



Massachusetts
Department of Correction

**Quarterly Report on the
Status of Prison Overcrowding,
Second Quarter of 1997**

**Submitted in Compliance with Chapter 799
Section 21 of the Acts of 1985**

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Commissioner

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1997 Second Quarter Report

Section Twenty-one of the Chapter 799 of the Acts of 1985 directs the Commissioner of Correction to report quarterly on the status of overcrowding in the state and county facilities. This statute calls for the following information:

Such report shall include, by facility, the average daily census for the period of the report and the actual census on the second and the last days of the report period.

Said report shall also contain such information for the previous twelve months and a comparison to the rated capacity of such facility.

This report presents the required statistics for the second quarter of 1997.

This report was prepared by Ramon V. Raagas of Research and Planning and is based on daily count sheets prepared by the Classification Division

1997 Second Quarter Report

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Technical Notes

- The official capacity or custody level designation for each facility can change for a number of reasons, e.g. expansion of facility beds, decrease of facility beds due to fire, or changes in contracts with vendors. In all tables the capacity and custody level reflects the status at the end of the reporting period. The design capacity is reported for correctional facilities in Tables 1, 2, 3, and 4.
- On November, 15, 1996, one hundred new modular beds were added to MCI Concord, increasing its design capacity to 614. Ninety-six modular beds were also added to MCI Norfolk, increasing its total to 1,084 beds. Pondville Correctional Center was reclassified from Custody Level 3/2 to Custody Level 3.
- Two hundred forty-three new modular beds were added to Middlesex (Billerica) House of Correction during November 15, 1996, increasing its total to 1,035 beds.
- Due to changes in the Massachusetts General Law, DOC consolidated one unit at the Bridgewater Treatment Center and back filled with general population inmates. These design capacity beds were placed on-line November 8, 1996 and first appeared on the November 12, 1996 daily count sheet.
- Due to the Department's policy changes, the security level of MCI-Shirley (Min) was changed from Security Level 3/2 to Security Level 3 during the first quarter of 1996 .
- On January 31, 1995, the design capacity for the Departmental Segregation Units (DSU) at MCI-Cedar Junction and MCI-Norfolk were taken off the count sheets. The segregation units are considered support beds and are not shown on the daily count sheet as design capacity. This resulted in the elimination of 91 beds (60 at Cedar Junction and 31 at Norfolk) from the previous quarterly reports.
- In previous quarterly reports, the population figures for PPREP were included with the Park Drive population. The PPREP population is reported independently starting with the first quarter of 1995.
- Where relevant, the population figures for all facilities include both male and female inmates except as shown at Lancaster.
- State inmates housed in the Hampshire county contract program are included in the county population tables, as are all other state inmates housed in county facilities.
- Longwood Treatment Center is a specialized DOC facility for individuals incarcerated for O.U.I. Because the inmates are primarily county sentenced inmates, the inmate count and bed capacity are also included in Tables 3 and 4.
- The Massachusetts Boot Camp opened on August 17, 1992, and is located at the Bridgewater Correctional complex in Bridgewater, Massachusetts. Prior to 1993, the Boot Camp was listed as a DOC minimum security facility. In August, 1995, 128 beds were designated to security level 4 (state inmates) and 128 beds for county inmates. In October, 1995, these beds were added to security level 4 design capacity, and 128 beds were added to House of Correction tables.
- Norfolk County includes Braintree, Dedham, and Norfolk Contract. Middlesex County includes both Billerica and Cambridge. Berkshire County includes the pre-release facility. Essex County includes Middleton and Lawrence Correctional Alternative Center. Bristol County includes Dartmouth, Eastern Massachusetts Alternative Center and Pre-Release
- Nashua Street inmates housed at other facilities are reported in the counts for the facilities in which they are in custody.
- During June, 1993, Plymouth House of Correction added 833 beds increasing its total to 1,140 beds.

- On April 18, 1995, new security level changes were established according to 103 DOC 101 Correctional Institutions/Custody Levels policy which states:

Custody Levels:

- **Level One.** The least restrictive in the department and is reserved only for those inmates who are at the end of their sentence and have been identified as posing little to no threat to the community. Supervision is minimal and indirect.

- **Level Two.** A custody level in which both design/construction as well as inmate classification reflect the goal of restoring to the inmate maximum responsibility and control of their own behavior and actions prior to their release. Direct supervision of these inmates is not required, but intermittent observation may be appropriate under certain conditions. Inmates within this level may be permitted to access the community unescorted to participate in programming to include, but not limited to, work release, educational release, etc.

- **Level Three.** A custody level in which both the design/construction as well as inmate classification reflect the goal of returning to the inmate a greater sense of personal responsibility and autonomy while still providing for supervision and monitoring of behavior and activity. Inmates within this security level are not considered a serious risk to the safety of staff, inmates or to the public. Program participation is mandated and geared toward their potential reintegration into the community. Access to the community is limited and under constant direct staff supervision.

