

OPM - Criminal Justice Policy & Planning Division

Monthly Indicators Report

Highlights

- On September 1, 2018 - 13,410 inmates were incarcerated in Connecticut's prisons and jails, holding steady in August - exactly as it did last year.
- Chart 3 on page 4 captures a, single-day, 60-inmate bump in the prison count between Tuesday the 4th and Wednesday the 5th. Increases this sudden normally follow a three day holiday weekend, as an extra day's worth of pre-trial defendants make their way to court.
- The prison population still shows evidence of police arrest sweeps conducted in July. Table 5a shows the bump, month-over-month, in pretrial detainees - between July and August among those held 1 to 3 weeks and August to September with those held 3 to 10 weeks.
- The number of offenders supervised on Transitional Supervision (TS) fell below 500 for the first time since OPM began keeping records. The DOC's review process for TS is considered to be efficient, suggesting the pool of TS eligible candidates has dwindled.
- Chart 2a contains an update on the incidence of opioid mortality among former prisoners. The number of overdose deaths in Connecticut rose again in 2017 as did the number (and percent) of those with a DOC number. The OCME anticipates releasing a mid-year update for the first half of 2018 in the coming days.

Prison Population Forecast

Keeping with OPM's prediction of a mild drop between August and September, the prison population moved very little last month. While it would be easy to mistake it as such, nearly flat movement on a month to month head count does not necessarily mean very little activity happened. The prison population was far from stagnant in August. The DOC logged over 1,900 admission events, the lion's share of those being pretrial admissions (see chart 6). To get, in effect, zero net change, an equal number of releases took place during the month. The DOC saw roughly 15% of its population turn over in one month's time.

The ebb and flow of admissions and releases to the DOC is a fundamental aspect of OPM's forecast model. The ratio of inputs (admits) to outputs (releases and discharges) determines how the monthly head count will trend. 2016's decline was the result of a combination of reduced inputs and an *increase* in outputs, while in 2017 the prison population fell in large part because inputs fell precipitously - 6% fewer admissions than in 2016 and 8% fewer than in 2015. In 2018, the system shows signs of stabilizing. Both inputs and outputs are falling at about the same rate as the system as a whole.

OPM expects the population to follow the February forecast, holding steady until the expected late year decline and 450 fewer inmates by the start of 2019.

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	13,499	13,550	51
JUN	13,405	13,465	60
JUL	13,369	13,433	64
AUG	13,439	13,320	-119
SEP	13,431	13,265	-166
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

