

OPM - Criminal Justice Policy & Planning Division

Monthly Indicators Report

Highlights

- On March 1, 2021 - 9,050 people were incarcerated in Connecticut's prisons and jails. One year ago, on the precipice of a global pandemic, the count stood at 12,411 – 27% higher. Recent trends have been less dramatic. Since January 1, 2021, the correction population has been relatively flat, falling by only 47 people.
- OPM is in the process of incorporating new or revised metrics to describe front end criminal justice processes. Our intention is to gradually introduce changes, building on the model developed over the last dozen years. The first in a series of changes expected in 2021, OPM has updated its arrest metric. Following a hiatus since November 2020, statewide monthly arrest figures once again appear in Charts 2 and 5. A word of caution to readers: **arrest data will not match prior reports.** Starting this month, reported statewide arrests will include a new case type resulting in higher figures than previously reported. Despite the change, the overall trend remains the same, arrests thus far are lower this year vs last (see chart 5). For additional discussion, please see chart 2a on page 2.
- The number of people discharging from a DOC facility at the end of their sentence fell to 49 in February signaling both a reduced churn in the sentenced population and contrasted with the 242 previously sentenced people discharging from community settings, the concerted effort of the DOC and PCS to move as many sentenced offenders into the community as possible.

Prison Population Forecast

One month into the 2021 prison population forecast and OPM's estimate, as is often the case this early in the process, is holding form. A word of caution, at this point last year, OPM's forecast was within 89 of the actual count; a lot can change in the months to come. Uncertainty increases as we get deeper into the forecast year, but current metrics depict a system currently in a state of balance. Admissions events reported in chart 2 on page 2 and table 2 on page 3 are nearly balanced by releases and discharges, resulting in very small month over month changes in the count of incarcerated people held in the DOC's prison and jails.

OPM will watch these metrics carefully in the coming months, with the expectation that admission events will gradually climb, stopping then ultimately reversing the current trend. The expected change, contingent on external, societal factors independent and a priori to the operation of the criminal justice system, is difficult to time out. Once society at large returns to a degree of normalcy, operations within the criminal justice system will follow suit. OPM's input/output model will closely track changes, in near real time, reporting on them in this space in the months to come.

TABLE 1 – Prison Population Forecast

	Avg. Daily Count	OPM 2021 Forecast	Inmate difference
JAN '21	9,106	-	-
FEB	9,044	9,044	-
MAR	9,048	9,020	-28
APR		8,999	-
MAY		8,957	-
JUN		8,914	-
JUL		8,890	-
AUG		8,869	-
SEP		8,827	-
OCT		8,890	-
NOV		8,908	-
DEC		8,924	-
JAN '22		8,864	-
FEB		8,986	-

