

Connecticut's Human Trafficking- Related Case Statistics

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Issue

Summarize the arrests and case outcomes for human trafficking offenses in Connecticut from 2016 through 2021.

This report updates and expands OLR Report [2019-R-0121](#).

Summary

The tables below summarize Judicial Branch case statistics for specific human trafficking-related offenses (see Table 1) in Connecticut for calendar years 2016 through 2021. Table 2 provides human trafficking-related arrests and Table 3 provides case outcomes for charges during that same period. Over the period examined, there were 456 total human trafficking arrests, ranging from a high of 109 arrests in 2017 to a low of 53 arrests in 2021. About 21% of these arrests were for promoting a minor in an obscene performance (95 out of 456), and about 20% for enticing a minor by computer (first offense) (88 out of 456).

Over this same period, for human trafficking-related offenses there were 111 guilty findings, 37 dismissed charges, and 188 charges that were nolle (i.e., not prosecuted). Approximately 26% of the guilty findings were for 3rd degree promoting prostitution (29 out of 111), 15% for promoting a minor in an obscene performance (17 out of 111), and 1% for enticing a minor by computer (first offense) (15 out of 111).

Please note that the case outcomes should not be associated with the arrest figures because the outcomes represent charges that may have taken several years to resolve. For example, a 2016 guilty finding may be related to an arrest that occurred in 2014, which is not reflected in the arrest data shown below. The Judicial Branch cautions that it would not be accurate to develop ratios using arrests and outcomes in the same year.

Human Trafficking Offenses and Associated Penalties

Offenses and Classifications

This report includes data for the human trafficking offenses shown in Table 1.

Table 1: Human Trafficking Offenses and Classifications

Offense	Statute	Classification
Commercial Sexual Abuse - Minor Age 15-17	CGS § 53a-83b(b)	Class B felony
Commercial Sexual Abuse - Minor Under Age 15	CGS § 53a-83b(c)	Class A felony
Promoting Prostitution - Victim Under Age 18	CGS § 53a-86(a)(2)	Class B felony with a nine-month mandatory minimum and a \$15,000 fine
Promoting Prostitution in the 1st Degree	CGS § 53a-86	Class B felony
Promoting Prostitution in the 2nd Degree	CGS § 53a-87	Class C felony
Promoting Prostitution in the 3rd Degree	CGS § 53a-88	Class D felony
Enticing a Minor by Computer (First Offense)	CGS § 53a-90a	Class D felony
Enticing a Minor by Computer (Second Offense)	CGS § 53a-90a	Class C felony
Enticing a Minor by Computer (Subsequent Offense)	CGS § 53a-90a	Class B felony
Enticing a Minor by Computer - Victim Under Age 13	CGS § 53a-90a(b)(2)	Class B felony with a five-year mandatory minimum for the first offense and 10 years for any subsequent offense
Misrepresentation of Age to Entice a Minor	CGS § 53a-90b	Class C felony
Trafficking in Persons	CGS § 53a-192a	Class A felony
Employing a Minor in an Obscene Performance	CGS § 53a-196a	Class A felony with a 10-year mandatory minimum
Promoting a Minor in an Obscene Performance	CGS § 53a-196b	Class B felony

Penalties

The law generally imposes the following penalties based on the crime's classification:

- A class A felony is punishable by 10 to 25 years in prison, a fine up to \$20,000, or both.
- A class B felony is punishable by one to 20 years in prison, a fine up to \$15,000, or both.
- A class C felony is punishable by one to 10 years in prison, a fine up to \$10,000, or both.
- A class D felony is punishable by up to five years in prison, a fine up to \$5,000, or both.

Human Trafficking Arrests

Table 2 shows the total arrests made for each offense from 2016 through 2021.

