



17th St. & Constitution Avenue N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20006
United States of America

Organization of American States

P. 202.458.3000
www.oas.org

**INTER-AMERICAN DRUG ABUSE
CONTROL COMMISSION
CICAD**

Secretariat for Multidimensional Security

**FORTY-SIXTH REGULAR SESSION
November 18 - 20, 2009
Miami, Florida**

**OEA/Ser.L/XIV.2.46
CICAD/doc.1756/09
11 November 2009
Original: English**

**A SUCCESSFUL RE-ENTRY PROGRAM FOR THOSE RELEASING FROM PRISON
MR. DOUG BURRIS**

A Successful Re-Entry Program for Those Releasing from Prison

Doug Burris
Chief U.S. Probation Officer
Eastern District of Missouri

Incarceration Statistics

If incarceration rates remain the same, about 1 in every 15 citizens in the U.S. will serve time in a prison.

Costs

The annual cost of housing an inmate in federal prison is about \$25,000.

In 2001, The Dept. Of Justice reported that the average annual cost of incarcerating a state inmate was \$22,650.

Does Prison Lower Recidivism?

Department of Justice Report Tracking 272,111
People Released From Prison

29.9% of prisoners released to the community were re-arrested within six months for a felony or serious misdemeanor.

67.5% re-arrested within three years.

Scope of the Issue

Every year more than 650,000 people are released from prison to return to their communities – which is why we will discuss “re- entry.”

The difference between a State & Federal Crime

Federal crimes historically larger and more complicated.

This began to change with the war on drugs in the late 1980s.

