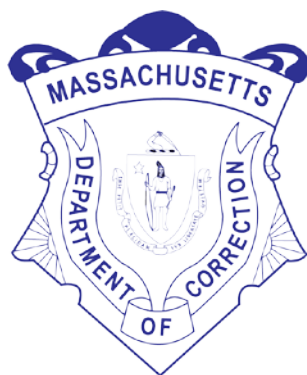
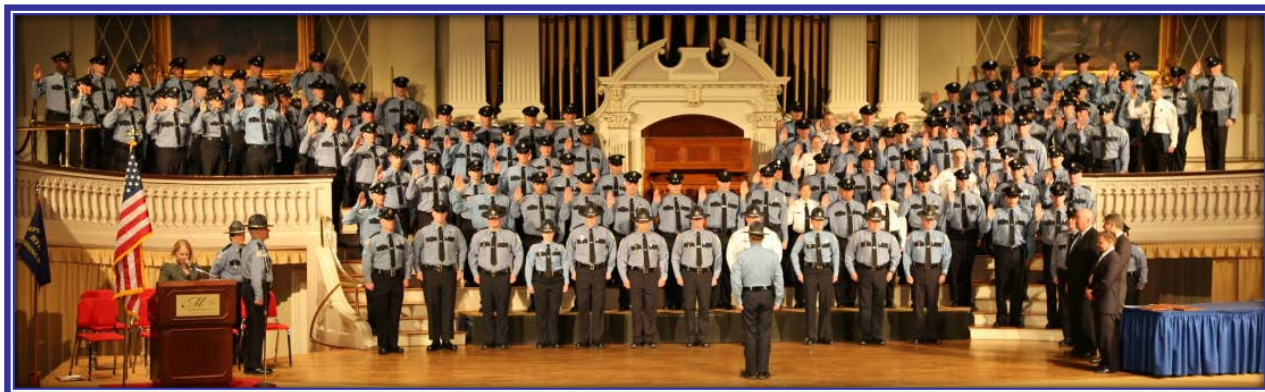


# MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION



## PRISON POPULATION TRENDS 2015



RESEARCH AND PLANNING DIVISION

March 2016



# COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

Charles D. Baker, Governor

Karyn E. Polito, Lieutenant Governor



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## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The publication of this report would not be possible without the assistance of the following Divisions within the Massachusetts Department of Correction:

Institutional and Central Records  
Office of Technology and Information Services  
Performance Measures Division  
Health Services Division

Special recognition is given to Nicholas Cannata for his role as editor along with Gina Papagiorgakis as co-editor.  
Special assistance provided by Diane Silva, Nancy White, David Rentsch, and Susan McDonald.  
Special thanks to Chris Fallon for providing the cover photos.

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**This and other Massachusetts Department of Correction publications can be accessed on the internet under the Research & Statistics tab at:**

**<http://www.mass.gov/eopss/agencies/doc/>**

Publication No. 16-84-DOC-01 64 pgs. 150 cps. March 25, 2016

Authorized by Gary Lambert, Assistant Secretary for Operational Services

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

**Efforts to effectively reduce the Massachusetts Department of Correction (MA DOC) prison population are having an impact. In 2015** the average daily custody (n=10,118) and jurisdiction (n=10,544) populations, were

both 4% less than in 2014. This reduction may be largely attributed to two primary factors, sentencing reform passed on August 2012 and prison reentry efforts by the MA DOC and numerous collaborations. Such efforts have been implemented throughout the incarceration experience, continuing through the transition out of prison and back into the community.

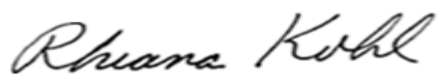
The jurisdiction population has seen a decrease in the past 4 years, January 2016 (n=10,014) in particular is the lowest first of year population when comparing all of the years from 2007-2016. The highest was in 2012 (11,723). There has been an overall 15% decrease since 2012. Over the last decade (2007-2016), the total prison population (MA jurisdiction) decreased 9%, based on a snapshot of the first of January of each year. These results demonstrate greater rates of reduction, curbing incarceration rates and reducing recidivism. This is largely a reflection of the male criminally sentenced population, comprising 86% of the MA DOC population.

Both male and female pre-trial (MA custody) detainees housed at the MA DOC have fluctuated. Between 2007 and 2016, criminally sentenced, pre-trial, and civil commitment populations have all experienced a decrease, 9%, 28%, and 38% respectively. When looking specifically at the pre-trial population, females have significantly increased. Pre-trial females rose from 144 in 2010, with a steady annual increase, up to 278 on January 1, 2014, but have decreased 33% since 2012. Although there were decreases among the female pre-trial population, pre-trial males have seen the largest fluctuation. Males in 2011 made up 71% of the pre-trial population but as of January 2016, males consisted of 44% of the pre-trial commitments. The decrease in males can be attributed to a shift in those County correctional facilities who previously transferred “52A’s” to MA DOC now being able to house more of their pre-trial population in county jails.

The largest racial/ethnic group among all commitment types was White, particularly civil commitments (68%). The second largest racial/ethnic group in every commitment category was Black, consistently higher than the general population in Massachusetts and Nationally. For the first time in the past decade, the majority of criminally sentenced female offenders (52%) were incarcerated for a violent governing offense. Males however, remained consistent with 70% incarcerated for a violent governing offense. Within the custody population as of December 31, 2015, 30% of males and 70% of females were open mental health cases, 8% of males and 13% of females had a serious mental illness (SMI), and 21% of males and 56% of females were on psychotropic medications.

A continued increase among the number of inmates released under parole supervision since 2011 brought the overall total proportion of individuals released with supervision over 63%. This continues a positive trend in which it had been over 60% in 2010 and many years prior. While a more detailed report on **MA DOC recidivism among 2012 releases** has been issued separately, the three year post-release recidivism rate of 32% reflected a continued decrease from the 41% rate among 2009 releases, 39% for 2010 and 35% for 2011. The notable decrease may be partially attributed to lower number of inmates paroled in 2011 and 2012 as well as successful reentry work being conducted by the Department in partnership with those in the criminal justice system, community and beyond. Information regarding such work and other research related reports can be found on the DOC website at [www.mass.gov/doc](http://www.mass.gov/doc).

Sincerely,



Rhiana Kohl, Ph.D.,  
Executive Director of Strategic Planning & Research  
Massachusetts Department of Correction

## ***Report Populations***

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This report, *Massachusetts Department of Correction Prison Population Trends 2015*, covers many different aspects of the Massachusetts Department of Correction (MA DOC) prison population.

### **For the purposes of this report, populations include:**

#### Jurisdiction Population

An individual is considered to be under Massachusetts DOC jurisdiction when the Commonwealth has legal authority over the individual, regardless of where the inmate is being held including those incarcerated in Massachusetts DOC facilities as well as those housed in correctional facilities outside of the Massachusetts DOC (Massachusetts Houses of Correction, other states' correctional facilities, and the Federal Bureau of Prisons).

#### Custody Population

An individual is considered to be in Massachusetts DOC custody when he/she is being held in a Massachusetts DOC facility.

### **Commitment type includes:**

#### Criminally Sentenced or "Sentenced":

Individuals who have been found guilty of a criminal offense by a judge or jury and have been committed to a period of incarceration, whether directly or after a violation of probation or parole.

#### Civil Commitment or "Civil":

Individuals who have been committed by a court based on a finding that their mental health or substance abuse issues present a danger to themselves or others.

#### Pre-Trial or "Detainee":

Individuals who are held in custody in a correctional facility prior to trial.

A complete list of report definitions is located in the 'Caveats and Definitions' section at the end of this report.

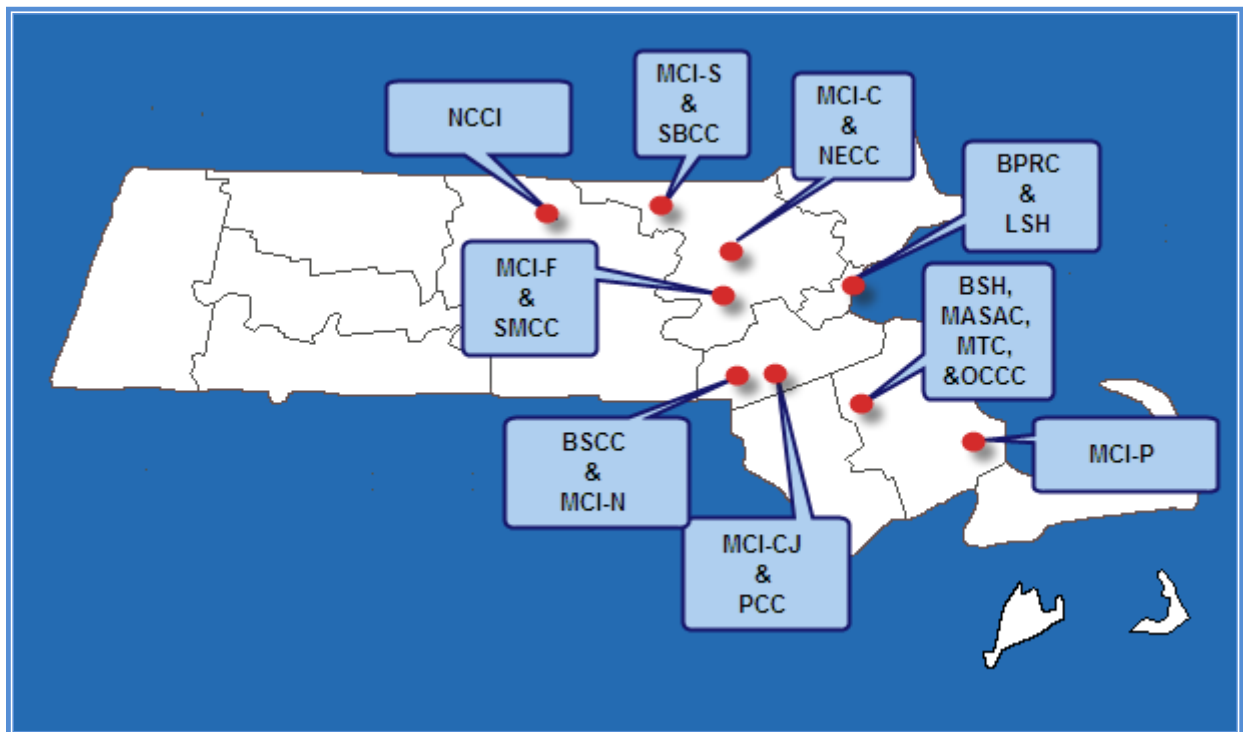
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# Massachusetts DOC 2015 Institution Overview

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## Institution Overview

### Bay State Correctional Center (BSCC)

Norfolk, MA

- Security Level: Medium
- Initial ACA Accreditation: 1993
- Opened: 1977 - Renovated: 1987 (New Building) - Expanded: 1990, 1995 & 2006
- Annual cost per inmate (FY 2015): \$67,034
- January 1, 2016 Facility Population: N/A
- Average Daily Population (ADP): 157\*  
\*Based on 6 months in 2015



BSCC was a facility housing criminally sentenced males. As of June 30, 2015, inmates are no longer housed at Bay State Correctional Center. BSCC transfer of inmates to other DOC facilities began in April of 2015.

### Boston Pre-Release Center (BPRC)

Roslindale, MA

- Security Level: Minimum & Pre-Release
- Initial ACA Accreditation: 2000
- Opened: 1972 - Renovated: 2003 (New Building)
- Annual cost per inmate (FY 2015): \$45,712
- January 1, 2016 Facility Population: 132
- Average Daily Population (ADP): 156
- Operational Capacity: 200  
Minimum: 45 & Pre-Release: 155



BPRC is a facility housing criminally sentenced males. It was the first pre-release institution in Massachusetts and is now a structured program focused on reintegration. Close public transportation increases opportunities for employment, access to community support agencies and other approved programming. On January 1, 2016, the majority of inmates were pre-release (n=103), with an additional 29 minimum security inmates.

### Bridgewater State Hospital (BSH)

Bridgewater, MA

- Security Level: Medium
- Initial ACA Accreditation: 1998
- Opened: 1974
- Annual cost per inmate (FY 2015): \$169,182
- January 1, 2016 Facility Population: 310
- Average Daily Population (ADP): 305
- Operational Capacity: 372
- Civil Commitments: 319  
Work Unit (Inmates): 53



BSH is a facility housing male patients in several categories: civil commitments with underlying criminal sentences, civil commitments without criminal sentences, criminally sentenced inmate workers, and pre-trial detainees sent for competency and criminal responsibility evaluations by the court. Each individual civilly admitted to this facility is subject to a court-ordered evaluation under an applicable section of Massachusetts General Law (M.G.L.) Chapter 123. Patients may be committed to this facility following the observation period for an initial commitment period of six months, with subsequent commitments of one year, as ordered by the court, where the failure to hospitalize in strict security would create a likelihood of serious harm by reason of mental illness.



## ***Institution Overview***

### **Lemuel Shattuck Hospital Correctional Unit (LSH)**

***Jamaica Plain, MA***

- Security Level: Medium
- Opened: 1974 - Expanded: 1982, 1987
- Annual cost per inmate (FY 2015): \$299,677
- January 1, 2016 Facility Population: 18
- Average Daily Population (ADP): 25
- Operational Capacity: 29



The DOC, in partnership with the Department of Public Health, operates a correctional unit within the Lemuel Shattuck Hospital providing secure inpatient and outpatient medical care to male and female inmates from both the state and county. It is a transient facility with few long term patients. On January 1, 2016, the population consisted of 9 criminally sentenced state inmates and 9 pre-trial detainees. The average age of inmates housed on this date was 45 years old.

### **Massachusetts Alcohol and Substance Abuse Center (MASAC)**

***Bridgewater, MA***

- Security Level: Minimum
- Initial ACA Accreditation: 1993
- Opened: 1992 - Mission Change: 2002
- Annual cost per inmate (FY 2015): \$67,850
- January 1, 2016 Facility Population: 158
- Average Daily Population (ADP): 181
- Operational Capacity: 213
- Sentenced: 32 & Civil Commitments: 181



MASAC is a facility whose institutional focus is to provide services to males civilly committed by the court under M.G.L. Chapter 123, Section 35 for detoxification and substance abuse treatment for up to 90 days. The facility underwent a mission change in 2002 after the closing of Southeastern Correctional Center (SECC) when all detoxification services and programs for civilly committed males formerly housed at SECC were moved to this facility and it was renamed the Massachusetts Alcohol and Substance Abuse Center. On January 1, 2016, there were 127 civil commitments and 31 criminally sentenced inmates.

### **Massachusetts Treatment Center (MTC)**

***Bridgewater, MA***

- Security Level: Medium
- Initial ACA Accreditation: 1997
- Opened: 1986 - Expanded: 1997
- Annual cost per inmate (FY 2015): \$60,019
- January 1, 2016 Facility Population: 529
- Average Daily Population (ADP): 538
- Operational Capacity: 673
- Sentenced: 312 & Civil Commitments: 361



The MTC is a medium security facility separately housing criminally sentenced male inmates identified as sex offenders and those who have been civilly committed as sexually dangerous persons (SDPs) as defined by M.G.L. Chapter 123A for a day to life commitment. The facility offers a comprehensive sexual offender treatment program intended to reduce the risks associated with reoffending. On January 1, 2016, there were 307 criminally sentenced inmates, 189 SDPs, and 32 temporary civil commitments. The population break downs were provided by the MTC and may not reflect the total facility count in the Inmate Management System (IMS).



## Institution Overview

### MCI-Cedar Junction (MCI-CJ)

*South Walpole, MA*

- Security Level: Maximum Reception & Diagnostic Center w/ Medium Component
- Initial ACA Accreditation: 2002
- Opened: 1956 - Expanded: 1991 Modular Unit, DDU
- Annual cost per inmate (FY 2015): \$66,931
- January 1, 2016 Facility Population: 763
- Average Daily Population (ADP): 771 Maximum: 701 & Medium: 70
- Operational Capacity: 646 Maximum: 568 & Medium: 78



In 2009, the mission of MCI-CJ shifted from a maximum security institution to the Department's Reception and Diagnostic Center for male inmates with a focus on the completion of assessments to determine an inmate's initial classification designation and the development of individualized program plans. The Department Disciplinary Unit (DDU) for the Department's most serious discipline issues is also located here. On January 1, 2016, MCI-CJ housed 746 criminally sentenced inmates and 17 federal or out of state pre-trial detainees. There were 691 inmates housed in maximum security (125 of those in DDU) and 72 in medium security.

### MCI-Concord (MCI-C)

*Concord, MA*

- Security Level: Medium
- Initial ACA Accreditation: 2001
- Opened: 1878 - Renovations: 1999, 2005 Special Management Unit
- Annual cost per inmate (FY 2015): \$50,442
- January 1, 2016 Facility Population: 580
- Average Daily Population (ADP): 1,035
- Operational Capacity: 752



MCI-C, the former Reception and Diagnostic Center for the Department, shifted to a medium security facility for male inmates when MCI-CJ took over the reception role in 2009. In 2015, due to budgetary reasons, the operational capacity was reduced and inmates and pre-trial detainees were transferred to other facilities or returned to their county of origin.

### MCI-Framingham (MCI-F) & Awaiting Trial Unit (ATU)

*Framingham, MA*

- Security Level: Medium
- Initial ACA Accreditation: 1995
- Opened: 1877 - Expanded: 1965 4 Cottages & Health Services Unit Bldg., 1983 Modular Unit, 1989 Modular Unit, 1991 Betty Cole Smith Bldg.
- Annual cost per inmate (FY 2015): \$67,103
- January 1, 2016 Facility Population: 515
- Average Daily Population (ADP): 568 Medium: 334 & ATU: 234
- Operational Capacity: 609



MCI-F is the Department's Reception and Diagnostic Center for female inmates, providing a comprehensive network of gender responsive, trauma informed programming for women who are serving criminal sentences, awaiting trial or civilly committed. It is the oldest operating women's prison in the country. On January 1, 2016, this medium security facility housed 324 criminally sentenced inmates, 184 pre-trial detainees, and 7 civil commitments.

## Institution Overview

### MCI-Norfolk (MCI-N)

*Norfolk, MA*

- Security Level: Medium
- Initial ACA Accreditation: 2003
- Opened: 1931
- Annual cost per inmate (FY 2015): \$41,102
- January 1, 2016 Facility Population: 1,450
- Average Daily Population (ADP): 1,443
- Operational Capacity: 1,474



MCI-N, a facility housing male inmates, holds the distinction of being the largest medium security institution in the Massachusetts DOC. It was the first community-based prison in the United States, created to be more spacious with a campus-like atmosphere and architecture. Inmate housing consists of eighteen dormitory-style living units and two modular units divided by a large central grass quadrangle.

### MCI-Plymouth (MCI-P)

*Plymouth, MA*

- Security Level: Minimum & Pre-Release
- Initial ACA Accreditation: 1994
- Opened: 1952
- Annual cost per inmate (FY 2015): \$45,239
- January 1, 2016 Facility Population: 178
- Average Daily Population (ADP): 190
- Operational Capacity: 239
- Minimum: 224 & Pre-Release: 15



MCI-P originated as a Prison Camp in the 1950s on the grounds of the Myles Standish State Forest. The facility houses criminally sentenced males, partnering with and providing inmate community work crews and services to neighboring towns, thereby enhancing inmate re-entry and reparation. In 2012, MCI-P opened a pre-release component in response to one of the many re-entry initiatives outlined in the Massachusetts Corrections Master Plan. On October 2013, MCI-P increased its pre-release capacity to 15 beds and decreased its minimum capacity to 212 beds. On January 1, 2016 there were 163 minimum and 15 pre-release security inmates at MCI-P.

### MCI-Shirley (MCI-S)

*Shirley, MA*

- Security Level: Medium & Minimum
- Initial ACA Accreditation: 1995
- Opened: Minimum in 1972, Medium in 1991
- Annual cost per inmate (FY 2015): \$40,483
- January 1, 2016 Facility Population: 1,485
- Average Daily Population (ADP): 1,477
- Medium: 1,155 & Minimum: 322
- Operational Capacity: 1,455
- Medium: 1,129 & Minimum: 326



MCI-S encompasses two facilities housing both medium and minimum custody level inmates. The majority of inmates on January 1, 2016 were in medium security housing units (n=1,161) with 324 housed in minimum security. The two security levels were considered separate institutions until July 2002, when they were combined as one, operating under one administration. Along with a skilled nursing facility (SNF), MCI-S operates an Assisted Daily Living Unit for medium inmates.

## ***Institution Overview***

### **North Central Correctional Institution (NCCI)**

*Gardner, MA*

- Security Level: Medium & Minimum
- Initial ACA Accreditation: 1989
- Opened: 1981 - Renovations: 1982, 1993
- Annual cost per inmate (FY 2015): \$49,754
- January 1, 2016 Facility Population: 980
- Average Daily Population (ADP): 962  
Medium: 938 & Minimum: 23
- Operational Capacity: 1,014  
Medium: 984 & Minimum: 30



NCCI is a facility housing criminally sentenced males. The majority of inmates on January 1, 2016 were in medium security housing units (n=960) with 20 housed in minimum security. The institution is located on the land formerly occupied by the Gardner State Hospital which was open from 1902 until its doors were closed in 1976.

### **Northeastern Correctional Center (NECC)**

*Concord, MA*

- Security Level: Minimum & Pre-Release
- Initial ACA Accreditation: 1982
- Opened: 1932
- Annual cost per inmate (FY 2015): \$44,099
- January 1, 2016 Facility Population: 253
- Average Daily Population (ADP): 262
- Operational Capacity: 277  
Minimum: 213 & Pre-Release: 64



NECC is a facility, operating under the Superintendent of MCI-Concord, housing criminally sentenced males. The majority of inmates on January 1, 2016 were in minimum security housing units (n=191), with 62 housed in pre-release. The facility was originally the supporting farm for MCI-Concord. Currently, the programming is designed to enable a smooth transition from confinement to the community. Community work crews provide cost effective labor to surrounding communities.

### **Old Colony Correctional Center (OCCC)**

*Bridgewater, MA*

- Security Level: Medium & Minimum
- Initial ACA Accreditation: 1989
- Opened: 1987 - Expanded: 1990 Modular Unit
- Annual cost per inmate (FY 2015): \$51,574
- January 1, 2016 Facility Population: 862
- Average Daily Population (ADP): 823  
Medium: 720 & Minimum: 102
- Operational Capacity: 908  
Medium: 748 & Minimum: 160



A mission change was facilitated in 2010 at OCCC shifting their medium security operation to a mental health focused facility with the objective of providing needed mental health services more efficiently while at the same time promoting rehabilitation and re-entry. The majority of inmates on January 1, 2016 were housed in a medium security unit (n=766), with 96 housed in minimum security.

