Massachusetts Department of Correction
Shawn Jenkins, Commissioner

Communities Incarcerated Individuals Released to in 2024

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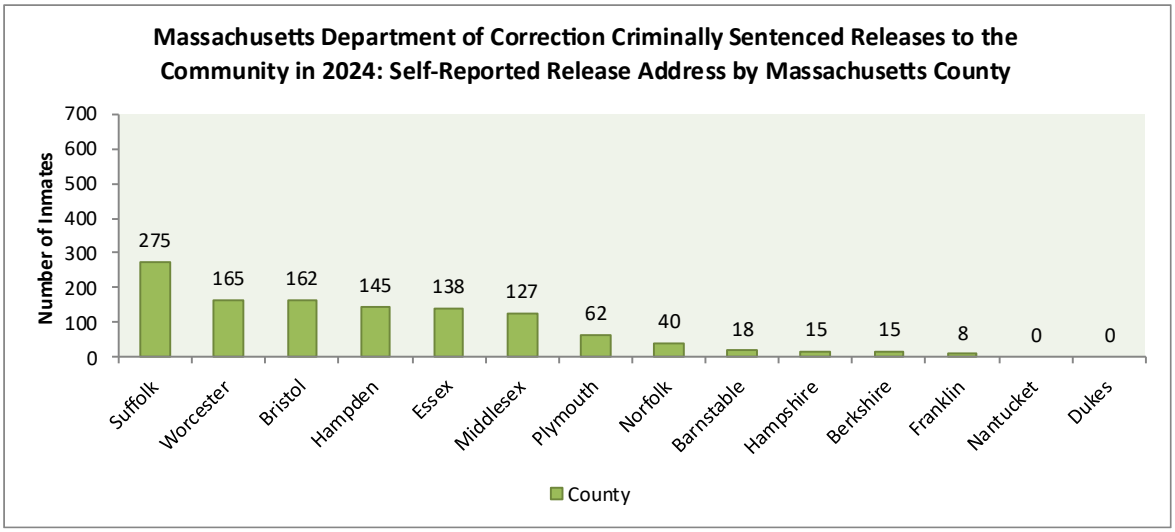
The population covered in this report, termed 'release to the community population', includes any criminally sentenced incarcerated individuals released to the community from a Massachusetts Department of Correction (MA DOC) facility as well as DOC incarcerated individuals released from other correctional 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 2024 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) is 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 53 I.I. including 53 released to communities outside of Massachusetts and 0 unreported

During calendar year 2024, there were 1,223 releases to the community, which was a decrease of 21 releases (2%) from 2023. Males saw a 2% decrease from the previous year in number of releases (n = 26) driven by a decrease in paroles to the community. Female releases experienced a 7% increase from 67 in 2023 to 72 in 2024 (n = 5), 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.

