



## Washington State Joint Legislative Task Force on Jail Standards

### MEETING MINUTES

July 19, 2023 3:00 – 5:00 p.m.

1.	<p><b>Welcome</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Co-chair Rebecca Saldaña welcomed Task Force members to the eleventh meeting of the Joint Legislative Task Force on Jail Standards.</li><li>• Rebecca Saldaña reviewed the agenda. The task force adopted the agenda for the July 19 meeting.</li><li>• Rebecca Saldaña reviewed the May meeting minutes. The task force approved the minutes.</li><li>• Establishment of quorum. See list below.</li></ul>
2	<p><b>Comparative Jail Survey – Subgroup Share-outs</b> (see presentation slides on page 4)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Task force staffer, Jamie Tugenberg, reviewed general population statistics from the analysis of the Comparative Jail Survey and takeaways from the subgroup’s discussion. (See slides on pages 4-10)</li><li>• Task force co-chair, Ethan Frenchman, then reviewed the data received on health care services, including information on medical, dental, mental health, suicide prevention services and copays associated with those services. Ethan also touched on the subgroup’s takeaways from initial review of the data. (See slides on pages 11-23).</li><li>• After Ethan’s presentation, the task force discussed the training employees receive to provide health care services in jails, the numbers of people placed on suicide watch versus the proportion of the jail’s population that is on suicide watch at a given time, and what screenings are being performed to find out underlying health conditions.</li><li>• Task force member, Laurel Jones, then reviewed the data received on several areas of the survey including information on restrictive housing, the implementation of the Prison Rape Elimination Act, and the rates of in-custody deaths, uses of force, and assaults. Laurel shared the takeaways from the subgroup’s discussion of the information. (See slides on pages 35-45)</li><li>• After Laurel’s presentation, the task force discussed the rates of reporting allegations under the Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) and what PREA programs entail. The group also discussed how use of force is being defined currently in jails and how that could influence the understanding of the data.</li></ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Task force staffer, Jamie Tugenberg, then concluded the review of the data received from the Comparative Jail Survey by sharing the results received on the questions regarding telecommunications and the rates charged for those services, visitation practices, commissary selections, and information on people experiencing modifications in their confinement (i.e., restrictions on access/use of telecommunication, visitation, commissary, other general population items). Jamie also shared the takeaways the subgroup had when initially reviewing the information. (See slides on pages 24-34)</li> <li>After Jamie’s presentation, the task force discussed what additional information could add clarity to the numbers of people facing restrictions or modification in confinement. A question of accessible communication services for those with disabilities, and the cost of those services was brought forward for the group to consider. The group then discussed the rates charged for the telecommunication services and the changes and regulation of telecommunication costs at the federal level. The group concluded with a discussion on how access to communications is connected to an individual’s overall health and mental wellbeing.</li> </ul>
<b>3.</b>	<p><b>Public Comment</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Task force staffer, Jamie Tugenberg, summarized the comments received in writing from two individuals experiencing incarceration in the state. Mr. Raymond Brown’s full letter can be found on pages 46-51. Mr. Christopher Blackwell’s list of considerations for the task force can be found on pages 52-53.</li> </ul>
<b>4.</b>	<p><b>Next Steps and Closing</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>First deadline to submit initial recommendations for discussion is on Friday, August 25, 2023.</li> <li>Next meeting will be on Wednesday, September 6, 2023.</li> </ul>

<b>Name</b>	<b>Task Force Affiliation</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Present</b>
Rep. Darya Farivar	House of Representatives	Washington State Legislature	Yes
Rep. Greg Cheney	House of Representatives	Washington State Legislature	Yes
Sen. Nikki Torres	Senate	Washington State Legislature	Represented by Justus Philips
Sen. Rebecca Saldaña	Senate	Washington State Legislature	Yes
Chanel Rhymes	Entities involved with or interested in the operation of local jails	Northwest Community Bail Fund	Yes
Christopher Swaby	Defense attorneys	The Swaby Law Firm	Yes

Devon Schrum	Jail administrators	Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs	Yes
Eliana Macias	Cities	Yakima City Councilmember	No
Ethan Frenchman	State designated protection and advocacy agency	Disability Rights Washington	Yes
Hailey Ockinga	Persons with lived experience	Beyond These Walls	Yes
Judge Jeffrey Smith	District and municipal courts	Spokane County District Court	No
Jordan Landry	Persons with lived experience	Community Representative	Yes
Laurel Jones	Statewide civil legal aid organization	Columbia Legal Services	Yes
Lisa Janicki	Counties	Skagit County Commissioner	Yes
Dr. Marc Stern	Medical and mental health providers	University of Washington, School of Public Health	No
Norma Tillotson	Prosecutors	Washington Association of Prosecuting Attorneys	Yes
Judge Sharonda Amamilo	Superior courts	Thurston County Superior Court	Yes
Chief Wendy Jones	Law enforcement	Whatcom County Sheriff's Office	Yes

INTRODUCTION TO  
COMPARATIVE JAIL  
SURVEY RESULTS

# COMPARATIVE JAIL SURVEY

- **80%** response rate at the time of analysis.
- Developed with the assistance of task force co-chairs, staff from the Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs.
- Pre-tested and finalized with the assistance of **five jails**.
- Roughly **60 questions**, and reportedly took anywhere between **2 and 12 hours** for staff to complete.
- Subgroup on June 28 provided a preliminary review of the data to help finalize analysis.

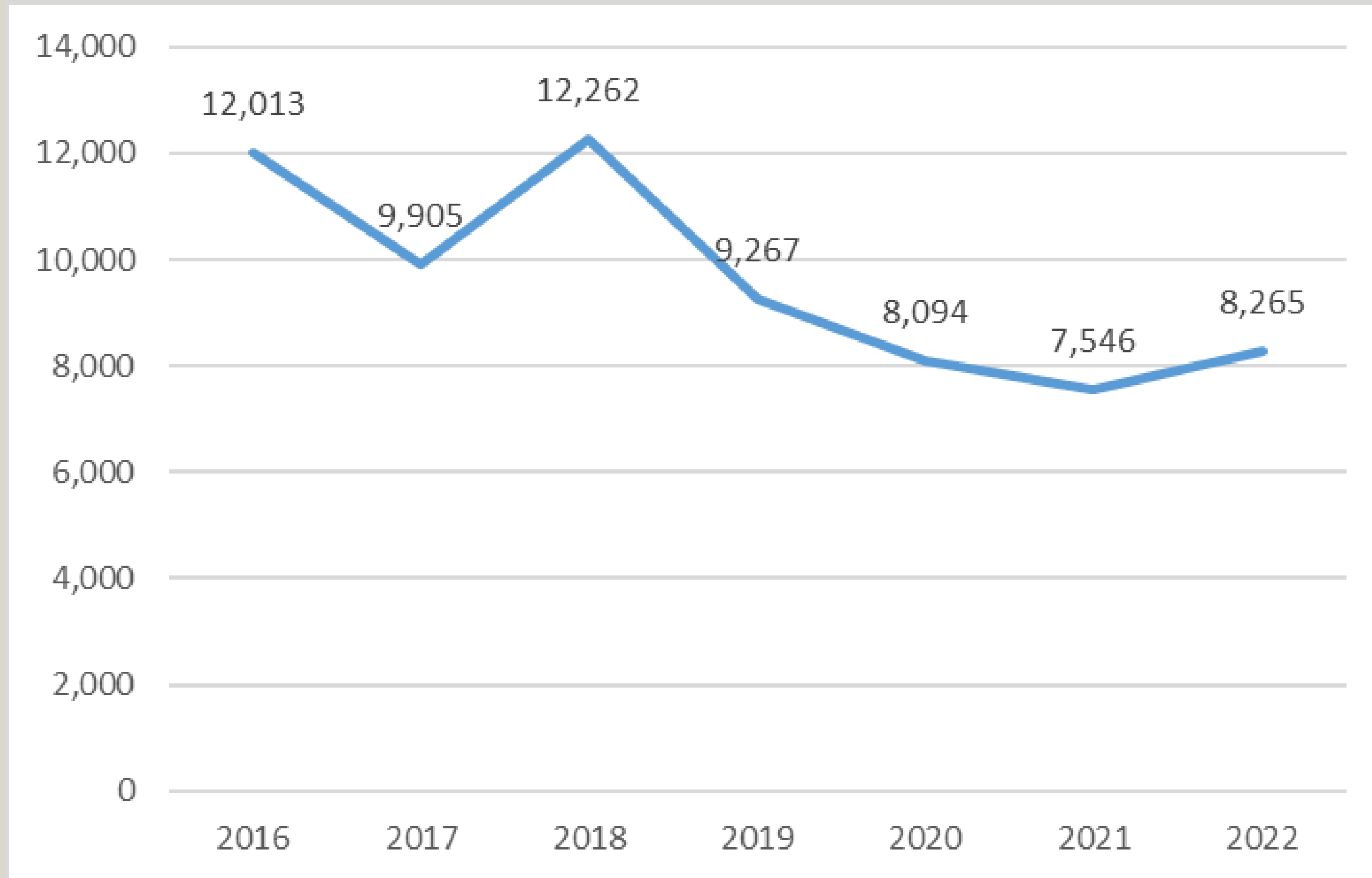
# WASHINGTON JAIL POPULATION STATISTICS

In 2022, approximately **131,295 people** were admitted into a Washington jail.

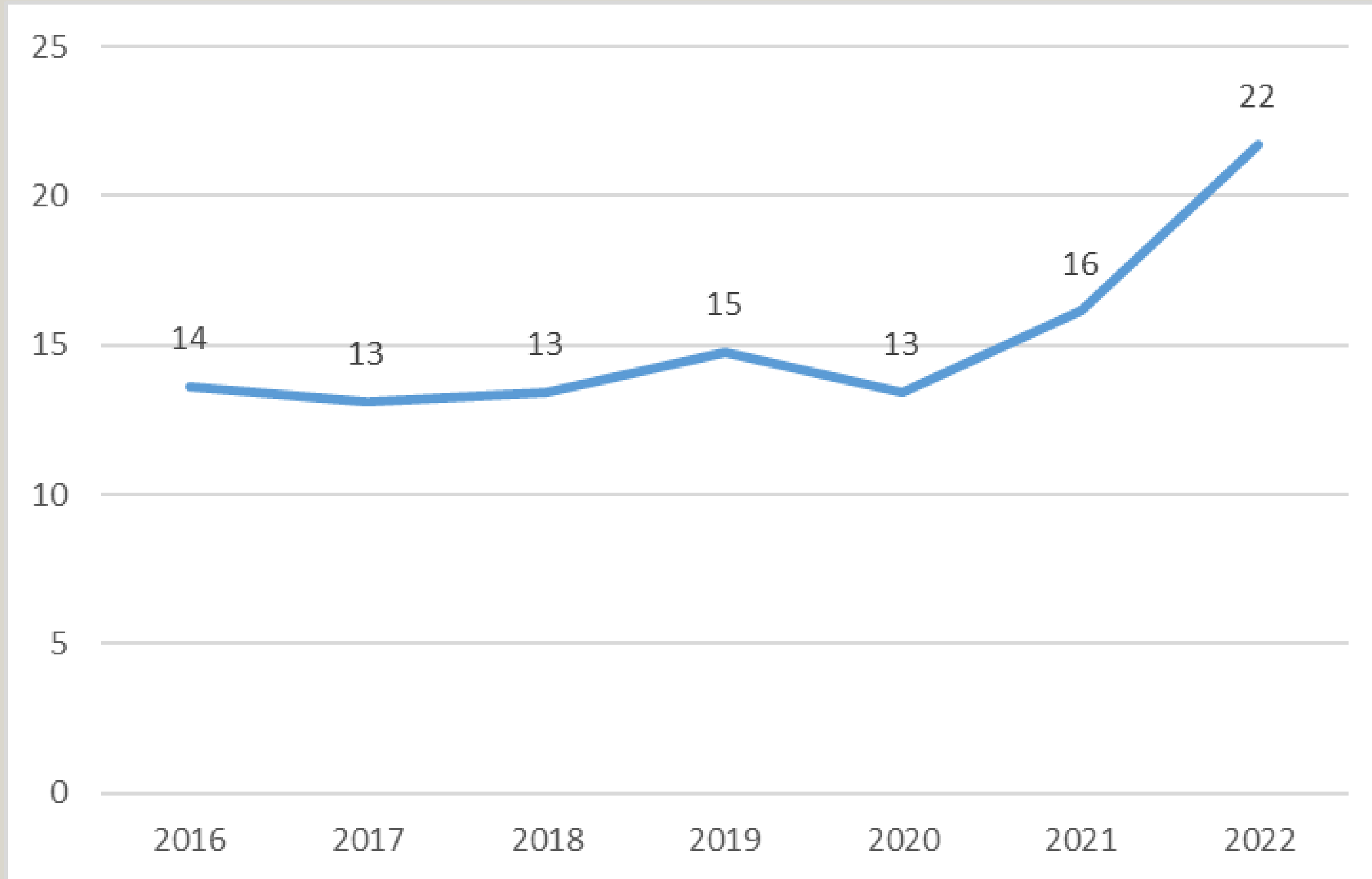
On any given day, **8,265 people** were detained in a Washington jail.

On average people stayed **22 days** in a Washington jail.

