

Gun Arrests

20 Years of Georgia History

October 16, 2008



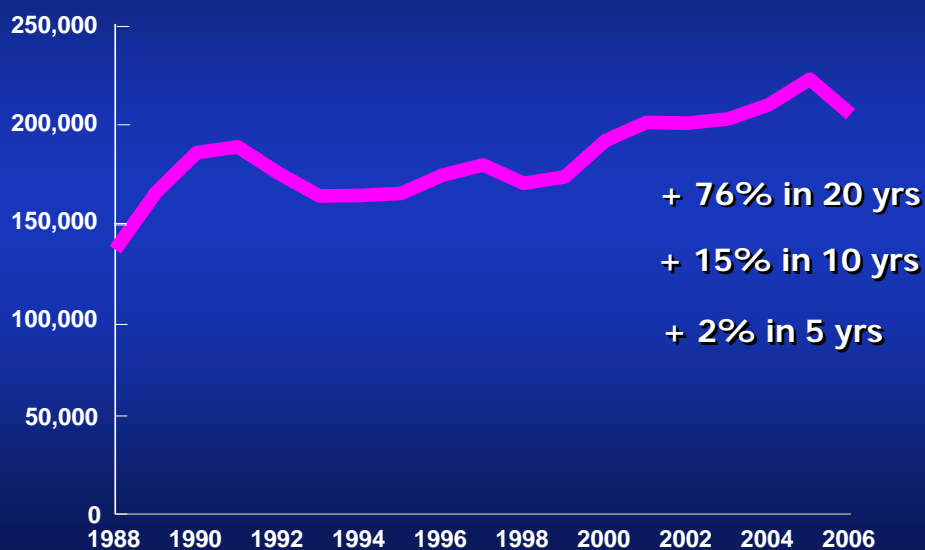
Tammy Meredith, Ph.D.
Applied Research Services, Inc.

Defining History:
20 years of arrests
defined by state
criminal history
records repository

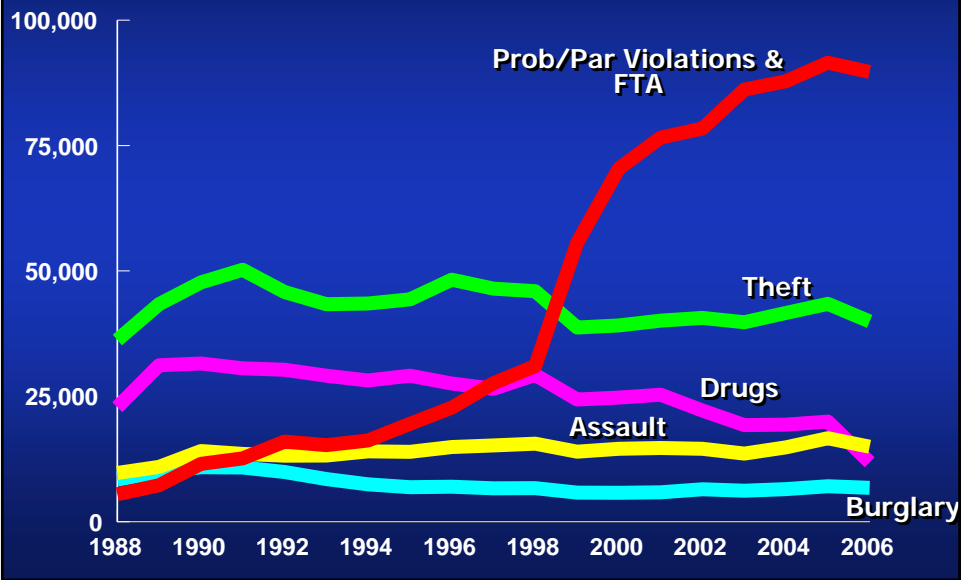
Why a Unique Approach?

