San Diego County Probation Department

Supervision of Juvenile Offenders:

Presentation to:

City of San Diego
Commission of Gang Prevention and Intervention

March 18, 2010

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Topics of Presentation

- **Mission & Vision Statements & Supervision Realignment Goals**
- **Past Supervision Practices**
- **The Rationale For Change**
  - **Factors Which Influenced Change**
- **Present Supervision Practices**
  - Evidence Based Approach
  - Contact Standards
- **Results**
  - Average Caseload Sizes
  - Contacts
- **Future Supervision Goals & Opportunities**
  - Enhance Partnering with Law Enforcement
  - Partnering with New & Established Community Based, Schools & Faith Based Organizations

Mission, Vision, & Goals

Our Mission:

Protect community safety, reduce crime, and assist victims through offender accountability and rehabilitation

Our Vision:

Enhancing the quality of life for San Diego County residents by creating safer communities

Goals of Realignment:

1. Improve supervision services to wards and their families;
2. Reduce and balance the span of control for supervisors;
3. Reduce staff workload; and
4. Enhance the effectiveness of probation case management.

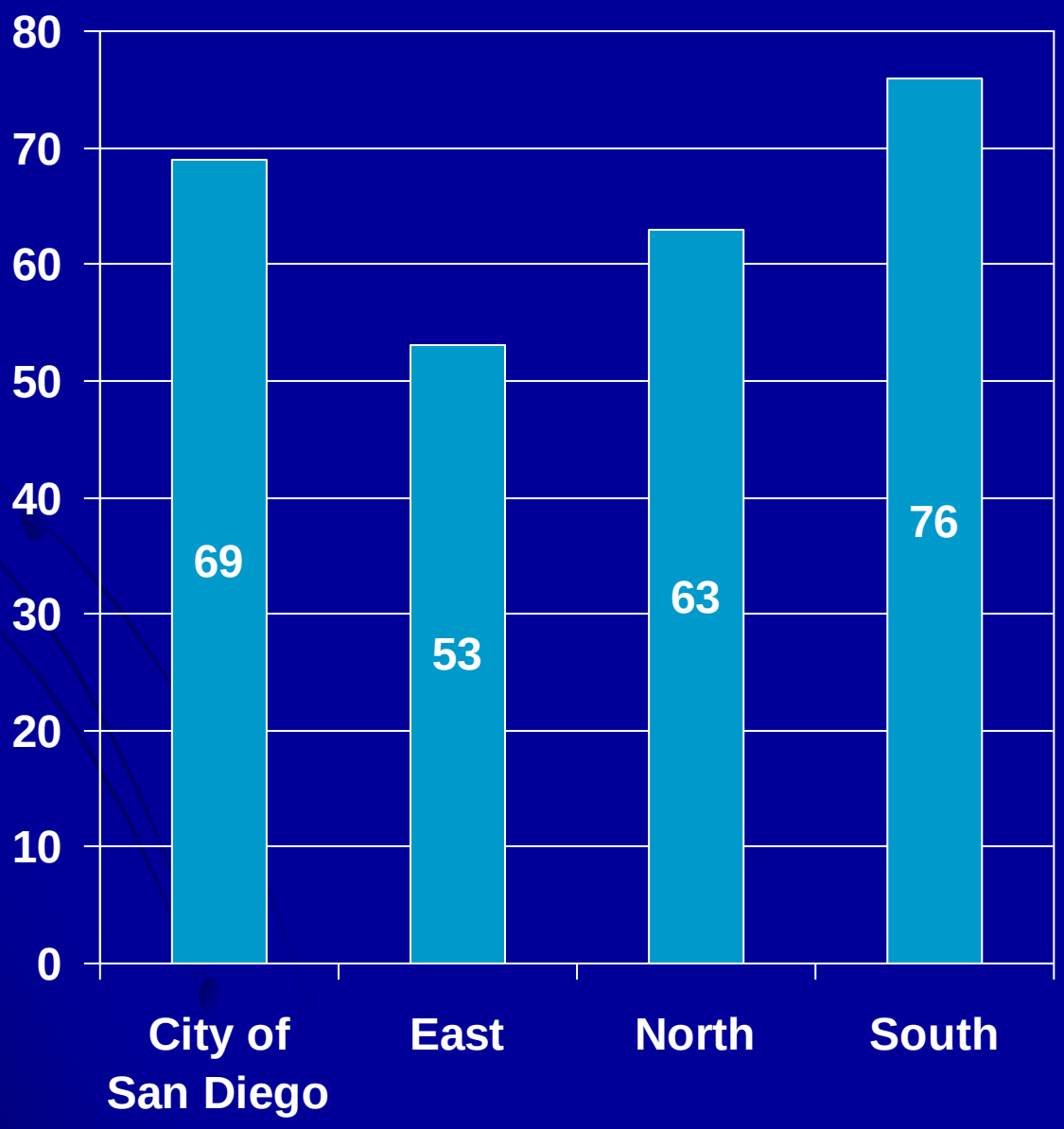
Note: Supervision goals associated with realignment project implemented in Fiscal Year 2008-2009.

