

MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION

Quarterly Report on Admissions and Releases in the Massachusetts Department of Correction

Second Quarter 2015





Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Charles D. Baker, Governor

Executive Office of Public Safety and Security

Daniel Bennett, Secretary

Massachusetts Department of Correction

Carol Higgins-O'Brien, Commissioner

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

Author: Research & Planning Division

Prepared by: Hollie Matthews, Deputy Director

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Special recognition to: Daniel Feagans, Research Statistician III; Gina Papagiorgakis, Research Analyst II; and Courtney Eaves, Research Analyst I.

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

Research & Planning Division
MCI-Concord/SFU Building
P.O. Box 9125
Concord, MA 01742
Phone: (978) 405-6677
Fax: (978) 405-6680
Research@massmail.state.ma.us

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Trend Period: First Quarter 2013 through Second Quarter 2015

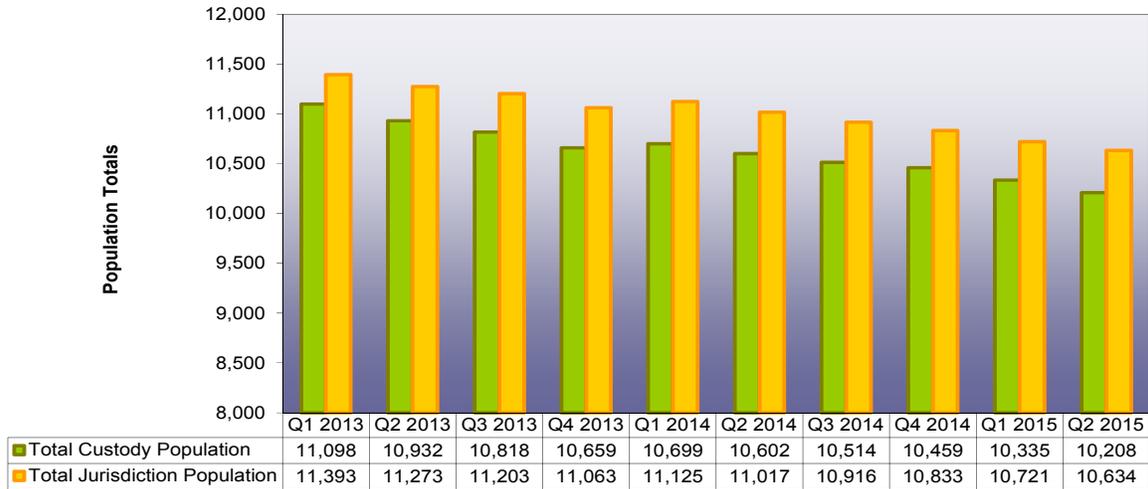
- From the population trend height in the first quarter of 2013, there were eight quarters of decrease with cumulative declines of 8.0% (890) in the **custody population** and 6.7% (759) in the **jurisdiction population**.
- From the height of the total jurisdiction population in the first quarter of 2013, **criminally sentenced** jurisdiction inmates were down by 6.0% and **civil commitments** were down by 9.6% during the second quarter of 2015.
- In the second quarter of 2015, active **pre-trial detainees** were at their lowest population of the trend period at 597, down 13% from their height in the third quarter of 2013 when they were at 736.
- During the ten-quarter trend period, starting in the first quarter of 2013, the **quarterly admissions** averaged 2,554 inmates and the average **quarterly releases** were 2,630 inmates. The cumulative difference between admissions and releases resulted in a cumulative difference of 75 inmates.
- The overall **difference between admissions and releases** over the trend period resulted in **female** inmates decreasing by 4 inmates per quarter, while **male** inmates saw a decrease of 71 inmates per quarter.
- Based on the difference between admissions and releases, **criminally sentenced** inmates saw an average decrease of 67 inmates per quarter; the second quarter of 2013 had the largest impact on this trend with a decrease of 154 inmates.
- During the trend period, **male criminally sentenced** inmates saw a cumulative quarterly difference decrease of 661 inmates, an average difference of 66 inmates for the trend period. **Female criminally sentenced** inmates had a cumulative quarterly difference decrease of 10 inmates, an average difference of 1 inmate for the trend period.
- **Male civil commitments** saw a cumulative difference decrease of 11 inmates during the past ten quarters. **Female civil commitments** saw a cumulative difference decrease of 4 inmates over that same period.
- **Pre-trial detainees** saw an increase in numbers in both admissions and releases during the trend period until the fourth quarter of 2014, when there was a notable drop in both trends. This drop continued into the first quarter of 2015, which was interrupted by an increase in the second quarter of 2015.
- While **male pre-trial detainees** saw little change, **female pre-trial detainees** in the fourth quarter of 2014 saw a sharp decline in admissions and releases from the previous quarter as female detainees from Worcester County shifted from the MA DOC to the Western Massachusetts Regional Women's Correctional Center. The decline of female pre-trial admissions and releases continued into the first quarter 2015, then, increased slightly during the second quarter.

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

CURRENT POPULATION AND OVERALL TRENDS

Over the ten-quarter trend period, from the first quarter of 2013 through the second quarter of 2015 (Graph 1.1,) there was a downward trend resulting in a cumulative decrease of 890 (8%) inmates from the **MA DOC custody population*** and 759 (6.7%) inmates from the **jurisdiction population**. This corresponded to an average cumulative quarterly loss of 0.9% from the custody population and 0.8% from the jurisdiction population. The only increase seen during the trend period was during the first quarter of 2014, with an increase of 0.4% of the custody population and an increase of 0.6% of the jurisdiction population.

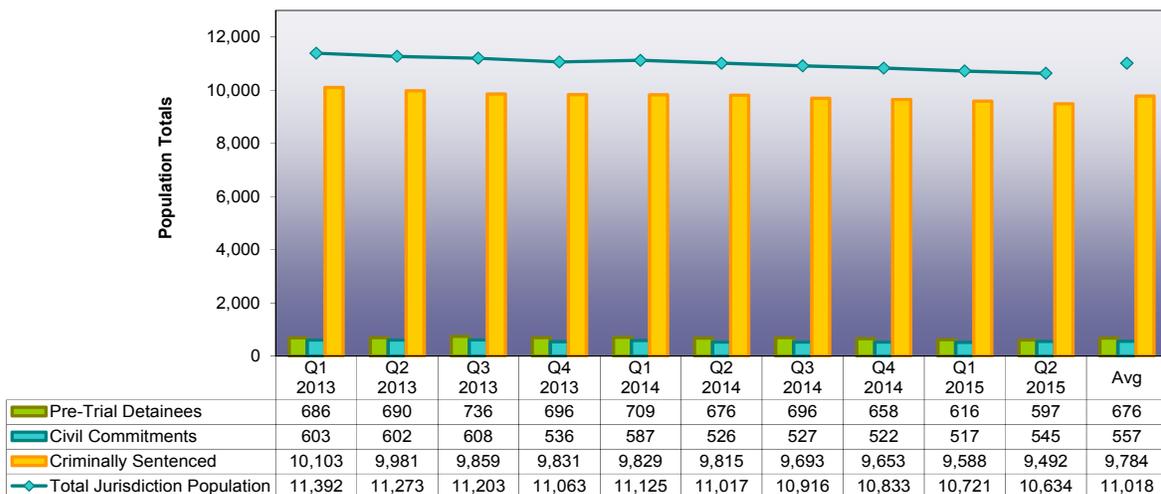
1.1 Average Quarterly Custody and Jurisdiction Population



∞ Each quarter's population is the average of the three months within that quarter.

