



Alaska Data Analysis – Part 1: Prison Drivers
Presentation to the Alaska Criminal Justice Commission
Thursday, June 18, 2015

Summary Takeaways

Total Prison Population

- The prison population grew 27% in the last decade.
- Growth was seen in all inmate categories:
 - Pretrial population up 81%
 - Sentenced population up 14%
 - Supervision violator population up 15%
- More than half of Alaska’s prison population is in for nonviolent offenses or supervision violations.

Pretrial Inmate Population

- The number of pretrial defendants has increased 81% in the last decade.
- Half of pretrial defendants are detained on nonviolent charges, including misdemeanors.
- Fewer defendants are being admitted pretrial, but those admitted are staying longer.

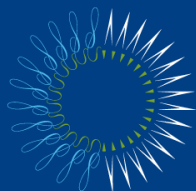
Sentenced Inmate Population

- The number of sentenced offenders increased 14% in the last decade.
- The most growth was seen in the number of violent and nonviolent felony offenders.
- Felony offenders are staying for longer periods of time, especially alcohol, public order, and sex offenders.

Supervision Violator Population

- The number of supervision violators in prison grew 15% in the last decade.
- More offenders are entering prison both pre- and post-revocation than ten years ago, but staying for shorter periods of time.
- On average, supervision violators are staying in prison 33 days unsentenced and 106 days post-revocation.

This analysis of Alaska Department of Corrections data was conducted for the Alaska Criminal Justice Commission by the public safety performance project of The Pew Charitable Trusts. Please direct questions to Terry Schuster (tschuster@pewtrusts.org) or Rachel Brushett (rbrushett@pewtrusts.org).



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Alaska Data Analysis Part 1:
Prison Drivers

Alaska Criminal Justice Commission
Anchorage, Alaska
June 18, 2015

ALASKA DATA ANALYSIS, PART I

Presentation Outline

- Crime and incarceration in Alaska
- Who is in Alaska's prisons?
- What's driving Alaska's prison growth?
 - Pretrial defendants up 81% in past decade
 - Sentenced offenders up 14% in past decade
 - Supervision violators up 15% in past decade
- Summary takeaways

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Data Analyzed

- Alaska Department of Corrections
 - Prison admissions, 2005-2014
 - Prison releases, 2005-2014
 - Snapshots of inmates in prison on July 1, 2005-2014
- National Data
 - Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Prisoner Series
 - Federal Bureau of Investigation, Uniform Crime Reports
 - United States Census Bureau

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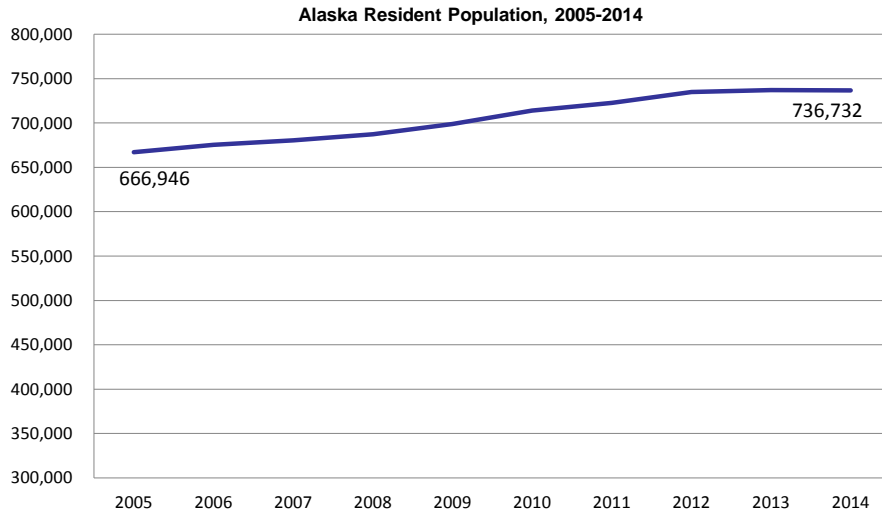
CRIME AND INCARCERATION IN ALASKA

Prison Population Up 27% in Last Decade



Source: Alaska Department of Corrections

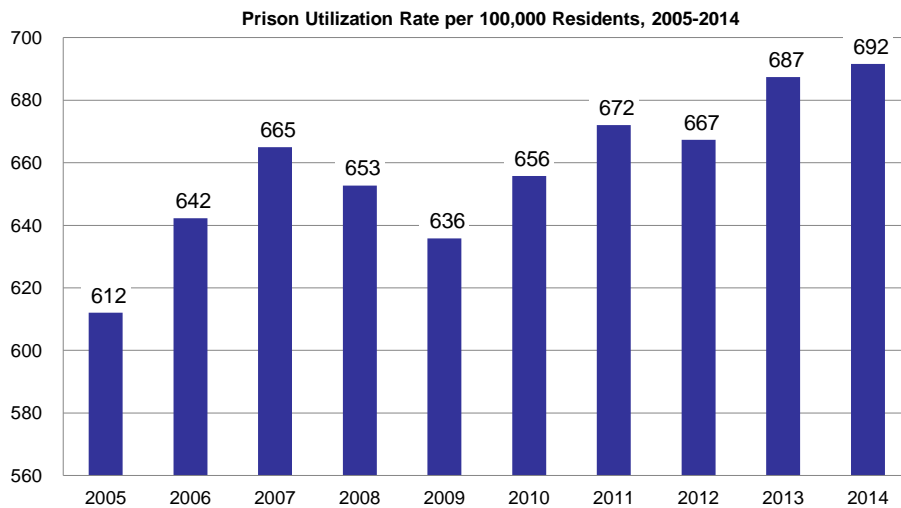
Resident Population Up 10% in Last Decade



Source: U.S. Census Bureau

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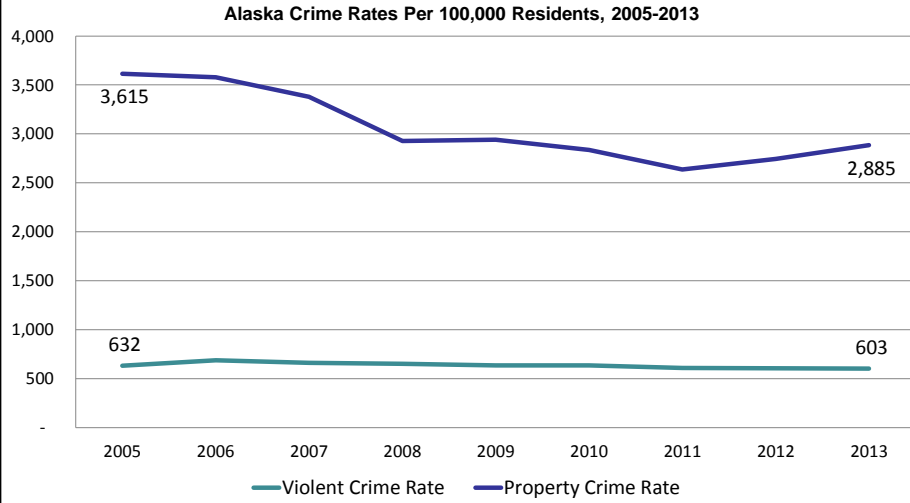
Prison Utilization Rate Up 13%



Source: Alaska Department of Corrections; US Census Bureau

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Violent Crime Rate Dropped 5%, Property Crime Rate Dropped 20%



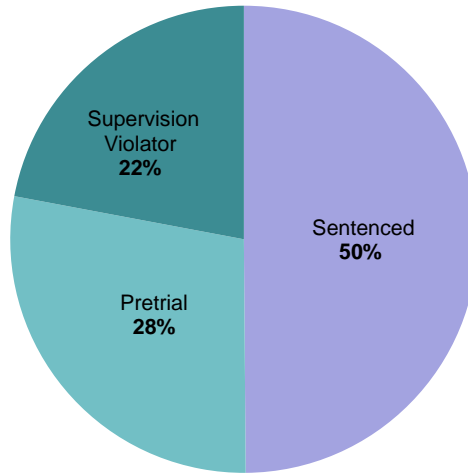
Source: FBI Uniform Crime Reports

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WHO IS IN ALASKA'S PRISONS?

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

Prison Population on July 1, 2014, by Status

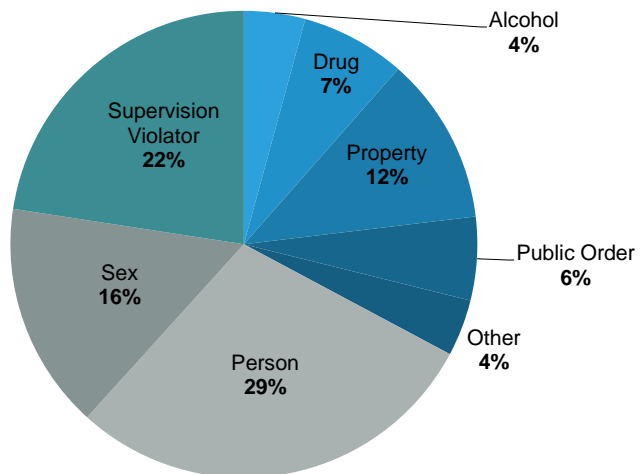


Source: Alaska Department of Corrections

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More than Half of Prison Population is Nonviolent Inmates and Supervision Violators

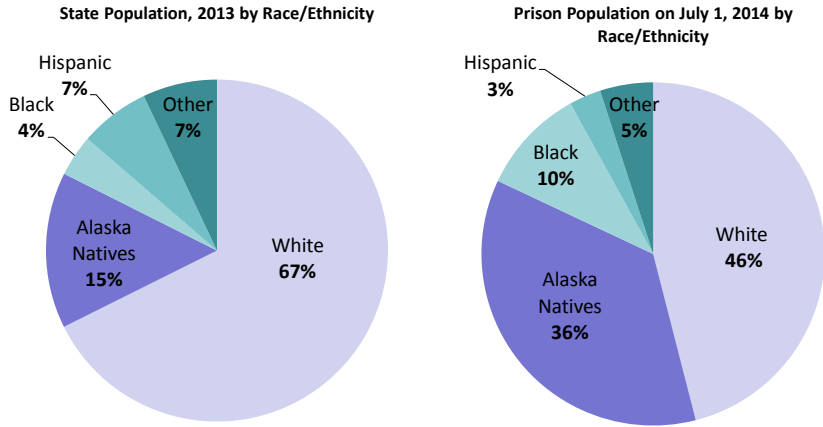
Prison Population on July 1, 2014, by Offense Type