The Rationale for Change

- Concerns and criticisms from juvenile justice partners and community stakeholders
- The Department's desire to enhance our effectiveness in delivering services.
- Decreasing Budgets
- Unmanageable caseloads
- A renewed commitment to Evidence Based Practices
- Employee Morale

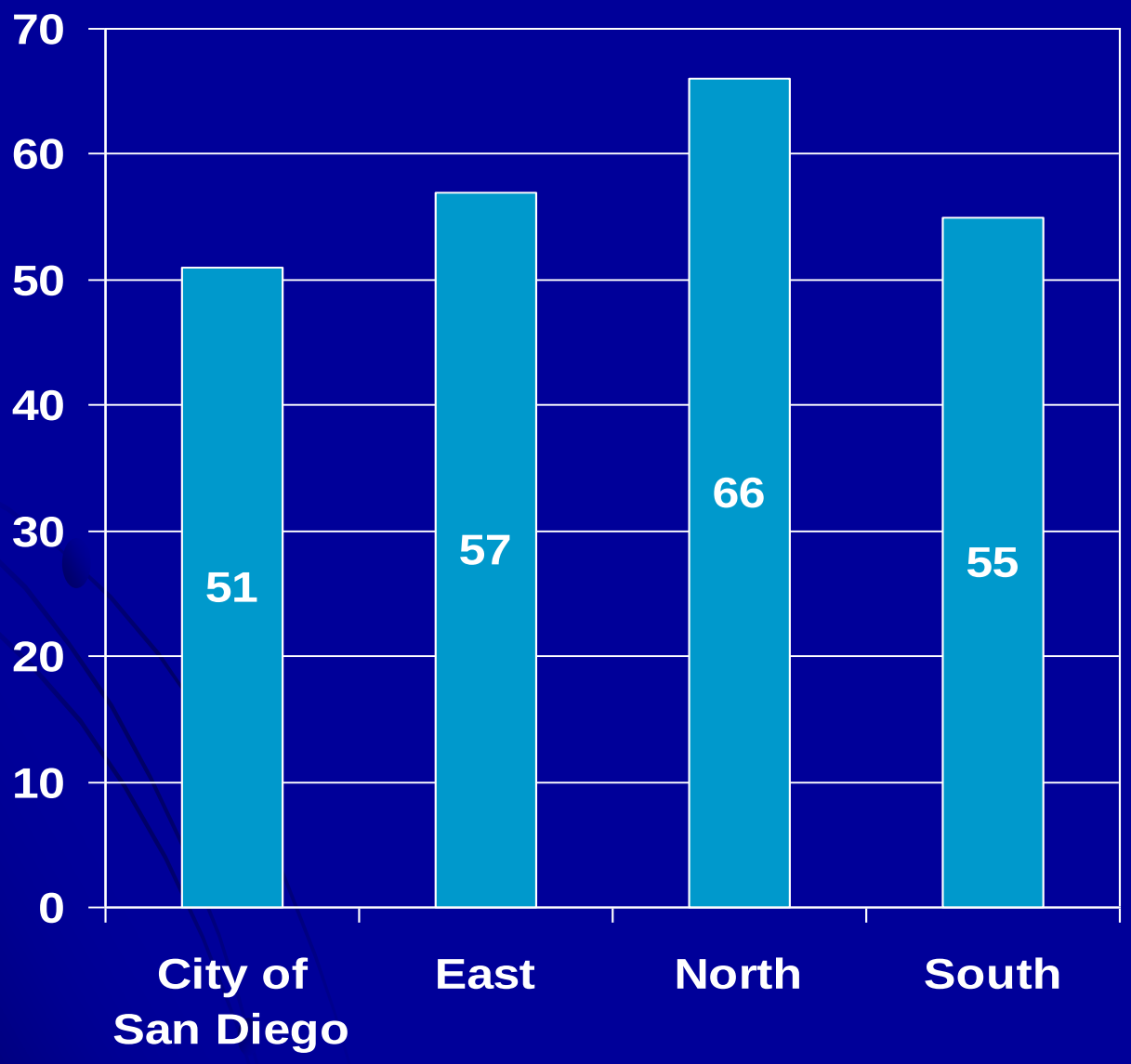
Average Caseload Size by Geographical Region

