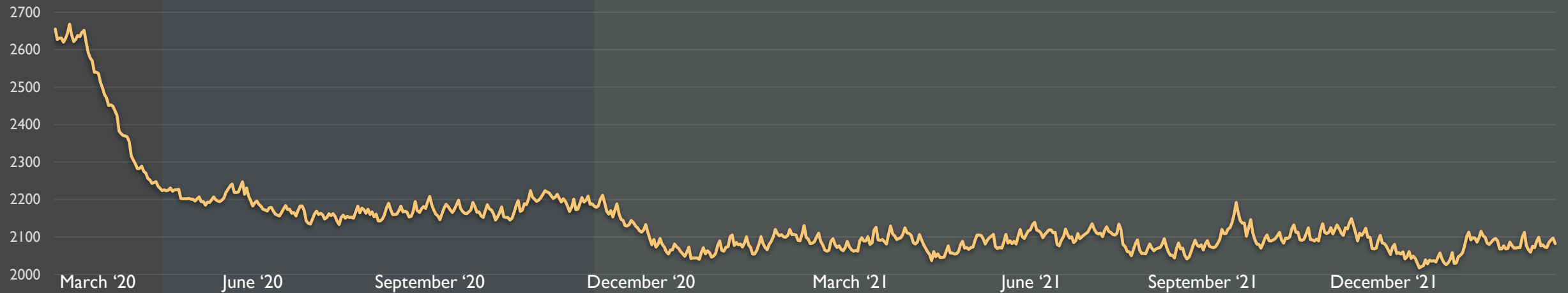


Rhode Island Department of Corrections COVID-19 Population Update “Two Years in the Pandemic”

