

Massachusetts Department of Correction Quarterly Report on Admissions and Releases

Calendar Year 2023
Quarter 2



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

Maura T. Healey, Governor

Executive Office of Public Safety and Security

Terrence M. Reidy, Secretary

Massachusetts Department of Correction

Carol A. Mici, Commissioner

Rhiana Kohl, Ph.D., Executive Director of Strategic Planning & Research

For questions regarding this report, please contact the Research & Planning Division:

Research & Planning Division
50 Maple Street
Milford, MA 01757
Research@massmail.state.ma.us

This and other Massachusetts Department of Correction publications can be accessed on the internet at:

<https://www.mass.gov/research-statistics-and-reports>

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

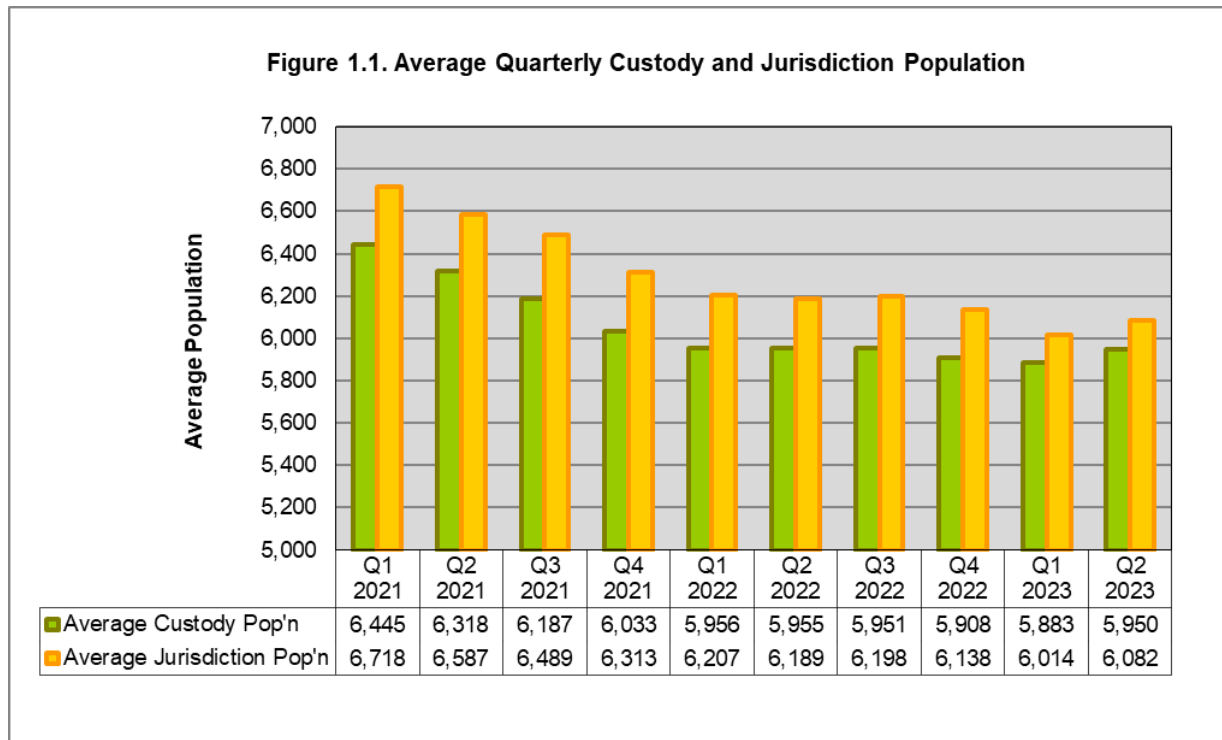
- Between the first and the second quarter of 2023, the MA DOC custody population saw an increase of 67 individuals. This is the first increase since the second quarter of 2017. During the ten-quarter trend period starting in Q1 2021, the average custody population has decreased 7.7%. The jurisdiction population increased about 1.1% or 68 individuals from the previous quarter, the second increase in the trend period, and dropped 9.5% since the first quarter of 2021.
- The criminally sentenced population increased 1.4% from the last quarter, the second successive increase since the first quarter of 2012, and dropped 8.2% since the beginning of the trend period. The civil commitment population added 1 individual from the previous quarter and fluctuated around a flat line of 535 individuals during the ten-quarter trend period. The MA DOC pre-trial population decreased from the previous quarter and averaged 56 detainees.
- Overall quarterly admissions to the DOC increased to 926 from the previous quarter, a rise of 4.6%. Releases went down 8.6% to 839. This resulted in an admission-to-release surplus of 87 individuals in the second quarter, 2023.
- Criminal admissions increased 4.0% from the previous quarter and surpassed releases by a 473 to 375 margin in the second quarter of 2023, adding 98 people to the DOC population. Overall, the DOC released 608 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 (83.6%), followed by parole violators (13.0%) and transfers (2.7%) as the top-three admission types in the second quarter of 2023.
- Of the 33 female criminal admissions in the second quarter, 87.9% of them were new court commitments, and remaining 12.1% were parole violators. No female admissions came from other admission types in the second quarter of 2023.
- Parole to community (41.6%) continued to top the list of male criminal release types, followed by expiration of sentence to community (36.3%) and expiration/parole to outside authority (11.2%) as the top three release types in the second quarter, 2023. They stayed as the top three release types consistently in the ten-quarter trend period.
- Parole to community (35.3%) took the lead as the top female criminal release type, followed by expiration of sentence to community (29.4%) as the second release type. Transfers (11.8%) and expiration/parole to warrant (11.8%) shared the third place of release types in the second quarter, 2023.
- Male civil admissions increased in the second quarter from 314 to 334 of the previous quarter, the second lowest in the ten-quarter trend period. Releases decreased to 343 from 395, the lowest in the ten-quarter trend period. Female civil admissions and releases stayed about the same from the previous quarter at 17 for admissions and 15 for releases.
- In the second quarter of 2023, there were 104 pre-trial admissions and 106 releases, resulting in 2 more releases than admissions for the quarter. Female admissions went down to 75 and releases to 83 from the previous 83 and 92 respectively. Both male admissions and releases went up in this quarter to 29 and 23 from the previous 17 and 16.

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 5,950 individuals in the second quarter of 2023. This population increased by 67 individuals or 1.1% from the previous quarter. This is the first custody population increase since the second quarter of 2017. From the first quarter of 2021 through the second quarter of 2023, there was a decrease of 495 individuals, or 7.7%, from the custody population.

