



Youth Placements and Placement Rates in Pennsylvania Counties: The Impact of Evidence-based Intervention Programs

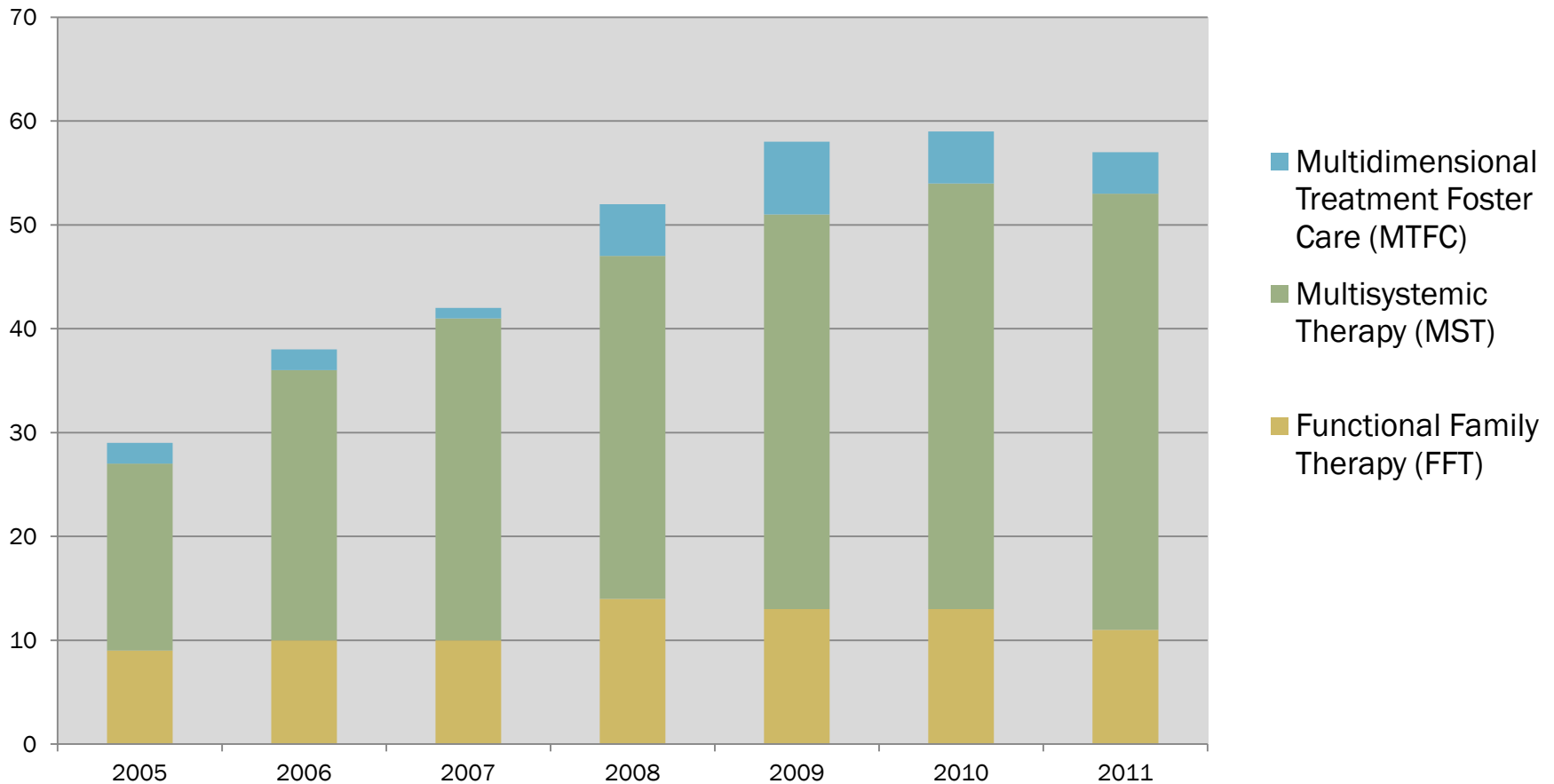


Elizabeth Campbell, Ph.D., & Brian Bumbarger, February 2012



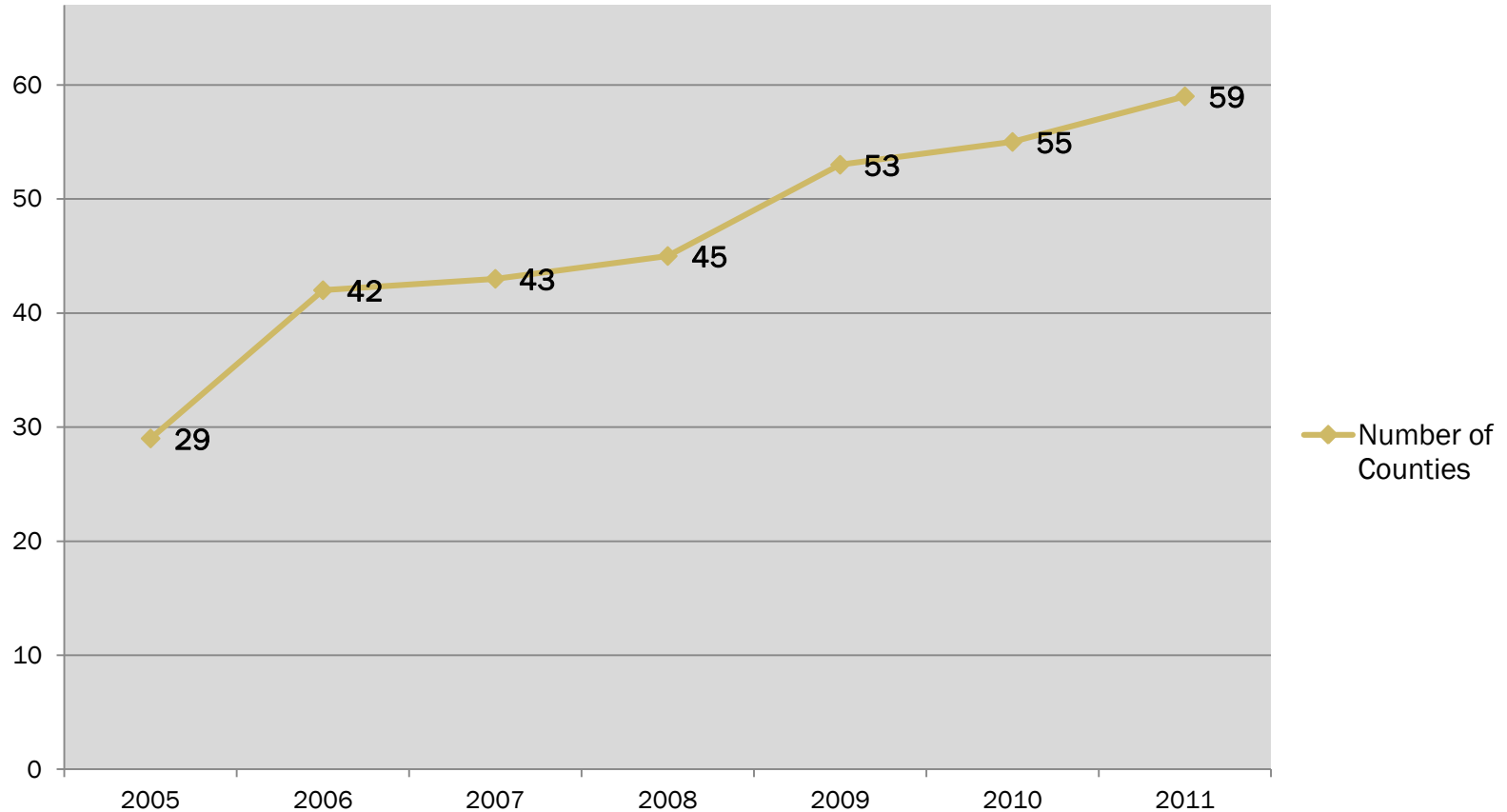
- ☞ Evidence-based Interventions (EBI): In this presentation, EBI refers to an evidence-based program that is treatment focused and can be funded by Medical Assistance.
- Multisystemic Therapy (MST)
 - Functional Family Therapy (FFT)
 - Multidimensional Treatment Foster Care (MTFC)

Total Number of Evidence-Based Interventions (EBIs) by Year



Pennsylvania has seen a significant growth in the number of EBI programs over the past 7 years, particularly the number of MST teams.

