

SAN FRANCISCO DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND THEIR FAMILIES

Justice Services Youth Impact Report

A Preliminary Investigation of Changes in Justice Outcomes

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Juvenile Probation Commission | April 2023

Agenda

1. Evaluation Goal
2. Overview of Methods
3. Findings
4. Discussion
5. Recommendations

Evaluation Goal

Evaluation Goal: Program Impact

- Impact of Justice Services programming across 33 programs funded by San Francisco's Department of Children, Youth, and Their Families (DCYF)
- Examined data from San Francisco Juvenile Probation Department and District Attorney's Office

July 1, 2018

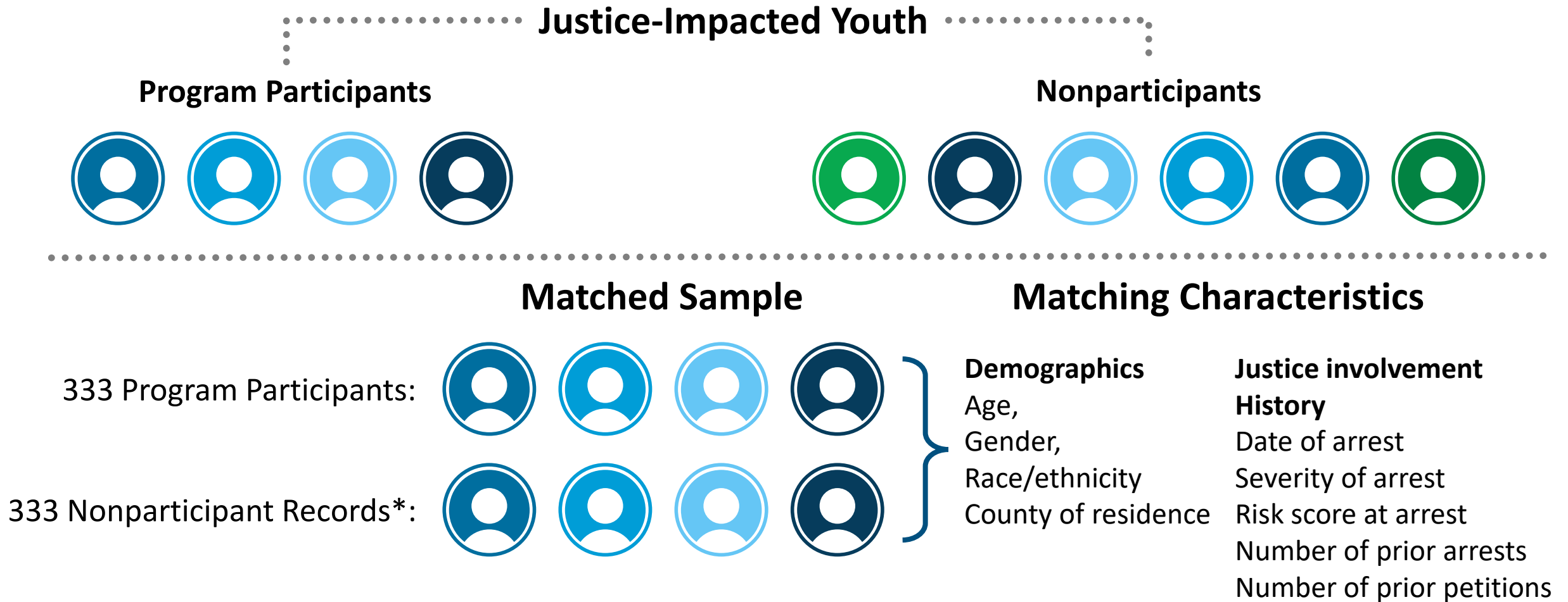
June 30, 2022



Image by [Ichigo121212](#) from [Pixabay](#)

