



## Justice Reinvestment in Pennsylvania

First Presentation to the Pennsylvania Justice  
Reinvestment Working Group

*March 9, 2016*

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# Working Group Composition

|   |  |   |  |   |  |
|---|--|---|--|---|--|
| <b>Josh Shapiro</b><br>Chairman,<br>Pennsylvania Commission<br>on Crime and Delinquency | <b>Randy Albright</b><br>Secretary,<br>Office of the Budget                            | <b>Sally Barry</b><br>Chief Probation Officer,<br>Lebanon County                              | <b>Mark Bergstrom</b><br>Executive Director,<br>Pennsylvania Commission<br>on Sentencing             | <b>Tyree Blocker</b><br>Commissioner,<br>Pennsylvania<br>State Police               | <b>Mark Brunelle</b><br>Executive Deputy<br>Chief of Staff to the<br>Governor            |
| <b>Theodore Dallas</b><br>Secretary, Pennsylvania<br>Department of Human<br>Services    | <b>William Danowski</b><br>Secretary,<br>Governor's Office<br>of Legislative Affairs   | <b>Tom Darr</b><br>Court Administrator<br>of Pennsylvania                                     | <b>Sarah E. Galbally</b><br>Secretary,<br>Governor's Office of<br>Policy and Planning                | <b>Michael Green</b><br>Chairman, Pennsylvania<br>Board of Probation and<br>Parole  | <b>Senator<br/>Stewart Greenleaf</b><br>12 <sup>th</sup> Senatorial District             |
| <b>Ellen Greenlee</b><br>Defender Association of<br>Philadelphia (Ret.)                 | <b>Hon. Jolene<br/>Grubb Kopriva</b><br>President Judge,<br>Blair County               | <b>Michael Hanna, Jr.</b><br>Deputy Secretary,<br>Governor's Office of<br>Legislative Affairs | <b>Elliot Howsie</b><br>Director and Chief<br>Public Defender of<br>Allegheny County                 | <b>Mary Isenhour</b><br>Chief of Staff,<br>Governor's Office                        | <b>Robert Jolley</b><br>President, Pennsylvania<br>Chiefs of Police<br>Association       |
| <b>Kathleen Kane</b><br>Pennsylvania<br>Attorney General                                | <b>Linda Kelly</b><br>Court Administrator,<br>Allegheny County                         | <b>Senator<br/>Daylin Leach</b><br>17 <sup>th</sup> Senatorial District                       | <b>Representative<br/>Ron Marsico</b><br>105 <sup>th</sup> Legislative District                      | <b>Edward Marsico, Jr.</b><br>District Attorney,<br>Dauphin County                  | <b>Les Neri</b><br>President, Fraternal Order<br>of Police - Pennsylvania<br>State Lodge |
| <b>Mavis Nimoh</b><br>Secretary,<br>Pennsylvania Board<br>of Pardons                    | <b>Brinda Carroll Penyak</b><br>County Commissioners<br>Association of<br>Pennsylvania | <b>Representative<br/>Joseph Petrarca</b><br>55 <sup>th</sup> Legislative District            | <b>Linda Rosenberg</b><br>Executive Director,<br>Pennsylvania Commission<br>on Crime and Delinquency | <b>Denise Smyler</b><br>General Counsel,<br>Governor's Office of<br>General Counsel | <b>Keith Snyder</b><br>Executive Director,<br>Juvenile Court Judges'<br>Commission       |
| <b>Jennifer Storm</b><br>Victim Advocate, Office<br>of Victim Advocate                  | <b>Edward Sweeney</b><br>Director of Corrections,<br>Lehigh County                     | <b>Gary Tennis</b><br>Secretary, Pennsylvania<br>Department of Drug and<br>Alcohol Programs   | <b>John Wetzel</b><br>Secretary, Pennsylvania<br>Department of<br>Corrections                        | <b>Seth Williams</b><br>District Attorney,<br>Philadelphia County                   | <b>Hon. Sheila<br/>Woods-Skipper</b><br>President Judge,<br>Philadelphia County          |

# Pennsylvania leaders have indicated strong interest in and commitment to justice reinvestment (JR).

Pennsylvania Justice Reinvestment Launch Event,  
February 18, 2016



## **Governor Tom Wolf**

*"A broken criminal justice system is a failure to deliver on the promise of a fair and just society, and we must all work together to ensure Pennsylvania leads the nation in rehabilitation and not incarceration."*

## **Senate President Pro Tempore Joe Scarnati**

*"We need to reduce recidivism to benefit our communities and help ensure that taxpayer dollars that are being sent to Harrisburg are being used productively."*

## **House Speaker Mike Turzai**

*"When legislators from both sides of the aisle work together to tackle these tough issues, we create genuine results. We proved that with a justice reinvestment approach we took in 2012."*

## **Chief Justice Thomas Saylor**

*"Justice reinvestment provides a clear opportunity to do a thoughtful analysis of our criminal justice challenges."*

# Council of State Governments (CSG) Justice Center

- National nonprofit, nonpartisan membership association of state government officials
- Engages members of all three branches of state government
- Justice Center provides practical, nonpartisan advice informed by the best available evidence



# Presentation Overview



**Justice Reinvestment**

**Key Challenges**

**Next Steps**



# JUSTICE REINVESTMENT

***A data-driven approach to reduce corrections spending and reinvest savings in strategies that can decrease recidivism and increase public safety***

The Justice Reinvestment Initiative is supported by funding from the U.S. Department of Justice's **Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA)** and **The Pew Charitable Trusts**

# Justice reinvestment offers states a comprehensive step-by-step process.

1

## **Bipartisan, Interbranch Working Group**

*Assemble practitioners and leaders; receive and consider information, reports, and policies*

2

## **Data Analysis**

*Data compiled from across the criminal justice system for comprehensive analysis*

3

## **Stakeholder Engagement**

*Complement data analysis with input from stakeholder groups and interested parties*

4

## **Develop Policy Options & Estimate Impacts**

*Present a policy framework to reduce corrections costs, increase public safety, and project the impacts*

5

## **Implement New Policies**

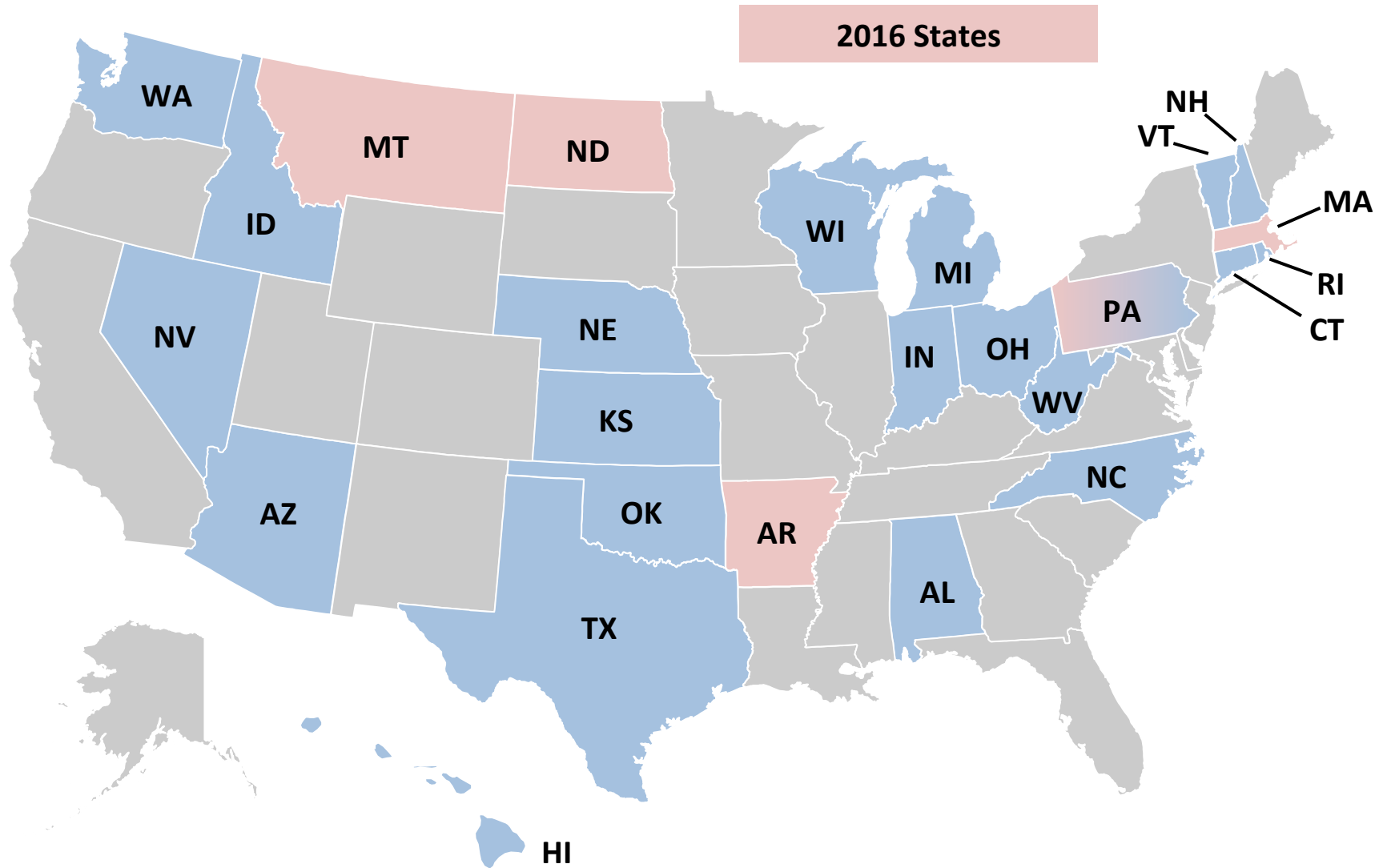
*Identify assistance needed for implementation and deliver technical assistance for reinvestment strategies*

6

## **Target Reinvestments & Monitor Key Measures**

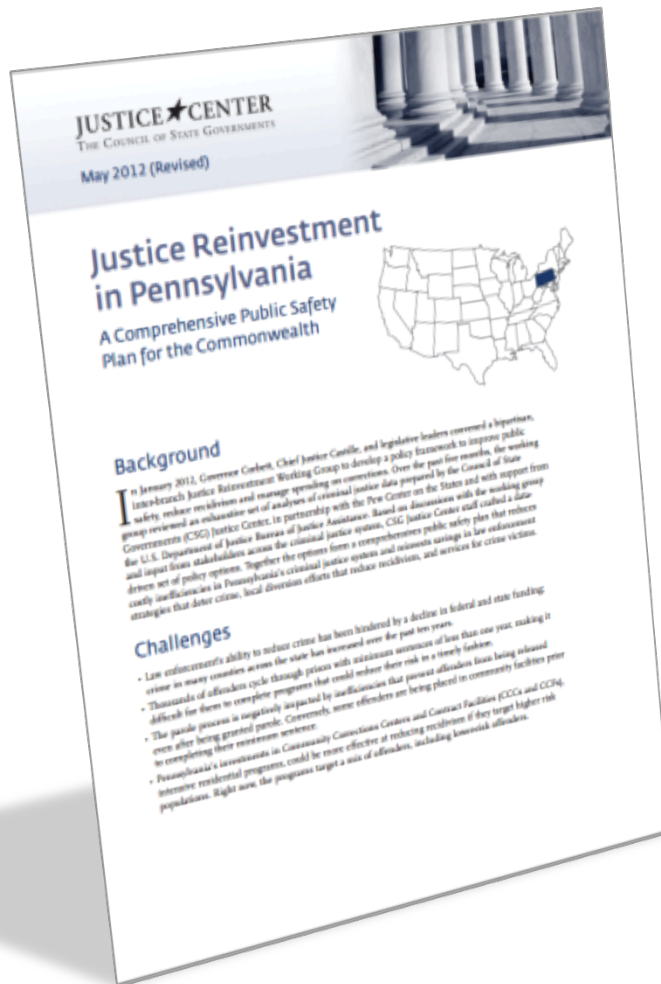
*Track and monitor the impact of enacted policies and programs, and adjust implementation plan as needed*

CSG has worked on justice reinvestment in 21 states, with five underway in 2016 including a return to Pennsylvania.





# Pennsylvania's previous JR project led to a data-driven policy framework, which was then converted to legislation.



## 2012 Policy Framework

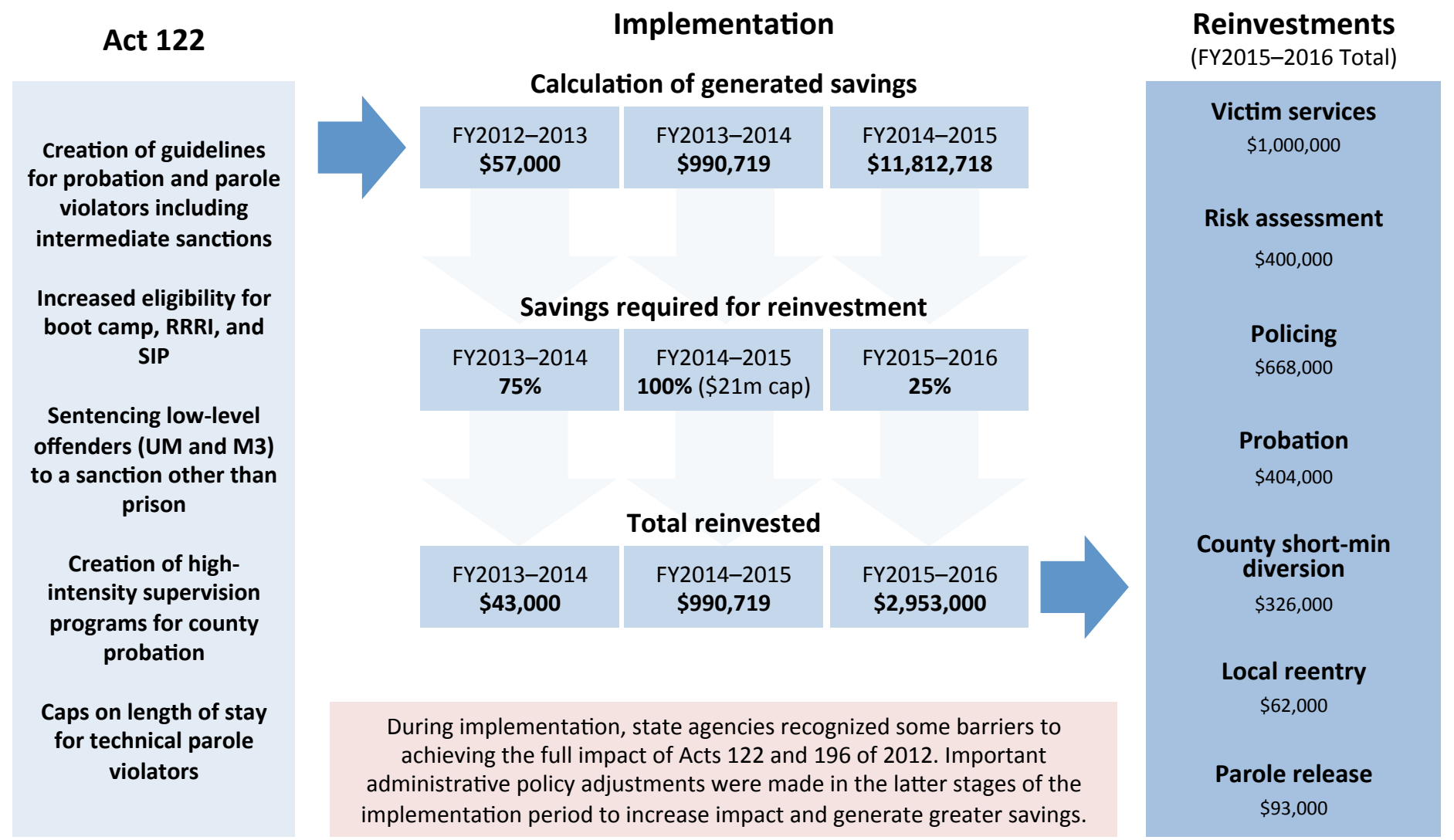
- Reduce inefficiencies in the corrections and parole process
- Prioritize CCC/CCFs for higher-risk parolees who benefit most from the intensive programs
- Apply shortened periods of incarceration to technical parole violators followed by supervision
- Provide performance-driven funding to help divert misdemeanants and the short-minimum-sentence prison population
- Expand local resources to reduce recidivism

Although implementation of policies enacted in 2012 has varied in timing and impact, it has still generated significant savings.

