

Did Graduated Driver Licensing
Increase the Number of Newly Licensed
18-Year-Old Drivers in North Carolina?

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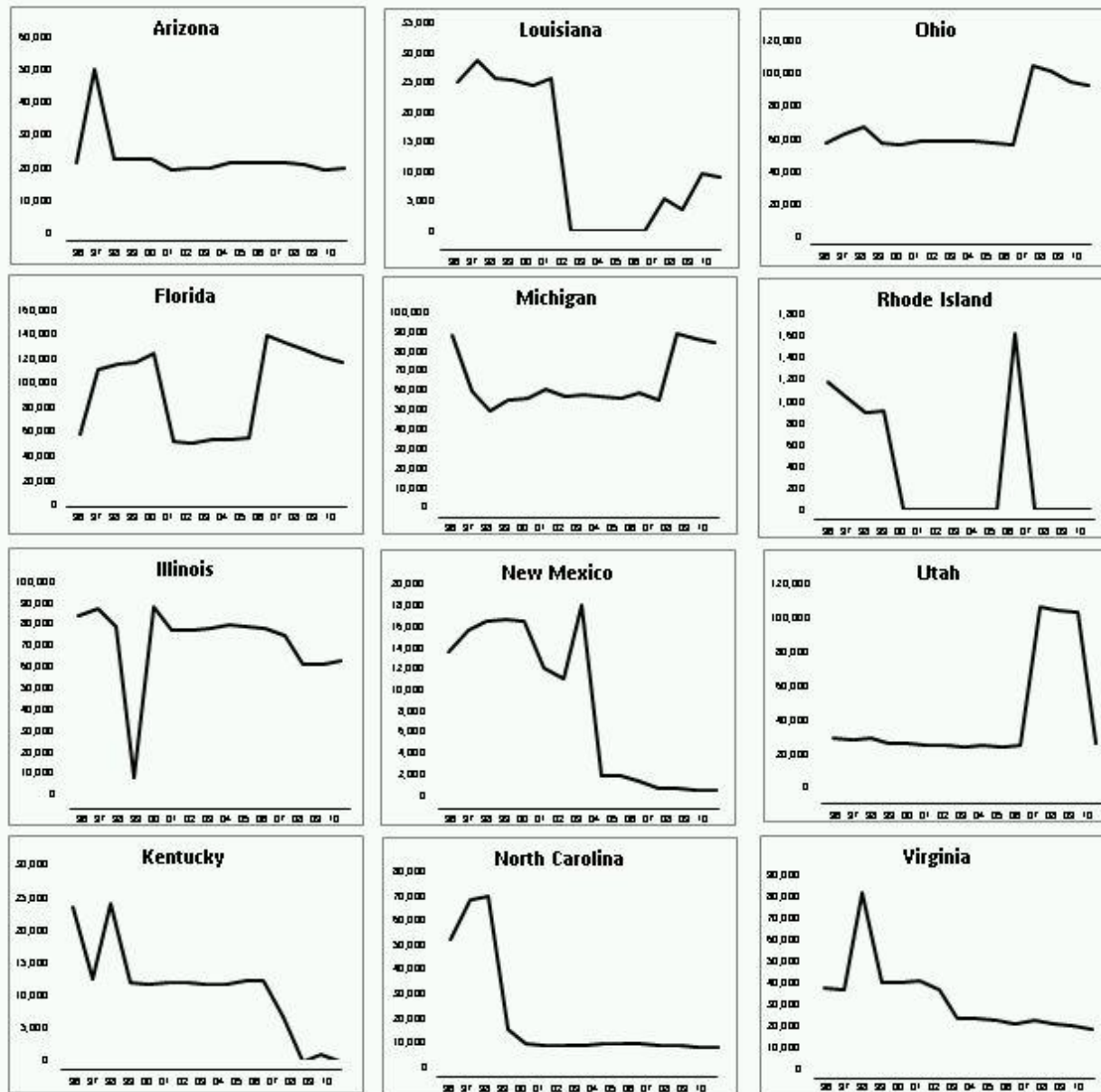
Transition to GDL scrambles license data

