

2025 FINAL REPORT

CORRECTIONS AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE OVERSIGHT TASK FORCE

January 2026



Authority

The Oversight Task Force is charged with the following responsibilities related to the implementation of H.B. 585, Regular Session 2014 (MISS. CODE ANN. § 47-5-6 [1972]):

- track and assess outcomes from the recommendations in the Corrections and Criminal Justice Task Force report of December 2013;
- prepare and submit to the Legislature, Governor, and Chief Justice, no later than the first day of the second full week of each regular session of the Legislature, an annual report on outcome and performance measures and recommendations for improvements; recommendations on transfers of funding based on the success or failure of implementation of the recommendations and a summary of savings; and any additional recommendations to the Legislature on future legislation and policy options to enhance public safety and control corrections costs;
- monitor compliance with sentencing standards, assess their impact on the correctional resources of the state, and determine if the standards advance the adopted sentencing policy goals of the state;
- review the classifications of crimes and sentences and make recommendations for change when supported by information that change is advisable to further the adopted sentencing policy goals of the state;
- develop a research and analysis system to determine the feasibility, impact on resources, and budget consequences of any proposed or existing legislation affecting sentence length;
- request, review, and receive data and reports on performance outcome measures as related to this act;
- undertake such additional studies or evaluations as the Oversight Task Force considers necessary to provide sentencing reform information and analysis;
- prepare and conduct annual continuing legal education seminars regarding the sentencing guidelines to be presented to judges, prosecuting attorneys and their deputies, and public defenders and their deputies, as so required;
- additionally, the Oversight Task Force is empowered to:
 - use clerical and professional employees of the Mississippi Department of Corrections (MDOC) for its staff;
 - employ or retain other professional staff upon the determination of the necessity for other staff;
 - employ consultants to assist in the evaluations, and when necessary, the implementation of the recommendations of the *2013 Final Report* by the Corrections and Criminal Justice Oversight Task Force Final Report; and,
 - apply for and expend grants, gifts, or federal funds it receives from other sources to carry out its duties and responsibilities.

Membership

Section 68, H.B. 585, Regular Session 2014, established a committee to be known as the Corrections and Criminal Justice Oversight Task Force, hereinafter referred to as “Oversight Task Force” and “Task Force,” to review and monitor the implementation of H.B. 585. The Oversight Task Force is composed of the following members:

- Hon. Prentiss G. Harrell, Circuit Judge, Fifteenth Circuit Court District - Task Force Chair;
- Jeffery Belk, State Parole Board Chair;
- Commissioner Burl Cain, Mississippi Department of Corrections (MDOC);
- Sheriff John Ledbetter, Jackson County;
- Sheriff Travis Patten, Adams County;
- Troy Peterson (former Sheriff of Harrison County);¹

¹ Mr. Peterson who was appointed by the Lieutenant Governor, has continued to serve after the appointment of Sheriff Ledbetter in August 2024.

- Chief of Police Landon Tucker, City of Corinth;
- Lindsay Cranford, Deputy Attorney General, Attorney General's Office;
- André de Gruy, State Defender, Office of State Public Defender;
- President Bryan Buckley, Mississippi Prosecutors Association, Assistant District Attorney, 12th Circuit Court District;
- John K. Bramlett Jr., District Attorney, 20th Circuit Court District;
- Kelley Christopher, Mississippi Department of Corrections;
- Nick Bain, attorney (former state Representative);²
- Rep. Becky Currie, House Corrections Committee Chair;
- Sarah Williamson, Joint Committee on Performance Evaluation and Expenditure Review (PEER);³ and,
- Member representing the Mississippi Association of Supervisors (no members designated for 2024).

Methods and Procedures

In the year since the release of the 2025 report, the Oversight Task Force visited and examined inmate housing areas and inmate educational programs at:

- Mississippi State Prison (MSP);

Additionally, the Oversight Task Force was briefed on legislative actions related to criminal justice and received presentations from the following sources:

- Burl Cain, Commissioner at MDOC, presented information on the transformation of the Mississippi State Penitentiary at Parchman, including a documentary highlighting institutional reforms and national recognition;
- Nathan Blevins, Deputy Commissioner of Community Corrections at MDOC, presented information on expanded programming at community work centers and MDOC's efforts to improve employment outcomes for individuals transitioning from incarceration to the community;
- John Hunt, Deputy Commissioner of Institutions at MDOC, presented information on prison accountability measures, including the implementation of QR-code scanning technology to improve cell-check compliance, and discussed inmate employment and reentry initiatives;
- Derrick Garner, Deputy Commissioner of Finance and Administration at MDOC, presented budget and expenditure information, including facility upgrades, operational costs, and projected funding needs.
- Audrey McAfee, Deputy Administrator of Technology and Program Information at MDOC, presented a status update on MDOC's efforts to acquire a new inmate data management system;
- Burl Cain, Commissioner at MDOC, John Hunt, Kelley Christopher, and Nathan Blevins, Deputy Commissioners at MDOC presented information on MDOC's *Pathway to Success* program related to post-release employment and reentry preparation;
- Audrey McAfee, Deputy Administrator of Technology and Program Information at MDOC, presented highlights from the statutorily required House Bill 585 data report, including trends in prison population, admissions, releases, revocations, and earned discharge credits;
- André de Gruy, State Defender, Office of State Public Defender, presented recommendations related to burglary of an unoccupied dwelling, simple possession of controlled substances, MDOC policy on earned release supervision, and expungement;
- Garrett McInnis, Chief Executive Officer at Magnolia Correctional Industries (MAGCOR), and Martha Claire Bullen Chief Reentry Officer at MAGCOR, presented a transitional housing proposal outlining a hub-and-spoke model, estimated costs, and implementation considerations; and,

² Mr. Bain is one of two appointees allocated to the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

³ The representative of PEER took no part in the adoption of findings and recommendations found in this report.

