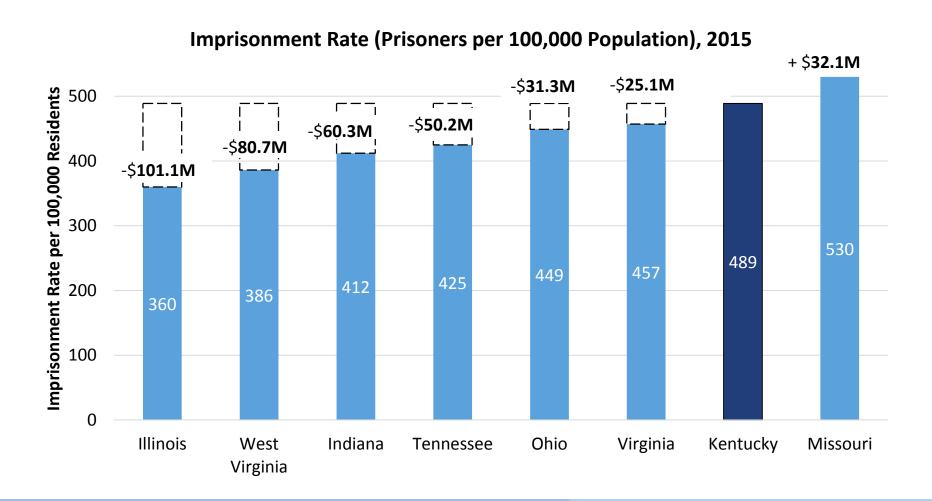
#### CRIME AND JUSTICE INSTITUTE

### **Kentucky Prison Drivers**

Kentucky Justice Reinvestment Work Group September 20, 2017



## Estimated Savings if Kentucky's Imprisonment Rate Matched Neighboring States





### Iron Law of Prison Population Growth

# Admissions + Time Served = DOC Population



### Data Used

- Department of Corrections Data 2012-2016
  - All admissions to DOC custody by Calendar Year
  - All releases from DOC custody by Calendar Year
  - Population snapshots each December 31, 2012-2016
- Offense data is for the most serious offense related to the current admission, defined based on class and sentence length
- Unless stated otherwise, all data presented was analyzed by CJI in consultation with DOC
- Data presented here may not match DOC reports due to different methodologies for analysis



### Felony Class System

Felony Class	Offense Examples	Sentence Range	Place of Imprisonment
Capital	Murder, Kidnapping	Death, Life Without Parole, Life	Prison
Class A	Murder, Rape 1 <sup>st</sup> , Sodomy 1 <sup>st</sup>	20—50 Years, Life	Prison
Class B	Robbery 1 <sup>st</sup> , Manufacturing Meth, Burglary 1 <sup>st</sup> , Assault 1 <sup>st</sup> , Rape 1 <sup>st</sup> , Sodomy 1 <sup>st</sup>	10—20 Years	Prison
Class C	Burglary 2 <sup>nd</sup> , Trafficking 1 <sup>st</sup> , Robbery 2 <sup>nd</sup> , Assault 2 <sup>nd</sup> , Possession of Handgun by Convicted Felon	5—10 Years	Jail if Community Custody classification. Excludes sex offenses sentenced to >2 years.
Class D	Possession of Controlled Substance 1 <sup>st</sup> , Burglary 3 <sup>rd</sup> , Theft, Criminal Possession of Forged Instrument 2 <sup>nd</sup> , Wanton Endangerment 1 <sup>st</sup>	1—5 Years	Jail if sentence is <5 years, or >5 years but less than 5 years left to serve. Excludes sex offenses sentenced to >2 years.



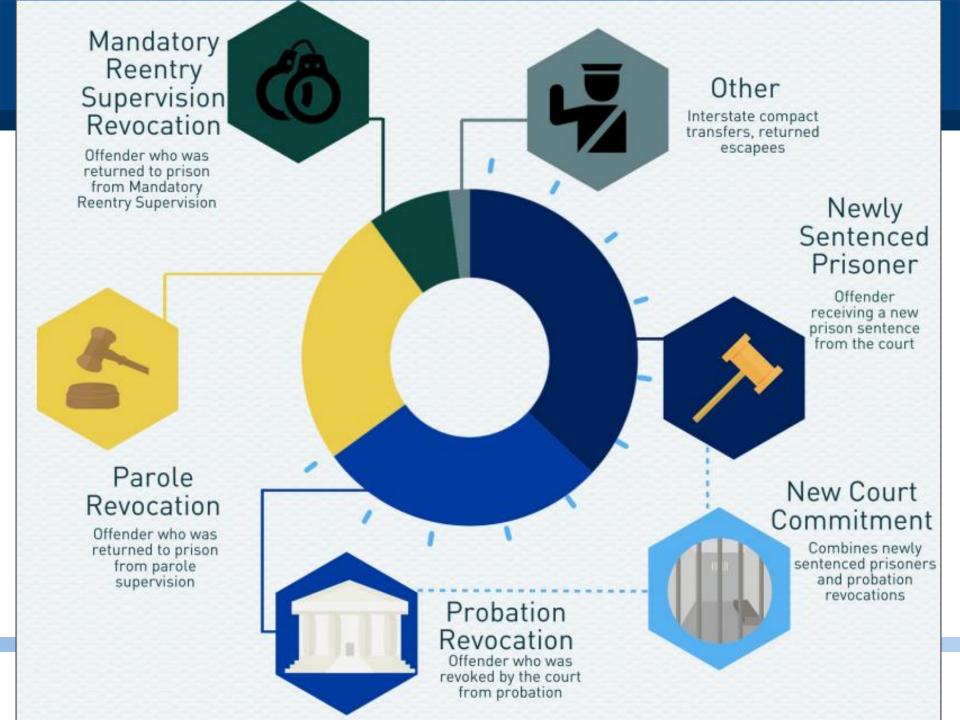
### **Admissions**



### Who is Entering Prison?

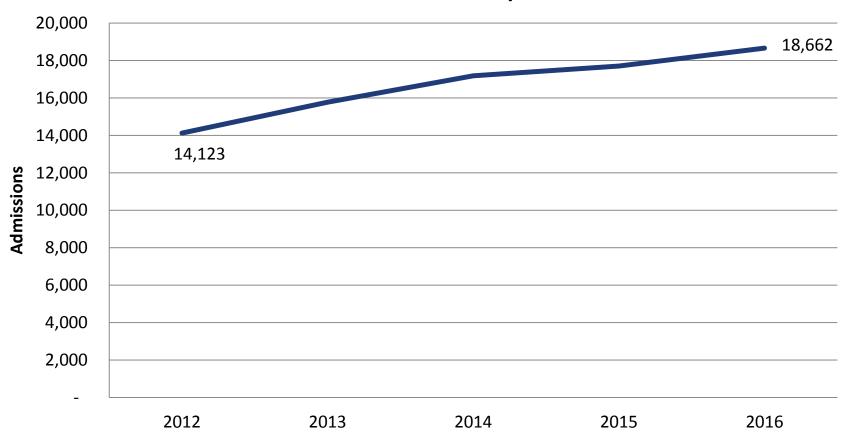
- Admissions over time
  - Crime rates
- Admission type
  - New court commitments
  - Parole revocations
- Offense type
- Geographic patterns
- Sentence length





### 32% Growth in Admissions Over Five Years

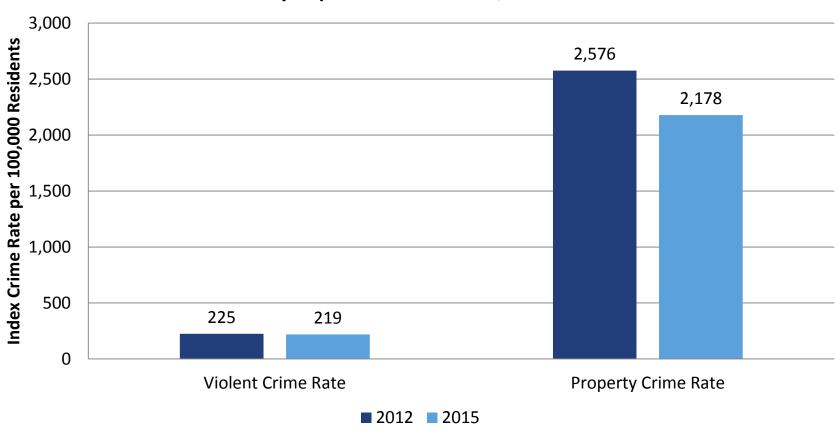
#### **Number of Admissions by Year**





## Property Crime Rate Declined 15%, Violent Crime Rate 3% Since 2012

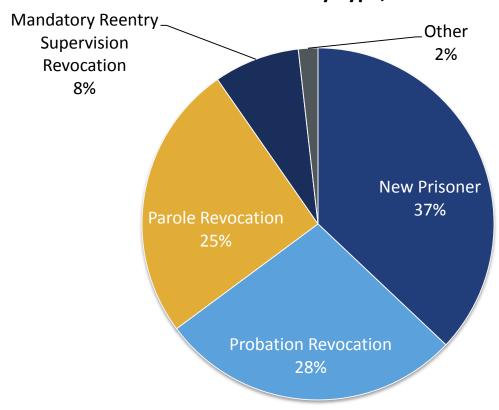
#### **Kentucky Reported Crime Rates, 2012 vs 2015**





## 61% of Admissions Previously on Community Supervision

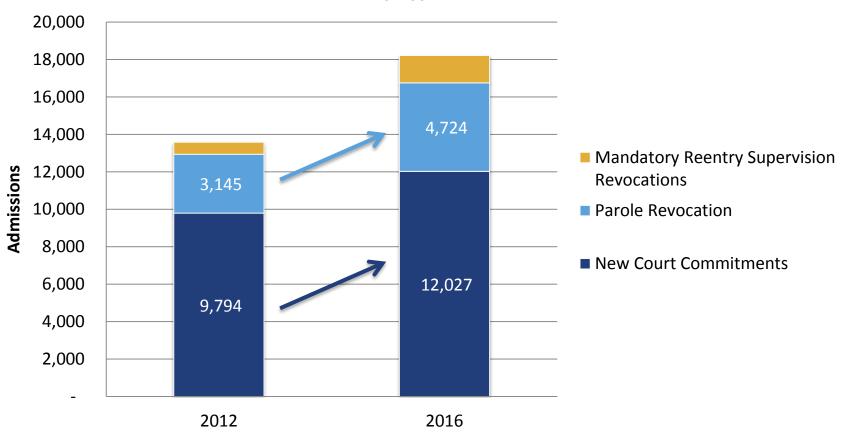
#### Admissions by Type, 2016





## Parole Revocations Increased by 50%, New Court Commitments by 23%

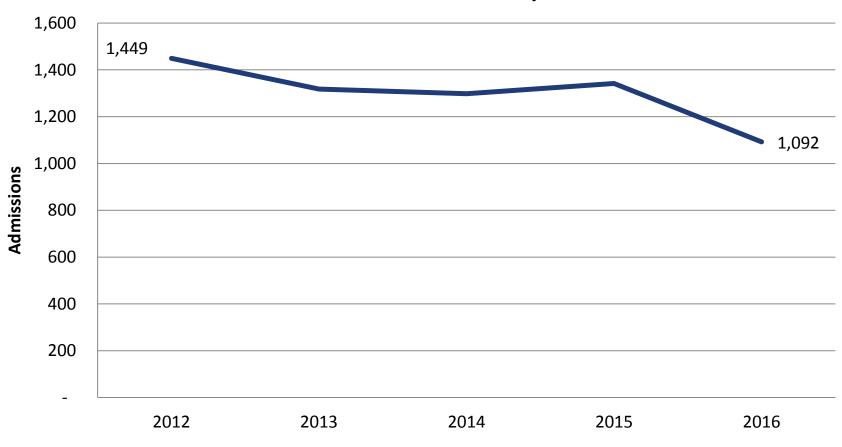
#### Admissions by Type, 2012 vs 2016





### **Shock Probation Use Declining**

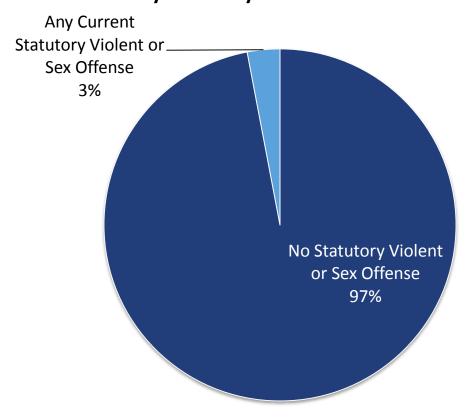
#### **Shock Probation Admissions by Year**





