

Massachusetts Department of Correction Quarterly Report on Admissions and Releases

Calendar Year 2024
Quarter 1



Executive Office of Public Safety and Security
May 2024

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



Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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Table of Contents

Table of Contents	ii
Executive Summary	1
Section 1. Current Population and Overall Trends		
1.1	Average Quarterly Custody and Jurisdiction Population.....	2
1.2	Average Quarterly Jurisdiction Population by Commitment Type.....	3
1.3	Overall Quarterly Admissions and Releases.....	3
1.4	Total Quarterly Admissions by Assigned Sex.....	4
1.5	Total Quarterly Releases by Assigned Sex.....	4
1.6	Male Quarterly Admissions and Releases.....	5
1.7	Female Quarterly Admissions and Releases.....	5
Section 2. Criminally Sentenced Admissions and Releases		
2.1	Overall Quarterly Criminal Admissions and Releases.....	6
2.2	Criminally Sentenced Admissions and Releases by Assigned Sex.....	7
2.3	Male Quarterly Criminal Admissions by Admission Type.....	7
2.4	Female Quarterly Criminal Admissions by Admission Type.....	8
2.5	Male Quarterly Criminal Releases by Release Type.....	9
2.6	Female Quarterly Criminal Releases by Release Type.....	9
2.7	State Criminally Sentenced New Court Commitments by Jurisdiction.....	10
Section 3. Civilly Committed Admissions and Releases		
3.1	Overall Quarterly Civil Admissions and Releases.....	11
3.2	Quarterly Civil Admissions and Releases by Assigned Sex.....	11
Section 4. Pre-Trial Admissions and Releases		
4.1	Overall Quarterly Pre-Trial Admissions and Releases.....	12
4.2	Quarterly Pre-Trial Admissions and Releases by Assigned Sex.....	12
4.3	Male Quarterly Pre-Trial Admissions by Jurisdiction.....	13
4.4	Female Quarterly Pre-Trial Admissions by Jurisdiction.....	13
Appendix	14

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

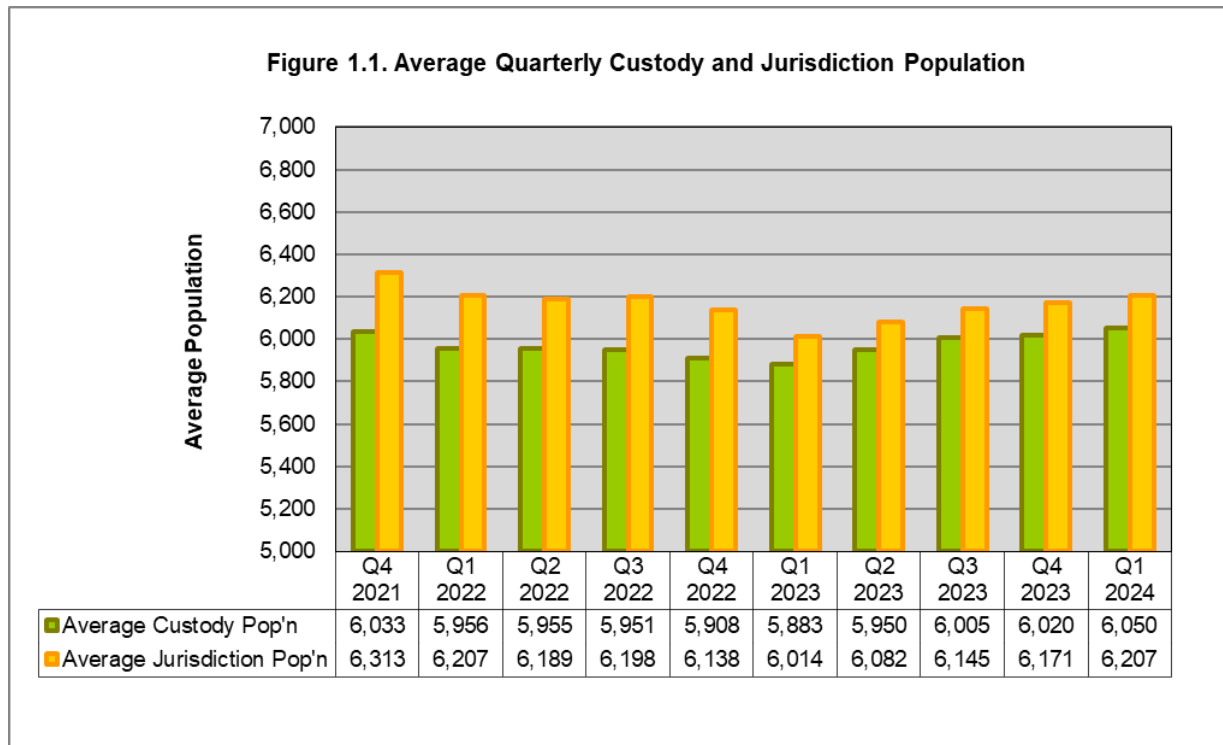
- Between the fourth quarter of 2023 and the first quarter of 2024, the MA DOC custody population saw an increase of 30 individuals. This is the fourth increase in a row since the second quarter of 2017. During the ten-quarter trend period starting in Q4 2021, the average custody population has increased about 0.3%. The jurisdiction population increased about 0.6% or 36 individuals from the previous quarter, the fifth increase in the trend period, and dropped 1.7% since the fourth quarter of 2021.
- The criminally sentenced population increased 0.9% from the last quarter, the fifth successive increase since the first quarter of 2012, and 1.0% since the beginning of the trend period. The civil commitment population remained flat from the previous quarter and showed a moderately declining trend during the ten-quarter trend period. The MA DOC pre-trial population decreased from the previous quarter to 38 detainees and averaged 51 detainees for the ten-quarter trend period.
- Overall quarterly admissions to the DOC increased to 980 from the previous quarter, a rise of 5.8%. Releases went down 7.8% to 865. This resulted in an admission-to-release surplus of 115 individuals in the first quarter, 2024.
- Criminal admissions increased 19.0% from the previous quarter and surpassed releases by a 463 to 352 margin in the first quarter of 2024, adding 111 individuals to the DOC population. Overall, the DOC admitted 30 more criminally sentenced individuals than released during the ten-quarter trend period.
- New court commitments remained to be the leading admission type for male admissions (86.5%), followed by parole violators (11.2%) and transfers (2.1%) as the top-three admission types in the first quarter of 2024.
- Of the 26 female criminal admissions in the first quarter of 2024, 96.2% of them were new court commitments and the remaining 3.8% were transfers. No female admissions came from other admission types in the first quarter of 2024.
- Parole to community (53.05%) continued to top the list of male criminal release types. followed by expiration of sentence to community (25.8%) and expiration/parole to outside authority (13.3%) as the top three release types in the first quarter, 2024. They stayed as the top three release types consistently in the ten-quarter trend period.
- Parole to community (40.9%) was the leading female criminal release type. Expiration of sentence to community (18.20%) and expiration/parole to outside authority (18.2%) tied for the second release type in the first quarter, 2024.
- Male civil admissions increased from 387 of the previous quarter to 396 in the first quarter of 2024. Releases decreased from 405 to 368, trailing admissions by 28 individuals. Female civil admissions decreased, and releases increased from the previous quarter, with 18 for admissions and 26 for releases in the first quarter.
- In the first quarter of 2024, there were 103 pre-trial admissions and 119 releases, resulting in 16 more releases than admissions for the quarter. Female admissions went down to 89 and releases went up to 104 from the previous 108 and 100 respectively. Male admissions went down from 15 to 14 and releases from 17 to 15,

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 6,050 individuals in the first quarter of 2024. This population increased by 30 individuals or about 0.5% from the previous quarter. This is the fourth custody population increase in a row since the second quarter of 2017. From the fourth quarter of 2021 through the first quarter of 2024, there was an increase of 17 individuals, or 0.3%, from the custody population.

