

# Criminal Justice

## Policy & Planning Division

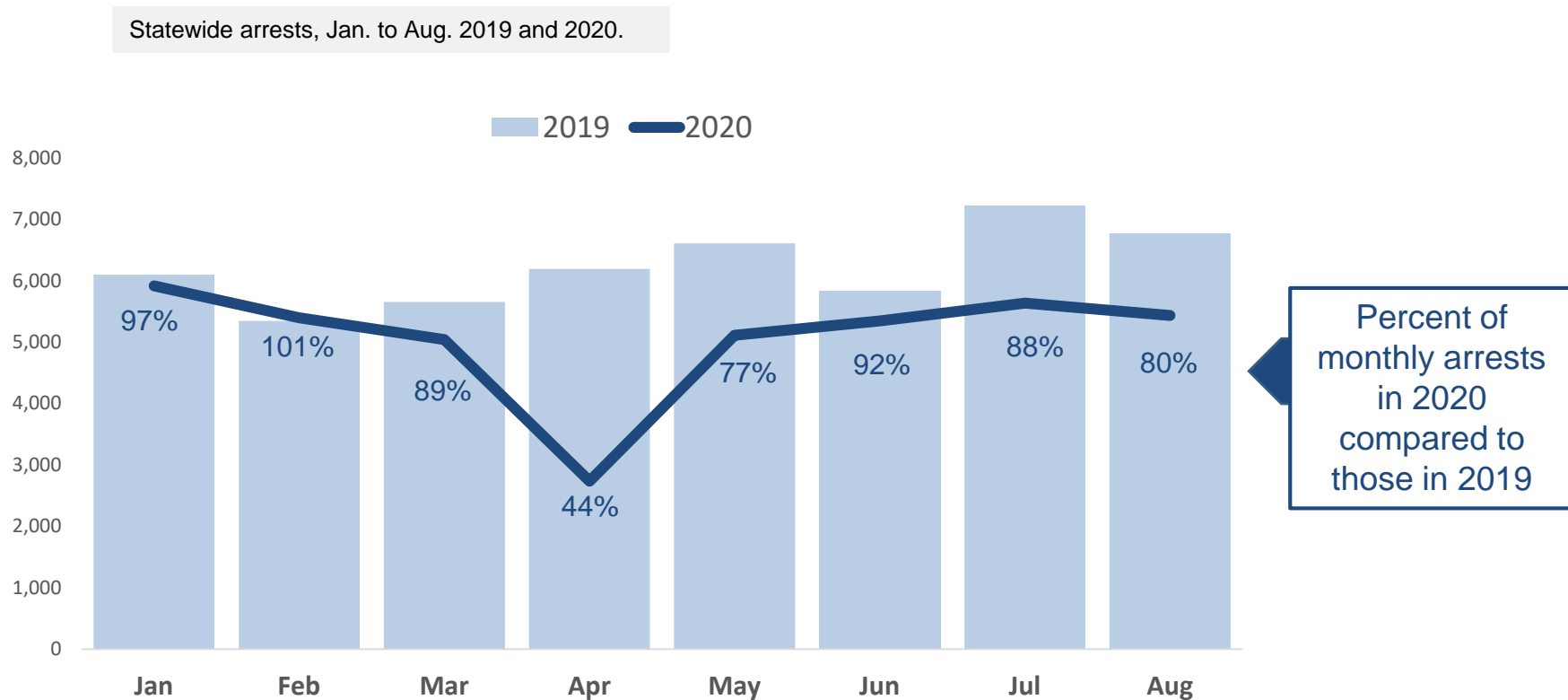


### Initial Comparison of 2019 and 2020 Criminal Justice Data

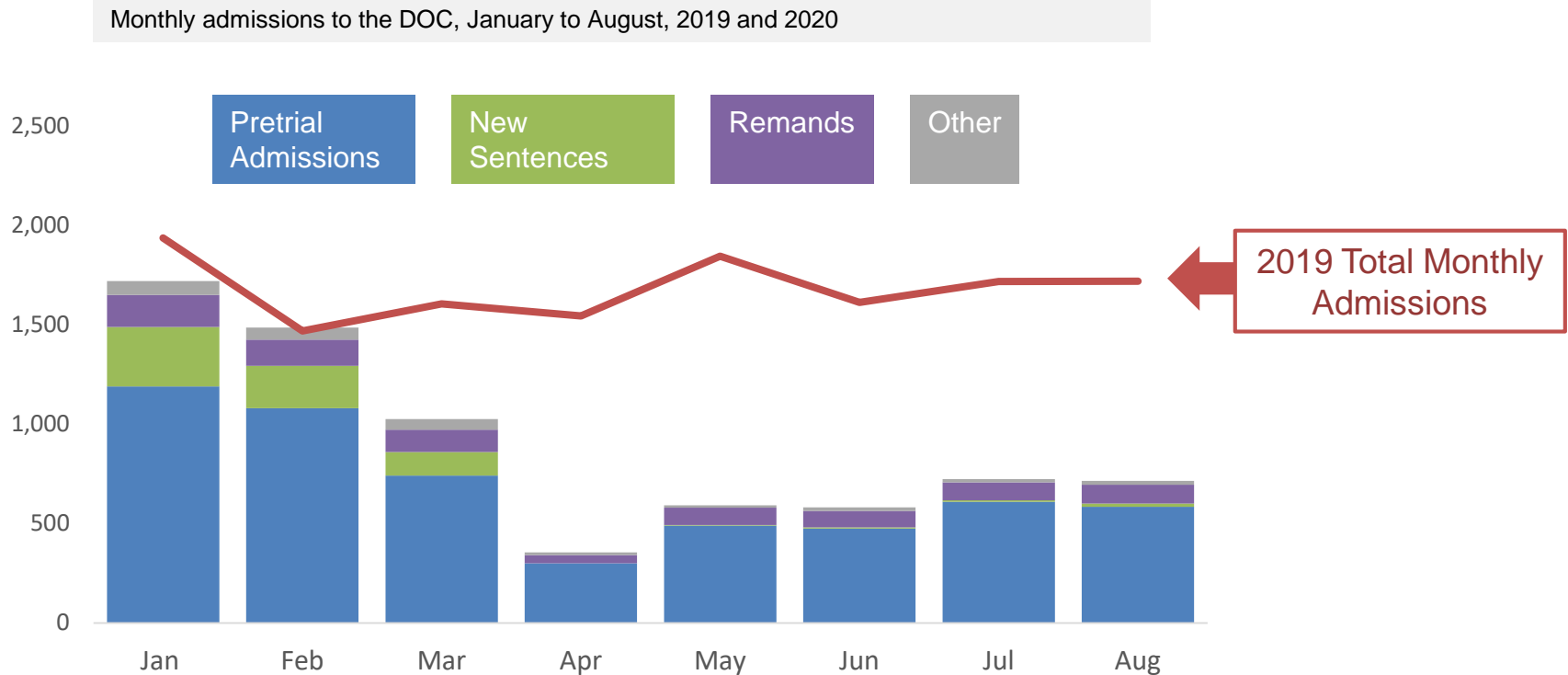
*Presented to the  
Criminal Justice Policy Advisory Commission*

September 24, 2020

# Between March and May 2020, statewide arrests followed a v-shape trajectory before regressing toward to the mean.



**Since March 2020, monthly DOC admissions have diverged significantly from 2019 levels, with pretrial admissions and remands comprising most of the volume.**

