

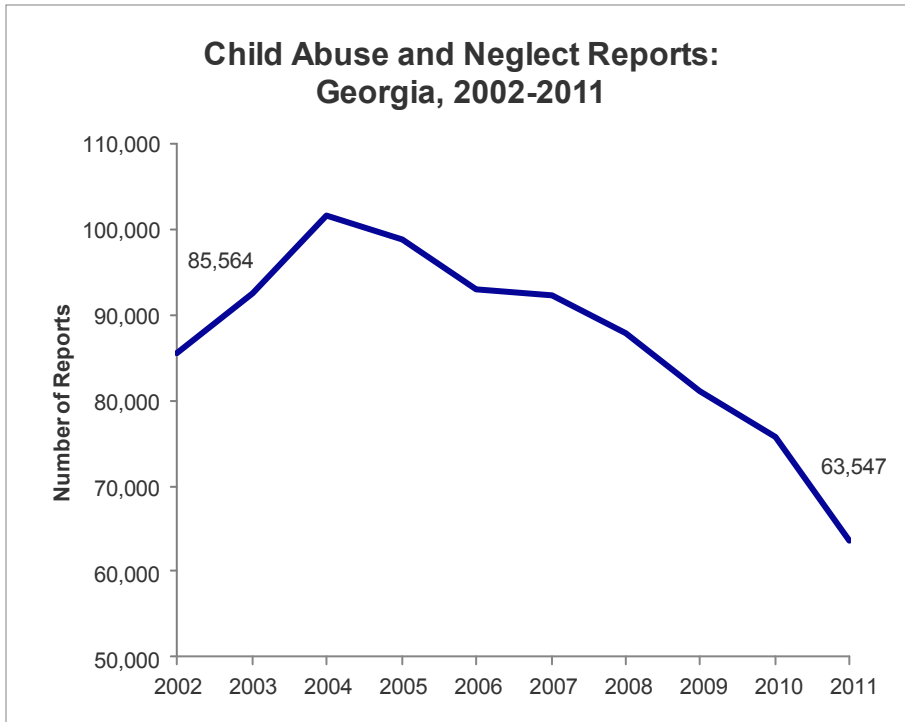


*Protecting Georgia's public's safety and security*

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# Child Protection



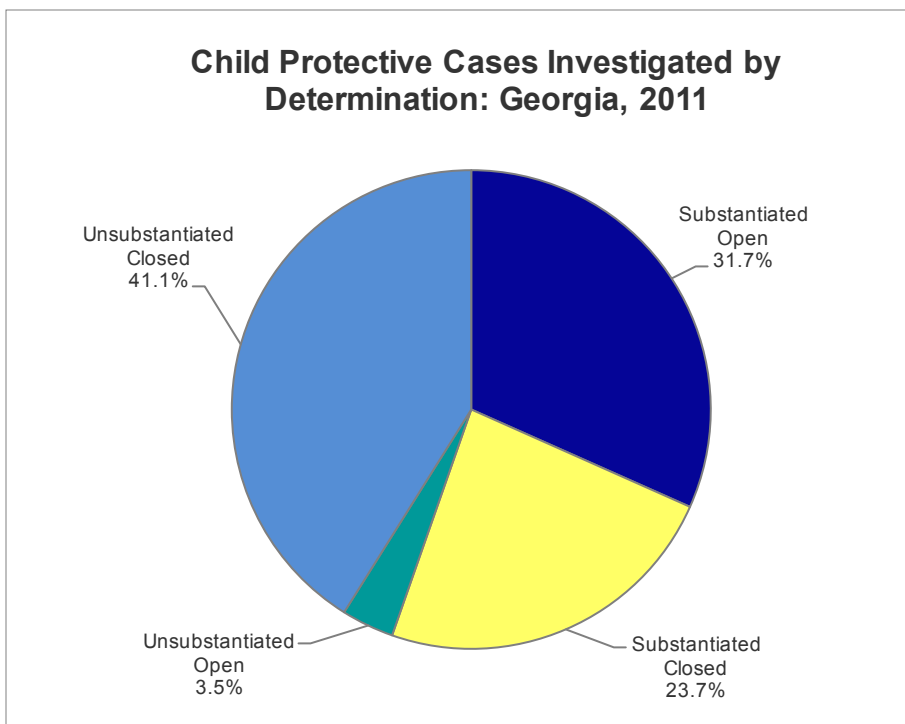
Source: Georgia Department of Human Services, Division of Family and Children Services

❖ In Georgia, people who work with children and families are required to report suspected abuse to the Division of Family and Children Services (DFCS). Mandated reporters include: physicians, hospital personnel, dentists, psychologists, podiatrists, nurses, professional counselors, school teachers, and child welfare staff.

❖ The largest number of child abuse and neglect reports are received from Georgia's schools.

❖ In the early part of the last decade, the number of reports of child abuse and neglect received by DFCS climbed steeply. Abuse and neglect reports peaked in 2004 at 101,563 but has declined steadily to 63,547 in 2011.

❖ In 2011, 65 of Georgia's children died as a result of child maltreatment, a rate of 2.61 per 100,000 children, higher than the national rate of 2.10.



Source: Georgia Department of Human Services, Division of Family and Children Services

❖ More than half of the 21,148 reports of suspected child abuse and neglect in Georgia investigated by DFCS in FY 2011 were substantiated (55%).

❖ Nearly 7,000 substantiated cases of abuse and neglect were serious enough to warrant on-going services be provided to the family.

❖ The maltreatment rate per 1,000 children in Georgia declined from 14.1 in 2007 to 7.4 in 2011.

❖ Neglect is the most frequent type of maltreatment identified in Georgia. In 2011, 64.3% of Georgia's substantiated cases involved this type of maltreatment.

❖ More than one out of three of Georgia's maltreatment victims (34.5%) are under the age of four years.

❖ In 2011, nearly 3 out of 4 (72.3%) perpetrators of substantiated abuse and neglect are parents, followed by other relatives (10.2%), and non-biological parents (5.8%).

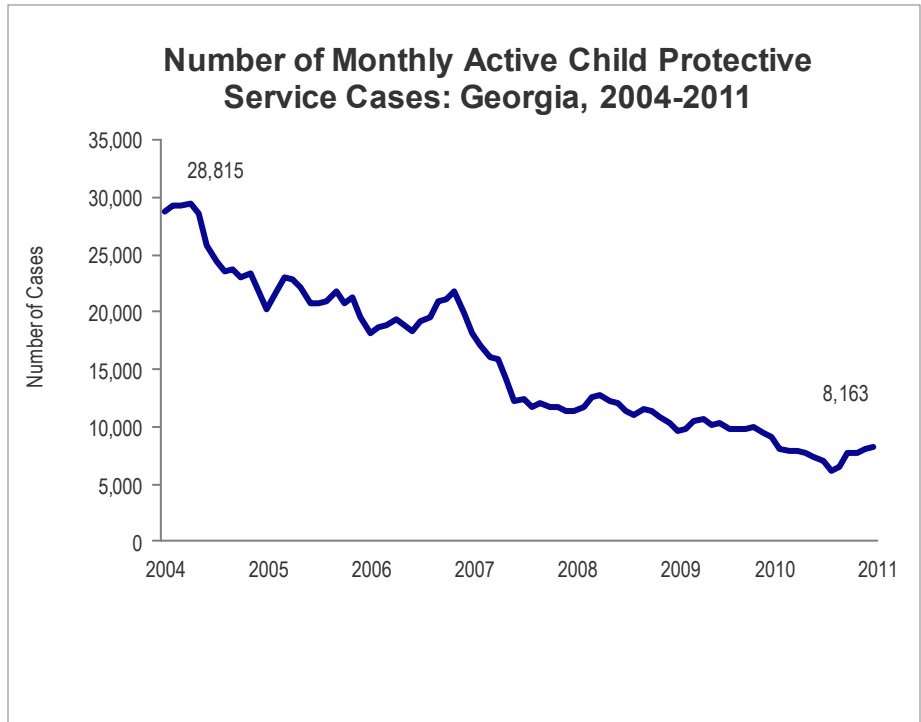
# Child Protective Services and Foster Care

❖ Active Child Protective Services Cases (CPS) includes the number of CPS investigations and Family Preservation cases being handled by DFCS.

