

‘Mental health is core police business’

Mind (2014)

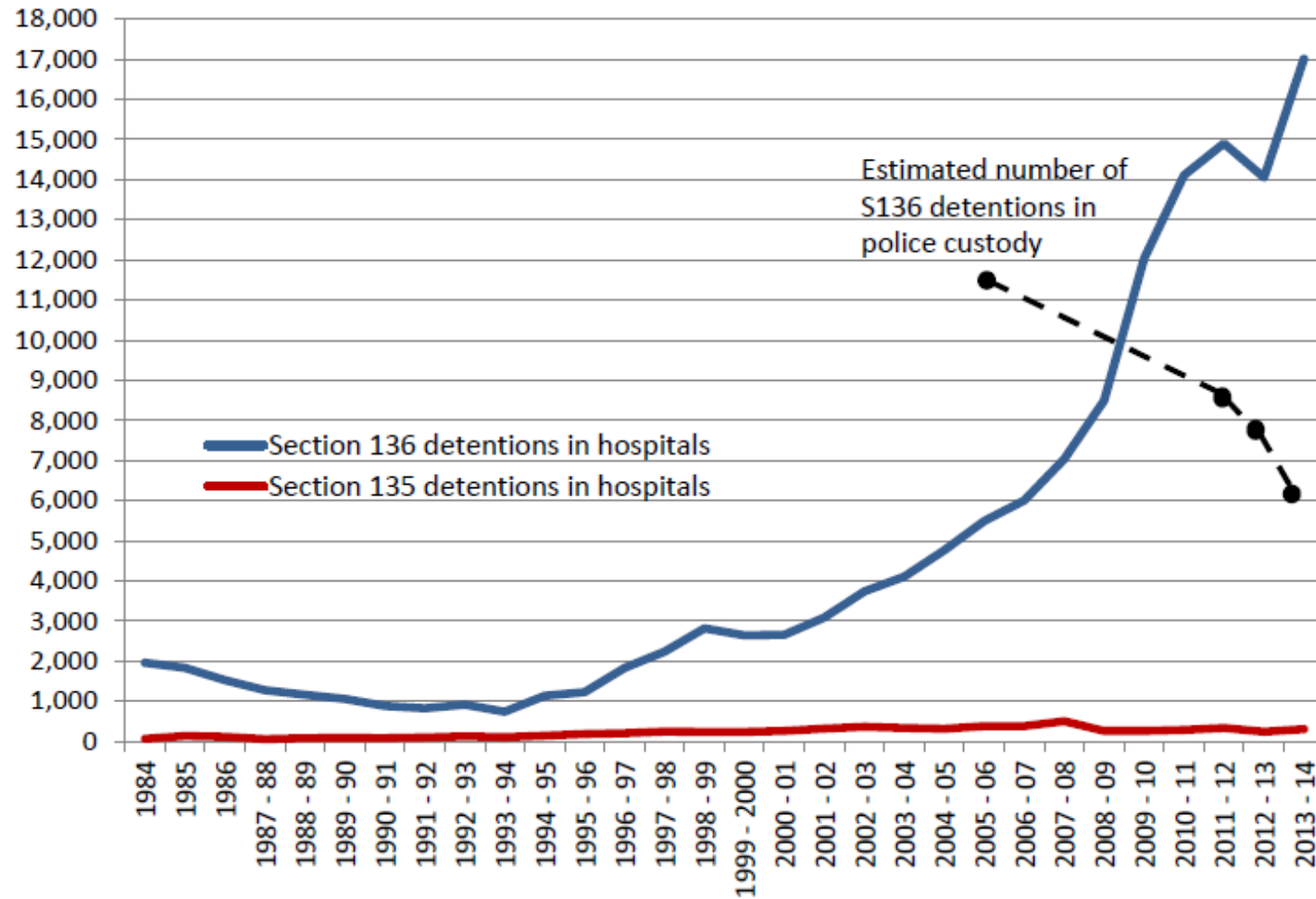
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- ▶ Mental Health Act 1983 s136(1):

