

**1984 Yearly Statistical Report
of The Furlough Program**

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December, 1985

**PUBLICATION #: 14309-42-250-1-86-C.R.
Approved by Daniel Carter, State Purchasing Agent**

ABSTRACT

The furlough program has been in operation in the Massachusetts Department of Correction since November 6, 1972. A total of 96,886 furloughs have been granted between the inception of the program and December 31, 1984. During that period, 616 of those furloughs resulted in escapes (a resident failing to return to his/her correctional facility within two hours of the appointed time of return), thus yielding an overall furlough escape rate of 0.6 percent or 6 escapes per 1,000 furloughs granted. The present report contains a statistical description of the number, distribution and outcomes of furloughs for the year 1984 as well as a trend analysis of furloughs since the inception of the program in 1972.

From January 1, 1984 to December 31, 1984, a total of 8,354 furloughs were granted. The number of individuals receiving furloughs in 1984 was 1,546. For every 1,000 furloughs granted in 1984 one ended in escape. Ten individuals --less than one percent of the inmates furloughed -- were declared on furlough escape during that period.

From the inception of the furlough program through 1982 there was a gradual decline in the number of furloughs granted, the number of offenders furloughed, and the percentage of the released population participating in the furlough program prior to release. The escape rate showed a parallel decline during this period. However, starting in 1983 and extending into 1984 the number of furloughs granted and the number of individuals furloughed increased while the trends in the percentage of the released population furloughed and the escape rate continued to decline. The decline in the proportion participating in the furlough program suggests that in recent years greater selectivity may have been exercised in the granting of furloughs, thereby reducing the likelihood of escape.

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Introduction

This report presents a statistical description of furloughs granted by the Massachusetts Department of Correction for the year 1984. Contained in this report are trends in the number of furloughs per year and furlough outcomes from the inception of the program in 1972 until the end of the year 1984.

A furlough is considered by the Department of Correction to be an "extension of the limits of the place of confinement for a trustworthy resident" of a state correctional facility. The Department regards the furlough program as a means by which residents may maintain or re-establish direct ties with the communities from which they have come and, therefore, to be consistent with its policy of community reintegration. Furloughs may be granted for medical purposes, for contacting prospective employers, for securing living accommodations preparatory to release, or for attending a relative's funeral, but usually they are granted for family visits. Residents meeting the general eligibility criteria are allowed by statute 14 furlough days per furlough year; in practice they receive seven days during the first half of the year and seven days during the second half of the year. A resident's furlough year runs for 12 consecutive months from the date of the resident's initial furlough; each successive furlough year commences on the anniversary date of the initial furlough.

There are basically three types of furlough: earned, emergency and escorted. By far the most common type of furlough is the earned furlough. Emergency furloughs are approved for residents when a serious or personal situation arises that requires their immediate presence in the community. Escorted furloughs are emergency furloughs granted to a resident who requires close supervision while in

the community. In 1984, 99 percent of all furloughs were earned. The median number of hours of leave per furlough was 24 hours, but the actual number of hours furloughed ranged from one to 77 hours.

The report is divided into two sections. The first section covers relevant furlough statistics for the year 1984. The second section presents a brief overview of the Massachusetts furlough program and provides comparisons of furlough characteristics over a ten to twelve year period. The tables which follow in the Appendix present the number of furloughs, the percent distribution of furloughs, and escape rates by inmate social characteristics, offense variables, criminal history variables and furlough variables for 1984. In these tables and throughout the document the escape rate refers to every 100 furloughs ending in escape. In most instances, less than one furlough in every 100 resulted in an escape producing extremely low escape rates such as 0.1 percent or one escape per 1,000 furloughs.

The data for the tables in this report were derived from the computerized data base developed by the Correction and Parole Management Information System (CAPMIS) and were produced on the Massachusetts State College Computer Network (MSCCN).

Statistical Fact Sheet on the Massachusetts Department
of Correction Furlough Program - 1984

1984 Statistics

From January 1, 1984 to December 31, 1984, total furloughs granted were 8,354. The number of individuals furloughed in 1984 was 1,564. The median number of furloughs per furloughed offender was four; the actual number of furloughs ranged from one to 70. Seven offenders went out on furlough more than 25 times during 1984, while 355 offenders were furloughed only once. Half of the furloughed population received more than four furloughs, and 50 percent took four or fewer furloughs in 1984.

Escape Rate by Furlough - 1984

Department of Correction policy defines a furlough escape as failure to return to a correctional facility within two hours of the designated time of return.¹ The Massachusetts Department of Correction, as a matter of policy, recognizes two classes of furlough escape: those furloughs which result in voluntary returns within 24 hours of the designated reporting time ("late overs" or technical escapes); and those which constitute involuntary returns or failure to return after 24 hours. Out of the 8,354 furloughs granted in 1984, there were 10 incidents of official furlough escapes (both technical and actual escapes) resulting in an escape rate of 0.1 percent -- one furlough escape per 1,000 furloughs.

Escape Rate by Inmate Furloughed in 1984

Of the 1,546 offenders furloughed in 1984, 10 were declared on escape status.

The furlough outcome for individuals results in an escape rate of 0.6 indicating that less than one offender escaped for every 100 offenders furloughed. Five of the 10 furloughed individuals declared on escape in 1984 returned voluntarily within 24 hours after their designated time of return ("late overs"). The median number of "successful" furloughs per inmate was four, the same as the median number of total furloughs taken by inmates.

Late Returns for 1984

For 1984, there were 137 furloughs which were classified as late returns. The 137 late returns involved 122 individuals. These 122 offenders all returned voluntarily within two hours of their designated time of return. Thirteen offenders were reported to have multiple late returns from furloughs in 1984.

Furloughs by Security Level - 1984

During 1984, 220 furloughs were from maximum or medium security institutions, representing three percent of the furloughs granted in 1984. There were 1,801 furloughs (21 percent) from minimum security institutions, 2,256 furloughs (27 percent) from mixed security institutions, and 4,077 furloughs (49 percent) from pre-release facilities in 1984. Table 1 presents information on furloughs by security level for 1984 along with the corresponding escape rates for each furlough institution.² Eight of the 10 furlough escapes were associated with furloughs from pre-release centers.

