

# OPM - Criminal Justice Policy & Planning Division

## Monthly Indicators Report

### Highlights

- 15,691 people were incarcerated in Connecticut prisons and jails on March 1, 2016. A year ago, 16,158 people were incarcerated.
- On a March-to-March basis, the number of offenders supervised by CT DOC in the community has increased by 10% over the last year (see table 2). Centralizing re-entry processes above the facility level appears to have squeezed some long-standing inefficiency out of the system. There are certainly other operational areas where more coordination and accountability might lead to similar improvements.
- In January 2016, the prison population jumped by 360 prisoners. During February, the system count dropped by 189 prisoners, just over half the January gain.
- The CT DOC consolidated the administration of two state prison facilities this month. Northern CI, the state's only level-5 facility, will now be overseen by the Warden of Osborn CI, an adjacent prison facility.
- Given a dire fiscal outlook, state agencies are being asked to craft plans and contingencies to address significant budget reductions. At this point, it is unclear how different criminal justice agencies will respond and how deep the cuts will be. While crises may provide opportunities to change and improve, agencies should use caution as they proceed. The data reveals that the criminal justice system is operating better than it did as little as several years ago. We hope to coordinate decisions among criminal justice agencies to avoid unintended consequences.

### Prison Population Forecast

The prison population declined last month as OPM anticipated in its February forecast. OPM projections attempt to estimate how the prison population will trend if the combined forces that impact the criminal justice system continue exerting themselves at current levels.

Given the fiscal situation, it appears clear that criminal justice agencies will be adjusting the scope and thrust of their operations in short order. At the CT DOC, the necessity to insure proper custody and control is critical. So too is the need to reduce the state's prison population.

In recent years, we have watched the prison population decline dramatically and prisons have closed. These developments did not happen by accident. It involved planning, work and coordination between agencies to develop policies, and staff programs, that oversaw the measured and steady decline in the size of the prison population we've witnessed in recent years.

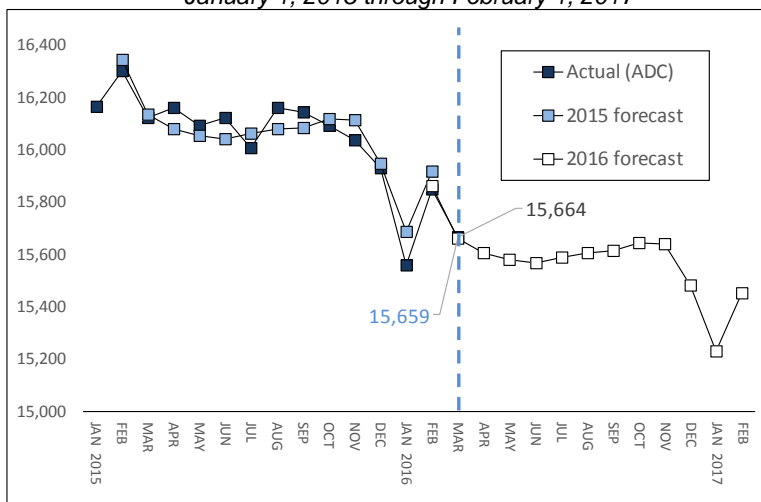
Anyone involved in state government understands there are inefficiencies throughout the system, and their elimination would be beneficial. The risk does not come from the elimination of inefficiency and redundancy, it comes from eliminating programs and initiatives that quietly provide immense value. Reducing staff in these areas could reverse recent gains and increase prisoner rolls.

