

Communities Incarcerated Individuals Released to in 2017

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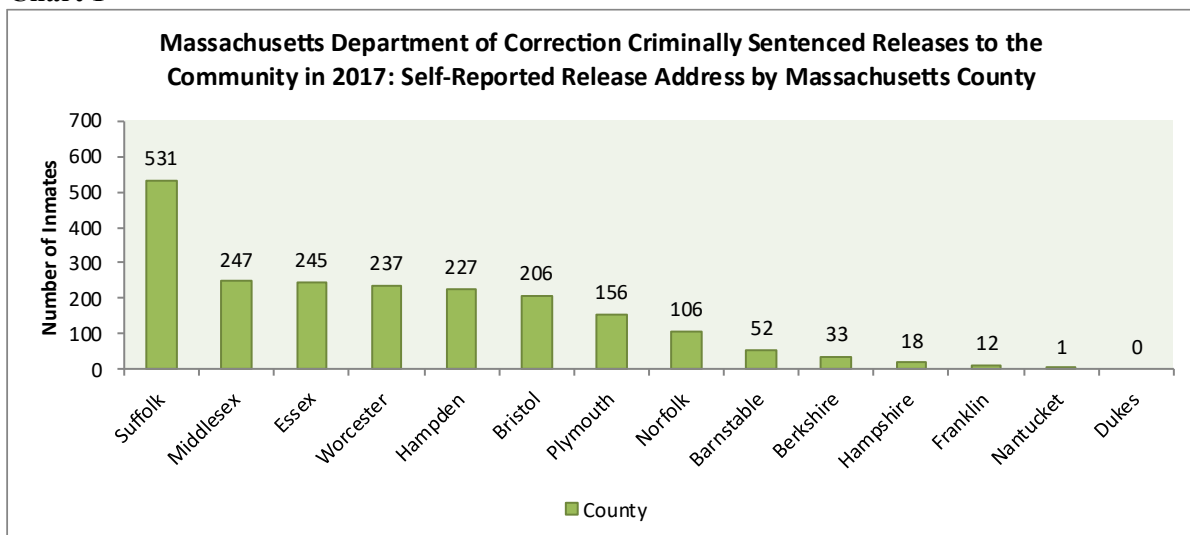
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The population covered in this report, termed ‘release to the community population’, includes any criminally sentenced incarcerated individuals released to the community from a Massachusetts Department of Correction (MA DOC) facility as well as DOC Incarcerated Individuals released from other correctional facilities (jurisdiction). Under this definition, DOC incarcerated individuals released from Massachusetts’ Houses of Correction, other states’ correctional facilities and the Federal Bureau of Prisons during 2017 are included in the population. The population described in this report includes criminally sentenced incarcerated individuals released via expiration of sentence, parole to the street, releases from parole detainers, court releases and payments/expiration of fine.

Introduction

Incarcerated individuals (I.I.) under the jurisdiction of the Massachusetts Department of Correction (MA DOC) are released to many different communities throughout the state and in some cases are released to communities outside of Massachusetts. This brief is a statistical look at the communities to which criminally sentenced incarcerated individuals are being released¹. For the purposes of this report, communities may refer to counties, cities, towns or municipalities both in and outside of Massachusetts.

Chart 1



Note: Excludes 110 I.I. including 109 released to communities outside of Massachusetts and 1 unreported

During calendar year 2017, there were 2,181 releases to the community, which was a decrease of 147 releases (6%) from 2016. Males saw a 5% decrease from the previous year in number of releases (n = 96) driven by a decrease in paroles to the community. Female releases experienced a 10% decrease from 523 in 2016 to 472 in 2017 (n = 51), largely as a result of a decrease in females being released via expiration of sentence.