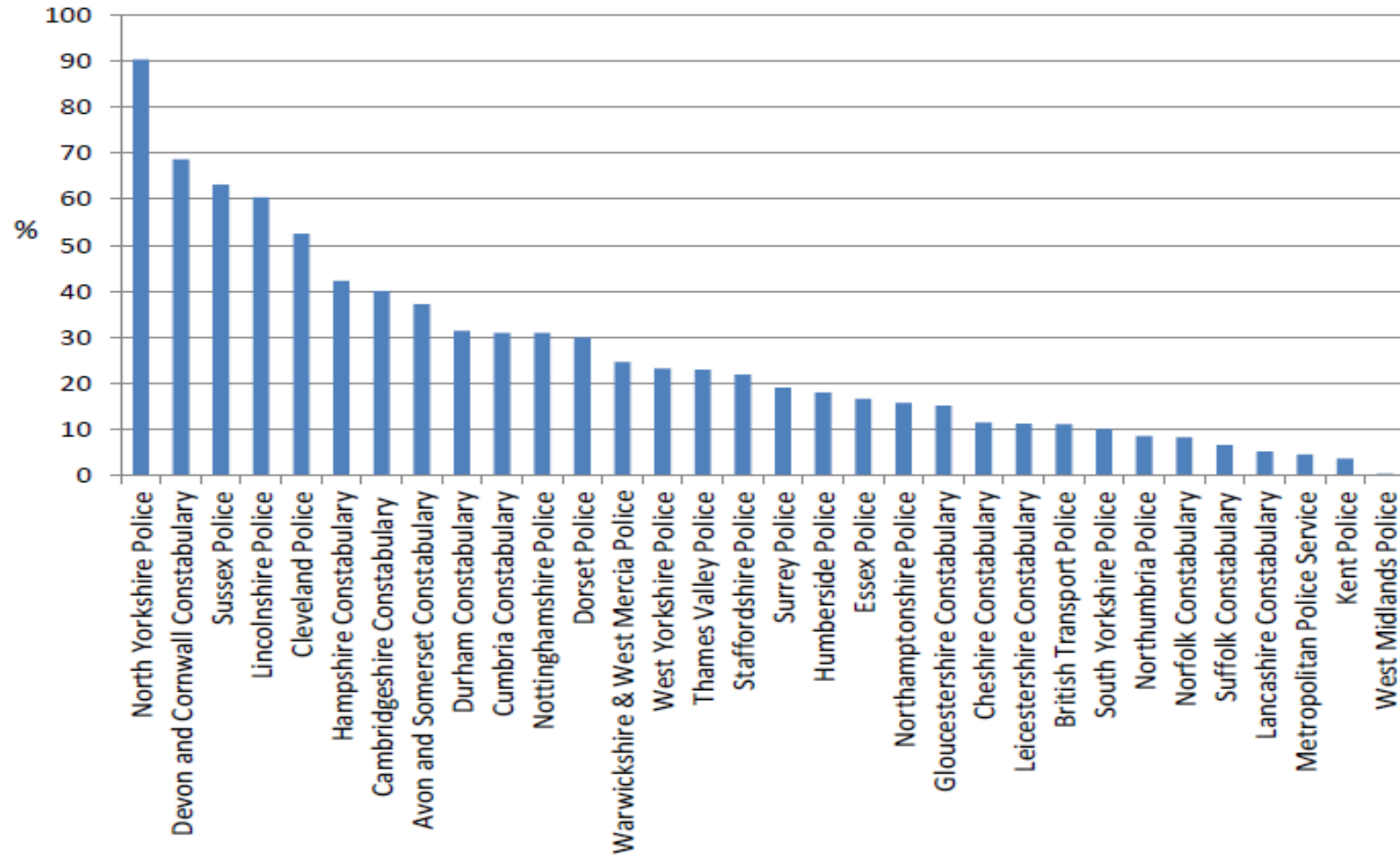
If a constable finds in a place to which the public have access a person who appears to him to be suffering from mental disorder and to be in immediate need of care or control, the constable may, if he thinks it necessary to do so in the interests of that person or for the protection of other persons, remove that person to a place of safety





The annual number of place of safety orders (Sections 136 and 135) to hospitals in England between 1984 and 2013/14

Police custody



Percentage of S136 where detention was police custody, as recorded by the police 2013/14³⁷

Crisis Care Concordat

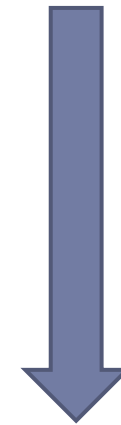
- ▶ A national agreement between services and agencies involved in crisis care and support
- ▶ Signed February 2014 by 27 national bodies involved in health, policing, social care, housing...
 - ▶ responding to police concerns about the use of police cells
 - ▶ lack of access to hospital-based places of safety
- ▶ The Concordat focuses on four main areas:
 - ▶ Access to support before crisis point
 - ▶ Urgent and emergency access to crisis care
 - ▶ Quality of treatment and care when in crisis
 - ▶ Recovery and staying well