**TABLE 1 – Prison Population Forecast**

	Avg. Daily Count	OPM 2016 Forecast	Inmate difference
JAN '16	15,556	-	-
FEB	15,852	15,860	8
MAR	15,664	15,659	-5
APR	-	15,604	-
MAY	-	15,579	-
JUN	-	15,567	-
JUL	-	15,588	-
AUG	-	15,605	-
SEP	-	15,613	-
OCT	-	15,644	-
NOV	-	15,639	-
DEC	-	15,480	-
JAN '17	-	15,227	-
FEB	-	15,451	-

*Avg. Daily Count (ADC) for 1st week of month*

**Chart 1 – Actual prison population against the OPM forecasts**  
January 1, 2015 through February 1, 2017



## Chart 2 - Criminal justice, monthly counts and flows

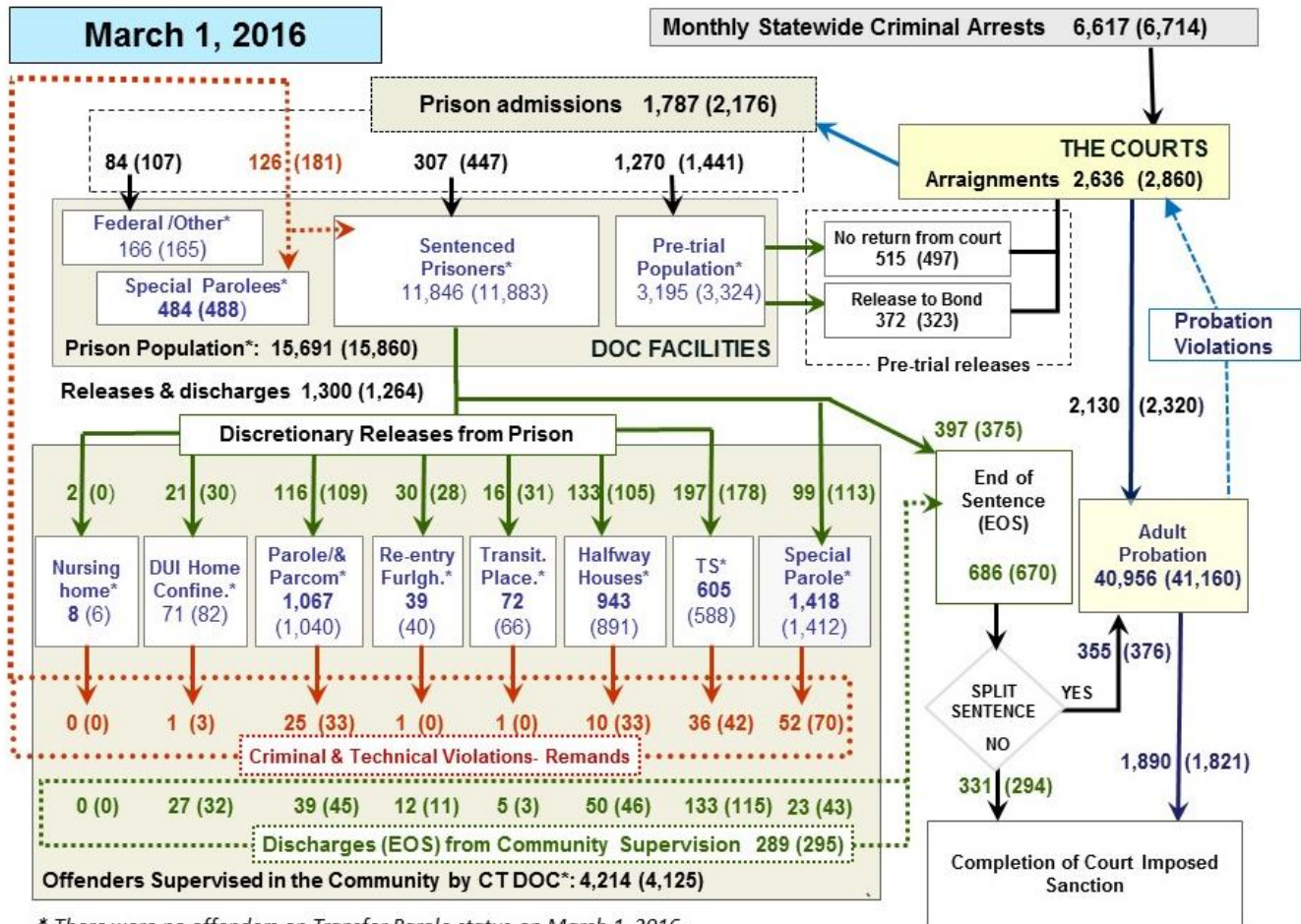
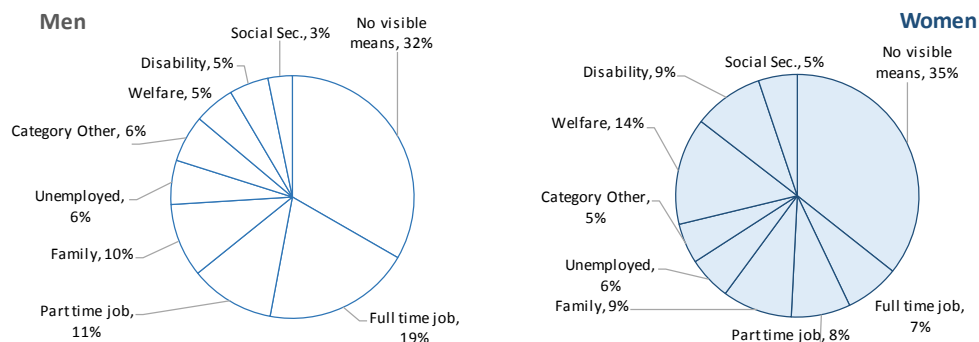


