



Provincial
Human
Services &
Justice
Coordinating
Committee



Gendered Pathways to Crime

Thursday, April 30, 2015

Heather Lumley, MA – Executive Director, St. Leonard's
Community Services, London and Region



HSJCC Webinar

Thank you to **CMHA Ontario and the Evidence Exchange Network (EENet)** for providing support to host this webinar!

- To ask a question, please type your question in the chat box.
- Power-point presentation will be emailed to you following the webinar.
- Please complete the brief feedback survey following the webinar.

Overview of Presentation

1. About the HSJCC
2. Gendered Pathways to Crime
3. Questions & Comments



Presenters

Introduction

- *Michael Dunn, Provincial HSJCC Co-Chair*

Presentation

- *Heather Lumley, MA - Executive Director, St. Leonard's Community Services, London and Region*

HSJCC Network

- Established based on the *Provincial Strategy to Coordinate Human Services and Criminal Justice Systems in Ontario (1997)*
- Responding to a recognized need in the province to coordinate resources and services, and plan more effectively for people who are in conflict with the law
- Priority consideration is for people with a serious mental illness, developmental disability, acquired brain injury, drug and alcohol addiction, and/or fetal alcohol syndrome

HSJCC Network

HSJCC Network is comprised of

- 43 Local HSJCCs
 - 14 Regional HSJCCs
 - Provincial HSJCC
- 
- Each HSJCC is a voluntary collaboration between health and social service organizations, community mental health and addictions organizations and partners from the justice sector including crown attorneys, judges, police services and correctional service providers
 - Funded by the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care

Provincial HSJCC



Provincial HSJCC consists of

- Regional HSJCC Chairs representing their Regions
- Ex-officio members from important stakeholder groups such as Correctional Service of Canada, Ontario Provincial Police and Ontario Association of Chiefs of Police, Legal Aid Ontario, and Community Networks of Specialized Care
- Ex-officio representatives from 5 Provincial Ministries:
 - Attorney General
 - Children and Youth Services
 - Community and Social Services
 - Community Safety and Correctional Services
 - Health and Long-Term Care



Provincial
Human
Services &
Justice
Coordinating
Committee



Canadian Mental
Health Association
Ontario
Mental health for all

Enet
Evidence Exchange Network
for Mental Health and Addictions

Upcoming Webinars

1. **March 26, 2015, 12 pm to 1 pm** – Pre-Charge Diversion
2. **April (date and time to be determined), 2015** –
Hamilton Rapid Response Team

Stay tuned for further details on these webinars!



@HSJCC



Provincial
Human
Services &
Justice
Coordinating
Committee



Canadian Mental
Health Association
Ontario
Mental health for all



Evidence Exchange Network
for Mental Health and Addictions

Contact Information

For more information about the Provincial HSJCC, or to join the mailing list visit: www.hsjcc.on.ca

For more information about CMHA Ontario, visit: www.ontario.cmha.ca

For more information about EENet, visit: www.eenet.ca



@HSJCC

GENDERED PATHWAYS TO CRIME

Heather Lumley, MA

Executive Director

St. Leonard's Community Services,

London and Region

April 2015

St. Leonard's Community Services, London and Region

- 19 different community programs
- 12-65+ male/female
- Residential Programs
 - Mental Health Programs
 - Forensic Programs
 - Developmental Delayed Support Program
- Non-Residential services
 - School Based programs
 - Youth Attendance Centre and Reintegration programs
 - Adult and Youth Diversion

Our Mission

We are a community agency dedicated to promoting positive change in all persons who are or could be in conflict with the law to realize their potential, contributing to a safer and healthier community.