# AVERAGE DAILY POPULATION, 2016-2022



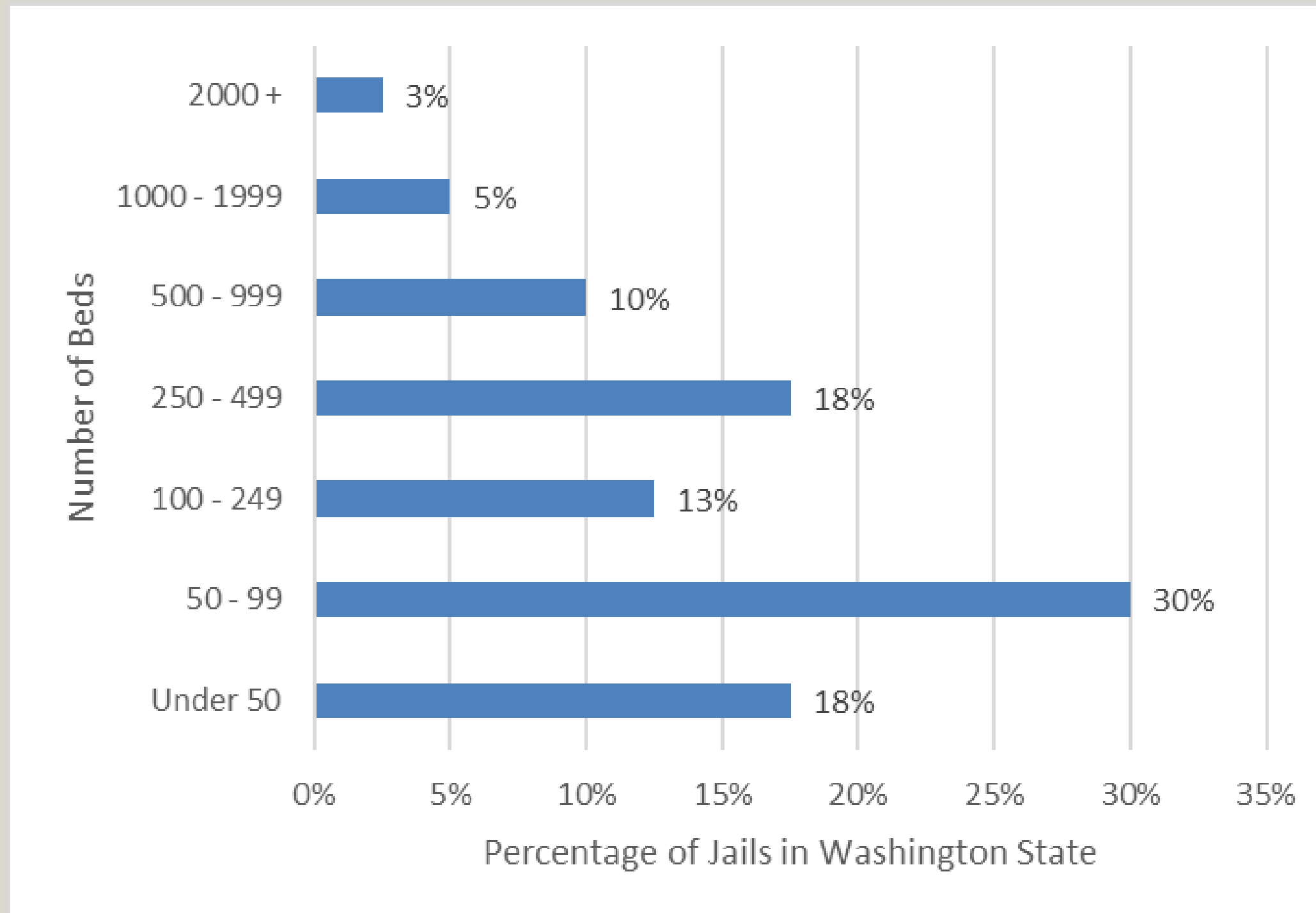
# AVERAGE LENGTH OF STAY, 2016-2022



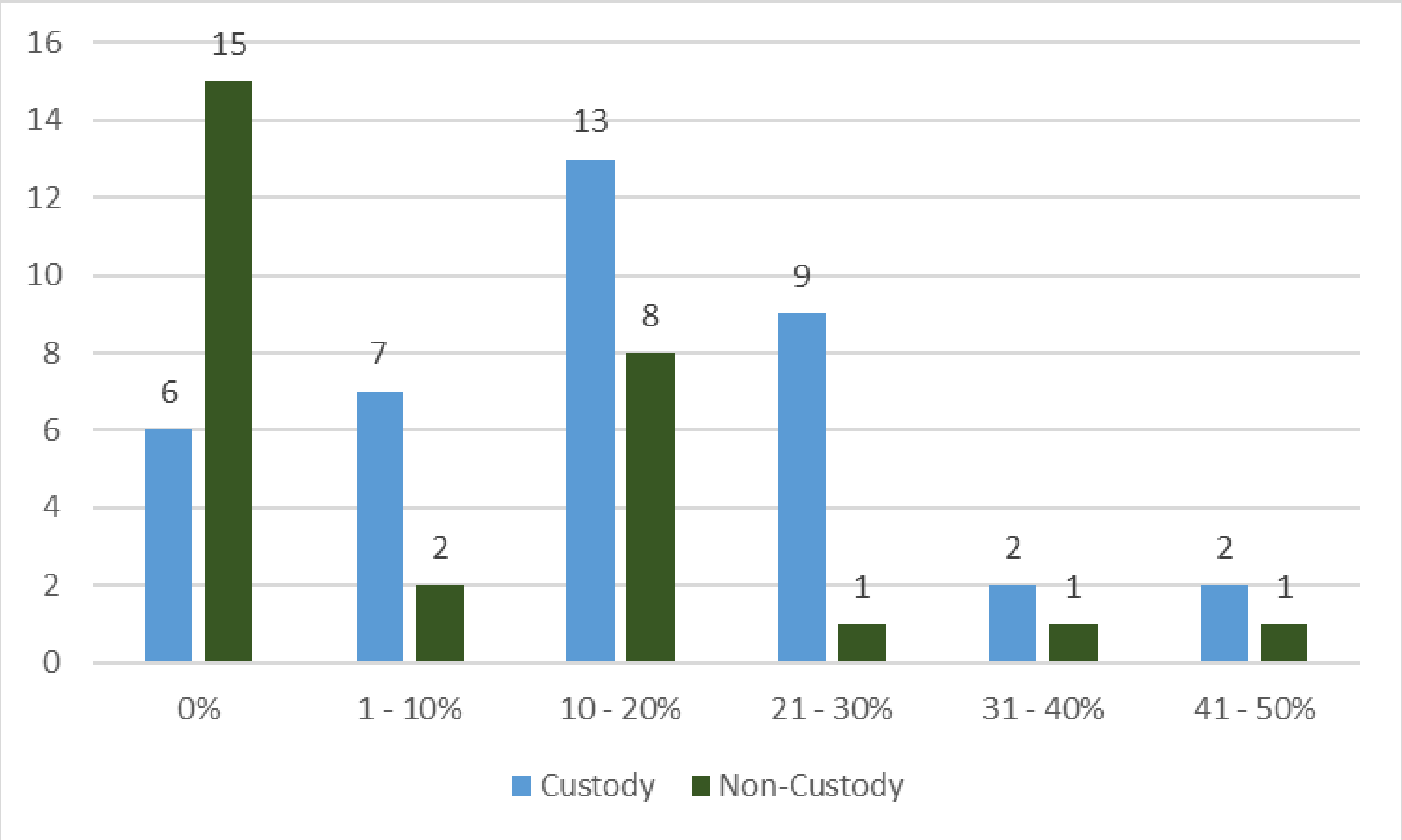


# CAPACITY

There are an estimated **13,859** jail beds in Washington State.



# OPEN STAFFING LEVELS



HEALTH CARE SERVICES IN  
WASHINGTON STATE JAILS

# MEDICAL CARE

- The majority of jails, **75%**, do not operate medical infirmaries/units.
- The Kent City Jail, was the only facility **under 100 beds** that reported operating a medical infirmary/unit.
- The total number of medical infirmary/unit beds reported was **358**.
- King County reported the largest number of infirmary beds, **256**, however, only **32** of the beds provide skilled nursing levels of care.

# MEDICAL CARE

- Most in-house medical care, **85%**, is provided via employees, a contract, an agreement with a local agency, or a combination of providers.
- Jails that do not have in-house medical care rely on transporting individuals to a local clinic or emergency room for services.

# DENTAL CARE

- Most dental care, **82.5%** is provided via employees, a contract, an agreement with a local agencies or providers.
- Only **23%** of jails provide dental services on-site.
- **Seven** jails reported not provided dental services.
- Reported barriers towards providing dental care included:
  - Lack of providers; and
  - Hours of operations of local clinics.

# MENTAL HEALTH CARE - SUICIDE PROTECTION PROTOCOLS

- In 2022, approximately **3,878 people** were placed on suicide protection protocols or watch.
- However, only **50%** of jails track and maintain records of the number of individuals placed on suicide watch or protocols.

# MENTAL HEALTH CARE - SUICIDE PROTECTION PROTOCOLS

Figure 1. Number of People on Placed Suicide Protection in 2022, Jail Capacity < 250

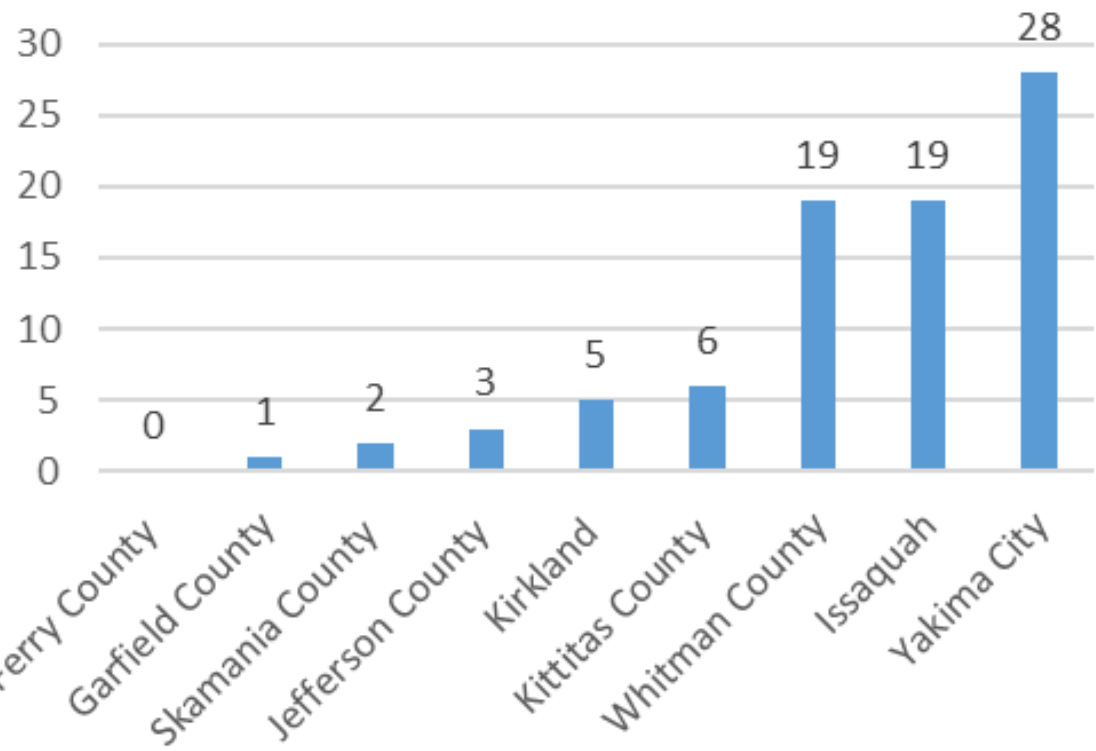


Figure 2. Number of People on Placed Suicide Protection in 2022, Jail Capacity 250 - 499

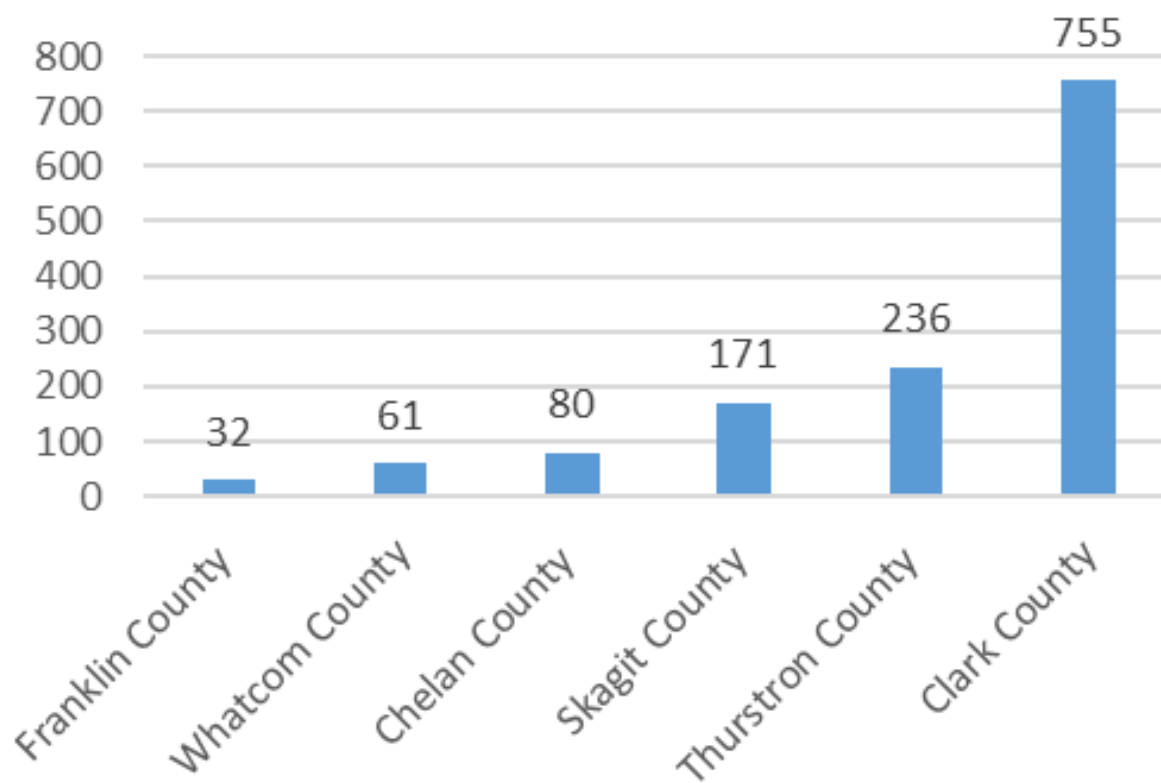
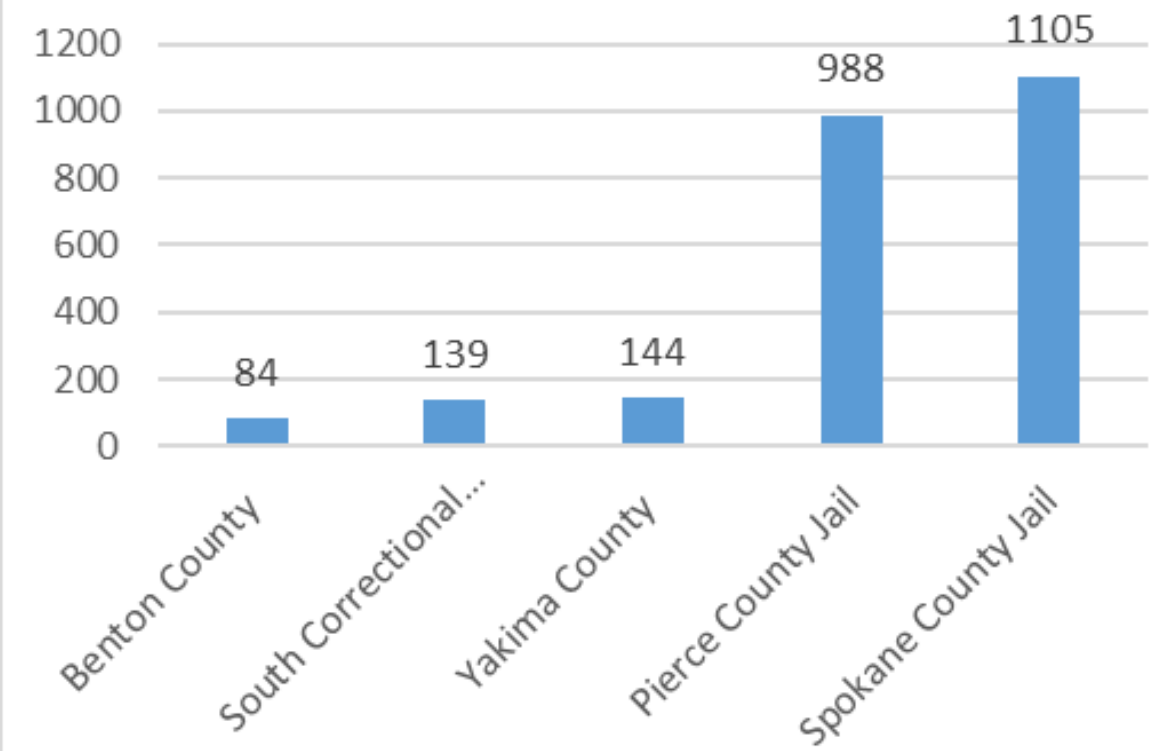


Figure 3. Number of People on Placed Suicide Protection in 2022, Jail Capacity 500+