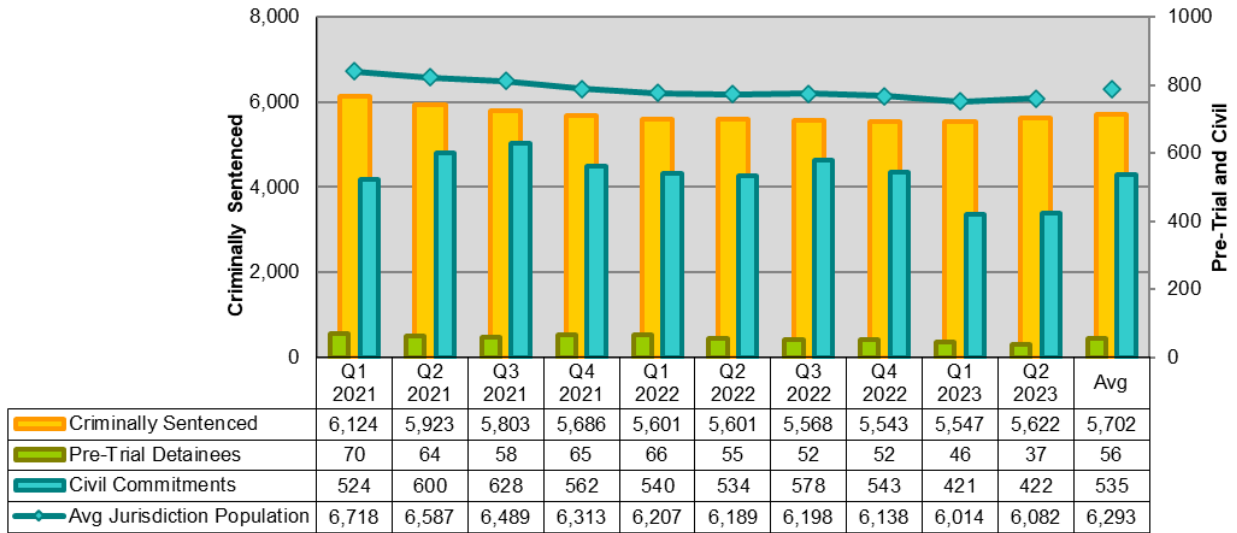
The **jurisdiction** population averaged 6,082 individuals in the second quarter of 2023, increasing 1.1% or 68 individuals from the previous quarter, the second increase in the trend period. Over the ten-quarter period from Q1 2021 to Q2 2023, the **jurisdiction** population is down 636 individuals or 9.5%. See Figure 1.1 below.*



The criminally sentenced population went up 1.4% from the last quarter to 5,622, the second successive increase since the first quarter of 2012. For the ten-quarter trend period starting in the first quarter of 2021, it dropped 8.2%. The civil commitment population added 1 individual from the previous quarter and fluctuated around a flat line of 535 individuals during the ten-quarter trend period. The MA DOC pre-trial population decreased this quarter from the previous quarter and averaged 56 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.

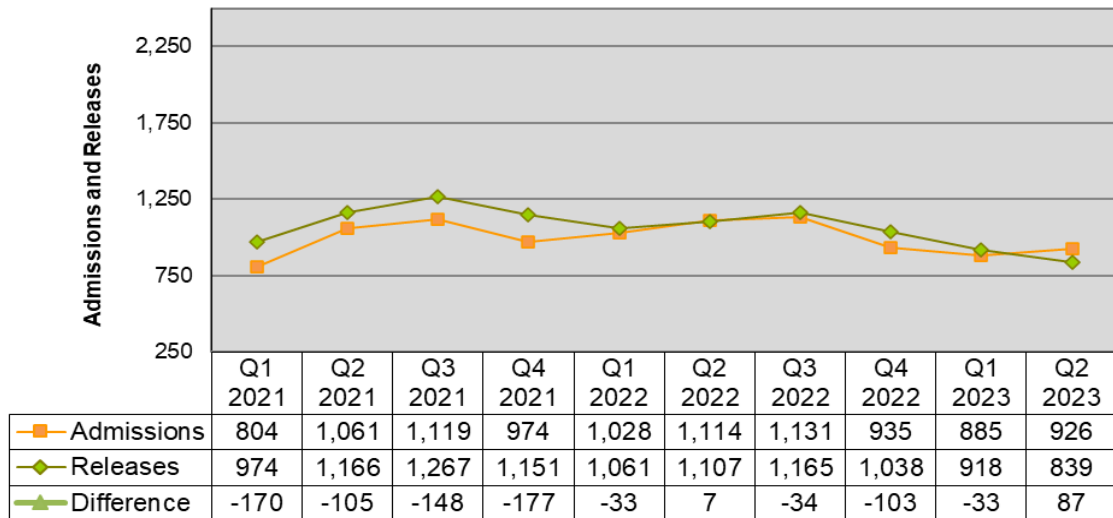
Figure 1.2. Average Quarterly Jurisdiction Population by Commitment Type



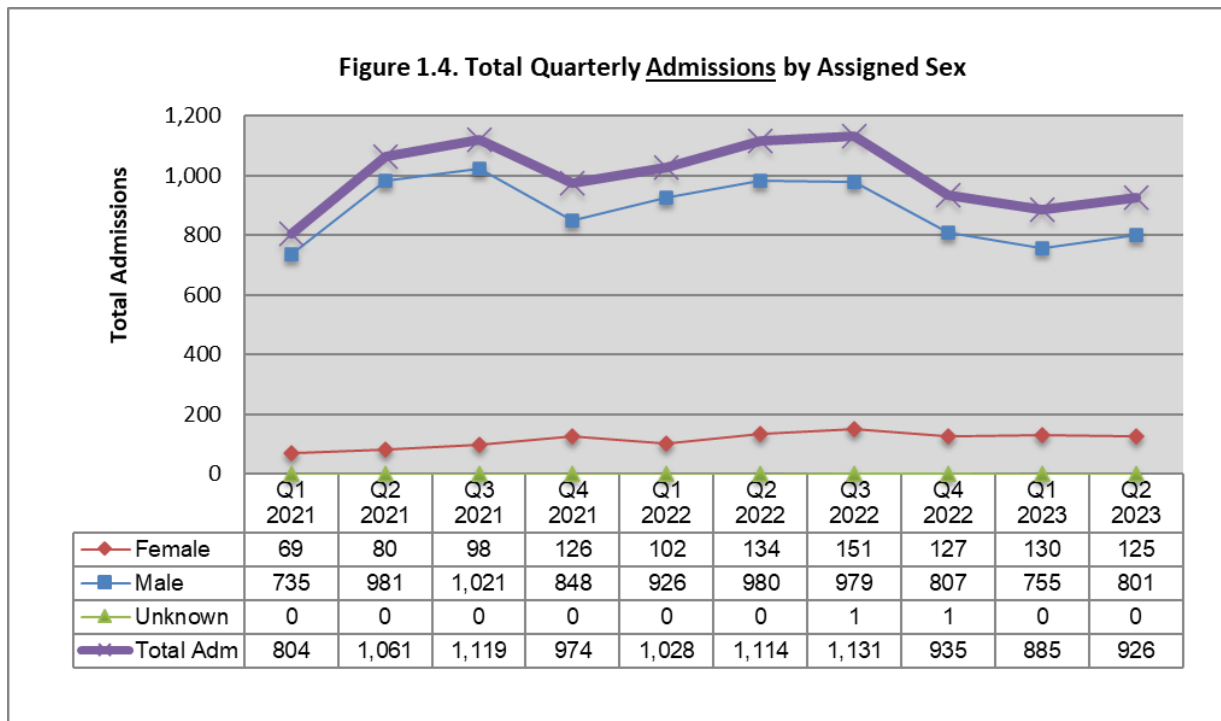
OVERALL ADMISSIONS AND RELEASES

Overall quarterly admissions to the DOC increased to 926 from the previous quarter, a rise of 4.6%. Releases decreased 8.6% to 839. This resulted in an admission-to-release surplus of 87 individuals in the second quarter, 2023, the second quarterly 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 second quarter increased from 755 to 801, a rise of 46 admissions from the previous quarter. Female admissions went down from 130 to 125, a decrease of 5 individuals. Consequently, the total quarterly admissions rose from 885 to 926. See Figure 1.4 below.