- Ms. Adams, Program Team Lead for Community Work Centers at MDOC, presented information on job readiness, vocational skills, and training initiatives designed to reduce recidivism through coordinated employment pathways.

Summary of Efforts to Date

Since the passage of H.B. 585 during its 2014 Regular Session, the Legislature has passed several pieces of legislation that address recommendations made by the Oversight Task Force. In 2018, the Legislature passed H.B. 387, which ended “debtor’s prisons” for failure to pay fines and clarified that people sentenced with enhancements prior to July 1, 2014, were eligible for parole. The bill also provided discretion to judges to deviate from the mandatory minimum sentences for non-violent habitual convictions. Furthermore, the bill created the Mississippi Sentencing Disparity Task Force for the purpose of studying and reporting on possible disparity in sentencing to promote the interest of uniform justice throughout Mississippi.

During its 2019 Regular Session, the Legislature enacted H.B. 1352, known as the Criminal Justice Reform Act. The bill’s primary focus was to rename drug courts, mental health courts, and veterans’ courts as “intervention courts,” to be under the oversight of the Administrative Office of Courts. Additionally, H.B. 1352 made some technical changes to the administration of intervention courts, such as requiring better data collection, and reconstituted the Drug Court Commission into the Intervention Court Advisory Commission.

During the 2020 Regular Session, the Legislature passed H.B. 851, which added two additional members to the Task Force: an advocate for offenders and families who have been directly affected by the criminal justice system (appointed by the Governor), and a member to be appointed by the Mississippi Association of Chiefs of Police.

During the 2021 Regular Session, the Legislature passed S.B. 2795, which expanded parole eligibility for certain violent crimes. Approximately 6,300 offenders either gained a parole eligibility date or received a reduced eligibility date under the new statute.

During the 2021 Regular Session, the Legislature passed H.B. 747, which authorized the Rankin County Sheriff’s Department to create a pilot work release program to help qualified inmates learn skills and make employment connections before release.

During the 2022 Regular Session, the Legislature passed H.B. 586, which authorized Harrison and Lee counties to develop similar pilot work release programs. Additionally, S.B. 2437 established a pilot work initiative program, limited to 25 participants, operating from the Central Mississippi Correctional Facility.

During the 2024 Regular Session, the Legislature passed S.B. 2445, which authorized the expansion of the work release program to include Hinds County; and authorized the expansion of the work initiative program to SMCI, MSP, and the Mississippi Correctional Institute for Women.

During the 2025 Regular Session, the Legislature passed S.B. 2392, which authorized regional commissions to establish Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics (CCBHCs). These clinics implement coordinate care with law enforcement, schools, hospitals, primary care providers, and veterans’ groups to improve outcomes, reduce recidivism, and address health disparities.

Mississippi Department of Corrections Status Report

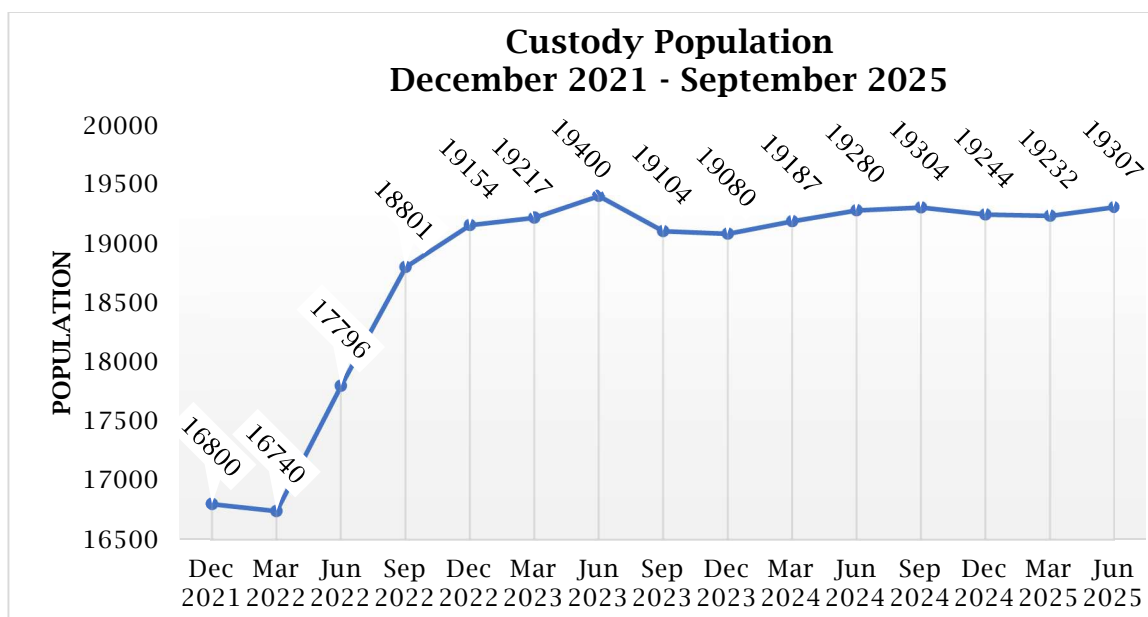
Data sources were provided by the Office of the State Public Defender, the Mississippi State Parole Board, and MDOC, which provided the following status report:

