LIFER'S GROUP INC.

A Report On The Massachusetts Department of Correction

Institutional Fact Cards As Of July 1, 2021

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For:

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HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE JULY 1, 2021 MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION INSTITUTIONAL FACT CARDS 1

- 1. The total number of prisoners under Massachusetts (MA) jurisdiction ² on July 1, 2021 was 6,571, a decrease of 741 prisoners (10%) from July 1, 2020. (Table 8, page 11)
- 2. Of the 6,571 prisoners under MA jurisdiction, the total actually incarcerated in MA facilities was 6,272. 299 MA prisoners were housed outside the Commonwealth, an increase of 27 prisoners (10%) from July 1, 2020. (Table 8, page 11)
- 3. The total number of prisoners housed in MA on July 1, 2021 (6,272) was 768 below the number housed on July 1, 2020, a decrease of 11%. (Table 8, page 11)
- 4. The total number of criminally sentenced prisoners housed in MA on July 1, 2021 was 5,695, a decrease of 873 (13%) from July 1, 2020. The number of criminally sentenced prisoners held in MA facilities was 90% of the total housed in MA. Of the remaining 602 prisoners confined in MA facilities, civil commitments accounted for 7%, pre-trial prisoners 1%, and prisoners under observation 1.6%. (Table 1, page 4; Table 8, page 11)
- 5. Of the 6,272 prisoners housed in MA prisons on July 1, 2021, 878 (14%) were in Maximum Security a decrease of 197 (18%) from July 1, 2020; 4,745 (76%) were in Medium Security a decrease of 522 (10%); 603 (10%) were in Minimum Security a decrease of 3 (.5%); and 46 (.7%) were in Pre-Release a decrease of 46 (50%). (Table 1, page 4; Table 8, page 11)
- 6. The racial breakdown of the prisoners housed in MA prisons on July 1, 2021 was: Caucasian 2,653 (42%), African-American 1,772 (28%), Hispanic 1,612 (26%), Asian 107 (2%), Native-American 39 (.6%), and Other 89 (1.4%). (Table 2, page 5)
- 7. From July 1, 2020 to July 1, 2021, the number of Caucasians decreased by 257 (9%); African-Americans down by 262 (13%); Hispanics down by 241 (13%); Asians down by 4 (4%); Native-Americans decreased by 3 (7%); and Other increased by 9 (10%). (Table 8, page 11)
- 8) Comparing the racial breakdowns on July 1, 2021 to July 1, 2019: Caucasians decreased 27%, African-Americans decreased 24%; Hispanics decreased 26%, Asians decreased 5%, Native-Americans decreased 22%, and Other decreased 3%. (Table 8, page 11)
- 9. Governing Offenses for prisoners criminally sentenced and housed in MA on July 1, 2021 ³ broke down as Person Offenses 3,452 (55%), Sex Offenses 1,057 (17%), Drug Offenses 556 (9%), Property Offenses 252 (4%), and Other Offenses 378 (6%). Overall Criminally Sentenced prisoners accounted for 91% of prisoners housed in MA facilities, a decrease from 94% on July 1, 2020. Person Governing Offenses decreased 9%, Sex Offenses decreased 11%, Property Offenses decreased 27%, Drug Offenses decreased 25%, and Other Offenses decreased 26%. (Table 4, page 7; Table 8, page 11)
- 10. Of the criminally sentenced prisoners housed in MA on July 1, 2021, 556 (10%) had a drug conviction as their governing offense. The institution with the highest percentage was BPRC (51%). NECC was the second highest (38%). Bridgewater had 0%. (Table 4, page 7)

correctional facilities outside the Commonwealth.

¹ The Institutional Fact Cards for July 1, 2021 were supplied by the DOC pursuant to a public records request.
2 MA jurisdiction population includes all prisoners housed in MA facilities as well as those MA prisoners housed in

³ Percentages are of the total prisoner population housed in MA prisons. See Table 4, page 7 for the percentages of criminally sentenced prisoners only.