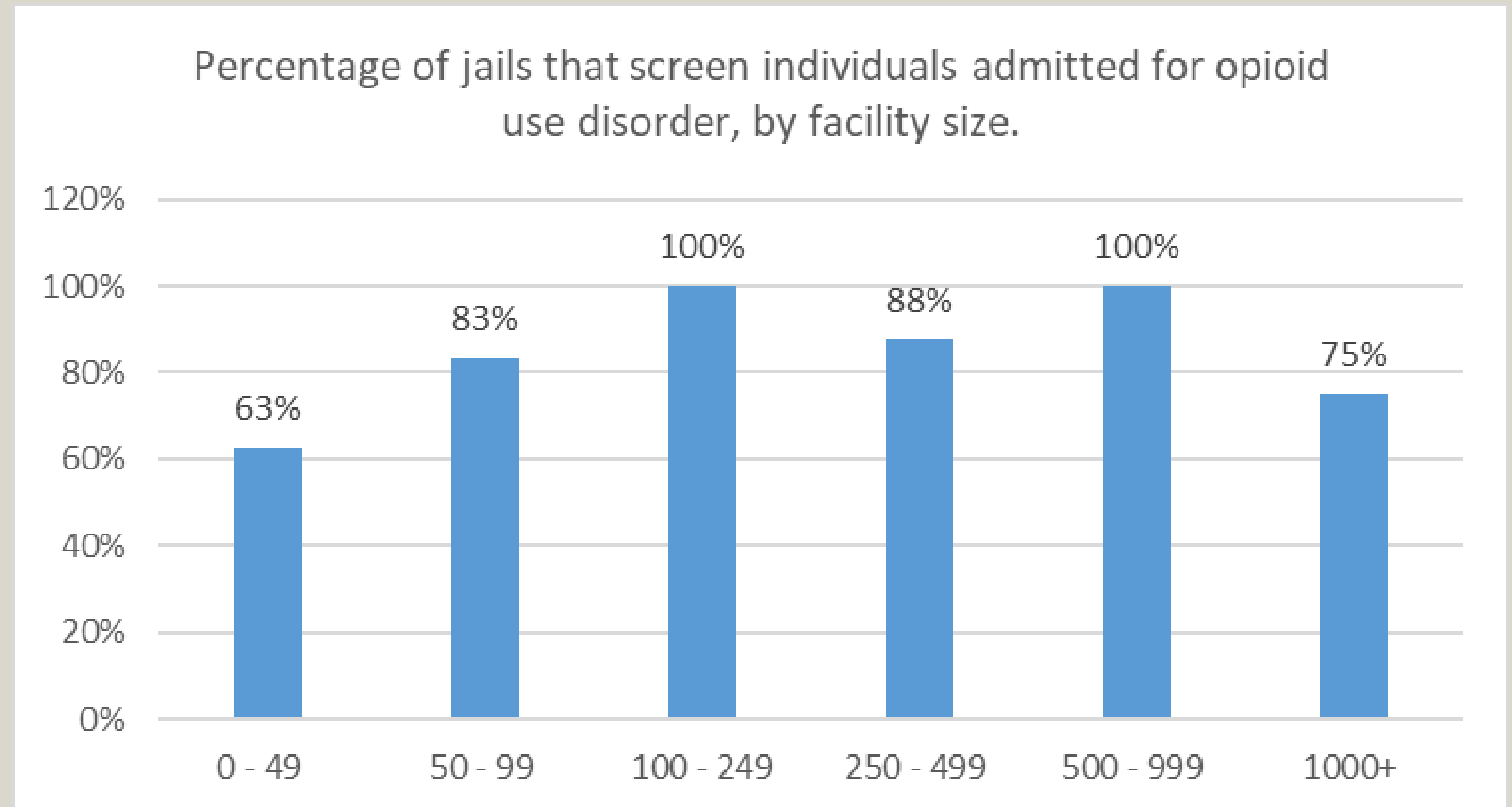
Medication Only	Medication and Individual Therapy	Individual Therapy Only	All Four Services (medication, individual therapy, group therapy, group classes/program)	No Services
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Aberdeen – 18 beds</li> <li>• Puyallup – 51 Beds</li> <li>• Clark County – 385 beds</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Garfield County – 16 beds</li> <li>• Ferry County – 42 beds</li> <li>• Jefferson County – 57 beds</li> <li>• Issaquah – 72 beds</li> <li>• Mason County – 94 beds</li> <li>• Clallam County – 120 beds</li> <li>• Chelan County – 267 beds</li> <li>• Franklin County – 340 beds</li> <li>• Thurston County – 395 beds</li> <li>• Skagit County- 400 beds</li> <li>• Benton County – 720 beds</li> <li>• Snohomish County – 1,244 beds</li> <li>• Pierce County – 1,731 beds</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Skamania County – 71 beds</li> <li>• Kirkland – 72 beds</li> <li>• Marysville – 96 beds</li> <li>• Walla Walla County – 102 beds</li> <li>• Grays Harbor County – 171 beds</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wahkiakum County – 14 beds</li> <li>• Island County – 58 beds</li> <li>• Kittitas County – 212 beds</li> <li>• Lewis County – 250 beds</li> <li>• Kitsap County – 461 beds</li> <li>• Spokane County – 642 beds</li> <li>• South Correctional Entity (SCORE) – 802 beds</li> <li>• Yakima County – 1,000 beds</li> <li>• King County – 2,906 beds</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lynnwood - 0</li> <li>• Yakima - 72</li> <li>• Sunnyside - 91</li> </ul>

# COPAYS

- **57.5%** do not charge copays for prescription medications. Flat rate copays reported were **\$3** or **\$10**.
- **67.5%** do not charge copays for medical services that are initiated by the incarcerated individual. Flat rate copays ranged between **\$4** and **\$20**.
- **77.5%** do not charge copays for any follow-up medical care. Flat rate copays reported were **\$5** or **\$10**.
- **50%** do not charge copays for dental services. Flat rate for copays reported was **\$10**.
- **92%** do not charge copays for mental health services. Flat rate copays reported was **\$10**.

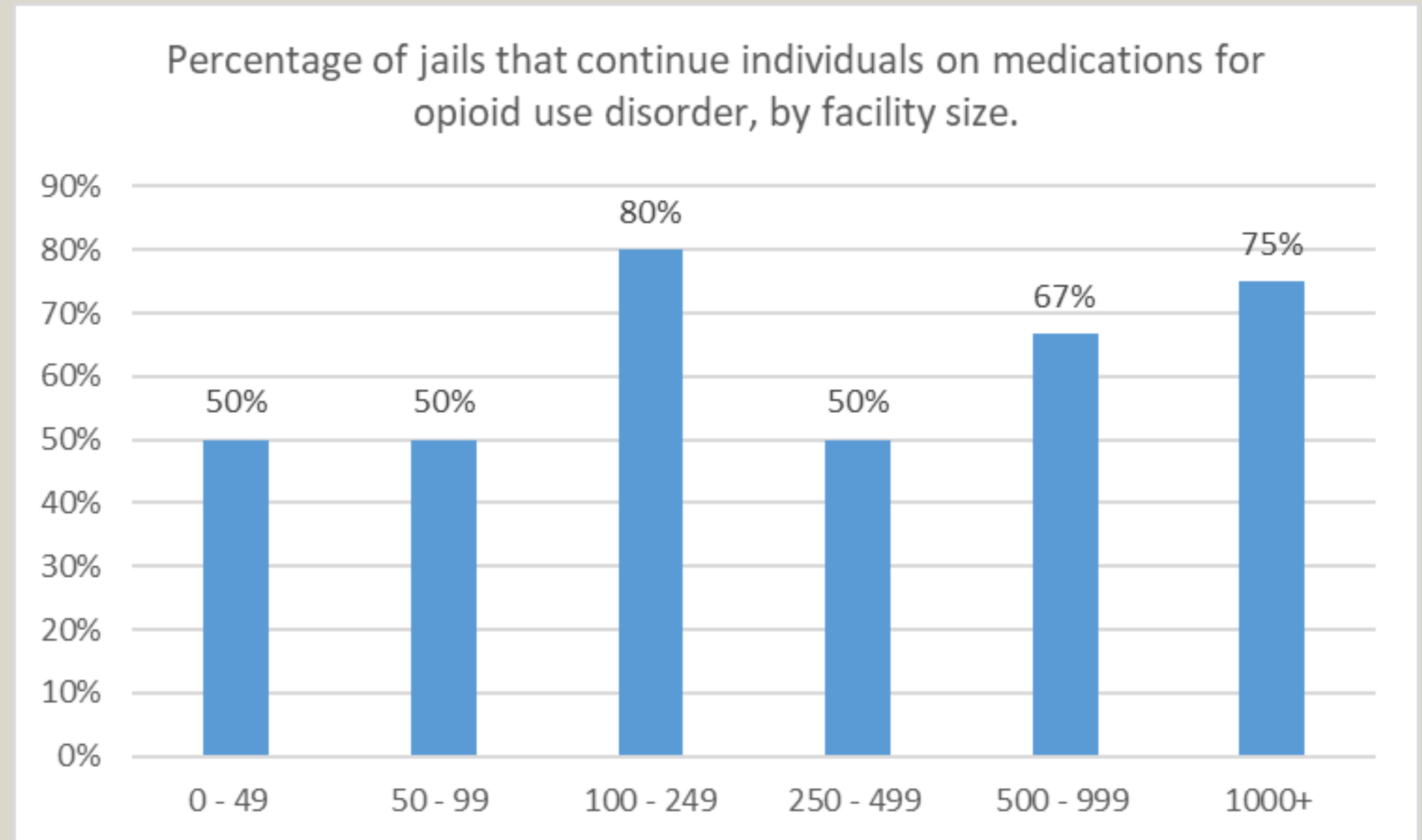
# SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER TREATMENT

**82.5%** of jails screen all individuals admitted to the jail for opioid use disorder.



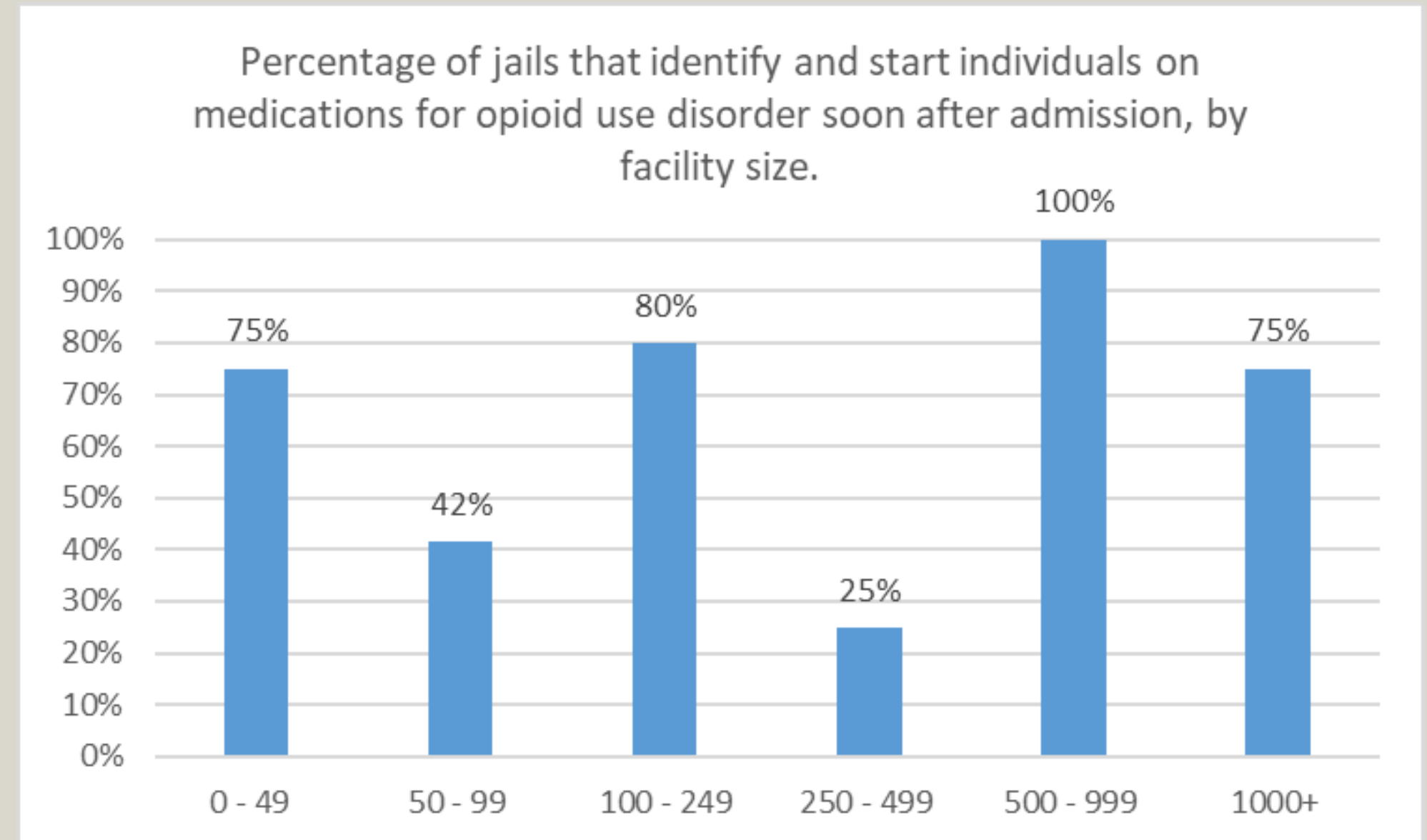
# SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER TREATMENT

**60%** of jails continue all individuals admitted to the jail who are currently prescribed medications for opioid use disorder (also known as medication-assisted treatment).



# SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER TREATMENT

**57.5%** of jails start individuals who are identified as having opioid use disorder on medications for opioid use disorder soon after admission.



# SUBGROUP TAKEAWAYS

- What is the consistency of the screening tools being used at jails?  
How are services being defined?
- Jail's management systems are often not designed to provide historical or aggregate data.
- Standards should be stratified depending on the size of the facility.
- There are concerns about private contracts, and a lack of understanding what contracts for health care look like across the state.

QUESTIONS?