January 2008 – September 2008 (9 calendar months)



Average Caseload Size by Geographical Region

October 2008 – June 2009 (9 calendar months)



Present Supervision Practices

- **The Probation Department's commitment to Evidence Based Practices (EBP) initiated moving to realigning caseloads and subsequently implementing a Risk Based Supervision Model.**
  - Working Definition of EBP in a nutshell is simply:

    Creation or *utilizing of programs that are researched based and proven to be effective in achieving desired outcomes.*

  - The Probation Department has long engaged in best practices principles and EBP approaches. This experience was translated to the Supervision Division, which supervises the majority of juveniles on probation.
    - The Supervision Division has moved to a Risk Based Supervision Model.
    - The model is based on a research based assessment tool known as the San Diego Regional Resiliency Checklist (SDRRC). The delinquency domain factor has been validated to best predict a juvenile's risk to recidivate.
    - Juveniles are now supervised in three levels of supervision (Regular Level, Mid Level & Compliance as formerly compared to two levels).

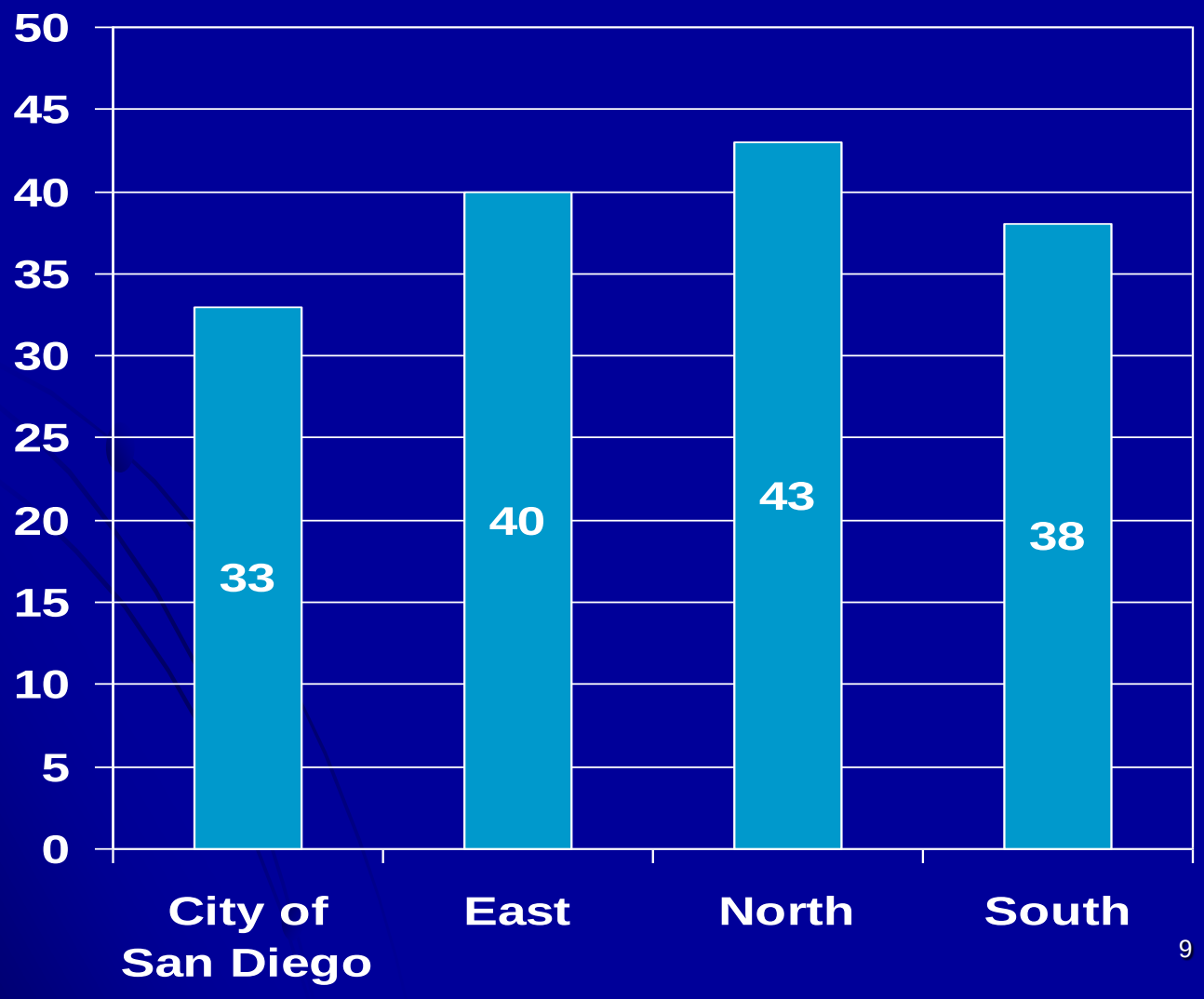
The Results

- Caseload sizes have fallen and become manageable.
- Officers are more effective in delivering services in accordance with our mission and vision. Officers are better equipped and empowered to provide a wide array of services noted below:
    - Referrals to community agencies
    - Educational Referrals & Monitoring
    - Substance Abuse Services
    - Mental Health Services
    - Mentoring Services
    - Work Readiness Services
- Probation contacts in the community are increasing.
- Supervisory staff are better positioned to insure quality assurance.
- Youth and their families are the beneficiaries of our increased efforts towards continuous improvement.

Average Caseload Size by Geographical Region

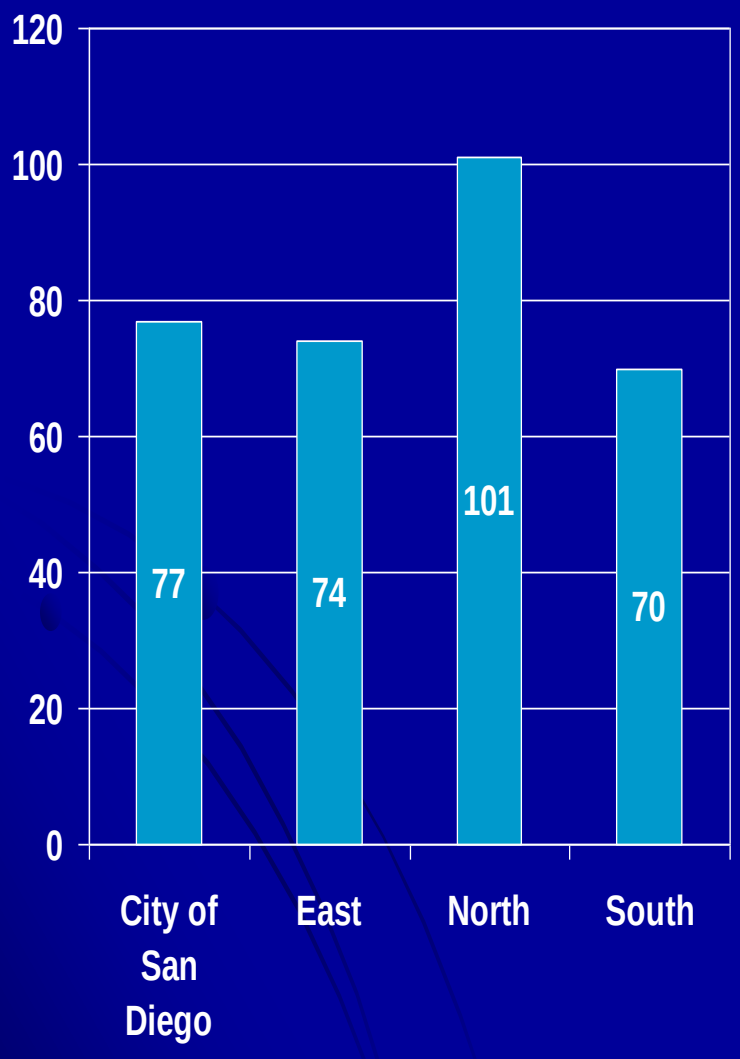
Regular Level Supervision (Intensive/High Risk Youth)

