

Making A Change (MAC): Preliminary Evaluation Findings

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Acknowledgement & Disclaimer

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Introduction

- SIROW, PCJCC & AzCA worked out an agreement to utilize data from a CSAT-sponsored project to examine outcomes from the Making a Change (MAC) program. The agreement was official in February, 2009.
- Permission forms and assent are collected from both youth and caregivers
- The parent grant has 290 youth enrolled
- Data are collected from youth at intake to AzCA and at 3-, 6-months post intake.
- Currently there are 63 youth enrolled in the parent grant that also participated in MAC.



Significance

- The Making a Change (MAC) unit at Pima County Juvenile Detention is a treatment readiness unit for youth slated to go to treatment.
- Studies have found that motivation improves treatment engagement.
- Adolescent typically enter treatment “unwillingly.”
- Juvenile justice is the primary referral to substance abuse treatment.
- Juvenile justice helping to motivate youth to “get ready” for treatment is a promising model for improving motivation.

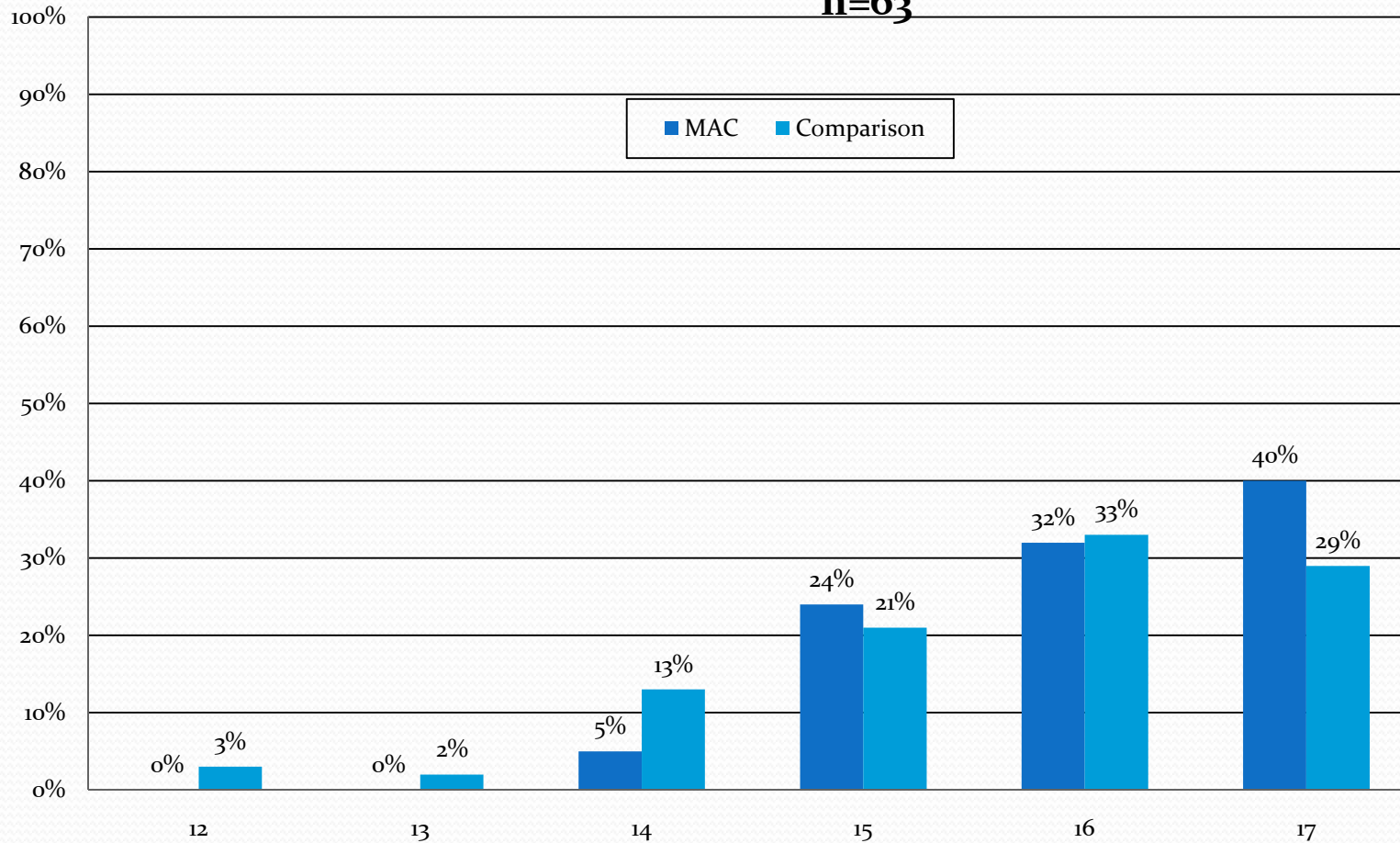


Methods

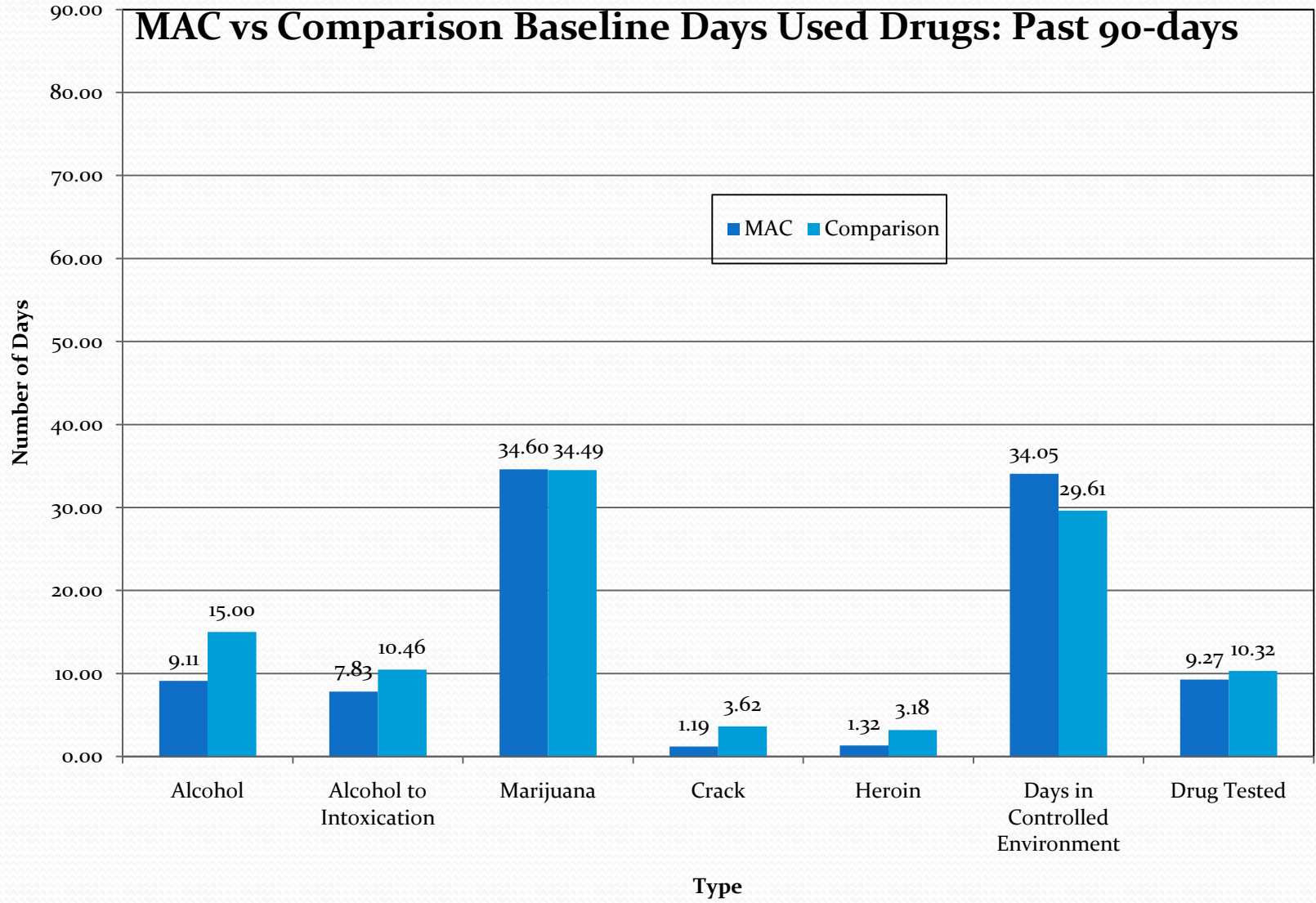
- Global Appraisal of Individual Needs (GAIN)
- Trained interviewers
- All the MAC youth that went to AzCA included.
- Comparison group: randomly selected from larger dataset
- Descriptive and inferential statistics used