Male releases in the second quarter declined from 786 to 724, the lowest in the ten-quarter period. Female releases went down as well from 132 to 115. The total releases declined from 918 to 839 in the second quarter, 2023. See Figure 1.5 below.

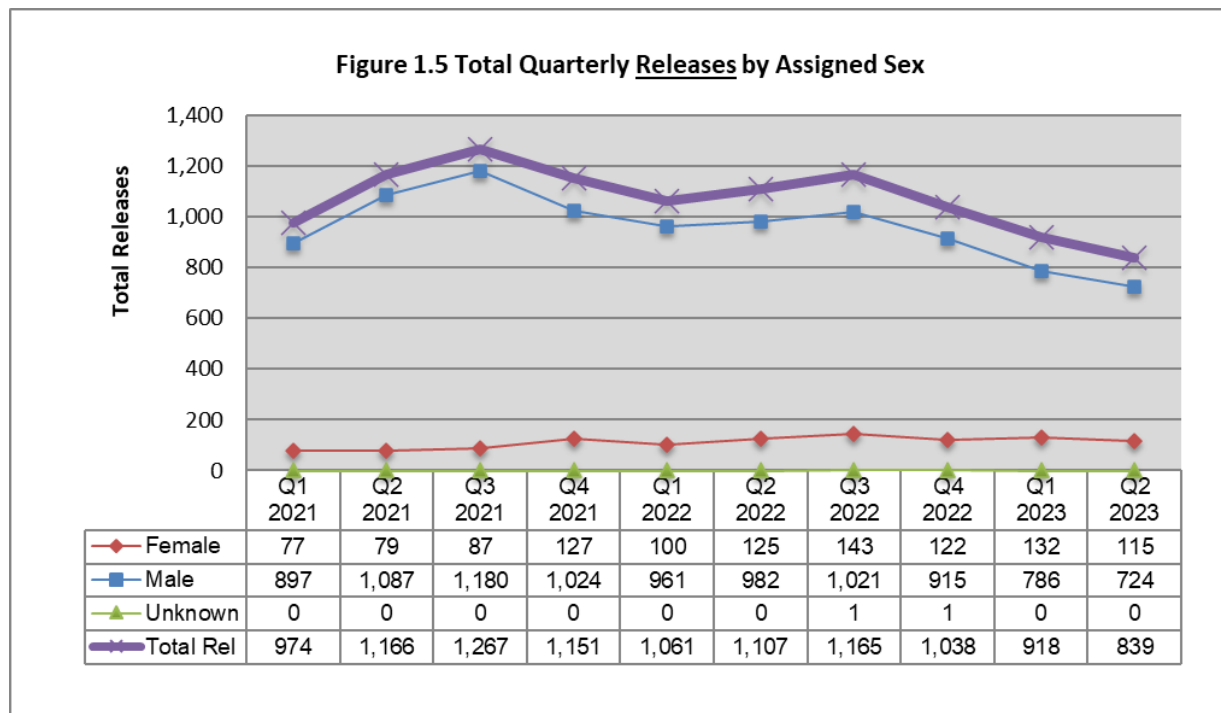


Figure 1.6 shows that male admissions went up from the previous quarter. Male releases, on the other hand went down. It resulted in an admission-to-release surplus of 77 individuals in the second quarter of 2023, the first surplus in the ten-quarter and since the second quarter of 2019.

