

CRIMINAL JUSTICE & RACIAL EQUITY

IN SANTA BARBARA COUNTY

July 16, 2020 | County Executive Office



COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA

- Criminal Justice and Racial Equity: National and historical perspective
- The issue of mass incarceration and the resulting racial imbalance
- The focus of this issue didn't start with the death of George Floyd
- In Santa Barbara County, we have been focused on this for a number of years, particularly about how to reduce the ADP in the jail

Introduction

CRIMINAL JUSTICE & RACIAL EQUITY

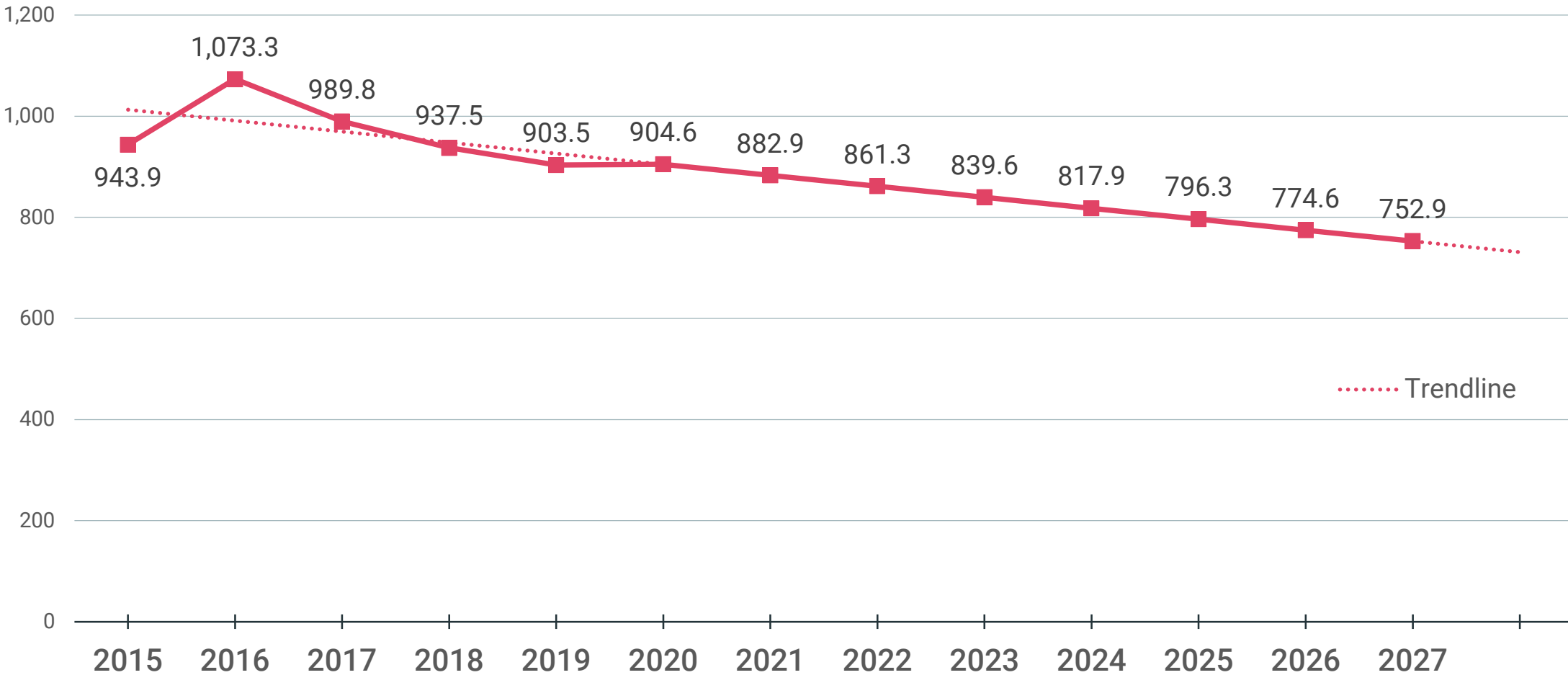
A dark, monochromatic photograph of a large stone archway leading to a courtyard. The archway is the central focus, framing a view of a courtyard with several tall, thin trees and a palm tree. In the background, a building with a tiled roof is visible. The overall scene is dimly lit, with a heavy shadow cast over the entire image. The text 'Jail Average Daily Population' is overlaid in white at the bottom center.

