

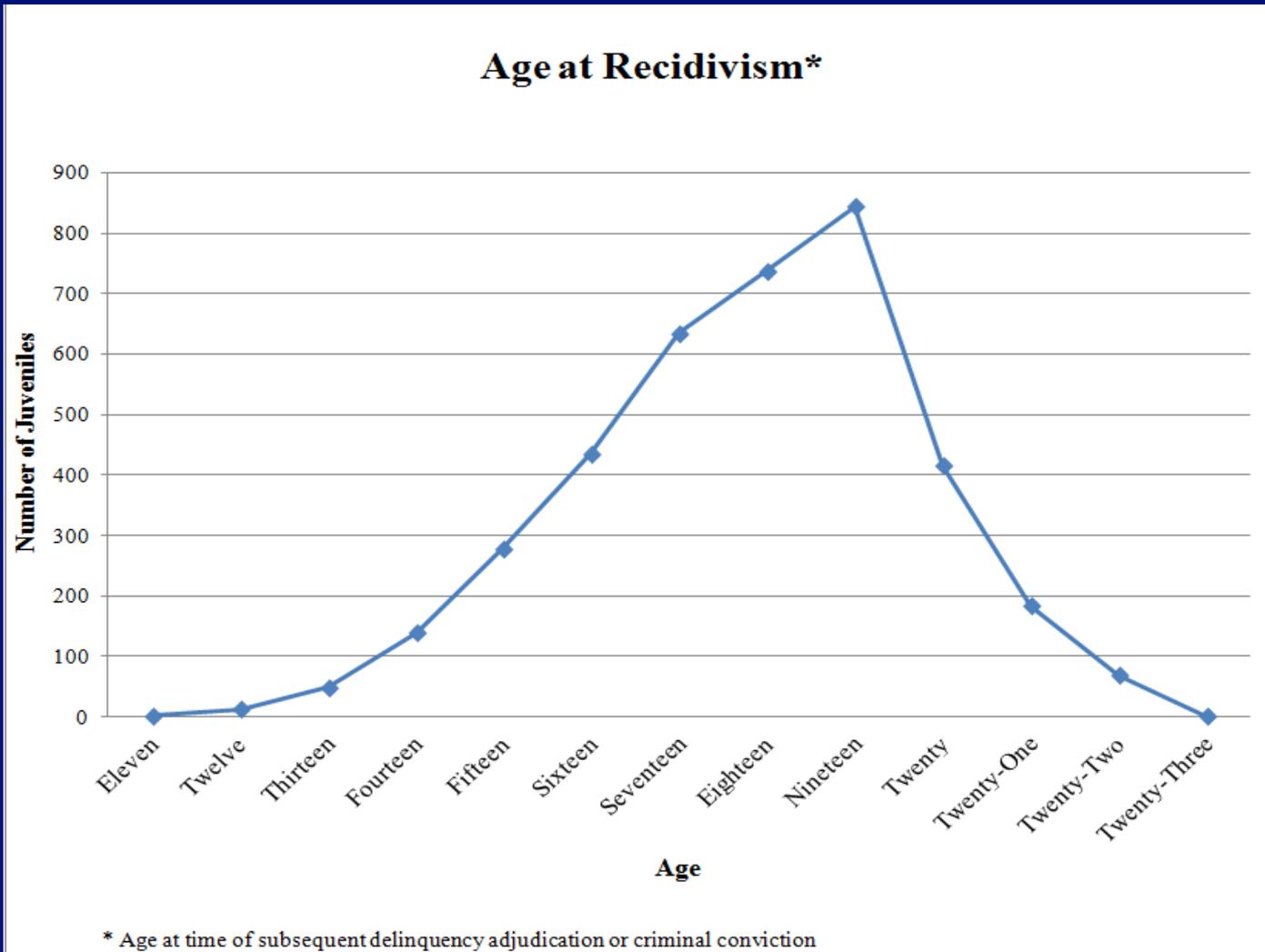
Research on Juvenile Offender Careers: Implications for the PA JJSES

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Pennsylvania SPEP Orientation and Rater's
Training

