

Proposition A will *increase* violent crime

Bill Spelman

spelman@mail.utexas.edu

Austin Neighborhoods Council

22 September 2021

If you **throw money** at a problem you **don't understand**, you will **lose** the money and **fail** to solve the problem.

- What Prop A requires
- How much it's going to cost
- What we'll get for the money
- What we should do instead

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3. Christmas ornaments

More training, incentive pay, diversity, Citizen Police Academy

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More likely: All new spending to Police *and*
other GF departments shrink

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Police workload measures

Calls for service

Index crimes

violent: murder, forcible rape, robbery, aggravated assault

property: burglary, larceny, motor vehicle theft

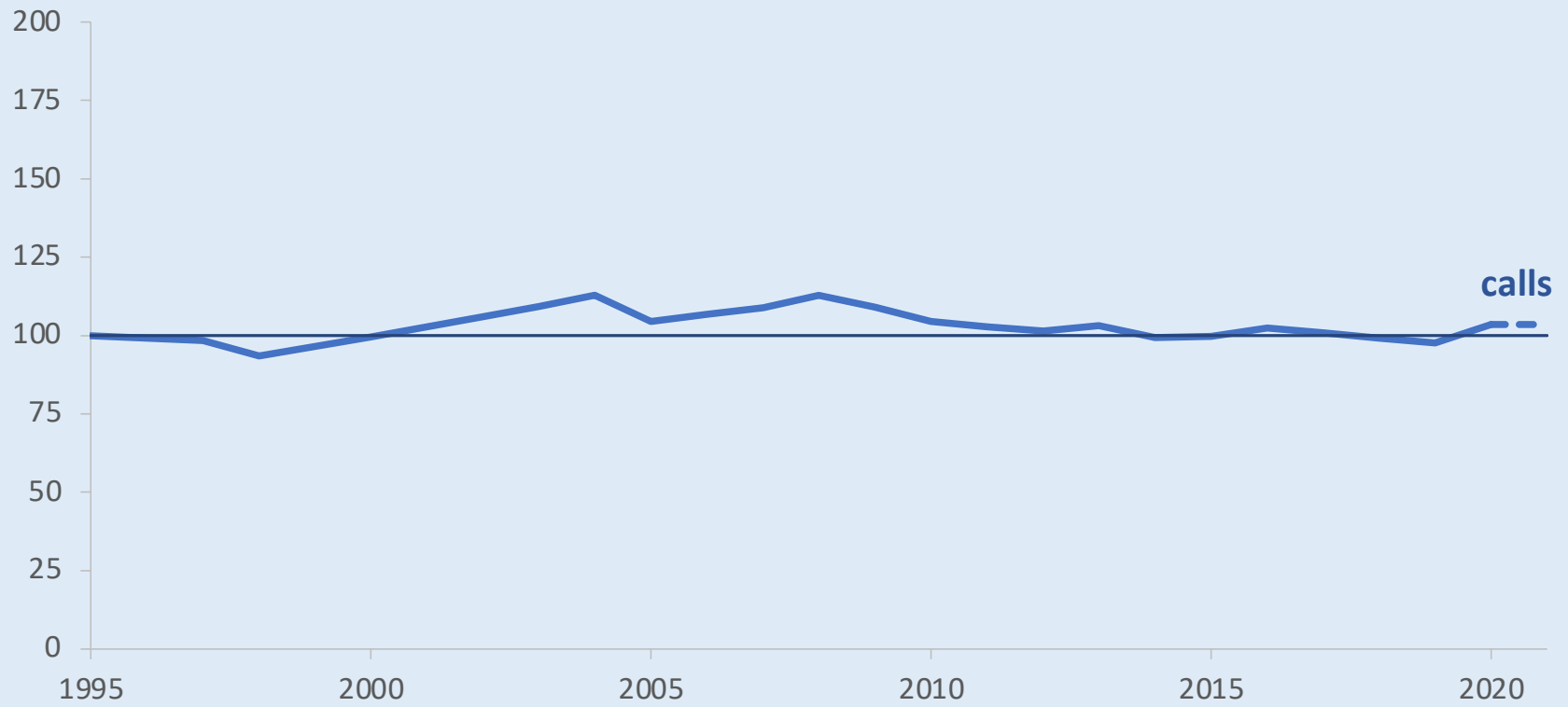
Other offenses

fraud, drug dealing, weapons, prostitution, vandalism . . .