Jail Average Daily Population

Recent Efforts



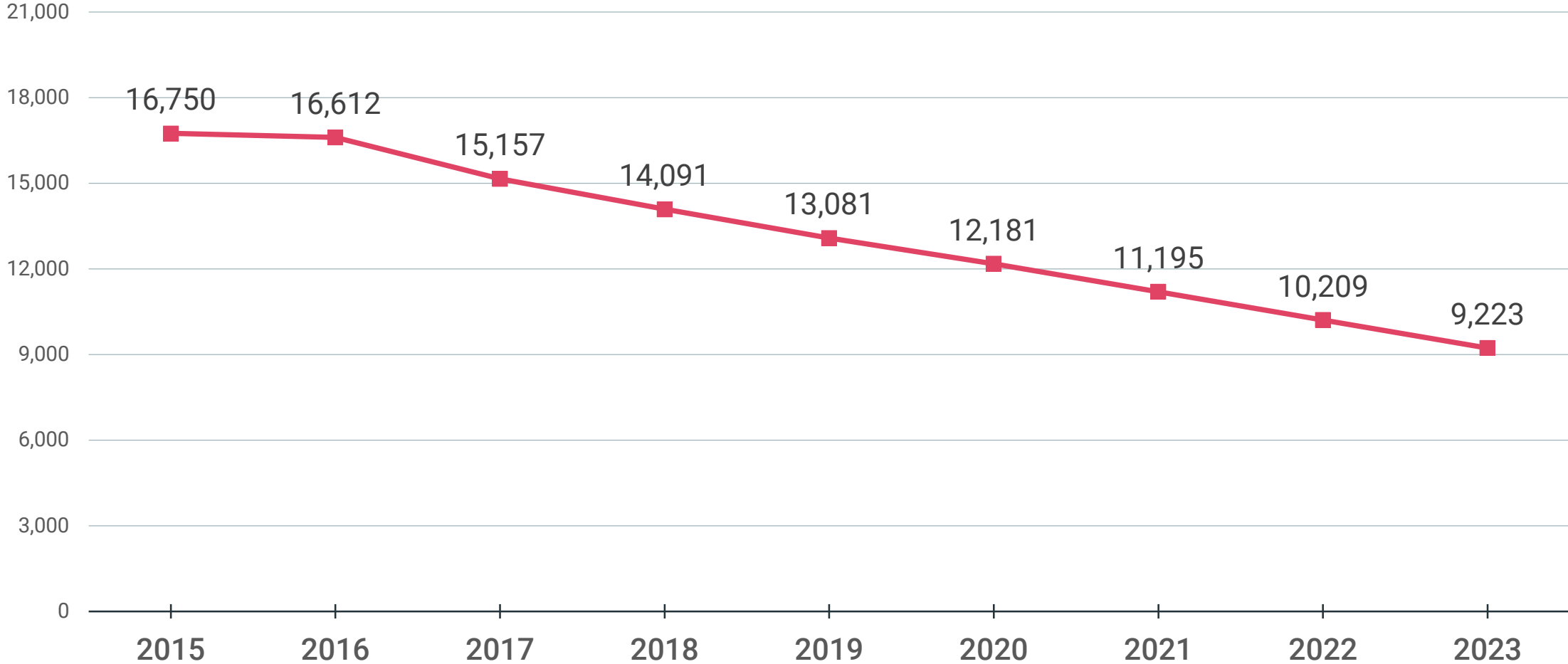
Historical Trends: Average Daily Population (ADP)



Diversion Efforts

- CREDO 47 Diversion Grant
- CREDO 47 Sobering Center
- Specialty Courts
- Crisis Stabilization Unit
- Co-Response Teams
(Sheriff & Behavioral Wellness)
- State Hospital Diversion Grant
- Holistic Defense
- DA Diversion process
- Sheriff's Treatment Program
- Probation's Housing Efforts
 - Supporting Housing
 - Sober Living Homes
 - Project Room Key

Historical Trends: Total Admissions



A grayscale photograph of a large stone archway leading to a courtyard. The archway is the central focus, framing a view of a courtyard with several tall, thin trees and a palm tree. In the background, a building with a tiled roof is visible. The overall scene is dimly lit, with a dark, moody atmosphere. The text "Criminal Justice Mapping" is overlaid in white at the bottom center.

