



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF JUVENILE JUSTICE

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Data Driven Decision Making: The Importance of the “Risk Principle” & Effective Diversion

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Discussion Topics

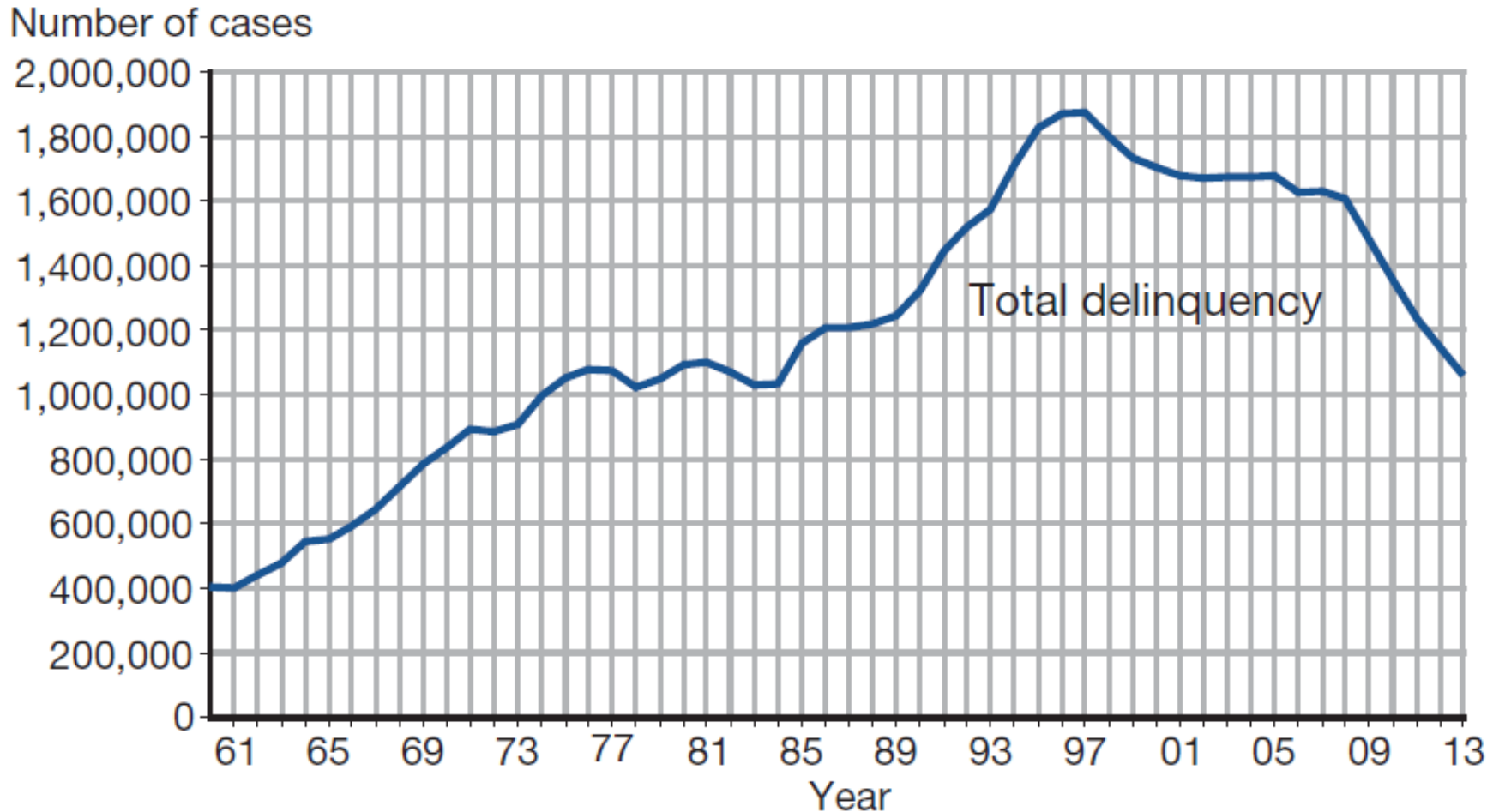
- Juvenile Arrest Trends
 - National
 - Florida
 - 4th Judicial Circuit
- What Actually Drives Delinquent Behavior?
- A Comprehensive Strategy for Juvenile Services
- Understanding the “Risk Principle”



