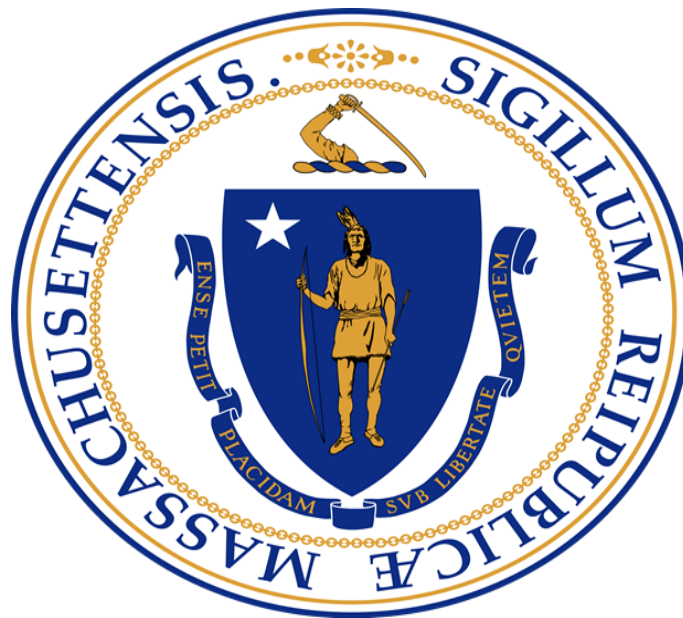


Quarterly Report on the Status of Prison Capacity, First Quarter 2021

Massachusetts Department of Correction
Submitted in Compliance with Chapter 799
Section 21 of the Acts of 1985



Charles D. Baker
Governor

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July 2021

2021 First Quarter Report

Section Twenty-one of Chapter 799 of the Acts of 1985 directs the Commissioner of Correction to report quarterly on the status of overcrowding in state and county facilities.

“Such report shall include, by facility, the average daily census for the period of the report and the actual census on the first and last days of the report period. Said report shall also contain such information for the previous twelve months and a comparison to the rated capacity of such facility.”

This report, prepared by Alexandria Sahtouris and Susan McDonald of the Research and Planning Division, is based on counts submitted by Massachusetts Sheriffs and the Department of Correction’s Inmate Management System.

2021 First Quarter Report

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Table 1 provides the DOC figures for the first quarter of 2021. The DOC custody population decreased over the quarter, by 164 inmates, or 2.5 percent. By the end of the quarter, the DOC was operating with 6,360 inmates in the system. During the first quarter, the DOC had an average daily custody population of 6,445, operating at 86 percent of the design capacity of 7,494.

DOC inmates housed in non-DOC facilities averaged 273 inmates, the majority housed in county Houses of Correction, and an average of 77 inmates housed in other states. The DOC established the Electronic Monitoring program (ELMO) in February that showed an average of 6 inmates during the first quarter of 2021.

Overall, the average daily total DOC jurisdiction population for first quarter of 2021 was 6,718. There was a decrease of 96 inmates, or 1.4 percent, from the beginning to the end of the quarter.

Table 1

First Quarter 2021					
Population in DOC Facilities, January 31, 2021 to March 31, 2021					
Security Level/Facility	Avg. Daily Population	Beginning Population	Ending Population	Design/Rated Capacity	% ADP Capacity
<u>Maximum</u>					
MCI-Cedar Junction	440	436	423	555	79%
SBCC	588	620	552	1,024	57%
Sub-Total, Maximum	1,027	1,056	975	1,579	65%
<u>Medium</u>					
Massachusetts Treatment Center	535	538	535	563	95%
MCI-Cedar Junction	44	33	52	78	56%
MCI-Concord	499	500	495	614	81%
MCI-Framingham (Female)	165	161	166	452	37%
MCI-Norfolk	1,171	1,188	1,159	1,084	108%
MCI-Shirley	845	846	844	720	117%
NCCI-Gardner	806	817	802	568	142%
OCCC	585	606	560	480	122%
Shattuck Correctional Unit	20	18	20	24	83%
State Hospital @ Bridgewater	214	207	219	227	94%
Sub-Total, Medium	4,884	4,914	4,852	4,810	102%
<u>Minimum</u>					
MASPLY	52	54	51	151	34%
MCI-Shirley	54	54	0	299	18%
NCCI-Gardner	0	0	0	30	0%
OCCC	79	78	86	100	79%
<u>Minimum/Pre-Release</u>					
Boston Pre-Release Center	78	66	84	150	52%
NECC	167	153	182	150	111%
Pondville Correctional Center	127	127	130	100	127%
SMCC (Female)	20	22	0	125	16%
Sub-Total, Minimum/Pre-Release	534	554	533	1,105	48%
Total Custody	6,445	6,524	6,360	7,494	86%
<u>DOC Inmates in Non-DOC Facilities</u>					
Houses of Correction	182	158	216	n.a.	n.a.
Department of Youth Services	0	0	0	n.a.	n.a.
Federal Prisons	10	10	11	n.a.	n.a.
Inter-State Compact	77	76	77	n.a.	n.a.
DOC Electronic Monitoring Program	6	0	8	n.a.	n.a.
Sub-Total, Non-DOC Facilities	273	76	77	n.a.	n.a.
Total Jurisdiction	6,718	6,768	6,672	7,494	90%

