

**Michigan**  
**Department of Corrections**

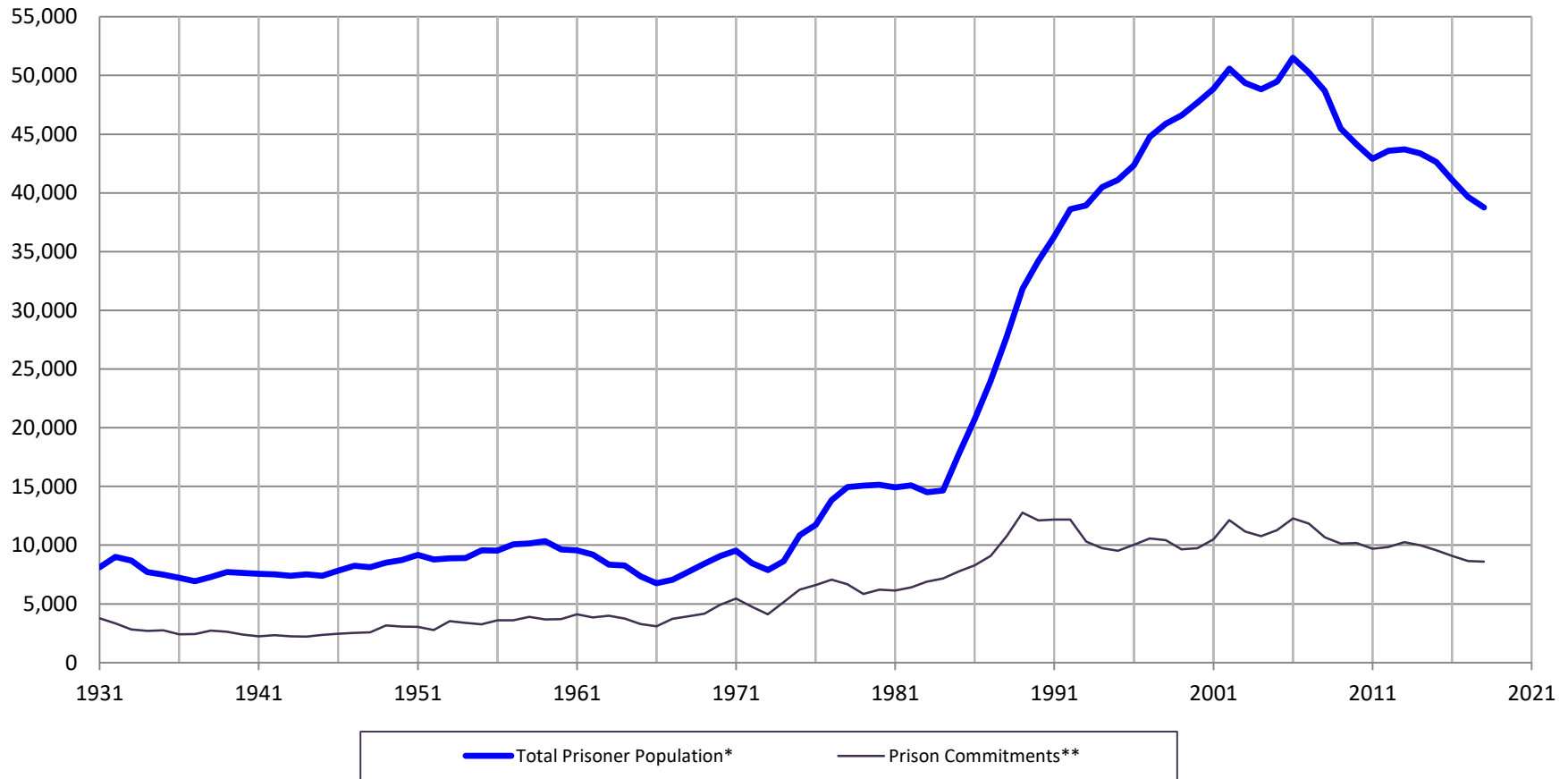
**Trends in Key Indicators**

**Through December 2019**

**(Data as of 1/22/2020)**

# Historical Perspective: Nearly 9 decades of Year End Prisoner Populations and Commitments

## Michigan Department of Corrections Historical Prisoner Population and Commitments

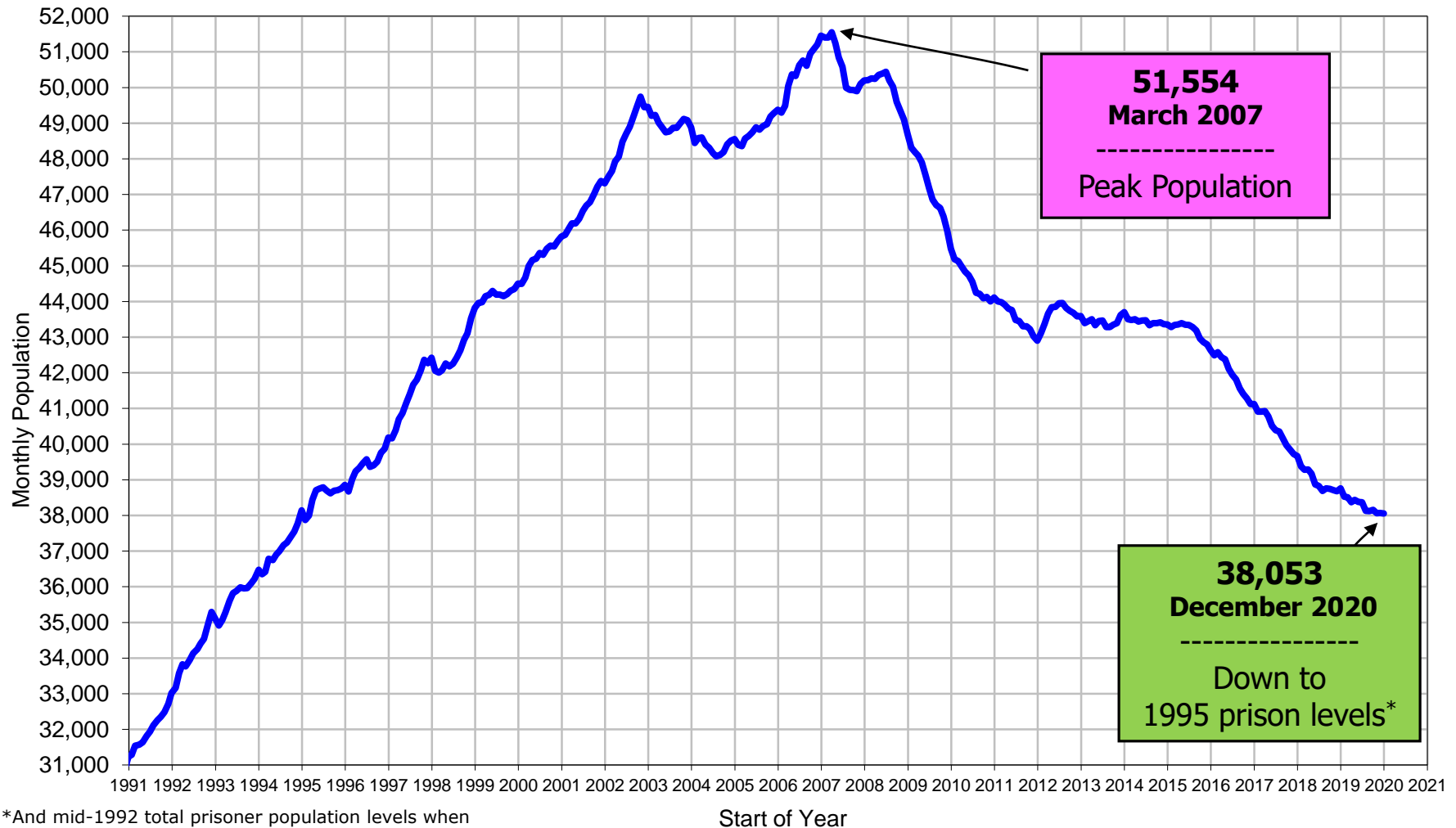


\*Includes Community Residential Programs (CRP - Halfway Houses) prisoners when appropriate.

\*\*Prison Commitments includes Additional Sentence Imposed Commitments for existing prisoners.

**Historical Perspective:** More recently, after growth of 20,000+ inmates in 16 years, the population has declined 13,501 inmates in 13 years.

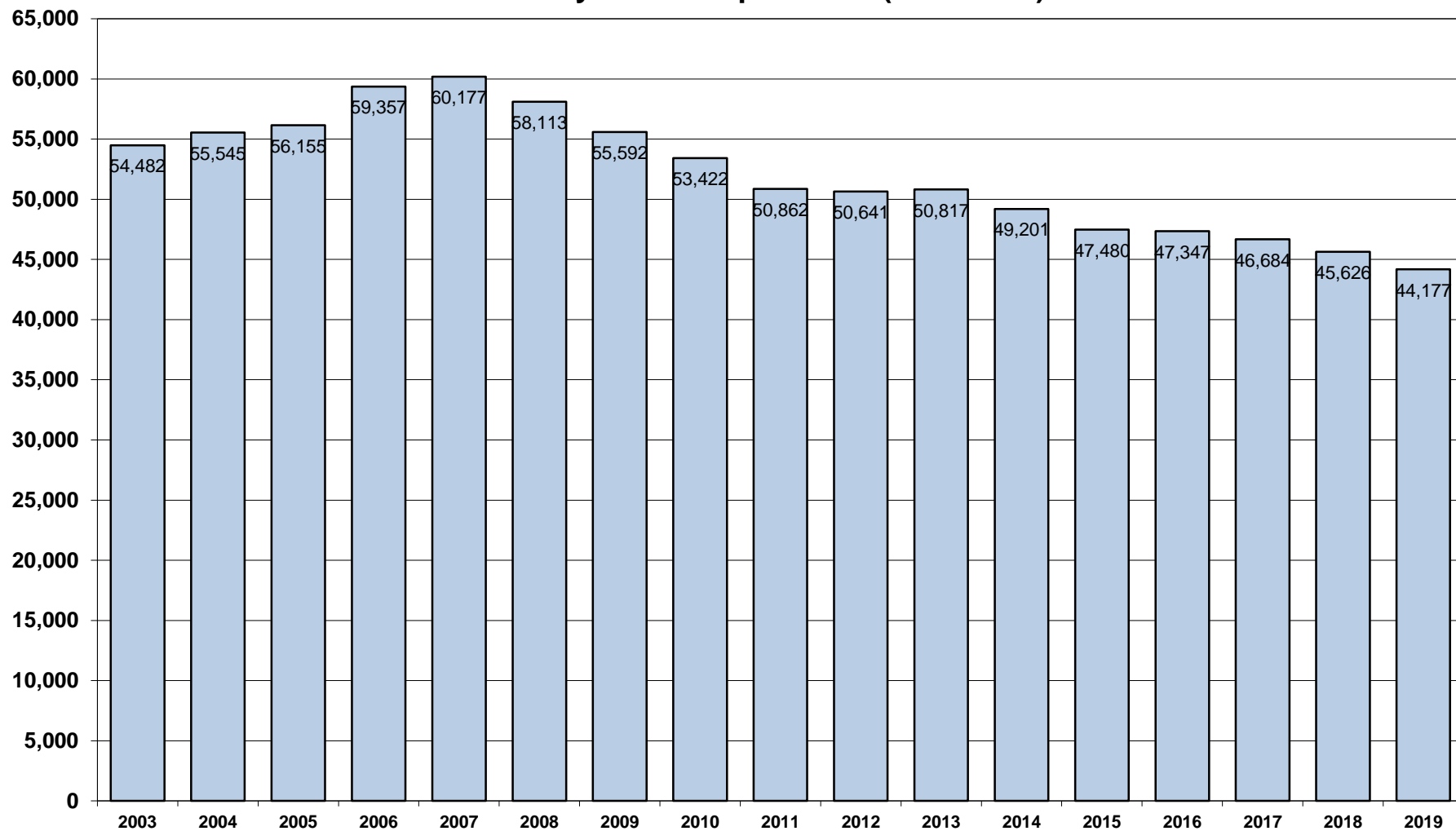
### Michigan Department of Corrections ACTUAL PRISON POPULATION SINCE 1991



\*And mid-1992 total prisoner population levels when Michigan had halfway houses (CRP)