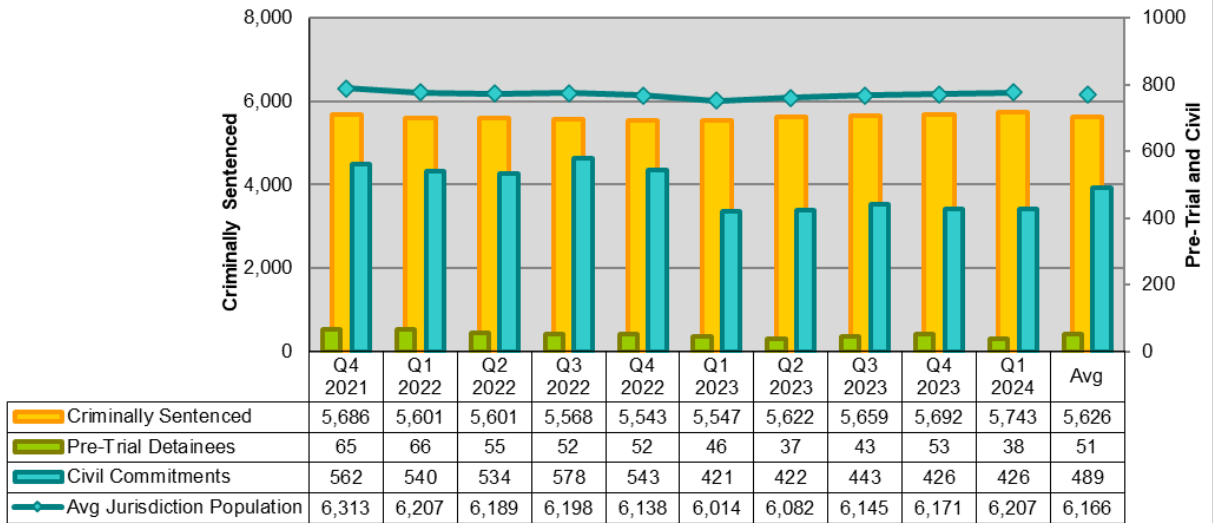
The **jurisdiction** population averaged 6,207 individuals in the first quarter of 2024, increasing 0.6% or 36 individuals from the previous quarter, the fifth increase in the trend period. Over the ten-quarter period from Q4 2021 to Q1 2024, the **jurisdiction** population is down 106 individuals or 1.7%. See Figure 1.1 below.*



The criminally sentenced population went up 0.9% from the last quarter to 5,743, the fifth successive increase since the first quarter of 2012. For the ten-quarter trend period starting in the fourth quarter of 2021, it climbed 1.0% or an increase of 57 individuals. The civil commitment population remained flat from the previous quarter at 426 individuals and showed a trendline of moderate decline during the ten-quarter trend period. The MA DOC pre-trial population decreased this quarter to 38 detainees, the second lowest number in the ten-quarter trend period and averaged 51 detainees for the ten-quarter trend period. 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.

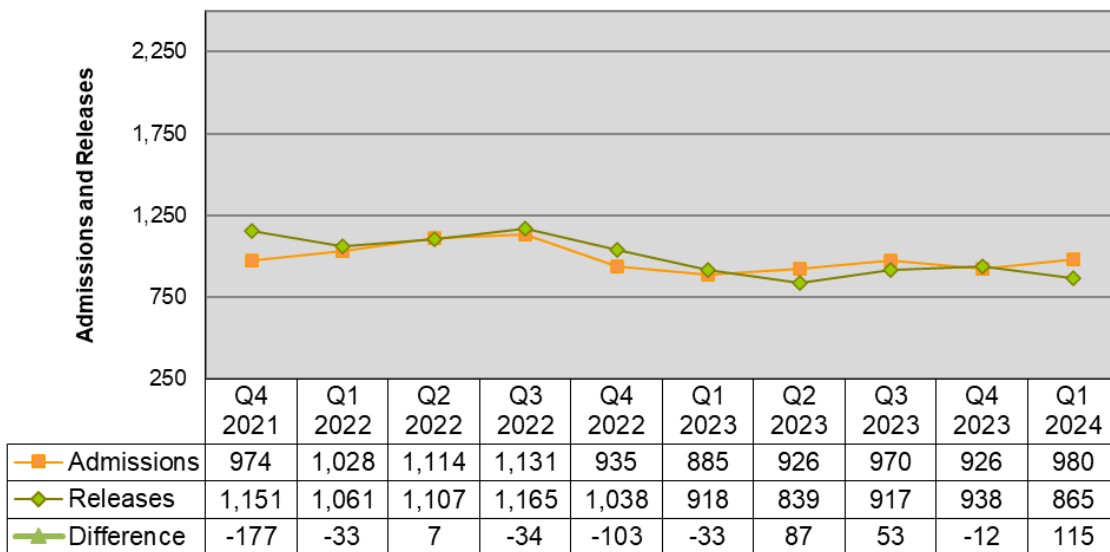
Figure 1.2. Average Quarterly Jurisdiction Population by Commitment Type



