

# Rhode Island Department of Corrections

## Fiscal Year 2023 Annual Population Report



### RIDOC Goals

- \* To act in accordance with the highest ethical, legal, and professional standards.
- \* To promote a positive and safe work environment characterized by the mutual respect of all staff.
- \* To provide ongoing staff development in order to increase job performance, abilities, and professional opportunities.
- \* To recognize and respect the rights and needs of the victims of crime.
- \* To maximize community protection through the institutional confinement of offenders and appropriate levels of supervision in the community.
- \* To encourage offenders to become accountable for their actions.
- \* To employ, explore, and utilize research, technology, equipment, planning, and evaluation in the development of programs and standards.
- \* To enhance the continuum of community and institutional services in order to provide for appropriate management of criminal offenders.
- \* To assist offenders in their rehabilitative efforts by affording them the opportunity to participate in essential rehabilitative services in the institutions and community.
- \* To involve community organizations, volunteers, and outside professionals in program development and service delivery.

**RIDOC Mission Statement:** The Rhode Island Department of Corrections (RIDOC) contributes to public safety by maintaining a balanced correctional system of institutional and community programs that provide a range of custodial options, supervision, and rehabilitative services in order to facilitate successful offender reentry into the community upon release.

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# Director's Message



## From RIDOC Acting Director Wayne T. Salisbury, Jr.

I am pleased to present the Rhode Island Department of Corrections' Annual Population Report for Fiscal Year 2023. This report contains a wealth of interesting and useful information related to the mission and work of the Department. In addition to a thorough analysis of population-related data, you will find descriptions of each of the Adult Correctional Institutions' facilities, an organizational chart, and a description of a typical sentenced offender.

This year, the report highlights the Department's Reentry Services Unit which continues to deliver rehabilitative services to offenders creating opportunities to succeed upon release. The report also highlights RIDOC's strategic plan and goals for the next 5 years.

### **Other features of this year's report include:**

- The ongoing effects of COVID-19 and RIDOC's response.
- RIDOC's total average population is making a modest comeback post-pandemic.
- How RIDOC's programming has affected overall sentence reduction over the last decade.
- JFA population projections assume that new commitment rates will remain consistent over the next 10 years.
- Going forward, RIDOC will continue to take innovative steps to foster successful offender rehabilitation and community reintegration.

I hope you enjoy this information!

Thank you.

# Data Caveats & Definitions

**RIDOC Description:** The Rhode Island Department of Corrections (RIDOC) operates a unified correctional system, meaning that all pretrial detainees and all sentenced offenders (regardless of sentence length or crime) are under the jurisdiction of the Department. RIDOC has six (6) housing facilities on the Pastore Government Center Complex in Cranston, Rhode Island. In addition to institutional corrections, offenders on probation, parole and electronic monitoring also fall under the jurisdiction of the RIDOC.

**Facilities:** The RIDOC Annual Report historically only includes open offender facilities. The Donald Price Building has been omitted since its closure in November of 2011. The Women's Facilities are comprised of the Gloria McDonald and Bernadette buildings are able to house female awaiting trial and sentenced offenders.

**Race Categories:** RIDOC records Hispanic as a race rather than ethnicity. As a result, we cannot determine whether offenders identifying themselves as Hispanic are white or black. Those identifying themselves as white or black may also be Hispanic.

**Offense Categories:** Throughout this report, type of offense is determined by the most serious charge for which the offender is sentenced to incarceration or community supervision. As an example, if an offender had both a drug charge and a sex charge, s/he would be captured in the sex category (and not the drug category) for reporting purposes. An additional caveat is that the offense category is based on those charges entered into INFACTS (RIDOC's offender database system), and there are times where multiple counts are condensed into one charge record. At times, offense information is not immediately available to RIDOC; in these instances, the designation "pending court verification" is assigned.

**Stock Data:** Refers to data that are a "snapshot" of the population, which provides information about the population on a given day. For this report, the date for the stock data is June 30, 2023.

**Commitments & Releases:** In contrast to stock data, commitment and release information provides data about the movement of offenders into and out of the RIDOC system. For this report, the time period covered is July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023 (FY2023).

**Cost per Offender:** The cost per offender per annum excludes central RIDOC Administration and Capital costs. For this report, the time period covered is July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023 (FY2023).

**Operational Capacity:** Refers to the number of offenders that RIDOC can safely accommodate based on a facility's staff, existing programs, and services (BJS, 2020). RIDOC's Operational Capacity is calculated utilizing the following formula: All Beds—(Hospital Beds + 1/3 of Segregation Beds).

**Palmigiano Capacity:** Refers to the capacity established in federal court which mandates the number of offenders that RIDOC can safely detain. RIDOC's Palmigiano Capacity is calculated with a formula that utilizes the total number of available beds.

# Facilities

The Adult Correctional Institutions (ACI) at the Rhode Island Department of Corrections (RIDOC) are comprised of 6 offender facilities (5 male, 1 female), which are all located within 1 square mile in Cranston, RI. The State of Rhode Island operates a unified correctional system, meaning that all offenders (i.e, those awaiting trial, sentenced, and under community supervision) in the state are under the jurisdiction of RIDOC.

## Intake Service Center:

### Anthony P. Trivisono Facility

Opened: 1982 -Expanded: 1992

Renovated: 1995

Average Facility Population: 810 (FY23)

Operational Capacity: 1,120 (FY23)

Annual Cost per Offender: \$88,282

## Minimum Security:

Opened: 1978 - Expanded: 1989 & 1992

Average Facility Population: 150 (FY23)

Operational Capacity: 662 (FY23)

Annual Cost per Offender: \$153,780

## Medium Security:

### John J. Moran Facility

Opened: 1992

Average Facility Population: 828 (FY23)

Operational Capacity: 1,126 (FY23)

Annual Cost per Offender: \$88,890



The Anthony P. Trivisono Intake Service Center (ISC) is a maximum security facility which serves as Rhode Island's jail for male offenders. Rhode Island is one of six states that have unified systems, incorporating the jail and state prison into one department. The south wing of the facility was constructed in 1982, while the north wing was constructed in 1992. Offenders housed at the ISC fall into several categories: pretrial detainees, newly sentenced offenders who are awaiting classification to other facilities, and both awaiting trial & sentenced protective custody. The facility processed 8,620 commitments in FY23, approximately 718 commitments per month. The ISC has a total offender bed capacity of 1,148. The length of time an offender remains housed in awaiting trial status at the ISC is approximately 36 days (see graph on p.14 for further details); this translates into a constant turnover of the offender population. In comparison to FY22, the average facility population at the ISC has increased by just over 6% through the close of FY23.

The Minimum Security facility (MIN) was opened in 1978 in a converted hospital building on Howard Avenue in Cranston. In 1989, Minimum Security expanded to a second building, and in July of 1992, with the construction of a connecting addition, the facility became one large complex, with a 710-bed offender capacity. The perimeter is surrounded by a low security fence, consistent with the minimum custody level. All Minimum Security offenders, unless medically certified as unable to work, are employed either within the institution, on public service projects, work release, or are seeking employment. In comparison to FY22, the average facility population in Minimum Security has increased by just under 22% through the close of FY23.

The John J. Moran Facility was constructed from 1990 to 1992, at a cost of \$65,000,000. The facility covers 29 acres and houses sentenced adult male offenders who are classified as medium custody. The Medium Security facility has the highest offender bed capacity figure of any RIDOC facility, with 1,186 available beds. Extensive programming is provided with the goal of preparing offenders for successful return to their communities. In comparison to FY22, the average facility population in Medium Security has increased by nearly 10% through the close of FY23.

# Facilities

## Maximum Security:

Opened: 1878

Average Facility Population: 307 (FY23)

Operational Capacity: 422 (FY23)

Annual Cost per Offender: \$124,429



The Maximum Security facility (MAX) is the state's oldest operational prison. The facility was opened during 1878 and is modeled on the Auburn style construction, which consolidates all offender cells into one main building.

Maximum Security once served as the prison for both awaiting trial and sentenced offenders. As the sentenced population grew and the needs of the prison system changed, other facilities were added.

Surrounded by a wall with five observation towers, the Maximum Security facility has an offender bed capacity of 466. The population is comprised of offenders serving long sentences for a variety of offenses, along with offenders serving shorter sentences who have been transferred to (MAX) from other facilities for serious discipline and/or behavioral problems. Offenders are prepared for classification to lesser securities through participation in rehabilitative programs. In comparison to FY22, the average facility population in Maximum Security increased by nearly 2% through the close of FY23.

## High Security:

Opened: 1981

Average Facility Population: 80 (FY23)

Operational Capacity: 96 (FY23)

Annual Cost per Offender: \$256,534



The High Security Center (HSC) is a supermax facility, which houses offenders who require close custody and control, including protective custody offenders. The facility contains a Rehabilitation Treatment Unit (RTU), which provides offenders with programming, treatment, and structure as an alternative to more restrictive housing units. The offender population has access to a legal and recreational library, a classification

board room, a classroom, barber shop, and a chapel. The HSC has an offender bed capacity of 166. In comparison to FY22, the offender population saw no change in the average population through the close of FY23.

## Women's Facility:

### Gloria McDonald Building

Average Women's Facility Population: 122 (FY23)

Operational Capacity: 187 (FY23)

Annual Cost per Offender: \$172,479

The Women's Facility (WF) houses awaiting trial offenders and three



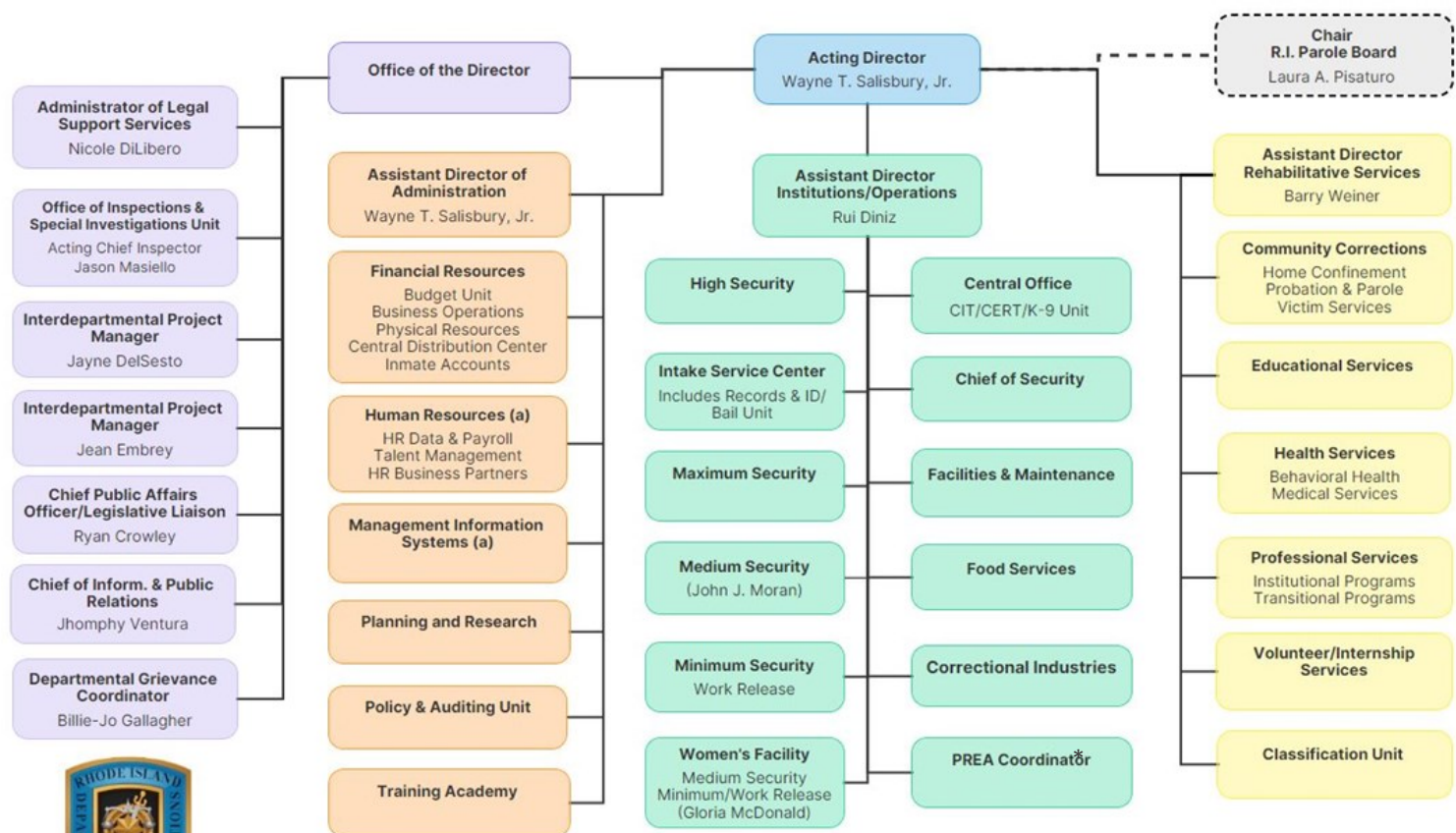
classification levels (medium, minimum, and work release) that used to be housed in two separate buildings. In late 2010 and 2011, facilities housing these offenders (referenced in previous reports as the GM and DIX buildings) were closed to the offender population.

The awaiting trial and medium-security women were moved to WFI which was later re-dedicated as the Gloria McDonald Building (GM) while the minimum security/work-release offenders were housed in Women's Facility II (WFII), also known as the Bernadette Building. GM is a converted and expanded hospital building and was initially constructed to be a male Reintegration Center. While WFII was originally designed to hold offenders on work release, in later years it contained Community Corrections and Education offices. In mid FY20, RIDOC utilized the Bernadette Building to house sentenced offenders. The Gloria McDonald Building is now the main female facility and has an offender bed capacity of 213. In comparison to FY22, the average facility population in the Women's Facility increased by



almost 21% through the close of FY23.

