

Massachusetts Department of Correction Prison Population Trends Report

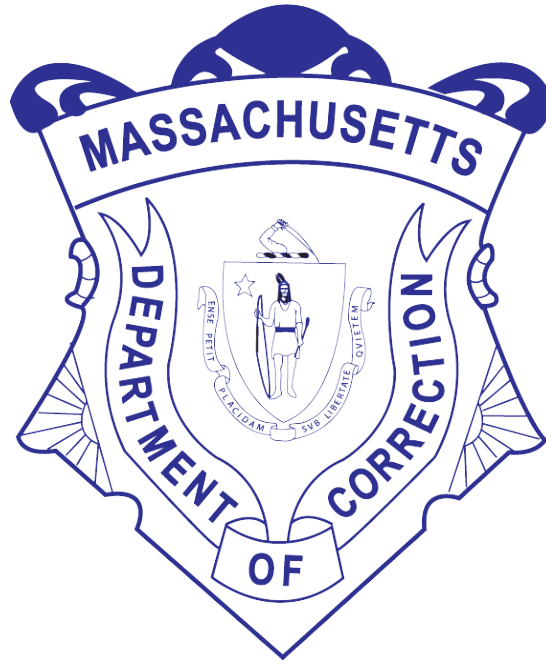
Calendar Year 2023



Executive Office of Public Safety and Security
July 2024

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

MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION



PRISON POPULATION TRENDS 2023



RESEARCH AND PLANNING DIVISION

July 2024



COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The **Massachusetts Department of Correction (MA DOC)** population had been declining consistently from its' peak in 2012. This past year, January 1, 2024, saw its first increase (1%) in the MA DOC jurisdiction population since January 1, 2011. The small increase can be attributed to the MA court system starting to catch up on the large caseloads that piled up during the Covid-19 pandemic. While the 17% drop during 2020 was largely influenced by the pandemic, the multitude of factors in place before, during and currently have greatly contributed to a reduction in the population and other positive outcomes. In the last ten years the population size fell 43% from January 1, 2015 (n=10,813) to 2024 (n=6,148), exceeding the rate of the national prison population reduction. Partnerships among criminal justice agencies, state and local leadership, community providers and other stakeholders have emphasized the need for more effective alternatives to prison. MA DOC's continued focus on evidenced-based initiatives and shifts in correctional culture are for the betterment of those who live in, work at, and visit state prisons, resulting in a healthier, and more positive experience overall.

One indicator of this success is a decline in recidivism rates. The majority of incarcerated individuals released from MA DOC do NOT recidivate as defined by reincarceration within three years of being released. Among the criminally sentenced population released in 2019, the three year rate was 26%, not only the lowest rate in ten years (2010-2019), but since the MA DOC has been tracking recidivism data in this manner, dating back to at least 1995. The highest rate in the last ten years was 39% in 2010. The improved recidivism rate is most notable in the context of the population reflecting a higher concentration with violent offenses (for all genders), and their longer sentences. With (young) age correlating highly with recidivism it is also important to note the percentage of the population under 30 years old decreased by four percentage points from January 1, 2020 to 2024. Simultaneously, those individuals 60+ years increased by three percentage points. In the same vein, medical and mental health needs remain high among the population, particularly for females where 65% have open mental health cases (OMH) and 72% determined seriously mentally ill (SMI). While lower in comparison, more than a third of males have OMH (39%) and SMI (35%).

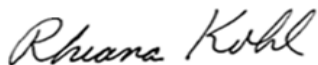
Throughout 2023 total admissions exceeded releases among those criminally sentenced including the yearly average, 145 to 130 respectively. This reversal from 2022 contributed to the modest increase in the prison population. The admissions monthly average of 145, was again up compared to 132 in 2022 and 100 in 2021. Release types have notably shifted in the last few years, pandemic time frame. In 2020, individuals released by expiration of sentence ("wrapped up") comprised 43% of the criminally sentenced release cohort compared to only 32% in 2023. While representing a smaller proportion of the population, with such high turnover and shorter stays, civil commitments continue to reflect the most admissions and releases in total. The majority of civil commitments were male "mental health commitments" committed to Bridgewater State Hospital.

This report provides new data for average length of stay, jail credits and time served. There were 1,007 criminally sentenced incarcerated individuals who had their first release in 2023. On average, time served for males released via parole was 6.9 years before being released, a decrease of .2 years from the 2022 male parolees (7.1 years). Males released via expiration of sentence (or "wrapped up") served an average of 4.8 years before releasing to the community. Females represented 6% of the total releases in 2023 (n = 57). On average, time served for females released via parole served 4.5 years before their 2023 release. Those females who released via expiration of sentence served an average of 1.3 years in 2023, a 0.7-year decrease compared to the 2-year average in 2022.

Notable shifts among trends for post-release supervision can be found during the last five years (2019-2023), particularly during the last three years of the pandemic. The ratio of criminally sentenced individuals released on supervision (parole and/or probation) rose from 62% to 81%. This shift can be attributed to the population paroled doubling proportionally, 29% in 2019 compared to 59% in 2023, while there was a slight decrease among those with probation terms to serve post-release.

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

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 2023*, 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 individual 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":

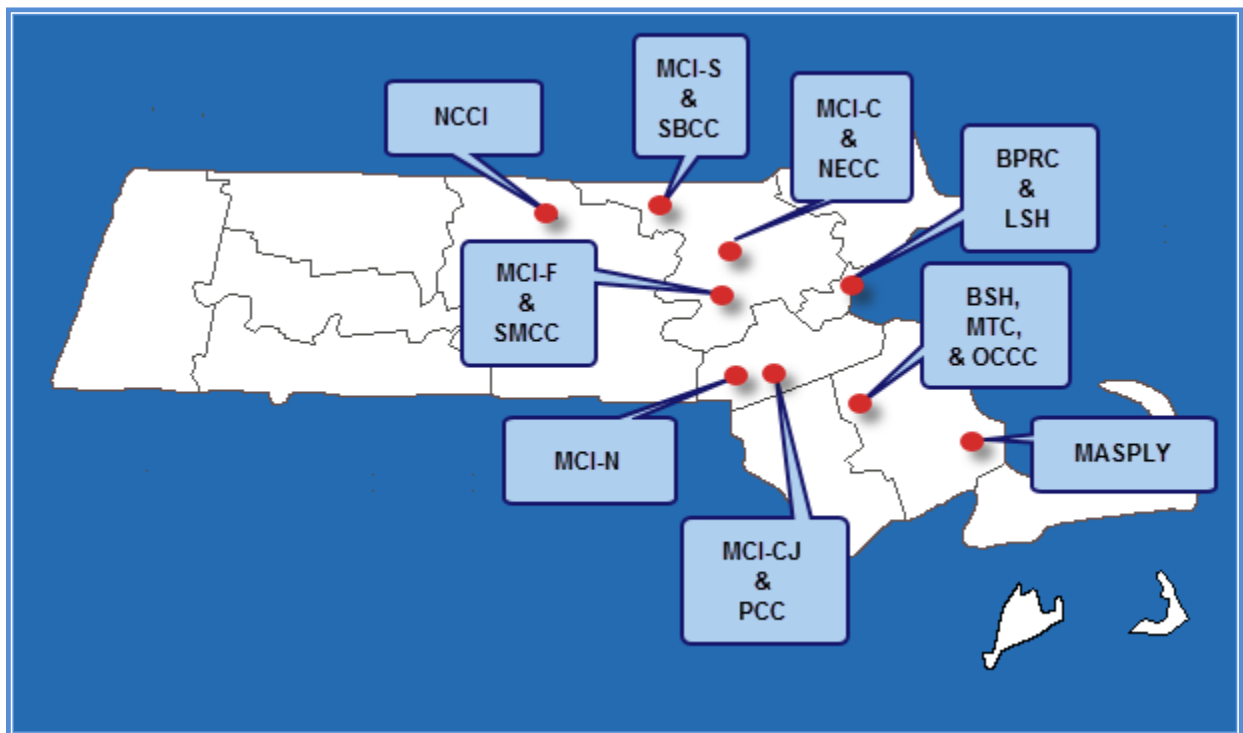
Individuals housed in MA DOC custody who are held for another MA authority and are detained prior to and during a trial, conviction, and sentencing and not yet convicted of a crime. Detainees are also held by the MA DOC for other jurisdictions on pending federal criminal charges and out-of-state parole violation warrants.

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

Table of Contents

Acknowledgements	i
Executive Summary.....	ii
Report Populations.....	iii
Institution Overview.....	1
Institution Capacity.....	7
Population Trends.....	8
Population Characteristics.....	15
<i>Assigned Sex</i>	<i>16</i>
<i>Race/Ethnicity and Assigned Sex.....</i>	<i>17</i>
<i>Age and Age at Time of Incarceration.....</i>	<i>18</i>
<i>Age, Age at Time of Incarceration, and Release</i>	<i>19</i>
<i>Offense Types.....</i>	<i>20</i>
<i>Sentence Lengths</i>	<i>21</i>
Admissions and Releases.....	23
<i>Releases by Release Type.....</i>	<i>29</i>
<i>Criminal, Civil, and Pre-Trial Admissions and Releases</i>	<i>30</i>
Admissions by New Court Commitments.....	31
Releases to the Community.....	35
<i>Supervision Type.....</i>	<i>36</i>
<i>Security Level.....</i>	<i>38</i>
<i>Release Address by County.....</i>	<i>40</i>
<i>Release Address by Top Ten Cities.....</i>	<i>41</i>
Average Length of Stay, Jail Credits and Time Served.....	42
Recidivism Trends	44
Caveats and Definitions.....	51

Massachusetts DOC 2023 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 person (FY 2023): \$193,183
- January 1, 2024 Facility Population: 42
- Average Daily Population (ADP): 37
- Operational Capacity: 200
Minimum: 95 & Pre-Release: 105



Boston Pre-Release Center houses minimum and pre-release males nearing the completion of their state sentences. Having been Massachusetts' first pre-release institution, BPRC affords incarcerated individuals structured programming focused on education and reintegration, access to public transportation increasing pre-release employment opportunities as well as access to other support agencies. On January 1, 2024, there were 29 minimum security commitments and 13 pre-release at BPRC.

Bridgewater State Hospital (BSH)

Bridgewater, MA

- Security Level: Medium
- Joint Commission Accreditation: 2003
- Opened: 1974
- Annual cost per person (FY 2023): \$340,276
- January 1, 2024 Facility Population: 250
- Average Daily Population (ADP): 243
- Operational Capacity: 372



In April 2017, Wellpath Recovery Solutions assumed all operational and treatment services at Bridgewater State Hospital, inclusive of a comprehensive program of medical, mental health, forensic evaluation as well as all patient safety and security services. BSH is a Joint Commission accredited psychiatric hospital for males requiring strict security for forensic evaluation or civil commitment per Massachusetts General Law Chapter 123. Following an initial observation and evaluation period, patients may be committed to BSH for up to six months, with subsequent commitments of one year, as ordered by the Court.

Lemuel Shattuck Hospital Correctional Unit (LSH)

Jamaica Plain, MA

- Security Level: Medium
- Opened: 1974 - Expanded: 1982, 1987
- Annual cost per person (FY 2023): \$572,423
- January 1, 2024 Facility Population: 14
- Average Daily Population (ADP): 16
- Operational Capacity: 29



The Massachusetts Department of Correction, 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 incarcerated males and females from both the state and counties. It is a transient facility with few long-term patients. On January 1, 2024, the population consisted of six (6) criminally sentenced state commitments, seven (7) pre-trial detainees and one (1) civilly committed individual. The average age of the incarcerated individuals housed on this date was 61 years old.

Institution Overview

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

- Security Level: Minimum
- CARF Accreditation: 2023
- Opened: 1992 - Mission Change: 2002
- Annual cost per person (FY 2023): \$467,582
- January 1, 2024 Facility Population: 59
- Average Daily Population (ADP): 64
- Operational Capacity: 251



Formerly a minimum-security facility for criminally sentenced males, MASAC's mission was transitioned to providing substance use services in a therapeutic environment with the population of the Massachusetts Alcohol and Substance Abuse Center. Per Massachusetts General Law Chapter 123, Section 35, the Court may order an individual with an alcohol or substance use disorder where there is a likelihood of serious harm as a result of the person's alcohol or substance use disorder for up to 90 days. With its new mission, MASAC at Plymouth opened in 2017 for Section 35 substance use services inclusive of detoxification and treatment, and in 2020, Wellpath, LLC expanded its scope of services to include a licensed Opioid Treatment Program, as well as all patient safety and security services.

Massachusetts Treatment Center (MTC)

Bridgewater, MA

- Security Level: Medium
- Initial ACA Accreditation: 1997
- Opened: 1986 - Expanded: 1997
- Annual cost per person (FY 2023): \$104,334
- January 1, 2024 Facility Population: 472
- Average Daily Population (ADP): 500
- Operational Capacity: 680



The Massachusetts Treatment Center is a medium security facility specializing in the assessment and treatment of deviant sexual interests. Housed and treated separately and apart, criminally sentenced individuals identified as sex offenders and those adjudicated as Sexually Dangerous Persons (SDP) as defined by MGL Chapter 123a and civilly committed for a day to life by the Court receive comprehensive assessment and evidence-based treatment to address empirically derived risk factors of sexual offending with the goal of a reduction in the risk of re-offense within the correctional environment and upon release to the community. On January 1, 2024, there were 359 criminally sentenced commitments, 97 SDPs, and 16 temporary civil commitments (provided by MTC).

MCI-Cedar Junction (MCI-CJ)

South Walpole, MA

- Security Level: Maximum & Medium
- Initial ACA Accreditation: 2002
- Opened: 1956 - Expanded: 1991
Modular Unit, DDU
- Annual cost per person (FY 2023): \$330,351
- January 1, 2024 Facility Population: N/A
- Average Daily Population (ADP): N/A
Maximum: N/A & Medium: N/A
- Operational Capacity: 691
Maximum: 619 & Medium: 72



MCI-Cedar Junction was a maximum-security facility that formerly housed the Department's male Reception and Diagnostic Center. The Department of Correction announced the successful transfer of all incarcerated individuals from MCI-CJ and an end to housing operations on June 16, 2023.

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 person (FY 2023): \$147,297
- January 1, 2024 Facility Population: 401
- Average Daily Population (ADP): 382
- Operational Capacity: 614



MCI-Concord is a medium security facility that houses males. MCI-Concord offers numerous programs including one of the Department's Correctional Recovery Academies for substance use disorder, vocational training and education. In August 2021, the B.R.A.V.E. program opened providing a housing unit for incarcerated adolescent fathers. This unit specializes in positive youth development and models of strength-based psychology with the support of an older incarcerated mentor and specially trained staff.

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 person (FY 2023): \$198,921
- January 1, 2024 Facility Population: 213
- Average Daily Population (ADP): 205
- Operational Capacity: 469



MCI-Framingham serves as the Department's Reception and Diagnostic Center for the female population, 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, 2023, MCI-Framingham housed 157 criminally sentenced commitments, 38 pre-trial detainees, and 18 civil commitments.

MCI-Norfolk (MCI-N)

Norfolk, MA

- Security Level: Medium
- Initial ACA Accreditation: 2003
- Opened: 1931
- Annual cost per person (FY 2023): \$78,230
- January 1, 202 Facility Population: 1,169
- Average Daily Population (ADP): 1,161
- Operational Capacity: 1,367



MCI-Norfolk, a facility housing males, 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. The 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
- Initial ACA Accreditation: 1995
- Opened: 1991
- Annual cost per person (FY 2023): \$96,372
- January 1, 2024 Facility Population: 817
- Average Daily Population (ADP): 812
- Operational Capacity: 1,034



MCI-Shirley houses two specialized medical units. The Nursing Care Unit provides care to individuals who require long term, supportive care for significant medical and neurological conditions, while the Clinical Stabilization Unit provides care to those who require assistance with the activities of daily living. Along with a skilled nursing facility (SNF), MCI-S operates an Assisted Daily Living Unit for medium security commitments.

North Central Correctional Institution (NCCI)

Gardner, MA

- Security Level: Medium & Minimum
- Initial ACA Accreditation: 1989
- Opened: 1981 - Renovations: 1982, 1993
- Annual cost per person (FY 2023): \$89,499
- January 1, 2024 Facility Population: 712
- Average Daily Population (ADP): 704
Medium: 704 & Minimum: 0*
- Operational Capacity: 989
Medium: 959 & Minimum: 30



North Central Correctional Institution is a medium security facility that houses males. 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. The facility operates the Department's Optical Shop, training individuals in the manufacturing of eyeglasses and lenses. The minimum security housing units stopped housing incarcerated individuals in February of 2019.

Northeastern Correctional Center (NECC)

Concord, MA

- Security Level: Minimum & Pre-Release
- Initial ACA Accreditation: 1982
- Opened: 1932
- Annual cost per person (FY 2023): \$81,440
- January 1, 2024 Facility Population: 193
- Average Daily Population (ADP): 188
- Operational Capacity: 277
Minimum: 208 & Pre-Release: 69



Northeastern Correctional Center houses minimum and pre-release males, offering the opportunity to complete the correctional recovery academy in a minimum setting. On January 1, 2024, NECC housed 181 incarcerated individuals in minimum security housing units and 12 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. The NECC work crews provide cost effective labor to the 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 person (FY 2023):
Medium: \$136,495 & Minimum: \$124,538
- January 1, 2024 Facility Population: 493
- Average Daily Population (ADP): 509
Medium: 441 & Minimum: 68
- Operational Capacity: 818
Medium: 658 & Minimum: 160



Old Colony Correctional Center houses medium and minimum-security males with a special focus on the delivery of mental health care to patients diagnosed with serious mental illness or other diagnosed psychiatric needs. The Department's largest Residential Treatment Unit, a general population unit, provides group and individual treatment to the OCCC medium population focused on individual symptom management and treatment goals. In addition,

OCCC houses the Bridgewater State Hospital State Sentenced Units for state sentenced individuals who have been admitted for observation, forensic evaluation, or civil commitment pursuant to MGL Chapter 123. The majority of commitments on January 1, 2024 were housed in a medium security unit (n=436), with 57 housed in minimum security.

Pondville Correctional Center (PCC)

Norfolk, MA

- Security Level: Minimum & Pre-Release
- Initial ACA Accreditation: 1994
- Opened: 1990
- Annual cost per person (FY 2023): \$111,807
- January 1, 2024 Facility Population: 117
- Average Daily Population (ADP): 104
- Operational Capacity: 204
Minimum: 156 & Pre-Release: 48



Pondville Correctional Center is a facility for criminally sentenced males housing 104 minimum commitments and 13 pre-release on January 1, 2024. 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 a minimum and pre-release population.