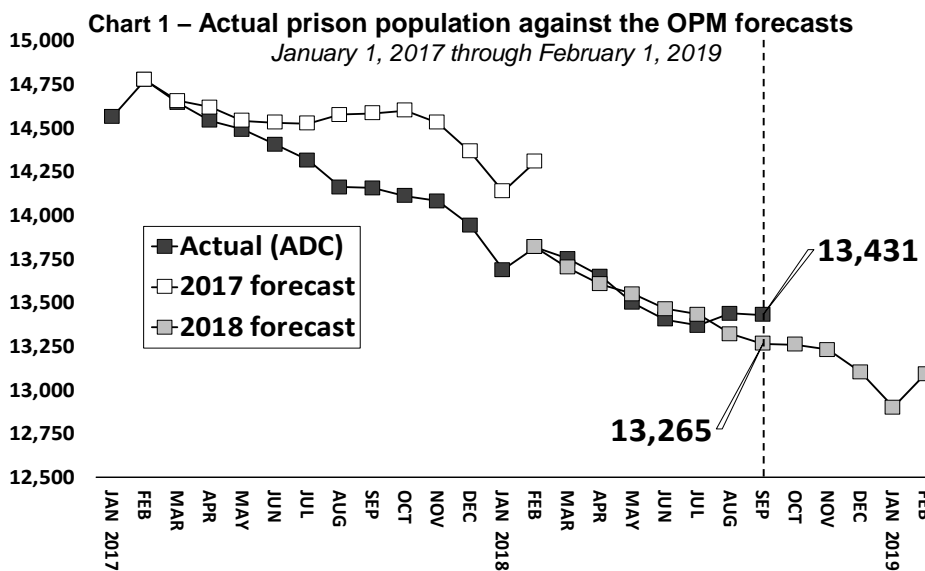


Chart 2 - Criminal justice, monthly counts and flows

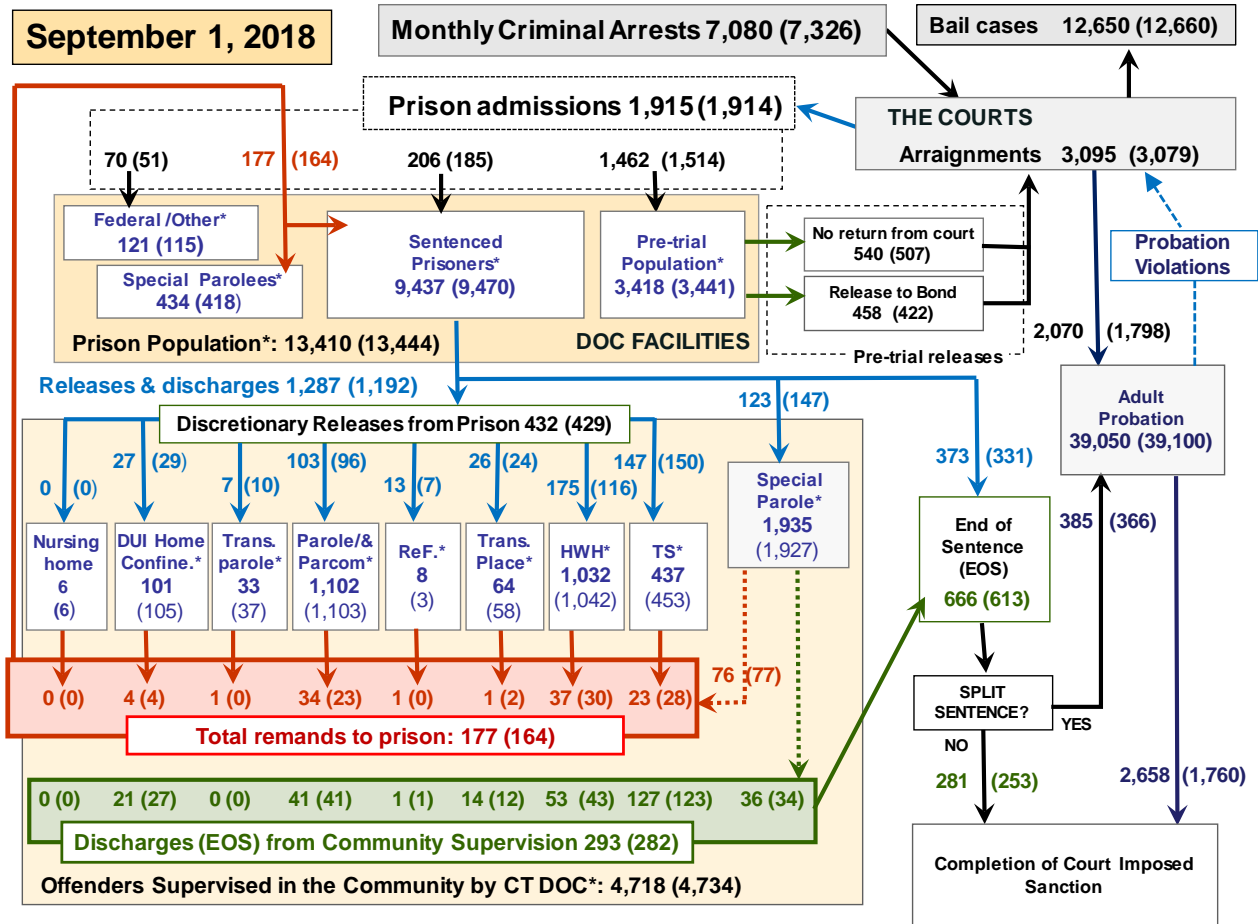
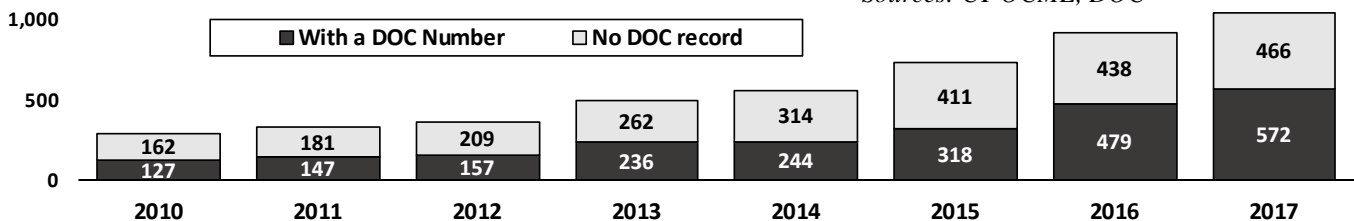