Proportion of Releases Participating in Furlough Program - 1984

From January 1, 1984, to December 31, 1984, the Department of Correction released 2,125 residents to the community. Of the total, 648 (30 percent) had received one or more furloughs before release. The remaining 70 percent of the

Table I

Furloughs for the Year 1984 by Furlough Institution and Security Level

Institution		Furloughs	Escape Rate
I.	<u>Maximum and Medium</u>		
	Walpole	23	0.0
	Concord	15	0.0
	Framingham	41	0.0
	Norfolk	39	0.0
	SECC	68	0.0
	NCCI	34	0.0
	TOTAL	220	0.0
II.	<u>Minimum</u>		
	Medfield	189	0.0
	Bay State	1116	0.0
	NCC	496	0.0
III.	<u>Total Minimum/Pre-Release</u>	1801	0.0
	Plymouth	336	0.3
	Warwick	250	0.4
	Shirley	1034	0.0
	Lancaster	636	0.0
IV.	<u>Total Pre-Release</u>	2256	0.1
	Boston State	568	0.0
	Brooke House	336	0.0
	Coolidge I	545	0.4
	THP	397	0.3
	Norfolk Pre-Release	397	0.0
	577 House	234	0.0
	Coolidge II	190	0.5
	Drug Rehabilitation	5	0.0
	South Middlesex	433	0.7
	Park Drive	343	0.3
	Hillside	408	0.0
	Charlotte House	221	0.0
	TOTAL	4077	0.1
GRAND TOTAL		8354	0.1

individuals released had not participated in the furlough program during their incarceration. The percent of released inmates furloughed before release to the community remained approximately the same from 1982 to 1984. However, the actual number of offenders receiving furloughs prior to release increased by 48 percent between 1982 and 1984. The furlough participation of the 1984 released population varied according to the security level of the releasing institution as follows: 64 percent of those released from pre-release facilities had been furloughed prior to release; 40 percent of those released from minimum security facilities had been furloughed; and 10 percent of those released from medium or maximum security institutions had been furloughed before release.

Inmates Furloughed Per Average Monthly Population - 1984

Out of an average monthly population of 4,773 an average of 483 individuals per month received a furlough in 1984. The actual numbers of inmates furloughed ranged from a low of 420 in February to a high of 681 in December. Ten percent of the average monthly population was furloughed per month. The majority of the population (72 percent) was housed in maximum or medium security institutions during an average month in 1984, and one half of one percent (0.5 percent) of the average monthly maximum/medium security population received a furlough that year. Almost 30 percent (28.7 percent) of the minimum security population and 40 percent of the pre-release population received furloughs during a typical month in 1984. Table II presents the information on the number of individuals furloughed in proportion to the average population for 1984.

Table II

Percent of Average Monthly Institutional Population Furloughed in 1984

Institution	Average Monthly Population	Average # of Inmates Furloughed Per Month	Percent of Population Furloughed
I. <u>Maximum and Medium</u>			
Walpole	691	2	(0.3)
Concord	530	1	(0.2)
Framingham	230	3	(1.3)
Norfolk	1114	3	(0.3)
SECC	319	5	(1.6)
NCCI	568	2	(0.4)
SUB TOTAL	3452	16	(0.5)
II. <u>Minimum</u>			
NCC	161	36	(22.4)
Bay State C.C.	143	62	(43.3)
Medfield	29	13	(44.3)
SUB TOTAL	333	111	(33.3)
III. <u>Minimum/Pre-Release</u>			
Plymouth	125	24	(19.2)
Warwick	72	17	(23.6)
Shirley	263	70	(26.6)
Lancaster	122	45	(36.9)
SUB TOTAL	582	156	(26.8)
IV. <u>Pre-Release</u>			
Boston State	59	31	(52.5)
MHHI	120	72	(60.0)
Norfolk Pre-Release	51	19	(37.3)
Drug Rehabilitation	5	0	(0.0)
South Middlesex	74	27	(36.5)
Park Drive	47	21	(44.7)
Hillside	34	20	(58.8)
Charlotte House	16	10	(62.5)
SUB TOTAL	406	200	(49.3)
Total Monthly Average	4773	483	(10.1)

Furlough Statistics Since the Inception of the Program

The furlough program for residents of Massachusetts correctional facilities has been operating since November 6, 1972. Between that date and December 31, 1984, a total of 96,886 furloughs have been granted. On 616 occasions individuals failed to return to their respective correctional facility within two hours of their prescribed time of return. Thus, since the inception of the program there has been an overall escape rate of six escapes per 1,000 furloughs or 0.6 percent.

Table III presents a summary of furlough statistics for the years 1972 to 1984. Included in the table is information on the number of furloughs, the number of individuals furloughed, the number of escapes and corresponding escape rates. As Table III shows, the escape rates by furlough have gradually declined from almost two escapes per 100 furloughs in 1973 to one escape per 1000 furloughs in 1984. Similarly, the escape rates by individual have also decreased during this period from a high of 7.6 to a low of 0.6.

While the number of individuals furloughed each year generally declined since the inception of the program, in 1983 and 1984 the trend shifted and the number of furloughed offenders started to increase. Overall the numbers of individuals furloughed decreased 17 percent between 1973 and 1984 from 1,868 offenders to 1,546 offenders. However, the years with the fewest furloughed offenders were 1980 and 1982. The escape rate by individual furloughed followed a similar pattern of decline over the 12 year period except for a slight increase in the rate of escapes in 1981. Along with these trends the percentage of offenders released to the street who had participated in the furlough program prior to their release was also decreasing. Table IV presents the data for the percentage of released