# RIDOC Organizational Chart



(a) (Sub) Unit is fully staffed by Dept. of Administration Centralized Services

RIDOC is divided into three divisions: Administration, Institutions and Operations, and Rehabilitative Services. Each division plays an imperative role in the Department's operations, activities, processes, services, etc. This organizational chart reflects the breakdown of divisions and illustrates which units fall under each Assistant Director's supervision.

*\*The Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) was signed into federal law in 2003 and in 2012, the U.S. Department of Justice (USDOJ) finalized national PREA Standards. The Rhode Island Department of Corrections (RIDOC) is committed to adhering to the PREA Standards in order to continue to prevent, detect and respond to all incidents of sexual abuse and sexual harassment alleged to have occurred in its facilities. In addition to a designated PREA coordinator, Deputy Wardens are the designated PREA facility monitors.*

For more information please visit: <https://doc.ri.gov/more-resources/prison-rape-elimination-act-prea>



## Administration Division

### Assistant Director

**Wayne T. Salisbury Jr.**

The Administration Division is comprised of approximately 90 employees who provide a variety of critical support functions for the Department. While employees in this Division often work “behind the scenes,” their roles are integral to the overall function of the Department. The Administration Division is divided into the following units: *Financial Resources*, *Human Resources\**, *Management Information Systems\**, *Planning & Research*, *Policy & Auditing*, and the *Training Academy*. Administration Division staff members facilitate new departmental initiatives and also provide continued support and guidance to all on-going functions at the RIDOC. Through a strong spirit of cooperation and dedication, these staff members assist other divisions of the Department in achieving their goals and implementing the Department’s mission. *\*Sub Unit is fully staffed by Department of Administration Centralized Services*



## Institutions and Operations

### Assistant Director

**Rui A. Diniz**

The Institutions & Operations Division is comprised of the Department’s correctional facilities [collectively known as the *Adult Correctional Institutions (ACI)*], *Office of Inspections and Special Investigations Unit (SIU)*, *Facilities and Maintenance Unit*, *Food Services*, *Correctional Industries*, and *Correctional Emergency Response Team (CERT)*. Some responsibilities of Institutions and Operations include gathering intelligence to assure public safety, maintaining facilities to guarantee a healthy, safe and secure environment, and providing nutritionally balanced menus to all offenders. Institutions and Operations is the cornerstone of daily operations at the Department of Corrections.



## Rehabilitative Services

### Assistant Director

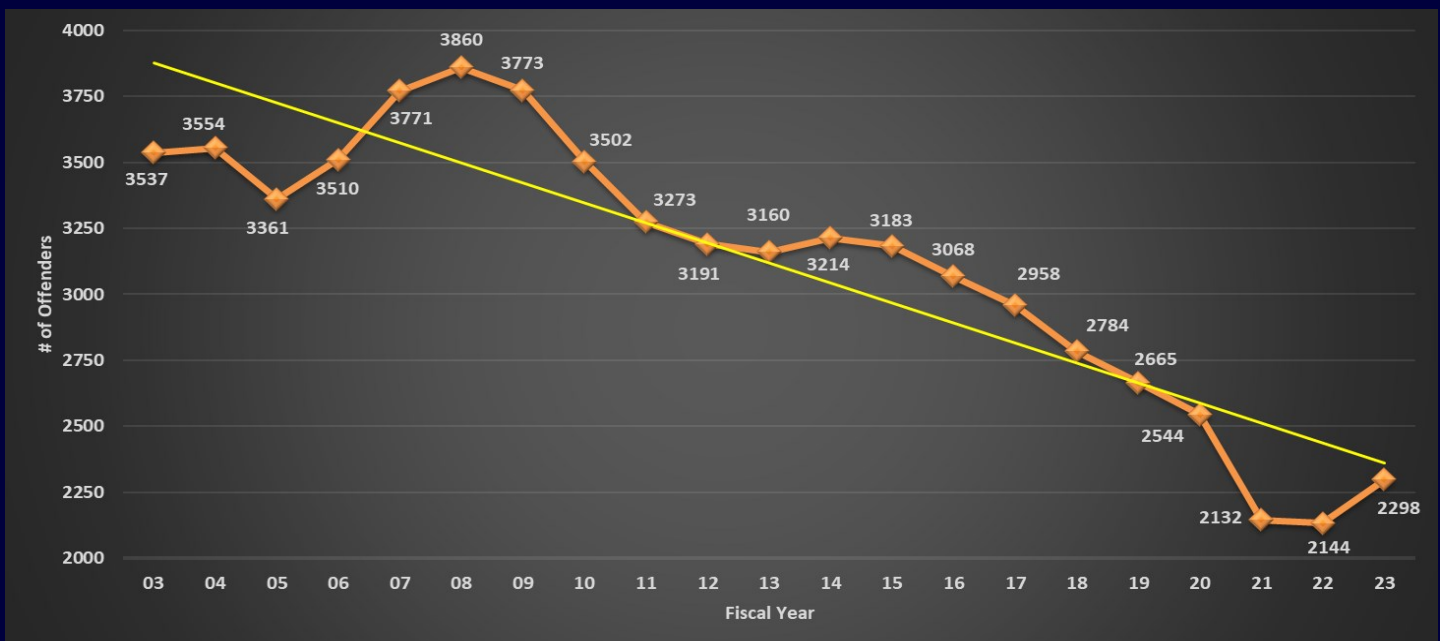
**Barry J. Weiner**

The Division of Rehabilitative Services is committed to realizing the meaningful reintegration of offenders into the community. Program areas within this Division can be categorized into two distinct sections: 1) Institutional or 2) Community Corrections. Institutional corrections includes programming services offered to the offender during incarceration, such as *Health Services*, *Educational Services*, *Institutional Programs*, *Classification*, and *Adult Counseling*. Community Corrections refers to units such as *Probation and Parole*, *Community Confinement*, *Reentry Services*, and *Victim Services*. Not only does Rehabilitative Services work with offenders to end criminal and anti-social behavior while incarcerated, but it also strives to make it possible for ex-offenders to successfully reintegrate back into the community upon release.

# Population Trends



## Total RIDOC Population FY03 to FY23



As was the trend nationally, Rhode Island continued marked growth in its total prison population between 2002 and 2008. The most recent sharp increase was between FY05 and FY08, when the population grew 14.8%. However, since FY08, the population has seen a steady decline and fell by nearly 40% through the end of FY22. The population has increased by 7% in the past year as COVID cases continue to decrease. In RI, 126 out of every 100,000 residents are imprisoned, while nationally 357 out of 100,000 US residents are incarcerated (*Bureau of Justice Statistics, Prisoners in 2021*), which makes Rhode Island third lowest in the nation in terms of the rate of incarceration.

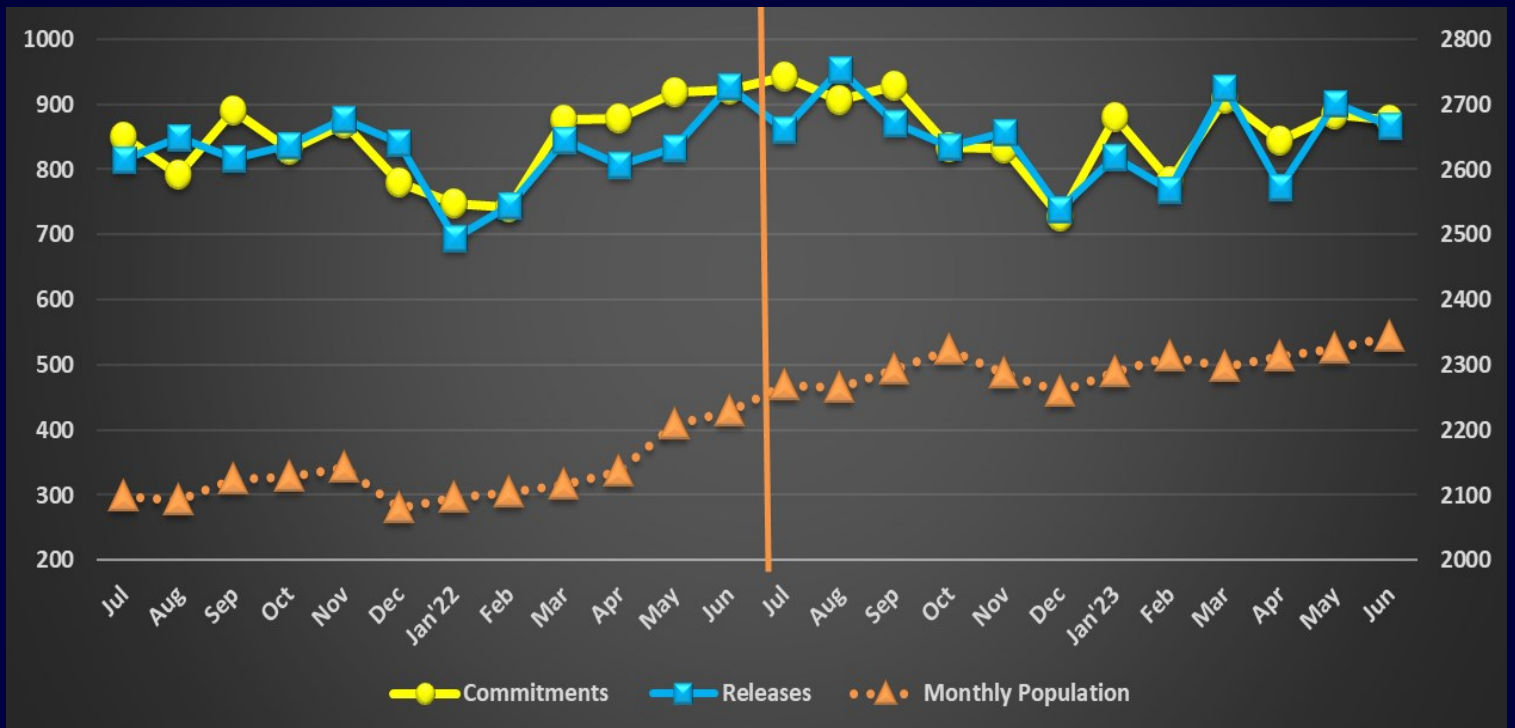
In addition to legislative changes to statutes that govern time off sentence for good behavior and program participation, the implementation evidence-based practices aimed at addressing an offender's unique criminogenic-risk factors pre-release played a critical role in reducing RIDOC's total population. The programs and services are tailored to promote successful offender outcomes by diagnosing and treating offenders with mental illness, serious and persistent mental illness (SPMI), as well as chronic underlying substance/drug abuse. Rehabilitative efforts work seamlessly across the Department to provide a transformative offender experience.

For a historical look at the RIDOC population, please see the Report of the RI Correctional Population FY76-FY22, available on RIDOC's website at [www.doc.ri.gov](http://www.doc.ri.gov).



# Commitments & Releases

## Effect of Commitments/Releases on Total Population



The graph above demonstrates that the changes in the number of commitments are linked to changes in the total population numbers. The prison population is influenced by the number of new commitments and length of stay.

In RI, the COVID-19 Pandemic resulted in a significant decline in commitments to RIDOC, reaching a historic low of 279 in April 2020. Since then, commitments to RIDOC have been steadily climbing and are beginning to level out. The monthly population at RIDOC has also reached its highest point since the start of the pandemic.

- There was a 7% decrease in the number of commitments from the end of FY22 (943) to FY23 (876).
- RIDOC's commitments have increased by 3% from the beginning of FY22 (849) through the close of FY23 (876).

Fiscal Year 2023	# Commitments	+/- Change
Jul	943	2.17%
Aug	907	-3.82%
Sep	928	2.32%
Oct	834	-10.13%
Nov	831	-0.36%
Dec	727	-12.52%
Jan	880	21.05%
Feb	782	-11.14%
Mar	909	16.24%
Apr	843	-7.26%
May	885	4.98%
Jun	876	-1.02%

