Q1 2021	Q2 2021	Q3 2021	Q4 2021	Q1 2022	Q2 2022	Q3 2022	Q4 2022	Q1 2023
◆ Parole to Comm./Rel. from Parole Detainer	30.5%	40.2%	35.7%	40.7%	38.0%	47.1%	44.7%	46.0%	42.9%	50.4%
● Expiration of Sentence to Community	46.6%	37.5%	42.3%	37.8%	39.4%	30.7%	36.4%	33.0%	33.7%	29.1%
▲ Expiration/Parole to Outside Authority	12.1%	11.7%	12.8%	10.0%	12.2%	10.7%	11.0%	8.7%	12.1%	12.0%
■ Expiration/Parole to Warrant	3.2%	3.8%	3.7%	3.7%	4.5%	4.2%	3.3%	4.7%	5.4%	3.7%
▲ Transfers	1.5%	0.4%	2.0%	3.9%	1.8%	2.7%	1.9%	3.3%	3.2%	2.7%
▲ Other*	6.1%	6.4%	3.5%	3.9%	4.1%	4.5%	2.6%	4.2%	2.7%	2.1%

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

Expiration of sentence to community (52.2%) took the lead as the top female criminal release type, followed by parole to community (39.1%) as the second release type in the first quarter, 2023. Combined, Transfers and 'Other' releases made up 9% of the release types. Because of the small number of 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 2020	Q1 2021	Q2 2021	Q3 2021	Q4 2021	Q1 2022	Q2 2022	Q3 2022	Q4 2022	Q1 2023
▲ Expiration of Sentence to Community	51.5%	45.8%	40.0%	44.4%	30.4%	35.3%	26.1%	40.7%	46.2%	52.2%
● Parole to Comm./Rel. from Parole Detainer	30.3%	45.8%	30.0%	38.9%	39.1%	29.4%	52.2%	37.0%	30.8%	39.1%
■ Transfers	6.1%	4.2%	15.0%	16.7%	0.0%	11.8%	4.3%	7.4%	7.7%	4.3%
▲ Expiration/Parole to Outside Authority	6.1%	4.2%	10.0%	0.0%	13.0%	17.6%	0.0%	7.4%	7.7%	0.0%
◆ Expiration/Parole to Warrant	6.1%	0.0%	5.0%	0.0%	8.7%	0.0%	8.7%	7.4%	7.7%	0.0%
▲ Other*	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	8.7%	5.9%	8.7%	0.0%	0.0%	4.3%

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

New Court Commitments by Court Jurisdiction

New court commitments increased in the first quarter of 2023 to 367 from the previous 293, the highest in the ten-quarter trend period and since the outbreak of COVID-19 in early 2020. Hampden county (64) sent the most criminal new court commitments. Other counties that sent 20 or more new court commitments also include Suffolk (63), Bristol (60), Essex (59), Middlesex (30), Worcester (30), and Norfolk (22) counties. Together, they accounted for 89.4% of the total. (Figure 2.7)

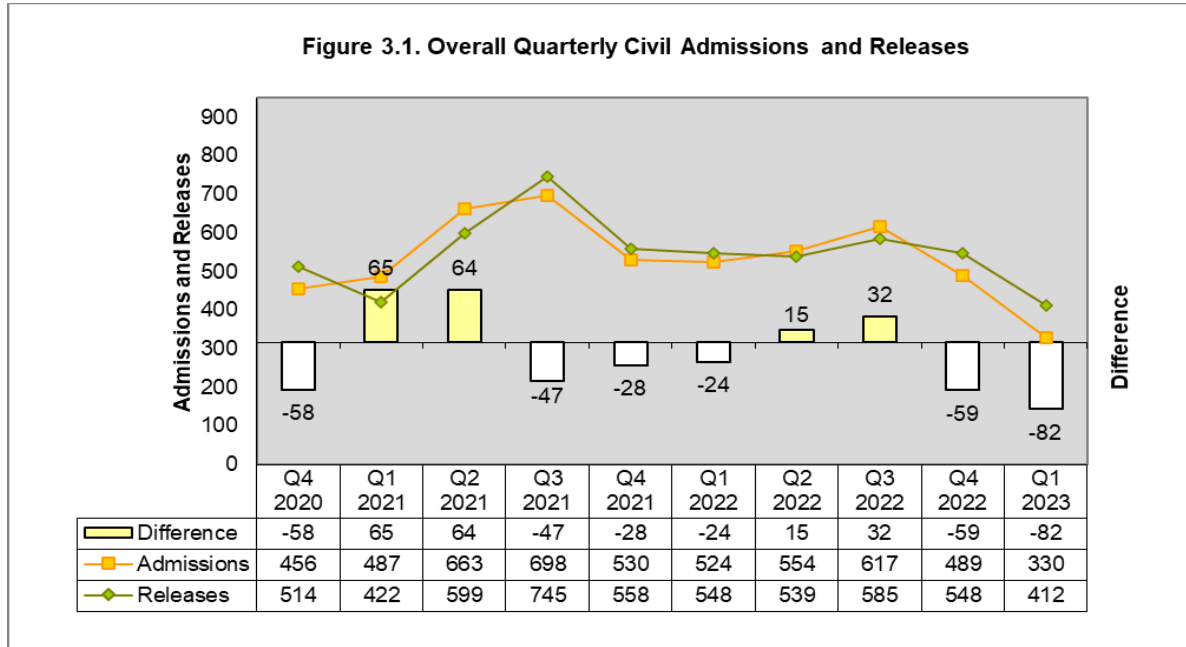
Table 2.7. State* Criminally Sentenced New Court Commitments by Court Jurisdiction

