

# An Evaluation of Cumberland County Juvenile Probation (2009-2016)



## The effects of Evidence Based Practices and the Juvenile Justice System Enhancement Strategy

Samuel Miller – Chief Juvenile Probation Officer  
&  
Robert Swanger – Evidenced Based Probation Officer

# In the beginning...

- Juvenile Justice System Enhancement Strategy (JJSES) - Stage 4 highlights the need to allow evidence and research to drive policy and practice
- Cumberland County obtained PCCD funded grant to collect outcomes data for juveniles as the Juvenile Justice System Enhancement Strategy was being rolled out
  - Sam Miller - Chief JPO and grant writer
  - Grant started in January 2013
- IUP obtains grant to collect data for Cumberland County
  - John Cookus - Lead Researcher
- Transition in late 2014 to maintain data collection and to continue evaluating reports from within Cumberland County Juvenile Probation to guide policy and practice
  - Rob Swanger - Evidenced-Based Probation Officer

# Process - Data Collection and Entry

- 2009 - 2012
  - Probation Officer completes JCJC closeout paperwork
  - Chief Probation Officer pulls data from closeout paperwork and juvenile's file
  - IUP researcher uses interim data sheet to then create final datasheet for each case
  - Datasheet entered into SPSS dataset

**Cumberland County Juvenile Probation Department**  
Close Out Check List

Juv. Name: [Redacted] PO: Pitman  
 Start Supervision Date: 1/2/15 End Date: 6/10/15

Disposition Type: (may be multiple types)  
 Formal Involving Placement  
 Formal Without Placement  
 Consent Decree  
 Informal  
 Administrative Probation  
 Other: ARD  
 Warned / Counseled  
 DA Dismissal

**During Supervision:**

Personal Contacts: 1  
 Other Contacts: 1  
 In School: Yes  No   
 School District: Big Springs HS

**During Supervision:**  
 YES  NO   
 New Arrest w/ Disposition:   
 Counseling (w/ documents in file):   
 Community Service:   
 \*Hours: 25 Completed: 25  
 \*ordered, directed, volunteered

Resitution: N/A S Paid: N/A

5 Ordered: N/A S Paid: N/A

**COMPETENCY DEVELOPMENT**  
 Risk / Need: Education/Employment  
 Start Level: Med End Level: Low  
 Activity: 1. Postsecondary to be on parole  
 2. on parole  
 3. on parole  
 4. on parole

Risk / Need: Substance Abuse  
 Start Level: Med End Level: Low  
 Activity: 1. Sub completed treatment ordered  
 2. Sub completed treatment ordered  
 3. Sub completed treatment ordered  
 4. Cumberland/Big Springs

Risk / Need: None  
 Start Level: None End Level: None  
 Activity: 1. None  
 2. None  
 3. None  
 4. None

**BITS COMPLETED and IN FILE**  
 Overcoming Automatic Responses:  YES  NO  
 Problem Solving:  YES  NO  
 Decision Making:  YES  NO

**PaJCMS CASE PRE-CLOSING FORM**  
OUTCOME MEASURES REPORTING

Client Name: [Redacted] JID #: [Redacted]  
 Supervising P.O.: Pitman File #: [Redacted]

Outcome Measure:  
 Was the juvenile under supervision by our department?  
 Yes  No \*Note - If "No" do not complete remainder of this form.

Start Date of Supervision: 1/12/15

1. Did you accept "Courtesy Supervision" for the juvenile?  
 Yes  No \*Note - If "Yes" report the remainder of this form to the "Originating County" and do not complete Outcome Measures questions for this juvenile in our county's PaJCMS.

**Community Protection:**

2. Did the juvenile successfully complete supervision without a new offense resulting in a Consent Decree, Adjudication of Delinquency, ARD, a plea of Nolo Contendere, or finding of guilt in a criminal proceeding?  
 Yes  No

3. While under supervision was the juvenile charged with a "Direct File" offense that subsequently resulted in an ARD, plea of Nolo Contendere, or finding of guilt in a criminal proceeding?  
 Yes  No

4. While under supervision was the juvenile charged with a new offense that is pending in Criminal Court?  
 Yes  No  
 If yes, answer the following question:  
 a "Direct File" offense?  
 No  Not Applicable if previous answer is "No"

Name: [Redacted] DOB: [Redacted]  
 SSN: [Redacted] Race: White Gender: Male

**DELINQUENCY HISTORY**

Date of Referral	Offense	Grading	Disposition	Disposition Date
June 2014	Poss. Subst. Abuse (M)		YAP	1-12-15
	Poss. Drug Poss. (M)		Discharged	6-10-15

Probation Officer's Name: Justin Pitman

In School at Time of Discharge?  Yes  No D&A Usage  Yes  No  
 Adjudicated Delinquent?  Yes  No D&A Treat.  Yes  No  
 Resides With Both Parents?  Yes  No Past C&Y  Yes  No  
 New Arrest While Under Sup.  Yes  No Detention  Yes  No  
 MH Services  Yes  No

**CONTINUATION OF SERVICES PROVIDED**

Provider	In-Home/Out-of-Home	Dates of Services

**RESEARCH INFORMATION FORM**

1. JID # [Redacted] Case Identifier [Redacted]  
 2. Closeout Date: 4-20-15 Date of 21<sup>st</sup> birthday: [Redacted]  
 3. Age at time of initial referral: 14 years 6 months  
 4. Multiple referrals in 2009:  Yes  No  
 5. Gender:  Male  Female  
 6. Race:  American Indian  Asian  Black  Pacific Islander  Bi-/Multi-Racial  Unknown  
 7. Prior Juvenile referral:  Yes  No  
 Misdemeanor  Felony  Non-Payment  
 Sex Offender  Y  N  
 Other: None against persons  Y  N  
 8. Disposition for prior referral(s) (check all that apply):  
 Informal Adjustment  YAP  
 Consent Decree  Formal Probation  
 In  Out  
 Out-Of-Home Placement (highest level of intervention)  
 9. Current referral:  Misdemeanor  Felony  Non-Payment  
 Disposition:  
 Informal Adjustment  YAP  
 Consent Decree  Formal Probation  
 In  Out  
 Out-Of-Home Placement (highest level of intervention)  
 Sex Offender:  Y  N  
 Other crimes against persons:  Y  N  
 10. Adjudicated Delinquent:  Yes  No  
 11. Length of continuous supervision time:  
 1 day to 3 months  
 Over 3 months to 6 months  
 Over 6 months to 12 months  
 Over 12 months to 18 months  
 Over 18 months to 24 months  
 More than 24 months  
 12. Case management Probation Officer: YAP  
 13. Services provided more than 15 days:  
 Abrexas Day Treatment  
 Abrexas LDP / Northwestem  
 Adelphi Village MST  
 ARC  
 Camp Adams  
 Community-based mental health services  
 D&A In-patient  
 D&A out-patient  
 Diakon Center Point Day Treatment

2009-2016 data set 10-13-16.SAV [DataSet1] - IBM SPSS Statistics Data Editor

V5_Initialref	AgeRecode	V6_Multref	V7_Gender	V8_Race	RaceRecoded	V9_Priorrec	V9a_Type	V9b_Soffend	V9c_Other	V9d_ChargeName	V9e_Code	V9f_L	V9g_Delag
19	13	2	0	1	1	1	1	2	0	0 Simple Assault	2701	0	M2
20	16	3	0	0	1	1	1	3	0	0 Criminal Mischief	3304	0	M2
21	16	3	0	1	1	1	1	3	0	0 Theft by Unlawful Taking	3921	0	M3
22	16	3	1	0	1	1	1	3	0	1 Criminal Conspiracy to Commit Robbery	3701	0	F1
23	15	2	0	0	1	1	1	2	0	1 Aggravated Assault	2702	0	F2
24	16	3	0	1	1	1	1	3	0	1 Criminal Mischief	3304	0	M2
25	15	2	0	1	1	1	1	2	0	1 DUI	3802	0	M
26	16	3	0	1	1	1	1	2	0	1 Theft RSG	3925	0	F2
27	14	2	0	1	1	1	1	2	0	0 Misdemeanor Unspecified	9997	0	0
28	15	2	1	1	1	1	1	2	0	0 Theft from Vehicle	3934	0	M1
29	14	2	0	0	1	1	1	2	0	1 Terroristic Threats	2706	0	M1
30	16	3	1	1	1	1	1	2	0	1 Terroristic Threats	2706	0	M1
31	16	3	1	1	1	1	1	2	0	1 SIMPLE ASSAULT			
32	15	2	0	1	1	1	1	3	1	0 Theft By Receiving	3925	0	M2
33	16	3	1	1	1	1	1	2	0	1 Burglary	3502	0	F1
34	15	2	0	1	1	1	1	2	0	0 Simple Assault	2701	0	M2
35	14	2	1	1	1	1	1	2	0	1 Robbery	3701	0	F2
36	17	3	1	1	0	2	0	0	0	0 Burglary	3502	0	F1
37	17	3	0	1	1	1	1	2	0	1 Disorderly Conduct	5503	0	M3
38	16	3	0	1	1	1	1	3	0	1 False Identification to Law Enforcement	4914	0	M3
39	14	2	0	1	1	1	1	2	0	1 Innocent Assault	3126	0	F3
40	16	3	0	0	1	1	1	2	0	0 Possession of Drug Paraphenalia	9191	0	M
41	14	2	0	1	1	1	1	2	1	0 Theft	3924	0	M2
42	14	2	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0			
43	16	3	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0 Possession of Marijuana Sm Amt	9101	60	M
44	14	2	0	1	1	1	1	3	0	1 Accidents Involving Injury	3742	0	M2
45	15	2	1	1	1	1	1	2	0	0 Burglary	3502	0	F2
46	17	3	0	1	1	1	1	2	0	0 Possession of Marijuana Sm Amt	9101	60	M
47	14	2	0	1	1	1	1	2	0	1 Terroristic Threats	2706	0	M1
48	14	2	1	1	0	2	0	0	0	0			

IBM SPSS Statistics Processor is ready



# Process - Data Collection and Entry

- 2013 - present
    - Probation officer fills out datasheet
    - EBP officer enters datasheet into SQL database
- 

**Cumberland County Juvenile Probation Department  
Close Out Check List**

Juvenile Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Probation Officer: \_\_\_\_\_

Supervision Start Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Supervision End Date: \_\_\_\_\_

JID#: \_\_\_\_\_ Case Identifier: \_\_\_\_\_

**Demographics**

Age at Initial Referral (YAP included): \_\_\_\_\_ Gender:  Male  Female  
 Race:  White  Black  Bi-Racial  Asian  Pacific Islander  Native American  
 Ethnicity:  Hispanic  Non-Hispanic

**Prior History**  
(check multiple boxes, if applicable)

Disposition:  Administrative Probation  Youth Aid Panel  Informal Adjustment  Consent Decree  
 Adjudicated Delinquent  Placement  
 Offense Type:  Violent Offense  Sexual Offense  Drug Offense  Property Offense  Other  
 Grading on Allegation(s) (check all that apply):  Misdemeanor  Felony