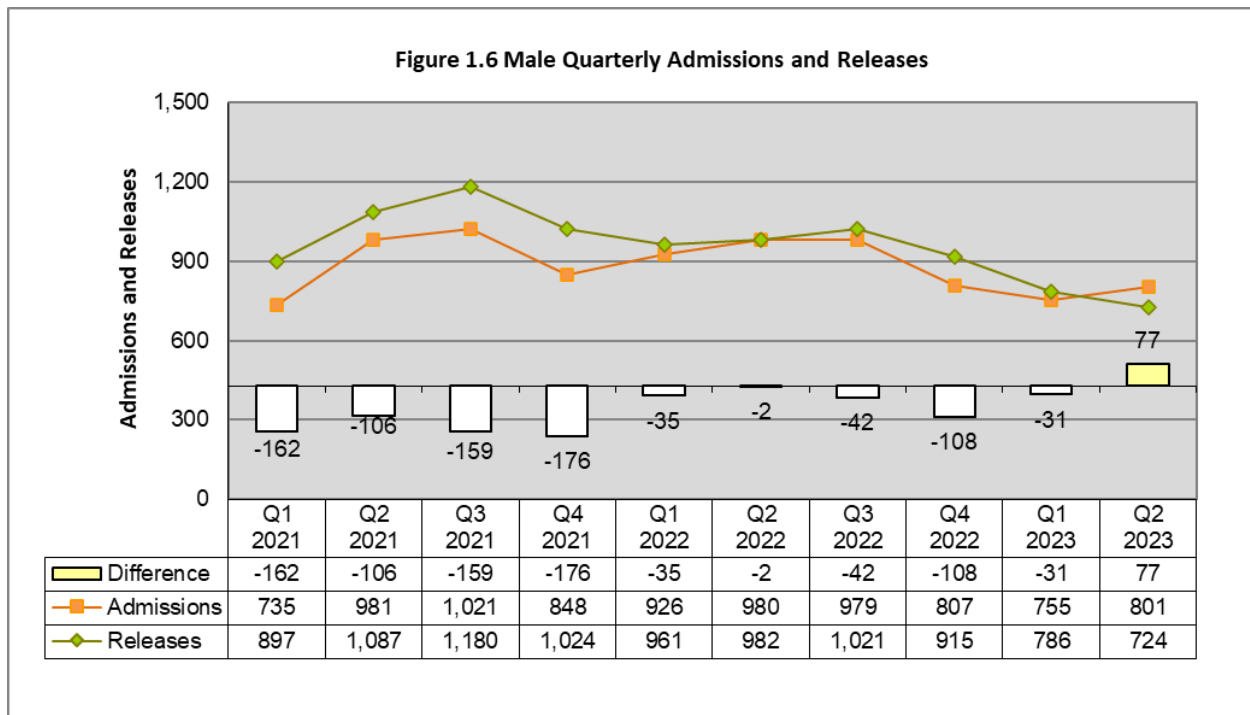
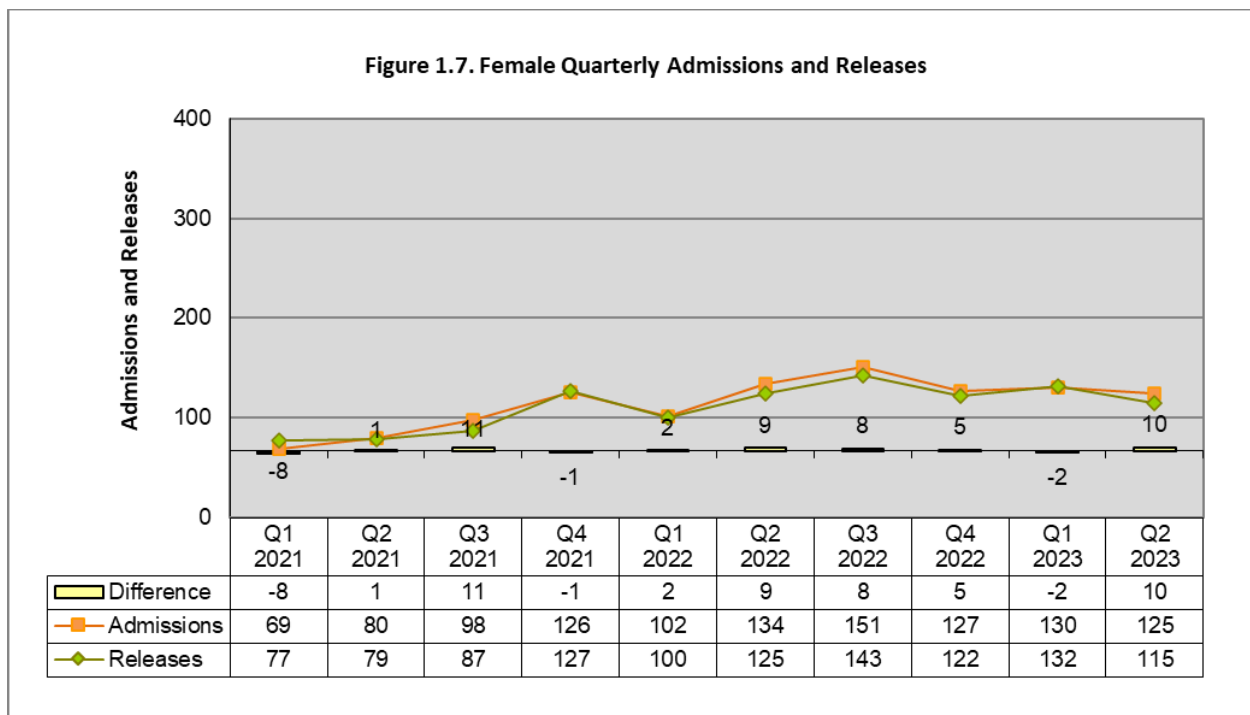
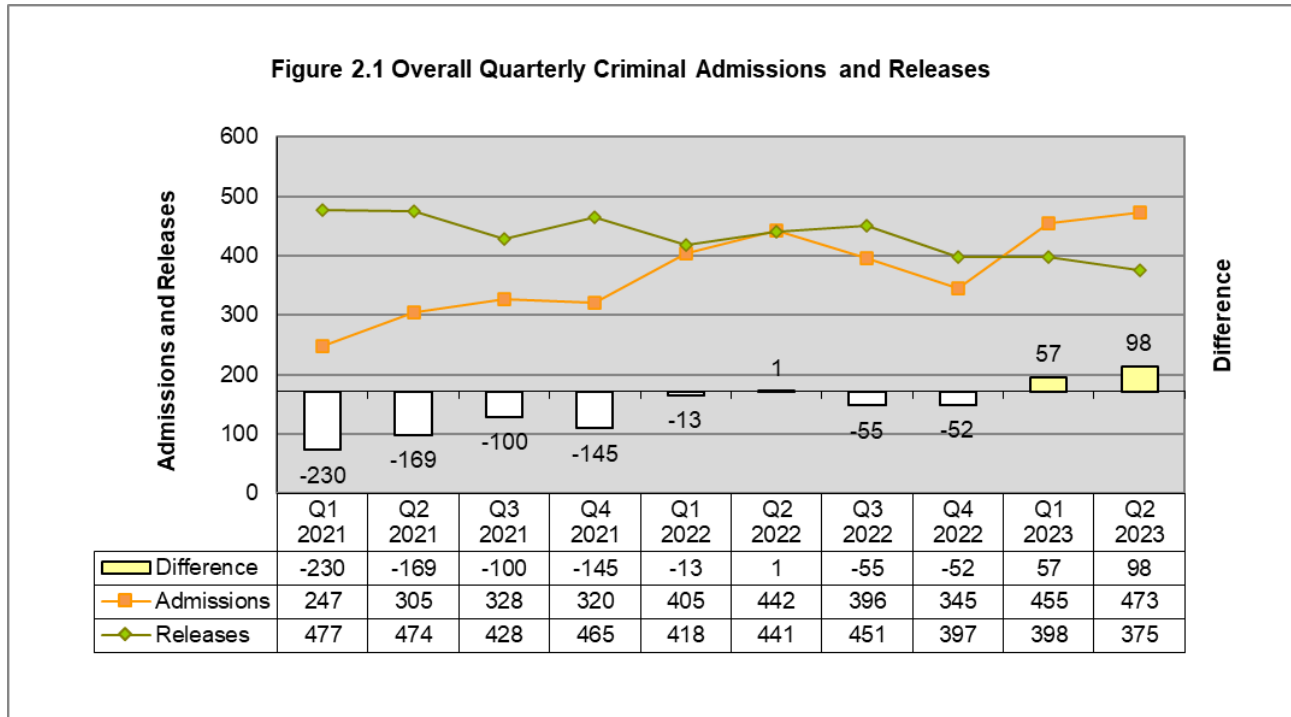


Figure 1.7 shows both female admissions and releases decreased and resulted in an admission-to-release surplus of 10 individuals in the second quarter, the second largest quarterly surplus in the ten-quarter period and since the first quarter of 2019.



CRIMINALLY SENTENCED ADMISSIONS AND RELEASES

Criminal admissions in the second quarter increased 4.0% from the previous quarter. This was the second increase following the sharp growth of 31.9% in the previous quarter. Releases went down from 398 in the previous quarter to 375. Releases trailed admissions for the third time in the ten-quarter trend period, adding 98 individuals to the DOC population. Overall, the DOC released 608 more incarcerated individuals than admitted during the ten-quarter trend period. (Figure 2.1)



In the second quarter of 2023, male criminal admissions went up from the previous quarter and releases went down. The MA DOC admitted 80 more male individuals than released for the quarter. For the ten-quarter trend period, the MA DOC released 639 more men than admitted. Female criminal admissions increased while releases went down from the previous quarter, ending with an admission-to-release surplus of 16 more individuals for the second quarter, and 29 more individuals for the ten-quarter trend period. (Figure 2.2, next page)