Chart 2 contains monthly operations data for August 2018 and daily counts reported on September 1, 2018. Asterisks (*) indicate the daily count on September 1st. Figures for last month are enclosed by parentheses. Sources: Arrests - OBTS, Court and probation data - CSSD, all other data - CT DOC. Note: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

Chart 2a – Opioid deaths and CT prisoners

Sources: CT OCME, DOC



Former prisoners face a heightened risk to die of a drug overdose. We have reported in the past that former inmates account for a large portion of overdose victims in Connecticut. That trend seems to be growing. Between 2010 and 2016, about 45% of those dying of an accidental drug overdose had previously been incarcerated in a CT prison or jail. In 2016 the proportion grew to 52% and in 2017 increased further to 55%.

In an odd bit of morbid symmetry, 54% of CT's 2017 homicide victims between the ages of 18 and 66 had a DOC record. Former offenders who died of a drug overdose were overwhelmingly white

(70%) while a majority (61%) of 2017 homicide victims who had previously been incarcerated were black.

The high correlation between race/ethnicity and cause of death points to the vastly different experiences and risk profiles offenders carry with them into, and ultimately out of, the criminal justice system. The outcomes examined above foreshadow the societal factors that drive these two disparate groups into the criminal justice system. Perhaps grim outcomes can inform policy to address origins.

Further reading OPM's Mortality among ex-prisoners: https://www.ct.gov/opm/lib/opm/cjppd/cjresearch/mainnav/prisoner_mortality_final_03232018.pdf

Table 2 - First-of-month totals

	2018	2018	2018	2017	% Change	
	July 1	Aug. 1	Sept. 1	Sept. 1	Monthly	Annual
DOC Facilities						
Federal/Other	108	115	121	129	5.2%	-6.2%
Sentenced	9,517	9,470	9,437	10,324	-0.3%	-8.6%
Special Parole	449	418	434	483	3.8%	-10.1%
Pre-trial	3,297	3,441	3,418	3,240	-0.7%	5.5%
Total	13,371	13,444	13,410	14,176	-0.3%	-5.4%
DOC Community						
Transfer Parole	42	37	33	21	-10.8%	57.1%
Parole/ Parcom Total	1,089	1,103	1,102	1,099	-0.1%	0.3%
Parole	924	933	932	936	-0.1%	-0.4%
Parcom @ CT	165	170	170	163	0.0%	4.3%
Furlough	4	3	8	26	-	-
Trans Placement	54	58	64	46	10.3%	39.1%
DUI/Home confine.	108	105	101	112	-3.8%	-9.8%
Halfway House Total	1,036	1,042	1,032	1,044	-1.0%	-1.1%
Comm Release	504	498	524	512	5.2%	2.3%
TS	50	50	32	61	-36.0%	-47.5%
Parole	149	146	133	160	-8.9%	-16.9%
Transfer Parole	5	6	6	5	-	-
Special Parole	328	342	337	306	-1.5%	10.1%
TS	466	453	437	543	-3.5%	-19.5%
Nursing home	6	6	6	6	-	-
Special Parole	1,920	1,927	1,935	1,763	0.4%	9.8%
Total	4,722	4,734	4,718	4,660	-0.3%	1.2%