TELECOMMUNICATIONS,  
VISITATION & COMMISSARY

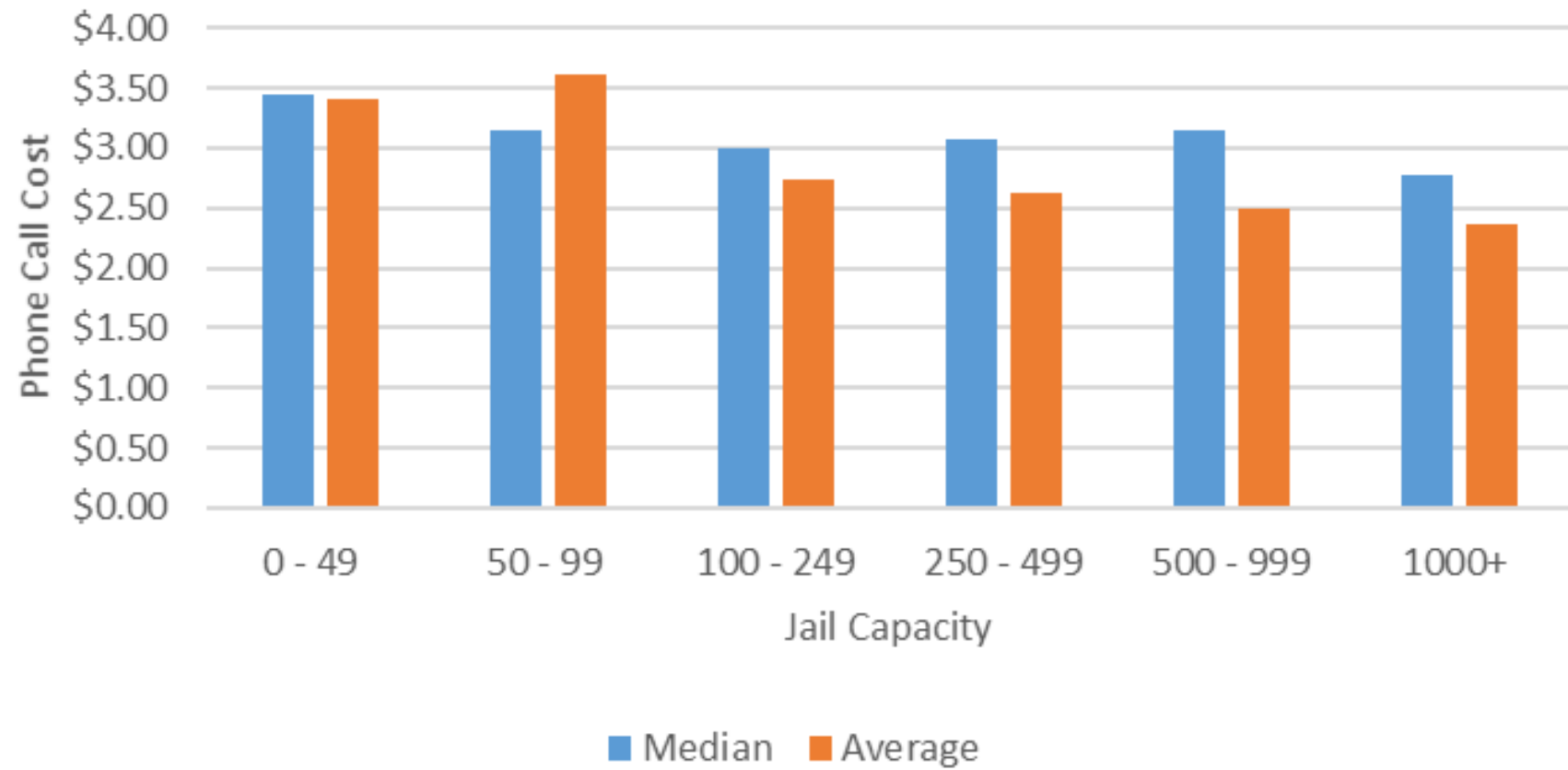


# TELECOMMUNICATIONS

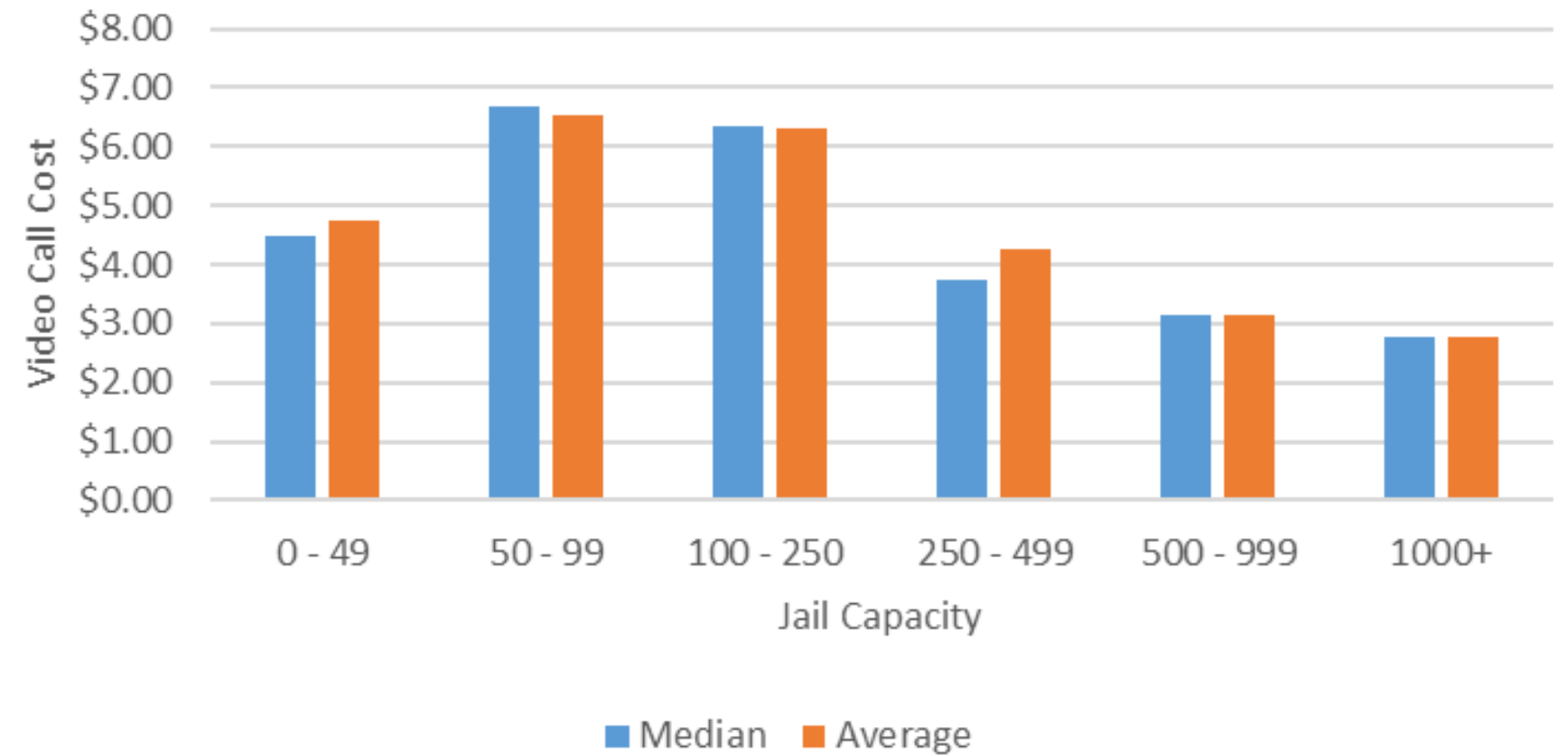
- **82.5%** are providing video visitation, **67.5%**, are providing emailing services, and **50%** are providing text message services.
- The percentage difference between the most affordable and the most expensive 15-minute phone call is **1,157%**, and for video calls is **529%**.
- The percentage difference in price per text between the minimum and maximum rates charged is **1,833%**.
- The percentage difference in price per email between the minimum and maximum rates charged in **900%**.

# TELECOMMUNICATIONS

Price Difference in 15-Minute Phone Calls in Washington State Jails, 2023 , by facility size

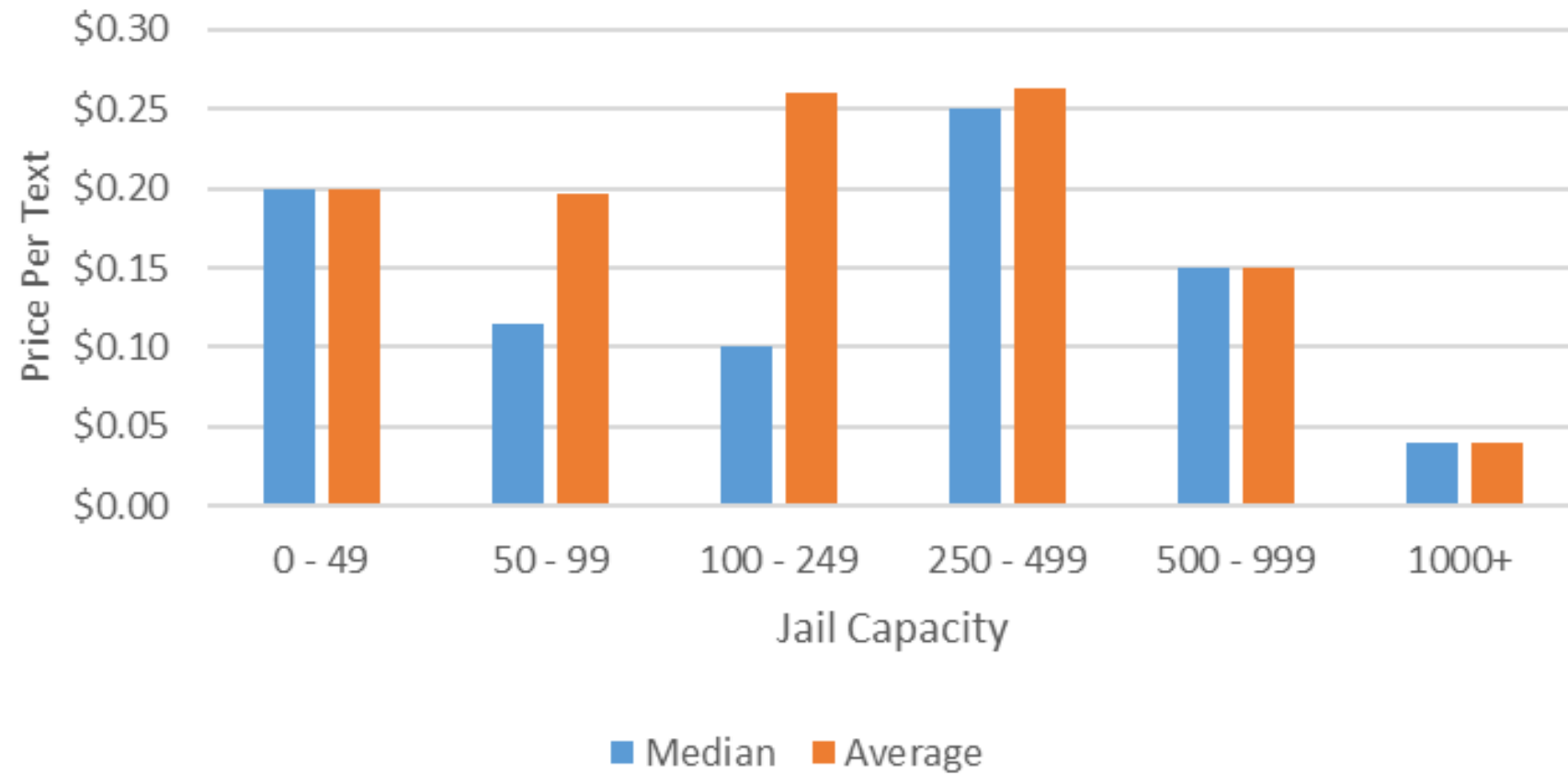


Price Difference between 15-minute Video Calls, Washington State Jails, 2023

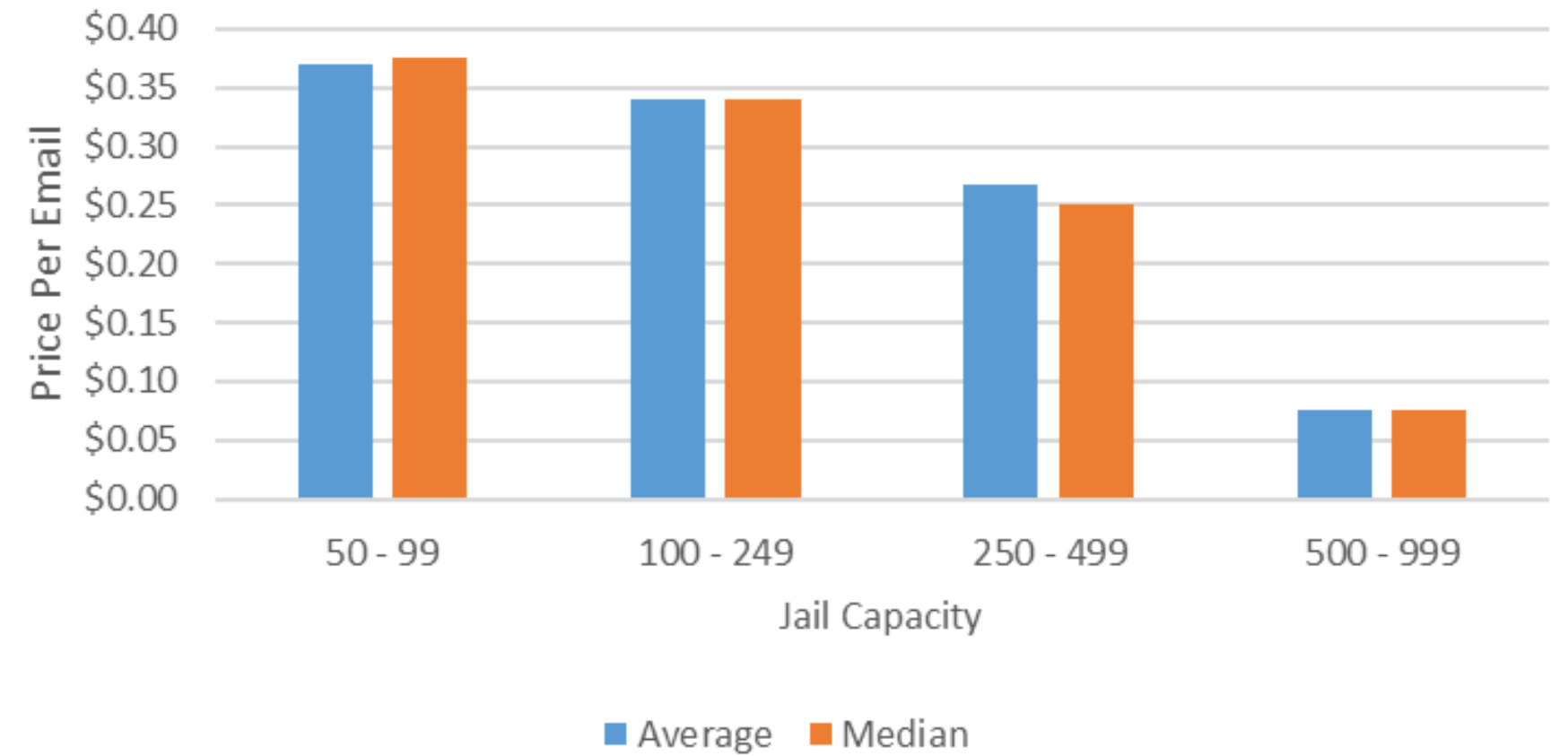


# TELECOMMUNICATIONS

Price Difference between Text Messages, Washington State Jails, 2023, by facility size