### 3% of Admissions for Statutory Violent or Sex Offenses

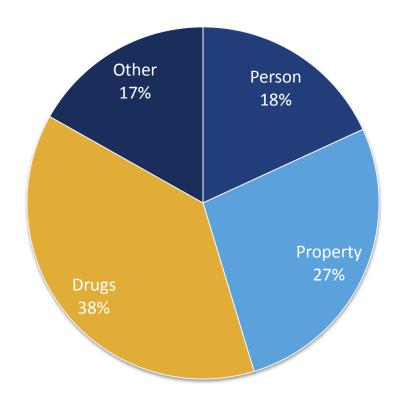
#### Admissions by Statutory Violent or Sex Offenses, 2016





## 82% of Admissions Sentenced for Non-Person Offenses

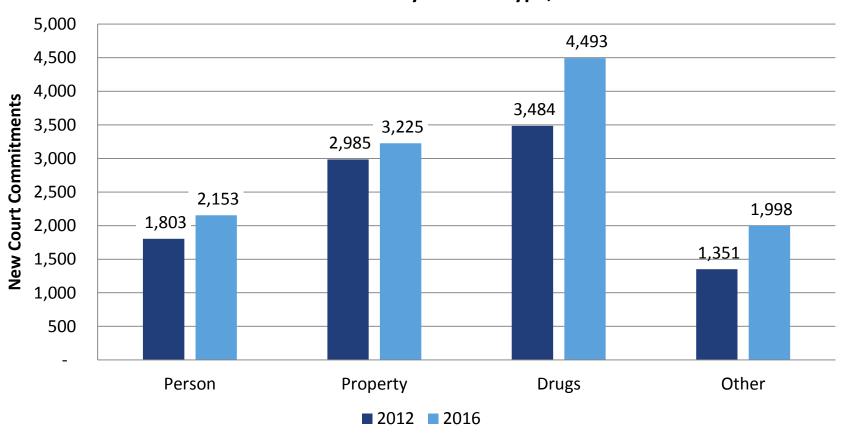
#### **New Court Commitments by Offense Type, 2016**





## 29% Growth in Drug New Court Commitments to DOC

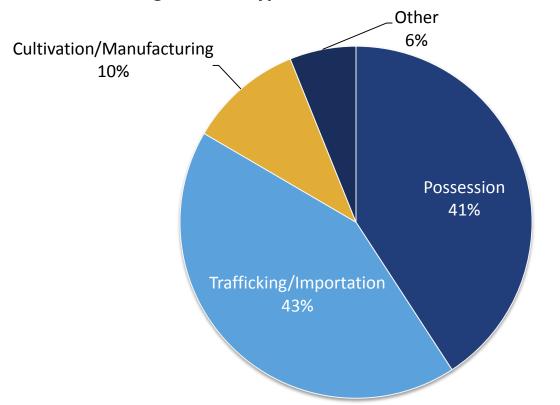
#### New Court Commitments by Offense Type, 2012 vs 2016





# 41% of Drug Admissions Sent for Simple Possession

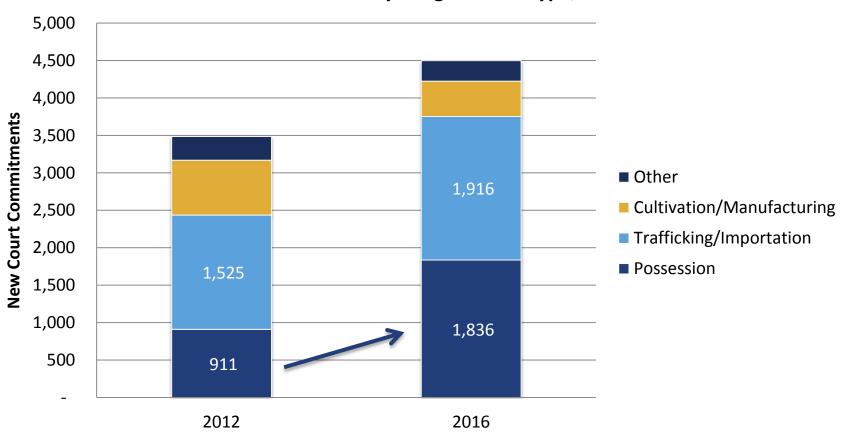
#### **Drug Offense Type, New Court Commitments, 2016**





## Number of People Sent to DOC for Possession Offenses Doubled in Five Years

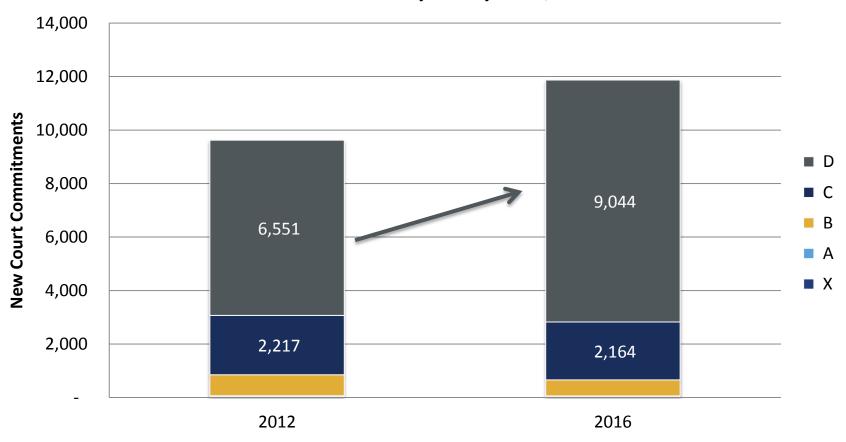
#### New Court Commitments by Drug Offense Type, 2012 vs 2016





## Class D Admissions Rose 38%, All Other Classes Declined

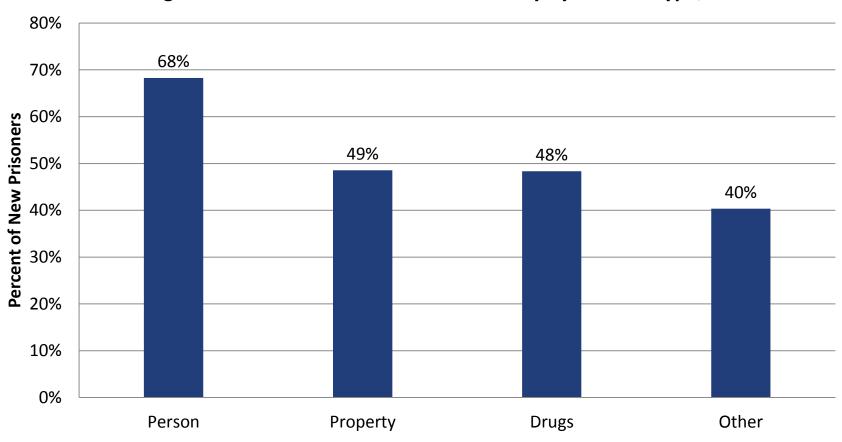
#### New Court Commitments by Felony Class, 2012 vs 2016





# Close to Half of New Property and Drug Prisoners Have No Prior Felonies

#### Percentage of New Prisoners with No Prior Felony by Offense Type, 2016





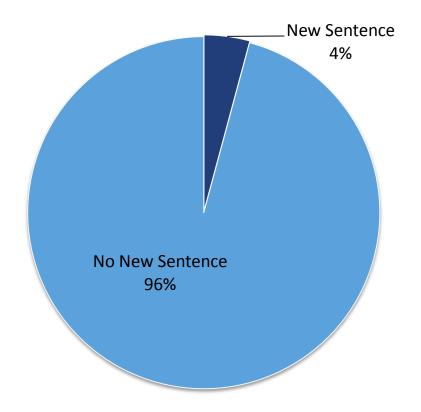
### 9 of Top 10 Offenses Non-Person

Offense	New Court Commitments, 2012	New Court Commitments, 2016	% Change
Possession of a Controlled Substance, Class D	881	1,821	107%
Trafficking/Importation of a Controlled Substance, Class D	724	1,215	68%
Trafficking/Importation of a Controlled Substance, Class C	753	638	-15%
Burglary, 3rd Degree	560	581	4%
Theft By Unlawful Taking Or Disposition >\$500 And <\$10,000	391	580	48%
Burglary, 2nd Degree	500	453	-9%
Receiving Stolen Property >\$500 And <\$10,000	302	448	48%
Wanton Endangerment-1st Degree	247	446	81%
Flagrant Non Support	396	428	8%
Criminal Possession Forged Instrument-2nd Degree-Identify	299	320	7%



## 96% of Parole Revocations For Technical Violations

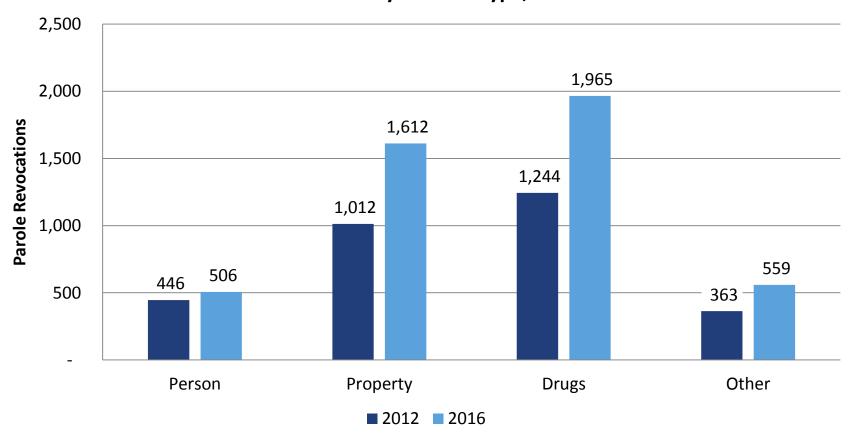
#### Parole Revocations by Violation Type, 2016





