

# **Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative (JDAI)**

**ANNIE E. CASEY FOUNDATION**

Today we will provide an overview of JDAI, clarify why reform is important, and what is involved

▶ ***JDAI Overview***

- ▶ Why detention reform?
- ▶ Core JDAI strategies
- ▶ JDAI Results
- ▶ The benefits and responsibilities of participation

JDAI is driven by a vision that seeks to change the odds for court-involved youth

OUR VISION:

Youth involved in the juvenile justice system will have opportunities to develop into healthy, productive adults . . .

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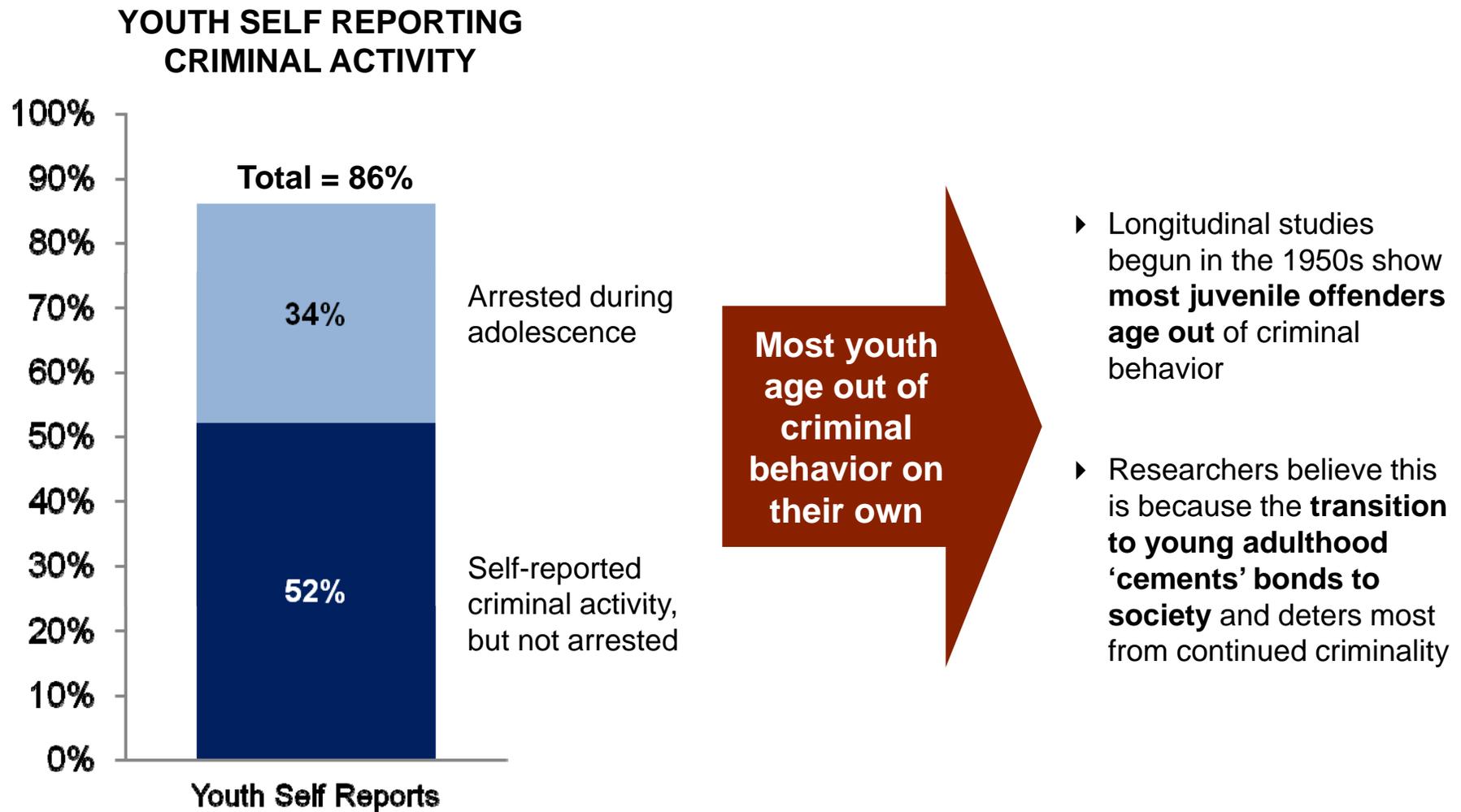
▶ The benefits and responsibilities of participation

When we began looking for a way to help juvenile justice systems accomplish this vision, we decided to focus on detention

### **WHY DETENTION REFORM?**

- ☑ “Hidden Closet of System”
- ☑ Crowding Crisis/Poor Conditions
- ☑ Entry Point for System Reform

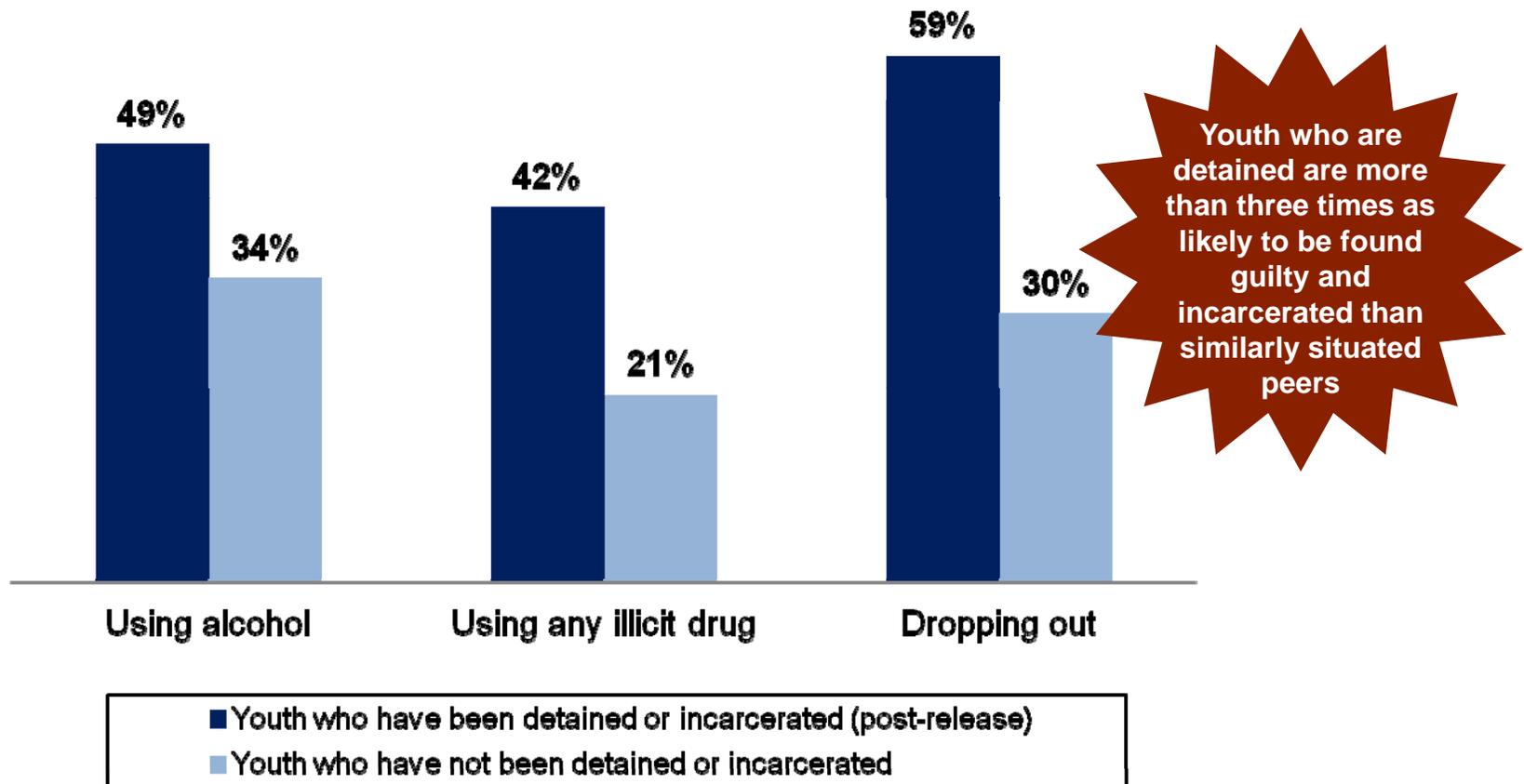
# Research shows that most juveniles engage in criminal behavior, but don't continue into adulthood



