



Department of Corrections

February 14, 2024



DOC & Agency of Human Services

Vermont Incarcerated Population



Topline Metrics (as of 1/31/2024)

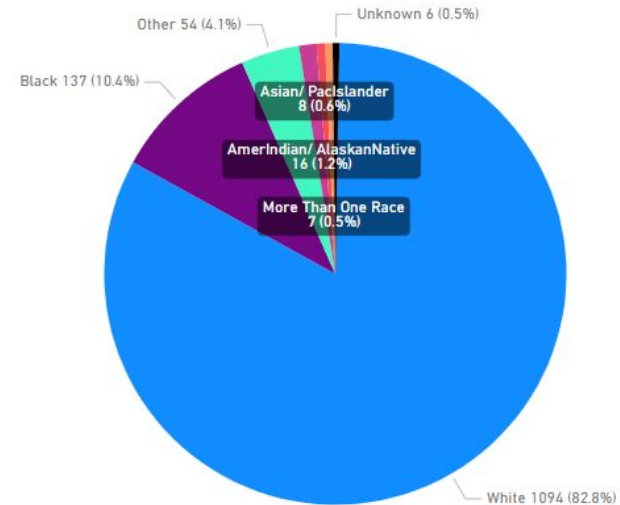
- Total incarcerated population: **1,322**
 - Male: **1,199**
 - Female: **105**
 - Transgender or different gender identity: **18**
- Total detained: **468** (includes **83** federal holds)
 - Male: **406**
 - Female: **58**
 - Transgender or different gender identity: **4**
- Out of state facility: **126** (men)
- Current operating capacity:
 - Male facilities: **127%**
 - CRCF: **62%**

Bail: **417** across DOC / **42** at CRCF

- Held with cash bail: **154** total / **26** at CRCF
- Held w/o bail: **247** total / **16** at CRCF
- Held for lack of responsible adult: **24** total / **4** at CRCF

Incarcerated Population by Race | N= 1322

Race ● White ● Black ● Other ● AmerIndian/ AlaskanNative ● Asian/ PacIslander ● More Than One Race ● Unknown



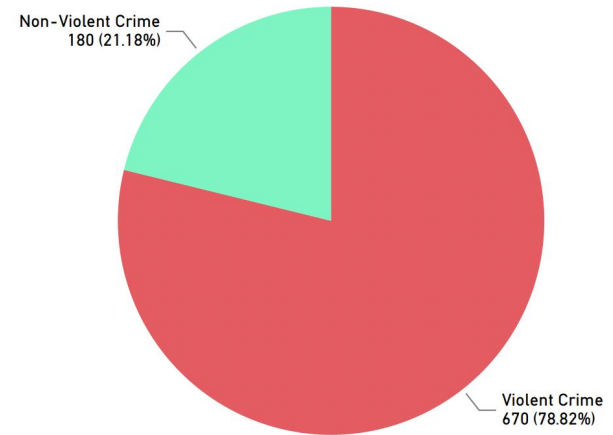
Vermont Incarcerated Population



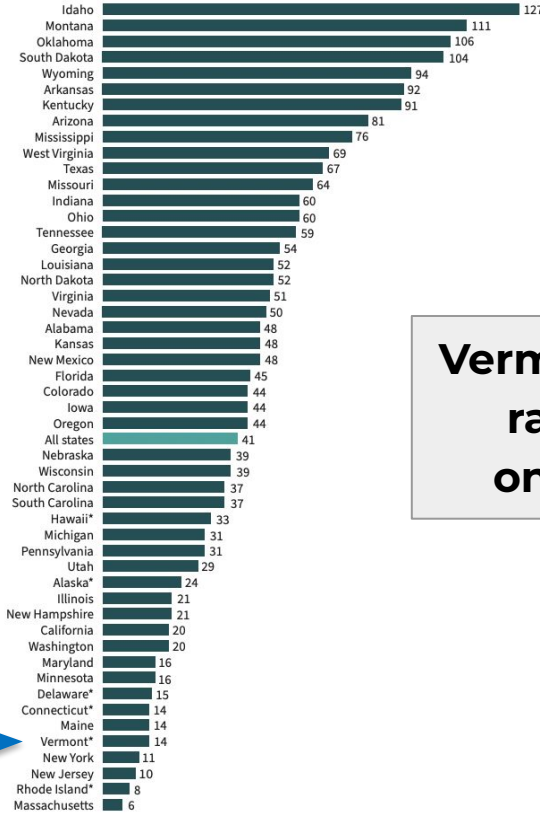
Charges & Convictions

- Felony charge (detained): **93%**
 - Men: **321**
 - Women: **36**
- Felony conviction (sentenced): **94%**
 - Men: **748**
 - Women: **44**
- Agg. assault, sexual assault, murder: ("Felony Serious"): **64%**
 - Men: **67%** detained / **64%** sentenced
 - Women: **45%** detained / **49%** sentenced
- Violent crime:
 - Men: **79.5%** (sentenced)
 - Women: **66%** (sentenced)
- Drug crimes only: all felony crimes
 - Men: **2%** (sentenced)
 - Women: **15%** (sentenced)

