Massachusetts Department of Correction
Shawn Jenkins, Commissioner

Communities Incarcerated Individuals Released to in 2022

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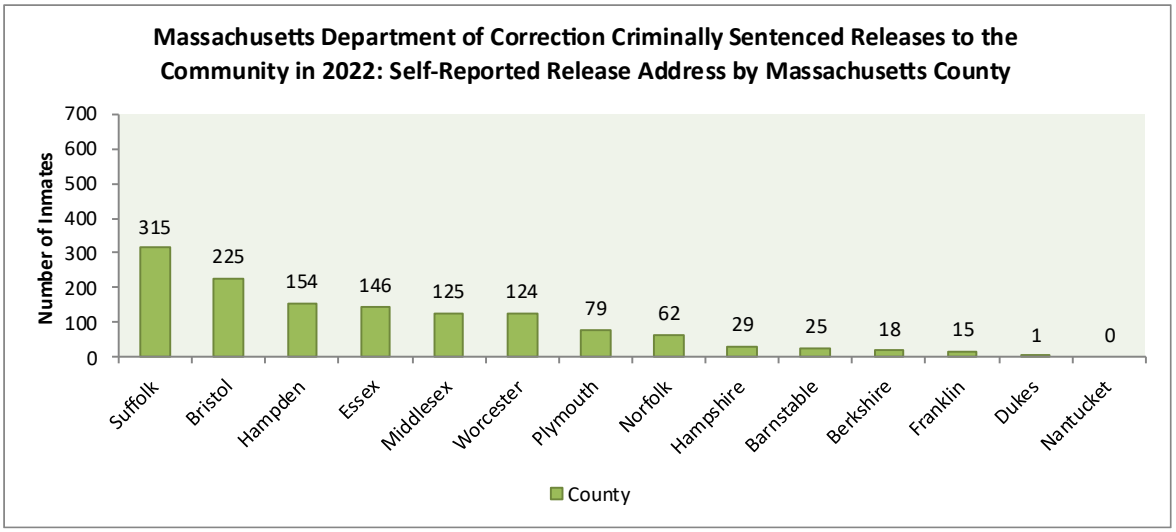
The population covered in this report, termed 'release to the community population', includes any criminally sentenced incarcerated individuals released to the community from a Massachusetts Department of Correction (MA DOC) facility as well as DOC incarcerated individuals released from other correctional 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 2022 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/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 52 I.I. including 52 released to communities outside of Massachusetts and 0 unreported

During calendar year 2022, there were 1,370 releases to the community, which was a decrease of 101 releases (7%) from 2021. Males saw a 7% decrease from the previous year in number of releases (n = 105) driven by a decrease in paroles to the community. Female releases experienced a 6% increase from 68 in 2021 to 72 in 2022 (n = 4), largely as a result of an increase 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.

