

Juvenile Diversion Evaluation Preliminary Findings

CCJJ Age of Delinquency Task Force June 6, 2018


History of Juvenile Diversion

- Juvenile Diversion was established in state statute during the mid-1980s and is funded with state general funds appropriated annually by the state general assembly.
- In 2002 juvenile diversion programming was reverted to the state General Fund. At that time the allocation was \$2,483,702.
- In 2006, the legislature re-appropriated funding for juvenile diversion program in the amount of \$1,241,851.



Current Funding

- State-funded Juvenile Diversion
 - \$1.2 Million
 - Administration
 - Programs (\$1,184,531)
- Marijuana Tax Funds for Juvenile Diversion Programs
 - Began SFY 15/16 with \$400,000
 - Administration
 - Programs (\$340,000)
 - Program Evaluation (\$20,000)
- JJDP Council Title II Funds
 - Evaluation of Juvenile Diversion



State-funded Juvenile Diversion Programs- July 2016 through June 2017

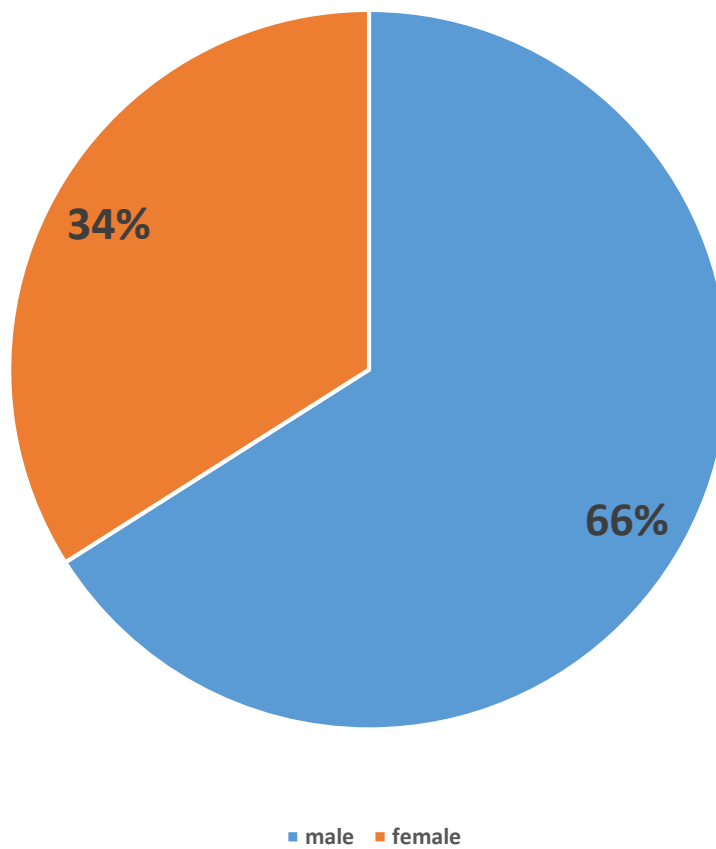
- 2,550 youth were served
 - 19 state-funded juvenile diversion programs within 18 JDs
 - 7 programs located within District Attorneys' Offices
 - 4 county based programs
 - 1 municipal program
 - 7 community-based programs.
- CDAC reports 18 of 22 District Attorney's Office have formal diversion



