



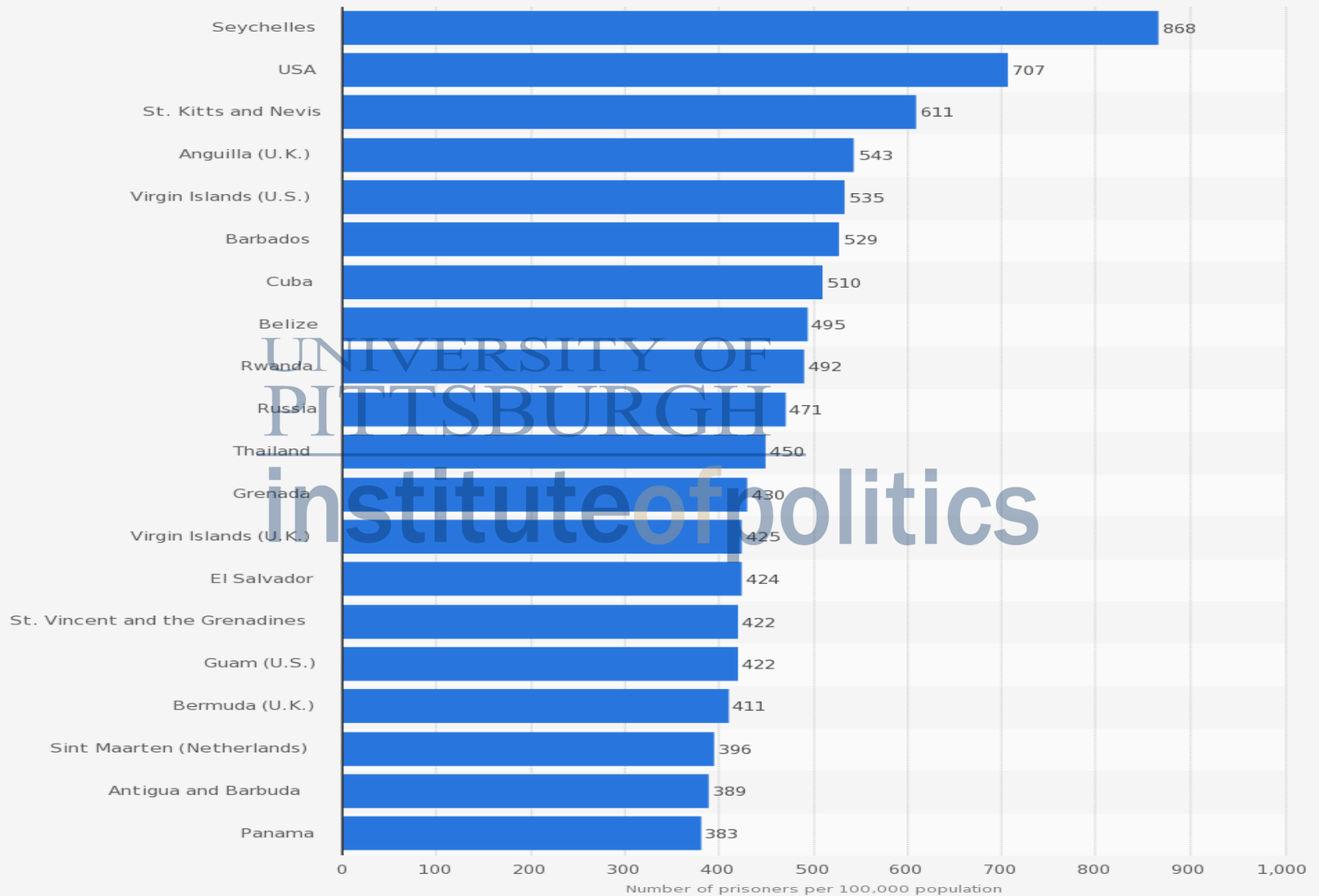
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Criminal Justice in the 21st Century

School of Social Work
University of Pittsburgh
January 24, 2018



Countries with the largest number of prisoners per 100,000 of the national population, as of June 2014



© Statista 2014

Additional Information:
Worldwide; As of June 25, 2014

statista

IN JAIL



1 of every 100 Americans

1 of every 53 Americans (age 20's)

1 of every 30 American men (age 20-34)

1 of every 9 American Black males (age 20-34)

