



From Fences to Bridges:

*Integrating the Work of Youth
Justice Agencies and Academic
Research for Sustainable Positive
Youth Outcomes*

James Madison University
Innovation Center for Youth Justice
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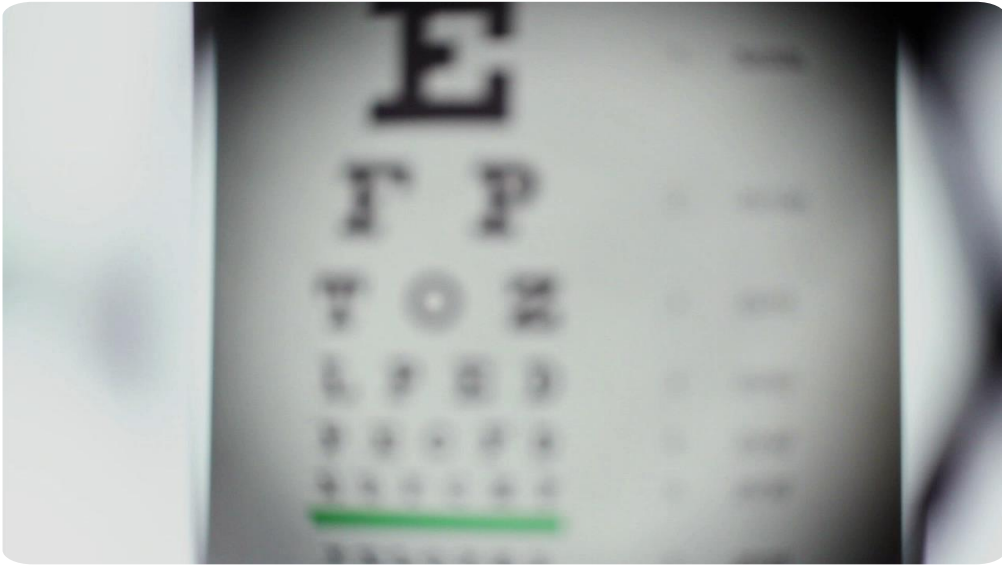
A close-up photograph of a pencil resting on a piece of graph paper. The pencil is positioned diagonally, with its tip pointing towards the bottom right. The graph paper has a grid pattern with numerical markings like '100' and '50'. The background is softly blurred, showing more of the graph paper and the pencil's body.



Limitations of Current Standard Practice

- Research is typically time-specific and/or time-limited
- System accountability is sacrificed
 - Replaced by overemphasis on adolescent behavior
 - What is the number or e-mail address for “the system”?
- Similarities and differences commonplace for academia and government organizations aren’t shared
 - Missed learning, growth, and empathy
 - Opportunities exists to highlight shared alignment

