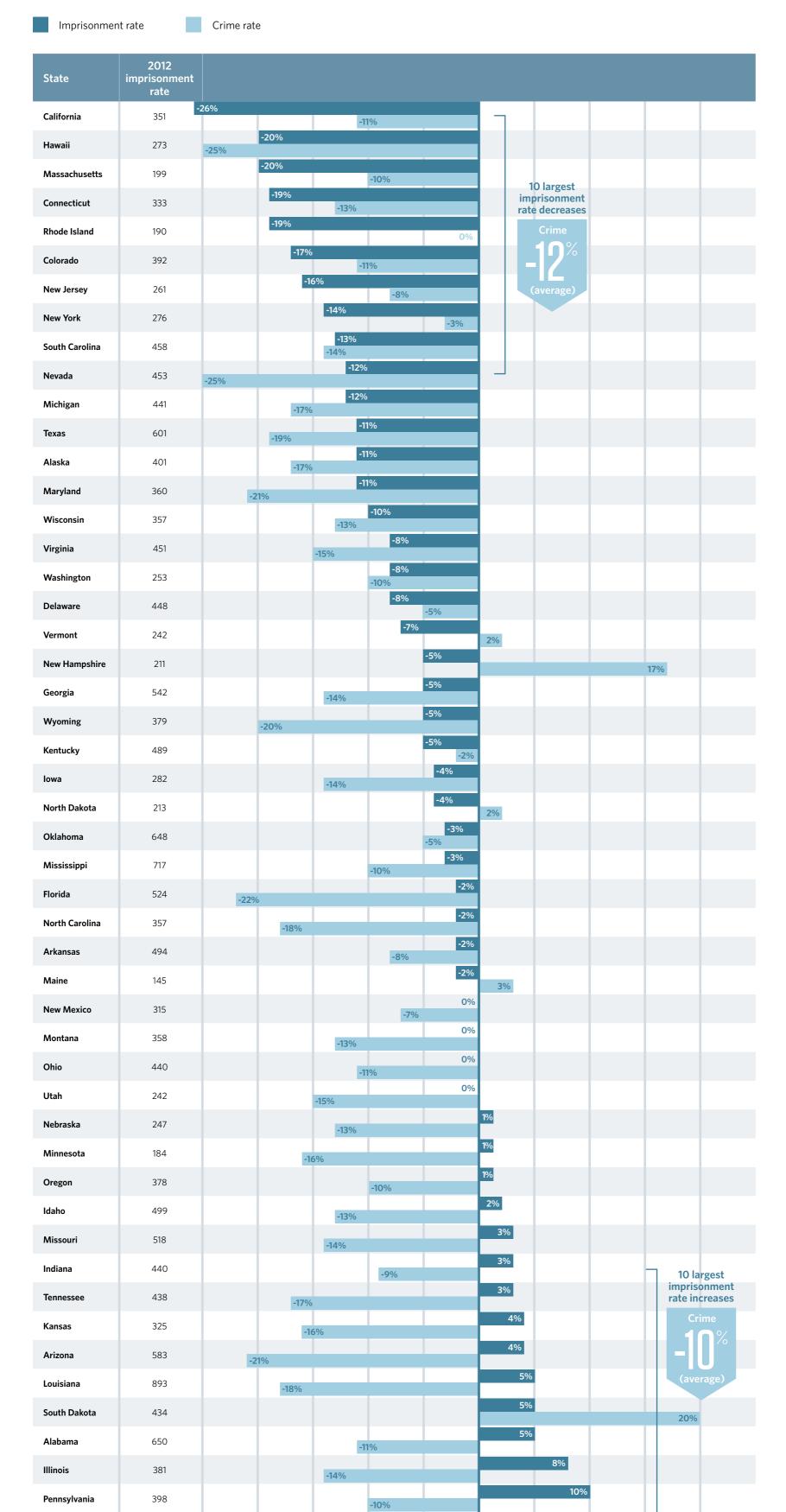
| Dec 201

States Cut Both Crime and Imprisonment

Over the past five years, the majority of states reduced both crime and imprisonment rates. The relationship between crime and incarceration is complex, but states are showing that it is possible to reduce them at the same time.



Note: 2012 imprisonment rates are per 100,000 residents.

378

West Virginia

Prison decline has little impact on crime rates

-5

In states where crime rate increased, imprisonment rate dropped 4%



In states where crime rate decreased, imprisonment rate dropped 5%

5

10

25%



Comparing two states Imprisonment rate down in

MD 11%, crime down 21%



Imprisonment rate up in AZ 4%, crime down 21%



Sources: Imprisonment rates from Bureau of Justice Statistics annual *Prisoners* series (2007-12); crime rates from FBI Uniform Crime Report

Project website: pewstates.org/publicsafety

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