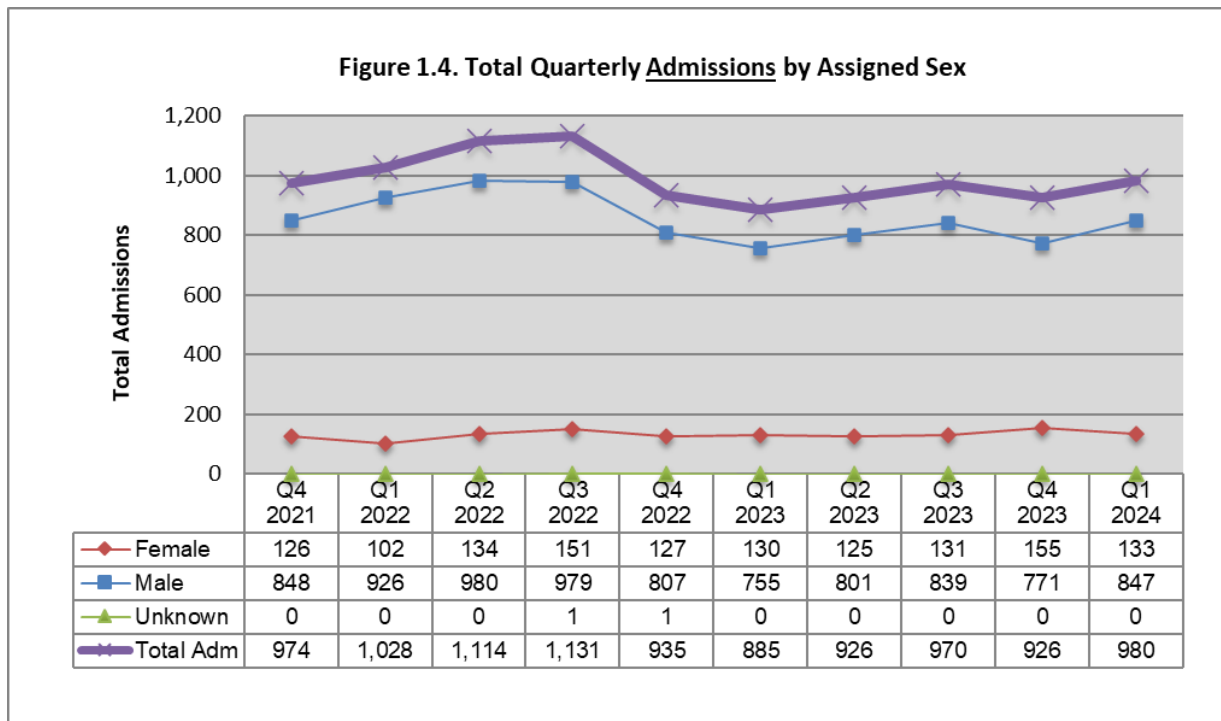
OVERALL ADMISSIONS AND RELEASES

Overall quarterly admissions to the DOC increased to 980 from the previous quarter, a rise of 5.8%. Releases decreased 7.8% to 865. This resulted in an admission-to-release surplus of 115 individuals in the first quarter, 2024, the largest admission-to-release surplus 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 of 2024 increased from 771 to 847, an increase of 76 admissions from the previous quarter. Female admissions went down from 155 to 133, a decline of 22 individuals. Consequently, the total quarterly admissions rose from 926 to 980. See Figure 1.4 below.



Male releases in the first quarter dropped from 796 to 713, the lowest in the ten-quarter trend period. Female releases went up from 142 to 152, the highest female quarterly releases in the ten-quarter trend period. This resulted in a total decrease of 73 releases from 938 to 865 in Q1, 2024. See Figure 1.5 below.

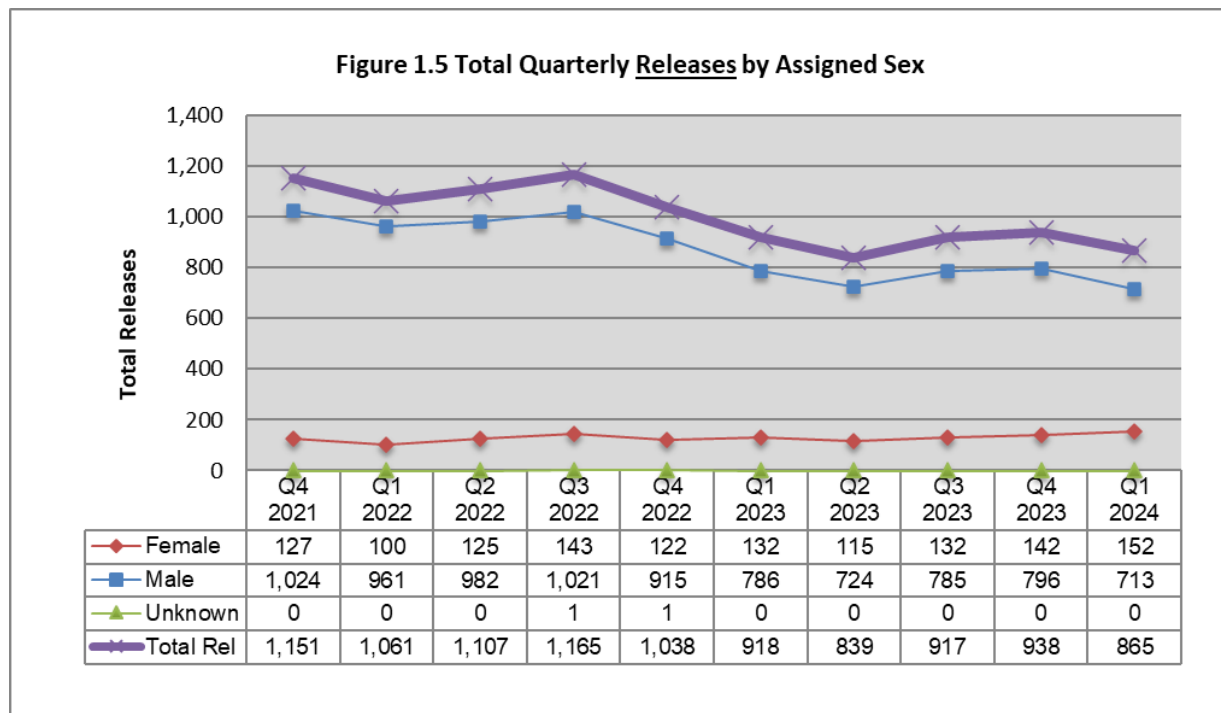


Figure 1.6 shows that male admissions went up while releases went down from the previous quarter. It resulted in an admission-to-release surplus of 134 individuals in the first quarter of 2024, making it the quarter of the largest male admission-to-release surplus in the ten-quarter trend period.

