



Georgia Criminal Justice Reform

Arkansas Legislative Criminal Justice Oversight Task Force

Presented By:

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Governor's Office of Transition, Support & Reentry

Criminal Justice Reform Council



Goals of the Council

- Address the growth of the state's prison population, contain corrections costs and increase efficiencies and effectiveness that result in better offender management;
- Improve public safety by reinvesting a portion of the savings into strategies that reduce crime and recidivism; and
- Hold offenders accountable by strengthening community-based supervision, sanctions and services.

Criminal Justice Reform



Year 1 - 2011

Reduce Adult Correctional Population

Year 2 - 2012

Juvenile Justice

Year 3 - 2013

Offender Reentry

2011 Georgia Council on Criminal Justice Reform

13 members



Gubernatorial

Governor's Legal
Counsel

District Attorney

President, State Bar

Local Attorney

Judicial Branch

Chief Justice

2 Superior Court
Judges

Senate

3 Senators

House

3 Representatives

**Recommendations
and Legislation
were addressed
through a Special
Joint Legislative
Committee**



Criminal Justice Reform Council

Year 1 Work Group Breakouts

- **Work Group 1 – Sentencing Reform**
- **Work Group 2 – Length of Stay/Parole Processes**
- **Work Group 3 – Community Supervision**



Criminal Justice Reform Council

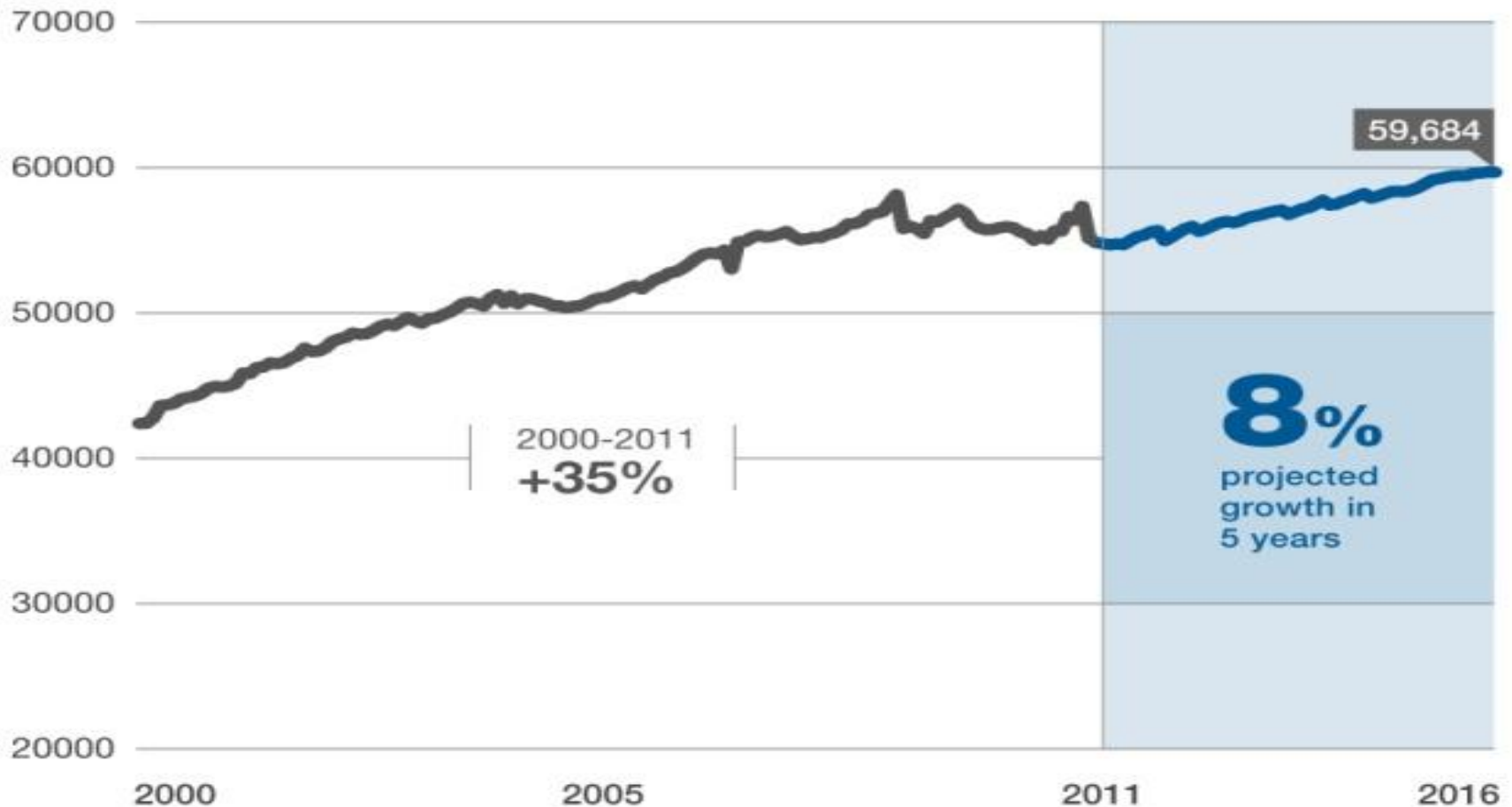
- **“...the analysis revealed that inmate population growth is due in large part to policy decisions about who is being sent to prison and how long they are staying.”**

Report of the Special Council on Criminal Justice Reform for Georgians – Nov 2011