Figure 2.2. Criminally Sentenced Admissions and Releases by Assigned Sex

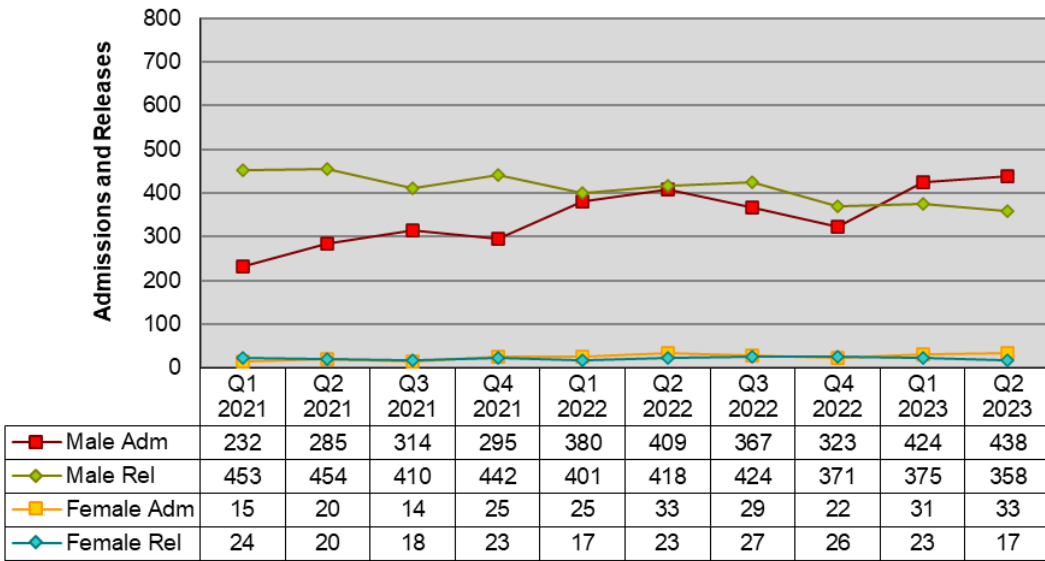
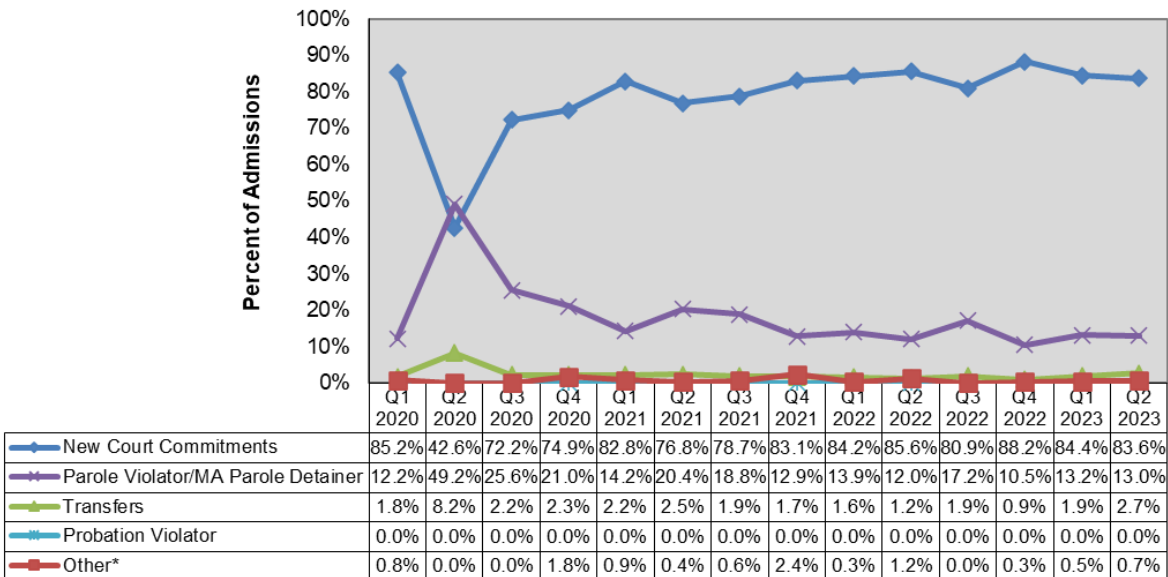


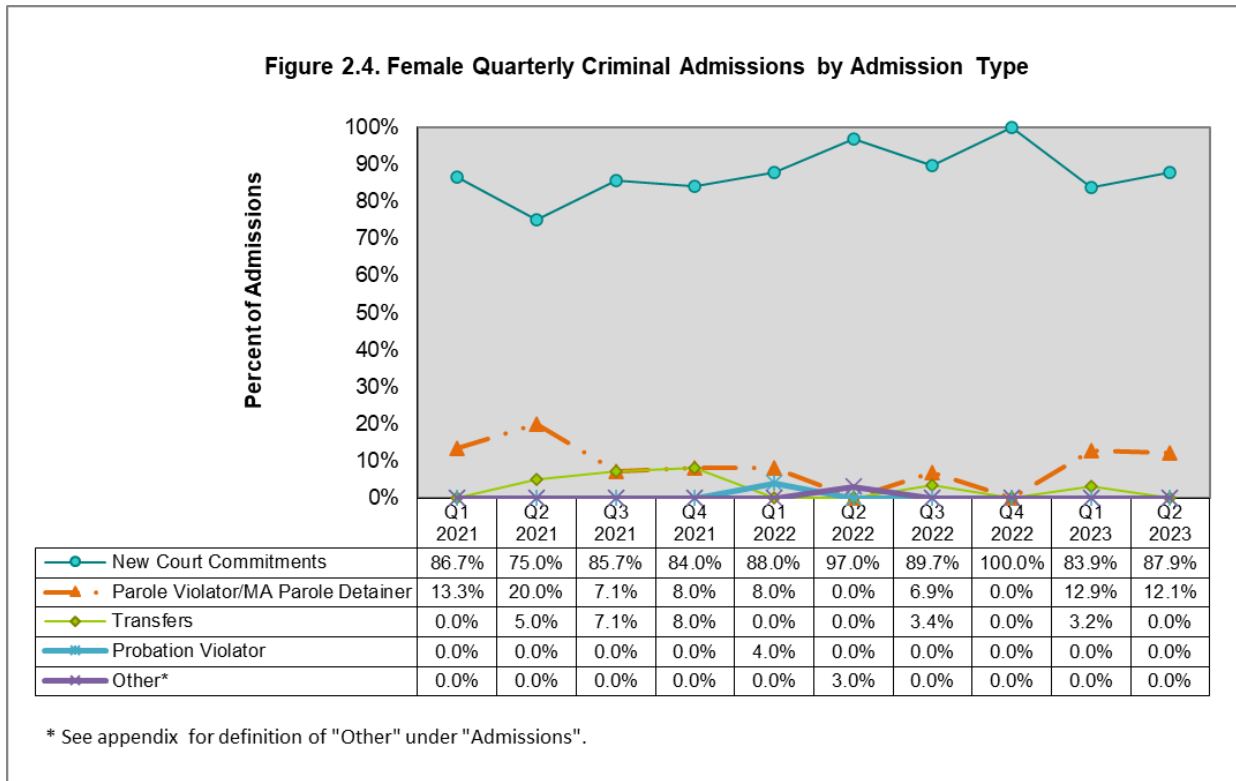
Figure 2.3 below shows that new court commitments continued to be the leading male criminal admission type (83.6%) followed by parole violators (13.0%) and transfers (2.7%) as the distant second and third male criminal admission types in second quarter of 2023.