Summary

- The incarceration growth rate has significantly slowed since December 2022, with an average stable population of 19,216 over the past 21 months.
- There was a notable decline in admissions throughout 2023. In 2024, admissions have stabilized, with the first two quarters nearing expected levels. The overall average for the period is 1,755 admissions per quarter.
- Releases have remained steady over the past year.
- Overall, admissions increased by 5.5% from 2023-Qtr2 to 2024-Qtr2. Admissions for drug convictions increased by 8.1%, non-violent offenses increased by 10.7%, while violent crimes decreased by 2.8%.

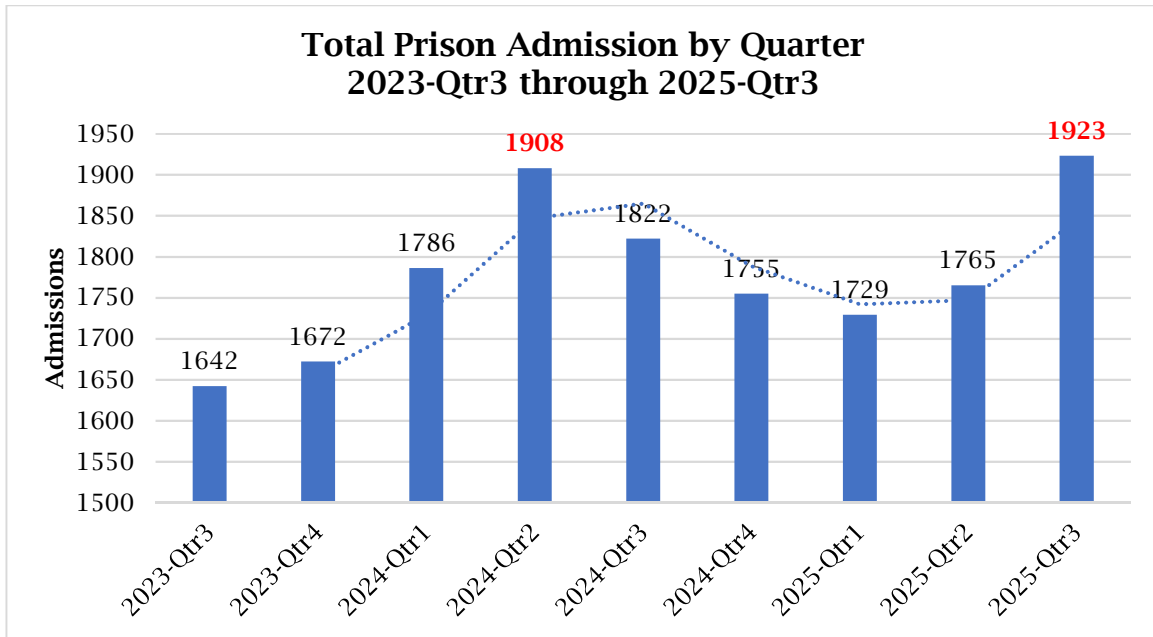
Review of Custody Population

Since December 2022, the incarceration growth rate has slowed considerably, with the population remaining stable over this period. The average population for the past 21 months is 19,280. The chart below shows the population changes from December 2021 to September 2025.



