

Massachusetts Department of Correction Quarterly Report on Admissions and Releases

Calendar Year 2022
Quarter 4



Executive Office of Public Safety and Security
June 2023

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



Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

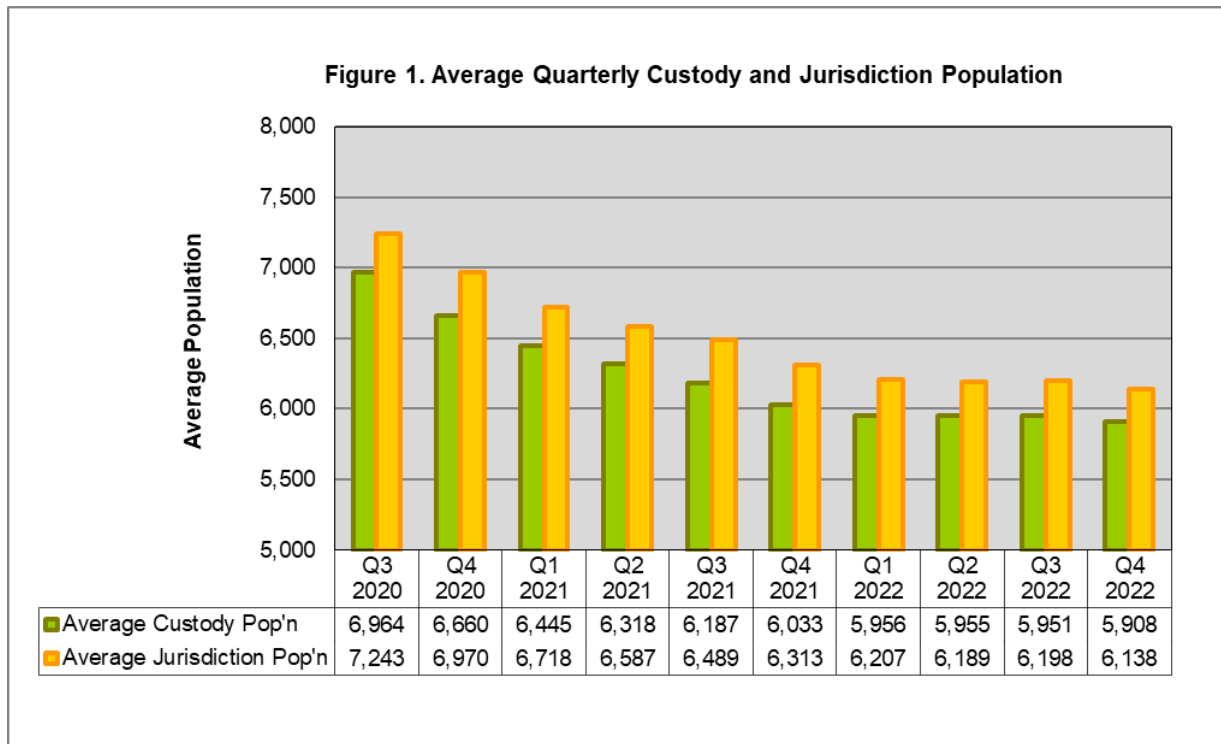
- Between the third and fourth quarter of 2022, the MA DOC custody population saw a decline of 43 incarcerated individuals. During the ten-quarter trend period starting in Q3 2020, the average custody population has decreased 15.2%. The jurisdiction population decreased about 1.0% or 60 incarcerated individuals from the previous quarter, and down 15.3% since the third quarter of 2020.
- The criminally sentenced population dropped 0.4% from the last quarter and 16.3% since the beginning of the trend period. The civil commitment population decreased 6.0 percent from the previous quarter and fluctuated around a flat line of 557 incarcerated individuals during the ten-quarter trend period. The MA DOC pre-trial population stayed flat this quarter from the previous quarter and averaged 52 detainees.
- Overall quarterly admissions to the DOC decreased to 935 from the previous quarter, a decline of 17.3%. Releases went down 10.6% to 1,038. This resulted in an admission-to-release deficit of 103 incarcerated individuals in the fourth quarter, 2022.
- Criminal admissions trailed releases by a 345 to 397 margin in the fourth quarter of 2022, reducing 52 incarcerated individuals from the DOC population. Overall, the DOC released 1,299 more criminally sentenced incarcerated individuals than admitted during the ten-quarter trend period.
- New court commitments remained to be the leading admission type for male admissions (88.2%), followed by parole violators (10.5%) and transfers (0.9%) in the fourth quarter of 2022.
- All 22 female admissions for the fourth quarter were new court commitments. This is the first time that new court commitment was the only admission type for females in the ten-quarter trend period and since the third quarter of 2014, the first quarter of our trending data on record.
- Parole to community (42.9%) continued to top the list of male criminal release types, followed by expiration of sentence to community (33.7%) and expiration/parole to outside authority (12.1%) as the top three release types in the fourth quarter, 2022.
- Expiration of sentence to community (46.2%) was the leading female release type in the fourth quarter of 2022, followed by parole to community (33.8%) as the top two release types. Transfers (7.7%), expiration/parole to outside authority (7.7%), and expiration/parole to warrant (7.7%) shared the third release type.
- Male civil admissions in the fourth quarter went down to 472 from 596 of the previous quarter and releases decreased to 530, a decline of 40 more releases than admissions for the quarter. Female civil commitment admissions decreased from 20 of the previous quarter to 16 while female civil releases grew from 14 to 17 in the fourth quarter of 2022.
- In the fourth quarter of 2022, pre-trial admissions went down to 101 from 118 of the previous quarter. Releases went down more than admissions from 129 of the previous quarter to 93, which resulted in an admission-to-release surplus of 8 more pre-trial detainees. More admissions of female detainees (89) than releases (79) contributed the surplus 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 5,908 incarcerated individuals in the fourth quarter of 2022. This population decreased by 43 incarcerated individuals from the previous quarter. From the third quarter of 2020 through the fourth quarter of 2022, there was a decrease of 1,056 incarcerated individuals, or 15.2%, from the custody population.