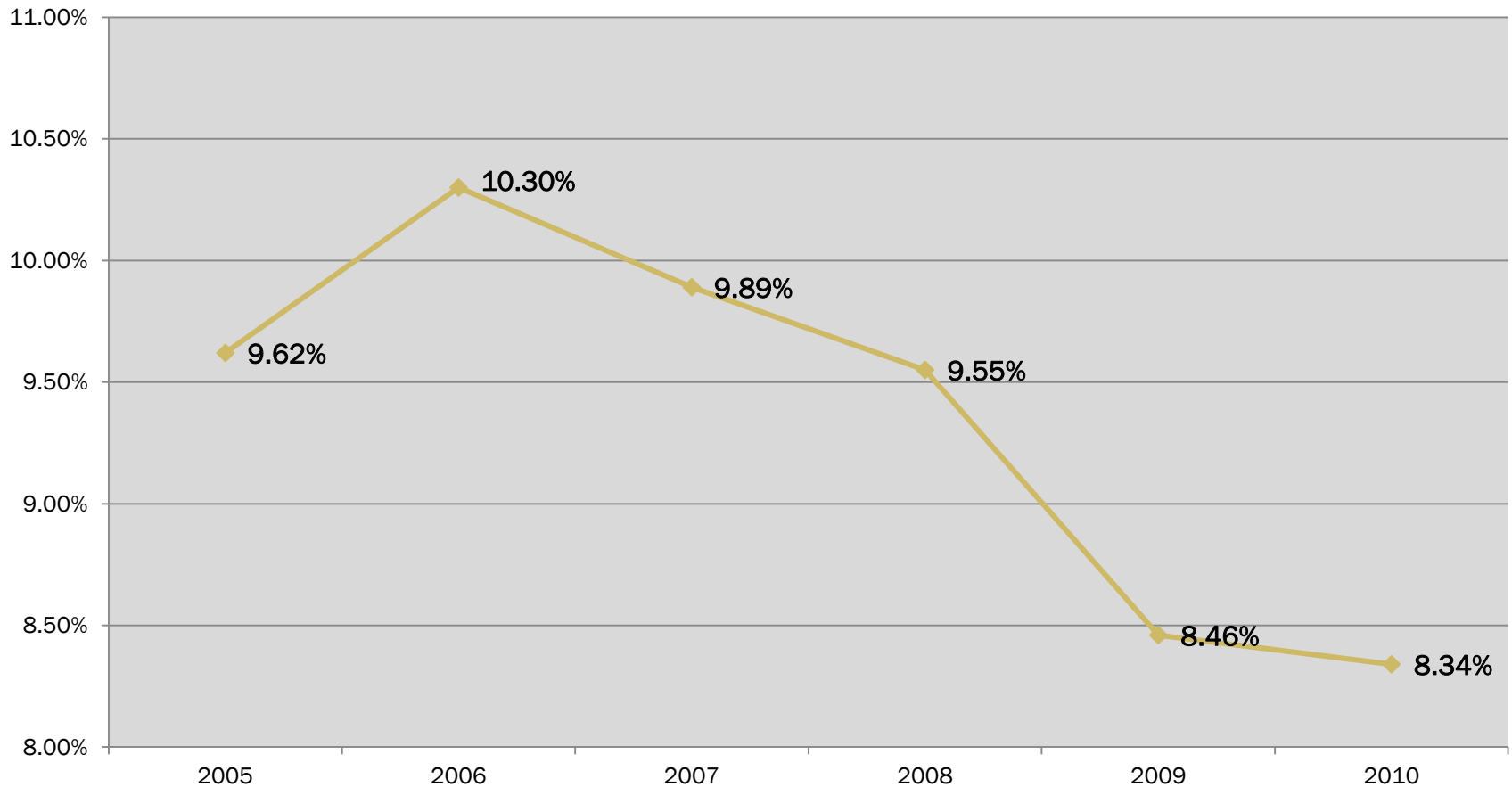
Counties with at least one EBI



Growth in the overall number of EBIs has been accompanied by an increasing number of counties adopting EBIs. The vast majority of Pennsylvania's 67 counties now have at least one EBI, and many counties have more than one.

