



S T A T E O F C O N N E C T I C U T
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**Number of Prisoners Aged 18-21 Drops 51% Over Six Years
*Steady Decline Foreshadows Continuing Decline in Total Prison Population,
Demonstrates Success of Decade of Juvenile Justice Reforms***

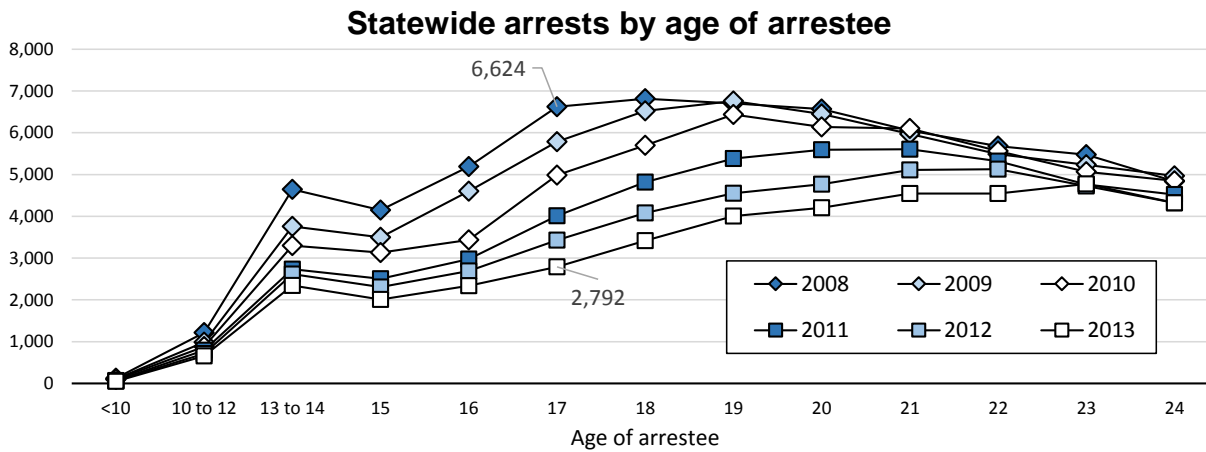
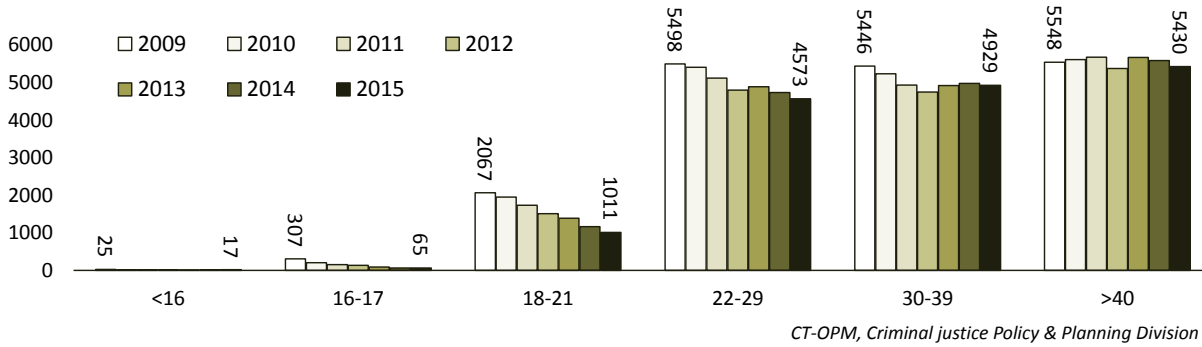
Today OPM's Criminal Justice Policy and Planning Division released additional information on trends in the state's prison population.

- On July 1, 2015 Connecticut had 1,011 inmates aged 18-21, down from 2,067 on July 1, 2009, a 51% decrease. The reduction has been constant each year since 2009 and allows Connecticut to plan for a lower total prison population in the years to come.
- There has been a similar decline in the number of inmates aged 22-29, but the drop has not been as steep as that of the younger cohort.
- The number of older inmates has been relatively constant over that same period, fluctuating between 5,400 and 5,600.
- Inmates under the age of 18 has dropped from 332 in 2009 to 82 in 2015, a decrease of 75%. Much of this is due to the "Raise the Age" initiative that took full effect in July, 2012.
- The dramatic decline in younger adult inmates tracks the decline in the number of arrests of persons 18-21. Between 2009 and 2013, the last year we have complete data for arrest by age, the drop was 38%.

This is encouraging for two reasons: First, crime committed by the youngest adults seems to be dropping more rapidly than crime committed by older offenders, presumable due to the success of reform initiatives such as "Raise the Age" and a variety of school-based diversionary options and second, since most crime is committed by a relatively small number of career criminals; fewer younger offenders entering the system and beginning a life of crime means significantly less crime in the future.

The charts below illustrate the changes in inmate population by age cohort and the changes in total arrests by age cohort.

Age ranges of offenders incarcerated in CT, 2009 through 2015



Source: Crime in CT Reports, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013

ARRESTS of 18 to 21 year olds dropped 38% between 2008 and 2013. No newer data is available.