Graph 1.2, shows the breakdown of the quarterly jurisdiction population by commitment type. **Criminally sentenced** inmates over the trend period saw a decline each quarter with a total decrease in population of 611 (6.0%) inmates. For the same period, **Civil commitments** had a more variable trend, but with an overall greater rate of decrease resulting in a decline of 58 (9.6%) commitments. **Pre-trial detainees** saw a decrease over the trend period by 89 (13%) detainees, and were at their lowest count for the trend period during the second quarter 2015.

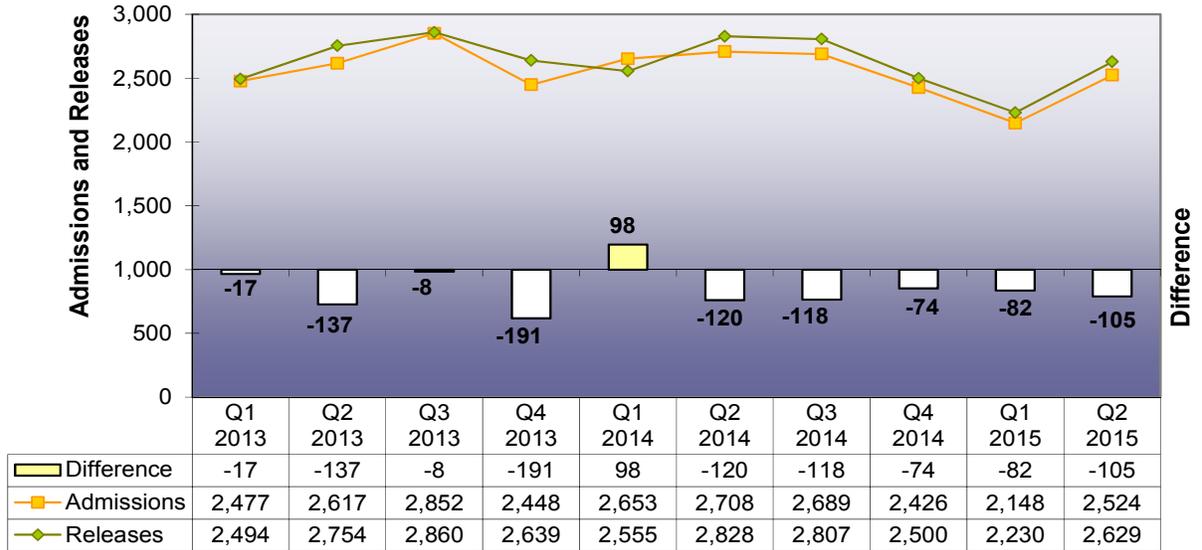
1.2 Average Quarterly Jurisdiction Population by Commitment Type



* **Bolded** phrases are defined in the Appendix.

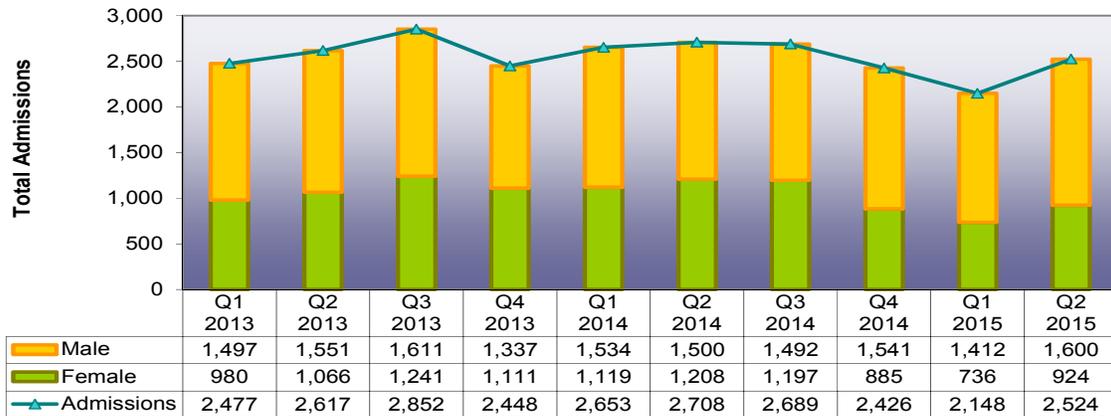
Over the past ten quarters (Graph 1.3), the difference between the MA DOC **admissions**[†] and **releases** resulted in an average difference decrease of 75 inmates per quarter, with admissions averaging 2,554 inmates per quarter and releases averaging 2,630 inmates per quarter. There is strong seasonality present in the trend, with both admissions and releases tending to rise over each year before seeing a decrease in each fourth quarter; the first quarter of 2015 was a notable exception to this trend. Over the trend period, total releases saw a negative trend, averaging a decrease of 1.2% each quarter, whereas admissions saw little overall change, and an average decrease of less than one percent per quarter.