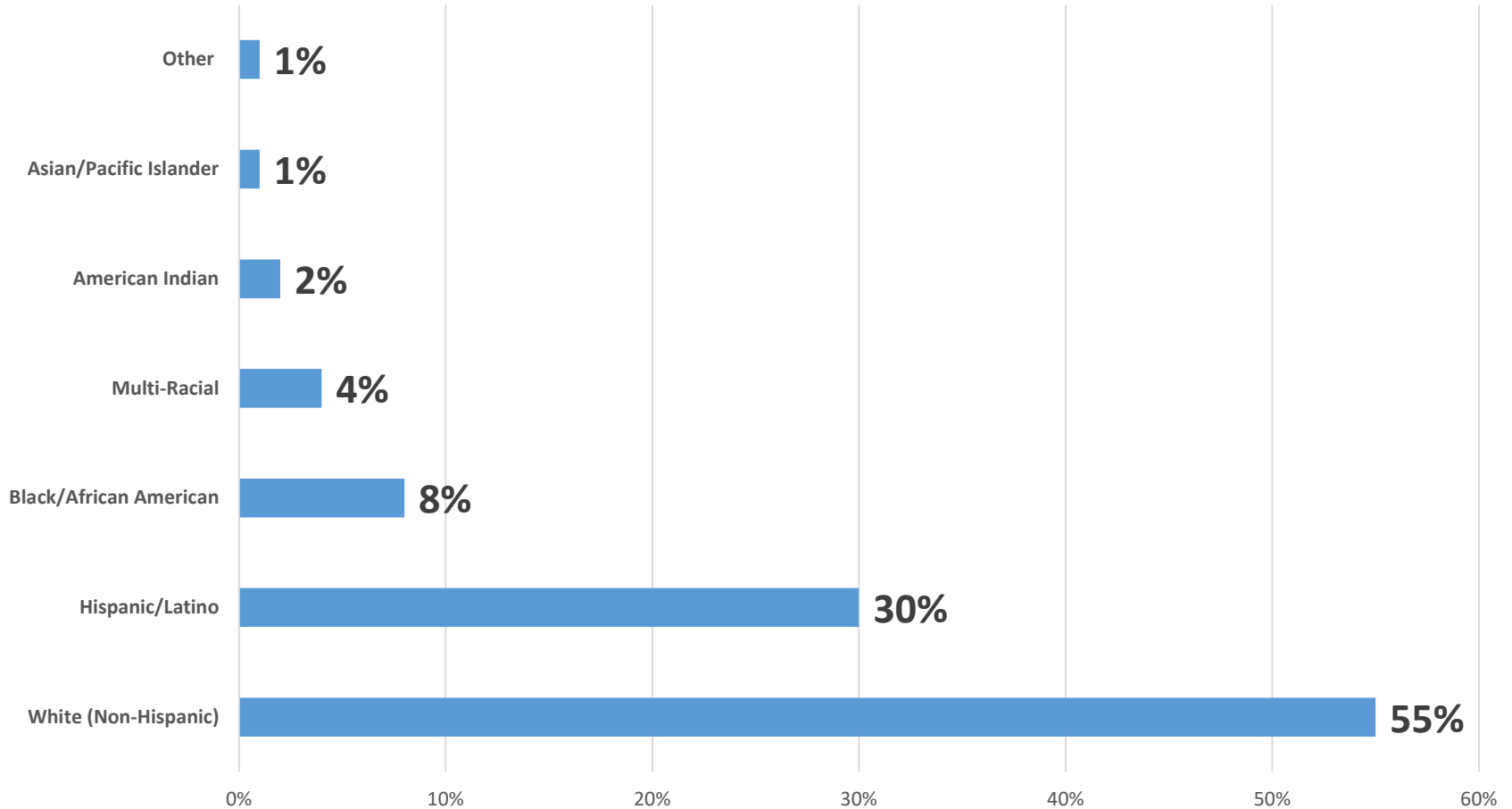
Evaluation of State-Funded Juvenile Diversion Programs

- The JJDP Council first began funding the Evaluation of State-Funded Juvenile Diversion in 2010.
- The purpose of the evaluation is to gather data to assist DCJ, the Council and the grantees in making decisions regarding program effectiveness and improvement.
- Two instruments are used to collect demographic, service provision and short-term outcome data; the Intake/Exit Form and the Pre/post survey.