Source: Alaska Department of Corrections

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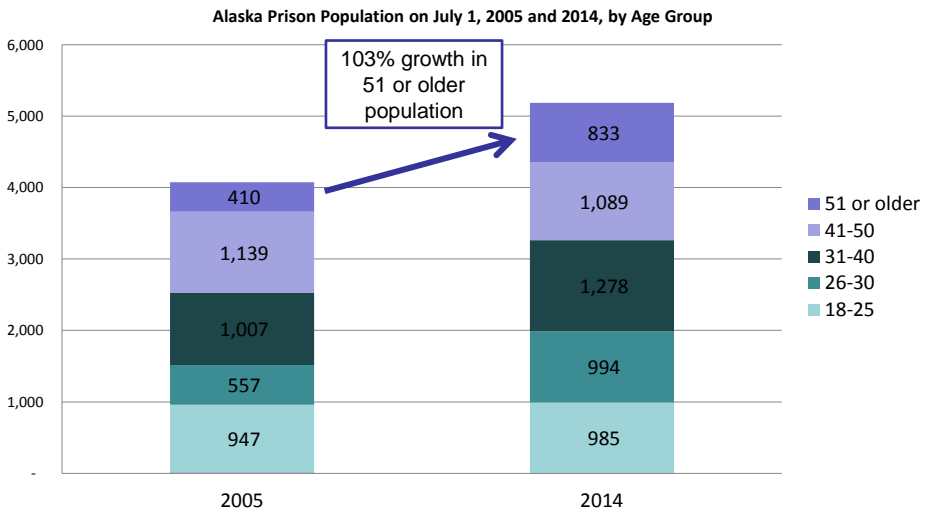
Minorities Disproportionately Confined



Source: Alaska Department of Corrections and U.S. Census Bureau

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In Past Decade, Most Growth in the 51 or Older Population



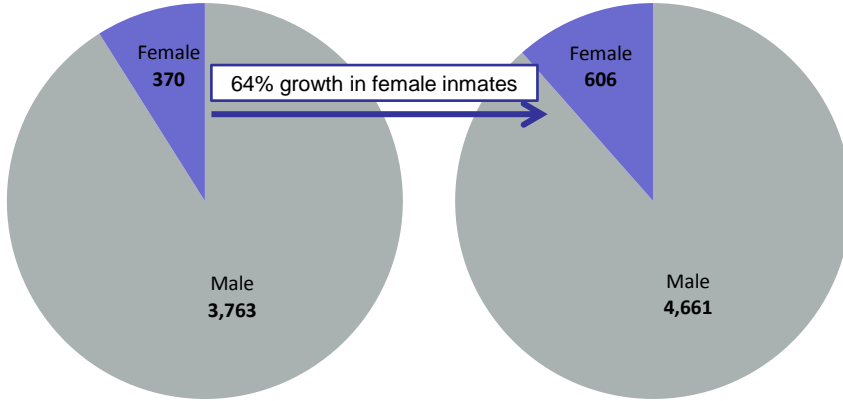
Source: Alaska Department of Corrections

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Female Inmates Growing in Proportion and Number

Alaska Prison Population on July 1, 2005,
by Sex

Alaska Prison Population on July 1, 2014,
by Sex



Source: Alaska Department of Corrections

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WHAT'S DRIVING ALASKA'S PRISON GROWTH?

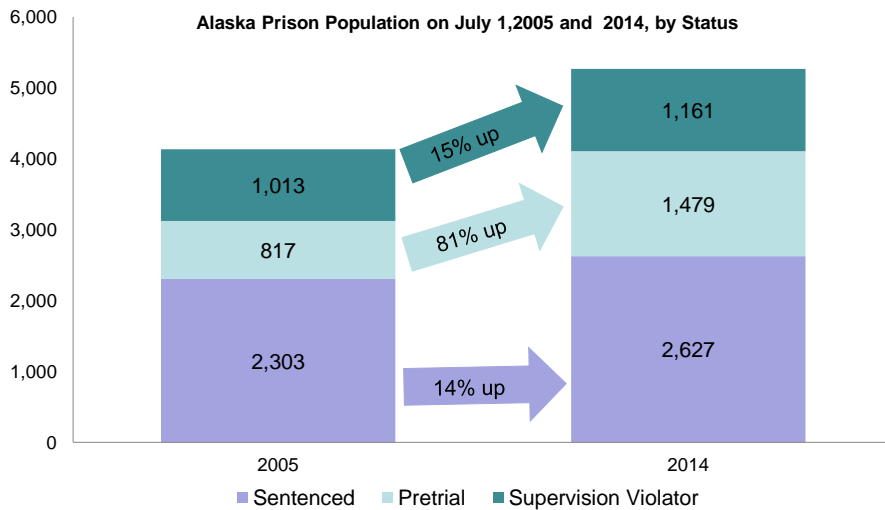
Prison Population Up 27% in Last Decade



Source: Alaska Department of Corrections

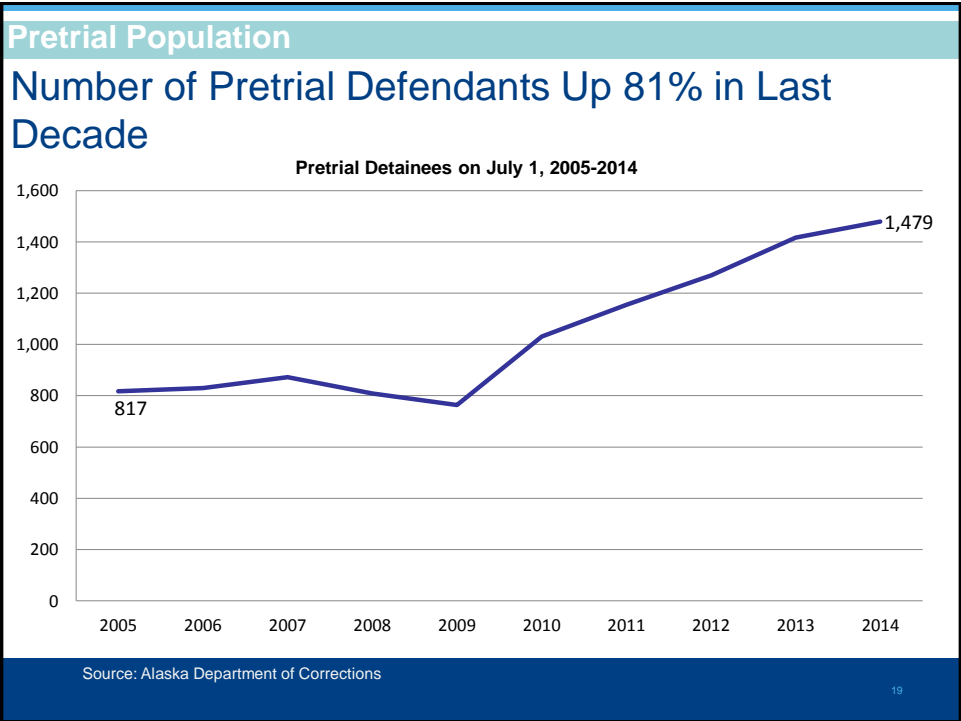
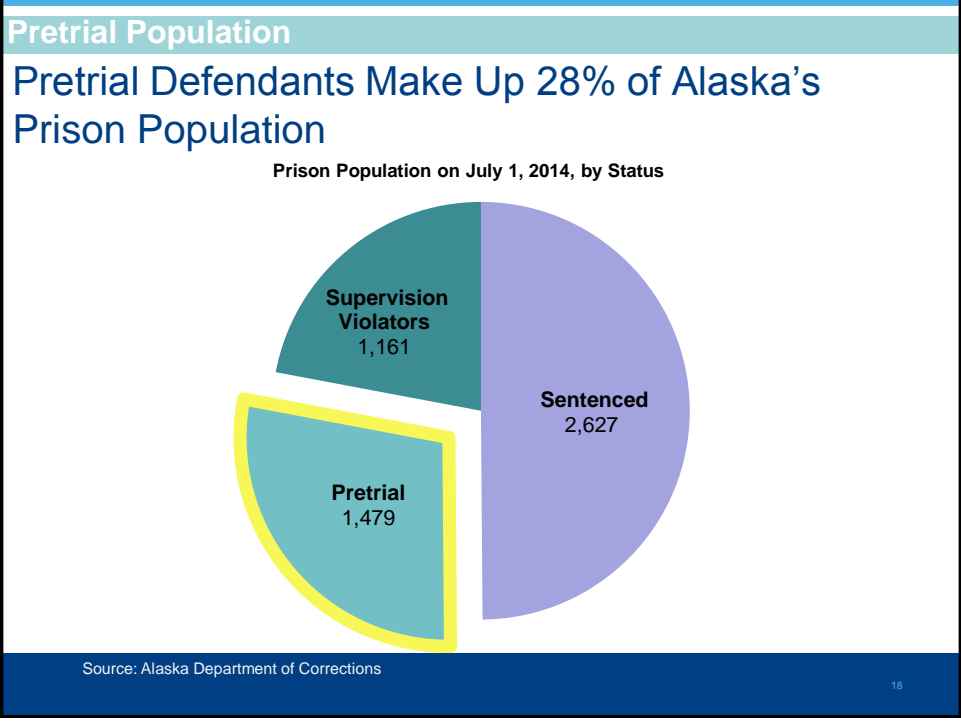
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Largest Growth Among Pretrial Inmates



Source: Alaska Department of Corrections

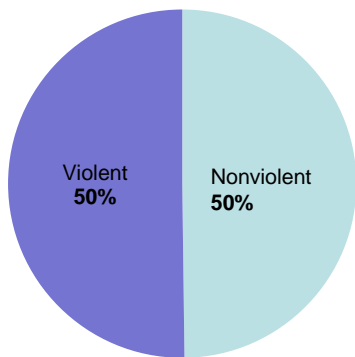
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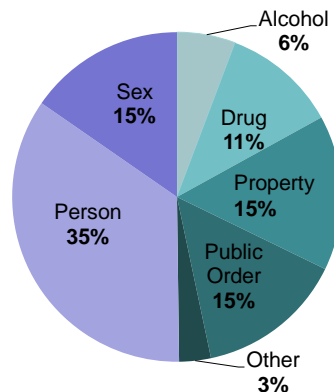
Pretrial Population

Half of Pretrial Defendants in on Nonviolent Charges

Pretrial Detainees by Type, July 1, 2014



Pretrial Detainees by Offense Category, July 1, 2014



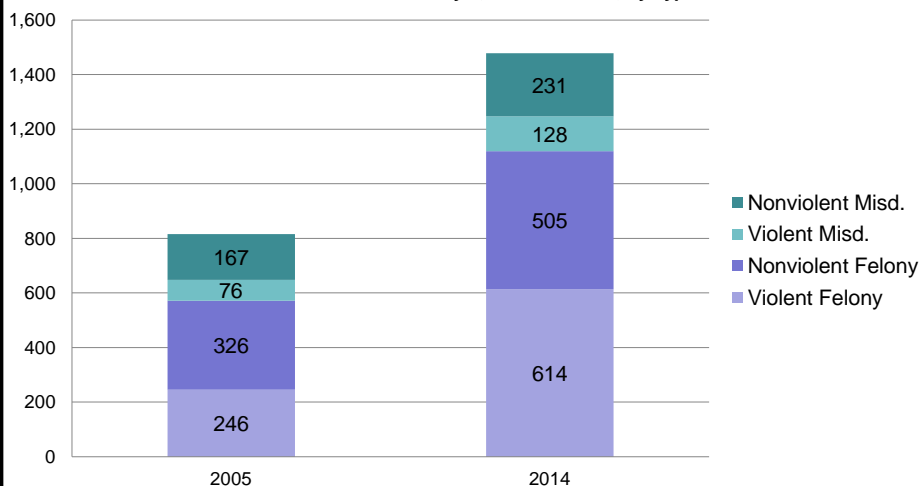
Source: Alaska Department of Corrections

