



2023 REPORT

TRENDS IN CONNECTICUT'S CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM

Presented by:

Marc Pelka, *Undersecretary*

Kevin Neary, *Research Unit Director*
Office of Policy and Management

NOVEMBER 2023

Today's report reviews annual trends across components of Connecticut's justice system, including the points listed below.

- **Crime**
- **Victimization**
- **Arrests**
- **Criminal Cases**
- **Corrections**
- **Community Supervision**
- **§4-68p** of the C.G.S. requires OPM CJPPD to produce an annual report containing data analysis of state criminal justice system trends, including, if available, the number of reported crimes and arrests, and the size of the populations on probation, parole, special parole, and in prison.
- This is the third edition of trends presented under this statutory requirement.
- The division continues to refine and enhance the information reported in editions released each year.

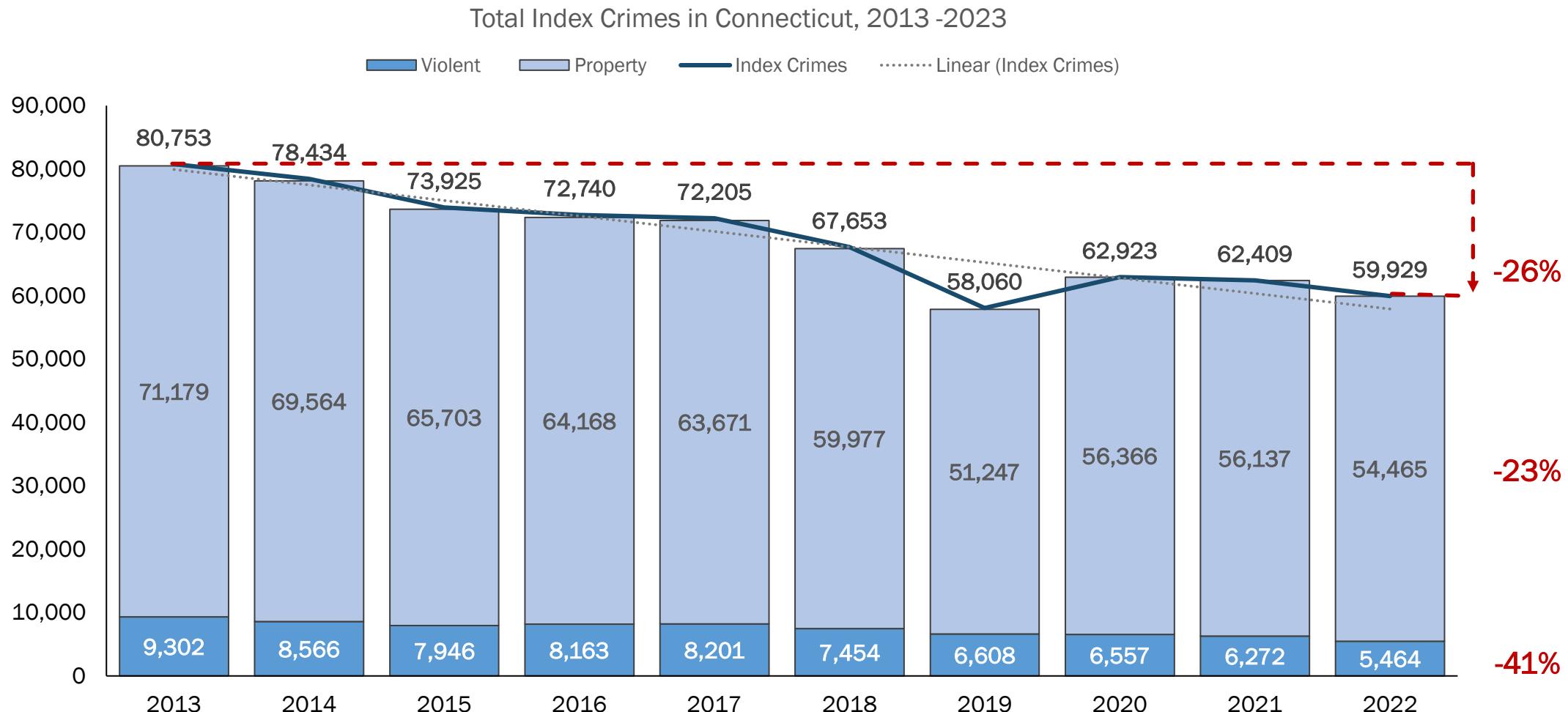
Summary of Key System Measures

Measure	Time Period	Percent change		
		10 year	5 Year	1 Year
Reported violent crime	2013-2022	-41%	-27%	-13%
Reported property crime	2013-2022	-23%	-9%	-3%
Arrests	2019-2023*	—	-21%	+2%
Criminal cases added	2019-2023*	—	-15%	+5%
Correction Admissions	2014-2023*	-37%	-22%	+7%
Correction July 1 Population	2013-2023	-40%	-24%	+1%
Correction Community Supervision July 1 population	2013-2023	-26%	-36%	-4%
Probation: July average daily population	2019-2023	—	-16%	+3%

*Note: These statistics are aggregated per State of Connecticut Fiscal Years, which run July 1 to June 30 annually.

- Today's analysis captures contractions occurring at most points across the criminal justice system during the time periods for which data are available.
- Following its onset in March 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic had widespread impacts on justice system trends.
- OPM CJPPD continues to monitor emerging criminal justice system trends in this report and others.

Connecticut index crimes, which declined 4% from 2021 to 2022, are down 26% from ten years ago, with violent crime down 41%.

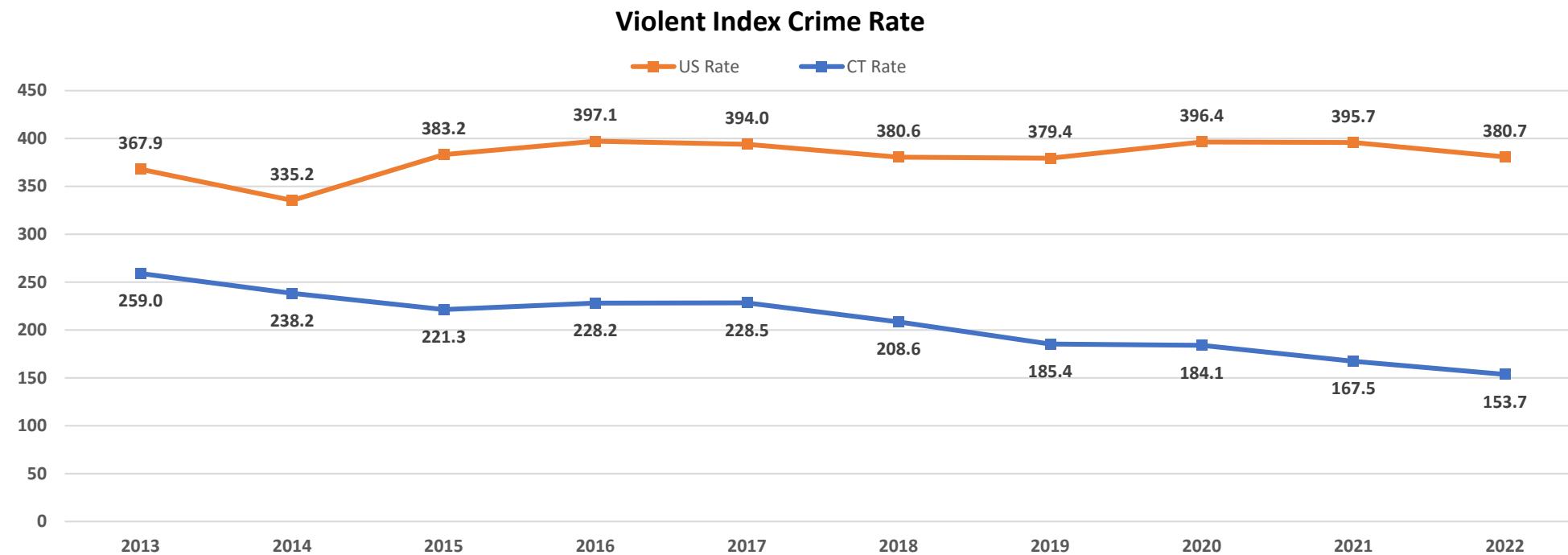


Note: Index crimes are a subset of crimes reportable to law enforcement, consisting of murder, rape, robbery, and aggravated assault (Violent Index crimes); burglary, larceny/theft, motor vehicle theft, and arson (Property Index crimes).