Criminal Justice Reform Council

Georgia Historical Prison Population & Baseline Projection



Source: Applied Research Services

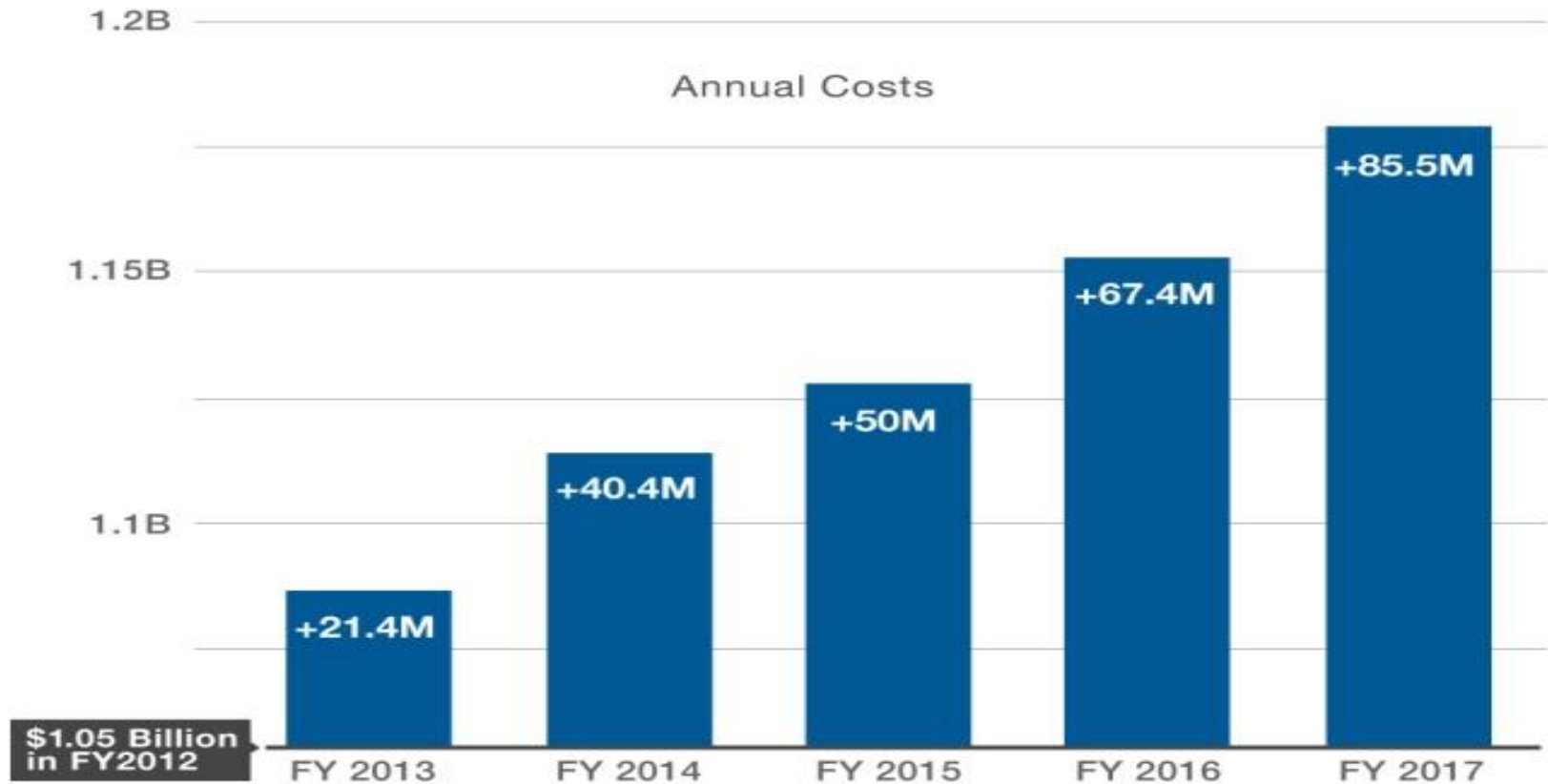


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The Cost of Doing Nothing

Department of Corrections Budget

Additional Spending Required Absent Policy Reforms



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The Facts

- Drug and property offenders represent 60% of all admissions
- Five of the top six most common prison admission offenses are drug and property crimes
 - Burglary
 - Forgery
 - Possession of Cocaine
 - Theft By Taking
 - Theft By Receiving Stolen Property
- In 2010, over 5,000 lower risk drug and property offenders went to prison for the first time = 25% of 2010 admissions



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Recommendations

1. Create a Statewide System of Accountability Courts
2. Expand Access to Effective Treatment and Programming Options (Residential Substance Abuse Treatment Center (RSAT) and Day Reporting Center(DRC))
3. Require the Implementation of Evidence-Based Practices
4. Create Performance Incentive Funding Pilot Projects



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Recommendations

5. Implement Mandatory Supervision for all Max-outs
6. Eliminate Dual Supervision
7. Implement Earned Compliance Credits for Probation and Parole
8. Expand Performance Incentive Credits (PIC)



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Recommendations

9. Improve Mechanism for Ending Probation for Non-Violent Offenders in Unsupervised/Administrative Status
10. Cap Length of Stay at Probation Detention Centers (PDC)
11. Create a Criminal Justice Reform Oversight Council
12. Improve the Electronic Criminal Justice Information Systems



