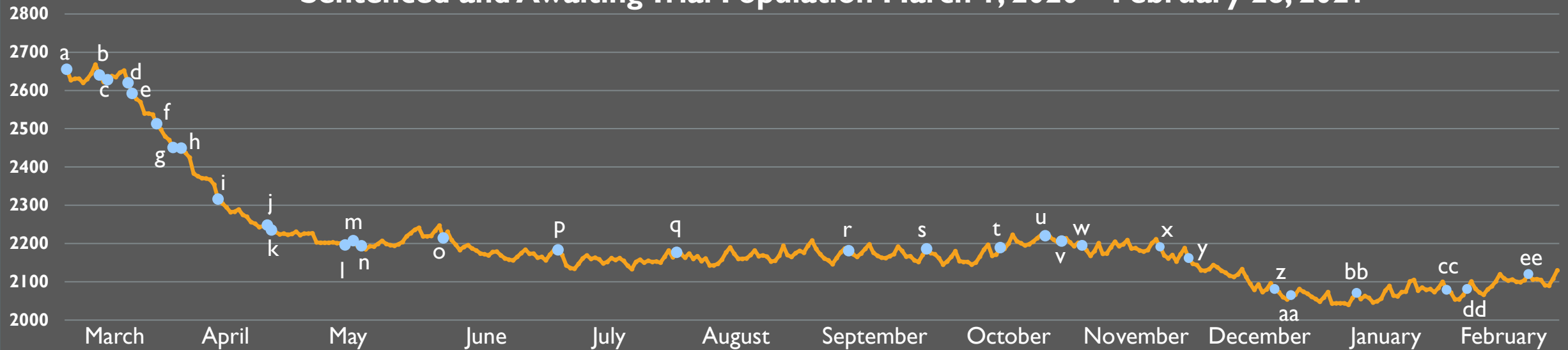


Rhode Island Department of Corrections
COVID-19 Population Update
“A Year in the Pandemic”