❖ Substantiated cases of abuse and neglect are opened by DFCS for on-going CPS action when the level of risk for recurring maltreatment is high or moderate.

❖ The monthly number of CPS cases in Georgia fluctuates considerably. Overall, the number of active cases declined 71.7% between 2004 and 2011, from 28,815 to 8,163.

❖ Active CPS cases have declined largely in response to the utilization of diversion. “Diversion” is an option DFCS uses to assist families when the safety of children is not in question, emphasizing a strength-based, prevention-driven, community response to vulnerable children and families. DFCS refers diverted families to resources available in their communities.



Source: Georgia Department of Human Services, Division of Family and Children Services

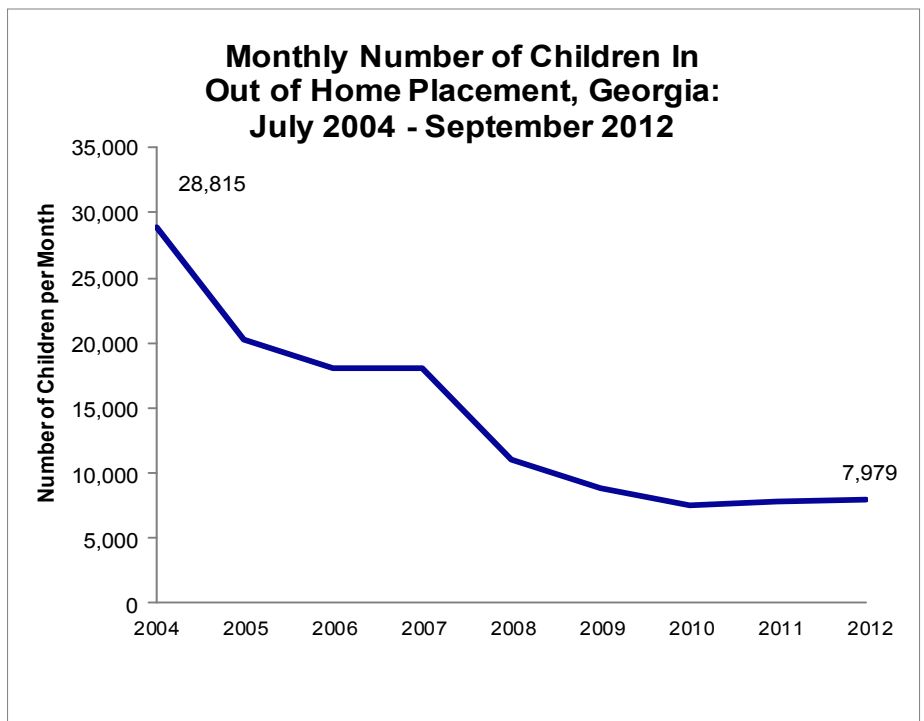
❖ The monthly number of children that were in out of home care by DFCS in Georgia decreased 72.3% between July 2004 and September 2012, from 28,815 to 7,979.

❖ During FY 2012, there were a total of 13,921 children in DFCS legal custody.

❖ More than one-quarter of children in DFCS custody (29.9%) in September 2012 were under the age of 4 years.

❖ In September 2012, nearly half (47%) of children in out of home placement were placed with their siblings, and only 4.3% of these children were placed in institutions.

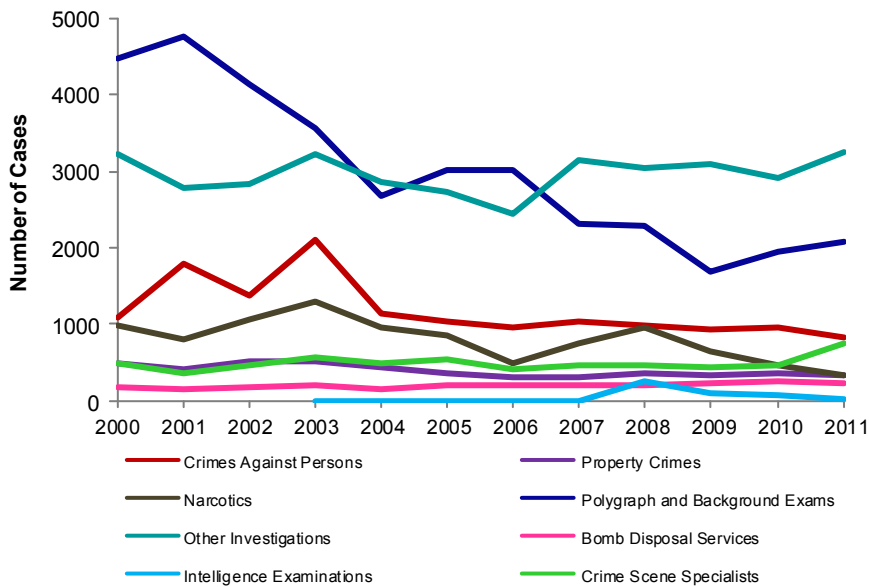
❖ In 2011, the majority of children (63.1%) leaving out of home placement returned home, and 74.8% of the children reunified with their families, returned home in less than 12 months.



Source: Georgia Department of Human Services, Division of Family and Children Services

# Georgia Bureau of Investigation

**Georgia Bureau of Investigation:  
Number of Cases Initiated,  
FY 2000-FY 2011**



Source: Georgia Bureau of Investigation

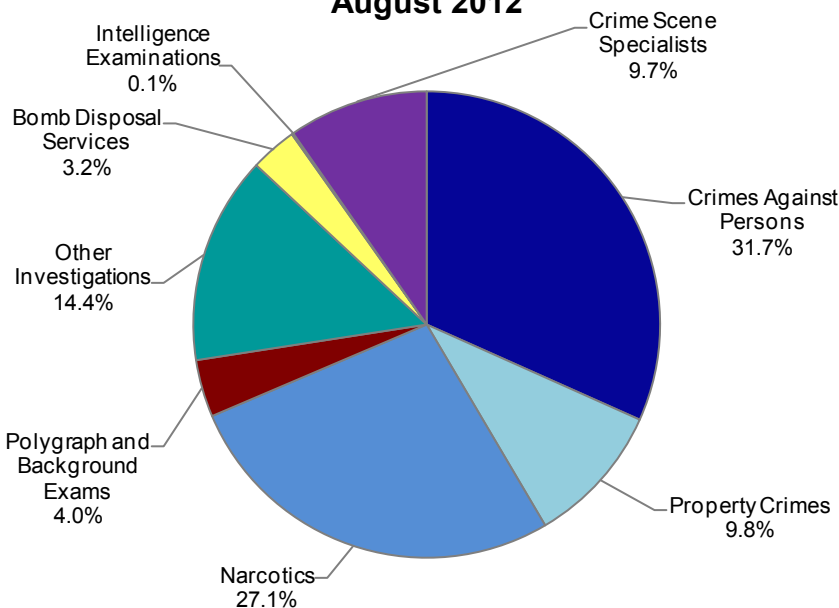
❖ The Georgia Bureau of Investigation (GBI) employees work in Regional Offices, Regional Drug Enforcement Offices and other special units, responding to requests for assistance from local enforcement agencies.

❖ Since 2000, there has been a 28.6% decline in the number of cases investigated by the GBI, mostly due to resource issues and workforce reductions. The number of cases initiated by the agency declined from 10,900 in 2000 to 7,779 in 2011.

❖ The number of narcotics cases initiated by the GBI declined 65.4% between 2000 and 2011, while crimes against persons cases declined 25.7% during the same period.

❖ Polygraph and background cases, bomb disposal services and property crime cases declined 53.3%, 38.3%, 32.3%, respectively.

**GBI Investigative Hours Expended:  
August 2012**



Source: Georgia Bureau of Investigation

❖ GBI Investigative Division staff expended more than 60,000 hours investigating crimes in August 2012.

❖ Nearly one out of three GBI investigative hours expended in August 2012 were spent on crimes against persons, followed by drug investigations (27.1% of investigative hours).

❖ Crime scenes, property crimes, and bomb disposal accounted for nearly 1 out of 4 (22.9%) of GBI total investigative hours during that time period.

❖ A small portion of GBI's investigative hours in August (4%) were spent on polygraphs and background examinations.

Note: Other Investigations include preliminary investigations, public corruption, et cetera.