Street Triage

- ▶ Schemes in Leicestershire and Cleveland trialled for a year

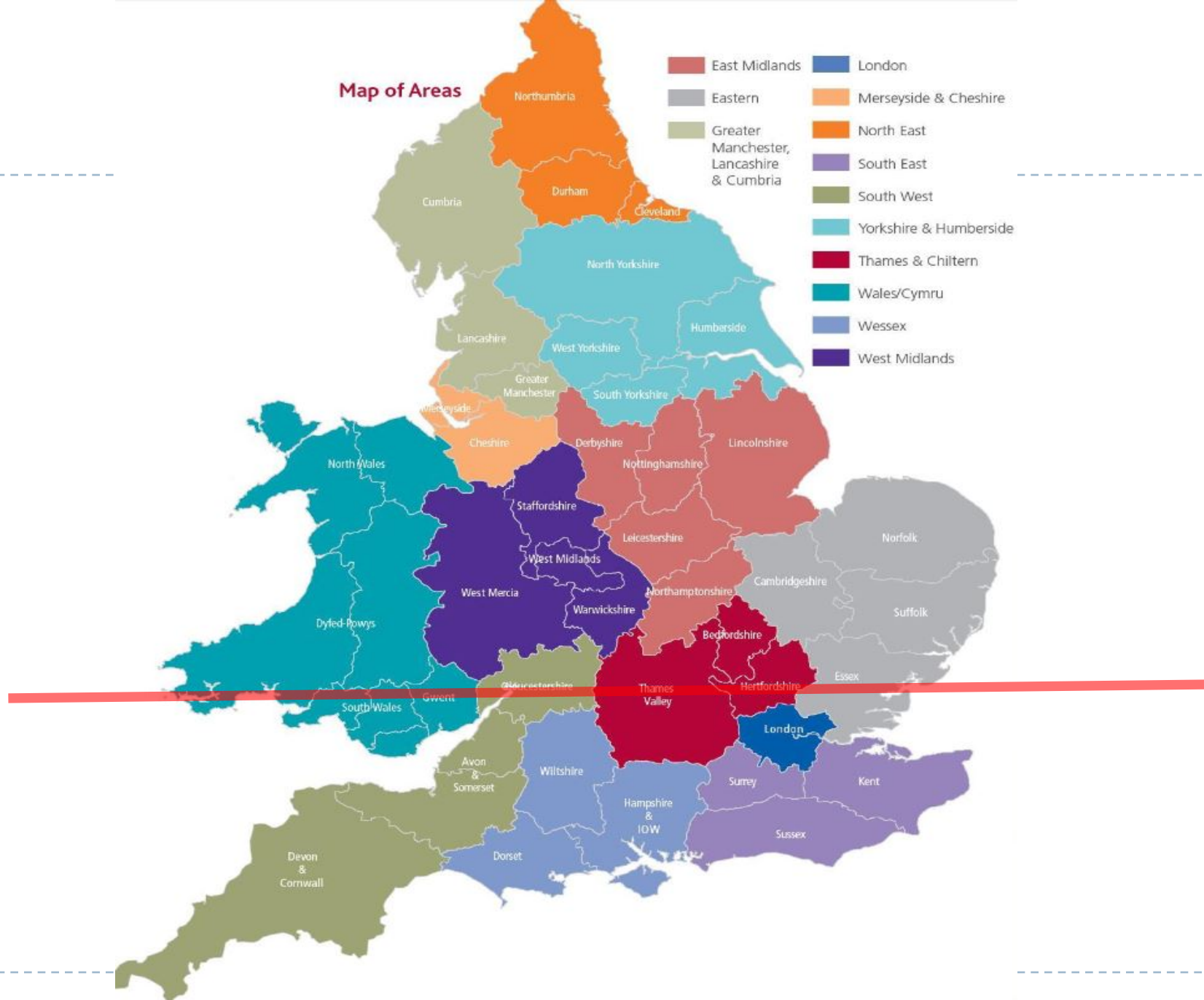
- ▶ 2013: £2 million from DH for nine pilot schemes managed by police forces in partnership with Clinical Commissioning Groups, NHS England and Police and Crime Commissioners
 1. British Transport Police C Division
 2. Sussex
 3. Thames Valley
 4. Derbyshire
 5. West Midlands
 6. Devon and Cornwall
 7. West Yorkshire
 8. North Yorkshire
 9. Metropolitan Police Service



~16-28% s136



Map of Areas



Research Questions

- ▶ How do police identify someone as being mentally ill
- ▶ What is the frequency of contact
- ▶ How much training is available
- ▶ What dispositional judgments are made after apprehension



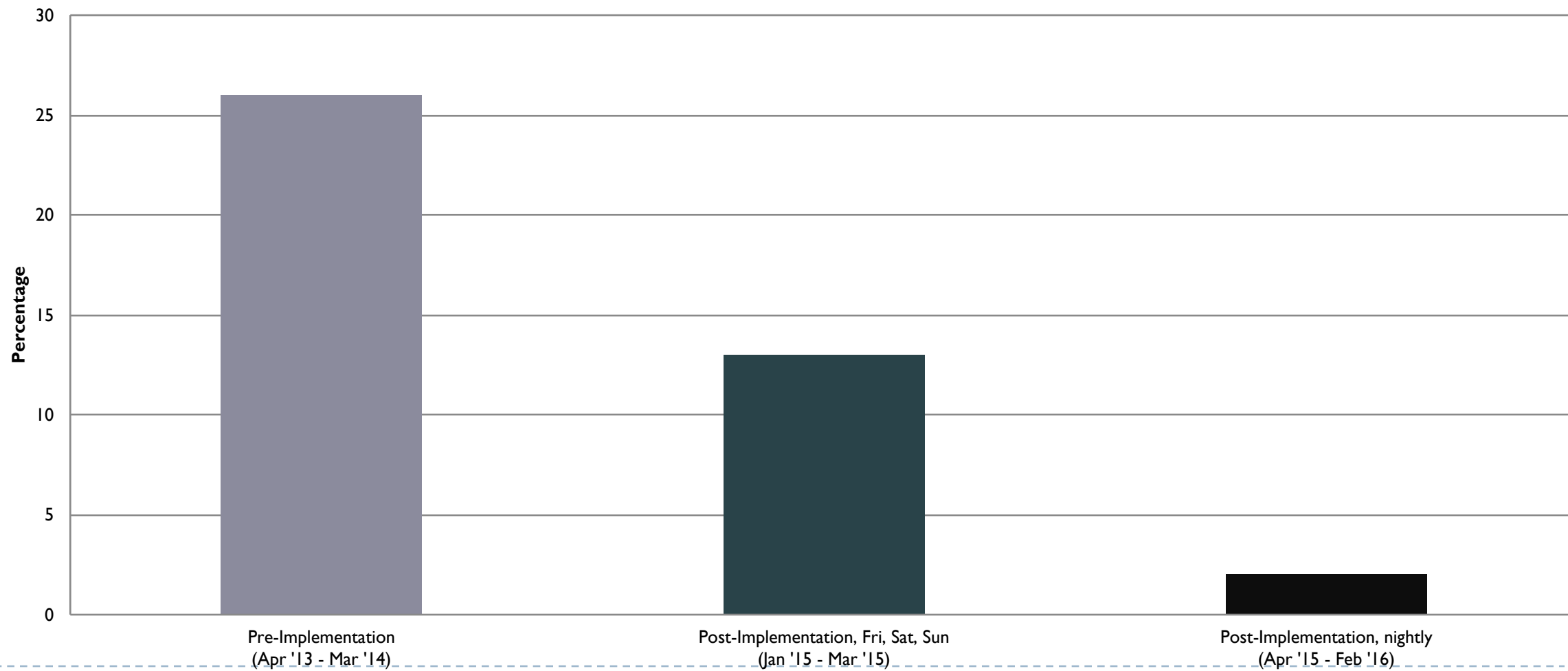
Police responses to MI

- ▶ Frequency of contact
 - ▶ 20-40%
- ▶ Inadequate training
- ▶ How do police identify mental illness
 - ▶ members of public
 - ▶ patient's family
 - ▶ patient
- ▶ Outcomes
 - ▶ ↓ in s136 & police cell detentions
 - ▶ changes in attitudes & awareness