THE COST

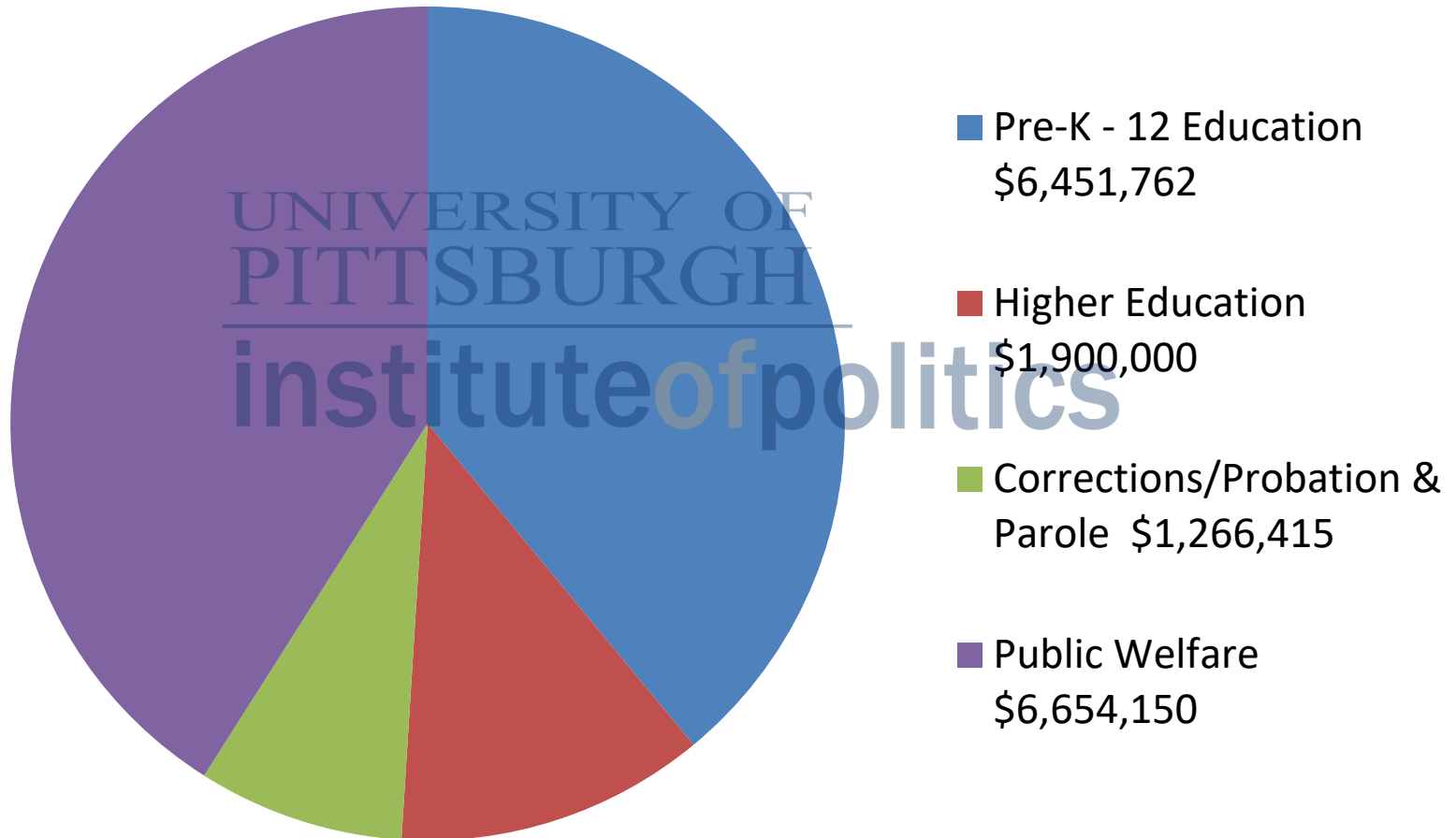


5% of World Population; 25% of Prisoners

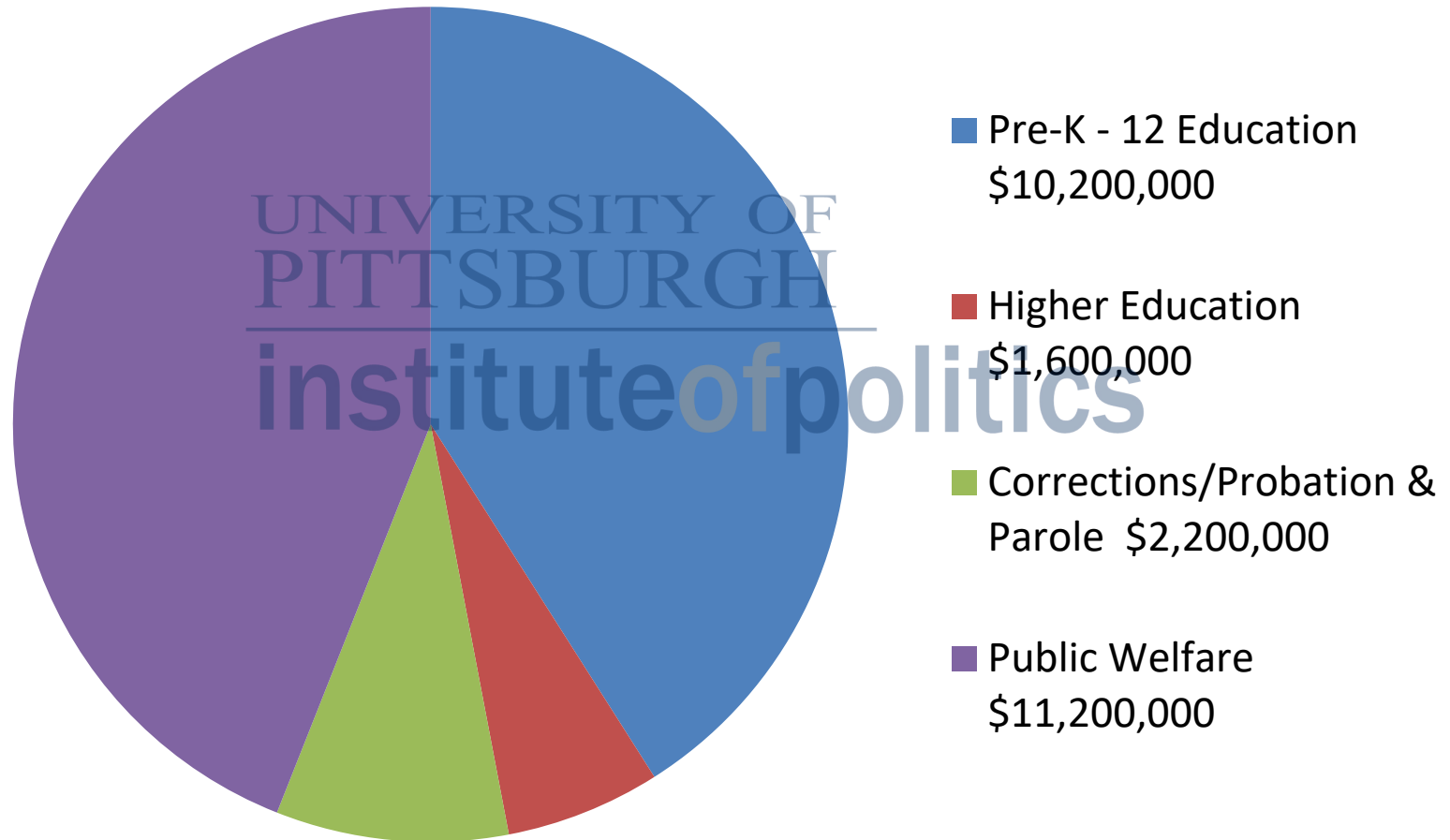
80 Billion Dollars Per Year

One of every 28 children has a parent behind bars

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania 2001-2002

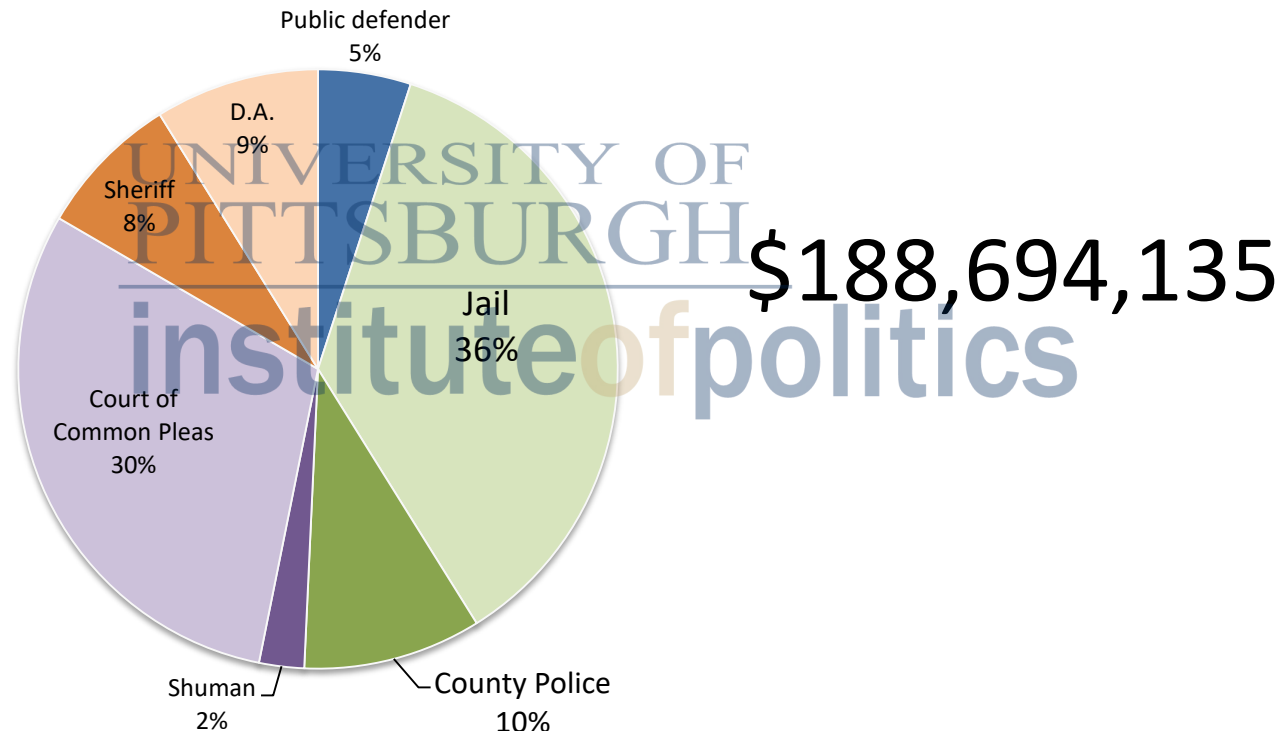


Commonwealth of Pennsylvania 2014-2015



More jail = More money spent on corrections

22 cents of every county dollar goes to the Criminal Justice system



That equates to 42 cents of every property tax dollar.

A New Light: Crime is Dropping



Imprisonment (10-25%)

Retreat of Crack Cocaine

Improvements in the Economy

Population is Getting Older

Private Security

Alarms – Car and Home

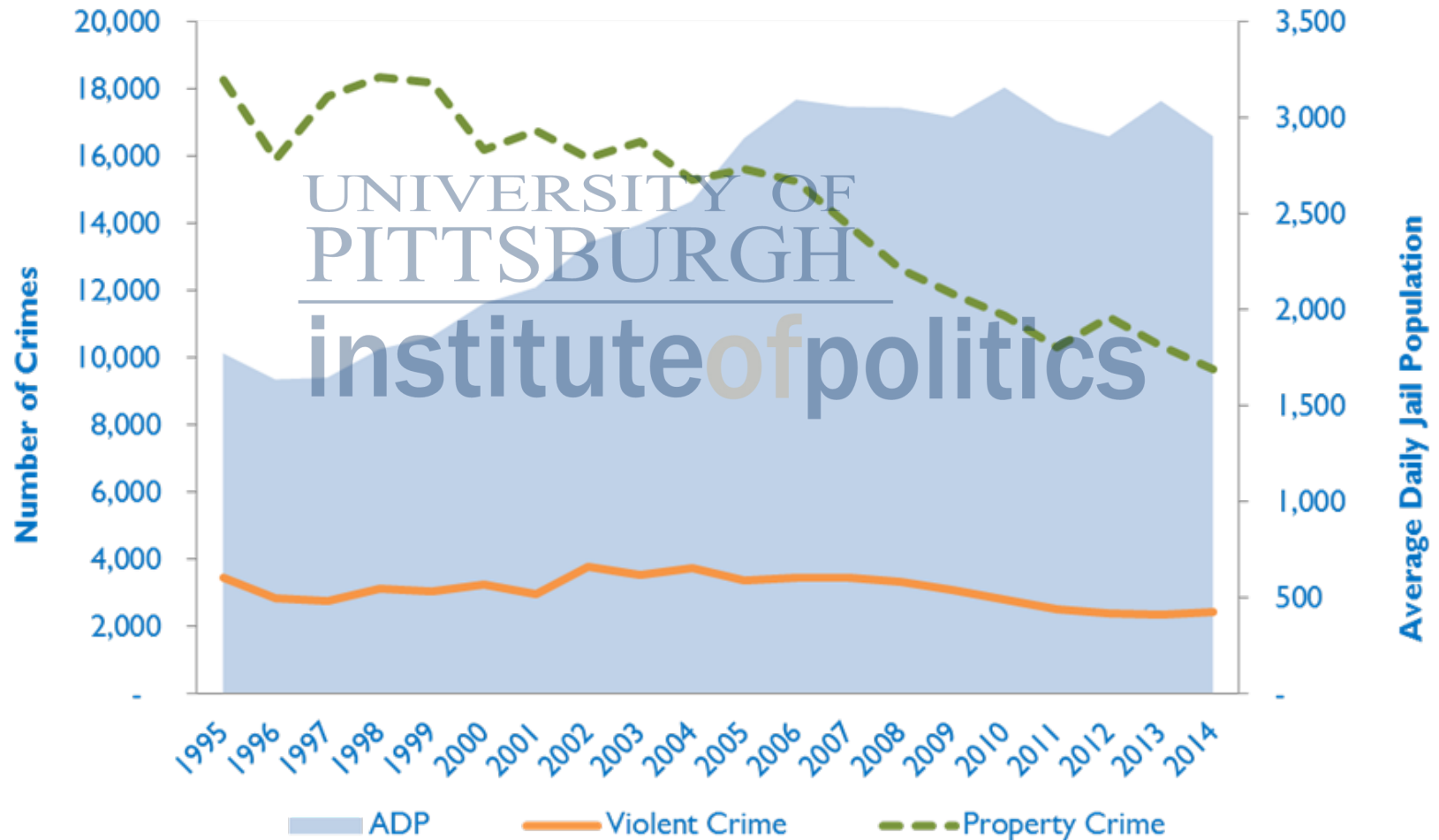
Lead Paint Abatement

Less Cash

Better Policing

Crime has declined, but jail population has not

Crime and the Jail Population in Allegheny County, 1995-2014



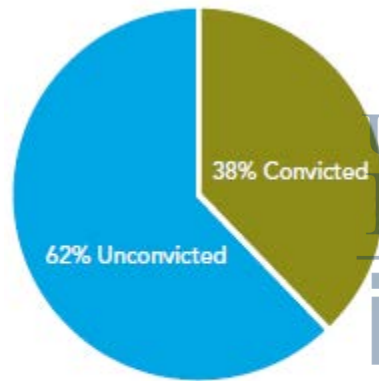
Admissions are down but length of stay is up

In Allegheny County, the average length of stay has increased **72** percent between 2000 and 2014

