



# DALLAS COUNTY JUVENILE DEPARTMENT



## Annual Report 2024



## **Dallas County Juvenile Department**

Henry Wade Juvenile Justice Center  
2600 Lone Star Drive, Dallas, Texas 75212  
Phone: (214) 698-2200  
<https://www.dallascounty.org/departments/juvenile/>

This report was created and published by the Research & Statistics unit of  
the DCJD:

Daniel Pacheco, Ph.D., Manager  
Christian Yost, M.S., Assistant Manager  
Juan Lomeli, M.S., Research Assistant  
Mikayla Hveem, M.A., Research Assistant  
Nyasias Brunson, M.S., MBA, Data Analyst

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

Dallas County Juvenile Board .....	1
Vision, Mission, & Values.....	2
Employee Commendations .....	3
Youth in Action .....	4
Juvenile Justice Case Flow Process .....	5
Organizational Chart.....	6
Overview: Calendar Year 2024 .....	7
Tools for Tomorrow: Preparing Youth for the Workforce .....	8
2024 Formal Referral Data .....	9
Referral Trends 2022-2024.....	9
2024 Formal Referral Demographics.....	10
Geographical Concentration of Referrals to DCJD .....	11
Formalized Referral Trends 2020-2024 .....	12
Risk & Needs Assessment .....	13
Redirecting Justice: How Dallas County Doubled Juvenile Diversions .....	14
Diverted Youth.....	15
Court Services.....	16
Behind the Scenes: The Vital Role of the Records Unit .....	17
Supervision Average Daily Population .....	18
Average Caseload by Unit.....	18
Education Advocates.....	19
DCJD Community Programs .....	20
Contract Community Programs .....	21
Dr. Jerome McNeil Jr. Detention Center .....	22
Letot Center.....	24
Letot - RTC .....	26
Letot - RDT .....	28
Letot - STARS .....	30
Dallas County - RDT .....	32
Dallas County - STARS.....	34
Dallas County - HOPE .....	36
Medlock .....	38
Youth Village .....	40
Community Resources .....	42
Vocational Programs .....	43
Juvenile Justice Alternative Education Program .....	44
Beyond the Courtroom: Building Stronger Families Through FFT .....	46
Victim Services Unit.....	48
Community Service Restitution.....	48
2024 Fiscal Year Expenditures.....	49
Service Pins & Retirees.....	50
Glossary.....	51
Notes .....	52



# DALLAS COUNTY JUVENILE BOARD

## DALLAS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT

The Dallas County Commissioners Court is a five-member elected body responsible for general administration of county business.

**Members of the Commissioners Court are as follows:**

**Clay Jenkins**  
Dallas County Judge

**Dr. Theresa Daniel**  
District 1

**Andy Sommerman**  
District 2

**John Wiley Price**  
District 3

**Dr. Elba Garcia**  
District 4



**Judge**  
Cheryl Lee Shannon  
Chairperson  
305th District Court



**Judge**  
Andrea D. Plumlee  
Vice Chairperson  
330th District Court



**Judge**  
Andrea Martin  
304th District Court



**County Judge**  
Clay Jenkins



**Judge**  
Aiesha Redmond  
160th Civil District Court



**Judge**  
Amber Givens  
282nd Judicial District Court



**Judge**  
Stephanie Huff  
291st Judicial District Court



**Commissioner**  
Andy Sommerman  
District 2



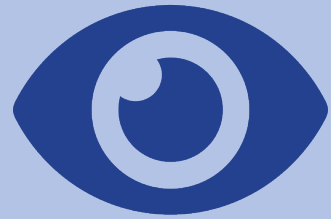
**Sr. Corp.**  
Robert White  
Youth Services  
Advisory Board  
Chair



# VISION, MISSION, & VALUES

## Our VISION

The Dallas County Juvenile Department seeks to foster safe communities, youth opportunities, and family success.



## Our MISSION

Provide developmentally appropriate juvenile justice services founded on best practices, operated by committed employees, and informed by measurable results.

