

Massachusetts Department of Correction Quarterly Report on Admissions and Releases

Calendar Year 2024
Quarter 4



Executive Office of Public Safety and Security
April 2025

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



Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

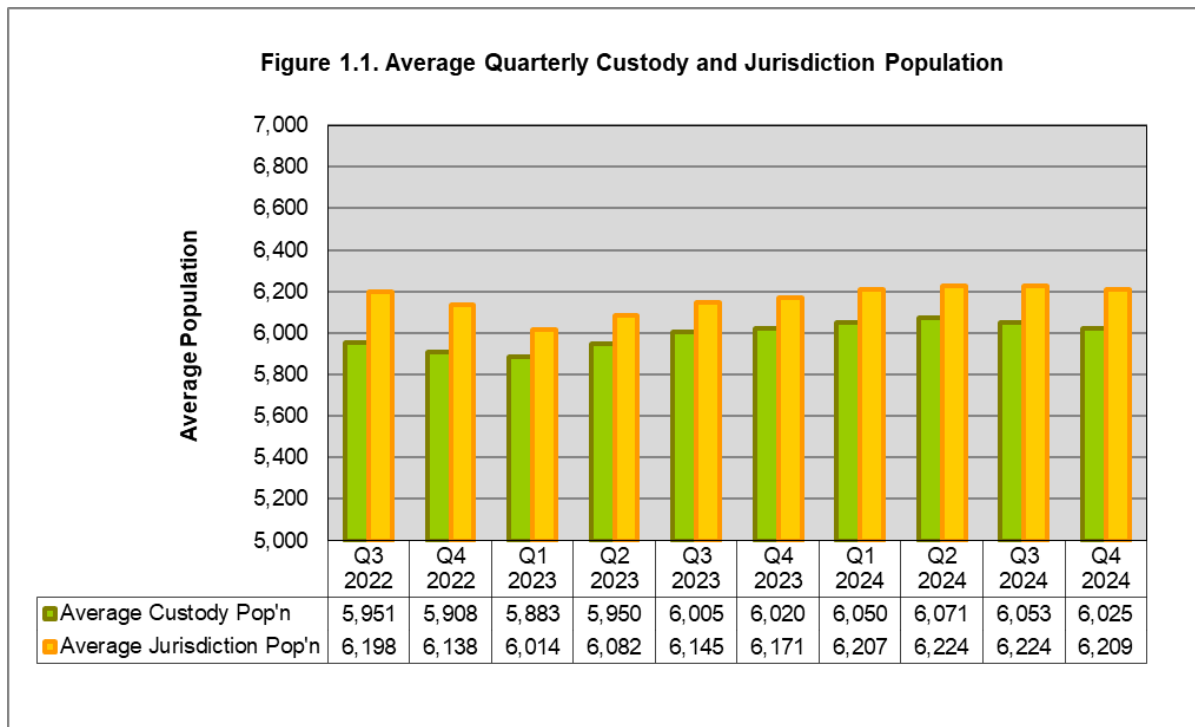
- Between the third and fourth quarter of 2024, the MA DOC custody population saw a decrease of 28 individuals to 6,025. This is the second decrease after five consecutive custody population increases since the second quarter of 2023. During the ten-quarter trend period starting in Q3 2022, the average custody population increased 1.2%. The jurisdiction population decreased 0.2% or 15 individuals to 6,209 from the previous quarter. It increased 0.2% in the ten-quarter trend period.
- The criminally sentenced population increased 0.4% from the last quarter to 5,761. For the ten-quarter trend period starting in Q3 2022, it climbed 3.5% or an increase of 193 individuals. The civil commitment population decreased from the previous 435 to 400 in this quarter and fluctuated around a flat line of 423 individuals after a large drop of 122 individuals between Q4 2022 and Q1 2023. The MA DOC pre-trial population decreased this quarter to 48 detainees and averaged 47 detainees for the ten-quarter trend period.
- Overall quarterly admissions to the DOC decreased to 880 from the previous quarter, a drop of 6.18%. Releases decreased 0.7% to 943. This resulted in an admission-to-release deficit of 63 individuals in the fourth quarter, 2024.
- Criminal admissions in the fourth quarter of 2024 increased 6.3% to 405 from the previous quarter. Releases remained intact from the previous quarter, at 400. Admissions surpassed releases, adding 5 individuals to the DOC population. Overall, MA DOC admitted 163 more incarcerated individuals than released during the ten-quarter trend period.
- New court commitments remained to be the leading admission type for male admissions (80.9%), followed by parole violators (15.4%) and transfers (3.4%) as the top three admission types in the fourth quarter of 2024.
- Of the 22 female criminal admissions in the fourth quarter of 2024, 86.4% of them were new court commitments and the remaining 13.6% were parole violators. No female admissions came from other admission types in the fourth quarter of 2024.
- Parole to community (47.7%) continued to top the list of male criminal release types. followed by expiration of sentence to community (27.2%) and expiration/parole to outside authority (11.2%) as the top three release types in the fourth quarter, 2024. They stayed as the top three release types in this order consistently in the ten-quarter trend period.
- Parole to community (40.0%) was the top female criminal release type. Expiration of sentence to community (36.0%) and transfers (12.0%) were the second and third largest release types in the fourth quarter, 2024.
- In the fourth quarter of 2024, the MA DOC released 50 more civil commitments than admitted, with 371 admissions and 421 releases. For the ten-quarter trend period, the MA DOC has released 158 more civil commitments than it has admitted.
- In the fourth quarter of 2024, there were 104 pre-trial admissions and 122 releases, resulting in 18 more releases than admission for the quarter. Female admissions and releases went down to 91 and 110 from the previous 117 and 112 respectively. Male admissions and releases went up to 13 and 12 from the previous 10.

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 6,025 individuals in the fourth quarter of 2024. This population decreased by 28 individuals or close to 0.5% from the previous quarter. This is the second decline after five consecutive custody population increases since the second quarter of 2023. From the third quarter of 2022 through the fourth quarter of 2024, there was an increase of 74 individuals, or about 1.2%, from the custody population.