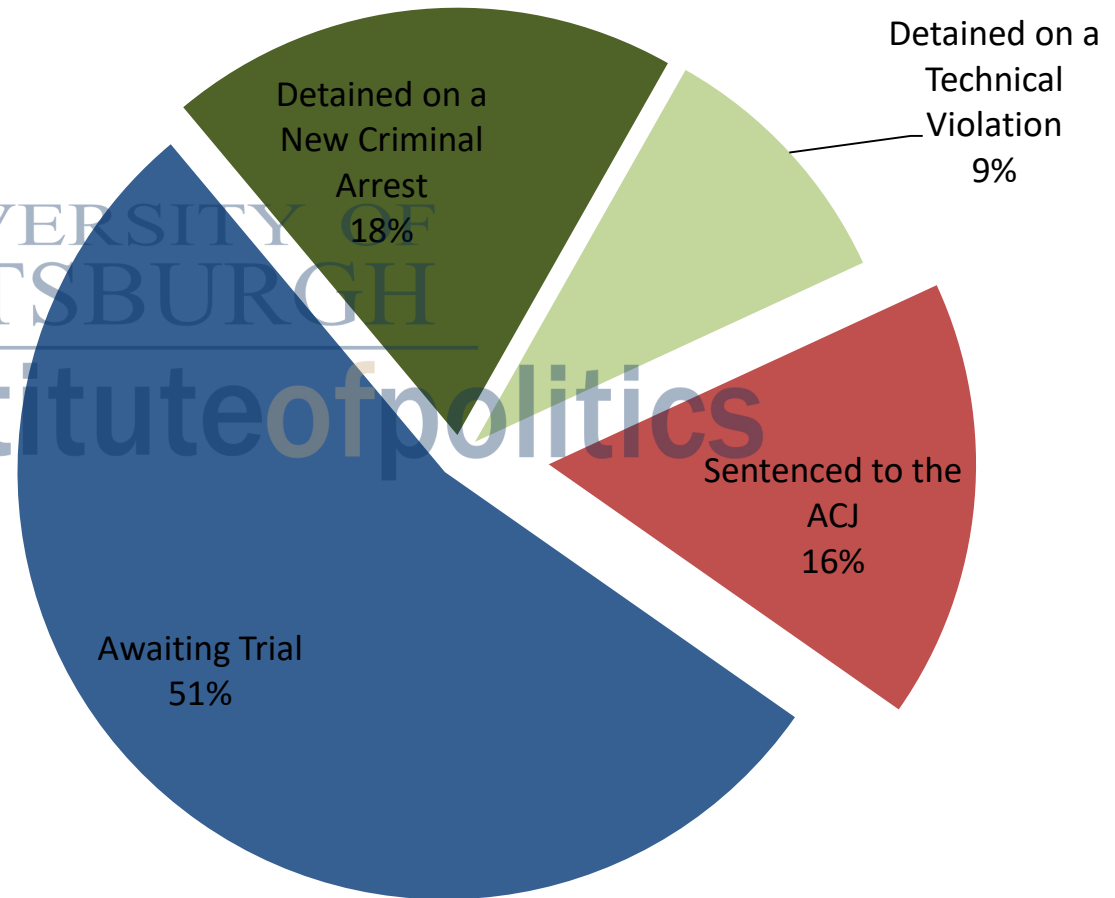


Most people in jail are un-convicted

National Data:



Source: Todd D. Minton and Daniela Golinelli, *Jail Inmates at Midyear 2013 - Statistical Tables*, (Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Bureau of Justice Statistics, 2014), appendix table 3, p. 11



**Excludes admissions classified as other Jurisdictional Holds*

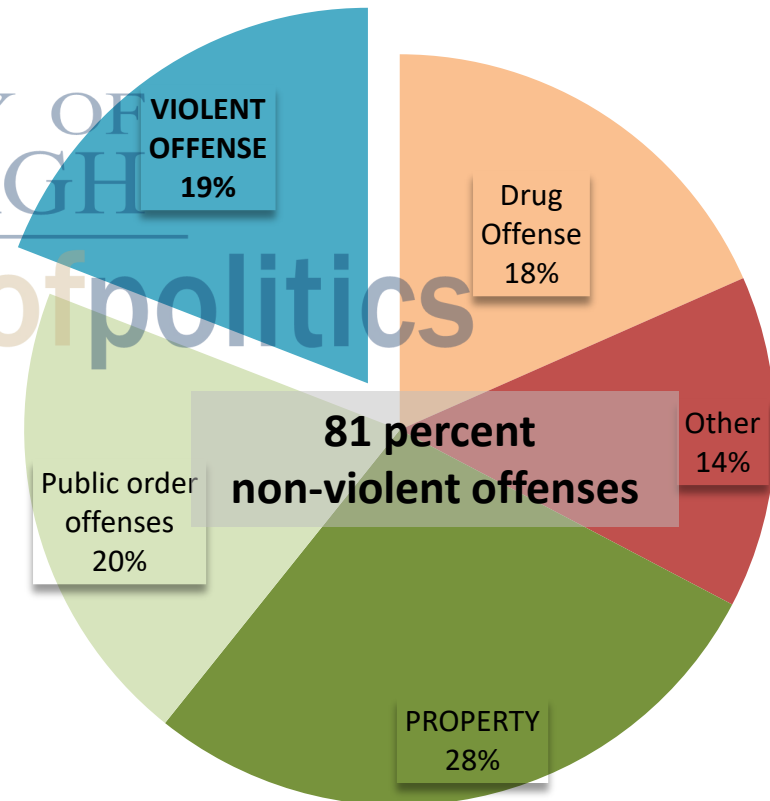
Most people in jail are being held for low-level offenses

National Data:

Nearly 75 percent of people in jail are being held for nonviolent traffic, property, drug, or public order offenses.

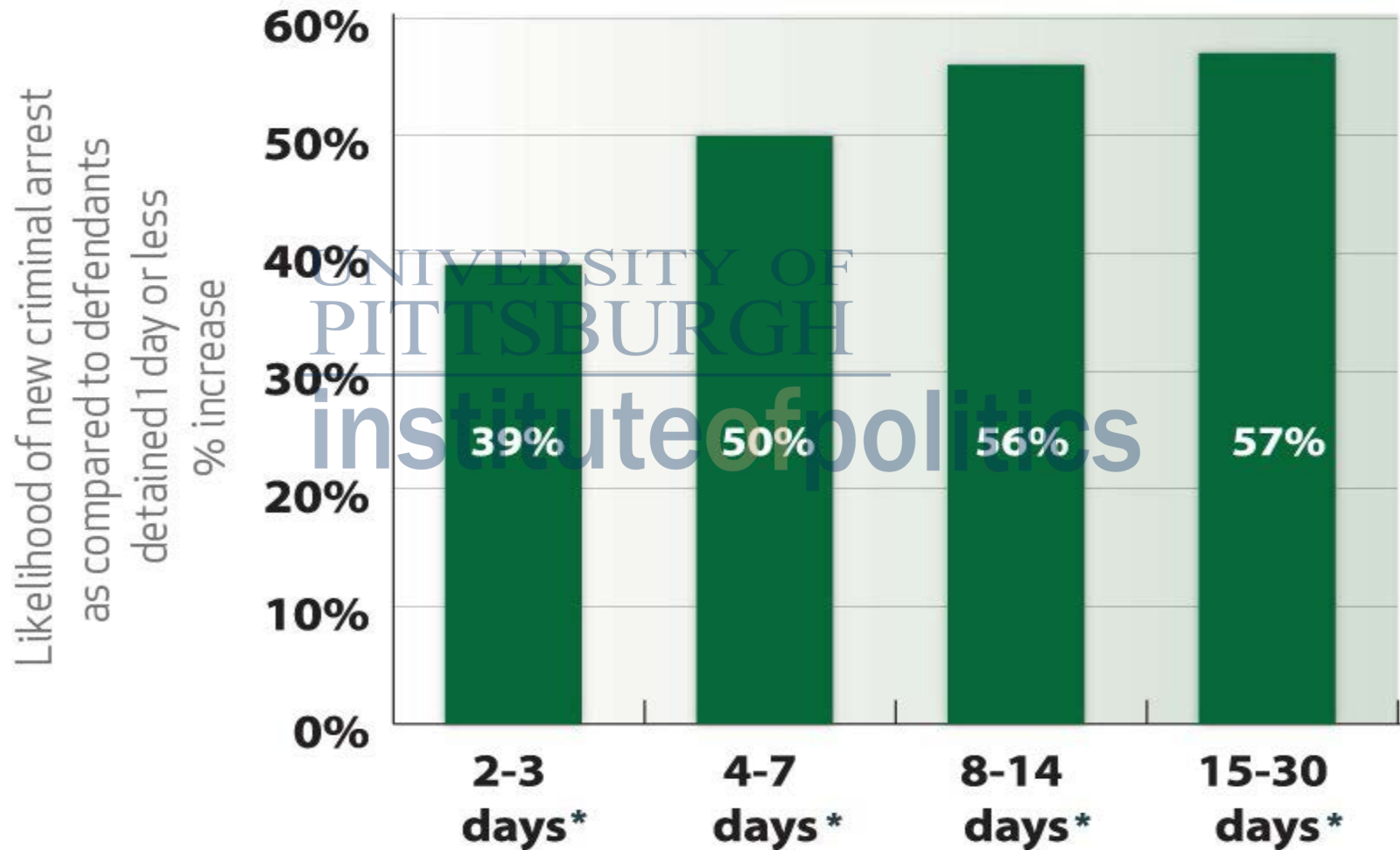


Percent of Offenders Admitted to ACJ 2014, by Highest Offense, Convicted or Charged