Table 2a - Admissions, releases & discharges

	2017	2018	2018	2017	% Change	
	June	July	August	August	Monthly	Annual
Admissions						
Federal/Other	66	51	70	83	37.3%	-15.7%
Remands	159	164	177	165	7.9%	7.3%
DUI	4	3	5	6	-	-
Parole	29	23	34	29	47.8%	17.2%
Trans Plac/Furlough	1	2	1	3	-	-
HWH	36	30	37	28	23.3%	32.1%
TS	36	28	23	36	-17.9%	-36.1%
Special Parole	71	77	76	63	-1.3%	20.6%
New Sentence	204	185	206	191	11.4%	7.9%
VOP	54	64	64	61	0.0%	4.9%
Pre-trial	1,292	1,514	1,462	1,523	-3.4%	-4.0%
Total	1,721	1,914	1,915	1,962	0.1%	-2.4%
Releases and discharges						
Transfer Parole	13	10	7	5	-	-
Parole	100	96	103	117	7.3%	-12.0%
Furlough	2	7	13	28	-	-
Trans. Placement	18	24	26	33	8.3%	-21.2%
Home Confinement DU	26	29	27	43	-6.9%	-37.2%
HWH	127	116	175	138	50.9%	26.8%
TS	142	150	147	205	-2.0%	-28.3%
Special Parole	148	147	123	136	-16.3%	-9.6%
Nursing home	1	0	0	0	-	-
End of Sentence	660	613	666	685	8.6%	-2.8%
Total	1,237	1,192	1,287	1,390	8.0%	-7.4%
Pre-trial Releases*						
From Court	485	507	540	538	6.5%	0.4%
Release to Bond	380	422	458	419	8.5%	9.3%

* Totals reflect events, not individual offenders

DOC - Community Release Unit (CRU)

Table 3 - Case reviews and release metrics

	Cases				Approval Rate
	Reviewed	Approved	Denied	Continued	
June	728	343	124	101	47%
July	678	312	104	105	46%
Aug.	719	341	117	101	47%
Aug. '17	806	378	119	134	47%

Board of Pardons and Paroles

Table 4 - Parole hearings, new cases

	Parole Hearings	Paroles granted	Grant rate	Paroles granted, 2017	Paroles granted, 2016
June	141	56	40%	87	90
July	149	77	52%	87	99
Aug.	155	73	47%	70	69

Table 4a - Other BOPP actions

	Reparole from revocation	Reparole from rescission	Closed interest cases	Special parole cases	Transfer parole cases
June	34	4	38	46	7
July	27	4	25	39	10
Aug	33	2	24	30	9
Aug '17	53	4	19	34	7

The pre-trial population

Table 5 - Bond ranges for pre-trial detainees

Bond amount	July 1, 2018	Aug 1, 2018	Sept. 1, 2018	Sept. 1, 2017
Less than \$20K	543	639	643	558
\$20K to < \$50K	504	505	523	549
\$50K to <\$100K	671	659	633	728
\$100K or higher	1,748	1,790	1,811	1,532
Persons w/bonds	3,466	3,593	3,610	3,367
Over \$1M	202	203	193	158

