



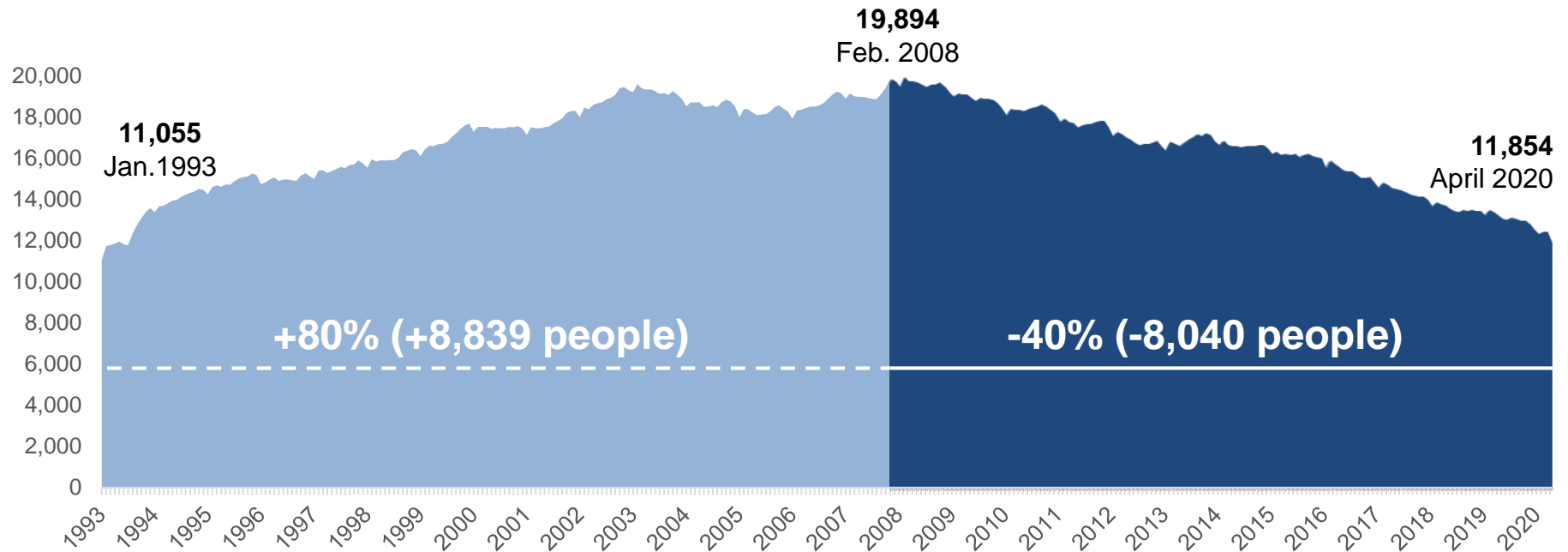
## **Initial Analysis of Connecticut's Correction Population Changes in March and April 2020**

