



Review of Judicial Branch Activities in “Raise the Age”

Presented by the Judicial Branch,
Court Support Services Division
June 28, 2012



Juvenile Justice System More Appropriate for Youth

The juvenile justice system in Connecticut is grounded in the concepts of restorative justice, emphasizing protection of the community, offender accountability, and rehabilitation. The goals of the system include:

- **Individualized** and a greater amount of **supervision, care, and treatment** provided pursuant to an individual case management plan that **involves the family of the juvenile**.
- School and community programs promoting **prevention and reentry**.
- A statewide system of **community-based services** designed to **keep the juvenile in the home and community** whenever possible.



Hornby Zeller Associates' Case for "Raise the Age"

- Fifty to seventy-five percent of 16 and 17 year olds were not getting any services
- Adult programs had no impact on recidivism for youth
- The Raise the Age movement could be anticipated to create a 10% reduction in recidivism.



Judicial Branch's Four-Point Plan

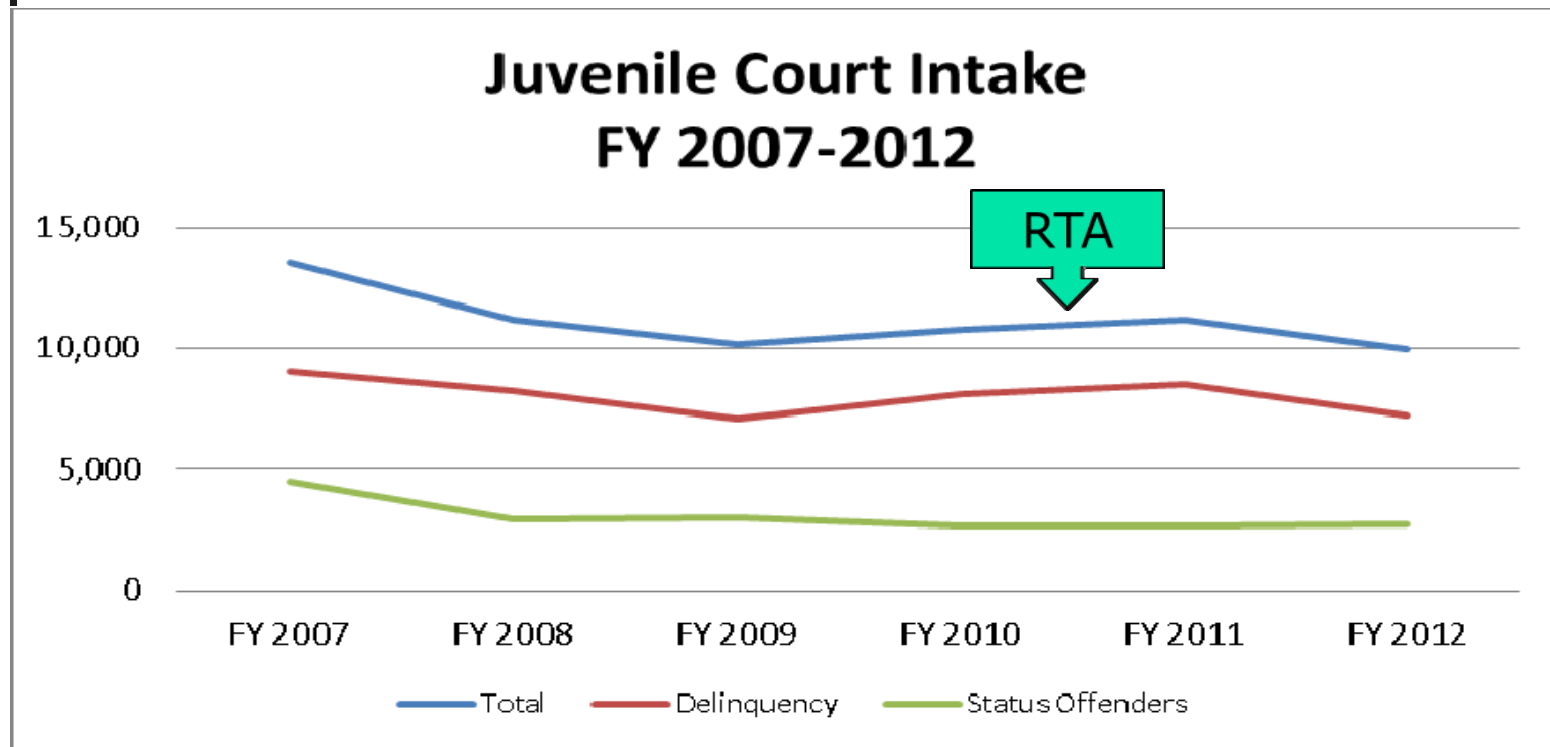
1. Modify Probation Workforce
2. Adapt Existing Juvenile Service Delivery System
3. Create New Programs for Youth
4. Establish Infrastructure to Ensure Positive Outcomes (On-Going)