Table 5a - Pre-trial, weeks since admission

Weeks since last DOC admit	July 1, 2018	Aug 1, 2018	Sept. 1, 2018	Sept. 1, 2017
< 1 week	444	479	417	411
1 to < 3 weeks	330	424	353	404
3 to < 10 weeks	822	805	932	805
10 to < 30 weeks	936	954	949	929
30 wks or more	939	931	961	820
Pre-trial prisoners	3,471	3,593	3,612	3,369

Table 5b - Pre-trial admits, new offenders

	June 2018	July 2018	Aug. 2018	Aug. 2017
Arraignments	2,729	3,079	3,095	2,789
Pre-trial Admits	1,292	1,514	1,462	1,298
New to DOC	315	366	367	342
% New	24%	24%	25%	26%

Court Support Services Division

Table 6 - The Jail Re-interview Program

	Pre-trial admissions	Offender interviews	Offenders released	Released last year
June	1,292	924	334	499
July	1,514	1,007	325	508
Aug	1,462	1,065	383	426

Table 6a - Pre-trial bail and probation caseloads

	Pre-trial Bail Case Starts	Client Supv. Starts	Split Sentence Starts	Pre-trial bail cases
June	2,060*	1,840	375	12,660*
July	2,055*	1,798	366	12,660*
Aug.	2,050*	2,070	385	12,650*
Aug. '17	2,100*	1,815	399	12,730*

* 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)

