

The Rising Cost of Jails

April 15, 2021
1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.



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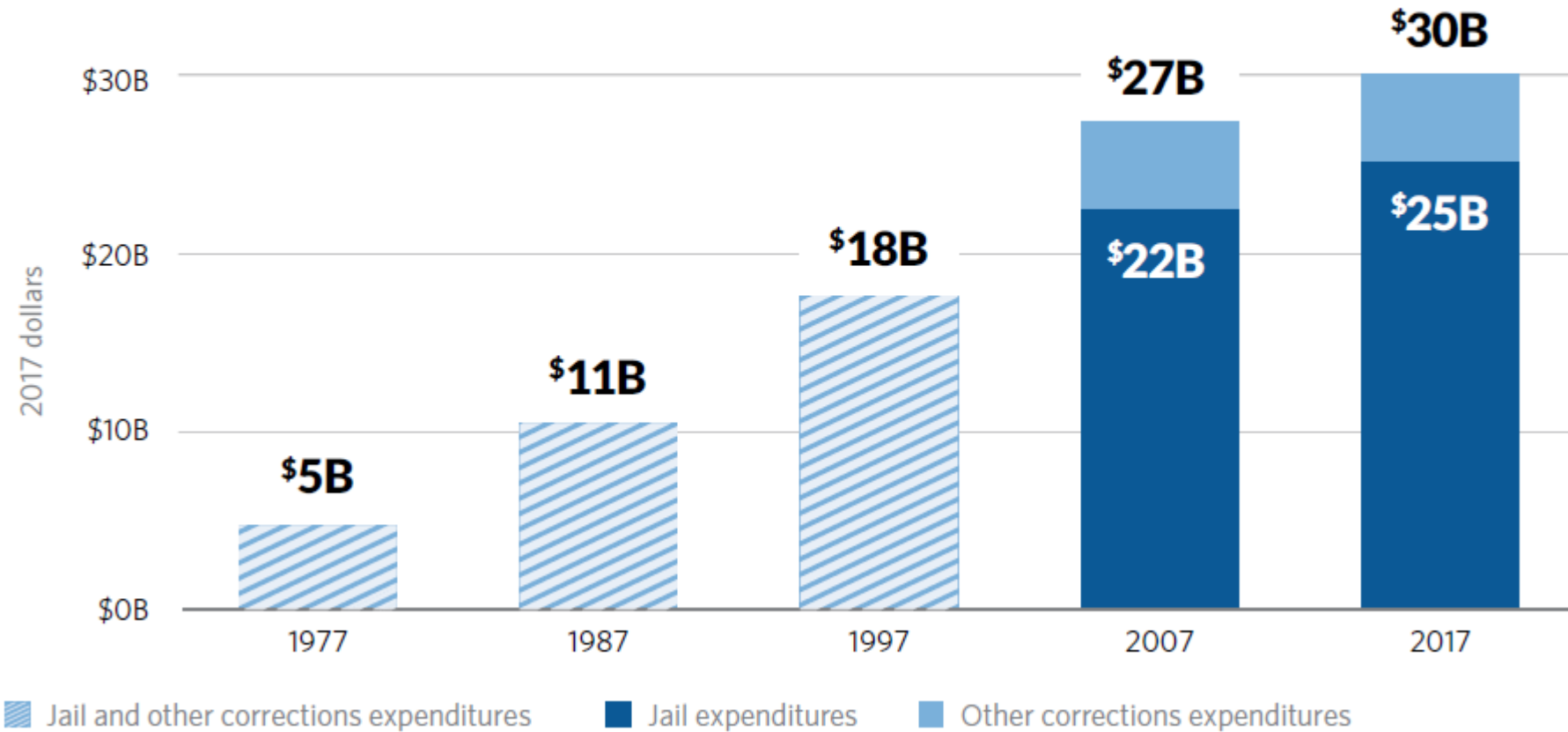
THE PEW CHARITABLE TRUSTS



Local Spending on Jails Tops \$25 Billion in Latest Nationwide Data

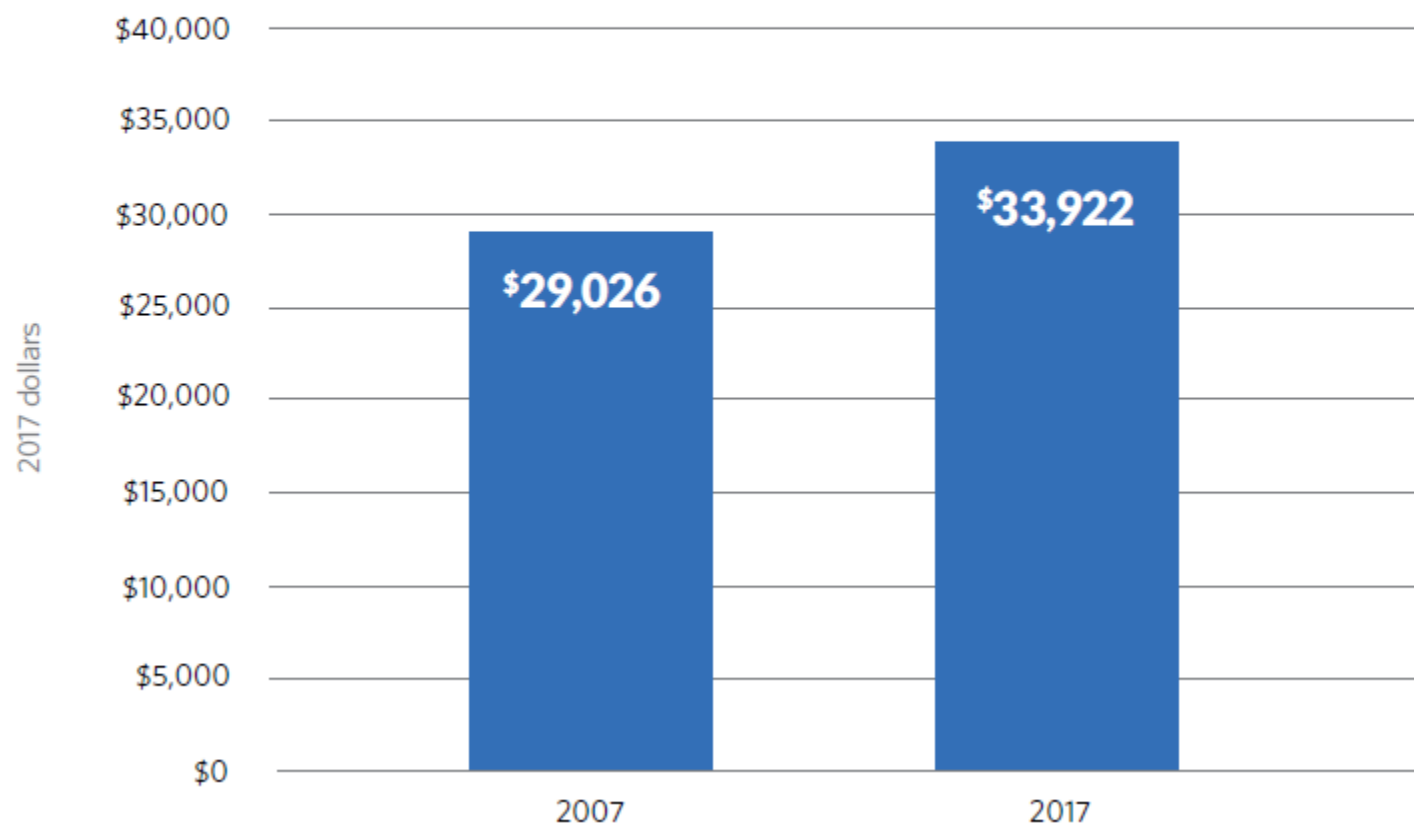
Jail Costs Increased 13%, to \$25 Billion, Between 2007 and 2017