Female Residential Facility Madame Louise Arbour Centre- 2007

- Federal, Provincial, Forensic(NCR) and Mental Health funded beds
- 8 beds, 24/7 support
- Primary issues:
 - Addictions
 - Sex Trade
 - Mental Health

Male Residential Facility Gallagher House - 1997

- Federal, Provincial, Forensic(NCR) and Mental Health funded beds
- 16 beds, 24/7 support
- Primary issues:
 - Addictions
 - Mental Health
 - Sex Offending Offences

Research with University of Western Ontario

- Understanding Gendered Pathways to Criminal Involvement in a Community-Based Sample: Relevance of Past Trauma with Female Offenders

Amelia S.Y. Wu 2013

- Understanding gendered criminal involvement with a community-based criminal sample: Assessing substance abuse and mental health needs

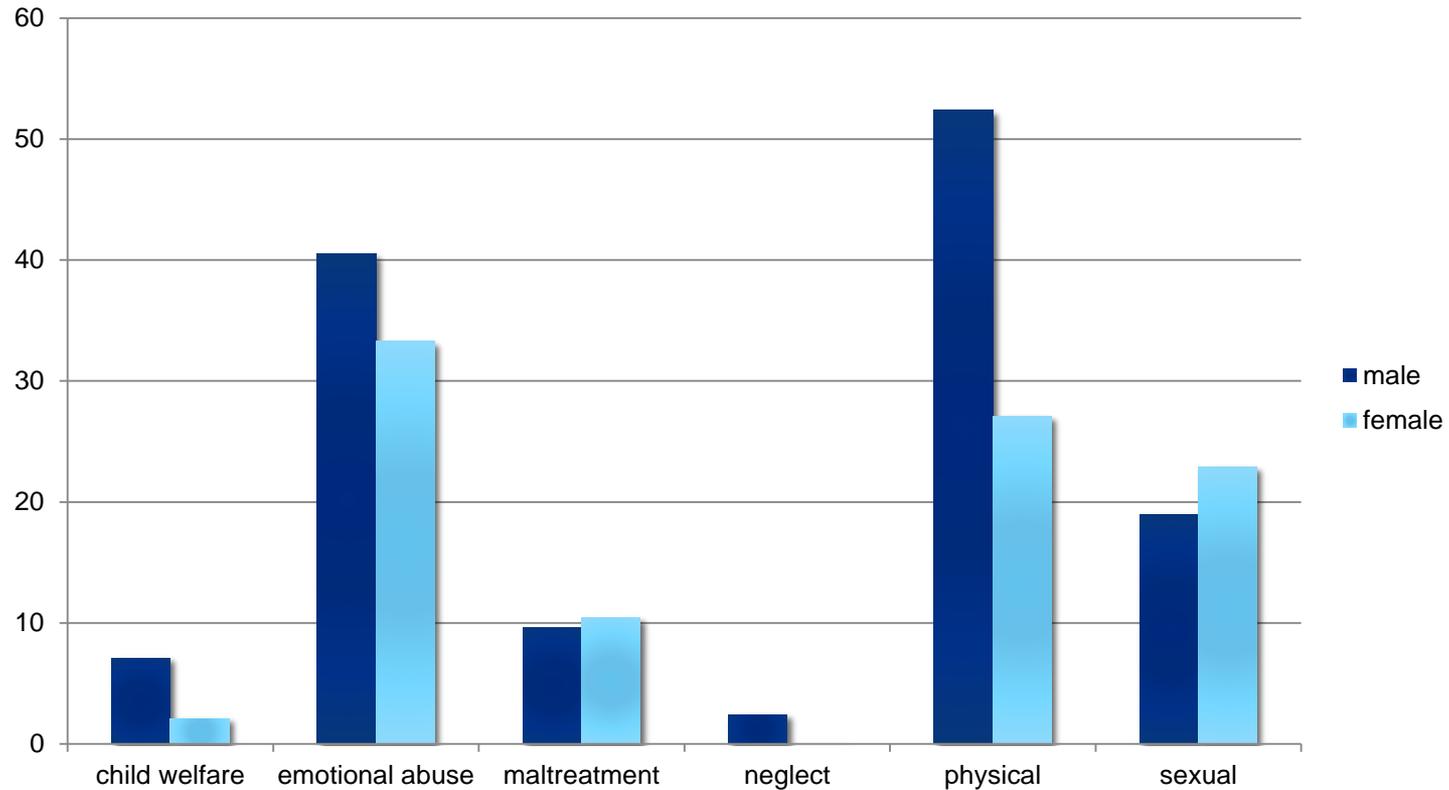
Stacy Taylor 2013

- Community Based Sample Population of individuals in Community Corrections Residential Care
- N = 90 (F=47;M=43)
- Over age of 18 yr (mean age 30.5 yrs)
- Involved in Criminal Justice system during past 2 yrs
- Items reviewed:
 - Nature of offence
 - Psychiatric history
 - Trauma history
 - Client needs

- First Study: explore the gendered effect of past trauma on the pathways to criminal convictions within a sample of community based offenders.
- Second Study : (a) how is female offenders' involvement in the criminal justice system different than male offenders? (b) How does offenders' substance abuse and mental health needs contribute to their offending behaviours? (c) Is there an association between offenders with substance abuse and mental health needs and the type of offence?