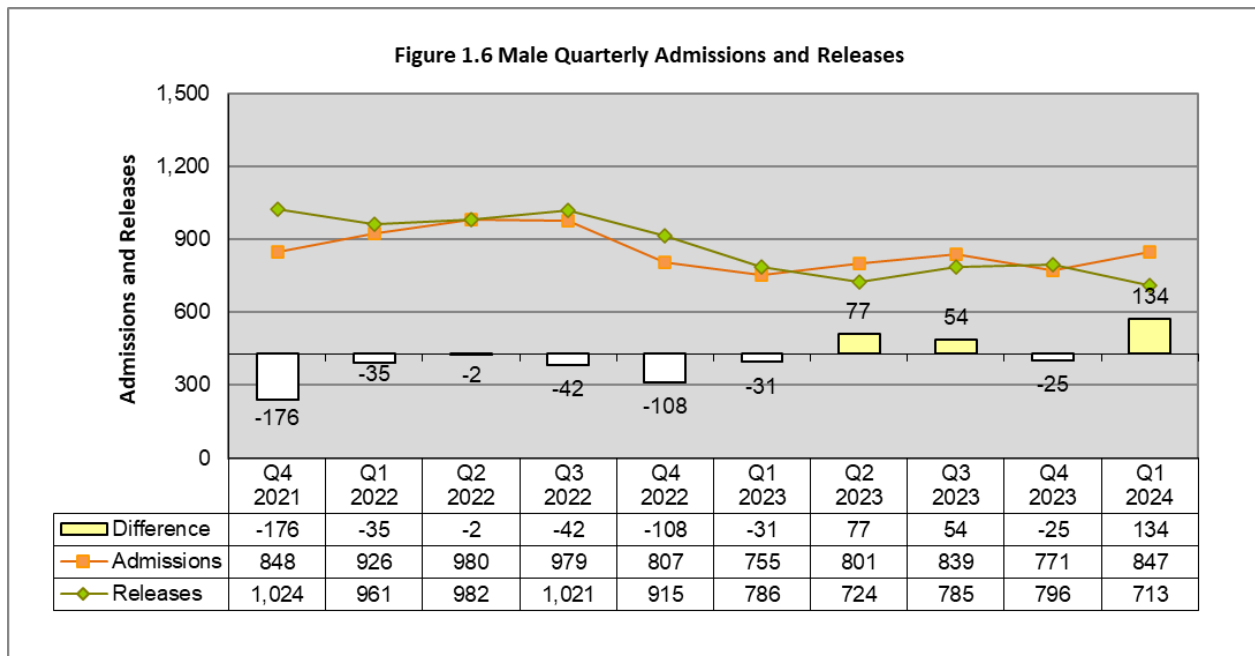
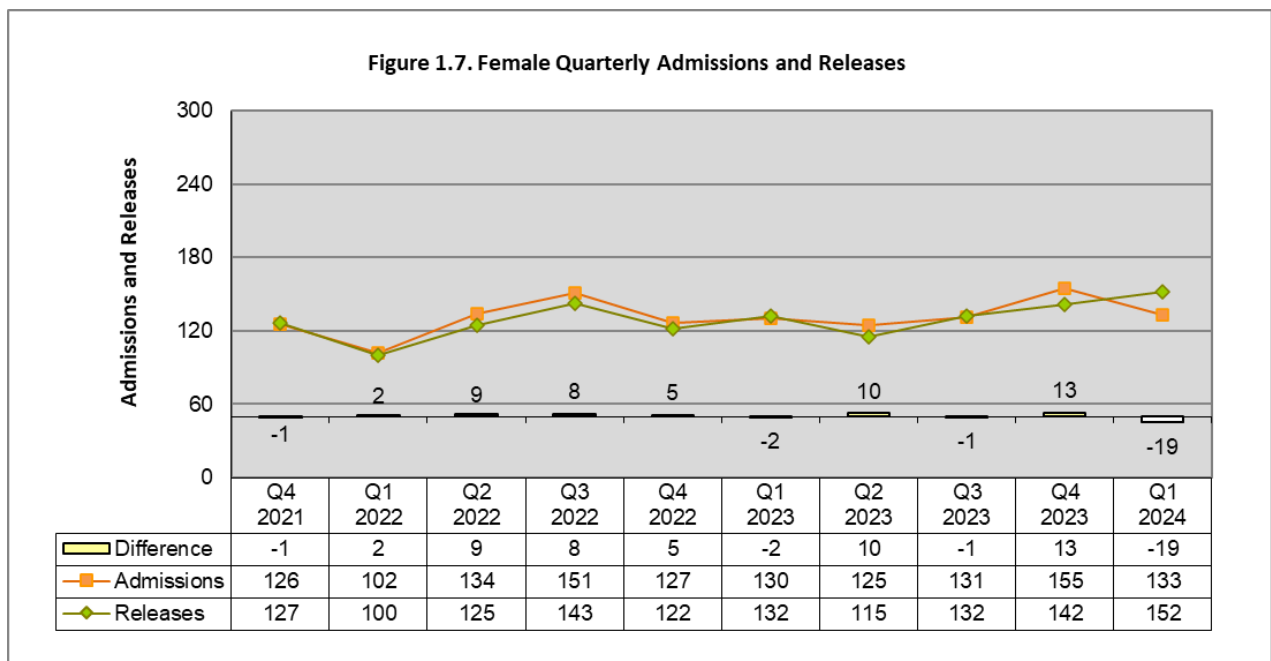
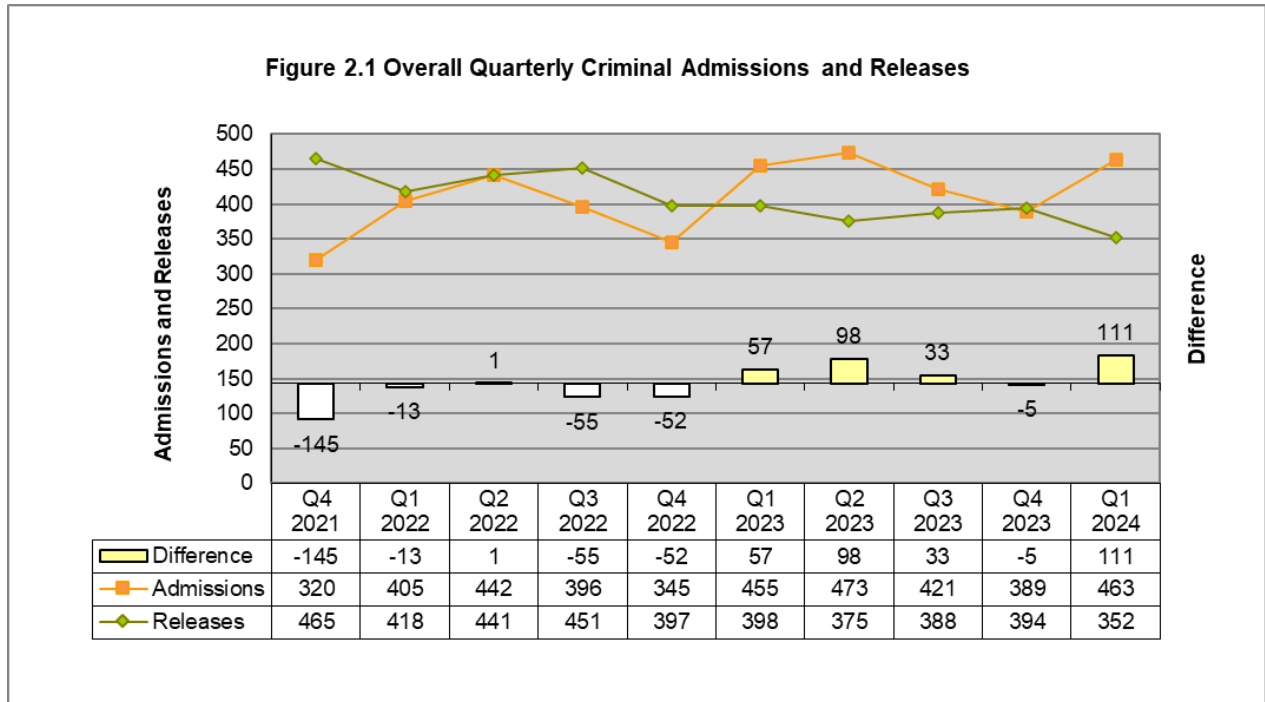


Figure 1.7 shows female admissions decreased while releases increased from the previous quarter and resulted in an admission-to-release deficit of 19 individuals in the first quarter of 2024, the largest quarterly difference between admissions and releases in the ten-quarter period.