MAC vs Comparison Baseline Age

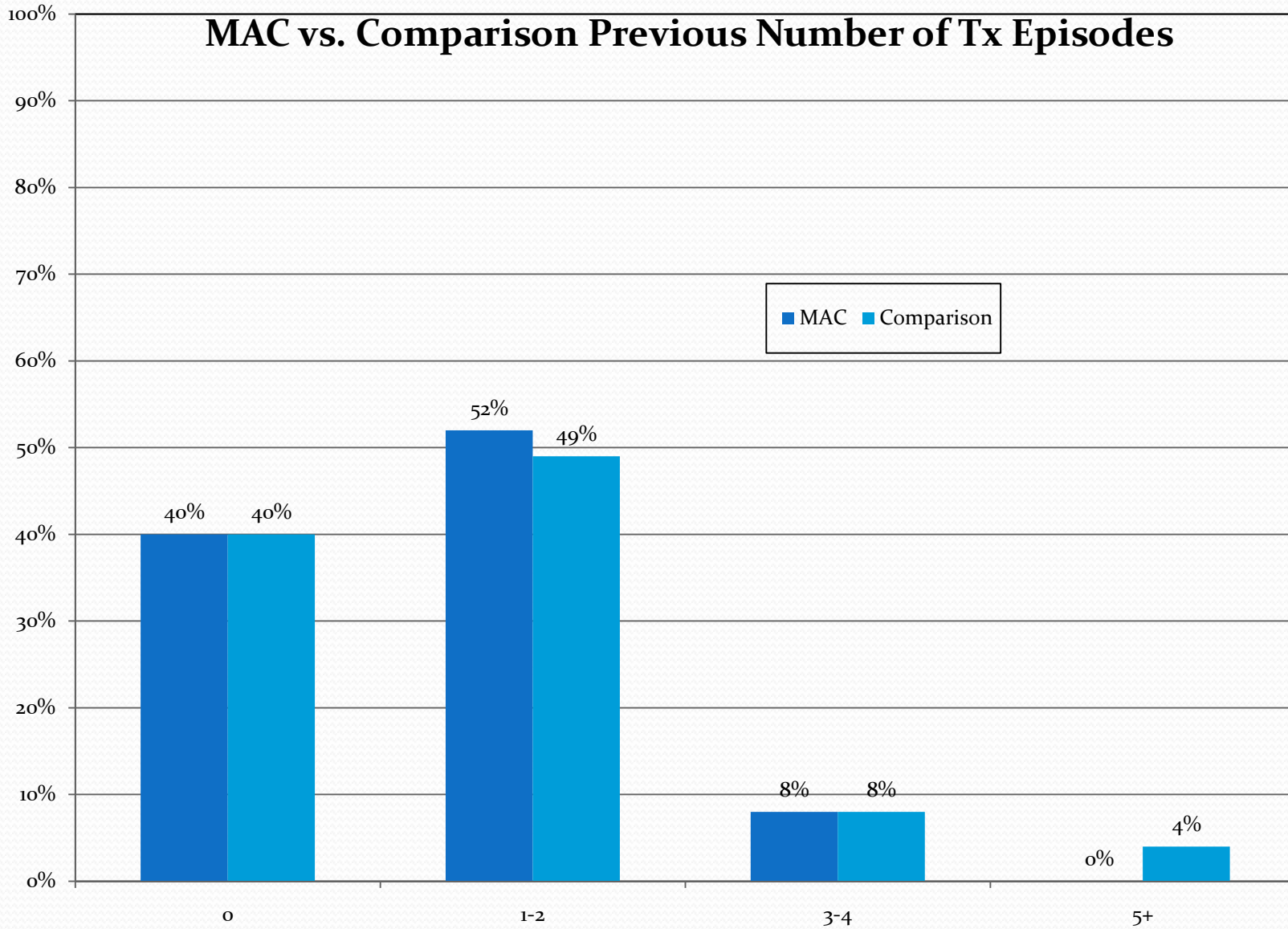
n=63

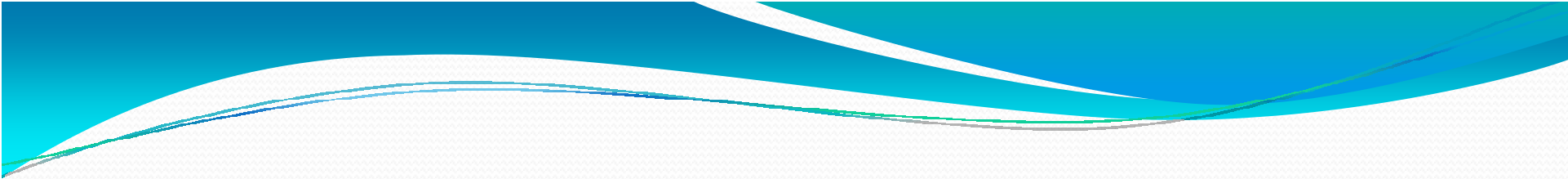


Mac: Mean=16.01; Median=16.00; Mode=17.00
Comparison: Mean=15.66; Median=16.00; Mode=16.00
 $p < .05$

