


Reform Trends in Juvenile Justice: Reducing Reliance on Detention and Incarceration

**FEDERAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
on JUVENILE JUSTICE
U.S. Department of Justice
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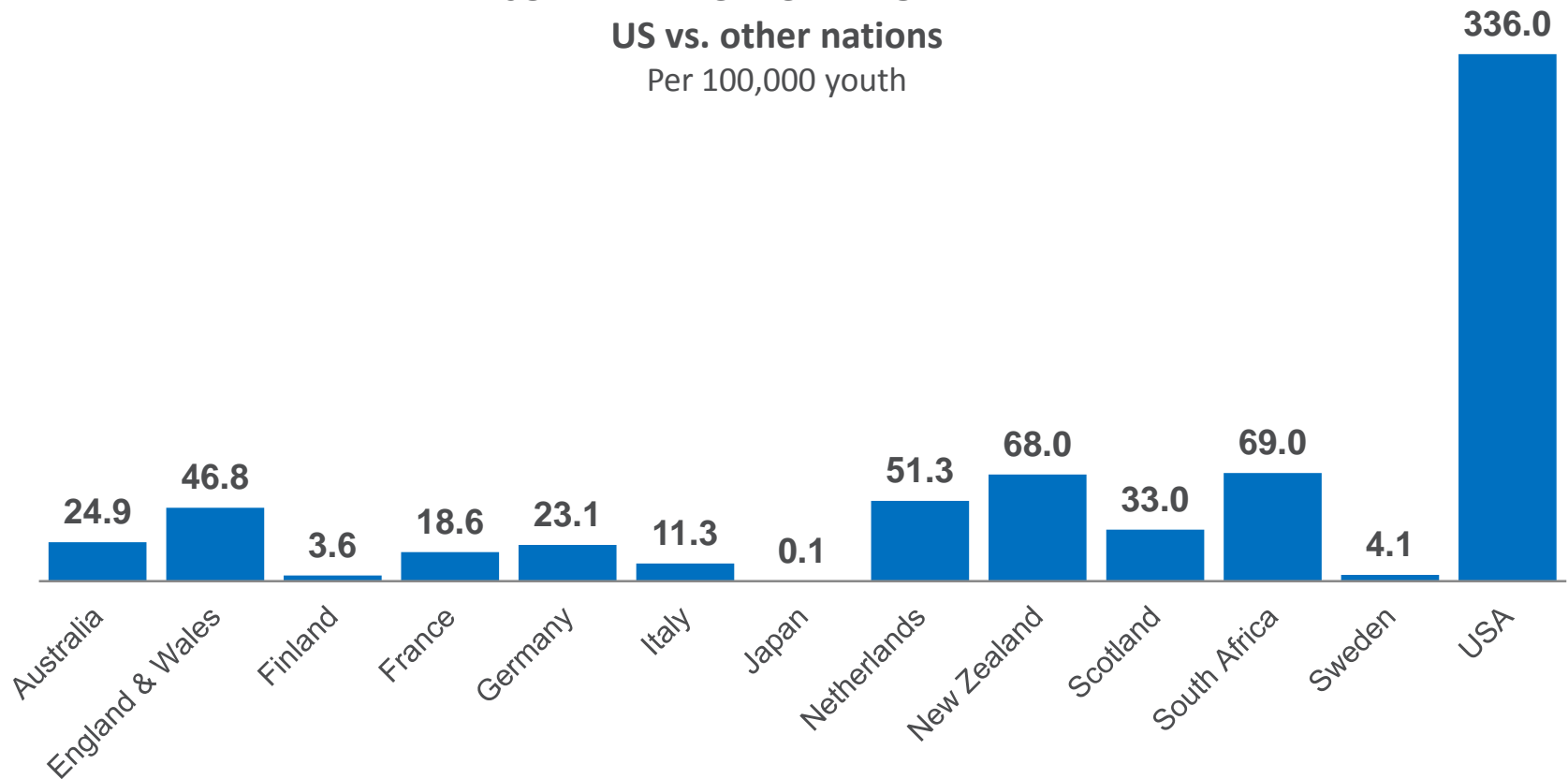


America's heavy reliance on juvenile incarceration is unique among the world's advanced nations

JUVENILE INCARCERATION RATE:

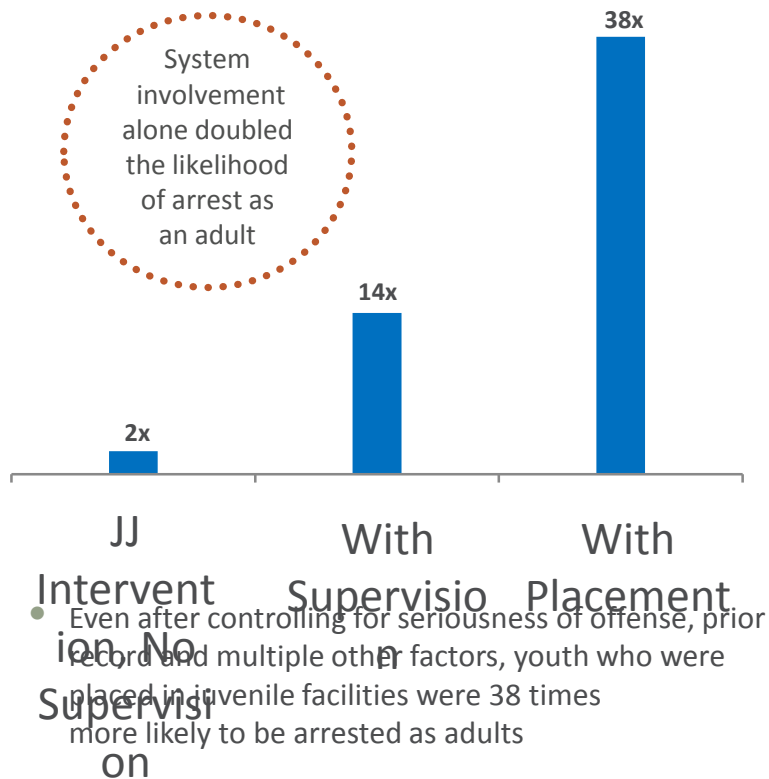
US vs. other nations

Per 100,000 youth

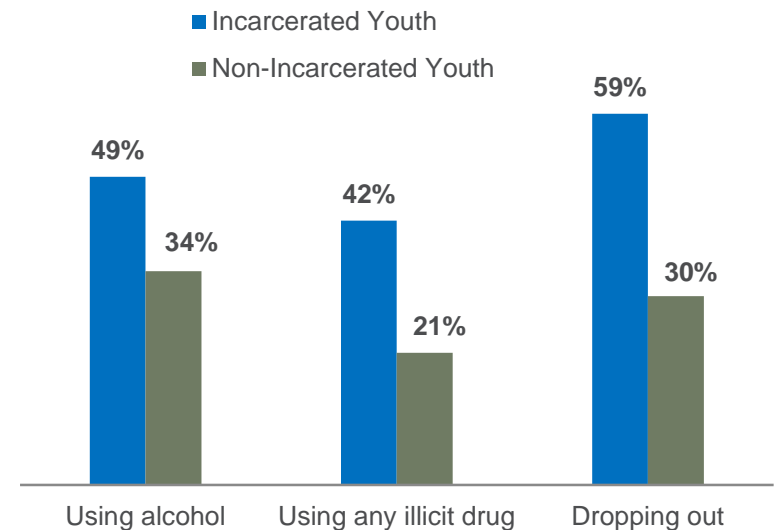


Incarceration is an often harmful and ineffective method of addressing delinquent behavior