Source: Data from National Youth Survey analyzed by Hawkins, D., Smith, B. and Catalano, R. "Delinquent Behavior," in *Pediatrics in Review* (2002: 23: 382-392); "Unraveling Juvenile Delinquency" (Glueck, 1963), with followup in "Crime in the Making" (Sampson and Laub, 1993)

Detention leads to worse outcomes. After release, detained youth are far more likely to drop out of school and use drugs and alcohol

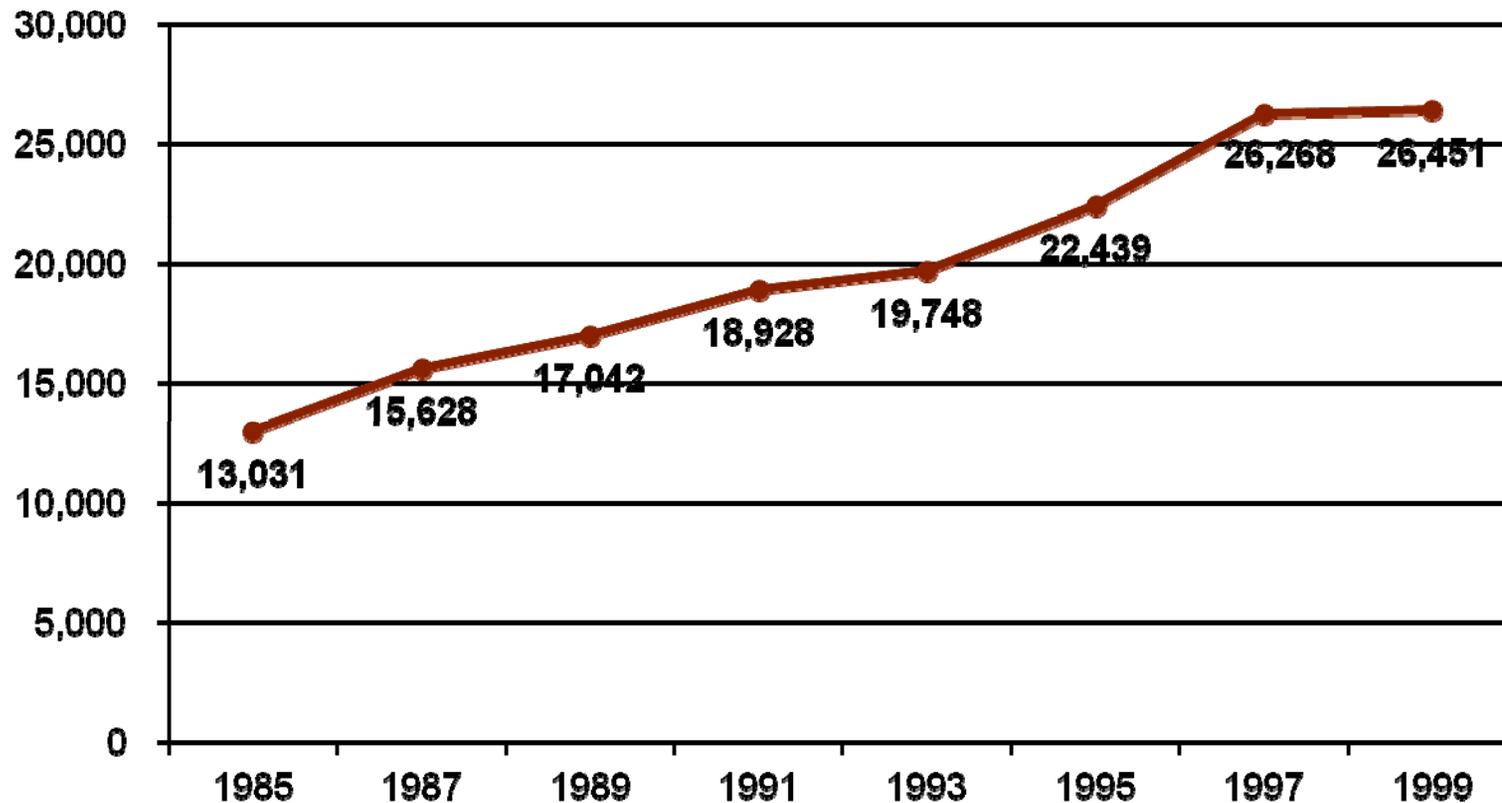
**LIKELIHOOD OF BEHAVIOR: INCARCERATED VS. NON-  
INCARCERATED YOUTH**



Source: 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/](http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/23889321/).

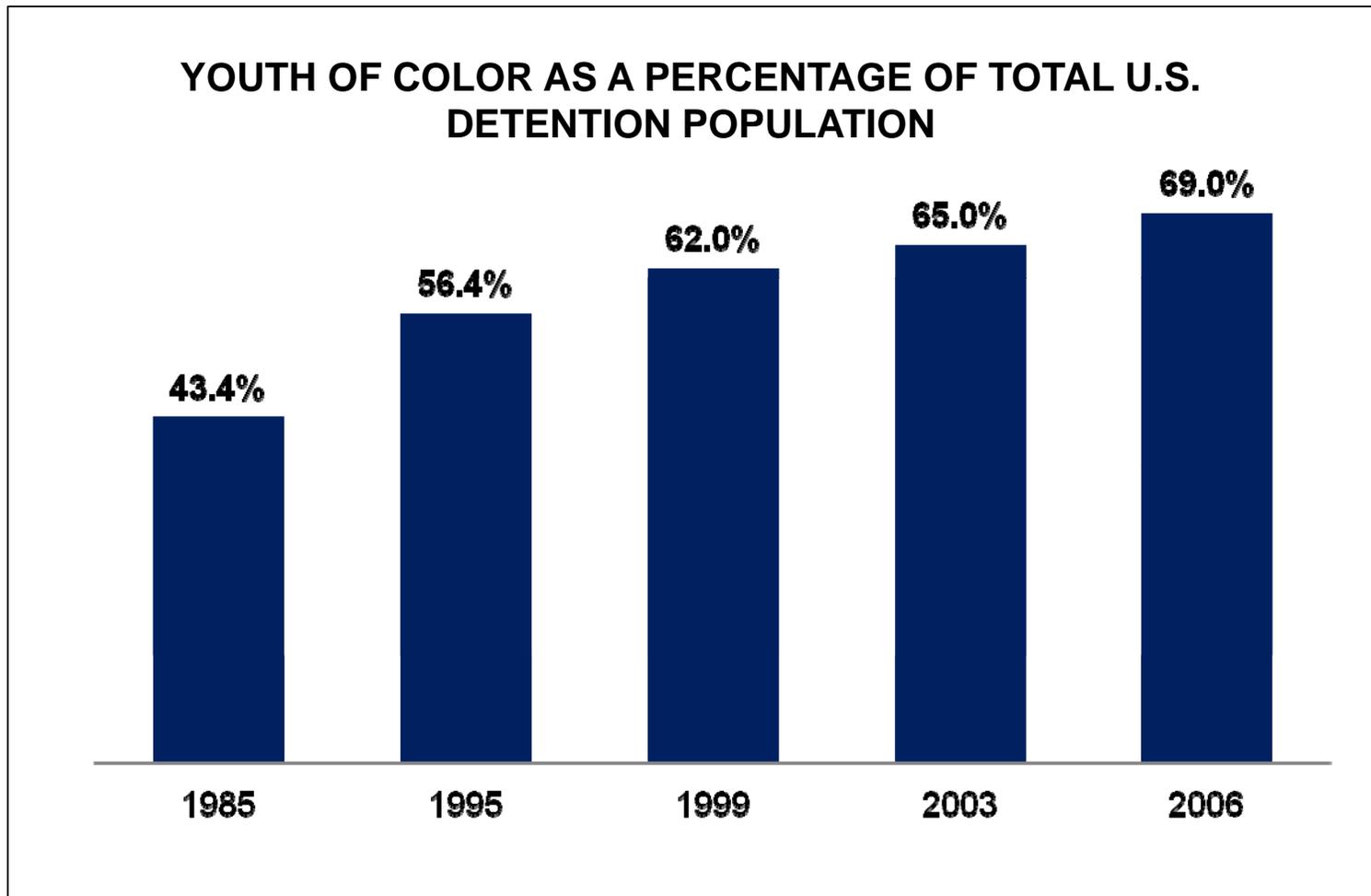
Detention populations doubled between 1985 and 1999 and have remained essentially the same since then