**Current Supervision**  
(check multiple boxes, if applicable)

Most Serious Offense on Allegation(s): \_\_\_\_\_

**Disposition**

**Drug and Alcohol Services**

D&A out-patient Provider(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
 D&A in-patient Provider(s): \_\_\_\_\_

**Mental Health Services**

Community-based mental health services (i.e. out-patient, individual, group, or family therapy) Provider(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mental health out-of-home placement (Residential Treatment Facility)  Inpatient Hospitalization

**Sexual Offender Services**

Diakon SPIN Program  Other Sex Offender out-patient  Sex Offender Residential Treatment Facility

**Out-of-Home (Court-Ordered) Placement**

Foster Care  Abraxas LDP  Northwestern Academy – Specific Program:  
 ARC  Youth Services Agency (Camp Adams)  Mazos  Glen Mills  
 George Jr. Republic Placement  Diakon 31 Day Adventure Challenge Course  
 Adelphoi Village – Specific Program:  Other:

**Other Information**  
(check only one box for each item)

Detention (during current supervision):  Yes  No  
 CYS Involvement (past or current):  Yes  No  Unknown  
 School Status (at closeout):  In School  Graduate  GED  Withdrawn/Quit  
 Cyber School (during current supervision):  Yes  No  
 Resides with both parents (at closeout):  Yes  No  Unknown  
 Adult or Juvenile Arrest during Supervision:  Yes  No  
 Probation Violation during Supervision:  Yes  No  
 Completed Community Service:  Yes  No  None Ordered  
 \_\_\_\_\_ hours completed  
 Paid Restitution:  Yes  No  None Ordered  
 \_\_\_\_\_ restitution collected  
 Satisfaction Survey distributed:  Yes  No  
 Professional Alliance Survey completed:  Yes  No

**YLS Assessment**

(Use rows only as needed)

	Prior Offenses	Family Circumstances	Education Employment	Peer Relations	Substance Abuse	Leisure Recreation	Personality Behavior	Attitude Orientation	Total
Initial									
Review <sub>1</sub>									
Review <sub>2</sub>									
Review <sub>3</sub>									
Review <sub>4</sub>									
Closeout									

JP Research Data Collection

File Home Create External Data Database Tools

View Paste Copy Format Painter Filter Filter Ascending Descending Remove Sort Toggle Filter Sort & Filter

Clipboard New Save Spelling Find Select Text Formatting

Main Menu **New Closeout Entry**

Juvenile Name: \_\_\_\_\_ JID #: \_\_\_\_\_ Start Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Closeout Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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Case Identifier: \_\_\_\_\_ Age at initial referral: \_\_\_\_\_  Multiple referral youth in current year

Gender: \_\_\_\_\_ Race: \_\_\_\_\_

Prior juvenile referral (with separate disposition):  \_\_\_\_\_  
 Sex Offender  Violent Offender

Current referral (most serious charge): \_\_\_\_\_  
 Charge: \_\_\_\_\_ Grading: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Sex Offender  Violent Offender

Disposition for prior referral(s) (Check all that apply)

Informal Adjustment  YAP  
 Consent Decree  Formal Probation (Adjudication)  
 In  Out  Other  
 Out-of-home Placement

Disposition for current referral (Check all that apply)

Informal Adjustment  YAP  
 Consent Decree  Formal Probation (Adjudication)  
 In  Out  Other  
 Out-of-home Placement

Navigation Pane



# Process - Identifying Recidivism

## 2009 - 2012

- Recidivism defined as any of the following events occurring after the juvenile's 18<sup>th</sup> birthday but prior to his 21<sup>st</sup> birthday:
  - Criminal Arrest
  - Criminal Conviction
  - Criminal Incarceration
- Utilizing JNET by placing juveniles on “watch list” and receiving RAP Sheet when he reaches the age of 21

## 2013 - present

- Recidivism defined as any of the following events occurring after Probation Closeout up to 2 years after Closeout:
  - Arrest
  - Conviction or Adjudication
  - Incarceration or Out-of-Home Placement
- Utilizing JNET for juveniles who are over 18
- Utilizing JCMS for individuals under 18

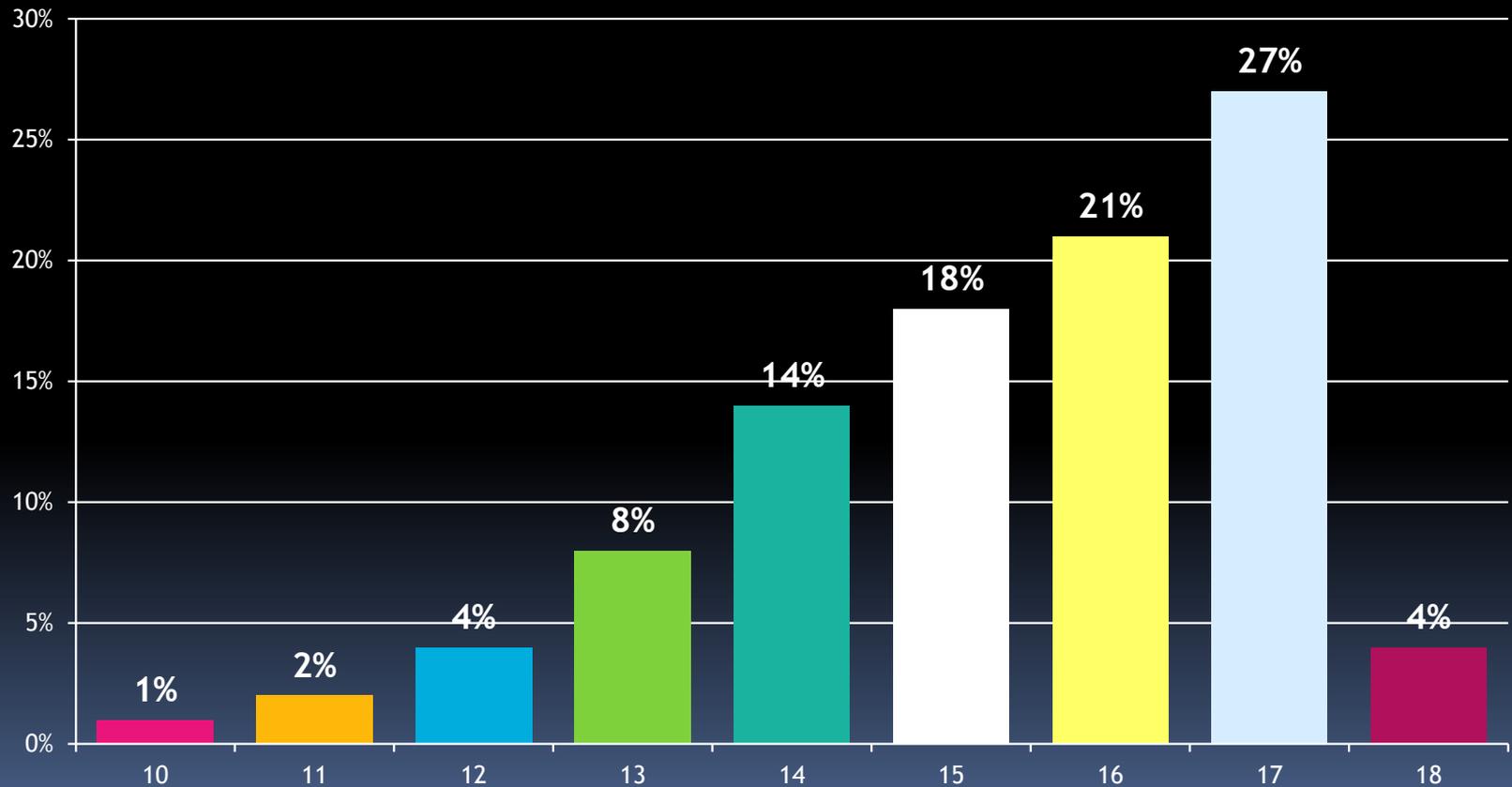
# Cumberland County 2009 - 2016

Year	Total Dispositions	Cases Closed out	Still Active	In Sample (after case closure until age 21)	Out of Sample (over age 21)	Maturity of Sample (Cases out of sample / Total Dispositions)
2009	328	328	0	30	298	91%
2010	283	280	3	48	229	81%
2011	304	301	3	105	196	64%
2012	271	266	5	161	105	39%
Totals	1186	1175	11	344	828	70%

Year	Total Dispositions	Cases Closed out	Still Active	In Sample (0 - 2 years after case closure)	Out of Sample (2 years + after case closure)	Maturity of Sample (Cases out of sample / Total Dispositions)
2013	283	265	18	109	156	55%
2014	286	261	25	256	5	2%
2015	211	146	65	146	0	0%
2016	-----	11	-----	11	0	0%
Totals	780	683	108	522	161	21%

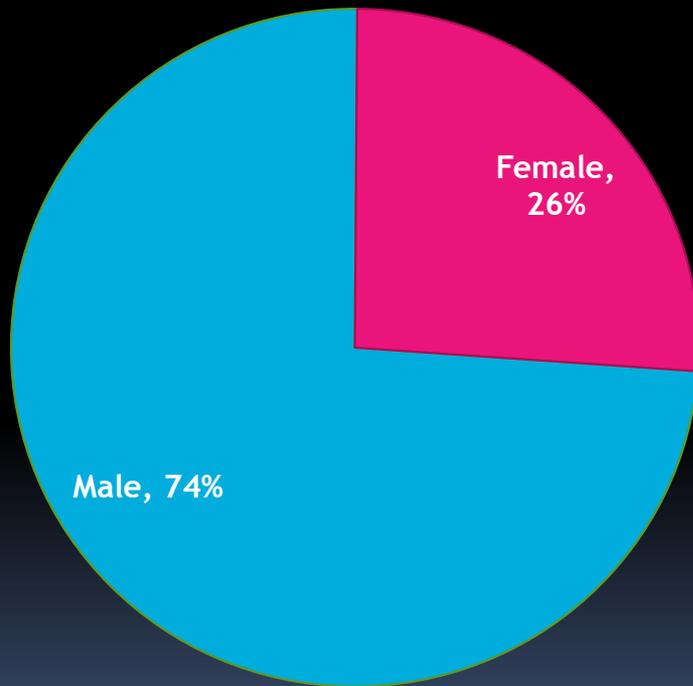
# Demographics

Age at initial Referral (n=1856)