Total local corrections expenditures, 1977 to 2017



Local Governments Spent Almost \$34,000 for Each Occupied Jail Space in 2017

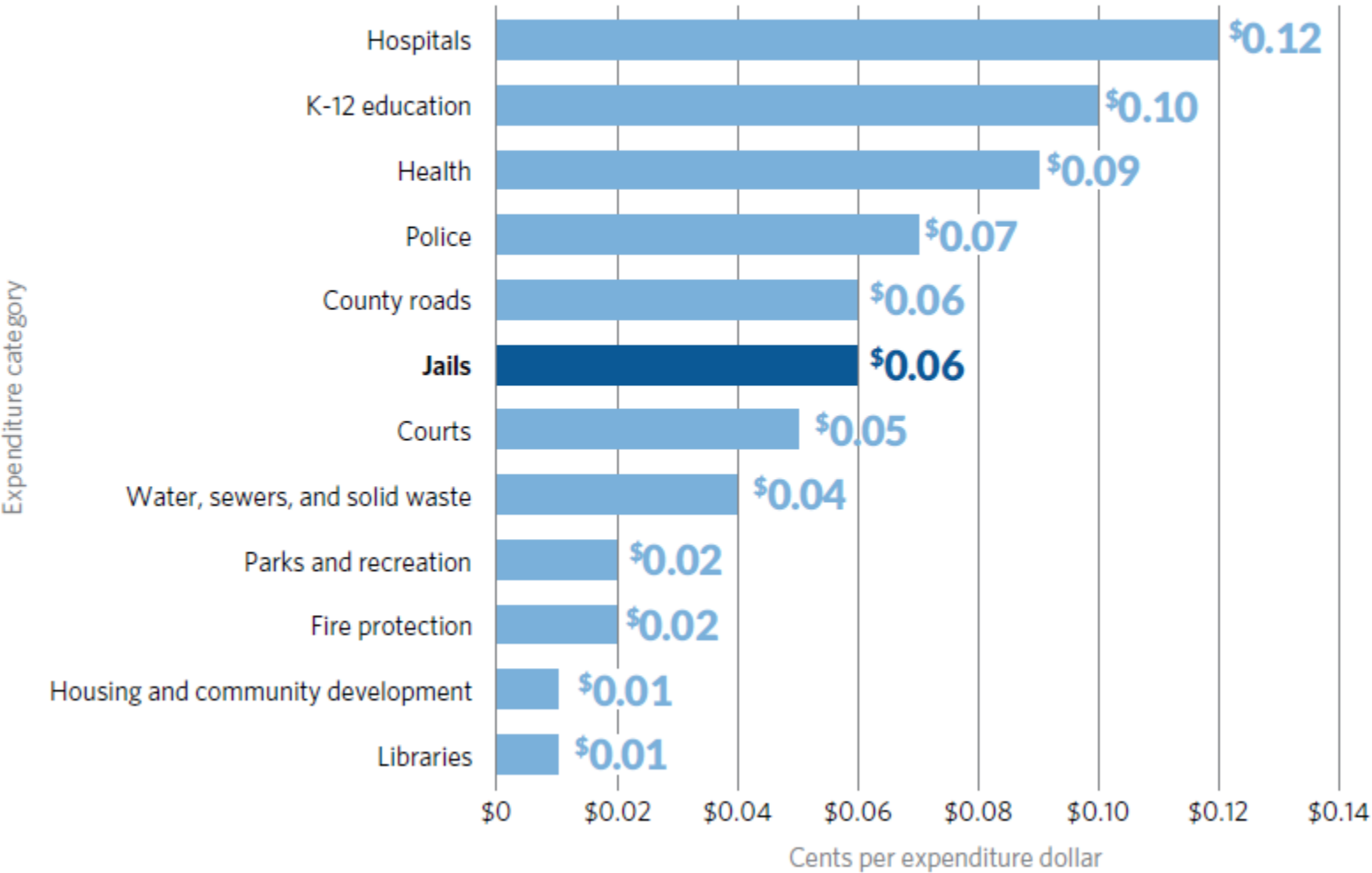
Average annual cost per occupied bed, 2007 and 2017



Cost calculated based on total annual local direct jail expenditures divided by average daily population