**Leann Anderson, Senior Planner
Planning and Research Unit**

RIDOC TOTAL POPULATION – COVID-19 TIMELINE

Sentenced and Awaiting Trial Population March 1, 2020 - February 28, 2022



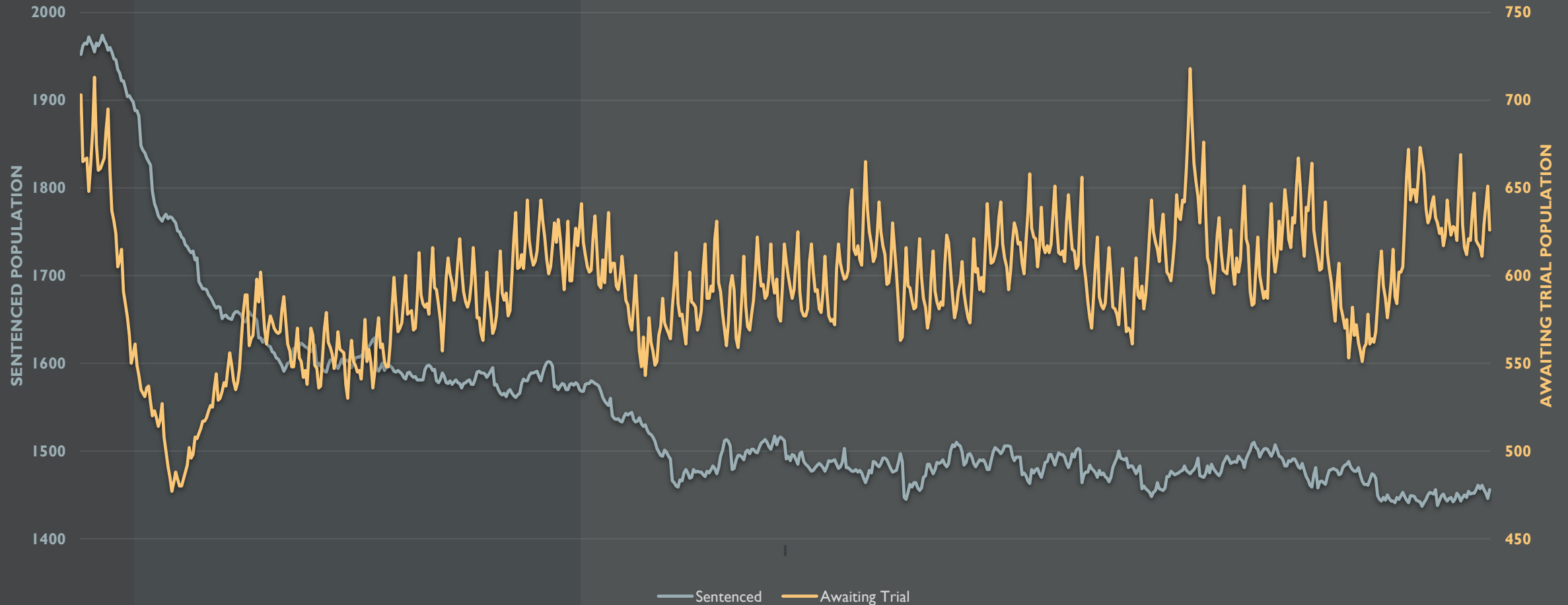
- a) 3/1 - RI's first positive COVID-19 case
- b) 3/9 - Governor declares state of emergency
- c) 3/11 - RIDOC cancels all visits
- d) 3/16 - Contracted program providers restricted; new commitments quarantined for 14 days
- e) 3/17 - In-person community corrections check-ins suspended; RIDOC staff begin wearing masks; 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 incarcerated individuals begins
- l) 5/9 - Phase 1 of Reopening RI; order requiring masks worn in all public places issued
- m) 5/11 - First RIDOC sentenced person 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) 9/8 - Most non-facility staff returns to working on campus
- q) 9/28 - RIDOC COVID-19 Information page live on Intranet
- r) 10/27 - RIDOC's public COVID-19 information page goes live
- s) 11/5 - Governor reinstates curfew; 50% capacity for indoor gatherings
- t) 11/23 - Non-essential staff begin working from home
- u) 11/30 - Two-week "pause" begins; first field hospital opens
- v) 12/22 - RIDOC Staff begin receiving vaccinations
- w) 12/26 - RIDOC incarcerated individuals begin receiving vaccinations
- x) 2/1 - Non-facility staff returns to working from home; RI starts vaccinating individuals 75+
- y) 2/22 - RI begins vaccinating individuals 65+
- z) 5/21 - Most of the remaining COVID restrictions lifted
- aa) 7/13 - Governor signed executive order ending mask mandate
- bb) 8/12 - State employees required to wear masks again
- cc) 10/22 - Vaccine Boosters available to all individuals 18+
- dd) 11/30 - RIDOC begins Vaccine Booster clinics for inmates and staff
- ee) 1/6 - RI has its highest case rate since the beginning of the pandemic
- ff) 2/11 - indoor mask mandate lifted

RIDOC saw its lowest total population during the pandemic on December 24th, 2021. The population was 2,017 - 22.4% less than on December 24th, 2019.

Since then, the population has had a slight increase of 3.2%.

