



## **CITY COUNCIL AGENDA September 28, 2021**

### **Members**

Nikayah Walker, Mayor  
Sena Magill, Vice Mayor  
Heather D. Hill  
Michael K. Payne  
J. Lloyd Snook, III  
Kyna Thomas, Clerk

### **5:00 PM WORK SESSION**

Register at [www.charlottesville.gov/zoom](http://www.charlottesville.gov/zoom). Virtual/electronic meeting in accordance with a local ordinance amended and re-enacted April 19, 2021, to ensure continuity of government and prevent the spread of disease during a declared State of Emergency. Individuals with disabilities who require assistance or special arrangements to participate in the public meeting may call (434) 970-3182 or submit a request via email to [ada@charlottesville.gov](mailto:ada@charlottesville.gov). The City of Charlottesville requests that you provide a 48 hour notice so that proper arrangements may be made.

### **CALL TO ORDER**

### **ROLL CALL**

### **REPORTS**

1. Report: Marcus Alert group presentation
2. Report: Imagining a Just Cville group presentation

### **PUBLIC COMMENT and DISCUSSION**

### **Adjournment**

# IMAGINING A JUST CVILLE

Location: Virtual

Date: September 28, 2021

Time: 5:00PM – 8:00PM

## **Agenda:**

- *Opening Remarks – Mayor Nikuyah Walker*
- *Mass Incarceration in a World Class City – The Smith Family Shares their Story*
- *Ten Key Findings - Neal Goodloe*
- *The Power and Impact of Officer Discretion - Dr. Rashall Brackney and Nancy Amin*
- *Reform Efforts of the Commonwealth’s Attorney’s Office - Joe Platania*
- *Exploring a LEAD Program - Dr. Rashall Brackney and Joe Platania*
- *Participatory Justice: A Request for Funding - Liz Murtagh*
- *Changing the Culture of Policing in Charlottesville – Jeff Fogel*
- *Lending Hands: Why are Grassroots Programs Necessary - Cherry Henley*
- *Bridge Ministries: Our Efforts during the Pandemic – Jay James*
- *Restoration and Hope House – Sandra Carter*
- *Closing Statement - Raylaja Waller & Mayor Nikuyah Walker*

# Charlottesville Criminal Justice Trends by Race

2011-2020

Presented to Charlottesville City Council

Just C'Ville Workgroup

September 28, 2021

# Background

- In January 2020, the consulting firm MGT presented to Charlottesville City Council the results of a multi-year study of the disproportionate incarceration of Black inmates arrested in Charlottesville and Albemarle County.
- MGT obtained jail and court data from 2014 to 2017 and used a matching protocol to identify “similarly situated” inmates (one Black and one White).
- Regression analysis was then used to identify areas of true disparity along a series of decision points in the criminal justice system.
- Disparity was identified in six of seven areas studied.
  - Severity of Principle Charge
  - Number of Companion Charges
  - Bond/Hold decisions
  - Length of Stay
  - Findings of Guilt
  - Sentence Length (including suspended sentence)

# The Current Study

- This study is a longer-term trend analysis, studying reported crime, arrests and incarceration data from 2011 to 2020.
- This study tallies the number of Black and White arrestees and inmates observed among a number of key criminal justice metrics to highlight areas of disproportionality, and to measure any change in that disproportionality over the decade.
- No attempts were made to identify “similarly situated” individuals in the data sets, nor did this study attempt to measure true disparity.
- Still, many of the key findings are consistent with the MGT findings of January 2020.

# Ten Key Findings

- Reported crime fell significantly in Charlottesville from 2011 to 2020, especially when compared to other Virginia cities of comparable size.
- The number of Charlottesville arrests decreased by similar percentages among Black and White people over the decade, in all three major crime categories.
- Arrests of older people have been on the increase, especially among Black arrestees age 55 or older, while arrests of 18-24 year-olds have fallen sharply.
- Intakes of Charlottesville-responsible inmates have fallen significantly, slightly more so among White inmates than among Black inmates.
- Black inmates were increasingly taken into the jail on more charges than white inmates from 2011 to 2020.
- Black inmates were significantly less likely to be released pretrial than were white inmates throughout the decade.
- Average length of stay fell among Black inmates, while rising modestly among White inmates. Still, on average, Black inmates served 24.2 days longer than White inmates in 2020.
- The percentage of Black Charlottesville inmates increased as length of stay increased.
- Bed day expenditures dropped significantly among both Black and White inmates from 2011 to 2020.
- Black arrests, jail intakes and bed day expenditures in the City remained significantly disproportionate throughout the decade, when compared to US Census estimates of the Black population of Charlottesville and surrounding jurisdictions.

# Charlottesville's Racial Demographics

- Charlottesville's population grew 7.1% from 2010 to 2020.
- Fewer than one in five Charlottesville residents identified as Black in 2020.
- Nearly three quarters of Charlottesville residents identified as White in 2020 (including those identifying as being of Hispanic ethnicity).
- There is some evidence to suggest that fewer Charlottesville residents identified as Black in the 2020 census than in 2010.
- However, the Weldon Cooper Center at UVA cautions against relying on 2010 and 2020 census comparisons in isolation. Among the reasons:
  - Communities are increasingly multi-racial, with greater numbers of residents identifying as more than one race or ethnicity.
  - In addition, demographers inserted intentional "noise" in the 2020 census data to protect the identity of individual households. The extent to which this "noise" influenced Charlottesville's 2020 census data by race is unknown.
  - Finally, the 2020 census was conducted during a pandemic, in which many UVA students were not present to be counted in Charlottesville. The impact of this undercount on the 2020 census by race is unknown.

# Charlottesville Census: 2010 and 2020 by Race

Data includes those who identified as one race alone or in combination with other races or ethnicities.

Charlottesville by Race	Decennial Census Count, April 1, 2010			Decennial Census Count, April 1, 2020			April 1, 2010 - April 1, 2020
	Total Population	Population		Total Population	Population		Change
		Total	(%)		Total	(%)	
Charlottesville White	43,475	31,197	71.8%	46,553	33,650	72.3%	2,453
Charlottesville Black	43,475	9,010	20.7%	46,553	8,122	17.4%	-888
Charlottesville Asian	43,475	3,330	7.7%	46,553	5,064	10.9%	1,734
Charlottesville Other Race	43,475	921	2.1%	46,553	2,774	6.0%	1,853
Charlottesville Native American/Alaska Native	43,475	379	0.9%	46,553	673	1.4%	294
Charlottesville Pacific Islander	43,475	55	0.1%	46,553	77	0.2%	22
Ethnicity:							
Charlottesville Hispanic	43,475	2,223	5.1%	47,266	3,207	6.8%	984

Source: Weldon Cooper Center, University of Virginia



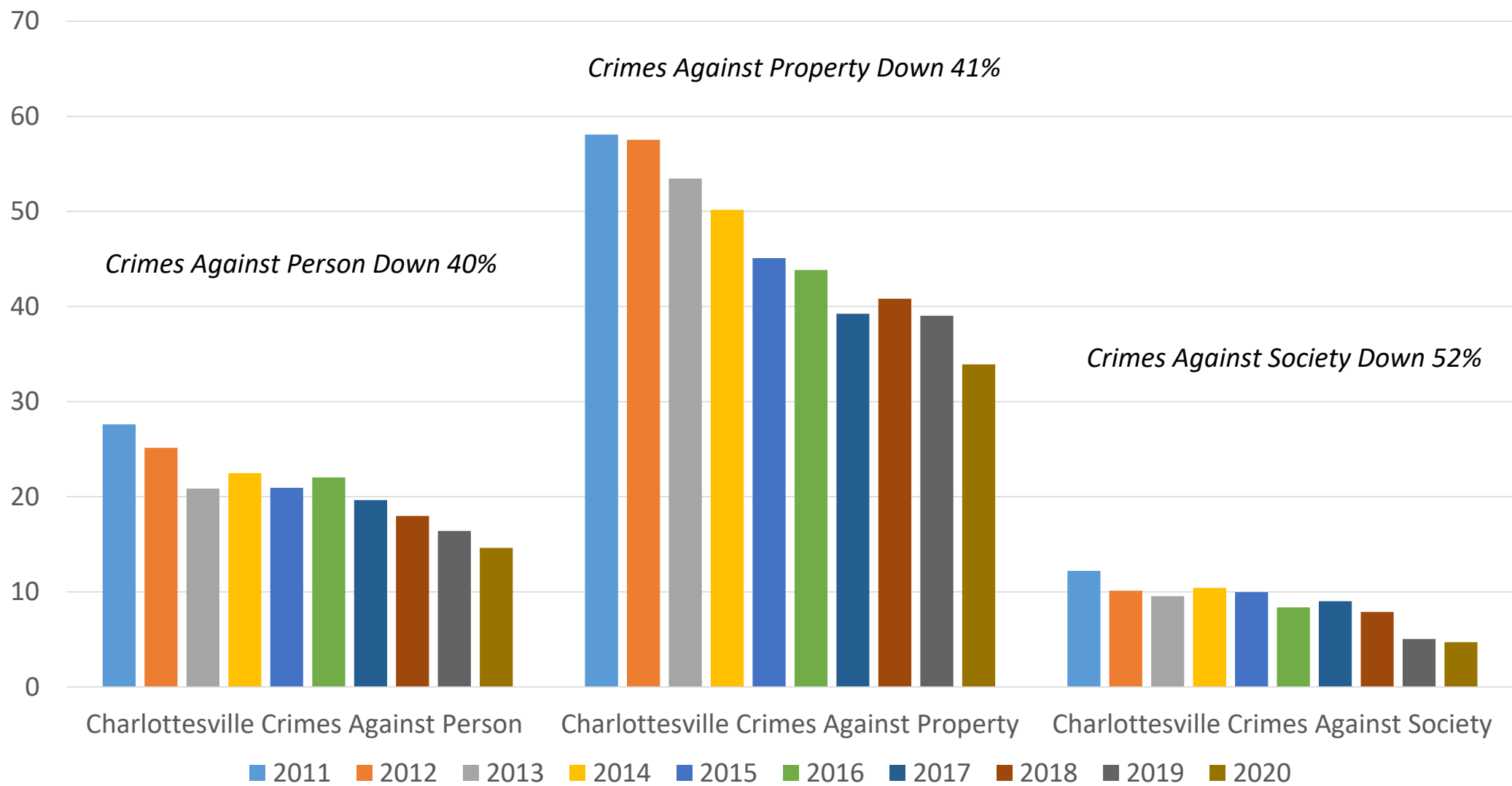
## Reported Crime Data (2011 to 2020)

- Charlottesville's reported crime data for 2011-2020 was extracted from the Virginia State Police database: <https://va.beyond2020.com/>
- Reported crime is entered by all law enforcement agencies into the Uniform Crime Reporting system, which populates the VSP database.
- Reported crime data is not categorized by the race of the offender or victim.
- Reported Group A crime is separated into three major categories:
  - Crimes Against Person (homicide, assault, sex offenses, kidnapping, etc.)
  - Crimes Against Property (theft, burglary, fraud, arson, robbery, vandalism, etc.)
  - Crimes Against Society (narcotics, illegal weapons, pornography, gambling, etc.)

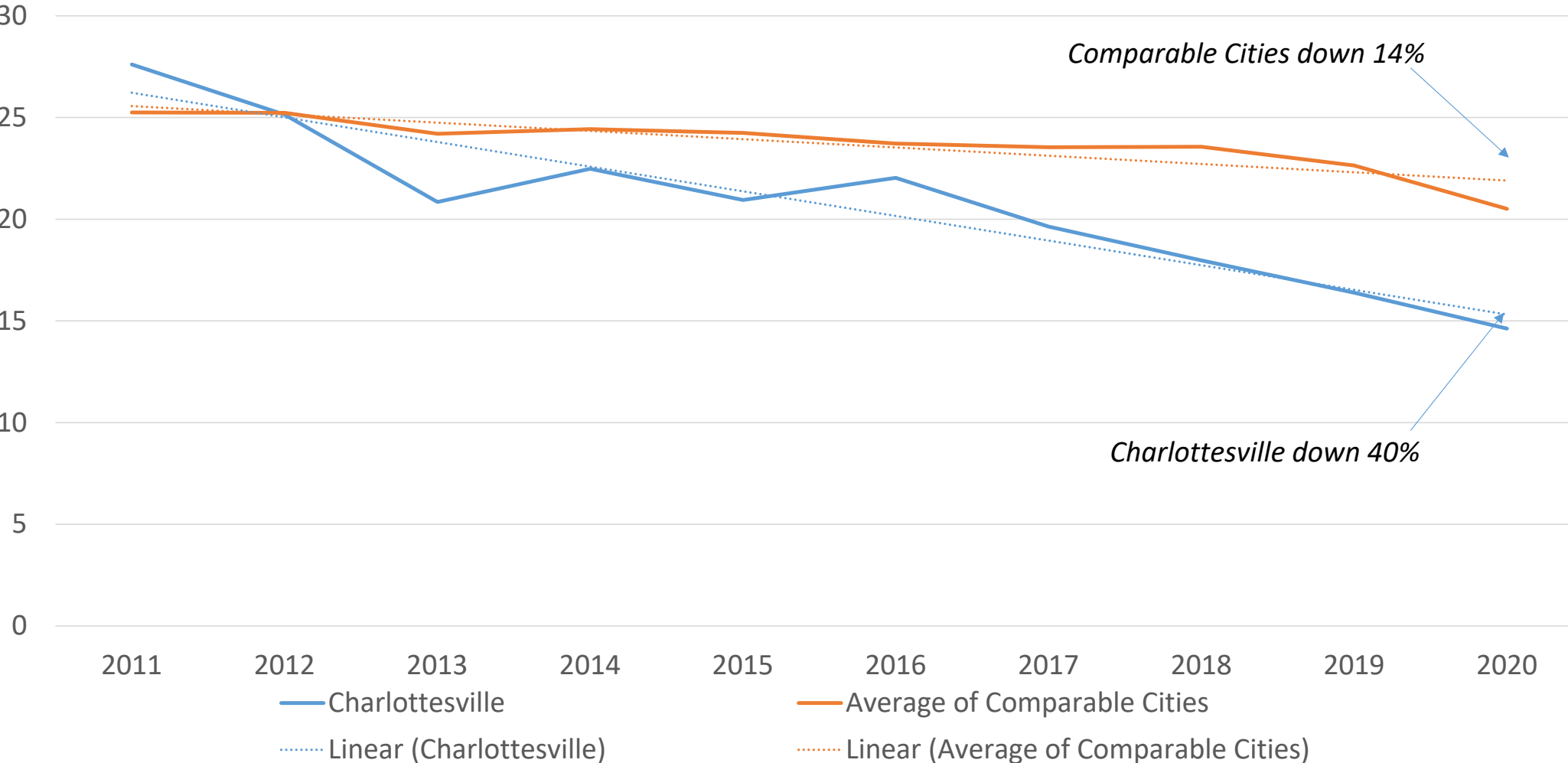
## Trends in Charlottesville Reported Group A Crime Rate per 1000 Residents (2011-2020)

- Sizeable reductions were observed among all three Group A crime categories from 2011 to 2020, with crimes against person dropping 40%, crimes against property falling 41% and crimes against society decreasing 52%.
- Compared to nine Virginia cities of comparable size, Charlottesville's crime rates per 1000 residents were lower than the average of peer cities in all three Group B categories. In particular, Charlottesville's crimes against society rate was far lower than peer cities, trending down 52% while comparable cities averaged a 20% increase.
- The comparison cities included Danville, Fredericksburg, Harrisonburg, Lynchburg, Manassas, Petersburg, Staunton, Suffolk and Winchester.
- Crimes that were not reported are not captured in this analysis.

