



Criminal Justice Policy & Planning Division

Monthly Indicators Report

RESEARCH, ANALYSIS & EVALUATION — WWW.CT.GOV/OPM/CriminalJustice/Research

Highlights

- On August 1, 2009, 18,830 inmates were incarcerated in CT DOC facilities. This figure is 694 less than the figure on August 1st, 2008 when 19,524 people were incarcerated in the state.
- Between August and November, 2007, Connecticut's prison population grew by almost 1,000 inmates following significant events and policy changes that affected the State's parole and prison system. Since May 2009, however, the prison population appears to have stabilized, returning to historic levels that were typical between 2001 and 2006.
- Last month, the *Monthly Indicators Report* showed that releases to halfway houses had declined by 35.9% between May and June. The decline was understood to be a consequence of end-of-fiscal-year contractual changes between the DOC and its network of community-bed providers. As predicted, monthly releases to halfway houses rebounded in July as new contracts for community-based beds came on line. As a result, offenders released to halfway houses between June and July increased by 94.1% (See Table 3).

Next month, *Monthly Indicators Report* will publish a new 6-month forecast that will project the state prison population forward through March 2010.

Six Month Prison Population Forecast

The average daily prison population for the first seven days of August was 18,839 (See Chart 3). This figure is lower, by 98 prisoners, than the figure projected by OPM in February 2009.

Typically, the prison population tends to grow as summer progresses, reflecting

an increased pace in the number of criminal arrests that generally accompany the warm weather. In July, the number of statewide criminal arrests declined slightly from the June figure (See Chart 5). Monthly prison admittances for unsentenced defendants also remained relatively stable between June and July.

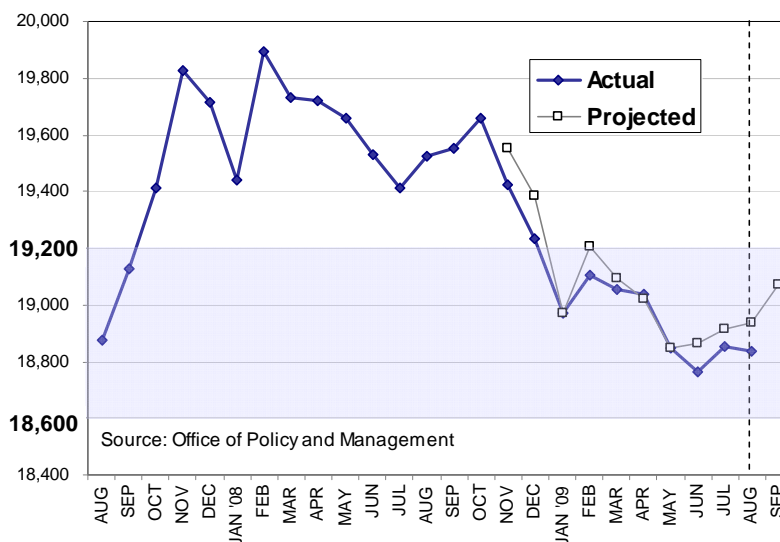
The DOC's ability to realize a small reduction in the prison population between July and August was largely due to 1) stability in the size of the unsentenced inmate population between July and August (See Table 2) and a 7% increase in the number of sentenced offenders who were released to community supervision programs (Table 3).

TABLE 1 – 6-Month Prison Population Forecast

	2009 Actual (*Avg Daily)	6 Month Population Forecast	Difference Actual vs. Projected	% Diff
MAR	19,053*	19,095	-42	-0.2%
APR	19,040*	19,023	17	0.1%
MAY	18,845*	18,849	-4	0.0%
JUN	18,765*	18,866	-101	-0.5%
JUL	18,854*	18,913	-59	-0.3%
AUG	18,839*	18,937	-98	-0.5%
SEP	-	19,070	-	-

