Massachusetts Department of Correction
Shawn Jenkins, Commissioner

Communities Incarcerated Individual Released to in 2019

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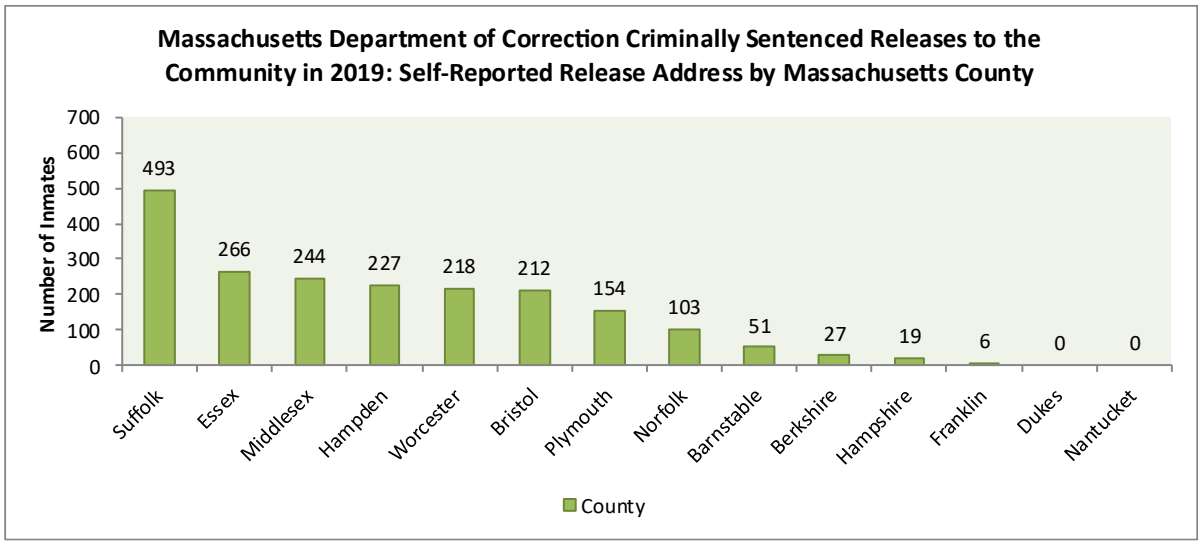
The population covered in this report, termed 'release to the community population', includes any criminally sentenced incarcerated individual released to the community from a Massachusetts Department of Correction (MA DOC) facility as well as DOC incarcerated individual released from other correctional facilities (jurisdiction). Under this definition, DOC incarcerated individual released from Massachusetts' Houses of Correction, other states' correctional facilities and the Federal Bureau of Prisons during 2019 are included in the population. The population described in this report includes criminally sentenced incarcerated individual released via expiration of sentence, parole to the street, releases from parole detainers, court releases and payments/expirations 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 I.I. are being released[1]. 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 87 I.I. including 87 released to communities outside of Massachusetts and 0 unreported

During calendar year 2019, there were 2,107 releases to the community, which was a decrease of 58 releases (3%) from 2018. Males saw a 1% decrease from the previous year in number of releases (n = 24) driven by an increase in paroles to the community. Female releases experienced an 8% decrease from 413 in 2018 to 379 in 2019 (n = 34), 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.