- 11. Of the criminally sentenced prisoners housed in MA on July 1, 2021, 1,057 (18%) had a sex conviction as their governing offense. The institution with the highest percentage was the MTC (88%). NCCI was the second highest (51%). Minimum and Pre-Release facilities had 0%. (Table 4, page 7)
- 12. Of the criminally sentenced prisoners housed in MA on July 1, 2021, 3,452 (61%) had a person conviction as their governing offense. The institution with the highest percentage was MCI-F (81%). MCI-N was the second highest (78%). The MTC had the lowest (9%). (Table 4, page 7)
- 13. The total number of prisoners housed in MA serving 15+ years, including life-without-parole on July 1, 2021 was 2,817 a decrease of 247 or 8% from July 1, 2020: 15+ only 974, Second Degree 842. and First Degree 1,001. (Table 3, page 6 and Table 8, page 11)
- 14. The number of criminally sentenced prisoners housed in MA serving Second Degree Life sentences on July 1, 2021 was 842 (61 fewer than on July 1, 2020, a decrease of 7%) and 1,001 were serving First Degree, i.e., life-without-parole (19 fewer than on July 1, 2020, a decrease of 2%). The total number of prisoners serving life sentences on July 1, 2021 was 1,843, a decrease of 80 lifers (4%) from July 1, 2020. (Table 3, page 6; Table 5, page 8; Table 8, page 11)
- 15. In July 1, 2021, the number of lifers incarcerated at MCI-Norfolk was 657 or 58% of the total MCI-Norfolk population and 36% of the total number of lifers housed in MA. MCI-Shirley had the next highest number 263 or 33% of that institution's total number of prisoners and 14% of the total lifer population housed in MA, followed by OCCC with 251 or 40% of that institution's total population and 14% of the total lifer population housed in MA. (Table 3, page 6; Table 5, page 8)
- 16. Maximum Security institutions on July 1, 2021 were at 44% of Operational Capacity; Medium Security institutions at 75%, and Minimum and Pre-Release institutions at 53%. Overall, the DOC institutions operated at 66% of capacity total Operational Capacity = 9,539, the total housed in MA facilities on July 1, 2021 was 6,272. (Table 7, page 10)
- 17. Of the 299 MA prisoners not held in the Commonwealth on July 1, 2021, 62 were serving life sentences, i.e., the difference between the total number of lifers under MA jurisdiction (1,905) and the total number of lifers housed in MA facilities (1,843).
- 18. The oldest prisoner incarcerated in MA facilities on July 1, 2021 was 88 and was housed at MCI-Norfolk. In seven other facilities, the oldest prisoner was over 80 years old (3 at age 81, 2 at age 82, and 2 at age 84). (Table 2, page 7)
- 19. The average age of prisoners held under MA jurisdiction on July 1, 2021 was 44. (Table 2, page 5)

Breakdown of Massachusetts Housed Prisoners* by Status and Security Levels

TABLE 1

Inst.	Crim. Sent.	Civil Com.	Pre- Trial	Obser.	Total	Max.	Med.	Min.	Pre- Rel.
BPRC	75	0	0	0	75	0	0	61	14
Bridgewater	0	137	0	99	236	0	236	0	0
MASAC	0	134	0	0	134	0	0	134	0
MTC**	396	167	0	0	563	0	563	0	0
MCI-CJ	369	0	26	0	395	341	54	0	0
MCI-C	512	0	0	0	512	0	512	0	0
MCI-F	134	4	31	0	169	0	169	0	0
MCI-N	1146	0	0	0	1146	0	1146	0	0
MCI-S	806	1	0	0	807	0	807	0	0
NCCI	728	0	0	0	728	0	728	0	0
NECC	213	0	0	0	213	0	0	194	19
OCCC	621	. 0	0	0	621	0	530	91	0
Pondville	136	0	0	0	136	0	0	123	13
SBCC	<u>534</u>	0_	_3_	0_	537	<u>537</u>	0	0	0
Totals	5670	443	60	99	6272	878	4745	603	46
%	90.3	7.1	1.0	1.6		14.0	75.7	9.6	.7

^{*} An additional 299 Massachusetts prisoners are housed out-of-state. Of those 299, 177 are under civil commitments, 112 are crminally sentenced and 10 are awaiting trial.