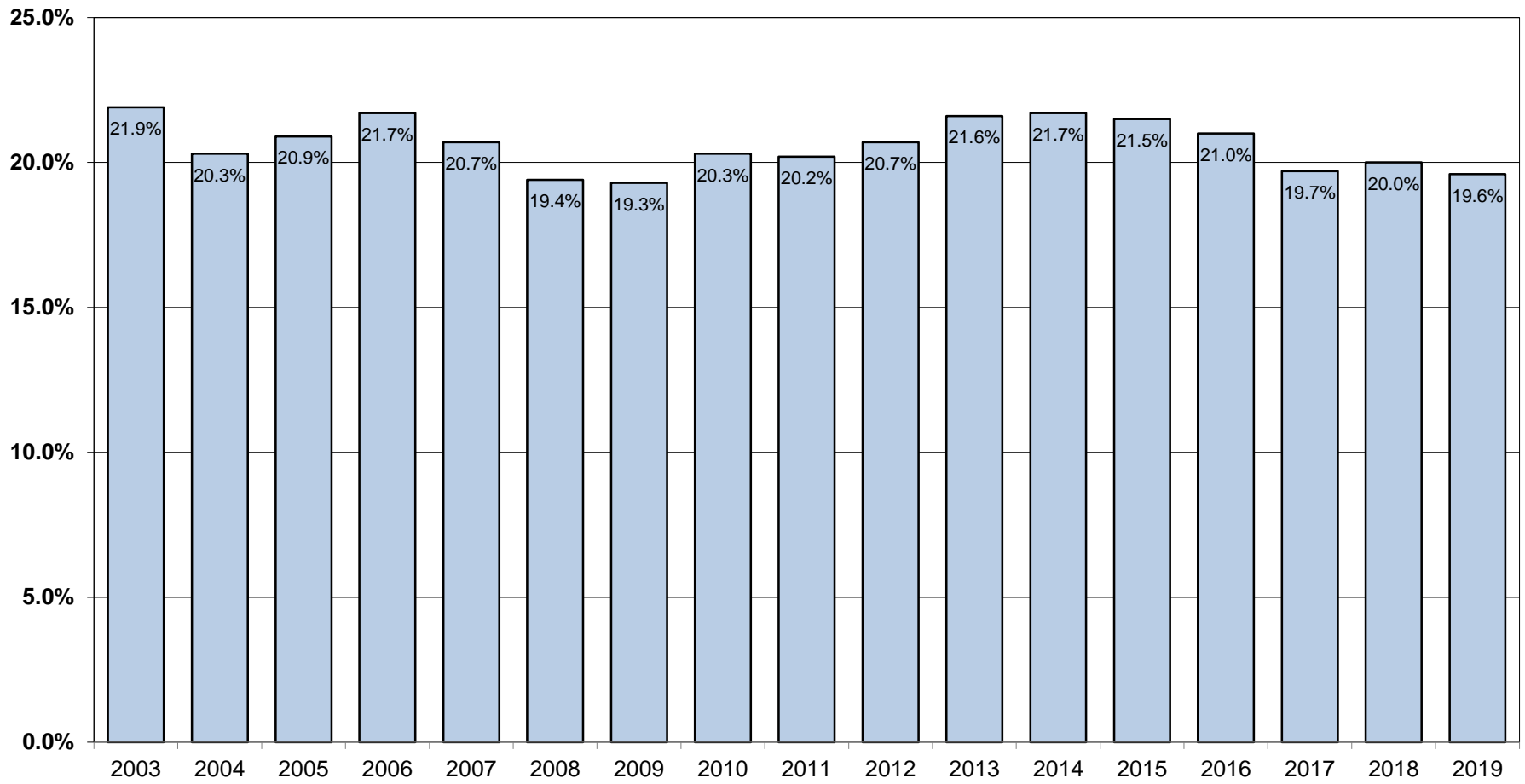
**Front End Indicators:** After peaking in 2007, annual felony court dispositions continue to decline for the twelfth year.

Michigan Department of Corrections  
**Total Felony Court Dispositions (Offenders)**



**Front End Indicators:** The prison commitment rate continues to remain in a narrow, 19-22%, range since 2003.

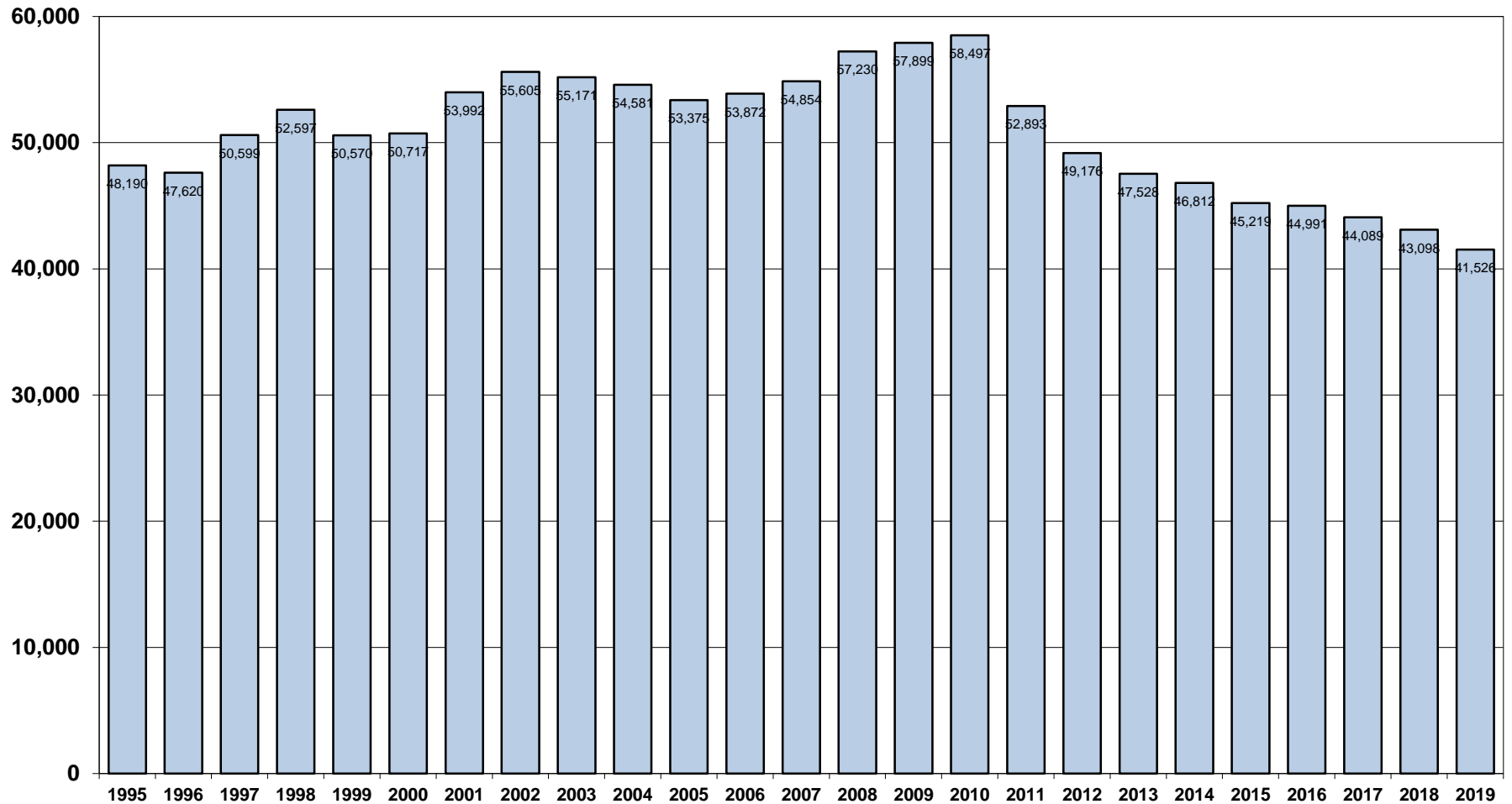
**Michigan Department of Corrections  
Prison Commitment Rate\***



\* The prison commitment rate is the percentage of all felony court dispositions that are sentenced to prison.

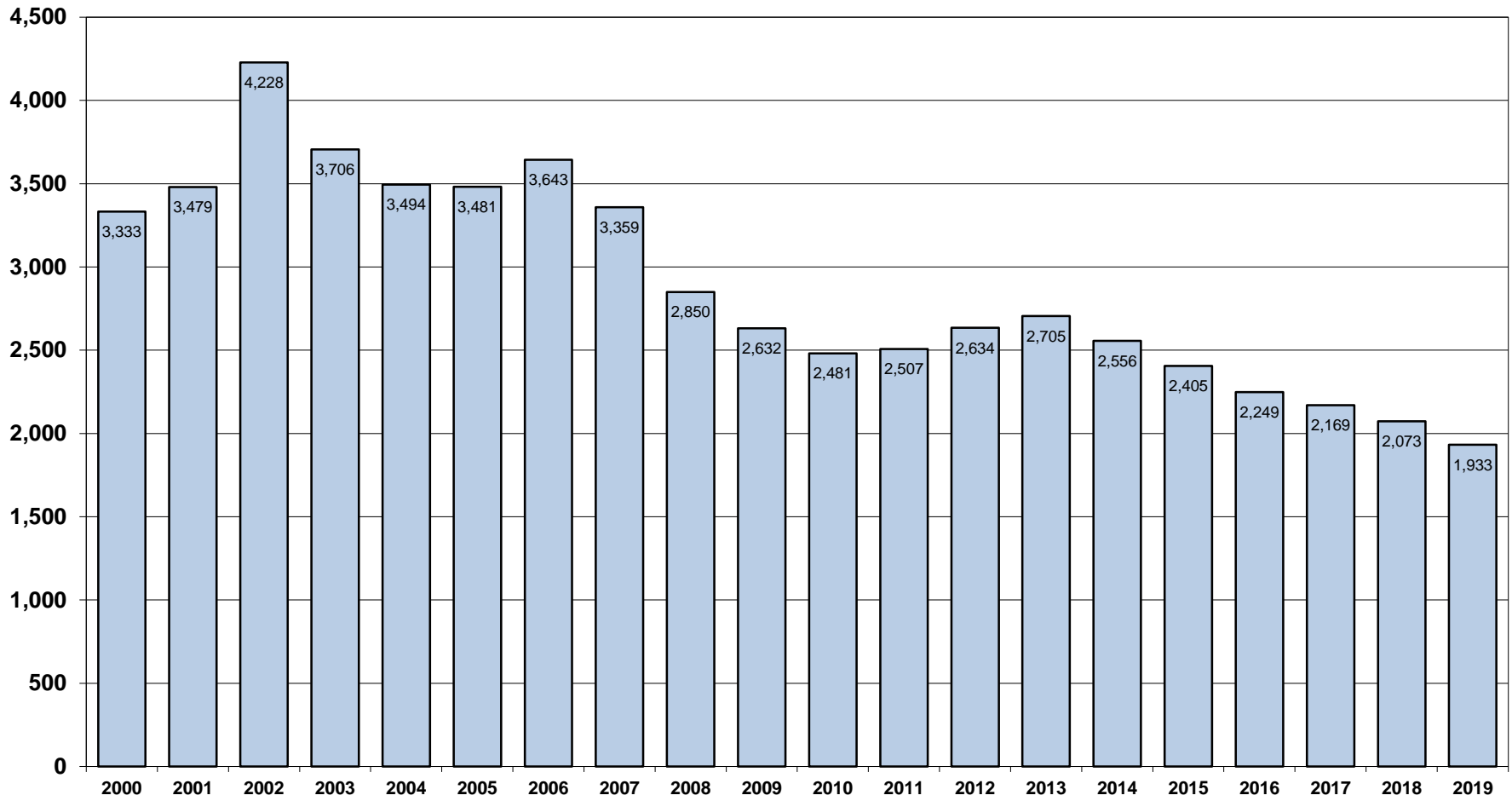
**Front End Indicators:** The felony probation population has declined by 29% since the peak in 2010.