Figure 2.3. Male Quarterly Criminal Admissions by Admission Type



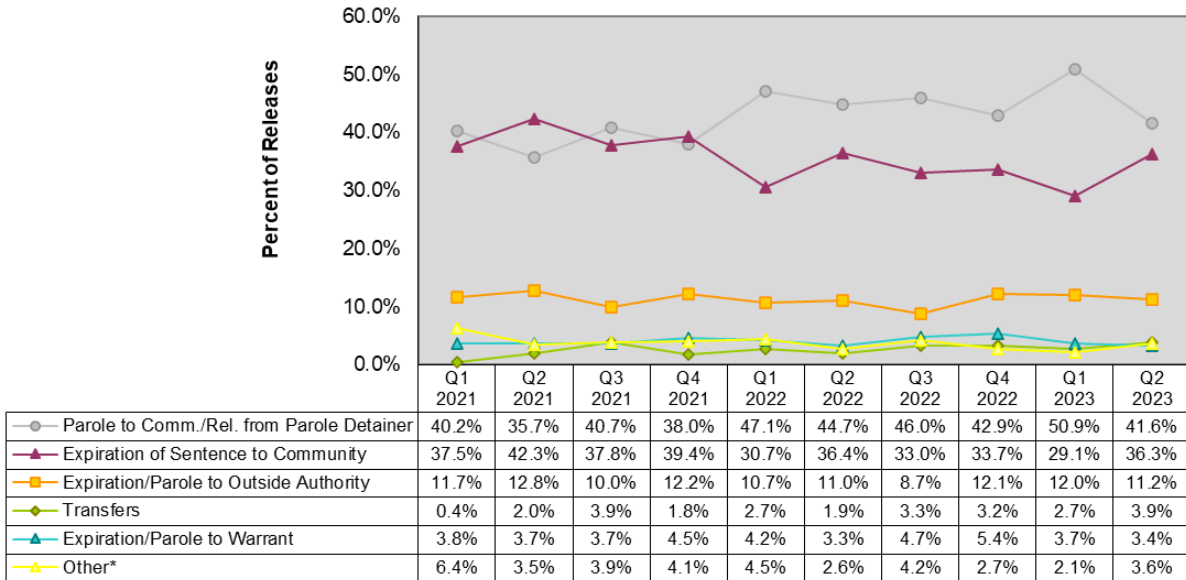
* See appendix for definition of "Other" under "Admissions".

Of the 33 female criminal admissions in the second quarter, 87.9% of them were new court commitments, and 12.1% were parole violators. No female admissions came from transfer, probation violator and other categories in the second quarter of 2023. (Figure 2.4)



Figures 2.5 on the next page describes how male criminally sentenced individuals were released in Q2, 2023 and the nine quarters prior. In the second quarter of 2023, parole to community (41.6%) continued to top the list of the release types, followed by expiration of sentence to community (36.3%) and expiration/parole to outside authority (11.2%) as the top three release types. They stayed as the top three release types consistently in the ten-quarter trend period.

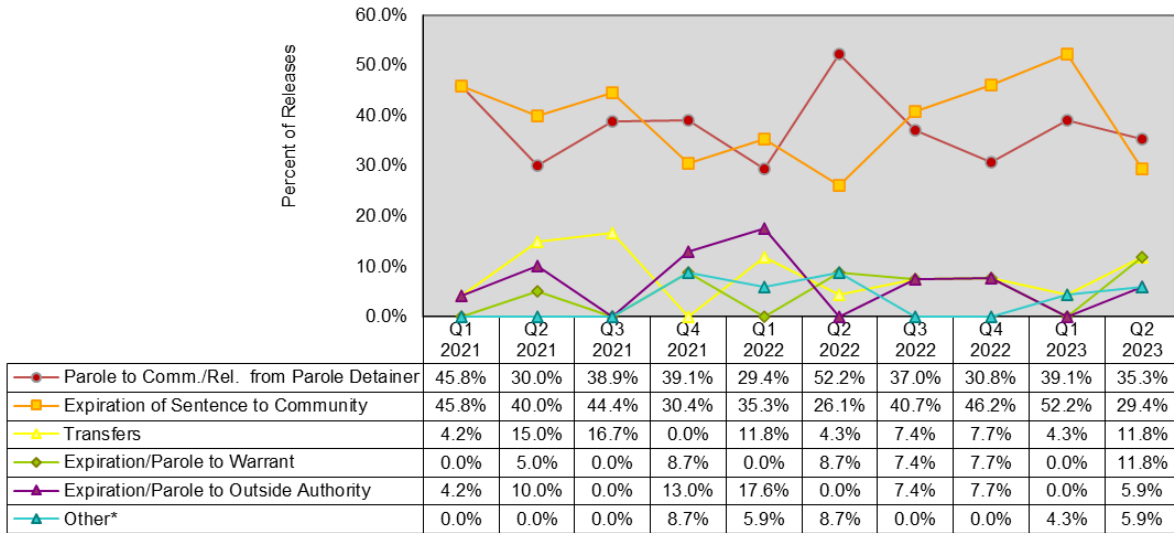
Figure 2.5. Male Quarterly Criminal Releases by Release Type



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

Parole to community (35.3%) took the lead as the top female criminal release type, followed by expiration of sentence to community (29.4%) as the second release type. Transfers (11.8%) and expiration/parole to warrant (11.8%) shared the third place of release types in the second quarter, 2023. 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



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

New Court Commitments by Court Jurisdiction

New court commitments increased moderately in the second quarter of 2023 to 374 from the previous 367, reaching a new high in the ten-quarter trend period and since the outbreak of COVID-19 in early 2020. Suffolk county (81) sent the most criminal new court commitments. Other counties that sent 20 or more new court commitments also include Essex (74), Hampden (56), Middlesex (42), Bristol (42), and Worcester (21). Together, they accounted for 84.5% of the total. (Figure 2.7)