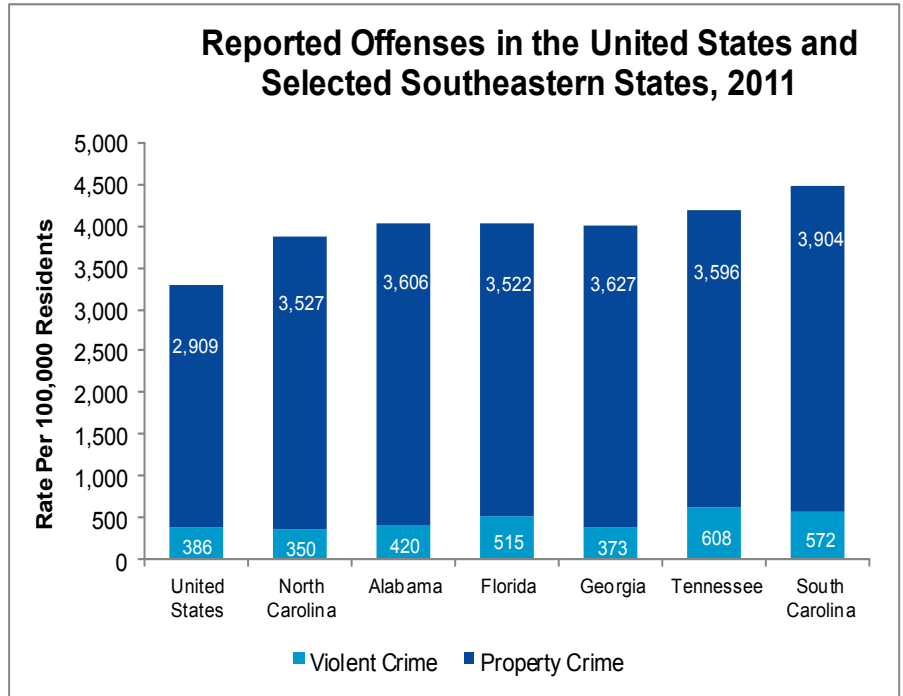
## Reported Offenses and Violent Crime

❖ Georgia's violent crime rate (373.2 per 100,000 residents) is slightly lower than the national rate (386.3).

❖ Among the southeastern states, Georgia ranks second lowest in overall violent crime rate. The state with the lowest rate in the region is North Carolina with a rate of 349.8 while Tennessee ranks highest at 608.2.

❖ Georgia ranks third lowest among the southeastern states with respect to the murder and non-negligent manslaughter rate. The state's rate is 5.6 per 100,000 residents, compared to 5.3 in North Carolina and 5.2 in Florida.

❖ Georgia has the second highest property crime rate among the southeastern states at 3,626.5 per 100,000 residents. Florida ranks lowest in the region at 3,522.0 per 100,000 and South Carolina ranks highest at 3,904.2 per 100,000.



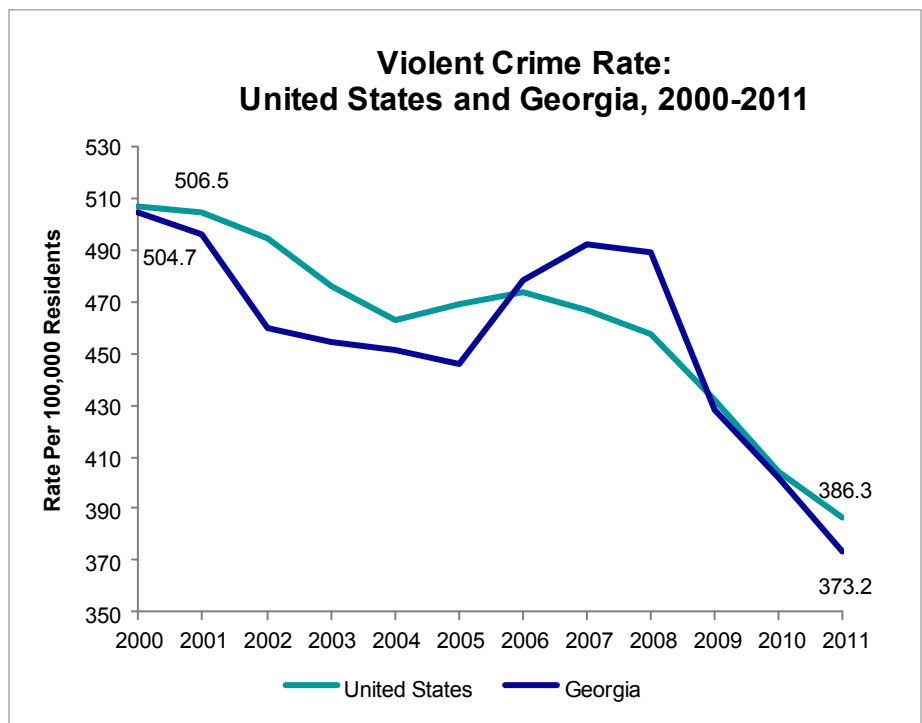
Source: U.S. Department of Justice, Uniform Crime Reports

❖ Georgia's rate of reported violent crime increased between 2005 and 2007, followed by steep declines beginning in 2009.

❖ Georgia's violent crime rate was higher than the national average for 3 years during the last decade.

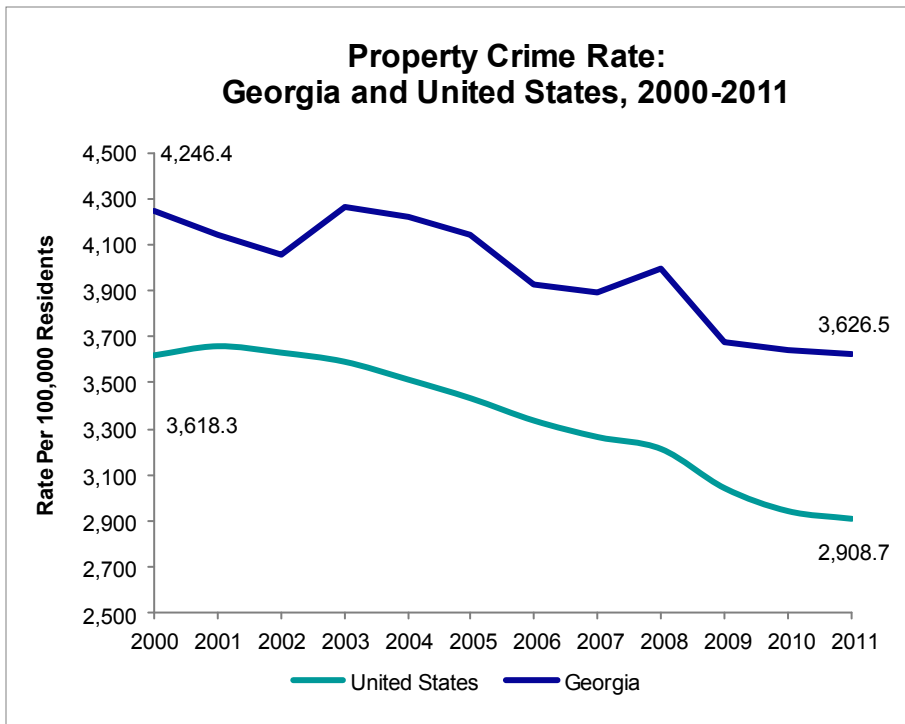
❖ In 2011, aggravated assault was the most frequently reported violent crime in Georgia, with a rate of 222.9 per 100,000 residents. Robbery is the second most frequently reported violent crime in the state with a rate of 123.8 per 100,000 residents.

❖ According to the U.S. Department of Justice, violent offenders have a greater probability of being arrested compared to property offenders. In 2011, an offender was charged in 64.8% of reported murder and non-negligent manslaughter cases, compared to 21.5% for larceny-theft, or 12.7% for burglary cases reported.