Arrests

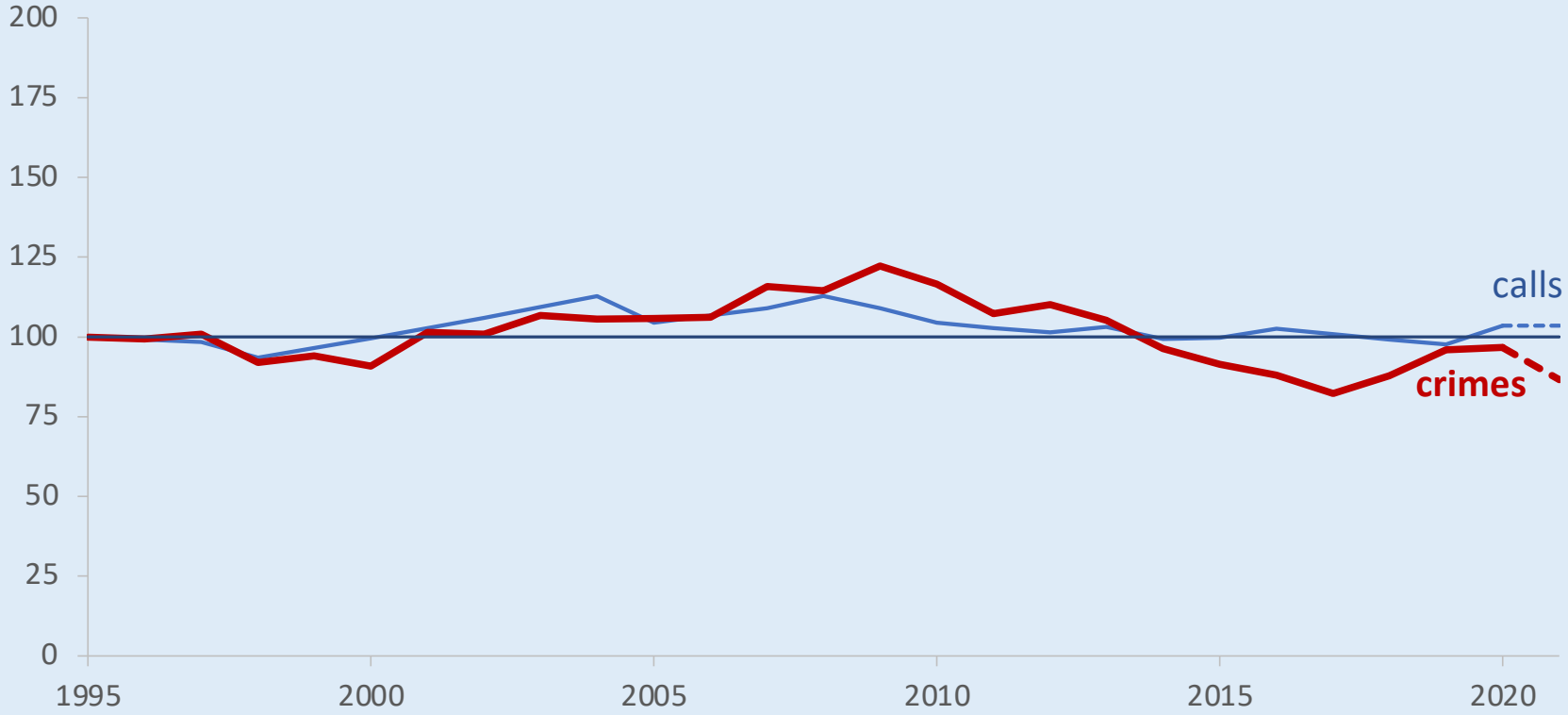
APD responds to as many calls as in 1995

(1995 = 100)