Increased Likelihood Of Adult Criminality
By JJ Intervention Type



Likelihood Of Behavior: Incarcerated Vs. Non-incarcerated Youth

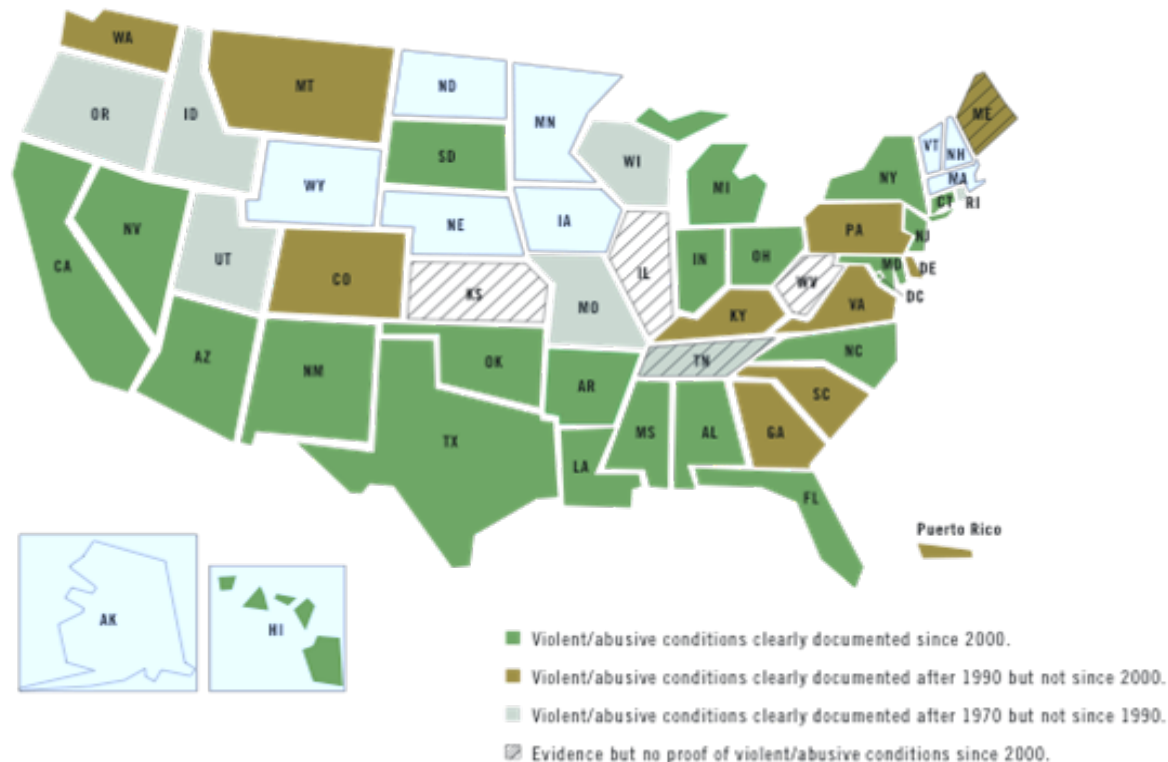


- Youth who are held in detention are more than three times as likely to subsequently be found guilty and incarcerated than similar peers
- After release, incarcerated youth are more likely to drop out of school and use drugs & alcohol

SOURCES: Office of State Courts Administrator, Florida Juvenile Delinquency Court Assessment (2003); LeBlanc, (1991), "Unlocking Learning" in Correctional Facilities, Washington, D.C. Substance use, abuse, and dependence among youths who have been in jail or a detention center: The NSDUH report, The National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse (CASA) at Columbia University, (2004); America's Promise report on national rates of high school dropouts: www.msnbc.msn.com/id/23889321/; Tremblay, R.E., Gatti, U., & Vitaro, F. (2009). *Iatrogenic Effect of Juvenile Justice*. The Journal of Child Psychology and Psychiatry, 50:8, 991-998.