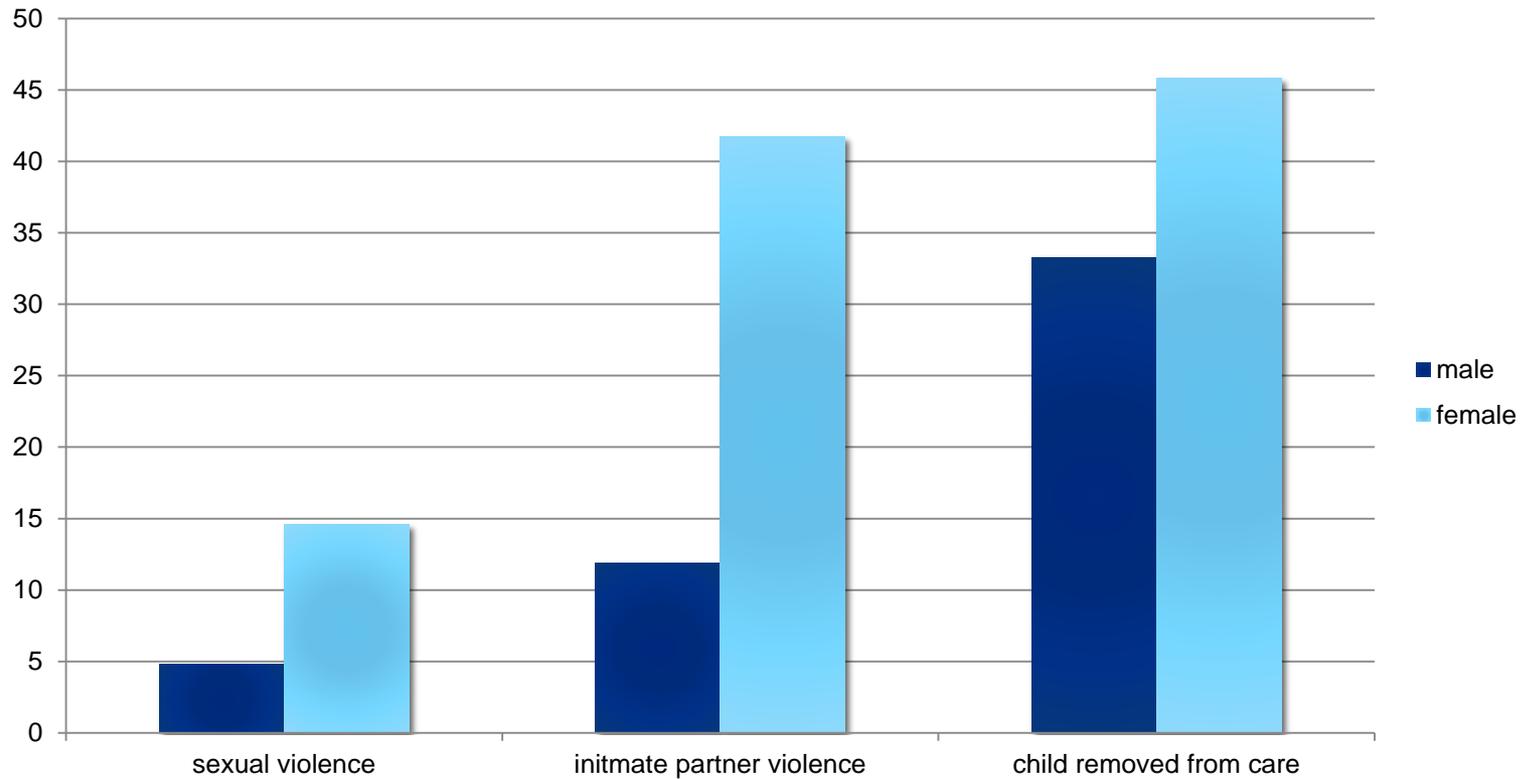
Trauma Statistics

- Child

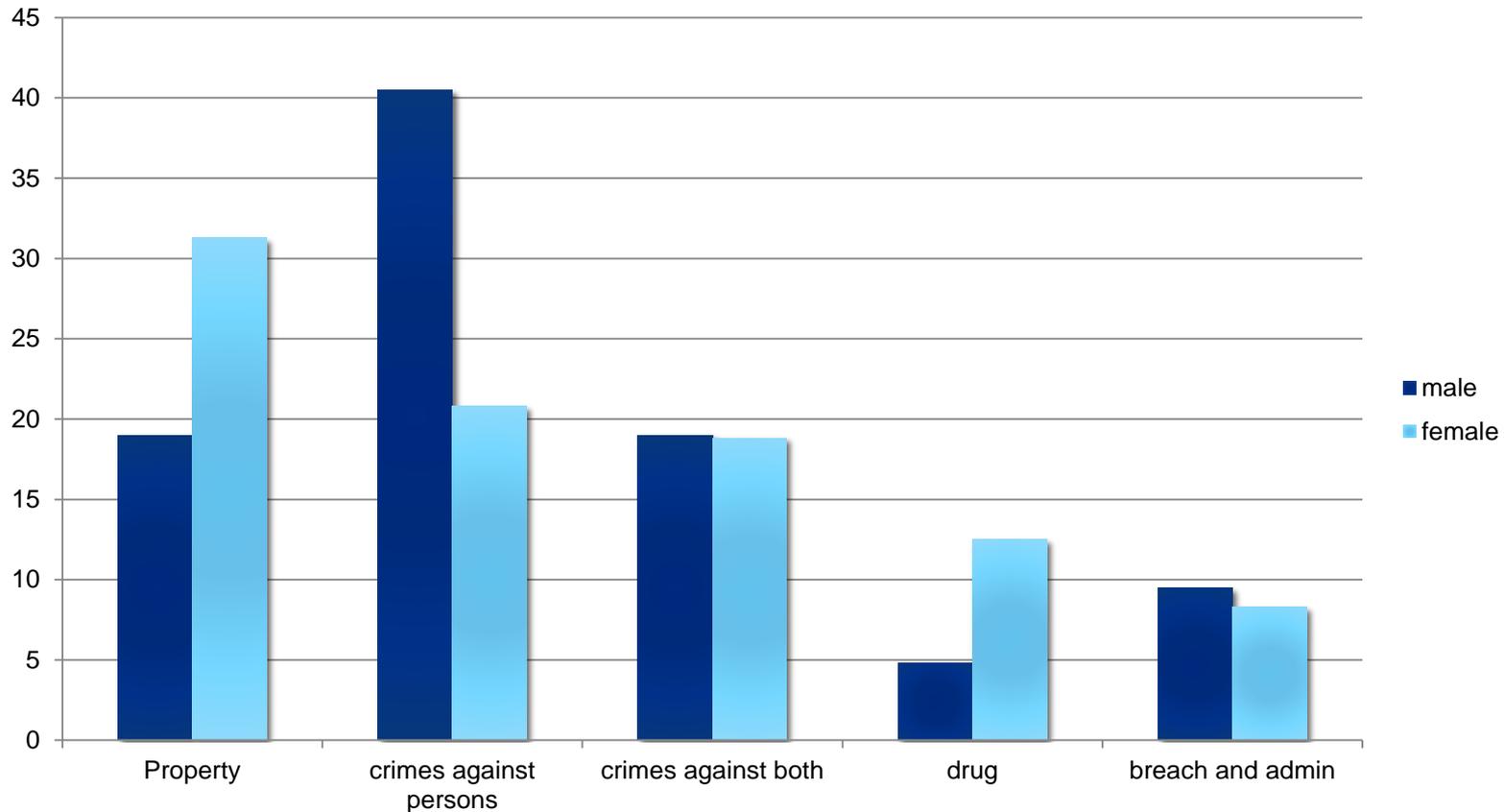


Trauma Statistics

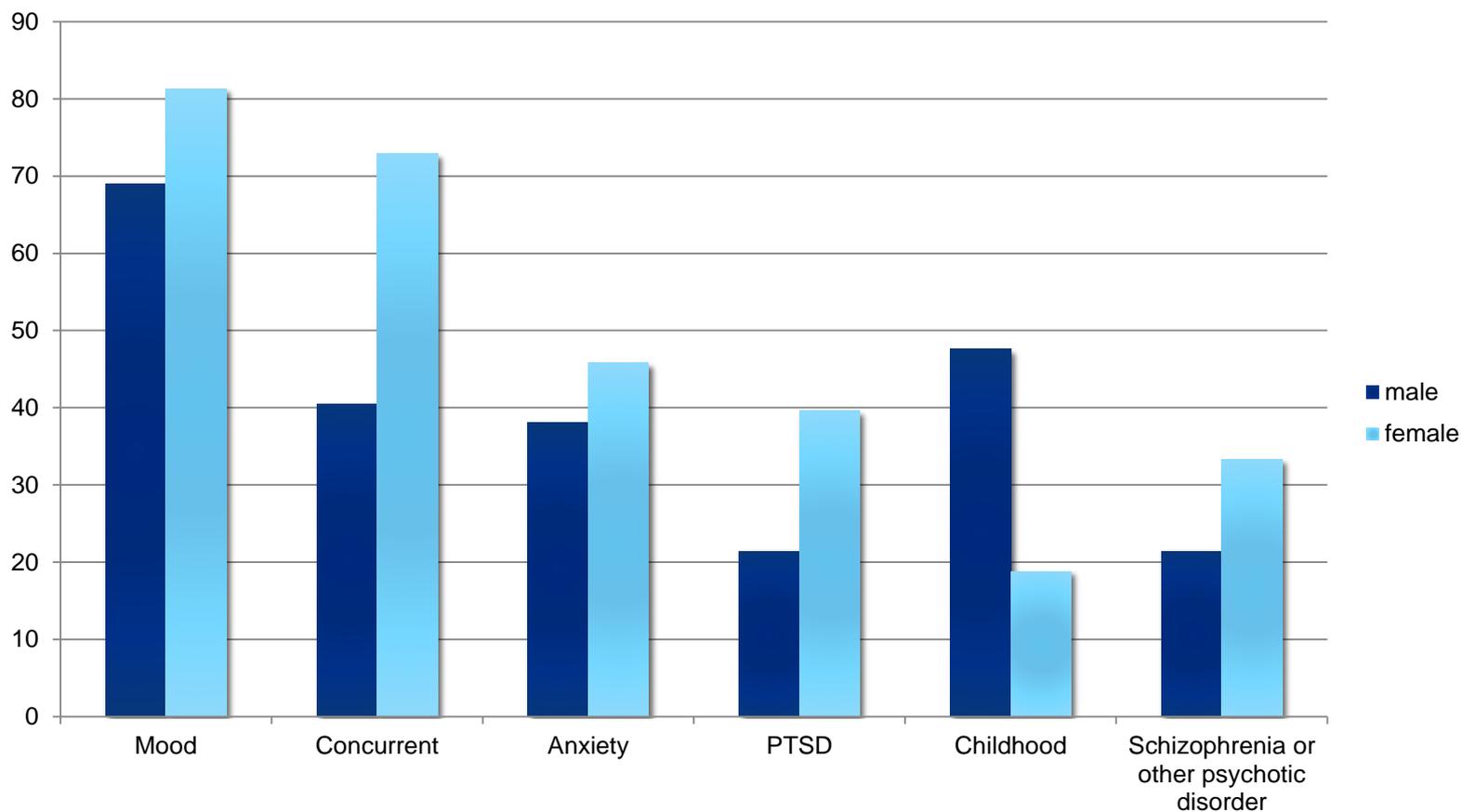
- Adult



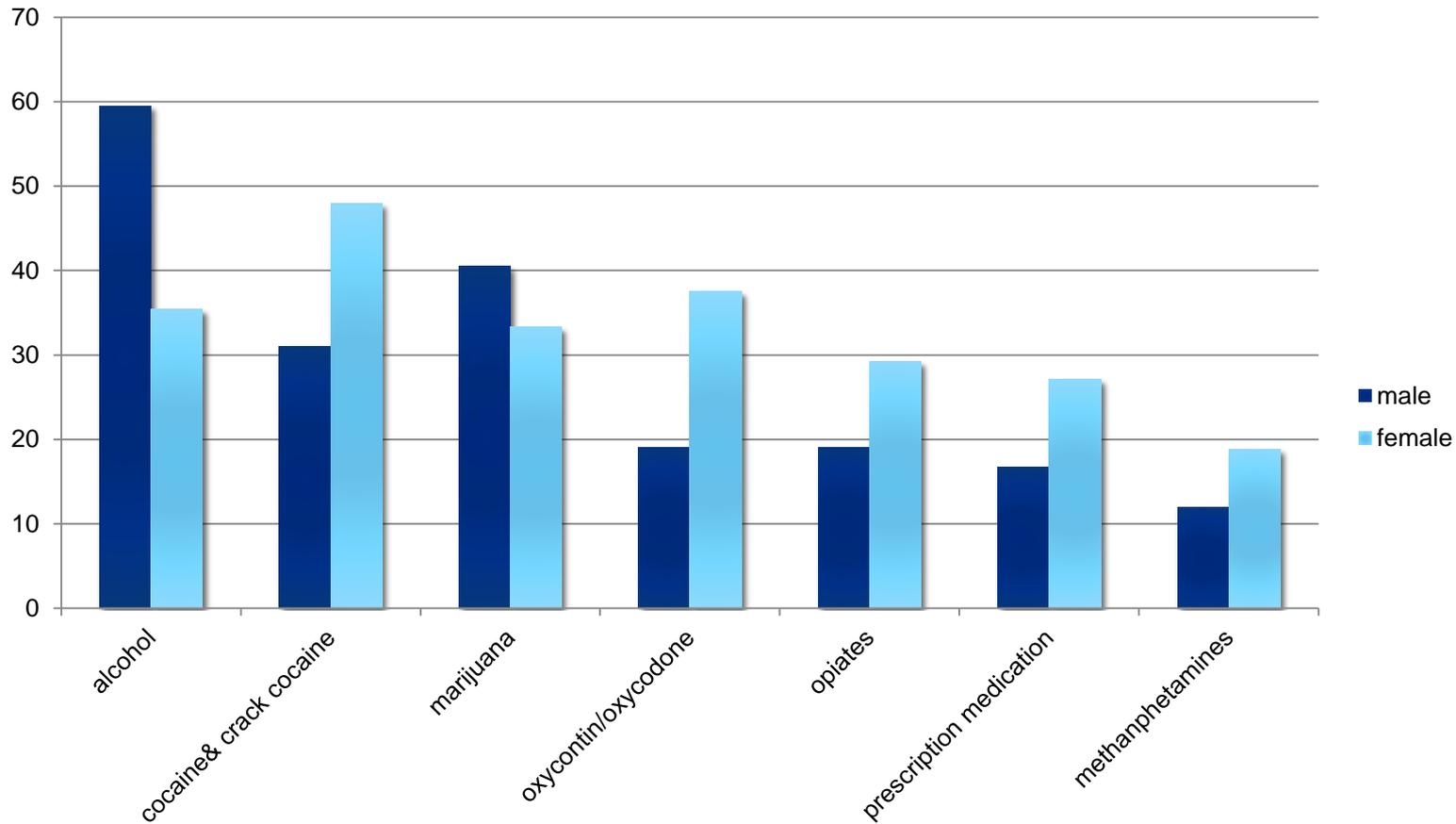
Nature of the Offence



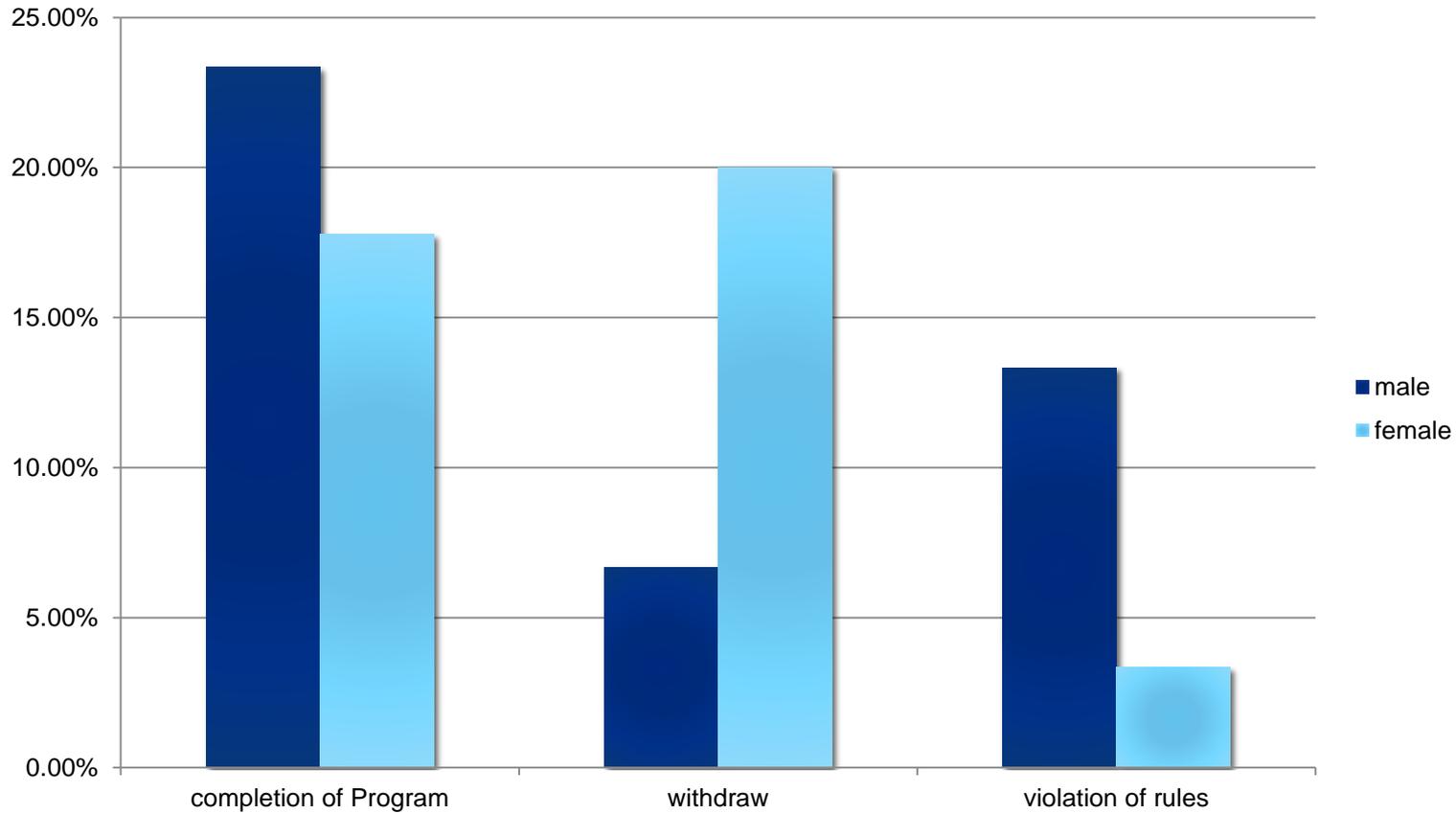
Mental Health Issues



Substance Use and Abuse



Exit Disposition



Findings from the research

- the presence of *past trauma* plays a relevant role in understanding criminal justice pathways for all offenders regardless of gender
 - female offenders - higher rates of physical and/or sexual abuse histories
 - male offenders - higher rates of emotional abuse as a child and higher rates of past physical abuse as a child