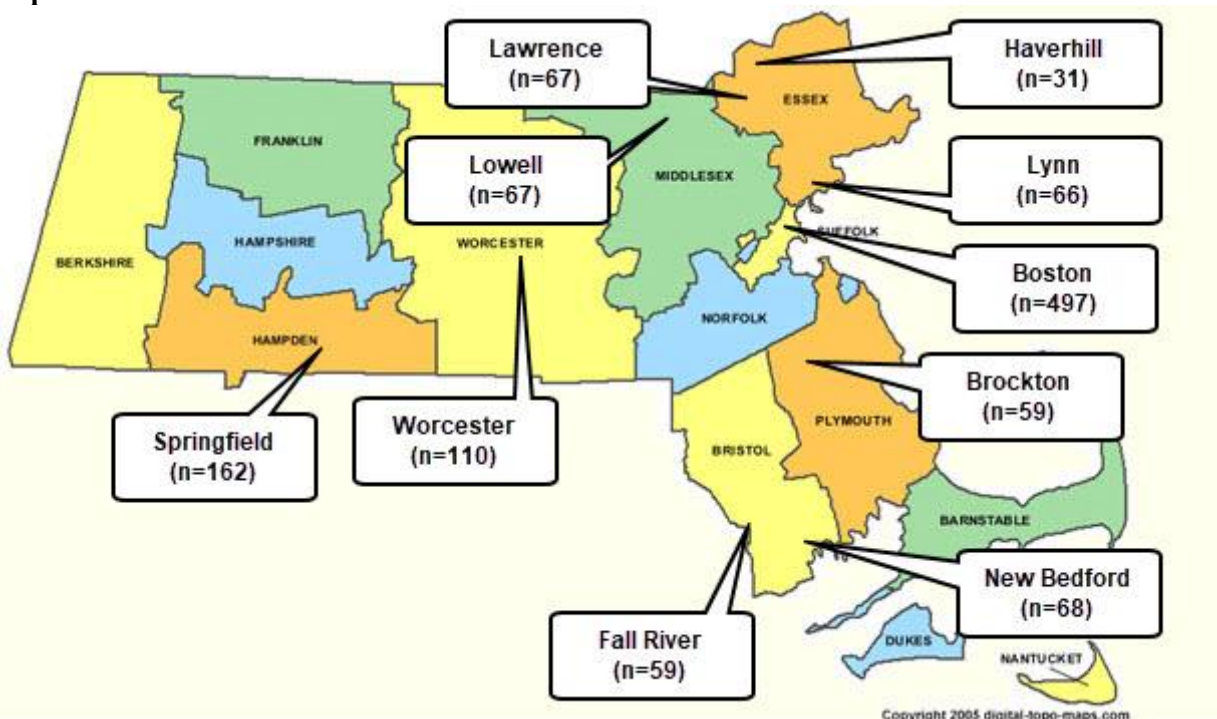
¹ Information regarding release address is self-reported by I.I. prior to their release. It is likely that some release addresses reflect temporary and residential treatment locales, and not necessarily long term residences in the community. If a release address is not reported by the I.I., their last known address was used.

Table 1

Massachusetts Department of Correction Releases to the Community in 2017: Top Ten Release Address (Cities/Towns)		
City	Total	%
1. Boston	497	23%
2. Springfield	162	7%
3. Worcester	110	5%
4. New Bedford	68	3%
5. Lowell	67	3%
6. Lawrence	67	3%
7. Lynn	66	3%
8. Brockton	59	3%
9. Fall River	59	3%
10. Haverhill	31	1%
Sub-Total	1,186	54%
Other MA Cities/Towns	885	41%
Outside MA	109	5%
Unknown	1	<1%
Total	2,181	100%

Please Note: Percentages do not always add up to 100% due to rounding.

- The majority (54%) of the releases during 2017 had a reported release address in one of the top ten cities/towns listed in Table 1.
- Mirroring 2016, the release address with the highest number of releases reported was to the various communities in the city of Boston (23%) followed by Springfield (7%) and Worcester (5%).
- Despite change in rankings, the top 10 cities/towns remained the same from the previous year.