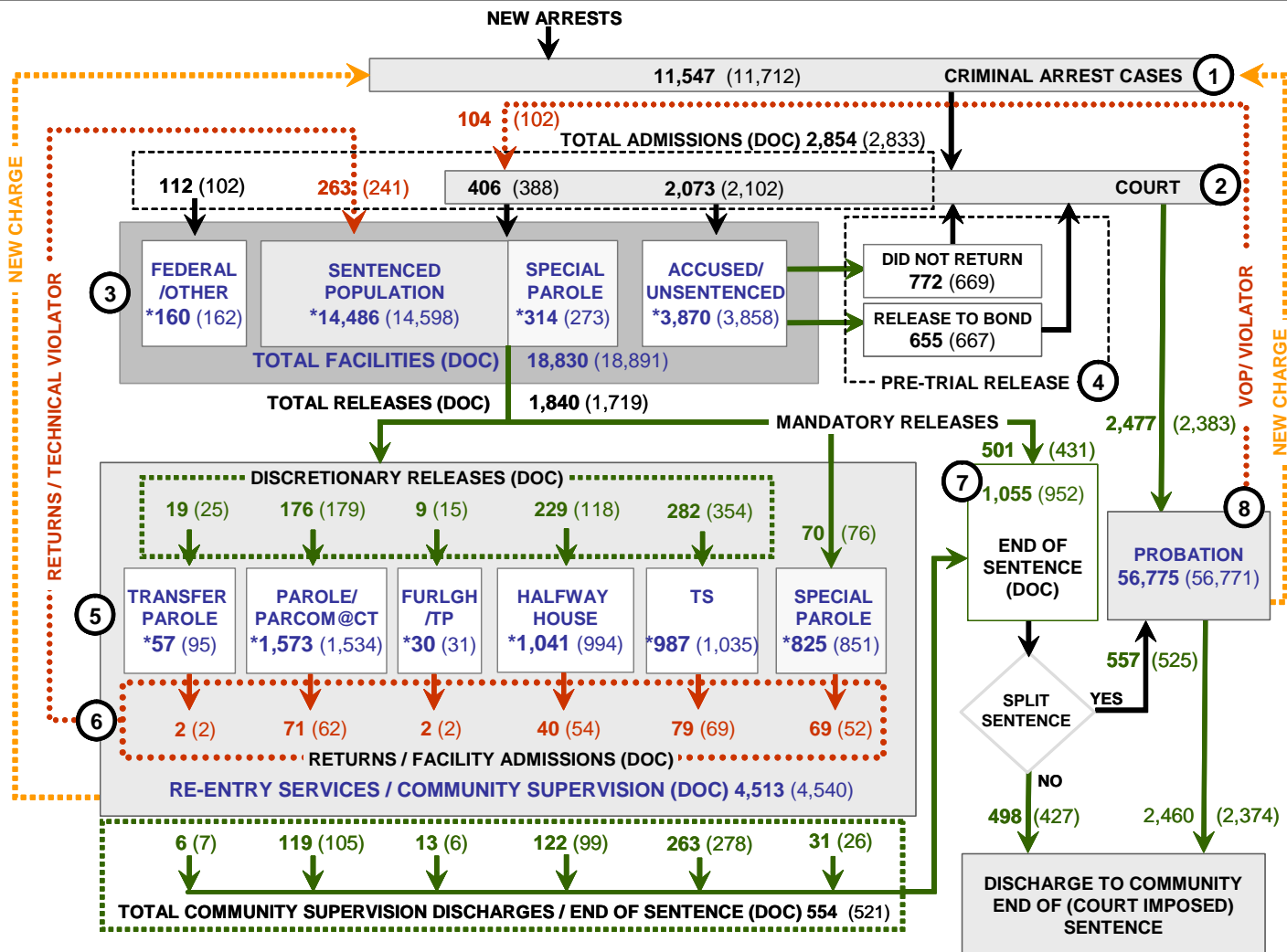
* Average Daily Count, first week of the month

CHART 1 – Total DOC Facility Population, Actual and Projected
August 1, 2007 to September 1, 2009



Source: Office of Policy and Management

CHART 2 – Connecticut Criminal Justice System Overview



Asterisks (*) indicate the single-day population count on August 1, 2009.
 Numbers enclosed by parentheses contain the figure for the previous month.
 Data shown for New Split Sentence Probationer is only approximate due to processing difficulties.
 Sources: Arrest-Judicial/Court Operations; Court-Judicial/CSSD; Facility/Community Supervision-DOC

Unlike states that have county governments, the majority of agencies within Connecticut's criminal justice system are State agencies. The one exception is law enforcement, where there are over 90 local police departments and the Connecticut State Police.