**Leann Anderson, Acting Principal Planner
Planning and Research Unit**

RIDOC TOTAL POPULATION – COVID-19 TIMELINE

Sentenced and Awaiting Trial Population March 1, 2020 – February 28, 2021



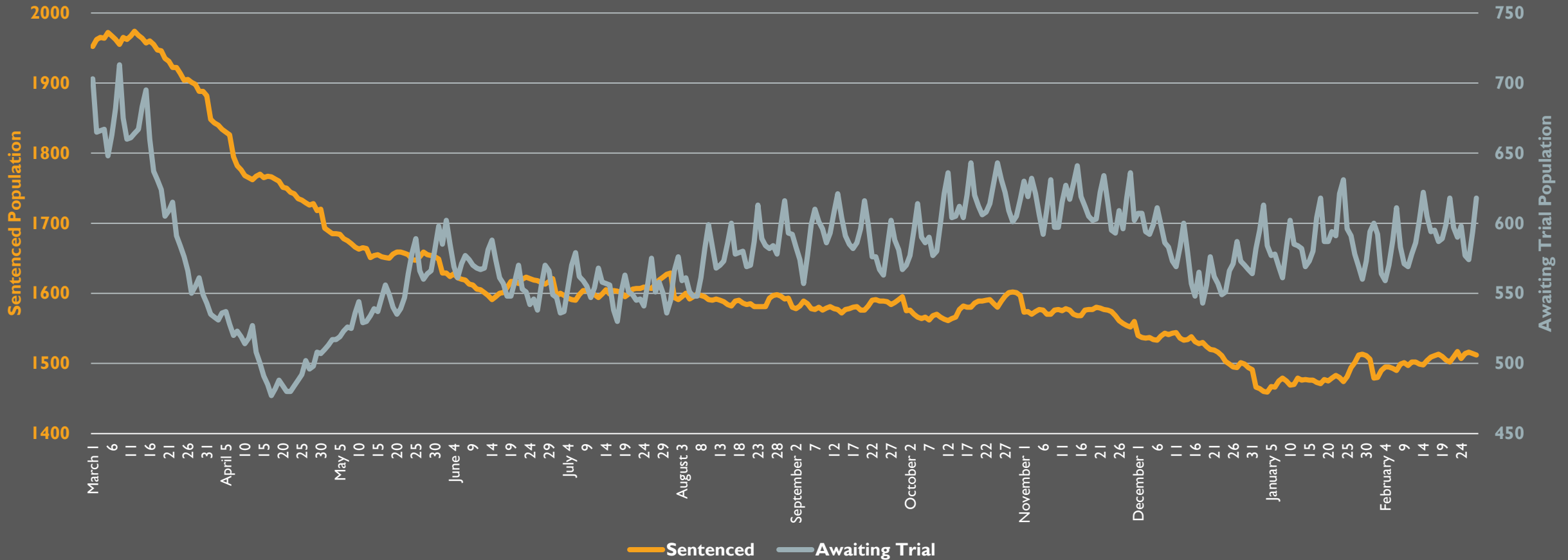
- a) 3/1 RI's first positive COVID-19 case
- b) 3/9 Governor declares state of emergency
- c) 3/11 RIDOC cancels all visits
- d) 3/16 Contracted program providers restricted/new commitments quarantined for 14 days
- e) 3/17 In-person community corrections check-ins suspended, RIDOC staff begin wearing masks and courts close to non-emergency matters
- f) 3/23 All non-essential staff begin working from home
- g) 3/27 First RIDOC staff member with positive COVID-19 case
- h) 3/28 Governor issues stay at home order
- i) 4/7 52 sentenced inmates released early per agreement made by the Public Defenders Office, AG's Office and courts
- j) 4/19 RIDOC's first COVID -19 positive awaiting trial commitment
- k) 4/20 Routine surveillance testing of RIDOC staff and inmates begins
- l) 5/9 Phase I of Reopening RI/Order requiring masks worn in all public places issued/stay at home order lifted
- m) 5/11 First RIDOC sentenced inmate with positive COVID-19 test
- n) 5/13 Supreme Court begins hearing cases remotely
- o) 6/1 Phase 2 of Reopening RI begins / RI Courts open for non-emergency cases
- p) 6/29 Phase 3 of Reopening RI begins
- q) 7/29 Phase 3 continues, social gathering size limited to 15 people
- r) 9/8 Most non-facility staff returns to working on campus
- s) 9/28 RIDOC COVID-19 Information page live on Intranet
- t) 10/15 Breakrooms closed due to rise in positive cases
- u) 10/27 RIDOC's public COVID-19 information page goes live
- v) 10/30 social gathering size limited to 10 people
- w) 11/5 Governor instates curfew/50% capacity for indoor gatherings
- x) 11/23 Non-essential staff begin working from home
- y) 11/30 Two-week "pause" begins; first field hospital opens
- z) 12/22 RIDOC Staff begin receiving vaccinations
- aa) 12/26 RIDOC Inmates begin receiving vaccinations
- bb) 1/11 RI reaches 100,000 COVID-19 cases
- cc) 2/1 Non-facility staff returns to working from home/RI starts vaccinating individuals 75+
- dd) 2/5 indoor capacity restrictions loosened
- ee) 2/22 RI begins vaccinating individuals 65+

RIDOC saw its lowest total population during the pandemic on January 8, 2021. The population was 2040 which is 19.9% less than January 8, 2020.

Since then the population has had a slight increase of 2.9%.