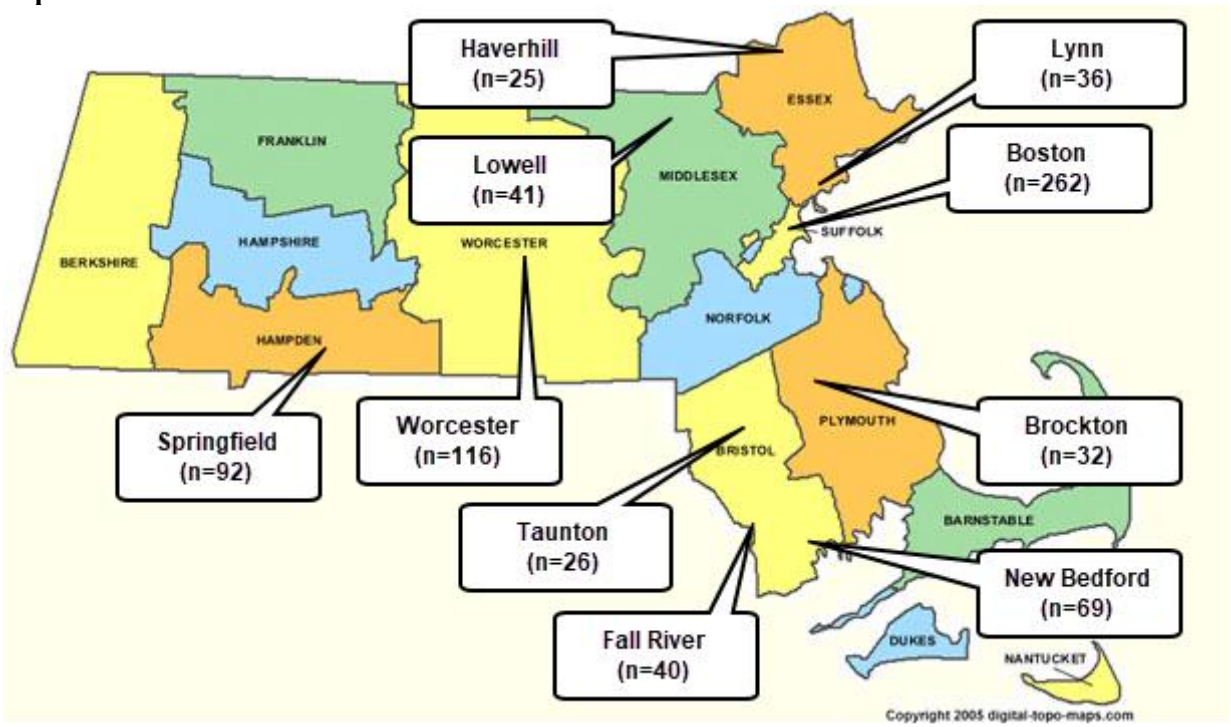
Table 1

Massachusetts Department of Correction Releases to the Community in 2024: Top Ten Release Address (Cities/Towns)		
City	**Total**	**%**
1. Boston	262	21%
2. Worcester	116	9%
3. Springfield	92	8%
4. New Bedford	69	6%
5. Lowell	41	3%
6. Fall River	40	3%
7. Lynn	36	3%
8. Brockton	32	3%
9. Taunton	26	2%
10. Haverhill	25	2%
Sub-Total	**739**	**60%**
Other MA Cities/Towns	431	35%
Outside MA	53	4%
Unknown	0	0%
Total	**1,223**	**100%**

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

- The majority (60%) of the releases during 2024 had a reported release address in one of the top ten cities/towns listed in Table 1.
- Like 2023, the release address with the highest number of releases reported was to the various communities in the city of Boston (21%) followed by Worcester (9%) and Springfield (8%).
- 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 2024: Top Ten Release Address Cities

Table 2

Massachusetts Department of Correction Releases to the Community 2024: Top Ten Release Address (Cities/Towns) for Males		
	Male	**%**
1. Boston	249	22%
2. Worcester	110	10%
3. Springfield	88	8%
4. New Bedford	69	6%
5. Fall River	38	3%
6. Lowell	34	3%
7. Lynn	34	3%
8. Brockton	31	3%
9. Taunton	26	2%
10. Haverhill	23	2%
Sub-Total	**702**	61%
Other MA Cities/Towns	397	34%
Outside MA	52	5%
Unknown	0	0%
Total	**1,151**	100%

- Boston was the top city reported by both male (22%) and female (18%) incarcerated individual as their release address. The second most reported city for males was Worcester (10%), followed by Springfield (8%) and New Bedford (6%).

- Like 2023, most of the male releases (61%) 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 (10%), followed by Worcester (8%) and Lawrence (6%).

- Most females (60%) reported a Massachusetts release address in one of the top ten cities/towns, while (40%) reported a release address outside of the top ten.

- Female releases by community are also skewed, because not all counties house females. [3]

Table 3

Massachusetts Department of Correction Releases to the Community in 2024: Top Ten Release Address (Cities/Towns) for Females		
	Female	**%**
1. Boston	13	18%
2. Lowell	7	10%
3. Worcester	6	8%
4. Springfield	4	6%
5. Lawrence	3	4%
6. Fall River	2	3%
7. Plymouth	2	3%
8. Framingham	2	3%
9. Quincy	2	3%
10. Haverhill	2	3%
Sub-Total	**43**	60%
Other MA Cities/Towns	28	39%
Outside MA	1	1%
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 2023: Release Address by Massachusetts Counties (Self-Reported)			
	Total	**%**	**Per 100,000 Residents***
Suffolk County	275	22%	36
Worcester County	165	13%	19
Bristol County	162	13%	28
Hampden County	145	12%	31
Essex County	138	11%	17
Middlesex County	127	10%	8
Plymouth County	62	5%	12
Norfolk County	40	3%	6
Barnstable County	18	1%	8
Berkshire County	15	1%	12
Hampshire County	15	1%	9
Franklin County	8	1%	11
Nantucket County	0	0%	0
Outside MA	53	4%	N/A
Unknown	0	0%	N/A
Total	**1,223**	**100%**	18