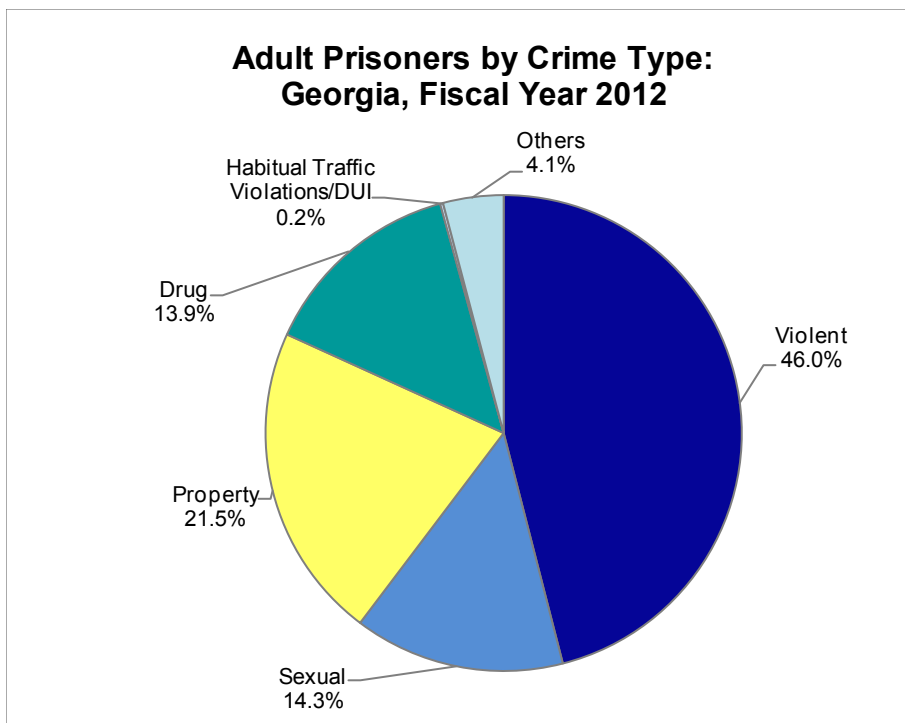
Source: U.S. Department of Justice, Uniform Crime Reports

## Property Crime and Prisoners by Crime Type



Source: U.S. Department of Justice, Uniform Crime Reports

- ❖ Overall, property crime rates declined both nationally and in Georgia over the past decade.
- ❖ Although the property crime rate fluctuated over the past decade in Georgia, the rate per 100,000 residents declined 14.6%, from 4,246.4 in 2000 to 3,626.5 in 2011.
- ❖ Nationally, the property crime rate per 100,000 residents declined at a slightly faster pace (19.6%), from 3,618.3 in 2000 to 2,908.7 in 2011.
- ❖ Georgia's property crime rate continues to exceed the national average, despite an overall decline since 2000.
- ❖ In 2011, larceny-theft was the most frequently reported non-violent crime in Georgia, with a rate of 2,351.7 per 100,000 residents, followed by burglary at 974.6 per 100,000, and motor vehicle theft at 300.3 per 100,000 residents.



Source: Georgia Department of Corrections

- ❖ In 2012, there were 57,570 inmates in Georgia's state prisons. Nearly half (46.0%) of these prisoners were convicted of violent offenses, and 1 out of 5 (21.5%) was convicted of property offenses. More than half (58.9%) of prisoners have had no prior incarcerations.
- ❖ Three out of four (75%) of Georgia's prisoners have substance abuse problems, and 53% of the inmates receive mental health treatment.
- ❖ Although the average age of Georgia's prisoners is 37.2 years, only 1 out of 3 (32.3%) inmates have earned a General Education Diploma (GED) or its equivalent compared to 84.3% of the total adult population.
- ❖ Average daily costs for physical health care for Georgia's prisoners was \$8 in FY 2012, as was the average cost per day for mental health care.

## Time Served and Incarceration Rate

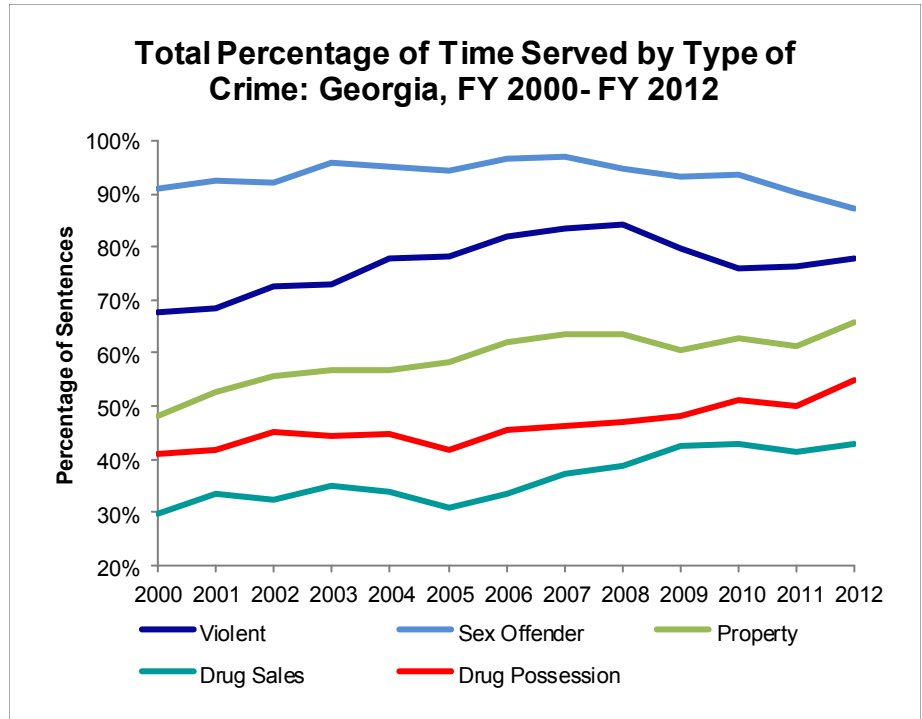
❖ The percentage of time served by Georgia's inmates varies considerably by type of crime committed.

❖ Sex offenders in Georgia serve the greatest proportion of their sentence; approximately 87%.

❖ Violent offenders in Georgia, serve the 2<sup>nd</sup> greatest proportion of their sentences. Over the past decade the percentage of time served by violent offenders has increased from 67% in 2000 to 78% in 2012.

❖ Georgia's property offenders are serving an increasing percentage of their sentences, increasing from 48% in 2000 to 66% in 2012.

❖ Drug offenders serve the smallest percentage of their sentences. In 2012, drug possession offenders served 55% and drug sales offenders served 43%.



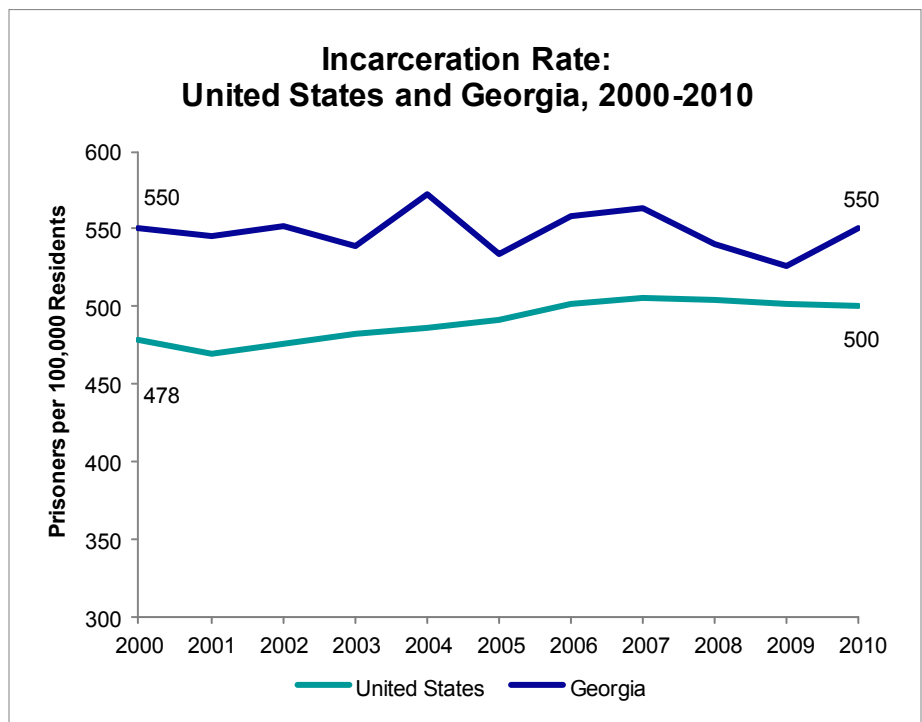
Source: Georgia Department of Corrections, Office of Planning and Analysis

❖ Georgia's incarceration rate has remained above the national average for the past three decades. In 2010, the state's incarceration rate (550 prisoners per 100,000 residents) ranked 8<sup>th</sup> highest in the nation.