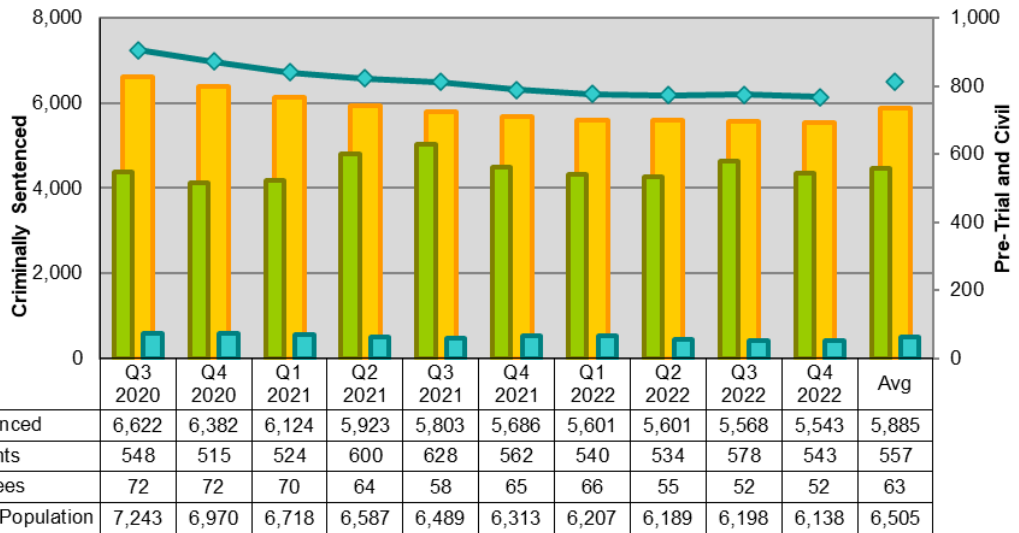
The **jurisdiction** population averaged 6,138 incarcerated individuals in the fourth quarter of 2022, decreasing less than 1% or 60 incarcerated individuals from the previous quarter. Over the ten-quarter trend period, the **jurisdiction** population is down 1,105 incarcerated individuals or 15.3%. See Figure 1.1 below.*



The criminally sentenced population went down 0.4% from the last quarter and dropped 16.3% since the beginning of the trend period. The civil commitment population decreased 6.1% from the previous quarter and fluctuated around a flat line of 557 incarcerated individuals during the ten-quarter trend period. The MA DOC pre-trial population stayed flat this quarter from the previous quarter and averaged 52 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.

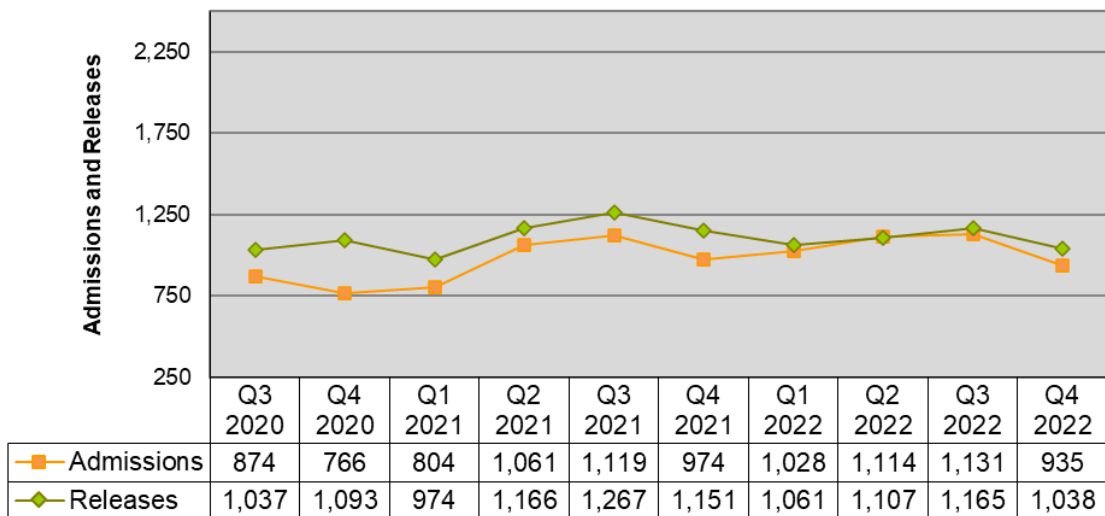
Figure 1.2. Average Quarterly Jurisdiction Population by Commitment Type



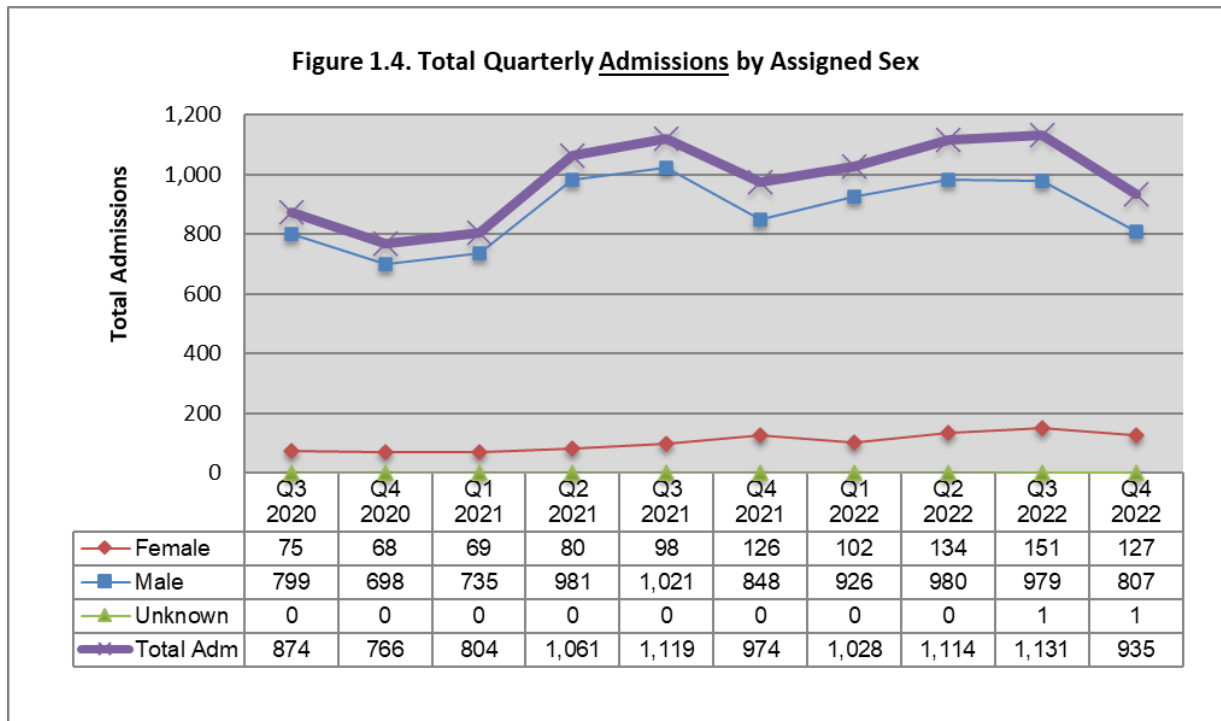
OVERALL ADMISSIONS AND RELEASES

Overall quarterly admissions to the DOC decreased to 935 from the previous quarter, a decline of 17.3%. Releases decreased 10.6% to 1,038. This resulted in an admission-to-release deficit of 103 incarcerated individuals in the fourth quarter, 2022, the ninth quarterly admission-to-release deficit in the ten-quarter trend period. See Figure 1.3 below.