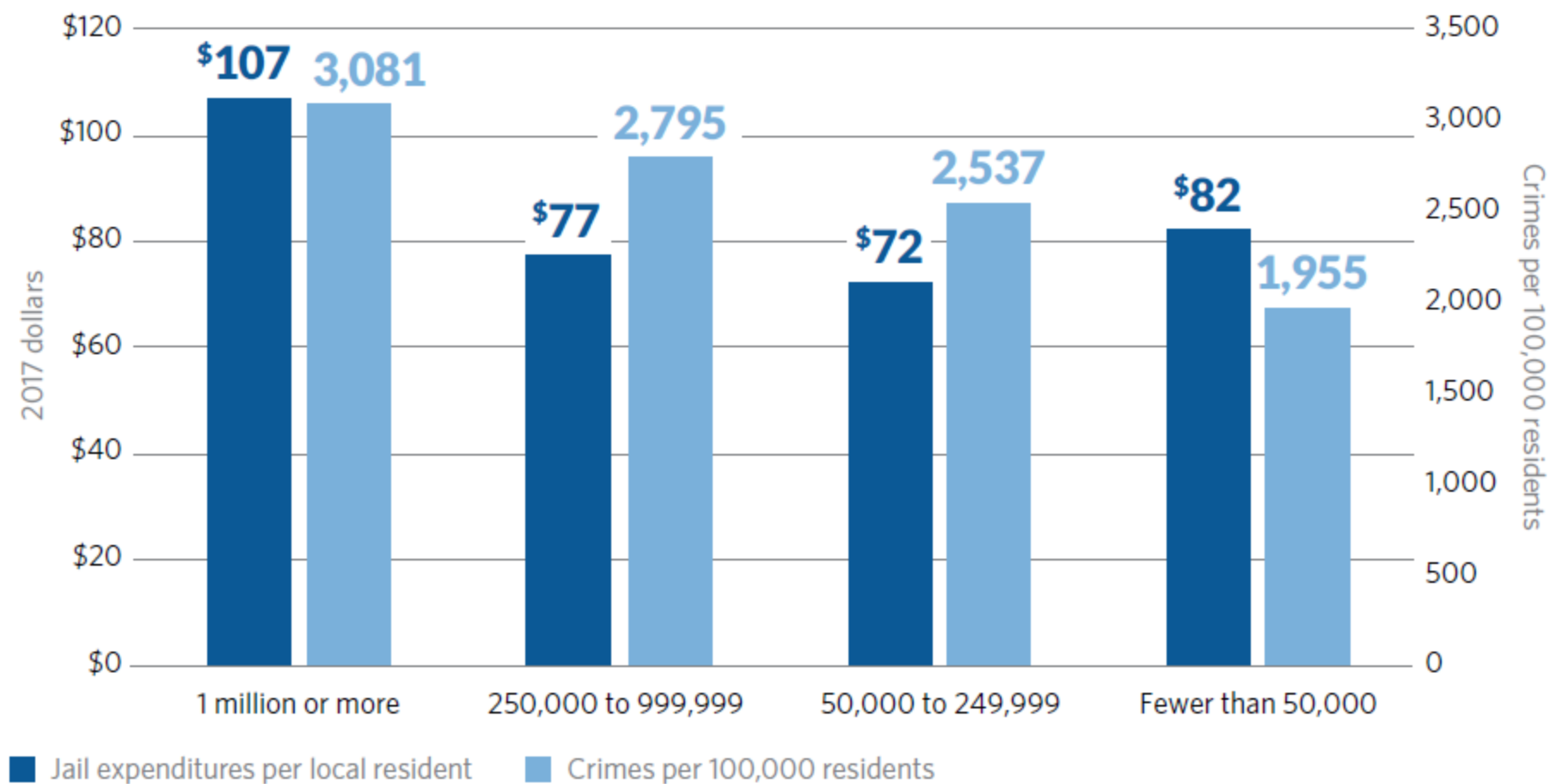
1 in 17 County Dollars Goes to Jails

Share of county spending by function, 2017



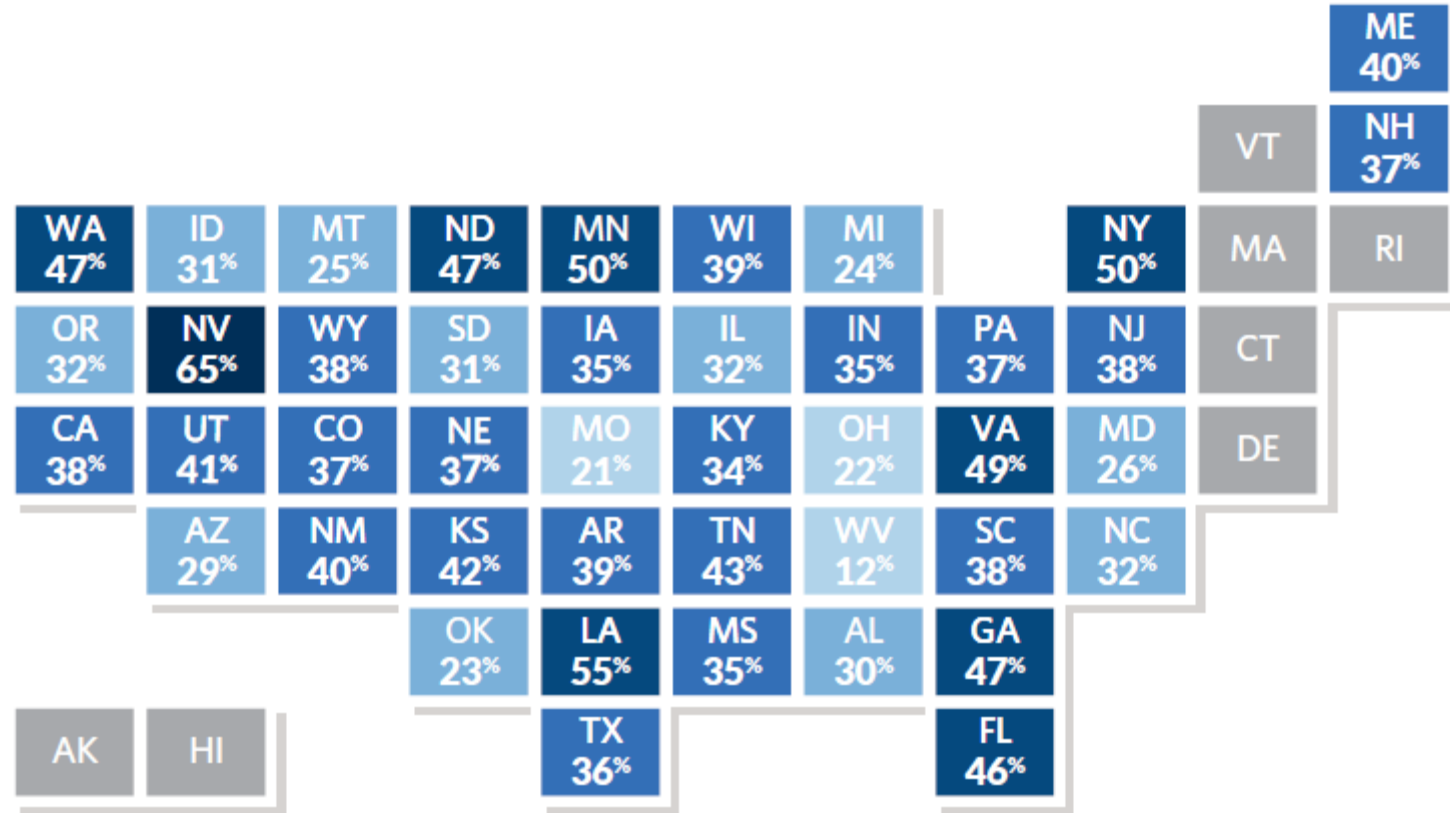
Small Localities Had the Least Crime but the Second-Most Per Capita Jail Spending

Jail expenditures per local resident and crime rates, 2017



Jails Account for Almost 2 in 5 Local and State Corrections Dollars

City and county jail expenditures as a percentage of all correctional facilities spending by state, 2017