Souza Baranowski Correctional Center (SBCC)

Shirley, MA

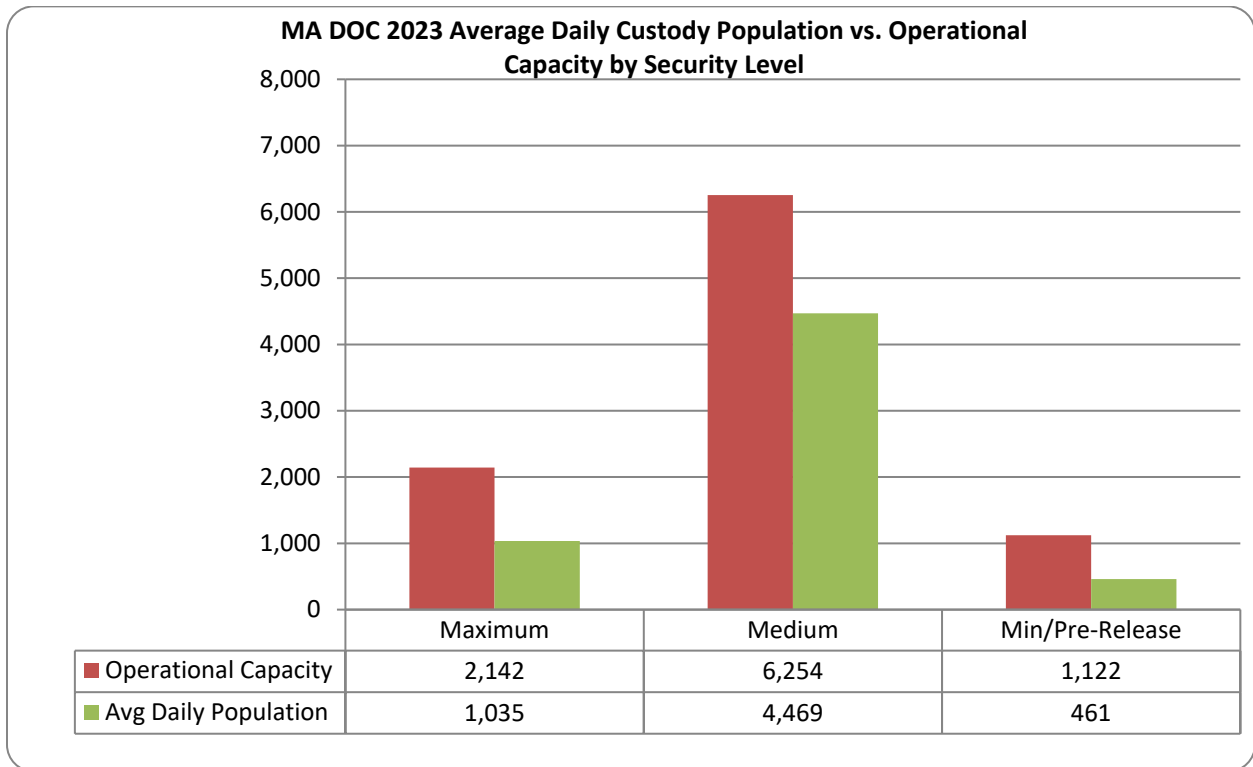
- Security Level: Maximum
- Initial ACA Accreditation: 2001
- Opened: 1998
- Annual cost per person (FY 2023): \$119,310
- January 1, 2024 Facility Population: 1,042
- Average Daily Population (ADP): 1,012
- Operational Capacity: 1,523



Souza Baranowski Correctional Center is the one exclusively maximum security male facility in Massachusetts and now houses the Department's male Reception and Diagnostic Center focusing on the orientation and assessment of newly sentenced admissions. Through various assessments, the initial classification determinations and the development of an individualized program plan are completed within 90 days of commitment.

SBCC houses two specialized mental health treatment units, including a maximum security Residential Treatment Unit. 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

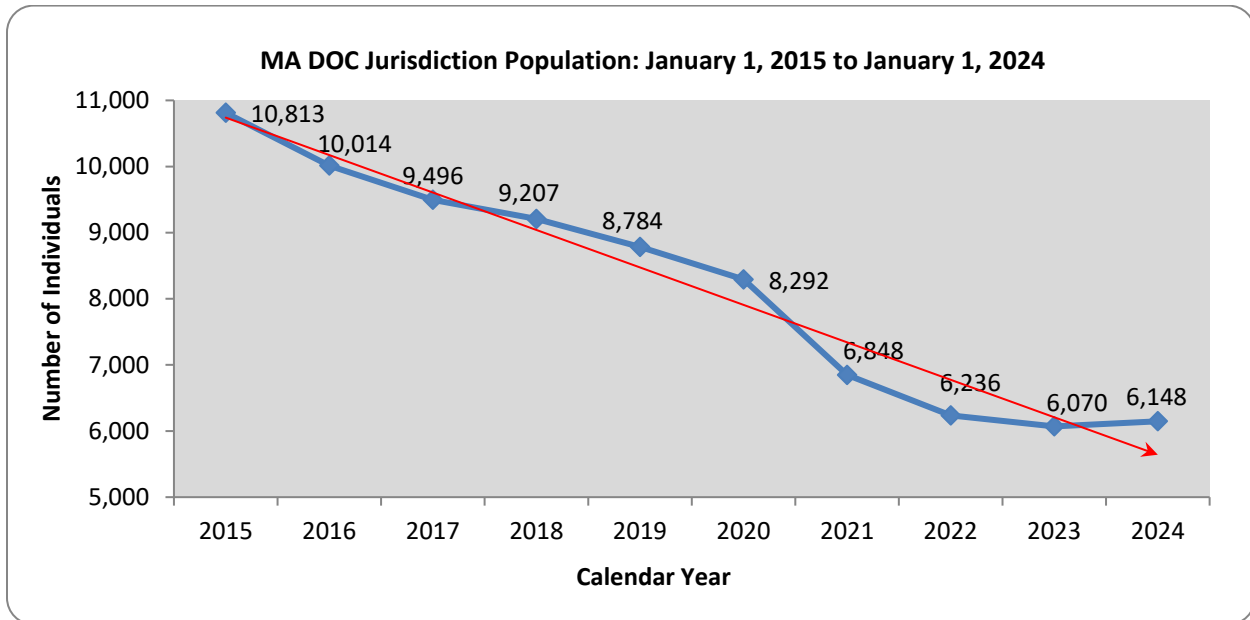


Total Massachusetts Department of Correction 2023
 2023 Operational Capacity = 9,518
 Average Daily Population for 2023 (Custody Population) = 5,965
 Average Daily Population for 2023 (Jurisdiction Population) = 6,103

- ◆ **Operational Capacity** refers to 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 taken from the January 1, 2024 Weekly Count produced by the Research and Planning Division.

Massachusetts DOC 2023 Population Trends

Population Trends



Massachusetts

- ◆ The Massachusetts DOC jurisdiction population continued a decades long decline with a decrease of 43% since the trend's peak on January 1, 2015 (n=10,813).
- ◆ Between January 1, 2023, and January 1, 2024, there was a slight increase in incarcerated individuals of 1%, from 6,070 to 6,148.
- ◆ The largest decrease in the MA DOC jurisdiction population occurred between 2020 and 2021 which resulted in a 17% decrease.

National

- ◆ The estimated number of individuals of all commitment types held in state and federal prisons nationally increased to 1,230,143 at year-end 2022¹, a 2% increase (n=25,056), from year-end 2021 (n=1,205,087), this increase in total prison population ended 8 consecutive years of declines.²
- ◆ There was a 19% decrease in the sentenced state and federal jurisdiction population between year-end 2015 and year-end 2022. There was a 1% increase in the federal population (n=1,995) and a 2% increase in the state population (n=23,061) between year-end 2021 and year-end 2022.³
- ◆ The national imprisonment rate at year-end 2022 was 355 sentenced incarcerated individuals per 100,000 U.S. residents of all ages, an increase of 1% from 350 in 2021.⁴
- ◆ The imprisonment rate at year-end 2022 (n=355) has decreased by 23% from year-end 2015 (n=459).⁵

¹ Year-end 2022 statistics were the most recent national statistics available at the time.

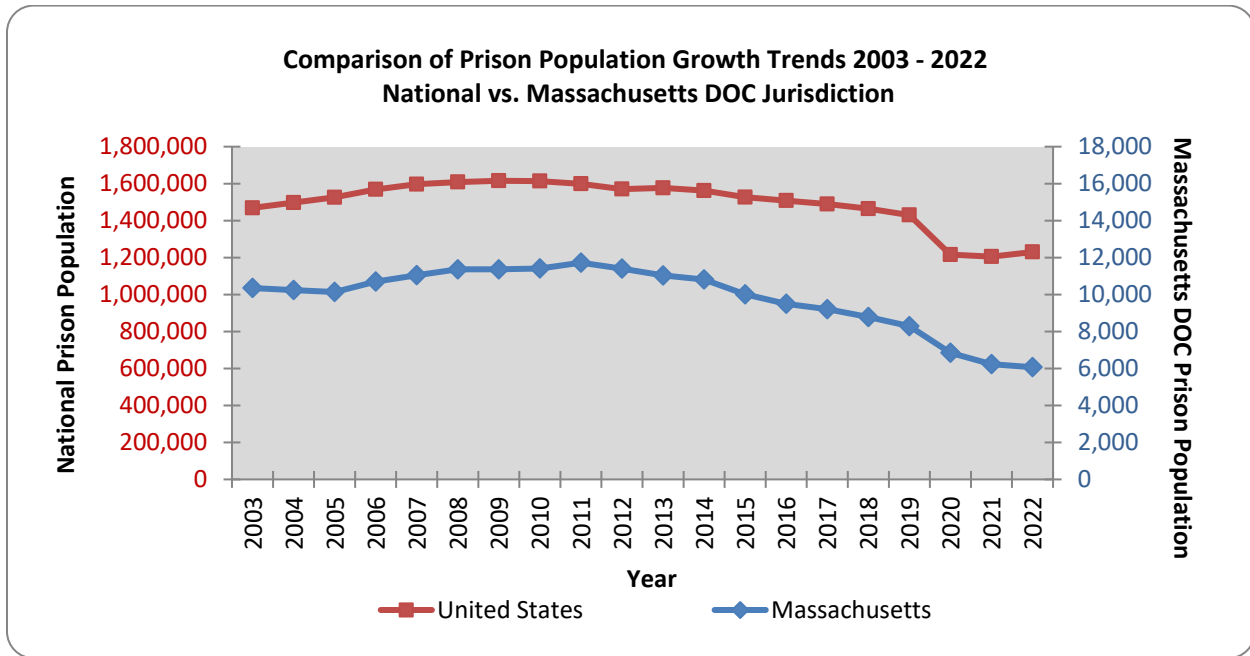
² Bureau of Justice Statistics (November 2023). *Prisoners in 2022 – Statistical Tables* (NCJ 307149). Washington, D.C.: U.S. Department of Justice.

³ BJS, 2022, pg. 5, table 1.

⁴ BJS, 2022, pg. 12, table 5.

⁵ BJS, 2022, pg. 1

Population Trends



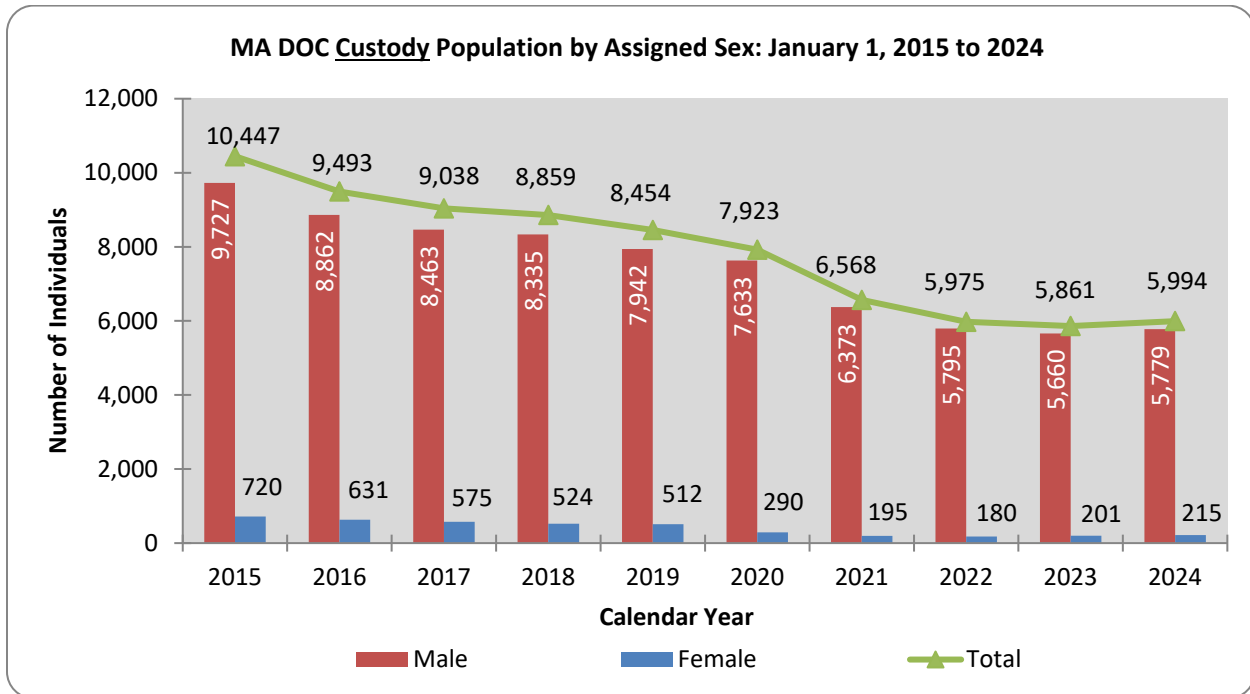
Comparison of Prison Population Growth Trends 2003 – 2022:
National⁶ vs. Massachusetts DOC Jurisdiction

Year	National Jurisdiction Population		Massachusetts Jurisdiction Population	
	Population	Percent of Change	Population	Percent of Change
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	1,508,129	-1.2	9,496	-5.2
2017	1,489,363	-1.2	9,207	-3.0
2018	1,464,385	-1.7	8,784	-4.6
2019	1,430,165	-2.3	8,292	-5.6
2020	1,221,164	-14.6	6,848	-17.4
2021	1,205,087	-1.3	6,236	-8.9
2022	1,230,143	2.1	6,070	-2.7

- ◆ The Massachusetts jurisdiction prison population decreased by 41% from 10,354 in 2003 to 6,070 in 2022; over the same period, the national population decreased by 16%, from 1,468,601 to 1,230,143.
- ◆ Between the years 2021 and 2022, there was a 3% (n=166) decrease in the Massachusetts jurisdiction population. Since 2012, the Massachusetts prison population had a cumulative decrease of 47% (n=5,333).
- ◆ The national prison population experienced an increase of 10% from 2003 to 2009, followed by a decrease of 24% beginning in 2010 to 2022. The largest yearly decline in the national prison population during the observed trend period was between 2019 to 2020, showing a 15% decrease. This large decrease was also experienced by Massachusetts (17%) as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic.

⁶ Bureau of Justice Statistics (November 2023). *Prisoners in 2022* – Statistical Tables (NCJ 307149). Washington, D.C.: U.S. Department of Justice.

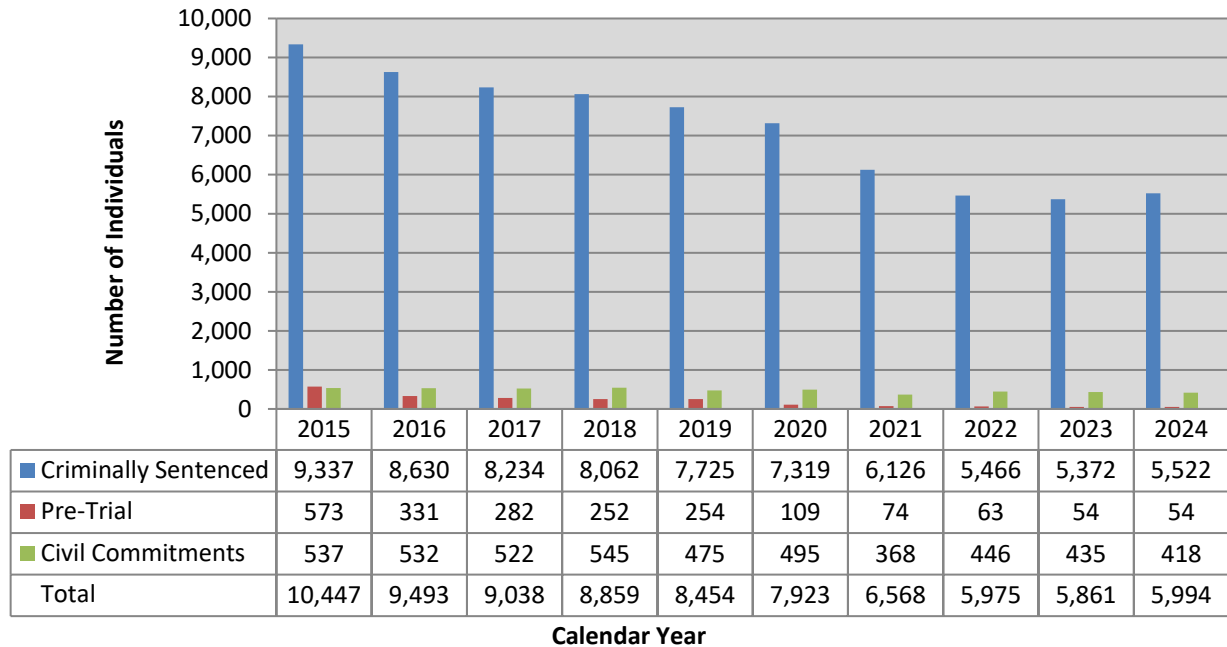
Population Trends



- ◆ The Massachusetts Department of Correction (MA DOC) had its first one-year increase (2%) in the custody prison population since 2012. This small increase followed a 11 year decrease of 49% between January 1, 2012 and January 1, 2023. Over the 10-year period there has been a steady decrease of the total custody population with 17% being the most significant one-year decrease over the trend period when comparing January 1, 2020 to January 1, 2021. The lowest total custody population of the 10-year trend was January 1, 2023 with 5,861 incarcerated individuals, down from 5,975 the previous year.
- ◆ The male custody population dropped 42% from a high of 9,727 in 2015 to a low of 5,660 on January 1, 2023 which drove the decrease in the total custody population over that same time period.
- ◆ The female custody population has decreased 70% over the 10-year trend period (2015-2024). Several Massachusetts Counties were previously not able to house females due to capacity issues/ lack of housing. The significant decrease in the female population was driven by the decision of those Counties to take their criminally (county) sentenced and pre-trial detainees into their own custody. MA DOC females went from a high of 720 in 2015 to a low of 180 in 2022, but in the past two years the population increased 19%.
- ◆ Starting in October 2019, approximately 144 county sentenced and pre-trial detainees at MCI-Framingham were transferred per a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that Essex, Plymouth, Norfolk, and Suffolk County entered into, which now redirects all those under these county jurisdictions to be housed at South Bay Correctional Center with Suffolk County Sheriff's Department.