## Our VALUES

**Integrity** - Being honest, ethical, and accountable

**Advocacy** - Empowering youth, families, and staff

**Respect** - Value youth, families, and one another

**Communication** - Engaging in consistent, transparent dialogue

**Innovation** - Embracing creative, purposeful solutions



# EMPLOYEE COMMENDATIONS

## DCJD EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR



Martin Corona

### CLINICAL SERVICES



Melainah Richardson

### RESIDENTIAL SERVICES



Latrina Peterson

### PROBATION SERVICES



Christina Segoviano

### DETENTION SERVICES



Frederick Faulk

### EXECUTIVE & ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES



Kedrick Smith

### EDUCATION SERVICES



Kimberly Molidor

## LEADERSHIP ACHIEVEMENT AWARD



Nicole Brown



Frederick Jernigan

# YOUTH IN ACTION



Evening Reporting Center Program



Saturday Yoga

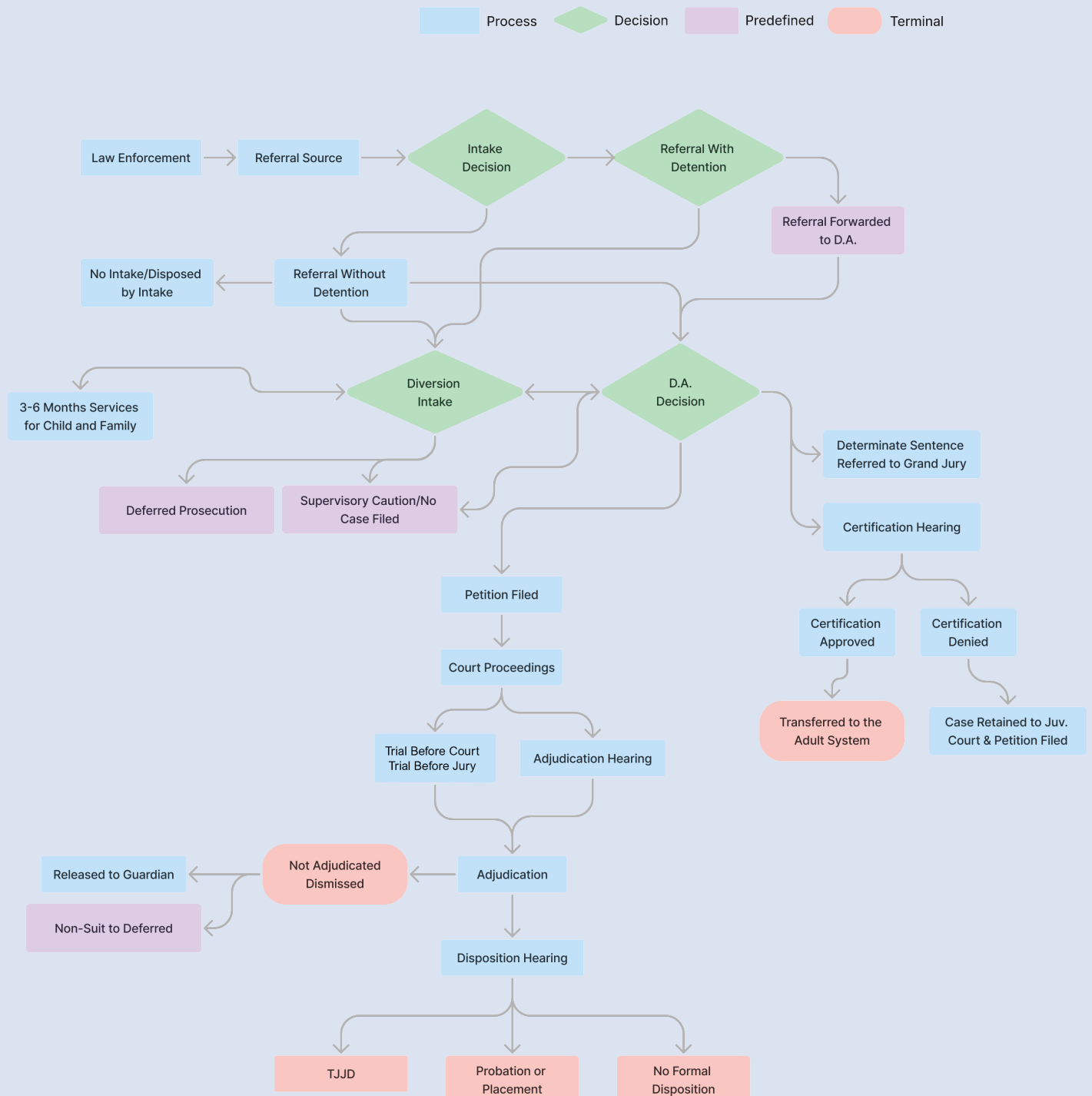


2024 Backpack Giveaway



# JUVENILE JUSTICE CASE FLOW PROCESS

Most referrals to the DCJD originate with any one of several law enforcement agencies, including the Dallas County Sheriff, that operate in the Dallas County jurisdiction. As indicated below, youth with one or more referrals will go through intake. Youth can be cautioned without any further intervention, they can be considered for deferred prosecution which typically involves a short period of supervision and targeted programming, or the District Attorney's office may file a petition that initiates formal proceedings which can lead to a trial by judge or jury, court-ordered probation, certification, or commitment to the Texas Juvenile Justice Department.



# ORGANIZATIONAL CHART

**Interim Executive Director  
Chief Probation Officer**



**Michael  
Griffith**

**Assistant  
Director**



**Sheryl  
Eagleton**

**General  
Counsel**



**Denika  
Caruthers J.D**

Contract Services

Legal Services

**Ancillary  
Services**



**Ervin  
Taylor**  
Asst. Deputy Director

**Budget  
Services**



**Carmen  
Williams**  
Manager

**Exec & Admin  
Services**



**Vacant**  
Deputy Director

Compliance/QA

JCMS

Grant Services

Office Services

Training/Cert

Research &  
Statistics

**Educational  
Services**



**Karen  
Ramos**  
Deputy Director

JJAEP

Charter  
Campuses

Day Reporting

PEIMS

Testing

**Probation  
Services**



**Dr. Julie  
Childers**  
Deputy Director

Pre-Adjudication

Post-  
Adjudication

Diversion Courts

Victim Services

Reentry/  
Resources

**Detention  
Services**



**Barbara Roberts**  
Interim Deputy  
Director

Hill Center

Detention Center

Dallas County  
RDT, STARS,  
HOPE

**Residential  
Services**



**Dr. William  
Steward III**  
Deputy Director

Letot

Medlock

Youth Village

**Clinical  
Director**



**Dr. Madeleine  
Byrne**  
Deputy Director

MH Assessment

Inpatient  
Services

Outpatient  
Services

Functional  
Family Therapy

Substance Abuse

Interns

# OVERVIEW: CALENDAR YEAR 2024



**286,361**

Juvenile population<sup>1</sup> in  
Dallas County

**1,755**

Felony  
Offenses<sup>3</sup>

**291**

Violations of  
Probation<sup>3</sup>

**1,616**

Misdemeanor  
Offenses<sup>3</sup>

**604**

CINS<sup>3</sup>



**11%**

Percent of juveniles in Dallas  
County population<sup>2</sup>



**4,436**

Total dispositions



**3,580**

Youth referred to  
the department



**37%**

Of all dispositions  
resulted in adjudications



**1,439**

Total detention  
admissions



**1,153**

Unique youth admitted  
to detention



**21%**

Of all dispositions resulted  
in Deferred Prosecution  
Supervision



**553**

Youth began Deferred  
Prosecution Supervision



**1,067**

Youth began Court Ordered  
Probation Supervision



**29%**

Of all dispositions resulted  
in Court-Ordered Probation  
Supervision



**9**

Certifications<sup>4</sup>



**43**

TJJD Commitments

<sup>1</sup>Source: <https://demographics.texas.gov/Estimates/2023/>

<sup>2</sup>Ages 10-17

<sup>3</sup>Values based on the total number of referrals by primary offense type

<sup>4</sup>Only two of the nine certifications were for youth aged 16 or under at the time of disposition



# Tools for Tomorrow: Preparing Youth for the Workforce

At Youth Village and the Lyle B. Medlock Center, vocational programs are shaping the futures of system-involved youth through hands-on training and nationally recognized certifications.



Residents preparing a fresh meal

Dallas County Juvenile Department (DCJD) continues to emphasize the value of career-readiness through vocational programs at Youth Village and the Lyle B. Medlock Residential Treatment Center. Each residential facility provides structured opportunities for youth to gain industry-recognized certifications that can support successful reentry and future employment.

Youth Village, a non-secure placement for youth aged 13 to 17 years, offers a multi-tiered vocational track. Youth begin with OSHA-10 safety training, which lays the foundation for subsequent certifications in welding and forklift operation. The hands-on welding program introduces participants to the fundamentals of metalwork, including equipment handling, safety procedures, and basic welds. Afterward, youth are eligible to receive instruction in forklift operation. The certification sequence equips participants with technical skills but also instills confidence and discipline.

At the Lyle B. Medlock Residential Treatment Center, youth aged 13 to 18 years are afforded the same certification pathway, with training in OSHA-10, welding, and forklift operation. The vocational programs complement the center's counseling, educational, and life-skills services by helping youth build tangible tools for independent living and employment readiness.



Culinary student making pozole

In addition to its industrial certifications, residents aged 16 and older are offered an impressive Culinary Arts program. The nine-week course is facilitated by Culinary Instructor Becklien James Merit and begins with two weeks of classroom instruction, during which students earn a two-year Food Handlers Certificate. In 2024, 48 Food Handler certificates were issued. The curriculum then shifts into the kitchen where students refine their knife skills, master cooking techniques, and explore weekly themes such as Egg Week, Chicken Week, and Handmade Pasta Week. Throughout the course, students also tend to on-site gardens, harvesting produce used in their meals and shared with the campus.

