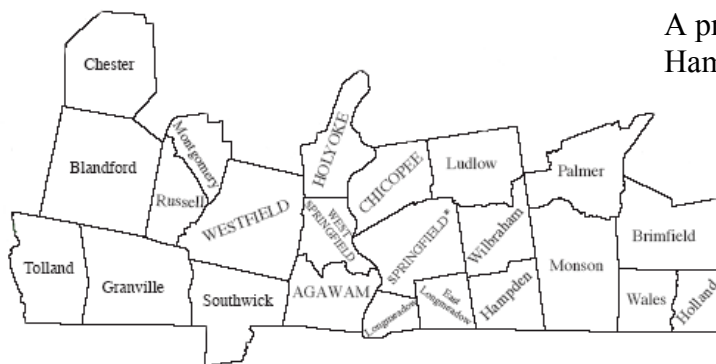


HAMPDEN COUNTY CORRECTIONS

A profile of the Sheriff's Department of
Hampden County, Massachusetts



Criminal Justice Policy Coalition COUNTY CORRECTIONS PROJECT

www.CJPC.org
June 2005

Hampden County, incorporated February 25, 1812¹ and abolished July 1, 1998², includes (cities in **bold**; *county seat): **Agawam**[•] (28,144), Blandford, Brimfield, Chester, **Chicopee** (54,653), East Longmeadow, Granville, Hampden, Holland, **Holyoke** (39,838), Longmeadow, Ludlow, Monson, Montgomery, Palmer, Russell, Southwick, **Springfield*** (152,082), Tolland, Wales, **West Springfield**[•] (27,899), **Westfield** (40,072), Wilbraham

Hampden County Racial Breakdown: White Non-Hispanic (74.4%); Hispanic/Latino (15.2%); Other Race (8.8%); Black (8.1%); Asian (1.3%); American Indian (0.3%)

	Hampden County	Massachusetts
Population:	461,190 ⁴	453,506 Avg. County
Area (square miles):	47	560 Avg. County
Unemployment:	6.7%	5.8%
Median income:	\$39,158	\$51,085
Persons below poverty	14.7% ⁵	9.3%
High school graduates:	79.2%	84.8%
College degrees:	20.5%	33.2%
Other language ⁶ :	22.3%	18.7%

[•] One of eleven Massachusetts communities granted city form of government, but remaining known as "the town of," www.sec.state.ma.us/cis/cisctlist/ctlistcoun.htm.

¹ www.sec.state.ma.us/cis/cisctlist/ctlistcounin.htm.

² Counties remain, but some county governments have been "abolished;" their offices are now under direction of certain state offices; for instance, Registry of Deeds offices are under the direction of the Secretary of the Commonwealth's Office, www.sec.state.ma.us/cis/cisctlist/ctlistcounin.htm. Abolished counties do not receive "county" revenue to fund corrections; all funding comes through the state budget.

³ All population, demographic, and economic data from U.S. Census Bureau, 2003 estimates; and 2003, U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, www.bls.gov.

⁴ 1999, <http://quickfacts.census.gov>.

⁵ A language other than English is spoken in the home, U.S. Census Bureau, Census, <http://quickfacts.census.gov>.

SHERIFF MICHAEL J, ASHE, JR. (DEM.)

Elected: 1974
Re-elected: 2004, unopposed
Education: B.A., St. Anselm's College
M.A., Boston College (social work), 1986
Background: House parent - Downey Street Homes for Youth

CORRECTIONS POPULATION AND BUDGET

	Hampden County	Average all Counties
Average daily population:	1,856 ⁷	969 ⁸
Total design capacity:	1,303	617
Percent over design capacity:	142% ⁹	157%
New commitments annually:	2,089	1,157 ¹⁰
Inmates released 2004:	2,334 ¹¹	N/A
FY05 operating budget:	\$53,943,889	\$32,234,015 ¹²
Annual per inmate cost:	\$29,065	\$35,821
Women in custody:	281	65 ¹³
Average sentence length 2004:	273 days ¹⁴	<365 days ¹⁵
Average age county inmates:	28 years ¹⁶	N/A
Inmates <i>without</i> high school diploma:	46% (men) 36% (women) ¹⁷	N/A
Community Corrections participants:	68/10	62/11 ¹⁸

⁷ Average daily population, Jan 5, 2004 to Dec. 28, 2004, Mass. Department of Correction (DOC), *Quarterly Report on the Status of Prison Overcrowding, Fourth Quarter, 2004*. During this period, Hampden held 15% of county inmates statewide.

⁸ Average daily population of the 13 counties that maintain correctional facilities.

⁹ DOC annual (2003) and quarterly overcrowding (2004) reports.

¹⁰ New commitments 2003, DOC, *New Court Commitments to County Facilities* (2003).

¹¹ Provided by the Hampden County Sheriff's Department.

¹² From FY05 State Budget and information provided by the Massachusetts Sheriff's Association; Hampden accounted for 12% of statewide spending; approx. \$451,276,205 total statewide spending.

¹³ In 2003, female county commitments totaled 909 statewide; seven counties had two or fewer newly committed women; the other seven counties averaged 129 women, DOC, *New Court Commitments* (2003).

¹⁴ Average sentence was 279 days for men, and 233 days for women, provided by Hampden County Sheriff's Department.

¹⁵ In 2003, 70% of new county commitments received sentences under 12 months, DOC, *New Court Commitments*.

¹⁶ For 2003/2004; average age for men was 27 years 3 months; for women it was 28 years 9 months, provided by Hampden County Sheriff's Department.

¹⁷ 2004 sentenced inmates without high school diplomas or equivalent, provided by the Hampden County Sheriffs Department.

¹⁸ First number indicates total participants in the county; second is the number supervised by the sheriff's departments; approx. 866 offenders supervised statewide (2003); 149 supervised by sheriff's departments, Commonwealth of Massachusetts Trial Court Office of Community Corrections, *Utilization of Community Corrections Centers Statistical Report, FY 200*.