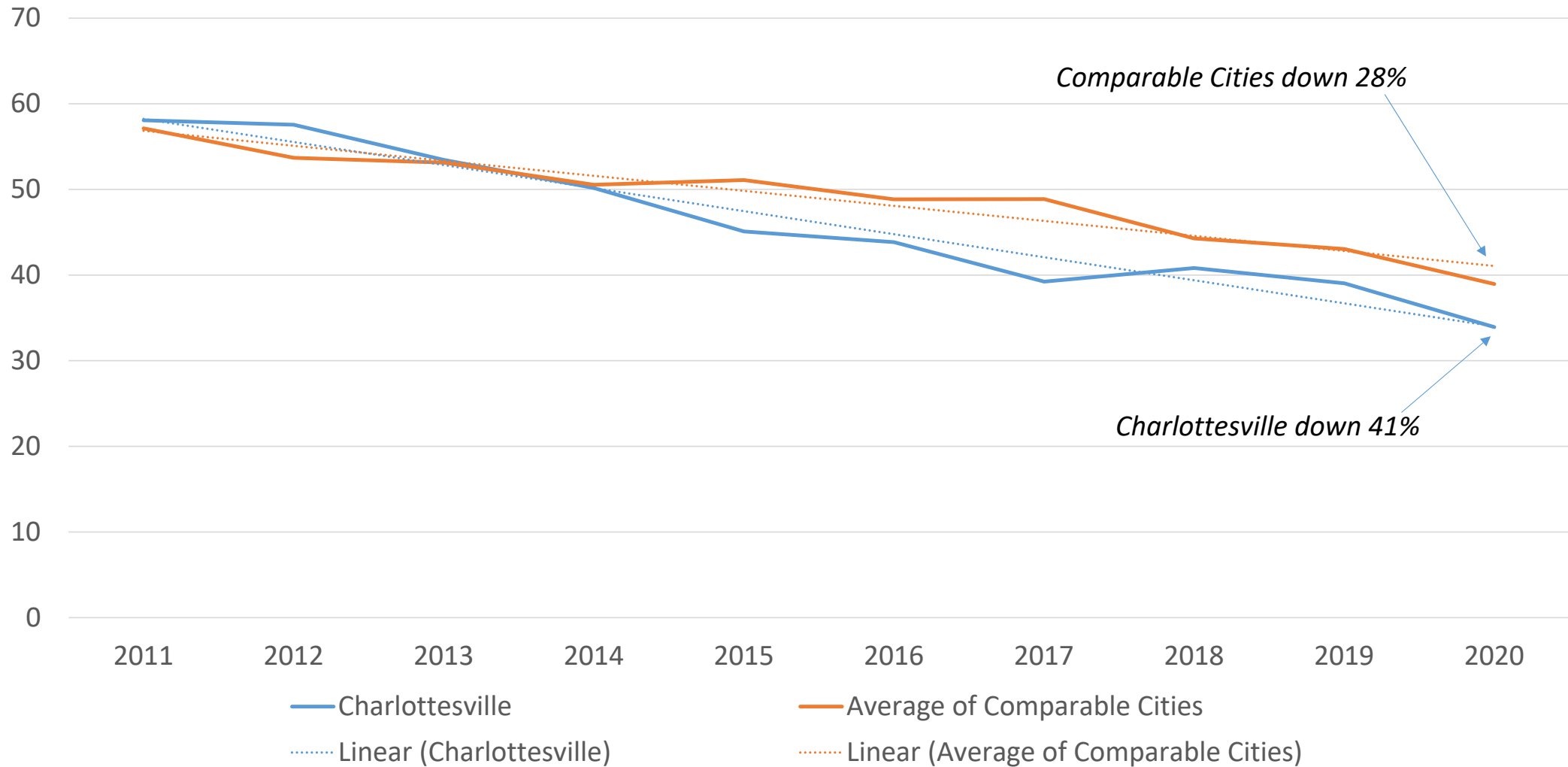
## Charlottesville Reported Group A Crime Rates per 1000 Residents



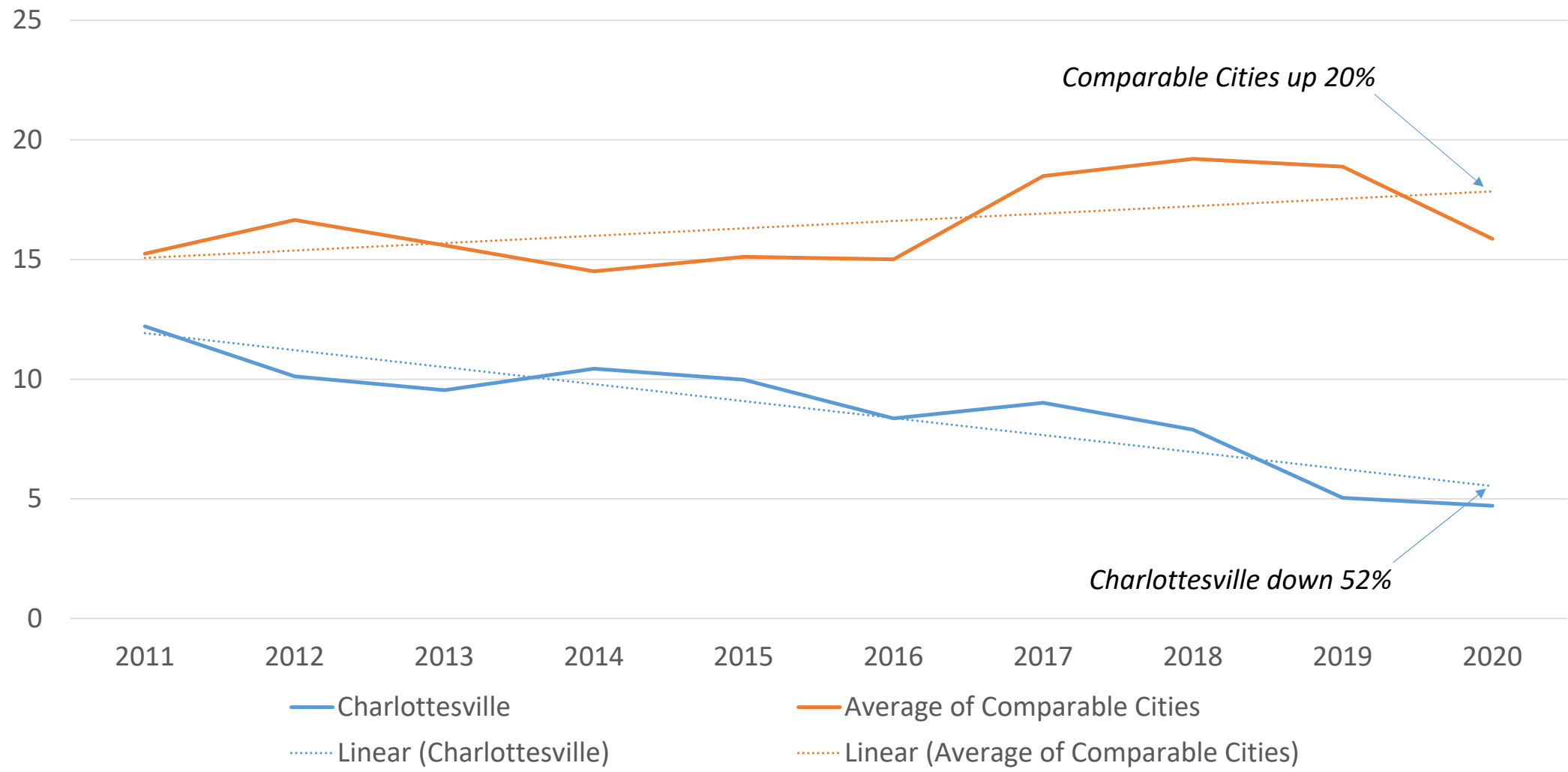
# Reported Group A Crimes Against Person per 1000 Residents Charlottesville vs. Average of Comparable Virginia Cities



## Reported Group A Crimes Against Property per 1000 Residents Charlottesville vs. Average of Comparable Virginia Cities



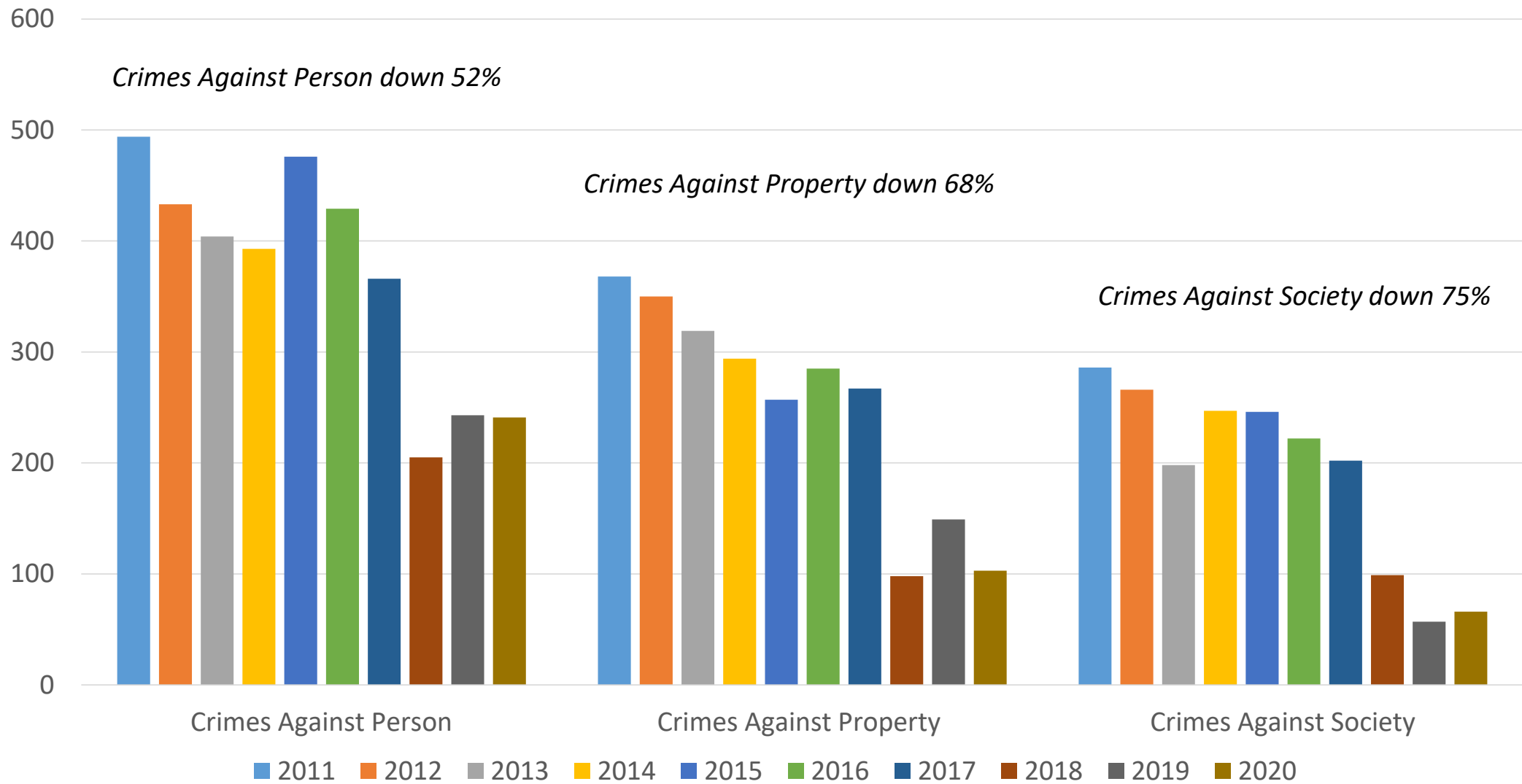
## Reported Group A Crimes Against Society per 1000 Residents Charlottesville vs. Average of Comparable Virginia Cities



# Charlottesville Group A Arrests (2011-2020)

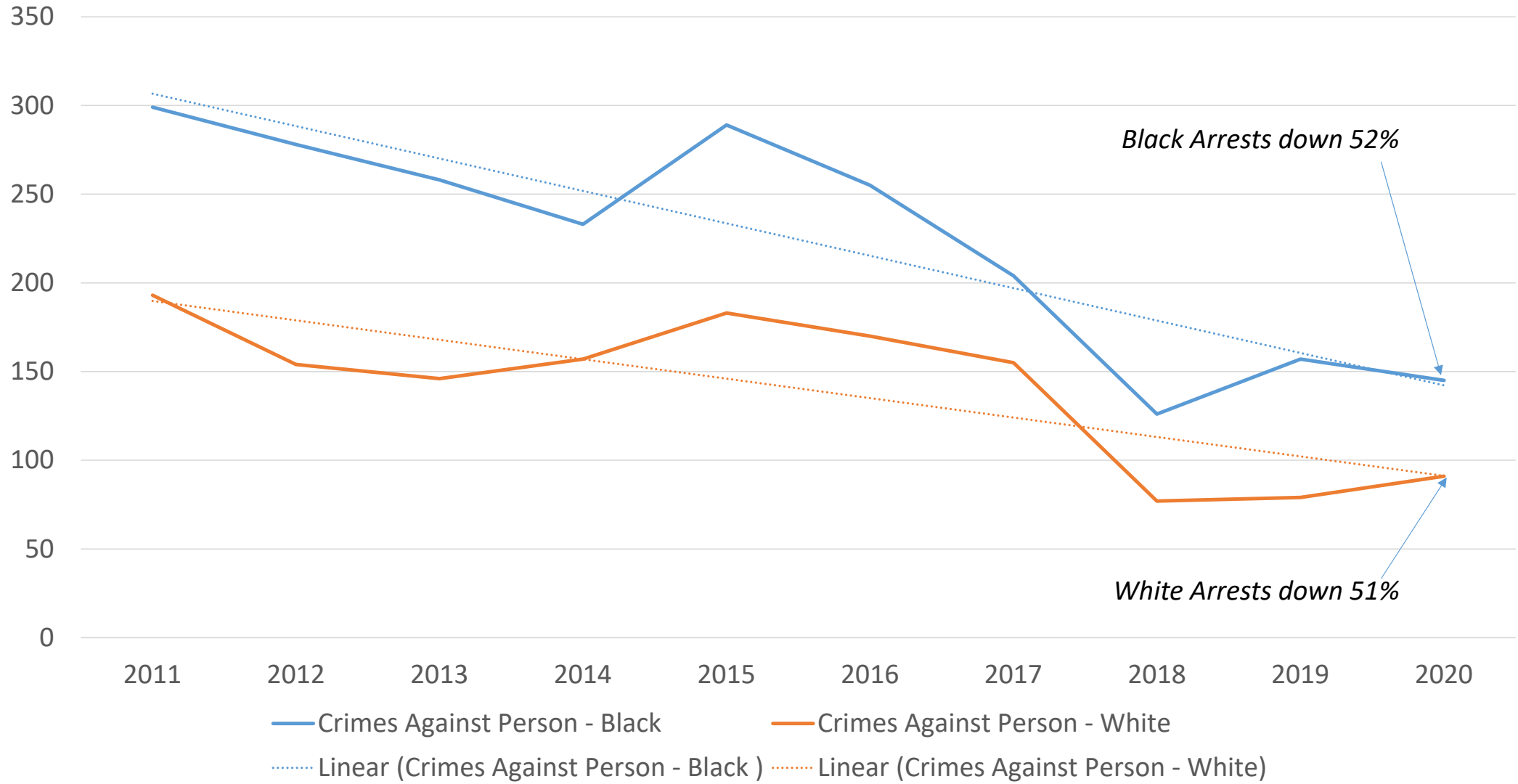
- The number of Charlottesville Group A arrests recorded in the Virginia State Police database reflected a similar decrease in crime rates as was observed in the reported crime data.
- Arrests dropped for both Black and White arrestees, in all three major crime categories, and in a similar fashion.
- However, the number of Black Charlottesville arrestees remained higher than the number of white arrestees during all years studied, in all three crime categories (with the exception of crimes against property in 2017).
- Black arrests in the City remained significantly disproportionate throughout the decade, when compared to US Census estimates of the Black population of Charlottesville and surrounding jurisdictions.