## Institution Overview

### Pondville Correctional Center (PCC)

Norfolk, MA

- Security Level: Minimum & Pre-Release
- Initial ACA Accreditation: 1994
- Opened: 1990
- Annual cost per inmate (FY 2015): \$40,567
- January 1, 2016 Facility Population: 131
- Average Daily Population (ADP): 157
- Operational Capacity: 156
- Minimum: 107 & Pre-Release: 49



PCC is a facility for criminally sentenced males housing 93 minimum and 38 pre-release inmates on January 1, 2016. The original name of the facility was Norfolk Pre-Release Center (NPRC). The facility was constructed in 1975. In 1990, following significant renovations, the facility then became known as Pondville Correctional Center housing both minimum and pre-release inmates. Beginning in July 2015, in partnership with the Massachusetts Parole Board and Spectrum Health Services Inc., a 48-bed unit was dedicated to parolees who are in need of transitional services. As of January 1, 2016, there were 35 parolees being housed in this program.

### South Middlesex Correctional Center (SMCC)

Framingham, MA

- Security Level: Minimum & Pre-Release
- Initial ACA Accreditation: 1983
- Opened: 1976
- Mission Change: 2002 all Female
- Annual cost per inmate (FY 2015): \$41,860
- January 1, 2016 Facility Population: 115
- Average Daily Population (ADP): 130
- Operational Capacity: 185
- Minimum: 140 & Pre-Release: 45



SMCC is a facility for criminally sentenced state and county females housing 98 minimum and 17 pre-release inmates on January 1, 2016. The facility began as a male facility and became a female facility on July 1, 2002 following a mission change. The community based environment encourages ongoing utilization of skills and resources necessary for successful re-entry into the community while ensuring public safety.

### Souza Baranowski Correctional Center (SBCC)

Shirley, MA

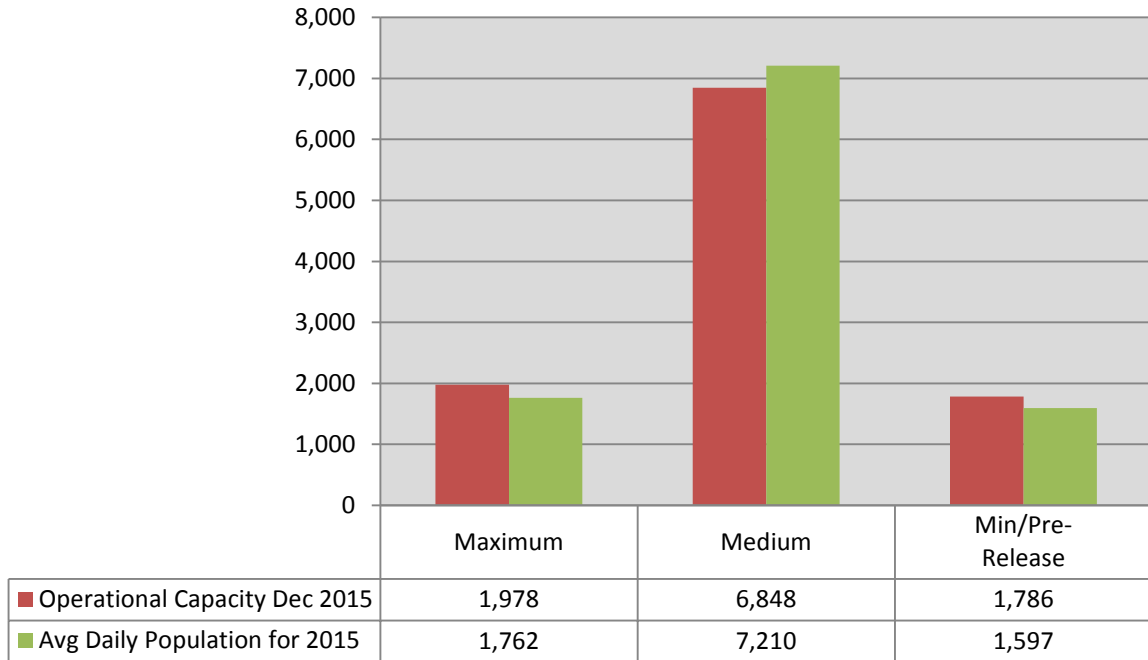
- Security Level: Maximum
- Initial ACA Accreditation: 2001
- Opened: 1998
- Annual cost per inmate (FY 2015): \$64,842
- January 1, 2016 Facility Population: 1,034
- Average Daily Population (ADP): 1,015
- Operational Capacity: 1,410



SBCC is the one exclusively maximum security male facility in Massachusetts. SBCC is currently the newest state correctional facility in Massachusetts, having opened on September 30, 1998. At the time, it was built with the highest degree of technological integration of any prison in the country, including a keyless security system and one of the largest camera matrix systems nationwide.

## Institution Capacity

**Massachusetts DOC 2015 Average Daily Custody Population vs. Operational Capacity**



### Total Massachusetts Department of Correction 2015

Operational Capacity = 10,612

Average Daily Population for 2015 (Custody Population) = 10,118

Average Daily Population for 2015 (Jurisdiction Population) = 10,544

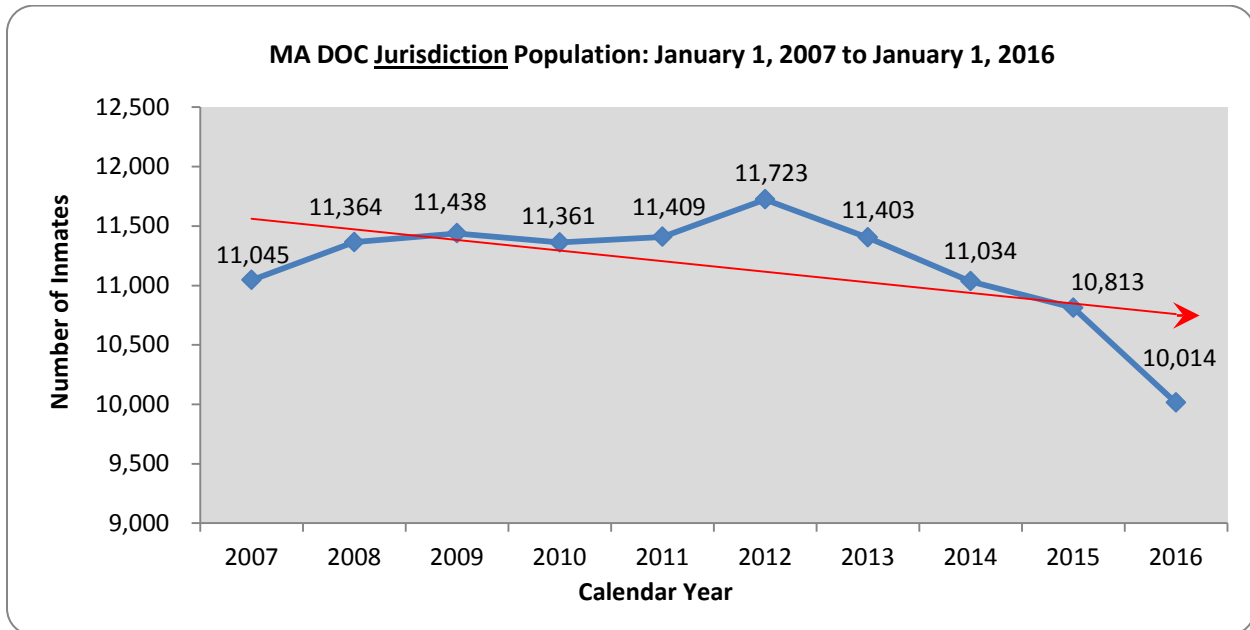
- ◆ **Operational Capacity** is the number of beds authorized for safe and efficient operation of the facility. It does not include beds reserved for discipline, investigations, infirmary or other temporary holds because these beds are used for temporary or special purposes.
- ◆ The numbers utilized in this report associated with operational capacity are from January 1, 2016.

# Massachusetts DOC 2015 Population Trends

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## Population Trends



### Massachusetts

- ◆ The Massachusetts DOC jurisdiction population continued to decline for the fourth year, dropping 15% after a peak of 11,723 inmates on January 1, 2012 to 10,014 inmates on January 1, 2016.
- ◆ Between January 1, 2015 and January 1, 2016, there was a 7% decrease in inmates, from 10,813 to 10,014.
- ◆ The trend shows a decrease in the jurisdiction population, with a decrease of 9% between January 1, 2007 and January 1, 2016.

### National

- ◆ The estimated number of persons in state and federal prisons decreased to 1,561,525 at year-end 2014<sup>1</sup>, a 1% decrease (n=15,425) from year-end 2013.<sup>2</sup>
- ◆ After a slight increase in the sentenced state and federal jurisdiction population in 2013, there was a decrease of 1% between year-end 2013 and year-end 2014, the second largest decline in more than 35 years. There was a 2.5% decrease in the federal population (n=5,299) and a 0.7% decrease in the state population (n=10,126) between year-end 2013 and year-end 2014.<sup>3</sup>
- ◆ The national imprisonment rate at year-end 2014 was 471 sentenced inmates per 100,000 U.S. residents of all ages, down from 477 in 2013; and 612 per 100,000 U.S residents age 18 year or older, a decrease from 621 in 2013.<sup>4</sup>
- ◆ Between 2013 and 2014, twenty-four (24) states saw decreases in their state's jurisdiction population.<sup>5</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Year-end 2014 statistics were the most recent national statistics available at the time.

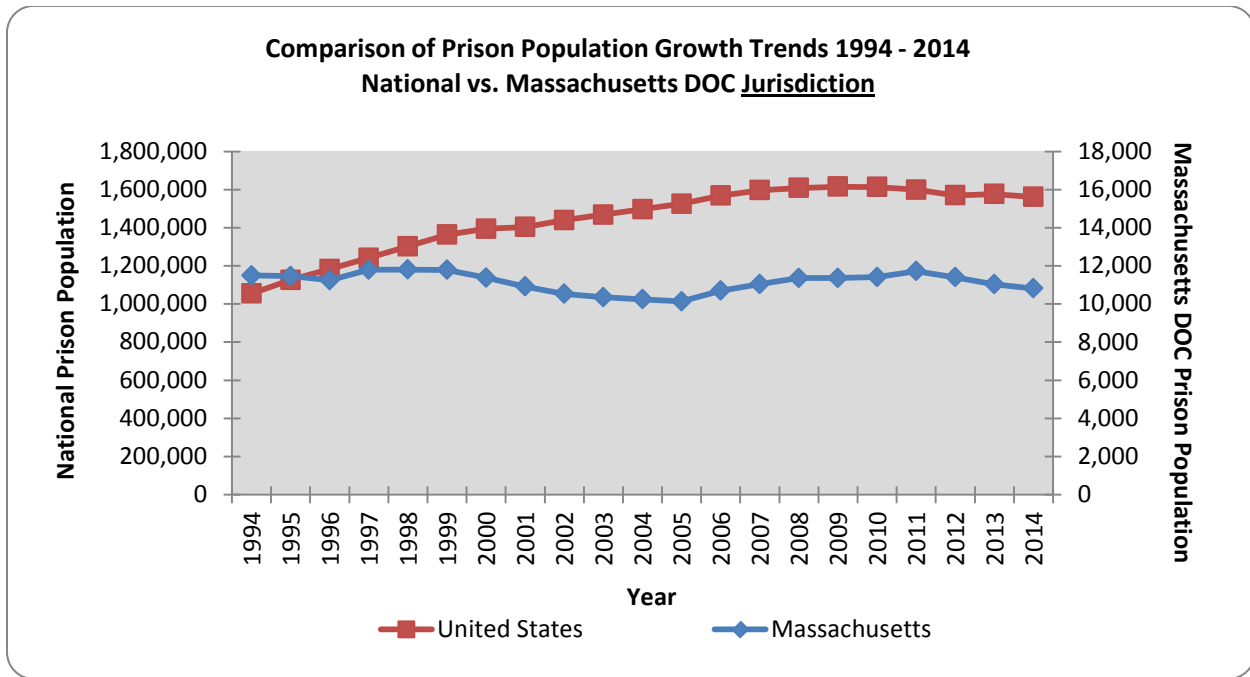
<sup>2</sup> Bureau of Justice Statistics (September 2015). *Prisoners in 2014* (NCJ 248955). Washington, D.C.: U.S. Department of Justice.

<sup>3</sup> BJS, 2015, pg. 2, table 1.

<sup>4</sup> BJS, 2015, pg. 7.

<sup>5</sup> BJS, 2015, pg. 4.

## Population Trends



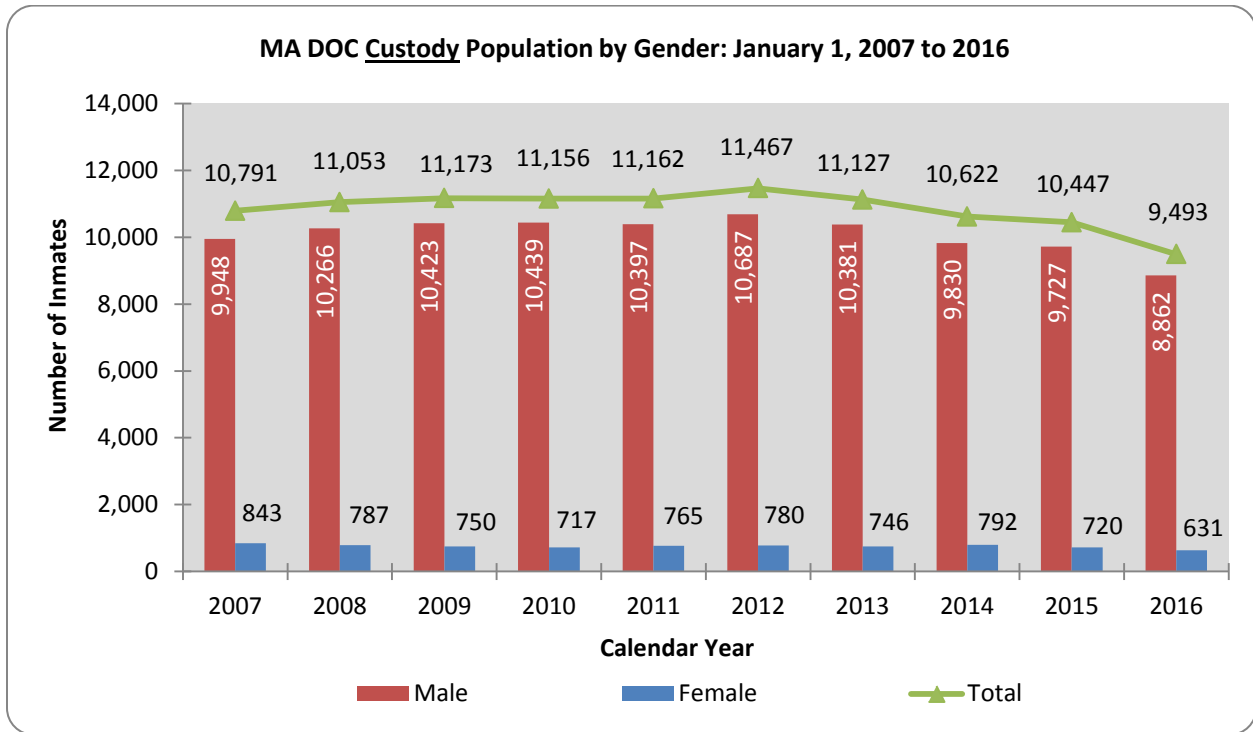
**Comparison of Prison Population Growth Trends 1994 – 2014:**  
**National<sup>6</sup> vs. Massachusetts DOC Jurisdiction**

Year	National Jurisdiction Population		Massachusetts Jurisdiction Population	
	Population	Percent of Change	Population	Percent of Change
1994	1,054,702	8.7	11,492	0.6
1995	1,125,874	6.7	11,462	-0.3
1996	1,183,368	5.1	11,242	-1.9
1997	1,242,153	5.0	11,794	4.9
1998	1,302,019	4.8	11,807	0.1
1999	1,363,701	4.7	11,792	-0.1
2000	1,394,231	2.2	11,377	-3.5
2001	1,404,032	0.7	10,919	-4.0
2002	1,440,144	2.6	10,534	-3.5
2003	1,468,601	2.0	10,354	-1.7
2004	1,497,100	1.9	10,242	-1.1
2005	1,525,910	1.9	10,138	-1.0
2006	1,568,674	2.8	10,699	5.5
2007	1,596,835	1.8	11,045	3.2
2008	1,608,282	0.7	11,364	2.9
2009	1,615,487	0.4	11,361	0.0
2010	1,613,803	-0.1	11,409	0.4
2011	1,598,968	-0.9	11,723	2.8
2012	1,570,397	-1.8	11,403	-2.7
2013	1,576,950	0.4	11,034	-3.2
2014	1,561,525	-1.0	10,813	-2.0

- ◆ The Massachusetts jurisdiction population decreased by 6% from 11,492 in 1994 to 10,813 in 2014; while the national population increased by 48%, from 1,054,702 to 1,561,525 over the same time period.
- ◆ After some fluctuation between 1994 and 1998, the Massachusetts jurisdiction population experienced a 14% decrease between 1998 and 2005, followed by a 12% increase from 2005 to 2012. Between 2013 and 2014 saw a total jurisdiction population decrease of 2%.
- ◆ The national prison population experienced an increase of 53% from 1994 to 2009, followed by a decrease from 2010 to 2014 of 3%. The decrease of the population (by 1%) between 2013 and 2014 was the second largest after the decrease of nearly 2% between 2011 and 2012.

<sup>6</sup> Bureau of Justice Statistics (September 2015). *Prisoners in 2014* (NCJ 248955). Washington, D.C.: U.S. Department of Justice.

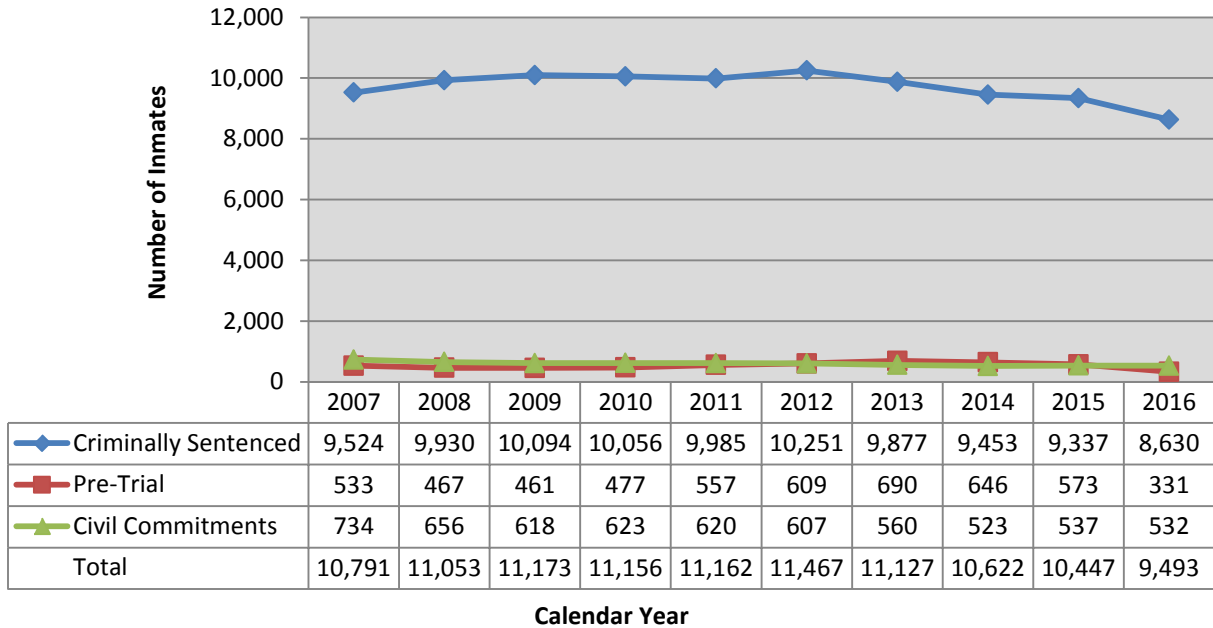
## Population Trends



- ◆ The Massachusetts DOC custody population has shown a significant decrease of 12% between January 1, 2007 and January 1, 2016. Over the 10 year period there was a clear increase of 6% from 2007 to 2012, with the population remaining relatively constant between 2008 and 2011 before spiking in 2012 to 11,467 inmates. Following the increase there was then a significant decrease in population of 17% from 2012 to 2016.
- ◆ Male inmates increased 7% between 2007 and 2012 which drove the increase in total custody population over the trend period. In the past four years however, the male custody population dropped from 10,687 in 2012 to 8,862 in 2016 which lead to a 17% decrease and resulted in a major drop in the total custody population.
- ◆ The female population experienced more fluctuation than their male counterparts during this time frame, most notably a 15% decline between 2007 and 2010. Females then experienced a 10% increase between 2010 and 2014. However, in the past two years both females and males have had a significant decrease in their custody populations 20% and 10% respectively.
- ◆ From November 2011 to February 2012, 51 county sentenced female inmates in DOC custody were transferred to a regional correctional center in Hampden County. Beginning in November 2011, county sentenced females including those from Worcester County and west, were held in the custody of this regional center and no longer at the MA DOC.

