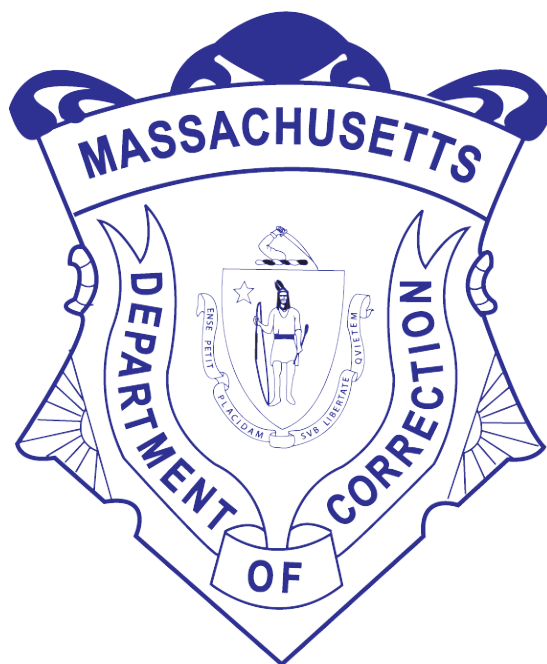


MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION



PRISON POPULATION TRENDS 2018



RESEARCH AND PLANNING DIVISION

March 2019



COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

Charles D. Baker, Governor

Karyn E. Polito, Lieutenant Governor



EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND SECURITY

Thomas A. Turco III, Secretary

MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION

Carol A. Mici, Commissioner

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

AUTHOR: RESEARCH AND PLANNING DIVISION

Nicholas Cannata
Anita Reiser
Jessica Trapassi

Hollie Matthews
Jiqiang Rong
Leah Wang

Susan McDonald
Jacob Sears
Eva Yutkins-Kennedy

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For questions regarding this report, please contact the Research and Planning Division:

Research & Planning Division
MCI-Concord/SFU Building
PO BOX 9125
Concord, MA 01742
(978) 405-6677
Research@doc.state.ma.us

This and other Massachusetts Department of Correction publications can be accessed on the internet at: <https://www.mass.gov/inmate-and-prison-research-statistics>

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Authorized by Gary Lambert, Assistant Secretary for Operational Services

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Massachusetts Department of Correction (MA DOC) jurisdiction prison population's decline since 2012 (n=11,723) continued through to January 1st, 2019 (n=8,784). Overall, the

total jurisdiction AND custody MA DOC populations declined 25-26% respectively since 2012, and also reflect the lowest counts dating back to just before the year 2000.

This marks the fourth year of an upward trend where the majority (56% in 2018) of criminally sentenced females were incarcerated for a violent (versus non-violent) governing offense. Males incarcerated for a violent governing offense also increased from 70% in 2017 to 72% in 2018. The population decline has lead to a higher concentration of inmates with violent offenses due to their longer sentences as well as changes in crime reform for alternatives to incarceration among non-violent offenders.

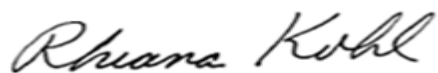
Another notable trend is the continued aging of the population, particularly among male inmates. The average age of 42 years old on January 1, 2019 was up from 39 years old in 2011. The percentage of inmates 29 years old and under **decreased** by 5 percentage points from January 1, 2015 (24%) to January 1, 2019 (19%) while the percentage of inmates age 60 years old and over **increased** by 3 percentage points during the same timeframe, 8% and 11% respectively. This five year shift shows an aging inmate population which ties into the concentration of inmates serving time for a violent offense. For example, 32% of the jurisdiction population was serving a sentence of 20 plus years. Yet, it's important to note approximately one-third of new court commitments are under the age of 30 years.

The majority of inmates are leaving prison under supervision, be it they are paroled, had a probation term to serve after "wrapping up" their sentence, or both. This report provides new data on average length of stay, jail credits and time served. 1,831 criminally sentenced inmates had their first release in 2018. Seventy-three percent (73%) were released due to an expiration of sentence (n=1,345), meaning they served their sentence in its entirety. The remaining 27% were paroled to the community. Of the 1,831 releases, the majority were males (81%). On average, paroled males served 4.8 years before initially being released compared to 4.5 years for males released via expiration of sentence. Females represented 19% of the total releases in 2018 (n=342). Females paroled also served longer (18 months) time compared to those released via expiration of sentence (11 months). Note that two-thirds of female releases served a county sentence, thereby shortening the overall time served. In 2018, among those released to the street, 17% had parole only, 34% had a probation term to serve, 10% had both parole & probation, and 39% had no post-release criminal justice supervision.

Significant prison reentry efforts continue to reflect positive outcomes as measured by recidivism rates. The majority of MA DOC inmates do not recidivate. The three year post-release re-incarceration recidivism rate among the 2014 release cohort was 32%, remaining stable since 2012 and 12 percentage points lower than ten years earlier (2005). Moreover the reduction in recidivism rates can be seen across all security levels. In 2007, for example, those inmates (males) released from maximum security level recidivated at a rate of 62%, whereas the rate was 52% among 2014 releases.

Information regarding all MA DOC Research related reports and statistics can be found on our website at <https://www.mass.gov/inmate-and-prison-research-statistics>.

Sincerely,



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

Report Populations

This report, *Massachusetts Department of Correction Prison Population Trends 2018*, 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 MA DOC jurisdiction when the Commonwealth has legal authority over the individual, regardless of where the inmate is being held including those incarcerated in MA DOC facilities as well as those housed in correctional facilities outside of the MA DOC (Massachusetts Houses of Correction, other states' correctional facilities, and the Federal Bureau of Prisons).

Custody Population

An individual is considered to be in MA DOC custody when he/she is being held in a MA 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":

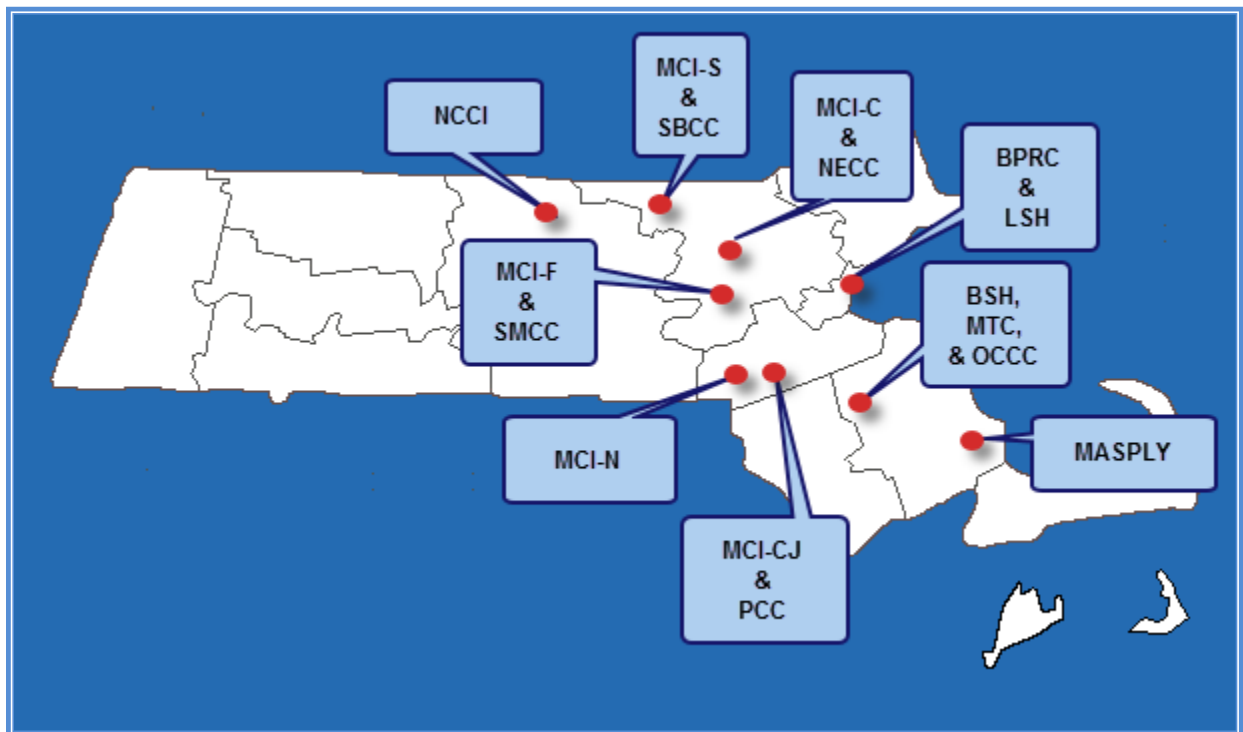
Individuals who are held in custody in a correctional facility prior to trial.

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 2018 Institution Overview



Institution Overview

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 2018): \$72,940
- January 1, 2019 Facility Population: 102
- Average Daily Population (ADP): 102
- Operational Capacity: 175
Minimum: 60 & Pre-Release: 115



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. Transitional Treatment Program (TTP), a program which temporarily houses recently paroled inmates, was relocated to BPRC from Pondville Correctional Center. On January 1, 2019, the majority of inmates were pre-release (n=67), with an additional 35 minimum security inmates, and 20 additional Transitional Treatment Program parolees not included in the active prison population.

Bridgewater State Hospital (BSH)

Bridgewater, MA

- Security Level: Medium
- Initial ACA Accreditation: 1998
- Opened: 1974
- Annual cost per inmate (FY 2018): \$278,791
- January 1, 2019 Facility Population: 223
- Average Daily Population (ADP): 219
- Operational Capacity: 319



Wellpath assumed BSH patient care in 2018. BSH is a facility housing male patients in several categories: civil commitments with underlying criminal sentences, civil commitments without criminal sentences, 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.

Lemuel Shattuck Hospital Correctional Unit (LSH)

Jamaica Plain, MA

- Security Level: Medium
- Opened: 1974 - Expanded: 1982, 1987
- Annual cost per inmate (FY 2018): \$320,037
- January 1, 2019 Facility Population: 29
- Average Daily Population (ADP): 28
- 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 counties. It is a transient facility with few long term patients. On January 1, 2019, the population consisted of 18 criminally sentenced state inmates, 10 pre-trial detainees, and one civil commitment. The average age of inmates housed on this date was 51 years old.

Institution Overview

Massachusetts Alcohol and Substance Abuse Center at Plymouth (MASPLY) *Plymouth, MA*

- Security Level: Minimum
- Initial ACA Accreditation: 1993
- Opened: 1992 - Mission Change: 2002
- Annual cost per inmate (FY 2018): \$76,819
- January 1, 2019 Facility Population: 113
- Average Daily Population (ADP): 170
- Operational Capacity: 275
- Sentenced: 24 & Civil Commitments: 251



MASPLY 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. As of May 1, 2017 MASAC was relocated to the shuttered MCI-Plymouth facility. MCI-Plymouth originated as a Prison Camp in the 1950s on the grounds of the Myles Standish State Forest. On January 1, 2019, there were 91 civil commitments and 22 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 2018): \$71,528
- January 1, 2019 Facility Population: 565
- Average Daily Population (ADP): 570
- Operational Capacity: 667
- Sentenced: 414 & Civil Commitments: 253



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, 2019, there were 403 criminally sentenced inmates, 141 SDPs, and 32 temporary civil commitments (provided by MTC).

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 2018): \$78,024
- January 1, 2019 Facility Population: 686
- Average Daily Population (ADP): 731
- Maximum: 617 & Medium: 69
- 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, 2019, MCI-CJ housed 649 criminally sentenced inmates and 37 federal or out of state pre-trial detainees. There were 617 inmates housed in maximum security (125 of those in DDU) and 69 in medium security.

Institution Overview

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 2018): \$73,980
- January 1, 2019 Facility Population: 591
- Average Daily Population (ADP): 631
- 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)

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 2018): \$89,853
- January 1, 2019 Facility Population: 429
- Average Daily Population (ADP): 445
- Operational Capacity: 572



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, 2019, this medium security facility housed 243 criminally sentenced inmates, 182 pre-trial detainees, and 4 civil commitments.

MCI-Norfolk (MCI-N)

Norfolk, MA

- Security Level: Medium
- Initial ACA Accreditation: 2003
- Opened: 1931
- Annual cost per inmate (FY 2018): \$51,811
- January 1, 2019 Facility Population: 1,309
- Average Daily Population (ADP): 1,326
- Operational Capacity: 1,473



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.

Institution Overview

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 2018): \$49,118
- January 1, 2019 Facility Population: 1,454
- Average Daily Population (ADP): 1,422
Medium: 1,159 & Minimum: 295
- 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, 2019 were in medium security housing units (n=1,159) with 295 housed in minimum security. The two security levels were considered separate institutions until July 2002, when they were combined to operate under one administration. Along with a skilled nursing facility (SNF), MCI-S operates an Assisted Daily Living Unit for medium inmates.

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 2018): \$54,073
- January 1, 2019 Facility Population: 968
- Average Daily Population (ADP): 956
Medium: 954 & Minimum: 14
- Operational Capacity: 1,012
Medium: 982 & Minimum: 30



NCCI is a facility housing criminally sentenced males. The majority of inmates on January 1, 2019 were in medium security housing units (n=954) with 14 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 2018): \$60,404
- January 1, 2019 Facility Population: 190
- Average Daily Population (ADP): 189
- Operational Capacity: 277
Minimum: 208 & Pre-Release: 69



NECC is a facility operating under the Superintendent of MCI-Concord, housing criminally sentenced males. The majority of inmates on January 1, 2019 were in minimum security housing units (n=125), with 65 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.

Institution Overview

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 2018): \$86,906
- January 1, 2019 Facility Population: 708
- Average Daily Population (ADP): 722
Medium: 612 & Minimum: 96
- Operational Capacity: 757
Medium: 597 & 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, 2019 were housed in a medium security unit (n=612), with 96 housed in minimum security.

Pondville Correctional Center (PCC)

Norfolk, MA

- Security Level: Minimum & Pre-Release
- Initial ACA Accreditation: 1994
- Opened: 1990
- Annual cost per inmate (FY 2018): \$51,851
- January 1, 2019 Facility Population: 162
- Average Daily Population (ADP): 160
- Operational Capacity: 204
Minimum: 156 & Pre-Release: 48



PCC is a facility for criminally sentenced males housing 122 minimum and 40 pre-release inmates on January 1, 2019. 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.

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 2018): \$56,192
- January 1, 2019 Facility Population: 82
- Average Daily Population (ADP): 84
- Operational Capacity: 185
Minimum: 140 & Pre-Release: 45



SMCC is a facility for criminally sentenced state and county females housing 60 minimum and 22 pre-release inmates on January 1, 2019. 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.

Institution Overview

Souza Baranowski Correctional Center (SBCC)

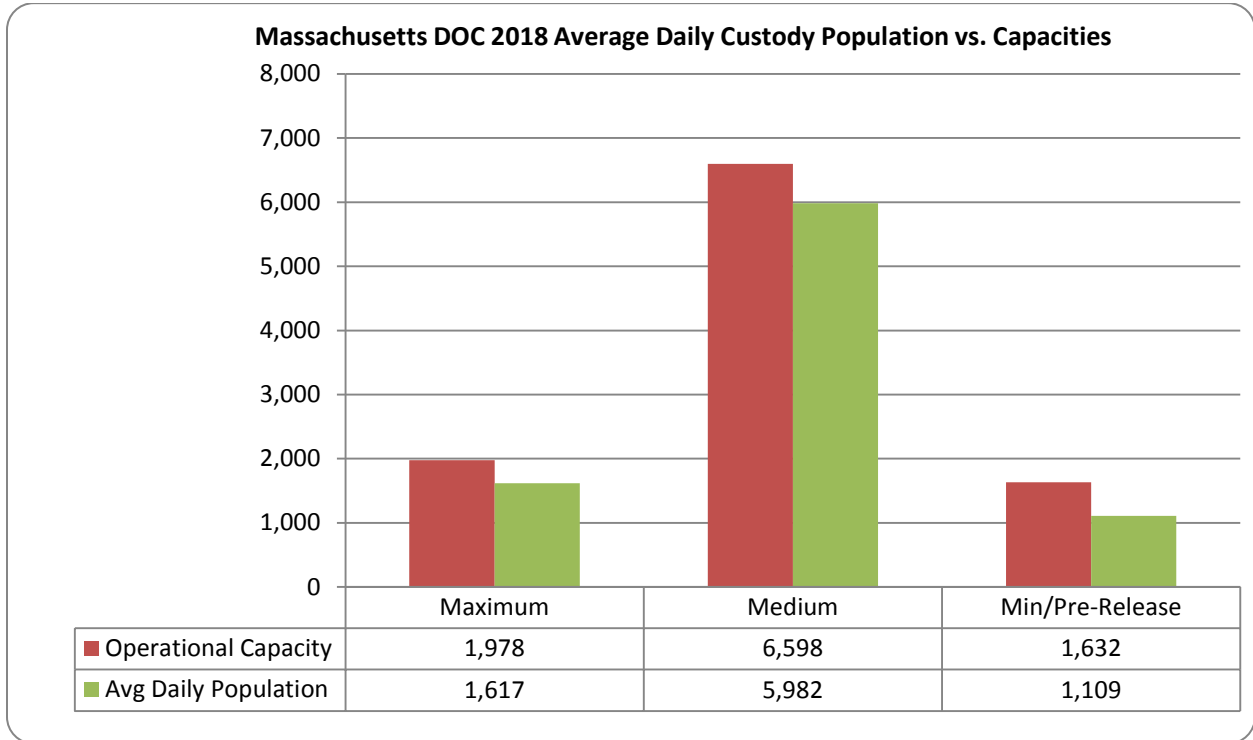
Shirley, MA

- Security Level: Maximum
- Initial ACA Accreditation: 2001
- Opened: 1998
- Annual cost per inmate (FY 2018): \$71,885
- January 1, 2019 Facility Population: 843
- Average Daily Population (ADP): 956
- 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

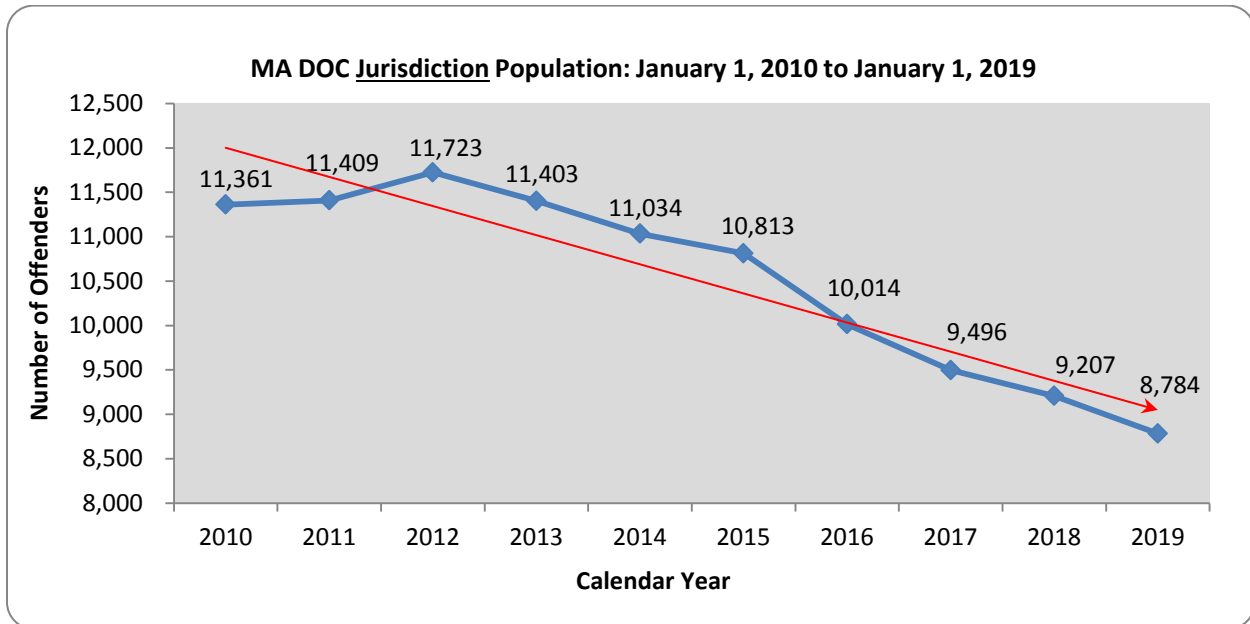


Total Massachusetts Department of Correction 2018
 Operational Capacity = 10,208
 Average Daily Population for 2018 (Custody Population) = 8,708
 Average Daily Population for 2018 (Jurisdiction Population) = 9,045

- ◆ **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, 2019.