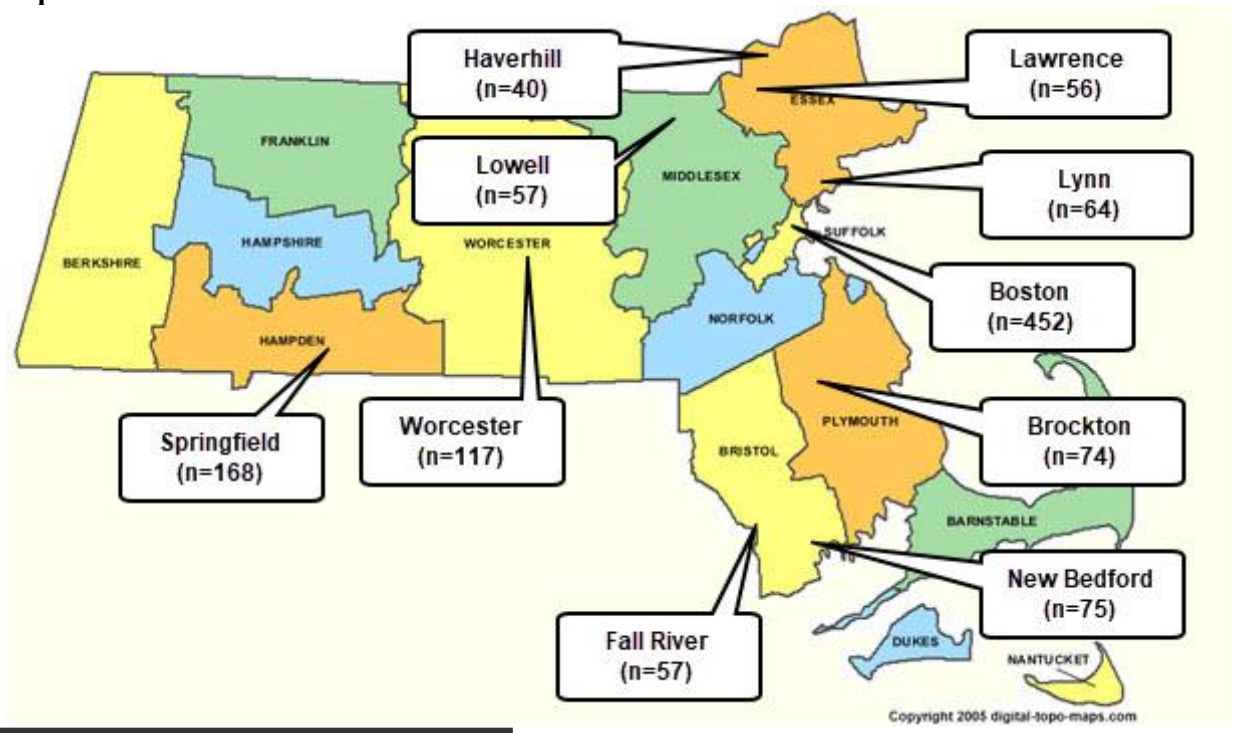
Table 1

Massachusetts Department of Correction Releases to the Community in 2019: Top Ten Release Address (Cities/Towns)		
City	**Total**	**%**
1. Boston	452	21%
2. Springfield	168	8%
3. Worcester	117	6%
4. New Bedford	75	4%
5. Brockton	74	4%
6. Lynn	64	3%
7. Fall River	57	3%
8. Lowell	57	3%
9. Lawrence	56	3%
10. Haverhill	40	2%
Sub-Total	**1,160**	55%
Other MA Cities/Towns	860	41%
Outside MA	87	4%
Unknown	0	0%
Total	**2,107**	**100%**

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

- The majority (55%) of the releases during 2019 had a reported release address in one of the top ten cities/towns listed in Table 1.
- Mirroring 2018, the release address with the highest number of releases reported was to the various communities in the city of Boston (21%) followed by Springfield (8%) and Worcester (6%).
- Despite slight 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 2019: Top Ten Release Address Cities

Table 2

Massachusetts Department of Correction Releases to the Community 2019: Top Ten Release Address (Cities/Towns) for Males		
	Male	**%**
1. Boston	404	23%
2. Springfield	164	9%
3. Worcester	113	7%
4. New Bedford	65	4%
5. Brockton	64	4%
6. Fall River	51	3%
7. Lowell	49	3%
8. Lawrence	47	3%
9. Lynn	45	3%
10. Holyoke	31	2%
Sub-Total	**1,033**	60%
Other MA Cities/Towns	626	36%
Outside MA	69	4%
Unknown	0	0%
Total	**1,728**	100%

- Boston was the top city reported by both male (23%) and female (13%) inmates as their release address. The second most reported city for males was Springfield (9%), followed by Worcester (7%) and New Bedford (4%).

- Similar to 2018, most of the male releases (60%) 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 Lynn (5%), followed by Haverhill (3%) and Framingham (3%).

- In contrast, most females (55%) reported a Massachusetts release address outside one of the top ten cities/towns, while (40%) reported a release address in the top ten.