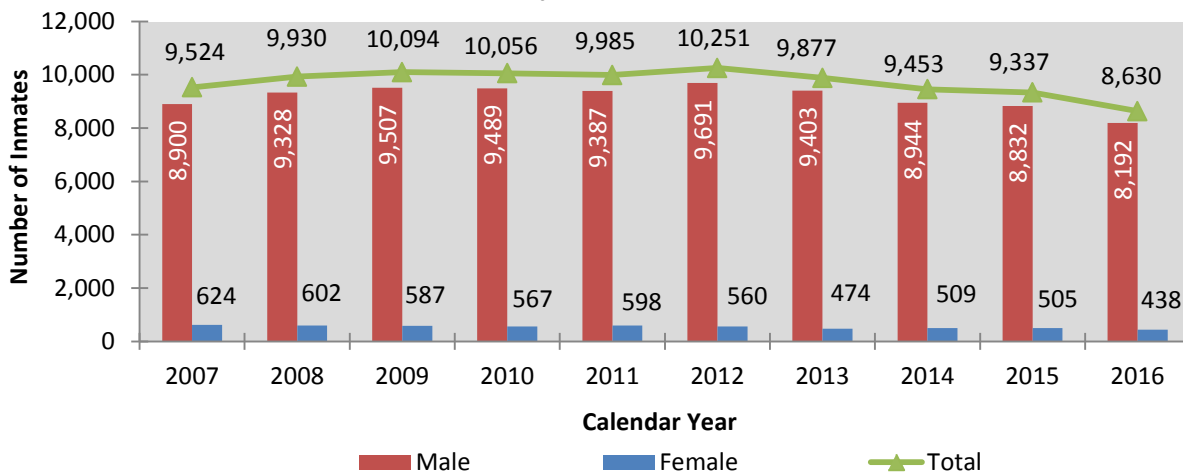
## Population Trends

MA DOC Custody Population by Commitment Type: January 1, 2007 to 2016



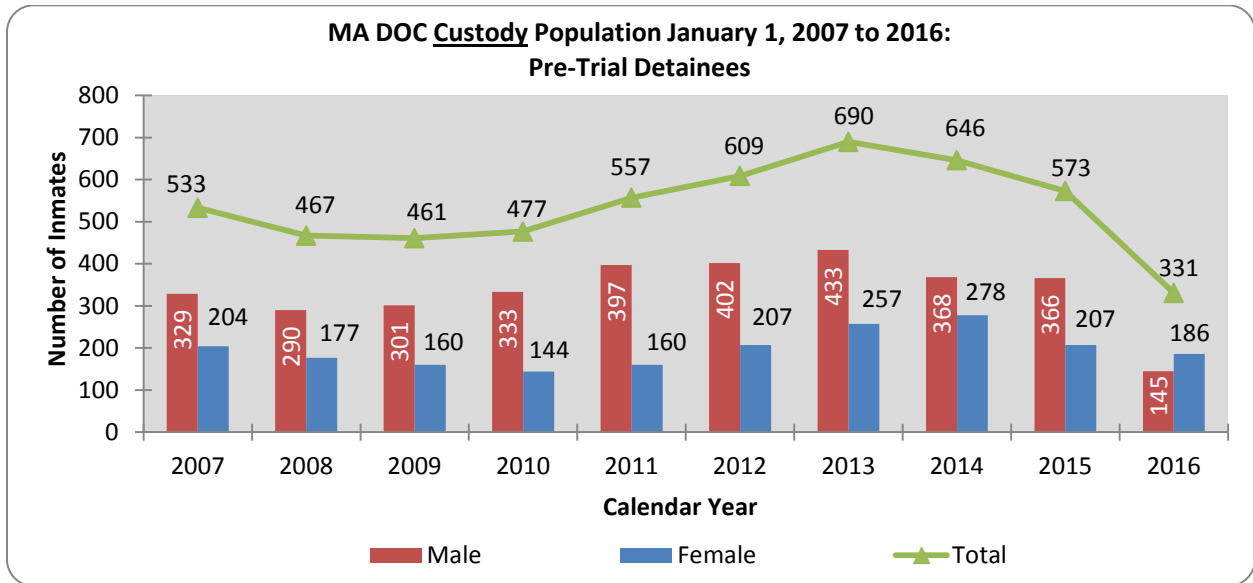
The Massachusetts DOC has seen a decrease in criminally sentenced (9%), civil (28%) and pre-trial (38%) commitment populations between January 1, 2007 and January 1, 2016. Since 2012, criminally sentenced and civil commitments populations have all experienced a decrease, 16% and 12% respectively. However, pre-trial had the largest decrease of the three commitment types since 2012 with 46%.

MA DOC Custody Population January 1, 2007 to 2016:  
Criminally Sentenced Inmates

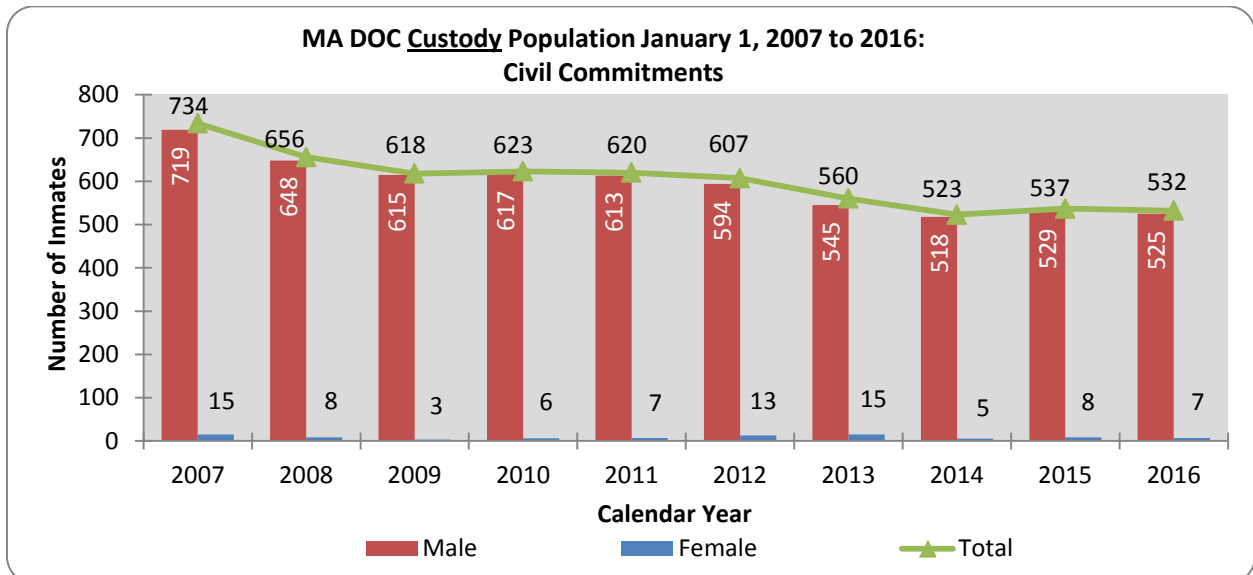


- ◆ Criminally sentenced inmates compose 91% of the Massachusetts DOC custody population.
- ◆ From 2007 through 2016, males experienced an 8% percent decrease whereas females decreased by 30%. The total criminally sentenced population experienced a 9% decrease over the same time period (2007 to 2016) but in the past five years saw a decrease of 16% from 2012 to 2016 after peaking at 10,251 inmates in 2012.

## Population Trends

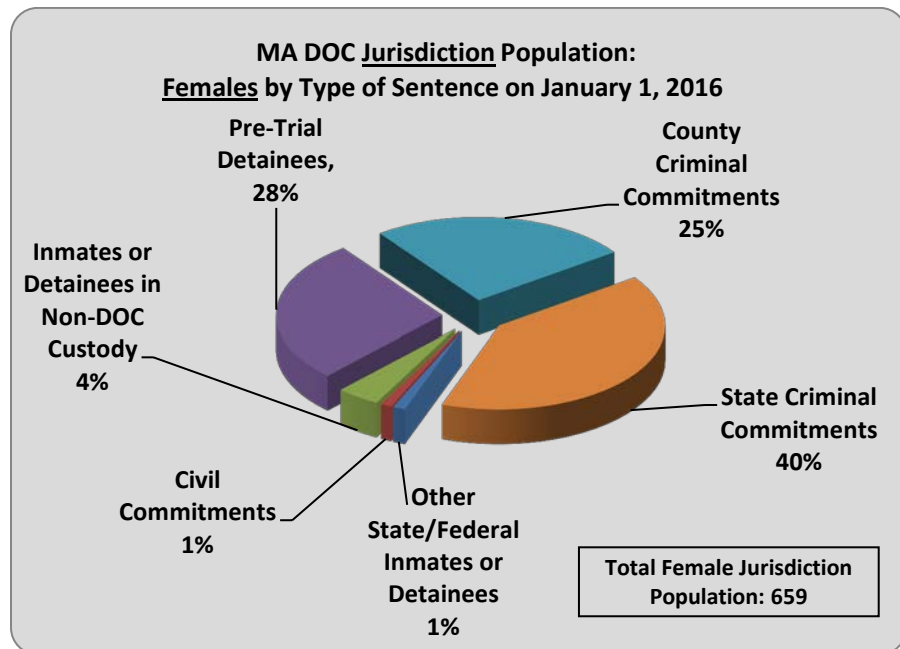
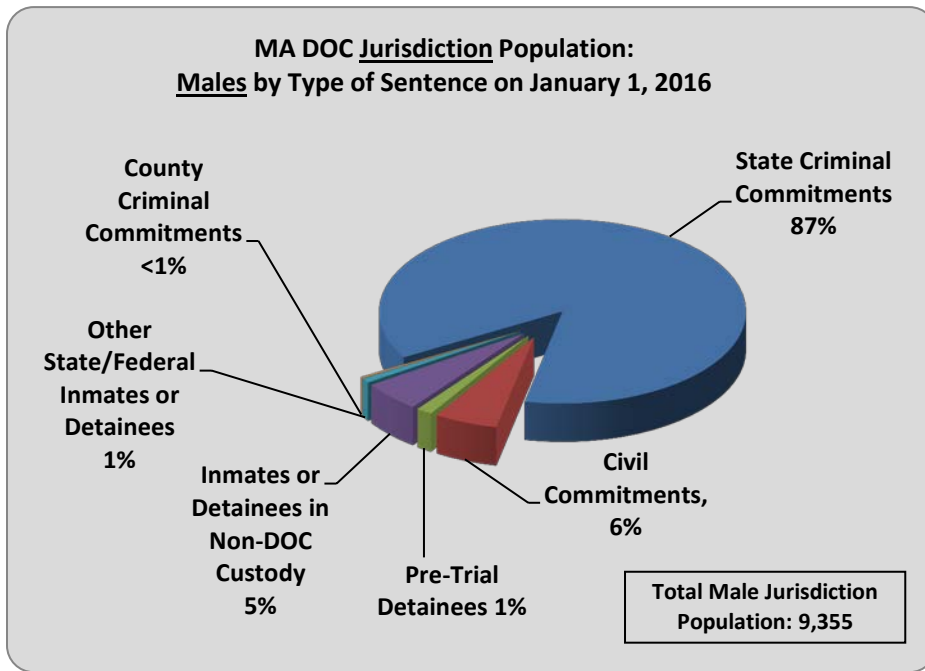


- ◆ The total pre-trial population decreased 38% between 2007 and 2016.
- ◆ In 2011, males made up 71% of the pre-trial population compared to 57% in 2014 and then ultimately being taken over by females (56%) in 2016 with males only consisting of 44% of pre-trial commitments. While the total population decreased since 2007, the proportion of males and females made a large shift during this period largely due to 52A's no longer being held in MCI-Concord starting late 2015. The Middlesex County 52A court order was vacated and Suffolk County ceased the transfer of 52A's into the MA DOC custody.



- ◆ The total civil commitment population consists almost entirely of male inmates (99%). The total civil commitment population and the male civil commitment populations experienced a notable decrease, 28% and 27% respectively, from 2007 to 2016.
- ◆ Averaging 9 inmates a year over the trend period, female civil commitment inmates represent the smallest population with a low of 3 in 2009 and a high of 15 in 2007 and 2013.

## Population Trends



- ◆ The vast majority of males were state criminal commitments (87%) on January 1, 2016.
- ◆ Female state criminal commitments (40%) represent a smaller portion of their total commitments compared to males (87%) due to the MA DOC housing counties' female inmates for capacity issues/ lack of housing. Therefore, there was a more even distribution of females compared to their male counterparts.

Note: Throughout this document percentages may not always add up to 100% due to rounding.



## Massachusetts DOC 2015 Inmate Characteristics

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## ***Inmate Characteristics by Gender***

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### **Male Jurisdiction Population on January 1, 2016**

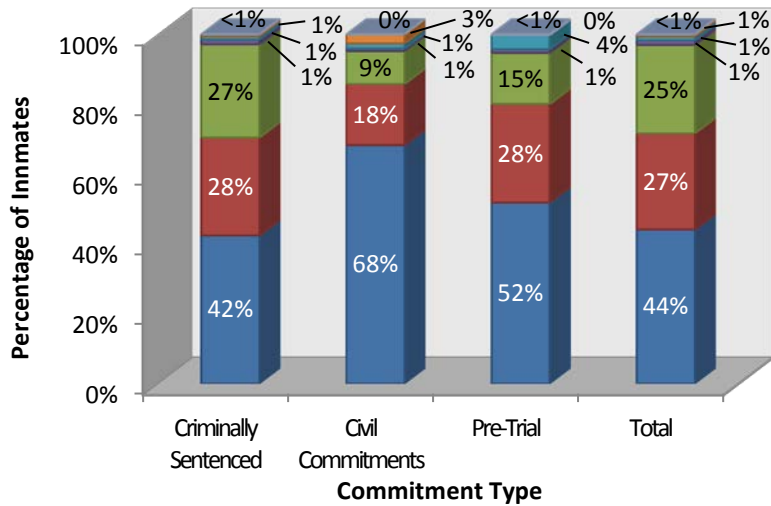
- ◆ 9,355 total males in the jurisdiction population: 8,637 criminally sentenced, 183 pre-trial detainees, and 535 civil commitments
  - ◆ Average age was 41 years old
  - ◆ 96% were serving a sentence of more than three years
  - ◆ 70% had a violent governing offense
  - ◆ 900 were serving a governing mandatory drug sentence
  - ◆ 46% entered the Massachusetts DOC with less than a 9<sup>th</sup> grade reading level
  - ◆ 43% entered the Massachusetts DOC with less than a 6<sup>th</sup> grade math level
  - ◆ The 2012 three year recidivism rate was 33% for the total male population
  - ◆ 30% were open mental health cases, 8% had a serious mental illness (SMI), and 21% were on psychotropic medication for the **Custody** Population as of 12/31/2015
- Note: Information provided by Health Services Division

### **Female Jurisdiction Population on January 1, 2016**

- ◆ 659 total females in the jurisdiction population: 459 criminally sentenced, 193 pre-trial detainees, and 7 civil commitments
  - ◆ Average age was 37 years old
  - ◆ 59% were serving a sentence of more than three years
  - ◆ 52% had a violent governing offense
  - ◆ 24 were serving a governing mandatory drug sentence
  - ◆ 32% entered the Massachusetts DOC with less than a 9<sup>th</sup> grade reading level
  - ◆ 33% entered the Massachusetts DOC with less than a 6<sup>th</sup> grade math level
  - ◆ The 2012 three year recidivism rate was 29% for the total female population
  - ◆ 70% were open mental health cases, 13% had a serious mental illness (SMI), and 56% were on psychotropic medication for the **Custody** Population as of 12/31/2015
- Note: Information provided by Health Services Division

## Inmate Characteristics by Race/Ethnicity and Gender

**MA DOC Jurisdiction Population by Race/Ethnicity\* and Commitment Type on January 1, 2016**



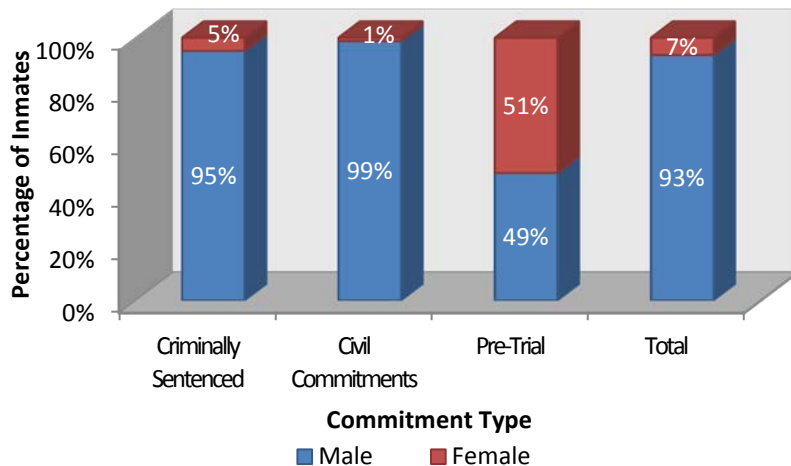
**MA DOC Jurisdiction Population by Race/Ethnicity\* and Commitment Type on January 1, 2016**

Race/Ethnicity*	Criminally Sentenced	Civil Commitments	Pre-Trial	Total
White	3,857	370	195	4,422
Black	2,551	95	106	2,752
Hispanic	2,427	51	55	2,533
Asian	123	4	4	131
Other	87	8	15	110
Native American	50	14	0	64
Pacific Islander	1	0	1	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>9,096</b>	<b>542</b>	<b>376</b>	<b>10,014</b>

\*Race/Ethnicity is self-reported by inmate at time of admission.

Similar to previous years, the largest percentage of the total inmate population had a race/ethnicity of White (44%) which was mirrored in each commitment type. White inmates (68%) had a significantly higher proportion of civil commitments compared to their counterparts. Of the criminally sentenced commitments, White (42%) again had the highest proportion, followed by Black and Hispanic (28% and 27% respectively).

**MA DOC Jurisdiction Population by Gender and Commitment Type on January 1, 2016**



**MA DOC Jurisdiction Population by Gender and Commitment Type on January 1, 2016**

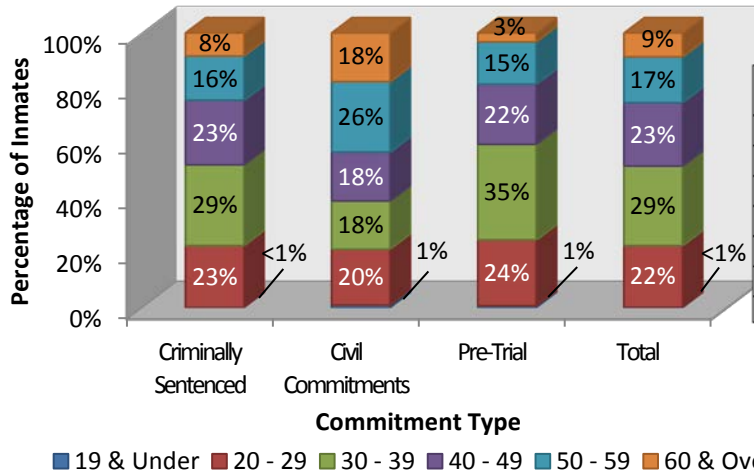
	Criminally Sentenced	Civil Commitments	Pre-Trial	Total
Male	8,637	535	183	9,355
Female	459	7	193	659
<b>Total</b>	<b>9,096</b>	<b>542</b>	<b>376</b>	<b>10,014</b>

The commitment types of criminally sentenced and civil commitments had the greatest percentage of males with 95% and 99% respectively. Pre-trial detainees differed for the first time in recent years with a greater proportion of females (51%) versus males (49%). This was due to the transfer of pre-trial males from MCI-Concord back to their counties of origin.<sup>7</sup>

<sup>7</sup> MCI-Framingham has two awaiting trial units (ATUs) designated to house female pre-trial detainees. This is unique as pre-trial detainees are largely housed by the counties for males. Many counties are not equipped with adequate, or in a number of cases, any housing for pre-trial females.

## ***Inmate Characteristics by Age and Age at Time of Incarceration***

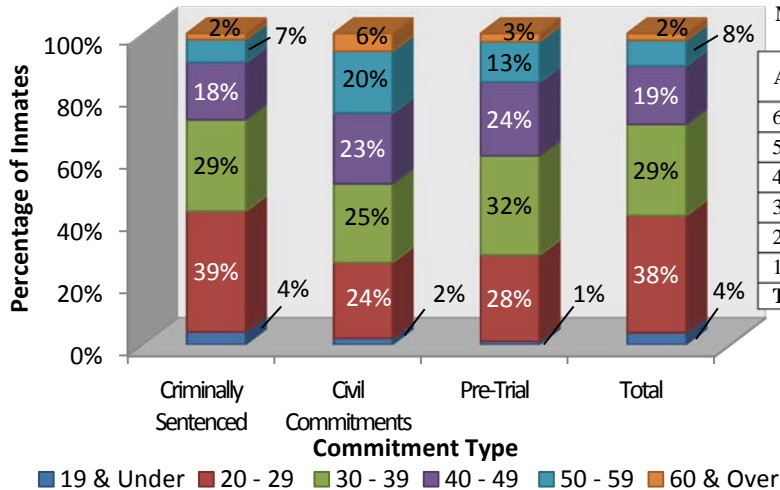
**MA DOC Jurisdiction Population by Age and Commitment Type on January 1, 2016**



**MA DOC Jurisdiction Population by Age and Commitment Type on January 1, 2016**

Age (Years)	Criminally Sentenced	Civil Commitments	Pre-Trial	Total
60 & Over	761	96	12	869
50 - 59	1,466	139	58	1,663
40 - 49	2,135	96	82	2,313
30 - 39	2,674	95	131	2,900
20 - 29	2,047	110	90	2,247
19 & Under	13	6	3	22
<b>Total</b>	<b>9,096</b>	<b>542</b>	<b>376</b>	<b>10,014</b>

**MA DOC Jurisdiction Population by Age at Time of Incarceration and Commitment Type on January 1, 2016**



**MA DOC Jurisdiction Population by Age at Time of Incarceration and Commitment Type on January 1, 2016**

Age (Years)	Criminally Sentenced	Civil Commitments	Pre-Trial	Total
60 & Over	181	31	10	222
50 - 59	670	108	49	827
40 - 49	1,673	123	89	1,885
30 - 39	2,675	137	120	2,932
20 - 29	3,525	132	104	3,761
19 & Under	372	11	4	387
<b>Total</b>	<b>9,096</b>	<b>542</b>	<b>376</b>	<b>10,014</b>

- ◆ As of January 1, 2016, 52% (n = 4,721) of the criminally sentenced population were between the ages of 20-39 with 4,362 inmates (48%) age 40 years or older. At the time of incarceration, 6,200 inmates in the criminally sentenced population were between ages 20-39 (68%) with 3,525 between ages 20-29 (39%).
- ◆ Criminally sentenced inmates comprised the majority of the jurisdiction population mirroring the total jurisdiction population with 87% between the ages 20-49 at the time of incarceration and 75% between the ages 20 – 49 on January 1, 2016.
- ◆ The oldest inmates in the jurisdiction population as of January 1, 2016 relative to sentence type were civil commitments, with 61% of inmates (n=331) aged 40 and older differing from age at incarceration, in which 280 inmates (52%) were 39 years old and younger.
- ◆ Pre-trial detainees varied the least in age when comparing the percentage of age on January 1, 2016 to age at incarceration (59% and 60% respectively being between the ages of 20-39) suggesting a more transitional population with shorter institutional stays.