- Old system
 - Permit – Optional or brief
 - Full license
- New system
 - Permit – mandatory, lengthy
 - Intermediate – mandatory, lengthy
 - Full license
- Not directly comparable

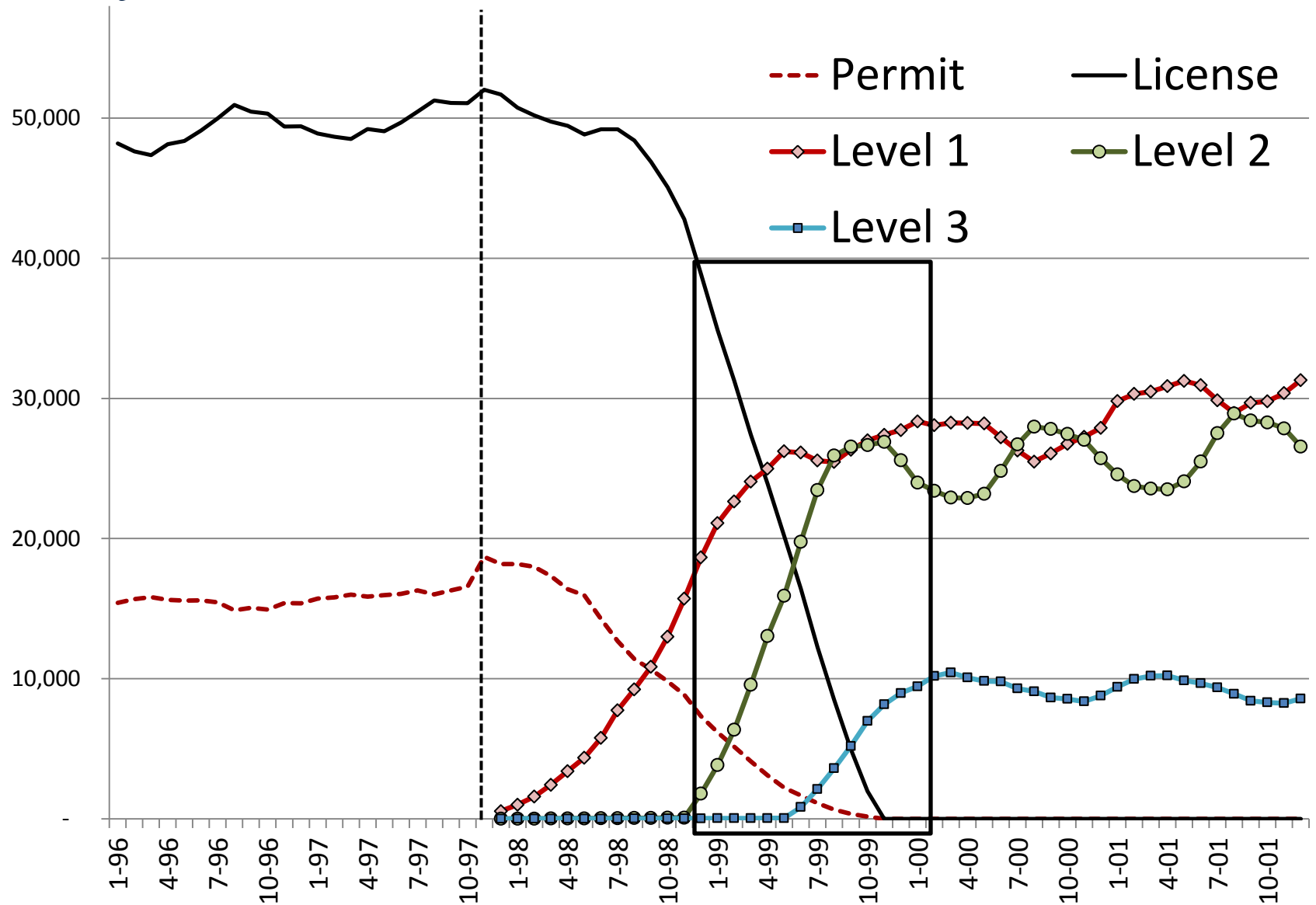
Driver License Data Analysis

- FHWA License Data Untrustworthy
 - Poor quality control
 - Erratic year-to-year fluctuations
 - Worse for young drivers
 - IIHS, UNC, others stopped using
- Need to use original state data