Existing Juvenile Programs

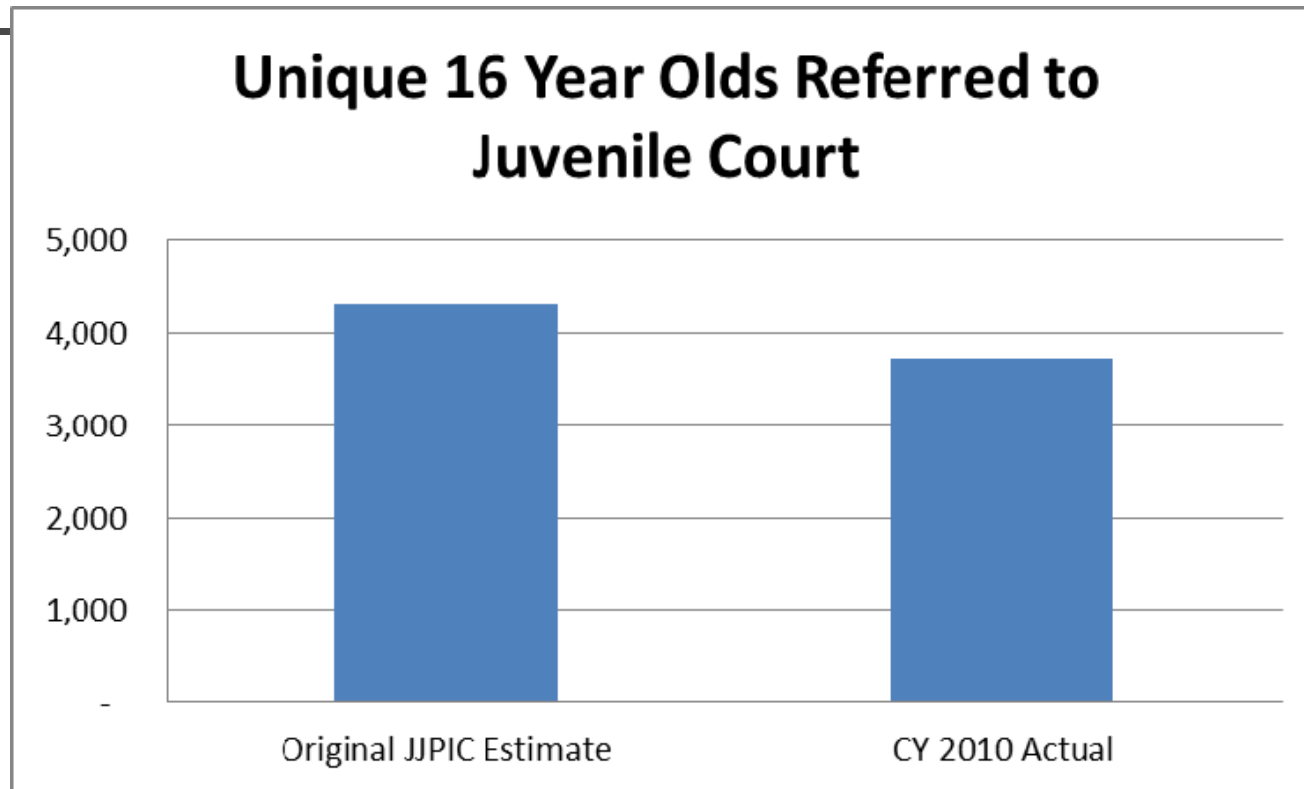
- Evidence-Based, In-Home Models
- Clinical Services
- Center-Based Services
- Educational and Vocational Services
- Community Residential Programs
- Juvenile Sex Offender Services