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

Twenty-two percent of the total population reported a release address located in Suffolk County, the highest of all Massachusetts Counties. Worcester County had the second highest percentage of releases (13%) followed by Bristol County with 13%. When looking at the concentration (the rate per 100,000 residents) of releases to the community, Suffolk County had the greatest concentration at 36 followed by Hampden County with 31 and Bristol County with 28. Although 10% of releases in 2023 reported an address in Middlesex County (the sixth highest by count), the county's significantly higher population density resulted in the third lowest concentration of releases—8 per 100,000 residents.

Map 2

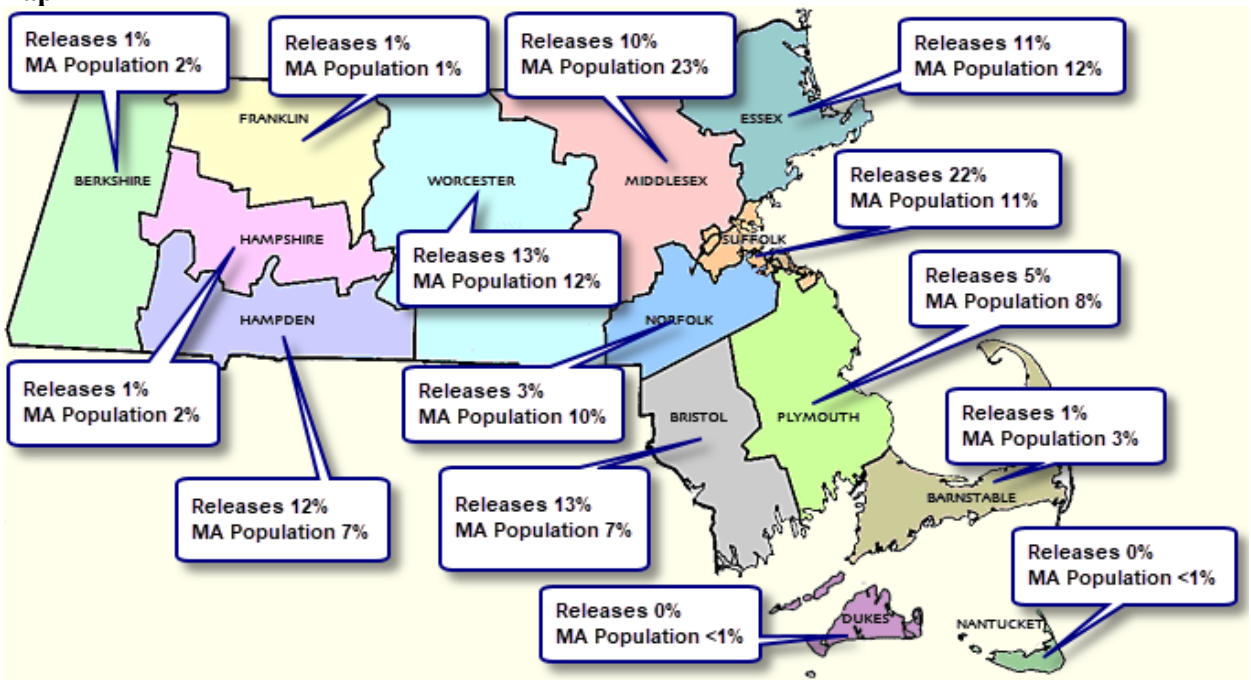


Table 5

Massachusetts Department of Correction Releases to the Community 2024: Release Address by Massachusetts County for Males		
	Male	**%**
Suffolk County	262	23%
Worcester County	158	14%
Bristol County	158	14%
Hampden County	136	12%
Essex County	129	11%
Middlesex County	112	10%
Plymouth County	57	5%
Norfolk County	36	3%
Barnstable County	16	1%
Hampshire County	15	1%
Berkshire County	13	1%
Franklin County	7	1%
Nantucket County	0	0%
Outside MA	52	5%
Unknown	0	0%
Total	**1,151**	**100%**

- The greatest percentage of males were released to Suffolk County (23%), followed by Worcester County (14%) and Bristol County (14%).

