

OFFICE OF POLICY & MANAGEMENT

Criminal Justice

Policy & Planning Division



Initial Analysis of March and April 2020 Criminal Justice System Trends

**Presented to
Connecticut Justice Policy Advisory Commission**

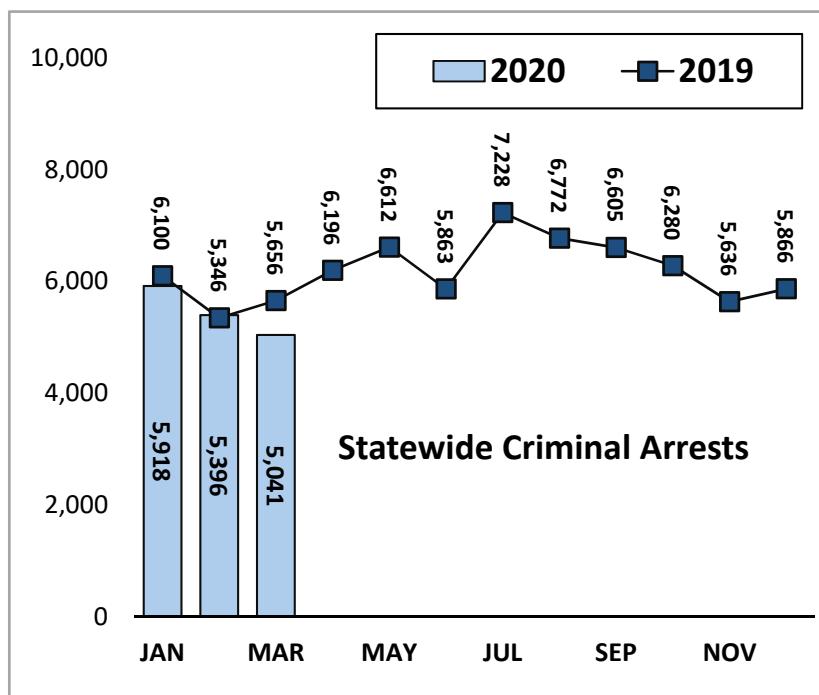
April 30, 2020

Arrests dropped between February and March 2020, in contrast to every other such period over the last ten years, when they increased.

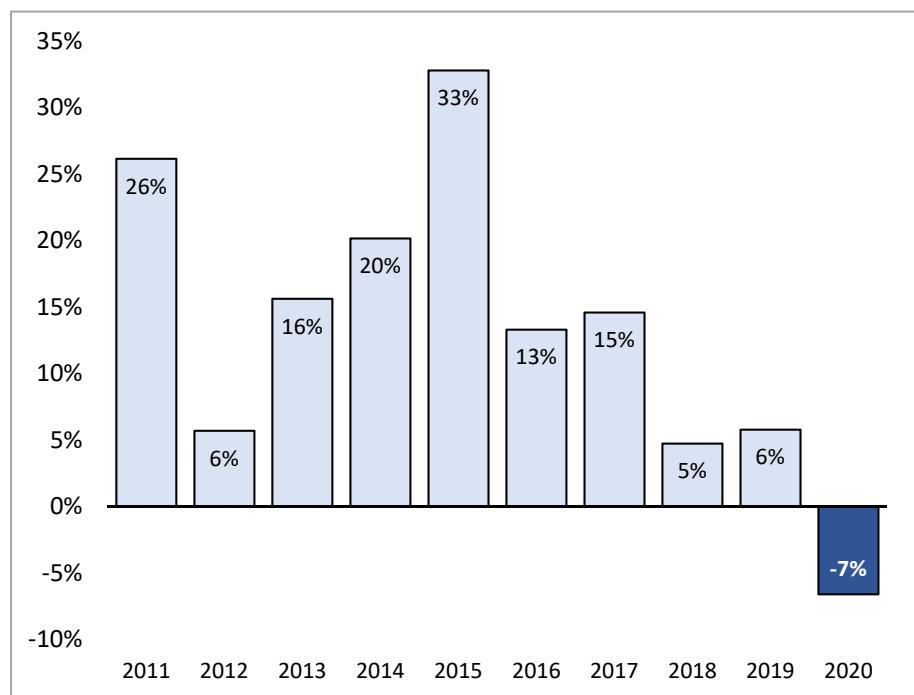
2020's monthly arrest trends were tracking 2019's until March, when they dropped 7%.