Outcome Data Should Be Closely Examined and Evaluated at Multiple Levels



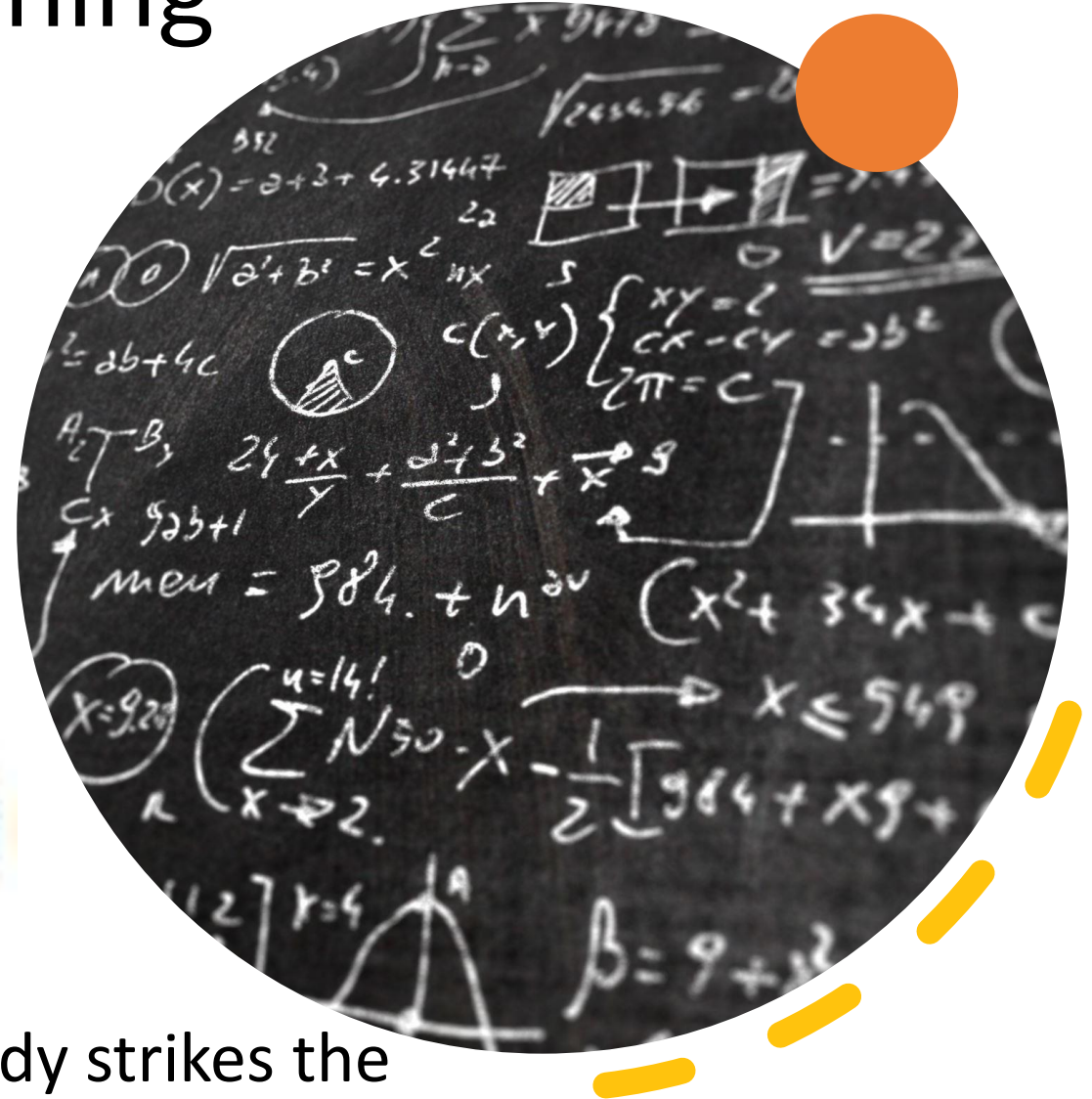
- Evidence-Based Service Models
- Community-Based Service Providers (Vendors)
- Risk & Needs Assessment Tools
- Screening Instruments and Evaluation Tools
- Probation Case Management Practices
- Case Processing
- Facility Standards
- Systemic Disparities



Real-time Data Monitoring and Performance Analysis

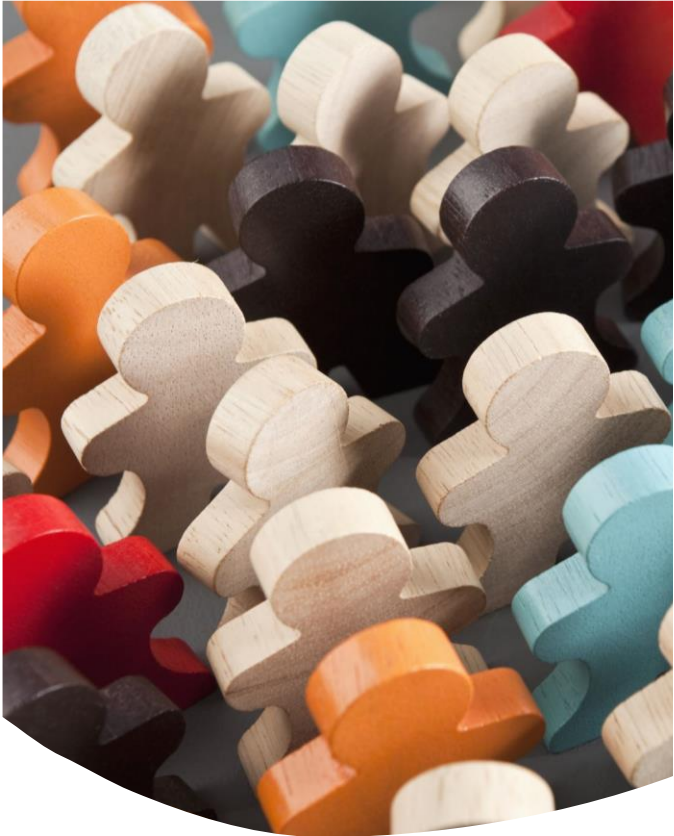
- Continuous Quality Improvement
- Data Driven Decision Making
- Identify Systemic Disparities
- Supervision Outcomes
- Case Processing Outcomes
- Short-Term and Long-Term Quality of Life Metrics Can Be Considered

When “The Math Isn’t Mathing”