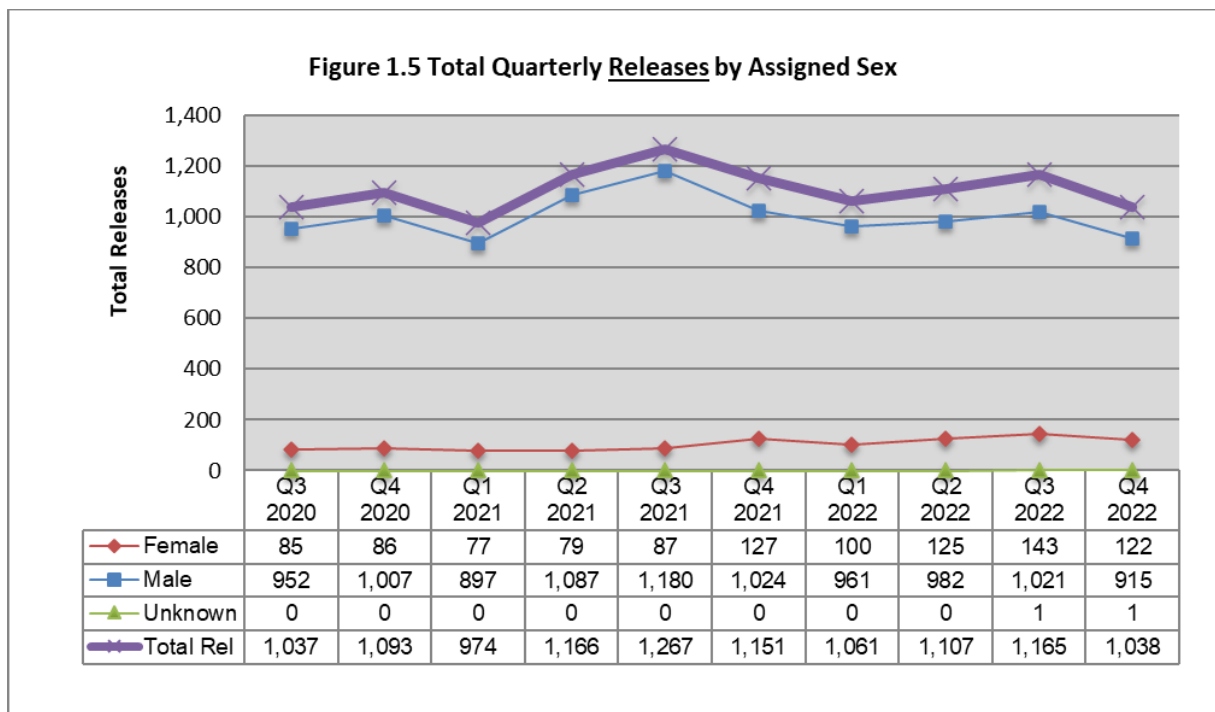
Figure 1.3. Overall Quarterly Admissions and Releases



Male admissions in the fourth quarter decreased from 979 to 807, a drop of 172 admissions from the previous quarter. Female admissions went down as well from 151 to 127. In addition, there was 1 admission who reported an assigned sex of unknown[†] in the fourth quarter, 2022. See Figure 1.4 below.



Male releases in the fourth quarter declined from 1,021 to 915 and female releases dropped as well, from 143 to 122. Additionally, there was 1 release who reported an assigned sex of unknown in the fourth quarter, 2022. See Figure 1.5 below.



[†] There was 1 individual admitted & released in the 4th quarter of 2022 with an unknown self-reported assigned sex.

Figure 1.6 shows that male admissions went down from the previous quarter. Male releases dropped as well, but not as much as admissions. It resulted in an admission-to-release deficit of 108 incarcerated individuals in the fourth quarter of 2022, much larger than the deficit of the previous quarter.

