

OPM - Criminal Justice Policy & Planning Division Monthly Indicators Report

Highlights

- On April 1, 2018 - 13,656 people were incarcerated in Connecticut's prisons and jails, down 6% from 2017, 12% from 2016 and 31% from 2008.
- OPM recently published a new study on the mortality rates of former prisoners. Among the findings, ex-prisoners die at significantly higher rates than their counterparts in the general population of homicides, suicides and drug overdoses. The report is available on-line at the OPM website.
- The Connecticut Juvenile Training School (CJTS), the state's only high security prison for young men and boys is empty. Gov. Malloy ordered the facility closed last year and the last inmate left on April 12, 2018. OPM produced a fact sheet on trends in juvenile incarceration. It is available on the OPM website.
- The DOC assigns a unique inmate number to every new person who is admitted. For several years, OPM has tracked the assignment of these numbers as a rough measure of new people entering the prison system. In the early 1990s, for example, it took a little more than 2 years to assign 25,000 new numbers. As of March, it had taken the DOC 4.4 years to assign the last 25,000 inmate numbers (see chart 2a).
- Over the last year, the number of pre-trial prisoners who have been held at a DOC facility for more than 30 weeks increased from 746 to 918, a 23% increase (see chart 5a). During the same period, the number of offenders held in prison on bonds over \$1 million increased by 28%, from 150 to 192.

Prison Population Forecast

Typically, we observe a rise in the prison population from early January through mid-February. This early-year rise is generally followed by a gradual decline. In recent years, the population on April 1st has settled in very closely with the level on January 1st. This February, OPM predicted that the prison population would fall by about 94 inmates during the month of March. It fell by 101, erasing all that had remained of the early year population swell.

For the better part of two years, this paper has documented how historical, prison-population data is becoming less reliable as a predictor of system performance.

OPM's forecast for 2018 projects that the prison population move in a manner that is more aligned with last two or three years of system performance than at any time before. The cumulative impact of incremental changes within the system, that normally have not merited attention, are coming to the fore. As an example, the steady contraction of the sentenced prison population has significantly increased the proportion of inmates who are incarcerated on pre-trial status. The conditions that govern admissions and releases of pre-trial prisoners is something that the CT DOC has little control over. As the pre-trial population grows, managing it will become or important to overall operations.

TABLE 1 – Prison Population Forecast

	Avg. Daily Count	OPM 2018 Forecast	Inmate difference
JAN '18	13,688	-	-
FEB	13,819	13,819	-
MAR	13,753	13,701	-52
APR	13,652	13,607	-45
MAY	-	13,550	-
JUN	-	13,465	-
JUL	-	13,433	-
AUG	-	13,320	-
SEP	-	13,265	-
OCT	-	13,259	-
NOV	-	13,230	-
DEC	-	13,103	-
JAN '19	-	12,901	-
FEB	-	13,093	-

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

Chart 1 – Actual prison population against the OPM forecasts
January 1, 2017 through February 1, 2019