### Parole Revocations Increased for Property and Drug Offenses

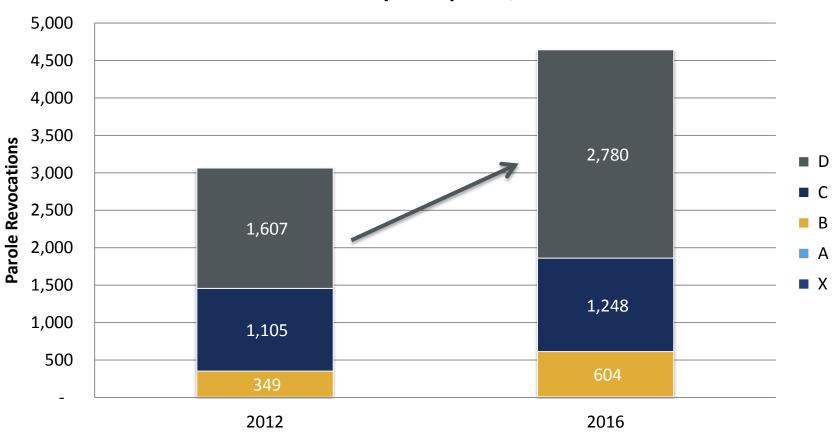
#### Parole Revocations by Offense Type, 2012 vs 2016





## 60% of Parole Revocations for Class D Felonies

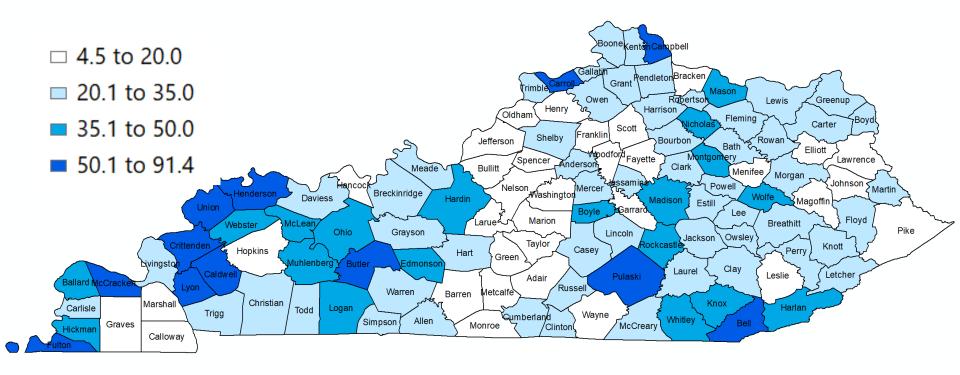
#### Parole Revocations by Felony Class, 2012 vs 2016





## Major Variation in DOC Commitment Rates Across Counties

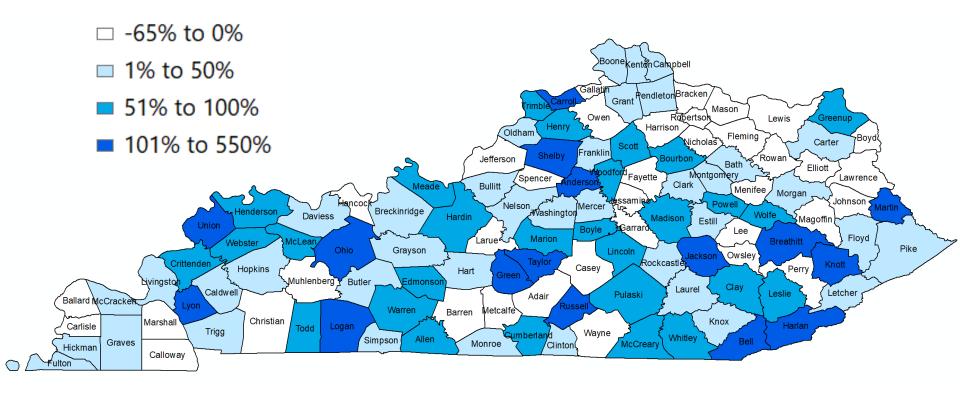
#### Rate of New Court Commitments per 10,000 Residents





## 16 Counties More Than Doubled DOC Commitments in Five Years

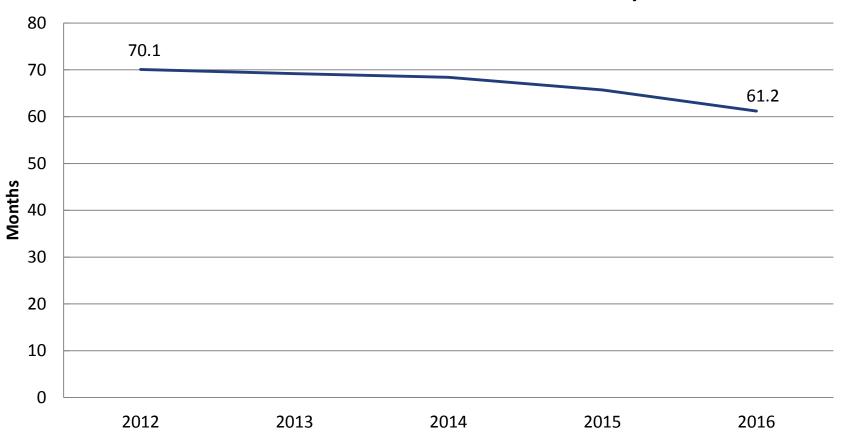
#### Percent Change in New Court Commitments by County, 2012 – 2016





## Average Sentence Length Declined 13% in Five Years

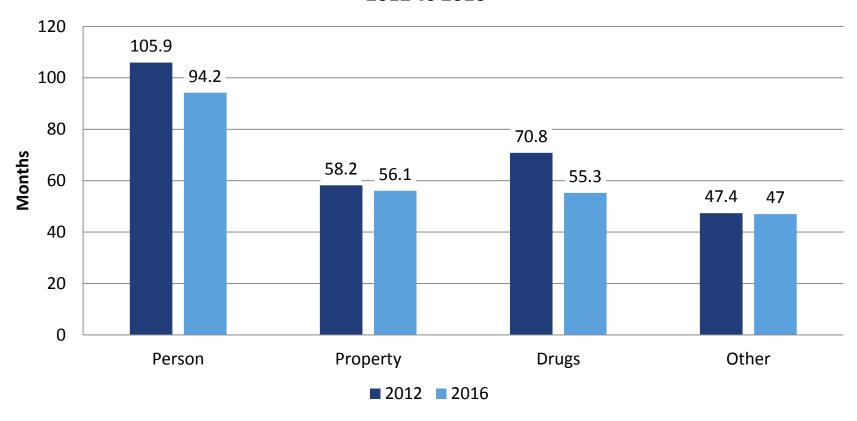
#### Mean Total Sentence for New Court Commitments by Year





### Biggest Decline for Drug Offenses

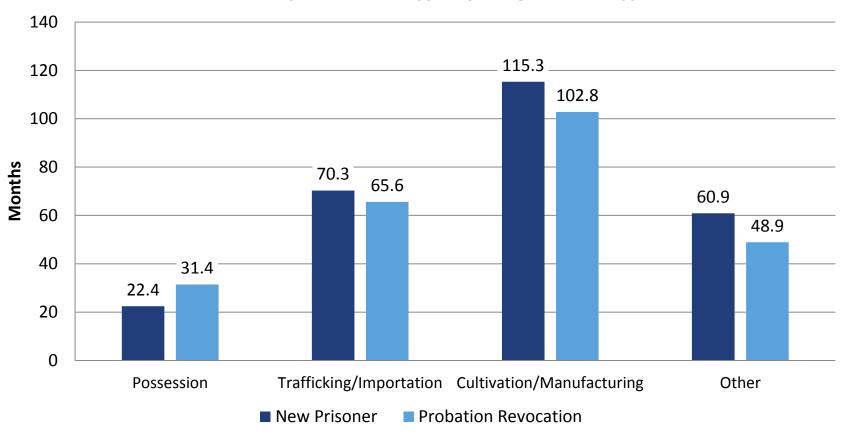
### Mean Total Sentence for New Court Commitments by Offense Type, 2012 vs 2016





## Probation Revocations for Possession Sentenced to Nine Months Longer Than Direct Incarceration Sentences

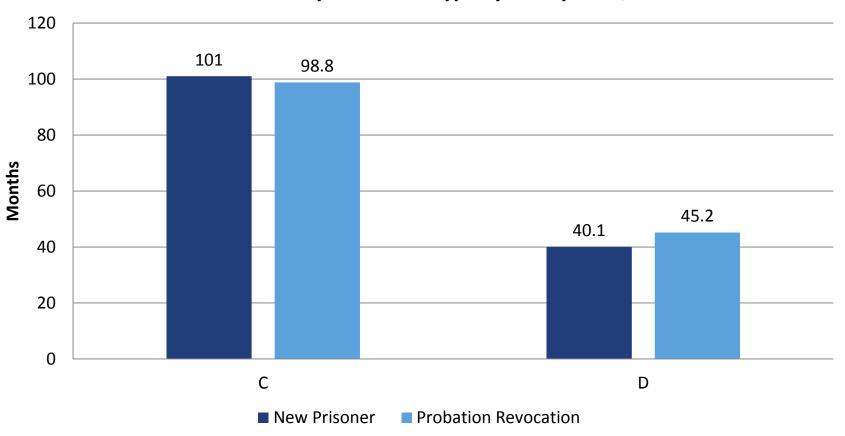
#### Mean Sentence by Admission Type by Drug Offense Type, 2016





## Probation Revocations for Class D Offenses Receive Longer Sentences Than Those Sentenced Directly to Incarceration

#### Mean Sentence by Admission Type by Felony Class, 2016





### Admission Takeaways

- Admissions to prison grew 32% in the last five years, driven by:
  - Drug possession and other Class D felonies
  - Parole technical violators with underlying property and drug crimes
- 82% of new court commitments sentenced for nonperson offenses
  - 9 of top 10 most common crimes for which people sentenced to prison non-person
- 61% of DOC admissions previously on supervision
- Growth in admissions varies across state



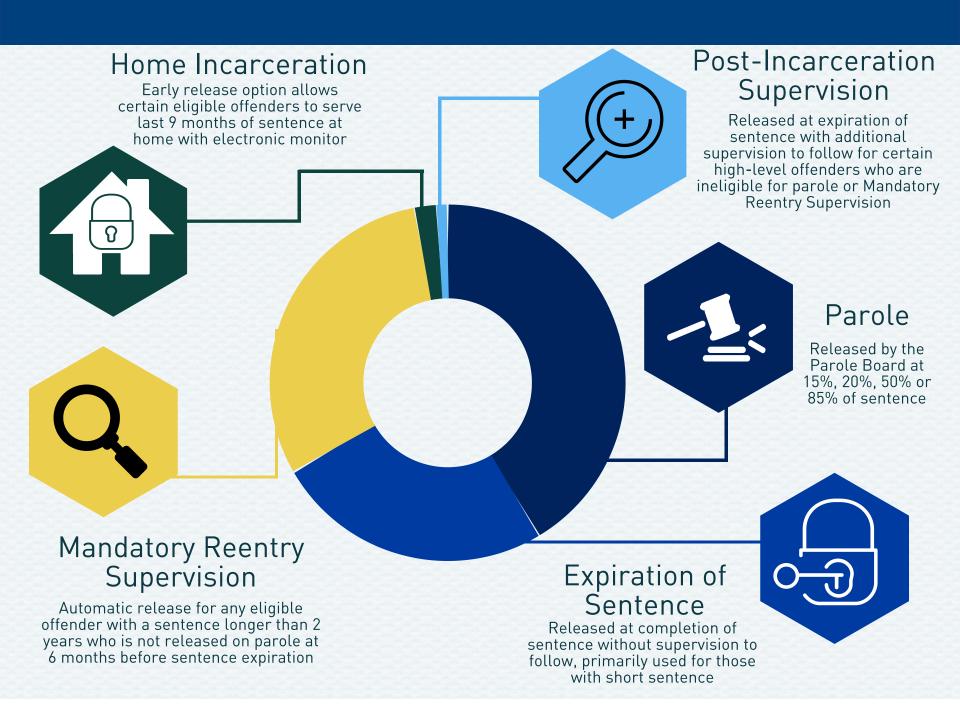
### Releases/Time Served



### How Long Do Inmates Stay in DOC Custody?

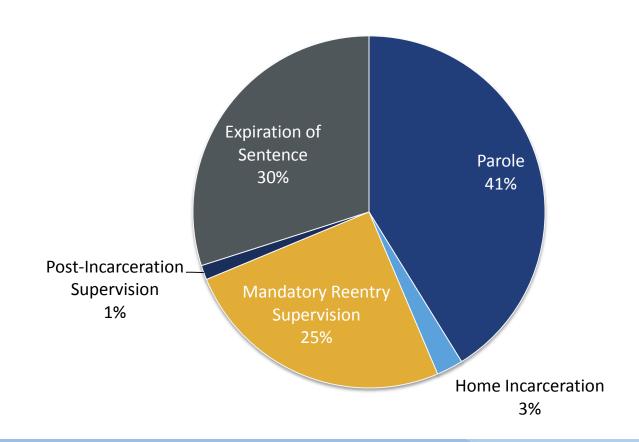
- Release types
- Time served in prison
- Percentage of sentence served in prison