Overview of Methods

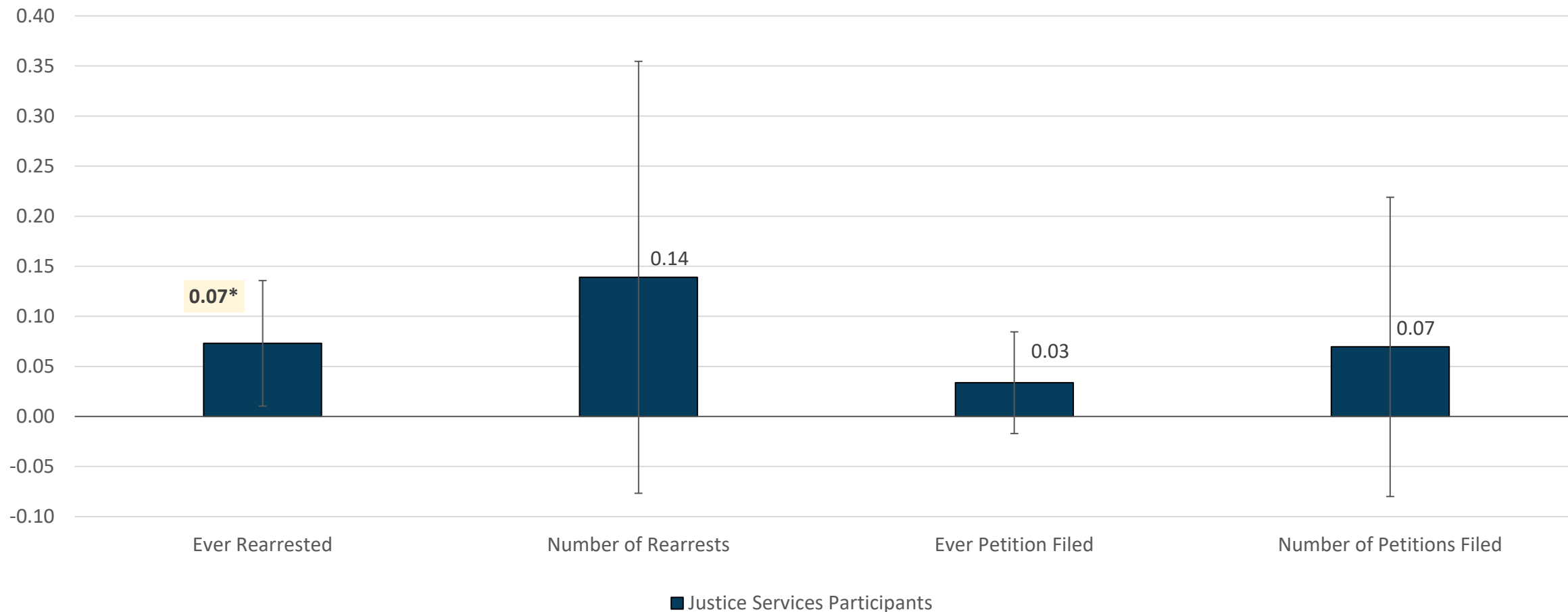
Matched Comparison Design



*Note: Nonparticipants were matched to participants based on arrest records. These 333 records represent 280 unique individuals in the nonparticipant sample.