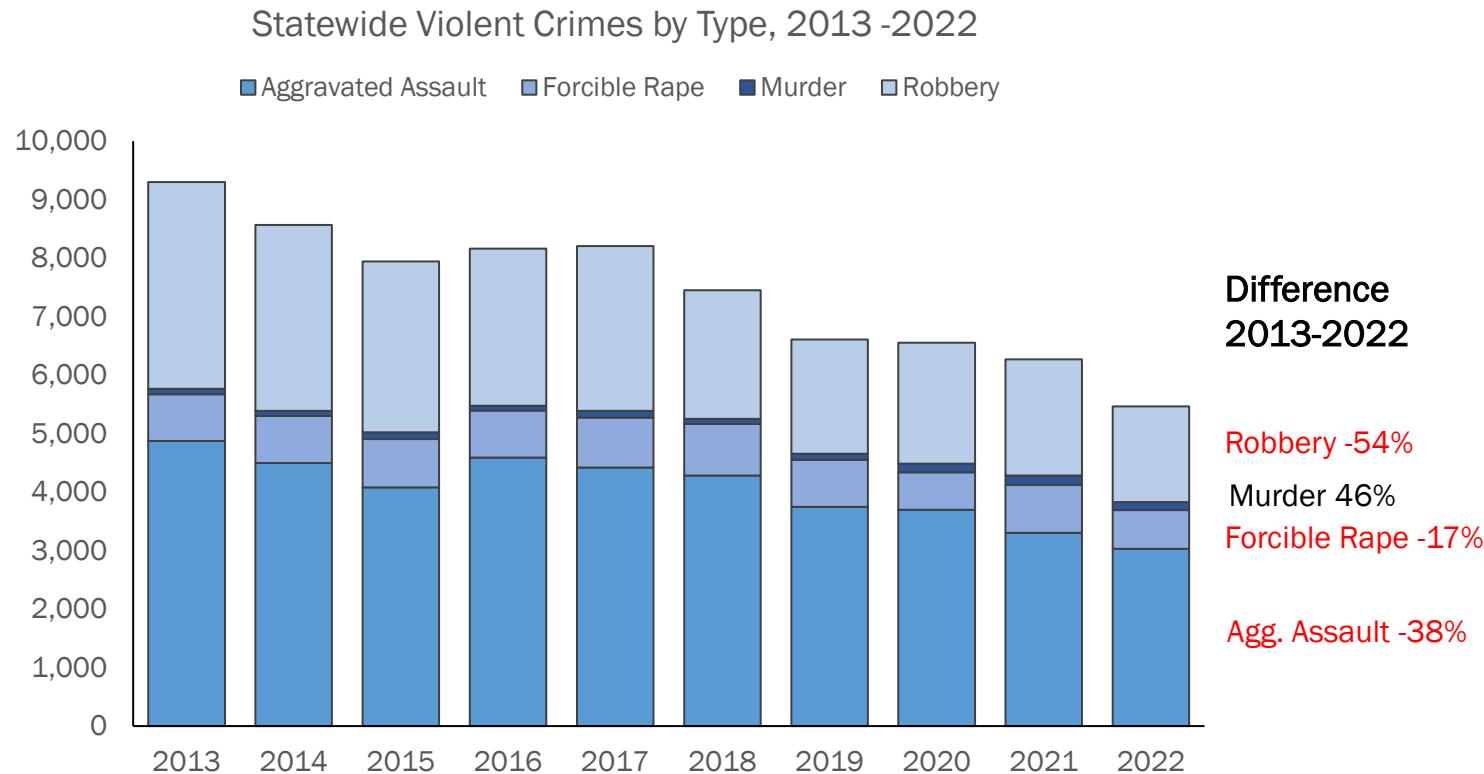
Source: Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection (DESPP) *Crime in Connecticut 2022 Report*, (<https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/DESPP/CSP/Crimes-Analysis/2022/Crime-in-Connecticut-Report-2022.pdf>)

In 2022, Connecticut's violent crime rate fell further, and now is 40% of the estimated U.S. rate.

- Connecticut's violent crime rate has declined notably over the past 10 years, in contrast to the U.S. rate.



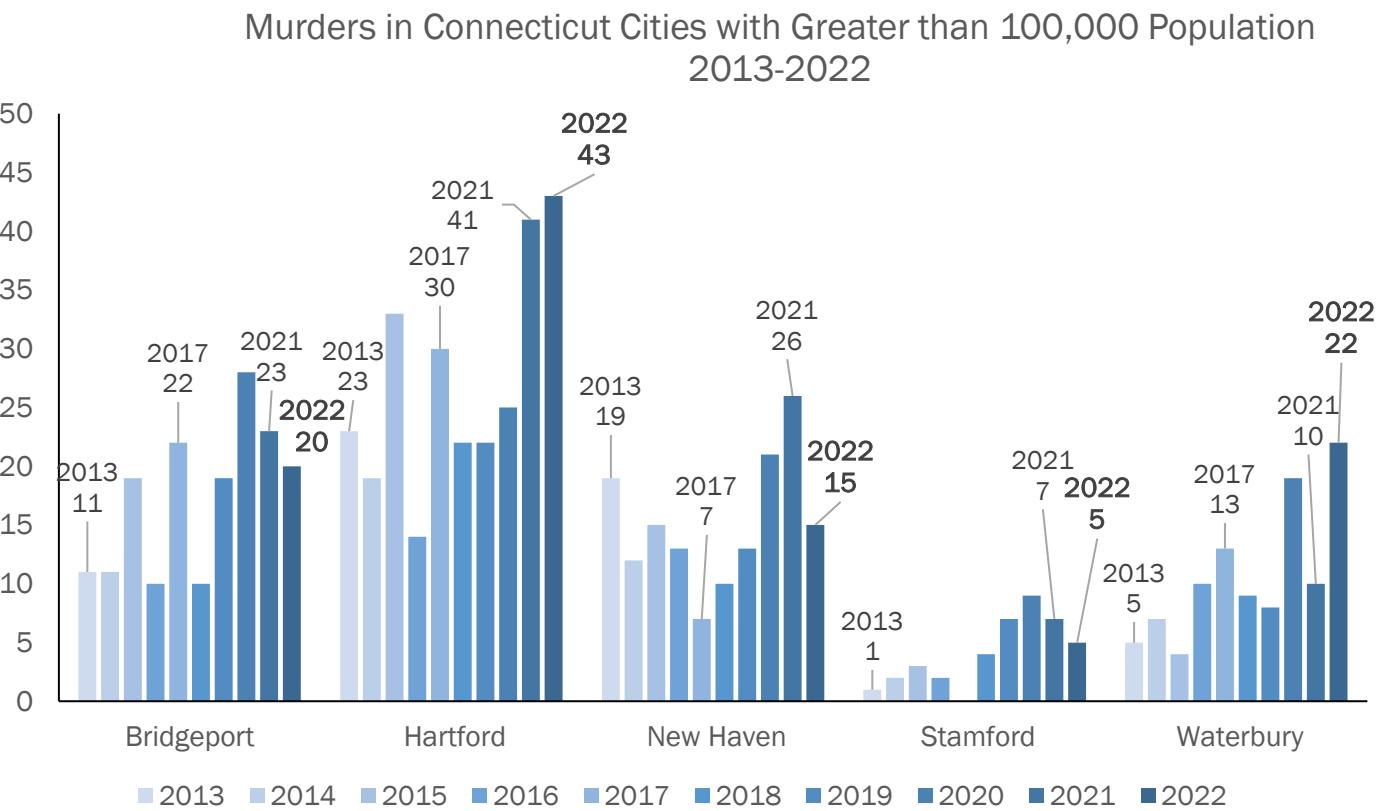
Falling statewide violent crime is driven by reductions in aggravated assaults and robberies.



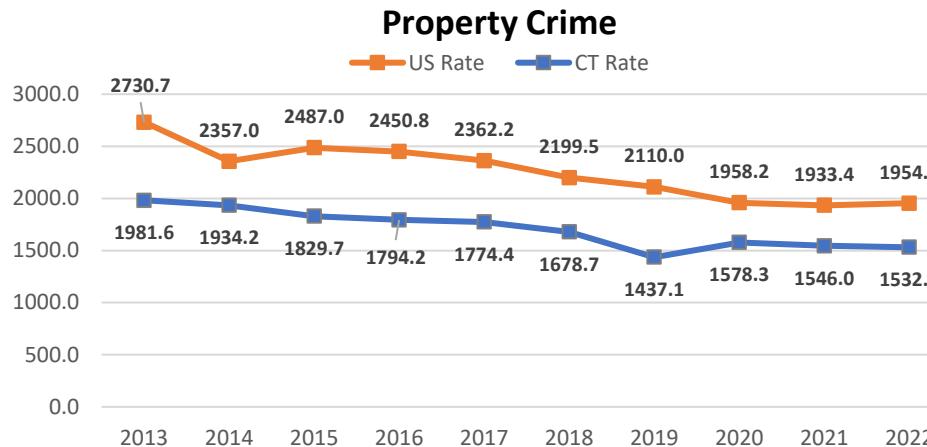
- Aggravated assaults **dropped 8%** in 2022 compared to the previous year, and robberies were **down 18%**.
 - Both categories were down approximately 30% from 2018, and more than 40% over 10 years, with robbery surpassing a 50% reduction.
- After rising from 2020 to 2021, forcible rapes in 2022 decreased **19%**.
 - Connecticut's rate per 100,000 for forcible rape (18.6) is 43% of the US rate (43.50 in 2021)

Connecticut's 2022 murder rate declined 13% over the prior year but is above than pre-pandemic levels.

- Murder Rate per 100,000: 2022 (2021)
 - Connecticut estimate: 3.79 (4.44)
 - U.S. estimate: 6.90
- Connecticut's five largest cities (Bridgeport, Hartford, New Haven, Stamford and Waterbury), comprised 18% of the state population but experienced 77% of murders in 2022.
 - Bridgeport, New Haven and Stamford experienced fewer murders in 2022 than 2021.
 - Reported murders in Hartford and Waterbury reached a **10-year high** in 2022.