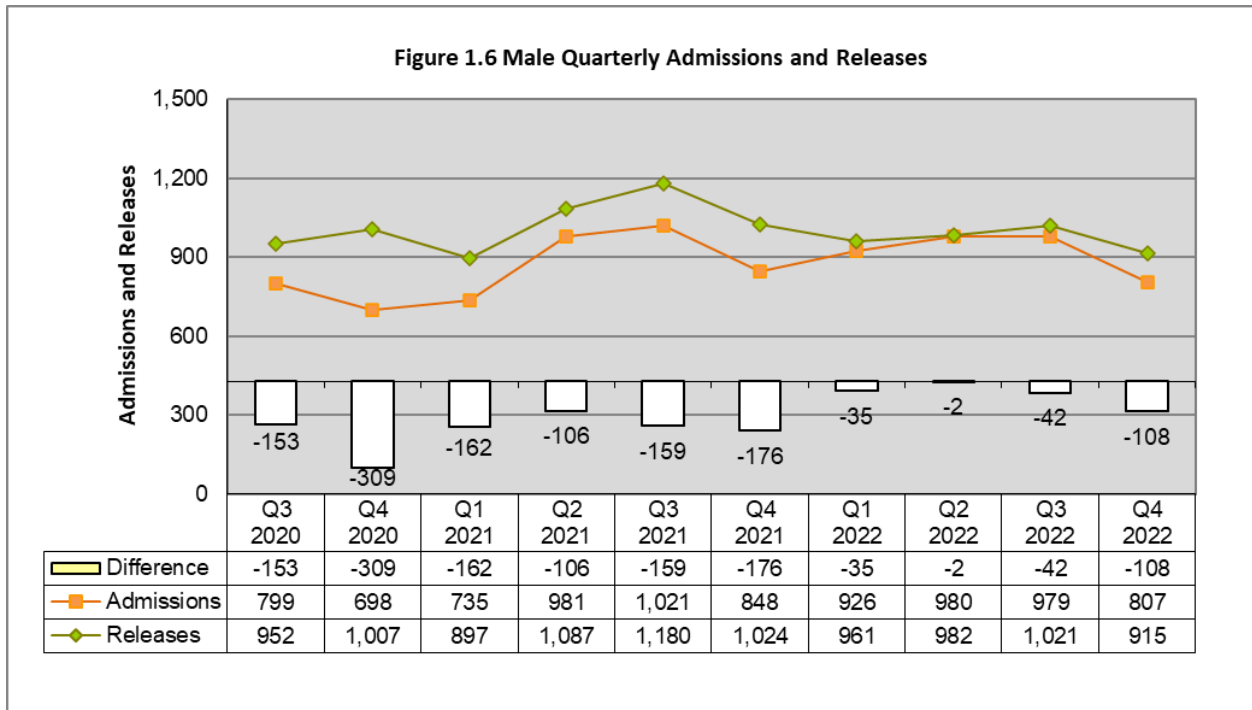
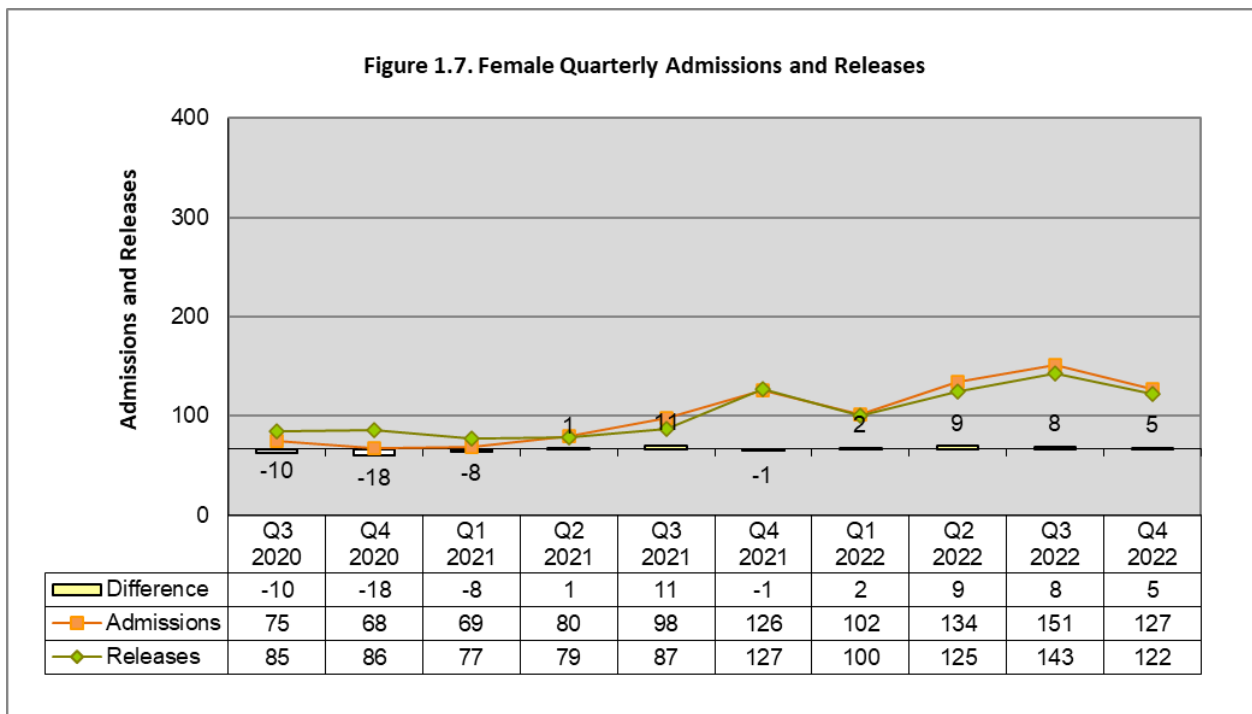
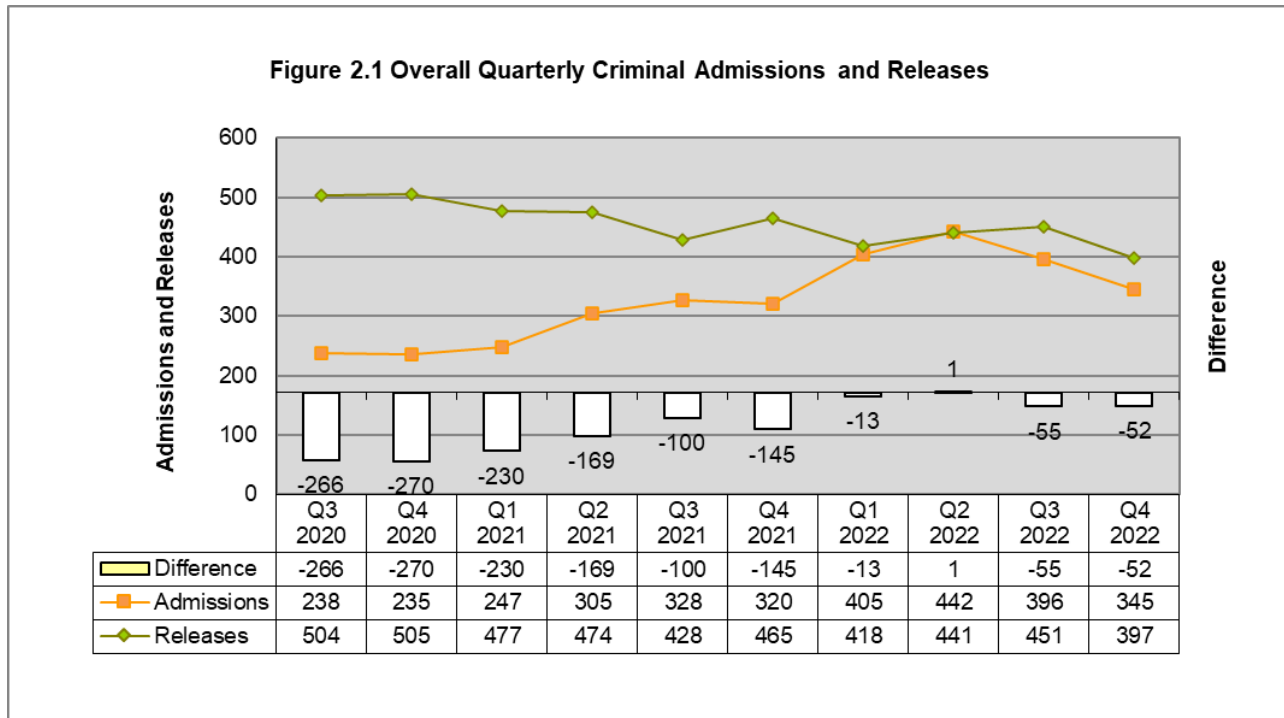


Figure 1.7 shows both female admissions and releases decreased and resulted in an admission-to-release surplus of 5 incarcerated individuals in the fourth quarter. It is the fourth surplus of the year, making 2022 a year of population increase for females.



CRIMINALLY SENTENCED ADMISSIONS AND RELEASES

Criminal admissions in the fourth quarter decreased 12.9% from the previous quarter and releases went down 12.0%. Releases outnumbered admissions for the ninth time in the ten-quarter trend period, reducing 52 incarcerated individuals from the DOC population. Overall, the DOC had 1,299 more releases than admissions during the ten-quarter trend period. (Figure 2.1)



In the fourth quarter of 2022, male criminal admissions went down from the previous quarter and releases dropped as well. The MA DOC released 48 more male incarcerated individuals than admitted for the quarter and 1,272 more incarcerated individuals than admitted for the ten-quarter trend period. Female criminal admissions and releases also decreased from the previous quarter, ending with an admission-to-release deficit of 4 incarcerated individuals for the fourth quarter, and 27 incarcerated individuals for the ten-quarter trend period. (Figure 2.2)