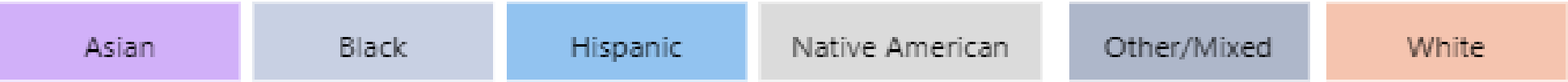
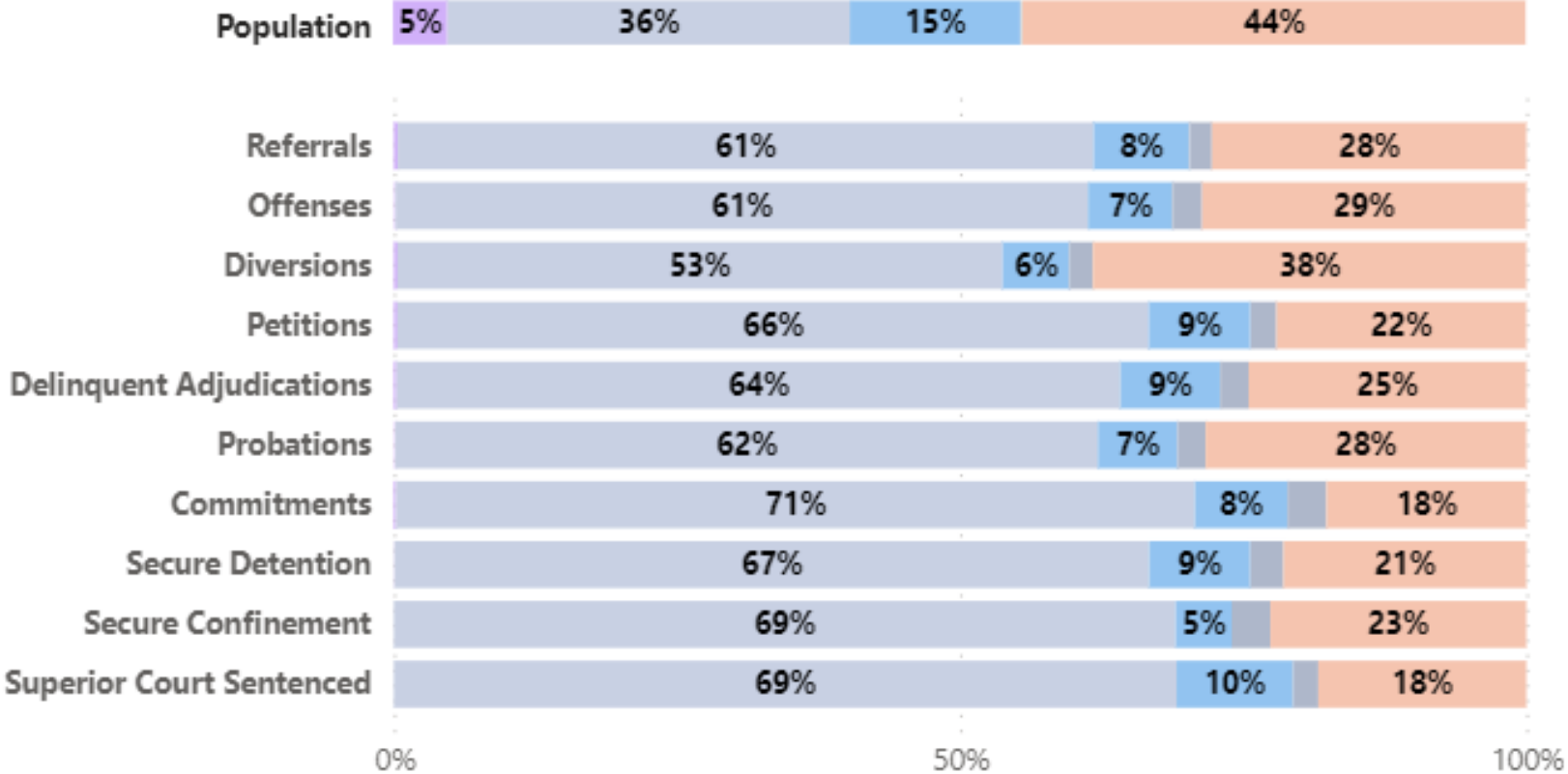
Absent easily accessible data, when tragedy strikes the blame game quickly ensues between public agencies.

Systemic Decision Point Disparities



2022 All All All All

Statewide Racial Breakdown*



Source: <https://juveniledata.georgiacourts.gov/dashboards-reports/decision-point-demographic-data/>

By advancing from project collaboration to cooperative integration, academia and youth justice agencies can build sustainable approaches to meet the “my child” test for all system-involved children.



The Innovation Center for Youth Justice is the perfect architectural vehicle to build such integrated systems.





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