Chart 2 contains monthly operations data for February 2016 and daily counts reported on March 1, 2016. Asterisks (\*) indicate the daily count on March 1<sup>st</sup>. Last month's figures are enclosed by parentheses. Sources: Arrests - OBTS, Court and probation data - CSSD, all other data - CT DOC.

## Chart 2a – Means of support, pre-trial prisoners, 2011



As part of an on-study study of the state's pre-trial prison population, OPM obtained data from the DOC on 15,898 people who were admitted to prison on pre-trial status during 2011.

Court Support Services Division (CSSD), in the Judicial Branch, agreed to try to match this data with a variety of information collected by their Jail Re-interview Program (JRIP). Each month, JRIP staff interview almost every pre-trial detainee in an attempt to ease the jail population through bail

modifications or appropriate programming. CSSD was able to match JRIP data with 13,059 persons in our 2011 pre-trial cohort. The data in chart 2a contains information on major means-of-support for 97% of the men and women in the sample. Among men, 32% reported no visible means of support. Among women the figure was 35%. Only 19% of men had a full-time job. For women the figure was 7%. This information may help to explain why many pre-trial prisoners remain incarcerated with - what on the face of it - appear to be very low bonds.

**Table 2 – The first-of-month totals**

	2016			2015	% Change	
	Jan. 1	Feb. 1	Mar. 1	Mar. 1	Monthly	Annual
<b>DOC Facilities</b>						
Federal/Other	138	165	166	140	0.6%	18.6%
Sentenced	11,601	11,883	11,846	12,267	-0.3%	-3.4%
Special Parole	521	488	484	546	-0.8%	-11.4%
Pre-trial	3,240	3,324	3,195	3,205	-3.9%	-0.3%
<b>Total</b>	<b>15,500</b>	<b>15,860</b>	<b>15,691</b>	<b>16,158</b>	<b>-1.1%</b>	<b>-2.9%</b>
<b>DOC Community</b>						
Transfer Parole	0	0	0	0	-	-
Parole/ Parcom Total	1,005	1,040	1,067	937	2.6%	13.9%
Parole	828	863	888	769	2.9%	15.5%
Parcom @ CT	177	177	179	168	1.1%	6.5%
Furlough	38	40	39	20	-	-
Trans Placement	46	66	72	60	9.1%	20.0%
DUI/Home confine.	91	82	71	76	-13.4%	-6.6%
Halfway House Total	974	891	934	941	4.8%	-0.7%
Comm Release	526	465	478	647	2.8%	-26.1%
TS	46	45	41	21	-8.9%	95.2%
Parole	158	132	151	73	14.4%	106.8%
Transfer Parole	0	0	0	0	-	-
Special Parole	244	249	264	200	6.0%	32.0%
TS	569	588	605	538	2.9%	12.5%
Nursing home	8	6	8	5	-	-
Special Parole	1,405	1,412	1,418	1,228	0.4%	15.5%
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,136</b>	<b>4,125</b>	<b>4,214</b>	<b>3,805</b>	<b>2.2%</b>	<b>10.7%</b>