See Technical Notes, p. 8, for information on design capacity, custody level designations, facility closings or name changes relevant to this time period.

Table 2 provides the DOC figures for the previous twelve months. The DOC custody population continued to experience decrease; over the 12-month period, the custody population decreased by 1,342 inmates, or 16.9 percent.

DOC inmates housed in non-DOC facilities had an average daily population of 311 inmates over this period. In county facilities, after increasing over 200 during October and November, the population again dipped below 200 toward the end of the trend period.

The average DOC jurisdiction population was 7,503. During the 12-month period, this population went from 8,302 to 6,868, experiencing a decrease of 1,434 inmates, or 17.3 percent.

Table 2

**Previous Twelve Months
Population in DOC Facilities, January 31, 2020 to December 31, 2020**

Security Level/Facility	Avg. Daily Population	Beginning Population	Ending Population	Design/Rated Capacity	% ADP Capacity
Maximum					
MCI-Cedar Junction	419	543	386	555	75%
SBCC	660	650	621	1,024	64%
Sub-Total, Maximum	1,079	1,193	1,007	1,579	68%
Medium					
Massachusetts Treatment Center	552	573	544	563	98%
MCI-Cedar Junction	61	67	67	78	78%
MCI-Concord	558	626	499	614	91%
MCI-Framingham (Female)	193	233	166	452	43%
MCI-Norfolk	1,260	1,301	1,203	1,084	116%
MCI-Shirley	966	1,090	878	720	134%
NCCI-Gardner	895	928	831	568	158%
OCCC	632	662	617	480	132%
Shattuck Correctional Unit	19	29	15	24	96%
State Hospital @ Bridgewater	211	217	198	227	93%
Sub-Total, Medium	5,345	5,726	5,018	4,810	111%
Minimum					
MASAC/MASPLY	74	151	21	151	49%
MCI-Shirley	221	273	169	299	74%
NCCI-Gardner	0	0	0	30	n.a.
OCCC	88	100	73	100	88%
Minimum/Pre-Release					
Boston Pre-Release Center	63	88	38	150	42%
NECC	157	186	125	150	105%
Pondville Correctional Center	126	153	109	100	126%
SMCC (Female)	39	60	28	125	31%
Sub-Total, Minimum/Pre-Release	768	1,011	563	1,105	70%
Total Custody	7,192	7,930	6,588	7,494	96%
DOC Inmates in Non-DOC Facilities					
Houses of Correction	220	279	193	n.a.	n.a.
Department of Youth Services	1	1	0	n.a.	n.a.
Federal Prisons	11	12	10	n.a.	n.a.
Inter-State Compact	79	80	77	n.a.	n.a.
Sub-Total, Non-DOC Facilities	311	372	280	n.a.	n.a.
Total Jurisdiction	7,503	8,302	6,868	7,494	100%

See Technical Notes, p. 8, for information on design capacity, custody level designations, facility closings or name changes relevant to this time period.

Table 3 presents the county figures for the first quarter of 2021. During the first quarter, the county population decreased by 60 inmates, or 1.0 percent, continuing a downward trend beginning at the end of the fourth quarter of 2020. The average daily population across all counties was 5,915, together operating at 53 percent of these facilities' design capacity.

Table 3

**First Quarter 2021
Population in County Correctional Facilities by County,
January 25, 2021 to March 29, 2021**

Facility	Avg. Daily Population	Beginning Population	Ending Population	Design/Rated Capacity	% ADP Capacity
Barnstable	183	173	181	300	61%
Berkshire	135	141	131	292	46%
Bristol	653	671	618	566	115%
Dukes	6	8	6	19	32%
Essex	1,000	991	1,033	1,654	60%
Franklin	138	140	141	144	96%
Hampden	768	766	764	1,632	47%
Hampshire	112	111	119	287	39%
Middlesex	547	550	532	1,501	36%
Norfolk	347	357	344	620	56%
Plymouth	547	561	535	1,140	48%
Suffolk	925	931	937	2,249	41%
Worcester	555	554	553	822	68%
Total	5,915	5,954	5,894	11,226	53%

Table 4 presents the county figures for the first quarter of 2021. The following table presents a breakdown of facility population and capacity for counties that operate more than one facility.