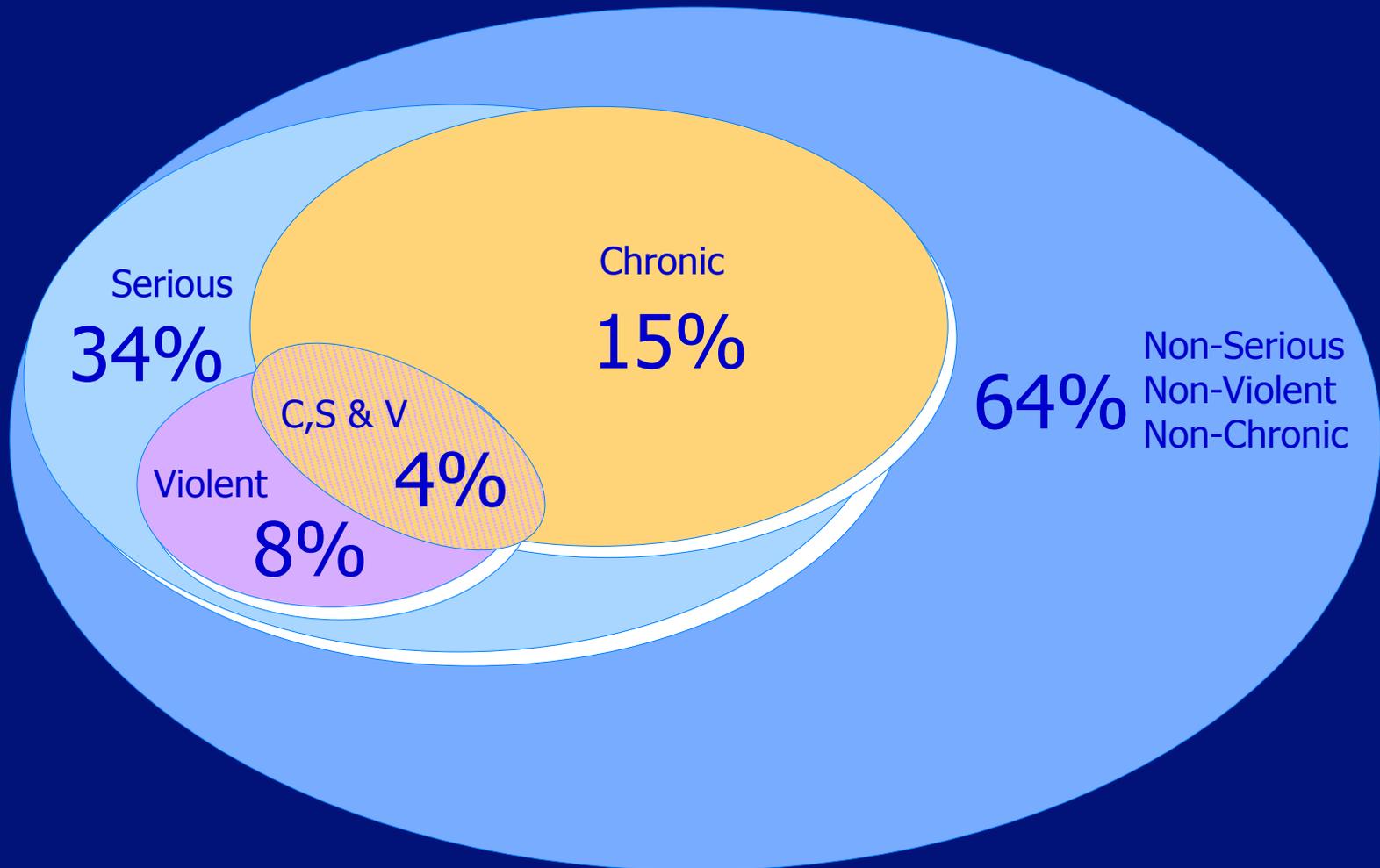
July 15, 2013

Goal: Bend the age-crime curve in PA



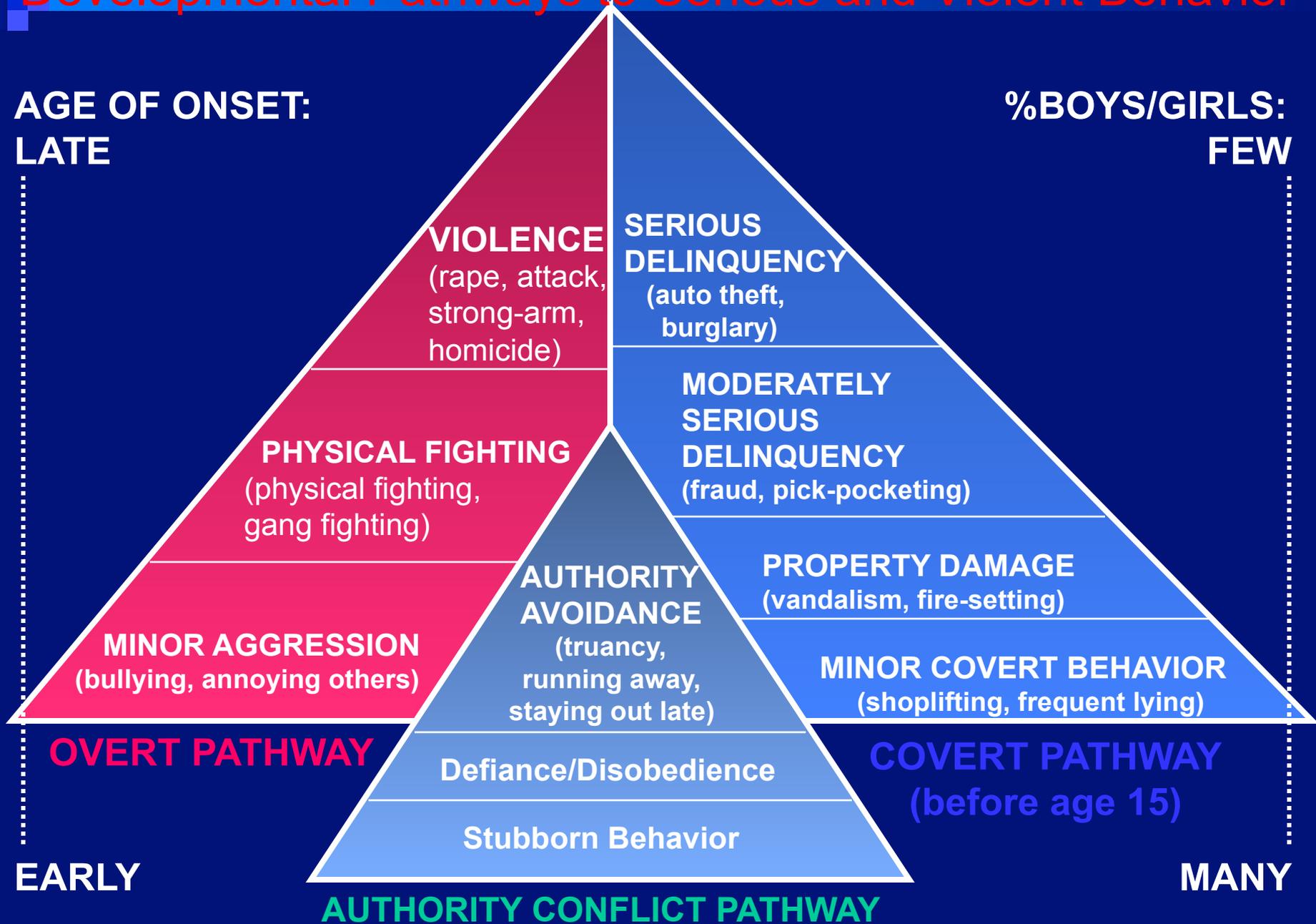
Source: Justine Fowler, PA Juvenile Court Judges' Commission

First Study of Entire Juvenile Offender Court Careers From Age 10 to 18 (Arizona)

