



CJANALYSIS

Breaking Cycles: In-Depth Analysis

May 2019

Research findings from the Criminal Justice Clearinghouse



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Breaking Cycles In-Depth Analysis

Background

As part of San Diego County's Probation Department's ongoing monitoring of its juvenile justice programs and their alignment with current best practices, Probation asked the San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG) to expand its analysis of the Breaking Cycles (BC) component of its evaluation of the Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act (JJCPA) funded programs. While SANDAG currently conducts an annual evaluation of JJCPA, the evaluation is limited in its scope of recidivism outcomes to the period during program participant. This method has its purpose and meets State requirements, however it does not provide a picture of how those youth involved in BC fare after participation nor does it take into account the delinquent activity of youth who never exit BC during the evaluation period. To better understand a youth's BC experience, including how long s/he is involved in BC and any future contact with the juvenile justice system, SANDAG conducted the following study of youth committed to BC between July 1, 2015, and June 30, 2018 and tracked their trajectory in the system after receiving this commitment. Because the report was written at the request of, and for Probation and its juvenile justice partners, it assumes the reader possess an understanding of the juvenile justice system, JJCPA, and Probation supervision practices. For additional information about JJCPA please refer to the annual evaluation reports available on SANDAG's website.¹

How the study was conducted

The study sample presented here consisted of 750 BC participants who had a new BC commitment between July 1, 2015, through June 30, 2018. Information on the youths' characteristics, prior juvenile justice involvement, and days detained, and were gathered and provided a descriptive picture of the youth involved in BC. In addition, recidivism data (6-, 12-, and 18-months after initial release from custody following the instant offense) was collected and examined for any factors predictive of continued contact with the system. Recidivism, for the purposes of this research study, was defined as any new true finding (analogous to a conviction in the adult system) and/or new commitment (BC or other) occurring after a youth was released back into the community following his/her first BC commitment during the study period. Specifically, the study addressed the following two questions.

1. What were the characteristics of youth served by BC including demographics, criminal history, and instant offense for the BC commitment?
2. What was the post-commitment impact participation in BC had on youth (including future bookings, true findings, and institutional commitments)?

¹ Breaking Cycles In-Depth Analysis (2019). sandag.org/uploads/publicationid/publicationid_4565_25406.pdf

CJ EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



What the study discovered

Youth characteristics

Youth in the BC sample were mostly males, 15.6 years old on average, and the majority identified as Hispanic (Figure ES1). Because BC is a higher-level intervention, it was expected the majority of the youth would have prior contact with the system, with eight in ten (81%) having had at least one prior referral to Probation, half (51%) had a prior true finding, and around two in five (39%) had a prior institutional commitment (Figure ES2).

Figure ES1
BC sample demographics



Source: Probation Case Management System, extract for SANDAG (2018)

Figure ES2
BC sample prior juvenile justice contact



Source: Probation Case Management System, extract for SANDAG (2018)

Recidivism and detention

Analysis of recidivism (from release from custody for the instant offense), showed over one-third (35%) of the youth received at least one new true finding during the recidivism period (up to 18-months after release from custody), and 67 percent had a new commitment (Figure ES3). The reason for the greater proportion of new commitments than true findings was inferred to be a result of probation violations (i.e., not a new offense but a violation condition of the court).

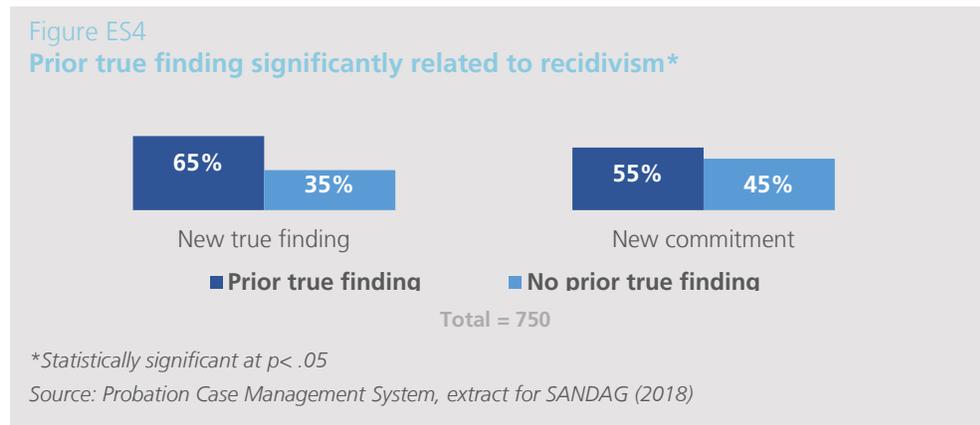
Figure ES3
Recidivism up to 18-months following release from custody



