

Communities Incarcerated Individuals Released to in 2020

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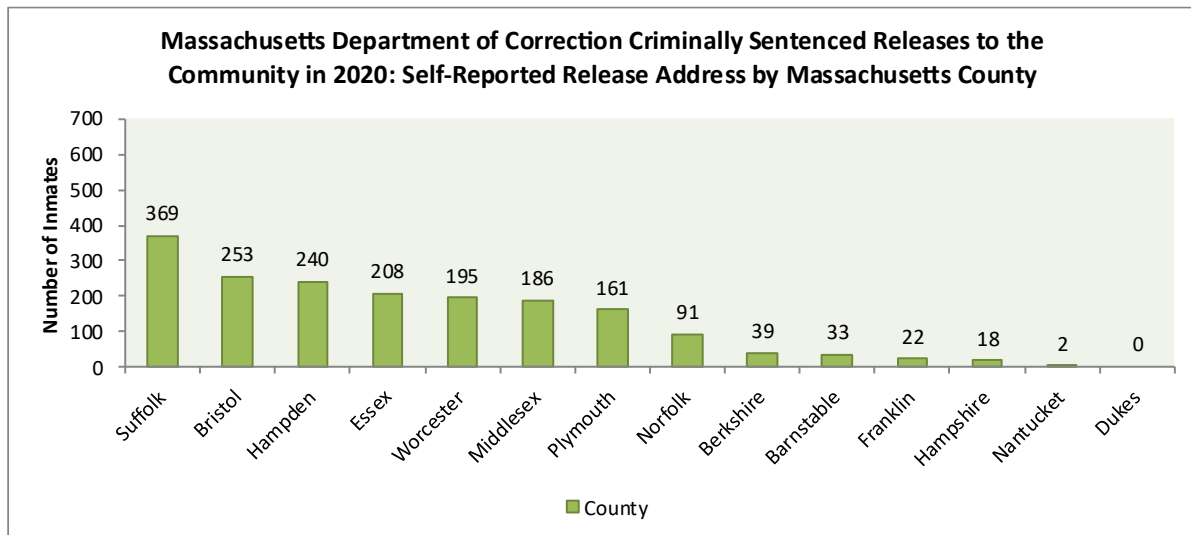
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The population covered in this report, termed ‘release to the community population’, includes any criminally sentenced Incarcerated Individuals released to the community from a Massachusetts Department of Correction (MA DOC) facility as well as DOC 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 2020 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 detainees, 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 I.I. 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 108 I.I. including 107 released to communities outside of Massachusetts and 1 unreported

During calendar year 2020, there were 1,925 releases to the community, which was a decrease of 182 releases (9%) from 2019. Males saw a 3% increase from the previous year in number of releases (n = 50) driven by an increase in paroles to the community. Female releases experienced a 61% decrease from 379 in 2019 to 147 in 2020 (n = 232), largely because of a decrease in females being released via expiration of sentence.