### 41% of Inmates Released to Parole

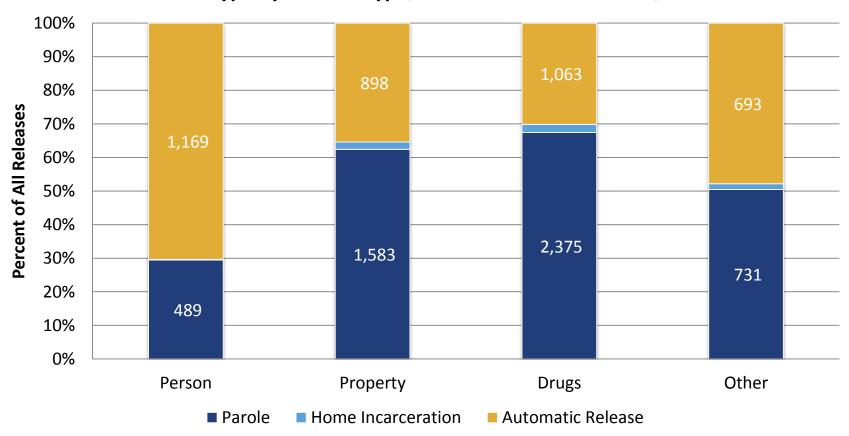
#### Releases by Release Type, 2016





## People in Custody for Drug Offenses Most Likely to be Released on Parole

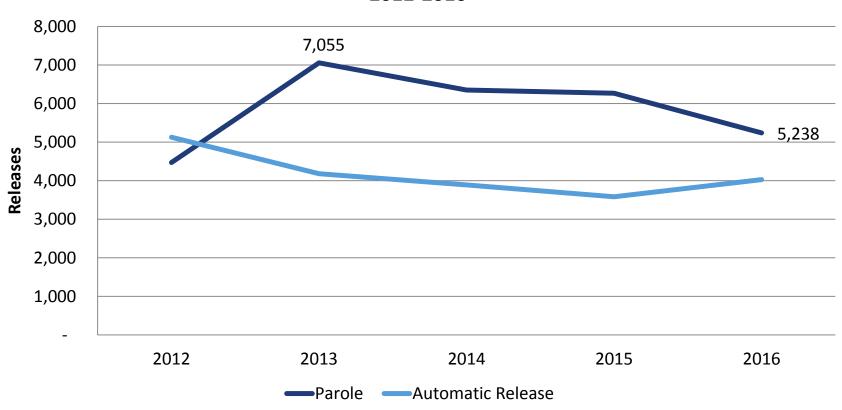
#### Release Type by Offense Type, New Court Commitments, 2016





#### Parole Releases Dropping Since 2013

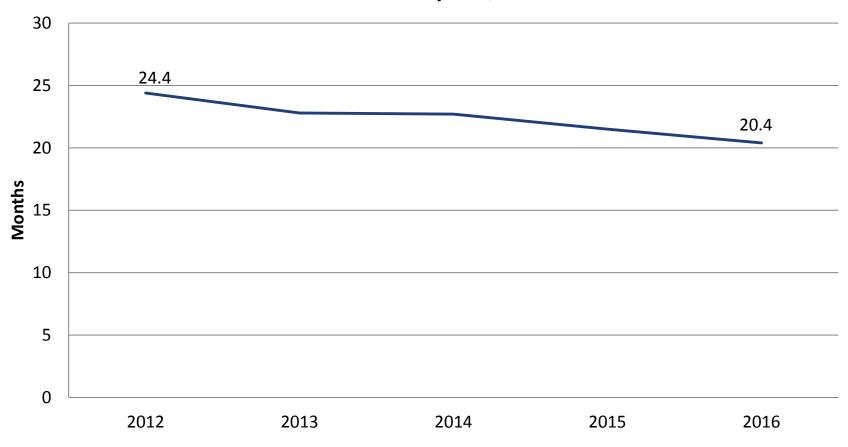
#### Releases for New Court Commitments by Simplified Release Type, 2012-2016





#### Average Time Served Down Four Months

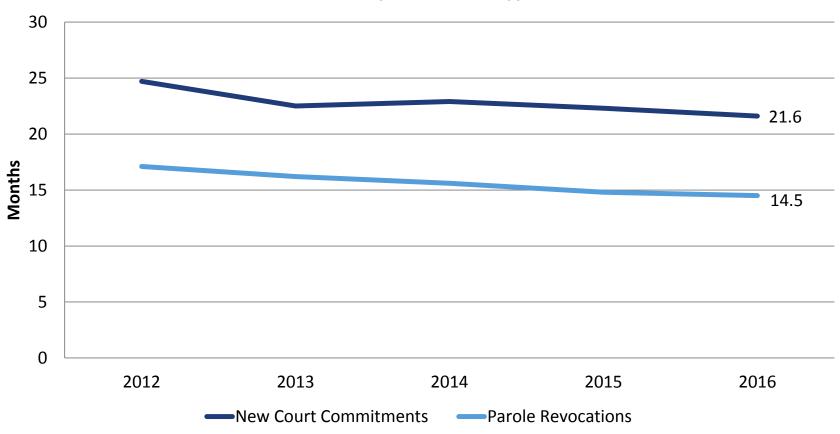






### New Court Commitments Serve About 50% Longer on Average Than Parole Revocations

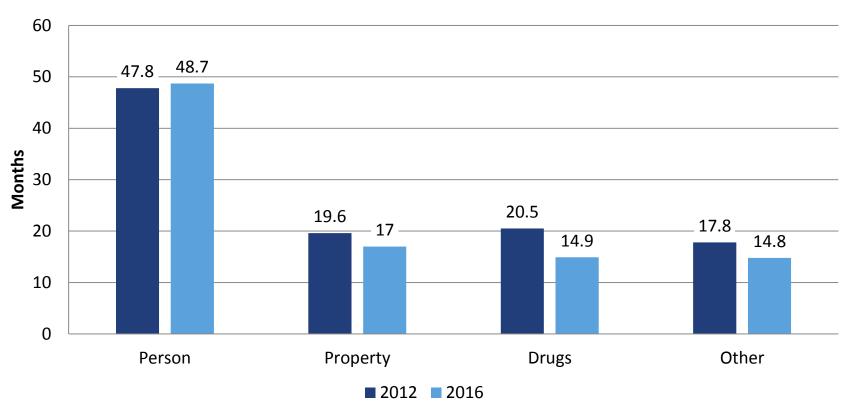
#### Mean Time Served by Admission Type, 2012-2016





### People in DOC Custody for Non-Person Offenses Serve Less Than 18 Months on Average

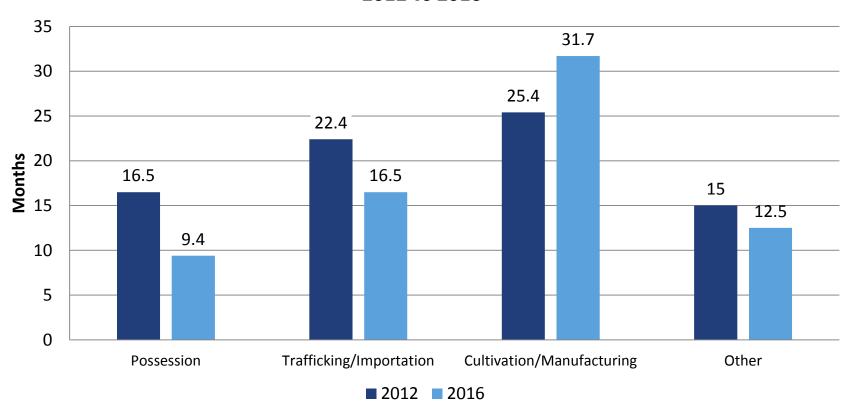
#### Mean Time Served by New Court Commitments by Offense Type, 2012 vs 2016





## Time Served Declined for People Convicted of Possession and Trafficking Offenses

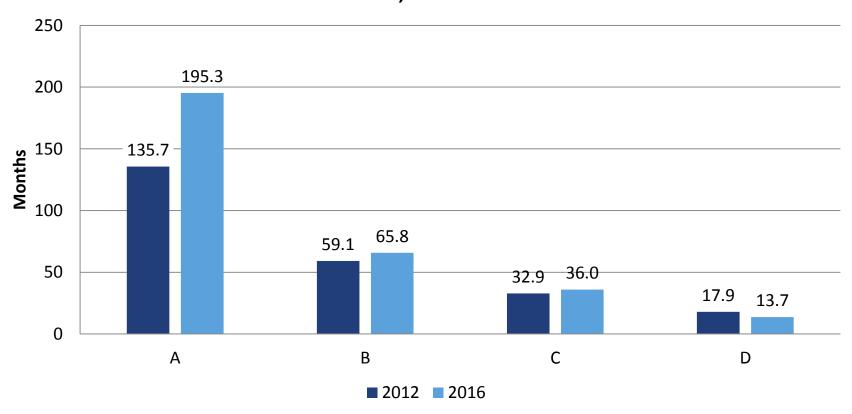
#### Mean Time Served by New Court Commitments and Drug Offense Type, 2012 vs 2016





## Time Served Has Risen for All Felony Classes Except Class D

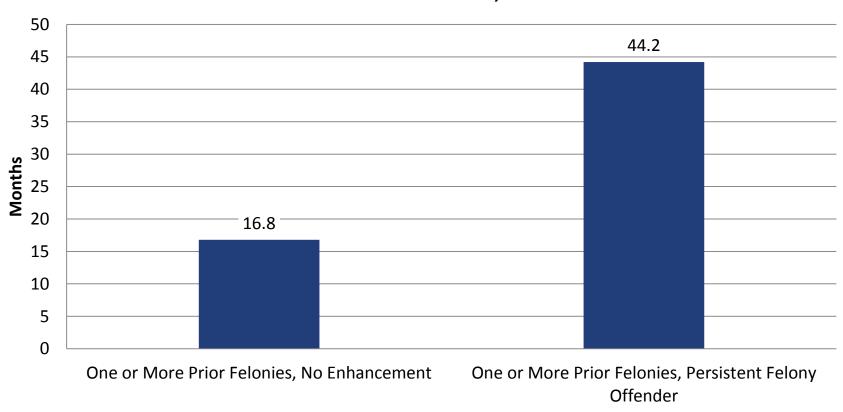
#### Mean Time Served in Prison by Felony Class, New Court Commitments Released, 2012 vs 2016