Michigan Department of Corrections  
Year-End Probation Population



# Front End Indicators: Probation violator intake has decreased 54% since 2002.

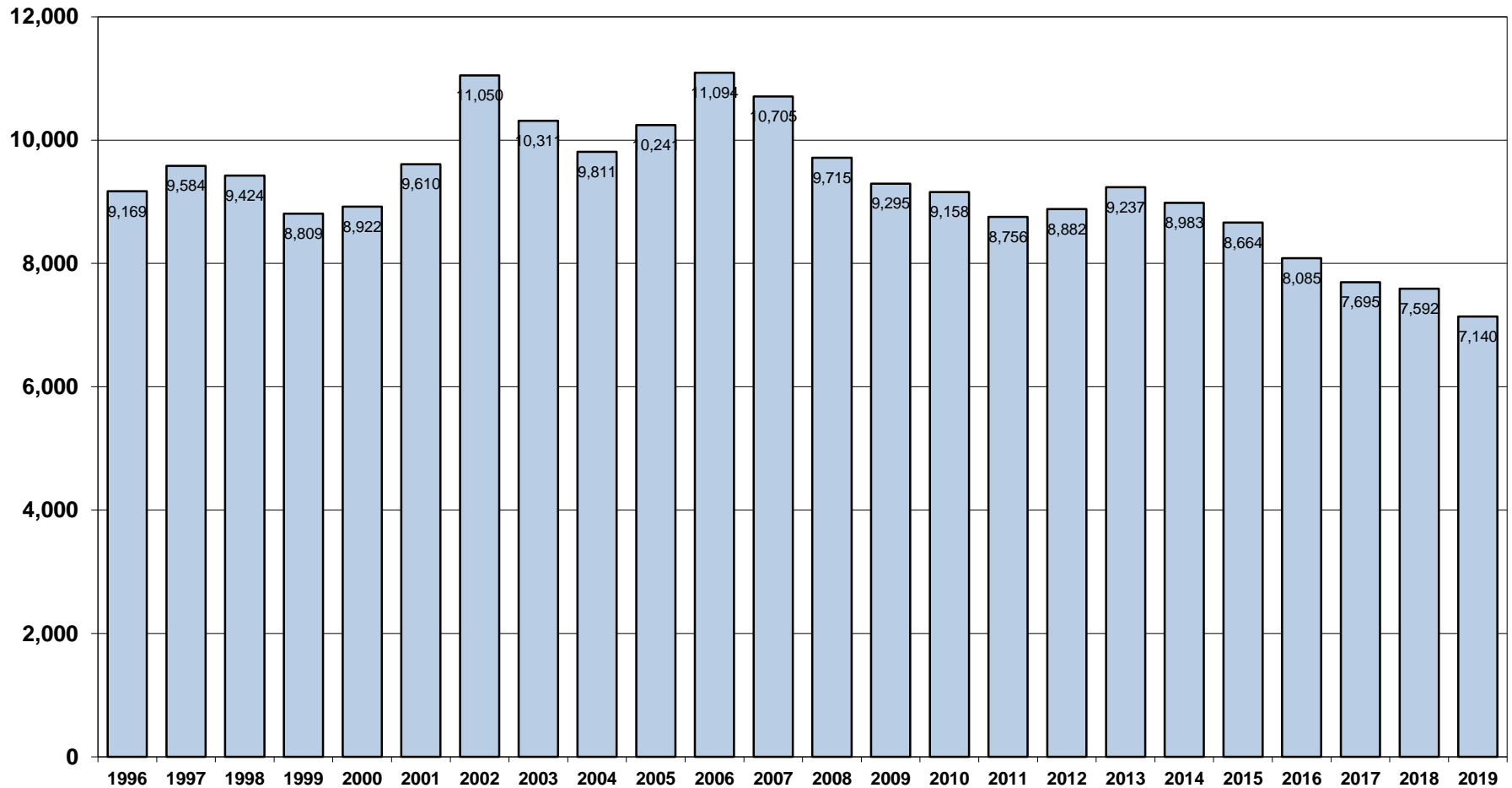
Michigan Department of Corrections  
Probation Violator Intake\*



\*Includes probation technical violators and probationers with a new sentence.

**Front End Indicators:** Since 2006 annual prison intake has decreased 36% to levels not seen since before 1987.

### Michigan Department of Corrections Prison Intake\*

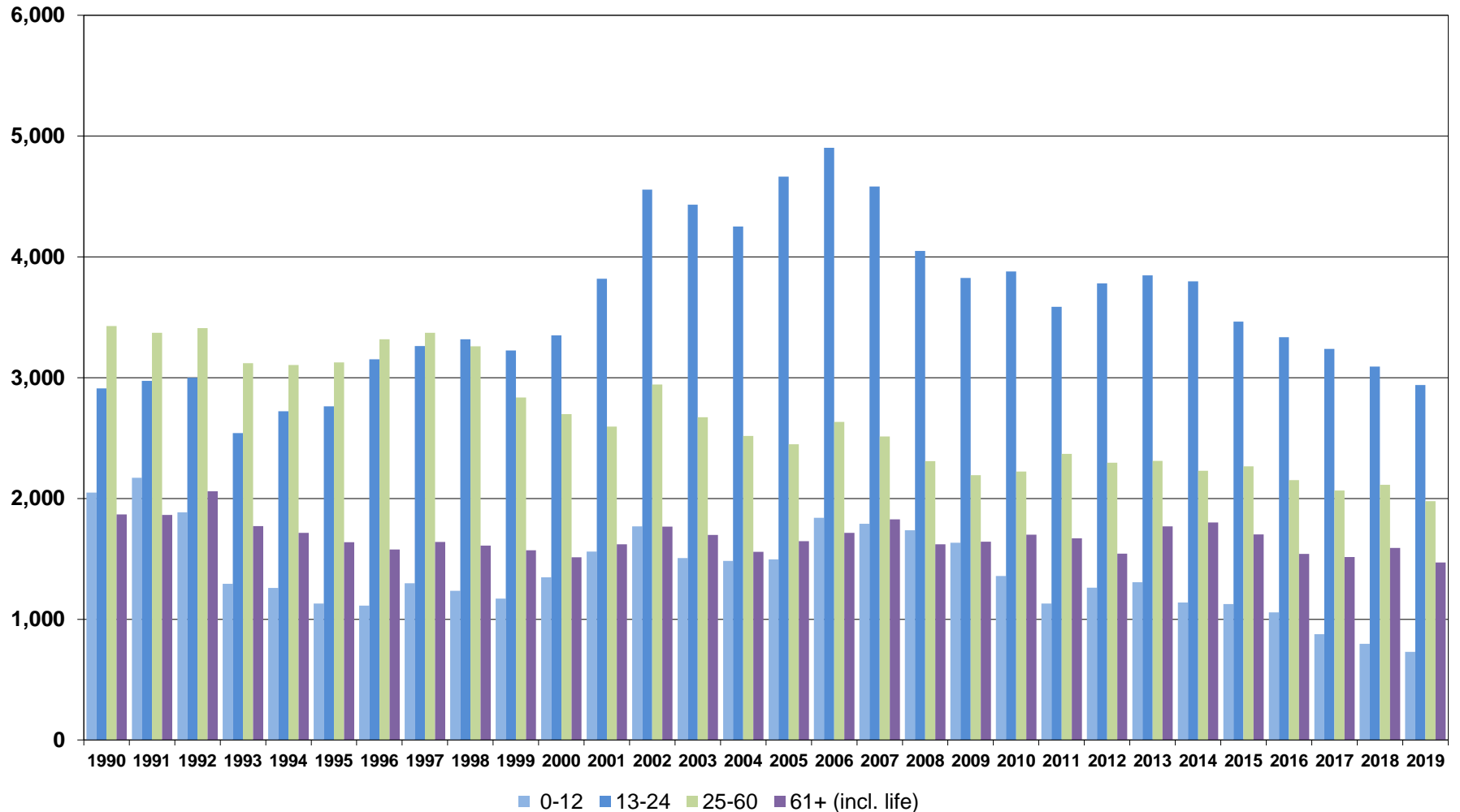


\*Includes new court commitments, probation violators (technical or new sentence), parole violators new sentence, and escapee new sentence.



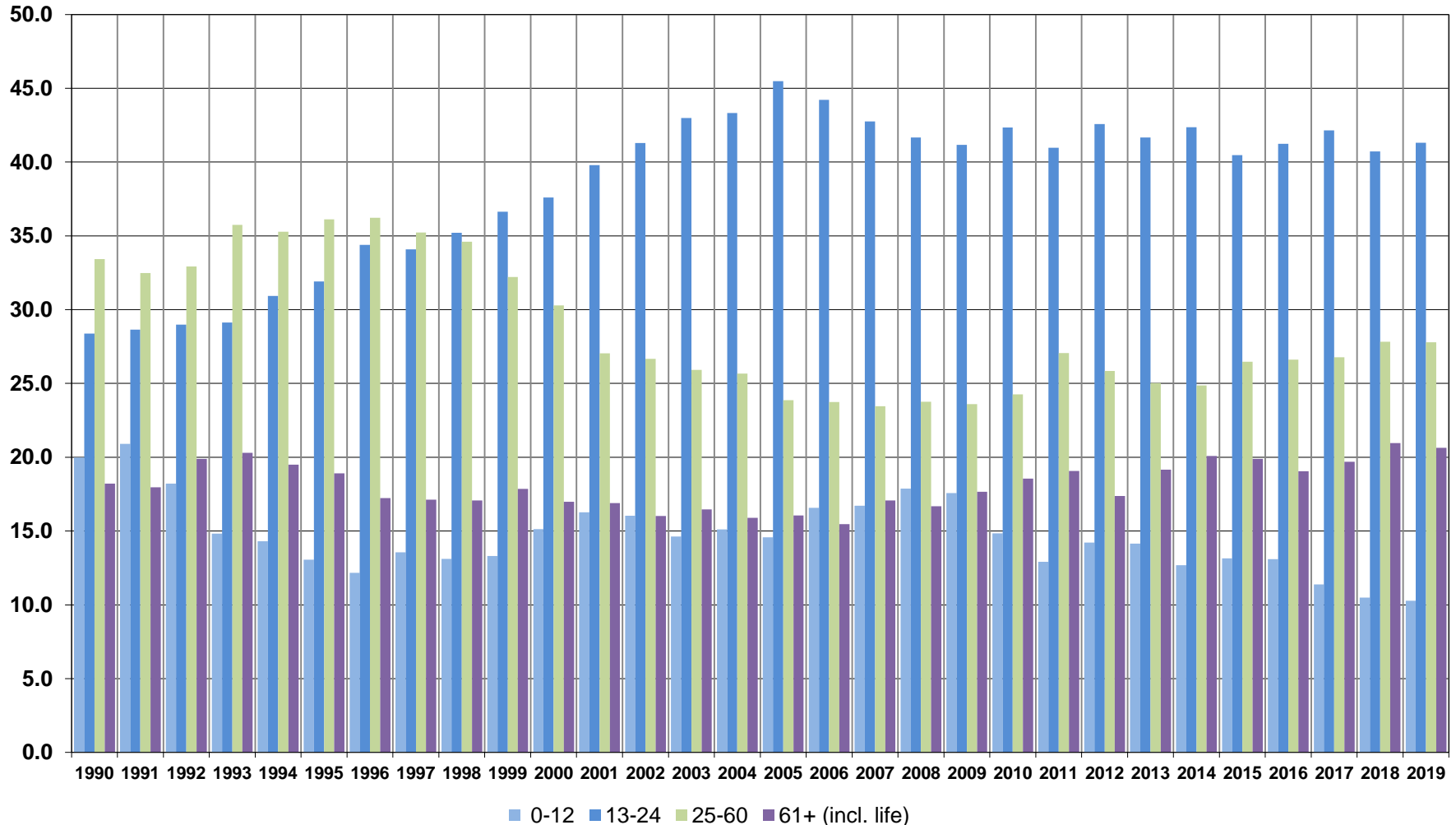
**Length of Sentence:** Since 2013, the intake decline has been in the 0-12 and 13-24 month min term groups while the 25 month and up min terms have remained fairly stable.