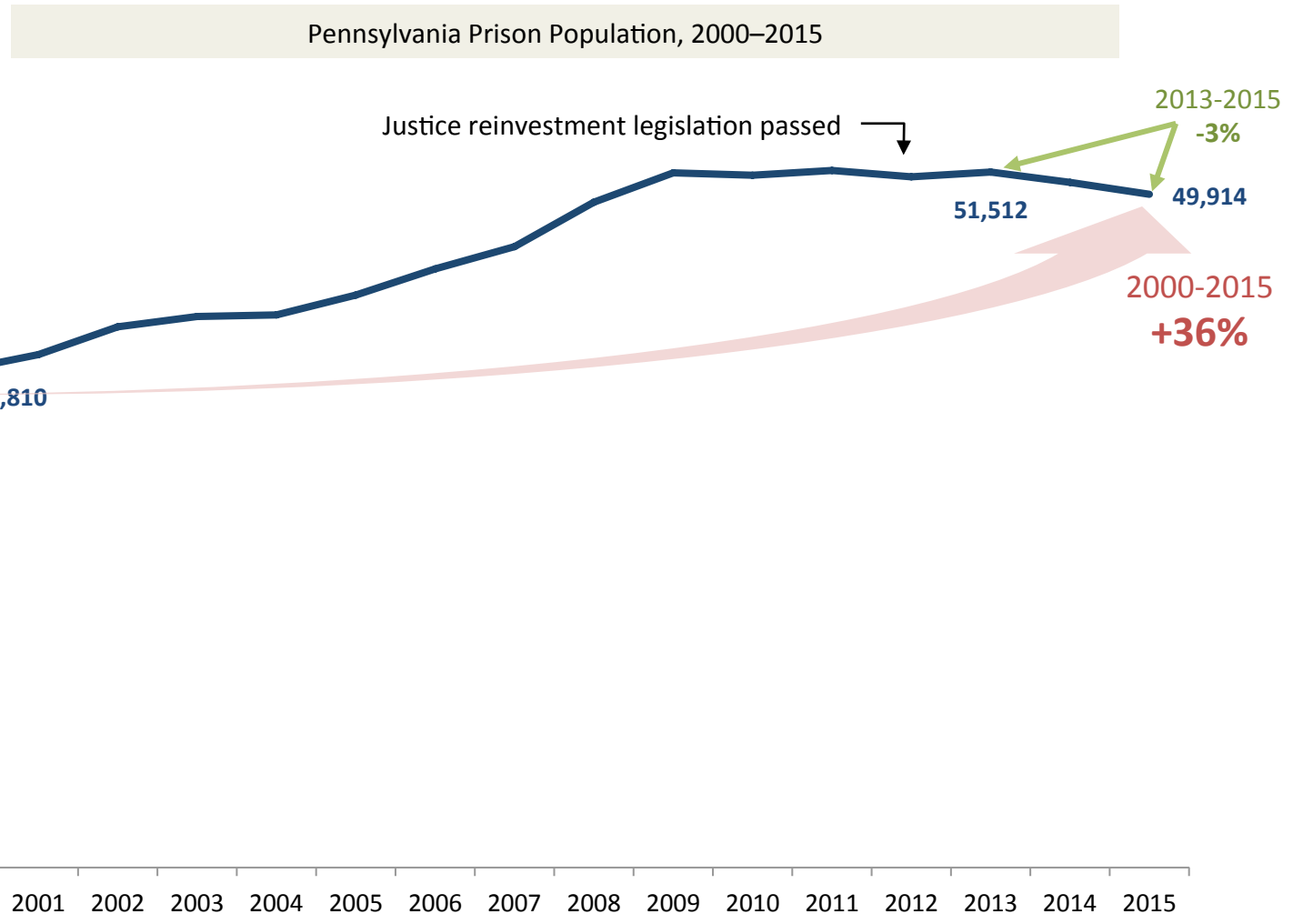
|   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| <b>Reducing inefficiencies in parole decision making</b>              | Address inefficiencies that delay decision-making in parole by increasing the proportion of parole cases interviewed per month                                | <b>Efficiencies have increased paroles</b>  |
| <b>Prioritizing use of CCC/CCF programs</b>                           | Redesign CCCs and CCFs as parole transition and violation centers, prohibiting “pre-release” offenders and prioritizing the placement of higher-risk parolees | <b>Some improvements but room for more</b>  |
| <b>Applying shorter periods of incarceration for parole violators</b> | Respond to major technical parole violations with shortened periods of incarceration in SCI followed by supervision.  |   |
| <b>Addressing low-level offenders in prison</b>                       | Require low-level misdemeanants (UM and M3) to be sentenced to a sanction other than prison   | <b>Impact less than expected</b>            |
| <b>Diverting the short-min population</b>                             | Provide funding to help counties divert misdemeanants and short-minimum sentence population (<1 year in prison)   | <b>Delay in funding has impaired impact</b> |

Through avoided construction, facility closures, and annualized operating cost savings, the DOC estimates that the total averted costs in the three years since JRI 2012 are **\$285 million.**

With savings increasing each year, nearly \$4 million has been reinvested since 2012.



Despite recent reductions, the prison population is 36 percent higher than in 2000.



Source: DOC Annual Statistical Reports.

The 2016 justice reinvestment project differs from the 2012 effort in timeline, scope, and data analysis.

## Pennsylvania Justice Reinvestment

|          | 2012   | 2016   |
|----------|--|--|
| Timeline | <b>5 months</b><br>Launched in January 2012 with policy options developed by May 2012                            | <b>10 months</b><br>Project launch in March 2016; policy options targeted for January 2017                                       |
| Scope    | Primarily focused on<br><b>Prison and Parole</b>   | <b>Comprehensive Examination</b><br>Including arrest, diversion, pretrial, sentencing, probation, jail, prison and parole        |
| Analysis | <b>State Research Staff</b><br>Provided discrete data sets and analytical support; cross-system analyses limited | <b>CSG Research Staff</b><br>Partnering with state research staff to conduct case-level analysis; linking of data across systems |

# Presentation Overview

**Justice Reinvestment**



**Key Challenges**

**Next Steps**

# Key challenges as they appear at the beginning of the project

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## **County Impacts and Outcomes**

- Most sentences are served locally, on probation or in jail
- Resources and practices vary and outcomes are unknown

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## **Sentencing Complexity and Variation**

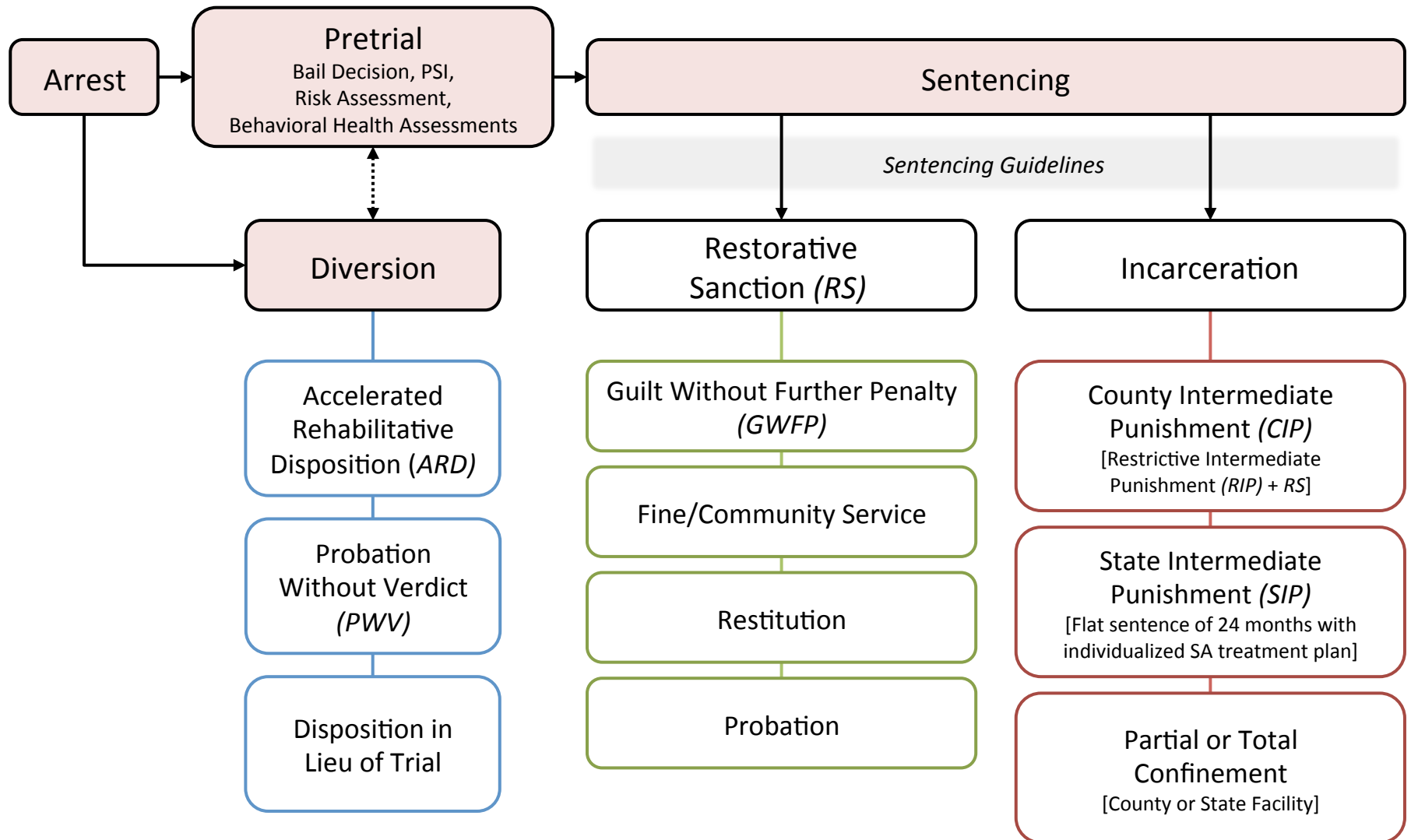
- Complexity that grows with legislative enactments over time
- Advisory guidelines enable variation

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## **Prison and Parole Volumes**

- Large prison population
  - Highest parole supervision rate in the country
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# The arrest, pretrial, and sentencing stages provide numerous pathways to diversion, supervision, and incarceration options.

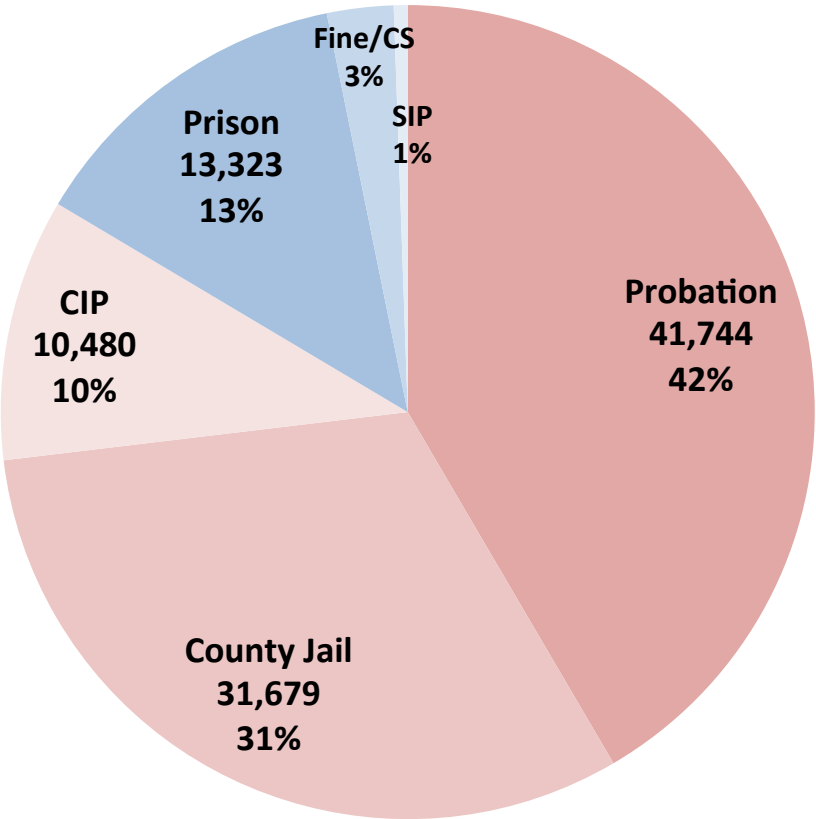




# Over 80 percent of sentences are served at the county level, either on probation, in jail, or CIP.

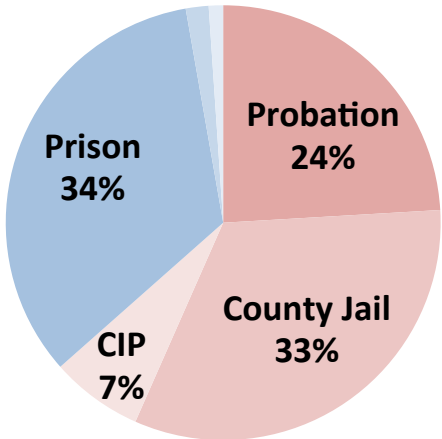
Felony and Misdemeanor Sentences, 2014

Most serious offense per criminal incident, N = 100,432

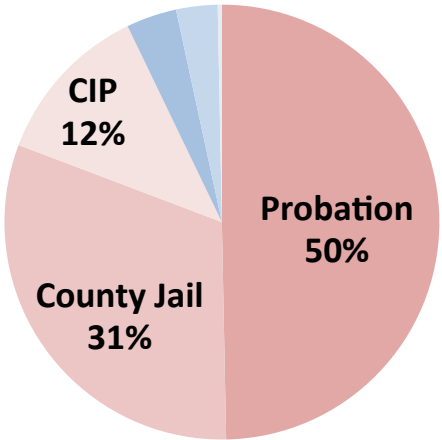


63% of felony sentences and 93% of misdemeanor sentences are handled by county agencies

Felony Sentences  
31,844

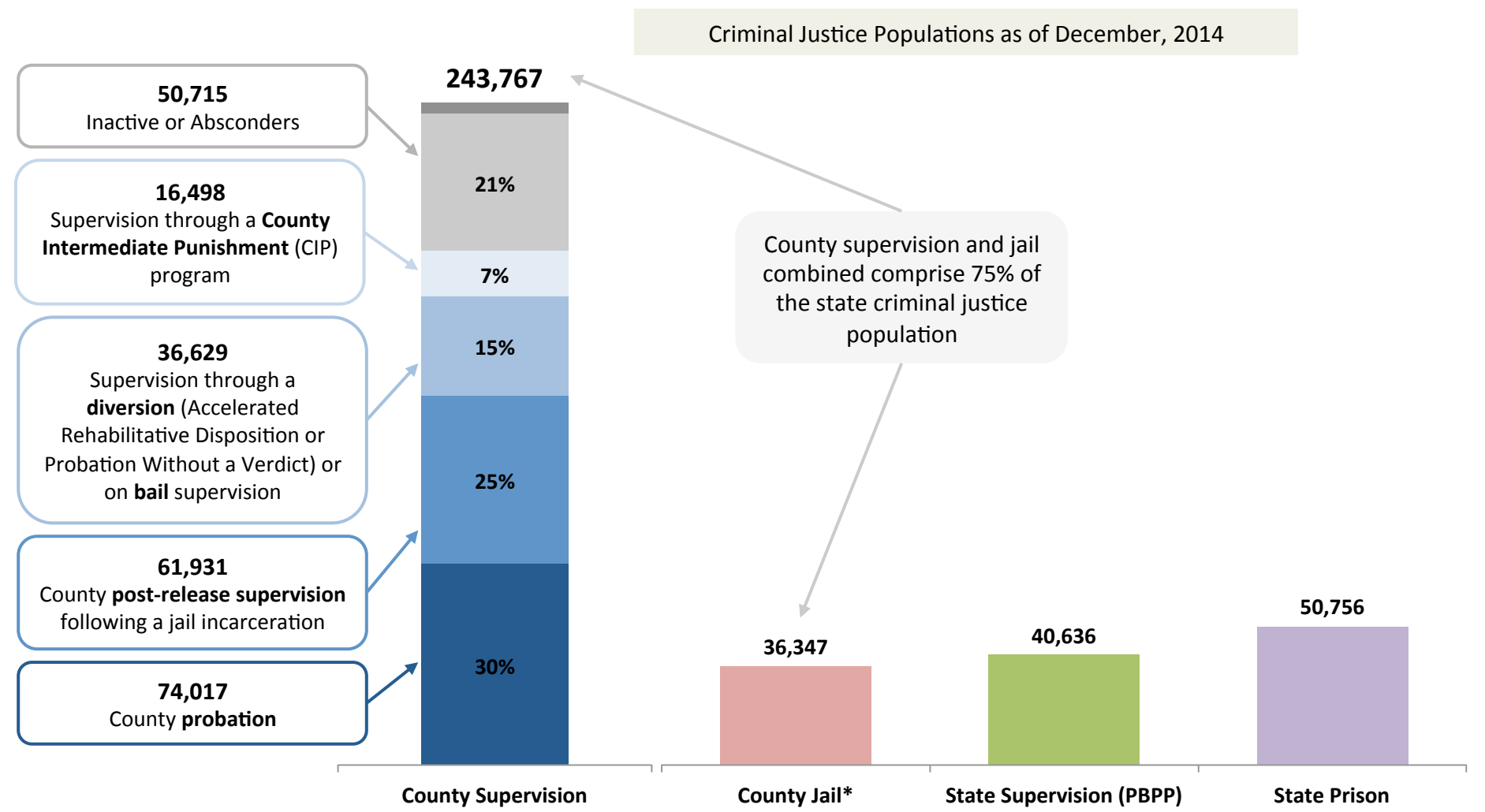


Misdemeanor Sentences  
68,588



Source: Pennsylvania Commission on Sentencing Annual Report, 2014.