## Charlottesville Group A Arrests

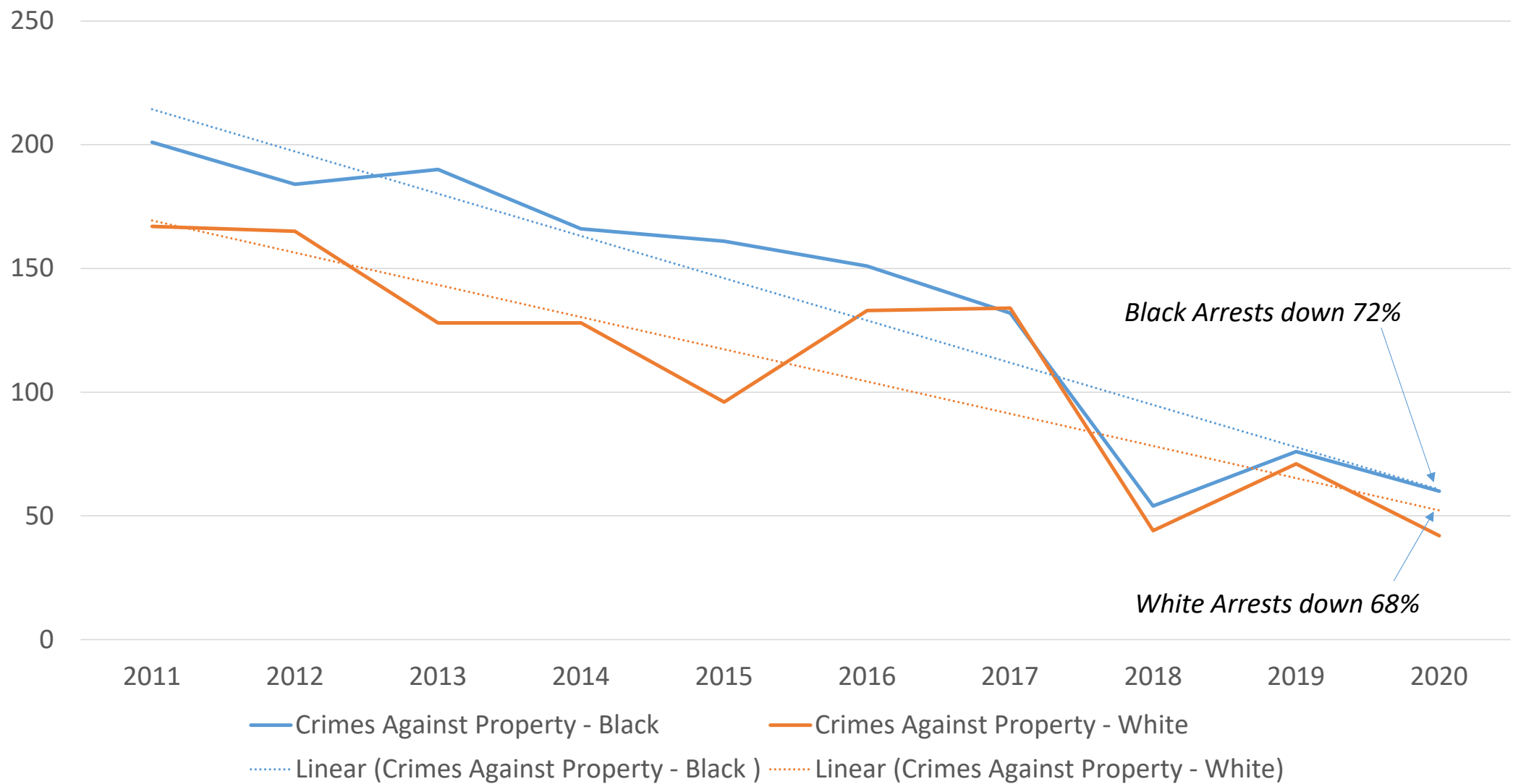




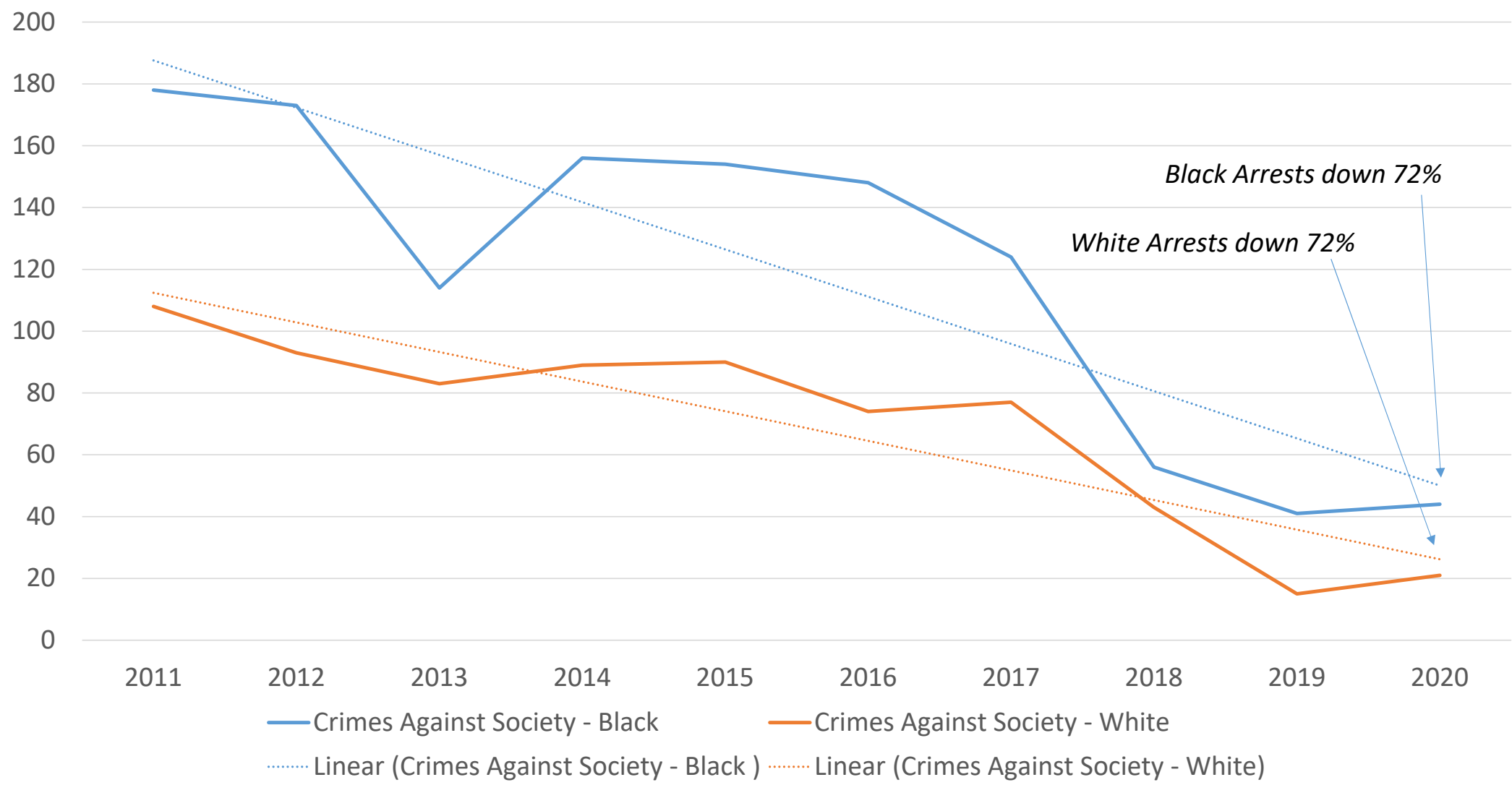
Charlottesville Group A Arrests for Crimes Against Person by Race (2011-2020)



### Charlottesville Group A Arrests for Crimes Against Property by Race (2011-2020)



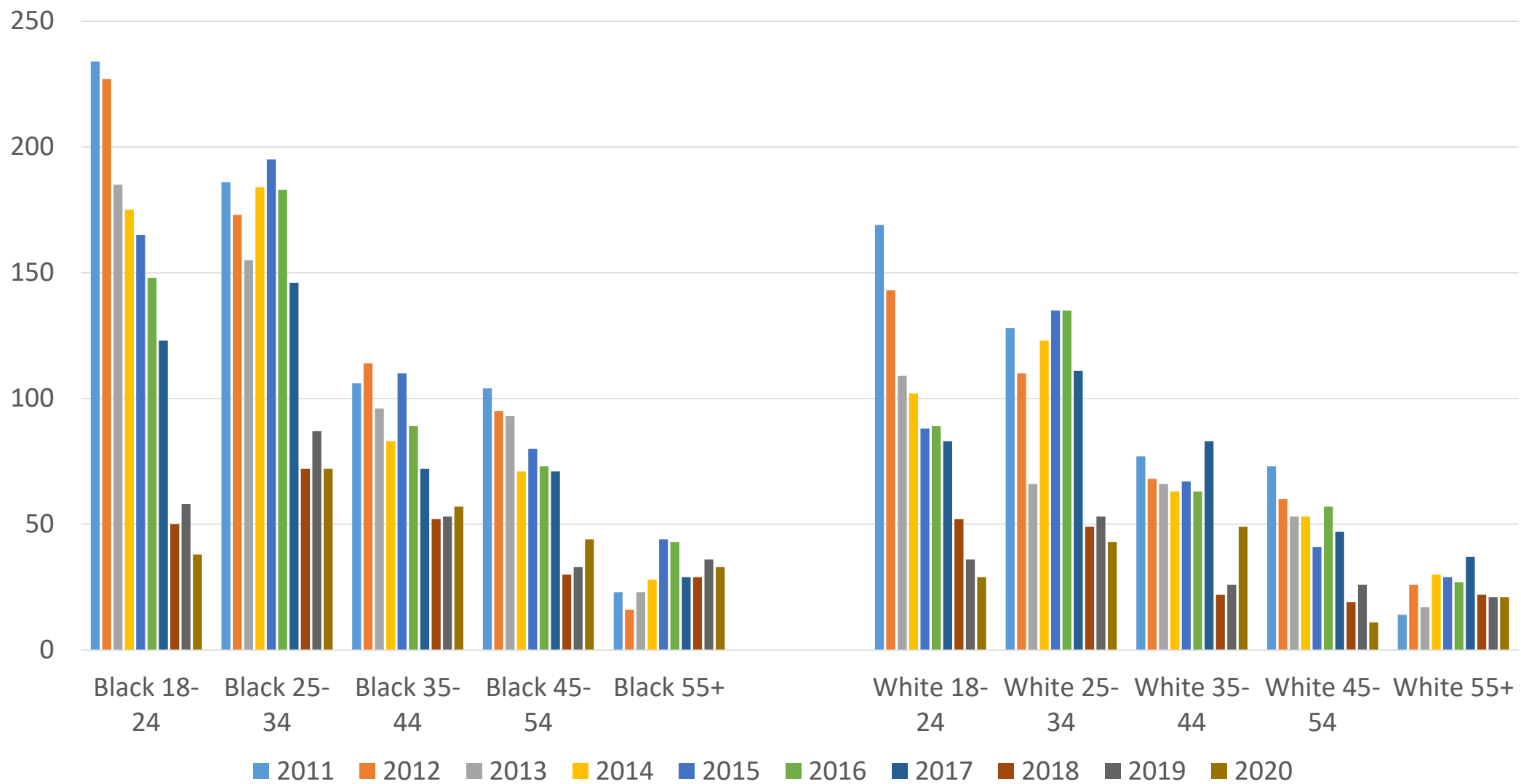
Charlottesville Group A Arrests for Crimes Against Society by Race (2011-2020)



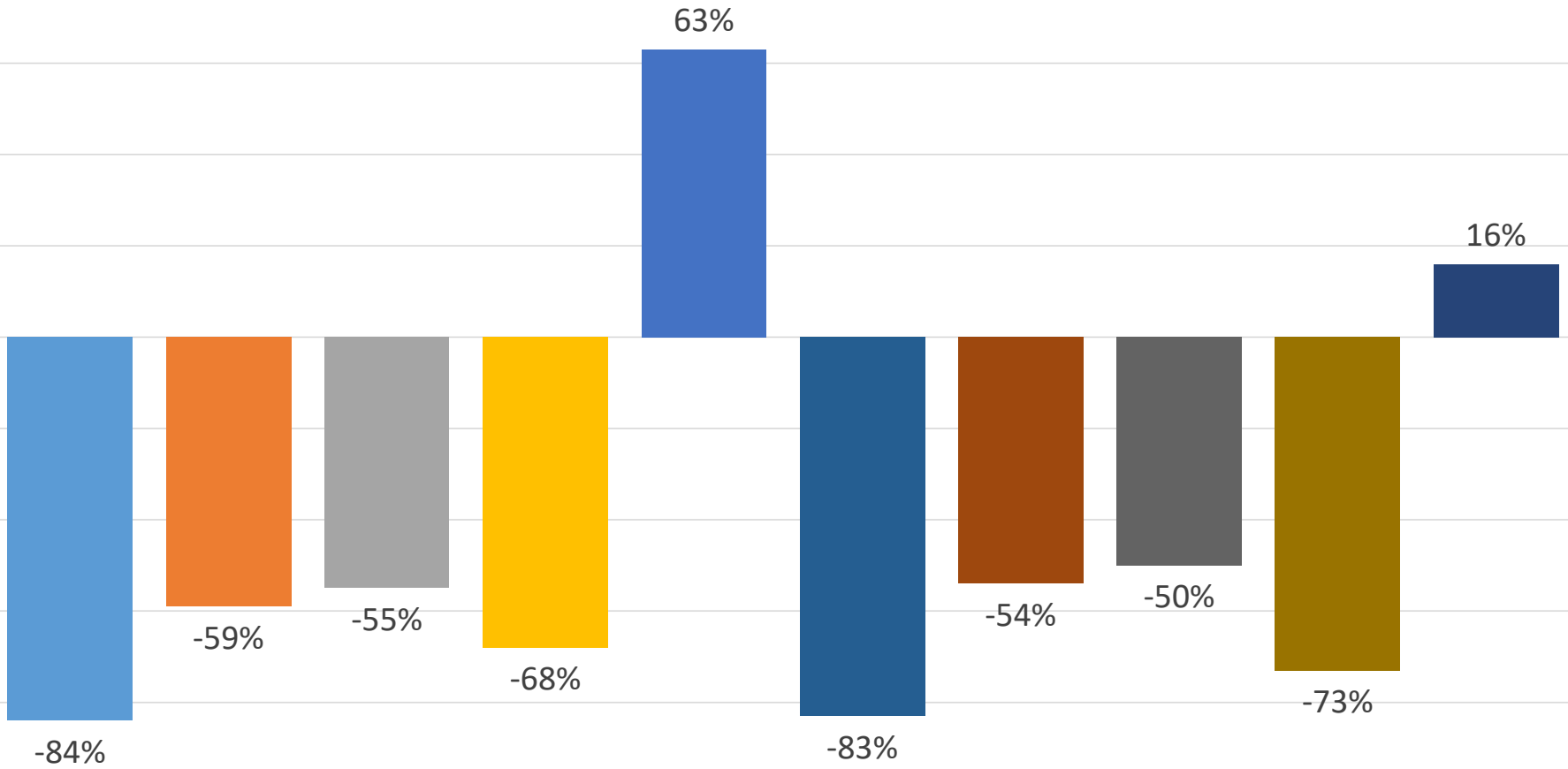
## Group A Arrests by Race and Age (2011-2020)

- Significant reductions in the number of Group A arrests of both Black and White arrestees were observed among all age groups, except for those age 55 and older.
- The number of Charlottesville Black arrestees age 55+ increased 63%, while the number of White arrestee rose 16%.
- The greatest reductions in arrest volume were observed among the youngest age group (18-24), with the number Black arrestees dropping 84% and the number of White arrestees dropping 83%.
- This same pattern has been observed in intake data at ACRJ.