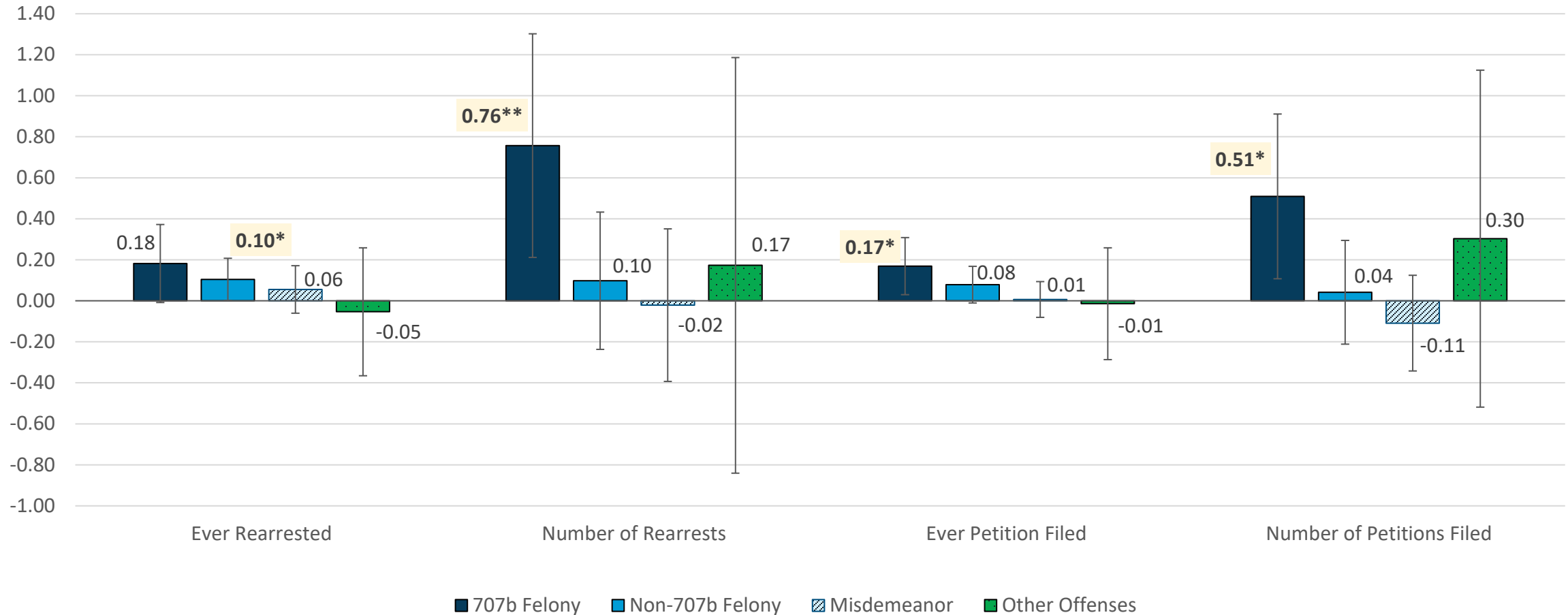
Findings

Overall, Justice Services program participation is mostly unrelated to future involvement with the San Francisco justice system, July 2018 to June 2022



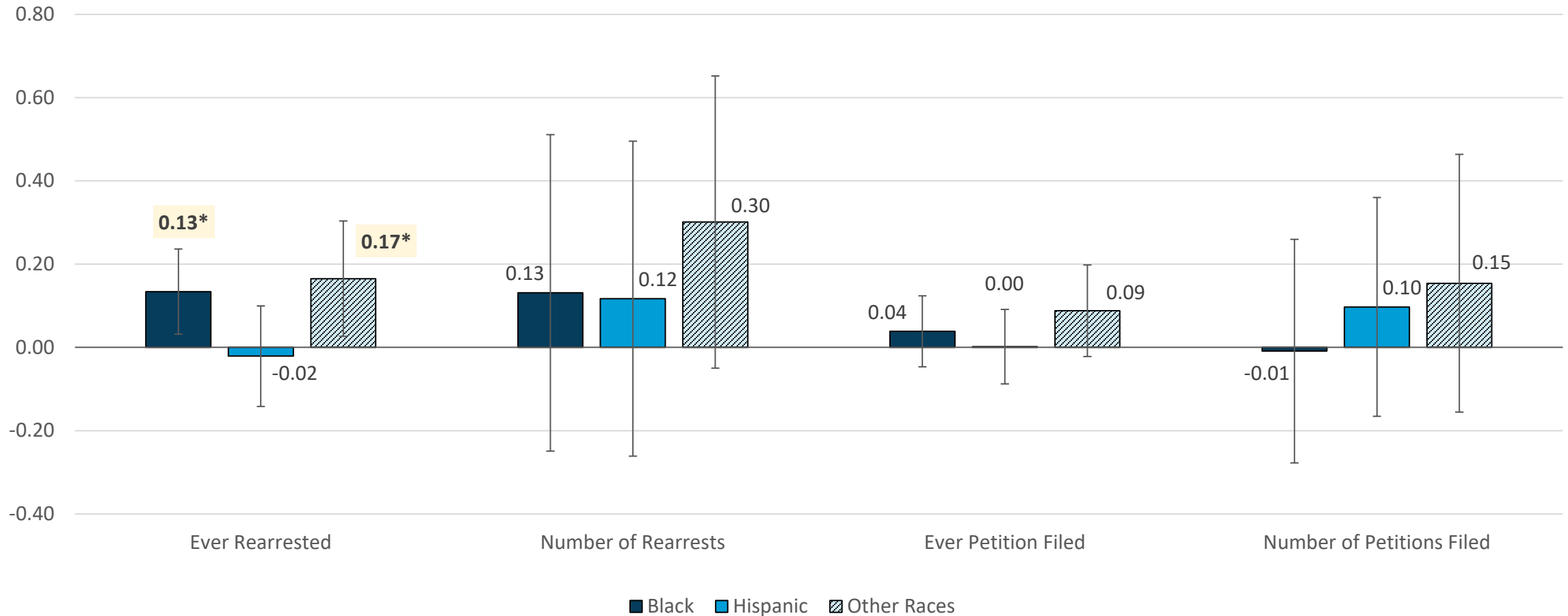
Note. The black bars represent the 95% confidence interval. If the confidence intervals for each outcome include the value of 0, this is interpreted to mean that we cannot be confident that any of the estimates are different from 0 or no effect.
* $p < 0.05$.

