

Massachusetts Department of Correction Operational Capacity Report

Calendar Year 2023
Quarter 3



Executive Office of Public Safety and Security
October 2023

Maura T. Healey, Governor
Terrence M. Reidy, Secretary of Public Safety and Security

2023 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.”

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

2023 Third Quarter Report

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Table 1 provides the DOC figures for the third quarter of 2023. The DOC custody population decreased over the quarter, by 15 incarcerated people, or less than one (1) percent. By the end of the quarter, the DOC was operating with 5,989 incarcerated people in the system. During the third quarter, the DOC had an average daily custody population of 5,994, operating at 80 percent of the design capacity of 7,494.

DOC inmates housed in non-DOC facilities averaged 140 incarcerated people, the majority housed in county Houses of Correction, and an average of 57 inmates housed in other states. The Electronic Monitoring program (ELMO) established by the DOC in February 2021 showed an average of six (6) inmates during the third quarter of 2023.

Overall, the average daily total DOC jurisdiction population for the third quarter of 2023 was 6,134. There was an increase of 1 incarcerated person, less than one (1) percent increase from the beginning to the end of the quarter.

Table 1

Third Quarter 2023					
Population in DOC Facilities, July 31, 2023 to September 30, 2023					
Security Level/Facility	Avg. Daily Population	Beginning Population	Ending Population	Design/Rated Capacity	% ADP Capacity
<u>Maximum</u>					
MCI-Cedar Junction	0	0	0	555	0%
SBCC	1,052	1,043	1,050	1,024	103%
Sub-Total, Maximum	1,052	1,043	1,050	1,579	67%
<u>Medium</u>					
Massachusetts Treatment Center	496	502	488	563	88%
MCI-Cedar Junction	0	0	0	78	0%
MCI-Concord	363	361	367	614	59%
MCI-Framingham (Female)	205	207	206	452	45%
MCI-Norfolk	1,165	1,173	1,160	1,084	107%
MCI-Shirley	820	810	821	720	114%
NCCI-Gardner	715	715	720	568	126%
OSCC	443	444	442	480	92%
Shattuck Correctional Unit	15	14	19	24	63%
State Hospital @ Bridgewater	251	240	256	227	111%
Sub-Total, Medium	4,473	4,466	4,479	4,810	93%
<u>Minimum</u>					
MASPLY	78	92	66	151	52%
MCI-Shirley	n.a	n.a	n.a	299	n.a
NCCI-Gardner	n.a	n.a	n.a	30	n.a
OSCC	65	72	59	100	65%
<u>Minimum/Pre-Release</u>					
Boston Pre-Release Center	31	35	32	150	21%
NECC	190	197	193	150	127%
Pondville Correctional Center	105	99	110	100	105%
SMCC (Female)	0	0	0	125	0%
Sub-Total, Minimum/Pre-Release	469	495	460	1,105	43%
Total Custody	5,994	6,004	5,989	7,494	80%
<u>DOC Inmates in Non-DOC Facilities</u>					
Houses of Correction	57	48	66	n.a.	n.a.
Department of Youth Services	0	0	0	n.a.	n.a.
Federal Prisons	9	9	8	n.a.	n.a.
Inter-State Compact	68	69	68	n.a.	n.a.
DOC Electronic Monitoring Program	6	6	6	n.a.	n.a.
Sub-Total, Non-DOC Facilities	140	132	148	n.a.	n.a.
Total Jurisdiction	6,134	6,136	6,137	7,494	82%

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 experience a slight increase; over the 12-month period, the custody population increased by 19 incarcerated persons, or less than 1 percent.

DOC incarcerated person housed in non-DOC facilities had an average daily population of 185 inmates over this period. In county facilities, the population continued to sharply decrease with a high of 175 in July 2022 and a low of 46 in June 2023, ending the trend period at a 74% decrease.

The average DOC jurisdiction population was 6,109. During the 12-month period, this population went from 6,222 to 6,119, experiencing a decrease of 103 inmates, or 1.7 percent.