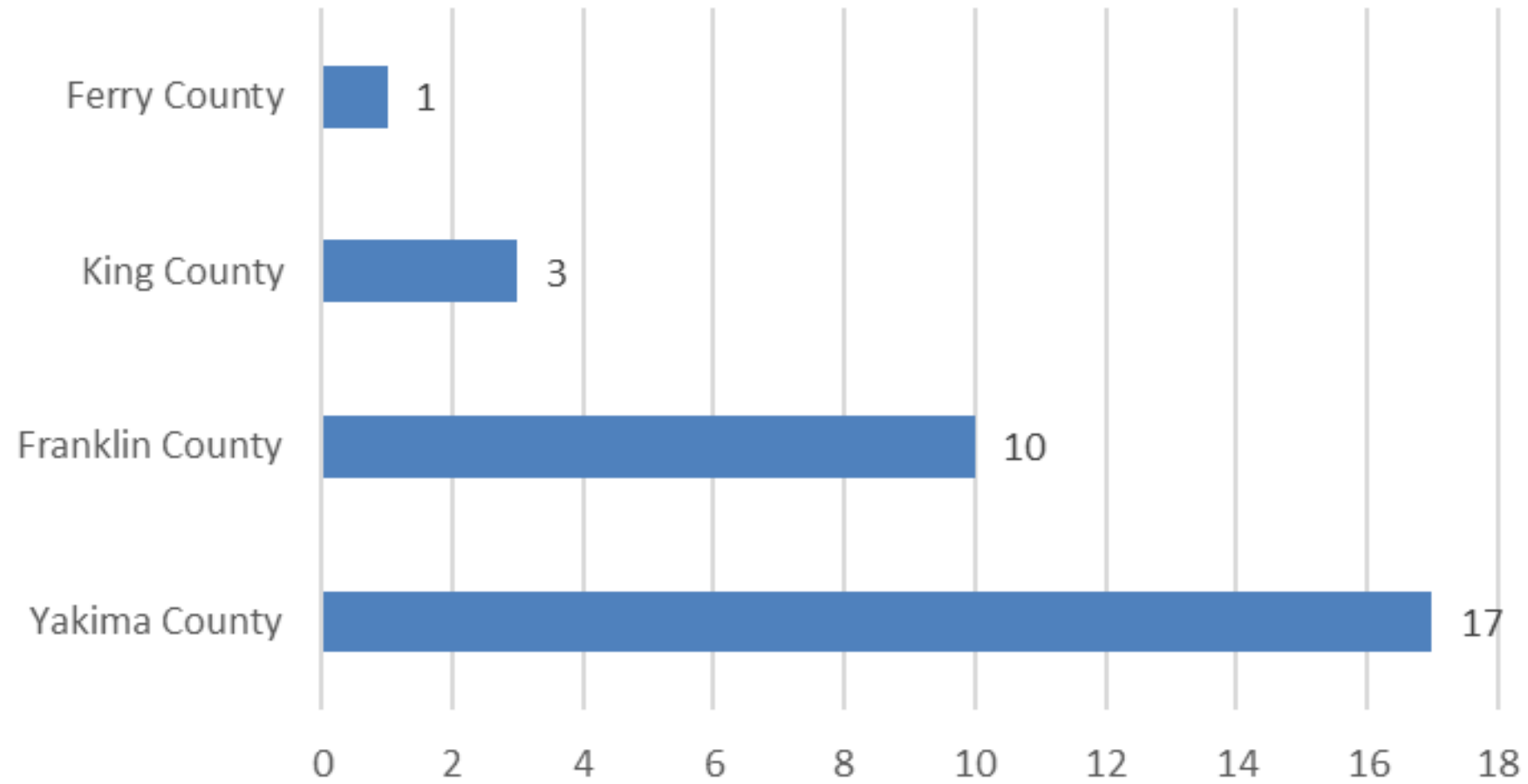


Price Difference between Emails, Washington State Jails, 2023, by facility size

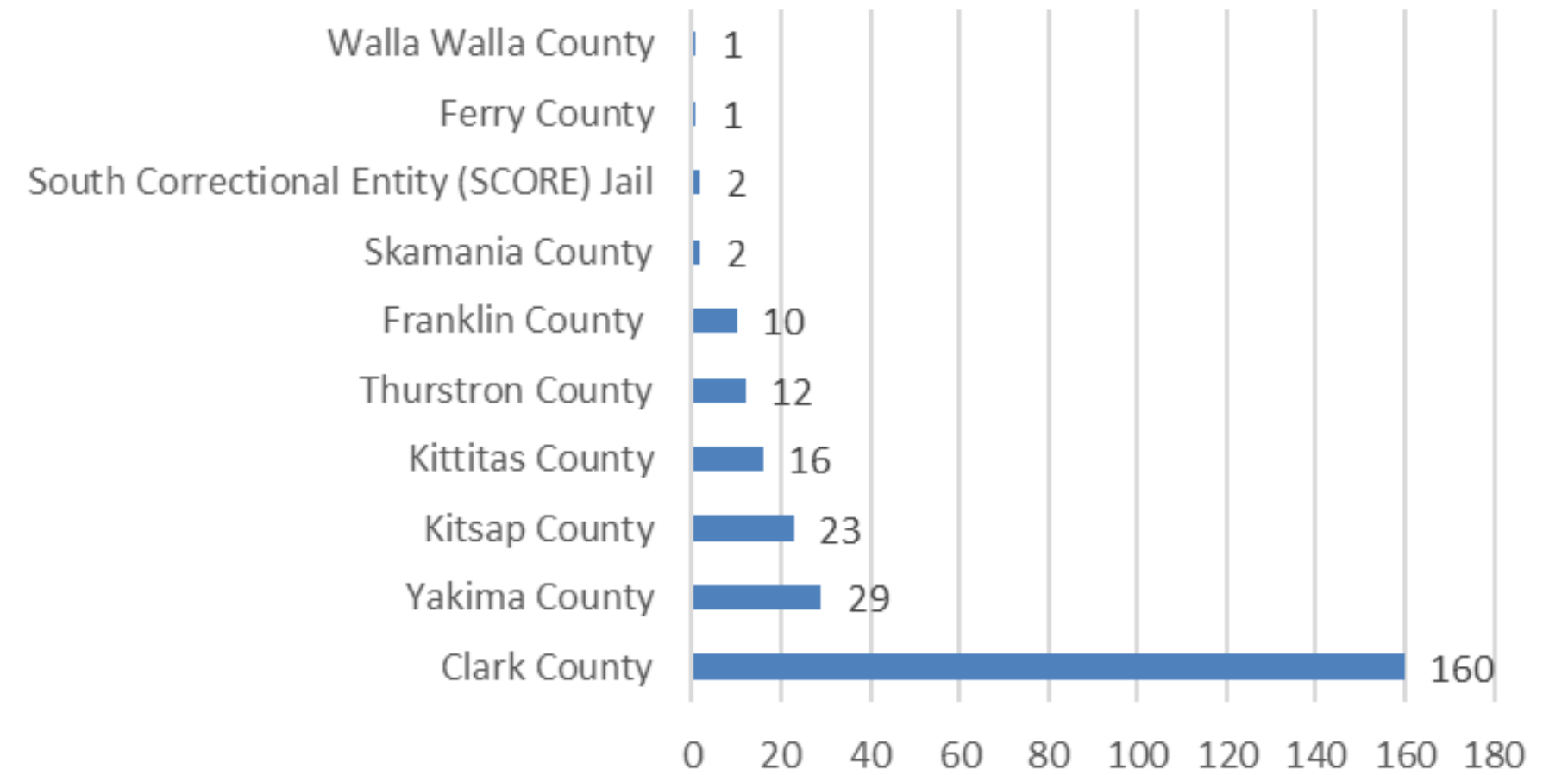


# MODIFICATIONS IN CONFINEMENT

## Number of People with Telephone Restrictions March 2023



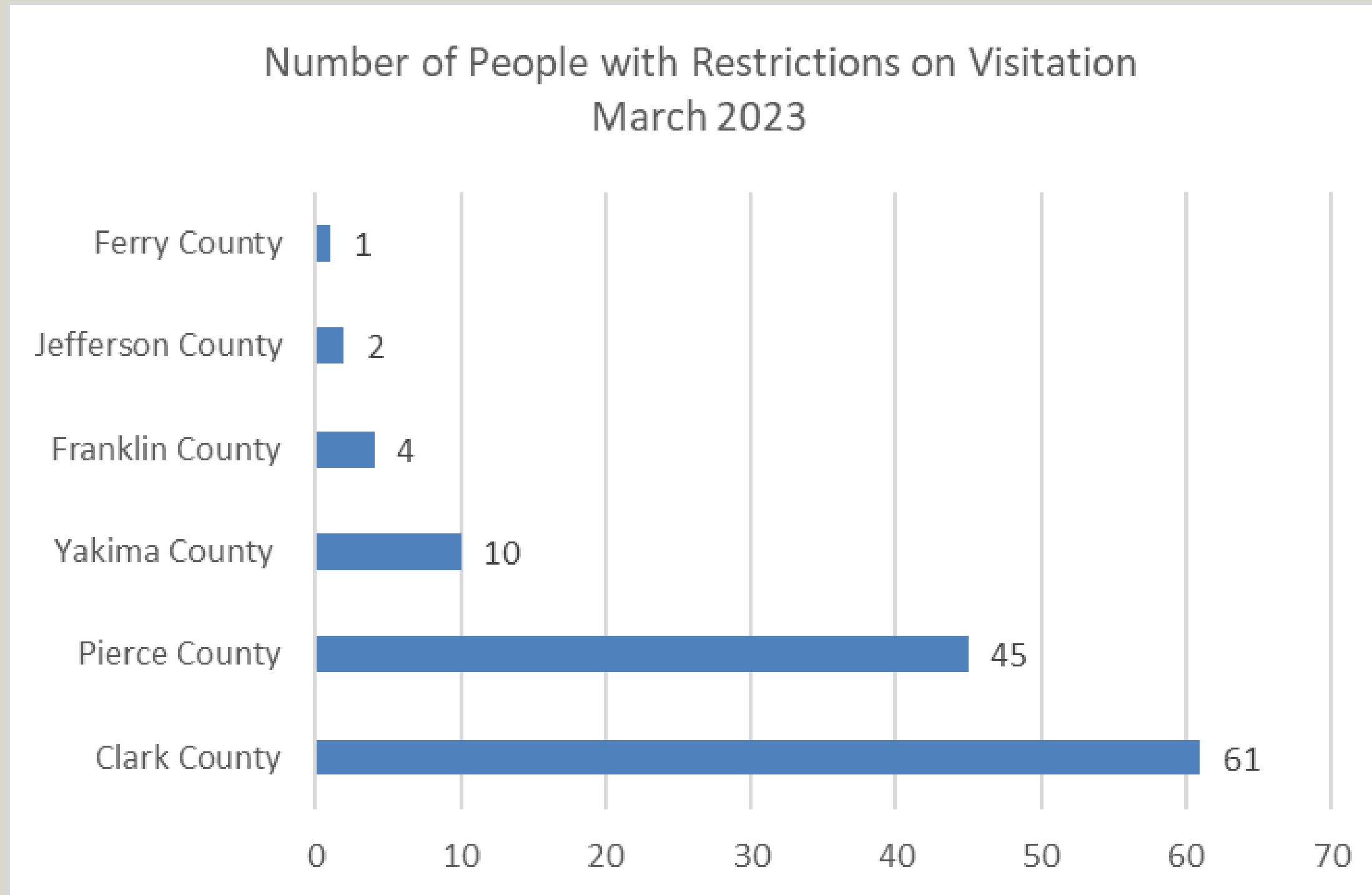
## Number of People with Tablet Restrictions March 2023



# VISITATION

- **72.5%**, offer free onsite visitation either via phones through a glass partition or a video booth/kiosk.
- **Six** jails reported offering no on-site visitation.
- **Five** jails reported charging for on-site visits.