Table III
Summary Furlough Statistics for the Years 1972 to 1984

Year	Number of Furloughs	Individuals Furloughed	Number of Escapes	Escape Rate by Individual ³	Escape Rate by Furlough
1972 ⁴	1182	793	8	1.0	0.7
1973	7195	1868	134	7.2	1.9
1974	8322	1668	127	7.6	1.5
1975	8680	1482	88	5.9	1.0
1976	7985	1305	40	3.1	0.5
1977	8199	1355	42	3.1	0.5
1978	9062	1248	38	3.0	0.4
1979	8040	1232	38	3.1	0.5
1980	8654	1193	24	2.0	0.3
1981	8196	1248	34	2.7	0.4
1982	6307	1198	12	1.0	0.2
1983	6710	1295	21	1.6	0.3
1984	8354	1546	10	0.6	0.1
TOTAL	96,886	8835⁵	616	7.0	0.6

Table IV

Releases by Furlough Participation 1973 - 1984 6

Releasing Year	Number of Releases	Percent Furloughed Prior to Release
1973	966	(69)
1974	911	(74)
1975	926	(59)
1976	1029	(51)
1977	1193	(50)
1978	1133	(49)
1979	1124	(42)
1980	1015	(40)
1981	1118	(41)
1982	1440	(30)
1983	1976	(32)
1984	2125	(30)

offenders who participated in the furlough program prior to their release. From 1973 to 1984, the number of releases more than doubled. However, during this time the percentage of individuals released who had participated in the furlough program decreased from 69 percent to 30 percent. In summary, the annual furlough statistics indicate three parallel trends: (1) fewer offenders receiving furloughs than was the case 10 years ago; (2) a decreasing rate of furlough escape; and (3) each year, a decreasing proportion of the released population participating in the furlough program prior to release.

The low percentage of the population furloughed before release in 1984 can be attributed, in part, to the increasing proportion of women in the released population over the past few years.⁷ In 1975 ten percent of the released population were women; their percentage has gradually increased until women represented 29 percent of the released population in 1983 and 31 percent in 1984. Historically a disproportionate number of women have been released without the benefit of furloughs because of their short sentences; this is especially true of women released from Framingham after serving county sentences. In 1984, six percent of the released women received furloughs prior to release in contrast to 42 percent of the released men. Thus, these two factors--the increasing proportion of women in the released population and the disproportionate number of them that are released without furlough experience--help to account for the low overall furlough rate (30 percent) among 1984 releases in Table IV.

Tables V through VII present furlough statistics by institution from which furloughed for the years 1973 to 1976, 1977 to 1980, and 1981 to 1984, respectively. The number of furloughs granted inmates in maximum and medium

Table V

Comparative Furlough Statistics by Institution for Years 1973-1976

	1973		1974		1975		1976	
	Furloughs	Escape Rate	Furloughs	Escape Rate	Furloughs	Escape Rate	Furloughs	Escape Rate
Maximum & Medium								
Walpole	107	3.7	310	2.3	338	1.5	398	1.5
Concord	1254	3.5	923	4.2	812	3.3	430	0.7
Framingham	562	1.6	741	0.9	805	1.0	642	0.5
Norfolk	1811	2.2	1466	2.2	1200	1.2	741	0.7
SECC	244	5.3	283	1.4	196	3.1	165	0.6
RDC	----	---	4	0.0	2	0.0	---	---
TOTAL	3978	2.8	3727	2.4	3353	1.8	2376	0.8
Minimum								
Plymouth	451	1.1	416	1.0	500	1.6	385	0.8
Warwick	321	1.2	209	2.9	55	1.8	0	0.0
Monroe	342	0.6	306	2.3	274	1.8	233	3.4
Medfield	---	---	---	---	---	---	157	0.0
TOTAL	1114	1.0	931	1.8	829	1.7	775	1.4
Pre-Release								
Boston State	1333	0.6	2061	0.3	1804	0.3	1241	0.1
Shirley	709	0.8	494	2.4	715	1.3	574	0.9
Charlotte	61	0.0	86	2.3	83	0.0	126	0.8
Roxbury Multi-Service	--	---	130	0.0	444	0.0	80	0.0
Brooke House	--	---	422	0.2	509	0.0	578	0.0
Coolidge I	--	---	471	0.0	583	0.0	331	0.0
THP	--	---	---	---	1	0.0	150	0.0
Norfolk Pre-Release	--	---	---	---	96	0.0	334	0.0
577 House	--	---	---	---	85	0.0	619	0.0
Coolidge II	--	---	---	---	138	0.0	136	0.7
BOSP/METAC	--	---	---	---	40	0.0	203	0.5
Drug Rehab	--	---	---	---	--	---	14	0.0
South Middlesex	--	---	---	---	--	---	44	2.3
Lancaster	--	---	---	---	--	---	404	0.2
TOTAL	2103	0.7	3664	0.6	4498	0.3	4834	0.2
GRAND TOTAL	7195	1.9	8322	1.5	8680	1.0	7985	0.5

Table VI

Comparative Furlough Statistics by Institution for Years 1977 - 1980

	1977		1978		1979		1980	
	Furloughs	Escape Rate	Furloughs	Escape Rate	Furloughs	Escape Rate	Furloughs	Escape Rate
Maximum & Medium								
Walpole	166	0.0	70	0.0	51	0.0	44	0.0
Concord	352	1.4	134	2.2	20	0.0	14	0.0
Framingham	775	1.0	788	0.3	676	0.9	306	1.3
Norfolk	560	0.2	238	0.0	223	0.9	230	0.4
SECC	233	1.7	210	1.4	232	0.9	168	0.0
NCCI	---	---	---	---	50	0.0	0	0.0
TOTAL	2086	0.9	1440	0.6	1252	0.8	762	0.7
Minimum								
Plymouth	413	0.2	398	0.0	400	0.2	539	0.4
Warwick	252	1.6	234	2.6	289	2.1	268	0.4
Monroe	223	2.7	52	7.7	---	---	---	---
Medfield	264	0.0	257	0.0	232	1.3	287	0.0
Bay State	168	1.2	945	0.3	732	0.1	741	0.1
NCC	---	---	418	0.7	646	0.6	695	0.1
TOTAL	1320	1.0	2304	0.7	2299	0.5	2530	0.2
Pre-Release								
Boston State	1073	0.2	1602	0.3	1279	0.3	1281	0.0
Shirley	295	1.0	352	0.6	421	0.7	524	0.4
Charlotte	103	0.0	97	0.0	108	0.0	130	0.8
Brooke House	272	0.0	419	0.0	283	0.0	316	0.3
Coolidge I	269	0.0	230	0.0	232	0.9	311	0.3
THP	154	0.0	59	0.0	193	1.0	148	0.0
Norfolk Pre-Release	309	0.3	348	0.0	269	0.0	346	0.0
577 House	786	0.2	538	0.0	277	0.7	257	0.0
Coolidge II	144	0.0	136	0.0	93	0.0	298	1.3
BOSP/METAC	220	0.0	148	0.0	---	---	---	---
Drug Rehab	55	0.0	18	0.0	1	0.0	27	0.0
South Middlesex	379	0.3	317	0.6	367	0.0	627	0.3
Lancaster	513	0.4	425	0.7	290	0.7	407	0.0
Park Drive	221	0.0	460	0.0	588	0.0	639	0.0
Western Ave/Hillside	---	---	169	0.2	88	0.0	51	5.9
TOTAL	4793	0.2	5318	0.2	4489	0.4	5362	0.3
GRAND TOTAL	8199	0.5	9062	0.4	8040	0.5	8654	0.3

