



CORRECTIONS MARA MODULE UPDATE

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THE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

The Purpose of the DOC

The DOC acts as the responsible party to supervise, treat/rehabilitate, and reintegrate convicted offenders into society.

Main Drivers for Cost Increases:

- Larger populations of convicted offenders in male, female, and community supervision settings
- Changes to sentencing or laws can have an impact on the populations
- General inflationary increases to costs
- Additional costs to build or expand capacity

What Drives Offender Population Changes?

- A larger resident population
- Increasing or decreasing existing sentencing lengths
- Establishing jail time or removing jail time as a possible sentence
- The practices/strategies by the Board of Pardons and Parole in terms of releasing inmates eligible for parole

METHODS

Predicting future offender numbers allows for analysis of capacity needs and the potential costs to house these offender populations in future years.

METHODS:

Exponential Smoothing by gender (male or female)

- Exponentially decreases the weight of observations further back in time
- Smooths out the linear trend within the data and carries it forward
- Assumes that what has happened in the recent past would continue to be the trend

Collected Data

Department of Corrections and Crime Data:

- Historical Average Daily Population
- Historical Offense counts among the convicted population
- Historical reported counts of crime

Other Data Sources:

- Historical Montana resident population
- Historical SABHRS expenditures for the Department of Corrections
- Projected S&P Global CPI metrics

THE CURRENT SITUATION

Montana is at or near full capacity within nearly all aspects of the correctional system. The table shows the current capacity and ADP within secure facilities.

Current Secure Facilities for Montana Offenders			
Facility	Operational Capacity	Current ADP*	% of Operational Capacity
Montana State Prison	1,526	1,625	106.5%
Riverside Special Needs Unit	25	27	108.0%
Crossroads Correctional Center	753	764	101.5%
Saguaro Correctional Center	245	240	98.0%
Secure Facility Jail Holds	-	85	
Male Total	2,549	2,741	107.5%
Montana Women's Prison	240	248	103.3%
Secure Facility Jail Holds	-	59	
Female Total	240	307	127.9%
* ADP numbers reflect information about the DOC population taken on October 1, 2024			