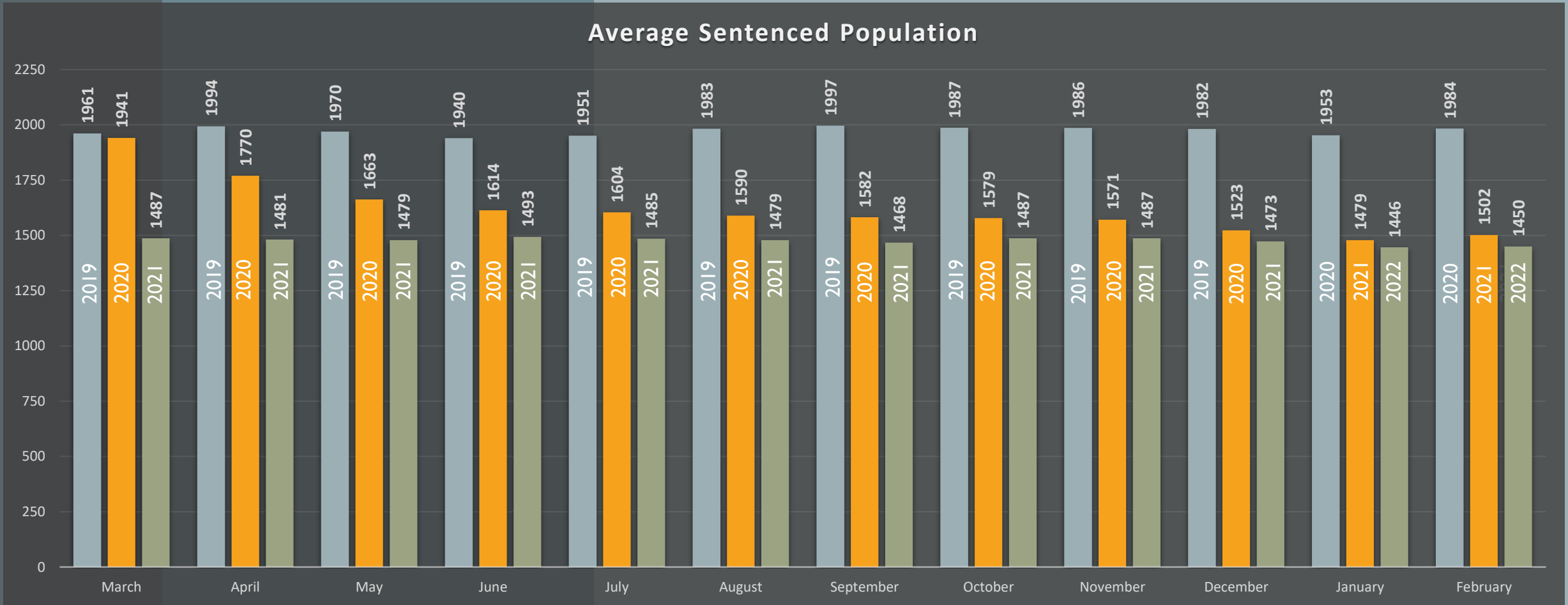
SENTENCED AND AWAITING TRIAL POPULATION

Sentenced and Awaiting Trial Population March 1, 2020 - February 28, 2022



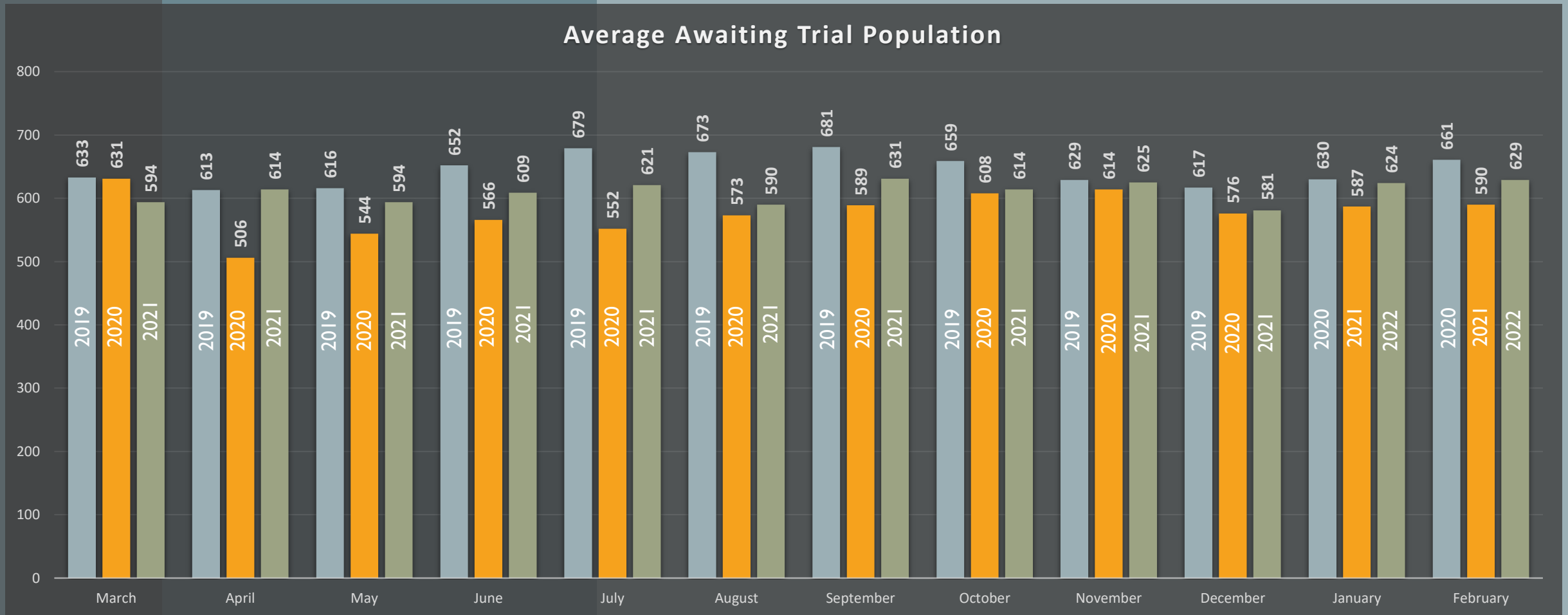
From March 1, 2020 to June 14, 2020, the sentenced population steadily dropped 18.5% from 1,952 to 1,591. It stayed stagnant from then until October 31, 2020, when it increased to 1,597. By January 4, 2021, that population saw an overall decline of 8.6% to 1,459 and has stayed steady since with 1456 on February 28th. The awaiting trial population dropped 31.1% from 703 on March 1, 2020 to 477 on April 17, 2020, then rose 33.3% to 636 on November 29, 2020. During the state's "two-week" pause, there was a 14.6% drop in this population (543), but it went back up 13.8% to 618 by the end of February.