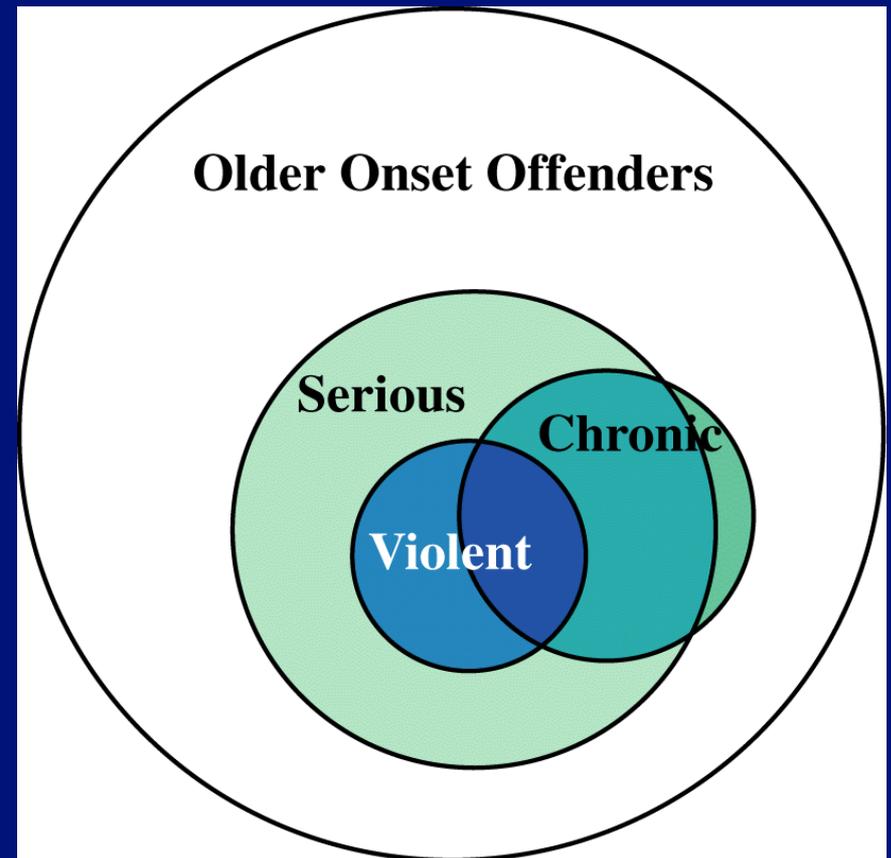
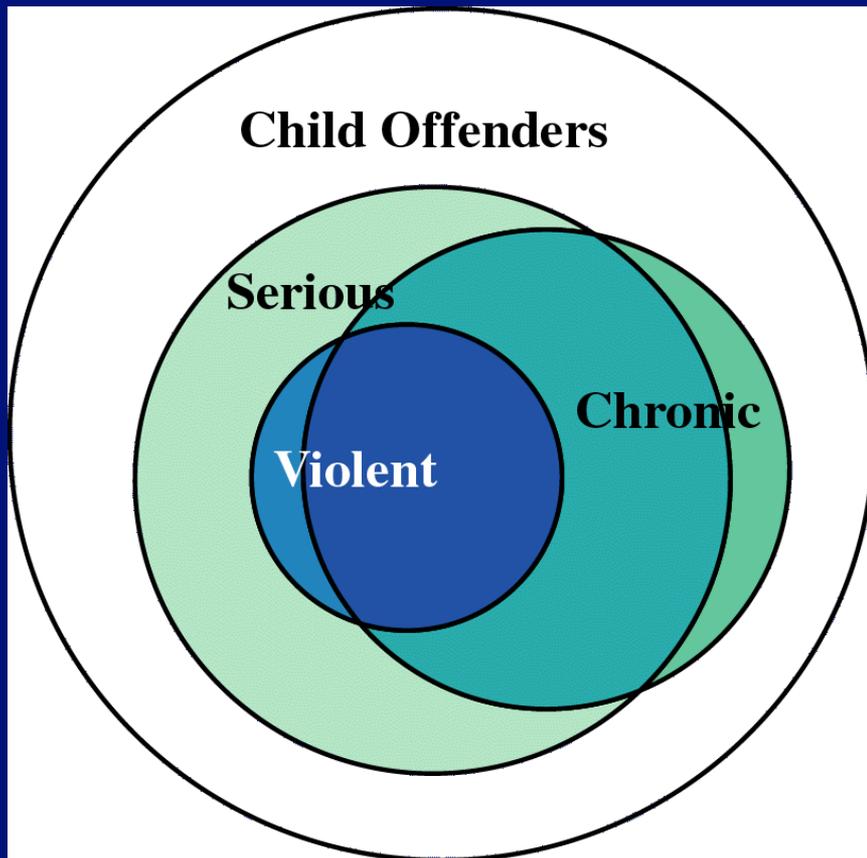


Source: Snyder (1998) Maricopa Co. Study (N=151,209)