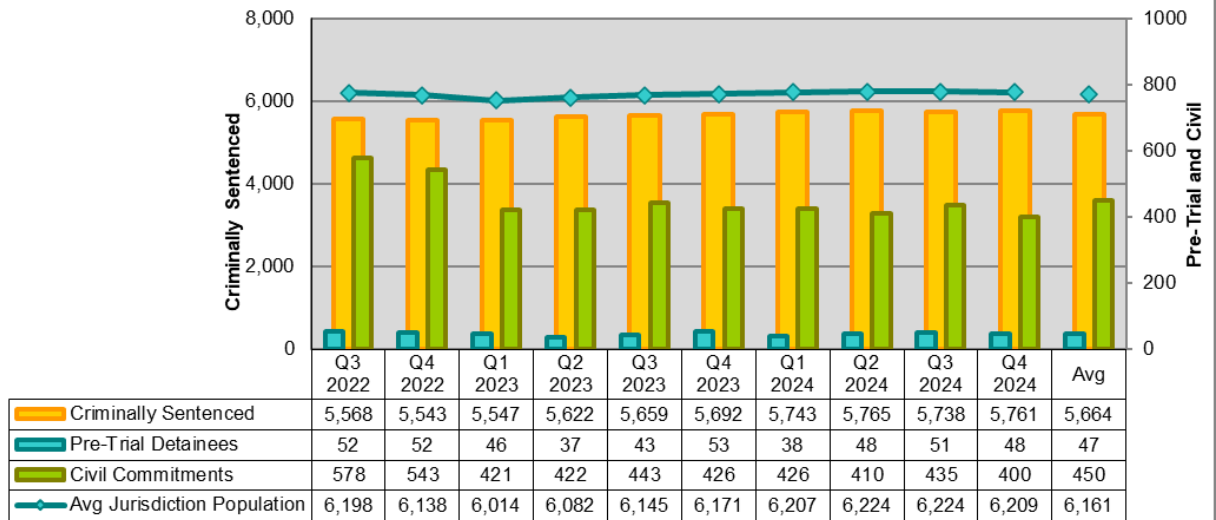
The **jurisdiction** population averaged 6,209 individuals in the fourth quarter of 2024, a decrease of 15 individuals or about 0.2% from the previous quarter after five increases in a row starting in Q2 2023. Over the ten-quarter period from the third quarter of 2022 to the fourth quarter of 2024, the **jurisdiction** population is up 11 individuals or about 0.2%. See Figure 1.1 below.*



The criminally sentenced population went up 0.4% from the last quarter to 5,761. For the ten-quarter trend period starting in the third quarter of 2022, it climbed 3.5% or an increase of 193 individuals. The civil commitment population decreased from the previous 435 to 400 in this quarter and fluctuated around a flat line of 423 individuals after a large drop of 122 individuals between Q4 2022 and Q1 2023. The MA DOC pre-trial population decreased this quarter to 48 detainees and averaged 47 detainees for the ten-quarter trend period. See Figure 1.2 on the 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.

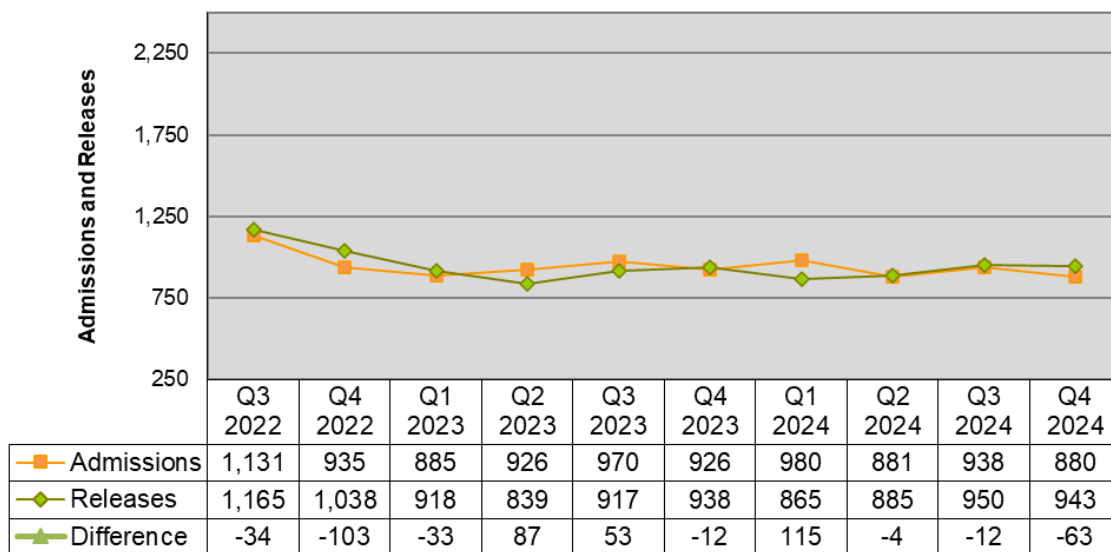
Figure 1.2. Average Quarterly Jurisdiction Population by Commitment Type



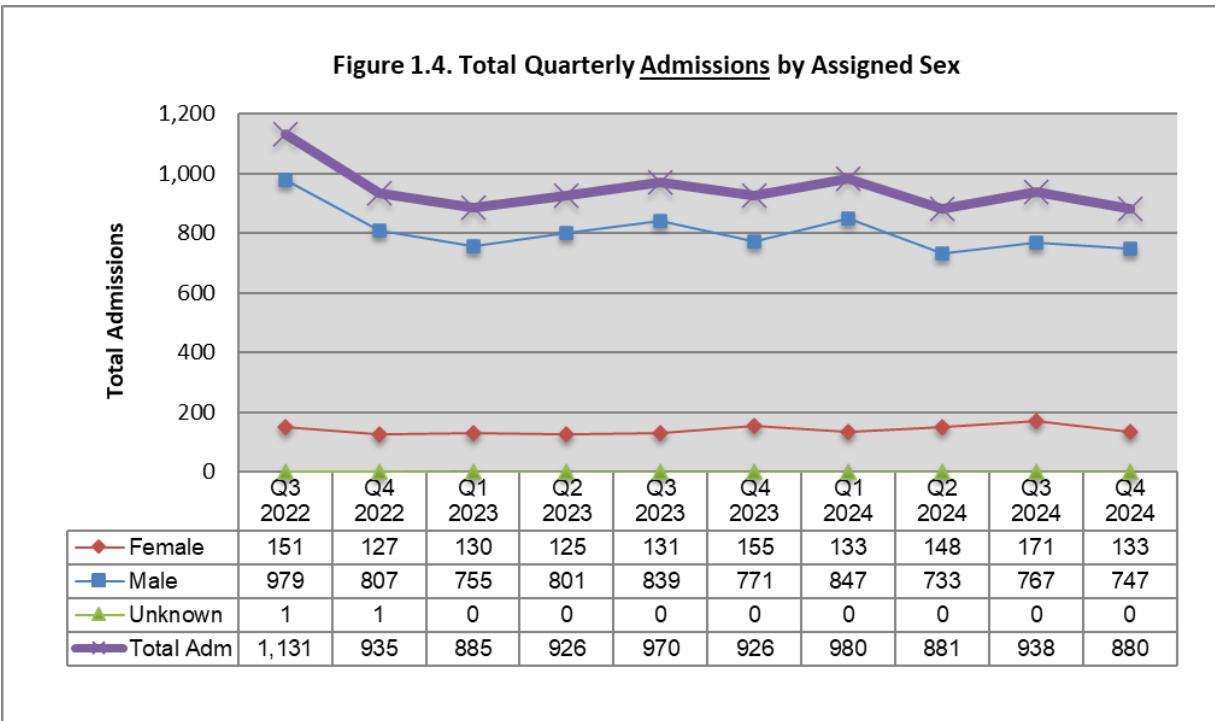
OVERALL ADMISSIONS AND RELEASES

Overall quarterly admissions to the DOC decreased to 880 from the previous quarter, a drop of 6.18%. Releases decreased 0.7% to 943. This resulted in an admission-to-release deficit of 63 individuals in the fourth quarter, 2024, the second largest 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 of 2024 decreased from 767 to 747, a decline of 20 admissions from the previous quarter. Female admissions went down from 171 to 133, a drop of 38 individuals. Consequently, the total quarterly admissions reduced from 938 to 880. See Figure 1.4 below.