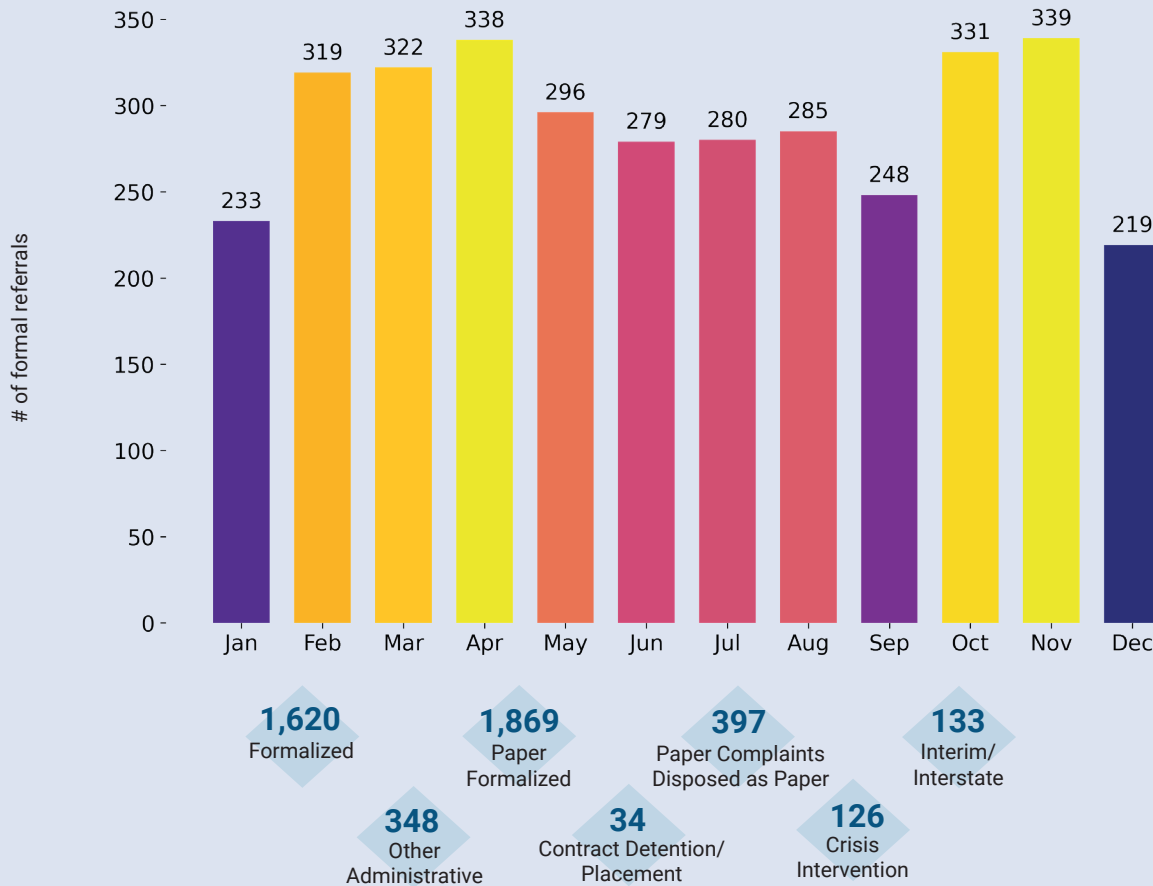
The Culinary Arts program distinguishes itself through its involvement in community engagement and on-campus contributions. Students cater a variety of events, using the opportunity to practice large-scale meal preparation, time management, and food presentation. From yogurt parfaits with homemade granola to made-to-order quesadillas and handmade cookies, the students demonstrated professionalism and creativity. Additionally, they routinely prepare treats for staff appreciation events and special holiday celebrations.

Whether in the kitchen or the workshop, the skills gained through vocational programs empower youth with more than just certificates. These programs foster perseverance, teamwork, and a sense of accomplishment. By integrating real-world applications into their rehabilitation, both Youth Village and Medlock are preparing youth for meaningful futures beyond their time in residential care.



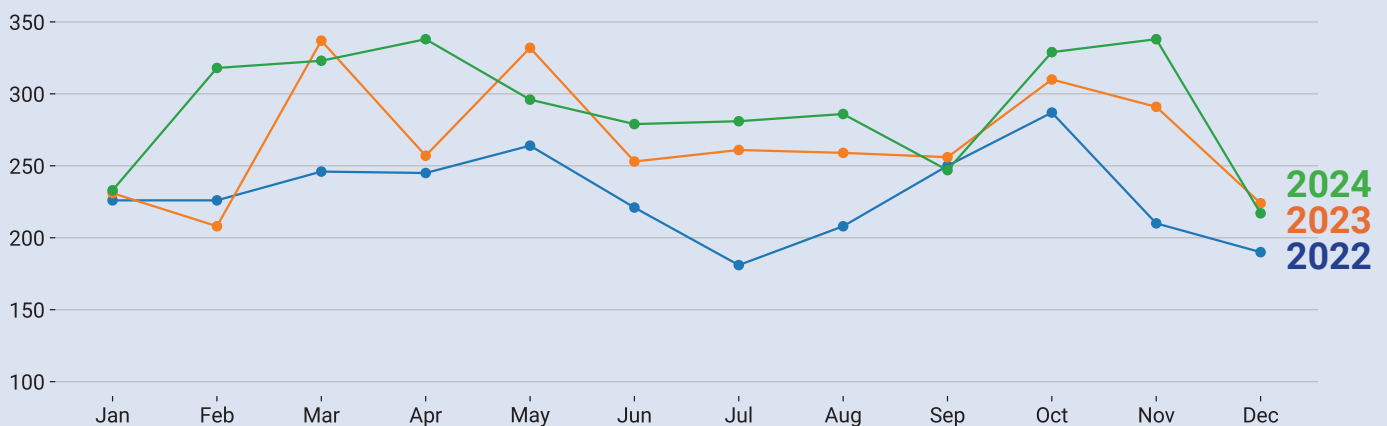
Youth developing their welding skills

# 2024 FORMAL REFERRAL DATA



- The 2024 average monthly referrals to the Juvenile Department was 291
- Spikes are observed in April and November, with similar increases in February, March, and October
- The 3489 formalized and paper formalized referrals in 2024 represents an 8% increase from 2023