## Persistent Felony Offenders Serve 163% Longer Than Non-PFOs with Prior Felonies

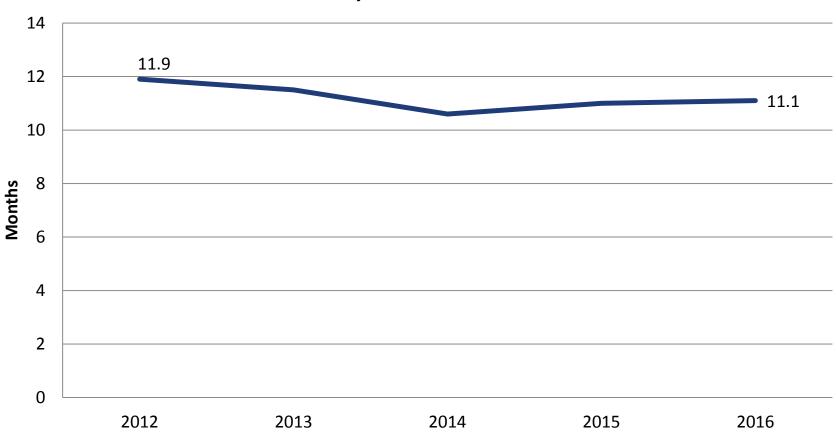
### Mean Time Served by Persistent Felony Offender, New Court Commitment Releases, 2016





## Parole Technical Violators Serve 11 Months in DOC Custody on Average

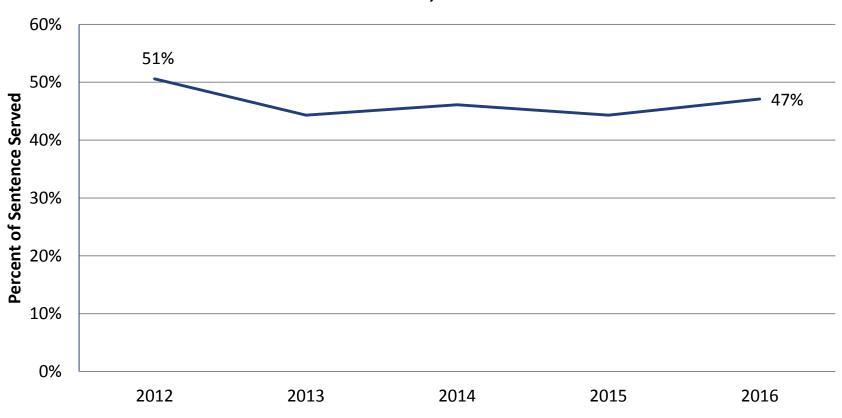
#### **Time Served by Parole Technical Violators**





## On Average, New Court Commitments Serve 47% of Sentence in Prison

#### Mean % of Sentence Served in Prison by New Court Commitment Releases, 2016





### Release Takeaways

- Average time served is down since 2012
  - Driven down by large growth in number of Class D felonies and parole technical violators in the population
- Length of stay in prison growing for higher-level felonies
- Only 41% of inmates released on parole, despite broad eligibility



## **DOC Population Snapshot**



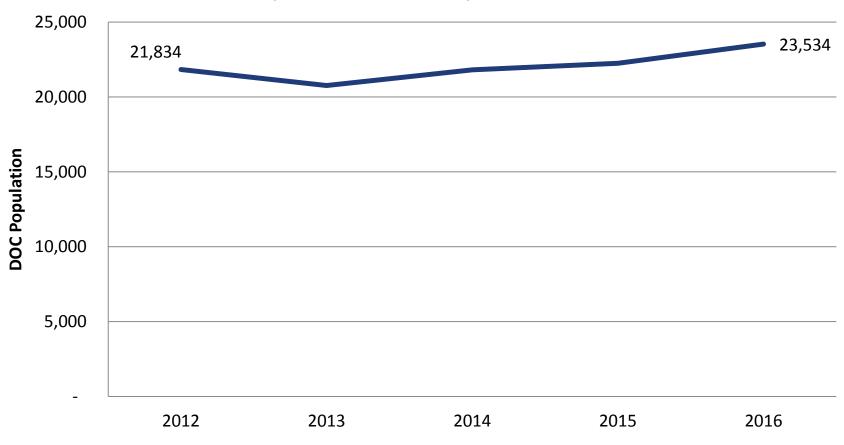
### Who is in the KY DOC Population?

- Change over time
- Demographics
- Admission type
- Facility type
- Offense type
- Geographic variation



#### DOC Population Grew 8% Since 2012

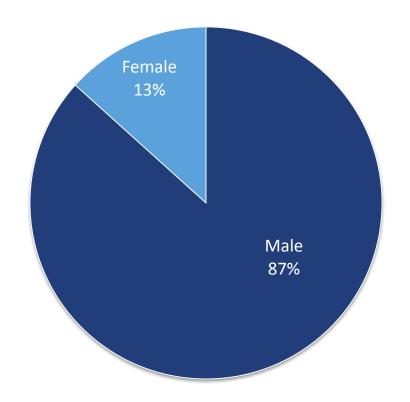






### DOC Population is 87% Male

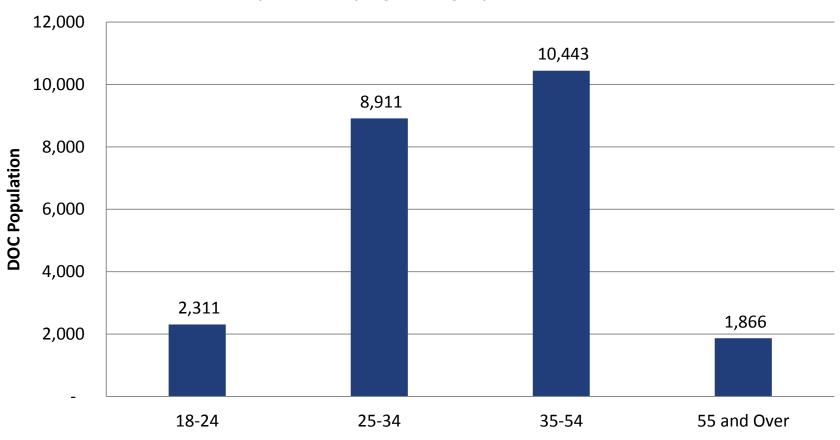
#### **DOC Population by Gender, December 2016**





## Largest Age Group 35-54

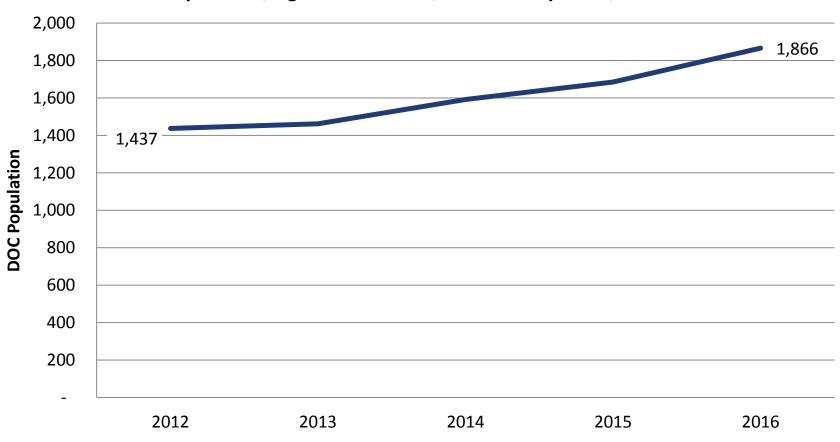
#### **DOC Population by Age Category, December 2016**





### 55 and Older Cohort Increased by 30%

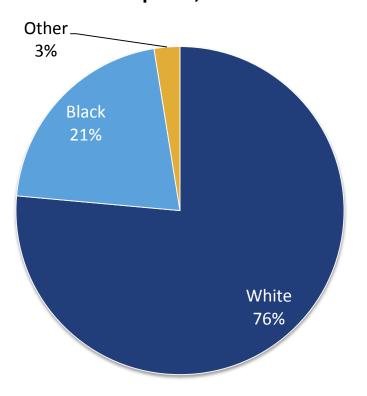




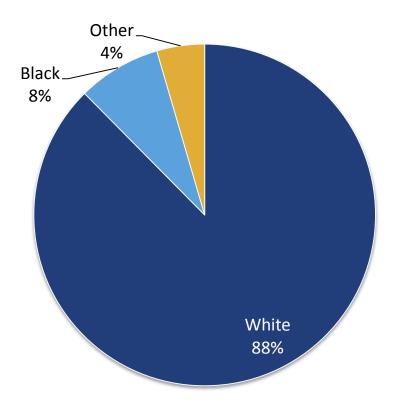


### Blacks Overrepresented in DOC Custody

DOC Population by Race, Annual Snapshot, 2016



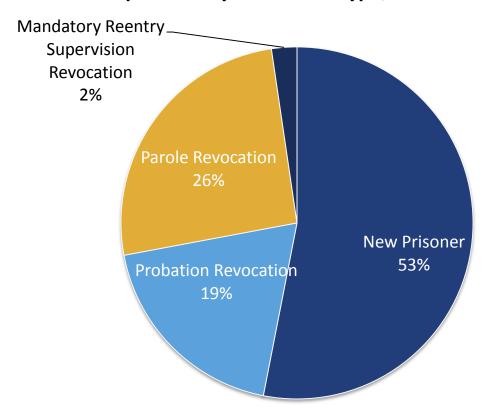
#### **Kentucky Population by Race, 2015**





## New Prisoners Make Up Just Over Half of Prison Population

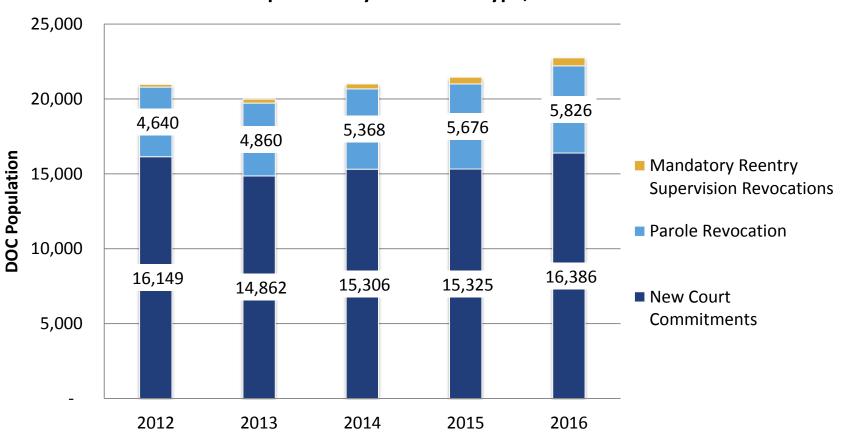
#### DOC Population by Admission Type, December 2016