Male releases in the fourth quarter went down from 793 to 786. Female releases stayed intact from the previous quarter, at 157. This resulted in a total decrease of 7 releases from 950 to 943 in the fourth quarter of 2024. See Figure 1.5 below.

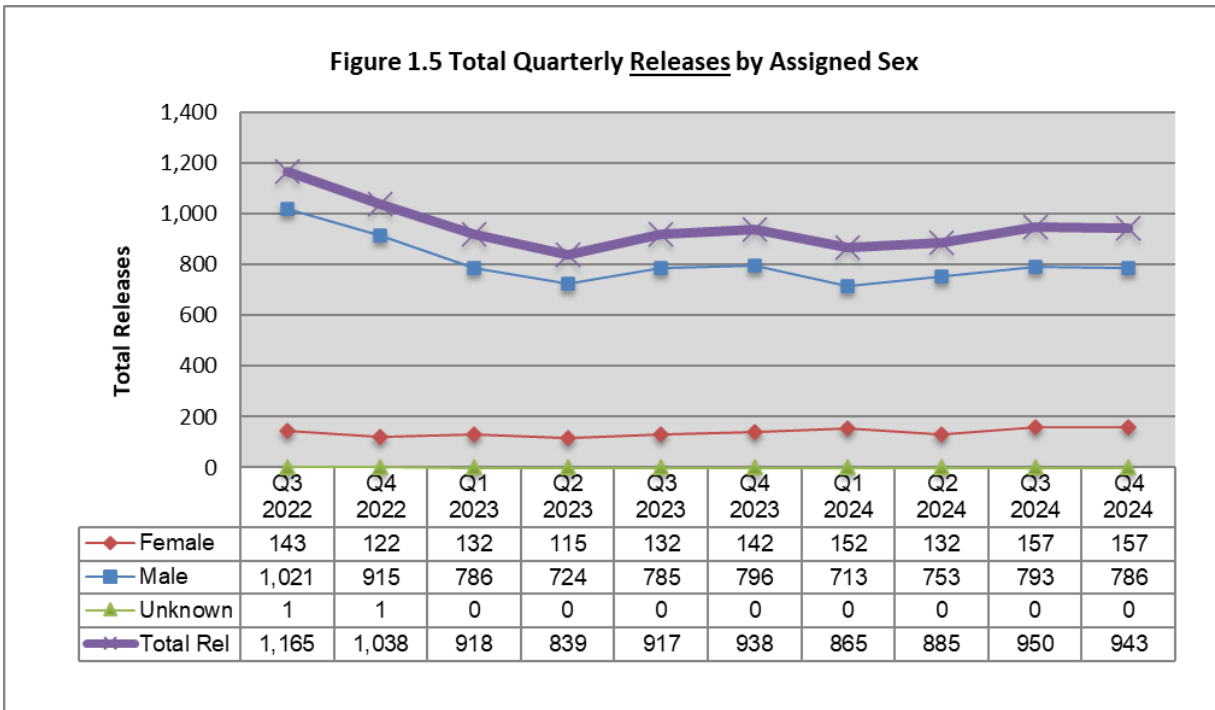
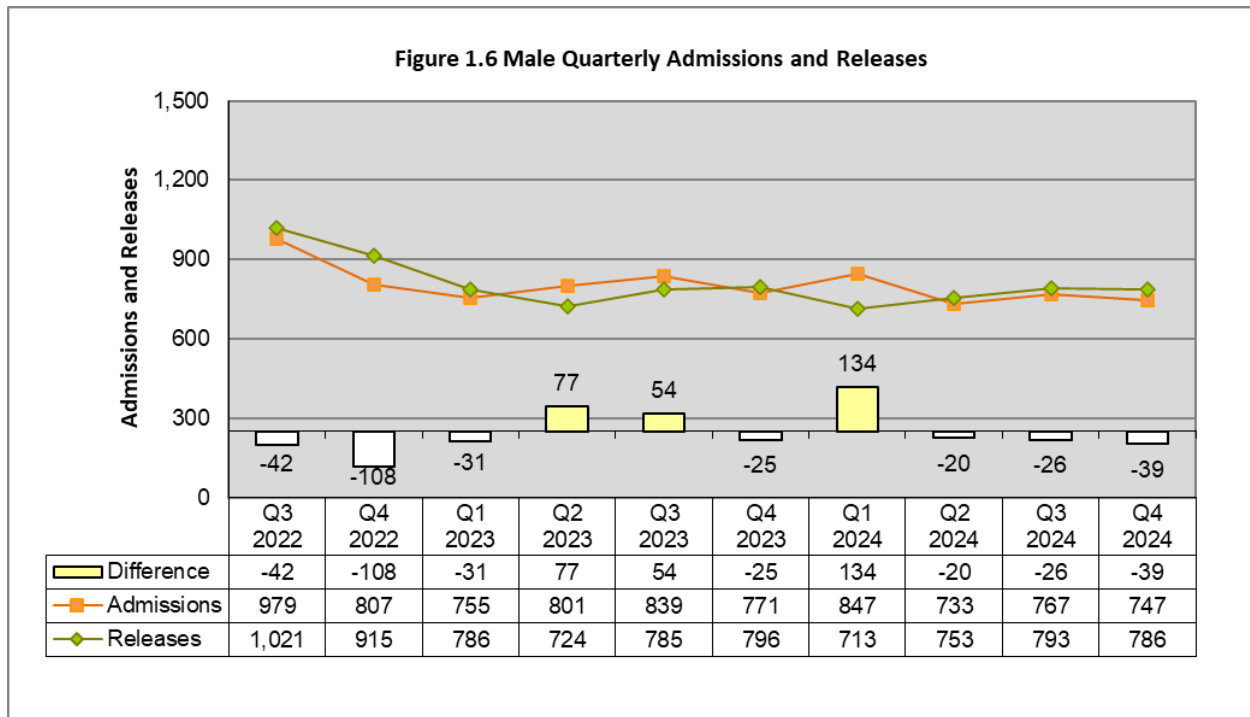
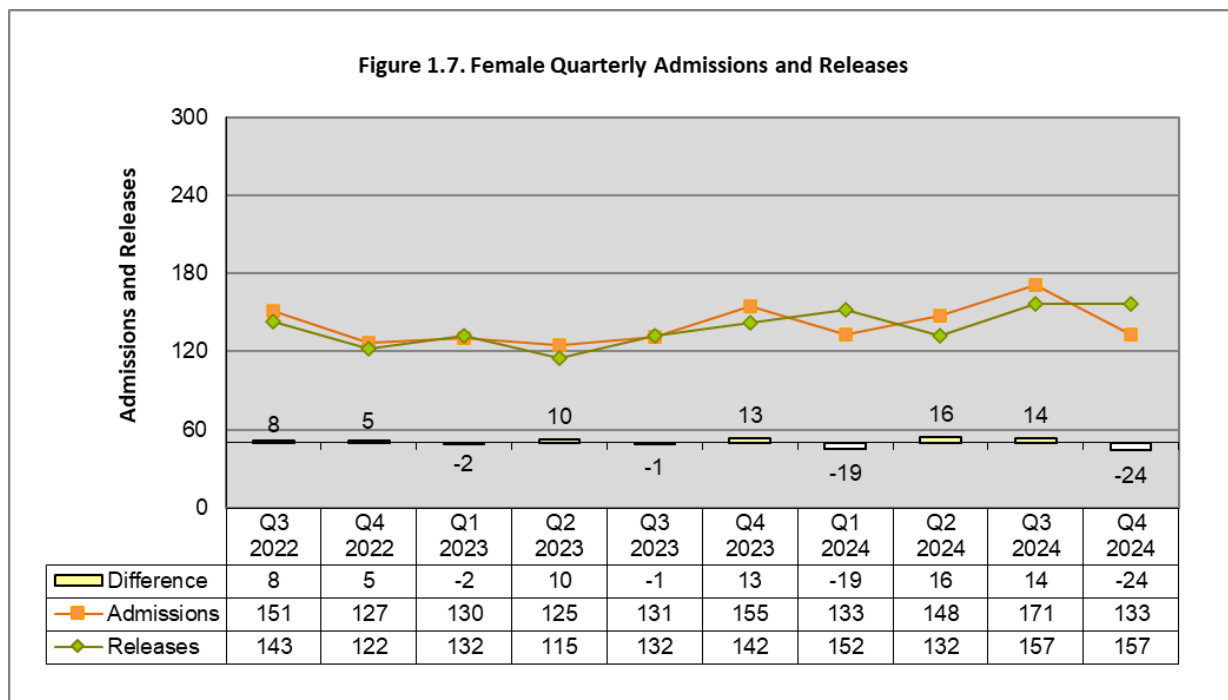


