

OPM - Criminal Justice Policy & Planning Division

Monthly Indicators Report

Highlights

- During the month of February, the prison population fell by 213. On March 1, 2014, 16,626 adults were incarcerated in state prisons in Connecticut. On March 1st of last year, 16,641 offenders were held in state prisons.
- The population of offenders on special parole continues to grow at a moderate but steady pace. Last June, the number of special parolees exceeded the number of regular parolees for the first time (see chart 8).
- The number of special parolees occupying halfway house beds is also up. On March 1st, 184 of the 997 offenders in halfway houses were on special parole status. Compared to last year, the number of special parolees in halfway houses has increased by 40% (See table 2).
- Preliminary analysis by OPM indicates that recidivism rates among sentenced prisoners is dropping. OPM studied court and DOC data for new arrests and returns-to-prison among sentenced, male offenders who were released from prison during 2005, 2008 or 2011. The data revealed that, 62% of men released in 2005, 59% of men released in 2008 and 54% of men released in 2011 were rearrested within 24 months. The same pattern was evident in data for offenders returning to prison (see chart 2a). OPM expects to publish more thorough findings within the next two months.

Email questions and comments to:
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Prison Population Forecast

The prison population dropped by 213 prisoners between February 1st and March 1st. OPM had projected a drop of only 80 prisoners. In February there was a dramatic 26% reduction in the number of pre-trial prison admissions compared to the previous month. In January, the DOC reported total 2,301 prison admissions. Last month, only 1,707 admissions were logged.

It is not clear why the prison population dropped by as much as it did during February. In a typical year, the prison population is expected to decline during February but this year's drop of 213 prisoners was larger than monthly decline during February at least a decade.

The prison population on March 1st was roughly the same as it was last year at this time. The volume of inmates moving through the system was down however. Even though the prison system held roughly the same number of prisoners, DOC admitted 5.4% fewer prisoners and released 8.1% fewer offenders this February than last (see table 3).

TABLE 1 – Prison Population Forecast

	Avg. Daily Count	OPM 2014 Forecast	Inmate difference
JAN '14	16,347	-	-
FEB	16,839	16,839	
MAR	16,624	16,759	135
APR	-	16,737	
MAY	-	16,683	
JUN	-	16,678	
JUL	-	16,709	
AUG	-	16,763	
SEP	-	16,860	
OCT	-	16,979	
NOV	-	16,946	
DEC	-	16,761	
JAN '15	-	16,445	
FEB	-	16,758	

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

Chart 1 – Actual prison population against the OPM forecast
 January 1, 2013 through February 1, 2015