- **Level Four.** A custody level in which both the design/construction as well as inmate classification reflect the goal of restoring to the inmate some degree of responsibility and control of their own behavior and actions, while still insuring the safety of staff and inmates. Design/construction is generally characterized by high security parameters and limited use of internal physical barriers. Inmates at this level have demonstrated the ability to abide by rules and regulations and require intermittent supervision. However, behavior in the community, i.e., criminal sentence and/or the presence of serious outstanding legal matters indicate the need for some control and for segregation from the community. Job and program opportunities exist for all inmates within the perimeter of the facility.

- **Level Five.** A custody level in which design/construction as well as inmate classification reflect the need to provide maximum external and internal control and supervision of inmates. Inmates accorded to this status may present an escape risk or pose a threat to other inmates, staff, or the orderly running of the institution, however, at a lesser degree than those at level 6. Supervision remains constant and direct. Through an inmates willingness to comply with institutional rules and regulations, increased job and program opportunities exist.

- **Level Six.** A custody level in which both design/construction as well as inmate classification reflect the need to provide maximum external and internal control and supervision of inmates primarily through the use of high security parameters and extensive use of internal physical barriers and check points. Inmates accorded this status present serious escape risks or pose serious threats to themselves, to other inmates, to staff, or the orderly running of the institution. Supervision of inmates is direct and constant. Inmates are confined to their cells at all times, except when they are removed for authorized activities. Inmates within their status, when removed from their cell, are typically under escort and in restraints.

Abbreviations

AC	- Addiction Center	OCCC	- Old Colony Correctional Center
ADP	- Average Daily Population	OUI	- Operating Under the Influence
ATU	- Awaiting Trial Unit	PPREP	- Pre-Parole Residential Environmental Phase Program
CRS	- Contract Residential Services Includes Charlotte House, and Houston House	PRC	- Pre-Release Center
DDU	- Departmental Disciplinary Unit	SECC	- Southeastern Correctional Ctr.
DOC	- Department of Correction	SDPTC	- Sexually Dangerous Person Treatment Center
DSU	- Departmental Segregation Unit	SMCC	- South Middlesex Correctional Center (formerly SMPRC)
HOC	- House of Correction	SH	- State Hospital
NECC	- Northeastern Correctional Center	TC	- Treatment Center (Longwood)
NCCI	- North Central Correctional Institution at Gardner		

Table 1 provides the DOC figures for the second quarter of 1997. As this table indicates, the DOC population (excluding Bridgewater SH, SDPTC, AC, Longwood TC, Mass. Boot Camp) decreased by 10 inmates during the second quarter. At the end of the quarter, the DOC operated with 10,030 inmates in the system, and the average daily population was 10,032 with a design capacity of 6,806. Thus, the DOC operated at 147 percent of design capacity.

Population in DOC Facilities, April 1, 1997 to June 30, 1997					
Custody Level/ Facility	Avg Daily Population	Beginning Population	Ending Population	Design Capacity	% ADP Capacity
<u>Custody Level 6</u>					
Cedar Junction	809	822	799	633	128%
Framingham - ATU	95	113	94	64	148%
<u>Custody Level 5</u>					
OCCC	700	694	691	488	143%
<u>Custody Level 4</u>					
Concord	1,290	1,344	1,207	614	210%
Framingham	500	489	487	388	129%
Norfolk	1,516	1,518	1,514	1,084	140%
Bay State	296	296	295	266	111%
NCCI	995	1,020	966	568	175%
SECC	827	846	806	456	181%
Shirley-Medium	1,078	1,099	1,099	720	150%
Mass. Boot Camp	81	92	69	128	63%
Treatment Center	159	50	311	45	353%
Sub-Total	8,346	8,383	8,338	5,454	154%
<u>Custody Level 3</u>					
Plymouth	189	186	193	151	125%
NECC	251	241	264	150	167%
SECC-Minimum	104	106	97	100	104%
Shirley-Minimum	359	359	355	403	89%
Pondville	199	199	196	100	199%
<u>Custody Level 3/2</u>					
Lancaster-Male	120	119	125	94	128%
Lancaster-Female	53	65	51	59	90%
SMCC	198	192	199	125	158%
Sub-Total	1,473	1,467	1,480	1,182	125%
<u>Custody Level 2</u>					
Boston State	99	86	100	55	180%
Park Drive	49	41	47	50	98%
Hodder House	34	33	34	35	97%
<u>Custody Level 1</u>					
Charlotte	11	7	14	15	73%
Houston House	9	9	10	15	60%
PPREP	11	14	7	n.a.	n.a.
Sub-Total	213	190	212	170	125%
Total	10,032	10,040	10,030	6,806	147%
Bridgewater SH	359	354	368	227	158%
Bridgewater TC	196	196	197	216	91%
Bridgewater AC	103	117	81	214	48%
Longwood TC	145	150	138	125	116%
Sub-Total	803	817	784	782	103%
Grand Total	10,835	10,857	10,814	7,588	143%
Houses of Correction	703	740	715	n.a.	n.a.
Federal Prisons	27	28	26	n.a.	n.a.
Inter-State Contract	367	350	368	n.a.	n.a.