County	Q4 2020	Q1 2021	Q2 2021	Q3 2021	Q4 2021	Q1 2022	Q2 2022	Q3 2022	Q4 2022	Q1 2023
Hampden	10	17	29	32	34	37	36	40	28	64
Suffolk	25	30	35	35	33	47	59	74	41	63
Bristol	20	39	35	31	32	32	35	34	26	60
Essex	37	38	42	45	51	74	82	47	66	59
Middlesex	24	18	17	21	37	28	54	39	40	30
Worcester	19	19	24	24	17	37	31	22	26	30
Norfolk	10	7	8	12	13	20	16	11	10	22
Plymouth	15	14	19	15	11	14	20	18	17	16
Berkshire	8	3	1	9	6	13	5	3	11	8
Barnstable	5	5	6	13	11	10	14	7	13	7
Hampshire	1	3	3	1	4	7	5	6	5	5
Franklin	1	3	2	4	6	7	3	4	10	2
Dukes	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Nantucket	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0
Total	175	196	221	242	255	326	361	307	293	367

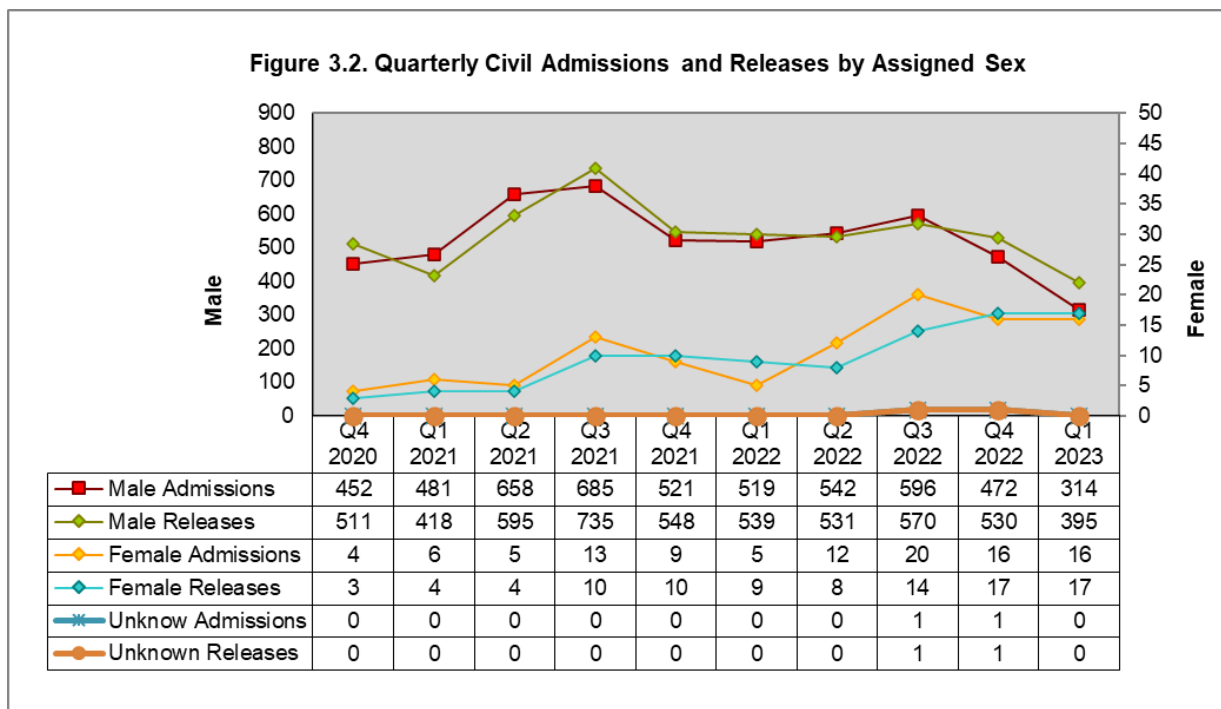
*Excludes county, federal, and out-of-state individuals.