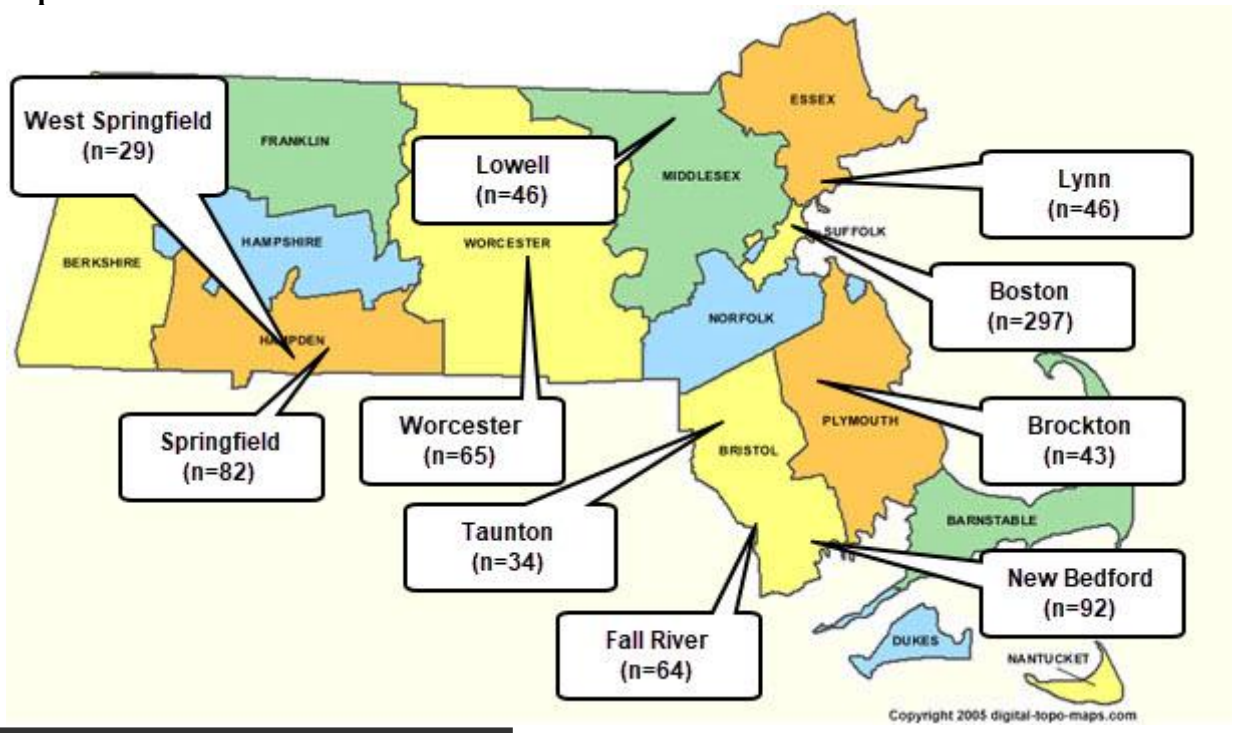
Table 1

Massachusetts Department of Correction Releases to the Community in 2022: Top Ten Release Address (Cities/Towns)		
City	**Total**	**%**
1. Boston	297	23%
2. New Bedford	92	7%
3. Springfield	82	6%
4. Worcester	65	5%
5. Fall River	64	5%
6. Lynn	46	3%
7. Lowell	46	3%
8. Brockton	43	3%
9. Taunton	34	3%
10. West Springfield	29	2%
Sub-Total	**798**	61%
Other MA Cities/Towns	468	36%
Outside MA	52	4%
Unknown	0	0%
Total	**1,318**	**100%**

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

- The majority (61%) of the releases during 2022 had a reported release address in one of the top ten cities/towns listed in Table 1.
- Similar to 2021, the release address with the highest number of releases reported was to the various communities in the city of Boston (23%) followed by New Bedford (7%) and Springfield (6%).
- Despite changes in rankings, the top 10 cities/towns remained the similar from the previous year.

Map 1



Massachusetts Department of Correction Releases to the Community in 2022: Top Ten Release Address Cities

Table 2

Massachusetts Department of Correction Releases to the Community 2022: Top Ten Release Address (Cities/Towns) for Males		
	Male	**%**
1. Boston	282	22%
2. New Bedford	90	7%
3. Springfield	82	6%
4. Worcester	64	5%
5. Fall River	61	5%
6. Brockton	43	3%
7. Lowell	40	3%
8. Lynn	40	3%
9. Taunton	34	3%
10. West Springfield	26	2%
Sub-Total	**762**	59%
Other MA Cities/Towns	488	38%
Outside MA	48	4%
Unknown	0	0%
Total	**1,298**	100%

- Boston was the top city reported by both male (22%) and female (21%) incarcerated individuals as their release address. The second most reported city for males was New Bedford (7%), followed by Springfield (6%) and Worcester (5%).

- Similar to 2021, many 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 (8%), followed by Lynn (8%) and Framingham (4%).

