

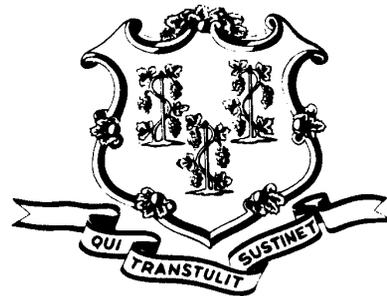
OFFICE OF POLICY & MANAGEMENT

Criminal Justice

Policy & Planning Division



Recidivism among pre-trial detainees



Presented by

The Research and Evaluation Unit, CJPPD

January 2019

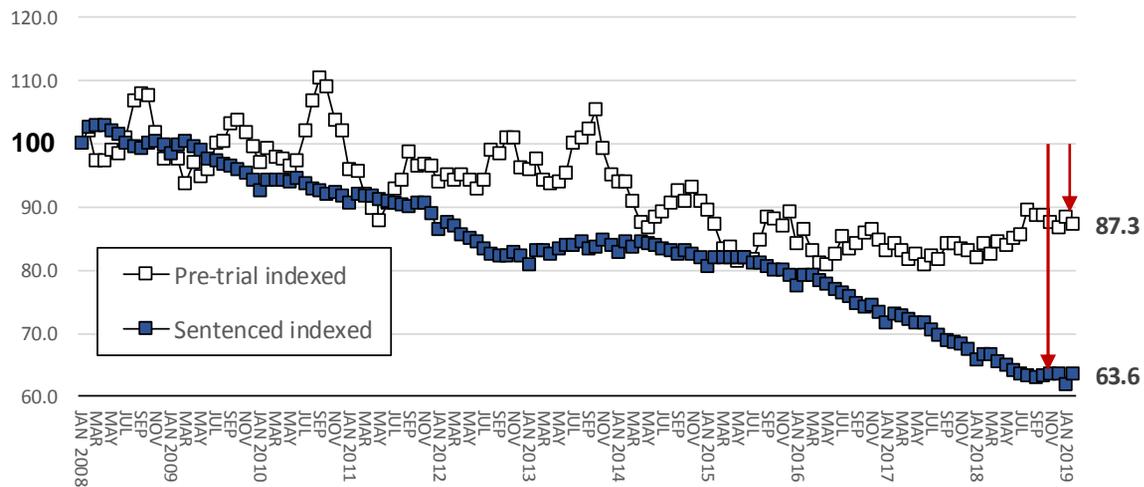
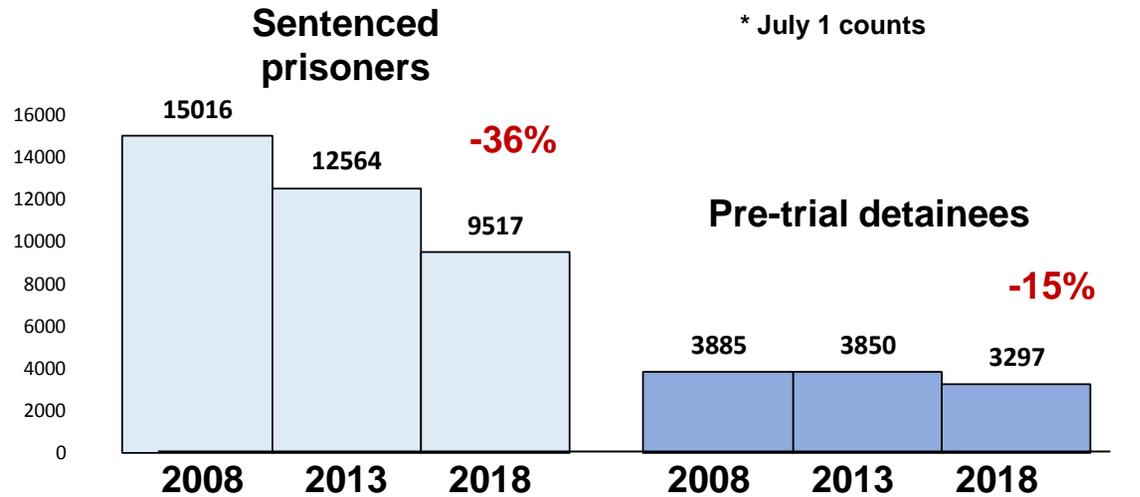
Recidivism among pre-trial detainees

- ❑ Each year, the Criminal Justice Research Unit at OPM produces an analysis of recidivism among CT prisoners..
- ❑ Over the last decade, the Unit has tracked four measures of recidivism among cohorts of sentenced prisoners:
 - ❑ New arrests
 - ❑ Returns-to-prison for any reason
 - ❑ New convictions, and
 - ❑ Returns to prison begin new term of incarceration
- ❑ This year - in a break with past practice - we investigate recidivism among pre-trial detainees.
- ❑ For this study a single recidivism measure will be considered, returns to prison for any reason within three years a release following a pre-trial admission in 2014.
- ❑ We will observe recidivism through several variable:
 - ❑ Release type, residence, criminal history and age.

Recidivism among pre-trial detainees

- ❑ **As a general rule, pre-trial detainees in CT are persons who are incarcerated in lieu of posting a bond prior to the disposition of a criminal case(s).**
- ❑ **Over the last few years, OPM – in collaboration with the CT DOC and CCSD has attempted to develop a more nuanced understanding of this little understood population, and of the dynamics that drive the state’s pre-trial incarceration system.**
- ❑ **In October 2018 – the Research Unit published Women in Jail in CT. This month we will be publishing the summaries of interviews with pre-trial prisoners conducted by our researcher, Kendall Bobula, at York CI in 2018.**
- ❑ **For this current study the CT DOC provided the Unit with data on movement, sentence history and classification scores for 15,416 people who were admitted to the CT DOC as pre-trial detainees in 2014.**

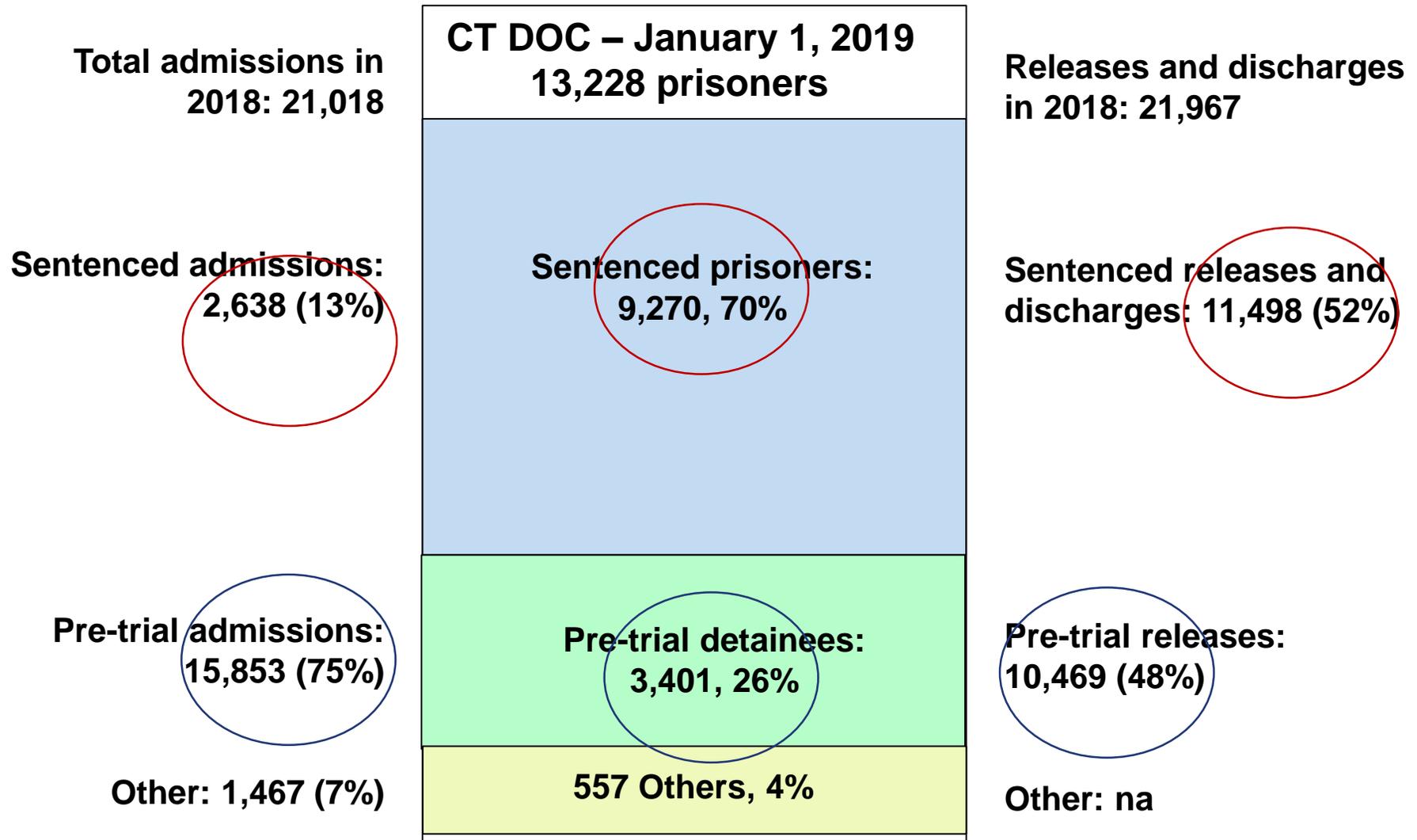
Some background on the pre-trial population



Some of the urgency in investigating the pre-trial population is due to:

- Its growing system impact
- An existing imbalance in knowledge regarding sentenced and pre-trial population
- The inability to explain significant shifts in the pre-trial population over time
- To need to model the mechanisms that drive the pre-trial population.