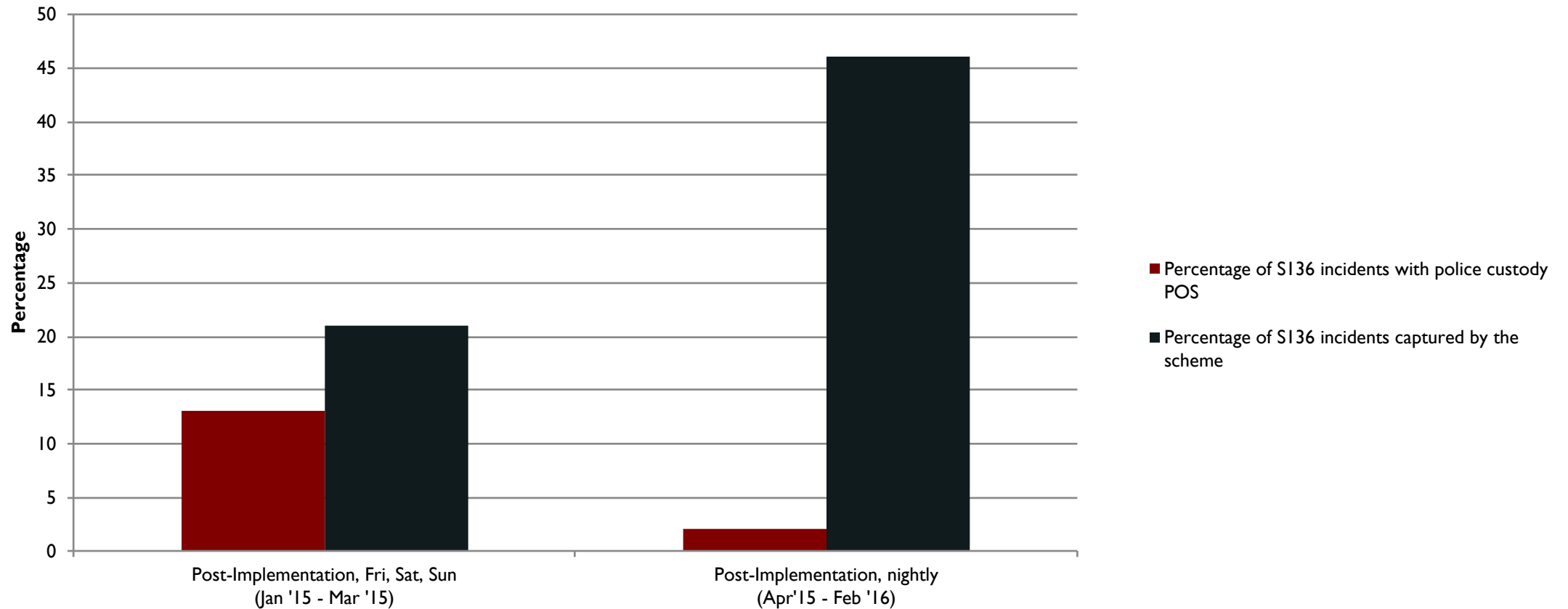
Dorset

% of sI36 instances that took place in police custody pre and post Street Triage



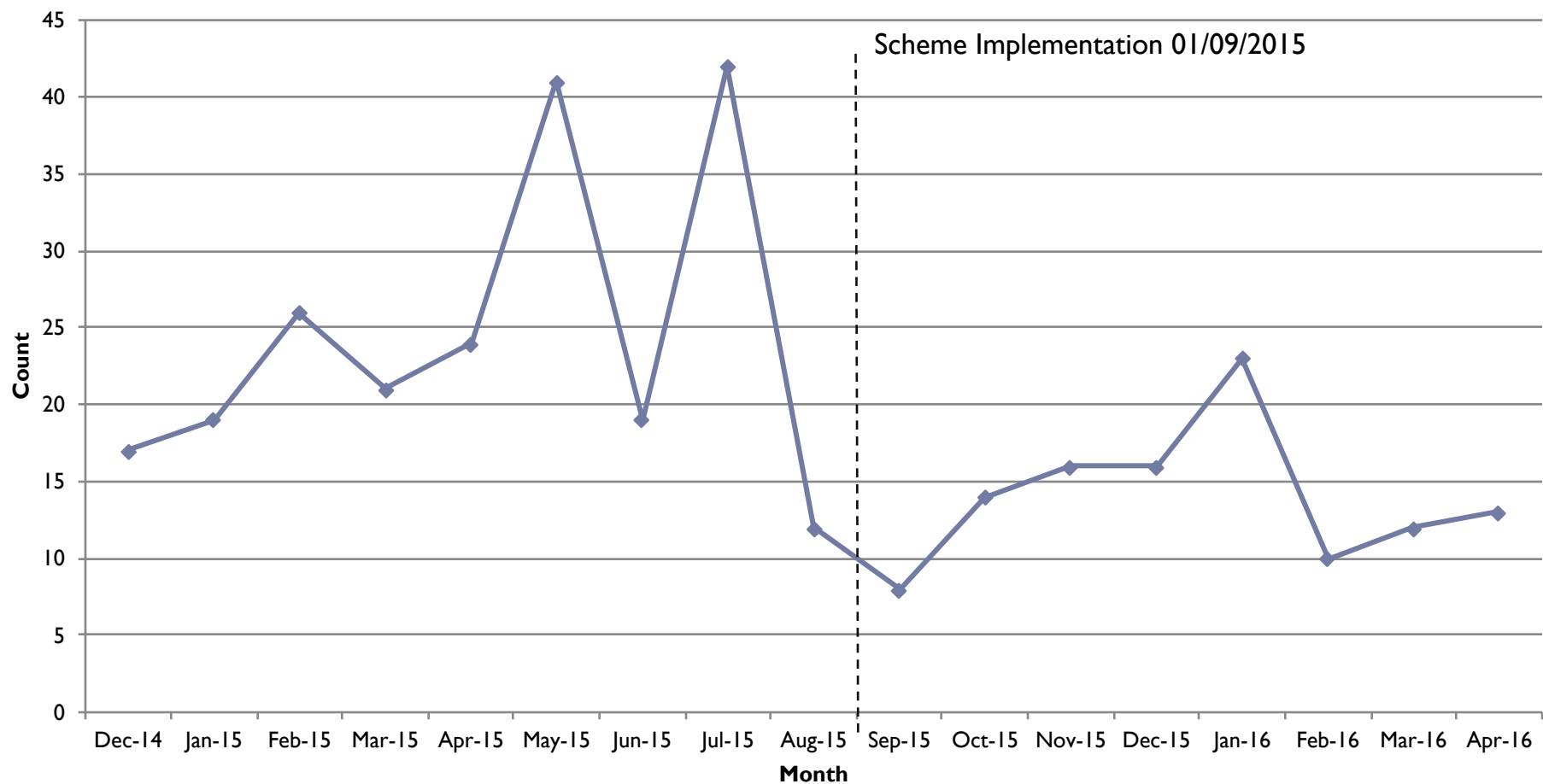