Juveniles Served in State-funded Diversion by Gender, SFY 16/17



Juveniles Served in State-funded Diversion by Race/Ethnicity, SFY 2016/17

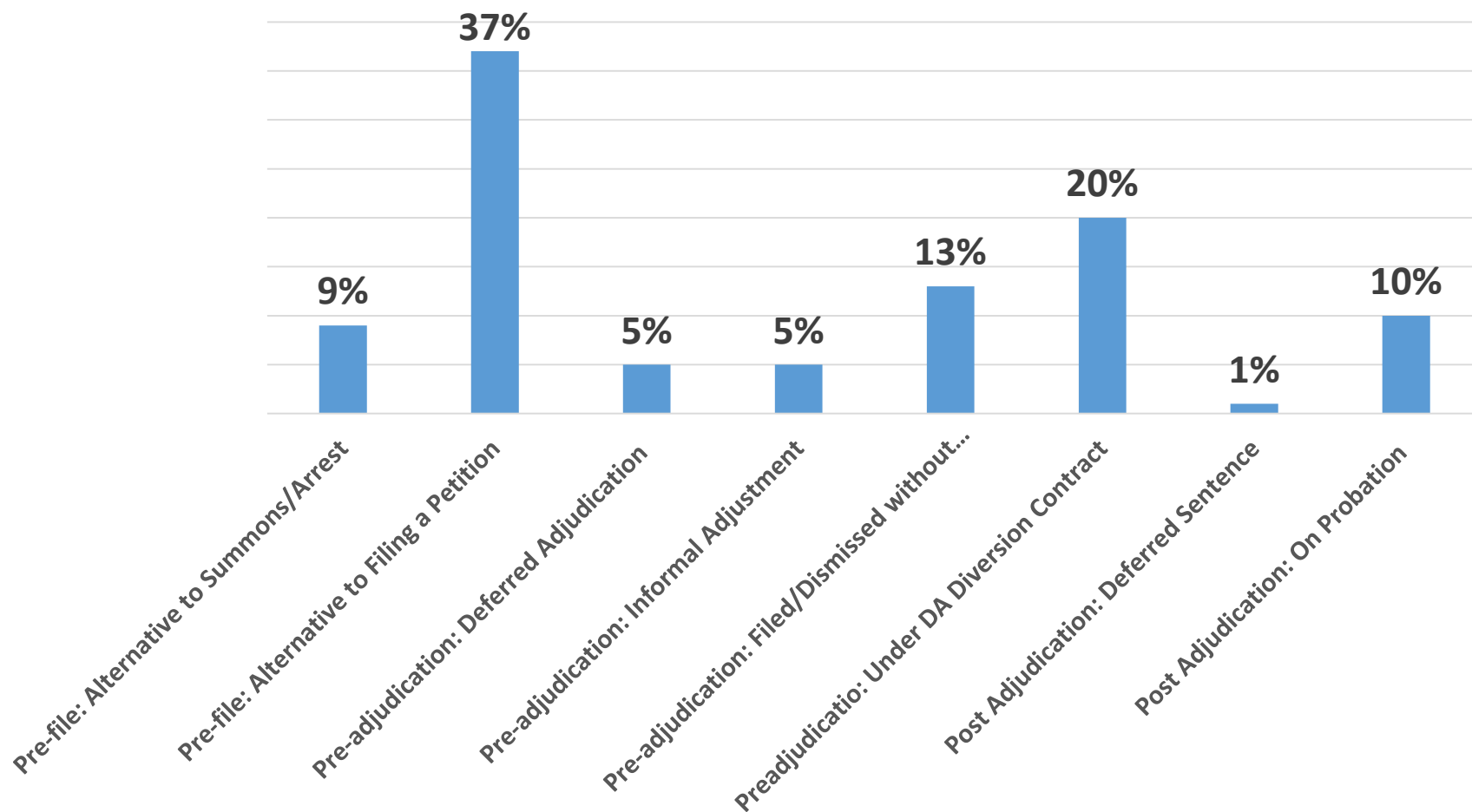




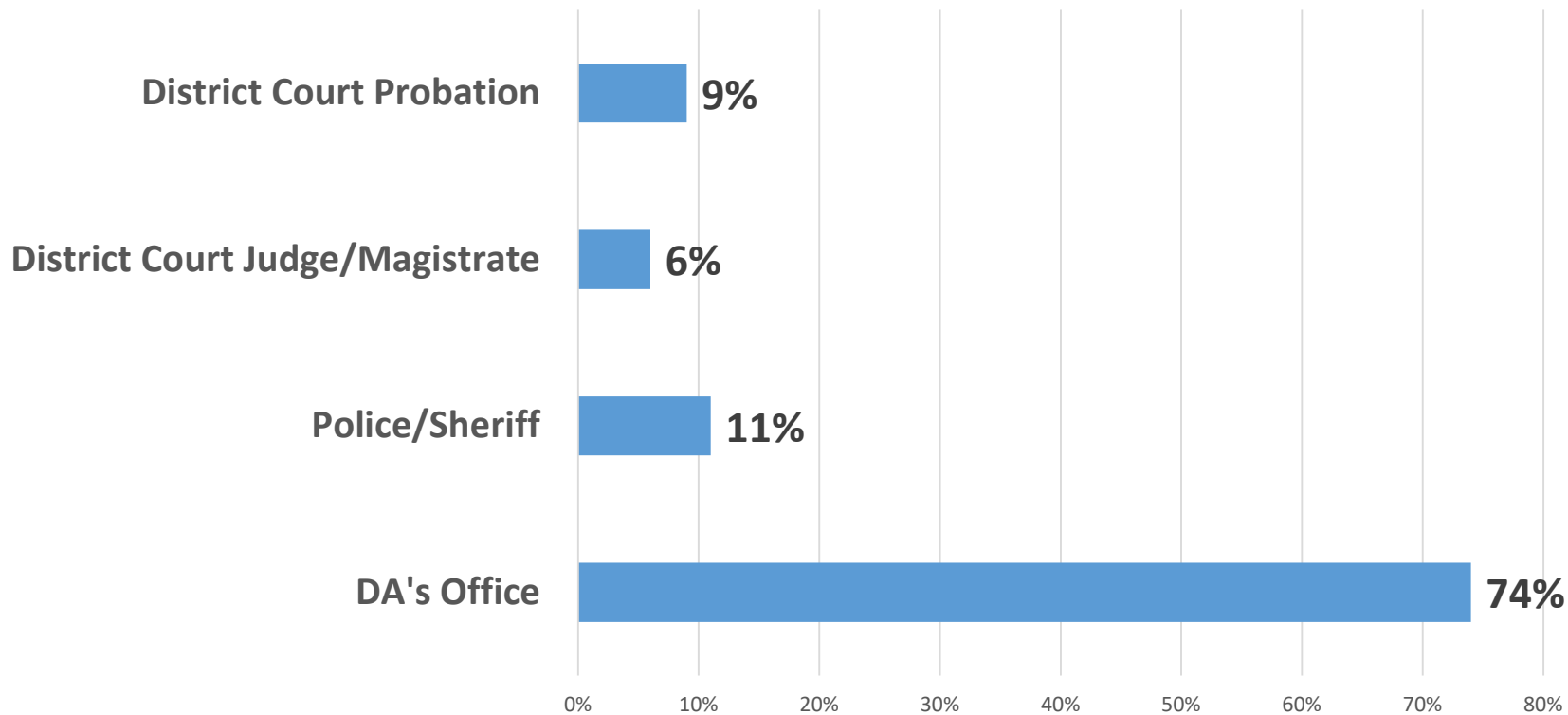
Youth Served SFY 16/17

- Mean age- 15.13
- Health Insurance- 43% Medicaid
- 72% had no prior police contact