COMPARING AVERAGE SENTENCED POPULATION FROM PRE-PANDEMIC AND YEARS 1 & 2 OF THE PANDEMIC



The average sentenced population from March 2019 through February 2020 (pre-pandemic) had an overall **growth** of 1.2%.
The average sentenced population from March 2020 through February 2021 (pandemic year 1) had an overall **decline** of 22.6%.
The average sentenced population from March 2021 through February 2022 (pandemic year 2) had an overall **decline** of 2.5%.

COMPARING AVERAGE AWAITING TRIAL POPULATION FROM PRE-PANDEMIC AND YEARS 1 & 2 OF THE PANDEMIC



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%.
The average awaiting trial population from March 2021 through February 2022 had an overall **growth** of 5.9%.

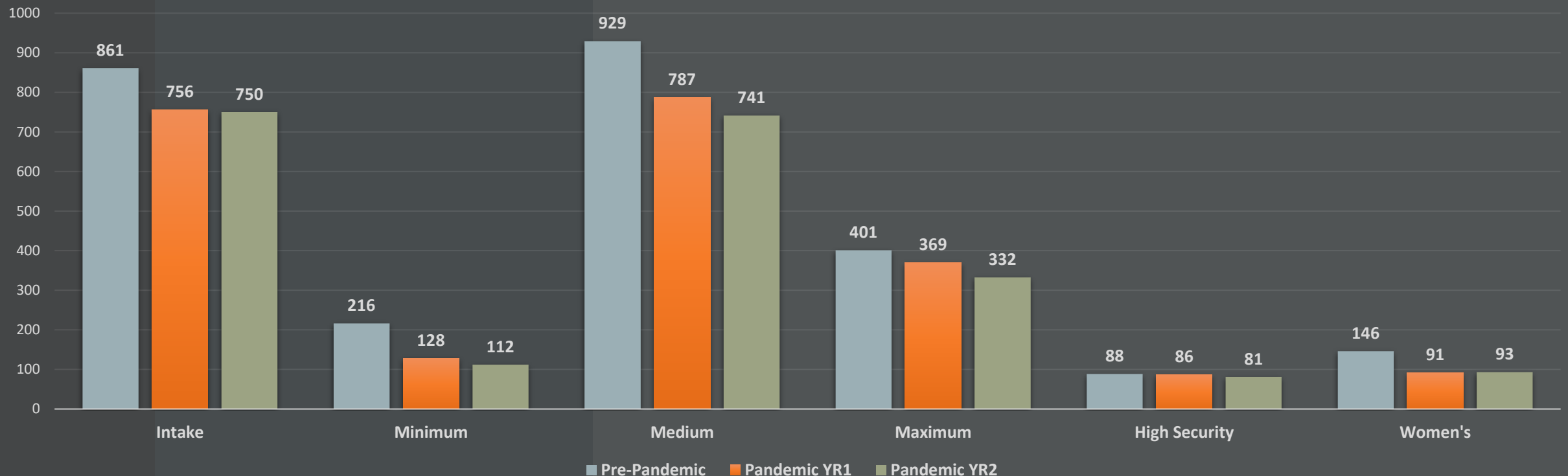
FACILITY POPULATION COMPARISON

Below is a comparison of each facility's average population before the pandemic (March 2019 – February 2020) and during the two years of the pandemic (March 2020 – February 2021 and March 2021 – February 2022). The average population dropped 16.1% during the first year of the pandemic and another 4.9% during the second.

