

Lubbock County Juvenile & Adult Systems Assessment

Findings and Recommendations

April 25, 2022



Detain, Inc.

Agenda

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Introductions

Joining You **Today**



April D. Pottorff
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Juvenile Justice
System Assessment



Juvenile Justice System Assessment

Goals and Objectives:

- Understanding how the juvenile system works and the issues impacting the need for secure beds
- Analyzing the role of early intervention and alternatives to secure confinement programs and identifying gaps in the continuum
- Evaluating LCJPD's current and future bedspace capacity needs
- Recommending operational and programming improvements
- Recommending JJC facility improvements based on estimates of potential population growth and changes in the composition of the clients served.

Juvenile Justice System Assessment

Methodology

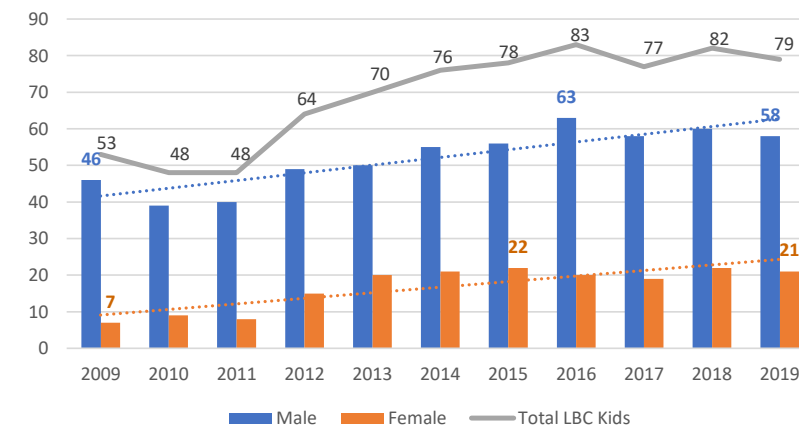
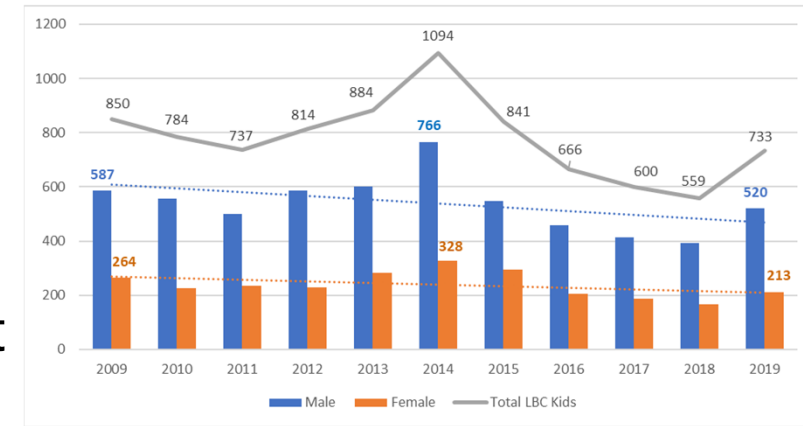
- Key stakeholder interviews
- Data requests and analysis
- Official annual budget reports and documentation review
- JJC Facility Tour



Juvenile Justice System Assessment

The Numbers

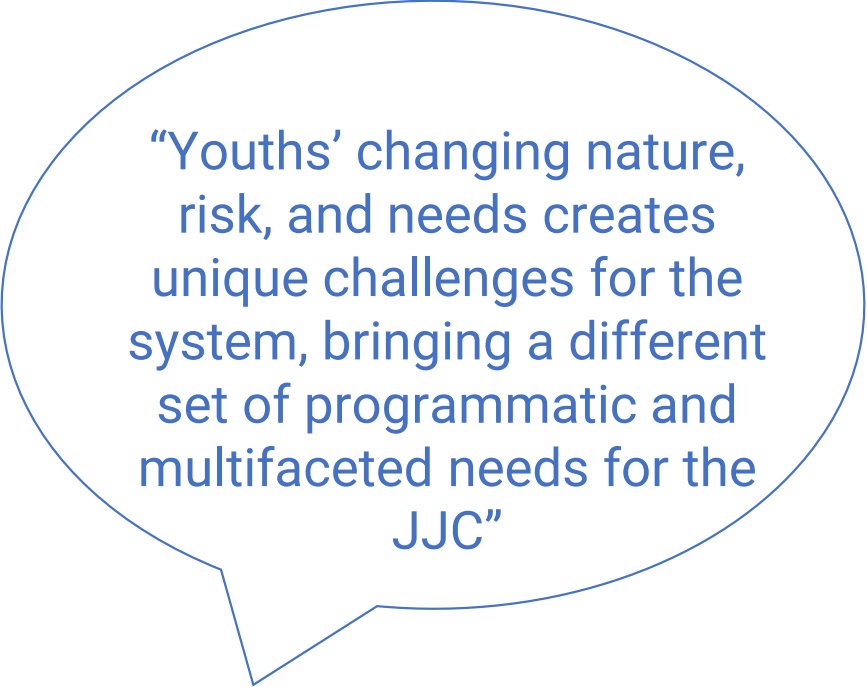
- Juvenile system population in decline for the past 10 years (uptick trend reported starting in 2019)
- Overall reduction in justice-involved youth at all stages of the system:
 - Reduction in juvenile crime and arrest trends, despite County population growth. *BUT violent crime committed by juveniles on the rise since 2018.*
 - Reduction in the number of referrals, juvenile court intakes, and detention. *BUT increase in post-adjudication.*