- Suffolk County was the top Massachusetts county reported for male releases in 2023, mirroring the top county for community releases that year. Hampden County ranked second in 2023, third in 2022, and dropped to fourth in 2024.

- No male releases reported a release address in Dukes and Nantucket County in 2024.

Table 6

Massachusetts Department of Correction Releases to the Community in 2024: Release Address by Massachusetts County for Females		
	Female	**%**
Middlesex County	15	21%
Suffolk County	13	18%
Hampden County	9	13%
Essex County	9	13%
Worcester County	7	10%
Plymouth County	5	7%
Bristol County	4	6%
Norfolk County	4	6%
Barnstable County	2	3%
Berkshire County	2	3%
Franklin County	1	1%
Outside MA	1	1%
Unknown	0	0%
Total	**72**	**100%**

- The greatest percentage of females were released to Middlesex County (21%), followed by Suffolk County (18%) and Hampden County (13%).

- Though the list of top releases addresses by Massachusetts County remained almost identical with the top Counties reported in 2023 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 2024, a 6% decrease from 2023.

- No female releases reported a release address in Dukes and Nantucket Counties in 2024.

Table 7

Massachusetts Department of Correction Releases to the Community in 2024: Locations Outside Massachusetts			
	Female	**Male**	**Total**
New Hampshire	0	8	8
New York	0	7	7
Florida	0	6	6
Rhode Island	1	5	6
Georgia	0	4	4
Connecticut	0	3	3
Maine	0	3	3
Michigan	0	2	2
New Jersey	0	2	2
South Carolina	0	2	2
Texas	0	2	2
Vermont	0	2	2
Illinois	0	1	1
Mississippi	0	1	1
North Carolina	0	1	1
Puerto Rico	0	1	1
Alabama	0	1	1
Virginia	0	1	1
Total	**1**	**52**	**53**

Of the 1,223 I.I. released to the community, 53 reported a release address outside of Massachusetts. Fifty-five percent of the I.I. reporting a release address outside of Massachusetts, reported releasing to a New England state (n = 22) or New York (n = 7) which accounted for a significant portion of releases outside of Massachusetts for 2024. The proportion of I.I. being released to a New England state or New York increased from 46% to 55% 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	13	31%
Worcester County	6	14%
Middlesex County	5	12%
Bristol County	4	10%
Essex County	4	10%
Plymouth County	2	5%
Norfolk County	2	5%
Hampshire County	2	5%
Berkshire County	1	2%
Barnstable County	1	2%
Outside MA	2	5%
Grand Total	**42**	**100%**

MCI-Concord		
	Males	**Total**
Suffolk County	12	27%
Middlesex County	6	14%
Essex County	6	14%
Plymouth County	5	11%
Bristol County	5	11%
Hampden County	4	9%
Worcester County	3	7%
Berkshire County	1	2%
Norfolk County	1	2%
Outside MA	1	2%
Grand Total	**44**	**100%**

Massachusetts Treatment Center		
	Males	**Total**
Suffolk County	15	20%
Hampden County	11	15%
Bristol County	11	15%
Essex County	10	13%
Middlesex County	9	12%
Worcester County	8	11%
Hampshire County	4	5%
Norfolk County	2	3%
Barnstable County	2	3%
Plymouth County	2	3%
Franklin County	1	1%
Outside MA	0	0%
Grand Total	**75**	**100%**

Institutions Housing Male Incarcerated Individuals – Continued

MCI-Norfolk		
	Males	**Total**
Suffolk County	28	22%
Worcester County	19	15%
Hampden County	19	15%
Bristol County	17	13%
Essex County	15	12%
Middlesex County	10	8%
Plymouth County	7	5%
Barnstable County	3	2%
Norfolk County	3	2%
Berkshire County	2	2%
Hampshire County	1	1%
Outside MA	6	5%
Grand Total	**130**	**100%**

MCI-Shirley		
	Males	**Total**
Suffolk County	53	28%
Hampden County	25	13%
Bristol County	24	13%
Essex County	22	12%
Worcester County	16	9%
Middlesex County	16	9%
Plymouth County	8	4%
Norfolk County	6	3%
Berkshire County	2	1%
Hampshire County	2	1%
Barnstable County	1	1%
Franklin County	0	0%
Outside MA	11	6%
Grand Total	**186**	**100%**