Criminal Justice Mapping

Criminal Justice Mapping

- **Criminal Justice Mapping Group – 2019**
 - All Criminal Justice Partners + BeWell
 - Focus was to reduce the jail population and divert people out of the criminal justice system
- **Visit by Sarah Desmarais re: risk assessment tools**
- **Sixth Amendment Grant – Center for Court Innovation**
 - Site visit – Fall 2019
 - Strategic planning effort produced three goals

Improve the
discovery
process

Reduce the
pre-trial jail
population

Changes to
the Court
calendar

Grants

State Hospital Diversion

AB 1810

DEPARTMENTS

CEO, Public Defender, BeWell

AMOUNT

\$3.1M over 3 years

PURPOSE

Divert persons charged with felonies who are IST or may become IST to local treatment

CREDO 47

Community Diversion/Prop 47

DEPARTMENTS

Public Defender, BeWell

AMOUNT

\$6.0M over 3 years

PURPOSE

- Divert persons arrested for minor crimes to treatment or programming
- Funded 1 co-response team

Byrne-Jag

Co-Response

DEPARTMENTS

Sheriff, BeWell

AMOUNT

\$2.1M over 3 years

PURPOSE

Funded 2 co-response teams

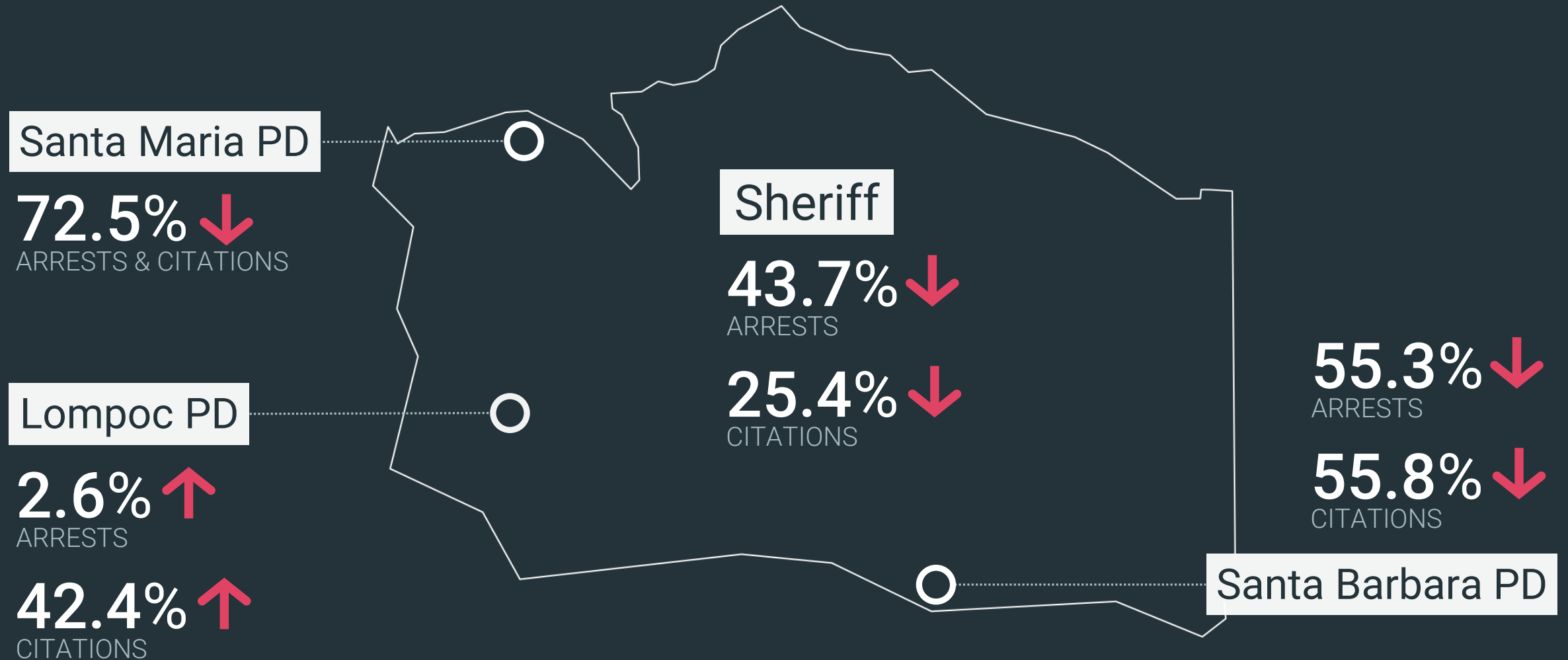
- What's next?
- The balance between diversion / lowering ADP and public safety
- COVID-19 came first

