

OPM - Criminal Justice Policy & Planning Division

Monthly Indicators Report

Highlights

- On August 1st, 16,569 prisoners were incarcerated in state prison facilities. Last year on the first, there were 17,142 people in Connecticut prison facilities.
- Chart 2a contains data on changes in discretionary-release caseloads from the near-complete suspension of paroles in the aftermath of the Cheshire murders in 2007 through to the present. The volume of releases increased moderately from 2008 to 2011. Since then, however, the number of offenders on Parole, Transitional Supervision or Transitional Placement have declined by almost 40%.
- The number of offenders living in halfway houses is down by 8% compared to the same time last year (see table 2). This drop dates back to October 2013, when the DOC terminated its contract for residential beds with the Norwalk non-profit, NEON Inc.
- A backlog in parole-case hearings appears to be easing. During July, paroles were granted in 125 cases. During May, only 73 offenders were granted parole, significantly fewer than the 149 granted during May 2013. In contrast, the Board approved 243 paroles in May 2010.
- Pretrial admissions in July were down 7.6% compared to 2013 (see table 3). Statewide criminal arrests were also down (5.3%) during the same period.

Email questions and comments to: opmmir@ct.gov

Prison Population Forecast

The average prison population during the first week in August was lower, by 184 inmates, than the figure projected by OPM in February.

OPM expects the prison population to begin growing steadily through October. Were current patterns to persist, it is not unreasonable to assume that the prison population could dip below 16,300 on January 1st.

OPM does not consider trends in the overall state crime rate in producing its short-term projections of the prison population. Analysis reveals that fluctuations in the prison population are not directly influenced by the crime rates. Rather they are more dependent on systemic factors like changes in policies, procedures, staffing, etc.

Seasonal considerations are also very important.

That said, overall crime rates appear to be dropping steadily both in the state and nationally. Rethinking the application of drug-laws and re-directing youth away from incarceration appears to be having a cumulative effect on declining prison counts and prison admissions.

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	16,582	16,737	155
MAY	16,519	16,683	164
JUN	16,563	16,678	115
JUL	16,486	16,709	223
AUG	16,579	16,763	184
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