- Female releases by community are also skewed, due to the fact that not all counties house females. [3]

Table 3

Massachusetts Department of Correction Releases to the Community in 2019: Top Ten Release Address (Cities/Towns) for Females		
	Female	**%**
1. Boston	48	13%
2. Lynn	19	5%
3. Haverhill	13	3%
4. Framingham	13	3%
5. Salem	12	3%
6. Taunton	11	3%
7. New Bedford	10	3%
8. Brockton	10	3%
9. Lawrence	9	2%
10. Lowell	8	2%
Sub-Total	**153**	40%
Other MA Cities/Towns	208	55%
Outside MA	18	5%
Unknown	0	0%
Total	**379**	**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 2018: Release Address by Massachusetts Counties (Self-Reported)			
	Total	**%**	**Per 100,000 Residents***
Suffolk County	493	23%	64
Essex County	266	13%	33
Middlesex County	244	12%	15
Hampden County	227	11%	49
Worcester County	218	10%	25
Bristol County	212	10%	37
Plymouth County	154	7%	29
Norfolk County	103	5%	14
Barnstable County	51	2%	22
Berkshire County	27	1%	21
Hampshire County	19	1%	12
Franklin County	6	<1%	8
Dukes County	0	0%	-
Outside MA	87	4%	N/A
Unknown	0	0%	N/A
Total	**2,107**	**100%**	**30**

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

Twenty-Three percent of the total population reported a release address located in Suffolk County, the highest of all Massachusetts Counties. Essex County had the second highest percentage of releases (13%) followed by Middlesex County with 12%. When looking at the concentration (the rate per 100,000 residents) of releases to the community, Suffolk County had the greatest concentration at 64 followed by Hampden County with 49 and Bristol County with 37. Although 12% of releases reported an address in Middlesex County (third highest), the significantly higher density of residents compared to other Counties made it so that it had the fourth lowest concentration of releases with 15 per 100,000 residents.