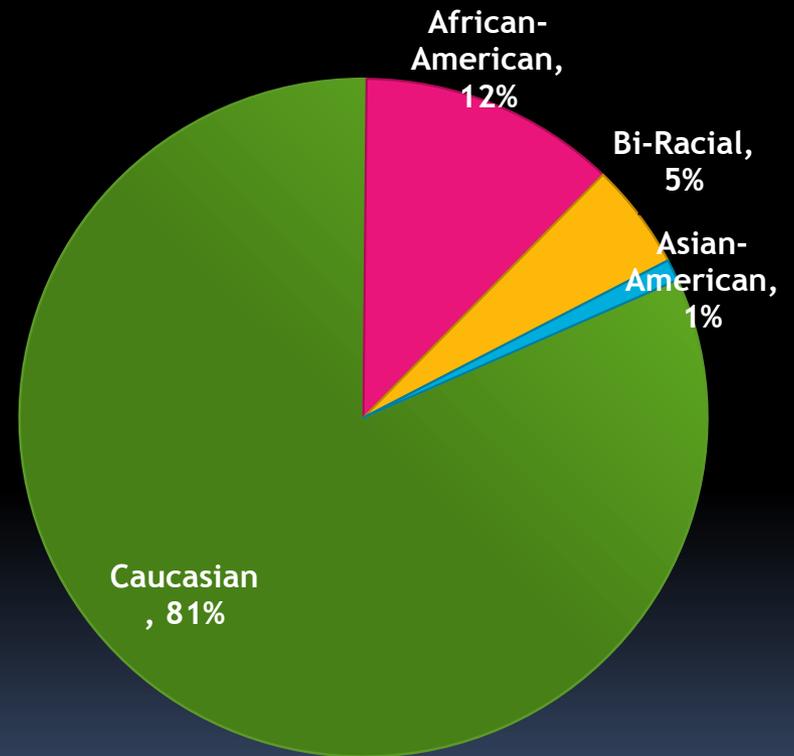


# Demographics

Gender (n=1857)

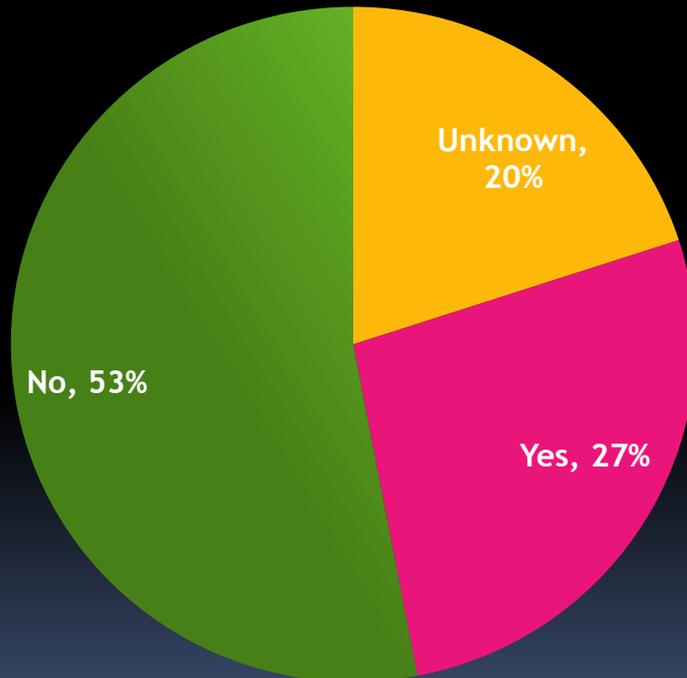


Race (n=1857)

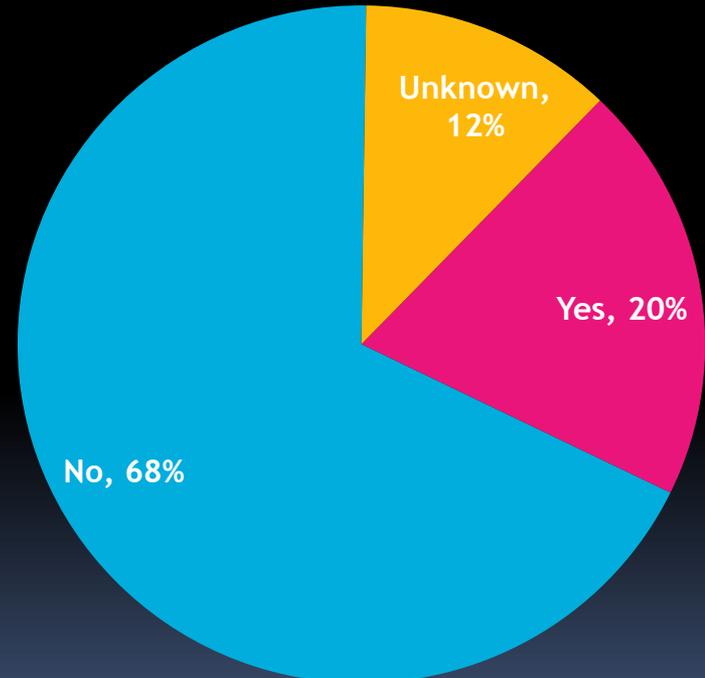


# Demographics

**Children and Youth involvement (n=1854)**

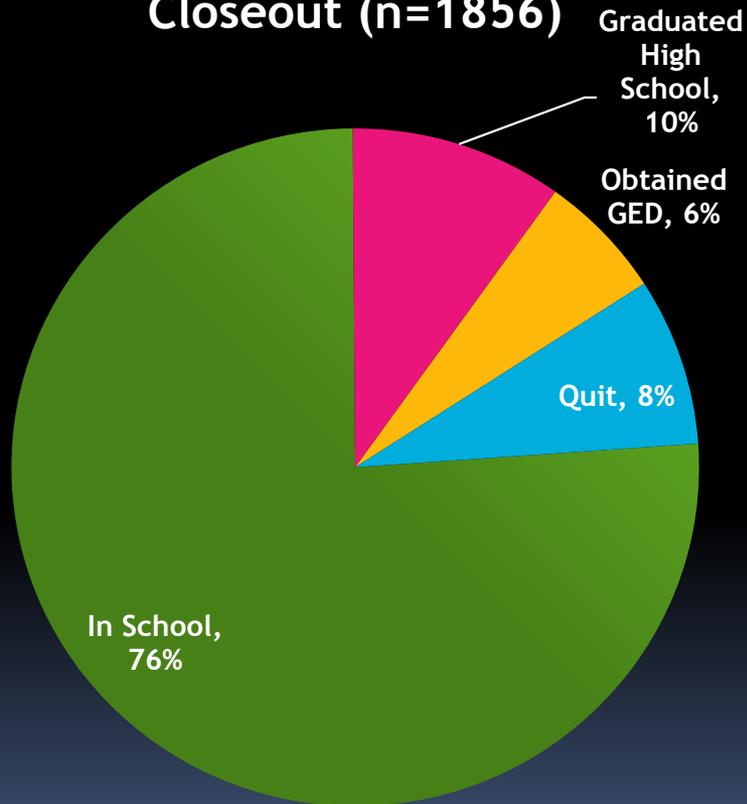


**Resides with both parents at Case Closeout (n=1857)**

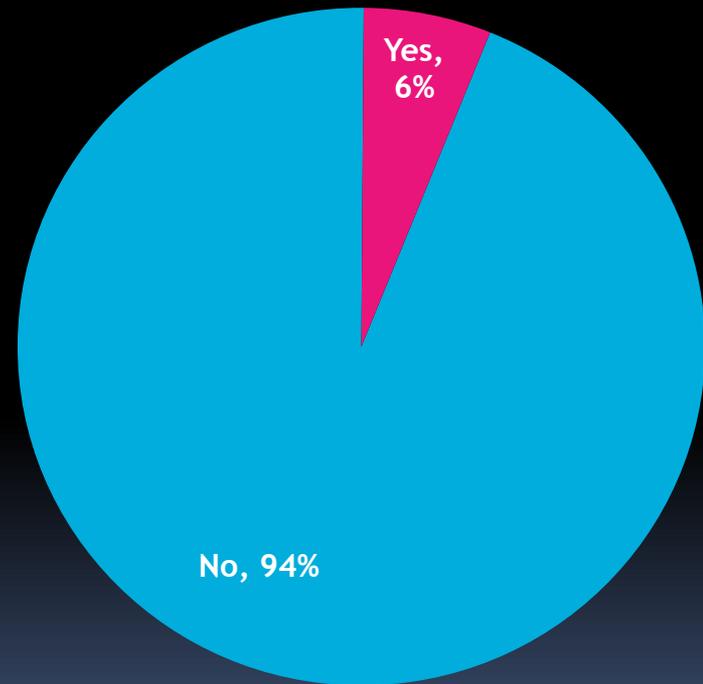


# Demographics

School Status at Case Closeout (n=1856)



Cyber School (n=1857)



# Demographics Highlights

- Age...
  - Younger juveniles were more likely to have previous involvement with Children and Youth
- Gender...
  - Has no connection to School Status, or Living Status
  - Females are twice as likely to be enrolled in Cyber School

# Demographics Highlights

- Race...
  - Has no impact on CYS involvement, School Status or Cyber School participation
  - Caucasians have a greater likelihood of living with both parents at closeout
- Living with both parents...
  - Was connected with lower levels of CYS involvement
  - Increases the likelihood that a juvenile remains in school or received a High School Diploma

# Supervision

Supervision factors	
Prior Record (n=1857)	14%
Multiple referrals within one year (n=1857)	11%
Violent Offense (n=1857)	26%
Sexual Offense (n=1857)	5%
Detention (n=1857)	16%
Arrested during Supervision (n=1855)	14%
Violation during Supervision (n=1855)	13%

Highest Grading on Petition		
	Misdemeanor	Felony
2009 (n=311)	77%	23%
2010 (n=241)	82%	18%
2011 (n=272)	87%	13%
2012 (n=241)	76%	24%
2013 (n=257)	80%	20%
2014 (n=255)	82%	18%

Disposition (n=1857)	
Youth Aid Panel	39%
Informal Adjustment	2%
Consent Decree	46%
Formal Probation	13%
Placement	7%

Length of Probation Supervision (n=1856)	
1 day - 3 months	13%
3 months - 6 months	41%
6 months - 12 months	29%
12 months - 18 months	6%
18 months - 24 months	5%
24 months +	7%