NCCI-Gardner		
	Males	**Total**
Suffolk County	15	18%
Worcester County	14	16%
Middlesex County	11	13%
Bristol County	11	13%
Essex County	11	13%
Plymouth County	4	5%
Hampden County	4	5%
Barnstable County	2	2%
Berkshire County	1	1%
Hampshire	1	1%
Norfolk County	1	1%
Franklin County	1	1%
Outside MA	9	11%
Total	**85**	**100%**

Northeastern Correctional Center		
	Males	**Total**
Worcester County	20	19%
Suffolk County	19	18%
Bristol County	14	13%
Essex County	12	11%
Plymouth County	10	10%
Middlesex County	9	9%
Hampden County	8	8%
Barnstable County	3	3%
Norfolk County	3	3%
Berkshire County	3	3%
Hampshire County	1	1%
Outside MA	3	3%
Grand Total	**105**	**100%**

Institutions Housing Male Incarcerated Individuals – Continued

Old Colony Correctional Center		
	Males	**Total**
Suffolk County	27	23%
Bristol County	20	17%
Hampden County	16	13%
Worcester County	12	10%
Middlesex County	9	8%
Essex County	8	7%
Plymouth County	8	7%
Norfolk County	7	6%
Barnstable County	3	3%
Berkshire County	1	1%
Franklin County	1	1%
Hampshire County	1	1%
Outside MA	7	6%
Grand Total	**120**	**100%**

Souza-Baranowski Correctional Center		
	Males	**Total**
Suffolk County	52	24%
Worcester County	37	17%
Bristol County	36	17%
Essex County	24	11%
Middlesex County	20	9%
Hampden County	19	9%
Plymouth County	7	3%
Norfolk County	7	3%
Hampshire County	2	1%
Barnstable County	1	<1%
Franklin County	1	<1%
Berkshire County	1	<1%
Nantucket County	0	0%
Outside MA	6	3%
Grand Total	**213**	**100%**

Pondville Correctional Center		
	Males	**Total**
Suffolk County	26	23%
Worcester County	21	19%
Bristol County	15	13%
Middlesex County	14	12%
Essex County	12	11%
Hampden County	11	10%
Plymouth County	4	4%
Norfolk County	3	3%
Berkshire County	1	1%
Franklin County	1	1%
Outside MA	5	4%
Grand Total	**113**	**100%**

Shattuck Hospital		
	Males	**Total**
Hampden County	1	100%
Grand Total	**1**	**100%**

Institutions Housing Female Incarcerated Individuals

MCI-Framingham		
	Females	**Total**
Suffolk County	13	29%
Middlesex County	9	20%
Essex County	6	13%
Worcester County	5	11%
Bristol County	3	7%
Norfolk County	3	7%
Plymouth County	2	4%
Hampden County	2	4%
Barnstable County	1	2%
Outside MA	1	2%
Grand Total	**45**	**100%**

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

County, Federal, Interstate						
	Females	**%**	**Males**	**%**	**Total**	**%**
Hampden County	7	26%	18	49%	25	39%
Middlesex County	6	22%	3	8%	9	14%
Essex County	3	11%	5	14%	8	13%
Worcester County	2	7%	2	5%	4	6%
Plymouth County	3	11%	0	0%	3	5%
Franklin County	1	4%	2	5%	3	5%
Suffolk County	0	0%	2	5%	2	3%
Bristol County	1	4%	1	3%	2	3%
Berkshire County	2	7%	0	0%	2	3%
Norfolk County	1	4%	1	3%	2	3%
Barnstable County	1	4%	0	0%	1	2%
Hampshire County	0	0%	1	3%	1	2%
Unknown	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
Outside MA	0	0%	2	5%	2	3%
Total	**27**	**100%**	**37**	**100%**	**64**	**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	1	7	8
Yarmouth	0	3	3
Bourne	0	2	2
Dennis	0	2	2
Mashpee	1	0	1
Harwich	0	1	1
Falmouth	0	1	1
Total	**2**	**16**	**18**

Release Address Cities/Towns in Berkshire County			
	Females	**Males**	**Total**
Pittsfield	1	10	11
Adams	0	1	1
Savoy	0	1	1
Lanesborough	1	0	1
North Adams	0	1	1
Total	**2**	**13**	**15**

Release Address Cities/Towns in Bristol County			
	Females	**Males**	**Total**
New Bedford	0	69	69
Fall River	2	38	40
Taunton	0	26	26
Attleboro	0	7	7
North Attleboro	0	6	6
Raynham	1	2	3
Westport	0	3	3
Freetown	0	3	3
Dartmouth	1	1	2
Easton	0	1	1
Dighton	0	1	1
Somerset	0	1	1
Total	**4**	**158**	**162**