Sentenced Population: Violent Crime Categorization | N= 850



Highest and Lowest Female State Imprisonment Rates (per 100,000 U.S. Female Residents), 2021



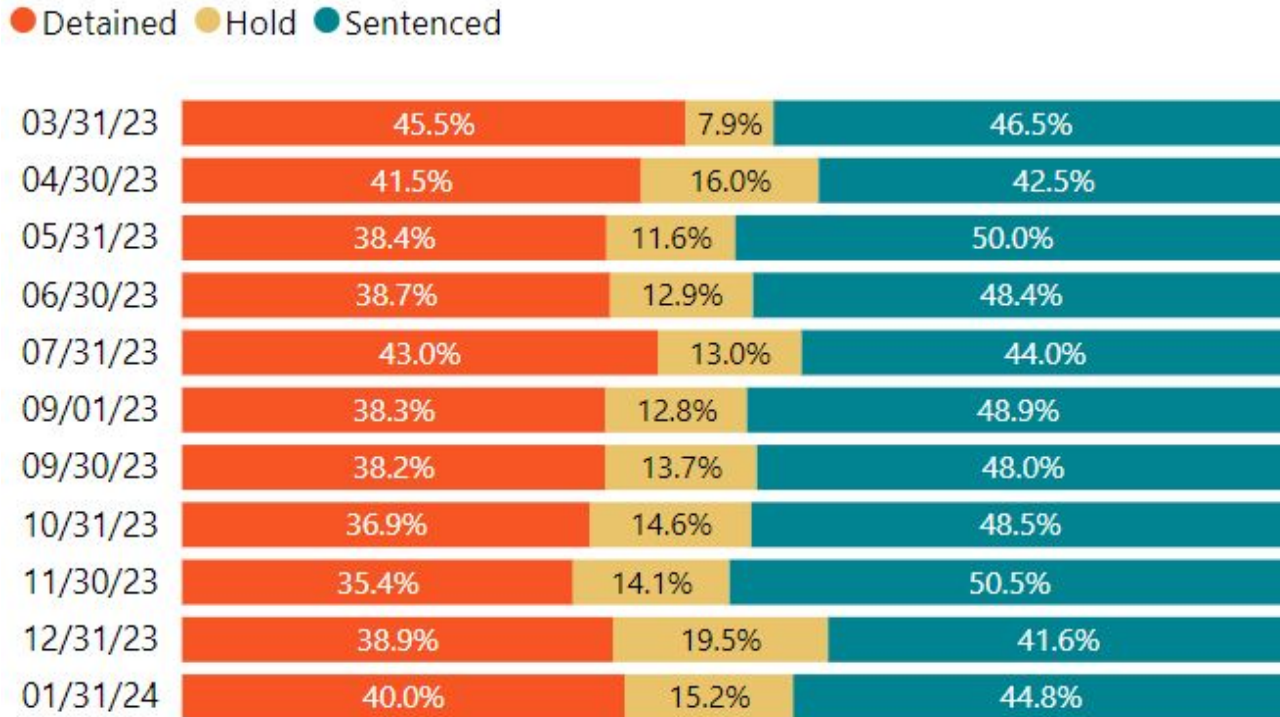
Vermont's female incarceration rate ranks 45th nationally, one-third the national rate



Source: *The Sentencing Project*

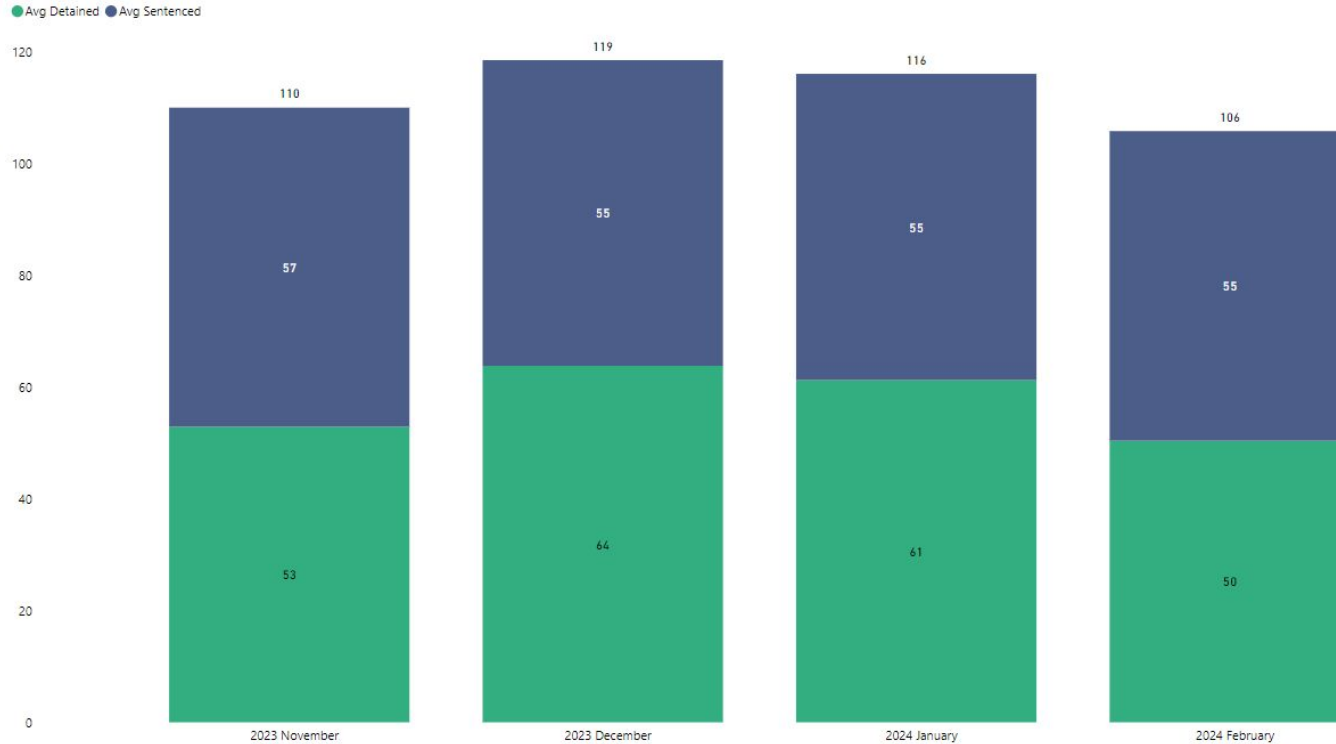
*In these states with integrated jail and prison systems, data include both jail and prison populations.
 Source: Carson, E.A. (2022). *Prisoners in 2021*...Statistical Tables. Washington, DC: Bureau of Justice Statistics