SENTENCED AND AWAITING TRIAL POPULATION

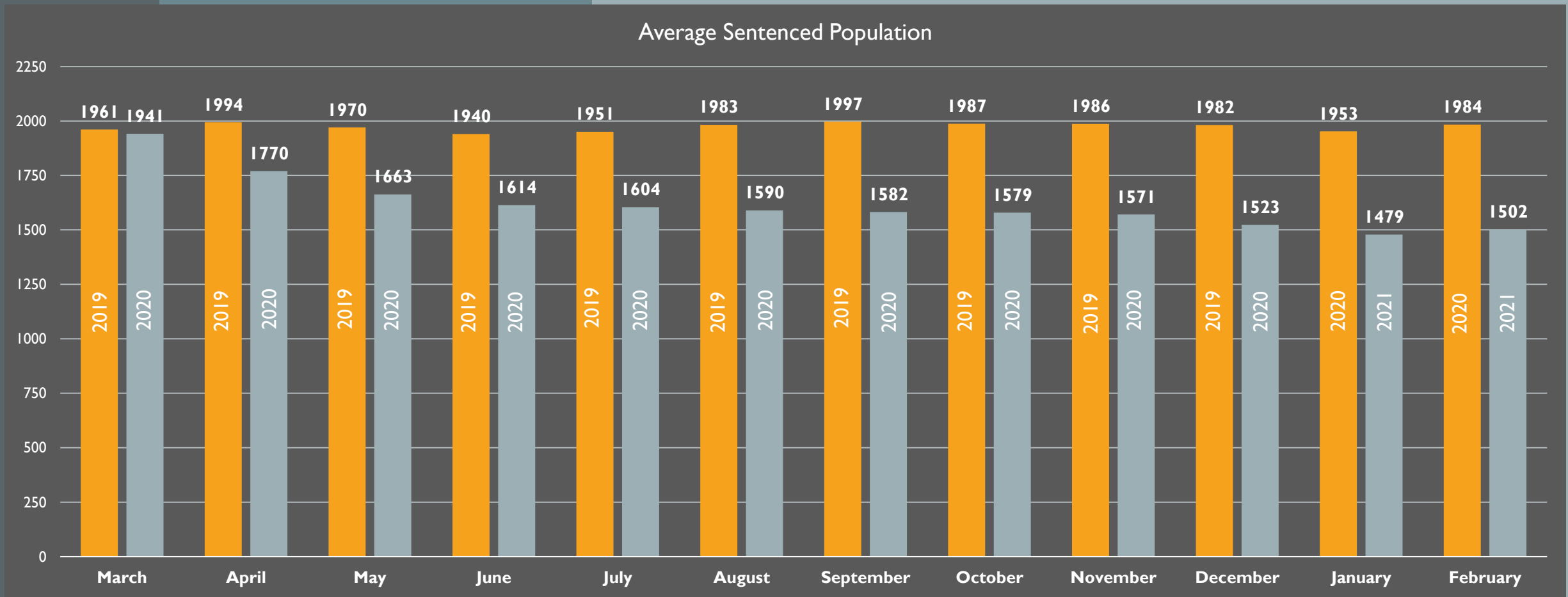
Sentenced and Awaiting Trial Population March 1, 2020 – January 31, 2021



From March 1, 2020 (1952) to June 14, 2020 (1591), the sentenced population steadily dropped 18.5%. It stayed fairly stagnant from then until October 31, 2020 (1597). By January 4, 2021 (1459), that population saw an overall decline of 8.6%. It has since seen an uptick of 3.6%.

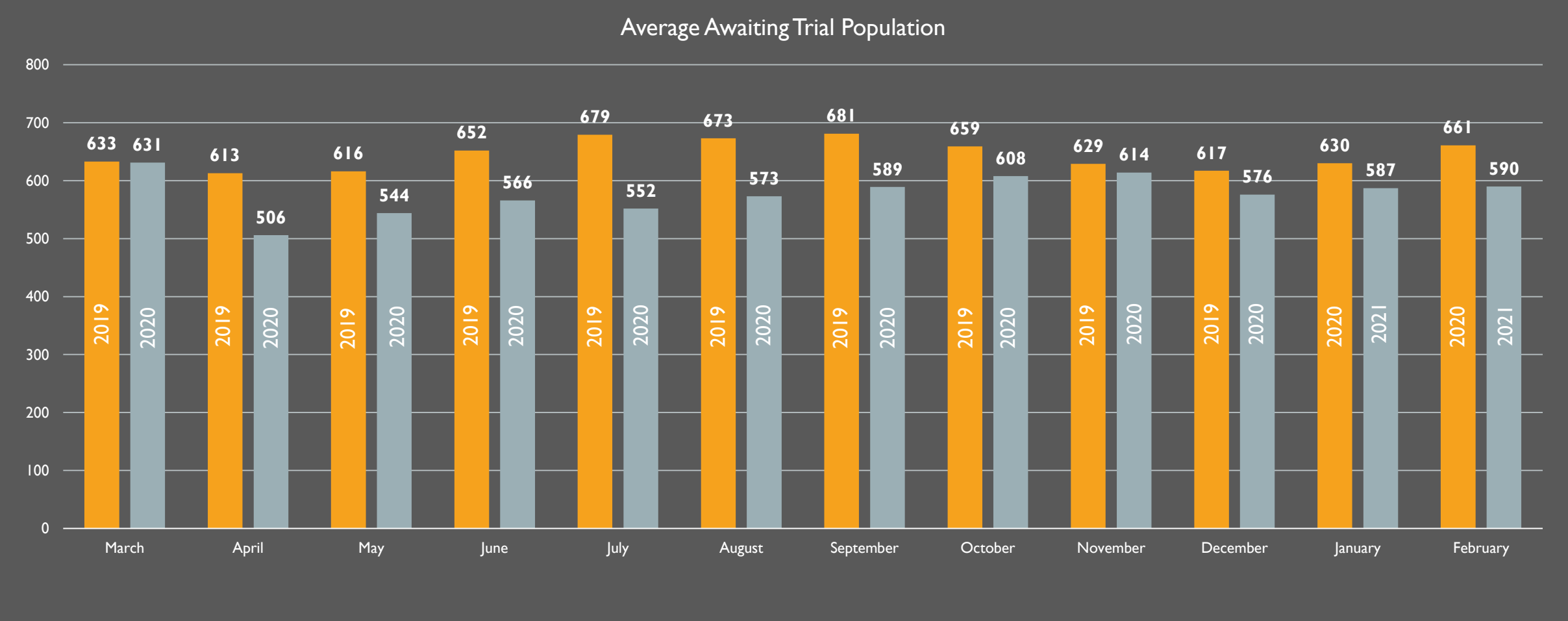
The awaiting trial population dropped 31.1% from March 1, 2020 (703) to April 17, 2020 (477). From then to November 29, 2020 (636), it rose 33.3%. During the state's "two-week" pause, there was a 14.6% drop in this population but it went back up 13.8% by end of February (618).