- Arrest trends defined by UCR
- No UCR information on gun charges at an arrest event
- Data limitations make gun arrest analysis city-specific
- Prior research establishes value of criminal history records in policy analysis

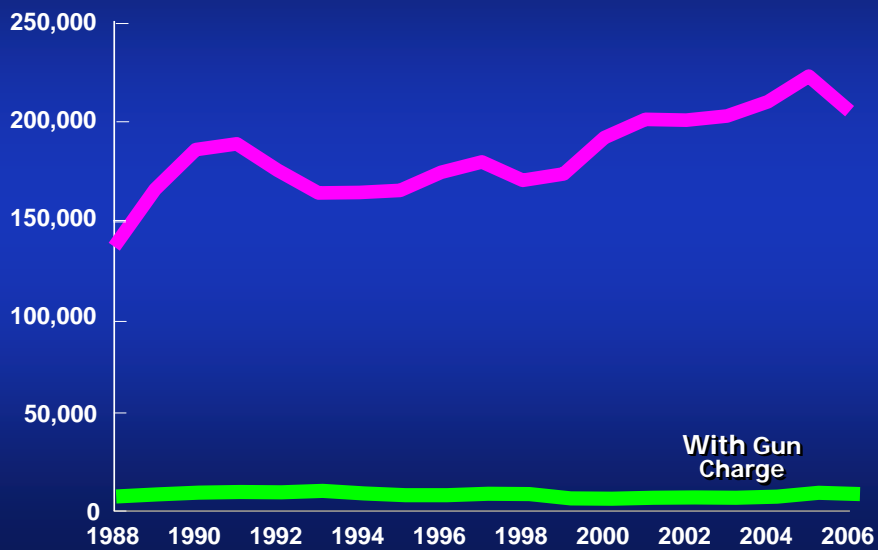
Felony Arrests in Georgia 1987 - 2006

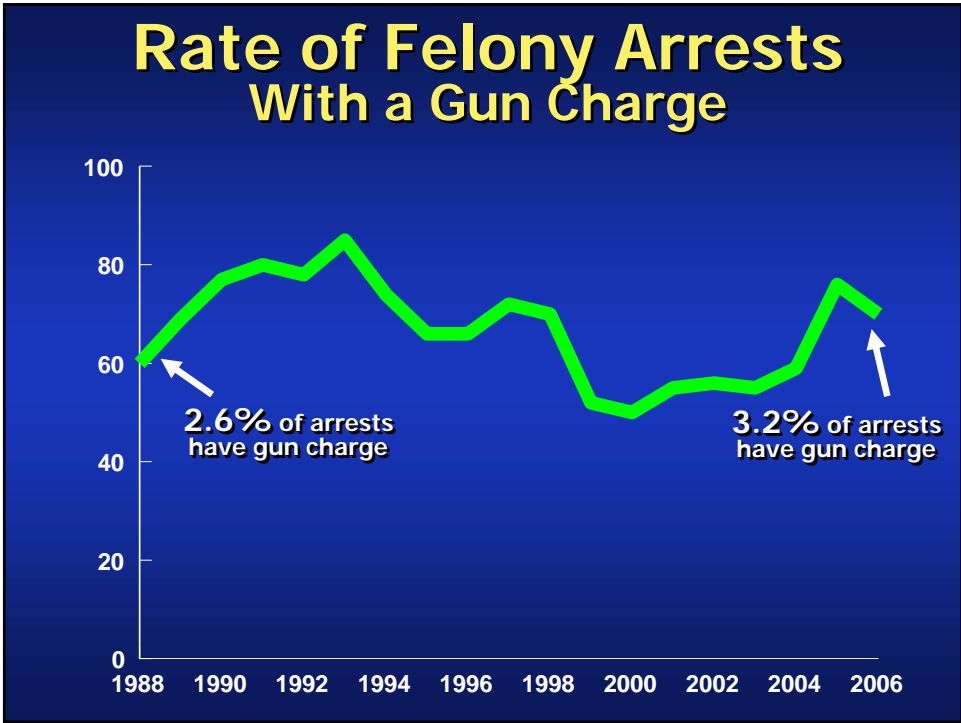
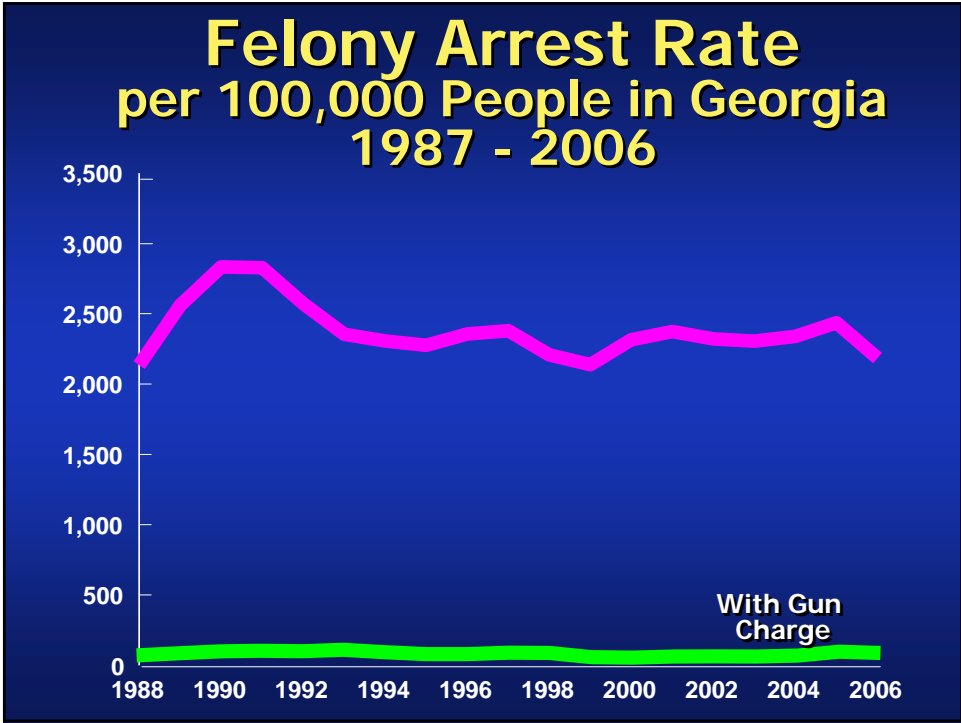