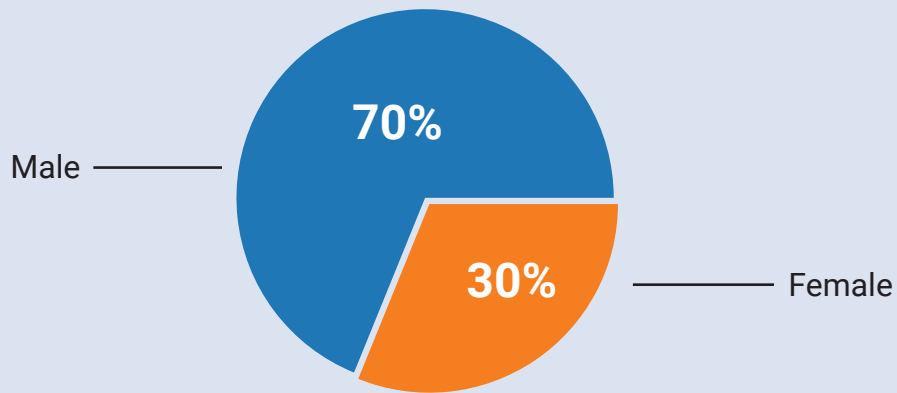
## REFERRAL TRENDS 2022-2024



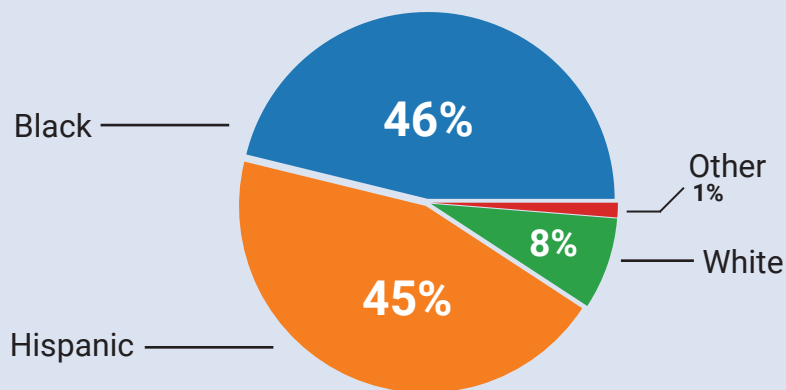
- In the line graph above, yearly increases are observed from 2023 to 2024, and from 2022 to 2023
- A decrease in referrals is observed in July 2022, but not subsequent years
- The patterns observed from 2023 to 2024 may be more realistic relative to 2022 when considering how the COVID pandemic influenced referral data

# 2024 FORMAL REFERRAL DEMOGRAPHICS

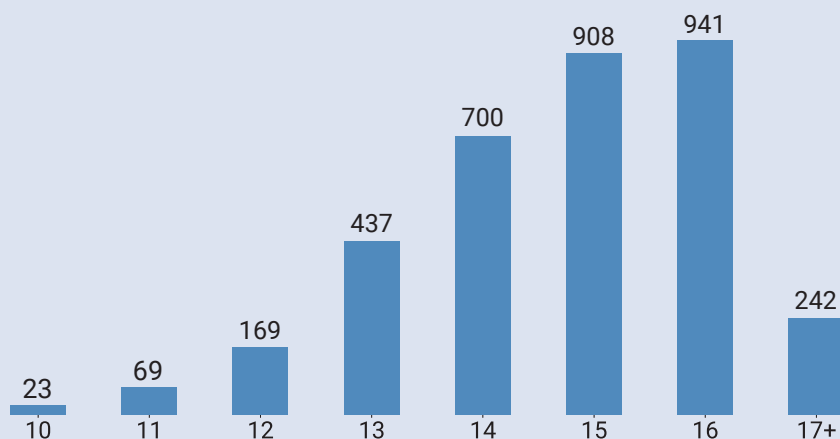
## GENDER



## RACE



## REFERRALS BY AGE





## GEOGRAPHICAL CONCENTRATION OF REFERRALS TO DCJD



The map shown above represents the Dallas County Juvenile Department's geographic jurisdiction, which corresponds with the boundaries of the county. Zip code and municipal boundaries are indicated by shapes. Law Enforcement Agencies (LEAs), such as police departments, are integral elements of city or municipal infrastructure. LEAs generate referrals to the DCJD when responding to service calls where a juvenile is believed to have violated a law or been a party to such an event. The color shading on the map corresponds with the concentration of referrals from each zip code area or city, with blue areas representing the lowest concentration of referrals and red indicating the highest (see the legend).

# FORMALIZED REFERRAL TRENDS 2020-2024

Felony	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	% Change 23-24	% Change 20-24
Assaultive	168	207	254	296	321	8 (+)	91 (+)
Burglary	93	37	41	45	46	2 (+)	51 (-)
Drug Offenses	35	73	102	96	392	308 (+)	1020 (+)**
Homicide	18	23	24	22	35	59 (+)	94 (+)
Other Felony	101	126	150	241	186	23 (-)	84 (+)
Other Property	22	19	30	40	29	28 (-)	32 (+)
Other Violent	0	4	3	4	3	25 (-)	+3*
Robbery	169	107	121	147	183	24 (+)	8 (+)
Sexual Assault	52	56	43	34	46	35 (+)	12 (-)
Theft	156	98	89	167	149	11 (-)	4 (-)
Weapons Offense	12	30	42	48	64	33 (+)	433 (+)**
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>826</b>	<b>780</b>	<b>899</b>	<b>1140</b>	<b>1454</b>	<b>28 (+)</b>	<b>76 (+)</b>
Misdemeanor							
Assaultive	368	424	744	772	835	8 (+)	127 (+)**
Drug Offense	65	29	16	9	16	78 (+)	75 (-)
Other Misdemeanor	169	198	253	324	287	11 (-)	70 (+)
Other Property	54	55	58	70	57	19 (-)	6 (+)
Theft	70	52	88	136	116	15 (-)	66 (+)
Weapon Offense	50	86	101	103	110	7 (+)	120 (+)**
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>776</b>	<b>844</b>	<b>1260</b>	<b>1414</b>	<b>1421</b>	<b>&lt; 1 (+)</b>	<b>83 (+)</b>
CINS							
Alternative Education Expulsion	2	0	0	0	0	-	100 (-)**
Disorderly Conduct	2	0	0	0	0	-	100 (-)**
Drugs	1	0	0	0	0	-	100 (-)**
Liquor Laws	0	1	0	0	0	-	-
Other CINS	134	139	142	141	141	0	5 (+)
Property (was theft)	1	1	1	1	1	0	0
Runaway	280	247	232	250	223	11 (-)	20 (-)
Sex Offense	0	0	0	0	1	+1	+1*
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>420</b>	<b>388</b>	<b>375</b>	<b>392</b>	<b>366</b>	<b>7 (-)</b>	<b>13 (-)</b>
Violation of Probation							
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>190</b>	<b>179</b>	<b>220</b>	<b>273</b>	<b>248</b>	<b>9 (-)</b>	<b>31 (+)</b>
<b>YEARLY TOTAL</b>	<b>2212</b>	<b>2191</b>	<b>2754</b>	<b>3219</b>	<b>3489</b>	<b>8 (+)</b>	<b>58 (+)</b>
<b>TOTAL YOUTH</b>	<b>1814</b>	<b>1853</b>	<b>2352</b>	<b>2623</b>	<b>2872</b>	<b>9 (+)</b>	<b>58 (+)</b>

\*Very low value frequency data does not yield meaningful percentage change. The actual frequency values are provided. For example, +1 denotes that one youth represents the category while a trailing (+) or (-) represents the actual increase or decrease in % change.