Except for between February-to-March 2020, every other such period in the last ten years increased, most by double digits.

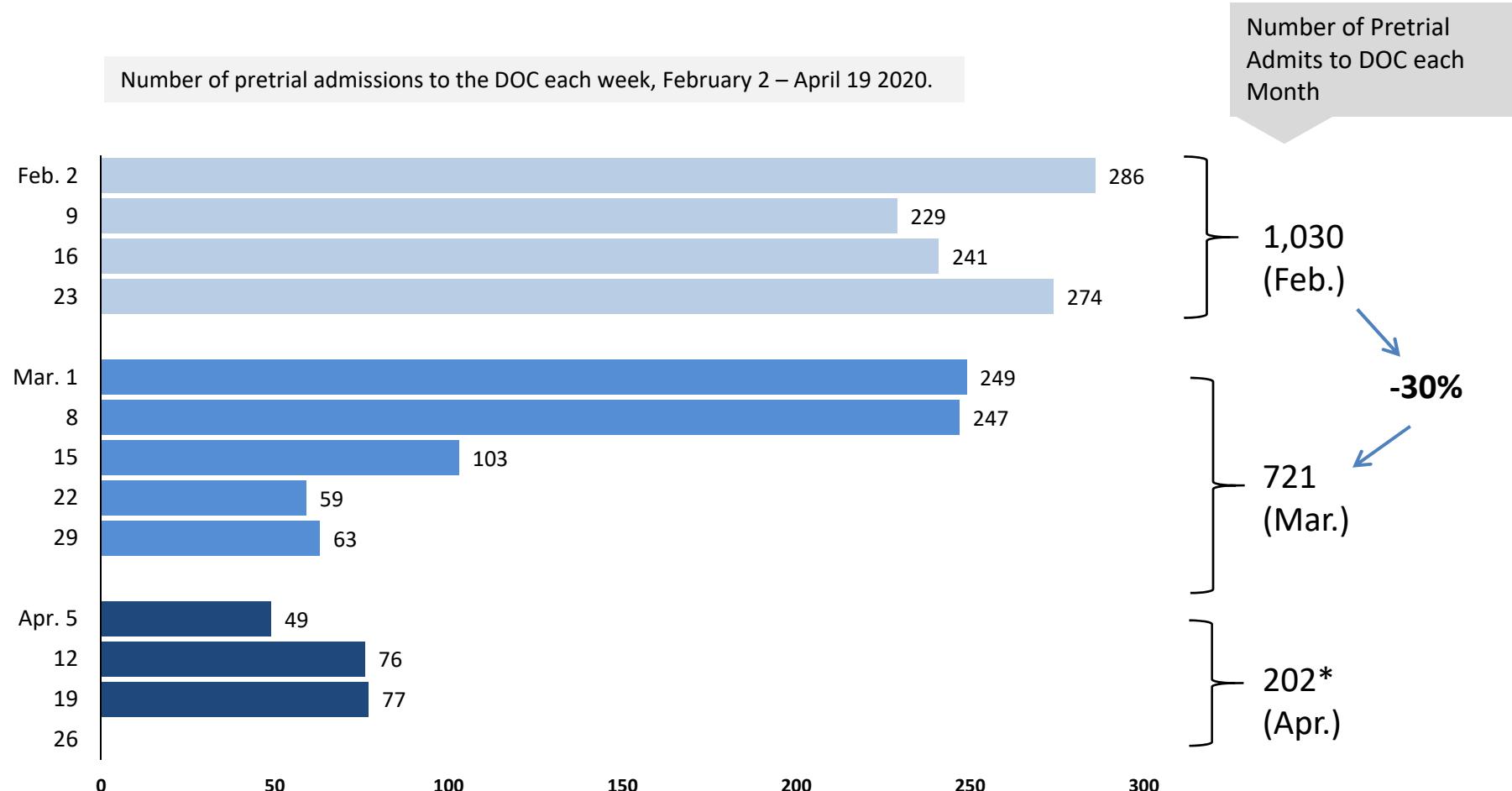
Number of arrests, 2019 and Jan to March 2020