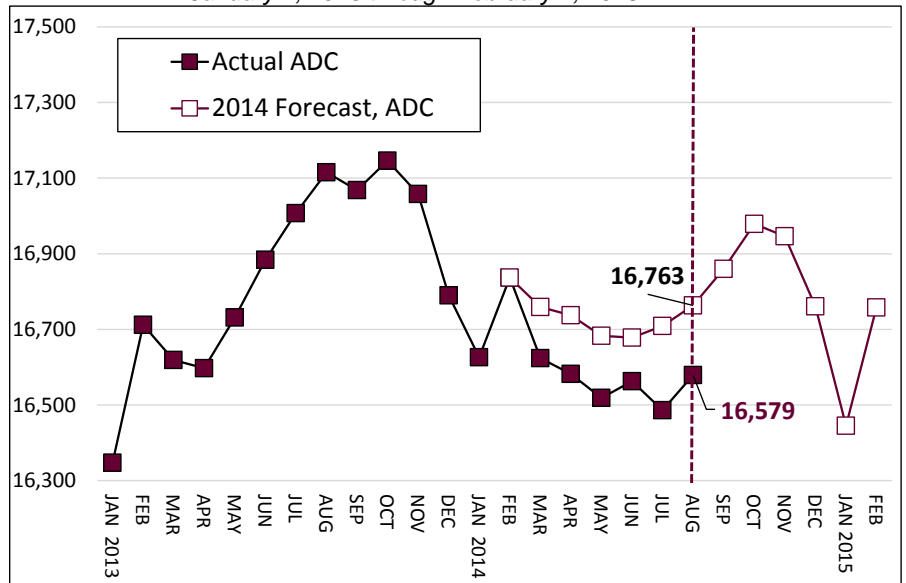
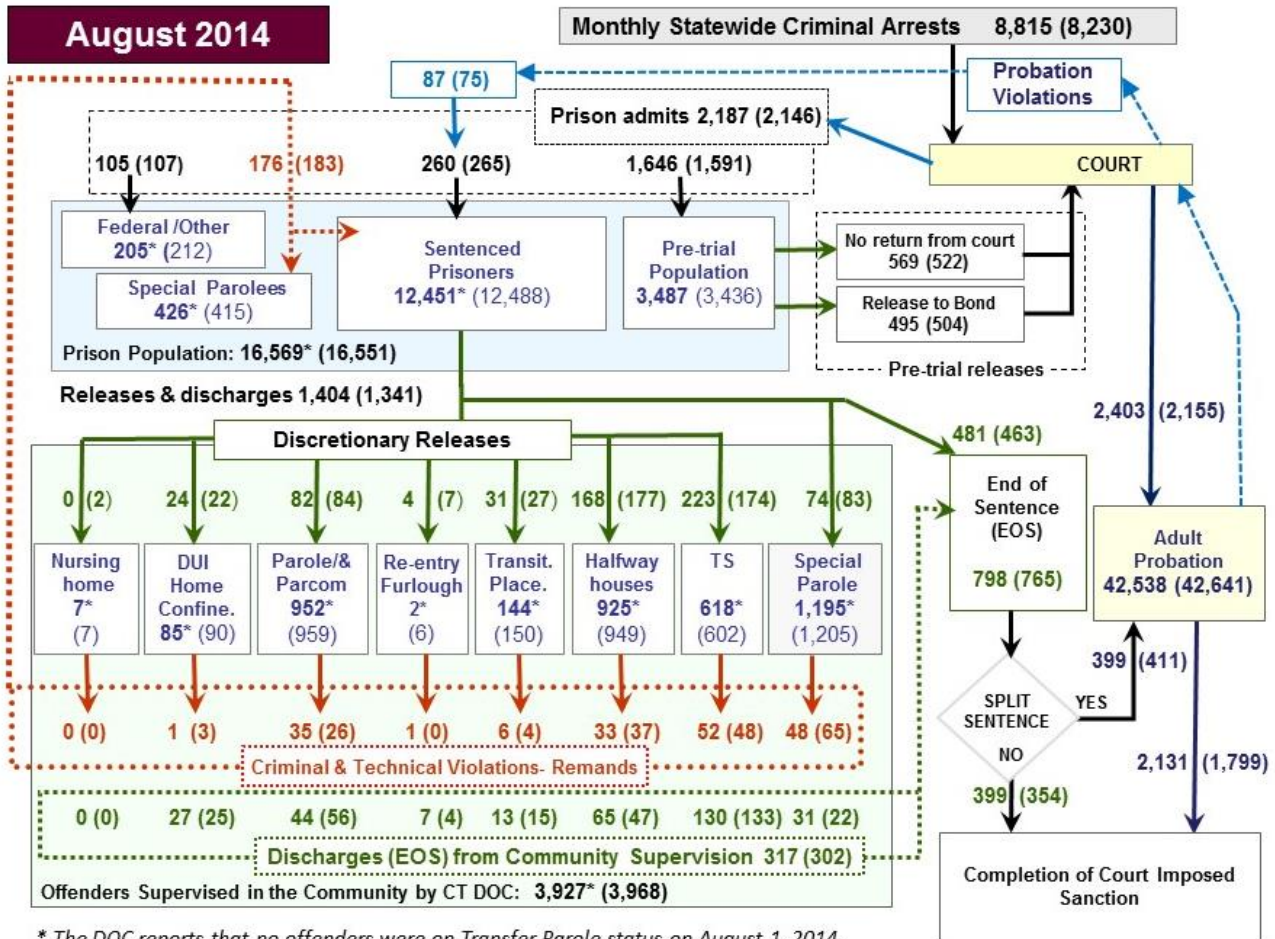


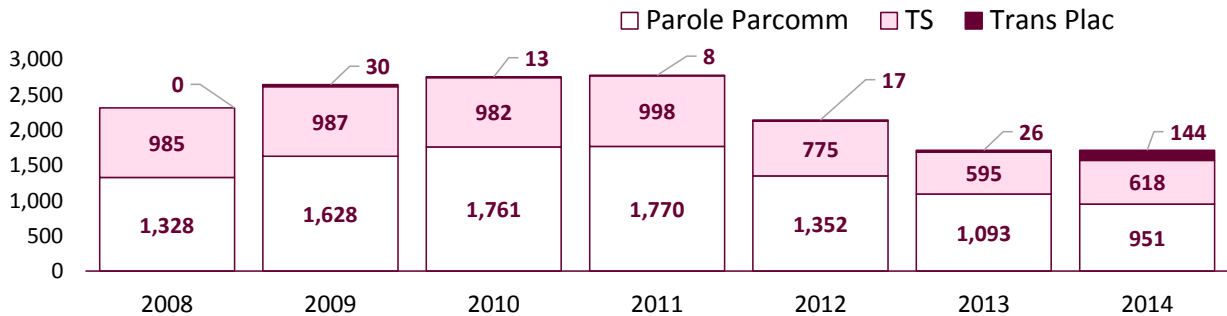
Chart 2 - Criminal justice, monthly counts and flows



* The DOC reports that no offenders were on Transfer Parole status on August 1, 2014.