Map 1

**Massachusetts Department of Correction
Releases to the Community in 2017:
Top Ten Release Address Cities**

Table 2

Massachusetts Department of Correction Releases to the Community 2017: Top Ten Release Address (Cities/Towns) for Males		
	Male	%
1. Boston	438	26%
2. Springfield	157	9%
3. Worcester	92	5%
4. New Bedford	57	3%
5. Fall River	52	3%
6. Brockton	51	3%
7. Lynn	49	3%
8. Lawrence	45	3%
9. Lowell	43	3%
10. Fitchburg	29	2%
Sub-Total	1,013	59%
Other MA Cities/Towns	606	35%
Outside MA	90	5%
Unknown	0	0%
Total	1,709	100%

- In contrast, most females (56%) reported a Massachusetts release address outside one of the top ten cities/towns, while (40%) reported a release address in the top ten.
- The distribution of female releases by community may be uneven, as female incarcerated individuals are not housed in every county across the state.³

- Boston was the top city reported by both male (26%) and female (13%) incarcerated individuals as their release address. The second most reported city for males was Springfield (9%), followed by Worcester (5%) and New Bedford (3%).
- Similar to 2016, most of the male releases (59%) reported a release address in one of the top ten cities/ towns.
- Females differed from the males where the second most reported release address was Lowell (5%), followed by Lawrence (5%) and Worcester (4%).

Table 3

Massachusetts Department of Correction Releases to the Community in 2017: Top Ten Release Address (Cities/Towns) for Females		
	Female	%
1. Boston	59	13%
2. Lowell	24	5%
3. Lawrence	22	5%
4. Worcester	18	4%
5. Lynn	17	4%
6. Haverhill	13	3%
7. New Bedford	11	2%
8. Brockton	8	2%
9. Plymouth	8	2%
10. Quincy	8	2%
Sub-Total	188	40%
Other MA Cities/Towns	264	56%
Outside MA	19	4%
Unknown	1	<1%
Total	472	100%

³ Not all Massachusetts counties house their female I.I. Massachusetts General Law dictates that females may be committed directly by the courts to the MA DOC for a House of Correction sentence. The counties of Barnstable, Berkshire, Bristol, Franklin, Hampden, and Suffolk house females in their county correctional facilities. Hampden County has increased their capacity to house county sentenced females for other western Massachusetts regions (including Worcester).

Table 4

Massachusetts Department of Correction Releases to the Community in 2017: Release Address by Massachusetts Counties (Self-Reported)			
	Total	%	Per 100,000 Residents*
Suffolk County	531	24%	69
Middlesex County	247	11%	15
Essex County	245	11%	30
Worcester County	237	11%	27
Hampden County	227	10%	49
Bristol County	206	9%	36
Plymouth County	156	7%	29
Norfolk County	106	5%	15
Barnstable County	52	2%	22
Berkshire County	33	2%	26
Hampshire County	18	1%	11
Franklin County	12	1%	17
Nantucket County	1	<1%	7
Dukes	0	0%	0
Outside MA	109	5%	N/A
Unknown	1	<1%	N/A
Total	2,181	100%	31

* Source: U.S. UMass Donahue Institute. U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division, March 30, 2022.

Twenty-four percent of the total population reported a release address located in Suffolk County, the highest of all Massachusetts Counties. Middlesex County had the second highest percentage of releases (11%) followed by Essex County with 11%. When looking at the concentration (the rate per 100,000 residents) of releases to the community, Suffolk County had the greatest concentration at 69 followed by Hampden and Bristol Counties, each with 49 and 36 respectively. Although 11% of releases reported an address in Middlesex County (the second-highest total), the county's high population density resulted in a relatively low concentration of releases—ranking third lowest, with 15 releases per 100,000 residents.