## **Inmate Characteristics by Age, Age at Time of Incarceration, and Release**

**MA DOC Jurisdiction Population Age Averages and Ranges by Commitment Type on January 1, 2016**

	Criminally Sentenced	Civil Commitments	Pre-Trial	Total
<b>Male</b>				
Mean	41 Years	45 Years	42 Years	<b>41 Years</b>
Median	39 Years	46 Years	42 Years	<b>39 Years</b>
Youngest	17 Years	18 Years	20 Years	<b>17 Years</b>
Oldest	92 Years	84 Years	68 Years	<b>92 Years</b>
<b>Female</b>				
Mean	38 Years	35 Years	35 Years	<b>37 Years</b>
Median	35 Years	27 Years	33 Years	<b>34 Years</b>
Youngest	20 Years	21 Years	18 Years	<b>18 Years</b>
Oldest	71 Years	57 Years	66 Years	<b>71 Years</b>
<b>Total</b>				
Mean	41 Years	45 Years	38 Years	<b>41 Years</b>
Median	39 Years	46 Years	36 Years	<b>39 Years</b>
Youngest	17 Years	18 Years	18 Years	<b>17 Years</b>
Oldest	92 Years	84 Years	68 Years	<b>92 Years</b>

The oldest inmates on average (mean) on both January 1, 2016 (45 years old) and at the time of incarceration (40 years old) were civil commitments. Criminally sentenced males and females had the closest average age of 41 years old and 38 years old respectively.

**MA DOC Jurisdiction Population Age Averages and Ranges by Commitment Type at Time of Incarceration on January 1, 2016**

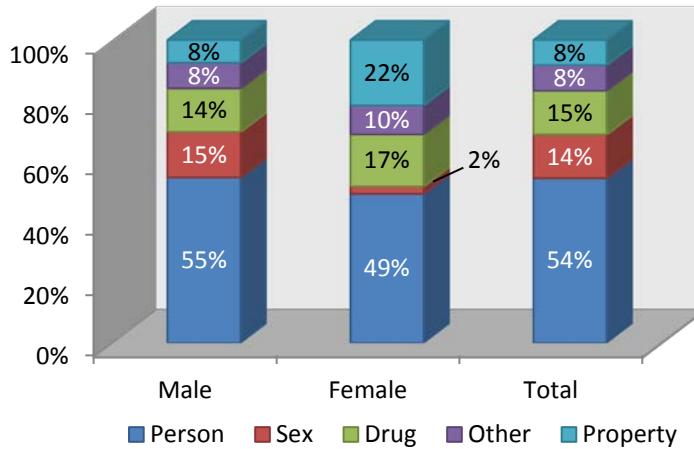
	Criminally Sentenced	Civil Commitments	Pre-Trial	Total
<b>Male</b>				
Mean	34 Years	40 Years	41 Years	<b>34 Years</b>
Median	31 Years	39 Years	41 Years	<b>32 Years</b>
Youngest	15 Years	17 Years	20 Years	<b>15 Years</b>
Oldest	82 Years	78 Years	67 Years	<b>82 Years</b>
<b>Female</b>				
Mean	34 Years	35 Years	34 Years	<b>34 Years</b>
Median	33 Years	27 Years	32 Years	<b>33 Years</b>
Youngest	18 Years	21 Years	18 Years	<b>18 Years</b>
Oldest	65 Years	57 Years	65 Years	<b>65 Years</b>
<b>Total</b>				
Mean	34 Years	40 Years	37 Years	<b>34 Years</b>
Median	32 Years	39 Years	35 Years	<b>32 Years</b>
Youngest	15 Years	17 Years	18 Years	<b>15 Years</b>
Oldest	82 Years	78 Years	67 Years	<b>82 Years</b>

**MA DOC 2015 Jurisdiction Population Age Averages and Ranges by Commitment Type at Time of Release**

	Criminally Sentenced	Civil Commitments	Pre-Trial	Total
<b>Male</b>				
Mean	38 Years	36 Years	42 Years	<b>38 Years</b>
Median	36 Years	32 Years	42 Years	<b>36 Years</b>
Youngest	19 Years	18 Years	20 Years	<b>18 Years</b>
Oldest	89 Years	84 Years	81 Years	<b>89 Years</b>
<b>Female</b>				
Mean	34 Years	34 Years	34 Years	<b>34 Years</b>
Median	32 Years	30 Years	31 Years	<b>32 Years</b>
Youngest	19 Years	19 Years	18 Years	<b>18 Years</b>
Oldest	68 Years	70 Years	68 Years	<b>70 Years</b>
<b>Total</b>				
Mean	37 Years	36 Years	37 Years	<b>37 Years</b>
Median	35 Years	32 Years	35 Years	<b>34 Years</b>
Youngest	19 Years	18 Years	18 Years	<b>18 Years</b>
Oldest	89 Years	84 Years	81 Years	<b>89 Years</b>

## Inmate Characteristics by Offense Types

**MA DOC Criminally Sentenced Jurisdiction Population by Governing Offense and Gender on January 1, 2016**

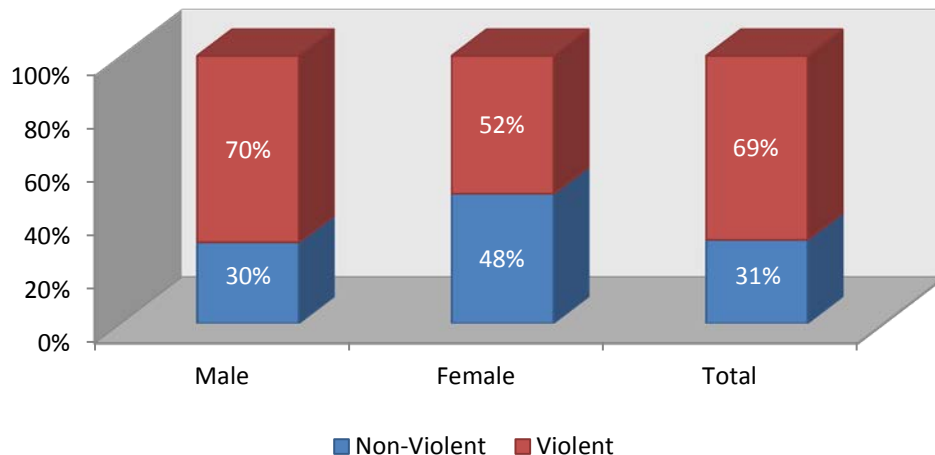


**MA DOC Criminally Sentenced Jurisdiction Population by Governing Offense and Gender on January 1, 2016**

	Governing Offense	Male	Female	Total
Violent Offenses	Person	4,717	226	4,943
	Sex	1,300	11	1,311
Non-Violent Offenses	Drug	1,240	79	1,319
	Other	729	44	773
	Property	651	99	750
	<b>Total</b>	<b>8,637</b>	<b>459</b>	<b>9,096</b>

- ◆ Similar to the total criminally sentenced population, on January 1, 2016 the top three governing offense types for criminally sentenced male inmates were person (55%), sex (15%), and drug offenses (14%).
- ◆ Differing slightly from their male counterparts the top three offenses for females were person offenses (49%), property offenses (22%), and drug offenses (17%).
- ◆ In contrast to previous years, the majority of criminally sentenced female inmates (52%) were incarcerated for a violent governing offense. Males remained consistent with 70% incarcerated for a violent governing offense.

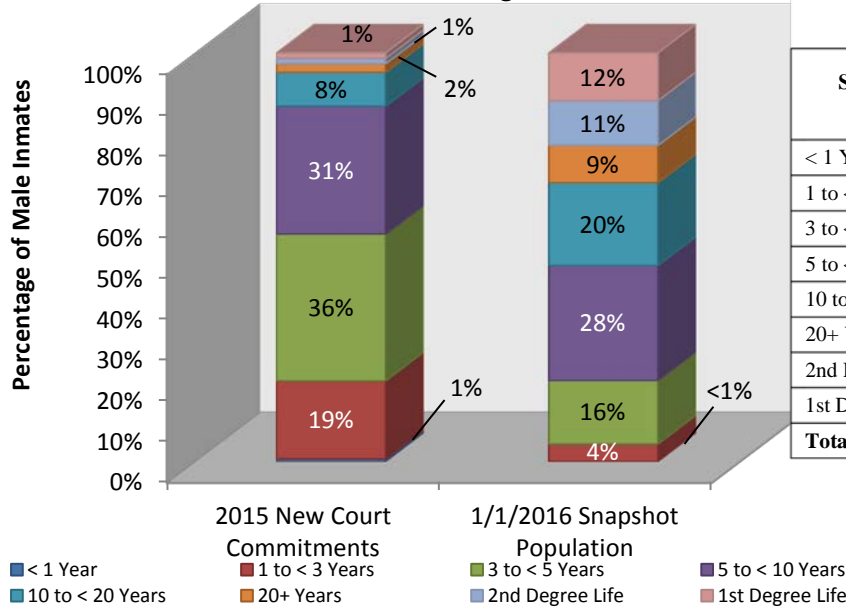
**MA DOC Criminally Sentenced Jurisdiction Population by Violent/Non-Violent Offense and Gender on January 1, 2016**





## Inmate Characteristics by Sentence Lengths

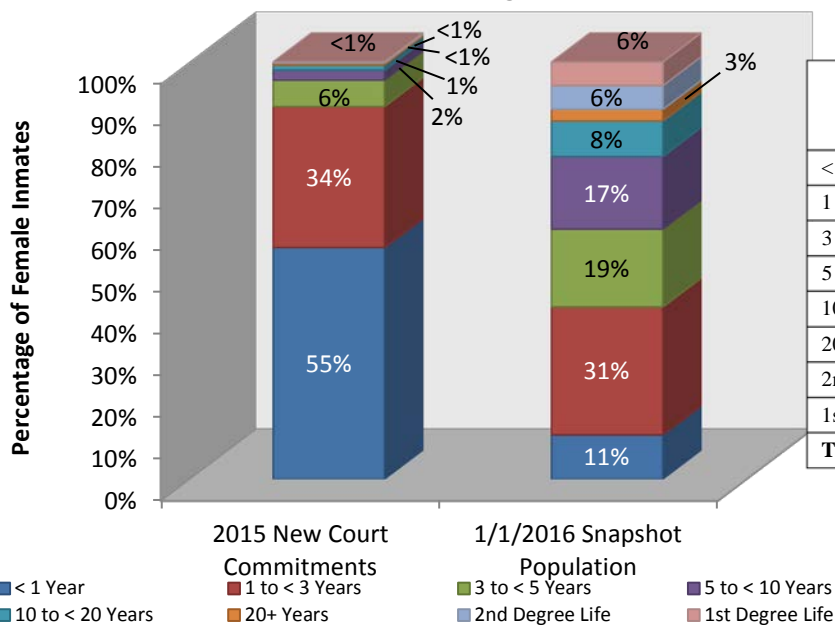
**MA DOC Male Criminally Sentenced 2015 New Court Commitments vs. January 1, 2016 Snapshot Population: Sentence Length**



**MA DOC Male Criminally Sentenced 2015 New Court Commitments vs. January 1, 2016 Snapshot Population: Sentence Length**

Sentence Length	2015 New Court Commitments	1/1/2016 Snapshot Population
< 1 Year	12	4
1 to < 3 Years	329	371
3 to < 5 Years	620	1,343
5 to < 10 Years	539	2,428
10 to < 20 Years	143	1,749
20+ Years	36	788
2nd Degree Life	23	945
1st Degree Life	23	1,009
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,725</b>	<b>8,637</b>

**MA DOC Female Criminally Sentenced 2015 New Court Commitments vs. January 1, 2016 Snapshot Population: Sentence Length**



**MA DOC Female Criminally Sentenced 2015 New Court Commitments vs. January 1, 2016 Snapshot Population: Sentence Length**

Sentence Length	2015 New Court Commitments	1/1/2016 Snapshot Population
< 1 Year	369	49
1 to < 3 Years	225	141
3 to < 5 Years	42	85
5 to < 10 Years	16	80
10 to < 20 Years	8	39
20+ Years	3	13
2nd Degree Life	1	26
1st Degree Life	1	26
<b>Total*</b>	<b>665</b>	<b>459</b>

The comparisons of 2015's new court commitments to the January 1, 2016, snapshot population are significant in that they demonstrate who is entering into the MA DOC (commitments) versus who is "stacking up" in the population (snapshot). The above charts and tables illustrate that over time it is the long-term inmates that stack up in the population. For example, approximately 22% of the snapshot population is serving a life sentence; however, these inmates only comprised 2% of new court commitments.

## ***Inmate Characteristics by Sentence Length***

In 2015, 89% of female new court commitments were serving a sentence less than three years, whereas only 41% of females in the January 1, 2016 snapshot population were serving a sentence less than three years. Comparatively, 87% of male new court commitments were serving a sentence not greater than 10 years, while only 48% of the males in the January 1, 2016 snapshot population were serving a sentence not greater than 10 years. As mentioned earlier in this report, the MA DOC houses females who are pre-trial and those who are criminally sentenced for some counties; thus, some women are serving county sentences with the MA DOC, which are shorter terms than state sentences.

Between January 1, 2015 and January 1, 2016, the percentage of state criminally sentenced female inmates in the MA DOC jurisdiction increased by 7%, while the percentage of county criminally sentenced female inmates decreased by 7%. Among the criminally sentenced females in MA DOC jurisdiction on January 1, 2016:

- ◆ 62% (n=286) were state sentenced
- ◆ 37% (n=168) were county sentenced
- ◆ 1% (n=5) were out of state/federally sentenced

Naturally, sentence lengths vary by offense type. The following table reflects maximum sentence lengths less than 3 years and equal to or greater than 3 years by governing offense type and gender. The maximum sentence lengths are based on the total maximum number of days an inmate can serve on their commitment, which is the sum of their consecutive sentences. Sixty-eight percent of criminally sentenced males were serving a maximum sentence length of 3 years or more on a violent governing offense. In comparison, criminally sentenced females who were serving a maximum sentence length of 3 years or more on a violent governing offense made up 41% of the female sentenced population, with 31% of criminally sentenced females serving a maximum sentence length of less than 3 years on a non-violent governing offense.

**MA DOC Criminally Sentenced Jurisdiction Population on January 1, 2016:  
Governing Offense by Sentence Length and Gender**

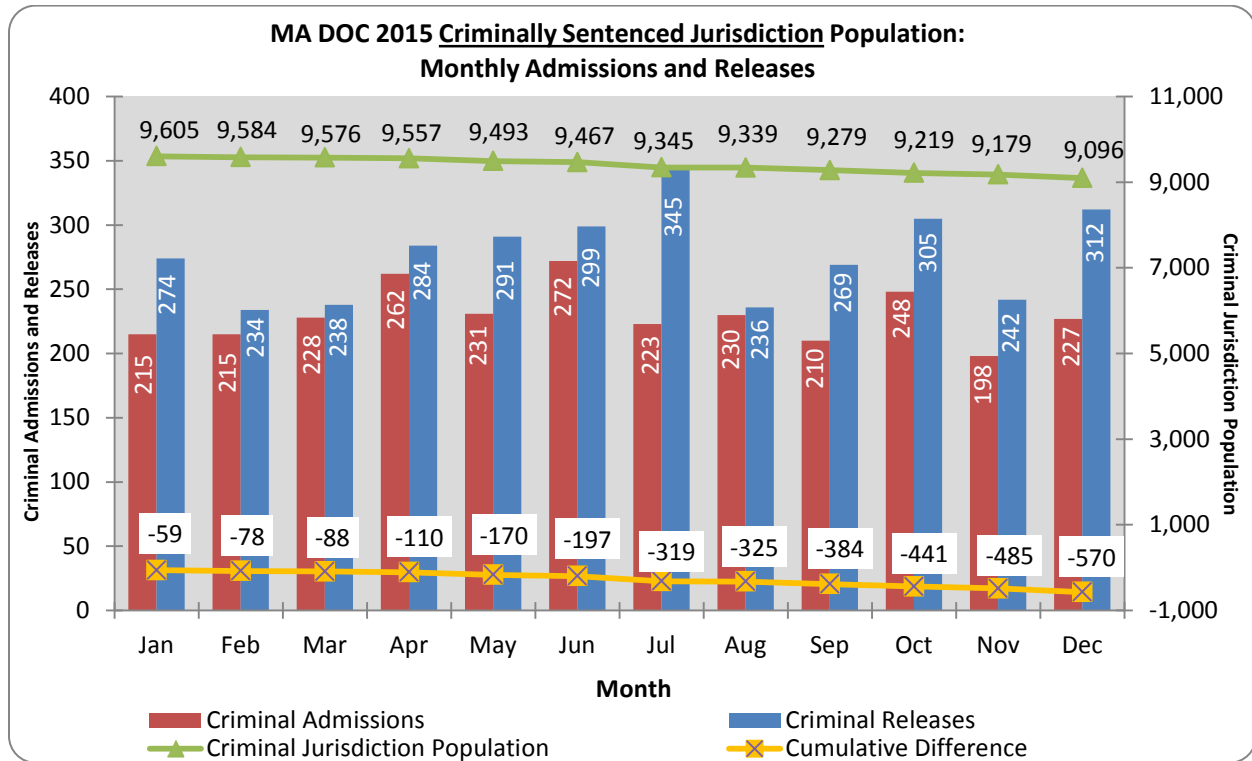
	Governing Offense	Males		Females		Total	
		< 3 Years	≥ 3 Years	< 3 Years	≥ 3 Years	< 3 Years	≥ 3 Years
Violent Offenses	PERSON	138	4,579	46	180	184	4,759
	SEX	17	1,283	1	10	18	1,293
Non-Violent Offenses	DRUG	114	1,126	41	38	155	1,164
	PROPERTY	53	598	67	32	120	630
	OTHER	53	676	35	9	88	685
TOTALS		375	8,262	190	269	565	8,531
		8,637		459		9,096	

On January 1, 2016 drug offenses comprised the third largest governing offense type (n = 1,319) for both criminally sentenced males (14%) and females (17%). A majority (70%) of drug offenders were serving sentences associated with a mandatory minimum term. There were a total of 924 inmates sentenced for a mandatory drug governing offense: 900 males and 24 females.

## Massachusetts DOC 2015 Admissions and Releases

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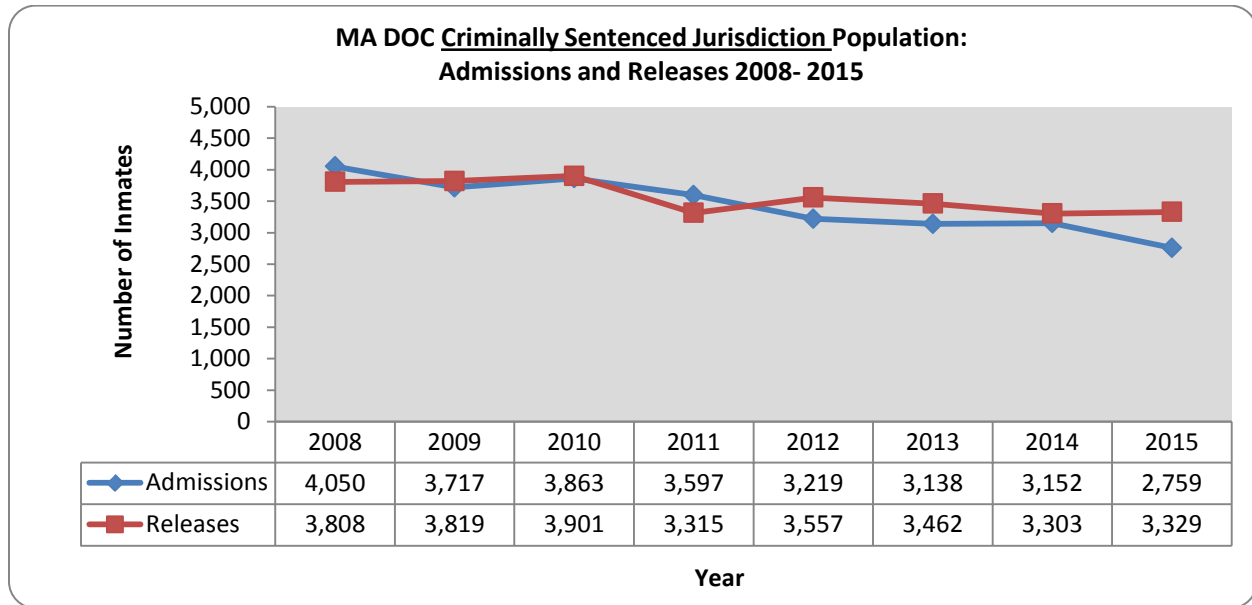
## Admissions and Releases



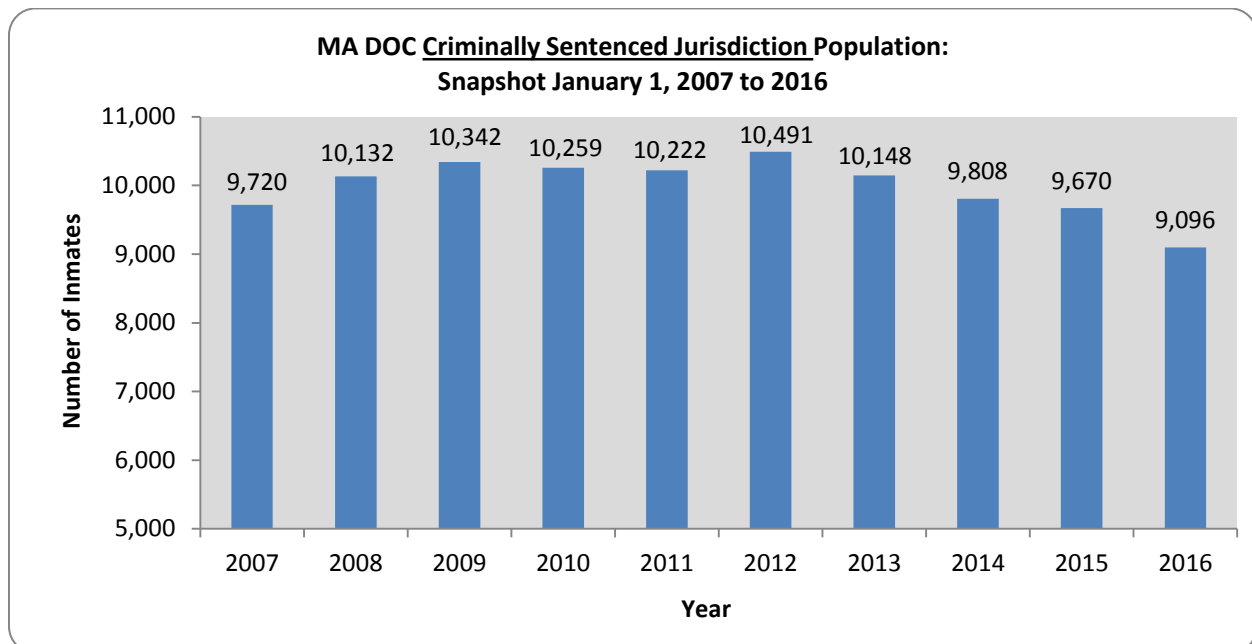
**Note:** Monthly jurisdiction population is based on the end of the month count of the criminally sentenced jurisdiction population and will not reflect the cumulative difference in admissions and releases.

