



# **Massachusetts**

## **Department of Correction**

# **Quarterly Report on the Status of Prison Overcrowding, Third Quarter of 1998**

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

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# 1998 Third Quarter Report

**S**ection Twenty-one of Chapter 799 of the Acts of 1985 directs the Commissioner of Correction to report quarterly on the status of overcrowding in 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 first 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 third quarter of 1998.

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*This report was prepared by Hollie Matthews and Jennifer Dolan of the Research and Planning Division, and is based on daily count sheets prepared by the Classification Division.*

## 1998 Third Quarter Report

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#### Technical Notes, 1996 to Present<sup>1</sup>

- 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

<sup>1</sup> For technical notes prior to 1996, please refer to previous quarterly reports.

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 through 6.

- 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 and forty-three new modular beds were added to Middlesex (Billerica) House of Correction on November 15, 1996, increasing its total to 874 beds, and the Middlesex county 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. Three hundred additional beds were placed on-line during the third quarter of 1997.
- Due to a DOC policy modification, the security level of MCI-Shirley (Min) was changed from Security Level 3/2 to Security Level 3 during the first quarter of 1996 .
- 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 which houses primarily individuals incarcerated for operating under the influence of alcohol. Because the inmates are predominantly county sentenced inmates, the inmate count and bed capacity are also included in Tables 3 and 4.
- Beginning with the second quarter of 1998 quarterly report, the following county correctional facilities are presented individually: Bristol Dartmouth, Bristol Ash Street, David R. Nelson Correctional Addiction Center, and Bristol Pre-Release in Bristol County; Essex Middleton and Essex Lawrence Correctional Alternative Center in Essex County; Middlesex Cambridge and Middlesex Billerica in Middlesex County; Norfolk Braintree, Norfolk Dedham, and Norfolk Contract in Norfolk County. The third quarter of 1998 report begins presenting individual facilities for Suffolk and Hampden counties.
- Nashua Street inmates housed at other facilities are reported in the counts for the facilities in which they are in custody.
- On October 22, 1997, Eastern Massachusetts Correctional Alcohol Center (EMCAC) was renamed the David R. Nelson Correctional Addiction Center (DRNCAC).

- On April 18, 1995, new security level designations 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	OSCC	- 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 Center
DOC	- Department of Correction	SDPTC	- Sexually Dangerous Person Treatment Center
DRNCAC	David R. Nelson Correctional Addiction Center	SMCC	- South Middlesex Correctional Center (formerly SMPRC)
DSU	- Departmental Segregation Unit	SH	- State Hospital
HOC	- House of Correction	TC	- Treatment Center (Longwood, Bridgewater)
LCAC	- Lawrence Correctional Alternative Center		
NECC	- Northeastern Correctional Center		
NCCI	- North Central Correctional Institution at Gardner		

**Table 1 provides the DOC figures for the third quarter of 1998.** As this table indicates, the DOC population (excluding Bridgewater SH, SDPTC, AC, Longwood TC, and county inmates at the Mass. Boot Camp) increased by 49 inmates from the first day of the third quarter to the last day of the quarter. At the end of the quarter, the DOC operated with 10,181 inmates in the system, and the average daily population was 10,140 with a design capacity of 7,106. Thus, the DOC operated at 143 percent of design capacity.

<b>Population in DOC Facilities, July 1, 1998 to September 30, 1998</b>					
<b>Custody Level/ Facility</b>	<b>Avg Daily Population</b>	<b>Beginning Population</b>	<b>Ending Population</b>	<b>Design Capacity</b>	<b>% ADP Capacity</b>
<b>Custody Level 6</b>					
Cedar Junction	809	799	815	633	128%
Framingham - ATU	122	69	139	64	191%
<b>Custody Level 5</b>					
OCCC	730	722	736	488	150%
<b>Custody Level 4</b>					
Concord	1,343	1,334	1,372	614	219%
Framingham	506	544	499	388	130%
Norfolk	1,496	1,490	1,494	1,084	138%
Bay State	293	292	295	266	110%
NCCI	935	935	934	568	165%
SECC	805	807	804	456	177%
Shirley-Medium	1,098	1,090	1,102	720	153%
Mass. Boot Camp	108	104	121	128	84%
*Bridgewater TC	349	350	350	345	101%
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>8,594</b>	<b>8,536</b>	<b>8,661</b>	<b>5,754</b>	<b>149%</b>
<b>Custody Level 3</b>					
Plymouth	168	171	171	151	111%
NECC	216	222	209	150	144%
SECC-Minimum	88	94	85	100	88%
Shirley-Minimum	327	350	307	403	81%
Pondville	174	180	174	100	174%
<b>Custody Level 3/2</b>					
Lancaster-Male	118	123	116	94	126%
Lancaster-Female	55	55	62	59	93%
SMCC	195	197	197	125	156%
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>1,341</b>	<b>1,392</b>	<b>1,321</b>	<b>1,182</b>	<b>113%</b>
<b>Custody Level 2</b>					
Boston State	95	93	93	55	173%
Park Drive	48	50	49	50	96%
Hodder House	31	29	31	35	89%
<b>Custody Level 1</b>					
Charlotte	7	8	6	15	47%
Houston House	8	14	7	15	53%
PPREP	16	10	13	n.a.	n.a.
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>205</b>	<b>204</b>	<b>199</b>	<b>170</b>	<b>121%</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>10,140</b>	<b>10,132</b>	<b>10,181</b>	<b>7,106</b>	<b>143%</b>
Bridgewater SH	355	355	342	227	156%
Bridgewater TC	182	182	188	216	84%
Bridgewater AC	100	111	106	214	47%
Longwood TC	138	119	147	125	110%
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>775</b>	<b>767</b>	<b>783</b>	<b>782</b>	<b>99%</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>10,915</b>	<b>10,899</b>	<b>10,964</b>	<b>7,888</b>	<b>138%</b>
Houses of Correction	704	719	699	n.a.	n.a.
Federal Prisons	24	25	24	n.a.	n.a.
Inter-State Contract	369	365	369	n.a.	n.a.

