## Juvenile Crime in Connecticut and Governor Malloy's Crime Proposals



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Connecticut Police Executive Juvenile Justice Conference TOW Youth Justice Institute University of New Haven

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- On January 1, 2016 Connecticut had 962 inmates aged 18-21, down from 2,067 on July 1, 2009, a 54\% Decrease
- 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 decline in younger adult inmates tracks the decline in the number of arrests of persons 18-21. Between 2008 and 2014, the last year we have complete data for arrest by age, the drop was $44 \%$.


## Arrests by age - 2008 through 2014



- Statewide arrests (adult and juvenile) by age in 2008
- Source: Crime in Connecticut, annual reports by the CT State Police
- Most 15-year olds arrested in 2008 were born in 1993


## Arrests by age



- In 2009, arrests among youth under 18 were down significantly


## Arrests by age



- In 2010, arrests kept declining particularly among 16-, 17 - and 18-years olds.


## Arrests by age



## Arrests by age



- By 2012, arrests among youth aged 18-, 19- and 20year old were down significantly


## Arrests by age



## Arrests by age



- By 2014, the drop in arrests was edging towards older youth.


## Arrests by age

Change in statewide arrests by age 2008 to 2014


Percent change in statewide arrests by age 2008 to 2014


Arrests by age, 15-19 through 65+


We observed that arrests among younger, offender cohorts declined most. Older age cohorts, actually, grew.

| $15-19$ | $20-24$ | $25-29$ | $30-34$ | $35-39$ | $40-44$ | $45-49$ | $50-54$ | $55-59$ | $60-64$ | $60+$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $-54 \%$ | $-29 \%$ | $-11 \%$ | $5 \%$ | $-28 \%$ | $-35 \%$ | $-24 \%$ | $10 \%$ | $32 \%$ | $34 \%$ | $30 \%$ |

.. and then we observed a spread among those aged 35 to 50.

## Arrests by age, 15-19 through 65+



2010 Census data

## CT DOC prisoners by age group



| Change in the size of the prisoner population by age group, January $\mathbf{1}$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | \% change, |  |
| Age | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2009 to 2016 |
| $<16$ | 35 | 18 | 13 | 17 | 12 | 13 | 15 | 8 | $-77 \%$ |
| $16-17$ | 312 | 223 | 186 | 126 | 94 | 75 | 69 | 76 | $-76 \%$ |
| $18-21$ | 2092 | 1962 | 1765 | 1611 | 1425 | 1252 | 1104 | 964 | $-54 \%$ |
| $22-29$ | 5654 | 5221 | 5180 | 4860 | 4713 | 4786 | 4647 | 4305 | $-24 \%$ |
| $30-39$ | 5400 | 5197 | 4972 | 4846 | 4742 | 4867 | 4847 | 4788 | $-11 \%$ |
| $>40$ | 5485 | 5432 | 5630 | 5562 | 5361 | 5601 | 5485 | 5359 | $-2 \%$ |
| Total | 18978 | 18053 | 17746 | 17022 | 16347 | 16594 | 16167 | 15500 | $-18 \%$ |



Percent change in the number of persons admitted to DOC, 2008 to 2015:

All persons: - 46\% (6,546 to 3,514)
Persons under 22: - 67\% ( 2,646 to 871)
Persons 22 and older: -32\% (3,900 to 2,643)

## Raise the Age, Impact Analysis

## Arrests by age, CT - (Source: CT UCR data)

Arrests by age, 20082014


- The number of young people, those between the ages of 16 and 21, being arrested in CT , on an annual basis, has been dropping consistently
- To determine the impact of Raise the Age (RTA) in the coming years, the following analysis is based on several assumptions.
- 2015 estimates of arrests of 18 -, 19- and 20 -year olds will assume no drop from 2014. Given the existing trends, this makes our projection very conservative.
- 2015 estimates for juvenile court referrals (<18) will also reflect 2014 figures.

Raise the Age, Impact Analysis


- Following expansions of RTA, the number of juvenile court referrals increased temporarily.
- Even with the addition of 16 and 17 year olds, juvenile court referrals declined.
- In this analysis, the 2015 estimates for juvenile court referrals will reflect 2014 figures.