- ◆ Overall, throughout 2015 the number of criminally sentenced jurisdiction admissions was less than the number of criminally sentenced releases, criminal admissions averaging 230 per month and criminal releases averaging 277.
- ◆ During the trend period, criminal jurisdiction admissions ranged between 198 in November, and 272 in June. Criminal releases ranged between 234, in February, and 345, in July.
- ◆ The cumulative difference between admissions and releases resulted in a cumulative decrease of 570 in the criminally sentenced population by year's end.
- ◆ The criminally sentenced population at the end of 2015 was 9,096, a 5% decrease from the population at the end of January, at 9,605. This rate decrease was higher than the 2% rate decrease seen in 2014.

## Admissions and Releases

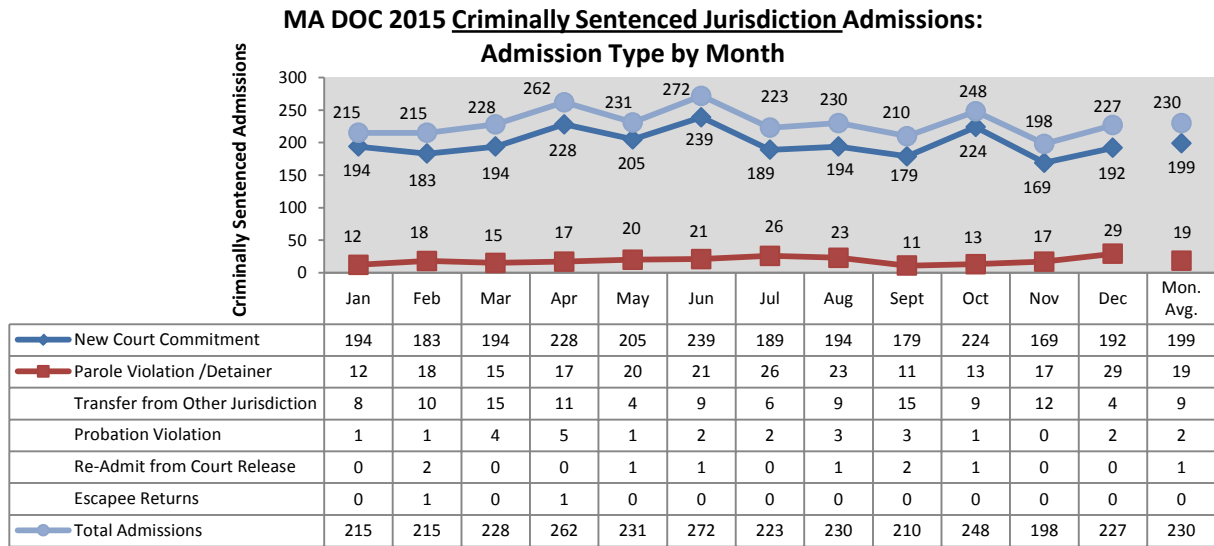


During the past eight years, criminal admissions and releases both exhibited negative trends, with criminal admissions exhibiting a stronger decline than criminal releases. Admissions saw an average annual decrease of 5% each year; 2015 and 2012 had the biggest declines of 12% and 11%, respectively. Releases saw an average annual decrease of 2%, with the largest decrease experienced during 2011 and 2014, 15% and 5%, respectively.

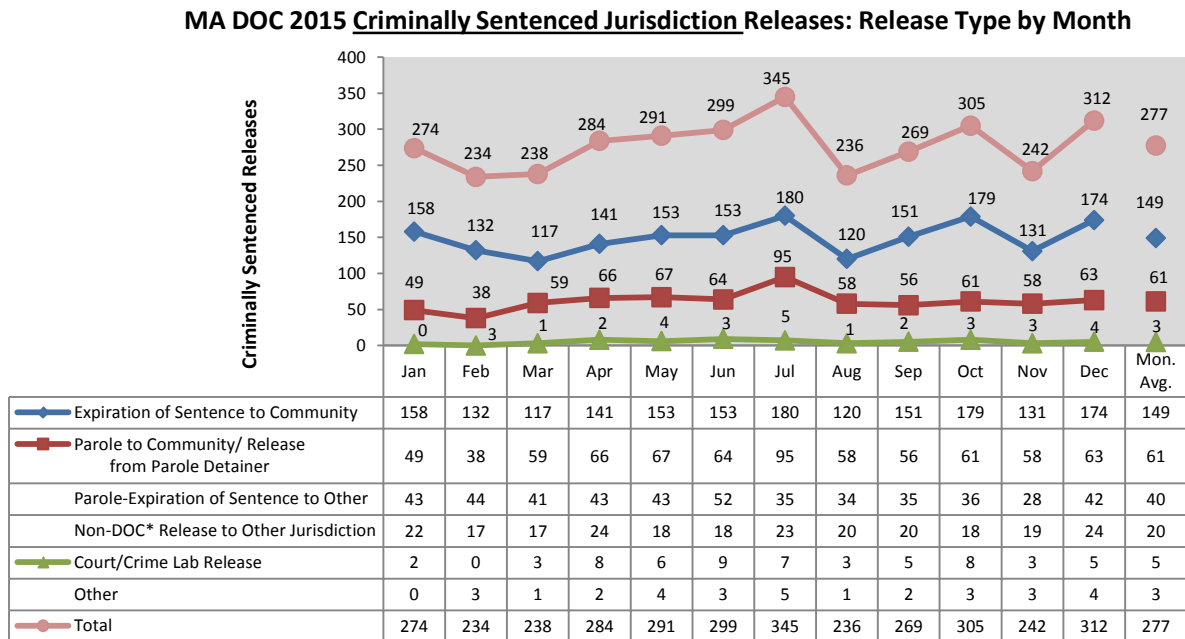


The criminally sentenced population saw a total decrease of 6% from 2007 to 2016, averaging less than 1% decrease per year. However, the years since 2012 saw an average yearly decrease of 3.5%, with 2016 seeing a decrease of 6%, compared to the previous year.

## Admissions and Releases



Total criminal jurisdiction admissions for 2015 were driven by new court commitments to the MA DOC, as evidenced by the parallel yearly trends. New court commitments ranged from 169 to 239 with a monthly average of 199, 29 less than the monthly average in 2014. Total criminal admissions ranged from 198 to 272 for a monthly average of 230, 33 less than the 2014 monthly average of 263.



\*Non-DOC refers to inmates from county, federal, or another state's jurisdiction.

Total criminal jurisdiction releases for 2015 ranged between 234 and 345 for a given month and averaged 277; slightly more than the monthly average from 2014 of 275. Releases due to expiration of sentence, and paroles to the community or release from parole detainer displayed a general upward trend over the first six months of 2015. This trend was countered by a decrease in the number of releases in August, which remained fairly constant for the remainder of the trend. Parole-related releases resulted in 22% of the criminal jurisdiction releases in 2015; nearly equal to 2014 and 2013 releases, at 21%.



## ***Admissions and Releases***

### **MA DOC 2015 Criminally Sentenced Jurisdiction Admissions: Admission Type by Gender**

Admission Type	Female		Male		Total	
	Number of Admissions	Percent of Admissions	Number of Admissions	Percent of Admissions	Number of Admissions	Percent of Admissions
New Court Commitment	665	88%	1,725	86%	2,390	87%
Parole Violation - Parole Detainer	39	5%	183	9%	222	8%
Transfer from Other Jurisdiction	30	4%	82	4%	112	4%
Probation Violation	25	3%	0	0%	25	1%
Re-Admit from Court Release	1	<1%	7	<1%	8	<1%
Escapee Return	0	0%	2	<1%	2	<1%
<b>Total Admissions</b>	<b>760</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>1,999</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>2,759</b>	<b>100%</b>

For 2015, 87% of criminally sentenced admissions to the MA DOC were new court commitments. Male admissions were 86% new court commitments and female admissions with 88%; very similar to the breakdown in 2014.

### **MA DOC 2015 Criminally Sentenced Jurisdiction Releases: Release Type by Gender**

Release Type	Female		Male		Total	
	Number of Releases	Percent of Releases	Number of Releases	Percent of Releases	Number of Releases	Percent of Releases
Expiration of Sentence to Community	411	51%	1,378	55%	1,789	54%
Parole to Street / Release from Parole Detainer	123	15%	611	24%	734	22%
Parole-Expiration of Sentence to Other	114	14%	362	14%	476	14%
Non-DOC* Release to Other Jurisdiction	147	18%	93	4%	240	7%
Court Release / Crime Lab	18	2%	41	2%	59	2%
Other Release	0	0%	31	1%	31	1%
<b>Total Releases</b>	<b>813</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>2,516</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>3,329</b>	<b>100%</b>

\*Non-DOC refers to inmates from county, federal, or another state's jurisdiction.

- ◆ Releases to the community are a subset of all releases consisting of: expiration of sentence to community, parole to community/release from parole detainer, and court release/crime lab. Of the 2,582 criminally sentenced jurisdiction releases to the community in 2015, approximately 69% were released via expiration of sentence to the community, 28% were via parole to the community/release from parole detainer, and 2% were court/crime lab releases to the community.
- ◆ Females accounted for 21% of total criminally sentenced jurisdiction releases to the community in 2015; and made up 23% of the expirations of sentence to the community, 17% of paroles to the community/release from parole detainer, and 31% of court/crime lab releases.
- ◆ There were 34 deaths in the criminal jurisdiction population during 2015: 33 were male and 1 was female.

## Admissions and Releases

### MA DOC Criminally Sentenced Jurisdiction Admissions: Admission Type by Year 2013 - 2015

Admission Type	2013		2014		2015	
	Number of Admissions	Percent of Admissions	Number of Admissions	Percent of Admissions	Number of Admissions	Percent of Admissions
New Court Commitment	2,714	86%	2,731	87%	2,390	87%
Parole Violation - Parole Detainer	249	8%	234	7%	222	8%
Transfer from Other Jurisdiction	100	3%	126	4%	112	4%
Probation Violation	31	1%	23	1%	25	1%
Re-Admit from Court Release	40	1%	34	1%	8	<1%
Escapee Return	4	<1%	4	< 1%	2	<1%
<b>Total Admissions</b>	<b>3,138</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>3,152</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>2,759</b>	<b>100%</b>

- ◆ From 2013 to 2015 the percentage of admissions that were new court commitments remained fairly steady, despite the number of admissions who were new court commitments dropping from 2,731 in 2014, to 2,390 in 2015, a 12% decrease.
- ◆ The second most common admission type, parole violator/parole detainer decreased by 11% from 2013 to 2015.
- ◆ Total criminal admissions during the period from 2013 to 2015 saw its lowest point in 2015, down 12% from 2014.

### MA DOC Criminally Sentenced Jurisdiction Releases: Release Type by Year 2013 - 2015

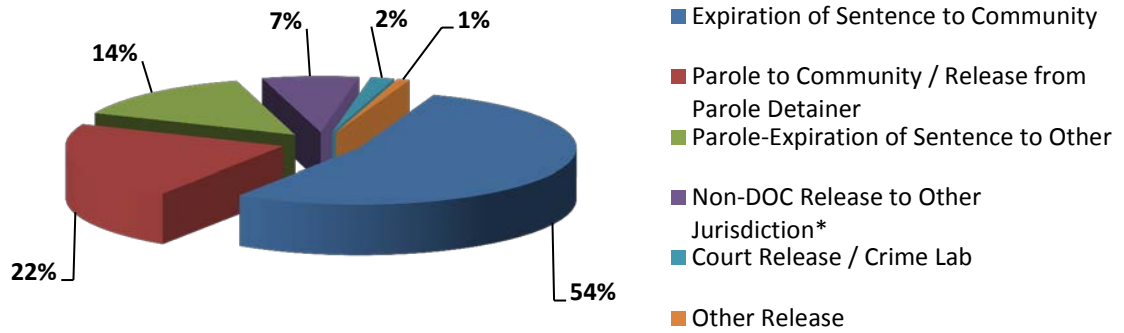
Release Type	2013		2014		2015	
	Number of Releases	Percent of Releases	Number of Releases	Percent of Releases	Number of Releases	Percent of Releases
Expiration of Sentence to Community	1,824	53%	1,769	54%	1,789	54%
Parole to Street / Release from Parole Detainer	718	21%	695	21%	734	22%
Parole-Expiration of Sentence to Other	532	15%	501	15%	476	14%
Non-DOC* Release to Other Jurisdiction	215	6%	217	7%	240	7%
Court Release / Crime Lab	134	4%	73	2%	59	2%
Other Release	39	1%	48	1%	31	1%
<b>Total Releases</b>	<b>3,462</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>3,303</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>3,329</b>	<b>100%</b>

\*Non-DOC refers to inmates from county, federal, or another state's jurisdiction.

- ◆ The number of expirations of sentence to the community remained similar over the past three years, but saw its lowest point in 2014 when it was 3% lower than the height in 2013. After a decrease in total criminal releases of 5% was seen between 2013 and 2014, releases increased by less than 1% in 2015.
- ◆ Court release/crime lab dropped 56% from 2013 to 2015.
- ◆ There were no escapes in 2015.

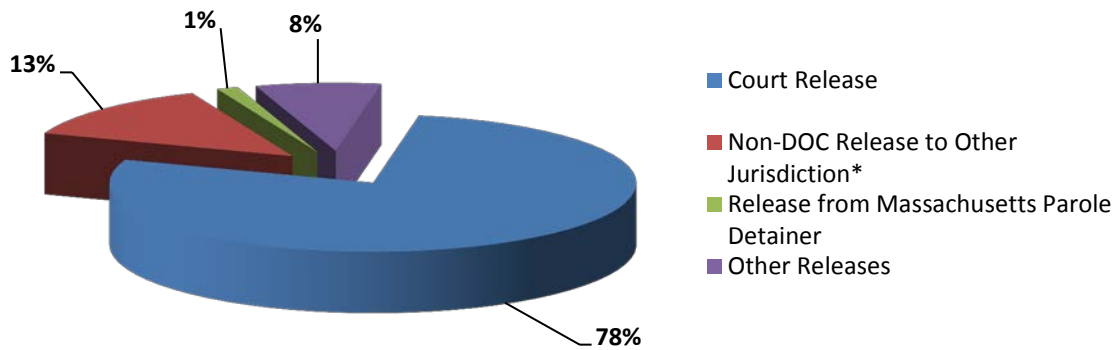
## Releases by Release Type

**MA DOC 2015 Criminally Sentenced Jurisdiction Releases by Release Type**



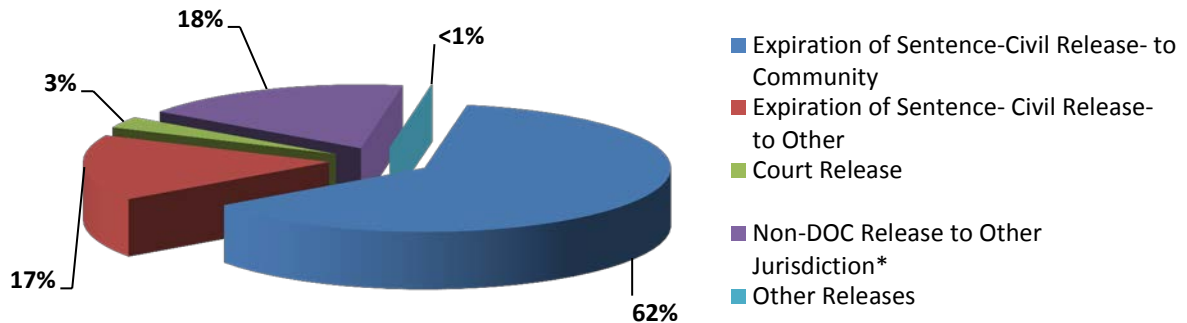
\*Refers to non-DOC inmates from county, federal, or another state's jurisdiction released to county, federal, or another state's jurisdiction.

**MA DOC 2015 Pre-Trial Jurisdiction Releases by Release Type**



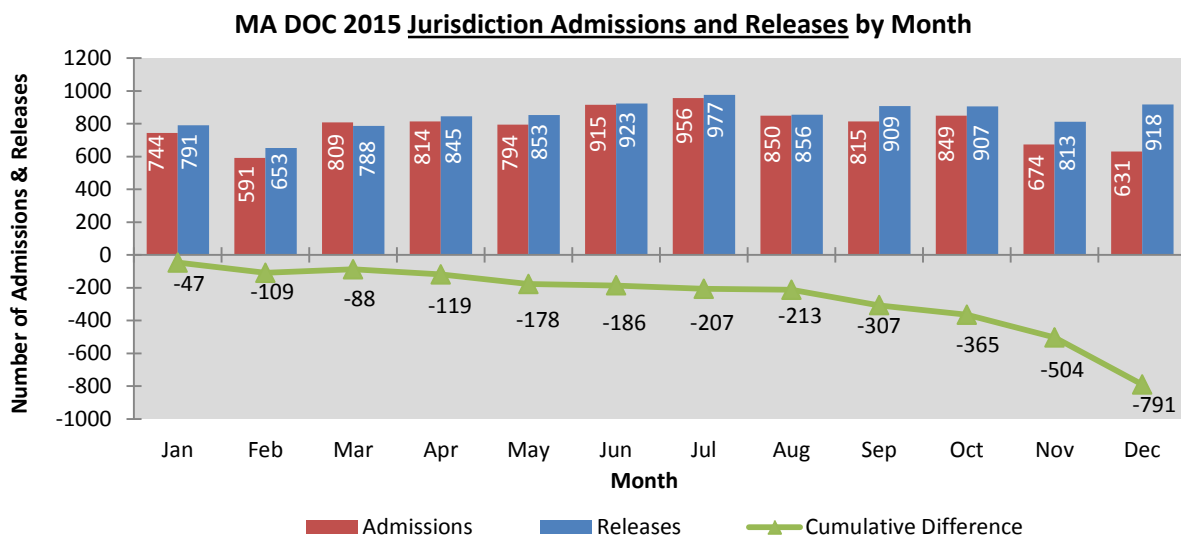
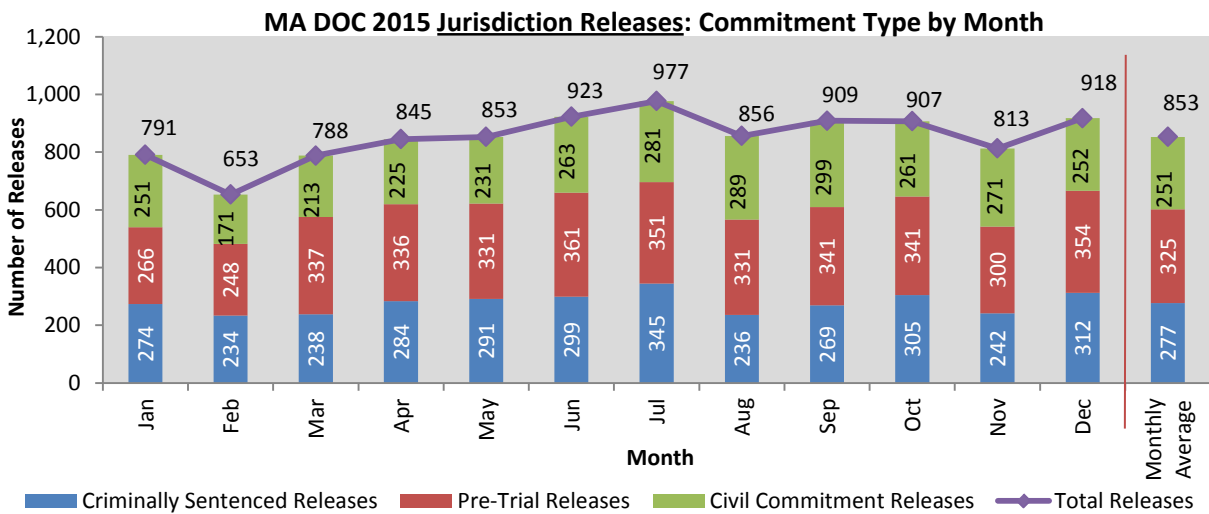
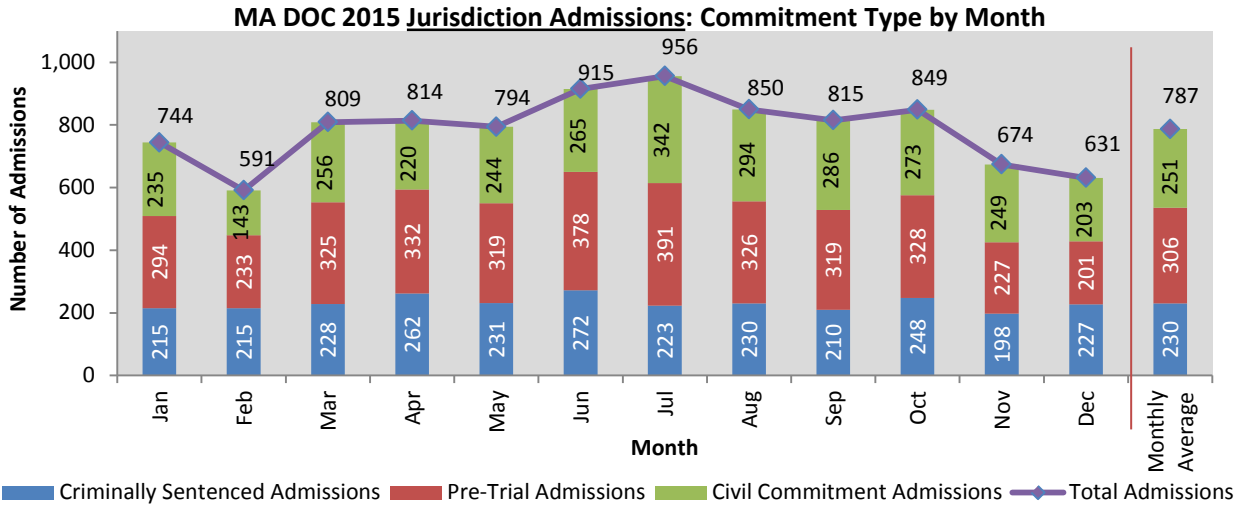
\*Refers to non-DOC inmates from county, federal, or another state's jurisdiction released to county, federal, or another state's jurisdiction.