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Recommendations

13. Implement a Performance Auditing System

14. Implement a Systematic Performance Measurement Model

2012 Georgia Council on Criminal Justice Reform



Expanded Council – 22 members

Sheriff

Governor's Counsel

Additional Superior Court Judge

State Court Solicitor

Additional District Attorney

Juvenile Court Judge

Additional Representatives – 3

**Focus on Juvenile Sentencing and
Supervision**



2013 to Present

Special Council on Criminal Justice Reform for Georgians

*Created by Executive Order and then codified
15 members*

Senator

Superior Court Judge

Sheriff

Supreme Court Justice or Court of Appeals Judge

Criminal Defense Attorney

Executive Counsel to the Governor

Director of the Governor's Office of Children and Families

Additional Members as appointed by the Governor (5)

Faith Based

Corporate

Housing

Problem Solving Court

Representative

Juvenile Court Judge

District Attorney

Focus on Reentry

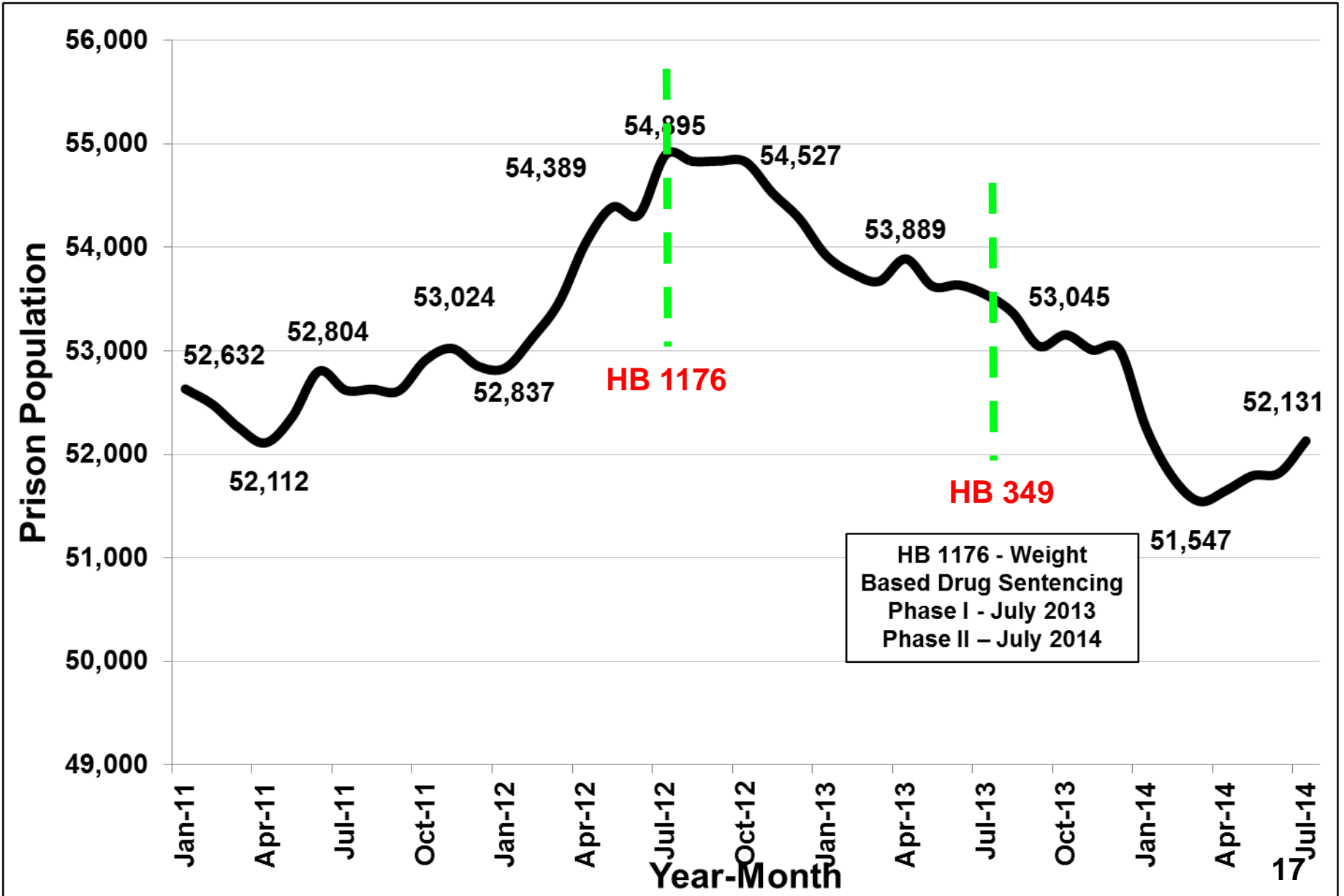


Criminal Justice Reform

Major Initiatives

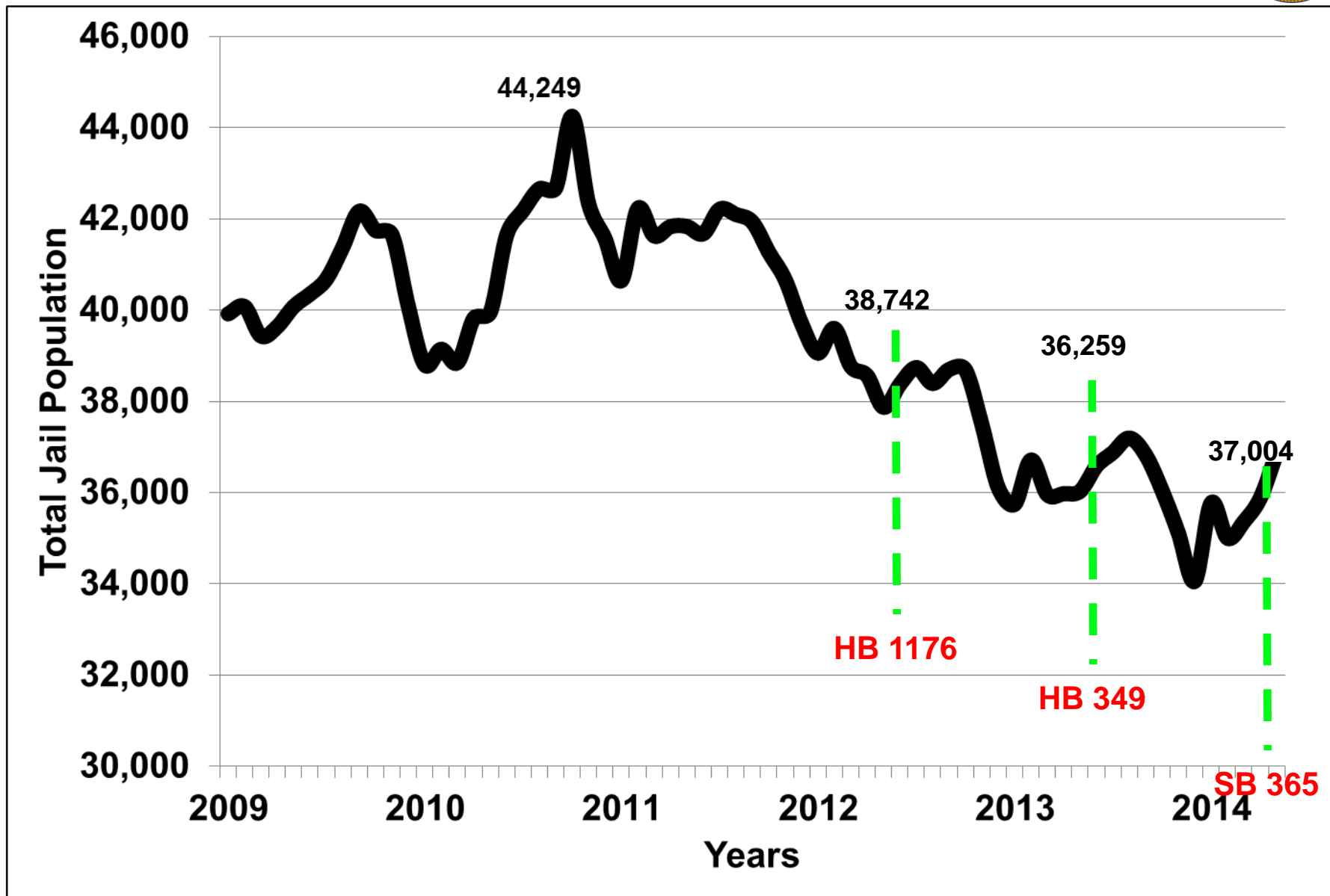
- Sentence Thresholds Changes
 - Burglary, Theft, Forgery, Drug Possession
 - Electronic Record Submission – E-Portal
 - Probation Detention Center (PDC) Cap (180 days)
 - Automated/Pre-Sentence Assessment
 - *Pre-Release Center Conversions*
 - *\$10 million for Accountability Courts*
 - *Day Reporting Center Lite Pilot Program*
 - *Probation Options Management (POM)*
- (Italics represent initiatives prior to major reform efforts)*