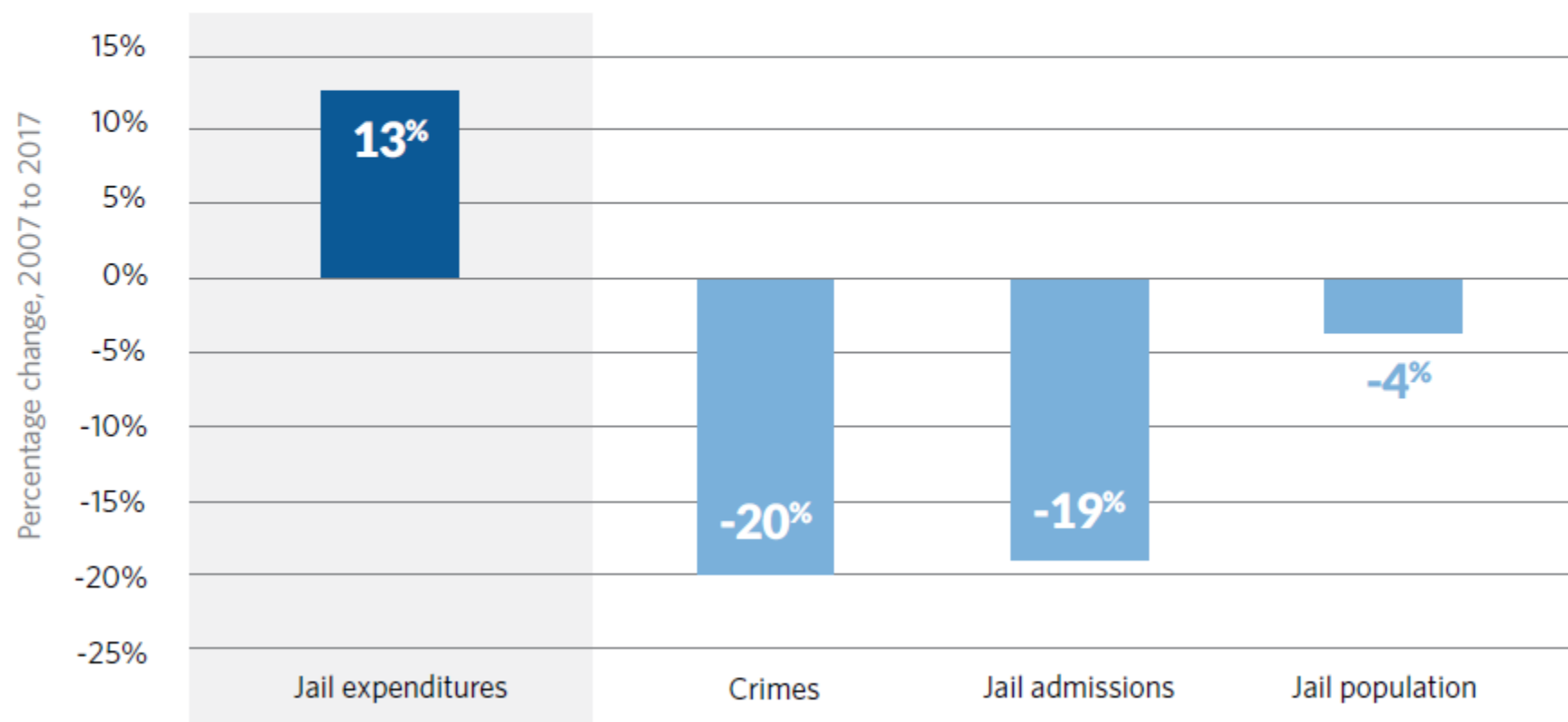


Local jails' share of all correctional facility expenditures

12%-22% 23%-33% 34%-44% 45%-55% 56%-66%

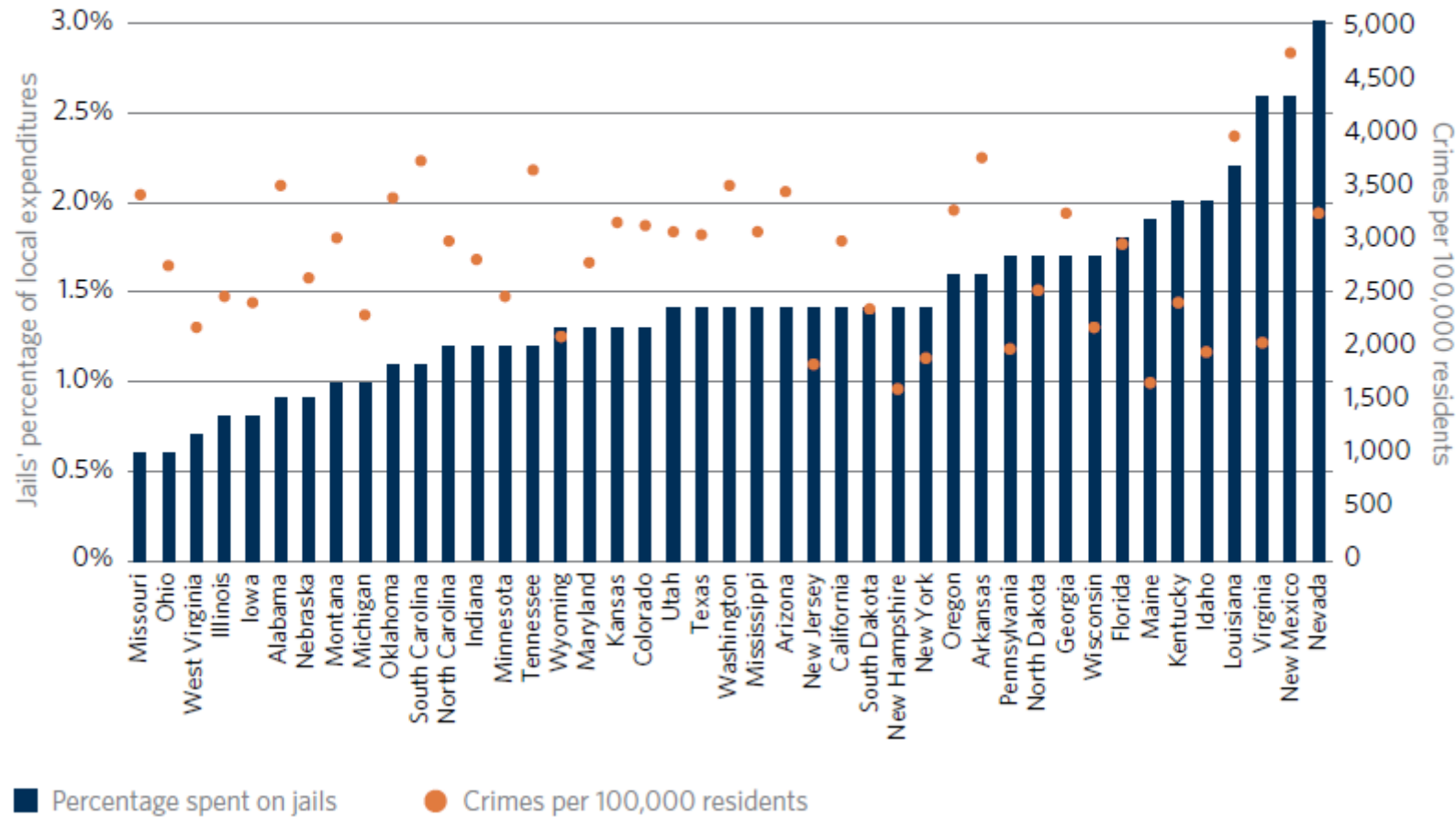
Falling Crime and Jail Admissions Did Not Translate Into Taxpayer Savings

Percentage change in crime and jail admissions, population, and expenditures, 2007 to 2017