**Table 3 – Admissions, releases & discharges\***

	2016			2015	% Change	
	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Feb.	Monthly	Annual
<b>Admissions</b>						
Federal/Other	70	107	84	90	-21.5%	-6.7%
Remands	144	181	126	142	-30.4%	-11.3%
DUI	3	3	1	1	-	-
Parole	31	33	25	23	-24.2%	8.7%
Trans Plac/Furlough	0	0	2	2	-	-
HWH	26	33	10	23	-69.7%	-56.5%
TS	38	42	36	34	-14.3%	5.9%
Special Parole	46	70	52	59	-25.7%	-11.9%
New Sentence	167	447	307	396	-31.3%	-22.5%
VOP	59	127	81	80	-36.2%	1.3%
Pre-trial	1358	1441	1270	1101	-11.9%	15.3%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,739</b>	<b>2,176</b>	<b>1,787</b>	<b>1,729</b>	<b>-17.9%</b>	<b>3.4%</b>
<b>Releases and discharges</b>						
Transfer Parole	0	0	0	0	-	-
Parole	124	109	116	86	6.4%	34.9%
Furlough	35	28	30	14	7.1%	114.3%
Trans. Placement	18	31	16	13	-48.4%	23.1%
Home Confinement DUI	36	30	21	16	-30.0%	31.3%
HWH	155	105	133	127	26.7%	4.7%
TS	237	178	197	146	10.7%	34.9%
Special Parole	131	113	99	92	-12.4%	7.6%
Nursing home	0	0	2	1	-	-
End of Sentence	840	670	686	698	2.4%	-1.7%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,576</b>	<b>1,264</b>	<b>1,300</b>	<b>1,193</b>	<b>2.8%</b>	<b>9.0%</b>
<b>Pre-trial Releases*</b>						
From Court	587	497	515	441	3.6%	16.8%
Release to Bond	439	323	372	369	15.2%	0.8%

\* Totals reflect events, not individual offenders

**Table 3a – Community Release Unit metrics**

	Cases				Approval
	Reviewed	Approved	Denied	Continued	Rate
Dec	953	455	152	152	48%
Jan.	743	344	123	126	46%
Feb.	917	448	130	137	49%

## Board of Pardons and Paroles

**Table 4 – Parole hearings, new cases**

	Paroles		Grant rate	Paroles	Paroles
	Hearings	granted, 2015		granted, 1 year ago	granted, 2 years ago
Dec.	187	122	65%	107	117
Jan. '16	164	102	62%	81	96
Feb.	183	108	59%	103	121

**Table 4a – Other Board actions**

	Reparole from revocation	Reparole from rescission	Closed interest cases	Special parole cases
Dec.	55	1	33	32
Jan.	37	5	41	45
Feb.	41	6	13	41

## The pre-trial population

**Table 5 – Bond ranges for pre-trial detainees**

Bond amount	Jan. 1, 2016	Feb. 1, 2016	Mar. 1, 2016	Mar. 1, 2015
Less than \$20K	557	560	519	560
\$20K to <\$50K	581	561	556	508
\$50K to <\$100K	719	718	688	678
\$100K or higher	1,501	1,502	1,495	1,495
<b>Offenders w/bonds</b>	<b>3,358</b>	<b>3,341</b>	<b>3,258</b>	<b>3,241</b>
Over \$1M	177	167	165	181