Court Intake



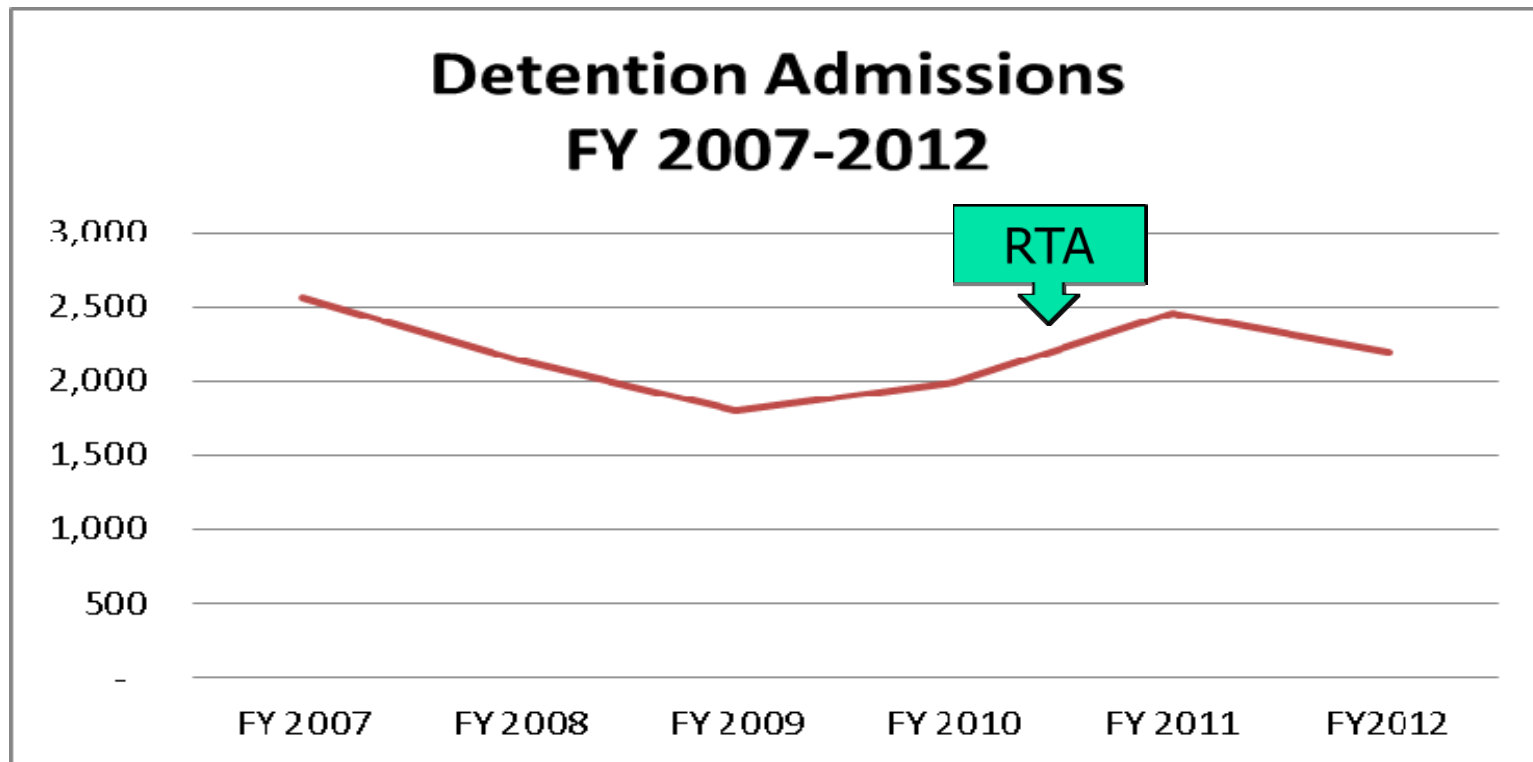
The number of juveniles referred to the court is down 27 percent since 2007