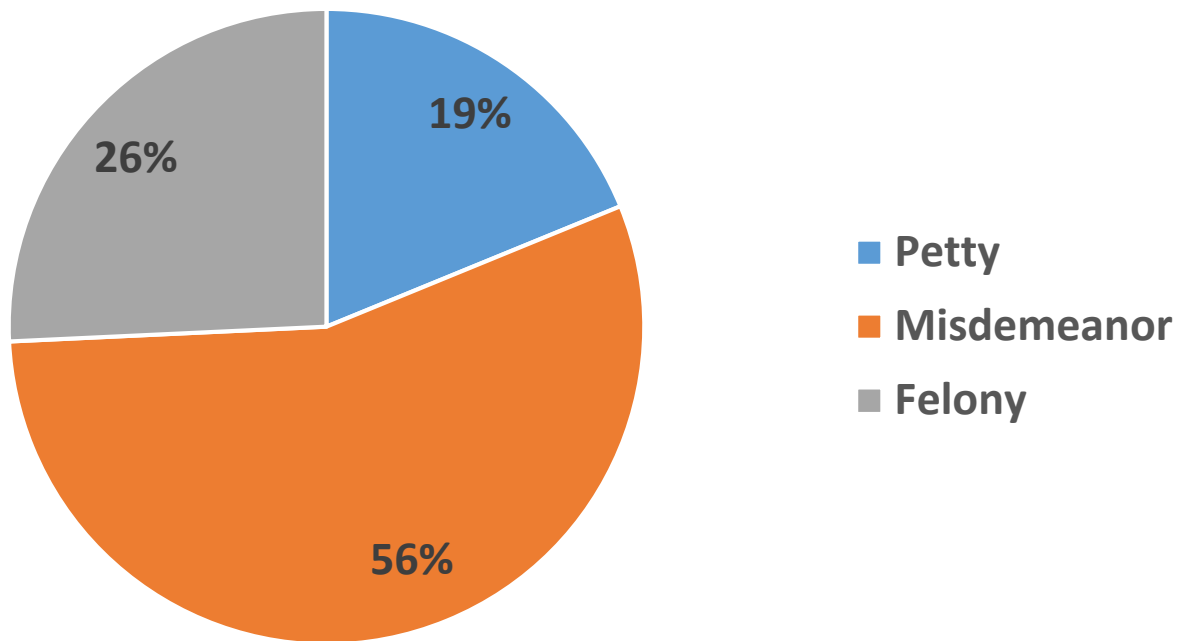
Juvenile Justice Status at Referral for Juveniles Served by Diversion, SFY 16/17



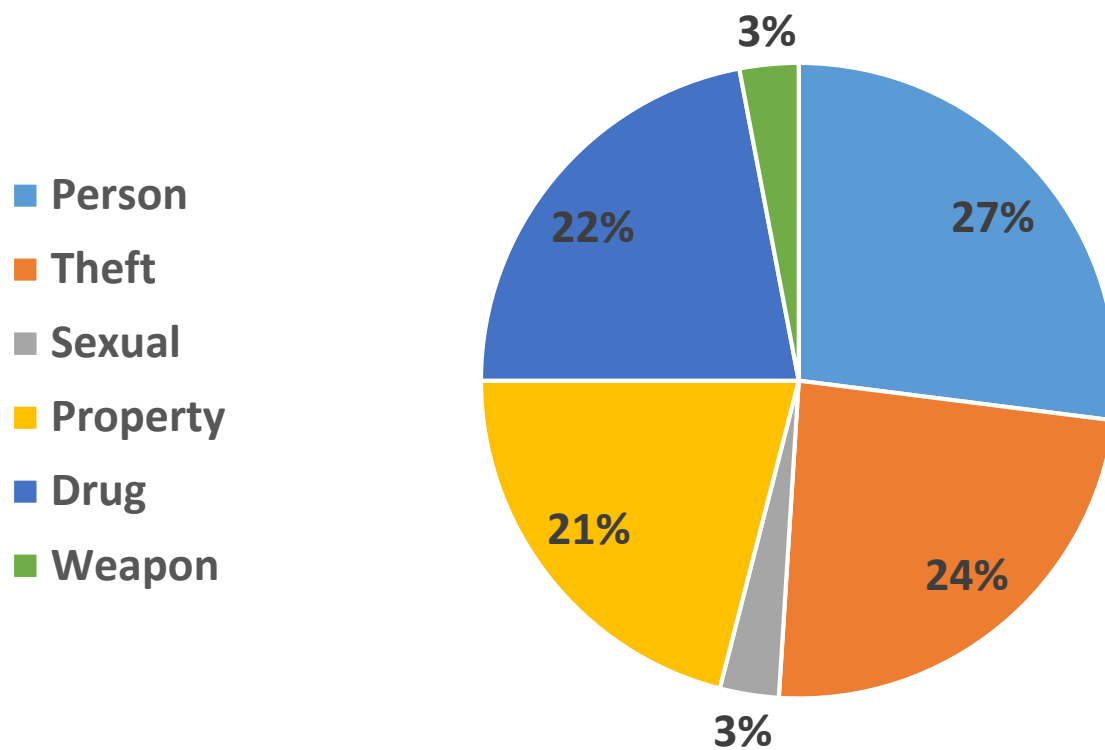
Referral Source for Juveniles Served by State-funded Diversion, SFY 16/17