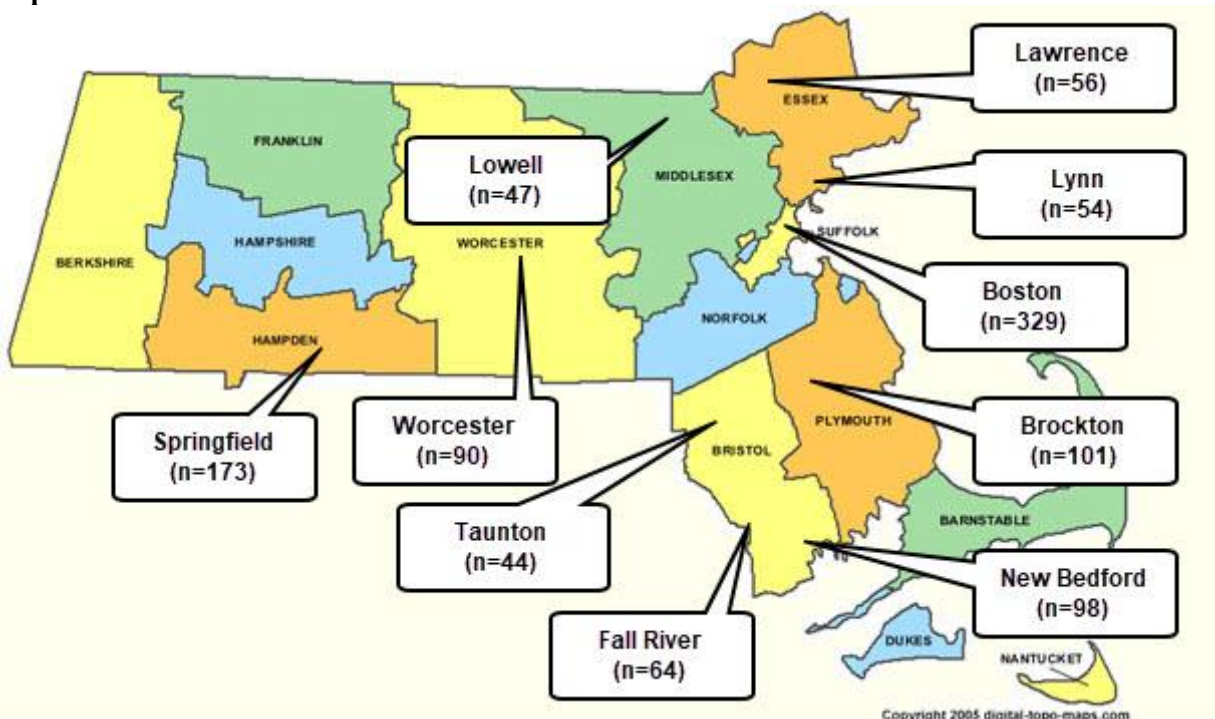
¹ Information regarding release address is self-reported by I.I. prior to their release. It is likely that some release addresses reflect temporary and residential treatment locales, and not necessarily long term residences in the community. If a release address is not reported by the I.I., their last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

Table 1

Massachusetts Department of Correction Releases to the Community in 2020: Top Ten Release Address (Cities/Towns)		
City	Total	%
1. Boston	329	17%
2. Springfield	173	9%
3. Brockton	101	5%
4. New Bedford	98	5%
5. Worcester	90	5%
6. Fall River	64	3%
7. Lawrence	56	3%
8. Lynn	54	3%
9. Lowell	47	2%
10. Taunton	44	2%
Sub-Total	1,056	55%
Other MA Cities/Towns	761	40%
Outside MA	107	6%
Unknown	1	<1%
Total	1,925	100%

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

- The majority (55%) of the releases during 2020 had a reported release address in one of the top ten cities/towns listed in Table 1.
- Mirroring 2019, the release address with the highest number of releases reported was to the various communities in the city of Boston (17%) followed by Springfield (9%) and Brockton (5%).
- Despite slight change in rankings, the top 10 cities/towns remained similar to the previous year.

Map 1

**Massachusetts Department of Correction
Releases to the Community in 2020:
Top Ten Release Address Cities**

Table 2

Massachusetts Department of Correction Releases to the Community 2020: Top Ten Release Address (Cities/Towns) for Males		
	Male	%
1. Boston	308	17%
2. Springfield	164	9%
3. Brockton	98	6%
4. New Bedford	93	5%
5. Worcester	86	5%
6. Fall River	63	4%
7. Lawrence	53	3%
8. Lynn	49	3%
9. Lowell	42	2%
10. Taunton	41	2%
Sub-Total	997	56%
Other MA Cities/Towns	678	38%
Outside MA	102	6%
Unknown	1	0%
Total	1,778	100%

- In contrast, most females (54%) reported a Massachusetts release address outside one of the top ten cities/towns, while (43%) 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

- Boston was the top city reported by both male (17%) and female (14%) incarcerated individuals as their release address. The second most reported city for males was Springfield (9%), followed by Brockton (6%) and New Bedford (5%).
- Similar to 2019, most of the male releases (56%) 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 Springfield (6%), followed by New Bedford (3%) and Lowell (3%).

