

fact sheet



Talking points

Results from Raise the Age in Connecticut

Overall juvenile justice costs were lower after Raise the Age than they were a decade earlier.

Expenditures went from in \$139 million 2001-2002 to \$137 million in 2011-2012.¹

Juvenile crime decreased.

In 2009, there were 18,732 arrests of people under 18 in Connecticut. In 2012, there were 11,824.²

Older teens have better success rates in juvenile programs.

In 2013, 80 percent of probationers 15 and younger completed juvenile probation without rearrest. This compares with 84 percent of those 16 and older. Older teens also had more favorable recidivism rates at 6 and 12 months.³

Even after Raising the Age, Connecticut's detention center population was small enough that the state was able to close one of its three juvenile detention centers.⁴

Delinquency rates remained at low levels.

In 2013, 14.6 per per thousand in the under-18 population were referred to the juvenile court in Connecticut on delinquency matters. In 2009, before Raise the Age, 12.5 per thousand in the under 16 population were referred. In 2006, 18.4 per 1000 children under 16 were sent to juvenile court on delinquency matters. So the overall trend, even post Raise the Age, is downward.⁵

1 Spending in inflation-adjusted dollars. Source: *Juvenile Justice Reform in Connecticut: How Collaboration and Commitment Have Improved Public Safety and Outcomes for Youth*. Justice Policy Institute.

2 Connecticut Dept. of Public Safety.

3 Court Support Services Division

4 See <http://blog.ctnews.com/politics/2011/07/15/judicial-branch-to-close-4-courthouses-juvenile-detention-center/>

5 Office of Policy and Management.