- Most females (63%) reported a Massachusetts release address in one of the top ten cities/towns, while (32%) reported a release address outside of 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 2022: Top Ten Release Address (Cities/Towns) for Females		
	Female	**%**
1. Boston	15	21%
2. Lowell	6	8%
3. Lynn	6	8%
4. Framingham	3	4%
5. West Springfield	3	4%
6. Methuen	3	4%
7. Fall River	3	4%
8. Everett	2	3%
9. Tyngsborough	2	3%
10. Falmouth	2	3%
Sub-Total	**45**	63%
Other MA Cities/Towns	23	32%
Outside MA	4	6%
Unknown	0	0%
Total	**72**	**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 2022: Release Address by Massachusetts Counties (Self-Reported)			
	Total	**%**	**Per 100,000 Residents***
Suffolk County	315	23%	41
Bristol County	225	16%	39
Hampden County	154	11%	33
Essex County	146	11%	18
Middlesex County	125	9%	8
Worcester County	124	9%	14
Plymouth County	79	6%	15
Norfolk County	62	5%	9
Hampshire County	29	2%	18
Barnstable County	25	2%	11
Berkshire County	18	1%	14
Franklin County	15	1%	21
Dukes County	1	<1%	5
Outside MA	52	4%	N/A
Unknown	0	0%	N/A
Total	**1,370**	**100%**	20

* 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. Bristol County had the second highest percentage of releases (16%) followed by Hampden 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 41 followed by Bristol County with 39 and Hampden County with 33. Although 9% of releases reported an address in Middlesex County (the fifth highest by count), its significantly higher population density resulted in the third lowest release concentration—8 per 100,000 residents.