Court Intake – 16 Year Olds



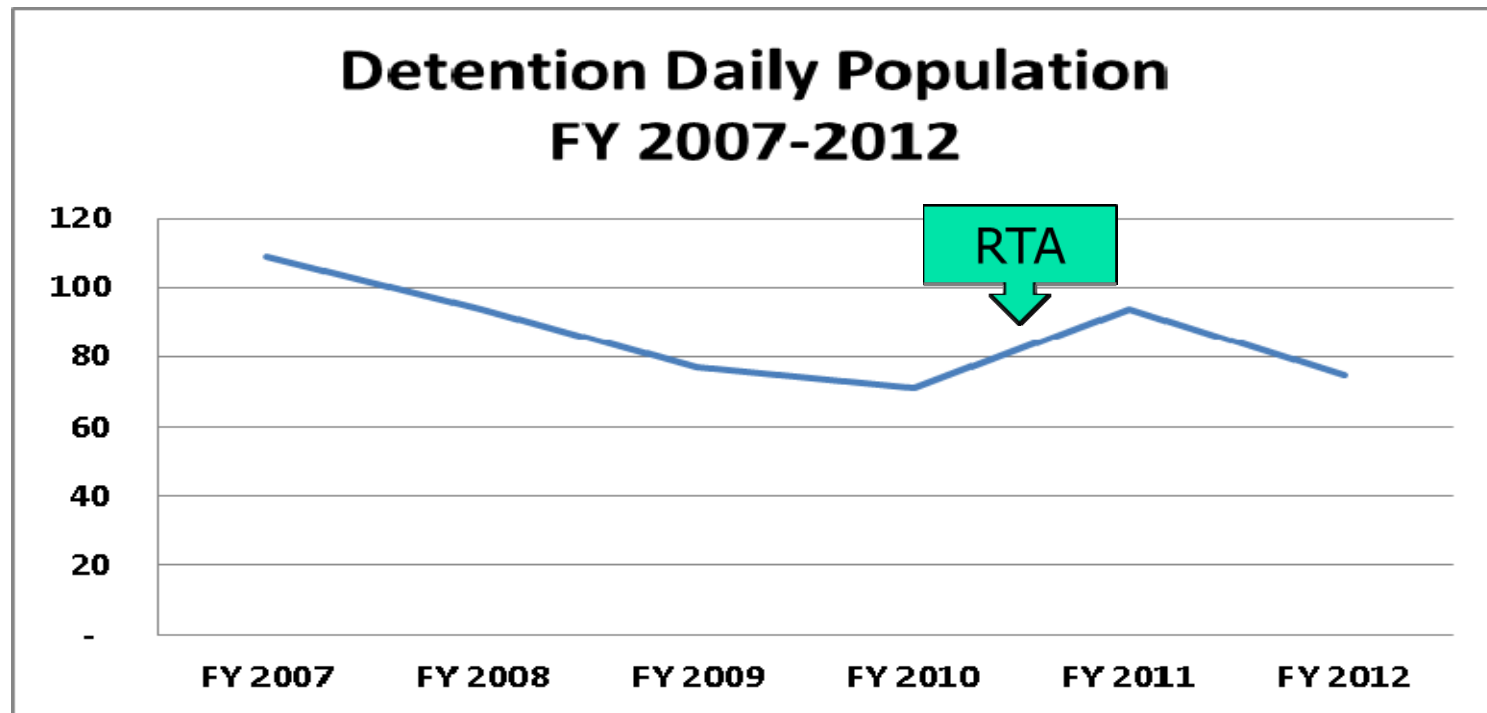
The actual number of 16 year olds referred to Juvenile Court in CY 2010 was 13 percent less than projected

Detention Admissions



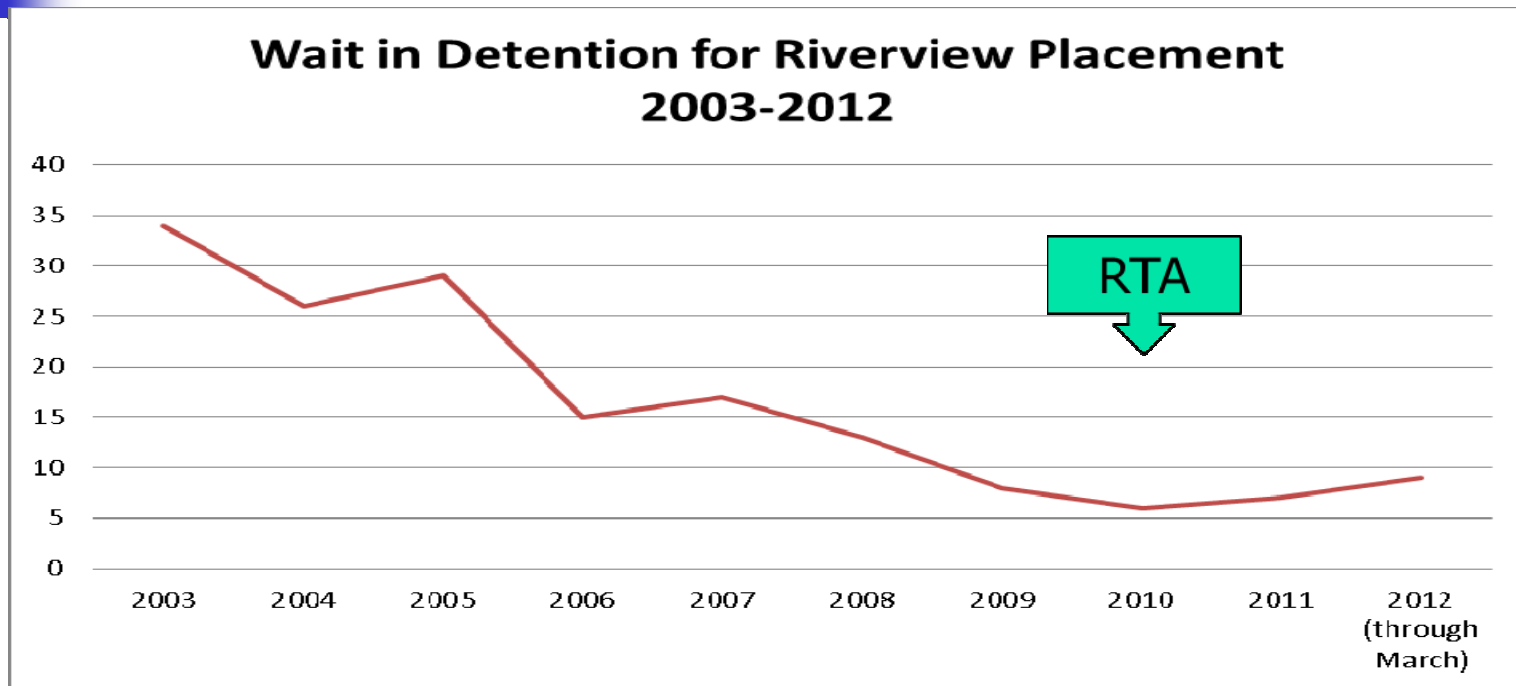
Detention admissions are lower than 2007