Map 2

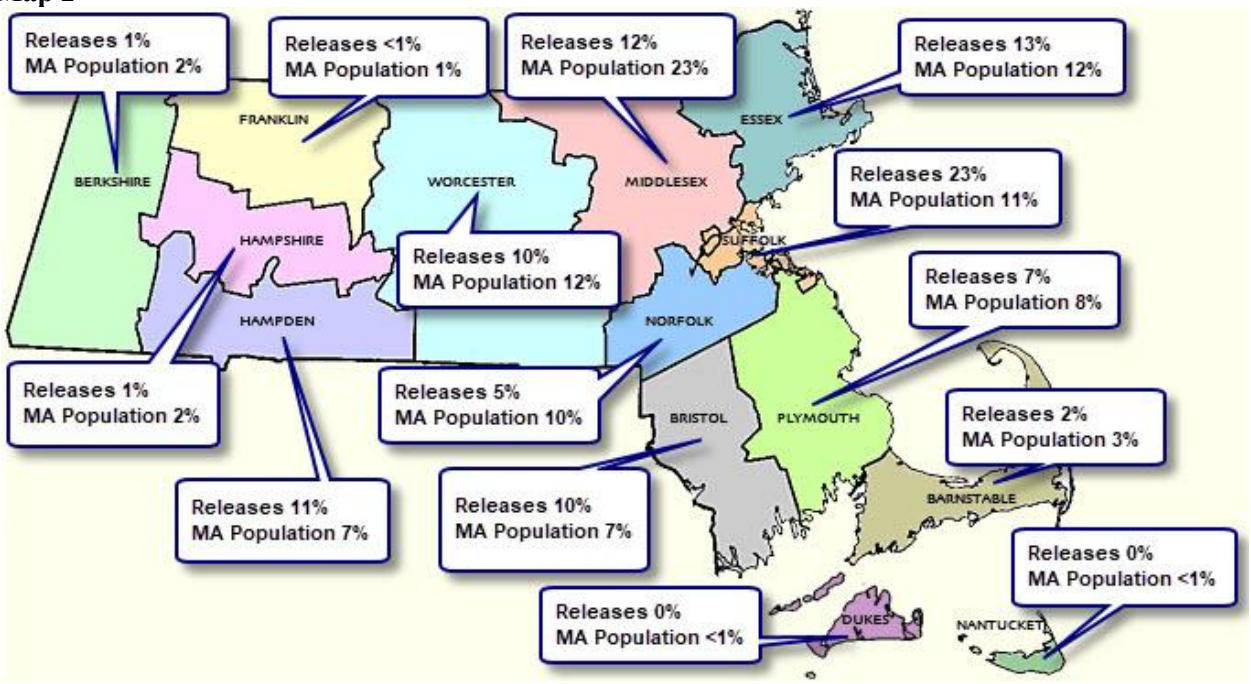


Table 5

Massachusetts Department of Correction Releases to the Community 2019: Release Address by Massachusetts County for Males		
	Male	**%**
Suffolk County	437	25%
Hampden County	218	13%
Worcester County	205	12%
Bristol County	182	11%
Essex County	178	10%
Middlesex County	169	10%
Plymouth County	118	7%
Norfolk County	65	4%
Barnstable County	38	2%
Berkshire County	26	2%
Hampshire County	17	1%
Franklin County	6	0%
Dukes County	0	0%
Outside MA	69	4%
Unknown	0	0%
Total	**1,728**	**100%**

- The greatest percentage of males were released to Suffolk County (25%), followed by Hampden County (13%) and Worcester County (12%).
- Suffolk County was the top Massachusetts county reported for male releases in 2019, mirroring the top county for community releases in 2018. Worcester County ranked third in 2019.
- No male releases reported a release address in Nantucket and Dukes Counties in 2019.

Table 6

Massachusetts Department of Correction Releases to the Community in 2019: Release Address by Massachusetts County for Females		
	Female	**%**
Essex County	88	23%
Middlesex County	75	20%
Suffolk County	56	15%
Norfolk County	38	10%
Plymouth County	36	9%
Bristol County	30	8%
Worcester County	13	3%
Barnstable County	13	3%
Hampden County	9	2%
Hampshire County	2	1%
Berkshire County	1	<1%
Outside MA	18	5%
Unknown	0	0%
Total	**379**	**100%**

- The greatest percentage of females were released to Essex County (23%), followed by Middlesex County (20%) and Suffolk County (15%).
- Though the list of top releases addresses by Massachusetts County remained almost identical with the top Counties reported in 2017 for females, there was some variation for the proportion of releases to each County. The top four release Counties accounted for 68% of releases to the community in 2019, a 3% increase from 2018.
- No female releases reported a release address in Dukes and Nantucket Counties in 2019.

Table 7

Massachusetts Department of Correction Releases to the Community in 2018: Locations Outside Massachusetts			
	Female	**Male**	**Total**
New Hampshire	11	18	29
Rhode Island	2	12	14
New York	1	7	8
Maine	3	5	8
Florida	1	6	7
Connecticut	2	4	6
Georgia	1	2	3
Pennsylvania	0	3	3
Oklahoma	0	2	2
Vermont	0	2	2
Illinois	1	0	1
South Carolina	1	0	1
California	0	1	1
New Jersey	0	1	1
Puerto Rico	0	1	1
Maryland	0	1	1
Ohio	0	1	1
Tennessee	0	1	1
North Carolina	0	1	1
Arizona	0	1	1
Alabama	0	1	1
Total	**23**	**70**	**93**

Of the 2,107 I.I. released to the community, 93 reported a release address outside of Massachusetts. Seventy-two percent of incarcerated individuals (I.I.) who reported a release address outside of Massachusetts in 2019 indicated a destination in a New England state (n = 59) or New York (n = 8), accounting for most out-of-state releases that year. The proportion of I.I. being released to a New England state or New York increase from 51% to 72% when compared to the previous release year.

Appendix

The tables on pages 8 through 10 show the self-reported release address by county of I.I. 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	27	32%
Essex County	12	14%
Bristol County	8	9%
Norfolk County	6	7%
Middlesex County	6	7%
Barnstable County	6	7%
Plymouth County	6	7%
Worcester County	6	7%
Hampden County	2	2%
Berkshire County	1	1%
Unknown	0	0%
Outside MA	5	6%
Grand Total	**85**	**100%**

Bridgewater State Hospital		
	Males	**Total**
Worcester County	1	100%
Grand Total	1	**100%**

MASAC at Plymouth		
	Males	**Total**
Suffolk County	3	38%
Bristol County	2	25%
Essex County	2	25%
Hampden County	1	13%
Grand Total	**8**	**100%**

Massachusetts Treatment Center		
	Males	**Total**
Hampden County	21	26%
Suffolk County	15	19%
Worcester County	14	17%
Bristol County	6	7%
Plymouth County	5	6%
Essex County	5	6%
Middlesex County	3	4%
Hampshire County	2	2%
Barnstable County	2	2%
Norfolk County	2	2%
Franklin County	2	2%
Berkshire County	1	1%
Unknown	0	0%
Outside MA	3	4%
Grand Total	**81**	**100%**