**Table 5a – Pre-trial, weeks since admission**

Weeks since last DOC admit	Jan. 1, 2016	Feb. 1, 2016	Mar. 1, 2016	Mar. 1, 2015
< 1 week	356	545	386	422
1 to < 3 weeks	408	389	343	297
3 to < 10 weeks	890	773	903	709
10 to < 30 weeks	1,160	937	911	1,037
30 wks or more	776	700	718	781
Pre-trial prisoners	3,590	3,344	3,261	3,246

**Table 5b – Pre-trial admits, new offenders**

	Nov. 2015	Dec. 2015	Jan. 2016	Feb. 2016
Arraignments	2,780	2,901	2,860	2,636
Pre-trial Admits	1,358	1,358	1,441	1,270
New to DOC	367	402	355	342
% New	27%	30%	25%	27%

## Court Support Services Division

**Table 6 – The Jail Re-interview Program**

	Pre-trial admissions	Offender interviews	Offenders released	Releases last year
Dec.	1,358	1,651	883	877
Jan. '16	1,441	1,656	872	888
Feb.	1,270	1,554	776	754

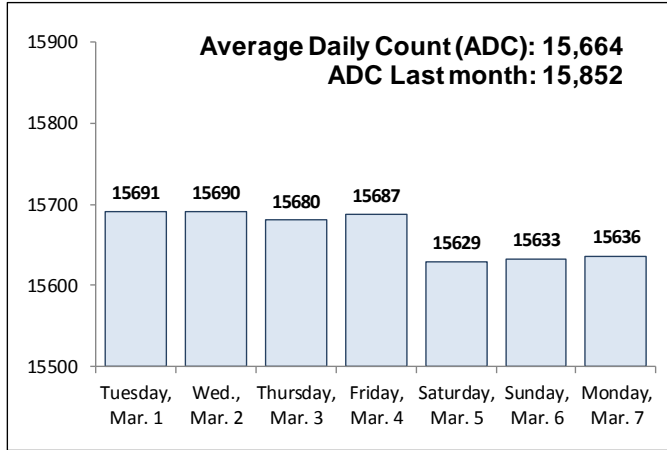
**Table 6a – Pre-Trial & split-sentence starts**

	Pre-trial Bail Case Starts	Client Supv. Starts	Split Sentence Starts
Dec.	2,290	2,305	403
Jan. '15	2,403	2,320	376
Feb.	2,162	2,130	355

Note: Figures published here are based on operational data available at publication. Data in subsequent issues may not agree.