❖ In 2011, the Department of Corrections and State Board of Pardons and Parole instituted the Performance Incentive Credit (PIC). PIC provides incentives to offenders to complete educational programs and work productively during incarceration for consideration of up to 12 months early consideration for parole.

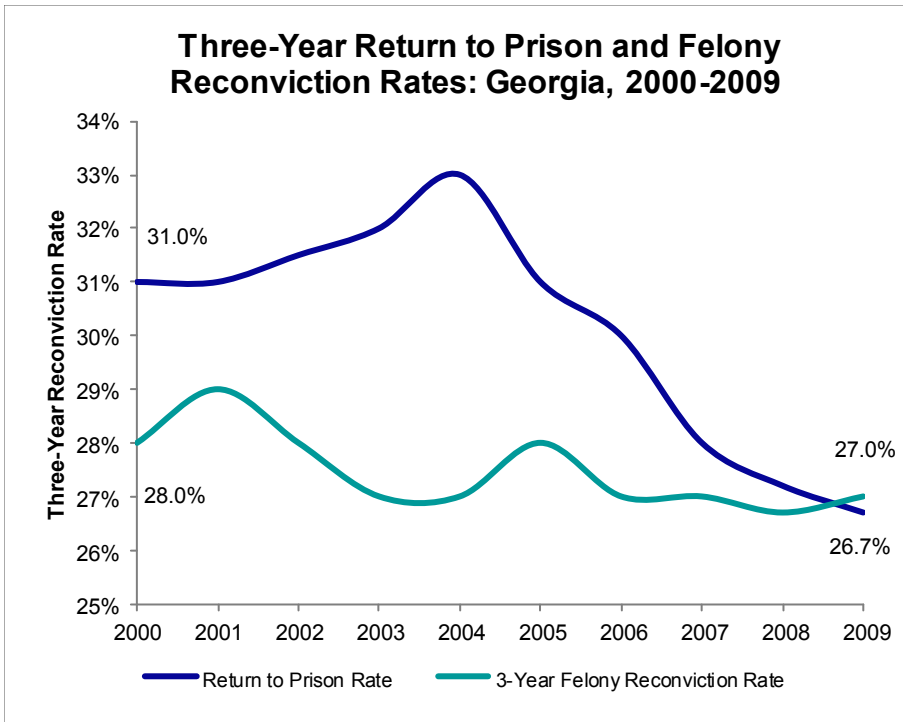
❖ Criminal justice reform established an accountability court committee to implement new drug and mental health accountability courts.

❖ Similar to other states, Georgia has experienced an increase in inmates that are elderly or have chronic conditions. Inmates with chronic conditions are enrolled in in-house chronic care clinics.



Source: U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics

# Reconviction Rates and Offender Populations

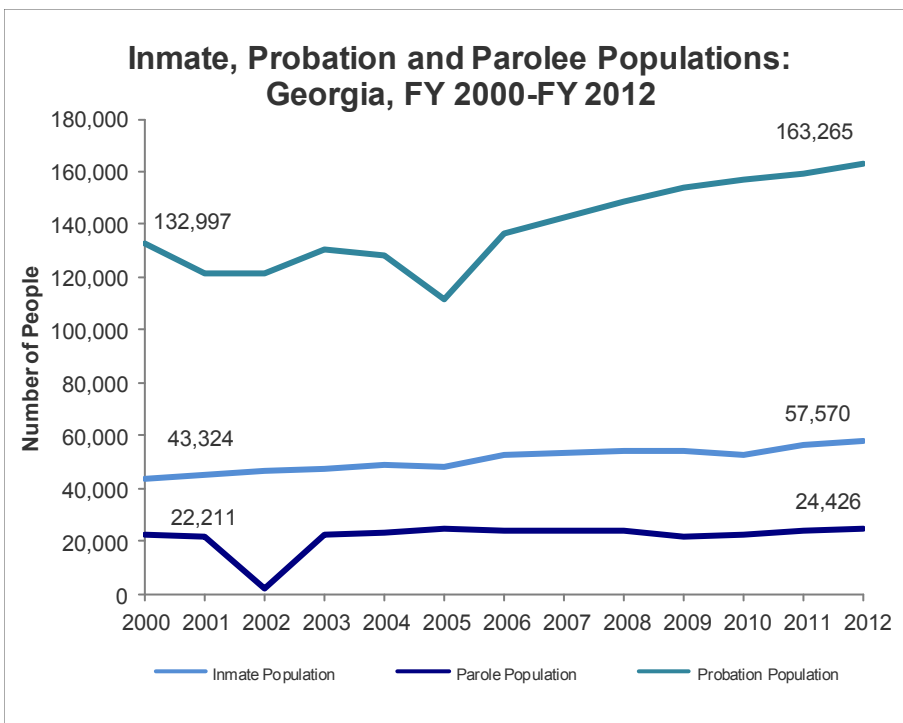


Source: Georgia Department of Corrections

❖ The three-year return to prison rate is defined as the percentage of offenders who return to prison for either new offenses or for technical violations of their release. The three-year felony reconviction rate is the percentage of offenders who are convicted of a new felony resulting in either prison or probation within 3 years of release from prison.

❖ The three-year return to prison rate in Georgia increased slightly in the early part of the past decade, from 31% to 33%, but has since declined to 26.7%

❖ Georgia's three-year felony reconviction rate has remained fairly stable over the past decade, from a high of 29% in 2001 to a low of 27% in four of the years since 2000.



Source: Georgia Department of Corrections and Georgia State Board of Pardons and Paroles

❖ At the end of FY 2012, there were 163,265 probationers, 57,570 inmates, and 24,426 parolees in Georgia.

❖ Over the past decade, Georgia's inmate population increased by 32.9%, from 43,324 in 2000 to 57,570 in 2012.

❖ The probation and parolee populations increased more slowly between 2000 and 2012. The number of probationers increased by 22.8%, from 132,997 to 163,265 and the number of parolees increased 10.0%, from 22,211 to 24,426.

❖ Discretionary parole decisions can enhance public safety by ensuring that dangerous offenders remain incarcerated and by providing the necessary structure and assistance to select offenders who seek to become law-abiding citizens.



## Jail Inmate Populations and Parolees

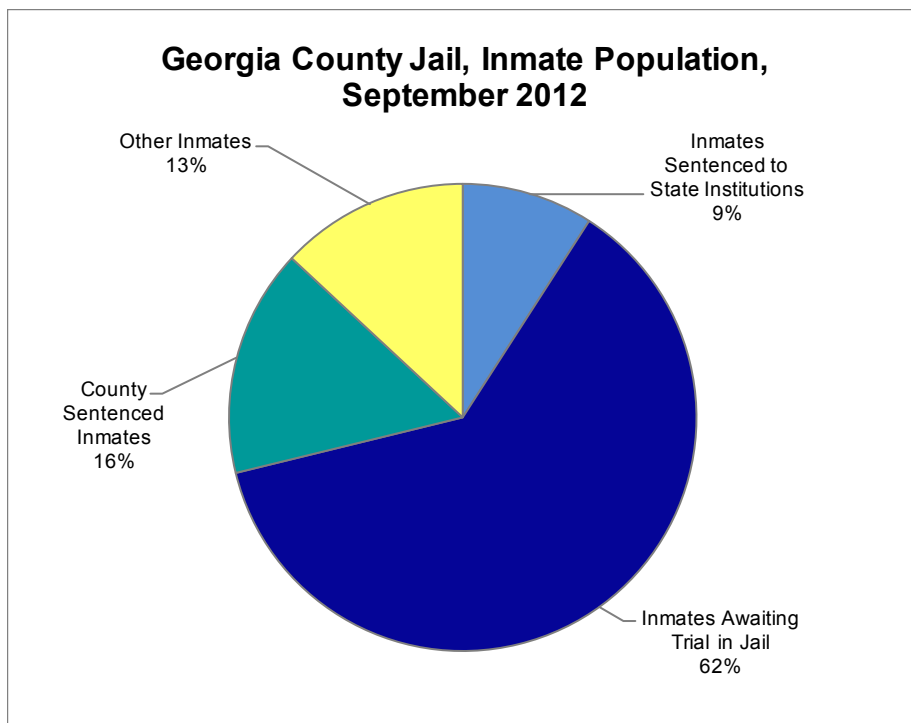
❖ There are 146 counties with jails in Georgia, which housed 38,699 inmates in September 2012.

