

Metropolitan Police Department  
and Department of Mental  
Health

**Introduction to the Crisis  
Intervention Officer (CIO)  
Program**



# What is the CIO Program?

- Ground breaking effort
  - MPD / DMH / Members of the mental health community
- Incorporates best practices from various jurisdictions across the country and around the world
  - Increased officer / consumer safety
  - Diversion alternative
- Customized to meet the changing needs of the citizens of the District of Columbia over time

# Mental Illness and Deinstitutionalization ~ A Brief History

- 1963 Community Mental Health Centers Act
  - Deinstitutionalization
  - Effects of Criminal Justice System
    - Significant contact by law enforcement
- Safety Risks
  - For Officers
  - For Consumers
- Primary purpose of collaborative

# Crisis Intervention Team (CIT)

- History ~ Memphis Model (MPD) 1988
  - Increases Safety
  - Reduces stigma
  - Arrests and Uses of Force have decreased
  - Officers are better trained in verbal de-escalation techniques
  - Agency liability concerns have decreased

# MPD's CIO Program

- Purpose
  - Safeguard officers
  - Provide essential skills
  - Provide professional assistance
  - Protect community
  - Jail Diversion (when feasible)
  - Reduces agency liability
  - Improves police / community relationships
- Key Partners
  - MPD, DMH, NAMI (National Alliance of Mental Illness), CORE service agencies, consumer groups and their family members

# MPD's CIO Program (continued)

- Program Status
  - Five 40 hour courses a year
  - Number of trained officers (MPD and other agencies); 393
  - CIO Refresher Training two to three courses a year
  - CIO Policy (S.O. 10-07)
  - Protocol for DMH response to CIO-related incidents
  - CIOs of the year
  - Trained other law enforcement
- Robust data collection
- CIT International participation