Massachusetts DOC 2018 Population Trends

Population Trends



Massachusetts

- ◆ The Massachusetts DOC jurisdiction population continued to decline for the seventh (7th) consecutive year, a decrease of 25% since the trend's peak on January 1, 2012 (n=11,723).
- ◆ Between January 1, 2018 and January 1, 2019, there was a 5% decrease in inmates, from 9,207 to 8,784.
- ◆ The overall trend in the MA DOC jurisdiction population shows a decrease of 23% between January 1, 2010 (n=11,361) and January 1, 2019.

National

- ◆ The estimated number of persons of all commitment types held in state and federal prisons nationally decreased to 1,505,397 at year-end 2016¹, a 1% decrease (n=21,206), from year-end 2015 (n=1,562,603).²
- ◆ After a slight increase in the sentenced state and federal jurisdiction population in 2013, there was a decrease of 5% between year-end 2013 and year-end 2016, the largest decline in more than 35 years. There was a 4% decrease in the federal population (n=7,206) and a 1% decrease in the state population (n=11,468) between year-end 2015 and year-end 2016.³
- ◆ The national imprisonment rate at year-end 2016 was 450 sentenced inmates per 100,000 U.S. residents of all ages, a decrease of 2% from 459 in 2015 and the lowest rate since 1997 (n=444).⁴
- ◆ Between 2015 and 2016, thirty-one (31) states saw decreases in their state's total jurisdiction population.⁵

¹ Year-end 2016 statistics were the most recent national statistics available at the time.

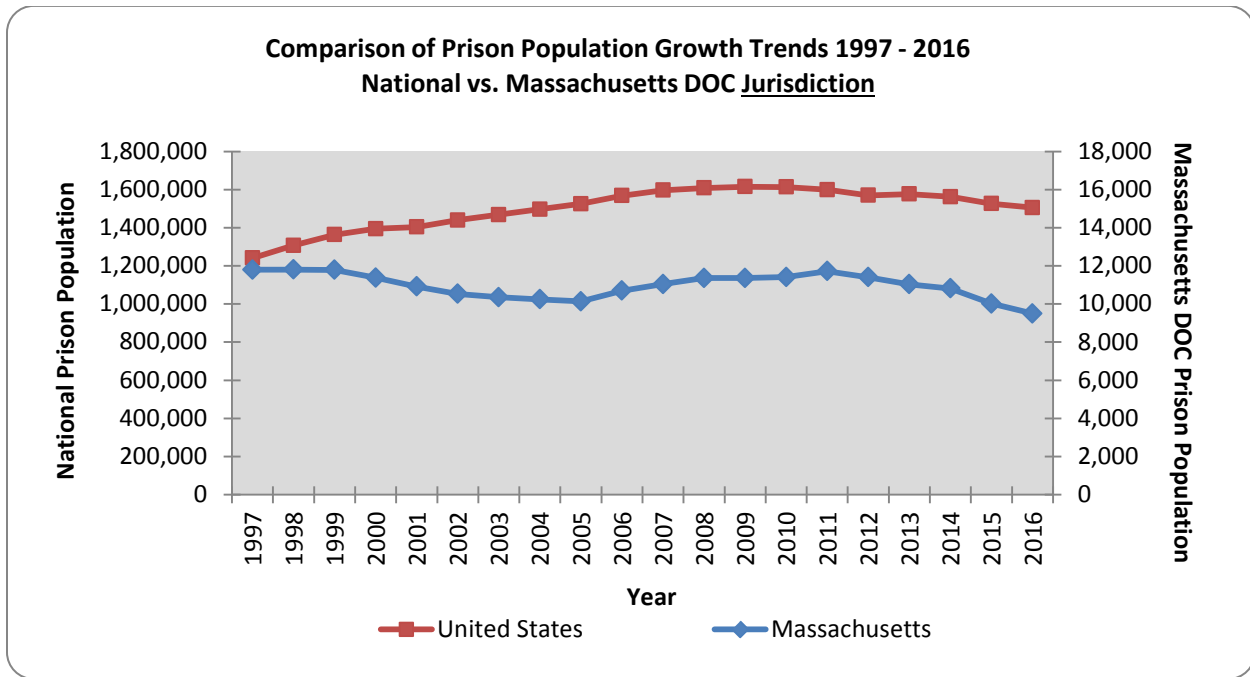
² Bureau of Justice Statistics (January 2018). *Prisoners in 2016* (NCJ 251149). Washington, D.C.: U.S. Department of Justice.

³ BJS, 2016, pg. 5, table 3.

⁴ BJS, 2016, pg. 8, table 6.

⁵ BJS, 2016, pg. 3

Population Trends



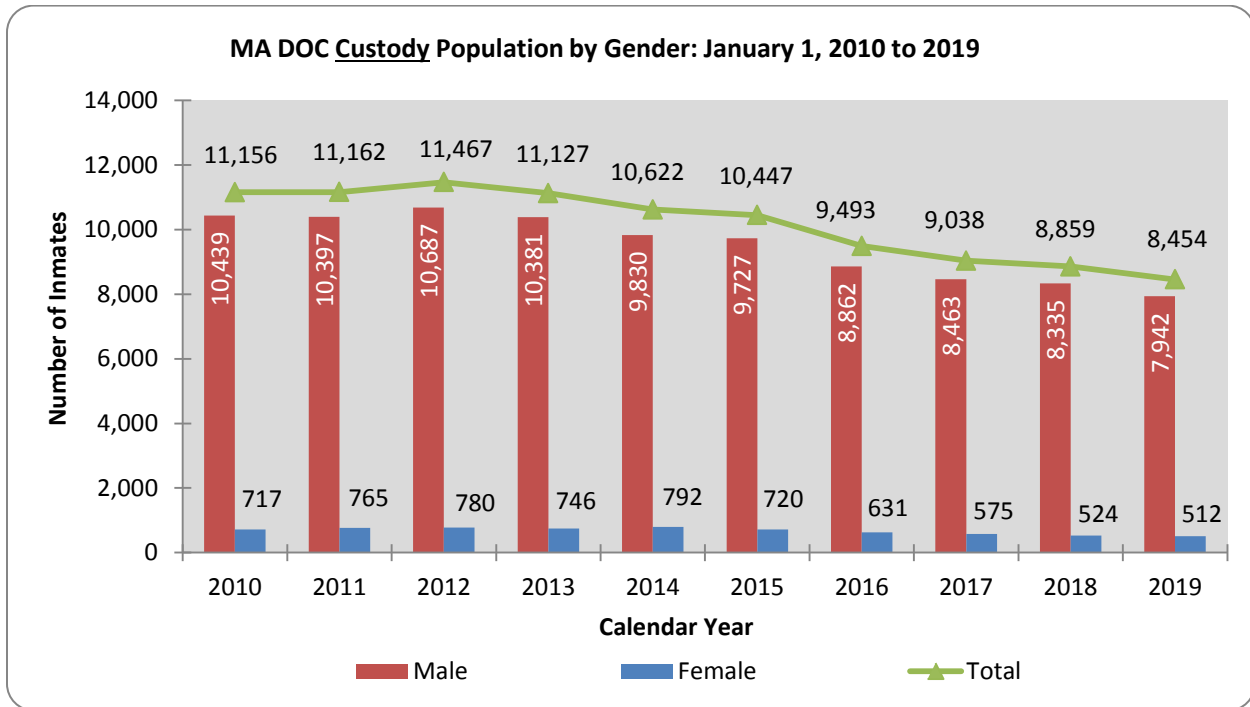
Comparison of Prison Population Growth Trends 1997 – 2016:
National⁶ vs. Massachusetts DOC Jurisdiction

Year	National Jurisdiction Population		Massachusetts Jurisdiction Population	
	Population	Percent of Change	Population	Percent of Change
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	1,562,319	-0.9	10,813	-2.0
2015	1,526,603	-2.3	10,014	-7.4
2016	1,505,397	-1.4	9,496	-5.2

- ◆ The Massachusetts jurisdiction prison population decreased by 19% from 11,794 in 1997 to 9,496 in 2016; over the same time period, the national population increased by 21%, from 1,240,659 to 1,505,397.
- ◆ Between the years 2015 and 2016, there was a 5% (n=518) decrease in the Massachusetts jurisdiction population, the largest decrease experienced in the observed trend period. Since 2011, the Massachusetts prison population had a cumulative decrease of 19% (n=2,227).
- ◆ The national prison population experienced an increase of 43% from 1995 to 2009, followed by a decrease of 7% from 2010 to 2016. The 2% decrease in the national prison population between 2014 and 2015 was the largest decline in the national prison population in the observed trend period.

⁶ Bureau of Justice Statistics (January 2018). *Prisoners in 2016* (NCJ 251149). Washington, D.C.: U.S. Department of Justice.

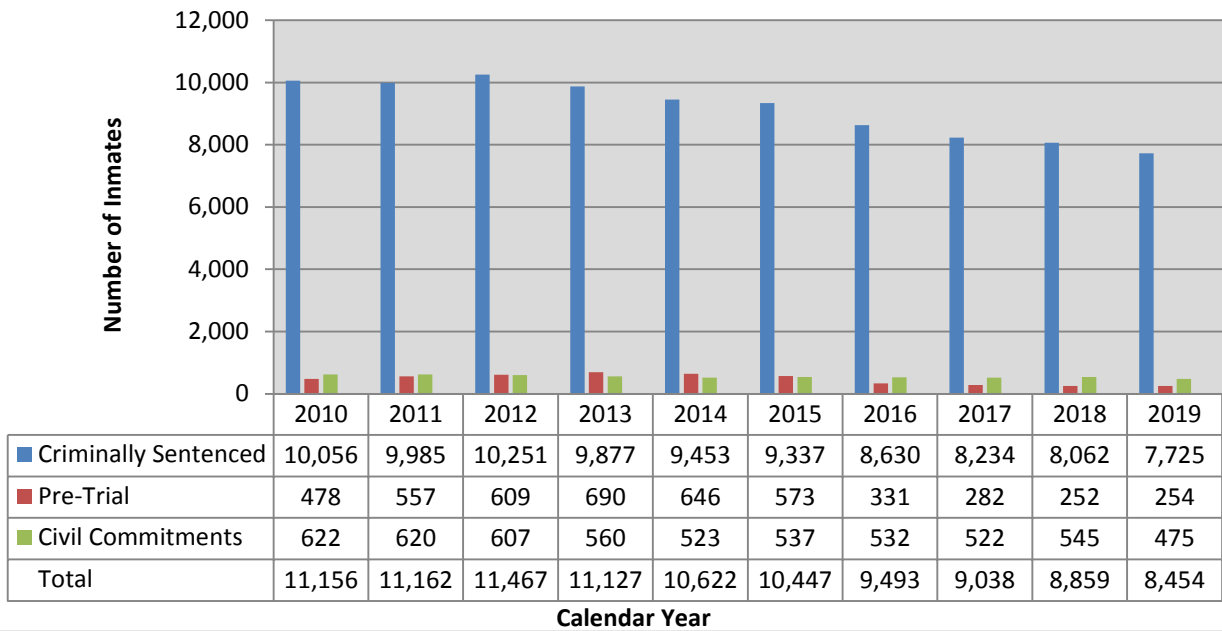
Population Trends



- ◆ The Massachusetts DOC custody population has shown a significant decrease of 24% between January 1, 2010 and January 1, 2019. Over the 10 year period there was a slight increase of 3% from 2010 to 2012, with the population remaining relatively constant between 2010 and 2011 before spiking in 2012 to 11,467 inmates. Following the increase there was then a notable decrease in population of 26% from 2012 to 2019. 2019 has the lowest total custody population of the 10 year trend with 8,454 inmates.
- ◆ Male inmates increased 2% between 2010 and 2012. In the past seven years however, the male custody population dropped from 10,687 in 2012 to 7,942 in 2019 which drove the 26% decrease in the total custody population over that same time period.
- ◆ The female population experienced more fluctuations than its male counterpart during the ten year time frame. Females saw a 9% increase from 2010 to 2012, a 4% decrease from 2012 to 2013, and a 6% increase between 2013 and 2014. In the past five years (2014-2019) the female custody population has decreased significantly by 35%.
- ◆ 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.

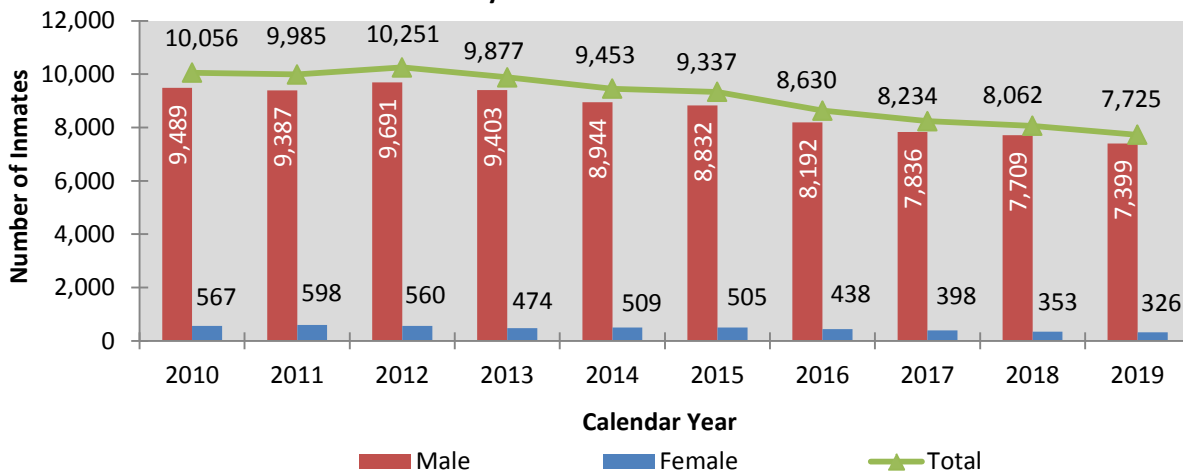
Population Trends

MA DOC Custody Population by Commitment Type: January 1, 2010 to 2019



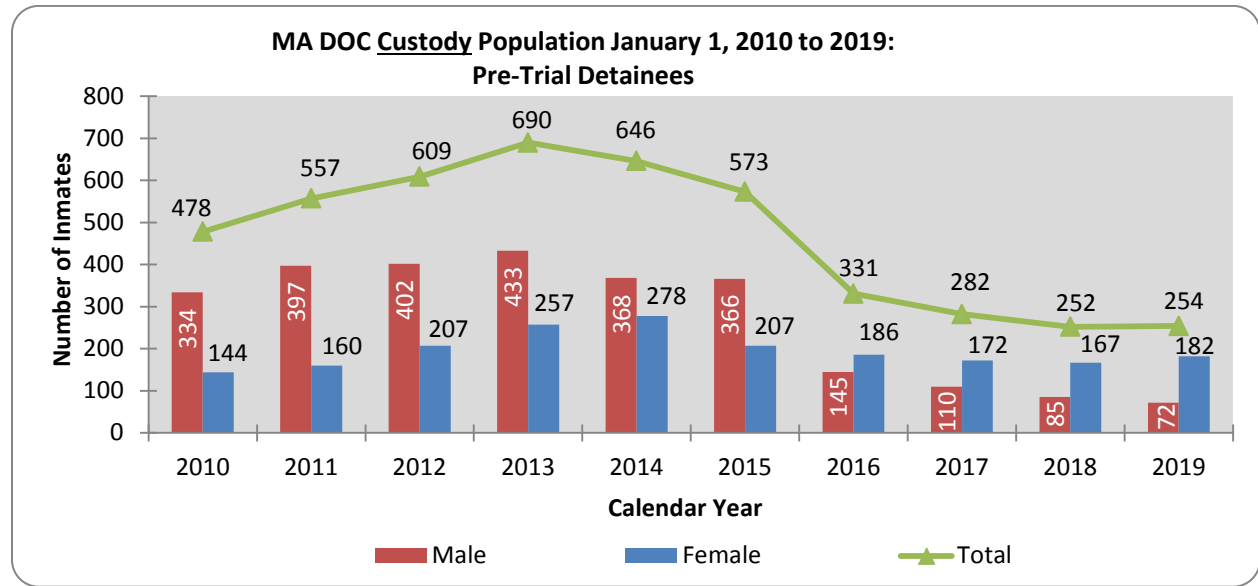
The Massachusetts DOC has seen a considerable decrease in criminally sentenced (23%), civil (24%) and pre-trial (47%) commitment populations between January 1, 2010 and January 1, 2019. Since 2012, the criminally sentenced population has experienced a 25% reduction. The population that showed the largest percentage decline of the three commitment types was the pre-trial population with a 63% decrease from 2013-2019.

