

**REPORT TO THE LEGISLATURE**  
**Pursuant to P.A. 207 of 2018**  
**Article V, Section 422**  
**Parole Board Decisions Report – April 2019**

**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	
Mar '18 - May '18	Grant	1,605	515	218	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>899</b>	<b>382</b>	<b>167</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>123</b>	<b>4,621</b>
Jun '18 - Aug '18	Grant	1,634	438	182	77	36	22	31	2,420
	Deny	380	296	136	72	46	25	58	1,013
	Defer	854	95	37	31	19	10	32	1,078
	<b>Total</b>	<b>2,868</b>	<b>829</b>	<b>355</b>	<b>180</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>121</b>	<b>4,511</b>
Sept '18 - Nov '18	Grant	1,329	358	135	48	36	14	22	1,942
	Deny	362	208	101	53	44	19	39	826
	Defer	837	77	41	33	18	5	16	1,027
	<b>Total</b>	<b>2,528</b>	<b>643</b>	<b>277</b>	<b>134</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>3,795</b>
Dec '18 - Feb '19	Grant	1,405	372	112	66	27	10	24	2,016
	Deny	343	195	93	58	31	16	45	781
	Defer	919	79	39	16	15	8	19	1,095
	<b>Total</b>	<b>2,667</b>	<b>646</b>	<b>244</b>	<b>140</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>3,892</b>
Total	Grant	5,973	1,683	647	260	131	69	119	8,882
	Deny	1,466	972	457	255	176	82	201	3,609
	Defer	3,522	362	154	106	65	30	89	4,328
	<b>Total</b>	<b>10,961</b>	<b>3,017</b>	<b>1,258</b>	<b>621</b>	<b>372</b>	<b>181</b>	<b>409</b>	<b>16,819</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	
Mar '18 - May '18	Grant	79	974	1,303	2,356
	Deny	192	519	278	989
	Defer	49	549	512	1,110
	<b>Total</b>	<b>320</b>	<b>2,042</b>	<b>2,093</b>	<b>4,455</b>
Jun '18 - Aug '18	Grant	62	926	1,297	2,285
	Deny	189	518	301	1,008
	Defer	35	535	488	1,058
	<b>Total</b>	<b>286</b>	<b>1,979</b>	<b>2,086</b>	<b>4,351</b>
Sept '18 - Nov '18	Grant	32	677	1,106	1,815
	Deny	113	417	294	824
	Defer	26	508	475	1,009
	<b>Total</b>	<b>171</b>	<b>1,602</b>	<b>1,875</b>	<b>3,648</b>
Dec '18 - Feb '19	Grant	27	775	1,109	1,911
	Deny	177	358	243	778
	Defer	33	517	510	1,060
	<b>Total</b>	<b>237</b>	<b>1,650</b>	<b>1,862</b>	<b>3,749</b>
Total	Grant	200	3,352	4,815	8,367
	Deny	671	1,812	1,116	3,599
	Defer	143	2,109	1,985	4,237
	<b>Total</b>	<b>1,014</b>	<b>7,273</b>	<b>7,916</b>	<b>16,203</b>
SAI Grants					439
No Parole Guideline Score					177
<b>Total</b>					<b>16,819</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%	3,347	77.33%	3,347	42.17%
Further Demonstration	9	0.25%	0	0.00%	9	0.11%
Further Discussion	0	0.00%	392	9.06%	392	4.94%
Insufficient Information	0	0.00%	1	0.02%	1	0.01%
Investigation	0	0.00%	523	12.08%	523	6.59%
Risk to Community	3,600	99.75%	0	0.00%	3,600	45.36%
Satisfactory Placement	0	0.00%	65	1.50%	65	0.82%
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,609</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>4,328</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>7,937</b>	<b>100.00%</b>