Juvenile Justice System Assessment

The numbers

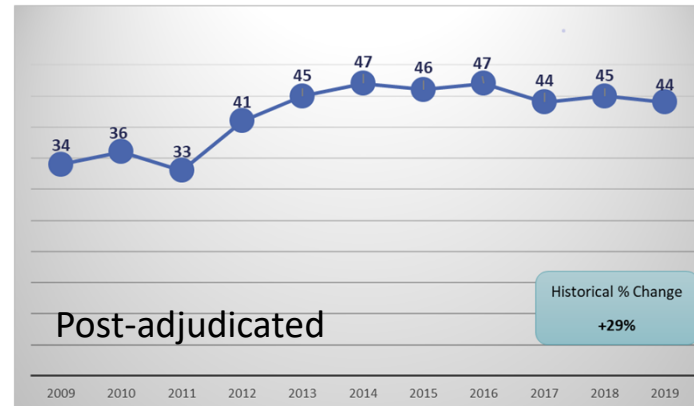
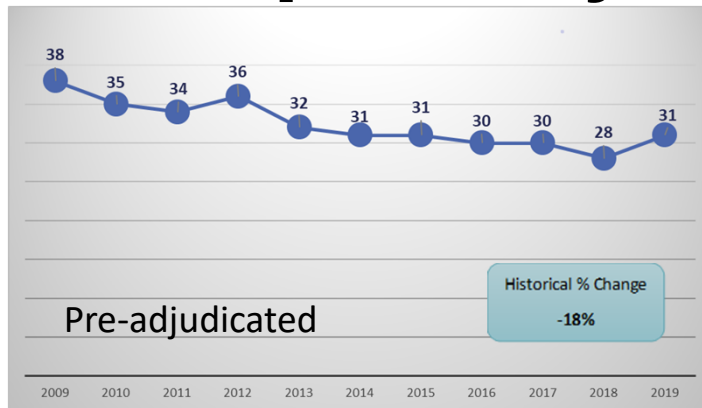
- Significant changes in the profile of the clients served:
 - More serious offenses and persistent, serious misconduct.
 - Multiple behavioral diagnosis and criminogenic issues.
 - Increase in serious emotional disorders, rates of depression, and histories of serious trauma.



“Youths’ changing nature, risk, and needs creates unique challenges for the system, bringing a different set of programmatic and multifaceted needs for the JJC”

Juvenile Justice Capacity Needs Assessment

JJC Bedspace Projections



- By 2041 LCJPD could need between **100 and 106 secure beds**:

Program/Utilization factor	Actual 2019	Bedspace Forecast				
		2021	2026	2031	2036	2041
Pre-adjudication (15%)	31	35-37	36-39	39-43	43-45	45-47
Post-adjudication (10%)	33	41-44	43-47	47-52	52-55	55-59

- Pre-adjudicated youth: **14-15 female beds and 31-32 male beds.**
- Post-adjudicated youth: **13-14 female beds and 42-45 male beds.**

Juvenile Justice Capacity Needs Assessment

JJC Bedspace Projections

- Potential Impact of Pending “**Raise the Age Legislation**” (17 years-old)
- **64 beds** (inclusive of contract beds)
 - 32 pre-adjudication
 - 32 post-adjudication
- Total system capacity: **164 and 170 secure beds**
- JJC Rated Capacity: **96 beds** (

JJC Facility Assessment

Overall Building Organization

- Operational deficiencies due to the current building layout and configuration (maze of hallways connecting the several sections added over time).
- Little consideration for visual monitoring of youth given for redevelopment of the facility.
- Narrow corridors, low ceilings, and poor sightlines make supervision of youth challenging.
- To keep separation by gender and status, residents moved by cluster, one cluster at a time. This is very staff intensive, causes transition issues and disruption of activities.

JJC Facility Assessment

Critical Space Shortfalls

- Academic and Vocational Education:
 - Classrooms in portables with no plumbing capability.
 - Inadequate area for special needs training or trade programs.
 - Current “shop” located outside of the secure perimeter and utilized for storage purposes.

- Recreation:
 - The facility lacks indoor recreation.

JJC Facility Assessment

Critical Space Shortfalls (cont'd)

- Housing:
 - Not fully reflective of what a positive, comforting, and supportive residential environment could feel and look like.
 - Lack of dedicated spaces for emotional regulation. Particularly challenging with youth in mental health crisis and exhibiting suicidal behavior.

- Treatment and counseling:
 - Insufficient office space for counseling and treatment professionals.

- Institutional storage:
 - Available space does not accommodate storage needs.
 - Centralized storage building is falling apart.

Juvenile Justice System Assessment

Recommendations

- Redesign the JJC needs to be a viable intervention and a more productive component of the juvenile justice system.
- Long-term planning priorities:
 - Housing:
 - Cosmetic upgrades to look and feel more normative and child friendly.
 - Units size: 8 beds or multiples of 8, for compliance with PREA ratios.
 - New Therapeutic Response Unit for the temporary observation/stabilization of youth with severe mental health issues, emotionally disturbed, and assaultive behavior.
 - New Unit for high security youth who need additional assessment services.

Juvenile Justice System Assessment

Recommendations (cont'd)

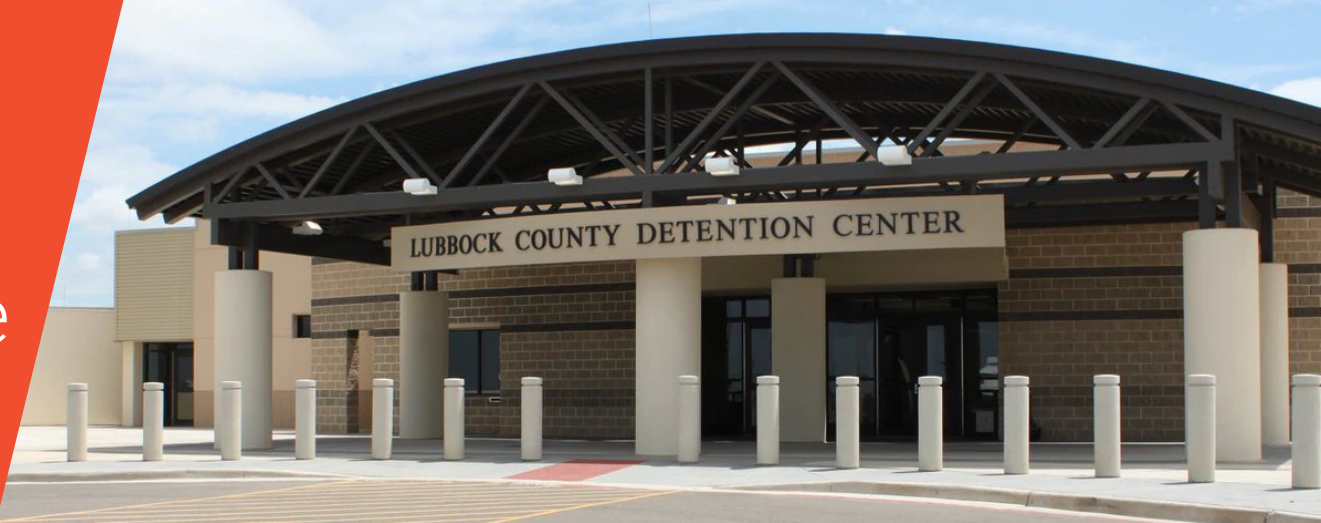
- Build a new purpose-built education center/counseling suite with an adequate number of multi-function group/classrooms.
- Expand spaces for family counseling, conferencing, and small group therapy to improve family relationships.
- Invest in life skills opportunities to support new skills and competencies.
- Enrich vocational and job-readiness opportunities:
 - Expand apprenticeship programs.
 - Create a vocational training/career technical education program accessible by youth released after completion of the post-adjudication program.
 - Create a culinary arts classroom.