**MA DOC Custody Population January 1, 2010 to 2019:
Criminally Sentenced Inmates**

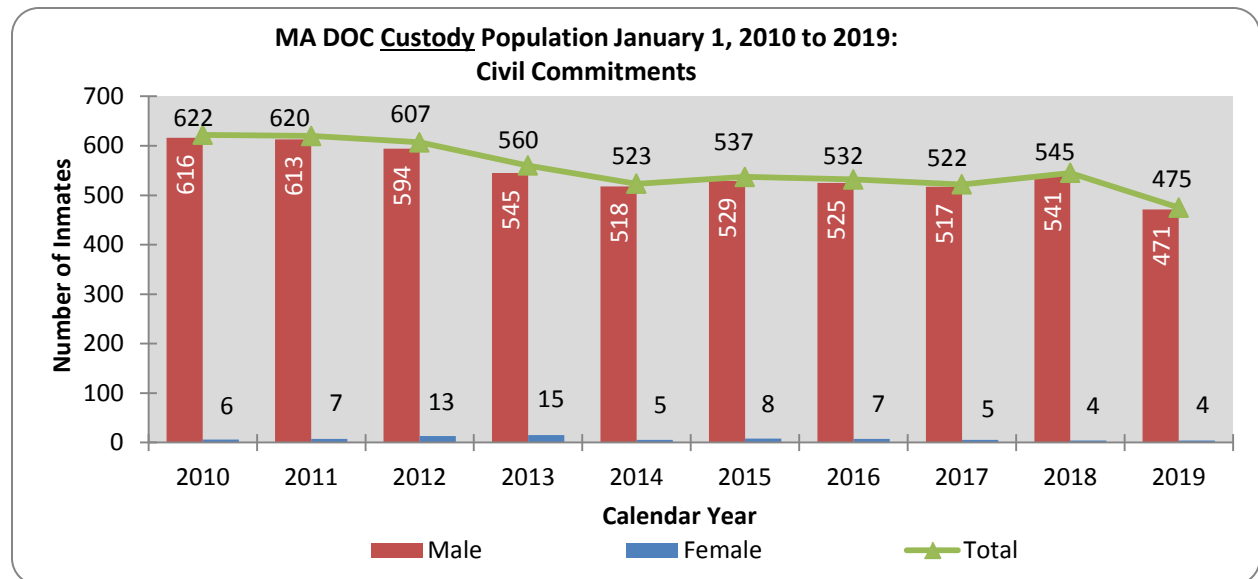


- ◆ Criminally sentenced inmates compose 91% of the Massachusetts DOC custody population.
- ◆ From 2010 through 2019, both males and females experienced a decrease, 22% and 43% respectively. In the past seven years there was a decrease of 25% from 2012 to 2019 after peaking at 10,251 inmates in 2012.

Population Trends

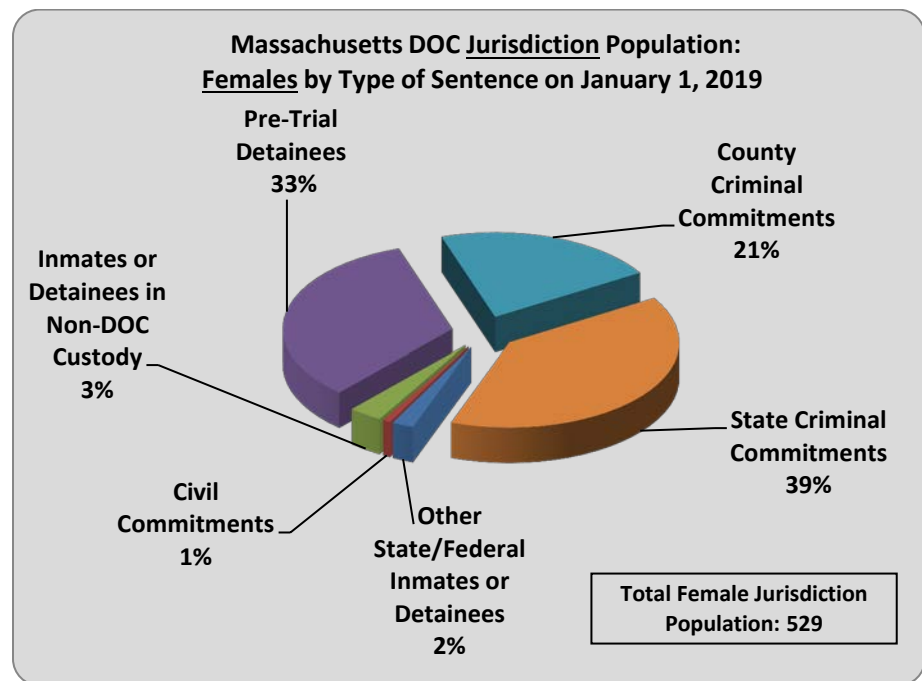
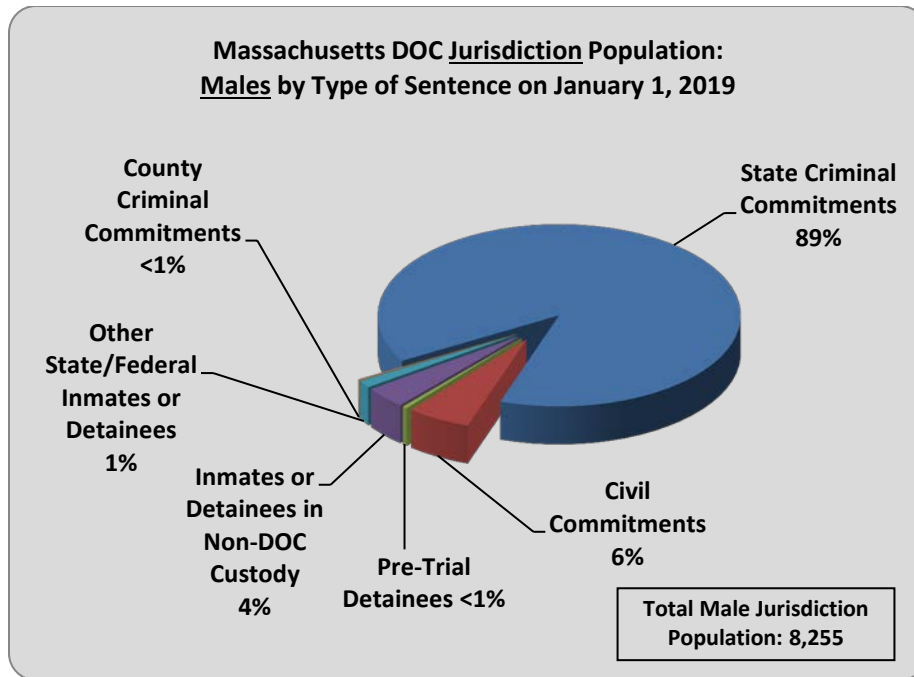


- ◆ The total pre-trial population decreased 47% between 2010 and 2019.
- ◆ In 2011, males made up 71% of the pre-trial population compared to 57% in 2014 and then was ultimately surpassed by females (56%) in 2016 with males only consisting of 44% of pre-trial commitments. This trend has continued into 2019, as females now make up 72% of the pre-trial population. While the total population has decreased since 2010, the proportion of males and females made a large shift during this period largely due to the fact that counties for the most part house their own 52A's.



- ◆ The total civil commitment population consists almost entirely of male inmates (99%). Although the total civil commitment population experienced a decrease from 2010 to 2017, the population increased 4% from 2017 to 2018, breaking the previous two year downward trend. From 2018 to 2019, the total civil commitment population decreased again by 13%.
- ◆ Averaging seven inmates a year over the trend period, female civil commitment inmates represent the smallest population in the MA DOC with a low of four in 2018 and 2019 and a high of 15 in 2013.

Population Trends



- ◆ The vast majority of males were **state criminal commitments** (89%) on January 1, 2019.
- ◆ Female state criminal commitments (39%) represent a smaller portion of their total commitments compared to males (89%) due to the MA DOC housing several county's female inmates for capacity issues/ lack of housing. Therefore, there was a more even distribution of female commitment types compared to their male counterparts.

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

Massachusetts DOC 2018 Inmate Characteristics

Inmate Characteristics by Gender

Male Jurisdiction Population on January 1, 2019

- ◆ 8,255 total males in the jurisdiction population: 7,701 criminally sentenced, 72 pre-trial detainees, and 482 civil commitments
- ◆ Average age was 42 years old (youngest inmate was 18 years old and oldest inmate was 95 years old)
- ◆ 95% were serving a sentence of more than three years
- ◆ 72% had a violent governing offense
- ◆ 657 were serving a governing mandatory drug sentence
- ◆ 42% entered the Massachusetts DOC with less than a 9th grade reading level
- ◆ 44% entered the Massachusetts DOC with less than a 6th grade math level
- ◆ The 2014 three year recidivism rate was 32% for the total male population
- ◆ 35% were open mental health cases, 8% had a serious mental illness (SMI), and 25% were on psychotropic medication for the **Custody** Population as of 12/31/2018

Note: Information provided by Health Services Division

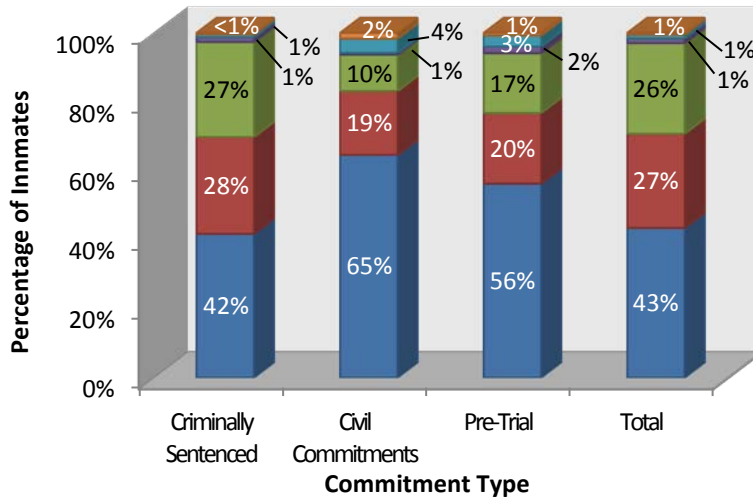
Female Jurisdiction Population on January 1, 2019

- ◆ 529 total females in the jurisdiction population: 343 criminally sentenced, 182 pre-trial detainees, and 4 civil commitments
- ◆ Average age was 38 years old (youngest inmate was 19 years old and oldest inmate was 74 years old)
- ◆ 64% were serving a sentence of more than three years
- ◆ 56% had a violent governing offense
- ◆ 15 were serving a governing mandatory drug sentence
- ◆ 29% entered the Massachusetts DOC with less than a 9th grade reading level
- ◆ 34% entered the Massachusetts DOC with less than a 6th grade math level
- ◆ The 2014 three year recidivism rate was 32% for the total female population
- ◆ 74% were open mental health cases, 15% had a serious mental illness (SMI), and 56% were on psychotropic medication for the **Custody** Population as of 12/31/2018

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, 2019



MA DOC Jurisdiction Population by Race/Ethnicity* and Commitment Type on January 1, 2019

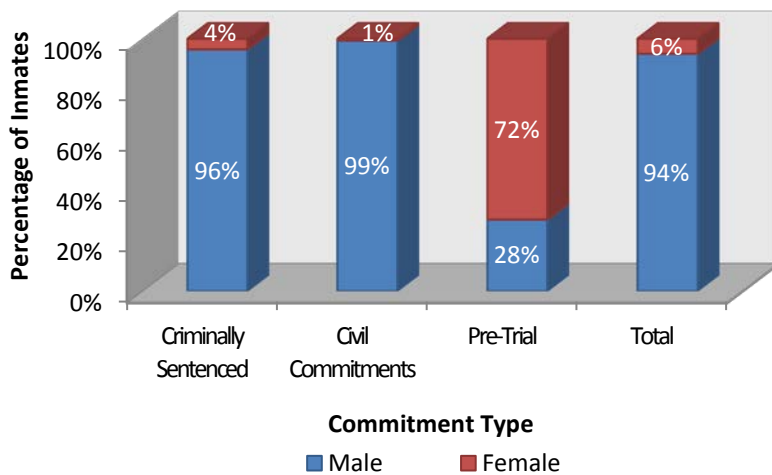
Race/Ethnicity*	Criminally Sentenced	Civil Commitments	Pre-Trial	Total
White	3,359	314	143	3,816
Black	2,257	90	52	2,399
Hispanic	2,212	51	44	2,307
Asian	112	3	5	120
Other	65	20	8	93
Native American	39	8	2	49
Total	8,044	486	254	8,784

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

■ White
 ■ Black
 ■ Hispanic
 ■ Asian
 ■ Other
 ■ Native Amer.

Similar to previous years, the largest percentage of the total jurisdiction inmate population had a race/ethnicity of White (43%), followed by Black and Hispanic (27% and 26% respectively), which was mirrored in each commitment type. There was little change in proportions from last year with the exception of pre-trial inmates which experienced a 9 percentage point increase in White inmates and small decreases for Hispanic (5%), Other (4%), and Black (2%) inmates.

MA DOC Jurisdiction Population by Gender and Commitment Type on January 1, 2019



MA DOC Jurisdiction Population by Gender and Commitment Type on January 1, 2019

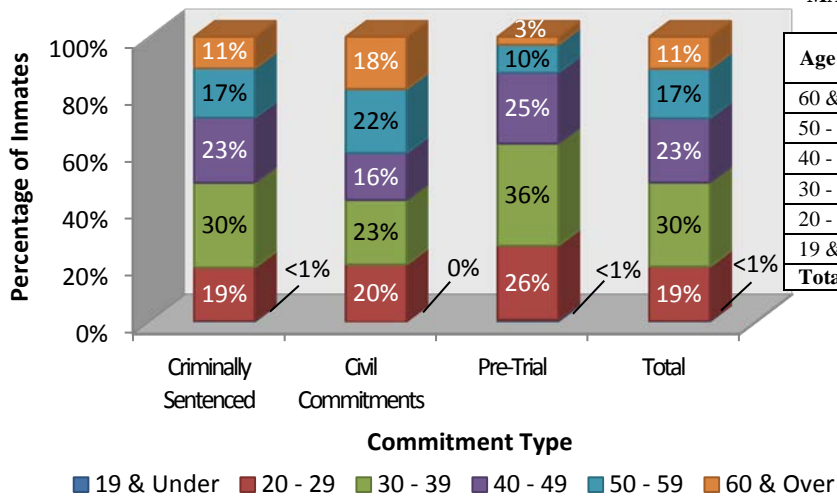
	Criminally Sentenced	Civil Commitments	Pre-Trial	Total
Male	7,701	482	72	8,255
Female	343	4	182	529
Total	8,044	486	254	8,784

The commitment types of criminally sentenced and civil commitments had the greatest percentage of males with 96% and 99% respectively. For the fourth year pre-trial detainees saw a greater proportion of females (72%) versus males (28%) with females experiencing a 5 percentage point increase while males saw a 5 percentage point decrease from January 1, 2018.⁷

⁷ MCI-Framingham has housing units designated to house female pre-trial detainees. This is unique as pre-trial detainees are largely housed by the counties for males. Several 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

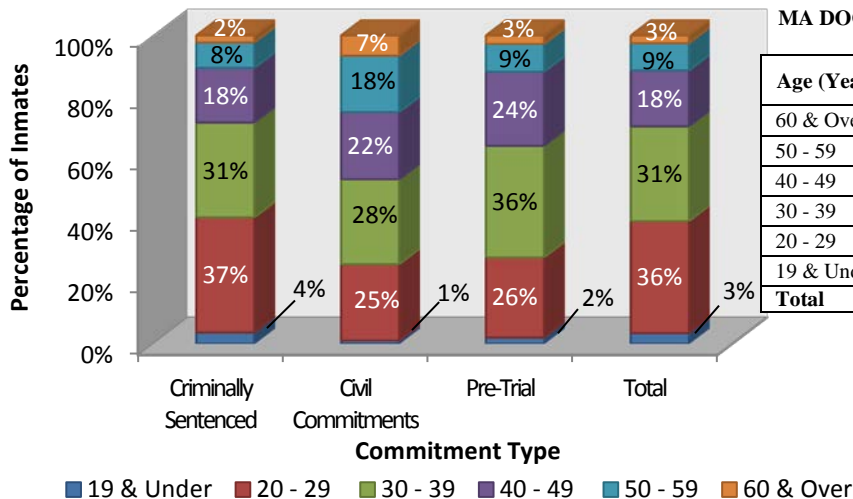
MA DOC Jurisdiction Population by Age and Commitment Type on January 1, 2019



MA DOC Jurisdiction Population by Age and Commitment Type on January 1, 2019

Age (Years)	Criminally Sentenced	Civil Commitments	Pre-Trial	Total
60 & Over	887	89	7	983
50 - 59	1,393	109	25	1,527
40 - 49	1,834	80	63	1,977
30 - 39	2,391	110	91	2,592
20 - 29	1,515	98	66	1,679
19 & Under	24	0	2	26
Total	8,044	486	254	8,784

MA DOC Jurisdiction Population by Age at Time of Incarceration and Commitment Type on January 1, 2019



MA DOC Jurisdiction Population by Age at Time of Incarceration and Commitment Type on January 1, 2019

Age (Years)	Criminally Sentenced	Civil Commitments	Pre-Trial	Total
60 & Over	183	32	7	222
50 - 59	666	89	23	778
40 - 49	1,426	106	61	1,593
30 - 39	2,477	134	92	2,703
20 - 29	3,000	120	66	3,186
19 & Under	292	5	5	302
Total	8,044	486	254	8,784

- ◆ As of January 1, 2019, 49% (n=3,906) of the criminally sentenced population were between the ages of 20-39 with 4,114 inmates (51%) age 40 years or older. At the time of incarceration, 5,477 inmates in the criminally sentenced population were between ages 20-39 (68%) with 3,000 between ages 20-29 (37%).
- ◆ Criminally sentenced inmates, who comprised the majority of the jurisdiction population, mirrored the total jurisdiction population with 86% between the ages 20-49 at the time of incarceration and 71% between the ages 20 – 49 on January 1, 2019.
- ◆ Pre-trial detainees varied the least in age when comparing the percentage of age on January 1, 2019 to age at incarceration (in both cases 62% were between the ages of 20-39) supporting the idea of the pre-trial population as more transitional with shorter institutional stays.