Table 4

**First Quarter 2021
Population in County Correctional Facilities by Facility,
January 25, 2021 to March 29, 2021**

Facility	Avg. Daily Population	Beginning Population	Ending Population	Design/Rated Capacity	% ADP Capacity
Bristol County					
Bristol Ash Street	82	81	81	206	40%
Bristol Dartmouth	540	559	507	304	178%
Bristol Women's Center	30	31	30	56	54%
Essex County					
Essex Middleton	910	911	931	1,291	71%
Essex W.I.T.	10	6	13	23	42%
Essex LCAC	80	74	89	340	24%
Hampden County					
Hampden HOC	657	662	649	1,178	56%
Hampden WMCAC	39	35	40	148	27%
Hampden Women's Center	72	69	75	306	24%
Suffolk County					
Suffolk Nashua Street	455	459	454	453	101%
Suffolk South Bay	469	472	483	1,796	26%

Due to rounding, the average population by county may not equal the average county population by facility total.

Table 5 presents the county figures for the previous twelve months. The county population experienced a decrease of 2,507 inmates, or 29.4 percent, between January 2020 and December 2020. Over the trend period, the county facilities operated on average at 58 percent of their total design capacity.

Table 5

**Previous Twelve Months
Population in County Correctional Facilities by County,
January 27, 2020 to December 28, 2020**

Facility	Avg. Daily Population	Beginning Population	Ending Population	Design/Rated Capacity	% ADP Capacity
Barnstable	193	278	178	300	64%
Berkshire	155	201	135	292	53%
Bristol	728	964	666	566	129%
Dukes	10	15	10	19	53%
Essex	1,059	1,296	976	1,654	64%
Franklin	149	184	149	144	103%
Hampden	789	1,043	771	1,632	48%
Hampshire	143	217	112	287	50%
Middlesex	613	797	538	1,501	41%
Norfolk	381	482	363	620	61%
Plymouth	688	907	601	1,140	60%
Suffolk	1,029	1,353	973	2,249	46%
Worcester	618	802	560	822	75%
Total	6,554	8,539	6,032	11,226	58%

Table 6 presents the county figures for the previous twelve months. The following table presents a breakdown of facility population and capacity for counties that operate more than one facility.

Table 6

**Previous Twelve Months
Population in Counties with Multiple Correctional Facilities,
January 27, 2020 to December 28, 2020**

Facility	Avg. Daily Population	Beginning Population	Ending Population	Design/Rated Capacity	% ADP Capacity
8569 Bristol County					
Bristol Ash Street	103	162	79	206	50%
Bristol Dartmouth	591	735	558	304	194%
Women's Center	33	67	29	56	59%
Essex County					
Essex Middleton	926	1,065	906	1291	72%
Essex W.I.T.	14	29	10	23	61%
Essex LCAC	119	202	60	340	35%
Hampden County					
Hampden HOC	657	801	669	1,178	56%
Hampden WMCAC	40	90	25	148	27%
Hampden Women's Center	91	152	77	306	30%
Suffolk County					
Suffolk Nashua Street	453	552	463	453	100%
Suffolk South Bay	577	801	510	1,796	32%

Due to rounding, the average population by county may not equal the average county population by facility total.

Technical Notes

- Average Daily Population for the previous year was calculated by using the last day of each month.
- Average Daily Population for MCI-Shirley Minimum, South Middlesex Correctional Center, and the DOC Electronic Monitoring program (ELMO) was calculated based on the months each was occupied during the first quarter of 2021.
- Average Daily Population for county facilities was calculated by using the figures provided during the last week of every month.
- Custody snapshot data is based on an end of the month count. Prior to 4th quarter 2011, custody snapshot data was taken based on the first of the month.
- Issues regarding the accuracy of testing at the Hinton Drug Lab resulted in several hundred releases “from court,” most occurring during the months of September through December 2012.
- Design/Rated capacity is provided by the County, Federal, and Interstate Unit.