Prison Population Since January 2011



Source: GA Dept. of Corrections

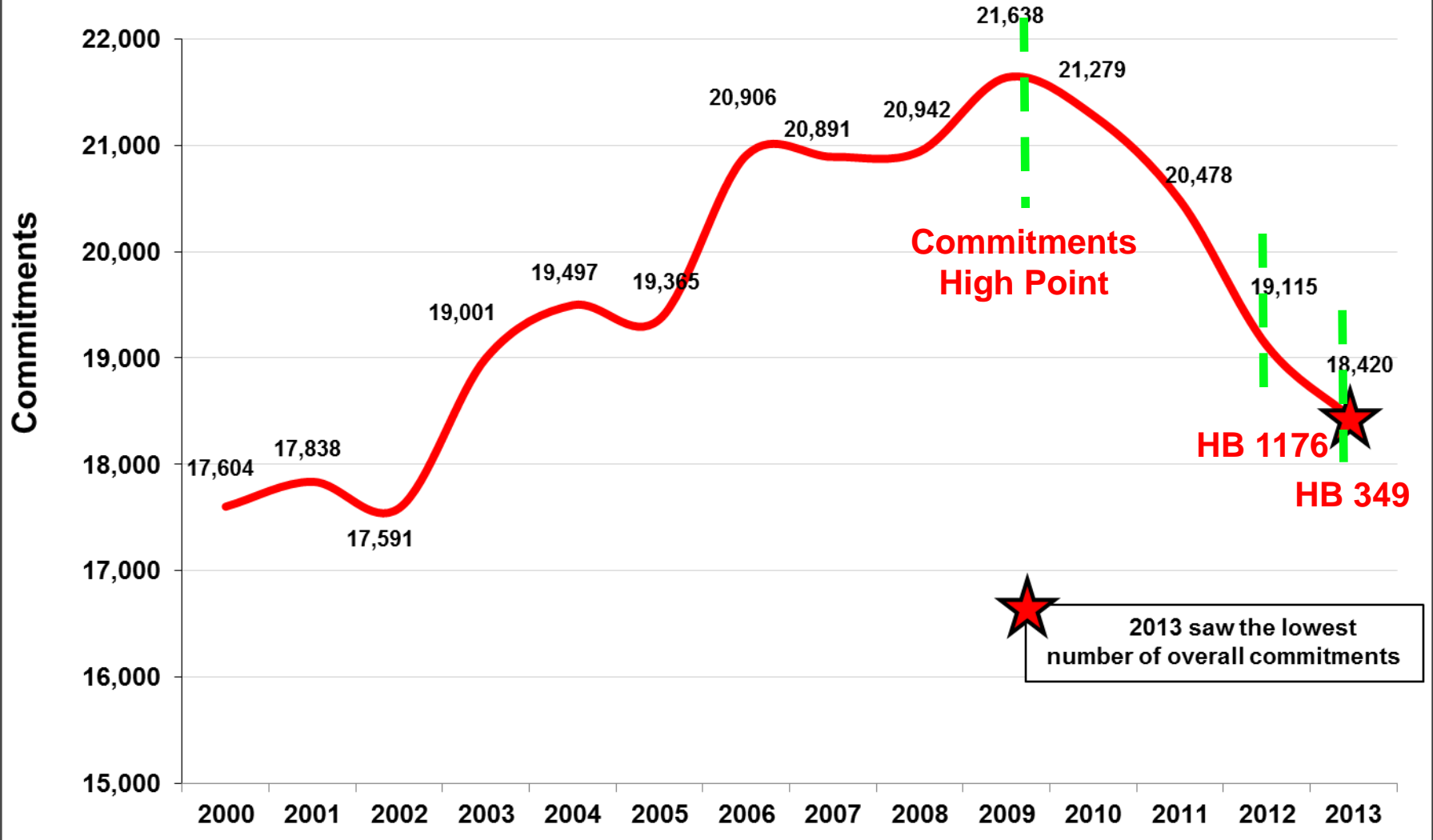
Total Jail Population