**AVERAGE DAILY POPULATION OF JUVENILES  
IN DETENTION CENTERS, 1985-1999**

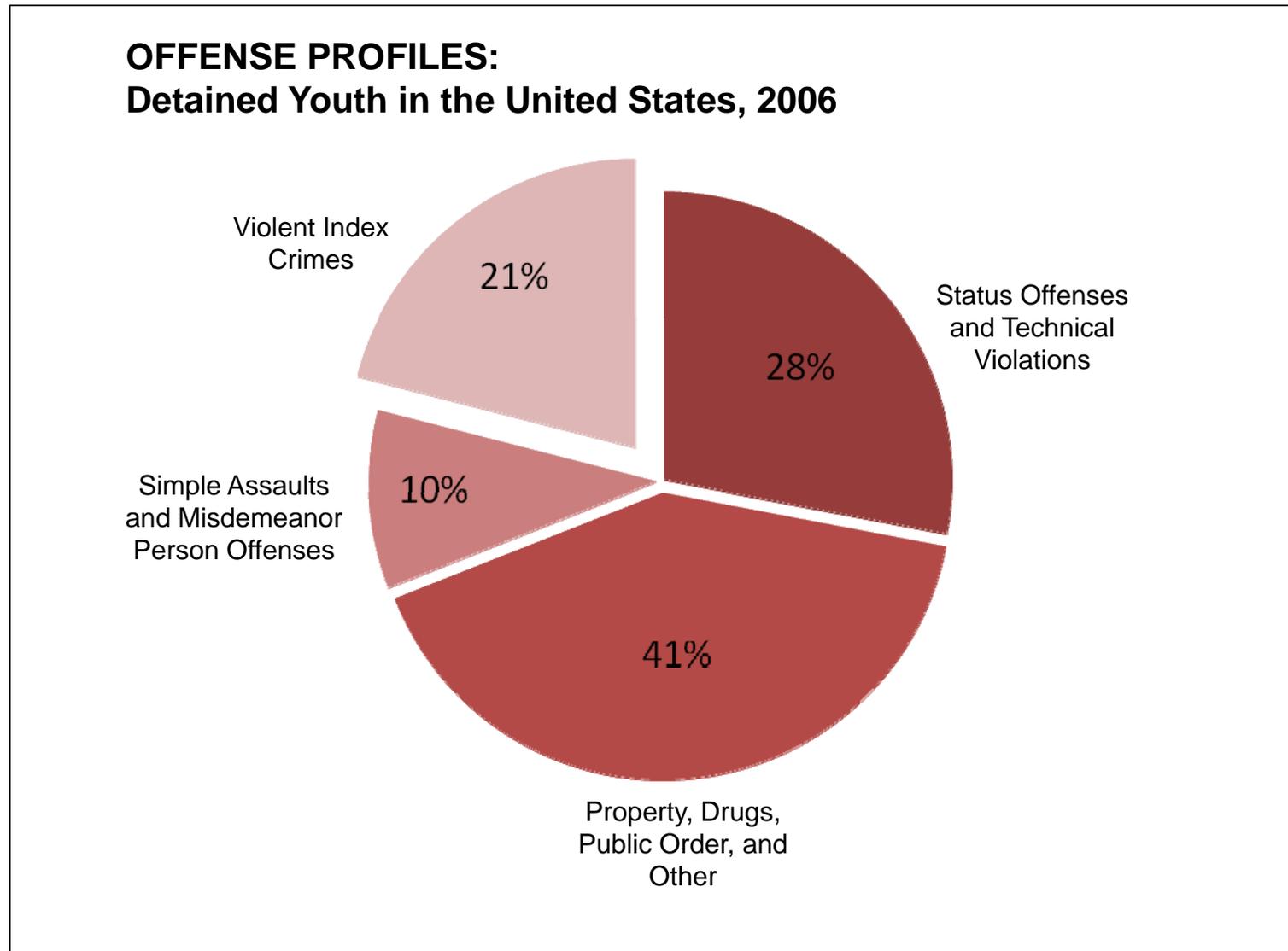


Source: Detention data adapted from Sickmund, M. (forthcoming). *Juveniles in Corrections*. Washington, DC OJJDP, 1985-99