Figure 2.2. Criminally Sentenced Admissions and Releases by Assigned Sex

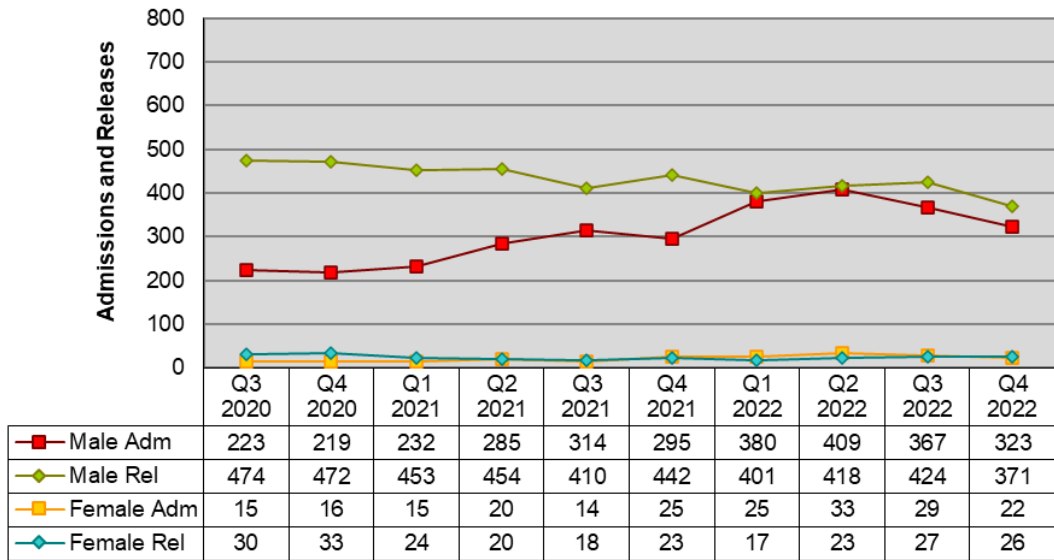
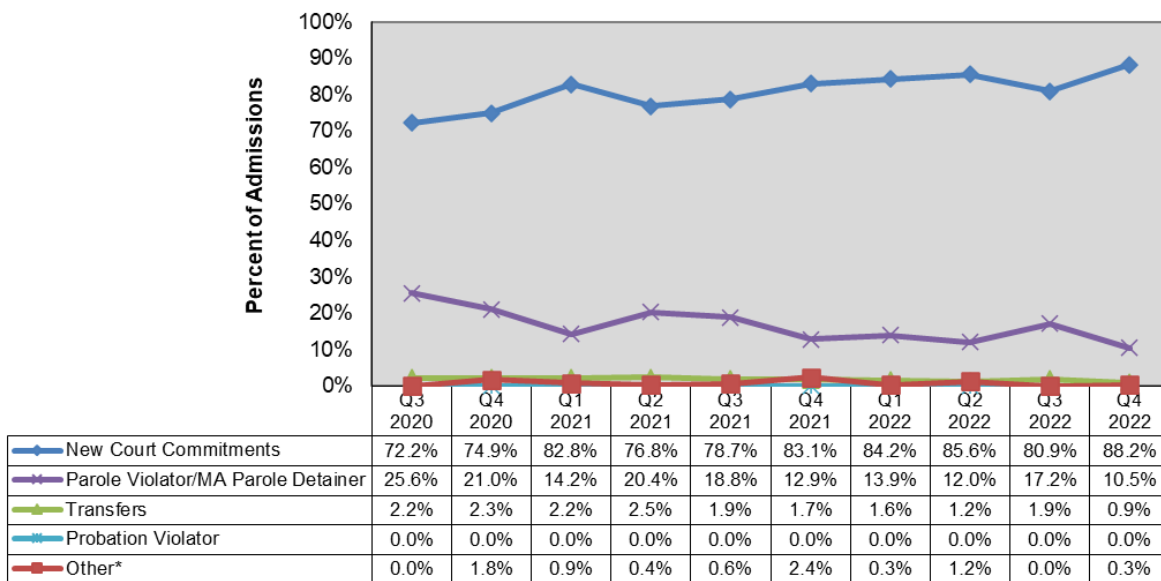


Figure 2.3 below shows that new court commitments continued to be the leading male criminal admission type (88.2%) followed by parole violators (10.5%) and transfers (0.9%) as the distant second and third male criminal admission types in fourth quarter of 2022.

Figure 2.3. Male Quarterly Criminal Admissions by Admission Type



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

Of the 22 female criminal admissions in the fourth quarter, all of them were new court commitments. This is the first time that new court commitment was the only admission type in the ten-quarter period and since the third quarter of 2014, the first quarter of our trending data on record. (Figure 2.4)

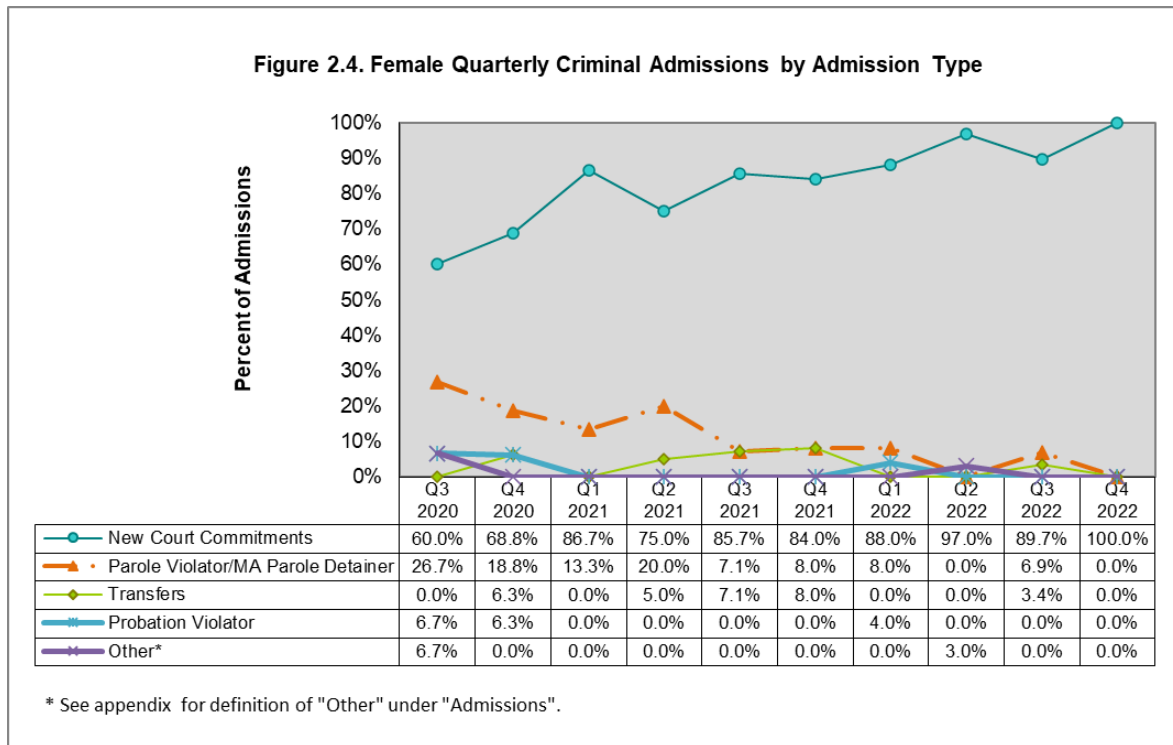
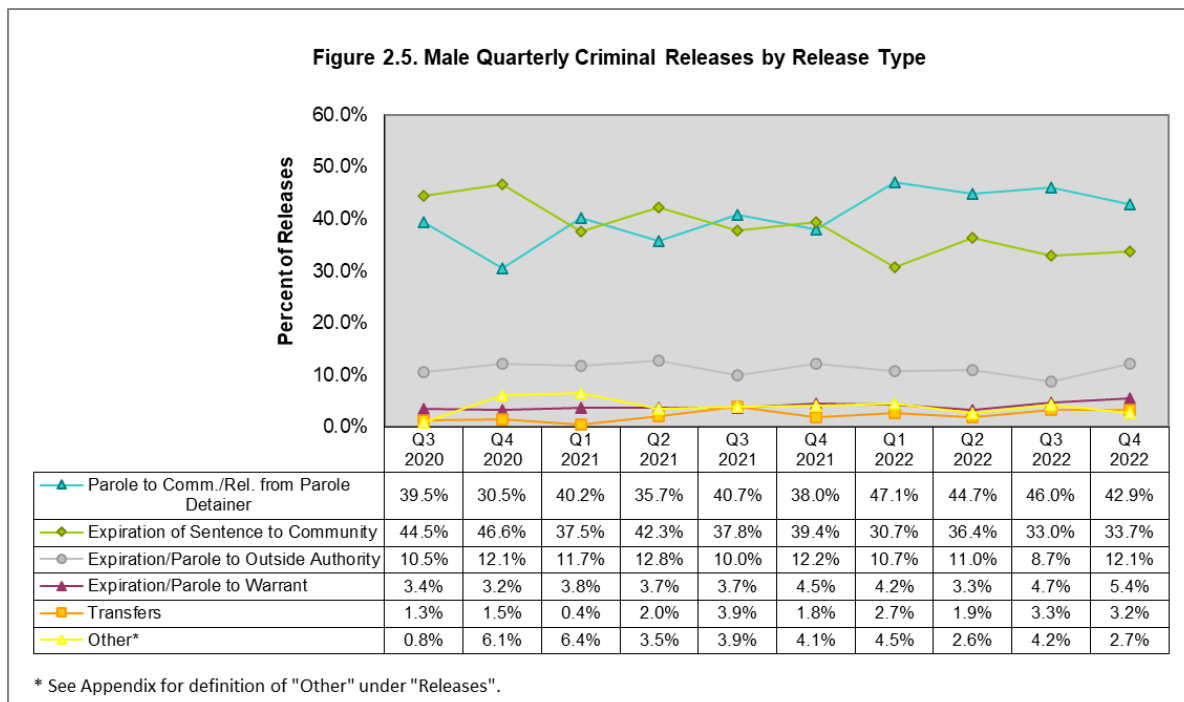
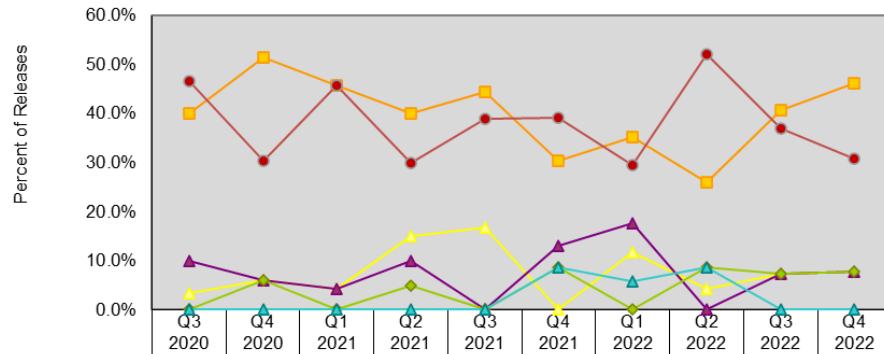