❖ In 2012, the majority (62%) of county jail inmates were awaiting trial, 16% of inmates were sentenced to county jails, and 9% were state sentenced inmates housed at county facilities.

❖ Between 2007 and 2012, the county jail population decreased by 1%.

❖ The number of county jail inmates sentenced to state institutions decreased by 20.3% from 4,416 in September 2007 to 3,520 in September 2012.

❖ The number of county jails over capacity decreased from 40 in September 2007 to 32 in September 2012.



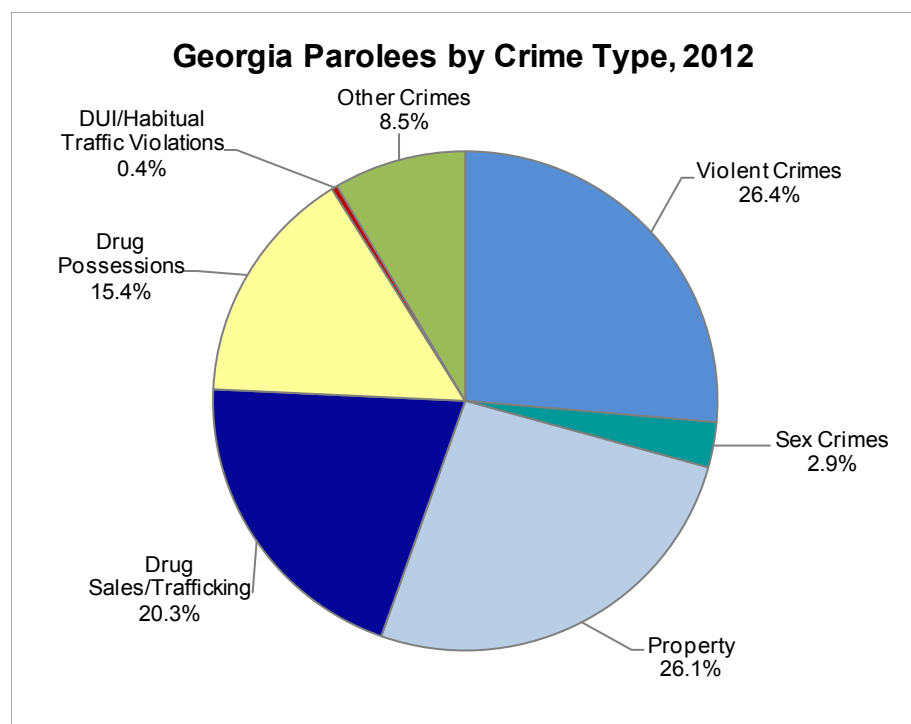
Source: Georgia Department of Community Affairs

❖ Paroled offenders are released prior to serving their entire sentence based on their likelihood of re-offending.

❖ In 2012, 1 out of 4 (26.4%) parolees were initially convicted of violent crimes and another quarter were convicted of property crimes (26.1%). Additionally, 1 out of 5 (20.3%) parolees were convicted of drug sales/trafficking, and more than 1 out of 7 were convicted of drug possession.

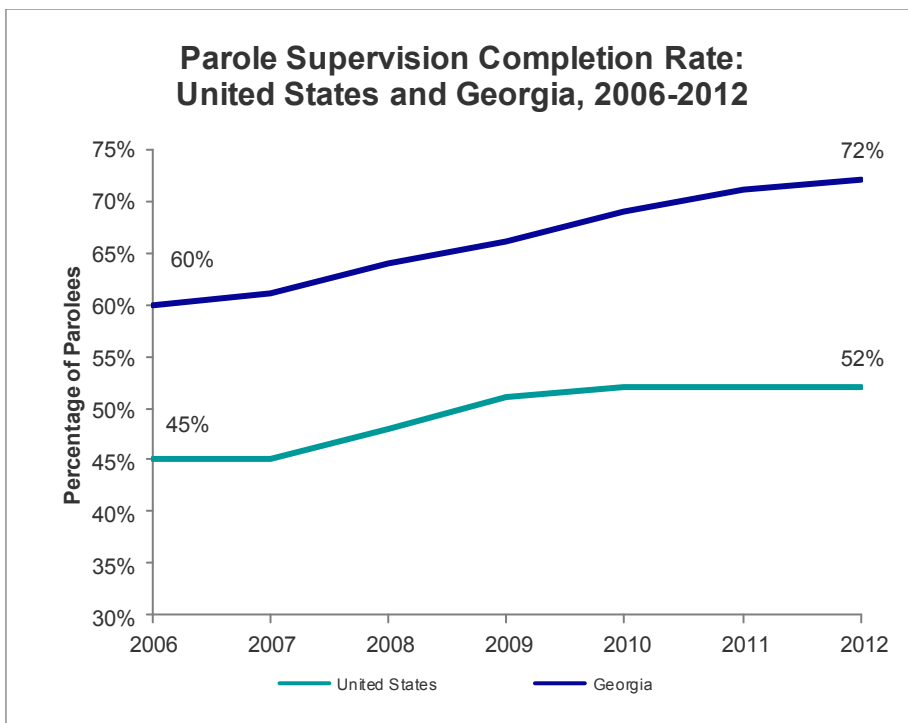
❖ Georgia has the 13<sup>th</sup> highest parole population in the United States with 341 parolees per 100,000 adult residents.

❖ During FY 2011, 69% of parolees were employed and 67% of parolees who entered drug treatment successfully completed their treatment.



Source: U.S. Bureau of Justice Statistics and State Board of Pardons and Paroles

# Parole Completion Rates and Correction Costs



Source: State Board of Pardons and Paroles

❖ Parole supervision begins when an offender is released from prison into the community prior to serving their entire sentence. Successful completion of parole supervision\* requires an offender to show success in re-integrating into the community via employment, stable residence, program completion, etc.

❖ The successful parole completion rate in Georgia increased between 2006 to 2012, from 60% to 72%.

❖ Georgia's parolees are considerably more likely to successfully complete parole compared to parolees nationwide.

❖ Nationally, the average parole completion rate\*\* has also increased, from 45% in 2006 to 52% in 2012.

*Note\**: Successful parole completion excludes offenders who are revoked, abscond or in jail at the time of discharge from parole.

*Note\*\**: National completion rates for 2011 and 2012 are estimated.

\$1.27	Regular Probation Supervision
\$4.30	Intensive Probation Supervision
\$4.94	Parole Supervision
\$16.33	Day Reporting Centers
\$33.09	Pre-release Centers
\$36.76	Transition Centers
\$42.43	Detention Centers
\$44.51	State Prisons