## Charlottesville Group A Arrests by Race and Age Group



Percent Change in Charlottesville Group A Arrests by Race and Age Group (2011-2020)



- Black 18-24
- Black 25-34
- Black 35-44
- Black 45-54
- Black 55+
- White 18-24
- White 25-34
- White 35-44
- White 45-54
- White 55+

# Virginia State Police Group B Arrest Data

Group B offenses only have arrestee data recorded in the Uniform Crime Reporting system. Most Group B offenses only come to law enforcement attention when arrests are made.

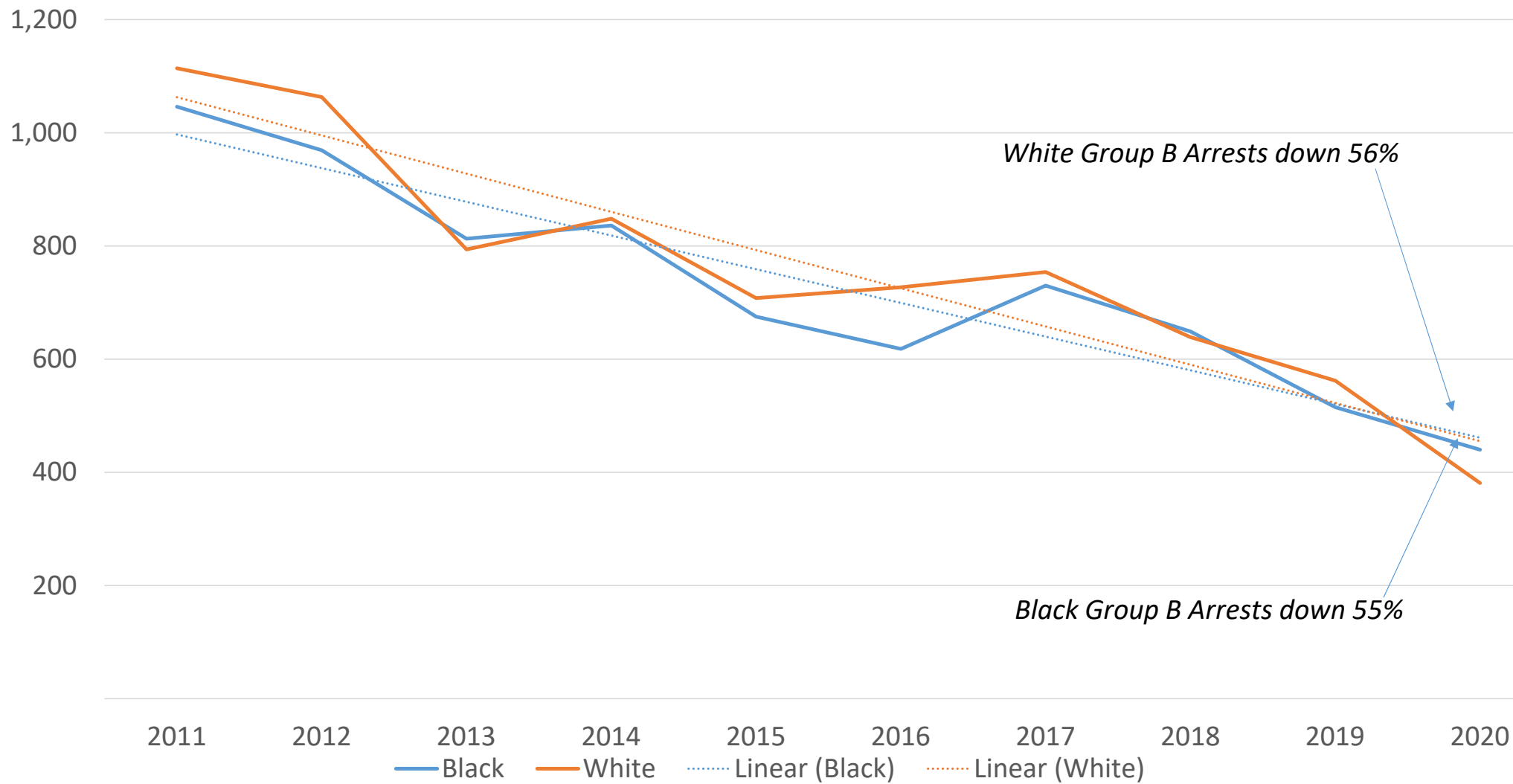
1. Bad Checks
2. Curfew/Loitering/Vagrancy Violations
3. Disorderly Conduct
4. Driving Under the Influence
5. Drunkenness
6. Family Offenses, Nonviolent
7. Liquor Law Violations
8. Peeping Tom
9. Runaway
10. Trespass of Real Property
11. All Other Offenses

# Charlottesville Group B Arrests by Race (2011-2020)

- Significant reductions in arrests for Group B offenses were observed among both Black and White arrestees in Charlottesville from 2011 to 2020.
- The percentage decrease for Black and White Group B arrests were nearly identical (down 55% and 56% respectively).
- Black Group B arrests in the City remained significantly disproportionate throughout the decade, when compared to US Census estimates of the Black population of Charlottesville and surrounding jurisdictions.



### Charlottesville Group B Arrests by Race



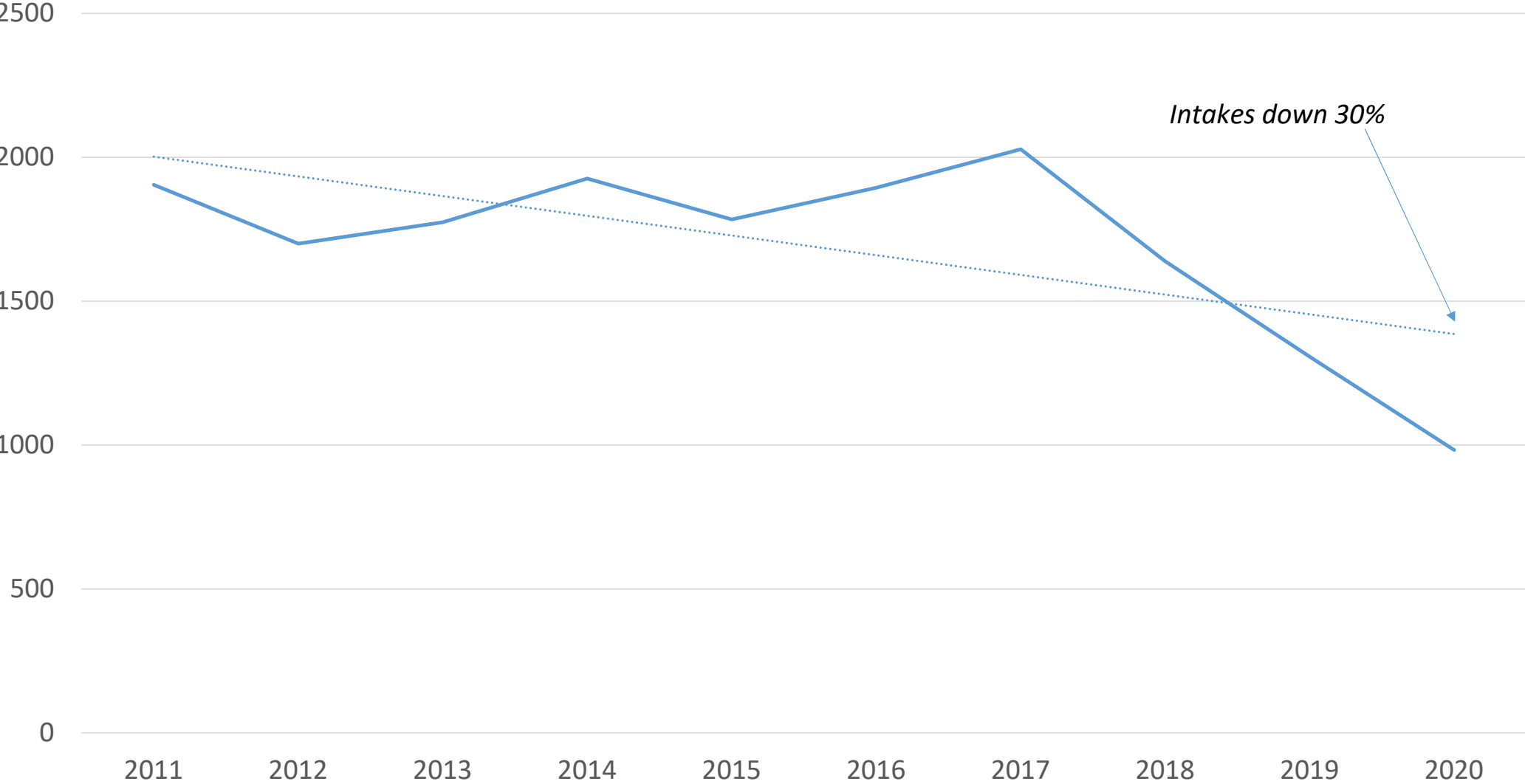
# Albemarle-Charlottesville Regional Jail Data (2011-2020)

- ACRJ provided the Criminal Justice Planner with all intake and release data from 1/1/2011 to 12/31/2020.
- This data set records each intake by race, gender and age, charge(s) and jurisdiction of offense.
- The data set also includes intake date, release date and release reason, allowing for calculation of average length of stay by race.
- The number of intakes, multiplied by the average length of stay, provides a tally of the number of jail bed days expended by race.

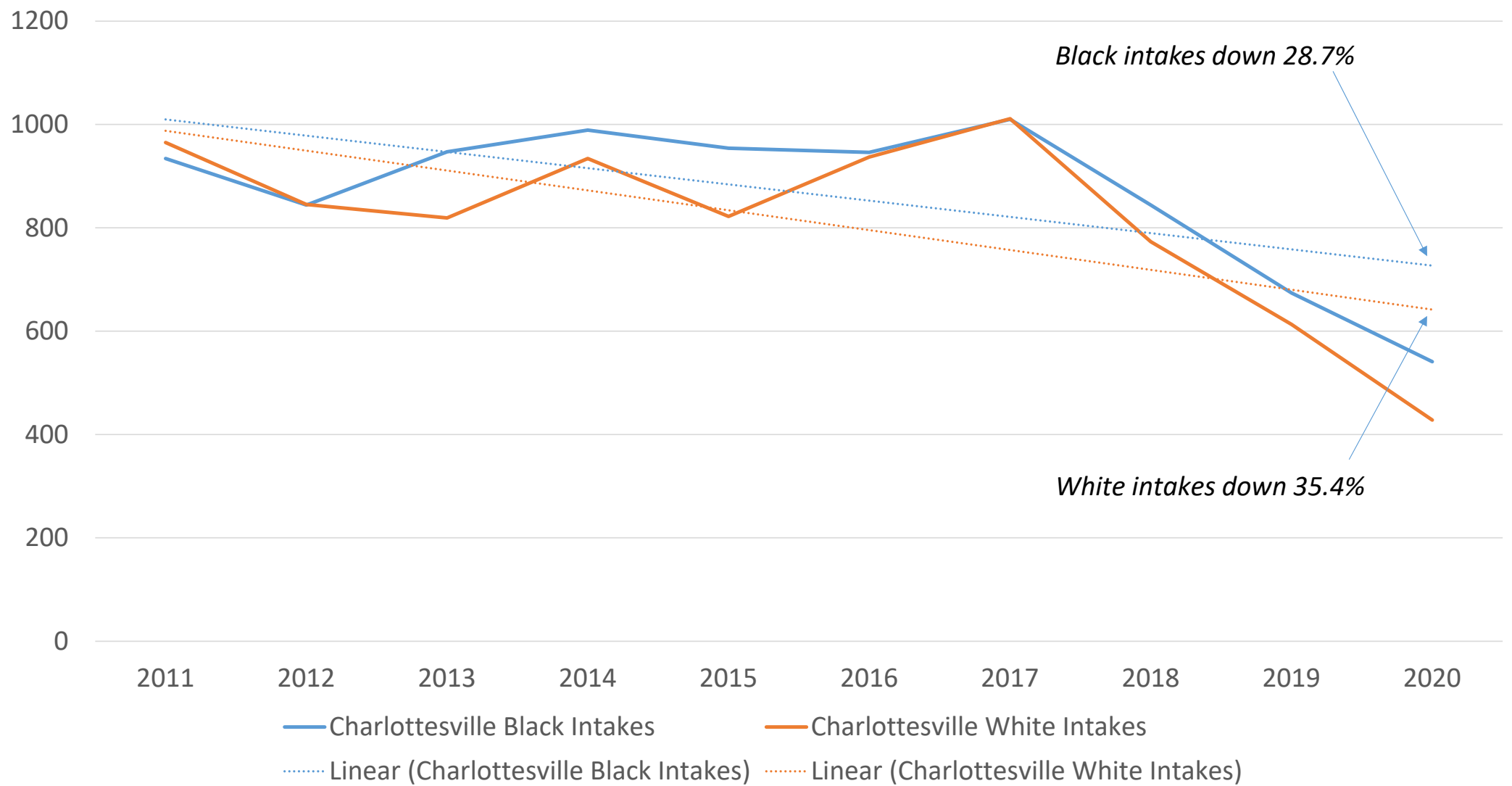
## ACRJ Intakes by Race (2011-2020)

- As might be expected by the drop in reported crime and arrests in Charlottesville, the number of people taken into ACRJ on Charlottesville offenses dropped 30% from 2011 to 2020.
- The reduction in Charlottesville intakes was greater among White inmates (down 35.4%) than for Black inmates (down 28.7%).
- During the most recent three year period (2018-2020), intakes dropped more sharply than the ten-year trend, down 49%.
- Again, the reduction in Charlottesville intakes from 2018 to 2020 was greater among White inmates (down 54%) than for Black inmates (down 45%).
- Intakes of Black inmates held on City charges remained significantly disproportionate throughout the decade, when compared to US Census estimates of the Black population of Charlottesville and surrounding jurisdictions.