Table 2 provides the DOC figures for the previous twelve months - i.e., for the period April 1, 1996 to March 31, 1997. These figures indicate that the DOC population increased by 467, or 5 percent, over this twelve month period (excluding Bridgewater SH, SDPTC, AC, Longwood TC, Mass. Boot Camp), from 9,566 in April, 1996 to 10,033 in March, 1997.

Population in DOC Facilities, April 1, 1996 to March 31, 1997					
Custody Level/ Facility	Avg. Daily Population	Beginning Population	Ending Population	Design Capacity	% ADP Capacity
<u>Custody Level 6</u>					
Cedar Junction	812	804	820	633	128%
Framingham - ATU	113	92	105	64	177%
<u>Custody Level 5</u>					
OCCC	713	724	696	488	146%
<u>Custody Level 4</u>					
Concord	1,173	1,020	1,347	614	191%
Framingham	493	490	500	388	127%
Norfolk	1,420	1,340	1,517	1,084	131%
Bay State	295	294	295	266	111%
NCCI	1,018	1,019	1,020	568	179%
SECC	851	875	839	456	187%
Shirley-Medium	1,103	1,093	1,095	720	153%
Mass. Boot Camp	115	104	95	128	90%
*Treatment Center	21	-	50	45	47%
Sub-Total	8,127	7,855	8,379	5,454	144%
<u>Custody Level 3</u>					
Plymouth	187	177	186	151	124%
NECC	248	251	244	150	165%
SECC-Minimum	105	107	106	100	105%
Shirley-Minimum	346	333	361	403	86%
Pondville	196	189	196	100	196%
<u>Custody Level 3/2</u>					
Lancaster-Male	192	204	120	94	204%
Lancaster-Female	67	59	58	59	114%
SMCC	180	174	192	125	144%
Sub-Total	1,521	1,494	1,463	1,182	129%
<u>Custody Level 2</u>					
Boston State	93	101	87	55	169%
Park Drive	45	47	41	50	90%
Hodder House	29	32	33	35	83%
<u>Custody Level 1</u>					
Charlotte	9	7	7	15	60%
Houston House	10	10	9	15	67%
PPREP	14	20	14	n.a.	n.a
Sub-Total	200	217	191	170	118%
Total	9,848	9,566	10,033	6,806	145%
Bridgewater SH	347	328	368	227	153%
Bridgewater TC	228	247	197	216	106%
Bridgewater AC	122	135	114	214	57%
Longwood TC	144	137	152	125	115%
Sub-Total	841	847	831	782	108%
Grand Total	10,689	10,413	10,864	7,588	141%
Houses of Correction	791	844	746	n a	n a
Federal Prisons	30	29	28	n a	n.a
Inter-State Contract	326	348	317	n.a	n a

(* See Technical Notes)

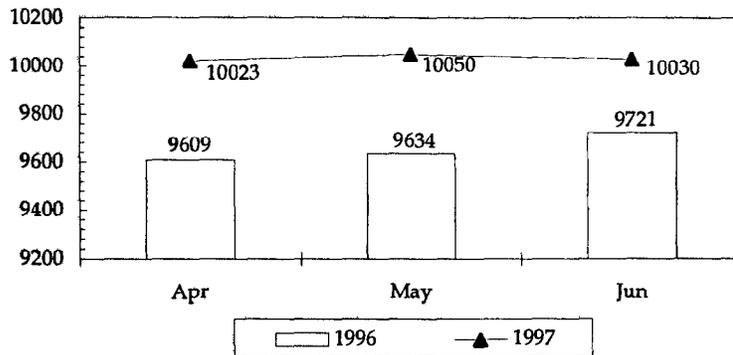
Table 3 presents the county figures for the second quarter of 1997. The county population decreased by 155 inmates, or minus 1 percent during this quarter. At the end of the quarter, the county system operated with 12,281 inmates, and the average daily population was 12,332 in facilities with a total design capacity of 8,356. Thus, the county system operated at 148 percent of design capacity.