Anomalies in FHWA 16-yr-old licensing data

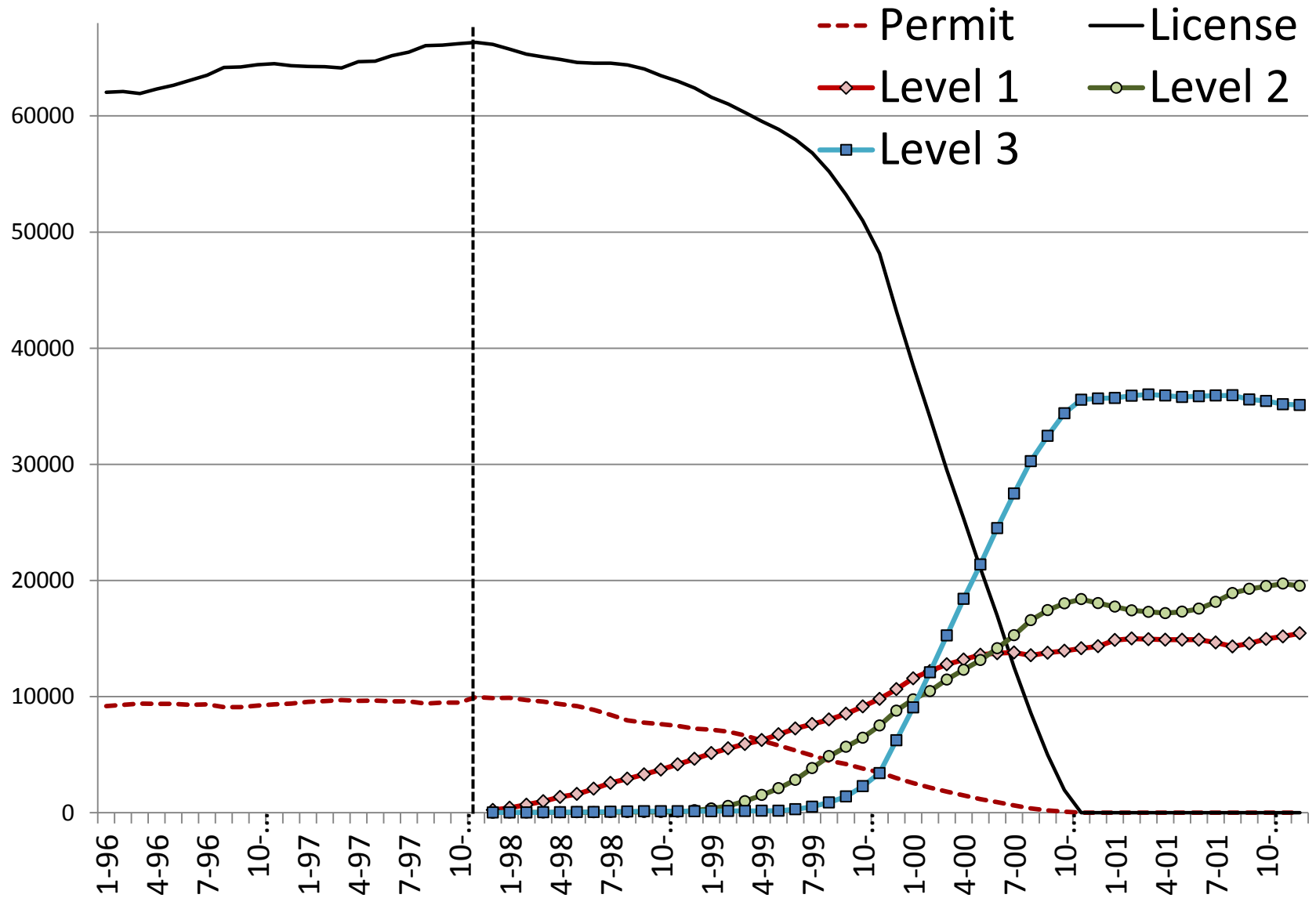


GDL License Complexities – Existing 16-yr-old NC driver