

OPM - Criminal Justice Policy & Planning Division

Monthly Indicators Report

Highlights

- On May 1st there were 13,037 inmates in Connecticut prisons and jails, down nearly 500 offenders from one year ago. On May 10th the prison population dipped below 13,000 for the first time since September 1993. As of this writing it continues to hover near the 13,000-inmate level.
- The women’s prison population has fallen more than 13% since February. Men, held on pretrial status are down 2%. Given the small number of women in prison relative to men, large percentage swings can and have happened. Of particular interest to forecasters this year, the women’s population has fallen by 122 offenders from its annual peak, this may account for most of the difference between the actual and forecasted prison populations seen in Table 1.
- There is striking overlap between the state’s prison population and people that enter the state’s shelter system. This month in chart 2a we show that overlap as it relates to age and gender.
- Statewide arrests, a measure we track as a primary input to the criminal justice system, continues to decline (chart 5). Year-to-date, arrests are down 6% compared to 2018 and 26% from 2014.
- Parole releases are down 20% compared to 2018. BOPP has effectively cleared any hearing backlog it may have had. Given a much smaller sentenced population and consistent grant rates at BOPP, the number of offenders granted parole each are month is shrinking in step with the overall population decline (table 4).

Prison Population Forecast

The prison population is down 3% from its annual peak on February 1st, a steeper decline than usually seen. We have observed in this space that the sentenced population has been the primary driver of the prison population decline for several years now. Things are a bit different this year as most of the decline (68%) has come as a result in a drop in pretrial offenders. Offenders on pretrial status make up only about one quarter of the total prison population.

The pretrial population has been driven down by drops to its inputs and relative increases to its outputs. On the front end, pretrial admits, year-to-date, have been lower than last year, down 8%.

On the back end, OPM tracks two output “valves” for the pretrial population – the number of offenders bonding out from a DOC facility and those that are released, for any reason, at court. Those metrics reveal something interesting. Offenders

bonding out of facilities has fallen at the same rate as pretrial admits. The number of pretrial offenders being released at court has held constant over the first four months of the year, despite 400 fewer pretrial admits than last year, providing additional downward pressure on the number of pretrial detainees.

TABLE 1 – Prison Population Forecast

	Avg. Daily Count	OPM 2019 Forecast	Inmate difference
JAN '19	13,259	-	-
FEB	13,436	13,400	-
MAR	13,352	13,298	-54
APR	13,247	13,293	46
MAY	13,029	13,208	179
JUN		13,205	-
JUL		13,177	-
AUG		13,207	-
SEP		13,204	-
OCT		13,183	-
NOV		13,131	-
DEC		13,094	-
JAN '20		12,940	-
FEB		13,090	-