# Charlottesville Intakes at ACRJ



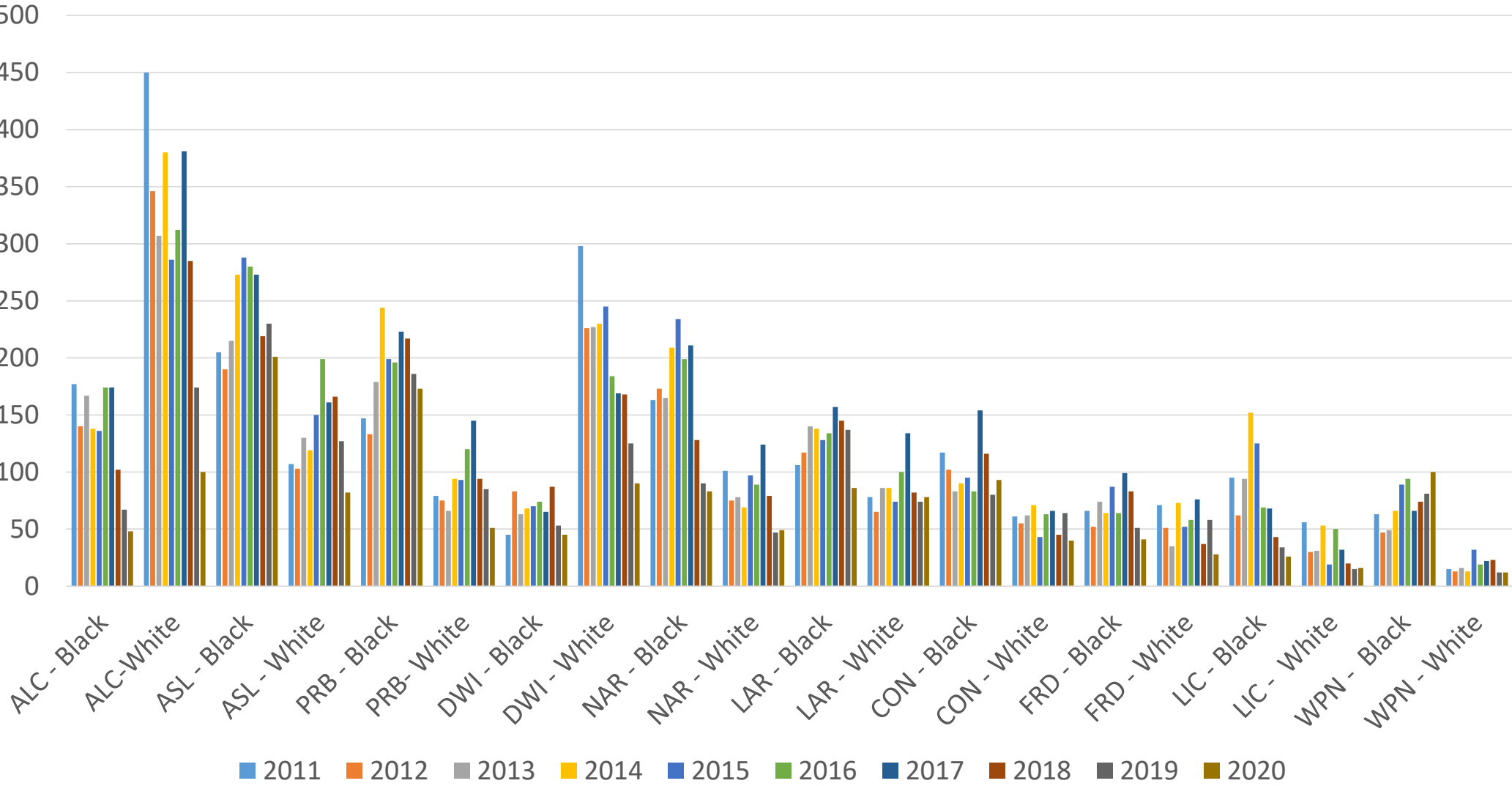
### Charlottesville Intakes by Race



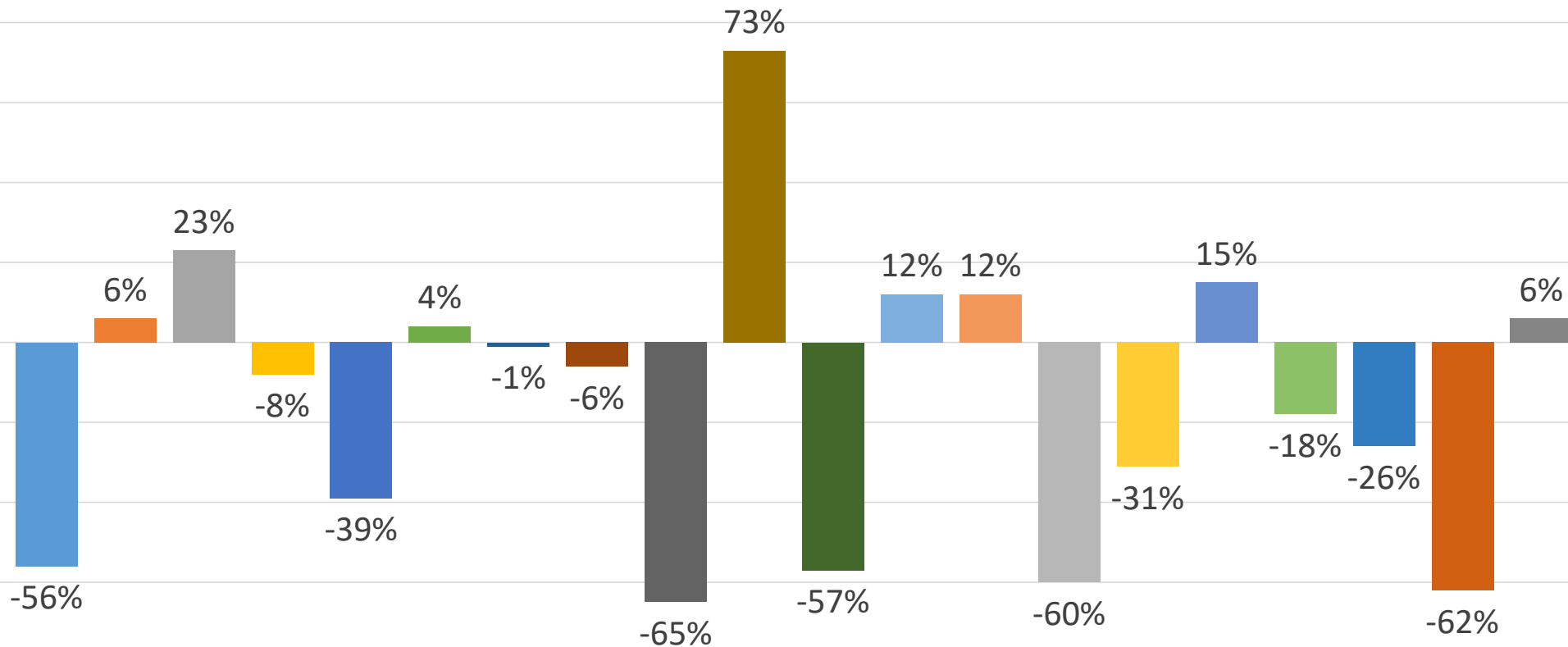
# Charlottesville Booking Types by Race (2010-2020)

- A “booking” is a charge associated with an inmate’s intake. An inmate can be taken into ACRJ on a single booking (for example, grand larceny), or multiple bookings (such as breaking and entering, grand larceny and probation violation).
- The chart on the next slide shows tallies of the top ten charge types by booking volume, by race.
- Black inmates were more likely to be taken into the jail on charges of assault, probation violations, narcotics, larceny, driver’s license offenses and weapons charges. White inmates were more likely to be taken in on alcohol offenses and DWI.
- Significant reductions in booking volume among Black inmates were observed in the charge categories of alcohol, narcotics, and driver’s license offenses.
- Significant reductions in booking volume among White inmates were found among alcohol, DWI, narcotics, fraud and driver’s license offenses.
- The most significant increase in booking volume was observed among Black inmates arrested on illegal weapons charges.

## Charlottesville Top Ten Booking Types by Race



## Percent Change in Top Ten Booking Types by Race (2011-2020)



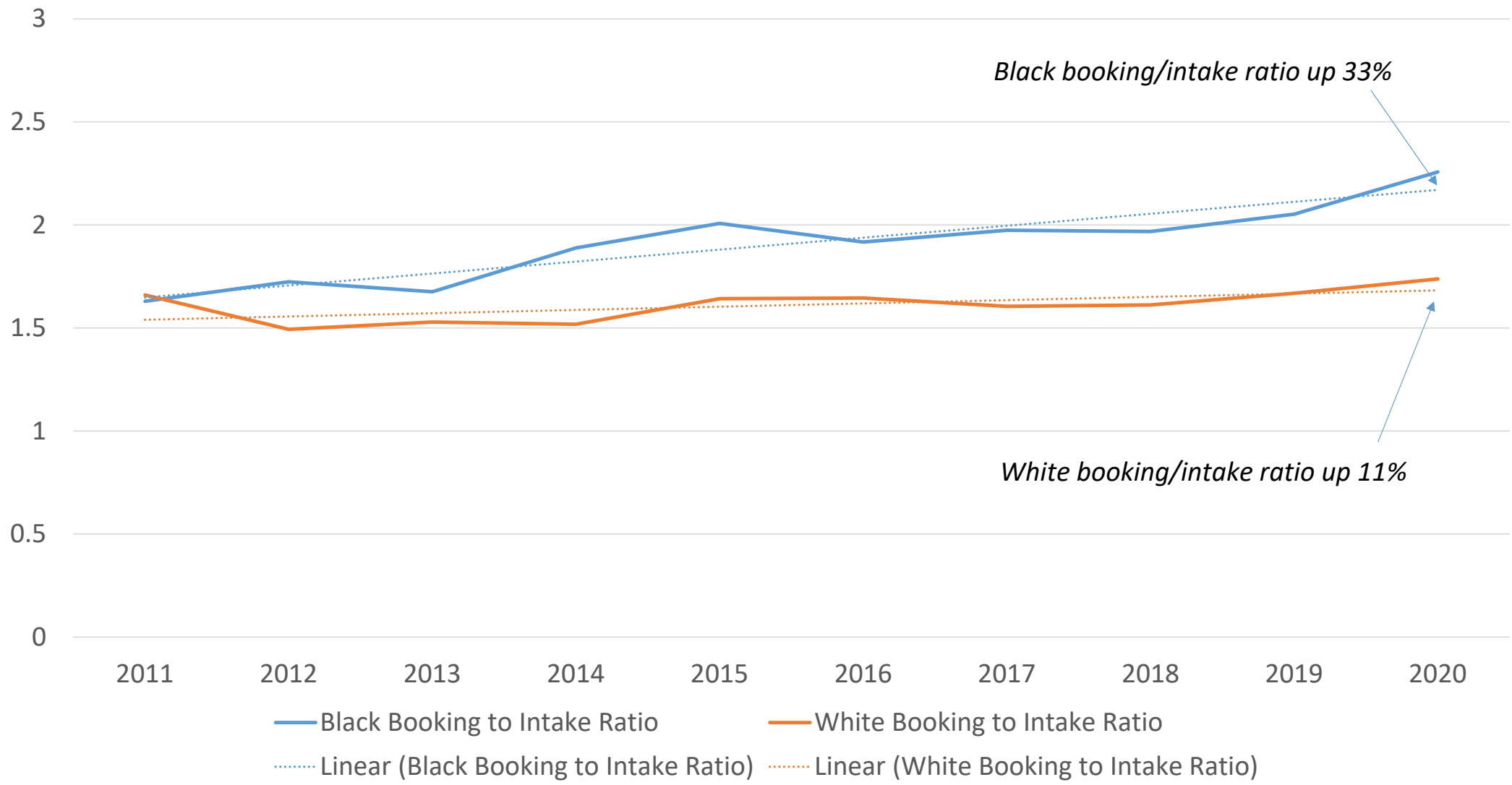
- ALC - Black
 ■ ASL - Black
 ■ PRB - Black
 ■ DWI - Black
 ■ NAR - Black
- LAR - Black
 ■ CON - Black
 ■ FRD - Black
 ■ LIC - Black
 ■ WPN - Black
- ALC-White
 ■ ASL - White
 ■ PRB- White
 ■ DWI - White
 ■ NAR - White
- LAR - White
 ■ CON - White
 ■ FRD - White
 ■ LIC - White
 ■ WPN - White



# Charlottesville Inmate Booking/Intake Ratio

- The booking to intake ratio is a measure of the number of bookings (charges) associated with an inmate's intake into ACRJ. The larger the number, the greater the number of charges associated with that intake event.
- In 2011, the booking/intake ratio for Charlottesville inmates was virtually indistinguishable by race.
- From 2011 to 2020, the Black Charlottesville booking/intake ratio increased at three times the rate of White inmates (33% vs. 11%).

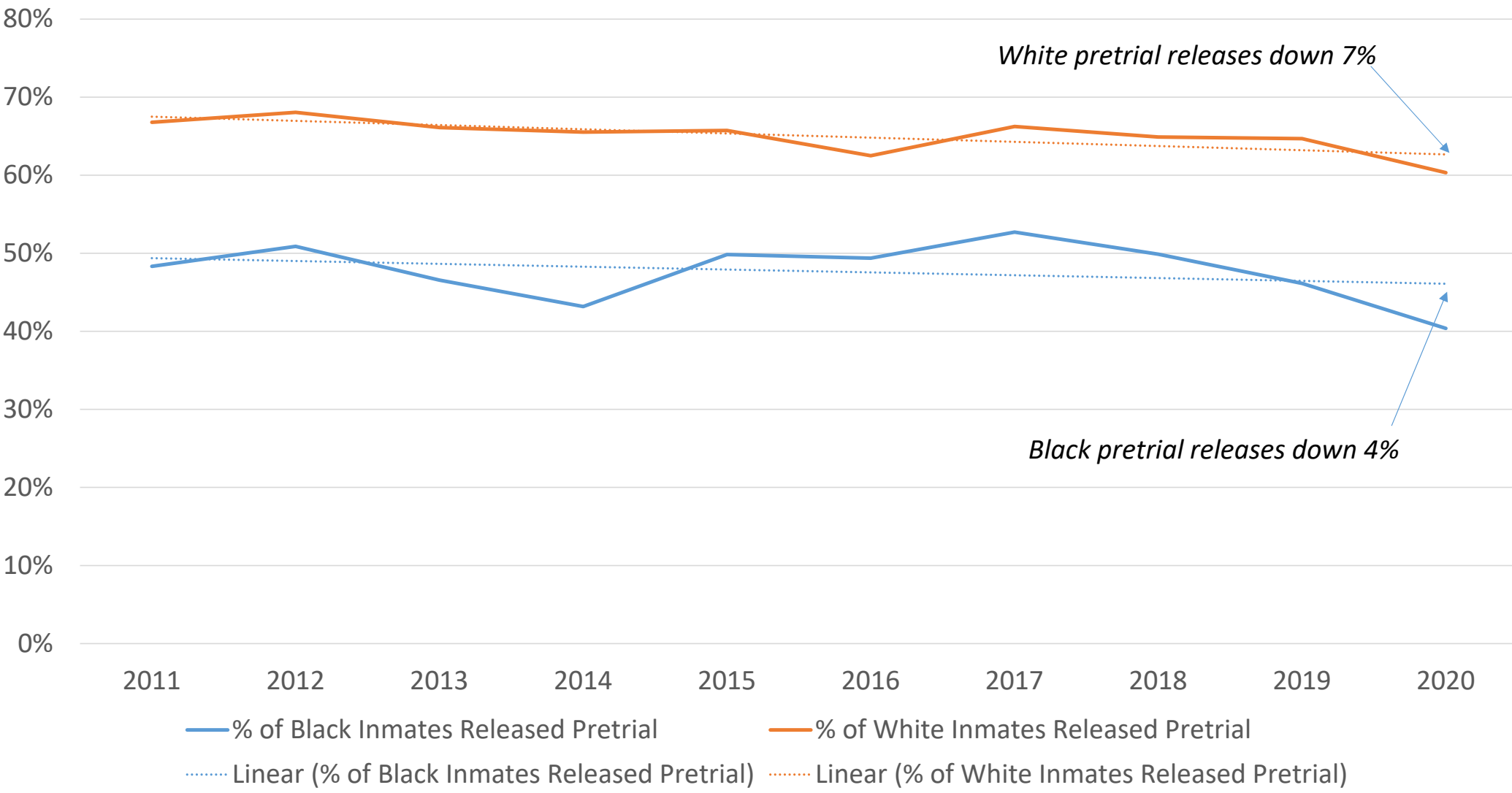
# Charlottesville Booking to Intake Ratio



# Pretrial Release Rates

- The rate at which Black and White Charlottesville inmates were released from ACRJ on bond or to pretrial supervision decreased slightly from 2011 to 2020 (4% and 7% respectively).
- However, pretrial release rates for Black Charlottesville inmates were well below that of White inmates throughout the study period.
- During 2020, 40% of Black Charlottesville inmates were released pretrial, compared to 60% of White inmates.