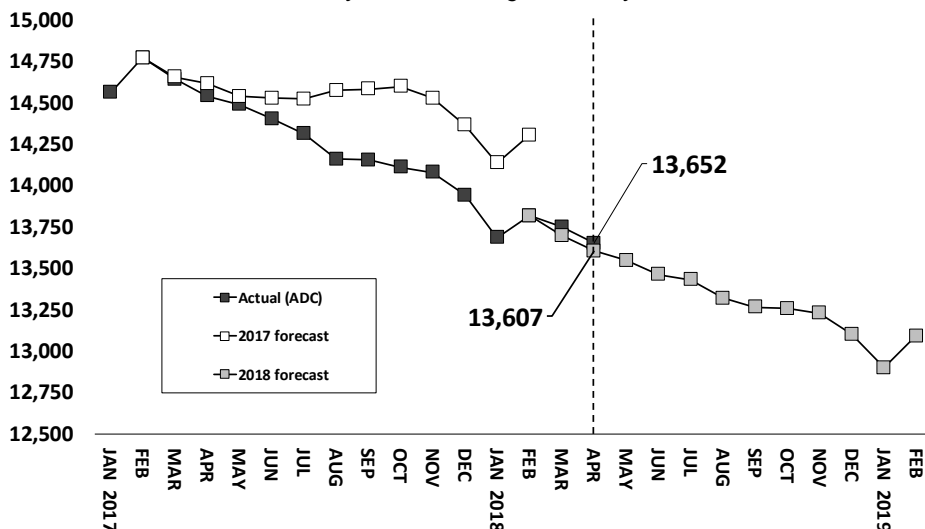


Chart 2 - Criminal justice, monthly counts and flows