Michigan Department of Corrections  
**Prison Intake by Cumulative Minimum Term in Months**



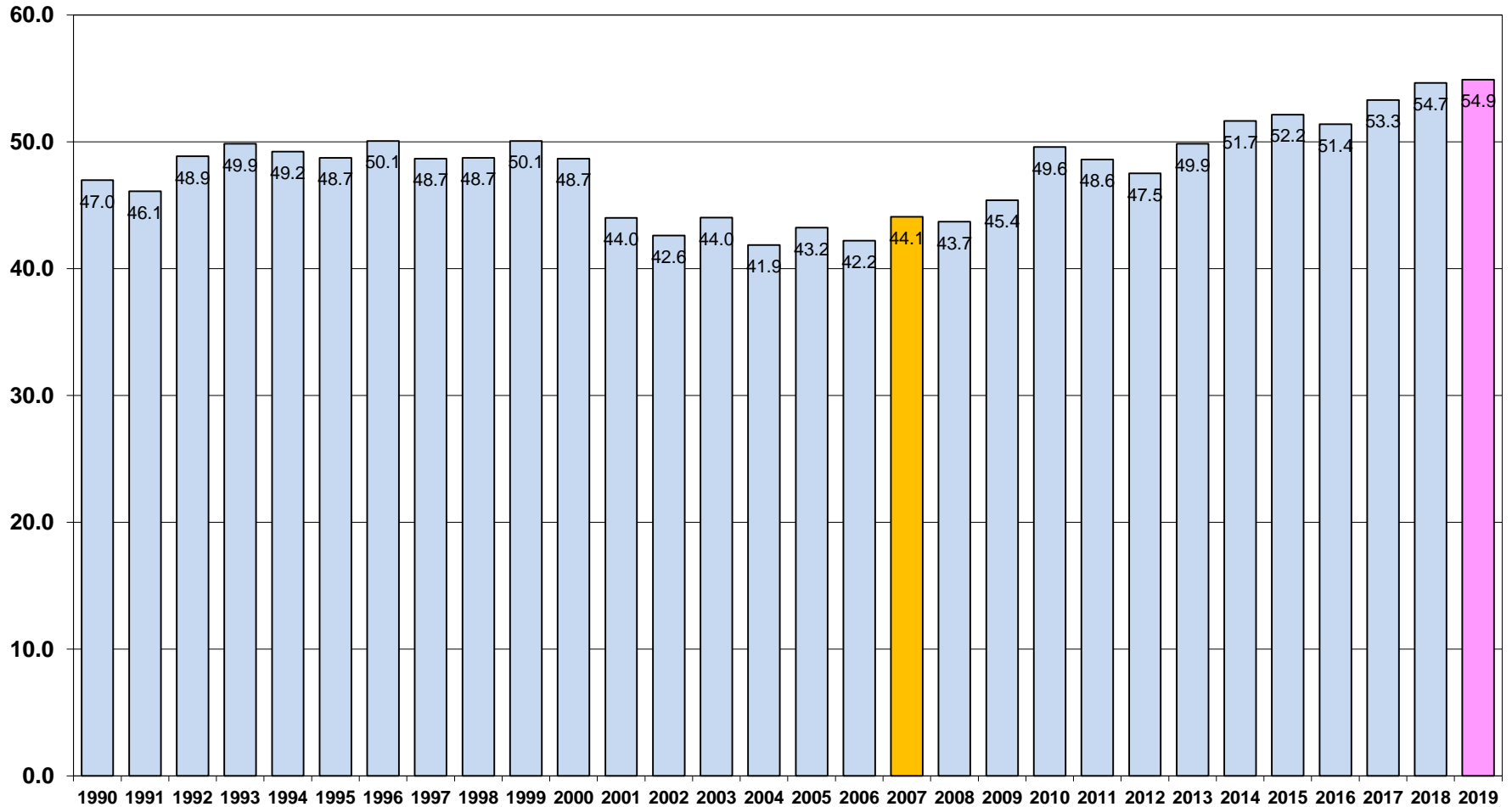
Length of Sentence: As a proportion of intake, the shift has been from the 0-12 month minimum terms to the 25 month and up groups with 13-24 months remaining stable.

Michigan Department of Corrections  
Percent of Prison Intake by Cumulative Minimum Term in Months



Length of Sentence: The decline of shorter minimum terms and proportional shift to longer terms shows in the growth of the average minimum term.

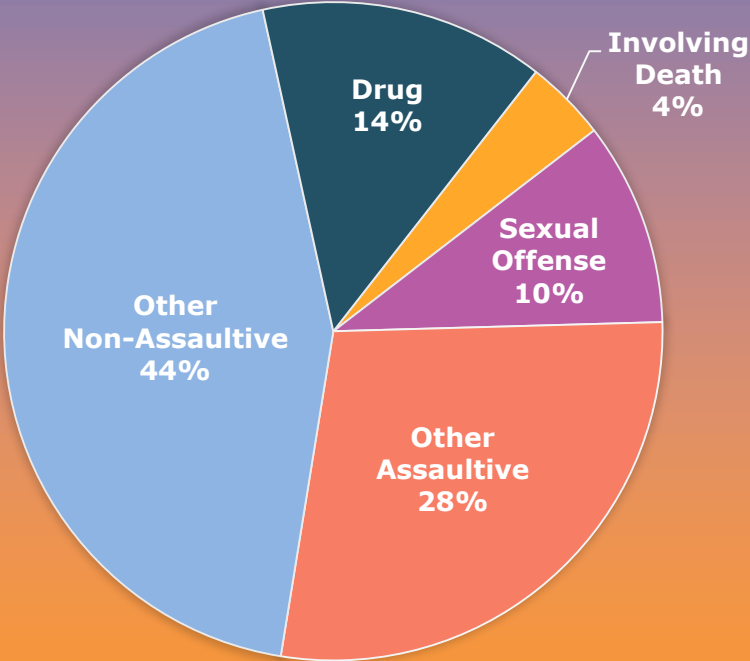
Michigan Department of Corrections  
Prison Intake by Average Cumulative Minimum Term in Months



\*Excludes Intake for Life terms

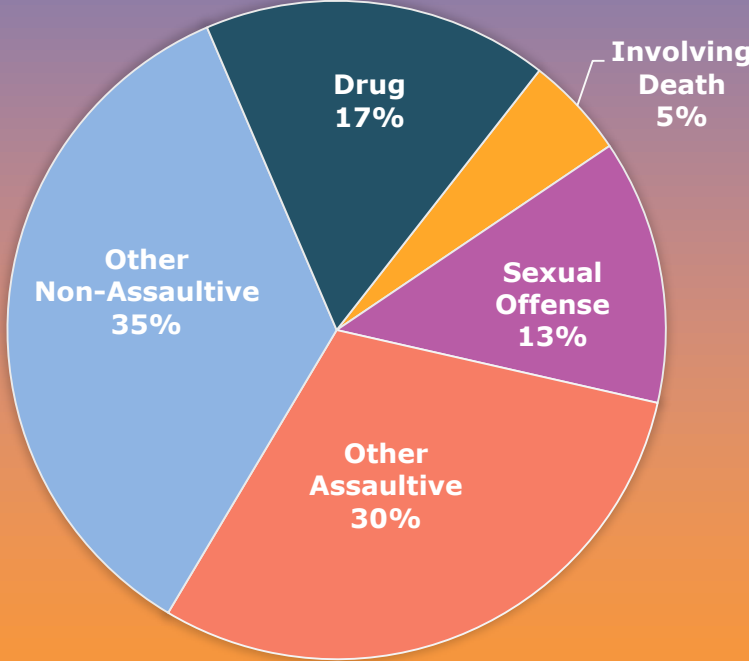
# Prison Intake Comparison by Crime Groups

**2007**



Average Cumulative Minimum Term:  
3.7 years

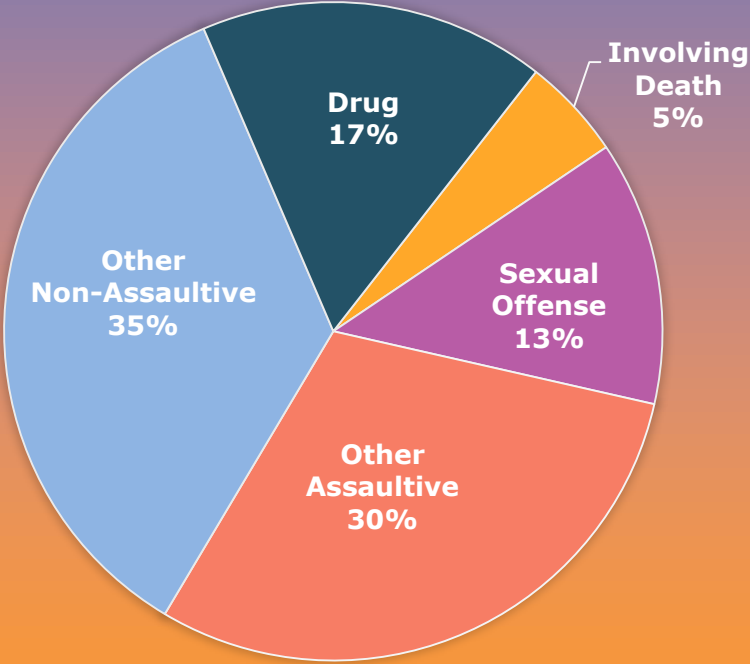
**2019**



Average Cumulative Minimum Term:  
4.6 years

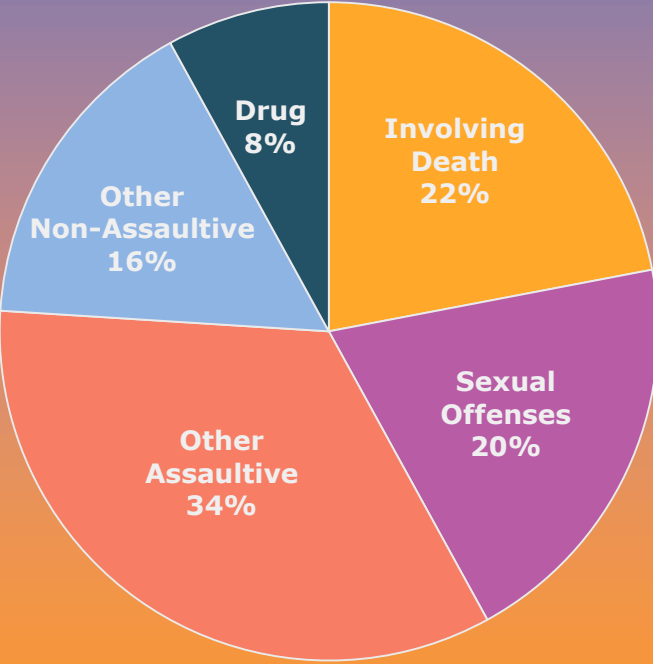
# Prison Intake & Population by Crime Groups

**Intake**  
(2019)



Average Cumulative Minimum Term:  
4.6 years

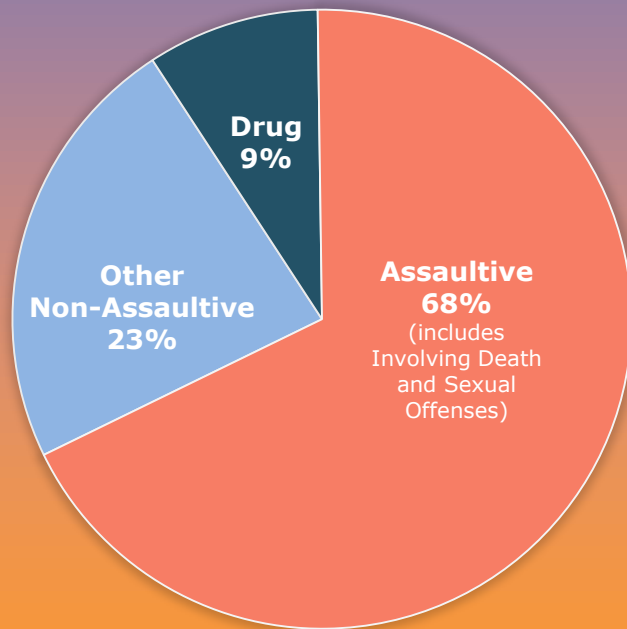
**Population**  
(12/31/2019)



Average Cumulative Minimum Term:  
11.5 years

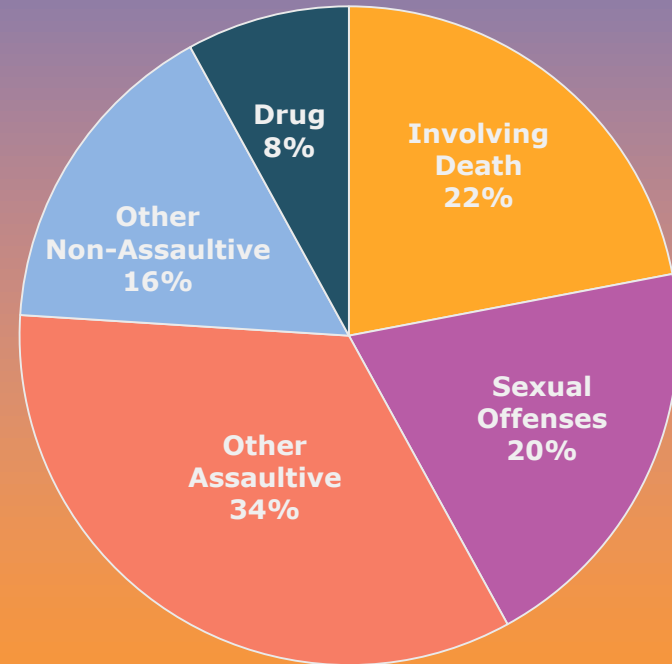
# Prison Population Comparison by Crime Groups