Juvenile Justice System Assessment

Recommendations (cont'd)

- Extend the continuum of care: create a specialized non-secure residential program/day treatment program for girls on the property of the former residential program focused on arts and trades.
- Expand substance abuse treatment by creating a non-secure residential drug treatment program.
- Enhance transition services for youth leaving the post-adjudication program with enhanced wrap-around services.
- Partially cover the outdoor recreation yards and sub-divide the largest outdoor courtyard to allow two clusters of youth to recreate at a time.

Adult Criminal Justice System Assessment



Adult Criminal Justice System Assessment

Why is it important to Lubbock County?

- More than just about jail crowding
- Abysmal federal and state rehabilitation efforts create a revolving door directly impacting local communities
- Impacts the community quality of life as well as the budget
- Duty as a community to act in the interests of those affected by mental illness, trauma, and crime

Adult Criminal Justice System Assessment

Goals and Objectives:

- Perform an assessment of the Lubbock County Adult Criminal Justice System to better served the needs of the County's justice-involved adult population
- Better understand the nature and dynamic of justice-involved adults
- Understand and identify potential for change and future growth
- Identify potential impacts on resources, bedspace and programmatic needs
- Analyze case flow from arrest through adjudication
- Make recommendations for improvement

Adult Criminal Justice System Assessment

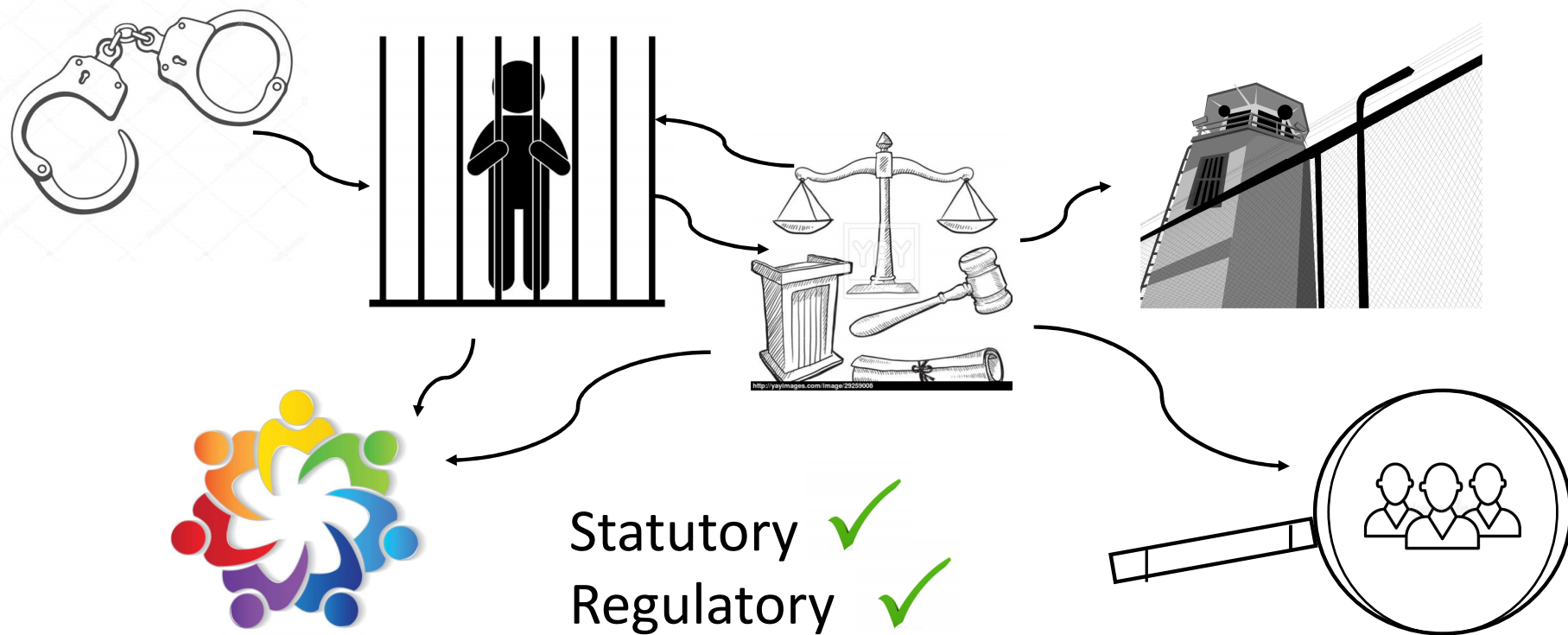
Methodology

- Key stakeholder interviews (Sheriff's Office, LPD, District Attorney, Courts, CSCD, District Clerk, County Clerk, LPDO)
- Data requests and analysis
- Research
- Site inspections



Adult Criminal Justice System Assessment

The overall assessment?