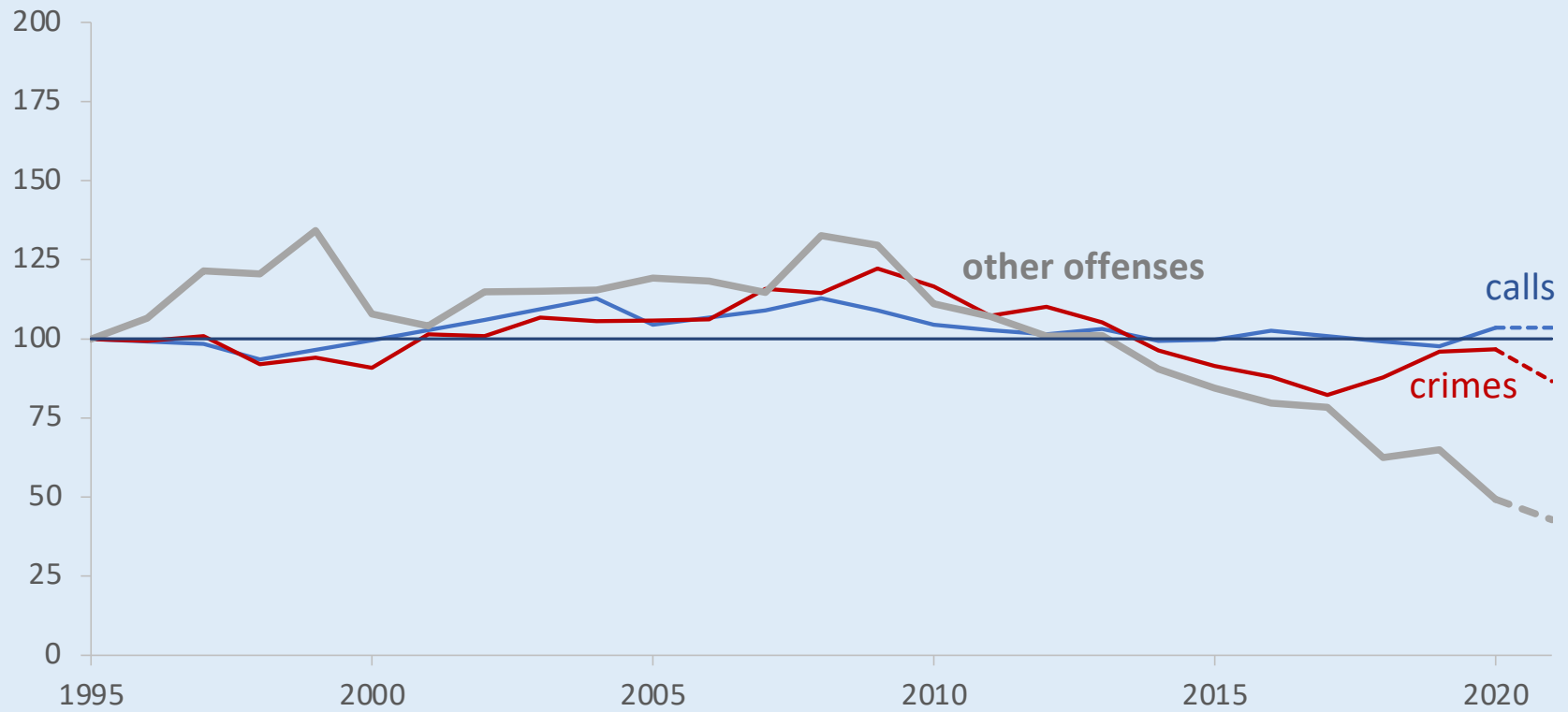
Index crime is down

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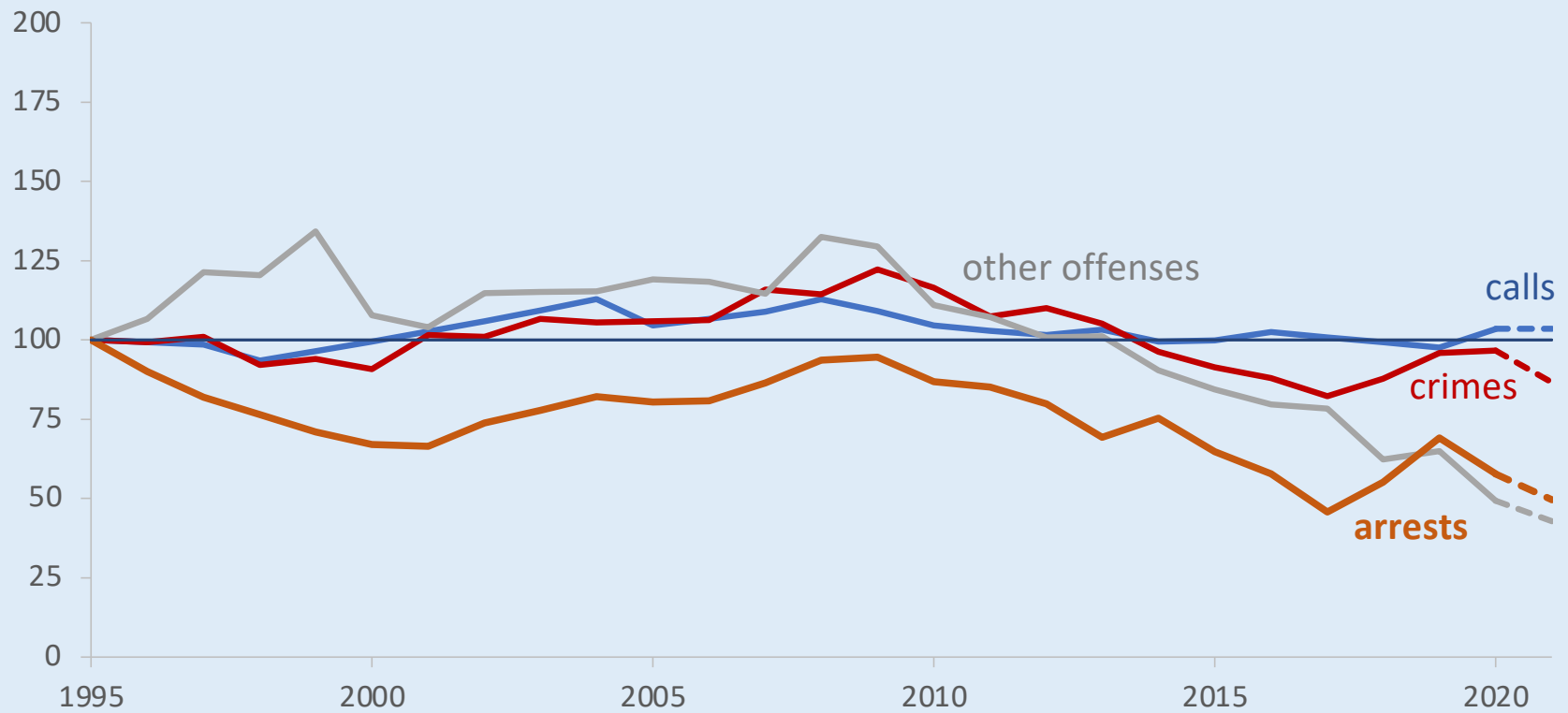
