

THE  
**PEW**  
CHARITABLE TRUSTS

# Public Safety, Public Spending

## Past Trends and New Directions

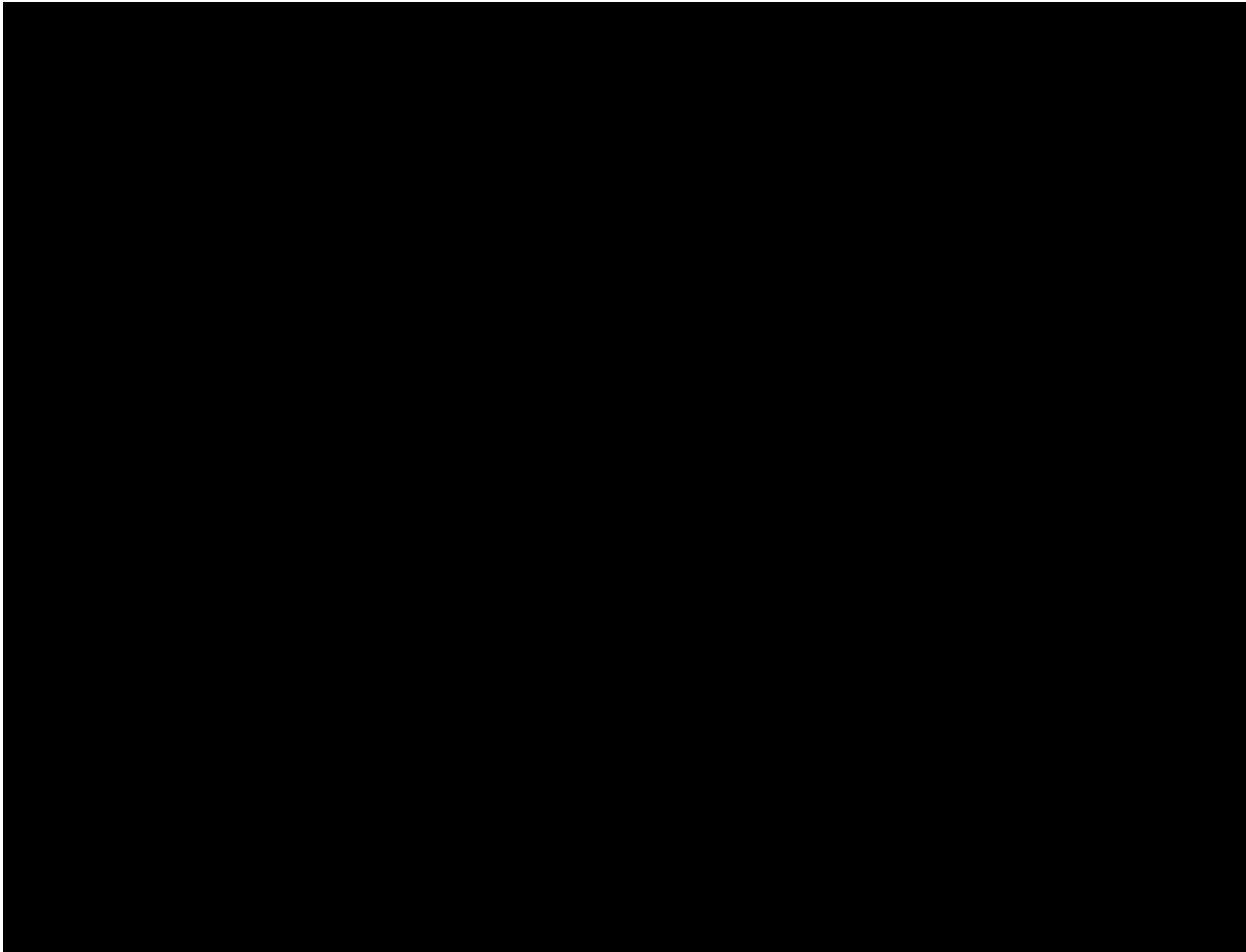
American Chamber of  
Commerce Executives  
February 17, 2010