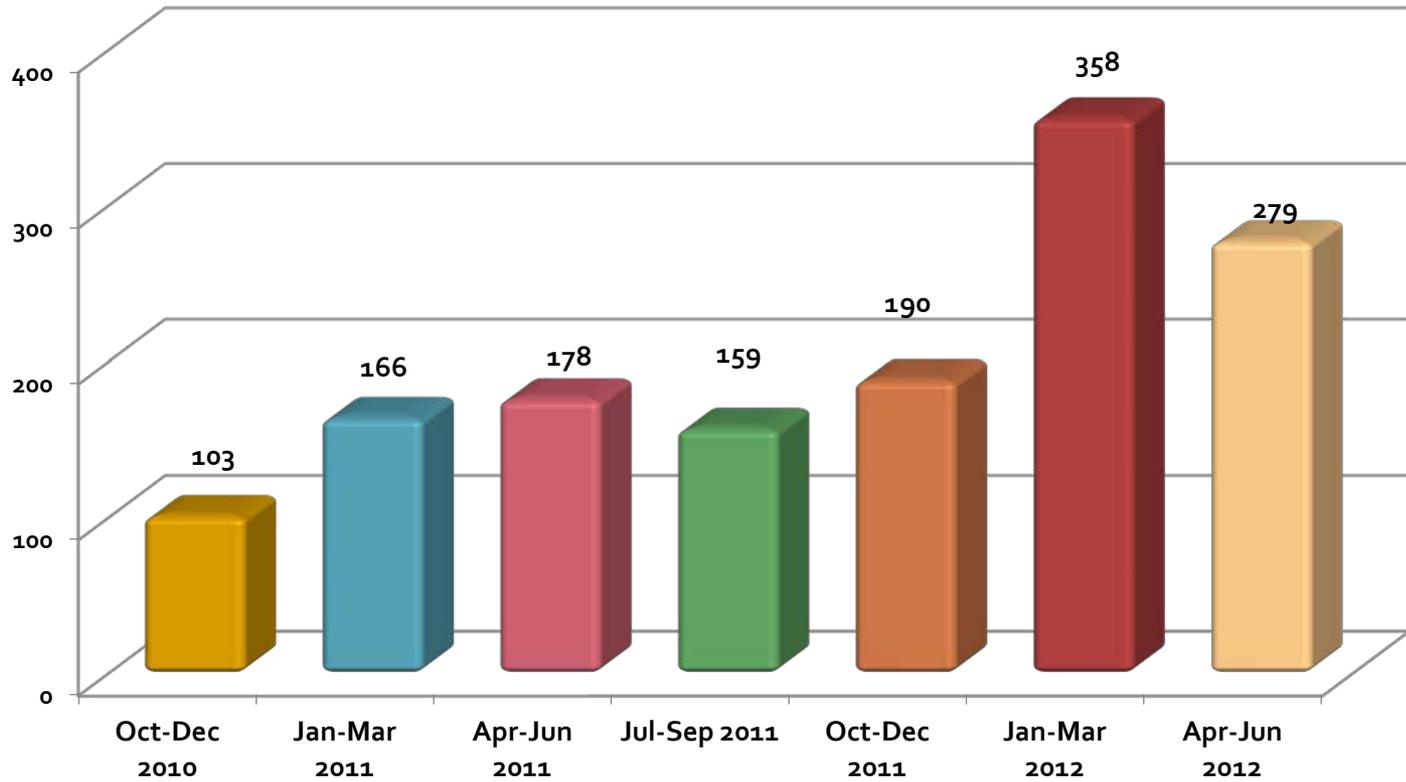
# Duties of a CIO

- Go in service with OUC and i-Mobile
- Respond to crisis calls involving individuals with mental illness
  - When available!
  - First officer on scene will assess and determine if CIO is required
  - Once on the scene, CIO will assume responsibility for the assignment
  - Make appropriate disposition
- Utilize community-based resources for individuals experiencing a mental health crisis
- May be dispatched outside assigned patrol district
- Complete and submit required paperwork (251c)