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Pretrial Population

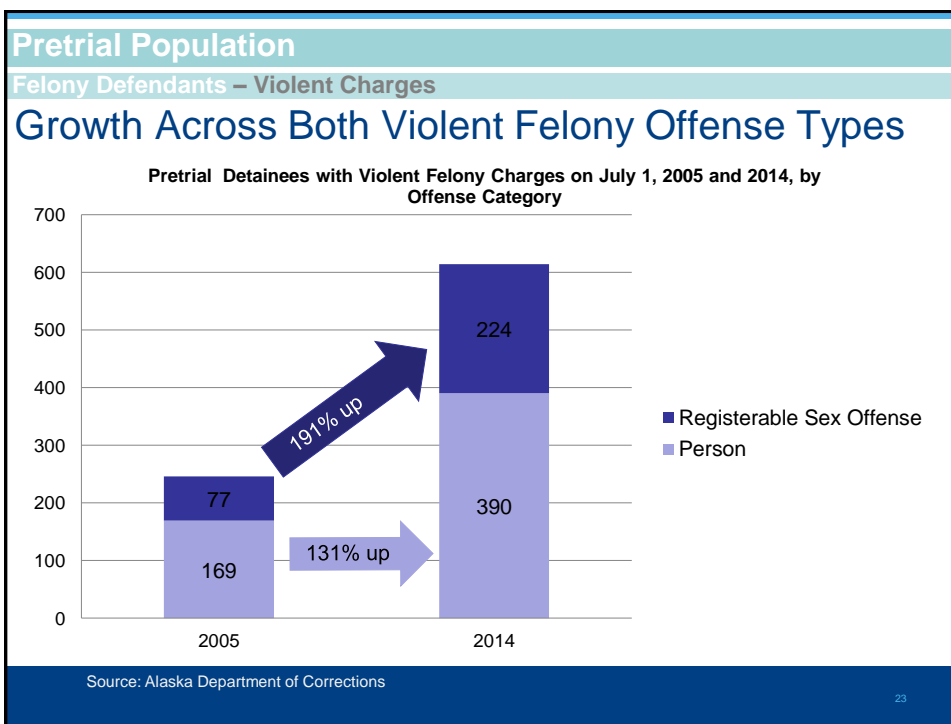
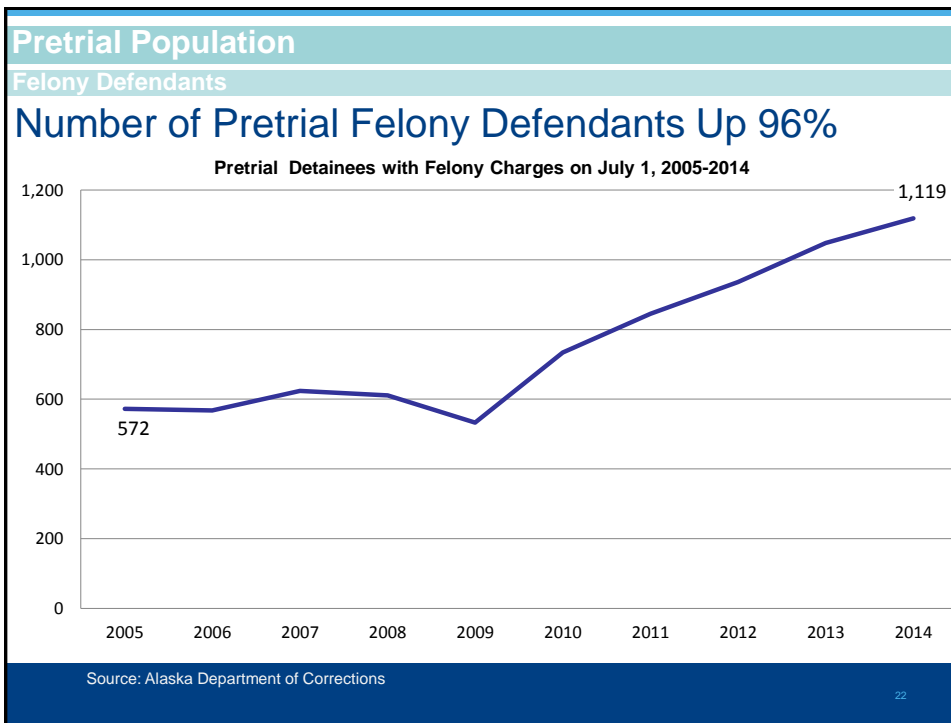
Largest Growth Among Felony Defendants

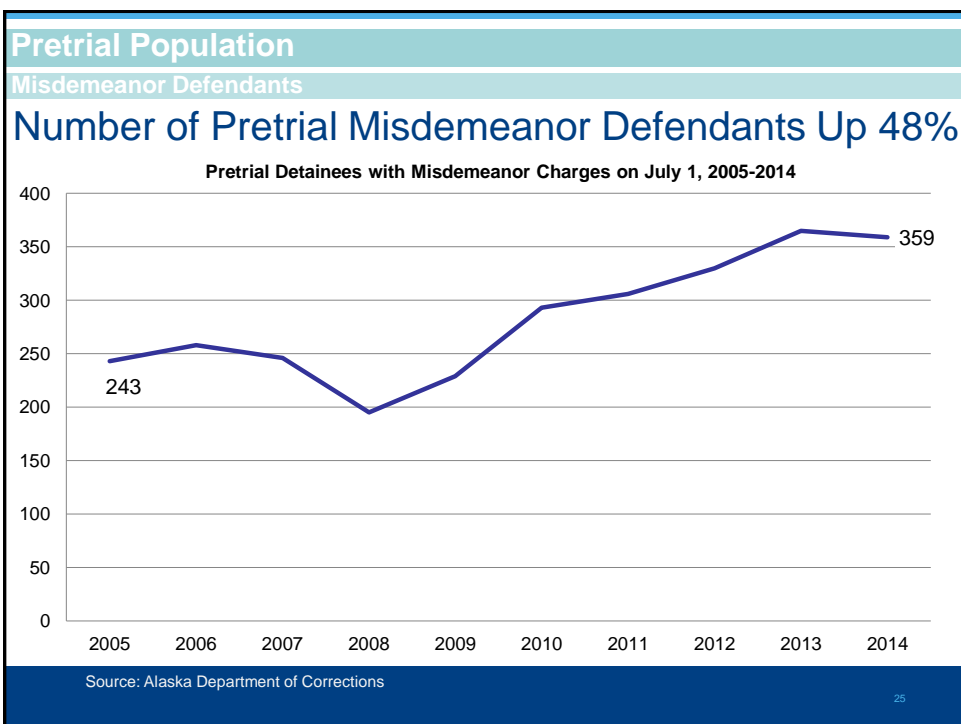
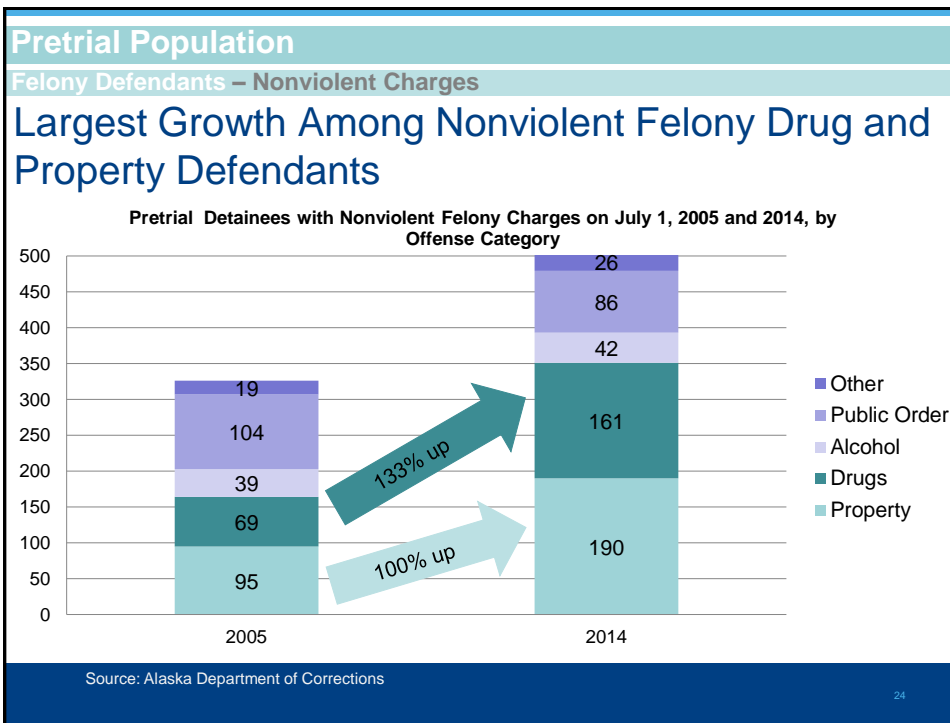
Pretrial Detainees on July 1, 2005 and 2014, by Type