Adam Gelb  
Public Safety Performance Project  
Pew Center on the States

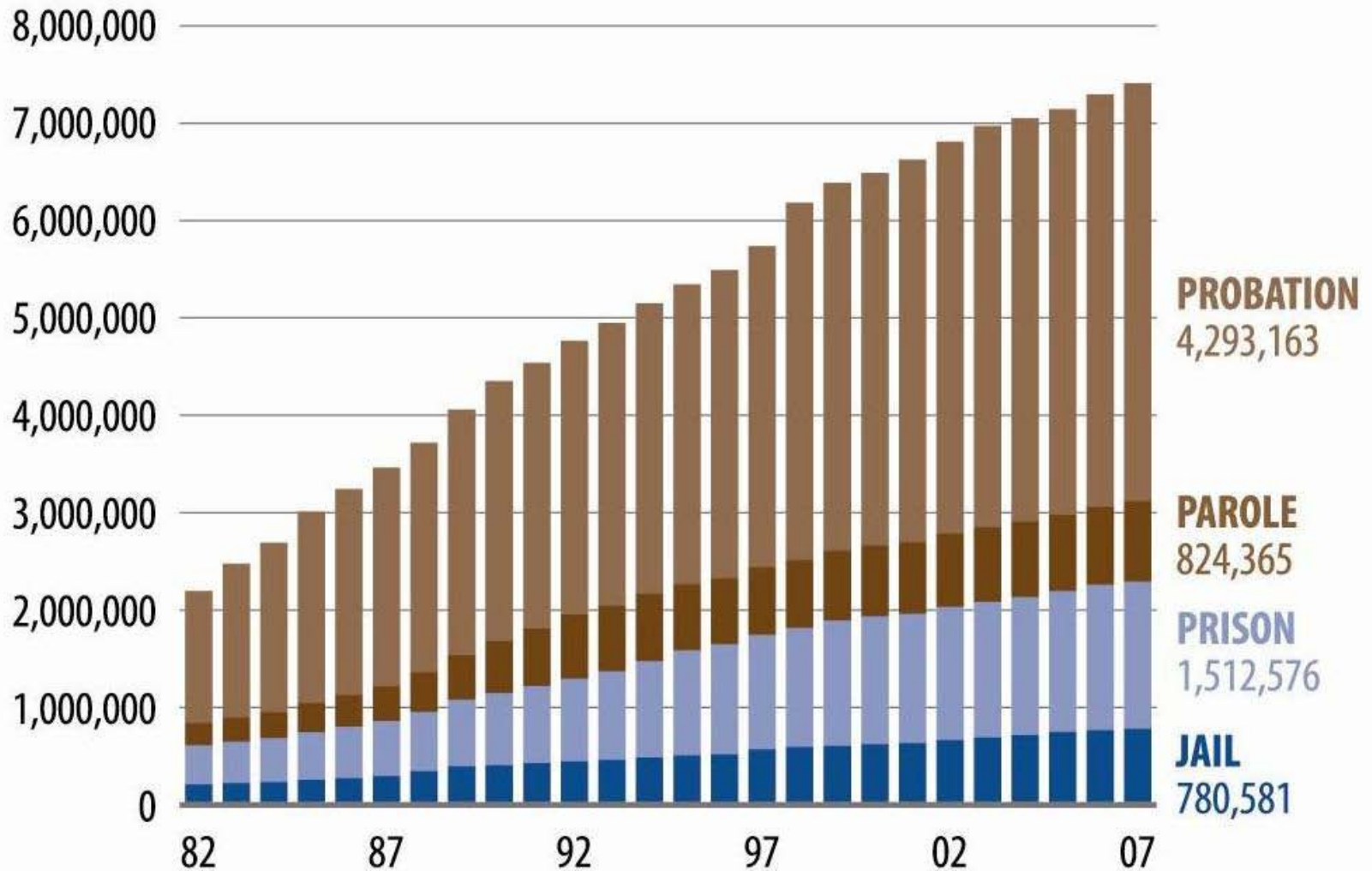
# Key Points

1. Population and costs are at all-time highs
2. Policy choices are responsible
3. Public safety payoff is low
4. Policy debate is being reframed

