



Addressing Service Gaps in California for Youth in Foster Care: What Does the Data Say?

Kevin O'Connell, CPOC Research Analyst

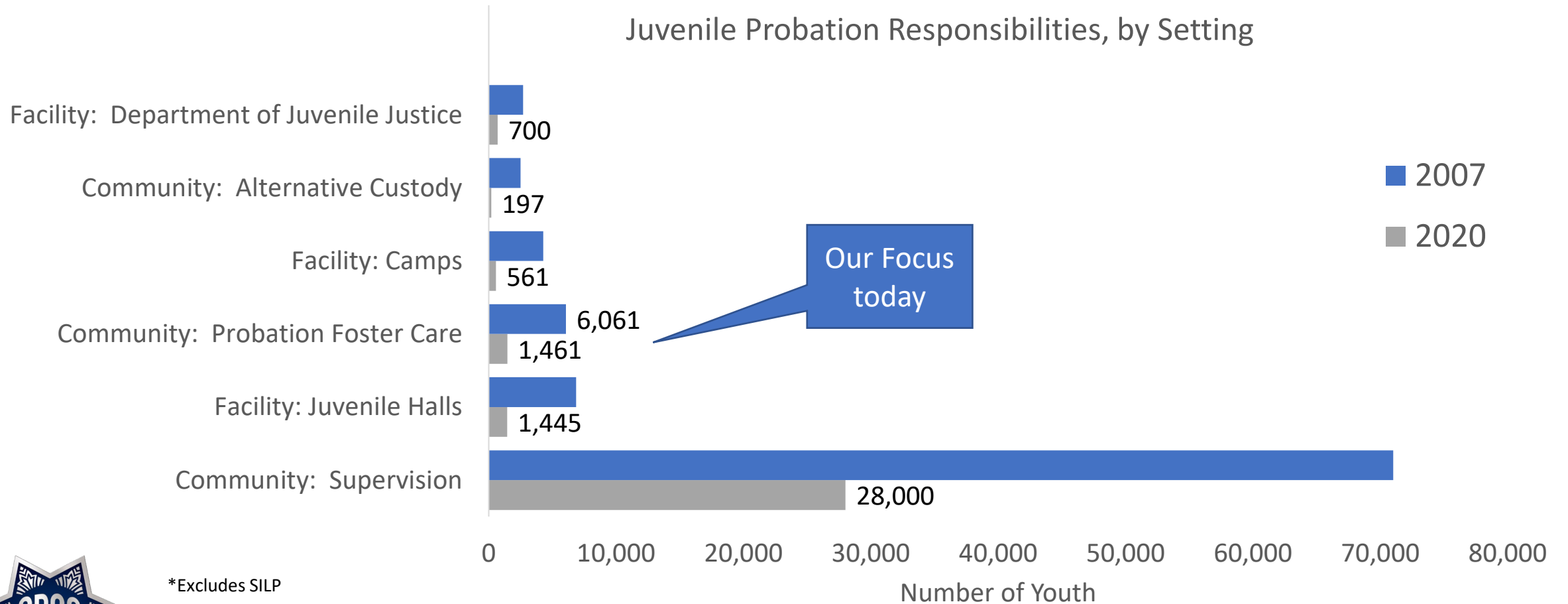
June 10, 2021

Objectives

- Context of Probation Foster Care
- Characteristics Of Out Of State Placements Before Decertification