Criminal Justice Mapping

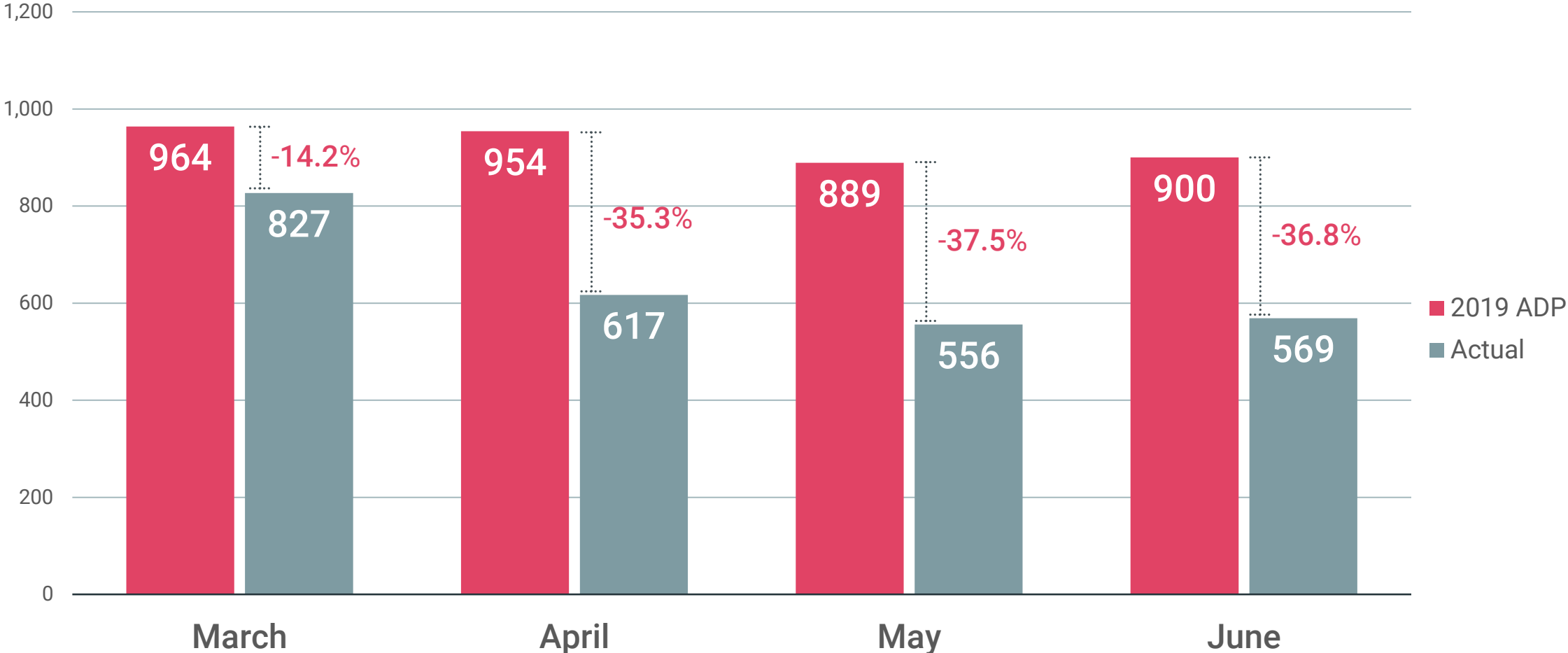


COVID-19 Impacts

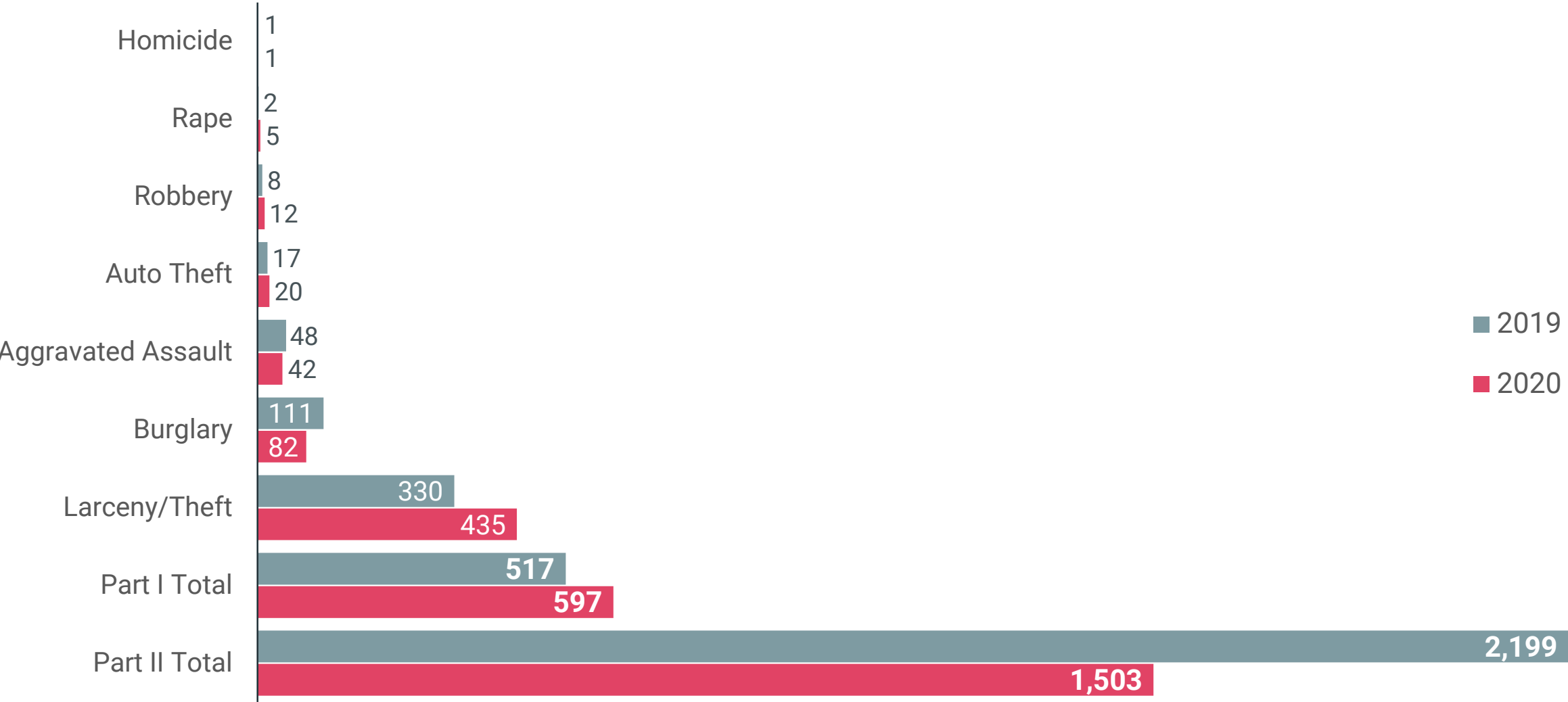
Law Enforcement Activity



Jail Population



Reported Crime



Jail Population Reduction Strategies

- Expand the Capacity for Pre-trial Diversion and/or Supervision
- Improve Technological Capacity
- Changes in Sentencing Structure
- “Divert to where?”

Jail Population Reduction Strategies

Expand the Capacity for Pre-trial Diversion and/or Supervision

- #2 Collaborative Discharge
- #3 Expand eligibility for pre-trial supervision
- #11 Stepping Up
- #12 Sixth Amendment Grant with Center for Court Innovation
- #14 CREDO 47 – Review out of custody complaints for eligibility

Jail Population Reduction Strategies

Improve Technological Capacity

- #1 Virtual court hearings and arraignments
- #8 Strengthen the capacity of the Criminal Justice Data Committee
- #9 Expand the capacity for electronically signing court documents
- #10 Create and cooperate an electronic cloud-based discovery receptacle