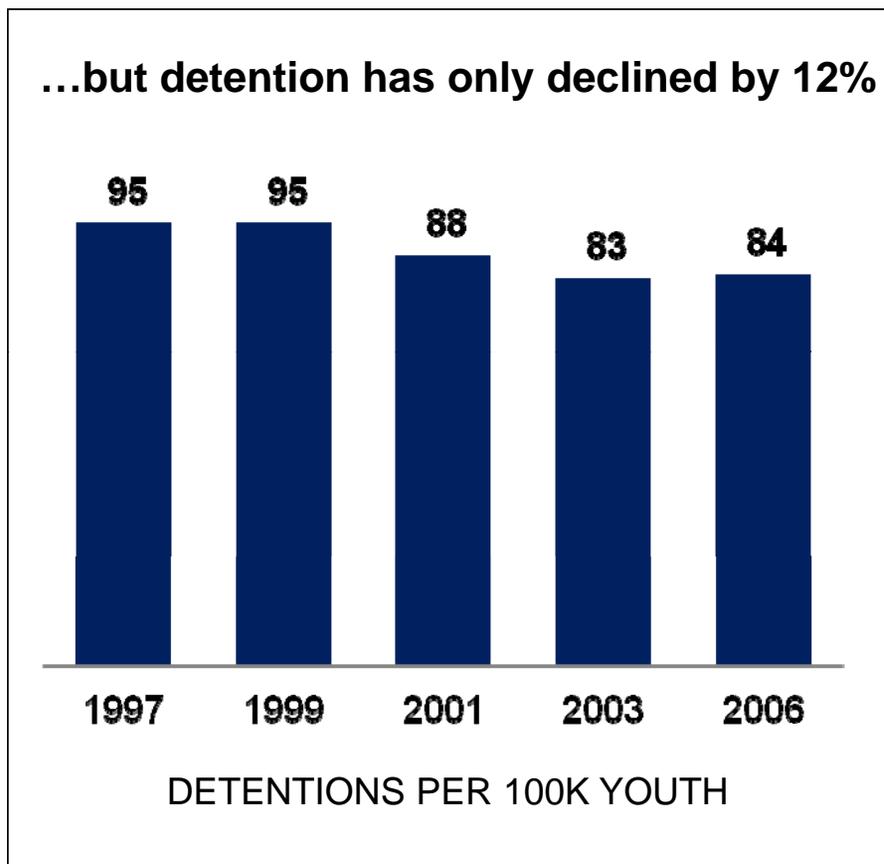
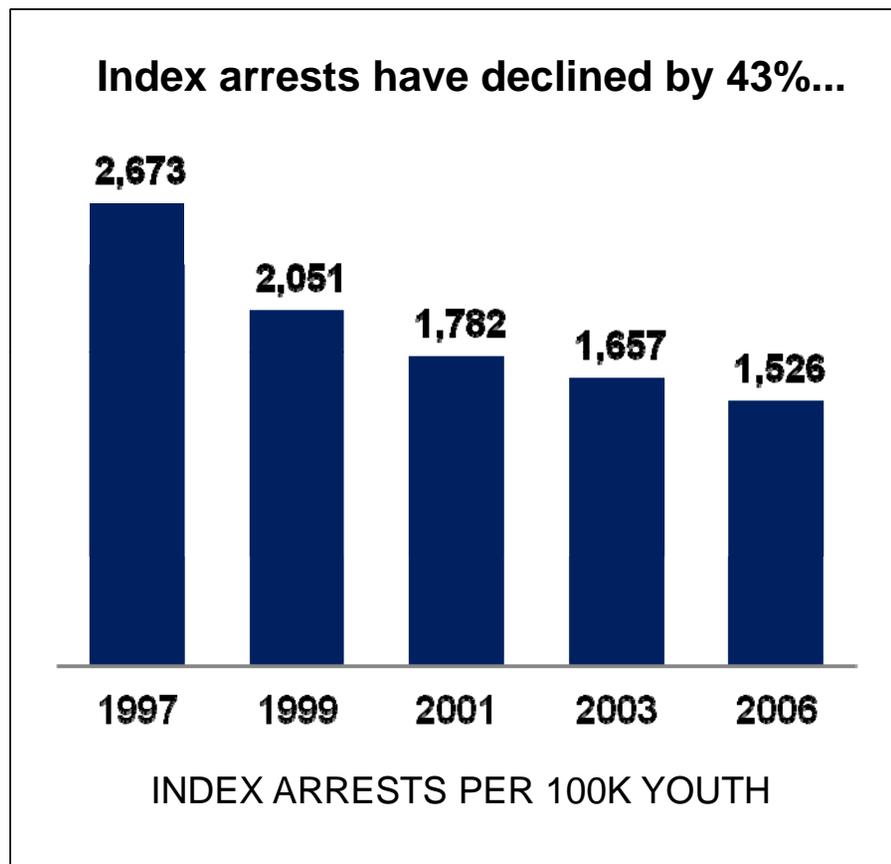
Additionally, youth of color are being detained at increasingly disproportionate rates



Nationally, less than one quarter of detained youth are charged with violent crimes



Furthermore, arrests for serious crimes do not explain detention use: local policies and practices are key.



NOTE: Index arrests are classified as more serious crimes including murder, rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, larceny, motor vehicle theft, and arson; skip in 2005 for detention data is due to “unforeseen delay in mail-out” for Census of Juveniles in Residential Facilities for detained population.

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Based on what we have just described, JDAI was developed to enable jurisdictions to safely reduce reliance on secure detention

## JUVENILE DETENTION ALTERNATIVES INITIATIVE

### Purpose:

To demonstrate that jurisdictions can establish more effective and efficient systems to accomplish the purposes of juvenile detention.

### Objectives:

- 1) Eliminate inappropriate or unnecessary use of secure detention
- 2) Minimize failures to appear and incidence of delinquent behavior
- 3) Redirect public finances to successful reform strategies
- 4) Improve conditions in secure detention facilities
- 5) Reduce racial and ethnic disparities

JDAI uses eight interconnected strategies to promote more effective juvenile justice systems