1.3 Overall Admissions and Releases



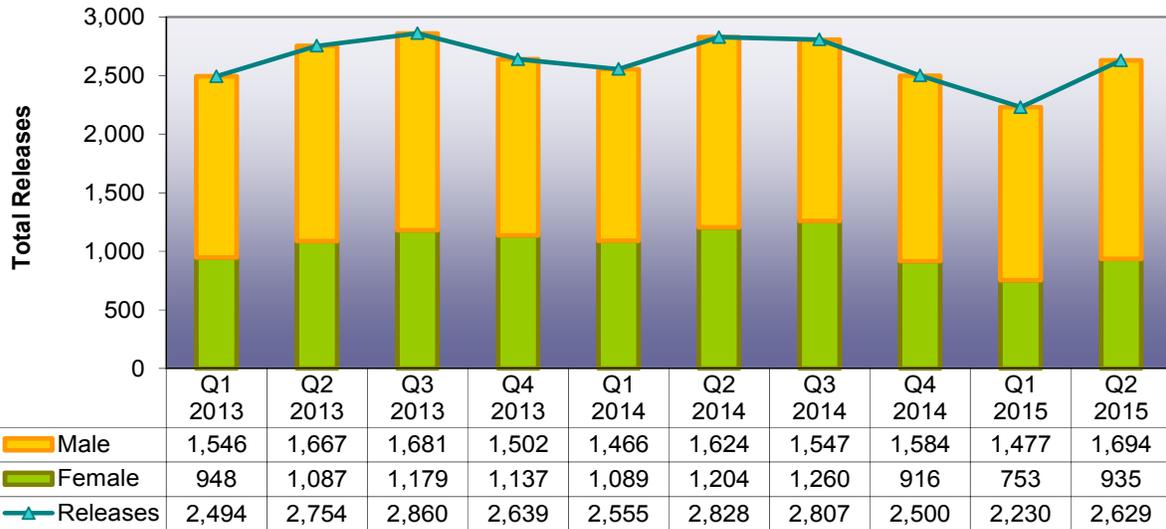
Throughout the trend, males accounted for 59% of the total admission (Graph 1.4, below) and 60% of total releases (Graph 1.5, on the next page). Over most of the trend period, female inmates saw a gradual increase in the percent of both admissions and releases, until the fourth quarter of 2014 when female admissions decreased by 26.1% and releases decreased by 27.3% compared to the previous quarter; females reached their lowest levels of the trend period in the first quarter of 2015. Male and female admissions and releases experienced a marked increase the second quarter of 2015, with male releases reaching a high of 1,694. For male inmates, the difference between admissions and releases had an average decrease of 71 inmates per quarter; for female inmates, the difference resulted in an average decrease of 4 inmates each quarter.

1.4 Total Admissions by Gender



[†] **Bolded** phrases are defined in the Appendix.

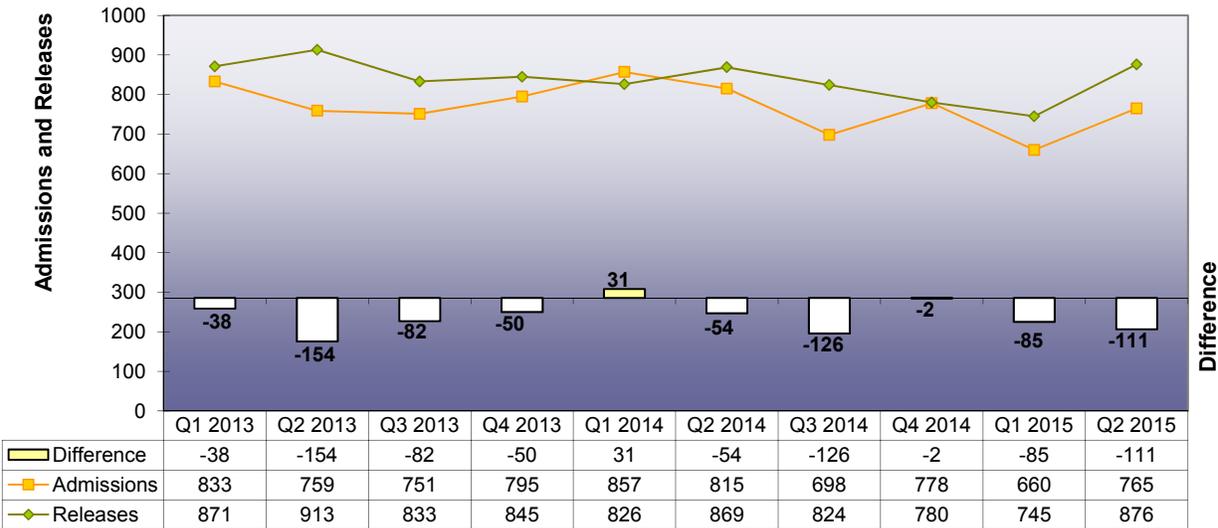
1.5 Total Releases by Gender



CRIMINALLY SENTENCED ADMISSIONS AND RELEASES

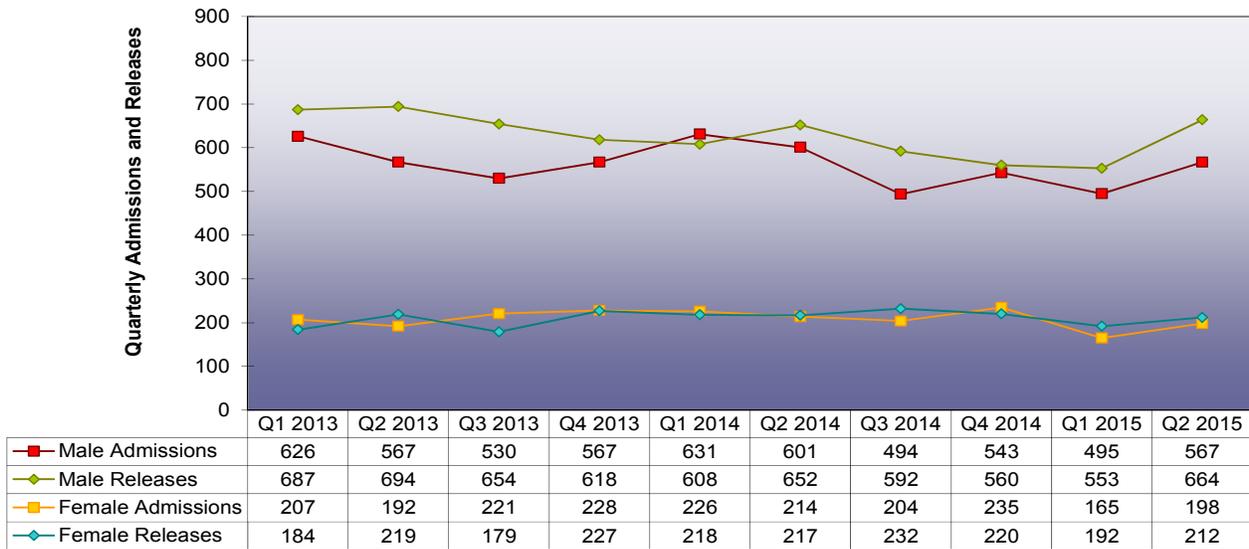
Criminal admissions and releases for the ten-quarter trend period (from the first quarter of 2013 through the second quarter of 2015) are displayed in Graph 2.1, below. Over the trend period, criminal admissions and releases both saw slight negative trends. On average, each quarter saw 771 admissions and 838 releases. Based on the difference between admissions and releases, this resulted in an average decrease of 66 criminally sentenced inmates each quarter. Following a large drop in admissions the first quarter 2015, the second quarter has seen an increase of 15.9%.