Table 3

Massachusetts Department of Correction Releases to the Community in 2020: Top Ten Release Address (Cities/Towns) for Females		
	Female	%
1. Boston	21	14%
2. Springfield	9	6%
3. New Bedford	5	3%
4. Lowell	5	3%
5. Lynn	5	3%
6. Worcester	4	3%
7. Bridgewater	4	3%
8. Billerica	4	3%
9. Brockton	3	2%
10. Haverhill	3	2%
Sub-Total	63	43%
Other MA Cities/Towns	79	54%
Outside MA	5	3%
Unknown	0	0%
Total	147	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 2020: Release Address by Massachusetts Counties (Self-Reported)			
	Total	%	Per 100,000 Residents*
Suffolk County	369	19%	48
Bristol County	253	13%	44
Hampden County	240	12%	52
Essex County	208	11%	26
Worcester County	195	10%	23
Middlesex County	186	10%	12
Plymouth County	161	8%	30
Norfolk County	91	5%	13
Berkshire County	39	2%	31
Barnstable County	33	2%	14
Franklin County	22	1%	31
Hampshire County	18	1%	11
Nantucket County	2	<1%	14
Outside MA	107	6%	N/A
Unknown	1	<1%	N/A
Total	1,925	100%	28

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

Nineteen percent of the total population reported a release address located in Suffolk County, the highest of all Massachusetts Counties. Bristol County had the second highest percentage of releases (13%) followed by Hampden County with 12%. When looking at the concentration (the rate per 100,000 residents) of releases to the community, Hampden County had the greatest concentration at 52 followed by Suffolk County with 48 and Bristol County with 44. Although 10% of releases reported an address in Middlesex County (the sixth highest by count), the county's significantly higher population density resulted in the fourth lowest concentration of releases—12 per 100,000 residents.