**Collaboration**

**Use of accurate data**

**Objective admissions criteria and instruments**

**Alternative to detention**

**Case processing reforms**

**Reducing the use of secure confinement for 'special' cases**

**Deliberate commitment to reducing racial disparities**

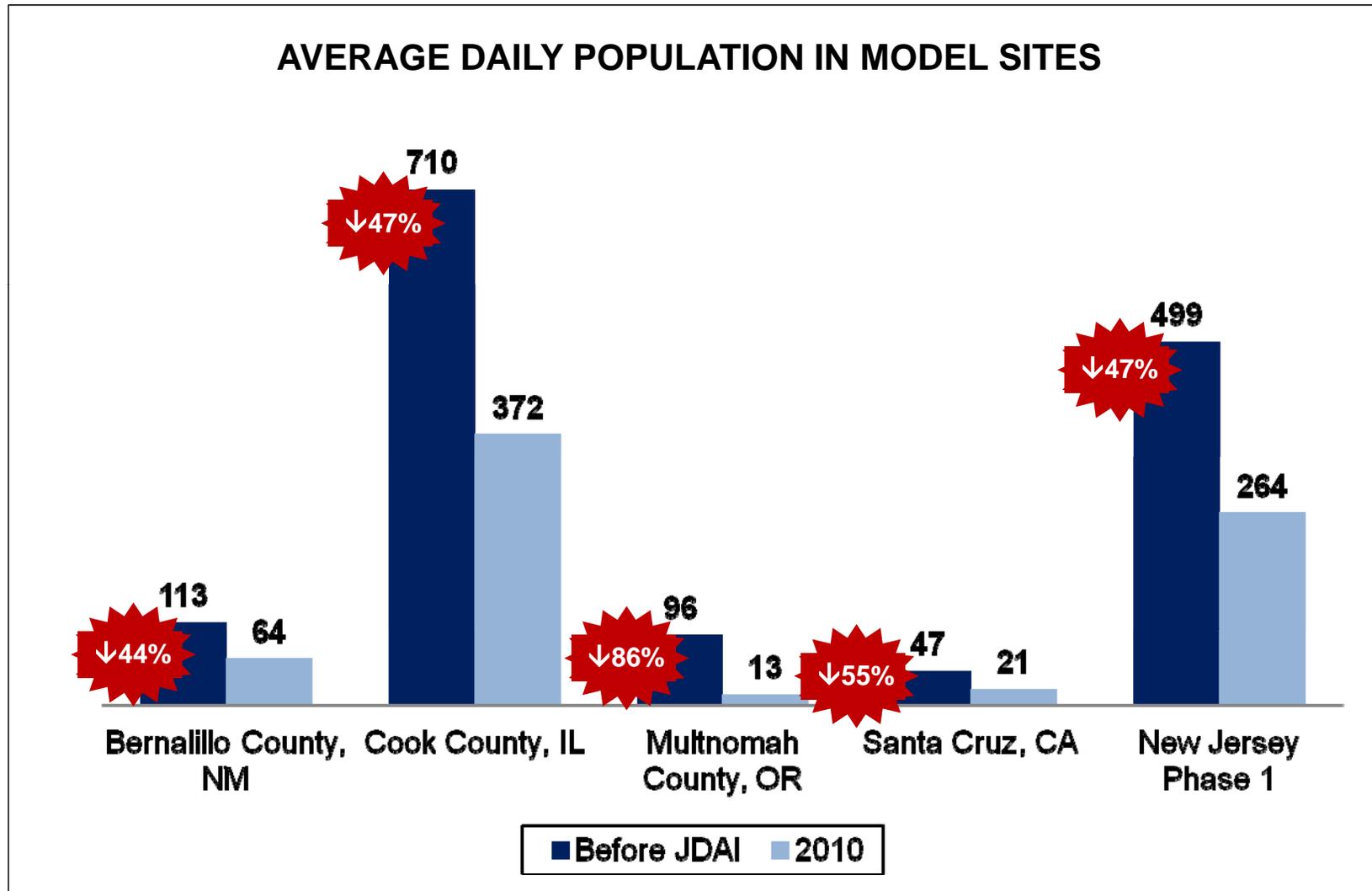
**Improving conditions of confinement**

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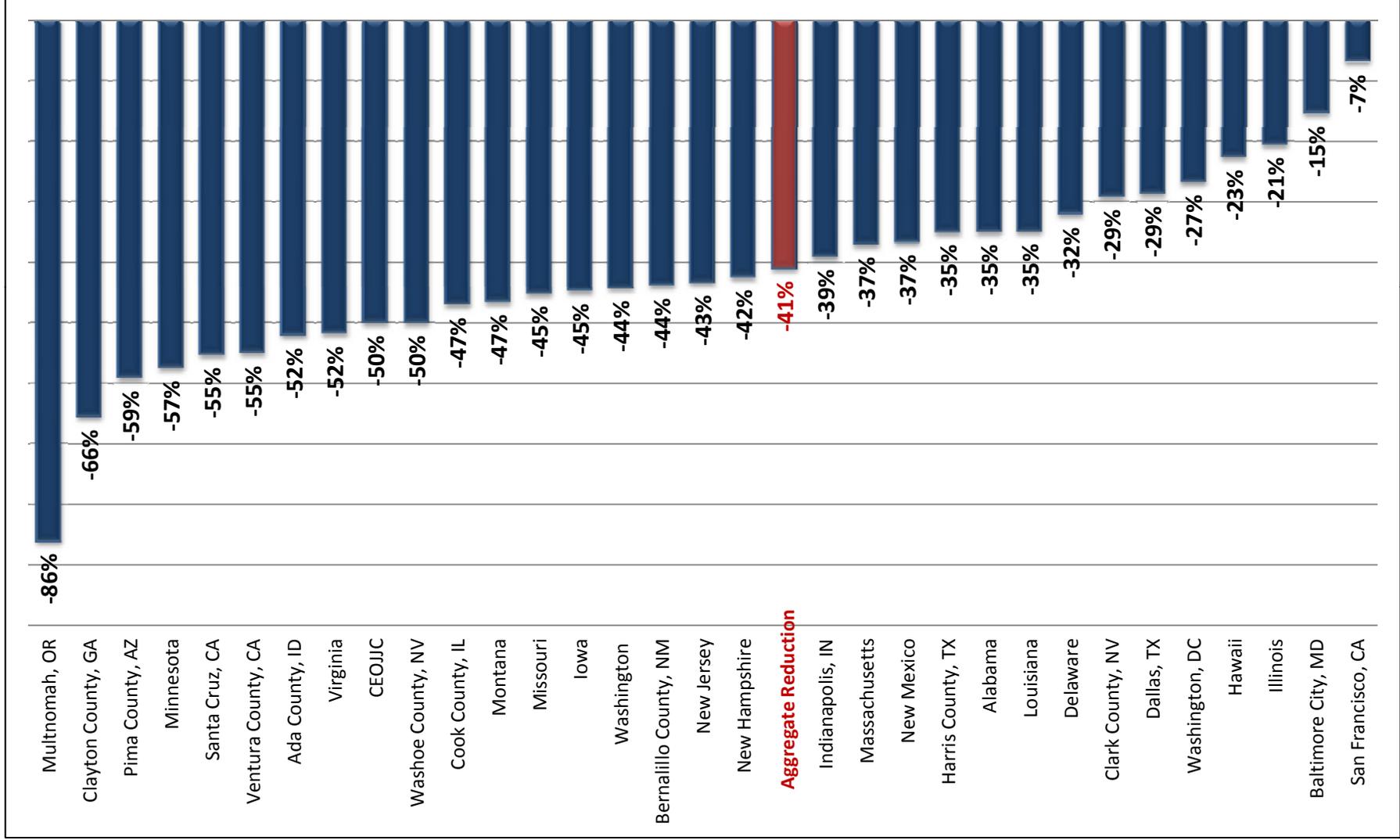
- ▶ ***JDAI Results***

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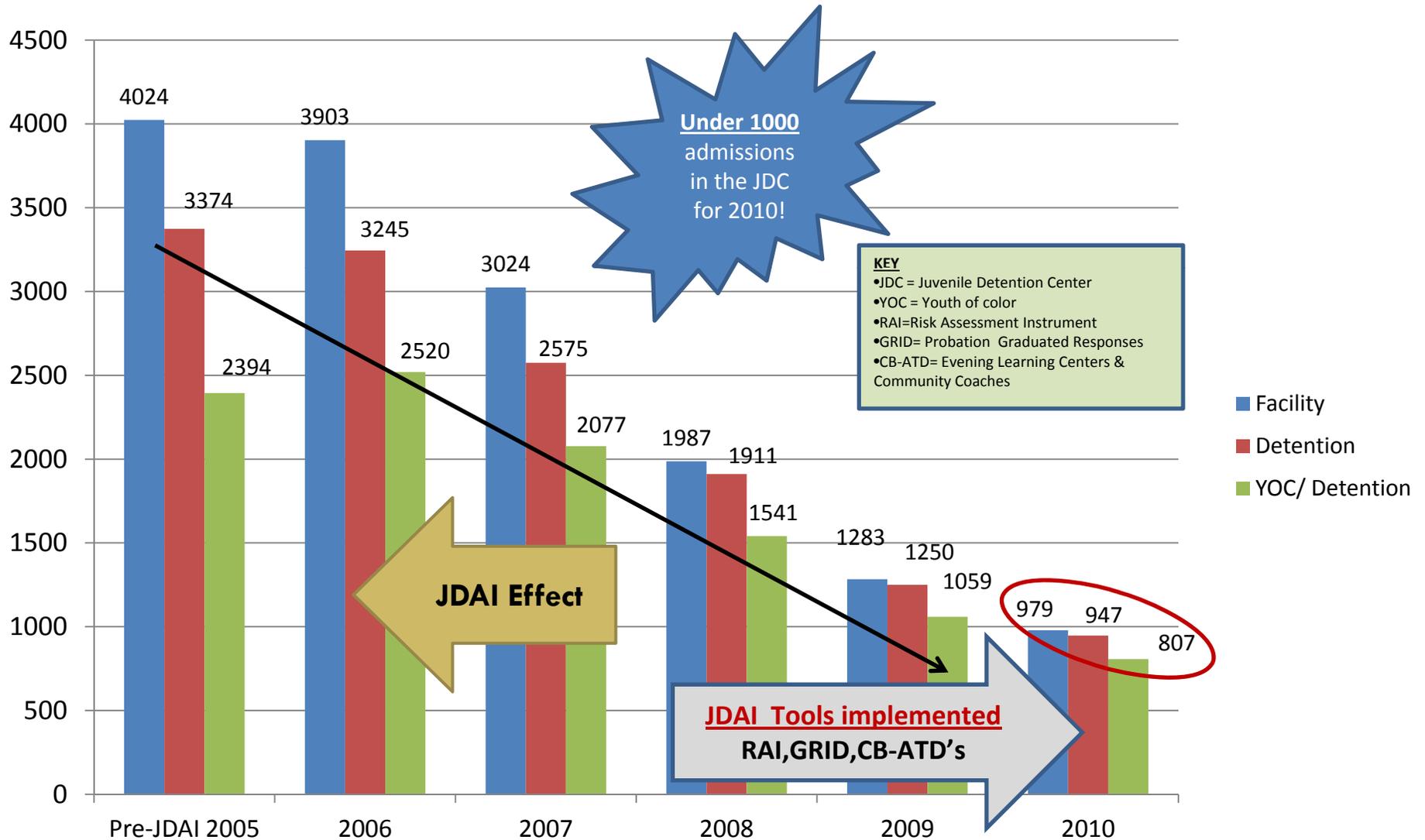
Using JDAI's eight core strategies, JDAI model sites significantly reduced average daily populations in their detention centers