Figure 1.6 shows that both male admissions and releases went down from the previous quarter. Because more individuals were released than admitted, it resulted in an admission-to-release deficit of 39 individuals in the fourth quarter of 2024. For the ten-quarter trend period, MA DOC released 11 more individuals than admitted.

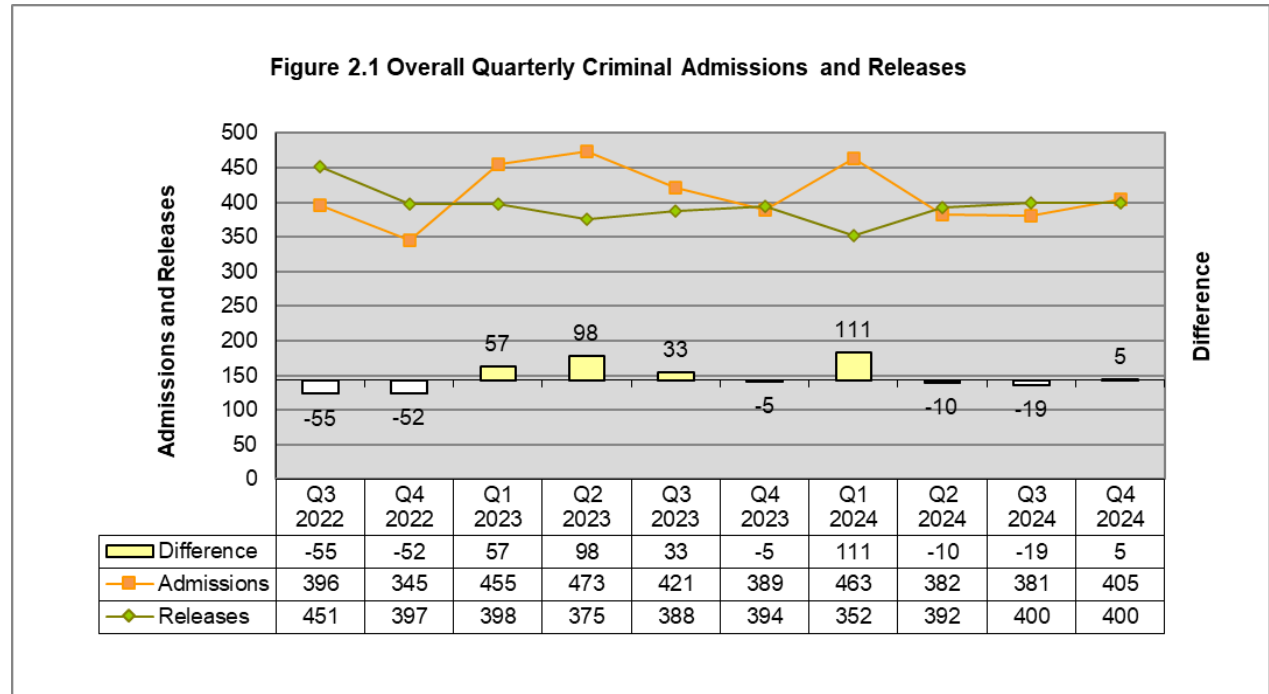


Female admissions declined while releases remained unchanged from the previous quarter. It gave rise to an admission-to-release deficit of 24 individuals in the fourth quarter of 2024. For the ten-quarter trend period, MA DOC admitted 20 more individuals than released. See Figure 1.7 below.