COMPARING AVERAGE SENTENCED POPULATION FROM MARCH 2019 – FEBRUARY 2020 TO MARCH 2020 – FEBRUARY 2021



The average sentenced population from March 2019 through February 2020 had an overall **growth** of 1.2%.
 The average sentenced population from March 2020 through February 2021 had an overall **decline** of 22.6%.

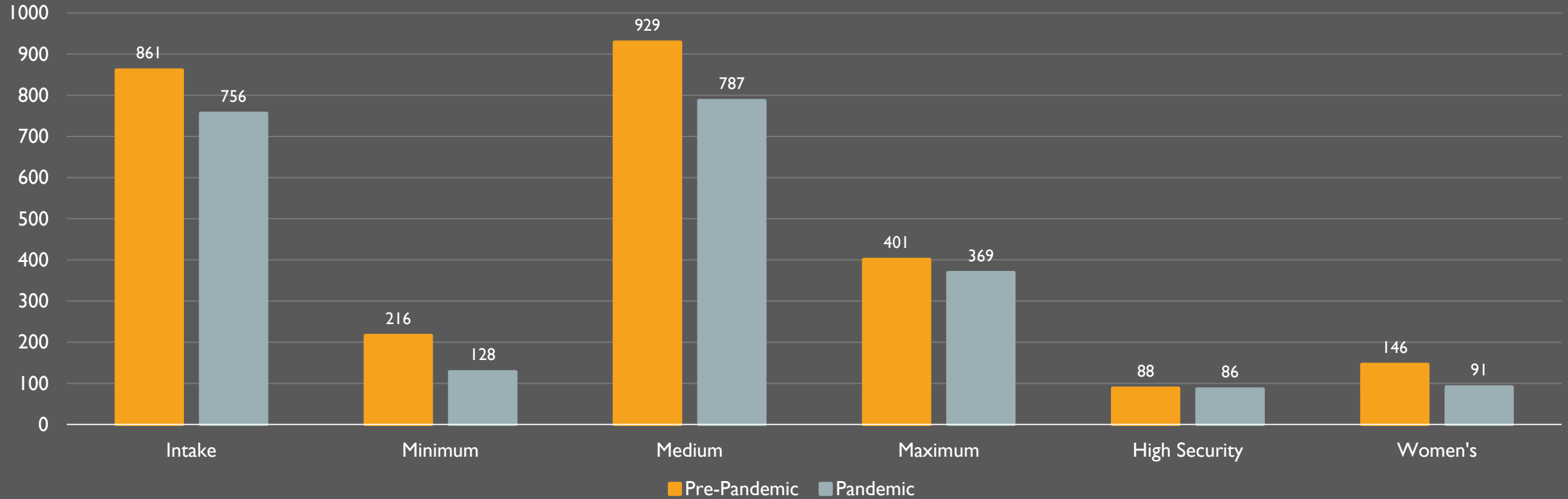
COMPARING AVERAGE AWAITING TRIAL POPULATIONS FROM MARCH – OCTOBER 2019 TO MARCH – OCTOBER 2020



The average awaiting trial population from March 2019 through February 2020 had an overall **growth** of 4.4%. The average awaiting trial population from March 2020 through February 2021 had an overall **decline** of 6.5%.