CRIMINALLY SENTENCED ADMISSIONS AND RELEASES

Criminal admissions in the first quarter of 2024 increased 19.0% from 389 of the previous quarter to 463. Releases went down from 394 to 352. Admissions surpassed releases for the fifth time in the ten-quarter trend period, adding 111 individuals to the DOC population, the largest single quarter addition in the trend period. Overall, the DOC admitted 30 more incarcerated individuals than released during the ten-quarter trend period. (Figure 2.1)



In the first quarter of 2024, male criminal admissions went up from the previous quarter and releases went down. It resulted in an admissions-to-release surplus of 107 incarcerated individuals, the largest single quarter surplus in the ten-quarter trend period. For the ten-quarter trend period, the MA DOC released 8 more men than admitted. Both female criminal admissions and releases went up from the previous quarter, ending the quarter with an admission-to-release surplus of 4 admissions, and an admission-to-release surplus of 36 individuals for the ten-quarter trend period. (Figure 2.2, next page)

Figure 2.2. Criminally Sentenced Admissions and Releases by Assigned Sex

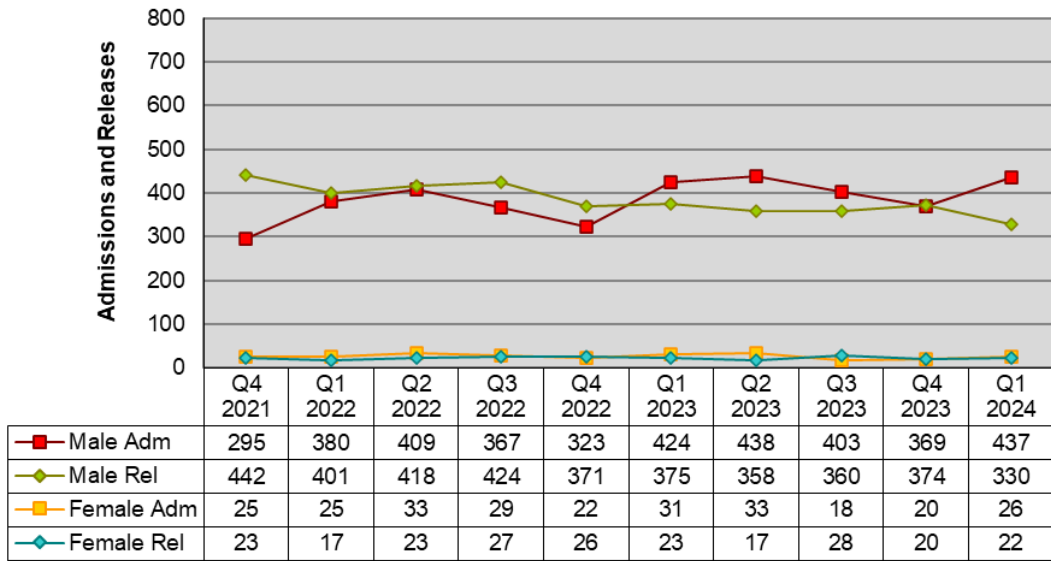
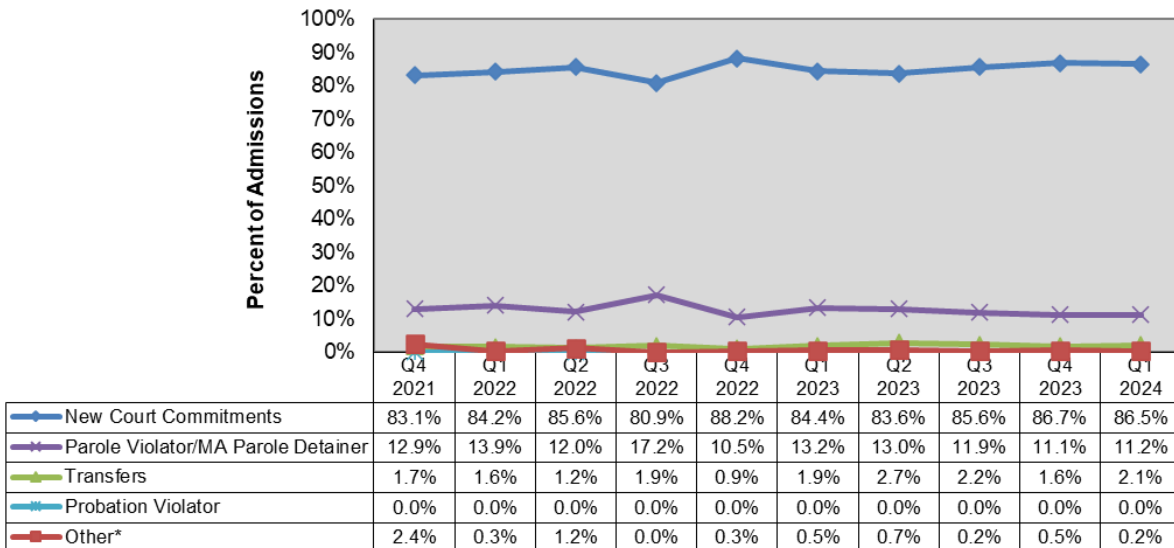


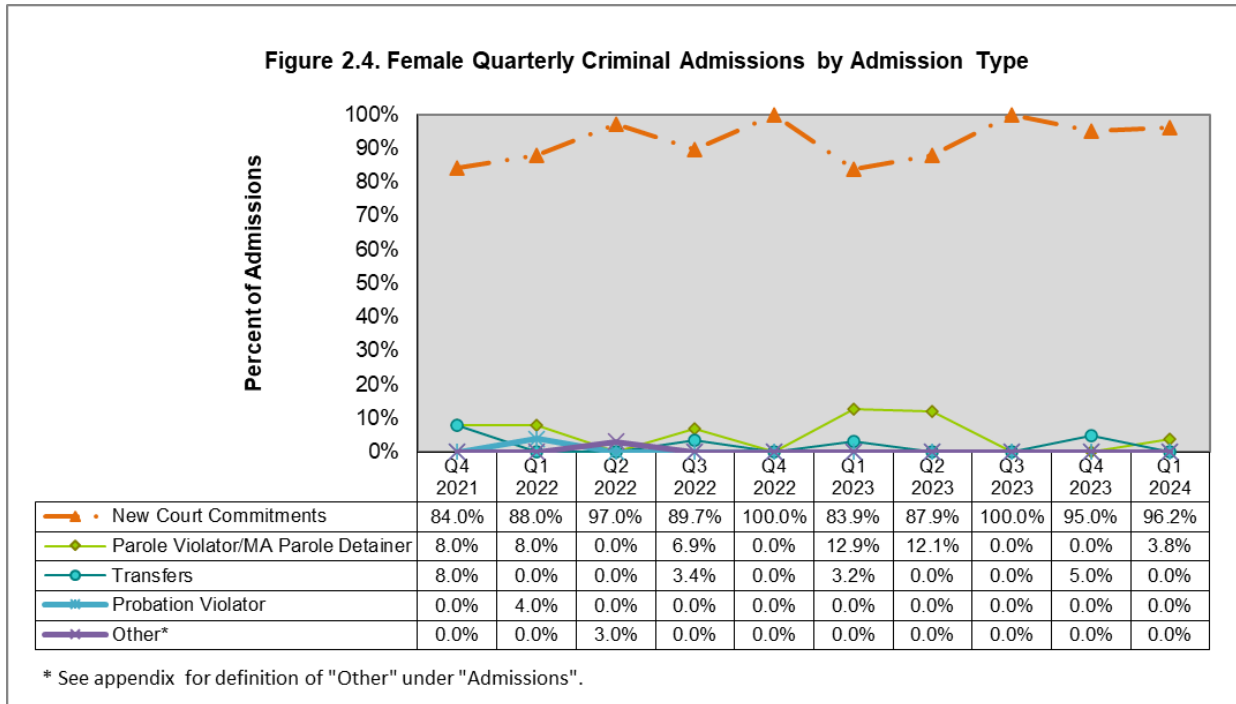
Figure 2.3 below shows that new court commitments continued to be the leading male criminal admission type (86.5%) followed by parole violators (11.2%) and transfers (2.1%) as the distant second and third male criminal admission types in the first quarter of 2024. The rank of the three admission types stayed consistently in the same order during the ten-quarter trend period.