\*\*Proportional changes that occur in low base-rate phenomena can appear dramatically large, although technically accurate.

# RISK & NEEDS ASSESSMENT

## NUMBER OF ASSESSMENTS

**Full-Screen**  
5,255

62%

38%

**Pre-Screen**  
3,221

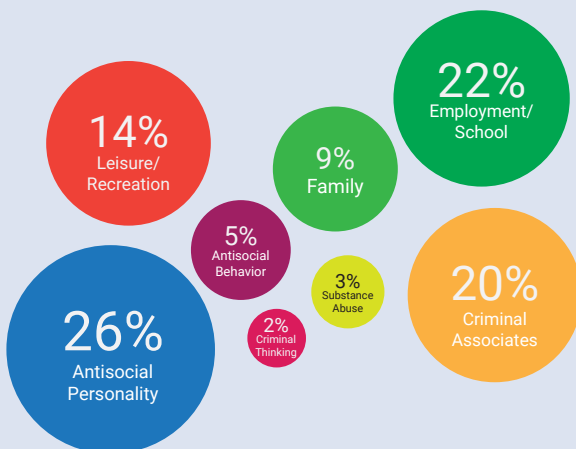
- The Positive Achievement Change Tool (PACT) has been the risk and needs assessment instrument used by the Dallas County Juvenile Department since 2019
- The PACT is administered to every youth in the DCJD
- In 2024, 5,255 (62%) PACT assessments and 3,221 (38%) Pre-Screens were administered
- The PACT yields a risk level representing the risk for recidivism (high, moderate, or low), and a needs level that informs the level of service provision (also high, moderate, or low)

## RISK & NEEDS MATRIX

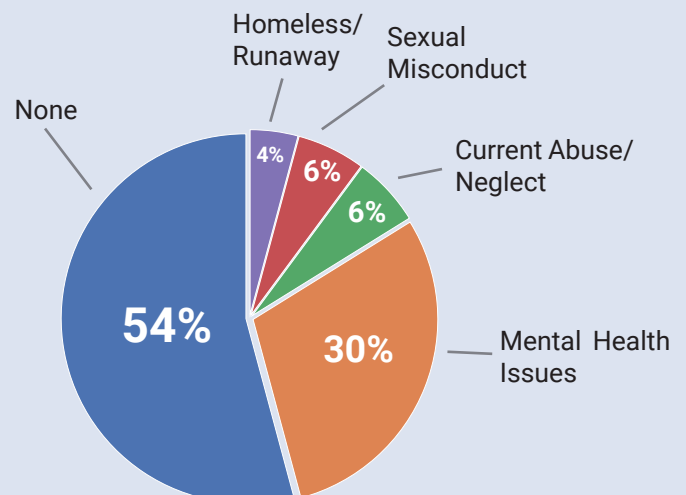
		Risk Level		
		Low	Moderate	High
Needs Level	Low	4479 (53%)	1118 (13%)	0
	Moderate	259 (3%)	1290 (15%)	904 (11%)
	High	0	38 (>1%)	388 (5%)

- Over 50% of youth scored Low Risk/Low Need
- Criminogenic Needs represent factors empirically related to recidivism
- Antisocial Personality and Employment/School rank first and second, respectively, as factors to be addressed through services
- Stabilizing Factors are characteristics that work against a youth's progress and should be a case planning priority
- 54% of assessed youth had no stabilizing factors, but 30% had mental health issues that required an intervention

## CRIMINOGENIC NEEDS



## STABILIZING FACTORS





# Redirecting Justice: How Dallas County Doubled Juvenile Diversions

A new initiative between DCJD and the District Attorney's Office opened the door for more youth to avoid court and receive community-based support.



Dr. Julie Childers, Rhonda Kerl, Michael O'Brien, Rachael Carrico

One of the key priorities for anyone involved in juvenile justice should be to ensure that young people receive the support and resources they need without unnecessarily deepening their involvement in the justice system. Many youth can benefit more from community-based interventions than from formal punitive responses. Striking the right balance can be challenging, especially when the various players in the system—the Juvenile Department, the District Attorney's office, and the Judiciary—may interpret concepts like justice, accountability, rehabilitation, and public safety differently. Still, the shared goal should be to respond in ways that are proportionate, developmentally appropriate, and focused on setting youth up for success.

When a youth in Dallas County is alleged to have engaged in delinquent conduct, they can be referred to the Dallas County Juvenile Department (DCJD). If the youth in question has been arrested for the alleged offense and brought to DCJD for processing, this is considered a Formal Referral to the department. If the youth was cited for the alleged offense, but is allowed by the arresting agency to remain in the community, the referral is still sent to DCJD as a Paper Complaint Referral. Once DCJD receives the referral, per the Texas Family Code, they must determine if the referred youth is actually a juvenile and whether there is probable cause to believe the alleged delinquent conduct occurred.

Prior to March 2024, there was not much more the DCJD could do for the youth before referring the case to the Dallas County District Attorney's Office for prosecution. There were only a handful of offenses (CINS, minor misdemeanors) that DCJD could divert before involving the District Attorney, which meant that most of the youth referred to DCJD had their case in front of a prosecutor. If the DA's office decides to prosecute, court dates are set, and if the juvenile is deemed to be a potential danger to themselves and/or their community, they could be kept in Juvenile Detention while awaiting court proceedings.

Already working together to reduce the Detention population, Dr. Julie Childers (Deputy Director of Probation Services) and Rhonda Kerl (Manager of Field Probation) began working with Michael O'Brien (Juvenile Division Chief) and Rachael Carrico (Deputy Juvenile Division Chief) from the District Attorney's Office to create an Alternate Referral Plan that would allow DCJD to divert youth referred for specific offenses away from prosecution and the judiciary system. Through tireless work starting in March 2024, they eventually came to an agreement that DCJD would serve as the point of intake if the referred juvenile is not already under the jurisdiction of the court, and if they are alleged to have committed one of the following offenses: misdemeanor assault (first-time), misdemeanor family violence (first- or second-time), or possession of less than one gram of Tetrahydrocannabinol (THC).

Under this new agreement, when DCJD receives a case qualified as mentioned above as a Paper Complaint Referral, the case is then assigned to a Diversionary Officer, who will contact the youth and their family to schedule an assessment interview. Once the assessment is completed, the results will be used to determine if the case can be Supervisory Cautioned with referrals to community-based resources, whether the youth should receive Deferred Prosecution Probation (traditional or specialized), or whether the juvenile is not eligible for a deferred disposition. If DCJD receives the case as a Formal Referral, the assessment is done by an Intake Screening Officer when the youth is brought to the Detention facility, and the same eligibility determination is then made.