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

Chart 1 – Actual prison population against the OPM forecasts

January 1, 2017 through February 1, 2019

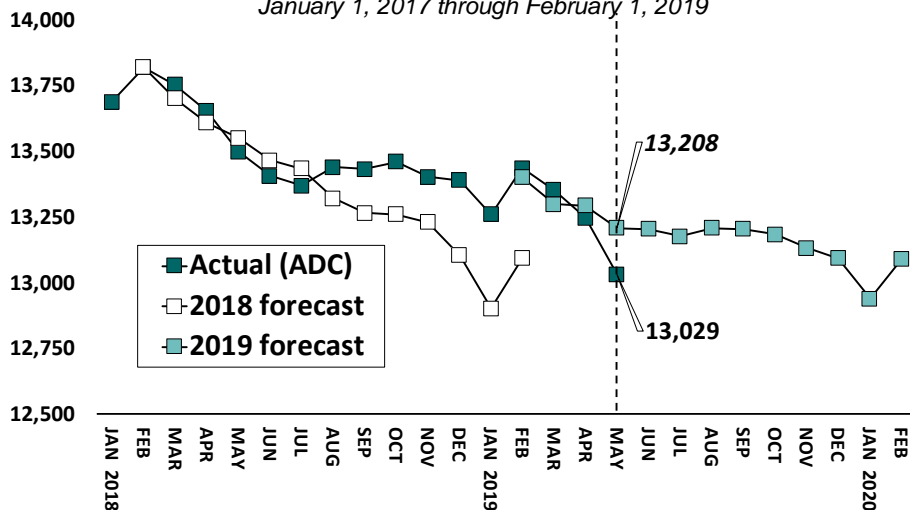


Chart 2 - Criminal justice, monthly counts and flows

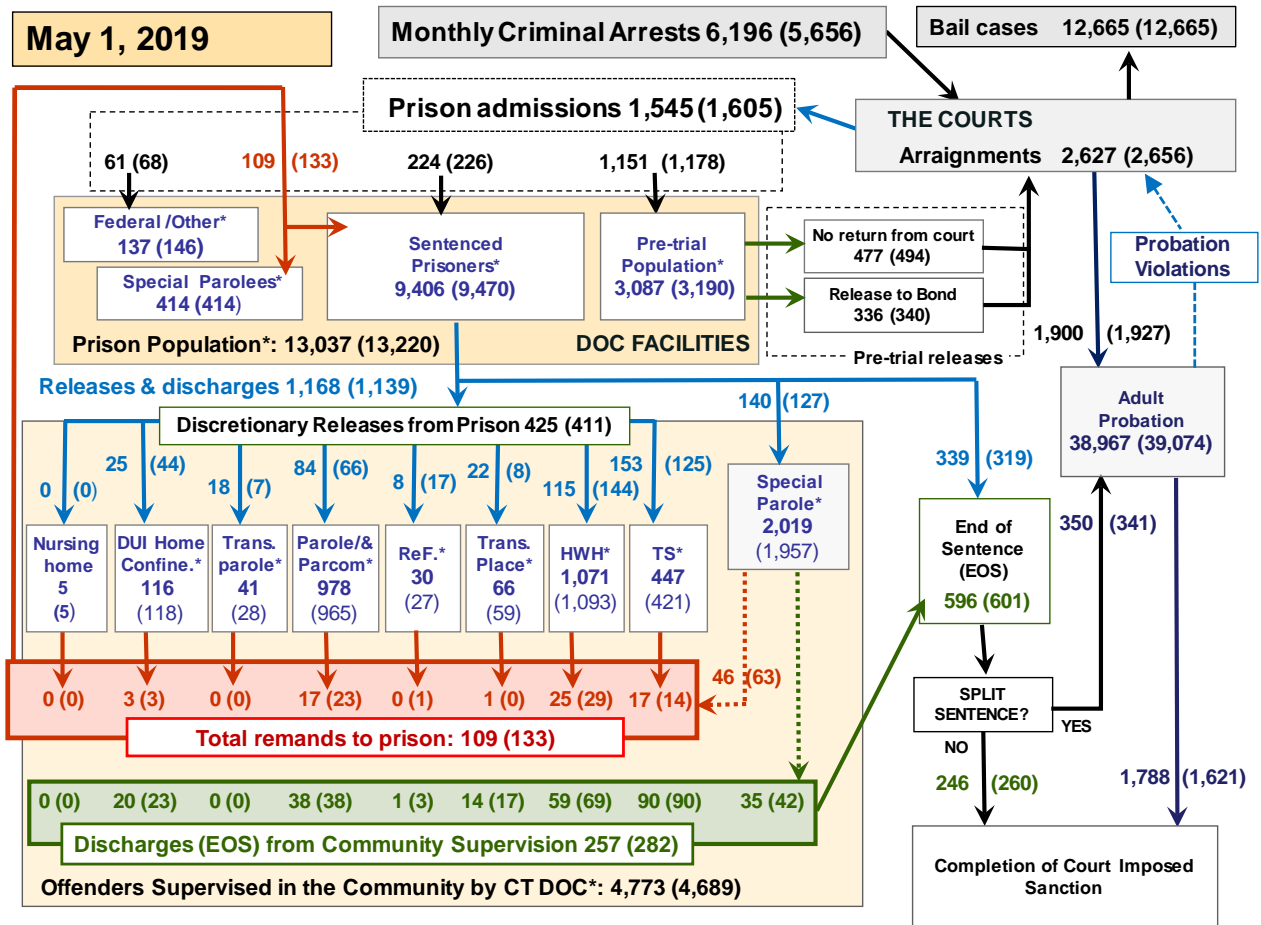
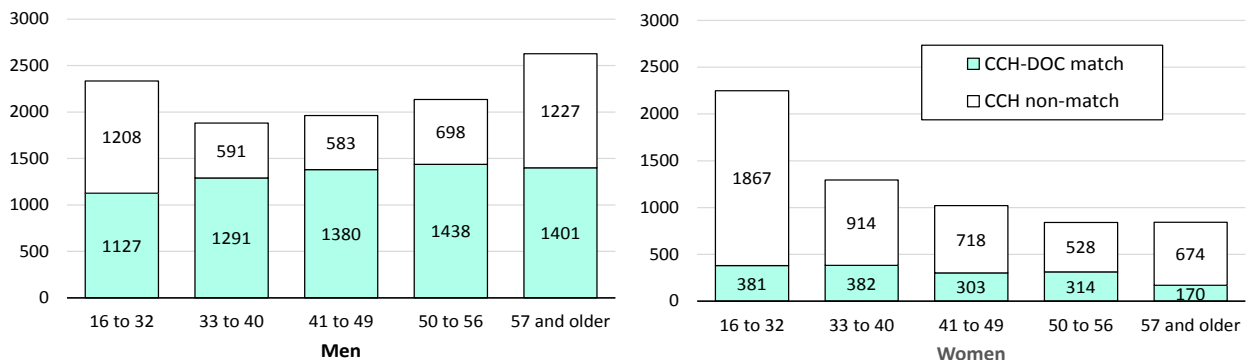