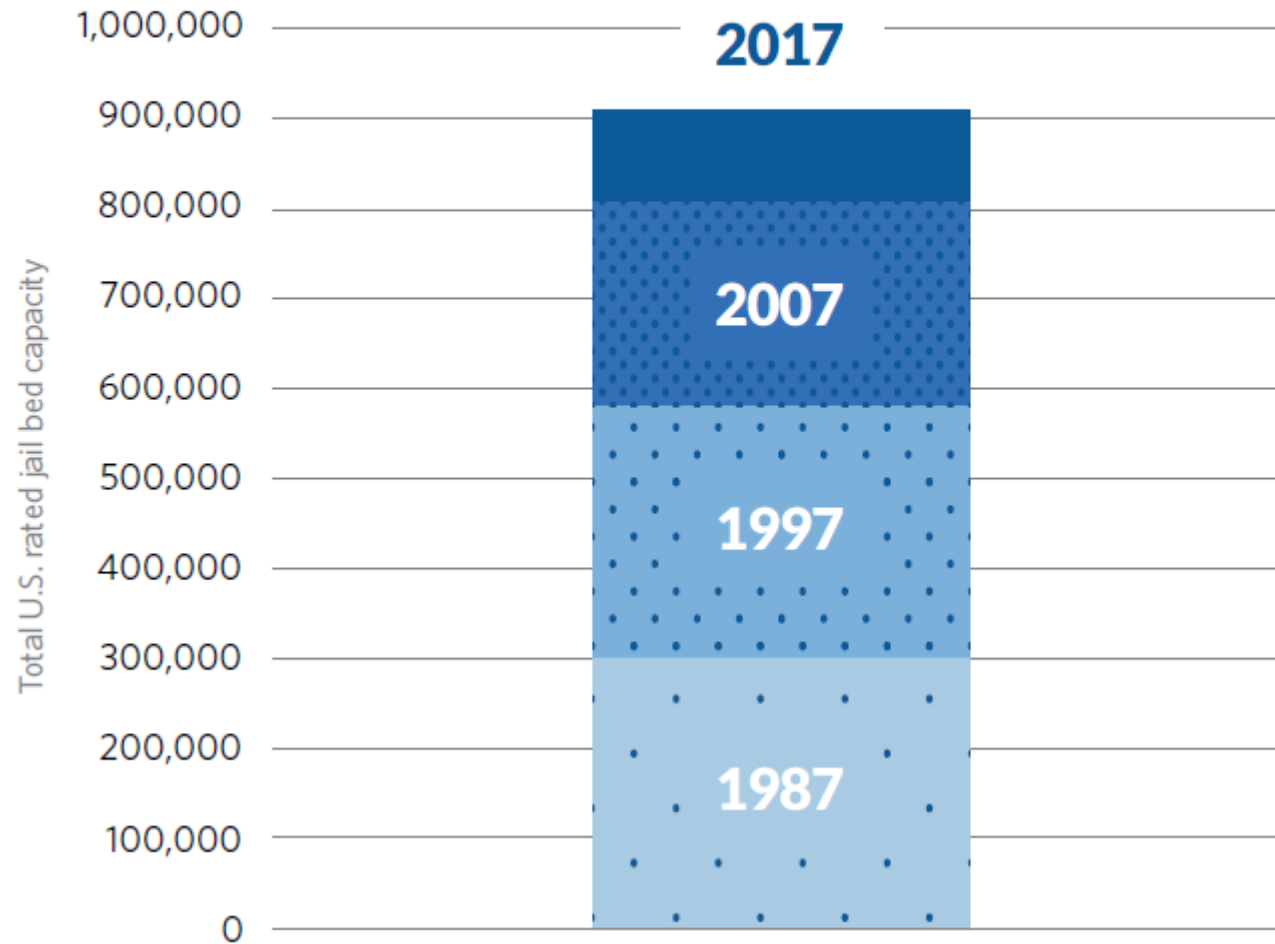
State Crime Rates Were Not Correlated With Jail Spending

Jail expenditures as a percentage of local spending, compared with crime rate by state, 2017



About a Third of Jail Space in the U.S. Is 30 Years Old or Older

Total national jail capacity, 1987 to 2017



Thank you!

Tracy Velázquez
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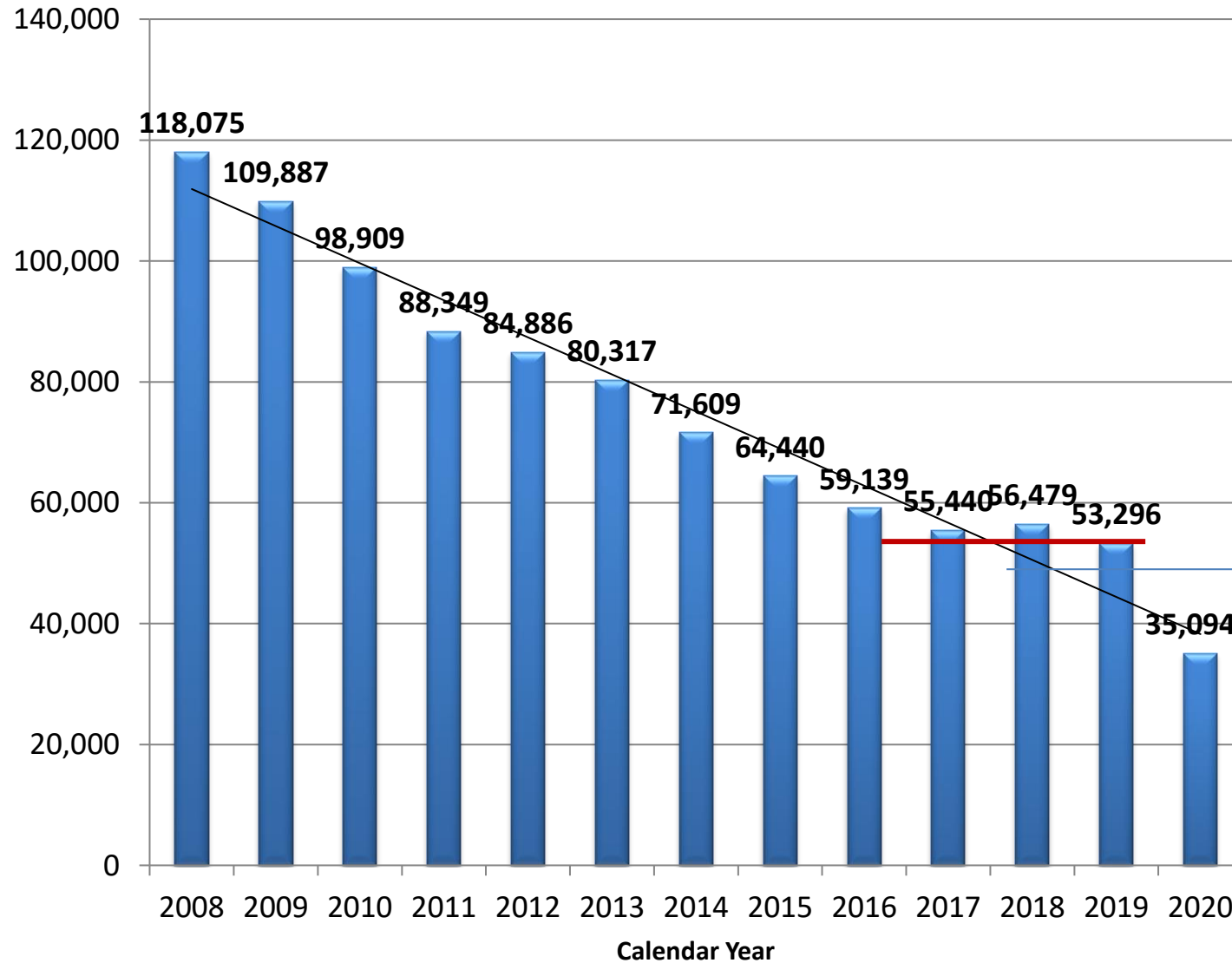
MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FL COUNTY COMMISSIONER SALLY HEYMAN