## 2007 Peak Prison Population



Average Cumulative Minimum Term:  
8.2 years

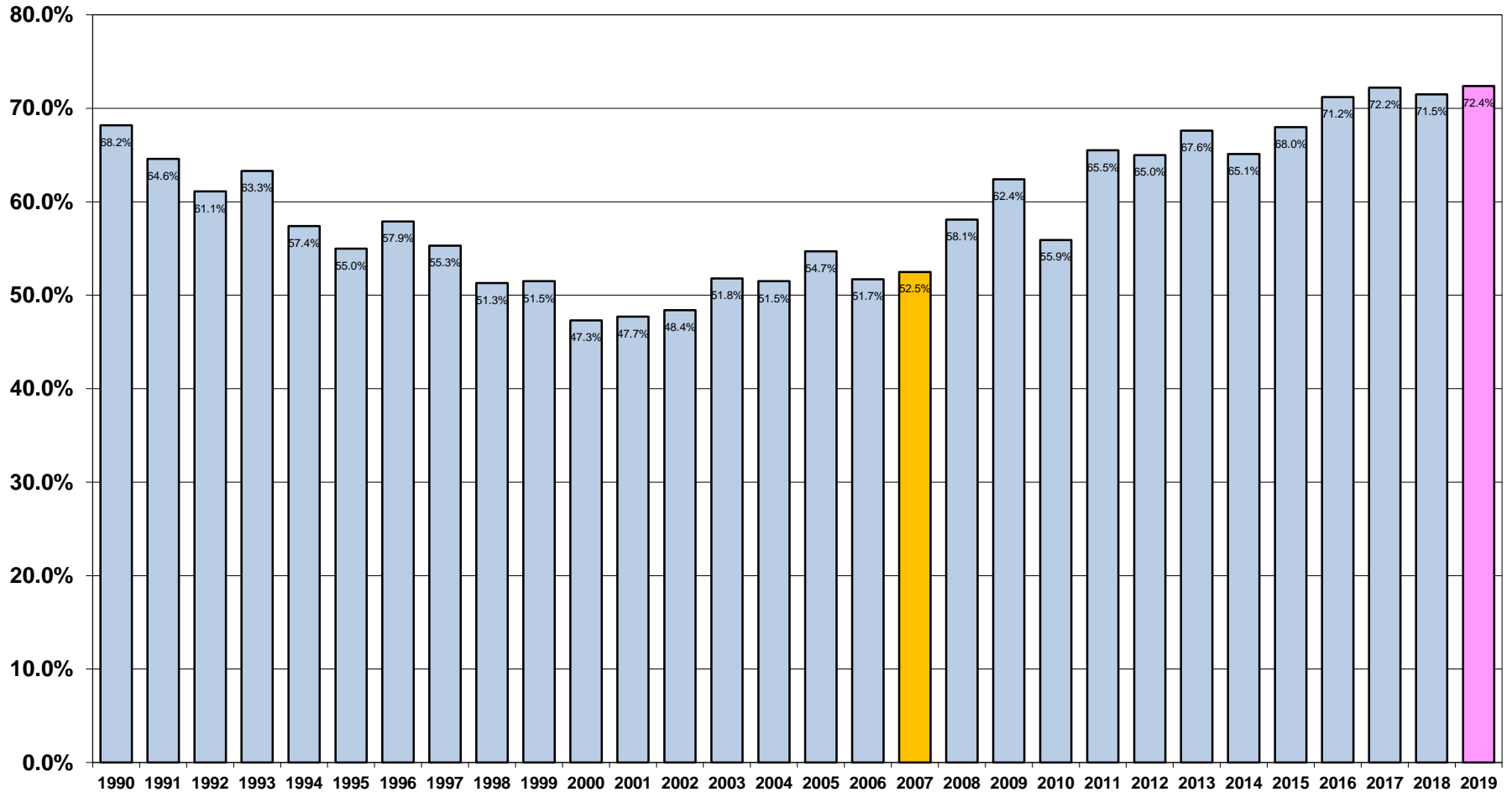
## Current Population (12/31/2019)



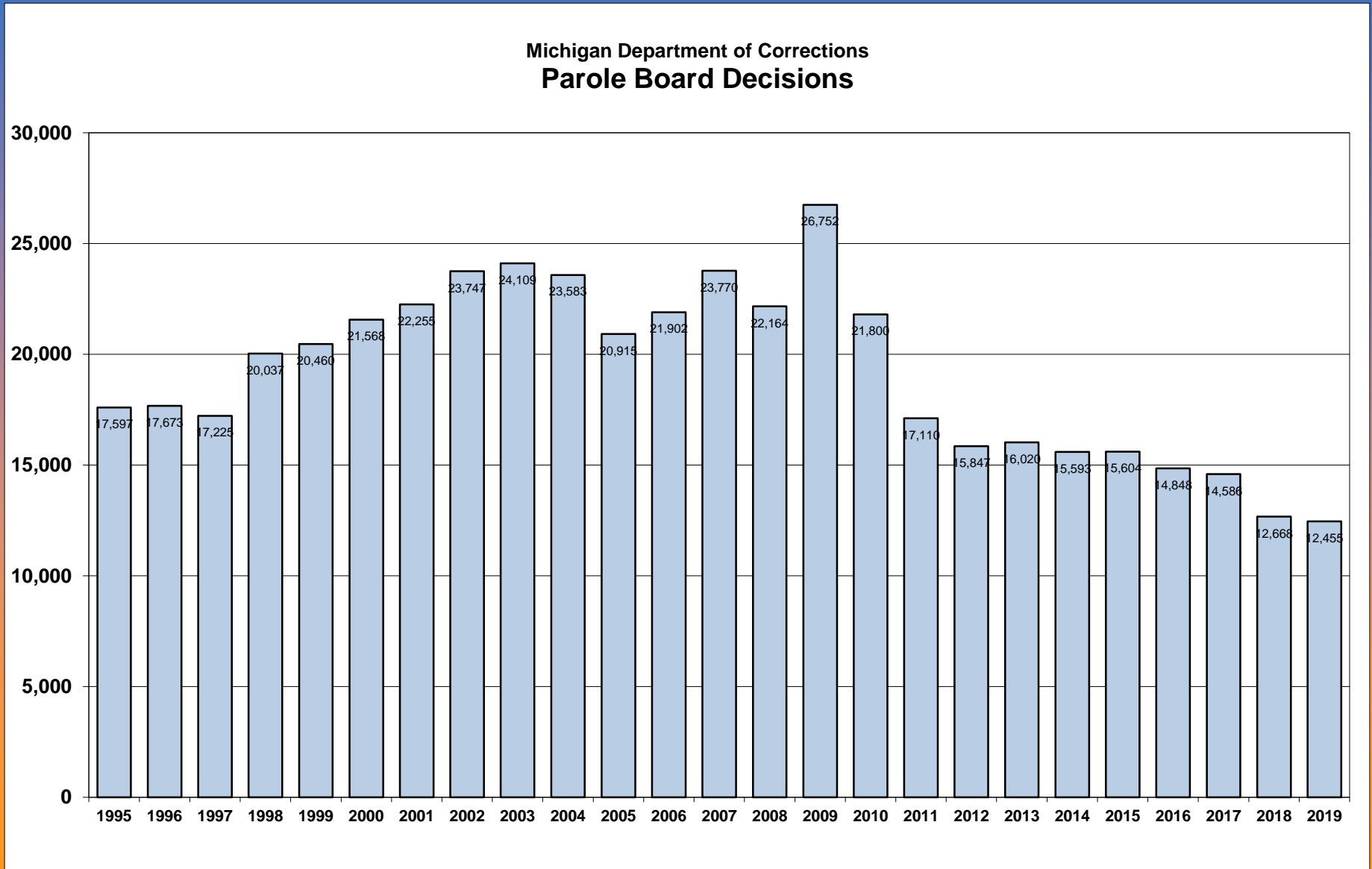
Average Cumulative Minimum Term:  
11.5 years

**Length of Sentence**: The parole rate hovers at record highs, as first hearing prisoners become prepared to successfully reenter society before parole board review.

Michigan Department of Corrections  
Parole Approval Rate



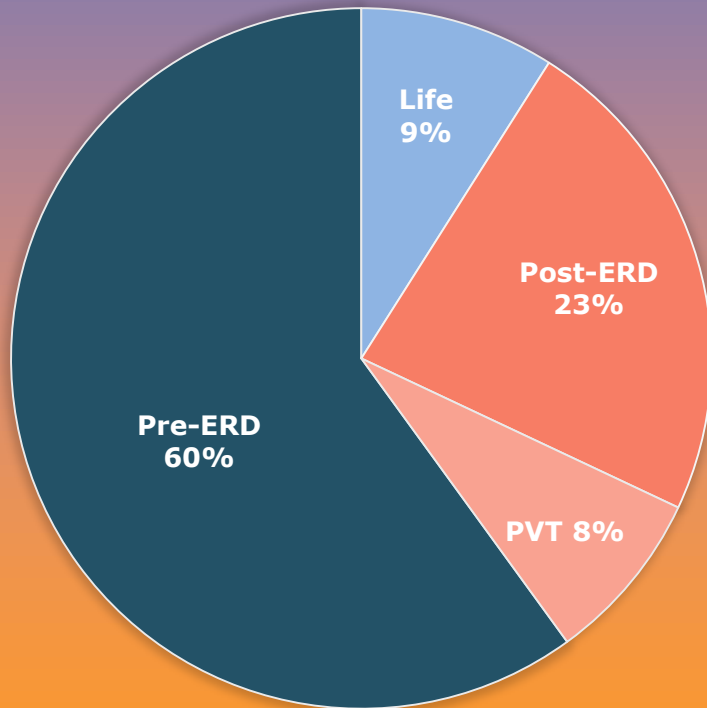
**Impact on Releases:** As prisoners are better prepared for society and approvals at their first parole hearing increase, the need for subsequent and overall hearings declines.