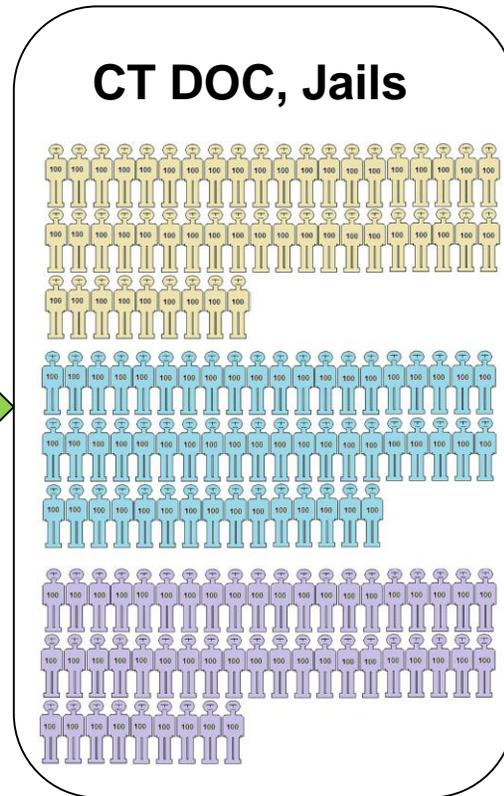
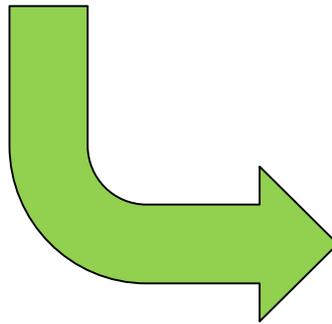
The CT DOC by the numbers – 15 facilities



Costs – bed-days versus event-related costs

First outcomes associated with 99% of pre-trial detainees

15,416* people admitted as pre-trial detainees in 2014



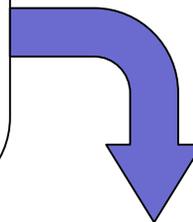
4,902 detainees (32%) bonded out from jail



5,453 detainees (36%) were released at court

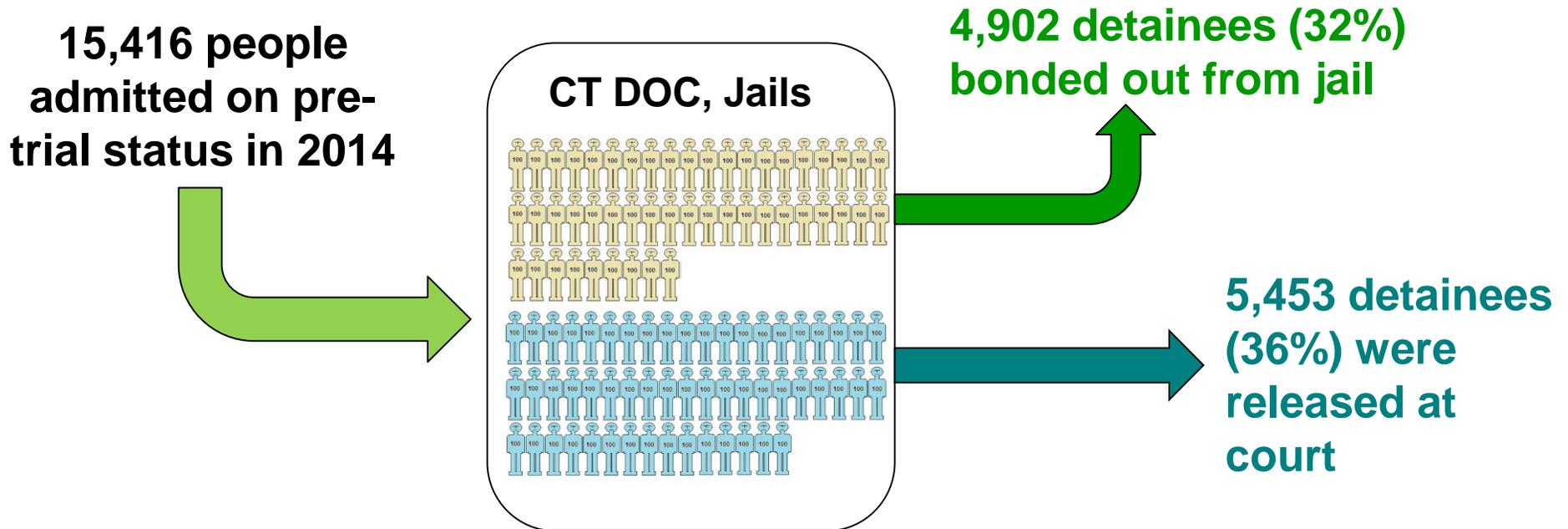


4,951 detainees (32%) became sentenced prisoners



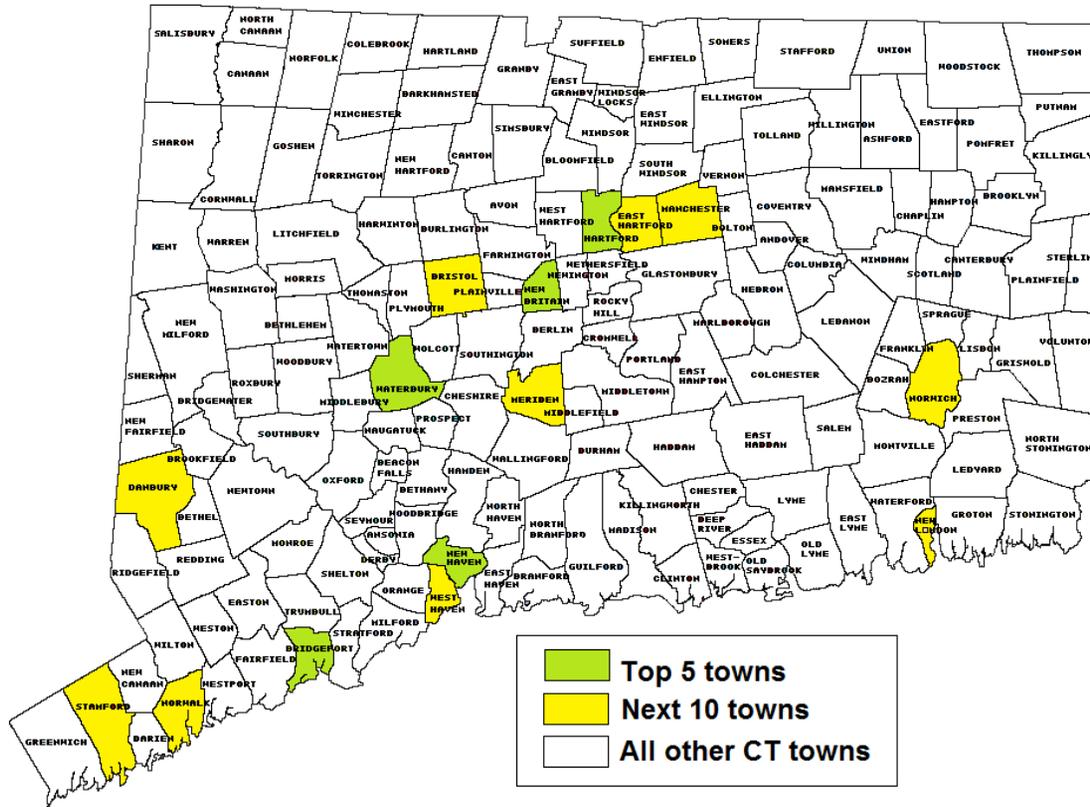
* The figure does not include special parolees charges with new crimes

The bond group and the court-release group



- The bond group was composed of pre-trial detainees who posted their bonds at the jail and were released.
- The court-release group – according to CT DOC movement data – left jail for a court date and were released at court. (A fuller analysis of these cases will be performed in the future.)
- These two groups of 10,355 people became the study-cohort

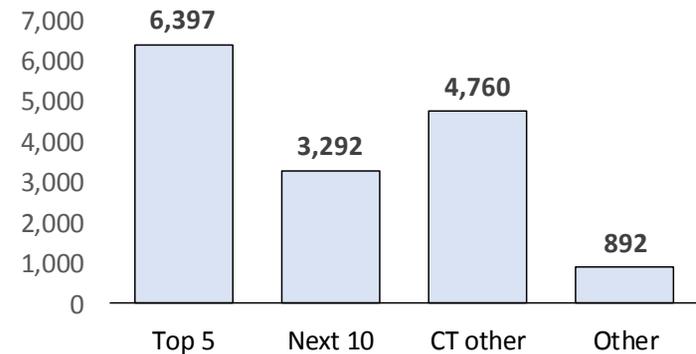
Where pre-trial detainees came from in CT



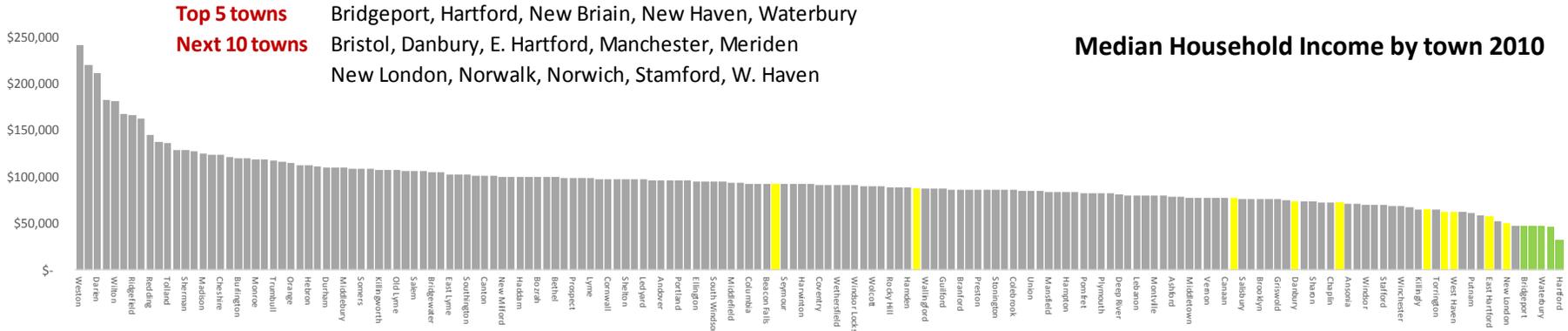
Roughly 2/3 of all pre-trial admissions came from just 15 towns of the state's 169 towns.