Other offenses are also down

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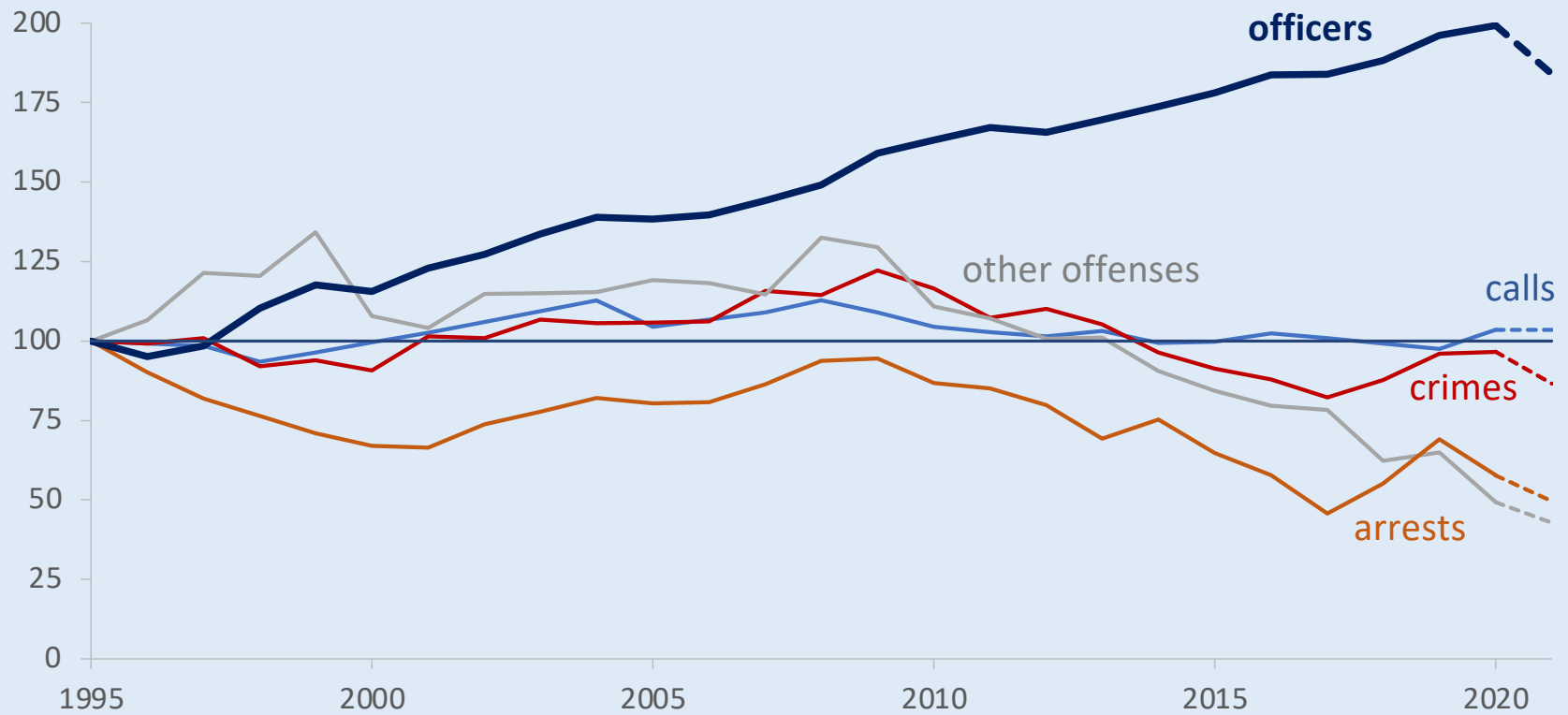
APD is making fewer arrests