- 1) Arrest:** An individual enters into the criminal justice system at the time of arrest.
- 2) Court:** During arraignment, judges review the charges filed against the accused and set a bail amount. Individuals who cannot meet the conditions of bail are placed in DOC facilities to await trial. If the defendant is convicted they may be sentenced to serve a period of probation, a term of incarceration or some other sanction.
- 3) DOC Facilities:** Total facility population at DOC contains the unsentenced population, which is awaiting trial, the sentenced population, inmates on special parole, and individuals charged in federal cases or non-state cases.
- 4) Pre-Trial Release:** Some defendants who are incarcerated pending the disposition of their cases may be eligible for a bond reduction or placement into pre-trial diversionary programs or treatment programs. These programs feature close coordination and cooperation between DOC, CSSD and the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS).
- 5) Re-Entry Services:** Depending on several factors, an inmate may be eligible to complete a portion of his/her prison sentences under supervision of the DOC's Parole and Community Services Unit. Non-violent Inmates with sentences shorter than two years are eligible for Transitional Supervision after serving 50% of their sentences. Inmates serving sentences longer than two years may be eligible for parole.
- 6) Returns:** Offenders who violate the conditions of their community release may be returned to prison to serve out the remainder of their sentences.
- 7) End of Sentence:** At the end of their sentences some offenders are required to complete a period of post-release supervision. Split-sentence offenders enter probation where they are monitored by CSSD personnel. Offenders sentenced to special parole remain under DOC supervision.
- 8) Violation of Probation:** If an individual violates the terms of their probation, an arrest warrant is issued and the violator is returned to court.

TABLE 2 – Snapshot of Month DOC Population Counts

	2009			2008	% Change	
	May 1st	June 1st	Aug 1st	Aug 1st	Monthly	Annual
DOC Facility						
Federal/Other	162	162	160	147	-1.2%	8.8%
Sentenced	14,640	14,598	14,486	14,933	-0.8%	-3.0%
Special Parole	264	273	314	336	15.0%	-6.5%
Accused/Unsentenced	3,688	3,858	3,870	4,108	0.3%	-5.8%
Total	18,754	18,891	18,830	19,524	-0.3%	-3.6%
DOC Community						
Transfer Parole	80	95	57	51	-40.0%	11.8%
Parole/ Parcom Total	1,478	1,534	1,573	1,328	2.5%	18.4%
Parole	1,314	1,369	1,414	1,170	3.3%	20.9%
Parcom @ CT	164	165	159	158	-3.6%	0.6%
Furlgh/Trans Place Total	35	31	30	0	-6.5%	
Furlough	0	0	0	0	0.0%	
Trans Placement	35	31	30	0	-6.5%	
Halfway House Total	1,175	994	1,041	1,213	4.7%	-14.2%
Comm Release	912	796	857	913	7.7%	-6.1%
TS	136	100	83	177	-17.0%	-53.1%
Parole	71	51	56	70	9.8%	-20.0%
Transfer Placement	0	0	0	2		
Special Parole	56	47	45	51	-4.3%	-11.8%
TS Total	977	1,035	987	985	-4.6%	0.2%
Special Parole	832	851	825	713	-3.1%	15.7%
Total	4,577	4,540	4,513	4,290	-0.6%	5.2%

TABLE 3 – Total DOC Admissions and Releases by Month

	2009			2008	% Change	
	May	June	July	July	Monthly	Annual
Admissions						
Federal/Other	87	102	112	100	9.8%	12.0%
Returns	228	241	263	274	9.1%	-4.0%
Transfer Parole	4	2	2	1	0.0%	-
Parole	63	62	71	69	14.5%	2.9%
Trans Plac/Furlough	3	2	2	1		
HWH	37	54	40	60	-25.9%	-33.3%
TS	72	69	79	105	14.5%	-24.8%
Special Parole	49	52	69	38	32.7%	81.6%
New Sentence	381	388	406	430	4.6%	-5.6%
VOP	100	102	104	117	2.0%	-11.1%
Accused	1,783	2,102	2,073	2,420	-1.4%	-14.3%
Total	2,479	2,833	2,854	3,224	0.7%	-11.5%
Releases						
Transfer Parole	16	25	19	11	-24.0%	72.7%
Parole	171	179	176	137	-1.7%	28.5%
Trans Plac/Furlough	9	15	9	-	-40.0%	
HWH	184	118	229	218	94.1%	5.0%
TS	338	354	282	363	-20.3%	-22.3%
Special Parole	78	76	70	63	-7.9%	11.1%
End of Sentence	995	952	1,055	1,107	10.8%	-4.7%
Total	1,791	1,719	1,840	1,899	7.0%	-3.1%
Pre-trial Releases*						
Release to Bond	579	667	655	-	13.1%	-
Did not return from Court	612	669	772	-	26.1%	-