2.1 Overall Criminal Admissions and Releases



Graph 2.2, on the next page, shows criminally sentenced jurisdiction admissions and releases by sex. During the ten-quarter trend period, male criminally sentenced inmates saw overall negative trends very similar to the overall criminally sentenced population, with a stronger downward release trend than admission trend. This was expected, as male inmates comprised 72.9% of criminal admissions and 75% of criminal releases. Over the trend period, female criminally sentenced releases saw a slight positive trend, while admissions were generally steady overall.

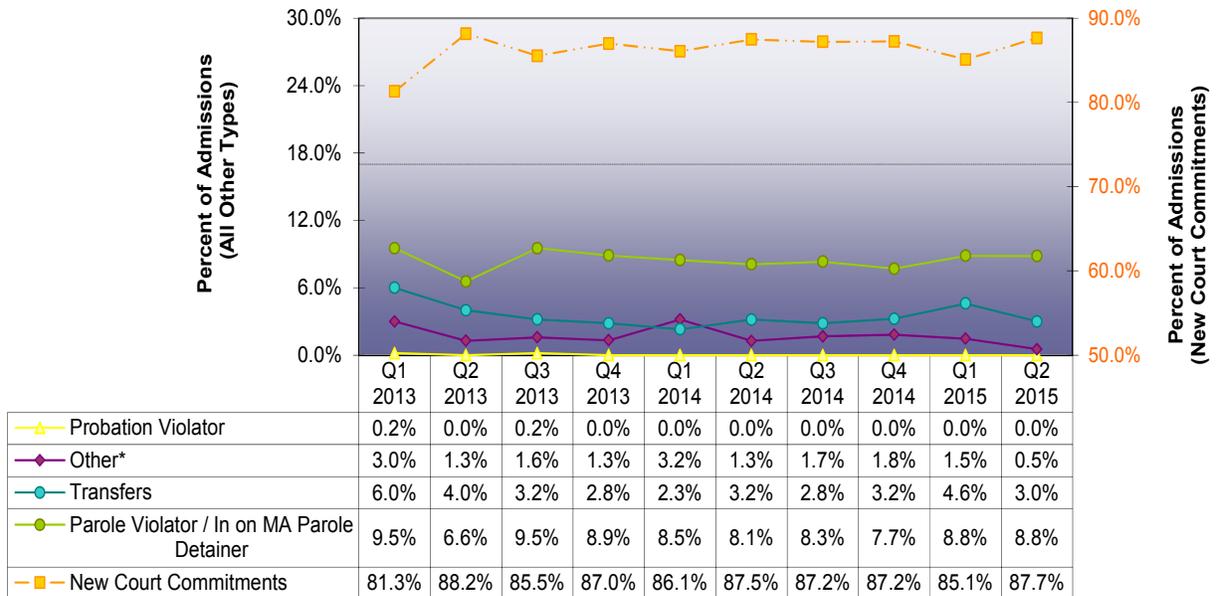
2.2 Criminal Admissions and Releases by Gender



Male criminal admissions by admission type, shown in Graph 2.3, are split into two axes, with ‘new court commitments’ represented on the right axis and all other admission types represented on the left axis. ‘New court commitments’ were the most common type of male admission and accounted for 86.3% of male criminal admissions over the trend. The next two most common types of male admissions, ‘**parole**† violator/detainer’ and ‘transfers’, averaged 8.5% and 3.5%, respectively, of admissions during the trend period.

Over the trend period, new court commitments as a percent of admissions remained mostly steady after a jump subsequent to the first quarter of 2013. This shift was countered by a drop in parole violators/detainers and transfers.

2.3 Male Criminal Admissions by Admission Type

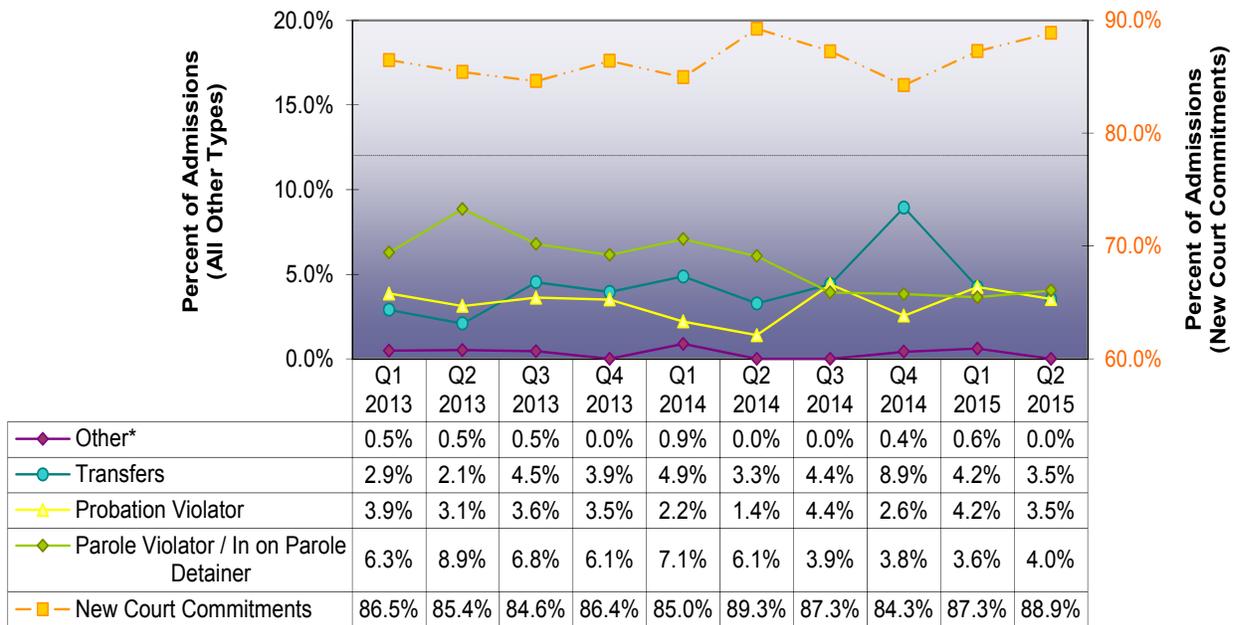


*See Appendix for definition of “Other” under “Admissions”.