Figure 2.3. Male Quarterly Criminal Admissions by Admission Type



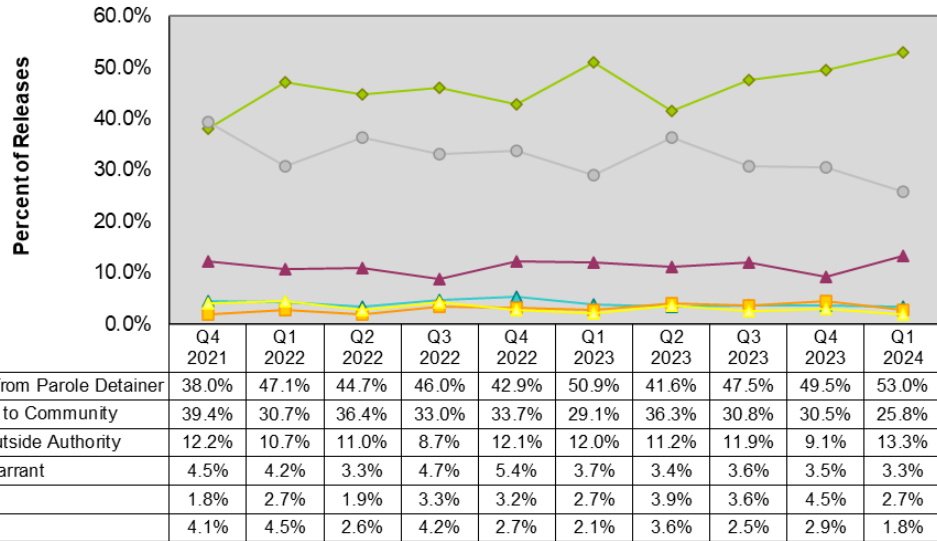
* See appendix for definition of "Other" under "Admissions".

Of the 26 female criminal admissions in the first quarter of 2024, 96.2% of them were new court commitments and the remaining 3.8% were parole violators. Because of the small number of female admissions, female admission types appeared to be more volatile than male admission types during the ten-quarter trend period. (Figure 2.4)



Figures 2.5 on the next page describes how male criminally sentenced individuals were released in Q1, 2024 and the nine quarters prior. In the first quarter of 2024, parole to community (53.0%) continued to top the list of male release types, followed by expiration of sentence to community (25.8%) and expiration/parole to outside authority (13.3%) as the top three release types. They stayed as the top three release types consistently in the ten-quarter trend period.

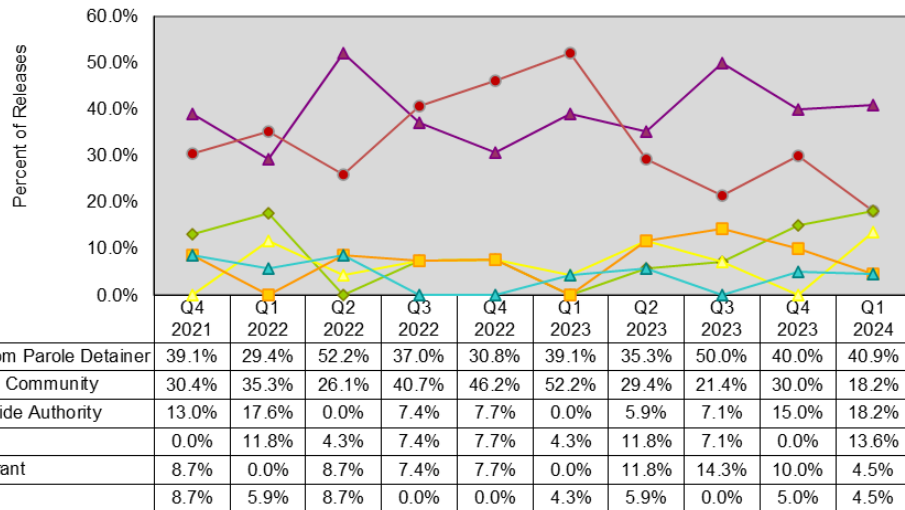
Figure 2.5. Male Quarterly Criminal Releases by Release Type



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

Parole to community (40.9%) was the top female criminal release type. Expiration of sentence to community (18.2%) and expiration/parole to outside authority (18.2%) tied for the second release type in the first quarter, 2024. Because of the small number of female releases, 22 for this quarter, 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



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

New Court Commitments by Court Jurisdiction

New court commitments increased in the first quarter of 2024 to 389 from the previous 320, the highest number during the ten-quarter period and after it reached the peak of 374 in the second quarter of 2023. Suffolk county (77) sent the most criminal new court commitments. Other counties that sent 20 or more new court commitments also include Essex (66), Hampden (60), Bristol (52), Middlesex (39), Worcester (32), and Plymouth (26) counties. Together, they accounted for 90.5% of the total. (Figure 2.7)