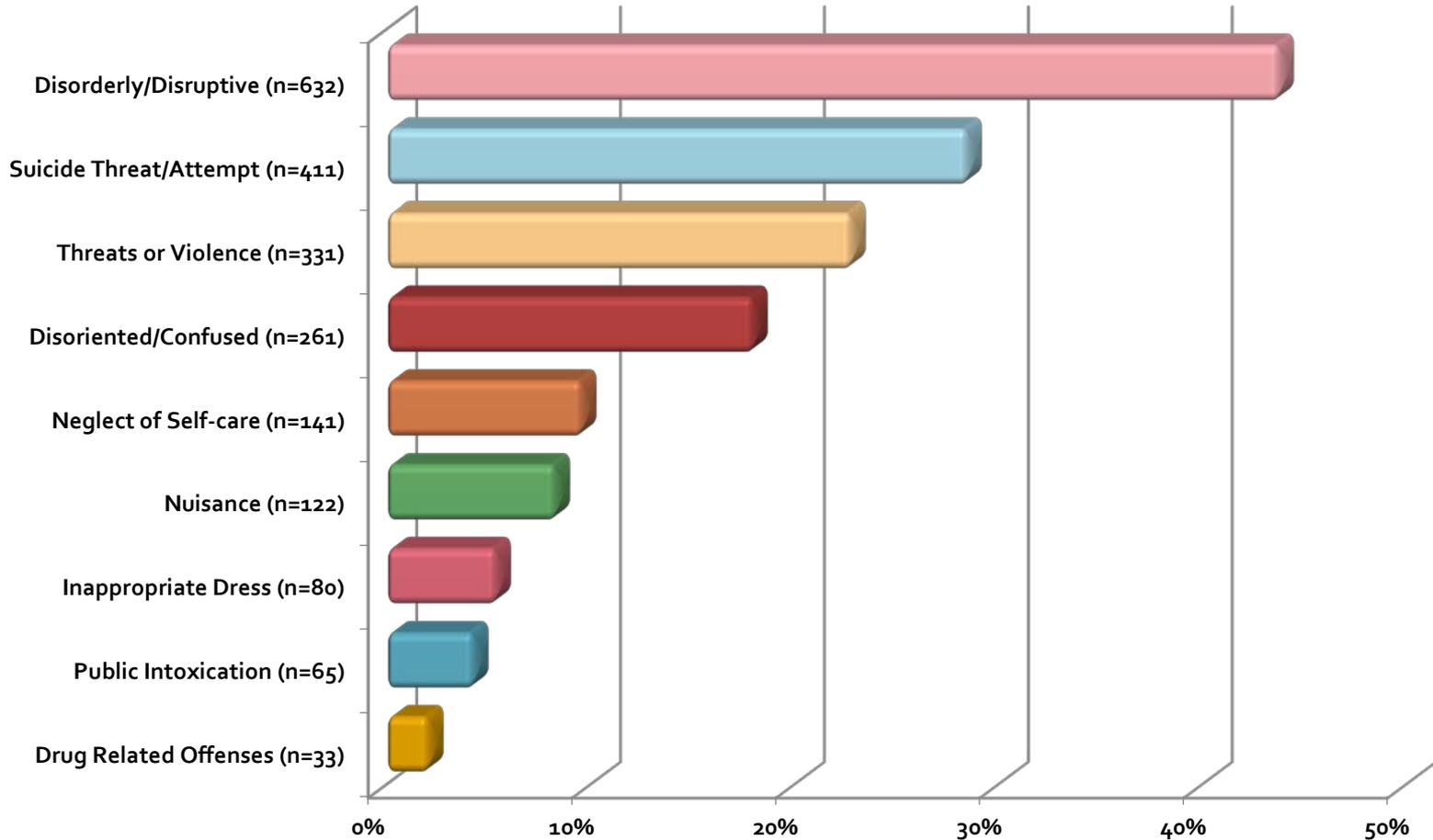
# Selected Data

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Figure 1. # of PD-251-C's Received (N=1433)