	Percent of statewide population	Percent of pre-trial admissions
Top five towns	16%	44%
Next 10 towns	18%	23%
Other 154 towns	66%	33%

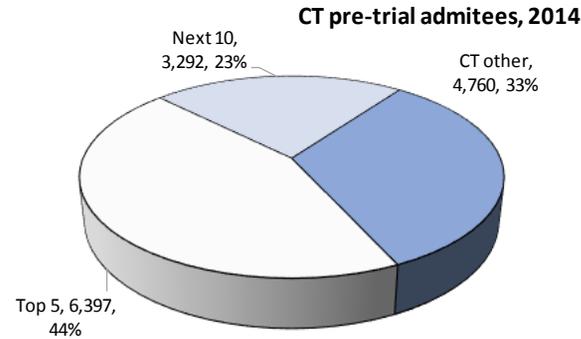
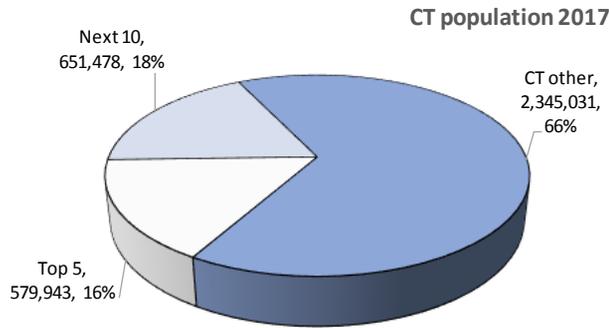
Residence of pre-trial detainees, 2014



Pre-trial detainees and home towns



Percentage of statewide population in top 15 towns: 34%



Percentage of CT pre-trial admittees from top 15 towns: 67%

	CT population 2017	Pre-trial admits, CT residents, 2014	DOC admits per 100,000 residents	Violent crime reported, 2016	Violent crime per 100,000 residents	Property crime reported, 2016	Property crimes per 100,000 residents
Top 5	579,943	6,425	1107.9	4,453	767.8	20,267	3494.7
Next 10	651,478	3,313	508.5	1,792	275.1	12,460	1912.6
CT other	2,345,031	4,773	203.5	1,509	64.3	27,315	1164.8
All	3,576,452	14,511	405.7	7,754	216.8	60,042	1678.8

Pre-trial detainees – race and ethnicity

Pre-trial admitees, race/ethnicity by town group

	White	Black	Hispanic	Other race/eth.
Top 5	22%	48%	30%	0%
Next 10	42%	32%	25%	1%
CT other	72%	17%	10%	1%
Other state	44%	34%	19%	4%
All	43%	34%	22%	1%

The racial and ethnic mix among pre-trial detainees is strongly influenced by residence patterns.

Admitees and the general population

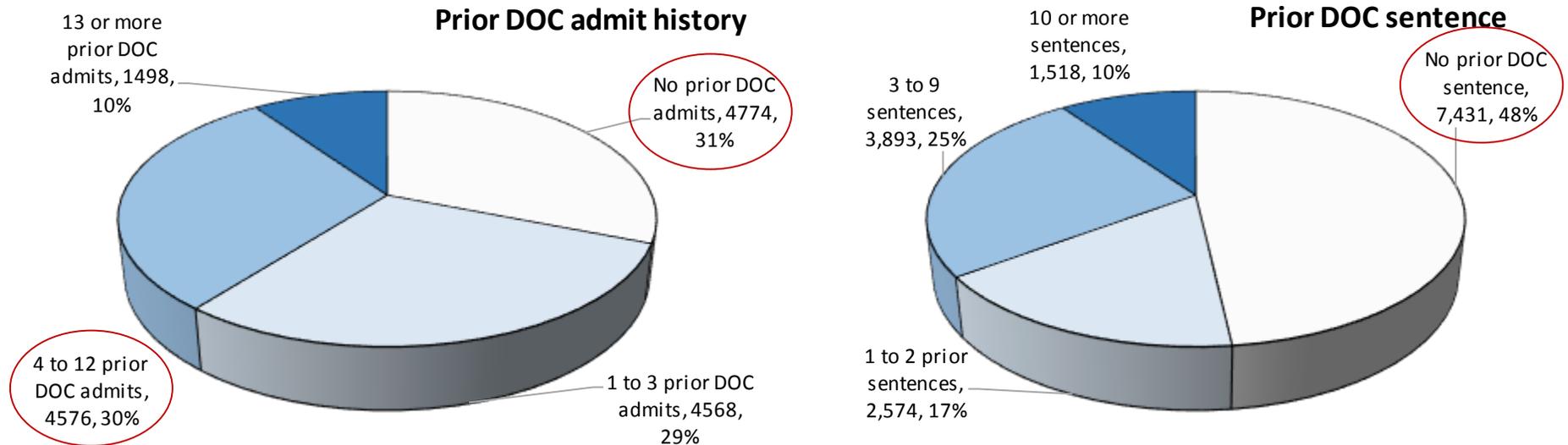
	Pre-trial admitees		DOC population		2015 CT population	
	2014	Percent	3/1/2019	Percent	est.	Percent
White	6,635	43%	4,075	31%	2,479,807	69%
Black	5,227	34%	5,691	43%	331,849	9%
Hispanics	3,397	22%	3,467	26%	523,085	15%
Other	157	1%	115	1%	239,144	7%
	15416	100%	13,348	100%	3,573,885	100%

Although minorities still constituted a majority of pre-trial admitees in 2014, that disparity was lower than the one observed in the sentenced population.

Blacks and Hispanics: 56% 69% 24%

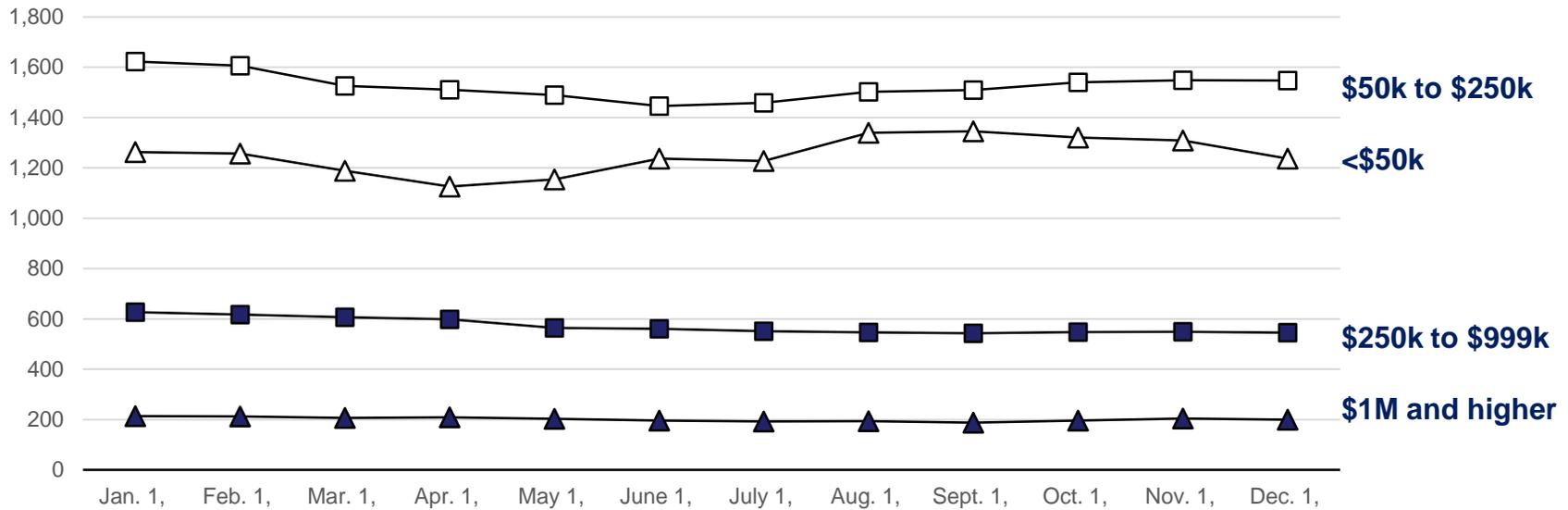
Pre-trial detainees from CT in 2014 - continued

Prior involvement with the CT DOC

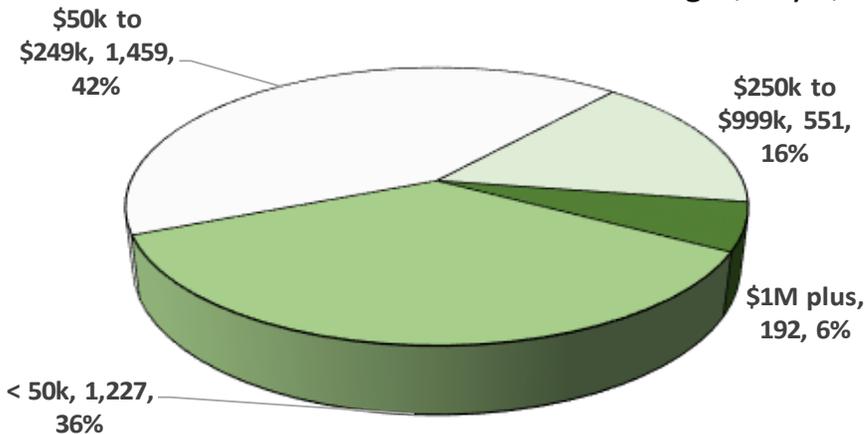


- **Less than a third of persons admitted as pre-trial detainees in 2014 (31%) were admitted to the CT DOC for the first time.**
- **A majority of persons admitted as pre-trial detainees in 2014 (52%) had served a prison sentence in CT prior to their latest admission.**
- **10% of persons admitted in 2014 been admitted to DOC facility at least 13 times in the past – another 10% had served 10 sentences or more.**