MCI-Cedar Junction		
	Males	**Total**
Suffolk County	64	36%
Bristol County	22	13%
Worcester County	17	10%
Essex County	17	10%
Plymouth County	15	9%
Hampden County	11	6%
Middlesex County	10	6%
Norfolk County	7	4%
Berkshire County	6	3%
Barnstable County	3	2%
Unknown	4	2%
Outside MA	0	0%
Grand Total	**176**	**100%**

Institutions Housing Male Incarcerated Individuals – Continued

MCI-Concord		
	Males	**Total**
Suffolk County	42	28%
Middlesex County	25	17%
Essex County	20	13%
Worcester County	16	11%
Bristol County	15	10%
Hampden County	13	9%
Plymouth County	7	5%
Norfolk County	3	2%
Berkshire County	2	1%
Barnstable County	1	1%
Franklin County	1	1%
Outside MA	6	4%
Grand Total	**151**	**100%**

MCI-Shirley		
	Males	**Total**
Suffolk County	92	30%
Worcester County	48	16%
Bristol County	31	10%
Essex County	29	10%
Middlesex County	26	9%
Hampden County	23	8%
Plymouth County	21	7%
Norfolk County	10	3%
Barnstable County	5	2%
Berkshire County	2	1%
Hampshire County	1	0%
Unknown	0	0%
Outside MA	14	5%
Grand Total	**302**	**100%**

MCI-Norfolk		
	Males	**Total**
Suffolk County	42	33%
Middlesex County	16	13%
Bristol County	15	12%
Worcester County	14	11%
Hampden County	13	10%
Essex County	9	7%
Plymouth County	6	5%
Norfolk County	5	4%
Barnstable County	3	2%
Hampshire County	1	1%
Unknown	0	0%
Outside MA	3	2%
Grand Total	**127**	**100%**

NCCI-Gardner		
	Males	**Total**
Suffolk County	17	19%
Essex County	15	16%
Hampden County	13	14%
Middlesex County	13	14%
Worcester County	11	12%
Bristol County	8	9%
Plymouth County	5	5%
Norfolk County	3	3%
Berkshire County	1	1%
Barnstable County	1	1%
Franklin County	1	1%
Unknown	0	0%
Outside MA	3	3%
Total	**91**	**100%**

Institutions Housing Male Incarcerated Individuals – Continued

Northeastern Correctional Center		
	Males	**Total**
Middlesex County	27	20%
Suffolk County	23	17%
Worcester County	23	17%
Essex County	17	12%
Bristol County	11	8%
Hampden County	10	7%
Plymouth County	7	5%
Norfolk County	6	4%
Barnstable County	4	3%
Hampshire County	2	1%
Berkshire County	2	1%
Outside MA	5	4%
Grand Total	**137**	**100%**

Pondville Correctional Center		
	Males	**Total**
Suffolk County	27	23%
Bristol County	18	15%
Worcester County	17	15%
Plymouth County	13	11%
Hampden County	9	8%
Norfolk County	7	6%
Middlesex County	6	5%
Essex County	5	4%
Barnstable County	4	3%
Uknown	0	0%
Outside MA	11	9%
Grand Total	**117**	**100%**

Old Colony Correctional Center		
	Males	**Total**
Suffolk County	42	28%
Bristol County	22	15%
Worcester County	17	11%
Essex County	14	9%
Middlesex County	13	9%
Plymouth County	13	9%
Hampden County	9	6%
Norfolk County	5	3%
Barnstable County	4	3%
Hampshire County	3	2%
Berkshire County	1	1%
Outside MA	7	5%
Grand Total	**150**	**100%**

Shattuck Hospital		
	Males	**Total**
Worcester County	1	50%
Bristol County	1	50%
Grand Total	**2**	**100%**

Souza-Baranowski Correctional Center		
	Males	**Total**
Suffolk County	31	21%
Middlesex County	20	13%
Hampden County	19	13%
Bristol County	17	11%
Essex County	16	11%
Plymouth County	14	9%
Worcester County	14	9%
Norfolk County	7	5%
Barnstable County	5	3%
Berkshire County	3	2%
Unknown	0	0%
Outside MA	3	2%
Grand Total	**149**	**100%**