Map 2

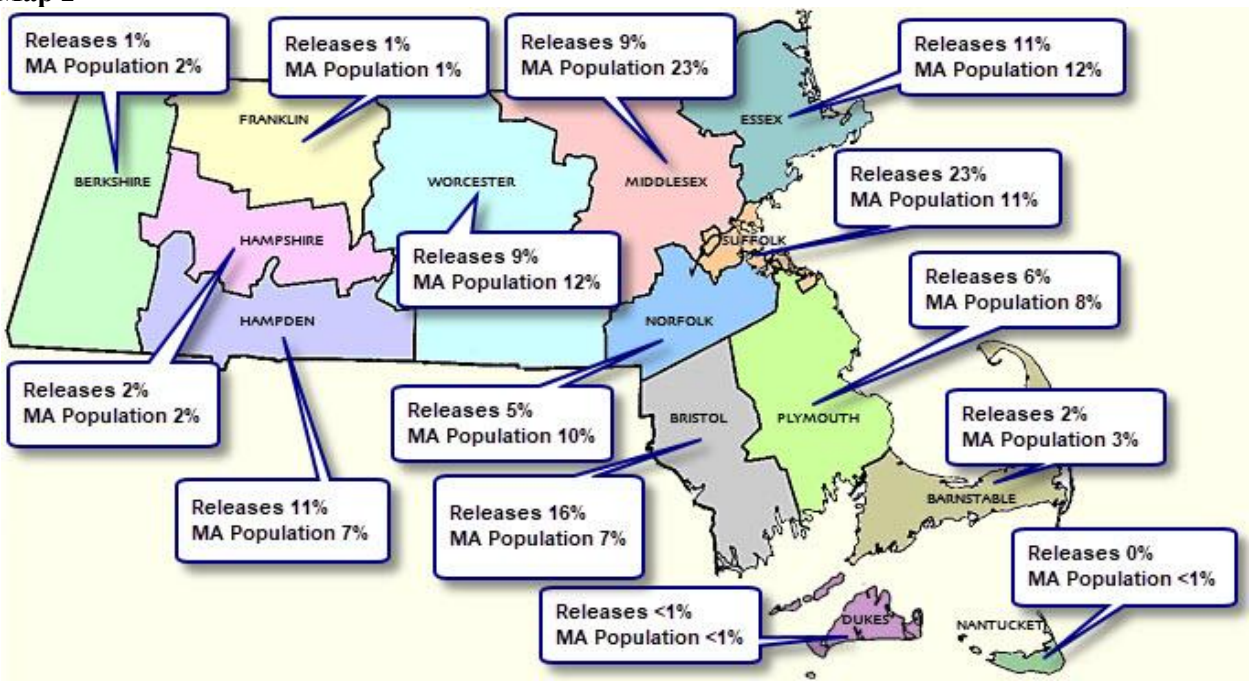


Table 5

Massachusetts Department of Correction Releases to the Community 2022: Release Address by Massachusetts County for Males		
	Male	**%**
Suffolk County	299	23%
Bristol County	220	17%
Hampden County	150	12%
Essex County	135	10%
Worcester County	121	9%
Middlesex County	106	8%
Plymouth County	76	6%
Norfolk County	58	4%
Hampshire County	29	2%
Barnstable County	23	2%
Berkshire County	18	1%
Franklin County	14	1%
Dukes County	1	<1%
Outside MA	48	4%
Unknown	0	0%
Total	**1,298**	**100%**

- The greatest percentage of males were released to Suffolk County (23%), followed by Bristol County (17%) and Hampden County (12%).
- Suffolk County was the top Massachusetts county reported for male releases in 2022, mirroring the top county for community releases in 2021. Hampden County ranked fourth in 2021 and rose to third in 2022.
- No male releases reported a release address in Nantucket County in 2022.

Table 6

Massachusetts Department of Correction Releases to the Community in 2022: Release Address by Massachusetts County for Females		
	Female	**%**
Middlesex County	19	26%
Suffolk County	16	22%
Essex County	11	15%
Bristol County	5	7%
Norfolk County	4	6%
Hampden County	4	6%
Worcester County	3	4%
Plymouth County	3	4%
Barnstable County	2	3%
Franklin County	1	1%
Outside MA	4	6%
Unknown	0	0%
Total	**72**	**100%**

- The greatest percentage of females were released to Middlesex County (26%), followed by Suffolk County (22%) and Essex County (15%).
- Though the list of top releases addresses by Massachusetts County remained almost identical with the top Counties reported in 2021 for females, there was some variation for the proportion of releases to each County. The top four release Counties accounted for 71% of releases to the community in 2022, a 2% increase from 2021.
- No female releases reported a release address in Dukes and Nantucket Counties in 2022.

Table 7

Massachusetts Department of Correction Releases to the Community in 2021: Locations Outside Massachusetts			
	Female	**Male**	**Total**
New Hampshire	1	10	11
Florida	1	7	8
Rhode Island	1	6	7
Connecticut	0	5	5
New Jersey	0	3	3
Maine	0	2	2
California	0	2	2
Pennsylvania	0	2	2
North Carolina	0	2	2
New York	0	2	2
Wyoming	0	1	1
Texas	0	1	1
Tennessee	1	0	1
Minnesota	0	1	1
Virginia	0	1	1
Kentucky	0	1	1
Illinois	0	1	1
Ohio	0	1	1
Total	**4**	**48**	**52**

Of the 1,370 I.I. released to the community, 52 reported a release address outside of Massachusetts. Fifty-two percent of I.I. who reported a release address outside of Massachusetts in 2022 indicated a destination in a New England state (n = 25) or New York (n = 2), accounting for most out-of-state releases that year. The proportion of I.I. being released to a New England state or New York decreased from 54% to 52% 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	9	20%
Essex County	8	17%
Bristol County	7	15%
Middlesex County	7	15%
Hampden County	3	7%
Worcester County	3	7%
Norfolk County	3	7%
Plymouth County	2	4%
Outside MA	4	9%
Grand Total	**46**	**100%**