**Figure 2. Nature of Incident (N=1433)**  
(More than 1 can be selected per incident)



**Figure 3. Behaviors Observed On-scene (N=1433)**  
(More than 1 can be selected per incident)

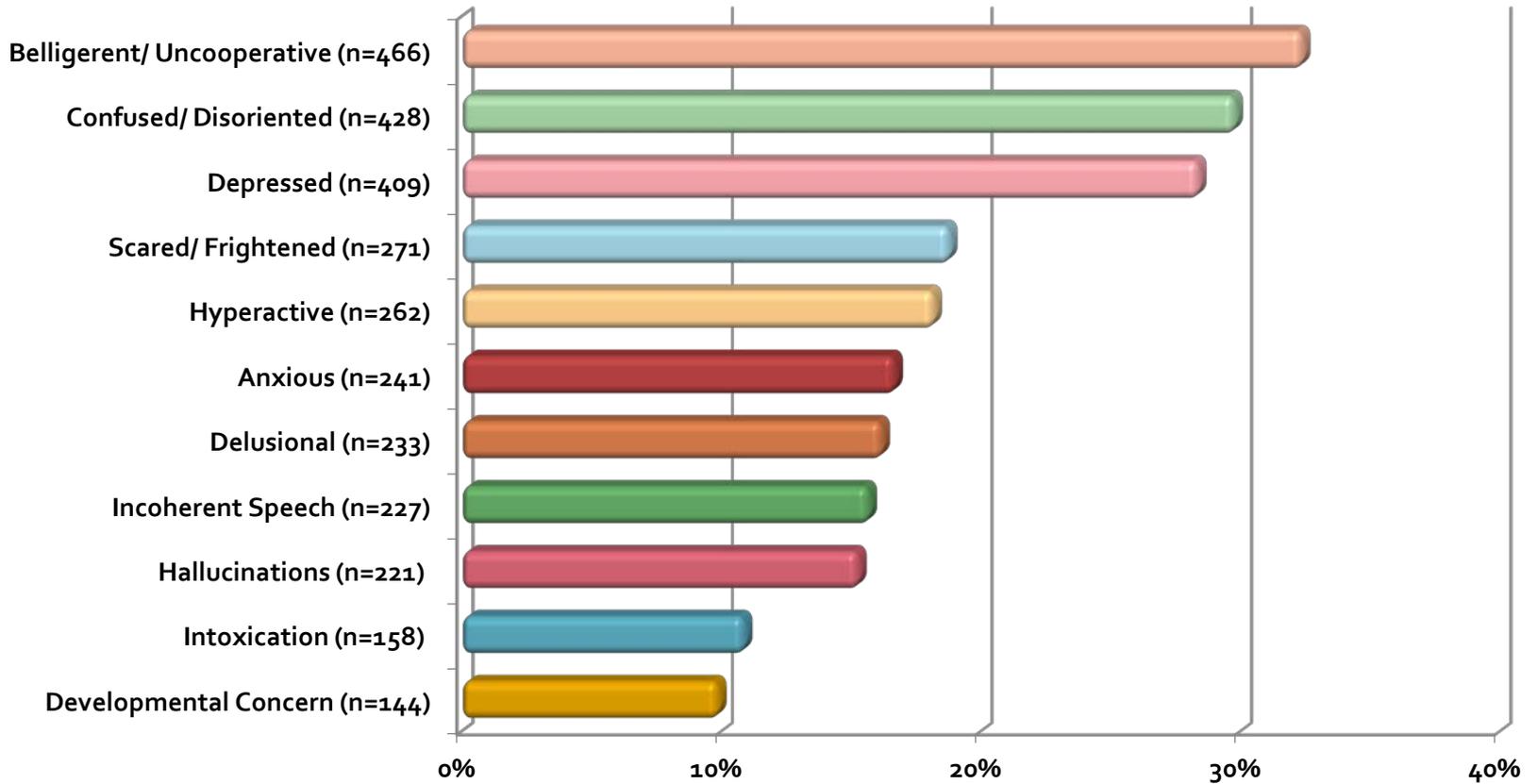


Figure 4. Presence of Weapons & Drugs/Alcohol (N=1433)