CRIMINALLY SENTENCED ADMISSIONS AND RELEASES

Criminal admissions in the fourth quarter of 2024 increased 6.3% to 405 from the previous quarter. Releases remained intact from the previous quarter, at 400. Admissions surpassed releases, adding 5 individuals to the DOC population. Overall, MA DOC admitted 163 more incarcerated individuals than released during the ten-quarter trend period. (Figure 2.1)



In the fourth quarter of 2024, male criminal admissions went up to 383 from the previous 349 while releases remained about the same as the previous quarter, at 375. It resulted in an admissions-to-release surplus of 8 incarcerated individuals. For the ten-quarter trend period, the MA DOC admitted 149 more men than released. Female criminal admissions went down, and releases went up slightly from the previous quarter, ending the quarter with an admission-to-release deficit of 3 releases, and an admission-to-release surplus of 12 individuals for the ten-quarter trend period. (Figure 2.2, next page)

Figure 2.2. Criminally Sentenced Admissions and Releases by Assigned Sex

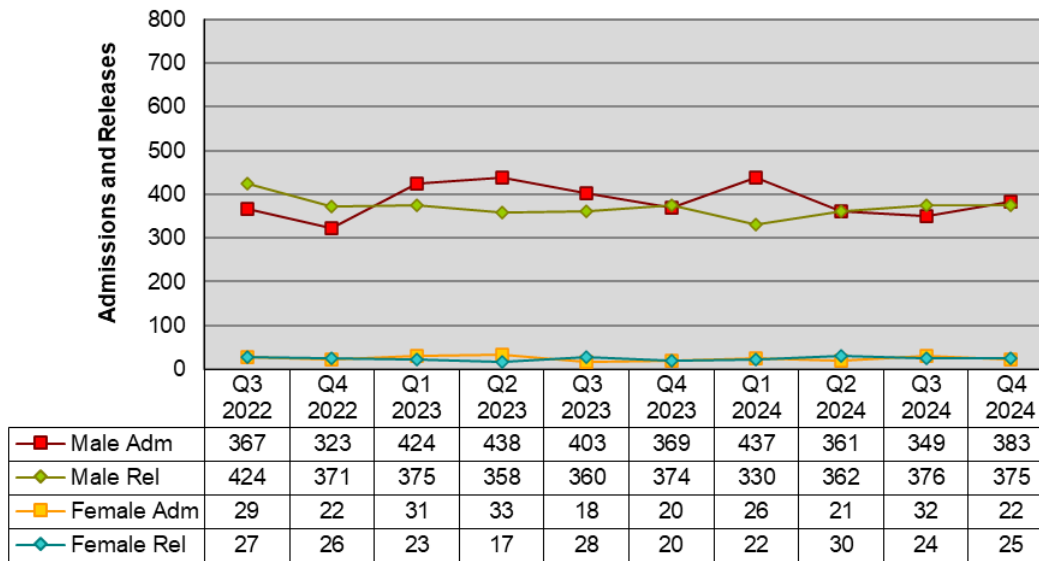
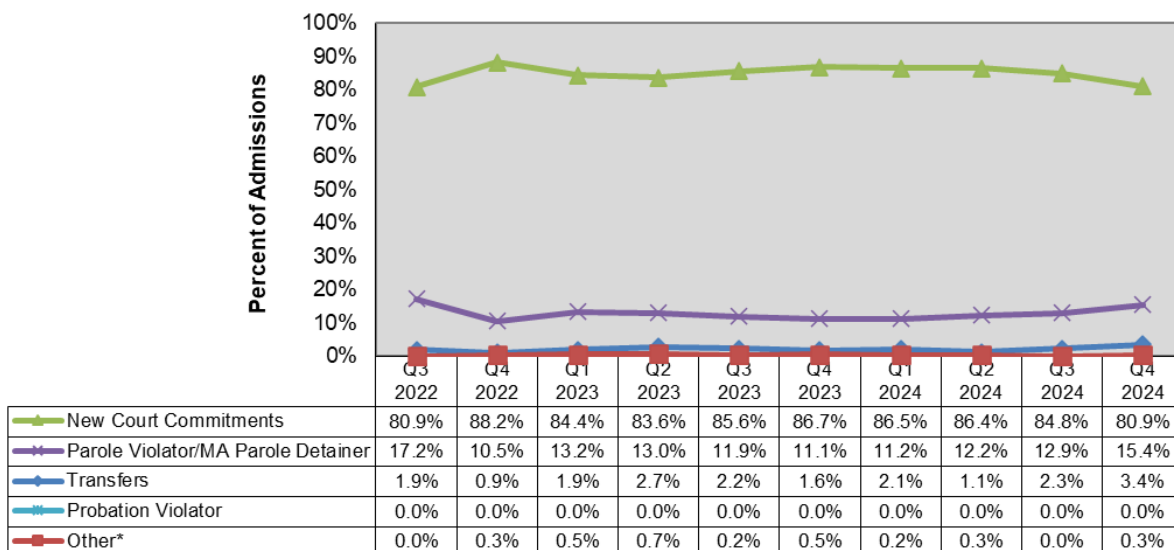


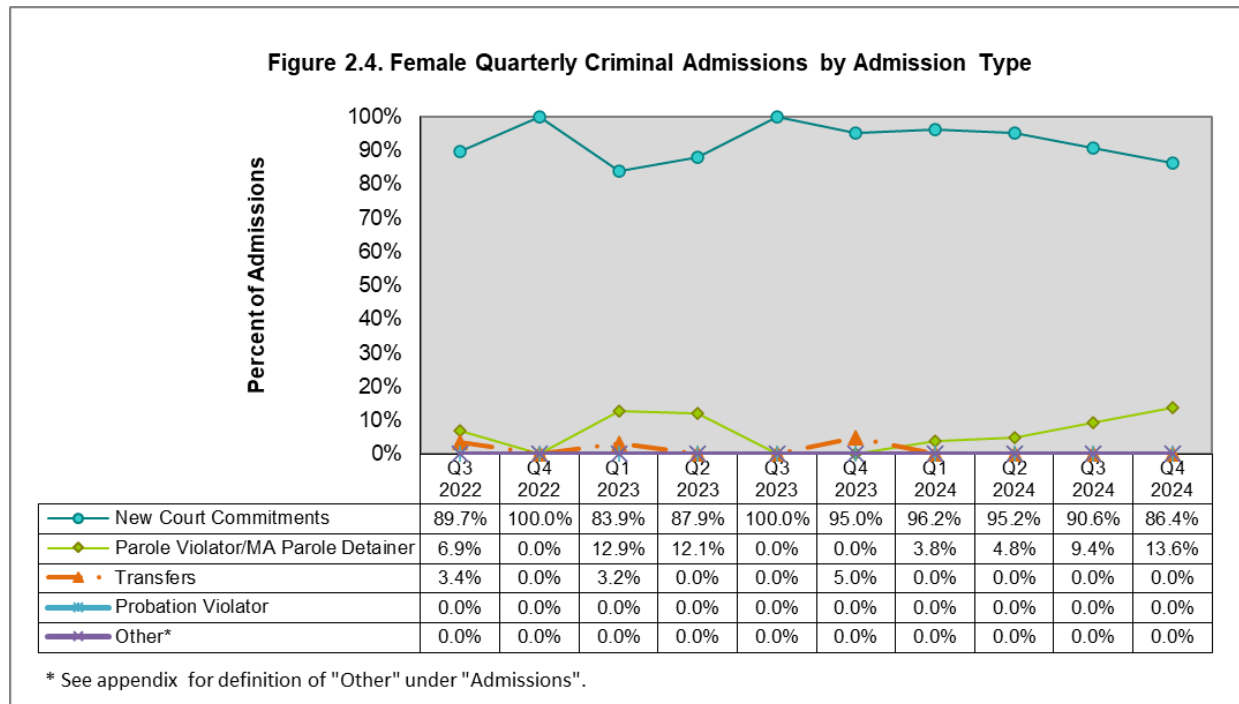
Figure 2.3 below shows that new court commitments continued to be the leading male criminal admission type (80.9%) followed by parole violators (15.4%) and transfers (3.4%) as the distant second and third male criminal admission types in the fourth quarter of 2024. The rank of the three admission types stayed consistently in the same order during the ten-quarter trend period.