- primary concern for women with trauma experiences is their *challenge to abstain from substances*

- the *experience of trauma* is an important factor in defining women's experiences with criminal justice in terms of the nature of offence, the types of issues they face, and the needs they present with

- women and men enter the criminal justice system with different *presenting issues* in the context of mental health, trauma history, financial and legal needs, interpersonal relationship, and substance abuse
- the impact of *childhood maltreatment and adulthood victimization* is a crucial factor to consider in the development of effective treatment programs for female offenders and the planning of preventative strategies for future recidivism

The pathways for women into the correctional system may or may not be a direct function of the presence of a mental disorder, but the fact of a history of victimization/mental health disorder will play an important role in womens' responses to a correctional environment and the nature of the programming that women require. (Leschied, 2011)

The overwhelming majority of offenders suffering from mental illness in prison do not generally meet the admission criteria that would allow them to benefit from the services provided in a regional treatment centre. They stay in general institutions, and their illnesses are often portrayed as behavioural problems or....are labeled as disciplinary as opposed to health issues.

Howard Sapers, Correctional Investigator
Evidence to the Standing Committee of Mental Health and Drug Addiction
in the Federal Corrections System(2010)



Community Corrections

- Increased community-based resources and treatment services to address the differing needs of women and men in corrections
- Increase understanding of the differences of trauma histories and the impact of that trauma on reintegration resources and support in traditional human services delivery agencies
- Increased understanding of the nature of the offence and how that relates to the outcomes of reintegration efforts
- Increased understanding of the use of gender specific risk-need tools when assessing women's risk and needs across community corrections