(1995 = 100)



But APD has 84% more sworn officers

(1995 = 100)



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- Dallas up 24%
- Fort Worth up 62%
- San Antonio up 22%
- *Rest of Texas* up 38%

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- Big U.S. cities up 33%.

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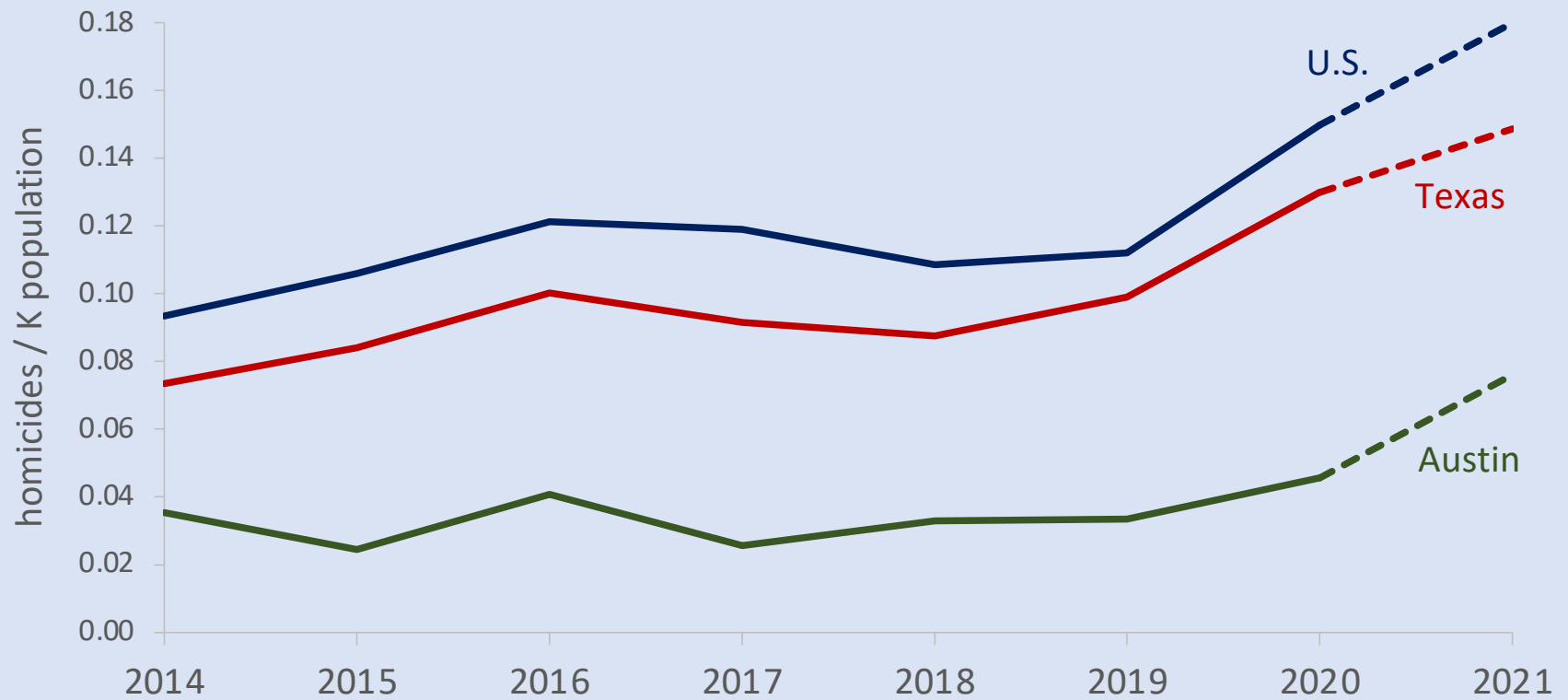
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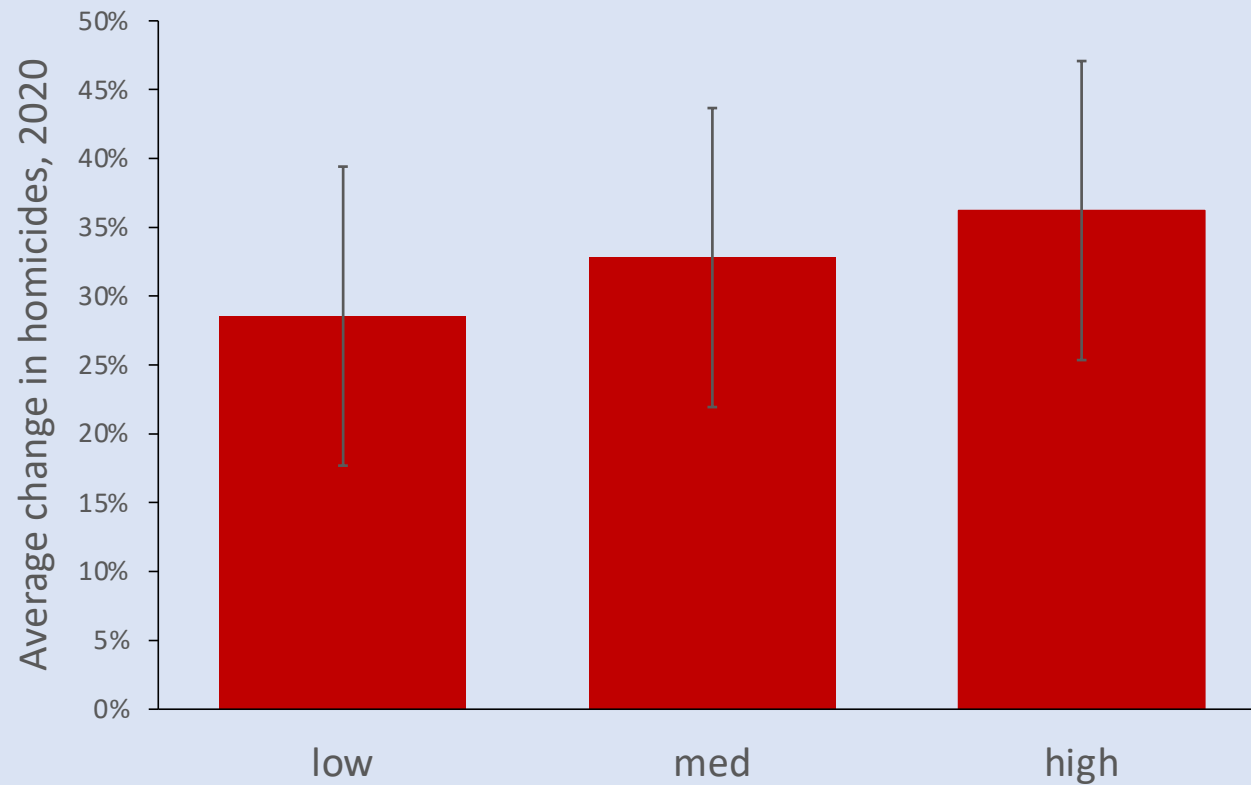
Assaults up 22%, all else **down**.

Austin is still much safer than most places



Sworn officers had nothing to do with it

Among 67 biggest U.S. cities:



We can get specific. . .