Participants convicted of 707(b) felonies and non-707(b) felonies show increased future justice involvement than their non-participant comparison groups, July 2018 to June 2022



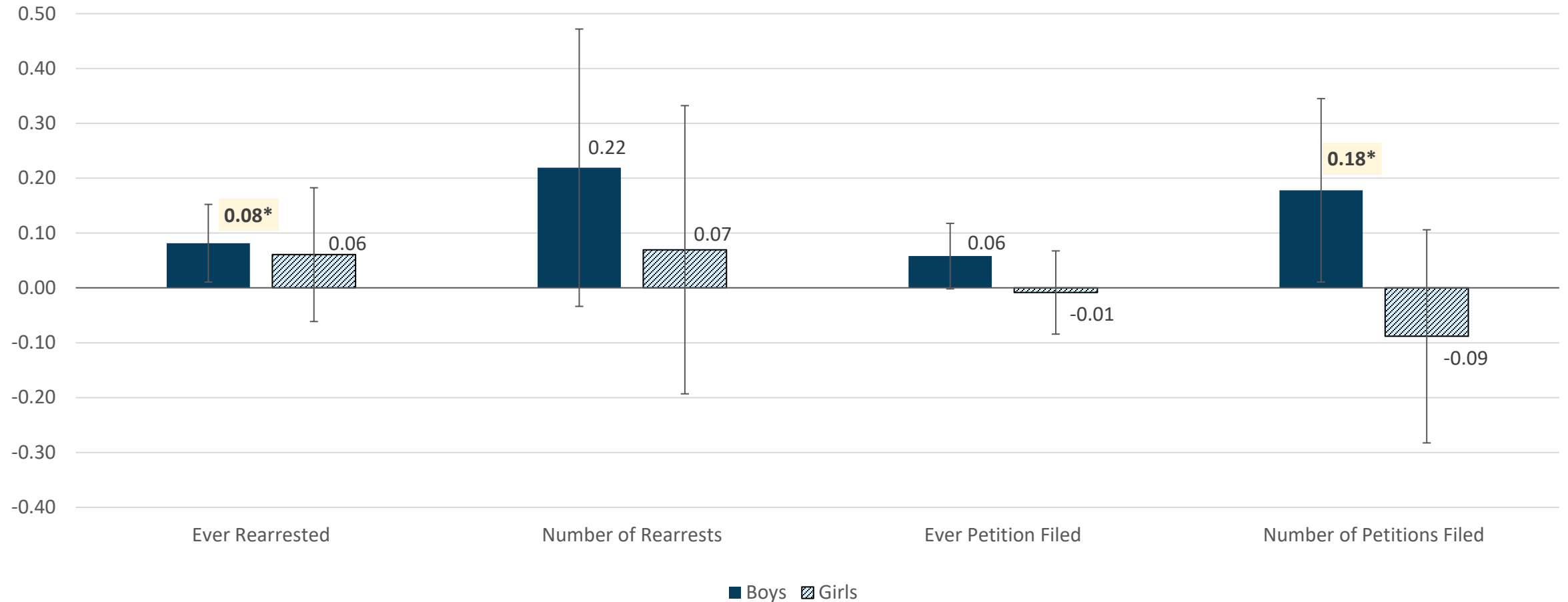
Note. The black bars represent the 95% confidence interval. If the confidence intervals for each outcome include the value of 0, this is interpreted to mean that we cannot be confident that any of the estimates are different from 0 or no effect.
 * $p < 0.05$, ** $p < 0.01$.

