

MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION

BIANNUAL REPORT ON DEPARTMENT DISCIPLINARY UNIT HOUSING

2nd Biannual 2021



Carol A. Mici, Commissioner

Use of Department Disciplinary Unit July 1, 2021 to December 31, 2021 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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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 14 DDU statuses based on 14 male inmates with a discharge date from the DDU within the reporting time frame (July 1, 2021 to December 31, 2021). The following data tables describe this cohort.¹

Length of Stay in DDU²

Average length of stay = 6.4 months
Median length of stay = 6.6 months

Table 1

Length of Stay	DDU Count	Percent
0 to 12 Months	13	93%
12 months or Greater	1	7%
Total	14	100%

Length of Stay in DDU of Inmates with Open Mental Health³

Average length of stay = 4.3 months
Median length of stay = 3.8 months

Table 2

Length of Stay	DDU Count	Percent
0 to 12 Months	9	100%
12 months or Greater	0	0%
Total	9	100%

¹ Due to rounding, percentage totals may not add up to 100 percent in all tables.

² Data is based on 14 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 included 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.

³ 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. Data is based on inmates with Open Mental Health (OMH) released from DDU within the reporting time frame. There were 9 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.

Length of Stay in DDU of Inmates 21 Years of Age or Younger⁴

Average length of stay = 7.0 months
Median length of stay = 7.0 months

Table 3

Length of Stay	DDU Count	Percent
0 to 12 Months	2	100%
12 months or Greater	0	0%
Total	2	100%

Criminally Sentenced Releases to the Community within 30 Days of DDU Discharge Date⁵

Table 4

Release Breakdown	Count
Inmates Released to Community within 30 Days	0

One Year Recidivism Rate of Inmates who were placed in DDU ⁶

A recidivist is defined as any criminally sentenced inmate released to the community, via expiration of sentence or parole, from the MADOC during 2019 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.

2019 Male Releases to the Community

One year recidivism rates for inmates who were placed in the DDU from CY17 to CY19.

Table 5

Status in DDU	Count	Recidivist	Percent
Inmates with DDU Status	57	9	16%
Inmates without DDU Status	1,521	176	12%
Total	1,578	185	12%

⁴ Data is based on inmates aged 21 years or younger on their date of discharge from DDU within the reporting time frame. There were 2 inmates who were 21 years of age or younger when discharged from RH during the reporting time frame.

⁵ 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. The inmate's release may have occurred during the following biannual. See Appendix III for a full definition.

⁶ Data is based on criminally sentenced inmates who were placed in RH between CY17 and CY19 and then released to the community in 2019. 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 admission dates during this time frame regardless of their release date. The admission counts and percentages are based on 21 inmates. These counts include inmates with a single DDU admission (labeled as “First DDU Admission”) as well as inmates who have been admitted to the DDU at any time prior to this admission (labeled as “DDU Admission with a Prior DDU Admission”). Of these 21 inmates, 13 inmates (62%) were admitted for the first time during the reporting period.

Table 6

Single Versus Multiple DDU Admissions			
Admission Types	Inmate Count	Admission Count	Percent
First DDU Admission	13	13	62%
DDU Admission with a Prior DDU Admission	8	8	38%
Total	21	21	100%

Appendix I: Open Mental Health Delineated by Diagnosis⁷

Diagnosis Code	Diagnosis	Count of Diagnoses
F10.10.1	Alcohol use disorder, Mild (Acute)	1
F10.20.1	Alcohol use disorder, Moderate (Acute)	5
F10.20.2	Alcohol use disorder, Severe (Acute)	1
F10.21	Alcohol dependence, in remission (Chronic)	1
F11.20.1	Opioid use disorder, Moderate (Acute)	3
F11.20.2	Opioid use disorder, Severe (Acute)	3
F12.10	Cannabis abuse, uncomplicated (Chronic)	3
F12.10.1	Cannabis use disorder, Mild (Acute)	1
F12.20.1	Cannabis use disorder, Moderate (Acute)	1
F12.20.2	Cannabis use disorder, Severe (Acute)	5
F12.21	Cannabis dependence, in remission (Chronic)	1
F14.10.1	Cocaine use disorder, Mild (Acute)	1
F14.20.2	Cocaine use disorder, Severe (Acute)	1
F16.221.1	Other hallucinogen intoxication delirium, With moderate or severe use disorder (Acute)	1
F17.210	Nicotine dependence, cigarettes, uncomplicated (Chronic)	2
F20.9	Schizophrenia, unspecified (Chronic)	1
F31.89.1	Other specified bipolar and related disorder (Acute)	1
F32.8.1	Other specified depressive disorder (Acute)	2
F34.1.1	Persistent depressive disorder (dysthymia) (Acute)	4
F41.8.1	Other specified anxiety disorder (Acute)	1
F43.10.1	Posttraumatic stress disorder (Acute)	1
F43.8.1	Other specified trauma- and stressor-related disorder (Acute)	2
F60.2	Antisocial personality disorder (Chronic)	2
F60.2.1	Antisocial personality disorder (Acute)	10
F60.81.1	Narcissistic personality disorder (Acute)	2
F60.9.1	Unspecified personality disorder (Acute)	1
F91.8.1	Other specified disruptive, impulse-control, and conduct disorder (Acute)	4
F99.2	Unspecified mental disorder (Acute)	1
	Total	62

⁷ 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 Code	Disciplinary Offense Description	Count
1-03	Aggravated assault on another inmate or parolee	10
2-03	Assault on a staff member, contract employee, member of the public, volunteer, or animal	4

Open Mental Health Statuses

Disciplinary Code	Disciplinary Offense Description	Count
1-03	Aggravated assault on another inmate or parolee	6
2-03	Assault on a staff member, contract employee, member of the public, volunteer, or animal	3

Inmates 21 Years of Age or Younger

Disciplinary Code	Disciplinary Offense Description	Count
1-03	Aggravated assault on another inmate or parolee	1
2-03	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.