Institutions Housing Female Incarcerated Individuals

MCI-Framingham		
	Females	**Total**
Essex County	57	29%
Middlesex County	42	21%
Suffolk County	23	12%
Norfolk County	22	11%
Plymouth County	21	11%
Bristol County	15	8%
Barnstable County	6	3%
Worcester County	6	3%
Hampden County	3	2%
Unknown	0	0%
Outside MA	3	2%
Grand Total	**198**	**100%**

South Middlesex Correctional Center		
	Males	**Total**
Suffolk County	33	20%
Middlesex County	32	19%
Essex County	30	18%
Plymouth County	15	9%
Norfolk County	15	9%
Bristol County	14	8%
Barnstable County	7	4%
Worcester County	4	2%
Hampshire County	1	1%
Unknown	1	1%
Outside MA	14	8%
Grand Total	**166**	**100%**

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

County, Federal, Interstate						
	Females	**%**	**Males**	**%**	**Total**	**%**
Hampden County	6	40%	74	49%	80	48%
Essex County	1	7%	17	11%	18	11%
Suffolk County	0	0%	12	8%	12	7%
Hampshire County	1	7%	8	5%	9	5%
Worcester County	2	13%	6	4%	8	5%
Berkshire County	1	7%	7	5%	8	5%
Bristol County	1	7%	6	4%	7	4%
Plymouth County	0	0%	6	4%	6	4%
Norfolk County	1	7%	4	3%	5	3%
Middlesex County	1	7%	4	3%	5	3%
Franklin County	0	0%	2	1%	2	1%
Unknown	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
Outside MA	1	7%	5	3%	6	4%
Total	**15**	**100%**	**151**	**100%**	**166**	**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	3	9	12
Yarmouth	3	7	10
Falmouth	3	4	7
Dennis	1	3	4
Mashpee	1	3	4
Bourne	0	3	3
Sandwich	1	2	3
Orleans	0	3	3
Harwich	0	2	2
Eastham	0	1	1
Brewster	0	1	1
Provincetown	1	0	1
Total	**13**	**38**	**51**

Release Address Cities/Towns in Berkshire County			
	Females	**Males**	**Total**
Pittsfield	0	20	20
Adams	1	2	3
Stockbridge	0	1	1
Dalton	0	1	1
North Adams	0	1	1
Lee	0	1	1
Total	**1**	**26**	**27**

Release Address Cities/Towns in Essex County			
	Females	**Males**	**Total**

Release Address Cities/Towns in Bristol County			
	Females	**Males**	**Total**
New Bedford	10	65	75
Fall River	6	51	57
Taunton	11	26	37
Attleboro	1	8	9
Norton	0	8	8
Dartmouth	0	6	6
North Attleboro	1	4	5
Raynham	0	4	4
Westport	0	3	3
Swansea	0	2	2
Easton	0	2	2
Somerset	0	1	1
Mansfield	1	0	1
Seekonk	0	1	1
Rehoboth	0	1	1
Total	**30**	**182**	**212**

Lynn	19	45	64
Lawrence	9	47	56
Haverhill	13	27	40
Salem	12	11	23
Methuen	7	10	17
Peabody	4	8	12
Saugus	3	8	11
Salisbury	5	2	7
Beverly	3	3	6
Gloucester	2	3	5
Marblehead	1	4	5
Amesbury	1	3	4
Newburyport	4	0	4
Danvers	1	2	3
Merrimac	0	2	2
Andover	2	0	2
West Newbury	1	0	1
North Andover	1	0	1
Rowley	0	1	1
Groveland	0	1	1
Newbury	0	1	1
Total	**88**	**178**	**266**

Release Address Cities/Towns in Franklin County			
	Females	**Males**	**Total**
Orange	0	4	4
Montague	0	1	1
Northfield	0	1	1
Total	**0**	**6**	**6**

Release Address Cities/Towns in Hampden County			
	Females	**Males**	**Total**
Springfield	4	164	168
Holyoke	5	31	36
Chicopee	0	10	10
Westfield	0	5	5
West Springfield	0	2	2
Ludlow	0	2	2
Wilbraham	0	1	1
Chester	0	1	1
Wales	0	1	1
Brimfield	0	1	1
Total	**9**	**218**	**227**