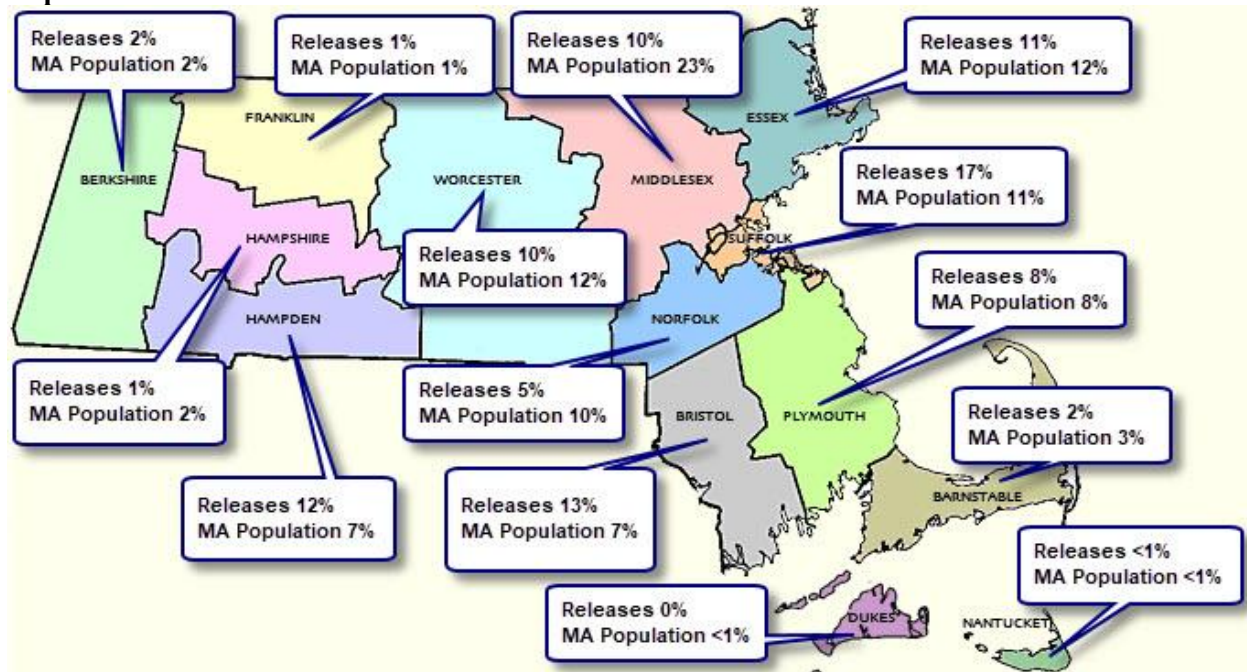
Map 2

Table 5

Massachusetts Department of Correction Releases to the Community 2020: Release Address by Massachusetts County for Males		
	Male	%
Suffolk County	346	19%
Bristol County	240	13%
Hampden County	225	13%
Essex County	193	11%
Worcester County	184	10%
Plymouth County	153	9%
Middlesex County	145	8%
Norfolk County	81	5%
Berkshire County	37	2%
Barnstable County	31	2%
Franklin County	21	1%
Hampshire County	17	1%
Nantucket County	2	<1%
Outside MA	102	6%
Unknown	1	0%
Total	1,778	100%

- The greatest percentage of females were released to Middlesex County (28%), followed by Suffolk County (16%) and Essex County (10%).
- Though the list of top releases addresses by Massachusetts County remained almost identical with the top Counties reported in 2019 for females, there was some variation for the proportion of releases to each County. The top four release Counties accounted for 64% of releases to the community in 2020, a 4% decrease from 2019.
- No female releases reported a release address in Dukes and Nantucket Counties in 2020.

- The greatest percentage of males were released to Suffolk County (19%), followed by Bristol County (13%) and Hampden County (13%).
- Suffolk County was the top Massachusetts county reported male releases in 2019, mirroring the top county for community releases in 2020. Hampton County ranked third in 2020.
- No male releases reported a release address in Dukes County in 2020.

Table 6

Massachusetts Department of Correction Releases to the Community in 2020: Release Address by Massachusetts County for Females		
	Female	%
Middlesex County	41	28%
Suffolk County	23	16%
Essex County	15	10%
Hampden County	15	10%
Bristol County	13	9%
Worcester County	11	7%
Norfolk County	10	7%
Plymouth County	8	5%
Barnstable County	2	1%
Berkshire County	2	1%
Franklin County	1	1%
Hampshire County	1	1%
Outside MA	5	3%
Unknown	0	0%
Total	147	100%

Table 7

Massachusetts Department of Correction Releases to the Community in 2020: Locations Outside Massachusetts			
	Female	Male	Total
New Hampshire	1	22	23
Rhode Island	1	17	18
Florida	1	13	14
New York	0	13	13
Connecticut	0	6	6
Maine	1	5	6
Georgia	0	5	5
Pennsylvania	0	5	5
Virginia	1	1	2
Vermont	0	2	2
Arizona	0	2	2
Texas	0	1	1
Puerto Rico	0	1	1
Washington	0	1	1
Maryland	0	1	1
Michigan	0	1	1
Ohio	0	1	1
Montana	0	1	1
Oklahoma	0	1	1
Illinois	0	1	1
California	0	1	1
Mississippi	0	1	1
Total	5	102	107

Of the 1,925 I.I. released to the community, 107 reported a release address outside of Massachusetts. Sixty-Four percent of the I.I. reporting a release address outside of Massachusetts, reported released to a New England state (n = 68) or New York (n = 13) which accounted for most releases outside of Massachusetts for 2020. The proportion of I.I. being released to a New England state or New York decreased from 72% 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 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	33	36%
Bristol County	13	14%
Essex County	9	10%
Middlesex County	8	9%
Hampden County	7	8%
Norfolk County	6	7%
Plymouth County	5	5%
Worcester County	4	4%
Barnstable County	2	2%
Outside MA	4	4%
Grand Total	91	100%

MASAC at Plymouth		
	Males	Total
Suffolk County	1	50%
Middlesex County	1	50%
Grand Total	2	100%

Massachusetts Treatment Center		
	Males	Total
Plymouth County	23	26%
Hampden County	17	19%
Suffolk County	10	11%
Worcester County	10	11%
Essex County	7	8%
Berkshire County	6	7%
Norfolk County	3	3%
Bristol County	2	2%
Barnstable County	2	2%
Hampshire County	2	2%
Middlesex County	1	1%
Franklin County	1	1%
Nantucket County	1	1%
Unknown	0	0%
Outside MA	5	6%
Grand Total	90	100%