July 2009 – February 2010

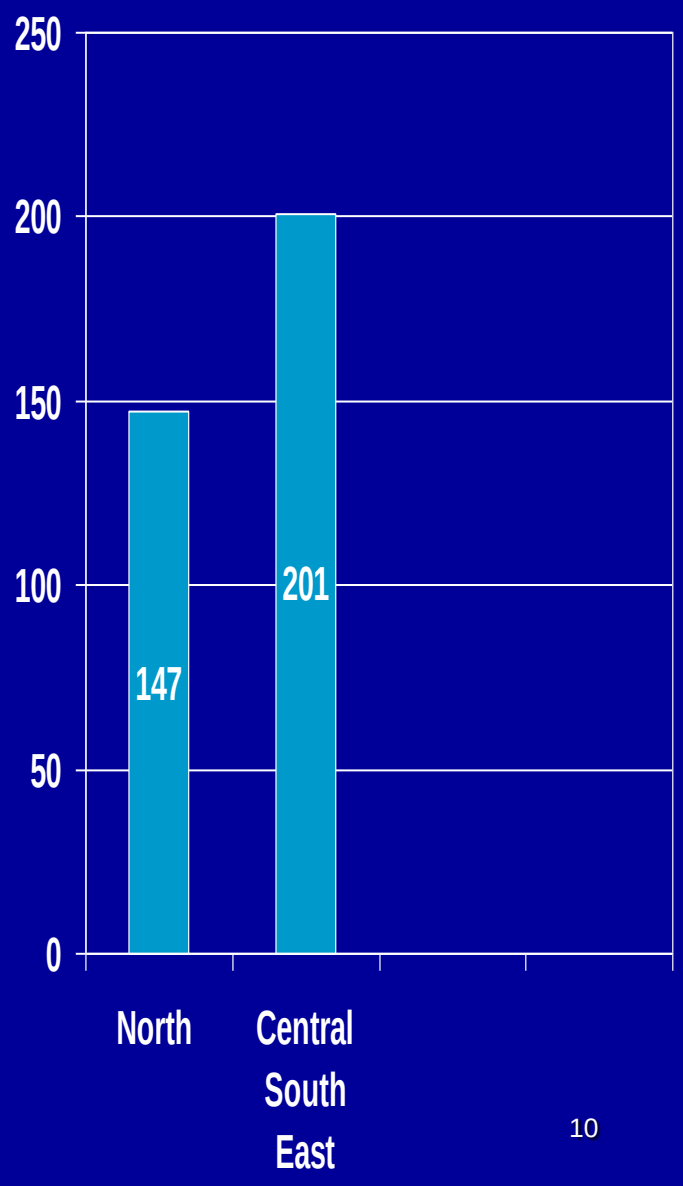


Average Caseload Size by Geographical Region

Medium Level Supervision
July 2009 - February 2010



Compliance
July 2009 - February 2010



The Results (Continued)

Contact Results

"A Snap Shot View"

January 2008 (Total of Cases 3381)

- Office 1776
- Field 689
- Totals 2465

January 2009 (Total of Cases 2810)

- Office 1820
- Field 666
- Totals 2486

January 2010 (Total of Cases 3029)

- Office 1449
- Field 1850
- Totals 3299

Future Supervision Goals

- **Juvenile Field Services looks to continue and enhance successful partnerships with local law enforcement agencies.**
  - Future Goals include increasing:
    - Curfew Operations with San Diego Police Department and other local agencies
    - Truancy Operations
    - Warrant Pick-Ups
    - Fourth Waiver Searches
- **Explore grant or new funding opportunities and/or support law enforcement efforts to address gang suppression efforts.**
- **Continued commitment to educate officers about organizations that work with youth and parents to prevent gang involvement work with those juveniles who have committed themselves to a gang lifestyle.**
  - Partner with new and established community based agencies.
  - Partner with the faith based community especially those with a social or community outreach focus.
  - Focus on school attendance and grade advancement through our partnerships with local school districts
  - Search out work readiness or job opportunities for working age juveniles.

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