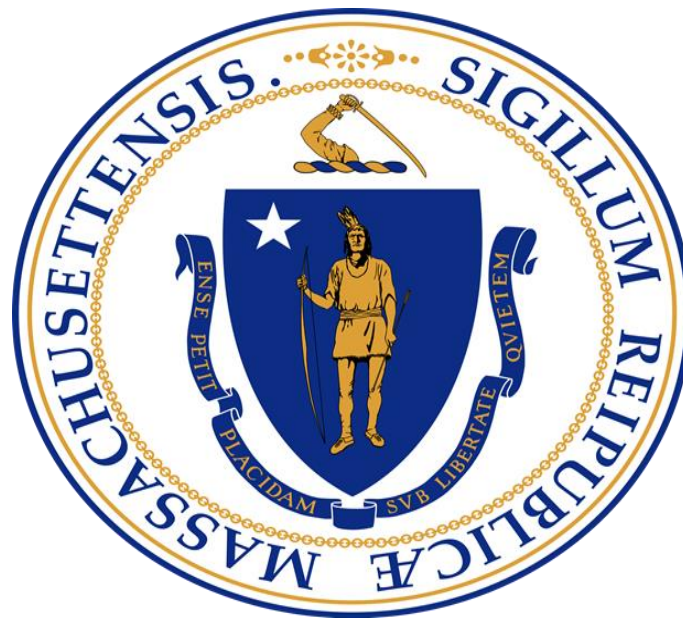


Quarterly Report on the Status of Prison Capacity, Fourth Quarter 2020

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



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April 2021

2020 Fourth 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.”

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Authorized by: Gary Lambert, Assistant Secretary for Operational Services

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

2020 Fourth Quarter Report

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Table 1 provides the DOC figures for the fourth quarter of 2020. The DOC custody population decreased over the quarter, by 160 inmates, or 2.4 percent. By the end of the quarter, the DOC was operating with 6,568 inmates in the system. During the fourth quarter, the DOC had an average daily custody population of 6,660, operating at 89 percent of the design capacity of 7,494.

DOC inmates housed in non-DOC facilities averaged 310 inmates, the majority housed in county Houses of Correction, and an average of 77 inmates housed in other states.

Overall, the average daily total DOC jurisdiction population for fourth quarter of 2020 was 6,970. There was a decrease of 217 inmates, or 3.1 percent, from the beginning to the end of the quarter.

Table 1

First Quarter 2021						
Population in DOC Facilities, October 31, 2020 to December 31, 2020						
Security Level/Facility	Avg. Daily Population	Beginning Population	Ending Population	Design/Rated Capacity	% ADP Capacity	
<u>Maximum</u>						
MCI-Cedar Junction	354	325	386	555	64%	
SBCC	626	632	621	1,024	61%	
Sub-Total, Maximum	980	957	1,007	1,579	62%	
<u>Medium</u>						
Massachusetts Treatment Center	555	560	544	563	99%	
MCI-Cedar Junction	51	54	47	78	65%	
MCI-Concord	509	517	499	614	83%	
MCI-Framingham (Female)	174	180	166	452	38%	
MCI-Norfolk	1,220	1,235	1,203	1,084	113%	
MCI-Shirley	892	900	878	720	124%	
NCCI-Gardner	845	857	831	568	149%	
OCCC	615	612	617	480	128%	
Shattuck Correctional Unit	16	20	15	24	67%	
State Hospital @ Bridgewater	207	210	198	227	91%	
Sub-Total, Medium	5,083	5,145	4,998	4,810	106%	
<u>Minimum</u>						
MASPLY	12	7	21	151	8%	
MCI-Shirley	183	196	169	299	61%	
NCCI-Gardner	0	0	0	30	0%	
OCCC	80	85	73	100	80%	
<u>Minimum/Pre-Release</u>						
Boston Pre-Release Center	41	43	38	150	27%	
NECC	137	145	125	150	91%	
Pondville Correctional Center	117	125	109	100	117%	
SMCC (Female)	27	25	28	125	22%	
Sub-Total, Minimum/Pre-Release	597	626	563	1,105	108%	
Total Custody	6,660	6,728	6,568	7,494	89%	
<u>DOC Inmates in Non-DOC Facilities</u>						
Houses of Correction	222	249	193	n.a.	n.a.	
Department of Youth Services	0	0	0	n.a.	n.a.	
Federal Prisons	11	11	10	n.a.	n.a.	
Inter-State Compact	77	77	77	n.a.	n.a.	
Sub-Total, Non-DOC Facilities	310	337	280	n.a.	n.a.	
Total Jurisdiction	6,970	7,065	6,848	7,494	101%	

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 continues to experience decrease; over the 12-month period, the custody population decreased by 1,258 inmates, or 15.4 percent.

DOC inmates housed in non-DOC facilities had an average daily population of 333 inmates over this period. In county facilities, the population dipped below 200 toward the end of this trend period.

The average DOC jurisdiction population was 7,865. During the 12-month period, this population went from 8,571 to 7,164, experiencing a decrease of 1,407 inmates, or 16.4 percent.