# RESTRICTIONS ON VISITATION

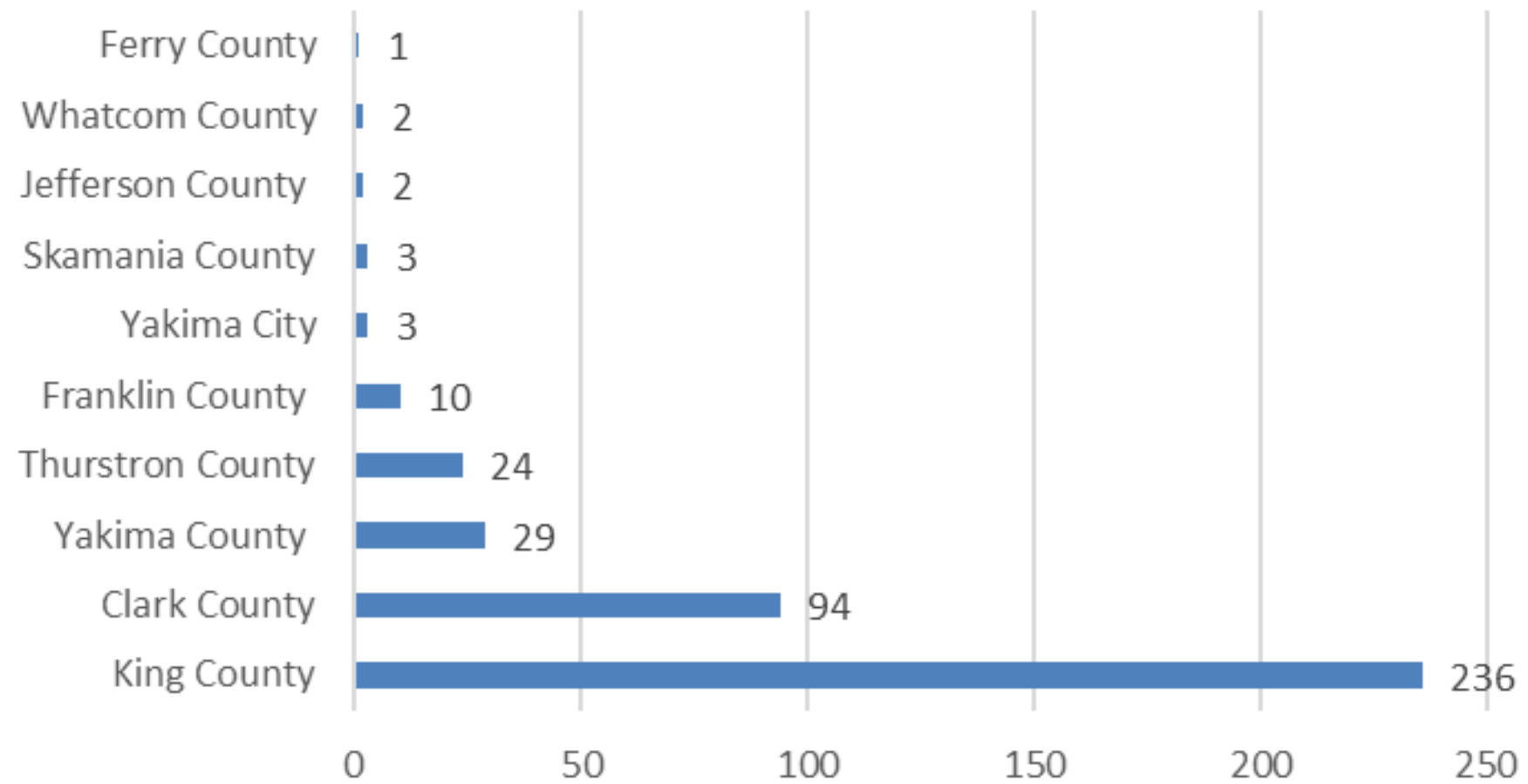


# COMMISSARY

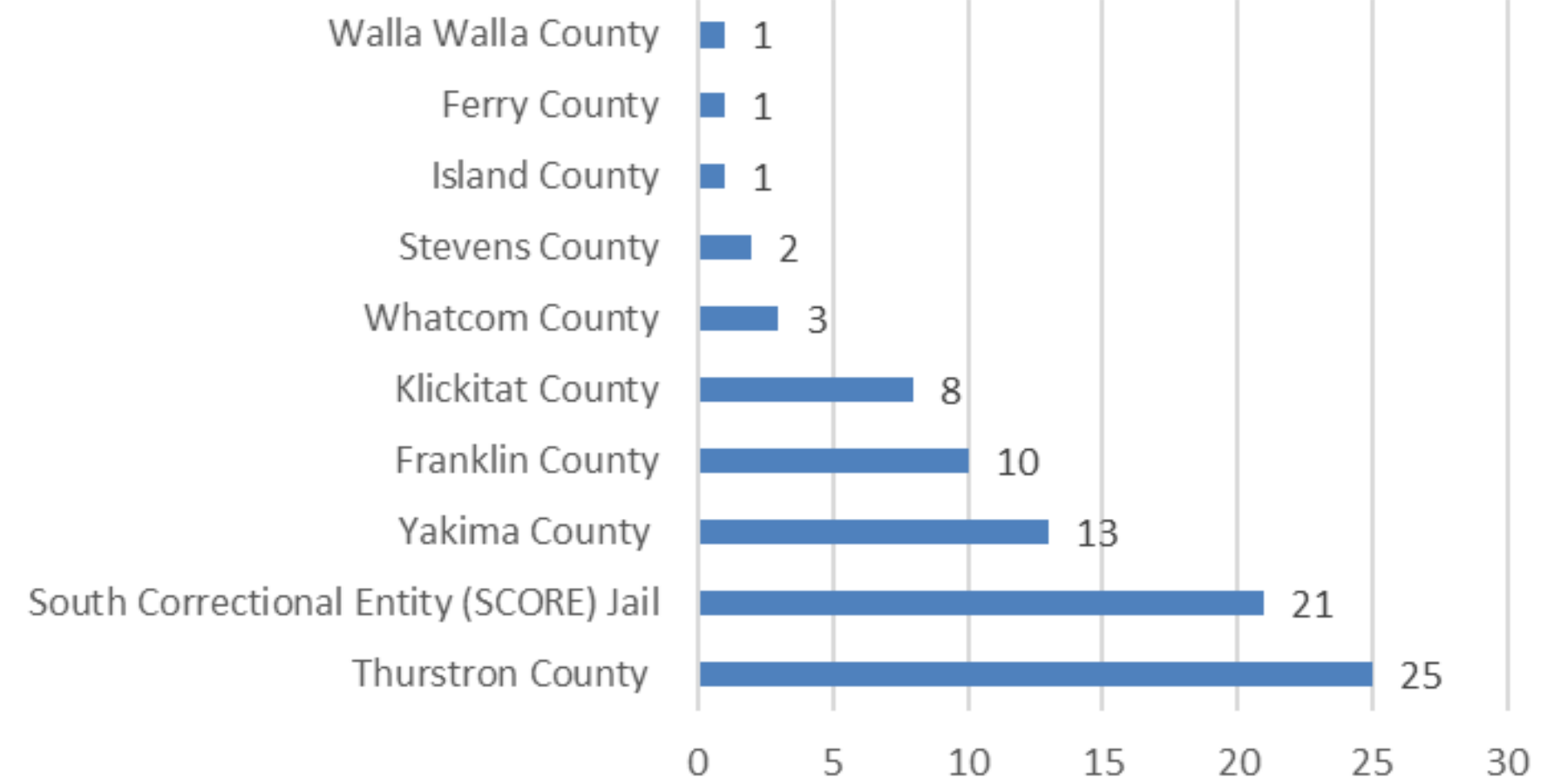
- **85%** provide commissary services.
- Of the **seven** jails that do not provide commissary, all are designed to house **under 100 people**.
- Commissary selections range widely in what products are available and the prices charge for items.

# RESTRICTIONS ON COMMISSARY & GENERAL POPULATION ITEMS

## Number of People with Commissary Restrictions March 2023



## Number of People with Restrictions on General Population Items - March 2023





# SUBGROUP TAKEAWAYS

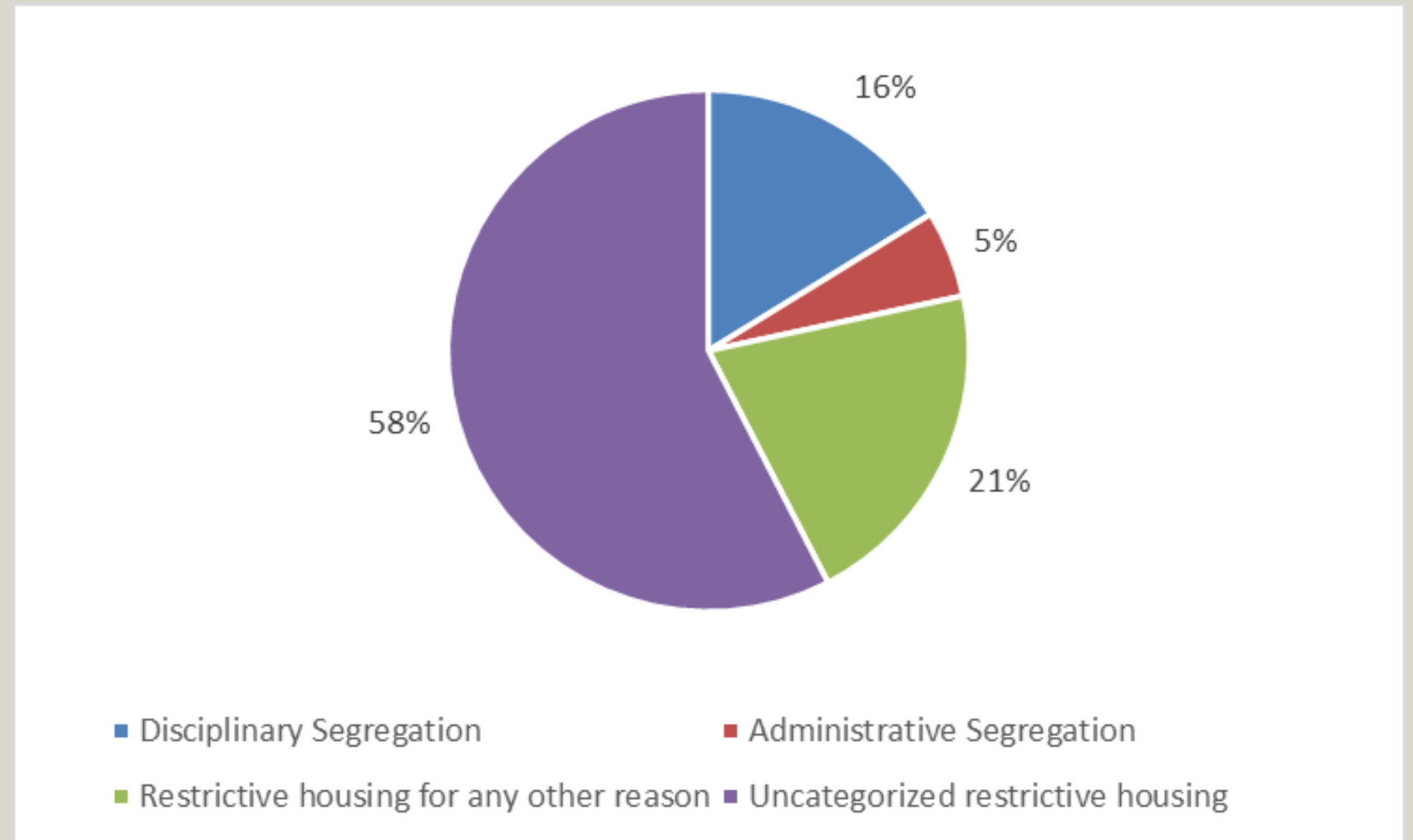
- With essentially only two major providers, prices charged across jails for telecommunication services vary widely.
- What level of training do jail administrators have on negotiating and monitoring contracts?
- Support positions for contracting.
- Could there be multijurisdictional contracts for telecommunications?

QUESTIONS?

RESTRICTIVE HOUSING, IN-CUSTODY  
DEATHS, PRISON RAPE ELIMINATION  
ACT, USES OF FORCE, ASSAULTS

# RESTRICTIVE HOUSING

- In March 2023, an estimated **2,336 people** were in restrictive housing settings across thirty-two jails.
- Jails could not provide the reason why the majority of individuals, **58%**, were in restrictive housing settings.



# PRISON RAPE ELIMINATION ACT

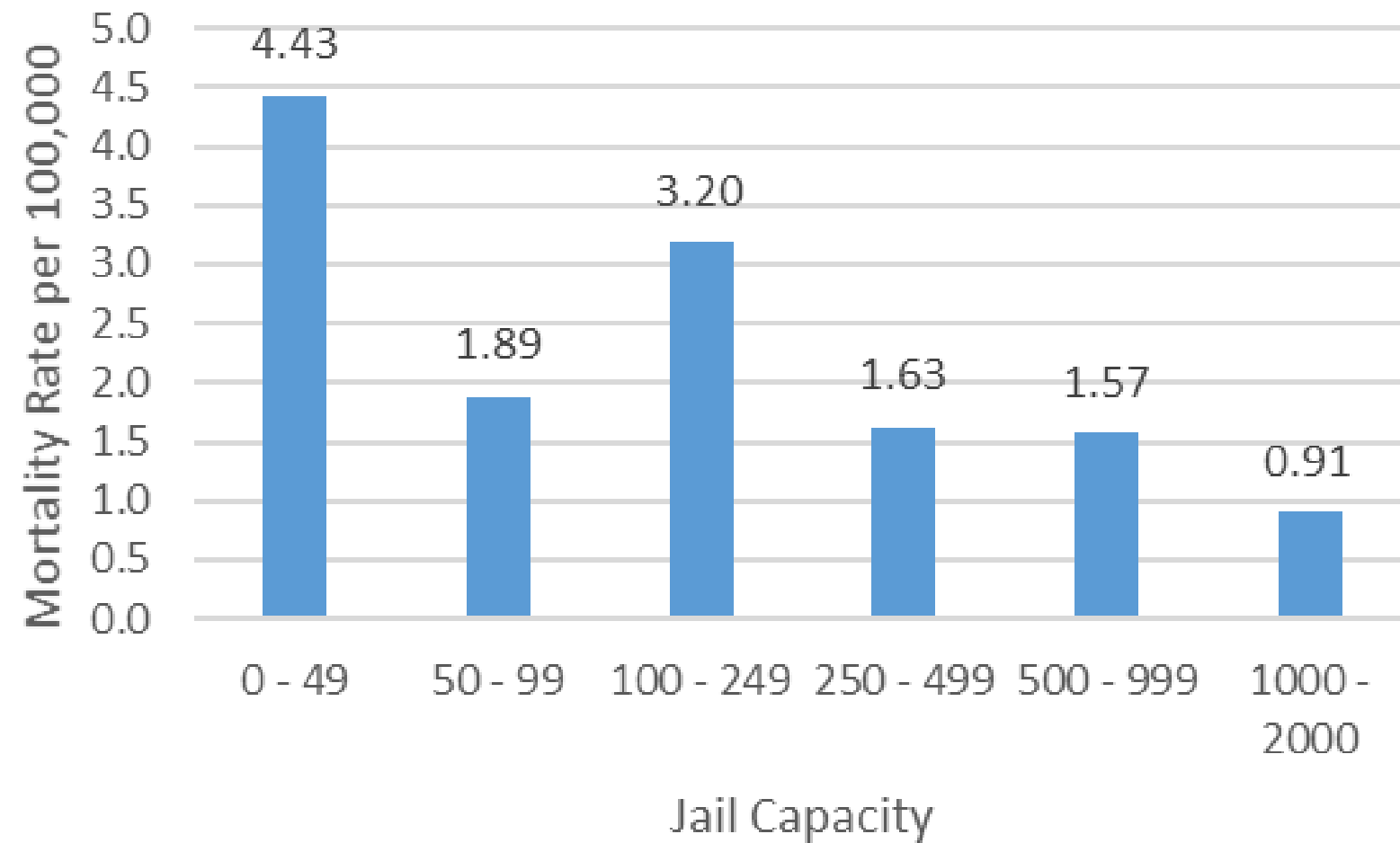
- **77.5%** of jails indicated they have not undergone a Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) audit, which is required for a jail to be considered PREA-certified.
- All jails indicated having ways for individuals to report PREA allegations, however, not every jail indicated at least one way for an individual to report to a **independent public or private entity** and that **allows for individuals to be anonymous**.
- The majority of jails, **21**, use PREA-trained investigators for any PREA allegations.

# IN-CUSTODY DEATHS

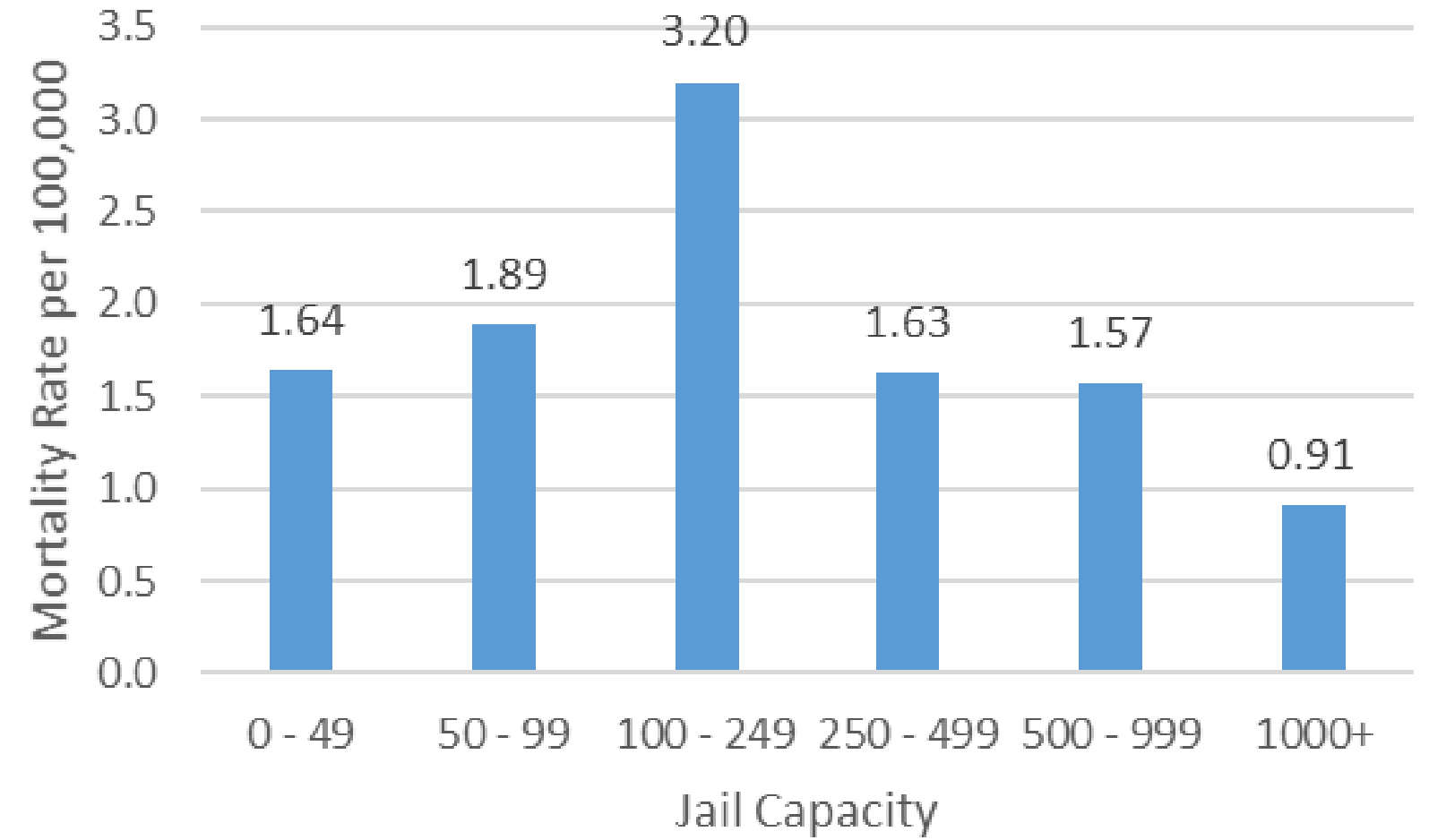
- Between 2018 and 2022, approximately **124 people** died in a Washington jail.
- Suicide was the leading cause, and contributed to **36%** of these deaths.
- General illness or natural causes contributed to **35%** of reported deaths.