**Connecticut Sentencing Commission Meeting  
April 17, 2020**

**Marc Pelka, *Undersecretary***  
**Kyle Baudoin, *Lead Planning Analyst***  
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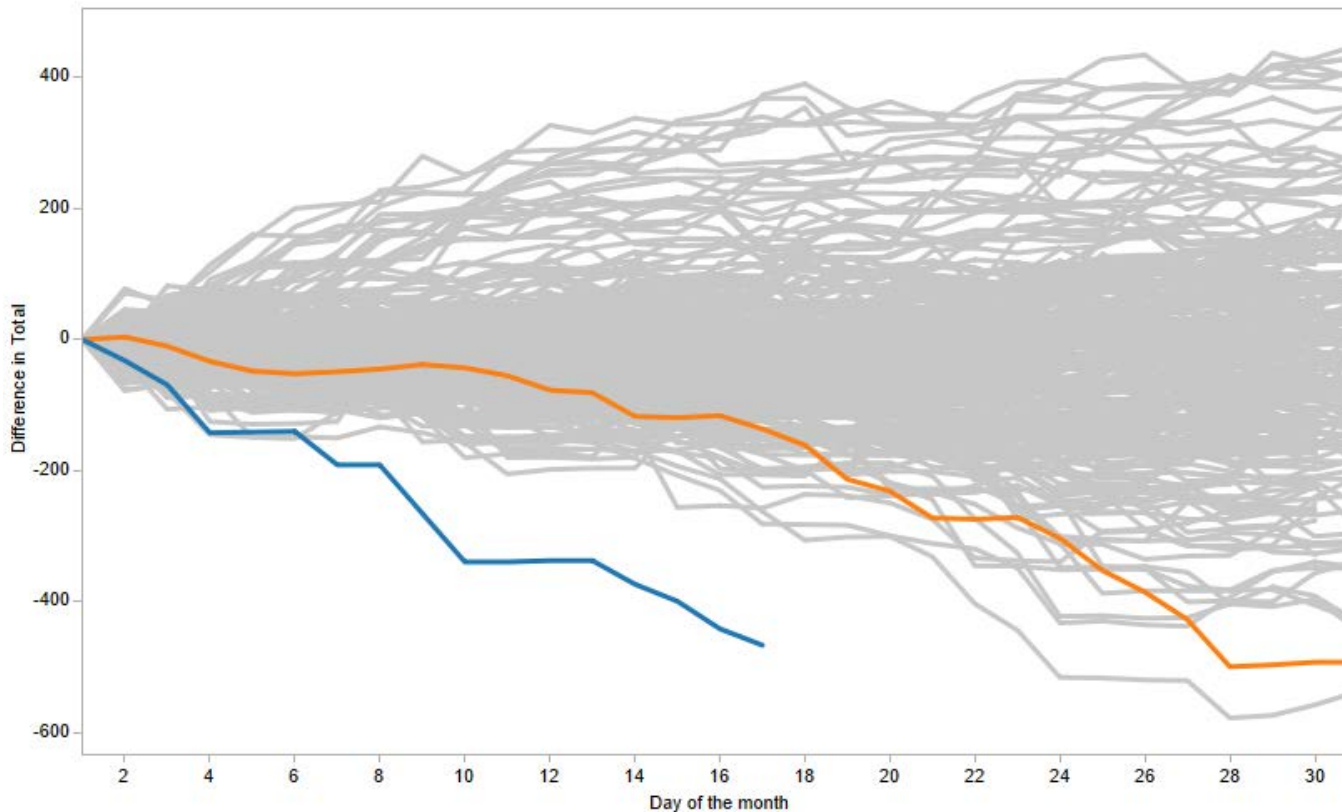
# Connecticut's correction population has dropped 40 percent since its 2008 peak.

Connecticut's correction population, January 1, 1993 to April 2020



# In March 2020, the correction population decreased by the largest monthly percent on record and, under current trends, April is on pace to eclipse March.

Daily percent change of correction population from start of the month, every month since 1988



March 2020's percent decrease in the correction population from the start of the month exceeds all previous periods since 1988.

April 2020's trend is on track for a larger decrease, both in percent and absolute terms

# Between March 1 and April 17, the correction population dropped by 1,022 people, with roughly equal percent reductions in people held pretrial or sentenced.