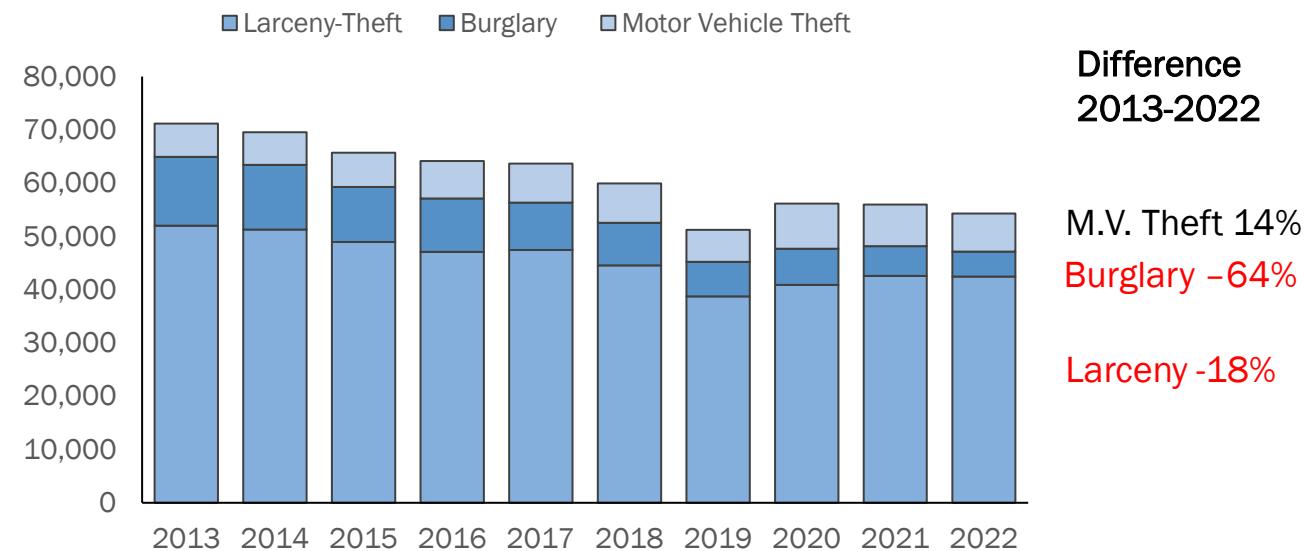
Connecticut's property crime rate decreased 3% in 2022 from 2021



- Motor vehicle thefts **declined 9%** in 2022, but have **grown 14%** from 2013.
- Burglaries are **down 16%** from 2021, and **63.5%** from ten years ago.
- Larceny/property theft crimes **were flat** in 2022 compared to 2021, but **18%** lower than 2013.

- Connecticut's estimated 2022 property crime rate per 100,000 was among the lowest observed over the past 10 years .
- Connecticut's 2022 rate (**1,532.1**) again registered as 78% of the U.S. rate (**1,954.4**)

Statewide Property Crimes by Type, 2013 -2022



Crime in Connecticut now includes NIBRS data, which includes statewide data on victimizations reported to police in 2022.

Crimes Against Persons Statewide Incident-Based Profile 2022

The data represents the number of victims within a reported incident

Crimes Against Persons	
Offenses Reported	31,545
Percent Cleared	62.7
Rate per 10K	87.4
Total Arrests	16,429

2021 Offense Count = 32,339
< 2.4% decrease >

92.5% of Crimes Against Persons are Assault Offenses

41.9% of Aggravated Assaults were due to an Argument

Distribution of Crimes Against Persons Offenses

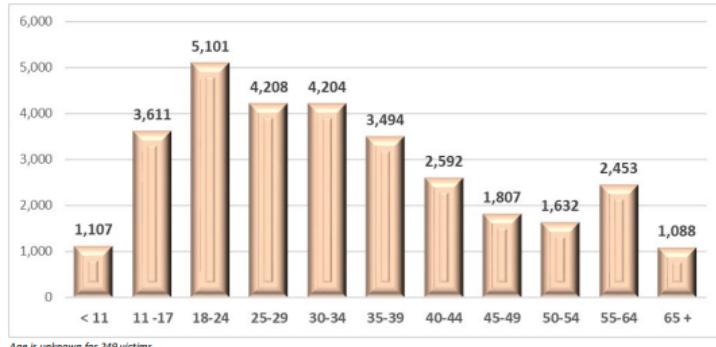
Offense	Crimes	Distribution
Simple Assault	15,624	49.5%
Intimidation	10,478	33.2%
Aggravated Assault	3,083	9.8%
Fondling	1,045	3.3%
Rape	558	1.8%
Kidnapping/Abduction	337	1.1%
Murder & Nonnegligent Manslaughter	137	0.4%
Statutory Rape	115	0.4%
Sodomy	73	0.2%
Sexual Assault With An Object	39	0.1%
Negligent Manslaughter	26	0.1%
Incest	20	0.1%
Human Trafficking Offenses	11	0.03%

Victim Distribution by Sex

Female	61.0%
Male	38.7%
Unknown	0.3%

14.9% of victims of Crimes Against Persons were under 18 years of age

Number of Victims by Age Range



Crimes Against Property Statewide Incident-Based Profile 2022

The data represent each offense that occurred within a reported crime incident

Crimes Against Property

Offenses Reported	88,523
Number of Victims	86,990
Percent Cleared	12.8
Rate per 10K	245.15
Total Arrests	10,163

Total Property Values

Stolen	\$283,203,205
Recovered	\$68,969,223

Victims by Type

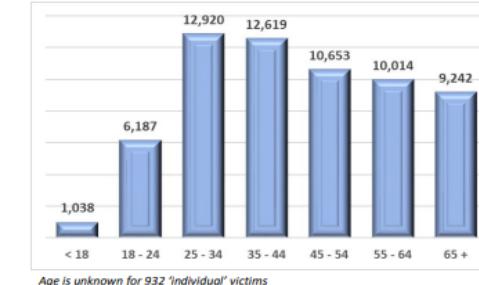
Individual	63,605	73.1%
Business	21,899	25.2%
Government	878	1.0%
Other	222	0.26%
Financial Institution	149	0.17%
Unknown	132	0.15%
Religious Organization	105	0.12%

Top 10 Property Items Stolen

Money	10,693	13.8%
Vehicle Parts/Accessories	9,485	12.2%
Other	8,902	11.5%
Automobiles	6,602	8.5%
Merchandise	6,567	8.5%
Identity Documents	3,562	4.6%
Purses/Handbags/Wallets	3,533	4.6%
Identity-Intangible	3,314	4.3%
Credit/Debit Cards	3,205	4.1%
Clothes/Furs	3,079	4.0%

10.7% of property crime arrestees were juveniles

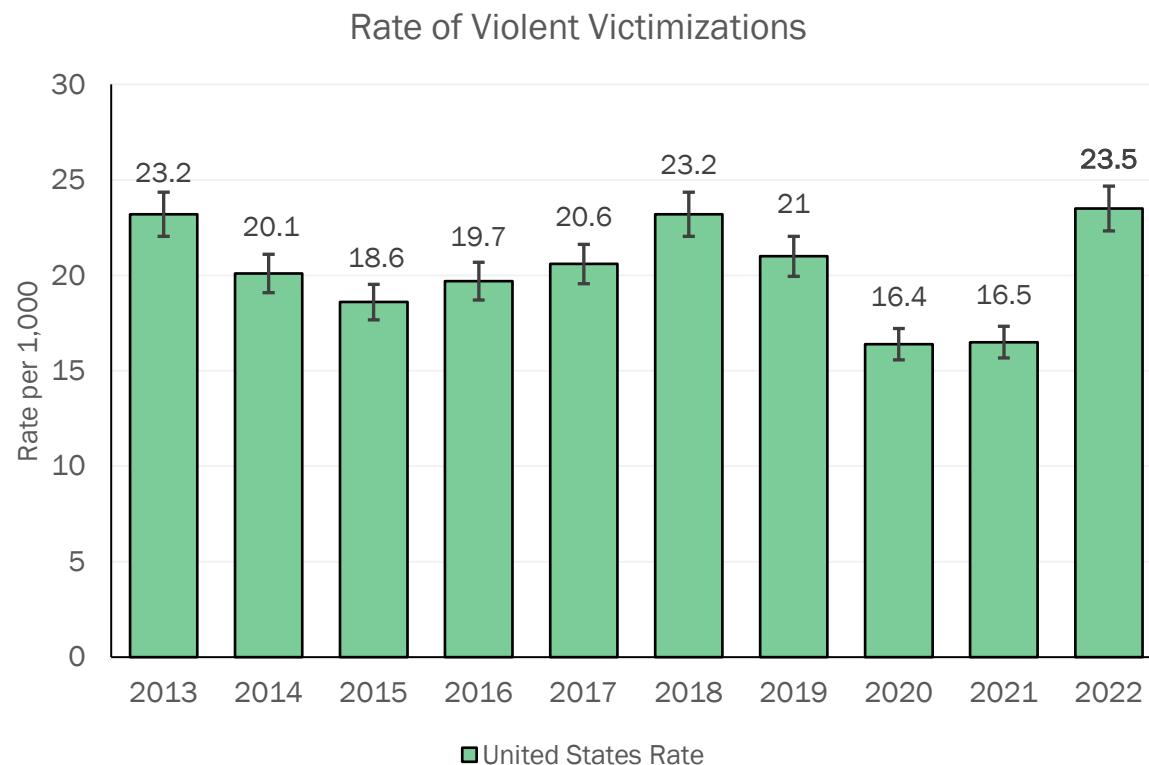
Number of 'Individual' Victims by Age Range



14.5% of 'individual' property crime victims were age 65 or older

Note on Property: NIBRS reporting connects property stolen, damaged, etc. to an incident, not an offense. If an incident has multiple offenses that involve property, there is no way to identify which offense is connected to which property. Therefore, property is presented aggregately in this report.