# Offender Characteristics

## Characteristics of a Typical RIDOC Commitment in FY23

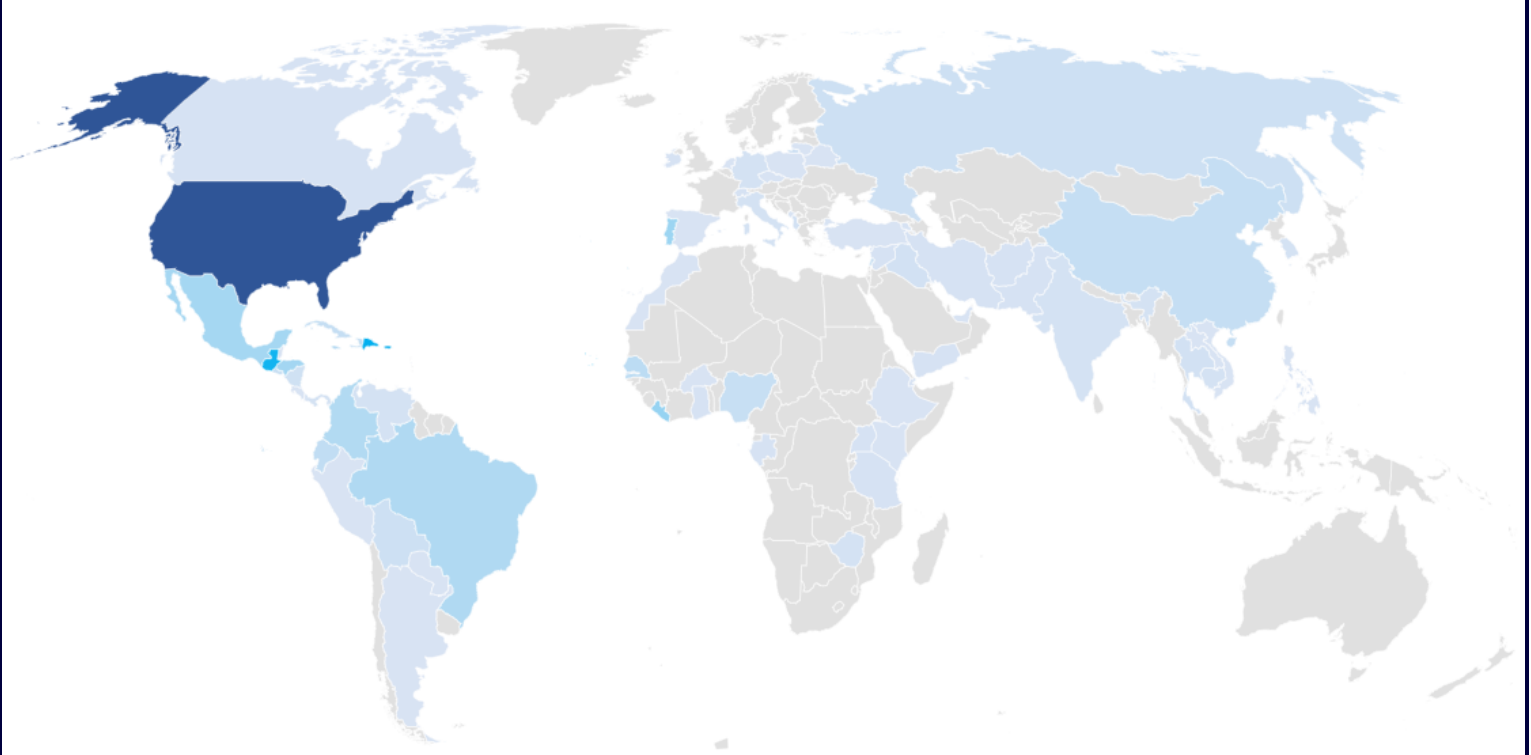
### Awaiting Trial Commitment

- ◆ Forty-seven (47%) entered RIDOC as a new commitment, while thirty-nine (39%) entered as a probation violator in FY23. Nearly seven (7%) and 6 (6%) of offenders entered as bail violators and for failure to appear.
- ◆ The majority are white (41%) & single (76%).
- ◆ About half (47%) have a high school diploma or GED, nearly 37% have less than a 12th grade education; and an additional 12% have completed some college.
- ◆ The average number of children at the time of commitment is 2.
- ◆ Forty-seven percent (47%) were unemployed at the time they were committed.
- ◆ The average and median ages for men and women were the same. The average age was 37 and the median age was 37.

### Sentenced Commitment

- ◆ The majority are white (38%) & single (74%).
- ◆ Fifty percent (50%) have a high school diploma or GED, 35% have less than a 12th grade education; and an additional nine percent (9%) have completed some college.
- ◆ The average number of children at the time of commitment is 2.
- ◆ Fifty percent (50%) were unemployed at the time they were committed.
- ◆ The average age was 38 for women and 40 for men, while the median was 36 for women and 38 for men.

# Offender Characteristics-Nativity



The above map shows the total number of FY23 RIDOC Commitments broken down by self-reported country of origin (Nativity). Darker shades of blue indicate that the RIDOC population includes more people from that country. Gray indicates that no one from that particular country was committed to RIDOC during FY23. The percentage and number of people from the most frequently reported countries are listed below. For a more in-depth map, please see RIDOC's FY23 Nativity Dashboard: [https://app.powerbigov.us/links/pIYmeGEeYV?ctid=52ca6a54-4465-4635-bff3-65d0a8412288&pbi\\_source=linkShare](https://app.powerbigov.us/links/pIYmeGEeYV?ctid=52ca6a54-4465-4635-bff3-65d0a8412288&pbi_source=linkShare)

## FY23 Awaiting Trial Commitments

- United States: 86.8% (N=6921)
- Puerto Rico: 4.5% (N=360)
- Dominican Republic: 2.2% (N=175)
- Cape Verde: 1.1% (N=93)
- Guatemala: 1.0% (N=80)

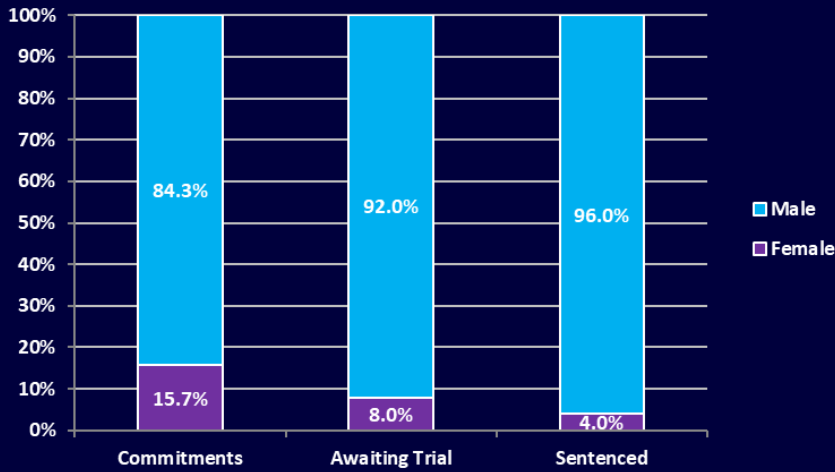
## FY23 Sentenced Commitments

- United States: 89.8% (N=2066)
- Puerto Rico: 4.3% (N=100)
- Dominican Republic: 1.6% (N=36)
- Cape Verde: 0.9% (N=20)
- Guatemala: 0.7% (N=15)

# Offender Characteristics

The charts on the following pages\* contain: commitments, who include all offenders committed to RIDOC (sentenced & pre-trial) over FY23; awaiting trial and sentenced offenders represent the stock population on June 30, 2023.

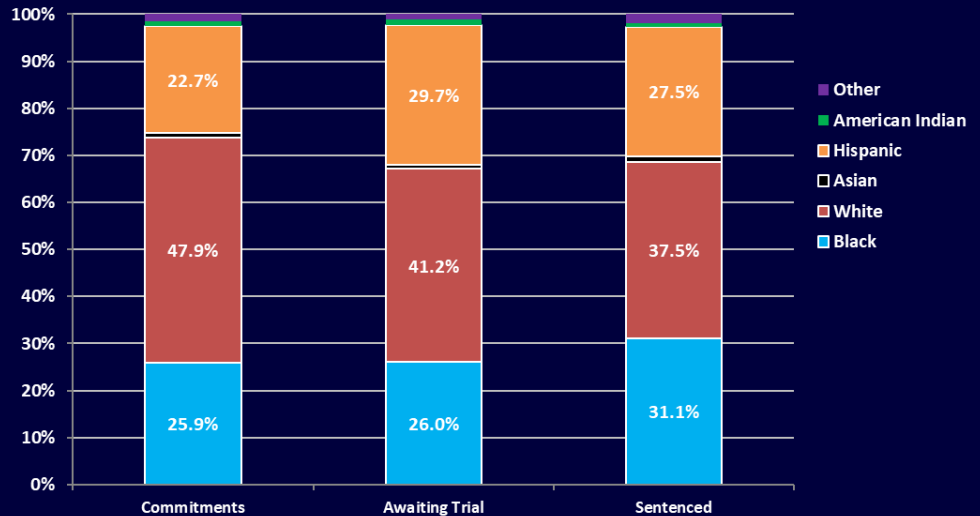
### Offender Sex by Status



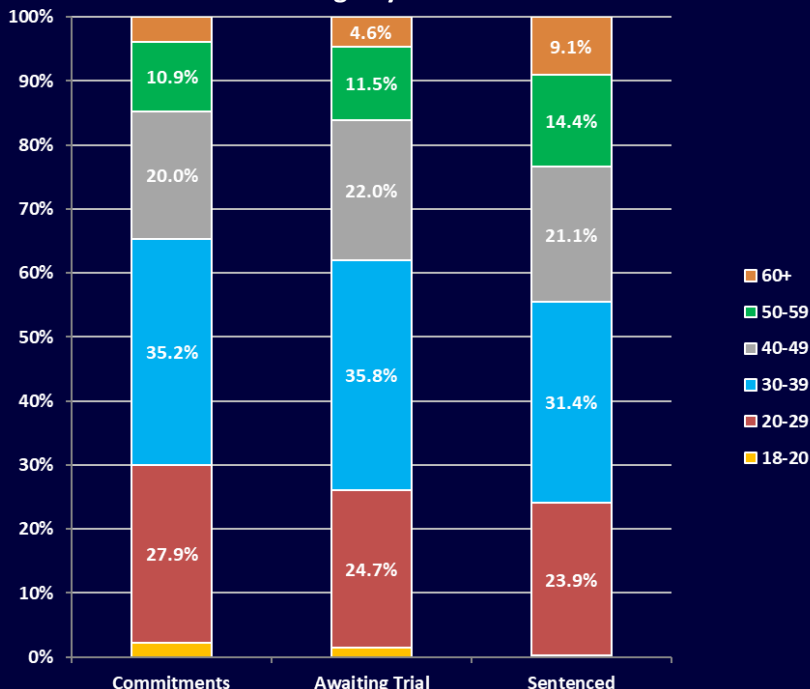
Men make up most (84%) of the RIDOC commitments while women account for only approximately 16%. Men also make up the majority (92%) of RIDOC's awaiting trial population, while women make up just 8%. Men account for 96% of RIDOC's sentenced population, while women make up only 4%.

The majority of commitments and sentenced offenders are white, followed by black and Hispanic. The majority of awaiting trial offenders are white, followed by Hispanic and black. Offenders who identify themselves as Asian, American Indian, or other make up less than 5% of the population for each category of offenders.

### Offender Race by Status



### Offender Age by Status

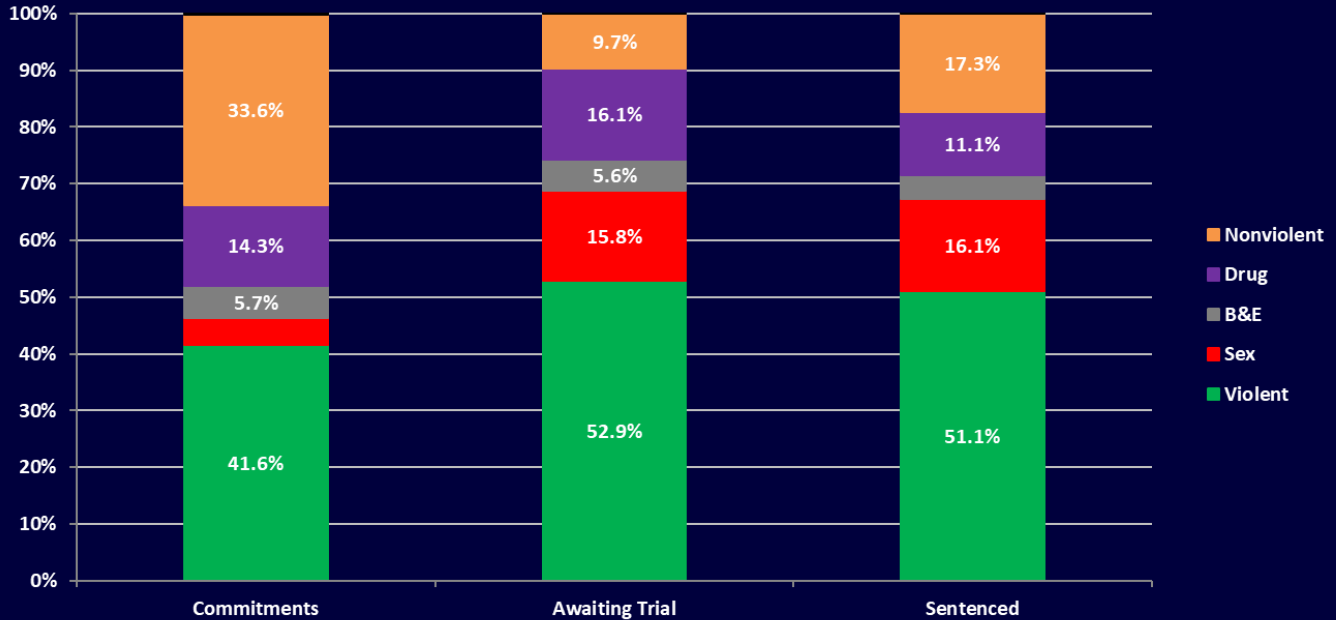


Nearly two-thirds of all RIDOC offenders are between the ages of 20-39. The median age of RIDOC sentenced offenders for men is 38, and 36 for women. For pre-trial offenders, men have a median age of 36 and women have a median age of 35.

\*Please note that any value less than 4% will not be labeled in the graphs on pages 12-16.