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

MA DOC Jurisdiction Population Average Age Comparison by Gender and Inmate Type: January 1, 2019, Date of Commitment, and Date of Release

Gender	Inmate Type	Average Age		
		1/1/2019	Commitment	Release
Female	Criminal	39	36	36
	Civil	29	29	34
	Pre-Trial	36	35	35
	Female Total	38	36	36
Male	Criminal	42	34	39
	Civil	45	40	38
	Pre-Trial	41	39	40
	Male Total	42	34	39
Total Population		42	34	39

Civily committed males were the oldest inmates on average on January 1, 2019 (45) and at commitment (40). Pre-trial males (40) were the oldest releases on average during 2018. On January 1, 2019 inmates ranged in age from 18 through 95 years old.

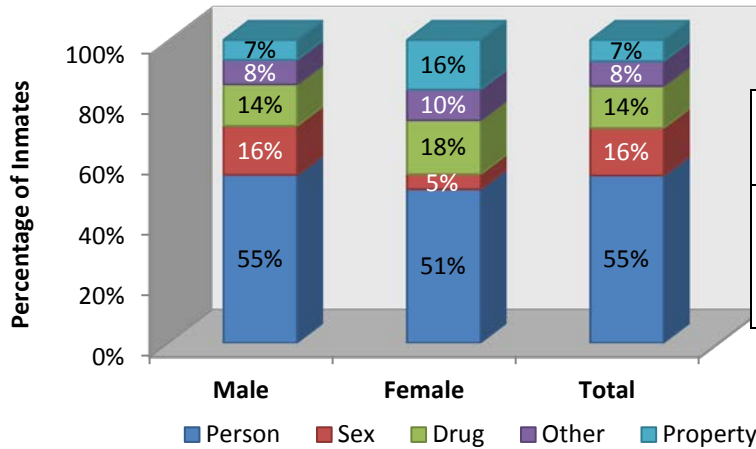
MA DOC Jurisdiction Population Five Year Comparison of Specialty Age Groups January 1, 2015 – January 1, 2019

Age Range		Year				
		2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
29 and Under	Number	2,555	2,269	2,069	1,933	1,705
	% of Population	24%	23%	22%	21%	19%
60 and Over	Number	845	869	886	931	983
	% of Population	8%	9%	9%	10%	11%
Total Population		10,813	10,014	9,496	9,207	8,784

The percentage of inmates 29 years old and under decreased by 5 percentage points from January 1, 2015 to January 1, 2019 while the percentage of inmates age 60 years old and over increased by 3 percentage points during the same timeframe.

Inmate Characteristics by Offense Types

MA DOC Criminally Sentenced Jurisdiction Population by Governing Offense and Gender on January 1, 2019

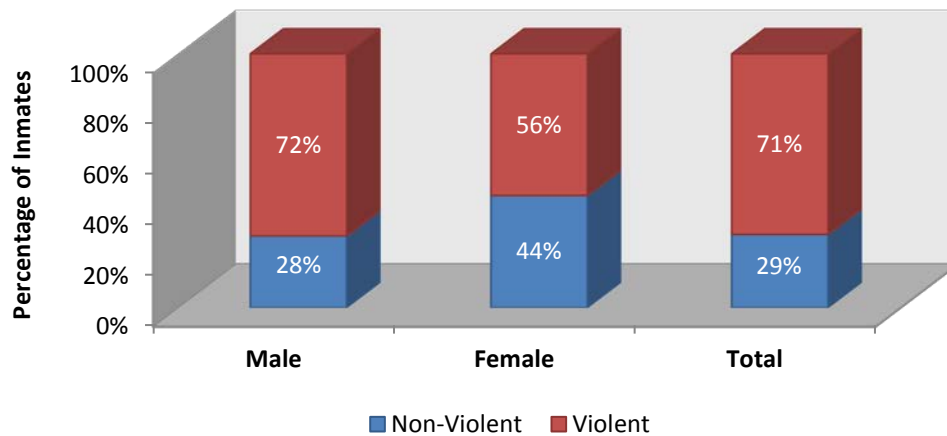


MA DOC Criminally Sentenced Jurisdiction Population by Governing Offense and Gender on January 1, 2019

	Governing Offense	Male	Female	Total
Violent Offenses	Person	4,270	174	4,444
	Sex	1,247	17	1,264
Non-Violent Offenses	Drug	1,051	61	1,112
	Other	628	35	663
	Property	505	56	561
	Total	7,701	343	8,044

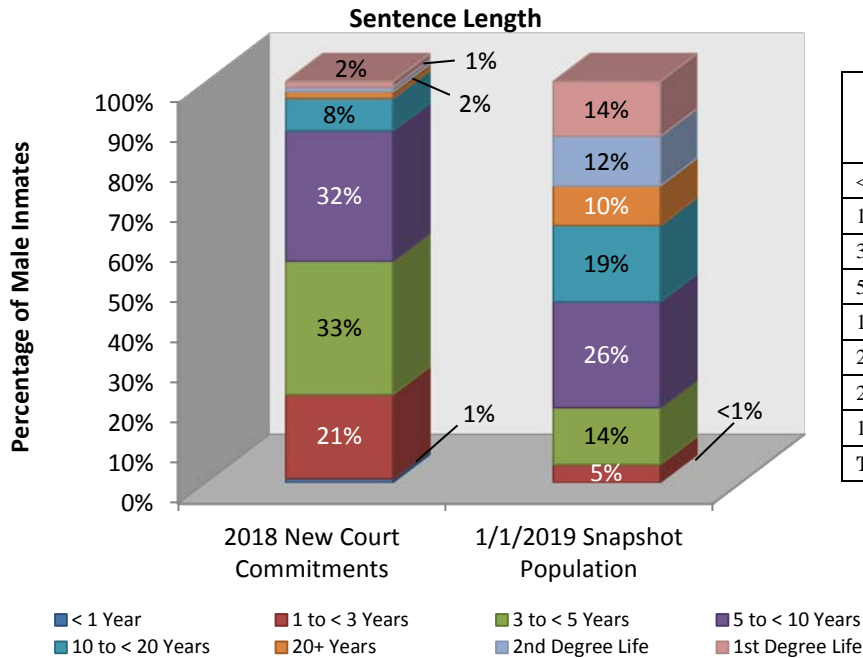
- ◆ The top three governing offenses for both the total criminally sentenced population and criminally sentenced male inmates on January 1, 2019 were person (55%), sex (16%), and drug offenses (14%).
- ◆ Differing slightly from their male counterparts the top three offenses for females were person offenses (51%), drug offenses (18%), and property offenses (16%).
- ◆ For the fourth year, the majority of criminally sentenced female inmates (56%) were incarcerated for a violent governing offense. Males increased slightly from the previous year (70%) with 72% incarcerated for a violent governing offense.

MA DOC Criminally Sentenced Jurisdiction Population by Violent/Non-Violent Offense and Gender on January 1, 2019



Inmate Characteristics by Sentence Lengths

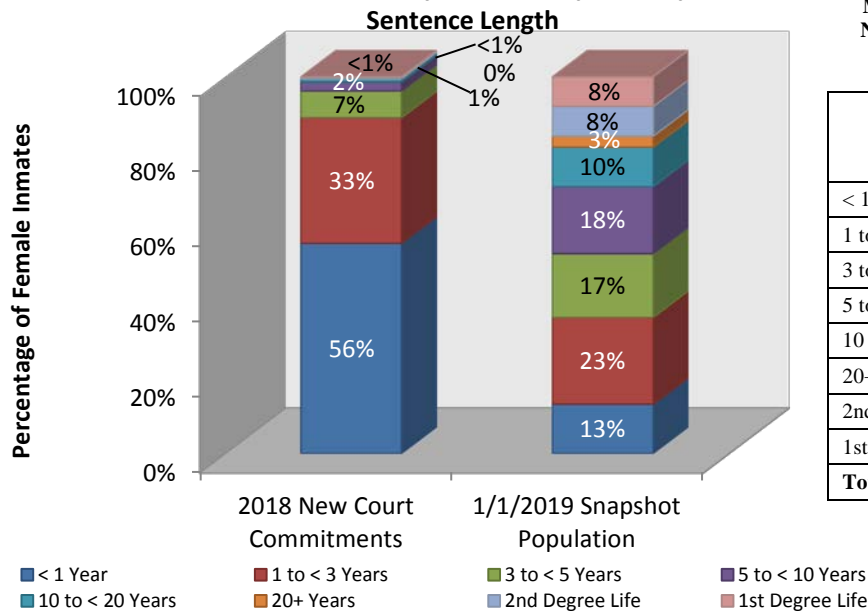
MA DOC Male Criminally Sentenced 2018 New Court Commitments vs. January 1, 2019 Snapshot Population:



MA DOC Male Criminally Sentenced 2018 New Court Commitments vs. January 1, 2019 Snapshot Population:

Sentence Length	2018 New Court Commitments	1/1/2019 Snapshot Population
< 1 Year	17	3
1 to < 3 Years	330	349
3 to < 5 Years	525	1,090
5 to < 10 Years	512	2,033
10 to < 20 Years	128	1,463
20+ Years	26	758
2nd Degree Life	16	951
1st Degree Life	24	1,054
Total	1,578	7,701

MA DOC Female Criminally Sentenced 2018 New Court Commitments vs. January 1, 2019 Snapshot Population:



MA DOC Female Criminally Sentenced 2018 New Court Commitments vs. January 1, 2019 Snapshot Population:

Sentence Length	2018 New Court Commitments	1/1/2019 Snapshot Population
< 1 Year	283	45
1 to < 3 Years	169	79
3 to < 5 Years	36	58
5 to < 10 Years	12	61
10 to < 20 Years	4	36
20+ Years	0	10
2nd Degree Life	2	27
1st Degree Life	1	27
Total	507	343

The comparisons of 2018's new court commitments to the January 1, 2019, 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 offenders that stack up in the population. For example, approximately 26% of the snapshot population is serving a life sentence; however, these offenders only comprised 2% of new court commitments.

Inmate Characteristics by Sentence Length

In 2018, 89% of female new court commitments were serving a sentence less than three years, whereas only 36% of females in the January 1, 2019 snapshot population were serving a sentence less than three years. Comparatively, 88% of male new court commitments were serving a sentence less than 10 years, while only 45% of the males in the January 1, 2019 snapshot population were serving a sentence less 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 numerous counties; thus, many women are serving county sentences with the MA DOC, which are shorter terms than state sentences.

Between January 1, 2018 and January 1, 2019, the percentage of state, criminally sentenced female inmates in the MA DOC jurisdiction decreased by two percentage points, while the percentage of county criminally sentenced female inmates increased by two percentage points. Among the criminally sentenced females in MA DOC jurisdiction on January 1, 2019:

- ◆ 65% (n=224) were state sentenced
- ◆ 33% (n=114) were county sentenced
- ◆ 1% (n=5) were out of state/federally sentenced

Naturally, sentence lengths vary by offense type. The following table compares 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. Seventy percent (70%) 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 47% of the female sentenced population, with 27% of criminally sentenced females serving a maximum sentence length of less than 3 years on a non-violent governing offense.

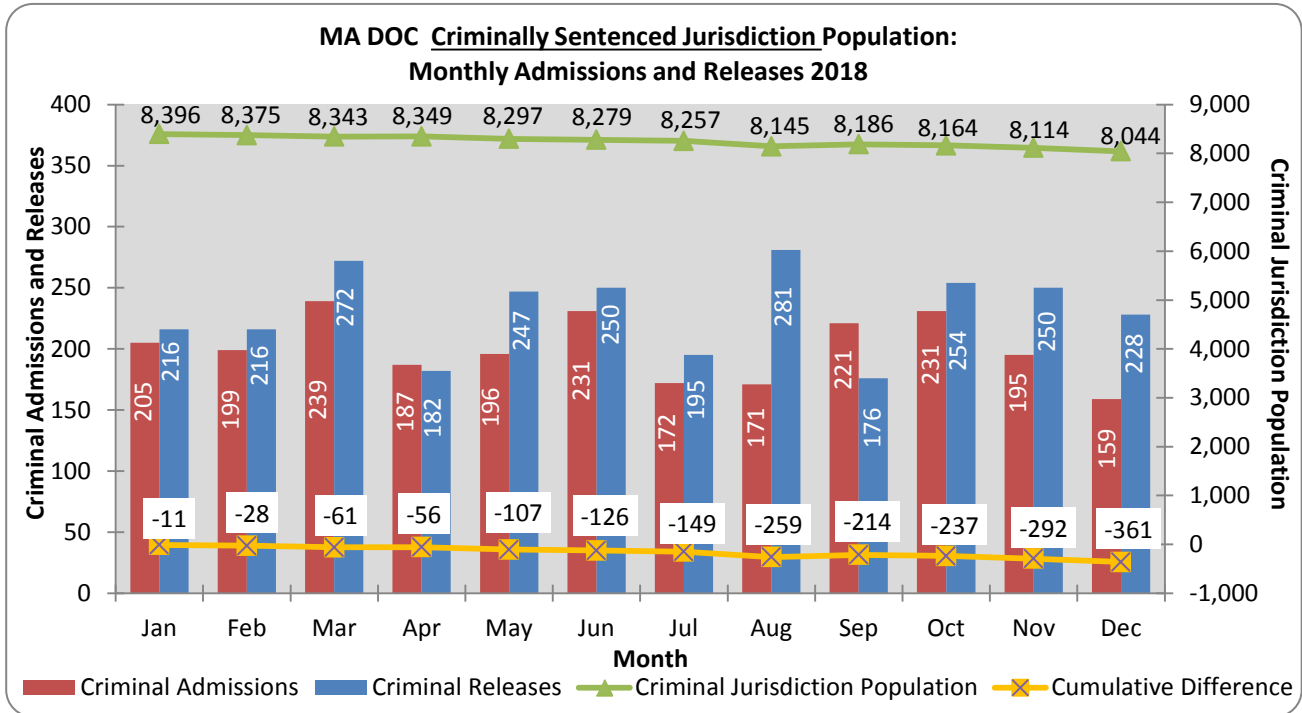
**MA DOC Criminally Sentenced Jurisdiction Population on January 1, 2019:
Governing Offense by Sentence Length and Gender**

	Governing Offense	Males		Females		Total	
		< 3 Years	≥ 3 Years	< 3 Years	≥ 3 Years	< 3 Years	≥ 3 Years
Violent Offenses	PERSON	132	4,138	27	147	159	4,285
	SEX	19	1,228	3	14	22	1,242
Non-Violent Offenses	DRUG	106	945	28	33	134	978
	PROPERTY	55	450	40	16	95	466
	OTHER	41	587	26	9	67	596
TOTALS		353	7,348	124	219	477	7,567
		7,701		343		8,044	

On January 1, 2019 drug offenses comprised the third largest governing offense type (n=1,212) for both criminally sentenced males (14%) and females (18%). A majority (60%) of drug offenders were serving governing sentences associated with a mandatory minimum term. There were a total of 672 inmates sentenced for a mandatory drug governing offense: 657 males and 15 females.

Massachusetts DOC 2018 Admissions and Releases

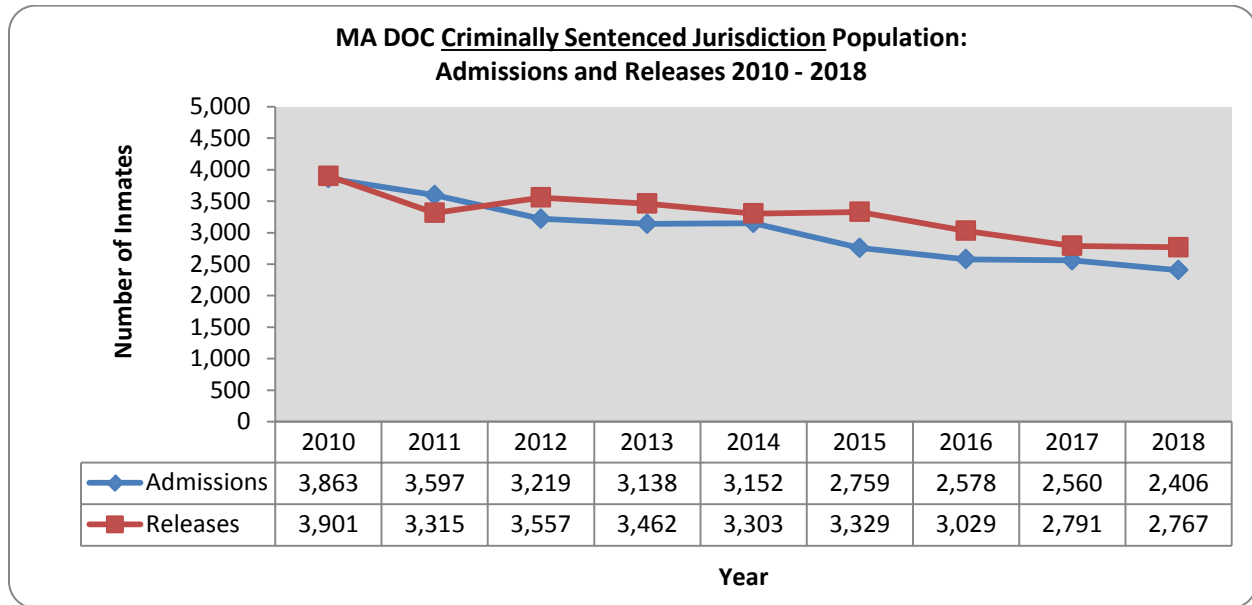
Admissions and Releases



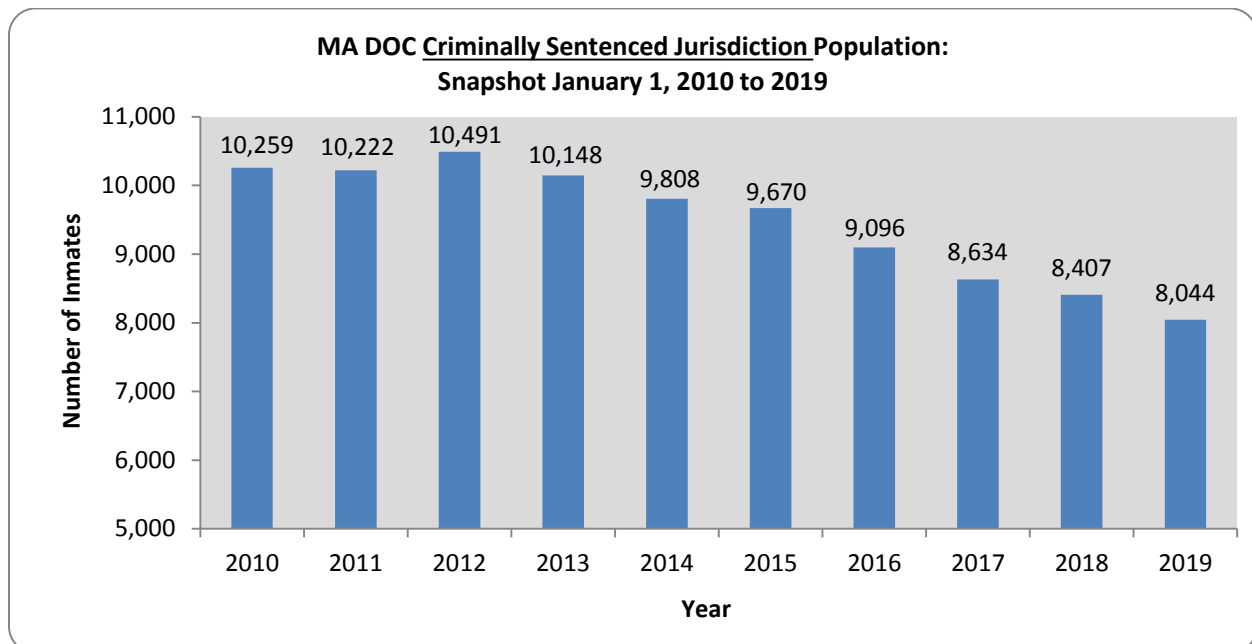
Note: Monthly jurisdiction population is based on the end of the month count of the criminally sentenced jurisdiction population and will not reflect the cumulative difference in admissions and releases.