Developmental Pathways to Serious and Violent Behavior

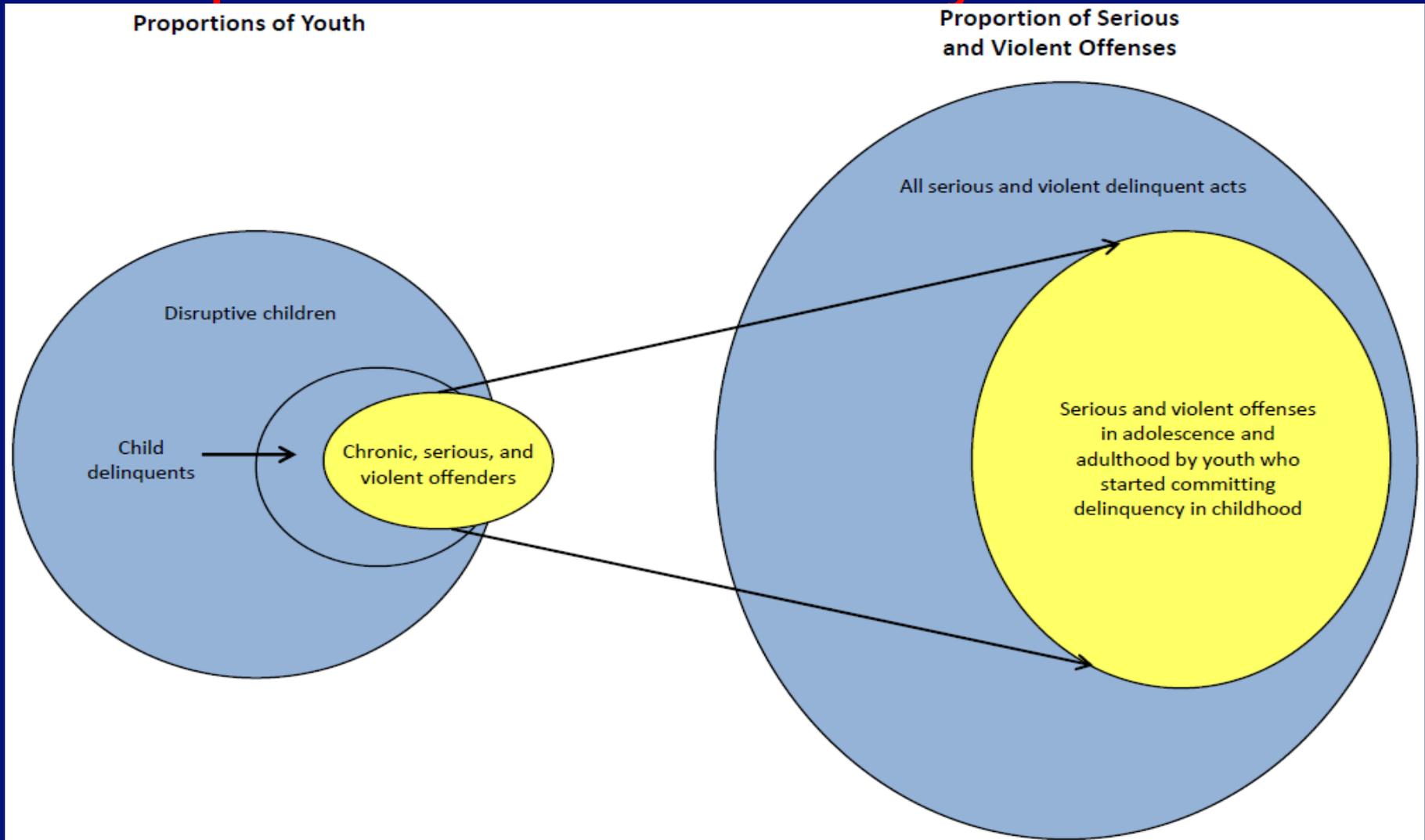


A larger percentage of very young offenders have serious, violent, and chronic careers