The Deep End of the Juvenile Justice System is: DANGEROUS

SYSTEMIC OR RECURRING MALTREATMENT IN JUVENILE CORRECTIONS FACILITIES IN THE STATES: 1970 TO PRESENT

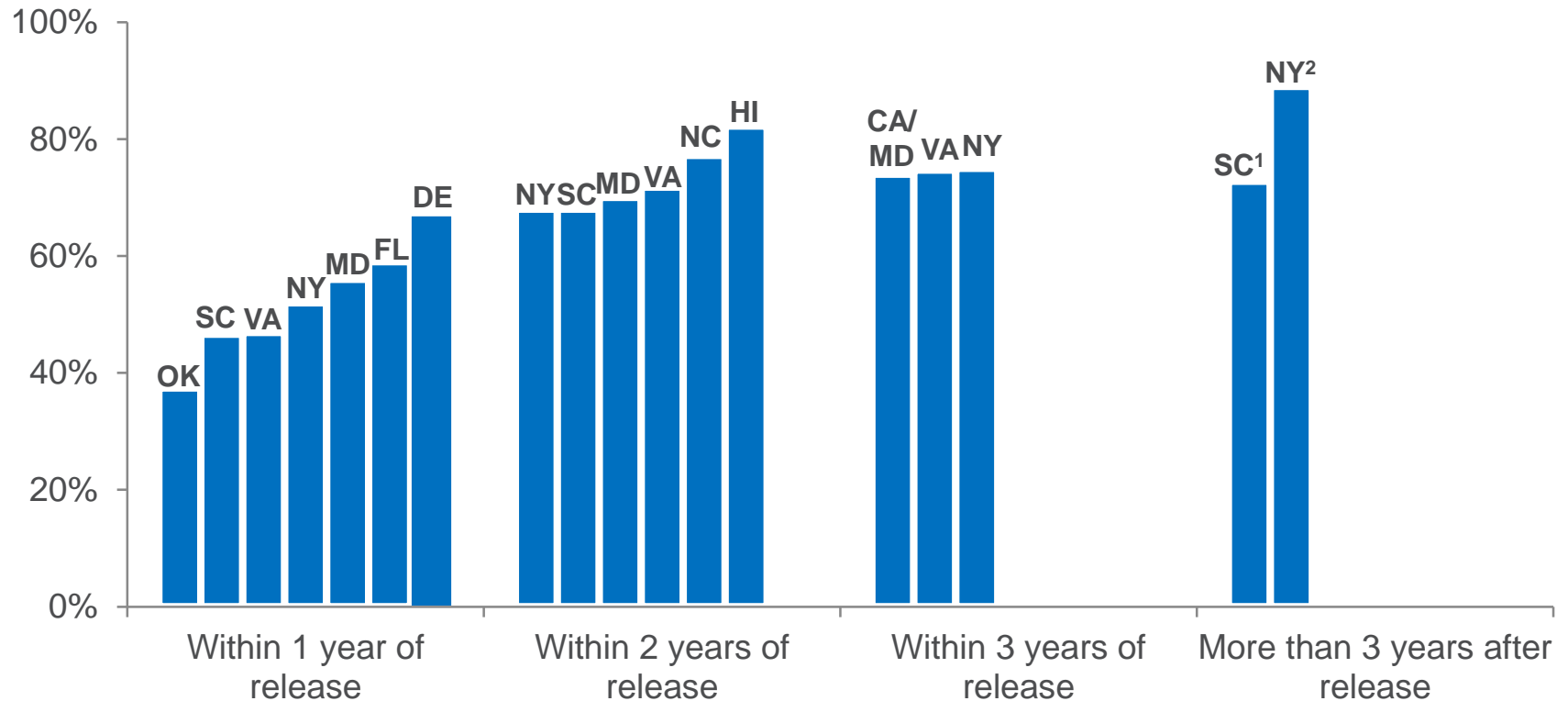


For this map, “systemic or recurring maltreatment” is identified when clear evidence has emerged from federal investigation, class-action lawsuits, or authoritative reports written by reputable media outlets or respected public or private agencies showing that – at least at one particular time – one or more state-funded youth corrections facilities repeatedly failed to protect youth from violence by staff or other youth, sexual assaults, and/or excessive use of isolation or restraints. “Evidence but no proof” is indicated when credible reports of maltreatment have emerged, but not enough to satisfy the above criteria.

For more information, visit www.aecf.org/noplaceforkids.

RECIDIVISM RATES BY STATE

Rearrest – Any Delinquent Offense (Misd or Felony)



¹ At age 21

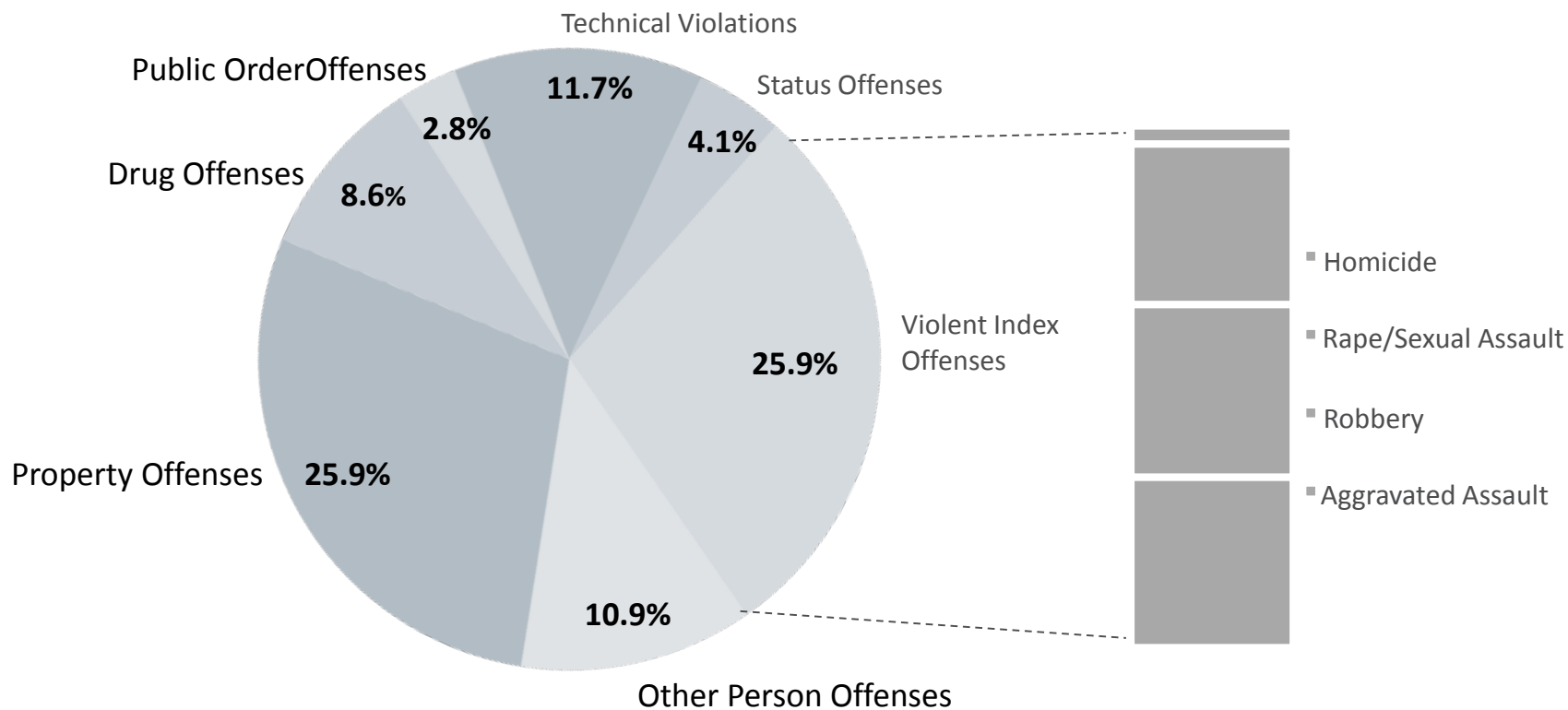
² At age 28, boys only. Comparable rate for girls was 82%

SOURCES: Virginia Department of Juvenile Justice. (2005) Juvenile recidivism in Virginia. *DJJ Research Quarterly*. Richmond, VA:

VDJJ; J. Travis, et al. *Charting a New Course, A Blueprint for Transforming Juvenile Justice in New York State: A Report of Governor David Paterson's Task Force on Transforming Juvenile Justice*. (New York: December 2009).

The Deep End of the Juvenile Justice System is: UNNECESSARY

MOST SERIOUS OFFENSE OF ALL COMMITTED YOUTH IN THE U.S.: 2007



SOURCE: Sickmund, et al. (2011). "Easy Access to the Census of Juveniles in Residential Placement." Available at www.ojjdp.gov/ojstatbb/ezacjrp.

The state of Florida found that youth participating in the Redirection Program had better outcomes than comparable youth placed in residential facilities. They were:

- 9% less likely to be arrested for any new crime
- 15% less likely to be arrested for a new felony
- 14% less likely to be convicted of a new felony
- 35% less likely to be sentenced to an adult prison

The Redirection Program saved taxpayers \$41.6 million over four years by steering less-serious offenders away from expensive residential confinement and by reducing recidivism.