- ◆ Overall, throughout 2018 the number of criminally sentenced admissions was less than the number of criminally sentenced releases, criminal admissions averaging 201 per month and criminal releases averaging 231.
- ◆ During the trend period criminal admissions ranged between 159 in December, and 239 in March. Criminal releases ranged between 176 in September, and 281 in August.
- ◆ The cumulative difference between admissions and releases resulted in a cumulative decrease of 361 in the criminally sentenced population by year's end.
- ◆ The criminally sentenced population at the end of 2018 was 8,044, a 4% decrease from the population at the end of 2017, at 8,407. This rate decrease was more than the decrease seen when comparing years end 2017 and 2016 criminally sentenced populations.

Admissions and Releases



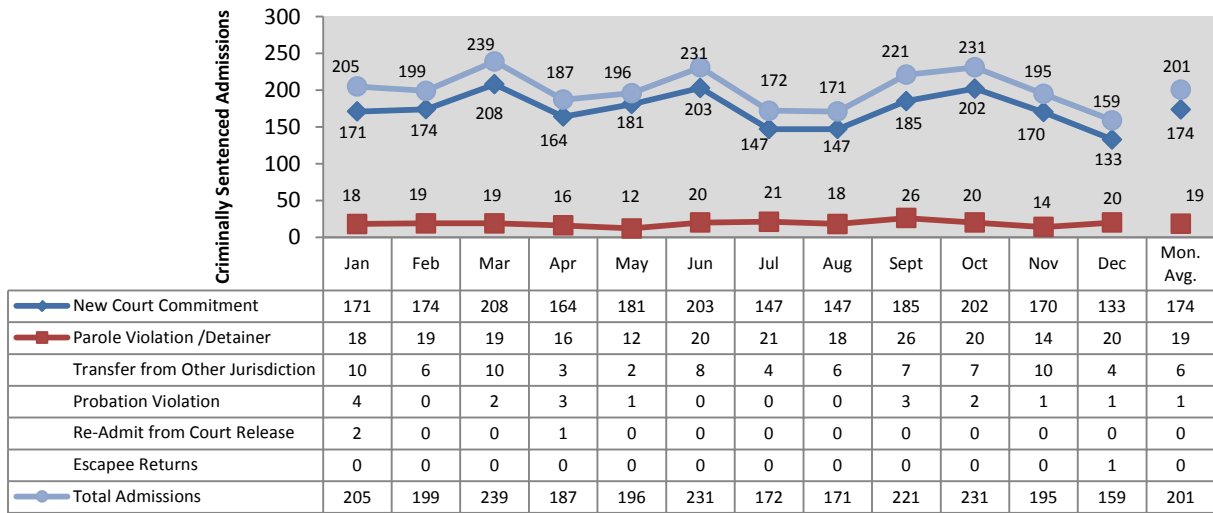
During the past eight years, criminal admissions and releases both exhibited negative trends, with criminal admissions exhibiting a stronger decline than criminal releases. Admissions saw an average annual decrease of 6% each year; criminal admissions during 2015 and 2012 had the largest declines of 12% and 11% respectively. Releases also saw an average annual decrease of 4%, with the largest decreases experienced during 2011 and 2016, 15% and 9% respectively.



The criminally sentenced population saw a total decrease of 22% from January 1, 2010 to 2019, averaging a 3% decrease per year. However, the years since 2013 saw an average yearly decrease of nearly 4%, with January 1, 2019 seeing a decrease of slightly over 4% compared to the previous year.

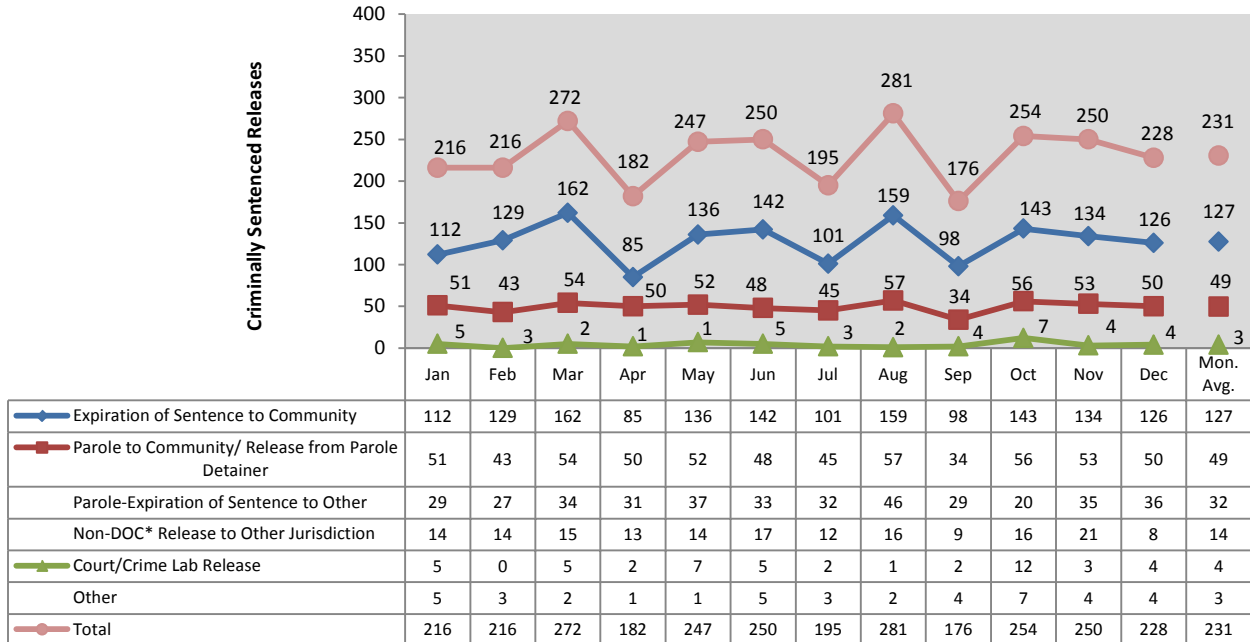
Admissions and Releases

MA DOC 2018 Criminally Sentenced Jurisdiction Admissions: Admission Type by Month



Total criminal jurisdiction admissions for 2018 were driven by new court commitments to the MA DOC, as evidenced by the parallel yearly trends. New court commitments ranged from 133 to 208 with a monthly average of 174, twelve fewer than the monthly average in 2017. Total criminal admissions ranged from 159 to 239 for a monthly average of 201, twelve fewer than the 2017 monthly average of 213.

MA DOC 2018 Criminally Sentenced Jurisdiction Releases: Release Type by Month



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

Total criminal jurisdiction releases for 2018 ranged between 176 and 281 for a given month and averaged 231; two fewer than the monthly average during 2017 of 233. Releases due to expiration of sentence fluctuated around a flat trend line of 127 releases per month during 2018, while paroles to the community or release from parole detainer remained fairly stable. Parole related releases to the community resulted in 21% of the criminal jurisdiction releases in 2018; higher than 2017 releases, at 18%.

Admissions and Releases

MA DOC 2018 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	507	87%	1,578	87%	2,085	87%
Parole Violation - Parole Detainer	42	7%	181	10%	223	9%
Transfer from Other Jurisdiction	18	3%	59	3%	77	3%
Probation Violation	17	3%	0	0%	17	1%
Re-Admit from Court Release	0	0%	3	< 1%	3	< 1%
Escapee Return	0	0%	1	< 1%	1	< 1%
Total Admissions	584	100%	1,822	100%	2,406	100%

During 2018, 87% of male and 87% of female criminally sentenced admissions were new court commitments. The percentage of new court commitments stayed essentially the same as the percentage of male and female criminally sentenced admissions during 2017, 87% for males and 86% for females.

MA DOC 2018 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	301	50%	1,226	57%	1,527	55%
Parole to Community / Release from Parole Detainer	104	17%	489	23%	593	21%
Parole-Expiration of Sentence to Other	83	14%	306	14%	389	14%
Non-DOC* Release to Other Jurisdiction	107	18%	62	3%	169	6%
Court Release / Crime Lab	10	2%	38	2%	48	2%
Other Release	2	< 1%	39	2%	41	1%
Total Releases	607	100%	2,160	100%	2,767	100%

*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 2,168 criminally sentenced jurisdiction releases to the community in 2018, approximately 70% were released via expiration of sentence to the community, 27% were via parole to the community/release from parole detainer, and 2% were court/crime lab releases to the community.
- ◆ Females accounted for 19% of total criminally sentenced jurisdiction releases to the community in 2018; 20% of the expirations of sentence to the community, 18% of paroles to the community /release from parole detainer, and 21% of court/crime lab releases to the community
- ◆ There were 40 deaths in the criminal jurisdiction population during 2018: 38 males and 2 females.

Admissions and Releases

MA DOC Criminally Sentenced Jurisdiction Admissions: Admission Type by Year 2016 - 2018

Admission Type	2016		2017		2018	
	Number of Admissions	Percent of Admissions	Number of Admissions	Percent of Admissions	Number of Admissions	Percent of Admissions
New Court Commitment	2,186	85%	2,226	87%	2,085	87%
Parole Violation/ Parole Detainer	234	9%	229	9%	223	9%
Transfer from Other Jurisdiction	119	5%	68	3%	77	3%
Probation Violation	27	1%	27	1%	17	1%
Re-Admit from Court Release	9	< 1%	9	< 1%	3	< 1%
Escapee Return	3	< 1%	1	< 1%	1	< 1%
Total Admissions	2,578	100%	2,560	100%	2,406	100%

- ◆ From 2016 to 2018, the percentage of criminally sentenced admissions that were new court commitments remained fairly steady. The number of admissions who were new court commitments dropped from 2,186 in 2016 to 2,085 in 2018, a more moderate 5% decrease compared with the 7% drop between 2015 and 2017.
- ◆ The second most common criminally sentenced admission type, parole violator/parole detainer, decreased between 2016 and 2017 from 234 to 229. It was followed by another decrease to 223 in 2018, sliding closer to the 222 admissions seen during 2015.
- ◆ Total criminal admissions during the period from 2016 to 2018 saw its lowest point in 2018, down 7% from 2016.

MA DOC Criminally Sentenced Jurisdiction Releases: Release Type by Year 2016 - 2018

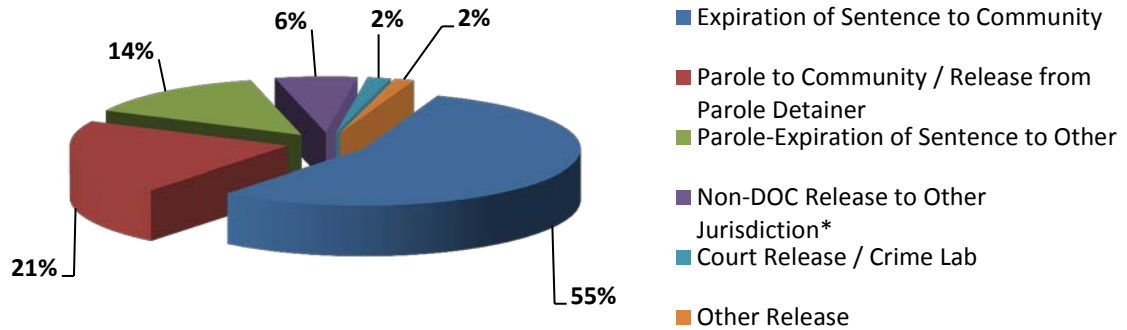
Release Type	2016		2017		2018	
	Number of Releases	Percent of Releases	Number of Releases	Percent of Releases	Number of Releases	Percent of Releases
Expiration of Sentence to Community	1,692	56%	1,601	57%	1,527	55%
Parole to Community / Release from Parole Detainer	583	19%	514	18%	593	21%
Parole-Expiration of Sentence to Other	451	15%	414	15%	389	14%
Non-DOC* Release to Other Jurisdiction	213	7%	164	6%	169	6%
Court Release / Crime Lab	55	2%	65	2%	48	2%
Other Release	35	1%	33	1%	41	1%
Total Releases	3,029	100%	2,791	100%	2,767	100%

*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 2018 when it was 10% lower than the height in 2016. Releases decreased by 8% between 2016 and 2017, followed by another moderate 1% decrease during 2018.

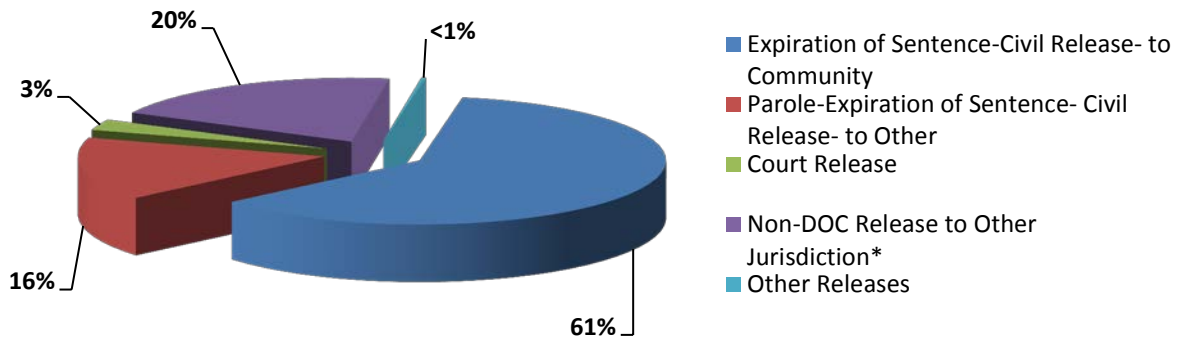
Releases by Release Type

MA DOC 2018 Criminally Sentenced Jurisdiction Releases by Release Type



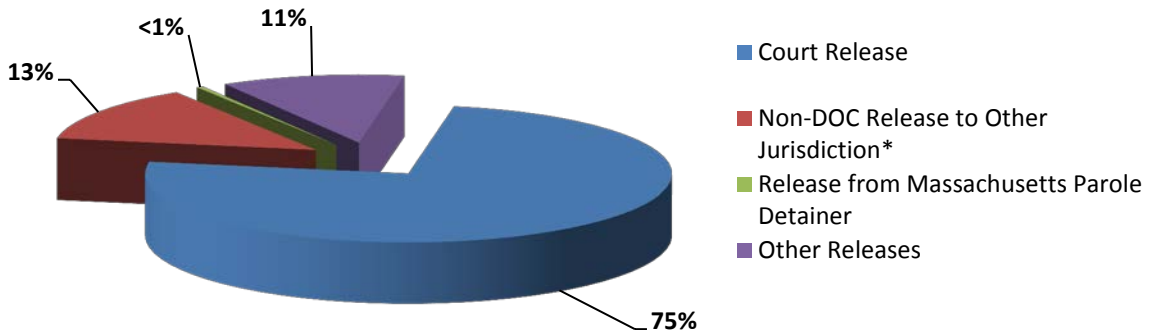
*Refers to non-DOC inmates from county, federal, or another state's jurisdiction released to county, federal, or another state's jurisdiction.

MA DOC 2018 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.