Participation in this new diversion process is not mandatory for cases referred to DCJD. Youth and families who do not want to be assessed and/or abide by the Deferred Prosecution conditions, as well as those who want to fight the charges in court, can have their respective cases handled as they were prior to this new Alternate Referral Plan. However, the necessary collaborative work between DCJD and the Dallas County District Attorney's Office in 2024 allows a way for youth who previously found themselves in court to remain in their community. As seen on the following page, the number of youth diverted from the system more than doubled from 2023 to 2024.

# DIVERTED YOUTH

## Diversion Dispositions of Class B Misdemeanor or Higher Offenses:

	Dispositions		
	2023	2024	Pct. Change
<b>Departmental Action</b>			
Supervisory Caution	197	544	176.1%
Deferred Prosecution (Traditional)	208	364	75.0%
Deferred Prosecution (Specialized)	124	97	-21.8%
<b>Prosecutor Action</b>			
Supervisory Caution	4	33	725.0%
Deferred Prosecution (Traditional)	71	384	440.8%
Deferred Prosecution (Specialized)	14	50	257.1%
<b>Court Action</b>			
Deferred Prosecution (Traditional)	113	30	-73.5%
Deferred Prosecution (Specialized)	11	0	-100.0%

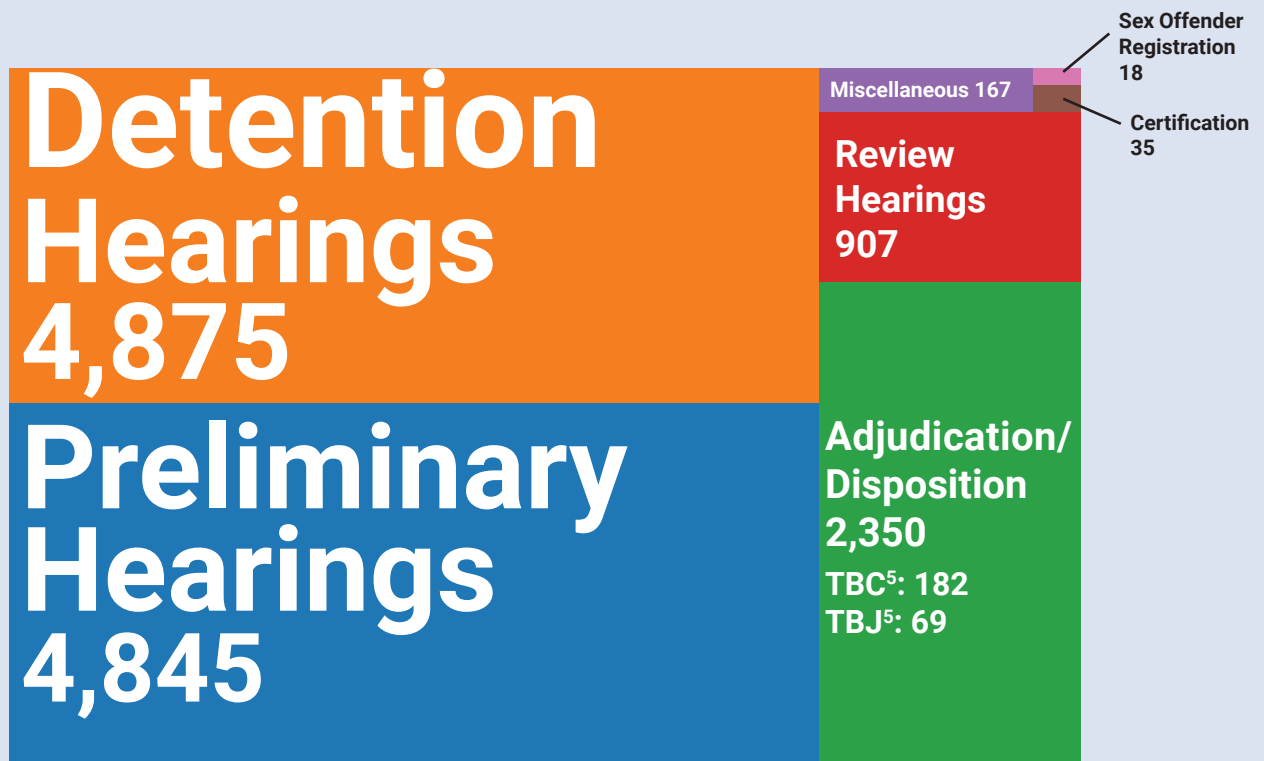
### Definitions

**Supervisory Caution:** A non-judicial informal disposition made by an authorized officer that may include counseling the juvenile about the consequences of their conduct, informing the juvenile's parent(s) about the juvenile's behavior, and/or referring the juvenile to community supports to meet the needs of the diverted juvenile and their family.

**Deferred Prosecution (Traditional):** A voluntary disposition alternative to adjudication in which the juvenile, parent/guardian(s), and the juvenile department agree upon supervision conditions under which the juvenile will be supervised for up to one year. If the juvenile does not abide by the agreed upon conditions, the case can then be sent to the prosecutor for adjudication.

**Deferred Prosecution (Specialized):** Similar to Traditional Deferred Prosecution, but for youth who demonstrate a higher need during their PACT assessment. Specific conditions for the supervision will still be agreed upon by all parties, but these conditions will likely include enrollment in one of DCJD's diversion programs: Youthful Offenders Court, Mental Health Court, Family Violence Intervention Program, Diversion Male Court, or Healthy Boundaries Group.

# COURT SERVICES



Two District Courts are specifically designated to preside over juvenile cases, the 305th Juvenile District Court presided by the Honorable Cheryl Lee Shannon, and the 304th Juvenile District Court presided by the Honorable Andrea Martin.

The role of the Juvenile Court Judge is to preserve the rights of the youth with cases set before the court, prioritizing the safety of the community, and keeping the best interest of the youth at the forefront, as decisions are made in the case. Additionally, the juvenile courts do not operate without the participation of prosecutors, defense attorneys, and probation officers.

- 12,070 juvenile court hearings were held in 2024 (22% decrease from 2023)
  - 4,875 (40%) Detention Hearings
  - 4,845 (40%) Preliminary Hearings
  - 2,350 (~ 20%) Adjudication/Disposition Hearings
- While there were slightly more Detention Hearings than Preliminary Hearings, they were proportionally equal
  - Preliminary Hearings are held to determine whether a case should proceed
- Youth will have an initial Detention Hearing within 48 hours of being detained
  - Detention Hearings will be held every 10 days following the initial detention hearing
- The third most prevalent hearing type was Adjudication/Disposition Hearings
- Approximately 9% of the total number of hearings held in 2024 represent Review Hearings, Miscellaneous Hearings, and Certification Hearings

# Behind the Scenes: The Vital Role of the Records Unit

A glimpse into Nathan Hargrove's day as the Records Supervisor, ensuring accuracy and accessibility within the Dallas County Juvenile Department.