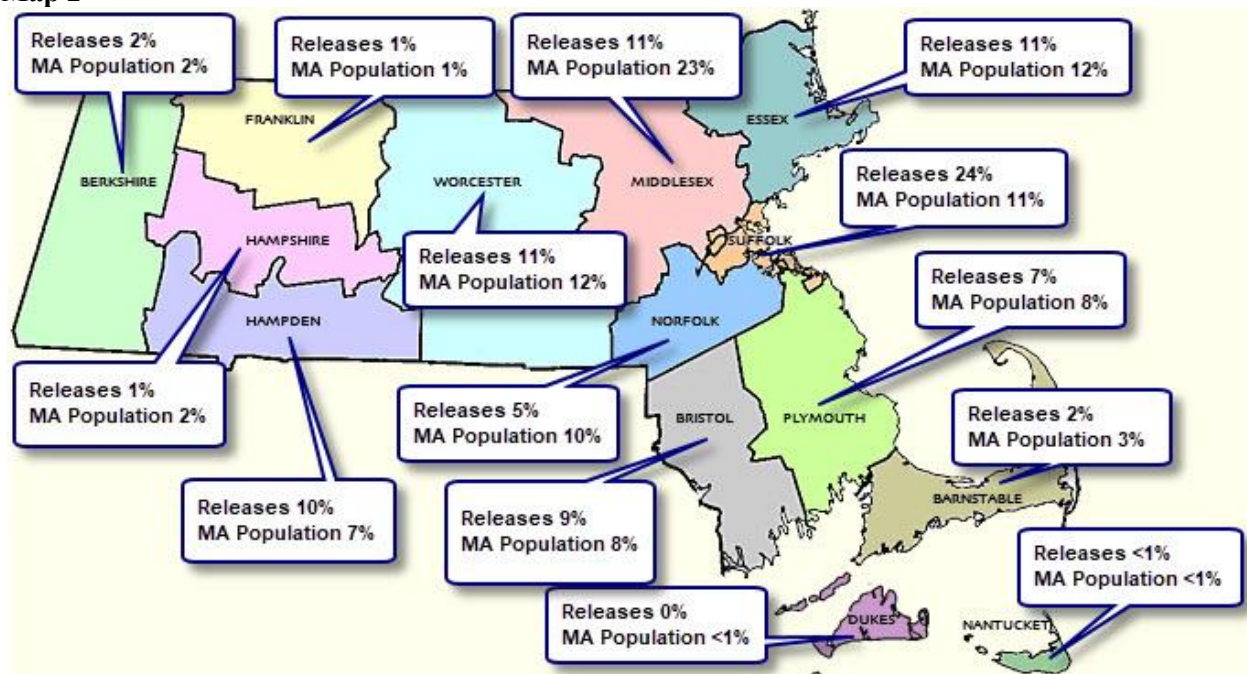
Map 2

Table 5

Massachusetts Department of Correction Releases to the Community 2017: Release Address by Massachusetts County for Males		
	Male	%
Suffolk County	469	27%
Hampden County	218	13%
Worcester County	201	12%
Bristol County	171	10%
Essex County	155	9%
Middlesex County	143	8%
Plymouth County	103	6%
Norfolk County	63	4%
Barnstable County	37	2%
Berkshire County	30	2%
Hampshire County	16	1%
Franklin County	12	1%
Nantucket County	1	0%
Outside MA	90	5%
Unknown	0	0%
Total	1,709	100%

- The greatest percentage of males were released to Suffolk County (27%), followed by Hampden County (13%) and Worcester County (12%).
 - The top Massachusetts county reported for male releases in 2017 was Suffolk County, mirroring the top county reported for community releases in 2016. Worcester County ranked third in 2017.
 - No male releases reported a release address in Dukes County in 2017.
- The greatest percentage of females were released to Middlesex County (22%), followed by Essex County (19%) and Suffolk County (13%).
 - Though the list of top releases addresses by Massachusetts County remained almost identical with the top Counties reported in 2016 for females, there was some variation for proportion of releases to each County. The top four release counties accounted for 65% of releases to the community in 2017, whereas they accounted for 64% of releases in 2016.
 - No female releases reported a release address in Dukes and Nantucket Counties in 2017.