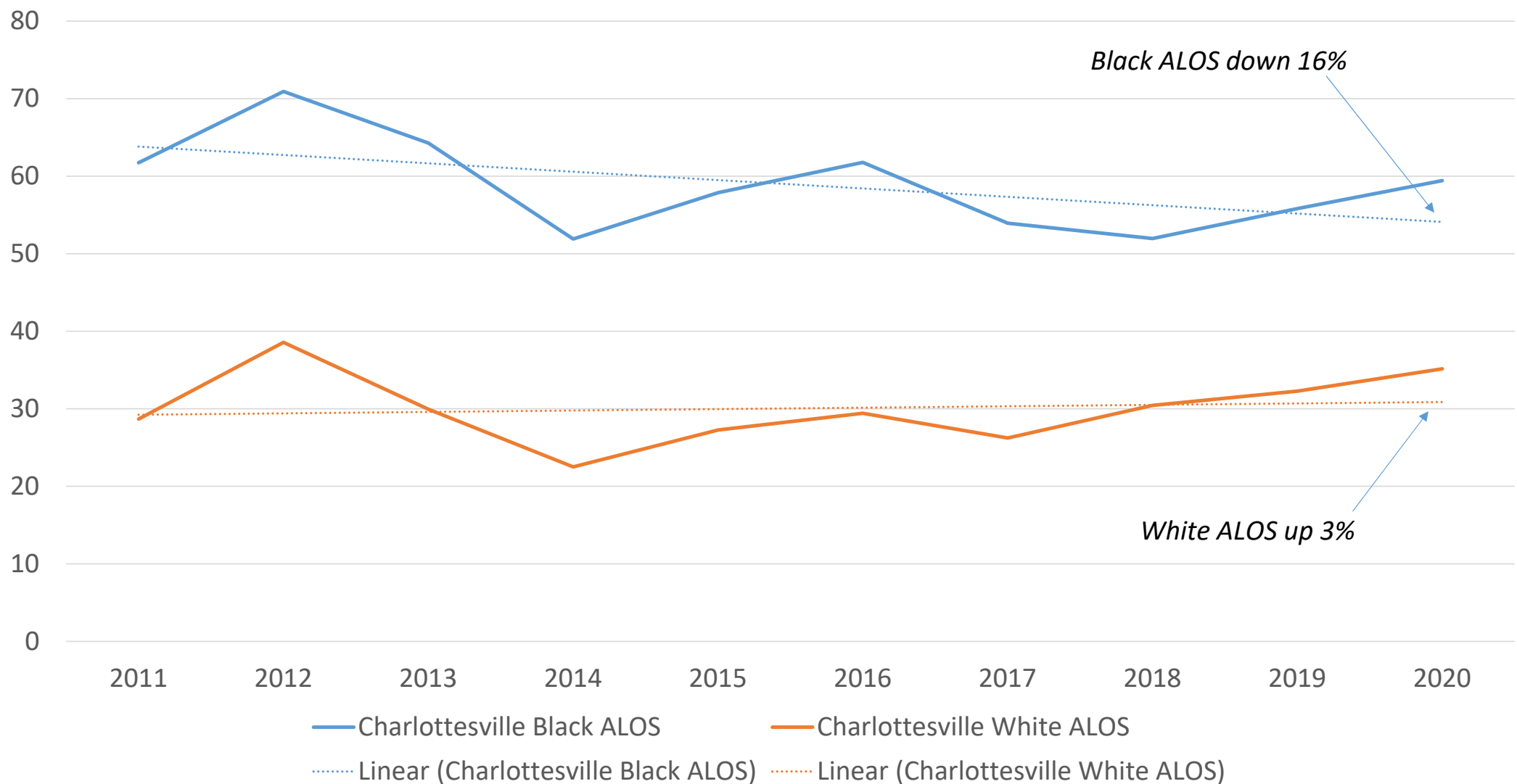
### Percentage of Charlottesville Inmates Released Pretrial by Race



## Average Length of Stay by Race (2010-2020)

- The average length of a Black inmate's stay on Charlottesville charges dropped 16% from 2011 to 2020, while rising 3% among White inmates.
- While the difference in average length of stay narrowed somewhat during the decade, Black inmates served considerably longer sentences than did White inmates during the entire decade.
- During 2020, the average length of a Charlottesville Black inmate's jail stay was 59.4 days, compared to 35.2 days for the average White Charlottesville inmate.

### Charlottesville Average Length of Stay by Race



# Length of Stay by Race

- 33% of Charlottesville inmates were released within 24 hours of their jail intake from 2011 to 2020.
- The number of Black and White Charlottesville inmates serving less than 24 hours dropped by almost half during the decade.
- Smaller decreases were observed among Black and White inmates serving 1 to 7 days, falling 14% in both groups.
- White inmates had slightly greater decreases in lengths of stay of 8 to 30 days than did Black inmates (down 23% and 16% respectively).
- The only length of stay category in which increases were observed was from 31 to 90 days, with the number of White inmates increasing 26%, compared to a 10% increase for Black inmates.
- The number of both Black and White Charlottesville inmates staying longer than 90 days fell by nearly a third from 2011 to 2020.

# Percentages of Inmate Length of Stay by Race (2011-2020)

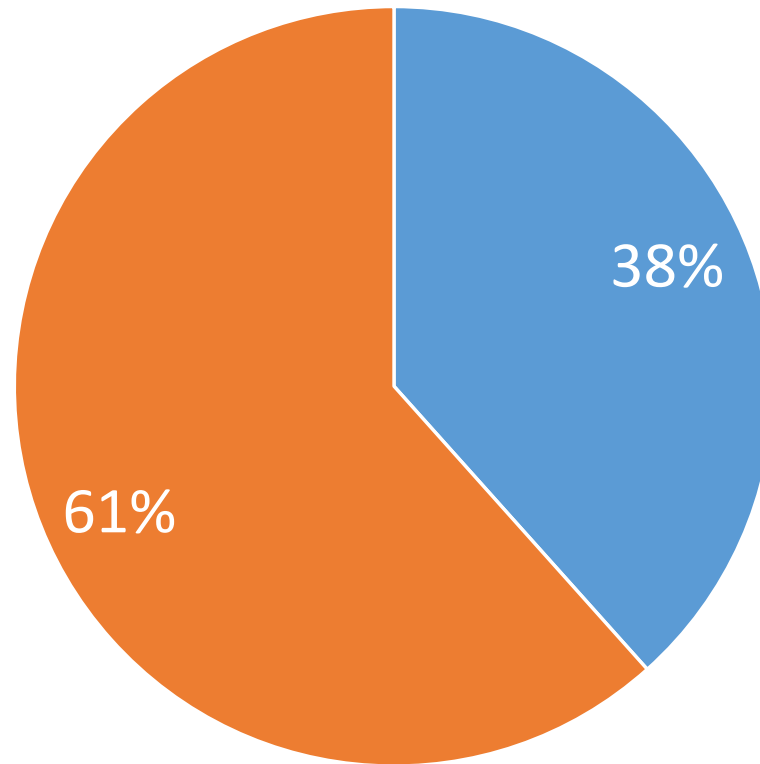
- Fewer than 1% of inmates were members of a racial group other than Black or White in any of the five length of stay bins from 2011 to 2020.
- In the shortest length of stay bin (inmates serving less than 24 hours), the percentage of White inmates was significantly higher than that of Black inmates (61% to 38%). This was the only length of stay bin with a White majority.
- As length of stay increased, the percentage of Black inmates in that length of stay bin increased, relative to White inmates.
- In the longest length of stay bin (stays of longer than 90 day), Black inmates account for over two thirds of all inmates.



# Percentage of Charlottesville Inmates Serving Less Than 1 day (2011-2020)

*White LOS <1 Day dropped 48%  
2011 to 2020*

Black LOS <1day dropped 45%  
2011 to 2020

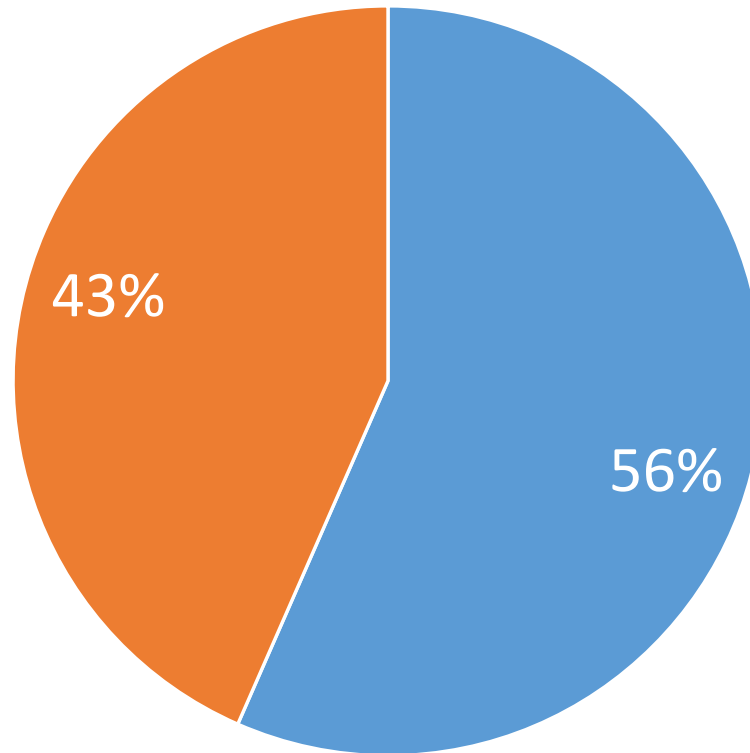


■ Black Inmates Serving Less than 1 Day    ■ White Inmates Serving Less than 1 Day