Table VII

Comparative Furlough Statistics by Institution for Years 1981 - 1984

	1981		1982		1983		1984	
	Furloughs	Escape Rate	Furloughs	Escape Rate	Furloughs	Escape Rate	Furloughs	Escape Rate
<u>Maximum & Medium</u>								
Walpole	27	0.0	34	0.0	14	0.0	23	0.0
Concord	20	0.0	28	0.0	18	0.0	15	0.0
Framingham	197	1.5	31	0.0	32	0.0	41	0.0
Norfolk	151	0.0	83	0.0	42	0.0	39	0.0
SECC	85	0.0	45	0.0	35	0.0	68	0.0
NCCI	3	0.0	8	0.0	16	0.0	34	0.0
TOTAL	483	0.6	229	0.0	157	0.0	220	0.0
<u>Minimum</u>								
Plymouth	431	0.9	403	0.5	391	0.0	336	0.3
Warwick	152	0.0	210	0.0	235	0.0	250	0.4
Medfield	366	0.3	245	0.0	212	0.0	189	0.0
Bay State	689	0.3	672	0.0	925	0.3	1116	0.0
NCC	555	0.0	365	0.8	403	1.2	496	0.0
TOTAL	2193	0.3	1895	0.3	2166	0.4	2387	0.1
<u>Pre-Release</u>								
Boston State	1055	0.3	528	0.0	427	0.0	568	0.0
Shirley	800	0.5	553	0.5	698	0.0	1034	0.0
Charlotte	15	0.0	---	---	13	0.0	221	0.0
Brooke House	561	0.4	197	1.0	295	0.0	336	0.0
Coolidge I	420	0.0	438	0.5	448	0.2	545	0.4
THP	385	0.3	275	0.0	298	1.7	397	0.3
Norfolk Pre-Release	226	0.0	180	0.0	237	0.0	397	0.0
577 House	331	0.6	251	0.0	161	0.0	234	0.0
Coolidge II	300	0.3	232	0.0	188	1.1	190	0.5
Drug Rehab	1	0.0	47	0.0	2	0.0	5	0.0
South Middlesex	383	0.5	295	0.0	334	0.3	433	0.7
Lancaster	515	0.8	532	0.0	656	0.3	636	0.0
Park Drive	331	0.0	341	0.0	367	0.3	343	0.3
Hillside	197	2.5	314	0.0	263	0.4	408	0.0
TOTAL	5520	0.4	4183	0.2	4387	0.3	5747	0.1
GRAND TOTAL	8196	0.4	6307	0.2	6710	0.3	8354	0.1

security institutions has steadily declined over the years, while the number of furloughs granted to residents of pre-release centers has generally increased except for 1981 when the number peaked and then declined slightly after that date. The number of furloughs taken by residents in minimum security institutions has fluctuated over the 12 year period as a result of opening and closing of institutions designated as minimum security. In general the number of furloughs granted to residents at all levels of security dropped precipitously in 1982 and 1983 and then returned to the pre-1982 levels in 1984. The corresponding escape figures indicate that the escape rate also has decreased since the inception of the furlough program, and this is especially apparent in minimum and maximum/medium security institutions. A constantly low overall escape rate has prevailed in pre-release centers from 1975 to the present.

Table VIII compares the proportion of the average monthly population receiving furloughs for the years 1974 through 1984. The proportion of the population furloughed each year is figured for the total average monthly population and the security level of the institutions from which the furlough occurred.

As Table VIII indicates, the percentage of the population in maximum and medium security institutions which received furloughs in a typical month decreased from 15.2 percent in 1974 to 0.5 percent in 1984. The 1982 and 1983 percentages of minimum security populations furloughed monthly were the lowest since the inception of the program, and the percentage from pre-release facilities reflects a drop of 26.4 percentage points between 1980 and 1984. While, the 1984 figure of 10 percent of the total institutional population represents one of the lowest percentages of monthly population furloughed since the inception of the program, it also reflects a slight increase compared to the preceding two years.

Table VIII

Percentage of Average Monthly Population Furloughed by Security Level1974 - 1984⁸

Year	Maximum Or Medium Security	Minimum Security	Pre-Release	Total Population
1974	(15.2)	(55.2)	(79.9)	(21.9)
1975	(13.8)	(59.6)	(74.6)	(20.8)
1976	(7.6)	(44.9)	(55.9)	(14.7)
1977	(6.2)	(60.2)	(54.5)	(15.5)
1978	(4.5)	(54.2)	(64.6)	(16.8)
1979	(4.0)	(47.1)	(59.6)	(15.5)
1980	(2.0)	(43.7)	(66.2)	(14.1)
1981	(1.3)	(37.2)	(59.5)	(12.6)
1982	(0.5)	(24.0)	(37.9)	(8.8)
1983	(0.3)	(24.5)	(35.8)	(8.9)
1984	(0.5)	(28.7)	(39.8)	(10.1)

The tables that follow in the Appendix contain furlough frequencies and escape rates by characteristics of the population furloughed during 1984. Offense variables, personal background characteristics, criminal history and furlough experience were originally examined to determine whether characteristics of the individual could be identified that were indicative of escape risk. However, the small number of actual furlough escapes in 1984 (10 escapes out of 8,354 furloughs) rendered significance tests of difference in escape rates meaningless. Nonetheless

the tables in the Appendix are informative in terms of the characteristics of inmates furloughed and the distribution of escape rates. It is important for the reader to note that the figures in these tables refer to the number of furloughs, not the number of individuals furloughed; hence, the characteristics of individuals receiving more than one furlough during the year figure more heavily in the statistics than the attributes of inmates receiving a single furlough in 1984. While this type of analysis does not create any serious statistical bias because the modal number of furloughs per inmate in 1984 was one, it does mean that conclusions about individuals furloughed may be misleading.