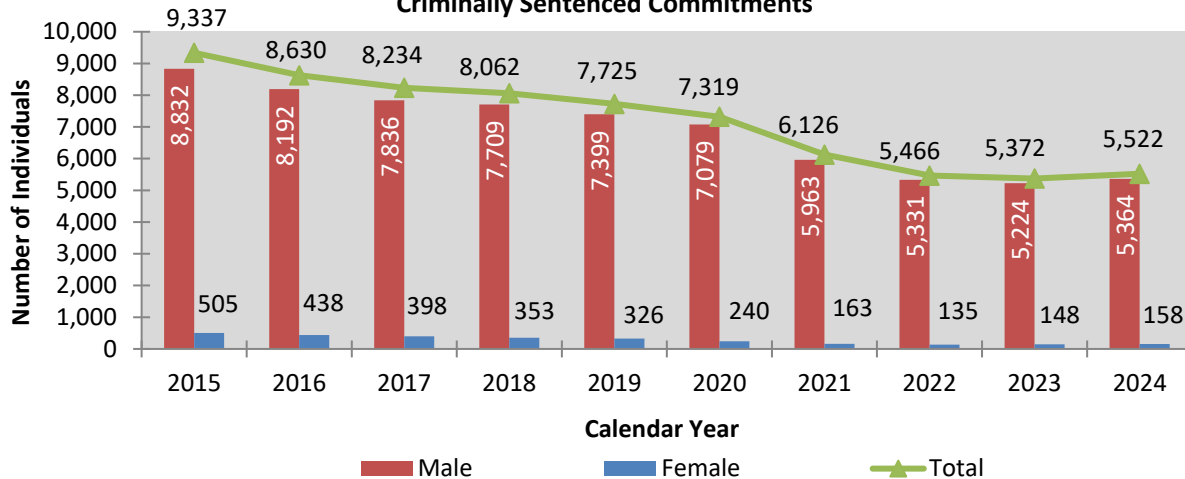
Population Trends

MA DOC Custody Population by Commitment Type: January 1, 2015 to 2024



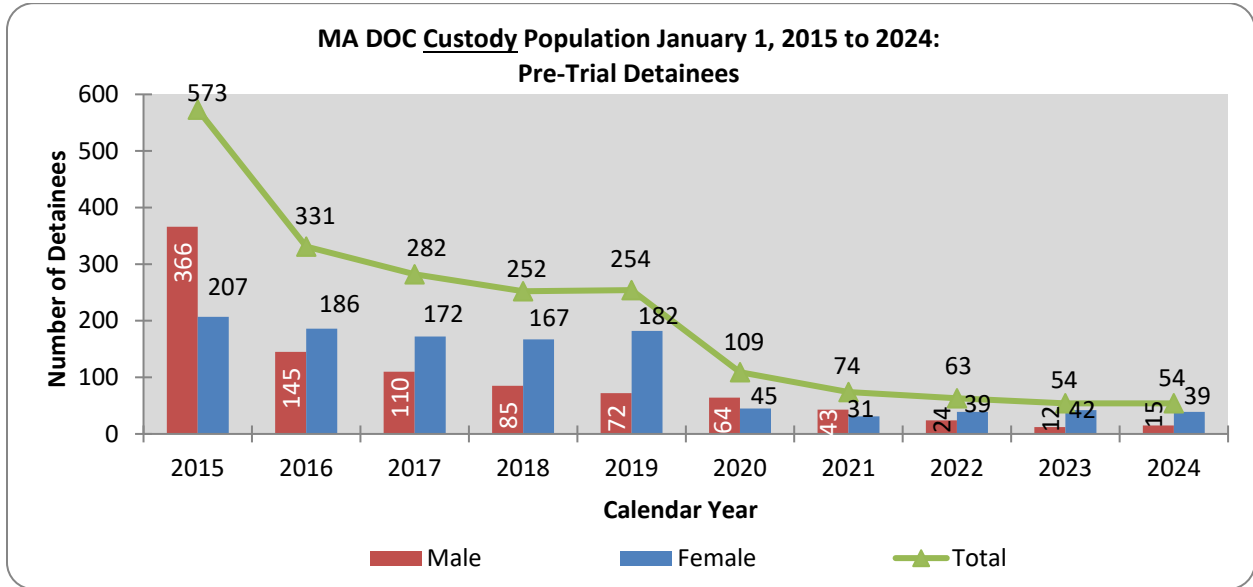
The MA DOC has seen a considerable decrease in criminally sentenced (41%), pre-trial detainees (91%), and civilly committed (22%) populations between January 1, 2015 and January 1, 2024.

**MA DOC Custody Population January 1, 2015 to 2024:
Criminally Sentenced Commitments**

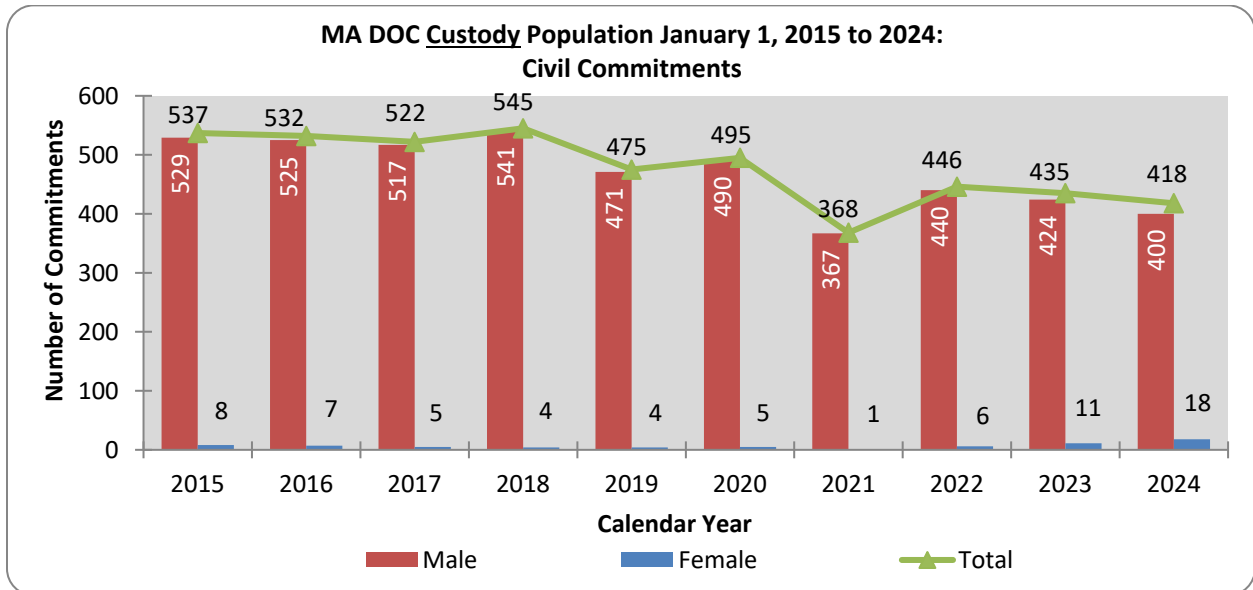


- ◆ Criminally sentenced commitments composed 92% of the MA DOC custody population on January 1, 2024.
- ◆ Between 2015 and 2024, both the male and female populations have experienced a decrease, 39% and 69% respectively. Peaking at 9,337 in 2015, the total criminally sentenced population has shown a steady decrease for the trend period until 2024 when there was a 3% increase from the previous year.

Population Trends

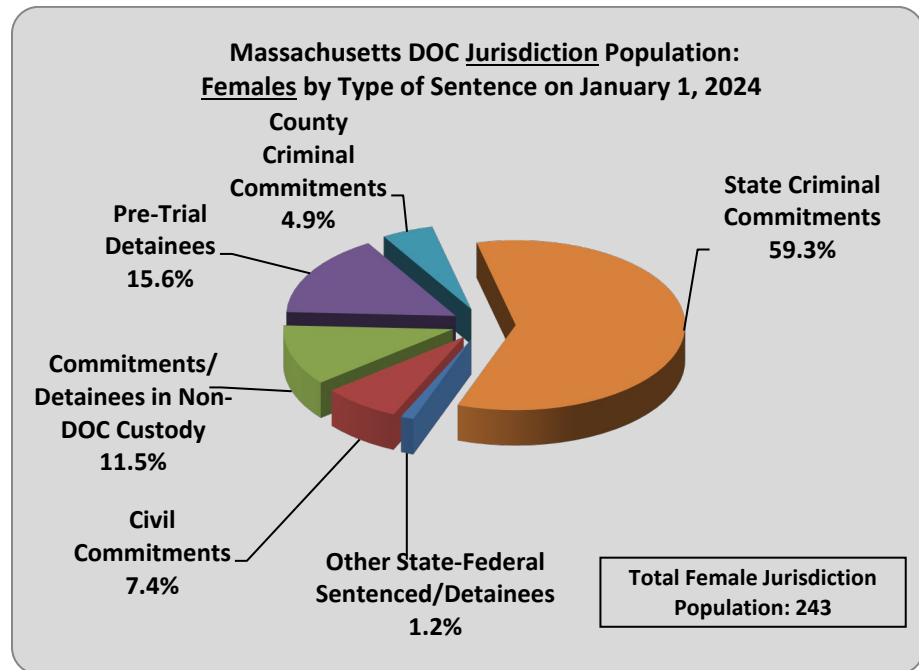
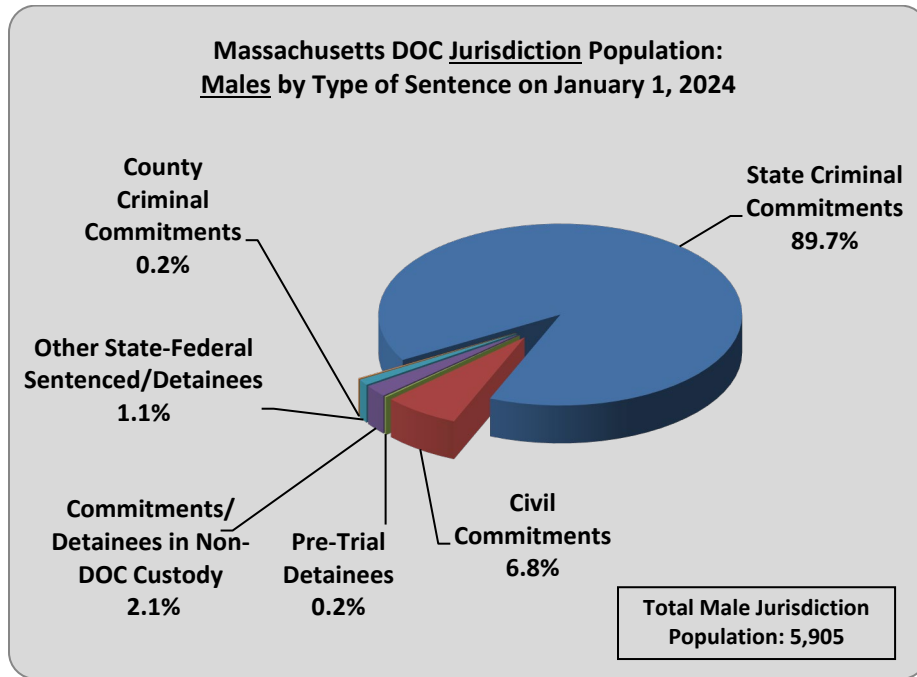


- ◆ The total pre-trial population decreased 91% between 2015 and 2024.
- ◆ Fluctuations in the total pre-trial population were common over the 10-year trend period. Males were in the majority three of the ten years and females seven of the ten with the last three years flipping back to a female majority (62% in 2022, 78% in 2023, and 72% in 2024).



- ◆ The total civil commitment population consisted almost entirely of male (96%) on January 1, 2024. This population has remained static over most of the trend period but in recent years has fluctuated. Most notably a 13% decrease from 2018 to 2019, a small increase of 4% between 2019 and 2020, and a drastic decrease of 26% in 2021 which is largely due in part to the COVID-19 pandemic affecting all facets of the MA DOC. The population rebounded to nearly normal levels with a 21% increase in 2022 and the trend period ended with a two-year cumulative decrease of 6% in 2024.
- ◆ Averaging 7 commitments a year over the 10-year trend period, female civil commitments represent the smallest population in the MA DOC with a low of 1 in 2021 and recently a high of 18 in 2024.

Population Trends



- ◆ The vast majority of males were state criminal commitments (90%) on January 1, 2024.
- ◆ In previous years female state criminal commitments represented a smaller portion of their total commitments (39% in 2019 vs. 59% in 2024) compared to males (90% in 2024). This is due in part to the MA DOC previously housing numerous counties' female population due to capacity issues/lack of housing. This trend shifted in 2020 because several Massachusetts counties are now able to take criminally (county) sentenced and pre-trial detainees into their own custody.

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

Massachusetts DOC 2023 Population Characteristics

Population Characteristics by Assigned Sex

Male Jurisdiction Population on January 1, 2024

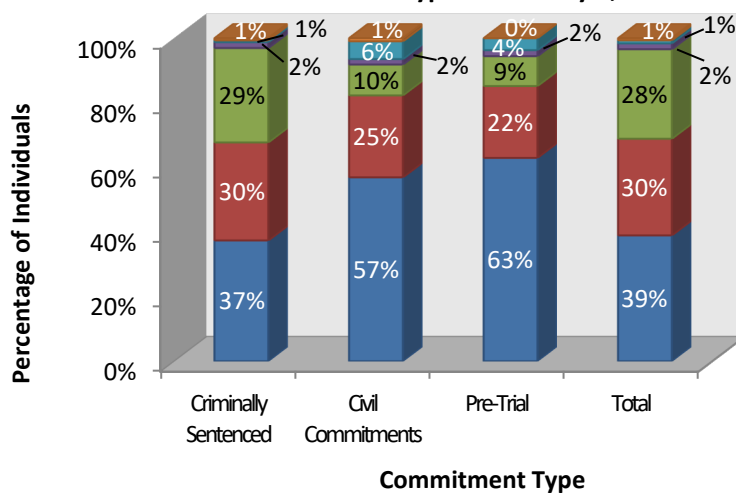
- ◆ 5,905 total males in the jurisdiction population: 5,490 criminally sentenced, 15 pre-trial detainees, and 400 civil commitments
- ◆ Race/Ethnicity: White (2,236), Black or African American (1,798), Hispanic (1,681), Asian or Pacific Islander (106), Unknown (45), American Indian or Alaska Native (39)
- ◆ Average age was 44 years old (youngest incarcerated individual was 17 years old and oldest was 89 years old)
- ◆ 97% were serving a sentence of more than three years
- ◆ 77% had a violent governing offense
- ◆ 295 were serving a governing mandatory drug sentence
- ◆ The 2019 release cohort three year recidivism rate was 26% for the total male population
- ◆ 39% of males had an open mental health case, 35% had a serious mental illness (SMI), and 29% were on psychotropic medication for the **Custody** Population as of 12/31/2023 Note: Information provided by Health Services Division

Female Jurisdiction Population on January 1, 2024

- ◆ 243 total females in the jurisdiction population: 186 criminally sentenced, 39 pre-trial detainees, and 18 civil commitments
- ◆ Race/Ethnicity: White (159), Black or African American (42), Hispanic (23), Unknown (13), Asian or Pacific Islander (4), American Indian or Alaska Native (2)
- ◆ Average age was 42 years old (youngest incarcerated individual was 19 years old and oldest was 79 years old)
- ◆ 90% were serving a sentence of more than three years
- ◆ 70% had a violent governing offense
- ◆ 16 were serving a governing mandatory drug sentence
- ◆ The 2019 release cohort three year recidivism rate was 23% for the total female population
- ◆ 65% of females had an open mental health case, 72% had a serious mental illness (SMI), and 67% were on psychotropic medication for the **Custody** Population as of 12/31/2023 Note: Information provided by Health Services Division

Population Characteristics by Race/Ethnicity and Assigned Sex

MA DOC Jurisdiction Population by Race/Ethnicity* and Commitment Type on January 1, 2024



MA DOC Jurisdiction Population by Race/Ethnicity* and Commitment Type on January 1, 2024

Race/Ethnicity*	Criminally Sentenced	Civil Commitments	Pre-Trial	Total
White	2,123	238	34	2,395
Black or African American	1,722	106	12	1,840
Hispanic	1,659	40	5	1,704
Asian or Pacific Islander	102	7	1	110
Unknown	33	23	2	58
American Indian or Alaska Native	37	4	0	41
Total	5,676	418	54	6,148

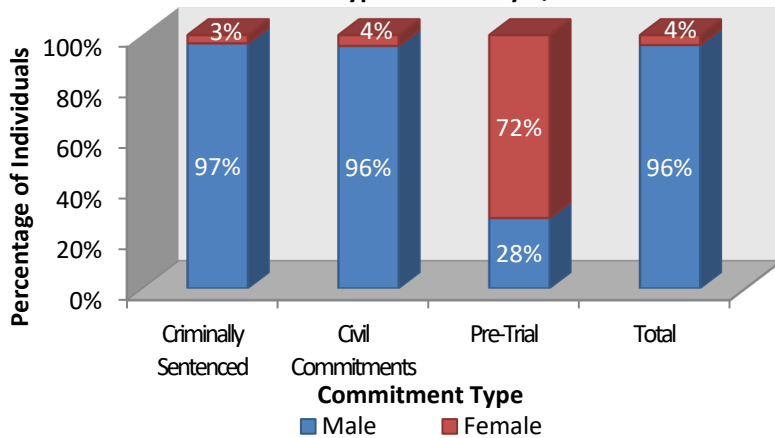
*Race/Ethnicity is self-reported by the individual at time of admission.

■ White ■ Black or African American ■ Hispanic ■ Asian or Pacific Islanders ■ Unknown ■ American Indian or Alaska Native

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

Similar to previous years, the largest percentage of the total incarcerated individual population had a race/ethnicity of White (39%), followed by Black or African American and Hispanic (30% and 28% respectively), which was mirrored in each commitment type. There was some change, in proportions from last year, among both the civil commitments and pre-trial detainee populations. Civil commitments experienced a decrease of 9 percentage points in Unknown and increase of 8 percentage points in Black or African American populations. Among the Pre-trial population, there was a 15 percentage point increase in White, while Hispanic and Black or African American decreased 10 percentage points and 4 percentage points, respectively.

MA DOC Jurisdiction Population by Assigned Sex and Commitment Type on January 1, 2024



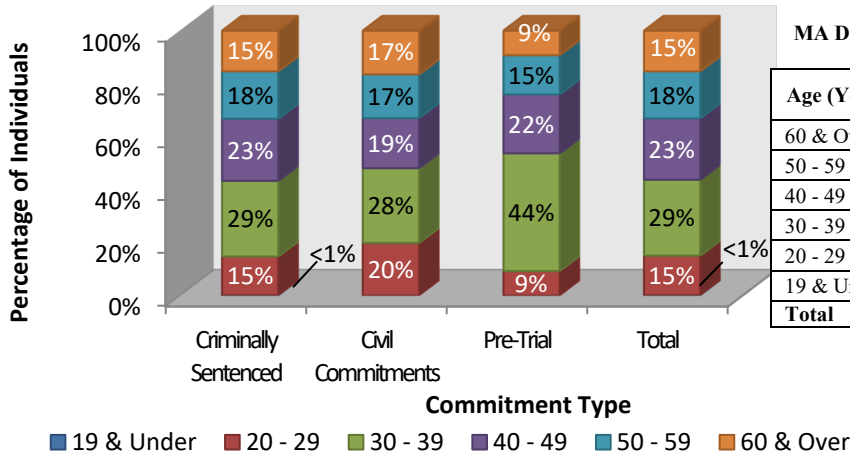
MA DOC Jurisdiction Population by Assigned Sex and Commitment Type on January 1, 2024

	Criminally Sentenced	Civil Commitments	Pre-Trial	Total
Male	5,490	400	15	5,905
Female	186	18	39	243
Total	5,676	418	54	6,148

The commitment types of criminally sentenced and civil commitments had the greatest percentage of males with ninety-seven (97%) and ninety-six (96%) percent, respectively. Similar to last year, pre-trial detainees saw a greater proportion of females (72%) versus males (28%), although males increased by 6 percentage points and females decreased by 6 percentage points when comparing January 1, 2023 to January 1, 2024.