Chart 2 contains monthly, operations data for July 2014 and daily counts reported on August 1, 2014. Figures followed by asterisks (*) indicate the daily count on the first day of the month. Last month's figures are enclosed by parentheses. Sources: Arrests - OBTS, Court and probation data - CSSD, all other data - CT DOC.

Chart 2a – Discretionary Community Supervision caseloads on August 1st



The number of offenders completing their prison sentences in discretionary community supervision programs has decreased dramatically over the last three years. On August 1st, 2011, 2,809 offenders were on either Parole (including Parcomm), Transitional Supervision or Transfer Placement status. By 2014, that figure had fallen to 1,713, a 38.2% drop.

Although the sentenced prison population declined during the same period, it fell much less precipitously – from 13,523 to 12,451 – a 7.9%

drop. In 2011, there were 4.9 sentenced offenders incarcerated for every offender in a non-residential community supervision program. By 2014, that ratio had jumped to 7.3 offenders in prison for every community placement. Several factors appear to be driving this change. Legislation, passed last year, and procedural changes at the Board of Pardons and Paroles have certainly affected the flow of offenders to Parole. Less clear are the factors that have pushed down the number of offenders on Transitional Supervision.

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

	2014	2014	2014	2013	% Change	
	June 1	July 1	Aug. 1	Aug. 1	Monthly	Annual
DOC Facilities						
Federal/Other	184	212	205	212	-3.3%	-3.3%
Sentenced	12,536	12,488	12,451	12,649	-0.3%	-1.6%
Special Parole	400	415	426	394	2.7%	8.1%
Pre-trial	3,408	3,436	3,487	3,887	1.5%	-10.3%
Total	16,528	16,551	16,569	17,142	0.1%	-3.3%
DOC Community						
Transfer Parole	0	0	0	7	-	-
Parole/ Parcom Total	981	959	951	1,093	-0.8%	-13.0%
Parole	816	796	789	926	-0.9%	-14.8%
Parcom @ CT	165	163	162	167	-0.6%	-3.0%
Furlough	6	6	2	11	-66.7%	-81.8%
Trans Placement	155	150	144	26	-4.0%	453.8%
DUI/Home confine.	101	90	85	99	-5.6%	-14.1%
Halfway House Total	947	949	925	1,015	-2.5%	-8.9%
Comm Release	687	697	683	756	-2.0%	-9.7%
TS	25	25	36	17	44.0%	111.8%
Parole	69	68	55	93	-19.1%	-40.9%
Transfer Parole	0	0	0	0	-	-
Special Parole	166	159	151	147	-5.0%	2.7%
TS Total	616	602	618	595	2.7%	3.9%
Nursing home	8	7	7	2	-	-
Special Parole	1,200	1,205	1,195	1,150	-0.8%	3.9%
Total	4,014	3,968	3,927	3,998	-1.0%	-1.8%

Table 3 – Admissions, releases & discharges*

	2014	2014	2014	2013	% Change	
	May	June	July	July	Monthly	Annual
Admissions						
Federal/Other	90	107	105	110	-1.9%	-4.5%
Remands	204	183	176	234	-3.8%	-24.8%
Trans.Parole / DUI	8	3	1	3	-	-
Parole	26	26	35	27	34.6%	29.6%
Trans Plac/Furlough	6	4	7	3	-	-
HWH	52	37	33	68	-10.8%	-51.5%
TS	53	48	52	70	8.3%	-25.7%
Special Parole	59	65	48	63	-26.2%	-23.8%
New Sentence	279	265	260	300	-1.9%	-13.3%
VOP	78	75	87	95	16.0%	-8.4%
Pre-trial	1,647	1,591	1,646	1,782	3.5%	-7.6%
Total	2,220	2,146	2,187	2,426	1.9%	-9.9%
Releases and discharges						
Transfer Parole	0	0	0	1	-	-
Parole	74	84	82	116	-2.4%	-29.3%
Furlough	10	7	4	10	-42.9%	-60.0%
Trans. Placement	38	27	31	13	14.8%	138.5%
Home Confinement DUI	40	22	24	34	9.1%	-29.4%
HWH	205	177	168	169	-5.1%	-0.6%
TS	197	174	223	189	28.2%	18.0%
Special Parole	84	83	74	101	-10.8%	-26.7%
Nursing home	1	2	0	2	-	-
End of Sentence	868	765	798	827	4.3%	-3.5%
Total	1,517	1,341	1,404	1,462	4.7%	-4.0%
Pre-trial Releases*						
No return from Court	603	552	569	666	3.1%	-14.6%
Release to Bond	467	504	495	466	-1.8%	6.2%

* Totals reflect events not individuals.