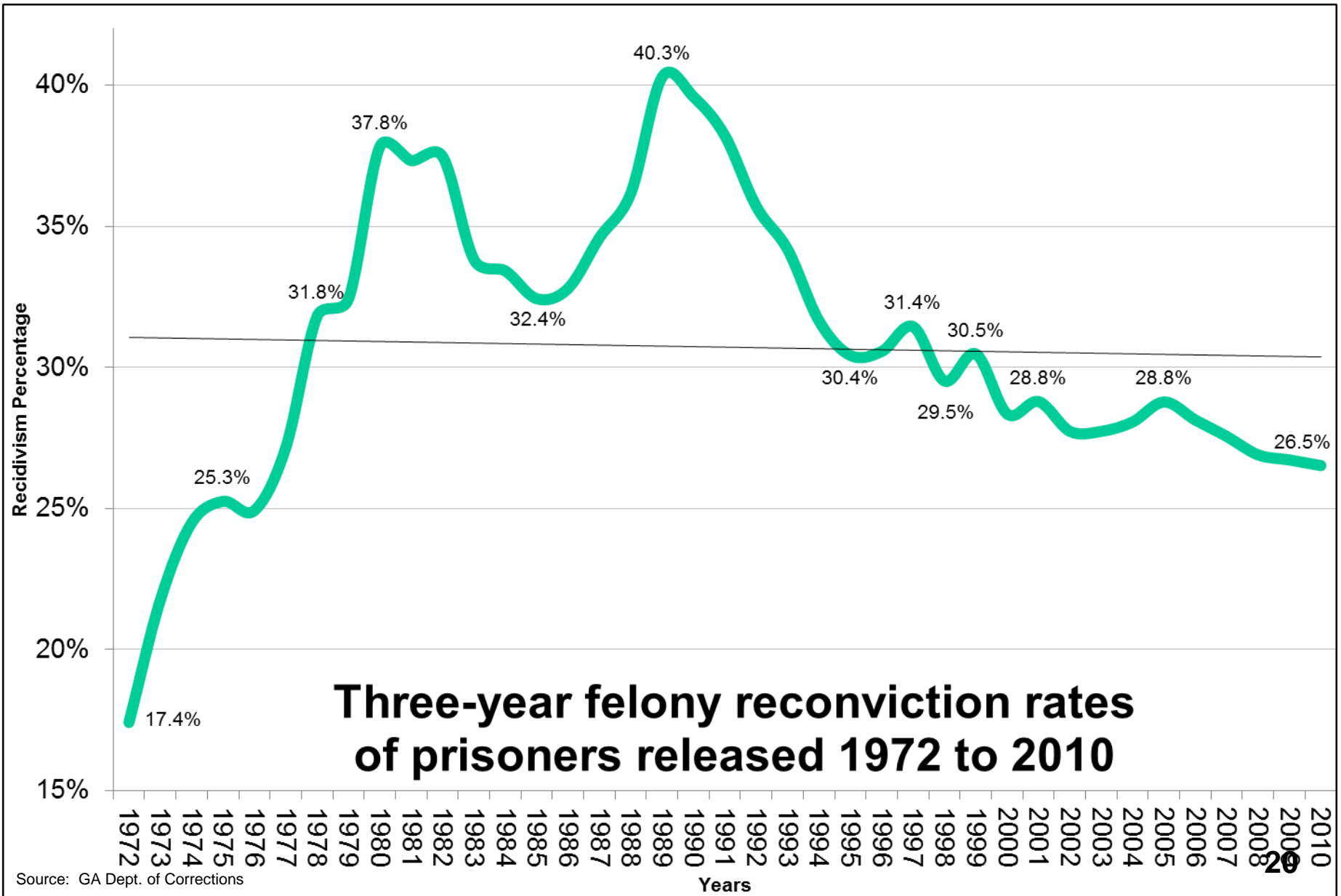


Georgia Prison Commitments

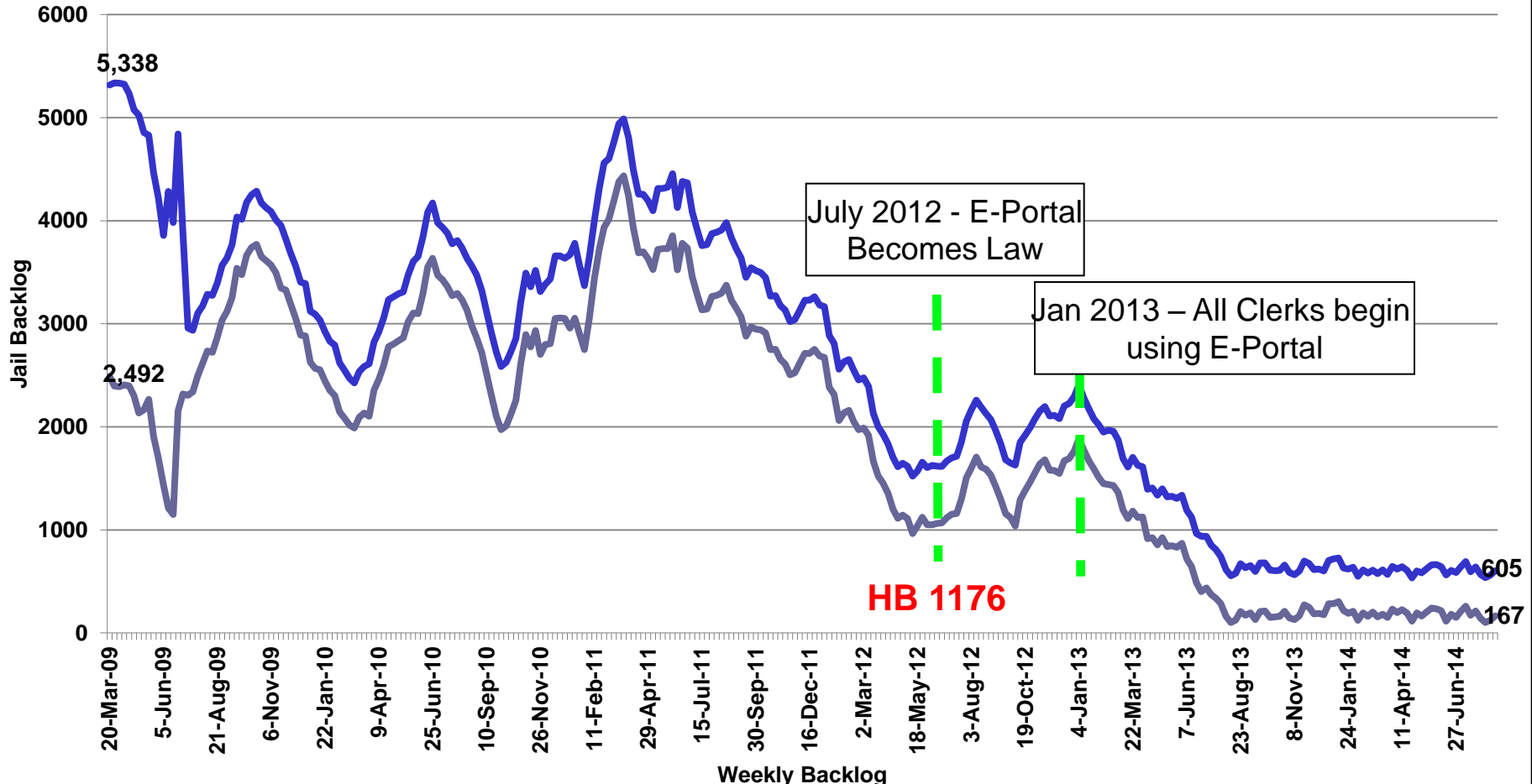
Annual Commitments to Georgia Prison 2000-2013