Figure 2.3. Male Quarterly Criminal Admissions by Admission Type

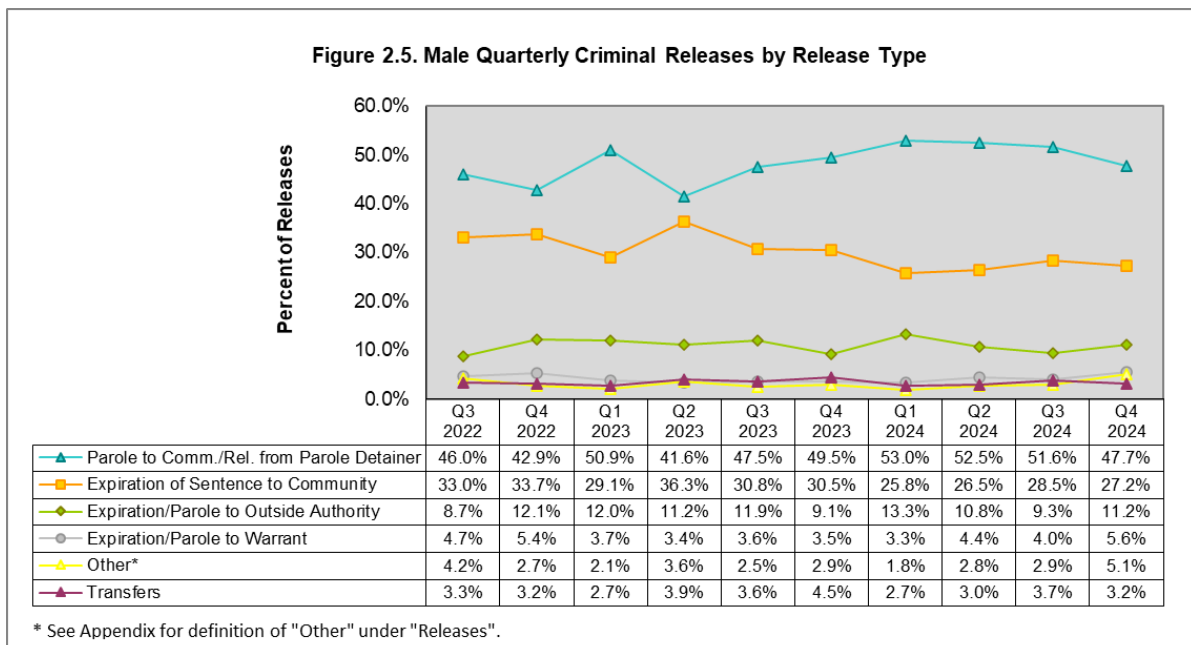


* See appendix for definition of "Other" under "Admissions".

Of the 22 female criminal admissions in the fourth quarter of 2024, 86.4% of them were new court commitments and the remaining 13.6% 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)

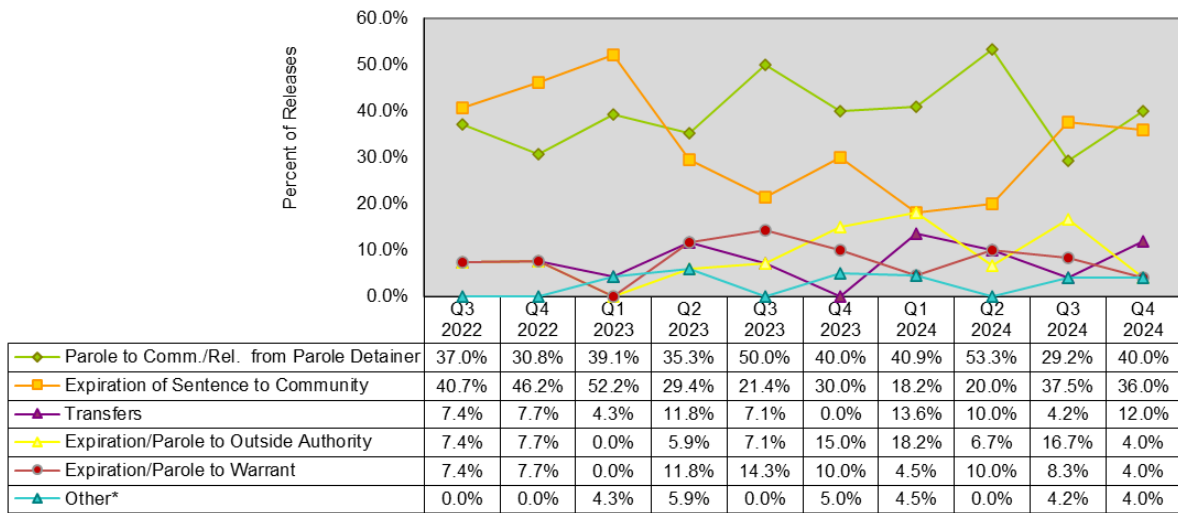


Figures 2.5 describes how male criminally sentenced individuals were released in Q4, 2024 and the nine quarters prior. In the fourth quarter of 2024, parole to community (47.7%) continued to top the list of male release types, followed by expiration of sentence to community (27.2%) and expiration/parole to outside authority (11.2%) as the top three release types. They stayed as the top three release types in this order consistently in the ten-quarter trend period.