Bond ranges of pre-trial detainees in 2014



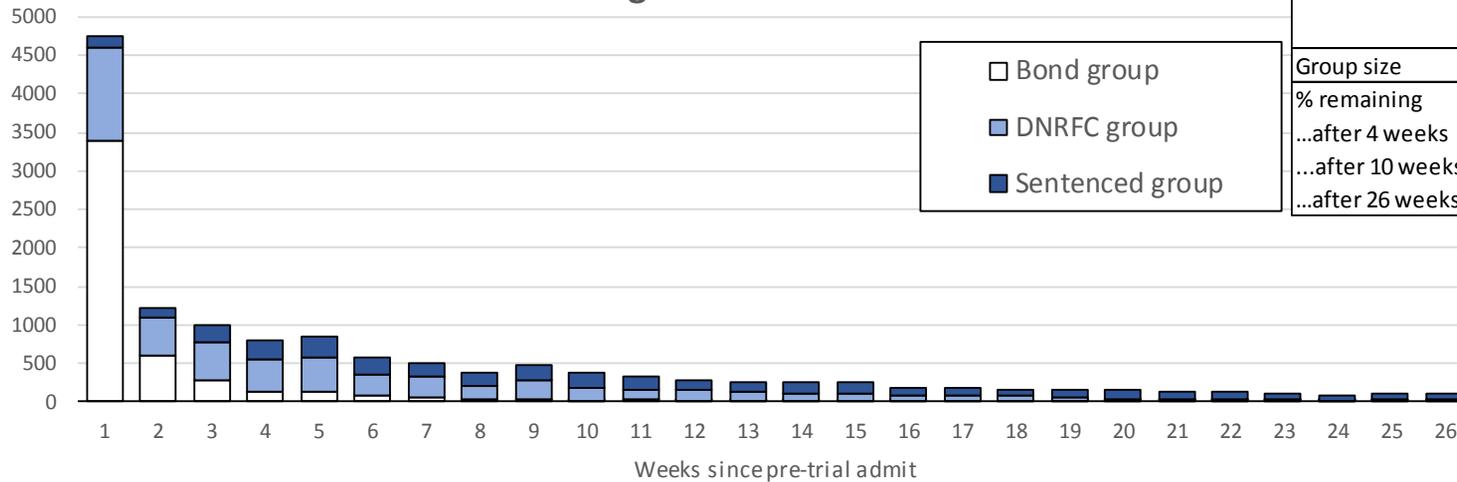
Bond ranges, July 1,



- Over a third of pre-trial detainees had bonds of under \$50,000.
- Detainees who posted bonds had the highest churn rates among pre-trial detainees.

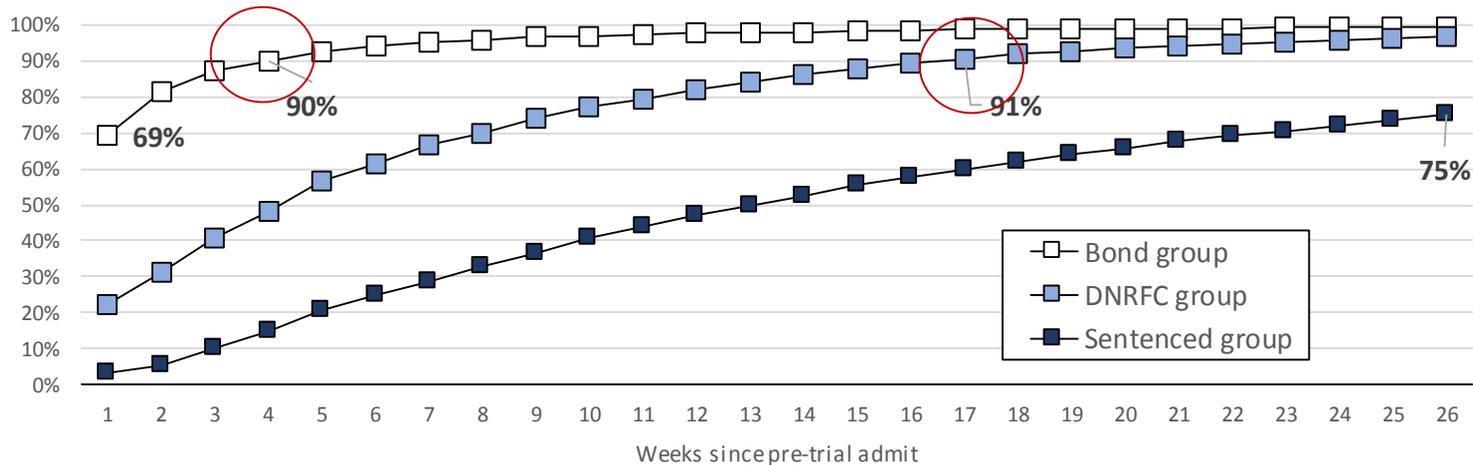
Time to clear the system - the first 26 weeks

First significant movement



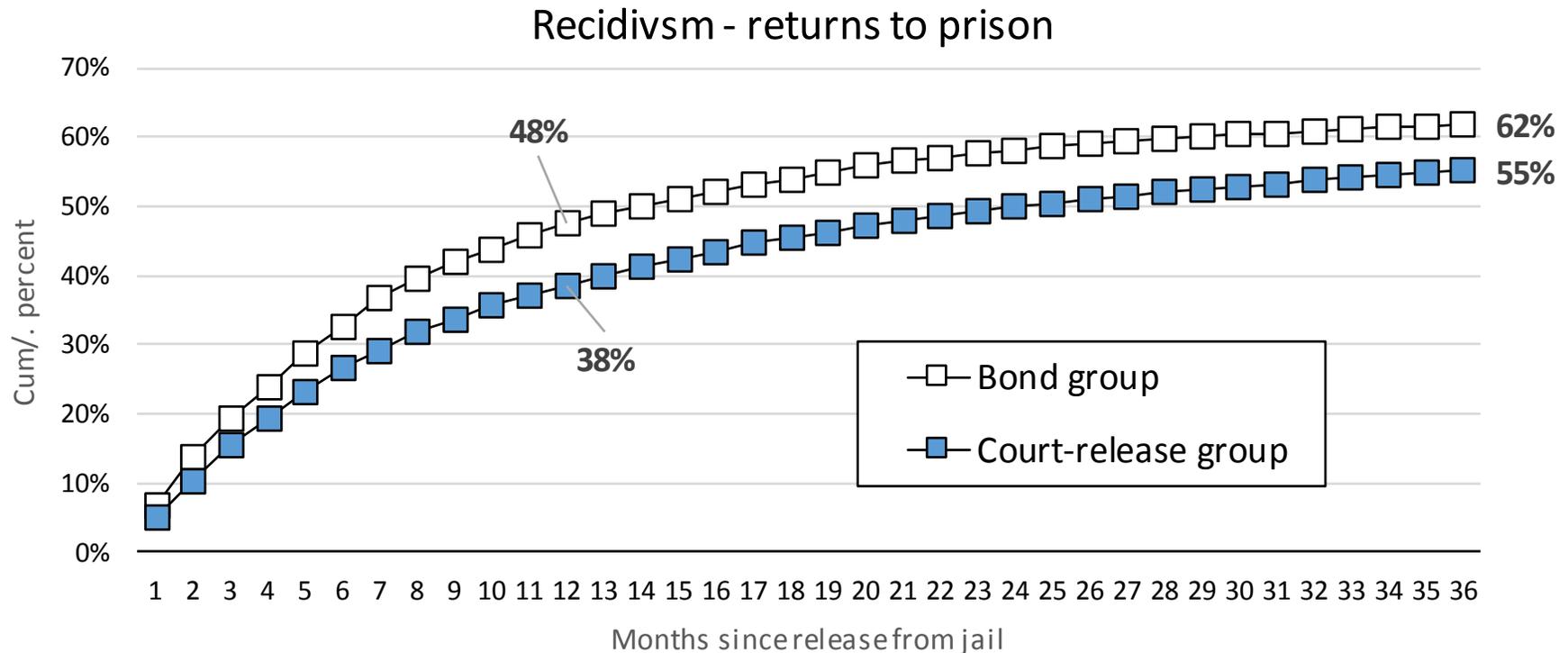
	Bond group	DNRFC group	Sentenced group
Group size	4,902	5,453	4,951
% remaining			
...after 4 weeks	10%	52%	85%
...after 10 weeks	3%	23%	59%
...after 26 weeks	1%	3%	25%

