

MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION

# BIANNUAL REPORT ON DEPARTMENT DISCIPLINARY UNIT HOUSING

*2nd Biannual 2019*



**Carol A. Mici, Commissioner**

**Use of Department Disciplinary Unit July 1, 2019 to December 31, 2019 to the Joint Committee on the Judiciary, Public Safety, Homeland Security and the House and Senate Committees on Ways and Means**

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**Rhiana Kohl, PhD, Executive Director, Office of Strategic Planning and Research**

***Prepared by:***

**Data Analytics Unit**

**Director: Eva Yutkins-Kennedy**

**Brian DeMars**

**Ryan Fallon**

**Alex Koscielniak**

**Jesse Ross**

**Jacob Sears**

**Research and Planning Division**

**Deputy Director: Hollie Matthews**

**Leah Wang**

## Methodology

Department Disciplinary Unit (DDU) in the MADOC is considered a status. Inmates on DDU statuses are inmates who are serving a sanction in the DDU for committing a severe violation of institutional rules. The DDU is located at MCI-Cedar Junction.

The data used for this report comes from the MADOC's Inmate Management System (IMS), and the MADOC Health Services Division (ERMA).

The data represents 63 DDU statuses based on 63 male inmates with a discharge date from the DDU within the reporting time frame (July 1, 2019 to December 31, 2019). The following data tables describe this cohort.

### Length of Stay in DDU<sup>1</sup>

Average length of stay = 8.9 months  
Median length of stay = 4.1 months

Table 1

Length of Stay	DDU Count	Percent
0 to 12 Months	47	75%
12 months or Greater	16	25%
<b>Total</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>100%</b>

### Length of Stay in DDU of Inmates with Open Mental Health<sup>2</sup>

Average length of stay = 7.9 months  
Median length of stay = 4.5 months

Table 2

Length of Stay	DDU Count	Percent
0 to 12 Months	29	76%
12 months or Greater	9	24%
<b>Total</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>100%</b>

<sup>1</sup> Data is based on 63 inmates with a discharge date within the reporting time frame. Inmates who remained active during the reporting time frame and inmates who have a discharge date after the reporting time frame were excluded from this report as these inmates will be reported on in subsequent reports. Inmates with less than a full month length of stay were counted as one month. The length of stay is based on the length of the DDU sanction which is tracked in months. The disciplinary offenses that led to a DDU status are listed in the appendix.

<sup>2</sup> Data is based on inmates with Open Mental Health (OMH) released from DDU within the reporting time frame. An OMH inmate is diagnosed with a mental illness or determined to be in need of mental health intervention on an ongoing basis. See Appendix III for a full definition. There were 38 OMH inmates who were discharged from DDU during the reporting time frame based on their most recent mental health screening. This field signifies whether or not the inmate was on the institution's OMH caseload prior to entering this status or at any time during their status. Any inmate carrying the Gender Dysphoria (GD) diagnosis will remain an OMH case. Inmates with Serious Mental Illness are included in the count for OMH for the purposes of this report. See Appendix III for a full definition of Serious Mental Illness.

## Length of Stay in DDU of Inmates 21 Years of Age or Younger<sup>3</sup>

Average length of stay = 1.5 months  
Median length of stay = 1.5 months

Table 3

Length of Stay	DDU Count	Percent
0 to 12 Months	1	100%
12 months or Greater 31-60 Days	0	0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>100%</b>

## Criminally Sentenced Releases to the Community within 30 Days of DDU Discharge Date<sup>4</sup>

Table 4

Release Breakdown	Count
Released to Community within 30 Days	1

## One Year Recidivism Rate of Inmates who were placed in DDU <sup>5</sup>

A recidivist is defined as any criminally sentenced inmate released to the community, via expiration of sentence or parole, from the MA DOC during 2017 who was re-incarcerated for a new sentence or violation of parole or probation to a Massachusetts state, county, or federal facility within one year of release.

### 2017 Male Releases to the Community

One year recidivism rates for inmates who were placed in the DDU from CY15 to CY17.