FOOTNOTES

1. The Department of Correction furlough statistics define an "escape from furlough" in accordance with Department Order 467.1 entitled, "Furloughs - Rules and Regulations." According to Section 10.4 (c): "Failure of the resident to return to the correctional facility after the two hour period set forth in Section 10.4 (b) shall be considered an escape regardless of prior notification to the facility by the resident that he would be late. The superintendent or his designee shall notify, forthwith, appropriate law enforcement officials of the escape."
2. Several tables in this report present furlough statistics by the security level of the institution from which the furlough occurred. Four of the lower security institutions -- Plymouth, Warwick, Shirley, and Lancaster -- are mixed security. That is, they accept inmates in pre-release as well as minimum security status. Within these institutions offenders may move from minimum security classification to pre-release before discharge or release. These four facilities officially started reporting the minimum security and pre-release populations separately in September 1983. To maintain continuity with past furlough reports, the present report continues to classify Warwick and Plymouth as minimum security facilities and Shirley and Lancaster as pre-release security facilities. Retaining the former security classification does not greatly alter the calculation of furlough statistics.
3. These figures may differ from prior departmental reports due to multiple counting of individuals furloughed from different institutions.
4. The figures for 1972 represent totals for only two months of 1972. Therefore, the number of furloughs and individuals furloughed is much lower than subsequent years.
5. The figure for the total number of individuals furloughed since the inception of the program is not the sum of the individuals furloughed each year. Since the same individual may be furloughed in more than one year, adding the yearly totals for individuals participating in the program results in multiple counting of participants.
6. The figures in this table were taken from yearly Research Unit reports on A Statistical Description of Releases from the Massachusetts Department of Correction, Massachusetts Department of Correction Publication Numbers 89, 109, 117, 137, 163, 177, 204, 234, 242, 259, 273 and 288.
7. The table which follows illustrates over the past five years the association between the two release trends: (1) the increasing proportion of women in the released population and (2) the decreasing rate of furloughs granted prior to release. Whereas the proportion of men furloughed prior to release remained more or less constant between 1980 and 1984, the proportion of women furloughed prior to release ranged from 12 percent in 1980 to six percent in 1984. Although the increasing presence of women in the released population

does not entirely account for the decline in furlough rates, it appears to be a contributing factor.

Releases and Percent Furloughed by
Year Released and Sex of Released Offender

YEAR RELEASED	MEN			WOMEN		
	N	% of Releases	% Furloughed	N	% of Releases	% Furloughed
1980	799	(79)	(47)	216	(21)	(12)
1981	849	(76)	(51)	269	(24)	(8)
1982	962	(67)	(43)	478	(33)	(4)
1983	1405	(71)	(42)	571	(29)	(5)
1984	1468	(69)	(42)	657	(31)	(6)

8. In this table figure for years prior to 1984 were taken from yearly furlough reports by the Research Unit entitled, A yearly Statistical Report of the Furlough Program, Massachusetts Department of Correction Publication Numbers 95, 97, 115, 145, 162, 176, 206, 233, 243, 257 and 272.

APPENDIX

Furlough Escape Rates by Furlough Variables, Offense Characteristics, Personal Background, and Criminal History, 1984

**Furlough
Variables****Number****Percent****Escape Rate****Type of Furlough**

Earned	8226	(99)	0.1
Escorted	91	(1)	0.0
Emergency	37	(0)	0.0
TOTAL	8354	(100)	0.1

Month Furloughed

January	622	(7)	0.3
February	597	(7)	0.0
March	689	(8)	0.3
April	605	(7)	0.0
May	624	(8)	0.2
June	619	(7)	0.2
July	598	(7)	0.2
August	702	(8)	0.3
September	748	(9)	0.0
October	677	(8)	0.0
November	918	(11)	0.1
December	955	(11)	0.0
TOTAL	8354	(100)	0.1

Hours Furloughed

6 or Less	564	(7)	0.0
7 to 12	1756	(21)	0.0
13 to 18	459	(6)	0.0
19 to 24	2004	(24)	0.0
25 to 30	511	(6)	0.0
31 to 36	1018	(12)	0.1
37 to 42	194	(2)	0.0
43 to 48	1309	(16)	0.0
More Than 48	534	(6)	0.7
Escape or Arrest	5	(0)	100.0
TOTAL	8354	(100)	0.1

**Present Offense
Variables**

	Number	Percent	Escape Rate
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Commitment Institution

Walpole	5885	(70)	0.1
Concord	2063	(25)	0.2
Framingham	406	(5)	0.0
TOTAL	8354	(100)	0.1

Jail Credits

None	2152	(26)	0.1
1 to 10 days	966	(12)	0.1
11 to 50 days	1298	(16)	0.2
51 to 100 days	873	(10)	0.2
101 to 150 days	779	(9)	0.1
151 to 200 days	776	(9)	0.1
Over 200 days	1510	(18)	0.1
TOTAL	8354	(100)	0.1

Present Offense - General Categories

Person	5559	(66)	0.1
Sex	1004	(12)	0.2
Property	1227	(15)	0.2
Drug	388	(5)	0.0
Other	176	(2)	0.0
TOTAL	8354	(100)	0.1