licenses, 1996 -2001



GDL License Complexities – Existing

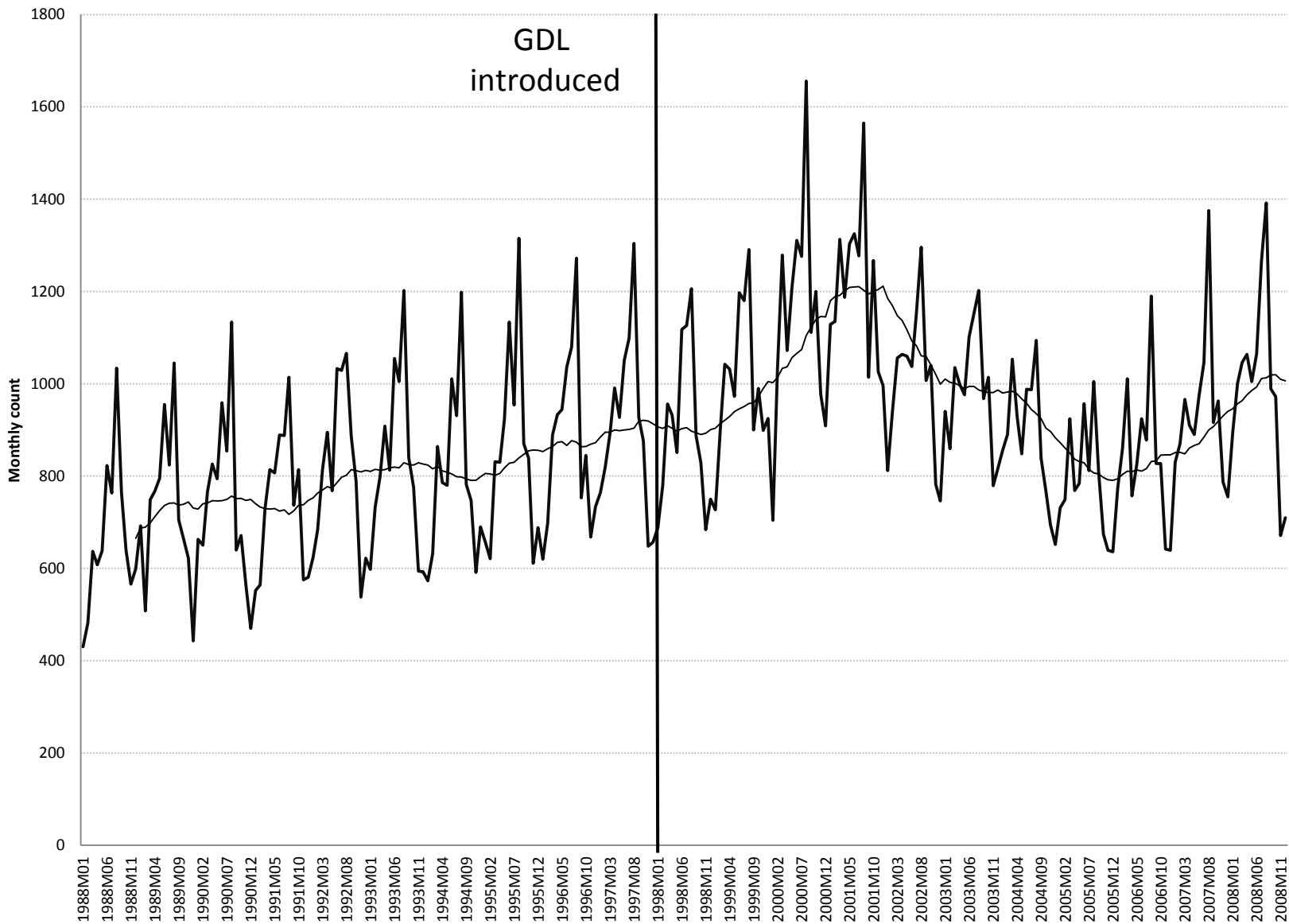
17-yr-old NC driver licenses, 1996 -2001