Chart 2 contains monthly operations data for April 2019 and daily counts reported on May 1, 2019. Asterisks (*) indicate the daily count on May 1st. Figures for last month are enclosed by parentheses. Sources: Arrests – CRMVS, Court and probation data - CSSD, all other data - CT DOC. Note: Some Judicial Branch data this month is estimated.

Chart 2a – Homelessness and incarceration



The Criminal Justice Research Unit at OPM recently teamed with the CT Coalition to End Homelessness (CCH) to discuss a data-sharing project to determine the degree to which the state's homeless population overlapped with the state's formerly-incarcerated population.

CCH provided OPM with data on over 17,000 individuals who had entered the state's shelter system during the last 3 years. OPM matched the CCH data with DOC inmate records. This effort revealed that 48% of the people that entered the state's shelter system in the last 3 years had been

former CT DOC inmates. Approximately 45% of the people that were matched had been released from prison within the last 3 years.

Although this analysis is preliminary, it appears that shelter utilization rates among former DOC inmates varies dramatically by age and gender. While only 25% of CCH women could be matched with DOC records, we found a 61% match for men. Among men in the CCH dataset who were between the ages of 41 to 49, we found a CT DOC match rate of 70%.

Table 2 - First-of-month totals

	2018		2019		2018		% Change	
	Mar. 1	Apr. 1	May 1	May 1	Monthly	Annual		
DOC Facilities								
Federal/Other	136	146	137	124	-6.2%	10.5%		
Sentenced	9,494	9,470	9,406	9,719	-0.7%	-3.2%		
Special Parole	417	414	407	438	-1.7%	-7.1%		
Pre-trial	3,301	3,190	3,087	3,233	-3.2%	-4.5%		
Total	13,348	13,220	13,037	13,514	-1.4%	-3.5%		
DOC Community								
Transfer Parole	24	28	41	33	46.4%	24.2%		
Parole/ Parcom Total	1,003	965	978	1,087	1.3%	-10.0%		
Parole	835	795	812	919	2.1%	-11.6%		
Parcom @ CT	168	170	166	168	-2.4%	-1.2%		
Furlough	22	27	30	9	-	-		
Trans Placement	67	59	66	55	11.9%	20.0%		
DUI/Home confine.	104	118	116	126	-1.7%	-7.9%		
Halfway House Total	1,086	1,093	1,071	1,051	-2.0%	1.9%		
Comm Release	510	525	504	508	-4.0%	-0.8%		
TS	35	33	43	45	30.3%	-4.4%		
Parole	148	157	156	161	-0.6%	-3.1%		
Transfer Parole	3	2	3	1	-	-		
Special Parole	390	376	365	336	-2.9%	8.6%		
TS	412	421	447	490	6.2%	-8.8%		
Nursing home	5	5	5	7	-	-		
Special Parole	1,957	1,973	2,019	1,898	2.3%	6.4%		
Total	4,680	4,689	4,773	4,756	1.8%	0.4%		

Table 2a - Monthly admissions, releases & discharges

	2018		2019		2018		% Change	
	Feb.	Mar.	April	April	Monthly	Annual		
Admissions								
Federal/Other	56	68	61	72	-10.3%	-15.3%		
Remands	101	133	109	135	-18.0%	-19.3%		
DUI	2	3	3	5	-	-		
Parole	17	23	17	20	-26.1%	-15.0%		
Trans Plac/Furlough	1	0	1	1	-	-		
HWH	31	29	25	29	-13.8%	-13.8%		
TS	9	14	17	31	21.4%	-45.2%		
Special Parole	41	63	46	49	-27.0%	-6.1%		
New Sentence	231	226	224	229	-0.9%	-2.2%		
VOP	66	62	50	58	-19.4%	-13.8%		
Pre-trial	1,081	1,178	1,151	1,355	-2.3%	-15.1%		
Total	1,469	1,605	1,545	1,791	-3.7%	-13.7%		
Releases and discharges								
Transfer Parole	12	7	18	9	-	-		
Parole	53	66	84	111	27.3%	-24.3%		
Furlough	12	17	8	6	-	-		
Trans. Placement	11	8	22	23	175.0%	-4.3%		
Home Confinement DUI	32	44	25	38	-43.2%	-34.2%		
HWH	96	144	115	129	-20.1%	-10.9%		
TS	127	125	153	155	22.4%	-1.3%		
Special Parole	116	127	140	168	10.2%	-16.7%		
Nursing home	1	0	0	0	-	-		
End of Sentence	596	601	596	633	-0.8%	-5.8%		
Total	1,056	1,139	1,161	1,272	1.9%	-8.7%		
Pre-trial Releases*								
From Court	419	494	477	546	-3.4%	-12.6%		
Release to Bond	341	340	336	389	-1.2%	-13.6%		

* 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	
Feb.	636	290	85	97	46%
Mar.	737	341	113	115	46%
Apr.	699	290	107	111	41%
Apr. '18	741	365	108	105	49%

Board of Pardons and Paroles

Table 4 - Parole hearings, new cases

	Parole Hearings	Paroles granted	Grant rate	Paroles granted, 2017	Paroles granted, 2016
Feb.	138	83	60%	77	100
Mar.	134	71	53%	91	95
Apr.	142	67	47%	90	102

Table 4a - Other BOPP actions

	Reparole from revocation	Reparole from rescission	Closed interest cases	Special parole cases	Transfer parole cases
Feb.	30	1	15	34	10
Mar.	52	0	33	22	26
Apr.	43	1	23	33	3
Apr. '18	46	0	24	49	12

The pre-trial population

Table 5 - Bond ranges for pre-trial detainees

Bond amount	Mar. 1, 2019	Apr. 1, 2019	May 1, 2019	May 1, 2018
Less than \$20K	510	498	435	473
\$20K to < \$50K	450	428	422	468
\$50K to <\$100K	635	605	556	702
\$100K or higher	1,829	1,782	1,741	1,692
Persons w/bonds	3,424	3,313	3,173	3,335
Over \$1M	198	204	189	195