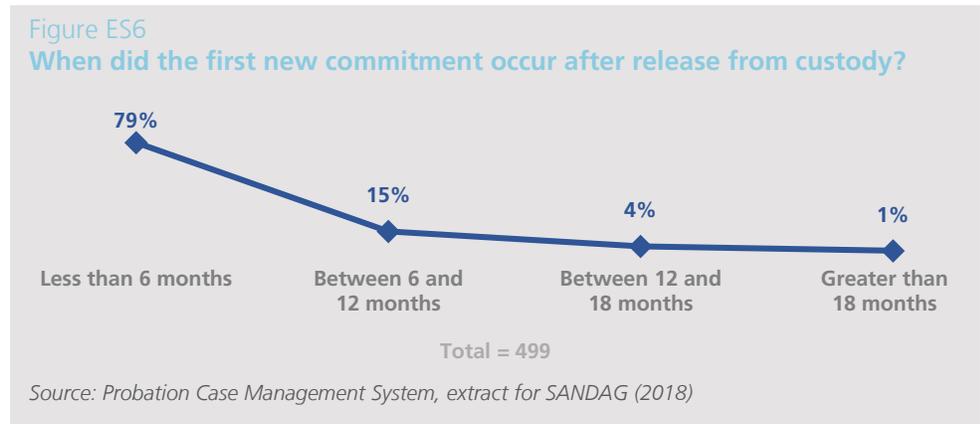
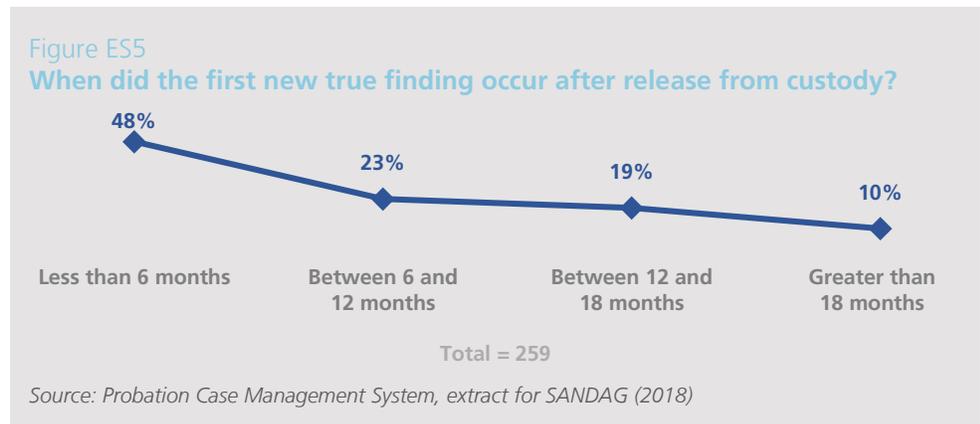
Source: Probation Case Management System, extract for SANDAG (2018)

In addition, the youth had 7,556 bookings during the study time period and spent an average (median) of 217 days (range 11 to 3,223 days) or roughly seven months detained (not shown). This result shed light on how often the youth were removed from the community and placed back into custody.

The primary factor shown to be related to increased recidivism was prior involvement in the justice system, with youth who had a prior true finding significantly more likely to recidivate in the follow-up period.



Finally, analysis of how quickly youth recidivated (i.e., received their first new true finding or institutional commitment) showed the majority of youth recidivated within the first six months after release from custody for the instant offense. Specifically, around half (48%) those with a new true finding in the follow-up period occurred in the first six months, as did over three-quarter (79%) of those with a new commitment (Figure ES5 and Figure ES6).



Conclusion

The information provided by this more extensive analysis of youth involved in the BC program showed a population that had extensive prior contact with the juvenile justice system, which for the majority of the youth continued even after receiving a commitment to BC. This study was requested by Probation to inform key decision makers in San Diego County's juvenile justice system in their quest to ensure the system is designed to achieve the most positive results possible for the youth and family it serves.

Limitations and assumptions

As with all studies, there were limitations that must be considered when examining the results.

- As the juvenile system has been designed to funnel high-risk youth to BC, there were not sufficient non-BC juveniles with comparable risk and needs to create a comparison/control group for evaluation;
- The historical data cannot be verified due to sealing; and furthermore, data anomalies could not be further investigated;
- Just because the first BC commitment in the time frame was selected, it should not be referenced as the first "ever" BC commitment, as it cannot be verified from the data extract. Therefore, a complete number of BC commitments and associated days detained for each juvenile could not be calculated; and
- Because youth could turn 18 and still receive a new commitment and because the data extract was limited to the juvenile system, youth who were arrested and processed in the adult system were not included in the recidivism rate.

Breaking Cycles In-Depth Analysis

Background

Breaking Cycles (BC) is the graduated sanction component of San Diego County's Comprehensive Strategy, aimed at strengthening communities and families to develop healthy and responsible youth through prevention, intervention, and, when appropriate, graduated sanctions. Under the guidance of the Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council (JJCC), which is involved in continually refining the Comprehensive Strategy, BC has been partially funded by the Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act (JJCPA) since 2000. BC was designed based on the latest research and best practices at the time and creates a continuum of graduated responses and treatments for high-risk youth (ages 12 to 18) committed by the Juvenile Court. The goal of BC is to create an umbrella of services (e.g., assessment teams, alcohol and drug treatment, mental health services, individual and family counseling, community supervision and case management) to steward a seamless transition from the system to the community. Probation officers lead the service coordination, with services provided in collaboration with community-based organizations in several different settings throughout the region. In addition to the youth, parents and family members are encouraged to participate in programming.

While the original program evaluation of BC completed in 2001 found positive outcomes (San Diego Association of Government [SANDAG], 2001),² there has not been a replicated review since. Each year for the annual JJCPA report, BC along with the other JJCPA funded programs, is evaluated using data collected from several sources including Probation officers at program completion, manual data collection by SANDAG staff from the Probation Case Management System (PCMS), and surveys completed by youth and families. The evaluation design is limited, as it only includes those juveniles who have "exited" the program,³ and it only includes recidivism outcomes during participation in BC. Furthermore, the program has transformed in a variety of ways as funding has fluctuated, as research in the field has evolved, and as Probation leadership changed over the years. Most recently, San Diego County Probation, spurred by best practices in the field, has increased its focus on the therapeutic approach to delinquency, including expanding the use of Alternatives to Detention to reduce the use of detention and partnering with Georgetown University to implement the Youth-In-Custody Practice Model, which improves opportunities to engage families and creates trauma-informed safe and healthy environments for those youth that are detained. Due to this substantial shift in policy and practice, as well as the limitation of the current evaluation model, Probation and the JJCPA Taskforce requested that SANDAG conduct a more in-depth program review to better understand the characteristics of youth served, the changes in the program model over time, and the long-term outcomes of those youth who participated in the program.

While the original research design was created with input from key stakeholders (e.g., Probation leadership, The Children's Initiative, the District Attorney, and the Public Defender), it had to be significantly modified once the data collection process started and it became apparent the necessary data needed to address the original research questions were not available or in a format that could be reliably collected. For example, the original contract scope of work needed data to compare current and past treatment practices, but the treatment data was not readily available. Also, no single point of intake and exit into BC was available in the data extract and therefore limited the ability to accurately calculate criminal history or instances of BC commitments (see Appendix A for the original design). After consultation with key stakeholders and review of available data the plan was modified, and the result was this first exploratory phase of the evaluation. As described in the methodology section, this modified evaluation is more focused on overall recidivism and serves to better inform the feasibility of further research on the outcomes associated with BC.