CRCF Population by Legal Status



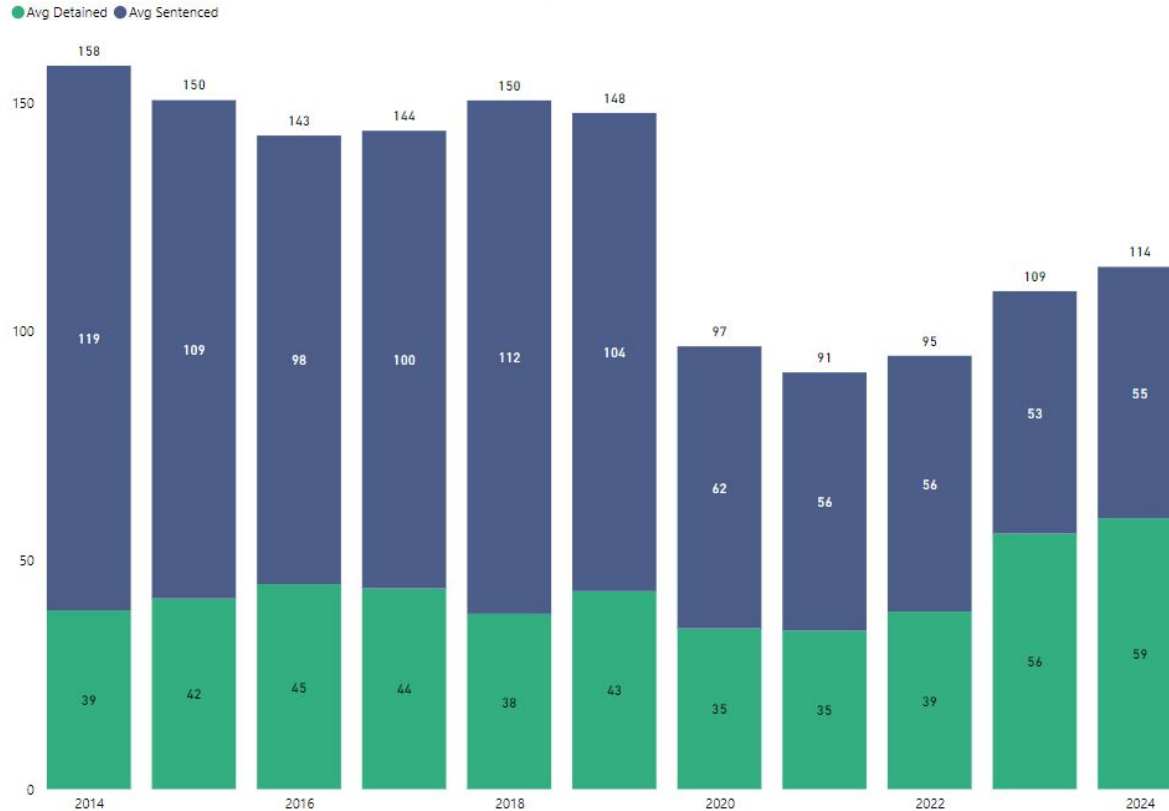
Note: "Hold" indicates federal or detainee for other jurisdiction

Vermont Female Incarcerated Population: 4 Months



Note: This figure does not include female holds for federal/other jurisdictions, so the total female population underrepresents the average total female population