Release Address Cities/Towns in Hampden County			

Release Address Cities/Towns in Essex County			
	Females	**Males**	**Total**
Lynn	2	34	36
Haverhill	2	23	25
Lawrence	3	22	25
Salem	1	12	13
Methuen	0	6	6
Saugus	1	4	5
Peabody	0	4	4
Amesbury	0	4	4
Gloucester	0	3	3
Marblehead	0	3	3
Danvers	0	2	2
Andover	0	2	2
Salisbury	0	2	2
Beverly	0	2	2
Swampscott	0	1	1
Merrimac	0	1	1
Rowley	0	1	1
Georgetown	0	1	1
North Andover	0	1	1
Lynnfield	0	1	1
Total	**9**	**129**	**138**

Release Address Cities/Towns in Franklin County			
	Females	**Males**	**Total**
Greenfield	0	6	6
Orange	1	1	2
Total	**1**	**7**	**8**

	Females	Males	Total
Springfield	4	88	92
West Springfield	2	21	23
Holyoke	2	13	15
Chicopee	1	12	13
Palmer	0	2	2
Total	**9**	**136**	**145**

Release Address Cities/Towns in Hampshire County			
	Females	**Males**	**Total**
Northampton	0	8	8
Ware	0	4	4
Belchertown	0	1	1
Easthampton	0	1	1
Granby	0	1	1
Total	**0**	**15**	**15**

Release Address Cities/Towns in Middlesex County			
	Females	**Males**	**Total**
Lowell	7	34	41
Tewksbury	1	14	15
Everett	1	8	9
Framingham	2	6	8
Malden	0	8	8
Cambridge	0	5	5
Billerica	1	4	5
Bedford	0	4	4
Woburn	0	4	4
Newton	0	3	3
Waltham	1	2	3
Somerville	1	2	3
Burlington	0	3	3
Melrose	1	2	3
Hudson	0	2	2
Medford	0	2	2
North Reading	0	1	1
Ashland	0	1	1
Wakefield	0	1	1
Reading	0	1	1
Watertown	0	1	1
Westford	0	1	1
Chelmsford	0	1	1
Lexington	0	1	1
Dracut	0	1	1
Total	**15**	**112**	**127**

Release Address Cities/Towns in Norfolk County			
	Females	**Males**	**Total**
Randolph	0	11	11
Quincy	2	9	11
Weymouth	1	4	5
Norwood	1	3	4
Holbrook	0	2	2
Wrentham	0	2	2
Braintree	0	2	2
Dedham	0	2	2
Sharon	0	1	1
Total	**4**	**36**	**40**

Release Address Cities/Towns in Plymouth County			
	Females	**Males**	**Total**
Brockton	1	31	32
Plymouth	2	6	8
Wareham	0	4	4
Kingston	0	2	2
Hanson	0	2	2
Carver	0	2	2
Lakeville	0	2	2
Rockland	1	0	1
Pembroke	0	1	1
West Bridgewater	0	1	1
Bridgewater	0	1	1
East Bridgewater	0	1	1
Marion	0	1	1
Hingham	1	0	1
Marshfield	0	1	1
Hanover	0	1	1
Middleborough	0	1	1
Total	**5**	**57**	**62**

Release Address Cities/Towns in Suffolk County			
	Females	**Males**	**Total**
Boston	13	249	262
Revere	0	8	8
Chelsea	0	4	4
Winthrop	0	1	1
Total	**13**	**262**	**275**

Release Address Cities/Towns in Worcester County			
	Females	**Males**	**Total**
Worcester	6	110	116
Winchendon	0	7	7
Fitchburg	0	6	6
Leominster	0	6	6
Spencer	1	3	4
Auburn	0	4	4
Gardner	0	3	3
Warren	0	2	2
Southbridge	0	2	2
Webster	0	2	2
Oakham	0	2	2
Shrewsbury	0	2	2
Holden	0	1	1
Hubbardston	0	1	1
Grafton	0	1	1
Clinton	0	1	1
West Brookfield	0	1	1
Harvard	0	1	1
Uxbridge	0	1	1
Lunenburg	0	1	1
Millbury	0	1	1
Total	**7**	**158**	**165**