



Joint Legislative Justice Oversight Committee

December 12, 2023



Current Landscape

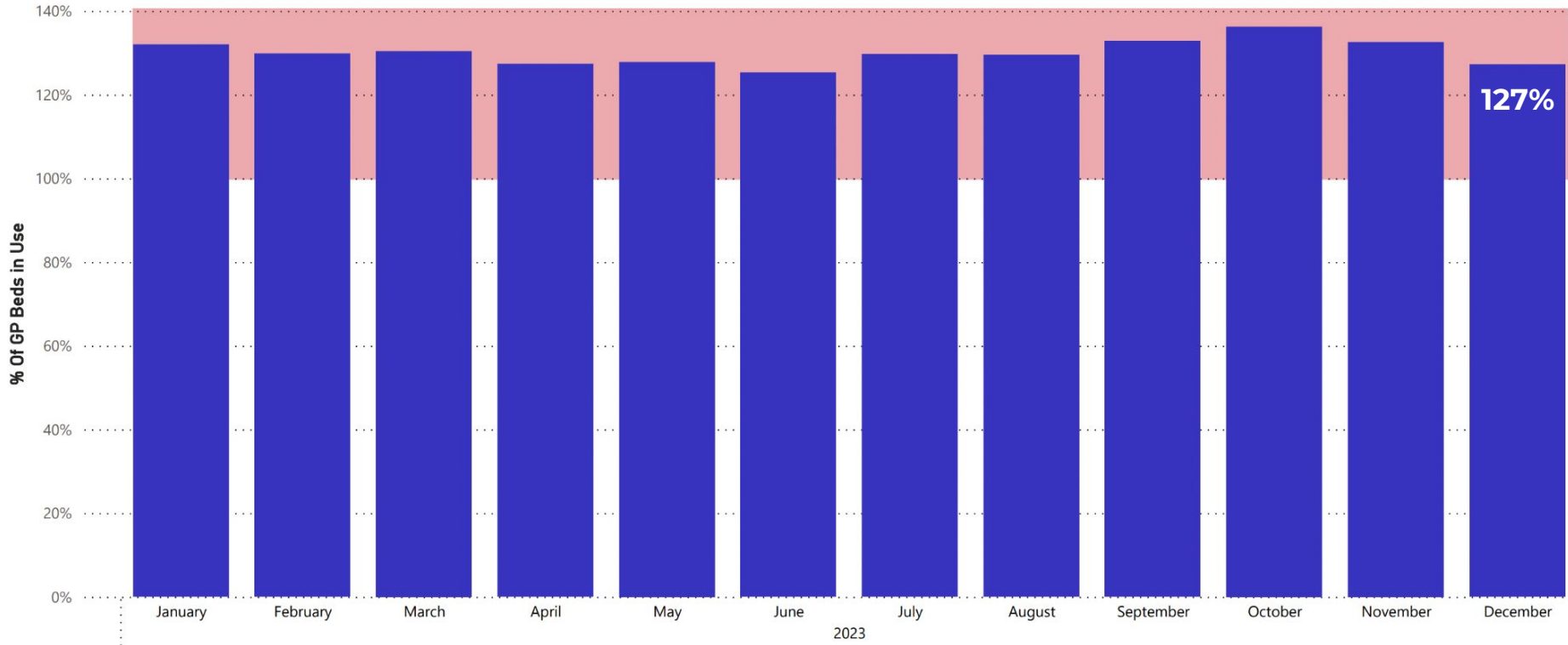
- Types of housing in Vermont correctional facilities:
 - Long-term housing: residential beds (general population or “GP”)
 - Temporary housing: special housing (mental health, infirmary, booking), restrictive housing
- Average total male-identifying population (including out of state): **1232**
 - Vermont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



Current Landscape (cont.)

- In prior years, Vermont has relied on temporary measures for additional capacity (i.e., “sled beds”) that do not comport with 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 Residential Bed (GP) Capacity: 2023





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- Aged, inflexible, outdated infrastructure requiring frequent maintenance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 (i.e., flooding)
- Housing gender diverse individuals within a system designed and built for only two sexes
- Housing juveniles
- Not all beds residential/general population beds (i.e., booking, mental health, infirmary, restrictive housing/segregation)
- Housing mixed populations:
 - Total: 1348
 - Pre-trial State detainees: 417
 - State sentenced: 862
 - Federal detainees: 67 of ~180 awaiting trial in federal Vermont District Court
 - Customs and Border Patrol/Immigration and Customs Enforcement: 2

Data as 12/11/2023; DOC daily population figures at: <https://doc.vermont.gov/content/research-and-data>



Appendix

Definitions



- *Bail: Bail is imposed by a Vermont Court while the defendant is detained in another jurisdiction.*
- *BOP: An incarcerated individual in the primary custody of the Federal Government serving both a Federal and Vermont State sentence.*
- *Concurrent: An incarcerated individual in the primary custody of another state serving sentences for the incarcerating jurisdiction and the State of Vermont.*
- *Consecutive: An incarcerated individual in the primary custody of another state in which a Vermont state sentence has been imposed to run consecutively once released from the primary jurisdiction.*
- *Federal Writ: An incarcerated individual, sentenced, detained or both for the State of Vermont, who is temporarily in the custody of the Federal Government on a Writ of Habeas Corpus Ad Prosequendum (an order commanding the presence of a defendant to appear in court to answer charges on pending case) or disposition of Federal charges.*
- *Interstate Agreement on Detainers (IAD): An incarcerated individual who has invoked their right to a speedy trial under the Interstate Agreement on Detainers and temporarily transferred to the custody of the wanting jurisdiction for disposition of charges.*
- *Interstate Corrections Compact (ICC): An incarcerated individual's need-based custody designation to another state correctional system based on risk, classification, safety or at the request of the incarcerated individual.*
- *Immigrations and Customs Enforcement (ICE): A convicted individual who has been deported to their home country but has not maxed out their imposed Vermont sentence.*
- *Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA): Need-based designation of an incarcerated Individual's custody to a Federal correctional system based on risk, classification, safety, or at the request of the incarcerated individual.*
- *United States Marshals Service (USMS): An incarcerated individual who is in the primary custody of the USMS detained on Federal charges, but is either on parole or furlough for Vermont DOC, or is detained on Vermont charges.*
- *Tallahatchie County Correctional Facility (TCCF): Out-of-state contracted facility for those sentenced in State of Vermont custody.*

Current Custody Counts by Type



- *Bail: 0*
- *BOP: 8*
- *Concurrent: 7*
- *Consecutive: 1*
- *Federal Writ: 8*
- *Interstate Agreement on Detainers (IAD): 3*
- *Interstate Corrections Compact (ICC): 3*
- *Immigrations and Customs Enforcement (ICE): 2*
- *Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA): 3*
- *United States Marshals Service (USMS): 5*
- *Tallahatchie County Correctional Facility (TCCF): 126*