

Task Force for Criminal Justice Collaboration on Mental Health Issues

Adult Criminal Progress Update and Priority Areas



JUDICIAL COUNCIL
OF CALIFORNIA

People with Mental Illness Are Disproportionately Represented in the Criminal Justice System

General
Population

5% Serious
Mental Illness



Jail and Prison Populations

17% Serious
Mental Illness



16% Serious
Mental Illness



Judicial Council Efforts to Improve Outcomes for Defendants who have Mental Illnesses

2008

Task Force for Criminal Justice Collaboration on Mental Health Issues Appointed

2011

Judicial Council received final task force report with 137 recommendations

2012

2012

Mental Health Issues Implementation Task Force Appointed

Judicial Council Efforts to Improve Outcomes for Defendants who have Mental Illnesses

2015

Judicial Council received implementation task force final report & assigned relevant advisory bodies to continue implementation

2021

Collaborative Justice Courts Advisory Committee summarizes implementation of adult criminal recommendations and identify new and remaining challenges

Sequential Intercept Model

Community Services and
Law Enforcement

Incarceration and Reentry

Education, Training,
and Research

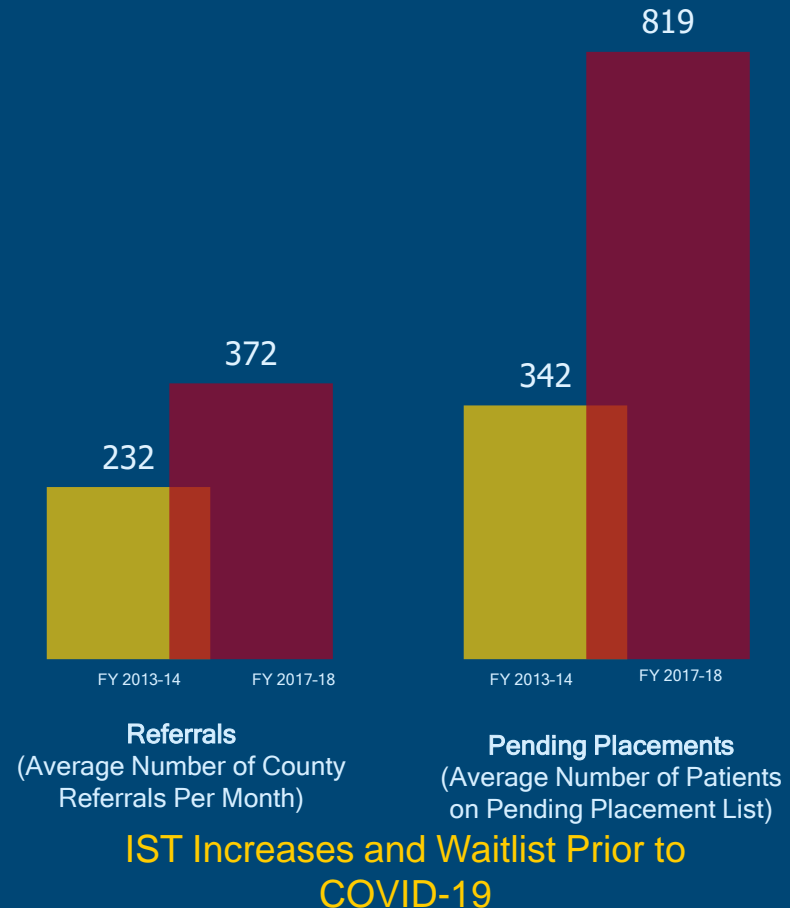
Court Responses

- Judicial Leadership
- Case Processing
- Coordination of Civil and Criminal Proceedings
- Competence to Stand Trial
- Coordination with Local Justice Partners