Table 6

Massachusetts Department of Correction Releases to the Community in 2017: Release Address by Massachusetts County for Females		
	Female	%
Middlesex County	104	22%
Essex County	90	19%
Suffolk County	62	13%
Plymouth County	53	11%
Norfolk County	43	9%
Worcester County	36	8%
Bristol County	35	7%
Barnstable County	15	3%
Hampden County	9	2%
Berkshire County	3	1%
Hampshire County	2	<1%
Outside MA	19	4%
Unknown	1	<1%
Total	472	100%

Table 7

Massachusetts Department of Correction Releases to the Community in 2016: Locations Outside Massachusetts			
	Female	Male	Total
New Hampshire	10	14	24
Rhode Island	3	14	17
New York	1	10	11
Connecticut	1	10	11
Florida	1	10	11
Maine	0	5	5
Pennsylvania	0	4	4
Ohio	0	3	3
Georgia	0	3	3
California	0	3	3
Indiana	1	1	2
Alabama	0	2	2
Vermont	0	2	2
Kentucky	0	2	2
Puerto Rico	1	0	1
Virginia	0	1	1
South Carolina	0	1	1
Delaware	1	0	1
Missouri	0	1	1
Illinois	0	1	1
Nevada	0	1	1
Arizona	1	0	1
New Jersey	0	1	1
Total	20	89	109

Of the 2,181 I.I. released to the community, 109 reported a release address outside of Massachusetts. Sixty-four percent of the I.I. reporting a release address outside of Massachusetts, reported releasing to a New England state (n = 59) or New York (n = 11) which accounted for most releases outside of Massachusetts for 2017. The proportion of I.I. being released to a New England state or New York increased from 60% to 64% when compared to the previous release year.

Appendix

The tables on pages 8 through 10 show the self-reported release address by county of incarcerated individuals separated by the institution they were released from. Please note percentages do not always add up to 100% due to rounding.

Institutions Housing Male Incarcerated Individuals

Boston Pre-Release Center		
	Males	Total
Suffolk County	146	65%
Plymouth County	12	5%
Bristol County	11	5%
Middlesex County	11	5%
Norfolk County	10	4%
Essex County	9	4%
Hampden County	9	4%
Worcester County	5	2%
Barnstable County	3	1%
Outside MA	8	4%
Grand Total	224	100%

Bridgewater State Hospital		
	Males	Total
Barnstable County	1	100%
Total	1	100%

MASAC at Plymouth		
	Males	Total
Hampden County	1	50%
Outside MA	1	50%
Grand Total	2	100%

Massachusetts Treatment Center		
	Males	Total
Suffolk County	9	19%
Hampden County	7	15%
Bristol County	6	13%
Worcester County	6	13%
Plymouth County	5	11%
Essex County	5	11%
Middlesex County	3	6%
Berkshire County	1	2%
Franklin County	1	2%
Hampshire County	1	2%
Outside MA	3	6%
Grand Total	47	100%

MCI-Cedar Junction		
	Males	Total
Suffolk County	33	26%
Worcester County	23	18%
Essex County	15	12%
Bristol County	15	12%
Hampden County	14	11%
Plymouth County	7	6%
Norfolk County	6	5%
Middlesex County	5	4%
Barnstable County	1	1%
Berkshire County	1	1%
Hampshire County	1	1%
Outside MA	4	3%
Grand Total	125	100%

Institutions Housing Male Incarcerated Individuals – Continued

MCI-Concord		
	Males	Total
Suffolk County	38	29%
Essex County	17	13%
Worcester County	15	11%
Bristol County	14	11%
Middlesex County	10	8%
Norfolk County	8	6%
Hampden County	8	6%
Plymouth County	5	4%
Berkshire County	3	2%
Barnstable County	2	2%
Hampshire County	2	2%
Outside MA	9	7%
Grand Total	131	100%