Board of Pardons and Paroles

Table 4a – Inmates with sentences > 24 months

	Parole-eligible	Not eligible
June	8,521	865
July	8,443	866
August	8,422	864

Table 4b – Parole hearings, new cases

	Paroles Hearings	Paroles granted, 2014	Grant rate	Paroles granted, 2013	Paroles granted, 2012
May	111	73	66%	149	150
June	136	98	72%	133	155
July	167	125	75%	106	149

Table 4c – Other parole actions

	Reparole from revocation	Reparole from rescission	Closed interest cases	Special parole cases
May	50	8	25	37
June	44	4	21	38
July	45	4	25	31

Pre-trial detainees

Table 5 – Bond ranges for pre-trial detainees

Bond amount	June 1, 2014	July 1, 2014	Aug. 1, 2014	Aug. 1, 2013
Less than \$20K	646	611	687	680
\$20K to < \$50K	591	616	653	697
\$50K to < \$100K	695	719	740	834
\$100K or higher	1,508	1,483	1,501	1,727
Over \$1M	196	192	193	218
Offenders w/bonds	3,440	3,429	3,581	3,938

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

Weeks since last DOC admit	June 1, 2014	July 1, 2014	Aug. 1, 2014	Aug. 1, 2013
< 1 week	550	412	527	545
1 to < 3 weeks	414	402	440	454
3 to < 10 weeks	884	953	936	1,038
10 to < 30 weeks	858	933	977	1,109
30 wks or more	738	730	701	803
Pre-trial prisoners	3,444	3,430	3,581	3,949

Court Support Services Division

Table 6 – The Jail Re-interview Program

	Offenders interviewed	Offenders released	Releases last year
May	1,613	827	942
June	1,626	841	848
July	1,700	837	1,016

Table 7 – Pre-Trial & split-sentence starts

	Pre-trial Bail Case Starts	Client Supv. Starts	Split Sentence Starts
May	2,624	2,300	467
June	2,491	2,155	411
July	2,713	2,403	399