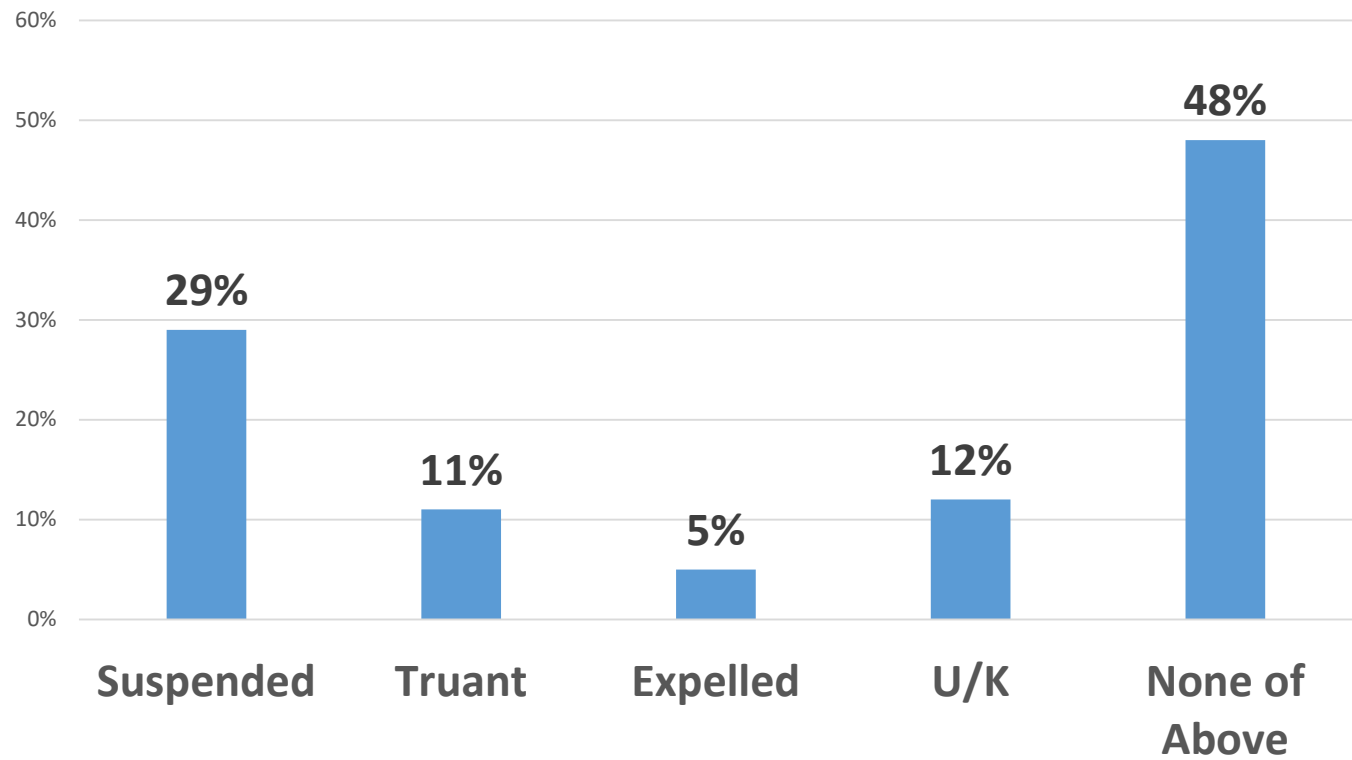
Level of Crime for Juveniles Served by State-funded Diversion, SFY 16/17