Table 5a - Pre-trial, weeks since admission

Weeks since last DOC admit	Mar. 1, 2019	Apr. 1, 2019	May 1, 2019	May 1, 2018
< 1 week	367	387	348	389
1 to < 3 weeks	277	319	261	326
3 to < 10 weeks	799	695	709	772
10 to < 30 weeks	1,026	994	951	931
30 wks or more	959	919	904	919
Pre-trial prisoners	3,428	3,314	3,173	3,337

Table 5b - Pre-trial admits, new offenders

	Feb. 2019	Mar. 2019	Apr. 2019	Apr. 2018
Arraignments	2,413	2,656	2,627	2,837
Pre-trial Admits	1,081	1,178	1,151	1,355
New to DOC	295	299	279	338
% New	27%	25%	24%	25%

Court Support Services Division

Table 6 - The Jail Re-interview Program

	Pre-trial admissions	Offender interviews	Offenders released	Released last year
Feb.	1,081	827	325	311
Mar.	1,178	784	328	333
Apr.	1,151	951	303	335

Table 6a - Pre-trial bail and probation caseloads

	Pre-trial Bail Case Starts	Client Supv. Starts	Split Sentence Starts	Pre-trial bail cases
Feb.	2,050*	1,769	362	12,665*
Mar.	2,050*	1,927	341	12,665*
Apr.	2,050*	1,900	350	12,665*
Apr. '18	2,070*	2,062	368	12,670*

* 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)