Adult Criminal Justice System Assessment

Challenges persist

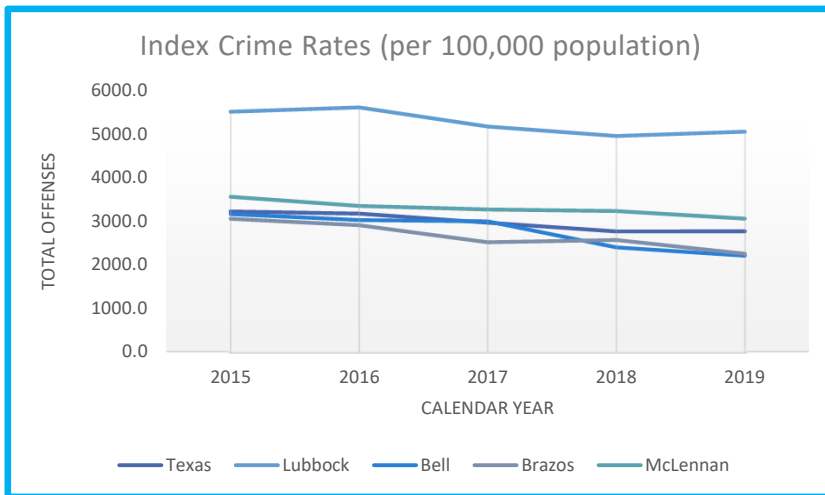
- Jail bedspace
- Offender population with substance abuse, mental illness and trauma issues continues to climb
- State restoration and treatment beds are under-resourced creating backlogs in the jail
- Need to increase evidence-based diversion programs
- Need to increase the coordinated effort across the entire system beginning with Intercept Zero of the Sequential Intercept Model

Adult Criminal Justice System Assessment

The numbers

- Lubbock's total UCR crimes reported are twice that of the Texas and National averages per 100,000 people

Statistic	Reported _{incidents}	Lubbock _{/100k people}	Texas _{/100k people}	National _{/100k people}
Total crime	14,553	5,614	2,810	2,489
Murder	10	3.9	4.9	5
Rape	268	103.4	51.1	42.6
Robbery	468	180.6	100	81.6
Assault	1,867	720.3	263	250.2
Violent crime	2,613	1,008	419	379
Burglary	2,391	922.4	392.8	340.5
Theft	8,324	3,211.30	1,730.60	1,549.50
Vehicle theft	1,225	472.6	267.2	219.9
Property crime	11,940	4,606	2,391	2,110

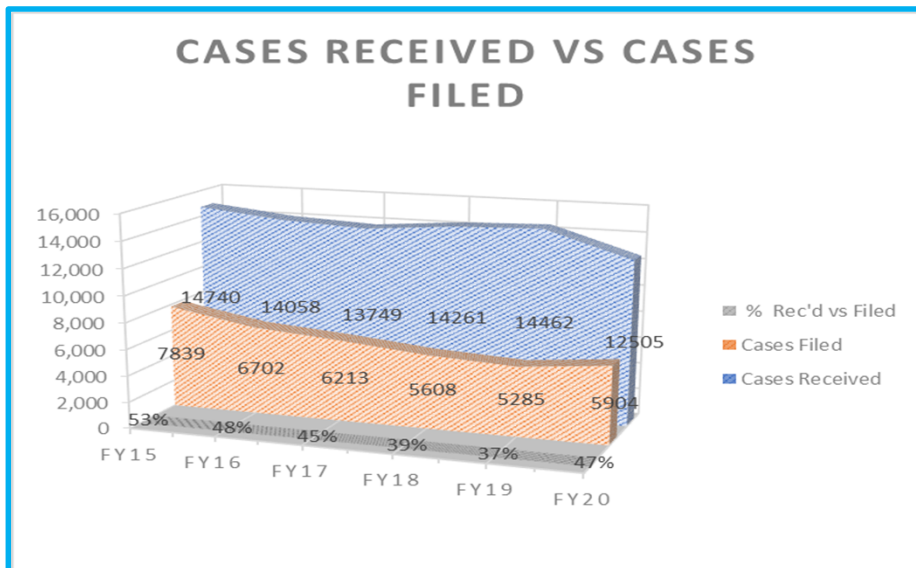
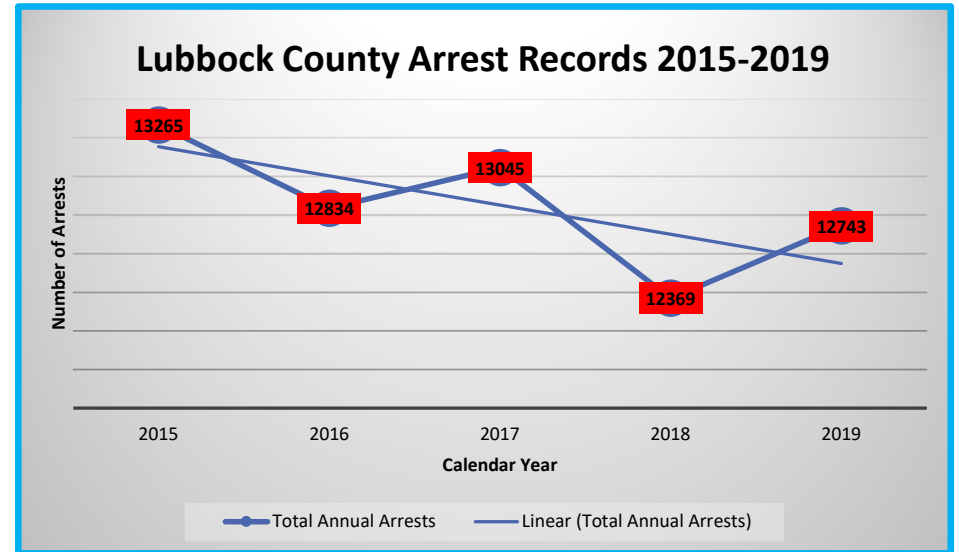


When compared to other similar Texas Counties, Lubbock's UCR rates are again, twice that of the comparison examples

Adult Criminal Justice System Assessment

The numbers

- The number of arrests in Lubbock County have declined approximately 4% from 2015 to