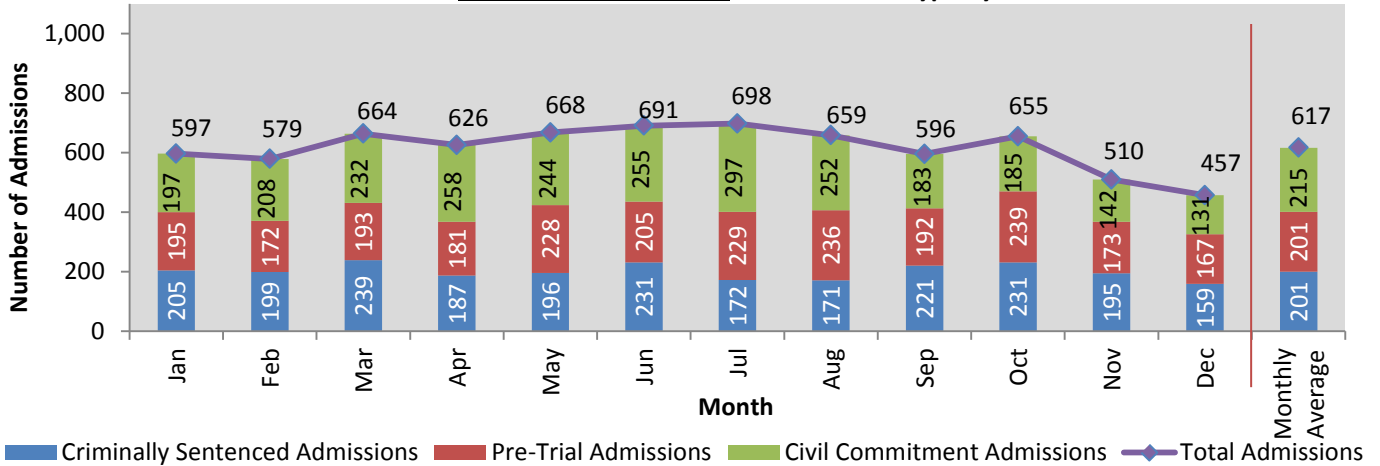
MA DOC 2018 Pre-Trial Jurisdiction Releases by Release Type



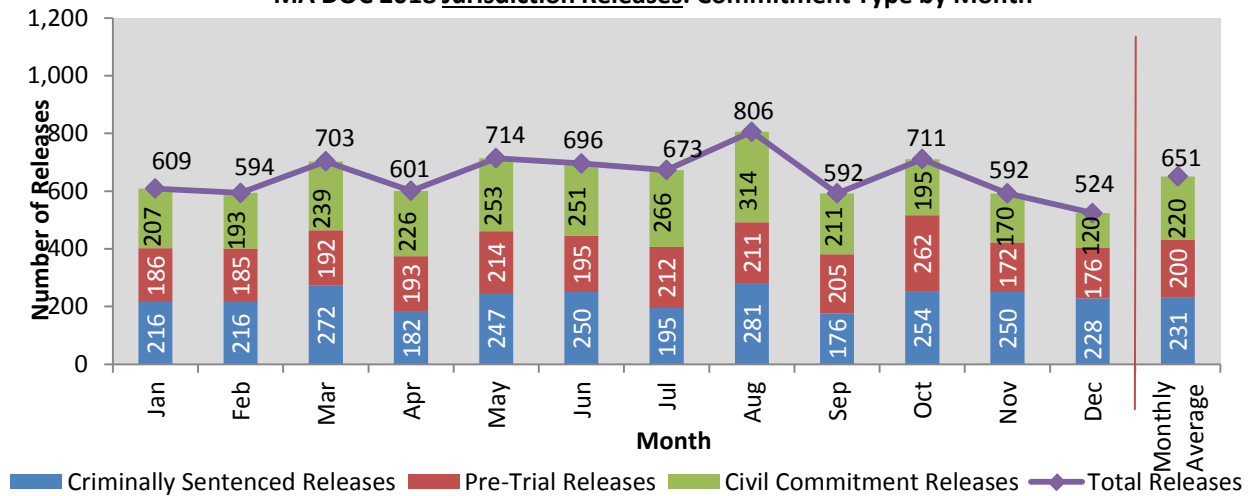
*Refers to non-DOC inmates from county, federal, or another state's jurisdiction released to county, federal, or another state's jurisdiction.

Criminal, Civil, and Pre-Trial Admissions and Releases

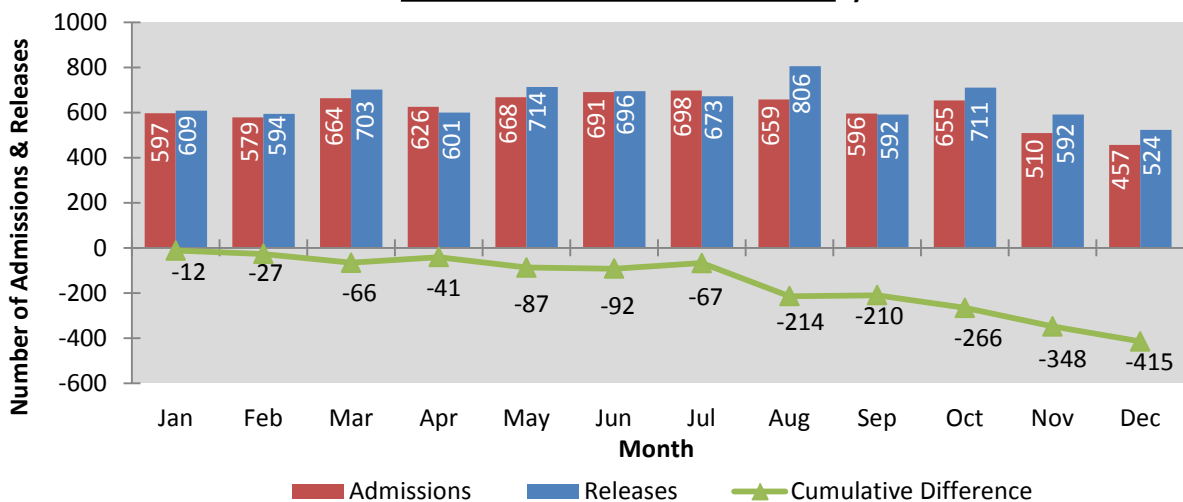
MA DOC 2018 Jurisdiction Admissions: Commitment Type by Month



MA DOC 2018 Jurisdiction Releases: Commitment Type by Month



MA DOC 2018 Jurisdiction Admissions and Releases by Month

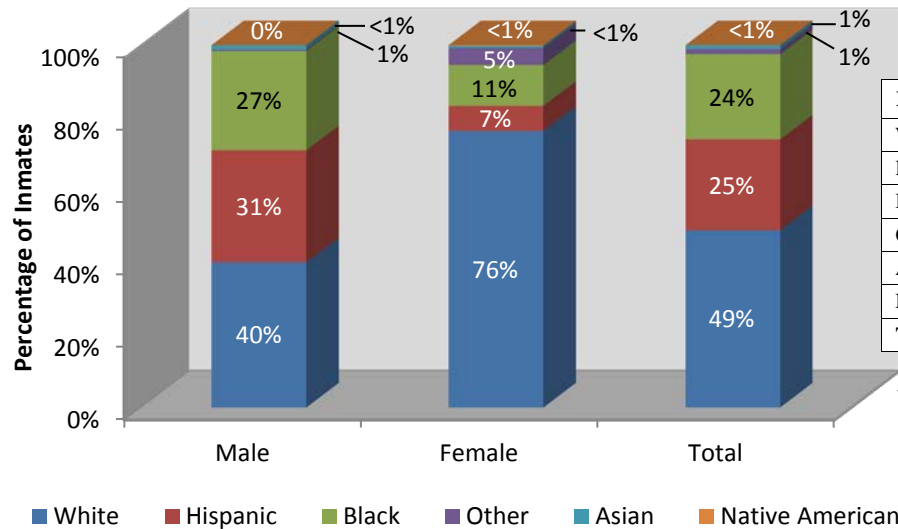


During 2018, the difference in admissions and releases resulted in a downward trend, ending in an overall cumulative decrease of 415 inmates. This was a 45% increase compared to the cumulative decrease of 287 inmates seen during 2017.

Massachusetts DOC 2018 Admissions by New Court Commitments

Admissions by New Court Commitments

MA DOC 2018 Criminally Sentenced Jurisdiction New Court Commitments:
Race/Ethnicity by Gender



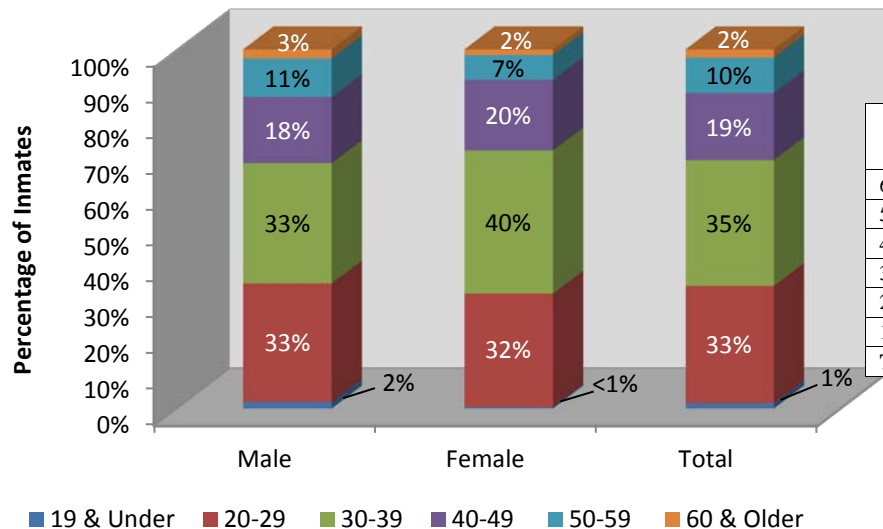
MA DOC 2018 Criminally Sentenced Jurisdiction New Court Commitments:
Race/Ethnicity* by Gender

Race/Ethnicity*	Male	Female	Total
White	632	387	1,019
Hispanic	488	35	523
Black	433	57	490
Other	6	24	30
Asian	19	3	22
Native American	0	1	1
Total	1,578	507	2,085

*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 (40%), followed by Hispanic (31%) and Black (27%). For females, the majority of new court commitments were White (76%), followed by Black (11%) and Hispanic (7%). As males made up 76% of criminally sentenced new court commitments, the total distribution more closely followed the male distribution.

MA DOC 2018 Criminally Sentenced Jurisdiction New Court Commitments:
Age in Years at Commitment by Gender



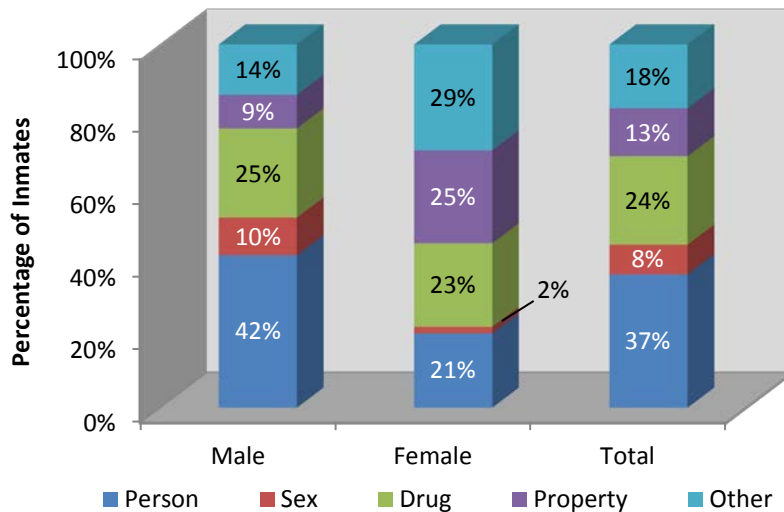
MA DOC 2018 Criminally Sentenced Jurisdiction New Court Commitments:
Age in Years at Commitment by Gender

Age (Years)	Male	Female	Total
60 & Over	40	8	48
50-59	170	35	205
40-49	291	100	391
30-39	528	202	730
20-29	521	160	681
19 & Under	28	2	30
Total	1,578	507	2,085

The age distribution of male new court commitments was concentrated in the 30 – 39 year age group (33%) and the 20 – 29 year age group (33%). The largest percent of female criminal new court commitments fell into the 30 – 39 year age group (40%), followed by the 20 – 29 year age group (32%). Males and females had similar age distributions in the 40 or older age groups, with 32% male and 28% female criminally sentenced new court commitments falling into these categories.

Admissions by New Court Commitments

**MA DOC 2018 Criminally Sentenced Jurisdiction New Court Commitments:
Governing Offense by Gender**

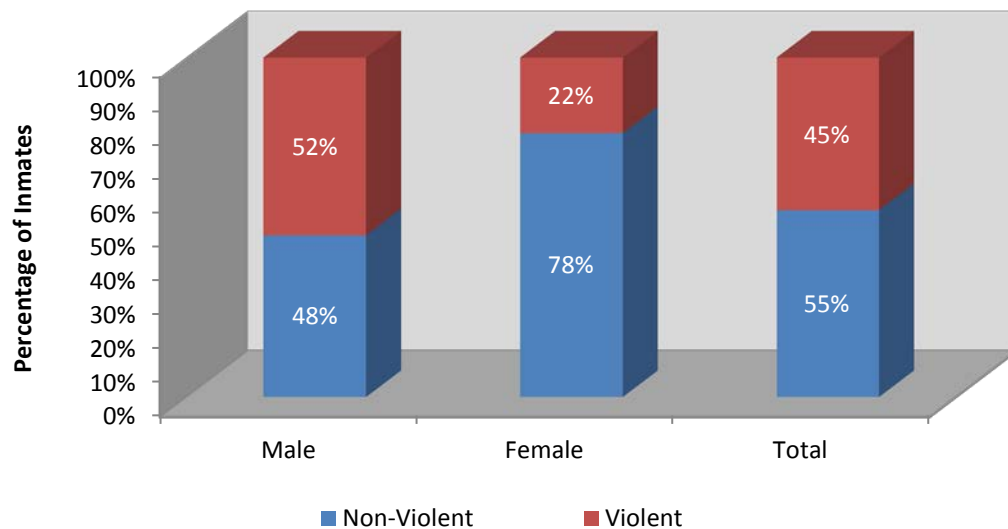


**MA DOC 2018 Criminally Sentenced Jurisdiction
New Court Commitments:
Governing Offense by Gender**

	Governing Offense	Male	Female	Total
Violent Offenses	Person	664	104	768
	Sex	161	9	170
Non-Violent Offenses	Drug	388	117	505
	Property	146	129	275
	Other	219	148	367
	Total	1,578	507	2,085

The most common governing offense type for male criminally sentenced new court commitments was person (42%), followed by drug (25%). Among females, “other” offenses were the most common (29%), followed by property offenses (25%). Sex offenses were the least common, accounting for 8% of governing offenses for the criminally sentenced new court commitments, 10% of the male governing offenses and 2% of the female governing offenses.

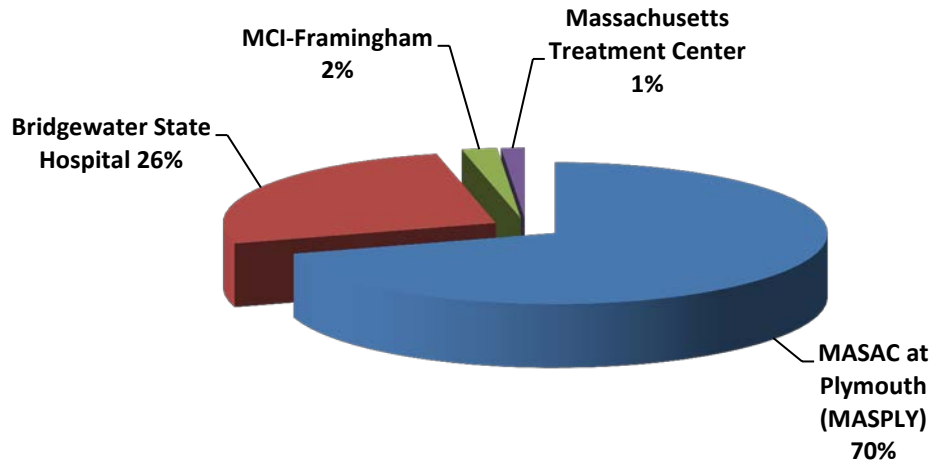
**MA DOC 2018 Criminally Sentenced Jurisdiction New Court Commitments:
Violent/Non-Violent Offense by Gender**



The majority of male criminally sentenced new court commitments had violent governing offenses (52%) while the majority of female criminally sentenced new court commitments had non-violent governing offenses (78%). Overall, criminally sentenced jurisdiction inmates had predominately non-violent governing offenses (55%). Though males made up three-quarters of the new court commitments, the overall percentages of non-violent offenses were increased due to female inmates having a much higher rate of non-violent to violent offenses.

Admissions by New Court Commitments

**MA DOC 2018 Jurisdiction New Court Commitments:
Civil Commitments by Institution**



MA DOC 2018 Jurisdiction New Court Commitments: Civil Commitments by Institution

Institution	Female	Male	Total
MASAC at Plymouth (MASPLY)	0	1,814	1,814
Bridgewater State Hospital	0	676	676
MCI-Framingham	54	0	54
Massachusetts Treatment Center	0	36	36
Total	54	2,526	2,580

Civil commitments to the MA DOC are generally broken into three groups: “Mental Health Commitments”, “Alcohol and Substance Abuse Commitments” (i.e., Section 35’s), and “Sexually 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), Section 35’s at the Massachusetts Alcohol and Substance Abuse Center at Plymouth (MASPLY), and “Sexually Dangerous Persons” at the Massachusetts Treatment Center (MTC), all of which are located on the MA DOC Bridgewater Complex.

- ◆ In 2018, there were 2,580 civil new court commitments, representing 35% of the overall 7,400 admissions.
- ◆ The majority (70%) of civil commitments in 2018 were Section 35’s admitted to MASPLY. This was down from 77% in 2017. The number of Section 35’s decreased from 2,237 during 2017 to 1,814 during 2018, a 19% decrease. Commitments to MASPLY are limited to 90 days in length.
- ◆ During 2018, there were 676 civil commitments to BSH. This was a 17% increase compared to the previous year (n = 579). During 2018, twenty-six percent of the civil commitments went to BSH, up from 20% during 2017.
- ◆ Females represented 2% of the civil commitments during 2018, the same as seen during 2017 and 2016.

Massachusetts DOC 2018 Releases to the Community

Releases to the Community by Supervision Type

The definition of releases to the community is the release of an inmate from the jurisdiction of the Massachusetts DOC by parole or by discharge to the community. Conditions warranting a release to the community generally include: court release, expiration of fine, payment of fine, parole and expiration of sentence.