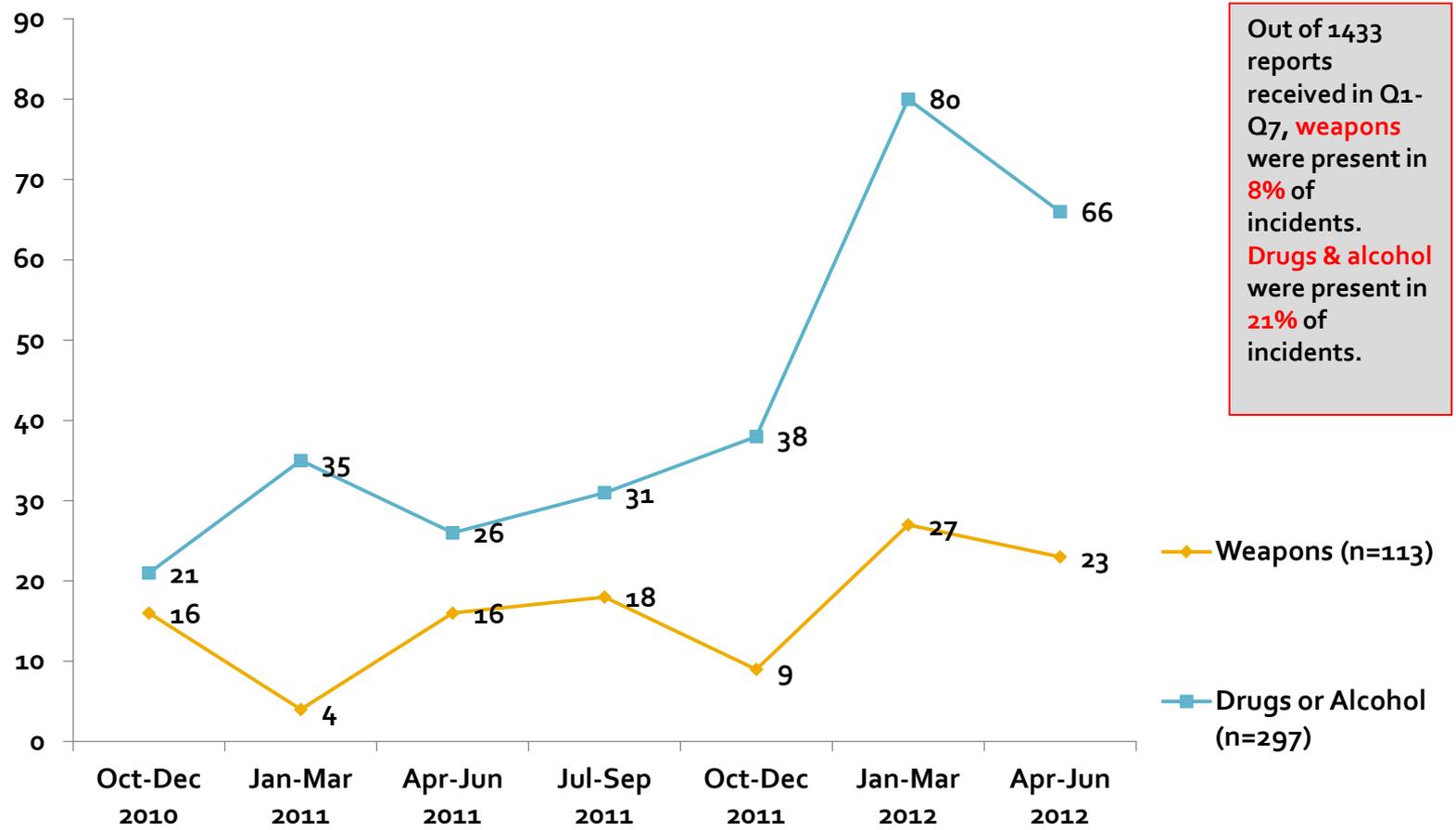


Figure 5. Injuries to Subjects, Officers & Others (N=1433)