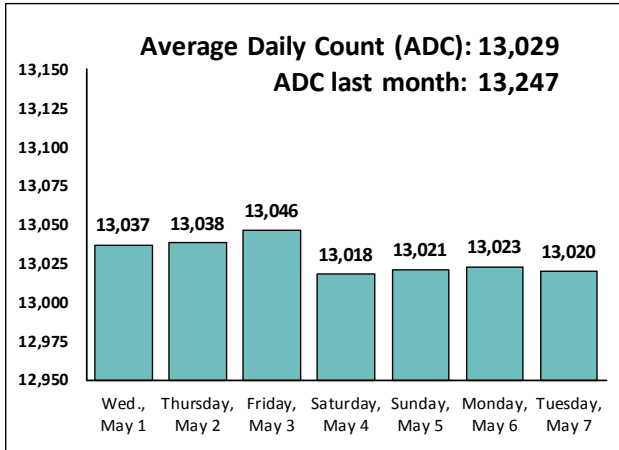


Chart 6 – Monthly DOC Admissions

Mar. 2018 through Apr. 2019

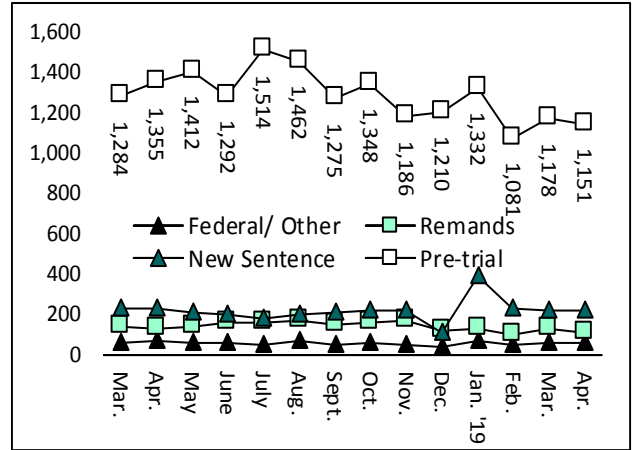


Chart 4 – Prison population, first-of-month

2016, 2017, 2018 and 2019

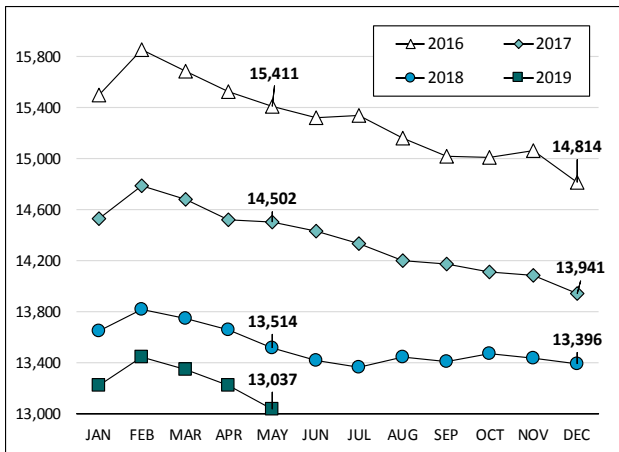


Chart 7 – Remands from community release

Apr. 2019

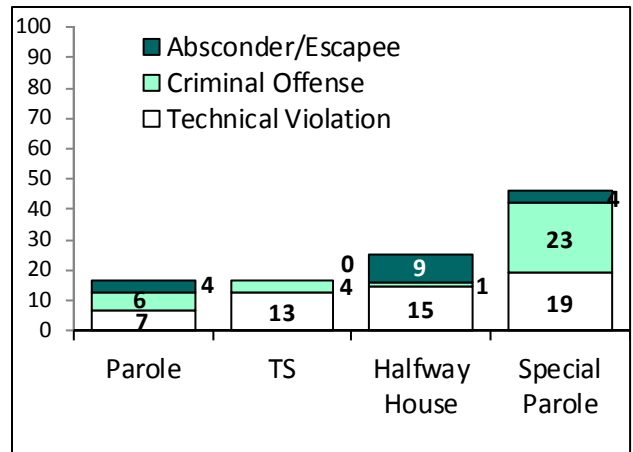


Chart 5 – Statewide criminal arrests

2018 and 2019

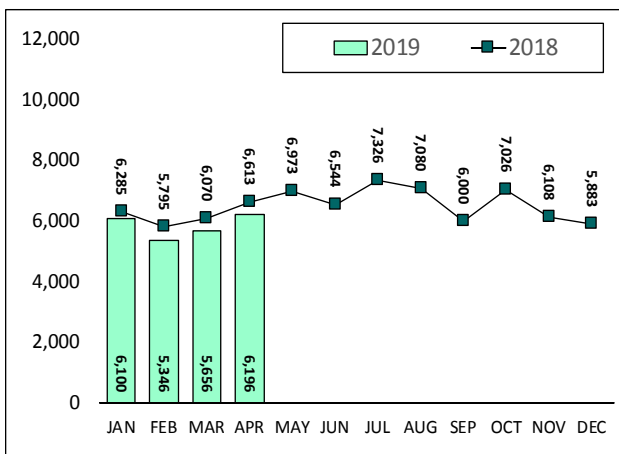
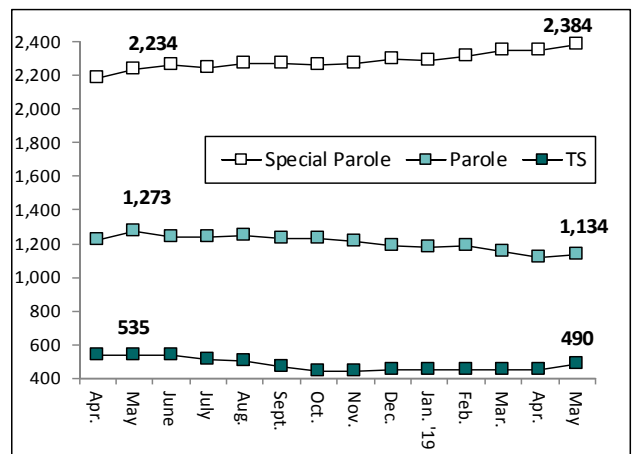


Chart 8 – DOC community supervision

Apr. 1, 2018 through May. 1, 2019



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.