

Rhode Island Department of Corrections

Calendar Year 2021 Annual Commitment and Release Report

2021 Commitments

In calendar year 2021 there were a total of **9,983** commitment events, an increase of **17%** from the previous year.

Commitments are counted as **events** rather than people. The **9,983** total commitment events recorded in CY2021 represents **6,396** people, as **755** people were committed twice and **452** people were committed three or more times.

**Other includes out-of-state return, transfer from other states and transfers from Eleanor Slater Hospital Forensic Unit.*

<i>Commitment Type</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Awaiting Trial	6483	1336	7819
Civil Purge	38	1	39
Sentenced	1890	235	2125
<i>Sentenced from Court</i>	1793	229	2022
<i>Parole Violators</i>	83	6	89
<i>*Other</i>	14	0	14
Total	8411	1572	9983



Commitments to RIDOC were at an all time high in 2006. Since then commitments have decreased 48.6%. During that same time period, releases have decreased by about 47%. Pictured above is the Anthony P. Trivisono Intake Service Center (ISC). The ISC only houses male offenders and was consequently responsible for processing the vast majority of all commitment and release events during CY2021.

2021 Releases

In calendar year 2021 there were a total of **9,892** release events, a decrease of **10%** from CY2020.

Since releases are counted as **events** rather than people, the **9,892** total release events recorded in CY2021 represents **6,551** people, as **714** people were released twice and **433** people were released three or more times.

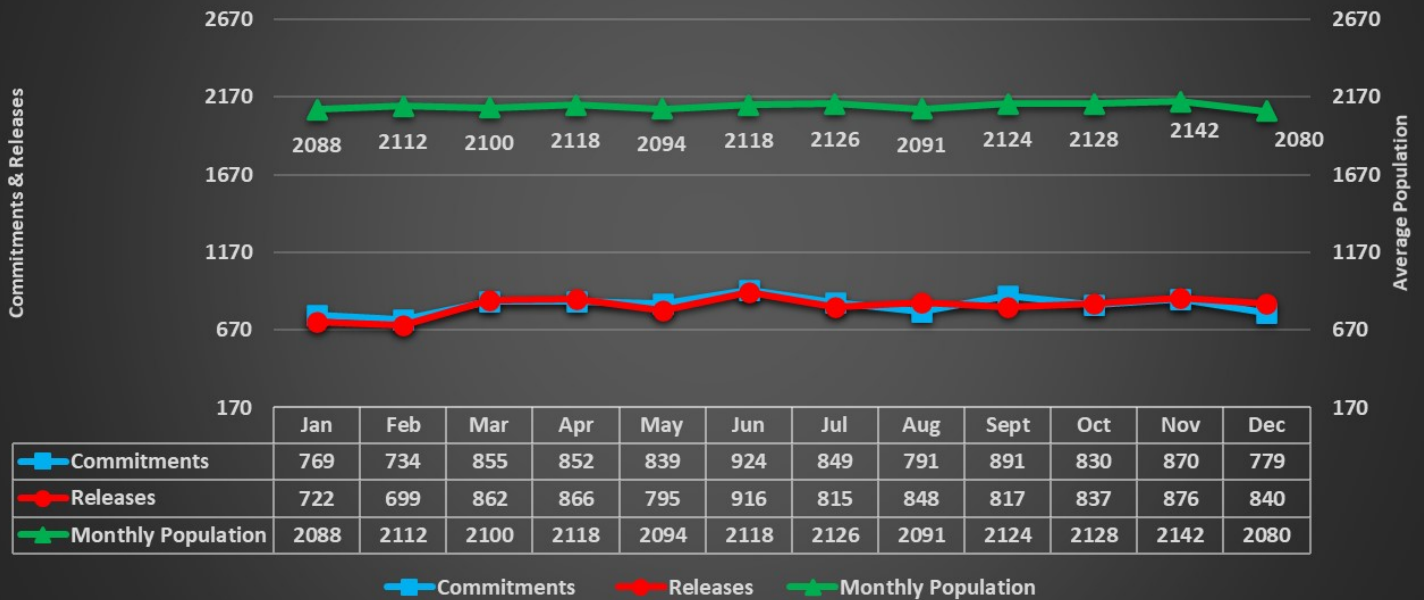
***Other includes bail, discharge at court and discharge per court order.*

****Other includes death, escape, transfer out-of-state, and released on case.*

<i>Release Type</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Awaiting Trial	6398	1324	7722
Civil Purge	39	1	40
<i>To Sentenced Status</i>	1295	149	1444
<i>**Other</i>	5103	1175	6278
Sentenced	1914	216	2129
<i>Expiration of Sentence</i>	1623	203	1826
<i>Parole</i>	252	7	259
<i>***Other</i>	38	6	44
Total	8351	1541	9892

Please note that due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the Rhode Island Department of Corrections has seen a sharp decline in the overall population. This decline is the result of incarceration mitigation strategies implemented across the state.