Detention Daily Population



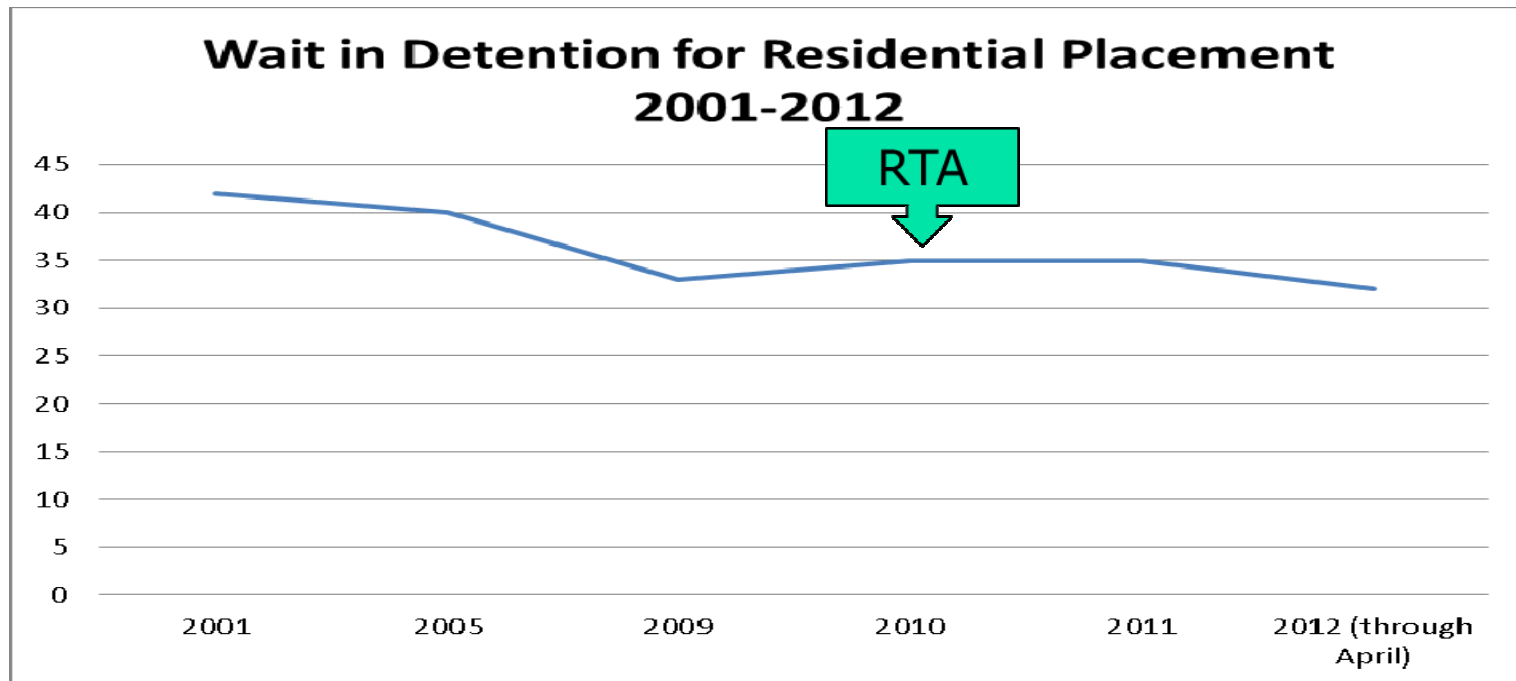
Average daily population is down 31 percent due in part to greater investment in community-based alternatives