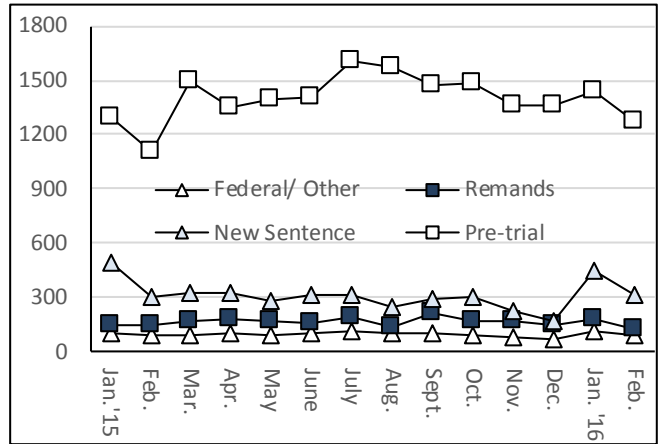
**Chart 3 – Prison population**

First week of the month, and ADC



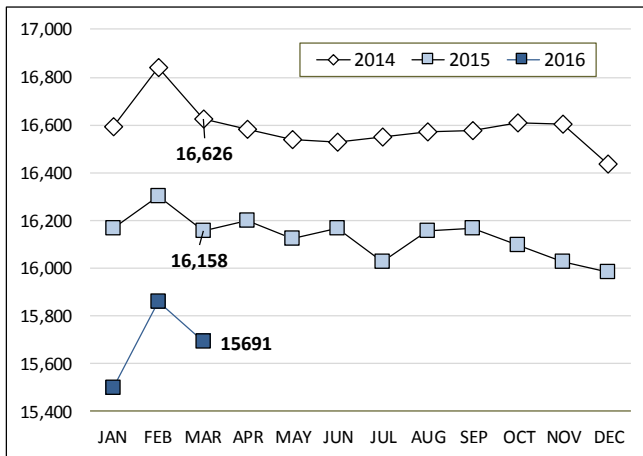
**Chart 6 – Monthly DOC Admissions**

January 2015 through February 2016



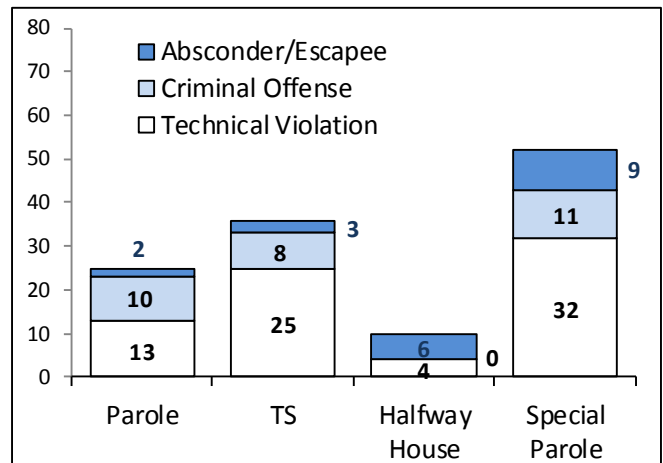
**Chart 4 – Prison population, first-of-month**

2014, 2015 and 2016



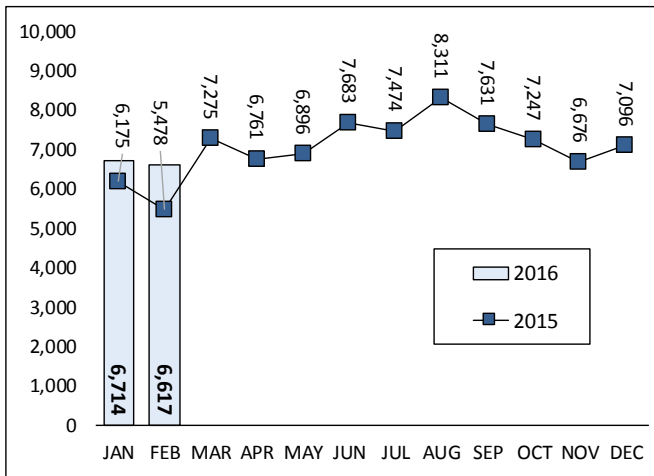
**Chart 7– Remands from community release**

February 2016



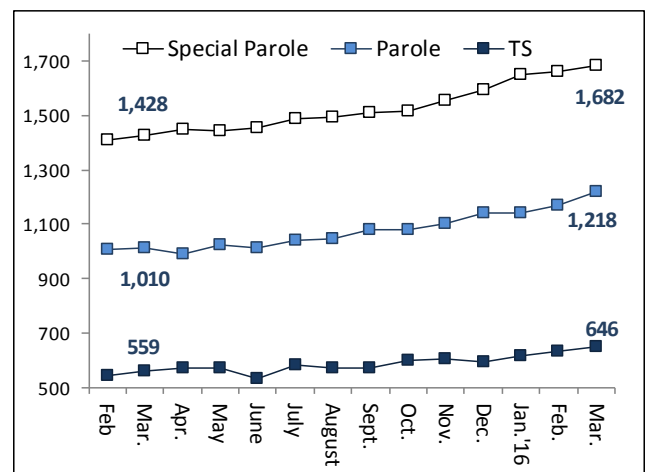
**Chart 5 – Statewide criminal arrests**

2015 and 2016



**Chart 8 – DOC community supervision**

February 1, 2015 through March 1, 2016



Note: Data for all charts, with the exception of Chart 5, was supplied by CT DOC. Data for Chart 5 are for new case starts in the state Offender-Based Tracking System (OBTS). Chart 8 includes offenders in halfway houses.