Community Corrections

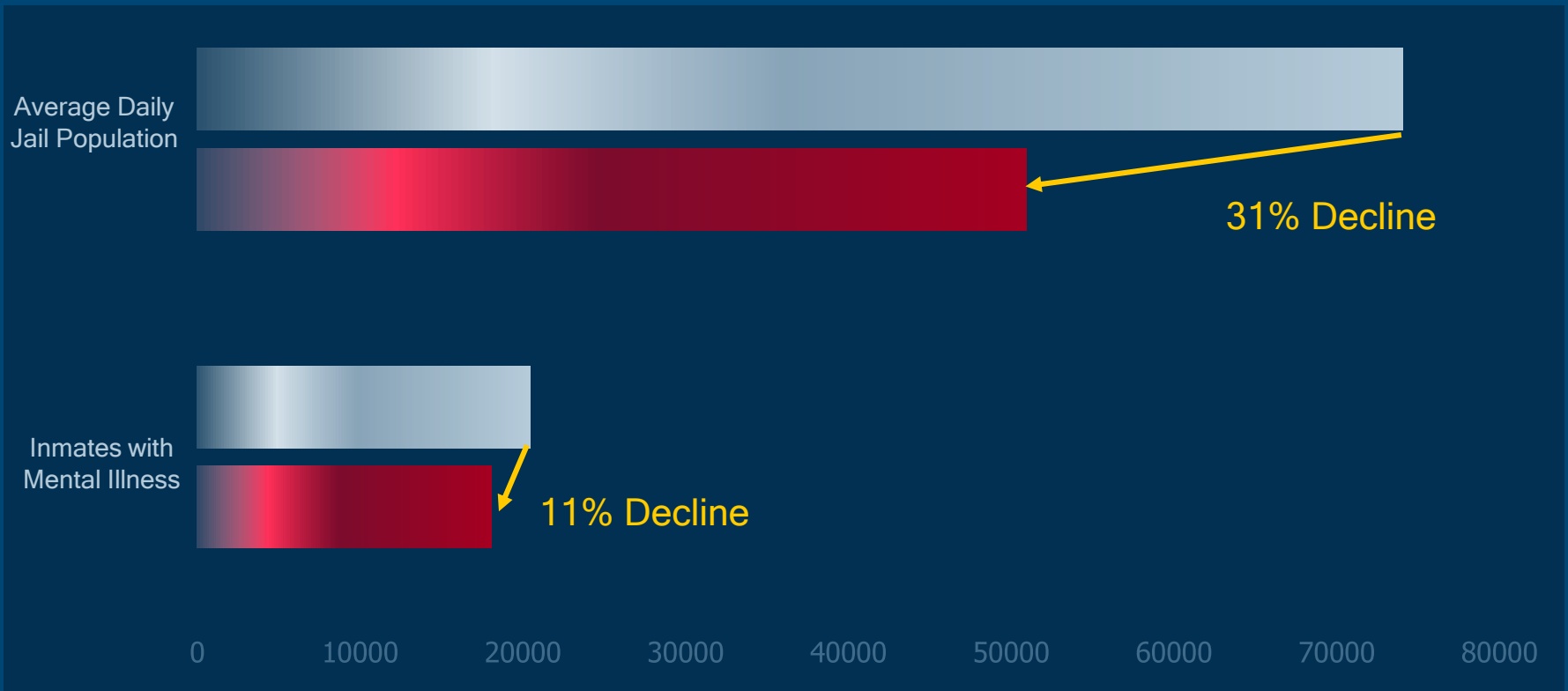
Needs of Defendants with Mental Illnesses Exacerbated by COVID-19 Pandemic

- COVID-19 pandemic disproportionately affecting people who have mental illnesses
- They are more likely to be homelessness--crisis intensified by the COVID-19 pandemic
- Incompetent to Stand Trial (IST) determinations up even before COVID-19
- The Department of State Hospitals suspended admissions due to pandemic



Disproportionate Jail Population COVID-19 Reductions

California Jail ADP and Mental Health Cases, June 2019 vs. 2020



Priority Areas Identified by the Collaborative Justice Courts Advisory Committee

Community Services and Law Enforcement

- Increase local treatment capacity and appropriate housing options
- Encourage justice system partner collaboration and communication

Court Responses

- Identify funding for collaborative justice courts
- Address challenges maintaining pool of forensic evaluators

Incarceration, Community Corrections, and Reentry

Support local collaboration, including on:

- Discharge plans
- Housing plans

Education, Training, and Research

- Collaboration on training and on-going education
- Implement data improvements and study the impact of diversion programs