Vermont Female Incarcerated Population: 10 Years



Note: This figure does not include female holds for federal/other jurisdictions, so the total female population underrepresents the average total female population

Challenges Facing Female Population



Substance Use

- Individuals at CRCF receiving MOUD: **66%**
- Higher percentage of women in Vermont convicted for drug offenses only
 - [Research shows](#) women are more than twice as likely in the United States to be incarcerated for a drug offense compared to men

Housing

- Individuals with lived experience and advocates point to lack of transitional and permanent housing as major impediment to successful community reintegration and reentry
- DOC granting JRI funds for women's re-entry and recovery services, including sober housing and intensive trauma-informed outpatient therapy for substance use disorder

Lack of Community Supports

- Reduced Vermont community capacity due to funding and staffing constraints, lack of statewide services
- Women have fewer familial supports than male counterparts while in custody

Inadequate Conditions at Chittenden Regional Correctional Facility

- Outdated and degraded physical infrastructure (50 years old)
 - Facility never designed for sentenced population or long-term habitation
- Issues with cleanliness and habitability and lack of programming space

CRCF Conditions



CRCF Conditions



CRCF Conditions

- 1 Poor quality of lighting, does not respond to occupants' circadian rhythm
- 2 Poor natural daylight with typical institutional bars on windows
- 3 Mildly therapeutic color scheme
- 4 Rooms are not fully ligature resistant
- 5 Hard institutional furnishings
- 6 Blind corners and inefficient use of space
- 7 Upper bunks are dangerous and difficult to get up to
- 8 Inability to maintain thermal comfort



CRCF Conditions





Discussion



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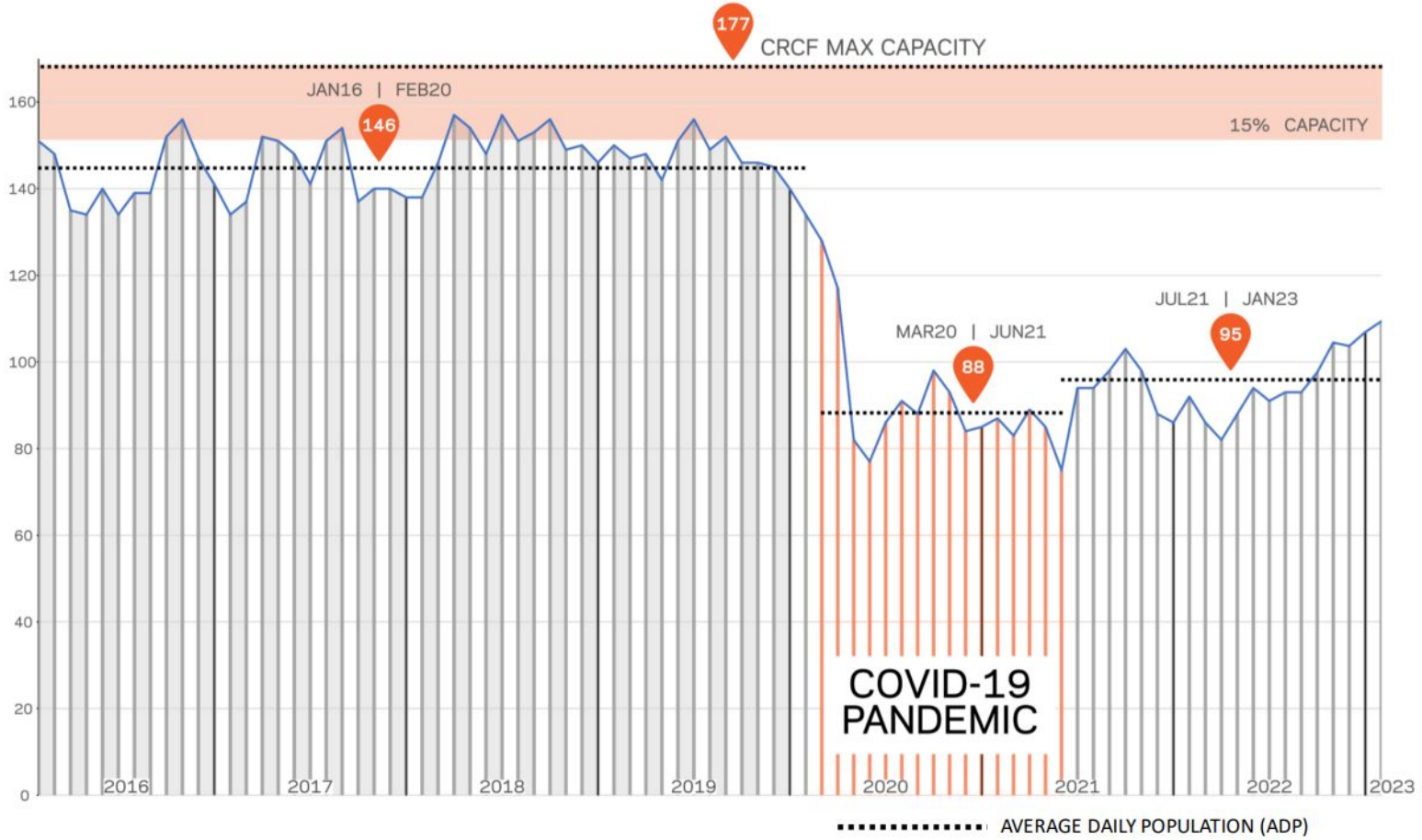
Appendix