# IN-CUSTODY DEATHS

## Average Mortality Rate in Washington State Jails



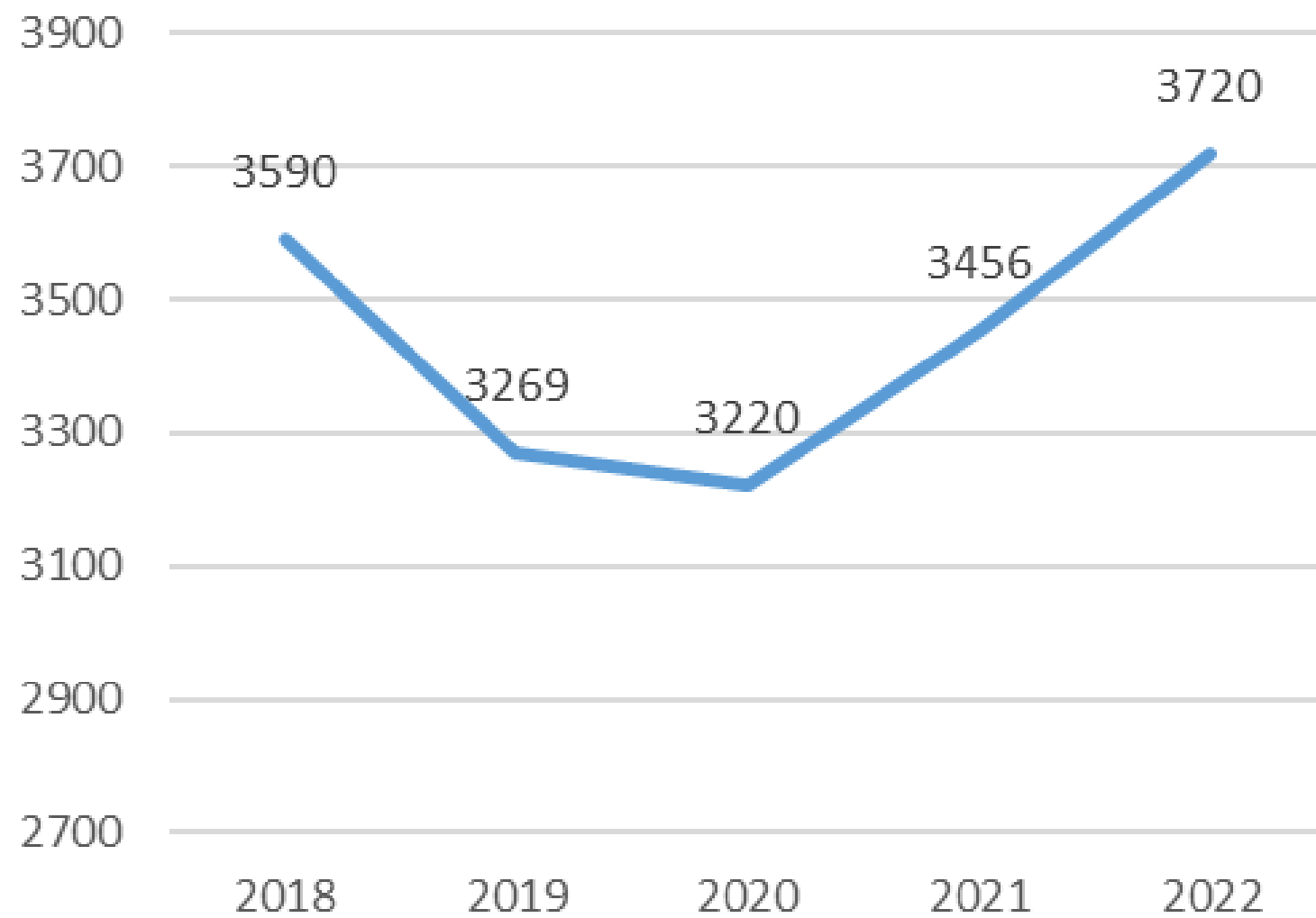
## Average Mortality Rate in Washington State Jails, Garfield County Removed



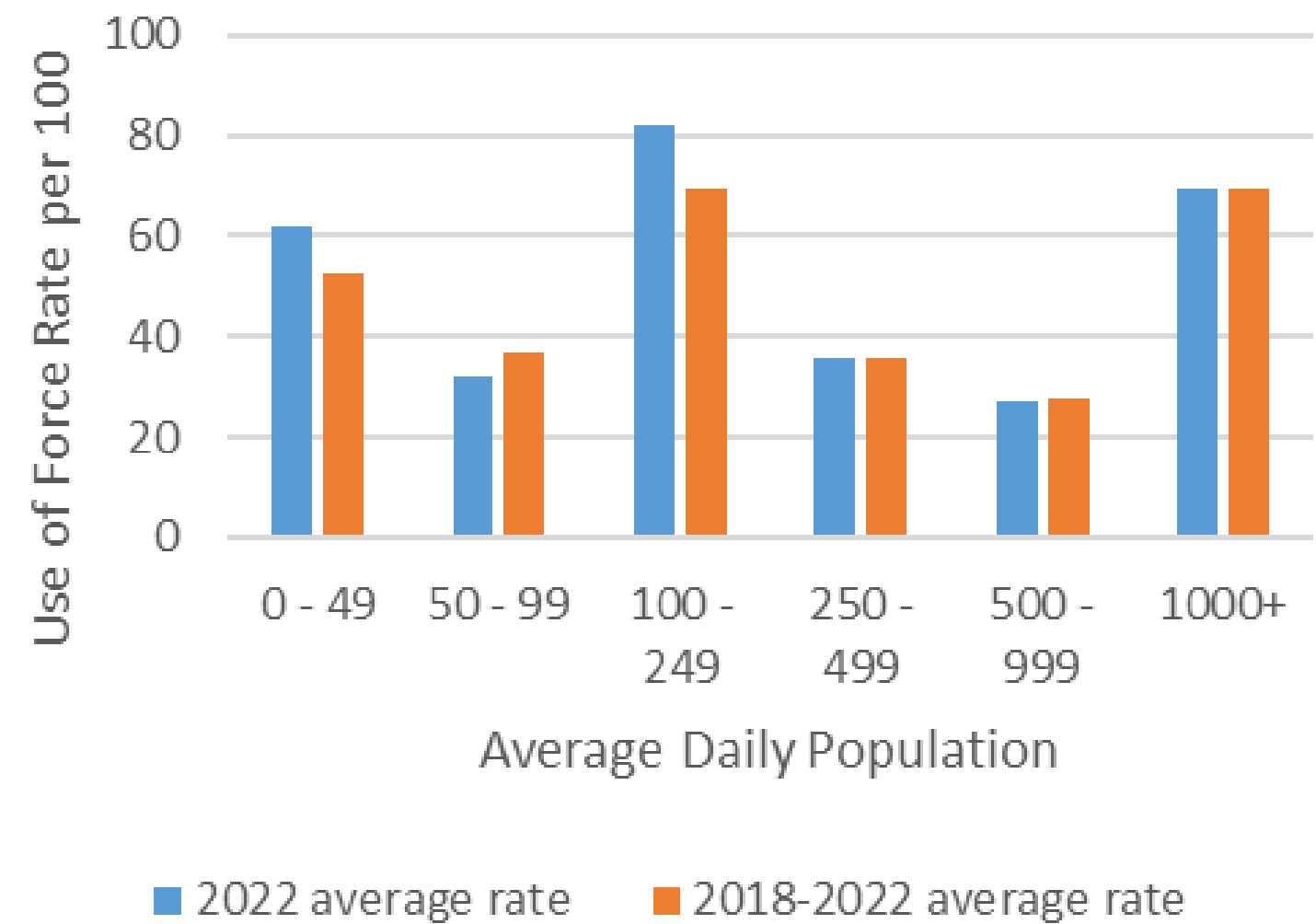
# USES OF FORCE

In 2022, a total of **3,720** uses of force were reported.

### Number of Uses of Force, Washington State Jails



### Average Uses of Force Rates in Washington State Jails

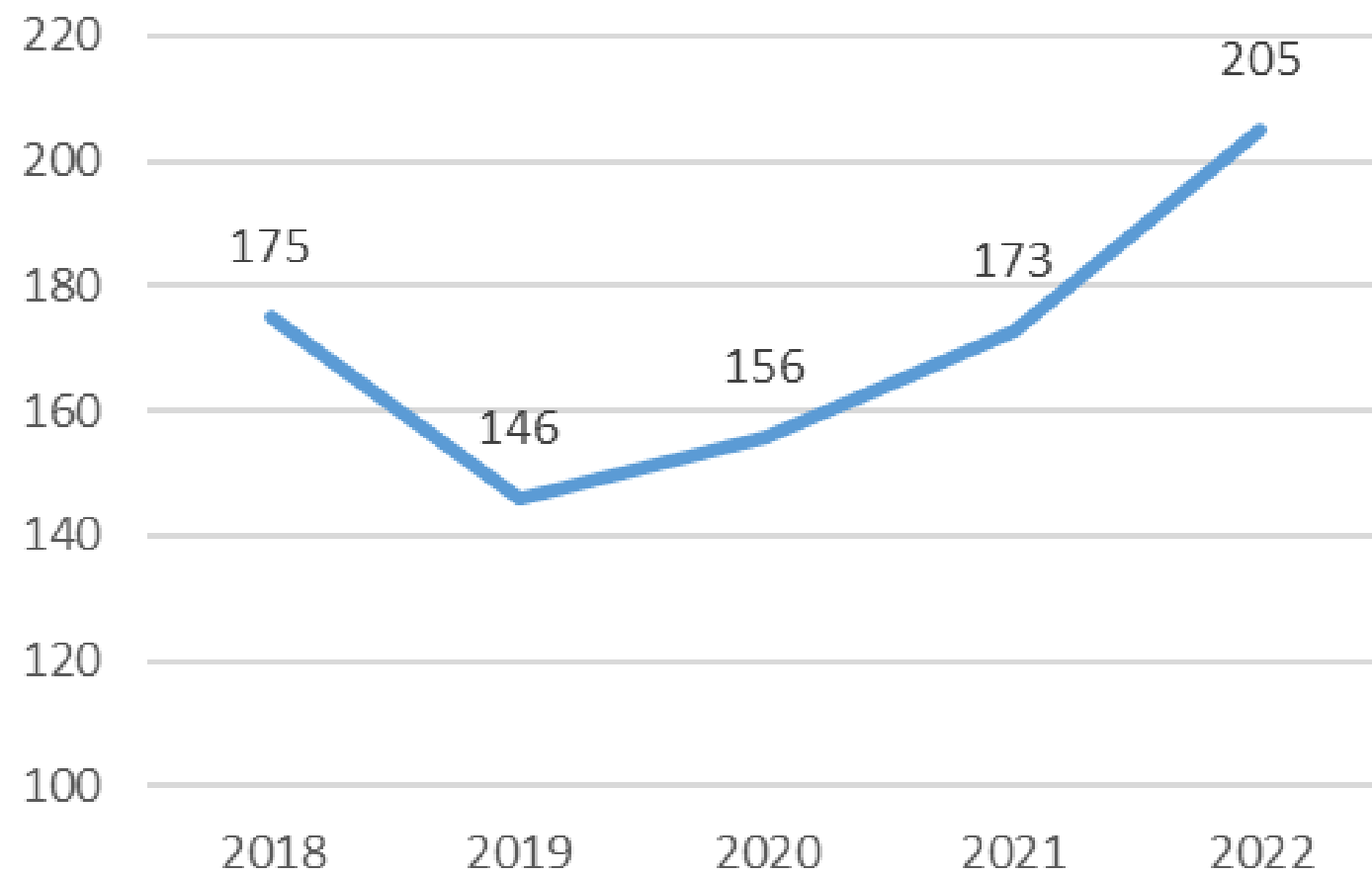




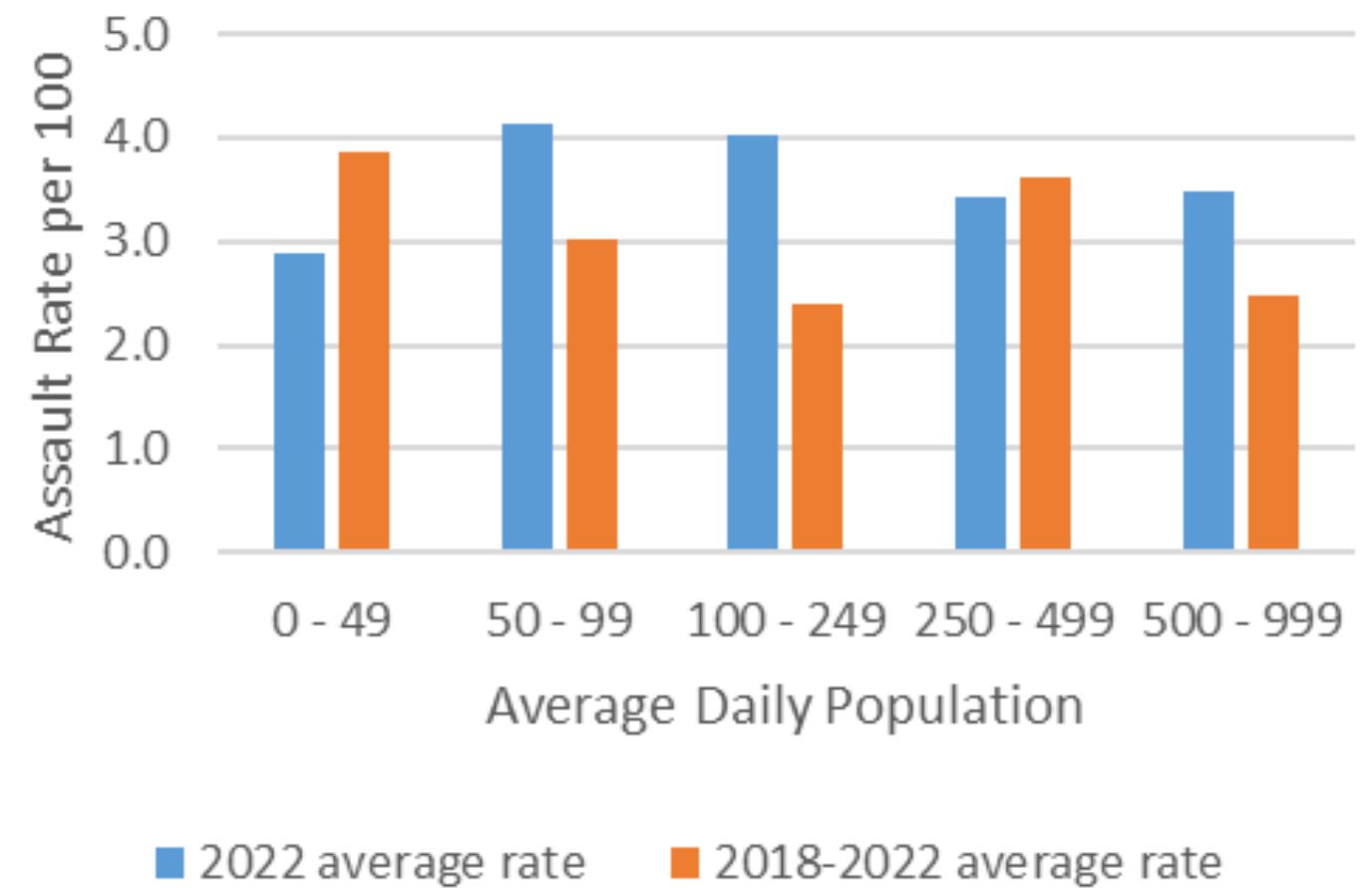
# ASSAULTS ON STAFF

In 2022, a total of **248** assaults on staff were reported.