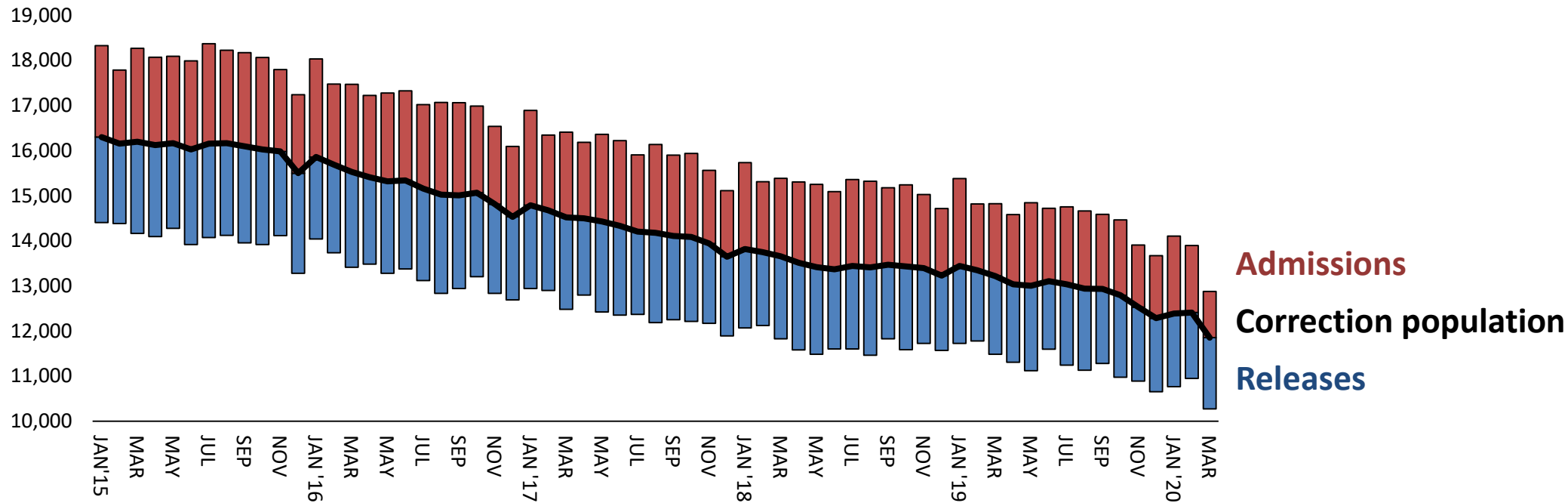
Connecticut correction population, March 1 to April 16, 2020

Correction population groups	March 1	April 17	% Change	Net Change
<b>Sentenced</b>	9,036	8,295	-8%	-741
<b>Pretrial</b>	3,049	2,822	-7%	-227
<b>Other</b>	324	270	-17%	-54
<b>Total</b>	12,409	11,387	-8%	-1,022

Source: DOC population data provided to OPM CJPPD and Open Data Portal. "Sentenced" category includes people serving a term of incarceration imposed by a Connecticut criminal court. "Pretrial" includes defendant held on bond, awaiting disposition of pending charges. "Other" includes special parole remandees and inmates incarcerated at CT DOC from other jurisdictions.

# In March, Connecticut's correction population dropped rapidly because admissions decreased *and* releases increased during the month.