Increase in New Criminal Arrest

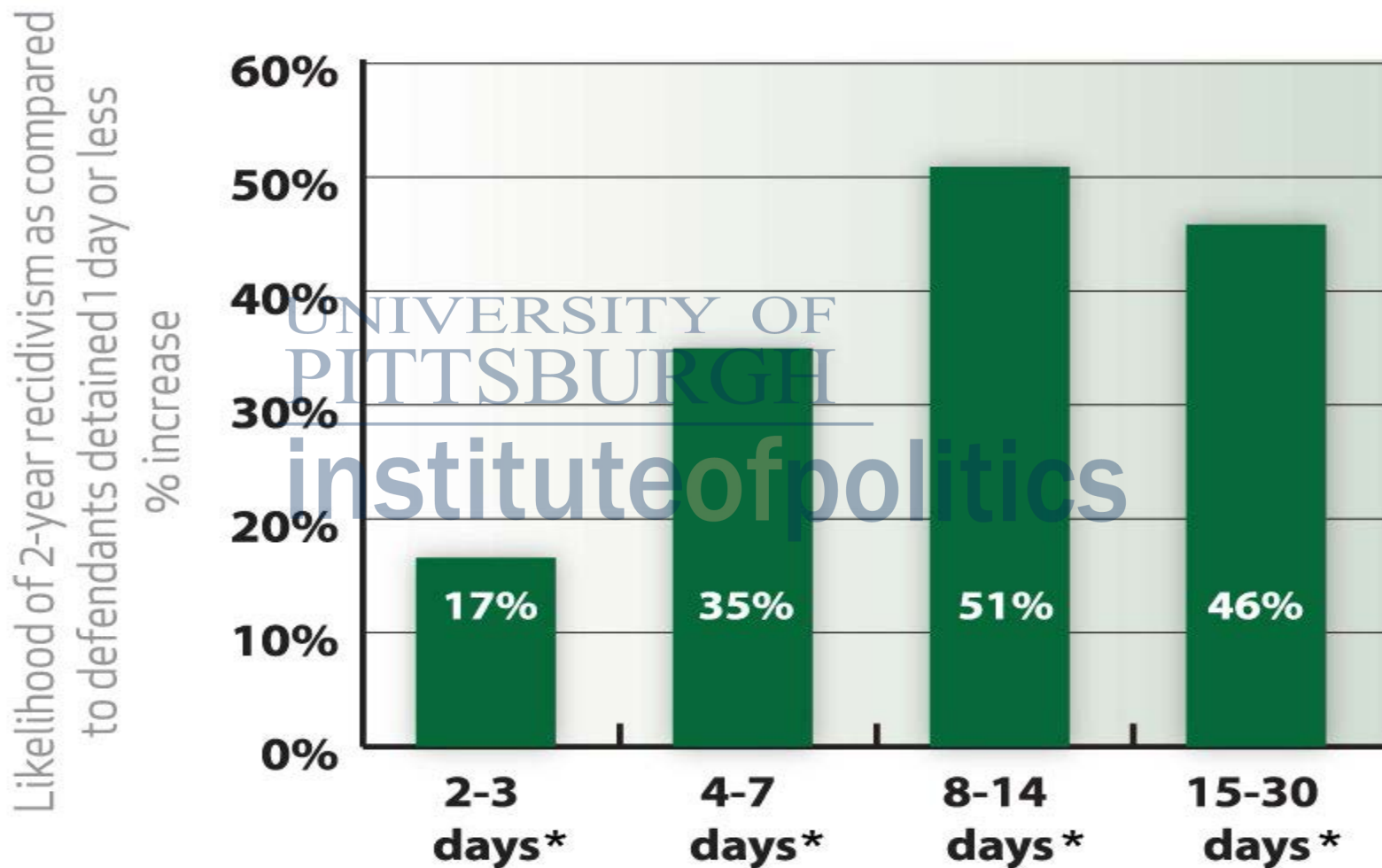
Low-Risk Defendants



* = statistically significant at the .01 level or lower

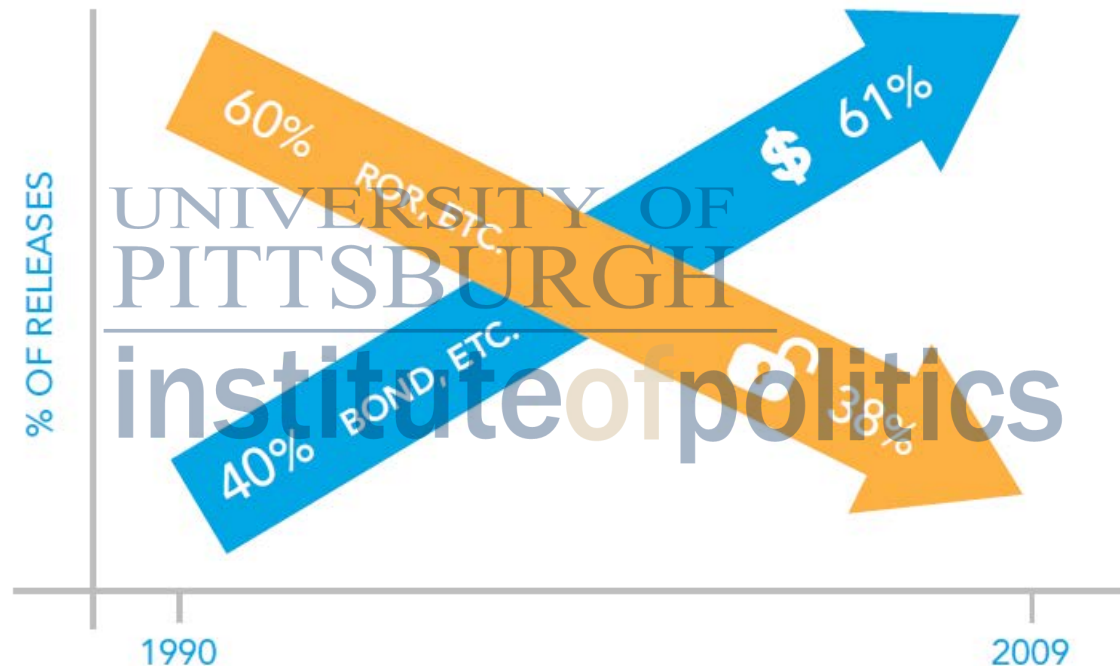
Increase in 2-Year Recidivism

Low-Risk Defendants



* = statistically significant at the .01 level or lower

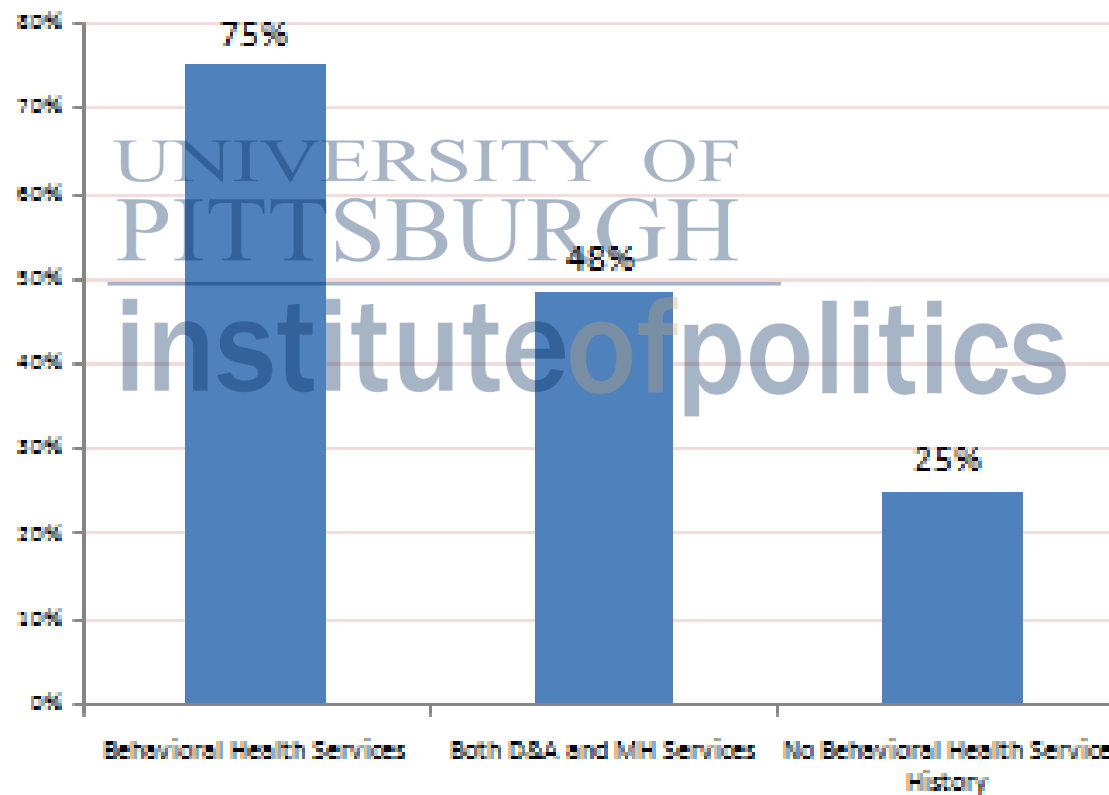
Use of money bond has gone up over the past 20 years;
and money bonds provide less public safety benefits than
alternatives