Time to first significant move by outcome



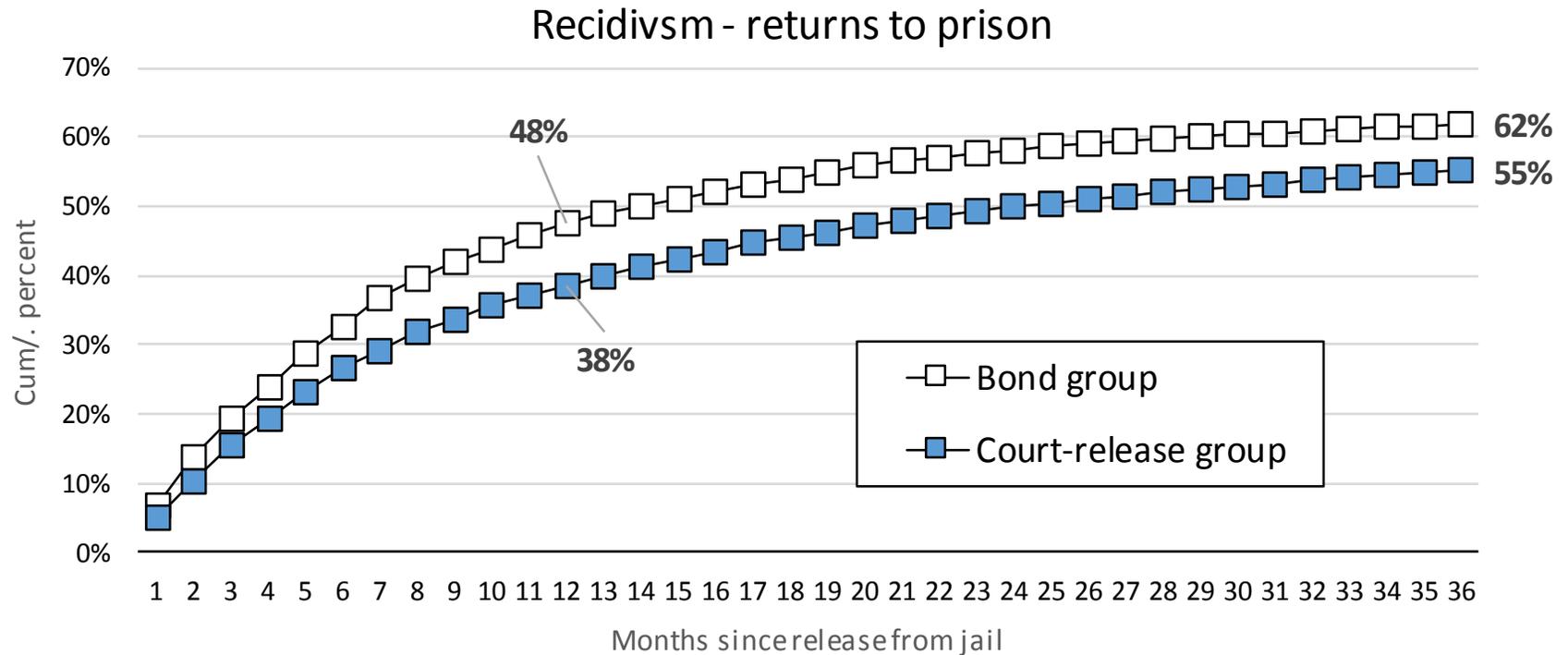
**Sentenced
90%: 38 weeks**

Recidivism rates, return-to-prison



- **Almost half of the people who bonded out of jail (48%) were back in a DOC facility within a year.**
- **The 10-point gap between the bond group and the court-release group, observed at the 12-month mark, closed to a 7 point gap at the 36-month point.**

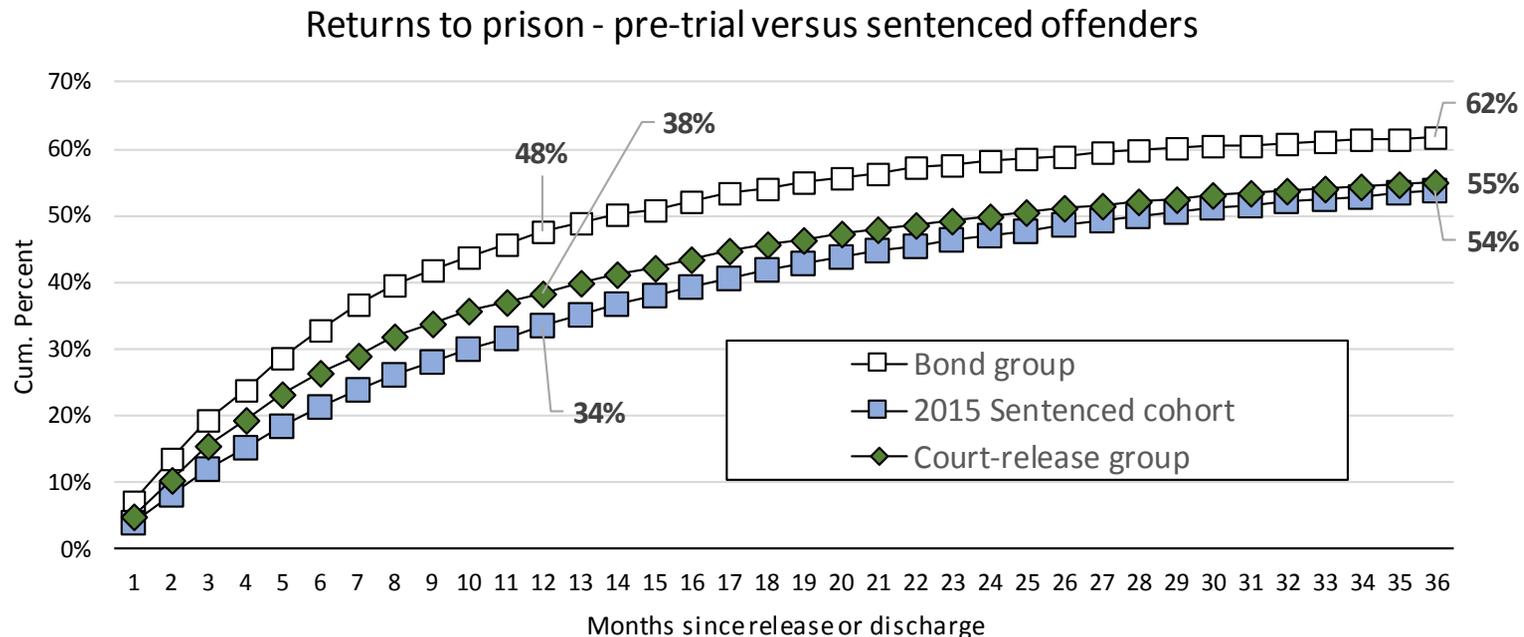
Recidivism rates, persons released from pre-trial detention, 2014



Bond group		
Bond cohort	4,902	
1st readmit w/in 3 years	3,040	62%
... new charges	2,266	75%
...with a sentence	767	25%
...from another jurisdiction	7	0%

Court-release group		
Bond cohort	5,453	
1st readmit w/in 3 years	3,009	55%
... new charges	2,633	88%
...with a sentence	369	12%
...from another jurisdiction	7	0%

Recidivism – sentenced prisoners vs. pre-trial detainees



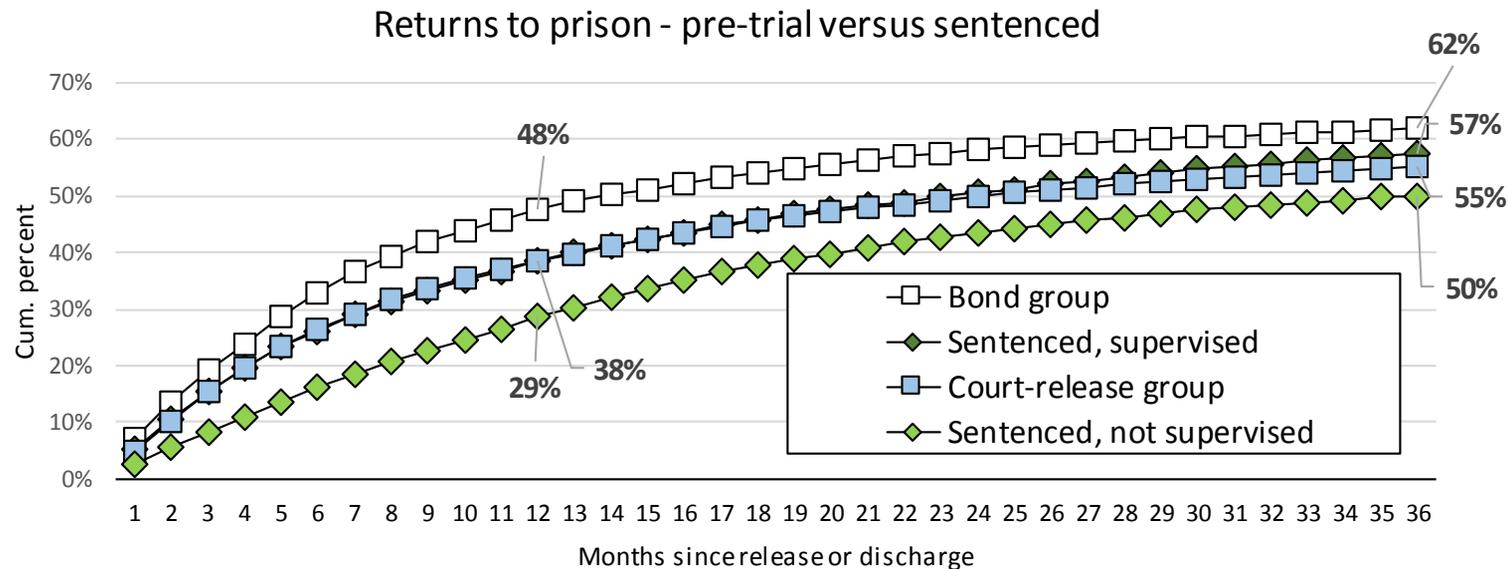
Return-to-prison recidivism rates calculated for

- 4,902 PT detainees who bonded out
- 5,453 PT detainees released from court, and
- 11,133 sentenced prisoners who left prison in 2014

Recidivism rates by group

- Highest – the bond group (48%, 62%)
- Mid-group – court release group (38%, 55%)
- **Lowest group – sentenced prisoners (34%, 54%)**

Recidivism – sentenced prisoners vs. pre-trial detainees



Return-to-prison recidivism rates calculated for

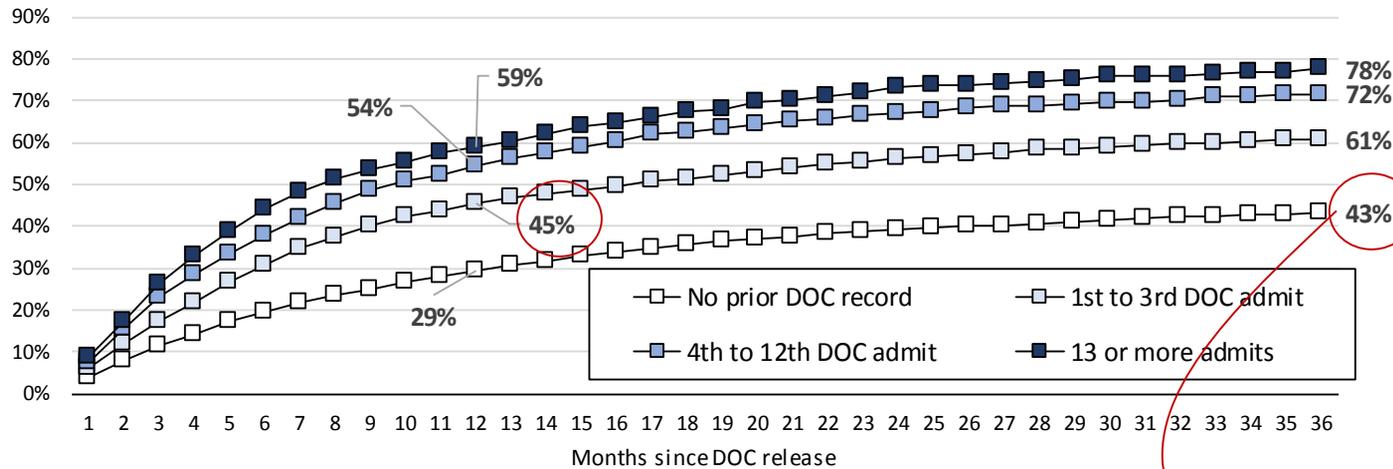
- 4,902 PT detainees who bonded out
- 5,453 PT detainees released from court, and (34%, 54%)
- 5,595 sentenced prisoners who had no DOC community supervision
- 5,538 sentenced prisoners who had DOC community supervision