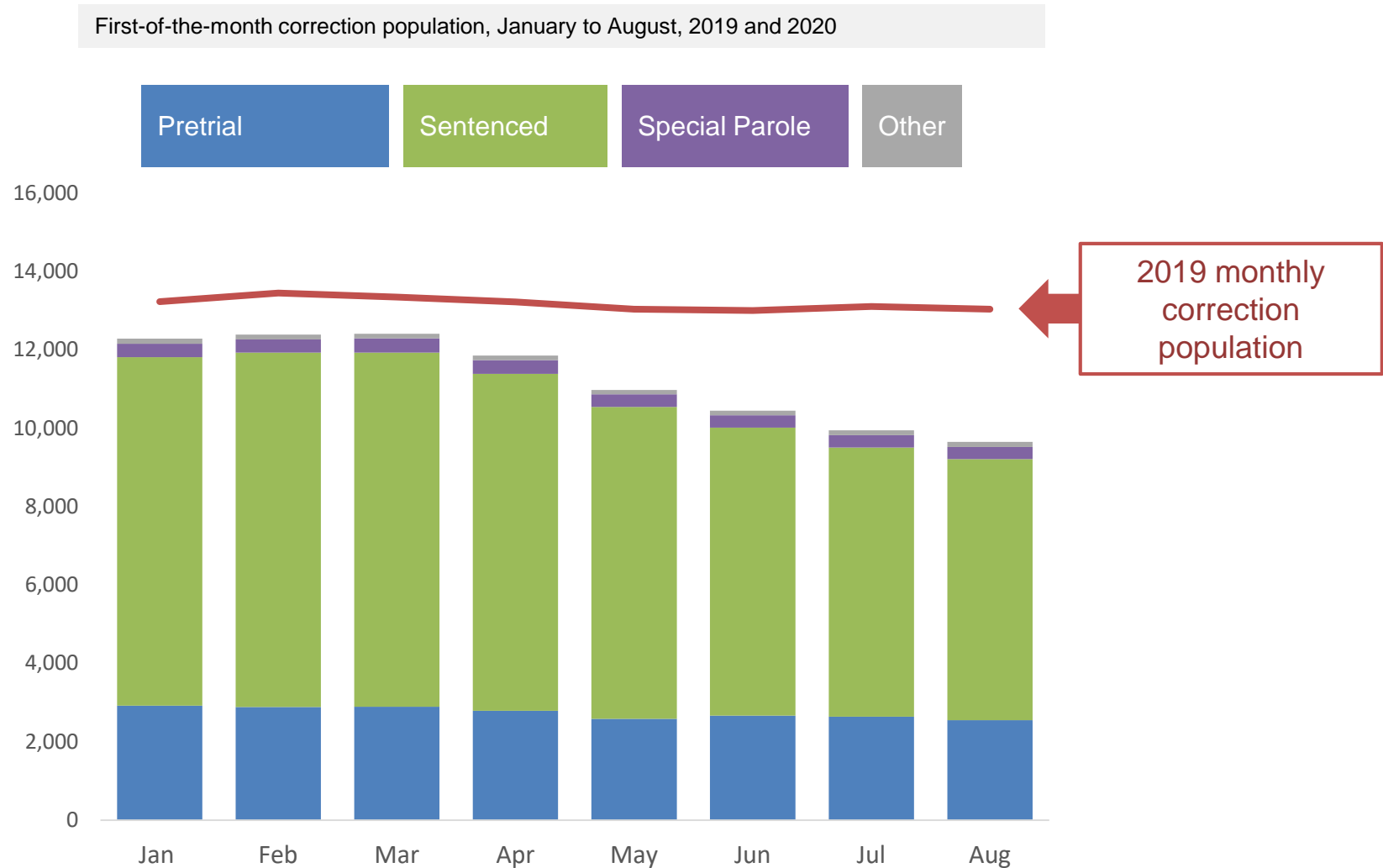


“Remands” consist of returns to prison among DUI program participants, parole, transitional placement, re-entry furlough, halfway house, transitional supervision, transfer parole and special parole.