Felony Arrests in Georgia By Most Serious Crime

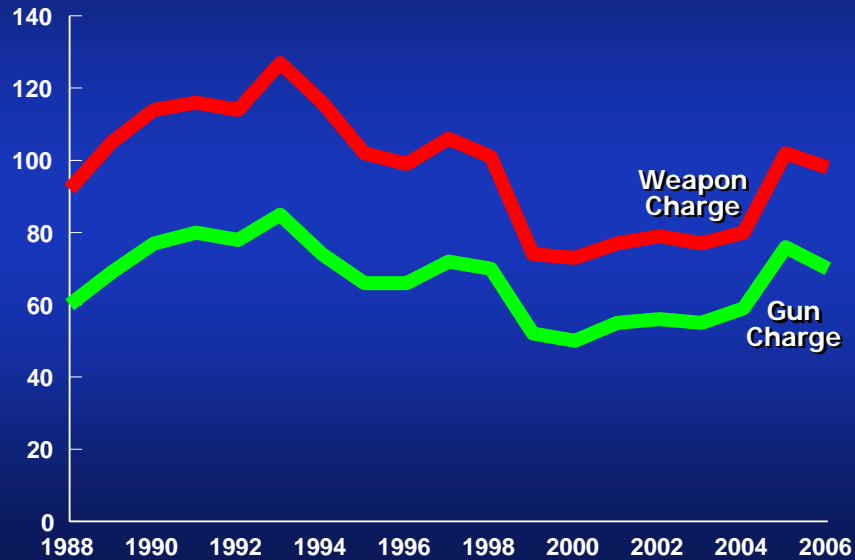


Felony Arrests in Georgia 1987 - 2006

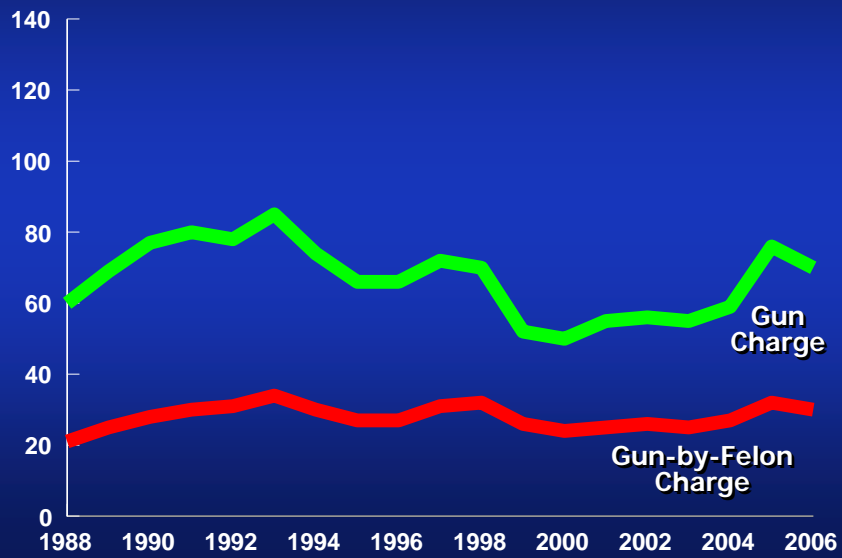




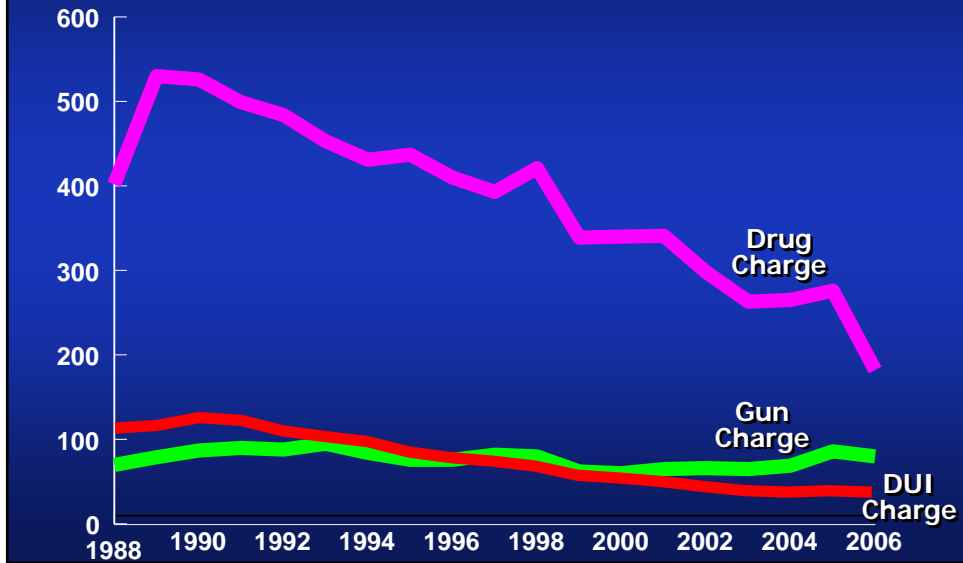
Rate of Felony Arrests With Weapon & Gun Charges