**Present Offense
Variables****Number****Percent****Escape Rate****Present Offense - Person**

Not Applicable	2795	(33)	0.1
Murder - 1	464	(6)	0.2
Murder - 2	1093	(13)	0.0
Manslaughter	567	(7)	0.0
Assault w/intent to Murder	241	(3)	0.4
Armed Robbery	1939	(23)	0.2
Unarmed Robbery	440	(5)	0.2
Armed Assault	609	(7)	0.0
Unarmed Assault	51	(1)	0.0
Put in Fear	46	(1)	0.0
Mayhem	35	(0)	0.0
Extortion	15	(0)	0.0
Kidnapping	40	(1)	0.0
Conspiracy	7	(0)	0.0
Vehicle Homicide	12	(0)	0.0
TOTAL	8354	(100)	0.1

Present Offense - Sex

Not Applicable	7350	(88)	0.1
Rape	617	(7)	0.3
Assault/Rape	84	(1)	0.0
Rape of Minor	241	(3)	0.0
Assault/Rape of Minor	53	(1)	0.0
Sodomy	9	(0)	0.0
TOTAL	8354	(100)	0.1

Present Offense Variables	Number	Percent	Escape Rate
<u>Present Offense - Property</u>			
Not Applicable	7127	(85)	0.1
Arson	105	(1)	0.0
Burglary - Armed	106	(1)	0.0
Burglary	665	(8)	0.3
Possession of Tools	20	(0)	0.0
Larceny from Person	13	(0)	0.0
Larceny / Stealing	121	(2)	0.0
Vehicle Theft	32	(0)	0.0
Forgery and Uttering	63	(1)	0.0
Stolen Goods	89	(1)	0.0
Property Injuries	5	(0)	0.0
Fraud	8	(0)	0.0
TOTAL	8354	(100)	0.1
<u>Present Offense - Drug</u>			
Not Applicable	7966	(95)	0.3
Possession of Heroin	4	(0)	0.0
Sale of Heroin	23	(0)	0.0
Controlled Substance	64	(1)	1.1
Class - A	116	(1)	0.0
Class - B	144	(2)	0.0
Class - C	18	(0)	0.0
Intent to Sell	19	(0)	0.0
TOTAL	8354	(100)	0.1

**Present Offense
Variables****Number****Percent****Escape Rate****Present Offense - Other**

Not Applicable	8178	(98)	0.1
Escape	16	(0)	0.0
Weapons Offense	129	(2)	0.0
Disturbing the Peace	2	(0)	0.0
Operating Under the Influence	13	(0)	0.0
Prostitution	1	(0)	0.0
Other	15	(0)	0.0
TOTAL	8354	(100)	0.1

Minimum Sentence

1 Year	9	(0)	0.0
2 Years	94	(1)	0.0
3 Years	451	(5)	0.0
4 Years	428	(5)	0.2
5 Years	651	(8)	0.0
6 Years	492	(6)	0.4
7 Years	393	(5)	0.0
8 Years	403	(4)	0.0
9 Years	229	(3)	0.4
10 Years	339	(4)	0.3
11 to 12 Years	349	(4)	0.0
13 to 15 Years	311	(4)	0.0
16 to 19 Years	185	(2)	0.0
20 Years	42	(1)	0.0
21 or More Years	63	(1)	0.0
Life	1640	(20)	0.1
Indeterminate	2275	(27)	0.2
TOTAL	8354	(100)	0.1

**Present Offense
Variables****Number****Percent****Escape Rate****Maximum Sentence**

Less Than 1 Year	58	(1)	0.0
1 Year	61	(1)	0.0
2 Years	271	(3)	0.4
3 Years	55	(1)	0.0
4 Years	21	(0)	0.0
5 Years	593	(7)	0.3
6 Years	217	(3)	0.0
7 Years	561	(7)	0.0
8 Years	151	(2)	0.7
9 Years	108	(1)	0.0
10 Years	1737	(21)	0.2
11 to 12 Years	522	(6)	0.2
13 to 15 Years	705	(8)	0.1
16 to 19 Years	246	(3)	0.0
20 Years	1067	(13)	0.0
21 or More Years	335	(4)	0.0
Life	1646	(20)	0.1
TOTAL	8354	(100)	0.1

Age at Incarceration

Sixteen	38	(0)	0.0
Seventeen	42	(1)	0.0
Eighteen	333	(4)	0.3
Nineteen	426	(5)	0.5
Twenty	613	(7)	0.3
Twenty-One	598	(7)	0.0
Twenty-Two	469	(6)	0.2
Twenty-Three	544	(7)	0.2
Twenty-Four	416	(5)	0.0
Twenty-Five	509	(6)	0.2
26 to 29	1709	(20)	0.1
30 to 39	1932	(23)	0.1
40 or Older	725	(9)	0.0
TOTAL	8354	(100)	0.1

**Personal Background
Variables**

	Number	Percent	Escape Rate
<u>Race/Ethnicity</u>			
White	5523	(66)	0.1
Black	2449	(29)	0.1
Hispanic	367	(4)	0.0
Other	10	(0)	0.0
Unknown	5	(0)	0.0
TOTAL	8354	(100)	0.1

Marital Status

Married	2181	(26)	0.0
Single	4579	(55)	0.2
Divorced	893	(11)	0.1
Widowed	106	(1)	0.0
Common Law	14	(0)	0.0
Separated	556	(7)	0.0
Unknown	25	(0)	0.0
TOTAL	8354	(100)	0.1

Military Discharge

No Service	5753	(69)	0.2
Honorable	1025	(12)	0.0
Dishonorable	17	(0)	0.0
Bad Conduct	315	(4)	0.0
Medical	38	(1)	0.0
Discharge Unknown	524	(6)	0.0
Unknown	682	(8)	0.0
TOTAL	8354	(100)	0.1