Each facility's individual drop in average population over the two years is as follows:

ISC ↓ 12.9% Minimum ↓ 48.2% Medium ↓ 20.2% Maximum ↓ 17.2% High Security ↓ 8.0% Women's ↓ 36.3%

Pre-Pandemic and During Pandemic Average Populations by Facility

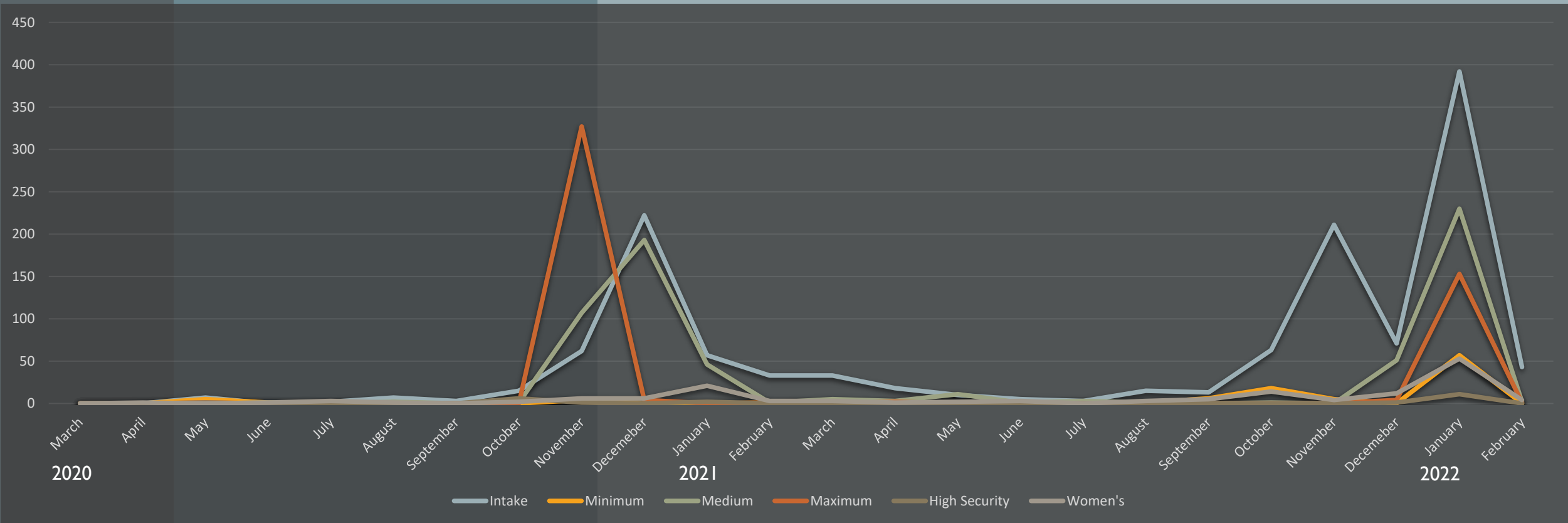


INCARCERATED PERSONS COVID-19 CASES AS OF FEBRUARY 28, 2022, BY FACILITY

	Total Positive Cases	Deaths
Intake Service Center	1,285	0
Minimum	102	0
Medium	658	1
Maximum	492	1
High Security	22	0
Women's	148	0
Total Facilities	2,707	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, 2022. 45.3% (67) of the positive cases at Women's and 35% (449) of the positive cases at Intake were from newly committed individuals. These people tested positive within 14 days of their arrival, signifying that they were very likely positive upon commitment. 322 of the positive cases throughout all facilities were repeat positives of greater than 90 days or with new onset of symptoms. 12 individuals tested positive on three separate occasions. 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 INCARCERATED PERSONS COVID-19 CASES FROM MARCH 2020 – FEBRUARY 2022