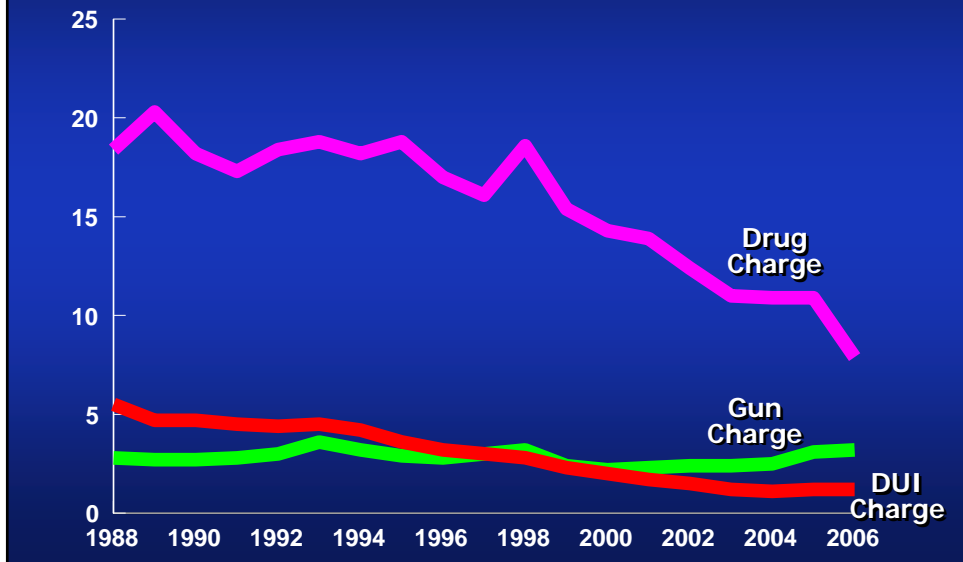
Rate of Felony Arrests With Gun & Gun-by-Felon Charges



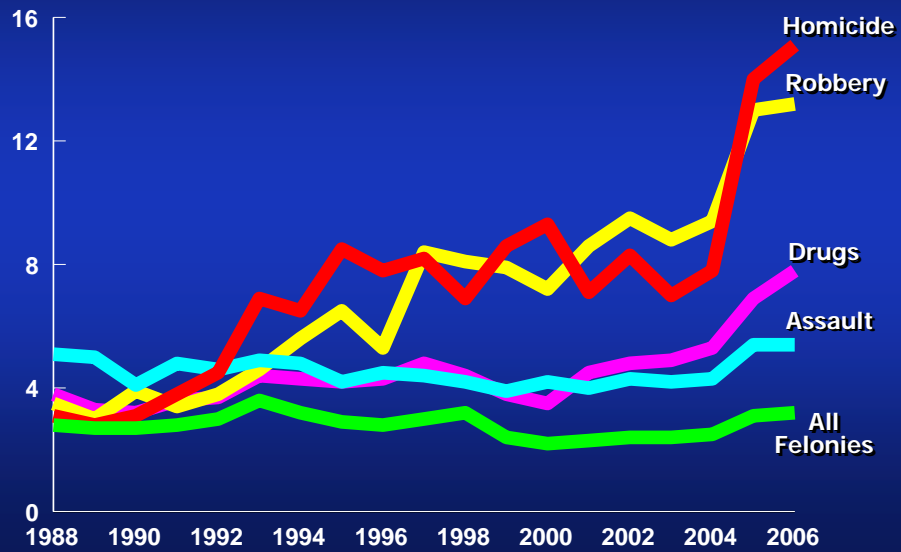
Rate of Felony Arrests With Drug, Gun & DUI Charges



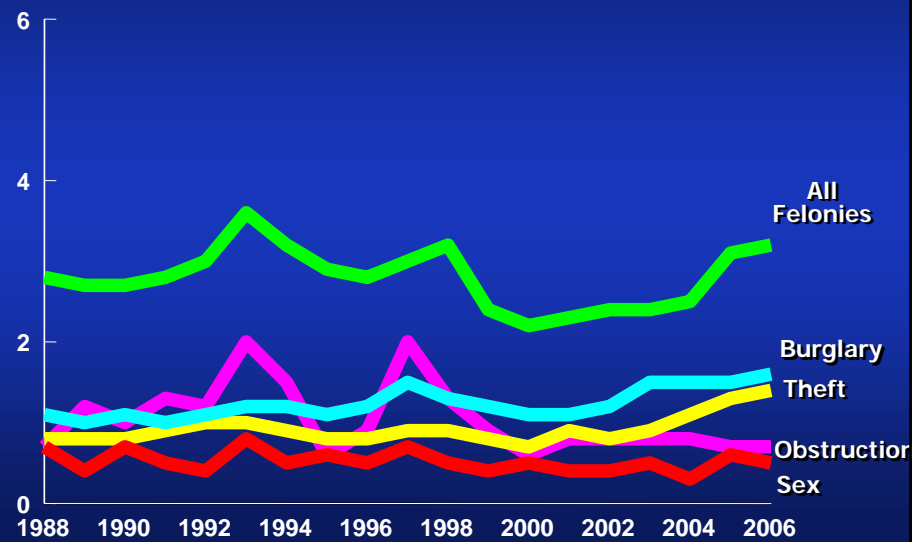
Percent of Felony Arrests With Drug, Gun & DUI Charges



