

THE
PEW
CHARITABLE TRUSTS

Alaska Prison Growth Drivers and Costs

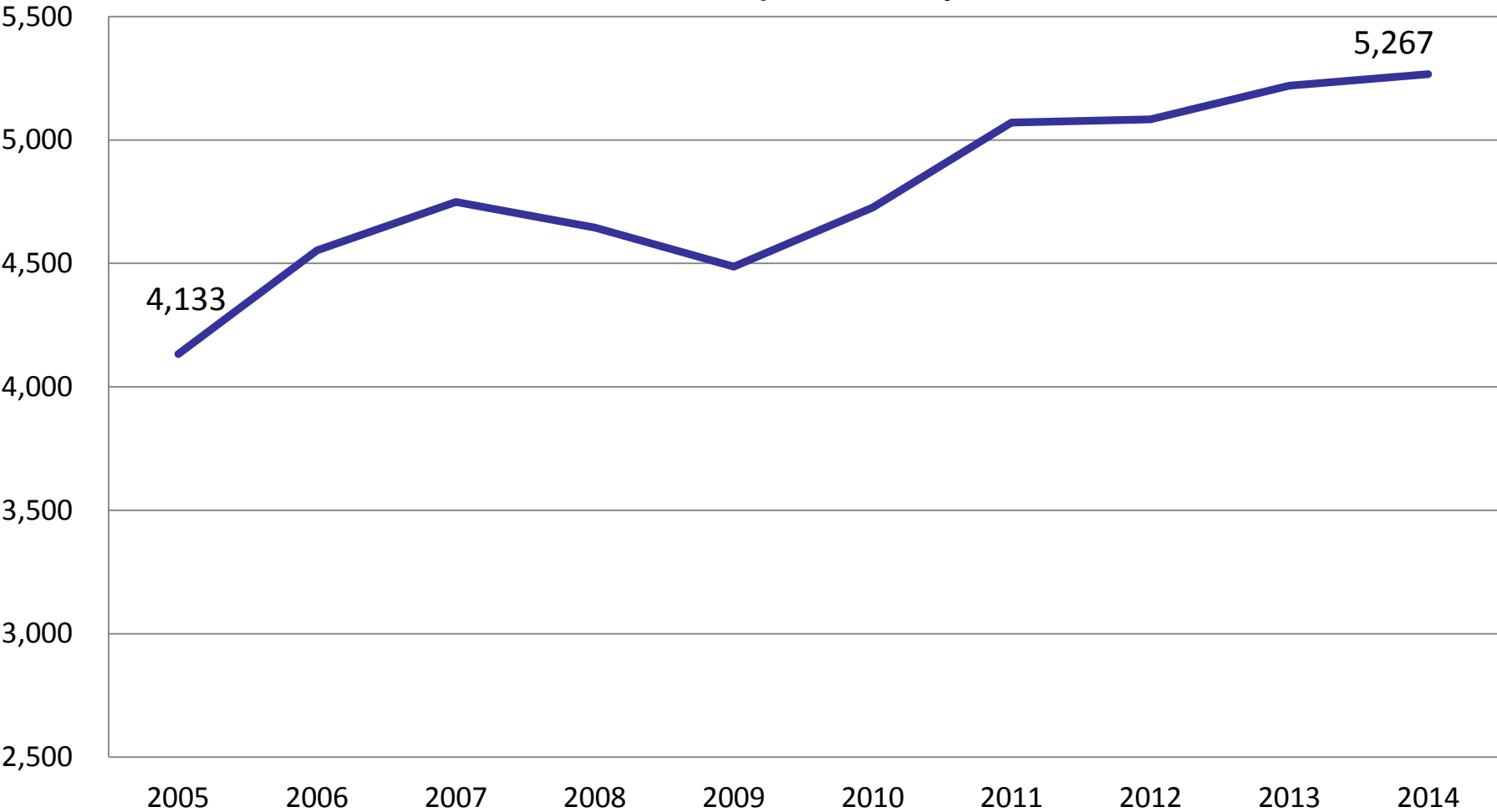
Senate Finance Committee

Anchorage, Alaska

Sept. 15, 2015

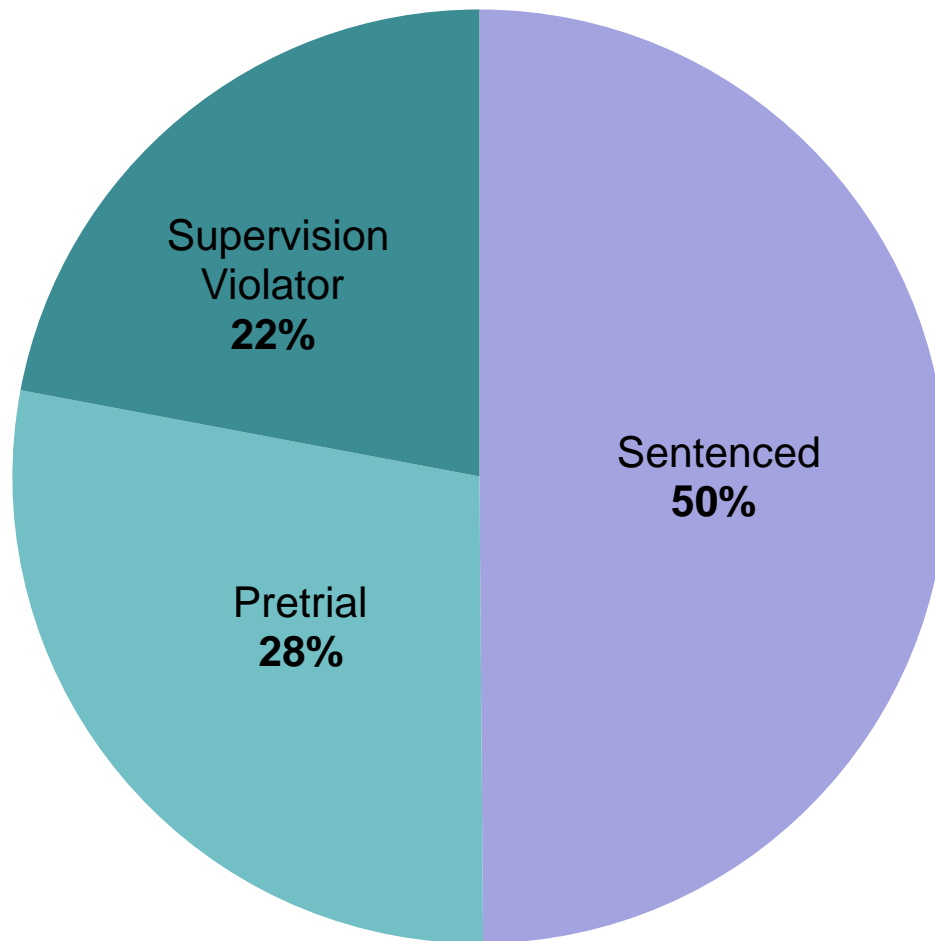
Prison Population Up 27% in Last Decade

Alaska Prison Population, July 1, 2005-2014

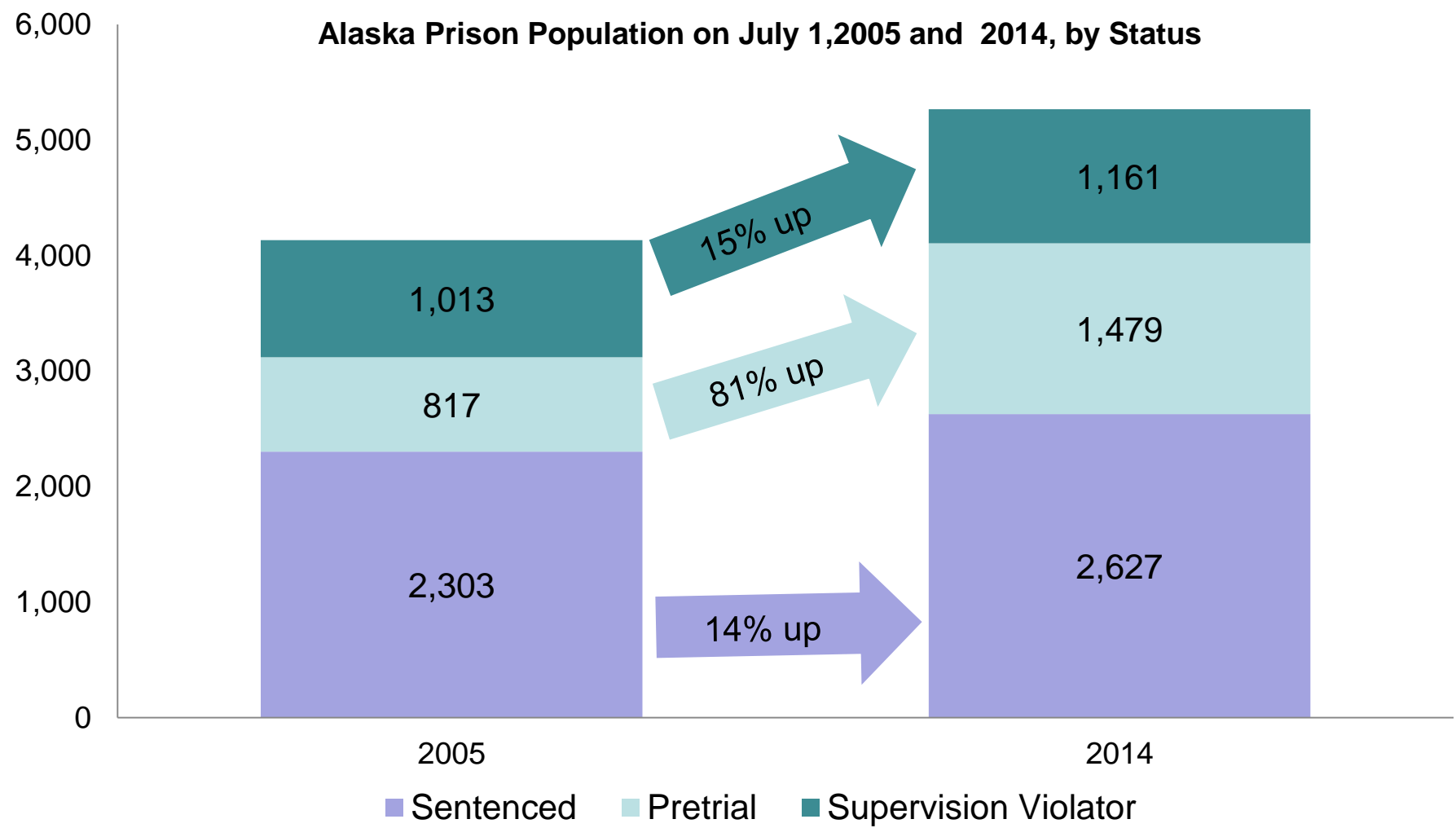


Prison Population is Half Sentenced Offenders, Half Supervision Violators and Pretrial Defendants