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Miami-Dade County Corrections & Rehabilitation Department
Director, Daniel Junior

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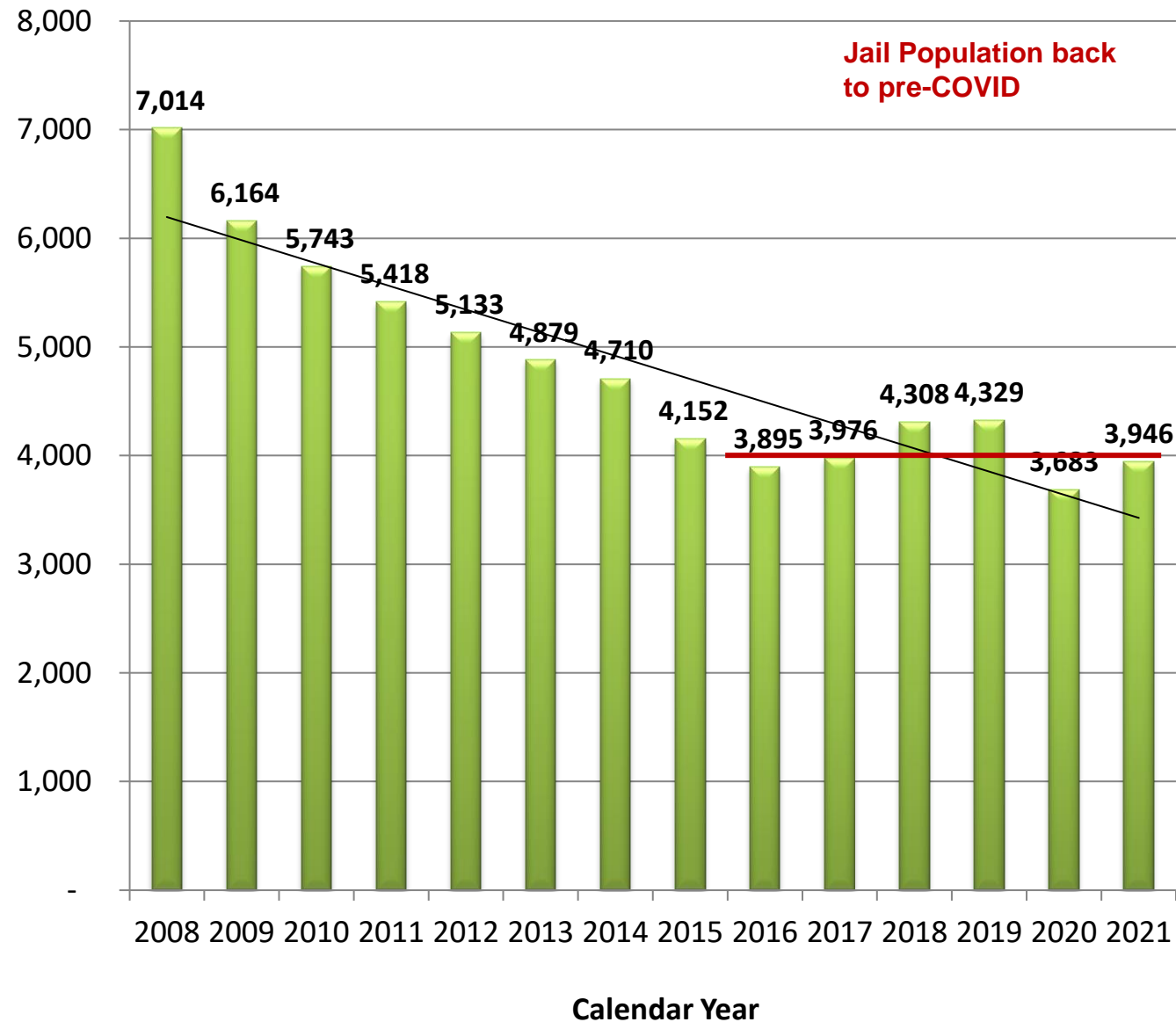
TOTAL NUMBER OF BOOKINGS BY YEAR



Background

- ADP has declined as the number of total bookings (arrests) has declined
- Total bookings (arrests) stabilized in last 3 years prior to COVID-19
- Decline in arrests is a national trend
- Department of Justice's Bureau of Justice Statistics, Arrest in the United States, 1990-2010 found:
 - DOJ report showed a substantial drop of arrests between 2000 and 2010 reaching lower levels since 1990

AVERAGE DAILY POPULATION BY YEAR



Background

- Average Daily Population (ADP) of inmates has ranged from a high of 7,000 to low of 3,900 (2016)
- ADP has stabilized in last 3 years prior to COVID-19
- Decrease in ADP has allowed MDCR to depopulate 3 facilities:
 - North Dade Correctional Center (144) beds (Decommissioned in 2007, 33 years old)
 - Women's Detention Center (203 beds) (Decommissioned in 2012, 34 years old)
 - Training and Treatment Center (822 beds) (Decommissioned in 2016, 34 years old, 62 years old)

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY INITIATIVES TO REDUCE JAIL POPULATION