Delinquency Arrests: National Trends



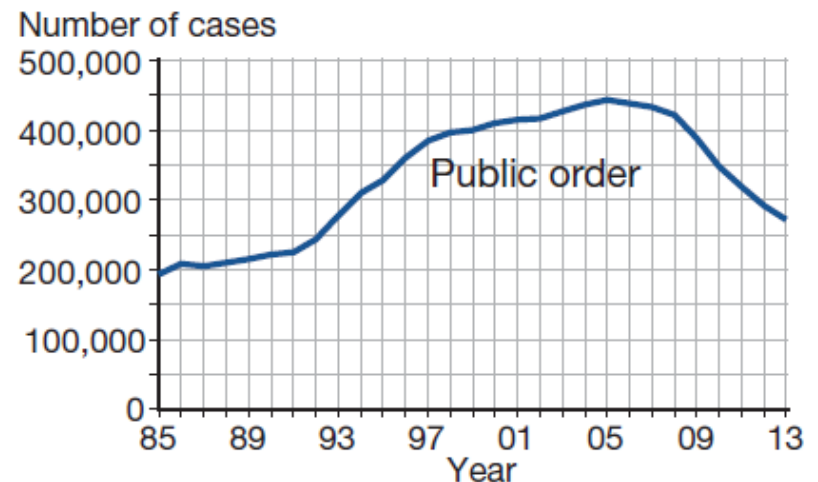
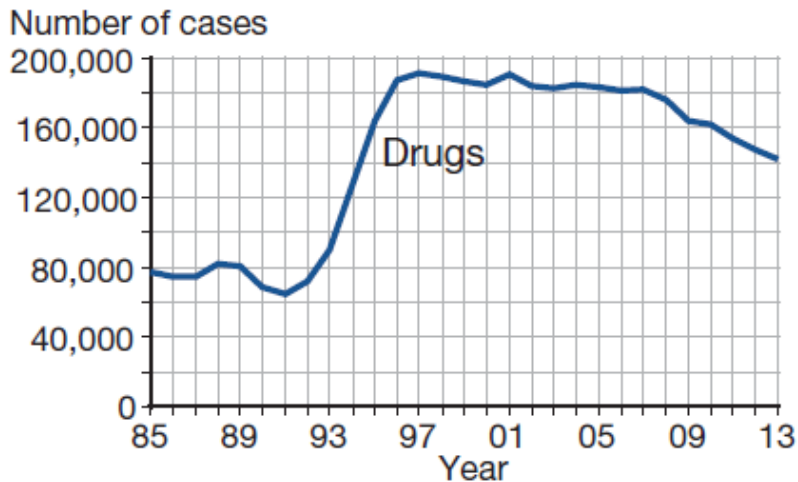
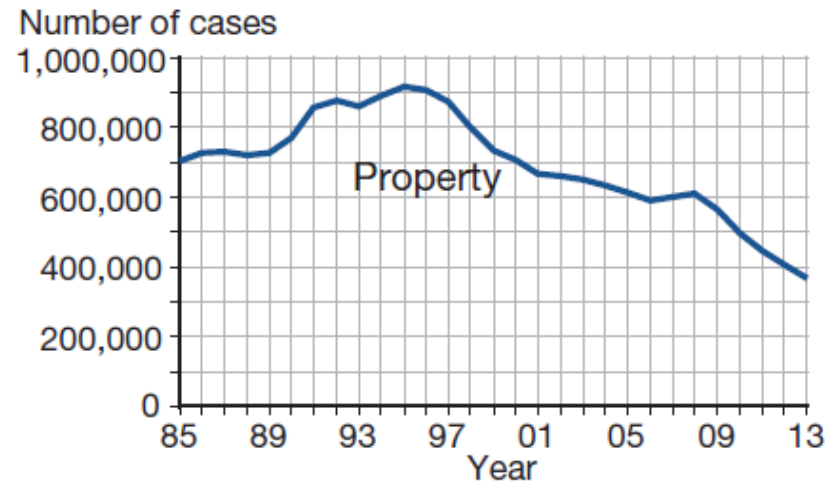
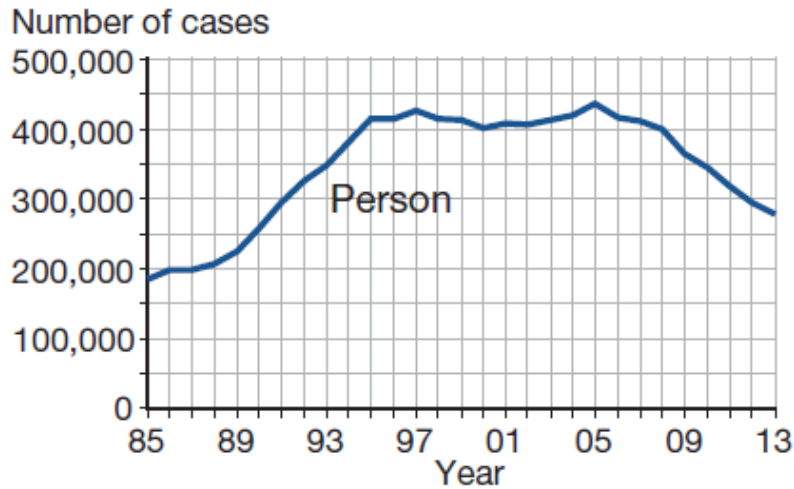
National Juvenile Arrest Trends



Source: Sarah Hockenberry, and Charles Puzzanchera (2015). *Juvenile Court Statistics*. National Center for Juvenile Justice (NCJJ).