# Incarceration Rate Jumps



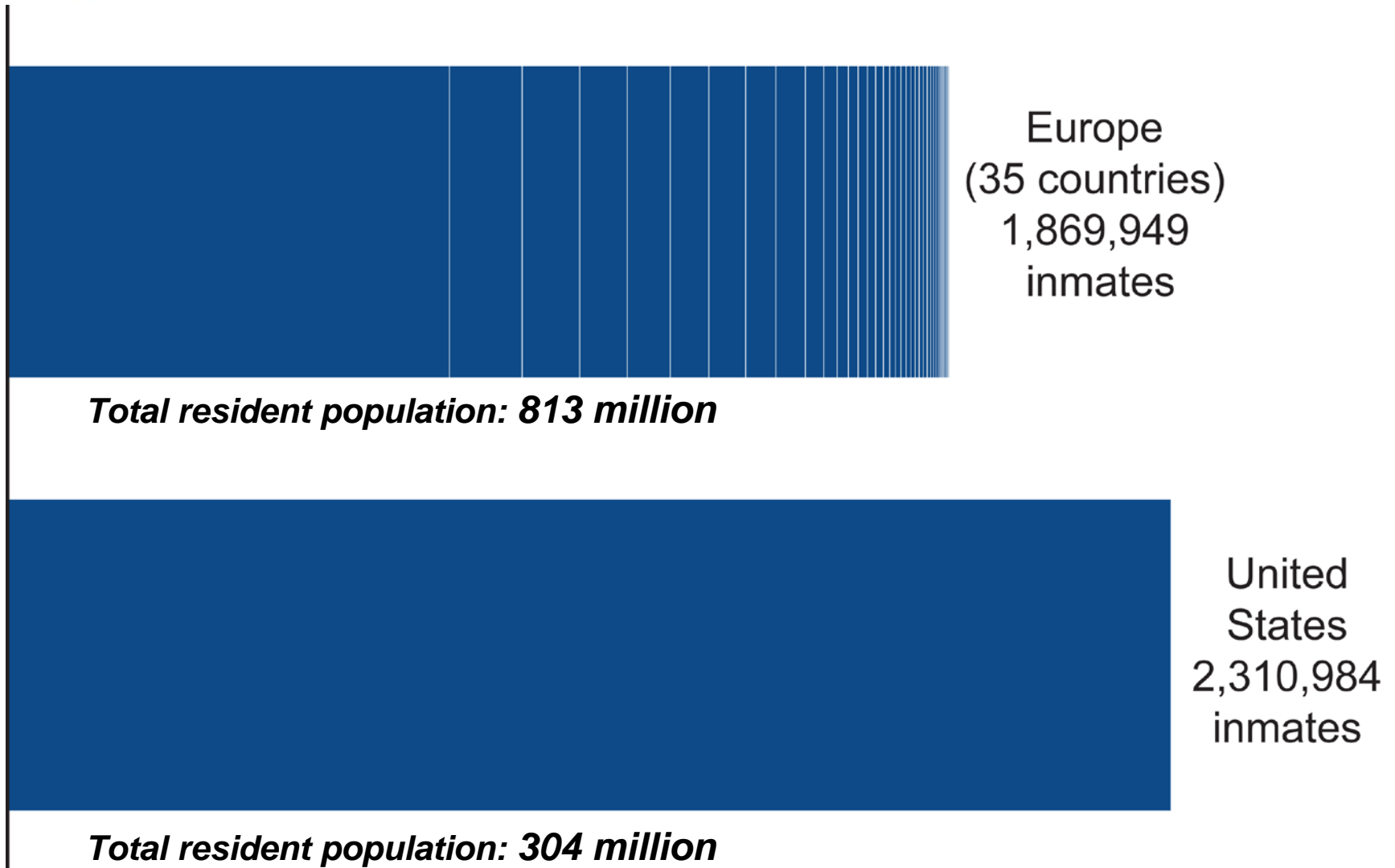
# 1 in 31 Adults Under Corrections Control