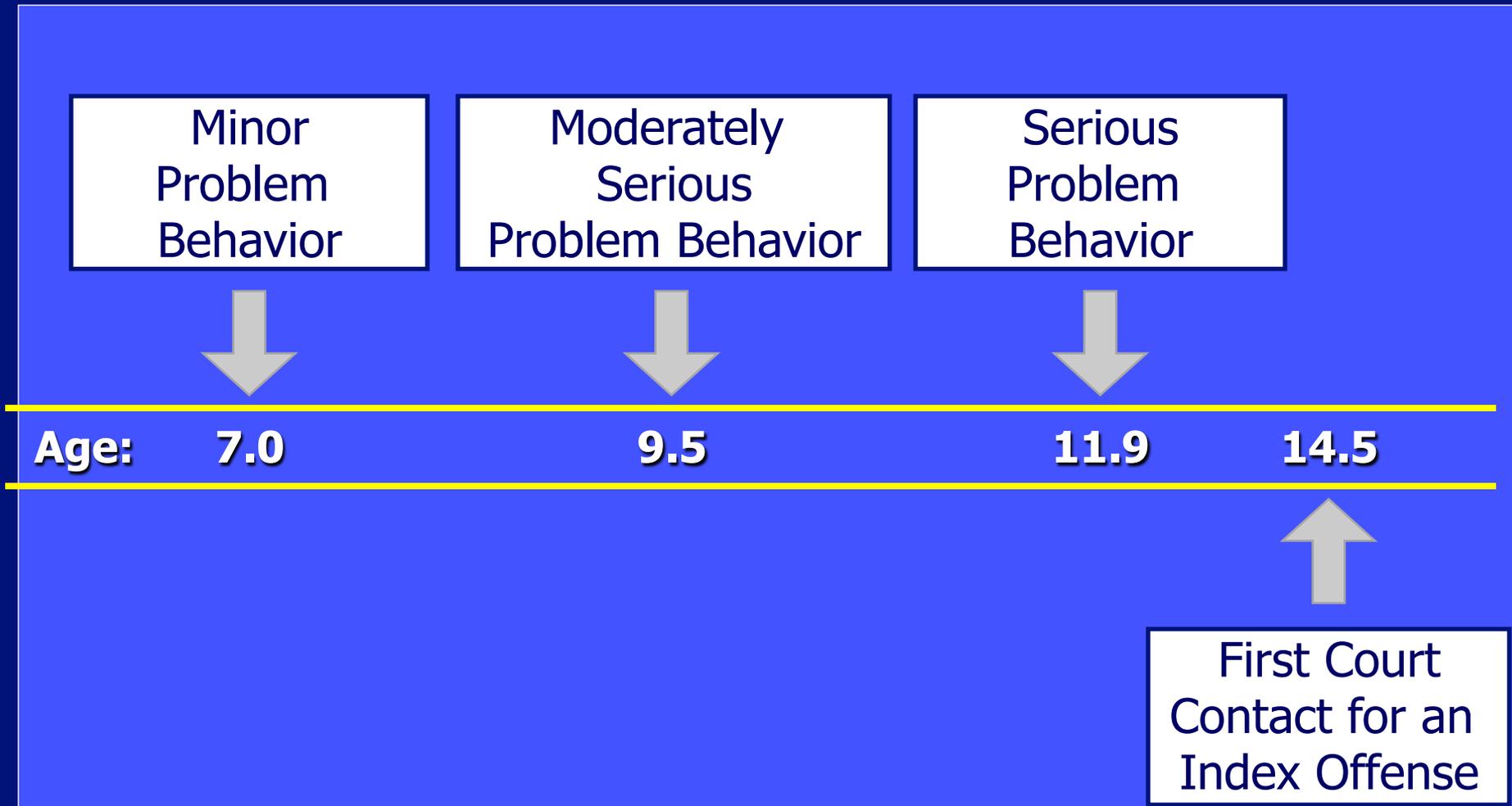
Source: Snyder (1998) Maricopa Co. Study

A small proportion of delinquents is responsible for half of all youth crime



Source: Loeber, Slot, Laan, & Hoeve, 2008

Timing of Delinquency and First Felony Court Contact



Source: Loeber: Pittsburgh Youth Study

Comprehensive Strategy for Serious, Violent, and Chronic Juvenile Offenders

Problem Behavior > Noncriminal Misbehavior > Delinquency > Serious, Violent, and Chronic Offending

Prevention

Target Population: At-Risk Youth

Programs for All Youth

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Programs for Youth at Greatest Risk

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Immediate Intervention

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Intermediate Sanctions

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Community Confinement

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Training Schools

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Aftercare

Preventing youth from becoming delinquent by focusing prevention programs on at-risk youth

Intervention & Graduated Sanctions

Target Population: Delinquent Youth

Improving the juvenile justice system response to delinquent offenders within a continuum of treatment options and system of graduated sanctions

Strongest Risk Factors for Later Delinquent or Criminal Offending

- The single strongest risk factor : Prior delinquent or criminal behavior
- Early problem behavior: School failure, violent, aggressive, & impulsive during childhood
- Family risk factors measured during childhood
- Other key risk factors within the individual, family, peer, and school risk domains vary in strength across the developmental stages in adolescence and early adulthood.



Two Poorly Served Offender Groups that Impede Successful Bending of the Age-Crime Curve

- Girls
- Gang Members

Why are girls important?