#### Parole Revocations in DOC Custody Grew 26%

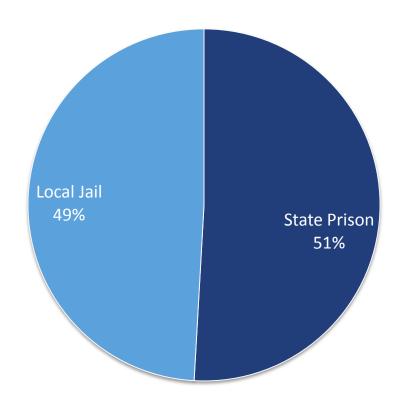






### Almost Half of DOC Population in County Jails

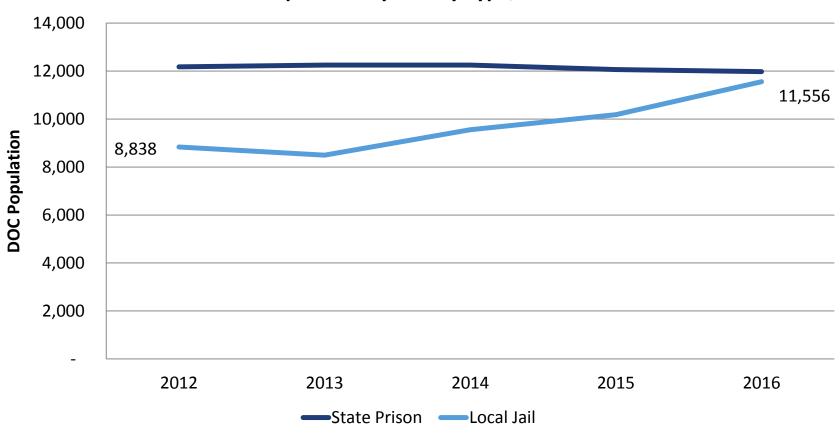
**DOC Population by Facility Type, 2016** 





#### 31% Growth in DOC Inmates Housed in Jails

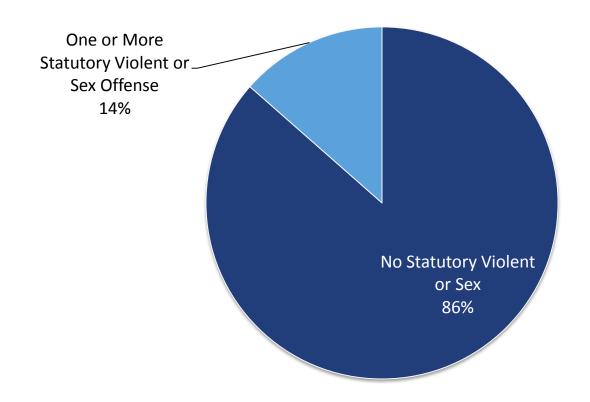






## 14% of DOC Population Has Statutory Violent or Sex Offense

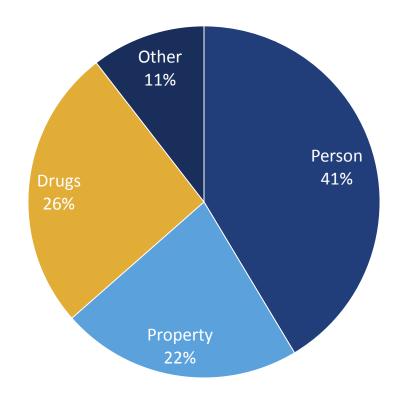
#### **DOC Population by Statutory Violent or Sex Offense, 2016**





## 59% of DOC Population Sentenced for Non-Person Crimes

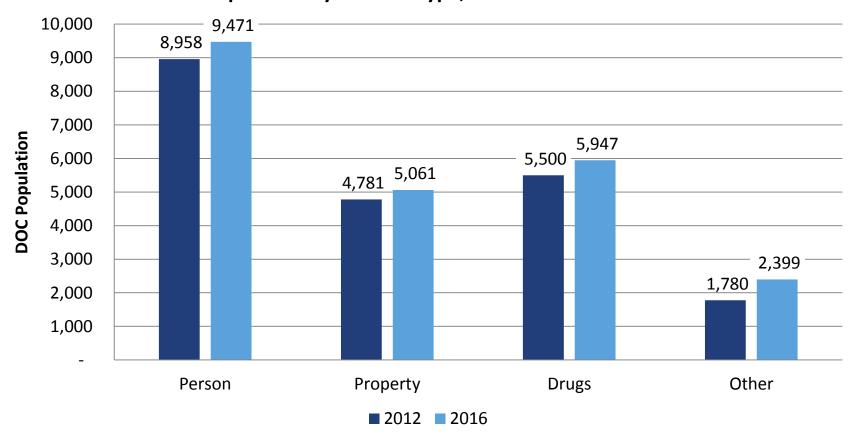
#### **DOC Population by Offense Type, December 2016**





## Growth in All Offense Types

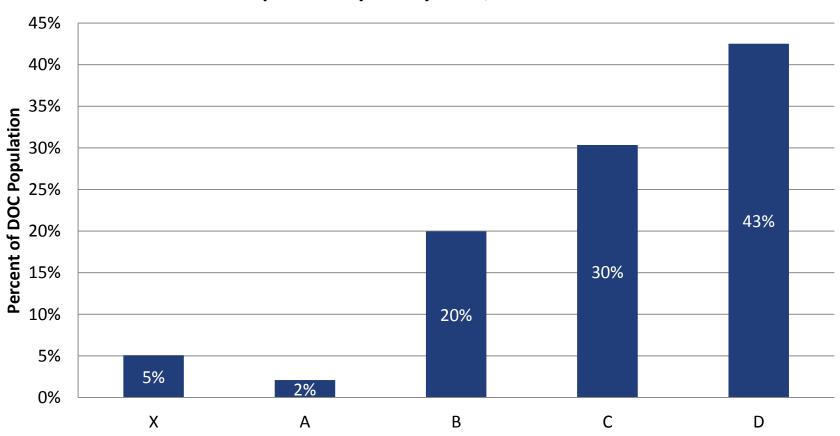
#### DOC Population by Offense Type, December 2012 vs 2016





## 73% of the DOC Population Sentenced for Class C or D Felonies

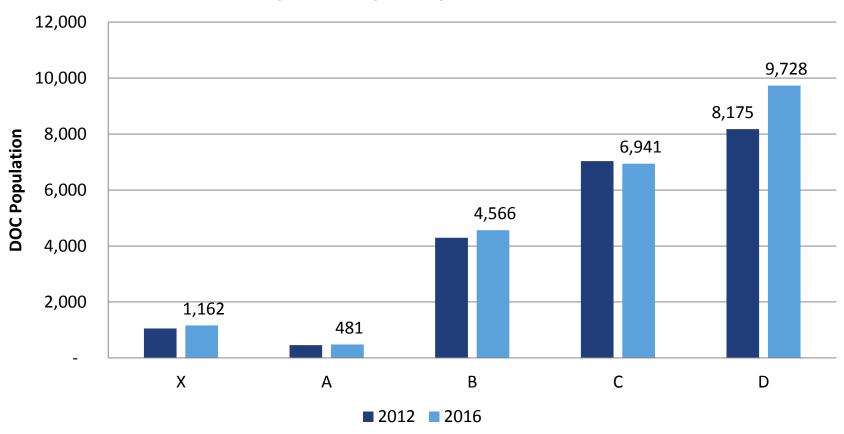
#### **DOC Population by Felony Class, December 2016**





#### 19% Growth in Class D Felonies in DOC Custody

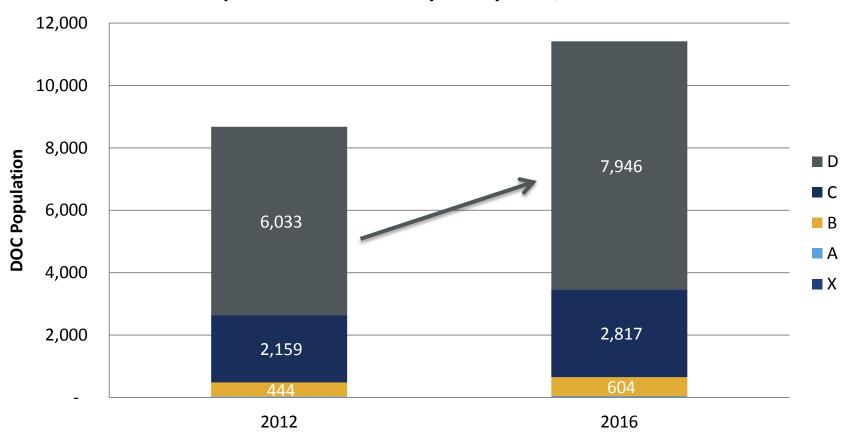






## Growth in DOC Jail Population Driven by Class D Felonies

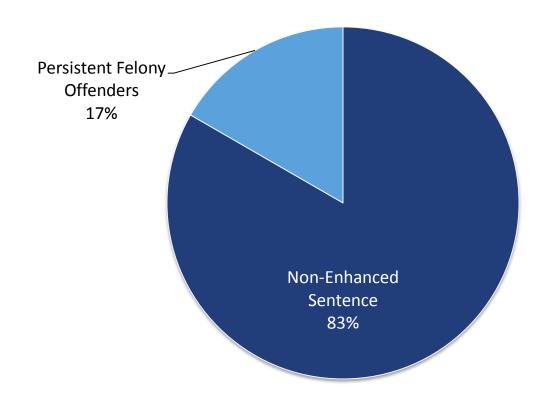
#### DOC Population in Local Jail by Felony Class, 2012 vs 2016





# 17% of DOC Population Has Persistent Felony Offender Status

#### **DOC Population by PFO Status, 2016**





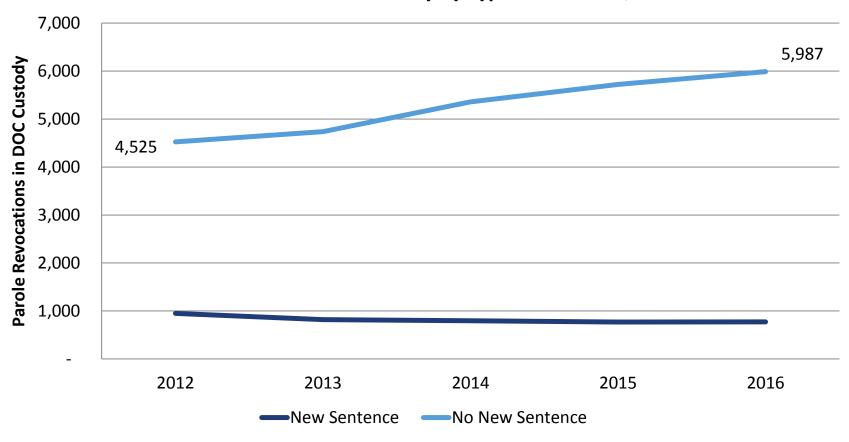
## 7 of the Top 10 Offenses in DOC Population Are Drug or Property Crimes

DOC Population by Offense	2012	2016	% Change
Trafficking/Importation of a Controlled Substance, Class C	1,984	1,594	-20%
Burglary, 2nd Degree	1,470	1,494	2%
Murder	1,271	1,354	7%
Trafficking/Importation of a Controlled Substance, Class D	626	1,155	85%
Robbery, 2nd Degree	1,038	1,137	10%
Possession of a Controlled Substance, Class D	885	1,135	28%
Robbery, 1st Degree	1,098	1,100	0%
Manufacturing of a Controlled Substance, Class B	860	1,030	20%
Burglary, 3rd Degree	831	836	1%
Theft By Unlawful Taking Or Disposition >\$500 And <\$10,000	408	639	57%



### Almost 6,000 Current State Prisoners for Technical Violations of Parole

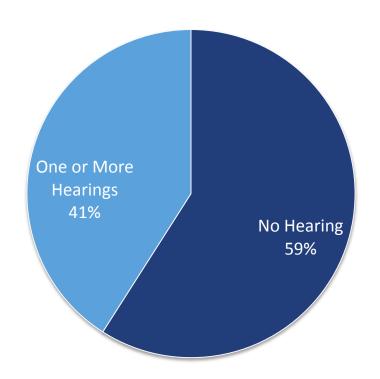
#### Parole Revocations in DOC Custody by Type of Violation, 2012-2016