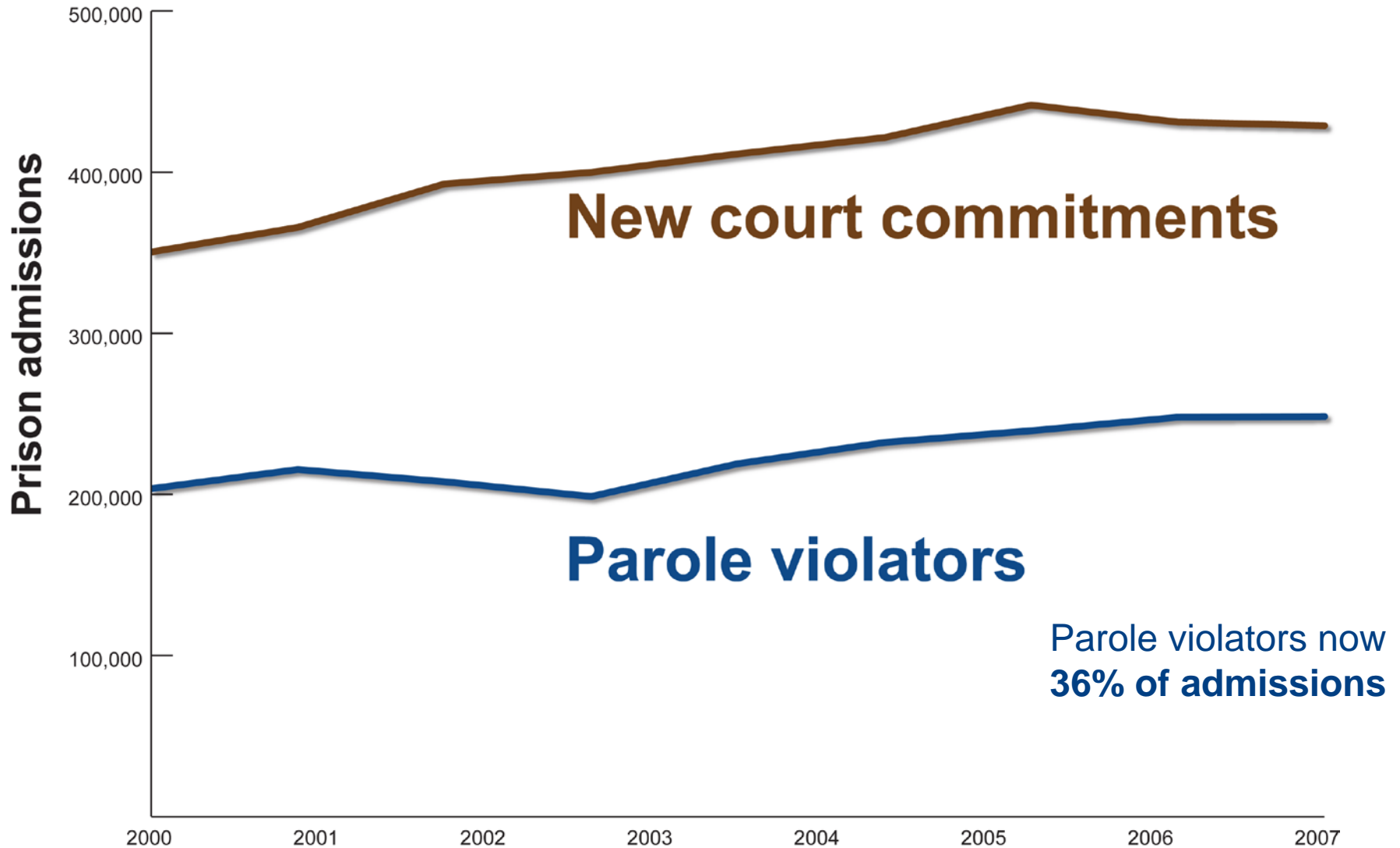
SOURCE: Bureau of Justice Statistics surveys, U.S. Department of Justice.

NOTE: Due to offenders with dual status, the sum of these four correctional categories slightly overstates the total population.