Figure 2.5 describes how male criminally sentenced incarcerated individuals were released in Q4, 2022 and the nine quarters prior. In the fourth quarter of 2022, parole to community (42.9%) continued to top the list of the release types, followed by expiration of sentence to community (33.7%) and expiration/parole to outside authority (12.1%) as the top three release types. They stayed as the top three release types consistently in the ten-quarter trend period.



Expiration of sentence to community (46.2%) took the lead as the top female criminal release type, followed by parole to community (30.8%) as the second release type. Transfers (7.7%), expiration/parole to outside authority (7.7%), and expiration/parole to warrant (7.7%) shared the third release type in the fourth quarter, 2022. 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



	Q3 2020	Q4 2020	Q1 2021	Q2 2021	Q3 2021	Q4 2021	Q1 2022	Q2 2022	Q3 2022	Q4 2022
Expiration of Sentence to Community	40.0%	51.5%	45.8%	40.0%	44.4%	30.4%	35.3%	26.1%	40.7%	46.2%
Parole to Comm./Rel. from Parole Detainer	46.7%	30.3%	45.8%	30.0%	38.9%	39.1%	29.4%	52.2%	37.0%	30.8%
Transfers	3.3%	6.1%	4.2%	15.0%	16.7%	0.0%	11.8%	4.3%	7.4%	7.7%
Expiration/Parole to Outside Authority	10.0%	6.1%	4.2%	10.0%	0.0%	13.0%	17.6%	0.0%	7.4%	7.7%
Expiration/Parole to Warrant	0.0%	6.1%	0.0%	5.0%	0.0%	8.7%	0.0%	8.7%	7.4%	7.7%
Other*	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	8.7%	5.9%	8.7%	0.0%	0.0%

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

New Court Commitments by Court Jurisdiction

New court commitments declined in the fourth quarter of 2022 to 293 from the previous 307, the second drop in a row after it reached the peak in the second quarter of 2022 during the ten-quarter trend period. Despite of the decline, it was still closer to the pre-pandemic level of 345 in the first quarter of 2020 than the seven quarters after the outbreak of the pandemic to the fourth quarter of 2021. Essex County (66) sent the most criminal new court commitments. Other counties that sent 20 or more new court commitments also include Suffolk (41), Middlesex (40), Hampden (28), Bristol (26), and Worcester (26) counties. Together, they accounted for 77.5% of the total. (Figure 2.7)

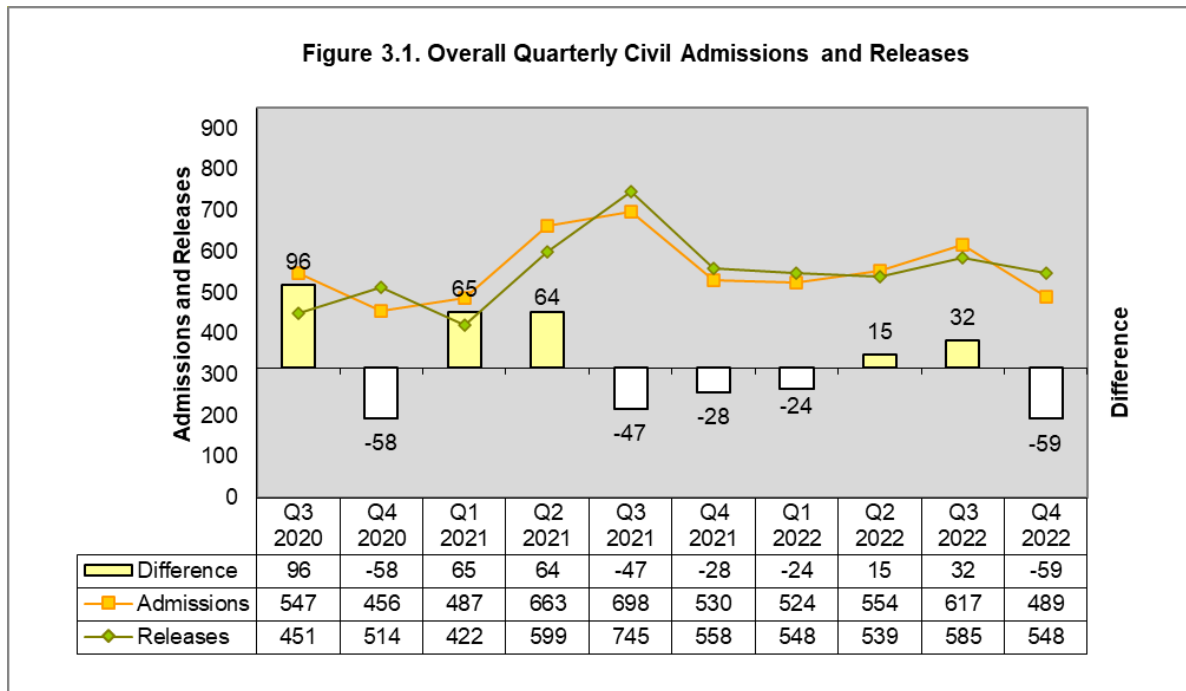
Table 2.7. State* Criminally Sentenced New Court Commitments by Court Jurisdiction