Timeline of DOC and County Facility Closures and Expansions

(For previous years, please refer to reports prior to 2nd quarter 2015)

2011

- MCI-Cedar Junction began double-bunking maximum security housing units 2 and 3 on March 17, 2011, and the Orientation Unit on March 29, 2011.
- Western Massachusetts Regional Women’s Correctional Center was opened in Hampden County in November 2011, housing most county sentenced females from the western half of the state.

2012

- On July 1, 2012, the maximum number of days an individual could be civilly committed as a Section 35 at MASAC, or MCI-Framingham was increased from 30 days to 90 days.
- On June 24, 2012 six pre-release beds were added to MCI-Plymouth. An additional four pre-release beds were added by the end of 2012.
- Chapter 192 of the Acts of 2012, known as the Crime Bill, was enacted on August 2, 2012 and resulted in an immediate change to sentence structure for dozens of inmates.

2013

- Effective April 1, 2013, Brooke House has three types of bed categories: DOC Reentry, Parole Transitional and Parole Halfway. Historically, Brooke House beds were only DOC Reentry.
- As of May 2013, 6 medium security beds were added to MCI-Cedar Junction.
- In May 2013, inmates housed at the Cambridge Jail in Middlesex County were temporarily housed elsewhere due to issues with the water system.
- On October 15, 2013, MCI-Plymouth increased its pre-release capacity to 15 beds while decreasing its minimum capacity to 212 beds. The overall operational capacity remained the same.

2014

- On June 28, 2014 the Middlesex County Jail in Cambridge was officially closed.
- Effective June 30, 2014, the DOC terminated their contract with Spectrum Women and Children’s Program which included 15 beds for female inmates.
- Inmates were temporarily moved out of NCCI-Gardner Minimum in October 2014 due to an energy conservation project.

2015

- Throughout 2015, there were various changes reported for design capacity for numerous county facilities. All design capacities and occupancy data for Massachusetts Houses of Correction and jails reported herein is provided by the County, Federal, and Interstate Unit.
- Effective May 28, 2015, the DOC terminated their contract with Brooke House which included 20 beds for male inmates.
- Inmates are no longer housed at Bay State Correctional Center as of June 30, 2015. The transfer of inmates housed at BSCC to other facilities began in April 2015.
- Effective June 30, 2015, a unit of 48 beds was reallocated at Pondville Correctional Center to house those who have been granted parole and are currently in the Transitional Treatment Program (TTP). They are not considered part of the DOC's custody or jurisdiction populations.
- Due to the closing of facilities, the design capacity for the DOC decreased from 8,029 to 7,728 (301 beds). This change is reflected beginning in the third quarter 2015.
- During the fourth quarter of 2015, numerous units were inactivated within MCI-Concord resulting in the transferring of inmates to other facilities (including all 52A pre-trial inmates at this facility). The closing of units reduced the operational capacity of the facility.

2016

- Effective October 2016, four housing units designated for criminally sentenced inmates at MCI-Framingham were disabled. As a result, these inmates were moved to other housing units within the facility, including units previously designated for pre-trial inmates.
- Effective December 5, 2016, the Transitional Treatment Program was relocated from Pondville Correctional Center to Boston Pre-Release Center. The transfer of parolees affected the number of beds allotted for inmates as well as the capacity figures at both facilities.
- Effective December 22, 2016, MCI-Plymouth was shuttered, and remaining inmates were transferred to other DOC facilities.

2017

- During 1st quarter 2017, design capacity was reduced by 151 inmates due to the closing of MCI-Plymouth.
- Effective May 1, 2017, Massachusetts Alcohol and Substance Abuse Center @ Plymouth opened at the former site of MCI-Plymouth, with a design capacity of 151.
- Massachusetts Alcohol and Substance Abuse Center was mothballed on May 6, 2017, resulting in a reduction of 236 from the design capacity.

2018

- Beginning in 2018, the DOC entered into a contract with Stony Brook Treatment and Stabilization Center in Hampden County to house men with Section 35 civil commitments.

2019

- Beginning March 2019, NCCI-Gardner temporarily closed its minimum security unit.

2020

- The Massachusetts Treatment Center built a cell with two beds in its health services unit, increasing the design capacity by 2.