City	Δ murder	<i>N</i> officers/K
Atlanta	+59%	3.15
Chicago	+56%	4.86
Milwaukee	+96%	3.13
Raleigh	- 7%	1.14
El Paso	-54%	1.71
Virginia Beach	-43%	1.69

There's a story behind each of these numbers. But that's the point.

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Domestic violence?

Engage social services, churches, neighborhoods

Hold offenders accountable (High Point, NC)

If we stop and try to understand, we can prevent murder.

Just hiring more cops won't work.
There are better approaches.

- All focus attention on specific problems.
- All require a community response, not just a police response.
- None rely on “routine police work.”

Together, we can solve *this* problem.

More of the same leads to . . . more of the same

Prop A is more of the same.

- We don't need more officers
- It won't solve the homicide problem.
- It will divert attention from what *will* solve it.

It won't reduce violent crime – it will *increase* it.

Vote NO on Prop A.

Questions & comments

Why did homicides increase in 2020?

Results from 67 big U.S. cities

Demographics & economics

% black	NO EFFECT
% Latinx	DOWN
> 65 years	DOWN
unemployment	UP

Sworn officers / K pop NO EFFECT

COVID cases NO EFFECT

Political demonstrations **UP**

Excessive police use of force

at demonstrations	UP
elsewhere	UP

Why doesn't the number of officers matter?

It does for some crimes.

10% more officers → 2% fewer robberies

1% fewer burglaries and larcenies

5% fewer auto thefts.

But it doesn't seem to affect crimes of violence.

10% more officers → 0% fewer rapes, nonfatal assaults

1 – 2% fewer murders – *maybe*.

Violent crimes are different

Committed by family, friends, neighbors – usually not strangers.

Preceded by emotional relationship, gradual escalation:

- bar fights and wife beating, *not*
- gang assassinations or robberies gone wrong.

Mostly committed where police can't patrol:

- homes and bars, *not*
- street corners.

Even then – 6th Street, Saturday night, 12 June.

There are better uses for the money

2019: 33 homicides

2020: 45 homicides

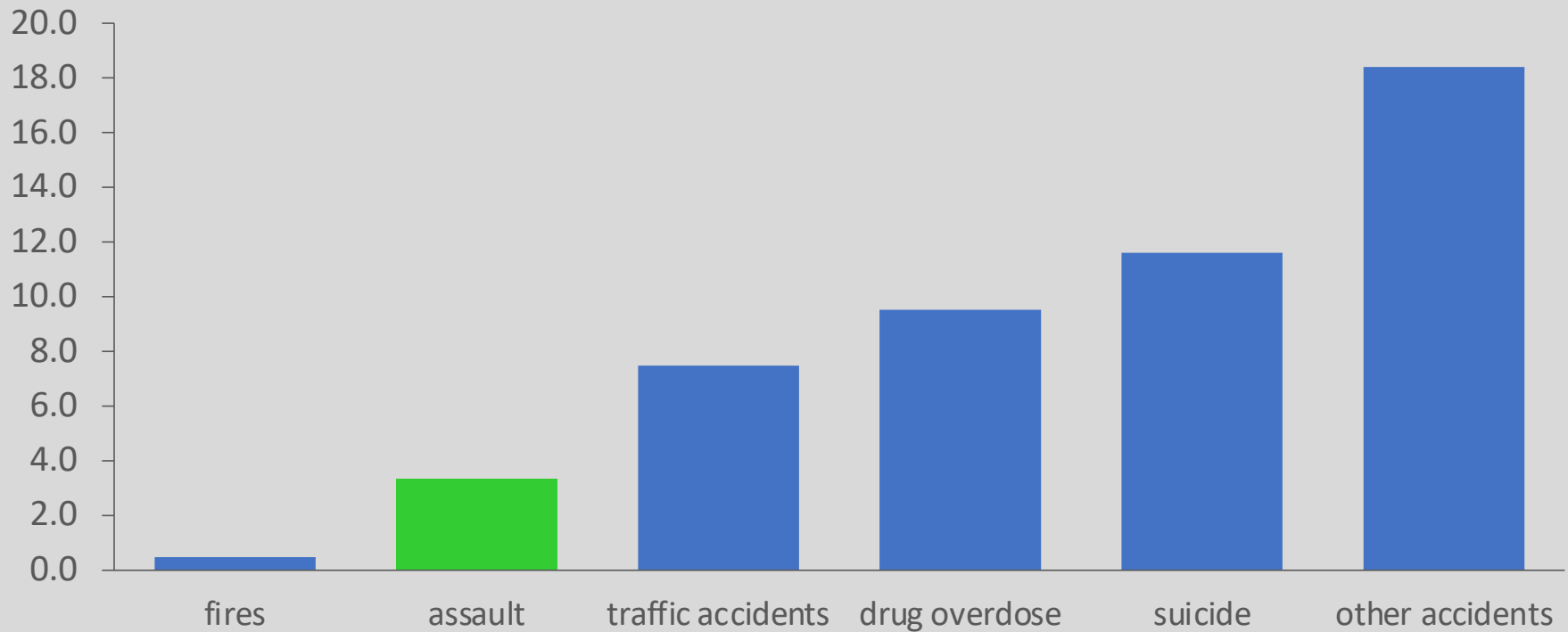
2021: 80 homicides or so.