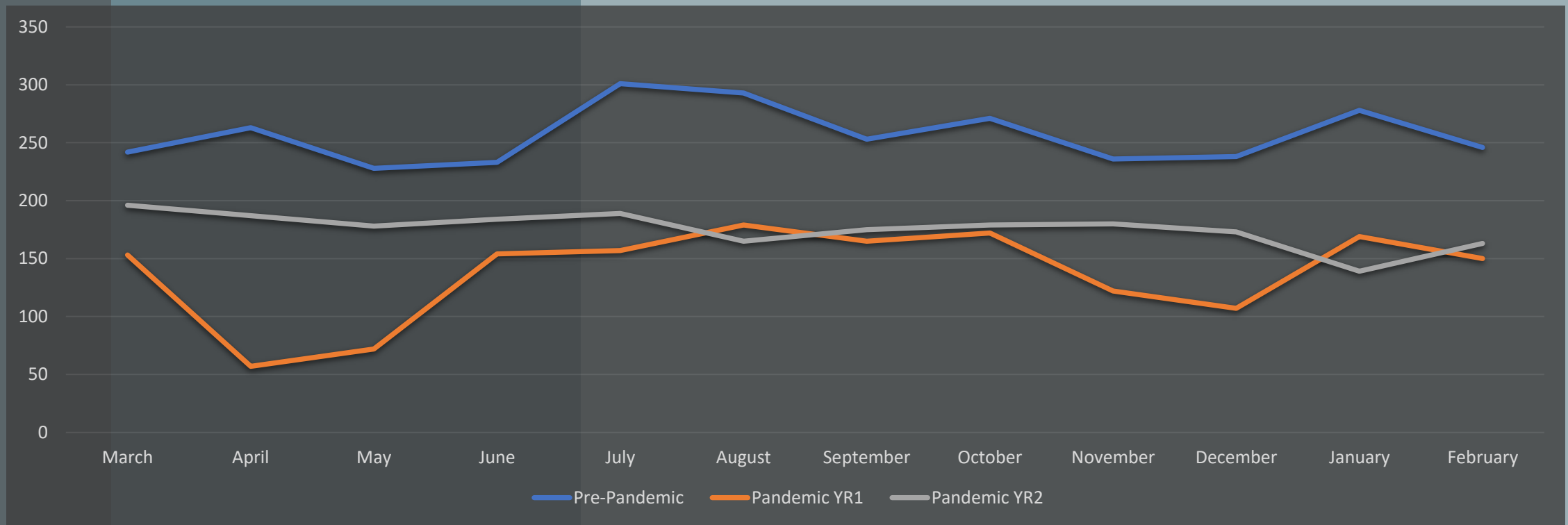
	March	April	May	June	July	August	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan. '21	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	August	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan. '22	Feb.	Total
Intake	0	0	7	0	2	7	3	15	62	222	57	33	33	18	10	5	3	15	13	63	211	71	392	43	1,285
Minimum	0	0	5	1	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	1	2	0	1	0	1	1	6	18	5	0	57	0	102
Medium	0	0	0	1	0	2	0	1	107	193	46	1	5	3	11	1	3	1	0	1	0	51	230	2	659
Maximum	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	327	4	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	153	1	493
High Sec.	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	6	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	11	0	22
Women's	0	1	0	1	3	1	0	2	6	6	21	3	3	1	2	3	0	3	5	14	4	12	53	4	148
Total	0	1	14	3	5	10	3	24	507	425	126	39	43	24	24	9	7	20	24	96	220	139	896	50	2,709

INCARCERATED PERSONS COVID-19 VACCINES AS OF MARCH 9, 2022, BY FACILITY

	Not Vaccinated	1st Shot Only	Fully Vaccinated	Fully Vaccinated with Booster	% Fully Vaccinated with or without Booster	% Fully Vaccinated with Booster
Intake	343	53	204	156	48%	21%
Minimum	33	3	55	30	70%	25%
Medium	124	18	200	418	81%	55%
Maximum	58	1	47	192	80%	64%
High Security	20	2	13	46	73%	57%
Women's	35	11	19	25	49%	28%
Total	613	88	538	867	67%	41%