Dorset

Increase of scheme coverage accompanied by decrease in % of police custody



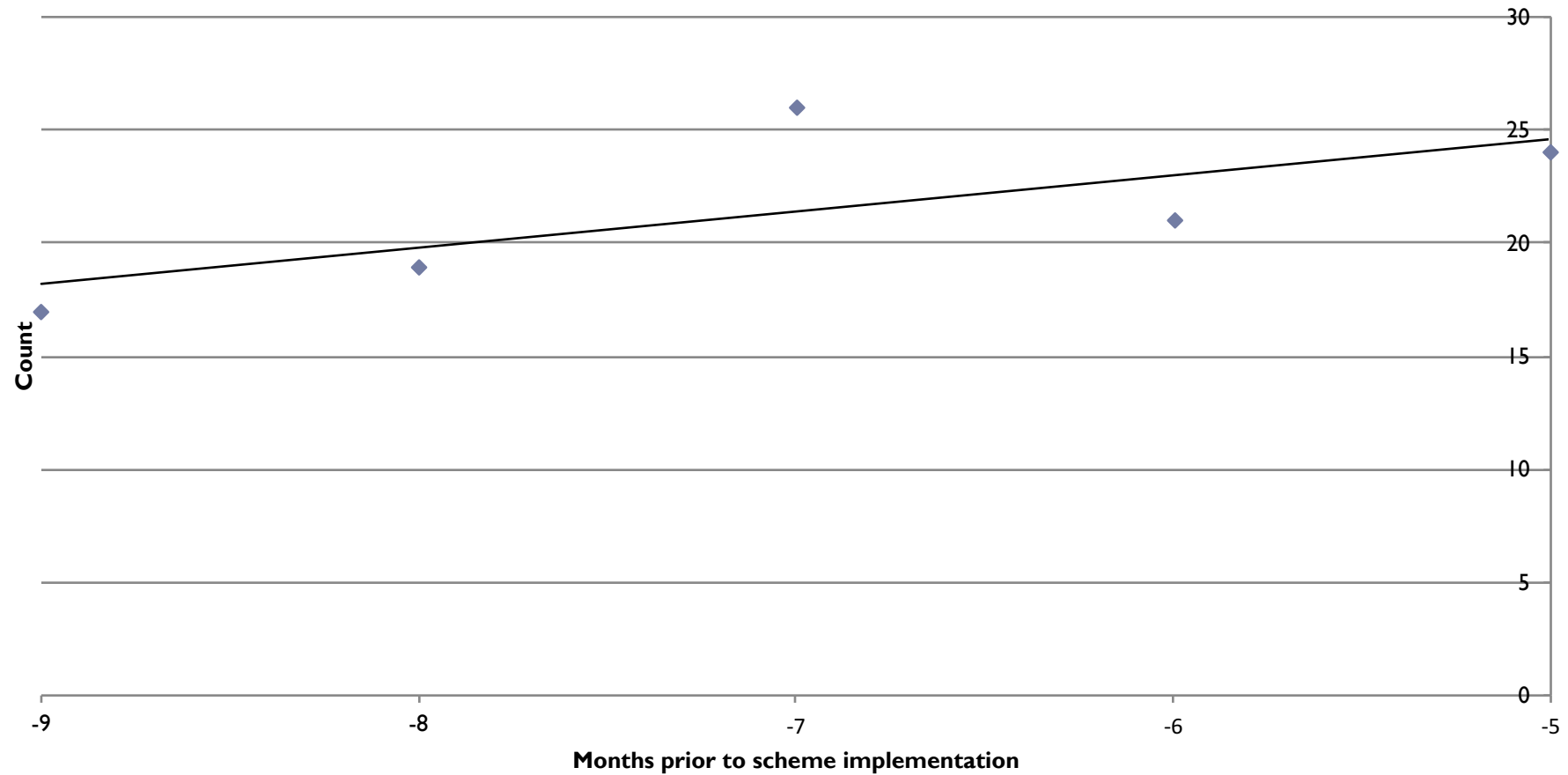
Avon & Somerset