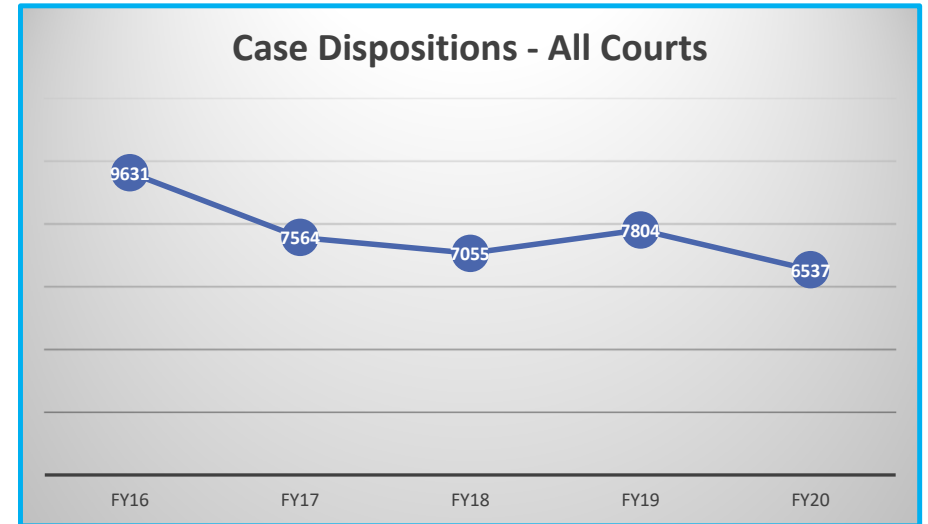
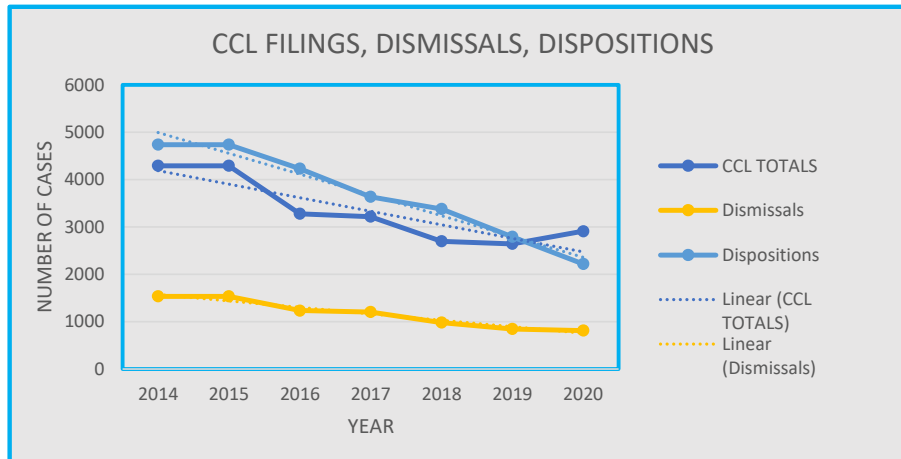


Cases received by the DA remained relatively constant while cases filed declined 25% from FY15 to FY20

Adult Criminal Justice System Assessment

The numbers

- All Criminal Court case dispositions (combined) have declined 32% from FY16 to FY20

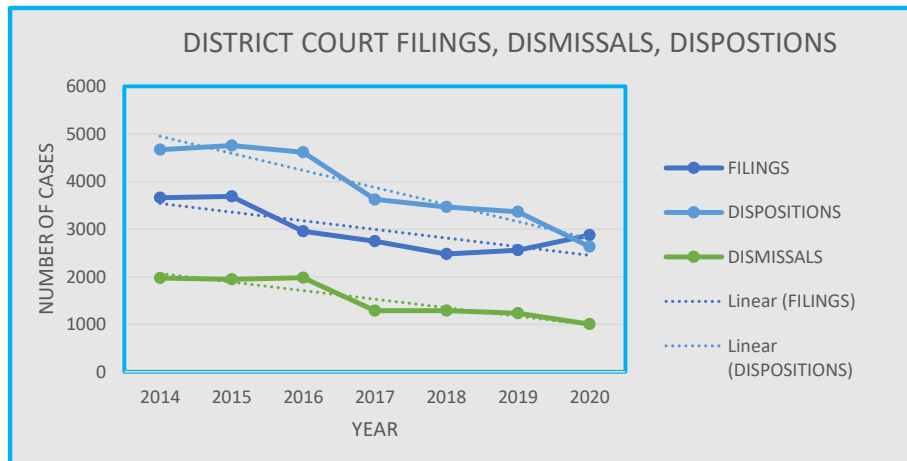
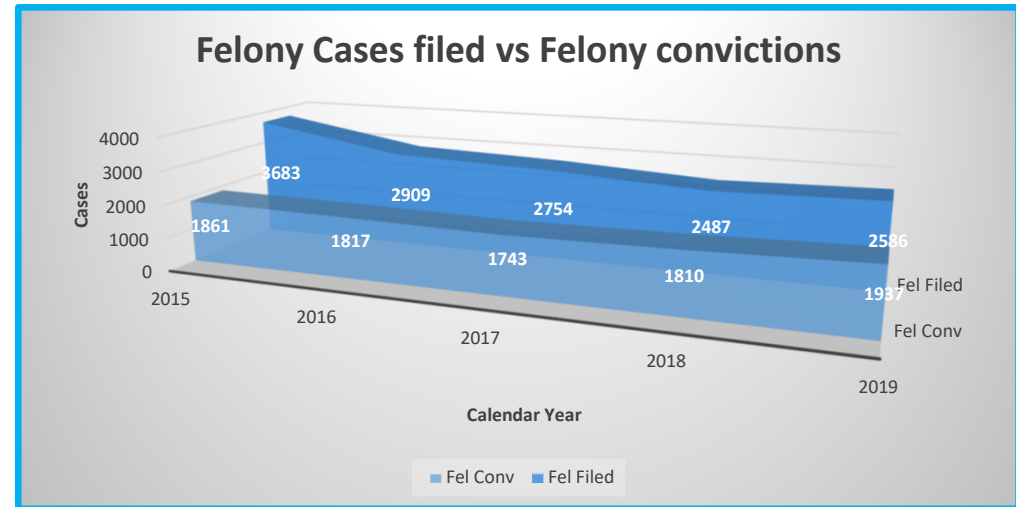


Misdemeanor convictions, dismissals, dispositions and caseloads under 180 days age declined at roughly the same rate as filings

Adult Criminal Justice System Assessment

The numbers

- Felony convictions have risen 4% relative to the overall 30% decline in filings – filings have been on a slight rise since CY2018 however.