Prison Population on July 1, 2014, by Status

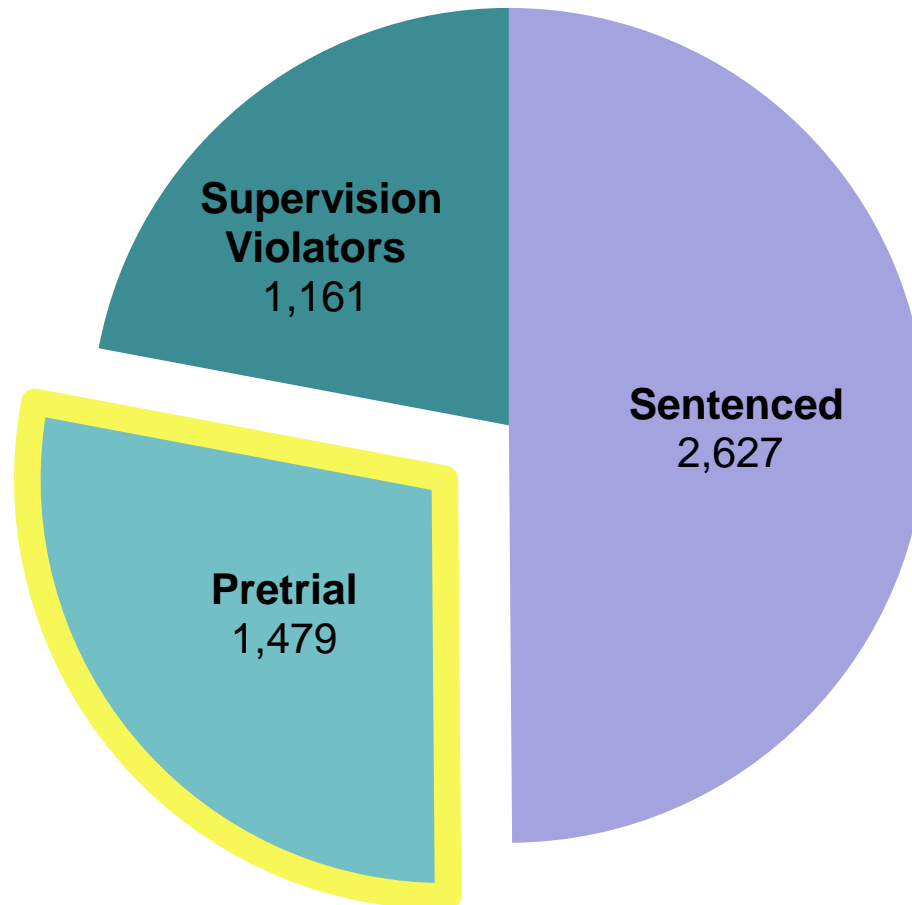


Largest Growth Among Pretrial Inmates

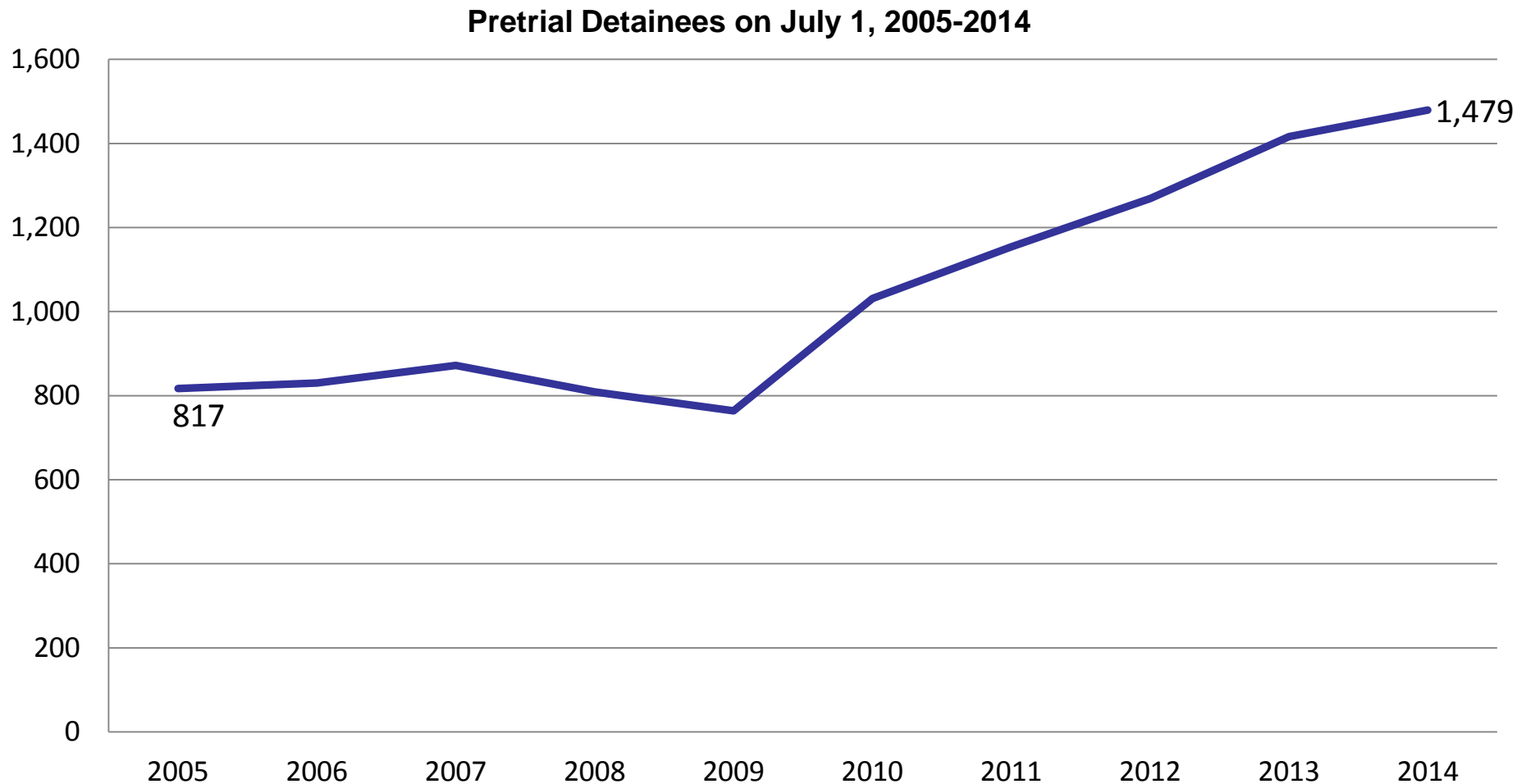


Pretrial Defendants Make Up 28% of Alaska's Prison Population