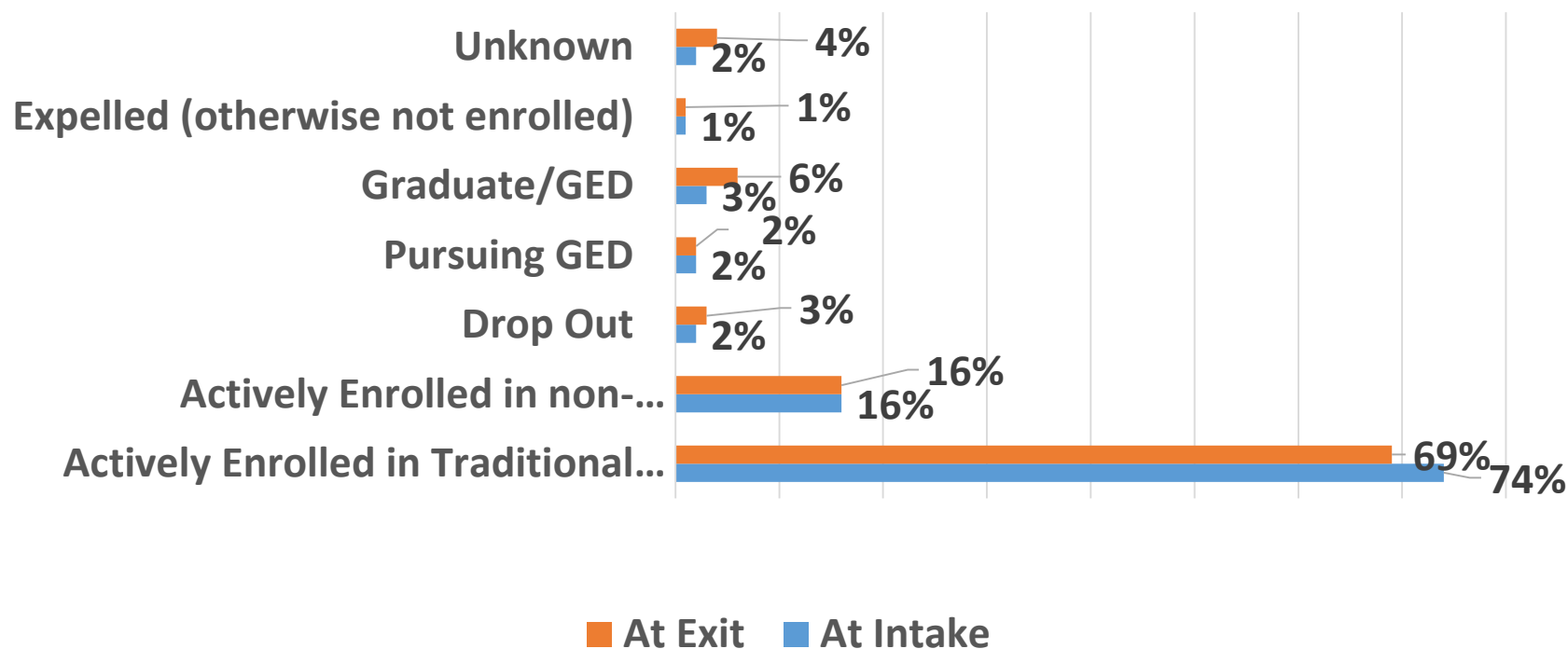
Type of Crime for Juveniles Served by State-funded Diversion, SFY 16/17



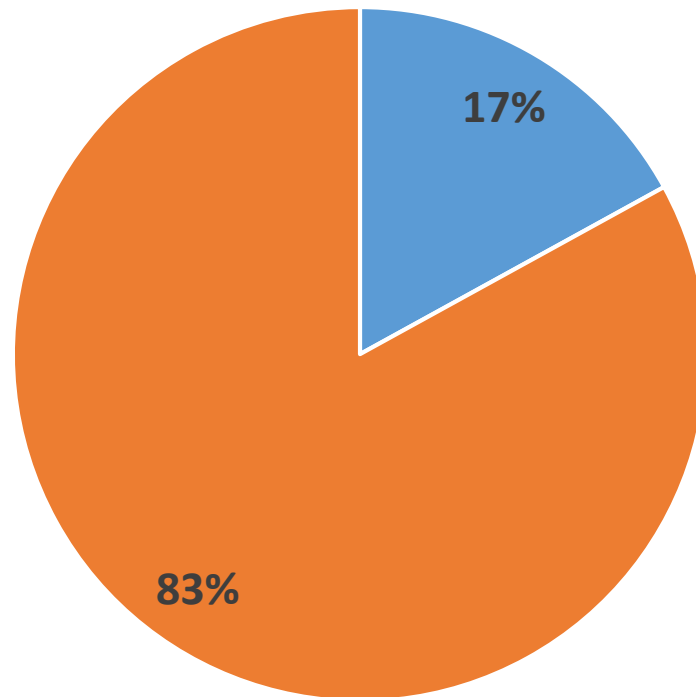
School History



School Setting for Juveniles Served by State-funded Diversion, Matched at Intake and Exit, SFY 16/17