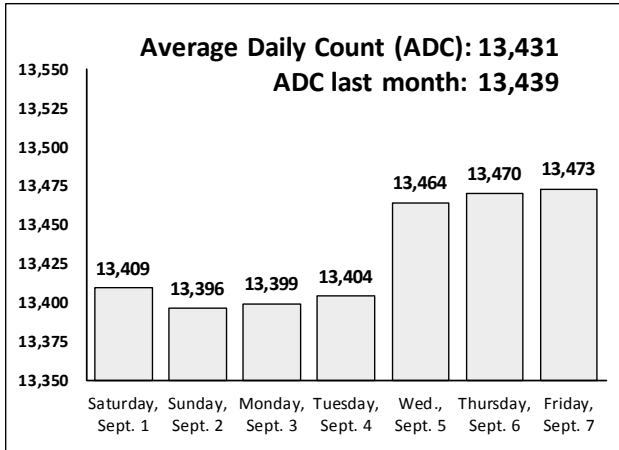


Chart 6 – Monthly DOC Admissions

July 2017 through Aug. 2018

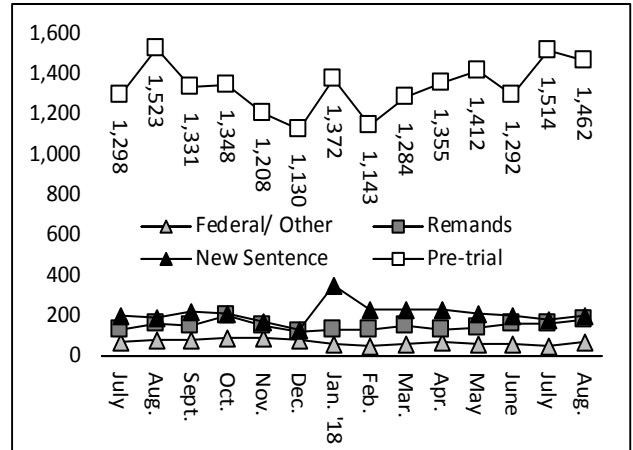


Chart 4 – Prison population, first-of-month

2015, 2016, 2017 and 2018

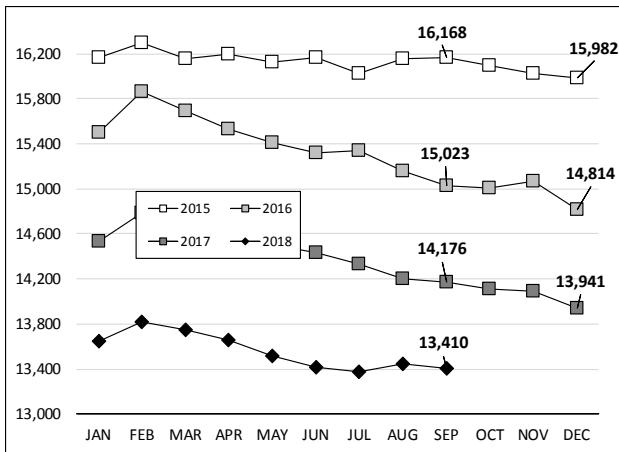


Chart 7 – Remands from community release

August 2018

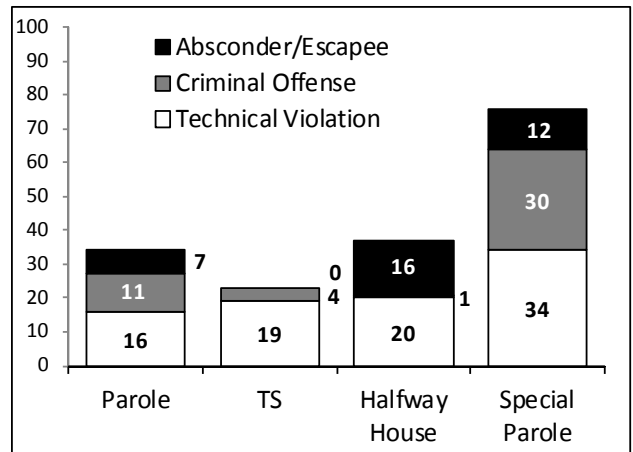


Chart 5 – Statewide criminal arrests

2017 and 2018

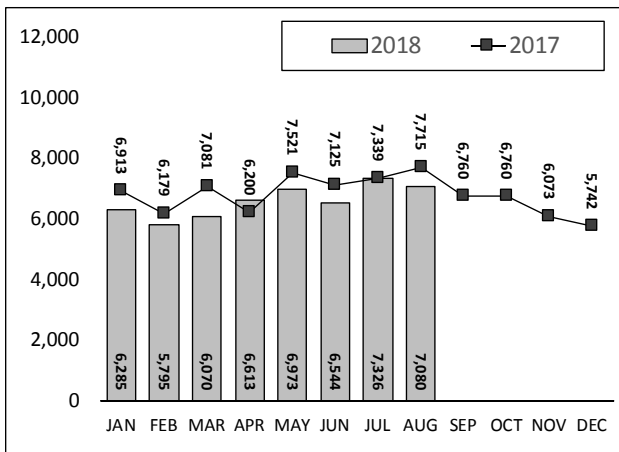
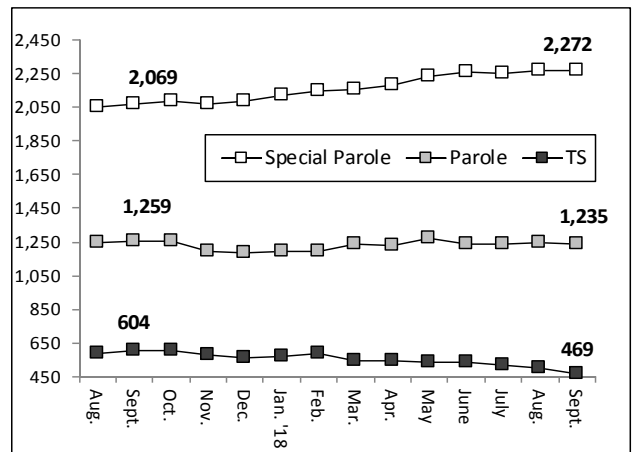


Chart 8 – DOC community supervision

Aug. 1, 2017 through Sept. 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 Criminal Motor Vehicle System (CRMVS). Chart 8 includes offenders in halfway houses.