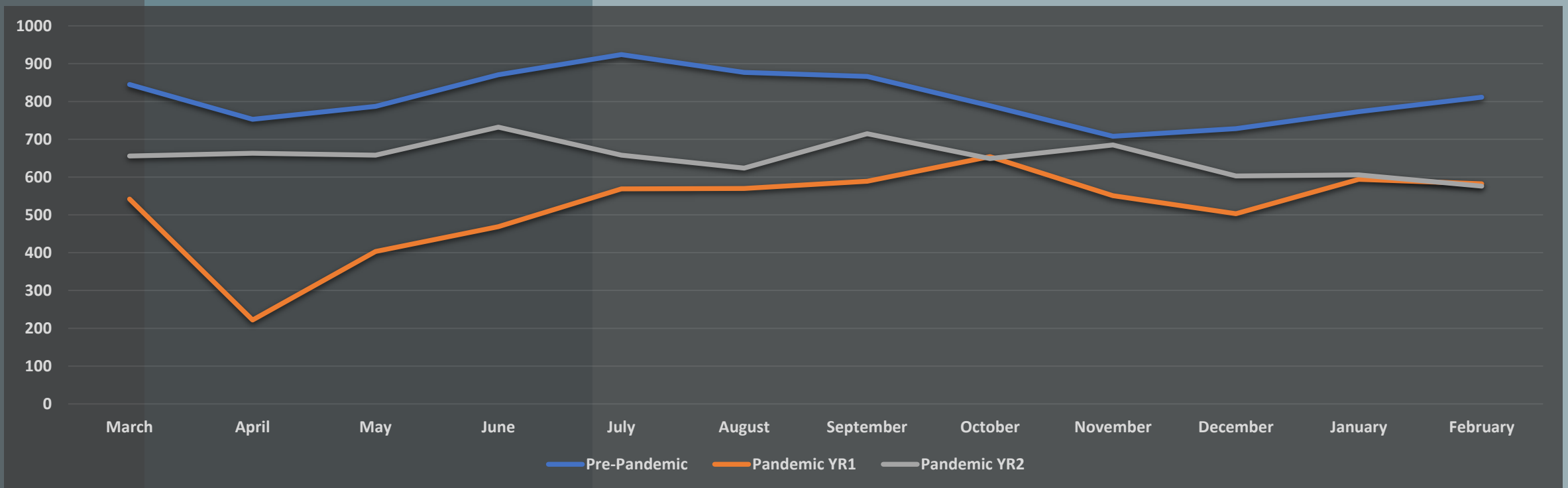
The RIDOC began offering COVID-19 vaccinations to high-risk incarcerated people in late December 2020. Since then, RIDOC has offered the vaccine and vaccine boosters to interested sentenced and awaiting trial individuals. Vaccinations, mask-wearing and social distancing are crucial in stopping the spread in congregate settings. The above table depicts the breakdown of vaccine status by facility as of March 9, 2022. Intake and Women's have the lowest rates of vaccination for numerous reasons. These facilities are transient in nature due to housing those on awaiting trial status – these people may be in the facilities for very short periods, which does not allow enough time to become fully vaccinated before they are released. Vaccinations are also likely underrepresented because it takes time to verify a new commitment's vaccine status upon arrival.

