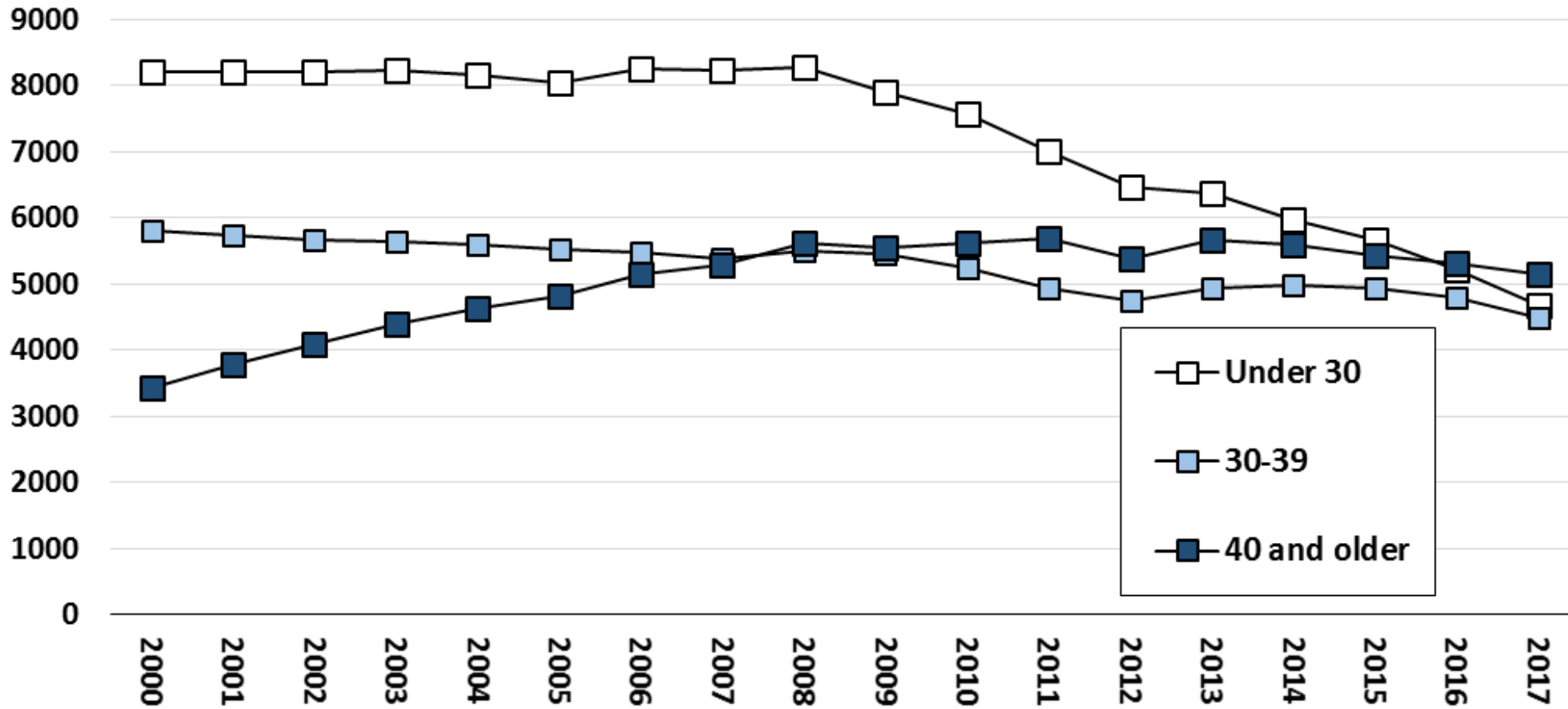
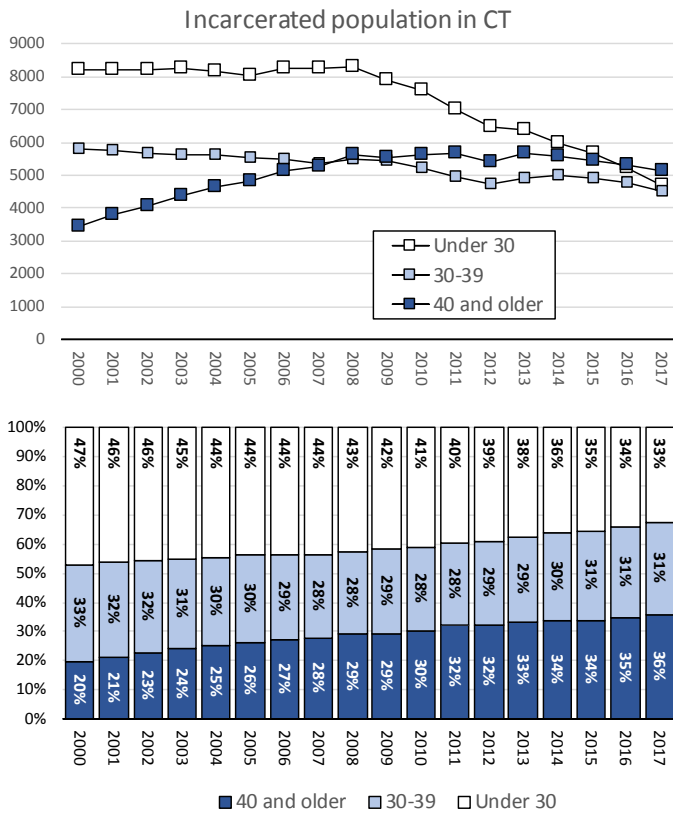


Changes in the incarcerated population since 2000



Changes in the age of the incarcerated population since 2000



- The composition of the state’s prison population has changed considerably over the last two decades. This change is particularly evident when we consider the age of prisoners incarcerated by the CT DOC. In 2000, for example, almost half (47%) of all prisoners were under the age of 30. During the same period prisoners over the age of 40 made up less than 20% of the total prison population.
- In the intervening years, the percentage of prisoners who are under the age of 30 has dropped from 47% to a third (33%) of the total population. In contrast, the percentage of prisoners over the age of 40 has jumped from under 20% to over a third (36%) of the total.
- If we consider 2008 as a mid-point, we observe that virtually all of the growth in the prison population between 2000 and 2008 was driven by a dramatic increase in the number of prisoners over the age of

40. This likely reflected changes to CT sentencing laws that resulted in offenders serving longer sentences.

- Conversely, since 2008, most of the decline in the state’s prison population has been driven by a dramatic drop in the number of young persons - offenders under 30 - who are incarcerated. Certainly, factors such as CT’s raise-the-age legislation, which introduced a broad array of changes to the way young people interacted with the criminal justice system, made a considerable contribution to fewer young people in the prison system. It should be noted, however, that many fewer young people are being arrested each year than they were in the past.
- Between 2000 and 2017, the total prison population declined by almost 18% from 17,460 to 14,330. The decline among prisoners under the age of 30, however, was much greater, in the area of 43% (8,210 to 4,680). The number of prisoners over the age of 40 rose by almost 50% during this time period, from 3,420 to 5,150.