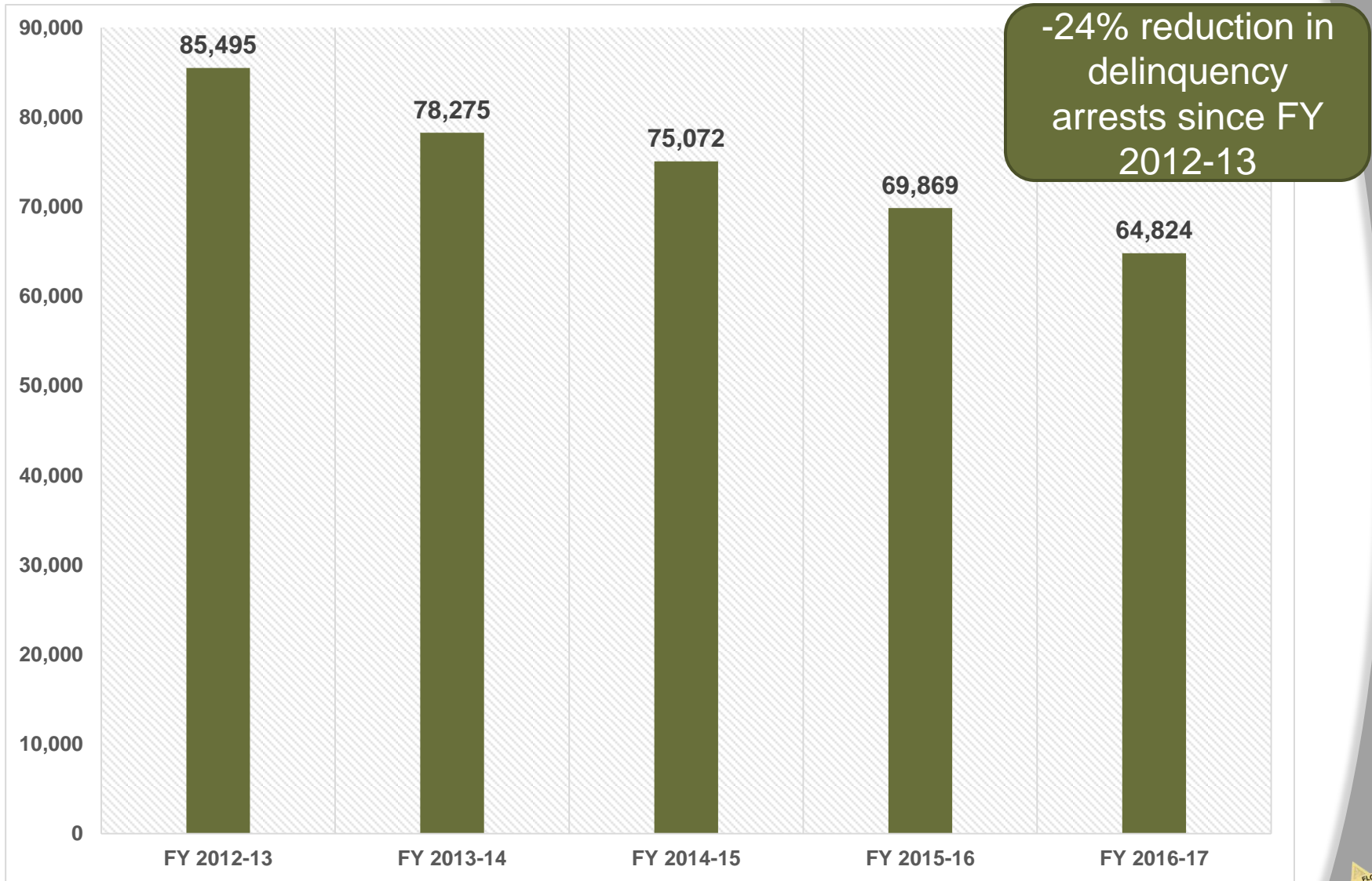
National Juvenile Arrest Trends by Type



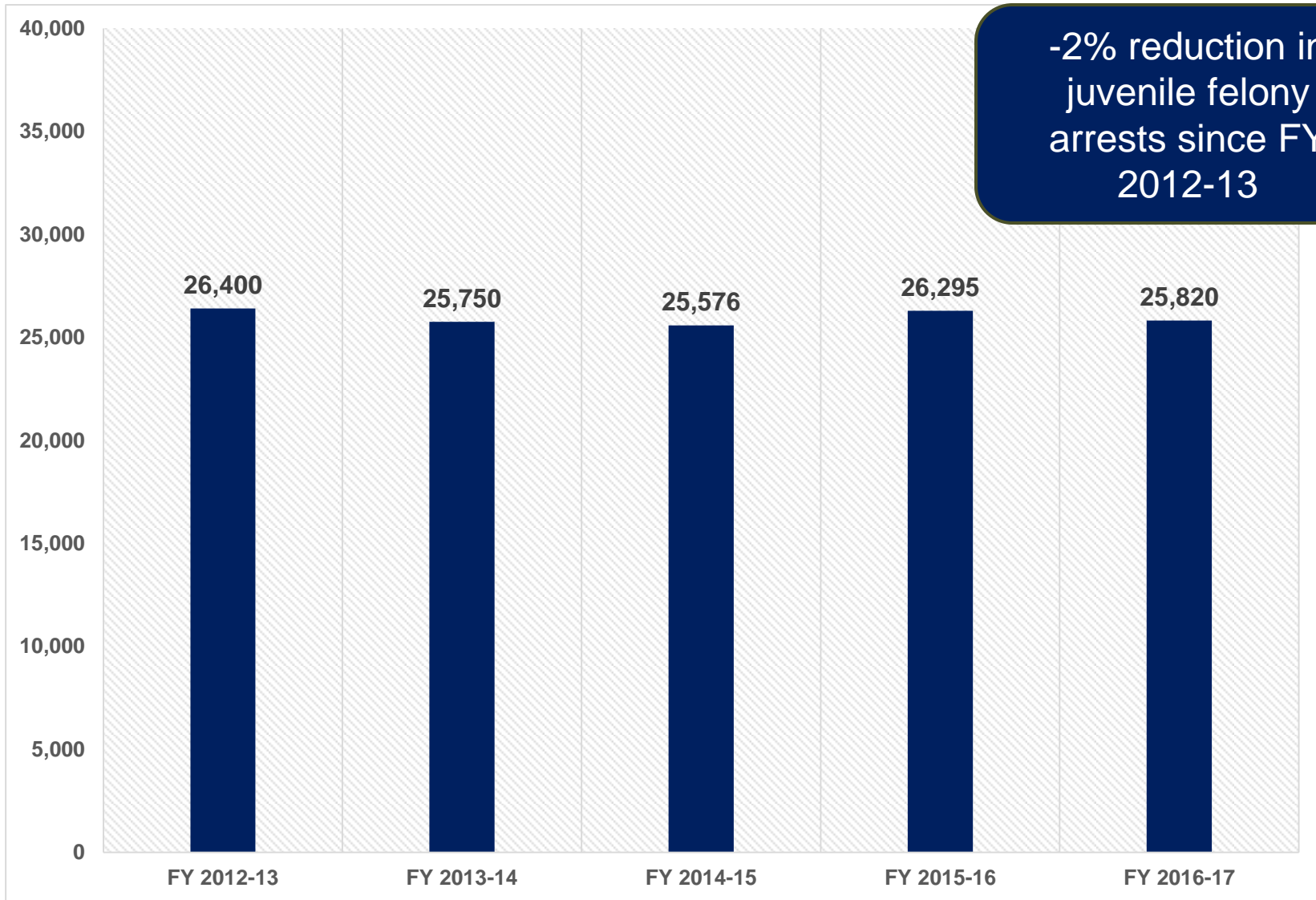
Delinquency Arrests: Florida Trends



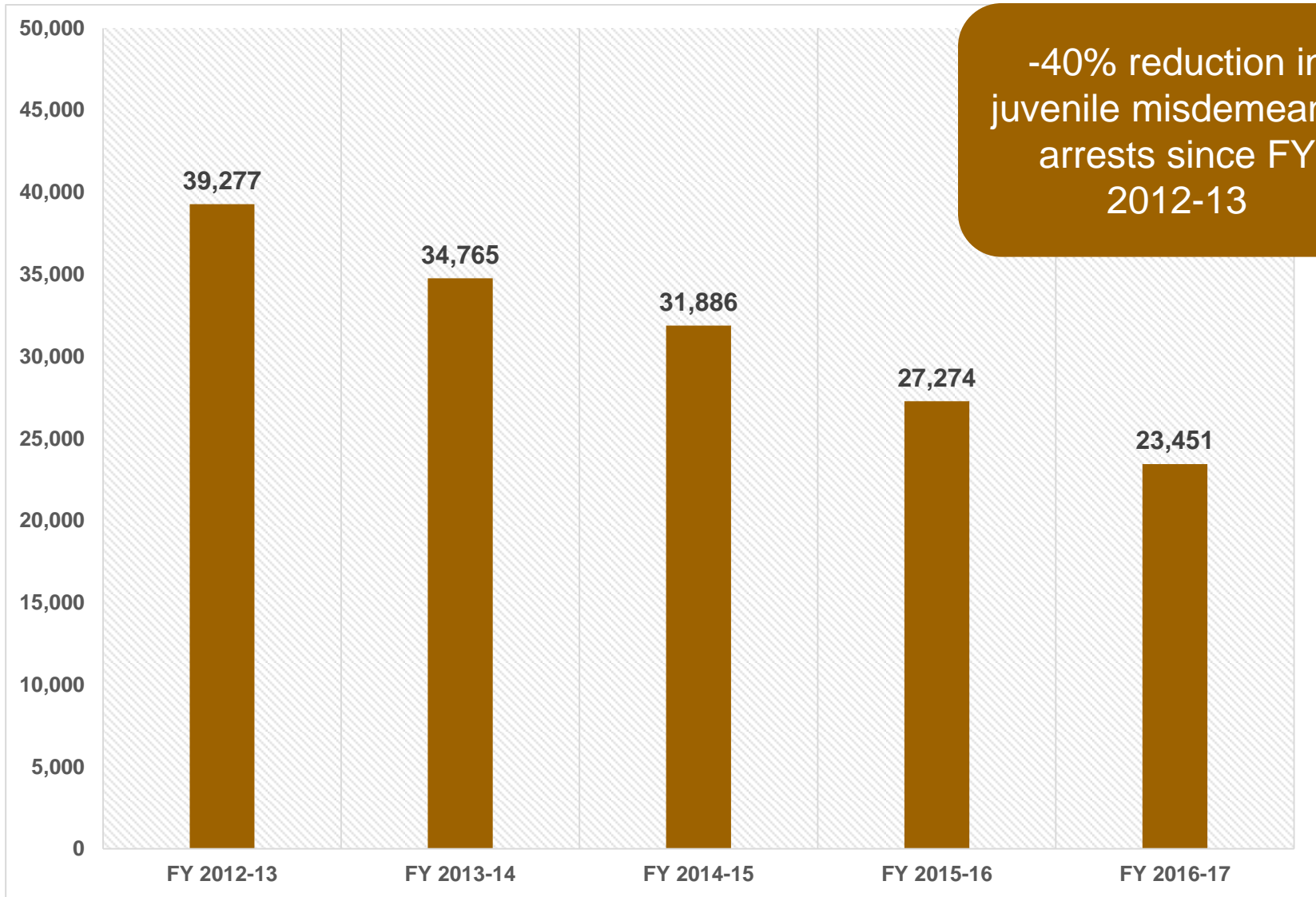
Total Delinquency Arrests (All Florida)