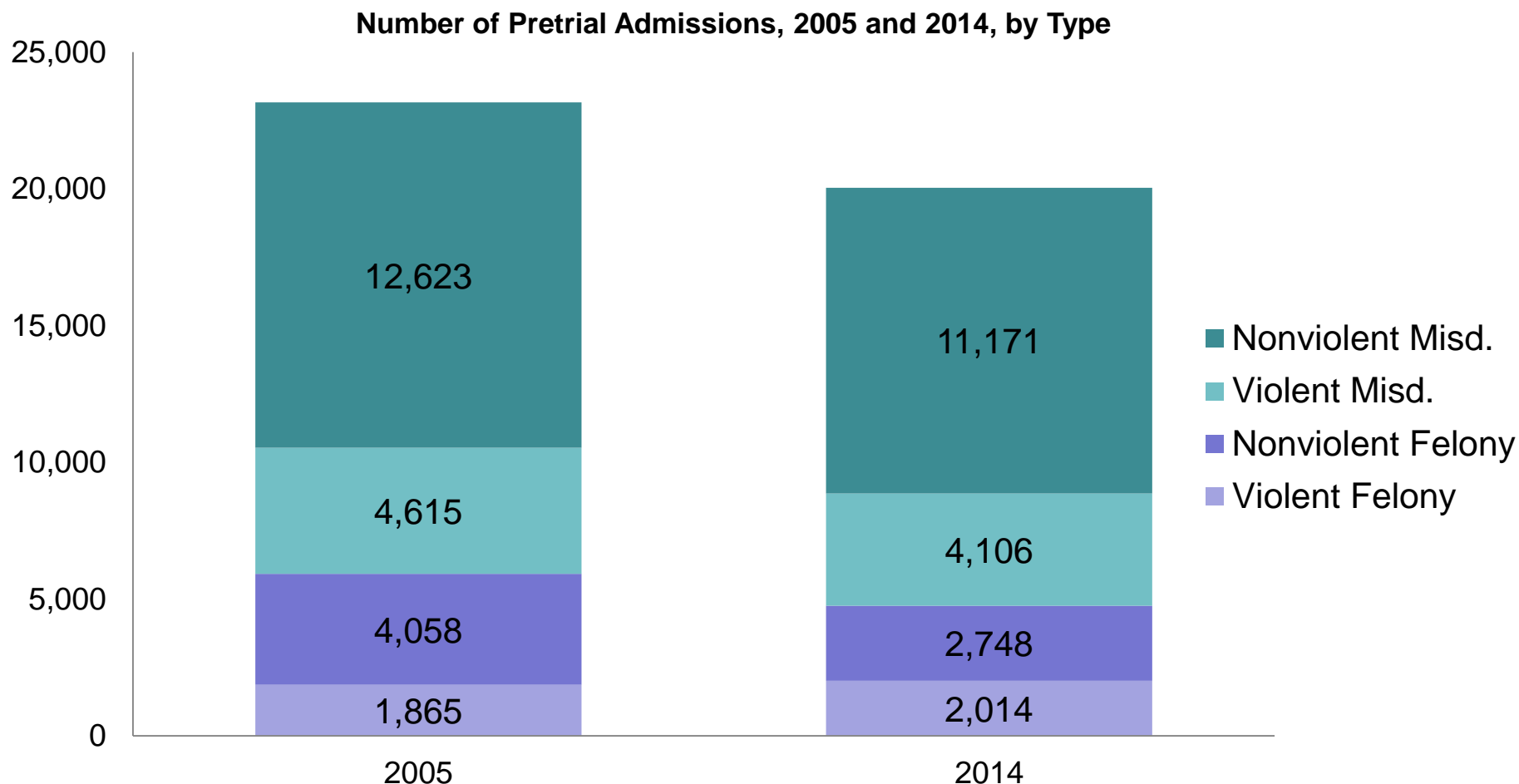
Prison Population on July 1, 2014, by Status



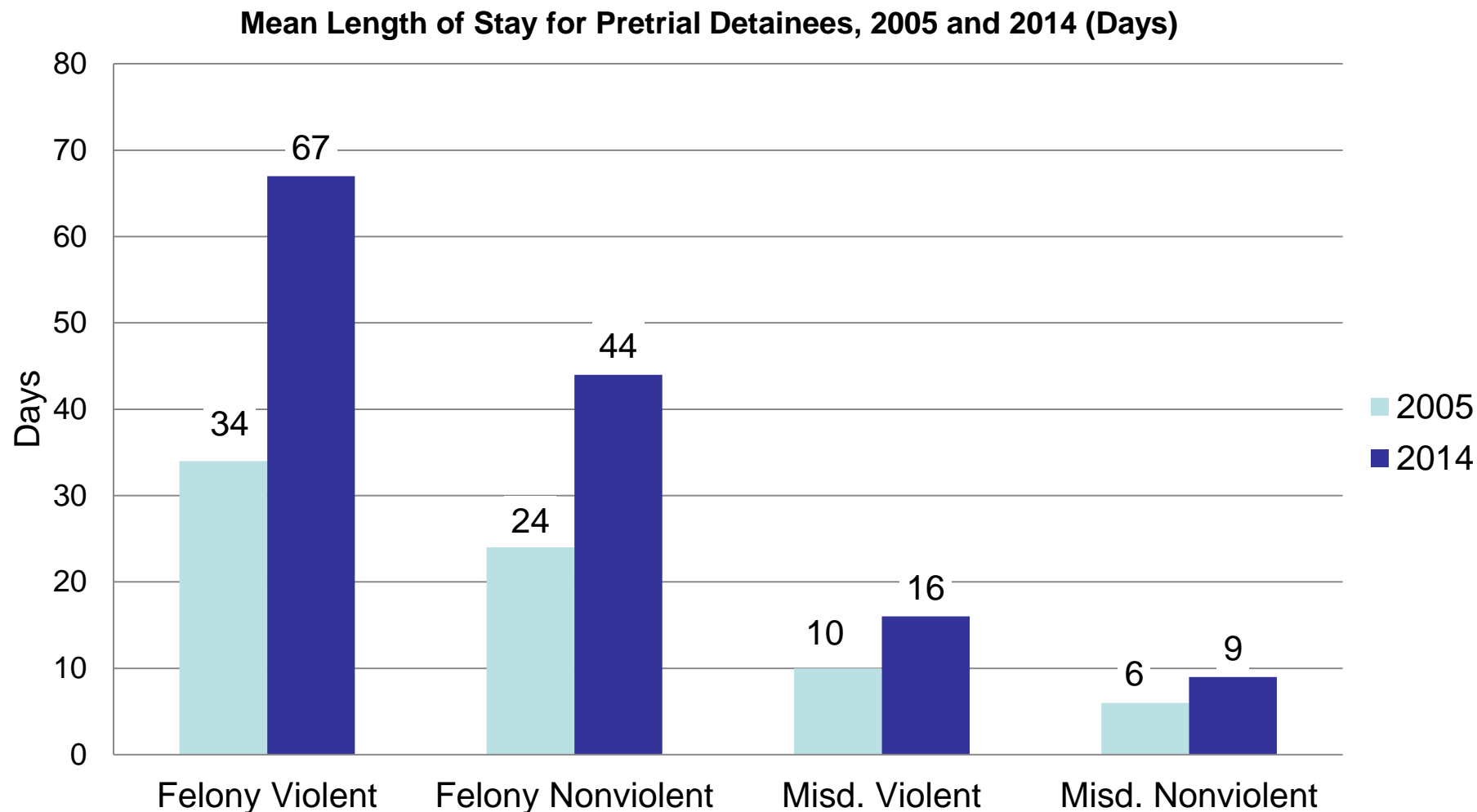
Number of Pretrial Defendants Up 81% in Last Decade