Table 2

**Previous Twelve Months
Population in DOC Facilities, October 31, 2019 to September 30, 2020**

Security Level/Facility	Avg. Daily Population	Beginning Population	Ending Population	Design/Rated Capacity	% ADP Capacity
Maximum					
MCI-Cedar Junction	455	517	329	555	82%
SBCC	701	783	641	1,024	68%
Sub-Total, Maximum	1,156	1,300	970	1,579	73%
Medium					
Massachusetts Treatment Center	557	575	566	563	99%
MCI-Cedar Junction	64	72	54	78	82%
MCI-Concord	586	619	525	614	95%
MCI-Framingham (Female)	212	275	178	452	47%
MCI-Norfolk	1,279	1,291	1,256	1,084	118%
MCI-Shirley	1,012	1,105	905	720	141%
NCCI-Gardner	912	931	870	568	161%
OCCC	640	649	621	480	133%
Shattuck Correctional Unit	21	27	17	24	96%
State Hospital @ Bridgewater	214	223	200	227	94%
Sub-Total, Medium	5,497	5,767	5,192	4,810	114%
Minimum					
MASAC/MASPLY	111	178	94	151	73%
MCI-Shirley	241	262	198	299	81%
NCCI-Gardner	0	0	0	30	n/a
OCCC	96	122	81	100	96%
Minimum/Pre-Release					
Boston Pre-Release Center	76	93	48	150	51%
NECC	172	203	153	150	114%
Pondville Correctional Center	134	149	123	100	134%
SMCC (Female)	49	74	31	125	39%
Sub-Total, Minimum/Pre-Release	879	1,081	728	1,105	80%
Total Custody	7,532	8,148	6,890	7,494	101%
DOC Inmates in Non-DOC Facilities					
Houses of Correction	241	330	188	n.a.	n.a.
Department of Youth Services	1	1	0	n.a.	n.a.
Federal Prisons	12	12	11	n.a.	n.a.
Inter-State Compact	79	80	78	n.a.	n.a.
Sub-Total, Non-DOC Facilities	333	423	277	n.a.	n.a.
Total Jurisdiction	7,865	8,571	7,167	7,494	105%

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 fourth quarter of 2020. During the fourth quarter, the county population decreased by 157 inmates, or 2.5 percent, after a quarter where the population increased. The average daily population across all counties was 6,151, together operating at 55 percent of these facilities' design capacity.

Table 3

Fourth Quarter 2020					
Population in County Correctional Facilities by County, October 26, 2020 to December 28, 2020					
Facility	Avg. Daily Population	Beginning Population	Ending Population	Design/Rated Capacity	% ADP Capacity
Barnstable	179	174	178	300	60%
Berkshire	137	138	135	292	47%
Bristol	671	672	666	566	119%
Dukes	6	3	10	19	32%
Essex	1,002	1,006	976	1,654	61%
Franklin	145	135	149	144	101%
Hampden	774	784	771	1,632	47%
Hampshire	114	113	112	287	40%
Middlesex	542	550	538	1,501	36%
Norfolk	380	401	363	620	61%
Plymouth	623	629	601	1,140	55%
Suffolk	981	973	973	2,249	44%
Worcester	597	611	560	822	73%
Total	6,151	6,189	6,032	11,226	55%

Table 4 presents the county figures for the fourth quarter of 2020. The following table presents a breakdown of facility population and capacity for counties that operate more than one facility.

Table 4

Fourth Quarter 2020					
Population in County Correctional Facilities by Facility, October 26, 2020 to December 28, 2020					
Facility	Avg. Daily Population	Beginning Population	Ending Population	Design/Rated Capacity	% ADP Capacity
Bristol County					
Bristol Ash Street	84	94	79	206	41%
Bristol Dartmouth	555	545	558	304	183%
Bristol Women's Center	32	33	29	56	57%
Essex County					
Essex Middleton	918	923	906	1,291	71%
Essex W.I.T.	13	13	10	23	57%
Essex LCAC	71	70	60	340	21%
Hampden County					
Hampden HOC	658	653	669	1,178	56%
Hampden WMCAC	32	42	25	148	22%
Hampden Women's Center	84	89	77	306	27%
Suffolk County					
Suffolk Nashua Street	456	438	463	453	101%
Suffolk South Bay	525	535	510	1796	29%

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 2,824 inmates, or 31.4 percent, between October 2019 and September 2020. Over the trend period, the county facilities operated on average at 64.1 percent of their total design capacity (though the end population of 6,167 is just 54.9 percent of design capacity).

Table 5

**Previous Twelve Months
Population in County Correctional Facilities by County,
October 28, 2019 to September 28, 2020**

Facility	Avg. Daily Population	Beginning Population	Ending Population	Design/Rated Capacity	% ADP Capacity
Barnstable	219	289	181	300	73%
Berkshire	169	194	145	292	58%
Bristol	811	1,040	690	566	143%
Dukes	13	21	6	19	68%
Essex	1,144	1,386	975	1,654	69%
Franklin	162	203	141	144	113%
Hampden	863	1,107	738	1,632	53%
Hampshire	166	216	126	287	58%
Middlesex	674	820	576	1,501	45%
Norfolk	401	477	376	620	65%
Plymouth	781	1,036	627	1,140	69%
Suffolk	1,127	1,391	1,004	2,249	50%
Worcester	664	811	582	822	81%
Total	7,194	8,991	6,167	11,226	64%

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,
October 28, 2019 to September 28, 2020**

Facility	Avg. Daily Population	Beginning Population	Ending Population	Design/Rated Capacity	% ADP Capacity
Bristol County					
Bristol Ash Street	121	162	104	206	59%
Bristol Dartmouth	649	814	560	304	213%
Women's Center	41	64	26	56	73%
Essex County					
Essex Middleton	966	1,103	891	1,291	75%
Essex W.I.T.	19	30	11	23	83%
Essex LCAC	159	253	73	340	47%
Hampden County					
Hampden HOC	693	818	614	1,178	59%
Hampden WMCAC	56	99	30	148	38%
Hampden Women's Center	114	190	94	306	37%
Suffolk County					
Suffolk Nashua Street	476	585	450	453	105%
Suffolk South Bay	651	806	554	1,796	36%

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 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.

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
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.

Security Levels

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

<p style="text-align: center;">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 style="text-align: center;">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 style="text-align: center;">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 style="text-align: center;">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.</p>