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

Chart 1 – Actual prison population against the OPM forecasts

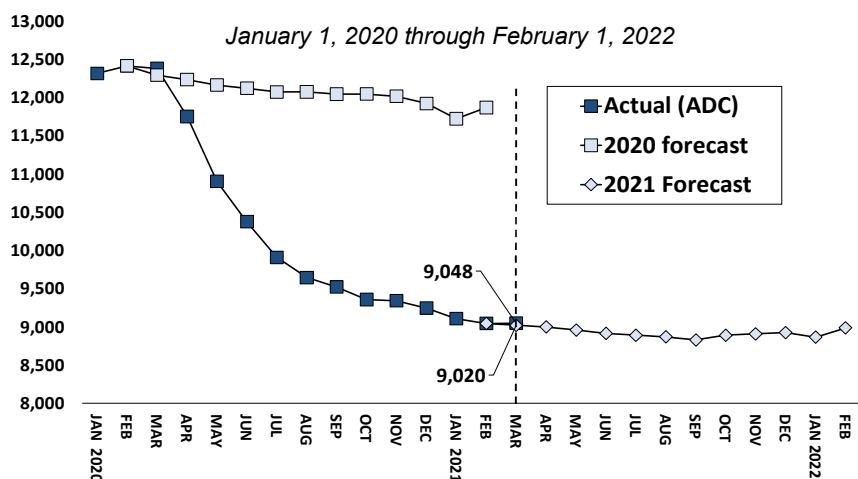