† **Bolded** phrases are defined in the Appendix.

Female criminally sentenced admissions, as seen in Graph 2.4, were predominately 'new court commitments', with an average of 86.5% of admissions per quarter; followed by 'parole violator/detainers' and 'transfers', with averages of 5.7% and 4.3%, respectively. Female admissions saw an upward trend in 'new court commitments', with 'parole violators / in on parole detainer' showing the strongest decline over the trend period. During the fourth quarter of 2014, female criminally sentenced 'transfer' admissions saw a peak, with 8.9% of admissions for the quarter – nearly double the average transfer rate. This was due to a one-time intake of county inmates from Barnstable County due to security upgrades at their **House of Correction (HOC)**.[§] Female new court commitments peaked during the second quarter of 2015, accounting for 89.9% of female criminally sentenced admissions.

2.4 Female Criminal Admissions by Admission Type



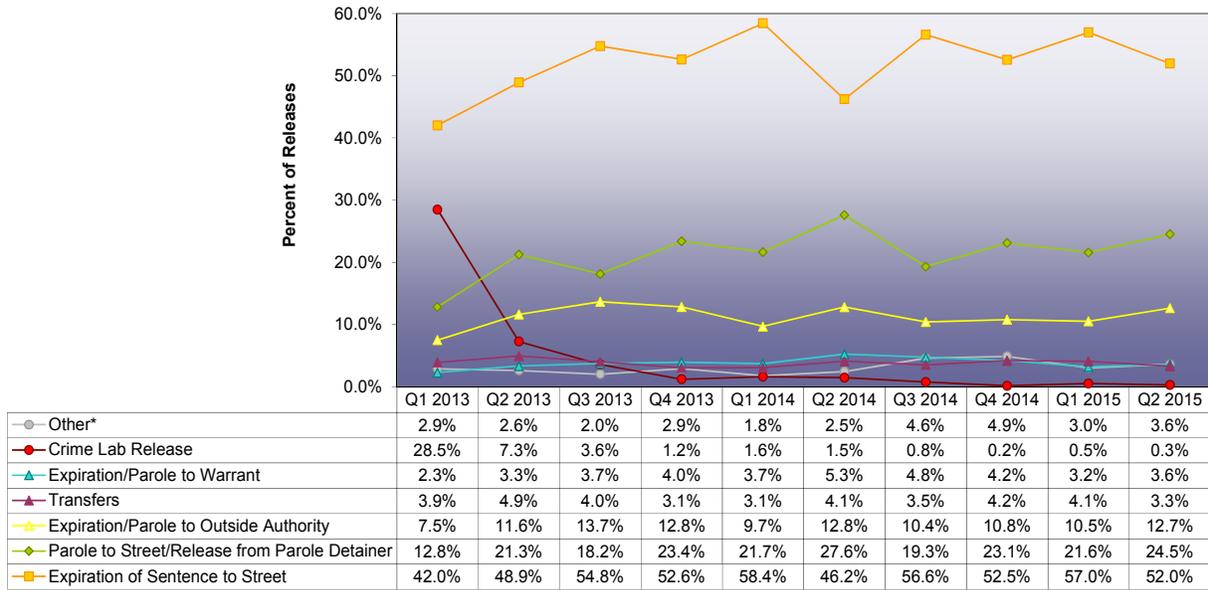
*See Appendix for definition of "Other" under "Admissions".

Graph 2.5, on the next page, shows male criminal releases by release type. **Releases to the street**** due to **expiration of sentences** was the most common release type, constituting 52.6% of the male releases for the trend period; the second most common release type was 'parole to the street/release from parole detainer', with 20.9% of male criminal releases. Overall, releases to the street due to expiration of sentence and paroles to the street / releases from parole detainers saw upward trends over the ten-quarter period.

[§] **Bolded** phrases are defined in the Appendix.

^{**} **Bolded** phrases are defined in the Appendix.

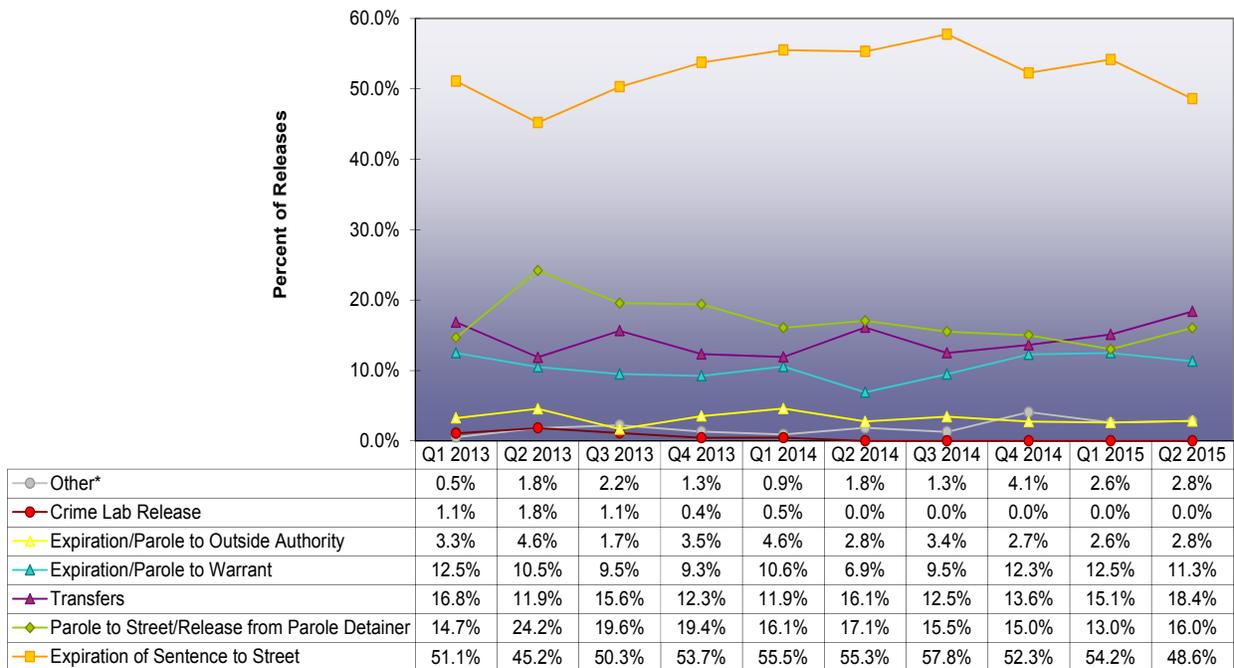
2.5 Male Criminal Releases by Release Type



*See Appendix for definition of "Other" under Parole (Releases).