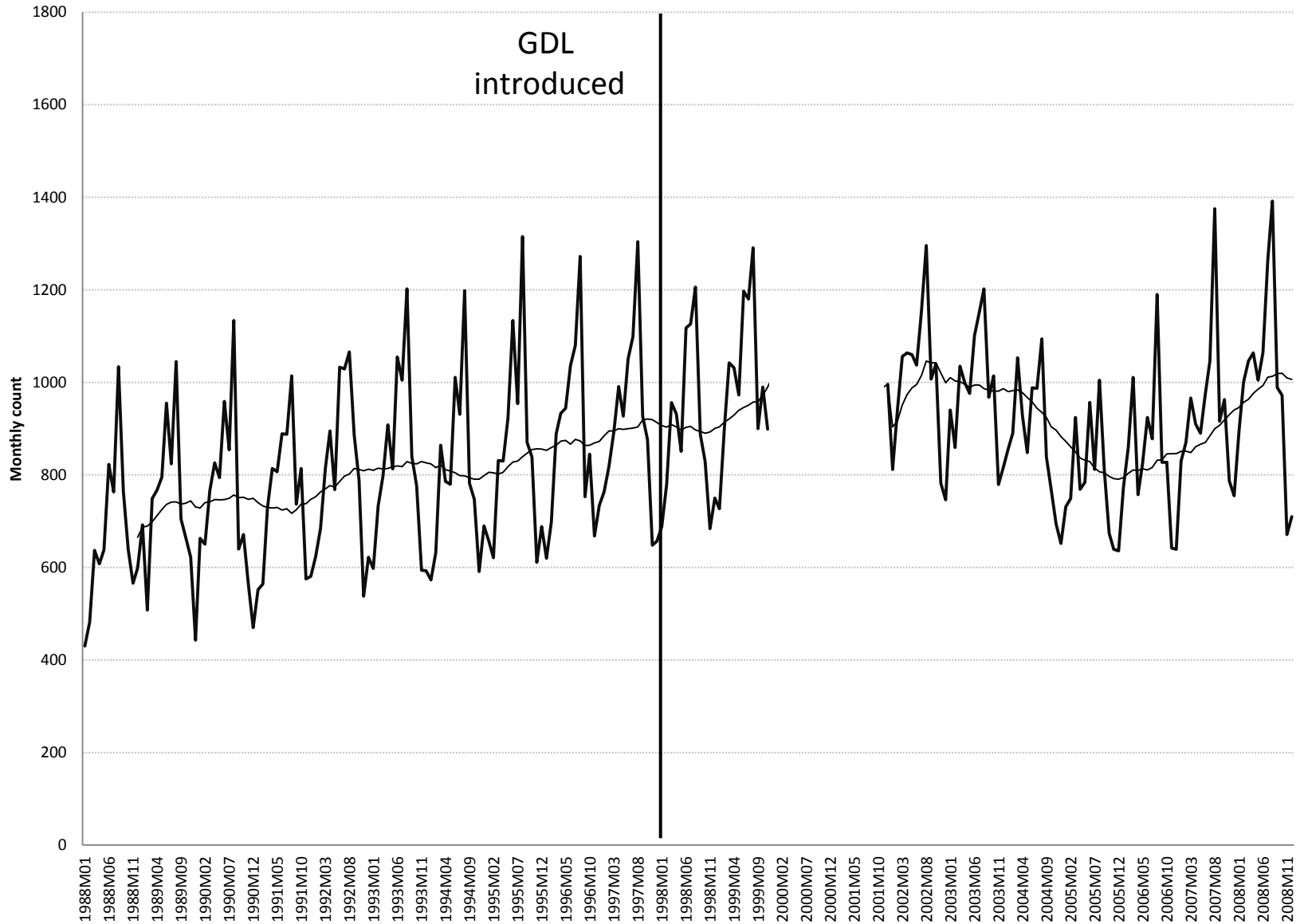
Less problematic at age 18

- NC, same before & after GDL
 - Permit – Optional or brief