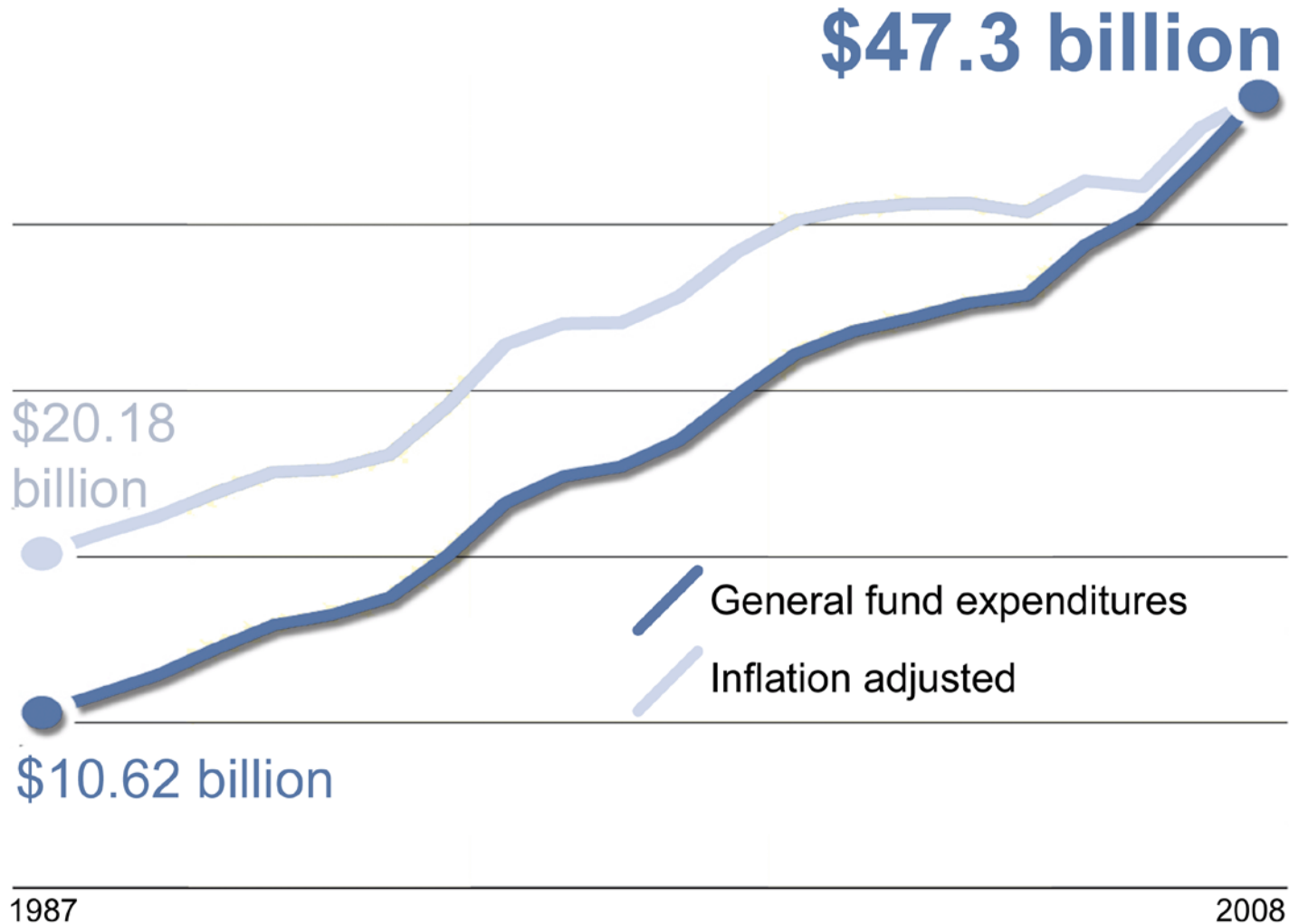
# U.S. is World Incarceration Leader



# Admissions and Revocations



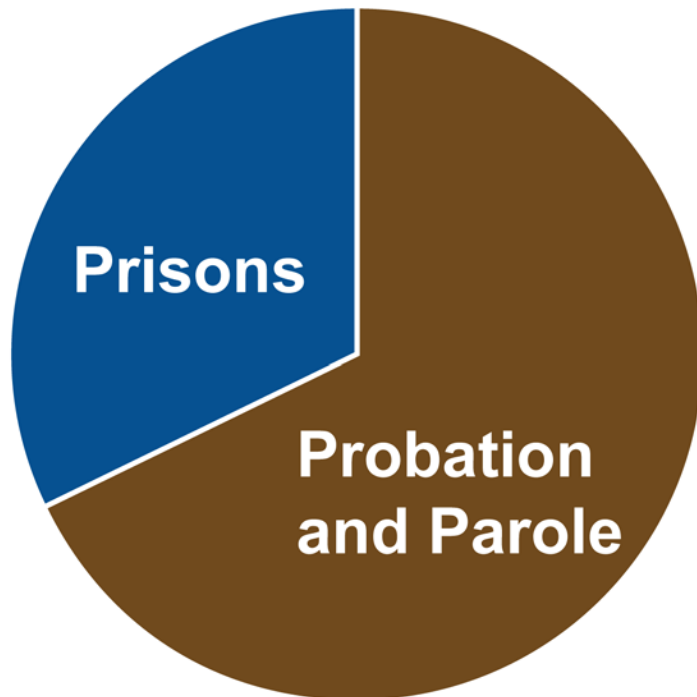
# The Rising Cost of State Corrections



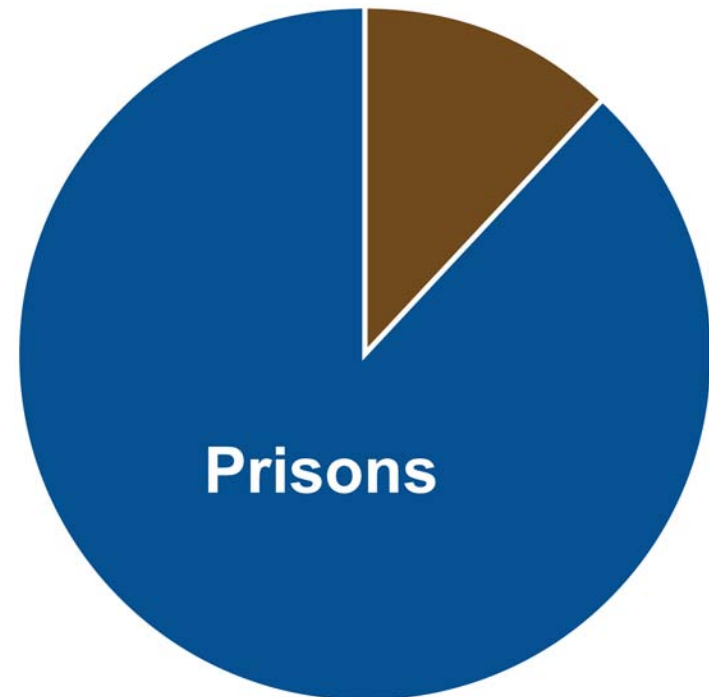
SOURCE: National Association of State Budget Officers, "State Expenditure Report" series; inflation adjusted figures are based on a reanalysis of data in this series. NOTE: These figures represent state general funds. They do not include federal or local government corrections expenditures and typically do not include state funding from other sources.