The average daily population in JDAI Sites has decreased, on average, by 41%



# Ramsey County, MN JDC Admissions 2005-2010

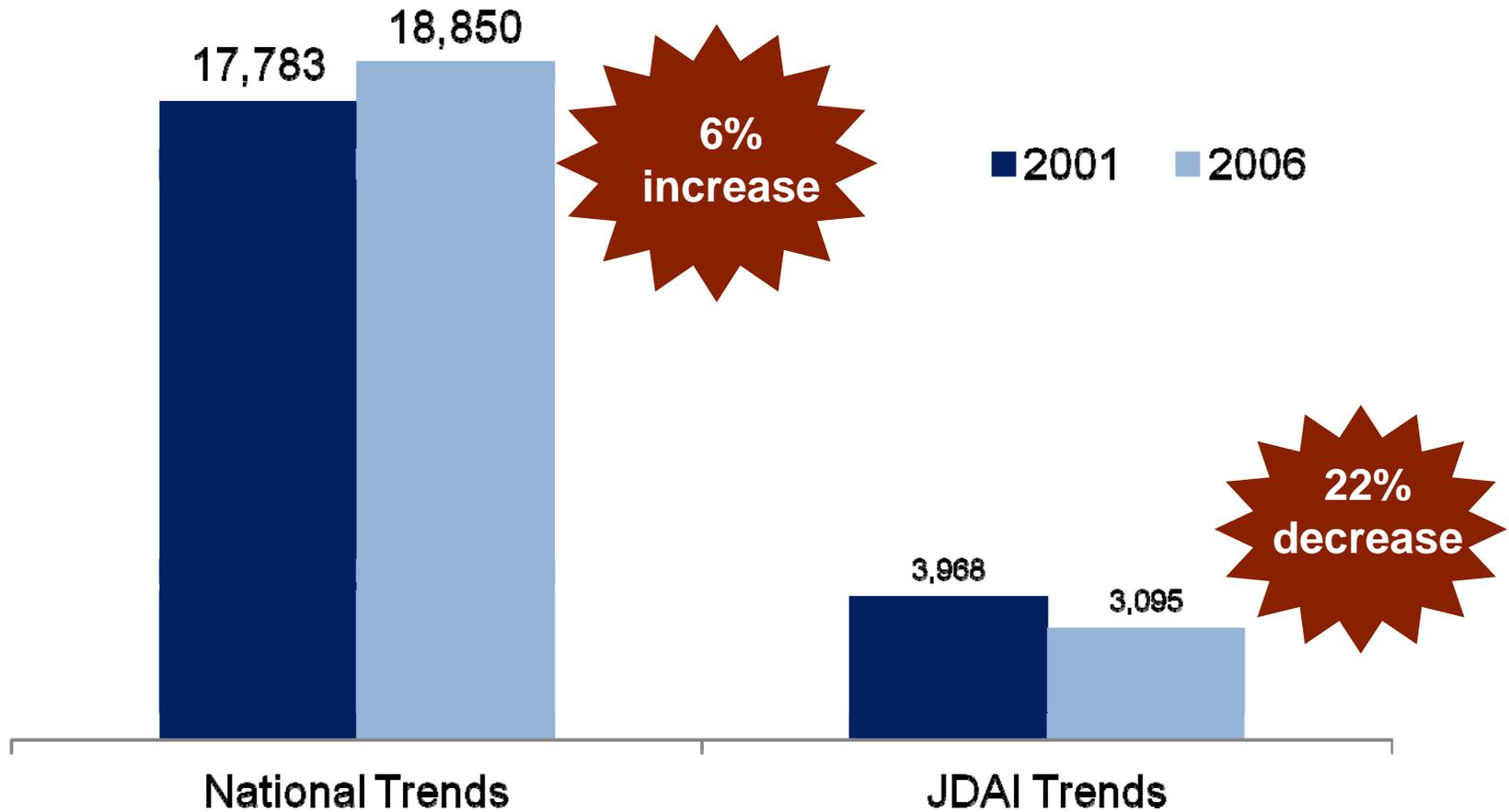


Local sites implementing JDAI strategies also report reductions in juvenile crime by 24% or greater. Two-thirds of all local JDAI sites reporting in 2010 (72 of 109) have reduced juvenile crime.

Juvenile Crime Indicator	# of Local Sites Reporting	Aggregate Baseline	Aggregate Recent	Change (#)	Change (%)
Total Felony Petitions Filed	36 sites (33%)	45278	34553	-10725	-24%
Juvenile Arrests	12 sites (11%)	38774	28761	-10013	-26%
Delinquent Petitions	9 sites (8%)	28504	17122	-11382	-40%
Juvenile Intake Cases	15 sites (14%)	34120	19525	-14595	-43%