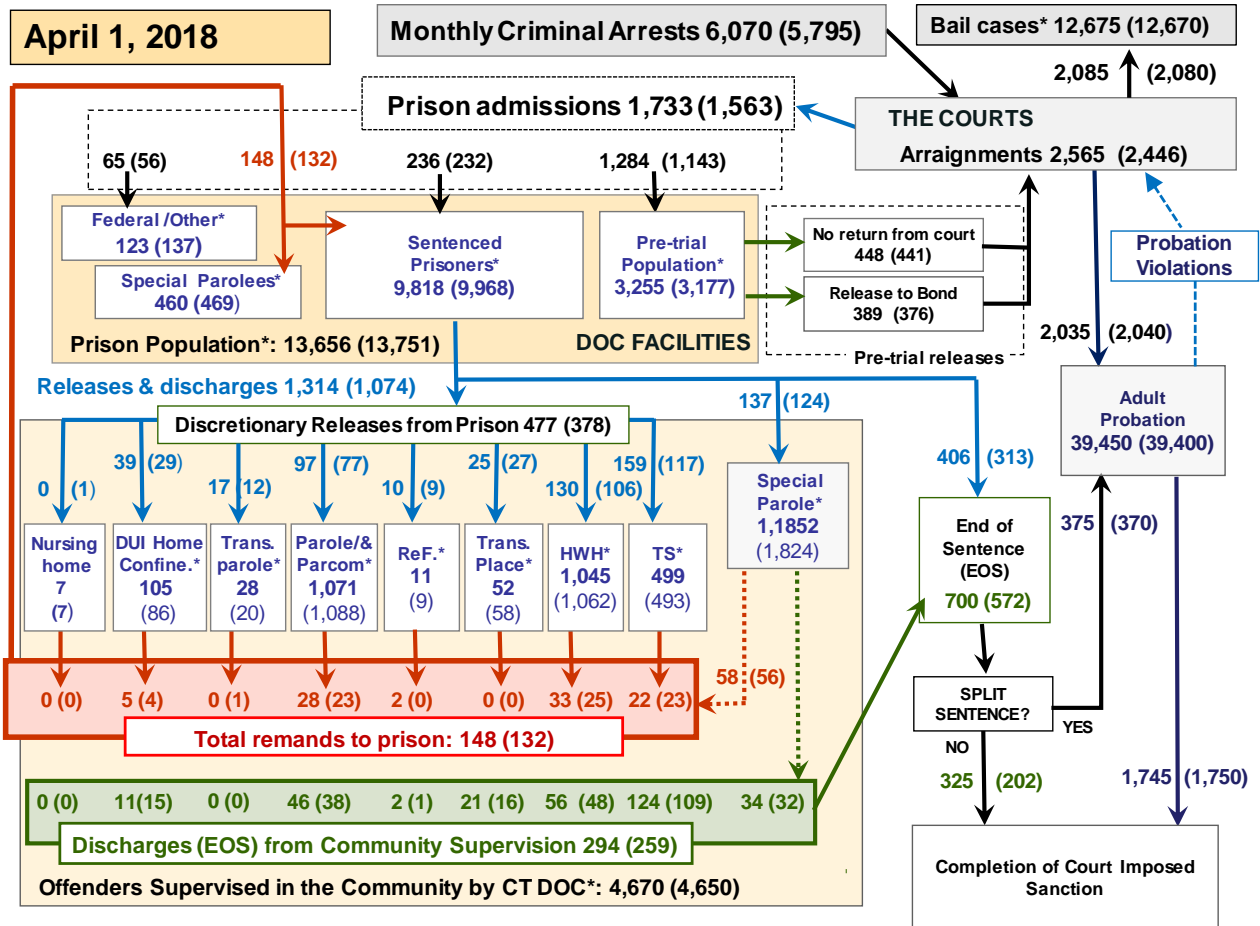
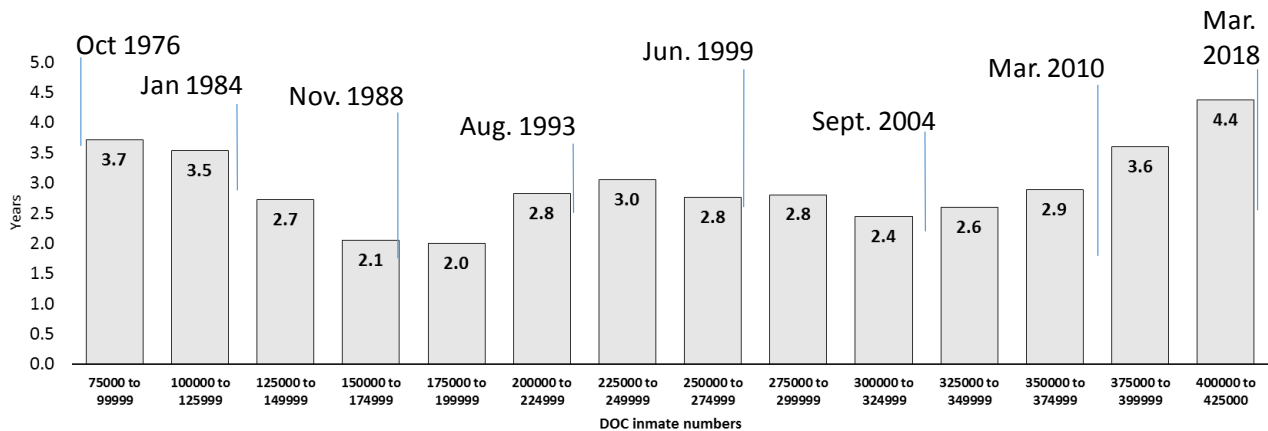


