Juvenile Commitment Rate Drops 53%

From 2001 to 2013, the U.S. juvenile commitment rate declined 53 percent, according to data recently released by the Department of Justice's Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention.¹ Rates fell in 49 states during this period, including decreases of over 50 percent in more than half of the states. The nationwide reduction reflects a 42 percent drop in juvenile violent-crime arrest rates from 2001 to 2012 and comes as a growing number of states are adopting policies that prioritize costly space in residential facilities for higher-risk youth adjudicated for serious crimes.²

State	2013 commitment population 156	Percent change in commitment rate (2001-13)					
Connecticut		75*					
North Carolina	315	-73%					
Massachusetts	234	-73%					
Mississippi	144	-72%					
Tennessee	444	-70%					
Texas	2,577	-67%					
Louisiana	549	-66%					
Illinois	873	-66%					
New York	1,236	-64%					
Florida	1,950	-63%					
California	4,452	-63%					
Georgia	777	-63%					
Wisconsin	558	-62%					
ndiana	912	-61%					
New Hampshire	60	-61%					
	531	-60%					
Arizona		-58%					
Alabama	504	-56*					
Oklahoma	282	-56*					
New Mexico	285	-56*					
Vermont	12						
Ohio	1,338	-55*					
Utah	411	-54%					
Washington	738	-54%					
Minnesota	675	-54%					
United States	35,659	-53%					
Montana	84	-53%					
New Jersey	507						
Michigan	1,224		49%				
Delaware	81		-45%				
Alaska	117		-45%				
Nevada	396		-44%				
South Carolina	567		-44%				
Hawaii	45		-43%				
Nebraska	273		-43%				
Rhode Island	132		-42%				
Colorado	732		-40%				
Maryland	471		-40%				
Virginia	1,014		-39%				
Wyoming	156		-38%				
lowa	546		-35%				
Kentucky	546		-28%				
South Dakota	267		-27%				
Oregon	948		-24%				
			-24*				
Kansas	594		-23"				
daho	324						
Pennsylvania	2,337		-22%				
Maine	123		-20%				
Missouri	804		-				
Arkansas	450			-11%			
West Virginia	309			-6%			
North Dakota	156				18%		
District of Columbia	123				32%		

Source: Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention

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Endnotes

1 Data come from the Census of Juveniles in Residential Placement, http://www.ojjdp.gov/ojstatbb/ezacjrp/. The census was first administered in 1997, and the most recently published results are from 2013. Pev/s analysis includes only youth committed to a facility as part of a court-ordered disposition. The commitment rate is the number of committed juvenile offenders in residential placement per 100,000 youth in the population (ages 10 through the upper age of original juvenile court jurisdiction in each state).

2 Charles Puzzanchera, "Juvenile Arrests 2012" (2014), Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, http://www.ojjdp.gov/pubs/248513.pdf; Howard N. Snyder, "Juvenile Arrests 2001" (2003), Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, https://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/ojjdp/201370.pdf

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