Savings

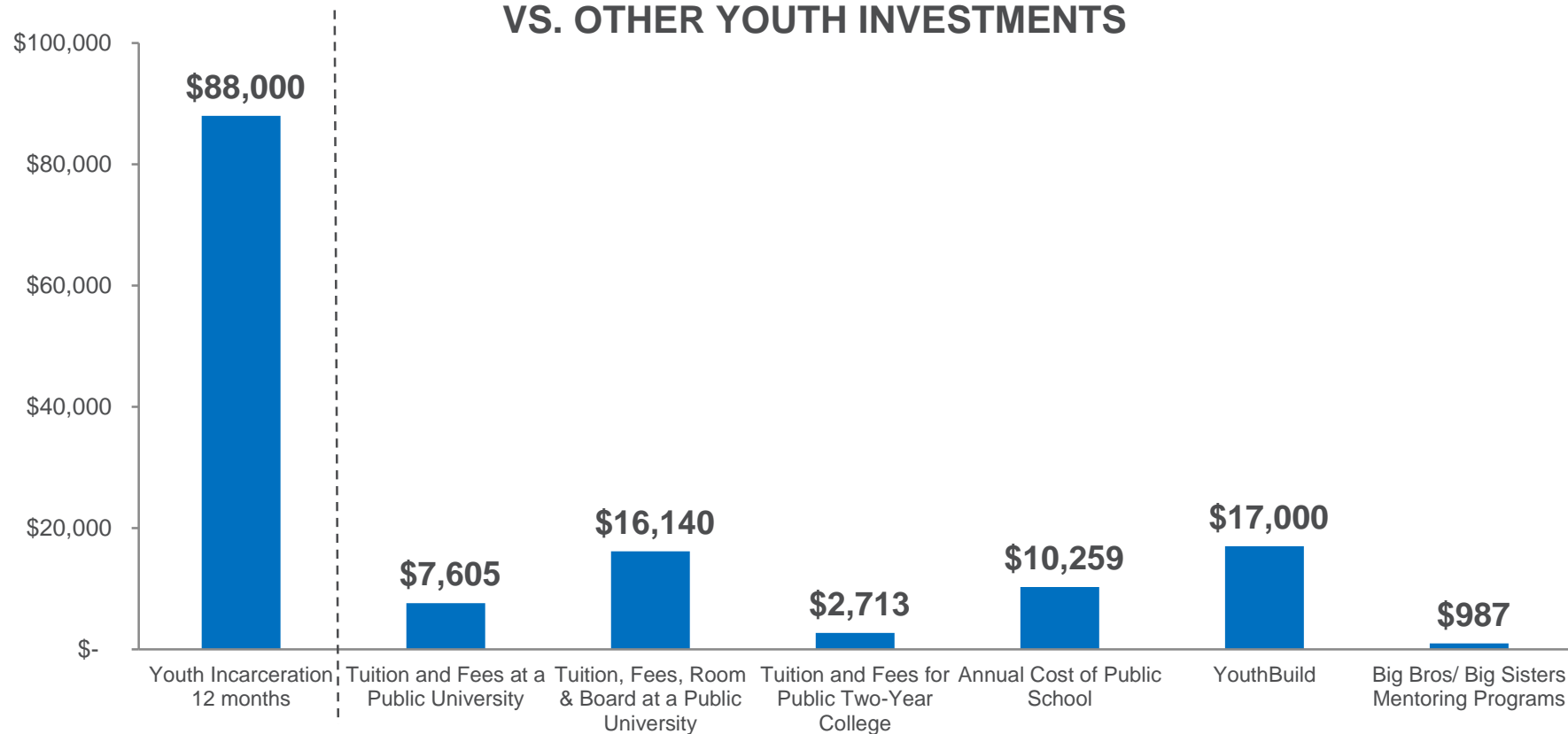
Cost of Residential Placements Averted (2,033 youth)	\$50.8 million	
Savings from Reduced Recidivism	\$5.2 million	
Savings Subtotal		\$56 million

Costs

Youth Referred for Treatment	2,867	
Youth Completing Treatment	2,033	
Cost of Redirection Treatment		\$14.4 million
Net Savings (Subtotal – Costs)		\$41.6 million

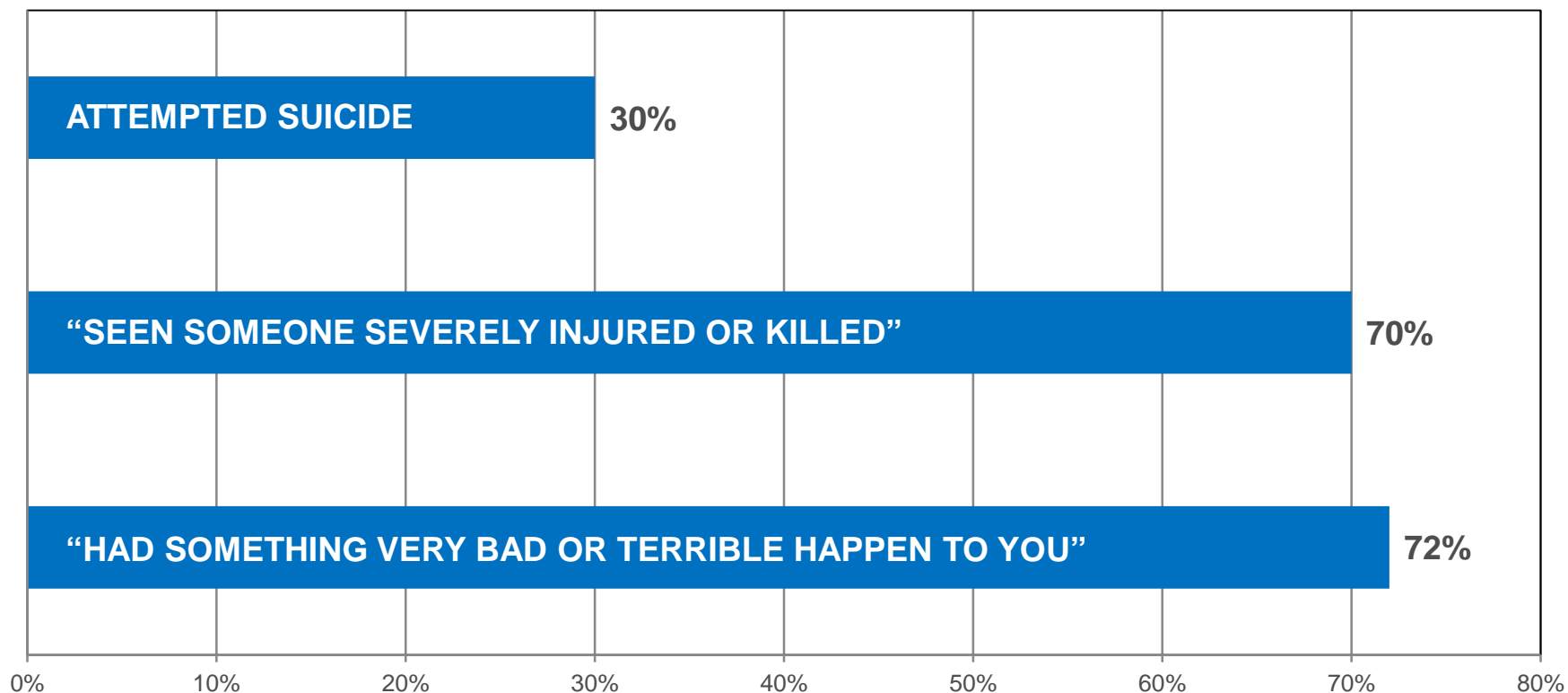
SOURCE: Florida Department of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability. *Redirection Saves \$36.4 million and Avoids \$5.2 million in Recidivism and Prison Costs.* Report No.