Chart 2 contains monthly operations data for March 2018 and daily counts reported on April 1, 2018. Asterisks (*) indicate the daily count on April 1st. Figures for last month are enclosed by parentheses. Sources: Arrests - OBTS, Court and probation data - CSSD, all other data - CT DOC. Note: Judicial Branch data this month is estimated.

Chart 2a – Assignment of DOC inmate numbers since 1976



In March 2018, an offender admitted to the DOC was assigned inmate #425000. DOC inmate numbers are assigned incrementally and as new people are admitted and, as such, they serve as a measure of new business entering the system.

Until recently, the department had been adding new numbers at a relatively steady pace. A significant break happens after the 350,000th number was added in April of 2007. The time to add 25,000 inmate numbers swelled from about two-and-a-half years to four-and-a-half years. To put it another way, in late 1980s and early 1990s about 34 new offenders were admitted to the DOC daily, over the past four years that rate has halved to 16 per day.

In the chart above, the bars represent the number of years that it took to assign 25,000 new DOC inmate numbers.

Table 2 - First-of-month totals

	2018	2018	2018	2017	% Change	
	Feb. 1	Mar. 1	Apr. 1	Apr. 1	Monthly	Annual
DOC Facilities						
Federal/Other	134	137	123	111	-10.2%	10.8%
Sentenced	9,970	9,968	9,818	10,798	-1.5%	-9.1%
Special Parole	470	469	460	474	-1.9%	-3.0%
Pre-trial	3,243	3,177	3,255	3,140	2.5%	3.7%
Total	13,817	13,751	13,656	14,523	-0.7%	-6.0%
DOC Community						
Transfer Parole	30	20	28	7	-	-
Parole/ Parcom Total	1,036	1,088	972	1,139	-100.0%	-100.0%
Parole	876	927	904	972	-2.5%	-7.0%
Parcom @ CT	160	161	167	167	3.7%	0.0%
Furlough	42	9	11	39	22.2%	-71.8%
Trans Placement	56	58	52	58	-10.3%	-10.3%
DUI/Home confine.	79	86	105	121	22.1%	-13.2%
Halfway House Total	1,064	1,062	1,045	954	-1.6%	9.5%
Comm Release	538	527	517	491	-1.9%	5.3%
TS	60	54	42	46	-22.2%	-8.7%
Parole	159	151	154	126	2.0%	22.2%
Transfer Parole	1	1	2	0	-	-
Special Parole	306	329	330	291	0.3%	13.4%
TS	524	493	499	590	1.2%	-15.4%
Nursing home	6	7	7	8	-	-
Special Parole	1,837	1,824	1,852	1,687	1.5%	9.8%
Total	4,674	4,650	4,670	4,603	0.4%	1.5%

Table 2a - Admissions, releases & discharges

	2017	2018	2018	2017	% Change	
	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Mar.	Monthly	Annual
Admissions						
Federal/Other	59	56	65	86	16.1%	-24.4%
Remands	131	132	148	132	12.1%	12.1%
DUI	4	5	5	5	-	-
Parole	27	23	28	27	21.7%	3.7%
Trans Plac/Furlough	1	0	2	1	-	-
HWH	33	25	33	22	32.0%	50.0%
TS	19	23	22	29	-4.3%	-24.1%
Special Parole	47	56	58	48	3.6%	20.8%
New Sentence	355	232	236	287	1.7%	-17.8%
VOP	91	76	72	82	-5.3%	-12.2%
Pre-trial	1,372	1,143	1,284	1,381	12.3%	-7.0%
Total	1,917	1,563	1,733	1,886	10.9%	-8.1%
Releases and discharges						
Transfer Parole	3	12	17	1	-	-
Parole	85	77	97	102	26.0%	-4.9%
Furlough	8	9	10	38	11.1%	-73.7%
Trans. Placement	25	27	25	20	-7.4%	25.0%
Home Confinement DU	23	29	39	47	34.5%	-17.0%
HWH	149	106	130	139	22.6%	-6.5%
TS	157	117	159	201	35.9%	-20.9%
Special Parole	143	124	137	136	10.5%	0.7%
Nursing home	0	1	0	1	-	-
End of Sentence	613	572	700	748	22.4%	-6.4%
Total	1,206	1,074	1,314	1,433	22.3%	-8.3%
Pre-trial Releases*						
From Court	464	441	448	555	1.6%	-19.3%
Release to Bond	341	376	389	397	3.5%	-2.0%

* Totals reflect events, not individual offenders

DOC - Community Release Unit (CRU)

Table 3 - Case reviews and release metrics

	Cases				Approval
	Reviewed	Approved	Denied	Continued	Rate
Jan. '18	684	324	117	92	47%
Feb.	634	304	114	78	48%
March	713	344	101	107	48%
March '17	826	408	126	116	49%

Board of Pardons and Paroles

Table 4 - Parole hearings, new cases

	Parole Hearings	Paroles granted	Grant rate	Paroles granted, 2017	Paroles granted, 2016
Jan. '18	158	87	55%	77	102
Feb.	139	77	55%	100	75
Mar.	166	91	55%	95	93

Table 4a - Other BOPP actions

	Reparole from revocation	Reparole from rescission	Closed interest cases	Special parole cases	Transfer parole cases
Jan. '18	48	6	18	32	27
Feb.	41	3	13	24	11
Mar.	43	4	26	34	11
Mar. '17	34	4	34	44	15

The pre-trial population

Table 5 - Bond ranges for pre-trial detainees

Bond amount	Feb. 1, 2018	Mar. 1, 2018	Apr. 1, 2018	Apr. 1, 2017
Less than \$20K	507	507	468	532
\$20K to < \$50K	452	467	475	524
\$50K to < \$100K	680	678	705	730
\$100K or higher	1,678	1,676	1,699	1,424
Persons w/bonds	3,317	3,322	3,347	3,210
Over \$1M	187	188	192	150