COMPARING SENTENCED COMMITMENTS FROM PRE-PANDEMIC TO YEARS 1 AND 2 OF THE PANDEMIC



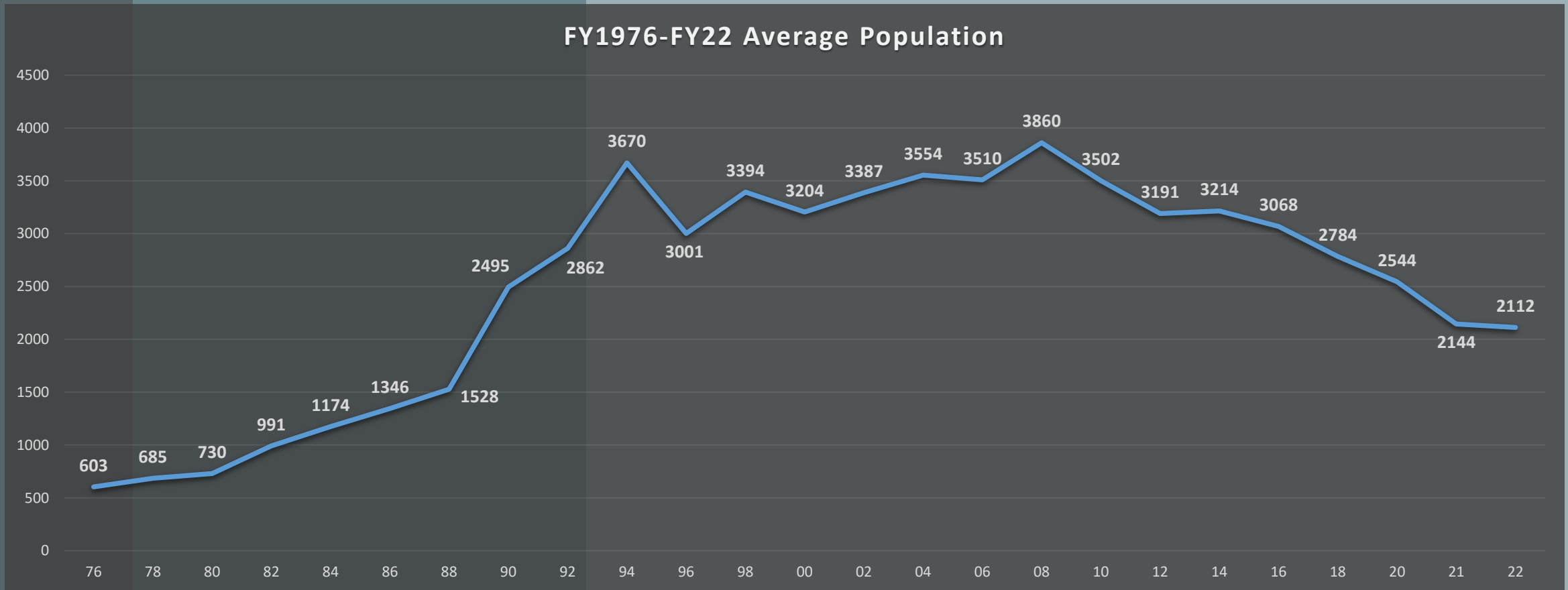
- While year 1 of the pandemic (March 2020-February 2021) saw a more drastic drop in sentenced commitments, especially during the first couple of months, sentenced commitments have been down every month during the pandemic compared to pre-pandemic.
- Sentenced commitments were down 78.3% in April 2020 compared to April 2019. While the courts were open throughout this timeframe, from March 17th to June 1st, 2020 they were closed to non-emergency matters. This created a backlog in cases and explains the jump in sentenced commitments that appear in June. Commitments continued to rise until the state took a “pause” due to a rise in positive cases starting in November 2020.
- Sentenced commitments rose in January 2020 and stayed steady until August 2021 when there was a rise in COVID cases again. Another dip is seen in January 2022 when RI hit record high cases. The declines in late 2021 and early 2022 commitments do not compare to the drastic dip in April 2020 which may be due to high vaccine rates in the State and less public restrictions being put into place.

COMPARING AWAITING TRIAL COMMITMENTS FROM PRE-PANDEMIC TO YEARS 1 AND 2 OF THE PANDEMIC



- While the beginning of the first year of the pandemic (March 2020-June 2020) had the biggest drop in awaiting trial (AT) commitments, AT commitments have been down every month during the pandemic.
- AT commitments were down 70.5% in April 2020 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 commitments rose 81.5% 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 November 2020. The AT commitments started rising again in January 2021 until they dropped in August 2021 after a rise in COVID cases. There was another rise in cases in December 2021 and RI hit record high cases in January 2022 which may explain another drop in AT commitments.

FY1976-FY2022 AVERAGE YEARLY POPULATIONS



- The above graph depicts the average yearly population for every other fiscal year from 1976 through 2020. FY21 is included and at the end is the average yearly population so far in FY2022 (July 2021-February 2022).
- The average yearly population so far for FY2022 is the lowest it has been since FY1988.