Vermont Bail Data: Detainees in Custody

Current Detainees with Bail Amounts - 01/03/2024

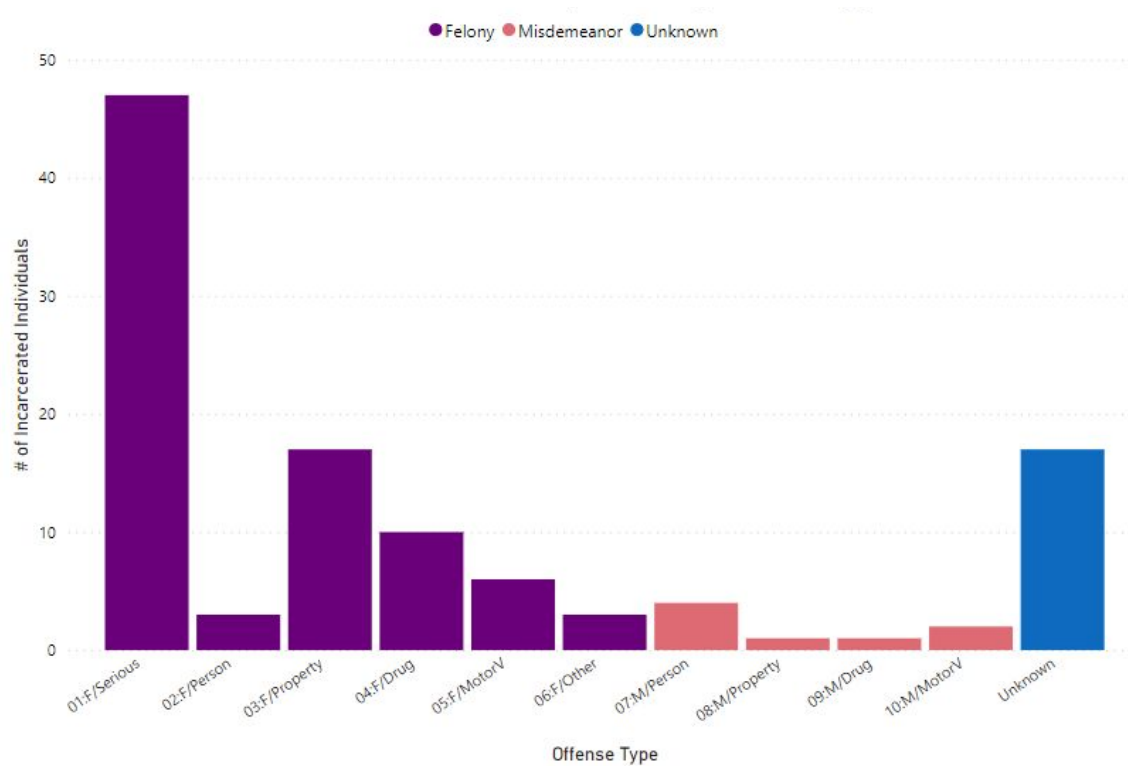
Facility Where Held	<1000	1Ks	10Ks	100Ks	HWOB	ADULT	Drug Court Sanction - Serve	N/A / Release to Responsible	Other	UNKNOWN	Grand Total
CRCF	2	10	11	2	16	3	0	0	0	1	45
MVRCF	2	5	8	1	41	0	1	0	0	5	63
NECC	2	9	9	0	21	0	0	0	0	2	43
NSCF	4	13	13	3	47	3	0	0	0	4	87
NWSCF	1	8	2	3	36	4	0	1	1	2	58
SSCF	6	18	12	3	60	0	0	0	0	4	103
Grand Total	17	63	55	12	221	10	1	1	1	18	399

Point-in-time data



FEMALE AVERAGE DAILY POPULATION (SENTENCED AND DETAINED)

CRCF Population by Charge Type



Point-in-time date: 12/31/23; Note pop. numbers may vary slightly depending on time of data pull

Population by Crime Type

Crime Type by Correctional Facility | N= 1324

Crime Type	CRCF	MVRCF	NECC	NSCF	NWSCF	SSCF	TCCF	Total
01:Fel./Serious	45	61	52	252	84	181	115	790
02:Fel./Person	3	9	11	33	13	20	7	96
03:Fel./Property	21	20	43	45	13	34	2	178
04:Fel./Drug	13	9	11	10	2	8		53
05:Fel./MotorV	7	3	15	11	4	7	1	48
06:Fel./Other	3	1	3	3	4	1	1	16
07:Misd./Person	5	6	3	16	8	13		51
08:Misd./Property	1	4		1	3			9
09:Misd./Drug	1							1
10:Misd./MotorV	1		2	1				4
11:Misd./Other				3	1	1		5
Uncategorized	21	2		6	42	2		73
Total	121	115	140	381	174	267	126	1324