2021

- Effective February 2021, MCI-Shirley Minimum was shuttered, and remaining inmates were transferred to other DOC facilities.
- Effective February 2021, South Middlesex Correctional Center was shuttered, and remaining inmates were transferred to other DOC facilities.
- Effective February 2021, the DOC established the Electronic Monitoring Program (ELMO)

Guide to Acronyms and Institutions

Acronym	Institution Name	Security Level
ADP	Average Daily Population	n.a.
BPRC	Boston Pre-Release Center	Pre-release, minimum
STH	Bridgewater State Hospital	Medium
CFI	County/Federal/Interstate	All
CJ	MCI-Cedar Junction	Medium, maximum (male reception center)
CON	MCI-Concord	Medium
DOC	Department of Correction	n.a.
DYS	Department of Youth Services	n.a.
ELMO	Department of Corrections Electronic Monitoring Program	Electronic Monitoring
FRA	MCI-Framingham	Medium (female reception center)
HOC	House of Correction	n.a.
LEM	Lemuel Shattuck Hospital	All
MASAC	Massachusetts Alcohol & Substance Abuse Center	Minimum
MCI	Massachusetts Correctional Institution	n.a.
MTC	Massachusetts Treatment Center	Medium
MASPLY	Massachusetts Alcohol and Substance Abuse Center at Plymouth	(Civil commitments)
NOR	MCI-Norfolk	Medium
SHI	MCI-Shirley	Minimum, medium
NECC	Northeastern Correctional Center	Pre-release, minimum
NCCI	North Central Correctional Institution	Minimum, medium
OCCC	Old Colony Correctional Center	Minimum, medium
PCC	Pondville Correctional Center	Pre-release, minimum
SMD	South Middlesex Correctional Center	Pre-release, minimum
SBCC	Souza-Baranowski Correctional Center	Maximum

Definitions

Custody Population	Refers to all inmates incarcerated in a Massachusetts DOC facility.
Jurisdiction Population	Jurisdiction population refers to all inmates considered to be under Massachusetts DOC jurisdiction when the Commonwealth has legal authority over the inmate regardless of where the inmate is being held. DOC jurisdiction includes those incarcerated in Massachusetts DOC facilities and those housed in correctional facilities outside of the Massachusetts DOC (i.e. Massachusetts Houses of Correction, other states' correctional facilities, and the Federal Bureau of Prisons).
Design/Rated Capacity	The number of inmates that planners or architects intended for the institution [as defined by the U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS)]. Rated capacity is the number of beds or inmates assigned by a rating official to institutions within the jurisdiction, essentially formally updated from the original design capacity.
Electronic Monitoring Program (ELMO)	A program which promotes reentry by maximizing an inmate's time in the community prior to release, thereby allowing the inmate to demonstrate their ability to function in a realistic living environment while monitored under strict conditions of accountability.

Security Levels

In May 2012, new security level designations were established according to **103 DOC 101, *Correctional Institutions/Security Levels*** policy which states:

<p>Pre-Release/Contracted Residential Placement</p>	<p>The perimeter is marked by non-secure boundaries. Physical barriers to inmate movement and interaction are either non-secure or non-existent. Inmate movements and interactions are controlled by rules and regulations only. Inmates may leave the institution daily for work and/or education in the community. Supervision while on the grounds of the facility is intermittent. While in the community, supervision is occasional, although indirect supervision (e.g., contact with employer) may be more frequent. Inmates must be within eighteen (18) months of parole eligibility or release and not barred by sentencing restrictions for either placement in a pre-release facility or participation in work, education or program related activities (PRA) release programs.</p>
<p>Minimum</p>	<p>The perimeter is marked by non-secure boundaries. Physical barriers to movement and interaction are either non-secure or non-existent. Inmates may be housed in single, double or multiple occupancy areas. Inmate movements and interactions are controlled by rules and regulations only. Supervision is intermittent. Inmates may leave the perimeter under supervision. Contact visits and personal clothing are allowed.</p>
<p>Medium</p>	<p>The perimeter and physical barriers to control inmate movement and interaction are present. Inmates may be housed in single, double or multiple occupancy areas. Inmate movement and interaction are generally controlled by rules and regulations, as well as with physical barriers. Inmates are subject to direct supervision by staff. Work and program opportunities are available. Contact visits and personal clothing may be allowed. Inmates assigned to medium custody designation at MCI-Cedar Junction will receive contact visits.</p>
<p>Maximum</p>	<p>The perimeter is designed and staffed to prevent escapes and the introduction of contraband. Inmate movement and interaction are controlled by physical barriers. Inmates are housed in single and double cells. The design of the facility offers an ability to house some offenders separate from others without a limitation of work and/or program opportunities. Inmates are subject to direct supervision by staff. At the superintendent's discretion, contact visits may be allowed at Souza Baranowski Correctional Center and MCI Cedar Junction's reception beds (which are considered maximum security). Personal clothing is generally not allowed.MSWS1006swsm^</p>