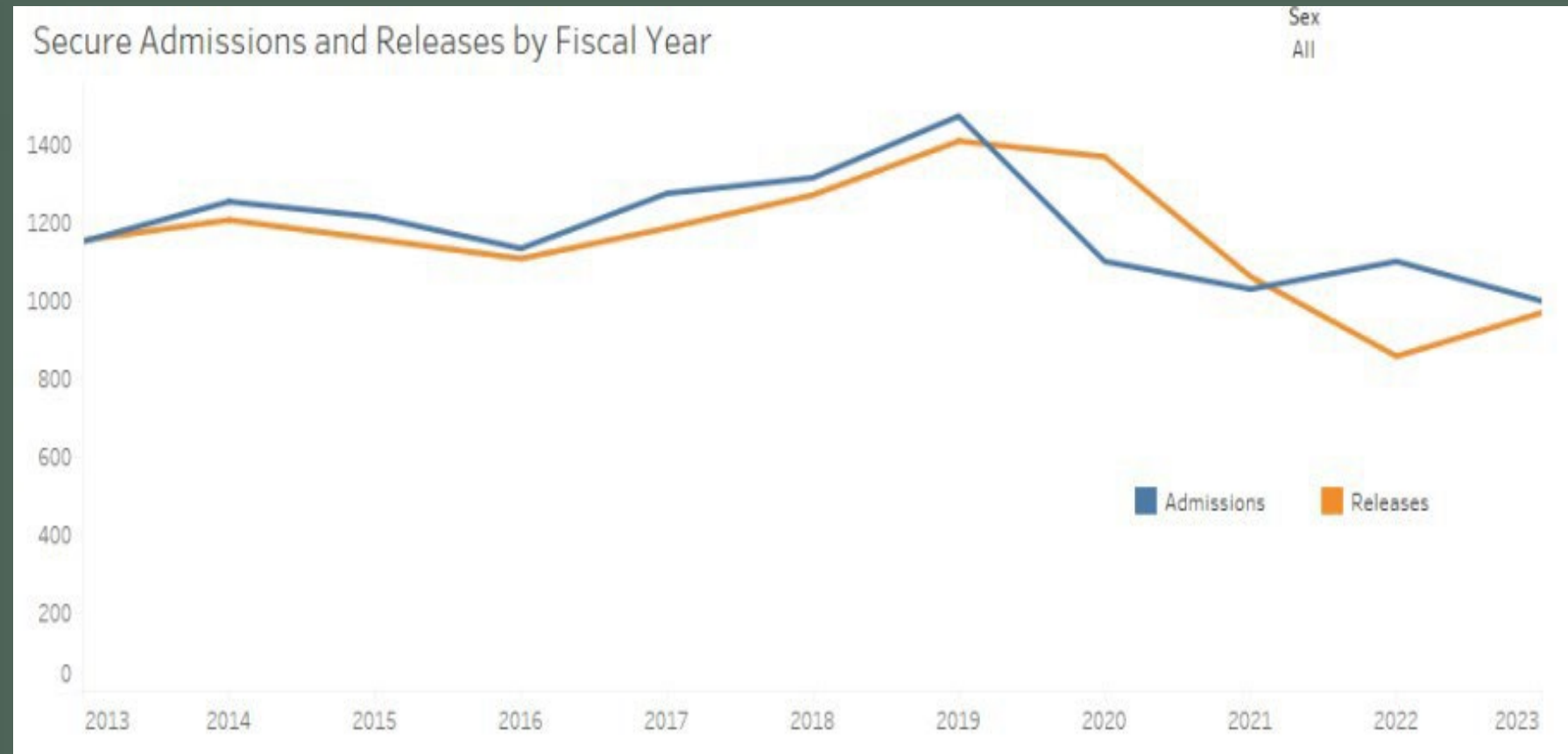
THE CURRENT SITUATION

The current situation is quite similar within treatment, assessment, and pre-release centers.

Current Alternative Facilities and Community Supervision for Montana Offenders				
Facility Type	Gender	Operational Capacity	Current ADP*	% of Available Contracted Capacity
Contracted Treatment	Male	336	331	98.5%
	Female	128	114	89.1%
Total		464	445	95.9%
Contracted Assessment/Sanction	Male	174	192	110.3%
	Female	72	59	81.9%
Total		246	251	102.0%
Contracted Pre-Release	Male	754	684	90.7%
	Female	209	225	107.7%
Total		963	909	94.4%
Contracted Other	Male	135	140	103.7%
Total Community Corrections		1,808	1,745	96.5%
Transitional Living Program	All	62	42	67.7%
Community Supervision Population	All		10,180	
* ADP numbers reflect information about the DOC population on October 1, 2024				

THE CURRENT SITUATION

Since the Covid period, the DOC has seen fewer admissions and releases into secure facilities than it had prior.



THE CURRENT SITUATION

Experienced growth from FY 1999

- Male =
- Female =

Experienced growth from FY 2021 (COVID dip)