Participants who are Black or whose race was “Other” or “Unknown” have a greater likelihood of rearrest than their non-participant comparison groups, July 2018 to June 2022



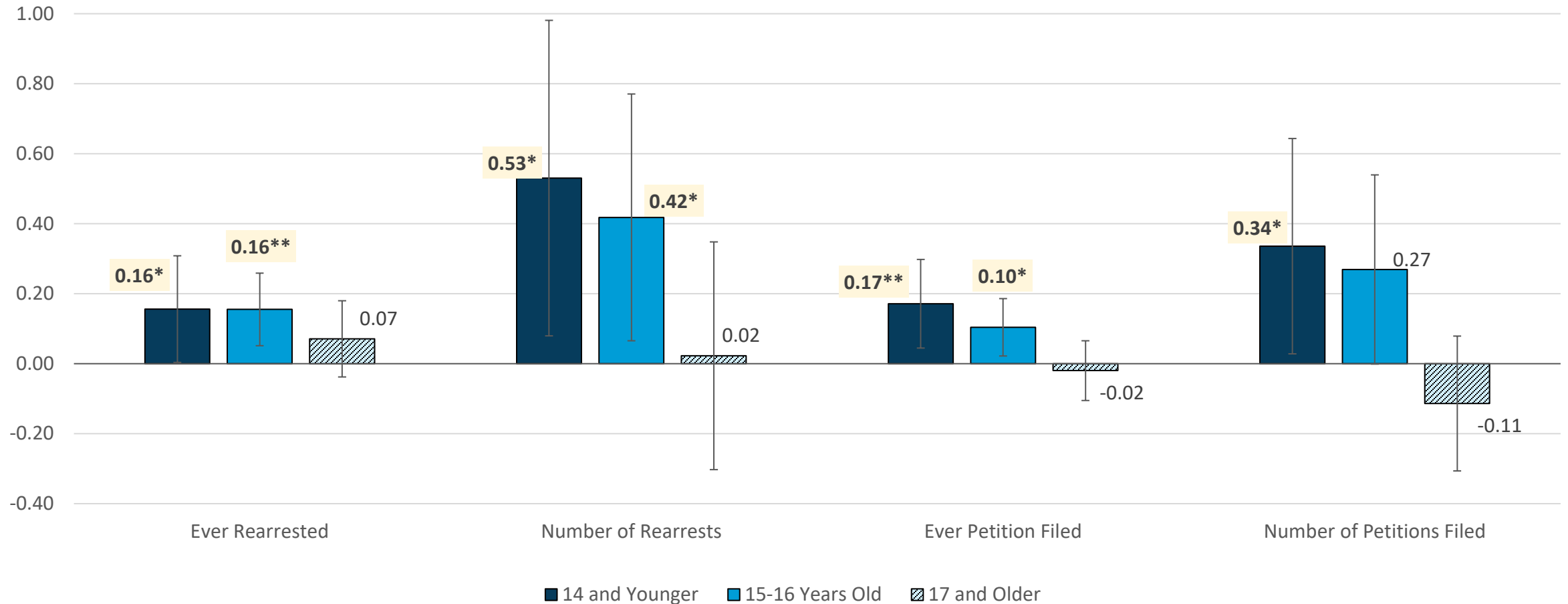
Note. The black bars represent the 95% confidence interval. If the confidence intervals for each outcome include the value of 0, this is interpreted to mean that we cannot be confident that any of the estimates are different from 0 or no effect.
 * $p < 0.05$.

Participants who identify as male show increased future justice involvement than their non-participant comparison group, July 2018 to June 2022



Note. The black bars represent the 95% confidence interval. If the confidence intervals for each outcome include the value of 0, this is interpreted to mean that we cannot be confident that any of the estimates are different from 0 or no effect.
* $p < 0.05$.