Table 2: Human Trafficking Arrests for 2016 through 2021

Offense	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	Total
Commercial Sexual Abuse - Minor Age 15-17	0	0	0	1	1	9	11
Commercial Sexual Abuse - Minor Under Age 15	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Promoting Prostitution - Victim Under Age 18	0	6	0	0	0	2	8
Promoting Prostitution in the 1st Degree	11	2	6	9	6	0	34
Promoting Prostitution in the 2nd Degree	14	22	5	6	5	2	54
Promoting Prostitution in the 3rd Degree	15	11	7	3	2	2	40
Enticing a Minor by Computer (First Offense)	6	9	6	15	32	17	85
Enticing a Minor by Computer (Second Offense)	15	7	16	1	1	3	43
Enticing a Minor by Computer (Subsequent Offense)	0	1	0	0	1	0	2
Enticing a Minor by Computer - Victim Under Age 13	2	2	0	0	2	1	7
Misrepresentation of Age to Entice a Minor	0	0	1	2	7	0	10
Trafficking in Persons	7	6	8	7	6	4	38
Employing a Minor in an Obscene Performance	4	10	7	6	1	6	34
Promoting a Minor in an Obscene Performance	13	33	21	14	3	11	95
Total	87	109	77	64	67	53	456

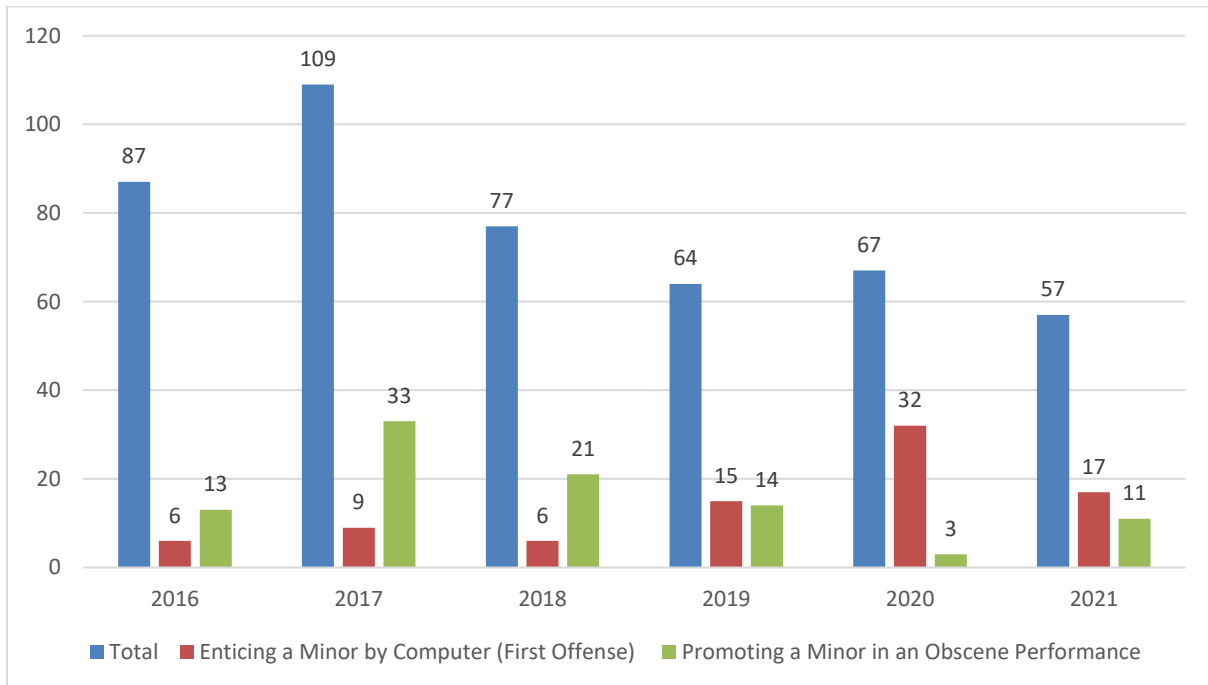
Source: Connecticut Judicial Branch

Arrest Trends

As the data in Table 2 shows, the total number of arrests for human trafficking crimes ranged widely over the last six years, from a high of 109 in 2017 to a low of 53 in 2021. Two offenses had the greatest number of total arrests over this period: promoting a minor in an obscene performance (95) and enticing a minor by computer (85). Chart 1 shows for each year the total arrests and the number of arrests for these two offenses.