Percent difference in arrests between February and March, 2011–2020



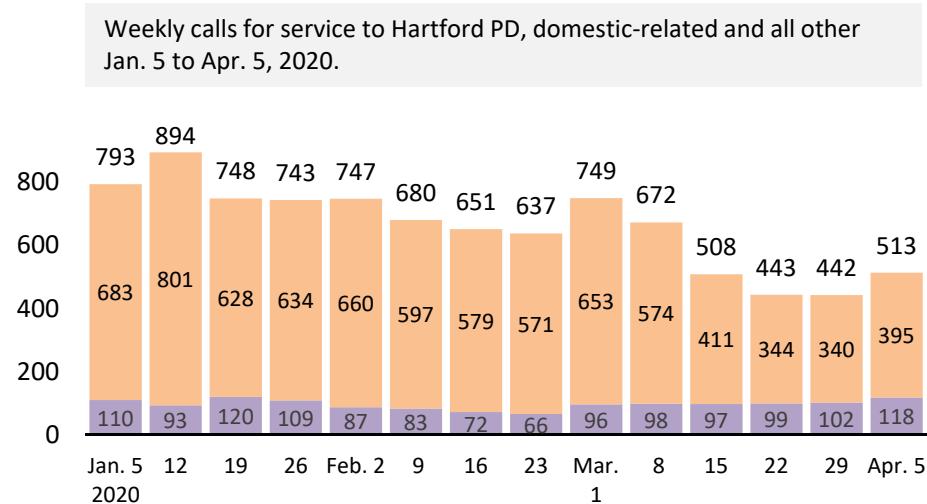
Pretrial admissions to the DOC shrank further each week in March, and April's totals are on track to be even lower.



Source: DOC population data provided to OPM CJPDD.

*Data from the week of April 26 is not yet included.

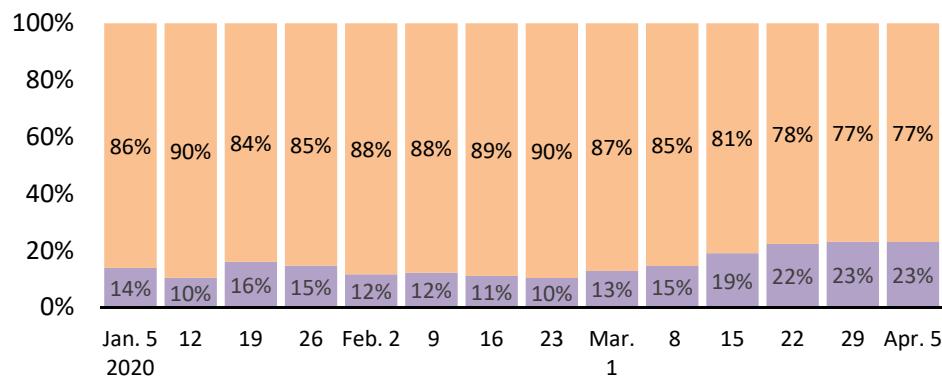
Between March and April, domestic-related calls for service to the Hartford Police Department increased 23%, comprising almost one-quarter of all calls.



Change from weeks of March 1 to April 5

Total Calls	-32%
All other calls	-40%
Domestic-related calls*	+23%

Percent of calls by domestic-related and all other, Jan. 5 to Apr. 5, 2020.



From March to April 2020, domestic-related calls for service increased from 13 to 23 percent of total calls.

*Additional weeks of domestic-related call data include fluctuation.

April 5-11	138
April 12-18	100
April 19-25	122

In March 2020, lethality screens statewide increased from the prior year, with a larger percentage scoring high-danger and a 19 percent jump in officer calls to the program LAP-line.

	Lethality Screens Conducted	Avg. Screens Per Day
March 2019	809	26
March 2020	876	28
Difference	+8%	+2

Lethality Assessment Program Data, March 2019 and 2020

8% increase in lethality screens conducted

	% High Danger	% Non-High Danger	% Did Not Answer
March 2019	50%	37%	14%
March 2020	54%	34%	12%
Difference	+4 points	-3 points	-2 points