# Supervision Highlights

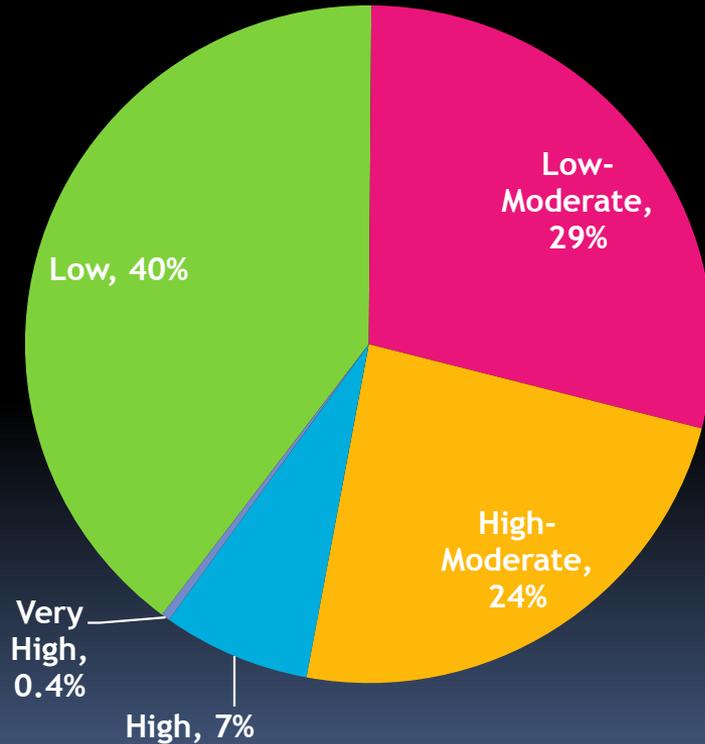
- Prior Record
  - Increases likelihood...
    - Multiple referrals in 1 year
    - Higher graded offense
    - Violent offense
    - Adjudication of Delinquency and Out of home Placement
    - Detention
    - Longer probation supervision
- Multiple referrals in 1 year
  - Increases likelihood...
    - Violent offenses
    - Adjudication of Delinquency and Out of home Placement
    - Detention
    - Longer probation supervision

# Assessment

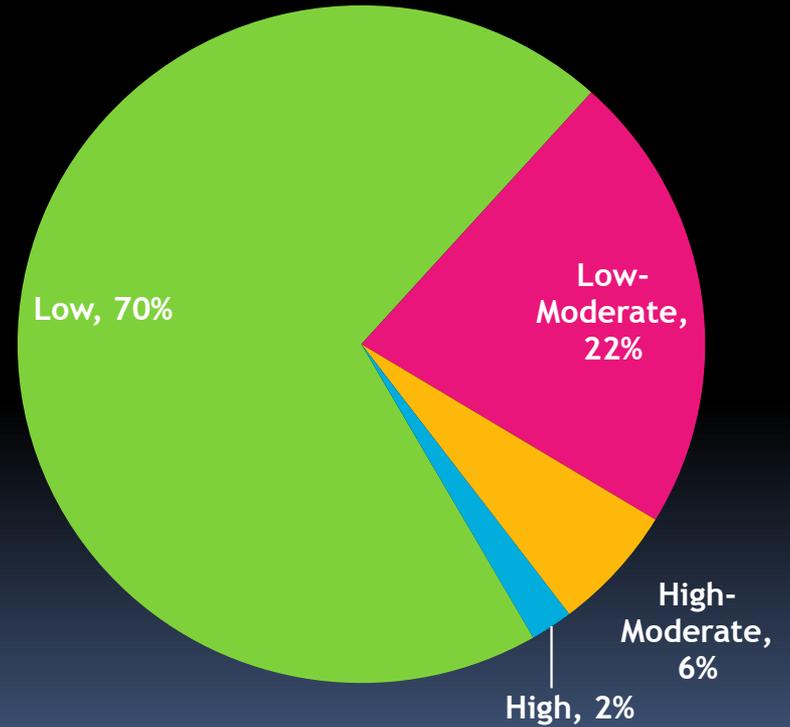
- YLS/CMI
  - Cumberland County utilizes following adjusted breakdown for overall scores
    - Low (0-8)
    - Low-Moderate (9-14)
    - High-Moderate (15-22)
    - High (22-34)
    - Very High (35-42)
  - Allows for greater flexibility in supervision levels tailored to risk level
  - Still displays a relation to recidivism variables

# Assessment

YLS<sub>i</sub> (n=1413)

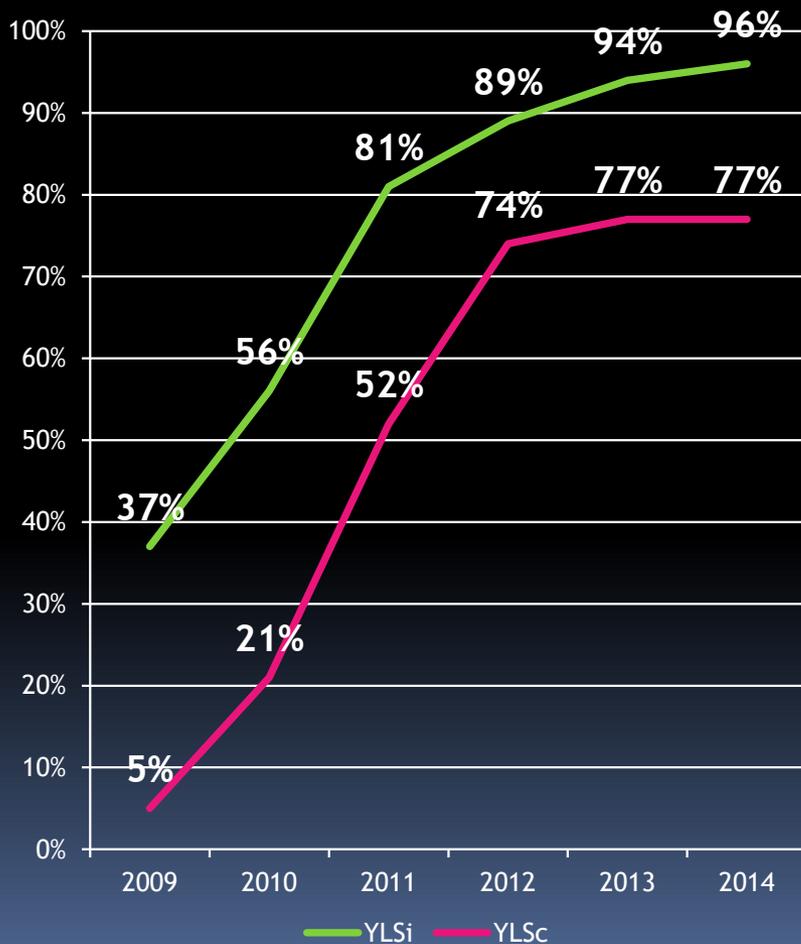


YLS<sub>c</sub> (n=921)