**MA DOC 2015 Civil Commitment Jurisdiction Releases by Release Type**



\*Refers to non-DOC inmates from county or another state's jurisdiction released to county or another state's jurisdiction.

## Criminal, Civil, and Pre-Trial Admissions and Releases



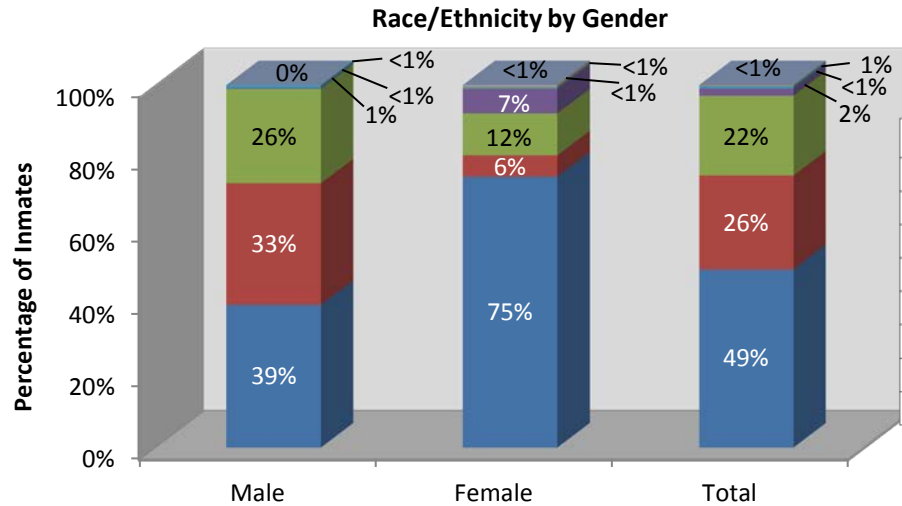
During 2015, the difference in admissions and releases resulted in a downward trend, ending in an overall cumulative decrease of 791 inmates. This was a 261% increase compared to the cumulative decrease seen in 2014 of 219.

## Massachusetts DOC 2015 Admissions by New Court Commitments

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## Admissions by New Court Commitments

### MA DOC 2015 Criminally Sentenced Jurisdiction New Court Commitments:



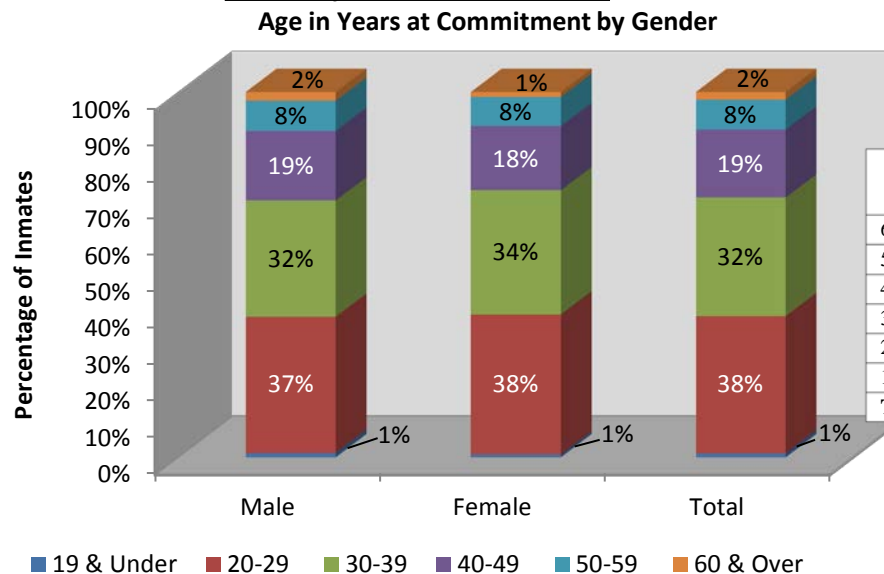
### MA DOC 2015 Criminally Sentenced Jurisdiction New Court Commitments: Race/Ethnicity\* by Gender

Race/Ethnicity*	Male	Female	Total
White	680	497	1,177
Hispanic	577	39	616
Black	450	77	527
Other	4	45	49
Asian	13	3	16
Native American	1	3	4
Pacific Islander	0	1	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,725</b>	<b>665</b>	<b>2,390</b>

\*Race/Ethnicity is self-reported by inmate at time of admission.

For males, the most common races for criminally sentenced new court commitments were White (39%), followed by Hispanic (33%) and Black (26%). For females, the majority of new court commitments were White (75%), followed by Black (12%) and Other (7%). As males made up 72% of criminally sentenced new court commitments, the total distribution more closely followed the male distribution.

### MA DOC 2015 Criminally Sentenced Jurisdiction New Court Commitments:



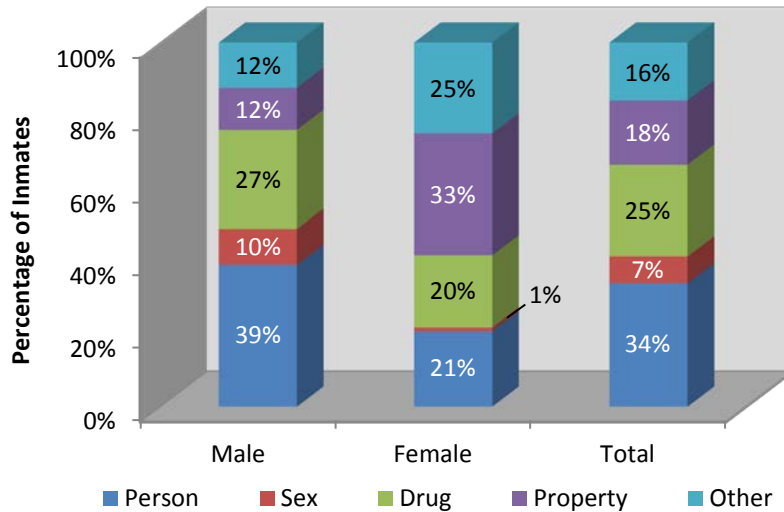
### MA DOC 2015 Criminally Sentenced Jurisdiction New Court Commitments: Age in Years at Commitment by Gender

Age (Years)	Male	Female	Total
60 & Over	41	9	50
50-59	143	53	196
40-49	328	117	445
30-39	550	226	776
20-29	642	255	897
19 & Under	21	5	26
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,725</b>	<b>665</b>	<b>2,390</b>

Males and females had similar age distributions among criminally sentenced new court commitments. The largest age group for both males and females being the 20-29 age range at 37% and 38%, respectively. Starting with the 20-29 age group, each group in the order was a progressively smaller percent of the total population.

## Admissions by New Court Commitments

**MA DOC 2015 Criminally Sentenced Jurisdiction New Court Commitments:  
Governing Offense by Gender**

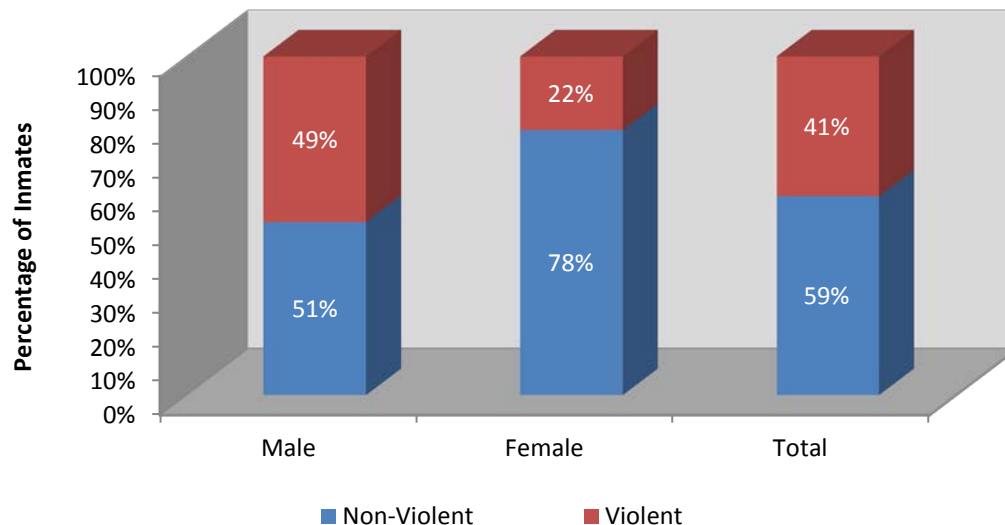


**MA DOC 2015 Criminally Sentenced Jurisdiction  
New Court Commitments:  
Governing Offense by Gender**

	Governing Offense	Male	Female	Total
Violent Offenses	Person	674	138	812
	Sex	169	7	176
Non-Violent Offenses	Drug	468	132	600
	Property	200	222	422
	Other	214	166	380
	<b>Total</b>	<b>1,725</b>	<b>665</b>	<b>2,390</b>

The most common governing offense for male criminally sentenced new court commitments was person crimes (39%), followed by drug offenses (27%). Among females, property crimes were most common (33%), followed by “other” offenses (25%). For both populations sex offenses were the least common, making up 10% of male governing offenses, and only 1% for females.

**MA DOC 2015 Criminally Sentenced Jurisdiction New Court Commitments:  
Violent/Non-Violent Offense by Gender**

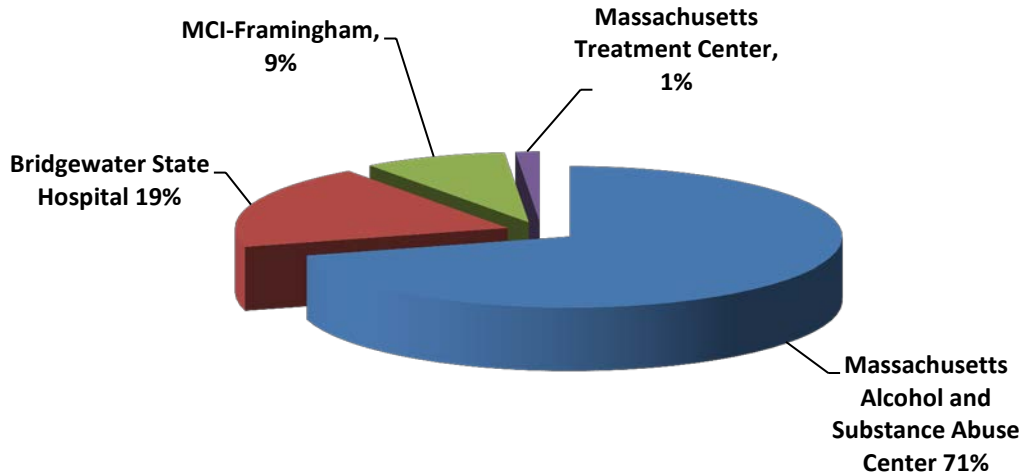


The majority of both male and female criminally sentenced new court commitments had non-violent governing offenses; fifty-one percent of males and seventy-eight percent of females falling into this category. Overall, criminally sentenced jurisdiction inmates had predominately non-violent governing offenses. As males made up almost three-quarters of the new court commitments, the overall percentages were mostly due to female inmates having a much higher rate of non-violent to violent offenses.



## ***Admissions by New Court Commitments***

**MA DOC 2015 Jurisdiction Admissions: Civil Commitments by Institution**



**MA DOC 2015 Jurisdiction Admissions: Civil Commitments by Institution**

Institution	Female	Male	Total
Massachusetts Alcohol and Substance Abuse Center	0	2,126	2,126
Bridgewater State Hospital	0	584	584
MCI-Framingham	256	0	256
Massachusetts Treatment Center	0	43	43
<b>Total</b>	<b>256</b>	<b>2,753</b>	<b>3,009</b>

Civil commitments to the DOC are generally broken into three groups: “Mental Health Commitments”, “Alcohol and Substance Abuse Commitments” (Section 35), and “Sexual Dangerous Person Commitments”. Female civil commitments are housed at MCI-Framingham. Male civil commitments are housed in three facilities: “Mental Health Commitments” at Bridgewater State Hospital (BSH), Sections 35 at the Massachusetts Alcohol and Substance Abuse Center (MASAC), and “Sexually Dangerous Persons” at the Massachusetts Treatment Center (MTC), all of which are located on the DOC Bridgewater Complex.

- ◆ In 2015, civil commitments represented 32% of overall admissions.
- ◆ The majority (71%) of civil commitments in 2015 were Section 35’s admitted to MASAC. This was up from 68% in 2014. Stays at MASAC are limited to 90 days in length, creating a large amount of turnover.
- ◆ Commitments to BSH had the second highest rate with 19% of civil commitments for 2015; this was down from 21% in 2014.
- ◆ The percent of females in the civil new court commitments for 2015 was 9%, slightly lower than the 10% seen during 2014.

## Massachusetts DOC 2015 Releases to the Community

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## ***Releases to the Community by Supervision Type***

When looking at releases to the community, from 2011 to 2012, there was a noticeable difference in the amount of releases when comparing the two years. Two separate events occurred in 2012, which resulted in a notable impact on releases among the DOC inmate population. 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 and immediate releases for dozens of inmates. Issues regarding accuracy of testing at the Hinton Drug Lab resulted in several hundred releases "from court," primarily during the months of September-November.

Starting in 2012 and going forward, releases to the community now include expiration of sentence, parole to the community, release from parole detainer, payment of fine, and court release. These changes are reflected in the charts below<sup>8</sup>.

**Post Release Supervision of Criminally Sentenced Jurisdiction Inmates Released to the Community  
from the MA DOC: 2011 - 2015**

Post Release Supervision Type	2011		2012		2013		2014		2015	
Parole Supervision (only)	274	12%	346	13%	443	17%	441	17%	455	18%
Probation Supervision (only)	790	33%	905	33%	915	34%	830	33%	901	35%
Parole and Probation Supervision (both)	166	7%	222	8%	275	10%	254	10%	279	11%
No Post Release Supervision	1,147	48%	1,232	46%	1,043	39%	1,012	40%	947	37%
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,377</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>2,705</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>2,676</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>2,537</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>2,582</b>	<b>100%</b>

Post Release Supervision	2011		2012		2013		2014		2015	
Supervision	1,230	52%	1,473	54%	1,633	61%	1,525	60%	1,635	63%
No Supervision	1,147	48%	1,232	46%	1,043	39%	1,012	40%	947	37%
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,377</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>2,705</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>2,676</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>2,537</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>2,582</b>	<b>100%</b>

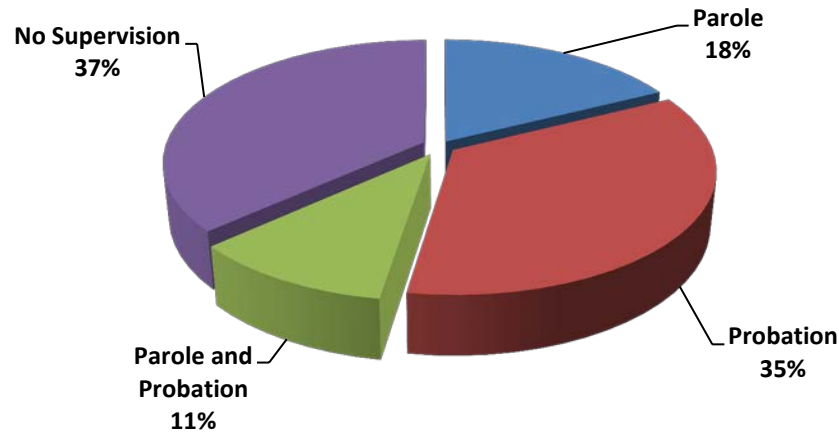
\*Note: See Caveats and Definitions for Releases to the Community.

- ◆ As a result of changes made to the Massachusetts parole system in 2011, the number of criminally sentenced inmates released to the community decreased by 18% between 2010 and 2011. This was in large part due to a significant decrease in the number of inmates released via parole to the community (1,017 in 2010 compared to 430 in 2011). That number has slowly increased since with 640 inmates being granted parole to the community in 2015.
- ◆ There was a slight decrease of 1% in the number of inmates released to the community between 2012 and 2013 (n=29). Despite the small change in total releases, there was a notable difference in the percentage of inmates released under supervision between the two years. Those who were released under any supervision in 2012 represented 54% of releases to the community compared to 61% in 2013. This would remain nearly identical in 2014 with 60% of inmates being released with some type of supervision. There was an increase at the end of the trend period with 63% being released under supervision, a drastic change from the beginning of the trend period.
- ◆ Inmates released via court release are released by the court due to their sentence being revoked, stayed or vacated. The number of inmates released via court release reached a high of 334 in 2012. This peak was primarily driven by court releases due to the crime lab situation. The number of court releases has steadily declined since 2012 for each release year with 2015 having 59 court releases.

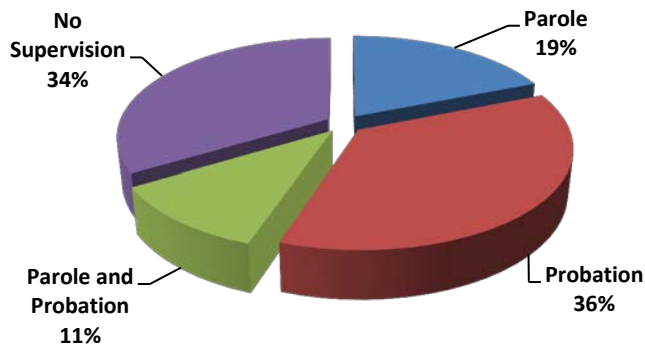
<sup>8</sup> See Caveats and Definitions for Releases to the Community.

## Releases to the Community by Supervision Type

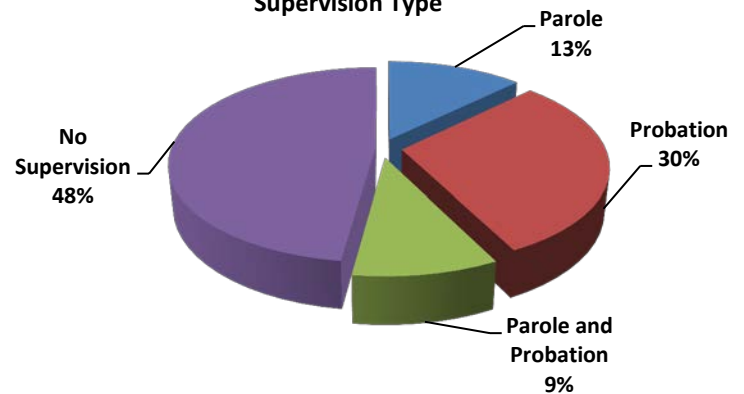
**MA DOC 2015 Total Criminally Sentenced Jurisdiction  
Releases to the Community: Supervision Type**



**MA DOC 2015 Male Criminally Sentenced  
Jurisdiction Releases to the Community:  
Supervision Type**



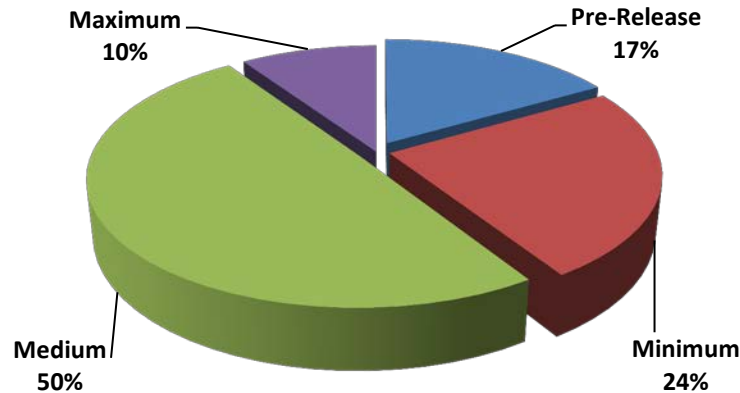
**MA DOC 2015 Female Criminally Sentenced  
Jurisdiction Releases to the Community:  
Supervision Type**



During 2015, male inmates were more likely than female inmates to be released to the community under probation supervision only or parole only - 36% and 19% of males respectively compared to 30% and 13% of females. Conversely, female inmates were more likely to be released with no supervision - 48% of females compared to 34% of males. Male and female inmates supervised in the community by means of both parole and probation had more similar percentages at 11% and 9% respectively.

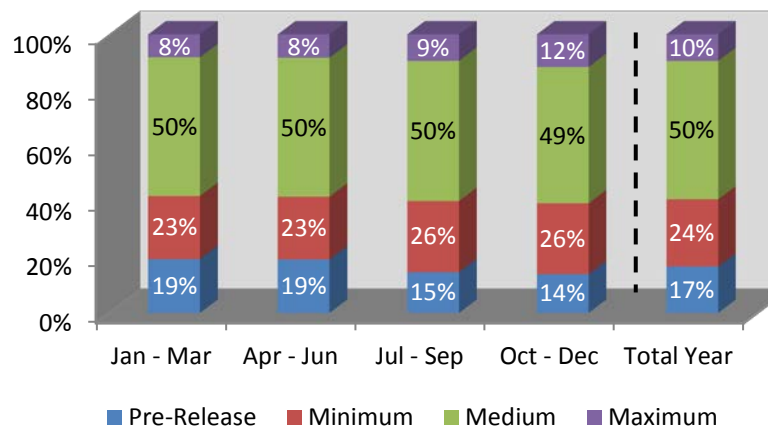
## Releases to the Community by Security Level

MA DOC 2015 Criminally Sentenced Jurisdiction Releases to the Community by Security Level



- Overall, the number of criminally sentenced inmates released to the community increased slightly by 2% from 2,537 releases in 2014 to 2,582 releases in 2015.
- The proportion of releases from medium and pre-release remained nearly stagnant between 2014 and 2015. There was, however, a change in proportion for those released from maximum security, 11% to 9%, and minimum security, 22% to 24%. This was largely driven by an increase in male releases from minimum.