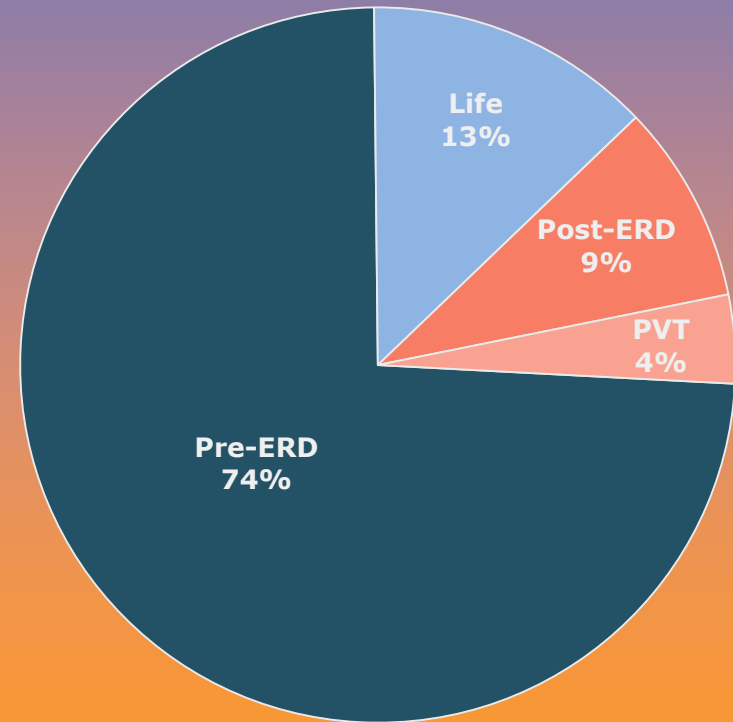


# Status of Earliest Release Date (ERD)

## 2007 Peak Prison Population

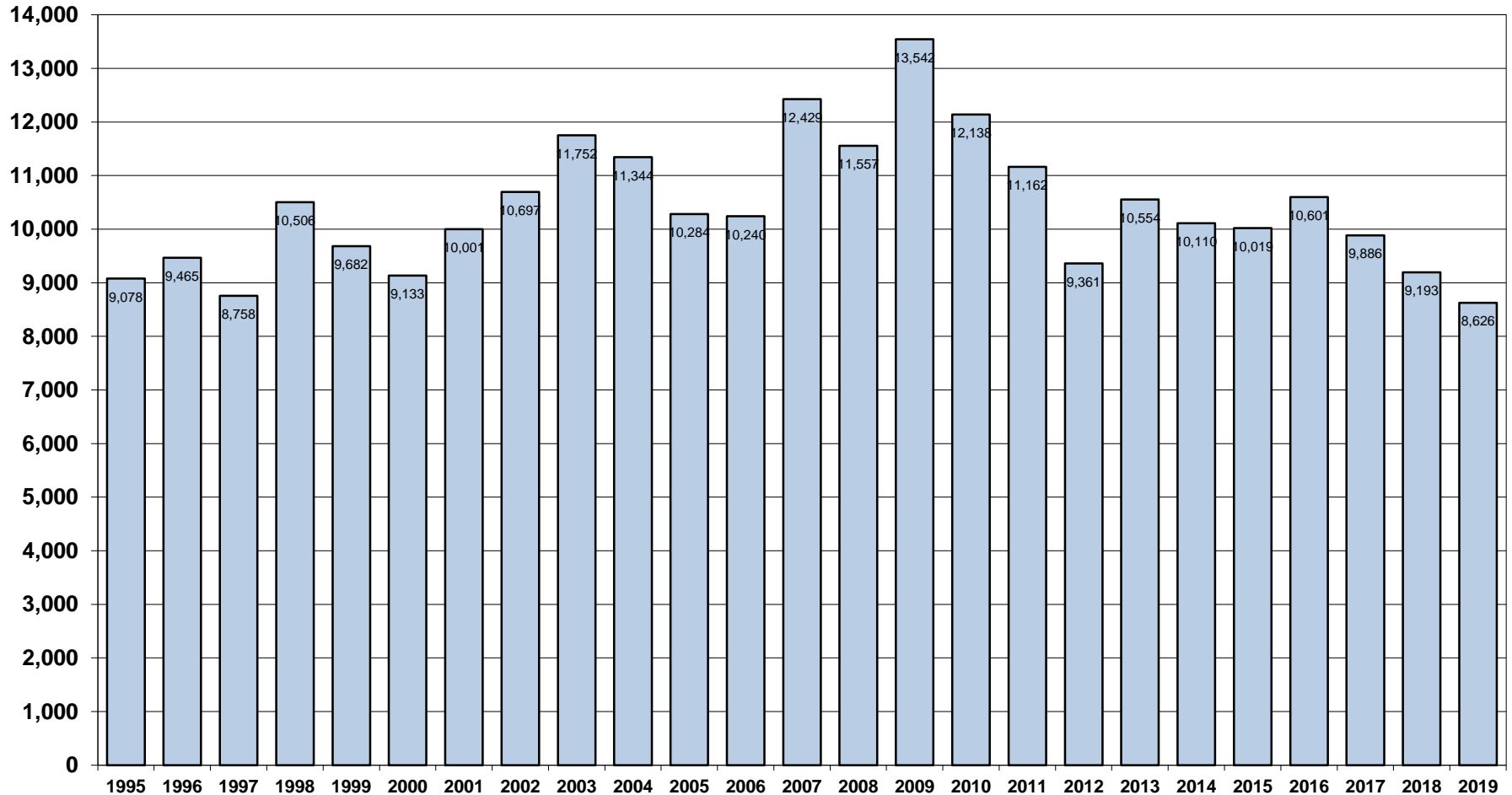


## Current Population (12/31/2019)



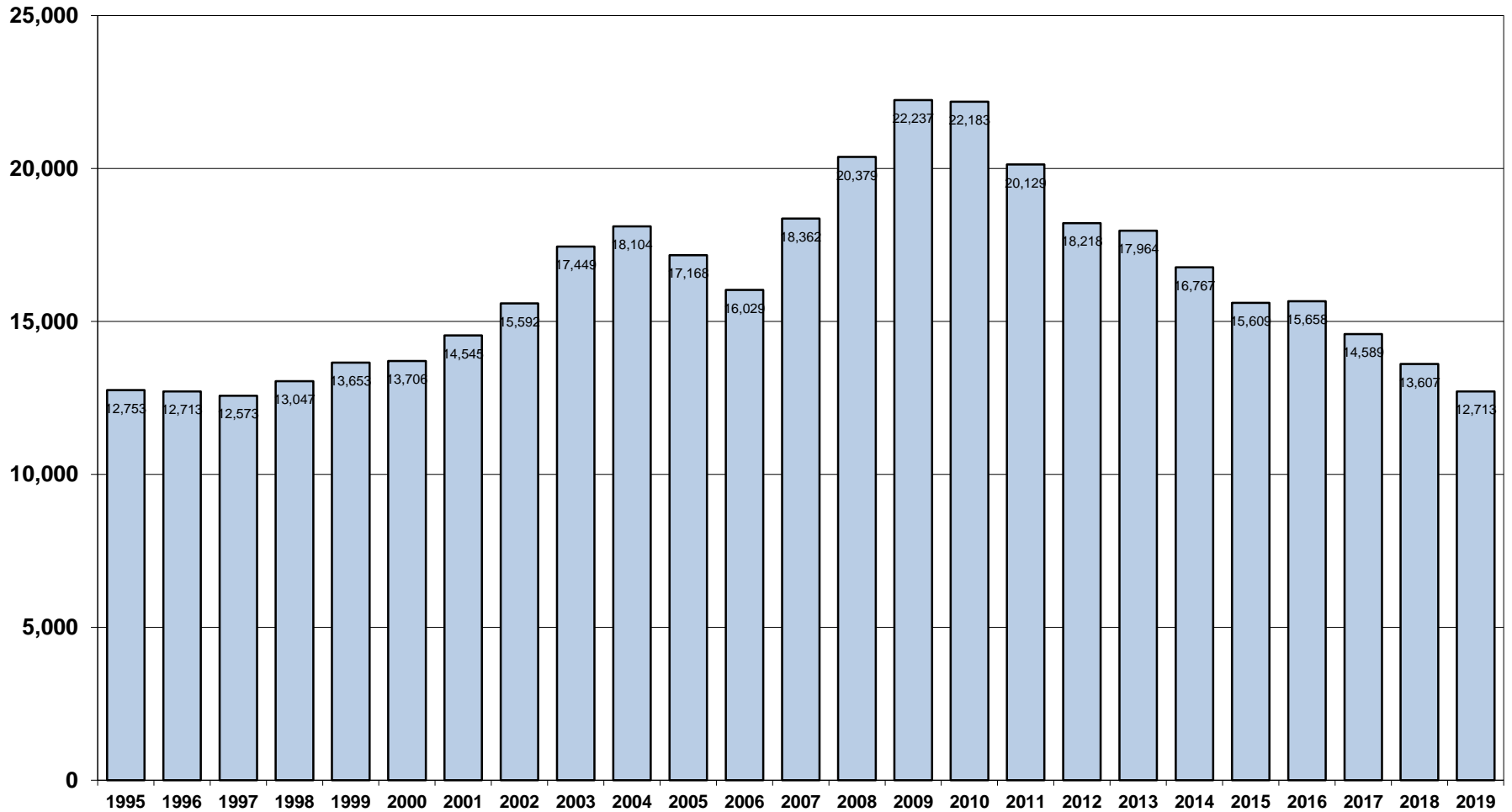
Impact on Releases: Years of declining prison intake are reflected in declining moves to parole.

Michigan Department of Corrections  
Moves to Parole



**Impact on Releases:** The parole population peaked in 2009 and has since declined by 43% due to successful parole completions and declining moves to parole.

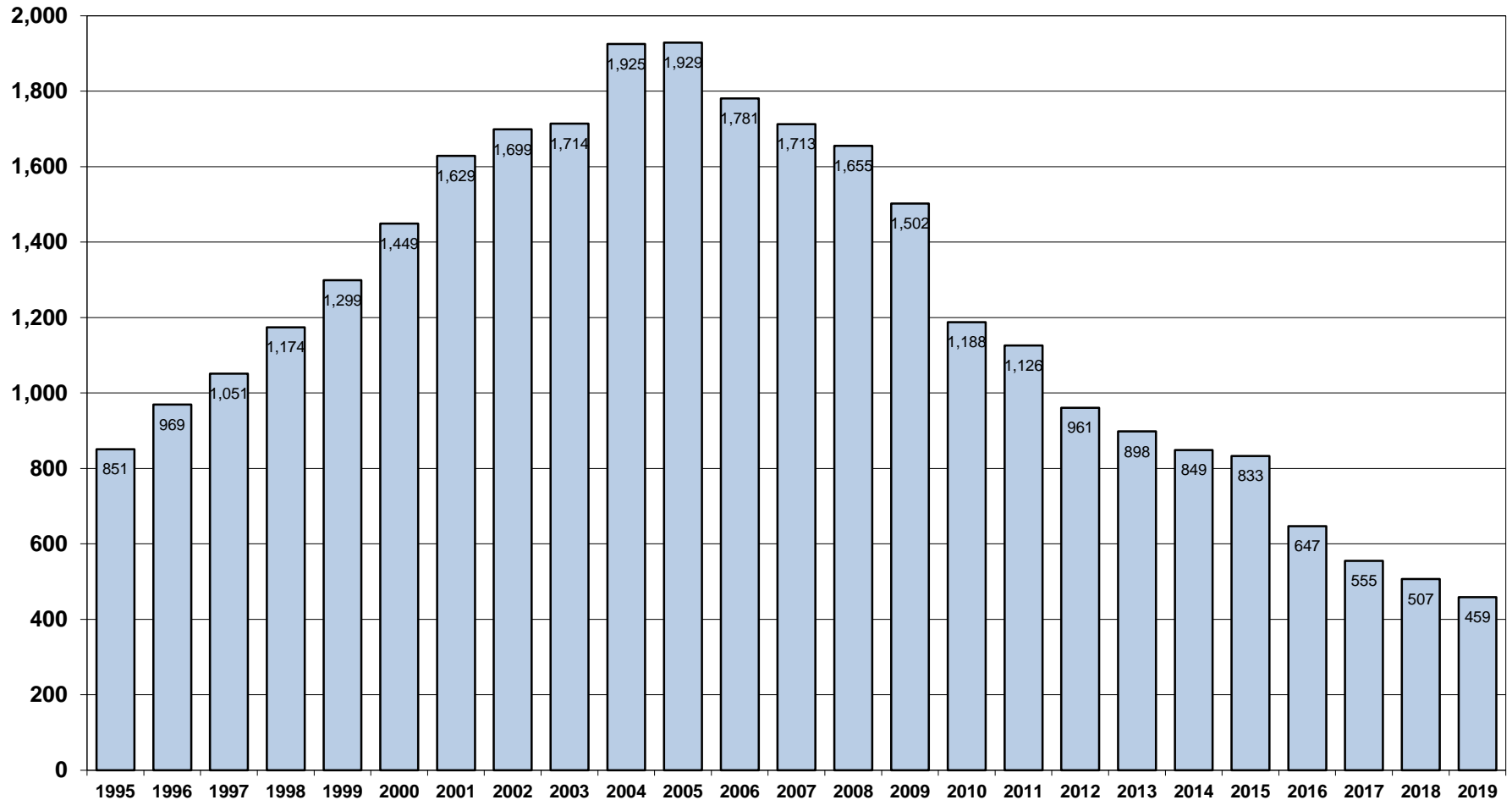
Michigan Department of Corrections  
**Year-End Parole Population Under Active Supervision\***



\* Includes Interstate Compact parolees here and Residential Reentry

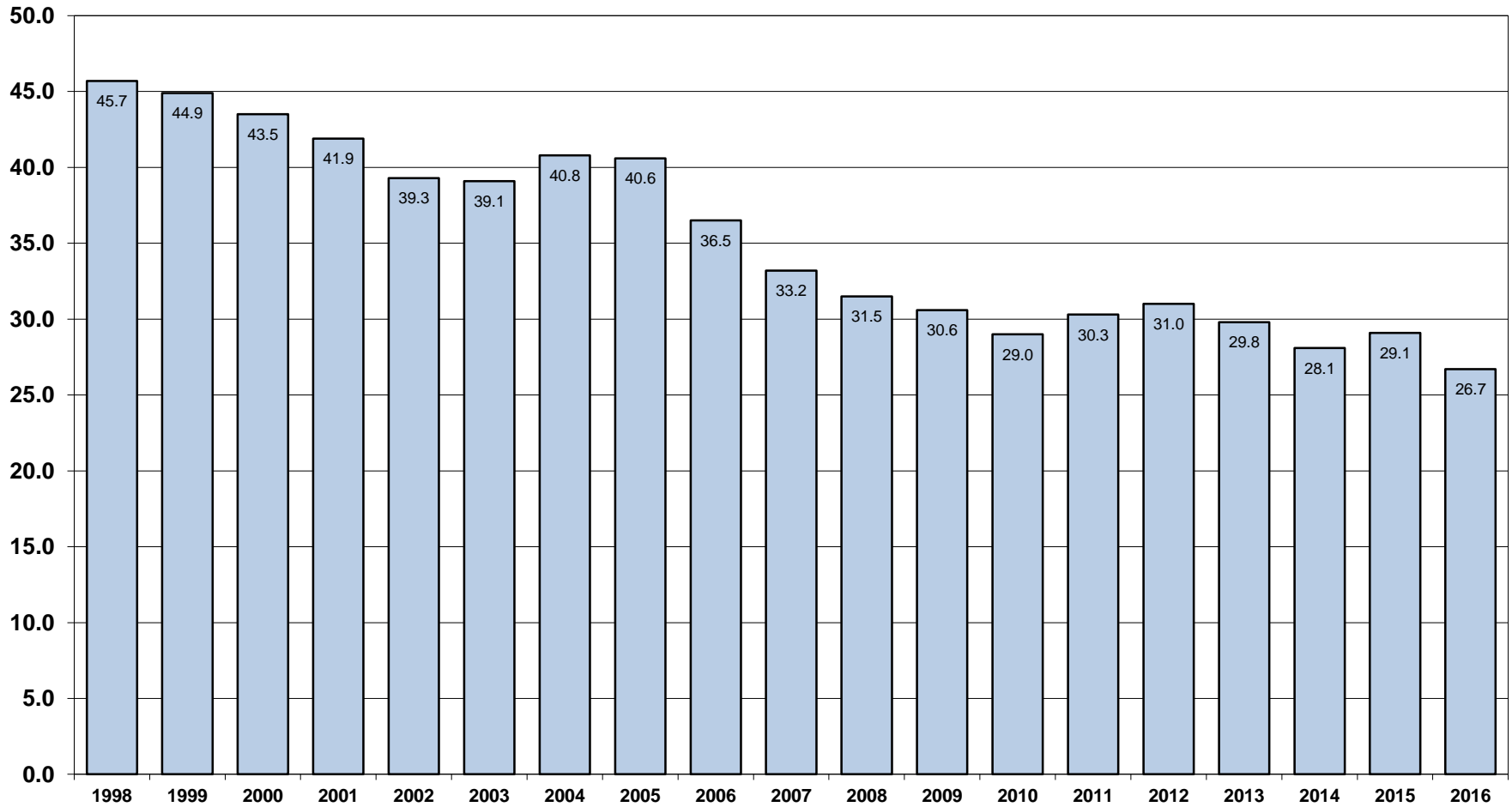
**Impact on Releases:** Since peaking in 2005, discharges on the maximum continue over a decade of decline due to the higher parole approval rate.