MCI-Shirley		
	Males	Total
Suffolk County	59	20%
Hampden County	42	15%
Bristol County	41	14%
Worcester County	36	13%
Essex County	28	10%
Middlesex County	26	9%
Norfolk County	15	5%
Plymouth County	14	5%
Barnstable County	8	3%
Berkshire County	2	1%
Franklin County	2	1%
Outside MA	15	5%
Grand Total	288	100%

MCI-Norfolk		
	Males	Total
Hampden County	21	16%
Suffolk County	20	15%
Worcester County	19	15%
Bristol County	17	13%
Essex County	11	8%
Plymouth County	11	8%
Barnstable County	7	5%
Middlesex County	7	5%
Norfolk County	5	4%
Outside MA	13	10%
Grand Total	131	100%

NCCI-Gardner		
	Males	Total
Middlesex County	17	17%
Suffolk County	15	15%
Worcester County	13	13%
Essex County	12	12%
Hampden County	12	12%
Bristol County	6	6%
Norfolk County	6	6%
Plymouth County	5	5%
Hampshire County	3	3%
Franklin County	3	3%
Berkshire County	2	2%
Outside MA	8	8%
Grand Total	102	100%

Institutions Housing Male Incarcerated Individuals – Continued

Northeastern Correctional Center		
	Males	Total
Middlesex County	29	24%
Worcester County	24	20%
Suffolk County	22	18%
Essex County	13	11%
Hampden County	11	9%
Bristol County	6	5%
Plymouth County	3	2%
Berkshire County	2	2%
Barnstable County	1	1%
Nantucket County	1	1%
Norfolk County	1	1%
Outside MA	10	8%
Grand Total	123	100%

Old Colony Correctional Center		
	Males	Total
Suffolk County	32	29%
Bristol County	15	13%
Worcester County	11	10%
Plymouth County	10	9%
Hampden County	10	9%
Essex County	9	8%
Middlesex County	7	6%
Berkshire County	6	5%
Norfolk County	5	4%
Hampshire County	3	3%
Outside MA	4	4%
Grand Total	112	100%

Lemuel Shattuck Hospital		
	Males	Total
Suffolk County	1	100%
Grand Total	1	100%

Pondville Correctional Center		
	Males	Total
Suffolk County	26	29%
Bristol County	14	15%
Worcester County	11	12%
Barnstable County	9	10%
Plymouth County	7	8%
Hampden County	5	5%
Berkshire County	3	3%
Norfolk County	3	3%
Middlesex County	2	2%
Essex County	2	2%
Hampshire County	1	1%
Franklin County	1	1%
Outside MA	7	8%
Grand Total	91	100%

Souza-Baranowski Correctional Center		
	Males	Total
Suffolk County	43	24%
Worcester County	32	18%
Middlesex County	19	11%
Bristol County	19	11%
Hampden County	18	10%
Essex County	16	9%
Plymouth County	13	7%
Barnstable County	3	2%
Norfolk County	3	2%
Berkshire County	3	2%
Hampshire County	2	1%
Franklin County	1	1%
Outside MA	6	3%
Grand Total	178	100%

Institutions Housing Female Incarcerated Individuals

MCI-Framingham		
	Females	Total
Essex County	58	22%
Middlesex County	55	21%
Plymouth County	35	13%
Suffolk County	32	12%
Worcester County	22	8%
Norfolk County	21	8%
Bristol County	15	6%
Barnstable County	5	2%
Hampden County	3	1%
Berkshire County	1	0%
Hampshire County	1	0%
Unknown	1	0%
Outside MA	13	5%
Grand Total	262	100%

South Middlesex Correctional Center		
	Males	Total
Middlesex County	49	25%
Essex County	32	16%
Suffolk County	30	15%
Norfolk County	21	11%
Bristol County	19	10%
Plymouth County	18	9%
Worcester County	13	7%
Barnstable County	9	5%
Hampden County	2	1%
Berkshire County	1	1%
Outside MA	6	3%
Grand Total	200	100%