CIVILLY COMMITTED ADMISSIONS AND RELEASES

In the first quarter of 2023, the MA DOC released 82 more civil commitments than admitted, more than the admission-to-release deficit of the previous quarter. For the ten-quarter trend period, the MA DOC has released 122 more civil commitments than it has admitted. See Figure 3.1.

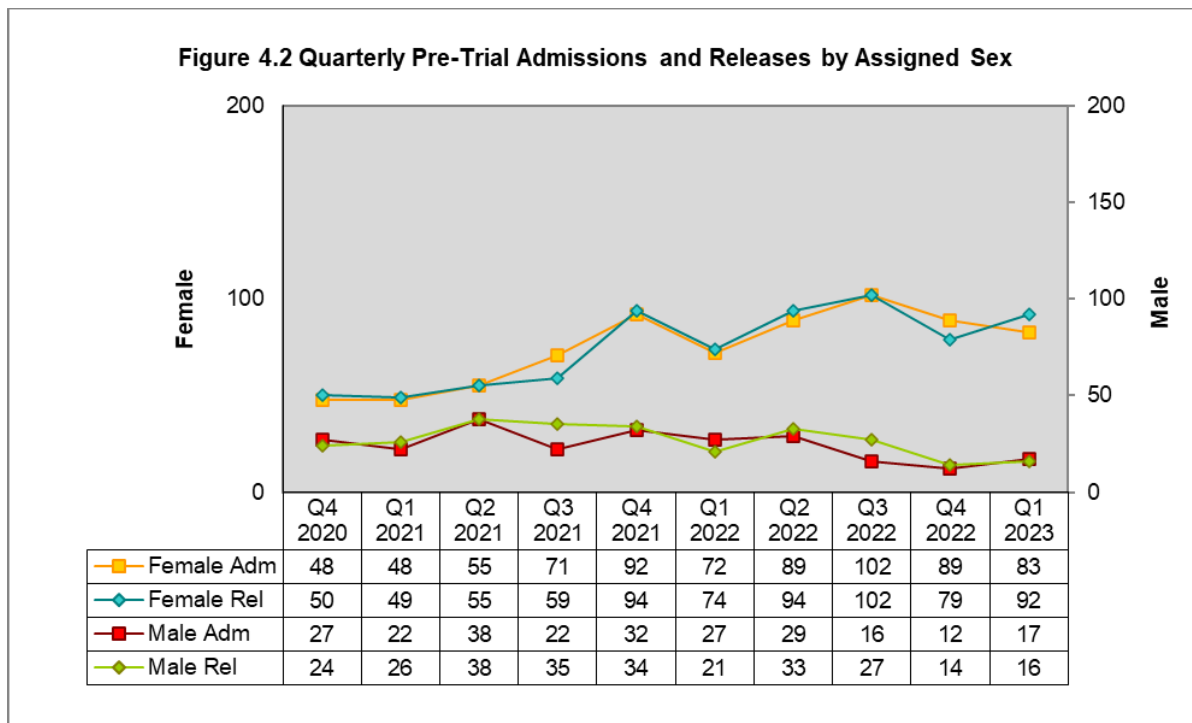
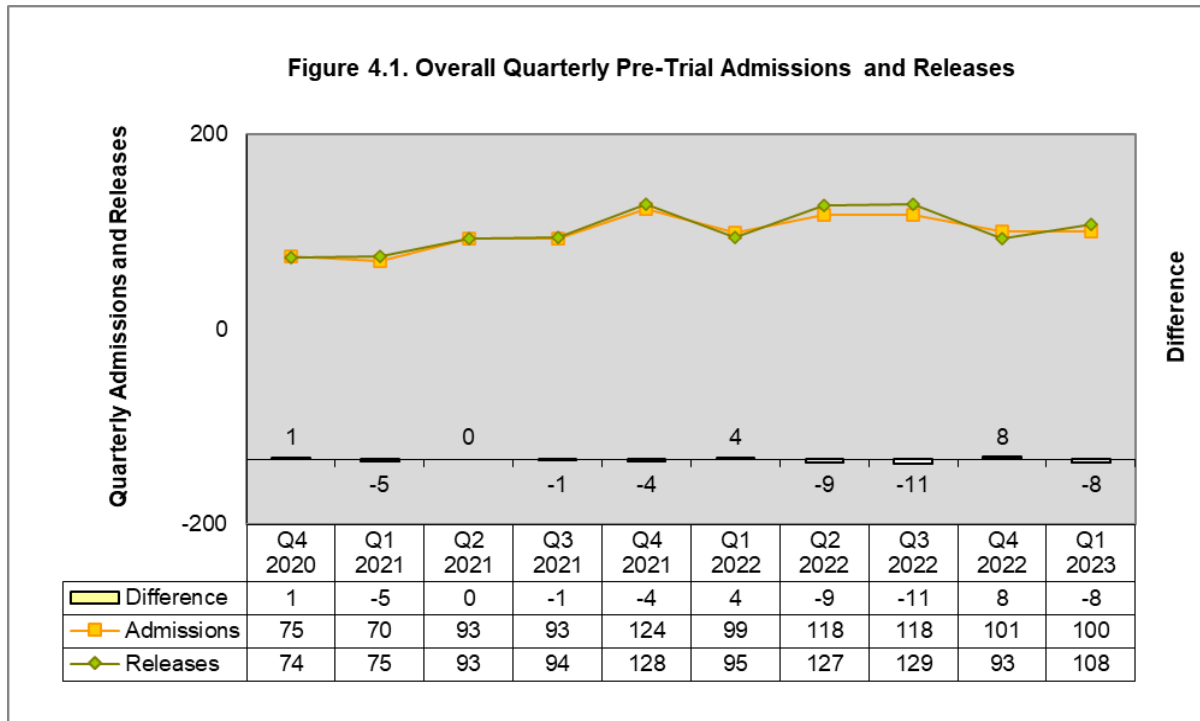