*Measured by occurrence, not by individual.

Parole

Paroles Granted During July 2009: 246

During July, the Board conducted 22 full-panel hearings where they considered 291 cases. In 246 cases, offenders were granted parole dates; in 45 cases they were either denied or their cases were continued. In addition, 75 hearings were conducted for cases involving parole revocations or rescissions. Of these, 61 cases were granted re-parole.

TABLE 4A –Paroles Granted, July 2009

	Hearings	Granted	Rate
MAY	347	299	86%
JUN	336	290	86%
JUL	291	246	85%

Data Notes: Figures are based on actual data available at the time of this report. Subsequent reports may not agree.

Parole hearings are typically held six months prior to an offender's parole eligibility date. An offender may be released to parole on their first eligibility date or a later time. As a result, the time between parole being granted and the offender being released to parole may take longer than six months.

July Transfer Parole Approval Rates: 32%.

In July, 255 cases were reviewed for transfer parole: 81 cases were approved, 115 were denied, and 59 were issued continuances.

TABLE 4B –Transfer Paroles Reviews, July '09

	Reviewed	Granted	Denied	Continued	Rate
MAY	270	59	155	56	22%
JUNE	428	57	230	141	13%
JULY	255	81	115	59	32%

Probation

Total number sentenced offenders placed on probation in July: 2,477 (See Chart 2).

TABLE 5 – Monthly CSSD Direct Sentenced & Probationer Community Placements

	Community Based	Out-patient	Inpatient/Resident	Total
APR	1216	991	48	2,255
MAY	1136	770	43	1,949
JUN	1261	855	39	2,155

Data Notes: July data for Community Placements was not available when this report was produced. Figures are based on the latest data available at publication time. Figures in subsequent issues may not agree with those published here.

Pre-trial Diversion Supervision

Offenders released to Pre-trial Diversion and/or Supervision in July: 2,920. This figure includes unsentenced offenders who were released from DOC facilities in July.

TABLE 6 – Pre-trial Diversion/Supervision

MAY	2,706
JUNE	3,060
JULY	2,920

CHART 3 – Snapshot Daily DOC Facility Population
August 1, 2009 to August 7, 2009