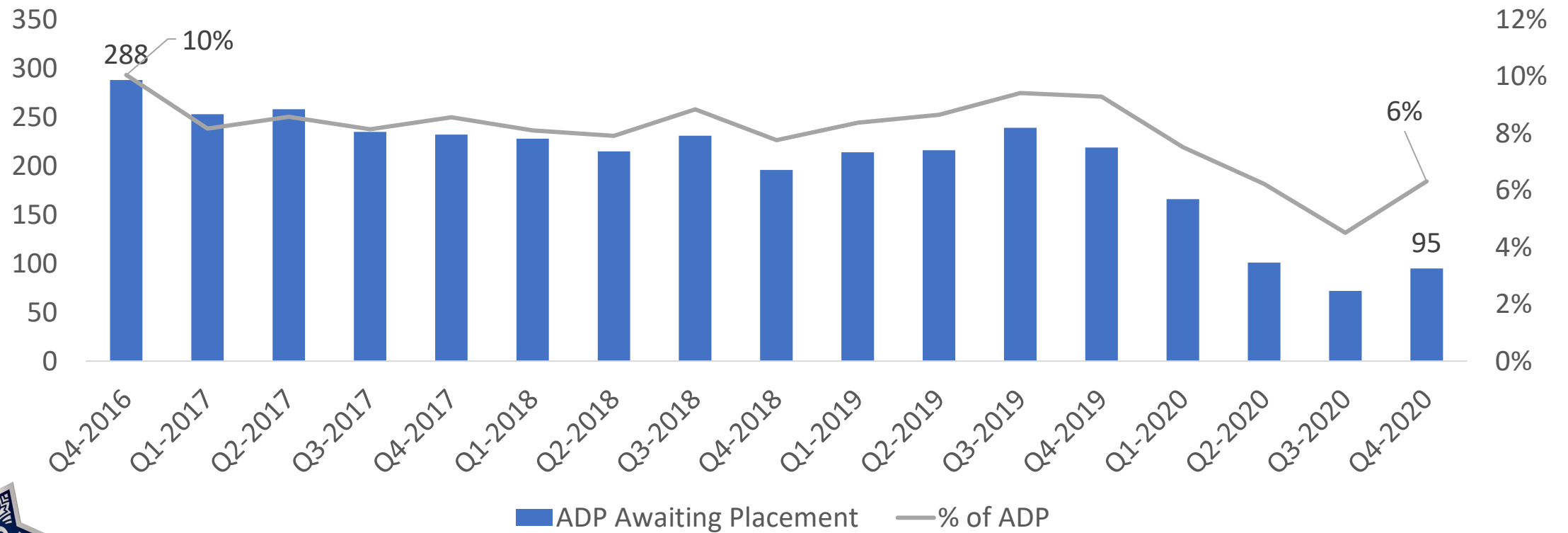


Since 2007, 60% Fewer Youth are in the Juvenile Justice System Overall



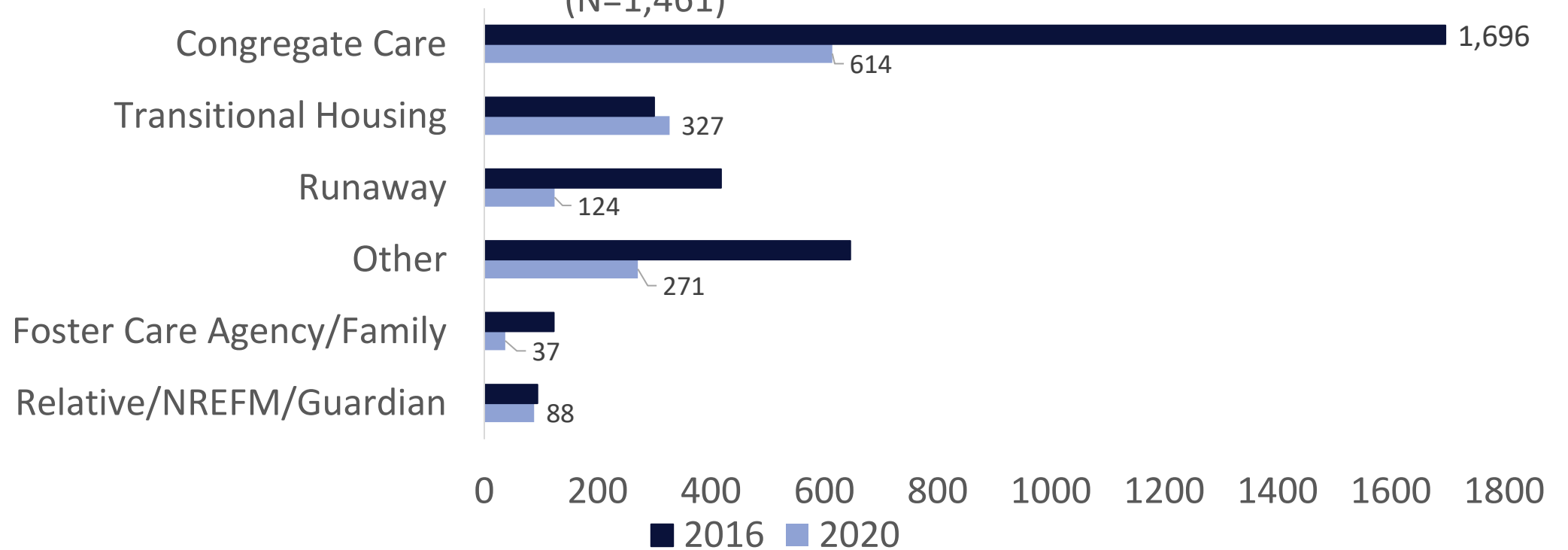
Youth Awaiting Placement in Juvenile Hall Have Declined Since 2016