# Prisons Dominate Spending

## Correctional Population



## Correctional Spending





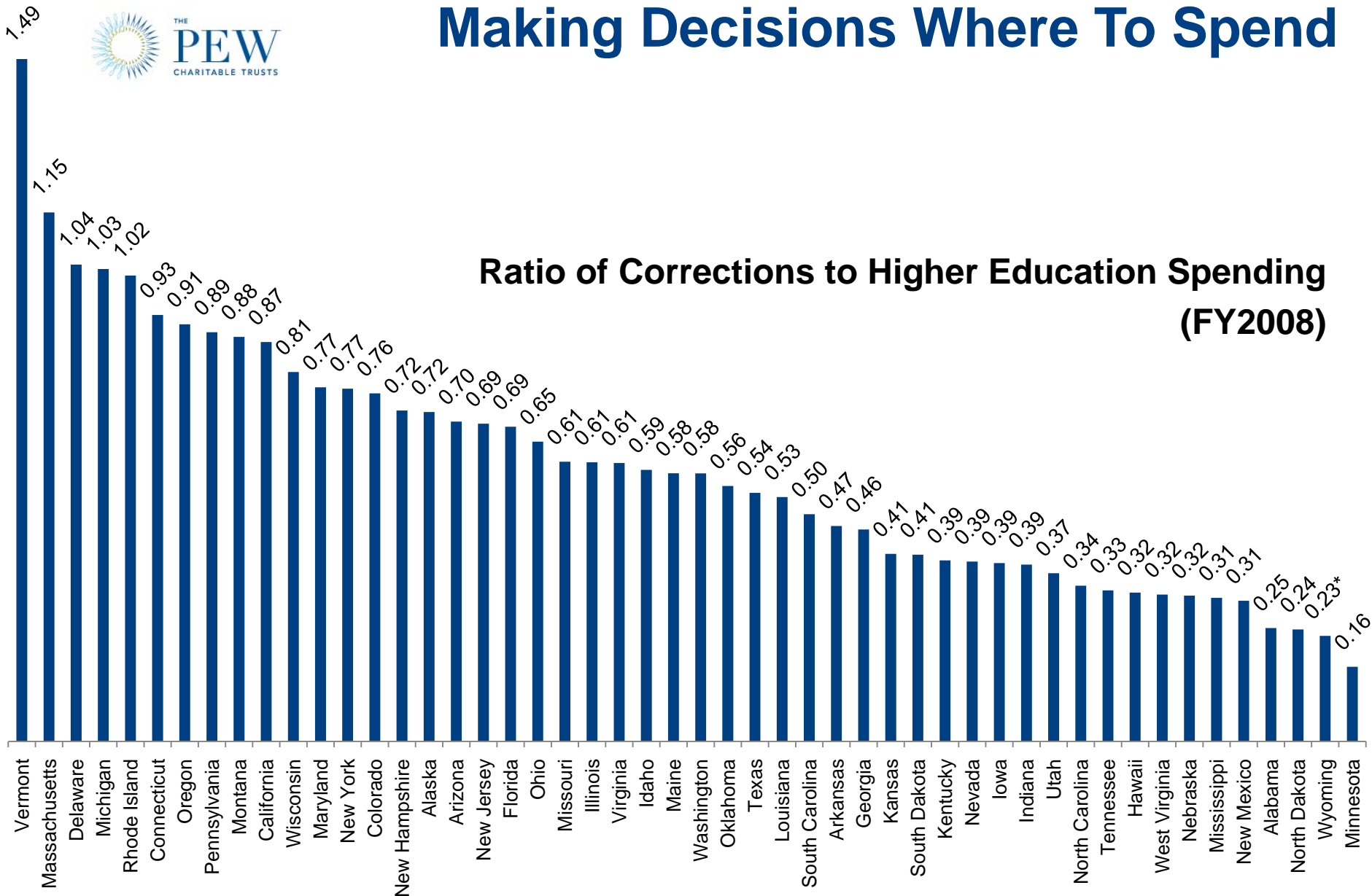


# Of Books and Bars

Change in  