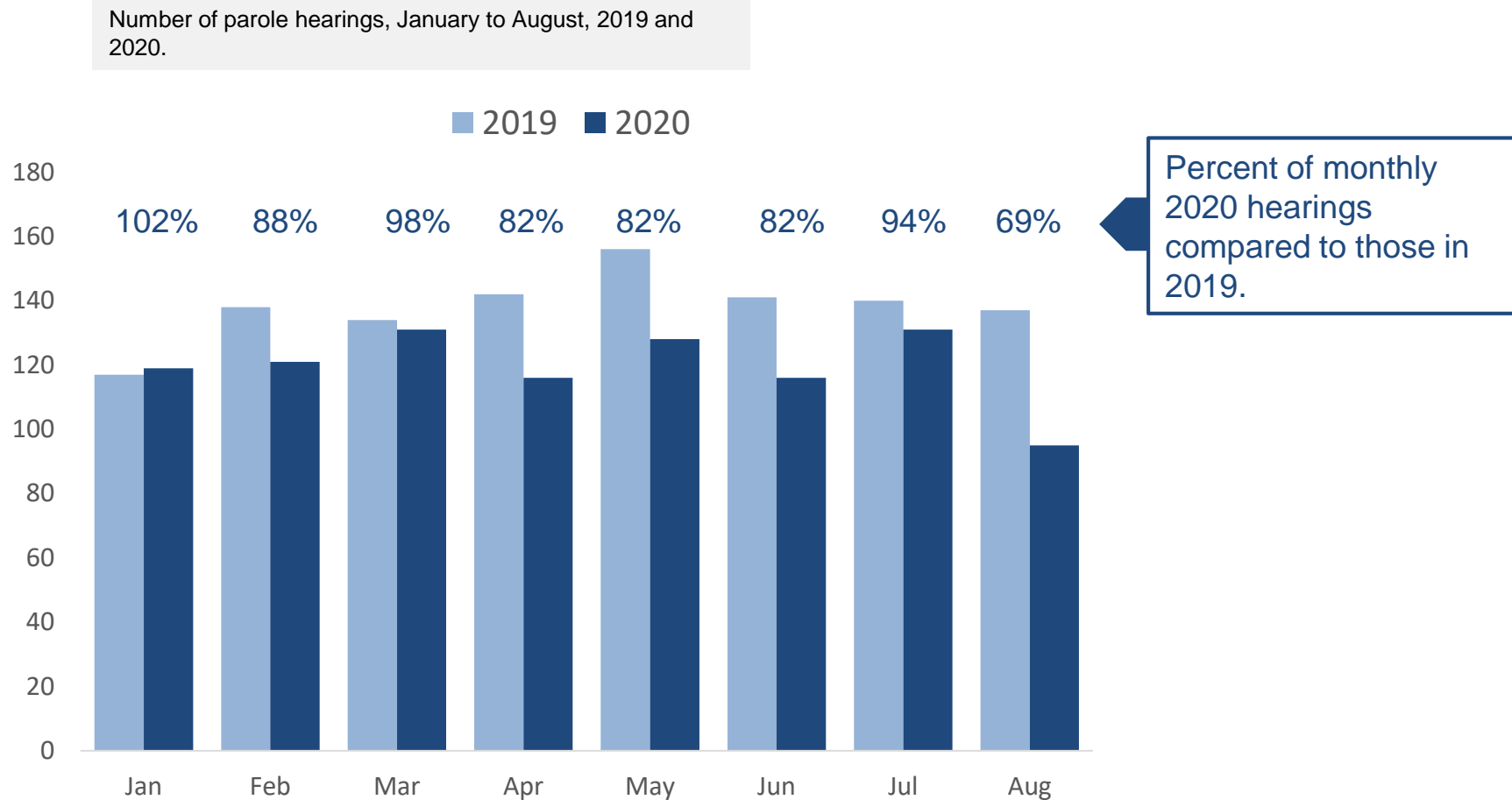
“New Sentences” also include violations of probation.

“Other” consists of people under the custody of other jurisdictions.

**From January to March 2020, the correction population was stable before beginning a steady decline through August.**

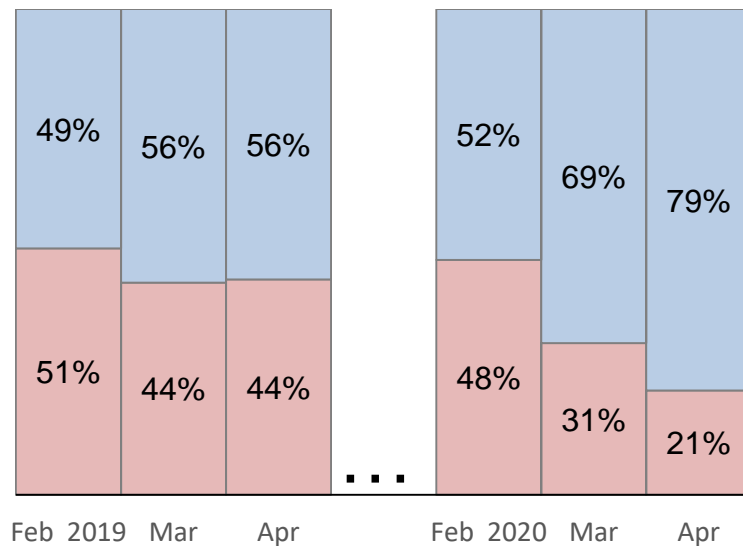


# Use of virtual meetings and other technology has helped the Board of Pardons and Paroles maintain 2019 levels of parole hearings for most months this year.



# A higher rate of people have returned to the community with supervision, reducing the end-of-sentence releases, per April CJPAC meeting analysis.