Table 2

**Previous Twelve Months
Population in DOC Facilities, July 31, 2022 to June 30, 2023**

Security Level/Facility	Avg. Daily Population	Beginning Population	Ending Population	Design/Rated Capacity	% ADP Capacity
<u>Maximum</u>					
MCI-Cedar Junction	76	229	0	555	14%
SBCC	914	739	1,050	1,024	89%
Sub-Total, Maximum	990	968	1,050	1,579	63%
<u>Medium</u>					
Massachusetts Treatment Center	522	542	500	563	93%
MCI-Cedar Junction	18	37	0	78	23%
MCI-Concord	390	397	369	614	63%
MCI-Framingham (Female)	199	203	210	452	44%
MCI-Norfolk	1,164	1,166	1,166	1,084	107%
MCI-Shirley	795	800	816	720	110%
NCCI-Gardner	697	687	710	568	123%
OCCC	447	448	441	480	93%
Shattuck Correctional Unit	18	12	24	24	73%
State Hospital @ Bridgewater	235	238	232	227	103%
Sub-Total, Medium	4,485	4,530	4,468	4,810	93%
<u>Minimum</u>					
MASPLY	68	85	65	151	45%
MCI-Shirley	0	0	0	299	0%
NCCI-Gardner	n.a	n.a	n.a	0	n.a.
OCCC	70	68	76	100	70%
<u>Minimum/Pre-Release</u>					
Boston Pre-Release Center	40	34	35	150	26%
NECC	184	193	193	150	123%
Pondville Correctional Center	92	93	103	100	92%
SMCC (Female)	0	0	0	125	0%
Sub-Total, Minimum/Pre-Release	454	473	472	1,105	41%
Total Custody	5,929	5,971	5,990	7,464	79%
<u>DOC Inmates in Non-DOC Facilities</u>					
Houses of Correction	104	175	46	n.a.	n.a.
Department of Youth Services	0	0	0	n.a.	n.a.
Federal Prisons	9	8	9	n.a.	n.a.
Inter-State Compact	68	68	69	n.a.	n.a.
DOC Electronic Monitoring Program	4	n.a.	5	n.a.	n.a.
Sub-Total, Non-DOC Facilities	185	251	129	n.a.	n.a.
Total Jurisdiction	6,114	6,222	6,119	7,494	82%

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 2023. During the third quarter, the county population increased by 41 inmates, less than one percent, a slight increase from the second quarter of 2023. The average daily population across all counties was 6,749, together operating at 60 percent of these facilities' design capacity.

Table 3

**Third Quarter 2023
Population in County Correctional Facilities by County,
July 31, 2023 to September 30, 2023**

Facility	Avg. Daily Population	Beginning Population	Ending Population	Design/Rated Capacity	% ADP Capacity
Barnstable	200	213	181	300	67%
Berkshire	197	192	200	292	67%
Bristol	629	633	626	566	111%
Dukes	12	10	12	19	63%
Essex	1,036	1,030	1,030	1,654	63%
Franklin	176	173	185	144	122%
Hampden	931	912	932	1,632	57%
Hampshire	140	144	137	287	49%
Middlesex	663	669	641	1,501	44%
Norfolk	362	348	364	620	58%
Plymouth	528	541	519	1,140	46%
Suffolk	1,195	1,163	1,204	2,249	53%
Worcester	680	662	700	822	83%
Total	6,749	6,690	6,731	11,226	60%

Table 4 presents the county figures for the third quarter of 2023. The following table presents a breakdown of facility population and capacity for counties that operate more than one facility.

Table 4

**Third Quarter 2023
Population in County Correctional Facilities by Facility,
July 31, 2023 to September 30, 2023**

Facility	Avg. Daily Population	Beginning Population	Ending Population	Design/Rated Capacity	% ADP Capacity
Bristol County					
Bristol Ash Street	103	110	93	206	50%
Bristol Dartmouth	478	471	495	304	157%
Bristol Women's Center	48	52	38	56	85%
Essex County					
Essex Middleton	929	932	921	1,291	72%
Essex W.I.T.	13	12	14	23	57%
Essex LCAC	94	86	95	340	28%
Hampden County					
Hampden HOC	698	682	700	1,178	59%
Hampden WMCAC	72	70	76	148	49%
Hampden Women's Center	160	160	156	306	52%
Suffolk County					
Suffolk Nashua Street	401	373	420	453	89%
Suffolk South Bay	794	790	784	1,796	44%

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 an overall decrease of 304 inmates, or 4.4 percent, between July 2022 and June 2023. The population fluctuated throughout the year, but experienced a steady decrease of 8.3 percent from September 2022 through April 2023, ending the trend period at a 3.1 percent decrease between April 2023 and June 2023. Over the trend period, the county facilities operated on average at 59 percent of their total design capacity.