ANNUAL COST OF JUVENILE INCARCERATION VS. OTHER YOUTH INVESTMENTS



SOURCES: American Correctional Association (for costs of youth incarceration; College Board (for costs at public universities and public two-year colleges), U.S. Census Bureau (for costs of public education), Cohen and Piquero (2008) (for costs of YouthBuild), and Public Private Ventures (for costs of Big Brothers Big Sisters program).

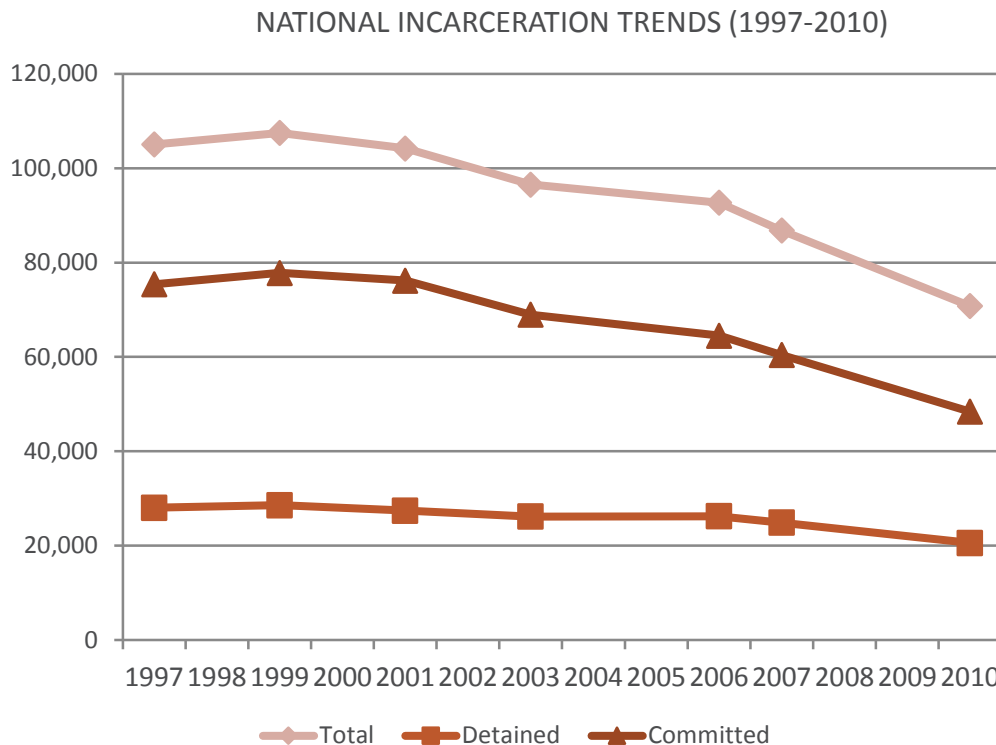
TRAUMATIC PASTS OF CONFINED YOUTH: PERCENTAGE OF YOUTH IN JUVENILE CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES WHO HAVE EVER:



As a whole, juvenile incarceration in the United States is falling at an accelerating rate

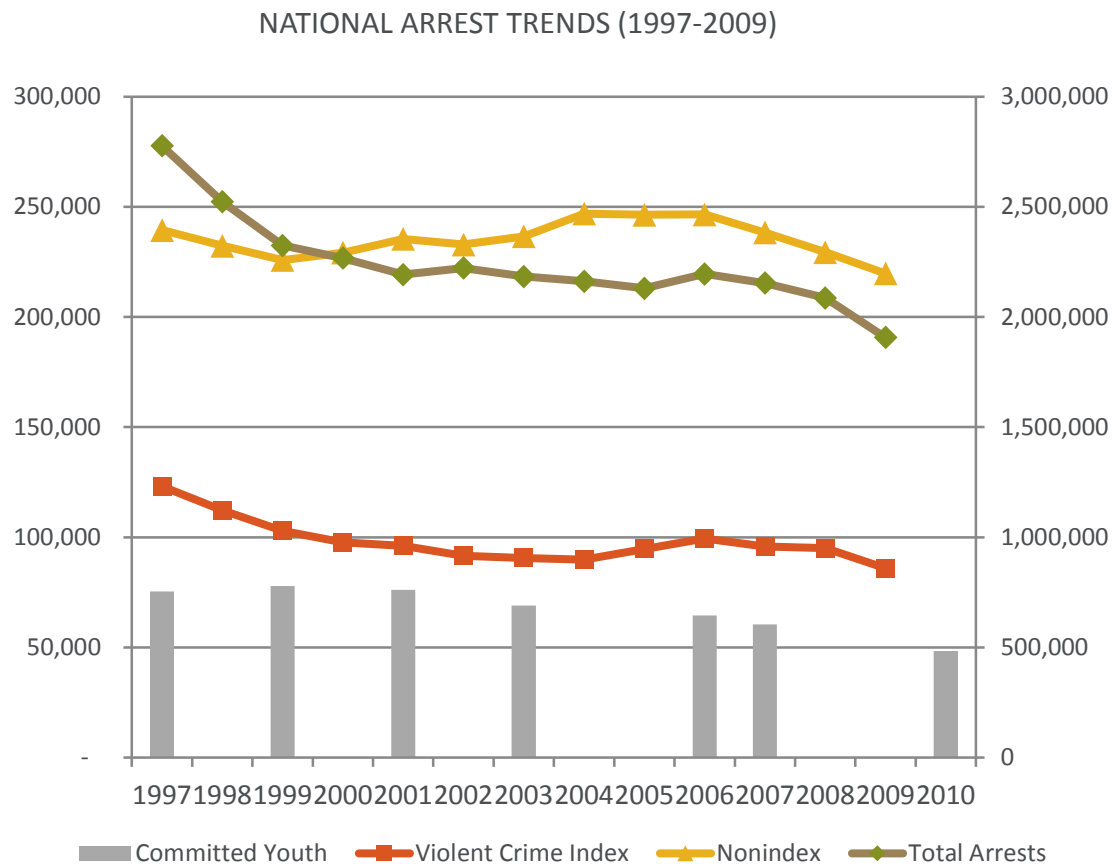
Incarceration is on the decline

- Among both detained and committed youth
- More rapid & broad-based decreases since 2006 than prior