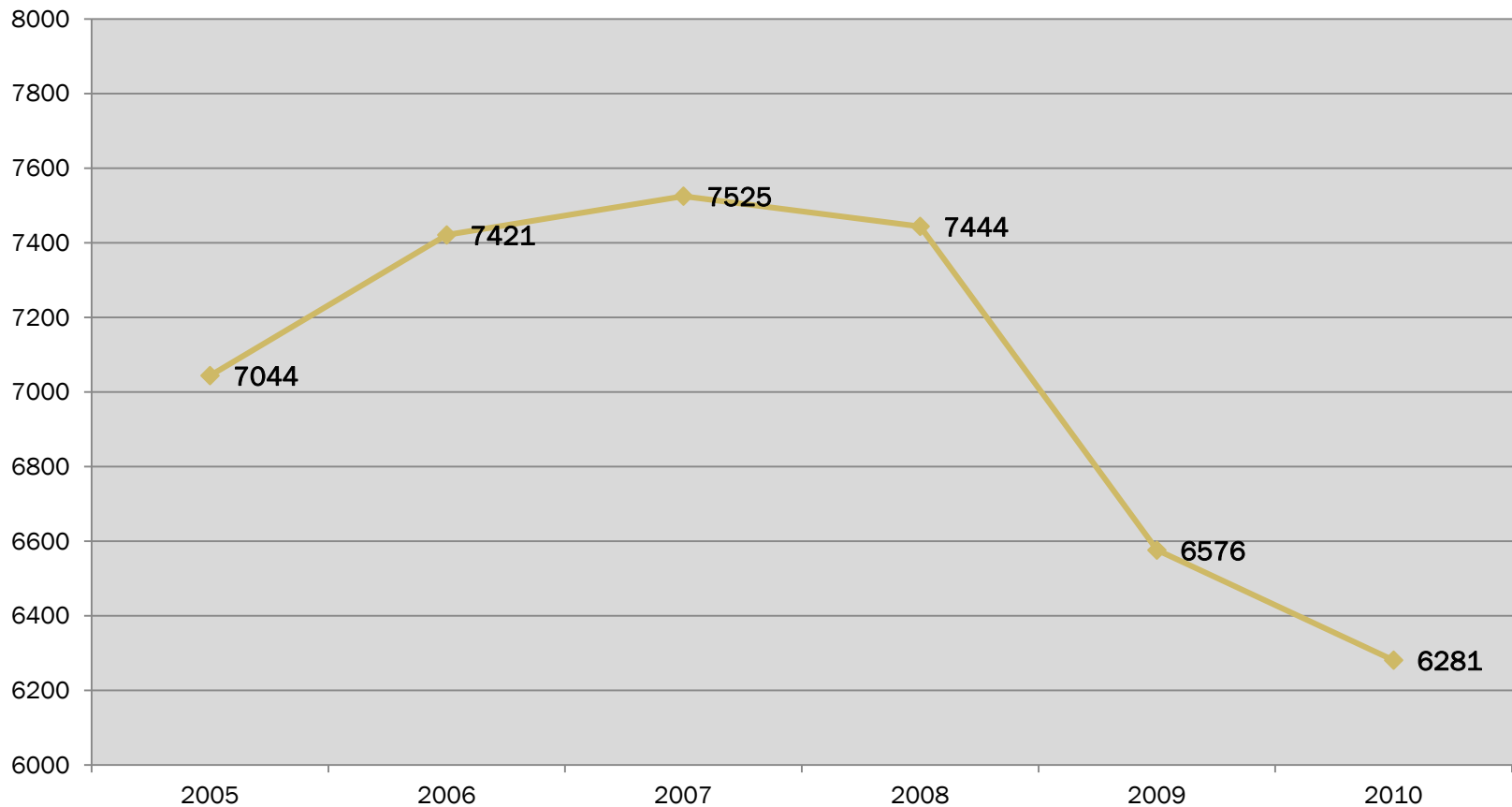
Juvenile Justice Placements

Delinquency placements as a percent of dispositions,
including disposition reviews and new allegations



Juvenile Justice Placements

Number of delinquency placements statewide



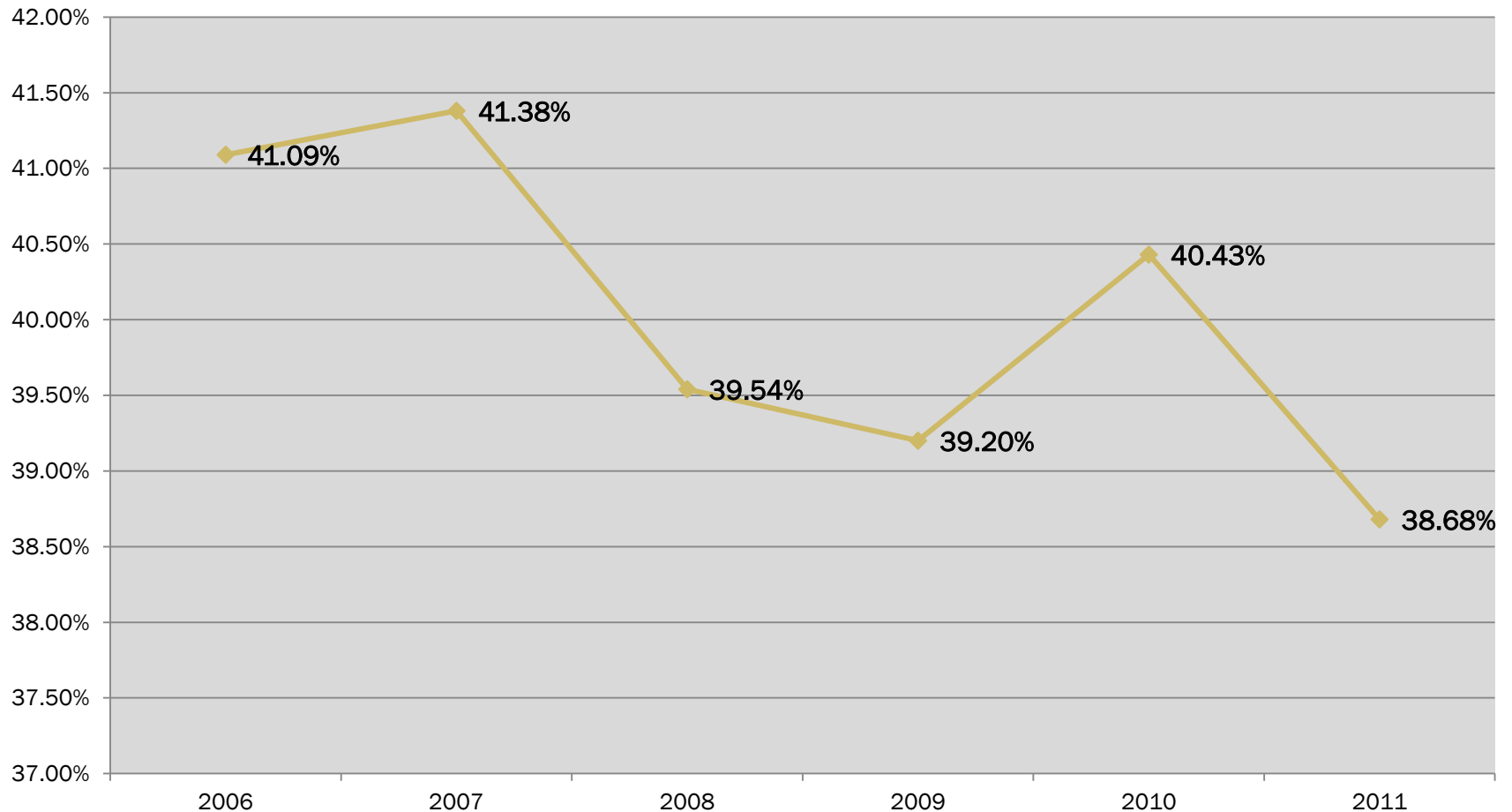
Juvenile Justice Placements

- From 2005 to 2010, there was a 13% decrease in the percent of dispositions resulting in placement (from 9.62% in 2005 to 8.34% in 2010).
- The number of youth placed annually decreased from 7,525 youth at the peak in 2007 to 6,281 youth in 2010, representing a 17% decrease.