Nathan Hargrove, DCJD Records Supervisor

The Dallas County Juvenile Department has more than 1000 employees and manages multiple facilities, including a detention center, an alternative education program, and dozens of community-based programs. There are very specialized programs designed for very specific populations, and others that target first-time referred youth. Along with the programs is the ethos or assumption that organizations evolve. A few years ago, there was no such thing as a supervisory caution for first-time referred youth, but now there is. This may all be implicitly recognized, but it is important to understand the scale of the juvenile department and at least one operational activity that is profoundly integral to all of the mentioned (and unmentioned) activities. This activity is [juvenile] records, or perhaps, more accurately, the Records unit. It is the nucleus of the juvenile department and has an influence to the aggregate of the department's operations.

Nathan Hargrove began his tenure with the juvenile department in August of 2016 as an admissions coordinator in the detention center. After three years, he transitioned to the records unit and has been responsible for many activities such as closing files, uploading petitions [to JCMS], and sealings (the deliberate archiving of certain records to make them inaccessible to the public), to name a few. Mr. Hargrove was promoted to Records Supervisor in December 2023. He was eager and motivated to discuss his role as the Records Supervisor, how he ascended to the position, what a typical day might look like, and his leadership philosophy. While the position operates in partial obscurity, the reality that Mr. Hargrove emphasized was that the records unit performs an important, integral, and vital role in and for juvenile department operations.

Mr. Hargrove described the records unit as a six-person operation with many moving parts. And while each individual is trained to fulfill a certain role within the unit, and is responsible for certain tasks, these individuals are also cross trained so that coverage is seamless when one team member is sick or on vacation. The unit is responsible for the facilitation of a variety of things, including the production of records for certain reasons. For example, sealing juvenile records is an important function because having such a record accessible by the public can hinder employment, licensure, and other opportunities in adulthood. Early in his tenure as the records supervisor, Mr. Hargrove described a situation that required certain files to be produced in support of an audit. Mr. Hargrove said it was stressful due to the urgency of the request, and because he was still learning the position. He fulfilled the request, meeting the deadline he was given. The records unit is responsible for several actions regarding juvenile records, and it is Mr. Hargrove's job to make sure these actions are done accurately, completely, and timely.

Mr. Hargrove completed the Dallas County Juvenile Department supervisor training and described himself as a leader who practices tenets of firmness, fairness, and consistency. In other words, he has high expectations for the individuals he supervises but believes everyone should be treated the same without favoritism or bias. Mr. Hargrove strives to have a consistent and predictable demeanor for his team so they know what to expect of him. As the records supervisor, Mr. Hargrove has reformed the way the file room is organized and maintained. He takes pride in what he has accomplished, in the work he does currently, and believes that he has a phenomenal team, providing a service that is relevant to all divisions within the department, and to any youth who has been, or will be under the authority of the Dallas County Juvenile Department.



An exclusive look inside the secure records area

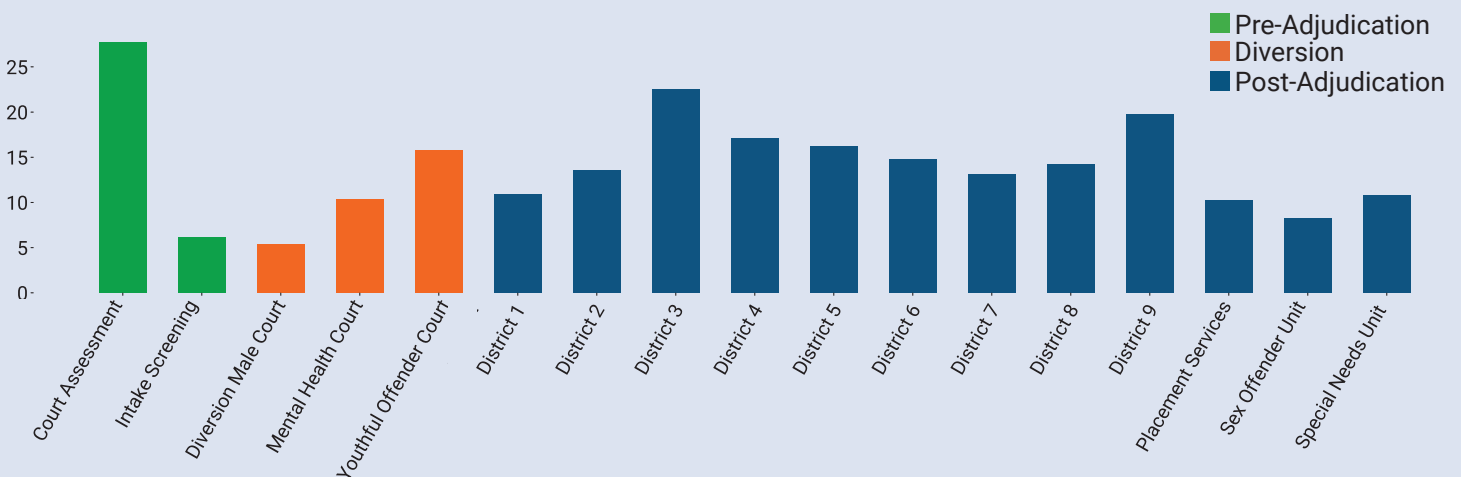


# SUPERVISION AVERAGE DAILY POPULATION

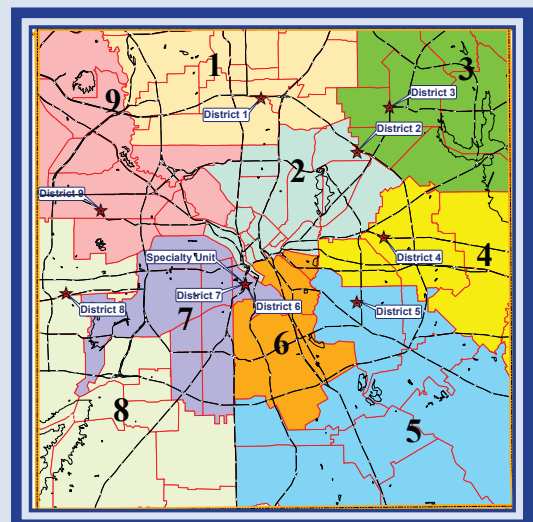
Court ordered probation supervision is provided by the Probation Services Division of the DCJD. As seen in the table to the right, a considerable number of youth are under one of five different kinds of supervision with most falling into the Court-Ordered Probation (Non-ISP) category. The supervision of youth under the authority of the DCJD refers to the level of monitoring indicated by the Positive Achievement Change Tool, along with any necessary service provision corresponding to a youth's needs.

Supervision Type	ADP
Pre-Disposition	248
Deferred Prosecution	332
Court-Ordered Probation (Non-ISP)	976
Court-Ordered Probation (ISP)	158
Post-Discharge Services Supervision	2

## AVERAGE CASELOAD BY UNIT



- The bar graph above represents average caseload sizes across the juvenile department
- The Court Assessment unit, District 3, and District 9 had the largest average caseloads while Diversion Male Court had the smallest
- The average caseload per unit is typically fewer than 20 youth
- Actual caseloads vary within and between units
- The map in the inset provides the distribution of DCJD district offices within Dallas County
- Officer and district assignments are based on the location of the youth's residence



# Education Advocates:

Ensuring that justice-involved youth have access to education, the unwavering champions of this initiative fight against discrimination and bureaucratic barriers.