Crime Type Examples:

- 01:Fel./Serious: Aggravated Assault, Aggravated Sexual Assault, Murder
- 02:Fel./Person: Assault and Robbery, Lewd and Lascivious
- 03:Fel./Property: Burglary Occupied, Grand Larceny, Arson
- 04:Fel./Drug: Dealing, Trafficking, Possession and Sale
- 05:Fel./MotorV: DUI3 or more
- 06:Fel./Other: Obstruction of Justice, Fugitive
- 07:Misd./Person: Domestic Assault, Simple Assault
- 08:Misd./Property: Unlawful Trespass, Retail Theft
- 09:Misd./Drug: Possession of drugs
- 10:Misd./MotorV: Careless and Negligent Operation
- 11:Misd./Other: Violations Conditions of Release

DOC Correctional Facilities Key:

- CRCF = Chittenden Regional Correctional Facility;
- MVRCF = Marble Valley Regional Correctional Facility;
- NECC = Northeast Correctional Complex;
- NSCF = Northern State Correctional Facility;
- NWSCF = Northwest State Correctional Facility;
- SSCF = Southern State Correctional Facility
- TCCF = Tallahatchie County Correctional Facility (Mississippi)

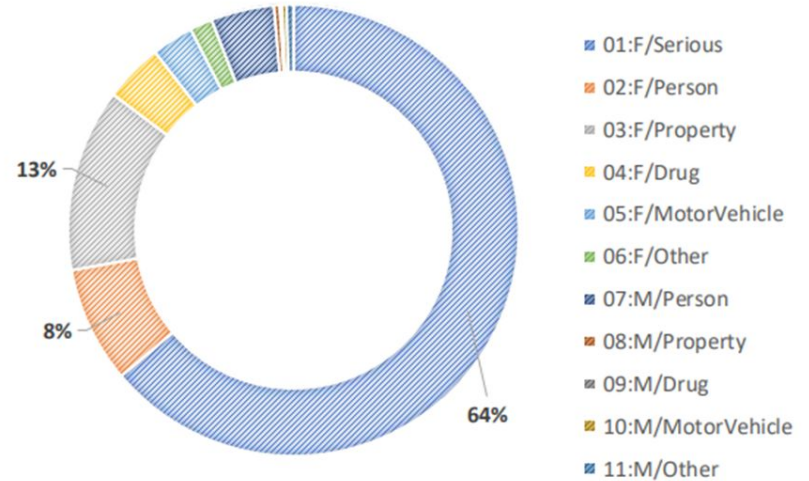
Note: All Uncategorized Crime Types have a Hold Status

POPULATION DATA

FEMALE POPULATION							
MONTH	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
January	151	134	138	150	134	87	92
February	148	137	146	147	128	83	86
March	135	152	157	148	117	89	82
April	134	151	154	142	82	85	88
May	140	148	148	151	77	75	94
June	134	141	157	156	86	94	91
July	139	151	151	149	91	94	93
August	139	154	153	152	88	98	93
September	152	137	156	146	98	103	98
October	156	140	149	146	93	98	104
November	147	140	150	145	84	88	104
December	141	138	146	140	85	86	107
Annual ADP	143	144	150	148	97	90	94
% of ADP	8.13%	8.14%	8.66%	8.47%	6.66%	6.95%	7.22%

The female population averages **7.75% of the system ADP** over the last 7 years. The percentage has been increasing over the last 3 years consecutively.

OFFENSE TYPE



64% of offenders are being held for a felony, serious offence according to point-in-time data from 8/12/22

CAPACITY BASELINE



Continued Challenges



Staffing

- Vacancies, retention, state workforce demographics, overtime costs

Health & Wellness

- Health conditions of incarcerated individuals, particularly those detained awaiting trial
 - Individuals ingesting fentanyl/polysubstances prior to State custody
 - Sequelae of heavy substance use before arrest
 - 66% of incarcerated population receiving medication for opioid use disorder (MOUD)

DEI & Justice

- Remote hearings and court backlogs
- Paucity of community service providers, particularly for male-identifying individuals

Modernization

- Lack of transitional housing stock/availability
- Deteriorating physical infrastructure
- Antiquated and highly manual data systems (OMS)

Monthly Contracts at CRCF



Contracted Community Providers:

- **Vermont Works for Women:** \$17,216.00
- **Kids-A-Part:** \$11,743.00
- **Mercy Connections:** \$11,025.00
- **Vermont Network Against Domestic and Sexual Violence:** \$8,667.00