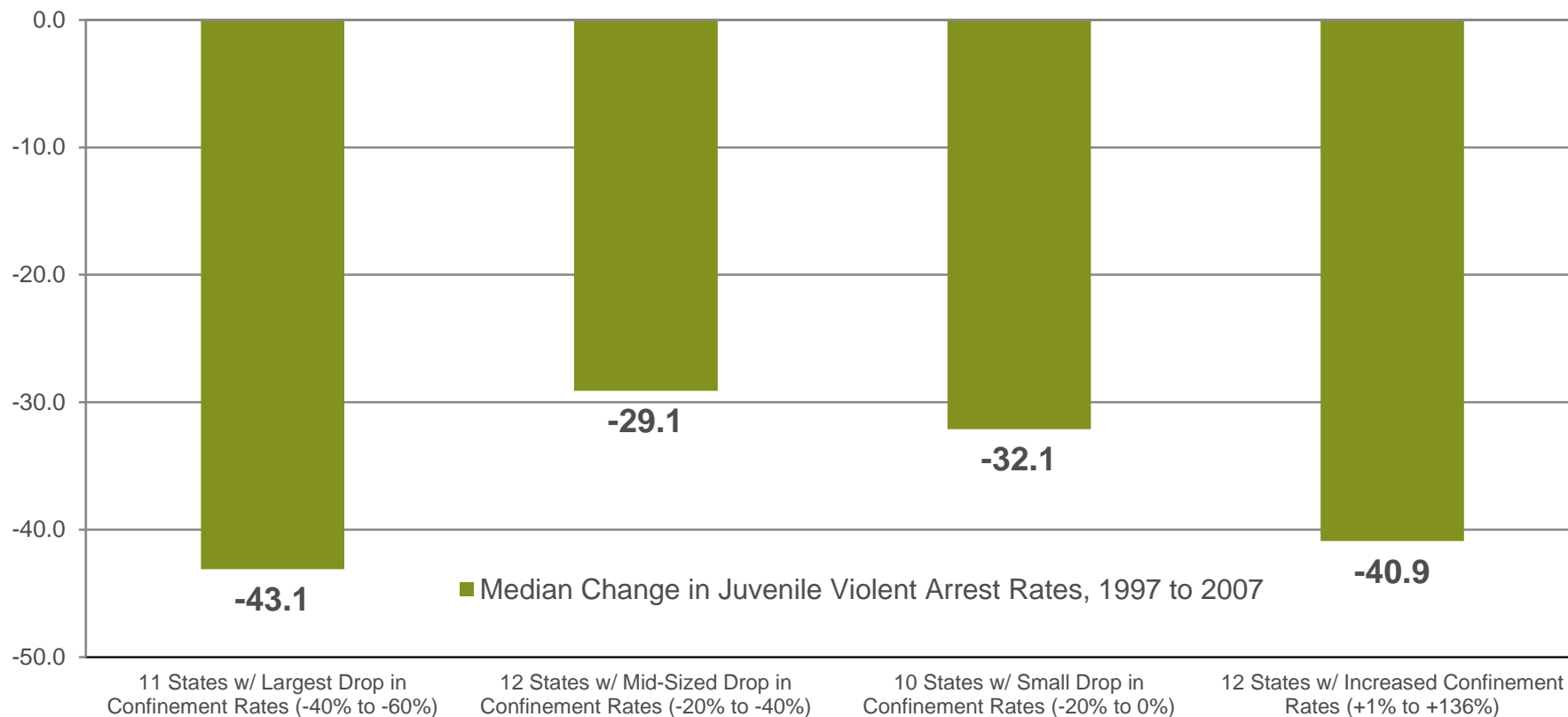
	Annual Rate of Change 1996-2006	Annual Rate of Change 2006-2010
Total	-2.1%	-6.5%
Detained	-1.2%	-5.9%
Committed	-2.6%	-6.9%

While overall juvenile crime is also down, this does not tell the whole story



- Total arrests are down 31%, and most of this decline is explained by the drop in Violent Index Offenses which are down 30%
- Nonindex offenses declined only 8% since 1997, and actually increased in the early 2000s
- However, the number of committed youth in residential facilities has dropped by 36%, which means that it cannot be explained by changes in crime trends alone

JUVENILE VIOLENT INDEX ARREST TRENDS IN STATES WITH DECLINING AND INCREASING JUVENILE CONFINEMENT RATES (1997-2007)



SOURCE: Author's analysis, using data from the 1997 and 2007 Census of Juveniles in Residential Placement; and 1997 and 2007 FBI Arrest Statistics, both available at www.ojjdp.gov/ojstabb.

As of 2011, JDAI sites had reduced detention populations by 41%

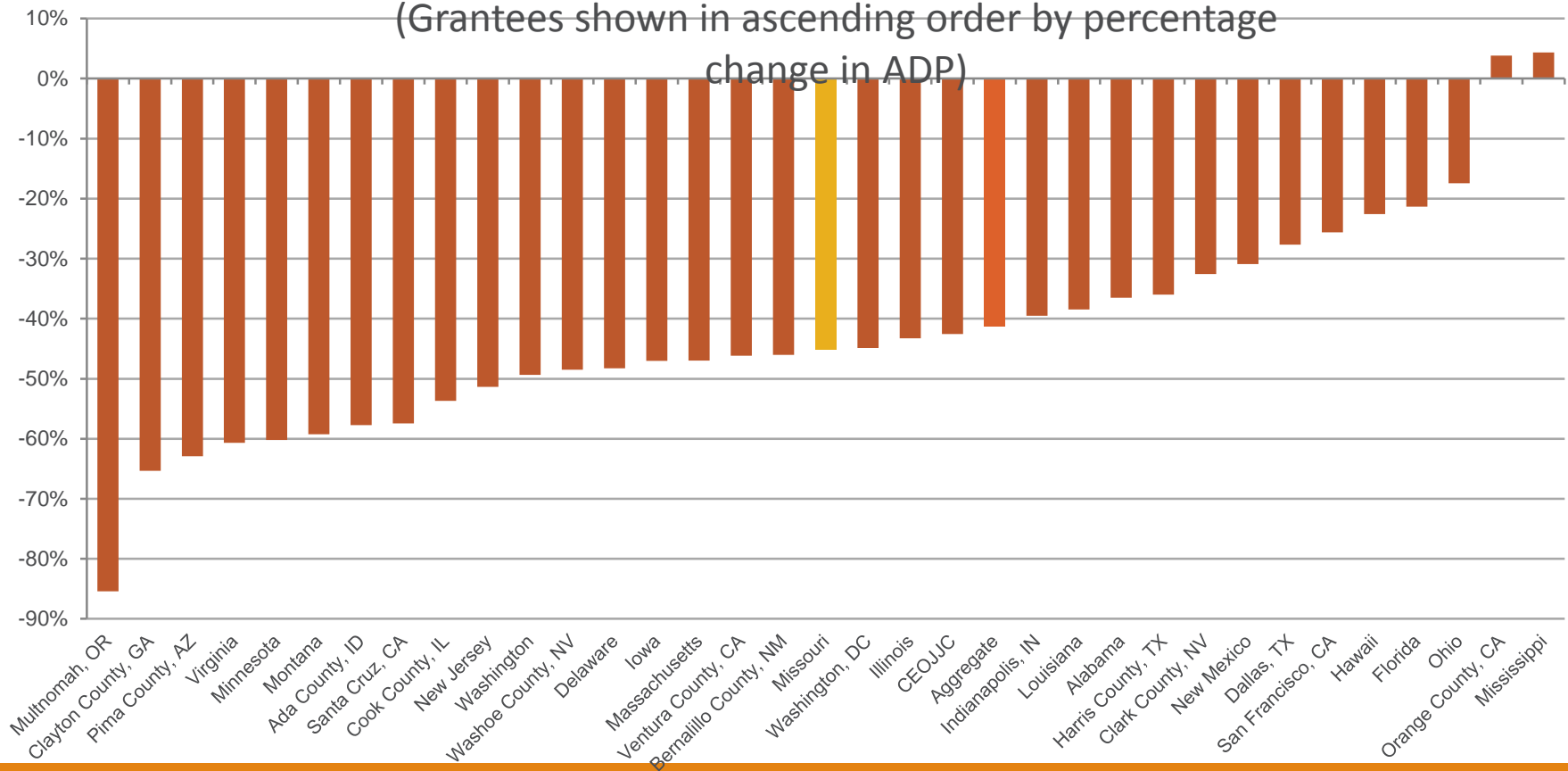
Change in Average Daily Population (ADP) by Grantee