Population Characteristics by Age and Age at Time of Incarceration

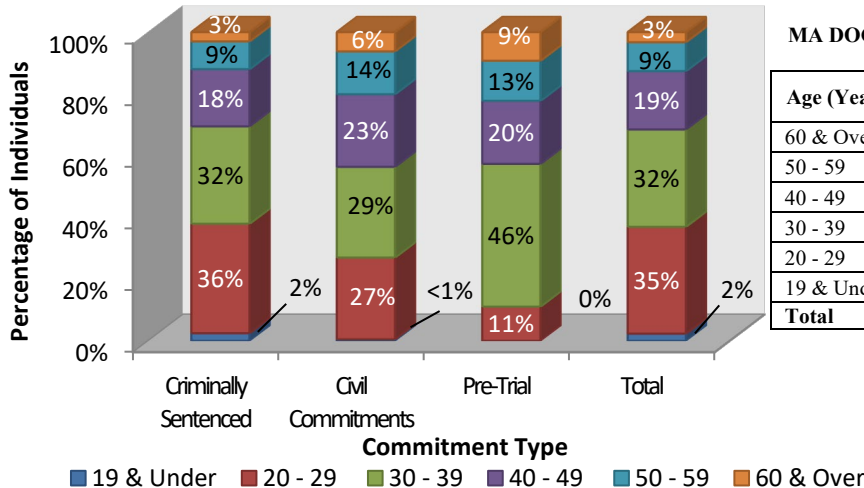
MA DOC Jurisdiction Population by Age and Commitment Type on January 1, 2024



MA DOC Jurisdiction Population by Age and Commitment Type on January 1, 2024

Age (Years)	Criminally Sentenced	Civil Commitments	Pre-Trial	Total
60 & Over	871	69	5	945
50 - 59	1,015	69	8	1,092
40 - 49	1,332	79	12	1,423
30 - 39	1,621	118	24	1,763
20 - 29	829	83	5	917
19 & Under	8	0	0	8
Total	5,676	418	54	6,148

MA DOC Jurisdiction Population by Age at Time of Incarceration and Commitment Type on January 1, 2024



MA DOC Jurisdiction Population by Age at Time of Incarceration and Commitment Type on January 1, 2024

Age (Years)	Criminally Sentenced	Civil Commitments	Pre-Trial	Total
60 & Over	170	26	5	201
50 - 59	510	58	7	575
40 - 49	1,049	98	11	1,158
30 - 39	1,791	123	25	1,939
20 - 29	2,015	111	6	2,132
19 & Under	141	2	0	143
Total	5,676	418	54	6,148

- ◆ As of January 1, 2024, forty-three (43%) percent (n = 2,450) of the criminally sentenced population were between the ages of 20-39 with 3,218 criminally sentenced individuals (57%) age 40 years or older. At the time of incarceration, 3,806 incarcerated individuals in the criminally sentenced population were between ages 20-39 (67%) with 2,015 individuals between ages 20-29 (36%).
- ◆ Pre-trial detainees varied the least in age when comparing the percentage of age groups on January 1, 2024, to age at incarceration. Just over fifty-four (54%) percent of pre-trial detainees were between the ages of 20-39 on January 1, 2024, while fifty-seven (57%) were between the ages of 20-39 at the time of incarceration. This supports the idea that the pre-trial population is transitional with shorter institutional stays.
- ◆ The oldest incarcerated individuals in the jurisdiction population as of January 1, 2024, relative to sentence type, were criminally sentenced individuals with fifty-seven (57%) (n = 3,218) aged 40 and older. This differs from age at incarceration, in which 3,947 criminally sentenced individuals (70%) were 39 years old and younger.

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

MA DOC Jurisdiction Population Average Age Comparison by Assigned Sex and Commitment Type: January 1, 2024, Date of Commitment, and Date of Release in 2023

Assigned Sex	Commitment Type	Average Age		
		1/1/2024	Commitment	Release
Female	Criminal	42	37	40
	Civil	36	36	35
	Pre-Trial	39	39	37
	Female Total	42	37	37
Male	Criminal	44	35	41
	Civil	43	39	38
	Pre-Trial	52	50	43
	Male Total	44	35	40
Total Population		44	35	40

Pre-Trial males on average were the oldest incarcerated individuals on January 1, 2024 (52) as well as the oldest at time of commitment (50). Pre-trial males (43) were also the oldest releases on average during 2023. On January 1, 2024, incarcerated individuals ranged in age from 17 through 89 years old.

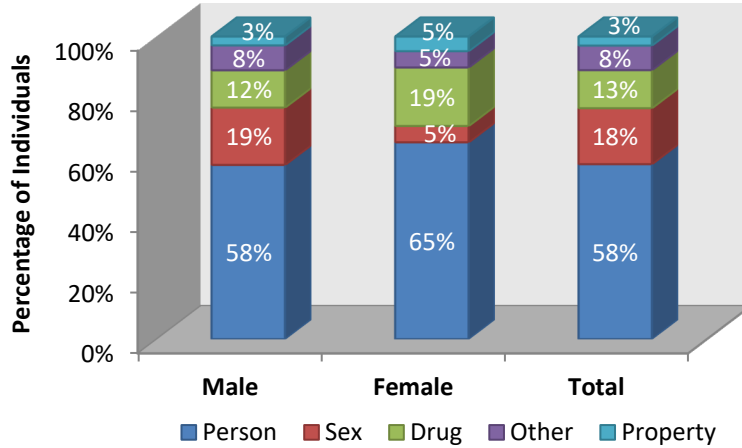
MA DOC Jurisdiction Population Five Year Comparison of Youngest and Oldest Age Groups January 1, 2020 – January 1, 2024

Age Range		Year				
		2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
29 and Under	Number	1,579	1,141	933	920	925
	% of Population	19%	17%	15%	15%	15%
60 and Over	Number	1,011	951	928	949	945
	% of Population	12%	14%	15%	16%	15%
Total Population		8,292	6,848	6,236	6,070	6,148

The percentage of individuals 29 years old and under decreased by four percentage points from January 1, 2020 to January 1, 2024, while the number of individuals age 60 years old and over increased by three 3 percentage points during the same timeframe.

Population Characteristics by Offense Types

MA DOC Criminally Sentenced Jurisdiction Population by Governing Offense and Assigned Sex on January 1, 2024

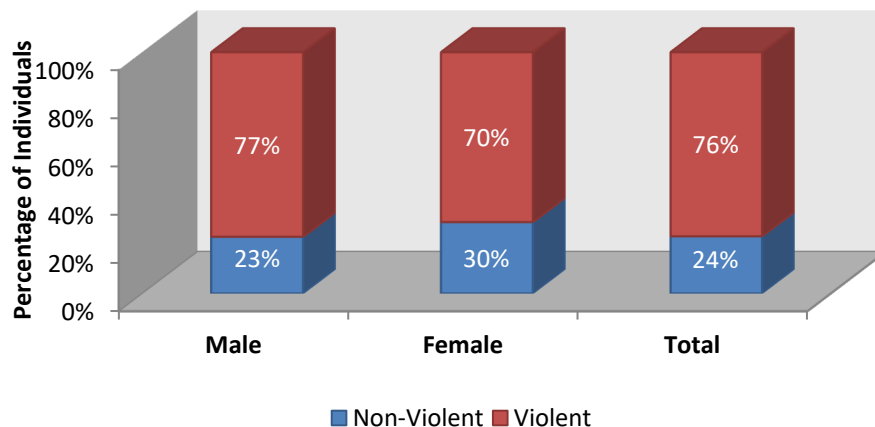


MA DOC Criminally Sentenced Jurisdiction Population by Governing Offense and Assigned Sex on January 1, 2024

	Governing Offense	Male	Female	Total
Violent Offenses	Person	3,161	121	3,282
	Sex	1,040	10	1,050
Non-Violent Offenses	Drug	678	36	714
	Other	451	10	461
	Property	160	9	169
	Total	5,490	186	5,676

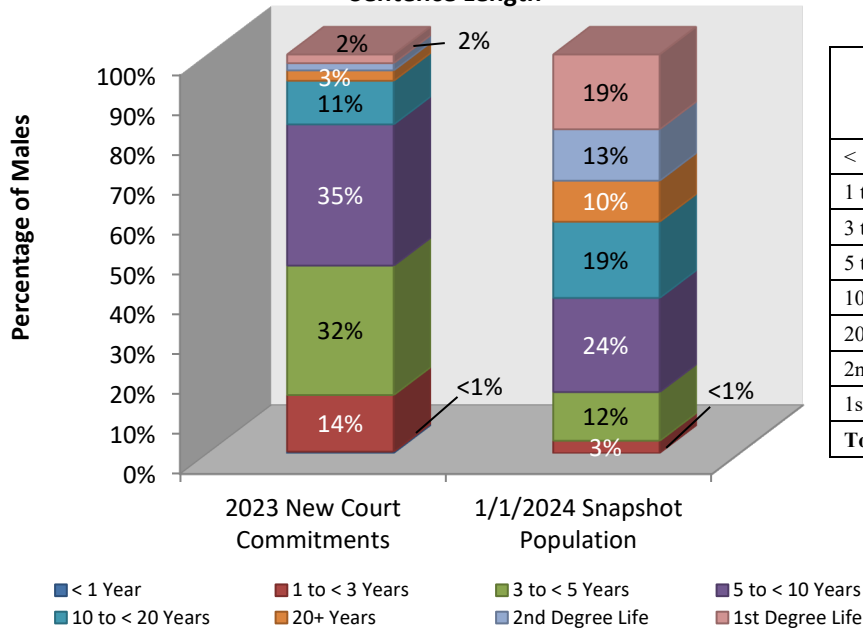
- ◆ The top three governing offenses for the total criminally sentenced population on January 1, 2024 were person (58%), sex (18%), and drug offenses (13%). For males, the top three governing offenses were also person (58%), sex (19%), and drug (12%).
- ◆ Differing slightly in order from their male counterparts, the top three offenses for females were person offenses (65%) and drug offenses (19%), with sex, property, and other offenses each at (5%).
- ◆ The majority of criminally sentenced females (70%) were incarcerated for a violent governing offense. Males decreased 2 percentage points from the previous year with seventy-seven (77%) percent incarcerated for a violent governing offense.

MA DOC Criminally Sentenced Jurisdiction Population by Violent/Non-Violent Offense and Assigned Sex on January 1, 2024



Population Characteristics by Sentence Lengths

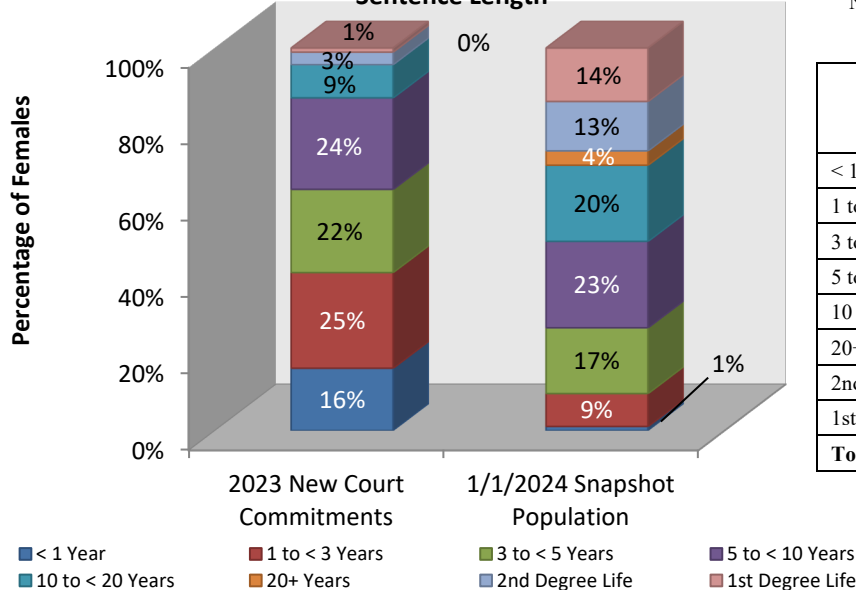
MA DOC Male Criminally Sentenced 2023 New Court Commitments vs. January 1, 2024 Snapshot Population:
Sentence Length



MA DOC Male Criminally Sentenced 2023 New Court Commitments vs. January 1, 2024 Snapshot Population:
Sentence Length

Sentence Length	2023 New Court Commitments	1/1/2024 Snapshot Population
< 1 Year	6	1
1 to < 3 Years	196	172
3 to < 5 Years	448	671
5 to < 10 Years	489	1,292
10 to < 20 Years	151	1,050
20+ Years	36	564
2nd Degree Life	25	708
1st Degree Life	30	1,029
Total	1,381	5,490

MA DOC Female Criminally Sentenced 2023 New Court Commitments vs. January 1, 2024 Snapshot Population:
Sentence Length



MA DOC Female Criminally Sentenced 2023 New Court Commitments vs. January 1, 2024 Snapshot Population:
Sentence Length

Sentence Length	2023 New Court Commitments	1/1/2024 Snapshot Population
< 1 Year	15	2
1 to < 3 Years	23	16
3 to < 5 Years	20	32
5 to < 10 Years	22	42
10 to < 20 Years	8	37
20+ Years	0	7
2nd Degree Life	3	24
1st Degree Life	1	26
Total	92	186

The comparisons of 2022's new court commitments to the January 1, 2023, 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 thirty-one (31%) percent of the snapshot population is serving a life sentence; however, these offenders only comprised four (4%) percent of new court commitments.

Population Characteristics by Sentence Length

In 2023, forty-one (41%) percent of female new court commitments were serving a sentence less than three years, whereas only ten (10%) percent of females in the January 1, 2024 snapshot population were serving a sentence less than three years. Comparatively, eighty-two (82%) percent of male new court commitments were serving a sentence less than 10 years, while only thirty-nine (39%) percent of the males in the January 1, 2024 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 were serving county sentences in the custody of MA DOC, which are shorter terms than state sentences.

Between January 1, 2023 and January 1, 2024, the percentage of state criminally sentenced females in the MA DOC jurisdiction increased by nine (9%) percent, while the percentage of county criminally sentenced females decreased by eight (8%) percent. Among the criminally sentenced females in MA DOC jurisdiction on January 1, 2024:

- ◆ 92% (n=172) were state sentenced
- ◆ 7% (n=12) were county sentenced
- ◆ Less than 1% (n=2) were out of state/federally sentenced

Naturally, sentence lengths vary by offense type. The following table reflects maximum sentence lengths less than 3 years and equal to or greater than 3 years by governing offense type and gender. The maximum sentence lengths are based on the total maximum number of days an incarcerated individual can serve on their commitment, which is the sum of their consecutive sentences. Seventy-five (75%) percent of criminally sentenced males were serving a maximum sentence length of 3 years or more on a violent governing offense. Criminally sentenced females who were serving a maximum sentence length of 3 years or more on a violent governing offense made up sixty-six (66%) percent of the female sentenced population, with five (5%) percent of criminally sentenced females serving a maximum sentence length of less than 3 years on a non-violent governing offense.

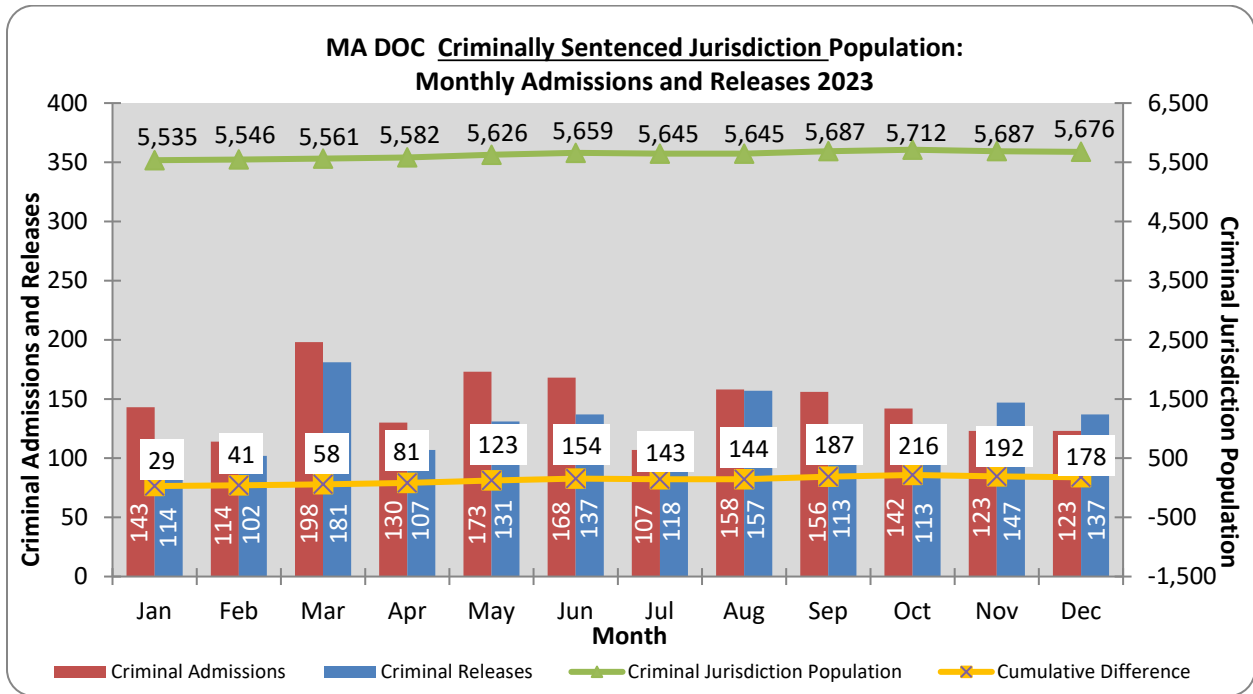
**MA DOC Criminally Sentenced Jurisdiction Population on January 1, 2024:
Governing Offense by Sentence Length and Assigned Sex**

	Governing Offense	Males		Females		Total	
		< 3 Years	≥ 3 Years	< 3 Years	≥ 3 Years	< 3 Years	≥ 3 Years
Violent Offenses	PERSON	51	3,110	9	112	60	3,222
	SEX	18	1,022	0	10	18	1,032
Non-Violent Offenses	DRUG	46	632	3	33	49	665
	PROPERTY	11	149	2	7	13	156
	OTHER	47	404	4	6	51	410
TOTALS		173	5,317	18	168	191	5,485
		5,490		186		5,676	

On January 1, 2024 drug offenses comprised the third largest governing offense type (n=678) for criminally sentenced males (12%) and second largest for females (19%). Close to the majority (44%) of drug offenders were serving governing sentences associated with a mandatory minimum term. A total of 311 incarcerated individuals were serving a mandatory drug governing offense: 295 males and 16 females.