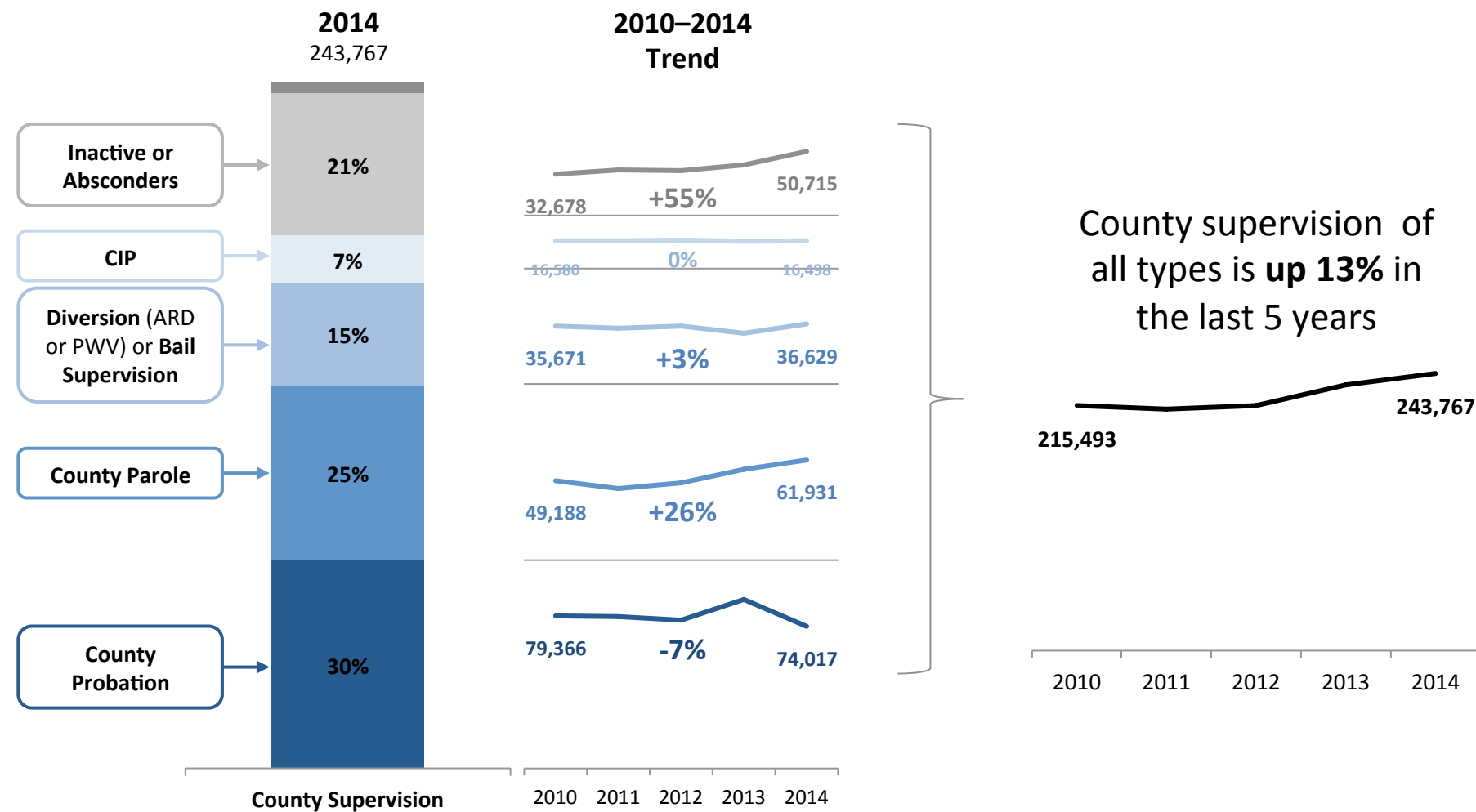
# Almost a quarter million people are supervised by 65 county adult probation departments on any given day.



\* 2014 jail average in-house daily population

Source: Pennsylvania Board of Probation and Parole, County Adult Probation and Parole Annual Statistical Report, 2014.

# County supervision growth is driven by inactive/absconder and county parole increases.



Source: Pennsylvania Board of Probation and Parole, County Adult Probation and Parole Annual Statistical Reports, 2010-2014.,

# Supervision practices that are demonstrated to reduce recidivism depend on manageable caseloads.

There is no accepted, universal caseload size standard, however supervision can reduce recidivism rates when the dosage of time and attention is matched with the risk and need level of the client. An example of potential caseload levels stratified by risk:  
**Low: 120–200 cases      Moderate: 50–60 cases      High: 20–30 cases**

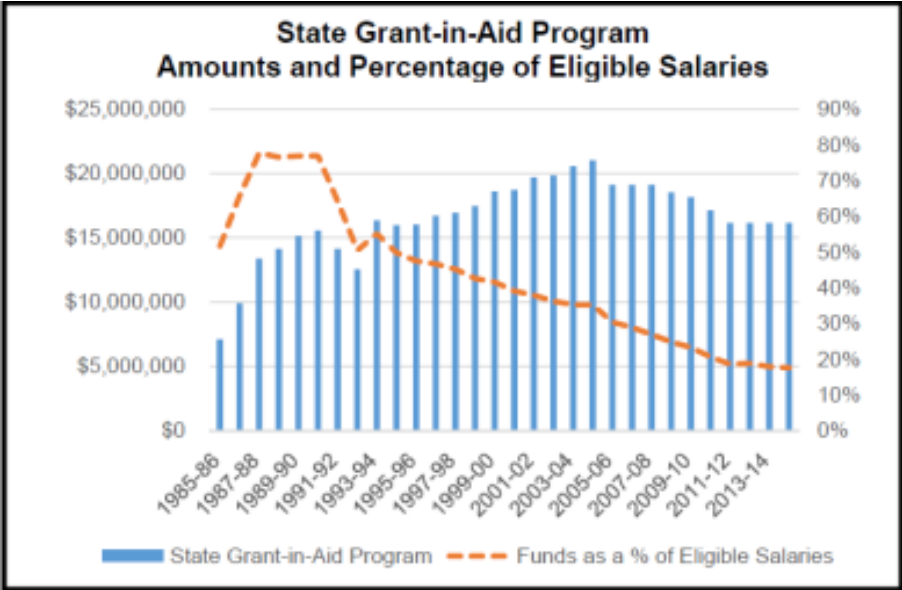
| 2014   | State<br>Probation/<br>Parole | County<br>Probation/<br>Parole |
|--|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Number of Agents                                   | 498                           | 1,724                          |
| Active Cases<br>(All supervision types and levels) | 33,082                        | 187,707                        |
| Average Active Caseload per Agent                  | 66                            | 109                            |

County caseloads are generally comprised of less serious offenders and could be higher than state caseloads. Still, these county caseloads appear to be high.

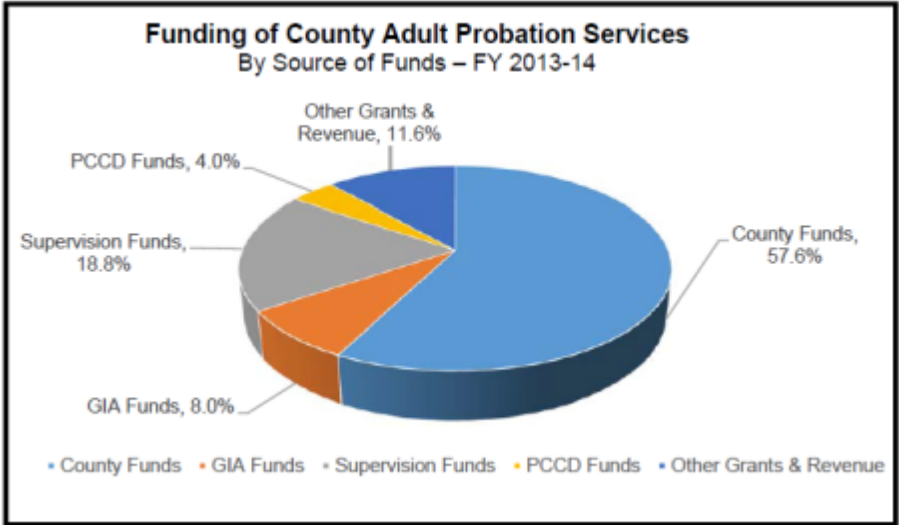
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PBPP County Adult Probation and Parole Annual Statistical Report, 2014. PBPP Monthly Program Report, December 2014.  
Legislative Budget and Finance Committee, Funding of County Adult Probation Services, February 2015

# State Grant-in-Aid funding has declined, and counties bear most of the cost of local supervision.

*“State Grant-in-Aid funding has declined markedly in the last 10 years, both in real dollars and as a percentage of eligible salaries.”*

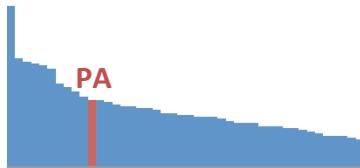
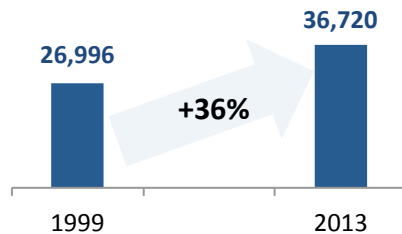
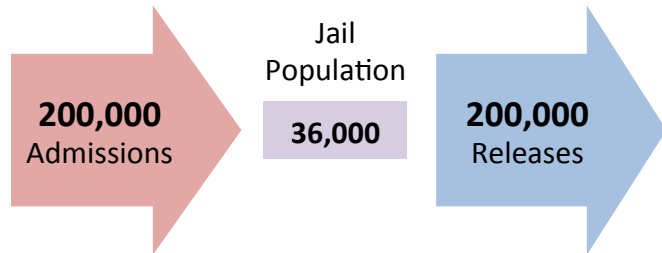



*“As state GIA funds have fallen, the amount counties contribute to their probation and parole offices has increased. On average, county funds comprised 58 percent of total funding for county probation and parole offices in FY2013–14. In FY1998–99, county funds comprised, on average, only 45 percent of total funds.”*



Source: Legislative Budget and Finance Committee, Funding of County Adult Probation Services, February 2015.

# County jails handle about 200,000 admissions and releases per year.



 Average Cost  
**\$67 per day**

- The statewide on-hand jail population is about 36,000, but there is tremendous churn with around 200,000 admissions and releases over the course of the year.
- Pennsylvania's jail population increased by 9,700 people from 1999 to 2013, the second highest number increase in the country and the 20th largest percentage change (+36%).
- Pennsylvania had the 11th highest jail incarceration rate among states in 2013 (360 per 100,000, excludes six states with unified systems).
- High cost per day (range from \$37 to \$112/day); average is \$67.

# Key challenges as they appear at the beginning of the project

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## **County Impacts and Outcomes**

- Most sentences are served locally, on probation or in jail
- Resources and practices vary and outcomes are unknown

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## **Sentencing Complexity and Variation**

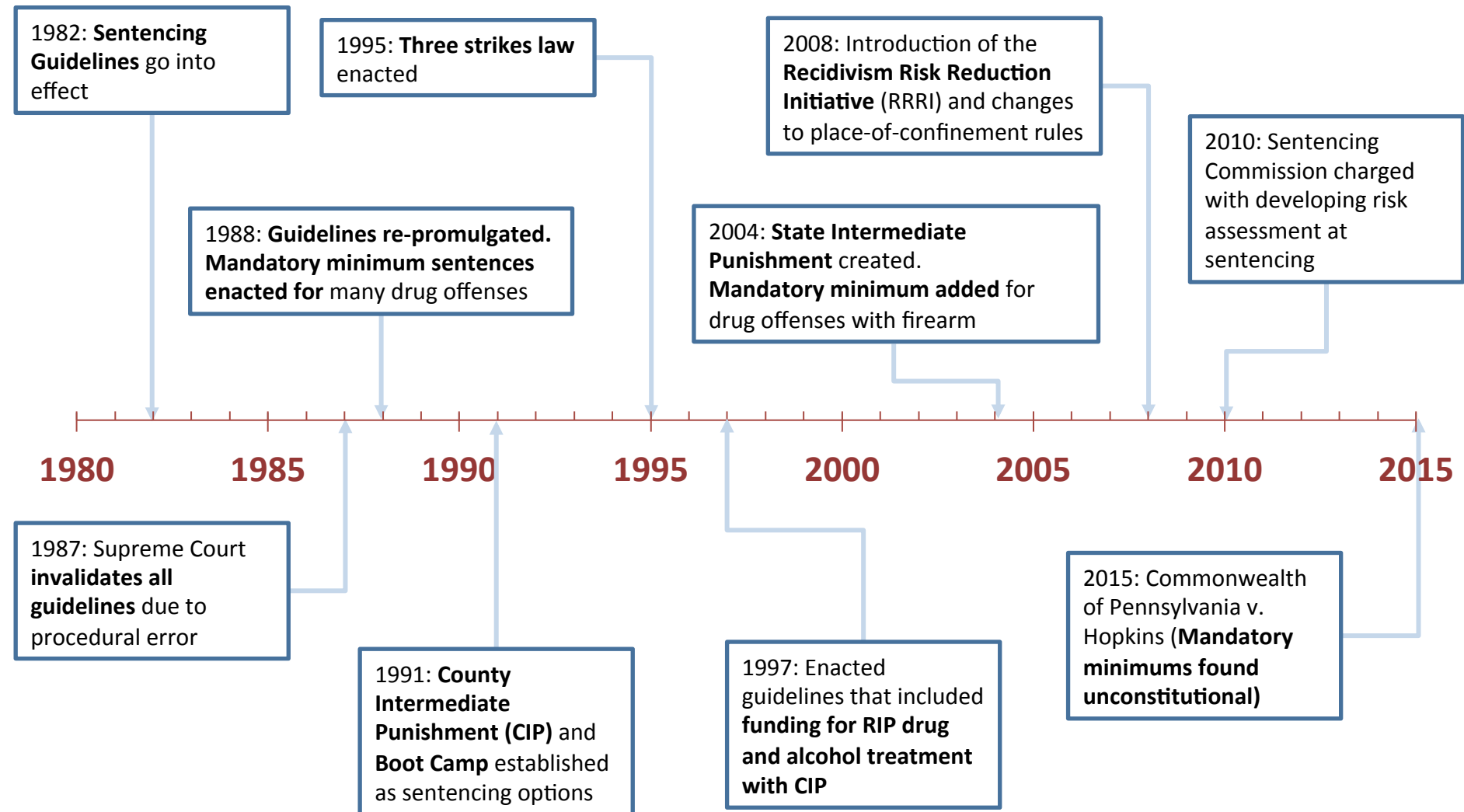
- Complexity that grows with legislative enactments over time
- Advisory guidelines enable variation

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## **Prison and Parole Volumes**

- Large prison population
  - Highest parole supervision rate in the country
-

# Sentencing guidelines have expanded to include penalty enhancements and sentencing options, including treatment.





# Sentencing policies and practices have a major impact on the system in various ways.

## Policy

Sentencing policies, such as place of confinement and the min/max rule, can have an impact on corrections and parole practices.

### **Place of Confinement:**

Length of maximum sentence determines whether the person completes the sentence in jail or prison.

### **Min/Max Rule:**

Length of minimum sentence may be no longer than half the length of the maximum sentence.

### **Parole Eligibility:**

People become eligible for parole at their minimum sentence date, and if released on parole must serve until their maximum sentence date.

## Practice

Sentencing practices affect the volume going to supervision or incarceration or an incarceration alternative, such as intermediate punishment.

**Sentencing guidelines matrix provides recommended sanctions based on severity of offense and an offender's criminal history, often giving discretion on sanctioning options.**

**Probation,  
Fines,  
or Community  
Service**

**County Jail or  
County  
Intermediate  
Punishment**

**State  
Intermediate  
Punishment  
or Prison**

# Sentencing options are directed through a sentencing guidelines grid with five dispositional levels.

Increasing Offense Severity

Increasing Criminal History

| Level   | OGS    | Example Offenses  | Prior Record Score |             |             |             |             |             |             |       |         |
|---|--------|---|--------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------|---------|
|   |        |   | 0                  | 1           | 2           | 3           | 4           | 5           | RFEL        | REVOC | AGG/MIT |
| LEVEL 5<br>State Incar                          | 14     | Murder 3<br>Inchoate Murder (SBI)<br>Rape (victim <13 yrs)  | 72-5L              | 84-5L       | 96-5L       | 120-5L      | 168-5L      | 192-5L      | 204-5L      | 5L    | +/- 12  |
|   | 13     | Inchoate Murder (No SBI)<br>Weapons Mass Distr-Use<br>PWID Cocaine (>1,000 g)   | 60-7B              | 66-8A       | 72-90       | 78-96       | 84-102      | 96-114      | 108-126     | 240   | +/- 12  |
|   | 12     | Rape-Forcible Compulsion<br>RDSI-Forcible Compulsion<br>Robbery-Infects SBI   | 48-66              | 54-72       | 60-78       | 66-84       | 72-90       | 84-102      | 96-114      | 120   | +/- 12  |
|   | 11     | Agg Assault-Cause SBI<br>Voluntary Manslaughter<br>Sexual Assault<br>PWID Cocaine (100-1,000 g)   | 36-54<br>BC        | 42-60       | 48-66       | 54-72       | 60-78       | 72-90       | 84-102      | 120   | +/- 12  |
|   | 10     | Kidnapping<br>Agg Indecent Assault F2<br>Arson-Person in Building<br>Hom by Veh-DUI & Work Zone<br>PWID Cocaine(50-<100 g)  | 22-36<br>BC        | 30-42<br>BC | 36-48<br>BC | 42-54       | 48-60       | 60-72       | 72-84       | 120   | +/- 12  |
|   | 9      | Sexual Exploitation of Children<br>Robbery-Commit/Threat F1/F2<br>Burglary-Home/Person Present<br>Arson-No Person in Building   | 12-24<br>BC        | 18-30<br>BC | 24-36<br>BC | 30-42<br>BC | 36-48<br>BC | 48-60       | 60-72       | 120   | +/- 12  |
| LEVEL 4<br>State Incar/<br>RIP<br>trade         | 8 (F1) | Agg Assault -Cause BI w/DWI<br>Theft (Firearm)<br>Identity theft (1st/4 & Vic=<60 yrs)<br>Hom by Veh-DUI or Work Zone<br>Theft (>\$100,000)<br>PWID Cocaine (10-<50 g)          | 9-16<br>BC         | 12-18<br>BC | 15-21<br>BC | 18-24<br>BC | 21-27<br>BC | 27-33<br>BC | 40-52       | NA    | +/- 9   |
| LEVEL 3<br>State/<br>Cnty Incar<br>RIP<br>trade | 7 (F2) | Robbery-Infects/Threats BI<br>Burglary-Home/No Person Present<br>Statutory Sexual Assault<br>Theft (>\$50,000-\$100,000)<br>Identity Theft (3rd/subq)<br>PWID Cocaine (5-<10 g) | 6-14<br>BC         | 9-16<br>BC  | 12-18<br>BC | 15-21<br>BC | 18-24<br>BC | 24-30<br>BC | 35-45<br>BC | NA    | +/- 6   |
|   | 6      | Agg Assault-Cause Fear of SBI<br>Homicide by Vehicle<br>Burglary-Not a Home/Person Prnt<br>Theft (>\$25,000-\$50,000)<br>Arson-Endanger Property<br>PWID Cocaine (2<5 g)        | 3-12<br>BC         | 6-14<br>BC  | 9-16<br>BC  | 12-18<br>BC | 15-21<br>BC | 21-27<br>BC | 27-40<br>BC | NA    | +/- 6   |
| LEVEL 2<br>Cnty Incar<br>RIP<br>RS              | 5 (F3) | Burglary F2<br>Theft (>\$2000-\$25,000)<br>Bribery<br>PWID Marij (1-<10 lbs)  | RS-9               | 1-12<br>BC  | 3-14<br>BC  | 6-16<br>BC  | 9-16<br>BC  | 12-18<br>BC | 24-36<br>BC | NA    | +/- 3   |
|   | 4      | Indecent Assault M2<br>Forgery (Money, Stocks)<br>Weapon on School Property<br>Crim Trespass F2   | RS-3               | RS-9        | RS-<12      | 3-14<br>BC  | 6-16<br>BC  | 9-16<br>BC  | 21-30<br>BC | NA    | +/- 3   |
|   | 3 (M1) | Simple Assault-Attempt/Cause BI<br>Theft (\$200-\$2000)<br>Carrying Explosives<br>Simple Possession   | RS-1               | RS-6        | RS-9        | RS-<12      | 3-14<br>BC  | 6-16<br>BC  | 12-18<br>BC | NA    | +/- 3   |
| LEVEL 1<br>RS                                   | 2 (M2) | Theft (\$50-<\$200)<br>Retail Theft (1st/2nd Offense)<br>Bad Checks (\$500-<\$1,000)  | RS                 | RS-2        | RS-3        | RS-4        | RS-6        | 1-9         | 6-<12       | NA    | +/- 3   |
|   | 1 (M3) | Most Mod. 3's/Theft (<\$50)<br>DUI (M)<br>Poss Small Amount Marij   | RS                 | RS-1        | RS-2        | RS-3        | RS-4        | RS-6        | 3-6         | NA    | +/- 3   |