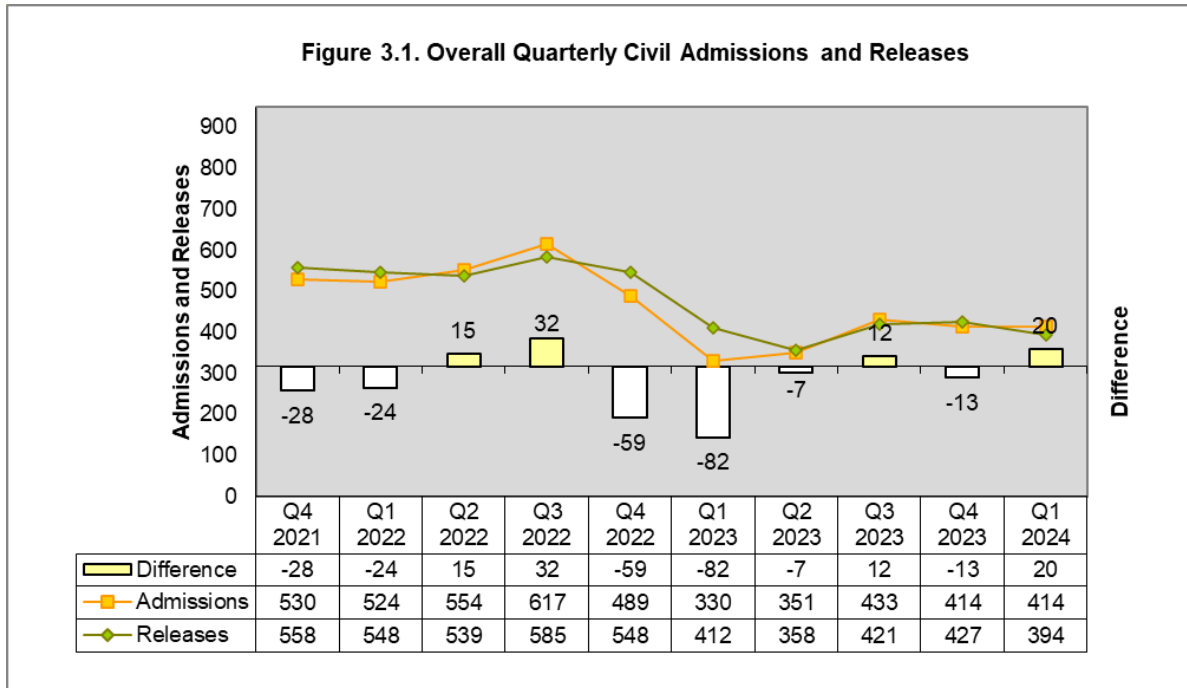
Table 2.7. State* Criminally Sentenced New Court Commitments by Court Jurisdiction

County	Q4 2021	Q1 2022	Q2 2022	Q3 2022	Q4 2022	Q1 2023	Q2 2023	Q3 2023	Q4 2023	Q1 2024
Suffolk	33	47	59	74	41	63	81	60	56	77
Essex	51	74	82	47	66	59	74	67	65	66
Hampden	34	37	36	40	28	64	56	47	34	60
Bristol	32	32	35	34	26	60	42	39	43	52
Middlesex	37	28	54	39	40	30	42	46	53	39
Worcester	17	37	31	22	26	30	21	24	27	32
Plymouth	11	14	20	18	17	16	17	20	13	26
Franklin	6	7	3	4	10	2	15	10	7	9
Norfolk	13	20	16	11	10	22	9	12	8	8
Barnstable	11	10	14	7	13	7	6	11	6	8
Berkshire	6	13	5	3	11	8	8	8	4	7
Hampshire	4	7	5	6	5	5	2	6	4	5
Dukes	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	0
Nantucket	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	255	326	361	307	293	367	374	350	320	389

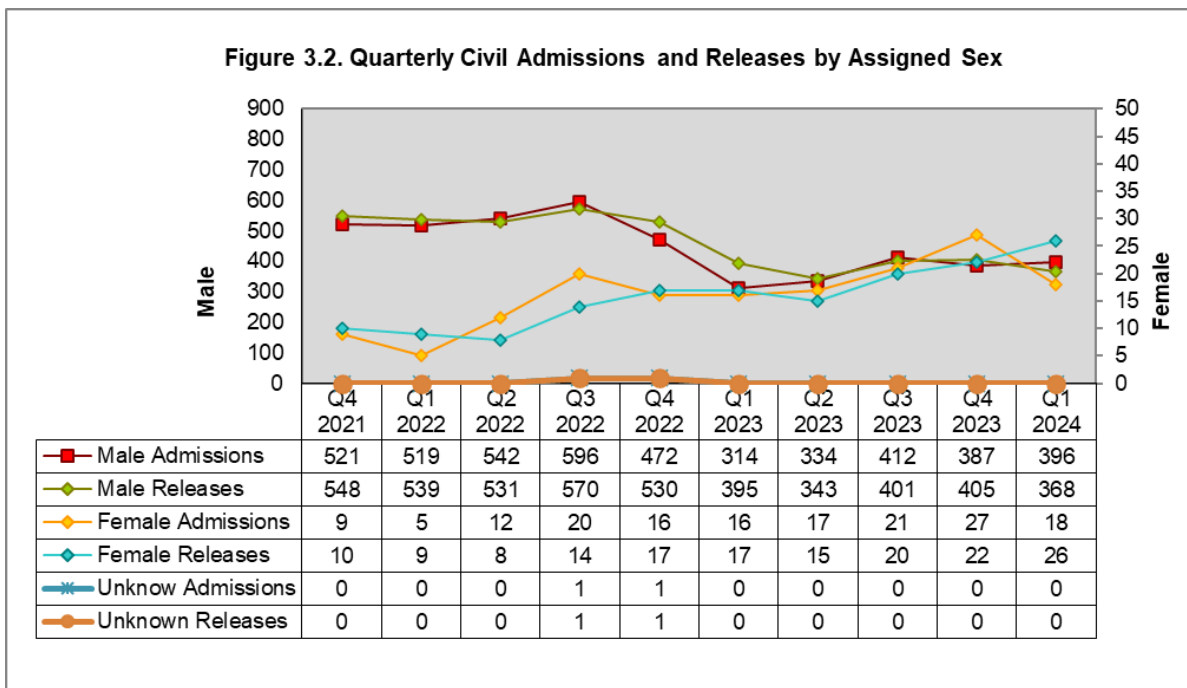
*Excludes county, federal, and out-of-state individuals.

CIVILLY COMMITTED ADMISSIONS AND RELEASES

In the first quarter of 2024, the MA DOC admitted 20 more civil commitments than released, which reversed the admission-to-release deficit of the previous quarter. For the ten-quarter trend period, the MA DOC has released 134 more civil commitments than it has admitted. See Figure 3.1.