Juvenile Hall Population, Awaiting Placement by ADP and Percent of Total ADP



30% of Probation Youth in Foster Care are in Congregate Care, Down From Nearly 50% in 2016

Probation Youth In Foster Care, as of October 2020
(N=1,461)



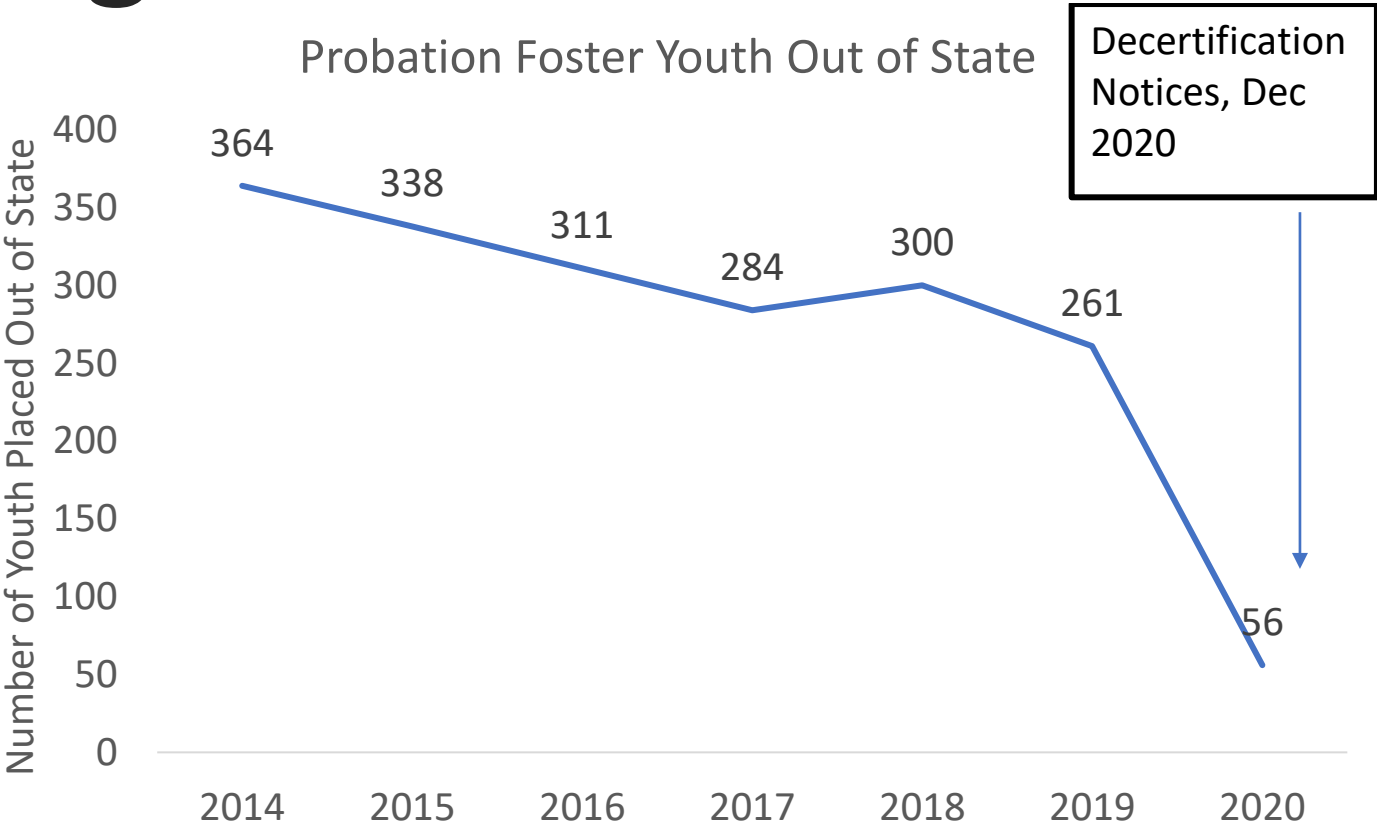
*Excludes SILP



Out Of State Placements Were Already Declining Before 2020

Placing probation youth close to home is a priority but this isn't always possible based on the need for:

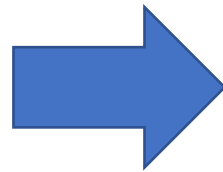
- more intensive mental health care services.
- resource parents and STRTP capacity for youth with complex needs who also have public safety risk
- trauma-informed responses
- specific resources for girls