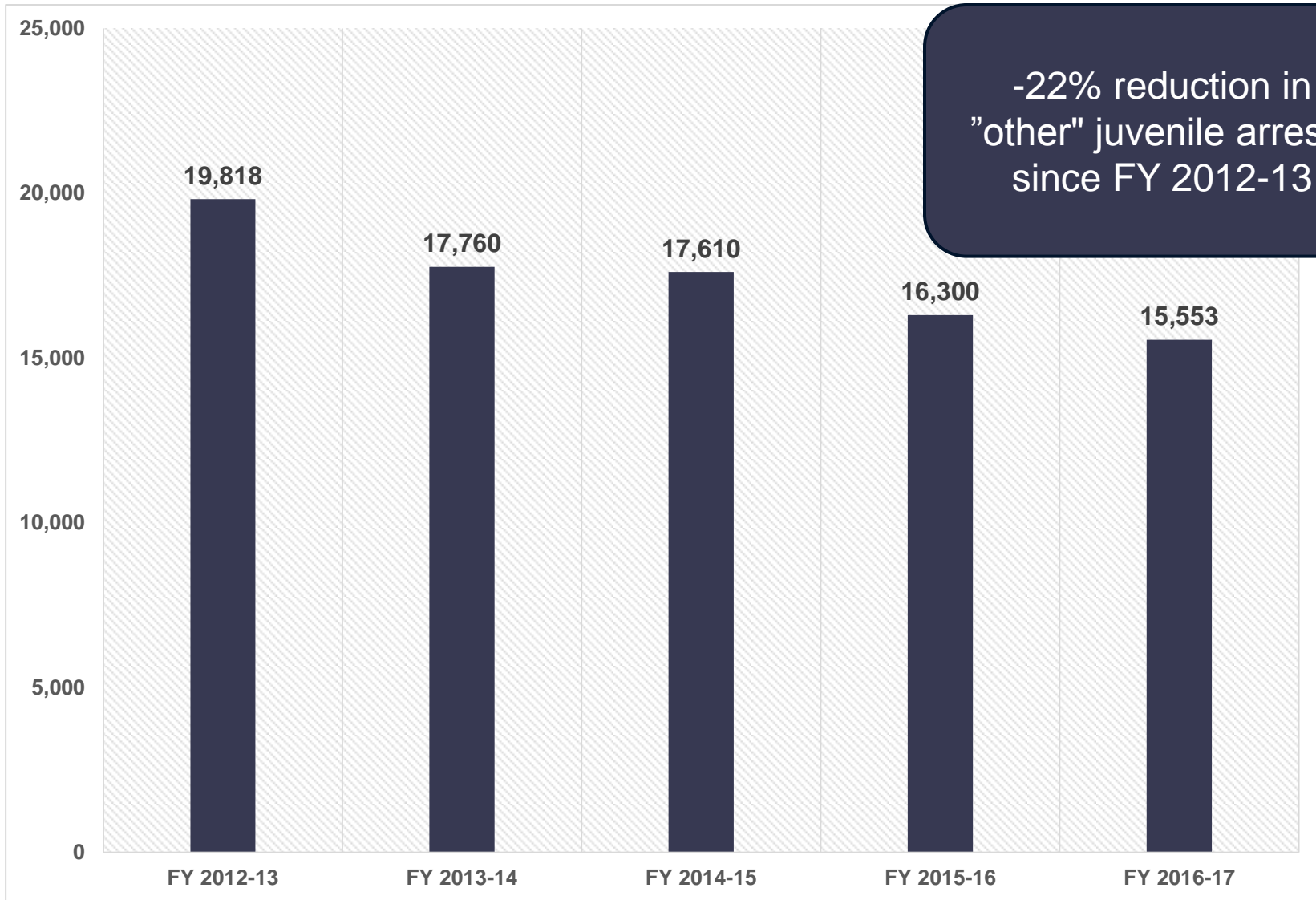
Felony Delinquency Arrests (All Florida)



Misdemeanor Delinquency Arrests (All Florida)