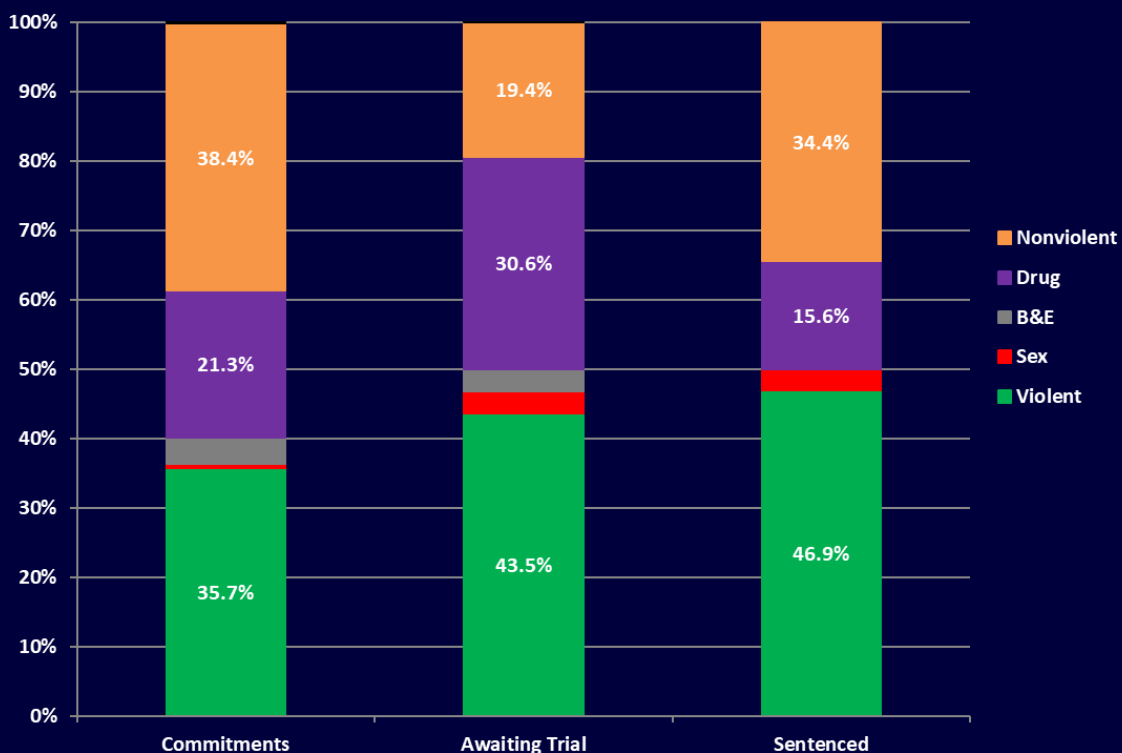
# Offender Characteristics

## Offense Type by Status-Male Population



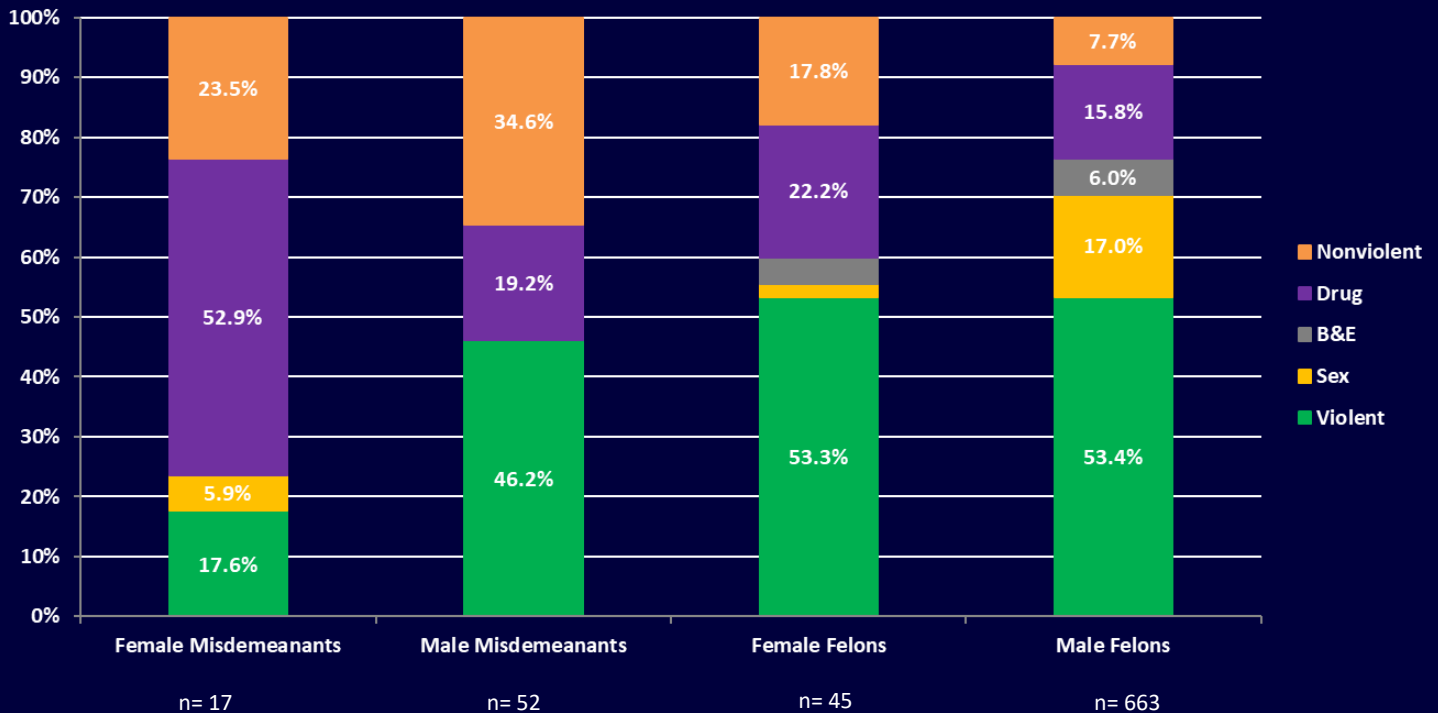
As literature suggests, men and women tend to be involved in different crimes. Nearly thirty-four percent (33.6%) of male commitments are incarcerated for non-violent crimes, while over thirty-eight percent (38.4%) of the female commitments are incarcerated for similar offenses. Around half of the awaiting trial male population (52.9%) have been imprisoned for violent crimes, while about 43.5% of women are incarcerated for similar violent crimes. The reverse trend is evident in the sentenced population, where more than half of men (51.1%) and nearly half of women (46.9%) have been imprisoned for violent crimes. Offenders serving life sentences tend to accumulate over time, which leads to a greater portion of the sentenced population incarcerated for violent offenses.

## Offense Type by Status-Female Population



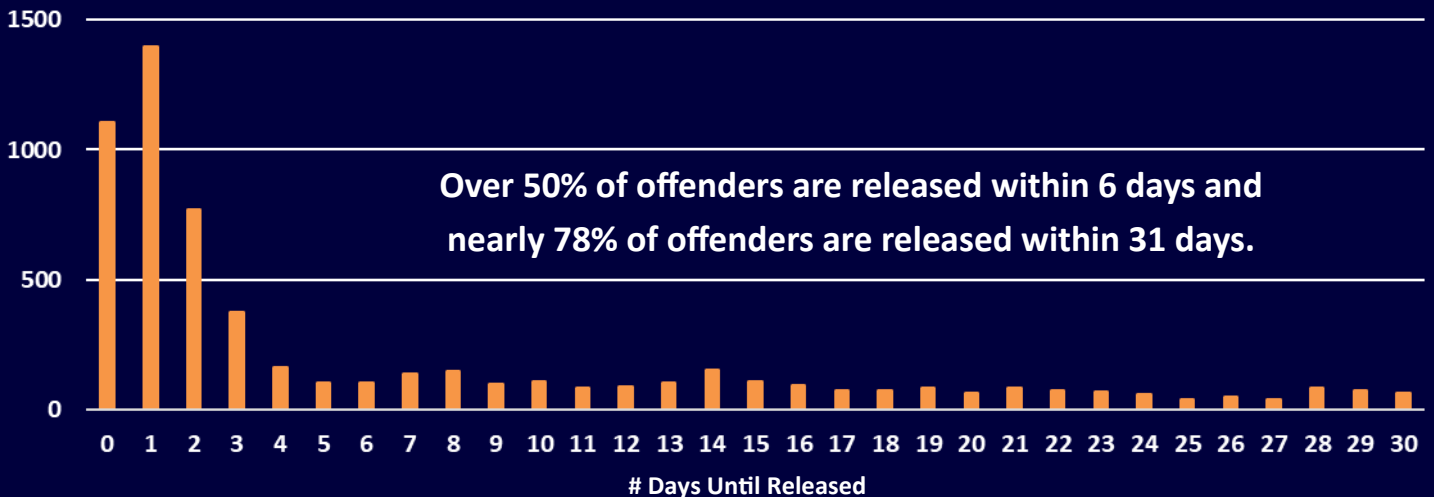
# Pre-trial Statistics

## Pre-Trial Offenders: Crime Type by Offense Type Stock Data - June 30, 2023 (N=777)



The most common offenses are domestic assault for male misdemeanants and possession of a controlled substance for female misdemeanants in the awaiting trial population. Male felons were imprisoned most commonly for felony assault, manufacturing/delivery of a controlled substance, and first degree child molestation. Female felons were imprisoned most commonly for felony assault, manufacturing/delivery/possession of a controlled substance, simple assault/battery, shoplifting, and 2nd degree murder.

## Average Length of Stay for FY23

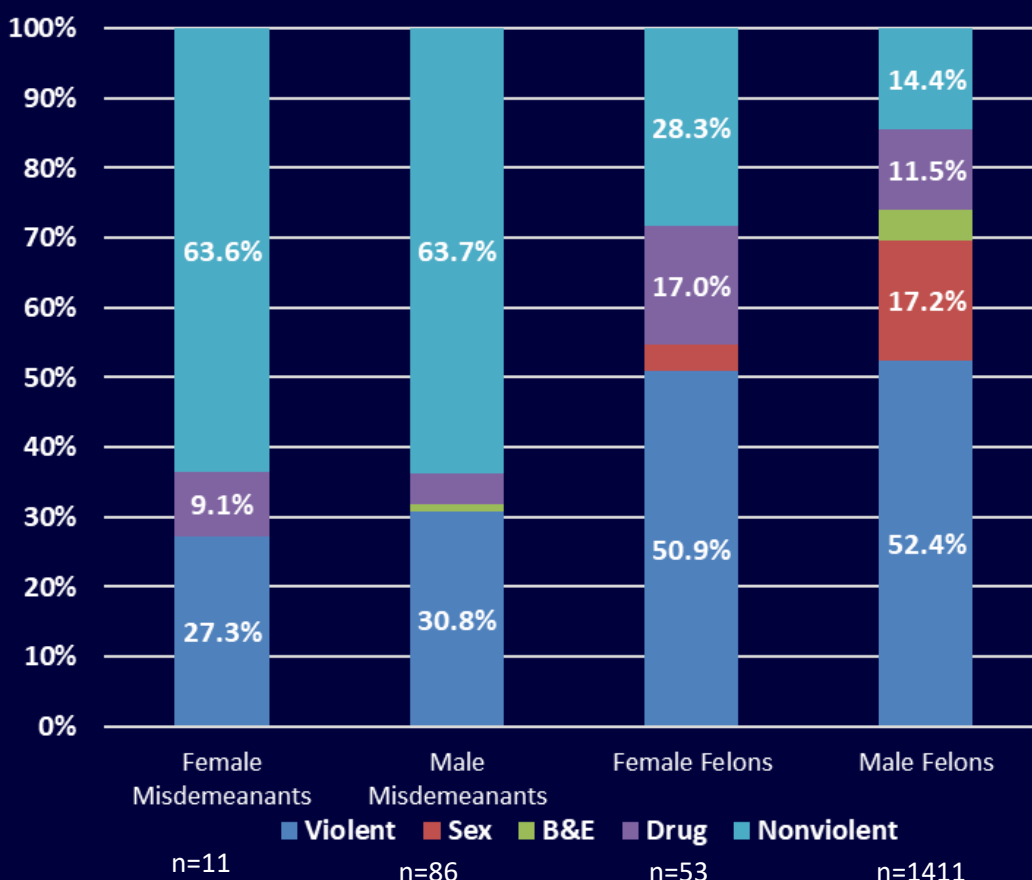


\*Please note that mean & median average length of stay statistics incorporate data beyond the first 30 days that is highlighted in the graph (above).

A length of stay of "0" days indicates pretrial offenders who were released on the same day.

# Sentenced Statistics

Sentenced Offenders: Crime Type by Offense Type  
Stock Data - June 30, 2023 (N=1595)



RIDOC's sentenced stock population has increased by slightly over 9% (134 offenders) from this same time last year (June 30, 2022).