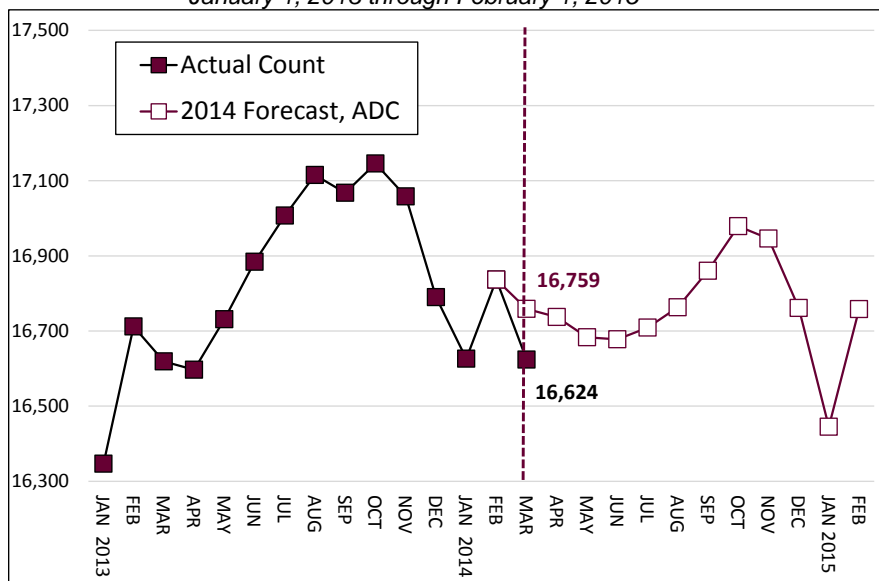
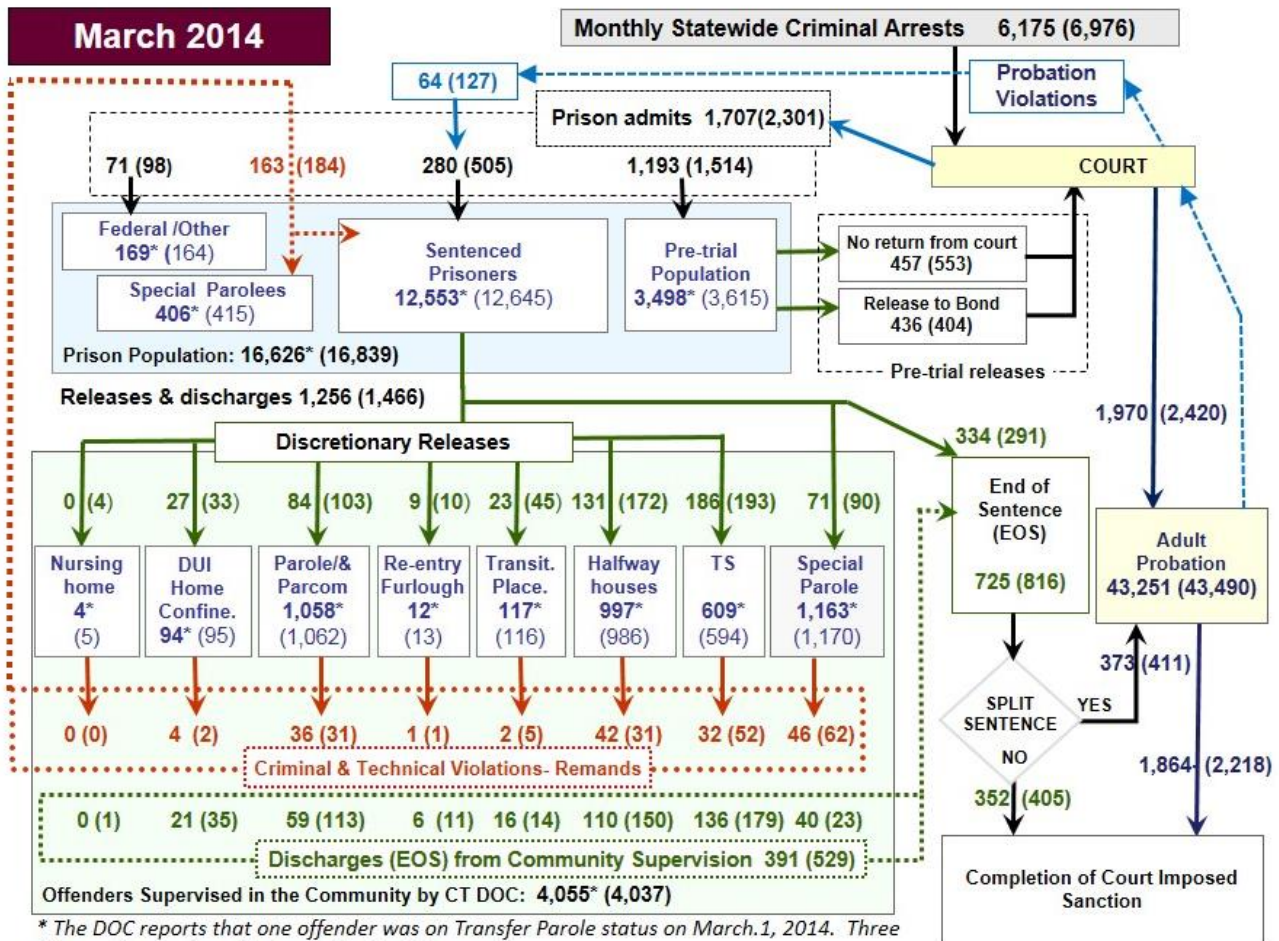