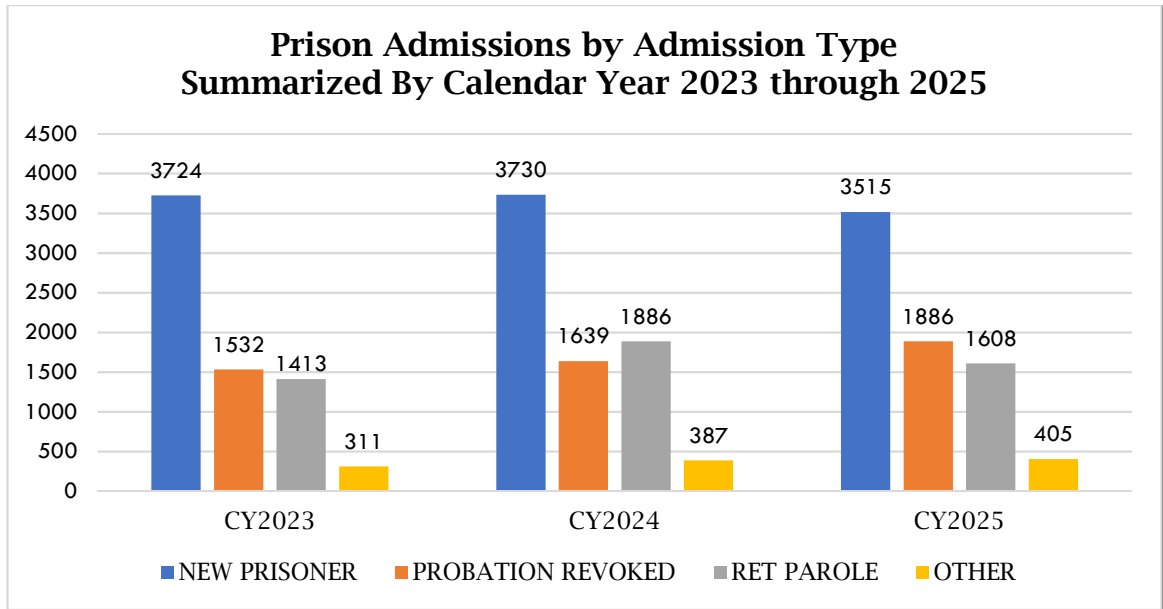
Review of Prison Admissions by Admissions Type

The chart on page 6 shows total admissions per quarter from 2023-Qtr3 to 2025-Qtr3. The overall average for this period is 1,778 admissions per quarter.



A more in-depth analysis of admissions by admission type shows a 6.1% reduction in new prisoner commitments over the past 12 months. This decrease is driven by a 1% reduction in new drug offenders, a 5.9% reduction in non-violent offenses, and a 9.6% reduction in violent/sex offenses. The growing admissions are due to probation revocations, which have surged by 15.1%, and parole revocations, which have increased by 6.8%. Both probation and parole revocations mainly involve drug-related and nonviolent offenses.

Admission Type	CY 2023	CY 2024	CY 2025	(%) Change CY 2023 - CY 2024	(%) Change CY 2024 - CY 2025
Overall Admissions	6980	7271	7414	4.2%	2.0%
Drug Offense	2339	2454	2564	4.9%	4.5%
Non-Violent Offense	2452	2717	2907	10.8%	7.0%
Violent/Sex Offense	2189	2100	1943	-4.1%	-7.5%
New Prisoner	3724	3730	3515	0.2%	-6.1%
Drug Offense	1062	1104	1093	4.0%	-1.0%
Non-Violent Offense	1256	1320	1242	5.1%	-5.9%
Violent/Sex Offense	1406	1306	1180	-7.1%	-9.6%
Probation Revocation	1532	1639	1886	7.0%	15.1%
Drug Offense	558	569	635	2.0%	11.6%
Non-Violent Offense	572	662	834	15.7%	26.0%
Violent/Sex Offense	402	408	417	1.5%	2.2%
Return Parole	1413	1505	1608	6.5%	6.8%
Drug Offense	609	655	702	7.6%	7.2%
Non-Violent Offense	495	551	627	11.3%	13.8%
Violent/Sex Offense	309	299	279	-3.2%	-6.7%

