

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Criminal Justice Estimating Conference

December 15, 2023

The Criminal Justice Estimating Conference convened December 15, 2023, to revise the forecast of prison admissions and population. During the five months monitored since the July 2023 Conference, admissions totaled 11,453 which was -265 (-2.3 percent) below the estimate. An examination of upstream variables, such as arrests and guilty dispositions, indicates that they are following trends that are similar to those seen in the July 2023 Conference. Additionally, monthly admissions have not followed a clear trend, fluctuating above and below the forecasted estimate depending on what month is observed, and nearly matching the cumulative estimate in October.

After considering these trends, the Conference determined that the -0.5 percent error for the forecasted population was mostly attributed to statistical noise in admissions, though it is also partially a product of recent changes in releases, which the current forecast attempts to correct. Given this understanding, the adopted forecast uses July's forecasted admissions, adjusted for actuals and with a slight shift of December admissions into the January total. The end result is minor changes to the prison population forecast adopted in July 2023. The annual percentage changes are similar to those assumed by the prior conference.

Year	Admissions	Releases	End of year pop	End of year over (under) August 2022 CJEC	End of year percent change
FY 23-24	28,811	25,745	88,240	-445	3.6%
FY 24-25	28,420	26,862	89,798	-160	1.8%
FY 25-26	28,515	27,438	90,875	-13	1.2%
FY 26-27	28,959	27,627	92,207	-253	1.5%
FY 27-28	29,041	28,024	93,224	-109	1.1%
FY 28-29	29,089	28,254	94,059	-256	0.9%