^{**}MTC is the Massachusetts Treatment Center

Breakdown of Massachusetts Housed Prisoners by Race and Age

TABLE 2

Inst.	Cau.	Afro. Amer.	Hisp.	Asian	Nat. Amer.	Other.	Total	Ave. Age	Young/ Oldest
BPRC	21	21	32	1	0	0	75	41	22/74
Bridgewater	100	74	27	2	0	33	236	40	18/84
MASAC	85	18	21	4	0	6	134	39	19/77
MTC	322	96	123	5	11	6	563	50	22/81
MCI-CJ	151	116	119	5	3	1	395	38	19/82
MCI-C	192	135	162	21	0	2	512	40	19/77
MCI-F	102	31	15	3	0	18	169	42	21/76
MCI-N	457	381	275	23	6	4	1146	48	20/88
MCI-S	286	259	246	9	4	3	807	43	20/84
NCCI	369	146	183	13	11	6	728	49	18/82
NECC	74	58	74	5	0	2	213	40	21/67
occc	287	185	130	9	4	6	621	46	20/87
Pondville	56	48	32	0	0	0	136	44	21/81
SBCC	<u>151</u>	204	173		0_	_2_	537	<u>36</u>	19/81
Totals	2653	1772	1612	107	39	89	6272	44	
%	42.3	28.3	25.7	1.7	0.6	1.4			

Breakdown of Massachusetts Housed Prisoners by Sentence Length

TABLE 3

Inst.	>3-5	5-7	Years 7- 10	10- 15	15+	2nd Deg.	1st Deg.	Total Sent. Pop.	% Lifers	% 15+ & Lifers
BPRC	18	23	23	6	3	2	0	75	2.7	6.7
Bridgewater*	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	0	0
MASAC	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
MTC**	36	77	94	74	88	45	0	414	11	32
MCI-CJ	133	63	56	53	34	11	19	369	8	17
MCI-C	70	72	68	64	78	67	93	512	31	46
MCI-F***	26	14	46	0	0	23	25	134	36	36
MCI-N	60	73	67	101	188	235	422	1146	58	74
MCI-S	119	120	109	90	105	137	126	806	33	46
NCCI	8	44	65	151	242	117	101	728	30	63
NECC	61	52	47	24	17	12	0	213	6	14
OCCC	48	51	65	93	113	121	130	621	40	59
Pondville	29	34	36	12	12	13	0	136	10	18
SBCC	_62_	72	<u>77</u>	_85_	94	<u>59</u>	85	<u>534</u>	_27_	45_
Totals****	677	695	753	753	974	842	1001	5695		
%	11.9	12.2	13.2	13.2	17.1	14.9	17.5		32.4	49.5

^{*} While Bridgewater State Hospital reported no criminally sentenced prisoners under the Total Facility Count, the reported data for length of sentences show that 7 prisoners are serving less than 3 years.

^{**} While the Treatment Center reported 396 as criminally sentenced prisoners, the reported data for Governing Sentence Lengths show that 414 prisoners are serving sentencs.

^{***} MCI-F reports 6 years + for sentences over 6 years up to 2nd and 1st degree lifers.

^{****} The Total Sentenced Population of 5695 in Table 3 above is 25 prisoners more than the criminally sentenced population in Table 1 due to the differences in numbers cited above for Bridgewater (7) and the Treatment Center (18).