Massachusetts DOC 2023 Admissions and Releases

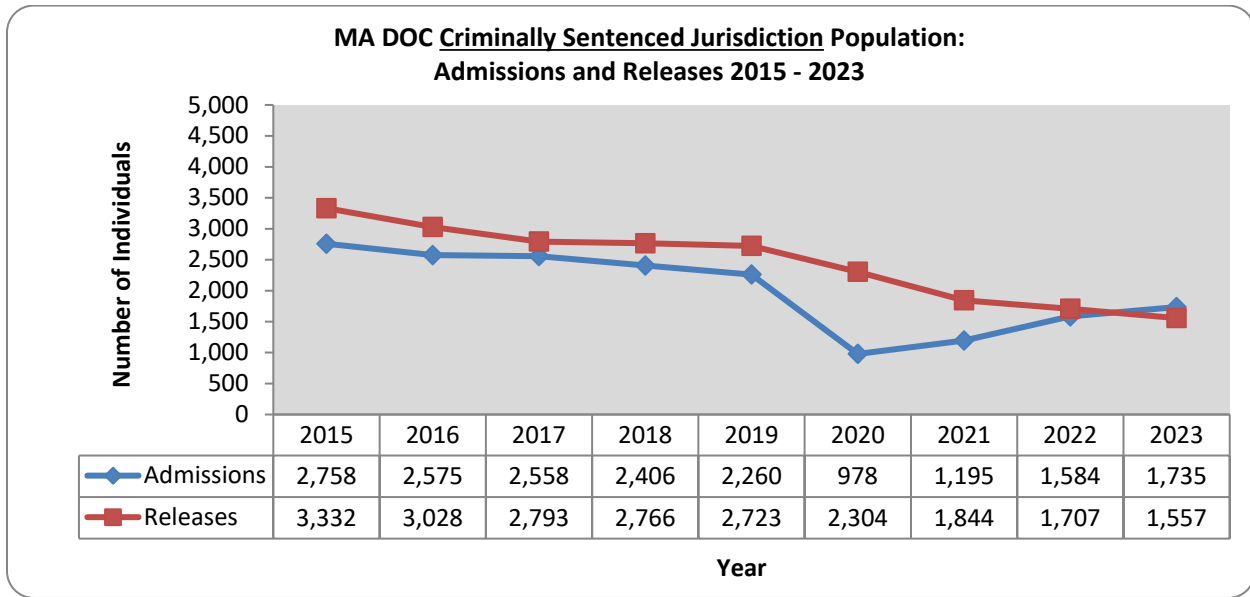
Admissions and Releases



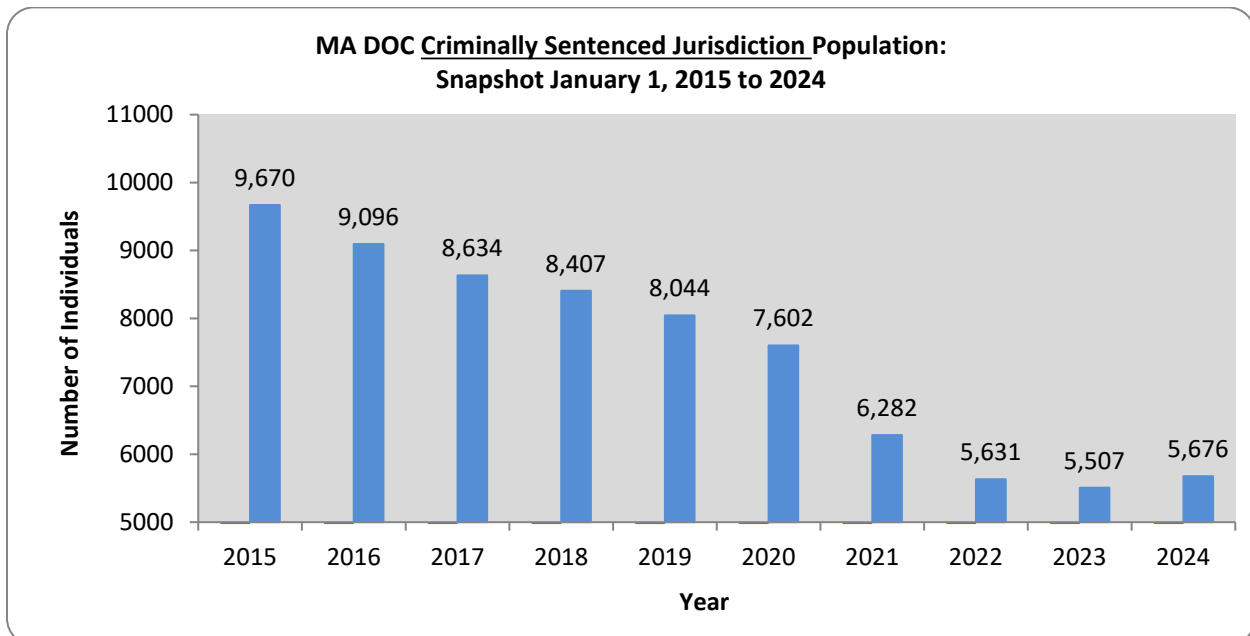
Note: Monthly jurisdiction population is based on the end of the month count of the criminally sentenced jurisdiction population and will not reflect the cumulative difference in admissions and releases.

- ◆ Overall, throughout 2023 the number of criminally sentenced admissions was more than the number of criminally sentenced releases, criminal admissions averaging 145 per month and criminal releases averaging 130.
- ◆ During the trend period criminal admissions ranged between 107 in July, and 198 in March. Criminal releases ranged between 102 in February, and 181 in March.
- ◆ The cumulative difference between admissions and releases resulted in a cumulative increase of 178 in the criminally sentenced population by year's end.
- ◆ The criminally sentenced population at the end of 2023 was 5,676, a 3% increase from the population at the end of 2022, at 5,507. This reversed the annual decrease from 2015 to 2023 when comparing year's end criminally sentenced populations.

Admissions and Releases



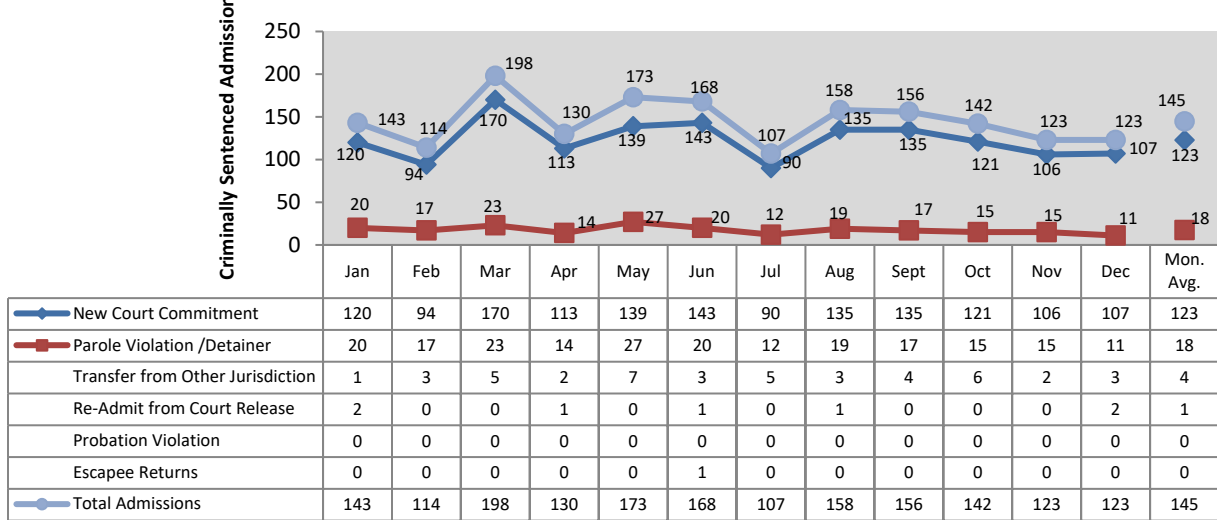
Over the past nine years, criminal admissions and releases both exhibited negative trends, with criminal releases exhibiting a stronger decline than criminal admissions. Admissions saw an average annual decrease of 4% each year; criminal admissions during 2020 and 2016 had the largest declines of 57% and 7% respectively. Releases saw an average annual decrease of 6%, with the largest decreases experienced during 2021 and 2020, 20% and 15% respectively.



The criminally sentenced population saw a total decrease of 41% from 2015 to 2024, averaging about 4% decrease per year. This population saw its largest yearly decrease of over 17% between 2020 and 2021 due to changes resulting from the coronavirus pandemic.

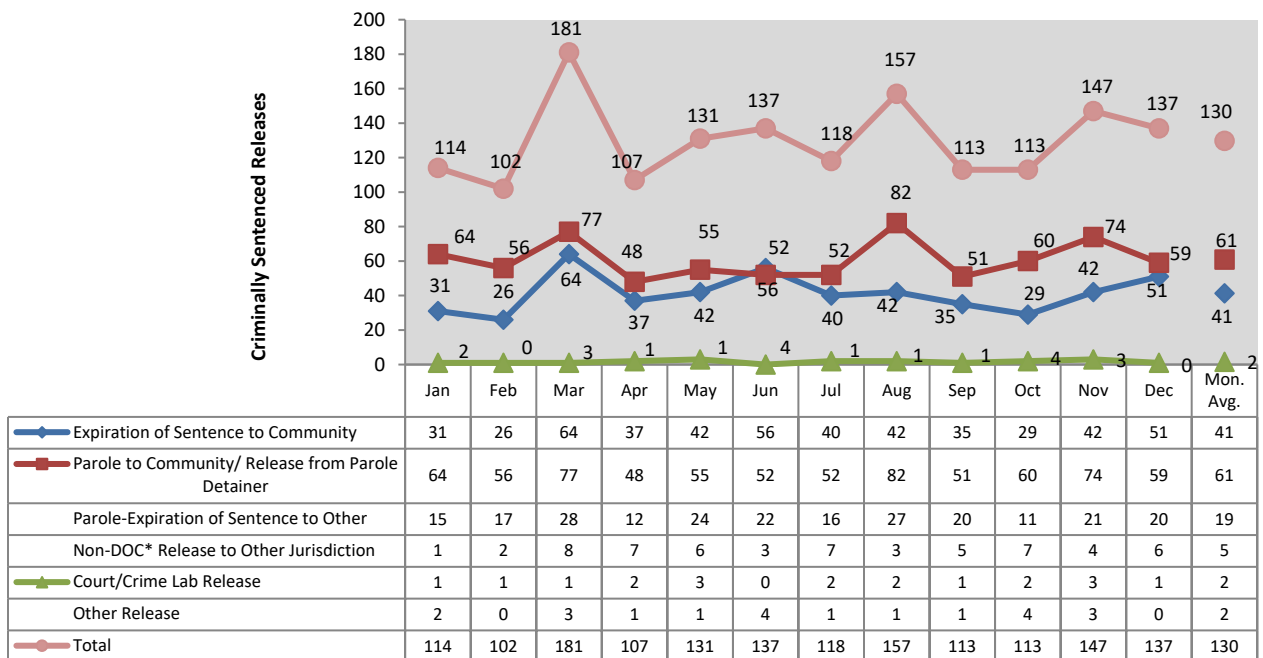
Admissions and Releases

MA DOC 2023 Criminally Sentenced Jurisdiction Admissions: Admission Type by Month



Total criminal jurisdiction admissions for 2023 were driven by new court commitments to the MA DOC, as evidenced by the parallel yearly trends. New court commitments ranged from 90 to 170 with a monthly average of 123, ten more than the monthly average in 2022. Total criminal admissions ranged from 107 to 198 for a monthly average of 145, thirteen more than the 2022 monthly average of 132.

MA DOC 2023 Criminally Sentenced Jurisdiction Releases: Release Type by Month



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

Total criminal jurisdiction releases for 2023 ranged between 102 and 181 for a given month and averaged 130; twelve fewer than the monthly average from 2022 of 142. Releases due to expiration of sentence fluctuated around a flat trend line of 41 releases per month during 2023, while paroles to the community or release from parole detainer moved up and down around a flat line of 61 per month. Parole-related releases to the community resulted in 47% of the criminal jurisdiction releases in 2023; higher than 2022 releases, at 45%.

Admissions and Releases

MA DOC 2023 Criminally Sentenced Jurisdiction Admissions:

Admission Type by Assigned Sex

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	92	90%	1,381	85%	1,473	85%
Parole Violation - Parole Detainer	8	8%	202	12%	210	12%
Transfer from Other Jurisdiction	2	2%	42	3%	44	3%
Probation Violation	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
Re-Admit from Court Release	0	0%	7	<1%	7	<1%
Escapee Return	0	0%	1	<1%	1	<1%
Total Admissions	102	100%	1,633	100%	1,735	100%

During 2023, 85% of male and 90% of female criminally sentenced admissions were new court commitments. The percentage of new court commitments for males remained the same as the percentage of criminally sentenced admissions during 2022 and decreased for females, which was 94% in 2022.

MA DOC 2023 Criminally Sentenced Jurisdiction Releases:

Release Type by Assigned Sex

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	29	33%	466	32%	495	32%
Parole to Community / Release from Parole Detainer	37	42%	693	47%	730	47%
Parole-Expiration of Sentence to Other	14	16%	219	15%	233	15%
Non-DOC* Release to Other Jurisdiction	5	6%	54	4%	59	4%
Court Release / Crime Lab	1	1%	18	1%	19	1%
Other Release	2	2%	19	1%	21	1%
Total Releases	88	100%	1,469	100%	1,557	100%

*Non-DOC refers to individuals 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 1,244 criminally sentenced jurisdiction releases to the community in 2023, approximately 40% were released via expiration of sentence to the community, 59% were via parole to the community/release from parole detainer, and nearly 2% were court/crime lab releases to the community.
- ◆ Females accounted for 67 (5%) of total criminally sentenced jurisdiction releases to the community in 2023; 6% of total expirations of sentence to the community, 5% of total paroles to the community/release from parole detainer, and 5% of total court/crime lab releases to the community.
- ◆ There were 19 deaths in the criminal jurisdiction population during 2023: 18 males and 1 female.
- ◆ The Massachusetts Crime Bill of 2018 instituted medical parole, in which a terminally ill or permanently incapacitated individual can be released on parole. In 2023, 12 incarcerated individuals were released using medical parole: 11 males and 1 female.

Admissions and Releases

MA DOC Criminally Sentenced Jurisdiction Admissions: Admission Type by Year 2021 - 2023

Admission Type	2021		2022		2023	
	Number of Admissions	Percent of Admissions	Number of Admissions	Percent of Admissions	Number of Admissions	Percent of Admissions
New Court Commitment	963	81%	1,351	85%	1,473	85%
Parole Violation/ Parole Detainer	194	16%	200	13%	210	12%
Transfer from Other Jurisdiction	25	2%	22	1%	44	3%
Probation Violation	1	<1%	1	<1%	0	0%
Re-Admit from Court Release	12	1%	10	1%	7	<1%
Escapee Return	0	0%	0	0%	1	<1%
Total Admissions	1,195	100%	1,584	100%	1,735	100%

- ◆ From 2021 to 2023, the percentage of criminally sentenced admissions that were new court commitments went up from 81% to 85%. The number of admissions who were new court commitments grew from 963 in 2021 to 1,473 in 2023, a 53% increase compared with the 82% growth between 2020 and 2022.
- ◆ The second most common criminally sentenced admission type, parole violator/parole detainer, increased between 2021 and 2022 from 194 to 200. It further increased to 210 in 2023. Its share of all criminal admissions dropped from 16% in 2021 to 12% in 2023.
- ◆ Total criminal admissions during the period from 2021 to 2023 saw their lowest point in 2021, which was 33% and 45% lower than criminal admissions from 2022 and 2023 owing to the outbreak of Covid-19 in March 2020 and its impact.

MA DOC Criminally Sentenced Jurisdiction Releases: Release Type by Year 2021 - 2023

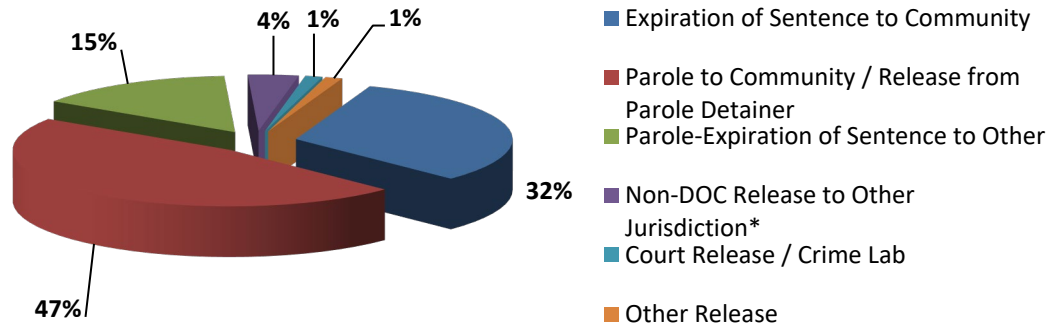
Release Type	2021		2022		2023	
	Number of Releases	Percent of Releases	Number of Releases	Percent of Releases	Number of Releases	Percent of Releases
Expiration of Sentence to Community	725	39%	575	34%	495	32%
Parole to Community / Release from Parole Detainer	711	39%	765	45%	730	47%
Parole-Expiration of Sentence to Other	289	16%	259	15%	233	15%
Non-DOC* Release to Other Jurisdiction	43	2%	52	3%	59	4%
Court Release / Crime Lab	35	2%	30	2%	19	1%
Other Release	41	2%	26	2%	21	1%
Total Releases	1,844	100%	1,707	100%	1,557	100%

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

- ◆ The number of expirations of sentence to the community decreased over the past three years, seeing its lowest point in 2023 when it was 32%, lower than the height in 2021. Releases decreased by 7% between 2021 and 2022, followed by another 9% decrease during 2023.

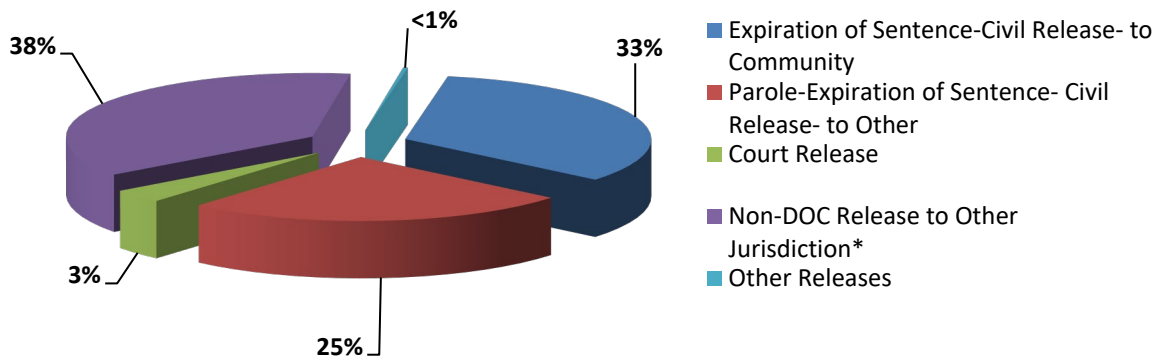
Releases by Release Type

MA DOC 2023 Criminally Sentenced Jurisdiction Releases by Release Type



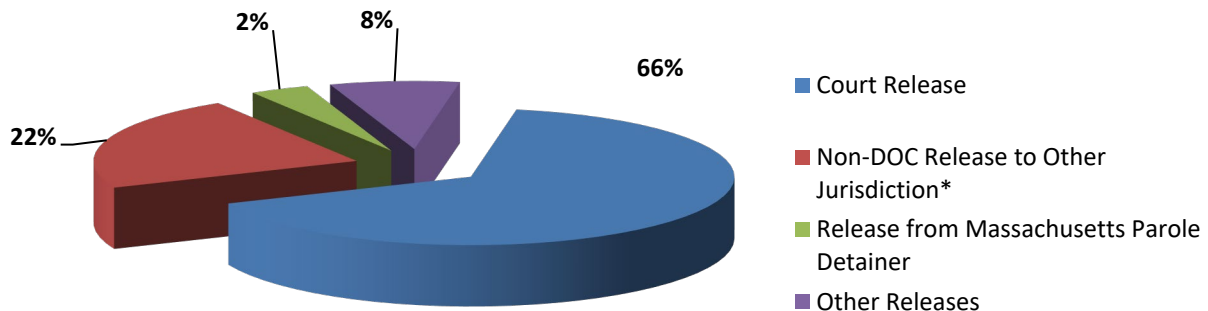
*Refers to non-DOC individuals from county, federal, or another state's jurisdiction released to county, federal, or another state's jurisdiction.