Massachusetts Treatment Center		
	Males	**Total**
Suffolk County	18	19%
Essex County	13	14%
Worcester County	13	14%
Bristol County	11	12%
Hampden County	10	11%
Middlesex County	7	7%
Plymouth County	6	6%
Berkshire County	5	5%
Hampshire County	4	4%
Barnstable County	2	2%
Franklin County	2	2%
Norfolk County	2	2%
Outside MA	2	2%
Grand Total	**95**	**100%**

MCI-Cedar Junction		
	Males	**Total**
Bristol County	29	32%
Suffolk County	20	22%
Worcester County	8	9%
Hampden County	8	9%
Norfolk County	6	7%
Plymouth County	6	7%
Middlesex County	5	5%
Essex County	3	3%
Hampshire County	3	3%
Barnstable County	1	1%
Berkshire County	1	1%
Outside MA	2	2%
Grand Total	**92**	**100%**

MCI-Concord		
	Males	**Total**
Suffolk County	28	35%
Essex County	14	18%
Worcester County	9	11%
Bristol County	7	9%
Hampden County	7	9%
Plymouth County	4	5%
Norfolk County	3	4%
Middlesex County	2	3%
Berkshire County	1	1%
Outside MA	5	6%
Grand Total	**80**	**100%**

Institutions Housing Male Incarcerated Individuals – Continued

MCI-Norfolk		
	Males	**Total**
Suffolk County	35	26%
Essex County	18	13%
Bristol County	18	13%
Middlesex County	12	9%
Worcester County	11	8%
Plymouth County	11	8%
Norfolk County	9	7%
Hampden County	8	6%
Barnstable County	5	4%
Franklin County	3	2%
Outside MA	4	3%
Grand Total	**134**	**100%**

MCI-Shirley		
	Males	**Total**
Suffolk County	46	21%
Bristol County	37	17%
Hampden County	30	14%
Essex County	25	12%
Worcester County	16	7%
Norfolk County	15	7%
Middlesex County	13	6%
Plymouth County	12	6%
Hampshire County	11	5%
Barnstable County	4	2%
Berkshire County	3	1%
Outside MA	5	2%
Grand Total	**217**	**100%**

NCCI-Gardner		
	Males	**Total**
Hampden County	15	17%
Worcester County	13	15%
Middlesex County	12	14%
Suffolk County	11	13%
Bristol County	10	11%
Essex County	6	7%
Plymouth County	5	6%
Barnstable County	2	2%
Franklin County	2	2%
Hampshire County	2	2%
Norfolk County	1	1%
Outside MA	8	9%
Total	**87**	**100%**

Northeastern Correctional Center		
	Males	**Total**
Suffolk County	30	25%
Bristol County	20	17%
Middlesex County	19	16%
Worcester County	14	12%
Essex County	14	12%
Hampden County	8	7%
Norfolk County	4	3%
Plymouth County	4	3%
Barnstable County	1	1%
Berkshire County	1	1%
Outside MA	3	3%
Grand Total	**118**	**100%**

Institutions Housing Male Incarcerated Individuals – Continued

Old Colony Correctional Center		
	Males	**Total**
Suffolk County	30	28%
Bristol County	19	18%
Hampden County	13	12%
Essex County	8	7%
Worcester County	8	7%
Plymouth County	7	6%
Middlesex County	7	6%
Norfolk County	6	6%
Barnstable County	3	3%
Hampshire County	2	2%
Outside MA	5	5%
Grand Total	**108**	**100%**

Shattuck Hospital		
	Males	**Total**
Suffolk County	1	33%
Hampden County	1	33%
Middlesex County	1	33%
Grand Total	**3**	**100%**

Souza-Baranowski Correctional Center		
	Males	**Total**
Bristol County	43	27%
Suffolk County	37	23%
Essex County	16	10%
Worcester County	15	9%
Hampden County	14	9%
Plymouth County	9	6%
Middlesex County	9	6%
Berkshire County	5	3%
Franklin County	3	2%
Norfolk County	2	1%
Barnstable County	2	1%
Hampshire County	1	1%
Dukes County	1	1%
Outside MA	2	1%
Grand Total	**159**	**100%**