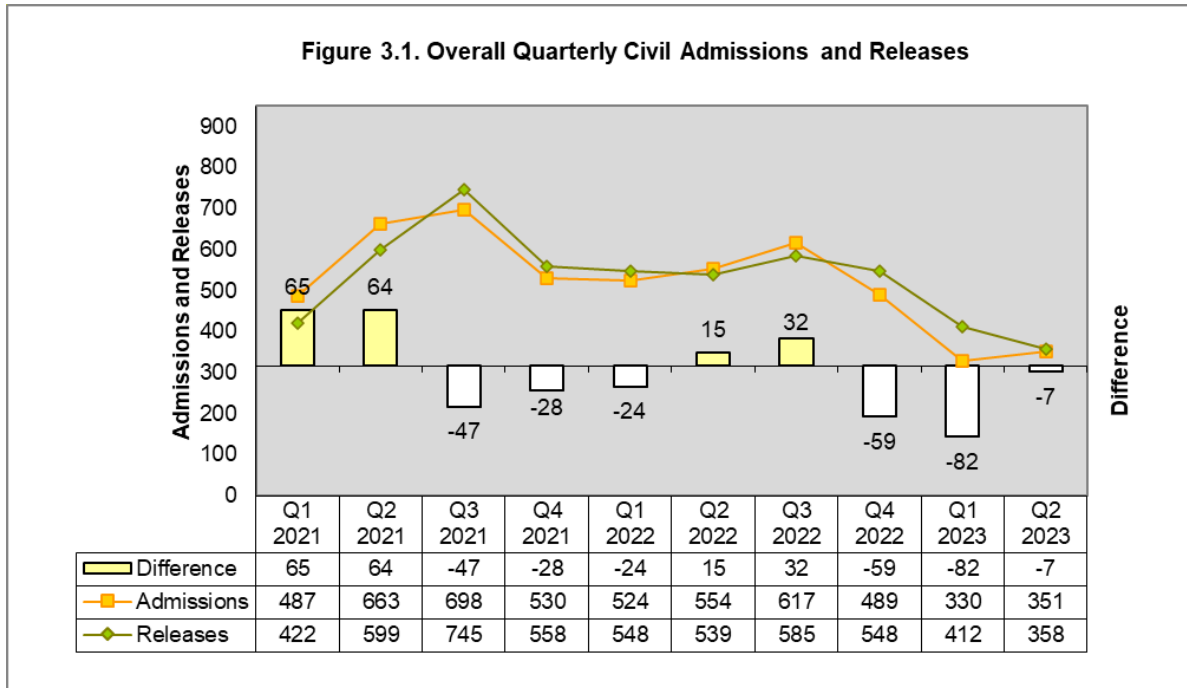
Table 2.7. State* Criminally Sentenced New Court Commitments by Court Jurisdiction

County	Q1 2021	Q2 2021	Q3 2021	Q4 2021	Q1 2022	Q2 2022	Q3 2022	Q4 2022	Q1 2023	Q2 2023
Suffolk	30	35	35	33	47	59	74	41	63	81
Essex	38	42	45	51	74	82	47	66	59	74
Hampden	17	29	32	34	37	36	40	28	64	56
Middlesex	18	17	21	37	28	54	39	40	30	42
Bristol	39	35	31	32	32	35	34	26	60	42
Worcester	19	24	24	17	37	31	22	26	30	21
Plymouth	14	19	15	11	14	20	18	17	16	17
Franklin	3	2	4	6	7	3	4	10	2	15
Norfolk	7	8	12	13	20	16	11	10	22	9
Berkshire	3	1	9	6	13	5	3	11	8	8
Barnstable	5	6	13	11	10	14	7	13	7	6
Hampshire	3	3	1	4	7	5	6	5	5	2
Dukes	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	1
Nantucket	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0
Total	196	221	242	255	326	361	307	293	367	374

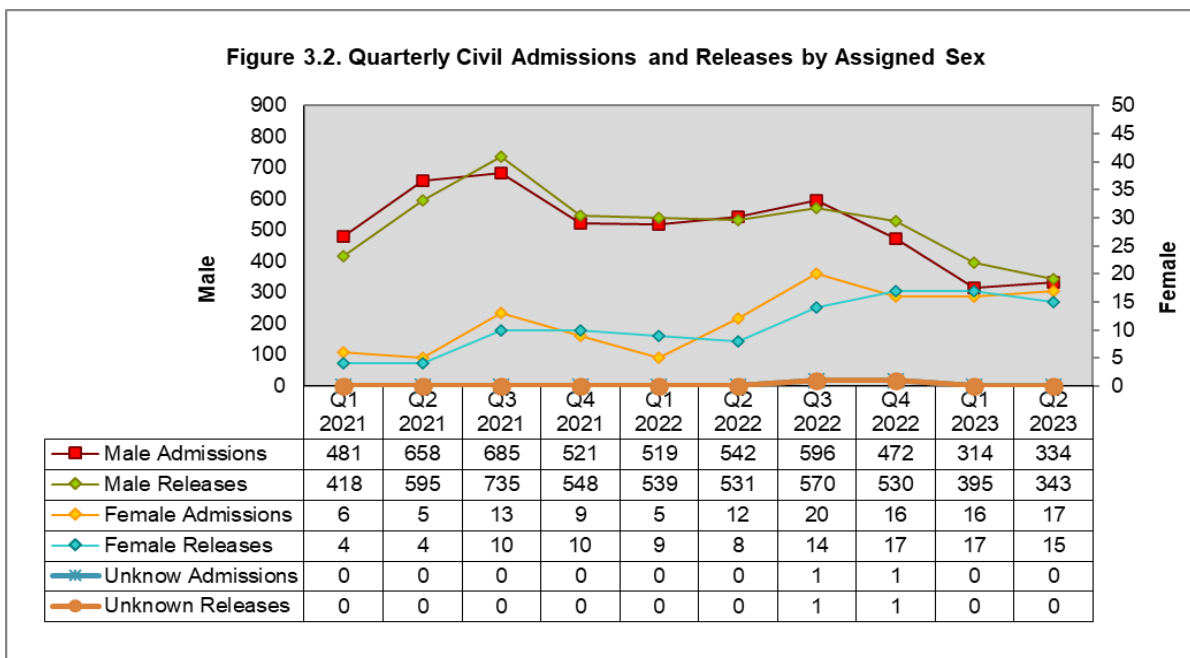
*Excludes county, federal, and out-of-state individuals.

CIVILLY COMMITTED ADMISSIONS AND RELEASES

In the second quarter of 2023, the MA DOC released 7 more civil commitments than admitted, less than the admission-to-release deficit of 82 individuals of the previous quarter. For the ten-quarter trend period, the MA DOC has released 71 more civil commitments than it has admitted. See Figure 3.1.