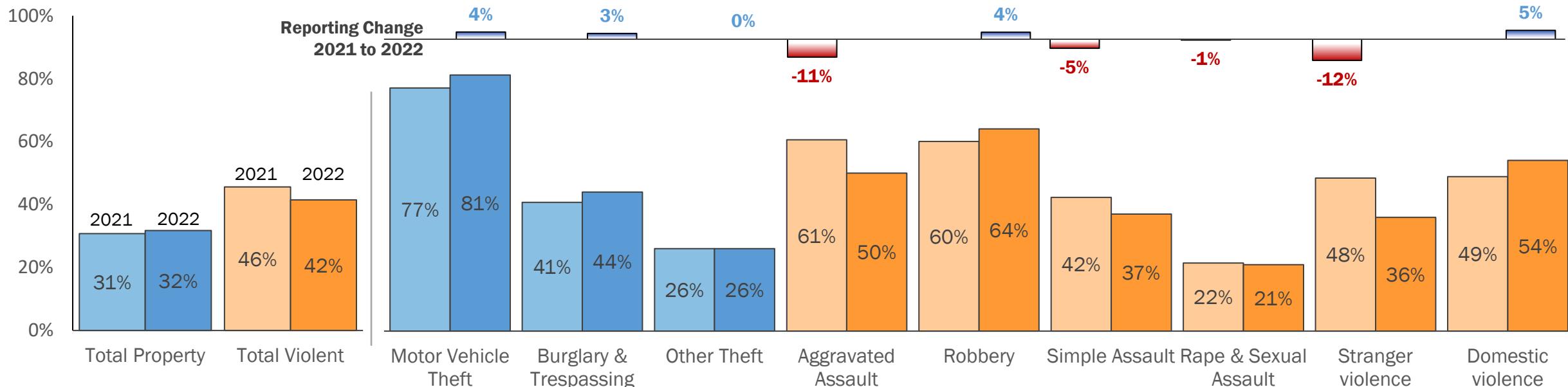
The National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS) offers complementary insights into U.S. crime trends and victimization.



- The NCVS is an annual self-reported survey with victimization estimates based on crimes respondents experienced during the prior six months, excluding the month of the interview.
- There are some notable differences in crimes included in the FBI's UCR and NCVS reports, such as:
 - The UCR includes murder, non-negligent manslaughter, and commercial crimes, while the NCVS excludes these crimes
 - The NCVS includes sexual assault, which is separate from rape and includes a wider range of actions.
- Between 2013 and 2022, the estimated national violent victimization rate **increased 1.3%**, from 23.2 to 23.5 victimizations per 1,000 people age 12 or older.
- The violent victimization rate increased from 16.5 victimizations per 1,000 persons in 2021 to 23.5 per 1,000 in 2022.

Nationally, crime continues to be under-reported, with only an estimated 2 in 5 (42%) violent victimizations reported to police in 2022.

Percent of Victimization reported to police, by crime type, 2021 & 2022

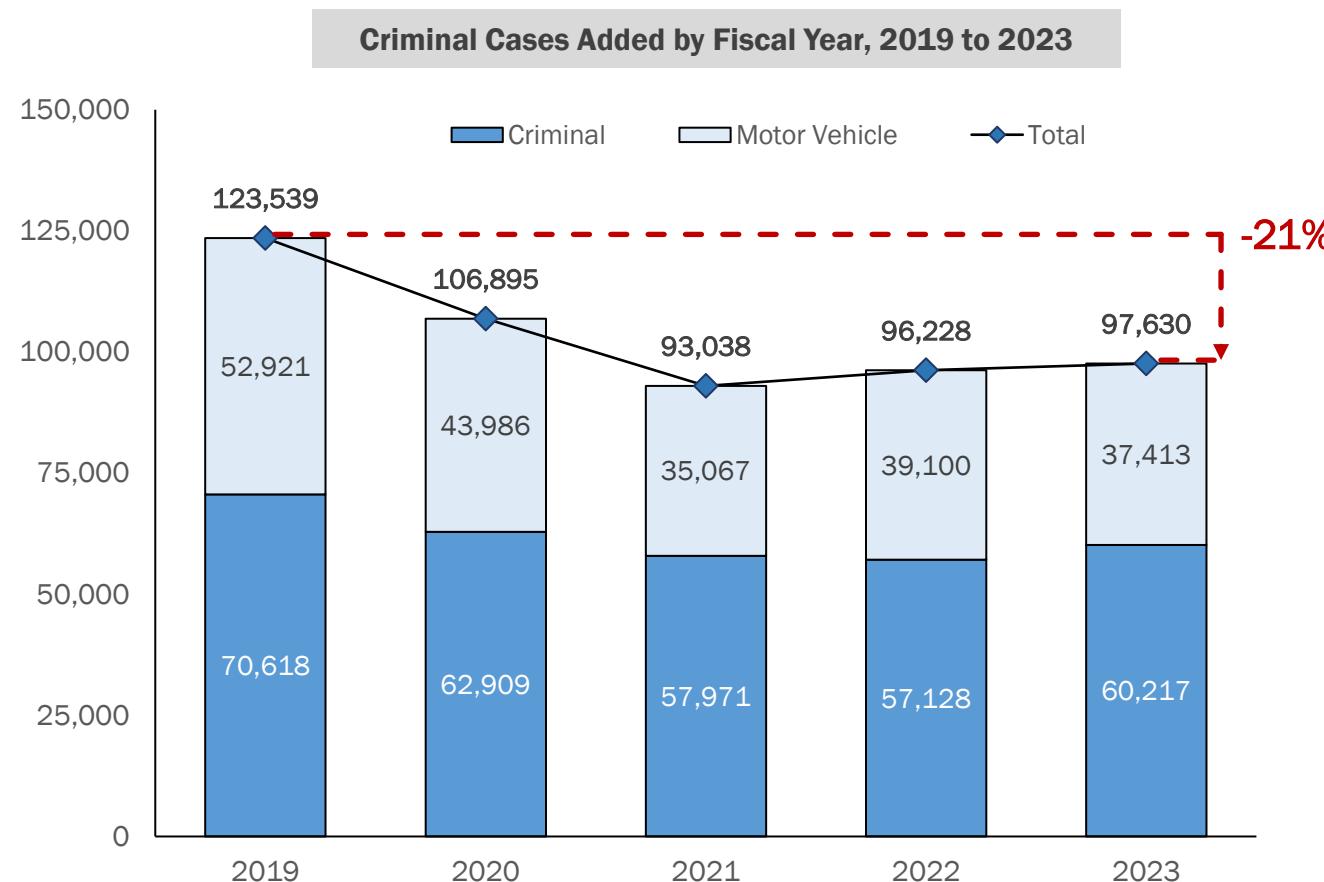


While the FBI crime statistics reflect crimes recorded by police, the NCVS measures crime reported and not reported to police.

NCVS indicates that “victims may not report a crime for a variety of reasons, including fear of reprisal or getting the offender in trouble, believing that police would not or could not do anything to help, and believing the crime to be a personal issue or too trivial to report.”