## Recommended Sentence

LEVEL 5:  
State Incarceration

LEVEL 4:  
State Incarceration  
County Incarceration

LEVEL 3:  
State Incarceration  
County Incarceration  
County Intermediate Punishment  
Restorative Sanctions

LEVEL 2:  
County Incarceration  
County Intermediate Punishment  
Restorative Sanctions

LEVEL 1:  
Restorative Sanctions

2014 Total =  
100,317 incidents

5,605 sentences 6%

8,211 sentences 8%

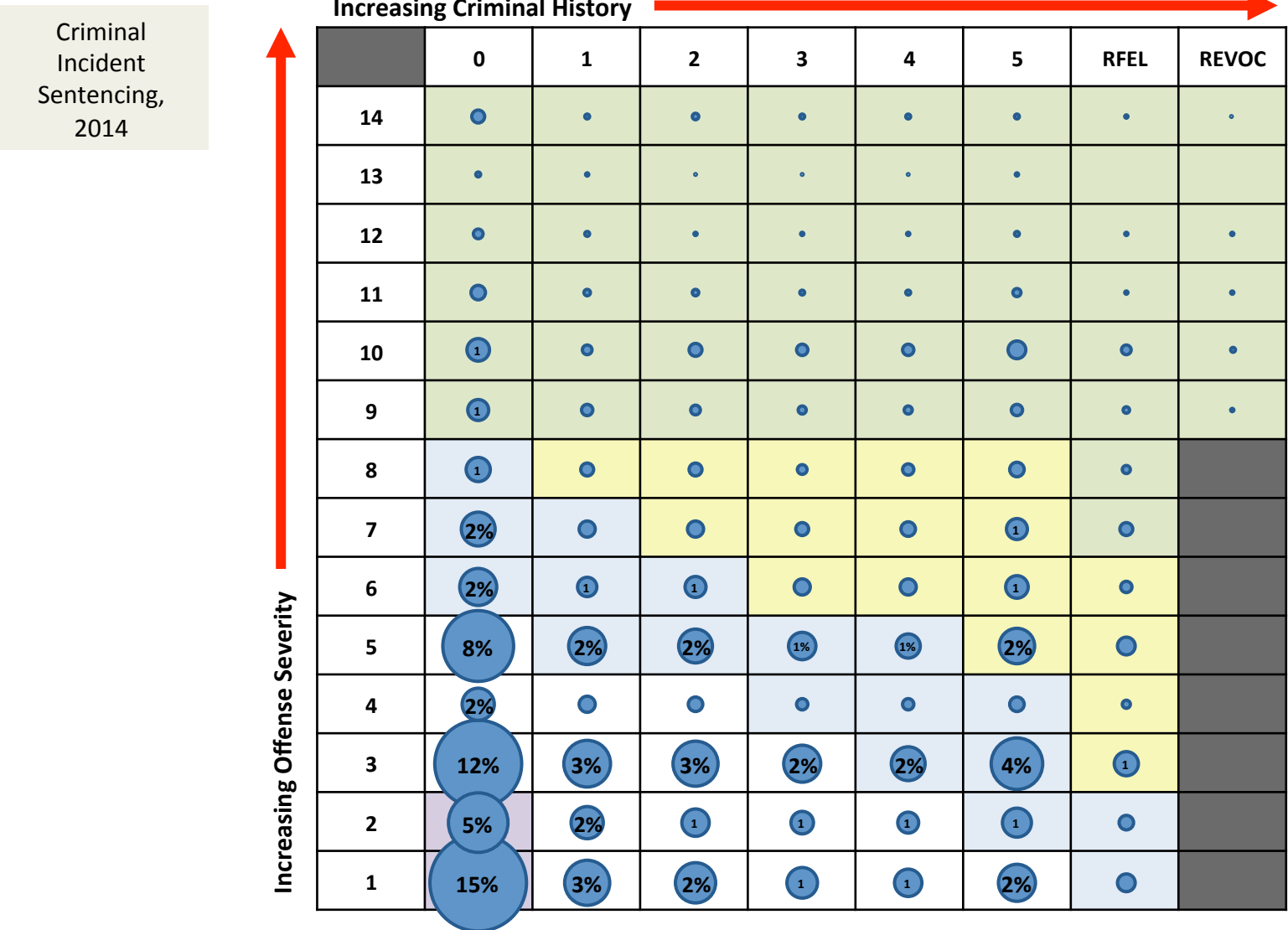
21,143 sentences  
21%

45,239 sentences  
45%

20,119 sentences  
20%

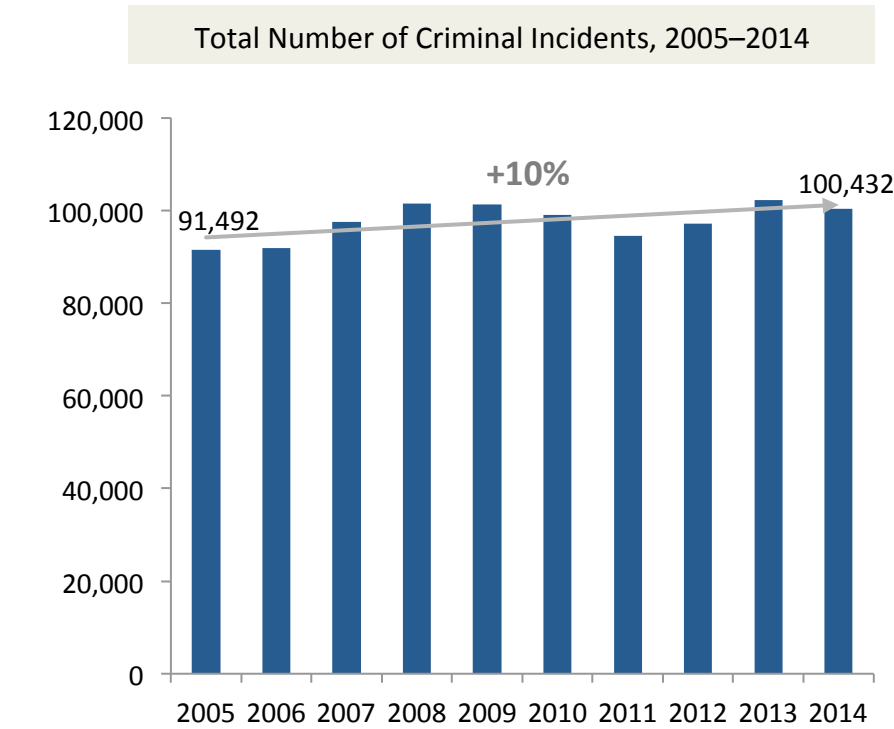
Source: Pennsylvania Commission on Sentencing Annual Report, 2014.

# The majority of sentences are for offenders with little or no criminal history and for lower-level offenses.

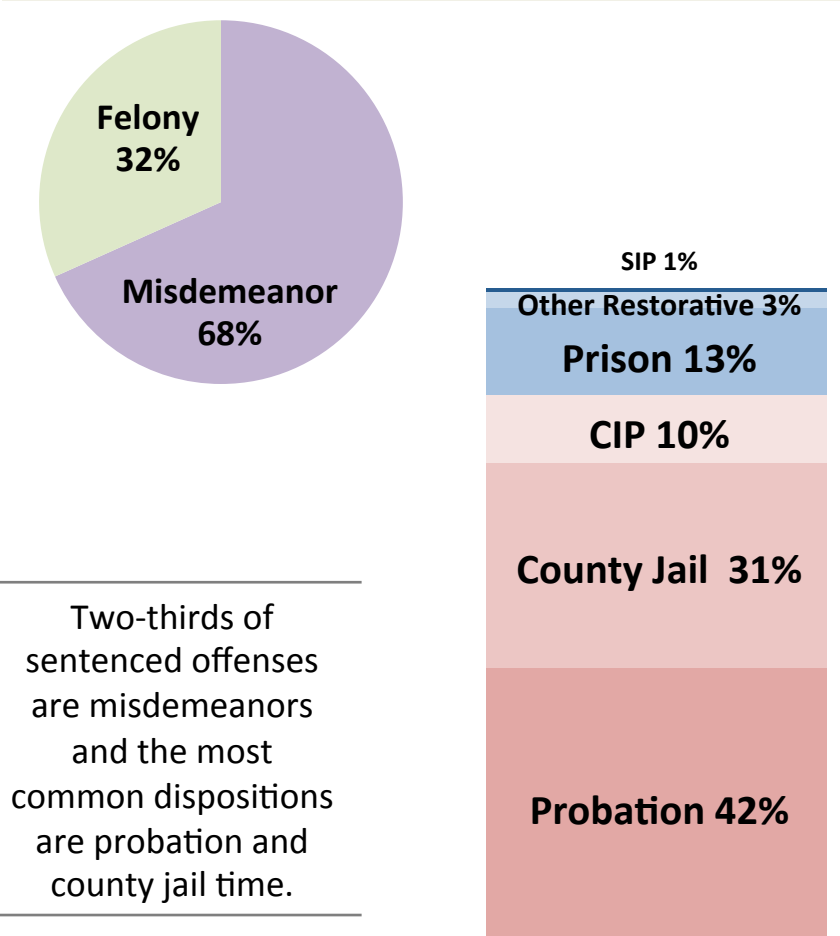


Source: Justice Center analysis of Commission on Sentencing data.

# Total sentencing volume is up 10 percent in the past decade.



Total Incidents by Offense Level and Disposition Type, 2014

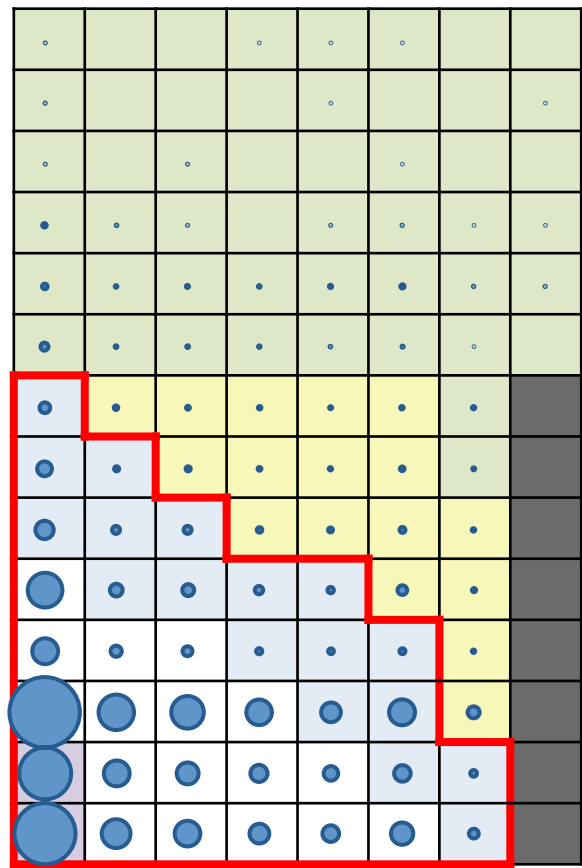


Source: Pennsylvania Commission on Sentencing Annual Report, 2014.

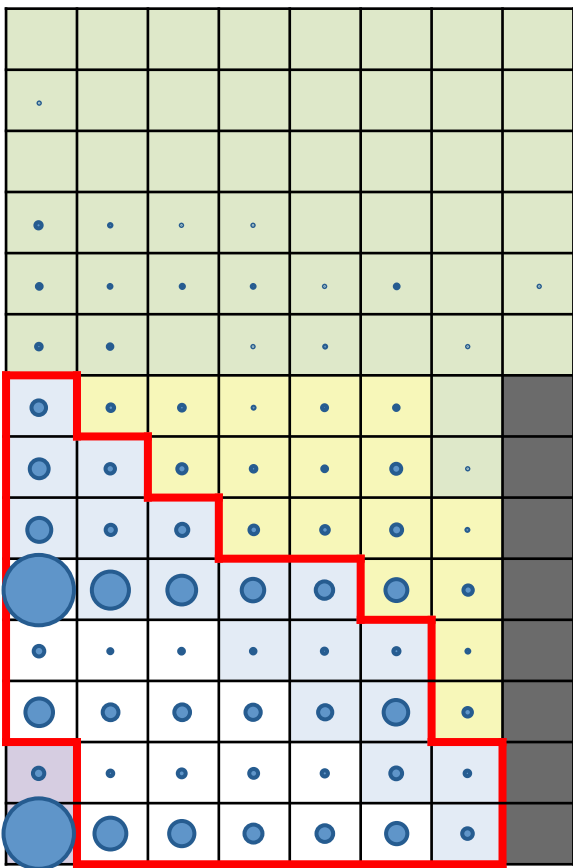
# Probation sentences are largely found where expected on the sentencing grid; CIP shows sentences outside standard.

Criminal  
Incident  
Sentencing,  
2014

Probation, N=41,744



CIP, N=10,480

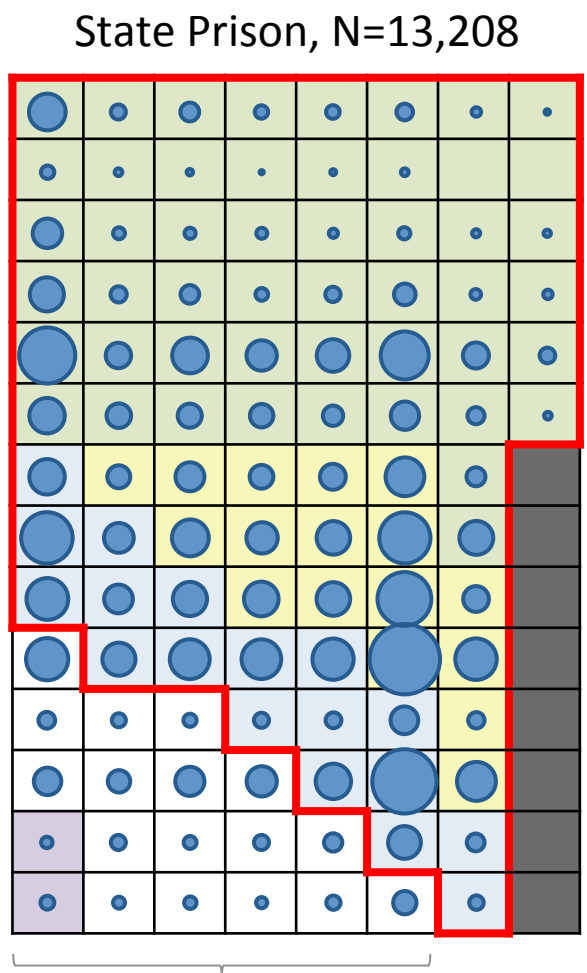
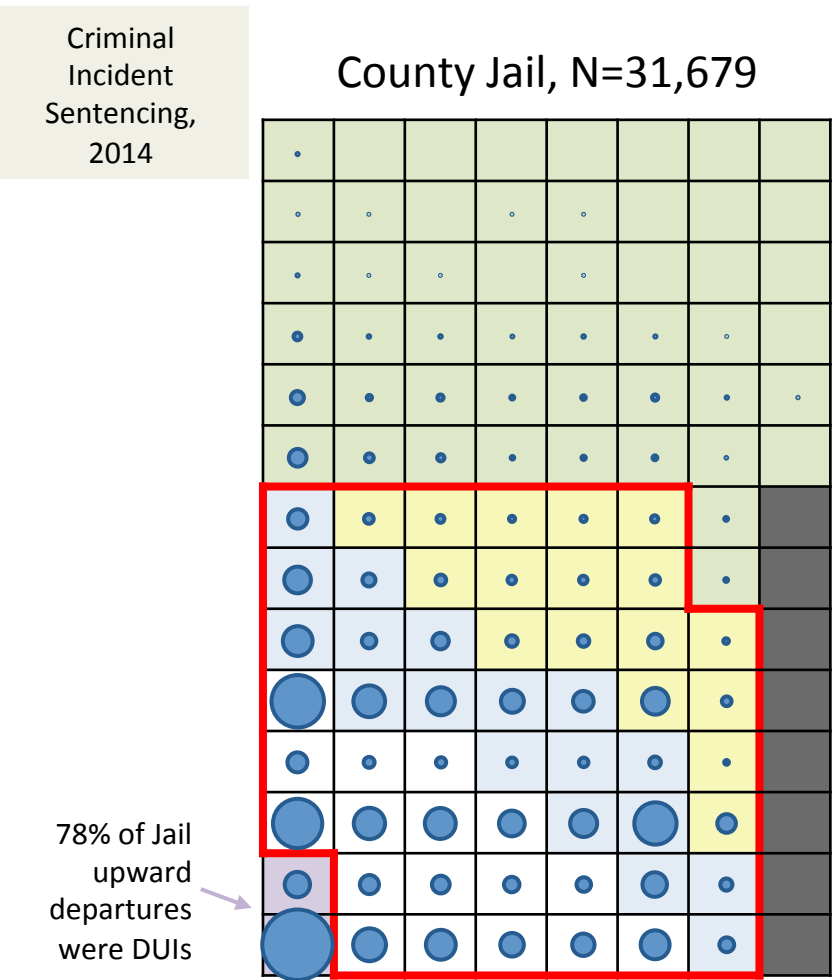


*Bubble sizes only proportionate within each sentencing category.*

95% of CIP upward departures were DUIs

Source: Justice Center analysis of Commission on Sentencing data.