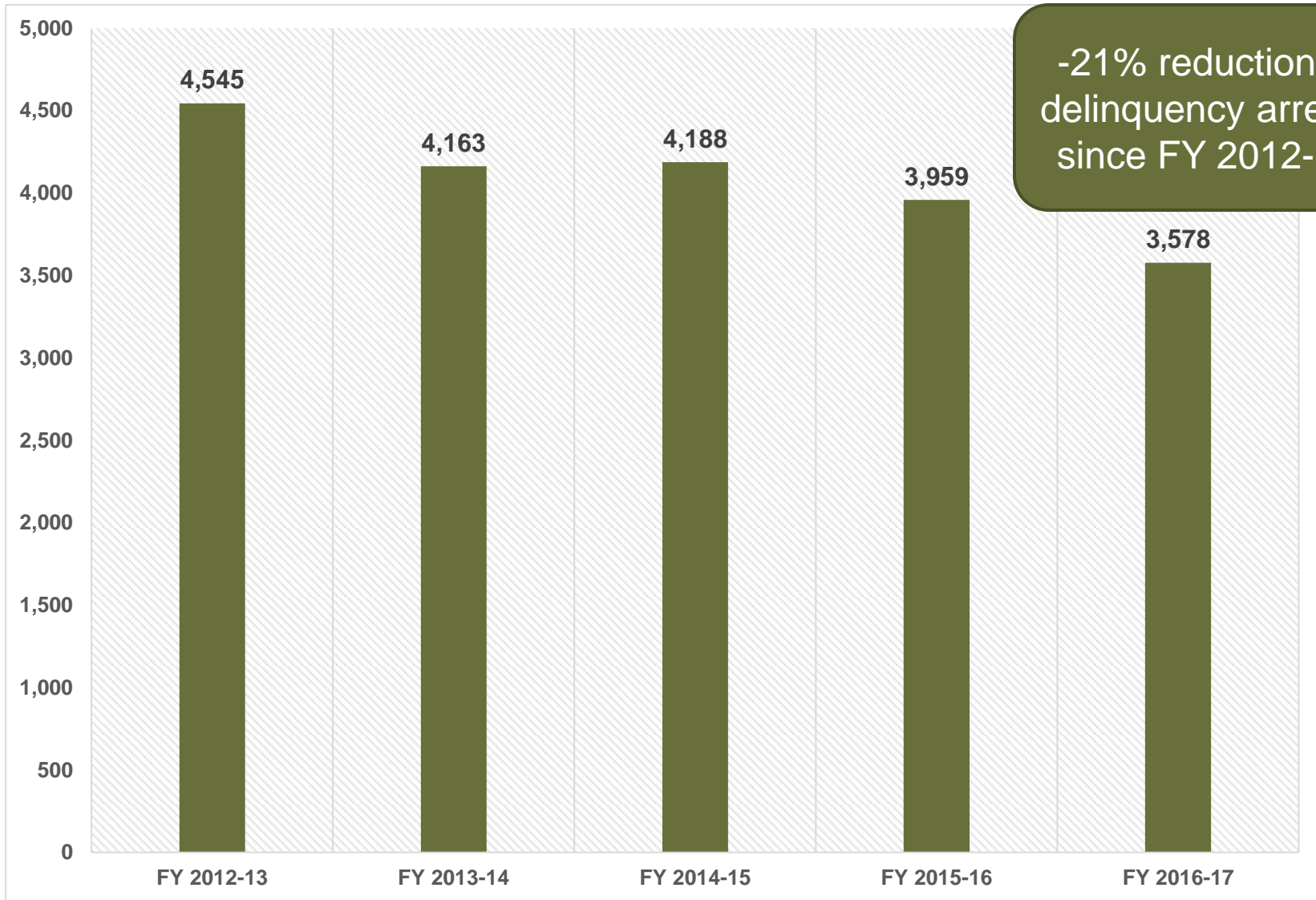
“Other” Delinquency Arrests (All Florida)



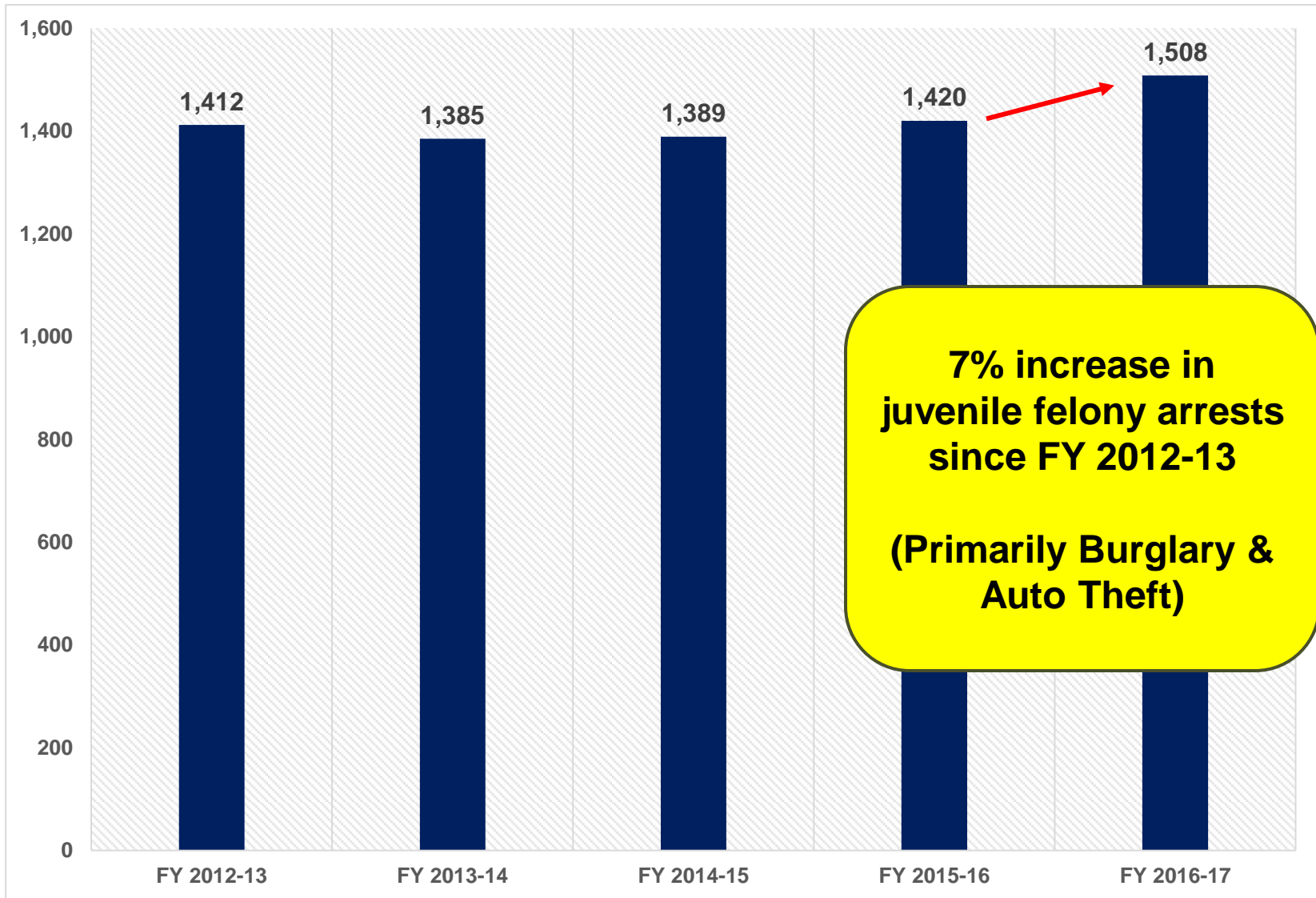
Delinquency Arrests: 4th Judicial Circuit Trends