Table 5

**Previous Twelve Months
Population in County Correctional Facilities by County,
July 25, 2022 to June 26, 2023**

Facility	Avg. Daily Population	Beginning Population	Ending Population	Design/Rated Capacity	% ADP Capacity
Barnstable	173	166	189	300	58%
Berkshire	168	162	180	292	57%
Bristol	669	720	643	566	118%
Dukes	15	16	13	19	81%
Essex	1,060	1,113	1,011	1,654	64%
Franklin	165	165	164	144	115%
Hampden	883	955	930	1,632	54%
Hampshire	128	125	125	287	44%
Middlesex	650	657	666	1,501	43%
Norfolk	333	341	322	620	54%
Plymouth	536	558	510	1,140	47%
Suffolk	1,174	1,214	1,128	2,249	52%
Worcester	632	646	653	822	77%
Total	6,585	6,838	6,534	11,226	59%

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 25, 2022 to June 26, 2023**

Facility	Avg. Daily Population	Beginning Population	Ending Population	Design/Rated Capacity	% ADP Capacity
Bristol County					
Bristol Ash Street	100	117	112	206	49%
Bristol Dartmouth	528	549	486	304	174%
Women's Center	50	54	45	56	89%
Essex County					
Essex Middleton	955	1,023	915	1,291	74%
Essex W.I.T.	14	13	10	23	61%
Essex LCAC	90	77	86	340	26%
Hampden County					
Hampden HOC	693	744	696	1,178	59%
Hampden WMCAC	60	56	67	148	41%
Hampden Women's Center	144	155	167	306	47%
Suffolk County					
Suffolk Nashua Street	401	429	381	453	89%
Suffolk South Bay	764	785	747	1,796	43%

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 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 the 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 on 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 incarcerated people.
- 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 incarcerated people.
- Inmates are no longer housed at Bay State Correctional Center as of June 30, 2015. The transfer of incarcerated people 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 of 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 incarcerated people at MCI-Framingham were disabled. As a result, these incarcerated people 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 incarcerated people as well as the capacity figures at both facilities.
- Effective December 22, 2016, MCI-Plymouth was shuttered, and remaining incarcerated people were transferred to other DOC facilities.

2017

- During 1st quarter 2017, design capacity was reduced by 151 incarcerated people 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 incarcerated people were transferred to other DOC facilities.
- Effective March 2021, South Middlesex Correctional Center was shuttered and remaining incarcerated people were transferred to other DOC facilities.
- Effective February 2021, the DOC established the Electronic Monitoring Program (ELMO)

2022

- The Department of Correction announced the phased closure of MCI-CJ. Since that time, it has moved the intake/reception center services to SBCC and only the Department's Disciplinary Unit (DDU) and BMU remain open at MCI-CJ. Both units are scheduled to be closed and the Department currently anticipates that this closure will be accomplished by the end of the calendar year 2023.

2023

- Effective June 2023, MCI-CJ Medium was shuttered and remaining incarcerated people were transferred to other DOC facilities.

Guide to Acronyms and Institutions

Acronym	Institution Name	Security Level
ADP	Average Daily Population	n.a.
BPRC	Boston Pre-Release Center	Pre-release, minimum
BSH	Bridgewater State Hospital	Medium
CFI	County/Federal/Interstate	All
MCI-CJ	MCI-Cedar Junction	Medium, maximum (male reception center)
MCI-C	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
MCI-F	MCI-Framingham	Medium (female reception center)
HOC	House of Correction	n.a.
LSH	Lemuel Shattuck Hospital	Medium
MCI	Massachusetts Correctional Institution	n.a.
MTC	Massachusetts Treatment Center	Medium
MASPLY	Massachusetts Alcohol and Substance Abuse Center at Plymouth	Minimum
MCI-N	MCI-Norfolk	Medium
MCI-S	MCI-Shirley	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
SMCC	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:

Pre-Release/ Contracted Residential Placement	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.
Minimum	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.
Medium	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.
Maximum	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.