Table 5a - Pre-trial, weeks since admission

Weeks since last DOC admit	Feb. 1, 2018	Mar. 1, 2017	Apr. 1, 2018	Apr. 1, 2017
< 1 week	423	416	448	428
1 to < 3 weeks	357	274	313	332
3 to < 10 weeks	956	1,021	988	1,085
10 to < 30 weeks	720	742	680	625
30 wks or more	864	870	918	746
Pre-trial prisoners	3,320	3,323	3,347	3,216

Table 5b - Pre-trial admits, new offenders

	Jan. 2018	Feb. 2018	Mar. 2018	Mar. 2017
Arraignments	2,834	2,446	2,565	2,739
Pre-trial Admits	1,372	1,143	1,284	1,381
New to DOC	368	298	345	367
% New	27%	26%	27%	27%

Court Support Services Division

Table 6 - The Jail Re-interview Program

	Pre-trial admissions	Offender interviews	Offenders released	Released last year
Jan.'18	1,372	955	301	449
Feb.	1,143	805	311	390
Mar.	1,284	833	333	481

Table 6a - Pre-trial bail and probation caseloads

	Pre-trial Bail Case Starts	Client Supv. Starts	Split Sentence Starts	Pre-trial bail cases
Jan. '18	2,090*	2,050*	380*	12,675*
Feb.	2,080*	2,040*	370*	12,670*
Mar.	2,085*	2,035*	375*	12,675*
Mar. '17	2,096	2,301	398	12,847

* CSSD estimates

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

Chart 3 – Prison population

First week of the month, avg. daily count (ADC)