Avon and Somerset s136 detainees held in police custody



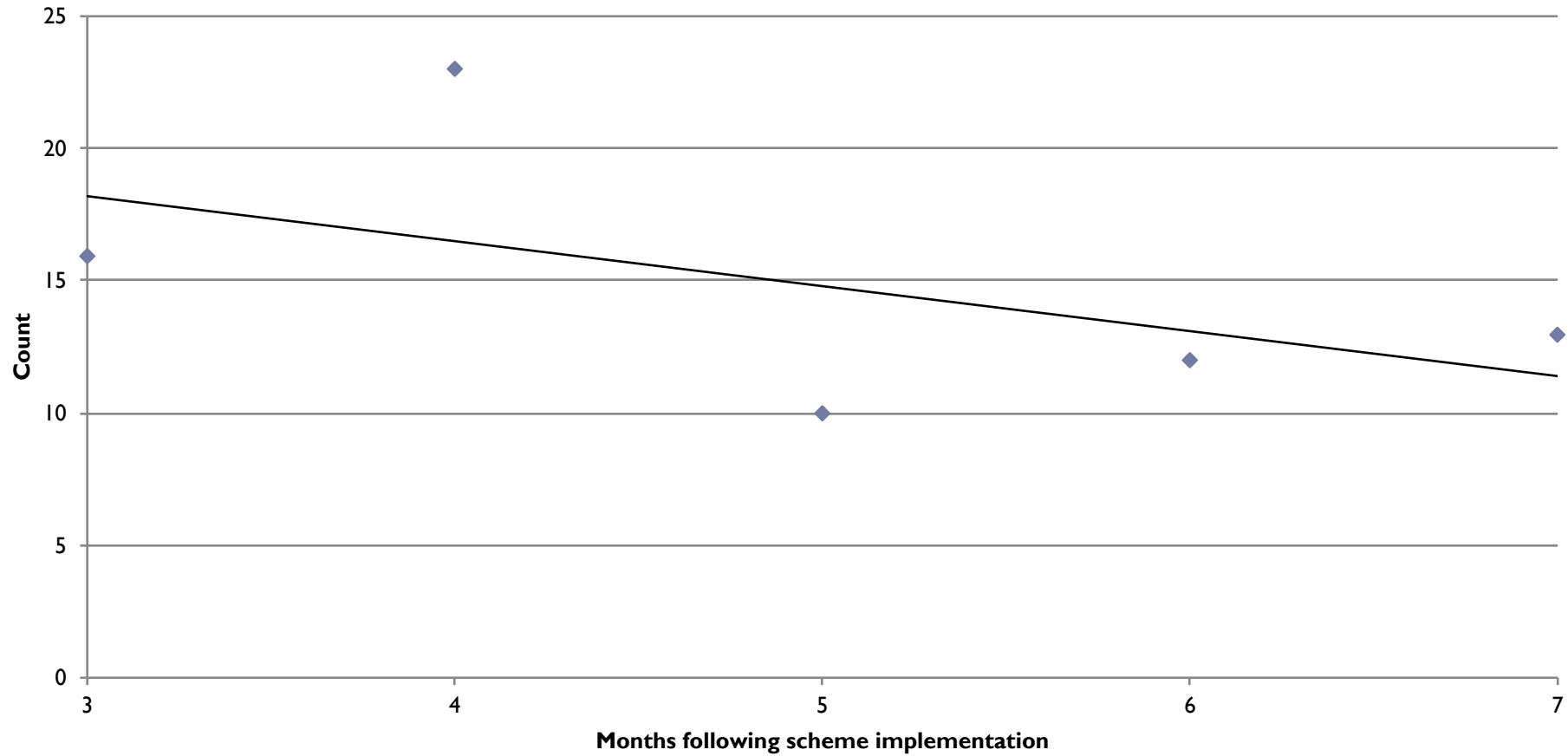
Avon & Somerset

s136 in police custody with linear time-trend superimposed (pre)