(\* See Technical Notes)

**Table 2 provides the DOC figures for the previous twelve months - i.e., for the period July 1, 1997 to June 30, 1998.** These figures indicate that the DOC population increased by 123, or 1 percent, over this twelve month period (excluding Bridgewater SH, SDPTC, AC, Longwood TC, and county inmates at the Mass. Boot Camp), from 10,024 in July, 1997 to 10,147 in June, 1998.

<b>Population in DOC Facilities, July 1, 1997 to June 30, 1998</b>					
<b>Custody Level/ Facility</b>	<b>Avg Daily Population</b>	<b>Beginning Population</b>	<b>Ending Population</b>	<b>Design Capacity</b>	<b>% ADP Capacity</b>
<b>Custody Level 6</b>					
Cedar Junction	809	800	801	633	128%
Framingham - ATU	109	63	128	64	170%
<b>Custody Level 5</b>					
OSCC	701	687	716	488	144%
<b>Custody Level 4</b>					
Concord	1,285	1,197	1,347	614	209%
Framingham	500	519	489	388	129%
Norfolk	1,513	1,514	1,494	1,084	140%
Bay State	295	296	292	266	111%
NCCI	939	966	935	568	165%
SECC	806	808	806	456	177%
Shirley-Medium	1,096	1,094	1,093	720	152%
Mass. Boot Camp	104	69	100	128	81%
*Bridgewater TC	348	315	351	345	101%
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>8,505</b>	<b>8,328</b>	<b>8,552</b>	<b>5,754</b>	<b>148%</b>
<b>Custody Level 3</b>					
Plymouth	178	192	171	151	118%
NECC	221	267	224	150	147%
SECC-Minimum	94	96	95	100	94%
Shirley-Minimum	330	356	347	403	82%
Pondville	179	197	180	100	179%
<b>Custody Level 3/2</b>					
Lancaster-Male	122	125	123	94	130%
Lancaster-Female	54	52	55	59	92%
SMCC	193	200	196	125	154%
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>1,371</b>	<b>1,485</b>	<b>1,391</b>	<b>1,182</b>	<b>116%</b>
<b>Custody Level 2</b>					
Boston State	93	99	93	55	169%
Park Drive	49	47	50	50	98%
Hodder House	30	34	29	35	86%
<b>Custody Level 1</b>					
Charlotte	9	14	8	15	60%
Houston House	11	10	14	15	73%
PPREP	9	7	10	n.a.	n.a.
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>201</b>	<b>211</b>	<b>204</b>	<b>170</b>	<b>118%</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>10,077</b>	<b>10,024</b>	<b>10,147</b>	<b>7,106</b>	<b>142%</b>
Bridgewater SH	364	371	357	227	160%
Bridgewater TC	188	200	181	216	87%
Bridgewater AC	110	85	107	214	51%
Longwood TC	135	138	114	125	108%
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>797</b>	<b>794</b>	<b>759</b>	<b>782</b>	<b>102%</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>10,874</b>	<b>10,818</b>	<b>10,906</b>	<b>7,888</b>	<b>138%</b>
Houses of Correction	735	713	708	n.a.	n.a.
Federal Prisons	26	26	25	n.a.	n.a.
Inter-State Contract	375	368	365	n.a.	n.a.

(\* See Technical Notes)

**Table 3 presents the county figures for the third quarter of 1998.** The county population increased by 400 inmates, or 3 percent, from the beginning of the quarter to the end of the quarter. At the end of the quarter, the county system operated with 12,830 inmates, with an average daily population of 12,531 in facilities with a total design capacity of 8,356. Thus, the county system operated at 150 percent of design capacity.