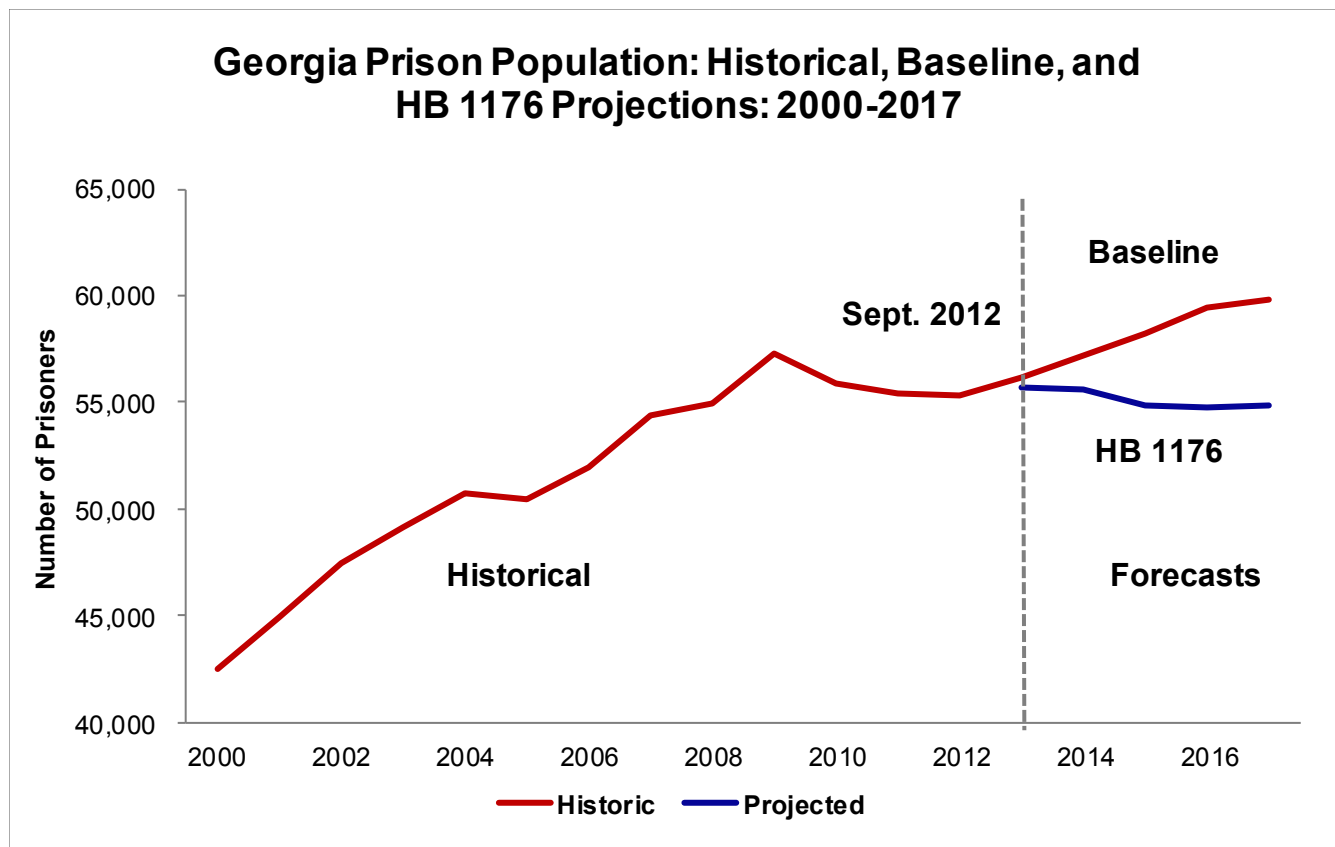
Source: Georgia Department of Corrections and Georgia State Board of Pardons and Paroles

❖ In FY 2012, the Georgia Department of Corrections operated:

- 113 Probation circuit offices
- 1 Probation Residential Substance Abuse Treatment centers
- 14 Day reporting centers
- 14 Transitional centers
- 32 State prisons
- 4 Private prisons by contract
- 23 County correctional institutes
- 9 Probation Detention Centers
- 1 Inmate boot camp

❖ The average cost per Georgia offender in state prison is \$16,246 per year compared to \$463.55 for regular probation supervision and \$1,569.50 for intensive probation supervision.

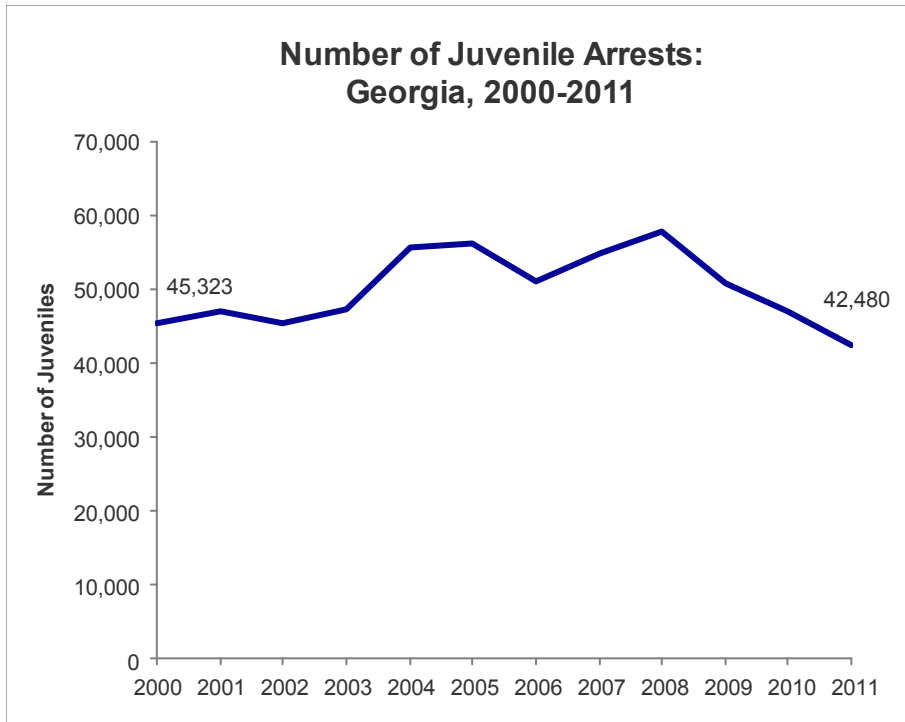
❖ Incarceration costs vary based on security level needed to maintain the prisoner; \$22,079 per year for close security prisons versus \$15,115 per year for medium security facilities.



Source: Applied Research Services

- ❖ In 2012, the Georgia State Legislature passed House Bill 1176 to implement recommendations from the Criminal Justice Reform Council. The bill amended state law to focus prison bed utilization for serious offenders. Additionally, the legislation created a grant program for accountability courts that will provide treatment for drug offenders and other offenders with a mental health diagnosis as an underlying factor for their crime as opposed to incarceration.
- ❖ HB 1176 created different classes of offense types for burglary, theft, forgery, and drug crimes. The classes with lower-risk offense types have a new shorter maximum sentence under the statute. This allows for prison space to be afforded to the most serious and/or violent offenders in the future.
- ❖ The above chart, prepared by the state’s contactor for prison population projections, Applied Research Services, indicates the projected prison population growth prior to the passage of House Bill 1176 in the “Baseline”. The new “HB 1176” blue trend line indicates how the new statutory policies will reduce prison growth as the sentencing impact occurs on the offenders eventually being sentenced to shorter sentences for the lower level crime classifications. The true impact of the reform is not seen in the prison population until the start of 2015 because that is the approximate time the new offenders convicted under the new statutes will begin to complete their prison sentences.
- ❖ The Criminal Justice Reform Council expanded its role and reviewed Georgia’s Juvenile Justice system in FY 2013. This resulted in the formation of two workgroups. One workgroup reviewed Community-Based Options, while the second one focused on Juvenile Dispositions and Out-of-Home Placements. Additionally, the Council continued to examine the adult corrections system. Final recommendations by the Council will be presented to the General Assembly for consideration of appropriate statutory changes.

# Juvenile Arrests and Admissions by Offense



Source: Georgia Bureau of Investigation

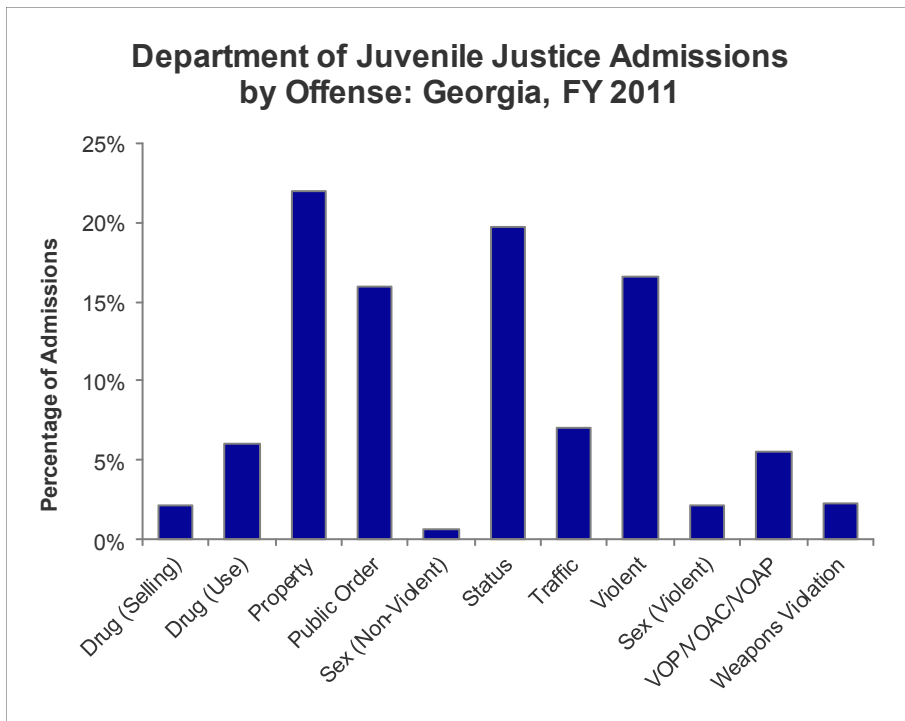
❖ In 2011, 42,480 of Georgia's juveniles were arrested. While the number of juvenile arrests has fluctuated over the past decade, there was an overall decline of 6.3% in arrests between 2000 and 2011.