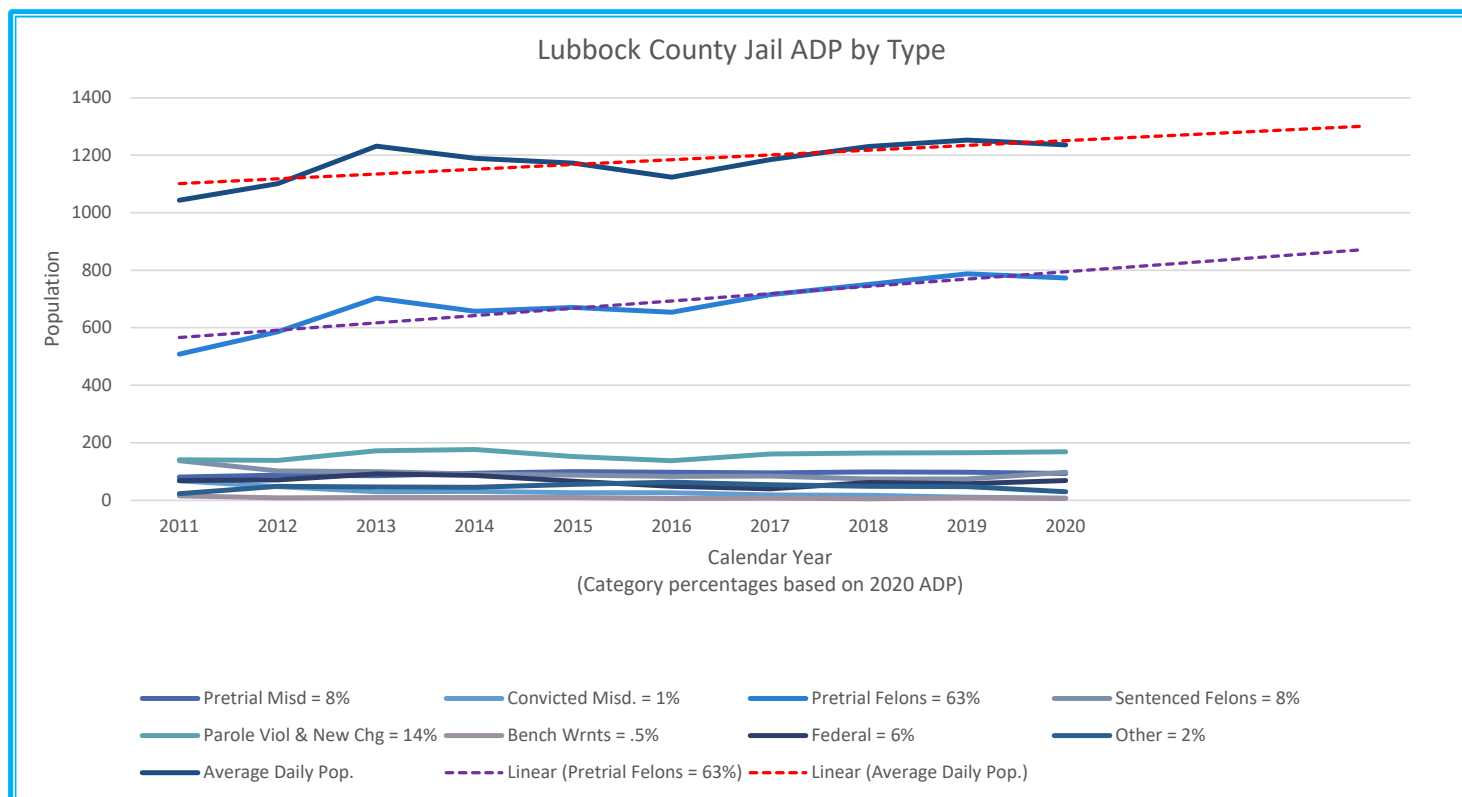


Felony dismissals and dispositions generally follow the filings trends while dismissal and clearance rates reported by the courts show modest declines

Adult Criminal Justice System Assessment

The numbers

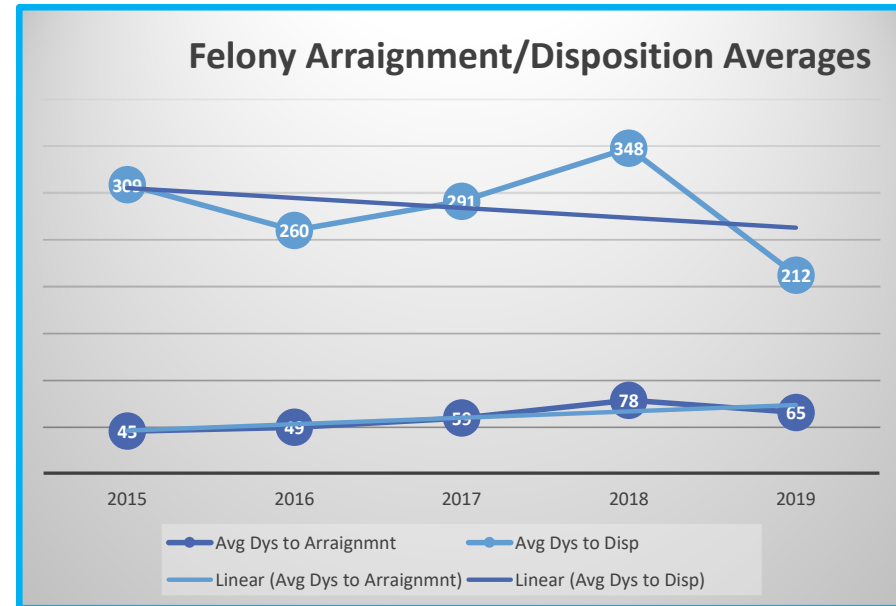
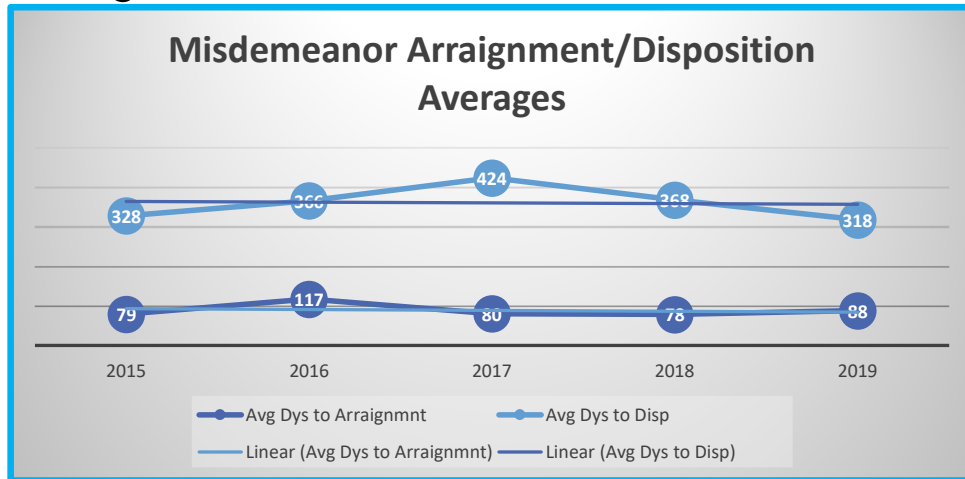
- 85% felony
- 63% pre-trial