Population in County Correctional Facilities, April 1, 1997 to June 30, 1997					
Facility	Avg Daily Population	Beginning Population	Ending Population	Design Capacity	% ADP Capacity
Barnstable	294	295	290	110	267%
Berkshire	249	251	254	116	215%
Bristol	1,291	1,290	1,268	666	194%
Dukes	16	17	20	19	84%
Essex	1,363	1,409	1,351	635	215%
Franklin	130	129	126	63	206%
Hampden	1,578	1,558	1,581	1,178	134%
Hampden-OUI	138	137	140	125	110%
Hampshire	265	270	250	248	107%
Middlesex	1,329	1,340	1,332	1,035	128%
Norfolk	622	600	628	379	164%
Plymouth	1,235	1,256	1,260	1,140	108%
Suffolk-Nashua St	624	638	648	453	138%
Suffolk-So. Bay	1,827	1,874	1,786	1,146	159%
Worcester	1,151	1,165	1,154	790	146%
Longwood TC	145	150	138	125	116%
Mass. Boot Camp	65	57	55	128	115%
Total	12,322	12,436	12,281	8,356	148%

Table 4 presents the county figures for the previous twelve months. These figures indicate that the county population increased by 665 inmates or 6 percent over this twelve-month period, from 11,688 in April 1996, to 12,353 in March, 1997.

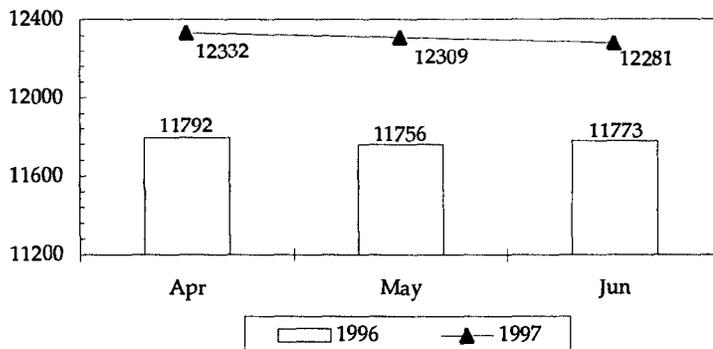
Population in County Correctional Facilities, April 1, 1996 to March 31, 1997					
Facility	Avg Daily Population	Beginning Population	Ending Population	Design Capacity	% ADP Capacity
Barnstable	284	284	293	110	258%
Berkshire	253	246	257	116	218%
Bristol	1,189	1,139	1,270	666	179%
Dukes	23	20	17	19	121%
Essex	1,387	1,434	1,398	635	218%
Franklin	126	133	134	63	200%
Hampden	1,527	1,460	1,564	1,178	130%
Hampden-OUI	132	131	139	125	106%
Hampshire	267	268	266	248	108%
* Middlesex	1,315	1,257	1,330	1,035	127%
Norfolk	592	572	590	379	156%
Plymouth	1,172	1,193	1,241	1,140	103%
Suffolk-Nashua St	604	584	646	453	133%
Suffolk-So. Bay	1,756	1,579	1,836	1,146	153%
Worcester	1,212	1,199	1,163	790	153%
Longwood TC	144	137	152	125	115%
Mass Boot Camp	70	52	57	128	55%
Total	12,053	11,688	12,353	8,356	144%

Figure 1.
DOC Sentenced Population, Second Quarter of 1996 and 1997



The graph above compares the DOC sentenced population in 1996 to that in 1997. In April, 1997 the DOC population increased by 414 inmates (4%) from the same month in 1996; in May, the population increased by 416 inmates (4%); and in June, an increased of 309 inmates or 3 percent.

Figure 2.
HOC Population, Second Quarter of 1996 and 1997



The graph above compares the HOC population in 1996 to that in 1997. In April, 1997 the HOC population increased by 540 inmates (5%) from the same month of 1996; in May, the population increased by 553 inmates (5%); and in June, an increased of 508 inmates or 4 percent.

Note: Data from figures 1 and 2 were taken from the end of the month count sheets compiled by the Classification Division.

Table 5 provides statistics on court commitments by gender to the DOC in 1996 and 1997. Overall, there has been a decrease of 89 commitments, or minus 6 percent for 1997 in comparison with the number of commitments in 1996, from 1,591 to 1,502. Male commitments for 1997 decreased by 21, or minus 2 percent from 1996. Female commitments during 1997 decreased by 68, or minus 12 percent compared to the number of commitments during the same period in 1996.

Court Commitments by Gender			
	1996	1997	Diff.
Males			
First Quarter	528	545	3%
Second Quarter	512	474	-7%
Sub-total	1,040	1,019	-2%
Females			
First Quarter	260	251	-3%
Second Quarter	291	232	-20%
Sub-total	551	483	-12%
Total	1,591	1,502	-6%

Figure 3 provides a graphical representation of the number of court commitments by gender to the DOC during the second quarter of 1996 and the second quarter of 1997.