The Impact of Commitments & Releases on the Population in CY21

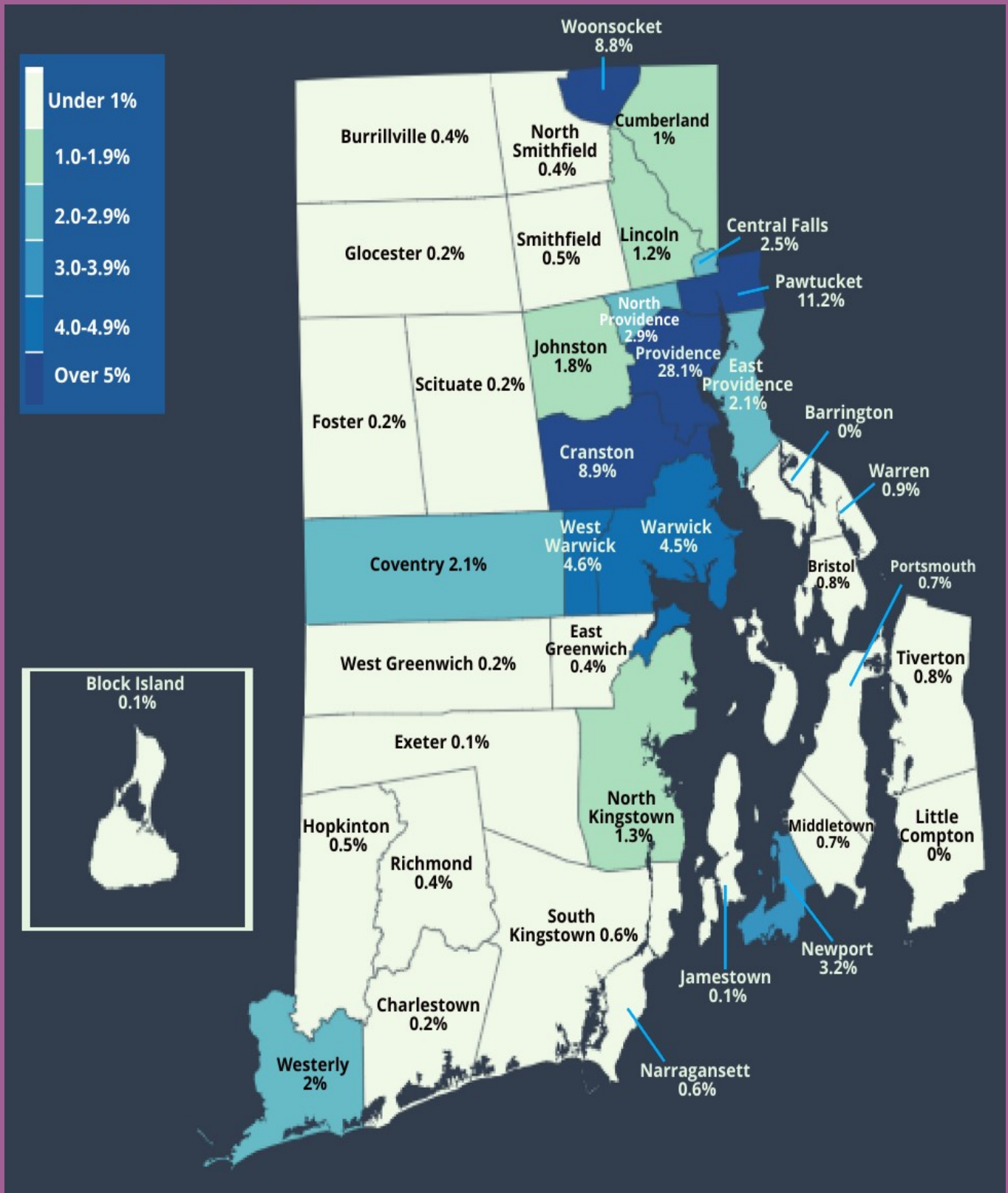


Prison populations are influenced by commitments and length of stay. In RI, commitments have a great effect on RIDOC’s population. When commitments exceed/fall below releases, an increase/decrease may be evident in the population. The graph above demonstrates how commitments/releases impacted the population in CY2021. For more information regarding changes in length of stay, see the RIDOC FY2021 Annual Population Report, which can be found on the RIDOC webpage at www.doc.ri.gov. Since male and female figures were relatively close together, they have been expressed below as combined. *Due to limitations found within the existing database, statistics displayed below have been computed utilizing a sample of 9,911 commitment and 9,882 release events.*

- ◆ The average age of those committed and released was **34**.
- ◆ Twenty-nine percent (**29%**) of men and thirty-nine percent (**39%**) of women were committed for non-violent offenses.
- ◆ Forty-nine percent (**49%**) of those committed and released were white, twenty-six percent (**26%**) black; twenty-one percent (**21%**) Hispanic.
- ◆ Only sixteen percent (**16%**) of those committed and released were female.
- ◆ Of the sentenced commitments, eighty-eight percent (**88%**) were newly sentenced and seven percent (**7%**) were committed due to a probation violation, yielding a ten percent (**10%**) decrease from last year where seventeen percent (**17%**) of sentenced commitments were probation violators.
- ◆ Of the awaiting trial commitments, forty-nine percent (**49%**) were new commitments and twenty-three percent (**23%**) were committed for “failure to appear” (for court).
- ◆ Of the sentenced commitments in calendar year 2021, sixty-five percent (**65%**) of males and eighty percent (**80%**) of females were sentenced to six months or less.

For further information please contact Waverly Findlay, Principal Research Technician, at waverly.findlay@doc.ri.gov, 401-462-0373.

Rhode Island Geographic Representation of Department of Corrections Sentenced Releases (CY 2021) (N=2,129)



Data Caveat: Please note that the above figures are based off of CY21 Sentenced Releases (n=2,129).