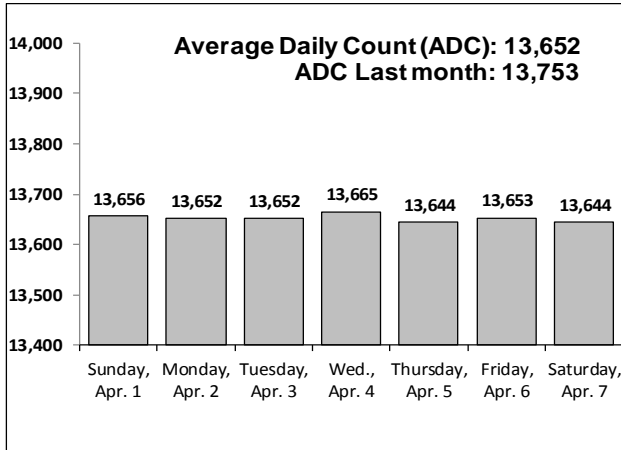


Chart 6 – Monthly DOC Admissions

Feb. 2017 through Mar. 2018

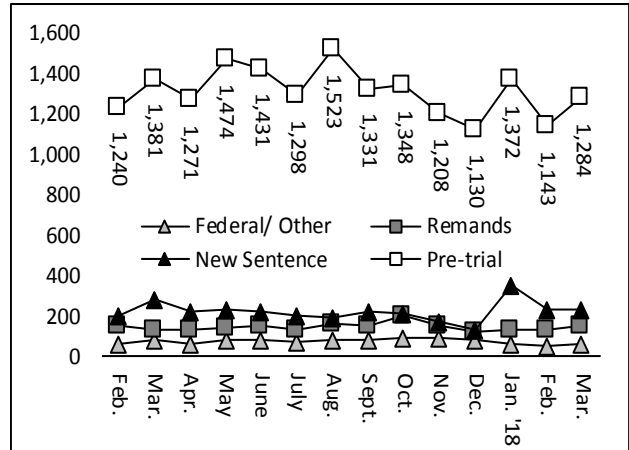


Chart 4 – Prison population, first-of-month

2015, 2016, 2017 and 2018

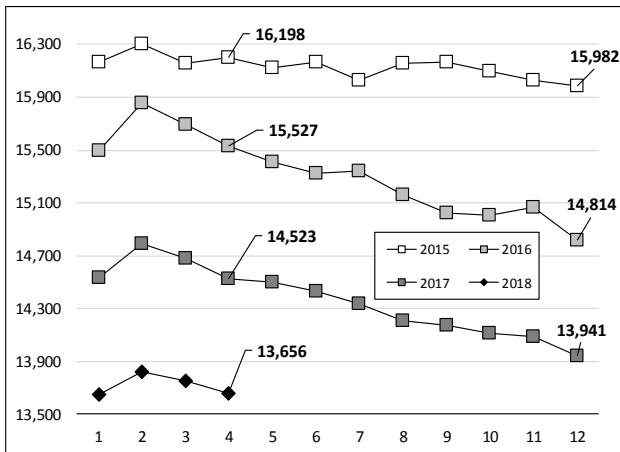


Chart 7 – Remands from community release

March 2018

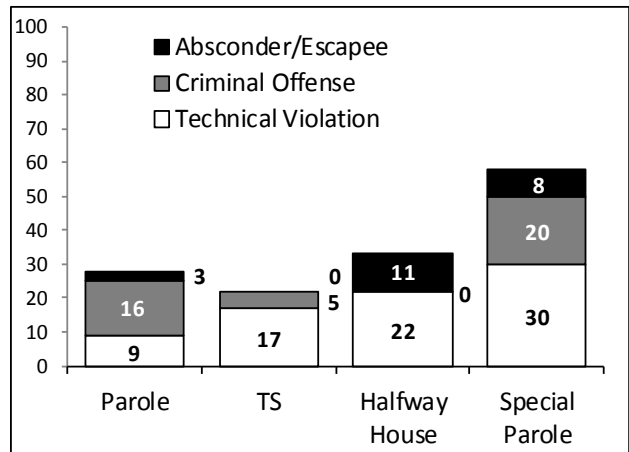


Chart 5 – Statewide criminal arrests

2017 and 2018

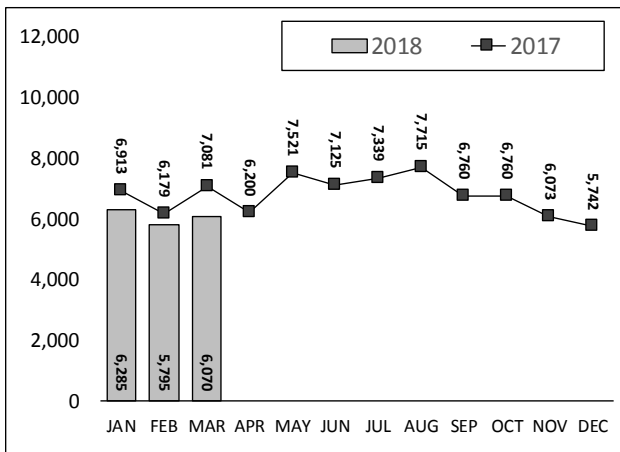
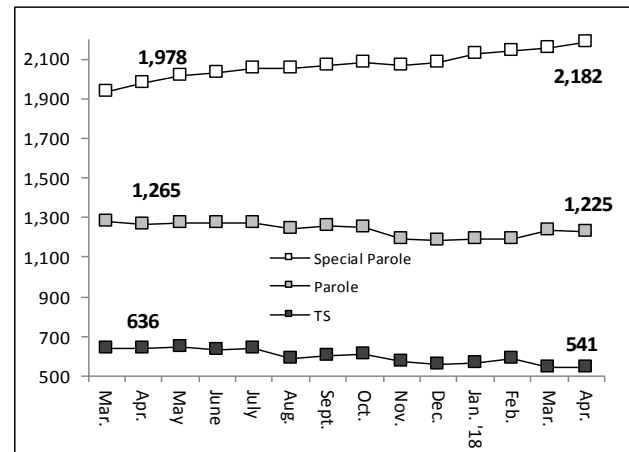


Chart 8 – DOC community supervision

March 1, 2017 through April 1, 2018



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.