Male civil admissions decreased in the first quarter to 314 from 472 of the previous quarter, the lowest in the ten-quarter trend period. Releases reduced to 395 from 530, also the lowest in the ten-quarter trend period. Female civil admissions and releases stayed unchanged from the previous quarter at 16 for admissions and 17 for releases. See Figure 3.2.



PRE-TRIAL ADMISSIONS AND RELEASES

In the first quarter of 2023, there were 100 Pre-trial admissions and 108 releases, resulting in 8 more releases than admissions for the quarter. Female admissions went down to 83 while releases went up to 92 from the previous 89 and 79 respectively. Both male admissions and releases went up in this quarter to 17 and 16 from the previous 12 and 14. See figures 4.1 and 4.2.



Pre-Trial Admissions by Court Jurisdiction

In the first quarter of 2023, about two out of every five male pre-trial detainee admissions came from out-of-state (4), mass parole (2) and federal (1). The remaining admissions came from Norfolk (4), Middlesex (2), Essex (2), Bristol (1) and Hampden (1) counties. Female detainees came predominantly from Middlesex County (81). Other counties, such as Essex and Plymouth, which used to send more female detainees before the pandemic dropped to 1 case in this quarter because 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 2020	Q1 2021	Q2 2021	Q3 2021	Q4 2021	Q1 2022	Q2 2022	Q3 2022	Q4 2022	Q1 2023
Out-of-state	6	9	14	3	7	11	10	5	2	4
Norfolk	1	1	2	0	0	2	2	2	1	4
Middlesex	0	1	5	1	4	4	2	2	1	2
Essex	2	4	1	0	2	2	1	0	3	2
Mass Parole	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Federal	12	0	3	3	5	3	0	0	0	1
Bristol	0	3	0	2	4	0	2	2	2	1
Hampden	0	3	2	0	2	1	1	0	0	1
Suffolk	3	1	4	1	2	1	6	1	1	0
Plymouth	1	0	6	11	4	2	3	3	0	0
Worcester	0	0	1	1	0	1	2	1	2	0
Franklin	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Barnstable	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0
Hampshire	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	27	22	38	22	32	27	29	16	12	17

*Dukes and Berkshire Counties 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 2020	Q1 2021	Q2 2021	Q3 2021	Q4 2021	Q1 2022	Q2 2022	Q3 2022	Q4 2022	Q1 2023
Middlesex	43	48	52	68	91	69	88	101	89	81
Essex	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Out-of-State	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Federal	2	0	1	2	1	2	1	0	0	0
Bristol	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Suffolk	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Worcester	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	48	48	55	71	92	72	89	102	89	83

*Barnstable, Berkshire, Dukes, Franklin, Hampden, Norfolk and Plymouth 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 Individual Management System.

Admissions	Individuals 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. individuals 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 Individual that is incarcerated in Massachusetts DOC facility.
Expiration of Sentence (Release)	An Individual 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 Individual 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.
New Court Commitment	Newly sentenced and committed individuals 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)

Individuals 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 individual 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 individual 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 individual 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.