Source: 2022 National Crime Victimization Survey. Domestic violence includes violent victimizations committed by intimate partners or family members. Simple assault is the category of violent victimization captured by the NCVS that is least likely to be prosecuted as a felony

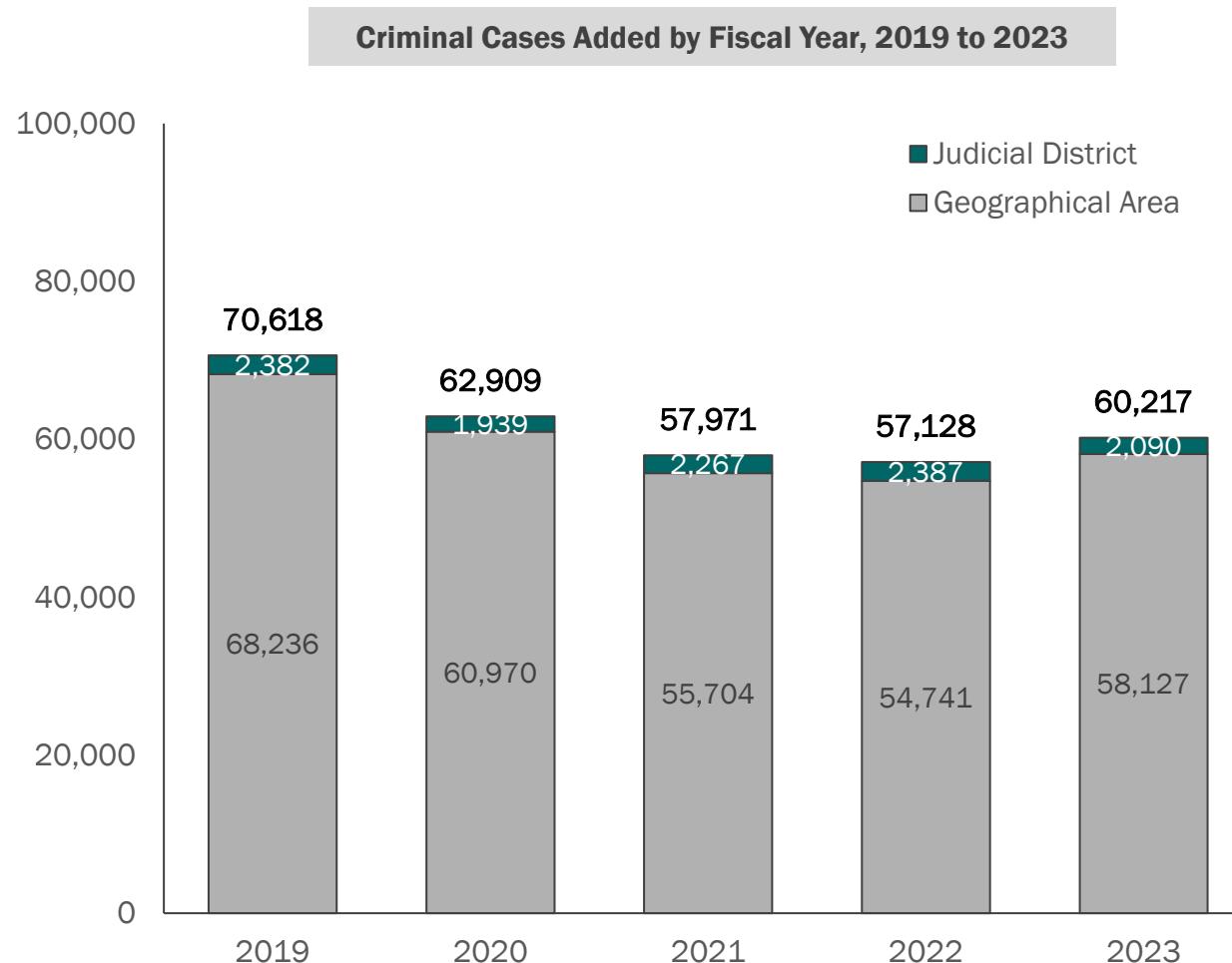
Statewide arrests, though in line with the previous year, are below pre-pandemic levels.



- Connecticut's FY 2023 arrest volumes are stable compared to the previous year but are 21% below the pre-pandemic amount.
- Compared to FY2022, motor vehicle arrests declined 4%, and were 29% lower than FY2019.
- Criminal arrests increased 5% in the most recent FY, though have declined 15% from FY2019.

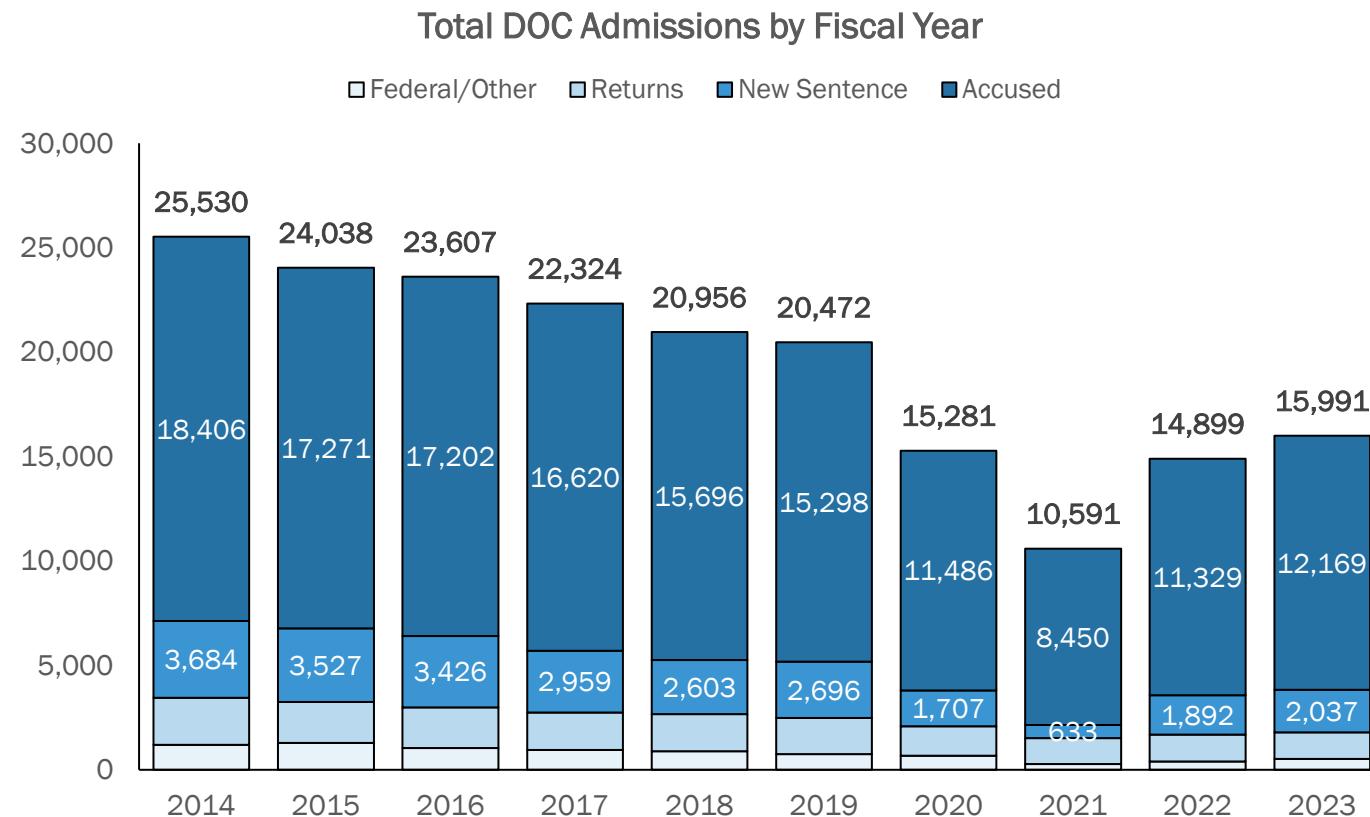
Notes: 1. Criminal includes cases transferred to the JD Court.
2. Criminal and Motor Vehicle matters exclude infractions and violations transferred from the Central Infraction Bureau.

More criminal cases were added in FY2023 compared to the previous year, but they are down 15% from the pre-pandemic amount.



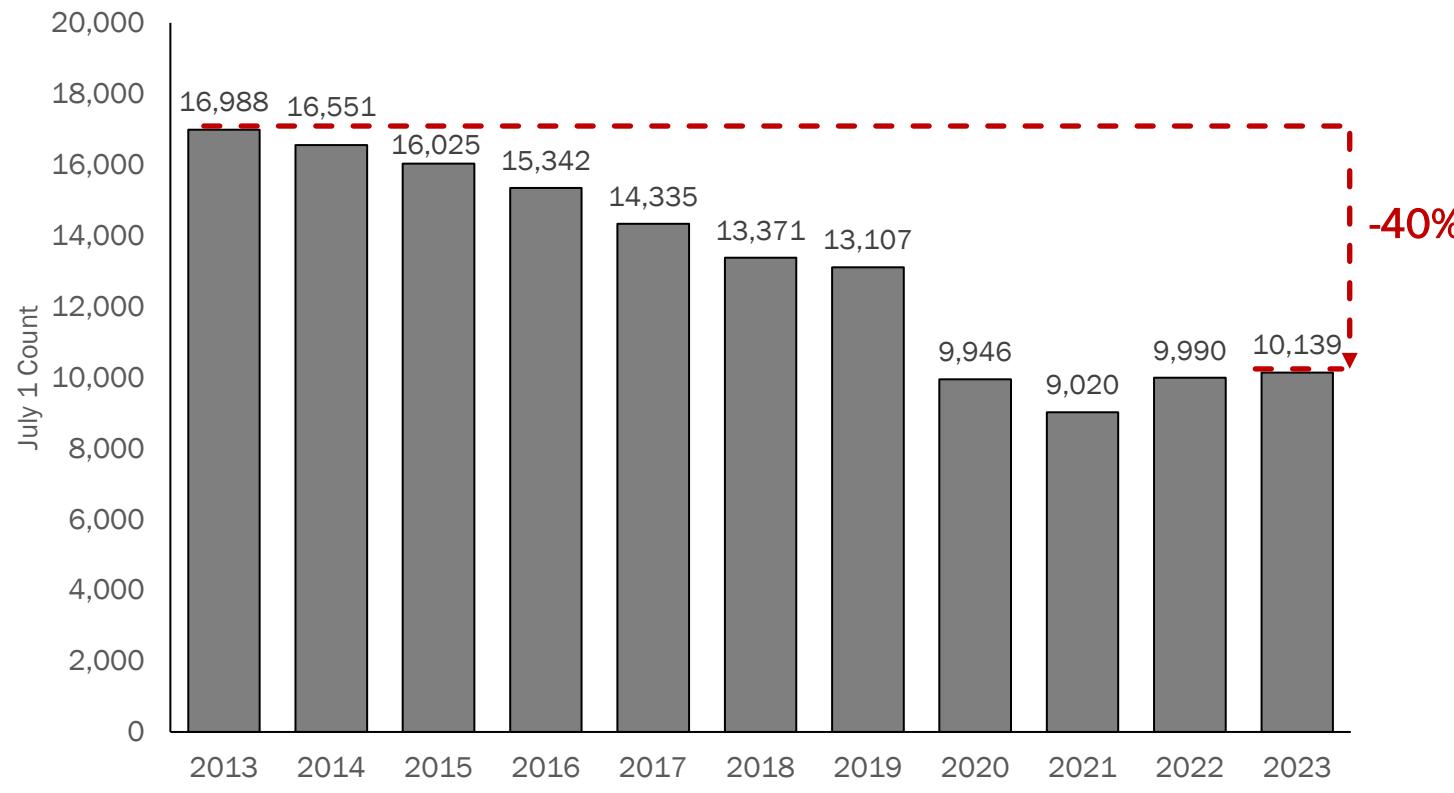
- 6% more criminal cases were added to the Geographical Area (GA) courts in 2023 compared to FY2022, but also remain 15% lower from 2019.
- The number of cases added to the Judicial District (JD) courts, which typically handle more serious criminal cases, were in line with FY2020 volumes and down 12% from five years ago.