Source of data: Juvenile Court Judges' Commission, [Disposition Reports](#), 2005 to 2010

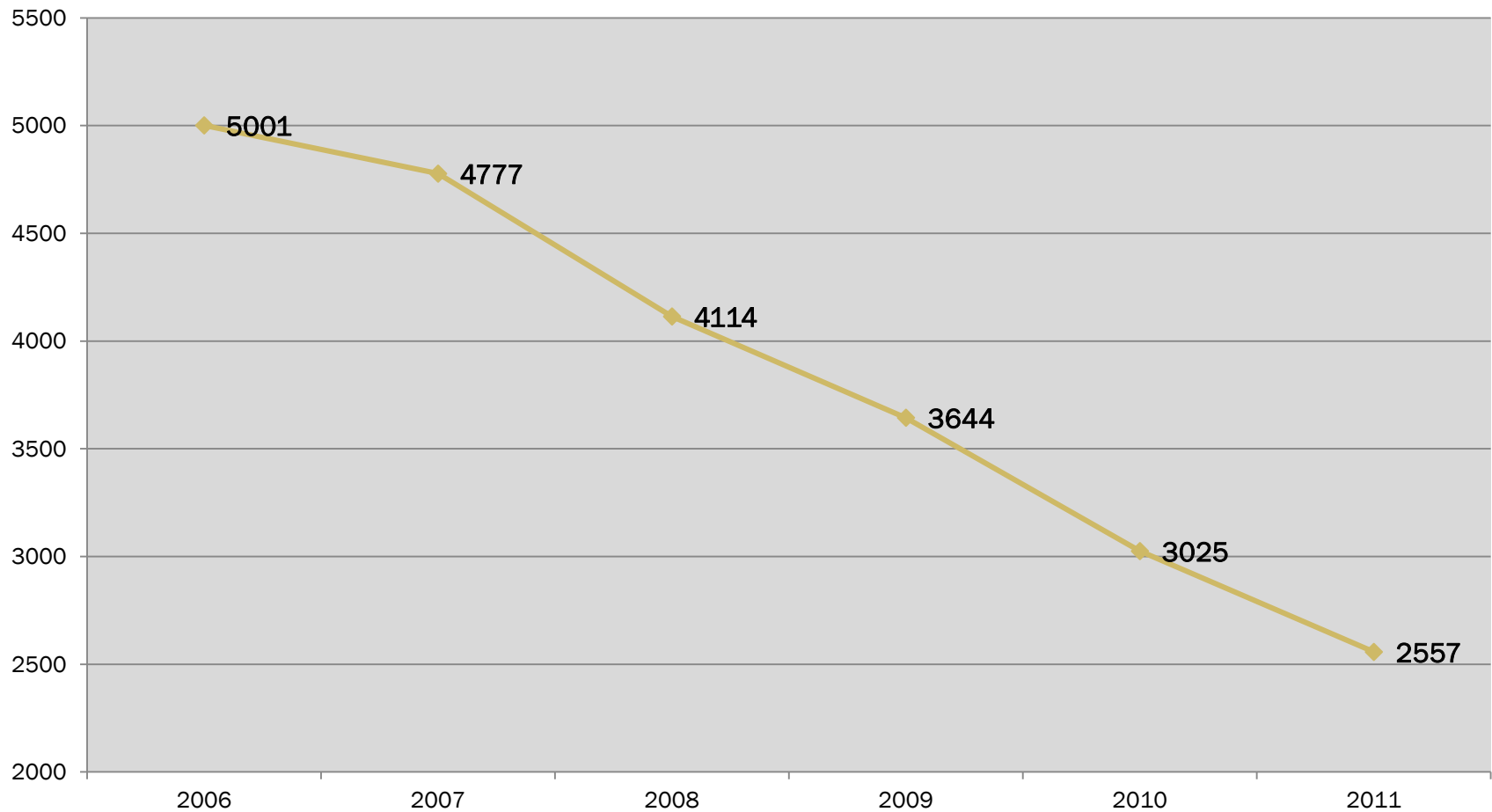
Children & Youth Placements

Percent of youth ages 10-17 who were in a restrictive placement



Children & Youth Placements

Total number of youth ages 10-17 in a restrictive placement



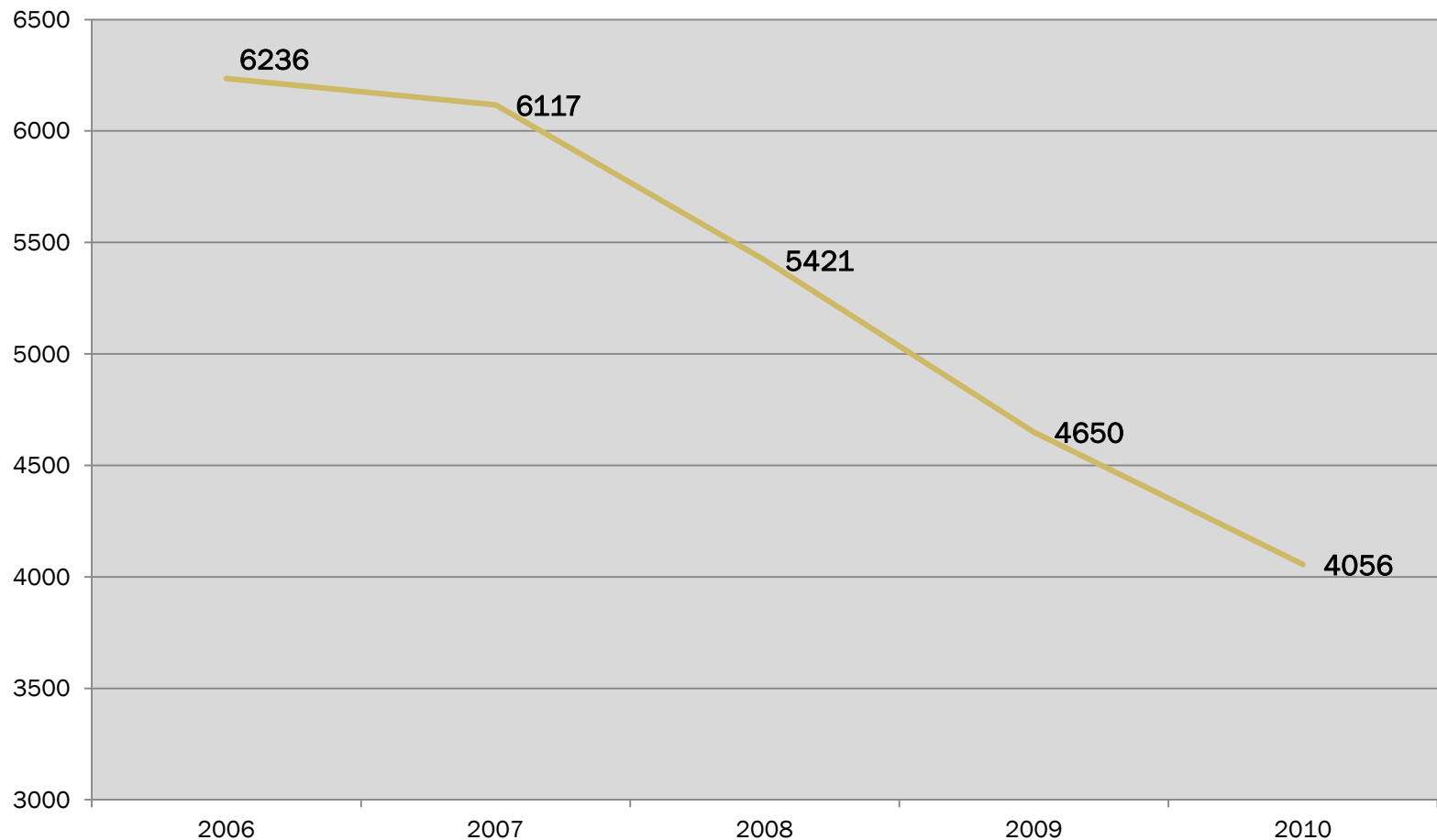
Children & Youth Placements

- From 2006 to 2011, there was a 6% decrease in the rate of restrictive placement for youth ages 10 - 17 (from 41.09% in 2006 to 38.68% in 2011).
- The number of youth placed in a restrictive placement, defined as group care or an institutional setting, decreased 49%, from 5,001 in 2006 to 2,557 in 2011. This decrease corresponds with an overall reduction in the number of youth in care.

Source of data: Data was provided by Hornby Zellers Associates via the Pennsylvania Office of Children, Youth, & Families, and is based on AFCARS data submitted by counties. Data is based on youth ages 10-17 (target age range for EBIs) who were in care between Oct. 1 and March 31 of each year, and represents placement as of March 31 or last placement prior to discharge from care.

Medicaid-Funded Placements

Number Community Residential Rehabilitation Host Home or Residential Treatment Facility placements for youth ages 10-17



Medicaid-Funded Placements

- ∞ The number of Medicaid-funded placements for youth ages 10-17 decreased 35% over 5 years, from 6,236 youth in 2006 to 4,056 youth in 2010.