Population in County Correctional Facilities by County, July 1, 1998 to September 30, 1998					
Facility	Avg Daily Population	Beginning Population	Ending Population	Design Capacity	% ADP Capacity
Barnstable	256	254	254	110	233%
Berkshire	244	240	242	116	210%
Bristol	1,122	1,117	1,128	666	168%
Dukes	29	25	30	19	153%
Essex	1,309	1,355	1,334	635	206%
Franklin	138	130	138	63	219%
Hampden	1,816	1,840	1,871	1,303	139%
Hampshire	240	233	244	248	97%
Middlesex	1,447	1,475	1,443	1,035	140%
Norfolk	625	632	636	379	165%
Plymouth	1,295	1,142	1,445	1,140	114%
Suffolk	2,534	2,551	2,557	1,599	158%
Worcester	1,290	1,268	1,320	790	163%
Longwood TC	137	119	147	125	110%
Mass. Boot Camp	49	49	41	128	38%
<b>Total</b>	<b>12,531</b>	<b>12,430</b>	<b>12,830</b>	<b>8,356</b>	<b>150%</b>

**Table 4 presents the county figures for the third quarter of 1998.** The following table presents a breakdown of specific counties, by facility.

Population in County Correctional Facilities by Facility, July 1, 1998 to September 30, 1998					
Facility	Avg Daily Population	Beginning Population	Ending Population	Design Capacity	% ADP Capacity
<b><u>Bristol County</u></b>					
Bristol Ash Street	221	229	213	206	107%
Bristol Dartmouth	704	695	724	304	232%
Bristol DRNCAC	106	98	103	100	106%
Bristol Pre-Release	91	95	88	56	163%
<b><u>Essex County</u></b>					
Essex Middleton	1,067	1,090	1,100	500	213%
Essex LCAC	242	265	234	135	179%
<b><u>Hampden County</u></b>					
Hampden	1,679	1,700	1,730	1,178	143%
Hampden-OUI	137	140	141	125	110%
<b><u>Middlesex County</u></b>					
Middlesex Cambridge	275	267	272	161	171%
Middlesex Billerica	1,172	1,208	1,171	874	134%
<b><u>Norfolk County</u></b>					
Norfolk Dedham	511	517	514	302	169%
Norfolk Braintree	39	41	43	52	75%
Norfolk Contract	75	74	79	25	300%
<b><u>Suffolk County</u></b>					
Suffolk Nashua Street	645	656	664	453	142%
Suffolk South Bay	1,889	1,895	1,893	1,146	165%



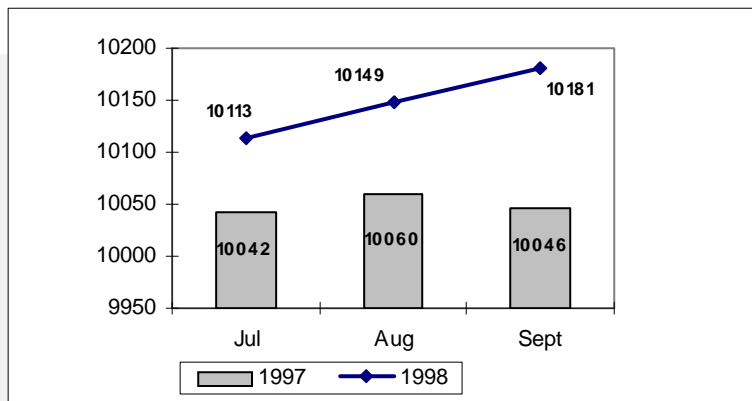
**Table 5 presents the county figures for the previous twelve months.** These figures indicate that the county population increased by 99 inmates or 0.8 percent over this twelve-month period, from 12,376 in July, 1997, to 12,475 in June, 1998.

Population in County Correctional Facilities by County, July 1, 1997 to June 30, 1998					
Facility	Avg Daily Population	Beginning Population	Ending Population	Design Capacity	% ADP Capacity
Barnstable	266	295	250	110	242%
Berkshire	244	251	240	116	210%
Bristol	1,273	1,266	1,125	666	191%
Dukes	21	20	26	19	111%
Essex	1,362	1,368	1,371	635	214%
Franklin	140	128	132	63	222%
Hampden	1,808	1,733	1,836	1,303	139%
Hampshire	251	252	234	248	101%
Middlesex	1,396	1,360	1,486	1,035	135%
Norfolk	617	627	642	379	163%
Plymouth	1,180	1,260	1,145	1,140	104%
Suffolk	2,498	2,458	2,554	1,599	156%
Worcester	1,268	1,165	1,271	790	161%
Longwood TC	134	138	114	125	107%
Mass. Boot Camp	62	55	49	128	48%
<b>Total</b>	<b>12,520</b>	<b>12,376</b>	<b>12,475</b>	<b>8,356</b>	<b>150%</b>

**Table 6 presents the county figures for the previous twelve months.** The following table presents a breakdown of specific counties, by facility.

