

**REPORT TO THE LEGISLATURE**  
**Pursuant to P.A. 166 of 2022**  
**Section 506**  
**Parole Board Decisions Report – July 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	
Jun '22 - Aug '22	Grant	1,241	269	118	36	16	13	16	1,709
	Deny	279	190	95	56	44	30	59	753
	Defer	1,182	106	33	18	19	10	14	1,382
	<b>Total</b>	<b>2,702</b>	<b>565</b>	<b>246</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>3,844</b>
Sep '22 - Nov '22	Grant	978	234	80	39	12	13	12	1,368
	Deny	250	164	89	63	44	28	52	690
	Defer	884	75	34	18	11	4	19	1,045
	<b>Total</b>	<b>2,112</b>	<b>473</b>	<b>203</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>3,103</b>
Dec '22 - Feb '23	Grant	1,052	263	91	41	17	9	14	1,487
	Deny	243	174	106	49	33	20	68	693
	Defer	848	76	31	19	6	13	11	1,004
	<b>Total</b>	<b>2,143</b>	<b>513</b>	<b>228</b>	<b>109</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>3,184</b>
Mar '23 - May '23	Grant	1,051	245	99	38	21	7	14	1,475
	Deny	332	243	99	55	41	32	62	864
	Defer	926	71	37	22	9	10	9	1,084
	<b>Total</b>	<b>2,309</b>	<b>559</b>	<b>235</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>3,423</b>
Total	Grant	4,322	1,011	388	154	66	42	56	6,039
	Deny	1,104	771	389	223	162	110	241	3,000
	Defer	3,840	328	135	77	45	37	53	4,515
	<b>Total</b>	<b>9,266</b>	<b>2,110</b>	<b>912</b>	<b>454</b>	<b>273</b>	<b>189</b>	<b>350</b>	<b>13,554</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	
Jun '22 - Aug '22	Grant	37	753	856	1,646
	Deny	167	451	129	747
	Defer	45	737	562	1,344
	<b>Total</b>	<b>249</b>	<b>1,941</b>	<b>1,547</b>	<b>3,737</b>
Sep '22 - Nov '22	Grant	27	584	710	1,321
	Deny	148	418	113	679
	Defer	32	562	422	1,016
	<b>Total</b>	<b>207</b>	<b>1,564</b>	<b>1,245</b>	<b>3,016</b>
Dec '22 - Feb '23	Grant	17	634	779	1,430
	Deny	170	389	131	690
	Defer	33	571	380	984
	<b>Total</b>	<b>220</b>	<b>1,594</b>	<b>1,290</b>	<b>3,104</b>
Mar '23 - May '23	Grant	24	657	717	1,398
	Deny	185	531	148	864
	Defer	32	615	405	1,052
	<b>Total</b>	<b>241</b>	<b>1,803</b>	<b>1,270</b>	<b>3,314</b>
Total	Grant	105	2,628	3,062	5,795
	Deny	670	1,789	521	2,980
	Defer	142	2,485	1,769	4,396
	<b>Total</b>	<b>917</b>	<b>6,902</b>	<b>5,352</b>	<b>13,171</b>
SAI Grants					204
No Parole Guideline Score					179
<b>Total</b>					<b>13,554</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%	3,107	68.82%	3,107	41.34%
Further Discussion	0	0.00%	722	15.99%	722	9.61%
Investigation	0	0.00%	654	14.49%	654	8.70%
Risk to Community	3,000	100.00%	0	0.00%	3,000	39.92%
Satisfactory Placement	0	0.00%	32	0.71%	32	0.43%
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,000</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>4,515</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>7,515</b>	<b>100.00%</b>