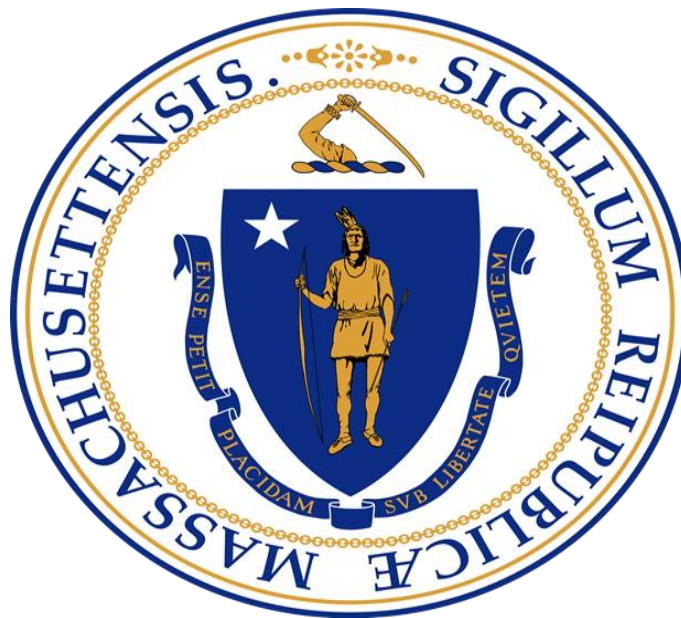


Quarterly Report on the Status of Prison Capacity, Third Quarter 2020

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



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November 2020

2020 Third 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 Third Quarter Report

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Table 1 provides the DOC figures for the third quarter of 2020. The DOC custody population decreased over the quarter, by 143 inmates, or 2.0 percent. By the end of the quarter, the DOC was operating with 6,890 inmates in the system. During the third quarter, the DOC had an average daily custody population of 6,968, operating at 93 percent of the design capacity of 7,494.

DOC inmates housed in non-DOC facilities averaged 279 inmates, the majority housed in county Houses of Correction, and an average of 78 inmates housed in other states.

Overall, the average daily total DOC jurisdiction population for first quarter of 2020 was 7,247. There was a decrease of 139 inmates, or 1.9 percent, from the beginning to the end of the quarter.

Table 1

Third Quarter 2020					
Population in DOC Facilities, July 31, 2020 to September 30, 2020					
Security Level/Facility	Avg. Daily Population	Beginning Population	Ending Population	Design/Rated Capacity	% ADP Capacity
<u>Maximum</u>					
MCI-Cedar Junction	335	359	329	555	60%
SBCC	661	672	641	1,024	65%
Sub-Total, Maximum	996	1,031	970	1,579	63%
<u>Medium</u>					
Massachusetts Treatment Center	554	538	566	563	98%
MCI-Cedar Junction	55	57	54	78	71%
MCI-Concord	528	535	525	614	86%
MCI-Framingham (Female)	181	184	178	452	40%
MCI-Norfolk	1,260	1,257	1,256	1,084	116%
MCI-Shirley	914	921	905	720	127%
NCCI-Gardner	883	895	870	568	155%
OCCC	622	629	621	480	130%
Shattuck Correctional Unit	18	19	17	24	75%
State Hospital @ Bridgewater	207	212	200	227	91%
Sub-Total, Medium	5,222	5,247	5,192	4,810	109%
<u>Minimum</u>					
MASPLY	106	112	94	151	70%
MCI-Shirley	201	201	198	299	67%
NCCI-Gardner	0	0	0	30	0%
OCCC	86	86	81	100	86%
<u>Minimum/Pre-Release</u>					
Boston Pre-Release Center	53	57	48	150	35%
NECC	154	152	153	150	103%
Pondville Correctional Center	118	112	123	100	118%
SMCC (Female)	32	35	31	125	26%
Sub-Total, Minimum/Pre-Release	750	755	728	1,105	68%
Total Custody	6,968	7,033	6,890	7,494	93%
<u>DOC Inmates in Non-DOC Facilities</u>					
Houses of Correction	189	183	188	n.a.	n.a.
Department of Youth Services	1	1	0	n.a.	n.a.
Federal Prisons	11	11	11	n.a.	n.a.
Inter-State Compact	78	78	78	n.a.	n.a.
Sub-Total, Non-DOC Facilities	279	273	277	n.a.	n.a.
Total Jurisdiction	7,247	7,306	7,167	7,494	97%

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 1,275 inmates, or 15.3 percent. This change is more than twice that of the previously reported 12-month period, from April 2019 to March 2020.

DOC inmates housed in non-DOC facilities had an average daily population of 278 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 8,245. During the 12-month period, this population went from 8,757 to 7,312, experiencing a decrease of 1,445 inmates, or 16.5 percent.