In 2016, third degree promoting prostitution tied with enticing a minor by computer (second offense) for the greatest number of arrests. In 2017 and 2018 promoting a minor in an obscene performance had the greatest number of arrests. A second offense of enticing a minor by computer had the highest number of arrests in 2019, while a first offense of that crime accounted for the highest number of arrests in 2020 and 2021.

Chart 1: Human Trafficking-Related Arrests (2016-2021)



Human Trafficking Case Outcomes

For cases resolved from 2016 through 2021, Table 3 shows the total charges that had a guilty finding or were dismissed or not prosecuted (i.e., nolle).

Table 3: Human Trafficking Case Outcomes for Calendar Years 2016 Through 2021

Year	Guilty	Dismissed	Nolle
Commercial Sexual Abuse - Minor Age 15-17			
2016	0	0	0
2017	0	0	0
2018	0	0	0
2019	1	0	0
2020	1	1	0
2021	0	0	0
Total	2	1	0

Table 3 (continued)

Year	Guilty	Dismissed	Nolle
<u>Commercial Sexual Abuse - Minor Age Under Age 15</u>			
2016	0	0	0
2017	0	0	0
2018	0	0	0
2019	0	0	0
2020	1	0	0
2021	0	0	0
Total	1	0	0
<u>Promoting Prostitution - Victim Under Age 18</u>			
2016	0	0	0
2017	0	0	0
2018	0	0	0
2019	1	0	0
2020	0	0	0
2021	0	0	0
Total	1	0	0
<u>1st Degree Promoting Prostitution</u>			
2016*	2	1	3
2017	0	0	4
2018	1	0	5
2019	0	0	2
2020	0	0	3
2021	0	0	0
Total	3	1	17
<i>*One conviction was vacated in 2016</i>			
<u>2nd Degree Promoting Prostitution</u>			
2016	3	2	4
2017	2	0	4
2018	5	10	4
2019	0	2	4
2020	0	0	8
2021	2	2	3
Total	12	16	27

Table 3 (continued)

Year	Guilty	Dismissed	Nolle
<u>3rd Degree Promoting Prostitution</u>			
2016	7	3	3
2017	6	2	3
2018	4	3	0
2019	7	1	3
2020	1	1	1
2021	4	1	0
Total	29	11	10
<u>Enticing a Minor by Computer (First Offense)</u>			
2016	6	1	1
2017	4	0	2
2018	2	0	1
2019	2	0	4
2020	1	0	2
2021	0	0	5
Total	15	1	15
<u>Enticing a Minor by Computer (Second Offense)</u>			
2016	4	2	12
2017	3	0	7
2018	2	0	2
2019	4	0	4
2020	0	0	0
2021	1	0	4
Total	14	2	29
<u>Enticing a Minor by Computer (Subsequent Offense)</u>			
2016	1	0	0
2017	0	0	0
2018	0	0	0
2019	0	0	0
2020	0	1	0
2021	0	0	0
Total	1	1	0

Table 3 (continued)

Year	Guilty	Dismissed	Nolle
<u>Enticing a Minor by Computer - Victim Under Age 13</u>			
2016	0	0	0
2017	1	0	0
2018	0	0	0
2019	0	0	1
2020	0	0	0
2021	0	0	0
Total	1	0	1
<u>Misrepresentation of Age to Entice a Minor</u>			
2016	1	0	8
2017	0	0	1
2018	0	0	1
2019	0	0	0
2020	0	0	0
2021	0	0	0
Total	1	0	10
<u>Trafficking in Persons</u>			
2016	2	1	3
2017	1	0	1
2018	1	1	2
2019	4	0	2
2020	0	0	2
2021*	0	0	0
Total	8	2	10
* One charge was ruled not guilty in 2021			
<u>Employing a Minor in an Obscene Performance</u>			
2016	0	0	0
2017	1	1	2
2018	1	0	0
2019	3	0	9
2020	1	0	0
2021	0	0	1
Total	6	1	12

Table 3 (continued)

Year	Guilty	Dismissed	Nolle
Promoting a Minor in an Obscene Performance			
2016	4	0	2
2017	1	0	20
2018	2	0	2
2019	5	0	30
2020	3	0	1
2021	2	1	2
Total	17	1	57
Grand Total	111	37	188

Source: Connecticut Judicial Branch

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