# Sentences to jail and prison also show upward and downward dispositional “departures.”



Bubble sizes only proportionate within each sentencing category.  
SIP (N=554) and Other Restorative Sanctions (N=2,652) not displayed.

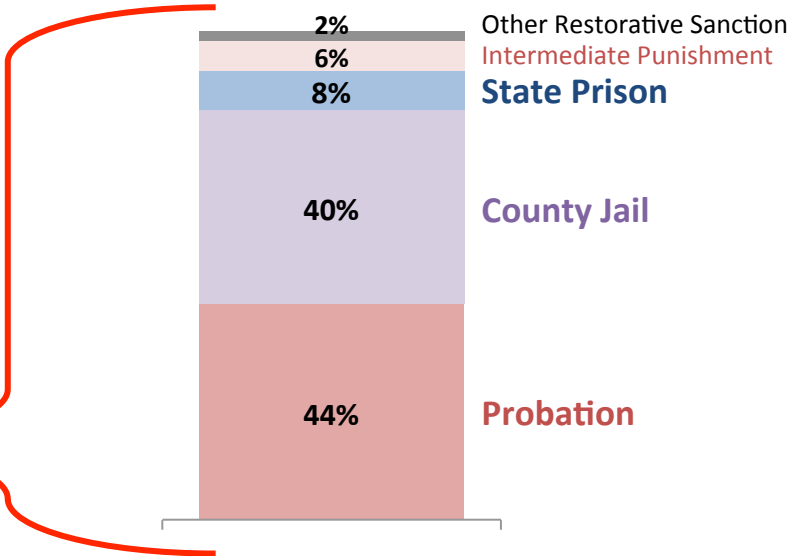
Source: Justice Center analysis of Commission on Sentencing data.

Prison upward departures were a blend of offenses: theft, simple assault, burglary, DUI, retail theft, drug offenses

# Despite the structure provided through the guidelines, variation in sentencing outcomes can still exist across similar cases.

| Level   | QOS    | Example Offenses  | Prior Record Score |             |             |             |             |             |             |       | AGG/MT |
|---|--------|---|--------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------|--------|
|   |        |   | 0                  | 1           | 2           | 3           | 4           | 5           | REFL        | REVOC |        |
| LEVEL 5<br>State<br>Incar                           | 14     | Murder 3<br>Inchoate Murder (SB)<br>Rape (victim <13 yrs)   | 72-91              | 84-91       | 96-91       | 120-91      | 168-91      | 192-91      | 204-91      | SL    | +/- 12 |
|   | 13     | Inchoate Murder (No SB)<br>Weapons Misd Use<br>PWID Cocaine (>1,000 g)  | 60-78              | 66-84       | 72-90       | 78-96       | 84-102      | 96-114      | 108-126     | 240   | +/- 12 |
|   | 12     | Rape-Forcible Compulsion<br>IDS-Forcible Compulsion<br>Robbery-Infects SB   | 48-66              | 54-72       | 60-78       | 66-84       | 72-90       | 84-102      | 96-114      | 120   | +/- 12 |
|   | 11     | Agg Assault - Cause SB<br>Voluntary Manslaughter<br>Sexual Assault<br>PWID Cocaine (100-1,000 g)  | 36-54<br>BC        | 42-60       | 48-66       | 54-72       | 60-78       | 72-90       | 84-102      | 120   | +/- 12 |
|   | 10     | Kidnapping<br>Agg Indecent Assault F2<br>Arson-Person in Building<br>Horn by Vehicle-DUI & Work Zone<br>PWID Cocaine (50-100 g)   | 22-36<br>BC        | 30-42<br>BC | 36-48<br>BC | 42-54       | 48-60       | 60-72       | 72-84       | 120   | +/- 12 |
|   | 9      | Sexual Exploitation of Children<br>Robbery-Commit/Threat F1/F2<br>Burglary-Home/Person Present<br>Arson-No Person in Building   | 12-24<br>BC        | 18-30<br>BC | 24-36<br>BC | 30-42<br>BC | 36-48<br>BC | 48-60       | 60-72       | 120   | +/- 12 |
| LEVEL 4<br>State<br>Incar/<br>RIP<br>trade          | 8 (F1) | Agg Assault - Cause BI w/DW<br>Theft (Firearm)<br>Identity Theft (3rd/+ & Vic+60 yrs)<br>Horn by Veh-DUI or Work Zone<br>Theft (>\$100,000)<br>PWID Cocaine (10-450 g)          | 9-16<br>BC         | 12-18<br>BC | 15-21<br>BC | 18-24<br>BC | 21-27<br>BC | 27-33<br>BC | 40-52       | NA    | +/- 9  |
|   | 7 (F2) | Robbery-Infects/Threats BI<br>Burglary-Home/No Person Present<br>Statutory Sexual Assault<br>Theft (>\$50,000-\$100,000)<br>Identity Theft (1st/subq)<br>PWID Cocaine (5-430 g) | 6-14<br>BC         | 9-18<br>BC  | 12-18<br>BC | 15-21<br>BC | 18-24<br>BC | 24-30<br>BC | 35-45<br>BC | NA    | +/- 6  |
| LEVEL 3<br>State/<br>Cntry<br>Incar<br>RIP<br>trade | 6      | Agg Assault-Cause Fear of SB<br>Homicide by Vehicle<br>Burglary-Not a Home/Person Present<br>Theft (>\$25,000-\$50,000)<br>Arson-Endanger Property<br>PWID Cocaine (2-45 g)     | 3-12<br>BC         | 6-14<br>BC  | 9-16<br>BC  | 12-18<br>BC | 15-21<br>BC | 21-27<br>BC | 27-40       | NA    | +/- 6  |
|   | 5 (F3) | Burglary F2<br>Theft (>\$2000-\$25,000)<br>Bribery<br>PWID Marij (1-10 lbs)   | RS-9               | 3-12<br>BC  | 6-16<br>BC  | 9-16<br>BC  | 12-18<br>BC | 24-36<br>BC | NA          | +/- 3 |        |
| LEVEL 2<br>Cntry<br>Incar<br>RIP<br>RS              | 4      | Indecent Assault M2<br>Forgery (Money, Stocks)<br>Weapon on School Property<br>Crim Trespass F2   | RS-3               | RS-9        | RS-12       | 3-14<br>BC  | 6-16<br>BC  | 9-16<br>BC  | 21-30<br>BC | NA    | +/- 3  |
|   | 3 (M1) | Simple Assault-Attempt/Cause BI<br>Theft (\$200-\$2000)<br>Carrying Explosives<br>Simple Possession   | RS-1               | RS-6        | RS-9        | RS-12       | 3-14<br>BC  | 6-16<br>BC  | 12-18<br>BC | NA    | +/- 3  |
| LEVEL 1<br>RS                                       | 2 (M2) | Theft (\$50-\$200)<br>Retail Theft (1st/2nd Offense)<br>Bad Checks (\$500-\$1,000)  | RS                 | RS-2        | RS-3        | RS-4        | RS-6        | 1-9         | 6-12        | NA    | +/- 3  |
|   | 1 (M3) | Most Misd. 3's; Theft (>\$50)<br>DUI (M)<br>Poss Small Amount Marij   | RS                 | RS-1        | RS-2        | RS-3        | RS-4        | RS-6        | 3-6         | NA    | +/- 3  |

2014 Sentencing Example:  
Misdemeanor Simple  
Possession Drug Offenses  
Offense Gravity Score = 3  
Prior Record Score = 5  
N = 1,039



Source: Pennsylvania Commission on Sentencing Annual Report, 2014.

# Key challenges as they appear at the beginning of the project

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## **County Impacts and Outcomes**

- Most sentences are served locally, on probation or in jail
- Resources and practices vary and outcomes are unknown

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## **Sentencing Complexity and Variation**

- Complexity that grows with legislative enactments over time
- Advisory guidelines enable variation

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## **Prison and Parole Volumes**

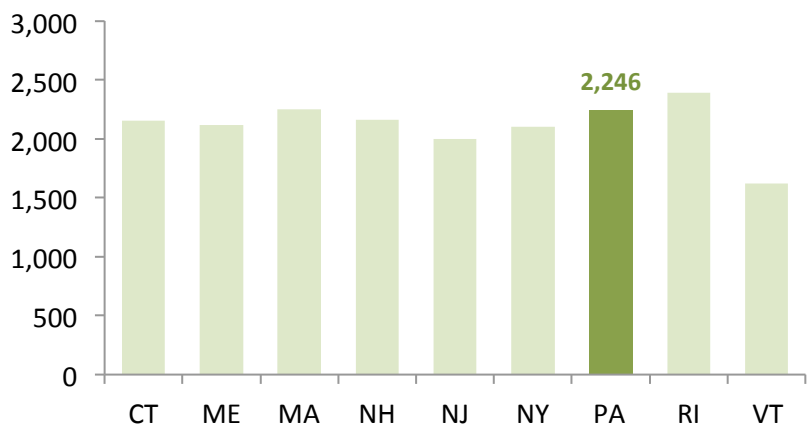
- Large prison population
  - Highest parole supervision rate in the country
-



# Pennsylvania's incarceration rate exceeds other states in the region, and crime rates do not provide an explanation.

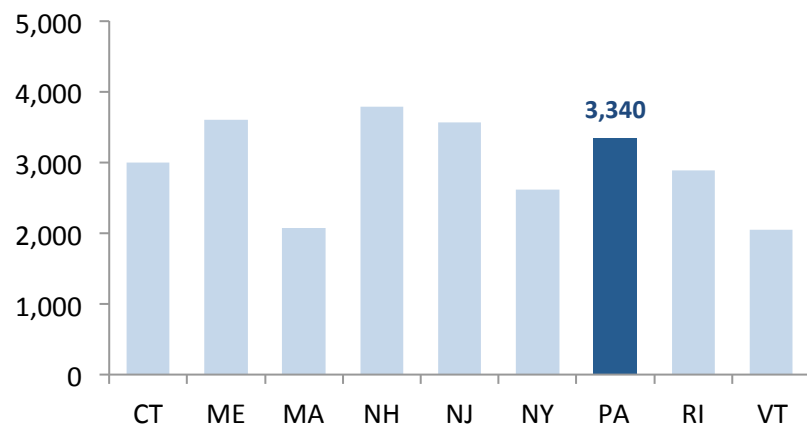
**2014 Index Crime Rate**

*(Reported index crimes per 100,000 residents in Northeast region states)*



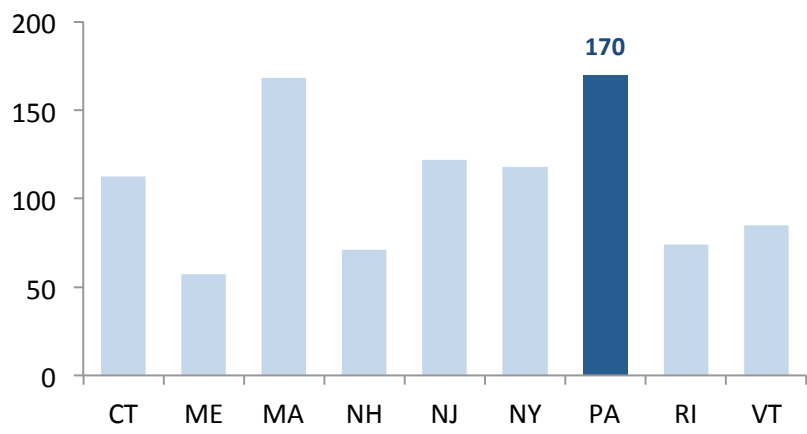
**2014 Total Arrest Rate**

*(Total arrests per 100,000 residents in Northeast region states)*



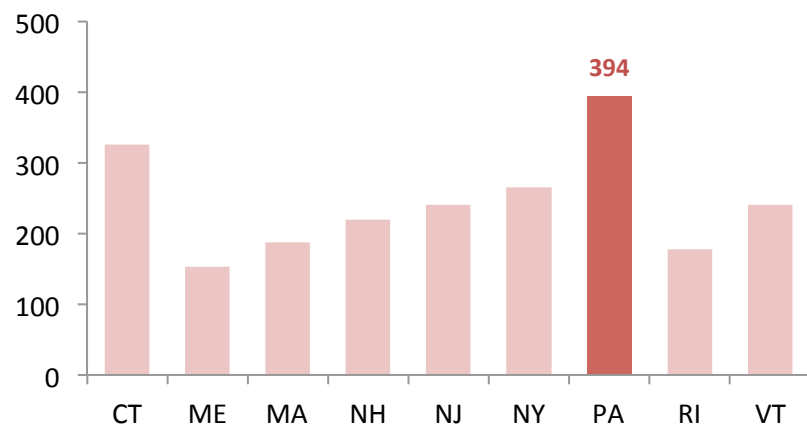
**2014 Violent Offense Arrest Rate**

*(Violent offense arrests per 100,000 residents in Northeast region states)*



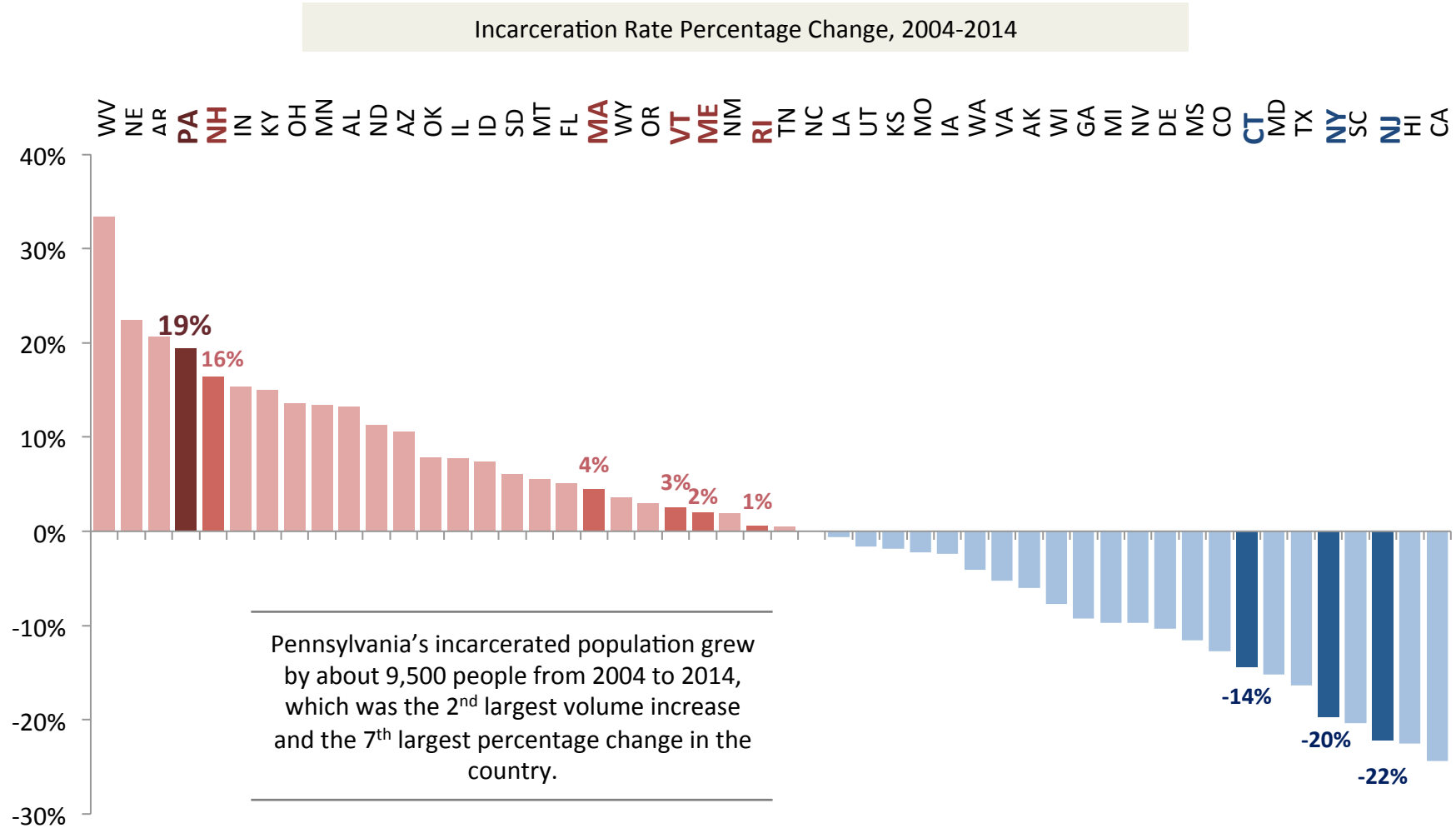
**2014 Incarceration Rate**

*(Sentenced prisoners (>1 year) per 100,000 residents in Northeast region states)*



Source: BJS, Prisoners in 2014; UCR Online Data Tool.