² San Diego Association of Governments (2001). *Breaking Cycles evaluation: A comprehensive approach to youthful offenders*. San Diego, CA: Burke, C.

³ Periodic audits of data collection have shown incomplete or missing information provided on the actual number of exited clients reported to SANDAG.

Methodology

To obtain a more detailed understanding of the youth disposed to BC, including their characteristics, detention days, and recidivism upon receiving a BC commitment, SANDAG conducted a retrospective, exploratory cohort study. Specifically, a sample of all BC participants who had a new BC commitment between July 1, 2015, to June 30, 2018, was selected to allow analysis of recidivism 6, 12, and 18 months after release from custody. Recidivism, for the purposes of this research study, was defined as any new true finding and/or new commitment (BC or other) occurring after a youth was released back into the community following their first BC commitment during the study period.

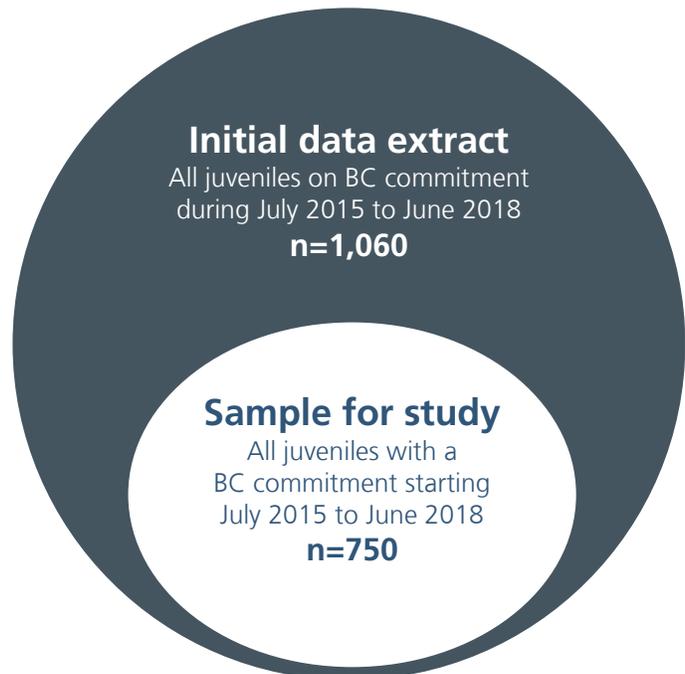
Primary research questions

1. What were the characteristics of youth served by BC including demographics, criminal history, and instant offense for the BC commitment?
2. What was the post-commitment impact participation in BC had on youth (including future bookings, true findings, and institutional commitments)?

Sample selection

Probation extracted data for this study on behalf of SANDAG from the PCMS.⁴ This data extract included sealed cases otherwise unavailable through the PCMS interface.⁵ The preliminary sample pool included 1,060 unique juveniles who ever had an open BC commitment during July 2015 to June 2018 (Figure 1). Because no singular BC start date was available, it was necessary to operationally define a BC start date within the sample timeframe for recidivism calculations. Therefore, the first BC commitment in the time frame was identified as the start date. Then from this sample pool of 1,060 unique juveniles, the sample of cases who had at least one new BC commitment within the time frame were selected, resulting in a final sample of 750 juveniles (Figure 1). About two in five (39%) of the BC commitments included in the sample occurred in FY 16, around one-quarter (27%) in FY 17, and approximately one-third (34%) in FY 18 (Figure 2). This first BC commitment in the time frame was then used to identify the instant offense (the true finding preceding the BC commitment).

Figure 1
Sample selection



Source: Probation Case Management System, extract for SANDAG (2018)

⁴ Specifically, data were pulled from the Program Enrollment file.

⁵ The need for Probation to coordinate unsealing and then resealing the cases delayed the start of the evaluation by five months.

Limitations and assumptions

The known limitations to the study, sampling, and data extracted include:

- As the juvenile system has been designed to funnel high-risk youth to BC, there were not sufficient non-BC juveniles with comparable risk and needs to create a comparison/control group for evaluation;
- The historical data cannot be verified due to sealing; and furthermore, data anomalies could not be further investigated;
- Just because the first BC commitment in the time frame was selected, it should not be referenced as the first “ever” BC commitment, as it cannot be verified from the data extract. Therefore, a complete number of BC commitments and associated days detained for each juvenile could not be calculated; and
- Because youth could turn 18 and still receive a new commitment and because the data extract was limited to the juvenile system, youth who were arrested and processed in the adult system were not included in the recidivism rate.

The following were the data assumptions made for the analysis:

- BC commitments were defined by commitment categories with BC in the name or Breaking Cycles/BC is in the notes. From SANDAG’s communication with Probation, the variable containing commitment type is entered by personnel; therefore, some BC commitments may have been missed; and
- Tracking of recidivism started upon release from custody (i.e., booking release date) and ended with the extract pull (December 11, 2018).

Sample demographics

Of the 750 BC youth sampled, 83 percent were male, and 17 percent were female. The average (mean) age of youth was 15.6 years old ($SD= 1.2$), and the range was 12 to 18 years at time of commitment. Sixty-one percent were Hispanic, 19 percent were Black, 13 percent White, and 7 percent “other” race/ethnicities (Figure 3).

