

**REPORT TO THE LEGISLATURE**  
**Pursuant to P.A. 107 of 2017**  
**Section 422**  
**Parole Board Decisions Report – October 2018**

**Section 422:** On a quarterly basis, the department shall issue a report to the senate and house appropriations subcommittees on corrections, the senate and house fiscal agencies, the legislative corrections ombudsman, and the state budget office, for the previous 4 quarters detailing the 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	
Sept '17 - Nov '17	Grant	1,518	456	182	70	32	22	60	2,340
	Deny	368	226	131	73	36	23	53	910
	Defer	816	80	42	24	12	11	23	1,008
	<b>Total</b>	<b>2,702</b>	<b>762</b>	<b>355</b>	<b>167</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>136</b>	<b>4,258</b>
Dec '17 - Feb '18	Grant	1,670	395	182	75	40	17	35	2,414
	Deny	313	202	120	59	36	30	55	815
	Defer	806	90	30	19	9	5	22	981
	<b>Total</b>	<b>2,789</b>	<b>687</b>	<b>332</b>	<b>153</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>4,210</b>
Mar '18 - May '18	Grant	1,605	513	220	69	32	23	42	2,504
	Deny	381	273	127	72	55	22	59	989
	Defer	912	111	37	26	13	7	22	1,128
	<b>Total</b>	<b>2,898</b>	<b>897</b>	<b>384</b>	<b>167</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>123</b>	<b>4,621</b>
Jun '18 - Aug '18	Grant	1,634	436	181	76	36	20	30	2,413
	Deny	379	296	135	72	46	25	58	1,011
	Defer	854	95	37	31	19	10	31	1,077
	<b>Total</b>	<b>2,867</b>	<b>827</b>	<b>353</b>	<b>179</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>119</b>	<b>4,501</b>
Total	Grant	6,427	1,800	765	290	140	82	167	9,671
	Deny	1,441	997	513	276	173	100	225	3,725
	Defer	3,388	376	146	100	53	33	98	4,194
	<b>Total</b>	<b>11,256</b>	<b>3,173</b>	<b>1,424</b>	<b>666</b>	<b>366</b>	<b>215</b>	<b>490</b>	<b>17,590</b>

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	
Sept '17 - Nov '17	Grant	56	909	1,239	2,204
	Deny	185	447	273	905
	Defer	37	468	470	975
	<b>Total</b>	<b>278</b>	<b>1,824</b>	<b>1,982</b>	<b>4,084</b>
Dec '17 - Feb '18	Grant	51	908	1,324	2,283
	Deny	173	409	231	813
	Defer	37	442	477	956
	<b>Total</b>	<b>261</b>	<b>1,759</b>	<b>2,032</b>	<b>4,052</b>
Mar '18 - May '18	Grant	79	975	1,307	2,361
	Deny	191	520	277	988
	Defer	49	550	512	1,111
	<b>Total</b>	<b>319</b>	<b>2,045</b>	<b>2,096</b>	<b>4,460</b>
Jun '18 - Aug '18	Grant	62	922	1,297	2,281
	Deny	188	514	307	1,009
	Defer	34	538	482	1,054
	<b>Total</b>	<b>284</b>	<b>1,974</b>	<b>2,086</b>	<b>4,344</b>
Total	Grant	248	3,714	5,167	9,129
	Deny	737	1,890	1,088	3,715
	Defer	157	1,998	1,941	4,096
	<b>Total</b>	<b>1,142</b>	<b>7,602</b>	<b>8,196</b>	<b>16,940</b>
SAI Grants					454
No Parole Guideline Score					196
<b>Total</b>					<b>17,590</b>

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%	3,012	71.82%	3,012	38.04%
Further Demonstration	6	0.16%	0	0.00%	6	0.08%
Further Discussion	0	0.00%	561	13.38%	561	7.08%
Insufficient Information	0	0.00%	1	0.02%	1	0.01%
Investigation	0	0.00%	552	13.16%	552	6.97%
Regular Parole	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%
Risk to Community	3,719	99.84%	0	0.00%	3,719	46.96%
Satisfactory Placement	0	0.00%	68	1.62%	68	0.86%
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,725</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>4,194</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>7,919</b>	<b>100.00%</b>