4 percentage point increase in lethality screens scored high danger

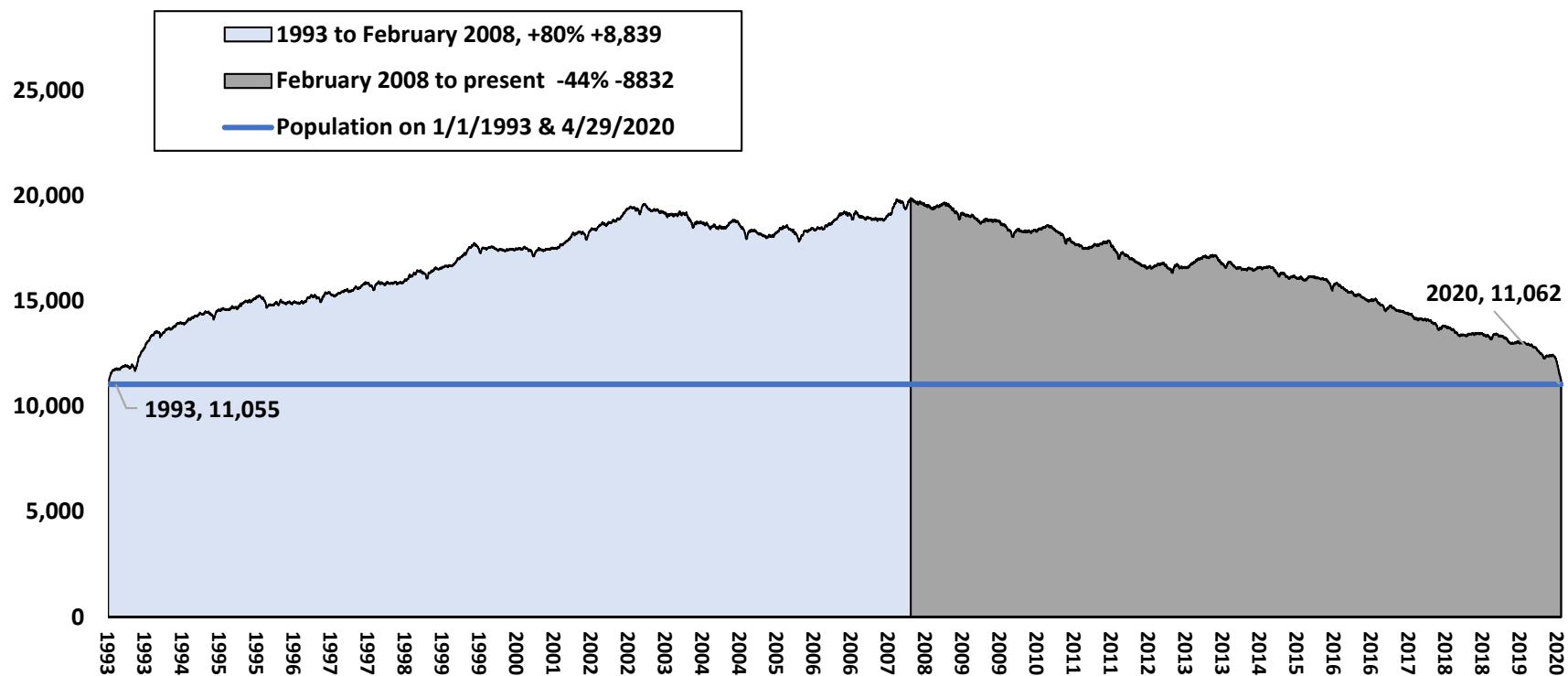
	Officer calls to LAP-line after lethality screens	% Calls to LAP-line that were high danger
March 2019	333	83%
March 2020	396	84%
Difference	+19%	+1 point

19% increase in officer calls to LAP-line after screens.

Source: CCADV LAP Data Review.

On April 29, 2020, the correction population fell to 11,062 — a level last seen 27 years prior, on January 1, 1993.