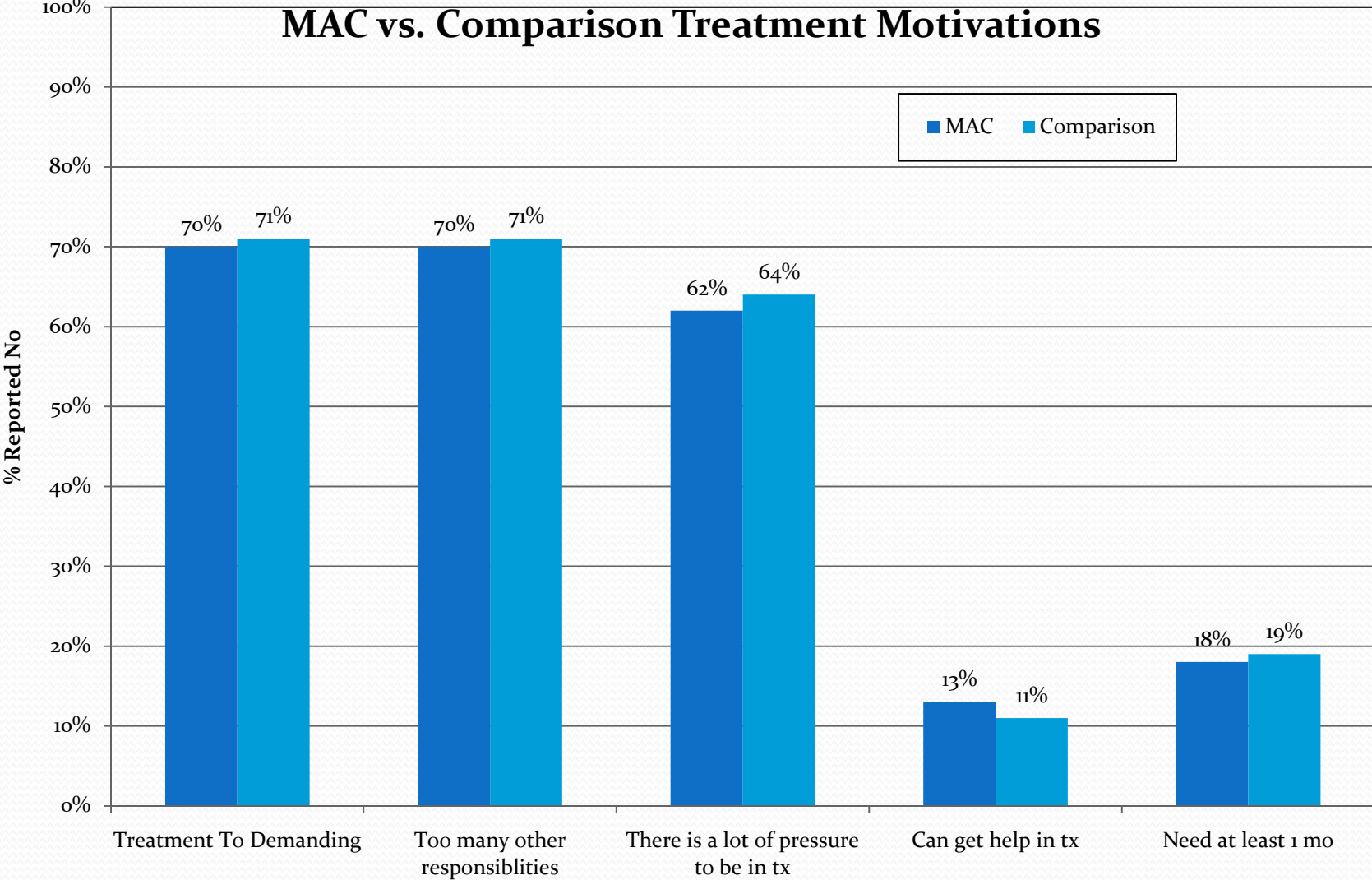


MAC vs. Comparison Previous Number of Tx Episodes



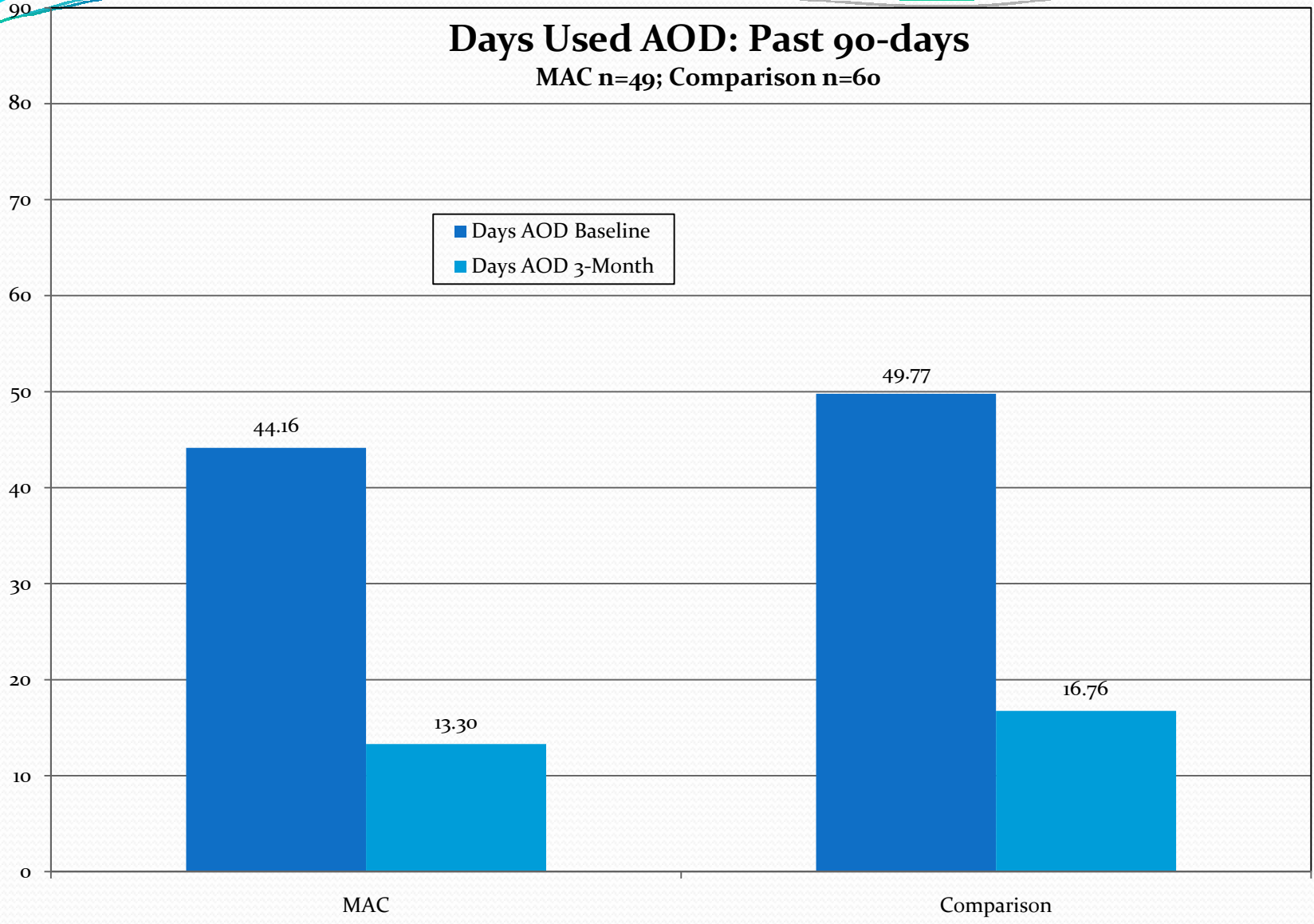


MAC vs. Comparison Treatment Motivations