Younger youth are more likely to experience future justice involvement than their non-participant comparison groups, July 2018 to June 2022



Note. The black bars represent the 95% confidence interval. If the confidence intervals for each outcome include the value of 0, this is interpreted to mean that we cannot be confident that any of the estimates are different from 0 or no effect.
 * $p < 0.05$, ** $p < 0.01$.

Discussion

Other than DCYF participation, why might outcomes differ for program participants?

- Matched comparison can only account for observed differences
- We can never be sure that we have accounted for ALL possible reasons that explain differences between groups
- In the next slides, we discuss some possible factors that may have influenced results



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Structural Factors

- Certain groups of youth are more likely to experience justice system contact and negative consequences.¹
 - DCYF-funded programs identify and enroll youth based on needs.
- Certain groups of youth also are more likely to experience biased policing and patrolling.²
 - Youth at greatest risk for system contact experience a higher level of rearrest (e.g., system contact) in the absence of evidence (e.g., no petition).

¹Moore, 2007; Andersen, 2015; Bishop, 2016; Onifade et al., 2019; ²Weaver et al., 2019

Referral Process

- In prior AIR reporting, DCYF Justice Services program staff stated there was no centralized referral source into programming.³
 - This ambiguity makes it hard to understand why do some youth receive services and others do not?