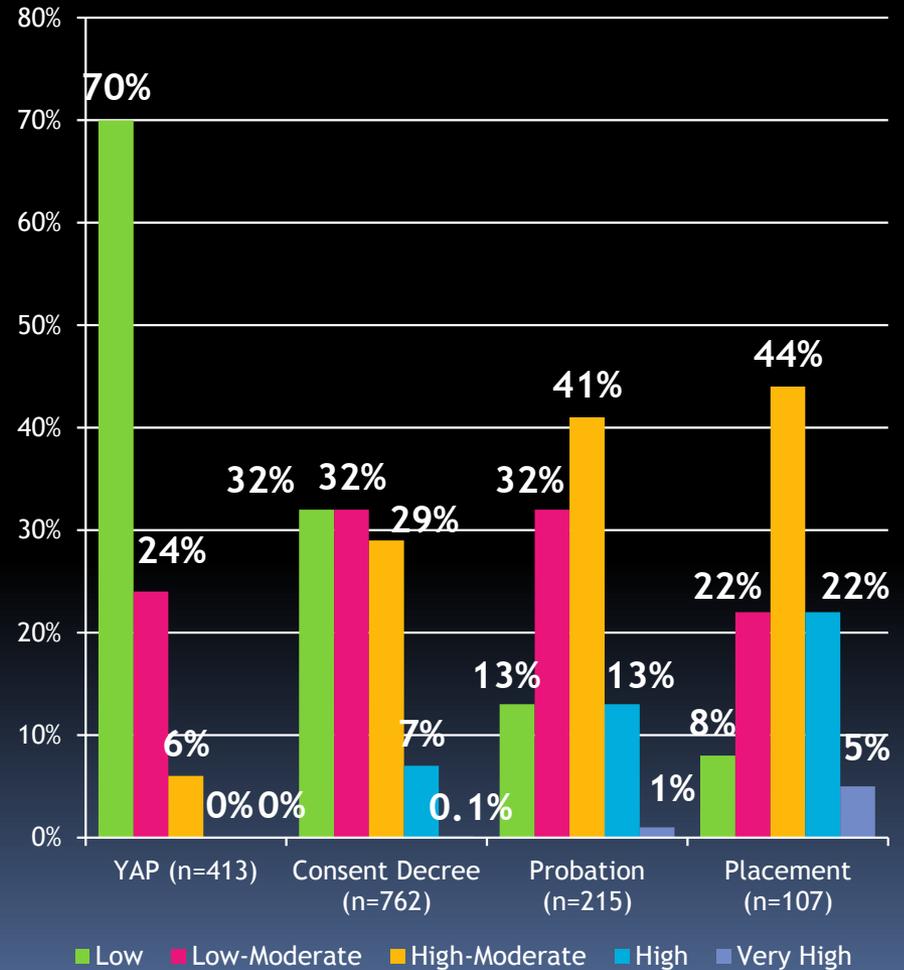


# Assessment

## YLS utilization by year

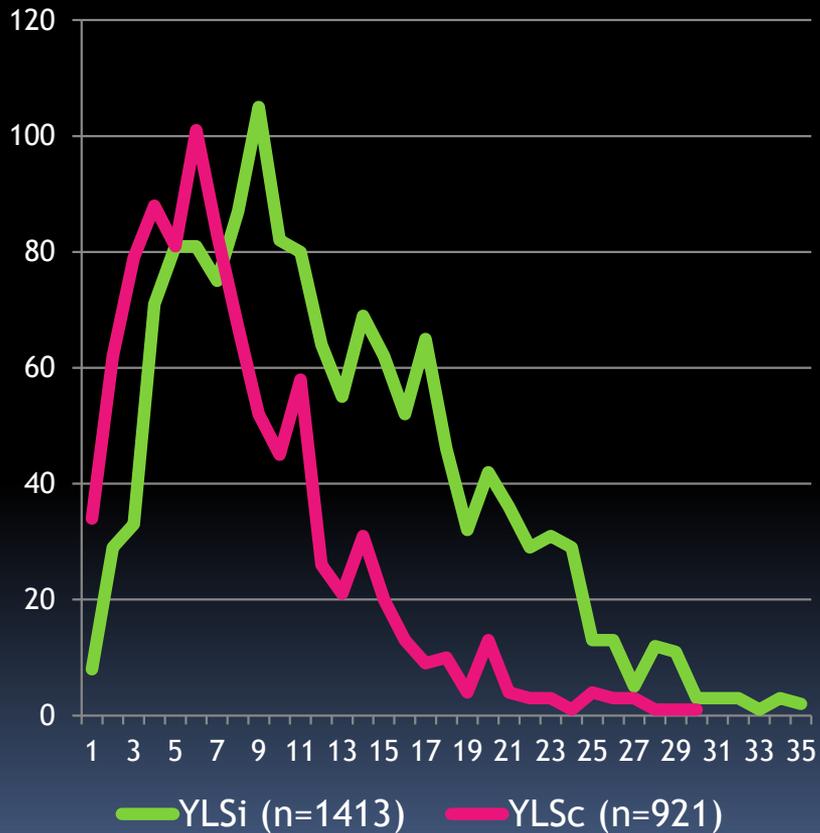


## Disposition by YLS, Risk Level

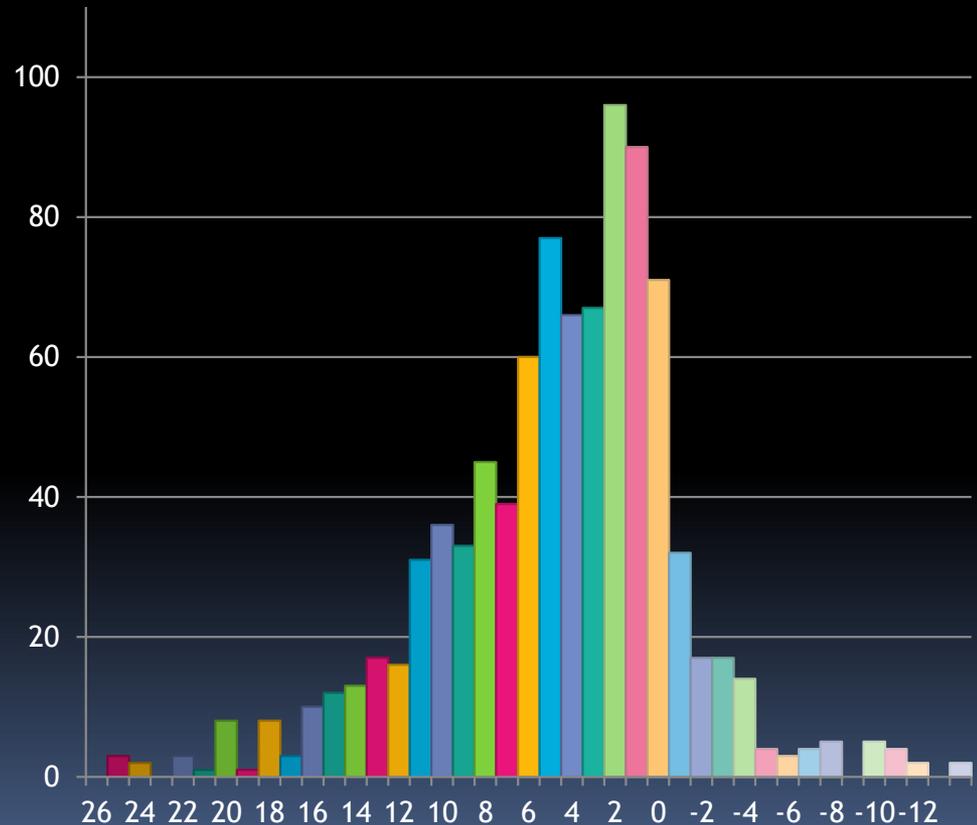


# Assessment

## YLS<sub>i</sub> and YLS<sub>c</sub> raw scores (2009-2016)



## Raw Risk Reduction (YLS<sub>i</sub> - YLS<sub>c</sub>)



# Assessment

		YLS <sub>i</sub>				
		Low	Low-Moderate	High-Moderate	High	Very High
YLS <sub>c</sub>	(n=917)					
	Low	29%	27%	12%	3%	0%
	Low-Moderate	1%	6%	12%	2%	0.2%
	High-Moderate	0.3%	1%	3%	2%	0.3%
	High	0%	0.2%	1%	0.3%	0%
	Very High	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%

3.5% juveniles increased risk

38.6% juveniles remained the same

57.9% reduced risk



# Assessment Highlights

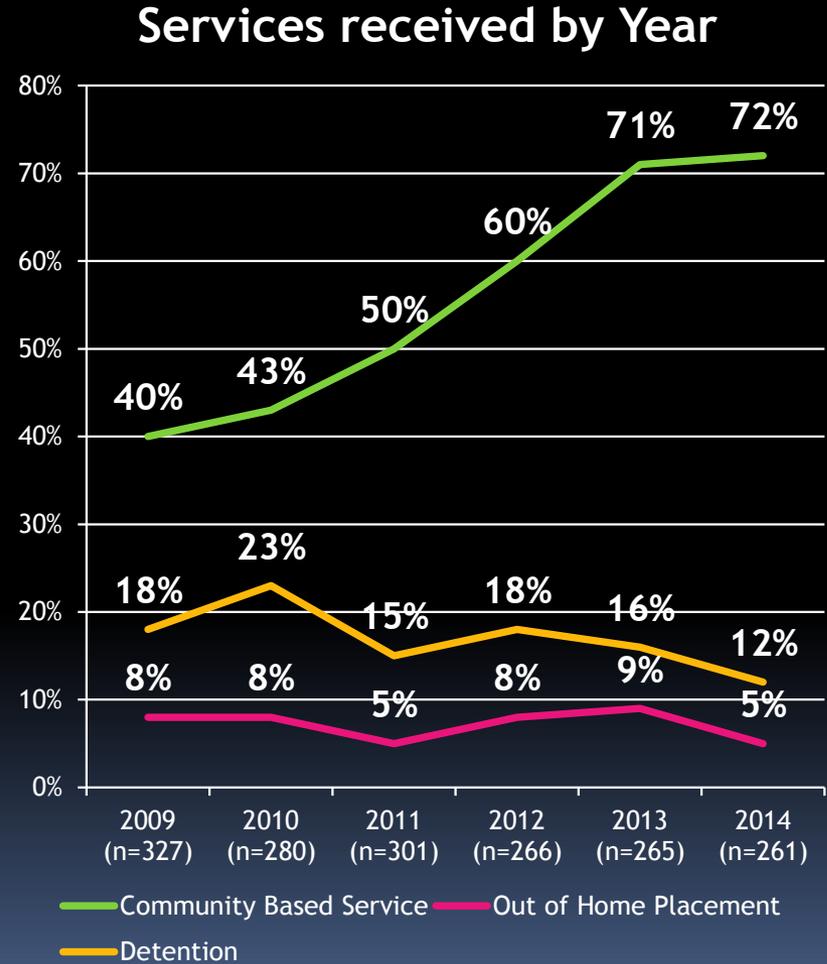
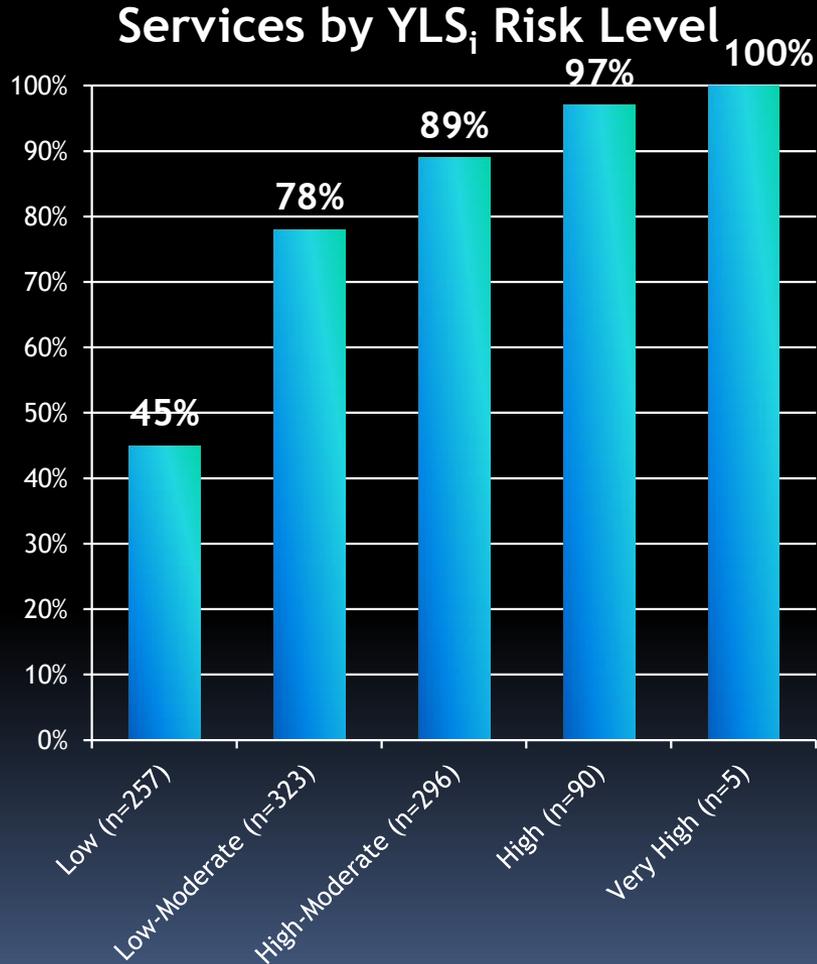
- Gender and Race have no impact on risk levels
  - Living with both parents reduces risk levels
  - Prior CYS involvement increases risk levels
  - Violent offenses have higher risk levels
  - Sexual offenses have lower risk levels
- 

# Services

Community Based Programs	
Condition Based In-Home 1:1 Services (n=497)	27%
Drug and Alcohol Outpatient (n=394)	21%
Outpatient Mental Health (n=288)	16%
Brief Intervention Toolkits (n=193)	10%
Weekend Programing (n=161)	9%
Day Treatment (n=167)	9%
MST Services (n=167)	9%
DUI school (n=65)	4%
Outpatient Sex Offense Treatment (n=32)	4%
CBI Group (n=60)	3%

Out-of-Home Programs	
Drug and Alcohol Inpatient (n=149)	8%
Manos (n=67)	4%
Mental Health RTF (n=56)	3%
ARC (n=33)	2%
Youth Services Agency (n=29)	2%
Foster Care (n=34)	2%
Inpatient Hospitalization (n=13)	2%
George Jr Republic (n=26)	1%
Glen Mills (n=20)	1%
Sex Offense RTF (n=8)	0.4%

# Services



# Services Highlights

- Remember overall 58% of juveniles in Cumberland County displayed risk reduction from  $YLS_i$  to  $YLS_c$
- Several Community Based programs are reducing risk greater rate than the 58% baseline
  - MST Services - 67% risk reduction
  - Condition Based 1:1 programming - 71% risk reduction
  - Cognitive Behavioral Intervention Groups - 85% risk reduction