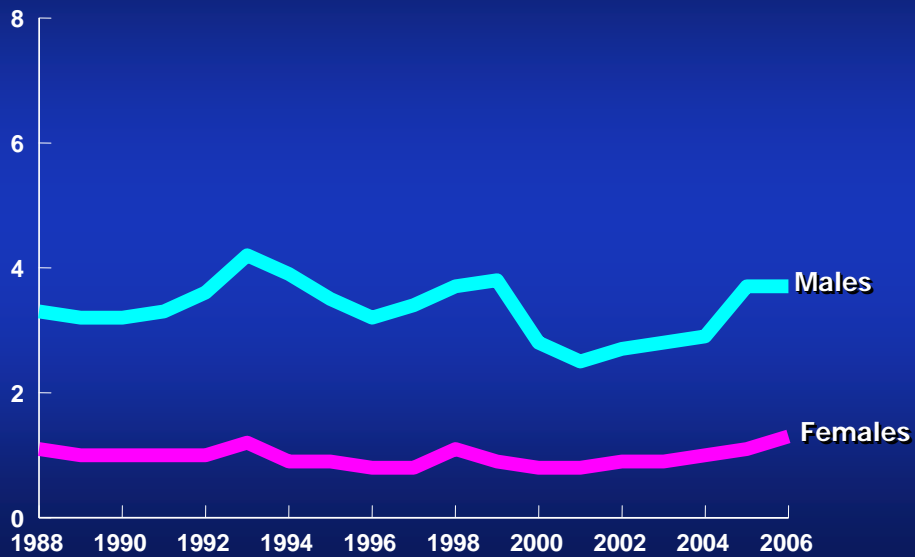
Rate of Felony Arrests With a Gun Charge by Crime Type