The most common offenses for female misdemeanants were:

- Simple assault/battery (27.3%)
- Driving While Intoxicated, Obstructing a Police Officer, and Violation of a no contact order (18.2%)

The most common offenses for female felons were:

- Felony assault (11.3%)
- Manufacturing/Delivery of a controlled substance (9.4%)
- Second degree Murder (7.5%)

The most common offenses for male misdemeanants were:

- Domestic assault (14%)
- Shoplifting (12.8%)

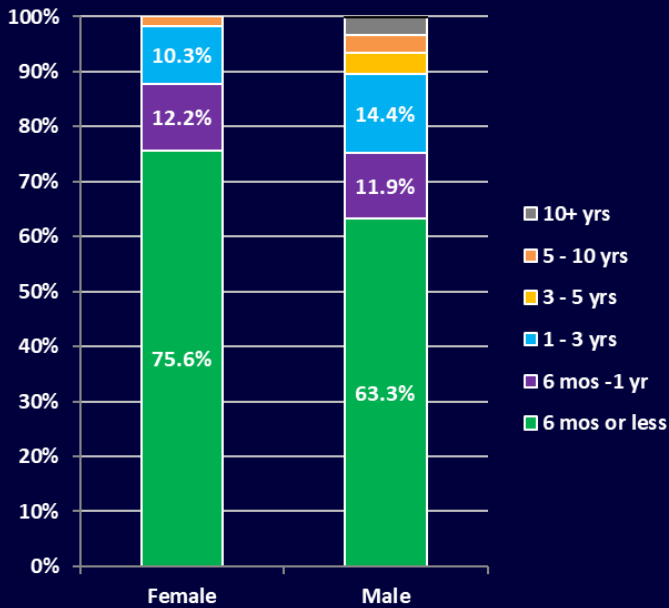
The most common offenses for male felons were:

- First degree murder (9.8%)
- Felony assault (9.8%)
- Manufacturing/Delivery of a controlled substance (7.7%)

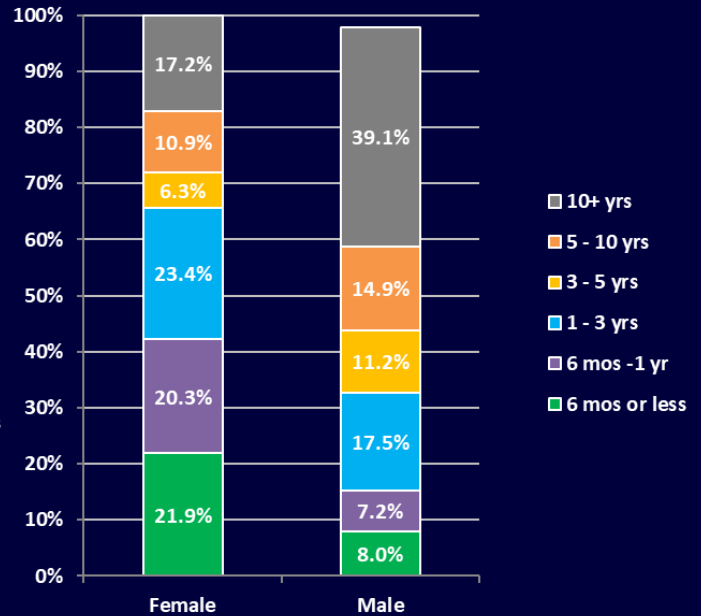
*\*Please note that sentenced stock data only includes those offenders who are held in RIDOC Facilities. It excludes 34 offenders who are serving a R.I. sentence out-of-state via the interstate compact, at the Eleanor Slater Hospital Forensic Unit, or who are on home confinement. In addition, sentenced offender populations of less than one percent are not represented in the above table.*

# Sentenced Statistics

**Sentenced Commitments**  
Sentence Length by Sex  
FY2023



**Sentenced Stock Population**  
Sentence Length by Sex  
June 30, 2023



When examined together, the graphs and table on this page capture the flow of sentenced offenders in and out of the RIDOC. The graph at the top left of the page shows the length of sentence imposed by the Judiciary, while the graph at the right shows the percentage of offenders in prison on June 30, 2023.<sup>1</sup> For example, even though only about 89.6% of the male population is *committed* to sentences of 3 years or less, over time, this group of offenders represents nearly 33% of the population.

Offense Category	Male		Female		Total	
	Sent < 6 mos	Sent > 6 mos	Sent < 6 mos	Sent > 6 mos	Sent < 6 mos	Sent > 6 mos
<b>Violent</b>	3.03	168.41	2.48	123.32	2.76	145.87
<b>Sex</b>	5.98	184.81	0.00	125.98	2.99	155.40
<b>B&amp;E</b>	2.80	68.86	0.00	0.00	1.40	34.43
<b>Drug</b>	4.56	51.14	2.96	23.98	3.76	37.56
<b>Nonviolent</b>	2.91	45.05	2.87	17.08	2.89	31.07
<b>Subtotal</b>	3.86	103.65	1.66	58.07	2.76	80.86

**Average Total Sentence Length = 16.2 Months**

The above table displays the average total sentence imposed on sentenced commitments in FY2023. The actual amount of time offenders stay in prison is almost always shorter than the full sentence imposed, due to factors such as statutory good time (i.e., credit earned for good or industrious behavior) and earned time for program participation and completion (time deducted from sentence).

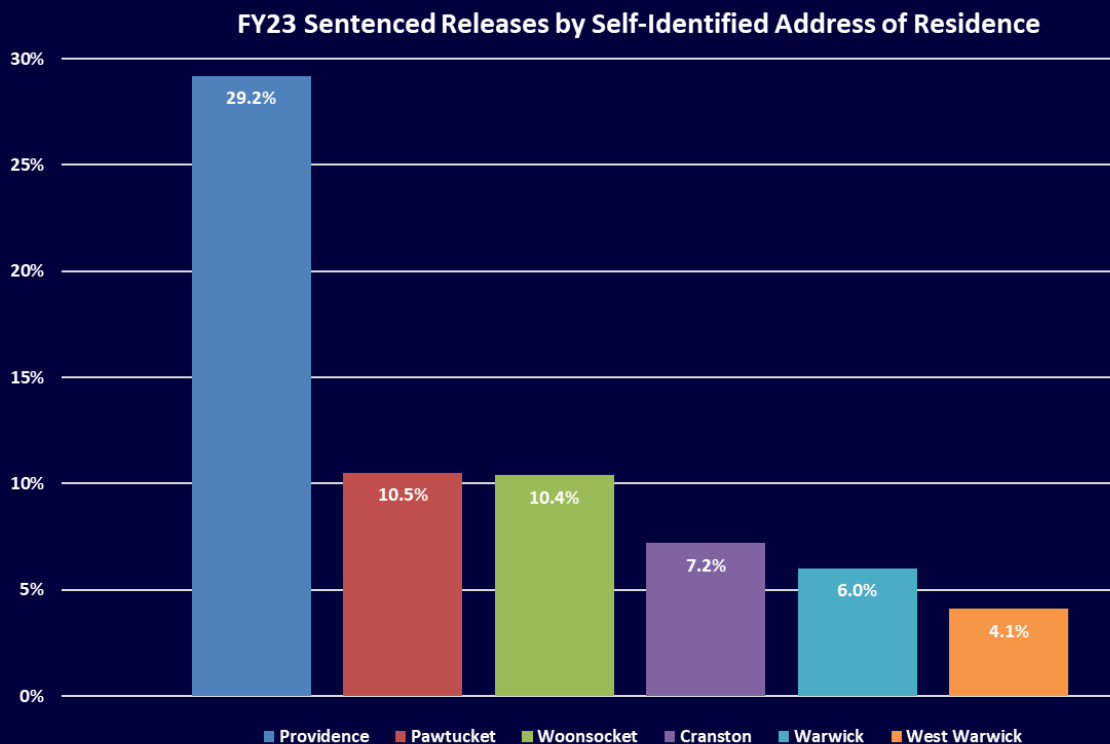
<sup>1</sup> Please note that "Male" column of the Sentence Stock Population graph does not add to 100% because it excludes 2.2% of men serving their sentence out of state. Out-of-state offenders have also been removed from the sentenced commitment figures.



# Release Data

**Sentenced Releases:** During FY23 RIDOC processed a total of 2,244 releases. 91% of all releases expired their sentences while 7% were paroled. Nearly 6% of sentenced releases self-reported that they were homeless or had no permanent address.

About 40% of men were released from Minimum or Medium Security. An additional 50% were released from the Intake Service Center, while an additional 4% were released from Maximum or High Security. 83% of women were released from the Women's Facility. An additional 17% were released from Home Confinement.

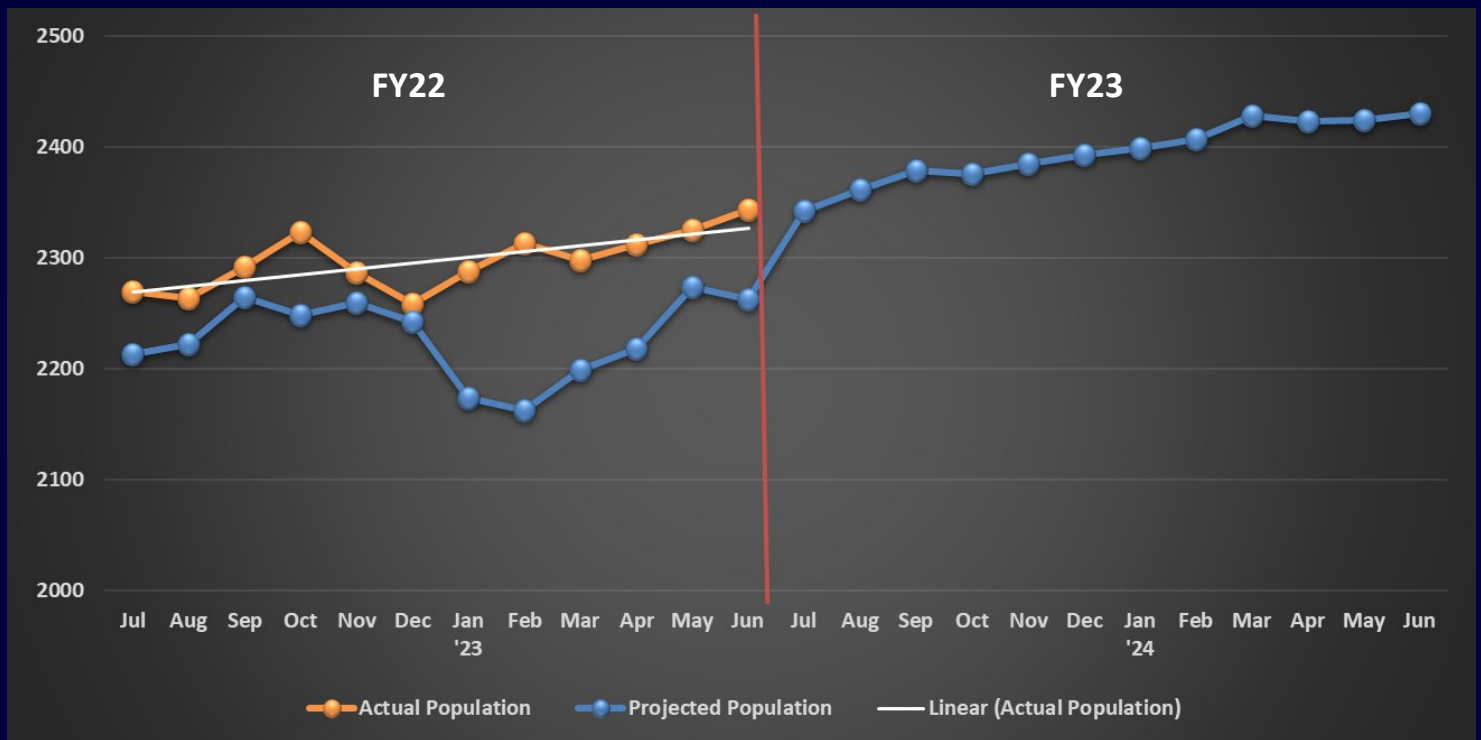


Of sentenced releases to Rhode Island (shown above) 29.2% reported returning to Providence, with an additional 10.5% returning to Pawtucket and 10.4% returning to Woonsocket.<sup>1</sup> An estimated total of 17% reported returning to Cranston, Warwick, or West Warwick.

**Awaiting Trial Releases:** During FY23, there were a total of 7,839 awaiting trial releases. Nearly two-thirds of offenders were discharged at court (45%) or bailed (24%), while 6% were discharged per court order. An additional 22% were sentenced to serve time on their charges.

<sup>1</sup>Please note that the bar chart (shown above) only includes data on offenders who reside in a city/town within Rhode Island (it excludes those who live out-of-state and those who do not have a valid address). In addition, sentenced release data on cities/towns that yielded four percent or less have been excluded.

# Population Projections



The graph above shows the actual population (orange line) compared to the projected population (blue line). Based on this trend, the white line predicts the actual population over the next fiscal year.

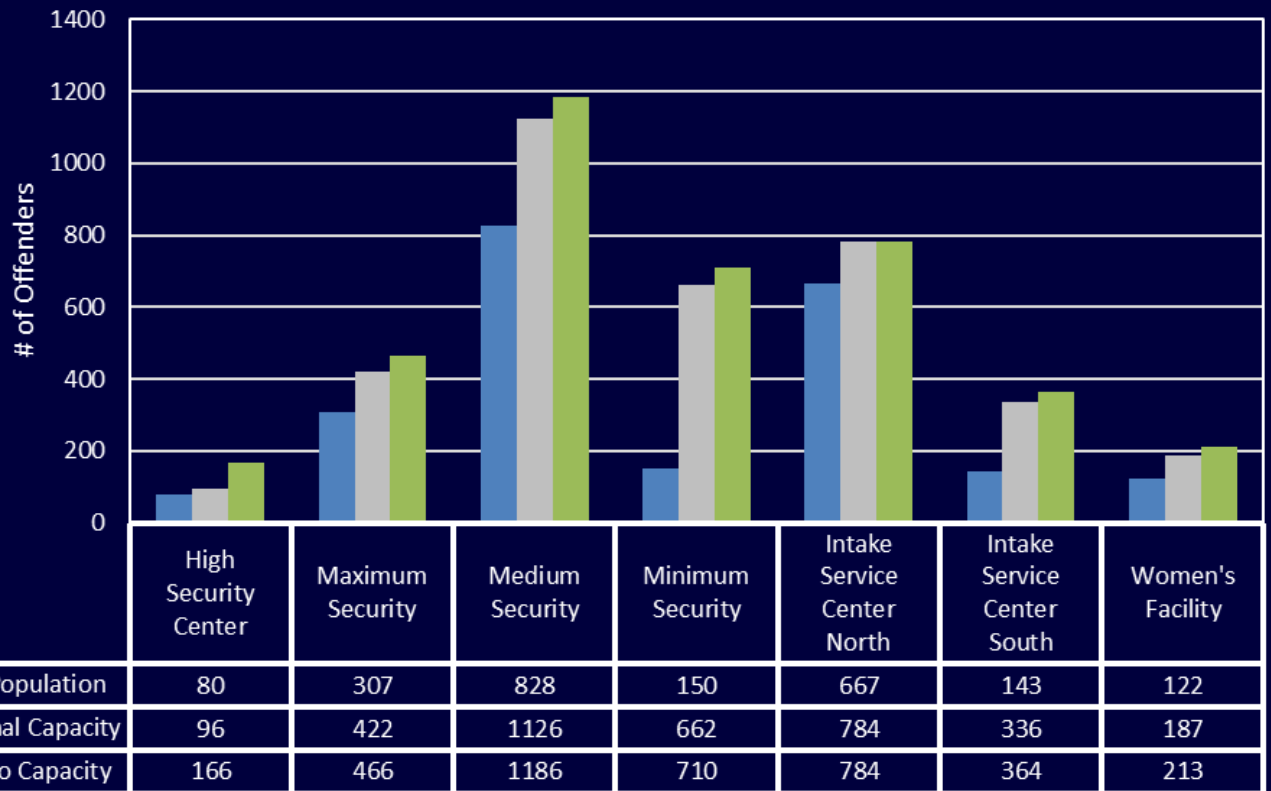
As of the FY24 projection, RIDOC was operating below federal capacity in all facilities. The 10-year forecast of RI's prison population, conducted by Wendy Ware of JFA Associates/The Institute, estimates that the total sentenced offender population will increase 28.2 percent (approx. 661 offenders) at an average annual rate of 2.5 percent between fiscal year-end 2024 and fiscal year-end 2034. This projected increase would continue to allow R.I. to remain below both the operational\* (3,613) and federal\*\* (3,889) capacities throughout the 10-year forecast. Probation violations, parole revocations, and returns from out of state are all projected to remain constant over the forecast period.