Pretrial Admissions Down 13%, But Still High Numbers of Nonviolent Misdemeanor Admissions

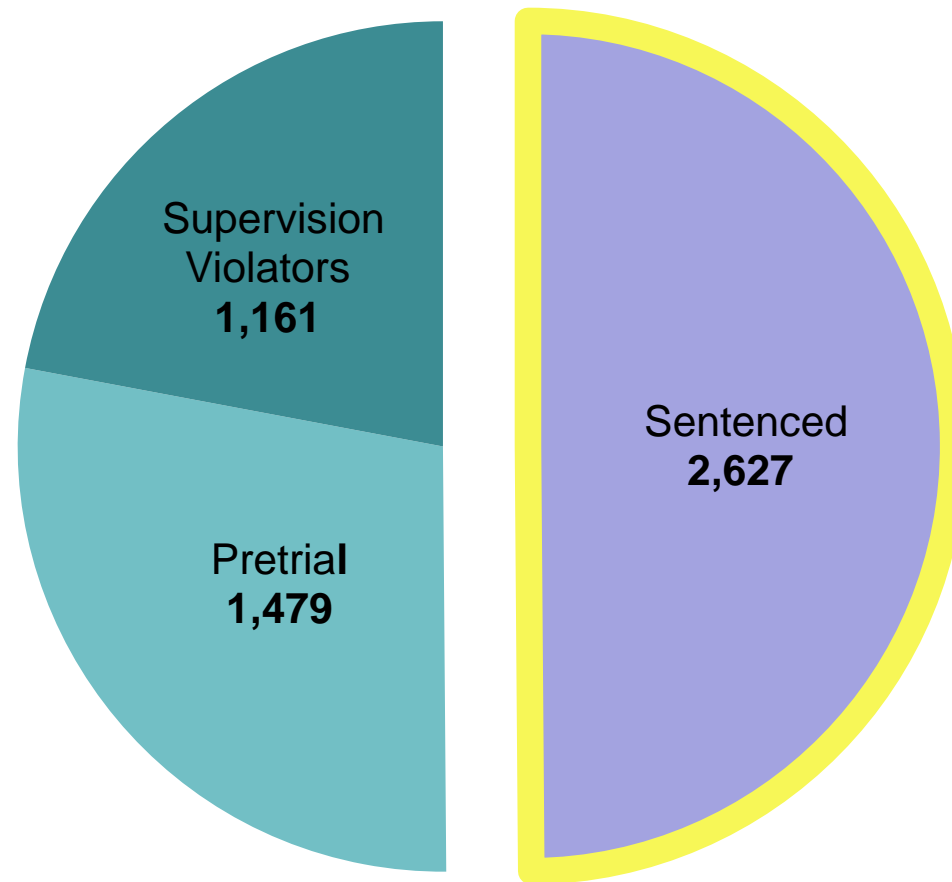


Average Pretrial Length of Stay Up



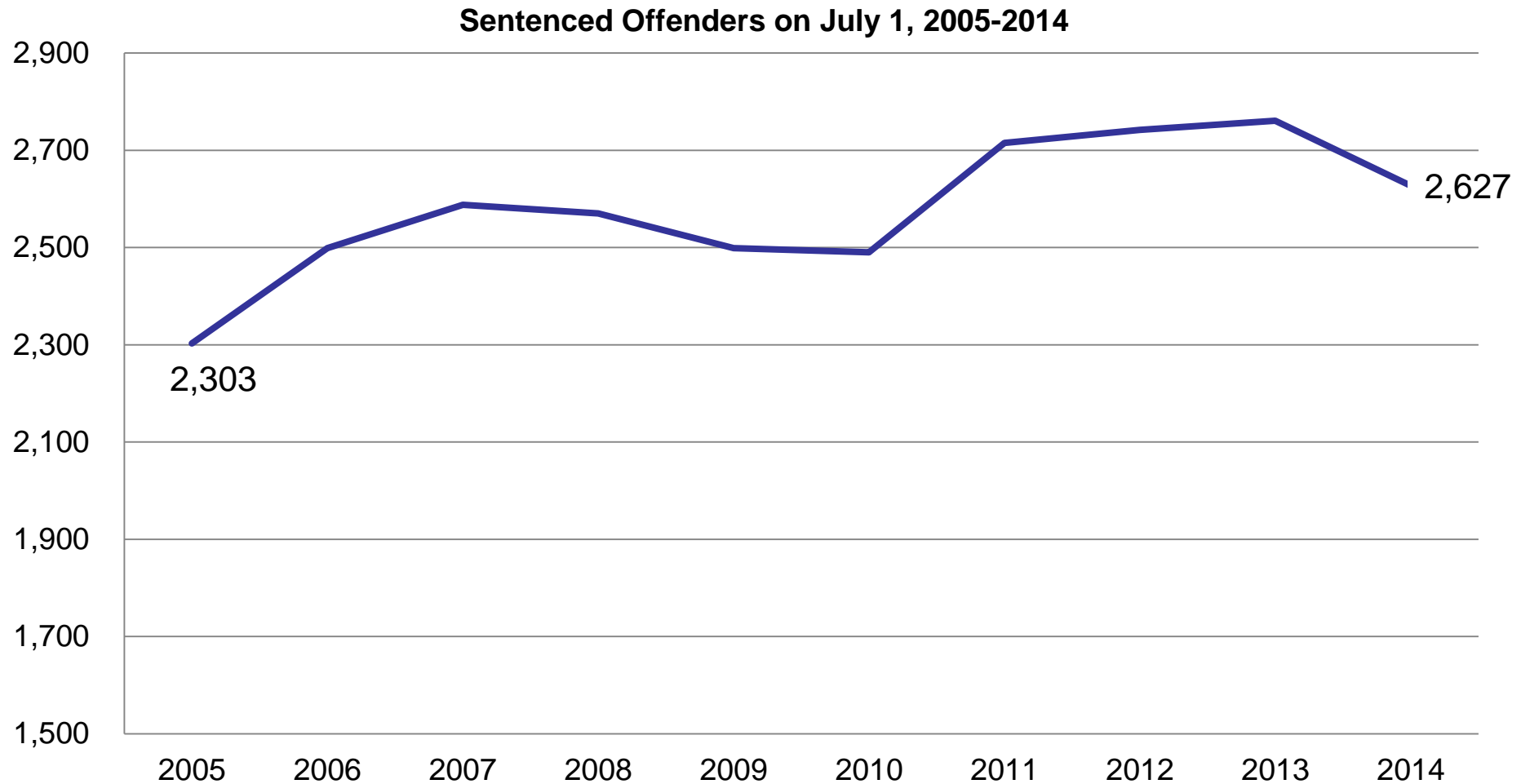
Sentenced Offenders Make Up 50% of Alaska's Prison Population