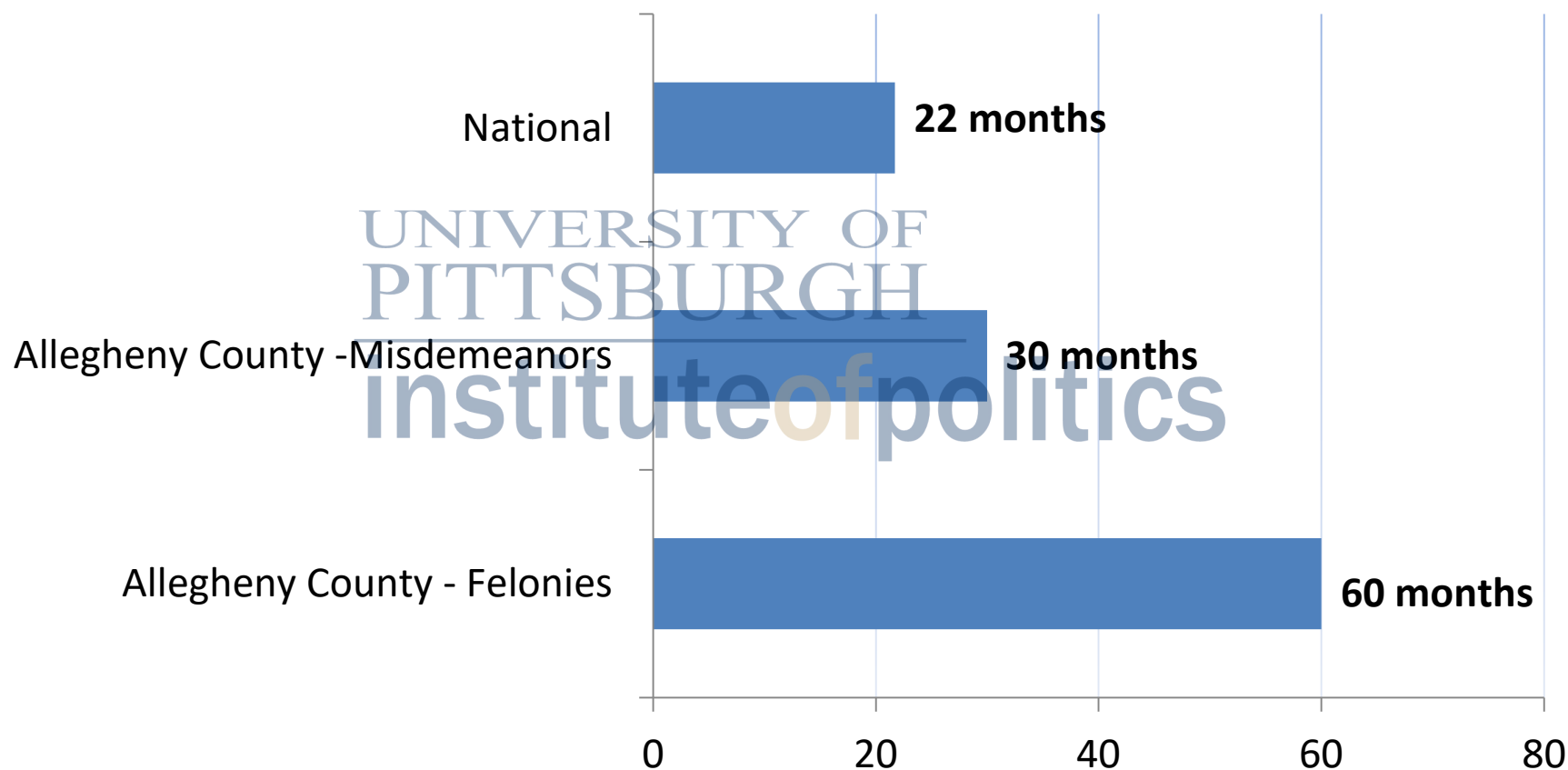
In Allegheny County in 2014, there was no correlation between bond amount and release. On average, felony bail amounts were 2X the amount of misdemeanor bails but 51% of felony defendants and 51% of misdemeanor defendants posted and were released.

The jail population have behavioral health service histories

For People in the Jail on 7/1/2014, 75 percent (2,242) had a history of Drug and Alcohol or Mental Health Services

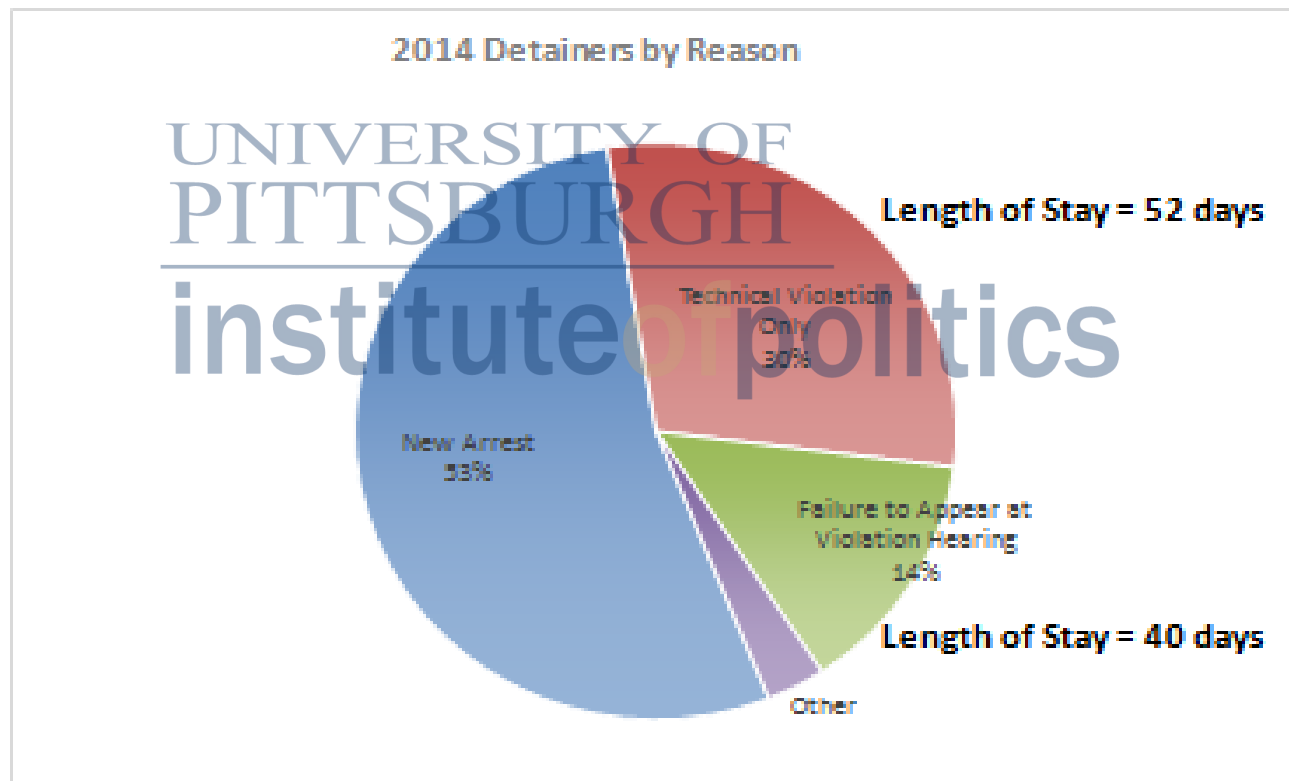


Long Probations Don't Increase Public Safety

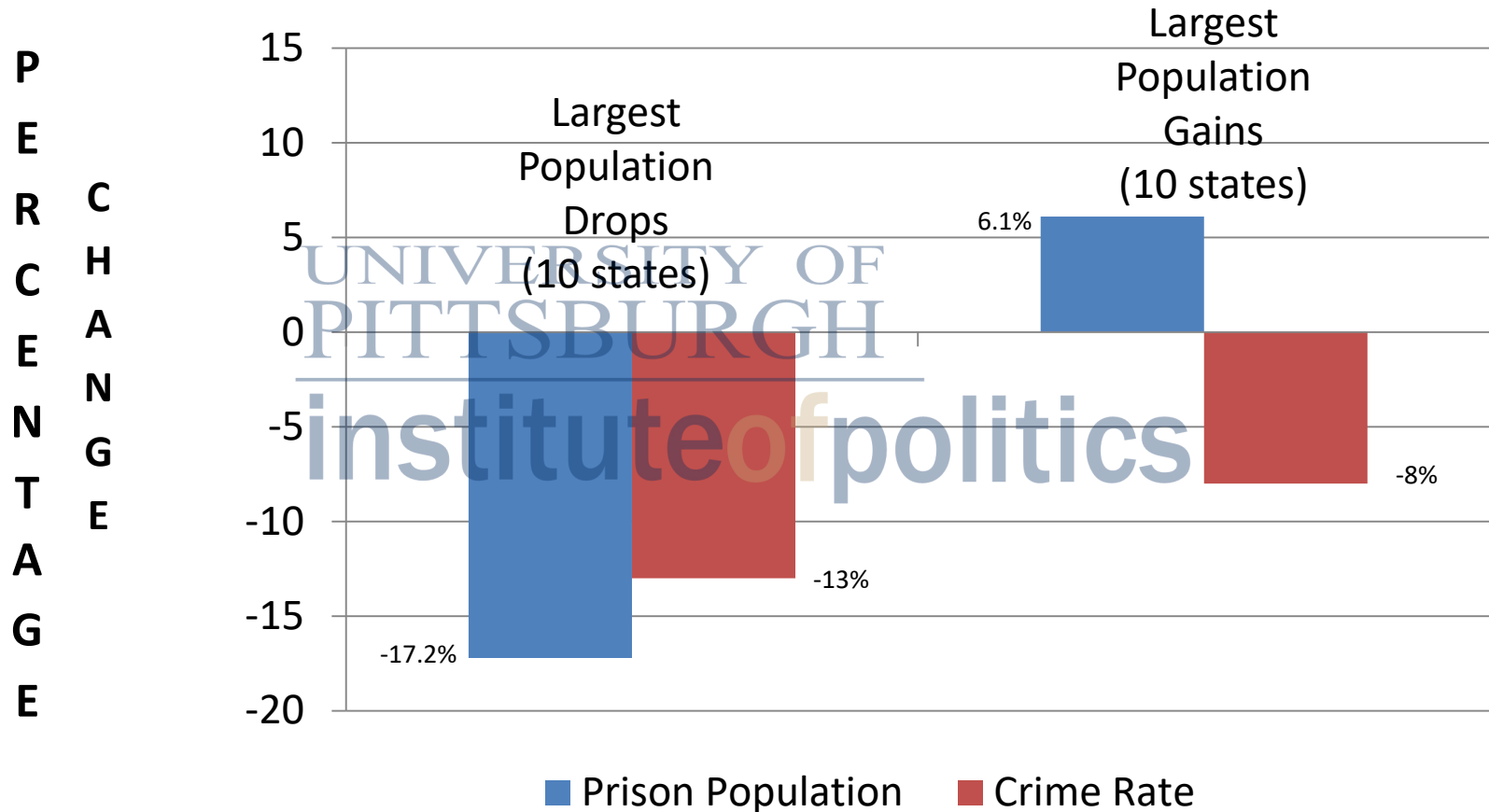


Probation violations

- 44% are for Technical Violations or Failure to Appear



Public Safety and Reduced Prisoners



Issues

Whose Job to Interpret State Laws and Constitution



Judges 91%

Legislature 87%

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Who is Chief Justice 15%

Name at Least One Judge 66%
on American Idol



The dramatic increase in jail population over the past two decades has translated to:

\$12 Million

in additional costs each year to the county's taxpayers— money that could be reinvested in:

- additional police officers
- mental health and drug/alcohol treatment
- more extensive rehabilitation programs that reduce recidivism
- support of other programs or initiatives that benefit taxpayers