As seen in Graph 2.6, female criminally sentenced releases were most commonly due to 'expiration of sentence to the street', averaging 52.5% each quarter. The next two most common release types were 'parole to street/release from parole detainer', averaging 17.1%; 'transfers', averaged 14.3% for the overall trend period. Over the trend period, 'expiration of sentence to the street' had the strongest upward trend, while 'parole to street/release from parole detainer' saw the strongest downward trend.

2.6 Female Criminal Releases by Release Type



*See Appendix for definition of "Other" under Parole (Releases).

Over the trend period, Suffolk County accounted for 19.5% of the criminal new court commitments, followed by Essex (13.2%), Worcester (12.1%), Middlesex (12.0%), Bristol (11.7%), and Hampden (11.5%). For the first quarter of 2015, Hampden County had the greatest number of state, criminally sentenced inmates, while Suffolk County experienced a low for the trend. Table 2.7 displays additional information pertaining to criminally sentenced new court commitments by sentencing jurisdiction.

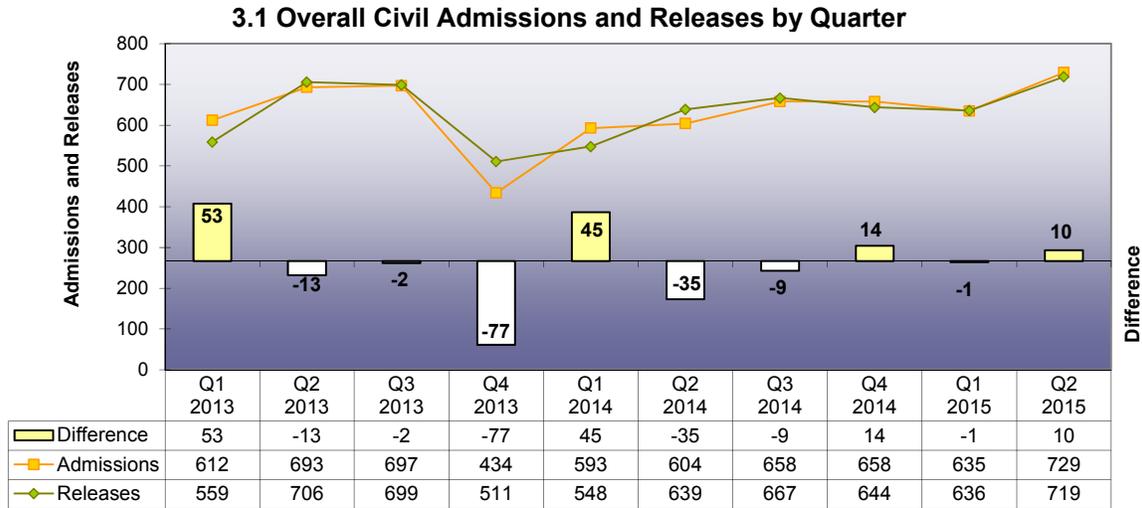
2.7 State* Criminally Sentenced New Court Commitments by Court Jurisdiction

County	Q1 2013	Q2 2013	Q3 2013	Q4 2013	Q1 2014	Q2 2014	Q3 2014	Q4 2014	Q1 2015	Q2 2015	Total
SUFFOLK	95	119	85	111	114	119	77	103	61	89	973
ESSEX	75	60	56	87	60	74	55	59	62	68	656
WORCESTER	65	71	59	63	56	56	50	52	47	81	600
MIDDLESEX	62	57	61	68	63	70	56	66	42	51	596
BRISTOL	66	57	66	49	61	71	60	63	42	47	582
HAMPDEN	63	49	47	63	63	47	43	40	85	72	572
PLYMOUTH	60	18	18	20	66	41	25	23	46	20	337
NORFOLK	30	23	28	20	25	12	36	32	19	32	257
BARNSTABLE	17	13	21	11	10	13	22	8	14	22	151
BERKSHIRE	17	9	15	6	14	3	15	13	11	13	116
FRANKLIN	11	6	8	3	13	8	3	5	7	6	70
HAMPSHIRE	5	5	6	1	8	5	4	9	7	6	56
DUKES	1	1	1	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	6
NANTUCKET	0	1	2	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	5
Total	567	489	473	502	554	522	446	474	443	507	4,977

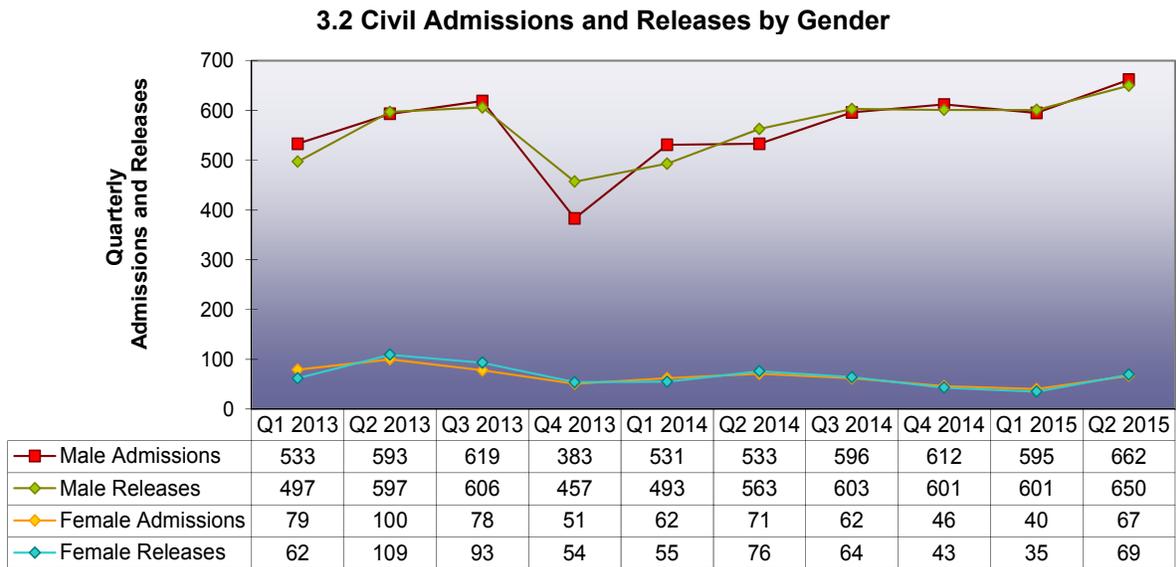
*Excludes county, federal, and out-of-state inmates.