Profile of Out of State Placements in 2019

Sending County Probation Region

Bay	20%
Central	9%
North	2%
Sacramento	13%
South	55%



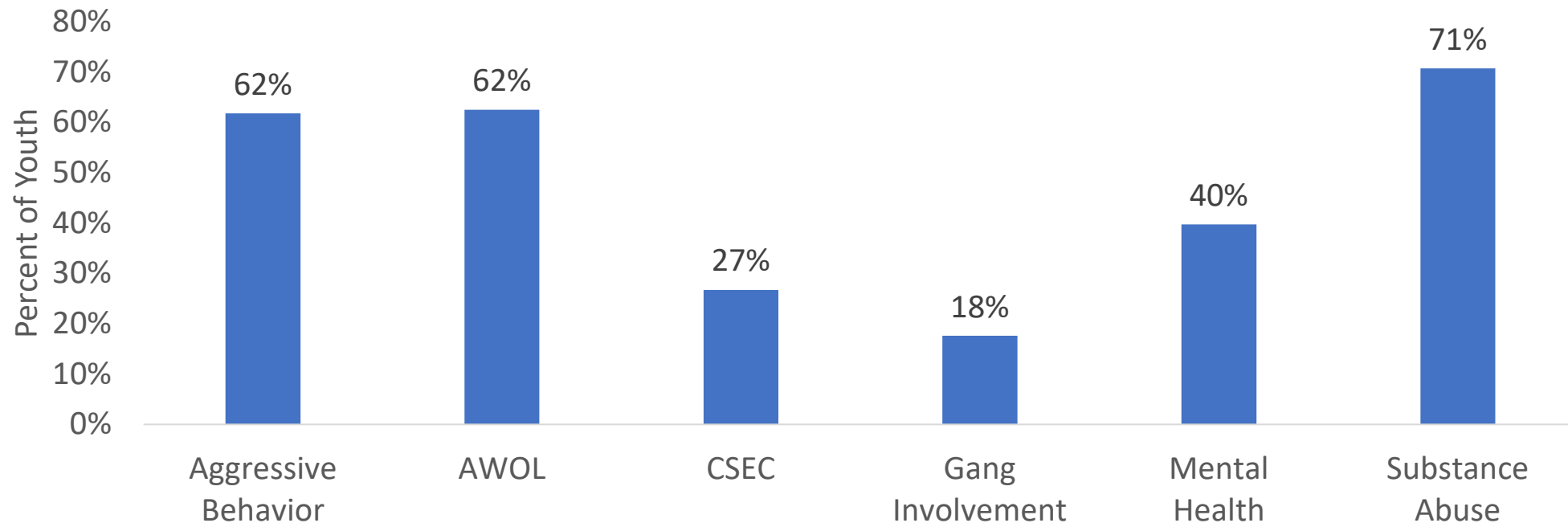
Demographics

- Tended to be older than in-state placements
- More females than in-state placement
- Similar racial composition to in-state placements



Substance Use was present in most out of state placements in 2019

Indicated Behaviors for Probation Foster Youth Placed Out of State, 2019



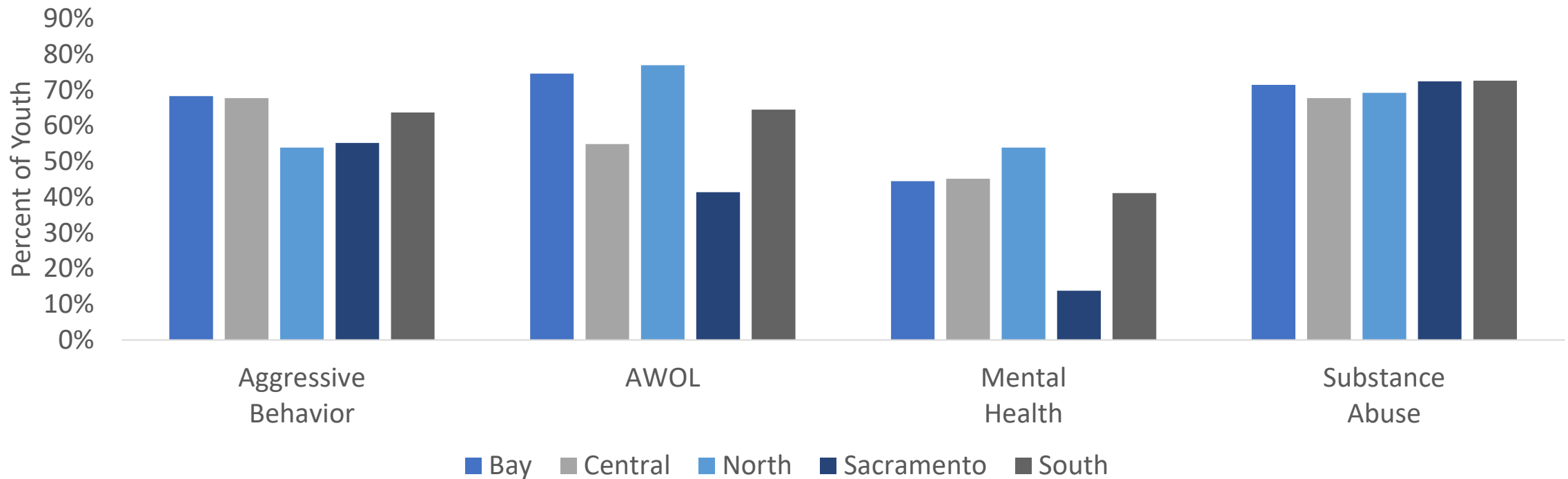
*Youth can have multiple needs present

CSEC: Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children
AWOL: Absent Without Leave



Planning For Service Gaps Would Need To Be Regional

Indicated Behaviors for Probation Foster Youth Placed Out of State 2019, by Region



*Youth can have multiple needs present

AWOL: Absent Without Leave



Key Questions

- How do we make better use of the resources we have in the state and ensure active communication and knowledge exchange between probation and providers?
- How can the State help to continue to break down barriers and look for solutions to design residential services for youth with complex needs that keeps them as close to home as possible?
- What do probation departments need to do in order to properly support the provider and give the provider the best chance of success with these youth?