Baseline vs. 2011

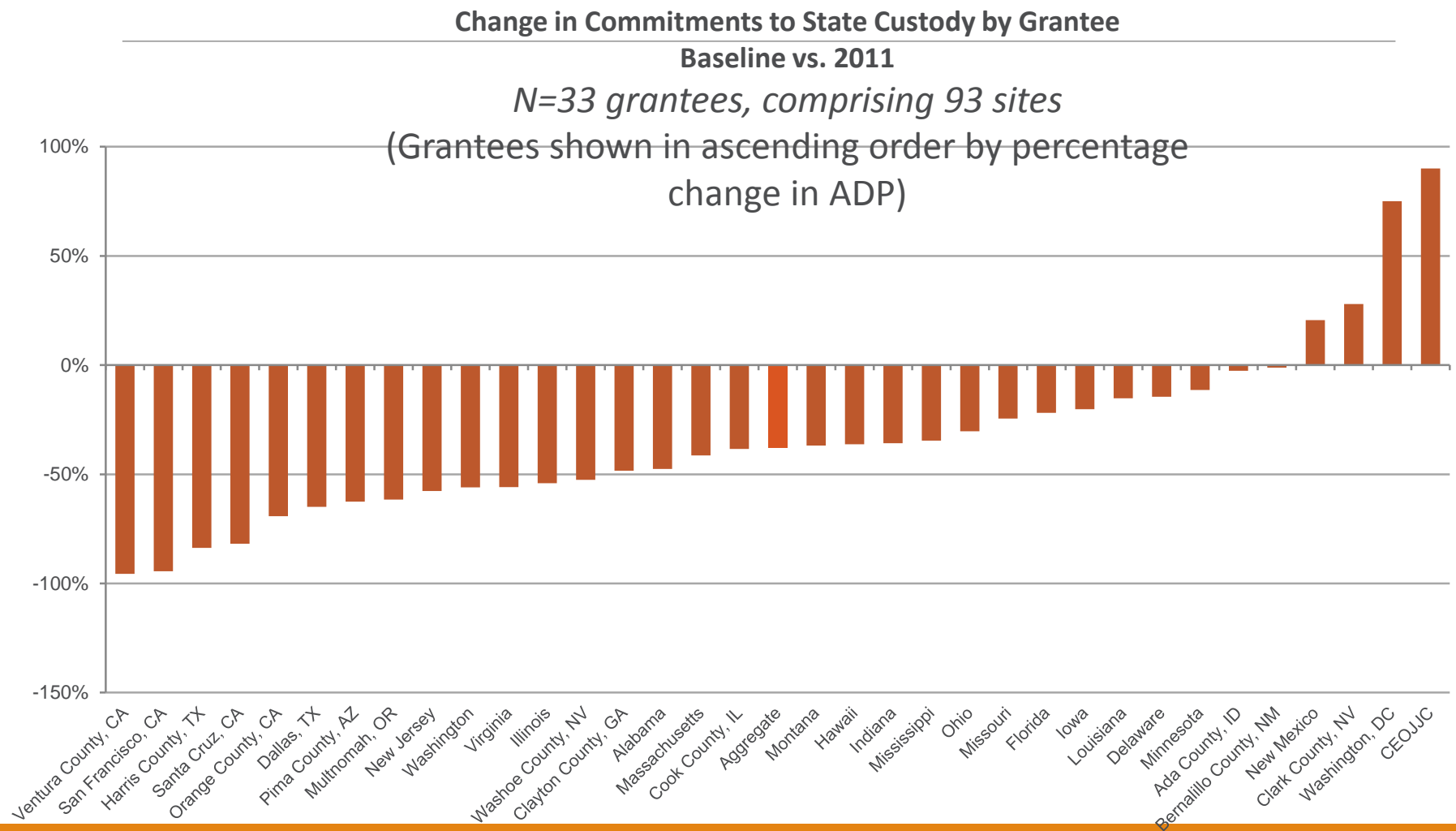
N=33 grantees, comprising 94 sites

(Grantees shown in ascending order by percentage

change in ADP)