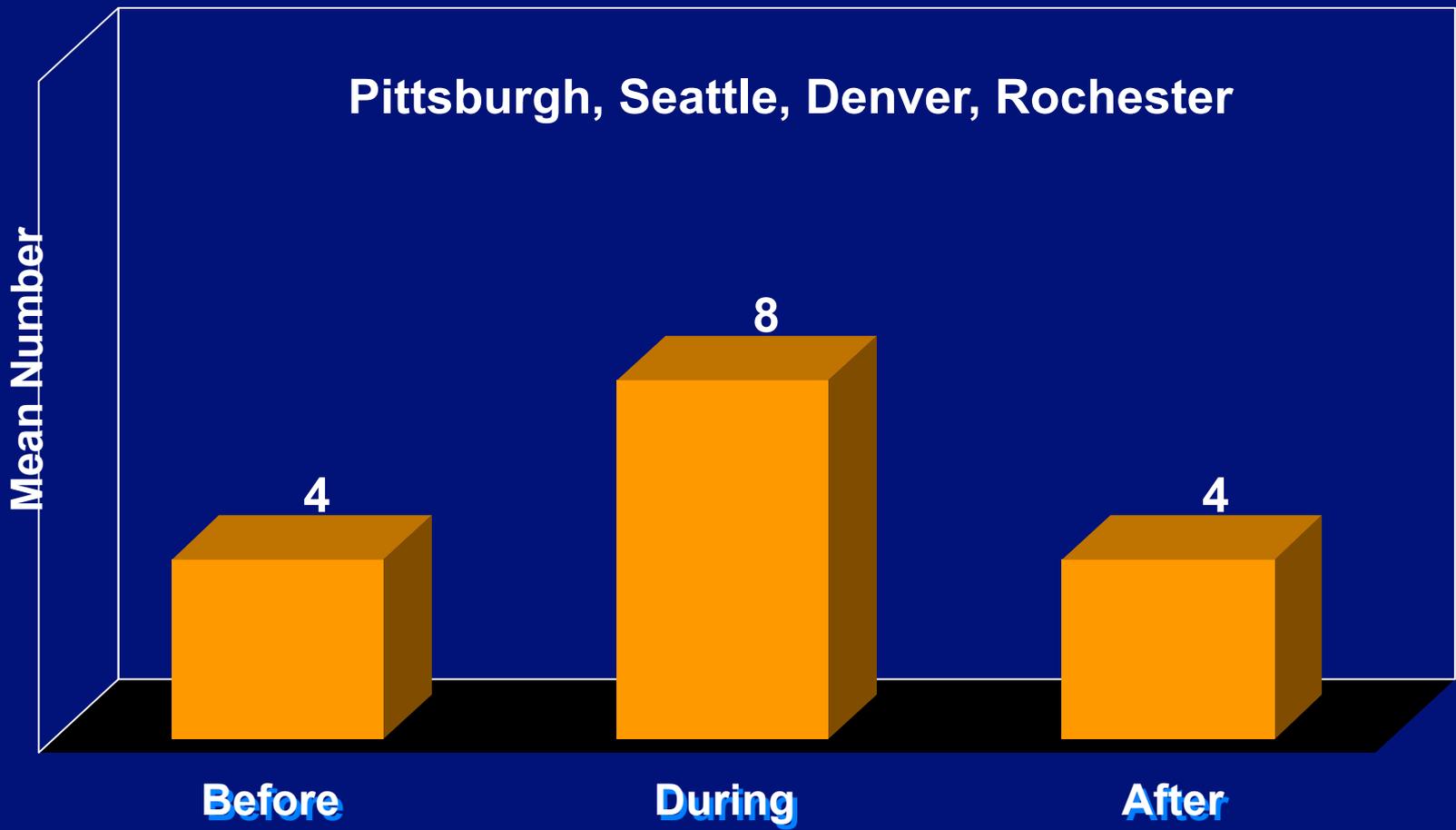
- Potential serious, violent, chronic offenders
- Do delinquent boys and girls have the same risk and protective factors? **Yes.**
- **But** the cumulative effects of risk factors may be worse for girls than for boys; requiring multimodal services.
- **And** girls also have higher levels of co-occurring problems than boys.

Girls Unique Treatment Needs

- Delinquent girls are more impaired across a range of co-occurring domains; and uniquely, **anxiety** and **affective disorders**..
- Delinquent girls have more severe family problems, especially in disadvantaged areas.
- Although boys are more likely to report some type of assault victimization, females are 10 times more likely to experience sexual assault than boys.