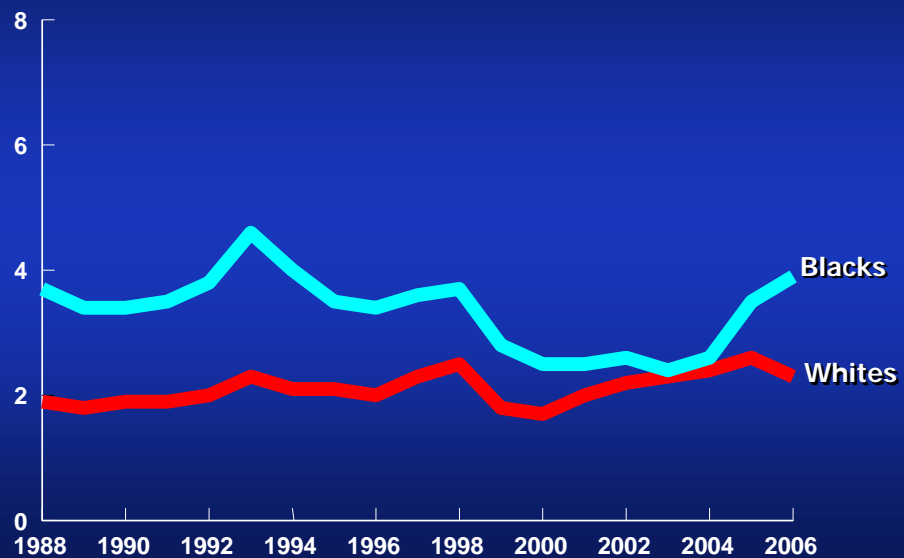
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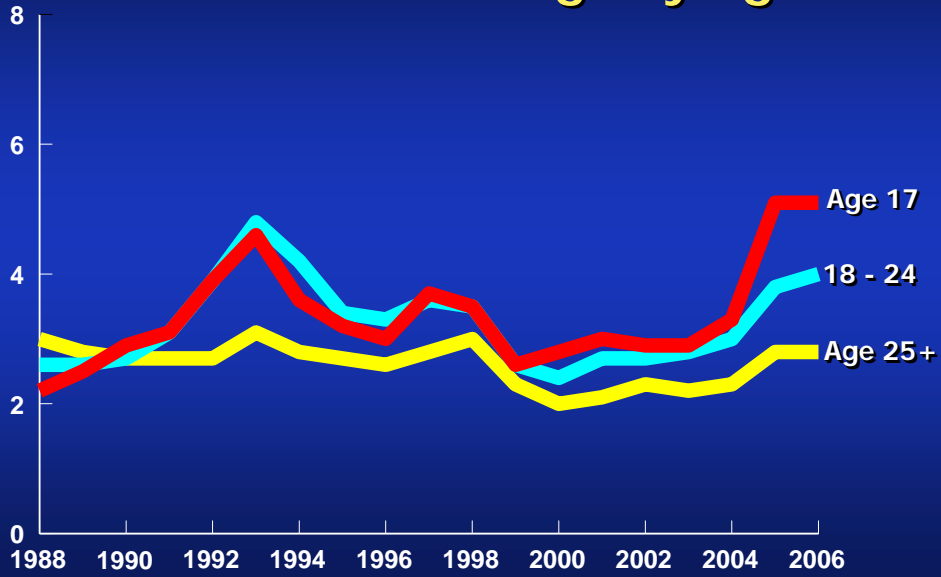
Percent of Felony Arrests With a Gun Charge by Gender



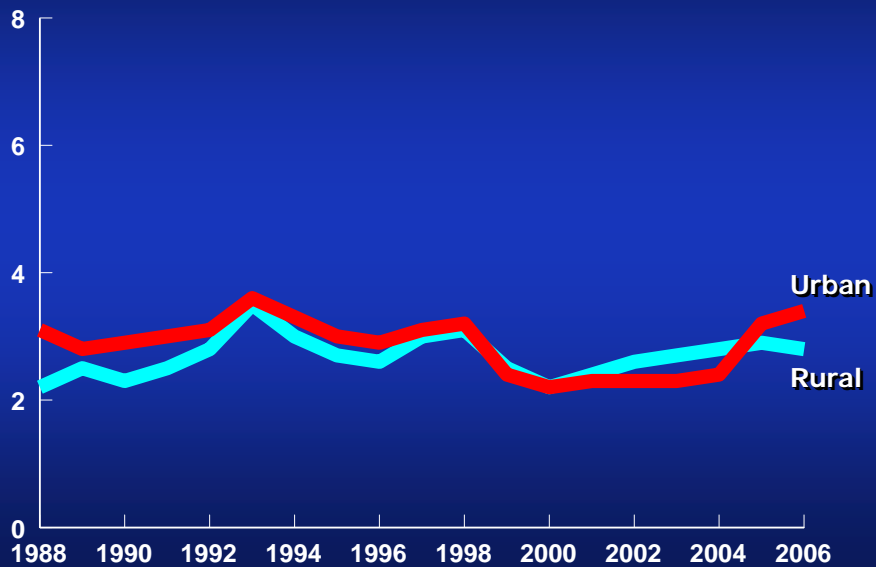
Percent of Felony Arrests With a Gun Charge by Race