Probable effect of Prop A: One, maybe two murders per year.

Is this the best way to save two lives?

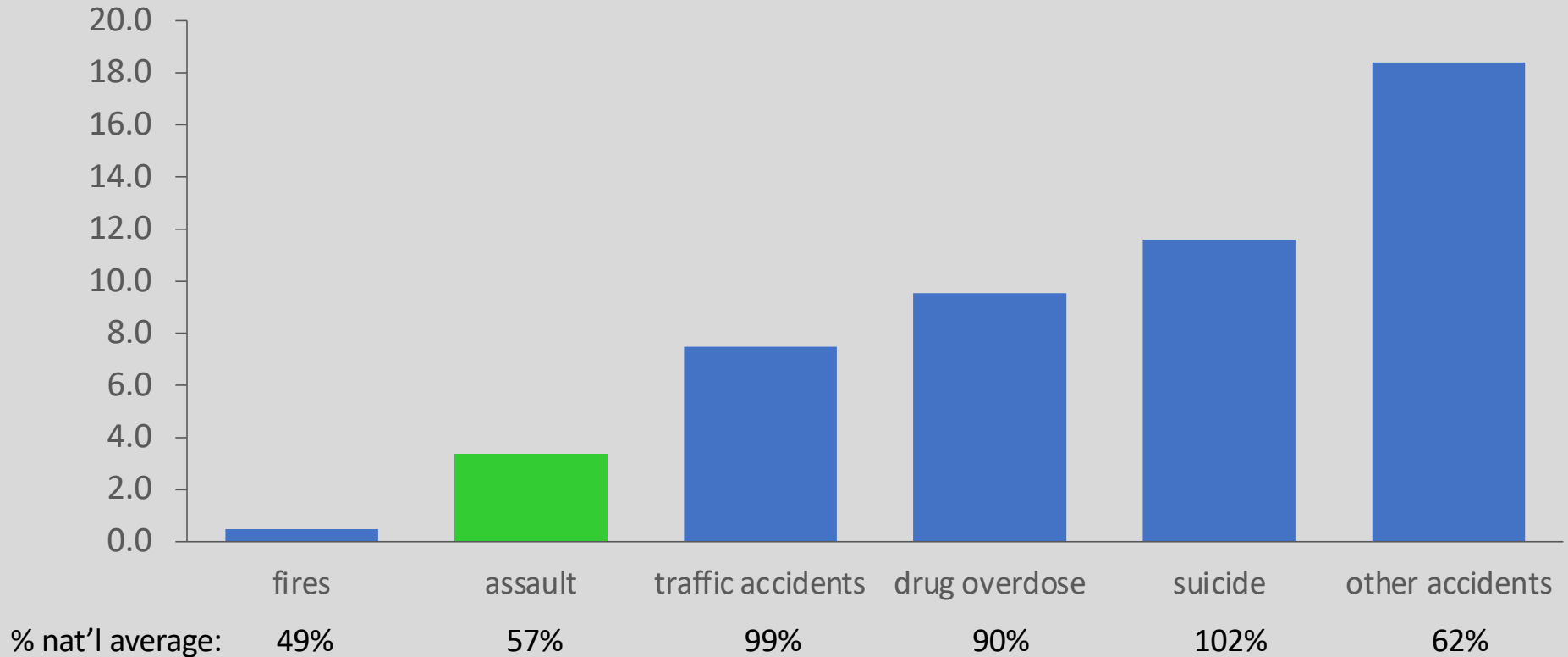
What are Austin's biggest risks?

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We could increase vaccinations, too.