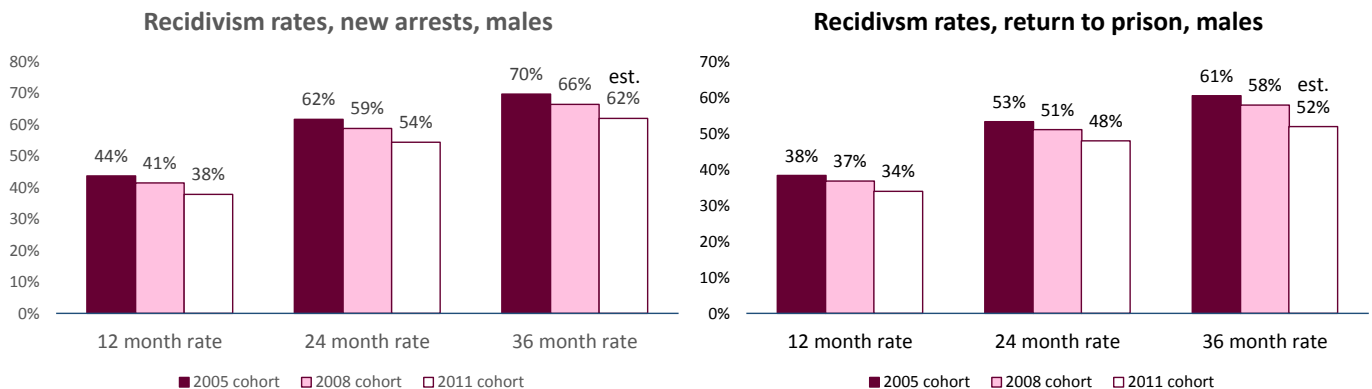