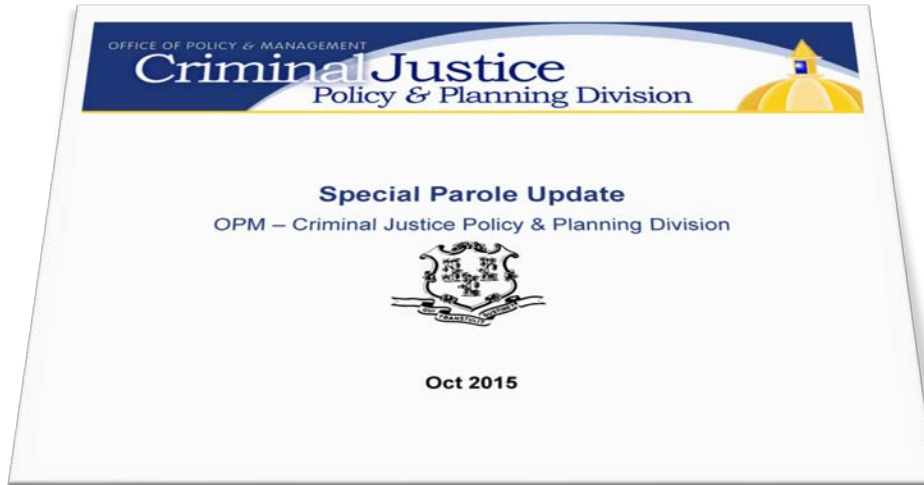
Percent of releases from DOC sentenced population by discretionary release vs. end-of-sentence discharge, Feb. to Apr. 2019 and 2020



In April 2020, 79% of people returned to the community with supervision under a discretionary release mechanism, up 23 points from April 2019 (56% to 79%).

The increase in 2020 in discretionary releases helped reduce the number of people released from DOC with no community supervision (i.e. an EOS discharge).

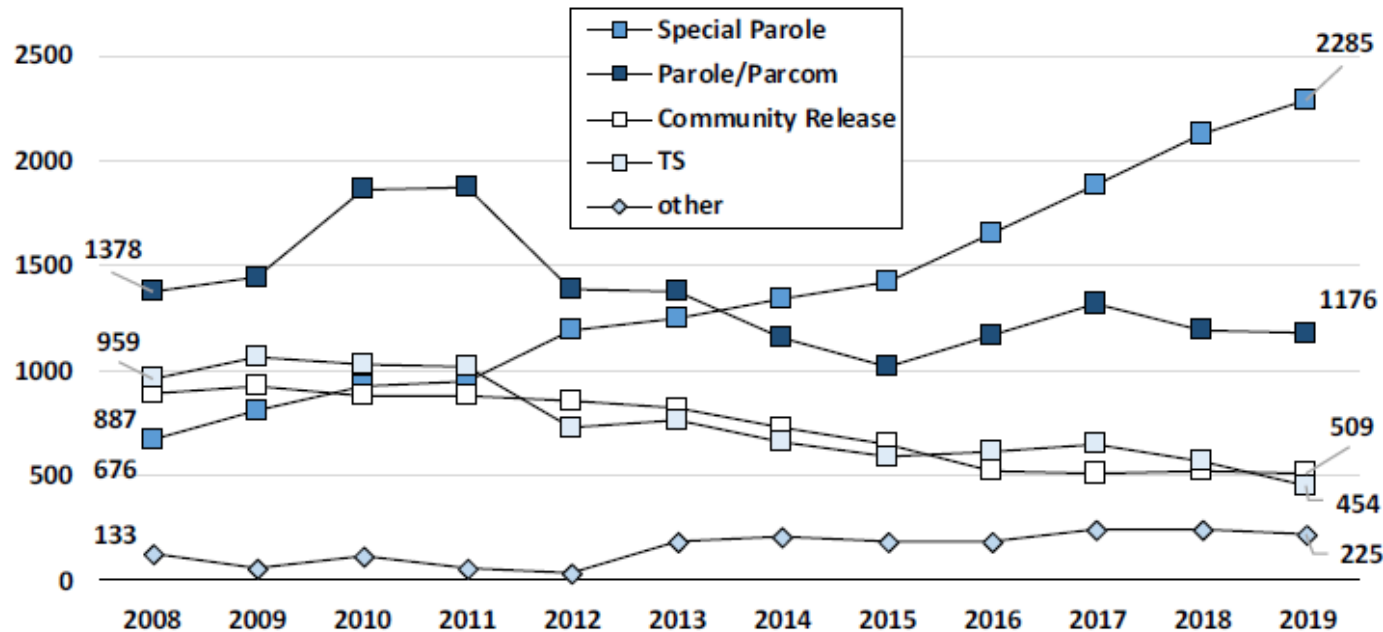
# An October 2015 OPM CJPPD presentation to CJPAC included analysis on the special parole population.



