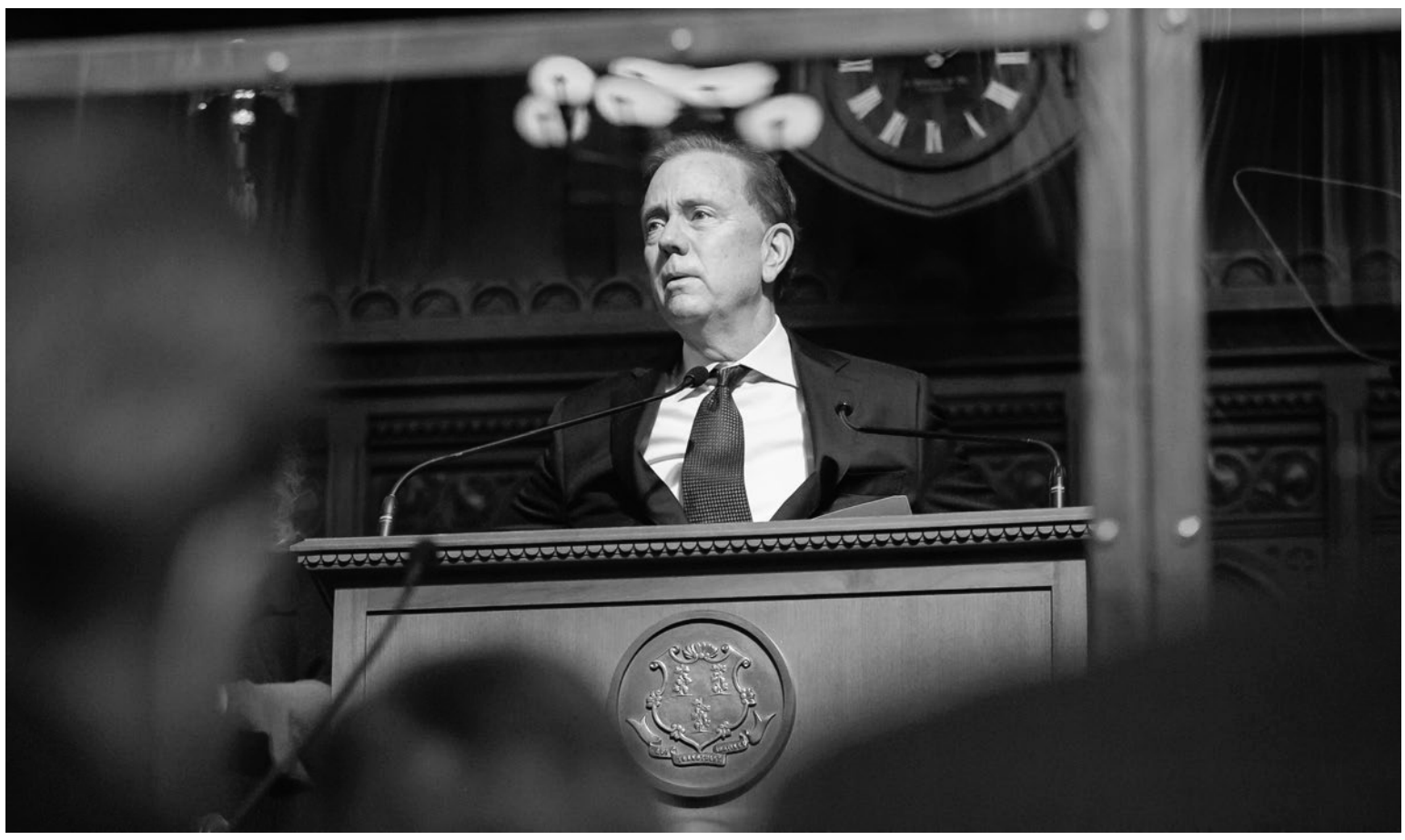
NEWS

"I like the dreams of the future better than the history of the past"
THOMAS JEFFERSON THIRD PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

Lamont doubts he would support Yale tax hike in case of Trump deal

BY NELLIE KENNEY
STAFF REPORTER



COURTESY OF BRIAN M. O'CONNOR

Some lawmakers threatened in July to revisit Yale's tax exemption if it settles with the federal government. In an interview with the News, Gov. Ned Lamont SOM '80 said he would not oppose a settlement as long as it does not compromise Yale's independence.

Gov. Ned Lamont SOM '80 would "probably not" support changes to Yale's tax exemption even if the University reaches a settlement with the Trump administration, he said in a Tuesday interview.