## Percentage of Charlottesville Inmates Serving 1 to 7 Days (2011-2020)

*White LOS 1-7 days dropped 14%  
2011 to 2020*

*Black LOS 1-7 days dropped 14%  
2011 to 2020*



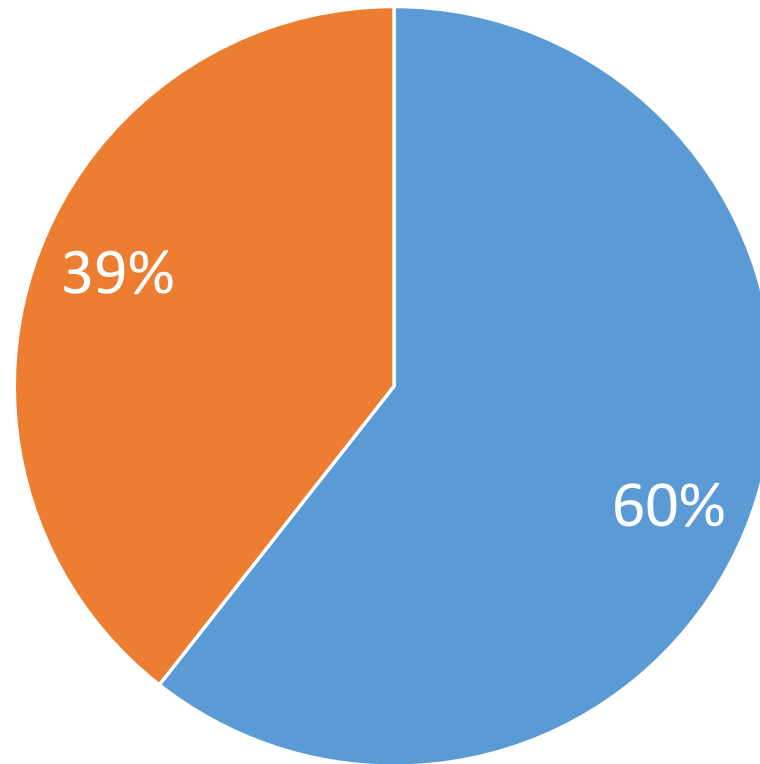
■ Black Inmates Serving 1-7 Days

■ White Inmates Serving 1-7 Days

## Percentage of Charlottesville Inmates Serving 8 to 30 Days (2011-2020)

*White LOS 7-30 days dropped 23%  
2011 to 2020*

*Black LOS 8-30 days dropped 16%  
2011 to 2020*



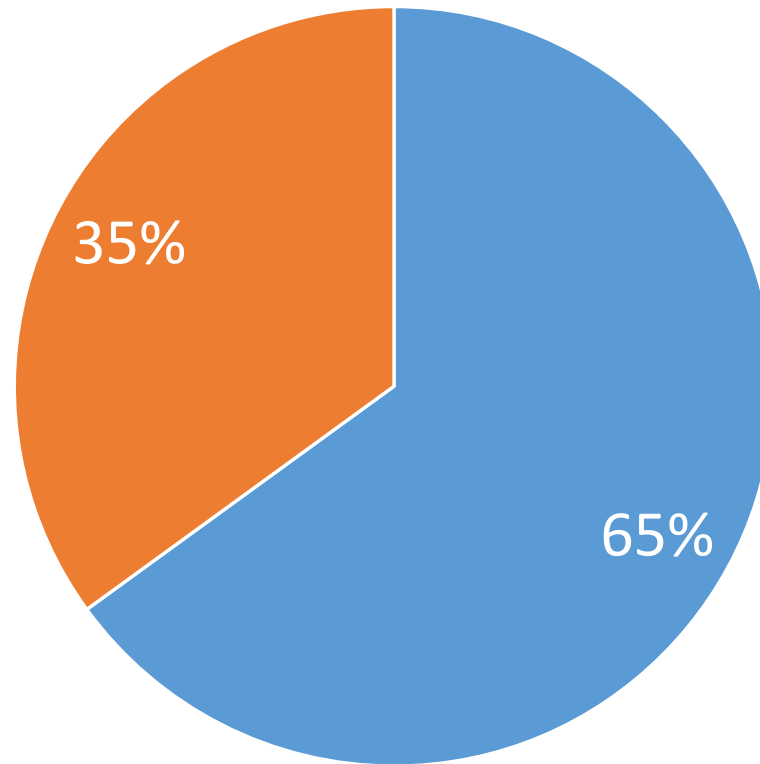
■ Black Inmates Serving 8-30 Days

■ White Inmates Serving 8-30 Days

## Percentage of Charlottesville Inmates Serving 31 to 90 Days (2011-2020)

*White LOS 31-90 days rose 26%  
2011 to 2020*

*Black LOS 31-90 days rose 10%  
2011 to 2020*



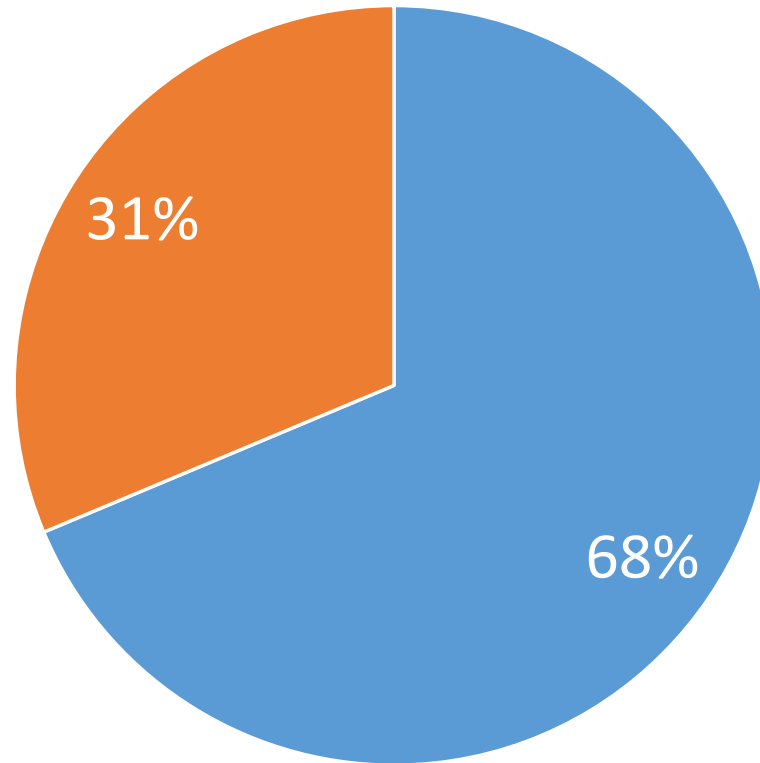
■ Black Inmates Serving 31-90 Days

■ White Inmates Serving 31-90 Days

## Percentage of Charlottesville Inmates Serving More Than 90 Days (2011-2020)

*White LOS 91+ days dropped 33% 2011 to 2020*

*Black LOS 91+ days dropped 33% 2011 to 2020*



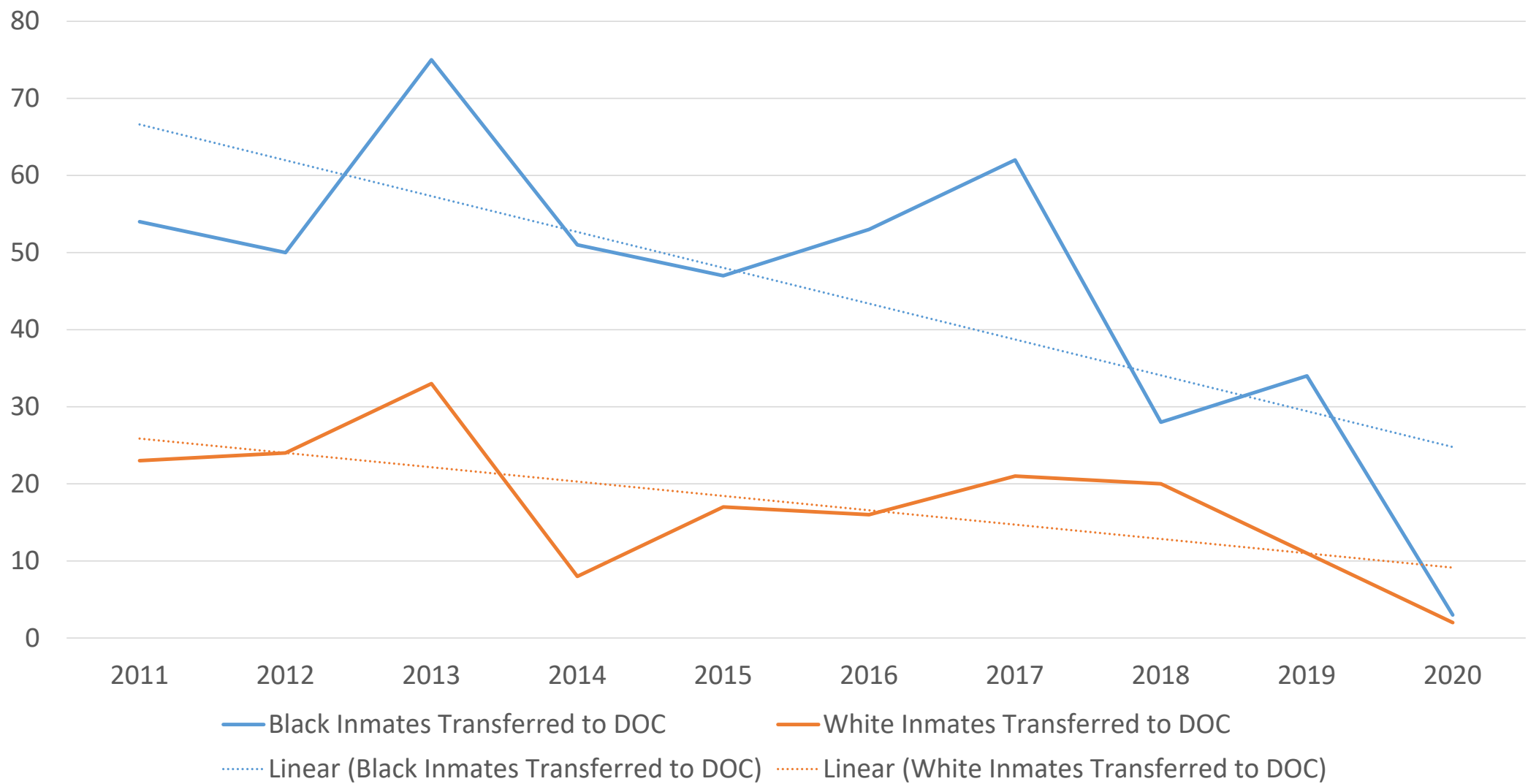
■ Black Inmates Serving 91+ Days

■ White Inmates Serving 91+ Days

# Charlottesville Inmates Transferred to DOC

- The number of Charlottesville inmates transferred to the custody of the Virginia Department of Corrections, both Black and White, fell substantially from 2011 to 2020.
- Significantly greater numbers of Black inmates were transferred to DOC custody than were White inmates.
- During 2020, transfers to DOC custody were curtailed after March, resulting in increasing lengths of stay at ACRJ for state-custody inmates.

### Charlottesville Inmates Transferred to the Virginia Department of Corrections by Race

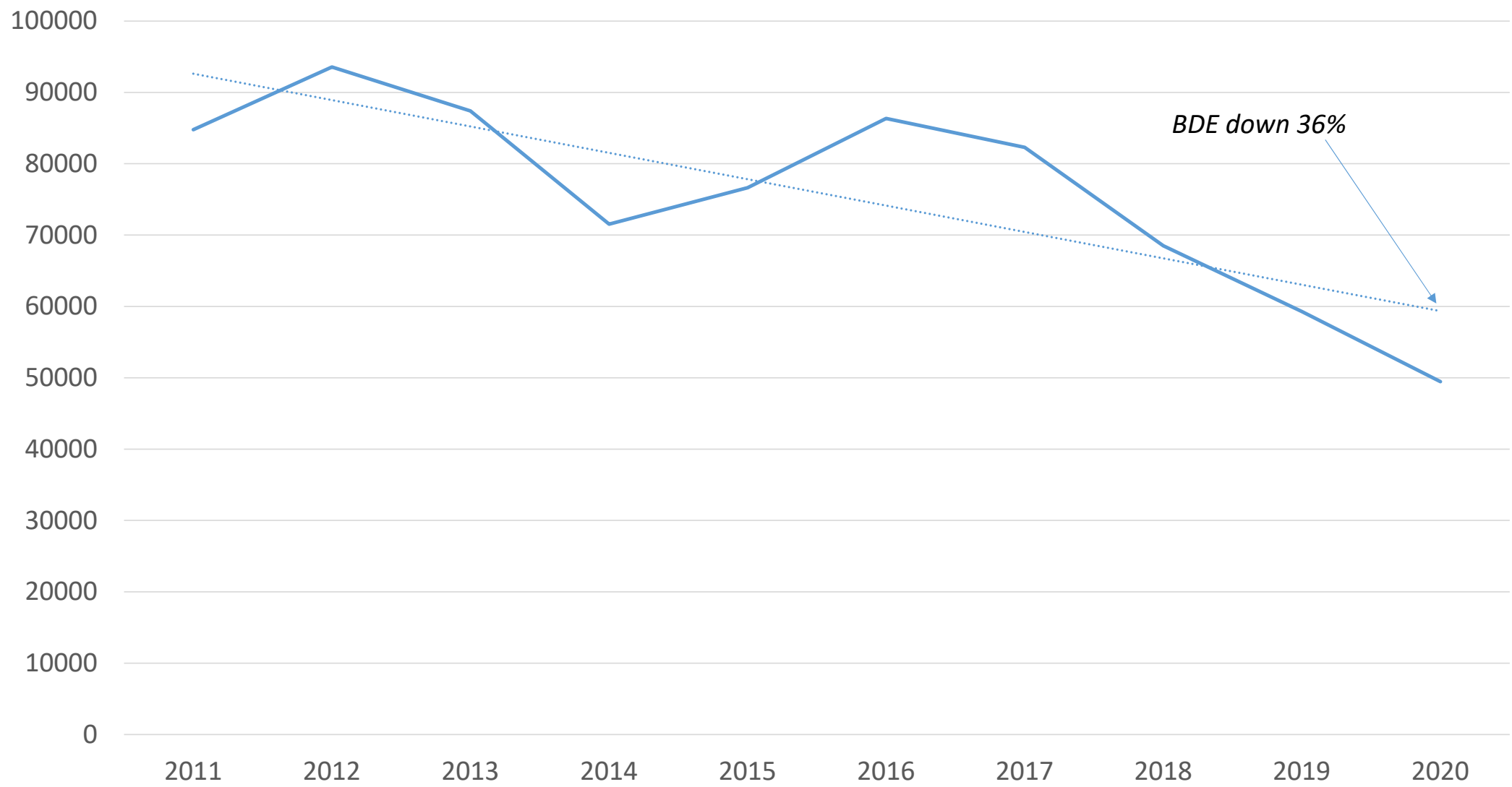


## Bed Day Expenditures by Race (2010-2020)

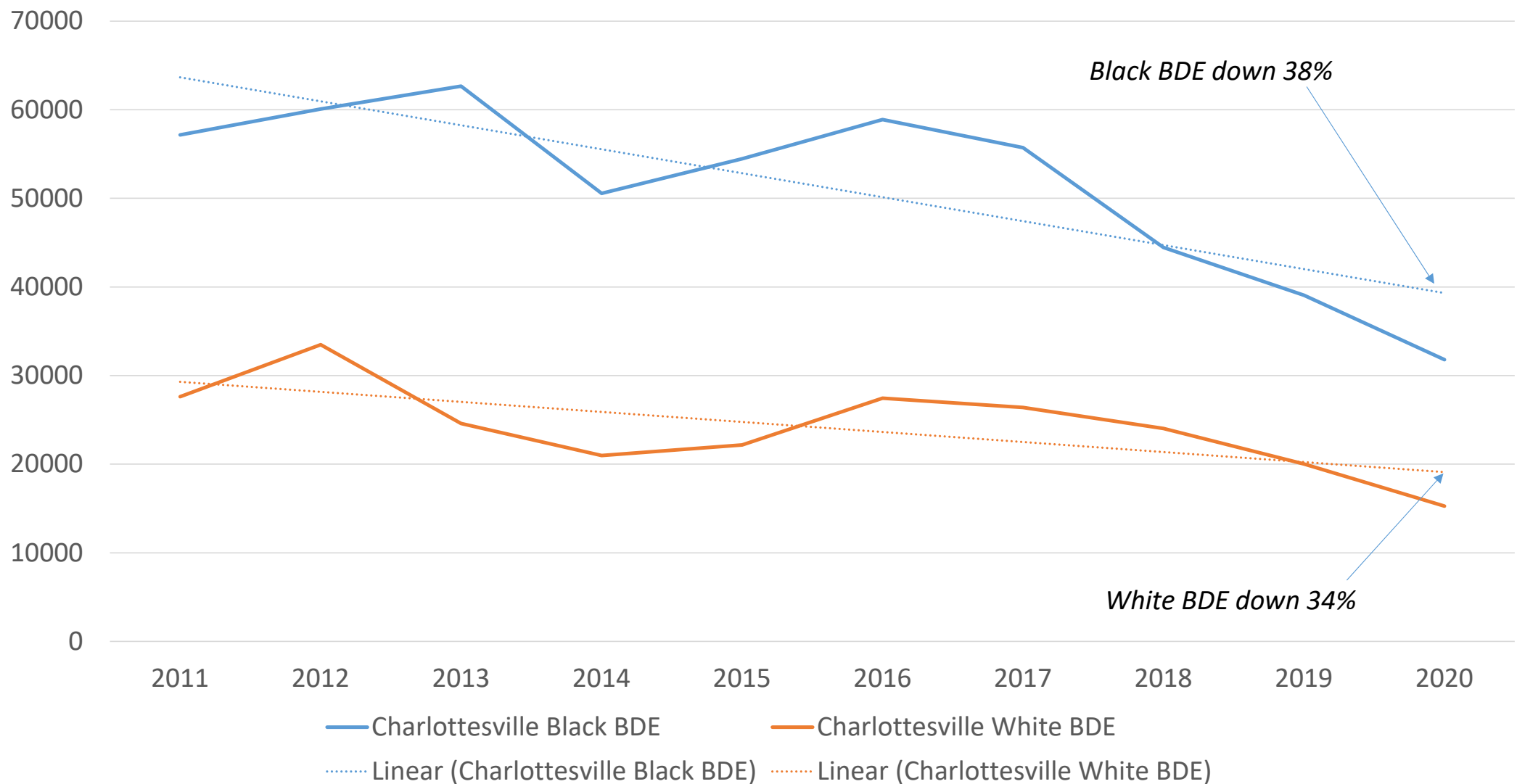
- The number of jail bed days expended on Charlottesville inmates dropped 36% between 2011 and 2020.
- Decreases were similar among both Black inmates (down 38%) and White inmates (down 34%).
- Black bed day expenditures in the City remained significantly disproportionate throughout the decade, when compared to US Census estimates of the Black population of Charlottesville and surrounding jurisdictions.



# Charlottesville Inmate Bed Day Expenditures



### Charlottesville Bed Day Expenditures by Race



# Conclusions

- Reported crime, arrests, and incarceration all decreased substantially in Charlottesville from 2011 to 2020.
- Drops in arrests and incarceration were fairly equally distributed among Black and White people.
- While fewer numbers of Black people were incarcerated in 2020 than in 2011, those decreases have done little to reduce the degree of disproportionality between Black and White people arrested and incarcerated in Charlottesville.
- While the average length of stay of Black inmates still exceeds that of white inmates by a considerable margin, that margin has narrowed somewhat over the past decade.