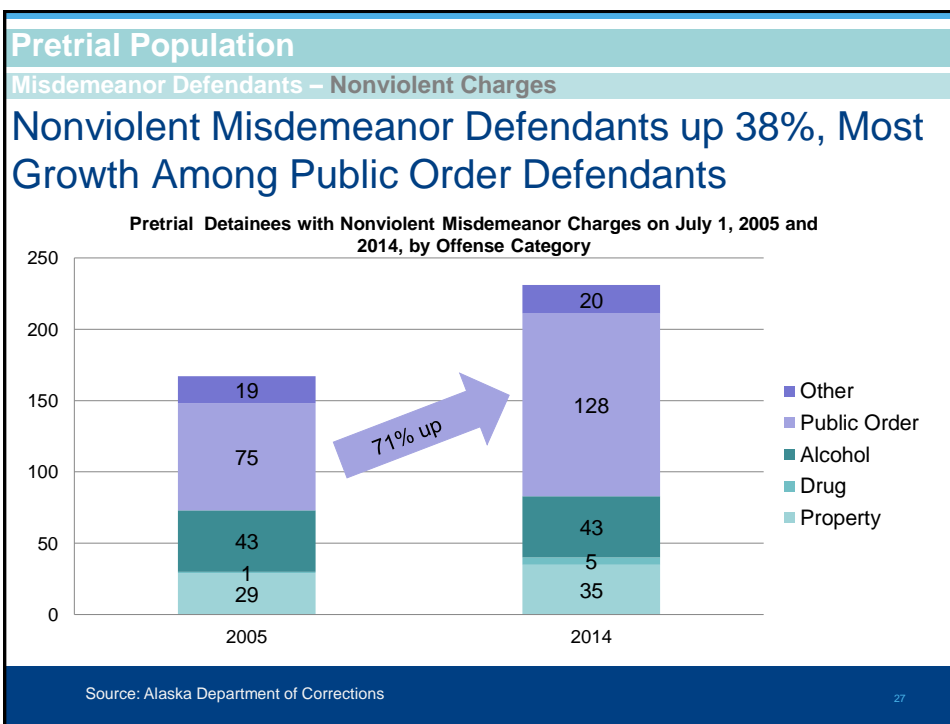
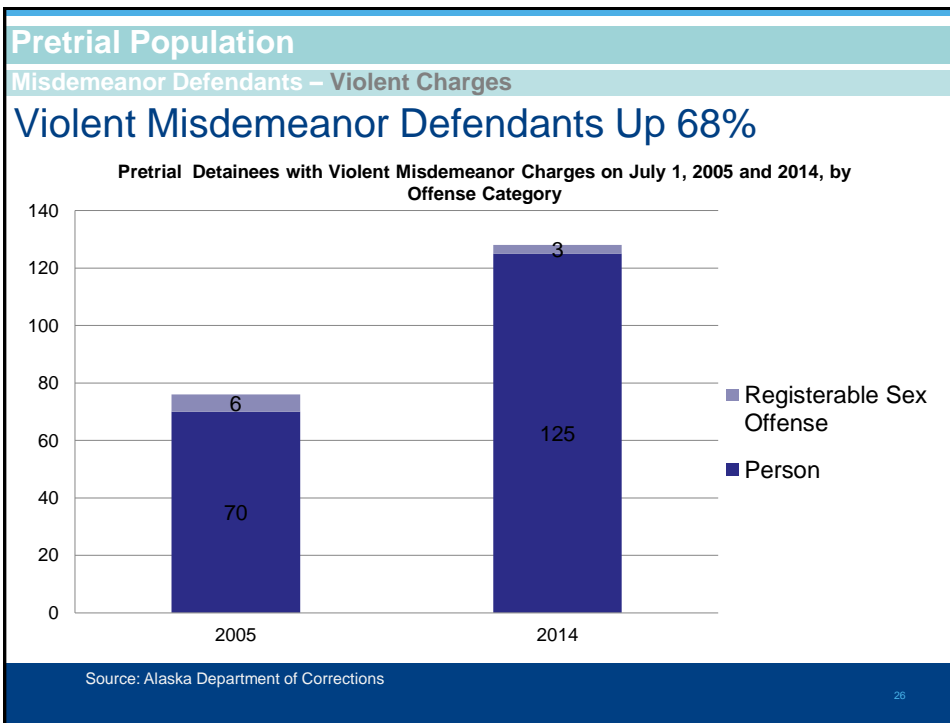


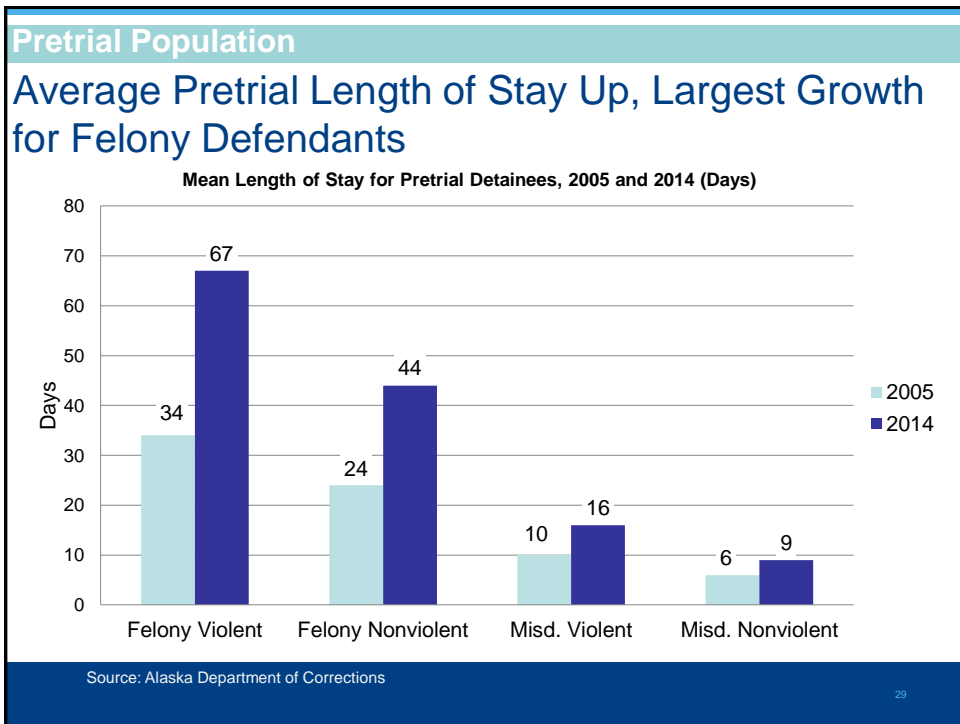
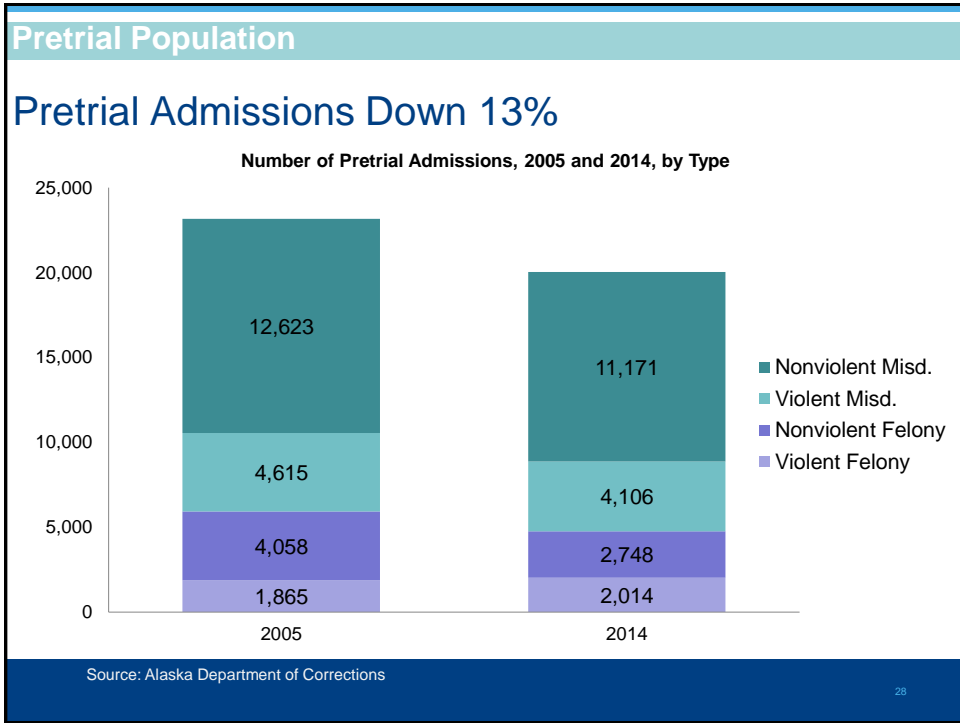
Source: Alaska Department of Corrections

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Pretrial Population

Key Takeaways: Pretrial Inmate Population

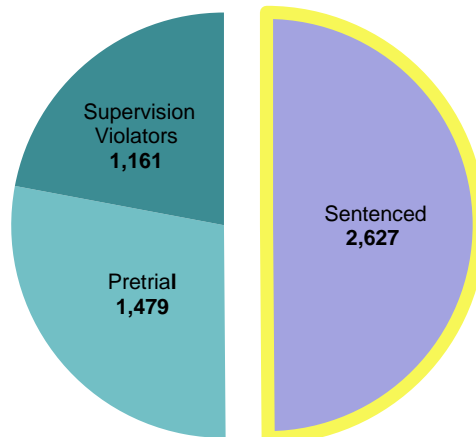
- Pretrial defendants make up 28% of Alaska's prison population
- Number of pretrial defendants has increased 81% in last decade
- Half of pretrial defendants are detained on nonviolent charges, including misdemeanors
- Fewer defendants are being admitted pretrial but those admitted are staying longer

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Sentenced Offenders

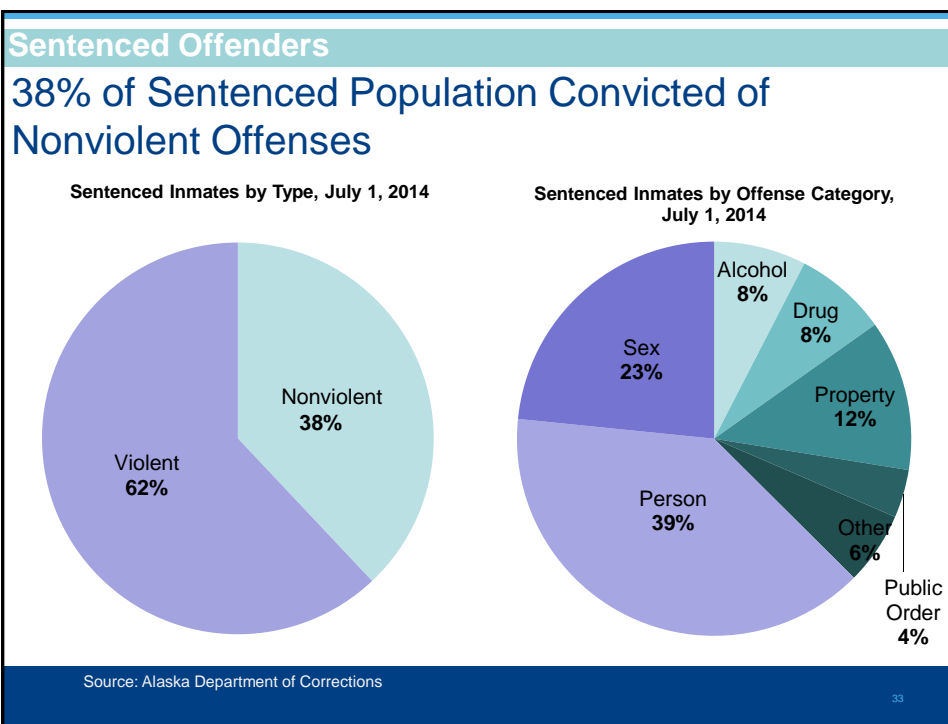
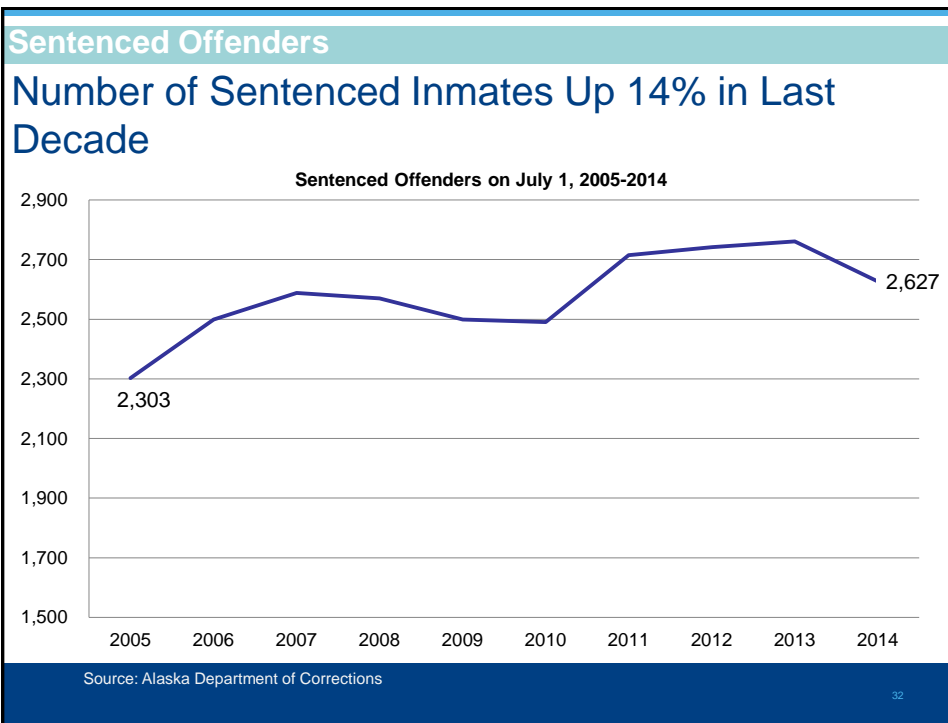
Sentenced Offenders Make Up 50% of Alaska's Prison Population