Return-to-prison recidivism at 12-months and 36-months

- Highest – the bond group (48%, 62%)
- Mid-group – sentenced and supervised (38%, 57%)
- Mid-group – court release group (38%, 55%)
- **Lowest group – sentenced, unsupervised (29%, 50%)**

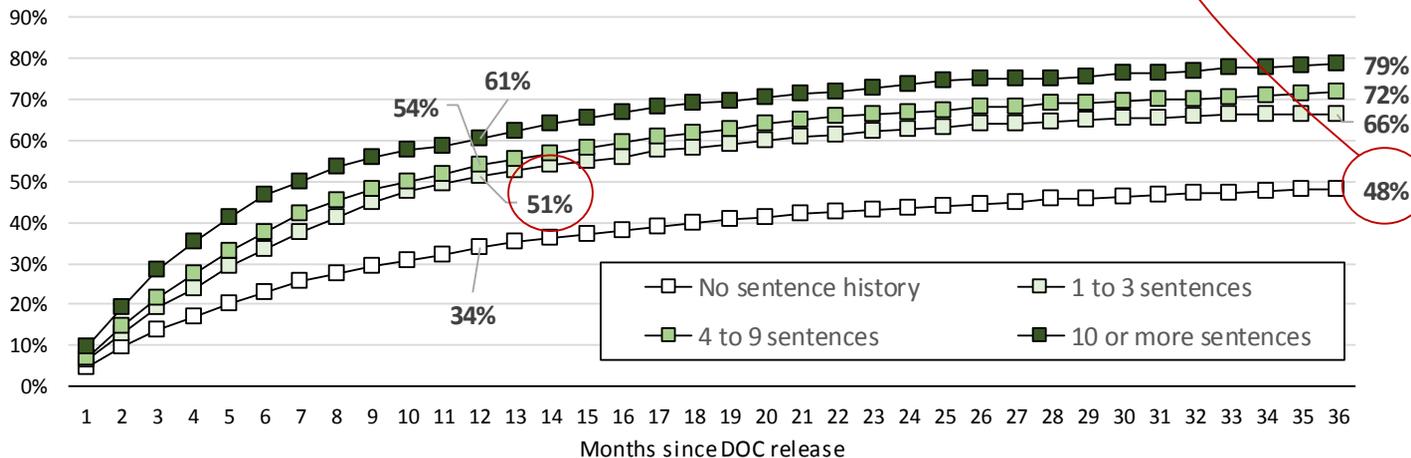
Recidivism and criminal history

Recidivism and prior history of DOC admissions



Persons with no prior admits have lower recidivism rates at 36-months compared to the 12-month rates of others.

Recidivism and prior DOC sentence history

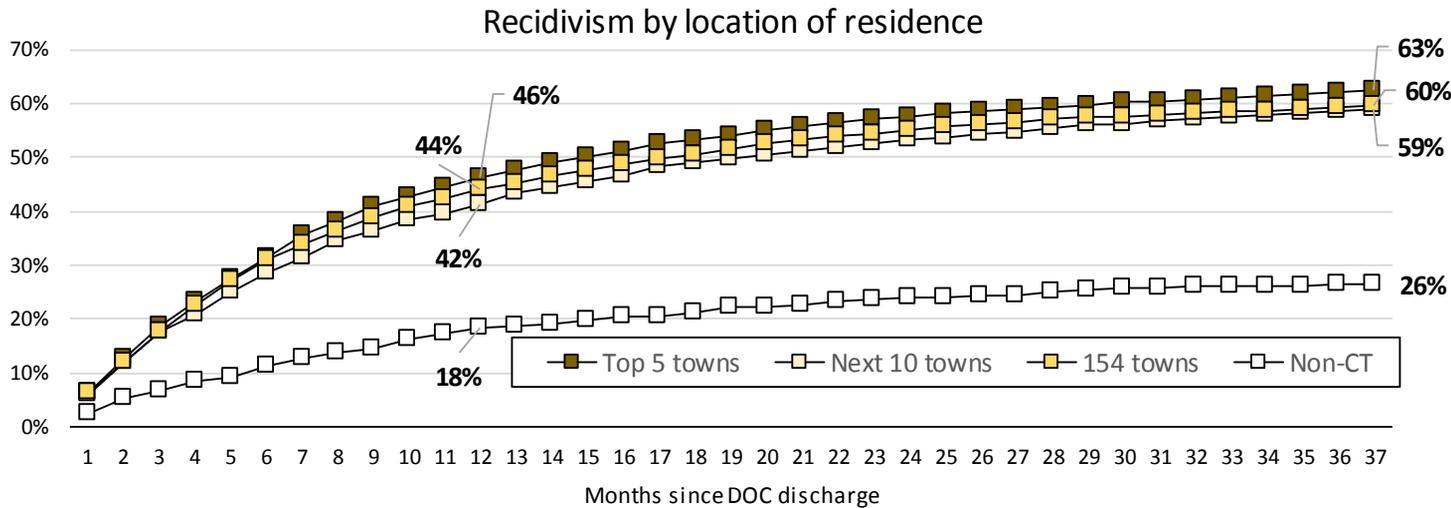


Similarly, persons with no prior sentence history have lower recidivism rates at 36-months compared to the 12-month rates of others.

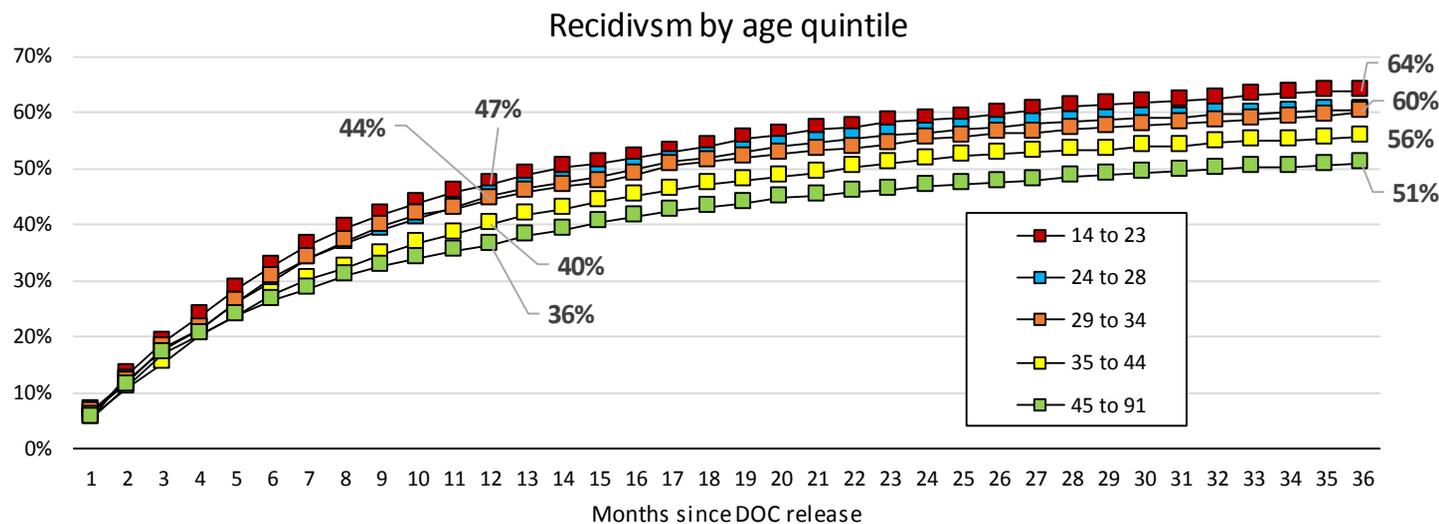
The extent of a person's involvement with the criminal justice system appears linked to higher recidivism.

- No prior admit: 43%
- Prior admit no sentence: 48%

Recidivism – residence and age



It should come as no surprise that persons from out-of-state had the lowest return-to-prison rates in CT. If we could track these people into other states we might find they recidivate at rates similar to locals.



Among pre-trial admittees, age and recidivism rates were much more closely clustered than among sentenced prisoners who were released or discharged in 2014.