Number of Assaults on Staff in Washington State Jails, King County Removed

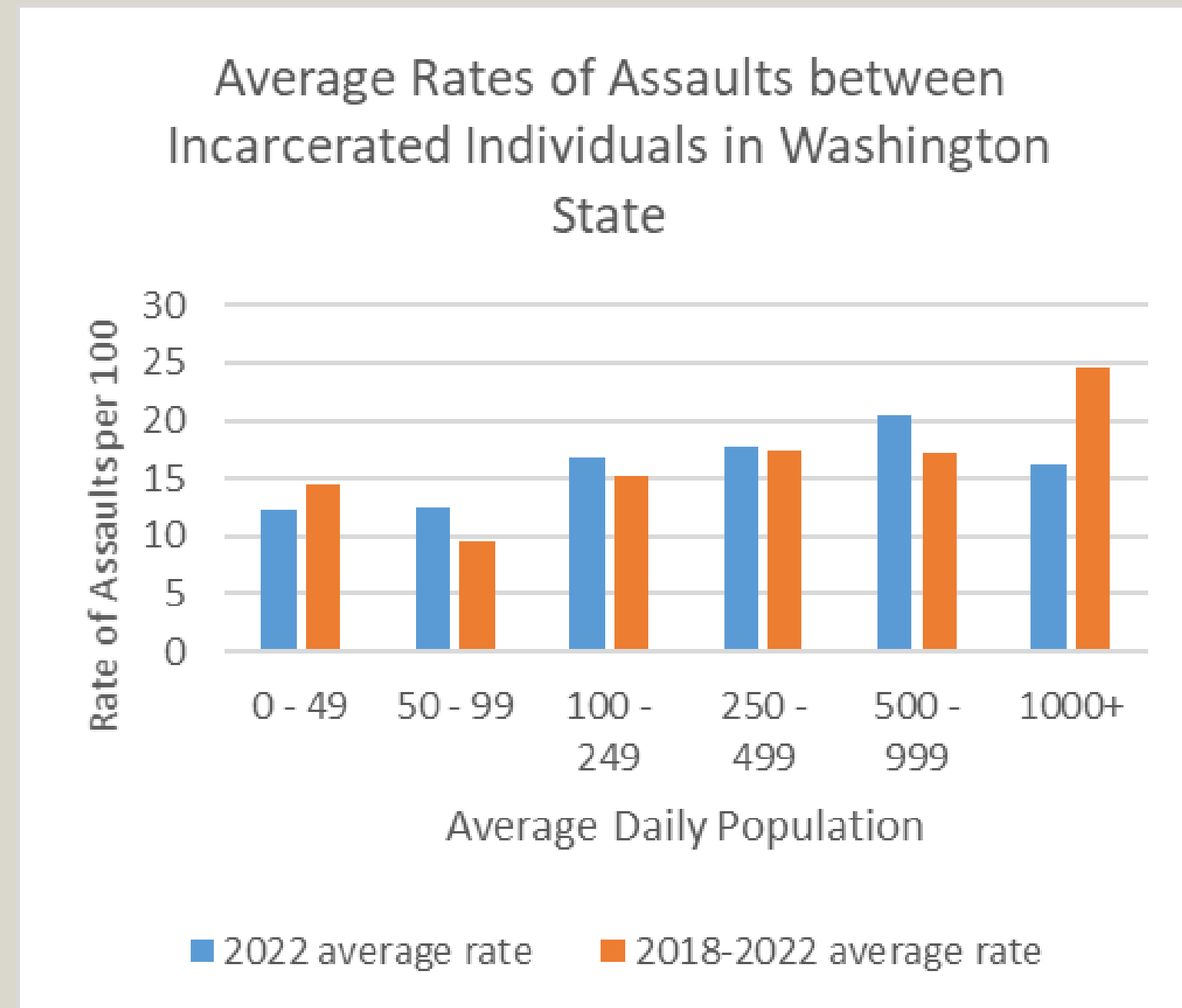
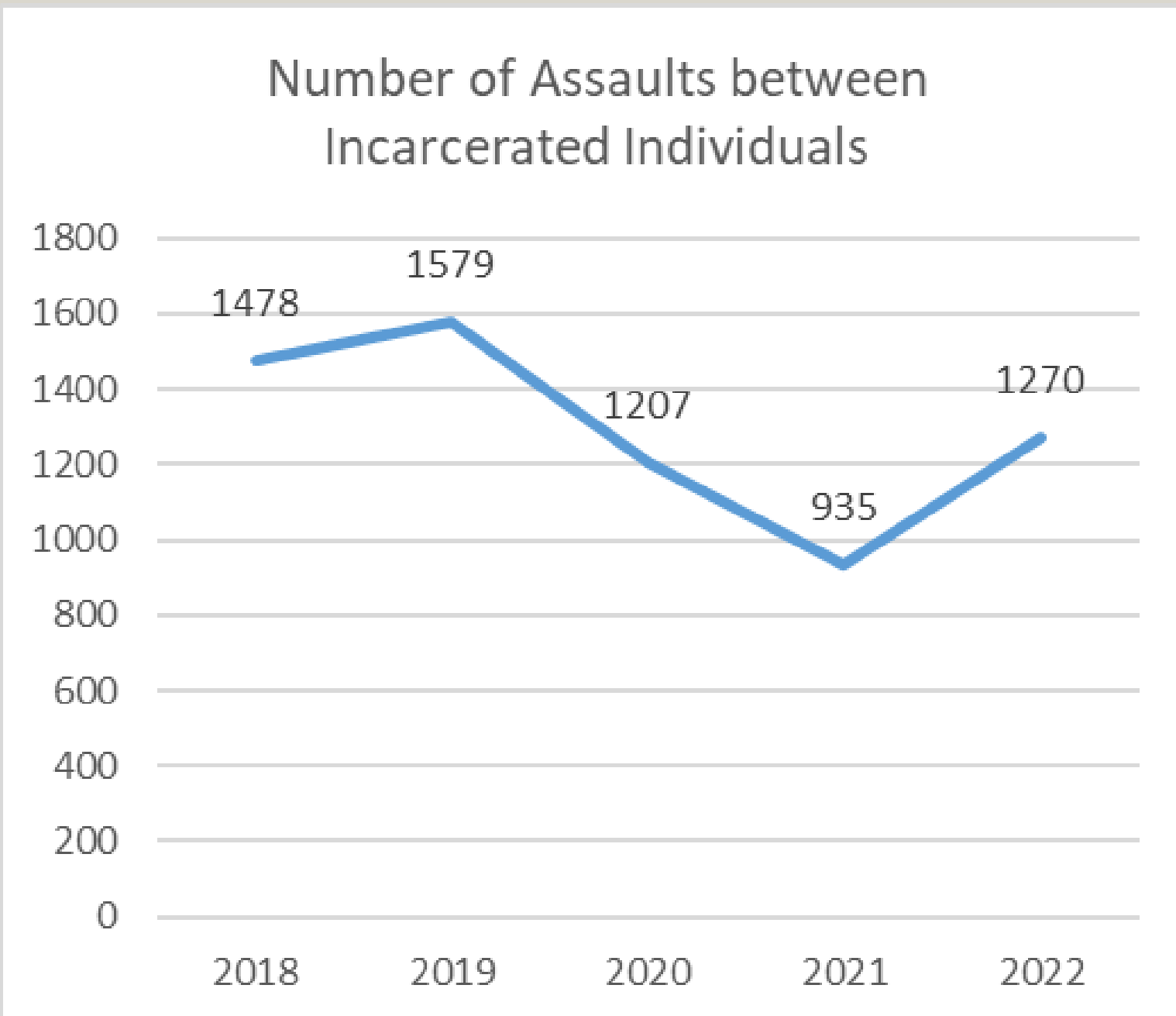


Average Rate of Assaults on Staff in Washington State Jails, King County Removed



# ASSAULTS BETWEEN INCARCERATED INDIVIDUALS

In 2022, a total of **1,270** assaults between incarcerated individuals were reported.



# SUBGROUP TAKEAWAYS

- There is a need for common definitions for restrictive housing, and reporting should include the reason why individuals are in restrictive housing settings.
- Jails work to housing people in the least restrictive ways, but face limitations due to their physical plants and the populations they serve. Requirements to limit restrictive housing, will need to come with resources to help jails manage their populations.

# SUBGROUP TAKEAWAYS

- The data available still leaves a lot of unknowns.
- Without consistent baseline data, how can we begin to make comparisons across facilities? How can we draw causation/correlation conclusions?
- Objective data collection allows for accountability.
- What do we know about individuals in corrections jobs? How do we know if we are losing qualified applicants?

QUESTIONS?

INMATE NAME: Mr. Raymond Brown  
INMATE ID#: 439988  
SPOKANE COUNTY DETENTION SERVICES  
1100 WEST MALLON, SPOKANE, WA, 99260  
INMATE MAIL

SPOKANE WA 990  
27 JUN 2023 PM 1 L



(PRIVILEGED  
MAIL)

WASHINGTON STATE JAIL STANDARDS TASK  
FORCE

P.O. Box 40100

OLYMPIA, WA 98504-0100

98504-0100

RECEIVED

JUN 30 2023

AGO  
General Services HLB

Jail Standards Task Force  
RCWA 70.48.801

June 26, 2023

This is a complaint of some of the practices and standards @ the SPOKANE COUNTY DETENTION CENTER (JAIL) 1100 W. MALLON AVE. SPOKANE, WA 99260.

The grievous issues are the following....

JAIL Commissary: which has been UNREGULATED AND PRICES ARE SIMPLY OUTRAGEOUS ... FOR INSTANCE

A:

1) RAMEN SOUP: ARE BOUGHT WAY OUT OF DATE ARE SOLD FOR \$1.25 STATE FACILITIES: 29¢

2) 1oz bag of chips, "NOT EVEN GRAB BAG SIZE" LUNCHABLE SIZE \$2.00-2.50 A BAG FOR 1oz (STATE/OTHER JAILS \$2.00 FOR 8oz BAGS)

3) Trial Sized Soap \$1.50 (IRISH SPRING, IVORY) (STATE/OTHER JAILS 45¢ TO 80¢)

4) Stamped Envelope: THEY BUY ALREADY STAMPED ENVELOPES FROM (POST OFFICE) WHICH ONLY CHARGES PRICE OF STAMP. SPOKANE COUNTY THEN CHARGES FOR ENVELOPE/STAMP \$1.50

5) SNICKERS, M&M's, REESE'S ETC... ARE TRIAL SIZED  
JUST ABOVE FUN SIZED ... \$2.50

6) Honey Buns \$2.25 - STATE/OTHER FACILITIES \$1.00 \$1.25...

Each ITEM they charge like \$1.00 on top of what  
the consumer should be paying... For instance  
RAMEN Soup ... should be 25¢ (they add \$1.00)  
TOTAL \$1.25

VISITATION: Jail ceased IN PERSON VISITS during Covid  
OTHER THAN PROFESSIONAL ETC. AND NOW HAVE VIDEO  
VISITATIONS ONLY...

1) Family must schedule visit and pay \$5.00

2) INDIGENT PERSONS GET NO VISITATION ... SOME  
FAMILIES CANT AFFORD THAT \$5.00 !!

Food SERVICES: THE KITCHEN ALWAYS USES SERVING SPOON A SIZE  
SMALLER THAN SERVING SIZE CALLS FOR ... (ALWAYS) UNLESS  
VISITORS ARE HERE... IF BREAKFAST CALLS FOR (PECES/WE GET 1)  
DINNER/SUPPER IS ALWAYS A BOLOGNA SANDWICH, MENU CALLS FOR  
(2 SANDWICHES/WE ONLY GET 1) AND NEVER SUBSTITUTE!







## OFFICERS EXCESSIVE FORCE

There are a lot of incidences of excessive force that SGT's + LT's ... OVERLOOK

## NAPHCARE MEDICAL SERVICES

Very common place to deny and delay mental health services as well as serious medical chronic issues.

I hope that these issues will be at least investigated and regulated. I definitely hope it reaches you... Mail room is notorious for discarding this type of mail.

Thank You,

Sincerely,

Raymond Brown 439988

1100 W. MALLOW AVE  
SPOKANE WA 99260

From Christopher Blackwell

### County Jail Recommendations

1) There is a cap placed on phone calls. It should not exceed 5¢ per minute. There should be no connection fees or other outrageous taxes applied. And each detainee should receive 2 free phone calls per week.

Money generated from this should be made transparent to the public on who is receiving it and what it is used for. No exceptions!

2) In person visiting is returned to all facilities. And each detainee is given at least two time blocks to visit (the time block should be at least 2-4 hours each).

3) Each detainee is given two free video visits per week, if these devices are in the facility where they are housed.

4) Prison commissary prices are capped to that of which they would cost in society. There is no reason they should cost more.

Money generated from this should be made transparent to the public on who is receiving it and what it is used for. No exceptions!

5) Food standards are to meet what is set by Washington state for a healthy balanced diet. There is a set mandate of how much a person must receive of each food group to maintain a healthy diet, those standards need to be met.

The quality of the food is to be reasonable, not just slop no one wants to eat. Nor should the diet heavily rely on a diet based mainly on proceeds food and soy substitutes for meat and protein products. These are shown to be very damaging for high levels of consumption by human beings.

Never one time in the two weeks I spent in Pierce County Jail was I given a single piece of fruit.

6) Every detainee should receive at least seven hours of outside recreation per week. Even if that individual is held in isolated conditions.

7) Solitary confinement or other forms of isolated conditions (meaning more than 20 consecutive hours held in a cell) should be limited to no more than 15 consecutive days. A record of who is in these conditions and how long they have been in them should be kept and made public. This can be maintained on their website and should be updated weekly at a minimum.

8) Use of force incidents should be made public and transparent. Who was involved, and why the use of force was necessary. This can be maintained on their website and should be updated weekly at a minimum.

9) If a detainee shows signs of mental health conditions they are placed in a living unit where they are safe until they can be taken to a facility that can better serve their conditions/needs. This temporary placement is not to be an isolated unit or set of conditions (meaning anything more than 20 consecutive hours held in a cell in a 24-hour period).

If a detainee requests to be seen by a mental health professional, they will be seen within an hour of that request by a mental health professional with the proper credentials to do so. And the recommendations from that staff member will be followed by the facility. The request and what happened will also be documented in the detainees file.

Detainees who show signs of mental health conditions will be placed in a single person cell if they request to be.

10) A grievance system will be put in place for detainees to grieve any harm or wrongdoing. If a detainee requests support to file a grievance, the facility will provide a staff member to do so (the staff member cannot be a guard). This process will be made transparent for the public.

11) Detainees will have access to legal counsel 7 days a week. This will be made available within the hours of: 9am - 6pm daily. And if a detainee requests to call their attorney they will have access to do so within an hour of that request.