**Michigan Department of Corrections  
Discharges on the Maximum Sentence**



**Impact on Returns:** Since establishing the baseline for recidivism in 1998, the 3-Year Return to Prison Rate remained in a range of 28-32% for eight years. The 3-Year Return to Prison Rate for 2016 hit an all-time low of 26.7%.

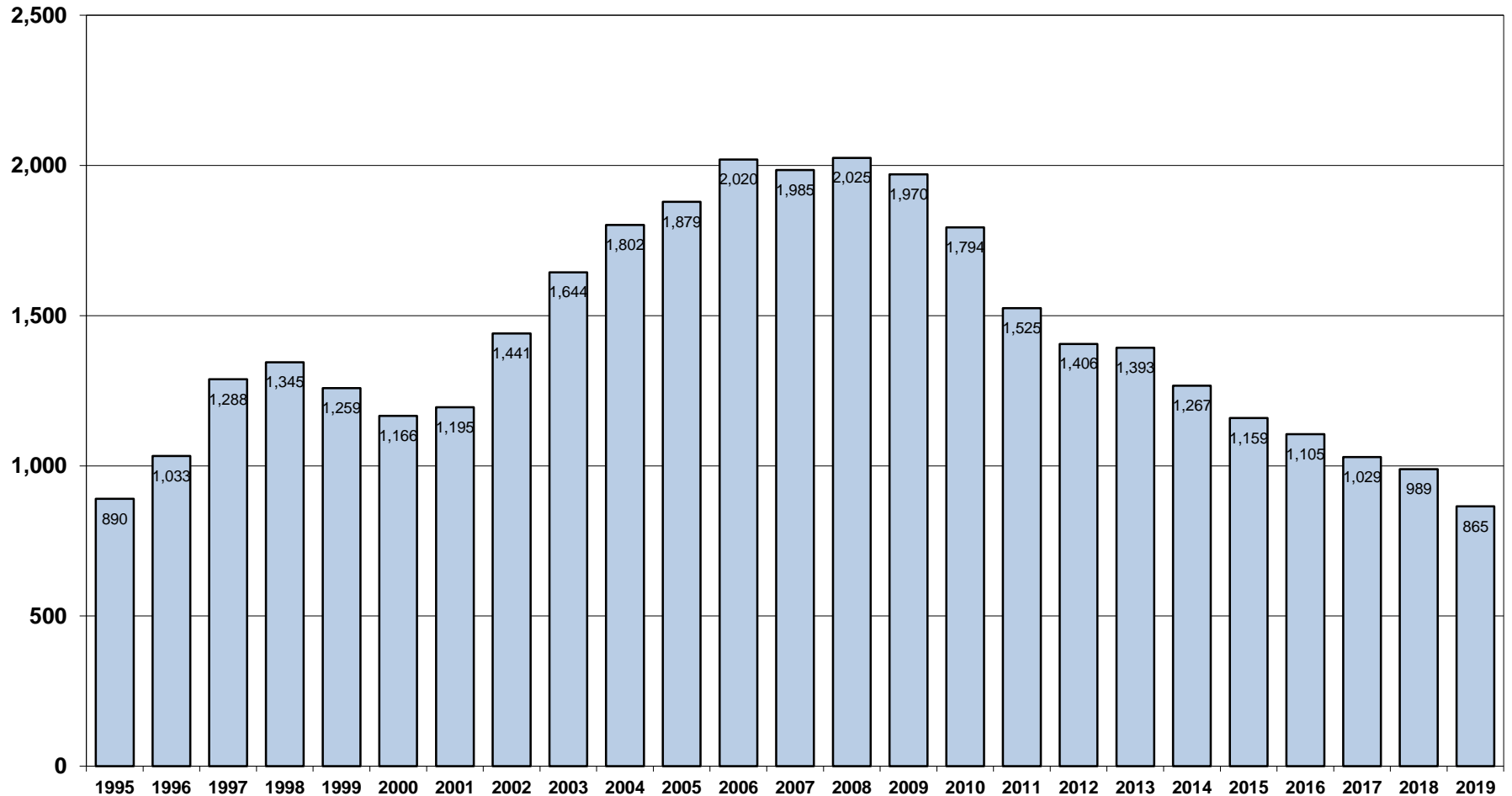
Michigan Department of Corrections  
**3-Year Return to Prison Rate\***



\* Includes cases that were returned on Parole Technical Violations or for a New Sentence within three years of release.

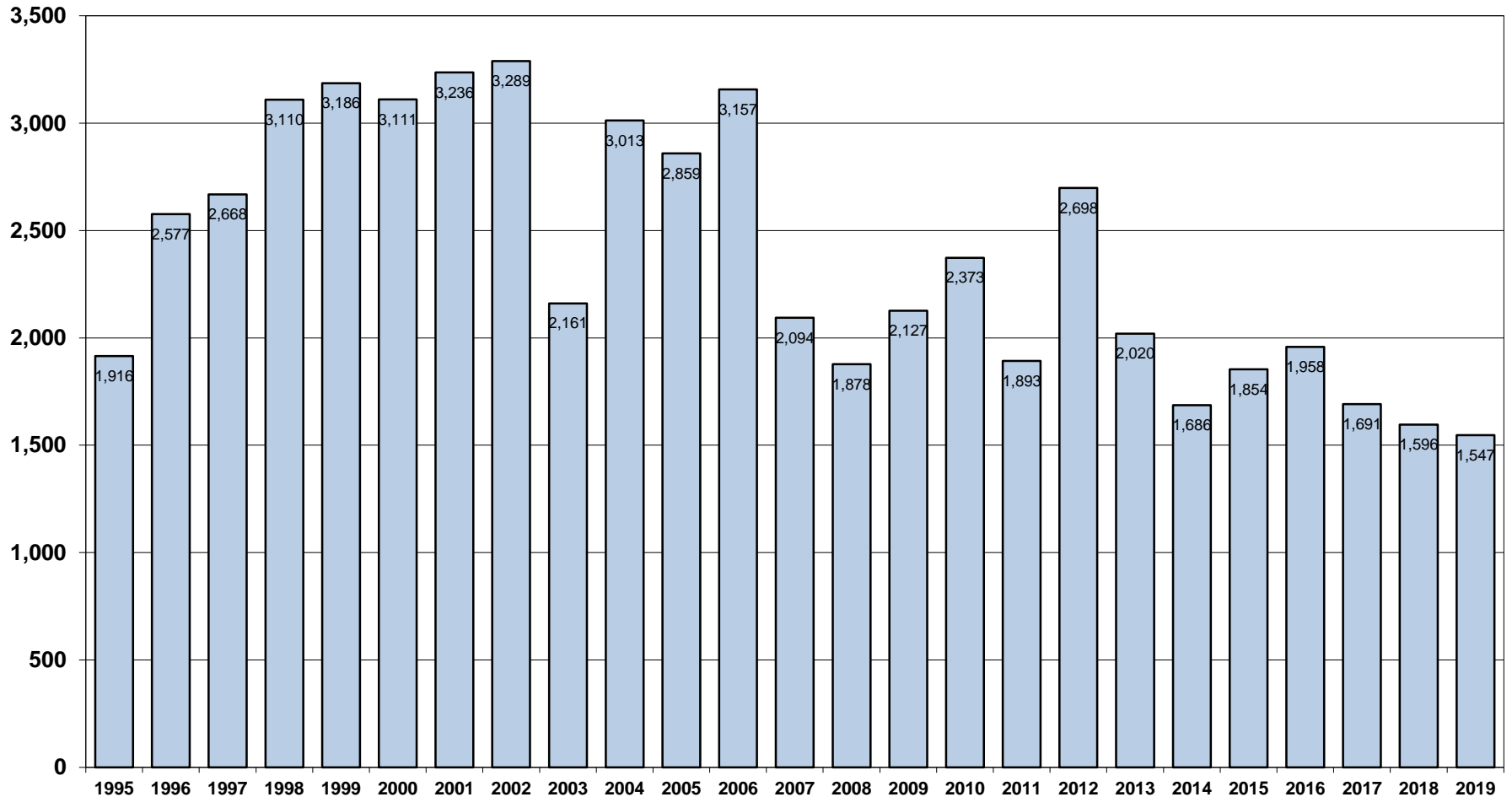
**Impact on Returns:** The parole violator new sentence (PVNS) intake resulting from new felony prosecutions while on parole continues its decline for the eleventh year.

Michigan Department of Corrections  
**Parole Violator New Sentence Intake**



**Impact on Returns:** Parole technical violator returns (PVT returns) to prison have declined to 27-year low and are down over 50% from the 2002 high.

Michigan Department of Corrections  
**Parole Technical Violator Returns to Prison**



# Factors Driving the Prison Population

A. Felony Court Dispositions	Down
B. Prison Commitment Rate	Stable
C. Probation Population	Down
D. Probation Violators to Prison	Down
E. Prison Intake	Down
F. Intake Average Min Term	Up
G. Parole Approval Rate	Stable
H. Parole Decisions	Down
I. Moves to Parole	Down
J. Parole Population	Down
K. Max Discharges	Down
L. 3-Year Return to Prison Rate (Recidivism)	Stable
M. Parole Violator New Offense Returns (PVNS)	Down
N. Parole Technical Rule Violator Returns (PVT)	Down