FACILITY POPULATION COMPARISON

Pre-Pandemic and During Pandemic Average Populations by Facility



Above is a comparison of each facility's average population the before the pandemic (March 2019 – February 2020) and during pandemic (March 2020 – February 2021). The average population dropped 16% during the pandemic.

Each facility's individual drop in average population is as follows:

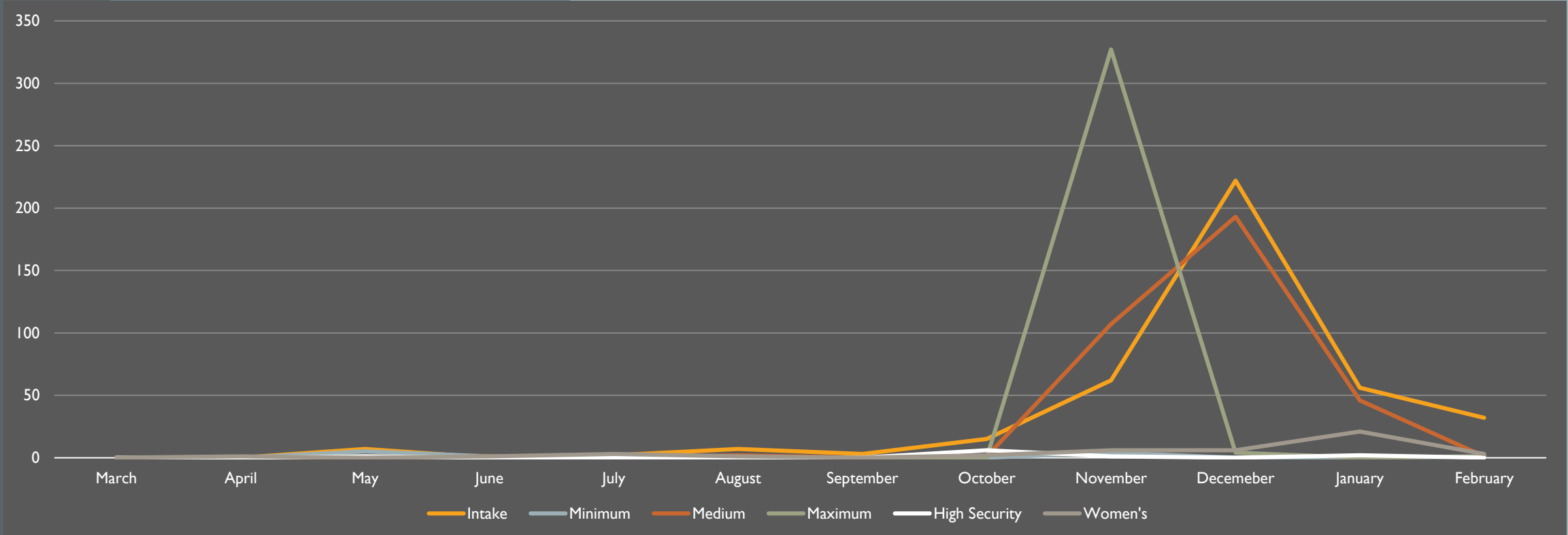
ISC ↓ 12.2% Minimum ↓ 40.7% Medium ↓ 15.3% Maximum ↓ 8.0% High Security ↓ 2.3% Women's ↓ 37.7%.

FACILITY INMATE COVID-19 CASES AS OF FEBRUARY 28, 2021

	Total Positive Cases	Deaths
Intake Service Center	406	0
Minimum	11	0
Medium	351	1
Maximum	333	1
High Security	10	0
Women's	44	0
Total Facilities	1155	2