Admissions to DOC facilities in FY2023 increased 7%, returning them to 2020 levels.



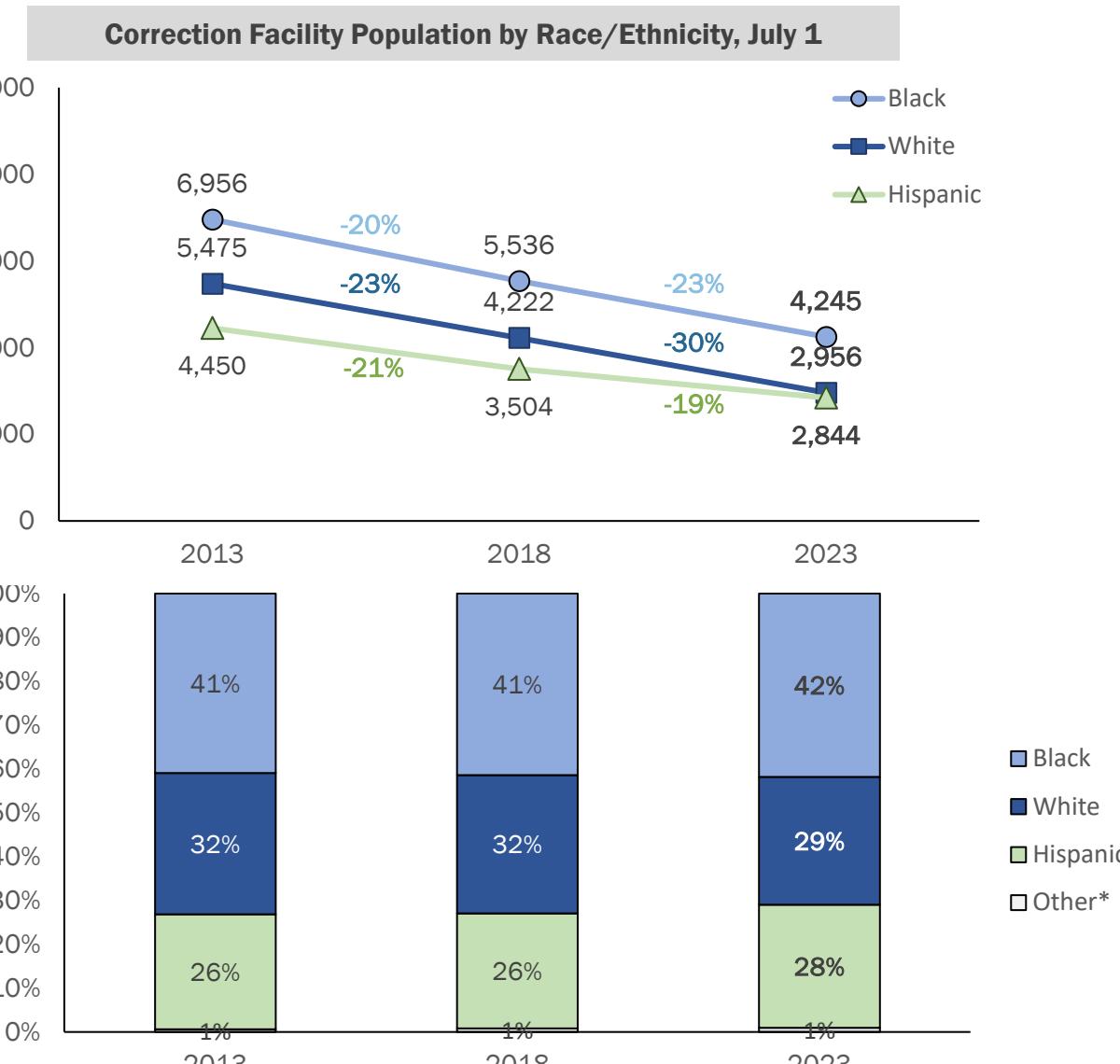
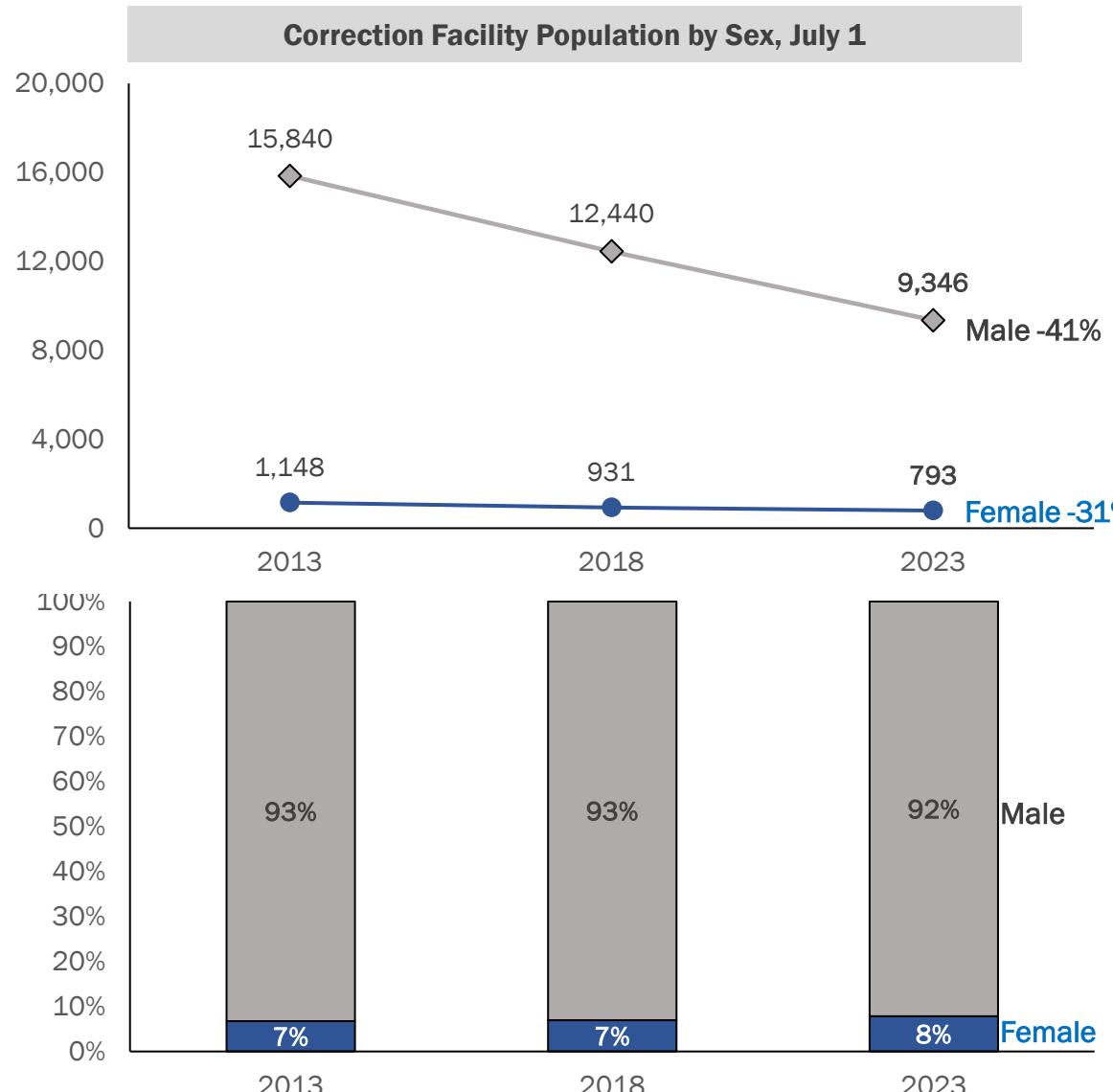
- Both FY2023 pretrial and new sentence admissions increased commensurate with overall admissions growth from the previous year:
 - Pretrial admissions: **+7%**
 - New sentence admissions: **+8%**
- In contrast with last year's *Annual Trends*, which noted 34% growth in pretrial admissions and nearly 200% growth in sentenced admissions, the two primary admission types contributed almost equally to the overall admission increase in FY2023.