MA DOC 2023 Civil Commitment Jurisdiction Releases by Release Type



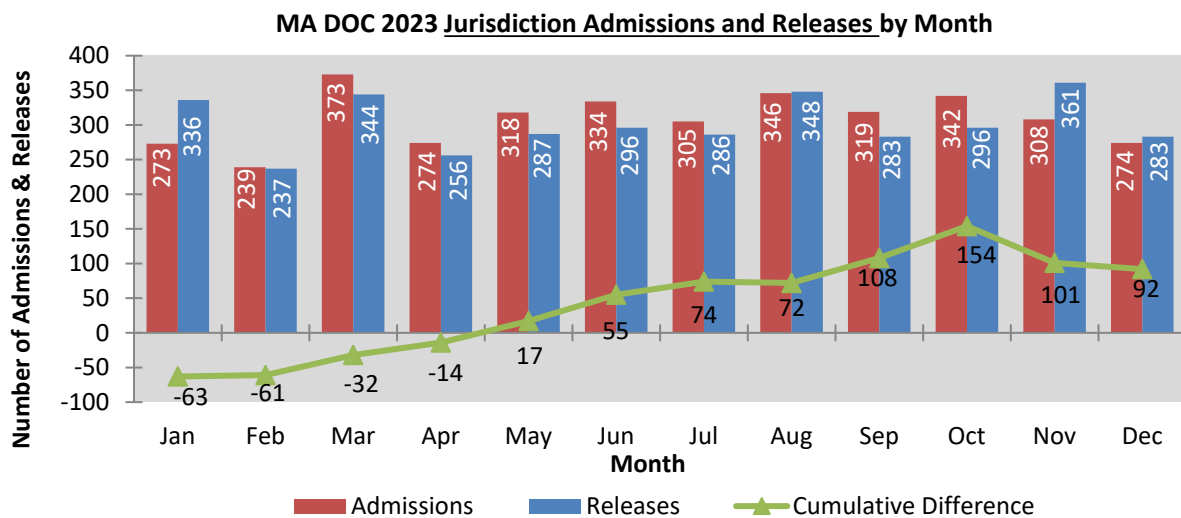
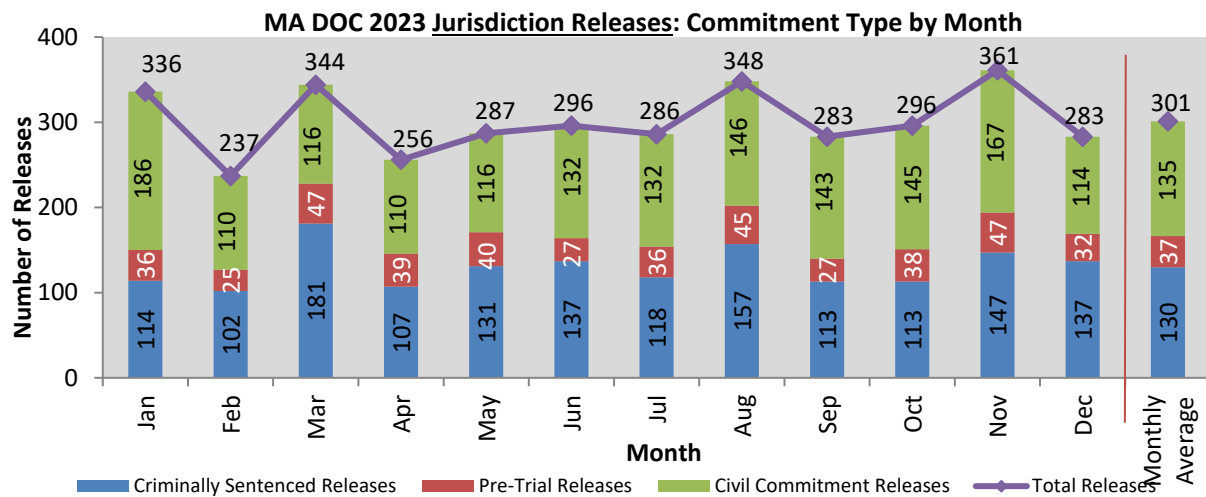
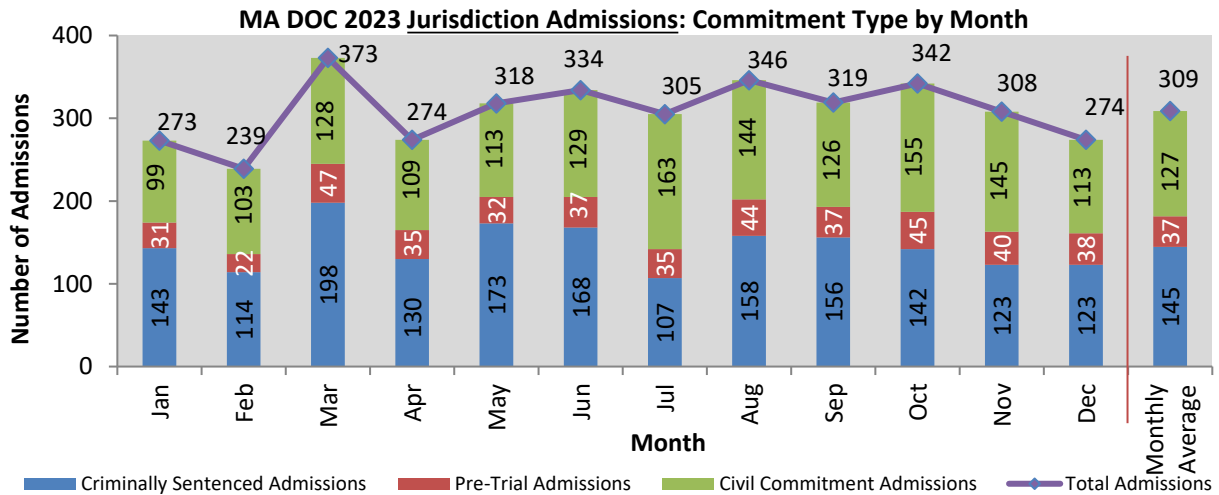
*Refers to non-DOC individuals from county or another state's jurisdiction released to county or another state's jurisdiction.

MA DOC 2023 Pre-Trial Jurisdiction Releases by Release Type



*Refers to non-DOC individuals 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

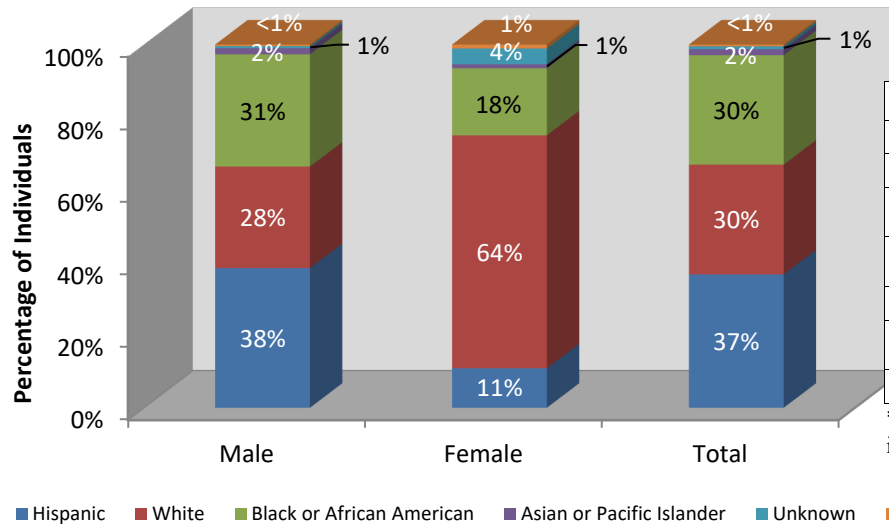


During 2023, the difference in admissions and releases resulted in an upward trend, ending in an overall cumulative increase of 92 incarcerated individuals. This was a 156% increase compared to the cumulative decrease of 165 incarcerated individuals seen during 2022.

Massachusetts DOC 2023 Admissions by New Court Commitments

Admissions by New Court Commitments

**MA DOC 2023 Criminally Sentenced Jurisdiction New Court Commitments:
Race/Ethnicity by Assigned Sex**



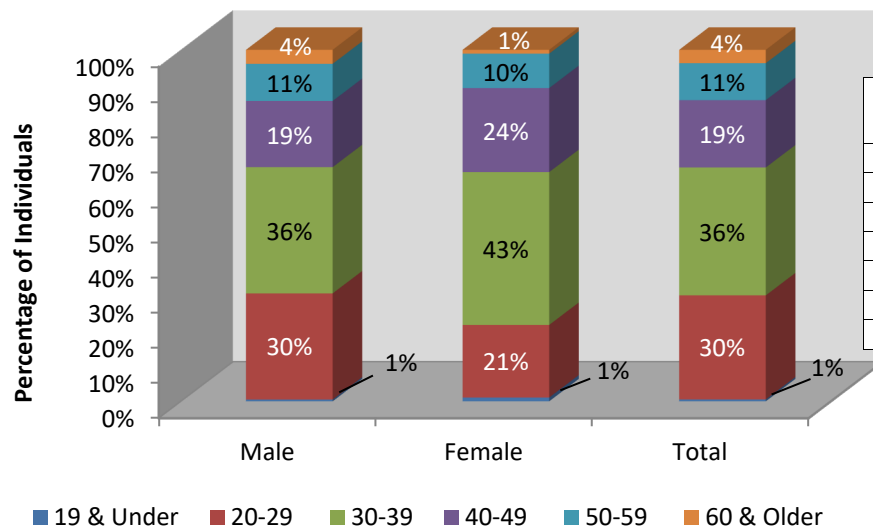
**MA DOC 2023 Criminally Sentenced Jurisdiction New Court Commitments:
Race/Ethnicity* by Assigned Sex**

Race/Ethnicity*	Male	Female	Total
Hispanic	531	10	541
White	386	59	445
Black or African American	427	17	444
Asian or Pacific Islander	23	1	24
Unknown	8	4	12
American Indian or Alaska Native	6	1	7
Total	1,381	92	1,473

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

For males, the most common races for criminally sentenced new court commitments were Hispanic (38%), followed by Black or African American (31%) and White (28%). For females, the majority of new court commitments were White (64%), followed by Black or African American (18%) and Hispanic (11%). As males made up 94% of criminally sentenced new court commitments, the total distribution more closely followed the male distribution.

**MA DOC 2023 Criminally Sentenced Jurisdiction New Court Commitments:
Age in Years at Commitment by Assigned Sex**



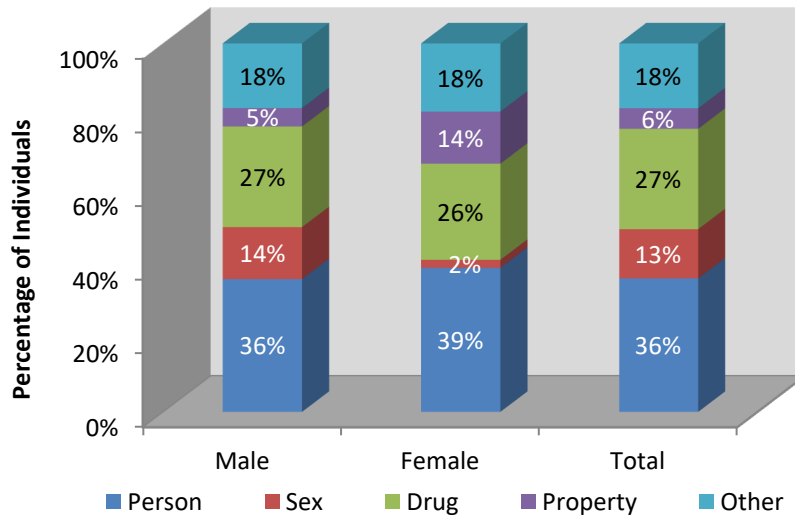
**MA DOC 2023 Criminally Sentenced Jurisdiction New Court Commitments:
Age in Years at Commitment by Assigned Sex**

Age (Years)	Male	Female	Total
60 & Over	55	1	56
50-59	146	9	155
40-49	260	22	282
30-39	496	40	536
20-29	417	19	436
19 & Under	7	1	8
Total	1,381	92	1,473

The age distribution of male new court commitments was concentrated in the 30 – 39 year age group (36%) and the 20 – 29 year age group (30%). The largest percent of female criminal new court commitments fell into the 30 – 39 year age group (43%) as well, followed by the 40 – 49 year age group (24%). Males and females had similar age distributions in the rest of age groups, with 34% male and 33% female criminally sentenced new court commitments falling into these categories.

Admissions by New Court Commitments

**MA DOC 2023 Criminally Sentenced Jurisdiction New Court Commitments:
Governing Offense by Assigned Sex**

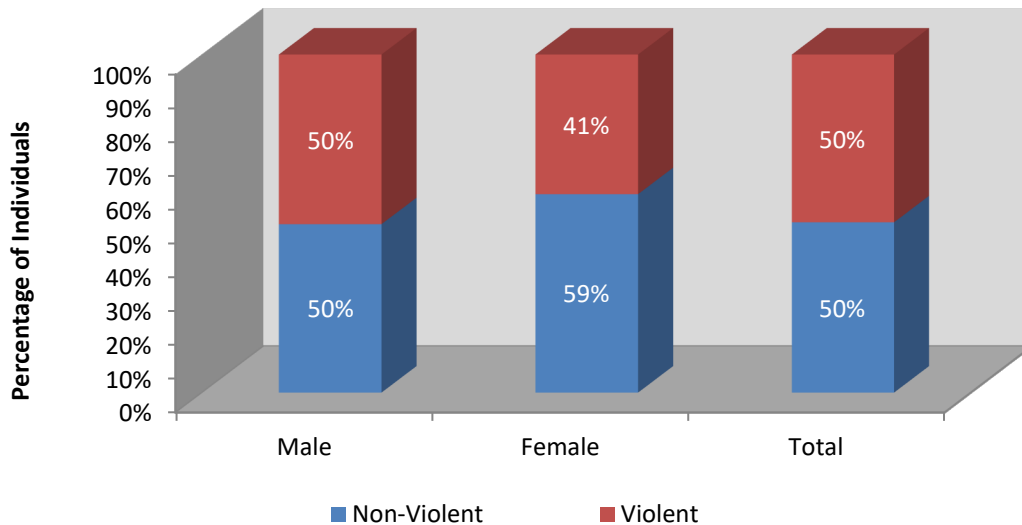


**MA DOC 2023 Criminally Sentenced Jurisdiction
New Court Commitments:
Governing Offense by Assigned Sex**

	Governing Offense	Male	Female	Total
Violent Offenses	Person	498	36	534
	Sex	195	2	197
Non-Violent Offenses	Drug	377	24	401
	Property	69	13	82
	Other	242	17	259
	Total	1,381	92	1,473

The most common governing offense type for male criminally sentenced new court commitments was person (36%), followed by drug (27%). Among females, person offenses were the most common (39%), followed by drug offenses (26%) as well. Property offenses were the least common, accounting for 6% of all governing offenses for criminally sentenced new court commitments, 5% of the male governing offenses and 14% of the female governing offenses.

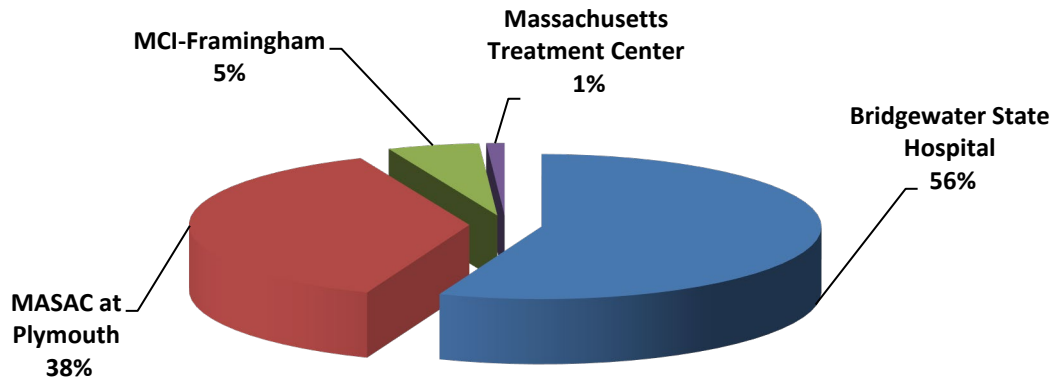
**MA DOC 2023 Criminally Sentenced Jurisdiction New Court Commitments:
Violent/Non-Violent Offense by Assigned Sex**



Male criminally sentenced new court commitments had an even distribution of violent (50%) and non-violent (50%) governing offenses, while the majority of female criminally sentenced new court commitments had non-violent governing offenses (59%). The overall breakout of criminally sentenced new court commitments were split evenly between violent (50%) and non-violent (50%) governing offenses since males compose 94% of the population.

Admissions by New Court Commitments

MA DOC 2023 Jurisdiction New Court Commitments:
Civil Commitments by Institution



MA DOC 2023 Jurisdiction New Court Commitments: Civil Commitments by Institution

Institution	Female	Male	Total
Bridgewater State Hospital	0	854	854
MASAC at Plymouth	0	576	576
MCI-Framingham	81	0	81
Massachusetts Treatment Center	0	16	16
Total	81	1,446	1,527

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, and “Sexually Dangerous Persons” at the Massachusetts Treatment Center (MTC).

- ◆ In 2023, there were 1,527 civil new court commitments, representing 41% of the overall 3,705 admissions.
- ◆ The majority (56%) of civil commitments in 2023 were mental health commitments admitted to Bridgewater State Hospital. This is 17 percentage points higher than the 39% in 2022. However, there were 854 civil commitments to BSH in 2023. This is less than a 1% increase from the 849 of the previous year.
- ◆ The number of Section 35’s decreased significantly from 1,259 during 2022 to 576 during 2023, a 54% decrease. Commitments to MASAC at Plymouth are limited to 90 days in length.
- ◆ Females represented a little over 5% of the civil commitments during 2023, 3 percentage points higher than the female civil commitments during 2022.

Massachusetts DOC 2023 Releases to the Community

Releases to the Community by Supervision Type

The definition of releases to the community is the release of an individual 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.