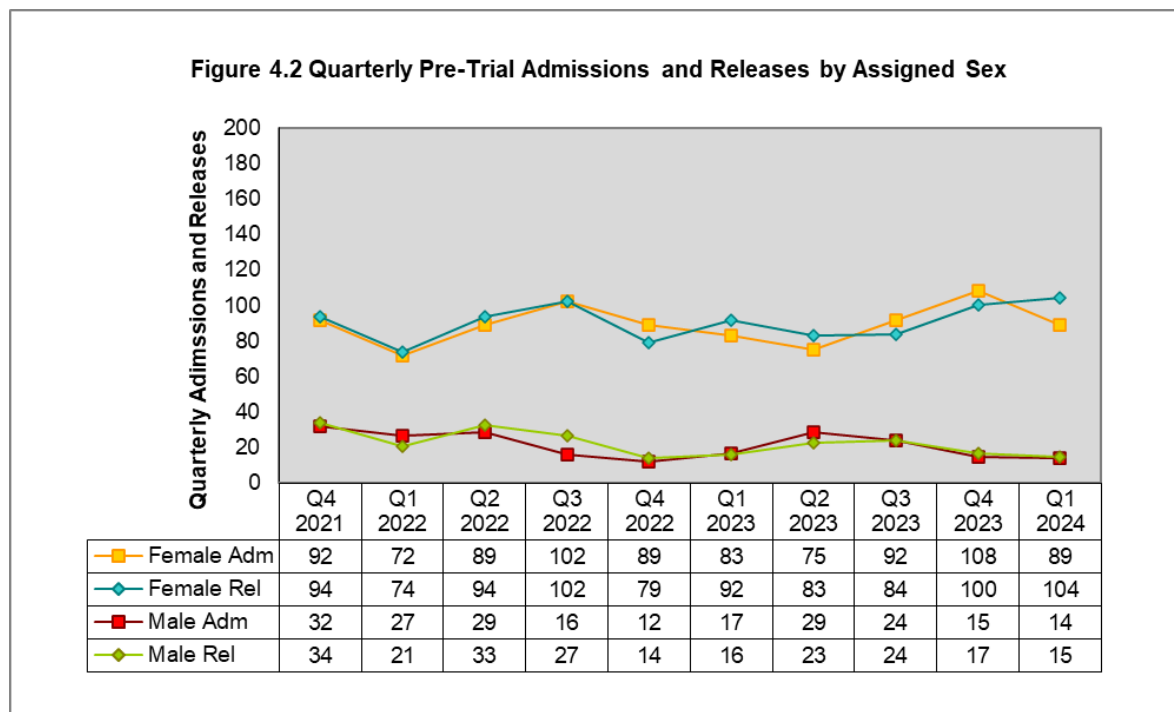
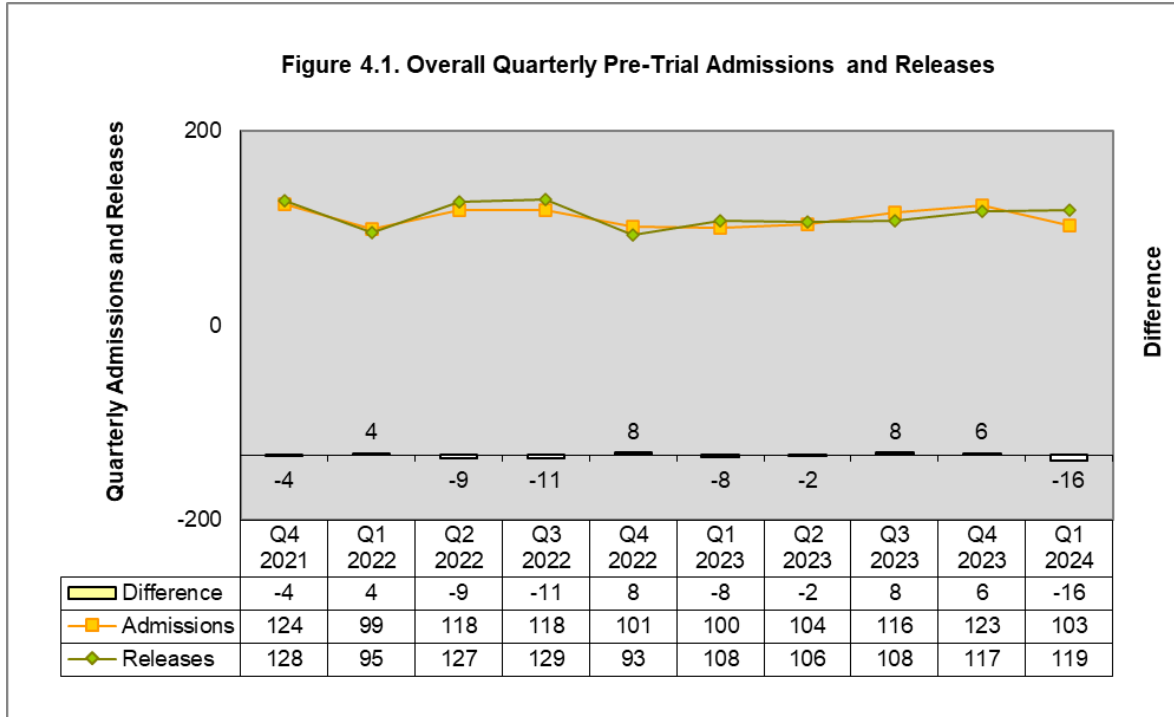


Male civil admissions increased from 387 in the previous quarter to 396 in the first quarter. Releases decreased from 405 to 368, trailing admissions by 28 individuals. Female civil admissions decreased and releases increased from the previous quarter, with 18 admissions and 26 releases. See Figure 3.2.



PRE-TRIAL ADMISSIONS AND RELEASES

In Q1 of 2024, there were 103 pre-trial admissions and 119 releases, resulting in 16 more releases than admissions. Female admissions went down to 89 and releases went up to 104 from the previous 108 and 100. Male admissions went down from 15 to 14 and releases from 17 to 15 respectively, ending the first quarter with an admission-to-release deficit for both females and males. (Figures 4.1 & 4.2)



Pre-Trial Admissions by Court Jurisdiction

In the first quarter of 2024, about three-quarters of male pre-trial detainee admissions came from out-of-state (3), Essex (3), Middlesex (2) and Suffolk (2) counties. The remaining admissions came from Worcester (1), Hampden (1), Barnstable (1), and Franklin (1) counties. Female detainees came predominantly from Middlesex County (88) and 1 admission from Barnstable County. See Tables 4.3 and 4.4 below.

Table 4.3 Male Quarterly Pre-Trial Admissions by Jurisdiction

County	Q4 2021	Q1 2022	Q2 2022	Q3 2022	Q4 2022	Q1 2023	Q2 2023	Q3 2023	Q4 2023	Q1 2024
Out-of-state	7	11	10	5	2	4	7	7	3	3
Essex	2	2	1	0	3	2	4	1	1	3
Middlesex	4	4	2	2	1	2	3	1	1	2
Suffolk	2	1	6	1	1	0	3	4	1	2
Worcester	0	1	2	1	2	0	3	4	1	1
Hampden	2	1	1	0	0	1	2	2	2	1
Barnstable	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	1
Franklin	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Plymouth	4	2	3	3	0	0	2	2	3	0
Norfolk	0	2	2	2	1	4	4	3	1	0
Mass Parole	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0
Federal	5	3	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Bristol	4	0	2	2	2	1	0	0	0	0
Total	32	27	29	16	12	17	29	24	15	14

*Berkshire, Dukes, and Hampshire 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 2021	Q1 2022	Q2 2022	Q3 2022	Q4 2022	Q1 2023	Q2 2023	Q3 2023	Q4 2023	Q1 2024
Middlesex	91	69	88	101	89	81	74	90	105	88
Barnstable	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Norfolk	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Out-of-State	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Worcester	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Plymouth	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Federal	1	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Suffolk	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Bristol	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Essex	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0
Hampden	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Total	92	72	89	102	89	83	75	92	108	89

*Berkshire, Dukes, and Franklin 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.