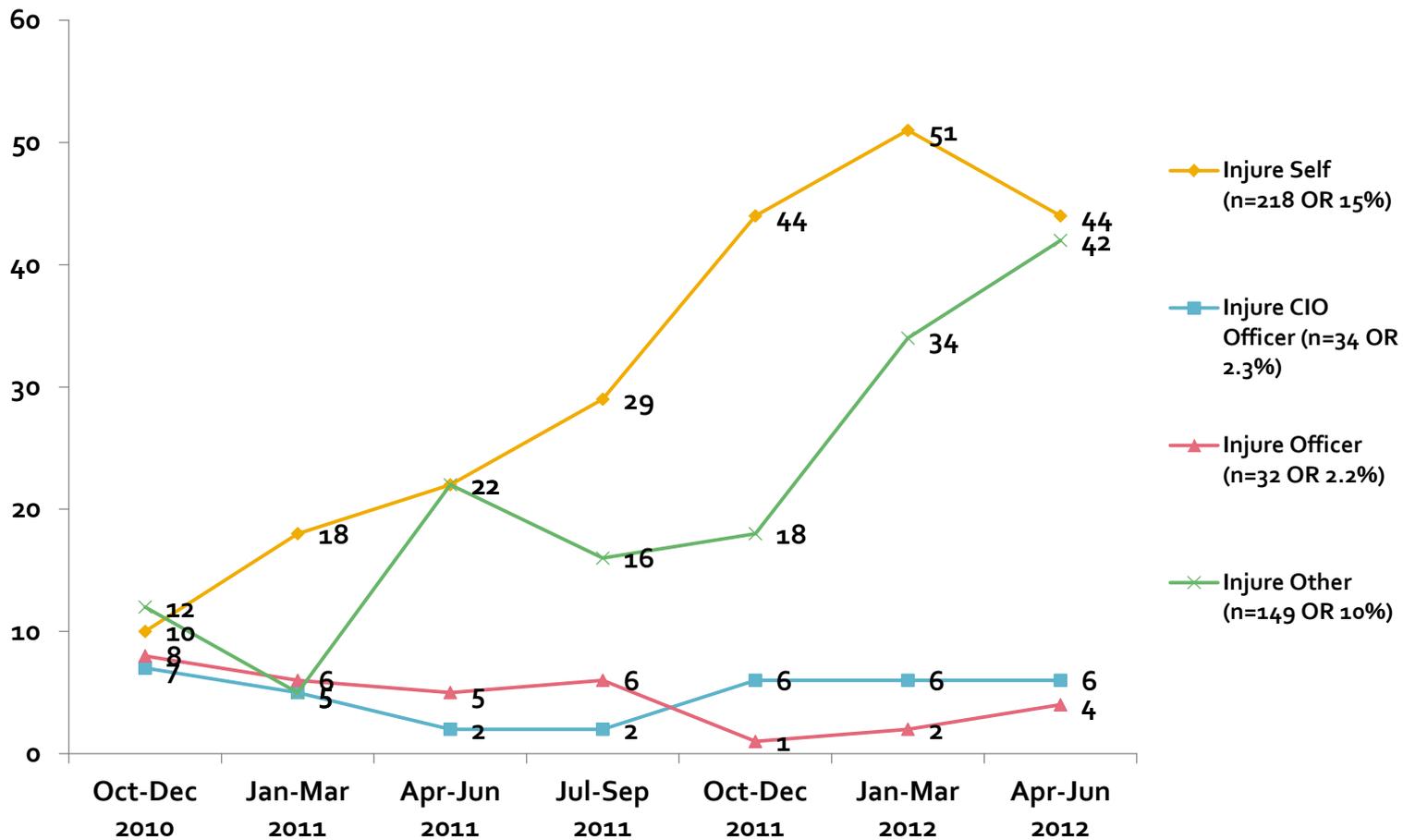
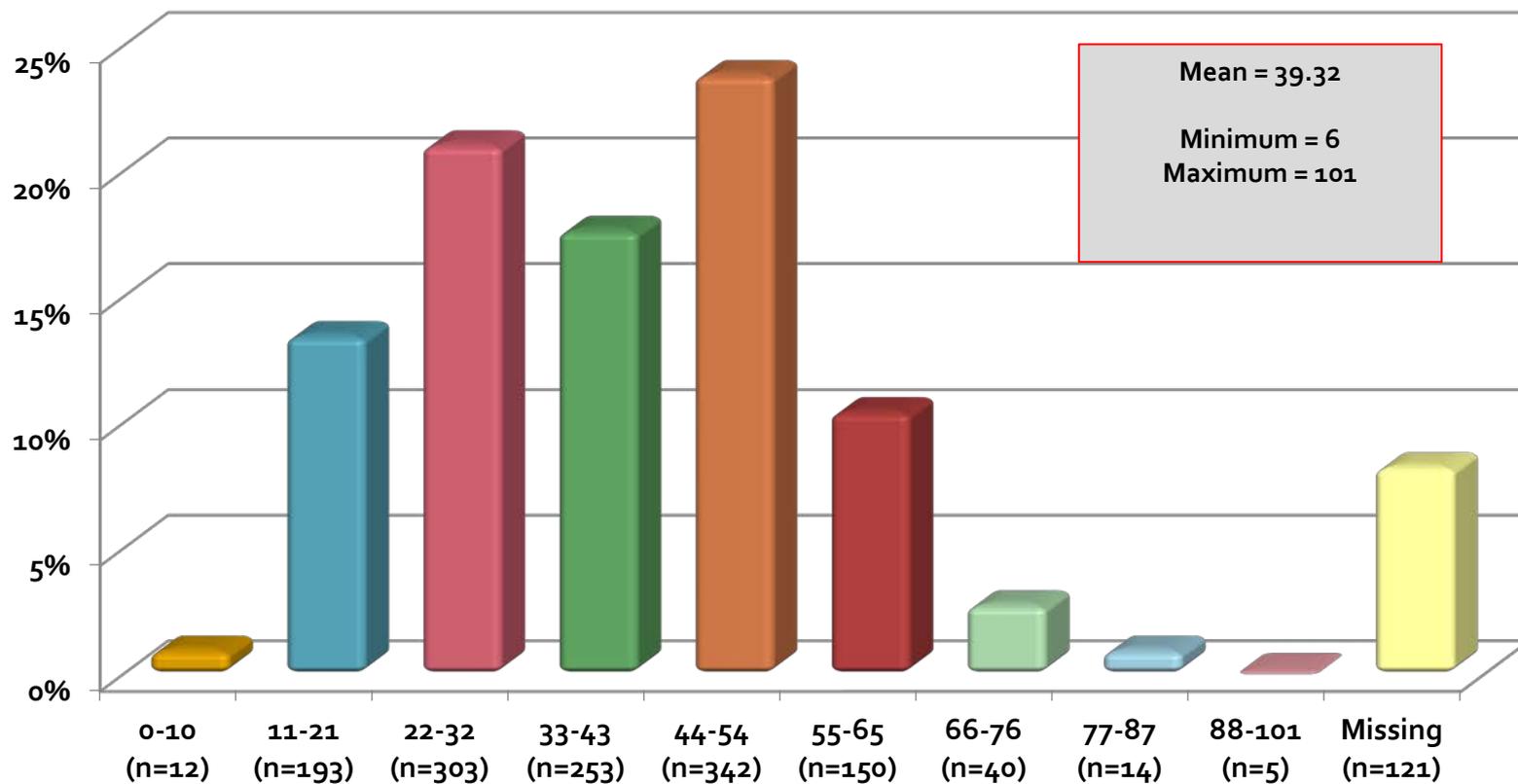
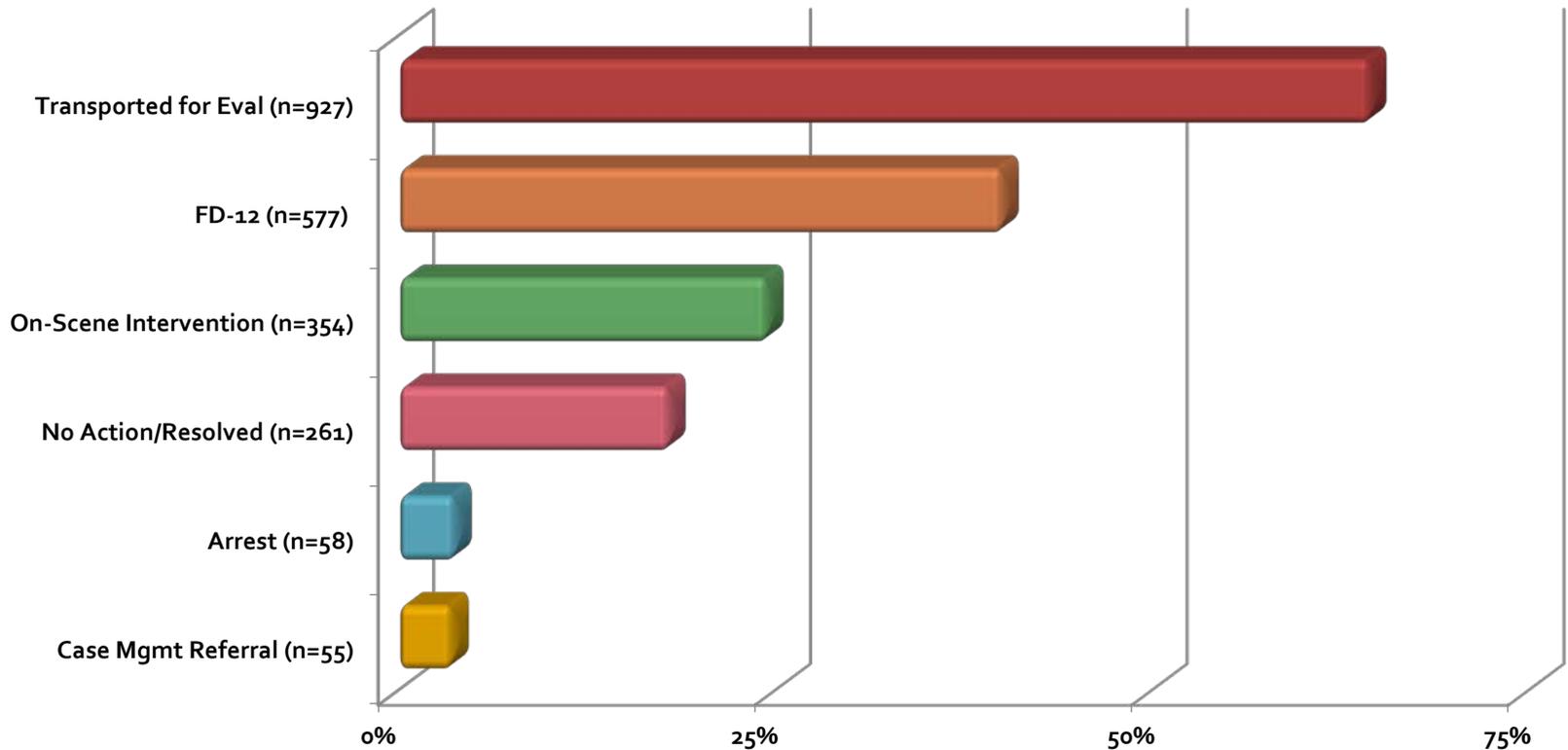


Figure 6. Age of Incident Subjects (N=1433)



**Figure 7. Disposition - Outcome of Incidents (N=1433)**  
(More than 1 can be selected per incident)



# Future Directions

- Presentations, publications
- Enhanced training in
  - PTSD and law enforcement
  - Excited delirium
  - Children (including autism)

# Questions?????

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Elspeth Cameron Ritchie, MD, MPH  
Chief Medical Officer  
Department of Mental Health

Sergeant Michael Pulliam  
Metropolitan Police Department Sixth District