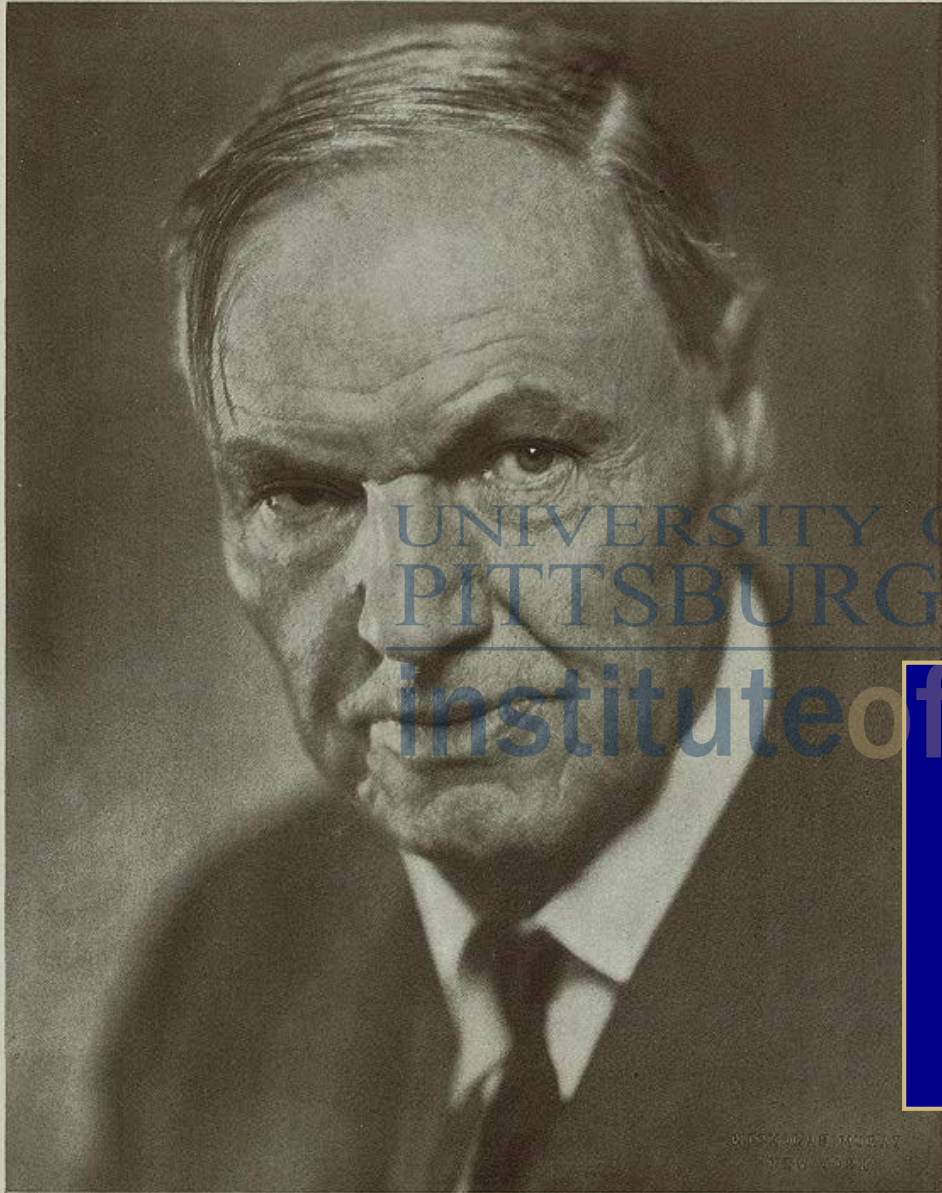


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Criminal Justice in the 21st Century

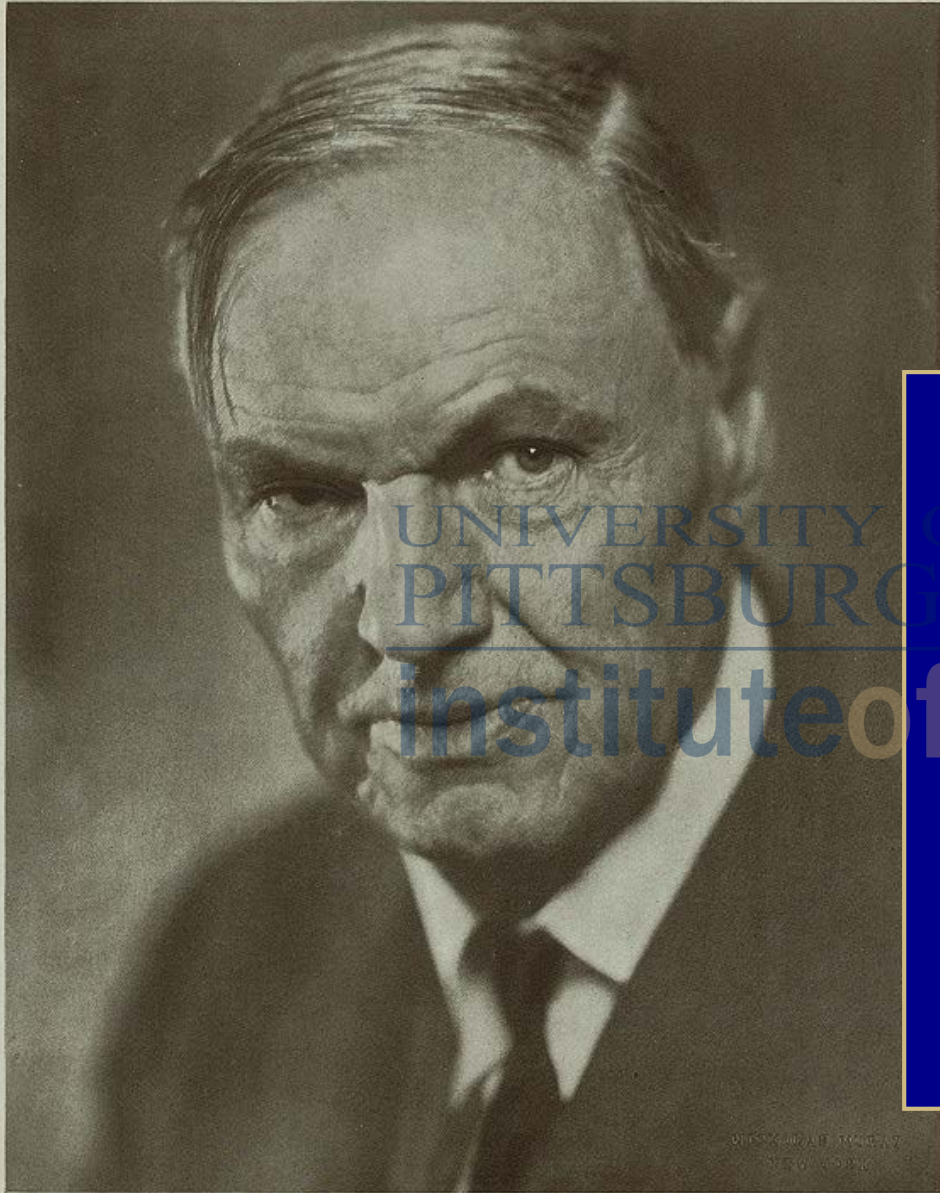
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Clarence Darrow —

Clarence Darrow
*“How to Pick a
Jury” (1936)*



Clarence Darrow —

*“Next to the Board
of Trade, for him,
the penitentiary is
the most
important of all
public buildings.”*

< Is It Possible To Let More People Out Of Prison, And Keep Crime Down?

JULY 16, 2015 4:33 AM ET

Transcript



RENEE MONTAGNE, HOST:



ing president to visit a prison, a
sident says too many
ballooned in this country since
esday, President Obama told
r fixing the problem.

**The
Economist**

JUNE 20TH–26TH 2015

Economist.com

A SPECIAL REPORT ON NIGERIA'S FUTURE

My Big Fat Greek Divorce

China's capitalist torch-bearer

How green is the pope?

Computers make a quantum leap

Jailhouse nation

2.3 million reasons to fix America's prison problem



The
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2.3 million reasons to fix America's prison problem



“Per head, the incarceration rate in the land of the free has risen seven-fold since the 1970’s...”

