

**REPORT TO THE LEGISLATURE**  
**Pursuant to P.A. 87 of 2021**  
**Section 422**  
**Parole Board Decisions Report – January 2022**

*Section 422: On a quarterly basis, the department shall provide the senate and house appropriations subcommittees on corrections, the senate and house fiscal agencies, and 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	
Dec '20 - Feb '21	Grant	1,094	256	111	47	24	12	20	1,564
	Deny	405	240	103	57	45	31	64	945
	Defer	550	53	25	21	14	13	17	693
	<b>Total</b>	<b>2,049</b>	<b>549</b>	<b>239</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>3,202</b>
Mar '21 - May '21	Grant	930	244	90	36	17	10	19	1,346
	Deny	336	173	66	56	30	15	32	708
	Defer	1,006	51	36	9	15	7	15	1,139
	<b>Total</b>	<b>2,272</b>	<b>468</b>	<b>192</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>3,193</b>
Jun '21 - Aug '21	Grant	913	257	112	28	18	9	19	1,356
	Deny	236	138	70	47	39	26	42	598
	Defer	1,289	50	16	17	5	3	15	1,395
	<b>Total</b>	<b>2,438</b>	<b>445</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>3,349</b>
Sep '21 - Nov '21	Grant	1,048	359	89	36	16	8	9	1,565
	Deny	291	162	94	64	40	23	48	722
	Defer	1,125	83	30	18	15	8	11	1,290
	<b>Total</b>	<b>2,464</b>	<b>604</b>	<b>213</b>	<b>118</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>3,577</b>
Total	Grant	3,985	1,116	402	147	75	39	67	5,831
	Deny	1,268	713	333	224	154	95	186	2,973
	Defer	3,970	237	107	65	49	31	58	4,517
	<b>Total</b>	<b>9,223</b>	<b>2,066</b>	<b>842</b>	<b>436</b>	<b>278</b>	<b>165</b>	<b>311</b>	<b>13,321</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	
Dec '20 - Feb '21	Grant	23	655	841	1,519
	Deny	173	507	252	932
	Defer	40	346	296	682
	<b>Total</b>	<b>236</b>	<b>1,508</b>	<b>1,389</b>	<b>3,133</b>
Mar '21 - May '21	Grant	37	560	697	1,294
	Deny	134	388	178	700
	Defer	41	527	543	1,111
	<b>Total</b>	<b>212</b>	<b>1,475</b>	<b>1,418</b>	<b>3,105</b>
Jun '21 - Aug '21	Grant	23	512	750	1,285
	Deny	122	334	139	595
	Defer	31	700	628	1,359
	<b>Total</b>	<b>176</b>	<b>1,546</b>	<b>1,517</b>	<b>3,239</b>
Sep '21 - Nov '21	Grant	31	682	797	1,510
	Deny	172	411	139	722
	Defer	41	649	567	1,257
	<b>Total</b>	<b>244</b>	<b>1,742</b>	<b>1,503</b>	<b>3,489</b>
Total	Grant	114	2,409	3,085	5,608
	Deny	601	1,640	708	2,949
	Defer	153	2,222	2,034	4,409
	<b>Total</b>	<b>868</b>	<b>6,271</b>	<b>5,827</b>	<b>12,966</b>
SAI Grants					171
No Parole Guideline Score					184
<b>Total</b>					<b>13,321</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%	3,370	74.61%	3,370	44.99%
Further Discussion	0	0.00%	770	17.05%	770	10.28%
Investigation	0	0.00%	351	7.77%	351	4.69%
Risk to Community	2,973	100.00%	0	0.00%	2,973	39.69%
Satisfactory Placement	0	0.00%	26	0.58%	26	0.35%
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,973</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>4,517</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>7,490</b>	<b>100.00%</b>