Parole to community (40.0%) was the top female criminal release type. Expiration of sentence to community (36.0%) and transfers (12.0%) were the second and third largest release types in the fourth quarter, 2024. Because of the small number of female releases, 25 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 slightly in the fourth quarter of 2024 to 315 from the previous 311. Suffolk (52), Hampden (51) and Essex counties sent the most criminal new court commitments. Other counties that sent 20 or more new court commitments also include Bristol (36), Middlesex (34), and Worcester (32) counties. Together, they accounted for 78.1% of the total. (Figure 2.7)

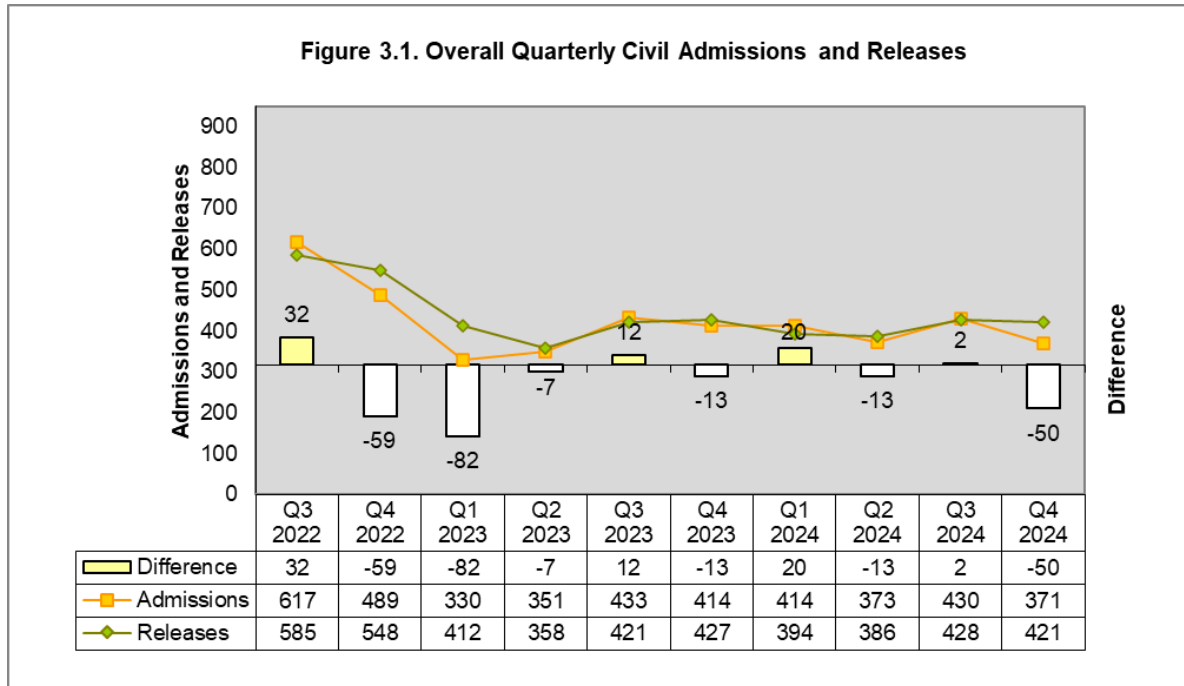
Table 2.7. State* Criminally Sentenced New Court Commitments by Court Jurisdiction

County	Q3 2022	Q4 2022	Q1 2023	Q2 2023	Q3 2023	Q4 2023	Q1 2024	Q2 2024	Q3 2024	Q4 2024
Suffolk	74	41	63	81	60	56	77	51	53	52
Hampden	40	28	64	56	47	34	60	46	39	51
Essex	47	66	59	74	67	65	66	60	60	50
Bristol	34	26	60	42	39	43	52	38	35	36
Middlesex	39	40	30	42	46	53	39	27	44	34
Worcester	22	26	30	21	24	27	32	33	31	23
Plymouth	18	17	16	17	20	13	26	15	14	16
Norfolk	11	10	22	9	12	8	8	10	9	13
Franklin	4	10	2	15	10	7	9	17	2	11
Barnstable	7	13	7	6	11	6	8	8	11	10
Berkshire	3	11	8	8	8	4	7	7	11	10
Hampshire	6	5	5	2	6	4	5	5	2	8
Nantucket	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Dukes	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	307	293	367	374	350	320	389	318	311	315

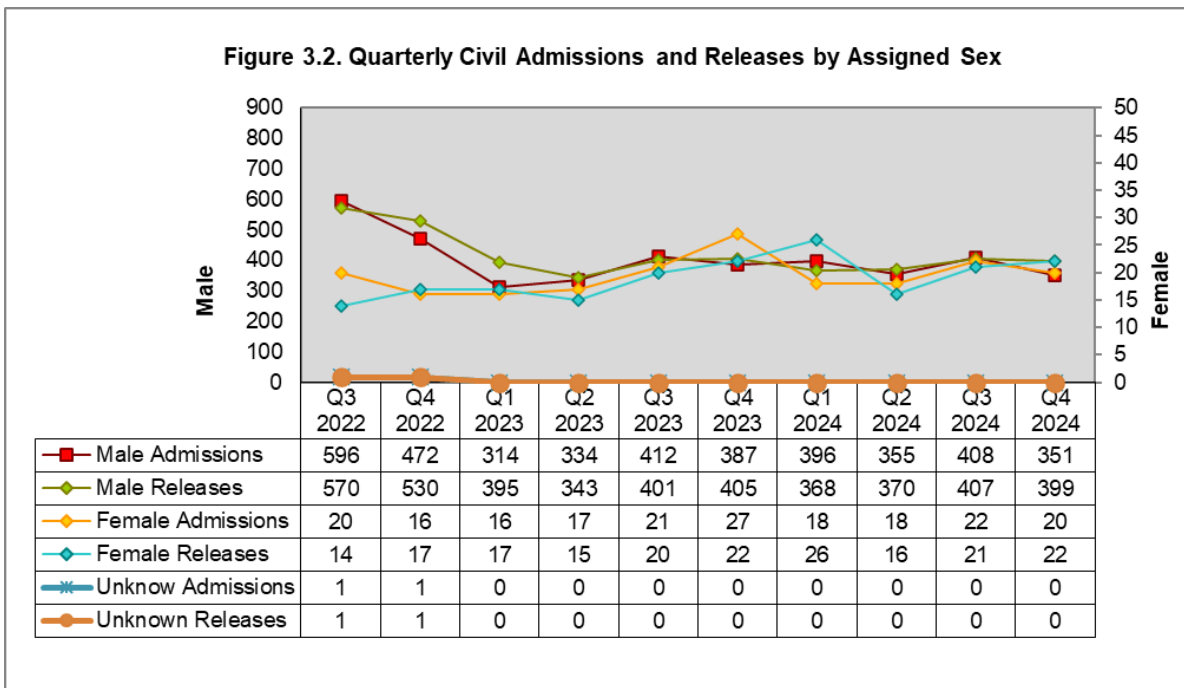
*Excludes county, federal, and out-of-state individuals.

CIVILLY COMMITTED ADMISSIONS AND RELEASES

In the fourth quarter of 2024, the MA DOC released 50 more civil commitments than admitted, which reversed the admission-to-release surplus of the previous quarter. For the ten-quarter trend period, the MA DOC has released 158 more civil commitments than it has admitted. See Figure 3.1.