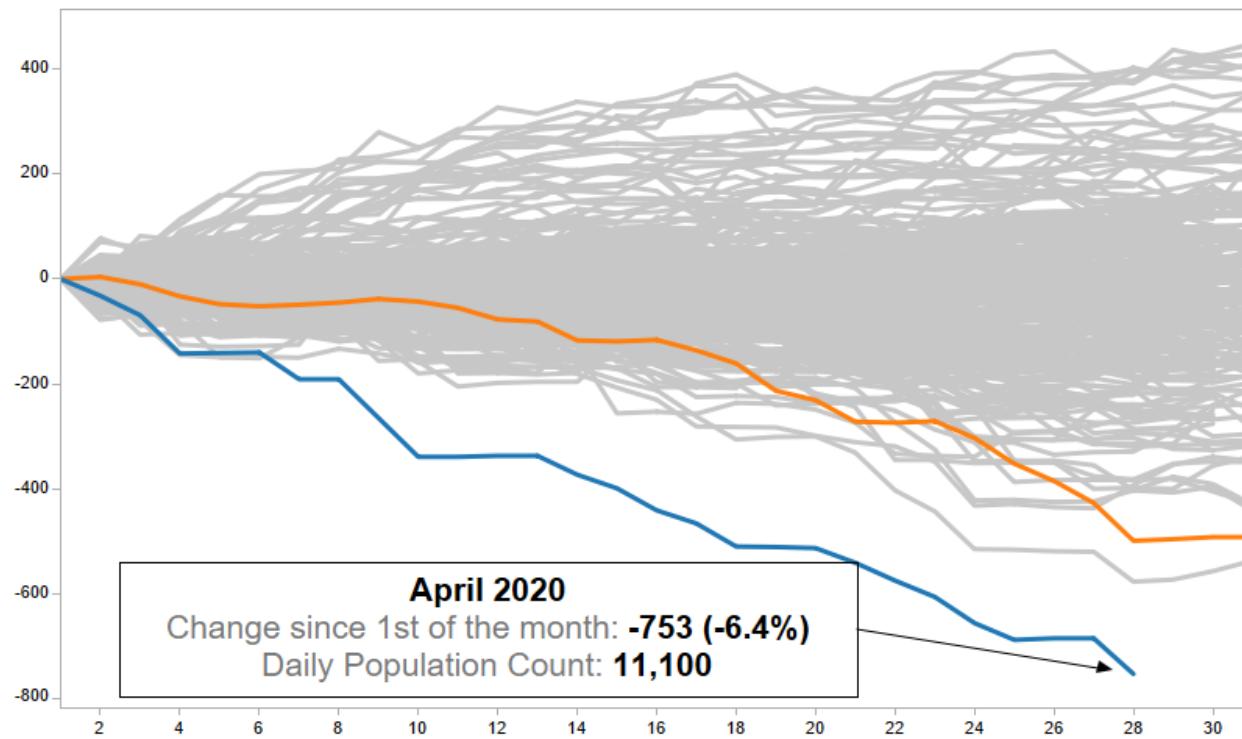
Connecticut's correction population, January 1, 1993 to April 29, 2020



Source: DOC population data provided to OPM CJPDD.

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

Daily percent change of correction population from start of the month, every month since 2000



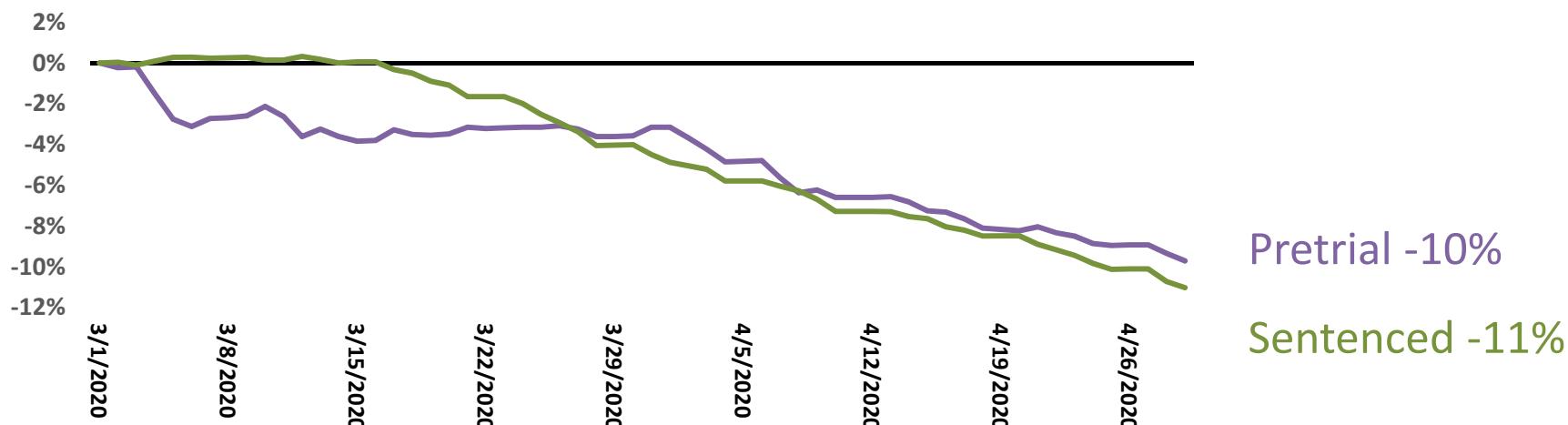
March 2020's percent decrease in the correction population from the start of the month exceeds all previous periods since 1988.