Adult Criminal Justice System Assessment

The numbers

- The average number of days to disposition for felonies has declined somewhat while the **average number of days to arraignment has risen 40% from 2015 to 2019**
- The number of cases over 180 days old is rising

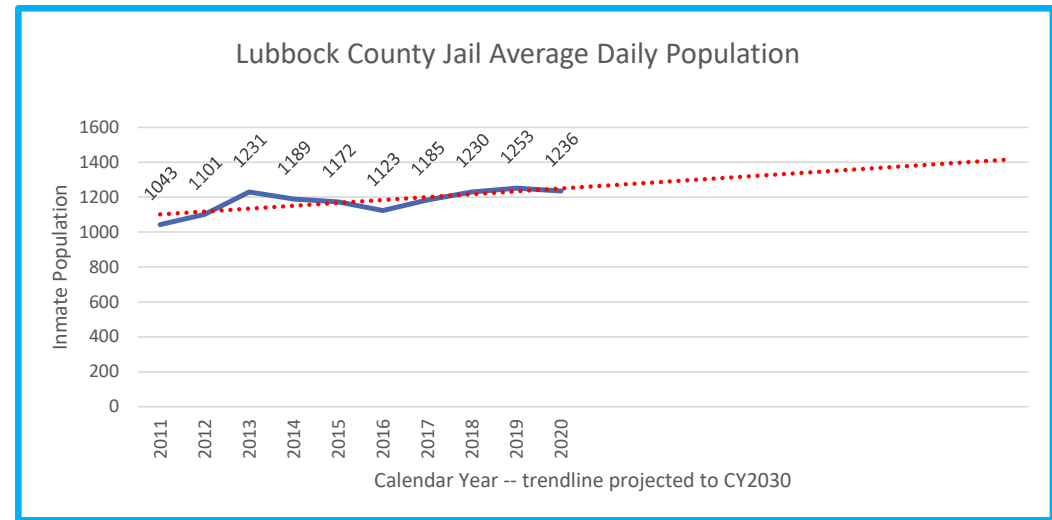
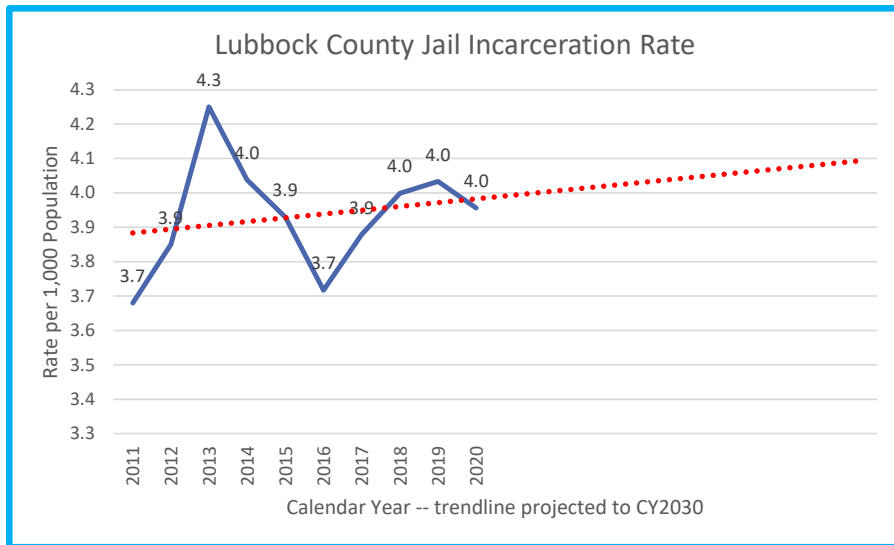


The average number of days to disposition for misdemeanors has declined somewhat while the **average number of days to arraignment has risen 14% from 2015 to 2019**

Adult Criminal Justice System Assessment

The numbers

- The Average Daily Population of the Lubbock County Jail has risen over 18% from 2011 to 2020



Incarceration rate has increased 4% over the last decade and will increase commensurate with the County's population growth without a significant change in Lubbock County's approach to criminal justice

Adult Criminal Justice System Assessment

The numbers

- Lubbock Jail Officials estimate that 45% of the jail population is on some sort of psychotropic medication