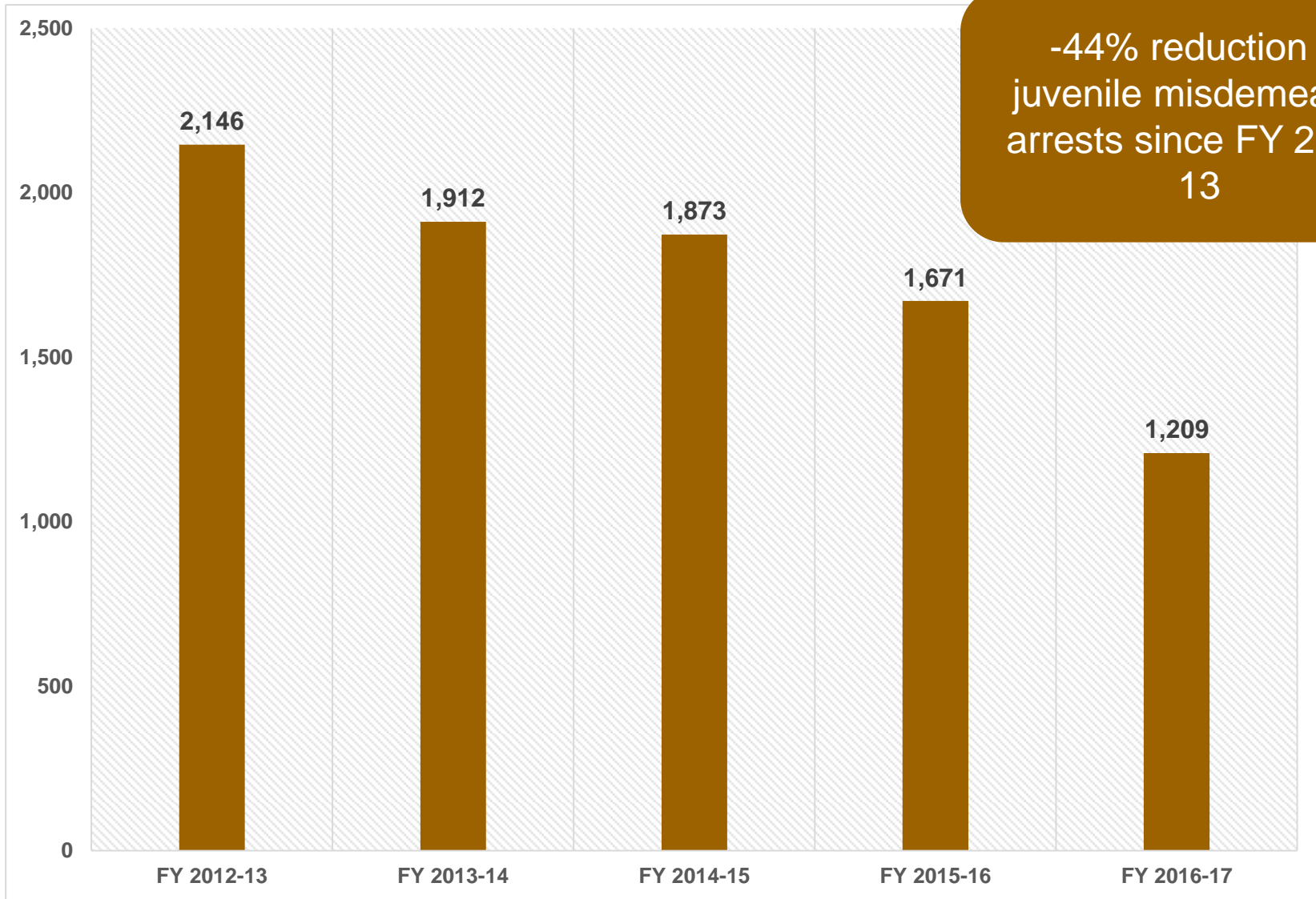
Total Delinquency Arrests (4th Circuit)



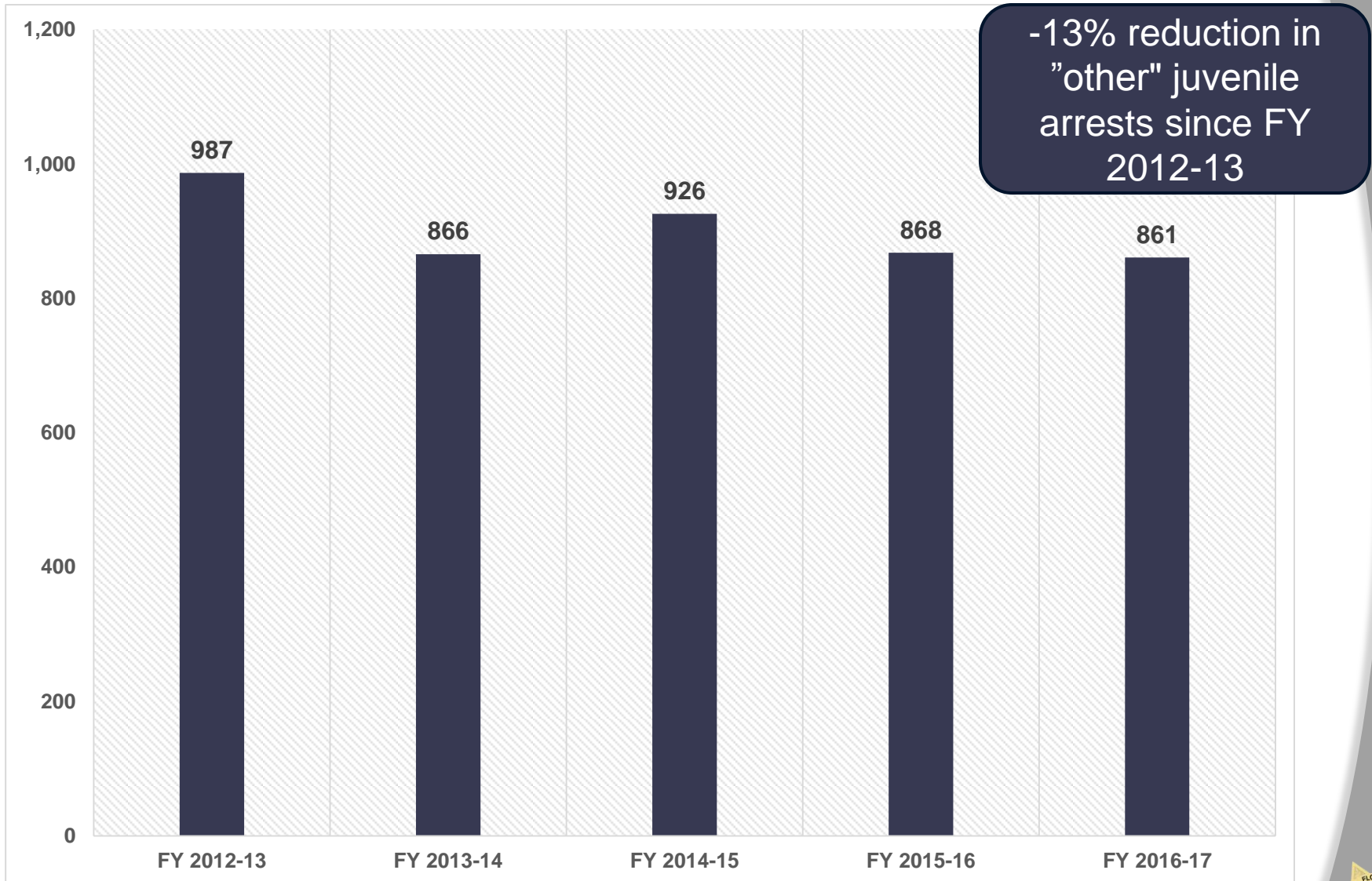
Felony Delinquency Arrests (4th Circuit)



Misdemeanor Delinquency Arrests (4th Circuit)



“Other” Delinquency Arrests (4th Circuit)



What Drives Delinquent Behavior?