CIVILLY COMMITTED ADMISSIONS AND RELEASES

Both quarterly admissions and releases for civilly committed inmates had similar patterns throughout the trend period, as seen in Graph 3.1. During the second quarter of 2015, there was a notable increase in both civil admissions and releases, with admissions increasing by 14.8% from the previous quarter and releases increasing by 13.1%. The difference between admissions and releases for the trend period resulted in a cumulative decrease of 15 inmates. Generally, civil admissions display a seasonal trend with a gradual rise over each year, with a precipitous drop during the fourth quarter of 2013; however, the fourth quarter of 2014 and first quarter of 2015 did not see much shift in the number of civil admissions or releases. The second quarter of 2015 saw the height for admissions and releases over the trend, following a relatively flat trend in the prior four quarters.

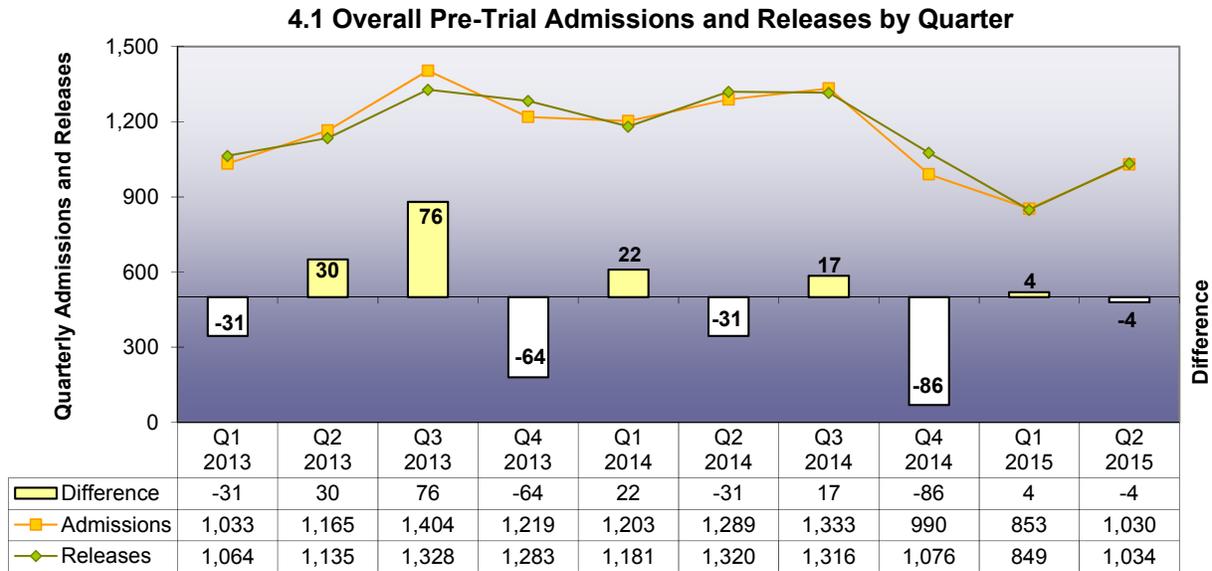


Over the past ten quarters, females made up 10.4% of both civil admissions and releases. Male civilly committed admissions and civil releases experienced positive trends over the last ten quarters, with release trends slightly stronger than admissions. By contrast, female civil commitments saw strong negative trends in their admissions and releases for the trend period. Overall, there were difference decreases of 4 female civil commitments and 11 male civil commitments. Graph 3.2, displays the civilly committed admissions and releases by gender for the trend period.

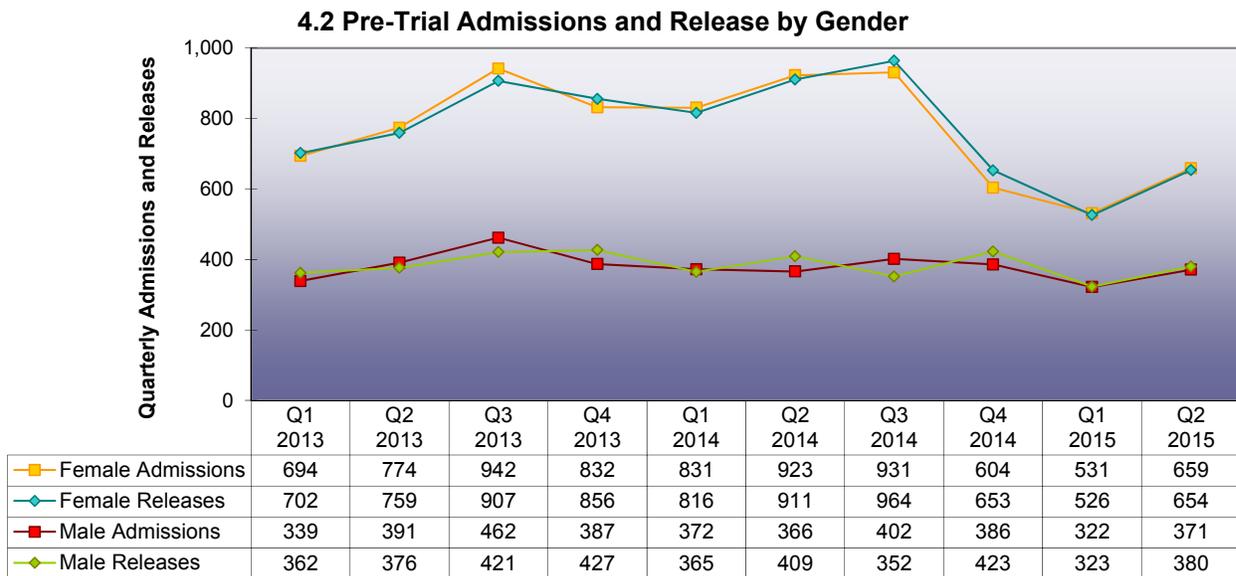


PRE-TRIAL ADMISSIONS AND RELEASES

Pre-trial admissions and releases, Graph 4.1, experienced a downward trend for the ten quarter period. Following two quarters of decline to the lowest level of the trend period in the first quarter of 2015, pre-trial admissions and releases both experienced increases the second quarter of 2015. Pre-trial admissions averaged 1,152 detainees per quarter and releases averaged 1,159 detainees, with an average decrease of 7 pre-trial detainees by the end of the trend period. The fourth quarter of 2014 saw a notable drop in pre-trial inmates, most notably as Worcester County shifted its county, pre-trial females to the Western Massachusetts Regional Women’s Correctional Center in Hampden County; this decline continued into the first quarter of 2015, then rebounded the second quarter of 2015.