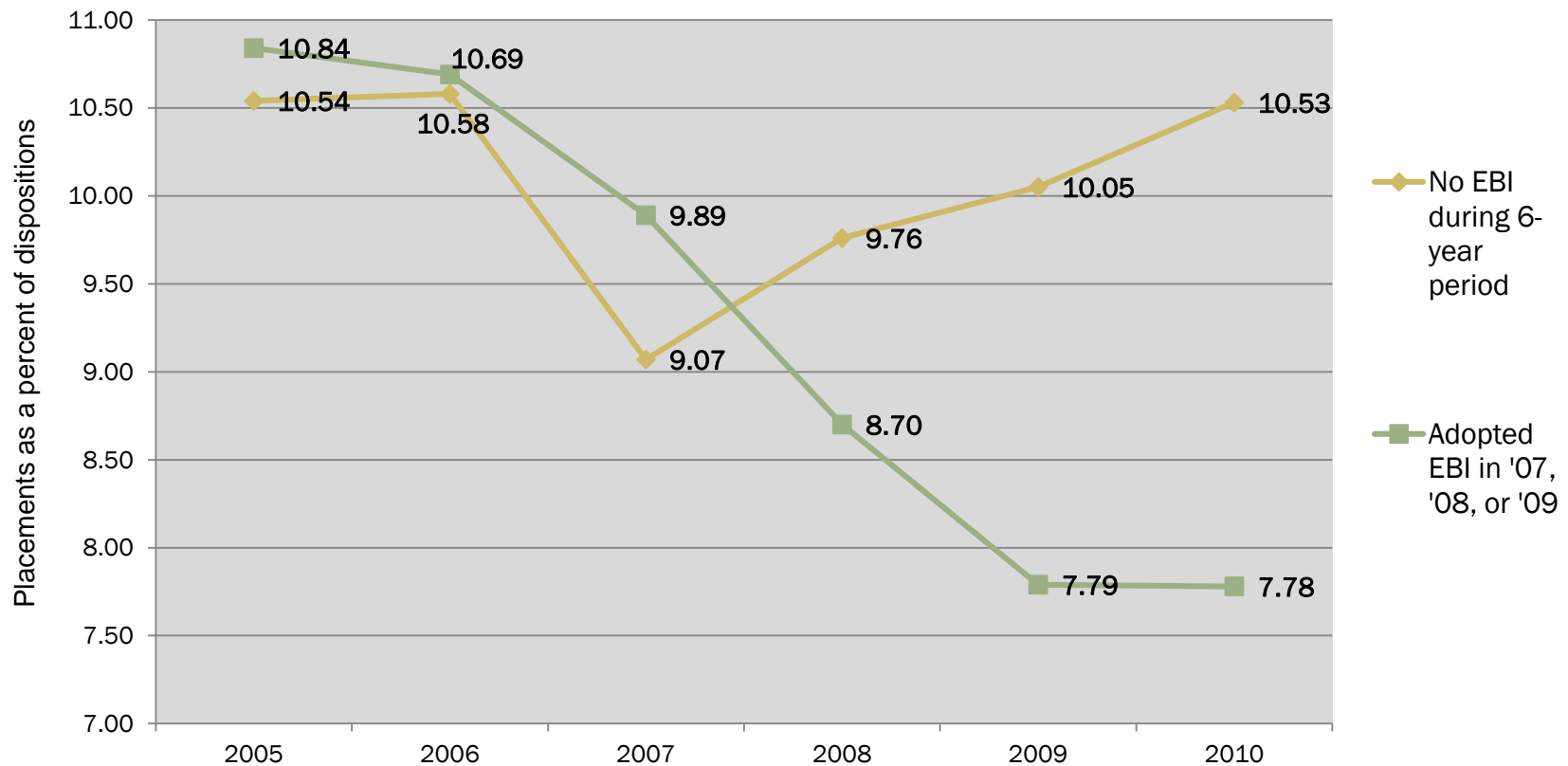
Source of Data: Pennsylvania Office of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services

County Comparisons

- 8 counties that did not have any EBI from 2006-2010 were compared to 11 counties that began the implementation of their first EBI between 2007 and 2009. Placement rates were totaled across the counties in each group.
- Group 1, Counties without an EBI 2006-2010: Bedford, Carbon, Franklin, Fulton, Lebanon, Schuylkill, Somerset, and Susquehanna
- Group 2, Counties beginning implementation 2007-2009: Allegheny, Berks, Cameron, Clarion, Elk, Forest, Lackawanna, McKean, Monroe, Pike, and Potter