- **Cashless Bond Ad-Hoc Committee**

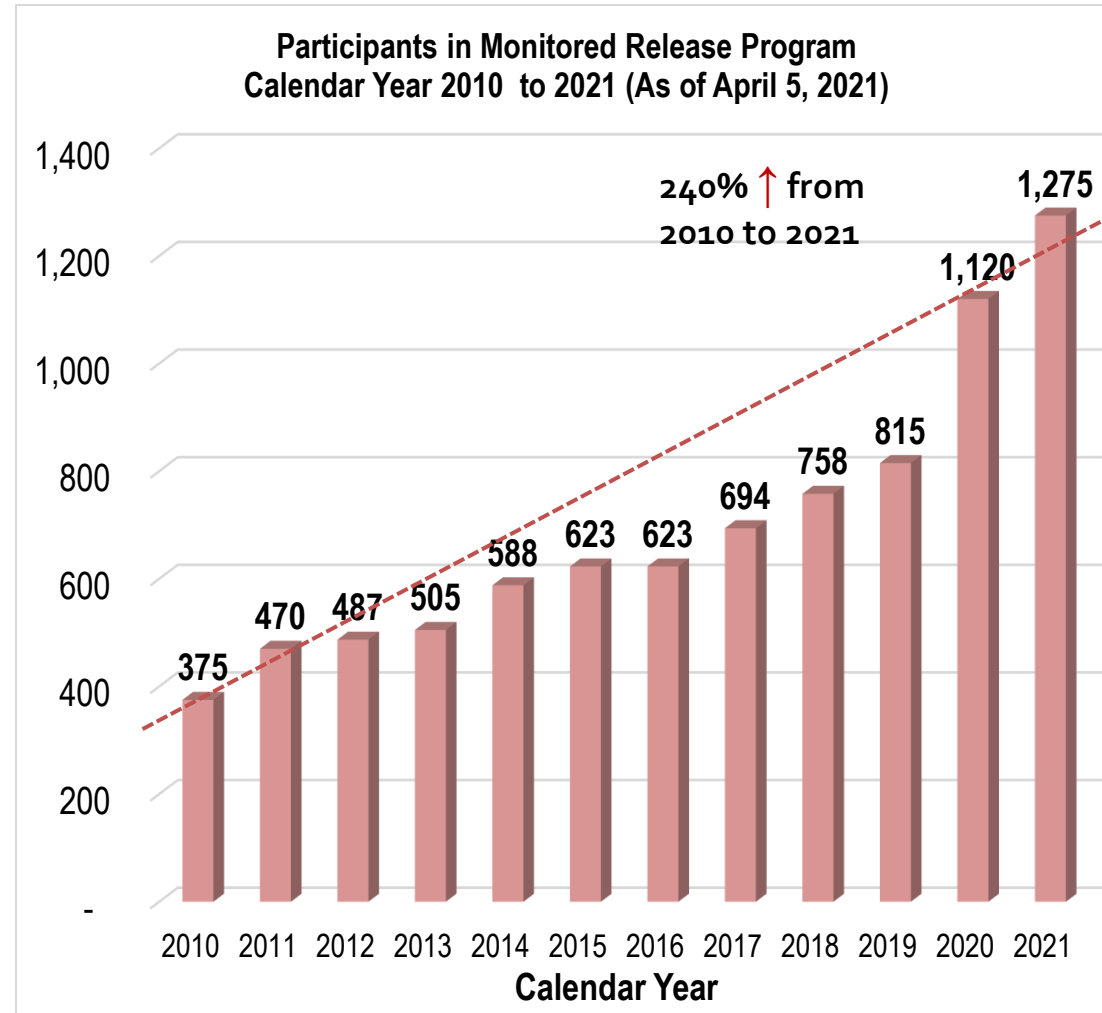
- Representatives from the Public Defender's Office, State Attorney's Office, and Chiefs of Police
- Conducted in-depth research and compared bond schedules from multiple jurisdictions
- Forwarded recommendations to reduce standard bond schedule amounts to the Judiciary for consideration.
- Initial steps with more work to be done

- **Monitored Release Program**

- Alternative-to-incarceration program
- Allows persons to remain in community under GPS monitoring pending the outcome of their criminal case
- Placement is determined by the judiciary
- 223% increase from 375 in 2010 to 1,211 as of May 31, 2020

- **Boot Camp Program**

- Focuses on first-time nonviolent male and female offenders between the ages of 14 and 24 who have been adjudicated as adults.
- 16-Month Program with extensive educational and vocational programming and mentoring opportunities.



MIAMI-DADE COUNTY INITIATIVES TO REDUCE JAIL POPULATION/COSTS

- **Miami-Dade County Civil Citation Program**
 - Allows officers to issue civil citations instead of an arrest for certain County Code violations
- **Crisis Intervention Training (Police and Corrections)**
 - Averts arrests as it helps officers to identify persons needing mental health assistance instead of arrest
- **Jail Diversion Program**
 - Grant funded for early identification, enhanced transition and reentry planning services, and referral to community services of persons with mental illness and arrested for misdemeanor offenses
 - Over 550 inmates diverted to community services
 - MDCR support this program with a full-time Correctional Counselor
- **Mental Health Diversion Center**
 - Construction has begun and will be completed in 12 – 18 months
 - Further divert persons with mental health issues from criminal justice system and provide needed treatment and services
- **Pretrial Services Program (PSP)**
 - Selected by Advancing Pretrial Policy and Research as a Learning Site
 - Assistance in implementing nationwide Public Safety Assessment (PSA), a nationally recognized risk assessment tool
 - Championed by 11th Judicial Circuit Administrative Judge Nushin Sayfie
 - Robust research and performance measurement - 12 Month Project
 - In 2020 , 5,895 persons in the PSP
 - 4% failure to appear rate and 6% rearrest rate
- **President's Commission on Law Enforcement and the Administration of Justice's Reentry Programs and Initiatives Work Group**
 - Director Junior selected by the Department of Justice as a Work Group Member
 - Efforts to enhance reentry programming and available services nationally

JAIL CONSTRUCTION PROJECT

- Built in 1959, the linear design of downtown jail is inefficient and staff intensive
- Operational savings will be generated by
 - More effective posting of correctional officers because of efficient jail design
 - Reduction of staff
 - \$35 million annual savings
 - Used to fund jail construction project
 - State-of-the art technology
 - Reduced inmate transport needed due to the location of four courtrooms on site
- Operational efficiencies resulting from a new Central Support Services building
 - Consolidate functions
 - Food and laundry services



Lieutenant Jim Miller
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Allegan County