Chart 2 - Criminal justice, monthly counts and flows

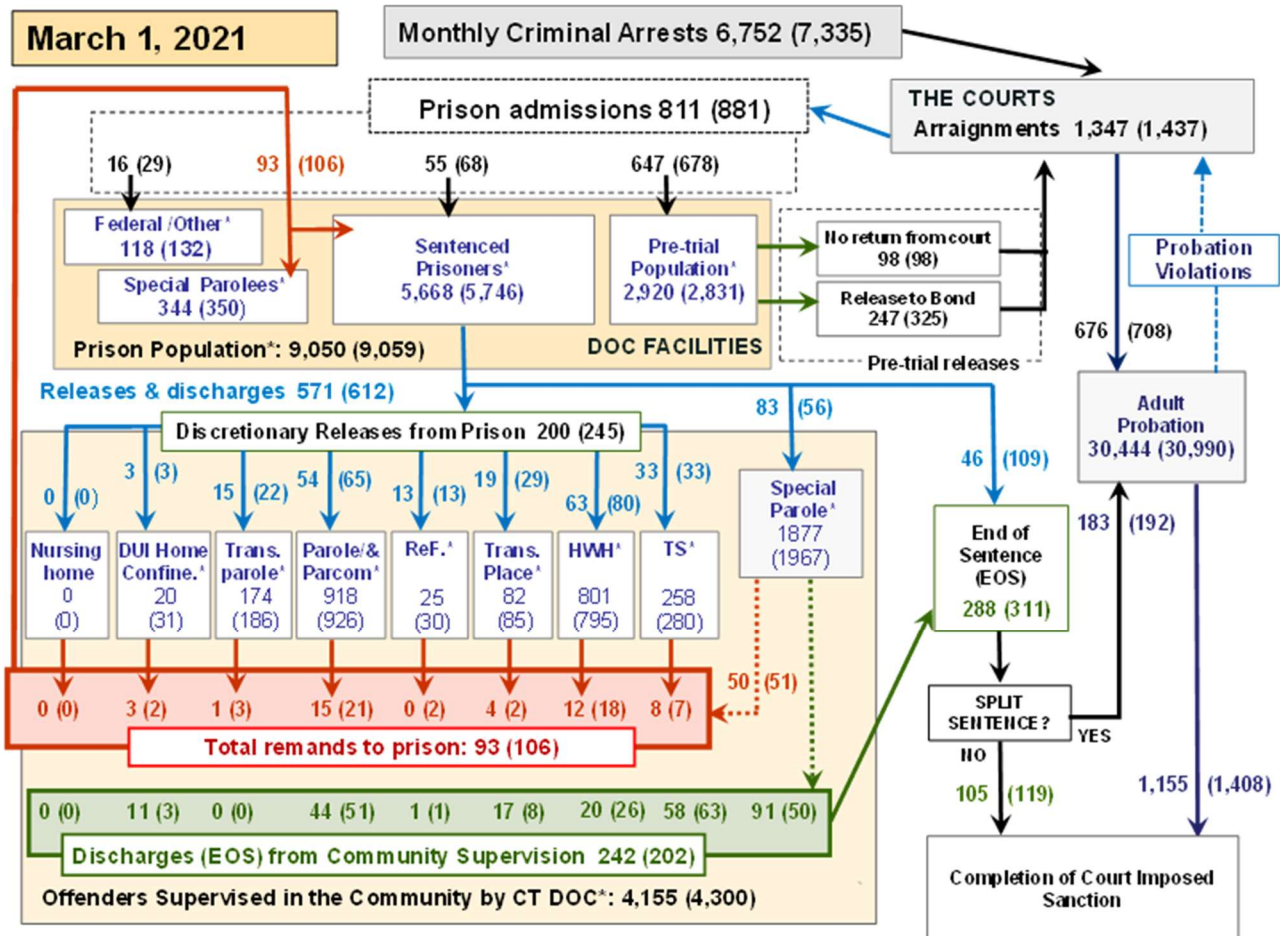
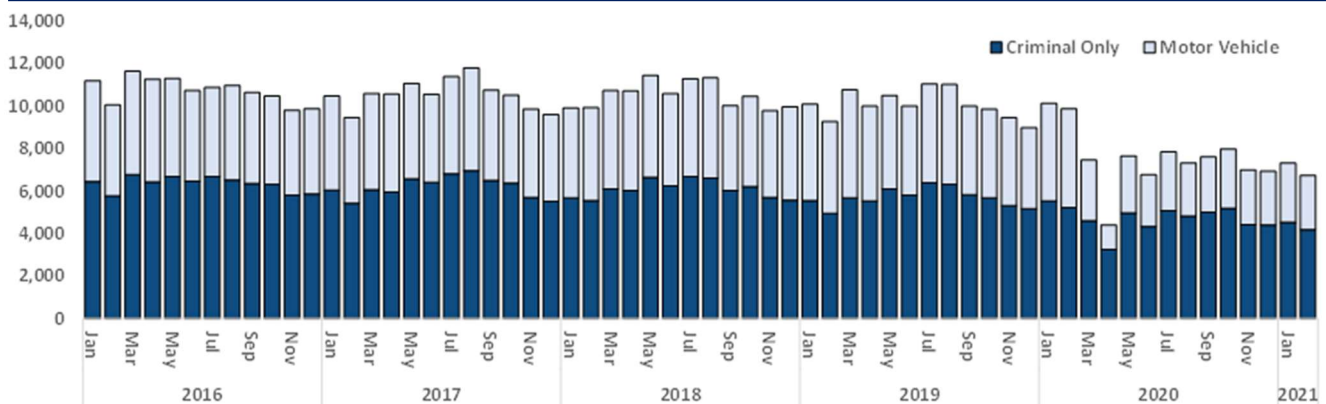