**MA DOC Criminally Sentenced Jurisdiction Releases to the Community
by Post Release Supervision Type and Year 2019 - 2023**

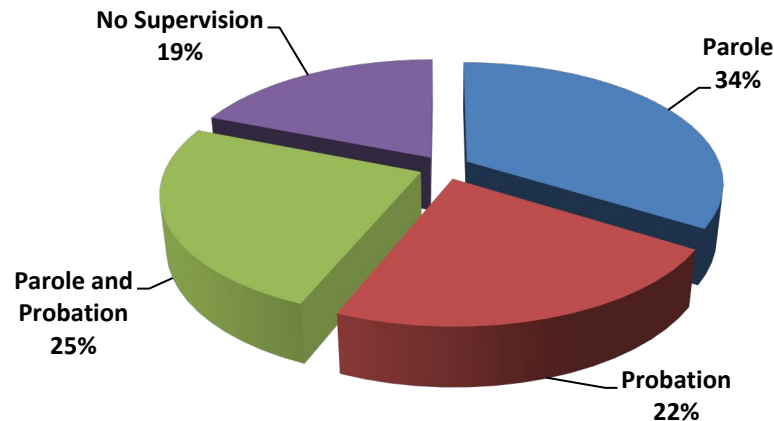
Post Release Supervision Type	2019		2020		2021		2022		2023	
Parole Supervision (only)	390	19%	493	26%	419	28%	434	32%	421	34%
Probation Supervision (only)	687	33%	559	29%	403	27%	332	24%	278	22%
Parole and Probation Supervision (both)	220	10%	377	20%	292	20%	331	24%	309	25%
No Post Release Supervision	810	38%	496	26%	357	24%	273	20%	236	19%
Total	2,107	100%	1,925	100%	1,471	100%	1,370	100%	1,244	100%

Post Release Supervision	2019		2020		2021		2022		2023	
Supervision	1,297	62%	1,429	74%	1,114	76%	1,097	80%	1,008	81%
No Supervision	810	38%	496	26%	357	24%	273	20%	236	19%
Total	2,107	100%	1,925	100%	1,471	100%	1,370	100%	1,244	100%

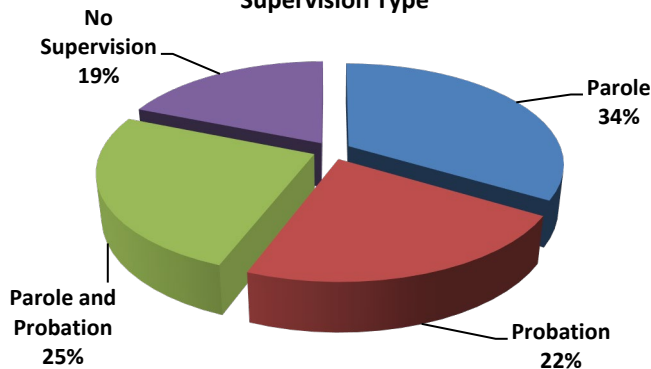
- ◆ Overall, there was a 41% decrease (n=863) in criminally sentenced releases to the community between 2019 and 2023. Though each subsequent year saw fewer releases, the largest decrease was between 2020 and 2021 (about 24%). While releases to parole supervision increased between 2019 and 2020, releases overall have dropped from 2022 to 2023.
- ◆ Releases to the community have experienced a consistent downward trend from a high of 2,107 in 2019 to a low of 1,244 in 2023. Individuals placed under parole supervision experienced the most significant surge in numbers between 2019 and 2020. However, over the past two years, the fluctuations in this category have remained within a range of plus or minus 5%. Individuals released with no supervision decreased by 71% from 2019 to 2023.
- ◆ Post-release supervision types have consistently been evenly distributed within the 20% range since 2020. However, Parole Supervision has increased from 19% in 2019 to 34% in 2023, while No Post Release Supervision has decreased from 38% to 19%. This aligns with the overall split of 81% under Supervision and 19% under No Supervision.
- ◆ The Massachusetts Crime Bill of 2018 instituted medical parole, in which a terminally ill or permanently incapacitated individual can be released on parole. In 2023, 12 individuals were released to the community using medical parole.

Releases to the Community by Supervision Type

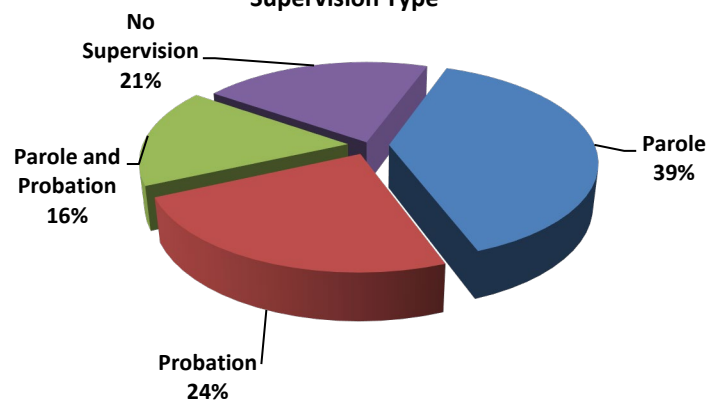
MA DOC 2023 Total Criminally Sentenced Jurisdiction Releases to the Community: Supervision Type



MA DOC 2023 Male Criminally Sentenced Jurisdiction Releases to the Community: Supervision Type



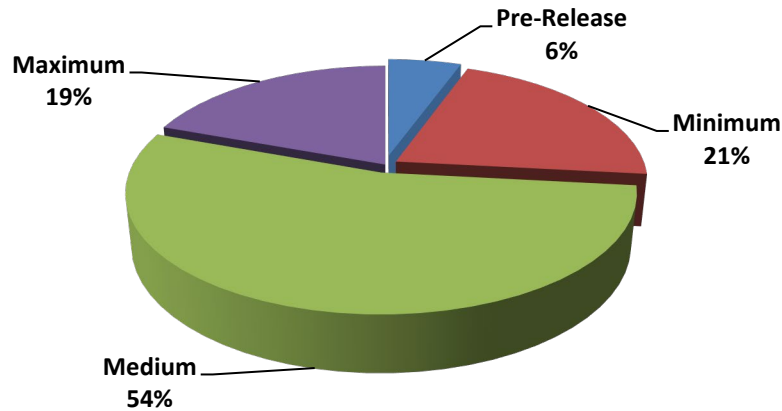
MA DOC 2023 Female Criminally Sentenced Jurisdiction Releases to the Community: Supervision Type



In 2023, there was a significant rise in the proportion of females released to the community solely under probation supervision, climbing from 8% to 24%. Between 2022 and 2023, there was a shift in the release dynamics, as the percentage of females released with no supervision decreased from 43% to 21%, while the rate for males remained constant at 19%. Across the entire release to the community population, the overall distribution remained relatively stable compared to the previous year, with a marginal percentage change of less than 2%.

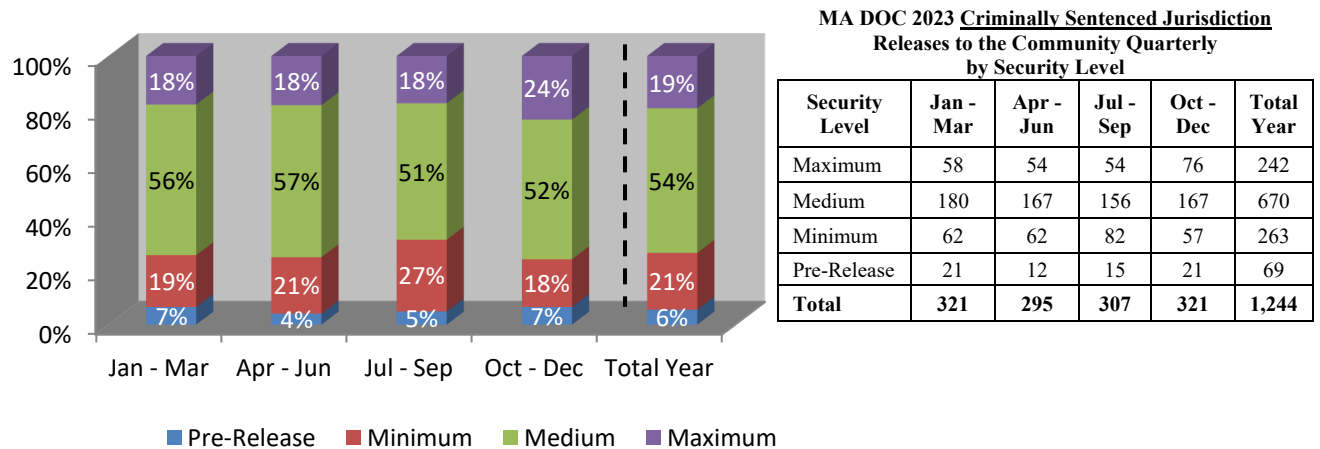
Releases to the Community by Security Level

MA DOC 2023 Criminally Sentenced Jurisdiction Releases to the Community by Security Level



- Overall, the number of criminally sentenced releases to the community decreased by 9% from 1,370 releases in 2022 to 1,244 releases in 2023. Releases came from facilities of all security levels.
- In comparison to previous years, the criminally sentenced releases from medium security facilities surpassed the 50% mark with a total of 54% (n=670). Less than one-fourth (n=263) came from minimum security facilities, and slightly below one-fifth came from maximum security facilities.

MA DOC 2023 Criminally Sentenced Jurisdiction Releases to the Community by Security Level



- The highest release activity occurred between January through March of 2023 (n=321) and replicated between October through December. Although being the highest release activity, it differs from the previous year 2022, where the highest release activity occurred between quarter 2 (April – June) and quarter 3 (July – September) (n=363).

Releases to the Community by Security Level

**MA DOC 2023 Criminally Sentenced Jurisdiction Releases to the Community
by Security Level and Institution**

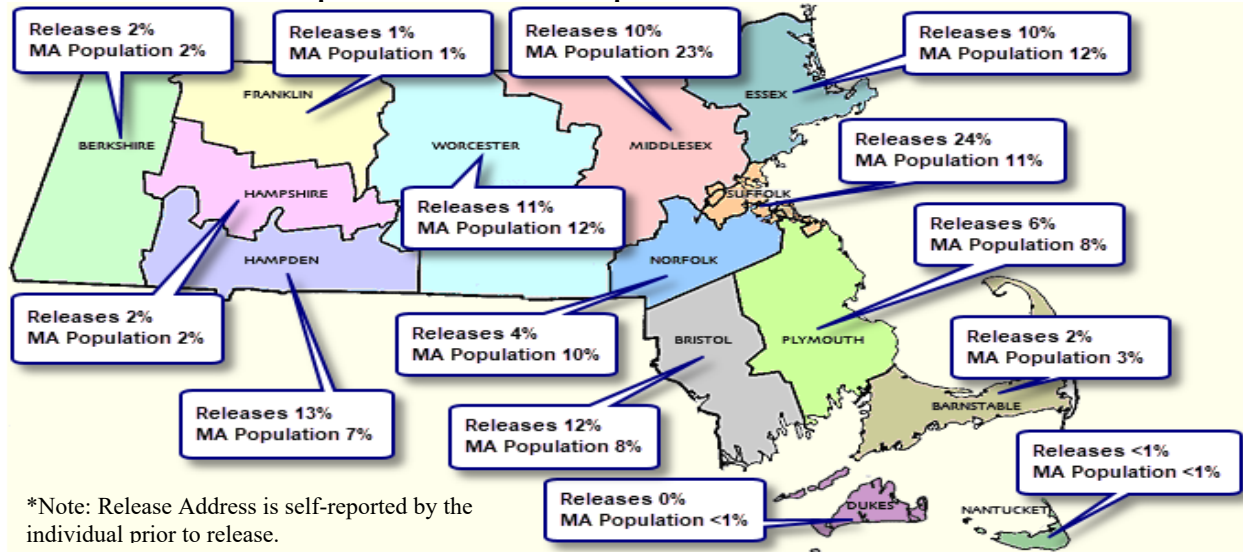
Institution	Security Level				
	Maximum	Medium	Minimum	Pre-Release	Total
Male					
Boston Pre-Release Center	0	0	14	18	32
Bridgewater State Hospital	0	0	0	0	0
Lemuel Shattuck Hospital	0	2	0	0	2
Massachusetts Alcohol and Substance Abuse Center at Plymouth	0	0	0	0	0
Massachusetts Treatment Center	0	81	0	0	81
MCI-Cedar Junction**	0	1	0	0	1
MCI-Concord	0	80	0	0	80
MCI-Norfolk	0	116	0	0	116
MCI-Shirley	0	194	0	0	194
NCCI-Gardner	0	64	0	0	64
Northeastern Correctional Center	0	0	105	15	120
Old Colony Correctional Center	0	74	64	0	138
Pondville Correctional Center	0	0	60	13	73
Souza Baranowski Correctional Center	242	0	0	0	242
Female					
Lemuel Shattuck Hospital	0	0	0	0	0
MCI-Framingham	0	50	0	0	50
Total DOC Facilities	242	662	243	46	1,193
County, Federal, Interstate	0	8	20	23*	51
Total Jurisdiction	242	670	263	69	1,244

*Note: 9 individuals (6 male, 3 female) were County, Federal, Interstate - Electronic Monitoring (CFI ELMO) and coded as pre-release.

- ◆ When comparing DOC facility of release in 2023, the greatest number of criminally sentenced individuals were released to the community from Souza Baranowski Correctional Center (n=242), followed by MCI-Shirley (n=194), and Old Colony Correctional Center (n=138).
- ◆ The most substantial increase in releases is observed at Souza Baranowski Correctional Center, with an increase from 159 in 2022 to 242 in 2023. Consequently, there has been a notable decrease in releases from MCI-Cedar Junction, with a decrease from 92 in 2022 to just 1 in 2023, this is attributed to the closure of the latter facility in June of 2023**.
- ◆ Each year, DOC commitments serve sentences at, and are released directly from, county, federal, and interstate facilities. There were 51 releases from this county, federal, and interstate population in 2023.

Release Address by County

MA DOC 2023 Criminally Sentenced Jurisdiction Releases to the Community by Counties*
Compared to the Estimated Population of Massachusetts in 2022



*Note: Release Address is self-reported by the individual prior to release.

About the map: 2022 estimated county population statistics were provided by the U.S Census Bureau, 2023 was not available.

**Note: The formerly incarcerated may not always be released in Massachusetts; approximately 4% 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 2022 compared to the percentage of criminally sentenced MA DOC population released to each county in 2023. Suffolk, Bristol, and Hampden were the only three counties with a higher percentage of incarcerated individuals released to the county (49% combined) than the percentage of Massachusetts residents residing there (26% combined). In contrast, Middlesex County represented 23% of the Massachusetts population but only 10% of the releases from the MA DOC.

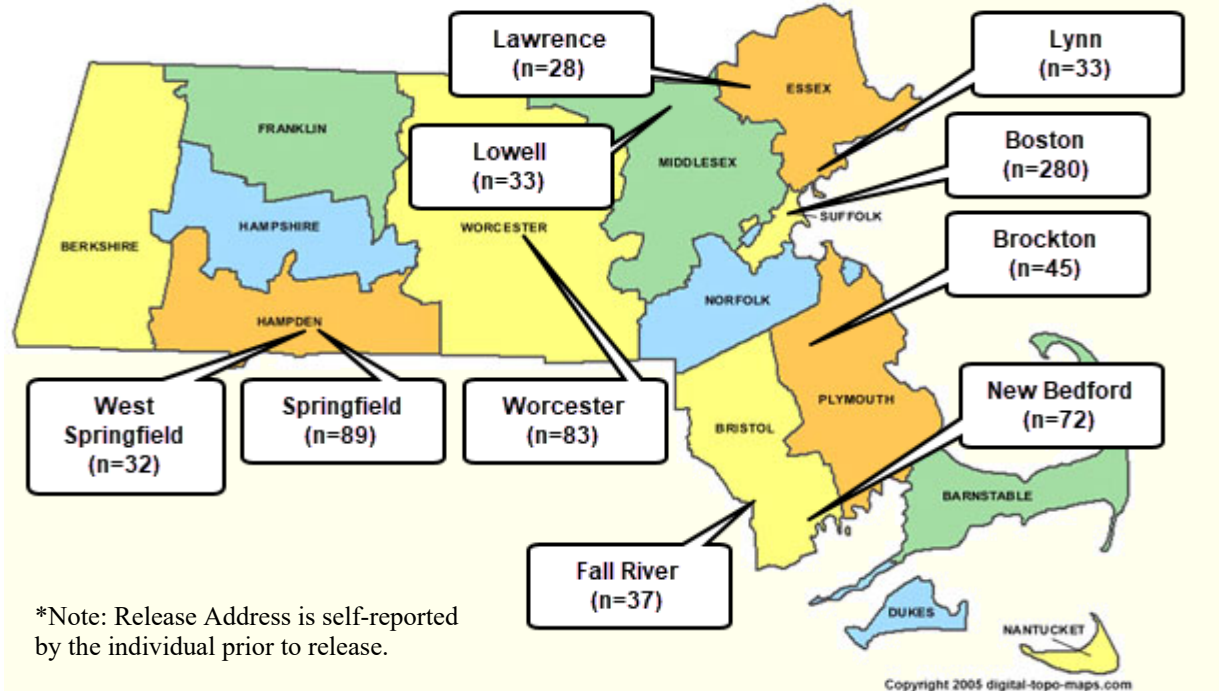
MA DOC 2023 Criminally Sentenced Jurisdiction Releases to the Community: MA County by Assigned Sex*

Female*			Male			Total		
County	Number	Percentage	County	Number	Percentage	County	Number	Percentage
Middlesex	16	24%	Suffolk	284	24%	Suffolk	295	24%
Essex	12	18%	Hampden	153	13%	Hampden	161	13%
Suffolk	11	16%	Bristol	147	12%	Bristol	151	12%
Hampden	8	12%	Worcester	136	12%	Worcester	141	11%
Worcester	5	7%	Essex	112	10%	Essex	124	10%
Bristol	4	6%	Middlesex	106	9%	Middlesex	122	10%
Barnstable	3	4%	Plymouth	69	6%	Plymouth	72	6%
Plymouth	3	4%	Norfolk	48	4%	Norfolk	49	4%
Norfolk	1	1%	Barnstable	22	2%	Barnstable	25	2%
Berkshire	0	0%	Berkshire	19	2%	Berkshire	19	2%
Dukes	0	0%	Hampshire	19	2%	Hampshire	19	2%
Franklin	0	0%	Franklin	10	1%	Franklin	10	1%
Hampshire	0	0%	Nantucket	1	<1%	Nantucket	1	<1%
Nantucket	0	0%	Dukes	0	0%	Dukes	0	0%
Sub-Total	63	94%	Sub-Total	1,126	96%	Sub-Total	1,189	96%
Outside MA	4	6%	Outside MA	50	4%	Outside MA	54	4%
Unknown	0	0%	Unknown	1	<1%	Unknown	1	<1%
Total	67	100%	Total	1,177	100%	Total	1,244	100%

*Note: Release Address is self-reported by the individual prior to release.

Release Address by Top Ten Cities

MA DOC 2023 Criminally Sentenced Jurisdiction Releases to the Community by Top Ten MA Cities*



Of the 1,244 criminally sentenced releases to the community in 2023, 732 (59%) 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=280) followed by Springfield (n=89) and Worcester (n=83). The male population mirrored the total top ten release cities. The female top ten release cities were similar to males in that Boston was in the top spot, but the other cities differed in positioning on the list and were fewer in number.

MA DOC 2023 Criminally Sentenced Jurisdiction Top Ten Releases to the Community: MA City by Assigned Sex*

Female*			Male			Total		
City	Number	Percentage	City	Number	Percentage	City	Number	Percentage
Boston	11	16%	Boston	269	23%	Boston	280	23%
Lawrence	6	9%	Springfield	86	7%	Springfield	89	7%
Holyoke	3	4%	Worcester	81	7%	Worcester	83	7%
Salisbury	3	4%	New Bedford	72	6%	New Bedford	72	6%
Springfield	3	4%	Brockton	45	4%	Brockton	45	4%
Billerica	2	3%	Fall River	36	3%	Fall River	37	3%
Fitchburg	2	3%	Lowell	32	3%	Lowell	33	3%
Framingham	2	3%	Lynn	31	3%	Lynn	33	3%
Lexington	2	3%	West Springfield	31	3%	West Springfield	32	3%
Lynn	2	3%	Lawrence	22	2%	Lawrence	28	2%

*Note: Release Address is self-reported by the individual prior to release.

Massachusetts DOC 2023 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 individual is incarcerated under MA DOC jurisdiction between date of admission and date of release. An incarcerated individual 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 a non-DOC facility. Time served is calculated by adding the incarcerated individual's LOS and jail credits.

For the purpose of this report, LOS and time served were calculated based on criminally sentenced population who had their first release to the community from the MA DOC jurisdiction in 2023.

**MA DOC 2023 Criminally Sentenced Jurisdiction Average Length of Stay, Jail Credits, and Time Served:
by Release Type and Assigned Sex**

Release Type	LOS	Jail Credits	Time Served
Males			
Parole to the Community	2,102 Days	408 Days	2,510 Days
Expiration of Sentence to the Community	1,351 Days	386 Days	1,737 Days
Females			
Parole to the Community	1,210 Days	417 Days	1,628 Days
Expiration of Sentence to the Community	367 Days	113 Days	480 Days
Total			
Parole to the Community	2,051 Days	408 Days	2,459 Days
Expiration of Sentence to the Community	1,297 Days	371 Days	1,668 Days

There were 1,007 criminally sentenced individuals who had their first release in 2023. Forty-three percent were released due to an expiration of sentence ($n = 435$), meaning they completed their sentence. The remaining 57% were paroled to the community.