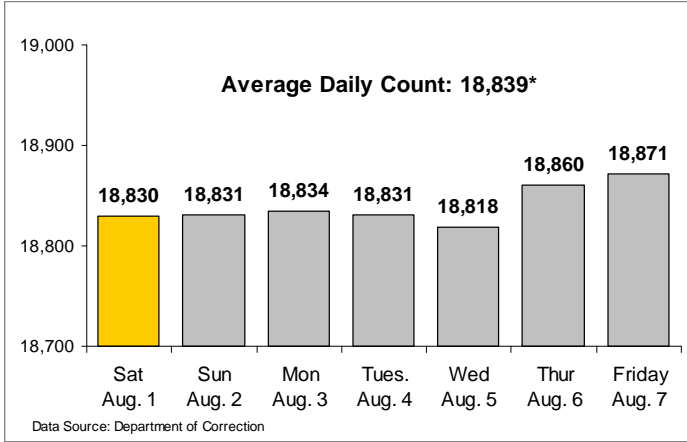


CHART 6 – Monthly DOC Admissions by Type
August 2008 to July 2009

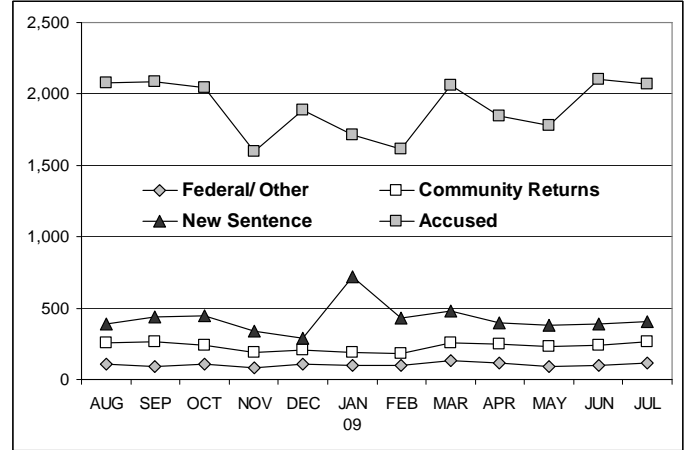


CHART 4 – Snapshot Monthly DOC Prison Population
January 1 through December 1 (Calendar Year)

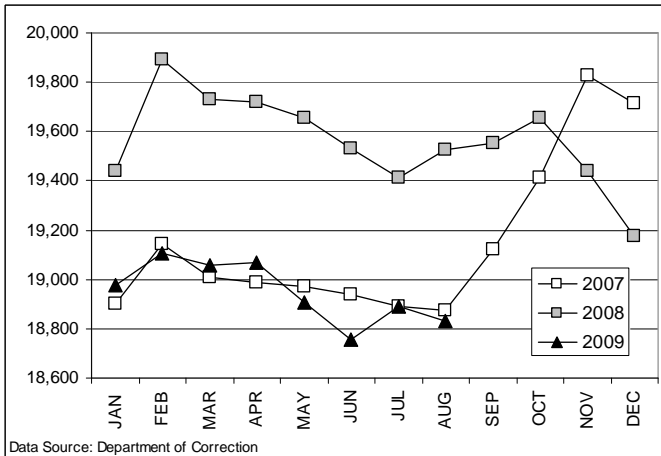


CHART 7 – Monthly Readmissions from Community Release
July 2009

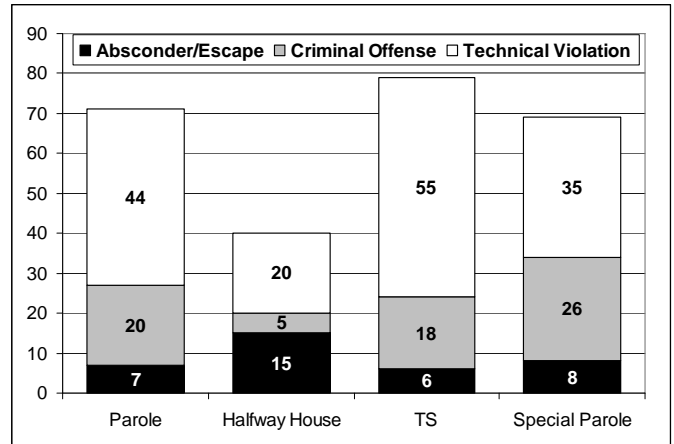


CHART 5 – Statewide Criminal Arrests, July 2009 total
against the 6-year monthly average
Monthly, calendar year

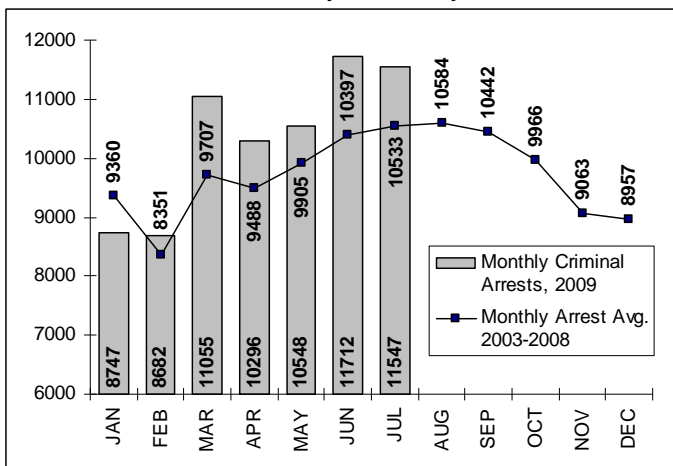


CHART 8 – Snapshot Monthly Parole, TS and Special Parole
Feb 1, 2008 to August 1, 2009