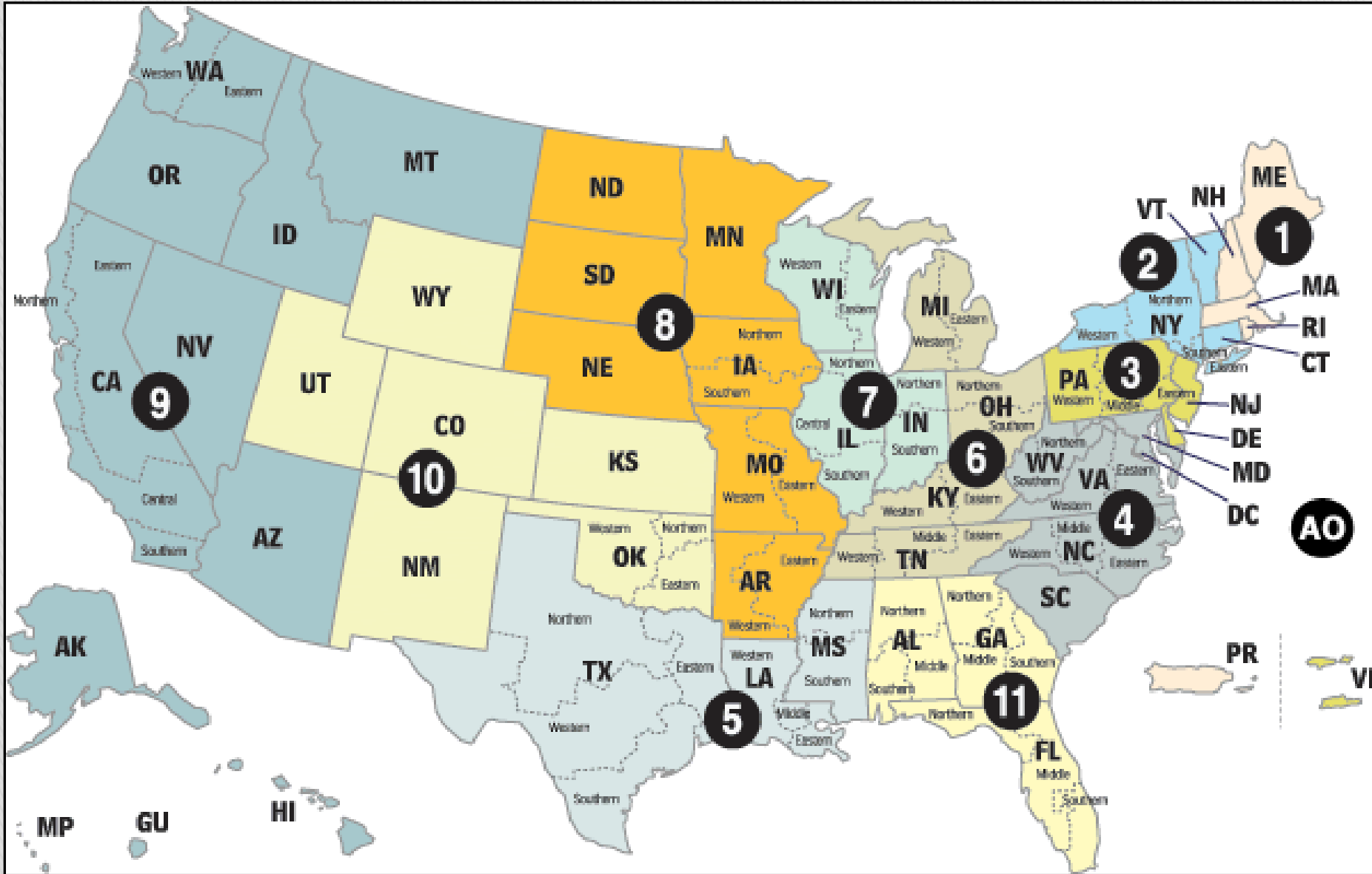
The Federal System

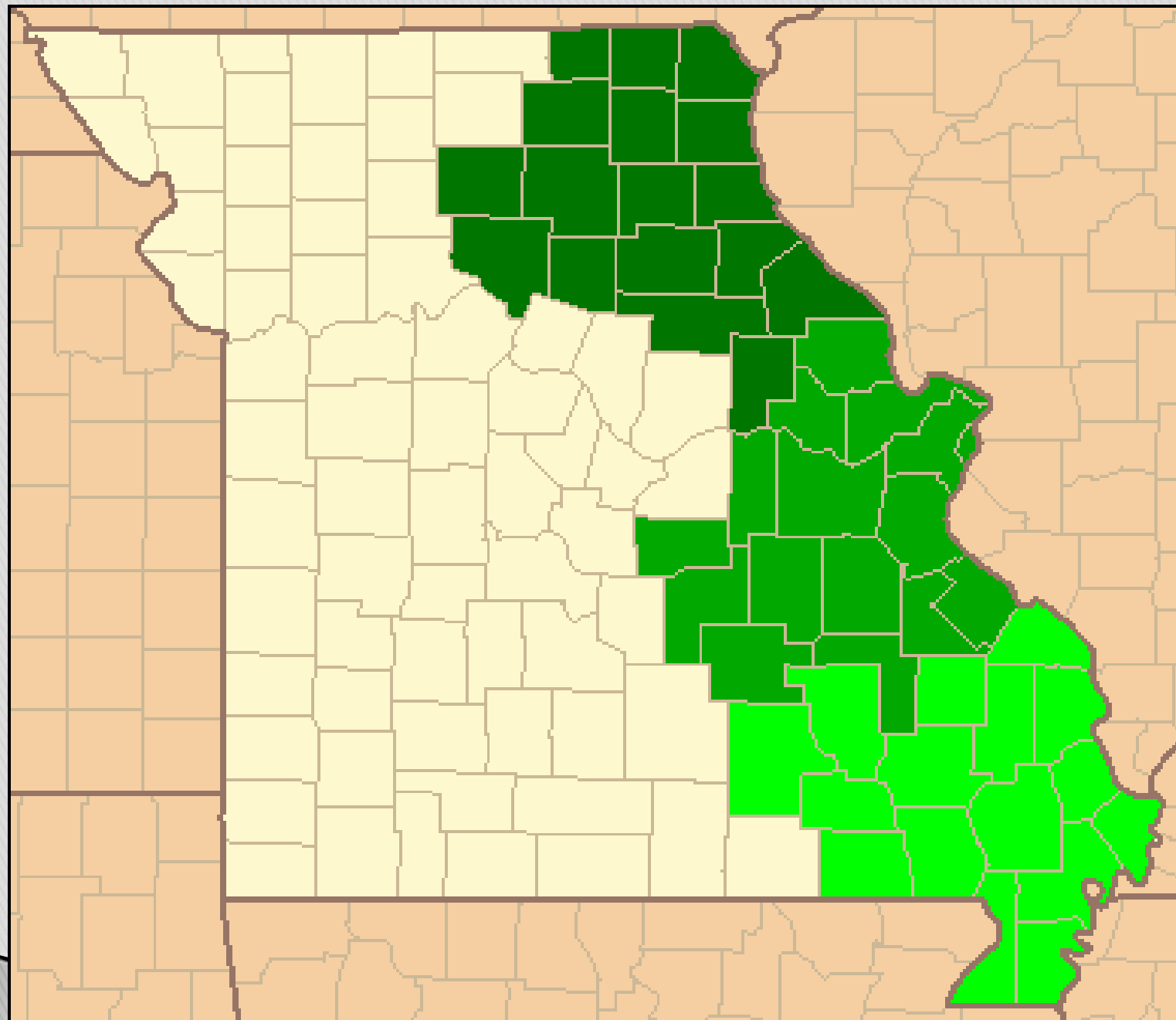
Federal system currently houses more than 200,000 inmates through the Bureau of Prisons.