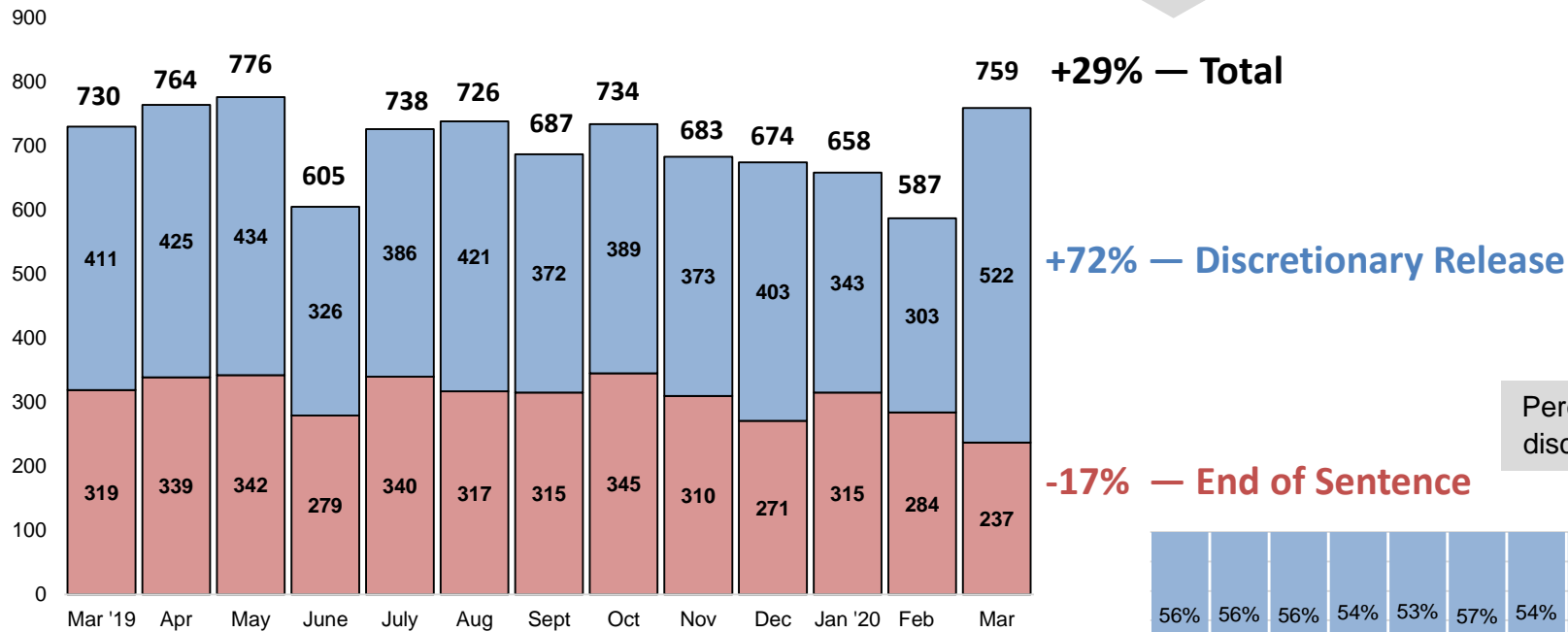
Connecticut correction admissions and releases, January 2015 to March 2020



Source: DOC population data provided to OPM CJPPD.

# Between February and March 2020, discretionary releases of people sentenced to DOC climbed 72 percent while end-of-sentence releases fell 17 percent.

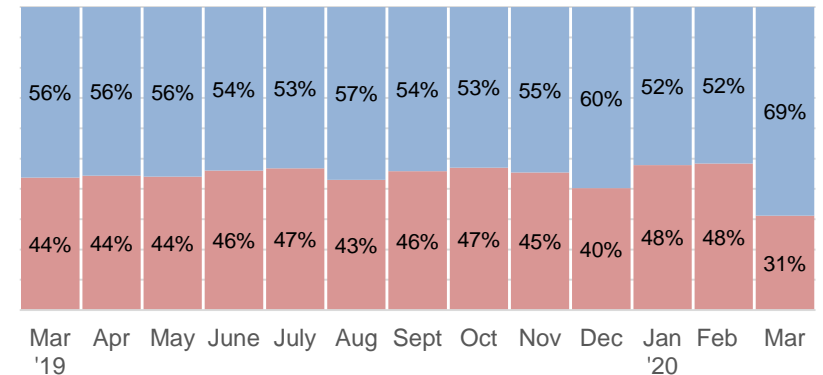
Number of people transitioning from DOC sentenced population by discretionary release vs. end-of-sentence release, March 2019 to March 2020



Percent Diff., Feb and March 2020

**+29% — Total**  
**+72% — Discretionary Release**  
**-17% — End of Sentence**

Percent of sentenced releases, by discretionary and end of sentence



This increase in discretionary releases had the secondary benefit of reducing the number of people released from correctional facilities with no community supervision. (The DOC is legally required to release an inmate in its custody at the conclusion of their court-stipulated sentence.)

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# Criminal Justice

## Policy & Planning Division



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