Exit Status



■ Unsuccessful ■ Successful

**SFY 2016-17-
1,207 youth exited
Diversion**



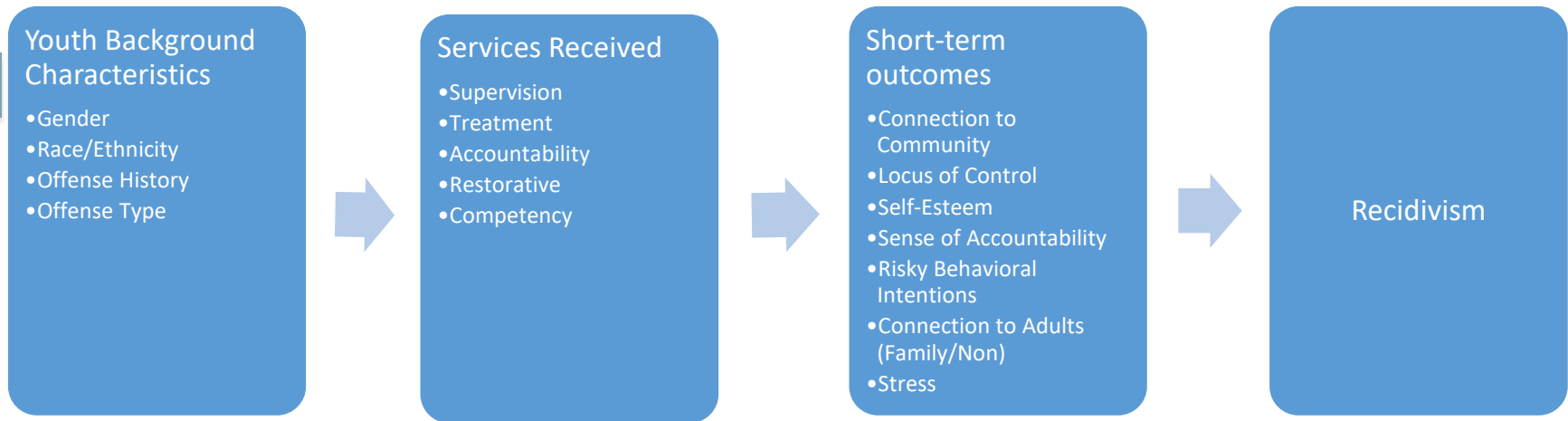
July 2014- June 2017

- Key Changes during the grant period
 - Programs were required to screen youth for mental health and substance use issues beginning in FY2014-2015
 - Removal of 2 short-term outcomes at the end of FY2014-2015: Decision Making and Future Aspirations
 - Addition of 3 short-term outcomes at the beginning of FY2015-2016: Connection to Adults (Familial Adults and Non-Familial Adults) and Stress
 - Across all 3 years, pre and Post-surveys collected from more than 80% of all youth participating in DCJ Funded juvenile diversion
 - In the Preliminary Dataset, 3 years of pre- and post-surveys and 2 years of recidivism data
 - Only 1 year of recidivism data for youth with data captured on the 3 new outcomes



Changes in Youth Served

- Decrease in referrals from District Court Probation
 - Decrease in post-adjudicated youth
- Increase in referrals from Police/Sheriff
- Increase in petty offense referrals



Supervision Services

- Case Management
- Tracking/Mentoring
- Electronic Monitoring
- Drug/Alcohol Testing

Treatment Services

- Multi-Agency Assessment
- Individual/Group/Family Mental Health Treatment/Counseling
- Substance Use Treatment/Counseling

- Offense Specific Treatment

Accountability

- Community Service
- Restitution
- Teen Court

Restorative

- RJ Circle Planning
- RJ Circle
- VOM
- Victim/Community Impact Panel

- Apology to Victim

Competency

- Education/Tutoring/GED
- Employment/Vocational
- Drug/Alcohol Classes
- Offense Specific Classes
- Victim Empathy Classes
- Pro-Social Activities
- Special Projects



Short-Term Outcomes

- Statistically significant change from pre- to post-survey was observed for all short-term outcomes in the desired direction
 - Connection to Community (Increase)
 - Self-Esteem (Increase)
 - Locus of Control (Increase)
 - Sense of Accountability (Increase)
 - Risky Behavioral Intentions (Decrease)
 - Connection to Family/Non-Family Adults (Increase)
 - Stress (Decrease)



Services Predictive of Recidivism

- Supervision associated with increased recidivism; More supervision services associated with increased recidivism
- Restorative services marginally associated with reduced recidivism



Recidivism Study

- The recidivism data set included individuals who were accepted into the Diversion program, had successfully or unsuccessfully completed a Diversion program during the 2014-2015 fiscal year, and had been exited from the program for at least 1 year as of June 30th, 2016.
- Individuals with missing or 'neutral' outcomes (n=14) such as having chosen court, moved to a different area, or been transferred, are not included.
- The total sample size for this subset of youth was 1222 individuals.



Definition of Recidivism for Diversion

- A filing or filings for a new offense (criminal, misdemeanor, or juvenile delinquency) either while the juvenile was in the program or up to one year after they exited the program.
- Differs from the definition used by judicial or DYS which uses adjudication for a new offense instead of filing as the marker

Recidivism Findings

- Of all youth who had been exited from a Diversion program for at least one year, 15.6 percent of youth had recidivated during their participation in Diversion and/or within the one year after their participation.
- Of those who had exited Diversion successfully, 11.7 percent of youth had recidivated during their participation in Diversion and/or within the one year after their participation.
- Of those who exited Diversion unsuccessfully, 22.2% of youth had recidivated during their participation in Diversion and/or within the one year after their participation.

Marijuana Tax Funds-7 programs funded (started SFY 16/17)