- Special parolee population had a larger percentage of higher-risk people (TPAI score of 7 or higher) compared to the transitional supervision (TS) population but smaller percentage than parolees.
- Drug (19%), sex (14%), and robbery (16%) offenses were the most common controlling offenses.
- Relatively longer periods of supervision were impacting parole officers and program capacity.
- Higher recidivism rate among special parolees (48% return-to-prison rate within 12 months) than the total released population (32%).
- Special parole remands were impacting the correction population.

**OPM CJPPD estimated that between June 2016 and 2020, the special parole population would grow 59%, from 2,200 to 3,500 people.**

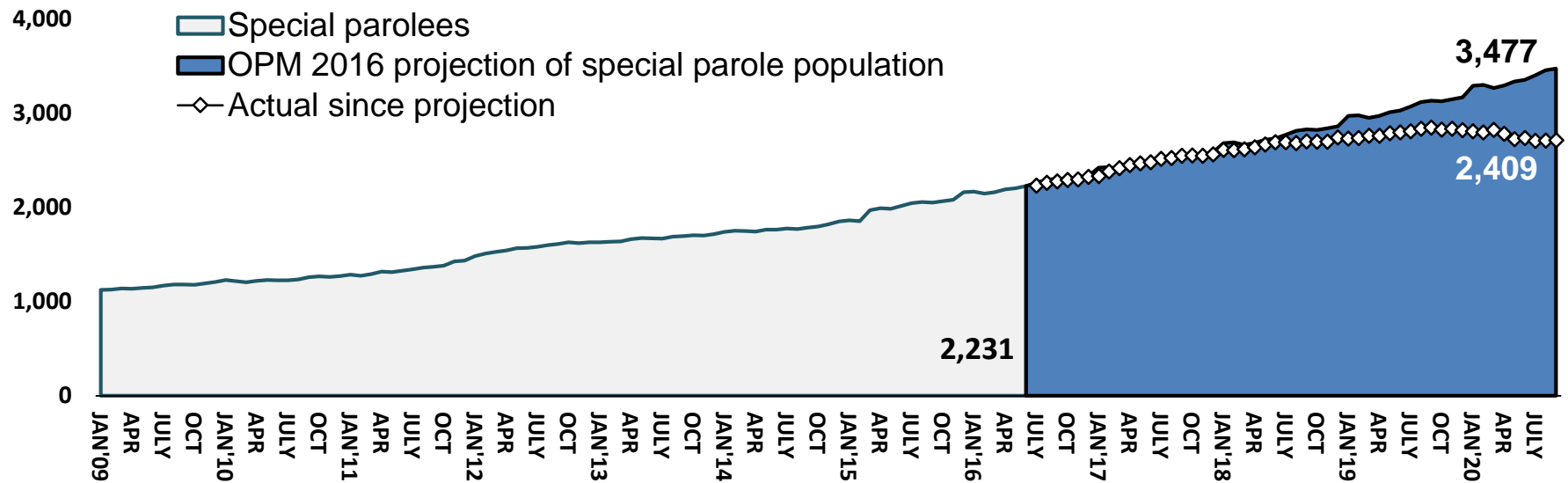
# The 2019 “Trends in Connecticut” presentation to CJPAC captured the special parole populations growth and consumption of supervision and halfway house resources.



- Between 2008 and 2019, the special parole population grew 238%, from 676 to 2,285 people.
- In 2019, special parolees were half the DOC community supervision population.
- And special parolees occupied 40% of halfway house beds.



## Following nine years of growth, the special parole population began flattening in 2018 falling below the projection.



- Public Act 18-63 was enacted, allowing for early discharge of special parolees and restricting the cases for which special parole could be attached as a sentence.
- The following year, Public Act 19-84 amended the statutes to provide victim notification and allow any victim to submit a statement to the board regarding a special parole termination under consideration.

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**Kyle Baudoin**

*Policy Development Coordinator*

[Kyle.Baudoin@ct.gov](mailto:Kyle.Baudoin@ct.gov)

**Marc Pelka**

Undersecretary,  
Criminal Justice Policy and Planning

[Marc.Pelka@ct.gov](mailto:Marc.Pelka@ct.gov)

For more information, please visit

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