MA DOC 2015 Criminally Sentenced Jurisdiction Releases to the Community Quarterly by Security Level



MA DOC 2015 Criminally Sentenced Jurisdiction Releases to the Community Quarterly by Security Level

Security Level	Jan - Mar	Apr - Jun	Jul - Sep	Oct - Dec	Total Year
Maximum	46	56	64	80	246
Medium	277	332	339	333	1,281
Minimum	127	151	173	174	625
Pre-Release	108	128	99	95	430
<b>Total</b>	<b>558</b>	<b>667</b>	<b>675</b>	<b>682</b>	<b>2,582</b>

\*Note: See Caveats and Definitions for Releases to the Community

- Half of the criminally sentenced inmates released to the community were from medium security facilities (n=1,281), followed by releases from minimum and pre-release facilities (n=1,055).

## ***Releases to the Community by Security Level***

**MA DOC 2015 Criminally Sentenced Jurisdiction Releases to the Community  
by Security Level and Institution**

Institution	Security Level				
	Maximum	Medium	Minimum	Pre-Release	Total
<b>Male</b>					
Bay State Correctional Center	0	12	0	0	12
Boston Pre-Release Center	0	0	22	150	172
Bridgewater State Hospital	0	3	0	0	3
Brooke House	0	0	0	10	10
Lemuel Shattuck Hospital	0	1	0	0	1
Massachusetts Alcohol and Substance Abuse Center	0	0	28	0	28
Massachusetts Treatment Center	0	59	0	0	59
MCI-Cedar Junction	147	8	0	0	155
MCI-Concord	0	196	0	0	196
MCI-Norfolk	0	154	0	0	154
MCI-Plymouth	0	0	64	19	83
MCI-Shirley	0	204	91	0	295
NCCI-Gardner	0	104	15	0	119
Northeastern Correctional Center	0	0	92	64	156
Old Colony Correctional Center	0	136	42	0	178
Pondville Correctional Center	0	0	58	47	105
Souza Baranowski Correctional Center	99	0	0	0	99
<b>Female</b>					
Lemuel Shattuck Hospital	0	0	0	0	0
MCI Framingham	0	340	0	0	340
South Middlesex Correctional Center	0	0	170	35	205
<b>Total DOC Facilities</b>	<b>246</b>	<b>1,217</b>	<b>582</b>	<b>325</b>	<b>2,370</b>
County, Federal, Interstate	0	64	43	105	212
<b>Total Jurisdiction</b>	<b>246</b>	<b>1,281</b>	<b>625</b>	<b>430</b>	<b>2,582</b>

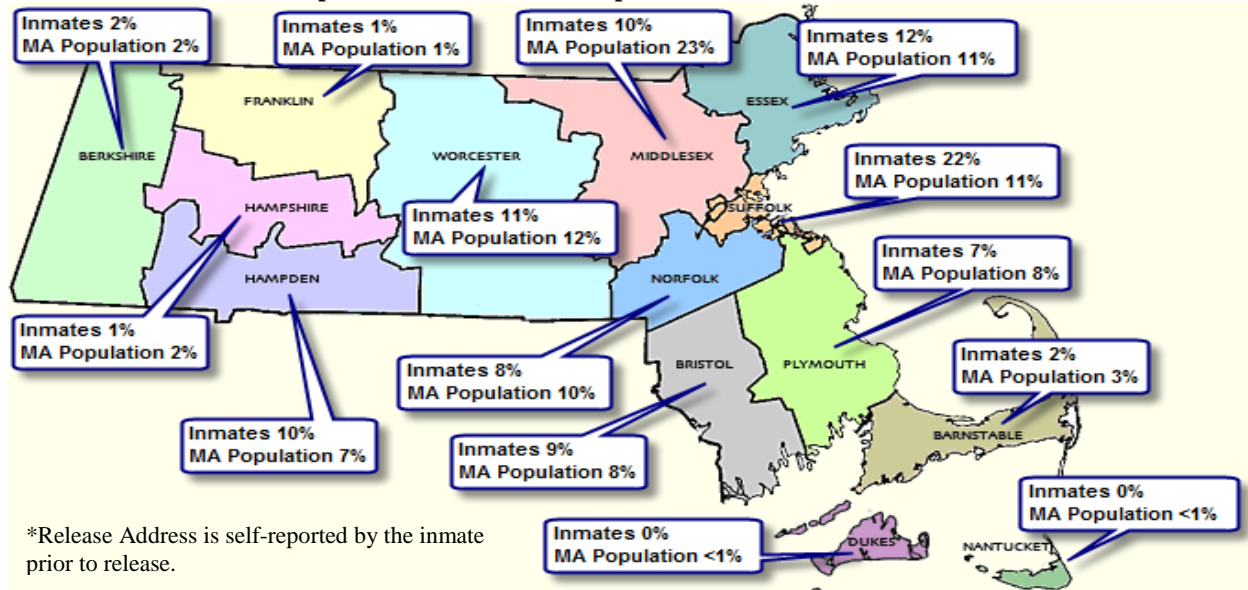
\*24 inmates were ELMO's (electronic monitoring) and coded as pre-release.

\*Note: See Caveats and Definitions for Releases to the Community.

- ◆ When comparing DOC facility of release in 2015, the greatest number of criminally sentenced inmates were released to the community from MCI-Framingham (n=340), followed by MCI-Shirley (n=295) and South Middlesex Correctional Center (n=205).
- ◆ A number of state correctional institutions have multilevel security classifications. When comparing security level at time of release, the greatest number of criminally sentenced males were released to the community from medium security units at MCI-Shirley (n=204), followed by MCI-Concord (n=196) and MCI-Norfolk (n=154).
- ◆ While the proportion of inmates released from medium security stayed the same at 50% compared to last year, the numbers by individual facilities experienced some fluctuation. There were two main reasons for this change; inmates are no longer housed at Bay State Correctional Center as of June 30, 2015 and there was a significant increase in transfers out of MCI-Concord to other facilities during the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter 2015 due to the closing of units within the facility.

## Release Address by County

MA DOC 2015 Criminally Sentenced Jurisdiction Releases to the Community by Counties\*  
Compared to the Estimated Population of Massachusetts in 2014



\*Release Address is self-reported by the inmate prior to release.

Note: 2014 estimated county population statistics were provided by the U.S Census Bureau, 2015 was not available.

Note: Not all MA DOC inmates are released in Massachusetts; approximately 5% were released outside of Massachusetts.

The above map demonstrates the U.S Census Bureau's estimated percentage of the Massachusetts population residing in each county in 2014 compared to the percentage of criminally sentenced MA DOC inmates released to each county in 2015. Suffolk, Essex, Hampden, and Bristol were the only four counties with a higher percentage of inmates released to the county (53% combined) than the percentage of Massachusetts residents residing there (37% Combined). In contrast, Middlesex County represented 23% of the Massachusetts population but only 10% of the releases from the MA DOC.

MA DOC 2015 Criminally Sentenced Jurisdiction Releases to the Community: County by GenderΦ

Female†			Male			Total		
County	Number	Percentage	County	Number	Percentage	County	Number	Percentage
Essex	115	21%	Suffolk	492	24%	Suffolk	571	22%
Middlesex	98	18%	Hampden	255	13%	Essex	315	12%
Plymouth	88	16%	Worcester	245	12%	Worcester	277	11%
Suffolk	79	14%	Bristol	206	10%	Middlesex	269	10%
Norfolk	48	9%	Essex	200	10%	Hampden	264	10%
Bristol	38	7%	Middlesex	171	8%	Bristol	244	9%
Worcester	32	6%	Norfolk	151	7%	Norfolk	199	8%
Barnstable	22	4%	Plymouth	91	4%	Plymouth	179	7%
Hampden	9	2%	Berkshire	43	2%	Barnstable	49	2%
Berkshire	2	<1%	Barnstable	27	1%	Berkshire	45	2%
Hampshire	2	<1%	Hampshire	23	1%	Hampshire	25	1%
Franklin	1	<1%	Franklin	14	1%	Franklin	15	1%
Dukes	0	0%	Dukes	0	0%	Dukes	0	<1%
Nantucket	0	0%	Nantucket	0	0%	Nantucket	0	<1%
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>534</b>	<b>97%</b>	<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>1,918</b>	<b>94%</b>	<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>2,452</b>	<b>95%</b>
Outside MA	18	3%	Outside MA	111	5%	Outside MA	129	5%
Unknown	0	0%	Unknown	1	<1%	Unknown	1	<1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>552</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>2,030</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>2,582</b>	<b>100%</b>

Φ Release Address is self-reported by the inmate prior to release.

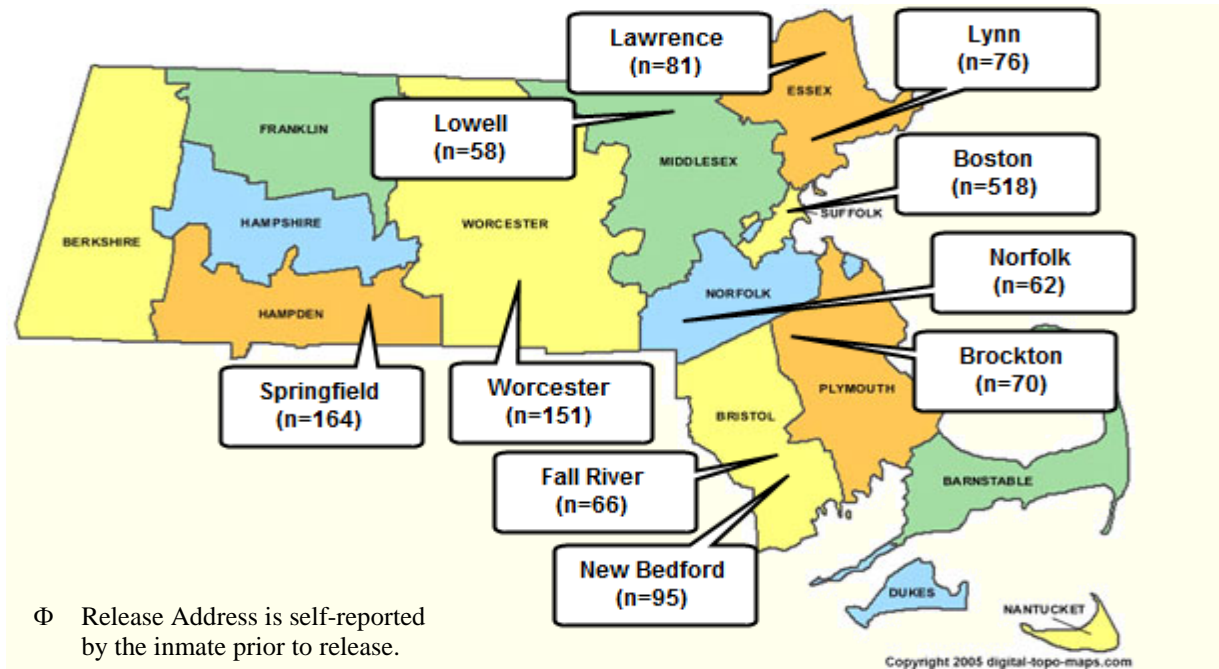
† Note that data may be skewed by the fact some counties do not house their female inmates resulting in a higher representation at the DOC.

\*Note: See Caveats and Definitions for Releases to the Community.



## Release Address by Top Ten Cities

MA DOC 2015 Criminally Sentenced Jurisdiction Releases to the Community by Top Ten Cities<sup>Φ</sup>



Of the 2,582 criminally sentenced inmates released to the community in 2015, 1,341 (52%) inmates reported a release address in one of the top ten cities listed in the above map. Boston was the city with the greatest number of releases (n=518) followed by Springfield (n=164) and Worcester (n=151). The male population mirrored the top four of the ten cities. Females' release locations differed from males' in that the city of Lawrence (n=27) was the second most frequent city of release followed by Lynn (n=25).

MA DOC 2015 Criminally Sentenced Jurisdiction Top Ten Releases to the Community: City by Gender<sup>Φ†</sup>

Female*			Male			Total		
City	Number	Percentage	City	Number	Percentage	City	Number	Percentage
Boston	65	12%	Boston	453	22%	Boston	518	20%
Lawrence	27	5%	Springfield	159	8%	Springfield	164	6%
Lynn	25	5%	Worcester	142	7%	Worcester	151	6%
Lowell	20	4%	New Bedford	82	4%	New Bedford	95	4%
Haverhill	19	3%	Norfolk	62	3%	Lawrence	81	3%
Plymouth	19	3%	Fall River	59	3%	Lynn	76	3%
Brockton	17	3%	Lawrence	54	3%	Brockton	70	3%
Quincy	17	3%	Brockton	53	3%	Fall River	66	3%
New Bedford	13	2%	Holyoke	51	3%	Norfolk	62	2%
Wareham	12	2%	Lynn	51	3%	Lowell	58	2%

Φ Release Address is self-reported by the inmate prior to release.

† Calculations include inmates released to states outside of Massachusetts.

\*Female releases include MCI-Framingham, South Middlesex Correctional Institution and both state and county sentences.

\*Note: See Caveats and Definitions for Releases to the Community.

## Massachusetts DOC 2015 Average Institutional Length of Stay

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## ***Institutional Length of Stay***

**MA DOC Average Institutional Length of Stay in Days on January 1, 2016:  
Institution by Commitment Type**

Institution	Commitment Type							
	Criminally Sentenced		Civil Commitments		Pre-Trial		Total Population	
	Length of Stay	Number of Inmates	Length of Stay	Number of Inmates	Length of Stay	Number of Inmates	Length of Stay	Number of Inmates
Boston Pre-Release Center	186	132	0	0	0	0	186	132
Bridgewater State Hospital	659	117	908	186	537	7	805	310
Lemuel Shattuck Hospital	210	9	0	0	106	9	147	18
MA Alcohol & Substance Abuse Center	305	31	21	127	0	0	77	158
Massachusetts Treatment Center	723	320	2,683	209	0	0	1,500	529
MCI-Cedar Junction	186	746	0	0	220	17	187	763
MCI-Concord	816	580	0	0	0	0	816	580
MCI-Framingham	938	324	24	7	117	184	632	515
MCI-Norfolk	1,657	1,442	0	0	250	8	1,650	1,450
MCI-Plymouth	301	178	0	0	0	0	301	178
MCI-Shirley	797	1,463	491	3	240	19	789	1,485
NCCI-Gardner	1,202	976	0	0	310	4	1,199	980
Northeastern Correctional Center	314	253	0	0	0	0	314	253
Old Colony Correctional Center	950	814	0	0	167	48	906	862
Pondville Correctional Center	270	131	0	0	0	0	270	131
South Middlesex Correctional Center	200	114	0	0	22	1	198	115
Souza Baranowski Correctional Center	524	1,000	0	0	323	34	518	1,034
County, Federal, Interstate	514	466	30	10	289	45	485	521
Boston Pre-Release Center	186	132	0	0	0	0	186	132
Bridgewater State Hospital	659	117	908	186	537	7	805	310
Lemuel Shattuck Hospital	210	9	0	0	106	9	147	18

Note: On June 1, 2009, MCI-Cedar Junction became the reception center for sentenced inmates where they are housed temporarily prior to classification, affecting the average length of stay (LOS). Also affecting average LOS, approximately a quarter of the population at MCI-Framingham is serving a House of Correction sentence. Within MCI-Shirley there is a skilled nursing facility (SNF) that may affect LOS.

For the purposes of this report institutional length of stay was derived from the January 1, 2016 data file of the active Massachusetts DOC jurisdiction population, including those sentenced to criminal and civil sentences, and those awaiting trial from the inmate management system (IMS) admission movement history. Institutional length of stay is the number of days between January 1, 2016 and the most recent transfer date to the facility or the most recent break in custody from the Massachusetts DOC.

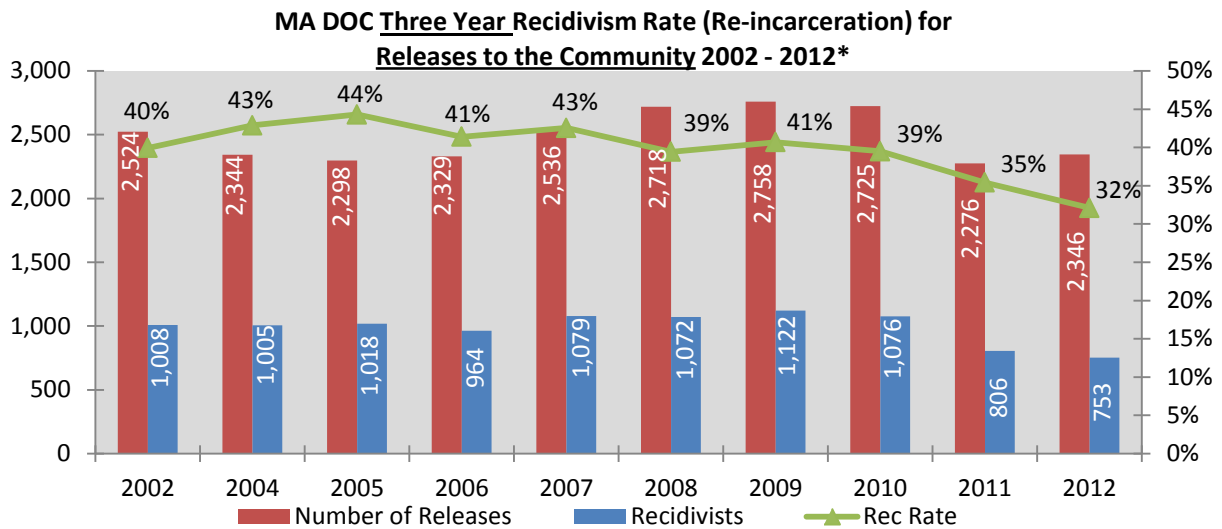
- ◆ The Massachusetts DOC jurisdiction population average institutional length of stay was almost 2 and a half years (852 days) on January 1, 2016.
- ◆ Inmates under the jurisdiction of the DOC housed in a county, federal or other state's facility had an average institutional length of stay of almost a year and 4 months (485 days).
- ◆ The institutions with the longest average lengths of stay were MCI-Norfolk (1,650 days) driven by its criminally sentenced population (1,657 days), Massachusetts Treatment Center (1,500 days) driven by its civilly committed population (2,683 days) and NCCI Gardner (1,199 days) driven by its criminally sentenced population (1,202 days).

## Massachusetts DOC 2015 Recidivism Trends and 2012 Recidivism Rates

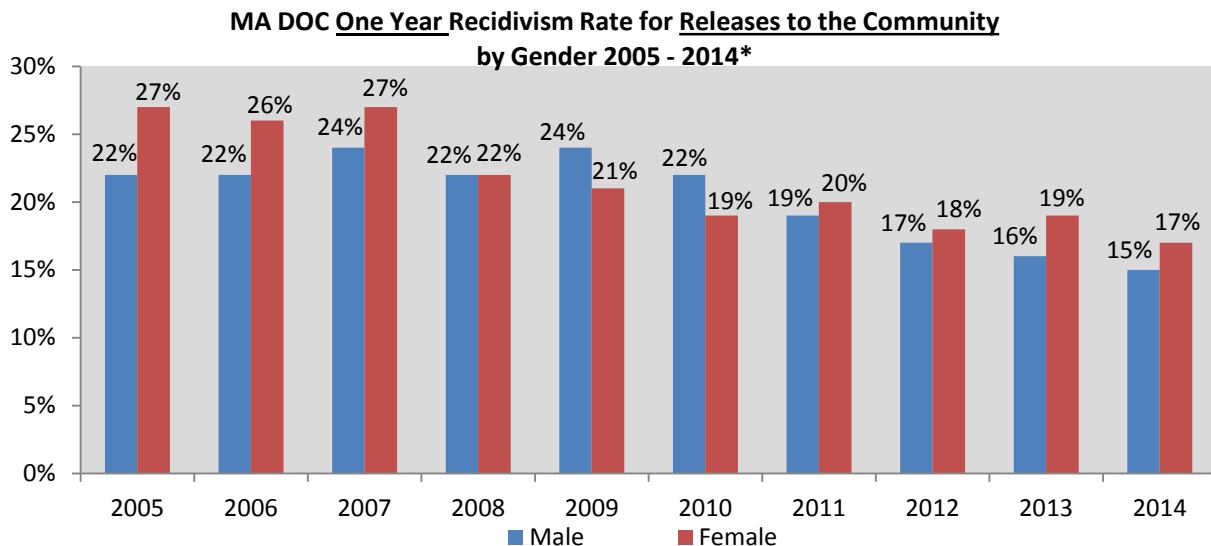
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## Recidivism Trends and 2012 Recidivism Rates

A recidivist is defined as any criminally sentenced inmate released to the community from MA DOC jurisdiction during 2012 who is **re-incarcerated** for a new sentence or violation of parole or probation to a Massachusetts state or county facility or to a federal facility within three years of his/her release. Types of re-incarceration include technical violation of parole, parole violation with a new offense, return to county custody, return to state or federal custody, technical violation of probation, and probation violation with a new offense. An inmate who is re-incarcerated due to a technical violation of parole or probation is re-incarcerated for violating the terms of the conditions set forth regarding their release in the community, not for committing a new offense.



Between 2002 and 2007, the recidivism rate remained fairly consistent, ranging from 40% to 44% over the five year period. Beginning in 2008, there was a negative trend in recidivism rate, ending the trend with an overall recidivism rate decrease of 12 percentage points compared to the high experienced in 2005.



Except for the years 2009 and 2010, females had either the same or higher recidivism rates than their male counterparts. The one-year rate for 2014 was the lowest for the trend period; the female rate was 10 percentage points lower than its highest rate (27% in 2005 and 2007) in the trend period and the male rate was 9 percentage points lower than its highest rate (24% in 2007 and 2009).

## Recidivism Trends and 2012 Recidivism Rates

**MA DOC Three Year Recidivism Rate for 2012 Releases to the Community by Security Level of Releasing Institution and Gender**

Security Level	Males		Females		Total	
	Number Releases	Recidivism Rate	Number Releases	Recidivism Rate	Number Releases	Recidivism Rate
Maximum	246	50%	n.a.	n.a.	246	50%
Medium	836	35%	374	33%	1,210	34%
Minimum and Pre-Release	695	25%	195	23%	890	24%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,777</b>	<b>33%</b>	<b>569</b>	<b>29%</b>	<b>2,346</b>	<b>32%</b>

- ◆ Recidivism rates for inmates released during 2012 were positively correlated with the security level of the inmates releasing facility. The recidivism rate for both male and female inmates increased as the security level of the releasing institution increased.
- ◆ Male inmates released from lower<sup>9</sup> security had the lowest recidivism rate, with 25% of those inmates re-incarcerated within three-years of their release to the community. The recidivism rate for males released from medium security was 35%, while the rate for males released from maximum security was 50%, the highest of all security levels.
- ◆ The recidivism rate for female inmates released from a lower security facility was 23%, whereas females who were released from a medium security facility had a recidivism rate of 33%.