Chart 2 contains monthly operations data for February 2021 and daily counts reported on March 1, 2021. Asterisks (*) indicate the daily count on March 1st. Figures for last month are enclosed by parentheses. Sources: Arrests – CRMVS, via CJIS, Court and probation data - CSSD, all other data - CT DOC.

Chart 2a – Arrest data returns to the Monthly Indicators Report



A routine review of the data elements published in the *Monthly Indicators Report* revealed that arrest data should include motor vehicle cases. OPM's arrest metric is based on cases added to court dockets, data collected by the Judicial Branch, transmitted and tabulated through CJIS. OPM has historically received data grouped into four docket types: criminal, motor vehicle, criminal infraction and motor vehicle infraction. Prior to the review, OPM reported only cases included in the criminal category.

Our conversations with subject matter experts at the Judicial Branch revealed that the addition of the motor vehicle category would enhance OPM's model of the criminal justice system, capturing, more accurately the volume of cases which could result in a bond, a pretrial admission to the DOC or potentially a sentence to term of incarceration.

Going forward OPM will report both categories as a single, statewide arrest figure. Historical analysis will be annotated to reduce confusion.

Table 2 - First-of-month totals

	2021	2021	2021	2020	% Change	
	Jan. 1	Feb. 1	Mar. 1	Mar. 1	Monthly	Annual
DOC Facilities						
Federal/Other	138	132	118	122	-10.6%	-3.3%
Sentenced	5,819	5,746	5,668	9,037	-1.4%	-37.3%
Special Parole	353	350	344	358	-1.7%	-3.9%
Pre-trial	2,787	2,831	2,920	2,894	3.1%	0.9%
Total	9,097	9,059	9,050	12,411	-0.1%	-27.1%
DOC Community						
Transfer Parole	197	186	174	66	-6.5%	163.6%
Parole/ Parcom Total	928	926	918	901	-0.9%	1.9%
Parole	750	749	739	741	-1.3%	-0.3%
Parcom @ CT	178	177	179	160	1.1%	11.9%
Furlough	37	30	25	3	-16.7%	733.3%
Trans Placement	67	85	82	46	-3.5%	78.3%
DUI/Home confine.	35	31	20	85	-35.5%	-76.5%
Halfway House Total	809	795	801	988	0.8%	-18.9%
Comm Release	391	386	381	445	-1.3%	-14.4%
TS	12	11	8	28	-27.3%	-71.4%
Parole	119	123	126	155	2.4%	-18.7%
Transfer Parole	36	32	22	10	-31.3%	120.0%
Special Parole	251	243	264	350	8.6%	-24.6%
TS	306	280	258	412	-7.9%	-37.4%
Nursing home	0	0	0	4	-	-100.0%
Special Parole	1,989	1,967	1,877	2,120	-4.6%	-11.5%
Total	4,368	4,300	4,155	4,625	-3.4%	-10.2%

Table 2a - Monthly admissions, releases & discharges

	2020	2021	2021	2020	% Change	
	DEC	JAN	FEB	FEB	Monthly	Annual
Admissions						
Federal/Other	18	29	16	61	-44.8%	-73.8%
Remands	92	106	93	131	-12.3%	-29.0%
DUI	4	5	4	0	-	-
Parole	19	21	15	23	-28.6%	-34.8%
Trans Plac/Furlough	1	4	4	0	-	-
HWH	20	18	12	21	-33.3%	-42.9%
TS	12	7	8	16	14.3%	33.0%
Special Parole	36	51	50	71	-2.0%	-29.6%
New Sentence	35	68	55	213	-19.1%	-74.2%
VOP	5	14	17	63	-	-
Pre-trial	670	678	647	1,081	-4.6%	-40.1%
Total	815	881	811	1,486	-7.9%	-45.4%
Releases and discharges						
Transfer Parole	27	22	15	10	-31.8%	50.0%
Parole	74	65	54	70	-16.9%	-22.9%
Furlough	15	13	13	3	0.0%	333.3%
Trans. Placement	16	29	19	12	-34.5%	58.3%
Home Confinement DUI	9	3	3	19	0.0%	-84.2%
HWH	73	80	63	77	-21.3%	-18.2%
TS	38	33	33	112	0.0%	-70.5%
Special Parole	72	56	83	97	48.2%	-14.4%
Nursing home	0	0	0	0	-	-
End of Sentence	350	311	288	519	-7.4%	-44.5%
Total	674	612	571	919	-6.7%	-37.9%
Pre-trial Releases*						
From Court	106	98	98	391	0.0%	-74.9%
Release to Bond	333	325	247	348	-24.0%	-29.0%

* 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
DEC	245	109	40	27	44%
JAN	265	118	45	27	45%
FEB 21	212	93	35	27	44%
FEB 20	665	296	104	107	45%

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

Board of Pardons and Paroles

Table 4 - Parole hearings, new cases

	Parole Hearings	Paroles granted	Grant rate	Granted: Prior Year	Granted: Two Years Prior
DEC	106	65	61%	68	74
JAN	94	50	53%	63	65
FEB	89	51	57%	53	83

Table 4a - Other BOPP actions

	Reparole from revocation	Reparole from rescission	Closed interest cases	Special parole cases	Transfer parole cases
DEC	22	1	17	15	28
JAN	23	1	11	17	17
FEB 2021	20	0	11	11	22
FEB 2020	57	1	12	26	11

The pre-trial population

Table 5 - Bond ranges for pre-trial detainees

Bond amount	Jan. 1, 2021	Feb. 1, 2021	Mar. 1, 2021	Mar. 1, 2020
Less than \$20K	347	366	397	383
\$20K to <\$50K	369	372	378	426
\$50K to <\$100K	455	463	476	512
\$100K or higher	1,830	1,843	1,887	1,641
Persons w/bonds	3,001	3,044	3,138	2,962
Over \$1M	291	303	317	227