Release Address Cities/Towns in Hampshire County			
	Females	**Males**	**Total**
Ware	1	4	5
Northampton	0	5	5
Easthampton	0	4	4
Belchertown	1	1	2
Williamsburg	0	1	1
Amherst	0	1	1
South Hadley	0	1	1
Total	**2**	**17**	**19**

Release Address Cities/Towns in Middlesex County			
	Females	**Males**	**Total**
Lowell	8	49	57
Framingham	13	8	21
Everett	3	13	16
Tewksbury	4	10	14
Cambridge	5	8	13
Billerica	4	6	10
Malden	3	6	9
Wakefield	1	7	8
Marlborough	1	6	7
Bedford	0	7	7
Dracut	4	3	7
Somerville	1	5	6
Waltham	4	2	6
Stoneham	2	4	6
Medford	2	4	6
Melrose	2	3	5
Burlington	3	1	4
Newton	0	4	4
Wilmington	2	1	3
Ashland	2	1	3
Watertown	2	1	3
North Reading	1	2	3
Hudson	0	2	2
Lexington	1	1	2
Chelmsford	1	1	2
Woburn	1	1	2
Shirley	1	1	2
Acton	1	1	2
Arlington	0	1	1
Westford	0	1	1
Pepperell	0	1	1
Concord	1	0	1
Ayer	0	1	1
Boxborough	0	1	1
Belmont	0	1	1
Sudbury	0	1	1
Wayland	0	1	1
Natick	1	0	1
Reading	0	1	1
Townsend	0	1	1
Tyngsborough	0	1	1
Maynard	1	0	1
Total	**75**	**169**	**244**

Release Address Cities/Towns in Norfolk County			
	Females	**Males**	**Total**
Quincy	6	15	21
Randolph	3	13	16
Weymouth	5	6	11
Holbrook	2	7	9
Stoughton	3	4	7
Millis	6	1	7
Braintree	5	1	6
Walpole	0	5	5
Medway	1	2	3
Bellingham	1	1	2
Plainville	0	2	2
Foxborough	0	2	2
Avon	1	1	2
Norwood	1	1	2
Cohasset	0	1	1
Franklin	1	0	1
Canton	1	0	1
Needham	1	0	1
Wellesley	0	1	1
Brookline	1	0	1
Milton	0	1	1
Sharon	0	1	1
Total	**38**	**65**	**103**

Release Address Cities/Towns in Plymouth County			
	Females	**Males**	**Total**
Brockton	10	64	74
Middleborough	3	8	11
Wareham	2	9	11
Plymouth	1	9	10
Whitman	2	5	7
Abington	0	5	5
Carver	2	3	5
Rockland	1	3	4
Bridgewater	2	2	4
East Bridgewater	1	2	3
Pembroke	3	0	3
Hull	2	1	3
Lakeville	1	2	3
Hingham	2	0	2
Marshfield	0	2	2
Norwell	1	1	2
West Bridgewater	0	1	1
Kingston	1	0	1
Halifax	1	0	1
Scituate	1	0	1
Hanover	0	1	1
Total	**36**	**118**	**154**

Release Address Cities/Towns in Suffolk County			
	Females	**Males**	**Total**
Boston	48	404	452
Chelsea	3	22	25
Revere	5	10	15
Winthrop	0	1	1
Total	**56**	**437**	**493**

Release Address Cities/Towns in Worcester County			
	Females	**Males**	**Total**
Worcester	4	113	117
Fitchburg	0	21	21
Leominster	1	9	10
Winchendon	0	9	9
Milford	1	6	7
Southbridge	1	6	7
Shrewsbury	1	4	5
Gardner	1	3	4
Northborough	1	3	4
Leicester	0	3	3
Athol	0	3	3
Spencer	0	3	3
Templeton	2	0	2
Westborough	0	2	2
Uxbridge	0	2	2
Auburn	0	2	2
Oakham	0	2	2
Sturbridge	0	2	2
Ashburnham	0	2	2
Northbridge	0	2	2
Holden	0	1	1
West Boylston	0	1	1
Barre	0	1	1
Clinton	0	1	1
Rutland	0	1	1
Lunenburg	0	1	1
Millbury	1	0	1
Oxford	0	1	1
Webster	0	1	1
Total	**13**	**205**	**218**