 - Full license

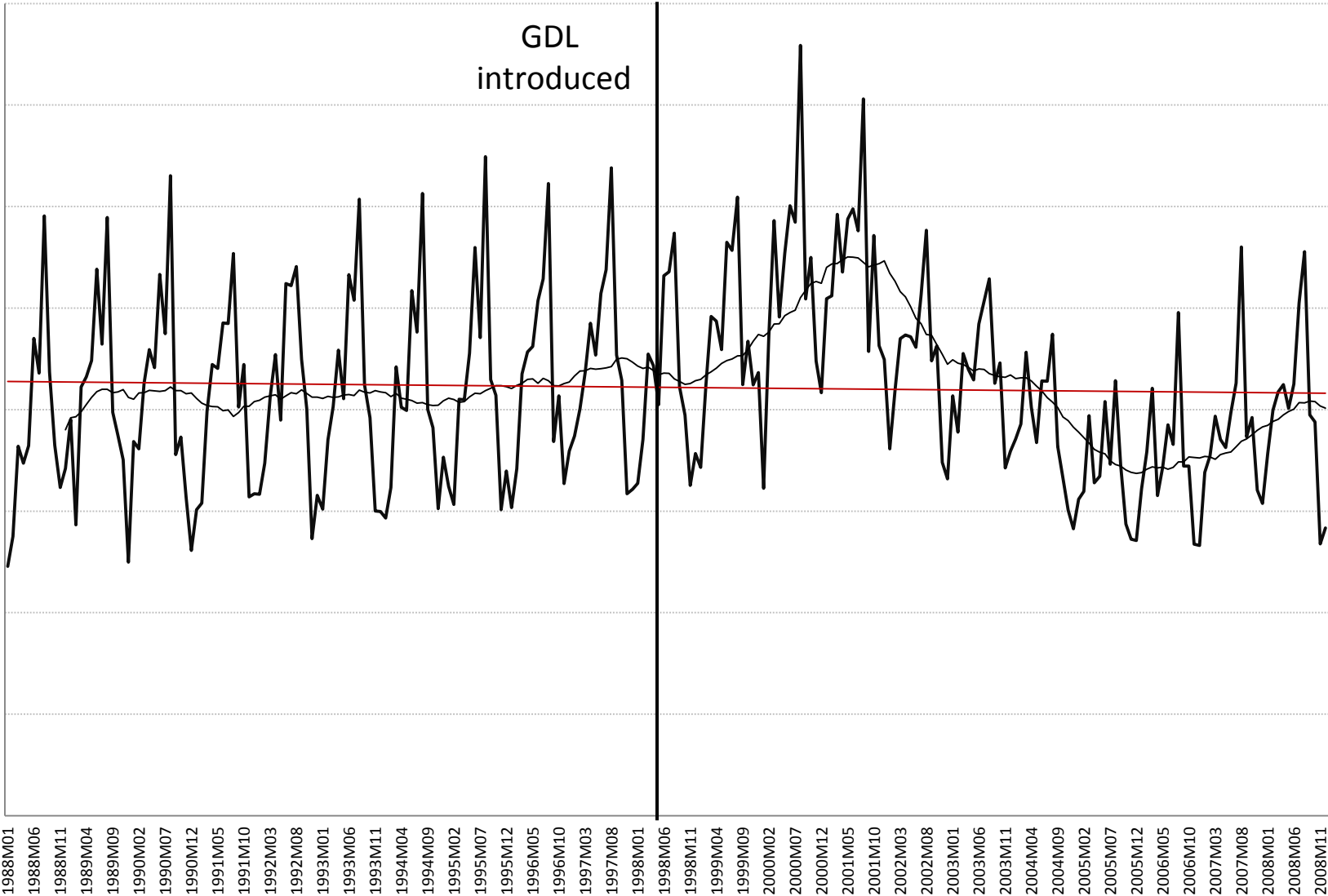
Monthly initial license issues to 18-year-olds, North Carolina: 1988 - 2008