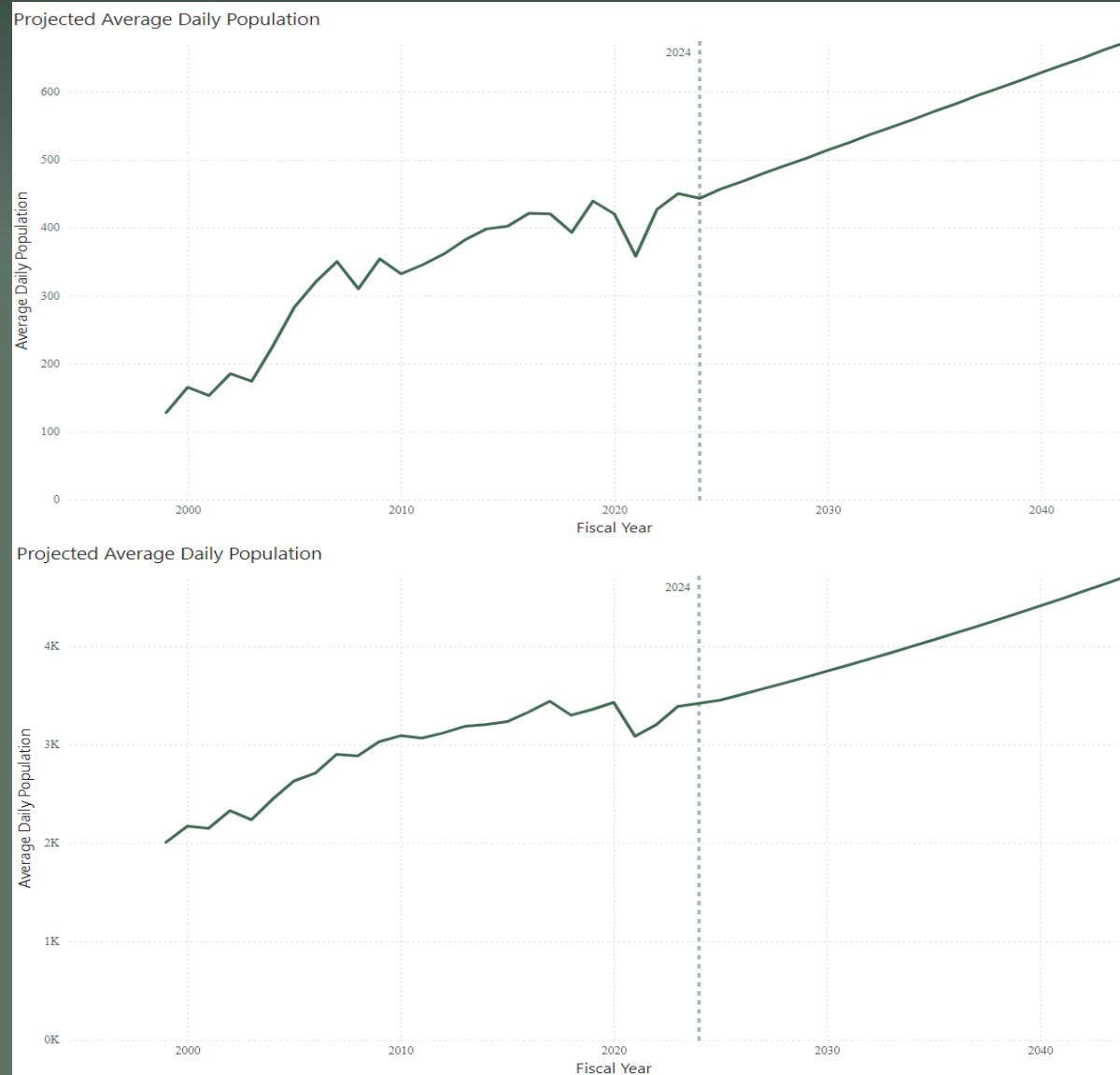
- Male =
- Female =

Estimated growth through FY 2044

- Male =
- Female =

Female

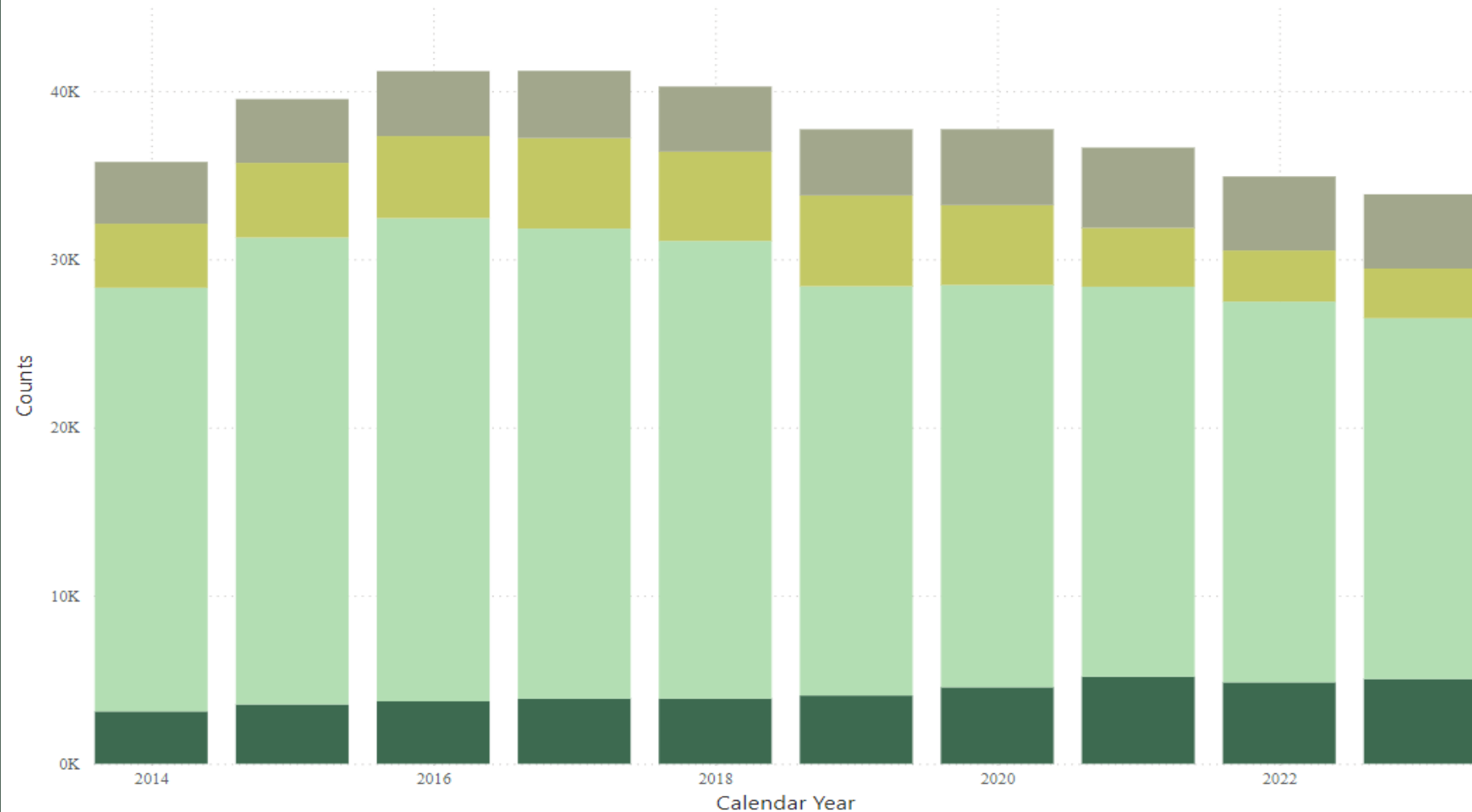
Male