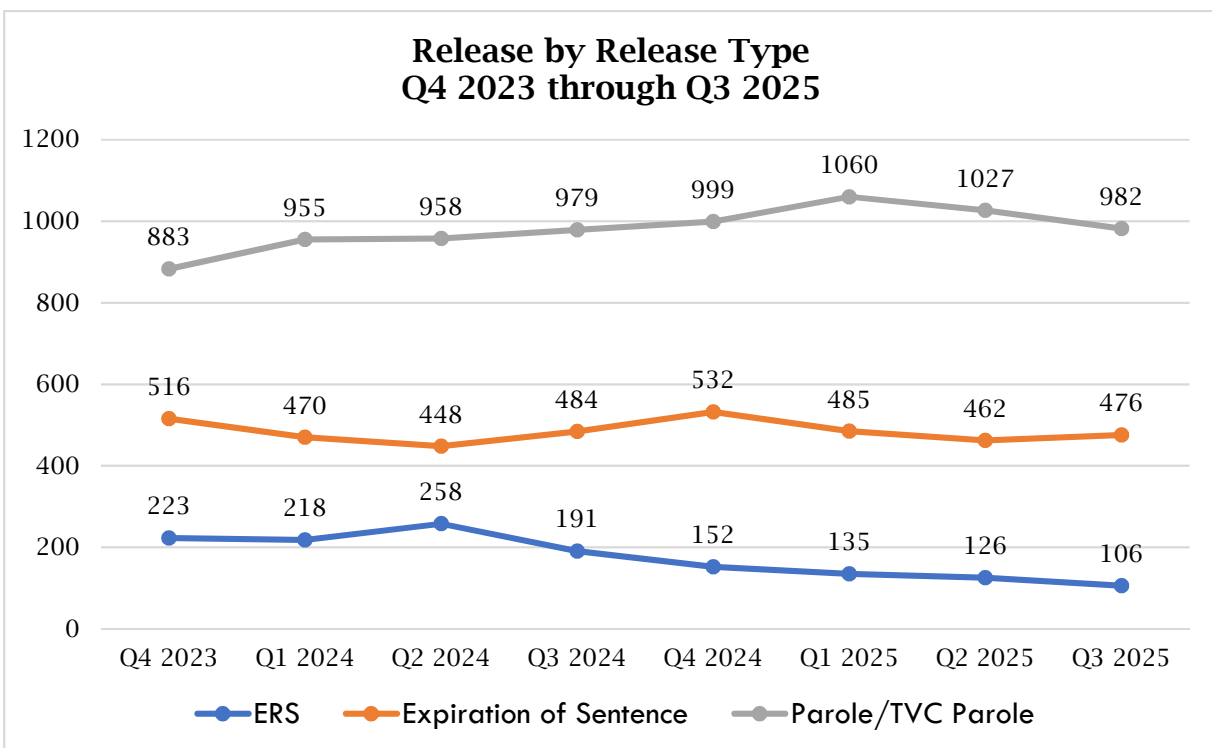


Review of Admissions by Offense Type

There has been a 2.0% overall increase in admissions by offense type when comparing CY 2024 to CY 2025. Currently, drug convictions make up 34.6% of all admissions, non-violent convictions make up 39.2%, and violent offenses 26.2%. Compared to CY 2024, drug admissions are up by 4.5%, non-violent admissions have increased by 7.0%, and violent admissions have decreased by 7.5%.

Review of Releases by Release Type

The following chart shows that releases have remained steady over the past year. The average number of releases per quarter by major release type is: Earned release supervision (ERS) - 176; Expiration of Sentence - 484; and parole - 980.



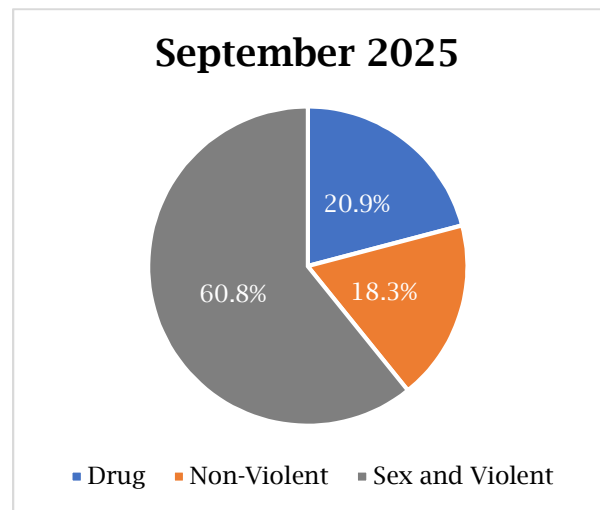
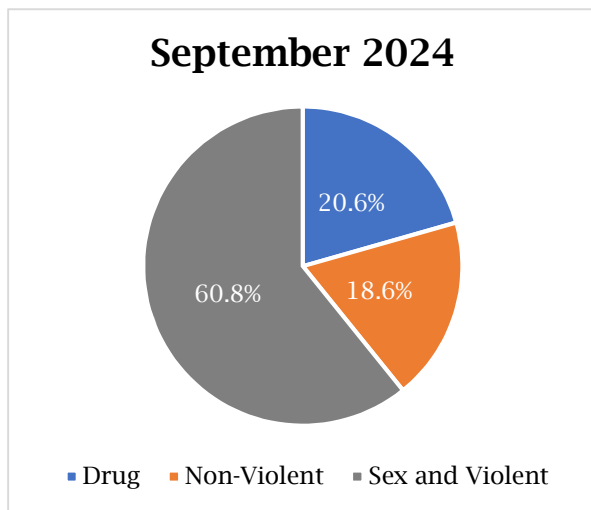
Release Type	Q4 2024	Q1 2024	Q2 2024	Q3 2024	Q4 2025	Q1 2025	Q2 2025	Q3 2025
ERS	223	218	258	191	152	135	126	106
Expiration/Probation	516	470	448	484	532	485	462	476
Parole/TVC Parole	883	955	958	979	999	1060	1027	982
Other	42	50	68	58	51	47	48	51
Total	1,664	1,693	1,732	1,712	1,734	1,727	1,663	1,615

The inmate population is largely stable but has crept up over the past year. Parole/TVC Parole releases have slightly increased, while Expiration of Sentence and Probation releases have remained stable. ERS releases have decreased by a substantial amount, and revocations of parole and probation are driving the slow increase in population.

Custody population by offense type

In comparing the incarcerated population from September 2024 to September 2025 by offense type, it remains evident that sex offenders and violent offenders continue to make up the majority of the custody population. During the last report, there was a slight decrease in drug offenders, but those numbers have rebounded since then. Non-violent offenders have fallen marginally since September 2024.

The percentage of incarceration for drug offenses and other non-violent offenses make up approximately 39% of the custody population. Correspondingly, sex offenders and violent offenders make up 61% of the incarcerated population.



Length of Sentence for New Commitments

Tracking the length of sentence for new commitments to incarceration is one of the measures required by House Bill 585. The data indicates that the average term of sentence imposed by offense type for new commitments has remained consistent.