## 41% of New Court Commitments in DOC Custody Have Had One or More Parole Release Hearings

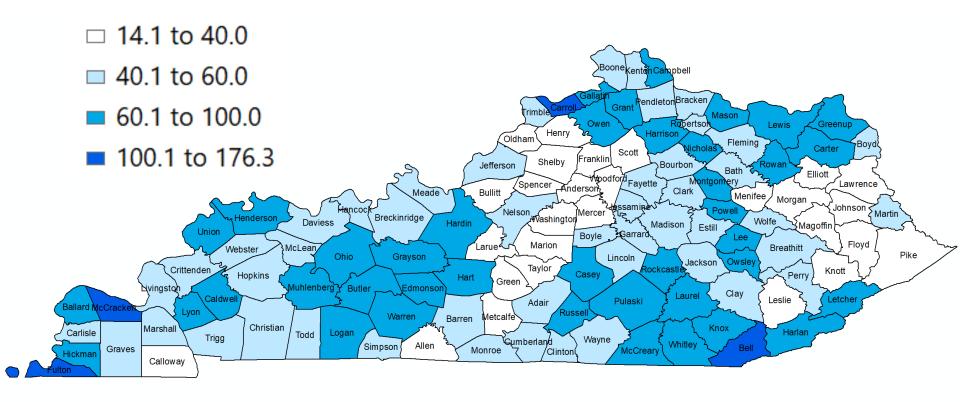
New Court Commitments in DOC Population by Parole Hearing History, 2016





#### Wide Variation in DOC Use Rates

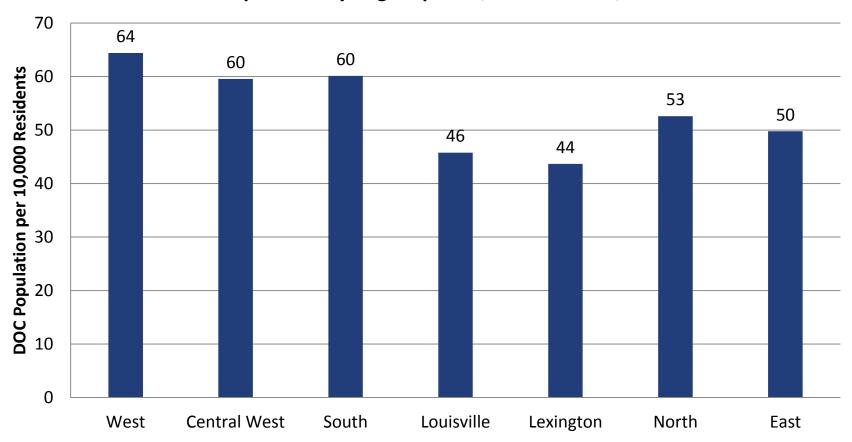
#### County Imprisonment Rate per 10,000 Residents, 2016





## Non-Metro Regions Incarcerate at Higher Rates Than Urban Centers

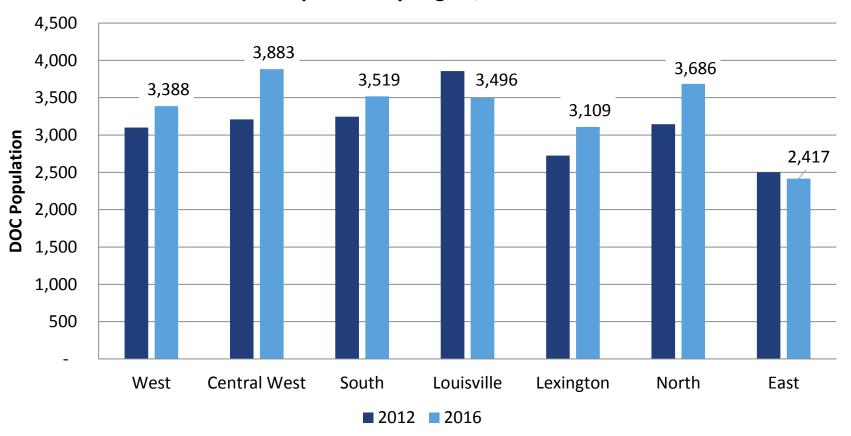
#### DOC Population by Region per 10,000 Residents, 2016





## Louisville DOC Population Dropped by 9%, East Region 3%; All Others Rising

#### DOC Population by Region, 2012 vs 2016





### **DOC Population Takeaways**

- DOC population grew 8% in the past five years
- Almost half of the DOC population (49%) housed in county jails
  - The DOC jail population grew 31% since 2012, driven by growth in Class D felons
- Major growth (26%) in prison bed use for parole revocations with underlying drug and property crimes
  - Almost 6,000 current prisoners in for technical violations of parole



### **DOC Population Takeaways**

- 59% of DOC population in for non-person crimes
  - Drug and property crimes make up seven of the ten most common crimes for people in DOC custody
- Non-metro regions imprison at a higher rate than urban centers (Louisville/Lexington)

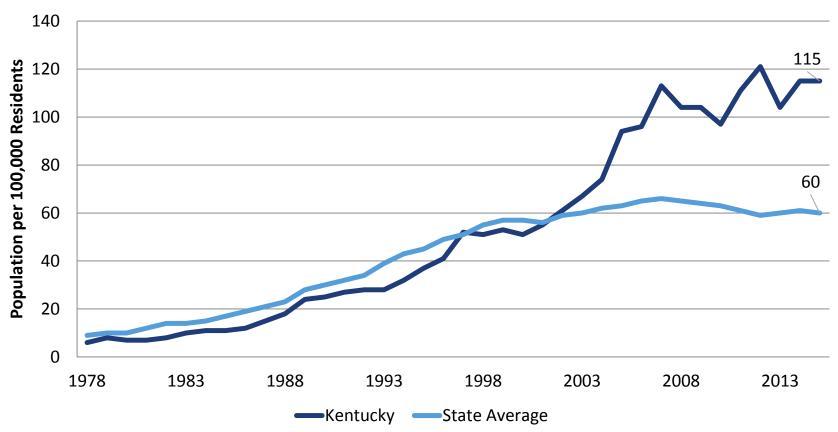


## **Female Population**



## Kentucky Has Fifth Highest Female Imprisonment Rate, Almost Twice National Average

#### Female Imprisonment Rates (Prison Population per 100,000), 1978-2015





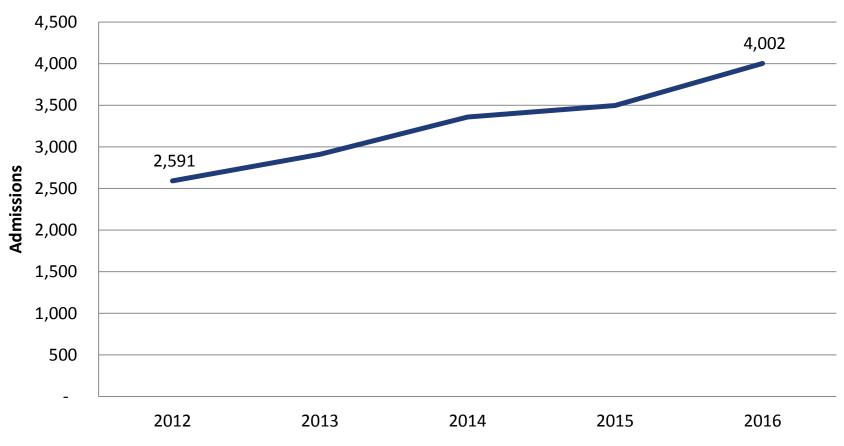
# What is Happening With the Female Prison Population?

- Admissions
- Time served
- Prison population



### Female Admissions Up 54% Since 2012

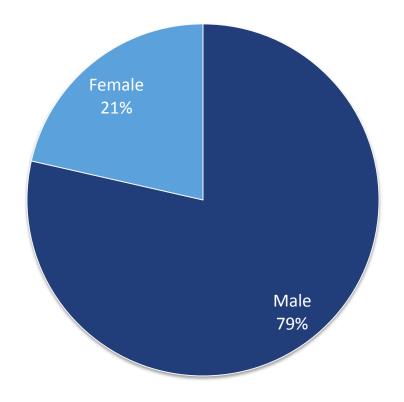






# 21% of Admissions Female, Compared to 12% Nationally

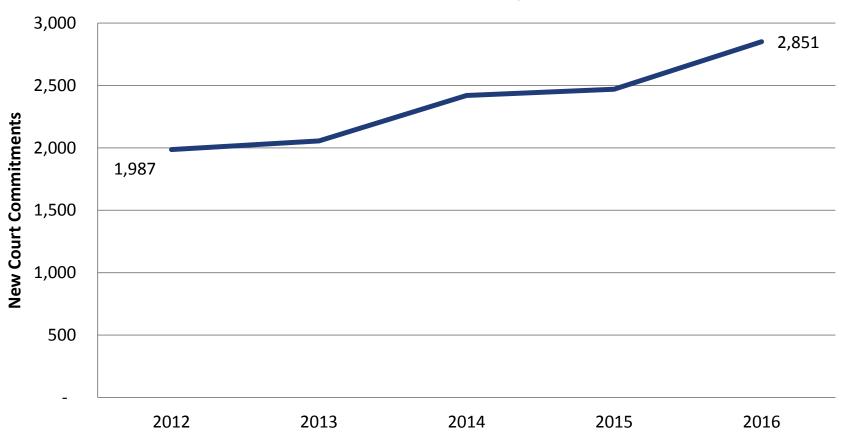
#### Admissions by Gender, 2016





## Female New Court Commitments Increased 43%

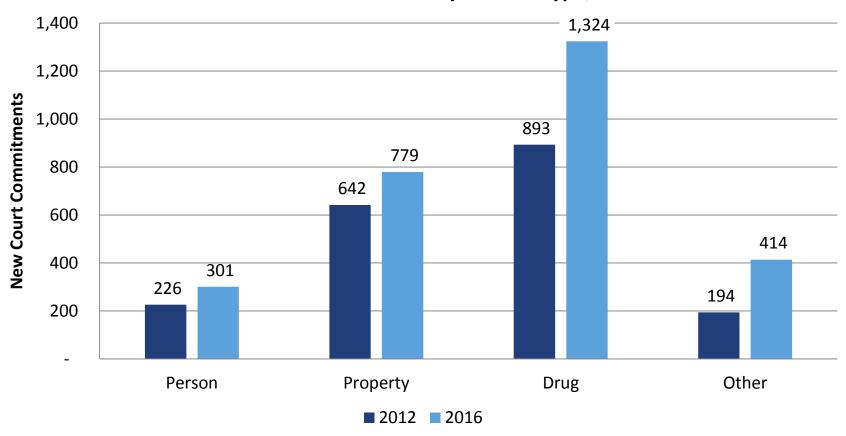
#### Female New Court Commitments, 2012-2016