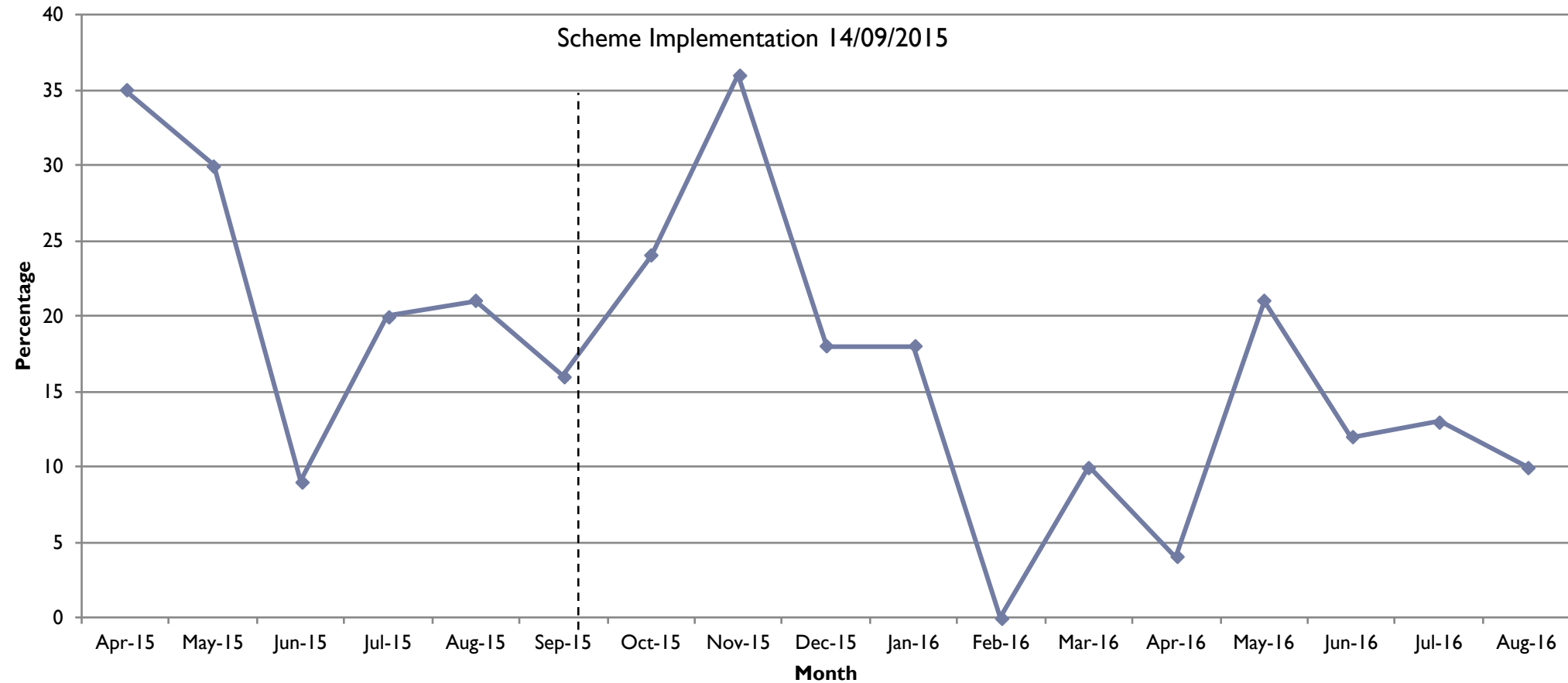
Avon & Somerset

s136 in police custody with linear time-trend superimposed (post)