Table 5a - Pre-trial, weeks since admission

Weeks since last DOC admit	Jan. 1, 2021	Feb. 1, 2021	Mar. 1, 2021	Mar. 1, 2020
< 1 week	189	215	264	371
1 to < 3 weeks	173	172	194	264
3 to < 10 weeks	502	496	455	614
10 to < 30 weeks	793	831	849	801
30 wks or more	1,346	1,332	1,379	916
Pre-trial prisoners	3,003	3,046	3,141	2,966

Table 5b - Pre-trial admits, new offenders

	DEC 2020	JAN 2021	FEB 2021	FEB 2020
Arraignments	1,526	1,437	1,347	2,398
Pre-trial Admits	670	678	647	1,081
New to DOC	160	171	154	254
% New	24%	25%	24%	23%

Court Support Services Division

Table 6 - The Jail Reinterview Program

	Pretrial admissions	Offender interviews	Offenders released	Released last year
DEC	670	614	164	260
JAN	678	612	150	267
FEB	647	524	138	268

Table 6a - Pre-trial bail and probation caseloads

	Pretrial Bail Case Starts	Client Supv. Starts	Split Sentence Starts	Pretrial bail cases
DEC	2,050*	712	206	12,665*
JAN	2,050*	708	192	12,665*
FEB	2,050*	676	183	12,665*
FEB '20	2,050*	1,721	334	12,665*