## 48% Increase in Females Sent to DOC for Drug Offenses

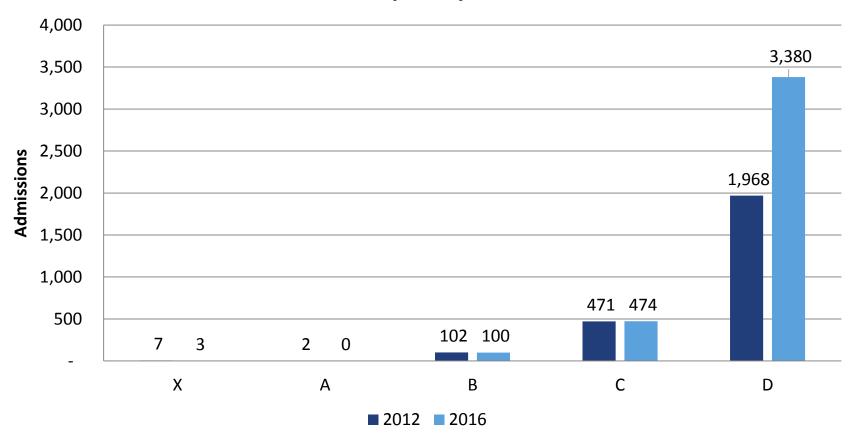
#### Female New Court Commitments by Offense Type, 2012 vs 2016





# Class D Felonies Account For 85% of Female Admissions, Grew 72% Since 2012

#### Female Admissions by Felony Class, 2012 vs 2016





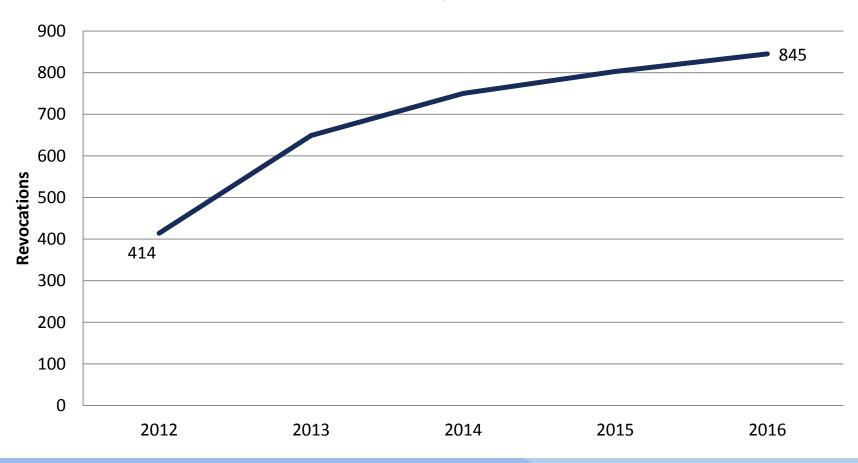
# Number of Females Sent to DOC for Drug Possession Grew 140% in Five Years

Offense	New Court Commitments, 2012	New Court Commitments, 2016	% Change
Possession of a Controlled Substance, Class D	264	634	140%
Trafficking/Importation of a Controlled Substance, Class D	177	332	88%
Theft By Unlawful Taking Or Disposition >\$500 And <\$10,000	82	164	100%
Trafficking/Importation of a Controlled Substance, Class C	149	118	-21%
Criminal Possession Forged Instrument-2nd Degree-Identify	127	117	-8%
Wanton Endangerment-1st Degree	32	94	194%
Flagrant Non Support	51	92	80%
Cultivation/Manufacturing of a Controlled Substance, Class D	79	81	3%
Burglary, 3rd Degree	44	79	80%
Receiving Stolen Property > \$500 And < \$10,000	40	79	98%



### Female Parole Revocations Doubled Since 2012

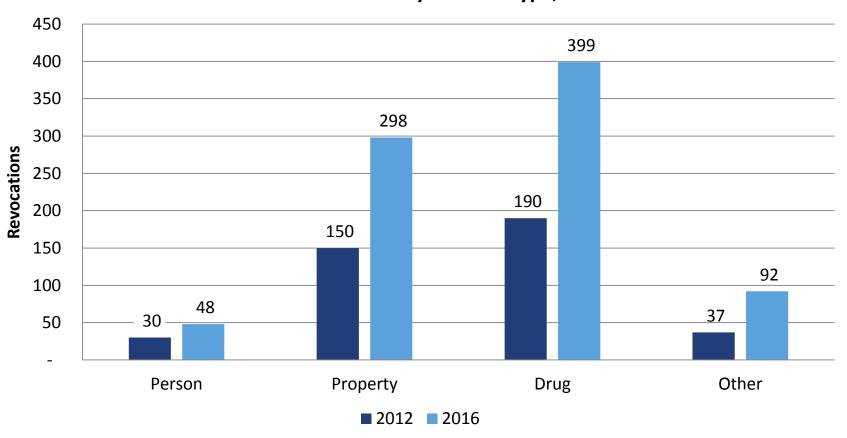
#### Female Parole Revocations, 2012-2016





# Revocations for Drug Offenses More Than Doubled

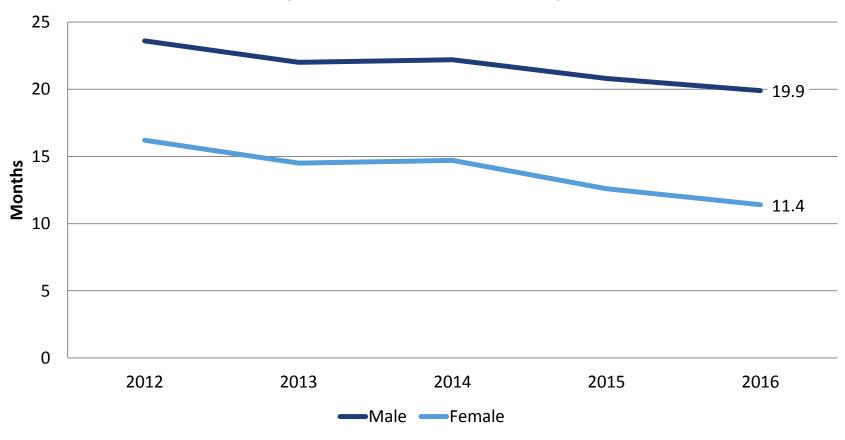
#### Female Parole Revocations by Offense Type, 2012 vs 2016





# Female New Court Commitments Served Less Than 1 Year On Average

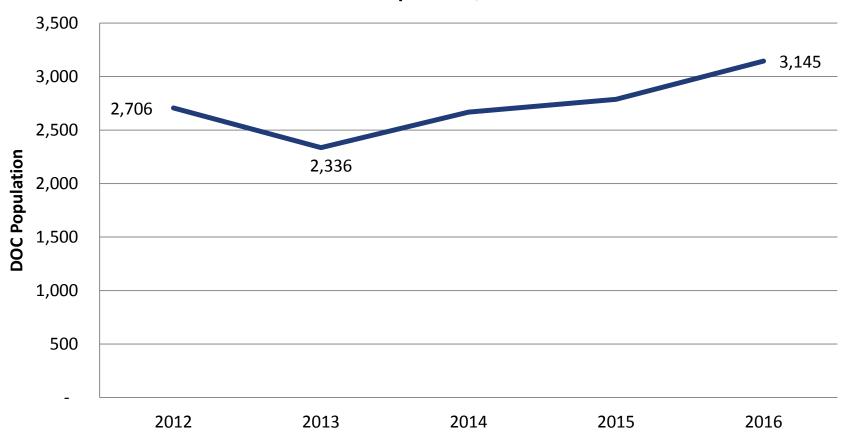
#### Mean Time Served by New Court Commitments by Gender, 2012-2016





# Female DOC Population Increased 16%, Twice as Fast as Overall DOC Population

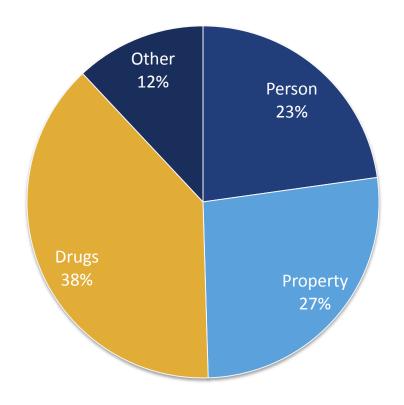
#### Female DOC Population, 2012-2016





# 77% of Female DOC Population Incarcerated for Non-Person Offenses

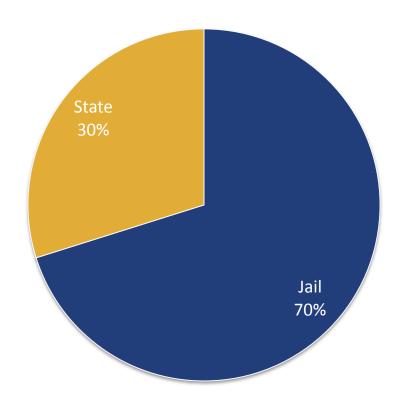
#### Female DOC Population by Offense Type, 2016





### 70% of Female Inmates Housed in Local Jails

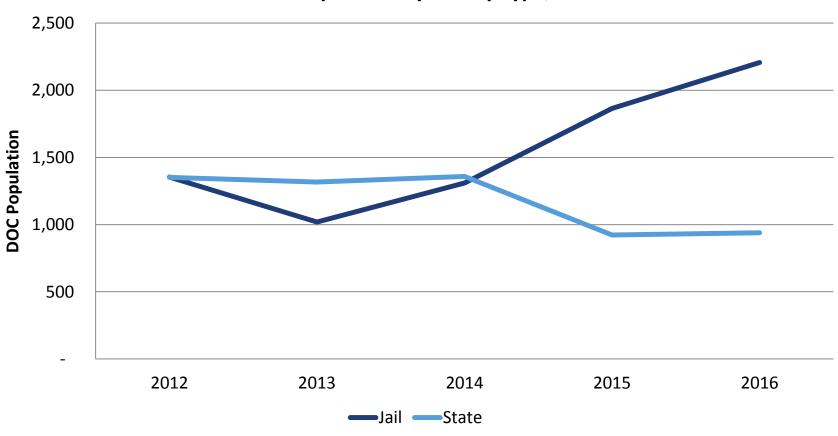
#### Female DOC Population by Facility Type, 2016





## The Use of Jails for Female Inmates Increased 63%

#### Female DOC Population by Facility Type, 2012-2016





### Takeaways

- Same patterns as in the total population, but stronger
- Female admissions up 54%
  - Driven by growth in drug offenses for both new court commitments and parole revocations
- This led to 16% growth in female DOC population, twice as fast as total population
- 70% of female DOC population housed in local jails, up from about 50% in 2012
- Females stay in DOC custody for less than a year on average



## **Summary and Next Steps**



### Research on Incarceration and Recidivism

Researchers have examined whether incarceration reduces recidivism more than non-custodial sanctions

### Findings:

- In general, incarceration is not more effective than noncustodial sanctions at reducing recidivism
- For many people convicted of lower-level crimes, incarceration can actually increase recidivism



### Research on Length of Stay and Recidivism

Researchers have also examined whether longer periods of incarceration reduce recidivism more than shorter periods

### Findings:

 Longer prison stays do not reduce recidivism more than shorter stays



### Summary

- Prison admissions up 32% in only five years
  - The number of people committed to DOC custody for drug possession doubled
  - Parole revocations up 50%
  - Growth in people convicted of lower-level offenses led to shortened average length of stay and growth in DOC population housed in jail
- 82% of admissions and 59% of the prison population sentenced for non-person crimes
- Major variation in prison admissions and use across the state



### Summary

- 96% of parole revocations do not have a new sentence attached
  - Almost 6,000 parole technical violators currently in DOC custody
- Kentucky imprisons women at a disproportionate rate
  - 77% of women in DOC custody sentenced for non-person crimes
  - 54% growth in admissions in only five years, driven by huge growth in people convicted of drug offenses or committed for technical violations of parole



### Next Meeting: October 11

- Follow-up questions
- New data on:
  - Sentencing
  - Pretrial
  - Post release community supervision
- Introduction to policy development



## Questions?



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