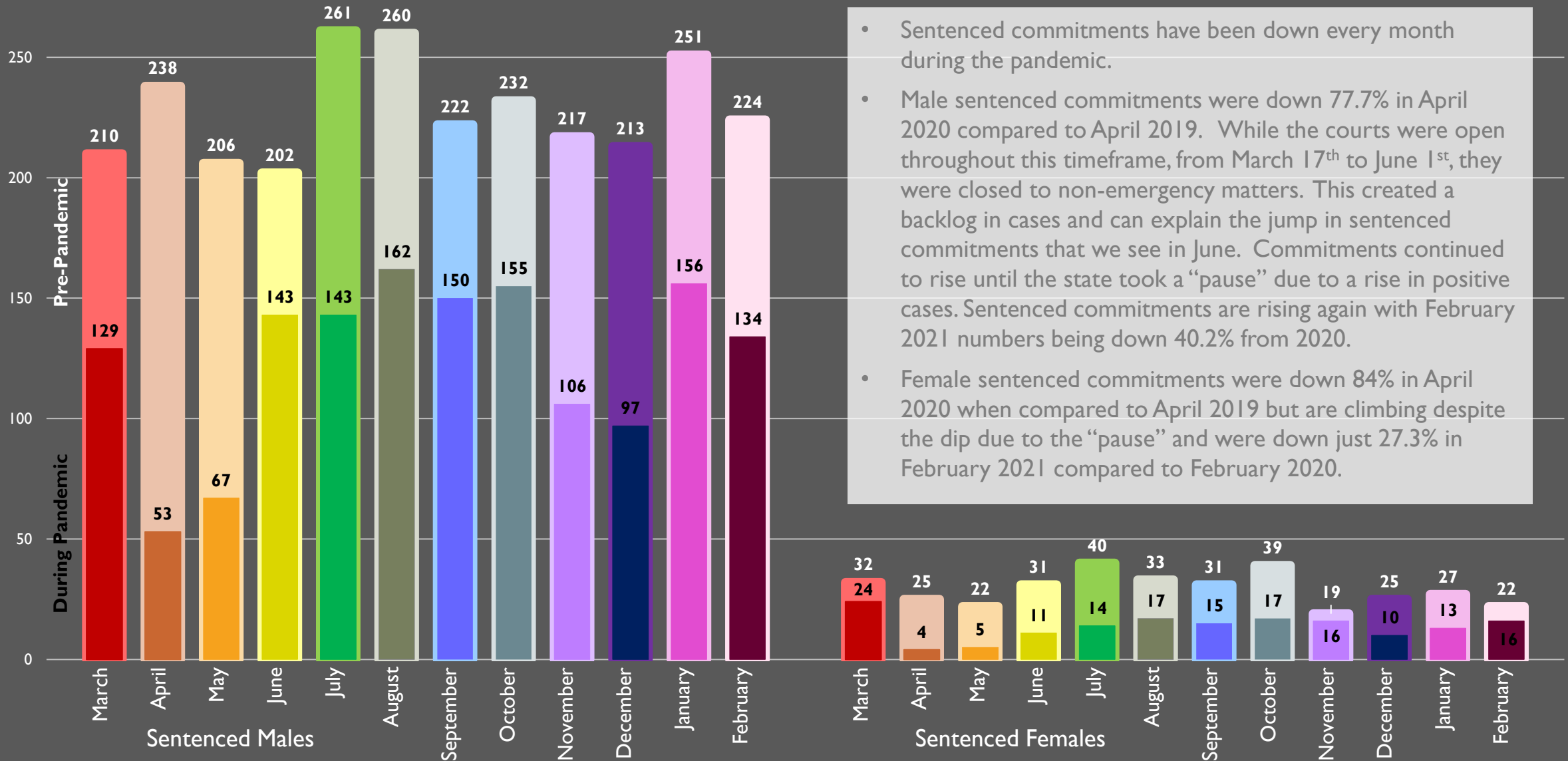
The above table depicts the number of positive COVID-19 cases and deaths due to COVID by facility since the beginning of the pandemic as of February 28, 2021. Twelve (12) of the 44 positive cases at Women's and 100 of the 406 positive cases at Intake were from newly committed inmates. These people tested positive within 14 days of their arrival signifying that they were very likely positive upon commitment. Eight (8) of the positive cases throughout all facilities were repeat positives of greater than 90 days or with new onset of symptoms. It is important to note that due to the ever shifting inmate population, many of those who were a positive case are no longer in our system.