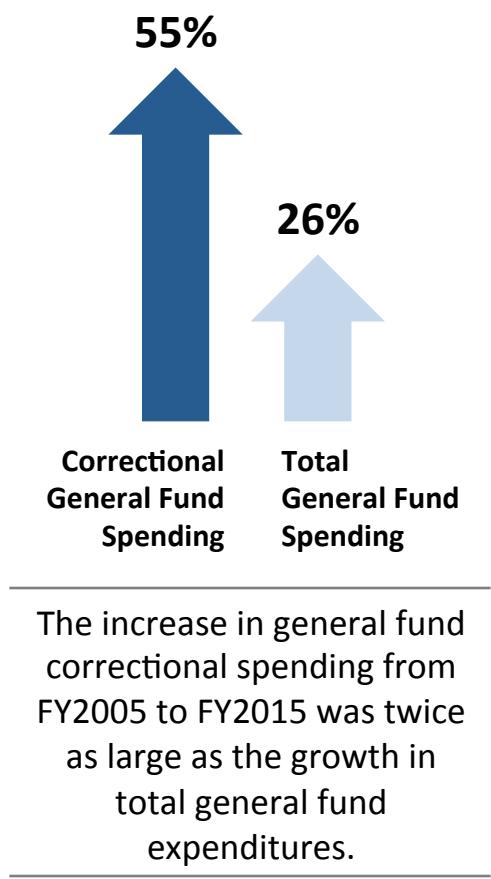
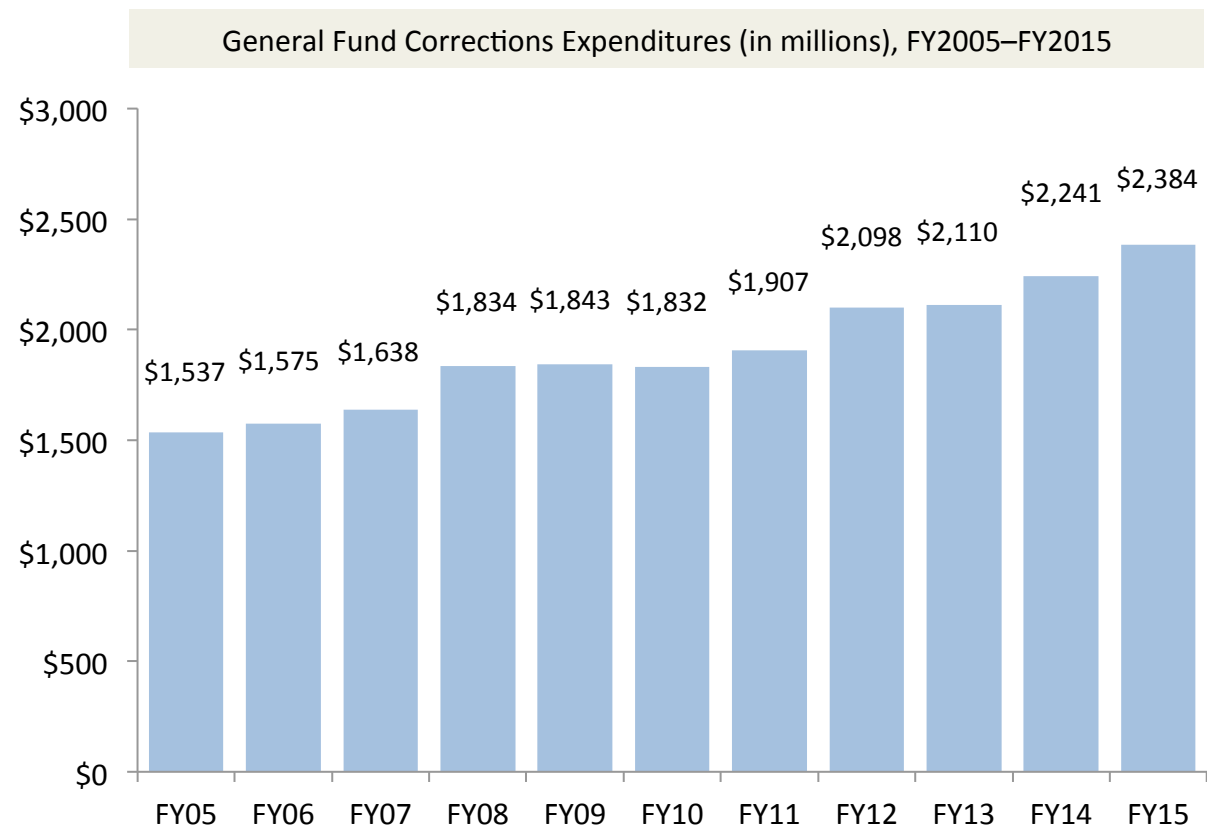
# Pennsylvania's 2004–2014 increase in incarceration rate was the fourth highest in the nation.



*Imprisonment rate of sentenced prisoners per 100,000 residents (sentences greater than one year).*

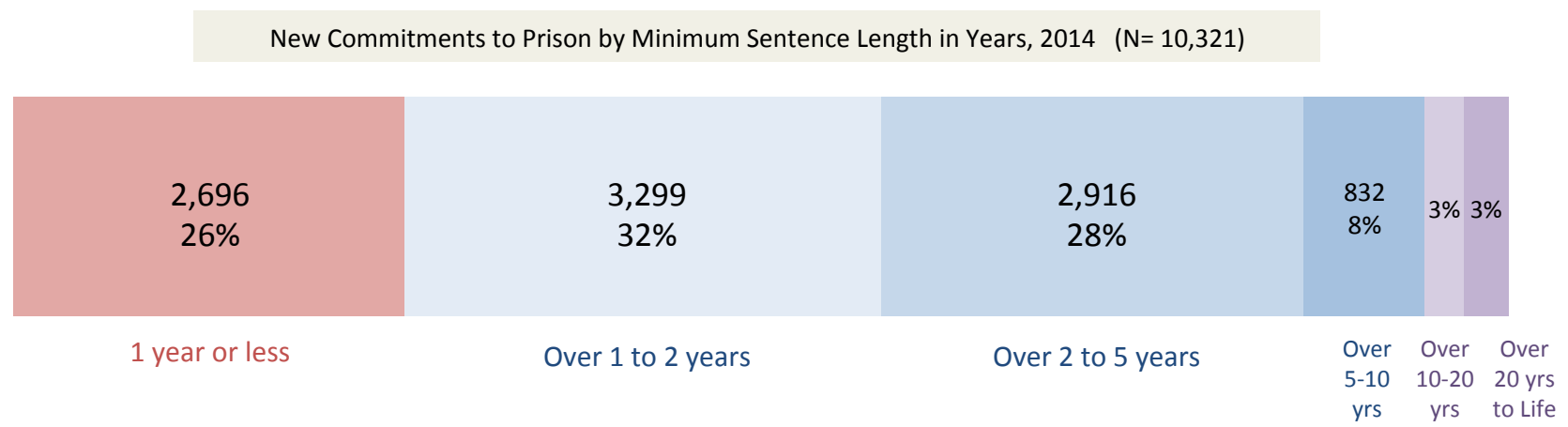
Source: BJS Corrections Statistical Analysis Tool, <http://www.bjs.gov/index.cfm?ty=nps>

# Corrections spending increased 55 percent over the last decade and is currently over \$2.3 billion.

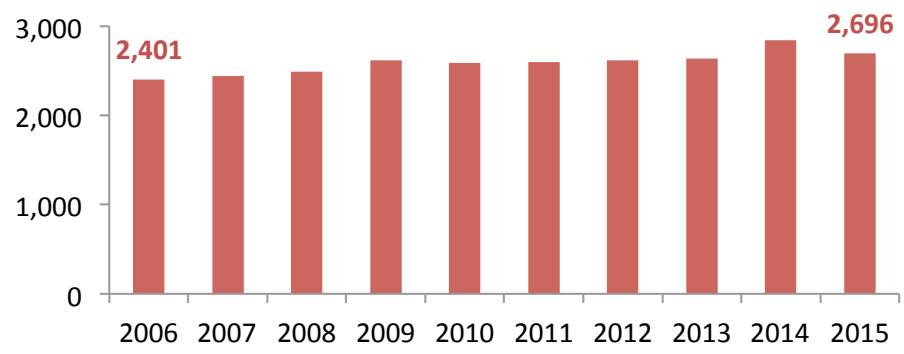


Source: NASBO State Expenditure Reports, 2005-2015

# A large portion of new prison commitments continue to have short minimum sentences.



## Short min new court commitment volume has increased 12%



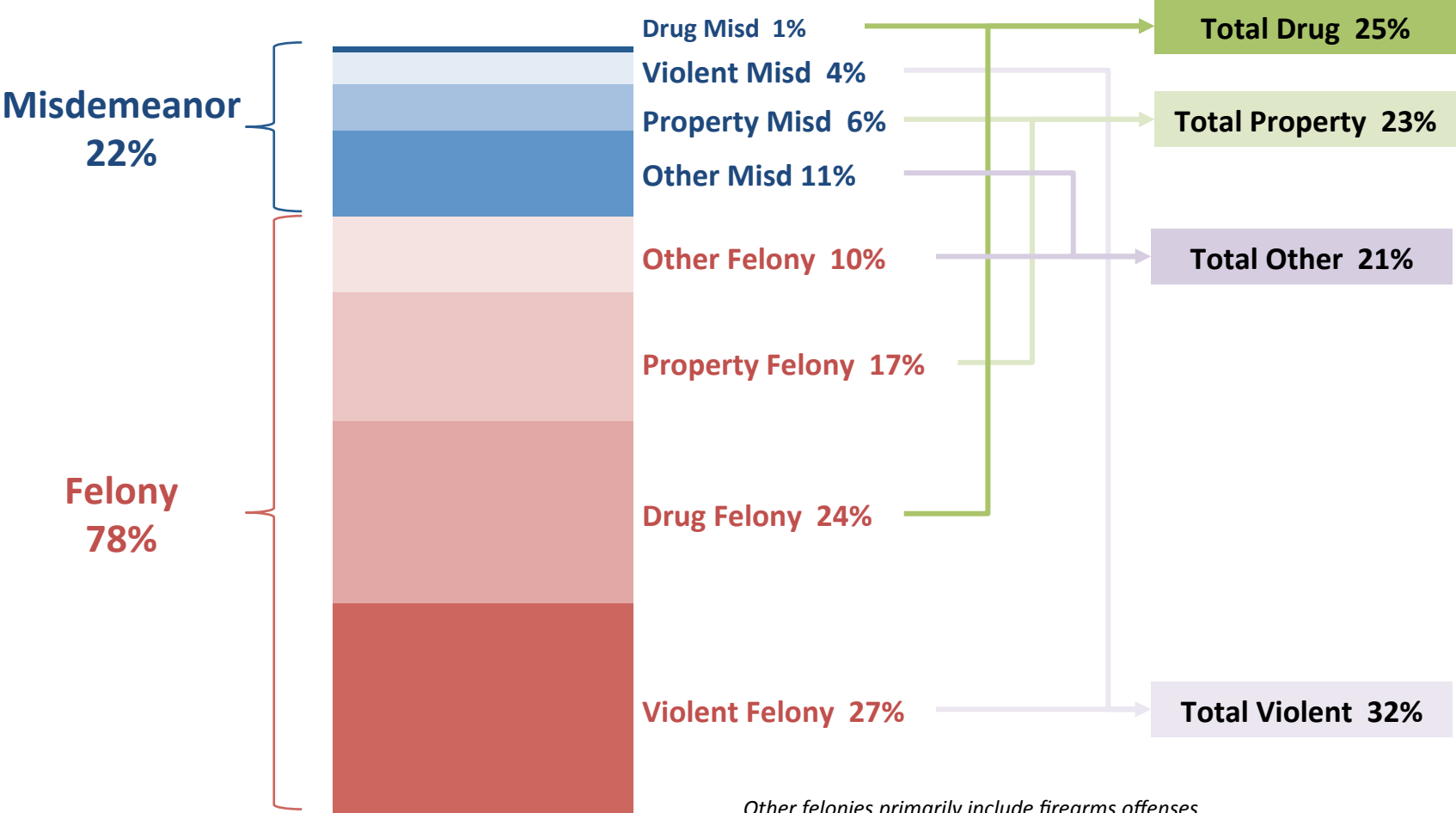
Prisoners with a minimum sentence of one year or less who were released from prison in 2014 had an average length of stay of 15 months.

*Note that DOC defines Short Mins as those with less than a year remaining on their minimum sentence at intake, after taking time served into account. This expands the number slightly.*

Source: DOC Annual Statistical Reports, Justice Center analysis of DOC data.

# Nearly half of new court commitments to prison are for property or drug offenses.

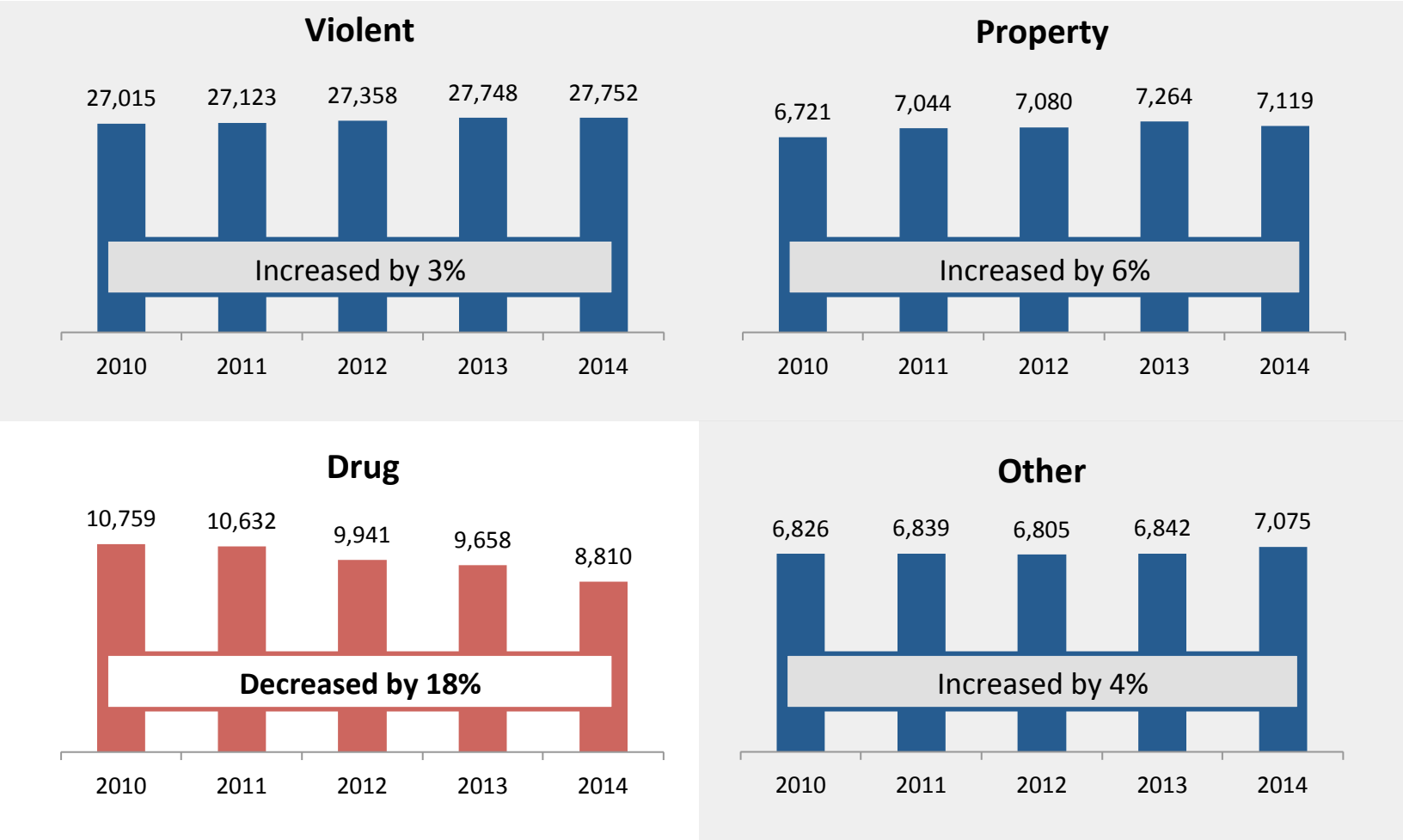
2014 New Commitments to Prison, N = 10,321



*Other felonies primarily include firearms offenses.  
Other misdemeanors primarily include DUI.  
Violent misdemeanors primarily include simple assault and involuntary manslaughter.*