Wait Time for Riverview



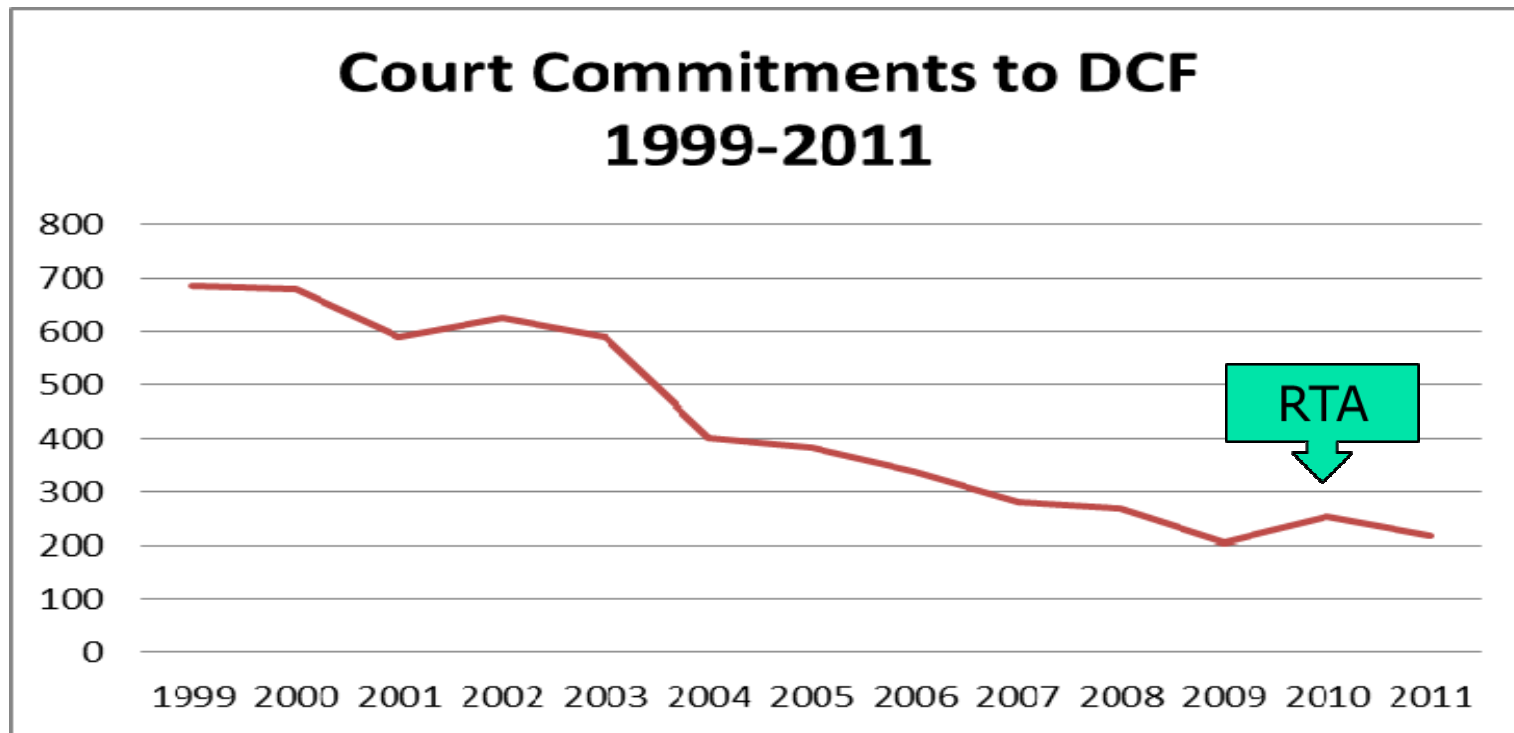
There has been an 74 percent reduction since 2003 in the number of days in detention while waiting for Riverview Placement