The drop in April 2020 has already surpassed the historic month of March

Source: DOC population data provided to OPM CJPPD.

Between March and April 29, the correction population dropped by 1,347 people, with nearly equal percent declines in the pretrial and sentenced subgroups.

Percent change in the pretrial and sentenced populations in DOC from March 1, to April 29, 2020



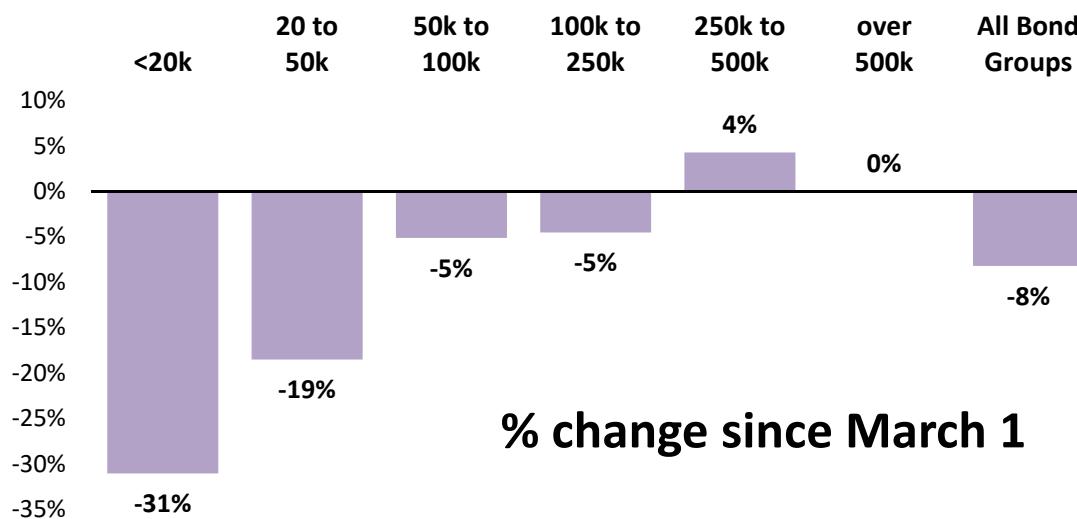
Connecticut correction population, March 1 to April 29, 2020

Source: OPM CJPPD “Date-Filtered Daily Count Data” 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.

Correction Group	March 1	April 29	% Change	Net Change
Sentenced	9,036	8,040	-11%	-996
Pretrial	3,049	2,753	-10%	-296
Other	324	269	-17%	-55
Total	12,409	11,062	-11%	1,347

The pretrial population dropped for all bond groups by 8 percent, with larger reductions for people with lower bond amounts.