Monthly Total: \$59,676.00

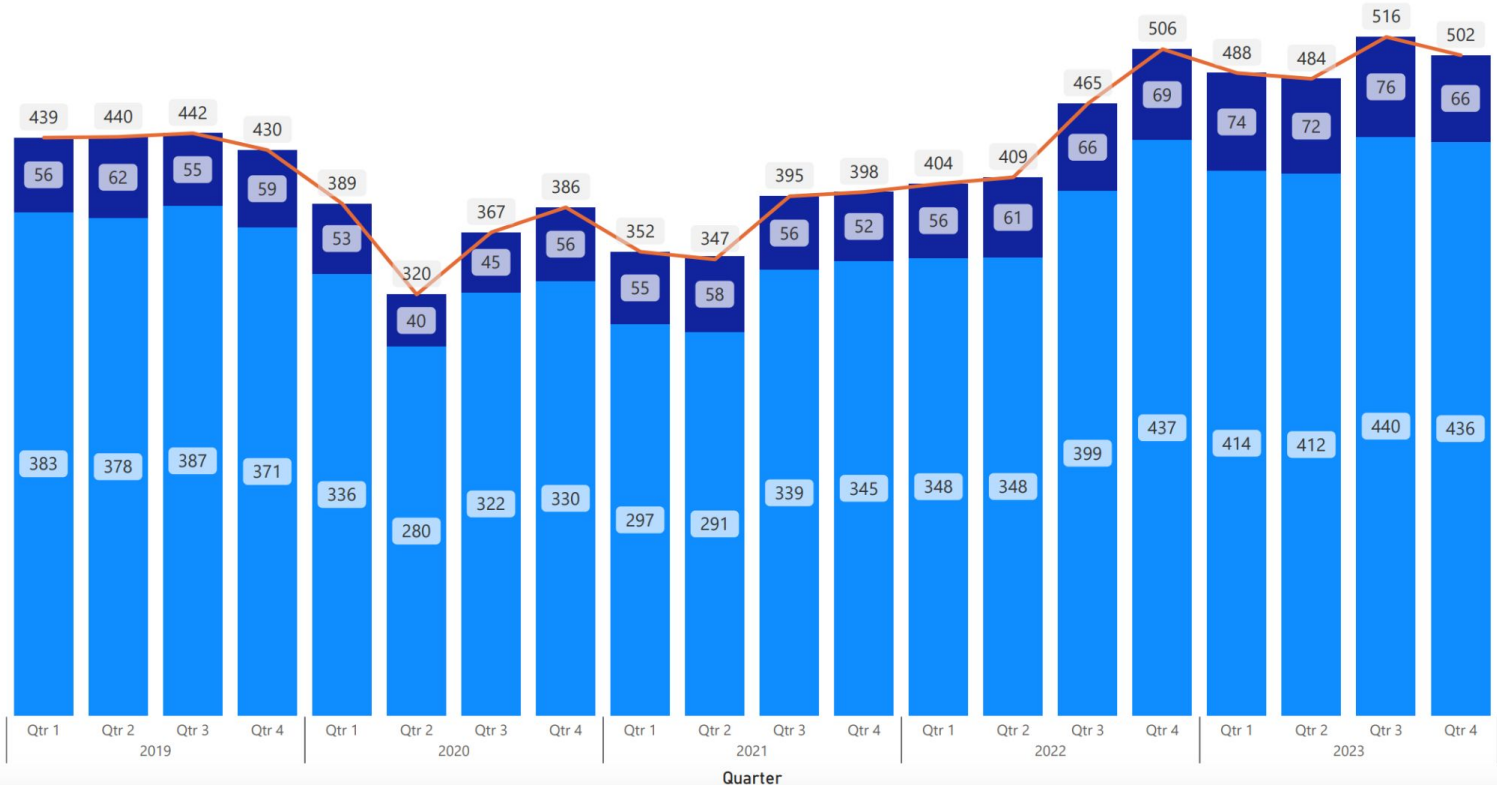
Annual Total: \$716,112.00

Detainee Population

Average Monthly Count of Detainees: 2019-2023



● State Detainees Only ● Federal Detainees Only ● State and Federal Detainees Combined





Challenges

- Aged, inflexible, outdated infrastructure requiring frequent maintenance
- Six facilities scattered across state creates inefficiencies and high staffing needs
- Beds offline for unit maintenance, staffing vacancies, deferred maintenance, etc.
- Lack of additional capacity in event of emergencies/natural disasters (e.g., flooding)
- Housing gender-diverse individuals within a system designed and built for only two sexes
- Housing juveniles (PREA-mandated sight and sound separation)
- Not all beds residential/general population beds (i.e., booking, mental health, infirmary, restrictive housing/segregation)
- Housing special populations:
 - SFI, mental health, geriatric, medical needs, honors unit, etc.
- Housing mixed populations:
 - Sentenced, detained, federal holds

DOC daily population figures at: <https://doc.vermont.gov/content/research-and-data>