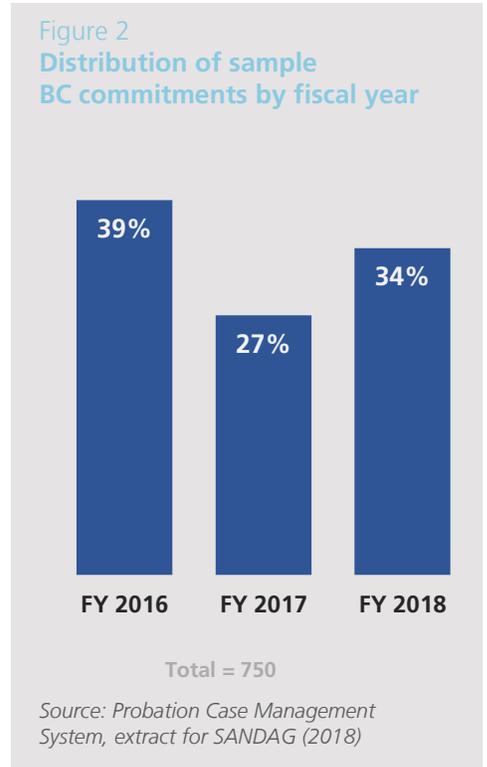


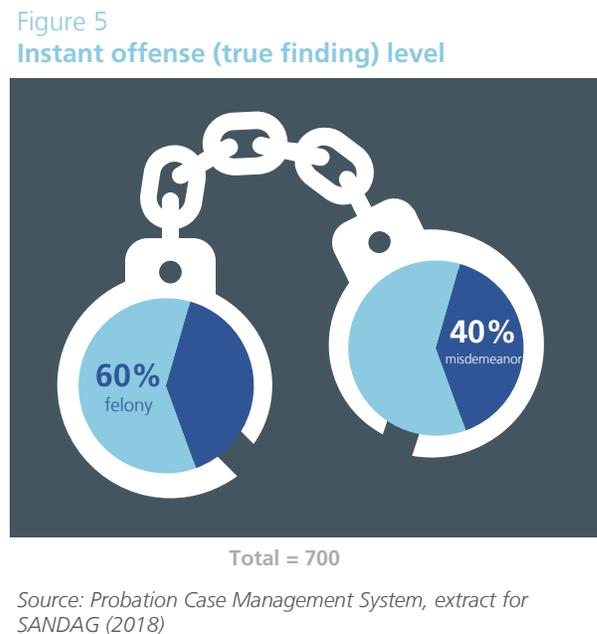
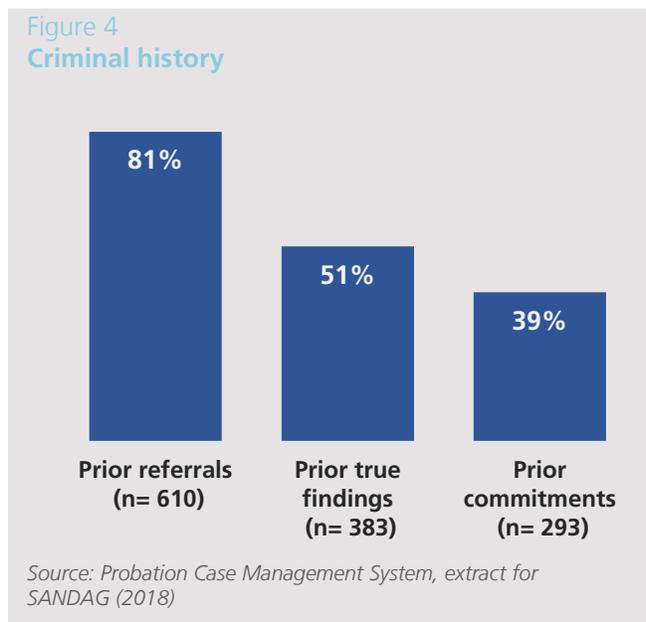
Figure 3
BC sample demographics



Source: Probation Case Management System, extract for SANDAG (2018)

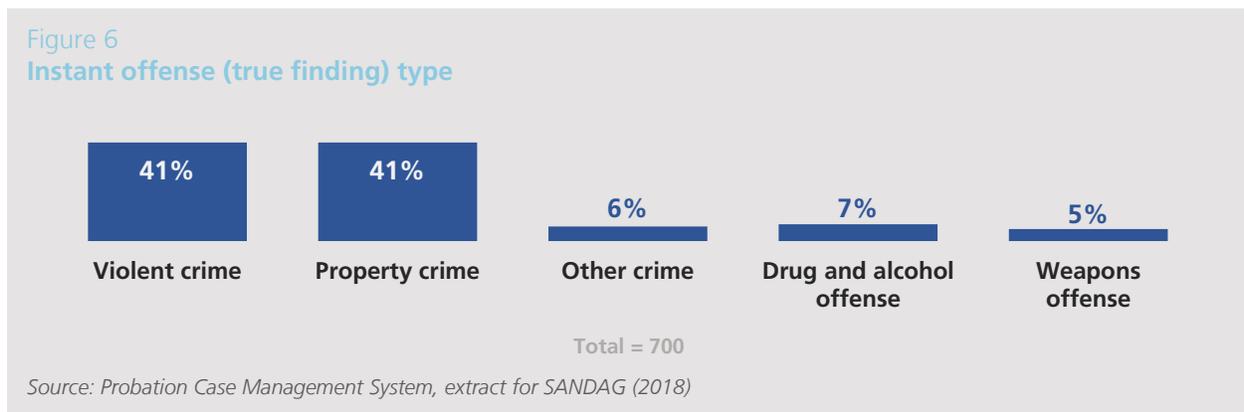
What was the criminal history of the sample?

Eight out of ten (81%) juveniles had a prior referral to probation, and on average (mean) those 81 percent had 2.8 referrals ($SD= 1.9$) prior to the BC commitment. Five out of ten (51%) of the sample had a prior true finding to probation, and on average (mean) those 51 percent had 1.5 true findings ($SD=0.7$) prior to the BC commitment. Four out of ten (39%) had a prior commitment before the BC commitment (Figure 4). For historical true findings ($n= 654$ duplicated true findings), 44 percent were for a felony-level offense, 54 percent were for a misdemeanor charge, and 1 percent were on a status offense. Also, of the historical true findings, 36 percent were for a violent crime, 40 percent had a true felony for a property crime, 7 percent were for a drug and alcohol offense, 8 percent were for other offenses, 7 percent were for a weapons offense, 1 percent were for a status offense (not shown).