# Pennsylvania’s recent decline in the prison population has been limited to drug offenders.

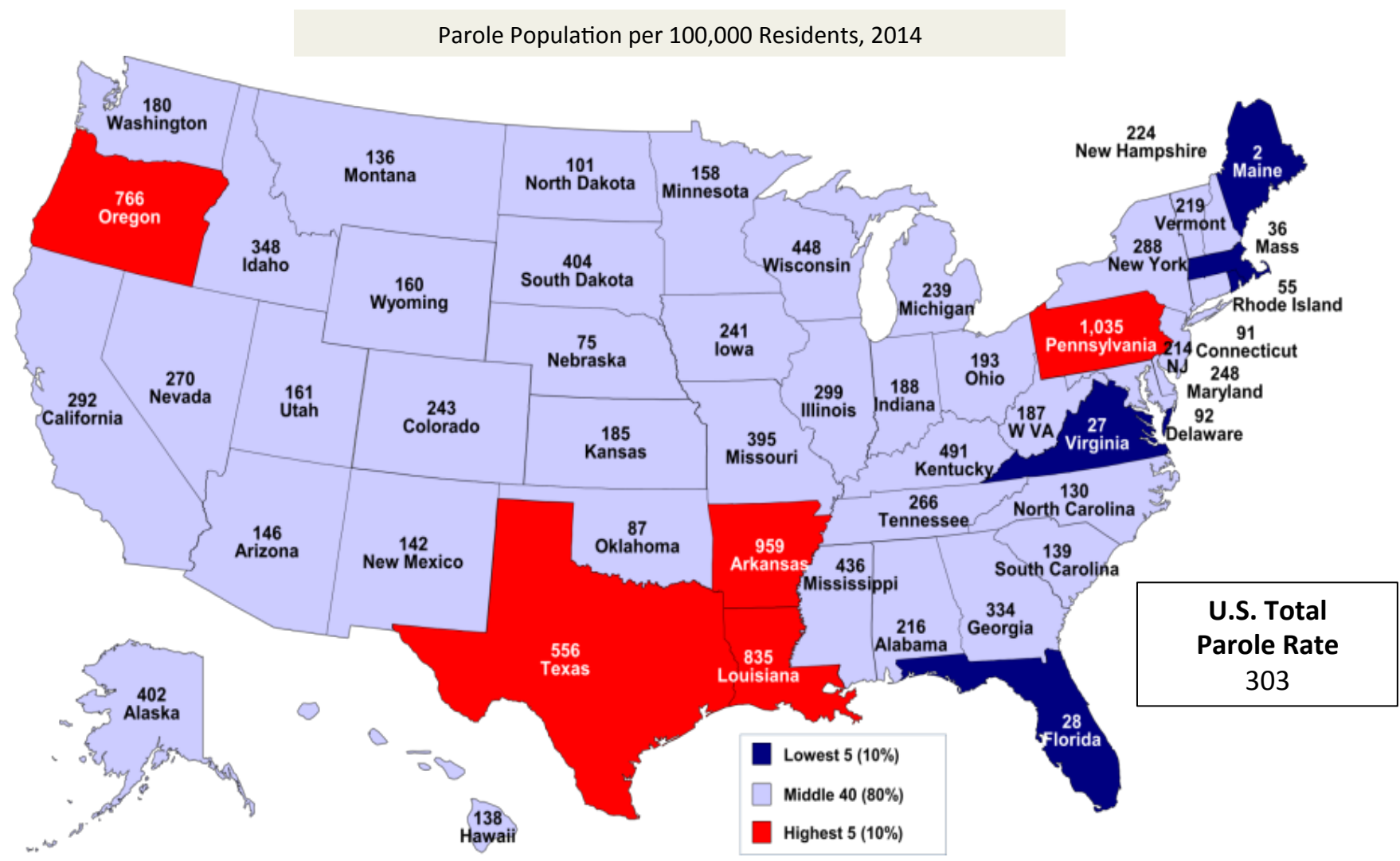
Pennsylvania DOC Prison Population by Offense Type, 2010–2014



“Other” includes firearms, DUI, and other nonviolent sex offenses. Parole violators are included with the original offense.

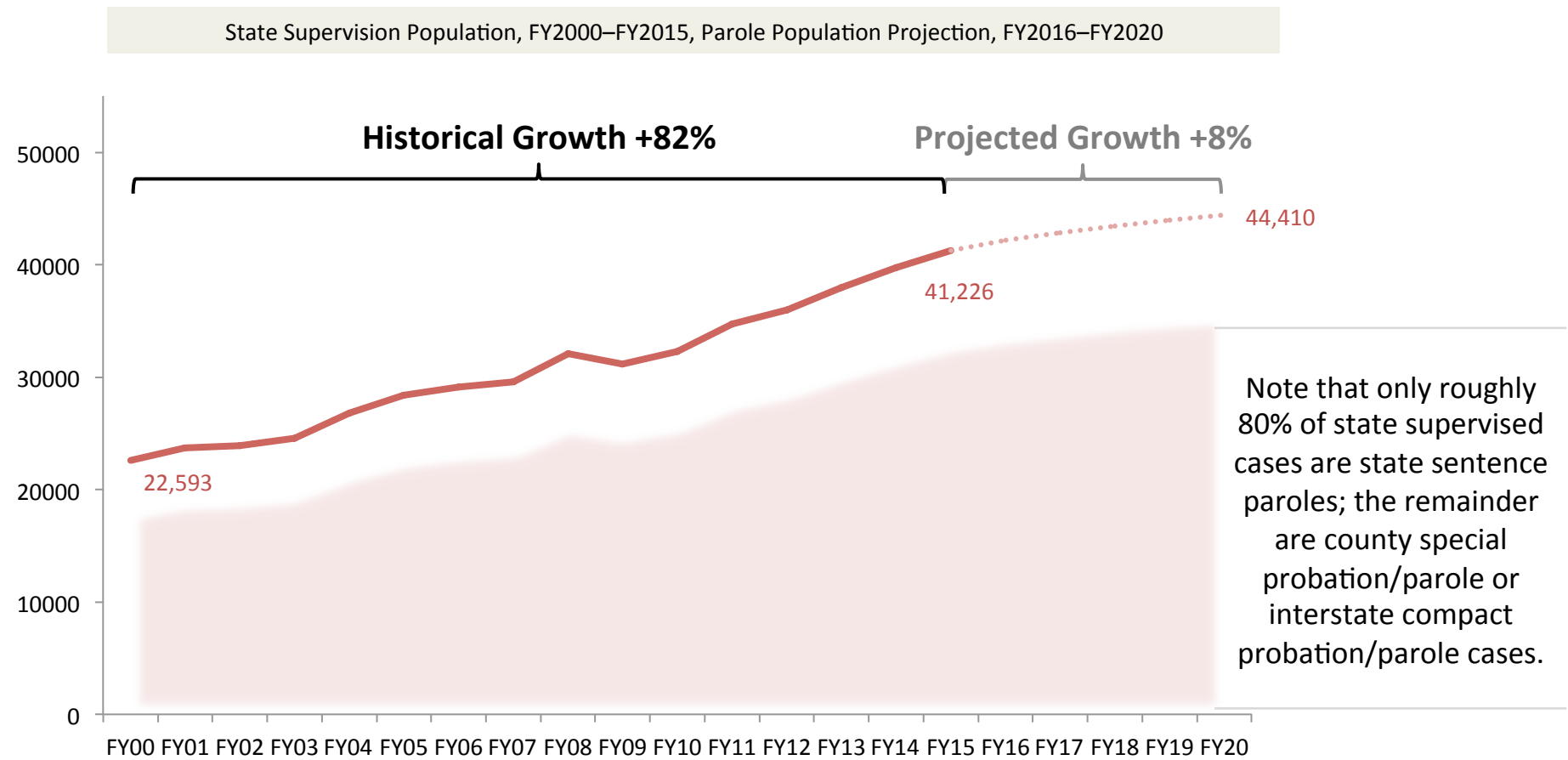
Source: Justice Center analysis of DOC data.

# Pennsylvania has the highest parole supervision rate in the country.



Source: Office of Justice Programs, Bureau of Justice Statistics, *Probation and Parole in the United States, 2014*.

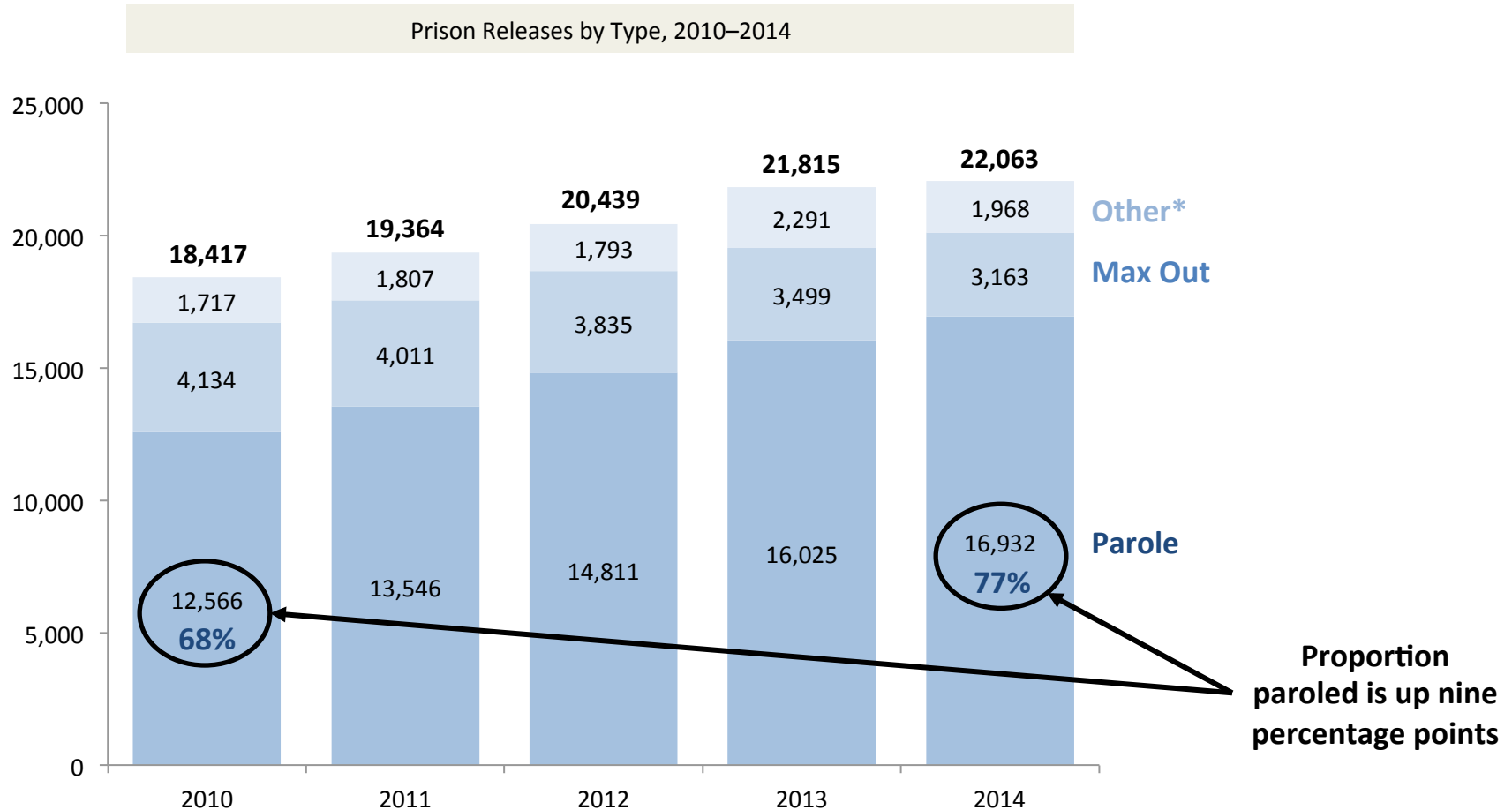
# State supervision population has increased and is projected to continue growing.



Source: PA Board of Probation and Parole, Monthly Statistics Reports. Criminal Justice Population Projections Committee, Pennsylvania Criminal Justice Population Projections, FY2015/16 to FY2019/20.

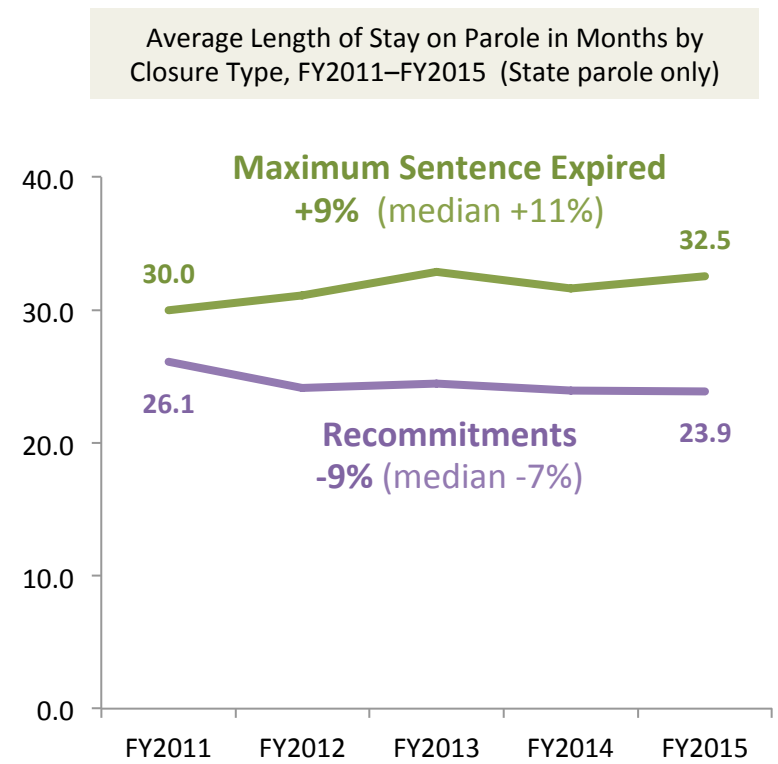
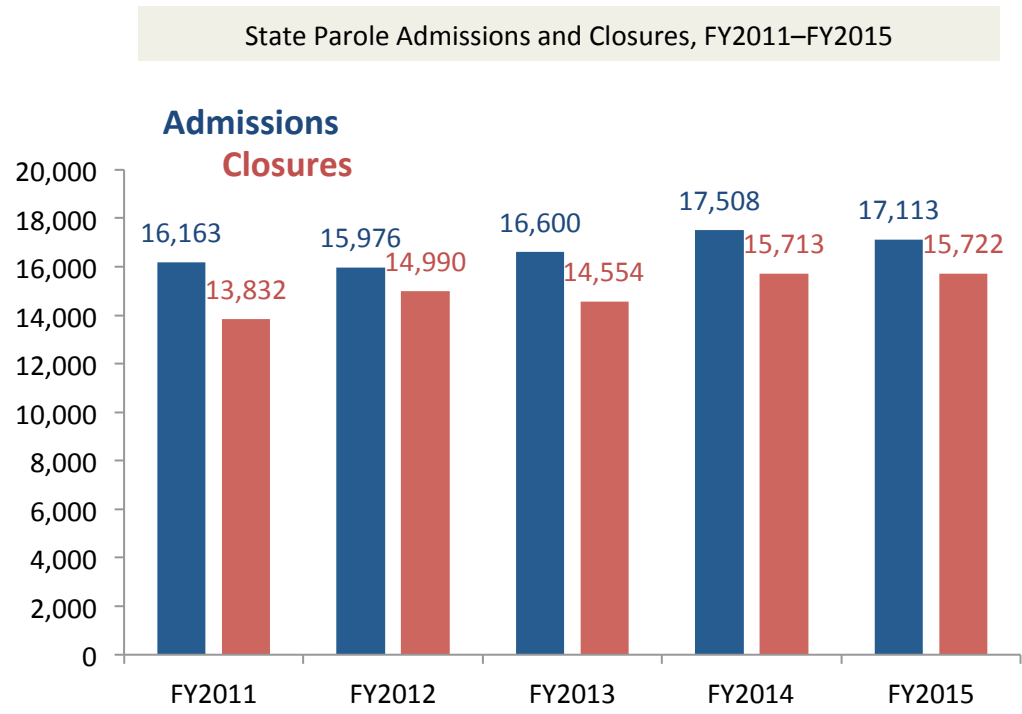


The number and proportion of state parole releases have increased, reducing max-outs but increasing supervision.