Changes in Reported Crime

Crime Report Counts by Calendar Year and Crime Type

Crime Type ● Violent ● Property ● Drug ● Domestic Violence

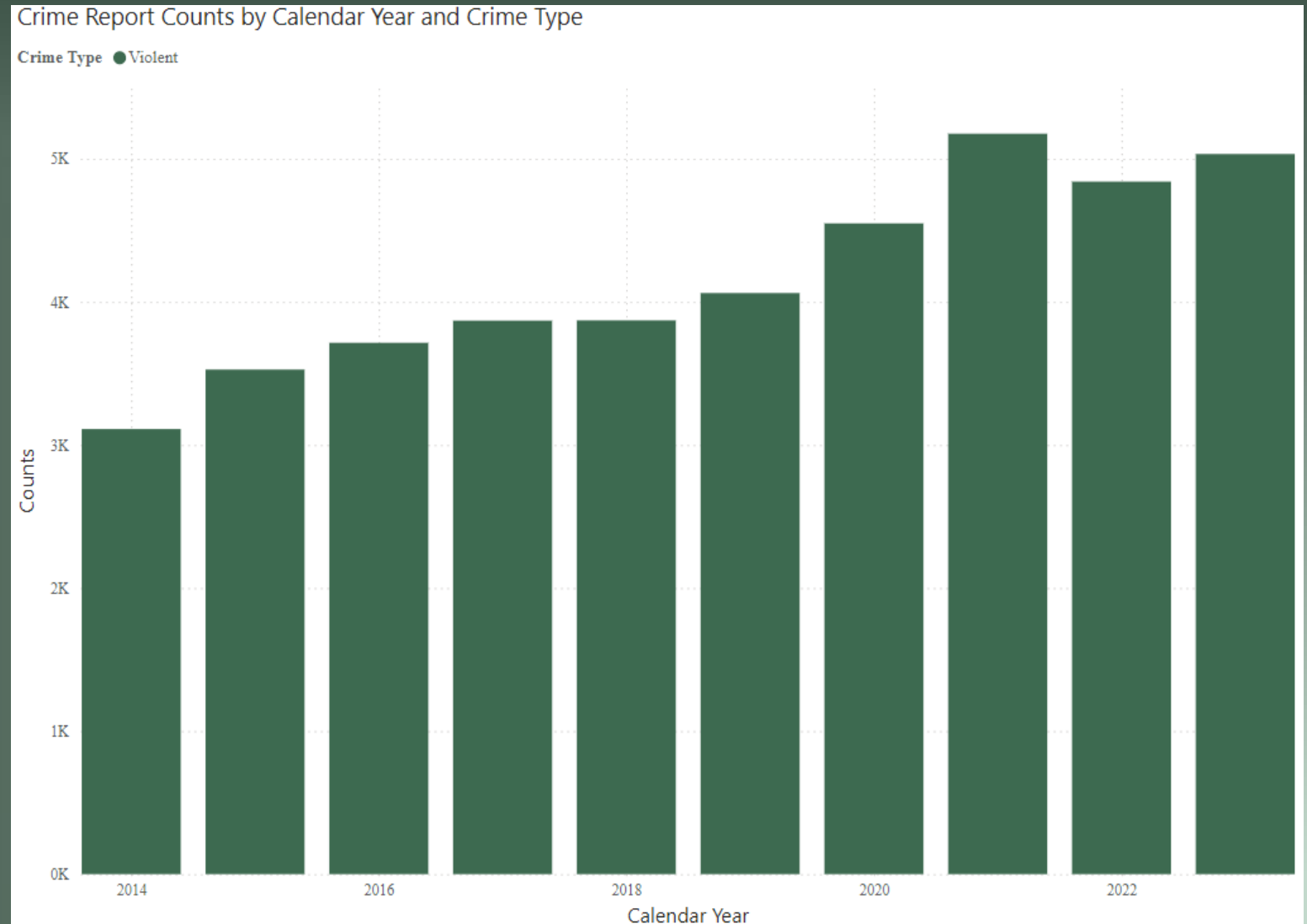


The chart to the right shows reported crime counts by type for the last 10 calendar years.

Reported numbers of violent crime have increased by approximately 62.0% since FY 2014.