FACILITY INMATE COVID-19 CASES FROM MARCH 2020 – FEBRUARY 2021



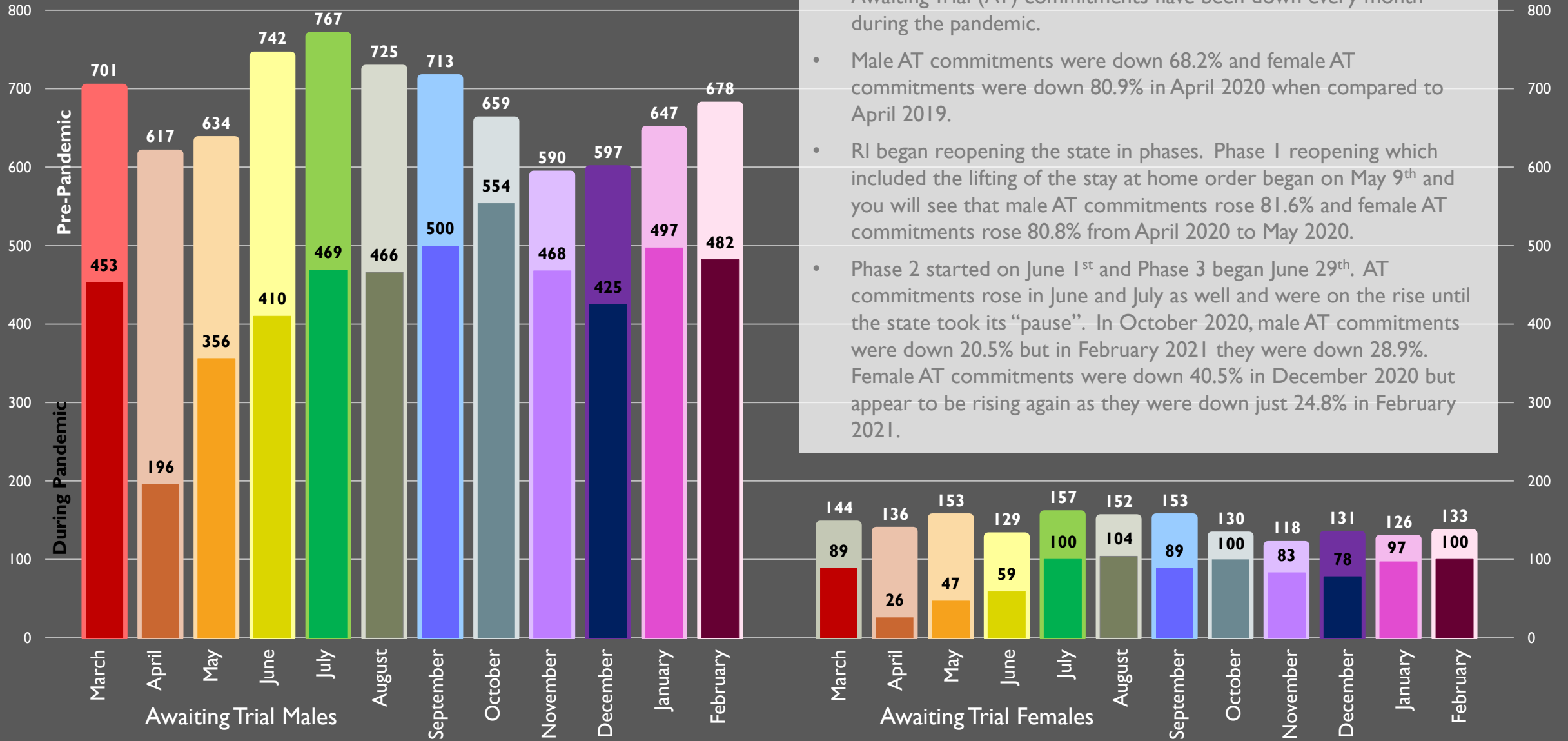
	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	Total
Intake Service Center	0	0	7	0	2	7	3	15	62	222	56	32	406
Minimum	0	0	5	1	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	1	11
Medium	0	0	0	1	0	2	0	1	107	193	46	1	351
Maximum	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	327	4	0	1	333
High Security	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	6	1	0	2	0	10
Women's	0	1	0	1	3	1	0	2	6	6	21	3	44