Common Risk Factors Predict Delinquency (The Big Eight)

1. Antisocial Attitudes
2. Antisocial Peers
3. Antisocial Personality Patterns (impulsivity, low self-control, risk taking)
4. History of Antisocial Behavior
5. Problems at School/Work
6. Problematic Family Circumstances
7. Problematic Leisure Activities/use of free time
8. Substance Abuse

Dynamic Factors?

Static Factors?





The Comprehensive Strategy



Matching Services...

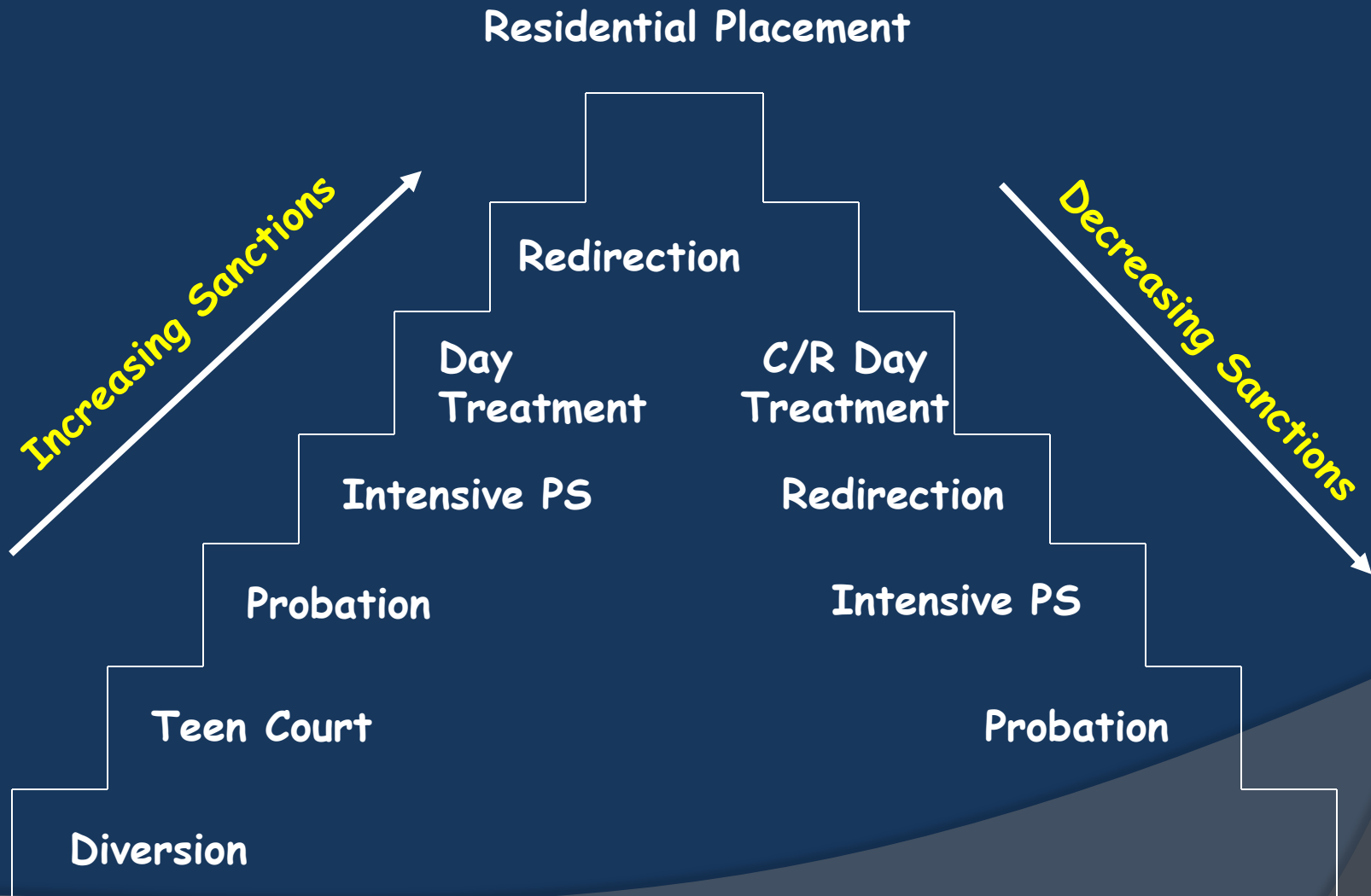


Why a Comprehensive Strategy?

- ⦿ Unbalanced emphasis on “deep end” graduated sanctions v. prevention and early intervention
- ⦿ Overreliance on detention and residential placement
- ⦿ Poor targeting of SVC youth
- ⦿ Poor matching of youth to appropriate services and levels of supervision
- ⦿ Use of ineffective programs
- ⦿ Poor program planning



A Graduated Sanctions Model



- **Understanding the Risk Principle and Matching Youth to Appropriate Interventions**



Evidence Based Programs: Our Mantra

- ◎ The right service
- ◎ For the right kid
- ◎ At the right time
- ◎ In the correct dosage