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

August 1, 2014 to August 7, 2014

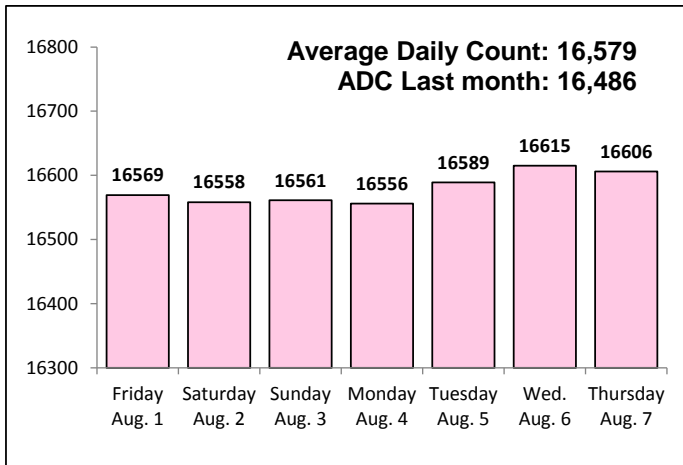


Chart 6 – Monthly DOC Admissions

June 2013 through July 2014

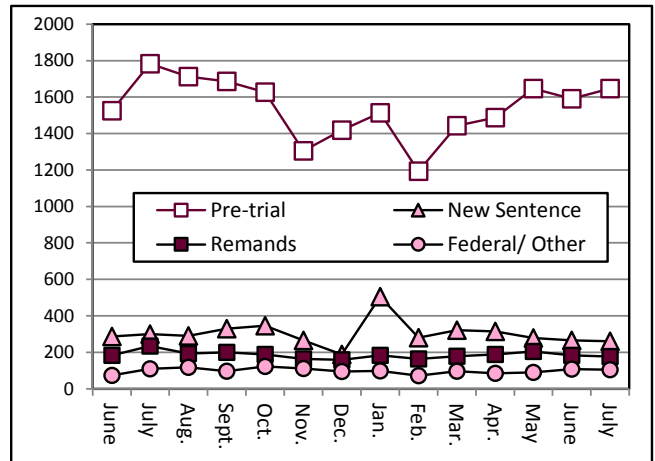


Chart 4 – Prison population, first-of-month

2013 and 2014

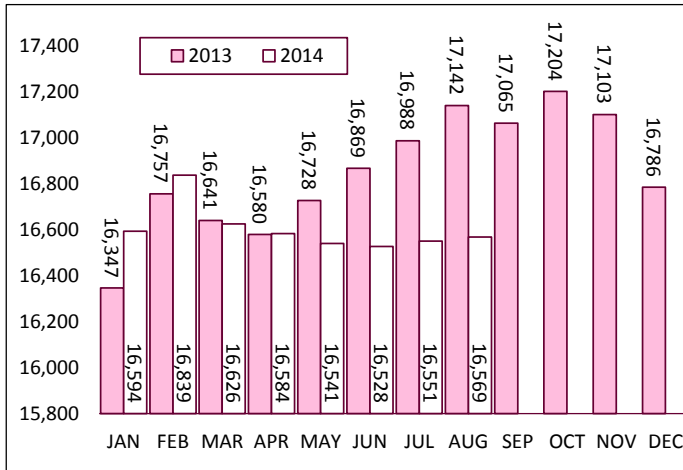


Chart 7– Remands from community release

July 2014

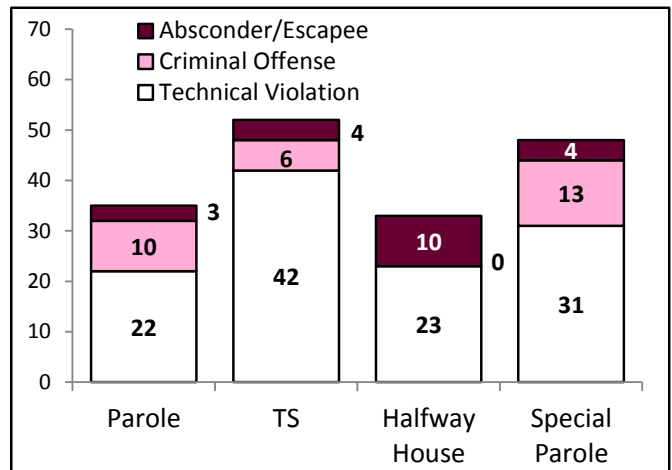


Chart 5 – Statewide criminal arrests

2013 versus 2014

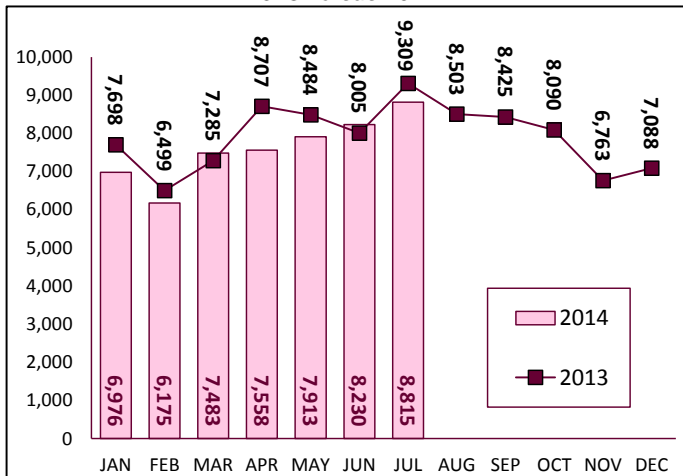
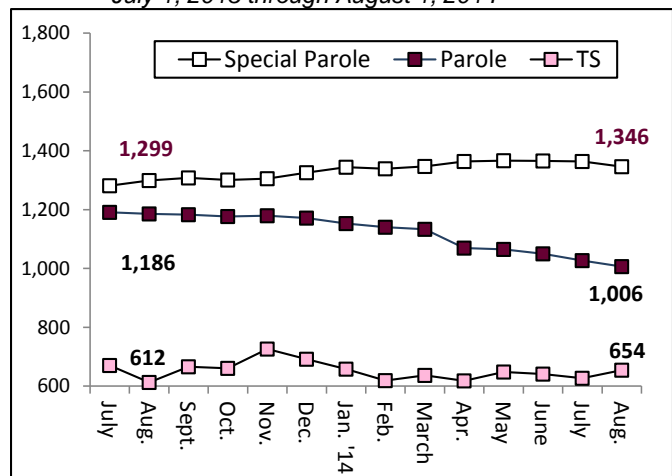


Chart 8 – DOC community supervision

July 1, 2013 through August 1, 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.