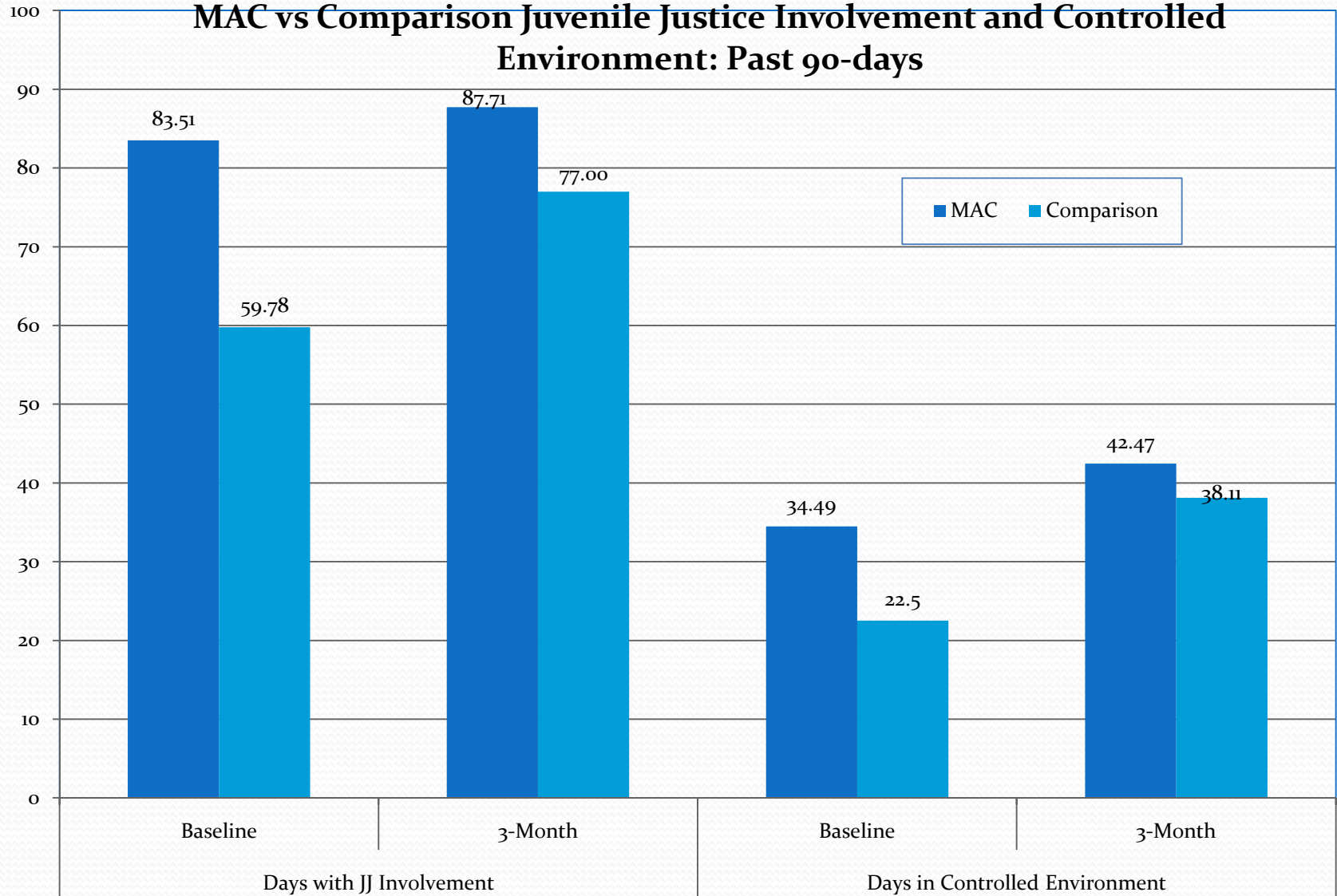


Days Used AOD: Past 90-days

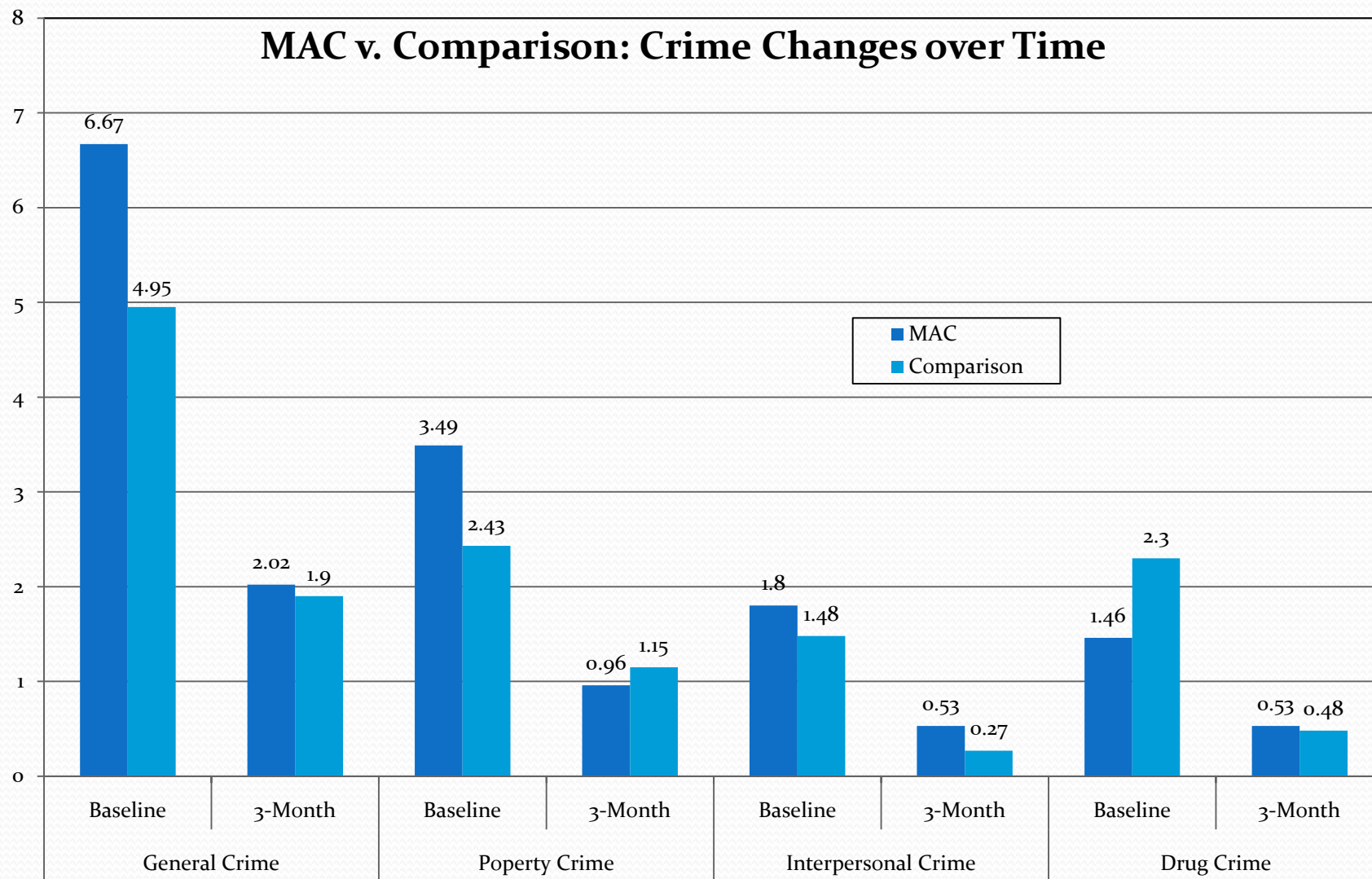
MAC n=49; Comparison n=60



MAC vs Comparison Juvenile Justice Involvement and Controlled Environment: Past 90-days



MAC v. Comparison: Crime Changes over Time





Summary

- Youth in both the MAC and Comparison group are making positive changes over time
- MAC youth are, in general:
 - Older than the comparison group
 - Have fewer treatment experiences
 - Slightly better motivation
 - Reducing substance *use* and delinquency
- These results are promising but additional analyses are necessary