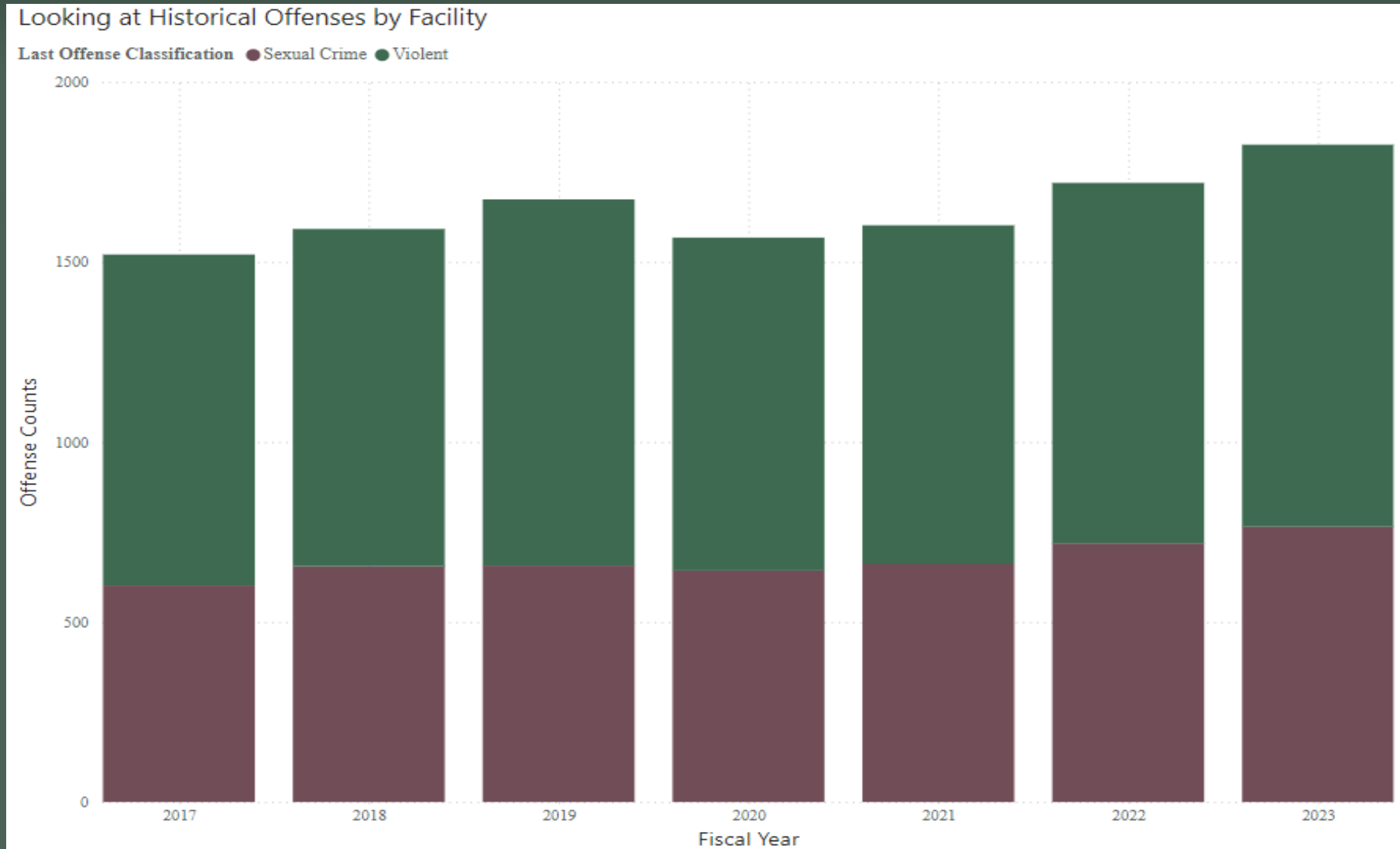
Violent Crime Rates have increased by 50.0% after accounting for increases in the Montana resident population