Recidivism findings

	12-month rate	36-month rate	Count
bond group	48%	62%	4,902
court-release group	38%	55%	5,453
Total			10,355
All sentenced prisoners, 2014	34%	54%	11,133
Supervised sentenced	38%	57%	5,538
Unsupervised sentenced	29%	50%	5,595
No prior admits	29%	43%	3,871
1 to 3 admits	45%	61%	3,075
4 to 12 admits	54%	72%	2,620
13 or more admits	59%	78%	789
Total			10,355
No sentence history	34%	48%	5,766
1 to 3 sentences	51%	66%	1,638
4 to 9 sentences	54%	72%	2,191
10 or more sentences	61%	79%	760
Total			10,355
from the top 5 towns	45%	63%	4,159
from the next 10 towns	42%	59%	2,178
remaining 154 towns	44%	60%	3,353
non-CT offenders	18%	26%	665
Total			10,355
Age: 14 to 23	47%	64%	2,281
Age: 24 to 28	45%	61%	2,036
Age: 29 to 34	44%	60%	1,979
Age: 35 to 44	40%	56%	1,983
Age: 45 to 91	36%	51%	2,076
Total			10,355

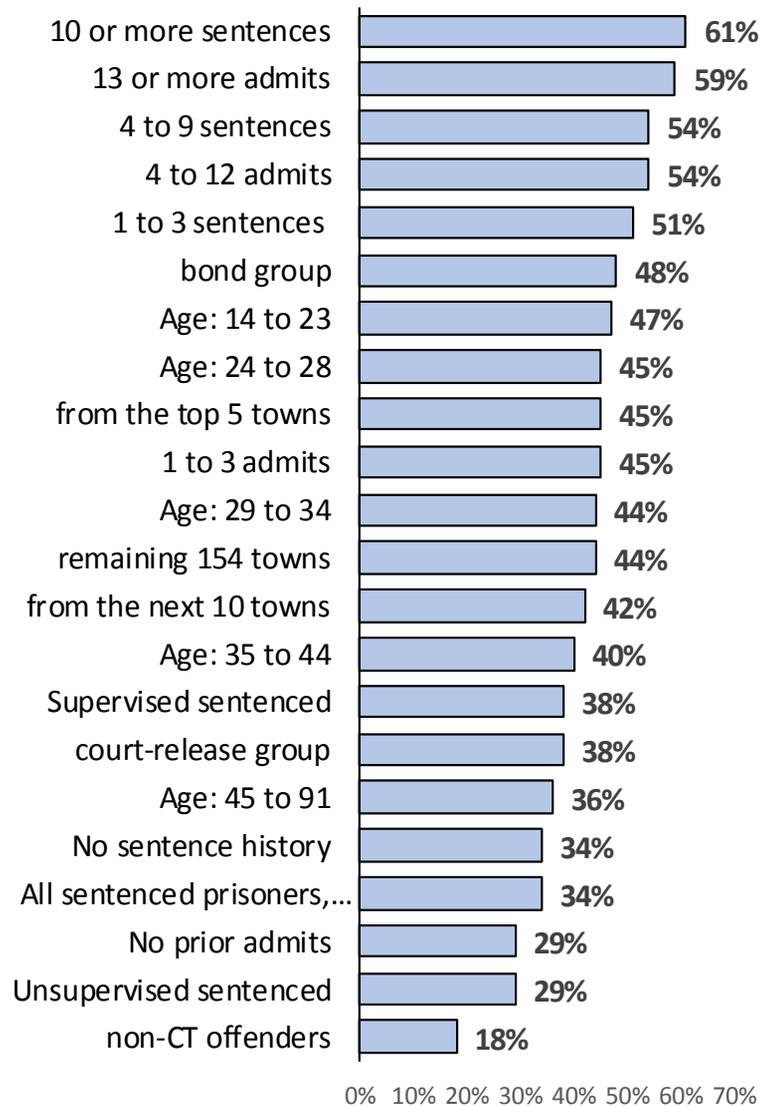
As we discovered in our studies of recidivism among sentenced prisoners, the risk of recidivism appears to be influenced by a range of social and personal factors.

At the 12-month mark, we observed that recidivism-rate ranges for different groups of detainees ran from 18% to 61%

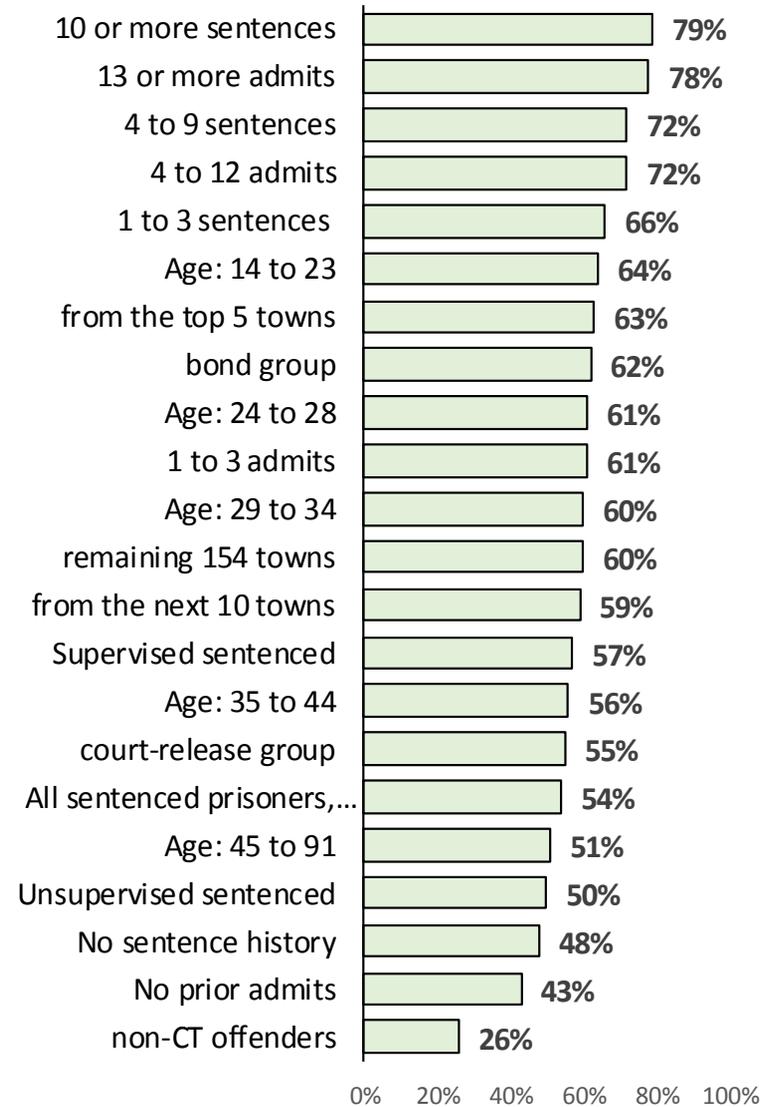
At the 36-month mark, recidivism rates ranges from 26% to 79%. It should be noted that the highest rates were found among persons who had long and extended experience with the CT DOC.

Recidivism findings

12-month rate



36-month rate



Findings

- 1. Most people who are admitted to prison as pre-trial detainees in CT have a prior history of incarceration.**
- 2. When aggregated, the criminal histories of persons on pre-trial status are not significantly different from the histories of people serving prison sentences.**
- 3. The return-to-prison rates of pre-trial people are remarkably similar to the recidivism rates of sentenced offenders leaving prison.**
- 4. It appears from this analysis that the distinction that is made between sentenced-prisoners and accused-prisoners is rests largely on procedural, legal and circumstantial concerns. From a less system-oriented perspective, the differences between sentenced prisoners and most pre-trials detainees are minimal. Passage through the system for many individuals is lived on a continuum between pre-trial status and sentenced status. This probably explains who recidivism outcomes appears so similar.**
- 5. We shall publish this information in a report within the coming months.**

Women in Jail Interview Notes

The Connecticut Statistical Analysis Center

March 2019

OPM - Criminal Justice Policy & Planning Division

Women in Jail Interview Notes

Preview

- This publication is atypical of the reports that are generally published by the Research Unit at OPM's Criminal Justice Policy & Planning Division, in that it is a compilation of observations and findings from a series of interviews conducted with female, pre-trial detainees at York CI, CT's sole women's-only prison.
- In October 2018, the Research Unit at CJPPD published *Women in Jail in CT* an analysis on the status and circumstances of women held on pre-trial status at York CI. As that report was being prepared a series of interviews at York CI were arranged in order to test the findings in the initial report and to investigate whether there were other dynamics at play that were being overlooked in the broader report. The interviews uncovered a range of troubling issues experienced by pre-trial women – on a scale that we had not anticipated – relating to childhood trauma, pregnancy, sexual trauma, mental health issues, drug use, economic and family issues and violence.
- This report is intended to capture and present to an interested readership some of the major observations of the project's principal investigator, Kendall Bobula. The Research Unit at CJPPD is generally focused on quantitative work. In the few cases where we have undertaken qualitative research projects, we have struggled with how to present our findings. In this report we have chosen to loosely organize the findings into broad thematic areas. We leave it to the reader to make use of this material and contact the unit for any clarification.

Purpose and Methodology

Between March 3, 2018 and August 23, 2018, the Criminal Justice Policy and Planning Division at the Office of Policy and Management, performed a series of one-on-one, open-ended interviews with 33 incarcerated women who were awaiting adjudication at York Correctional Institution, the state's only prison for women.

These interviews were intended as part of a broader OPM investigation into the dynamics that appeared to be driving the state's, female pre-trial prison population (*Women in Jail in CT, 2018*). The interviews at York CI provided an often-sobering look at the issues and circumstances confronting a large portion of the state's female pre-trial population. A majority of the women who were interviewed exhibited a complex constellation of issues and concerns that included economic and family instability, chronic substance abuse, mental and physical health issues, and histories of childhood and sexual trauma.

Access to inmates at York CI was granted by former-DOC Commissioner Scott Semple. The women that were interviewed were selected at random by OPM from the DOC's inmate management system. Staff at York CI were informed of the names of the women to be interviewed in advance and correctional officers accompanied each woman to a private interview room where they were informed about the purpose of the interviews. The women were then given the opportunity to opt out and return to their housing units or to sign a consent agreement. In the consent agreement, each interviewee was informed that she was not required to discuss or reveal anything that she did not feel comfortable sharing, and that she could end the interview at any time.