COMPARING SENTENCED COMMITMENTS FROM MARCH 2019 – FEBRUARY 2020 TO MARCH 2020 – FEBRUARY 2021



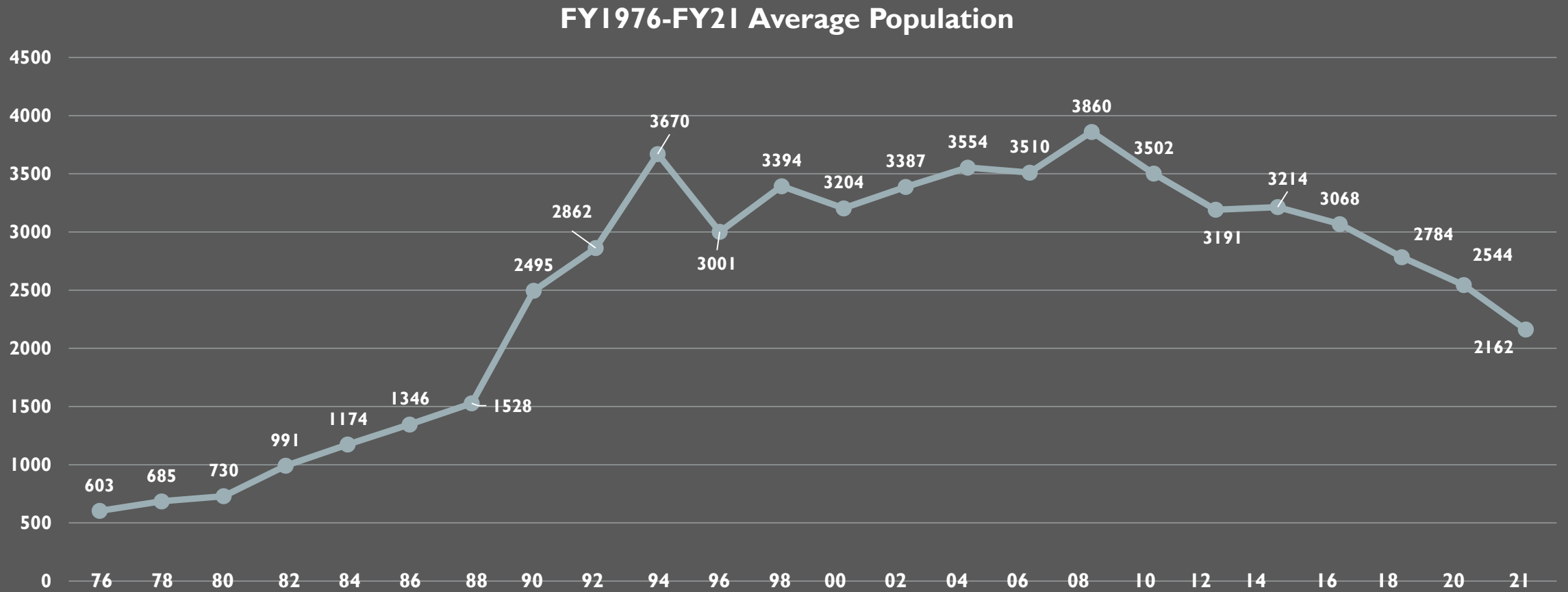
- Sentenced commitments have been down every month during the pandemic.
- Male sentenced commitments were down 77.7% in April 2020 compared to April 2019. While the courts were open throughout this timeframe, from March 17th to June 1st, they were closed to non-emergency matters. This created a backlog in cases and can explain the jump in sentenced commitments that we see in June. Commitments continued to rise until the state took a “pause” due to a rise in positive cases. Sentenced commitments are rising again with February 2021 numbers being down 40.2% from 2020.
- Female sentenced commitments were down 84% in April 2020 when compared to April 2019 but are climbing despite the dip due to the “pause” and were down just 27.3% in February 2021 compared to February 2020.

COMPARING AWAITING TRIAL COMMITMENTS FROM MARCH 2019 – FEBRUARY 2020 TO MARCH 2020 – FEBRUARY 2021



- Awaiting Trial (AT) commitments have been down every month during the pandemic.
- Male AT commitments were down 68.2% and female AT commitments were down 80.9% in April 2020 when compared to April 2019.
- RI began reopening the state in phases. Phase I reopening which included the lifting of the stay at home order began on May 9th and you will see that male AT commitments rose 81.6% and female AT commitments rose 80.8% from April 2020 to May 2020.
- Phase 2 started on June 1st and Phase 3 began June 29th. AT commitments rose in June and July as well and were on the rise until the state took its “pause”. In October 2020, male AT commitments were down 20.5% but in February 2021 they were down 28.9%. Female AT commitments were down 40.5% in December 2020 but appear to be rising again as they were down just 24.8% in February 2021.

FY1976-FY2021 AVERAGE YEARLY POPULATIONS



- The above graph depicts the average yearly population for every other fiscal year from 1976 through 2020. At the end is the average yearly population so far in FY2021 (July 2020-February 2021).
- The average yearly population so far for FY2021 is the lowest it has been since FY1988.