# Recidivism

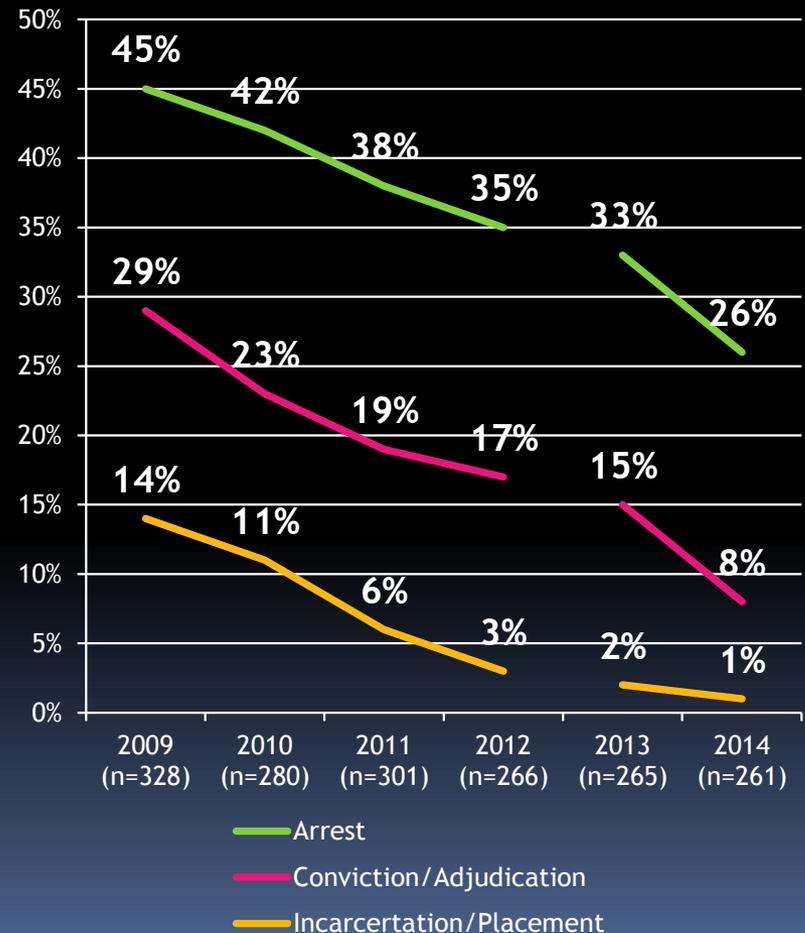
## 2009-2012 (n=1175)

- Criminal Arrest - 40%
- Criminal Conviction - 22%
- Criminal Incarceration - 9%

## 2013-2014 (n=526)

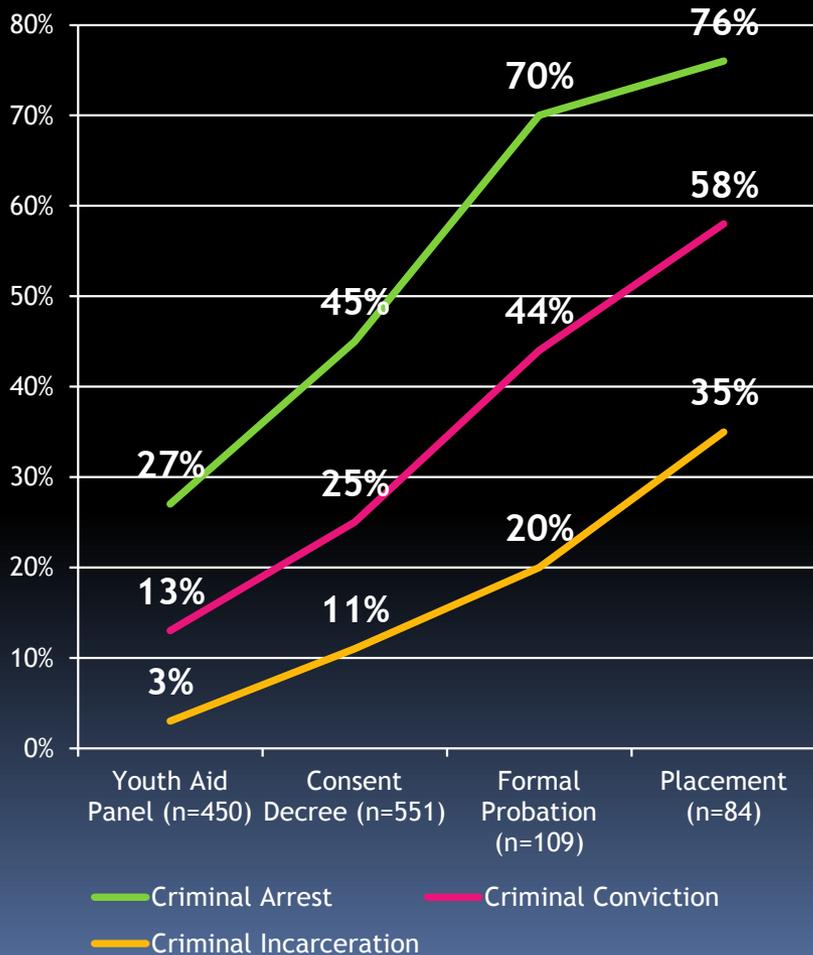
- Arrest - 30%
- Conviction/Adjudication - 11%
- Incarceration/Placement - 1%