state  
spending,  
1987-2008

# Making Decisions Where To Spend

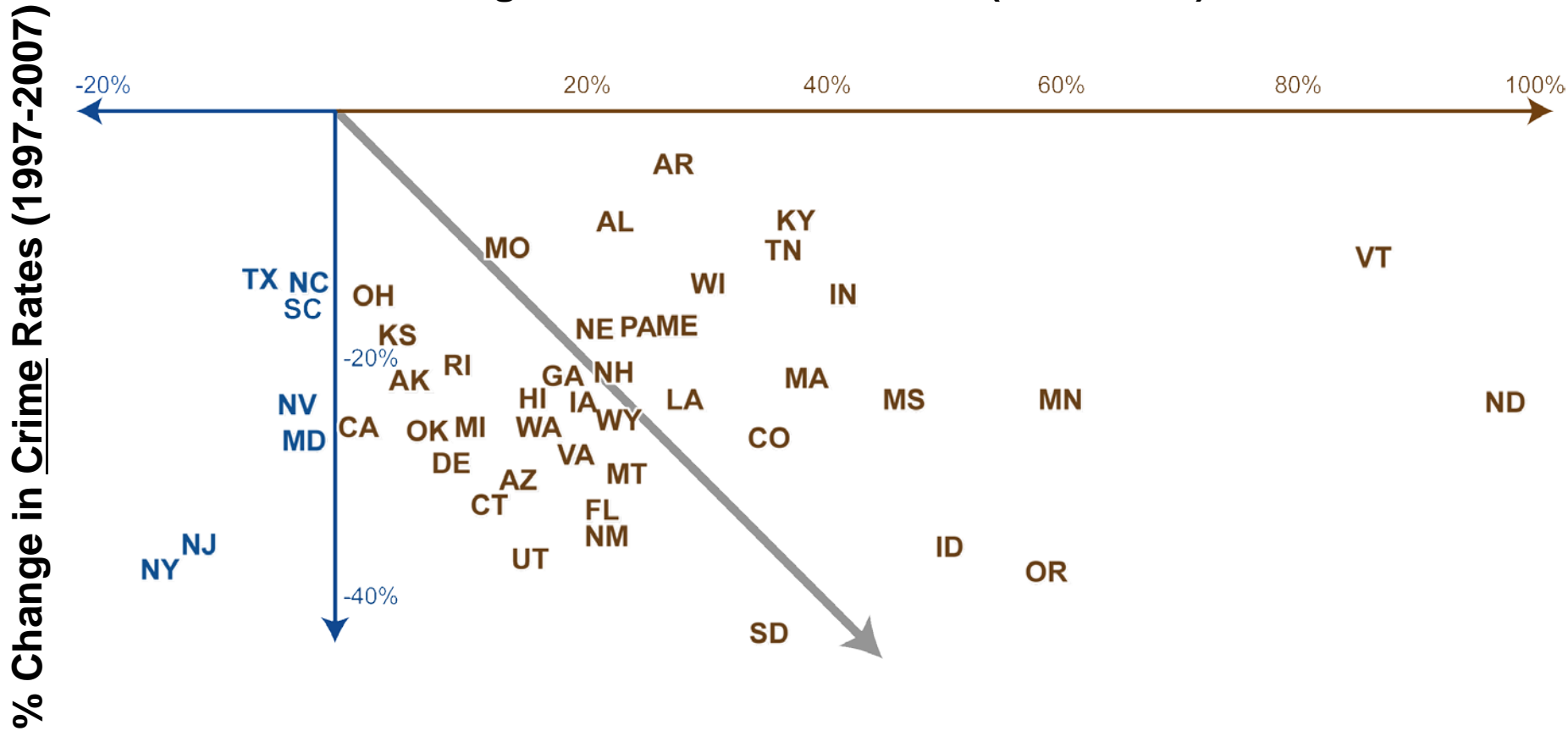
## Ratio of Corrections to Higher Education Spending (FY2008)