Male Releases

- ◆ Of the 1,007 releases, the majority were males (94%).
- ◆ On average, time served for males released via parole was 6.9 years before being released, a decrease of .2 years from the 2022 male parolees (7.1 years). Length of stay also decreased to 5.8 years down from 6 in 2022 but still slightly higher than the 5.3 years in 2021.
- ◆ Males released via expiration of sentence served an average of 4.8 years before releasing to the community. Both release types for LOS and Time Served experienced a decrease of around 100 days in comparison to last year's averages.

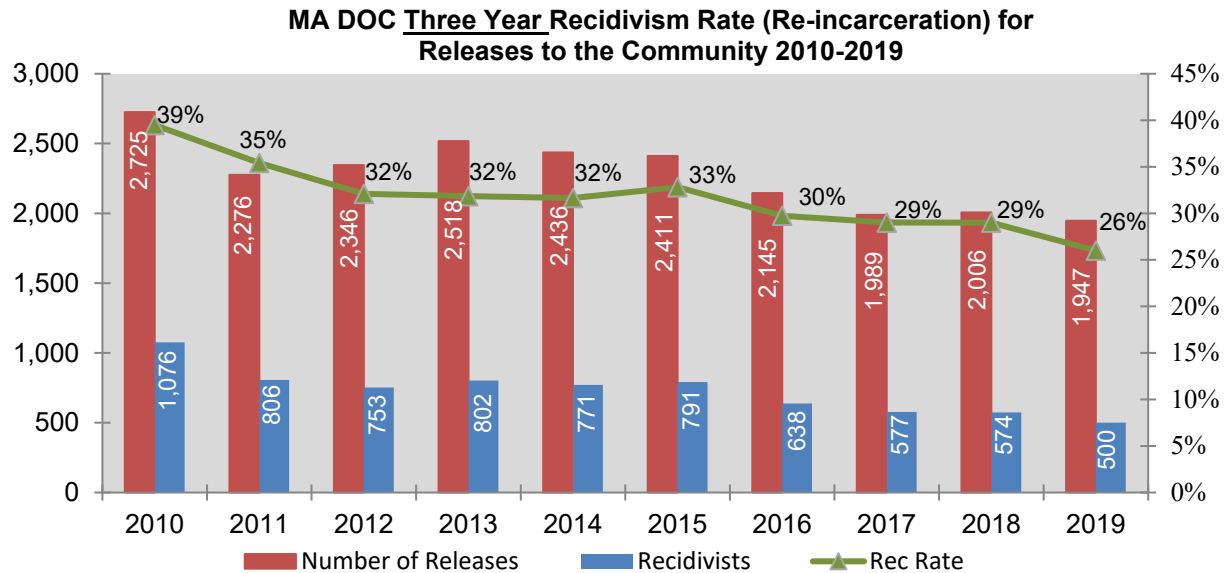
Female Releases

- ◆ Females represented 6% of the total releases in 2023 ($n = 57$).
- ◆ Average days for female expiration of sentences fluctuated more than their male counterpart. This is likely caused by the smaller cohort size where the average days can become skewed from the larger and smaller outliers.
- ◆ Females released via parole served 4.5 years on average for 2023, a .3 year decrease in time served compared to 2022. In 2022, the average parole time served was 4.8 years which was not only larger than the 2023 cohort but was more than double the 2.1 year average in 2021.
- ◆ Those females who released via expiration of sentence served an average of 1.3 years in 2023, a 0.7-year decrease compared to the 2-year average in 2022.

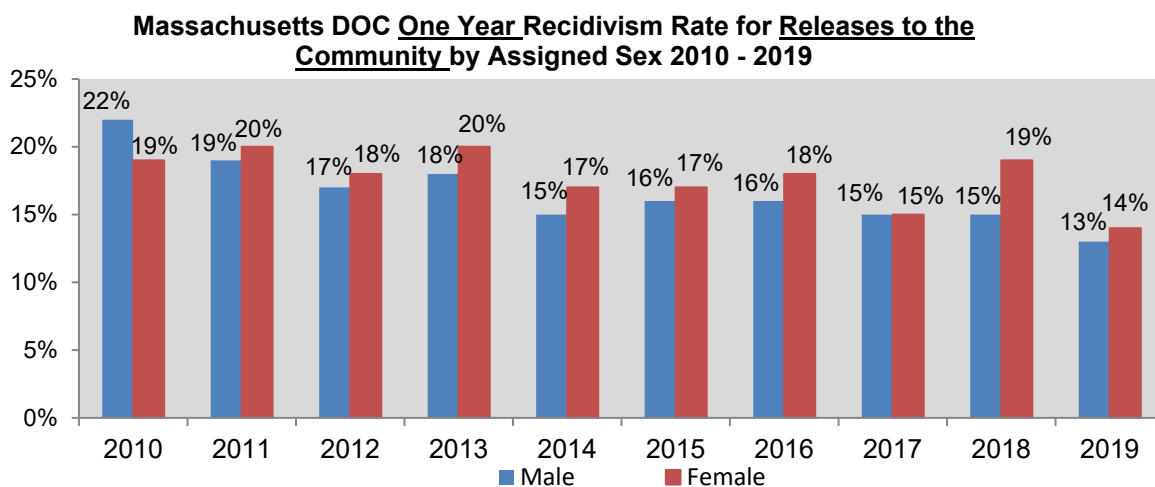
Massachusetts DOC 2023 Recidivism Trends and 2019 Recidivism Rates

Recidivism Trends and 2019 Recidivism Rates

A recidivist is defined as any criminally sentenced incarcerated individual released to the community via expiration of sentence/ parole⁷ from MA DOC jurisdiction during 2019 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 incarcerated individual who recidivates due to a technical violation of parole or probation is re-incarcerated for violating the terms of the conditions set forth regarding a 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 13 percentage points compared to the high experienced in 2010.



The male one-year recidivism rate has stayed fairly consistent from 2014 – 2018, ranging between 15% and 16%, then dropped to a low of 13% in 2019. The female rate declined in 2019 to 14%, the lowest one-year rate for females in the trend period.

⁷ Incarcerated individuals paroled to the Transitional Treatment Program (TTP) are not included in the release cohort.

Recidivism Trends and 2019 Recidivism Rates

MA DOC Three Year Recidivism Rate for 2019 Releases to the Community by Security Level of Releasing Institution and Assigned Sex

Security Level	Males		Females		Total	
	Number Releases	Recidivism Rate	Number Releases	Recidivism Rate	Number Releases	Recidivism Rate
Maximum	272	40%	n.a.	n.a.	272	40%
Medium	752	28%	194	25%	946	27%
Minimum and Pre-Release	552	18%	177	20%	729	18%
Total	1,576	26%	371	23%	1,947	26%

- ◆ Recidivism rates for incarcerated individuals released during 2019 were positively correlated with the security level of their releasing facility. The recidivism rate for both male and female releases increased as the security level of the releasing institution increased.
- ◆ Males released from lower⁸ security had the lowest recidivism rate, with 18% of those releases re-incarcerated within three-years of their release to the community. The recidivism rate for males released from medium security was 28%, while the rate for males released from maximum security was 40%, the highest of all security levels.
- ◆ The recidivism rate for females released from a lower security facility was 20%, whereas females who were released from a medium security facility had a recidivism rate of 25%.

MA DOC Three Year Recidivism Rate for Female 2019 Releases to the Community by Sentence Type⁹

Sentence Type	Number Releases	Recidivism Rate
County Sentence ¹⁰	289	22%
State Sentence	82	24%
Total	371	23%

- ◆ Historically, females released from a county sentence have had a higher recidivism rate than those released from a state sentence. For the 2019 release cohort, the recidivism rate for county sentenced incarcerated individuals was slightly lower than that of state sentenced, 22% and 24%, respectively.

⁸ Lower security includes electronic monitoring, minimum, and minimum pre-release.

⁹ Some of the females released during 2019 who received a county sentence from the court served that sentence at the Massachusetts DOC, as some county correctional facilities do not house female incarcerated individuals.

¹⁰ Includes incarcerated individuals released from the Massachusetts DOC serving a county sentence.

Recidivism Trends and 2019 Recidivism Rates

Individuals released to the community with parole conditions are supervised for a period of time upon release to the community. Paroled individuals 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 individual may have a higher likelihood of re-incarceration.

The following tables provide a comparison of the recidivism rates¹¹ of the population released during 2019, including and excluding re-incarcerations for technical violations.

**MA DOC Three-Year Recidivism Rate for 2019 Including and Excluding
Re-incarcerations for Technical Violations:
Type of Release by Assigned Sex**

Recidivism Rates by Release Type and Assigned Sex <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	394	65	16%	117	20	17%	511	85	17%
Expiration of Sentence	1,182	275	23%	254	38	15%	1,436	313	22%
Total Releases	1,576	340	22%	371	58	16%	1,947	398	20%
Recidivism Rates by Release Type and Assigned Sex <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*	394	140	36%	117	43	37%	511	183	36%
Expiration of Sentence	1,182	276	23%	254	41	16%	1,436	317	22%
Total Releases	1,576	416	26%	371	84	23%	1,947	500	26%

*Individuals 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 parolees, it is important to note that a portion of those re-incarcerated within the three-year period are no longer under parole supervision at the time they recidivate.¹²
- ◆ Of the 1,947 incarcerated individuals released to the community during 2019, 26% (n = 511) were paroled to the community, while 74% (n = 1,436) were released via expiration of sentence. When using the definition including technical violations, those paroled to the community had a higher recidivism rate (36%) than the recidivism rate of those released via expiration of sentence (22%). Again, the higher recidivism rate for parolees 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 those incarcerated individuals who 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 opportunity to commit new crime is diminished. This is a potential issue with the non-technical definition showing lower recidivism rates resulting from an incarcerated individual's inability to commit a new crime for a portion of the three-year follow-up.

¹² Incarcerated individuals 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 2019 Recidivism Rates

- ◆ Of the 500 who were a recidivist using the definition including technical violations of parole or probation, 120 recidivated due to a technical violation of their parole conditions and 4 for a technical probation violation.
- ◆ Of the 124 who returned for a technical violation, 22 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 six percentage points, from 26% to 20% when excluding technical violations, with paroles to the community experiencing the largest decrease, from 36% to 17%. The recidivism rate for males decreased from 26% to 22%, while females decreased from 23% to a rate of 16%.

MA DOC Three-Year Re-incarceration Recidivism Rates Excluding and Including Technical Violators for 2019 Releases to the Community

Three Year Re-incarceration Recidivism Rates <u>Excluding</u> Technical Violations									
		1st Year		2nd Year		3rd Year		Total	
Assigned Sex	Number of Releases	Rec	Rate	Rec	Rate	Rec	Rate	Rec	Rate
Female	371	26	7%	12	3%	20	5%	58	16%
Male	1,576	125	8%	117	7%	98	6%	340	22%
Total	1,947	151	8%	129	7%	118	6%	398	20%
Three Year Re-incarceration Recidivism Rates <u>Including</u> Technical Violations									
		1st Year		2nd Year		3rd Year		Total	
Assigned Sex	Number of Releases	Rec	Rate	Rec	Rate	Rec	Rate	Rec	Rate
Female	371	52	14%	14	4%	18	5%	84	23%
Male	1,576	212	13%	114	7%	90	6%	416	26%
Total	1,947	264	14%	128	7%	108	6%	500	26%

- ◆ Both male and female releases experienced a lower first year recidivism rate when excluding technical violators, resulting in a decrease of six percentage points in the recidivism rate for the first year.
- ◆ There was no difference in the second-year and third year recidivism rates whether including or excluding technical violations.

Recidivism Trends and 2019 Recidivism Rates

**MA DOC Three Year Recidivism Rates for 2019 Releases to the Community by
Offense Category and Assigned Sex**

	Males		Females		Total	
Offense Category	Number Releases	Recidivism Rate	Number Releases	Recidivism Rate	Number Releases	Recidivism Rate
Property	182	34%	96	27%	278	31%
Person	662	31%	99	34%	761	31%
Other	190	30%	94	17%	284	26%
Drug	415	20%	73	11%	488	18%
Sex	127	9%	9	n.a.	136	9%
Total	1,576	26%	371	23%	1,947	26%

- ◆ Those who had been serving governing property offenses had the highest recidivism rate for male releases (34%), followed by person offenses (31%) and ‘other’ offenses who recidivated at 30%.
- ◆ Females serving governing person offenses had the highest recidivism rate (34%), followed by property offenses (27%) and ‘other’ offenses (17%).
- ◆ Incarcerated individuals serving a governing sex offense had the lowest overall recidivism rate (9%).

**MA DOC Three Year Recidivism Rates for 2019 Releases to the Community by
Offense Type and Assigned Sex**

	Males		Females		Total	
Offense Type	Number Releases	Recidivism Rate	Number Releases	Recidivism Rate	Number Releases	Recidivism Rate
Violent	789	27%	108	31%	897	28%
Non-Violent	787	25%	263	19%	1,050	24%
Total	1,576	26%	371	23%	1,947	26%

- ◆ Incarcerated individuals released from a governing violent offense in 2019 had a higher recidivism rate (28%) compared to non-violent (24%).

**MA DOC Three Year Recidivism Rates for 2019 Releases to the Community by
Mandatory Minimum Drug Sentence and Assigned Sex**

	Males		Females		Total	
Drug Offense Type	Number Releases	Recidivism Rate	Number Releases	Recidivism Rate	Number Releases	Recidivism Rate
Non-Mandatory Drug Offense	202	20%	67	12%	269	18%
Mandatory Drug Offense	213	20%	6	n.a.	219	19%
Total	415	20%	73	11%	488	18%

- ◆ Of those released who had been serving a governing drug offense, the recidivism rate for those with a non-mandatory drug offense was nearly equal to those serving a mandatory drug offense, 18% and 19% respectively.

Recidivism Trends and 2019 Recidivism Rates

MA DOC Three Year Recidivism Rates for 2019 Releases to the Community by Race/Ethnicity* and Assigned Sex¹³

	Males		Females		Total	
Race/Ethnicity	Number Releases	Recidivism Rate	Number Releases	Recidivism Rate	Number Releases	Recidivism Rate
Unknown	4	n.a	20	25%	24	30%
Black or African American	427	28%	30	27%	457	28%
White	649	28%	290	22%	939	26%
Hispanic	484	23%	31	26%	515	23%
American Indian or Alaska Native	2	n.a	0	n.a	2	n.a
Asian or Pacific Islander	10	n.a	0	n.a	10	n.a
Total	1,576	26%	371	23%	1,946	26%

*Race/Ethnicity is self-reported by the individual at time of admission

- ◆ The three-year recidivism rate was highest for Black or African American and White male releases, (28%), followed by Hispanic male releases (23%).
- ◆ For female releases, Black or African American incarcerated individuals had the highest recidivism rate (27%), followed by Hispanic (26%) and Unknown (25%).
- ◆ For those individuals who reported a race/ ethnicity, Black or African Americans recidivated at the highest rate (28%), followed by those who reported a race of White (26%), and Hispanic (23%). A small number of individuals had an unknown race/ethnicity. The recidivism rate for those 24 individuals was 30%.

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

Massachusetts DOC 2023 Caveats and Definitions

Caveats and Definitions

ACA	The American Correctional Association
Admissions	Individuals 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 2023 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	Individuals 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	Individuals 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 of 2012	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 individuals.

Caveats and Definitions

Crime Bill of 2018	The common term for Chapter 192 of the Acts of 2018, effective April 13, 2018, which resulted in changes to Restrictive Housing, Earned Good Time, and Medical Releases.
Crime Lab	A term referring to issues regarding the accuracy of testing at the William A. Hinton State Laboratory Institute, commonly referenced as the “Hinton Drug Lab” and the State Crime Laboratory at the University of Massachusetts Amherst which resulted in hundreds of releases by court orders beginning in September 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 individual who is incarcerated in a Massachusetts DOC facility.
Design Capacity	The number of individuals 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. Individuals may be awarded up to 7.5 days of earned good time per program and up to but not to exceed 15 days per month for work related programs and an additional deduction of up to 10 days for successful completion of a program or activity as long as combined deductions do not reduce the imposed maximum term or aggregate maximum terms by more than 35%.
Escape	The act by which an individual, 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.

Caveats and Definitions

Expiration Of Sentence	The discharge of an individual 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.
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 individual 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 individuals 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 2022, each court commitment for that individual is counted separately.
Non-DOC Releases to Other Jurisdiction	The transfer of non-DOC individuals (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.”

Caveats and Definitions

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.
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 individual from a Massachusetts DOC jurisdiction to the supervision of the Parole Board while in the community. Such discharged individuals may be re-incarcerated for violating the terms of their supervision imposed by the Parole Board.
Parole or Expiration of Sentence to Other	<p>Individuals 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	Individuals released from the Massachusetts DOC jurisdiction with parole supervision.

Caveats and Definitions

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, individuals 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.
Pre-Trial or “Detainee”	Individuals housed in MA DOC custody who are held for another MA authority and are detained prior to and during a trial, conviction, and sentencing and not yet convicted of a crime. Detainees are also held by the MA DOC for other jurisdictions on pending federal criminal charges and out-of-state parole violation warrants.
Probation	A court-ordered sentence whereby an individual is released from confinement but remains under court supervision.
Probation Violation	An individual 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 individuals 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 individuals who are released from a temporary parole detainer (n=20).
Release to the Community	The release of an individual 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.

Caveats and Definitions

Sentence/Sentence Type

State Prison Sentence

When an individual 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. All state prison sentences have a minimum and a maximum term, unless an individual 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. An individual 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 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 individuals 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.

Caveats and Definitions

SMI/ OMH

Acronym for “Serious Mental Illness”. (M.G.L. c.127, §1) A current or recent diagnosis by a qualified mental health professional of one or more of the following disorders described in the 5th edition of the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders: (a) schizophrenia and other psychotic disorders; (b) major depressive disorders; (c) all types of bipolar disorders; (d) a neurodevelopmental disorder, dementia or other cognitive disorder; (e) any disorder commonly characterized by breaks with reality or perceptions of reality; (f) all types of anxiety disorders; (g) trauma and stressor related disorders; or (h) severe personality disorders; or a finding by a qualified mental health professional that the incarcerated individual is at serious risk of substantially deteriorating mentally or emotionally while confined in Restrictive Housing, or already has so deteriorated while confined in Restrictive Housing, such that diversion or removal is deemed to be clinically appropriate by a qualified mental health professional.

Acronym for “Open Mental Health”. An incarcerated individual who is diagnosed with a mental illness or determined to be in need of mental health intervention on an ongoing basis. At any time during his or her incarceration, an individual may become an open mental health case (OMH) based on a mental health crisis, including suicidal threats or self-injurious behavior and/or the display of signs and/or symptoms of mental illness or emotional distress. Based upon clinical indications and within the discretion of the Primary Care Clinician (PCC), in consultation with the site Psychiatrist (if on medication) and/or Site Mental Health Director, an individual may also be removed from the active mental health caseload. However, any incarcerated individual carrying the Gender Dysphoria (GD) diagnosis will remain an open mental health case.

Snapshot Population

The total number of individuals of all commitment types incarcerated in the Massachusetts DOC on a given day, including all pre-trial detainees, civil commitments, criminally sentenced and transfer population 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.”