**MA DOC Three Year Recidivism Rate for Female 2012 Releases to the Community by Sentence Type<sup>10</sup>**

Sentence Type	Number Releases	Recidivism Rate
County Sentence <sup>11</sup>	474	31%
State Sentence	95	21%
<b>Total</b>	<b>569</b>	<b>29%</b>

- ◆ Female inmates released from a county sentence had a much higher recidivism rate (31%) than those released from a state sentence (21%).
- ◆ Females serving a county sentence drove the total female three year recidivism rate (29%). Though county sentenced females accounted for the vast majority of females releases, 59% of state sentenced females released from a lower security facility compared to 19% of county sentenced, which drove the recidivism rate by security level.

<sup>9</sup> Lower security includes minimum, minimum pre-release, state pre-release, and contract pre-release facilities.

<sup>10</sup> Since some county correctional facilities do not house female inmates, some females released during 2012 who received a county sentence from the court served that sentence at the Massachusetts DOC.

<sup>11</sup> Includes inmates released from Massachusetts DOC serving a county sentence.

## Recidivism Trends and 2012 Recidivism Rates

Inmates released to the community with parole conditions are supervised for a period of time upon release to the community. Paroled inmates who do not adhere to the conditions of their release can violate their parole and be re-incarcerated. A parole revocation can result from technical violation of the terms of release, or can result from the commission of a crime. By virtue of being under supervision in the community, an inmate may have a higher likelihood of re-incarceration.

The following tables provide a comparison of the recidivism rates<sup>12</sup> of inmates released during 2012, including and excluding re-incarcerations for technical violations.

**MA DOC Three-Year Recidivism Rate for 2012 Including and Excluding  
Re-incarcerations for Technical Violations:  
Type of Release by Gender**

Recidivism Rates by Release Type and Gender <u>Excluding</u> Technical Violations of Parole or Probation									
Release Type	Males			Females			Total		
	Number Releases	Rec	Rate	Number Releases	Rec	Rate	Number Releases	Rec	Rate
Parole to Community	414	83	20%	138	22	16%	552	105	19%
Expiration of Sentence	1,363	420	31%	431	112	26%	1,794	532	30%
<b>Total Releases</b>	<b>1,777</b>	<b>503</b>	<b>28%</b>	<b>569</b>	<b>134</b>	<b>24%</b>	<b>2,346</b>	<b>637</b>	<b>27%</b>
Recidivism Rates by Release Type and Gender <u>Including</u> Technical Violations of Parole or Probation									
Release Type	Males			Females			Total		
	Number Releases	Rec	Rate	Number Releases	Rec	Rate	Number Releases	Rec	Rate
Parole to Community*	414	164	40%	138	50	36%	552	214	39%
Expiration of Sentence	1,363	422	31%	431	117	27%	1,794	539	30%
<b>Total Releases</b>	<b>1,777</b>	<b>586</b>	<b>33%</b>	<b>569</b>	<b>167</b>	<b>29%</b>	<b>2,346</b>	<b>753</b>	<b>32%</b>

\*Inmates paroled to the community may be discharged from parole and no longer supervised in the community prior to the end of the three-year recidivism period.

- ◆ When reporting on the recidivism rates for inmates released on parole, it is important to note that a portion of the paroled inmates re-incarcerated within the three-year period are no longer under parole supervision at the time they recidivate.<sup>13</sup>
- ◆ Of the 2,346 inmates released to the community during 2012, approximately 24% (n=552) were paroled to the street, while the vast majority (76% or n=1,794) were released via expiration of sentence. Inmates paroled to the community had a higher recidivism rate (39%) than the recidivism rate of inmates released via expiration of sentence (30%). Again, the higher recidivism rate for paroled inmates suggests the role of supervision to prevent future criminality, with a large portion of re-incarcerations occurring as a result of a technical violation of parole conditions.

<sup>12</sup> To calculate the recidivism rate excluding technical violations, the first non-technical re-incarceration was used. A non-technical violation would be a parole or probation violation with a new offense, or a new court commitment to a facility. It is important to note that inmates returned originally for a technical violation are re-incarcerated for some period of time during the three-year follow-up period. Though many are re-incarcerated for short periods of time, the inmate's opportunity to commit new crime is diminished. This is a potential issue with the non-technical definition showing lower recidivism rates resulting from an inmate's inability to commit a new crime for a portion of the three-year follow-up.

<sup>13</sup> Inmates paroled to the community may be discharged from parole and no longer be supervised in the community prior to the end of the three-year recidivism period.



## ***Recidivism Trends and 2012 Recidivism Rates***

- ◆ Of the 753 inmates who were a recidivist using the definition including technical violations of parole or probation, 157 recidivated due to a technical violation of their parole or probation conditions. One hundred and forty-seven of the recidivists were technical parole violations and 10 were technical violations of probation.
- ◆ Of the 157 inmates who returned for a technical violation, 41 had another return that was not a technical violation of their parole or probation conditions within the three-year period that was used when determining the recidivism rate excluding technical violations.
- ◆ Overall, the recidivism rate decreased by five percentage points, from 32% to 27% when excluding technical violations, with inmates paroled to the community experiencing the largest decrease, from 39% to 19%. The recidivism rate for female inmates decreased from a rate of 29% to a rate of 24%. The male recidivism rate decreased from 33% to 28% when excluding technical violations.

**MA DOC Three-Year Re-incarceration Recidivism Rates Excluding and Including Technical Violators for 2012 Releases to the Community**

<b>Three Year Re-incarceration Recidivism Rates <u>Excluding</u> Technical Violations</b>									
		<b>1st Year</b>		<b>2nd Year</b>		<b>3rd Year</b>		<b>Total</b>	
<b>Gender</b>	<b>Number of Releases</b>	<b>Rec</b>	<b>Rate</b>	<b>Rec</b>	<b>Rate</b>	<b>Rec</b>	<b>Rate</b>	<b>Rec</b>	<b>Rate</b>
<b>Female</b>	569	68	12%	40	7%	26	5%	134	24%
<b>Male</b>	1,777	208	12%	179	10%	106	6%	503	28%
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,346</b>	<b>276</b>	<b>12%</b>	<b>219</b>	<b>9%</b>	<b>142</b>	<b>6%</b>	<b>637</b>	<b>27%</b>
<b>Three Year Re-incarceration Recidivism Rates <u>Including</u> Technical Violations</b>									
		<b>1st Year</b>		<b>2nd Year</b>		<b>3rd Year</b>		<b>Total</b>	
<b>Gender</b>	<b>Number of Releases</b>	<b>Rec</b>	<b>Rate</b>	<b>Rec</b>	<b>Rate</b>	<b>Rec</b>	<b>Rate</b>	<b>Rec</b>	<b>Rate</b>
<b>Female</b>	569	103	18%	41	7%	23	4%	167	29%
<b>Male</b>	1,777	308	17%	170	10%	108	6%	586	33%
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,346</b>	<b>411</b>	<b>18%</b>	<b>211</b>	<b>9%</b>	<b>131</b>	<b>6%</b>	<b>753</b>	<b>32%</b>

- ◆ Both male and female releases experienced a lower first year recidivism rate when excluding technical violators, resulting in a decrease of six percentage points in the recidivism rate for the first year.
- ◆ For the second year and third year follow-up period, there was no difference when excluding technical violations, with recidivism rates of 9% and 6% respectively.

## Recidivism Trends and 2012 Recidivism Rates

MA DOC Three Year Recidivism Rates for 2012 Releases to the Community by  
Offense Category and Gender

	Males		Females		Total	
Offense Category	Number Releases	Recidivism Rate	Number Releases	Recidivism Rate	Number Releases	Recidivism Rate
Property	190	52%	181	34%	371	43%
Person	701	40%	130	32%	831	39%
Other	183	34%	150	25%	333	30%
Drug	592	22%	103	24%	695	22%
Sex	111	16%	5	n.a.	116	16%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,777</b>	<b>33%</b>	<b>569</b>	<b>29%</b>	<b>2,346</b>	<b>32%</b>

- ◆ The recidivism rate for property offenders was the highest of all the offense types for both male and female releases, 52% and 34% respectively.
- ◆ The recidivism rate for male property offenders was 52%, followed by person offenders (40%) and “other” offenders who recidivated at 34%.
- ◆ Mirroring their male counterparts, the highest recidivism rate for female were property offenders (34%), followed by person offenders (32%) and “other” offenders (25%).
- ◆ Inmates released off a governing sex offense had the lowest overall recidivism rate (16%).

MA DOC Three Year Recidivism Rates for 2012 Releases to the Community by  
Offense Type and Gender

	Males		Females		Total	
Offense Type	Number Releases	Recidivism Rate	Number Releases	Recidivism Rate	Number Releases	Recidivism Rate
Violent	812	37%	135	32%	947	36%
Non-Violent	965	30%	434	29%	1,399	30%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,777</b>	<b>33%</b>	<b>569</b>	<b>29%</b>	<b>2,346</b>	<b>32%</b>

Non-violent offenders released in 2012 had a lower recidivism rate (30%) compared to violent offenders (36%). The majority of the difference is attributed to male inmates, with violent offender recidivating at a rate of 37% compared to 30% for non-violent male offenders.

MA DOC Three Year Recidivism Rates for 2012 Releases to the Community by  
Mandatory Minimum Drug Sentence and Gender

	Males		Females		Total	
Drug Offense Type	Number Releases	Recidivism Rate	Number Releases	Recidivism Rate	Number Releases	Recidivism Rate
Non-Mandatory Drug Offense	247	24%	75	31%	322	25%
Mandatory Drug Offense	345	20%	28	7%	373	19%
<b>Total</b>	<b>592</b>	<b>22%</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>24%</b>	<b>695</b>	<b>22%</b>

Of the 695 released inmates who were incarcerated for a governing drug offense, the majority (54%) were serving a mandatory drug sentence (n=373). Mandatory drug offenders had a lower recidivism rate than non-mandatory drug offenders, recidivating at a rate of 19% and 25% respectively.

## Recidivism Trends and 2012 Recidivism Rates

MA DOC Three Year Recidivism Rates for 2012 Releases to the Community by Race/Ethnicity\* and Gender<sup>14</sup>

	Males		Females		Total	
Race/Ethnicity	Number Releases	Recidivism Rate	Number Releases	Recidivism Rate	Number Releases	Recidivism Rate
Caucasian	713	35%	431	30%	1,144	33%
African American/ Black	482	34%	65	26%	547	33%
Hispanic	564	31%	33	33%	597	31%
Other	2	n.a	35	23%	37	24%
Asian	8	n.a	4	n.a	12	n.a
Native American/ Alaskan Native	8	n.a	1	n.a	9	n.a
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,777</b>	<b>33%</b>	<b>569</b>	<b>29%</b>	<b>2,346</b>	<b>32%</b>

\*Race/Ethnicity is self-reported by inmate at time of admission

- ◆ Within three years of their release to the community, male inmates who reported a race of Caucasian had the highest recidivism rate (35%), followed by African American/Black (34%) and Hispanic inmates at 31%.
- ◆ Amongst females, Hispanic inmates had the highest recidivism rate (33%) followed by Caucasian (30%) and African American/Black (26%).
- ◆ Inmates who reported a race of Caucasian or African American/Black recidivated the highest rate overall (33% each), followed by Hispanic inmates at 31%.

<sup>14</sup> For releases where the numeric value was less than 20, recidivism rates were not reported in the table.

## Massachusetts DOC 2015 Caveats and Definitions

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## ***Caveats and Definitions***

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<b>ACA</b>	The American Correctional Association
<b>Admissions</b>	Inmates who are admitted to a facility of the Department of Correction (DOC), pursuant to a court order, as a transfer from another DOC facility, pursuant to the execution of a parole violation warrant or pursuant to the execution of an escape warrant.
<b>Commitment for Alcohol or Substance Abuse Disorder</b>	A male who has been committed by a court to the Massachusetts Alcohol and Substance Abuse Center pursuant to G.L. c. 123, § 35, or a female who, prior to April 24, 2016, was committed to MCI-Framingham pursuant to G.L. c. 123, § 35.
<b>Average Daily Population (ADP)</b>	The average daily population for calendar year 2015 was calculated by adding together the count from the last day of each month broken out by institution, then divided by twelve (12).
<b>Civil Commitment or “Civil”</b>	A male who has been committed by a court to Bridgewater State Hospital pursuant to G.L. c. 123, section 7 and 8, 15, 16 or 18; or to the Massachusetts Alcohol and Substance Abuse Center pursuant to G.L. c. 123, § 35; or to the Massachusetts Treatment Center pursuant to G.L. c. 123A; a female who, prior to April 24, 2016, was committed to MCI-Framingham pursuant to G.L. c. 123, § 35; or a female who has been committed to MCI-Framingham, a branch of the Massachusetts Treatment Center, pursuant to G.L. c. 123A.
<b>Commitments</b>	Inmates who are newly admitted to a committing institution pursuant to a sentence, an order of civil commitment or as otherwise prescribed by law.
<b>Court Release</b>	Inmates are released from the Massachusetts DOC by operation of a court order, and include the following: Habeas to Court – Sentenced Habeas to Court – Did not return Habeas to Court – Return with new case number Habeas to Court – Received forthwith sentence Court Release – Sentence revoked/stayed/vacated Bailed-Released on personal recognizance Bailed-Released on personal recognizance to a warrant
<b>Crime Bill</b>	The common term for Chapter 192 of the Acts of 2012, effective August 2, 2012, which resulted in an immediate change to the sentence structure for numerous inmates.

## ***Caveats and Definitions***

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<b>Crime Lab</b>	The William A. Hinton State Laboratory Institute, commonly referenced as the “Hinton Drug Lab.” Issues regarding the accuracy of testing at the Hinton Drug Lab resulted in several hundred releases by court orders, primarily during the months of September-November of 2012.
<b>Criminally Sentenced or “Sentenced”</b>	Individuals who have been found guilty of a criminal offense by a judge or jury and have been committed to a period of incarceration, whether directly or after a violation of probation or parole.
<b>Custody Population</b>	An inmate who is incarcerated in a Massachusetts DOC facility.
<b>Design Capacity</b>	The number of inmates that planners or architects intended to house in a facility.
<b>DOC</b>	The Massachusetts Department of Correction.
<b>Drug Offense</b>	Offenses set forth in Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 94C, including offenses pertaining to the distribution or possession with intent to distribute, trafficking of drugs, and drug violations within proscribed distances from schools and parks.
<b>Earned Good Time</b>	Credits against sentences granted pursuant to G.L. c. 127, § 129D. Inmates may be awarded up to 5 days of earned good time per program and up to but not to exceed 10 days per month.
<b>Escape</b>	The act by which an inmate, lawfully sentenced or admitted to the custody of the Department of Correction, engages in an unauthorized departure from the confines of a correctional institution, the custody of escorting officers, or who fails to return from an authorized release to the community at the designated time.
<b>Expiration Of Sentence</b>	The discharge of an inmate from his/her sentence upon the expiration of his/her term, as reduced by any statutory or earned good time. Note: Statutory good time was eliminated for all offenses committed after June 30, 1994, pursuant to the “Truth-in-Sentencing” Act of 1994.
<b>Governing Offense</b>	With respect to an individual who is incarcerated for multiple offenses, the governing offense is the offense that carries the longest maximum sentence.

## ***Caveats and Definitions***

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### **Jurisdiction Population**

An individual is considered to be under Massachusetts DOC jurisdiction when the Commonwealth has legal authority over the individual 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).

### **Mandatory Minimum Sentence**

The provision of a criminal penalty for a particular offense which specifies the minimum term of incarceration and prohibits suspension of any sentence, placement on file, continuance without a finding, probation, and release on parole until the minimum term of imprisonment has been served.

### **Mental Health Commitments**

The commitment of a male to Bridgewater State Hospital pursuant to G.L. c. 123, section 7 and 8, 15, 16 or 18.

### **New Court Commitment**

Newly sentenced and committed inmates admitted to a committing institution as prescribed by law. All new court commitments and those individuals who began serving new sentences (e.g., from-and-after sentences) during the year are included in this category even if there was no physical release from custody upon the completion of one sentence and the commencement of another sentence. If an individual is committed to the DOC more than once during 2015, each court commitment for that individual is counted separately.

### **Non-DOC Releases to Other Jurisdiction**

The transfer of non-DOC inmates (from a county, federal, or another state's jurisdiction) out of DOC custody and remand back to the agency of presiding authority.

### **Non-Violent Offense**

Any offense that falls within the definition of "Property Offense", "Drug Offense" or "Other Offense."

### **Operational Capacity**

The total bed capacity across all Massachusetts DOC facilities throughout the agency on the last day of a given month. The capacity of a facility is the number of beds authorized for safe and efficient operation of the facility. Operational capacity does not include beds reserved for discipline, investigations, infirmary, or other temporary holds because these beds are used for temporary or special purposes.



## ***Caveats and Definitions***

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<b>Other Offenses</b>	Offenses that are not clearly categorized into one of the offense categories of Person, Property, Sex or Drug. Other Offenses include obstruction of justice, habitual criminal, prostitution and some weapons possession crimes.
<b>Other Releases</b>	Releases by virtue of deaths, escapes and transfer out of state.
<b>Parole</b>	The discharge of an inmate from a Massachusetts DOC facility to the supervision of the Parole Board while in the community. Such discharged inmates may be re-incarcerated for violating the terms of their supervision imposed by the Parole Board.
<b>Parole or Expiration of Sentence to Other</b>	<p>Inmates who were released from their current sentence via expiration or parole to one of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>parole to out of state sentence</li><li>parole to federal authority</li><li>parole to immigration</li><li>parole to a from and after House of Correction sentence</li><li>parole to warrant</li><li>parole to a from and after Department of Correction sentence</li><li>expiration release to out of state sentence</li><li>expiration release to federal authority</li><li>expiration release to immigration</li><li>expiration release to from and after House of Correction sentence</li><li>expiration release to warrant</li><li>expiration release to from and after/concurrent at Department of Correction</li><li>expiration to civil commitment</li><li>parole to civil commitment</li><li>release from civil commitment to warrant</li></ul>
<b>Parole to Community</b>	Inmates released from the Massachusetts DOC with parole supervision.
<b>Parole Violator/Detainer</b>	Parolee who violates conditions of parole. A parole violator may be returned to prison for a parole violation with a new offense or technical parole violation. For reporting purposes, inmates who have been returned to Massachusetts DOC custody pursuant to a parole detainer are included in this group.
<b>Person Offense</b>	Crimes against Person (primarily set forth in G.L. c. 265), including assault and battery, kidnapping, manslaughter, and murder.

## ***Caveats and Definitions***

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<b>Pre-Trial or “Detainee”</b>	Individuals who are held in custody in a correctional facility prior to trial.
<b>Probation</b>	A court-ordered sentence whereby an inmate is released from confinement but remains under court supervision.
<b>Probation Violation</b>	An inmate who has been returned to resume serving a previously imposed sentence (return on a split sentence) following a revocation of his/her terms of probation. Split sentences to the state prison were eliminated for offenses committed after June 30, 1994, pursuant to the “Truth-in-Sentencing” Act of 1994.
<b>Property Offense</b>	Crimes against Property (primarily set forth in G.L. c. 266), including arson, burglary and fraud.
<b>Recidivism Rate</b>	A measurement of the rate at which released inmates are re-incarcerated due to the commission of a new crime or technical violation of their parole or probation.
<b>Release from Parole Detainer</b>	A small number of inmates who are released from a temporary parole detainer (n=12).
<b>Release to the Community</b>	The release of an inmate from the custody of the Massachusetts DOC by parole or by discharge to the street. Conditions warranting a release to the community generally include: court release (see Crime Lab), expiration of fine, payment of fine, parole and expiration of sentence.
<b>Sentence/Sentence Type</b>	<p><b>State Prison Sentence</b></p> <p>When an inmate is sentenced to state prison, except for life or as a habitual criminal, the court shall not fix the term of imprisonment, but shall fix a maximum and minimum term for which s/he may be imprisoned. Prior to the truth-in-sentencing law, the imposed minimum term shall not be less than two and one half years. All sentences that have an imposed maximum term are eligible to have the term reduced by earned good time, except for habitual offenders, and certain “mandatory” sentences.</p> <p>All state prison sentences have a minimum and a maximum term, unless an inmate is sentenced for life or as a habitual criminal/offender. The minimum term is used to determine parole eligibility, and the maximum term is used to determine discharge.</p> <p>An inmate is discharged from his/her sentence at the expiration of his/her maximum term reduced by any statutory or earned good time. As the truth-in-sentencing law repealed statutory good time, statutory good time cannot reduce a sentence whose</p>

## ***Caveats and Definitions***

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date of offense was after the effective date of the Truth-in-Sentencing Act.

### **House of Correction or “County Sentence”**

A House of Correction sentence has one imposed term which cannot exceed two and a half years. Parole eligibility and discharge are based on the imposed term.

### **Other State, Federal Sentence**

This category is used for inmates who were received by the DOC from another state correctional agency or the Federal Bureau of Prisons and are not sentenced under Massachusetts General Law.

### **Sex Offense**

Sex Offenses against the Person primarily set forth by G.L. c. 265 (Crimes against the Person) and G.L. c. 272 Offenses (Crimes against Chastity, Morality, Decency and Good Order) and include rape, unnatural acts, and indecent assault & battery on a child under 14.

### **Sexually Dangerous Person Commitments**

Persons who have been committed by a court to the Massachusetts Treatment Center or MCI-Framingham, a branch of the Massachusetts Treatment Center for female sex offenders, pursuant to G.L. c. 123A, pending the disposition of petitions to commit them as sexually dangerous persons (SDPs) or for one day to life following adjudication as SDPs.

### **Snapshot Population**

The total number of inmates of all commitment types incarcerated in the Massachusetts DOC on a given day, including all pre-trial detainees, civil commitments, criminally sentenced and transfer inmates from another state, federal, or county authority. The “Snapshot Population” may be used as a gauge to determine population trends in different categories (i.e. stock jurisdiction or stock custody population over time).

### **Technical Violation**

A violation of parole conditions that does not necessarily constitute grounds for a parole revocation.

### **Violent Offense**

Any offense that falls within the definition of a “Person Offense” or “Sex Offense.”

## ***Caveats and Definitions***

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**Western Massachusetts Regional Women's Correctional Center** From November 2011 to February 2012, 51 county sentenced female inmates in DOC custody were transferred to a regional correctional center in Hampden County. Beginning in November 2011, county sentenced females, including those from Worcester County and counties west of Worcester County, will be held in the custody of this regional center and no longer at the MA DOC.