What was the true finding that resulted in the BC commitment?

The instant offense was defined as the true finding which resulted in the sample BC commitment. The instant offense could be identified for 93 percent (or 700) of the sample youth. For these youth, the most serious true finding was reported. Three in five (60%) had a felony-level instant offense (Figure 5), and four in five (82%) instant offenses were a violent or property offense (Figure 6).

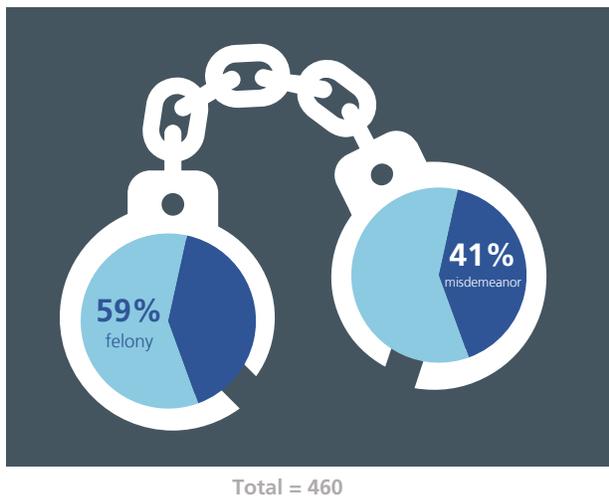


What was the post-commitment impact participation in BC had on youth (including true findings and institutional commitments)?

New true findings

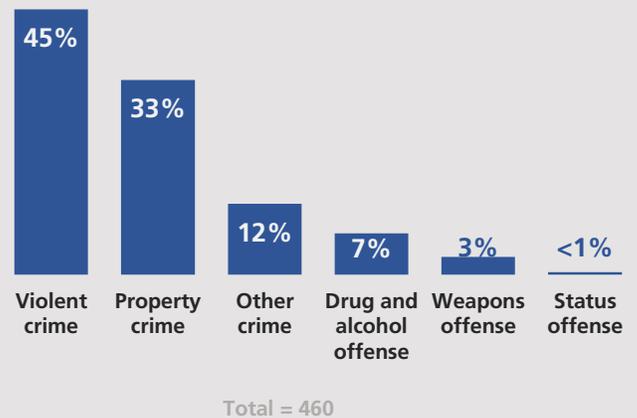
Recidivism for new offenses was defined as a new true finding that occurred after the initial release from custody and happened before December 11, 2018.⁶ Thirty-five percent (35%) of the sample (n= 259) had a new true finding after the release from custody, for an average of 1.5 (SD=.08) per youth or a total of 460 true findings. Over half (59%) of the true findings were for a felony and 45 percent were a violent offense (Figure 7 and 8). Analysis of those cases that did have a new true finding showed the largest proportion of new true findings occurred within the first six months after release from custody (48%), around one-quarter (23%) within the year, followed by 19 percent from one year to 18 months, and 10 percent greater than 18 months (Figure 9). Age was the only factor found to be significantly related to receiving a new true finding, with younger youth more likely to have a true finding.⁷ However, this test could be indicating the lack of recidivism data once youth aged into the adult system. Tests for ethnicity and gender showed no relationship with new true findings.

Figure 7
Offense level for new true findings (recidivism)



Source: Probation Case Management System, extract for SANDAG (2018)

Figure 8
Type of new true findings during follow-up period



Source: Probation Case Management System, extract for SANDAG (2018)

Figure 9
When did the first new true finding occur after release from custody?



Source: Probation Case Management System, extract for SANDAG (2018)

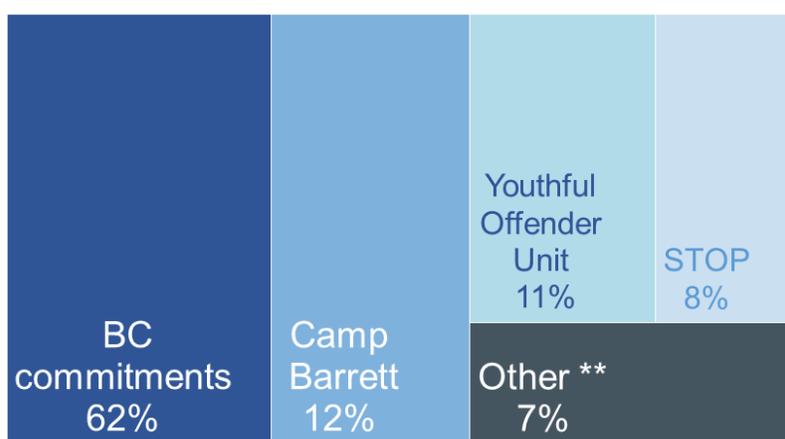
⁶ True findings were included in the recidivism analysis if the referral date was after the key commitment booking release date.

⁷ $\chi^2(9, n= 750) = 19.6, p < .05$

Institutional commitments

As for commitments, nearly two-thirds (67%) of the sample had a commitment (of any kind) after the release from custody for the key BC commitment, having an average of 1.6 commitments ($SD= 1.7$) per youth, for a total for 1,205 commitments (not shown). Most of the commitments were new BC commitments (62%) (Figure 10). The remaining 38 percent included Youthful Offender Unit (YOU), Drug Court (DC), Juvenile Ranch Facility (JRF), Girls Rehabilitation Facility (GRF), and Short-term offender program (STOP).^{8,9} As with true findings, most of the new commitments (79%) occurred within the first six months of release from custody, which dropped substantially for each of the subsequent follow-up periods (15%, 4%, and 1%, respectively) (Figure 11). Tests to see if demographic groups (e.g., ethnicity, age, gender) were related to new commitments were not significant.