The correctional population remained relatively stable compared to the previous year.

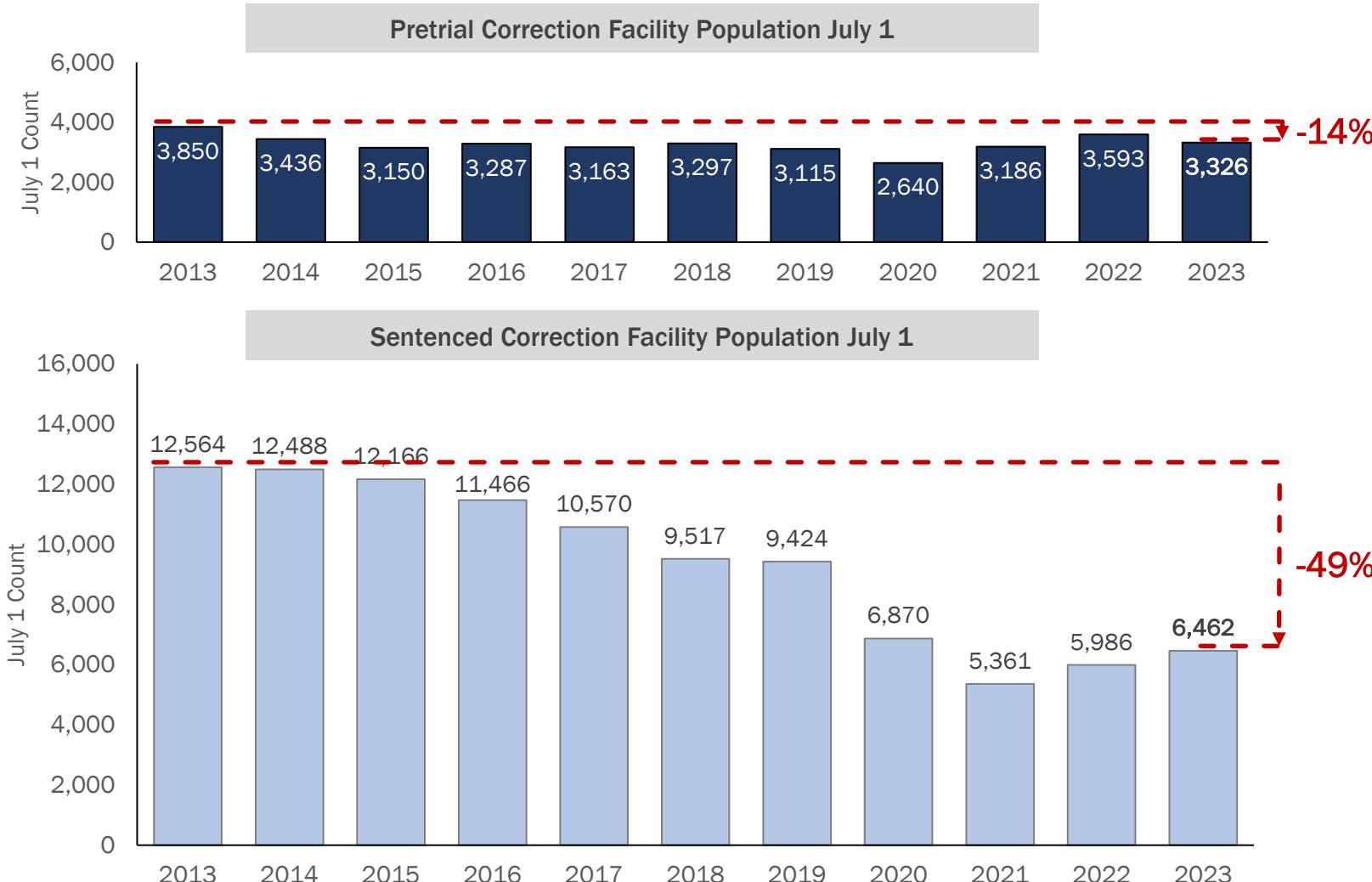


- On July 1, 2023, the DOC population had **grown by just 149 people**, a modest increase compared to the 970-person increase from 2021 and 2022.
 - The 2023 count is 77% of the pre-pandemic count in 2019.
- The 10-year rate of change is the same as noted in last year's Annual Trends: there are **40% fewer** people held in DOC facilities as of July 1, 2023, compared to 2013.

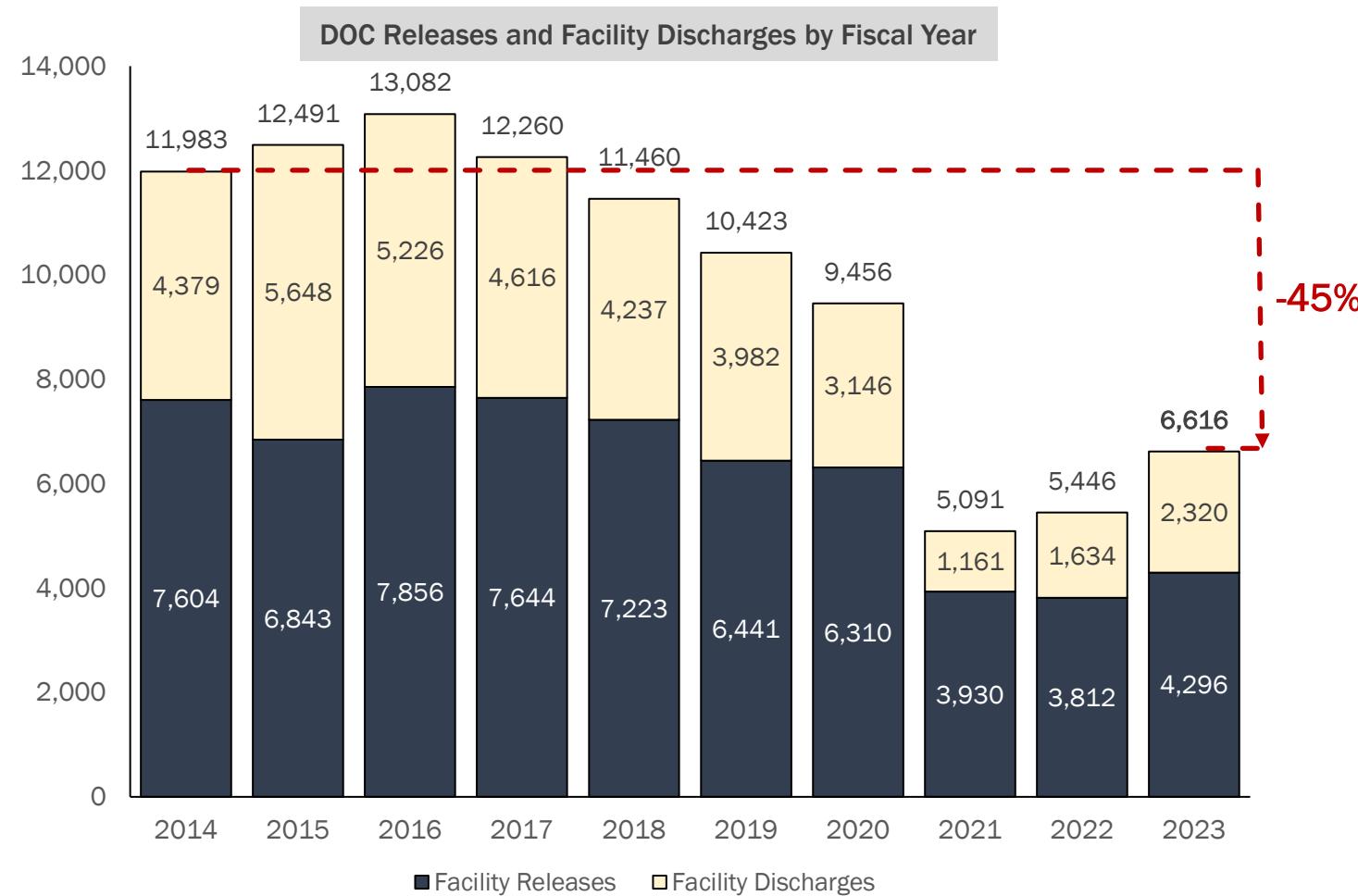
Demographic trends of the correction facility population, 2013-2023



After two years of post-pandemic growth, the July 1 DOC pretrial population declined 7% in 2023, while the sentenced count grew 8%.