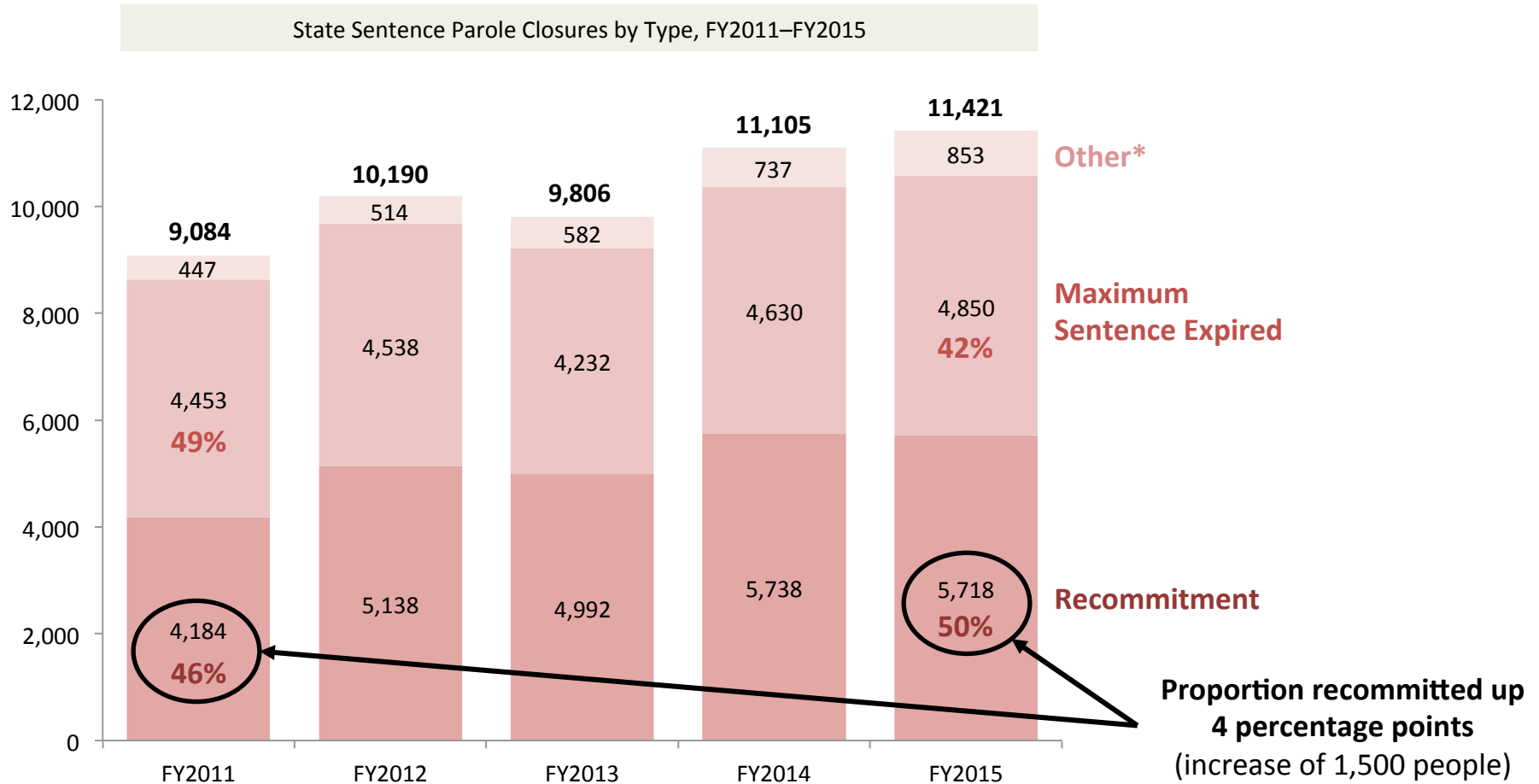
\* Other includes releases by court order, deaths, transfers to other jurisdictions, and released detentioners.

Since 2011, parole admissions have outpaced parole closures, and lengths of stay for some closures have increased.



Source: Justice Center analysis of Pennsylvania Board of Probation and Parole data.

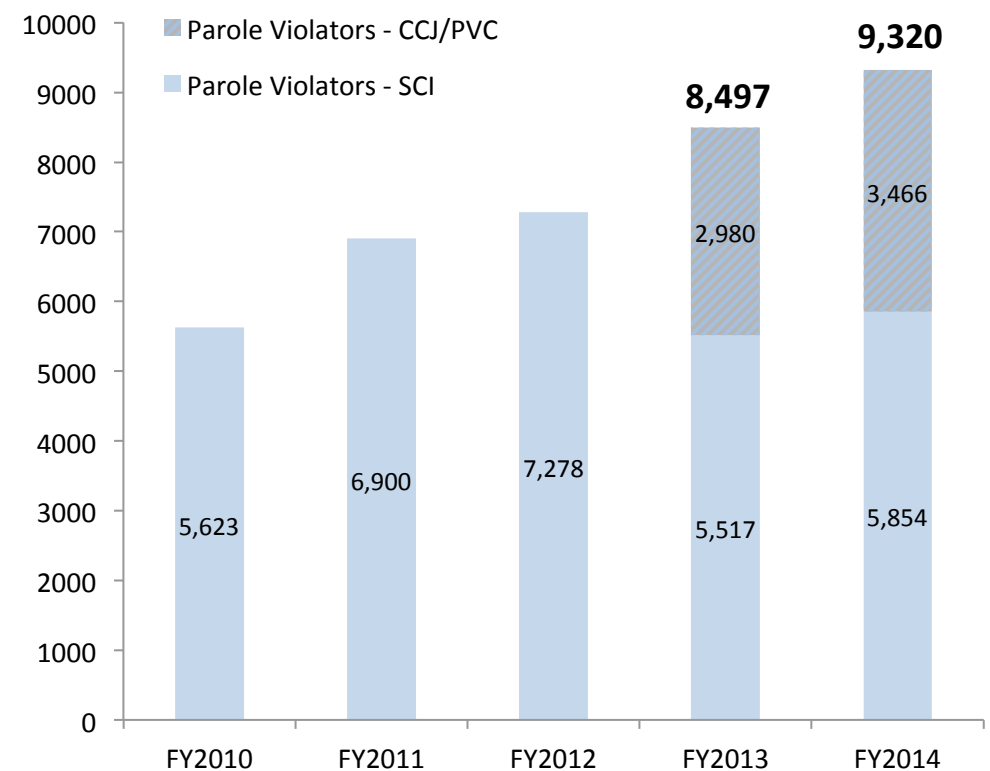
# The largest proportion of state sentence parole case closures are recommitments to DOC.



\* Other includes administrative closures, deaths, and early discharges.

# Total parole violator admissions have increased but the diversion of some to PVCs has limited bed consumption.

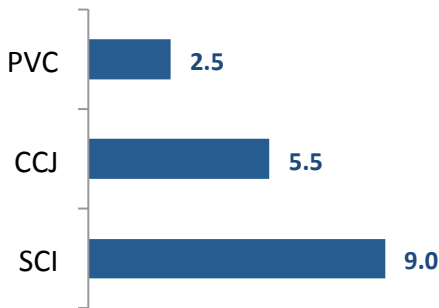
Parole Violator Admissions by Facility Type, FY2010–FY2014



SCI = State Correctional Institution  
CCJ = Contracted County Jail  
PVC = Parole Violator Center

Parole violators comprise the same proportion of the DOC total population (~15%) despite more admissions. This is due to shorter lengths of stay for technical parole violators.

Parole Violator Average Length of Stay at DOC by Facility Type in Months, 2014



Source: PBPP’s “201406 JPM Dashboard.xlsx”

# Summary of Initial Findings

## County Impacts and Outcomes

- The vast majority of the criminal justice population is controlled at the local level through a combination of jail, CIP, probation, county parole, and other supervision.
- County probation/parole caseloads are high, and the supervision population is on the rise.
- 58% of probation funding is from counties and trending upward.
- The jail incarceration rate is relatively high, and a huge number of people cycle through jails every year.

## Sentencing Complexity and Variation

- An array of options and mandates overlays the guidelines and basic rules.
- 100,000 incidents are sentenced in a year, and 65% are in the lowest two levels of the grid.
- Sentencing volume is up 10%, but the proportion to prison remains stable at +/- 13%.
- Significant variation exists in spite of the guidelines.

## Prison and Parole Volumes

- In the region, Pennsylvania has a high incarceration rate that is consuming more and more of the state's budget.
- Half of new prison commitments are for property or drug offenses and a quarter of new commitments are Short Mins.
- Pennsylvania has the highest parole supervision rate in the country, and state parole numbers continue to rise.
- Parole violator returns to prison are up, but their length of stay has been reduced.

# Presentation Overview

**Justice Reinvestment**

**Key Challenges**

**Next Steps**



# Questions for Further Research

## **County Impacts and Outcomes**

- What is the volume of missed opportunities for diversion to treatment in lieu of arrest, at the pretrial stage, and at sentencing?
- What are pretrial lengths of stay in different counties, and what release decisions/processes are in place?
- What are recidivism outcomes for: diversion options, probation, intermediate punishments, and jail?
- What are the opportunities and obstacles for increasing evidence-based practices at the local level?
- What is behind the large and growing number of inactive/absconders on county supervision?

## **Sentencing Complexity and Variation**

- How does the system sort out sentenced populations to supervision and incarceration, locally and at the state level?
- How are high-volume sentences (such as DUI) affecting resource capacity and utilization?
- What are recidivism rates for people convicted of lower-level felonies and misdemeanors among the available sentencing options: probation, intermediate punishments, jail, and prison?
- Are there intolerably wide variations in sentencing across geographic or demographic categories?

## **Prison and Parole Volumes**

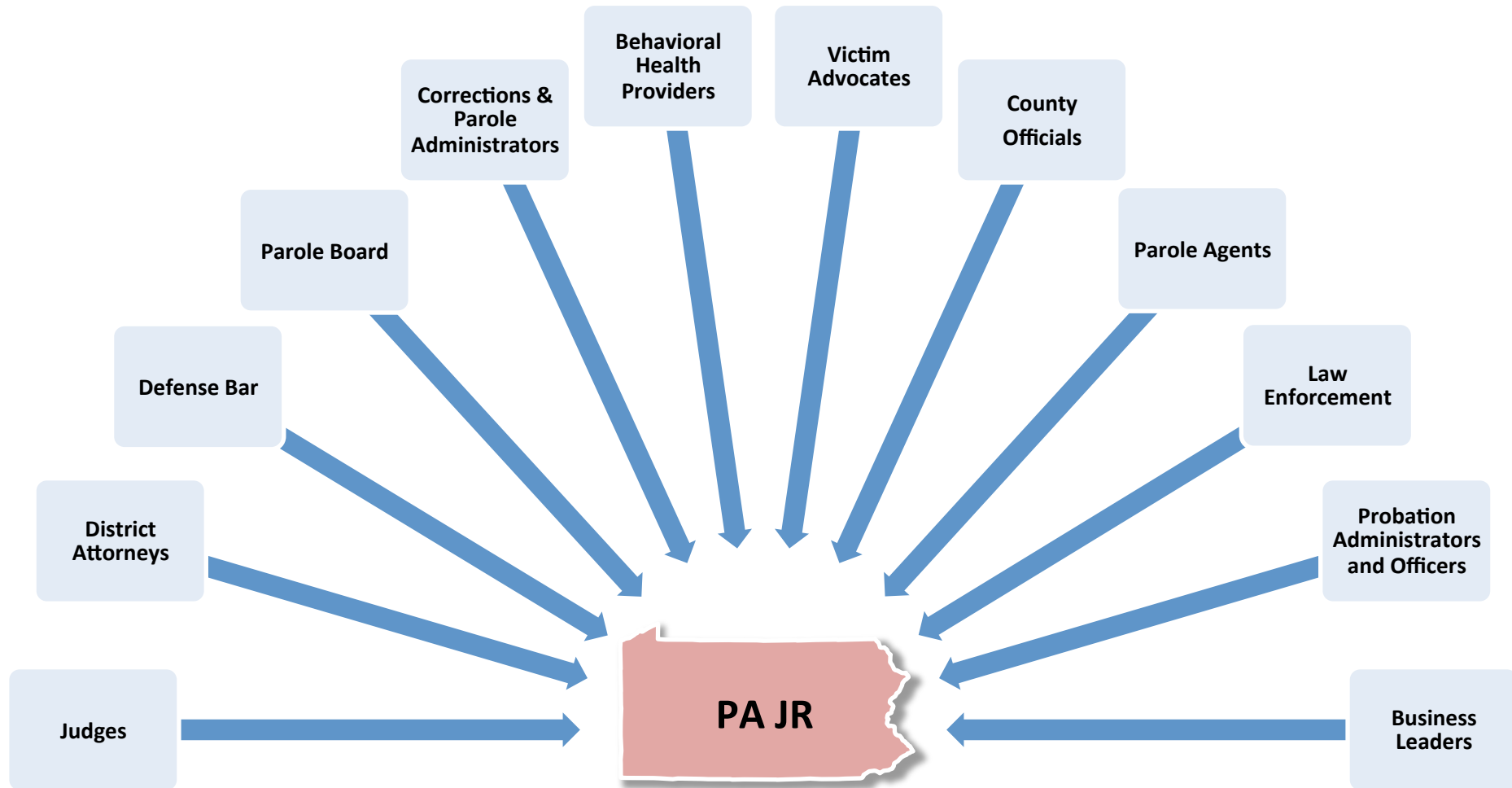
- What factors contribute to Pennsylvania's incarceration rate and how do they compare to neighboring states?
- What is causing Pennsylvania's high rate of adults on county and state parole, and what is the effect on: supervision resources, use of community corrections and violator centers, and recidivism?
- What is driving the large volume of state parole violators returning to prison?

# Acquisition of data is almost complete.

| Data Type              | Source   | Status           |
|------------------------|--|------------------|
| Arrests                | Pennsylvania State Police  | Scoping underway |
| Jail                   | Counties/JNET  | Scoping underway |
| Court Filings          | Administrative Office of Pennsylvania Courts                         | Pending          |
| Sentencing             | Pennsylvania Commission on Sentencing                                | Received         |
| Prison                 | Pennsylvania Department of Corrections                               | Received         |
| Parole Supervision     | Pennsylvania Board of Probation and Parole                           | Received         |
| Parole Decision Making | Pennsylvania Board of Probation and Parole                           | Received         |
| Probation Supervision  | Counties/CCAP/JNET   | Scoping underway |
| Behavioral Health      | Pennsylvania Department of Corrections                               | Received         |
|                        | Department of Drug and Alcohol Programs/Department of Human Services | Pending          |



# Stakeholder engagement will raise additional issues.



# The Justice Center and the Working Group will combine efforts to achieve a successful project outcome.

## CSG Justice Center Staff

**Serve as dedicated  
staff to the state**

**Analyze data**

**Engage  
stakeholders**

**Deliver presentations  
and facilitate discussion**

**Interpret data  
and assess  
trends**

**Identify additional  
stakeholders**

**Develop data-driven  
policy framework**

**Identify priorities  
for reinvestment**

## PA JR Working Group

**Endorse project  
scope of work**

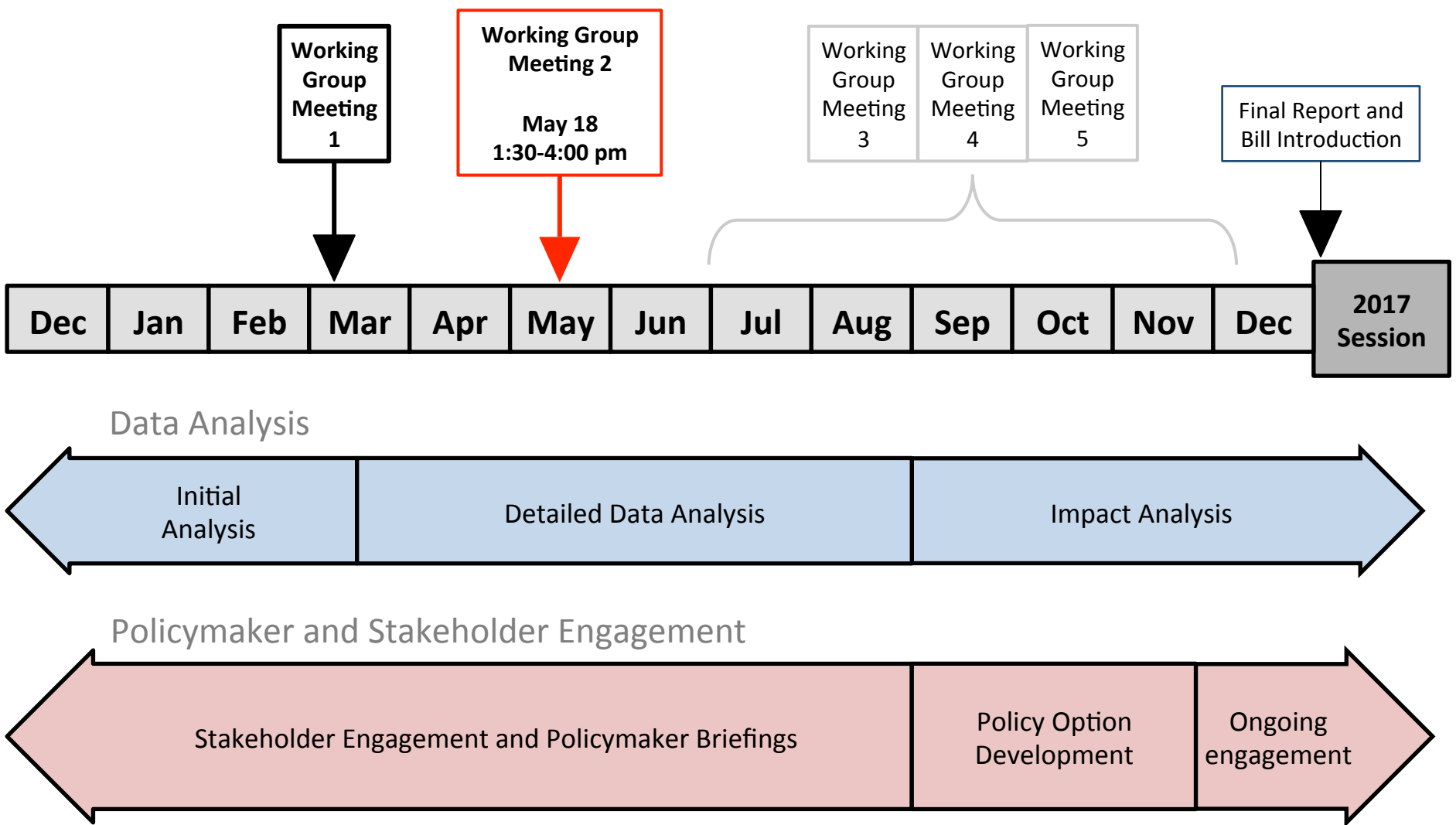
**Provide expertise  
on system dynamics  
and structures**

**Approve policy package**

**Identify legislative versus  
judicial policies**

**Create momentum for  
adoption of justice  
reinvestment policies**

# Proposed timeline leading to the 2017 legislative session



# Thank You

**Patrick Armstrong, Policy Analyst**

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