REPORT TO THE LEGISLATURE
Pursuant to P.A. 121 of 2024
Article 2, Section 504
Parole Board Decisions Report – 3rd Qtr.

Section 504: *The department shall issue quarterly reports for the previous 4 quarters detailing outcomes of prisoners who have been reviewed for parole. The report shall include all of the following:*

a) How many prisoners in each quarter were reviewed.
b) How many prisoners were granted parole.
c) How many prisoners were denied parole.
d) How many parole decisions were deferred.
e) The distribution of the total number of prisoners reviewed during that quarter grouped by whether the prisoners had been interviewed for the first, second, third, fourth, fifth, sixth, or more than sixth time.
f) The number of paroles granted, denied, or deferred for each of the parole guideline scores of low, average, and high.
g) The reason for denying or deferring parole.

The Michigan Parole Board is the only paroling authority for felony offenders committed to the jurisdiction of the Michigan Department of Corrections. That Parole Board gains jurisdiction of a case when a prisoner serving a non-life sentence has served his or her minimum sentence, less any good time or disciplinary credits the prisoner may have earned.

The Parole Board is divided into three member panels. The decision whether to grant or deny parole is determined by majority vote of a Parole Board panel. Cases involving a life sentence must be decided by a majority vote of the full Parole Board. If an offender is denied parole, a date is selected for the next Parole Board review.

The data in this report will follow its own respective date ranges to allow for the settling of data into the system and to ensure accurate analysis of the data. Below is how we have chosen to divide each report:

- January report: September – November
- April report: December – February
- July report: March – May
- October report: June – August

Table 1 breaks down the total number of hearings that have been granted parole, denied parole and deferred. It also gives the distribution of the number of hearings grouped by whether the prisoners had been interviewed for the first, second, third, fourth, fifth, sixth or more than sixth time.

Table 1 – Hearing Number by Decision Type

		Hearing							Total
		1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	More than 6th	
Jun '24 - Aug '24	Grant	1,271	347	124	53	16	9	20	1,840
	Deny	364	249	109	84	36	30	84	956
	Defer	936	85	49	16	11	7	22	1,126
	Total	**2,571**	**681**	**282**	**153**	**63**	**46**	**126**	**3,922**
Sep '24 - Nov '24	Grant	1,199	390	123	54	21	11	15	1,813
	Deny	348	258	137	84	46	40	97	1,010
	Defer	882	80	58	31	14	11	21	1,097
	Total	**2,429**	**728**	**318**	**169**	**81**	**62**	**133**	**3,920**
Dec '24 - Feb '25	Grant	1,105	309	118	39	22	9	31	1,633
	Deny	257	206	129	77	38	27	68	802
	Defer	764	87	49	23	8	8	23	962
	Total	**2,126**	**602**	**296**	**139**	**68**	**44**	**122**	**3,397**
Mar '25 - May '25	Grant	1,224	365	132	67	32	9	32	1,861
	Deny	336	272	163	74	58	22	96	1,021
	Defer	1,002	95	32	33	14	11	16	1,203
	Total	**2,562**	**732**	**327**	**174**	**104**	**42**	**144**	**4,085**
Total	Grant	4,799	1,411	497	213	91	38	98	7,147
	Deny	1,305	985	538	319	178	119	345	3,789
	Defer	3,584	347	188	103	47	37	82	4,388
	Total	**9,688**	**2,743**	**1,223**	**635**	**316**	**194**	**525**	**15,324**

The parole guidelines score is a numerical scoring system designed to assist in applying objective criteria to any decision made by the Parole Board. Information used in the calculation of the parole guideline score includes the prisoner's current offense, the prior criminal record, institutional conduct and program performance, age, mental health status and statistical risk.

Table 2 shows the number of paroles granted, denied or deferred for each of the parole guideline scores of low, middle and high.

Table 2 – Number of Paroles Granted, Denied or Deferred by Parole Guideline Description

		Parole Guideline (PG) Description			Total
		Low	Average	High	
Jun '24 - Aug '24	Grant	29	843	885	1,757
	Deny	247	554	154	955
	Defer	73	667	381	1,121
	Total	**349**	**2,064**	**1,420**	**3,833**
Sep '24 - Nov '24	Grant	47	858	875	1,780
	Deny	268	570	172	1,010
	Defer	90	665	335	1,090
	Total	**405**	**2,093**	**1,382**	**3,880**
Dec '24 - Feb '25	Grant	46	714	786	1,546
	Deny	243	449	110	802
	Defer	68	547	329	944
	Total	**357**	**1,710**	**1,225**	**3,292**
Mar '25 - May '25	Grant	58	838	881	1,777
	Deny	274	599	147	1,020
	Defer	68	649	468	1,185
	Total	**400**	**2,086**	**1,496**	**3,982**
Total	Grant	180	3,253	3,427	6,860
	Deny	1,032	2,172	583	3,787
	Defer	299	2,528	1,513	4,340
	Total	**1,511**	**7,953**	**5,523**	**14,987**
SAI Grants					259
No Parole Guideline Score					78
Total					**15,324**

Table 3 shows the typical reasons for denying or deferring parole.

Table 3 – Decision Type by Reason

Reasons for Denying or Deferring	Decision Type				Total	%
	Deny	%	Defer	%		
Current Therapy or Psychological Report	0	0.00%	2,968	67.64%	2,968	36.30%
Further Discussion	0	0.00%	585	13.33%	585	7.16%
Investigation	0	0.00%	768	17.50%	768	9.39%
Lack of Effort	2	0.05%	0	0.00%	2	0.02%
Risk to Community	3,786	99.95%	0	0.00%	3,786	46.31%
Satisfactory Placement	0	0.00%	67	1.53%	67	0.82%
Total	**3,788**	**100%**	**4,388**	**100%**	**8,176**	**100%**