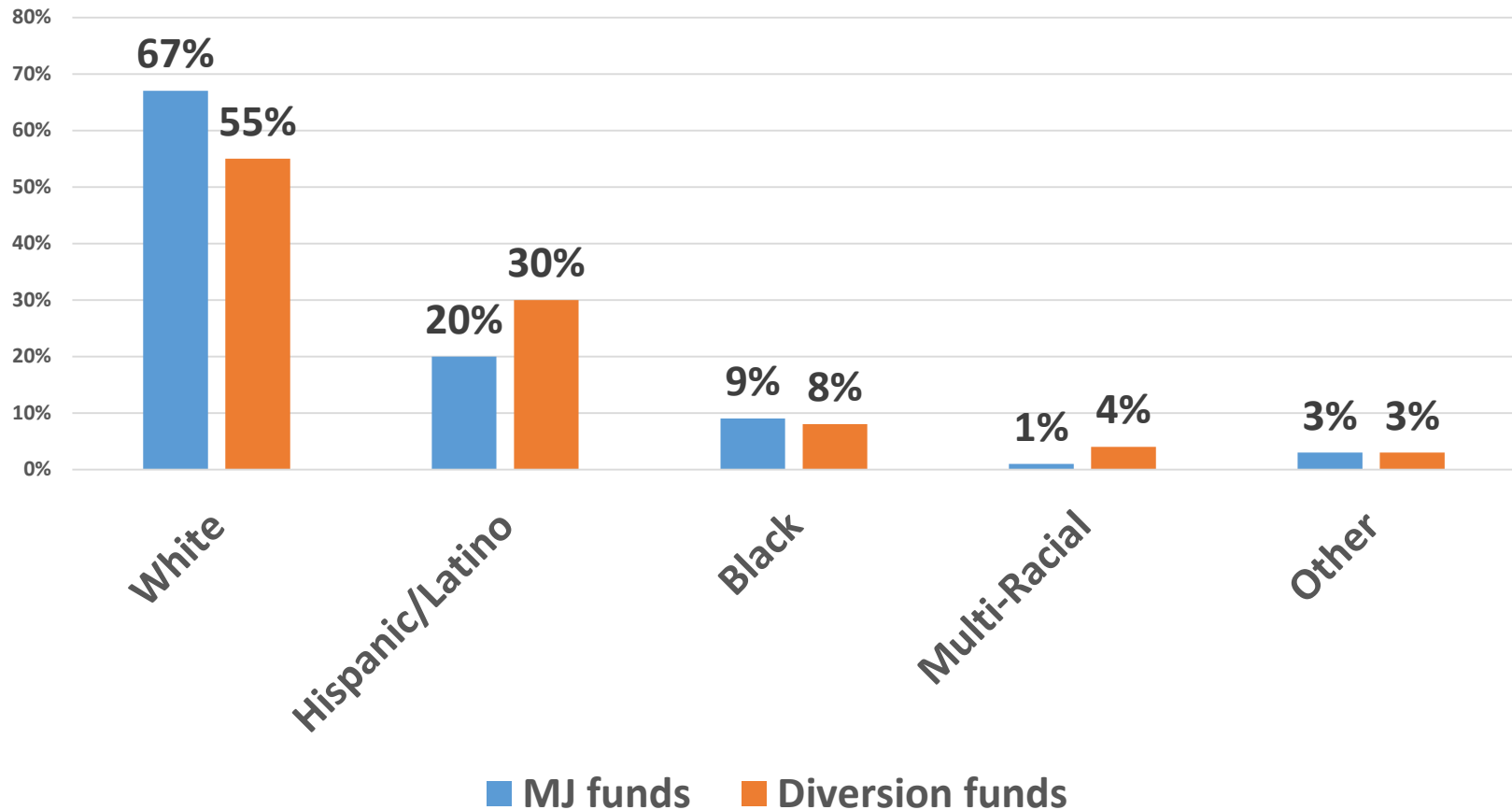
- **Purpose/Overall Goal:**

- Increase access to substance use screening, assessment and treatment services for youth receiving juvenile diversion programming.
- Funds can be used for
 - Screening, assessment, and treatment for marijuana and general substance abuse needs;
 - Addressing the practical barriers to treatment;
 - Providing incentives to encourage abstinence from substances;
 - Obtaining training for program staff; and
 - Providing services to caregivers as it relates to substance use and abuse.
 - Travel

MJ Tax Funds

- In Fiscal Year 2017-2018, of youth who were served by the Marijuana Tax Cash Fund grantees and completed programming (n=159), 65% were male, 68% white, 15% Hispanic/Latino ethnicity, 11% black or African American, 3.3% multi-racial. All other race categories were 2% or less.
- The average age of youth was 15.4 years.

Race/Ethnicity of Youth Served






Preliminary Findings MJ Tax Funds

- An examination of the short-term outcomes that have historically been correlated with a reduced level of recidivism indicated that programs receiving the Marijuana Tax Cash Fund are demonstrating a statistically significant increase in connection to community and sense of accountability.

Preliminary Findings MJ Tax Funds

- Overall, the MJ Tax Cash Fund grantees continue to see statistically significant improvement on the connection to community and sense of accountability outcomes with higher pre- and post-scores on these outcomes than in Fiscal Year 2015-2016.
- Additionally, the MJ Tax Cash Fund grantees are serving youth with lower pre-mean scores (higher for risky behavioral intentions) than the other diversion grantees, indicating that the Marijuana Tax Cash Fund grantees may be serving youth with higher risks.
- However, both groups of programs show an equal level of change from pre- to post survey on all outcomes indicating that diversion programs are able to positively impact the youths they serve.



Recidivism- MJ Funds

- Of youths served in Fiscal Year 2015-2016 by the programs who received the Marijuana Tax Cash Fund, 10.7% of youth recidivated during or after juvenile diversion programming.
- The recidivism rate remained relatively unchanged with 10.4% of youths recidivating in the one year after juvenile diversion programming.