

**REPORT TO THE LEGISLATURE**  
**Pursuant to P.A. 166 of 2022**  
**Section 506**  
**Parole Board Decisions Report – January 2023**

***Section 506:** 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	
Dec '21 - Feb '22	Grant	867	279	94	27	16	8	18	1,309
	Deny	280	189	96	52	35	37	57	746
	Defer	945	60	26	11	13	6	8	1,069
	<b>Total</b>	<b>2,092</b>	<b>528</b>	<b>216</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>3,124</b>
Mar '22 - May '22	Grant	1,119	296	119	37	17	12	11	1,611
	Deny	321	212	102	81	44	31	63	854
	Defer	1,434	87	33	21	11	4	10	1,600
	<b>Total</b>	<b>2,874</b>	<b>595</b>	<b>254</b>	<b>139</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>4,065</b>
Jun '22 - Aug '22	Grant	1,241	268	118	36	16	13	16	1,708
	Deny	278	190	95	56	44	30	59	752
	Defer	1,182	106	33	18	19	10	14	1,382
	<b>Total</b>	<b>2,701</b>	<b>564</b>	<b>246</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>3,842</b>
Sep '22 - Nov '22	Grant	978	232	80	39	12	13	12	1,366
	Deny	250	164	88	63	44	28	52	689
	Defer	884	75	34	18	11	4	19	1,045
	<b>Total</b>	<b>2,112</b>	<b>471</b>	<b>202</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>3,100</b>
Total	Grant	4,205	1,075	411	139	61	46	57	5,994
	Deny	1,129	755	381	252	167	126	231	3,041
	Defer	4,445	328	126	68	54	24	51	5,096
	<b>Total</b>	<b>9,779</b>	<b>2,158</b>	<b>918</b>	<b>459</b>	<b>282</b>	<b>196</b>	<b>339</b>	<b>14,131</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 '21 - Feb '22	Grant	26	544	696	1,266
	Deny	204	408	131	743
	Defer	31	520	492	1,043
	<b>Total</b>	<b>261</b>	<b>1,472</b>	<b>1,319</b>	<b>3,052</b>
Mar '22 - May '22	Grant	23	744	779	1,546
	Deny	205	492	155	852
	Defer	38	808	730	1,576
	<b>Total</b>	<b>266</b>	<b>2,044</b>	<b>1,664</b>	<b>3,974</b>
Jun '22 - Aug '22	Grant	37	755	855	1,647
	Deny	167	453	129	749
	Defer	46	742	567	1,355
	<b>Total</b>	<b>250</b>	<b>1,950</b>	<b>1,551</b>	<b>3,751</b>
Sep '22 - Nov '22	Grant	27	585	710	1,322
	Deny	150	422	116	688
	Defer	35	566	420	1,021
	<b>Total</b>	<b>212</b>	<b>1,573</b>	<b>1,246</b>	<b>3,031</b>
Total	Grant	113	2,628	3,040	5,781
	Deny	726	1,775	531	3,032
	Defer	150	2,636	2,209	4,995
	<b>Total</b>	<b>989</b>	<b>7,039</b>	<b>5,780</b>	<b>13,808</b>
SAI Grants					169
No Parole Guideline Score					154
<b>Total</b>					<b>14,131</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	%		
Contract Denied	1	0.03%	0	0.00%	1	0.01%
Current Therapy or Psychological Report	0	0.00%	3,590	70.45%	3,590	44.12%
Further Discussion	0	0.00%	905	17.76%	905	11.12%
Investigation	0	0.00%	576	11.30%	576	7.08%
Risk to Community	3,040	99.97%	0	0.00%	3,040	37.36%
Satisfactory Placement	0	0.00%	25	0.49%	25	0.31%
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,041</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>5,096</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>8,137</b>	<b>100.00%</b>