In July, a group of Democratic Connecticut lawmakers threatened to revisit Yale's state tax exemption if the University strikes a deal with the federal government over Department of Justice findings in May that claimed that the Yale School of Medicine discriminates against white and Asian applicants.

Once legislation has passed through the Connecticut General Assembly, the governor has the power to sign or veto it, although the veto can be overridden by a two-thirds assembly vote.

Lamont said he is not opposed to Yale's ongoing settlement negotiations with the Trump administration, provided that the University does not compromise certain principles. Yale should do "nothing to compromise academic integrity" and should not allow the federal government "say" over its admissions policy, Lamont said.

"With those guardrails, you can do anything, but you have to have those guardrails," he said.

In a July message to Yale affiliates, University President Maurie McInnis wrote that Yale's approach to the negotiations is guided by "fundamental principles," including a commitment to academic freedom, campus free speech and the "right to decide who we admit and hire in accordance with the law."

The University's property tax exemption, which excludes academic properties and some nonacademic properties from taxation, has roots in the state constitution and in Yale's founding charter.

Lamont pointed to other financial pressures on Yale, which he suggested he would not want to add to.

"I'm trying my best to keep our colleges afloat," Lamont said, although he noted that Yale's financial picture is sturdier than that of other Connecticut schools.

An endowment tax hike included in the One Big Beautiful Bill Act, which President Donald Trump signed into law in 2025, is costing Yale $247 million this fiscal year, per the University's budget book.

The federal government has also opened investigations into the admissions practices of Yale College and Yale Law School, but the Justice Department has not released a letter of findings for either case.

Reports of Yale's talks with the federal government have sparked backlash from local, state and federal Democrats. Last Friday, Connecticut Sen. Richard Blumenthal LAW '73, Rep. Rosa DeLauro and New Haven Mayor Justin Elicker joined a protest at Beinecke Plaza that saw students lambast the Yale administration over the negotiations.

In a press conference before the rally, Blumenthal implored Yale to resist "tyranny" by standing up to Trump and said McInnis "must know that what's happening here is bigger than Yale."

In July, a group of state legislators, most of whom are Yale alumni, wrote a letter to McInnis and the Board of Trustees urging them not to settle with the Trump administration. In that letter, the legislators suggested that they might challenge Yale's tax exemption if it reached such a settlement. Previous attempts to limit or clarify the exemption have failed to gain traction.

Lamont was on campus early Tuesday afternoon for an event with Yale Law Democrats. The event, which was closed to the press, consisted of a question-and-answer session covering "a range of policy topics," Grady Yuthok Short LAW '28, a co-president of the group, wrote in an email to the News.

Lamont and Connecticut Lt. Gov. Susan Bysiewicz '83 are both ex officio trustees of the University, per a 1792 amendment to Yale's charter.

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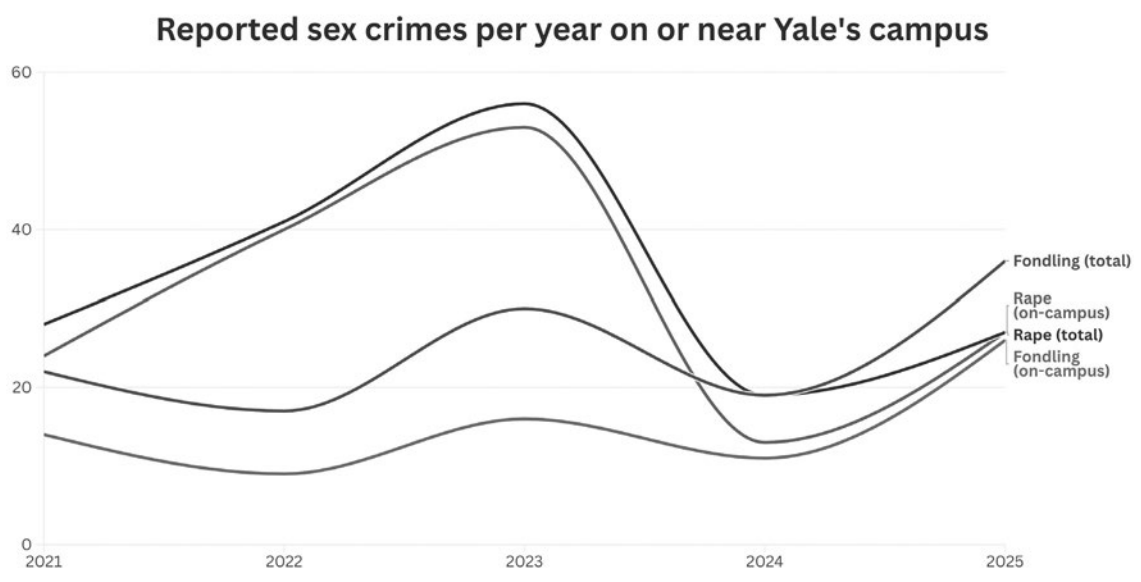
Annual report suggests slight uptick in sexual violence in 2025