Pondville Correctional Center		
	Males	**Total**
Suffolk County	31	31%
Bristol County	17	17%
Worcester County	10	10%
Plymouth County	9	9%
Middlesex County	7	7%
Norfolk County	6	6%
Essex County	6	6%
Barnstable County	2	2%
Berkshire County	2	2%
Hampden County	2	2%
Hampshire County	1	1%
Outside MA	8	8%
Grand Total	**101**	**100%**

Institutions Housing Female Incarcerated Individuals

MCI-Framingham		
	Females	**Total**
Middlesex County	15	28%
Suffolk County	12	22%
Essex County	9	17%
Norfolk County	4	7%
Bristol County	4	7%
Worcester County	3	6%
Plymouth County	2	4%
Barnstable County	2	4%
Hampden County	1	2%
Outside MA	2	4%
Grand Total	**54**	**100%**

Shattuck Hospital		
	Females	**Total**
Bristol County	1	100%
Grand Total	1	**100%**

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

County, Federal, Interstate						
	Females	**%**	**Males**	**%**	**Total**	**%**
Hampden County	3	18%	31	53%	34	45%
Middlesex County	4	24%	5	9%	9	12%
Suffolk County	3	18%	3	5%	6	8%
Essex County	2	12%	4	7%	6	8%
Franklin County	1	6%	4	7%	5	7%
Hampshire County	0	0%	5	9%	5	7%
Bristol County	1	6%	2	3%	3	4%
Plymouth County	1	6%	1	2%	2	3%
Worcester County	0	0%	1	2%	1	1%
Barnstable County	0	0%	1	2%	1	1%
Norfolk County	0	0%	1	2%	1	1%
Outside MA	2	12%	0	0%	2	3%
Total	**17**	**100%**	**58**	**100%**	**75**	**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	0	8	8
Yarmouth	0	5	5
Falmouth	2	3	5
Mashpee	0	2	2
Eastham	0	2	2
Bourne	0	1	1
Dennis	0	1	1
Sandwich	0	1	1
Total	**2**	**23**	**25**

Release Address Cities/Towns in Berkshire County			
	Females	**Males**	**Total**
Pittsfield	0	15	15
Lanesborough	0	1	1
Becket	0	1	1
Hinsdale	0	1	1
Total	**0**	**18**	**18**

Release Address Cities/Towns in Bristol County			
	Females	**Males**	**Total**
New Bedford	2	90	92
Fall River	3	61	64
Taunton	0	34	34
North Attleboro	0	8	8
Norton	0	5	5
Dartmouth	0	4	4
Attleboro	0	3	3
Seekonk	0	3	3
Dighton	0	2	2
Berkley	0	2	2
Raynham	0	1	1
Fairhaven	0	1	1
Mansfield	0	1	1
Easton	0	1	1
Swansea	0	1	1
Westport	0	1	1
Acushnet	0	1	1
Freetown	0	1	1
Total	**5**	**220**	**225**

Release Address Cities/Towns in Dukes County			
	Females	**Males**	**Total**
Oak Bluffs	0	1	1
Total	**0**	**1**	**1**

Release Address Cities/Towns in Essex County

	Females	Males	Total
Lynn	6	40	46
Lawrence	0	24	24
Haverhill	0	16	16
Methuen	3	12	15
Peabody	0	9	9
Salem	0	9	9
Saugus	1	5	6
Andover	1	4	5
Danvers	0	3	3
Gloucester	0	3	3
Rowley	0	2	2
Beverly	0	2	2
Merrimac	0	1	1
Hamilton	0	1	1
Salisbury	0	1	1
Newburyport	0	1	1
North Andover	0	1	1
Marblehead	0	1	1
Total	**11**	**135**	**146**

Release Address Cities/Towns in Franklin County			
	Females	**Males**	**Total**
Greenfield	1	7	8
Orange	0	3	3
Rowe	0	1	1
Sunderland	0	1	1
Deerfield	0	1	1
Montague	0	1	1
Total	**1**	**14**	**15**