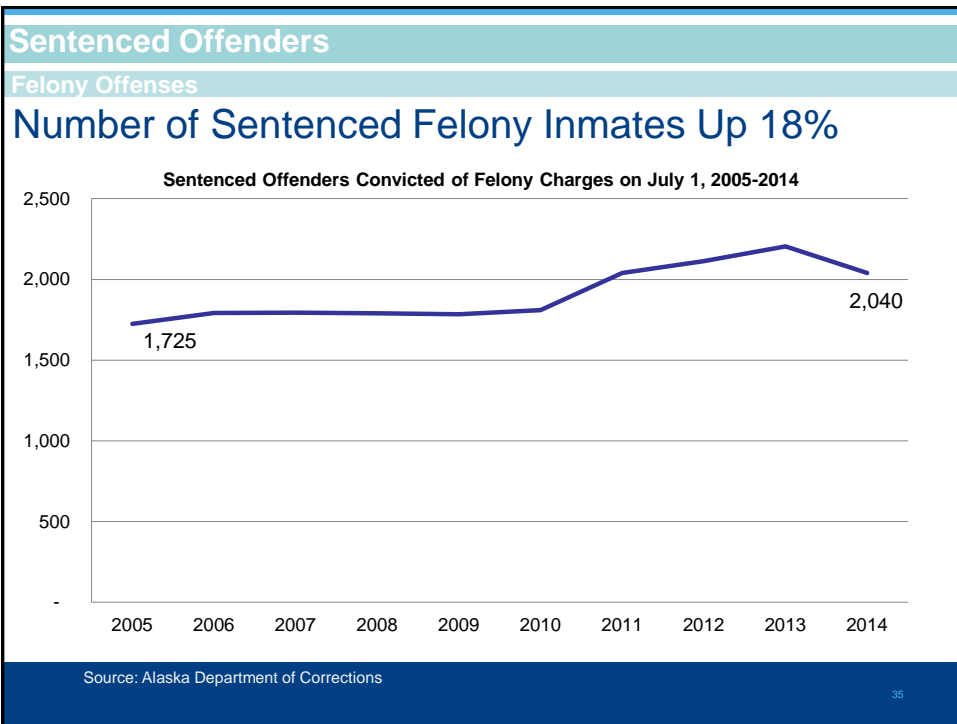
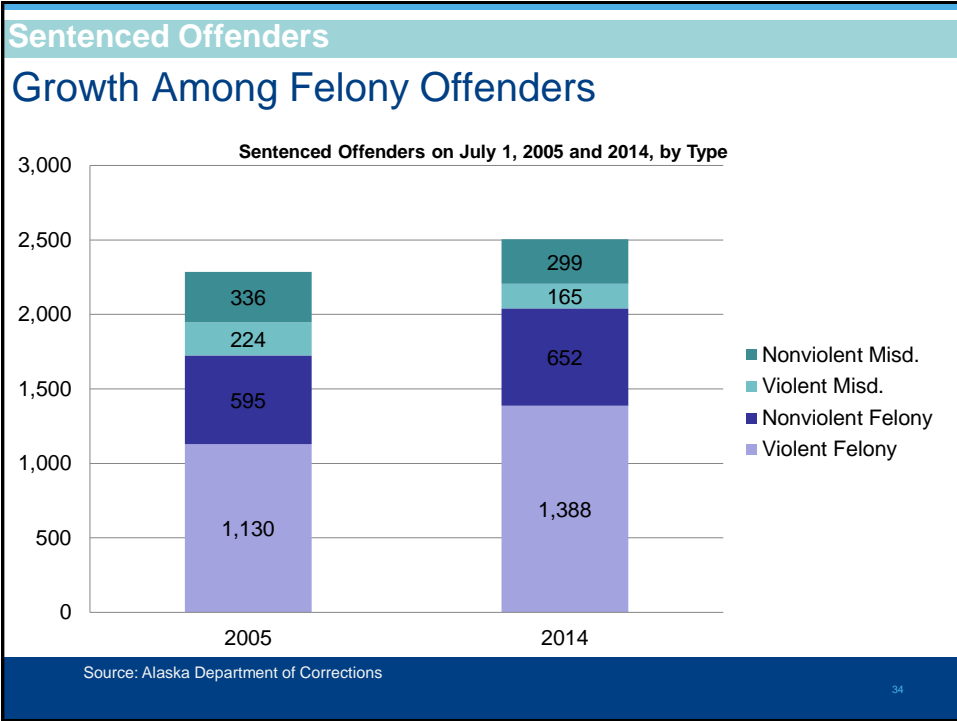
Prison Population on July 1, 2014, by Status

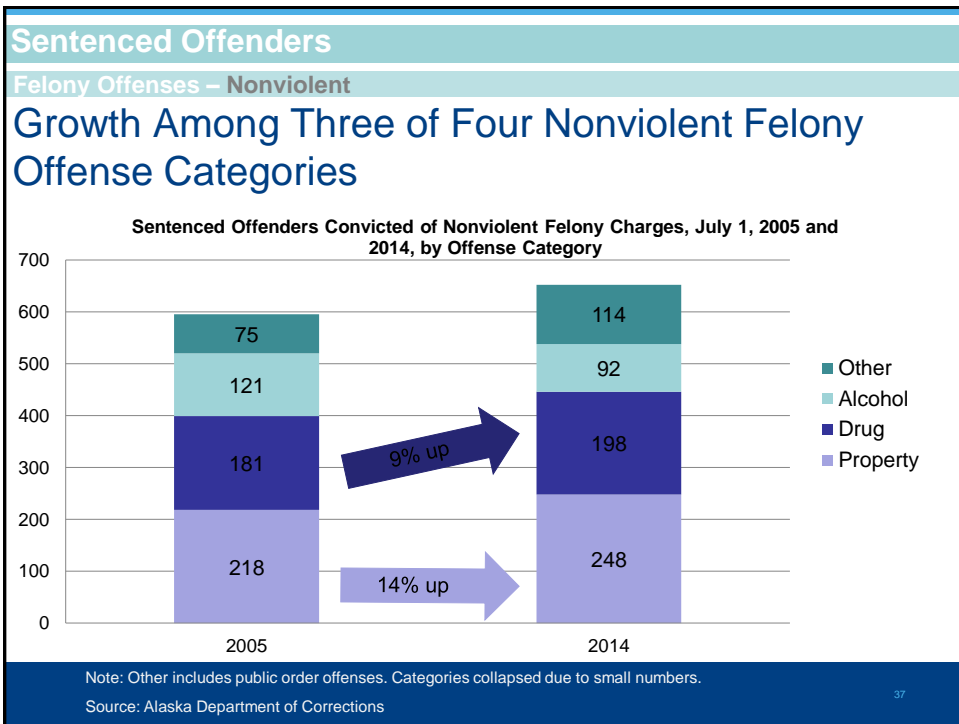
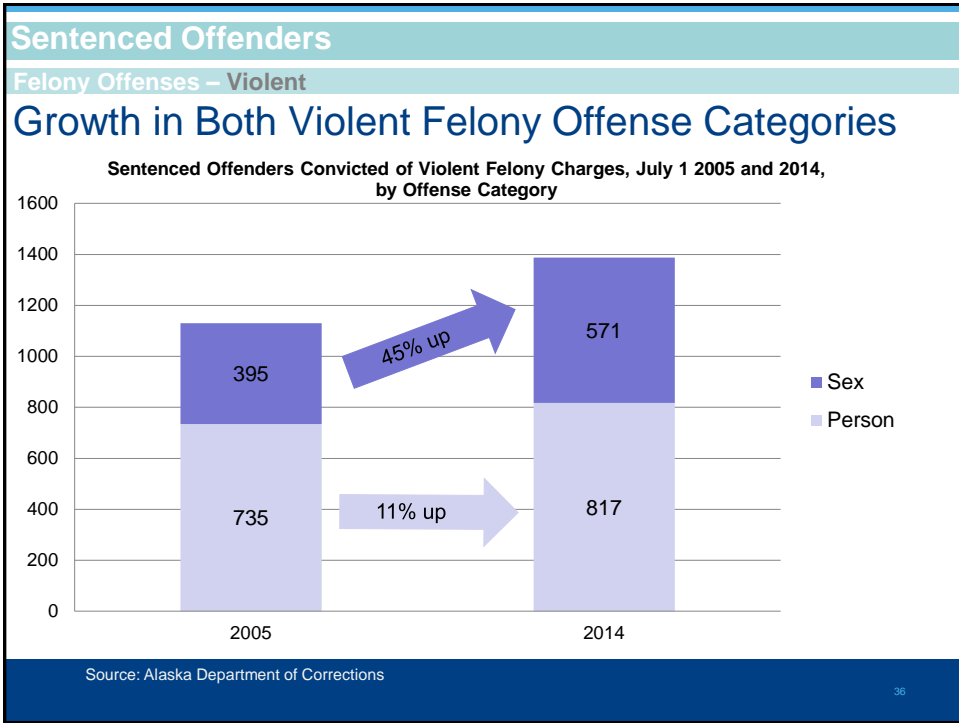