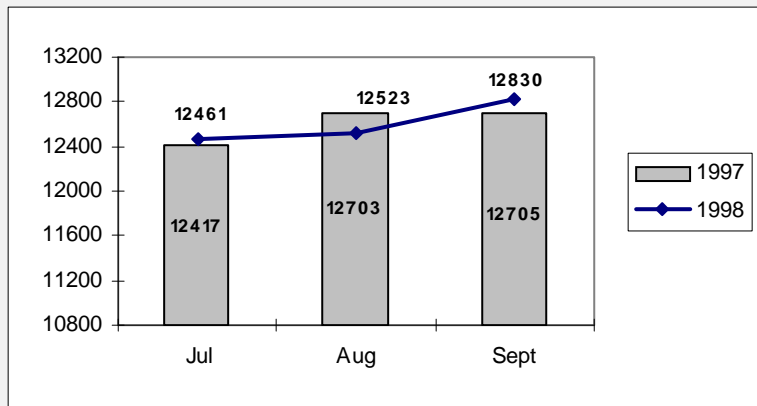
Population in County Correctional Facilities by Facility, July 1, 1997 to June 30, 1998					
Facility	Avg Daily Population	Beginning Population	Ending Population	Design Capacity	% ADP Capacity
<b><u>Bristol County</u></b>					
Bristol Ash Street	236	258	225	206	115%
Bristol Dartmouth	821	785	705	304	270%
Bristol DRNCAC	111	124	99	100	111%
Bristol Pre-Release	105	99	96	56	188%
<b><u>Essex County</u></b>					
Essex Middleton	1,114	1,098	1,104	500	223%
Essex LCAC	248	270	267	135	184%
<b><u>Hampden County</u></b>					
Hampden	1,668	1,596	1,693	1,178	142%
Hampden-OUI	140	137	143	125	112%
<b><u>Middlesex County</u></b>					
Middlesex Cambridge	223	251	278	161	139%
Middlesex Billerica	1,173	1,109	1,208	874	134%
<b><u>Norfolk County</u></b>					
Norfolk Dedham	493	479	525	302	163%
Norfolk Braintree	43	53	41	52	83%
Norfolk Contract	81	95	76	25	324%
<b><u>Suffolk County</u></b>					
Suffolk Nashua Street	675	668	669	453	149%
Suffolk South Bay	1,823	1,790	1,885	1,146	159%

**Figure 1.**  
**DOC Sentenced Population, Third Quarters of 1997 and 1998**



The graph above compares the DOC sentenced population for the first three quarters in 1997 to those in 1998. For July, 1998 the DOC population increased by 71 inmates (0.7%) compared with the same month of 1997; for August, the population increased by 89 inmates (0.9%) ; and for September, the population increased by 135 inmates, or 1 percent.

**Figure 2.**  
**HOC Population, Third Quarters of 1997 and 1998**



The graph above compares the HOC population for the first three quarters in 1997 to those in 1998. For July, 1998 the HOC population increased by 44 inmates (0.4%) compared with the same month of 1997; for August, the population decreased by 180 inmates (-1%) ; and for September, the population increased by 125 inmates, or 1 percent.

*Note:* Data from Figures 1 and 2 were taken from the end of the month daily count sheet compiled by the Classification Division. Due to a reporting change, figures from the third quarter of 1997 were revised.

**Table 7 provides statistics on new, criminally sentenced court commitments to the DOC for the first three quarters of 1997 and 1998, by sex.** During the first three quarters of 1998, there were 2,144 new court commitments compared to 2,179 for the same period in 1997. This amounts to a decrease of 35 new court commitments, or minus 2 percent. Male new court commitments for the first three quarters of 1998 decreased by 37, or minus 3 percent from 1997. Female new court commitments during the first three quarters of 1998 increased by 2 commitments compared to the same period in 1997.

**Quarterly DOC New Court Commitment by Sex**

	1997	1998	Difference
<b>Males</b>			
First Quarter	545	517	-5%
Second Quarter	474	458	-3%
Third Quarter	431	438	2%
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>1,450</b>	<b>1,413</b>	<b>-3%</b>
<b>Females</b>			
First Quarter	251	238	-5%
Second Quarter	232	239	3%
Third Quarter	246	254	3%
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>729</b>	<b>731</b>	<b>0.3%</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,179</b>	<b>2,144</b>	<b>-2%</b>

**Figure 3 provides a graphical representation** of the number of new, criminally sentenced court commitments to the DOC during the third quarters of 1997 and 1998, by sex.