Table 5

Status in DDU	Count	Recidivist	Percent
Inmates with DDU Status	49	7	14%
Inmates without DDU Status	1,484	196	13%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,533</b>	<b>203</b>	<b>13%</b>

<sup>3</sup> Data is based on inmates aged 21 years or younger on their date of discharge from DDU within the reporting time frame. There was one inmate who was 21 years of age or younger when discharged from RH during the reporting time frame.

<sup>4</sup> Data is based on criminally sentenced inmates who were discharged from DDU and released to the community within 30 days of their RH discharge date. See Appendix III for a full definition.

<sup>5</sup> Data is based on criminally sentenced inmates 2017 releases to the community who were placed in RH within CY15 to CY17. Due to a change in the recidivism collection methodology, the release cohort does not include inmates paroled to the Transitional Treatment Program at Boston Pre-Release Center.

## Department Disciplinary Unit Admissions

Data is based on inmates who had one or more DDU admissions within the reporting time frame regardless of their release date. The admission counts are based on 64 inmates. These counts include inmates with a single DDU admission (labeled as “First DDU Status”) as well as inmates admitted who have had a prior DDU status (labeled as “DDU Status with Prior”).

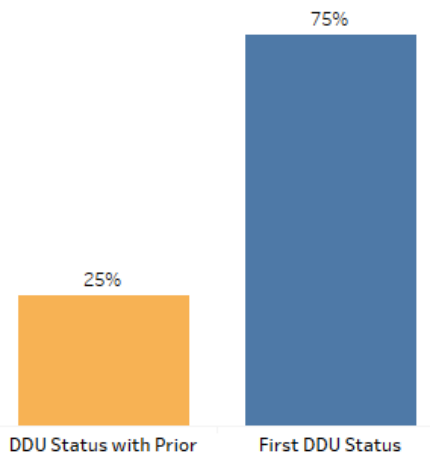


Table 6

Single Versus Multiple Admissions		
Admission Types	DDU Count	Percent
DDU Status with a Prior DDU Admission	16	25%
First DDU Status	48	75%
Total Admissions	64	100%

## Appendix I: Open Mental Health Delineated by Diagnosis<sup>6</sup>

Diagnosis Code	Diagnosis	Count of Diagnoses
F43.23.1	Adjustment disorder, With mixed anxiety and depressed mood (Acute)	1
F10.20.1	Alcohol use disorder, Moderate (Acute)	12
F10.20.2	Alcohol use disorder, Severe (Acute)	7
F15.20.1	Amphetamine-type substance use disorder, Moderate (Acute)	1
F60.2.1	Antisocial personality disorder (Acute)	9
F90.2.1	Attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder, Combined presentation (Acute)	1
F12.10.1	Cannabis use disorder, Mild (Acute)	1
F12.20.1	Cannabis use disorder, Moderate (Acute)	13
F12.20.2	Cannabis use disorder, Severe (Acute)	8
F14.20.1	Cocaine use disorder, Moderate (Acute)	5
F14.20.2	Cocaine use disorder, Severe (Acute)	5
F33.1.1	Major depressive disorder, Recurrent episode, Moderate (Acute)	1
F33.1	Major depressive disorder, recurrent, moderate (Chronic)	1
F32.9.1	Major depressive disorder, Single episode, Unspecified (Acute)	1
F01.50.1	Major vascular neurocognitive disorder, Probable, Without behavioral disturbance (Acute)	1
F60.81.1	Narcissistic personality disorder (Acute)	1
F17.210	Nicotine dependence, cigarettes, uncomplicated (Chronic)	1
F11.20.1	Opioid use disorder, Moderate (Acute)	6
F11.20.2	Opioid use disorder, Severe (Acute)	3
F16.20.1	Other hallucinogen use disorder, Moderate (Acute)	1
F16.20.2	Other hallucinogen use disorder, Severe (Acute)	1
F41.8.1	Other specified anxiety disorder (Acute)	6
F41.8	Other specified anxiety disorders (Chronic)	1
F32.8.1	Other specified depressive disorder (Acute)	6
F99.1	Other specified mental disorder (Acute)	1
F28.1	Other specified schizophrenia spectrum and other psychotic disorder (Acute)	1
F43.8.1	Other specified trauma- and stressor-related disorder (Acute)	7
F34.1.1	Persistent depressive disorder (dysthymia) (Acute)	4
F16.10.2	Phencyclidine use disorder, Mild (Acute)	1
F16.20.4	Phencyclidine use disorder, Severe (Acute)	1
F43.10.1	Posttraumatic stress disorder (Acute)	6
F60.1.1	Schizoid personality disorder (Acute)	1
F13.20.1	Sedative, hypnotic, or anxiolytic use disorder, Moderate (Acute)	4
F41.9.1	Unspecified anxiety disorder (Acute)	1
F99.2	Unspecified mental disorder (Acute)	1
	<b>Total</b>	<b>121</b>