Changes in Reported Crime



Sexual and Violent Convictions

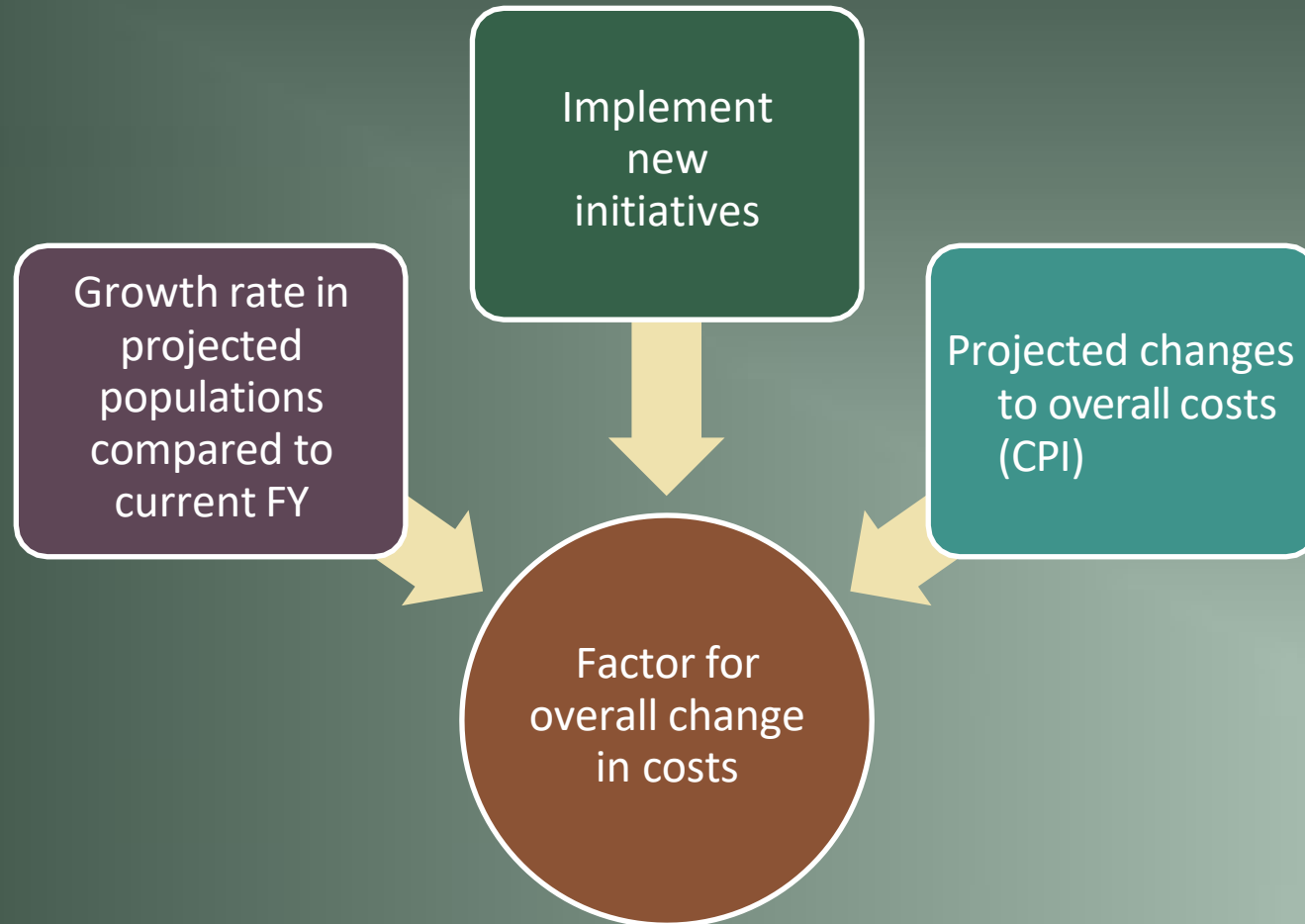
The number of violent and sexual offenses for offenders within secure and alternative facilities (1,826) has increased since 2017 (1,521)