County	Q3 2020	Q4 2020	Q1 2021	Q2 2021	Q3 2021	Q4 2021	Q1 2022	Q2 2022	Q3 2022	Q4 2022
Essex	45	37	38	42	45	51	74	82	47	66
Suffolk	19	25	30	35	35	33	47	59	74	41
Middlesex	17	24	18	17	21	37	28	54	39	40
Hampden	10	10	17	29	32	34	37	36	40	28
Bristol	21	20	39	35	31	32	32	35	34	26
Worcester	11	19	19	24	24	17	37	31	22	26
Plymouth	24	15	14	19	15	11	14	20	18	17
Barnstable	5	5	5	6	13	11	10	14	7	13
Berkshire	1	8	3	1	9	6	13	5	3	11
Norfolk	7	10	7	8	12	13	20	16	11	10
Franklin	0	1	3	2	4	6	7	3	4	10
Hampshire	1	1	3	3	1	4	7	5	6	5
Nantucket	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0
Dukes	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Total	161	175	196	221	242	255	326	361	307	293

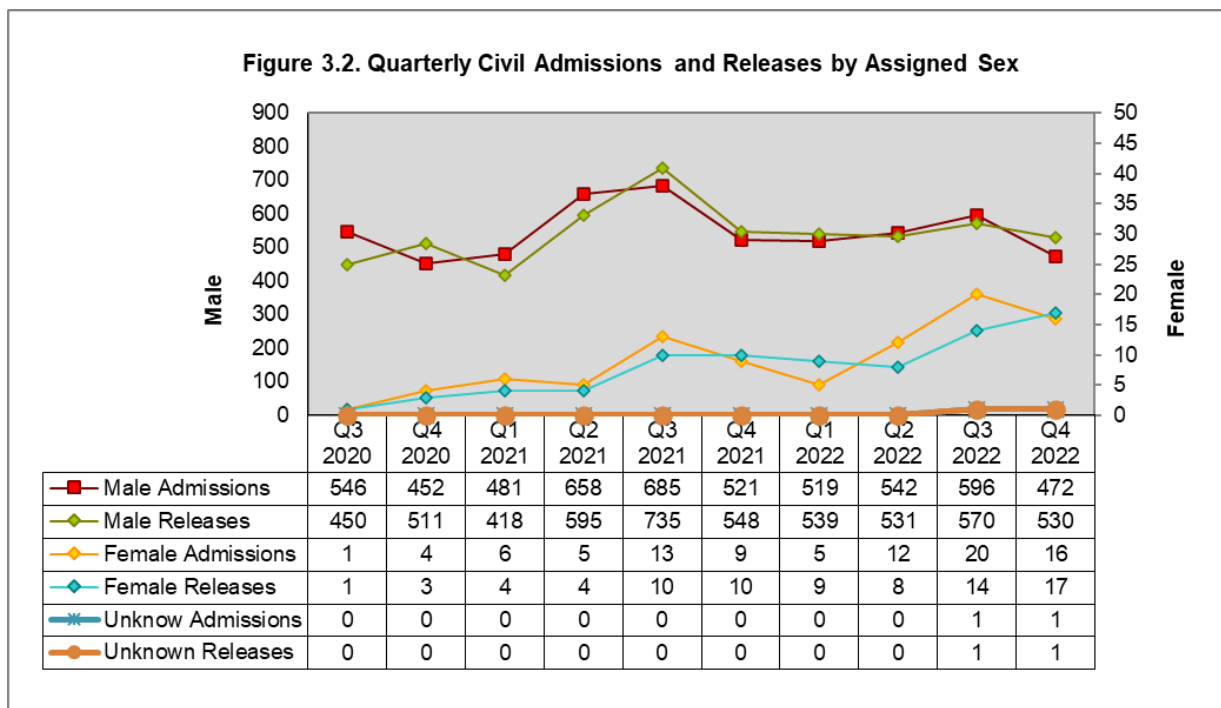
*Excludes county, federal, and out-of-state incarcerated individuals.

CIVILLY COMMITTED ADMISSIONS AND RELEASES

In the fourth quarter of 2022, the MA DOC released 59 more civil commitments than admitted, which reversed the admission to release surplus of the previous two quarters. For the ten-quarter trend period, the MA DOC has admitted 56 more civil commitments than it has released. See Figure 3.1.