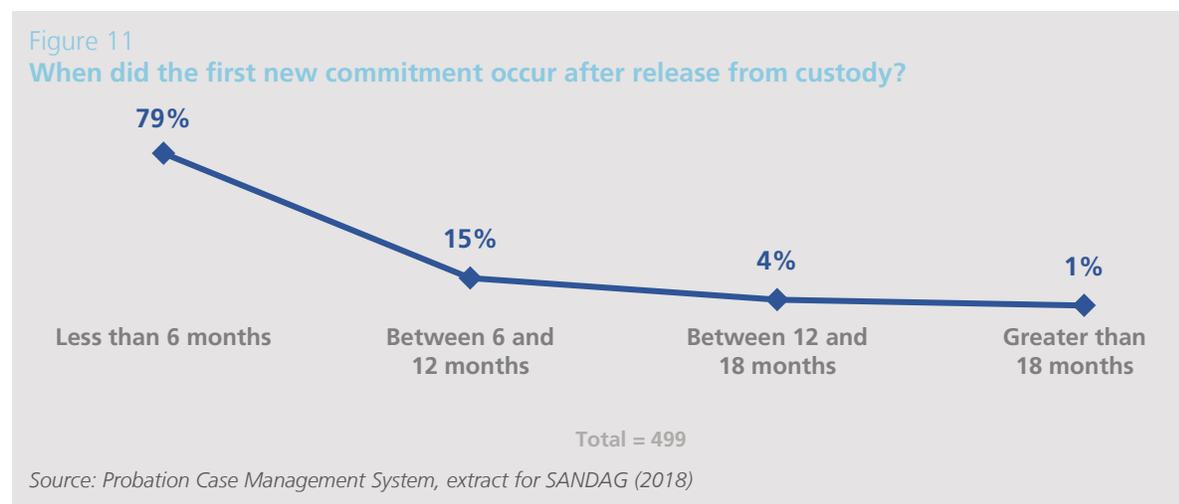
Figure 10
Types of new commitments after release from custody



** Other includes Short term commitment, Drug Court, Girls Rehabilitation Facility, and Juvenile Ranch Facility.

Source: Probation Case Management System, extract for SANDAG (2018)

Figure 11
When did the first new commitment occur after release from custody?



Source: Probation Case Management System, extract for SANDAG (2018)

⁸ The commitments for Camp Barret and JRF occurred before the permanent closure of the facilities.

⁹ BC commitments were all those commitments that had a "BC or Breaking Cycles" included in the type of commitment. For example, only STOP commitments labeled as "BC STOP" were counted as a BC commitment.

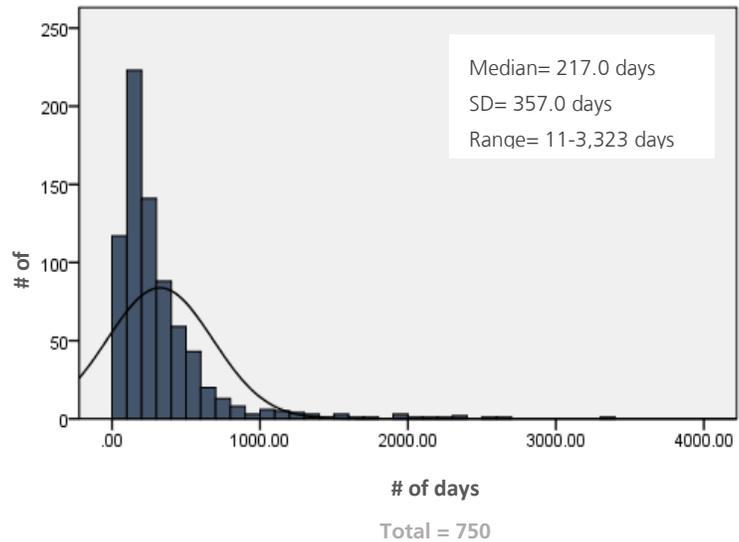
Probation violations

Early in the evaluation, it was determined that probation violations are not captured in PCMS in a way to query and include in the BC data extract. Per discussions with staff, it was noted that a new commitment may occur without a new true finding when there is a probation violation. Therefore, the 745 commitments in the extract (62%) without a true finding may be inferred with some certainty to be the result of a probation violation.

How long were BC juveniles detained?

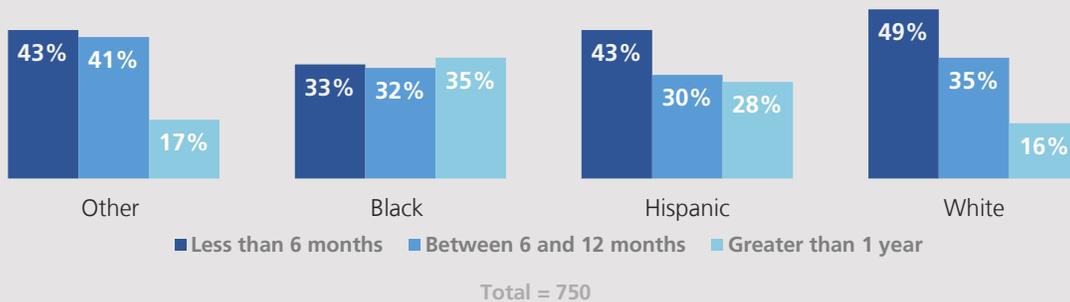
The BC sample had 7,556 bookings during July 1, 2015, through December 2018.¹⁰ These bookings, which could be tied to any juvenile justice event (i.e., instant offense, facility transfer, court proceeding, or new offense) occurred at Kearny Mesa Juvenile Detention Facility, East Mesa Juvenile Detention Facility, Camp Barret, Girls Rehabilitation Facility, and Juvenile Ranch Facility. The average (median) days detained were 217.0 days or roughly 7 months (range 11 to 3,323 days; $SD=357.0$) (Figure 12). Race was significantly related to length of detention.¹¹ Roughly, one in three Black (35%) and Hispanic (28%) juveniles were detained for more than a year whereas less than one in five (16%) of White juveniles were detained for over a year (Figure 13).