Chart 2 - Criminal justice, monthly counts and flows



This chart contains monthly operational data for February 2014 and daily counts reported on March 1, 2014. Figures followed by asterisks (*) indicate the daily count on March 1st. Figures for the previous month are enclosed by parentheses. Sources of the data: Arrests - OBTS, Court and probation data - CSSD, all other data - CT DOC

Chart 2a – Recidivism rates among males prisoners released in 2005, 2008 and 2011



In February, OPM calculated the recidivism rates of male, sentenced offenders who were released or discharged from prison in 2005, 2008 and 2011. Two measures of recidivism were evaluated: new arrests and return-to-prison. Returns-to-prison includes remands from community supervision, new admissions on pre-trial status or prison admissions to begin a new sentence of incarceration.

The analysis revealed that recidivism rates have been declining in the state since 2005. The causes for these positive developments are not immediately clear. One could certainly theorize that greater reliance on offender risk assessments and improved community supervision, both by DOC and CSSD, have contributed to fewer people returning to the criminal justice system after prison.

Table 2 – The first-of-the-month count

	2014	2014	2014	2013	% Change	
	Jan. 1	Feb. 1	Mar. 1	Mar. 1	Monthly	Annual
DOC Facilities						
Federal/Other	164	164	169	181	3.0%	-6.6%
Sentenced	12,417	12,645	12,553	12,441	-0.7%	0.9%
Special Parole	399	415	406	390	-2.2%	4.1%
Pre-trial	3,614	3,615	3,498	3,629	-3.2%	-3.6%
Total	16,594	16,839	16,626	16,641	-1.3%	-0.1%
DOC Community						
Transfer Parole	2	1	1	5	-	-
Parole/ Parcom Total	1,077	1,062	1,058	1,263	-0.4%	-16.2%
Parole	914	892	893	1,092	0.1%	-18.2%
Parcom @ CT	163	170	165	171	-2.9%	-3.5%
Furlough	14	13	12	19	-7.7%	-36.8%
Trans Placement	97	116	117	31	0.9%	277.4%
DUI/Home confine.	95	90	94	101	4.4%	-6.9%
Halfway House Total	981	986	997	990	1.1%	0.7%
Comm Release	726	714	711	776	-0.4%	-8.4%
TS	27	25	27	9	8.0%	200.0%
Parole	76	78	75	73	-3.8%	2.7%
Transfer Parole	0	0	0	0	-	-
Special Parole	152	169	184	131	8.9%	40.5%
TS Total	631	594	609	719	2.5%	-15.3%
Nursing home	4	5	4	0	-	-
Special Parole	1,192	1,170	1,163	1,120	-0.6%	3.8%
Total	4,093	4,037	4,055	4,248	0.4%	-4.5%

Table 3 – Admissions, releases & discharges*

	2013	2014	2014	2013	% Change	
	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Feb.	Monthly	Annual
Admissions						
Federal/Other	94	98	71	84	-27.6%	-15.5%
Returns	159	184	163	189	-11.4%	-13.8%
Trans.Parole / DUI	0	2	4	3	-	-
Parole	32	31	36	46	16.1%	-21.7%
Trans Plac/Furlough	1	6	3	1	-	-
HWH	29	31	42	38	35.5%	10.5%
TS	45	52	32	45	-38.5%	-28.9%
Special Parole	45	62	46	56	-25.8%	-17.9%
New Sentence	189	505	280	292	-44.6%	-4.1%
VOP	61	127	64	69	-49.6%	-7.2%
Pre-trial	1,419	1,514	1,193	1,239	-21.2%	-3.7%
Total	1,861	2,301	1,707	1,804	-25.8%	-5.4%
Releases						
Transfer Parole	0	0	0	0	-	-
Parole	98	103	84	113	-18.4%	-25.7%
Furlough	11	10	9	16	-10.0%	-43.8%
Trans. Placement	24	45	23	20	-48.9%	15.0%
Home Confinement DUI	35	33	27	22	-18.2%	22.7%
HWH	129	172	131	171	-23.8%	-23.4%
TS	191	193	186	198	-3.6%	-6.1%
Special Parole	80	90	71	72	-21.1%	-1.4%
Nursing home	1	4	0	0	-	-
End of Sentence	779	816	725	755	-11.2%	-4.0%
Total	1,348	1,466	1,256	1,367	-14.3%	-8.1%
Pre-trial Releases*						
No return from Court	567	553	457	519	-17.4%	-11.9%
Release to Bond	412	404	436	375	7.9%	16.3%

* Totals reflect events not individuals.

Board of Pardons and Paroles

Table 4a – Inmates with sentences > 24 months

	Parole eligible	Not eligible
Jan. '14	8,426	860
Feb.	8,453	862
Mar.	8,462	865

Table 4b – New Parole hearings

	Hearings	Granted	Rate
Dec.	159	117	74%
Jan. '14	145	96	66%
Feb.	143	103	72%

Table 4c – Other parole actions

	Reparole from revocation	Reparole from rescission	Closed interest cases	Special parole cases
Dec.	46	11	64	12
Jan '14	58	7	22	19
Feb.	37	8	23	25

Pre-trial detainees

Table 5 – Bond ranges for pre-trial detainees

	Dec. 1, 2013	Jan. 1, 2014	Feb. 1, 2014	Mar. 1, 2014
Bond amount				
Less than \$20K	600	626	625	597
\$20K to <\$50K	621	637	632	591
\$50K to <\$100K	758	784	762	712
\$100K or higher	1,683	1,680	1,673	1,627
Over \$1M	208	214	212	207
Offenders w/bonds	3,662	3,727	3,692	3,527