Prison Population on July 1, 2014, by Status

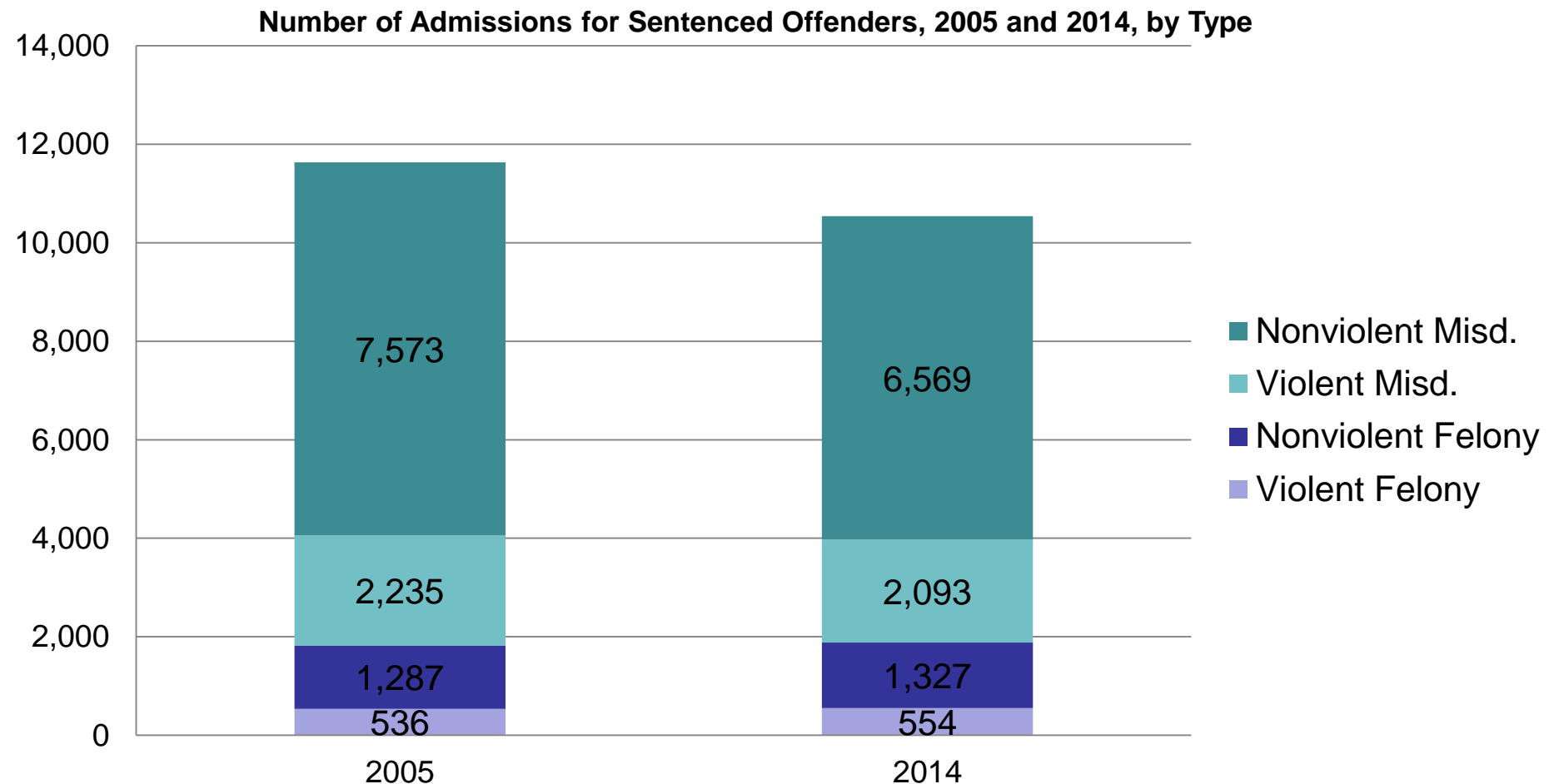


Sentencing

Number of Sentenced Inmates Up 14% in Last Decade

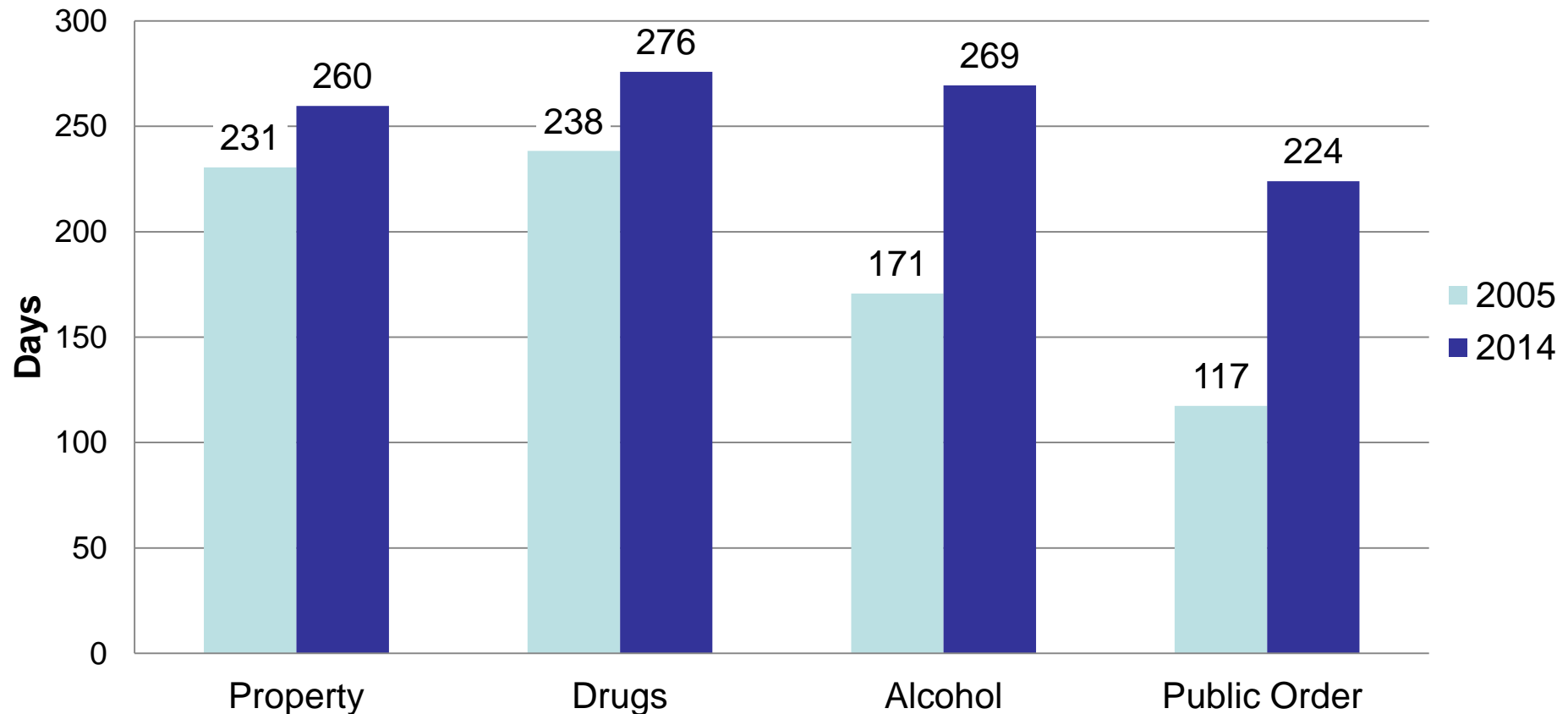


Despite Declines, 82% of Prison Admissions Are Misdemeanants



Felony Length of Stay Up Across Nonviolent Offense Categories

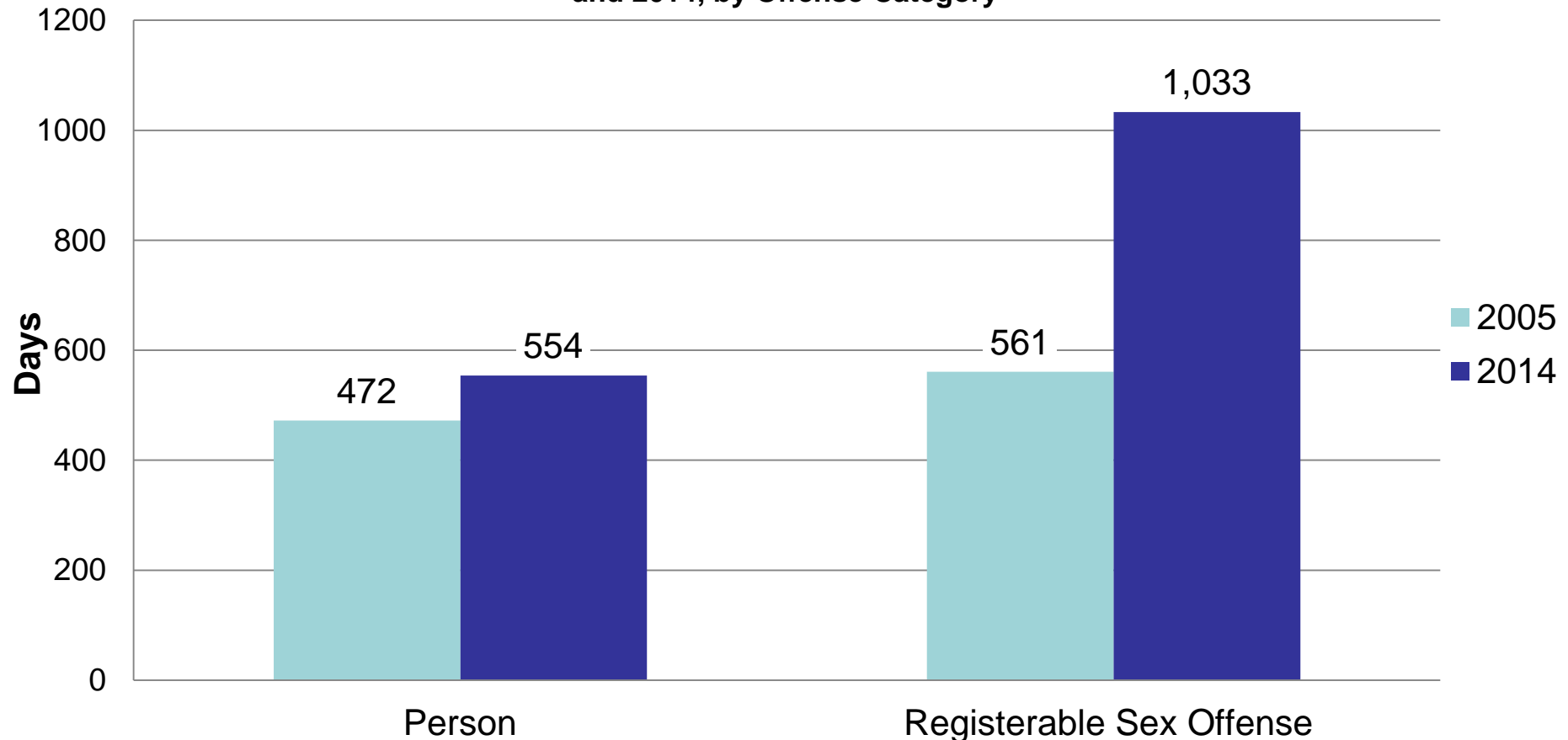
Mean Length of Stay for Sentenced Offenders Convicted of Nonviolent Felony Charges, 2005 and 2014, by Offense Category