Current Landscape

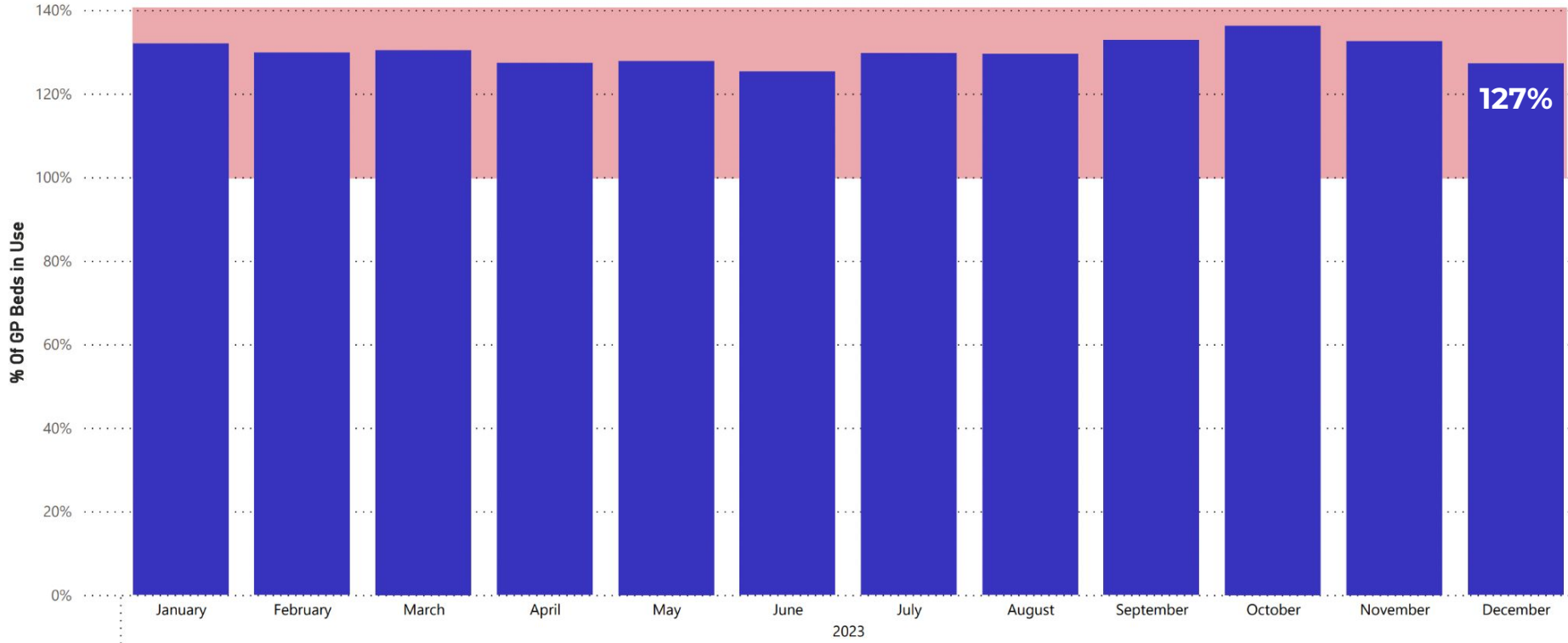
- Types of housing in Vermont correctional facilities:
 - Long-term housing: residential beds (general population or “GP”)
 - Temporary housing: special housing (mental health, infirmary, booking), restrictive housing
- Average total male-identifying population (including out of state): **1232**
 - Vermont average male residential bed capacity: **950**
- American Correctional Association (ACA) recommends states **not exceed 85%** of total capacity.
- Vermont currently at **127% capacity** of male residential beds.

Current Landscape (cont.)



- In prior years, Vermont has relied on temporary measures for additional capacity (i.e., housing in gymnasiums) that do not comport with correctional best practices, Vermont standards, or DOC values.
- Vermont contracts with out of state correctional facilities to house a small portion of the sentenced population.
 - Contract partners must adhere to DOC Mission, Vision, and Values and policy.
- Historically, **more than 700** individuals were housed out of state.
- Reduction in total incarcerated population by **nearly 30% since 2015**.
- Currently, 126 sentenced male individuals housed at Tallahatchie County Correctional Facility (TCCF).

Vermont Male Residential Bed (GP) Capacity: 2023



Southern Maine Women's Reentry Facility



Southern Maine Women's Reentry Facility



Southern Maine Women's Reentry Facility



Southern Maine Women's Reentry Facility



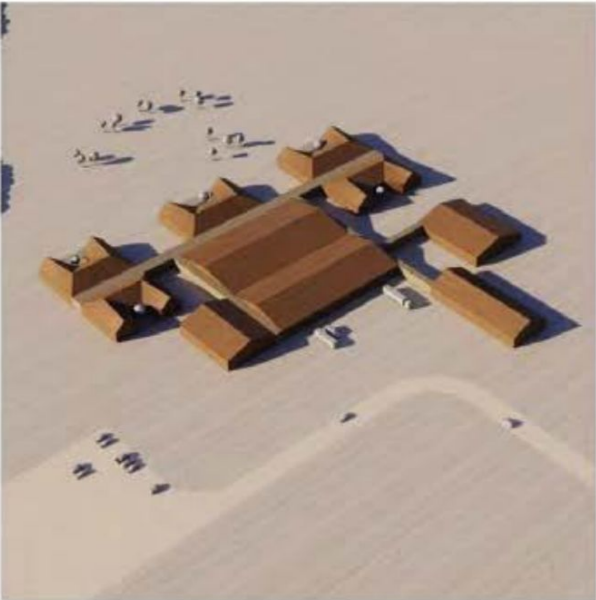
Proposed HOK Designs



A



B



C