MCI-Cedar Junction		
	Males	Total
Bristol County	38	22%
Suffolk County	31	18%
Worcester County	22	13%
Essex County	17	10%
Hampden County	16	9%
Middlesex County	13	8%
Plymouth County	11	6%
Norfolk County	7	4%
Berkshire County	4	2%
Barnstable County	4	2%
Franklin County	1	1%
Hampshire County	1	1%
Unknown	0	0%
Outside MA	7	4%
Grand Total	172	100%

Institutions Housing Male Incarcerated Individuals – Continued

MCI-Concord		
	Males	Total
Suffolk County	29	20%
Essex County	21	14%
Worcester County	20	14%
Bristol County	16	11%
Middlesex County	16	11%
Plymouth County	15	10%
Hampden County	12	8%
Norfolk County	5	3%
Berkshire County	5	3%
Barnstable County	3	2%
Unknown	0	0%
Outside MA	6	4%
Grand Total	148	100%

MCI-Shirley		
	Males	Total
Suffolk County	64	19%
Bristol County	50	15%
Essex County	45	13%
Worcester County	44	13%
Middlesex County	33	10%
Hampden County	25	7%
Plymouth County	23	7%
Norfolk County	16	5%
Barnstable County	7	2%
Berkshire County	5	1%
Franklin County	3	1%
Hampshire County	2	1%
Unknown	1	0%
Outside MA	24	7%
Grand Total	342	100%

MCI-Norfolk		
	Males	Total
Suffolk County	44	32%
Bristol County	18	13%
Plymouth County	15	11%
Worcester County	12	9%
Middlesex County	11	8%
Norfolk County	9	7%
Essex County	8	6%
Hampden County	7	5%
Barnstable County	3	2%
Franklin County	2	1%
Hampshire County	2	1%
Unknown	0	0%
Outside MA	6	4%
Grand Total	137	100%

NCCI-Gardner		
	Males	Total
Plymouth County	11	13%
Essex County	11	13%
Hampden County	10	12%
Suffolk County	10	12%
Middlesex County	9	10%
Bristol County	8	9%
Worcester County	8	9%
Norfolk County	6	7%
Berkshire County	4	5%
Franklin County	3	3%
Barnstable County	1	1%
Unknown	0	0%
Outside MA	5	6%
Total	86	100%

Institutions Housing Male Incarcerated Individuals – Continued

Northeastern Correctional Center		
	Males	Total
Suffolk County	27	18%
Essex County	25	17%
Middlesex County	20	14%
Worcester County	18	12%
Bristol County	13	9%
Hampden County	13	9%
Norfolk County	7	5%
Plymouth County	5	3%
Franklin County	2	1%
Hampshire County	2	1%
Barnstable County	1	1%
Berkshire County	1	1%
Outside MA	14	9%
Grand Total	148	100%

Old Colony Correctional Center		
	Males	Total
Suffolk County	29	21%
Bristol County	21	15%
Plymouth County	15	11%
Essex County	14	10%
Worcester County	13	9%
Norfolk County	11	8%
Middlesex County	8	6%
Hampden County	8	6%
Barnstable County	2	1%
Franklin County	2	1%
Berkshire County	1	1%
Outside MA	13	9%
Grand Total	137	100%

Pondville Correctional Center		
	Males	Total
Bristol County	36	26%
Suffolk County	28	20%
Plymouth County	18	13%
Hampden County	14	10%
Worcester County	12	9%
Essex County	11	8%
Middlesex County	6	4%
Barnstable County	3	2%
Norfolk County	3	2%
Hampshire County	2	1%
Berkshire County	1	1%
Outside MA	7	5%
Grand Total	141	100%

Shattuck Hospital		
	Males	Total
Suffolk County	2	67%
Plymouth County	1	33%
Grand Total	3	100%

Souza-Baranowski Correctional Center		
	Males	Total
Suffolk County	29	21%
Bristol County	19	14%
Middlesex County	17	12%
Hampden County	16	11%
Worcester County	15	11%
Essex County	13	9%
Plymouth County	9	6%
Norfolk County	7	5%
Barnstable County	3	2%
Hampshire County	2	1%
Franklin County	2	1%
Nantucket County	1	1%
Berkshire County	1	1%
Outside MA	6	4%
Grand Total	140	100%