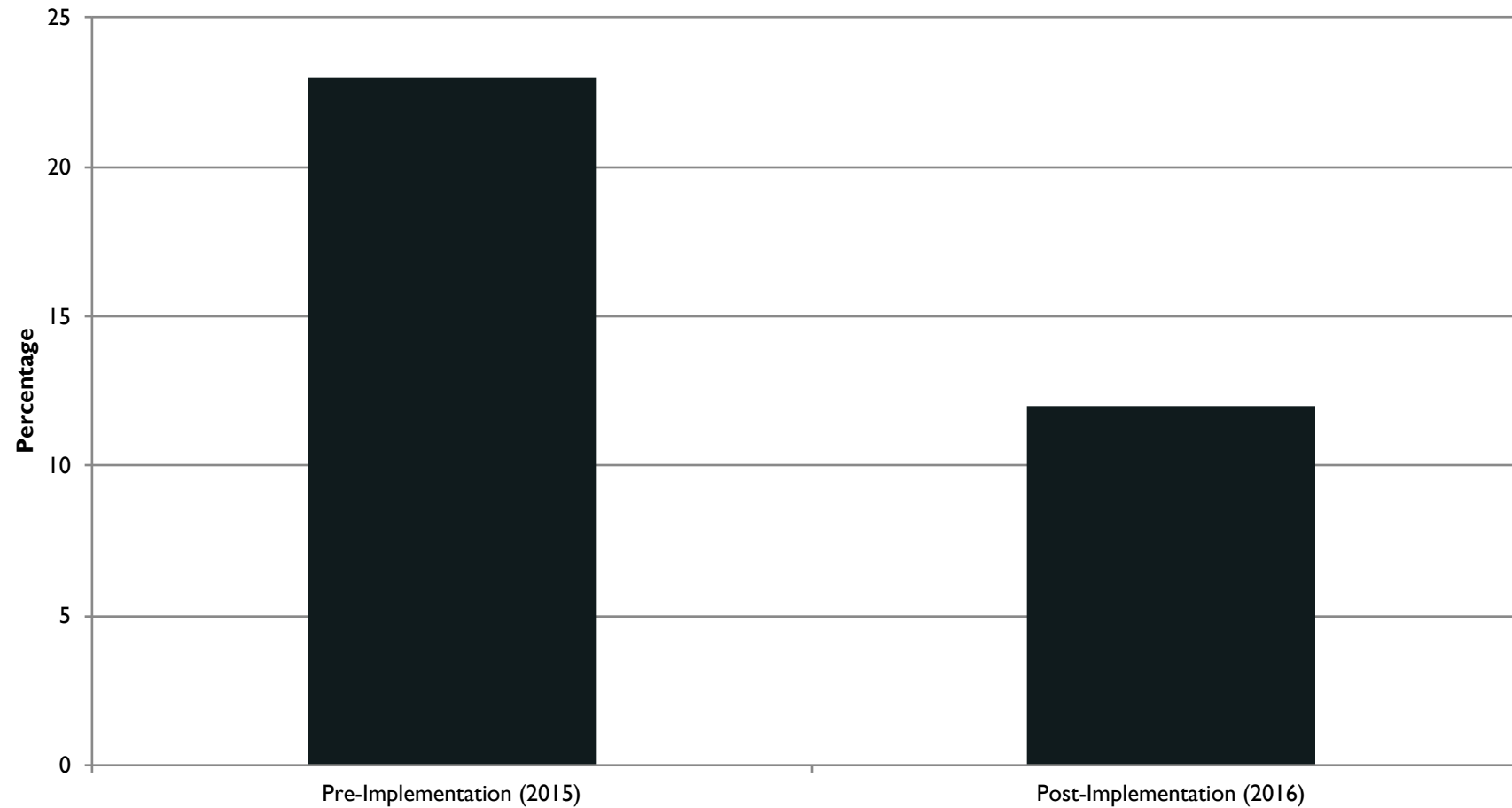
Wiltshire

% s136 incidents where police custody was POS



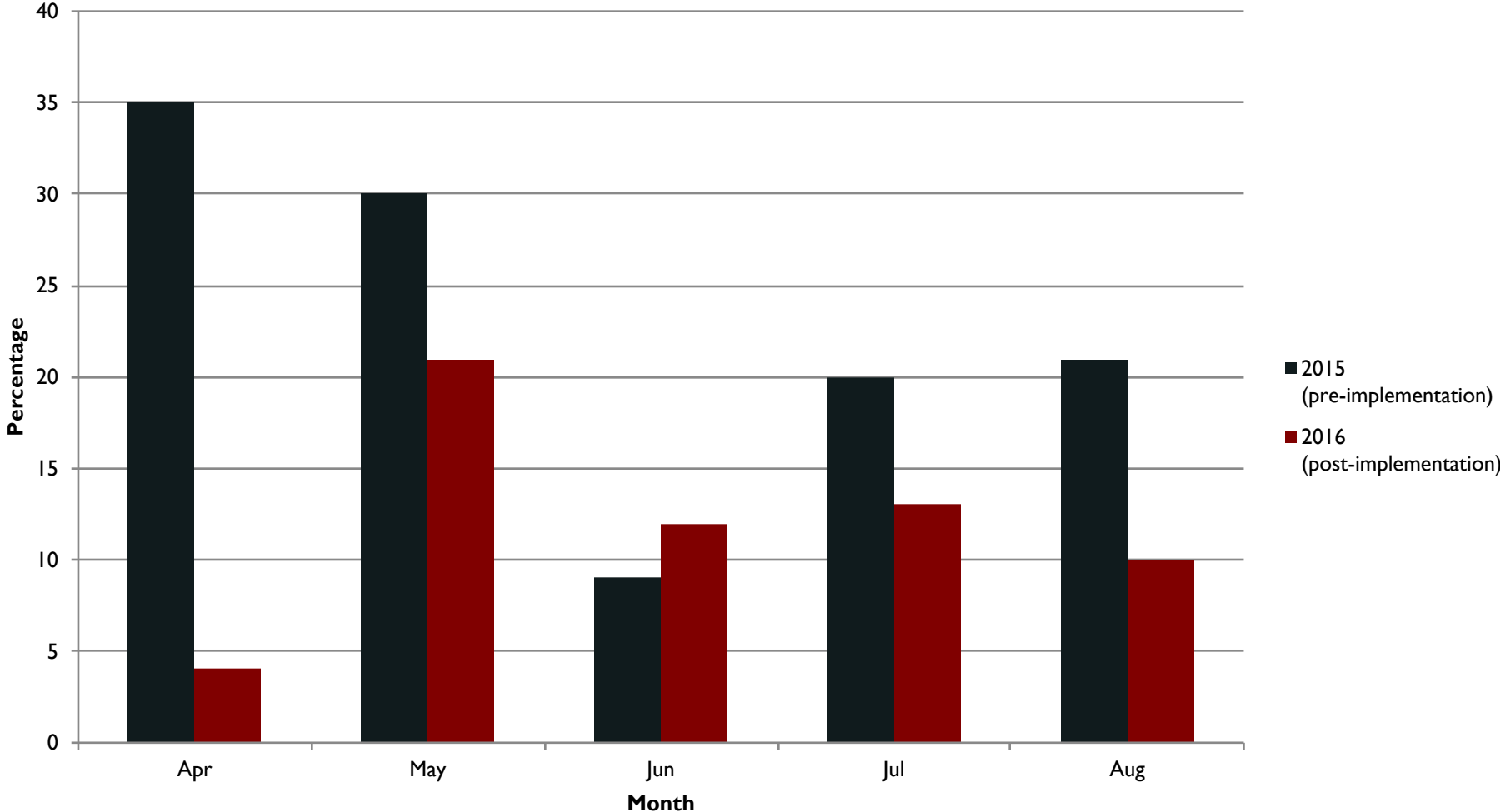
Wiltshire

% s136 incidents in which police custody was POS averaged over April - August both pre- and post-implementation



Wiltshire

% s136 incidents in which police custody was POS month-by-month



Dorset & Wiltshire

Estimated % of s136 incidents in which police custody was POS