Massachusetts DOC Incarcerated Individuals Housed in a County, Federal, or another State's Correctional Facility

County, Federal, Interstate						
	Females	%	Males	%	Total	%
Hampden County	4	40%	59	39%	63	39%
Suffolk County	0	0%	20	13%	20	12%
Essex County	0	0%	18	12%	18	11%
Plymouth County	0	0%	11	7%	11	7%
Worcester County	1	10%	7	5%	8	5%
Bristol County	1	10%	7	5%	8	5%
Berkshire County	1	10%	6	4%	7	4%
Middlesex County	0	0%	6	4%	6	4%
Hampshire County	1	10%	5	3%	6	4%
Norfolk County	1	10%	3	2%	4	2%
Franklin County	0	0%	3	2%	3	2%
Barnstable County	1	10%	2	1%	3	2%
Outside MA	0	0%	5	3%	5	3%
Grand Total	10	100%	152	100%	162	100%

The tables on pages 12 through 15 show the self-reported release address by city/town in each Massachusetts County. Please note: percentages do not always add up to 100% due to rounding.

Release Address Cities/Towns in Barnstable County			
	Females	Males	Total
Barnstable	7	16	23
Falmouth	2	6	8
Mashpee	3	3	6
Yarmouth	0	5	5
Bourne	2	2	4
Sandwich	0	2	2
Dennis	0	2	2
Wellfleet	1	0	1
Chatham	0	1	1
Grand Total	15	37	52

Release Address Cities/Towns in Berkshire County			
	Females	Males	Total
Pittsfield	2	19	21
Adams	0	4	4
Savoy	0	2	2
Cheshire	0	2	2
North Adams	1	1	2
Peru	0	1	1
Lanesborough	0	1	1
Grand Total	3	30	33

Release Address Cities/Towns in Bristol County			
	Females	Males	Total
New Bedford	11	57	68
Fall River	7	52	59
Taunton	5	24	29
Attleboro	1	11	12
Norton	2	5	7
Easton	3	2	5
Fairhaven	0	4	4
Westport	0	4	4
Berkley	1	2	3
Somerset	1	2	3
Dartmouth	1	2	3
North Attleboro	0	2	2
Rehoboth	0	2	2
Dighton	1	0	1
Swansea	0	1	1
Raynham	1	0	1
Acushnet	0	1	1
Mansfield	1	0	1
Grand Total	35	171	206

Release Address Cities/Towns in Essex County			
	Females	Males	Total
Lawrence	22	45	67
Lynn	17	49	66
Haverhill	13	18	31
Peabody	7	7	14
Methuen	5	6	11
Salem	4	6	10
Danvers	3	4	7
Beverly	4	3	7
Salisbury	5	1	6
Saugus	1	4	5
Amesbury	3	2	5
Marblehead	1	2	3
North Andover	0	3	3
Andover	0	2	2
Ipswich	1	1	2
Gloucester	0	2	2
Newburyport	2	0	2
Hamilton	1	0	1
Boxford	1	0	1
Grand Total	90	155	245

Release Address Cities/Towns in Franklin County			
	Females	Males	Total
Greenfield	0	8	9
Colrain	0	2	1
Orange	0	1	1
Bernardston	0	1	1
Grand Total	0	12	12

Release Address Cities/Towns in Hampden County			
	Females	Males	Total
Springfield	5	157	162
Holyoke	2	28	30
Chicopee	0	11	11
West Springfield	1	7	8
Westfield	0	6	6
Ludlow	1	5	6
Hampden	0	1	1
Agawam	0	1	1
Monson	0	1	1
Holland	0	1	1
Grand Total	9	218	227

Release Address Cities/Towns in Hampshire County			
	Females	Males	Total
Northampton	0	5	5
Amherst	1	2	3
Ware	0	2	2
Williamsburg	0	2	2
Easthampton	0	2	2
Hatfield	0	1	1
Chesterfield	0	1	1
Belchertown	0	1	1
Granby	1	0	1
Grand Total	2	16	18