* CSSD estimates

Chart 3 – Prison population

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

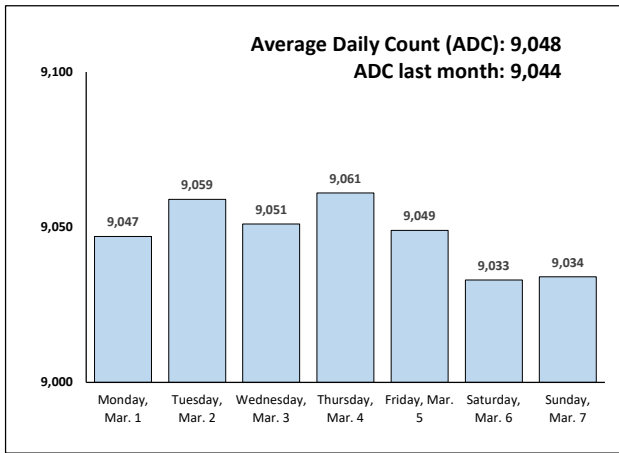


Chart 6 – Monthly DOC Admissions

February 2020 through February 2021

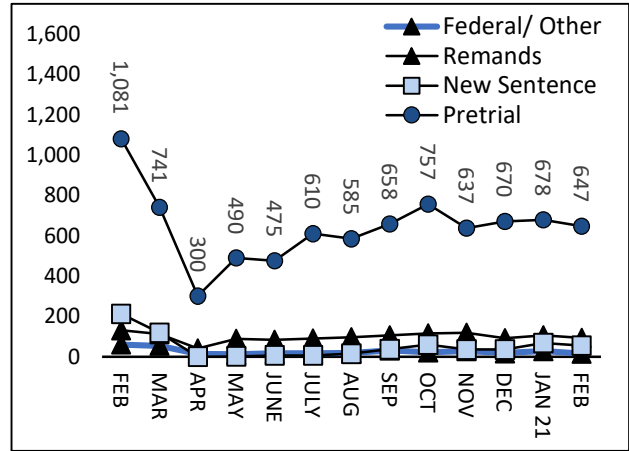


Chart 4 – Prison population, first-of-month

2018, 2019, 2020 and 2021

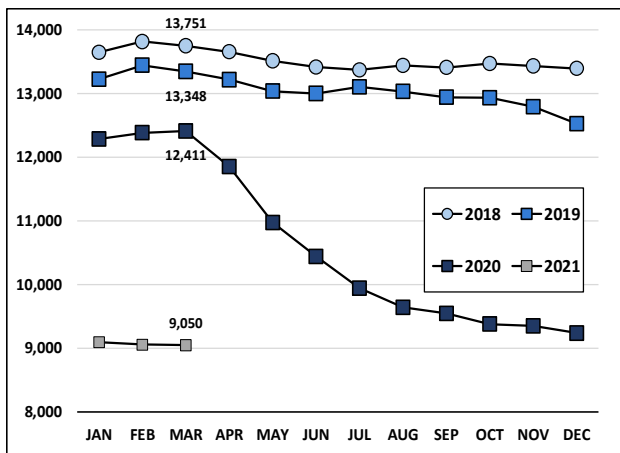


Chart 7– Remands from community release

February 2021

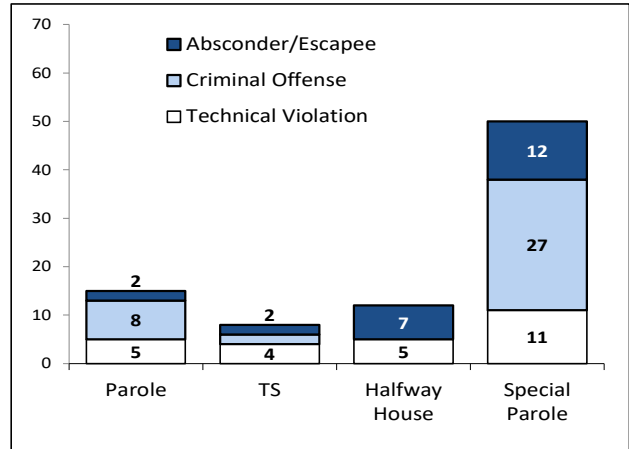


Chart 5 – Statewide Arrests

2020 and 2021

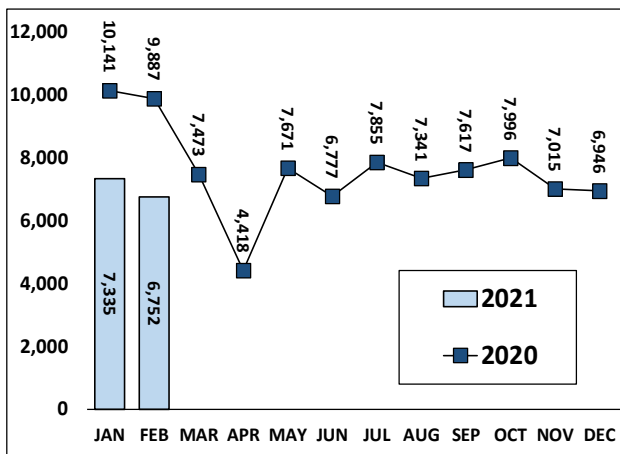
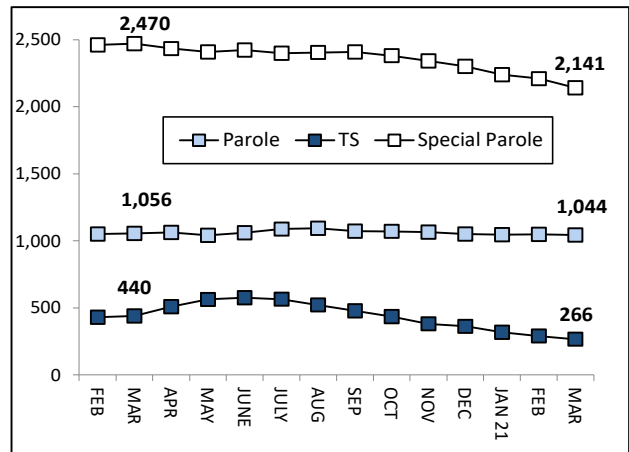


Chart 8 – DOC community supervision

Feb. 1, 2020 through Mar. 1, 2021



Note: Data for all charts, except for Chart 5, was supplied by CT DOC. Data for Chart 5 are for new case starts in the state Criminal Motor Vehicle System (CRMVS). Chart 8 includes offenders in halfway houses.