**Personal Background
Variables**
Number Percent Escape Rate
Prior Address - Selected Towns

Boston	2788	(33)	0.0
Brockton	183	(2)	0.0
Cambridge	184	(2)	0.0
Fall River	111	(1)	1.8
Framingham	56	(1)	0.0
Holyoke	96	(1)	0.0
Lawrence	89	(1)	1.1
Lowell	171	(2)	0.6
Lynn	141	(2)	0.0
New Bedford	125	(2)	0.0
Quincy	99	(1)	0.0
Somerville	132	(2)	0.0
Springfield	528	(6)	0.0
Worcester	410	(5)	0.0
Other Mass. Towns	2774	(33)	0.1
Out of State	424	(5)	0.7
Unknown	43	(0)	0.0
TOTAL	8354	(100)	0.1

Prior Address - County

Worcester	809	(10)	0.1
Franklin	55	(1)	0.0
Middlesex	1319	(16)	0.1
Suffolk	2951	(35)	0.0
Norfolk	483	(6)	0.0
Bristol	370	(4)	0.5
Plymouth	370	(4)	0.0
Essex	551	(7)	0.2
Hampshire	25	(0)	0.0
Hampden	730	(9)	0.0
Berkshire	122	(2)	0.8
Barnstable	100	(1)	0.0
Nantucket	2	(0)	0.0
Out of State	424	(5)	0.7
Unknown	43	(0)	0.0
TOTAL	8354	(100)	0.1

**Personal Background
Variables**

Number

Percent

Escape Rate

Prior Address - SMSA

Boston	4783	(57)	0.0
Brockton	233	(3)	0.0
Fall River	121	(1)	1.7
Fitchburg-Leominster	83	(1)	1.2
Lawrence-Haverhill	159	(2)	0.6
Lowell	244	(3)	0.4
New Bedford	142	(2)	0.0
Pittsfield	58	(1)	0.0
Providence-Pawtucket-Warwick	71	(1)	0.0
Springfield	744	(9)	0.0
Worcester	523	(6)	0.0
Other Mass. Places	726	(9)	0.1
Out of State	424	(5)	0.7
Unknown	43	(0)	0.0
TOTAL	8354	(100)	0.1

Time at Most Skilled Position

Less Than One Month	467	(6)	0.2
1-2 Months	504	(6)	0.2
3-4 Months	977	(12)	0.2
5-6 Months	681	(8)	0.3
7-9 Months	408	(5)	0.0
10-12 Months	442	(5)	0.0
1-2 Years	1091	(13)	0.2
2-5 Years	1285	(15)	0.2
More Than 5 Years	857	(10)	0.0
Unknown	1642	(20)	0.0
TOTAL	8354	(100)	0.1

**Personal Background
Variables****Number****Percent****Escape Rate****Occupation**

Professional-Technical	195	(2)	0.5
Business	323	(4)	0.0
Sales, Clerical	550	(7)	0.0
Manual	3838	(46)	0.1
Services	1992	(24)	0.2
Agriculture	13	(0)	0.0
Armed Services	32	(0)	0.0
Not Employed	257	(3)	0.0
Unknown	1154	(14)	0.0
TOTAL	8354	(100)	0.1

Time at Job of Longest Duration

Less Than One Month	443	(5)	0.2
1-2 Months	401	(5)	0.2
3-4 Months	914	(11)	0.2
5-6 Months	720	(9)	0.3
7-9 Months	446	(5)	0.0
10-12 Months	423	(5)	0.0
1-2 Years	1111	(13)	0.2
2-5 Years	1390	(17)	0.1
More Than 5 Years	908	(11)	0.0
Unknown	1598	(19)	0.0
TOTAL	8354	(100)	0.1

**Personal Background
Variables**

	Number	Percent	Escape Rate
<u>Last Grade Completed</u>			
Sixth or Less	426	(5)	0.0
Seventh	393	(5)	0.0
Eighth	686	(8)	0.0
Ninth	1016	(12)	0.3
Tenth	1089	(13)	0.2
Eleventh	965	(12)	0.0
High School Graduate	2561	(31)	0.1
Some College	466	(6)	0.4
College Graduate	212	(2)	0.0
Unknown	540	(6)	0.0
TOTAL	8354	(100)	0.1

Known Drug Use

None	5027	(60)	0.2
Non-Specific	407	(5)	0.2
Heroin	1128	(14)	0.0
Marijuana	565	(7)	0.0
Other	547	(6)	0.2
Unknown	680	(8)	0.0
TOTAL	8354	(100)	0.1

**Criminal History
Variables****Number****Percent****Escape Rate****Total Number of Court Appearances**

First Offense	488	(6)	0.0
Two	654	(8)	0.0
Three	603	(7)	0.0
Four	412	(5)	0.2
Five	437	(5)	0.2
6 to 9	1747	(21)	0.2
10 to 14	1311	(16)	0.1
15 to 20	961	(11)	0.2
More Than 20	1271	(15)	0.2
Unknown	470	(6)	0.0
TOTAL	8354	(100)	0.1

Charges for Person Offenses

None	559	(7)	0.0
One	1354	(16)	0.1
Two	1121	(13)	0.1
Three	974	(12)	0.2
Four	704	(8)	0.1
Five	778	(9)	0.1
6 to 8	1216	(15)	0.1
More Than Eight	1191	(14)	0.2
Unknown	457	(5)	0.0
TOTAL	8354	(100)	0.1

**Criminal History
Variables****Number****Percent****Escape Rate****Charges for Property Offenses**

None	1704	(20)	0.0
One	962	(12)	0.1
Two	569	(7)	0.0
Three	585	(7)	0.5
Four	416	(5)	0.2
Five	405	(5)	0.0
6 to 8	846	(10)	0.1
More Than Eight	2410	(29)	0.2
Unknown	457	(5)	0.0
TOTAL	8354	(100)	0.1

Charges for Sex Offenses

None	6242	(75)	0.1
One	806	(10)	0.1
Two	456	(5)	0.2
Three	154	(2)	0.0
Four	84	(1)	0.0
Five	53	(1)	0.0
6 to 8	69	(1)	0.0
More Than Eight	33	(0)	3.0
Unknown	457	(5)	0.0
TOTAL	8354	(100)	0.1