Sources: Augimeri et al., 2013, Hipwell & Loeber, 2006, Wasserman et al., 2005

Juvenile Self-reported Violence Rates Before, During, and After Gang Membership

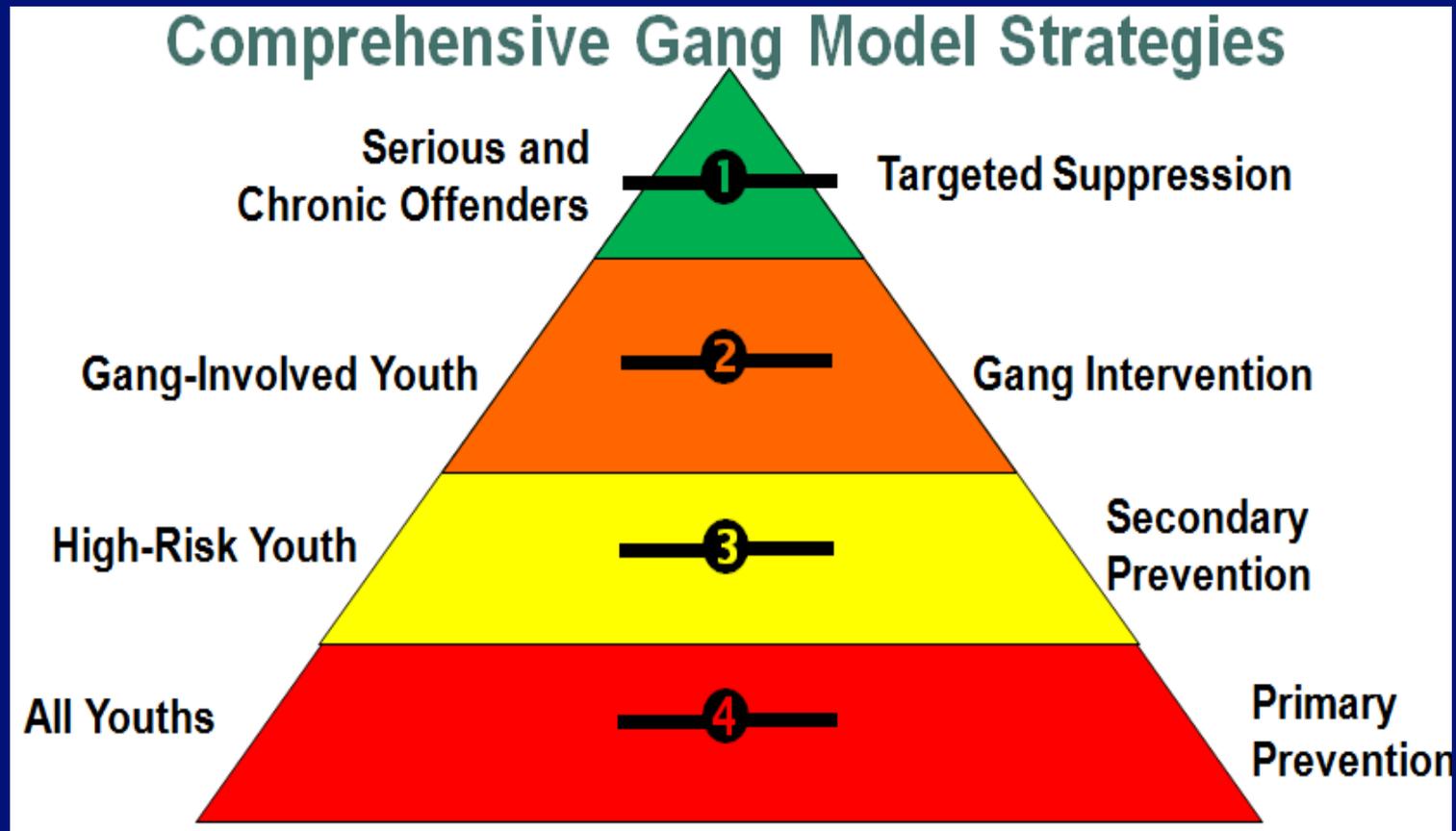


Source: Howell, 2012

Levels of Gang Involvement

| | |
|-------|-----------------------|
| Level | I—Fantasy |
| Level | II—At-risk |
| Level | III—Associate |
| Level | IV—Active Gang Member |
| Level | V—Core Member of Gang |

Comprehensive Gang Prevention, Intervention, and Suppression Model





Key Statewide Delinquency Intervention Strategies for Bending the Age-Crime Curve

- Forestall progression to serious, violent, and chronic (SVC) offender careers
- Intervene early with potential SVCs
- Serve girls intensively as well as boys
- Target gang members
- Promote desistance

A goal within reach: Bend the age-crime curve in Pennsylvania with JJSES tools and the SPEP