Upon experiencing re-entry, the Federal Court is in charge of supervising the person released.

There are over 120,000 people on federal post-conviction supervision – nearly half for a drug conviction.

The federal system is broken down into 94 districts.





Caseload Information

Missouri Eastern – 18th Largest in System

Responsible for supervising 2,300 people, with 52% having been convicted of a drug crime, while 74% have a drug testing & treatment condition.

One of the 10 largest caseloads for both crack cocaine and methamphetamine.

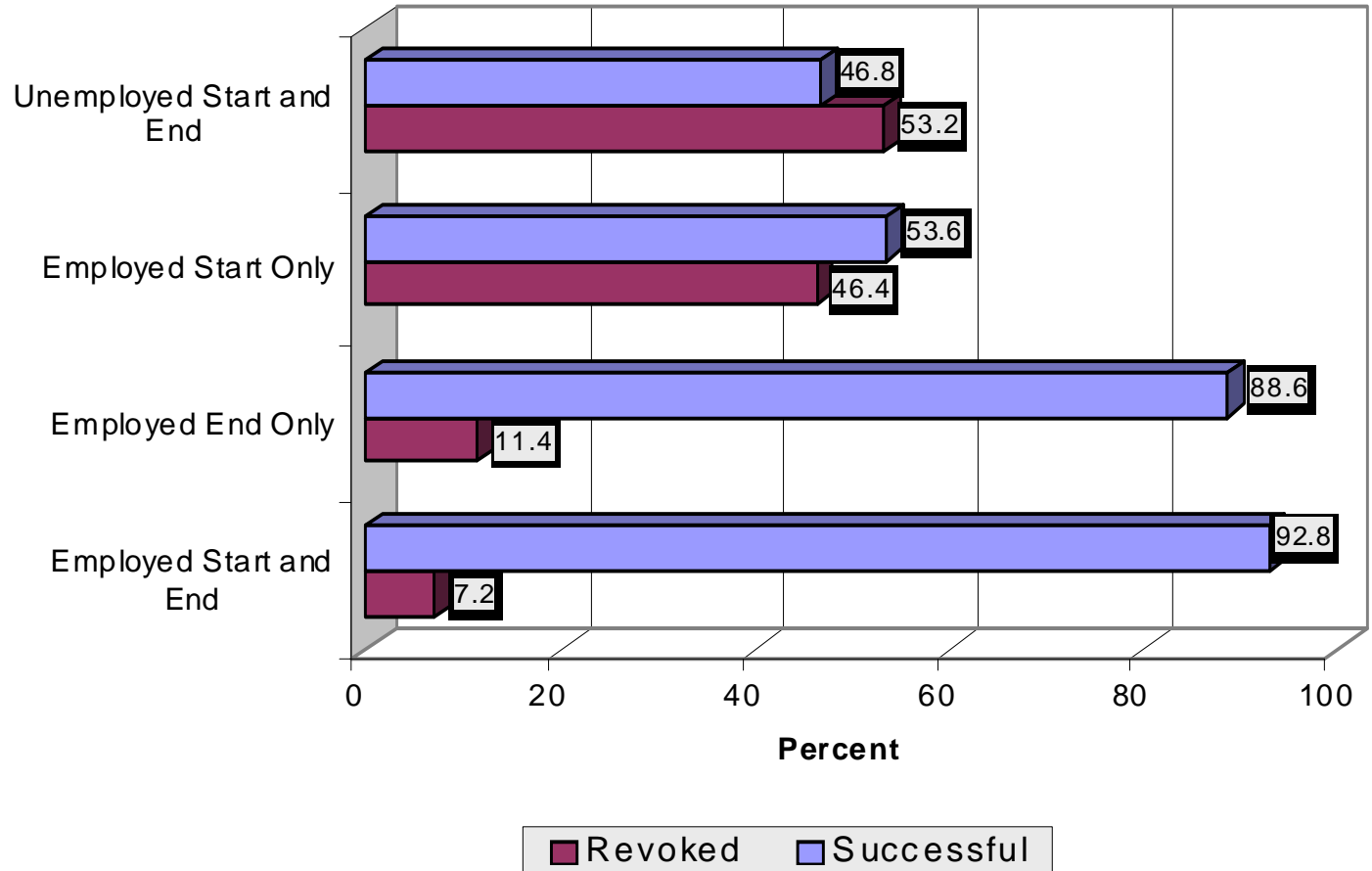




Method to help Those Engaged in Re-entry: Job Training & Placement

Why?

Employment Status by Case Closing Status FY2002-06



Additional Methods Utilized to Help Offenders Obtain Employment:

Tax incentive and bonding program.
Job Fairs.

Use cognitive skills program: “Thinking for a Change.”