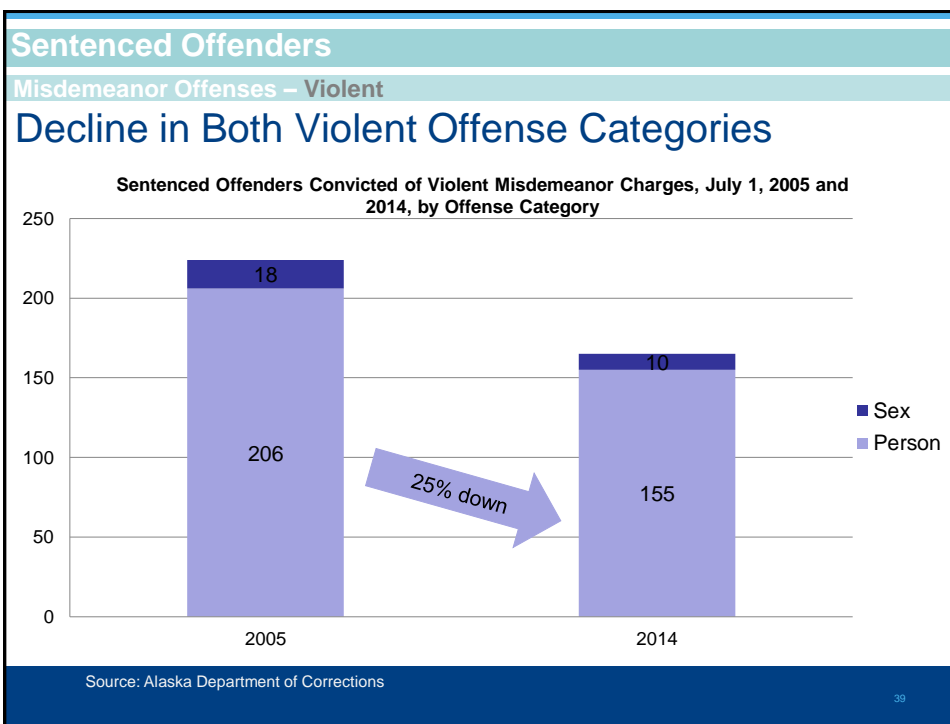
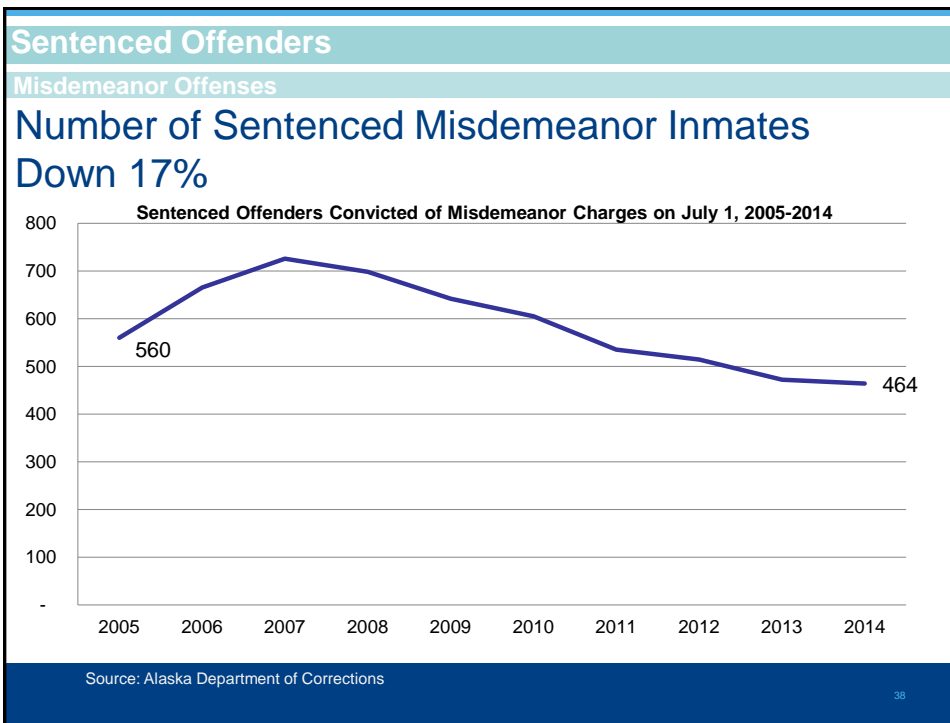
Source: Alaska Department of Corrections

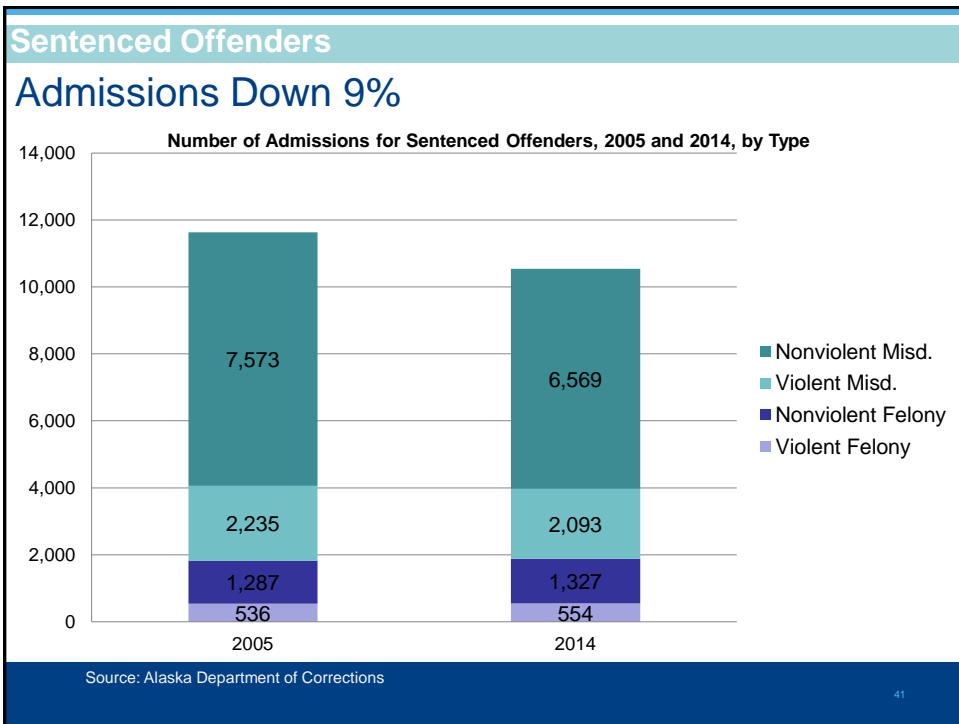
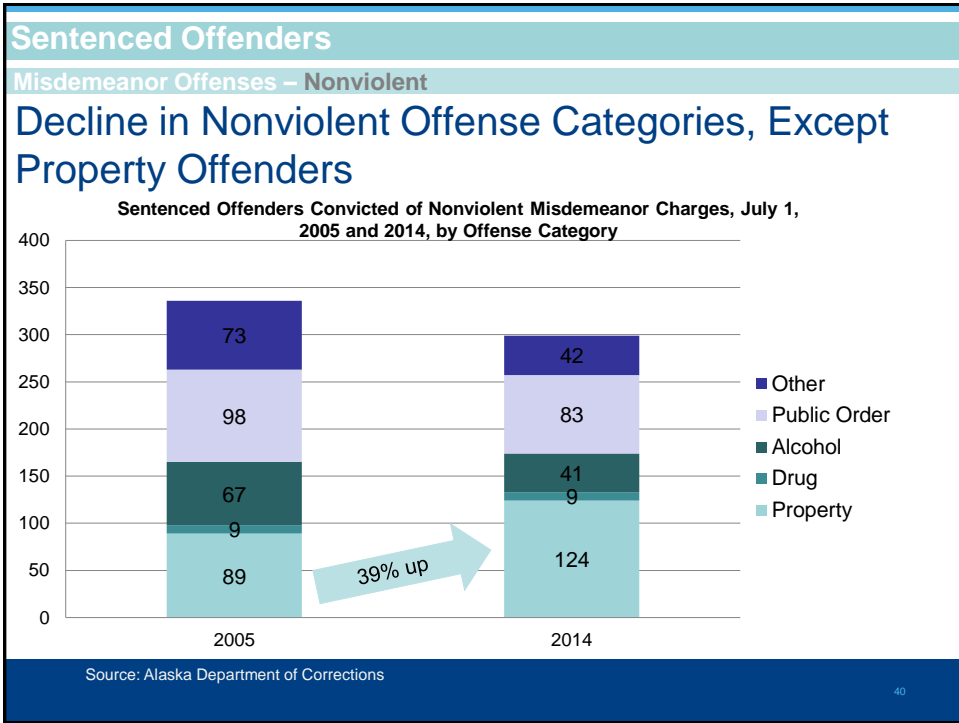
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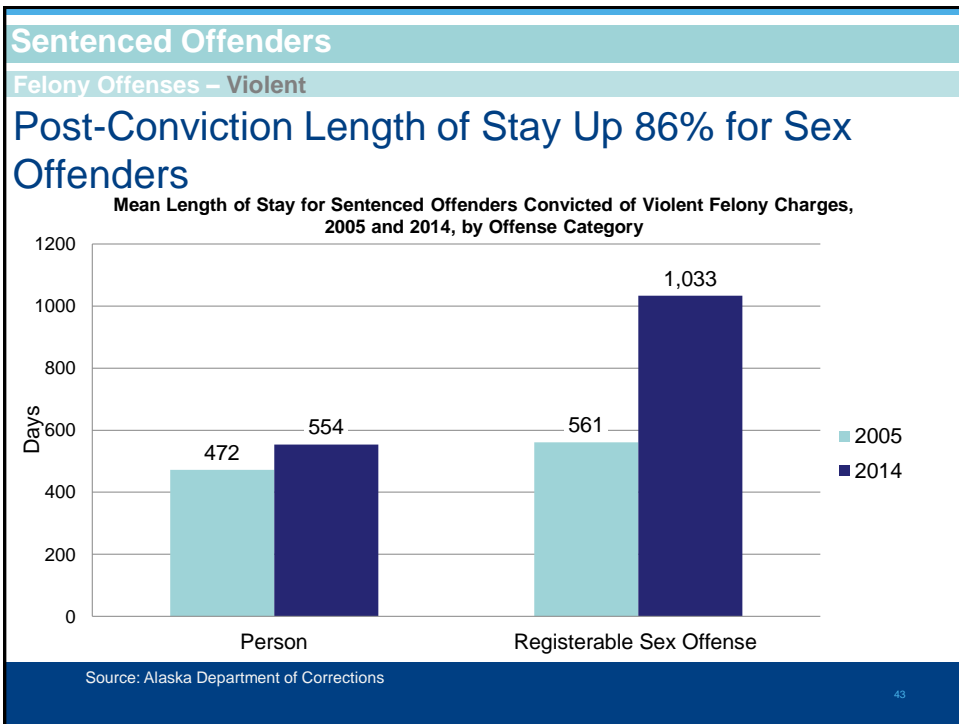
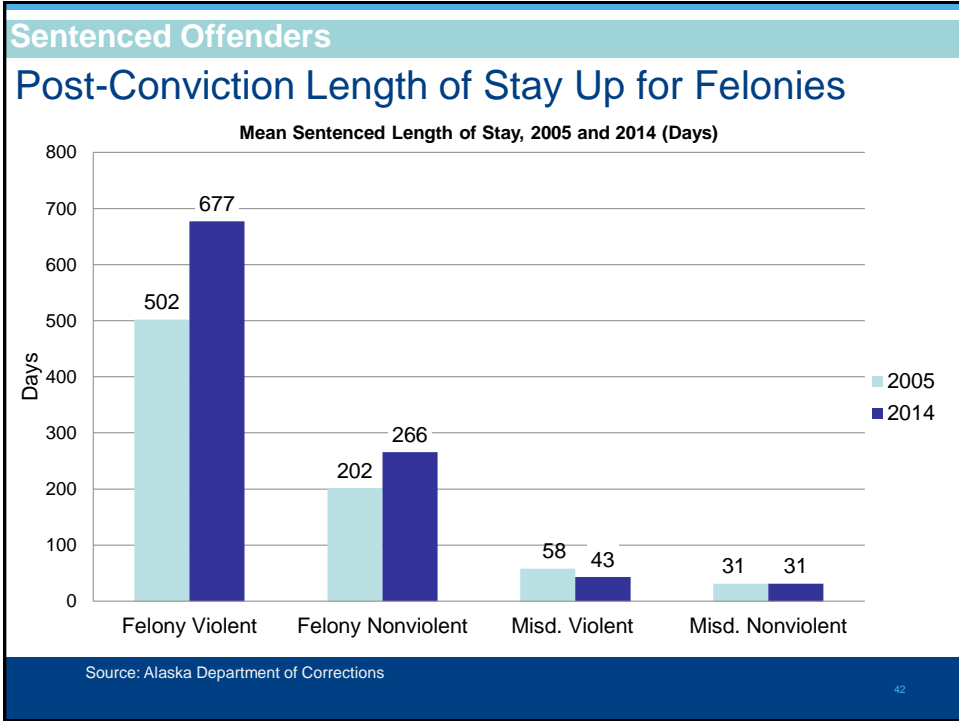