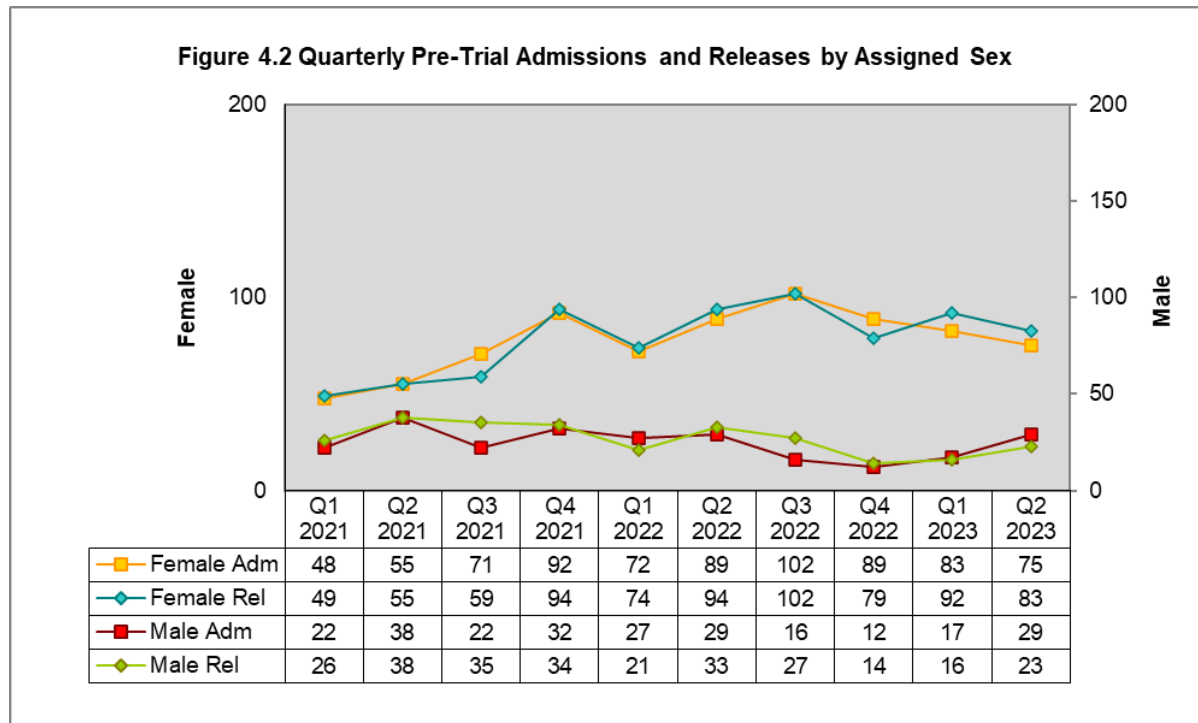
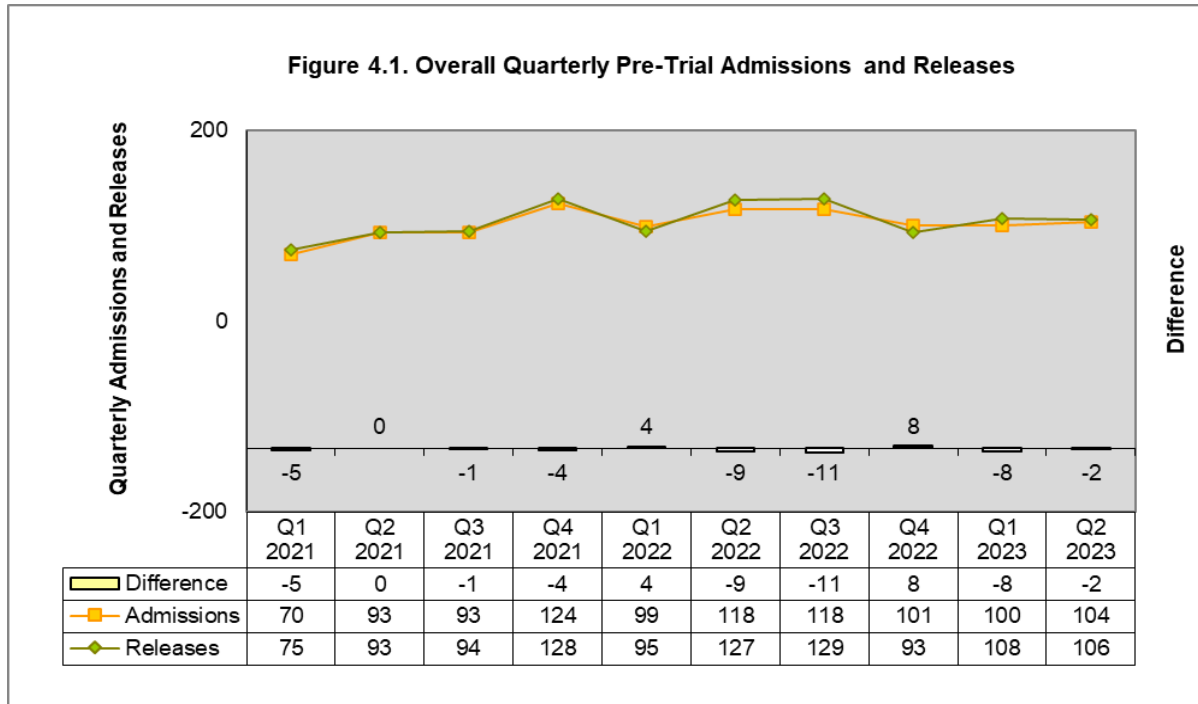


Male civil admissions increased in the second quarter from 314 to 334 of the previous quarter, the second lowest in the ten-quarter trend period. Releases reduced to 343 from 395, the lowest in the ten-quarter trend period. Female civil admissions and releases stayed about the same from the previous quarter at 17 for admissions and 15 for releases. See Figure 3.2.



PRE-TRIAL ADMISSIONS AND RELEASES

In the second quarter of 2023, there were 104 pre-trial admissions and 106 releases, resulting in 2 more releases than admissions for the quarter. Female admissions went down to 75 and releases to 83 from the previous 83 and 92 respectively. Both male admissions and releases went up in this quarter to 29 and 23 from the previous 17 and 16. See figures 4.1 and 4.2.



Pre-Trial Admissions by Court Jurisdiction

In the second quarter of 2023, about one-half of male pre-trial detainee admissions came from out-of-state (7), Norfolk (4) and Essex (4) counties. The remaining admissions came from Middlesex (3), Suffolk (3), Worcester (3), Hampden (2), Plymouth (2), and Barnstable (1) counties. Female detainees came predominantly from Middlesex County (74) and 1 admission from Hampden County. See Tables 4.3 and 4.4 below.

Table 4.3 Male Quarterly Pre-Trial Admissions by Jurisdiction

County	Q1 2021	Q2 2021	Q3 2021	Q4 2021	Q1 2022	Q2 2022	Q3 2022	Q4 2022	Q1 2023	Q2 2023
Out-of-state	9	14	3	7	11	10	5	2	4	7
Norfolk	1	2	0	0	2	2	2	1	4	4
Essex	4	1	0	2	2	1	0	3	2	4
Middlesex	1	5	1	4	4	2	2	1	2	3
Suffolk	1	4	1	2	1	6	1	1	0	3
Worcester	0	1	1	0	1	2	1	2	0	3
Hampden	3	2	0	2	1	1	0	0	1	2
Plymouth	0	6	11	4	2	3	3	0	0	2
Barnstable	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	1
Mass Parole	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0
Federal	0	3	3	5	3	0	0	0	1	0
Bristol	3	0	2	4	0	2	2	2	1	0
Total	22	38	22	32	27	29	16	12	17	29

*Berkshire, Dukes, Franklin, 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	Q1 2021	Q2 2021	Q3 2021	Q4 2021	Q1 2022	Q2 2022	Q3 2022	Q4 2022	Q1 2023	Q2 2023
Middlesex	48	52	68	91	69	88	101	89	81	74
Hampden	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Essex	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Plymouth	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Federal	0	1	2	1	2	1	0	0	0	0
Out-of-State	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Bristol	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Worcester	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	48	55	71	92	72	89	102	89	83	75

*Barnstable, Berkshire, Dukes, Franklin, Norfolk, and Suffolk 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.