Table 5a – Pre-trial offenders, time since admission

Weeks since last DOC admit	Dec. 1, 2013	Jan. 1, 2014	Feb. 1, 2014	Mar. 1, 2014
< 1 week	454	297	480	428
1 to < 3 weeks	384	421	396	308
3 to < 10 weeks	902	950	851	852
10 to < 30 weeks	1,106	1,187	1,120	1,078
30 wks or more	820	872	846	866
Pre-trial prisoners	3,666	3,727	3,693	3,532

Court Support Services Division

Table 6 – The Jail Re-interview Program

	Offenders interviewed	Offenders released	Releases last year
Dec.	1,521	907	878
Jan. '14	1,428	722	926
Feb.	1,119	642	852

Table 7 – Pre-Trial & split-sentence starts

	Pre-trial Bail Case Starts	Client Supv. Starts	Split Sentence Starts
Dec.	2,280	2,135	403
Jan. '14	2,428	2,420	411
Feb.	2,015	1,970	353

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

Chart 3 – Prison Population

March 1, 2014 to March 7, 2014

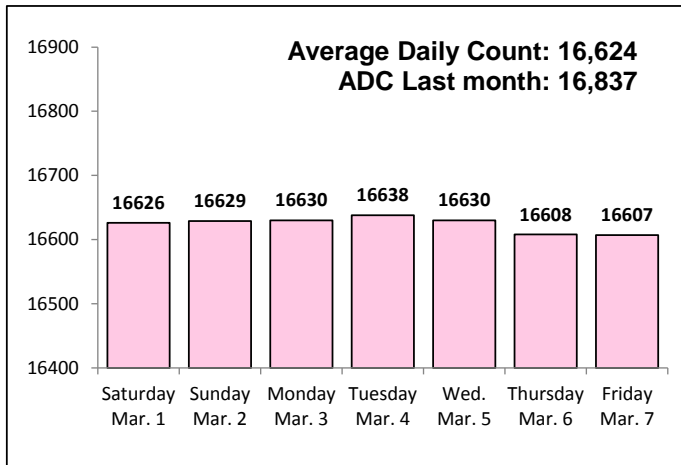


Chart 6 – Monthly DOC Admissions

January 2013 through February 2014

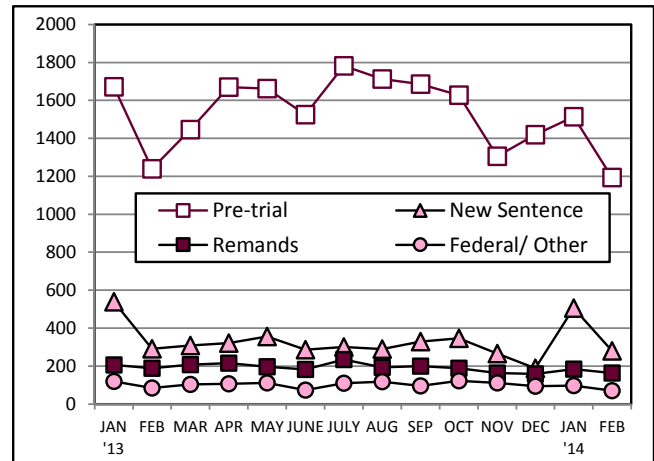


Chart 4 – Prison Population, first-of-month

2013 and 2014

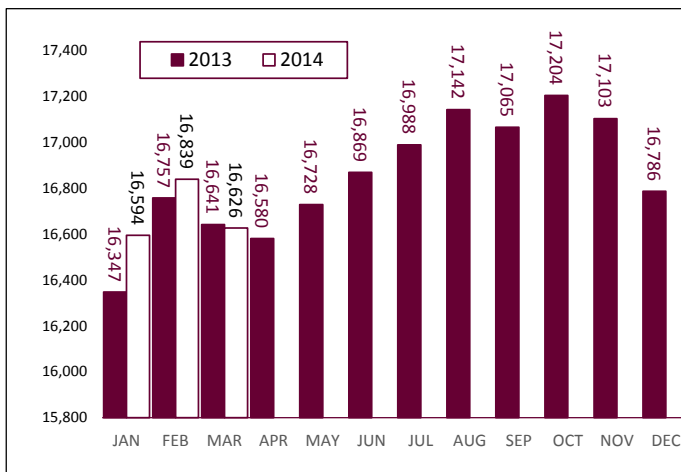


Chart 7 – Remands from Community Release

February 2014

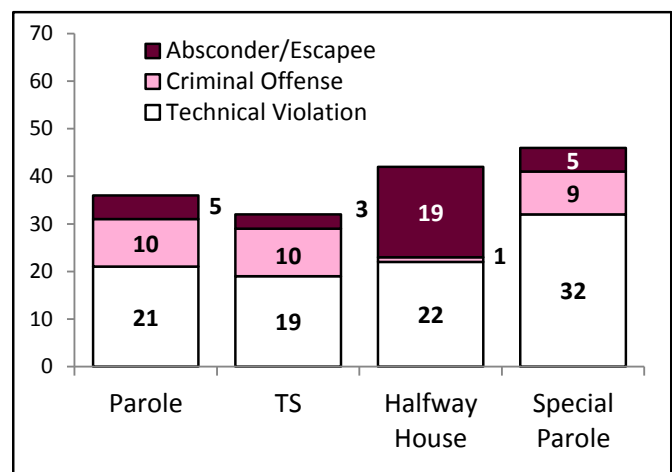


Chart 5 – Monthly Statewide Criminal Arrests

2013 versus 2014

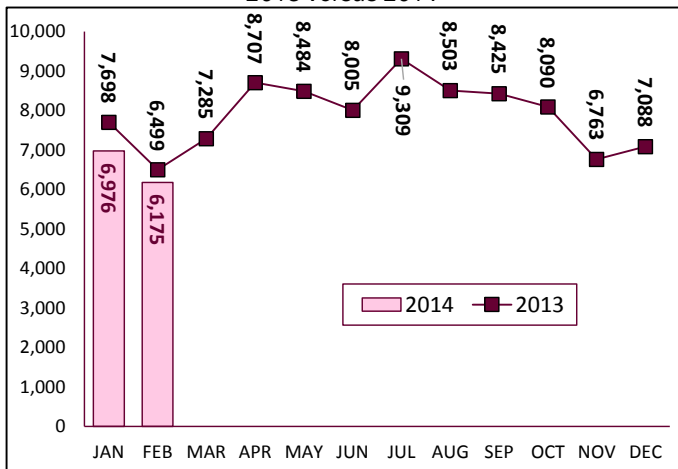
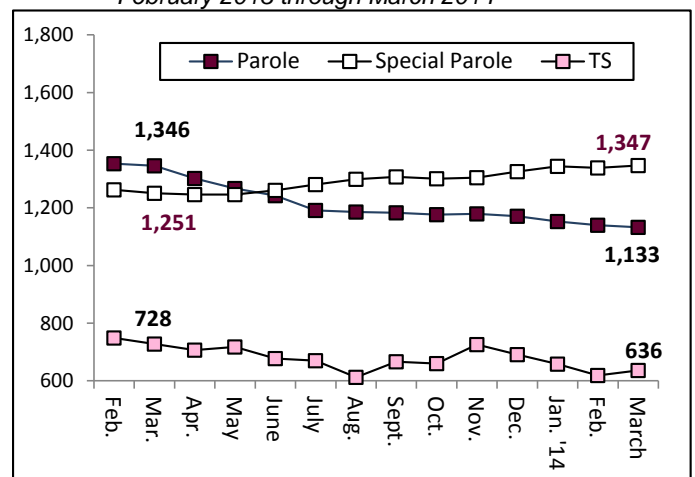


Chart 8 – DOC Community Supervision

February 2013 through March 2014



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