Offense Type	2023-Qtr4	2024-Qtr1	2024-Qtr2	2024-Qtr3	2024-Qtr4	2025-Qtr1	2025-Qtr2	2025-Qtr3
Drug	80.8	89.3	96.0	96.6	92.5	93.4	87.5	95.0
Non-Violent	57.3	52.3	60.1	52.4	52.5	56.9	59.1	59.0
Violent	155.8	172.8	164.8	182.5	174.1	164.5	168.5	170.2
Overall Average	98.4	104.5	110.4	108.2	109.4	105.7	105.3	107.0

Percent of time served for new court commitments

As reflected in the chart that follows, release practices remain similar. Drug offenders serve about 44% of their sentence, non-violent offenders about 50%, violent offenders about 58%, and sex offenders about 96%. A noteworthy change was in the percentage of the term served by those released in this quarter (Q3 2025). Drug offenders served 7.3% less time compared to individuals released in the fourth quarter of 2023. Other non-violent released served .5% more, sex offenders served 1.7% less, and violent offenders served 7.1% less.

Period and Offense Type	Average Term of Sentence ¹	Average Term Served	Percent Term Served
2023-Qtr4	89.5	46.3	54.62%
Drug	78.6	29.2	45.95%
Non-Violent	61.7	26	49.53%
Sex	98.8	93.4	98.12%
Violent	143.1	86.6	62.15%
2024-Qtr1	86.6	46	55.09%
Drug	81.1	32.9	49.95%
Non-Violent	52.5	23.7	51.20%
Sex	107.2	94.6	93.90%
Violent	135.4	78.7	59.91%
2024-Qtr2	89.1	46.6	53.96%
Drug	88.3	30.9	42.16%
Non-Violent	51.2	22.4	50.50%
Sex	135.8	126.4	95.83%
Violent	126.2	73.8	61.21%
2024-Qtr3	92.9	47.1	52.68%
Drug	88.5	29	40.92%
Non-Violent	57.6	23.6	47.27%
Sex	133.9	126.4	96.51%
Violent	132.4	73.8	59.15%
2024-Qtr4	87.1	43.9	53.55%
Drug	71.9	26.4	45.10%
Non-Violent	57.3	23.2	49.02%
Sex	92.7	88.7	96.09%
Violent	142.8	80.4	58.73%
2025-Qtr1	87.0	44.5	54.10%
Drug	74.7	27.7	45.28%
Non-Violent	55.8	23.5	50.64%
Sex	120.5	108.2	92.72%
Violent	139.7	77.9	58.58%

2025-Qtr2	90.5	45.8	52.70%
Drug	76.8	28.8	43.31%
Non-Violent	59.7	26.1	50.28%
Sex	132.6	103.8	86.31%
Violent	138.6	77.9	58.19%
2025-Qtr3	95.2	49.2	54.05%
Drug	91.9	32.8	42.26%
Non-Violent	57.5	25.4	49.80%
Sex	114.6	105.4	96.43%
Violent	145.7	80.7	57.73%

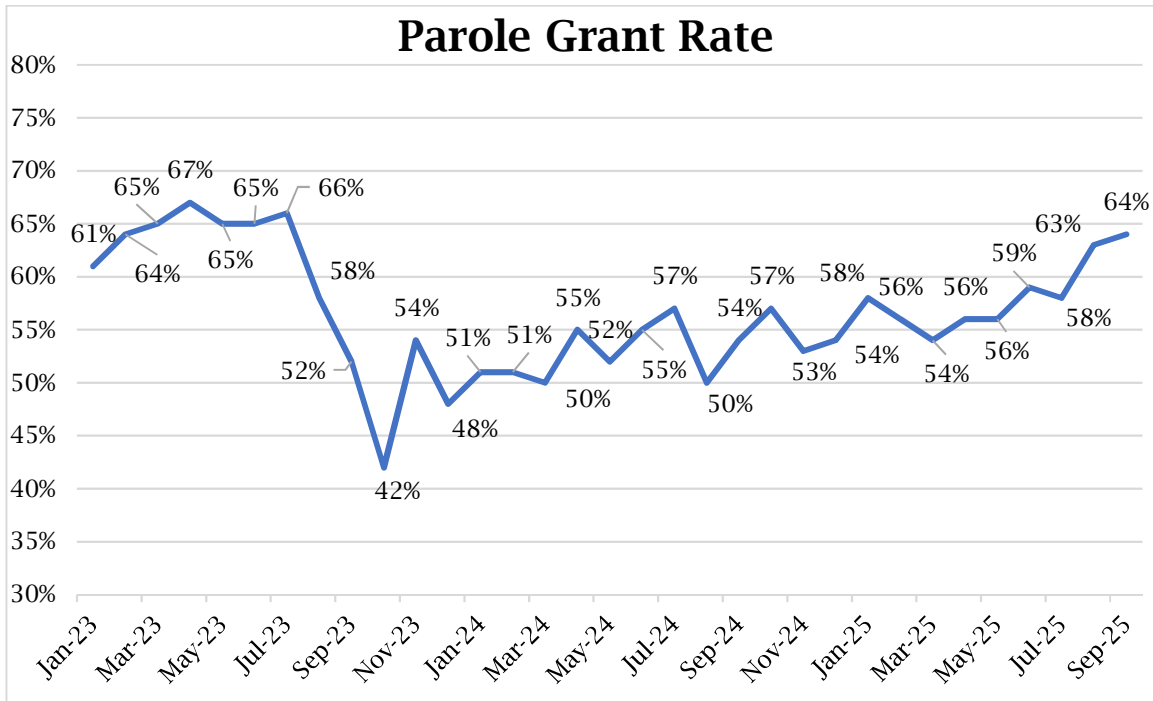
¹Term of Sentence and Term Served are in months.