Strategy: Improve Drug Treatment and Mental Health Services

Rationale?

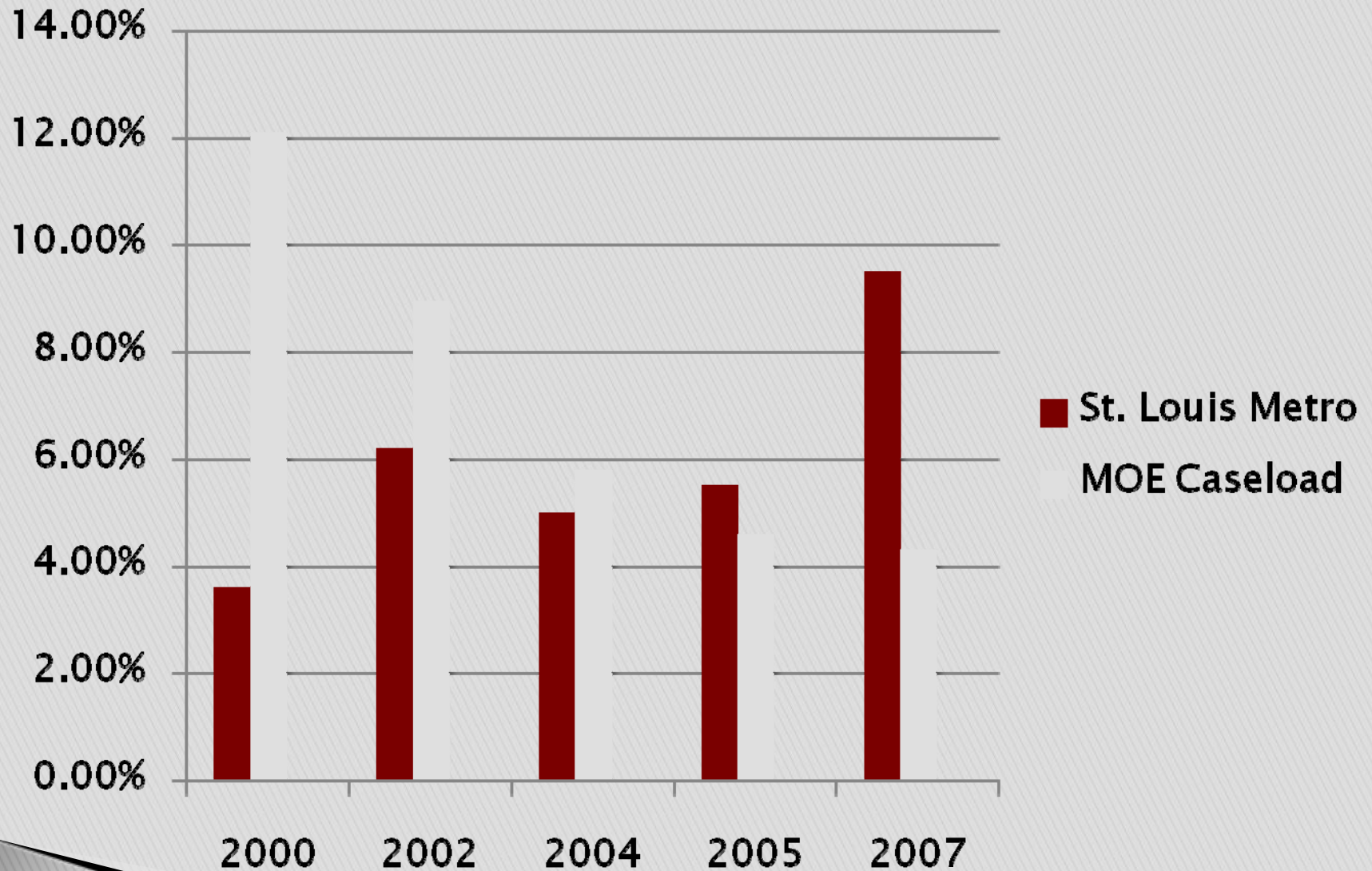
A study tracking federal offenders on supervision determined 68 –77% of those that received contracted drug treatment services *successfully completed supervision.*

Office of Probation and Pretrial Services, 2000

Strategy: Improve Drug Treatment & Mental Health Services

In two years, increased contracted treatment providers from seven to twenty-six, a 380% increase. By 2009, increased to 47, a 700% increase.

Results: Unemployment



Does this Approach Work in Lowering Recidivism?

Nationally 67.5% of prisoners released to the community were re-arrested for a felony or serious misdemeanor within three years.

In Eastern Missouri, the three year re-arrest rate for those who involved in this program is 14.9%.



6'

5'6"

5'

2003-01
THE NATIONALS SERVICE
ST. LOUIS, ST. LOUIS