Sentencing

Felony Length of Stay up 17% for Person Offenders; 86% for Sex Offenders

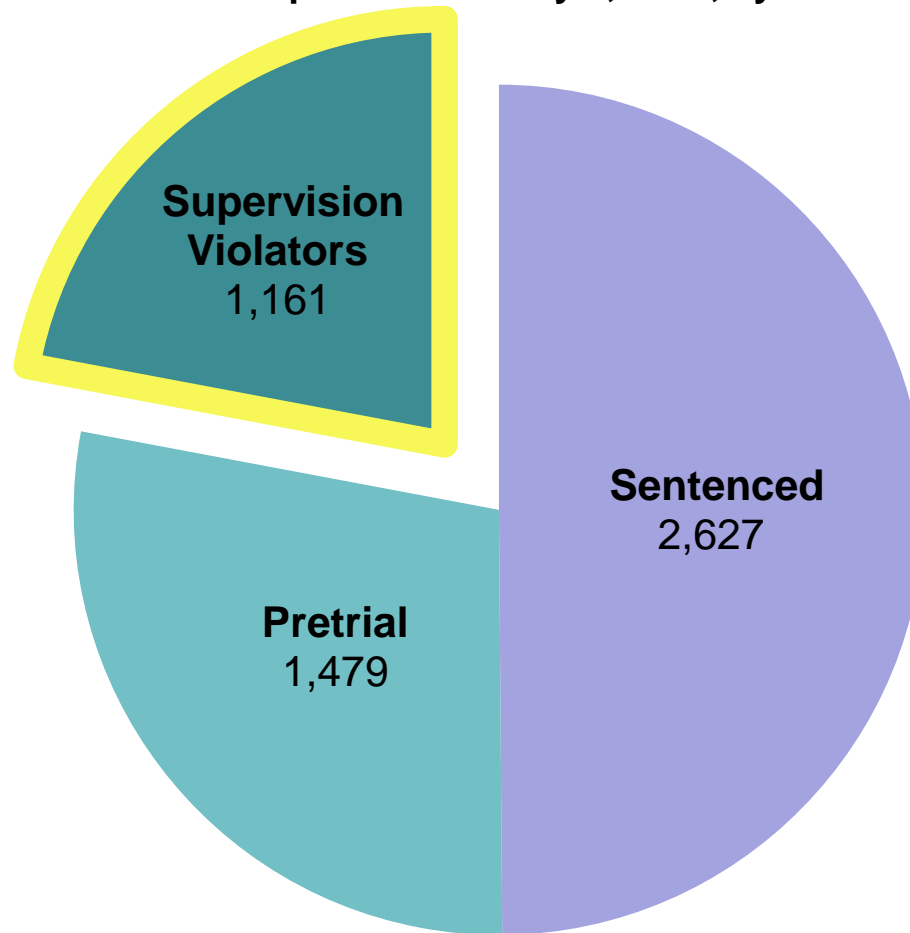
Mean Length of Stay for Sentenced Offenders Convicted of Violent Felony Charges, 2005 and 2014, by Offense Category



Supervision Violators

Supervision Violators Make Up 22% of Alaska's Prison Population

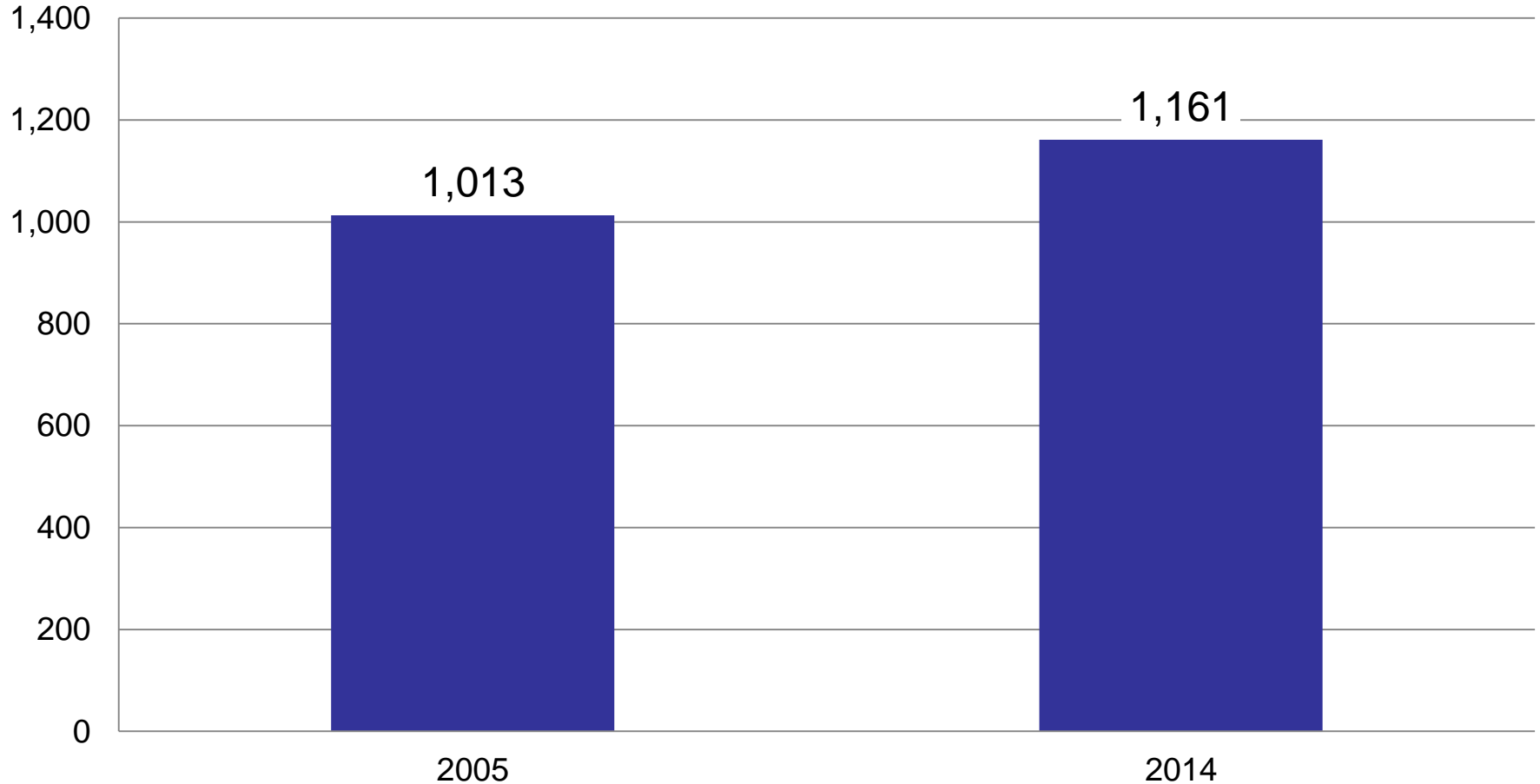
Prison Population on July 1, 2014, by Status