<sup>6</sup> Inmate commitment numbers were utilized to calculate the diagnoses counts and a commitment number may be counted in one or more diagnoses.

## Appendix II: Disciplinary Offenses

### All DDU Statuses

Disciplinary Offense	Disciplinary Offense Description	Count
1-02	Aggravated assault on a staff member, contract employee, member of the public, volunteer, or animal	9
1-03	Aggravated assault on another inmate or parolee	41
1-13	Inciting others to riot or inciting other inmates to participate in a major group demonstration within any institution	2
1-17	Fighting with, assaulting or threatening another person, due to security threat group activities or gang activities.	1
2-03	Assault on a staff member, contract employee, member of the public, volunteer, or animal	6
2-04	Assault on another inmate or parolee	1
2-15	Interfering with staff members, medical personnel, firefighters, or law enforcement personnel in the performance of their duties during an emergency	1
2-21	Causing injury to another person by resisting orders, resisting forced movement or physical efforts to restrain	1
2-29	Engaging in intimate acts and/or sexual acts with another	1

### Open Mental Health Statuses

Disciplinary Offense	Disciplinary Offense Description	Count
1-02	Aggravated assault on a staff member, contract employee, member of the public, volunteer, or animal	7
1-03	Aggravated assault on another inmate or parolee	23
1-13	Inciting others to riot or inciting other inmates to participate in a major group demonstration within any institution	1
1-17	Fighting with, assaulting or threatening another person, due to security threat group activities or gang activities.	1
2-03	Assault on a staff member, contract employee, member of the public, volunteer, or animal	4
2-21	Causing injury to another person by resisting orders, resisting forced movement or physical efforts to restrain	1
2-29	Engaging in intimate acts and/or sexual acts with another	1

## Inmates 21 Years of Age or Younger

Disciplinary Offense	Disciplinary Offense Description	Count
1-02	Aggravated assault on a staff member, contract employee, member of the public, volunteer, or animal	1

### Appendix III: Definitions and Acronyms

Acronym	Term	Definition
DDU	Department Disciplinary Unit	(103 CMR 430.05) A restricted area or areas designated by the Commissioner to which an inmate has received a sanction recommended by a Special Hearing Officer.
ERMA	Electronic record management application	
IMS	Inmate Management System	(103 CMR 430.05) The Department's automated information system that provides processing, storage and retrieval of inmate-related information needed by Department personnel and other authorized users within the criminal justice system.
MCI	Massachusetts Correctional Institution	
OMH	Open Mental Health (OMH)	An inmate 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 inmate 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 inmate may also be removed from the active mental health caseload. However, any inmate carrying the Gender Dysphoria (GD) diagnosis will remain an open mental health case.
	Release to Community	The release of an inmate from the jurisdiction of the Massachusetts DOC by parole or by discharge to the community. Conditions warranting a release to the community generally include: court release (see Crime Lab), expiration of fine, payment of fine, parole and expiration of sentence.
SMI	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 5 <sup>th</sup> edition of the <i>Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders</i> : (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 inmate 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.
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