## Recidivism (2009-2014)

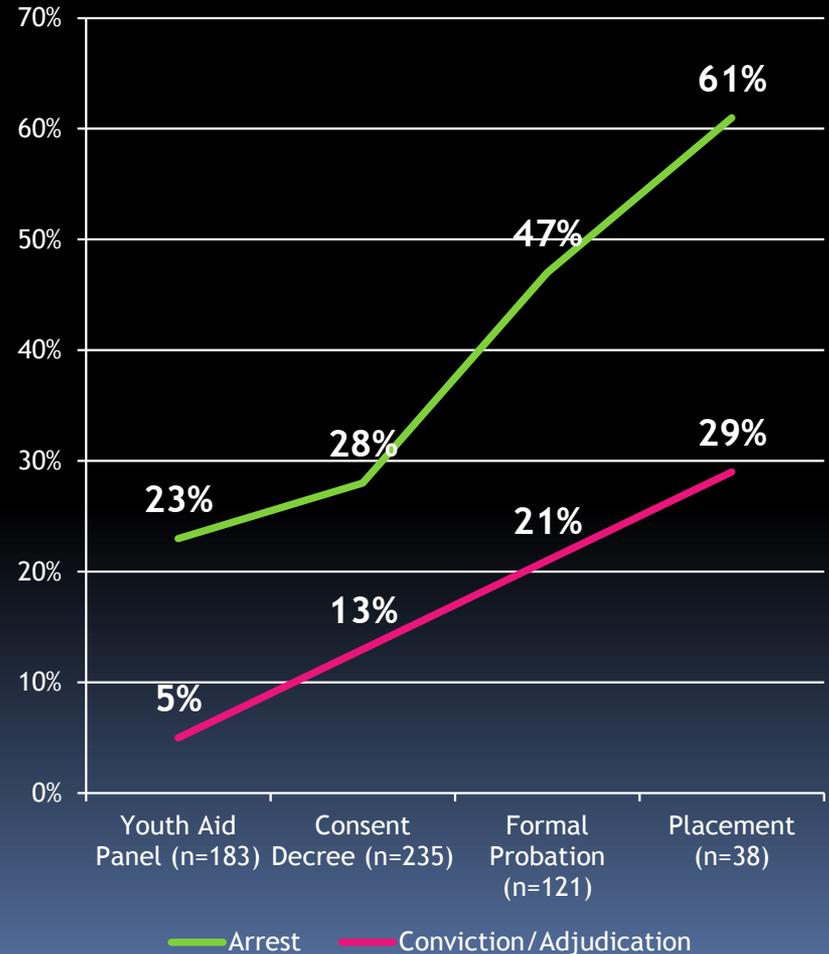


# Recidivism

## Recidivism by Disposition (2009-2012)

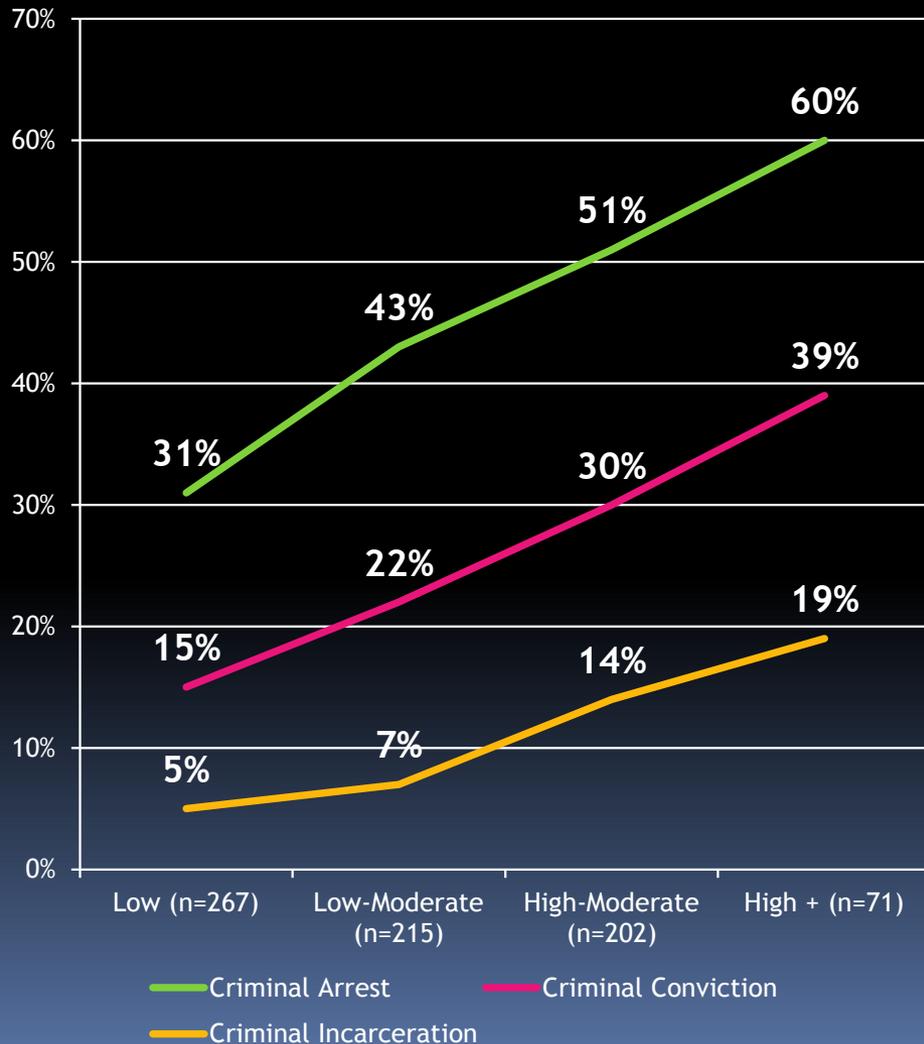


## Recidivism by Disposition (2013-2014)

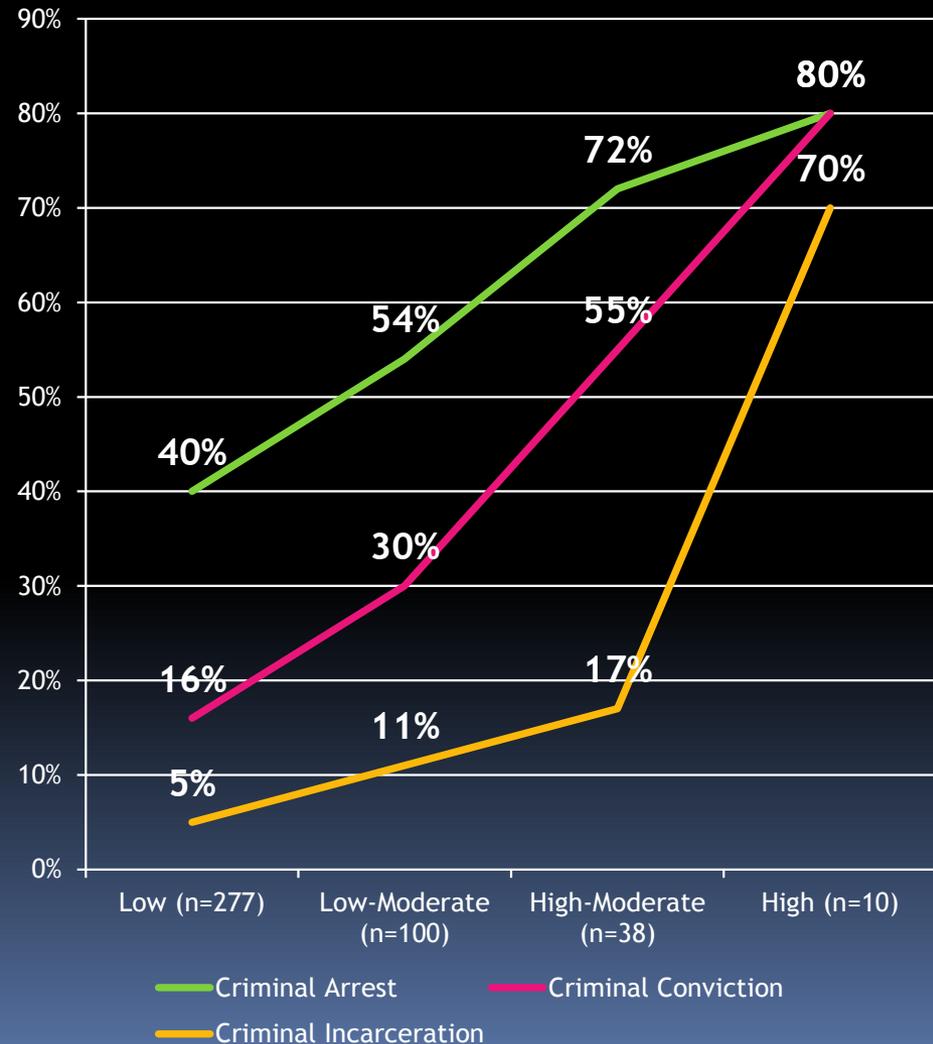


# Recidivism

## Recidivism by YLS<sub>i</sub> (2009-2012)

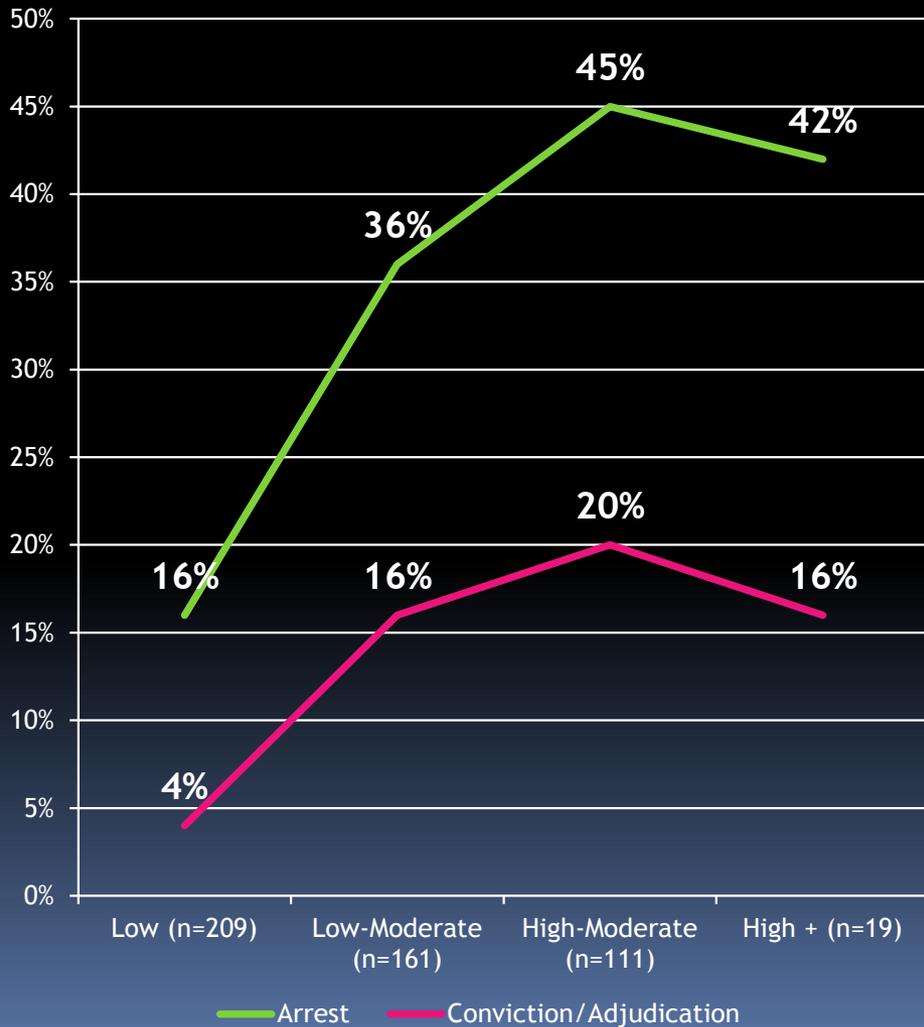


## Recidivism by YLS<sub>c</sub> (2009-2012)

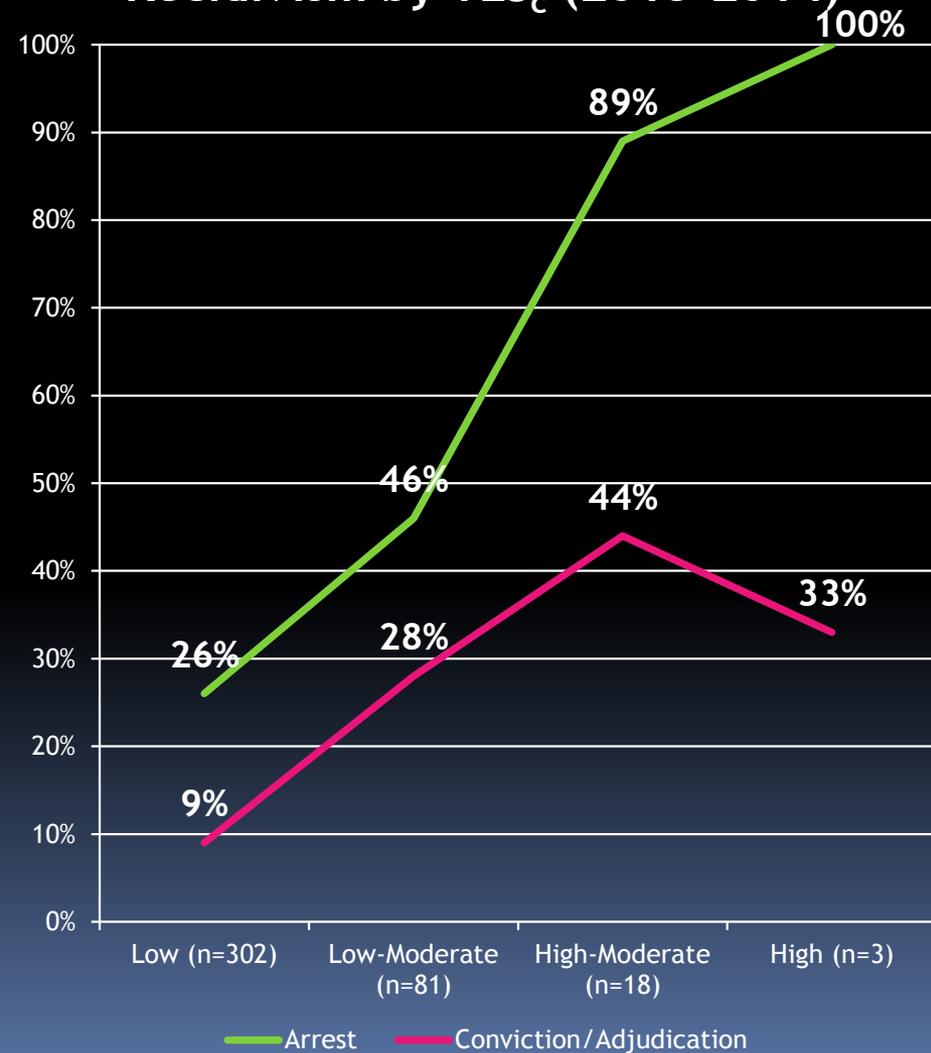


# Recidivism

## Recidivism by YLS<sub>i</sub> (2013-2014)

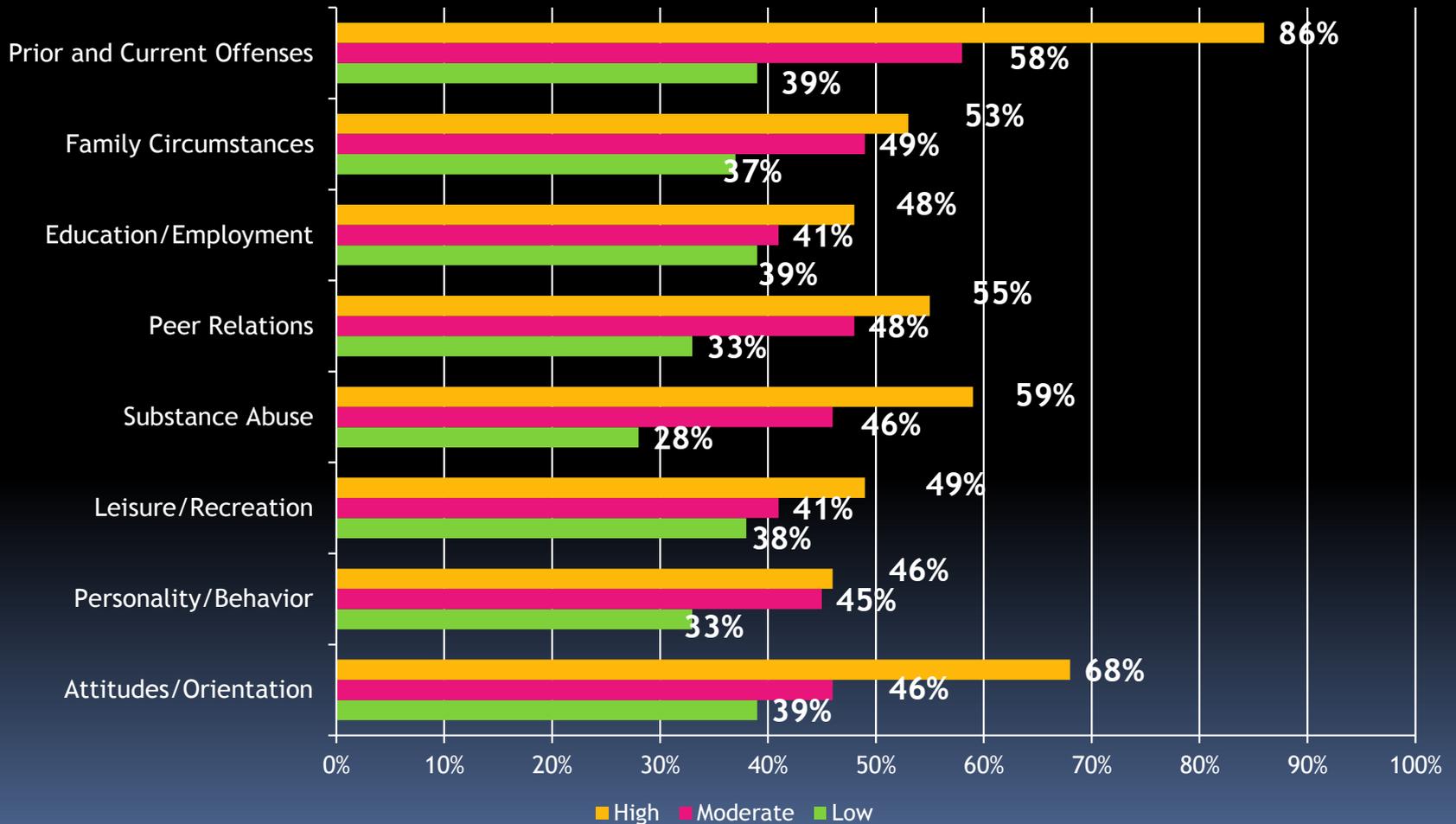


## Recidivism by YLS<sub>c</sub> (2013-2014)



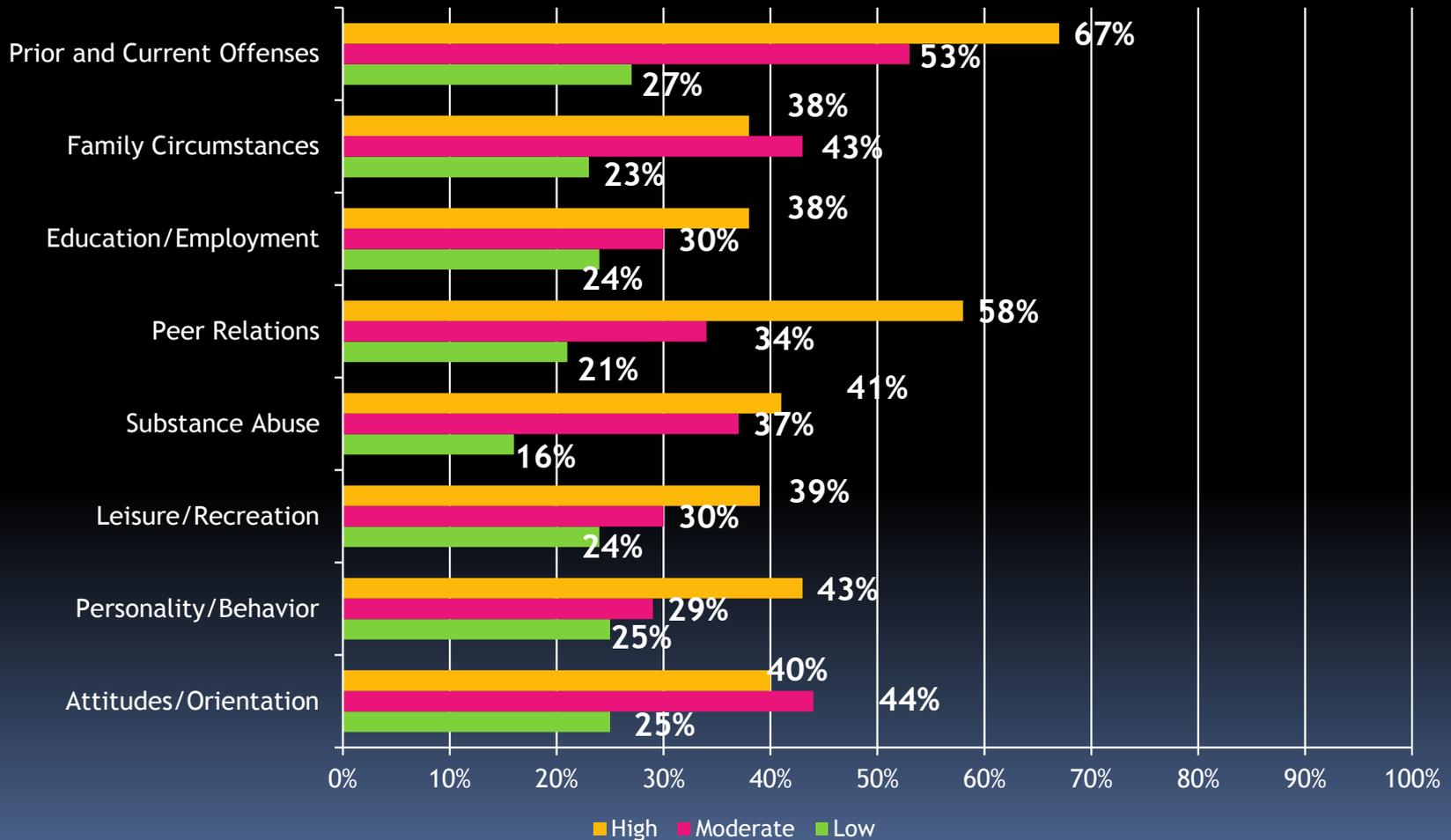
# Recidivism

Arrest by YLS<sub>i</sub> Domains (2009-2012) (n=755)



# Recidivism

Arrest by YLS<sub>i</sub> Domains (2013-2014) (n=500)



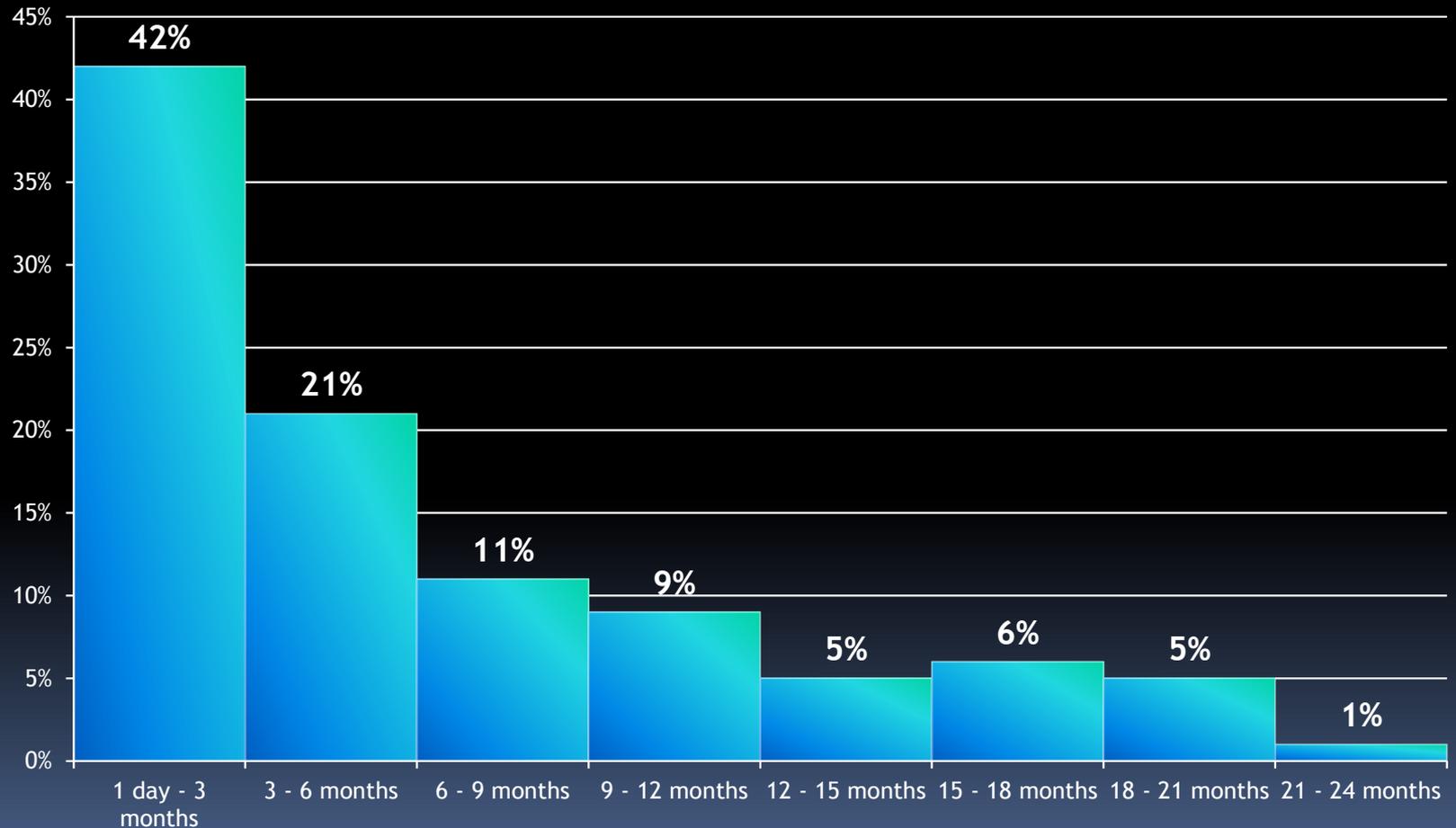
# Return on Investment



- This chart displays year over year costs associated with juveniles under supervision who were later incarcerated between the ages of 18 and 21.
- In **green font**, yearly savings are listed based on the reduced number of juvenile's incarcerated.
- From 2009 through 2012, there was an estimated total savings of **\$240,570.00**.

*Costs were calculated by factoring the number of juveniles incarcerated each year multiplied by a \$74.25 average daily cost per inmate multiplied by an average of 90 days per PA DOC*

# Time Lapse to Re-Arrest (2013-2016)





# Conclusion

- JJSES and the introduction of Evidence Based Practices has had a significant impact on Cumberland County Juvenile Probation. There has been year over year reductions in recidivism since the start of the study.
  - Probation involvement has a positive impact on a juvenile's risk to re-offend.
  - Certain programs also have a strong link to risk reduction.
  - The YLS assessment appears to be significantly linked to recidivism.
  - There are significant savings tied to the decrease of juveniles ending up in prison (Yearly average - \$80,190.00).
  - Juveniles are most susceptible to re-arrest soon after they are released from supervision.
- 