# Prepared by:

Neal S. Goodloe, MPA

Criminal Justice Planner

Jefferson Area Community Criminal Justice Board

September 2021

## **City Council Community Discussion**

**with Imagine a Just Cville workgroup**

**Tuesday, September 28, 2021**

**5:00 – 8:00 p.m.**

**via ZOOM (Register at [www.charlottesville.gov/zoom](http://www.charlottesville.gov/zoom))**

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# **MARCUS ALERT Workgroup**

## **AGENDA**

- 1) Introduction
- 2) Brief History of group
- 3) Personal testament to the intersection of policing and mental health in our community in minority communities
- 4) Overview of Statewide Marcus Alert legislation
- 5) How the Marcus Alert affects our local Mental Health system
- 6) How the Marcus Alert affects our local emergency response
- 7) Local issues identified
- 8) Recommendations

# City of Charlottesville Marcus Alert Workgroup

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Charlottesville City Council  
Work Session

September 28, 2021

# Workgroup Members

## Current Members

**Myra Anderson, Workgroup Co-Chair,**

Mental Health Advocate, Marcus Alert Stakeholder Group, Sur-Thriver

**Dr. Lisa Beitz,**

Executive Director, Region Ten Community Services Board

**Devin Coles,** Pastor, Member Charlottesville Clergy Collective

**Brian Henderson,** Operations Supervisor, City of Charlottesville Department of Social Services

**Myron Johnson,** Youth Development Professional, Boys and Girls Club

**Sena Magill, Workgroup Co-Chair,** Vice Mayor, Charlottesville

**Joe Powers,** Deputy Fire Chief, Charlottesville Fire Department

**Sonny Saxton,** Executive Director,

Charlottesville-UVA-Albemarle County Emergency Communication Center

## Current Members Con't

**Dr. Hezedean A. Smith,** Fire Chief, Charlottesville Fire Department

**Lloyd Snook,** Charlottesville City Councilor

**Tom von Hemert,** Coordinator, Thomas Jefferson CIT (Crisis Intervention Team)

## New Members

**Ashley Marshall, MPA, J.D.** Deputy City Manager for

Racial Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (REDI)

**James Mooney,** Assistant Chief of Police, Charlottesville Police Department

## Past Members

**RaShall Brackney, PhD.,** Charlottesville Chief of Police

**Kaki Dimock,** Charlottesville Director of Human Resources

**Emily Pelliccia,** Deputy Chief of Operations

## Guest Speakers/Consultants

**Dr. Lisa Jobe Shields,** Deputy Director of Community Services, DBHDS

**Daryl Washington,** Executive Director, Fairfax- Falls Church Community Services Board

# Marcus Alert Act- Overview

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- Named for Marcus-David Peters, a young, Black Biology teacher who was shot and killed by Richmond Police in 2018 in the midst of a mental health crisis
- *Aims to ensure that the emergency response to a behavioral health crisis is a behavioral health response*



# Marcus Alert State Components

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## 4 level framework for urgency

- Core definition exists at the state level, cross walks are used to integrate it and further specify at local level

## Equity at Intercept 0 Initiative

- Includes network leads and coalition development

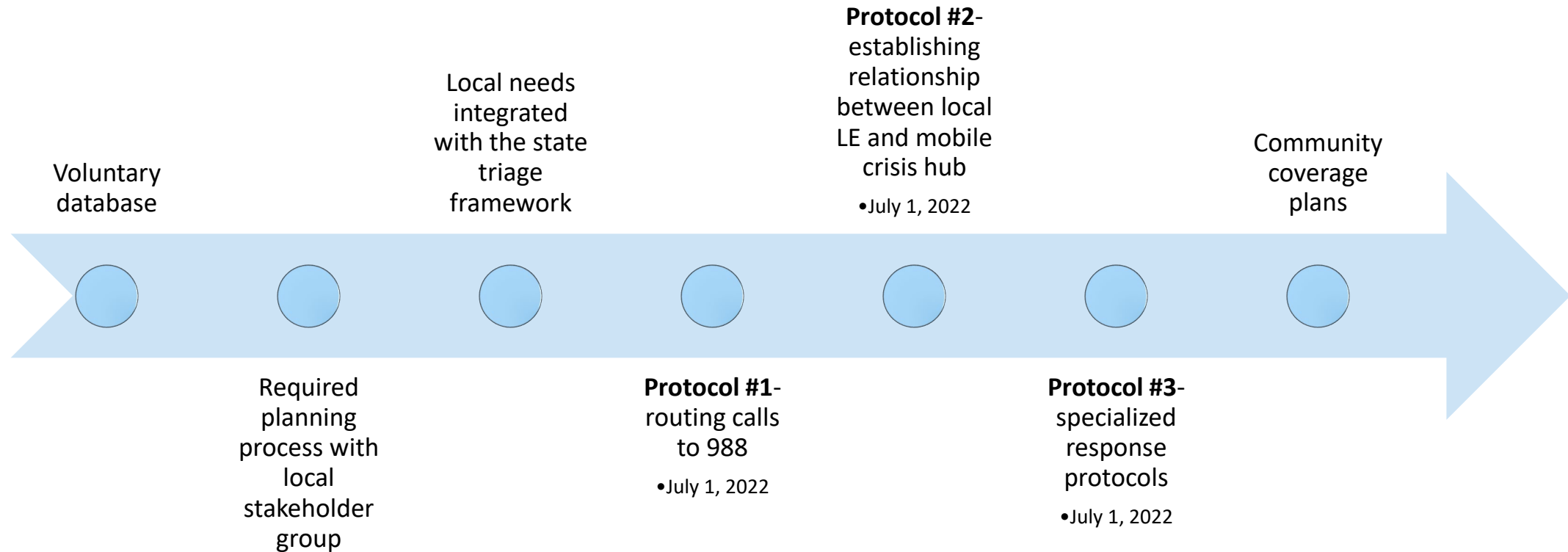
## Statewide training standards

- Behavioral health training competencies

## Public service campaign focused on calling 988

- Focus on calling at first signs of a crisis

# Required Components for Local Implementation of Marcus Alert



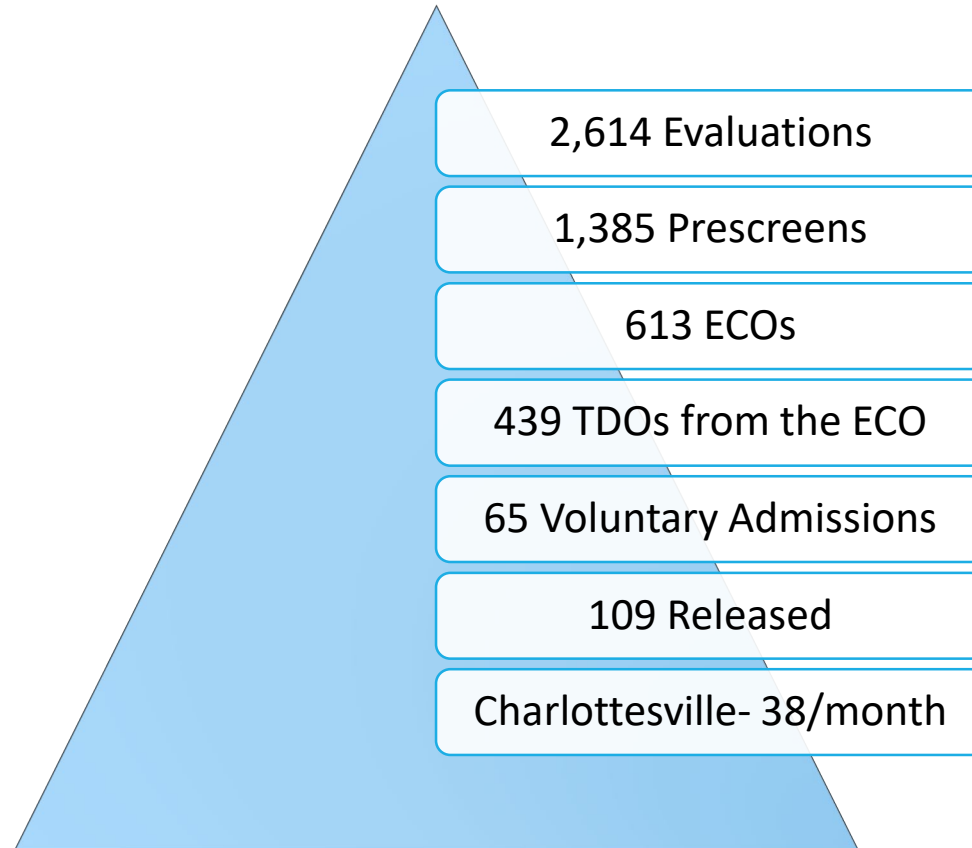
# DBHDS Marcus Alert Deadlines and Deliverables

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- July 1, 2021: voluntary database developed for locality
  - July 1, 2021: state guidance released
  - ~August 1, 2021: discuss “area” and form stakeholder group
  - Conduct planning at local level using state guidance
  - Submit application for 3 protocols
  - Implement 3 protocols by July 1, 2022
  - Continue planning for Community Coverage for Statewide Implementation by July 1, 2026

# RTCSB Emergency Services FY 2021

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# Current Crisis Landscape

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Early Pandemic Impacts on the System

Executive Order 70

Decrease in State Psychiatric Hospital Beds

Workforce Challenges

Inadequate Community Infrastructure

Individual and Community Impacts

Need for Collaborative Community Solutions

# Marcus Alert/STEP-VA/Project BRAVO

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**Marcus Alert**

- A set of Protocols
- 988
- Formalized MOUs regarding Coordination of Services
- Community Care Teams
- Intercept 0 Initiative
- Statewide Training Standards

**STEP-VA**

- Data Platform
- Call Center
- Mobile Crisis
- CITAC
- 23 Hour Beds
- CSU

**Project BRAVO**

- Medicaid Recipients
- Best Practices
- Reimbursement

The top-left portion of the slide features a series of thin, light-brown lines that intersect to form various irregular polygons and shapes, creating a complex, abstract geometric pattern.

# MARCUS ALERT – THE INTERSECTION WITH LAW ENFORCEMENT / ECC

# CHARLOTTESVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

The Charlottesville Police Department is staffed by 98 sworn police officers. There are 19 current vacancies for police officers.

CPD responded to over 36,000 calls for service in 2020, and over 27,000 CFS thus far in 2021.



## MENTAL HEALTH CALLS

Police are the primary, and sometimes only agency that responds to MH calls, handling the initial response, the period of custody, and the transport to facilities.

## CALLS FOR SERVICE

CPD responded to 551 MH calls for service in 2020, and 387 so far in 2021. Of these calls, 14 in 2020 and 11 in 2021 have been “high-risk,” meaning a weapon or immediate danger was involved.

## ECO/TDO SERVICE

272 ECO’s and/or TDO’s were served by CPD in 2020 and 211 so far this year. Currently, service of ECO’s and TDO’s results in reduced staffing for CPD and officers spending long hours with MH consumers, sometimes up to 48 hours while patient awaits medical clearance and/or bed space becomes available at facilities. (What are the effects of long-term exposure with police officers?)

## COSTS

Considerable overtime costs related to staffing past normal shifts/assignments, as well as supplementing other PD functions by hiring officers for overtime.

# CURRENT STATUS


# CURRENT CPD ROLES

## Response to MH Calls

- Assessment (CIT)
- Offer Services (CRISIS)
- Referral to Region 10 for additional services

## Transport for Treatment

- Voluntary transport to CRISIS
  - Officer initiated ECO
- Execution of 3<sup>rd</sup> Party issued ECO's
  - TDO transports to facilities



## SHORT TERM PLANS UNTIL FULL STATE- WIDE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE MARCUS ALERT PROGRAM IS REALIZED

### CPD's Interim Plan

Support ECC's plan to implement new protocol systems for mental health calls.

- ECC plans to roll out the new protocols in December 2021
- Training already underway, 60-70 hours for dispatchers, and over 100 hours for Supervisors
- Will enhance the way ECC interacts with callers, the community.
- Will aid with dispatcher interactions with callers, mental health consumers, allowing for better classification of calls and more appropriate response teams/efforts.

CPD Requirement for all officers to receive CIT certification at or shortly after hire.

Development of a mental health unit, possibly with regional partners and other agencies, consisting of officers (and others) with specialized training in response to mental health calls, with the thought of possibly integrating this unit in future Marcus Alert Local Response Teams (if Police presence is needed or desired).

- Staffing, staffing, staffing. Current Staffing levels allow for a minimal response and extensive waiting periods.
- Funding

# MARCUS ALERT BENEFITS

- Reduction in Police Involvement by limiting response to high level MH calls (Level 3 & 4) as outlined by Marcus Alert Local Response Plans
- A more well-trained police officer based on required training through DCJS. (Most of which is already being integrated into Academy and In-service training requirements)
- Need for higher percentage of CIT trained officers. \*Not a requirement, but very likely an expectation.
- Specialized training or doctrine (DT/Use of Force) when dealing with combative MH patients
- Likely need for specialized, youth-based training (Policing the Teen Brain?)

## UNANSWERED QUESTIONS

- What model of response will our region use? (Co-Response, Cahoots, other?)
- Once assessment is made, who determines course of action? (Response team, LE or 3<sup>rd</sup> party evaluator?)
- Where will we take them? (Still a shortage of bed and/or treatment facilities)
- Who transports to hospital or MH care facility, or other yet to be determined alternative facility?
- Will Police Officers still be required to sit with MH patients?
- Lack of Outline for *“advanced Marcus Alert training” standards (What will these consist of?)*
- How will we (Dispatch/First Responders) manage the staffing needs associated with Marcus Alert?

# CLOSING THOUGHTS

## CURRENT STATUS

Extensive interactions between police and mental health consumers

Staffing shortages

Costly

Unsuccessful outcomes, repeated calls for service

## INTERIM PLAN

Develop local systems/models for future implementation as state-wide Marcus Alert support systems come into place.

Partnerships with local teams, ECC, Region 10, and other agencies to improve responses to MH calls.

## MARCUS ALERT

The program and the work are worthwhile! CPD supports this effort.

We don't have all the resources yet, we don't know how to pay for them, but that should not, and cannot stop or slow the work being done.

Ensures that the emergency response to a behavioral health crisis, even when involving a police officer, is a behavioral health response, not a police or enforcement response.

## The recommendations

- 1) Make an official task force and then the task force is recommended to do the following.
- 2 ) Engage the community, focus on people who have historically had poor interactions with policing and mental health.
- 3 ) Recommendations for the makeup of the official work group members and leaders of the group (see below)- Additionally we recommend that the chair of this group be a member of our minority community.
- 4) Design a survey and enlist groups already engaged in the community to help get it out, this needs to be active not passive.
- 5) Whoever gives surveys must be trained in motivational interviewing, the survey should be short 5-10 questions with a mix of open ended and definitive answers. The survey needs to
- 6) Beyond Marcus Alert Plan think about how we could have a on 24/7 crisis center that is not jail or hospital- ctac
- 7) Because we are regional we recommend that we also try and work with the county and uva.
- 8) Coming at the beginning of the budget season, where should it live, who has ownership? The city needs to decide the most appropriate department for this to live as it will need staff support and continual support.

## We recommend the members to include

- (1) Region Ten
- (1) Charlottesville Police Department
- (1) Charlottesville Fire Department
- (1) ECC
- (1) Crisis Intervention Team
- (1) Charlottesville Department of social services or human services or human rights
- (1) University of Virginia
- (1) Local Clergy
- (1) Member who resides or works in the city and who represents a mental health organization that seeks racial or social justice on behalf of historically disadvantaged communities;
- (1) Family members or close friends of someone with a mental health diagnosis
- (1) Family members or close friends someone with a mental health diagnosis who comes from historically disadvantaged communities that have traditionally experienced mental health disparities
- (2) Members who identify as having/had lived experience with mental health challenges (including peer support specialists) and/or individuals who have engaged with police before during a mental health crisis.

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