Institutions Housing Female Incarcerated Individuals

MCI-Framingham		
	Females	Total
Middlesex County	34	41%
Suffolk County	11	13%
Bristol County	7	9%
Norfolk County	6	7%
Worcester County	6	7%
Essex County	6	7%
Hampden County	6	7%
Plymouth County	2	2%
Berkshire County	1	1%
Outside MA	3	4%
Grand Total	82	100%

South Middlesex Correctional Center		
	Males	Total
Suffolk County	12	23%
Essex County	9	17%
Middlesex County	7	13%
Plymouth County	6	12%
Bristol County	6	12%
Norfolk County	4	8%
Worcester County	3	6%
Barnstable County	2	4%
Hampden County	1	2%
Outside MA	2	4%
Grand Total	52	100%

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

County, Federal, Interstate						
	Females	%	Males	%	Total	%
Hampden County	8	62%	80	57%	88	57%
Essex County	0	0%	12	9%	12	8%
Berkshire County	1	8%	9	6%	10	6%
Suffolk County	0	0%	9	6%	9	6%
Worcester County	2	15%	6	4%	8	5%
Bristol County	0	0%	6	4%	6	4%
Franklin County	1	8%	5	4%	6	4%
Hampshire County	1	8%	4	3%	5	3%
Plymouth County	0	0%	2	1%	2	1%
Middlesex County	0	0%	2	1%	2	1%
Norfolk County	0	0%	1	1%	1	1%
Outside MA	0	0%	5	4%	5	3%
Total	13	100%	141	100%	154	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	2	8	10
Falmouth	0	5	5
Bourne	0	4	4
Yarmouth	0	4	4
Sandwich	0	3	3
Dennis	0	3	3
Mashpee	0	2	2
Provincetown	0	1	1
Chatham	0	1	1
Total	2	31	33

Release Address Cities/Towns in Berkshire County			
	Females	Males	Total
Pittsfield	1	29	30
Dalton	0	2	2
Lanesborough	0	1	1
Cheshire	0	1	1
North Adams	0	1	1
Windsor	1	0	1
Clarksburg	0	1	1
Adams	0	1	1
Florida	0	1	1
Total	2	37	39

Release Address Cities/Towns in Bristol County			
	Females	Males	Total
New Bedford	5	93	98
Fall River	1	63	64
Taunton	3	41	44
Attleboro	2	9	11
Norton	0	6	6
Westport	0	5	5
Somerset	0	5	5
North Attleboro	0	4	4
Fairhaven	0	3	3
Swansea	0	3	3
Dartmouth	0	3	3
Easton	1	1	2
Seekonk	0	2	2
Rehoboth	1	0	1
Freetown	0	1	1
Raynham	0	1	1
Total	13	240	253

Release Address Cities/Towns in Essex County			
	Females	Males	Total
Lawrence	3	53	56
Lynn	5	49	54
Haverhill	3	22	25
Methuen	1	16	17
Salem	0	14	14
Saugus	1	10	11
Peabody	0	8	8
Beverly	1	3	4
Salisbury	0	3	3
Marblehead	0	3	3
Danvers	0	2	2
Andover	0	1	1
Gloucester	0	1	1
Swampscott	0	1	1
Middleton	0	1	1
Rowley	0	1	1
Nahant	0	1	1
Essex	0	1	1
Boxford	1	0	1
Newbury	0	1	1
Amesbury	0	1	1
Noth Andover	0	1	1
Total	15	193	208

Release Address Cities/Towns in Franklin County			
	Females	Males	Total
Montague	0	9	9
Greenfield	0	5	5
Orange	0	2	2
Deerfield	1	1	2
Bernardston	0	1	1
Northfield	0	1	1
Gill	0	1	1
New Salem	0	1	1
Total	1	21	22