BY NORAH MCPARTLAND
STAFF REPORTER



ADRIANA PETRIZZO / DATA EDITOR

Slightly more crimes were reported in 2024 than 2025 on and near Yale's campus, according to an annual crime report released last Thursday.

422 crimes were reported in 2025, marking a small uptick from the 399 recorded the year before, but still a decrease from 491 in 2023. Reported cases of rape, fondling and aggravated assault on campus ticked up from 2024 to 2025, while overall arrests rose, according to the report. Five instances of hazing — an offense that appeared on the report for the first time, in accordance with new federal law — were reported in 2025.

Yale Public Safety's annual Campus Crime Report, which the University releases by Oct. 1 each year in compliance with the Clery Act, includes a count of all crimes reported on and near campus during the previous three calendar years.

"Overall, the campus saw an uptick in the number of reported crimes between 2024 and 2025," Duane Lovello, the head of Yale Public Safety, wrote in an email. "The latest numbers follow a significant decrease between 2024 and 2023 when the incidence of reported crime fell."

Total reported crimes increased by 23, or around 6 percent. Reported instances of rape increased from 19 in 2024 to 27 in 2025. There were 56 reported instances of rape in 2023.

All 27 reports of rape in 2025 were on campus in residential facilities, compared with 11 out of 19 reported in residential facilities in 2024. The remaining eight reports in 2024 included two on-campus instances not in residential facilities and six from non-campus or public property.

Fondling also increased from 19 reported instances in 2024 to 36 reported instances in 2025, marking a three-year high.

In response to an increase in rates of intimate partner violence and stalking between 2019 and 2024 shown in the sexual misconduct climate survey, Yale's Title IX Office launched a new prevention, education and outreach division in fall 2025 and updated its mandatory online training in August 2025. Title IX Office's education offerings were also expanded, according to University Title IX Coordinator Elizabeth Conklin.

Still, the 2025 data saw an increase in rapes, while rates of intimate partner violence and stalking stayed largely the same.

"Even though we see areas of progress, we know that even one incident of sexual misconduct is one too many, and our work is not yet finished," Conklin wrote.

The report was published amid widespread attention to Cornell University's handling of a 2024 rape allegation made by a former Cornell student against seven members of a fraternity. Last month, the student sued the university, the fraternity and the seven men, igniting a national conversation about sexual misconduct on college campuses.

"Recent incidents of sexual assault and other violence on college campuses underscore the importance of maintaining a focus on prevention, reporting, timely response, and support for those affected," Lovello wrote.

Offenses reported in residential facilities have overall seen a sharp decline, from 169 in 2023 to 68 in 2025.

There were five reported instances of hazing in 2025, three on campus and two on non-campus property. Hazing was added to the list of offenses universities must report in 2025 in compliance with Stop Campus Hazing Act, which became law in 2024.

According to the report, hazing is defined by Yale College as "any initiation or affiliation activity that endangers physical or mental health, intimidates, or humiliates individuals."

Reported instances of aggravated assault increased from 23 in 2024 to 35 in 2025, while burglary reports decreased from 50 in 2024 to 30 in 2025. Rates of robbery remained consistent since 2023, with 20 reports in 2025.

Weapons arrests rose from nine in 2024 to 14 in 2025, and drug arrests also rose from six in 2024 to 11 in 2025. There were four drug referrals in 2025, up from zero in 2023 and 2024. Between drug arrests and weapons arrests, arrests rose to a three-year high in 2025.

There have been zero reports of murder for the past two years, down from one in 2023. 2025 saw 10 hate crimes reported.

The Clery Act was signed into law by President George H.W. Bush '48 in 1990.

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ELLIE PARK

Yale Public Safety last week released its annual report on safety on and near campus, showing a decrease in some offenses between 2024 and 2025. The report arrives amid increased national attention to sexual violence on college campuses.