Recidivism Rates Since 1972

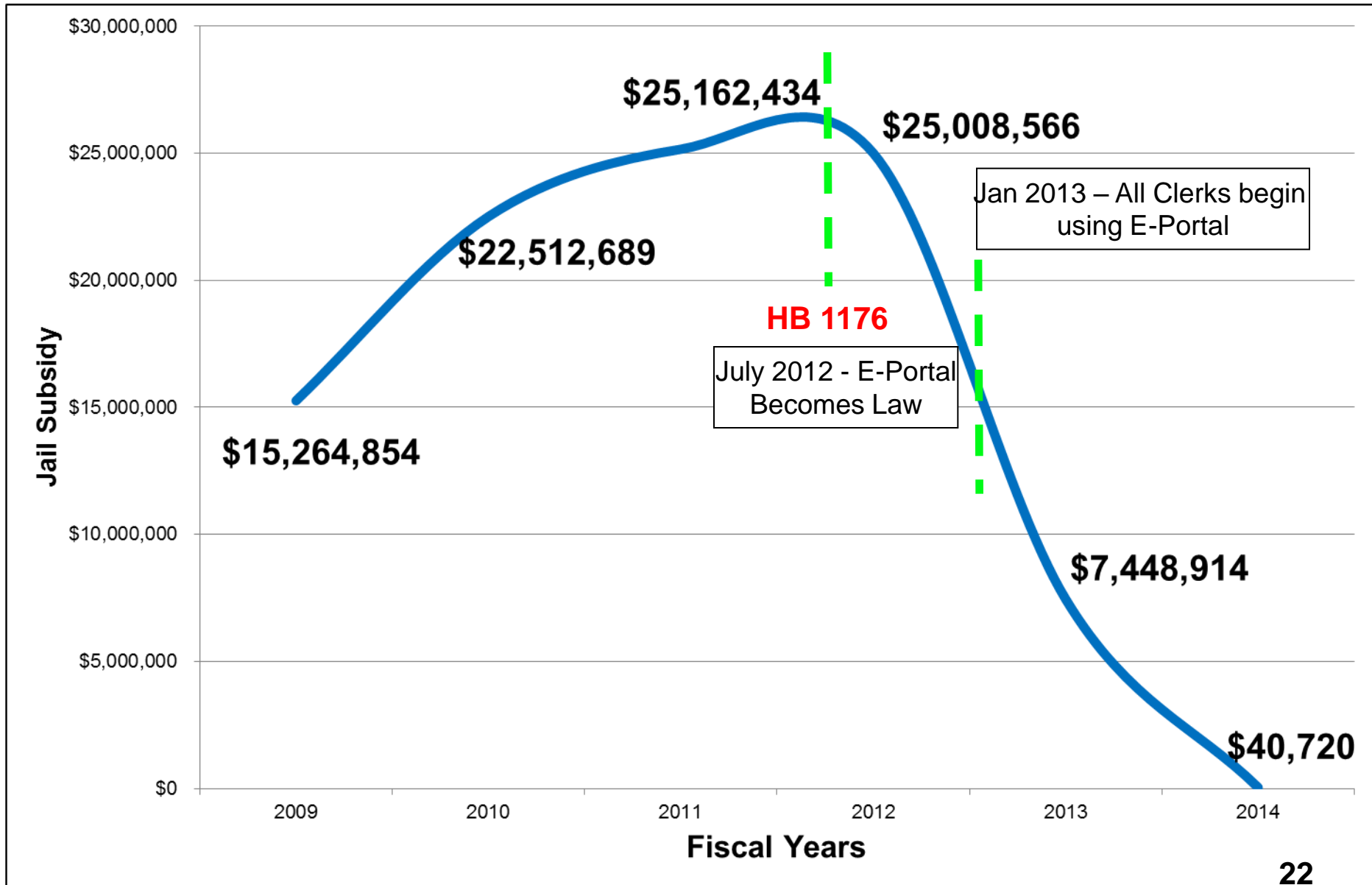


Jail Backlog/Awaiting Pickup

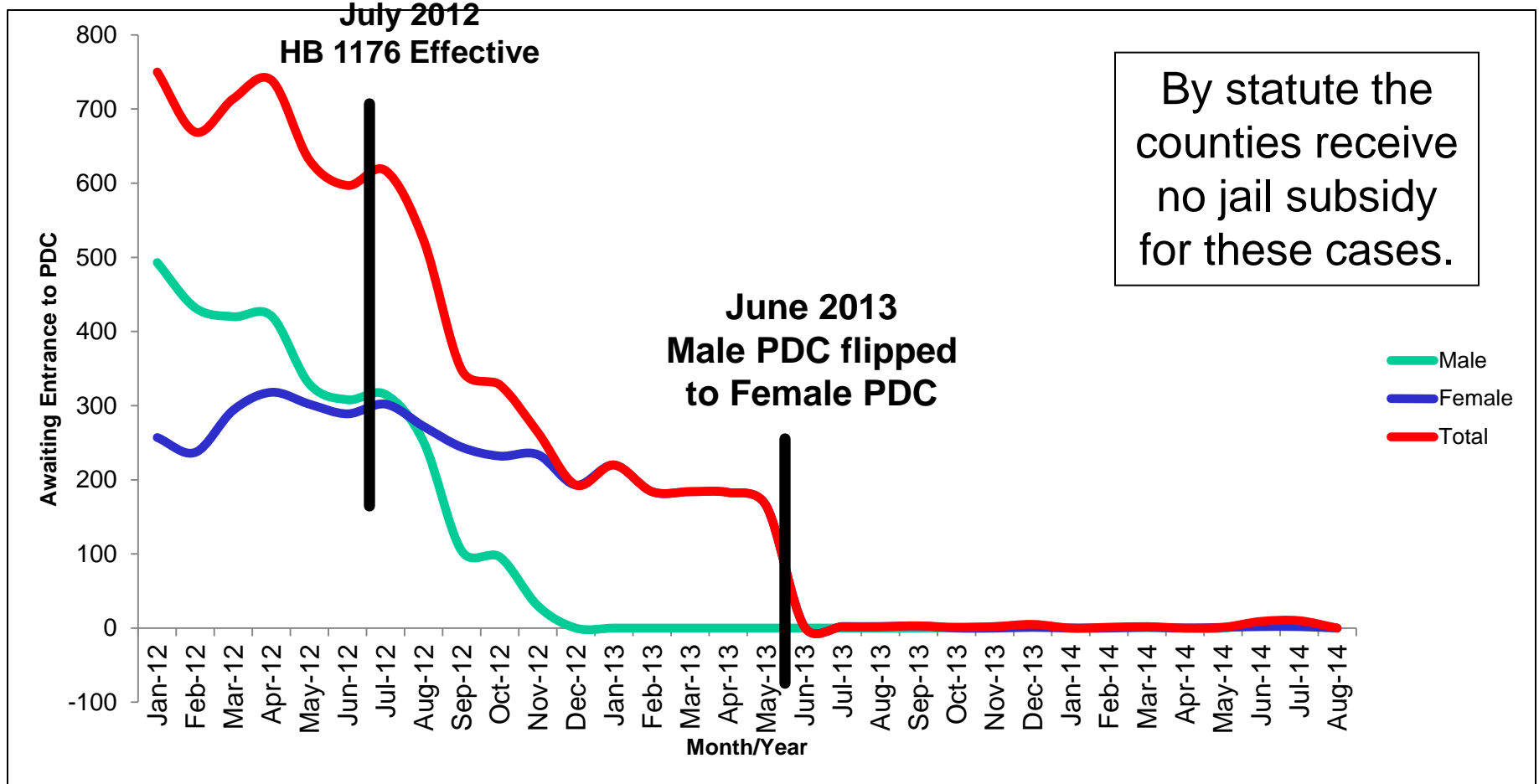


Awaiting Pickup = Any state sentenced inmate serving time in jail (Sheriff's Count)
Jail Backlog = Court orders received and certified by GDC (GDC Count)