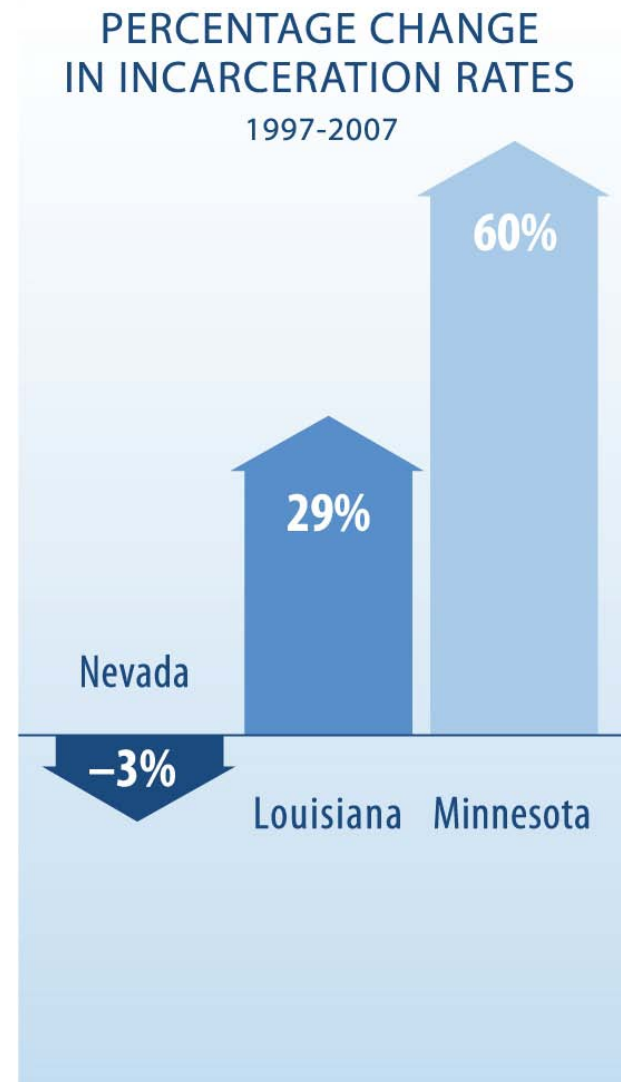
SOURCE: National Association of State Budget Officers, "State Expenditure Report" series, December 2009. Ratios are based on a reanalysis of FY2008 data in this series. NOTE: Wyoming's figure is calculated based on FY2007 data.

# Public Safety Payoff Varies Widely

**% Change in Incarceration Rates (1997-2007)**



# More Prison Spending ≠ Greater Public Safety



# Right-Sizing Prisons: Business Leaders Make the Case for Corrections Reform

## KENTUCKY



**Dave Adkisson**  
President & CEO,  
*Kentucky Chamber of  
Commerce*  
Chairman of the  
Board, *American  
Chamber of  
Commerce Executives*

## FLORIDA



**Barney T. Bishop III**  
President and Chief  
Executive Officer,  
*Associated Industries  
of Florida*

## ILLINOIS



**Frank H. Beal**  
Executive Director,  
*Chicago Metropolis  
2020*  
Board member,  
*Business and  
Professional People  
for the Public Interest*

## MICHIGAN



**James R. Holcomb**  
Vice President for  
Business Advocacy  
and Associate  
General Counsel,  
*Michigan Chamber of  
Commerce*

## OREGON



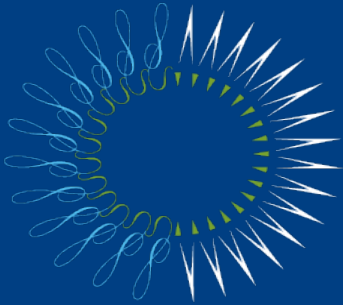
**Erin Hubert**  
Vice President and  
General Manager,  
*Entercom Radio*  
Board Chair, *Citizens  
Crime Commission*

## Old Question

“How Do We Demonstrate that We’re Tough on Crime?”

## New Question

“How Do We Get Taxpayers a Better Return on Their Investment in Public Safety?”



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