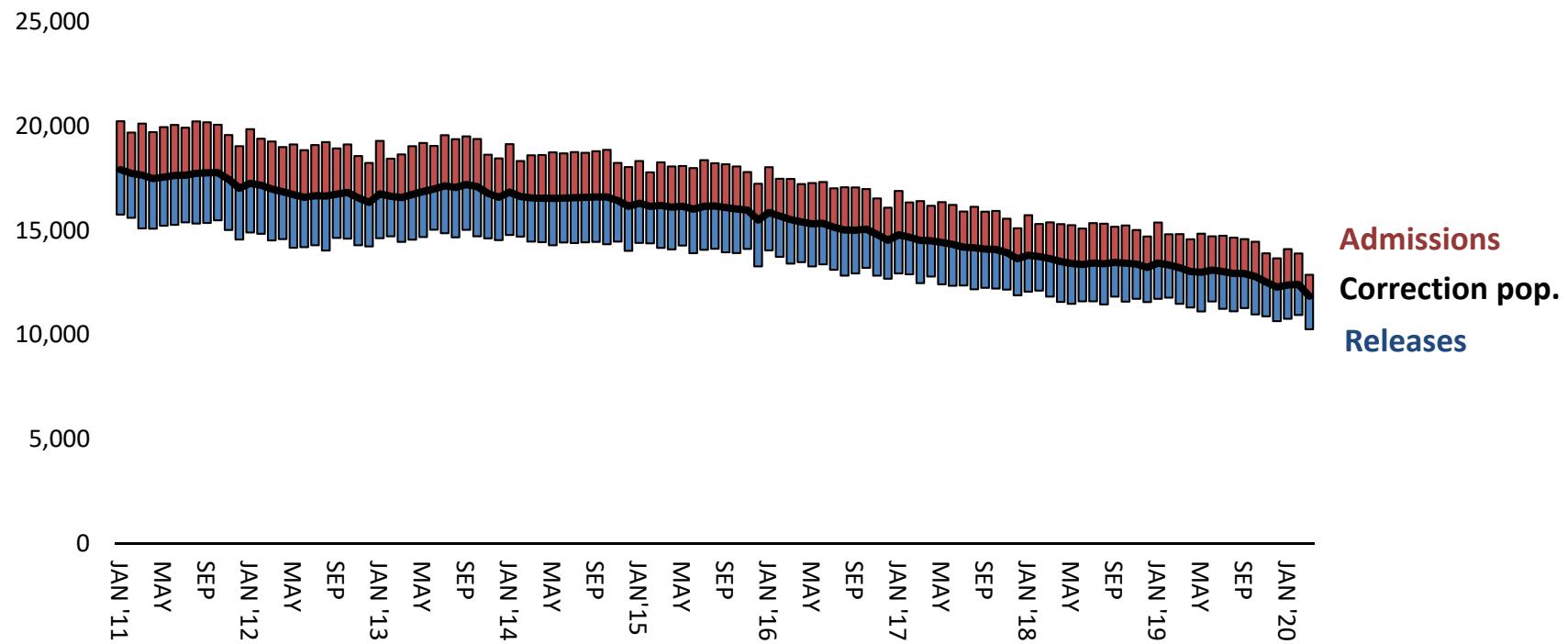
Percent change in the DOC pretrial population by bond amount, from March 1 to April 28, 2020.



Source: Data from CT DOC.

In March, the correction population decreased because admissions dropped sharply and releases increased.

Connecticut correction admissions and releases, Jan. 2011 to Mar. 2020

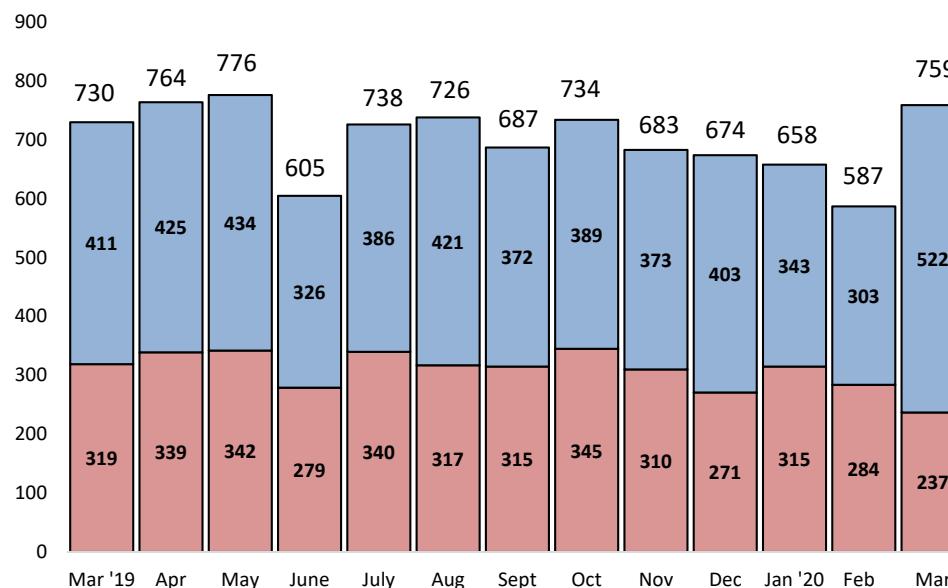


Source: DOC population data provided to OPM CJPDD.