Parole Board Grant Rate

The parole grant rate has varied over the past three years. The overall grant rate for calendar year 2023 was 56.75%, followed by a decrease to 51.08% in 2024. For 2025 year-to-date, the average rate has increased to 58.22%, reflecting a recent upward trend.

In 2023, the monthly grant rates ranged from a high of 67% in April to a low of 42% in October, with the second half of the year showing a marked decline. In 2024, rates remained below 55% for most months, averaging around 51% for the year. In 2025, rates have steadily increased, including reaching 64.0% in September, which is the highest level observed in nearly two years.

Overall, the data indicates stabilization followed by a gradual improvement in grant rates through 2025.



Recidivism Statistics for S.B. 2795: July 1, 2021, through September 30, 2024

Recidivism for parolees remains largely unchanged compared to previous years, holding at 24.6% overall. Over half of all recidivism occurs within 12 months of release, with non-violent parolees recidivating at a rate of 14.6% within 12 months, while violent parolees recidivate at a slightly lower rate of 12.8%. These numbers roughly equalize at the 12-24-month category, but by 24-36 months violent parolees recidivate at a rate of 3.8% while non-violent parolees recidivate at a rate of 2.3%.

S.B. 2795 violent offenders granted parole or parole pending that were subsequently released July 1, 2021, through September 30, 2025

Release Type	Released	Returned	Within 12 Months	12-24 Months	24-36 Months
Parole	2,773	679	367	207	105
Probation	215	37	18	13	6
ERS	101	23	10	8	5
Medical Release	1	0	0	0	0
Total Released	3,090	739	395	228	116
Recidivism (%)	N/A	23.9%	12.8%	7.4%	3.8%

Non-Violent granted parole or parole pending that were subsequently released from custody July 1, 2021, through September 30, 2025

Release Type	Released	Returned	Within 12 Months	12-24 Months	24-36 Months
Parole	8,307	2101	1243	665	193
Probation	293	45	17	20	9
ERS	91	11	8	3	0
House Arrest	2	0	0	0	0
Total Released	3,090	739	395	228	116
Recidivism (%)	N/A	24.8%	14.6%	7.9%	2.3%

Issues Discussed During the 2025 Term

During the 2025 term, the Oversight Task Force reviewed and discussed issues relating to MDOC facilities and operations, vocational and educational programming, post-release employment, work release, transitional housing, and legal and policy issues affecting individuals transitioning from incarceration to the community.

MDOC Facilities and Operations

The Task Force discussed conditions and operations at facilities operated by the Mississippi Department of Corrections (MDOC), including operational changes at the Mississippi State Penitentiary at Parchman. Members discussed accountability measures implemented by MDOC, including the use of QR-code scanning technology to document officer rounds and monitor compliance with cell-check requirements.

Members also discussed facility maintenance needs, the use of incentive pay for inmate teachers, and recent personnel changes within MDOC. In addition, members discussed MDOC's efforts related to information

technology modernization, including plans to submit a bid award for a new inmate booking system to the Mississippi Department of Information Technology Services Board for approval.

The Task Force further discussed healthcare-related practices, including MDOC's plans to provide biannual medical checkups for inmates and to incorporate medical care considerations into staff training and institutional security practices.

Vocational and Educational Programming

Members discussed MDOC's Pathway to Success program, a structured, faith-based, and vocationally focused reentry initiative intended to prepare incarcerated individuals for reintegration into the community through employment readiness. The program integrates spiritual development, vocational training, life-skills education, and reentry preparation into a single model and is designed for individuals within six to eight months of their earned release supervision or flat-time release date. The primary male program site is located at the Central Mississippi Correctional Facility, with plans to expand the program to the Mississippi Correctional Institution for Women and to launch a statewide model beginning February 1, 2026.

Members discussed the program's structured progression from screening and placement into vocational tracks through training, certification, and reentry preparation. Program components discussed included aptitude testing and interviews, substance screening and disciplinary review, assignment to vocational tracks aligned with labor-market needs, ongoing mentoring and case management, and completion of industry-recognized certifications.

In addition, the Task Force discussed broader vocational and educational programming offered at community work centers and efforts to coordinate between Institutions and Community Corrections to identify individuals who may require additional training prior to release. Members discussed employment readiness and continuity of services as components of reentry planning that may affect long-term stability and reduce the likelihood of reoffending.