Figure 12
Cumulative total of days detained (July 2015 – Dec 2018)



Source: Probation Case Management System, extract for SANDAG (2018)

Figure 13
Booking (detainment) duration by race*



*Statistically significant at $p < .05$

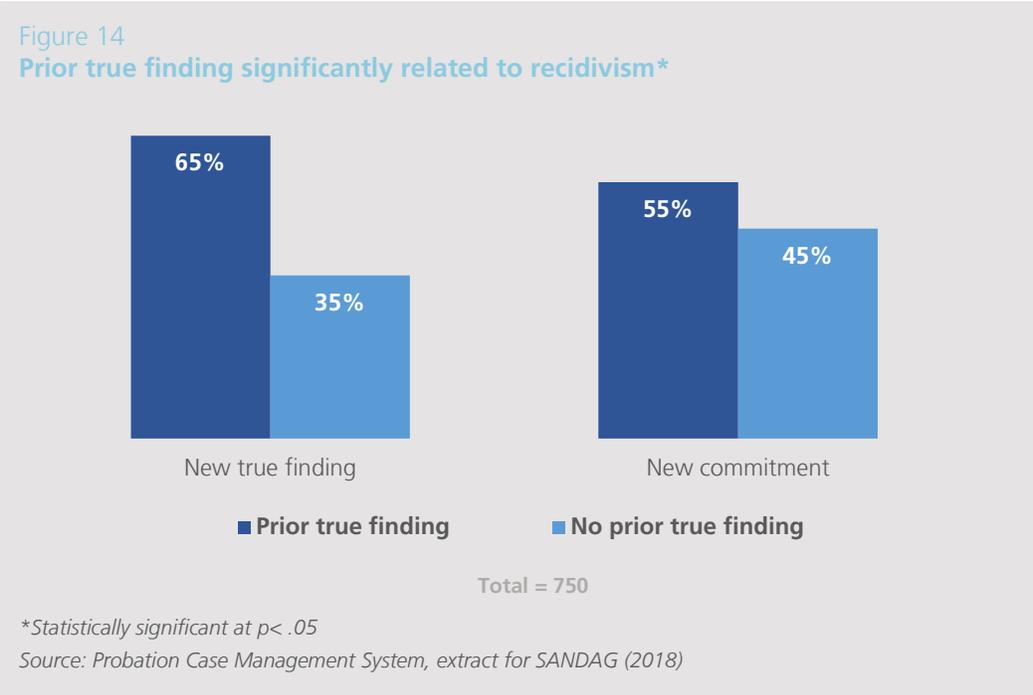
Source: Probation Case Management System, extract for SANDAG (2018)

¹⁰ All bookings for each sample individual were included if the discharge date was between July 1, 2015, and December 11, 2018 (extract pull date). If a booking was not discharged at extract date, the discharge date was coded as December 11, 2018, to allow for inclusion.

¹¹ $\chi^2(6, n=750) = 0.15, p < .05$.

What factors are associated with recidivism?

To identify possible factors associated with recidivism, both bivariate and multivariate analyses were conducted and included the available data on demographics (age, gender, and ethnicity) and prior criminal history (i.e., prior felonies, referrals to probation, true findings and commitments). When each of these covariates were examined for significance only prior criminal history was found to increase the likelihood of a youth recidivating in the follow-up period.¹² Specifically, those youth who had a prior true finding were more likely to have a new true finding (65%) and/or a new commitment (55%) in the recidivism period than those that did not have one (35% and 45%, respectively) (Figure 14). History of felonies and other referrals, as well as demographics were not related to either new true findings or new commitments.



¹² For more detailed methodology descriptions for the bivariate and multivariate analyses see Appendix B.

Summary

To better understand the characteristics and the trajectory of youth committed to BC, SANDAG conducted an exploratory evaluation in addition to their annual JJCPA evaluation. From a sample of 750 youth who had at least one new BC commitment during the period of July 1, 2015, to June 30, 2018 (the period to allow for 18 months of recidivism demographics, prior criminal history, and recidivism (defined as new true finding and/or institutional commitment) were analyzed. The analyses revealed a population of youth that were mostly males, around 16 years old, and had a higher proportion of Hispanic and Black youth than their representation in the general population. The majority of the sample had at least one prior referral to Probation (81%), half (51%) had a prior true finding, and around two in five (39%) had a prior institutional commitment. Analysis of recidivism (from the point of release from custody for the instant offense), showed over one-third received at least one new true finding during the recidivism period, and 67 percent had a new commitment. The difference between the total number of new commitments and the number of true findings was most likely due to probation violations associated with an instant commitment. Bivariate and multivariate analyses showed a prior true finding significantly increased the likelihood of a youth recidivating in the follow-up period. In addition, the continued involvement with the justice system meant youth spent an average (median) of 217 days or roughly seven months ($SD = 357.0$ days; range = 11 days to 3,323 days) held within one of the juvenile justice facilities.

This exploratory study is a valuable first step in better understanding the youth and their trajectory through the BC program. However, as noted in detail, there were several limitations to the research. These findings cannot be attributed to the success or failure of the BC program as there was not an appropriate way to create a control group (either random controlled group or an ad-hoc comparison data grouping). Furthermore, these findings cannot be used to infer causality. Future steps may include working with Probation to identify other data that were not available for the study, and/or complete a qualitative study component with key staff, Probation leadership, or former BC juveniles to supplement the exploratory findings.

Appendix A: Original methods

Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act (JJCPA)

Deeper examination of Breaking Cycles - Updated January 15, 2019

Introduction

The San Diego County Probation Department is committed to implementing best practices in the field. To accomplish this endeavor, Probation leadership is continually reflecting on its current practices and how they align with evolving research in the evidence-based field. This self-reflection has led to a comprehensive restructuring of the local juvenile justice system and a desire to take a closer examination of the outcomes of youth served in the Breaking Cycles program (BC). SANDAG has been the research partner for the BC program, from its inception as a Challenge I project and has been asked to take a more comprehensive approach to its evaluation of BC to better understand the characteristics of youth served, the changes in the program model over time, and the long-term outcomes of those youth who participated in the program.