Release Address Cities/Towns in Hampden County			
	Females	Males	Total
Springfield	9	164	173
Chicopee	1	20	21
Holyoke	1	16	17
West Springfield	1	9	10
Agawam	0	4	4
Ludlow	1	3	4
Westfield	0	3	3
Palmer	0	2	2
Southwick	0	2	2
Monson	0	1	1
Brimfield	1	0	1
East Longmeadow	1	0	1
Holland	0	1	1
Total	15	225	240

Release Address Cities/Towns in Hampshire County			
	Females	Males	Total
Northampton	0	7	7
Pelham	1	1	2
South Hadley	0	2	2
Granby	0	2	2
Ware	0	1	1
Eastampton	0	1	1
Amherst	0	1	1
Belchertown	0	1	1
Hadley	0	1	1
Total	1	17	18

Release Address Cities/Towns in Middlesex County			
	Females	Males	Total
Lowell	5	42	47
Everett	3	15	18
Cambridge	2	9	11
Woburn	0	9	9
Somerville	2	6	8
Malden	2	6	8
Bedford	2	5	7
Billerica	4	3	7
Framingham	3	3	6
Stoneham	2	4	6
Waltham	2	4	6
Marlborough	0	4	4
Tewksbury	0	4	4
Natick	0	4	4
Arlington	2	2	4
Medford	0	4	4
Pepperell	0	3	3
Westford	2	1	3
Lexington	1	1	2
Shirley	1	1	2
Townsend	0	2	2
Ayer	2	0	2
Wilmington	2	0	2
Burlington	1	1	2
Chelmsford	1	1	2
Hudson	1	1	2
Maynard	0	2	2
Winchester	0	1	1
Melrose	1	0	1
Acton	0	1	1
Wakefield	0	1	1
Concord	0	1	1
Groton	0	1	1
Newton	0	1	1
Watertown	0	1	1
Wayland	0	1	1
Total	41	145	186

Release Address Cities/Towns in Nantucket County			
	Females	Males	Total
Nantucket	0	2	2
Total	0	2	2

Release Address Cities/Towns in Norfolk County			
	Females	Males	Total
Quincy	3	26	29
Randolph	0	16	16
Stoughton	0	8	8
Braintree	0	5	5
Weymouth	1	4	5
Holbrook	1	4	5
Norwood	2	3	5
Millis	2	1	3
Canton	1	2	3
Walpole	0	2	2
Wrentham	0	2	2
Avon	0	2	2
Plainville	0	2	2
Franklin	0	1	1
Medway	0	1	1
Wellesley	0	1	1
Medfield	0	1	1
Total	10	81	91

Release Address Cities/Towns in Plymouth County			
	Females	Males	Total
Brockton	3	98	101
Bridgewater	4	8	12
Wareham	1	11	12
Plymouth	0	9	9
Middleborough	0	6	6
Whitman	0	5	5
Rockland	0	3	3
Hanson	0	3	3
East Bridgewater	0	2	2
Abington	0	2	2
Kingston	0	2	2
Carver	0	1	1
West Bridgewater	0	1	1
Mattapoisett	0	1	1
Marshfield	0	1	1
Total	8	153	161

Release Address Cities/Towns in Suffolk County			
	Females	Males	Total
Boston	21	308	329
Chelsea	0	22	22
Revere	2	14	16
Winthrop	0	2	2
Total	23	346	369

Release Address Cities/Towns in Worcester County			
	Females	Males	Total
Worcester	4	86	90
Fitchburg	3	24	27
Webster	0	12	12
Leominster	0	9	9
Gardner	0	8	8
Southbridge	1	6	7
Athol	0	6	6
Winchendon	1	3	4
Northborough	1	3	4
Shrewsbury	0	3	3
Auburn	0	3	3
Clinton	1	2	3
North Brookfield	0	2	2
Milford	0	2	2
Spencer	0	2	2
Dudley	0	1	1
Northbridge	0	1	1
West Brookfield	0	1	1
Rutland	0	1	1
Oakham	0	1	1
Brookfield	0	1	1
West Boylston	0	1	1
Hardwick	0	1	1
Westborough	0	1	1
Charlton	0	1	1
Barre	0	1	1
Sutton	0	1	1
Uxbridge	0	1	1
Total	11	184	195