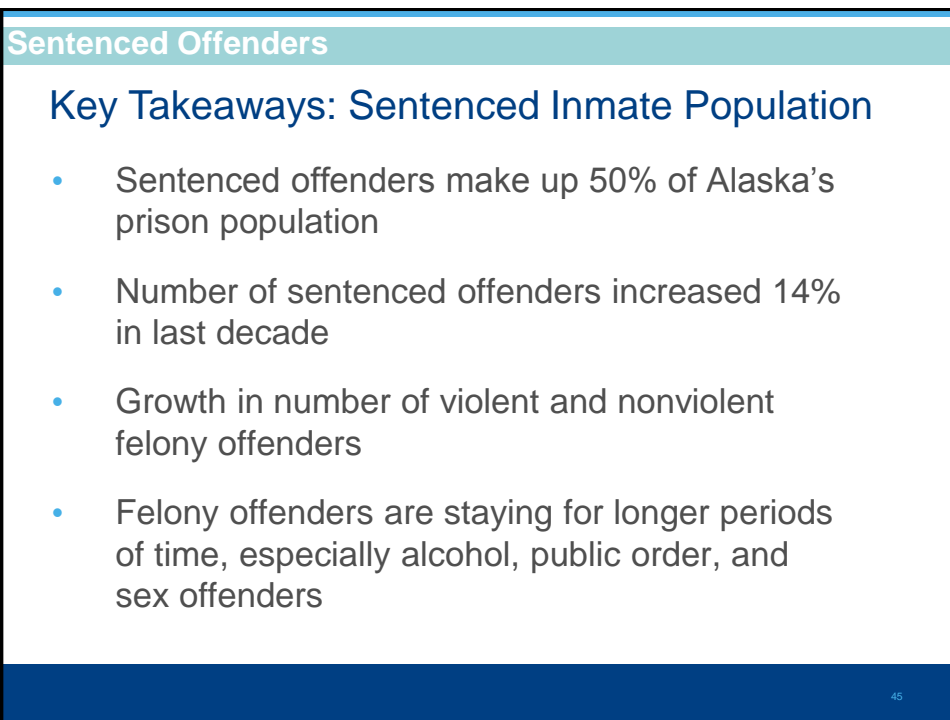
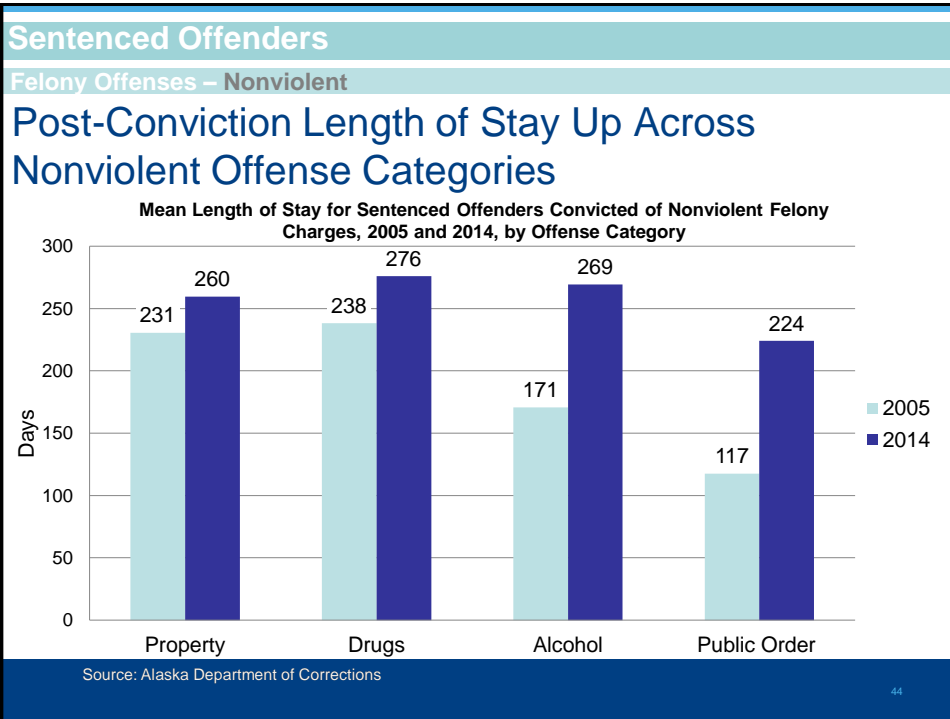


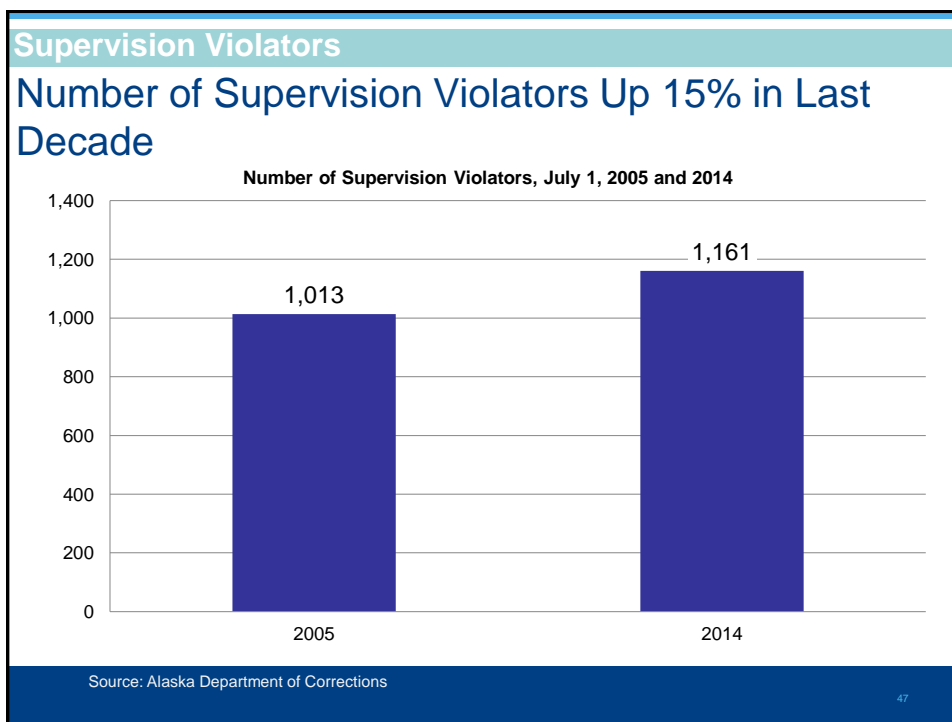
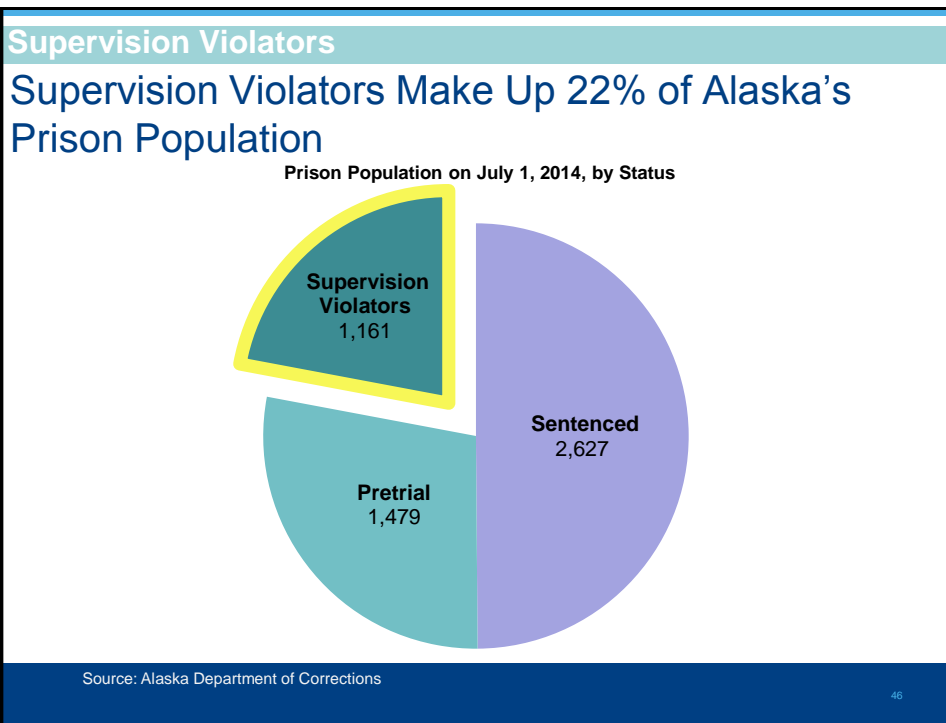