Research methodology

To accomplish the more in-depth analysis of BC, SANDAG will conduct a retrospective, quasi-experimental cohort study. Specifically, SANDAG will examine a sample of all BC participants who entered between July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2018, to allow for analysis of recidivism 6, 12, and 18 months after entry. In addition to recidivism outcomes (i.e., new bookings, new sustained petition, and/or institutional commitment), data will be gathered on youths' risks and needs, delinquent history, services received (or referred), and treatment while on Probation (including probation violations and days detained). In addition, because BC has changed overtime in response to state funding and legislative changes, the study will also compare the fluctuations in program scope full implementation in 2003 and 2017, the most current full year of implementation. While a comparison group of matched youth who were not in BC would strengthen the analysis, such a group does not exist because most adjudicated youth are involved in BC at one point or another while on Probation.

Process/content analysis

To understand the characteristics of youth served in BC, as well as the current program scope and capacity, a content analysis will be conducted. Data will be gathered from the Probation Case Management System (PCMS), Contracts between Probation and BC contracted community-based organizations (CBOs), and review of San Diego County's Comprehensive Strategy. This part of the research will address the following research questions:

1. What were the characteristics of youth served including demographics, risk level, instant offense (the instant offense that they were found true), and needs?
2. How long were youth in BC and what how much contact did they have with Probation during participation including, how many days they were detained, number and type of probation violation, and type of probation contacts (if available)?
3. What services were youth referred to (and if possible received) while in BC?
4. What were the treatment components and staffing level (including type and FTEs) at program implementation compared to the most recent contracted services?

Outcome analysis

The purpose of the outcome analysis is to determine what impact participation in BC had on the youth. To date, contact with the juvenile justice system post-participation has not been examined. The outcome evaluation will look at recidivism 6- and 12-months post BC participation. This will include booking into juvenile hall, true findings, and institutional commitments. Data will also be gathered on probation violations and days detained while in BC. The following research questions will guide the outcome analysis.

1. What were the treatment components and staffing level (including type and FTEs) at program implementation compared to the most recent contracted services?
2. What was the compliance rate of youth on BC as measured by probation violations?
3. What factors were related to recidivism, including prior risk level (SDRRC score), demographics, prior delinquency, BC completion status, compliance while on probation, and BC services received?

Data sources

The research will involve data collection from multiple sources. These sources may change pending the reliability of the data once the collection process is started (e.g., if service data is not consistently entered into PCMS), then a sample of cases may need to be selected for case review. The following data sources will address the research questions.

Probation involvement: All contacts with Probation, including bookings, true findings, placement, probation violations, and services received (or referred) will be gathered from PCMS. PCMS will also be the source for demographics and assessed risks and needs. The data will be provided to SANDAG via a batch upload from Probation. Prior to this extract all sealed cases will be temporarily unsealed and included in the download for the sole purpose of this research.

Program documentation: To document changes in the BC program over time, BC contracts with community providers will be examined and the program scope of works will be mapped to allow for comparisons over time. Probation will provide copies of the original contracts.

Policy documentation: In addition to analysis of contract changes overtime, research staff will review the Comp Strategy Blue Prints to document any policy changes that may have driven program changes. Proposed program implementation as outlined in the Comp strategies will also be documented.

Stakeholder interviews: To better understand the reasons and impacts of program changes, interviews with key stakeholders that have been involved with BC from the beginning or at minimum ten years will be conducted by research staff. These interviews could include personnel from contracted community-based partners, Probation, the Public Defender and District Attorney juvenile divisions, and The Children's Initiative.

Appendix B: Analysis methodology

To identify possible factors associated with recidivism, both bivariate and multivariate analyses were conducted and included the available data on demographics (age, gender, ethnicity) and prior criminal history (i.e., prior felonies, referrals to probation, true findings and commitments). First, chi-square tests of independence were used to see how the different covariates (e.g. criminal history of true findings, criminal history of commitments, criminal history of felonies, criminal history of any referral to probation) related to both true finding recidivism and commitment recidivism. Having a history of commitments¹³ and history of true findings¹⁴ were both related to having a new true finding. Only having a history of true findings were related to having a new commitment.¹⁵ History of felonies and other referrals were not related to either new true finding or new commitments.

Next, a full logistic regression model for true finding recidivism and commitment recidivism was performed to review what traits are associated with recidivism within this population. These models included all available co-variables (history of true findings, history of commitments, gender, age, ethnicity). The logistic regression indicated the history of true findings significantly increased the odds of a new true finding post release from custody by 2.1 times (Appendix Table 1). The second logistic regression indicated the history of true findings significantly increased the probability of a new commitment post release from custody by 1.6 times (Appendix Table 2).

Appendix Table 1
Logistic regression analysis of true finding recidivism

Independent variable	B	S.E.	Z Ratio	Significance (p)	Odds
History of true findings*	.75	.17	19.1	.00	2.1
History of commitments	.15	.17	.79	.37	1.2
Black	-.24	.26	.86	.35	.79
Hispanic	-.06	.21	.08	.78	.94
Gender	-.17	.21	.68	.41	.84
Age (one year)	-.06	.05	1.1	.29	.95
Constant	-.08	.89	.08	.93	.93

*Statistically significant at $p < .05$

Appendix Table 2
Logistic regression analysis of commitment recidivism

Independent variable	B	S.E.	Z Ratio	Significance (p)	Odds
History of true findings*	.44	.17	7.06	.01	1.6
History of commitments	.13	.17	.55	.46	1.1
Black	-.08	.26	.10	.76	.92
Hispanic	-.25	.21	1.5	.22	.78
Gender	-.20	.21	.10	.92	.98
Age (one year)	-.06	.05	.50	.48	.96
Constant	1.2	.88	1.8	.18	3.3

*Statistically significant at $p < .05$

¹³ $\chi^2(2, n=750) = 5.65, p < .05$.

¹⁴ $\chi^2(2, n=750) = 30.0, p < .05$.

¹⁵ $\chi^2(2, n=750) = 9.8, p < .05$.