Juvenile Crime in Connecticut and Governor Malloy’s Crime Proposals

Presented to:
Connecticut Police Executive
Juvenile Justice Conference
TOW Youth Justice Institute
University of New Haven
April 8, 2016
Significant changes in arrests and incarcerations since 2008

- 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%.
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
• In 2009, arrests among youth under 18 were down significantly
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 20-year old were down significantly

Raise the age: 17-year olds July 1, 2012
Arrests by age

![Graph showing arrests by age from 2008 to 2013. The graph displays the number of arrests for each age group each year, with a peak of 6,624 arrests in 2008 and a general decrease in subsequent years.]
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
We observed that arrests among younger, offender cohorts declined most. Older age cohorts, actually, grew.

We observed a spread among those aged 35 to 50.
Statewide arrests by age cohort 2008-2014

2010 Census data
## Incarceration and Age

Total incarcerated population on January 1.

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>&lt;16</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>-77%</td>
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<tr>
<td>16-17</td>
<td>312</td>
<td>223</td>
<td>186</td>
<td>126</td>
<td>94</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>69</td>
<td>76</td>
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<tr>
<td>18-21</td>
<td>2092</td>
<td>1962</td>
<td>1765</td>
<td>1611</td>
<td>1425</td>
<td>1252</td>
<td>1104</td>
<td>964</td>
<td>-54%</td>
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<tr>
<td>22-29</td>
<td>5654</td>
<td>5221</td>
<td>5180</td>
<td>4860</td>
<td>4713</td>
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<td>4647</td>
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<td>30-39</td>
<td>5400</td>
<td>5197</td>
<td>4972</td>
<td>4846</td>
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<td>4847</td>
<td>4788</td>
<td>-11%</td>
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<tr>
<td>&gt;40</td>
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<td>5432</td>
<td>5630</td>
<td>5562</td>
<td>5361</td>
<td>5601</td>
<td>5485</td>
<td>5359</td>
<td>-2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total 18978 18053 17746 17022 16347 16594 16167 15500 -18%
Admits to the CT DOC by age group

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)

- 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.
Raised 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.