Jail Population Reduction Strategies

Changes in Sentencing Structure

- #5** Review 1700 citations / determine which sections are appropriate for citations going forward
- #6** Make better use of electronic monitoring and other alternative sentences
- #13** Expungement of cannabis criminal records
- #15** Review of probationers carrying a 5-year grant

Next Steps

- Maintain or modify existing COVID protocols as appropriate
- Assign recommendations to CCP Workgroup, Criminal Justice Planning and Stepping Up for action
- Involve the Courts in the next round of discussions
- Bring Center for Court Innovation report back to the Board

Criminal Justice Partners



Bill Brown
Sheriff



Joyce E. Dudley
District Attorney



Tanja Heitman
Chief Probation
Officer



Tracy Macuga
Public Defender



Alice Gleghorn, Ph.D.
Behavioral Wellness
Director

- Jail ADP
- Criminal Justice Mapping
- COVID-19 Impacts on Law Enforcement Activity and Jail Population

Questions?



County Government Organizational Culture

Our mission is to deliver exceptional public services so all in Santa Barbara County can enjoy a safe, healthy and prosperous life.



ONE COUNTY. ONE FUTURE.

County Government Organizational Culture

- Racial equity is important to fulfill “One County. One Future.” and our mission
- Fits with Renew ‘22:
 - *Re-visioning* our organization
 - *Responding* to the community
 - *Retaining* and *recruiting* employees
- Incorporate as a value and belief in our County culture
- County departments are implementing their own initiatives to further racial equity, diversity, and inclusion. Countywide actions also have been underway.

County Government Organizational Culture

- A consistent and integrated approach to addressing race and equity will advance our progress
- Need County leadership involvement and support
- Opportunity to make greater and sustained progress is now

Equity and Diversity Actions to Date

Countywide

- Adoption of Civil Treatment Policy in 2018 by the Board and mandated training for all managers
- Participation in Government Alliance for Race and Equity (GARE) “Year of Learning” training
- County Diversity and Inclusion Manager hired in 2019
 - Diversity and Inclusion Plan initiated
 - Equitable employment practices (panelist training, adverse impact reporting)
 - External Partnership Forum established)
- Incorporation of Civil Treatment and Diversity and Inclusion concepts in County HR’s New Employee Welcome

Equity and Diversity Actions to Date

Departmental Actions (list not exhaustive)

- Cultural competency action teams, dedicated coordinators in BW
- Health equity coordinator in PHD
- Racial equity committee of the Community Corrections Partnership created in May 2019; Racial and Ethnic Disparity (RED) initiative
- Racial Justice Committee in the Public Defender's Office
- Sheriff policy modifications with Equity Santa Barbara in 2016
- Equity-focused training and support to child care providers and partners by First 5
- Language accessibility and translation of materials and services, including emergency notifications
- Various Trainings:
 - Diversity and Belonging training (Child Support)
 - "One Room, Many Voices" cross cultural training (Planning & Development)
 - "LGBTQ+ 101" training (CSD)
 - Implicit bias training (many departments)
 - Eliminating race and gender inequities (Public Works)
 - Reducing bias and racial profiling course (Sheriff)
 - Civil Treatment Training (all departments)

Proposed New Actions

- Develop a countywide, consistent approach to addressing racial equity in countywide and departmental policies and procedures
- Convene department head committee to further develop proposal and ideas
- Explore partnership with Government Alliance on Race and Equity (GARE) or other organizations for training, assessment, racial equity tools
- Develop racial equity plan, integrated with HR's Diversity and Inclusion efforts, Renew '22 and other strategic efforts
- Return to the Board with specific proposal and costs in late summer/early fall; request funding from BOS equity fund or other source

Other Direction

- Equity Fund was created by the Board at the June Budget hearings
- No direction provided on process for allocation or use
- No deadline on spending the funds
- Board can direct staff to return with options at a later date or after needs assessment is conducted

- a) Receive and file staff report on current and potential future actions to lower the Average Daily Population in the County's Jail system;
- b) Receive report on existing and proposed racial equity and diversity initiatives in the county organization;
- c) Provide other direction as appropriate, including potential process for allocation and use of equity funds; and
- d) Determine that the action is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act under CEQA Guidelines section 15378(b)(5) because the hearing is an administrative activity that will not result in a direct or indirect physical change to the environment.

Recommended Actions