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

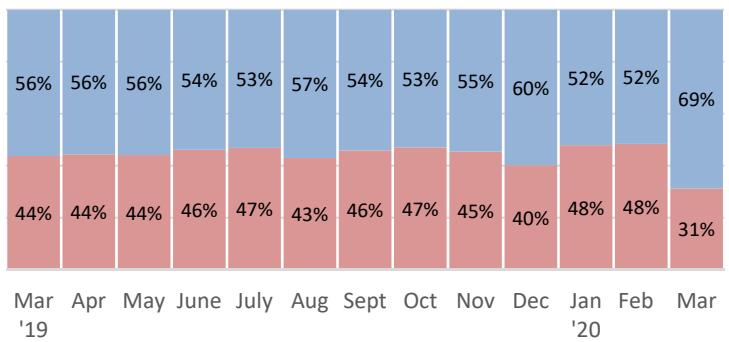


+29% — Total

+72% — Discretionary Release

-17% — End of Sentence

Percent of sentenced releases, by discretionary and end of sentence

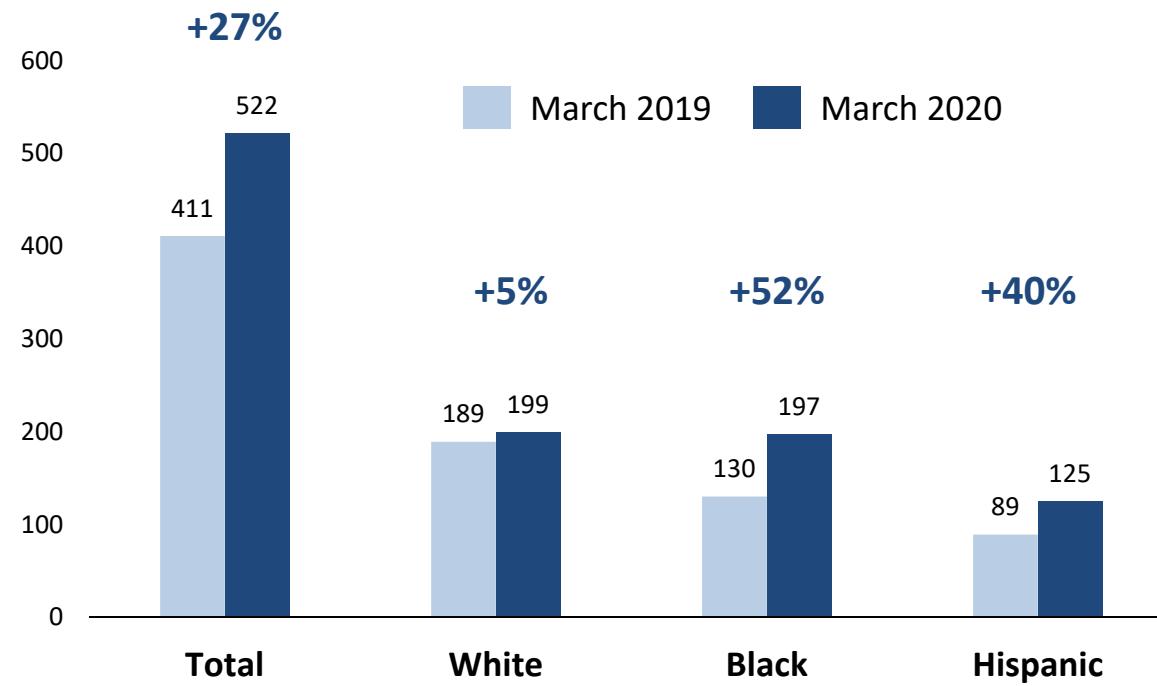


This increase in discretionary releases had the secondary benefit of reducing the number of people released from correctional facilities with no community supervision. (The DOC is legally required to release an inmate in its custody at the conclusion of their court-stipulated sentence.)

Source: Data from CT DOC and analyzed for OPM *Monthly Indicators Reports*. Excludes exits to special parole.

The increase in discretionary releases between March 2019 and 2020 was larger for Black and Hispanic people than the total population.

People transitioning from DOC sentenced population to discretionary release by white, black, Hispanic, and total, Mar. 2019 and 2020



Source: Data from CT DOC. Excludes exits to special parole.

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Thank you.

For more information, please visit

<https://portal.ct.gov/OPM/CJ-About/Homepage/CJPPD>