Post Release Supervision of Criminally Sentenced Jurisdiction Inmates Released to the Community from the MA DOC: 2014 - 2018

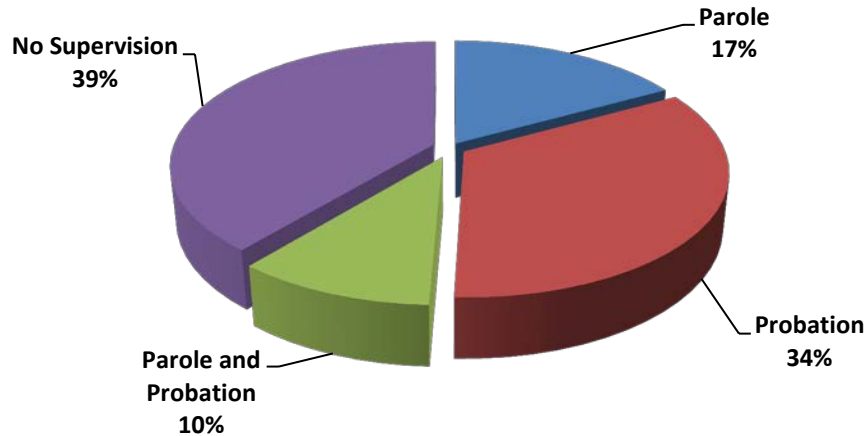
Post Release Supervision Type	2014		2015		2016		2017		2018	
Parole Supervision (only)	441	17%	455	18%	357	15%	281	13%	368	17%
Probation Supervision (only)	830	33%	901	35%	859	37%	788	36%	728	34%
Parole and Probation Supervision (both)	254	10%	279	11%	227	10%	233	11%	225	10%
No Post Release Supervision	1,012	40%	946	37%	886	38%	877	40%	844	39%
Total	2,537	100%	2,581	100%	2,329	100%	2,179	100%	2,165	100%

Post Release Supervision	2014		2015		2016		2017		2018	
Supervision	1,525	60%	1,635	63%	1,443	62%	1,302	60%	1,321	61%
No Supervision	1,012	40%	946	37%	886	38%	877	40%	844	39%
Total	2,537	100%	2,581	100%	2,329	100%	2,179	100%	2,165	100%

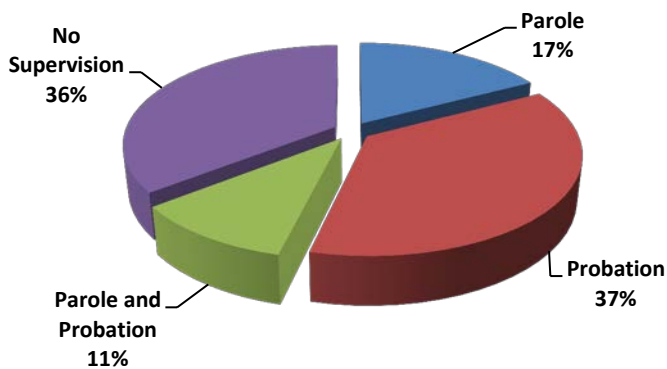
- ◆ Overall, there was a 15% decrease (n=372) in criminally sentenced releases to the community between 2014 and 2018. Though each release year experienced a decline (except for 2015), the largest decrease was between 2015 and 2016 (10%). The 10% decrease in releases, from 2,581 in 2015 to 2,329 in 2016, was in large part due to a decrease in male parole releases.
- ◆ Releases to the community have experienced a consistent downward trend from a high of 2,537 in 2014 to a low of 2,165 in 2018. In past years, this downward trend was owed to decreases in those being paroled to the community. In 2018, this trend has reversed. While those released with parole supervision accounted for 24% (n=514) of releases to the community in 2017, parole releases have jumped to 27% (n=593) in 2018, returning to 2014 levels.
- ◆ Since its inception in July 2015, the Transitional Treatment Program (TTP) has continued to house parolees recently paroled to the community from the MA DOC. The proportion of inmates being paroled directly to the TTP in comparison to those being paroled to the community outside of the TTP has decreased, accounting for 24% of paroles to the community in 2017 versus 18% in 2018.

Releases to the Community by Supervision Type

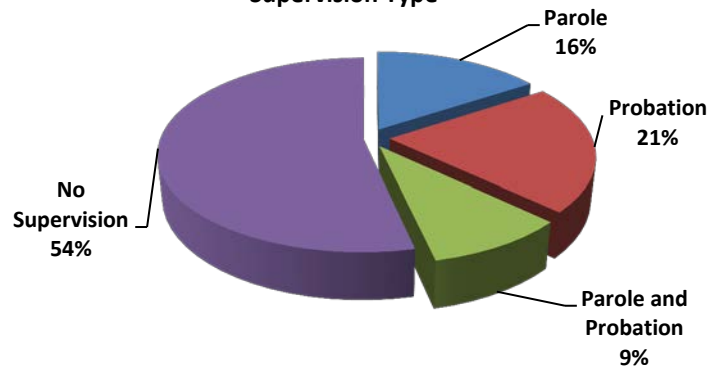
MA DOC 2018 Total Criminally Sentenced Jurisdiction Releases to the Community: Supervision Type



MA DOC 2018 Male Criminally Sentenced Jurisdiction Releases to the Community: Supervision Type



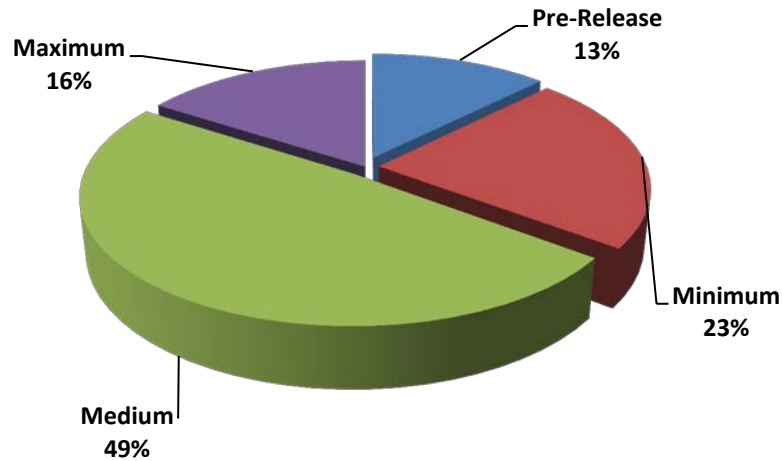
MA DOC 2018 Female Criminally Sentenced Jurisdiction Releases to the Community: Supervision Type



During 2018, male inmates were more likely than female inmates to be released to the community under probation supervision only - 37% of males compared to 21% of females. Conversely, female inmates were more likely to be released with no supervision - 54% of females compared to 36% of males. The percentage of male and female inmates supervised in the community by means of parole only or both parole and probation were more similar, 28% and 25% respectively.

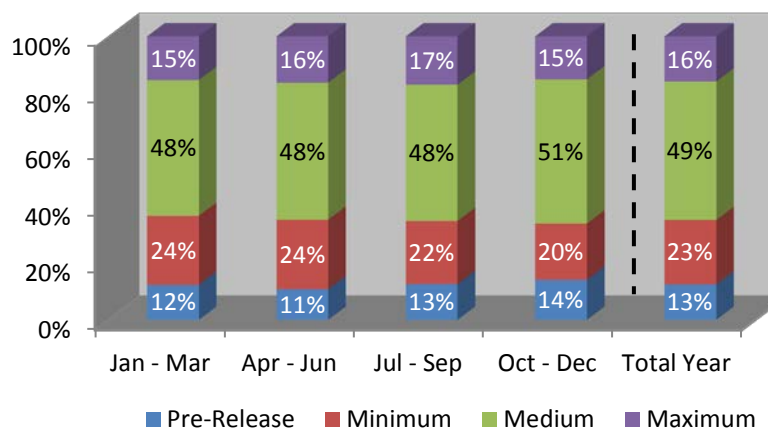
Releases to the Community by Security Level

MA DOC 2018 Criminally Sentenced Jurisdiction Releases to the Community by Security Level



- ◆ Overall, the number of criminally sentenced inmates released to the community decreased by 1% from 2,179 releases in 2017 to 2,165 releases in 2018.
- ◆ The proportion of releases from all security levels remained similar between 2017 and 2018. Releases from minimum decreased from 25% in 2017 to 23% in 2018, and releases from maximum increased from 14% in 2017 to 16% in 2018. Male releases from maximum security units have increased each year since 2015, when they accounted for 10% of releases.

MA DOC 2018 Criminally Sentenced Jurisdiction Releases to the Community by Security Level



MA DOC 2018 Criminally Sentenced Jurisdiction Releases to the Community Quarterly by Security Level

Security Level	Jan - Mar	Apr - Jun	Jul - Sep	Oct - Dec	Total Year
Maximum	86	86	85	88	345
Medium	268	255	240	295	1,058
Minimum	136	129	111	115	491
Pre-Release	69	57	63	82	271
Total	559	527	499	566	2,165

- ◆ Nearly half of the criminally sentenced inmates released to the community were from medium security facilities (n=1,058), followed by releases from lower security facilities (minimum and pre-release) with 762 releases.

Releases to the Community by Security Level

**MA DOC 2018 Criminally Sentenced Jurisdiction Releases to the Community
by Security Level and Institution**

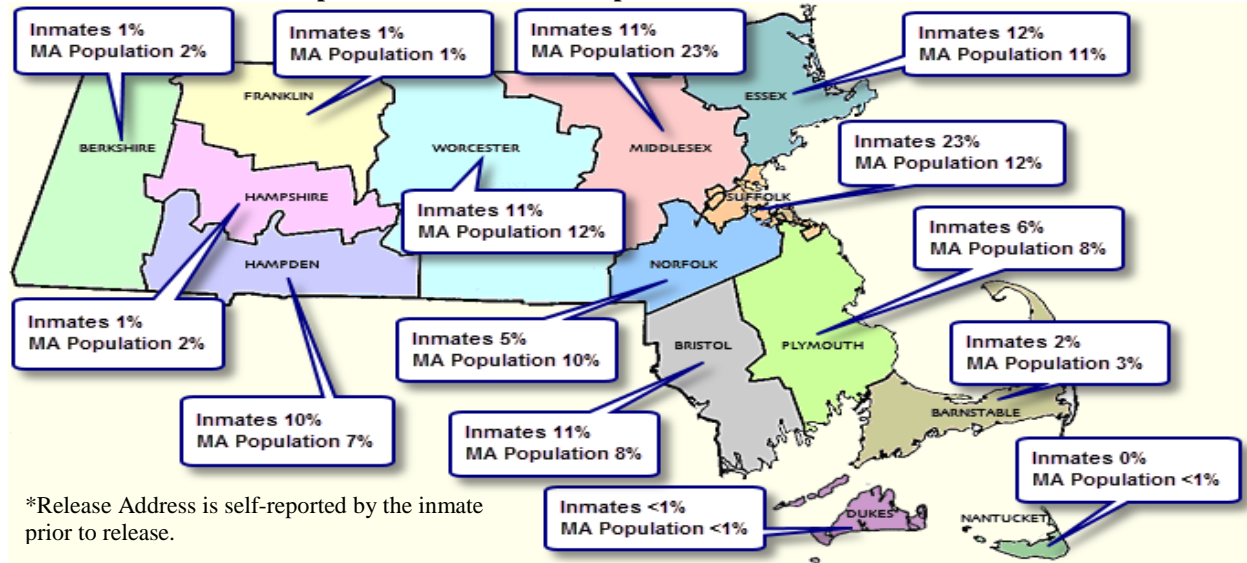
Institution	Security Level				
	Maximum	Medium	Minimum	Pre-Release	Total
Male					
Boston Pre-Release Center	0	0	15	77	92
Bridgewater State Hospital	0	0	0	0	0
Lemuel Shattuck Hospital	0	0	0	0	0
Massachusetts Alcohol and Substance Abuse Center at Plymouth	0	0	10	0	10
Massachusetts Treatment Center	0	72	0	0	72
MCI-Cedar Junction	169	5	0	0	174
MCI-Concord	0	155	0	0	155
MCI-Norfolk	0	151	0	0	151
MCI-Shirley	0	197	118	0	315
NCCI-Gardner	0	77	6	0	83
Northeastern Correctional Center	0	0	61	67	128
Old Colony Correctional Center	0	74	55	0	129
Pondville Correctional Center	0	0	61	48	109
Souza Baranowski Correctional Center	176	0	0	0	176
Female					
Lemuel Shattuck Hospital	0	0	0	0	0
MCI-Framingham	0	246	0	0	246
South Middlesex Correctional Center	0	0	128	28	156
Total DOC Facilities	345	977	454	220	1,996
County, Federal, Interstate	0	81	37	51	169
Total Jurisdiction	345	1,058	491	271	2,165

*Note: 13 inmates were ELMO's (electronic monitoring) and coded as pre-release.

- ◆ When comparing DOC facility of release in 2018, the greatest number of criminally sentenced inmates were released to the community from MCI-Shirley (n=315), followed by MCI-Framingham (n=246) and Souza-Baranowski Correctional Center (n=176).
- ◆ A number of state correctional institutions have multilevel security classifications. Considering individual security level units, the greatest number of criminally sentenced males were released to the community from MCI-Shirley medium (n=197), followed by Souza-Baranowski Correctional Center maximum (n=176) and MCI-Cedar Junction maximum (n=169).
- ◆ By security level, the most releases to the community from maximum were released from Souza-Baranowski Correctional Center (n=176), the most from medium were released from MCI-Shirley (n=197), the most from minimum were released from South Middlesex Correctional Center (n=128), and the most from pre-release were released from Boston Pre-Release Center (n=77).

Release Address by County

MA DOC 2018 Criminally Sentenced Jurisdiction Releases to the Community by Counties*
Compared to the Estimated Population of Massachusetts in 2017



Note: 2017 estimated county population statistics were provided by the U.S Census Bureau, 2018 was not available.

Note: Not all MA DOC inmates are released in Massachusetts; approximately 6% 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 2017 compared to the percentage of criminally sentenced MA DOC inmates released to each county in 2018. Suffolk, Essex, Bristol, and Hampden were the only four counties with a higher percentage of inmates released to the county (56% combined) than the percentage of Massachusetts residents residing there (38% combined). In contrast, Middlesex County represented 23% of the Massachusetts population but only 11% of the releases from the MA DOC.

MA DOC 2018 Criminally Sentenced Jurisdiction Releases to the Community: County by GenderΩ

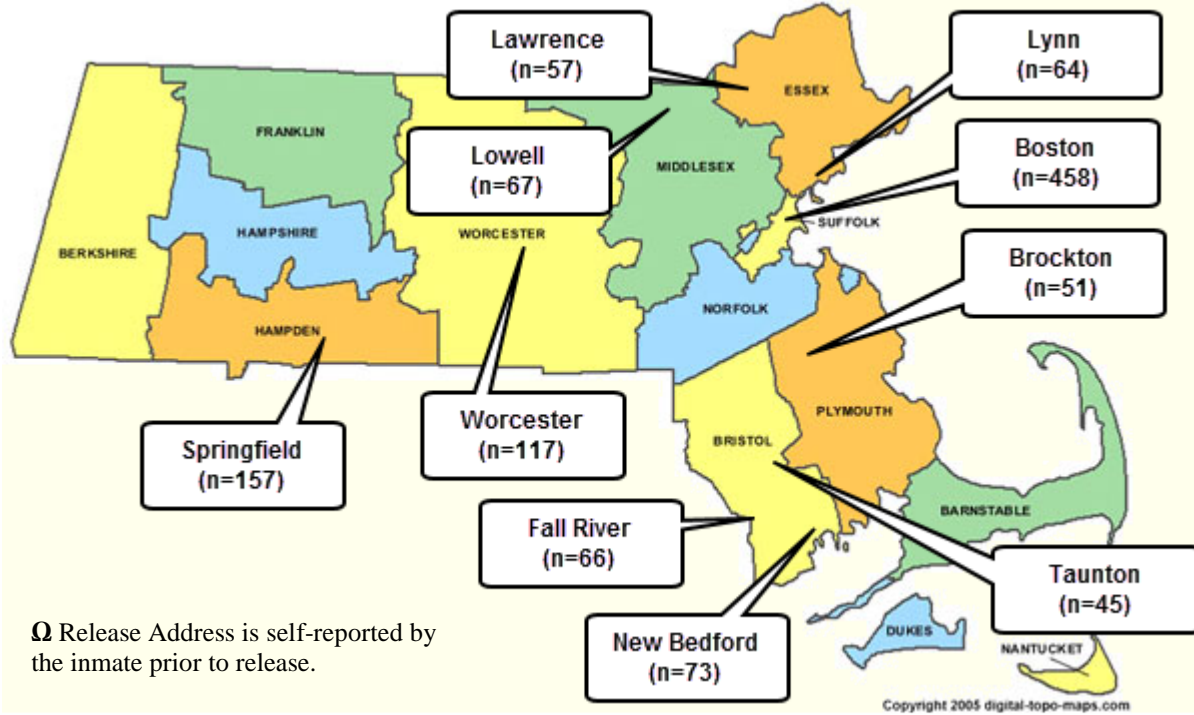
Female†			Male			Total		
County	Number	Percentage	County	Number	Percentage	County	Number	Percentage
Essex	97	23%	Suffolk	449	26%	Suffolk	494	23%
Middlesex	71	17%	Hampden	217	12%	Essex	262	12%
Plymouth	54	13%	Worcester	208	12%	Middlesex	242	11%
Suffolk	45	11%	Bristol	191	11%	Worcester	230	11%
Norfolk	43	10%	Middlesex	171	10%	Bristol	228	11%
Bristol	37	9%	Essex	165	9%	Hampden	223	10%
Worcester	22	5%	Plymouth	77	4%	Plymouth	131	6%
Barnstable	15	4%	Norfolk	68	4%	Norfolk	111	5%
Hampden	6	1%	Barnstable	34	2%	Barnstable	49	2%
Hampshire	2	<1%	Berkshire	27	2%	Berkshire	28	1%
Berkshire	1	<1%	Franklin	21	1%	Franklin	21	1%
Franklin	0	0%	Hampshire	11	1%	Hampshire	13	1%
Nantucket	0	0%	Dukes	2	<1%	Dukes	2	<1%
Dukes	0	0%	Nantucket	0	0%	Nantucket	0	0%
Sub-Total	393	95%	Sub-Total	1,641	94%	Sub-Total	2,034	94%
Outside MA	19	5%	Outside MA	111	6%	Outside MA	130	6%
Unknown	1	<1%	Unknown	0	0%	Unknown	1	<1%
Total	413	100%	Total	1,752	100%	Total	2,165	100%

Ω 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.

Release Address by Top Ten Cities

MA DOC 2018 Criminally Sentenced Jurisdiction Releases to the Community by Top Ten Cities ^Ω



Of the 2,165 criminally sentenced inmates released to the community in 2018, 1,155 (53%) 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=458) followed by Springfield (n=157) and Worcester (n=117). The male population mirrored the top three of the ten cities. Females' release locations differed from males' in that Lynn (n=19) was the second most frequent city of release followed by Lawrence (n=18).