Historically, JFA's projection has been very accurate and often predicts the offender population for the following fiscal year within a three to four percent threshold. This projection incorporates current internal factors, State statutes, and practices at RIDOC (e.g., time off sentence for good behavior and program participation awards) that have an impact on prison admissions and length of stay. These factors may change over time due to legislative or policy changes, rendering the existing prediction null.

For more information, please see RIDOC's Ten-Year Prison Population Projections Brief FY2024—2034 which will soon be available on RIDOC's website at [www.doc.ri.gov](http://www.doc.ri.gov).

# Institutional Capacities

## Average FY23 Population vs. Capacities



**\*Operational Capacity:** RIDOC's Operational Capacity is calculated utilizing the following formula: All Beds—(Hospital Beds + 1/3 of Segregation Beds).

**\*\*Palmigiano Capacity:** RIDOC's Palmigiano Capacity is calculated with a formula that utilizes the total number of available beds.

### Total RIDOC FY 2023\*

\*Operational Capacity = 3613

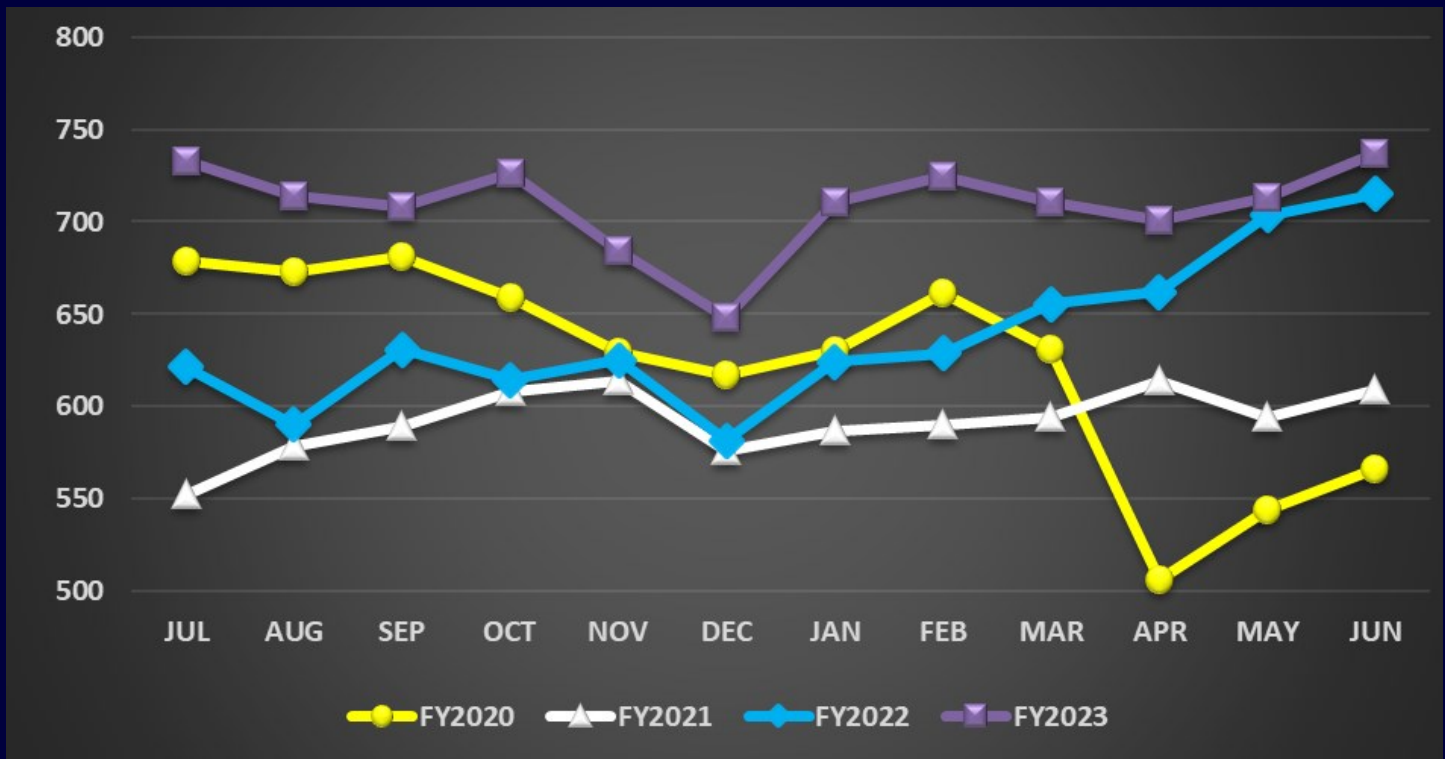
\*\*Palmigiano Capacity = 3889

Average FY23 Population = 2297

*\*Please note that these capacities exclude the Bernadette Building.*

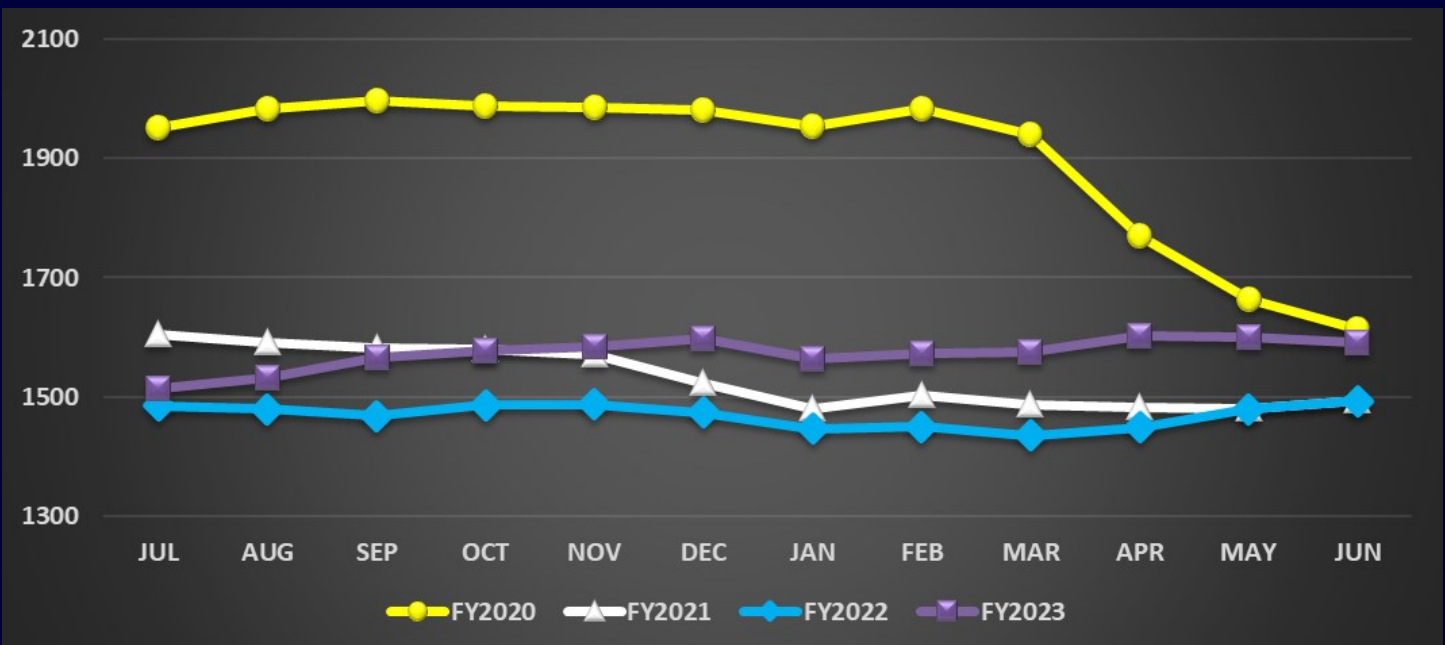
# Fiscal Year Population Trends FY2020-FY2023

## Awaiting Trial Population



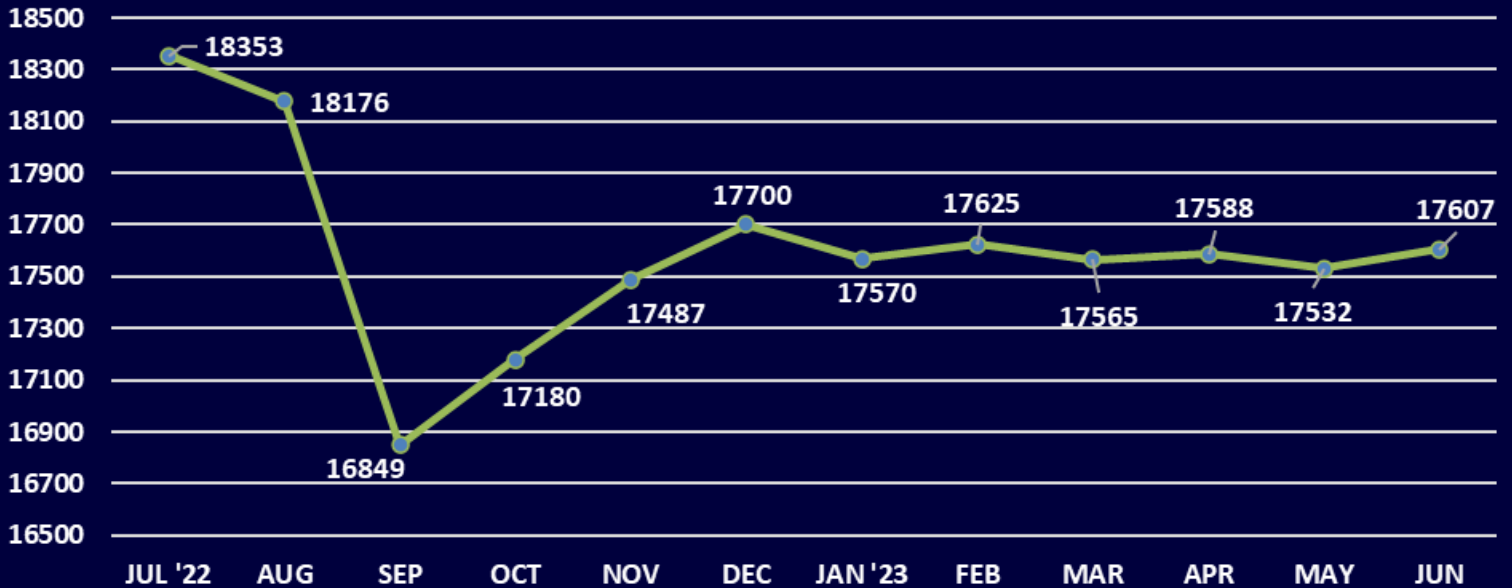
RIDOC's pre-pandemic to current awaiting trial population has increased by 8.5% (FY20 to FY23). The awaiting trial (AT) population has decreased by 18.7% between FY20 and FY21, and increased by 29.5% between FY21 and FY22. The population increased by 18.7% between FY22 and FY23. RIDOC's pre-pandemic to current sentenced population has dropped by 18.5% from FY20 to FY23. The sentenced population has decreased by 23.4% between FY20 and FY21, 23.4% between FY21 and FY22, and increased by 7% between FY22 to FY23. Overall, RIDOC's AT population has returned to levels recorded pre-COVID, while the sentenced population appears to be moderately lower than pre-pandemic years.