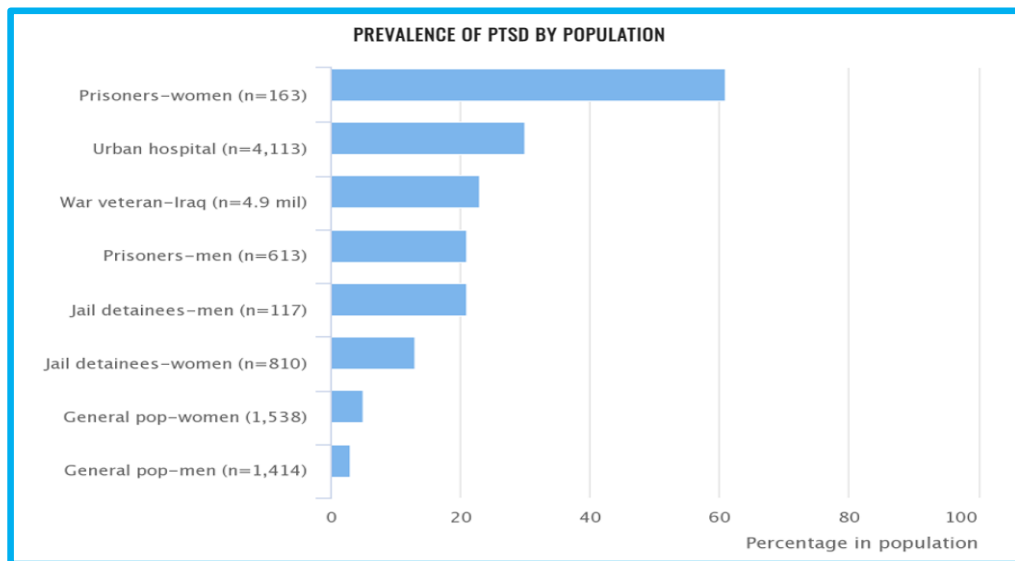


Table 2. Prevalence of mental health problems among prison and jail inmates

Mental health problem	State prison inmates		Federal prison inmates		Local jail inmates	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Any mental health problem*	705,600	56.2%	70,200	44.8%	479,900	64.2%
History and symptoms	219,700	17.5	13,900	8.9	127,800	17.1
History only	85,400	6.8	7,500	4.8	26,200	3.5
Symptoms only	396,700	31.6	48,100	30.7	322,900	43.2
No mental health problem	549,900	43.8%	86,500	55.2%	267,600	35.8%

Note: Number of inmates was estimated based on the June 30, 2005 custody population in State prisons (1,255,514), Federal prisons (156,643, excluding 19,311 inmates held in private facilities), and local jails (747,529).

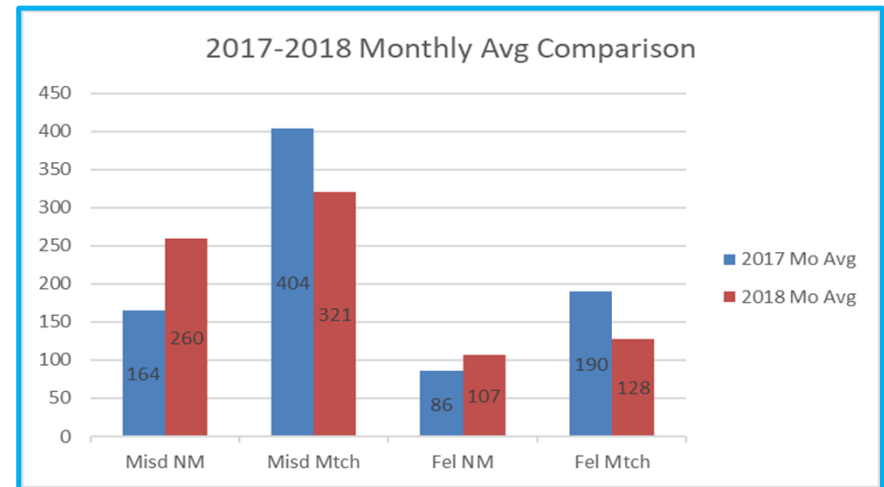
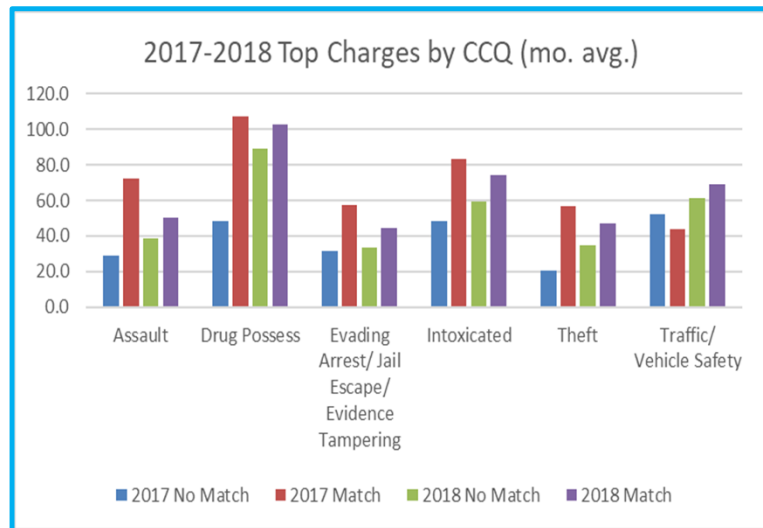
*Details do not add to totals due to rounding. Includes State prisoners, Federal prisoners, and local jail inmates who reported an impairment due to a mental problem.

Jail and prison inmates experience trauma at several times the rate of the general population

Adult Criminal Justice System Assessment

The numbers

- CCQ match for jail bookings



Top Charges by CCQ

Adult Criminal Justice System Assessment

Jail Bedspace Projections

Bed Space Requirement	CY2020 Base Point	CY2025	CY2030	CY2040
ADP Forecast	1269*	1383	1507	1725
Peaking factor (10%)	127	138	151	173
Classification factor (10%)	127	138	151	173
Jail Bed Requirement	1,523	1,659	1,809	2,071

Adult Criminal Justice System Assessment

Recommendations

- Form a Criminal Justice Coordinating Committee (CJCC)
- Adopt the Sequential Intercept Model as the basis for coordinated diversion efforts with a focus on substance abuse, mental illness, trauma informed/PTSD care – improve the hand-off
- Implement/enhance current policies and procedures around program eligibility, participation and statistical/recidivism rates at each Intercept/Agency
- Consider the expansion of the Lubbock County Jail with a specific emphasis on treatment/diversion programs space, particularly for women, with a commensurate jail bed space expansion to resolve increasing classification space deficiencies with a near term estimate of between **192 beds and 256 beds**.

Next Steps