MA DOC 2018 Criminally Sentenced Jurisdiction Top Ten Releases to the Community: City by Gender^{Ω†}

Female*			Male			Total		
City	Number	Percentage	City	Number	Percentage	City	Number	Percentage
Boston	43	10%	Boston	415	24%	Boston	458	21%
Lynn	19	5%	Springfield	153	9%	Springfield	157	7%
Lawrence	18	4%	Worcester	106	6%	Worcester	117	5%
Plymouth	14	3%	New Bedford	61	3%	New Bedford	73	3%
Haverhill	13	3%	Fall River	59	3%	Lowell	67	3%
Lowell	12	3%	Lowell	55	3%	Fall River	66	3%
New Bedford	12	3%	Lynn	45	3%	Lynn	64	3%
Brockton	11	3%	Brockton	40	2%	Lawrence	57	3%
Taunton	11	3%	Lawrence	39	2%	Brockton	51	2%
Worcester	11	3%	Taunton	34	2%	Taunton	45	2%

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

[†] Calculations include inmates released to states outside of Massachusetts.

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

Massachusetts DOC 2018 Average Length of Stay, Jail Credits and Time Served

Average Length of Stay, Jail Credits, and Time Served

Length of Stay (LOS) is defined as the number of days an inmate is incarcerated under MA DOC jurisdiction between date of admission and date of release. An inmate may accrue jail credits to be used towards their sentence. Jail credits are reported as a total number of days and can be accrued either in a MA DOC facility and/or non-DOC facility. Time served is calculated by adding the inmate's LOS and jail credits.

For the purpose of this report, LOS and time served were calculated based on criminally sentenced inmates who had their first release to the community from MA DOC jurisdiction in 2018.

**MA DOC 2018 Criminally Sentenced Jurisdiction Average Length of Stay, Jail Credits, and Time Served:
by Release Type and Gender**

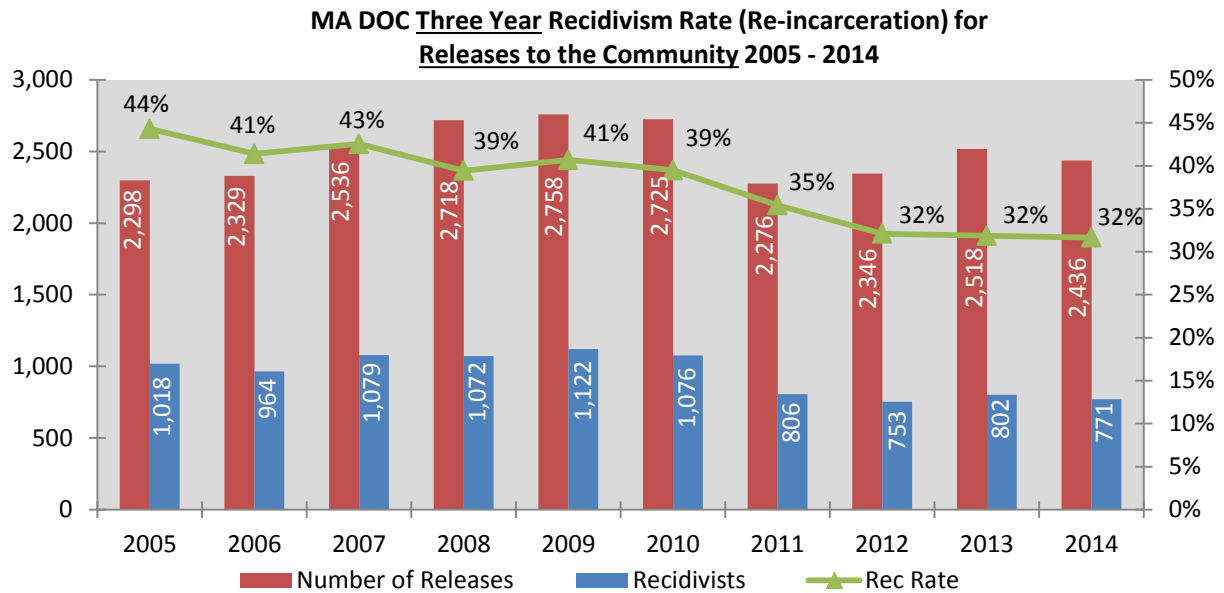
Release Type	LOS	Jail Credits	Time Served
Males			
Parole to the Community	1,421 Days	336 Days	1,757 Days
Expiration of Sentence to the Community	1,331 Days	312 Days	1,634 Days
Females			
Parole to the Community	418 Days	124 Days	542 Days
Expiration of Sentence to the Community	235 Days	92 Days	327 Days
Total			
Parole to the Community	1,233 Days	296 Days	1,530 Days
Expiration of Sentence to the Community	1,127 Days	271 Days	1,398 Days

- ◆ There were 1,831 criminally sentenced inmates who had their first release in 2018. Seventy-three percent were released due to an expiration of sentence (n=1,345), meaning they served their sentence in its entirety. The remaining 27% were paroled to the community.
- ◆ Of the 1,831 releases, the majority were males (81%). On average, males released via parole served 4.8 years before initially being released. On the other hand, males released via expiration of sentence served 4.5 years, about four months fewer.
- ◆ Females represented 19% of the total releases in 2018 (n=342). Females released via parole also served for longer (18 months) compared to those who released via expiration of sentence (11 months). It is important to note that two-thirds of female releases served a county sentence, thereby shortening the overall time served.

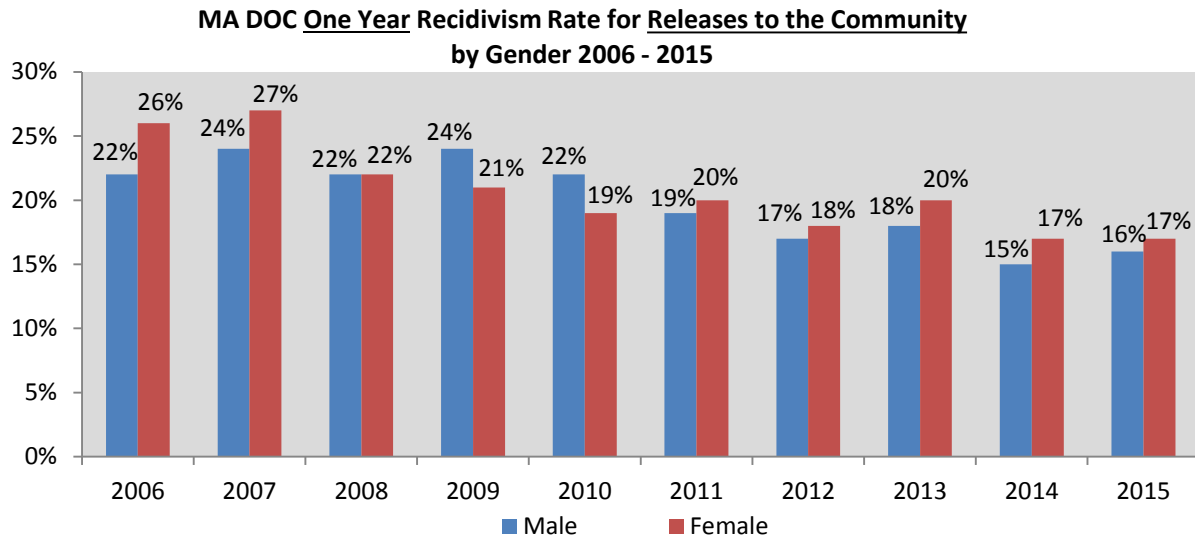
Massachusetts DOC 2018 Recidivism Trends and 2014 Recidivism Rates

Recidivism Trends and 2014 Recidivism Rates

A recidivist is defined as any criminally sentenced inmate released to the community from MA DOC jurisdiction during 2014 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.



Over the ten year trend period, the three year recidivism rate has seen a strong negative trend, 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. For males, the one-year rate reached a low of 15% for the trend period during 2014 followed by a one percentage point increase in 2015 to end the trend period. During the last two years of the trend, the female recidivism rate remained at a low of 17%. The overall one-year rate for 2015 was 16%.

Recidivism Trends and 2014 Recidivism Rates

MA DOC Three Year Recidivism Rate for 2014 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	247	52%	n.a.	n.a.	247	52%
Medium	823	32%	393	35%	1,216	33%
Minimum and Pre-Release	745	24%	228	25%	973	24%
Total	1,815	32%	621	32%	2,436	32%

- ◆ Recidivism rates for inmates released during 2014 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 lower⁸ security had the lowest recidivism rate, with 24% of those inmates re-incarcerated within three-years of their release to the community. The recidivism rate for males released from medium security was 32%, while the rate for males released from maximum security was 52%, the highest of all security levels.
- ◆ The recidivism rate for female inmates released from a lower security facility was 25%, whereas females who were released from a medium security facility had a recidivism rate of 35%.

MA DOC Three Year Recidivism Rate for Female 2014 Releases to the Community by Sentence Type⁹

Sentence Type	Number Releases	Recidivism Rate
State Sentence	103	33%
County Sentence ¹⁰	518	31%
Total	621	32%

- ◆ Historically, female inmates released from a **county** sentence have had a much higher recidivism rate than those released from a state sentence. In 2014, however, state sentenced females had a higher recidivism rate (33%) compared to county sentenced females (31%) released from MA DOC facilities.
- ◆ There was a 2 percentage point difference in recidivism rates by **sentence type** for females released to the community in 2014 from the MA DOC; this was the smallest gap in rates seen between these cohorts compared to previous years.

⁸ Lower security includes minimum, minimum pre-release, state pre-release, and contract pre-release facilities.

⁹ Since some county correctional facilities do not house female inmates, some females released during 2013 who received a county sentence from the court served that sentence at the Massachusetts DOC.

¹⁰ Includes inmates released from Massachusetts DOC serving a county sentence.

Recidivism Trends and 2014 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 rates¹¹ of inmates released during 2014, including and excluding re-incarcerations for technical violations.

**MA DOC Three-Year Recidivism Rate for 2014 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	542	96	18%	141	30	21%	683	126	18%
Expiration of Sentence	1,273	401	32%	480	139	29%	1,753	540	31%
Total Releases	1,815	497	27%	621	169	27%	2,436	666	27%
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*	542	173	32%	141	51	36%	683	224	33%
Expiration of Sentence	1,273	402	32%	480	145	30%	1,753	547	31%
Total Releases	1,815	575	32%	621	196	32%	2,436	771	32%

*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.¹²
- ◆ Of the 2,436 inmates released to the community during 2014, 28% (n=683) were paroled to the community, while 72% (n=1,753) were released via expiration of sentence. Inmates paroled to the community had a higher recidivism rate (33%) than the recidivism rate of inmates released via expiration of sentence (31%). 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.

¹¹ 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.

¹² 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 2014 Recidivism Rates

- ◆ Of the 771 inmates who were a recidivist using the definition including technical violations of parole or probation, 151 recidivated due to a technical violation of their parole or probation conditions. One hundred and forty-one of the recidivists were technical parole violations and 10 were technical violations of probation.
- ◆ Of the 151 inmates who returned for a technical violation, 46 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 33% to 18%. The recidivism rate for both male and female inmates decreased from a rate of 32% to a rate of 27%, mirroring the total cohort.

MA DOC Three-Year Re-incarceration Recidivism Rates Excluding and Including Technical Violators for 2014 Releases to the Community

Three Year Re-incarceration Recidivism Rates <u>Excluding</u> Technical Violations									
		1st Year		2nd Year		3rd Year		Total	
Gender	Number of Releases	Rec	Rate	Rec	Rate	Rec	Rate	Rec	Rate
Female	621	81	13%	52	8%	36	6%	169	27%
Male	1,815	221	12%	152	8%	124	7%	497	27%
Total	2,436	302	12%	204	8%	160	7%	666	27%
Three Year Re-incarceration Recidivism Rates <u>Including</u> Technical Violations									
		1st Year		2nd Year		3rd Year		Total	
Gender	Number of Releases	Rec	Rate	Rec	Rate	Rec	Rate	Rec	Rate
Female	621	110	18%	53	9%	33	5%	196	32%
Male	1,815	313	17%	147	8%	115	6%	575	32%
Total	2,436	423	17%	200	8%	148	6%	771	32%

- ◆ Both male and female releases experienced a lower first year recidivism rate when excluding technical violators, resulting in a decrease of five percentage points in the recidivism rate for the first year post-release.
- ◆ For the second year in the follow-up period, there was no difference when excluding technical violations, with recidivism rates of 8%.
- ◆ The recidivism rate increased by one percentage point in the third year when excluding technical violations of parole or probation compared to when including technical violators, 7% and 6% respectively.

Recidivism Trends and 2014 Recidivism Rates

**MA DOC Three Year Recidivism Rates for 2014 Releases to the Community by
Offense Category and Gender**

Offense Category	Males		Females		Total	
	Number Releases	Recidivism Rate	Number Releases	Recidivism Rate	Number Releases	Recidivism Rate
Property	228	45%	212	35%	440	40%
Person	768	36%	150	37%	918	36%
Other	204	26%	132	27%	336	26%
Drug	490	24%	116	25%	606	24%
Sex	125	22%	11	n.a.	136	22%
Total	1,815	32%	621	32%	2,436	32%

- ◆ Property offenders had the highest recidivism rate for male releases (45%), followed by person offenders (36%) and ‘other’ offenders who recidivated at 26%.
- ◆ On the other hand, the highest recidivism rate for female releases was person offenders (37%), followed by property offenders (35%) and ‘other’ offenders (27%).
- ◆ Inmates serving a governing sex offense had the lowest overall recidivism rate (22%).

**MA DOC Three Year Recidivism Rates for 2014 Releases to the Community by
Offense Type and Gender**

Offense Type	Males		Females		Total	
	Number Releases	Recidivism Rate	Number Releases	Recidivism Rate	Number Releases	Recidivism Rate
Violent	893	34%	161	36%	1,054	34%
Non-Violent	922	29%	460	30%	1,382	30%
Total	1,815	32%	621	32%	2,436	32%

Non-violent offenders released in 2014 had a lower recidivism rate (30%) compared to violent offenders (34%). Inmates serving a governing drug offense accounted for nearly half of all non-violent offenses and also had the second lowest recidivism rate, likely contributing to the lower recidivism rate of non-violent offenders.

**MA DOC Three Year Recidivism Rates for 2014 Releases to the Community by
Mandatory Minimum Drug Sentence and Gender**

Drug Offense Type	Males		Females		Total	
	Number Releases	Recidivism Rate	Number Releases	Recidivism Rate	Number Releases	Recidivism Rate
Non-Mandatory Drug Offense	211	26%	95	23%	306	25%
Mandatory Drug Offense	279	22%	21	33%	300	23%
Total	490	24%	116	25%	606	24%

Of the 606 released inmates who were incarcerated for a governing drug offense, the proportion of inmates serving a mandatory vs. non-mandatory drug sentence was 50/50. Mandatory drug offenders had a lower recidivism rate than non-mandatory drug offenders, 23% and 25% respectively.

Recidivism Trends and 2014 Recidivism Rates

MA DOC Three Year Recidivism Rates for 2014 Releases to the Community by Race/Ethnicity* and Gender¹³

	Males		Females		Total	
Race/Ethnicity	Number Releases	Recidivism Rate	Number Releases	Recidivism Rate	Number Releases	Recidivism Rate
Caucasian	748	35%	469	33%	1,217	34%
Other	8	n.a	42	31%	50	32%
African American/Black	529	31%	69	29%	598	31%
Hispanic	506	27%	39	23%	545	27%
Asian	19	n.a	0	n.a	19	n.a
Native American/Alaskan Native	5	n.a	2	n.a	7	n.a
Total	1,815	32%	621	32%	2,436	32%

*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 (31%) and Hispanic inmates at 27%.
- ◆ Caucasian female inmates had the highest recidivism rates (33%) followed by inmates who reported a race of Other (31%) and African American/Black (29%).
- ◆ Overall, inmates who reported a race of Caucasian recidivated at the highest rate (34%), followed by inmates who reported a race of Other at 32% and African American/Black at 31%.

¹³ For releases where the numeric value was less than 20, recidivism rates were not reported in the table.

Massachusetts DOC 2018 Caveats and Definitions

Caveats and Definitions

ACA	The American Correctional Association
Admissions	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.
Commitment for Alcohol or Substance Abuse Disorder	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.
Average Daily Population (ADP)	The average daily population for calendar year 2018 was calculated by adding together the count from the last day of each month broken out by institution, then divided by twelve (12).
Civil Commitment or “Civil”	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.
Commitments	Inmates who are newly admitted to a committing institution pursuant to a sentence, an order of civil commitment or as otherwise prescribed by law.
Court Release	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
Crime Bill	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

Crime Lab	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.
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.
Custody Population	An inmate who is incarcerated in a Massachusetts DOC facility.
Design Capacity	The number of inmates that planners or architects intended to house in a facility.
DOC	The Massachusetts Department of Correction.
Drug Offense	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.
Earned Good Time	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.
Escape	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.
Expiration Of Sentence	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.
Governing Offense	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

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 2017, 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

Other Offenses	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.
Other Releases	Releases by virtue of deaths, escapes and transfer out of state.
Parole	The discharge of an inmate from a Massachusetts DOC jurisdiction 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.
Parole or Expiration of Sentence to Other	<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"> parole to out of state sentence parole to federal authority parole to immigration parole to a from and after House of Correction sentence parole to warrant parole to a from and after Department of Correction sentence expiration release to out of state sentence expiration release to federal authority expiration release to immigration expiration release to from and after House of Correction sentence expiration release to warrant expiration release to from and after/concurrent at Department of Correction expiration to civil commitment parole to civil commitment release from civil commitment to warrant
Parole to Community	Inmates released from the Massachusetts DOC jurisdiction with parole supervision.
Parole Violator/Detainer	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.
Person Offense	Crimes against Person (primarily set forth in G.L. c. 265), including assault and battery, kidnapping, manslaughter, and murder.

Caveats and Definitions

Pre-Trial or “Detainee”	Individuals who are held in custody in a correctional facility prior to trial.
Probation	A court-ordered sentence whereby an inmate is released from confinement but remains under court supervision.
Probation Violation	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.
Property Offense	Crimes against Property (primarily set forth in G.L. c. 266), including arson, burglary and fraud.
Recidivism Rate	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.
Release from Parole Detainer	A small number of inmates who are released from a temporary parole detainer (n=2).
Release to the Community	The release of an inmate from the jurisdiction of the Massachusetts DOC by parole or by discharge to the community. 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.
Sentence/Sentence Type	<p>State Prison Sentence</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

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

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.