Post-Release Employment

The Task Force discussed post-release employment as a component of successful reentry and a factor associated with reduced recidivism. Members discussed how limited work history, lack of marketable skills, and barriers to credentialing may affect individuals' ability to secure and maintain employment following release. Members further discussed how employment barriers are often interrelated with other reentry challenges, including housing instability, supervision requirements, and unresolved legal barriers, and how these overlapping factors may increase the risk of noncompliance and return to custody.

Members also discussed MDOC's use of reentry documentation packages, which may include résumés, certifications, training records, and evaluation summaries, to support coordination with the Probation and Parole Department and potential employers prior to release. Members discussed how advanced coordination with employers and community partners may help reduce gaps between release and employment and support continuity during the transition from incarceration to community supervision.

Work Release

The Task Force discussed work release programs administered by MDOC and the Rankin County Sheriff's Department. Members discussed participation by municipal and private-sector employers, as well as the costs associated with operating work release programs. The Rankin County Sheriff's Department has not submitted work release program data to PEER at six-month intervals as required by MISS. CODE ANN. § 47-5-473.

Members also discussed how differences in statutory authority, wage-deduction requirements, and administrative structure between state- and county-administered programs may affect participation levels, employer engagement, and the overall scalability of work release as a reentry tool. The Task Force discussed how these factors may influence the ability of work release programs to support employment continuity and reduce recidivism for eligible participants.

Transitional Housing

During the 2024 and 2025 terms, the Task Force repeatedly discussed the availability and role of transitional housing for individuals released from MDOC custody. Members discussed information indicating that housing instability following release may affect reentry outcomes and is associated with increased risk of recidivism. Members also discussed barriers faced by some returning individuals, including limited life skills, lack of stable support networks, and unmet behavioral health needs, which may complicate successful reintegration into the community.

Members discussed how unresolved mental health and substance use issues may affect access to supportive services and employment and how the absence of stable housing can undermine compliance with supervision conditions. The Task Force discussed potential fiscal and public safety implications associated with repeated cycles of homelessness, unemployment, and reincarceration.

The Task Force reviewed a transitional housing proposal presented by the Magnolia Correctional Industries (MAGCOR), which outlined a pilot program based on a hub-and-spoke model. The proposal contemplated acquiring and rehabilitating a centrally located hub site, along with housing units in five counties, with each county operating a local “homecoming hub” in collaboration with local service providers and community partners.

Members discussed proposal components that included the development and codification of a standardized training curriculum for participating organizations, addressing areas such as trauma-informed care, restorative justice principles, compliance standards, and workforce integration. Members also discussed the creation of an advisory board composed of representatives from relevant state agencies, service providers, employers, housing advocates, and individuals with lived experience to provide oversight, policy guidance, and ongoing program review.

The Task Force further discussed accountability considerations, including the collection of shared metrics related to housing stability, employment, recidivism, and family outcomes, as well as potential funding needs and implementation timelines associated with a multi-county pilot program. Members also reviewed estimated cost categories associated with the proposal, with total estimated startup costs of approximately \$5.1 million.

Category	Estimated Cost
Hub Setup (Lease, Renovation, Tech)	\$3.1M
Training Curriculum Development & Certification	\$250K
Advisory Board Formation & Operations	\$250K
Five-County Pilot House Acquisition & Rehab	\$1.0M
Program Launch & Outreach	\$500K
Total Request	\$5.1M

Legal and Policy Issues

During the 2025 term, the Task Force discussed legal and policy issues affecting individuals transitioning from incarceration to the community, including supervision practices, statutory classifications of offenses, and collateral consequences associated with criminal convictions. Members discussed how legal barriers and statutory requirements may affect reentry outcomes and, in some cases, contribute to challenges in securing employment, housing, and community stability.

Members discussed MDOC’s efforts to support individuals during the transition from incarceration to community supervision, including supervision considerations under earned release supervision (ERS). Members discussed how supervision requirements and compliance conditions may affect individuals’ ability to maintain employment and stability following release.

The Task Force discussed statutory distinctions between burglaries of occupied and unoccupied dwellings, as well as proposals related to reclassifying certain offenses, including simple possession of controlled substances. Members discussed how offense classification may affect sentencing, parole eligibility, and access to reentry opportunities and services.

Members also discussed statutory expungement eligibility requirements, including the five-year waiting period following completion of a criminal sentence. The Task Force discussed whether extended waiting periods may affect individuals' ability to obtain employment, occupational licensure, and housing, and how changes to expungement timelines could influence reentry outcomes and the likelihood of reoffending.

Recommendations

1. The Legislature should appropriate \$2 million to MDOC to partner with MAGCOR to establish up to four pilot transitional housing locations. MDOC should determine the locations based on demonstrated need and reentry demand.
2. The Legislature should amend MISS. CODE ANN. § 99-19-71(2) to reduce the waiting period for expungement eligibility from five years to three years following completion of sentence, including payment of all fines, fees, and restitution.

Adoption

After due consideration, the Oversight Task Force adopts this report on January 16, 2026, and directs its chair to sign and deliver copies of the report to the Legislature, the Governor, and the Chief Justice.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Prentiss Harrell", written in black ink. The signature is positioned above a solid black horizontal line.

Prentiss G. Harrell, Circuit Judge, Chair