The New York Times Magazine

August 16, 2013

Every year, thousands of

INNOCENT

people are sent to

JAIL

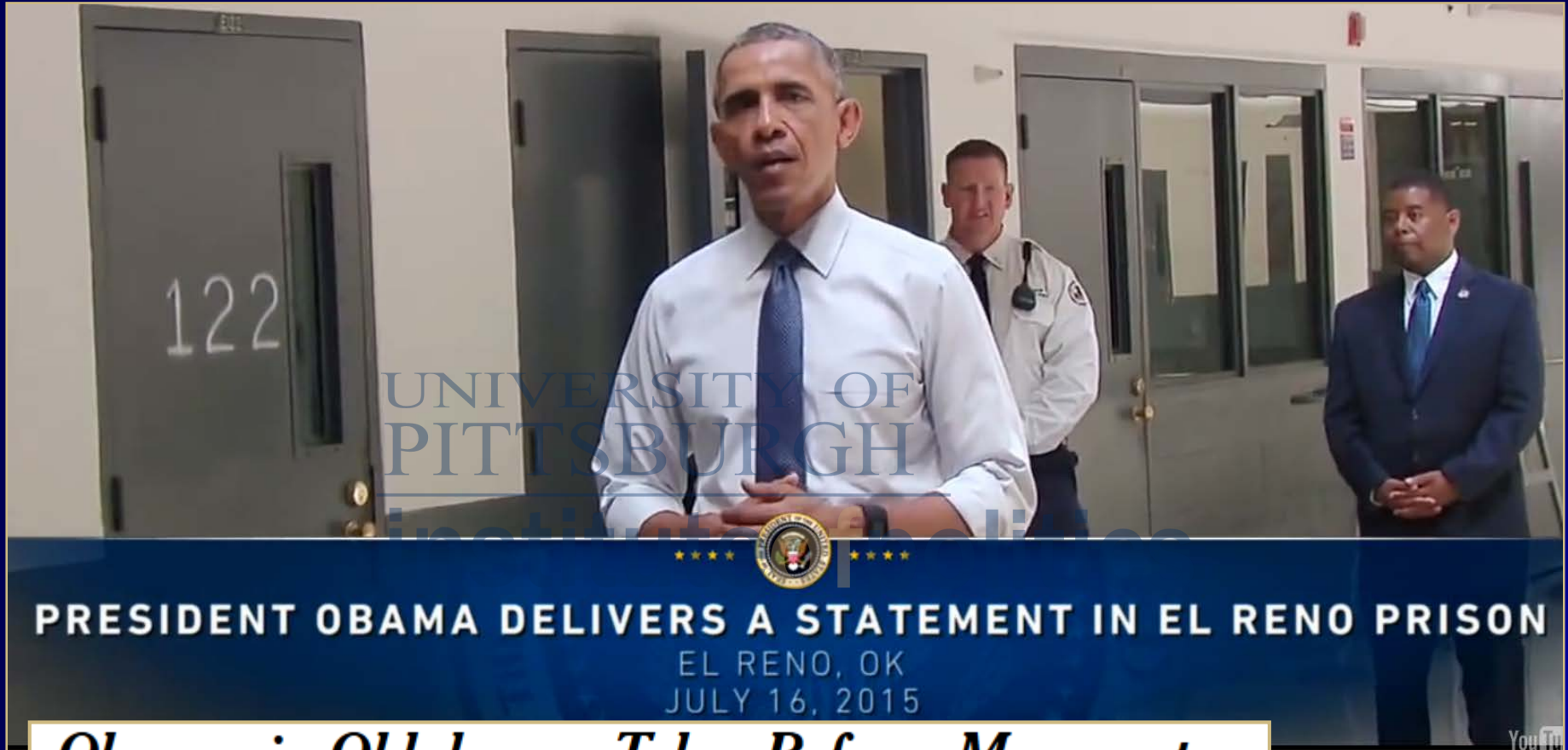
only because they can't pull together

\$500.



THE BAIL TRAP BY NICK PINTO

*“Every year,
thousands of
innocent people
are sent to jail
only because they
cannot pull
together \$500.”*



PRESIDENT OBAMA DELIVERS A STATEMENT IN EL RENO PRISON

EL RENO, OK
JULY 16, 2015

Obama, in Oklahoma, Takes Reform Message to the Prison Cell Block

The New York Times

John Boehner Says Many People In Prison 'Really Don't Need To Be There'

"Some of these people are in there under what I'll call flimsy reasons," Boehner said.



Sam Levine

Associate Politics Editor, The Huffington Post

Posted: 07/16/2015 05:28 PM EDT



WASHINGTON -- House Speaker John Boehner (R-Ohio) said on Thursday that many people in prison "that really don't need to be there," telling reporters about bipartisan legislation proposing criminal justice system reform to Congress.

"I've long believed that there needed to be reform of our criminal justice system. Some of these people are in there under what I'll call flimsy reasons,"

HUFFPOST POLITICS

July 16, 2015, 06:58 pm

Christie calls for criminal justice reform

By Jesse Byrnes

f 255 g+ 42 in

COMMENTS 7



Getty Images

New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie on Thursday described the nation's criminal justice system as "broken," joining a chorus of voices this week urging reform.

Christie, a Republican presidential candidate, used his speech in Camden, N.J., to call for a "fresh approach" to addressing drug addiction and a renewed fight against crime.

"Peace on our streets is more than just the absence of violence. Justice isn't something we can jail our way to," he said in prepared remarks. "Justice is something we have to build in our communities."

Obama, Koch Brothers in Unlikely Alliance to Overhaul Criminal Justice

White House and high-dollar GOP donors team up to push for rewrite of federal sentencing laws



Barack Obama became the first sitting Federal Correctional Institution in Oklahoma

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

Skyrocketing prison costs have states targeting recidivism, sentencing practices

A



The Washington Post

By Reid Wilson May 19 Follow @postreid

It is not often that the American Civil Liberties Union and the Southern Poverty Law Center find common cause with conservative Republicans in Alabama. But on Tuesday, both sides will celebrate when Gov. Robert Bentley (R) signs legislation that will substantially cut the number of prisoners in state custody.

The legislation reflects a growing bipartisan consensus that a generation of tough-on-crime attitudes that dramatically increased the prison population has placed a burdensome strain on state budgets without actually achieving the goal of rehabilitating offenders. To reduce the number of offenders behind bars, both over the short and long terms, states like Alabama are reclassifying some minor crimes and spending more to make sure those who do wind up in prison don't come back after their release.

CALIFORNIA GENERAL ELECTION

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2014



Official Voter Information Guide

★ ★ ★ Election Results ★ ★ ★

[Home](#) |
 [Propositions](#) |
 [Candidates](#) |
 [Justices](#) |
 [Quick-Reference Guide](#) |
 [Voter Information](#) |
 [Political Parties](#) |
 [Audio/Large Print](#)

Propositions

[Proposition 1](#)

[Proposition 2](#)

[Proposition 43](#)

[Proposition 45](#)

[Proposition 46](#)

▶ [Proposition 47](#)

[Official Title and Summary](#)

[Analysis](#)

[Arguments and Rebuttals](#)

[Text of Proposed Law \(PDF\)](#)

[Print \(PDF\)](#)

[Proposition 48](#)

[Proposition 49](#)

Dates to Remember

October 20, 2014

Last day to register to vote

October 28, 2014

Last day to apply for a
vote-by-mail ballot by mail

November 4, 2014

Election Day
Polls are open 7:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.

[Home](#) » [Propositions](#)

Prop **47** Criminal Sentences. Misdemeanor Penalties. Initiative Statute.

Summary

Put on the Ballot by Petition Signatures

Requires misdemeanor sentence instead of felony for certain drug and property offenses. Inapplicable to persons with prior conviction for serious or violent crime and registered sex offenders. Fiscal Impact: State and county criminal justice savings potentially in the high hundreds of millions of dollars annually. State savings spent on school truancy and dropout prevention, mental health and substance abuse treatment, and victim services.

What Your Vote Means

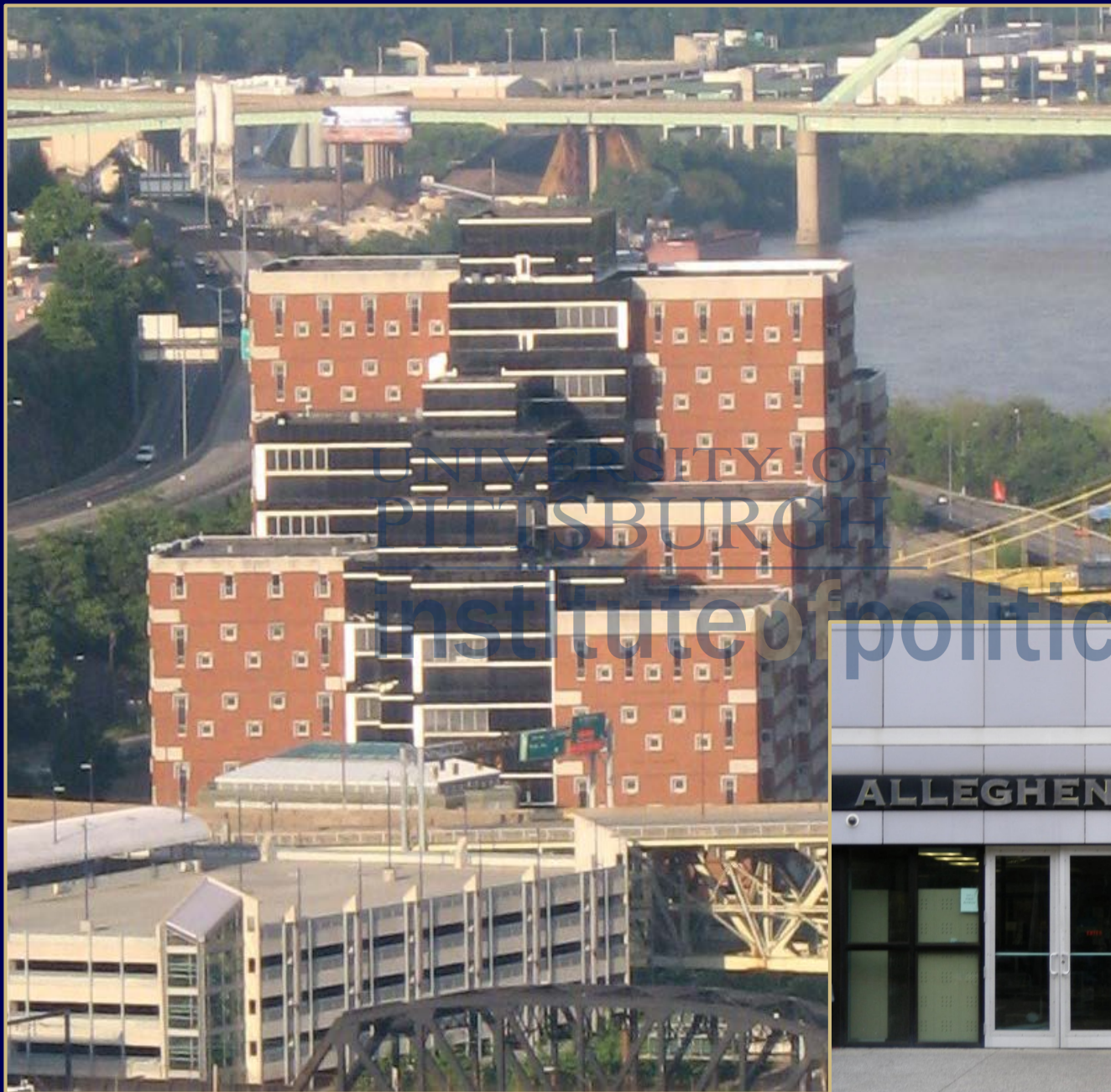
YES A YES vote on this measure means: Criminal offenders who commit certain nonserious and nonviolent drug and property crimes would be sentenced to reduced penalties (such as shorter terms in jail). State savings resulting from the measure would be used to support school truancy and dropout prevention, victim services, mental health and drug abuse treatment, and other programs designed to keep offenders out of prison and jail.

NO A NO vote on this measure means: Penalties for offenders who commit certain nonserious and nonviolent drug and property crimes would not be reduced.