Indicator of Juvenile Commitment

No	6574	(79)	0.1
Yes	1323	(16)	0.2
Unknown	457	(5)	0.0
TOTAL	8354	(100)	0.1

**Criminal History
Variables**
Number
Percent
Escape Rate
Charges for Drug Offenses

None	4831	(58)	0.1
One	1054	(13)	0.0
Two	661	(8)	0.2
Three	340	(4)	0.3
Four	274	(3)	0.4
Five	142	(2)	0.0
6 to 8	248	(3)	0.0
More Than Eight	347	(4)	0.0
Unknown	457	(5)	0.0
TOTAL	8354	(100)	0.1

Charges for Drunkenness Offenses

None	5856	(70)	0.1
One	1000	(12)	0.1
Two	400	(5)	0.0
Three	233	(3)	0.0
Four	97	(1)	0.0
Five	84	(1)	1.2
6 to 8	132	(2)	0.0
More Than Eight	95	(1)	0.0
Unknown	457	(5)	0.0
TOTAL	8354	(100)	0.1

Charges for Escape Offenses

None	7371	(88)	0.1
One	363	(4)	0.8
Two	74	(1)	0.0
Three	50	(1)	0.0
Four or More	39	(1)	0.0
Unknown	457	(5)	0.0
TOTAL	8354	(100)	0.1

**Criminal History
Variables****Number****Percent****Escape Rate****Prior County Incarcerations**

None	5116	(61)	0.1
One	1385	(17)	0.1
Two	691	(8)	0.3
Three	324	(4)	0.3
Four	234	(3)	0.0
Five	93	(1)	1.1
Six or More	54	(1)	0.0
Unknown	457	(5)	0.0
TOTAL	8354	(100)	0.1

Prior State or Federal Incarcerations

None	6149	(74)	0.1
One	1139	(14)	0.3
Two	322	(4)	0.0
Three	132	(2)	0.0
Four	79	(1)	0.0
Five	47	(0)	0.0
Six or More	29	(0)	0.0
Unknown	457	(5)	0.0
TOTAL	8354	(100)	0.1

Number of Juvenile Paroles

None	7098	(85)	0.1
One	371	(4)	0.0
Two	140	(2)	0.7
Three	176	(2)	1.1
More Than Three	112	(1)	0.0
Unknown	457	(5)	0.0
TOTAL	8354	(100)	0.1

**Criminal History
Variables****Number****Percent****Escape Rate****Total Prior Adult Incarcerations**

None	4327	(52)	0.1
One	1553	(19)	0.1
Two	860	(10)	0.2
Three	433	(5)	0.0
Four	281	(3)	0.4
Five	211	(3)	0.0
Six or More	232	(3)	0.4
Unknown	457	(5)	0.0
TOTAL	8354	(100)	0.1

Juvenile Parole Violations

Never Paroled	7098	(85)	0.1
None	359	(4)	0.0
One	213	(3)	0.9
Two	103	(1)	1.0
Three or More	124	(2)	0.0
Unknown	457	(5)	0.0
TOTAL	8354	(1000)	0.1

Number of Adult Paroles

None	6438	(77)	0.1
One	924	(11)	0.0
Two	277	(3)	0.4
Three	173	(2)	0.0
More Than Three	85	(1)	0.0
Unknown	457	(5)	0.0
TOTAL	8354	(100)	0.1

Criminal History Variables	Number	Percent	Escape Rate
<u>Adult Parole Violations</u>			
Never Paroled	6438	(77)	0.1
None	455	(6)	0.0
One	749	(9)	0.0
Two	140	(2)	0.7
Three or More	115	(1)	0.0
Unknown	457	(5)	0.0
TOTAL	8354	(100)	0.1
<u>Total Number of Paroles</u>			
None	6044	(72)	0.1
One	853	(10)	0.0
Two	434	(5)	0.2
Three	249	(3)	0.4
More Than Three	317	(4)	0.3
Unknown	457	(5)	0.0
TOTAL	8354	(100)	0.1
<u>Total Number of Parole Violations</u>			
Never Paroled	6044	(72)	0.1
None	587	(7)	0.0
One	787	(9)	0.3
Two	190	(2)	0.0
Three	130	(2)	0.0
More Than Three	159	(2)	0.6
Unknown	457	(5)	0.0
TOTAL	8354	(100)	0.1

Criminal History Variables	Number	Percent	Escape Rate
<u>Age at First Arrest</u>			
Twelve or younger	752	(9)	0.1
Thirteen	445	(5)	0.2
Fourteen	653	(8)	0.0
Fifteen	849	(10)	0.1
Sixteen	696	(8)	0.3
Seventeen	1166	(14)	0.3
Eighteen	824	(10)	0.1
Nineteen	509	(6)	0.0
Twenty	355	(4)	0.0
Twenty-one	260	(3)	0.0
Twenty-two	199	(2)	0.0
Twenty-three	154	(2)	0.0
Twenty-four	147	(2)	0.0
Twenty-five	131	(2)	0.0
26 to 29	264	(3)	0.0
30 to 39	350	(4)	0.0
40 or Older	97	(1)	0.0
Unknown	503	(6)	0.0
TOTAL	8354	(100)	0.1

**Criminal History
Variables****Number****Percent****Escape Rate****Age at First Drunk Arrest**

Not Applicable	6284	(75)	0.1
8 to 14	51	(1)	0.0
15 to 17	451	(5)	0.2
18 to 19	550	(7)	0.2
20 to 21	364	(4)	0.0
22 to 24	314	(4)	0.0
25 to 29	188	(2)	0.0
30 to 39	117	(1)	0.0
40 or Older	22	(0)	0.0
Unknown	13	(0)	0.0
TOTAL	8354	(100)	0.1

Age at First Drug Arrest

Not Applicable	5311	(64)	0.1
8 to 14	58	(1)	0.0
15 to 17	602	(7)	0.3
18 to 19	847	(10)	0.1
20 to 21	466	(6)	0.0
22 to 24	469	(6)	0.0
25 to 29	366	(4)	0.0
30 to 39	183	(2)	0.0
40 or Older	40	(0)	0.0
Unknown	12	(0)	0.0
TOTAL	8354	(100)	0.1