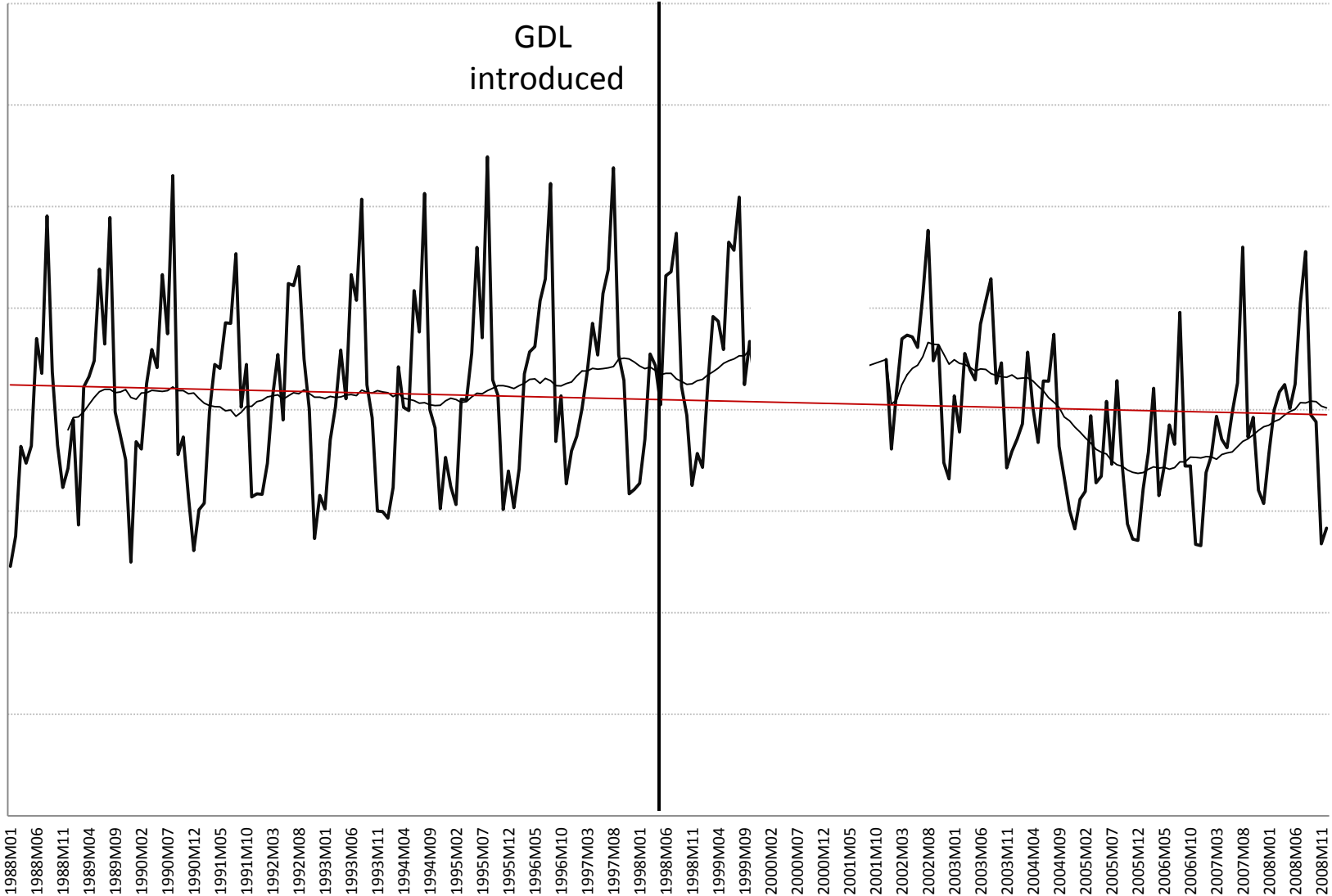
Monthly initial license issues to 18-year-olds, North Carolina: 1988 - 2008



Monthly initial license issues to 18-year-olds, **per capita**, North Carolina: 1988 - 2008



Monthly initial license issues to 18-year-olds, **per capita**, North Carolina: 1988 - 2008



Caveats & conclusions

- One state, one GDL system
- Military, economic, other effects
- Nonetheless ...
 - Licensing changed for 18-yr-old drivers for 2 years as GDL effects worked through system, then fell back
 - No evidence of permanent increase

Additional analyses under way ...

Stay tuned ...

for further developments