County Comparisons

Juvenile Court Placement Rates:
A comparison of counties with and without an EBI

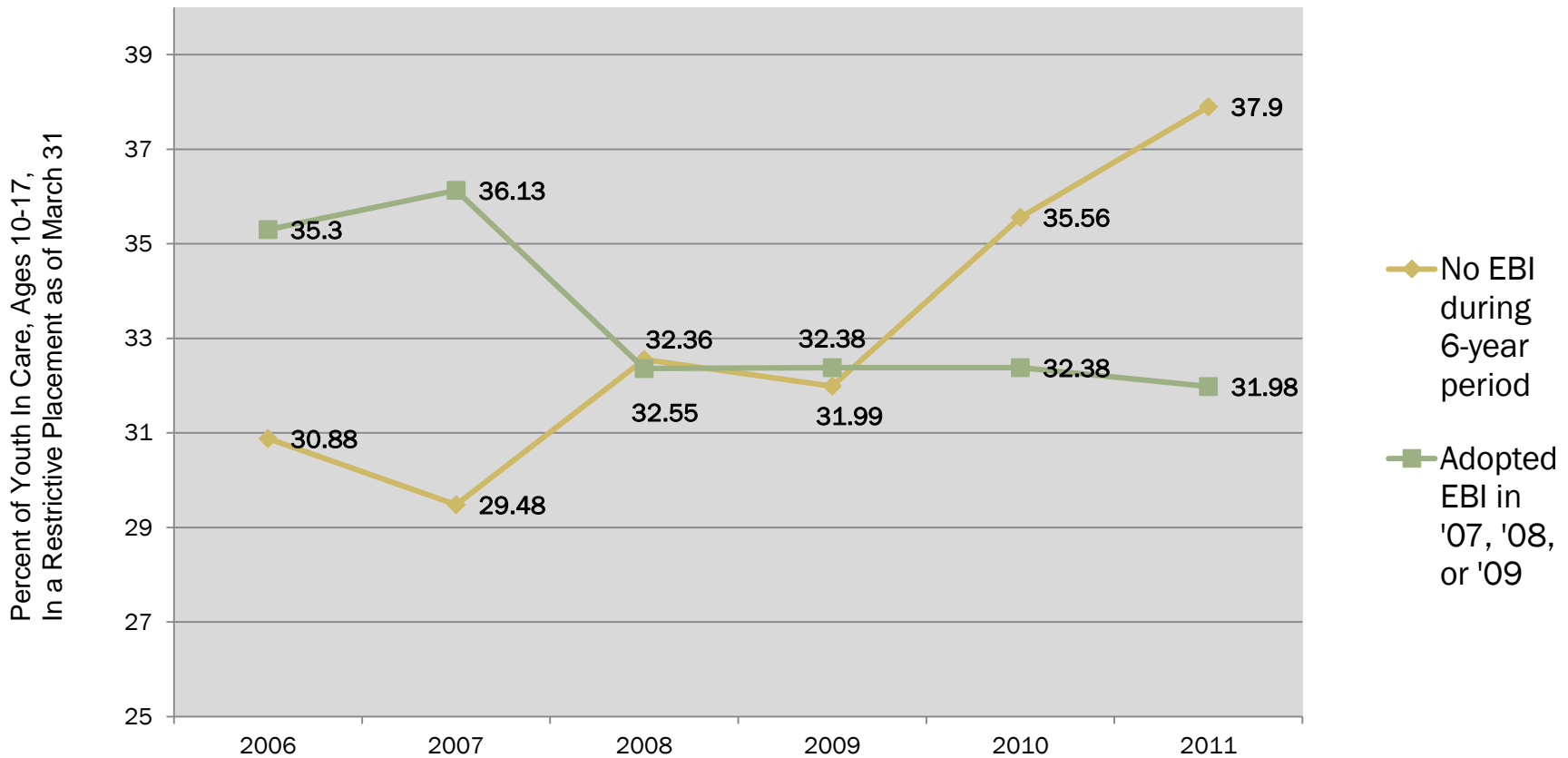


County Comparisons

- ∞ The Juvenile Justice placement rate for the two groups was comparable prior to adopting an EBI.
 - The placement rate for counties that did not adopt an EBI dropped temporarily, but then returned to its 2005 level. There was virtually no change in placement rate from 2005 to 2010.
 - Counties who began an EBI during the intervening years saw a 28% decrease in the rate of placements, from 10.84% in 2005 to 7.78% in 2010. There was a steady decrease over the 6-year period.

County Comparisons

Children & Youth Placements:
A comparison of counties with and without an EBI



County Comparisons

- ⌘ At baseline, counties that went on to adopt an EBI had a higher rate of Children & Youth placements than the counties that did not go on to adopt an EBI
 - From 2007 to 2008, restrictive placements decreased significantly for counties that adopted at least one EBI, then remained fairly steady. This group saw an overall decrease of 9% in restrictive placement rates, from 35.3% of youth in 2006 to 31.98% of youth in 2010.
 - Counties choosing not to adopt an EBI saw a steady increase in the percentage of youth in restrictive placements. Over six years the placement rate increased 22%, from 30.88% to 37.90%.

Conclusions

- ☞ The number of EBI programs and the number of Pennsylvania counties implementing an EBI have grown steadily over the past 7 years.
- ☞ Across all placement types (Juvenile Justice, C&Y, M.A.-funded) there have been decreases in the numbers and rates of placement.
- ☞ As a whole, counties implementing EBIs have shown substantial decreases in placement rates while counties without EBIs have shown no change or even increases.

Thank You!

For more information including materials from this presentation:

EPISCenter
206 Towers Building
University Park, PA 16802
Phone: (814) 863-2568
Fax: (814) 865-3936

Email: EPISCenter@psu.edu

Web: www.episcenter.psu.edu



The EPISCenter is a project of the Prevention Research Center, College of Health and Human Development, Penn State University, and is supported by funding from the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency and the Pennsylvania Department of Public Welfare as a component of the Resource Center for Evidence-Based Programs and Practices.