Release Address Cities/Towns in Hampden County			
	Females	**Males**	**Total**
Springfield	0	82	82
West Springfield	3	26	29
Holyoke	1	24	25
Chicopee	0	7	7
Westfield	0	5	5
Granville	0	2	2
Wales	0	1	1
Palmer	0	1	1
Agawam	0	1	1
Montgomery	0	1	1
Total	**4**	**150**	**154**

Release Address Cities/Towns in Hampshire County			
	Females	**Males**	**Total**
Northampton	0	21	21
Amherst	0	3	3
Ware	0	2	2
South Hadley	0	1	1
Belchertown	0	1	1
Easthampton	0	1	1
Total	**0**	**29**	**29**

Release Address Cities/Towns in Middlesex County			
	Females	**Males**	**Total**
Lowell	6	40	46
Framingham	3	5	8
Tewksbury	0	5	5
Somerville	0	5	5
Wakefield	1	3	4
Everett	2	2	4
Waltham	0	4	4
Malden	0	4	4
Stoneham	1	2	3
Bedford	0	3	3
Tyngsborough	2	1	3
Woburn	0	3	3
Billerica	0	3	3
Cambridge	0	3	3
Arlington	0	2	2
Wilmington	0	2	2
Melrose	0	2	2
Dracut	0	2	2
Newton	1	1	2
North Reading	0	2	2
Medford	0	2	2
Hudson	0	1	1
Lexington	0	1	1
Westford	0	1	1
Burlington	0	1	1
Reading	0	1	1
Chelmsford	0	1	1
Watertown	0	1	1
Sudbury	0	1	1
Weston	1	0	1
Maynard	0	1	1
Pepperell	1	0	1
Acton	0	1	1
Concord	1	0	1
Total	**19**	**106**	**125**

Release Address Cities/Towns in Norfolk County			
	Females	**Males**	**Total**
Randolph	0	21	21
Quincy	1	12	13
Weymouth	0	6	6
Stoughton	1	3	4
Norwood	0	3	3
Braintree	0	3	3
Dedham	0	3	3
Plainville	1	0	1
Holbrook	0	1	1
Brookline	1	0	1
Westwood	0	1	1
Canton	0	1	1
Wrentham	0	1	1
Medway	0	1	1
Bellingham	0	1	1
Milton	0	1	1
Total	**4**	**58**	**62**

Release Address Cities/Towns in Plymouth County			
	Females	**Males**	**Total**
Brockton	0	43	43
Wareham	1	7	8
Plymouth	0	6	6
Rockland	0	3	3
Middleborough	0	3	3
Bridgewater	0	3	3
Whitman	0	2	2
East Bridgewater	0	2	2
Lakeville	0	2	2
Hanson	1	0	1
Duxbury	1	0	1
Hingham	0	1	1
West Bridgewater	0	1	1
Mattapoisett	0	1	1
Carver	0	1	1
Hull	0	1	1
Total	**3**	**76**	**79**

Release Address Cities/Towns in Suffolk County			
	Females	**Males**	**Total**
Boston	15	282	297
Revere	0	10	10
Chelsea	0	5	5
Winthrop	1	2	3
Total	**16**	**299**	**315**

Release Address Cities/Towns in Worcester County			
	Females	**Males**	**Total**
Worcester	1	64	65
Winchendon	0	14	14
Fitchburg	2	10	12
Southbridge	0	6	6
Webster	0	3	3
Gardner	0	3	3
Leicester	0	3	3
Leominster	0	3	3
Athol	0	2	2
Oakham	0	2	2
Boylston	0	1	1
Sutton	0	1	1
East Brookfield	0	1	1
Northborough	0	1	1
Templeton	0	1	1
Westborough	0	1	1
Ashburnham	0	1	1
Holden	0	1	1
Dudley	0	1	1
Shrewsbury	0	1	1
Millbury	0	1	1
Total	**3**	**121**	**124**