³AIR Implementation Report, 2022

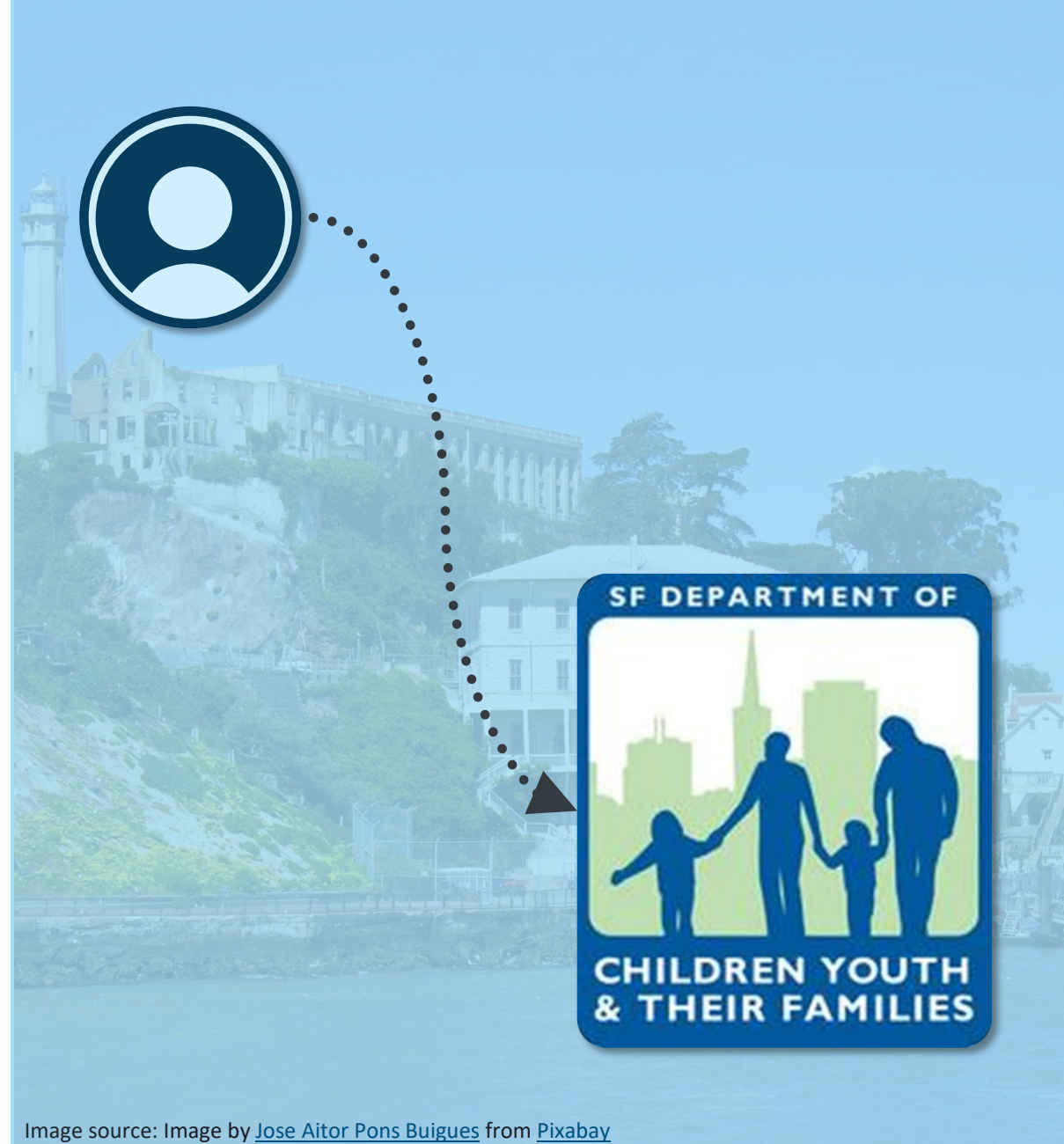


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Recommendations

Strategies for Supporting Youth and Examining Causal Impacts

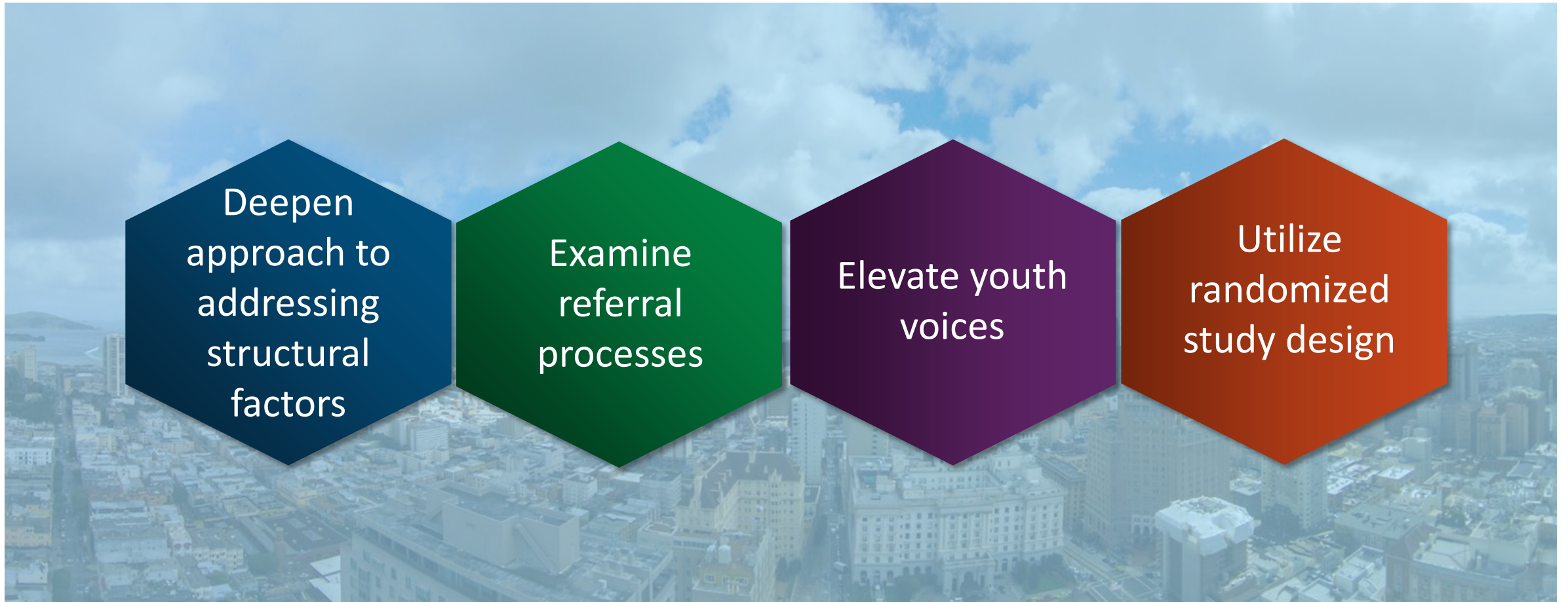


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