Breakdown of Massachusetts Housed Prisoners by Governing Offense

TABLE 4

Inst.	Per.	Sex	Prop.	Drug	Other	Crim. Sent. Total	% Per.	% Sex	% Prop	% Dava	% Other
II ISL	r Cı.	OCA	r iop.	Diug	Oulei	I Ulca	rei.	JEX	Prop.	Drug	Outer
BPRC	17	0	7	38	13	75	23	0	9	51	17
Bridgewater*	4	1	-1	0	1	7	58	14	14	0	14
MASAC	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
MTC	38	363	6	4	3	414	9	88	1	1	1
MCI-CJ	214	24	33	64	34	369	58	7	9	17	9
MCI-C	348	20	20	74	50	512	68	4	4	14	10
MCI-F	109	4	2	15	4	134	81	3	2	11	3
MCI-N	893	114	28	69	42	1146	78	10	2	6	4
MCI-S	557	47	49	91	62	806	69	6	6	11	8
NCCI	303	371	14	24	16	728	42	51	2	3	2
NECC	86	0	14	80	33	213	40	0	7	38	15
OCCC	436	74	30	39	42	621	70	12	5	6	7
Pondville	58	0	.16	39	23	136	42	0	12	29	17
SBCC	389	39	_32_	19	55	<u>534</u>	<u>73</u>	7	6	_4	10
Totals	3452	1057	252	556	378	5695					
% Total Pop.*	55	17	4	9	6	91					
% Crim. Sent.	61	18	4	10	7						,

^{*} Total Population of prisoners housed in Massachusetts facilities = 6272. (See Table 1.)

NOTE: Comparing July 1, 2021 to July 1, 2020, Person Offenses decreased by 338 prisoners or 9%, Sex Offenses decreased 128 or 11%, Property Offenses decreased 92 or 27%, Drug Offenses decreased 184 or 25%, and Other Offenses decreased 131 or 26%. July 1, 2020 data can be found in the Lifer's Group Inc. report on the DOC's Institution Fact Cards as of July 1, 2020. See: www.realcostofprisons.org/writing or contact the Lifer's Group Inc. (MCI-Norfolk, P.O. Box 43, Norfolk, MA 02056) for a copy.

Breakdown of Lifers Housed in Massachusetts Facilities

Table 5

Inst.	1st	2nd	Total Lifer Pop.	Total Crim. Sent. Pop.	Total Inst. Count	% of Lifers of Total Inst. Count	% of Lifers In MA Prisons
BPRC	0	2	2	75	75	3	.1
Bridgewater	0	0	0	7	236	0	0
MASAC	0	0	0	0	134	0	0
MTC	0	45	45	414	563	8	2.4
MCI-CJ	19	11	30	369	395	8	1.6
MCI-C	93	67	160	512	512	31	8.7
MCI-F	25	23	48	134	169	28	2.6
MCI-N	422	235	657	1146	1146	58	35.7
MCI-S	126	137	263	806	807	33	14.3
NCCI	101	117	218	728	728	30	11.8
NECC	0	12	12	213	213	6	.7
OCCC	130	121	251	621	621	40	13.6
Pondville	0	13	13	136	136	10	.7
SBCC	85	_59_	144	534	537	27	7.8
Totals	1001*	842**	1843	5695	6272		
% Lifer Pop.	54.3	45.7					
% Crim. Sent.	17.6	14.8	32.4				
% Inst. Count	16.0	13.4	29.4				

^{*} There were 38 additional 1st degree lifers held outside MA.

^{**} There were 24 additional 2nd degree lifers held outside MA.

Breakdown of Prisoner Populations and Operational Capacities in Massachusetts Facilities

Table 6

Inst.	Ave. LOS* (Days)	Ave. Daily Pop.	Oper. Cap.	Total Count 7/1/21	Diff. Total Count From Oper. Cap.	% Oper. Cap.	Security Levels
BPRC	231	62	200	75	-125	37	Pre.
Bridgewater	565	214	372	236	-136	63	Med.
MASAC	25	75	251	134	-117	53	Min.
MTC	1275	551	676	563	-113	83	Med.
MCI-CJ	218	420	645	395	-250	61	Max/Med
MCI-C	1017	511	668	512	-156	77	Med.
MCI-F	1613	171	498	169	-329	34	Med.
MCI-N	2243	1201	1369	1146	-223	84	Med.
MCI-S	1250	969	1129	807	-322	71	Med/Min
NCCI	1611	820	1005	728	-277	72	Med.
NECC	224	167	277	213	- 64	77	Min/Pre
occc	1422	672	818	621	-197	76	Med/Min
Pondville	239	125	204	136	- 68	67	Min/Pre
SBCC	580	602	1427	_537	-890	38	Max.
Totals			9539	6272	-3267	66	

^{*} LOS = average Length of Stay for those Criminally Sentenced

MCI-CJ: of the 395 prisoners, 341 were housed in Maximum and 54 in Medium.