Release Address Cities/Towns in Middlesex County			
	Females	Males	Total
Lowell	24	43	67
Everett	6	16	22
Malden	5	12	17
Framingham	7	6	13
Billerica	6	6	12
Waltham	5	5	10
Woburn	4	4	8
Hopkinton	7	1	8
Medford	1	6	7
Marlborough	2	5	7
Tewksbury	3	3	6
Cambridge	2	3	5
Wakefield	3	2	5
Maynard	1	4	5
Somerville	1	4	5
Dracut	0	5	5
Ashland	3	1	4
Wilmington	4	0	4
Arlington	3	1	4
Reading	3	0	3
Chelmsford	1	2	3
Natick	3	0	3
North Reading	2	1	3
Stoneham	1	1	2
Acton	1	1	2
Pepperell	1	1	2
Stow	1	1	2
Bedford	0	2	2
Burlington	1	1	2
Tyngsborough	1	1	2
Newton	0	2	2
Lexington	1	0	1
Boxborough	0	1	1
Ayer	1	0	1
Melrose	0	1	1
Watertown	0	1	1
Grand Total	104	143	247

Release Address Cities/Towns in Nantucket County			
	Females	Males	Total
Nantucket	1	1	2
Grand Total	1	1	2

Release Address Cities/Towns in Norfolk County			
	Females	Males	Total
Quincy	8	19	27
Weymouth	7	8	15
Randolph	2	11	13
Braintree	3	4	7
Stoughton	1	4	5
Dedham	2	3	5
Holbrook	2	3	5
Foxborough	3	1	4
Milton	1	3	4
Norfolk	0	3	3
Needham	2	1	3
Norwood	3	0	3
Canton	1	2	3
Millis	2	0	2
Medfield	1	0	1
Medway	1	0	1
Wellesley	0	1	1
Brookline	1	0	1
Wrentham	1	0	1
Sharon	1	0	1
Franklin	1	0	1
Grand Total	43	63	106

Release Address Cities/Towns in Plymouth County			
	Females	Males	Total
Brockton	8	51	59
Plymouth	8	13	21
Wareham	8	8	16
Middleborough	2	7	9
Rockland	2	6	8
Bridgewater	2	4	6
Abington	5	1	6
Halifax	2	2	4
Marshfield	4	0	4
Kingston	1	3	4
East Bridgewater	0	3	3
Carver	2	1	3
Pembroke	1	1	2
Hull	2	0	2
Duxbury	2	0	2
Scituate	1	0	1
West Bridgewater	0	1	1
Norwell	1	0	1
Mattapoisett	0	1	1
Hanson	0	1	1
Whitman	1	0	1
Lakeville	1	0	1
Grand Total	53	103	156

Release Address Cities/Towns in Suffolk County			
	Females	Males	Total
Boston	59	438	497
Revere	2	15	17
Chelsea	1	13	14
Winthrop	0	3	3
Grand Total	62	469	531

Release Address Cities/Towns in Worcester County			
	Females	Males	Total
Worcester	18	92	110
Fitchburg	0	29	29
Leominster	2	11	13
Gardner	0	9	9
Webster	1	7	8
Southbridge	0	8	8
Westborough	4	1	5
Milford	0	5	5
Millbury	5	0	5
Spencer	0	4	4
Grafton	0	4	4
Winchendon	0	4	4
Athol	0	4	4
Dudley	1	2	3
Clinton	0	3	3
Boylston	0	2	2
Templeton	0	2	2
Harvard	2	0	2
Charlton	0	2	2
Shrewsbury	1	1	2
Warren	0	1	1
Royalston	0	1	1
Auburn	0	1	1
Southborough	0	1	1
Hardwick	0	1	1
Holden	0	1	1
Princeton	0	1	1
Leicester	0	1	1
Westminster	1	0	1
Sturbridge	0	1	1
Blackstone	0	1	1
Sutton	1	0	1
Oxford	0	1	1
Grand Total	36	201	237