❖ The greatest number of juvenile arrests occurred in 2008 (57,797), followed by a decline to 42,480 in 2011.

❖ Juveniles were most frequently arrested in 2011 for larceny (19%), other assaults (14%), and disorderly conduct (10%).

❖ Drug offenses were the reason for 7.8% of juvenile arrests in 2011; 547 arrests involved sales or manufacture of drugs and 2,753 were possession charges.

❖ A large increase in arrests (72%) was registered for offenses against family and children between 2007 and 2011.



Source: Georgia Department of Juvenile Justice

❖ Juvenile offenders under Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) supervision most frequently enter the system due to the following offenses: property (22%), status (19.7%), violence (16.6%), or public order (16.0%).

❖ In FY 2011, there were 14,268 admissions to secure detention at Regional Youth Detention Centers (RYDC) a 14.7% decrease from FY 2009. The average length of stay in secure detention at a RYDC was 15 days in FY 2011.

❖ In 2011, nearly one out of nine Georgia high school students (11.7%) reported being threatened or injured with a weapon on school property during the previous year, higher than the national average of 7.4%.

*Note: Status offenses are crimes defined as criminal due to the offender's age, such as truancy and curfew violations. VOP is a violation of parole, VOAC is a violation of aftercare, VOAP is a violation of alternative plan.*

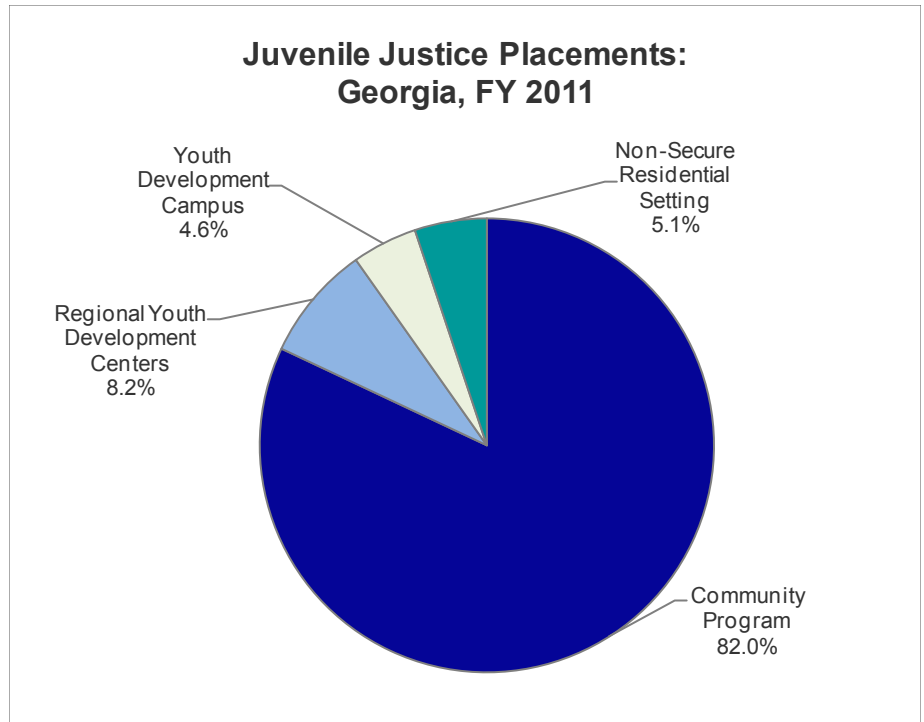
# Juvenile Placements

❖ A RYDC provides temporary, secure care and supervision to youth charged with offenses and awaiting placement or treatment in a community program or long-term facility. A Youth Development Campus (YDC) provides secure care, supervision and treatment services to youth committed for long-term programs.

❖ The average daily population served by DJJ declined by 21.3% between FY 2004 and FY 2011, from 20,323 to 15,991.

❖ The majority of Georgia's youth offenders entering the juvenile justice system are placed in community programs (82%). The remainder of juvenile offenders are distributed among non-secure residential settings (5.1%), YDC (4.6%), and RYDC (8.2%).

❖ The average length of stay for youth committed to a DJJ facility increased from 621 days in FY 2009 to 705 days in FY 2011.



Source: Georgia Department of Juvenile Justice

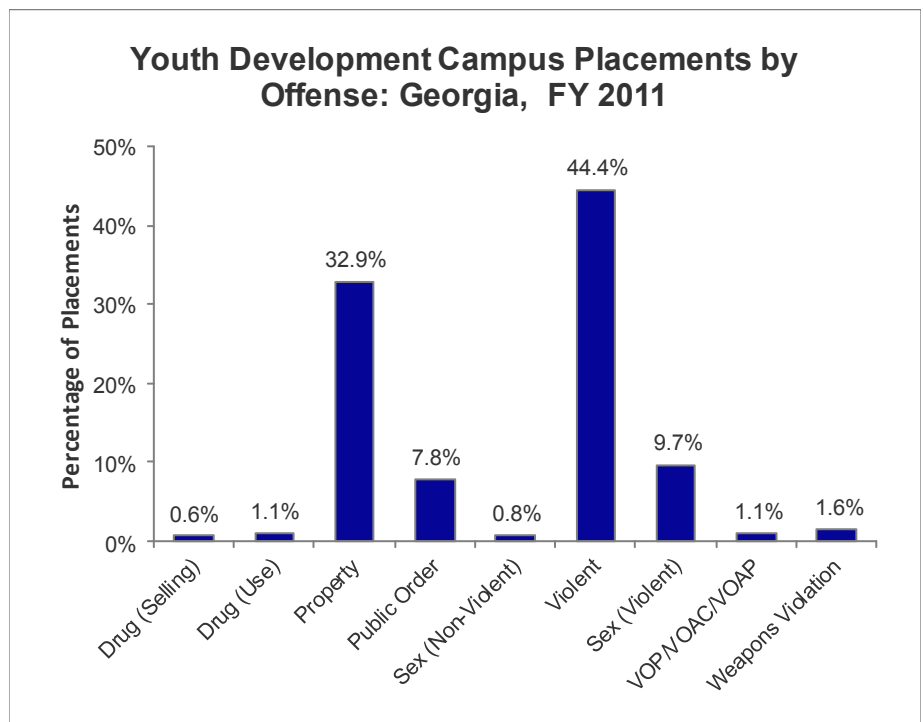
❖ More than 2 out of 5 youth (44.4%) admitted to a YDC in FY 2011 were committed to the department due to a violent offense. An additional 1 out of 10 (10.5%) youth offenders were admitted to a YDC because they committed a violent sexual offense.

❖ 1 out of 3 youth admitted to a YDC in FY 2011 committed a property offense.

❖ Drug offenses represent a very small proportion of offenses for which youth are placed in a YDC (1.7%).

❖ DJJ operates the state's 181<sup>st</sup> school district which serves 52,000 youth each year; providing an opportunity for youth in custody to earn a high school diploma.

Note: VOP is violation of parole, VOAC is violation of aftercare, VOAP is violation of alternative plan.



Source: Georgia Department of Juvenile Justice