MCI-S: of the 807 prisoners, 807 were housed in Medium and 0 in Minimum.

NECC: of the 213 prisoners, 194 were housed in Minimum and 19 in Pre-Rel.

OCCC: of the 621 prisoners, 530 were housed in Medium and 91 in Minimum.

Pondville: of the 136 prisoners, 123 were housed in Minimum and 13 in Pre-Rel.

Breakdown of Prisoner Populations and Operational Capacities By Security Levels In Massachusetts Facilities

Table 7

,	Max. Oper.	Max. Pop.	Med Oper.	M ed. Pop.	Min./Pre. Oper.	Min./Pre. Pop.
Inst.	Cap.	7/1/21	Cap.	7/1/21	Сар.	7/1/21
BPRC					200	75
Bridgewater			372	236		٠
MASAC					251	134
MTC			676	563		
MCI-CJ	562	341	83	54		
MCI-C			668	512		
MCI-F			498	169		
MCI-N			1369	1146		
MCI-S			926	807	203	0
NCCI			1005	728		
NECC					277	213
OCCC			719	530	99	91
Pondville					204	136
SBCC	1427	537	P			
Totals	1989	878	6316	4745	1234	649
% Oper. Cap.		44%		75%		53%

Overall % of Oper. Cap. - 66% [Total Pop. on 7/1/21 (6272) / Total Oper. Cap. (9539)]

Comparisons of July 1, 2021 and July 1, 2020

Table 8

Inst. Level	7/1/21 #	7/1/21 %*	7/1/20 #	7/1/20 %	Diff.	% Diff.	% Diff. Since 2019**
inst. Level	Ħ	70 °	#	_			
Maximum	878	14.0	1075	15.3	-197	-18	-38
Medum	4745	75.7	5267	74.8	-522	-10	-20
Minimum	603	9.6	606	8.6	- 3	5	-68
Pre-Release	46	.7	92	1.3	- 46	-50	-76
Race		•					
Caucasan	2653	42.3	2910	41.3	-257	- 9	-27
African-Amer.	1772	28.3	2034	28.9	-262	- 13	-24
Hispanic	1612	25.7	1853	26.3	-241	- 13	-26
Asan	107	1.7	111	1.6	- 4	- 4	- 5
Native Amer	39	.6	42	.6	- 3	- 7	-22
Other	99	1.4	90	1.3	+ 9	+10	- 3
Lifers/Long Termers							
First Degree	1001	16.0	1020	14.5	- 19	- 2	- 4
Second Degree	842	13.4	903	12.8	<u>- 61</u>	- 7	-11
Totals	1843	29.4	1923	27.3	- 80	- 4	- 8
15+ Years	974	15.5	<u>1141 </u>	16.2	<u>-167</u>	- 15	-13
Total Lifers + 15+	2817	44.9	3064	43.5	-247	- 8	-10
Governing Offenses							
Person	3452	60.9***	3790	57.7	-338	- 9	-19
Sex	1057	18.6	1185	18.0	-128	- 11	-16
Property	252	4.4	344	5.2	- 92	- 27	-50
Drug	556	9.8	740	11.3	-184	- 25	-44
Other	378	6.7	509	7.8	<u>-131</u>	- 26	-40
Total MA Crim. Sent	5695	90.8***	6568	93.3	-873	- 13	-26
Prisoners MA Juris.	6571		7312		-741	- 10	-26
Prisoners Housed In MA Facilities	6272		7040		-768	- 11	-26

^{* % =} Category Population Total / # of Prisoners housed in MA facilities (6272).