## Sentenced Population



# Community Corrections Population

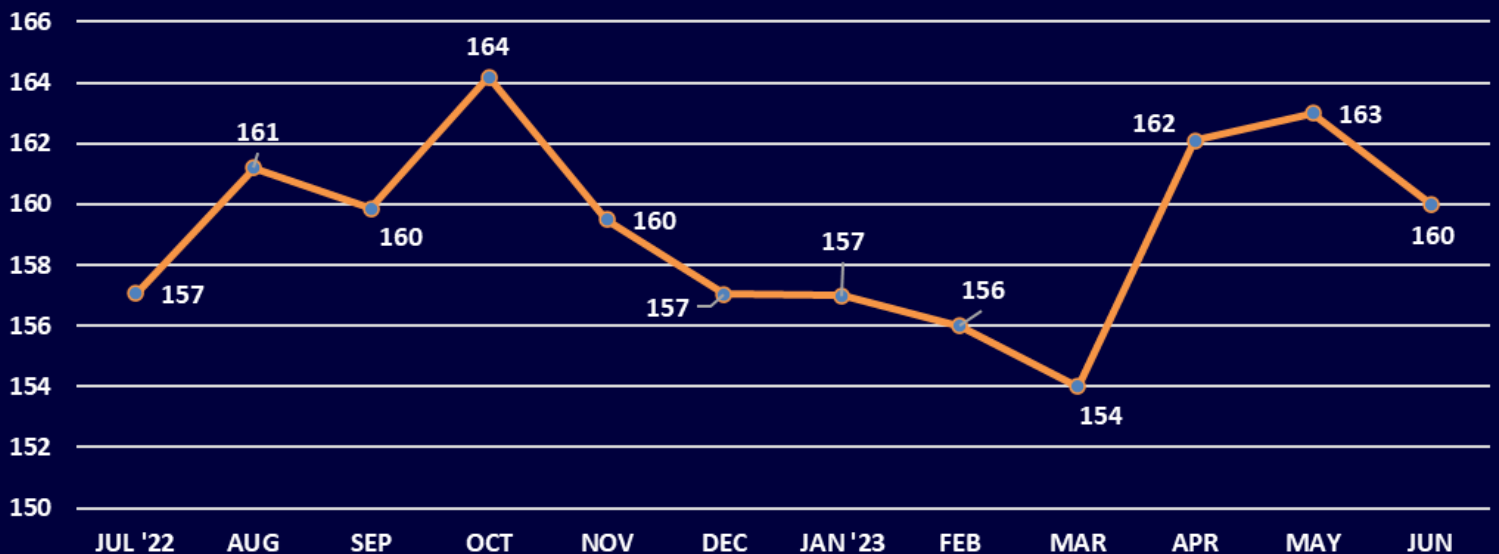
## RIDOC's FY23 Probation and Parole Population



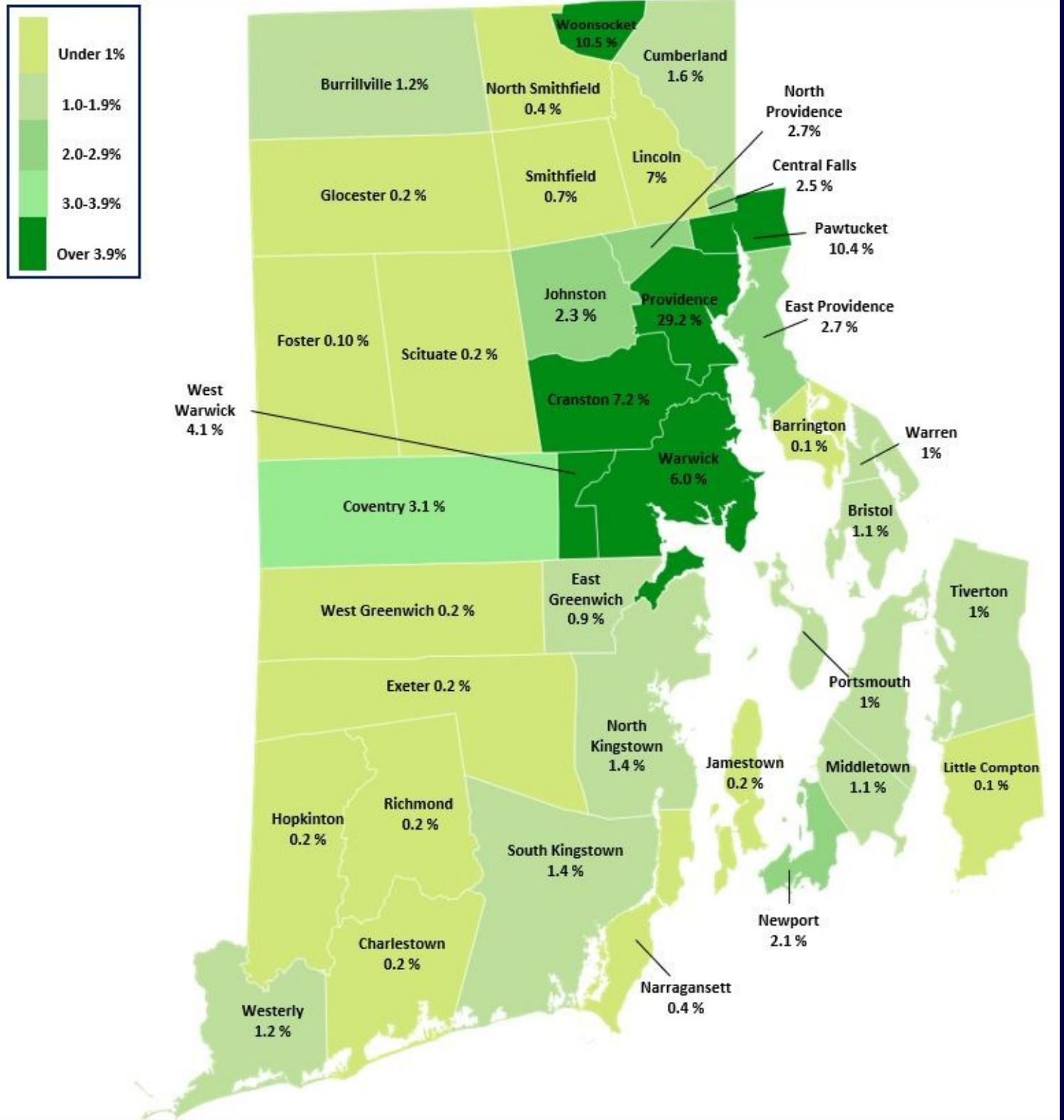
The overall Probation and Parole (P&P) population at RIDOC has fallen by 4% since the start of FY23. In the past 10 years, RIDOC's P&P population has decreased by 27%. According to the Bureau of Justice Statistics, as of 2021, Rhode Island has the 2nd highest rate of community corrections supervision in the nation: 2,118 per 100,000 residents (*Probation and Parole in the United States, 2021*). In addition, R.I. has the third highest rate of probation supervision in the nation: 2,147 per 100,000 residents (*Probation and Parole in the United States, 2021*).

RIDOC has recorded an approximate 2% increase in the number of offenders on home confinement from the start to the close of FY23. Overall, the home confinement population has decreased by just under 11% over the past 10 years.

## RIDOC's FY23 Home Confinement Population



# Sentenced Offenders Released to RI Cities & Towns



The map (shown above) represents the percentage of sentenced releases within each Rhode Island city/town as of June 30, 2023, based on the overall percentage of offenders who are released from sentenced status in FY23. For example: 29% of sentenced releases resided in Providence during FY23. In Rhode Island, offenders who are released after serving a sentence account for only 0.2% of the population, or 1 in 602 people. City or town of residence is self-identified by offenders upon commitment to RIDOC. Please note that this map only reflects offenders who provided an address, so certain numbers may be artificially inflated .

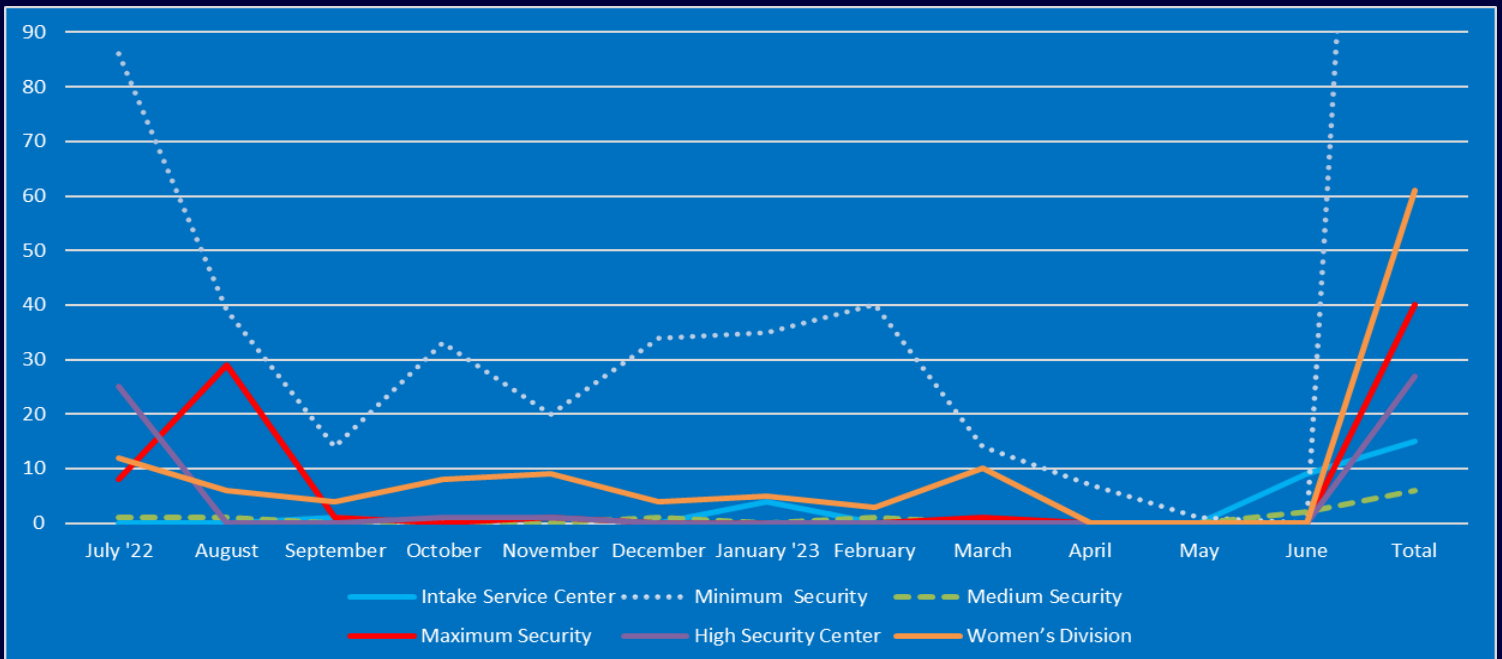
# RIDOC'S Response to COVID-19

In March of 2020, Rhode Island reported its first COVID-19 case, and RIDOC began implementing new safety procedures to mitigate the spread. The Rhode Island Department of Corrections has become a leader in COVID-19 prevention and treatment. As of the close of FY23, approximately 29% of offenders are fully vaccinated with a booster.

## FY23 COVID Deaths

Facility	Offender Deaths	Staff Deaths
Intake Service Center	0	0
Minimum Security	0	0
Medium Security	0	0
Maximum Security	0	0
High Security Center	0	0
Women's Facility	0	0
<b>Total Facilities</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

## 2023 COVID-19 Cases by Facility



COVID cases	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	April	May	June	Total
Intake Service Center	0	0	1	0	1	0	4	0	0	0	0	9	15
Minimum Security	86	39	14	33	20	34	35	40	14	7	1	0	323
Medium Security	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	2	6
Maximum Security	8	29	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	40
High Security Center	25	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	27
Women's Facility	12	6	4	8	9	4	5	3	10	0	0	0	61
<b>Total</b>	<b>132</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>472</b>

<sup>1</sup>National overview. COVID Prison Project. (2021, May 19). Retrieved September 14, 2021, from <https://covidprisonproject.com/data/national-overview/>.

# RIDOC Highlight-Discharge Planning

The Transitional Services and Discharge Planning Unit addresses the needs of adults leaving RIDOC custody in hopes of increasing positive post-release outcomes.

## Goals of Successful Reintegration

- Recidivism reduction
- Community safety
- Preparing client for release by providing community resources, addressing post-release needs, and encouraging positive behavior change.
- Reducing reintegration barriers by collaborating with community and state agencies, counselors, mental health clinicians, and probation and parole officers.

## Who's Eligible?

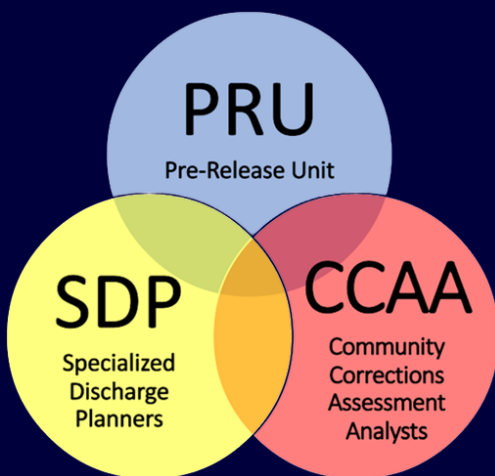
Sentenced Adults In Custody (AIC) with 9 months or less to serve based on their current good time date, or with 9 months or less before the month for which their parole has been granted. AICs must opt-in to receive any reentry services.

- If 10 days or more in custody: AIC will receive a pre-release packet
- If less than 10 days: depending on circumstances, a letter may be sent to report to the Exit Center for assistance upon release or the client may be seen in the facilities

The reentry process begins by providing a Pre-Release Packet (PRP) (which includes a needs assessment form & applications) either in person when staff meet with the client or via inter-facility mail. If clients require assistance completing the PRP, a staff member will assist.

AICs can call \*5632 for free from any facility to speak with a Pre-Release Unit member Monday-Friday 8:30 AM-4 PM, or submit a facility request slip. Two CCAAs are available during the Intake Service Center's Conference Hour every Wednesday to meet with any AIC. On Thursdays, one staff member walks through all mods at Women's Facility to provide an opportunity to answer questions and share information. Staff also meet with clients who need assistance during the weekly orientation group at Intake Service Center, as well as participating in the Medium Facility orientation and the Minimum Facility probation forums. AICs at the remaining facilities are seen individually on a case-by-case basis.