FY 2009-2014 Jail Subsidy

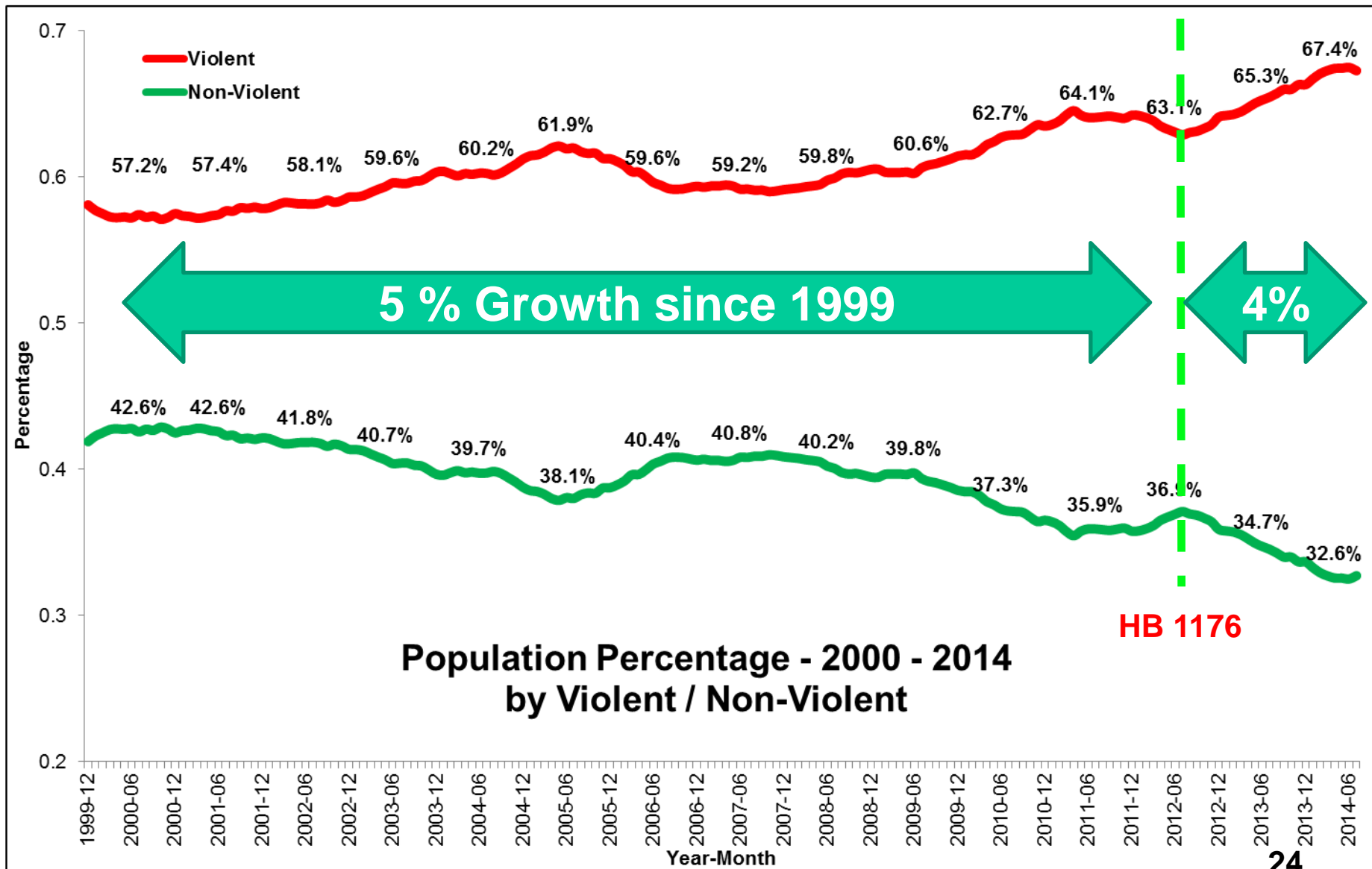


Length of Stay Cap Effect on PDC Backlog



HB 1176 capped PDC Length of Stay at 180 day

Violent vs. Non-Violent Prison Trends



Governor's Office of Transition, Support and Reentry (GOTSR)



- Established by Executive Order – July 1, 2013
 - Administratively Attached to Department of Corrections
- Adopted Georgia Prison Reentry Initiative (GA-PRI)
 - Modeled After Michigan Prisoner Reentry Initiative
- Secured four Second Chance Act Grants
 - Totaling \$6 million over 3 years
- Governor has invested over \$48 million
 - Corrections, Juvenile Justice, Accountability Courts and Reentry
- HB 310 – 2015 Session
 - Creates the Department of Community Supervision (DCS)
 - Statutorily creates GOTSR and attaches to DCS



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<http://gotsr.dcor.state.ga.us/>

Reform Council Reports:

<http://gotsr.dcor.state.ga.us/ga-council-on-criminal-justice-reform/>