** For data from 2019 Fact Cards see Closing Notes re: Source for Lifer's Group Inc. Report on 7/1/19 Fact Cards.

*** % = Governing Offense Total / Total of Criminally Sentenced Prisoners housed in MA facilities (5695).

**** % = Total Criminally Sentenced housed in MA facilities / Total # of Prisoners housed in MA facilities (6272).

Commentary Notes

- 1) As in Fiscal Year 2020, the Department of Correction spent nearly three-quarters of a billion dollars on prisons even though the number of incarcerated people dropped. The large amount of expenditure by the DOC was due in no small part to the ever increasing cost of health care, the result of the continued under-utilization of medical paroles and commutations which would serve to decrease the growing elderly prisoner population. According to a Lifer's Group Inc. report on the expenditures and staffing levels of the DOC for Fiscal 2021, spending decreased a paltry .3%, while the number of prisoners dropped by 17% and the number of Full Time Employees deceased by 3%.
- 2) In 2021, the DOC's minimum and pre-release facilities operated at 53% of their operational capacities. (See Table 7, page 10.) The DOC's failure to use fully (and expand) minimum and pre-release facilities means that far too many prisoners are forced to complete their sentences in higher security that is more expensive and lacks the breath of resources and opportunities which assist prisoners to transition successfully back into the free world. For instance, as of July 1, 2021, there were no prisoners housed in the minimum security facility at MCI-Shirley. (See Table 1, page 4 and Table 7, page 10.)
- 3) Due to the continued under-utilization of Minimum and Pre-Release facilities, the decrease in the prisoner population, and the ever increasing medical costs (+6% from Fiscal 2020 and +27% from Fiscal 2019) due to the aging prisoner population, the average cost per prisoner for Fiscal 2021, as calculated by the Lifer's Group Inc. in its Report on the Expenditures and Staffing Levels for Fiscal 2021, was \$109,974, a 20% increase over Fiscal 2020 and a 56% increase over Fiscal 2019.
- 4) MCI-Norfolk continues to be the only prison where the majority of the population is serving a life sentence (58%), up from 55% on July 1, 2020. In addition, MCI-Norfolk houses nearly 36% of all lifers incarcerated in MA facilities. When those serving not life, but 15+ years, are added to those serving life at MCI-Norfolk, that total number of prisoners (846 of 1146) represents 74% of the total prisoner population held at MCI-Norfolk. (See Table 3, page 6.) Yet, the DOC continues to force lifers and long-termers to compete with those serving less time for participation in the limited rehabilitative programming and educational opportunities as access is determined by lengths of time to parole.
- 5) Six MA facilities increased their prisoner populations from July 1, 2020 to July 1, 2021: MASAC by 72 or 116%, NECC by 65 or 44%, Pondville by 34 or 33%, BPRC by 17 or 24%, and the Treatment Center (MTC) by 45 or 9%. Conversely, eight facilities decreased their prison populations over the same period: MCI-S by 334 or 29%, NCCI by 186 or 20%, SBCC by 137 or 20%, MCI-N by 13 or 17%, OCCC by 102 or 14%, MCI-CJ by 65 or 14%, MCI-F by 16 or 9%, and MCI-C by 42 or 8%.
- 6) The following facilities increased the percentage of incarcerated prisoners serving life sentences from July 1, 2020 to July 1, 2021: MCI-N from 55% to 58%, OCCC from 34% to 40%, MCI-S from 24% to 33%, MCI-C from 29% to 31%, NCCI from 25% to 30%, and SBCC from 25% to 27%. Overall, the percentage of lifers housed in MA facilities comparing July 1, 2020 to July 1, 2021 increased from 27% to 29%.

Closing Notes

Please note that all totals and percentages in this report were calculated by the author for the Lifer's Group Inc.

Where comparisons with July 1, 2020 and July 1, 2019 data were cited in this report, the sources for those comparisons were either the MA DOC Institutional Fact Cards for July 1, 2020 or the Lifer's Group Inc. report on the July 1, 2019 Institutional Fact Cards.

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Any comments, corrections, or questions about this report or any other report published by the Lifer's Group Inc. are welcome. The Lifer's Group Inc. report on the Expenditures and Staffing Levels for the DOC in Fiscal 2021 cited in the present report can be found at: www.realcostof prisons.org/writing. We continue to express our deepest appreciation to Ms. Lois Ahrens, Founding Director of the Real Cost Of Prisons Project for her work and her posting our reports on her website.

Department of Correction Institutional Fact Cards are available online at: www.ma.gov/doc.

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