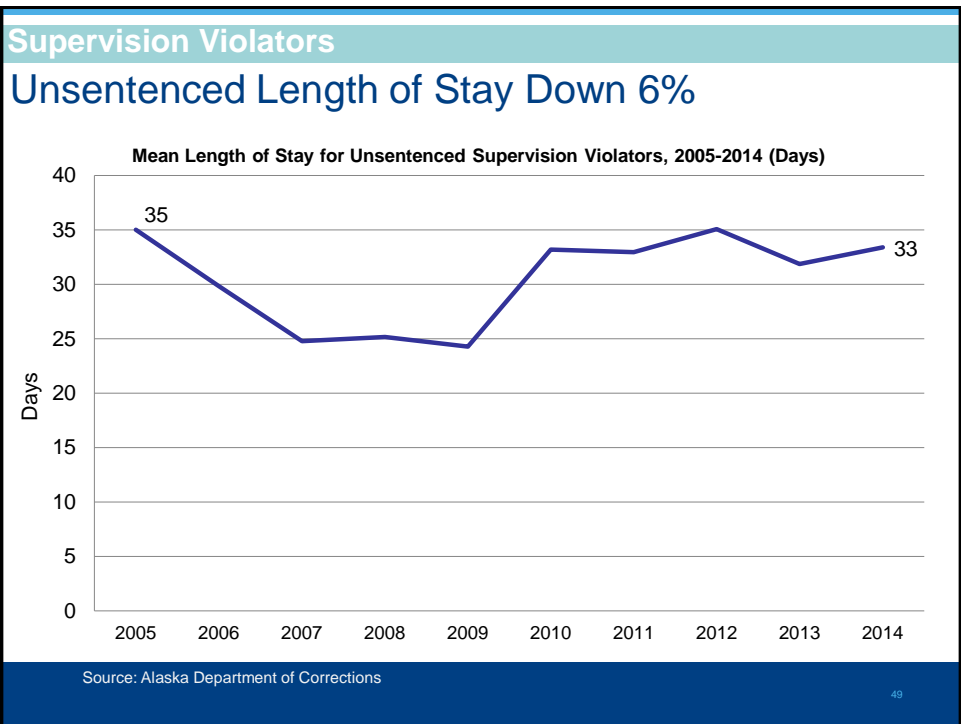
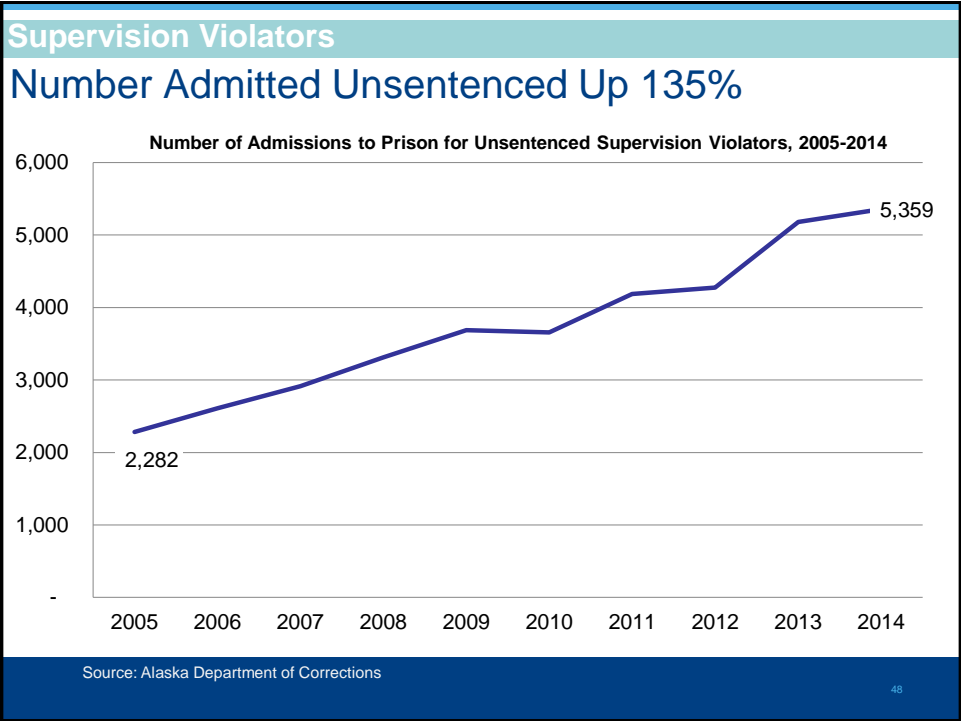


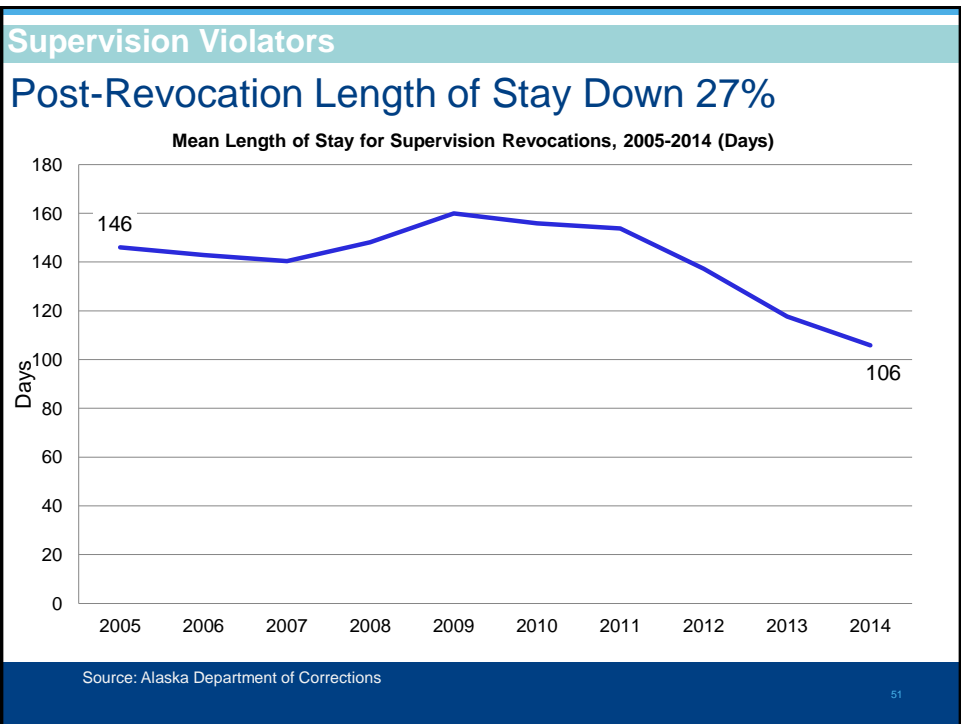
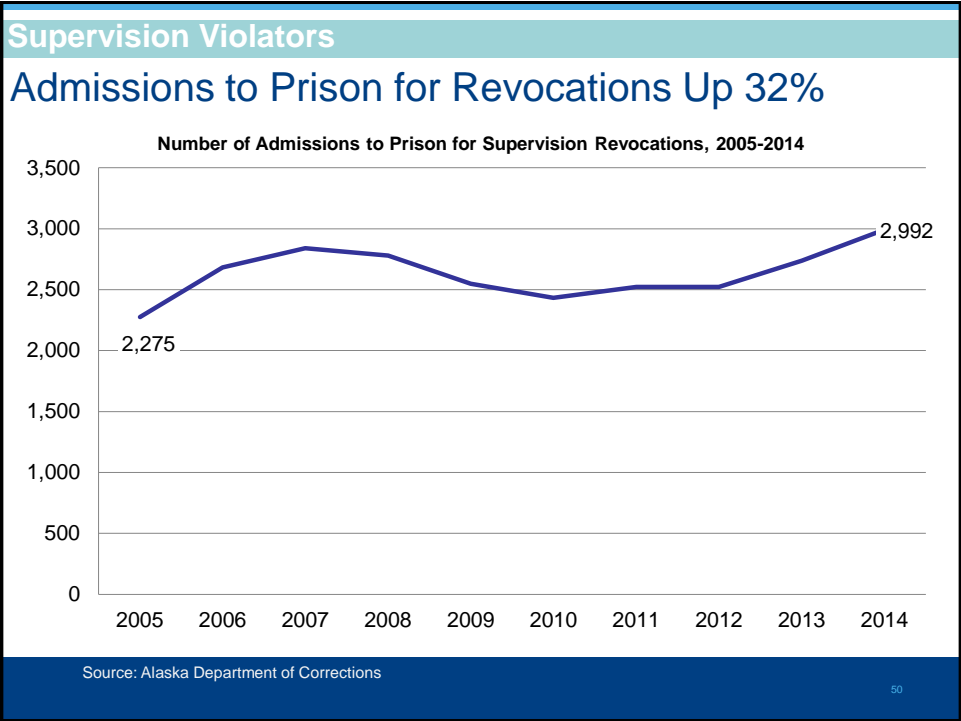












Supervision Violators

Key Takeaways: Supervision Violators

- Number of supervision violators in prison grew 15% in last decade
- More offenders entering prison both pre- and post-revocation than 10 years ago, but staying for shorter periods of time
- On average, supervision violators are staying in prison 33 days unsentenced and 106 days post-revocation

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SUMMARY TAKEAWAYS

Summary Takeaways

Total Prison Population

- Prison population grew 27% in last decade
- Growth in all inmate categories:
 - Pretrial population up 81%
 - Sentenced population up 14%
 - Supervision violator population up 15%
- More than half of Alaska's prison population in for nonviolent offenses or supervision violations

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Summary Takeaways

Pretrial Inmate Population

- Number of pretrial defendants has increased 81% in last decade
- Half of pretrial defendants are detained on nonviolent charges, including misdemeanors
- Fewer defendants are being admitted pretrial but those admitted are staying longer

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Summary Takeaways

Sentenced Inmate Population

- Number of sentenced offenders increased 14% in last decade
- Growth in number of violent and nonviolent felony offenders
- Felony offenders are staying for longer periods of time, especially alcohol, public order, and sex offenders

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Summary Takeaways

Supervision Violator Population

- Number of supervision violators in prison grew 15% in last decade
- More offenders entering prison both pre- and post-revocation than 10 years ago, but staying for shorter periods of time
- On average, supervision violators are staying in prison 33 days unsentenced and 106 days post-revocation

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Questions?

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