Wait Time for Placement



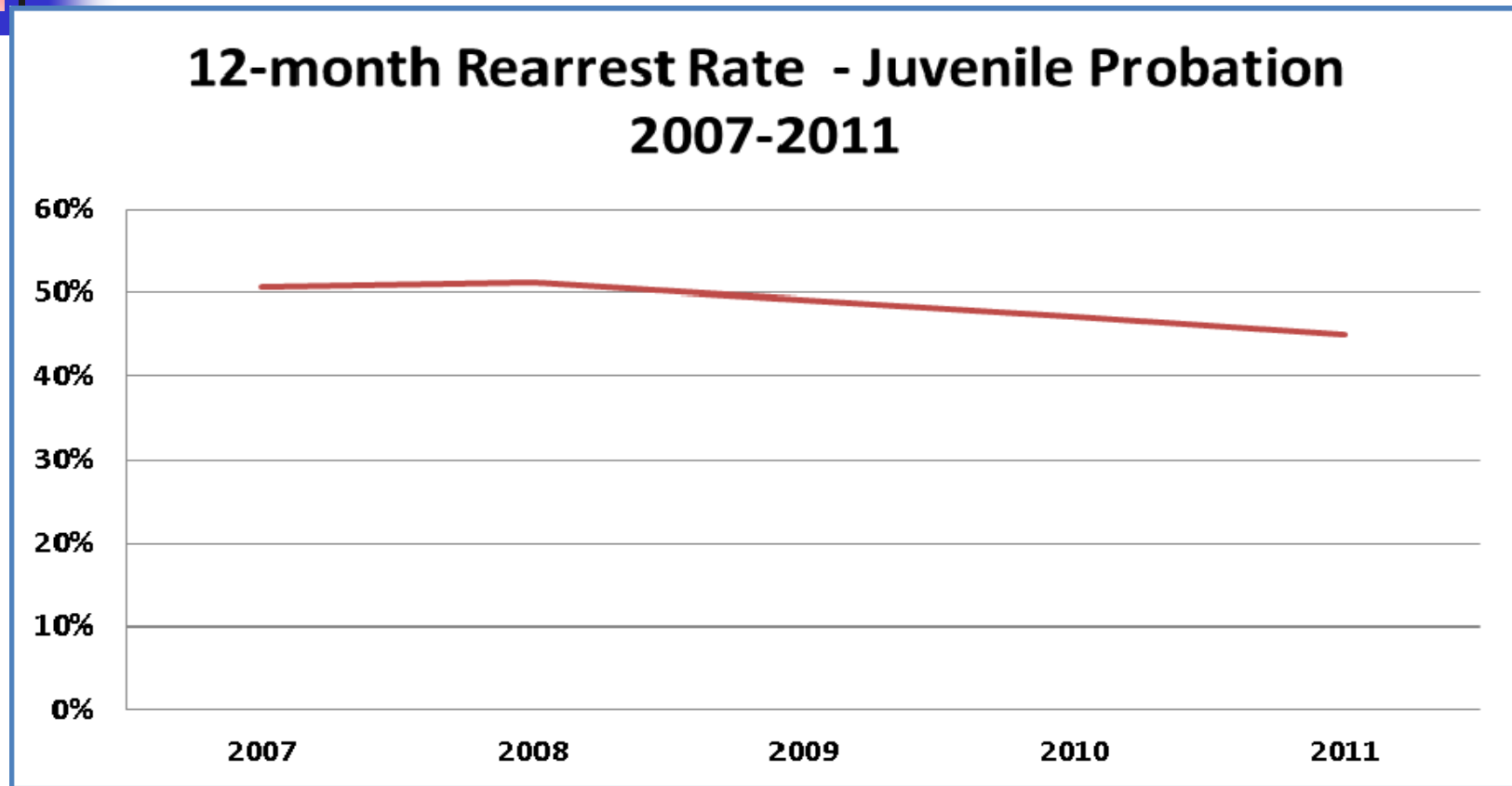
There has been a 24 percent reduction since 2001 in the number of days in detention while waiting for Residential Placement