Commitments to state facilities reduced 38% across reporting JDAI sites



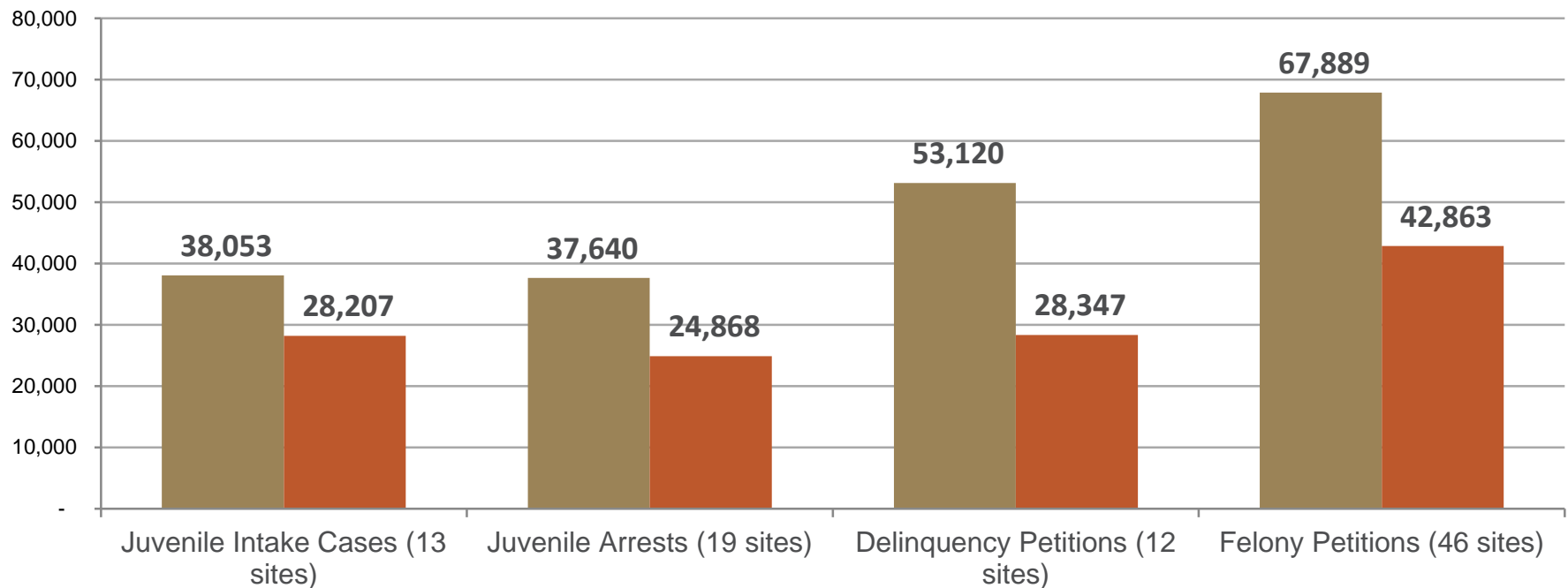
These declines have come without sacrificing public safety: JDAI sites report reductions in all four juvenile crime indicators

Aggregate Reductions in Juvenile Crime Indicator Type

Baseline vs. 2011

N=90 sites

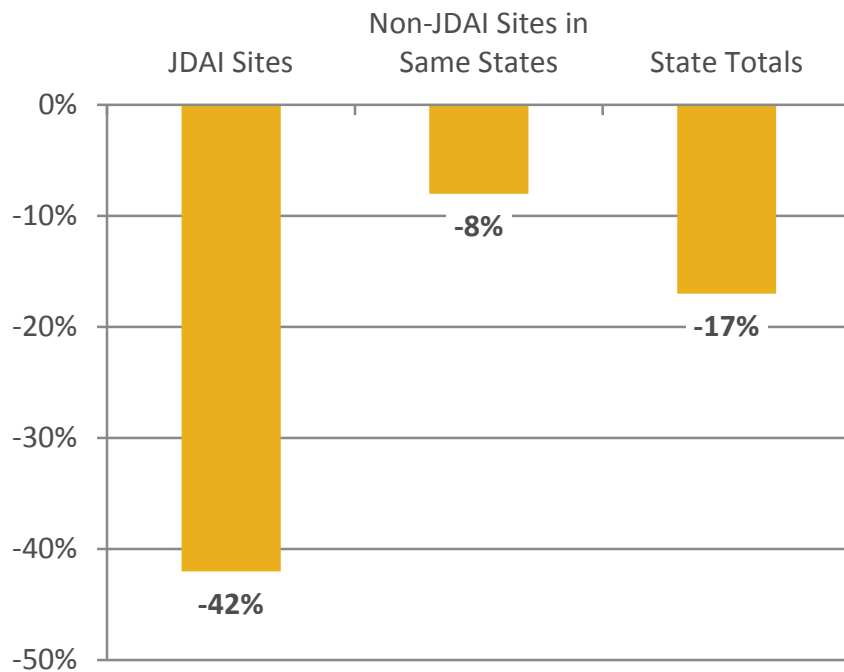
■ Baseline ■ Recent



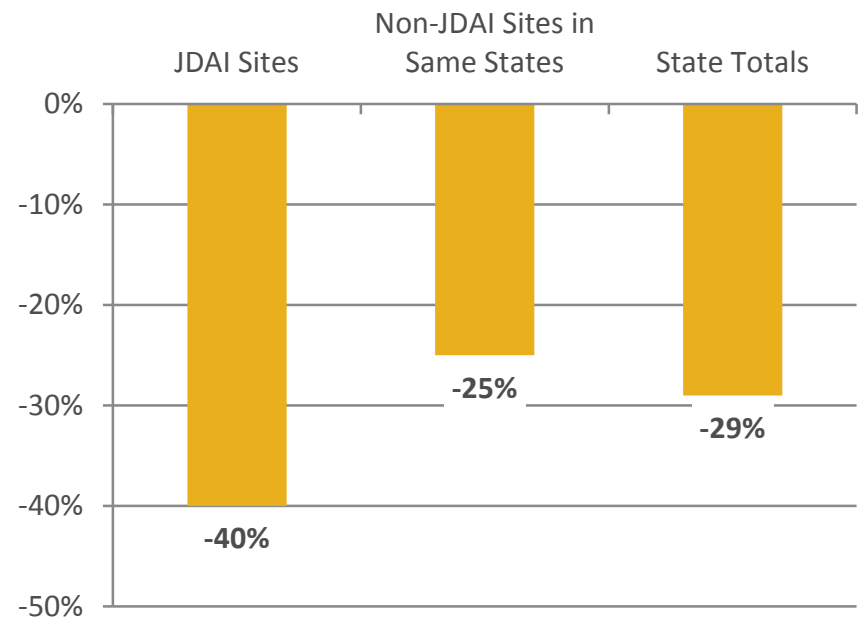
47% fewer Delinquency Petitions
37% fewer Felony Petitions Filed

- **26%** fewer Juvenile Intake Cases
- **34%** fewer Juvenile Arrests

Aggregate Percent Change in Detention ADP, Baseline Year to 2010



Aggregate Percent Change in Commitments to State Custody, Baseline Year to 2010



Detention ADP = Average daily population in secure detention. Baseline Year = Year prior to initiating JDAI detention reforms.

Source: Kirsberg, B. et al., *An Evaluation of the Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative: JDAI Sites Compared to Home State Totals*. (Chief Justice Earl Warren Institute on Law and Social Policy, University of California – Berkeley: 2012 [publication forthcoming])

- Limit who can be incarcerated/committed
- Expand non-residential alternatives
- Change the financial incentives
- Adopt best juvenile justice practices
- Implement Missouri Model
- Use data to increase accountability for results

- The money is here
- Comprehensive system reform will be required
- Innovation will be stimulated
- Outcomes become primary, rather than outputs