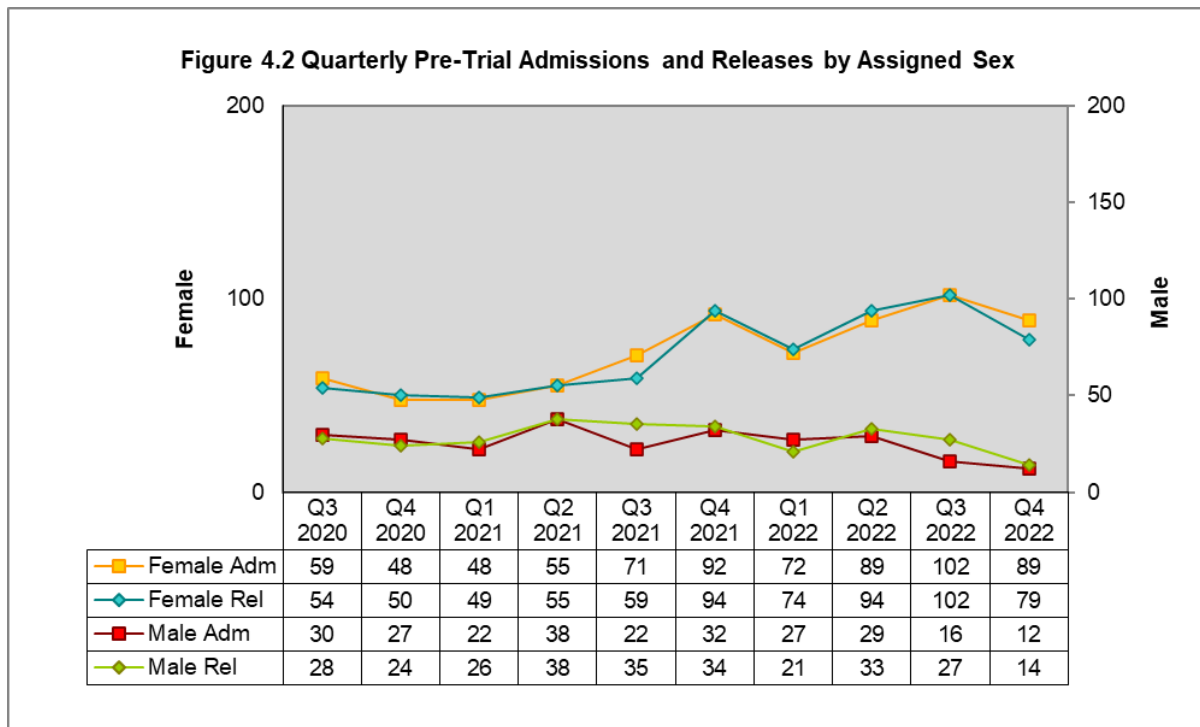
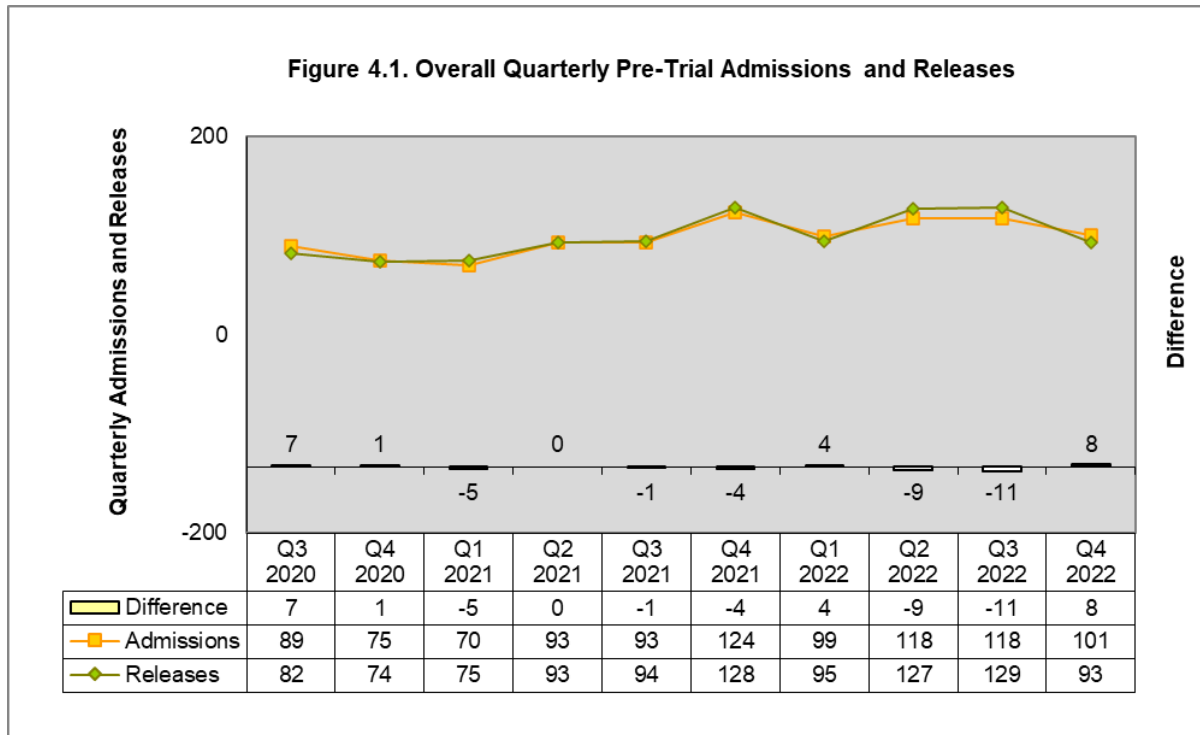


Male civil admissions decreased in the fourth quarter to 472 from 596 of the previous quarter and releases reduced to 530 from 570. Female civil admissions also decreased from 20 of the previous quarter to 16 while female releases increased from 14 to 17. In addition, 1 civil admission and 1 release reported an assigned sex of unknown. See Figure 3.2.



PRE-TRIAL ADMISSIONS AND RELEASES

In the fourth quarter of 2022, there were 101 Pre-trial admissions, lower than the previous quarter, and releases went down as well from 129 to 93, resulting in 8 more admissions than releases for this quarter. Both male and female admissions and releases went down in this quarter from the previous quarter. See figures 4.1 and 4.2.



Pre-Trial Admissions by Court Jurisdiction

In the fourth quarter of 2022, one-quarter of male pre-trial detainee admissions came from Essex County (3). The remaining admissions came from out-of-state (2), Bristol (2), Worcester (2), Middlesex (1) Norfolk (1) and Suffolk (1) counties. Female detainees came all from Middlesex County (89). Other counties, such as Essex, Norfolk, and Plymouth, which used to send more female detainees before the pandemic dropped to zero 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	Q3 2020	Q4 2020	Q1 2021	Q2 2021	Q3 2021	Q4 2021	Q1 2022	Q2 2022	Q3 2022	Q4 2022
Essex	1	2	4	1	0	2	2	1	0	3
Out-of-state	10	6	9	14	3	7	11	10	5	2
Bristol	0	0	3	0	2	4	0	2	2	2
Worcester	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	2	1	2
Middlesex	3	0	1	5	1	4	4	2	2	1
Norfolk	1	1	1	2	0	0	2	2	2	1
Suffolk	7	3	1	4	1	2	1	6	1	1
Plymouth	2	1	0	6	11	4	2	3	3	0
Hampden	1	0	3	2	0	2	1	1	0	0
Federal	2	12	0	3	3	5	3	0	0	0
Franklin	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Barnstable	1	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0
Hampshire	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	30	27	22	38	22	32	27	29	16	12

*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	Q3 2020	Q4 2020	Q1 2021	Q2 2021	Q3 2021	Q4 2021	Q1 2022	Q2 2022	Q3 2022	Q4 2022
Middlesex	57	43	48	52	68	91	69	88	101	89
Bristol	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Federal	0	2	0	1	2	1	2	1	0	0
Out-of-State	0	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	0
Essex	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Suffolk	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Worcester	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Total	59	48	48	55	71	92	72	89	102	89

*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 Inmate Management System.

Admissions	Incarcerated 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. Incarcerated 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 incarcerated 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 incarcerated individual is 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).
being held to	
MA DOC	Massachusetts Department of Correction, i.e. state prison.
New Court Commitment	Newly sentenced and committed incarcerated 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)
supervision of parole

Incarcerated individuals released on parole are under the 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 incarcerated 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 incarcerated 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 incarcerated 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.