Supervision Violators

Number of Supervision Violators Up 15% in Last Decade

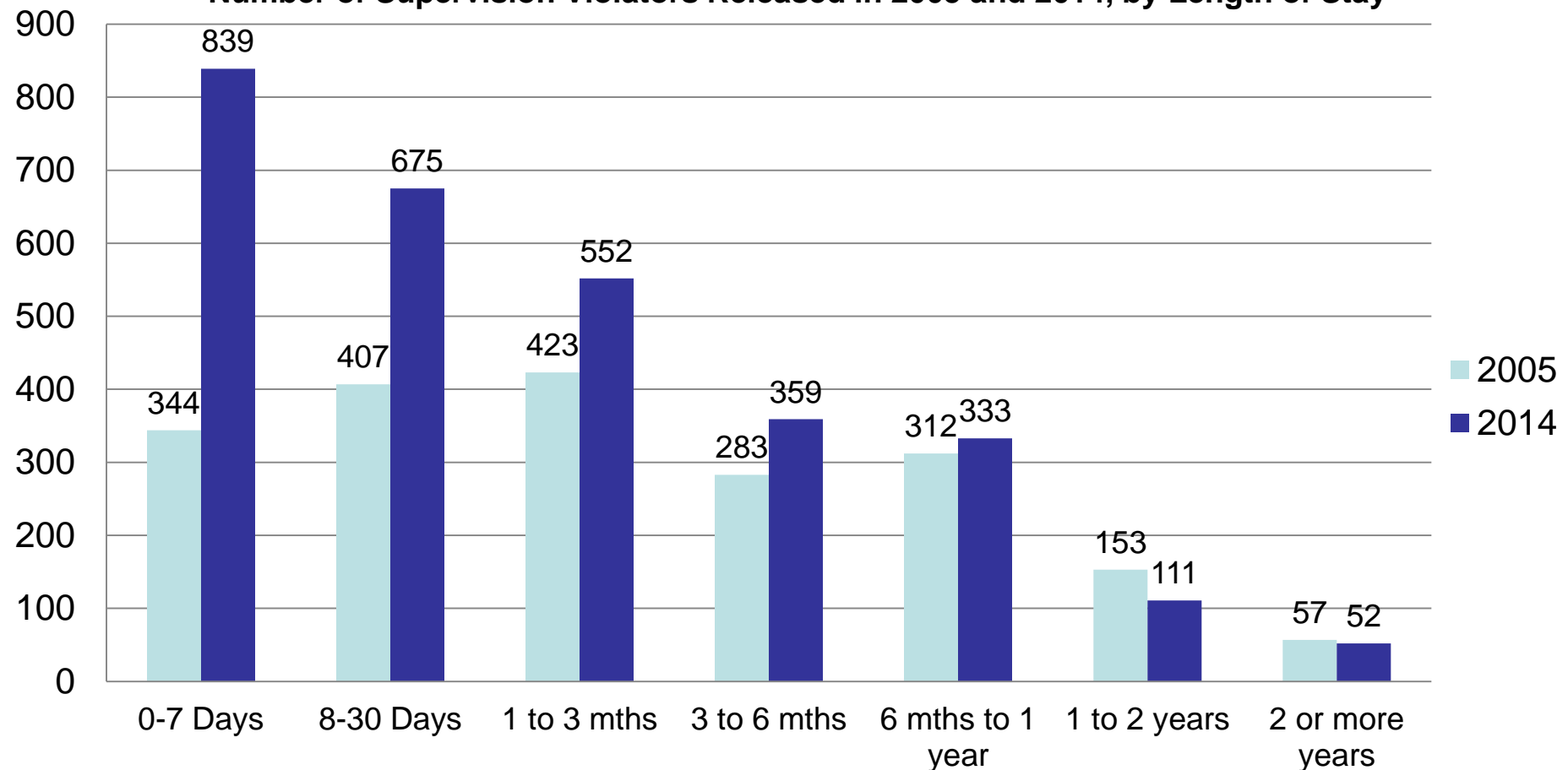
Number of Supervision Violators, July 1, 2005 and 2014



Supervision Violators

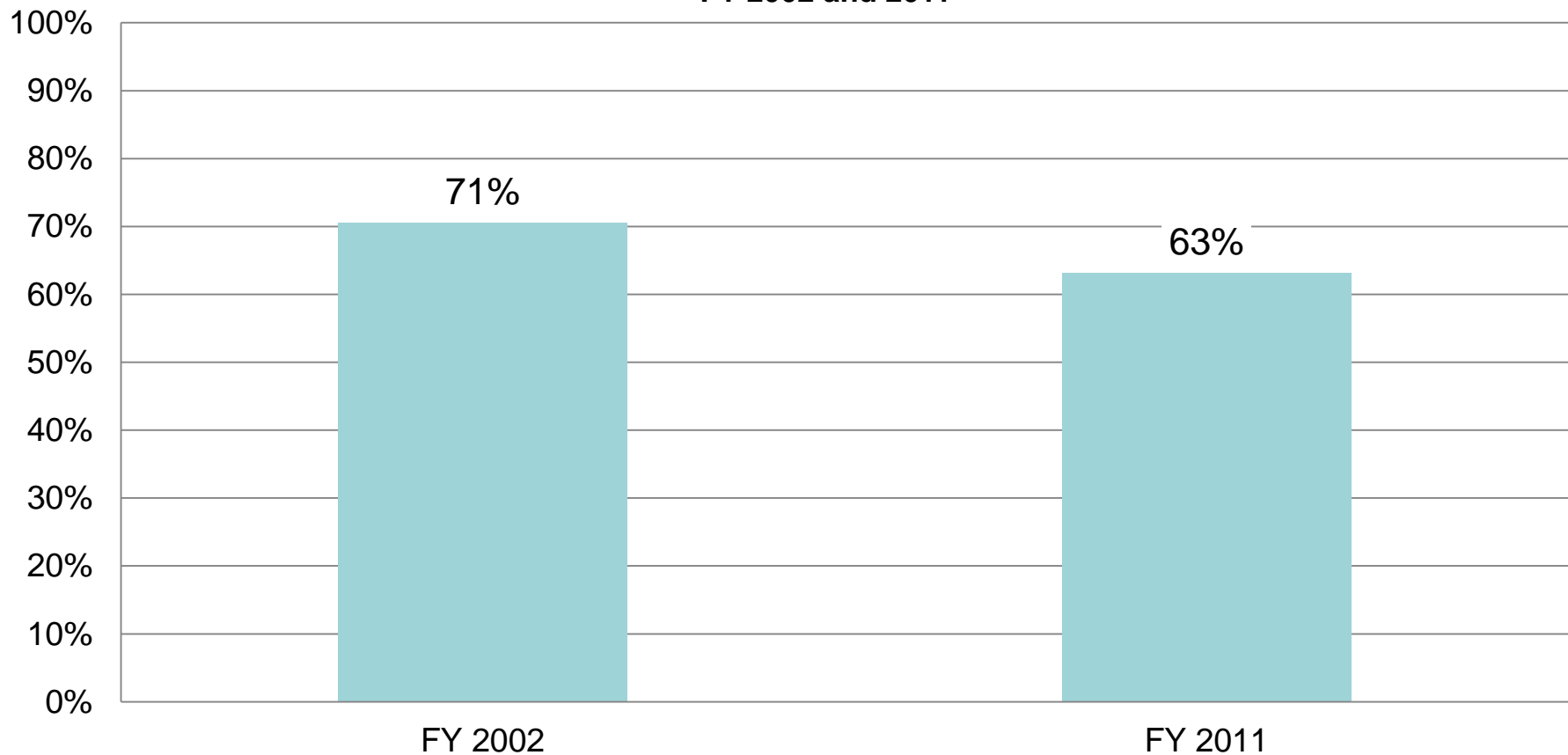
Nearly Half Of Revocations Staying More Than One Month; 29% More Than Three Months