**All AICs (Awaiting Trial and Sentenced) are encouraged to reach out to discharge planning for post-release assistance.**



**Pre-Release Unit (PRU):** Receives and processes PRP's in addition to helping AIC's over the phone, in person, responding to referrals, fielding community calls, etc. This office also provides emergency food, water, gently worn clothing, and toiletries.

This unit assists AIC's by facilitating provision of the following items/services:

- Birth Certificate
- Social Security Card
- SNAP
- Medicaid
- Wave Cards for transportation
- Voter Registration
- Current Care Enrollment
- State IDs

## **Community Corrections Analysts (CCAA):**

CCAA'S are assigned to moderate to high-risk individuals based on a variety of factors including risk assessment scores, recidivism history, etc. These staff provide the most comprehensive care up until 90 days post release. These analysts use risk-need-responsivity (RNR) principles to reduce recidivism for these moderate to high-risk members of the population.

**Specialized Discharge Planners (SDP):** SDP's provide supplemental support to those facing higher barriers to successful reentry with a background that includes any of the following:

- Gang Involvement
- Serious Mental Illness
- Military History
- Complex Medical Issues
- Substance Use
- Homeless Sex Offenders



# Looking Towards the Future-Strategic Plan

Each year, the Department creates a strategic plan which outlines the vision and goals of the Department for the following 5 years. Below are RIDOC's Strategic Plan Goals for 2023—2028:

## 1.) Ensure effective offender population management.

RIDOC is currently focusing on implementing the recommendations provided from a classification study conducted by JFA Associates & the RIDOC Planning & Research Unit. In addition, the Department continues to maintain its Residential Treatment Unit in order to meet the "10 and 10" model for seriously and persistently mentally ill inmates (10 hours of cell therapy and 10 hours of out of cell recreation per week), as well as finding new ways to return inmates to the least restrictive housing possible.

### Desired Outcomes

- Enhanced institutional safety
- Cost-effective use of bed space
- Reduction in disciplinary infractions
- Placement of offenders in the least restrictive housing possible

## 2.) Enhance successful re-entry of offenders to communities.

The Department is working to reduce recidivism through successful reintegration into the community. This initiative includes creating a new case management system that allows for continuity of care and services, following an offender from the time they are placed under RIDOC custody until they are released.

### Desired Outcomes

- Reduced recidivism
- Higher rates of post-release secondary education and employment
- Reduce homelessness and increase stable housing post-release
- Increase receipt of government and community-based services and benefits post-release
- Continuity of case management through the institutions and into community corrections

## 3.) Increase the effectiveness of probation and parole supervision by expanding upon the evidence-based practices currently being used by community corrections staff.

To enhance probation and parole supervision, the Department continues to re-assess the field and the literature for new recommendations and evidence-based practices, including risk-based caseload allocation and more flexible probation conditions. Additionally, staffing levels at the Department are being increased to meet national standards, and partnerships with private-sector employers are being cultivated to expand job opportunities for offenders. Other measures include the introduction of an automated case management system, the establishment of specific case management policies, and the implementation of a referral system for community-based cognitive behavioral therapy. The Department continues to streamline the process for proposing early termination of probation in accordance with RI Superior Court Rules. These actions underscore the Department's dedication to improving outcomes for both offenders and their communities.

### Desired Outcomes

- Establishment of a partnership with the Judiciary that allows for a robust usage of the newly passed statutes and revised court rules that permit probation officers to petition the courts for early termination of probation terms
- Continuing to refine the new electronic probation and parole case management information and tracking system
- Reduce caseload averages to national standards
- Increase or maintain supervision of high-risk populations to increase public safety

# Looking Towards the Future-Strategic Plan

## **4.) Re-engineer operations, using best practices and technology to maximize the effectiveness of reduced resources.**

The Department is actively pursuing practical operational enhancements. This involves a thorough restructuring of its processes, with input from units like Financial Resources, Policy and Auditing, and Planning and Research to ensure changes are evidence-based. Existing technologies such as camera systems, iris-scanning recognition, and database integration with law enforcement agencies are being used to streamline the work of custody staff. Moreover, cost management in inmate healthcare is a priority, and this includes the establishment of on-site specialty clinics, efforts to secure federal reimbursement for healthcare services, and a meticulous monitoring of hospital stays.

### **Desired Outcomes**

- Quality services and taxpayer value
- Safe and secure institutions
- Maintenance of credibility in the use of appropriations
- Greater reliance on data-driven and evidence-based practices
- Completion and submission of Correctional Master Planning and Feasibility Study to RIDOC and Department of Administration, Division of Capital Asset Management and Maintenance by CGL

## **5.) Maintain and further improve Department-wide policies, procedures, and technology.**

RIDOC is dedicated to continuous improvement in its operations. This involves regular policy revisions and updates, facility security audits based on Department criteria, and the resolution of identified deficiencies with corrective action plans. Additionally, security measures are being strengthened in non-secure RIDOC buildings, and there's a strong emphasis on adherence to PREA standards. Collaborative efforts with DoIT, the State's Division of Information Technology, support various user groups and system enhancements, including the transition from legacy systems to newer, more efficient ones. The Department continues to refine and streamline the new electronic probation and parole case management system, optimize inventory tracking systems, and improve information accessibility for staff and external providers. Initiatives to modernize equipment, digitize information, and upgrade infrastructure are also underway.

### **Desired Outcomes**

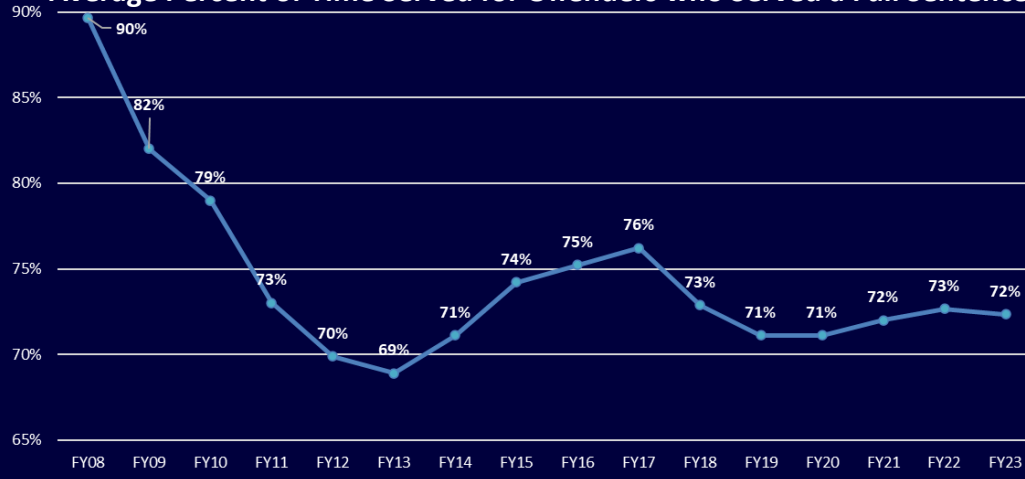
- Ensure adherence to Department policies and procedures
- Improve staff safety
- Improve Department technology and convert paper-based processes to electronic formats
- Improve conditions of care, custody, and control of offenders
- Conduct quarterly drills in each institution and a major Department-wide exercise at least once a year

# Looking Towards the Future-Sentence Reduction

RIDOC programming aims to reduce recidivism, rehabilitate offenders, and teach valuable skills to help them succeed upon release. In order to incentivize program enrollment and completion, offenders are given sentence reduction credits when they engage in Department programming. This allows offenders to become eligible for early release. In addition to earning Program Earned Time for participating and completing educational, treatment, and workforce development programming, sentence reduction credits can also be earned for good behavior. The chart below outlines the guidelines for which credits are given. Please note that those serving life sentences are ineligible for sentence reduction.

Offender Status <sup>1</sup>	Behavior	Industrial	Program Participation	Program Completion	Meritorious
Offenders Serving for: 1 <sup>st</sup> /2 <sup>nd</sup> degree Murder, 1 <sup>st</sup> -degree sexual assault, kidnapping of a minor, and 1 <sup>st</sup> /2 <sup>nd</sup> -degree child molestation  (RIGL 42-56-24 subsection A)	Not eligible for "Behavior Good Time"	2 days for working 15 days or more within a calendar month.	Not eligible for "Program Good Time"	Not eligible for "Program Completion Good Time"	Those who are sentenced to 1 year or more and less than life, can earn <u>up to 3</u> days per month for approved programs with a maximum of 36 days per year.
Offenders Serving for: 2 <sup>nd</sup> /3 <sup>rd</sup> -degree sexual assault, assault w/intent to commit 1 <sup>st</sup> -degree sexual assault  (RIGL 42-56-24 subsection B)	One day for each year is sentenced to a maximum of 10 days per month, for each month they are discipline free.	2 days for working 15 days or more within a calendar month.	Not eligible for "Program Good Time"	Not eligible for "Program Completion Good Time"	Those who are sentenced to 1 year or more and less than life, can earn <u>up to 3</u> days per month for approved programs with a maximum of 36 days per year.
All Remaining Offenders not serving Life Sentences	10 days for each full calendar month they are discipline free.	2 days for working 15 days or more within a calendar month.	<u>Up to 5</u> days per month for approved programs	<u>Up to 30</u> days for approved programs	Not eligible for "Meritorious Program Good Time"

**Average Percent of Time Served for Offenders who Served a Full Sentence<sup>3</sup>**



Since FY08, RIDOC has seen a 22% decline in the number of offenders serving their full sentences. In addition, as sentence length increases, the likelihood of serving a full term decreases. This can be attributed to having more time and resources to enroll in programming and become eligible for sentence reduction credits.

Length of Sentence	Average % of Offenders who Served Full Sentence <sup>2</sup>
3 months or less	96%
3 - 6 months	82%
6 - 9 months	80%
9 months - 1 year	78%
1 - 3 years	73%
3 - 5 years	62%
5 - 7 years	68%
7 - 10 years	54%
10+ years	58%

<sup>1</sup>Release data reflects the average percentage of time served by sentence lengths for offenders who expired their sentence.

<sup>2</sup>Please note that the computation for the "Average Percent of Offenders" chart is done by subtracting the percentage of time served in FY23 from FY08.

<sup>3</sup>Offenders who committed second-degree murder prior to August 2012 are not subject to the special guidelines laid out above due to a policy change.

# Looking Towards the Future—Reducing Recidivism

One of the vital aspects of the Department of Corrections' mission is to facilitate successful reentry into the community. For this reason, one of RIDOC's primary goals is to reduce recidivism, which the Department defines as a person released from a sentence who either returns as a sentenced offender or an awaiting trial detainee within 36 months of release.<sup>1</sup>

To achieve this goal, RIDOC utilizes Risk Needs Responsivity (RNR) theory in its programming.



## Risk Principle Identifies WHO to Target

The risk principle states that the level of service provided to an offender should match their risk of reoffending. As a result, supervision and treatment should be reserved for higher risk offenders, while low risk offenders require little to no intervention. In fact, research has found that too much treatment, or the wrong type of treatment, may be detrimental to a low risk offender.



## Need Principle Identifies WHAT to Target

The need principle indicates that treatment should focus on an offender's dynamic criminogenic needs (the factors most likely to lead to crime) and interventions should be prioritized accordingly.

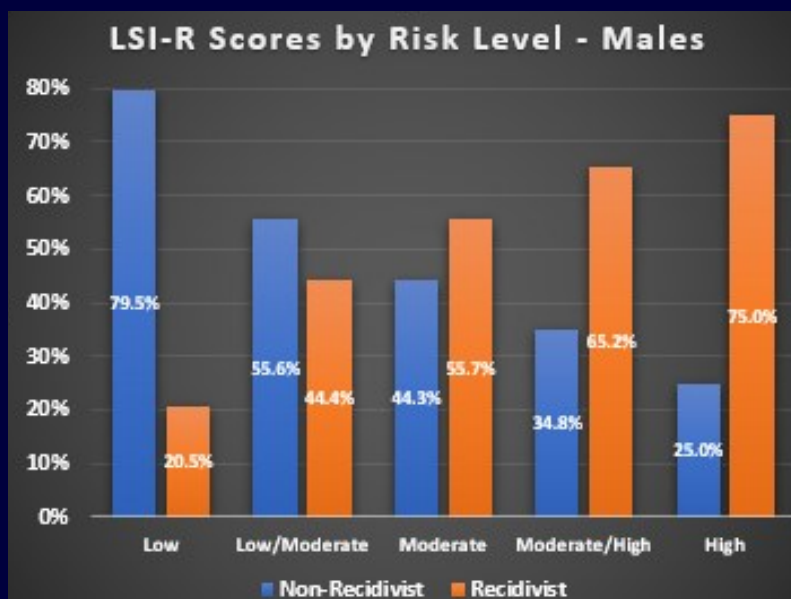


## Responsivity Identifies HOW to Target

The responsivity principle attempts to remove barriers to success. *General* responsivity suggests staff should use interventions known to be effective with offenders.

### How is RIDOC implementing RNR?

The Department of Corrections implements the RNR principle by using validated risk assessment tools to guide individual case management. Case managers use their discretion and the institutional tools at their disposal to address an offender's unique criminogenic needs. The "Level of Service Case Management Inventory" (LS/CMI) is an empirically-supported risk/needs assessment that quantifies an offender's likelihood of reoffending across 11 domains; criminal history, education/employment, financial, family/marital, accommodation, leisure/recreation, companions, alcohol/drug problem(s), emotional/personal, attitudes/orientation, and antisocial patterns. On average, the higher the LS/CMI score, the more likely an offender is to recidivate. Please note that up until very recently, RIDOC used an older version of the LS/CMI called "Level of Service Inventory-Revised" (LSI-R) which the data below is based on.



<sup>1</sup> RIDOC tracks offenders 36 months post-release as is standard in the criminal justice system. After 3 years, the likelihood of recidivating greatly diminishes.