- Increased traditional Mental Health and Addiction assessment and treatment options for individuals in the Criminal Justice system especially trauma-focused therapy
- Increased understanding on the relationship and gender differences with respect to program completion and treatment success
- Increased understanding on the correlation between nature of offence and program success

References

- Blanchette, Kelley. (2001). *Classifying female offenders for effective intervention: Application of the case-based principles of risk and need.*
- Bloom, Barbara. (1998). *Gender responsive programming for women offenders: Guiding principles and practices.*
- Grant, B. & Gileno, J. (2008). *The Changing Federal Offender Population Ottawa: Correctional Service Canada.*
- Hotton Mahony, Tina. (April 2011). *Women in Canada: A gender-based Statistical Report. Women in the criminal Justice system.*
- Kong & AuCoin. (2008). *Female Offenders in Canada. Statistics Canada*
- Leschied, Alan W. (March 2011). *The treatment of the Incarcerated Mentally Disordered Women Offender: A synthesis of current research*
- Taylor, Stacy. (April 2013). *Understanding gendered criminal involvement with a community-based criminal sample: Assessing substance abuse and mental health needs*
- Wu, Amelia, S.Y. (April 2013). *Understanding Gendered Pathways to Criminal Involvement in a Community-Based Sample: Relevance of Past Trauma with Female Offenders.*