DCF Commitments



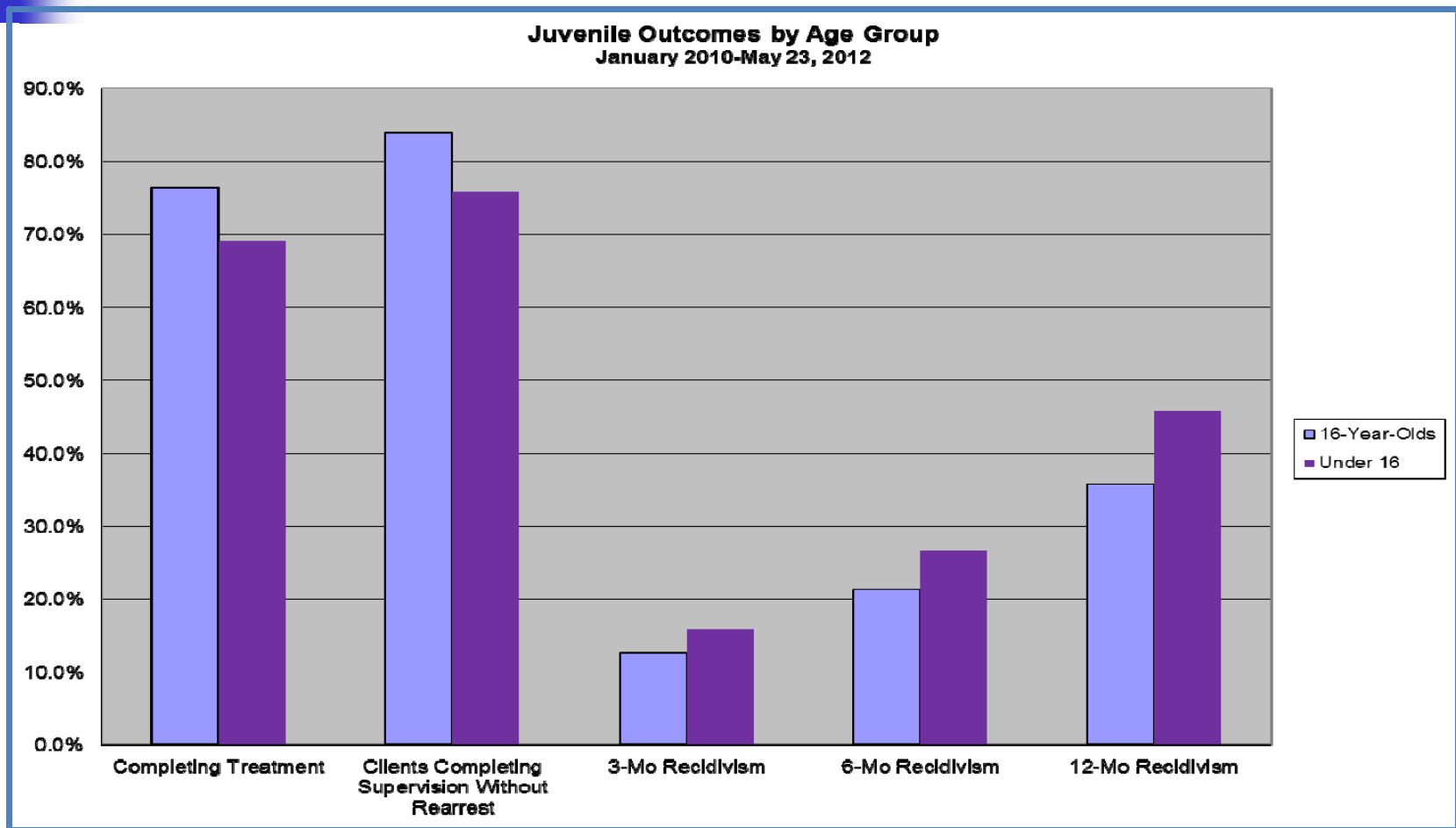
Commitments have dropped 69% since 1999

12-Month Rearrest Rate – Juveniles on Supervision/Probation



Rearrest rates for juvenile probationers have dropped from 51% in 2007 to 45% in 2011

Raise the Age Probation Outcomes to Date





How will Service Continuum Reflect Unique Needs of 17s?

- More substance abuse and behavioral health intervention
- More educational and vocational supports
- New domestic violence programming
- Flex funds for basic needs and independent living skills
- Community service programs
- Mentoring



How will CSSD's practices change to accommodate 17s?

- Manageable caseloads will be maintained
- Detention facilities will hold older adolescents
- All new staff will be trained in adolescent development and other related issues
- Quality assurance and evaluation will expand
- Return referrals will continue
- R.E.S.T.O.R.E. will be piloted in 3 cities



R.E.S.T.O.R.E. Pilot Project

Specialized units within the Bridgeport, Hartford and New Haven Juvenile Courts responding to the needs and behaviors of juveniles “identified” as being gang-involved or having a history of violence.

Key components include:

- Criteria for inclusion
- Capped caseloads
- Specialized JPO training
- Longer probationary periods
- Increased client contact
- Aggression Replacement Training (ART) and vocational services
- Monthly case management meetings
- Graduation