Male civil admissions decreased from 408 in the previous quarter to 351 in the fourth quarter. Releases declined from 407 to 399, surpassing admissions by 48 individuals. Female civil admissions increased to 22 and releases to 21 from 18 and 16 respectively, also trailing admissions by 1 individual. See Figure 3.2.



PRE-TRIAL ADMISSIONS AND RELEASES

In Q4 of 2024, there were 104 pre-trial admissions and 122 releases, resulting in 18 more releases than admissions. Female admissions and releases went down to 91 and 110 from the previous 117 and 112. Both male admissions and releases went up to 13 and 12 from the previous 10, ending the fourth quarter with an admission-to-release deficit of 19 for females and a surplus of 1 for males. (Figures 4.1 & 4.2)

Figure 4.1. Overall Quarterly Pre-Trial Admissions and Releases

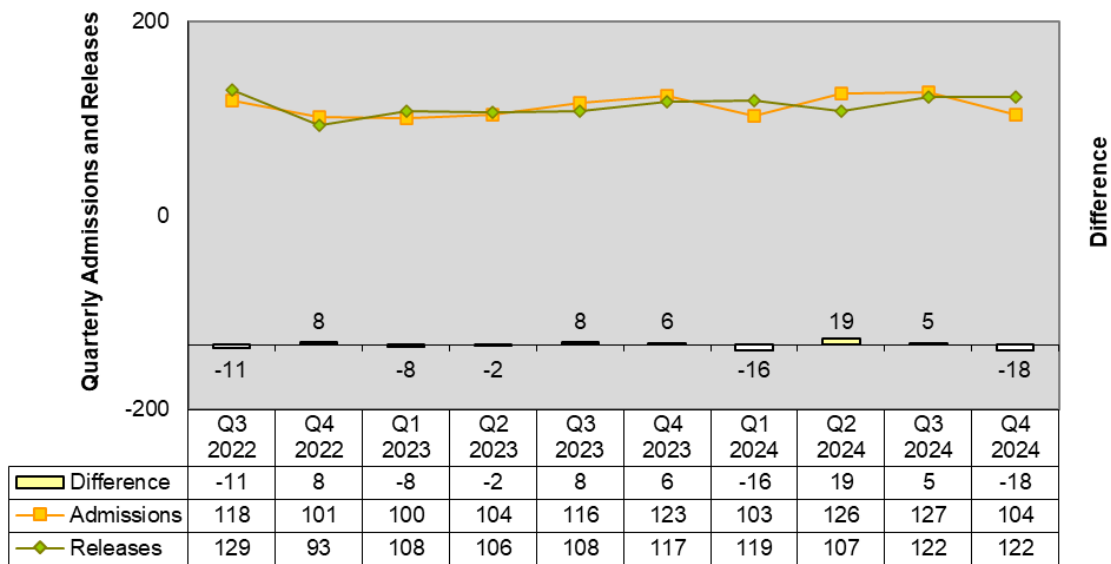
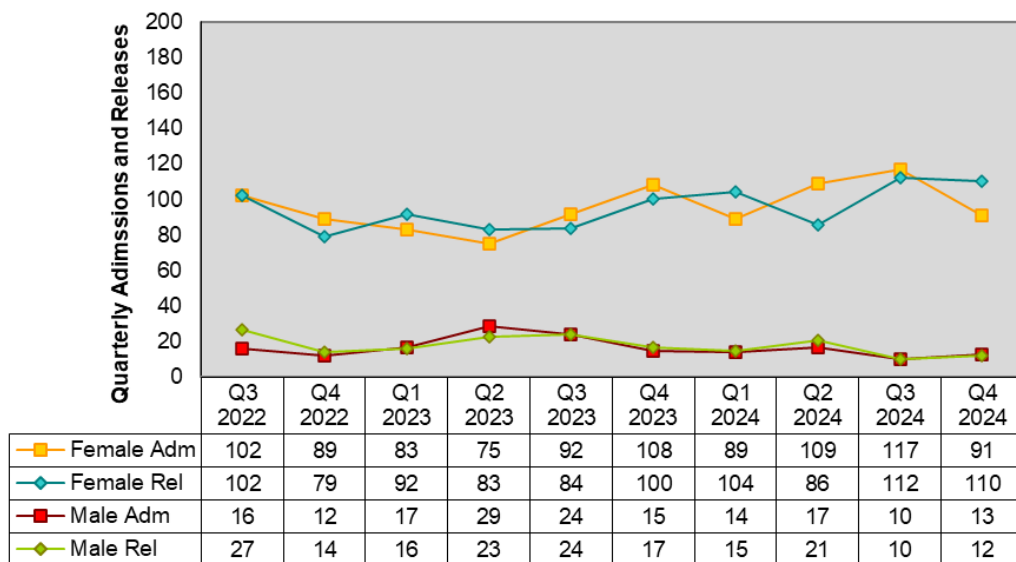


Figure 4.2 Quarterly Pre-Trial Admissions and Releases by Assigned Sex



Pre-Trial Admissions by Court Jurisdiction

In the fourth quarter of 2024, the 13 male pre-trial detainee admissions came from out-of-state (4), Suffolk (3), Middlesex (3), Plymouth (1), Essex (1), and Barnstable (1) counties. Female detainees came predominantly from Middlesex County (89), followed distantly by Suffolk (1) and Worcester (1) counties. See Tables 4.3 and 4.4 below.

Table 4.3 Male Quarterly Pre-Trial Admissions by Jurisdiction

County	Q3 2022	Q4 2022	Q1 2023	Q2 2023	Q3 2023	Q4 2023	Q1 2024	Q2 2024	Q3 2024	Q4 2024
Out-of-state	5	2	4	7	7	3	3	4	1	4
Suffolk	1	1	0	3	4	1	2	4	2	3
Middlesex	2	1	2	3	1	1	2	3	0	3
Plymouth	3	0	0	2	2	3	0	1	1	1
Essex	0	3	2	4	1	1	3	0	0	1
Barnstable	0	0	0	1	0	2	1	1	1	1
Norfolk	2	1	4	4	3	1	0	2	1	0
Bristol	2	2	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0
Hampden	0	0	1	2	2	2	1	0	1	0
Hampshire	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Worcester	1	2	0	3	4	1	1	1	1	0
Mass Parole	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Franklin	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Federal	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	16	12	17	29	24	15	14	17	10	13

*Berkshire and Dukes 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	Q3 2022	Q4 2022	Q1 2023	Q2 2023	Q3 2023	Q4 2023	Q1 2024	Q2 2024	Q3 2024	Q4 2024
Middlesex	101	89	81	74	90	105	88	108	117	89
Suffolk	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Worcester	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Out-of-State	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Norfolk	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Plymouth	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Essex	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	0
Bristol	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Barnstable	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Hampden	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	102	89	83	75	92	108	89	109	117	91

*Berkshire, Dukes, and Franklin counties, Mass Parole and Federal 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.