Number of Supervision Violators Released in 2005 and 2014, by Length of Stay



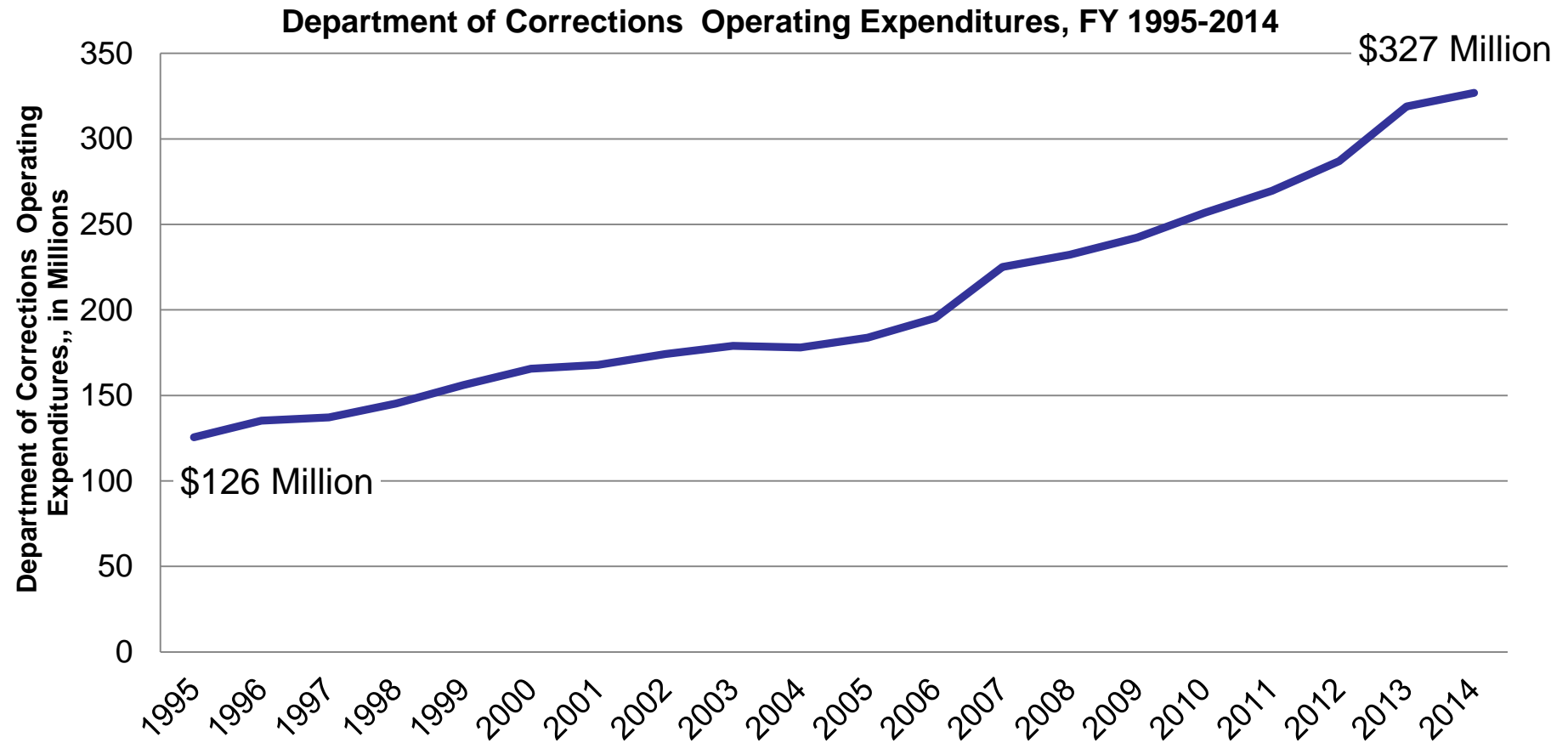
Almost Two-Thirds of Offenders Released Return to Prison Within Three Years

Percentage of Offenders Released Who Return to Prison Within 3 Years,
FY 2002 and 2011



Projected Growth and Costs

Spending on Corrections Up 60% Over Past 2 Decades

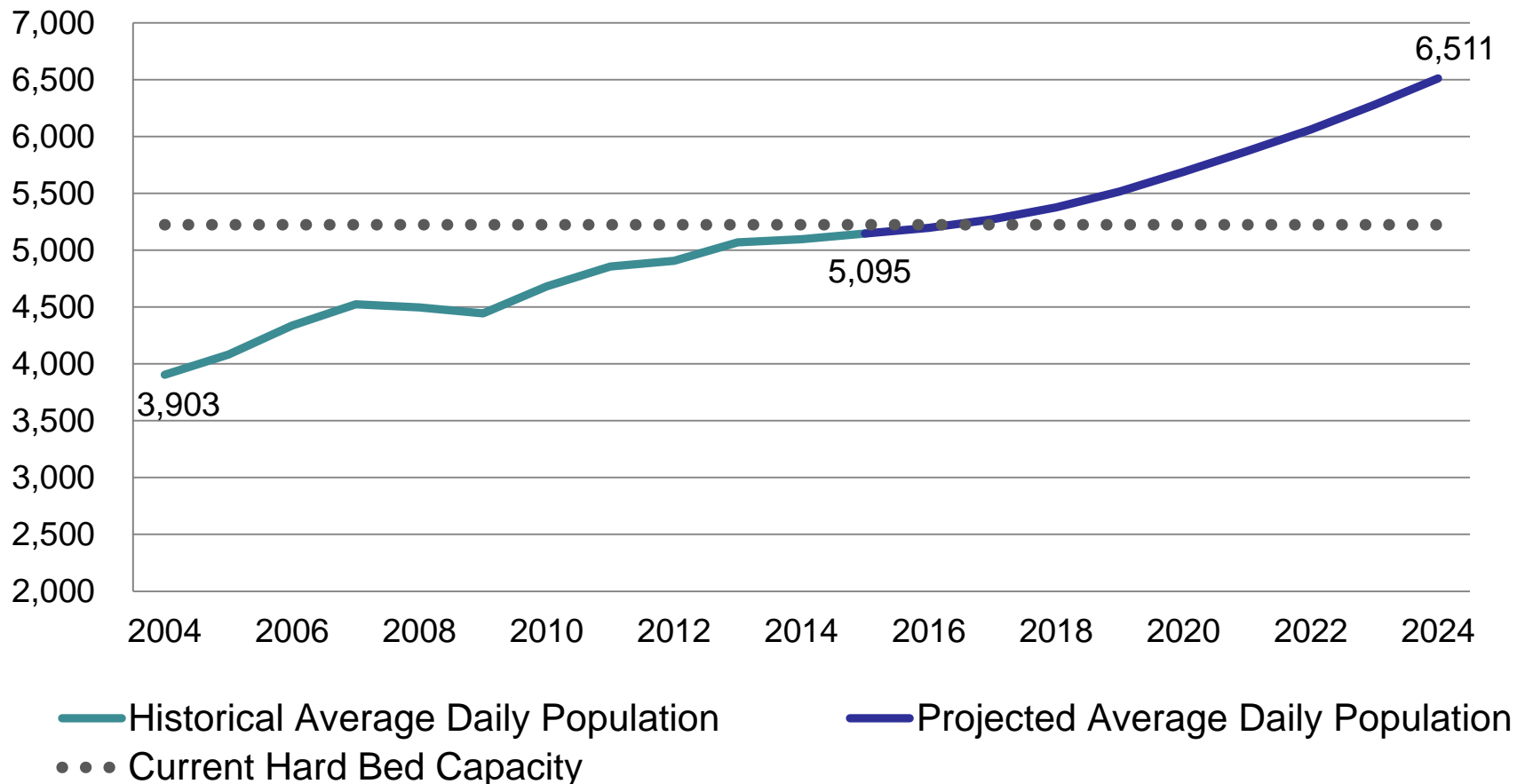


*Figures do not include capital expenditures; 60% based on inflation-adjusted numbers

Projected Growth and Costs

Absent Further Reform, Prison Population Projected to Grow 27%, Costing At Least \$169 Million

Historical and Projected Prison Growth, 2004-2024



Next Steps

- Alaska Criminal Justice Commission policy development meetings
 - Sept. 9-10
 - Oct. 14-15
 - Nov. 18-19
- Report and recommendations from the Commission
 - Dec. 10

Questions?

Contact Info

- Terry Schuster
 - Office: 202.540.6437
 - Email: tschuster@pewtrusts.org
- Public Safety Performance Project
 - www.pewtrusts.org/publicsafety