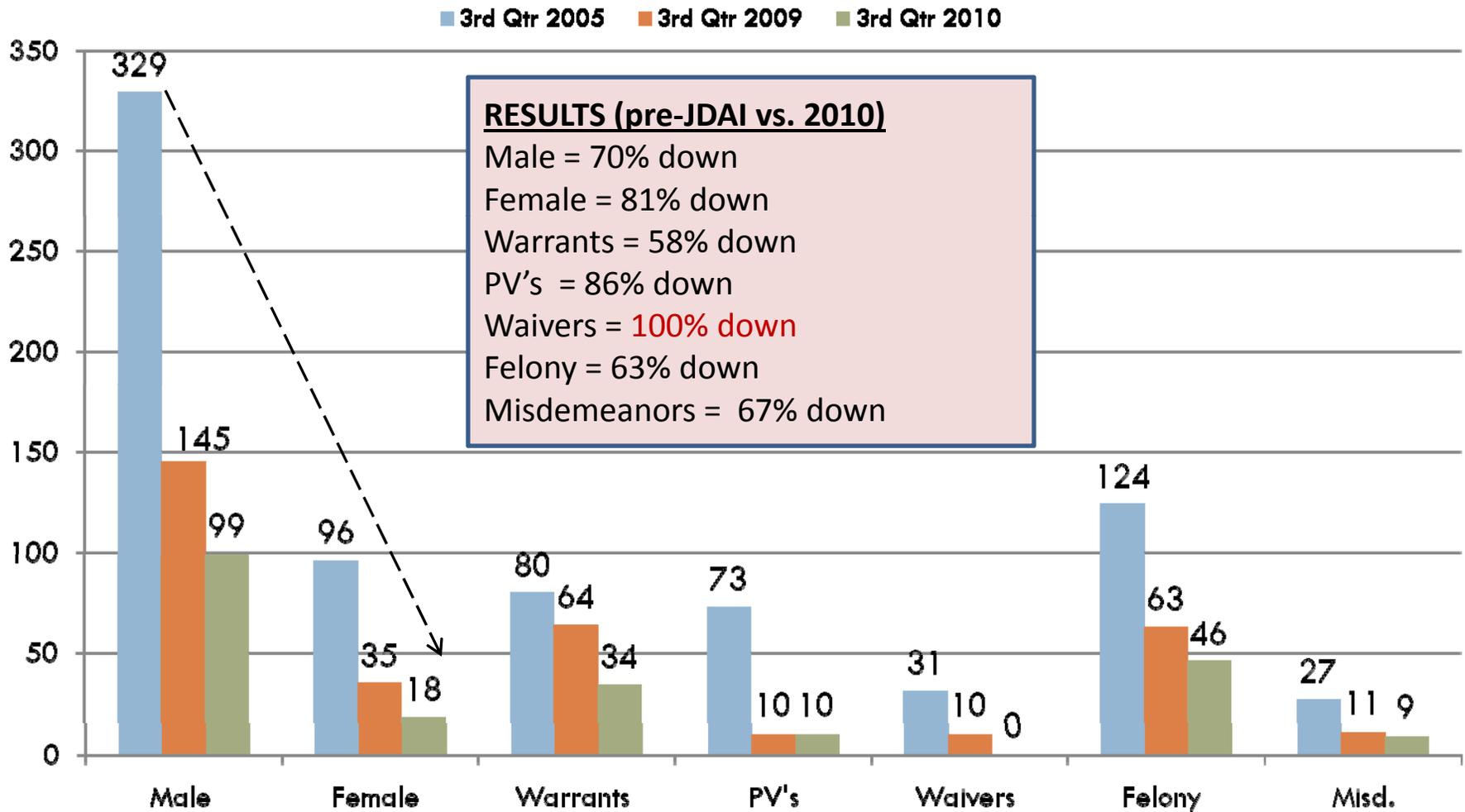
# Reductions in Disproportionate Minority Confinement