Arguments

PRO Changes low-level nonviolent crimes, such as simple drug possession and petty theft from felonies to misdemeanors. Authorizes felonies for registered sex offenders and anyone previously convicted of rape, murder or child molestation. Saves hundreds of millions of dollars every year

CON Potentially releases 10,000 felons from state prison. Reduces penalties for stealing guns. Reduces penalties for possession of "date rape" drugs. Opposed by prosecutors, law enforcement, and the business community. Opposed by crime victims and sexual abuse victims.



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Criminal Justice in the 21st Century

Improving Incarceration Policies and
Practices in Allegheny County



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Institute of Politics

CRIMINAL JUSTICE TASK FORCE

report

CRIMINAL JUSTICE IN THE 21ST CENTURY:
IMPROVING INCARCERATION POLICIES
AND PRACTICES IN ALLEGHENY COUNTY

NOVEMBER 2016



Guiding Principles

- The preservation of public safety through effective law enforcement that is protective of individual rights is a fundamental responsibility of good government.
- Depriving a person of his or her freedom through the criminal justice system, especially prior to an adjudication of guilt, is a serious and intrusive action to be used wisely by governments created to respect and preserve individual liberty.



Guiding Principles

- Incarceration and other forms of correctional control should be used judiciously, with careful balancing of the goals of punishment and deterrence, preserving public safety, respecting victims' rights, maximizing opportunities for rehabilitation, and conserving scarce government resources.
- The processes of the criminal justice system should be fair; socially and financially equitable; and structured to avoid even the appearance of bias, particularly racial or ethnic bias.



Guiding Principles

- The criminal justice system and all expenditures made in support of it must be cost-effective and subject to appropriate oversight and budgetary review, as is true of all operations of government.
- In a society characterized by dramatic advances in information systems, modern methods should be employed to obtain the most timely and pertinent data that would be useful in supporting fact-based decision making and transparency within the criminal justice system.



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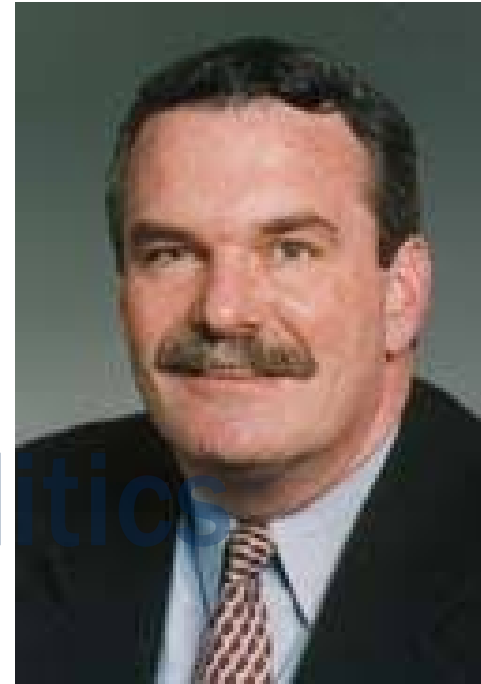
Progress Panel Members

- Dr. Alfred Blumstein, J. Erik Jonsson University Professor of Urban Systems and Operations Research, Emeritus, Carnegie Mellon University
- Ms. Kenya Boswell, President, BNY Mellon Foundation of Southwestern Pennsylvania
- Dr. Quintin Bullock, President, Community College of Allegheny County
- Ms. Susan Everingham, Director, RAND Corporation – Pittsburgh Office
- Mr. Jeffrey Finkelstein, President and CEO, Jewish Federation of Greater Pittsburgh
- Rev. Glenn Grayson, Pastor, Wesley Center. A.M.E. Zion Church
- Mr. Matt Smith, President, Greater Pittsburgh Chamber of Commerce

Progress Panel Cochairs

- Mark A. Nordenberg, Chair, Institute of Politics, and Chancellor Emeritus, University of Pittsburgh
- Frederick W. Thieman, The Henry Buhl Jr. Chair for Civic Leadership, The Buhl Foundation

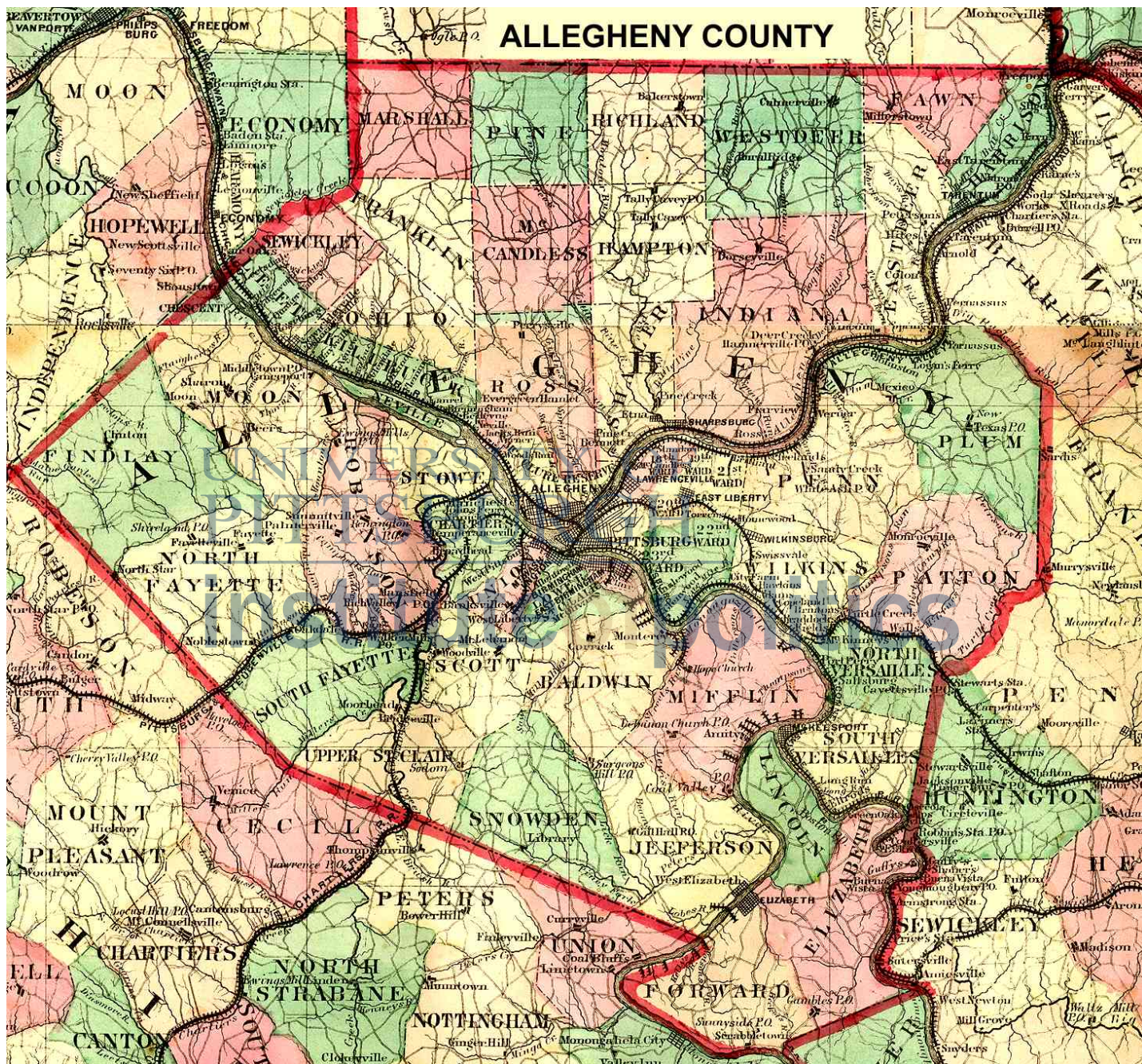




Criminal Justice in the 21st Century

Improving Incarceration Policies and
Practices in Allegheny County





The Criminal Justice System in Allegheny County

- **Assets**

- *Culture of collaboration*
- *Record of innovation*
- *Integrated data systems*
- *Commitment of civic leaders*
- *Ahead of the curve on initial steps toward reform*

- **Challenges**

- *Decentralized system (e.g., police, district justices)*
- *History of independence of many aspects of the system*
- *In business terms, this is a “mature market”*

IOP Report Recommendations



IOP Report Recommendations

- DONE** 1. Establish a Progress Panel
- DONE** 2. Criminal Justice System Coordinator
- BEGUN** 3. Improve transparency through data reporting
- 4. Divert from the jail
 - *Police refer nonviolent offenses*
 - *District judges reduce jail referrals (bail)*
 - *Jail personnel reduce processing time*
 - BEGUN** ➤ *District attorney reduce overcharging*
 - BEGUN** ➤ *Public defenders at preliminary arraignment*
 - *Police and district judges commit to reduce variability in sending people to jail (apply risk principle)*

IOP Report Recommendations

PLANNING

5. Divert individuals with mental illness/substance use disorders

6. Court of Common Pleas should enhance fairness and cost-effectiveness

BEGUN
PLANNING

- *Reduce time to case disposition*
- *Reduce length of probation terms*
- *Eliminate consecutive probation terms*
- *Use graduated sanctions for probation violations*
- *Assess court fines and fees on a sliding scale*

7. Reinvest any savings to improve the system's effectiveness

- *Increase the police on the street*
- *Increase the probation officers for high risk individuals*
- *Expand effective re-entry programs (e.g., Jail Collaborative)*
- *Incentive district justices and police departments to establish innovative diversion programs*

Short Range Goals

- Develop a strategic plan for diversion of individuals with mental illness and/or substance use problems
- Integrate dashboards into practice, using current innovations as test cases
- Expand and refine the implementation of the Arnold Foundation risk assessment instrument
- Explore models from other communities that have reduced their jail population
- Continue learning from stakeholders and identify common themes

Long Range Goals

- Move from programs as solutions to coordination of the “system”
- Integrate data into operational decisions
 - *Metrics* → *Accountability & Problem-solving*
 - *Data Reporting* → *Less Variability in Practice*
- Reduce reliance on the jail
 - *Develop diversion alternatives and practices*
 - *Regional Processing Centers as a possibility*
 - *Reduce and reorient the role of the jail as a possibility*