Importance of Matching Youth to the Appropriate Level of Supervision



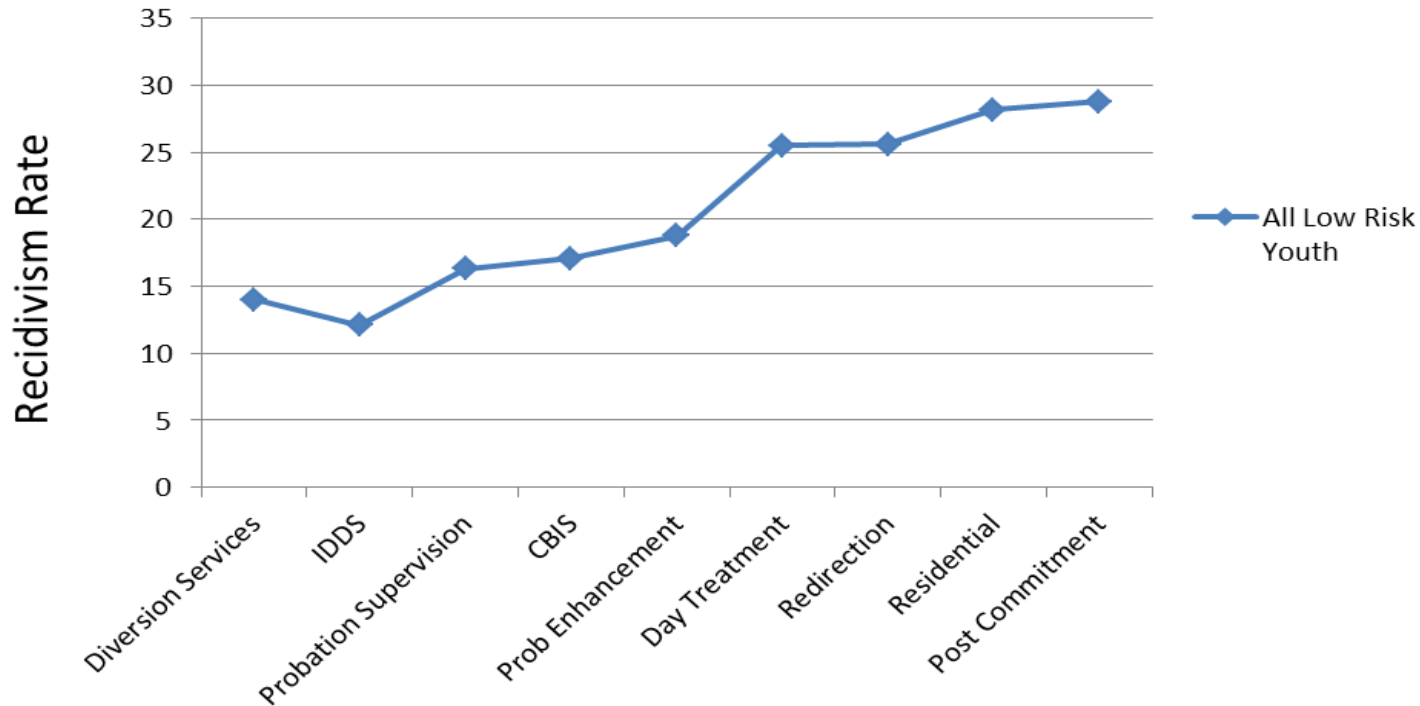
Targeting High-Risk Offenders

Risk Level and Treatment Recidivism Outcomes

Study	Risk Level	Level of Treatment	
		Minimal	Intensive
O'Donnell et al. (1971)	Low	.16	.22
	High	.78	.56
Baird et al. (1979)	Low	.03	.10
	High	.37	.18
Andrews & Kiessling (1980)	Low	.12	.17
	High	.58	.31
Bonta et al. (2000)	Low	.15	.32
	High	.51	.32



Recidivism Rate for all Low Risk to Re-offend Youth by Placement Type

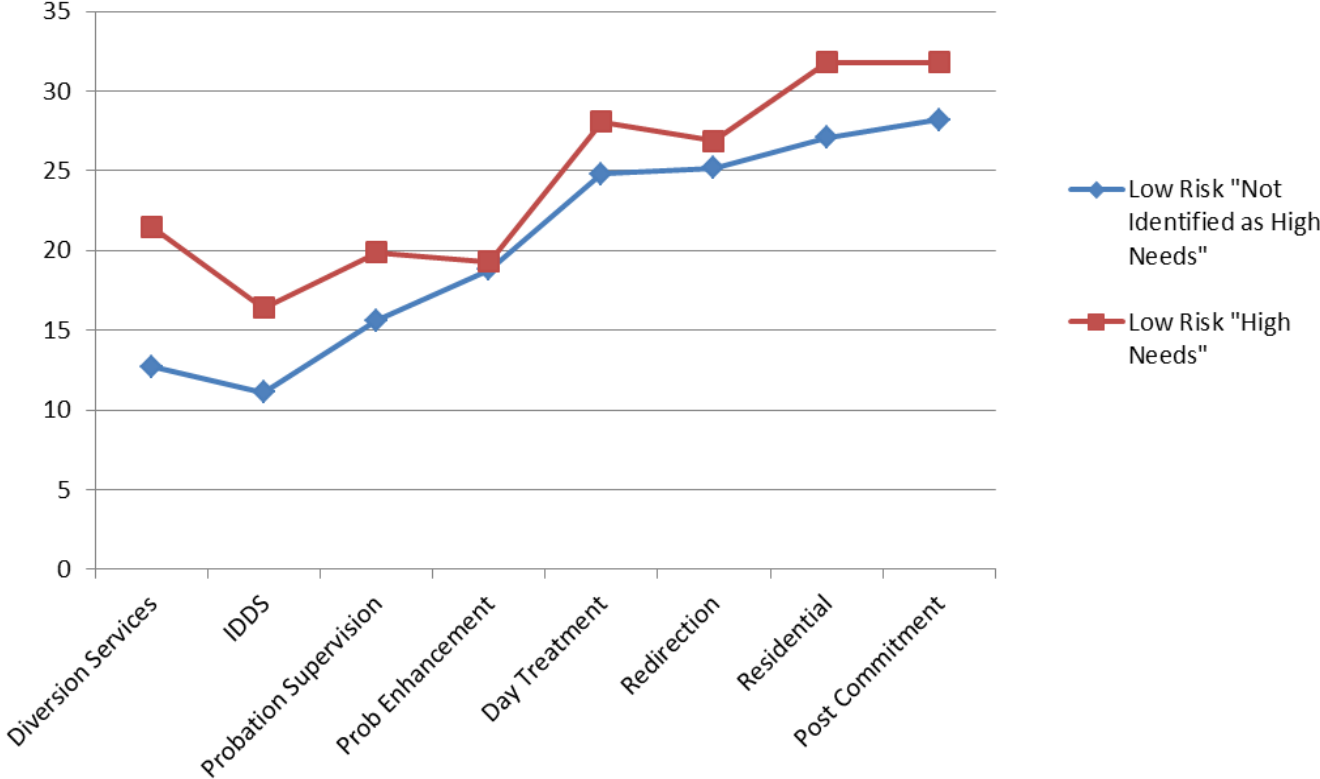


Note: Data from 2012 Comprehensive Accountability Report (CAR) final files

Recidivism rate for IDDS significantly lower than all other placement types for the low risk sample. Diversion and IDDS significantly lower than Probation Supervision. Probation Supervision, CBIS, Probation Enhancement rates statistically equivalent. Probation, CBIS, and Probation Enhancement rates significantly lower than Day Treatment, Redirection, Residential, and PCP. Day Treatment, Redirection, Residential, and PCP recidivism rates are statistically equivalent.



Recidivism Rate for Low Risk Youth by "Needs" Level by Placement Type



Note: Data from 2012 Comprehensive Accountability Report (CAR) final files

"High Needs" defined as youth greater than 1 standard deviation above the mean on the Social History Score subcomponent of the PACT. Statistically significant differences found in the recidivism rates for low risk "high needs" youth versus youth not identified as such for the following Placement Types: Diversion, IDDS, Probation Supervision, with low risk "high needs" youth having significantly higher recidivism rates. Differences in recidivism rates for Probataion Enhancement, Day Treatment, Redirection, Residential, and Post Commitment Probation were not significant.



Closing Thoughts

- ◎ Effectiveness of Diversion & Alternatives to Arrest
- ◎ Importance of Risk/Needs Assessment
- ◎ Combinations of Services
- ◎ Community Service Mapping