As seen in Graph 4.2, female pre-trial detainees mirrored the overall pre-trial trends, as they were the majority of pre-trial admissions and releases. Female detainees had an overall downward trend, closely mimicking the above trends, which coincided with the shift of county, pre-trial females to the Western Massachusetts Regional Women’s Correctional Center. Overall, females had cumulative difference decrease of 27 detainees and males saw a decrease of 40 detainees.



Over the trend period, Table 4.3, the majority of male pre-trial admissions came from the counties of Suffolk, and Middlesex, 54.8% and 31.4%, respectively. Both counties experienced decreases from the third quarter of 2014 to the first quarter 2015, to the lowest counts of the trend, followed by a slight increase during the second quarter 2015. Overall, male pre-trial admissions saw little change during the trend period.

4.3 Male Pre-Trial Admissions by Jurisdiction

County	Q1 2013	Q2 2013	Q3 2013	Q4 2013	Q1 2014	Q2 2014	Q3 2014	Q4 2014	Q1 2015	Q2 2015	Total
Suffolk	196	230	249	193	217	197	216	213	167	202	2,080
Middlesex	104	101	150	130	106	130	130	129	100	111	1,191
Out-of-State	16	19	20	18	18	14	13	16	19	18	171
Worcester	9	11	9	17	13	12	11	5	10	8	105
Plymouth	4	9	13	14	7	3	10	9	10	10	89
Federal	5	6	9	5	6	0	9	4	1	16	61
Bristol	2	8	4	2	1	2	6	3	7	1	36
Norfolk	0	3	3	5	1	4	3	2	5	3	29
Essex	3	3	2	2	2	1	3	5	1	2	24
Barnstable	0	0	3	0	0	3	1	0	1	0	8
Hampden	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	2
Mass Parole	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Berkshire	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Franklin	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	339	391	462	387	372	366	402	386	322	371	3,798

As seen in Table 4.4, 97% of female pre-trials came predominately from the counties of Essex (29%), Middlesex (23.5%), Worcester (17.8%), Plymouth (14.6%), or Norfolk (13.8%). Over the trend period, most of the counties tended to be fairly steady. The most notable trend change was in Worcester County, which had a quarterly average of 16.3% of the female pre-trial admissions for the trend period. Worcester County female pre-trials saw a significant drop during the fourth quarter of 2014, from 187 to 3 admissions, where it has remained fairly consistent. This was due to the aforementioned shift of those Worcester pre-trials to Hampden County.

4.4 Female Pre-Trial Admissions by Jurisdiction

County	Q1 2013	Q2 2013	Q3 2013	Q4 2013	Q1 2014	Q2 2014	Q3 2014	Q4 2014	Q1 2015	Q2 2015	Total
Essex	180	209	245	244	249	259	263	188	188	214	2,239
Middlesex	161	173	219	184	151	201	217	175	148	185	1,814
Worcester	155	189	216	196	201	221	187	3	1	3	1,372
Plymouth	104	97	127	105	93	117	136	115	102	134	1,130
Norfolk	90	99	124	97	127	114	118	113	79	103	1,064
Suffolk	0	1	0	1	2	5	4	4	5	9	31
Federal	1	2	2	1	3	3	4	2	4	4	26
Out-of-State	1	1	5	2	2	1	0	3	3	1	19
Bristol	2	1	1	1	0	1	2	0	1	1	10
Hampden	0	1	1	0	2	0	0	1	0	2	7
Mass Parole	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	2	4
Barnstable	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	3
Franklin	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	2
Berkshire	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	694	774	942	832	831	923	931	604	531	659	7,721

Appendix

Notes and Definitions

Note: This report examines admission and release trends over the past ten quarters for the Massachusetts Department of Correction (MA DOC). Unless otherwise stated, all trends in this report refer to the MA DOC jurisdiction population.

Note: Numbers in this report may vary slightly from numbers in other reports due to the continuous updating of data and information in the Inmate Management System.

Admissions	Inmates or detainees committed to a MA DOC facility as a “new court commitment”, “parole violator”, “transfer”, “probation violator”, “pre-trial detainee”, a “civil commitment” or other admission through legal means. “Other” admissions include: “Re-admit from Court Release” and “Return from Escape”.
Civil Commitment or “Civil”	The involuntary commitment of an individual via legal means to incarcerate an individual against their will.
Criminally Sentenced	An individual who has been found guilty of a criminal offense through legal means, and is required to be incarcerated.
Custody Population	An individual is considered to be in Massachusetts DOC custody when they are being held in a Massachusetts DOC facility.
Expiration of Sentence (Release)	An inmate is discharged from his sentence at the expiration of his term, less any statutory or earned good time. Statutory good time was eliminated for all offenses committed after June 30, 1994, due to the enactment of the “Truth in Sentencing” law.
HOC	House of Correction, i.e. county jail.
Jurisdiction Population	An individual is considered to be under Massachusetts DOC jurisdiction when the Commonwealth has legal authority over the individual regardless of where the inmate is being held to include those incarcerated in Massachusetts DOC facilities as well as those housed in correctional facilities outside of the Massachusetts DOC (Massachusetts Houses of Correction, other state’s correctional facilities and the Federal Bureau of Prisons).
MA DOC	Massachusetts Department of Correction, i.e. state prison.
Parole (Releases)	Inmates released on parole are under the supervision of parole while in the community and may be re-incarcerated for violating the terms of their supervision. Unless otherwise specified, parole to other authority may include: “Parole to Out of State Sentence”, “Parole to Federal Authority”, “Parole to Immigration”, “Parole to From & After HOC Sentence”, “Parole to Warrant”, “Parole to From & After DOC Sentence”, or “Parole to Civil Commitment”.
Pre-Trial Detainee	An individual who is detained prior to trial, but not yet convicted of a crime to include male and female county detainees, male county detainees transferred to state facilities under

Massachusetts General Law Chapter 276, section 52A, and federal detainees (both male and female).

Release to Street

A release to street occurs when an inmate is released from the custody of the Massachusetts DOC by way of parole or discharge to the street. Conditions warranting a release to street include: Parole, Good Conduct Discharge (GCD), Expiration of Sentence, and court release.

Releases

A release occurs when an inmate is released from the custody of the Massachusetts DOC by way of expiration of sentence, parole, a non-DOC release to other jurisdiction, a court release or other legal release from the custody of MA DOC. "Other" releases include: "HABEAS to Court – Received Forthwith Sentence", "Escape", "Death", "Court Release – Sentence Revoked", "Release to From and After at DOC", and "Release from Weekend Sentence".