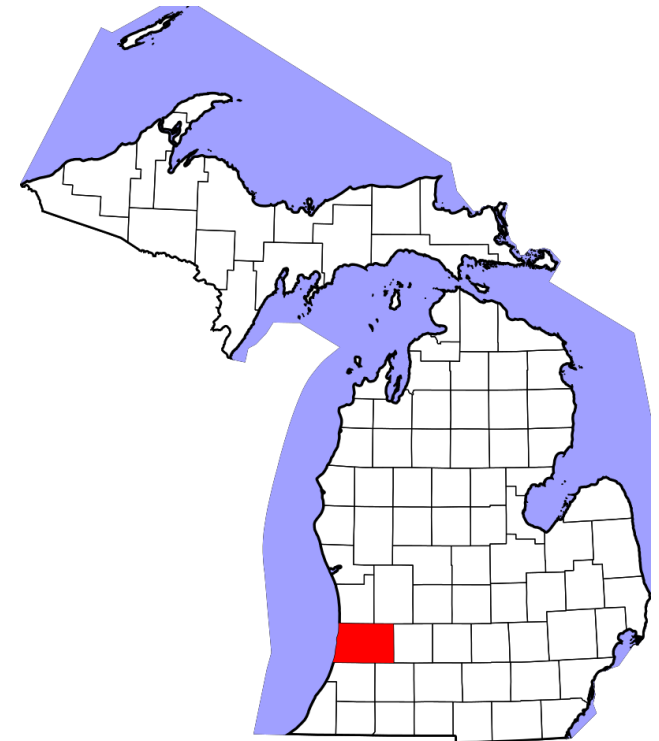
2018 County Population: 105,665

Largely rural community

Population concentrations in the northwest and eastern edges of the county

Limited industrial & commercial tax base

Sheriff is constitutionally mandated to operate a jail



By David Benbennick

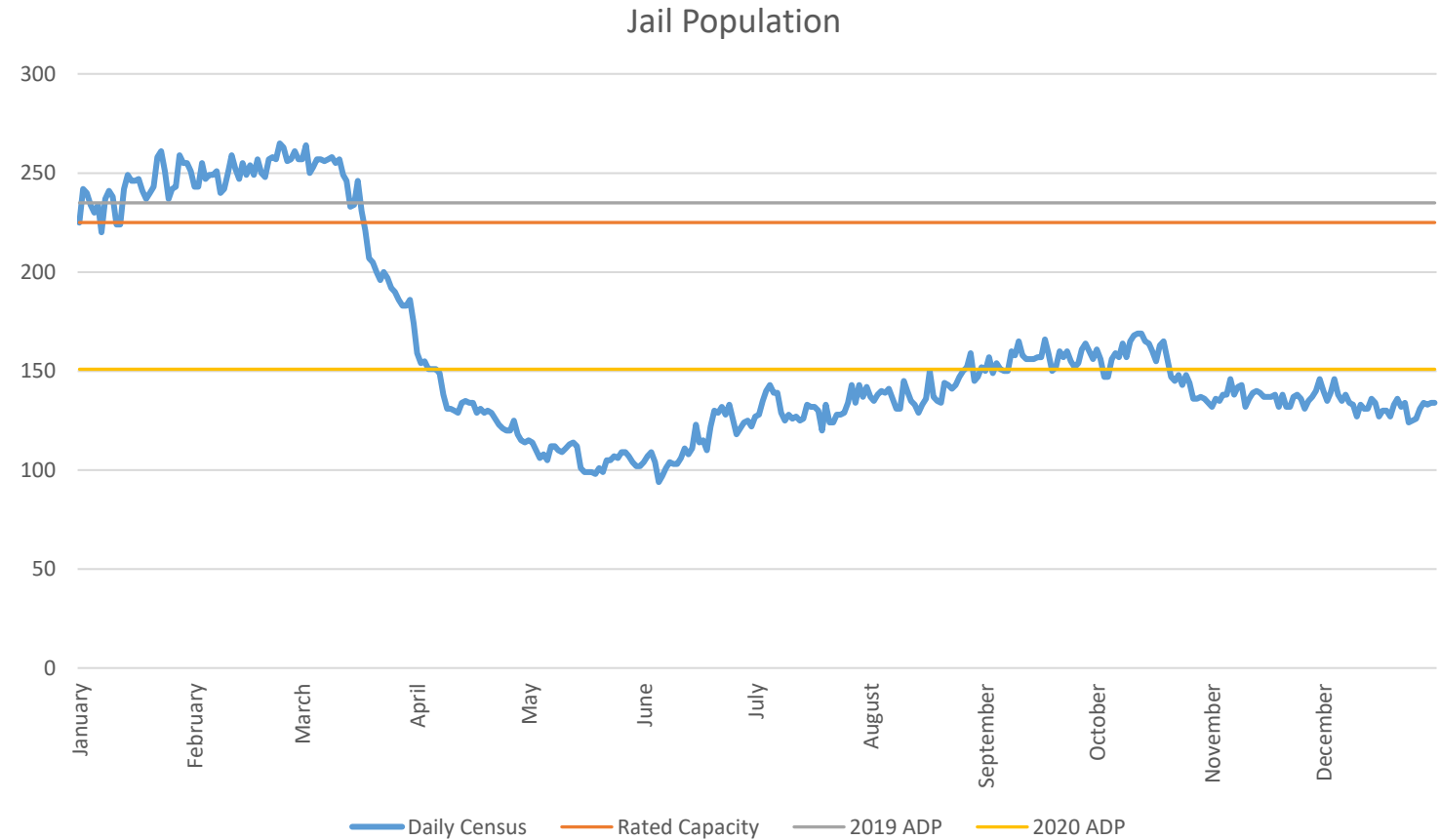
Corrections Center

- Opened October 2014
- 350 beds, self imposed cap of 225
- 39 Corrections staff
- 6-7 posts per shift (12 rotation)
- Contracted medical and food service
- House pretrial and sentenced offenders
- Podular remote supervision



2020 Jail Population Reduction

- 2019 ADP: 235 (5465 bookings)
- Michigan Governor's Executive Orders mandated population reductions
- Worked with court to release vulnerable and those safe to release
- 2020 ADP: 151 (3395 bookings)



2019 vs. 2020 Budget Expenditures

Expense Category	2019	2020
Employee Compensation	2,906,918	2,970,153
Medical	824,466	908,769
Meals	429,325	275,131
Training	4,395	2,487
Supplies	24,993	78,033
Misc	59,645	19,163
Vehicle Maintenance	12,669	5,121
Utilities	385,454	341,478
Total	4,633,942	4,644,311

- New medical vendor started in April 2020
- Increased cleaning supply expense
- PPE cost increases
- Food service cost per meal increased, but overall cost decreased
- No out of agency training
- Expended \$10,369 (0.2%) more in 2020

Cost Per Inmate 2019 vs. 2020

Bed Day: Inmate in custody for any amount of time on a given day

2019 Bed Days: 208,085 Cost per bed day: \$22.33

2020 Bed Days: 122,020 Cost per bed day: \$37.70

2019 ADP Cost per day: \$54.11

2020 ADP Cost per day: \$83.42



Allegan County Lessons Learned

- 2020 is an anomalous year due to pandemic
 - Good testing ground for reduced jail populations in response to Jail Task Force recommendations.
 - Costs to run jails effected by population less than desired
 - Operational costs exist regardless of population census
-
- Overall, Michigan jails did an outstanding job mitigating COVID risk
 - Populations remain reduced due to practices initiated in response to pandemic



DAVIDSON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

SHERIFF DARON HALL

Unexpected Impact of Covid-19 in Jails



The Obvious

Jails are group living situations making social distancing difficult and self-isolation almost non-existent.

Visitation—family *and* official/legal visits in many cases

Programs

Social Services

Inmate work programs

Court appearances



Jails don't control who comes in the front door....or do they?

It's valid to say that jail staff typically don't have the authority to determine who is booked into a facility.

Covid Response:

- Increased reliance on citations.
- Increased diversion avenues
- Development of teams (arresting authority, public defender, jail authority, social services) to determine release to the community
- Increased reliance on pre-trial services



Results

While fewer numbers are booked into jail facilities, the average length of stay increased.

The individuals who are booked are the ones who are sicker, have fewer community resources available, and no support. Otherwise, they would be diverted. Are jails the *de facto* social service agency in your community?

The question becomes: Are the right people incarcerated? If a person could be supervised in the community during Covid, can they continue to be supervised by pre-trial/probation staff? **This is the chance to evaluate the overall use of incarceration.**



Results, part 2

There is a clear link between public health and public safety, and Covid only reinforced the reliance and collaboration between the two.

- Mental Health Services

- Medication Assisted Therapy (MAT) for opioid withdrawal

- COVID testing and vaccination

- Repeal of Inmate Exclusion Legislation



The final thought...increased efficiencies

Systems streamlined events, such as citation processing and court appearances, to reduce exposure. We were forced to re-evaluate processes.

Increased reliance on video technology—previous skeptics were forced into use and acceptance. Tele-medicine, court appearances, visitation. These aren't new concepts, but some areas had previously been slow to embrace the possibilities

The increased reliance on technology allowed agencies to realize relief in transportation costs and issues. Reduced armed officer presence, safer for the community, decreased opportunity for problems to develop related to behavior such as high profile cases.



Questions?

Thank you for the opportunity to discuss the importance of jails in your community.

Resource: American Jail Association (americanjail.org)

Chris Daniels, Executive Director: chrisd@aja.org

Marsha Travis, CJM, Immediate Past President: mtravis@dcso.nashville.org





|Questions?

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