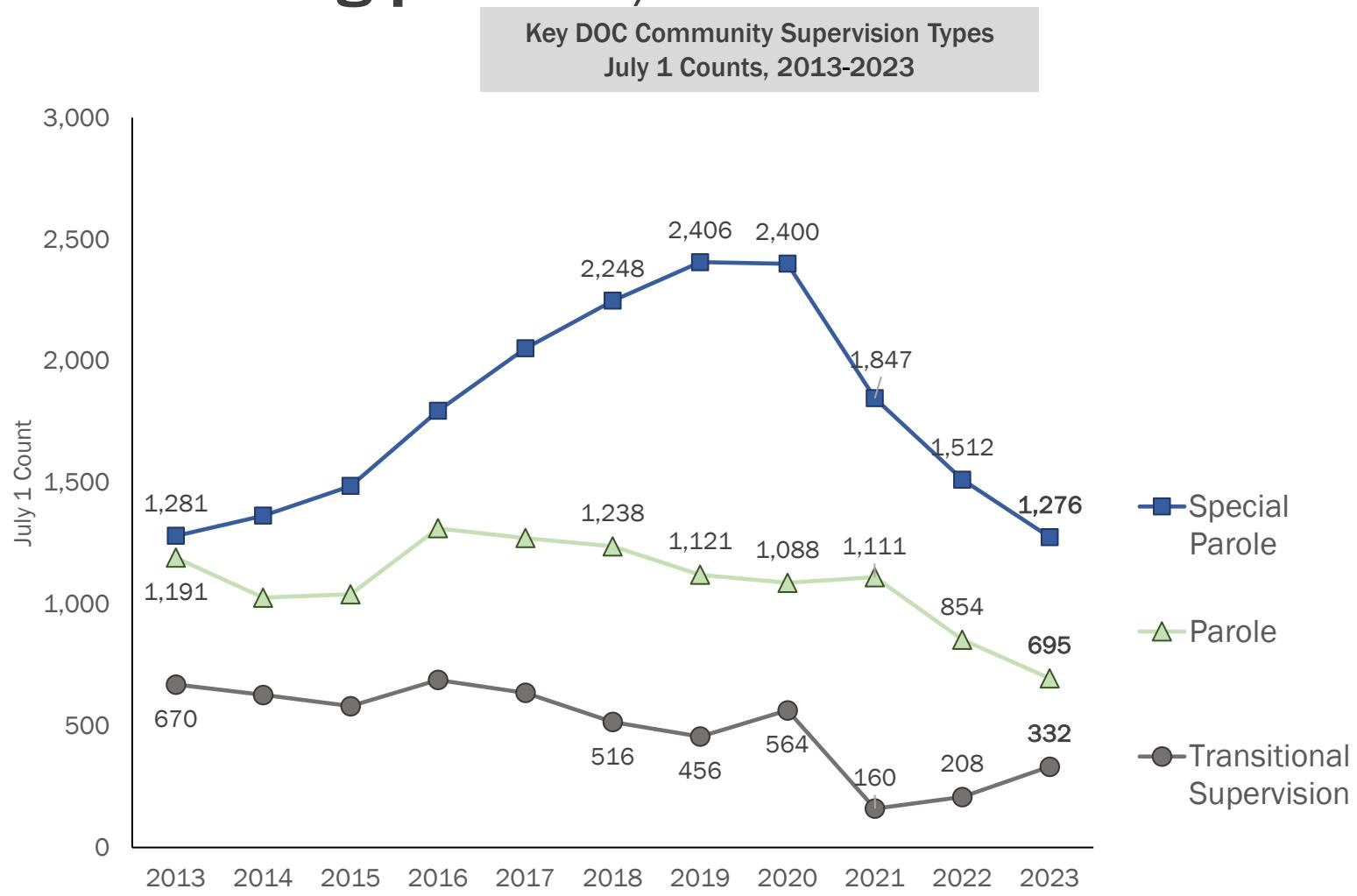


Following two years of increasing admissions, there was a corresponding uptick in FY2023 DOC releases and discharges as cases moved through the system.



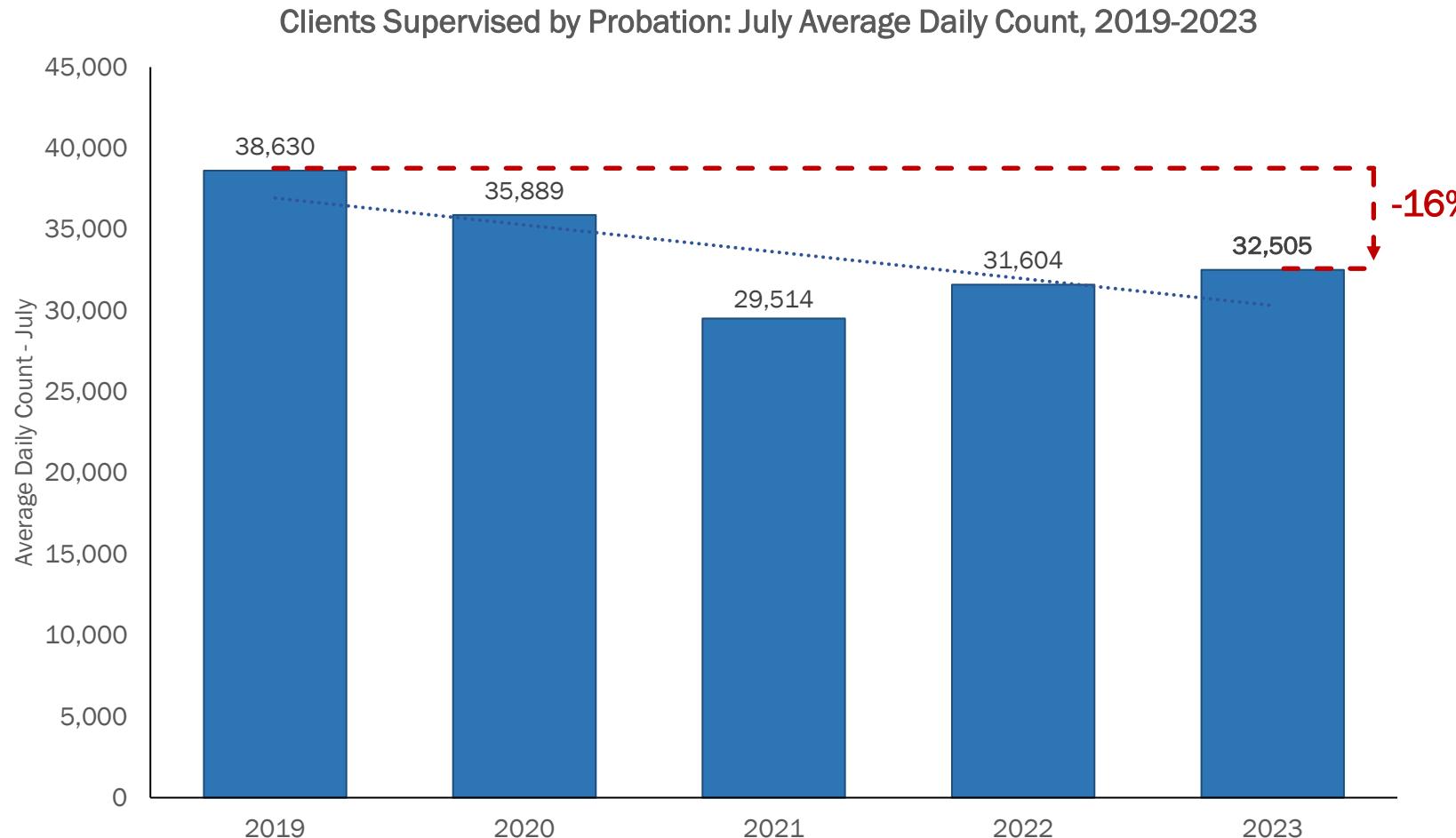
Note: Facility releases includes various forms of a parole and community supervision, including halfway house releases, transitional supervision, and others. Facility discharges include individuals completing their incarceration sentence, but may include those sentenced to a period of probation to follow.

The major DOC community supervision types, which are impacted by sentencing patterns, have followed distinctive trends.



- In 2023, following three years of steep decline, the special parole population reverted to 2013 levels (1,276 people).
 - Recent special parole population declines erased the significant growth (88%) from 2013 to 2019.
- From 2021 to 2023, the transitional supervision population doubled (108%) – in contrast to decreases in the special parole (-31%) and parole (-37%) populations.
 - TS growth, unlike the other supervision types, may reflect the faster rebounding of the sentenced population serving terms of two years or less since the pandemic's onset.

The 2023 averaged daily count of clients supervised by probation ticked up over the previous year.



- After climbing 7% in 2022 from the previous year, Adult Probation's client count increased by a smaller percentage (3%) in 2023
- While primarily composed of individuals sentenced to probation, probation officers also supervise other types of clients, including those in:
 - Diversionary programming
 - Pretrial supervision



THANK YOU

For more information, please visit

<HTTPS://PORTAL.CT.GOV/OPM/CJ-ABOUT/HOME PAGE/CJPPD>

OPM wishes to acknowledge the contributions of:

Board of Pardons and Parole

Court Operations, Judicial Branch

Court Support Services Division, Judicial Branch

Crimes Analysis Unit, Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection

Criminal Justice Information System

Department of Correction

As well as the assistance of OPM CJPPD Research Unit staff:

Melissa Beattie, *Lead Planning Analyst* & Justin Etheridge, *Research Analyst*