YOUTH OF COLOR IN DETENTION: U.S. vs. JDAI Trends



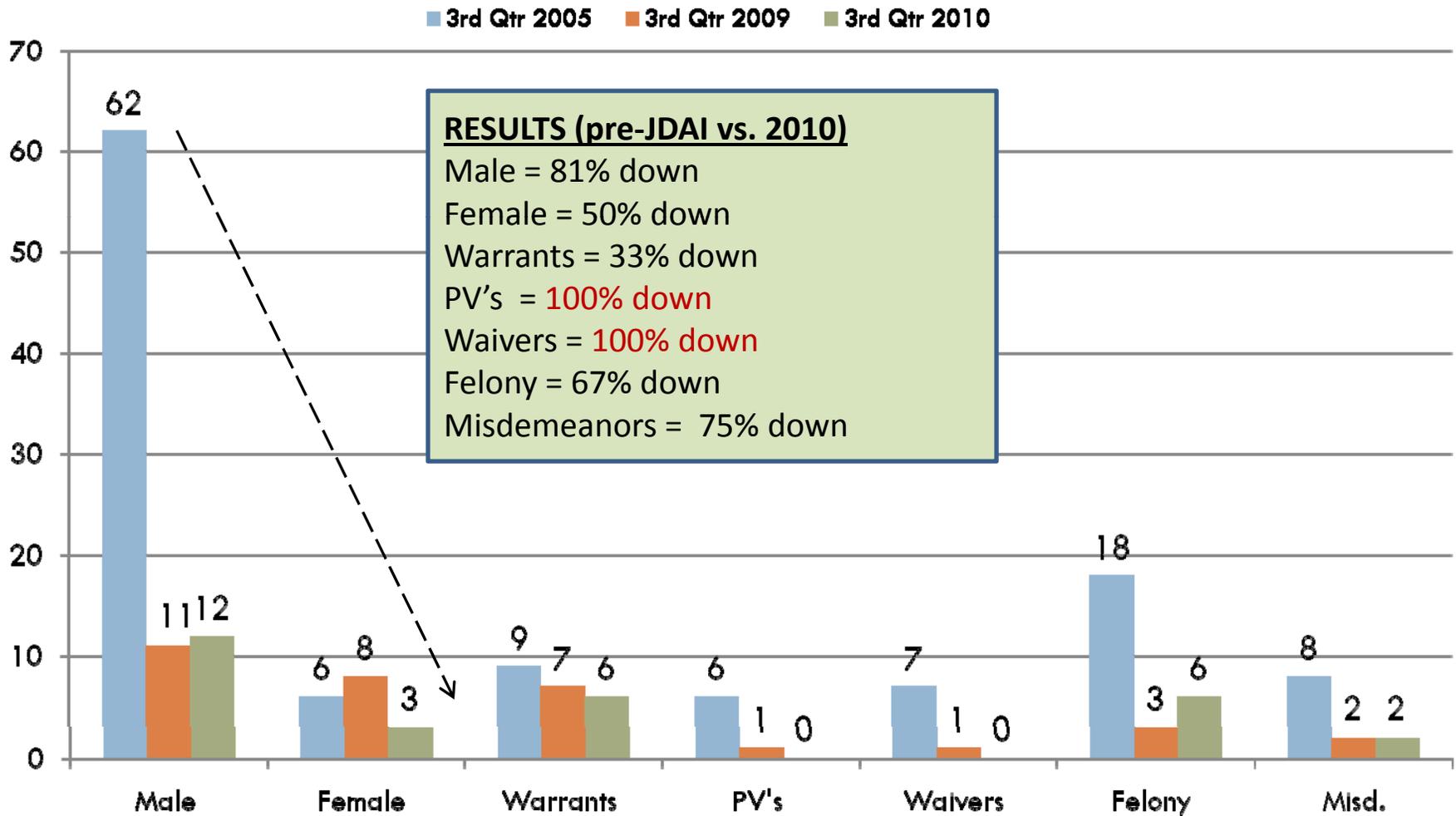
# Ramsey County JDAI Impact

## Black Youth



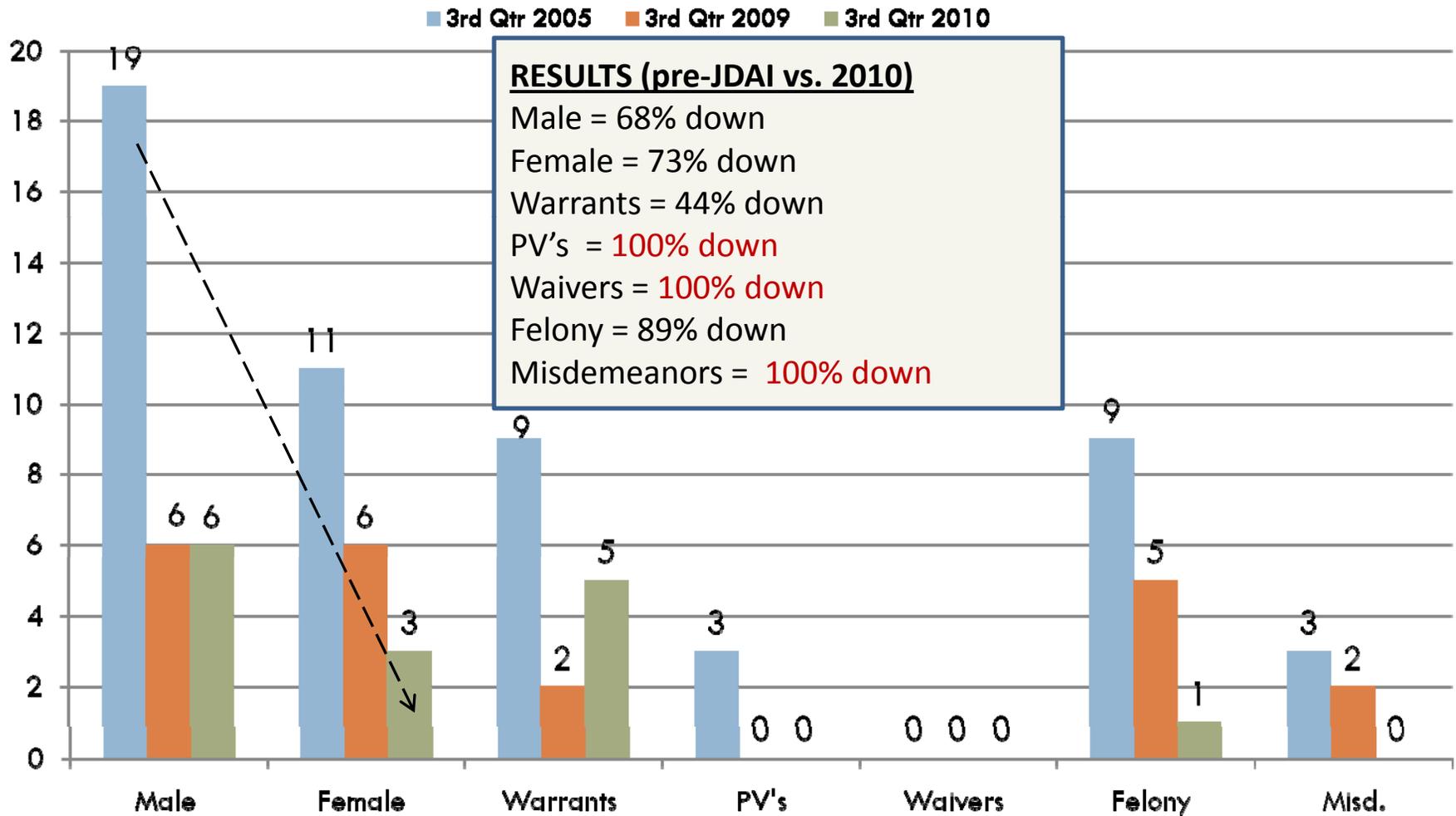
# Ramsey County JDAI Impact

## Latino Youth



# Ramsey County JDAI Impact

## Native American Youth



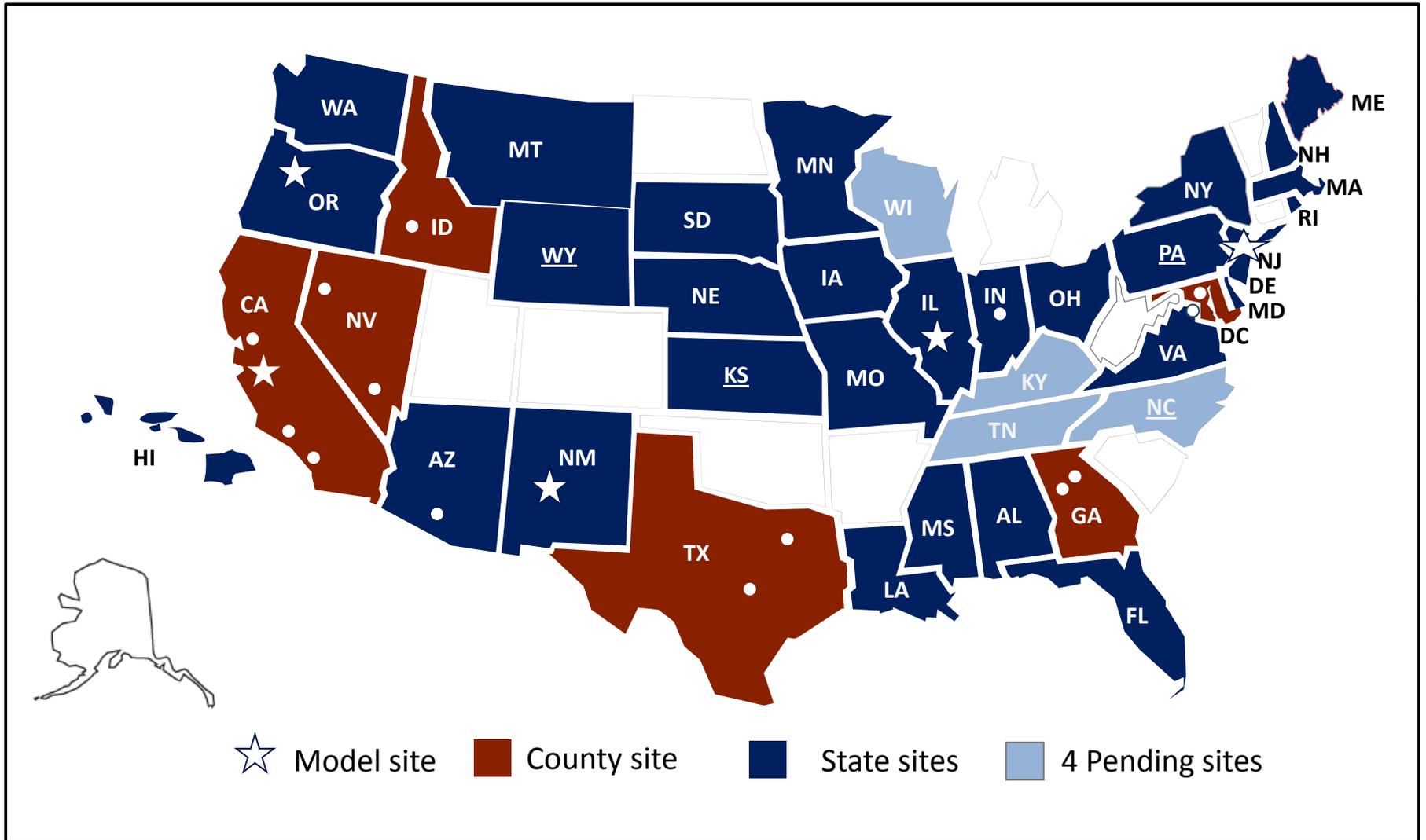
## Fiscal Savings from Bed Reductions

27 sites  
978 fewer beds  
\$50,000/bed/year



**\$48,900,000**  
**in savings**

# 2012 JDAI Sites



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JDAI provides sites with a variety of resources to support detention reform

### **WHAT JDAI PARTICIPATION PROVIDES**

- ✓ Small cash grant (for travel & coordination)
- ✓ Technical Assistance
- ✓ JDAI Tools, Guides & Publications
- ✓ JDAI Model Sites
- ✓ JDAI Training Seminars
- ✓ JDAI National Conferences
- ✓ JDAI Network & Peers

However, there are specific expectations for all JDAI sites

### **WHAT JDAI PARTICIPATION REQUIRES**

- ✓ Implementation of JDAI core strategies
- ✓ Fidelity to the model
- ✓ Determined leadership
- ✓ Data reporting
- ✓ Communication and Transparency with Foundation

[www.jdaihelpdesk.org](http://www.jdaihelpdesk.org)

**OR**

[www.aecf.org/MajorInitiatives/JuvenileDetentionAlternativesInitiative.aspx](http://www.aecf.org/MajorInitiatives/JuvenileDetentionAlternativesInitiative.aspx)

# Contact Information

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