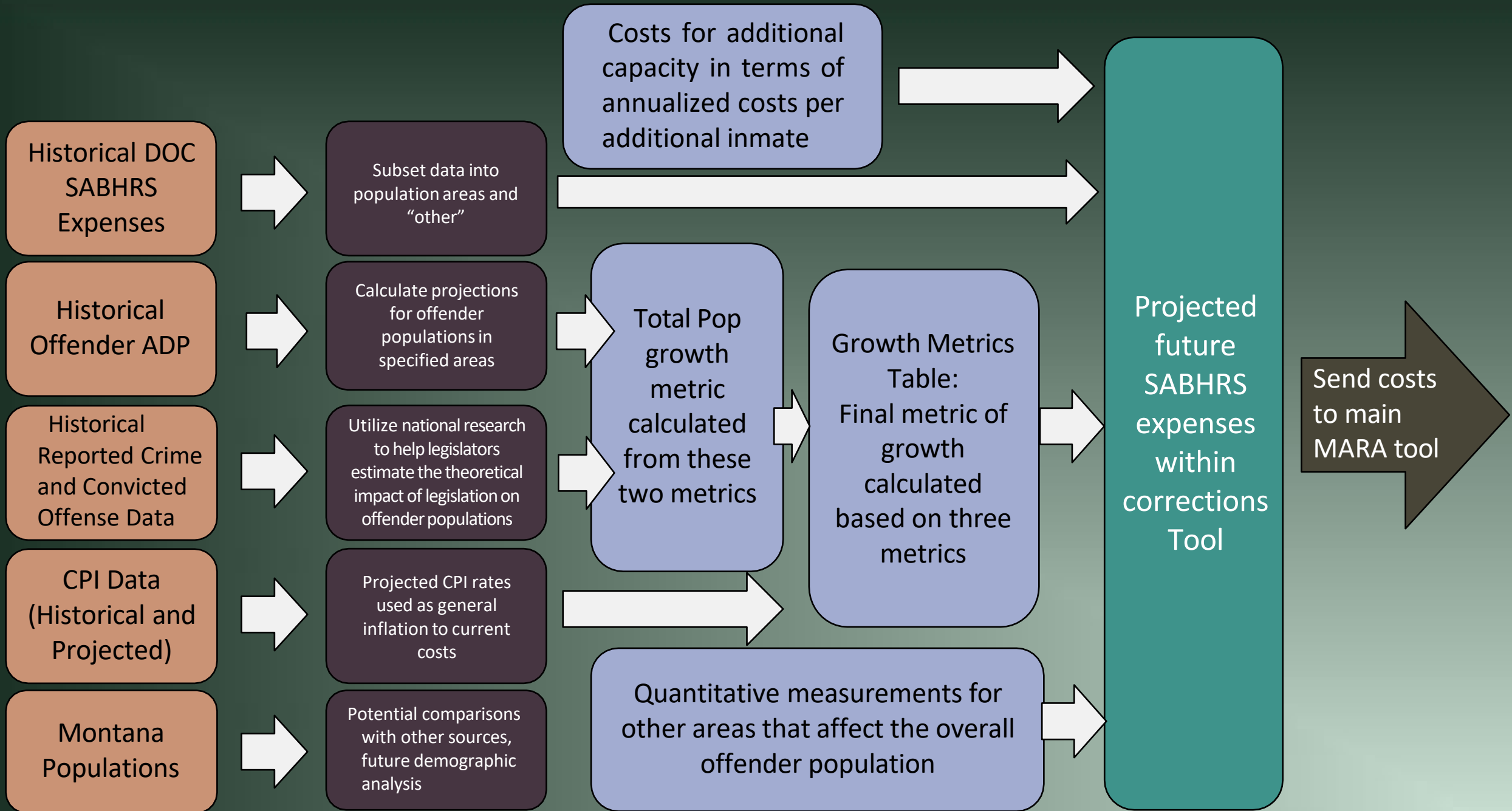


TOOL PURPOSES

- Tying projections to SABHRS expenditure structure
 - Estimate future costs needed to house offender populations
 - Areas of growth: Male, Female, Both, Other
- New policy toggles
 - Estimate impacts of new legislative initiatives
 - Apply these toggles as “on-off” switches
- Estimate costs needed to construct capacity to house future populations

METRICS USED FOR PROJECTIONS





Questions?