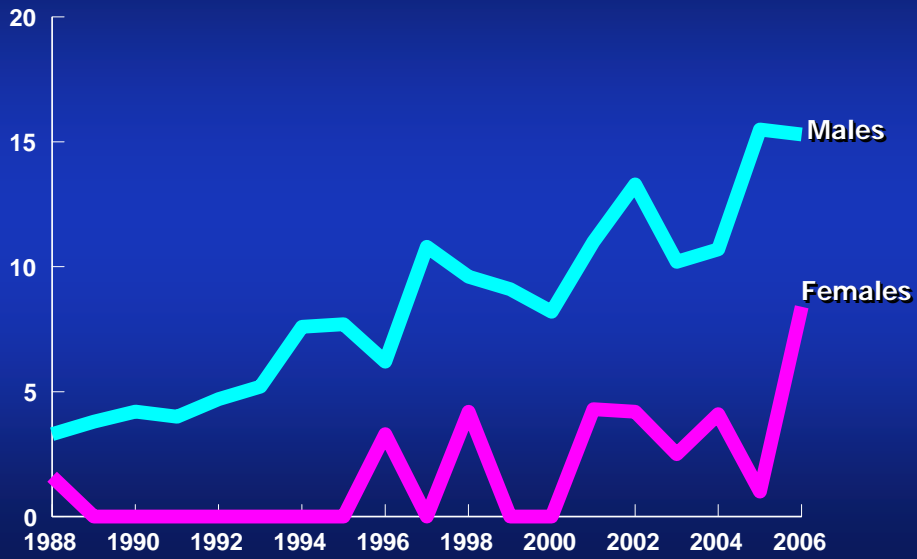
Percent of Felony Arrests With a Gun Charge by Age



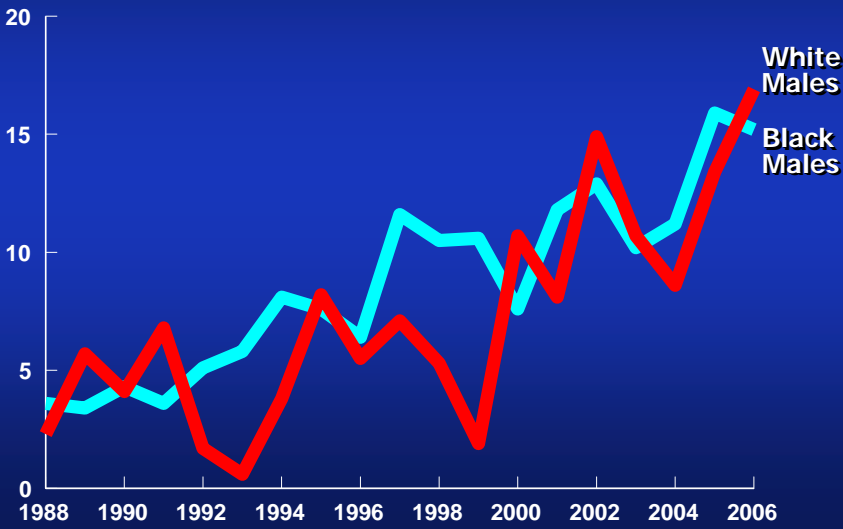
Percent of Felony Arrests With a Gun Charge by Locale



% Urban Robbery Arrests With a Gun Charge Under Age 25



% Urban Robbery Arrests With a Gun Charge Under Age 25



Concluding Thoughts

- National gun strategies not based on state or national data
- Criminal history data allows us to measure "gun use" at arrest
- Nearly 1/2 of state arrests are "rule violators"
- Looking at all arrests, gun charge is rare and stable

Concluding Thoughts

- Increase in guns with selected crimes: homicide, robbery & drug crimes
- Guns more likely to be used by males, blacks, young
- Steady downturn in black & urban gun arrests changes in recent years
- Need to examine crime & demographic-specific groups

Key Policy Changes

- Enhanced penalties for gun offenders
- Attorney General's Project Safe Neighborhoods
- Law enforcement trend of specialized gun units
- National trend of criminal history records improvement

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