Table 2

**Previous Twelve Months
Population in DOC Facilities, July 31, 2019 to June 30, 2020**

Security Level/Facility	Avg. Daily Population	Beginning Population	Ending Population	Design/Rated Capacity	% ADP Capacity
Maximum					
MCI-Cedar Junction	508	589	401	555	92%
SBCC	727	767	674	1,024	71%
Sub-Total, Maximum	1,235	1,356	1,075	1,579	78%
		0	0		
Medium					
Massachusetts Treatment Center	559	553	518	561	100%
MCI-Cedar Junction	68	70	59	78	87%
MCI-Concord	606	619	554	614	99%
MCI-Framingham (Female)	275	435	185	452	61%
MCI-Norfolk	1,289	1,292	1,259	1,084	119%
MCI-Shirley	1,062	1,102	941	720	147%
NCCI-Gardner	930	958	914	568	164%
OCCC	644	633	632	480	134%
Shattuck Correctional Unit	23	25	14	24	96%
State Hospital @ Bridgewater	219	218	205	227	96%
Sub-Total, Medium	5,675	5,905	5,281	4,808	118%
Minimum					
MASAC/MASPLY	126	144	62	151	83%
MCI-Shirley	262	286	200	299	88%
NCCI-Gardner	0	0	0	30	n/a
OCCC	108	138	91	100	108%
Minimum/Pre-Release					
Boston Pre-Release Center	89	108	58	150	59%
NECC	181	188	148	150	121%
Pondville Correctional Center	139	136	102	100	139%
SMCC (Female)	58	68	37	125	47%
Sub-Total, Minimum/Pre-Release	963	1,068	698	1,105	87%
Total Custody	7,873	8,329	7,054	7,492	105%
DOC Inmates in Non-DOC Facilities					
Houses of Correction	278	328	167	n.a.	n.a.
Department of Youth Services	1	2	1	n.a.	n.a.
Federal Prisons	12	13	11	n.a.	n.a.
Inter-State Compact	81	85	79	n.a.	n.a.
Sub-Total, Non-DOC Facilities	372	428	258	n.a.	n.a.
Total Jurisdiction	8,245	8,757	7,312	7,492	110%

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 third quarter of 2020. During the third quarter, the county population increased by 479 inmates, or 8.4 percent. The last time the county population increased over a quarter was 3rd quarter 2019. The average daily population across all counties was 5,935, together operating at 53 percent of these facilities' design capacity.

Table 3

Third Quarter 2020 Population in County Correctional Facilities by County, July 29, 2020 to September 29, 2020					
Facility	Avg. Daily Population	Beginning Population	Ending Population	Design/Rated Capacity	% ADP Capacity
Barnstable	174	158	181	300	58%
Berkshire	141	136	145	292	48%
Bristol	687	672	690	566	121%
Dukes	7	7	6	19	37%
Essex	973	970	975	1,654	59%
Franklin	143	143	141	144	99%
Hampden	692	643	738	1,632	42%
Hampshire	122	120	126	287	43%
Middlesex	564	546	576	1,501	38%
Norfolk	343	311	376	620	55%
Plymouth	618	602	627	1,140	54%
Suffolk	925	864	1,004	2,249	41%
Worcester	546	516	582	822	66%
Total	5,935	5,688	6,167	11,226	53%

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

Table 4

Third Quarter 2020 Population in County Correctional Facilities by Facility, July 29, 2020 to September 29, 2020					
Facility	Avg. Daily Population	Beginning Population	Ending Population	Design/Rated Capacity	% ADP Capacity
Bristol County					
Bristol Ash Street	94	83	104	206	46%
Bristol Dartmouth	570	571	560	304	188%
Bristol Women's Center	23	18	26	56	41%
Essex County					
Essex Middleton	882	872	891	1,291	68%
Essex W.I.T.	9	6	11	23	39%
Essex LCAC	82	92	73	340	24%
Hampden County					
Hampden HOC**	587	564	614	1,178	50%
Hampden WMCAC	26	16	30	148	18%
Hampden Women's Center	79	63	94	306	26%
Suffolk County					
Suffolk Nashua Street	431	426	450	453	95%
Suffolk South Bay	494	436	554	1,796	28%

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 remarkable decrease of 3,675 inmates, or 39.8 percent, between July 2019 and June 2020. Over the trend period, the county facilities operated on average at 71 percent of their total design capacity (though the end population of 5,565 is just 49.6 percent of design capacity).

Table 5

**Previous Twelve Months
Population in County Correctional Facilities by County,
July 29, 2019 to June 29, 2020**

Facility	Avg. Daily Population	Beginning Population	Ending Population	Design/Rated Capacity	% ADP Capacity
Barnstable	256	345	160	300	85%
Berkshire	182	188	146	292	62%
Bristol	836	1,097	610	566	148%
Dukes	15	14	10	19	79%
Essex	1,255	1,426	951	1,654	76%
Franklin	175	219	135	144	122%
Hampden	965	1,100	609	1,632	59%
Hampshire	189	219	123	287	66%
Middlesex	731	756	552	1,501	49%
Norfolk	440	496	324	620	71%
Plymouth	897	1,077	580	1,140	79%
Suffolk	1,260	1,423	860	2,249	56%
Worcester	749	880	505	822	91%
Total	7,950	9,240	5,565	11,226	71%

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,
July 29, 2019 to June 29, 2020**

Facility	Avg. Daily Population	Beginning Population	Ending Population	Design/Rated Capacity	% ADP Capacity
Bristol County					
Bristol Ash Street	140	171	90	206	68%
Bristol Dartmouth	718	840	505	304	236%
Women's Center	56	86	15	56	100%
Essex County					
Essex Middleton	1,038	1173	843	1,291	80%
Essex W.I.T.	23	27	9	23	100%
Essex LCAC	192	217	99	340	56%
Hampden County					
Hampden HOC**	750	813	543	1,178	64%
Hampden WMCAC	73	96	16	148	49%
Hampden Women's Center	142	194	50	306	46%
Suffolk County					
Suffolk Nashua Street	506	539	426	453	112%
Suffolk South Bay	753	884	434	1,796	42%

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>