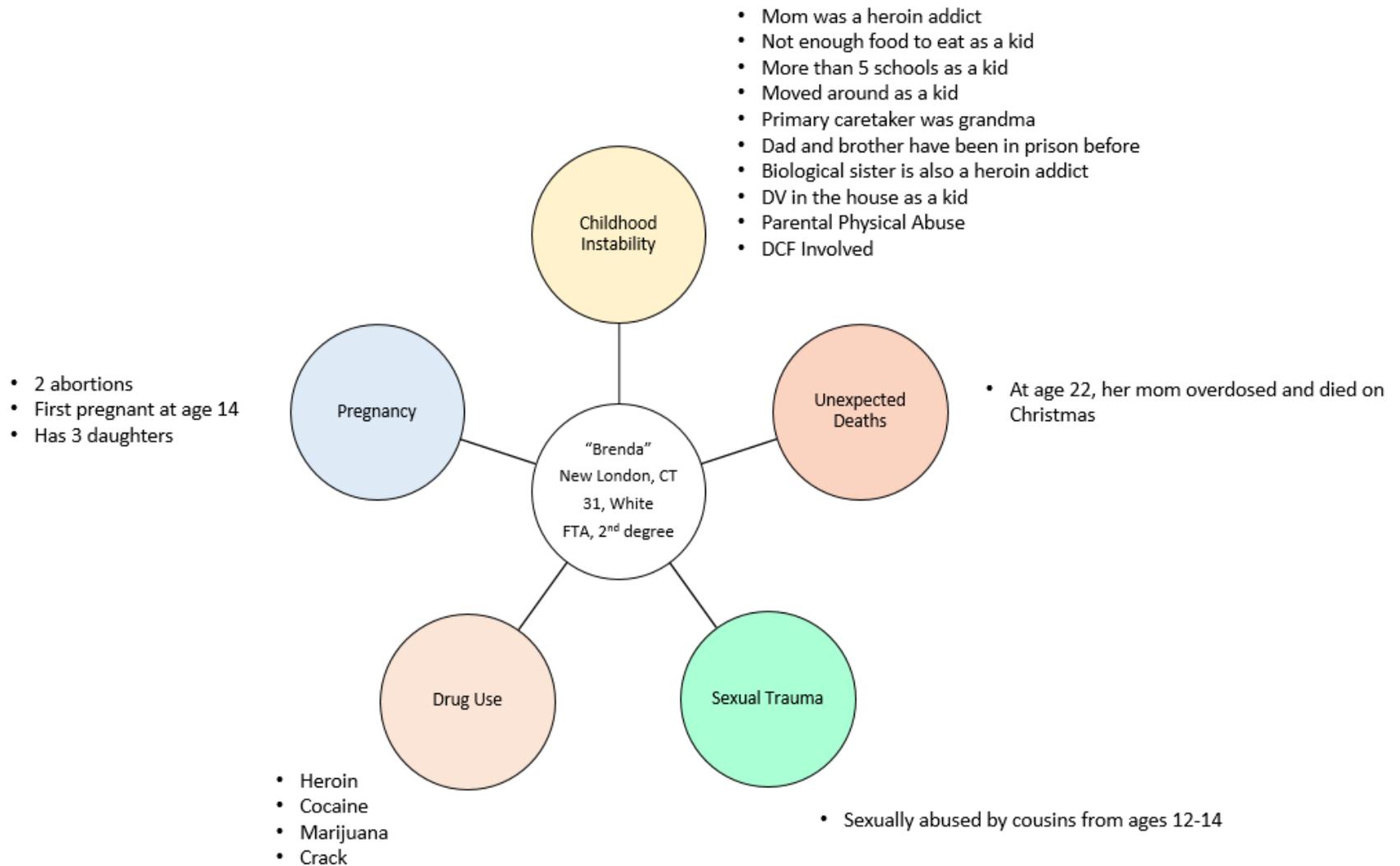
Only one caveat was placed on OPM by York CI staff; interviews were only allowed with women who had been admitted to the facility at least one week prior to the date of the interview. This was done, we were told, to ensure that none of the women were undergoing 'detox' at the time of the interview. The DOC staff's decision to restrict interviews to pre-trial women held for more than one week certainly affected the composition of the interview cohort. In the report *Women in Jail in CT*, we discovered that among women who were able to bond out from jail, 75% were able to do so within the first week. It is, therefore, reasonable to assume that the women who are able to leave prison within 7 days of admission have greater access to economic assets and social and family support than the women who remain incarcerated past one week. Given this constraint we assume that the interview cohort was slightly more likely to be experiencing more difficult circumstances than the average pre-trial admittee.

The follow pages are an attempt to present the information gleaned from the interviews in a general way in the hope that they might be useful to future researchers interested in incarcerated women.

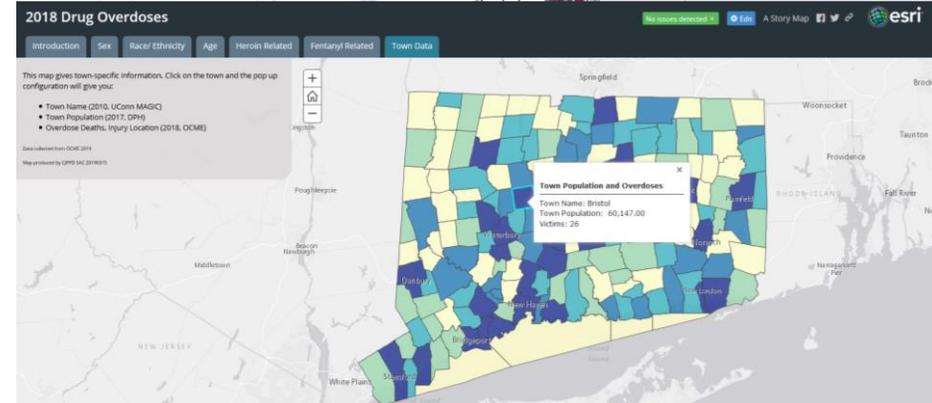
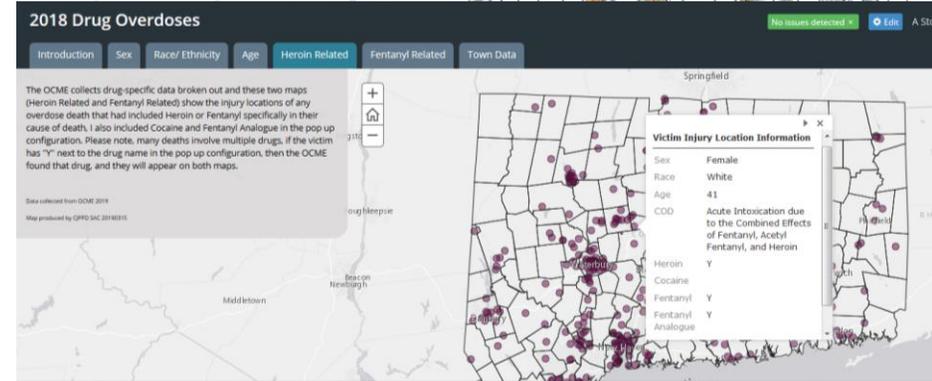
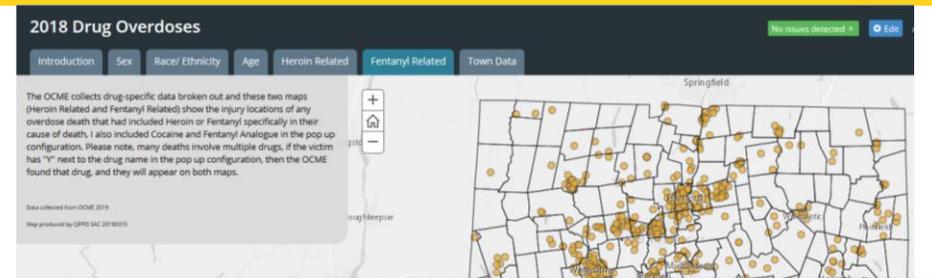
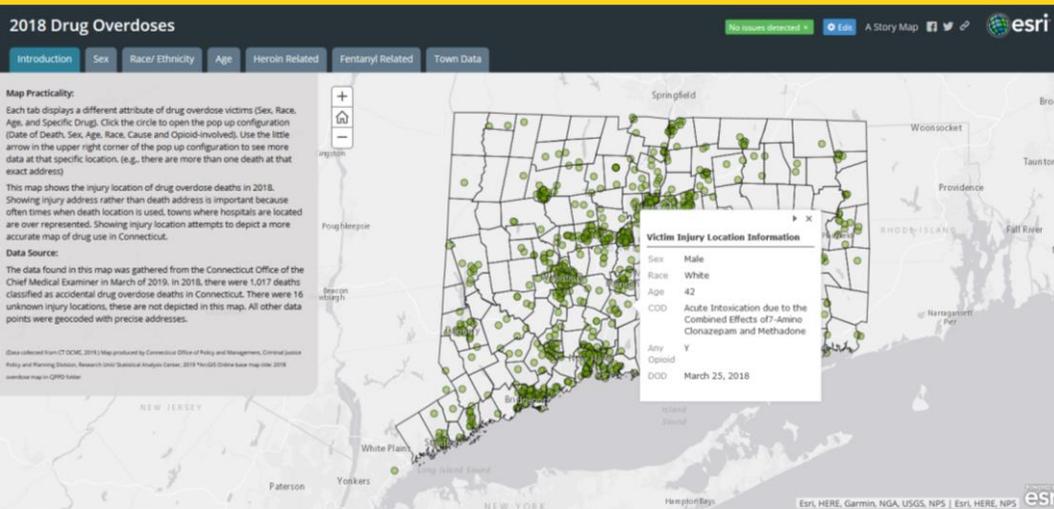
- Kendall Bobula, Principal Investigator

- **Childhood Trauma**
 - 84% (16 of 19) women said their parent or primary caregiver had a serious mental or physical health issue
- **Pregnancy**
 - The most frequently occurring age for a first pregnancy was age 17
- **Sexual Trauma**
 - 86% (24 of 28) woman had been sexually assaulted and of those 24 women, 18 were 16 year old or younger
- **Mental Health Issues**
 - 82% (21 of 26) of the women said they had a mental health condition or multiple
- **Drug Abuse**
 - 69% (11 of 16) women said they had tried a drug treatment program
- **Family and Economic Instability**
 - 64% (16 of 25) said they had experienced homelessness at some point in their lives
- **Violence**
 - 75% (21 of 28) said they were physically abused
- **Health Emergencies**
 - 15 women mentioned they were in a serious car accident and 13 women recalled having a traumatic brain injury, brain surgery or a serious concussion
 - 92% (24 of 26) women experienced the death of a loved one

Constellation of issues



2018 overdose maps - OCME



Past Features

- Injury Location
- Sex
- Race/Ethnicity
- Age

New Features

- Heroin Related
- Fentanyl Related
- Town Level Data

OFFICE OF POLICY & MANAGEMENT

Criminal Justice

Policy & Planning Division



**Presentation
produced by OPM's
Research and
Evaluation Unit
/CJPPD**

**Ivan Kuzyk, Kyle Baudoin
& Kendall Bobula**

www.ct.gov/opm/CriminalJustice/Research