Summary

Nearly ALL Favorable

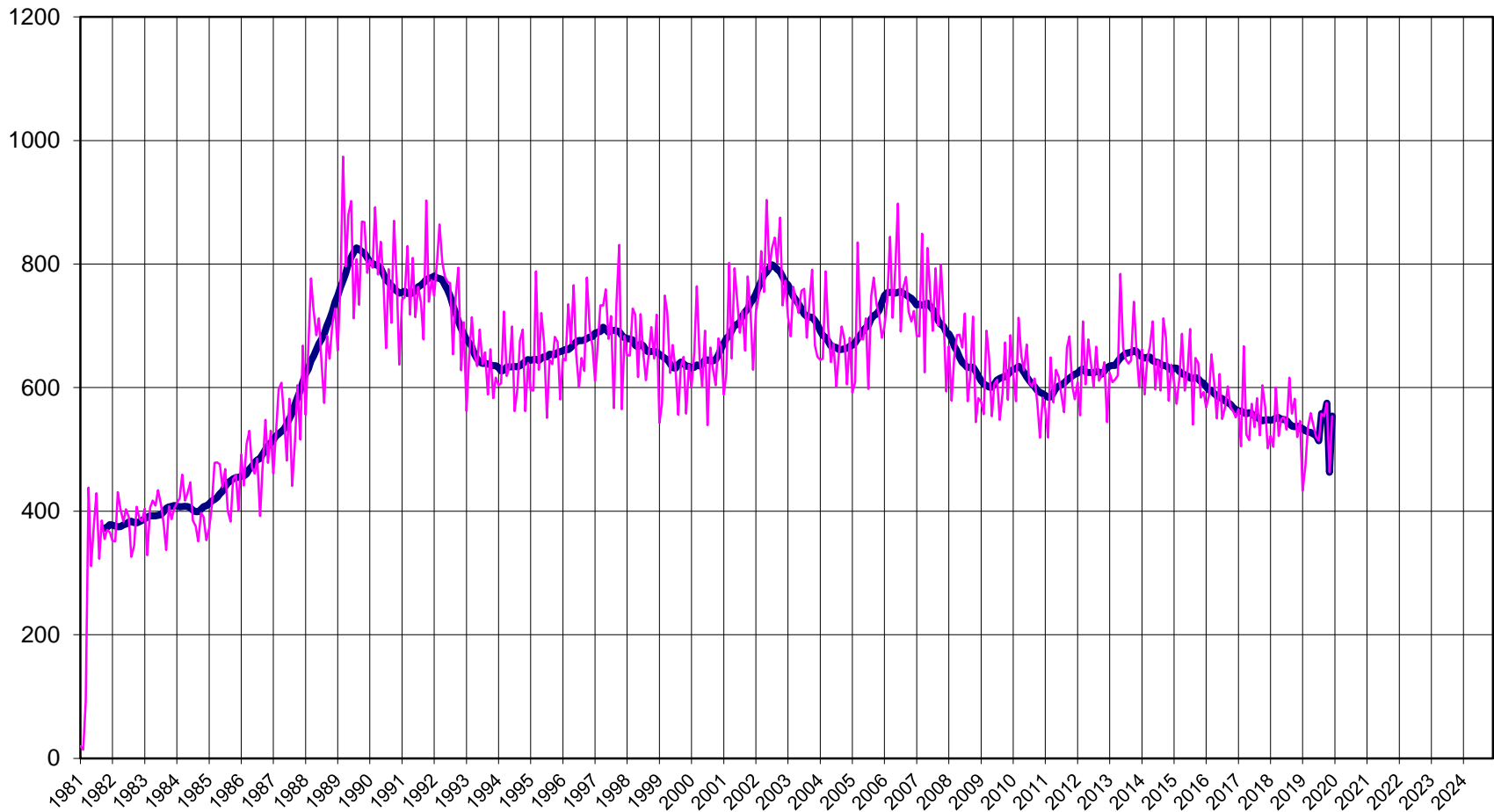


# Projecting the Prison Population

- A. The Model originally purchased from the National Council on Crime and Delinquency in 1987. The Model has been extensively adapted and customized by MDOC staff over the years.
- B. The Model is a Monte Carlo prison population simulator that uses numerous probability distributions to mimic prisoner transitions through MDOC.
- C. Probability distributions that drive the Model are build from MDOC enterprise data systems through extensive data extraction, transformation, and analysis before loading into the Model.
- D. Data analysis breaks prisoner data down into 50 offense / max term groupings each with up to 6 min term for a total of 300 pairs which allow particular attention to 0-24 month sentences that have the greatest influence on 3 to 5 year population projections.
- E. Rebuilt data is then “fine tuned” in the Model by back-projecting against two years of actual historical trace vectors to ensure a valid basis to project the future.
- F. Trend analysis forms the basis for the future yearly intake assumptions that must be fed to the Model for disaggregation and projection.
- G. Last February’s projection was 98.6% accurate at the end of December 2019 – projecting 538 prisoners higher than actual.

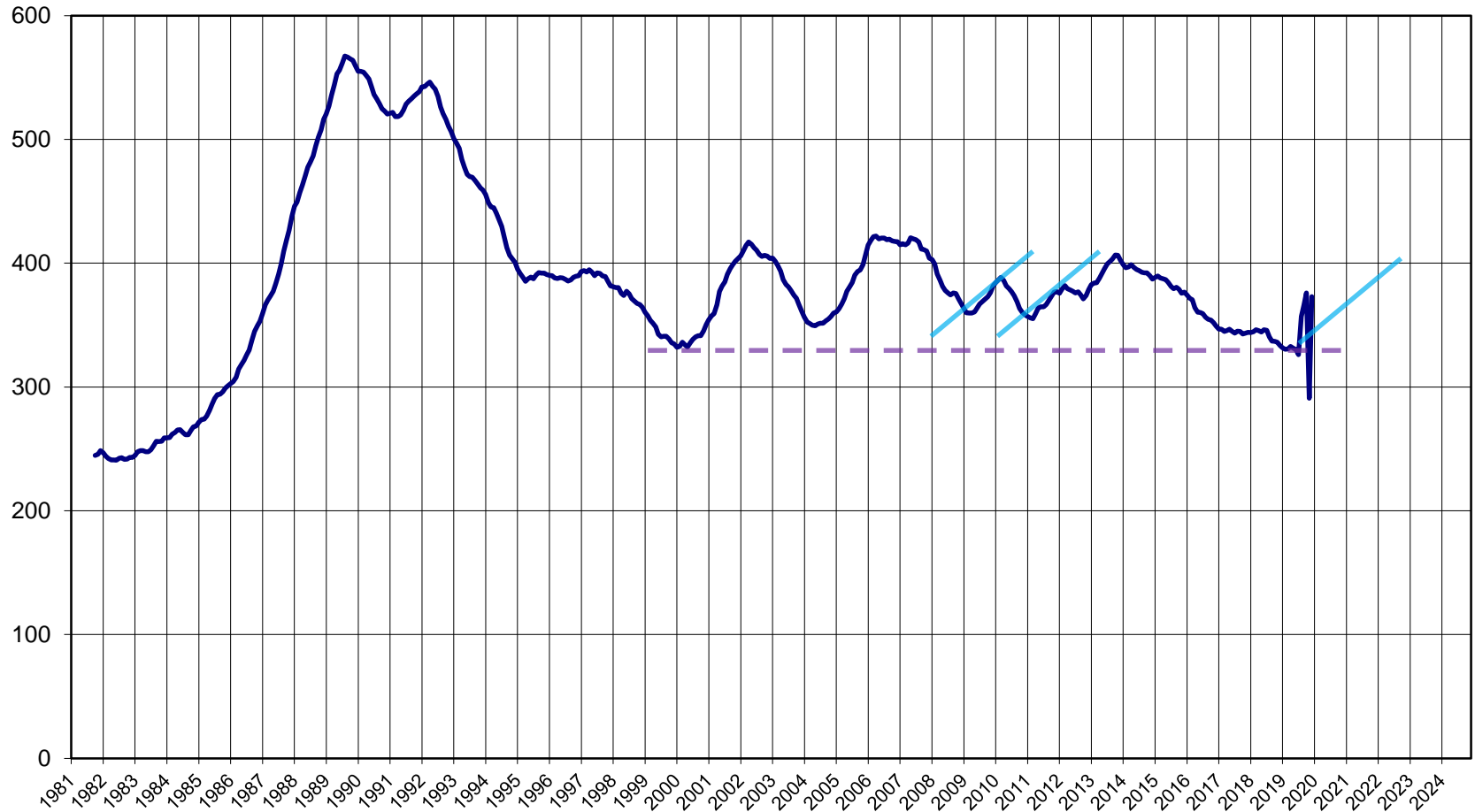
**Projection Assumptions:** While Yearly Intake appears declining, Monthly Intake flattened out in 2017. Thin line shows the wild variations that occur in the raw monthly intake counts. Thick line within the wild variations shows the embedded trend.

## Model Intake 1981-2019



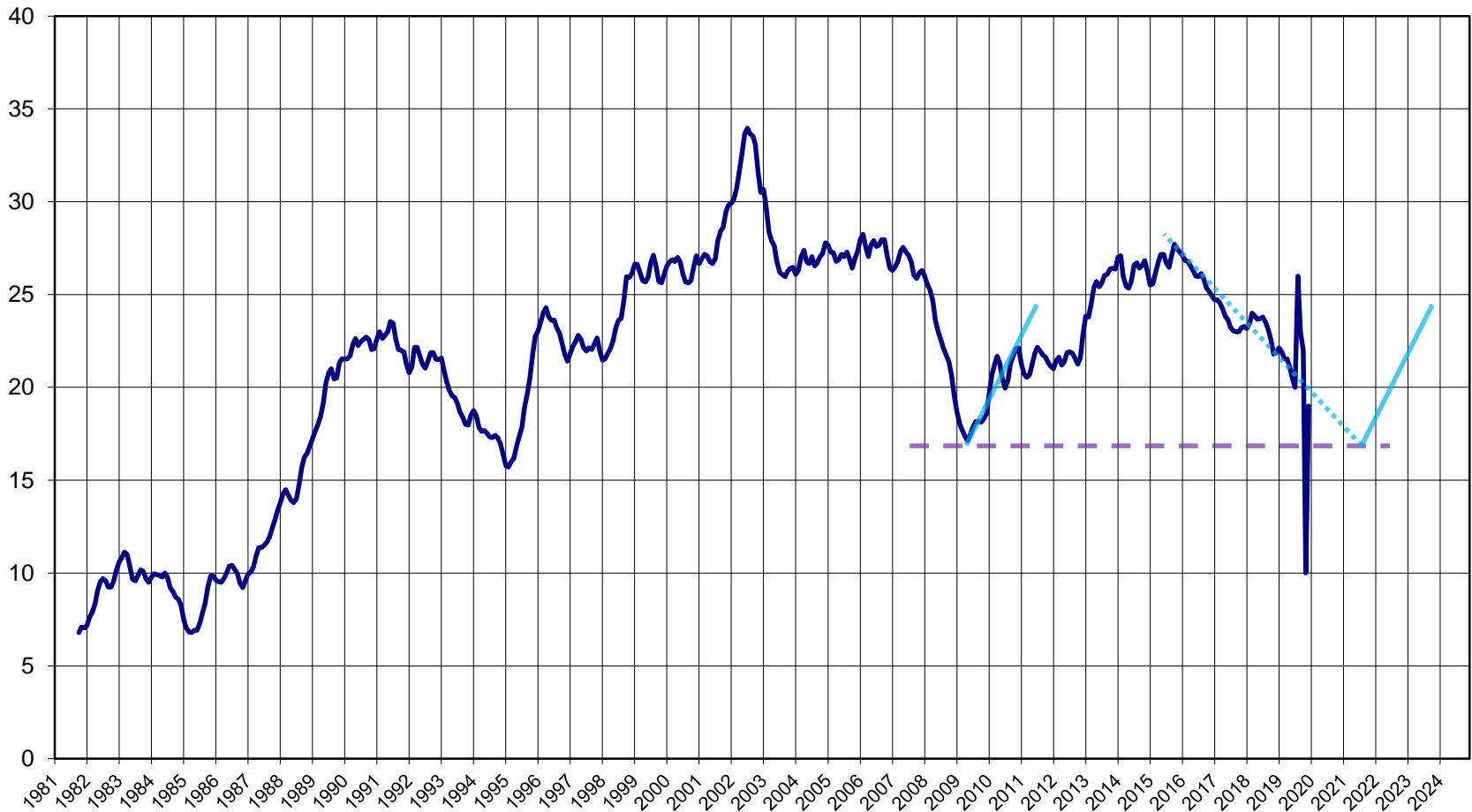
**Projection Assumptions:** Male New Court Commitments are hitting the bottom reached in 2000. The prudent course is to assume it will bounce at a rate similar to the increases seen in 2009 and 2011.

## Male New Court Commitments 1981-2019



**Projection Assumptions:** The current Female Probation Violators trend may continue until it reaches the bottom seen in 2009 and then increase at the 2009 rate.

## Female Probation Violators 1981-2019



# Projection Assumptions

- |  |             |
|--|-------------|
| A. Model Intake  | Slightly Up |
| 1. Male New Court Commits rise slightly the next couple of years.    |             |
| 2. Female Probation Violation Commits decline slightly, then rise.   |             |
| 3. 2020 up 2.7%, 2021 up 4.3%, 2022 up 5.4%, then flat at that level |             |
| B. Parole Approval Rate  | Stable      |
| 1. Maintains at 2019 level   |             |
| C. Parole Decisions  | Stable/Up   |
| 1. Slight increase but delayed for intake                            |             |
| D. Moves to Parole   | Stable/Up   |
| 1. Slight increase but delayed for intake                            |             |
| E. Parole Violator New Offense Returns (PVNS)                        | Stable      |
| 1. Stable but possible increase years after intake increase          |             |
| F. Parole Technical Rule Violator Returns (PVT)                      | Stable      |
| 1. Stable but possible increase years after intake increase          |             |

# Projection Assumptions

	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>
<b>Intake</b>	6,276	6,444	6,720	7,080
<b>Parole Violators New Sentence (PVNS)</b>	862	887	915	902
<b>Parole Violators Technical (PVT)</b>	1,546	1,523	1,486	1,545
<b>Paroles</b>	8,626	8,731	8,805	9,026

The new prison population projection anticipates a continued but slowing decline as a baseline forecast absent any new initiatives.

### Michigan Department of Corrections ACTUAL AND PROJECTED PRISON POPULATION