Education Advocates: Alicia Slaughter & Dawn Knowles-Manning

Since its inception in 2016, the Education Advocates initiative at the Dallas County Juvenile Department (DCJD) has been a lifeline for youth seeking to return to school after involvement in the juvenile justice system. The initiative, led by seasoned professionals Dawn Knowles-Manning and Alicia Slaughter, aims to ensure that every young person, regardless of their past, has access to the education they deserve.

Knowles-Manning, with 22 years of experience at DCJD, and Slaughter, with 19 years, are dedicated advocates who work out of the Juvenile Justice Alternative Education Program (JJAEP) building. However, their work extends far beyond the walls of the JJAEP. They are frequently in the field, collaborating with Juvenile Probation Officers (JPOs) to navigate complex educational barriers faced by justice-involved youth. Knowles-Manning oversees Districts 1-5, while Slaughter is responsible for Districts 6-9.

The initiative was established to combat a troubling reality: schools and districts unlawfully denying students reentry based on their delinquent history. "It is just plain discrimination," stated Knowles-Manning. In one case, a school district used police intimidation to deter a youth from enrolling in their alternative education program. Unfortunately, such barriers are not uncommon, as some schools employ various tactics that further marginalize young people already facing significant challenges.

Navigating the education system is overwhelming for families, with some parents even losing jobs while trying to balance work and advocacy for their child's education. To ease this burden, Education Advocates guide students through enrollment in schools, GED programs, vocational training, and even college. No matter the goal, they are simply excited to see students pursuing their aspirations.



JJAEP mural featuring GED Certificates

The Education Advocates work under pressing deadlines. If the negotiations with schools and districts extend beyond a few weeks, students risk having to repeat an entire semester, delaying graduation and diminishing morale. To stay organized and ensure timely resolutions, they meticulously track each case in a detailed spreadsheet. For both advocates, the most rewarding moment is updating a case status to "resolved."

Every Monday, they meet with the deputy director of Education Services, Karen Ramos, to review their caseloads and strategize solutions. They also stay well-versed in education legislation, equipping themselves with the legal knowledge necessary to defend their students' rights. In addition to their casework, they train clinical interns and, when necessary, seek legal support from Denika R. Caruthers, J.D., General Counsel for DCJD. Last year, Slaughter worked with a transgender junior who had recently been released from Henry Wade Juvenile Detention Center, and was living with their elderly, non-mobile great-grandmother. Understanding the challenges, Slaughter went to their home, provided the great-grandmother with a cellphone, and connected her with campus officials via Teams. She then drove the youth to school and ensured their enrollment was successful.

Knowles-Manning assisted a discouraged mother with an upcoming Admission, Review, and Dismissal (ARD) meeting. Recognizing the mother's frustration, she simply asked, "What does your child need?" Although Education Advocates cannot vote during ARD meetings, Knowles-Manning prepared the parent in advance, guiding her on specific accommodations for the child's Individualized Education Program (IEP), while offering a reassuring smile during the meeting. That once-struggling youth now serves as a student advisor, a testament to the power of support and advocacy.

By challenging systemic barriers and advocating for policy enforcement, Knowles-Manning and Slaughter are not only transforming individual lives but also driving broader change within the education system. Their unwavering dedication ensures that justice-involved youth are not defined by their past but are instead empowered to build a brighter future.

# DCJD COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

Program	Total Served	Successful Exits	Unsuccessful Exits	Other Exits	Total Exits
Alternative to Detention					
Day Reporting Center	28	6 (25%)	12 (50%)	6 (25%)	24
Evening Reporting Center	74	42 (65%)	19 (29%)	4 (6%)	65
Surveillance Only					
Electronic Monitoring Pre-Adjudication	239	166 (73%)	60 (27%)	0 (0%)	226
Electronic Monitoring Post-Adjudication	268	174 (72%)	68 (28%)	0 (0%)	242
Home Detention Pre-Adjudication	252	183 (77%)	48 (20%)	8 (3%)	239
Home Detention Post-Adjudication	251	163 (70%)	64 (28%)	4 (2%)	231
Diversion Program					
Diversion Male Court	43	26 (81%)	6 (19%)	0 (0%)	32
Family Violence Intervention Program	49	36 (86%)	5 (12%)	1 (2%)	42
Mental Health Court	34	18 (72%)	6 (24%)	1 (4%)	25
Youthful Offenders Court	56	46 (90%)	3 (6%)	2 (4%)	51
Healthy Boundaries Group	28	25 (96%)	1 (4%)	0 (0%)	26
Mental/Behavioral Health					
Functional Family Therapy	141	64 (53%)	52 (43%)	5 (4%)	121
Anger Management Group	35	35 (100%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	35
Individual Psychotherapy	16	15 (94%)	0 (0%)	1 (6%)	16
Sex Offenders Group STARS	94	42 (83%)	5 (10%)	4 (7%)	51
Special Needs Unit/Program	174	87 (72%)	29 (24%)	5 (4%)	121
Substance Abuse					
Substance Abuse Unit - Aftercare Program	124	78 (72%)	22 (20%)	9 (8%)	109
Substance Abuse Unit - Drug Intervention	173	79 (46%)	69 (40%)	24 (14%)	172
Substance Abuse Unit - Intensive Outpatient	56	18 (39%)	12 (26%)	16 (35%)	46
Substance Abuse Unit - Supportive Outpatient	154	44 (35%)	34 (27%)	49 (39%)	127
Other					
Cognitive Response Group	42	38 (90%)	4 (10%)	0 (0%)	42
Crossover Youth Practice Model	14	9 (100%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	9
DCJD Reentry Program	29	12 (75%)	4 (25%)	0 (0%)	16
NOMI Network	29	28 (97%)	1 (3%)	0 (0%)	29

# CONTRACT COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

Program	Total Served	Successful Exits	Unsuccessful Exits	Other Exits	Total Exits
<b>Alternative to Detention</b>					
M.Y. G.I.R.L.S. - Detention Alternative	180	111 (78%)	26 (18%)	5 (4%)	142
TIPs - Detention Alternative Program	9	3 (75%)	1 (25%)	0 (0%)	4
YAP - Detention Alternative Program	68	26 (38%)	14 (21%)	28 (41%)	68
<b>Intensive Case Management</b>					
TIPs - Intensive Case Management	61	48 (83%)	2 (3%)	8 (14%)	58
YAP - Intensive Case Management	39	20 (51%)	3 (8%)	16 (41%)	39
Youth Conversion - Intensive Case Management	217	112 (65%)	34 (20%)	25 (15%)	171
<b>Mentor Services</b>					
M.Y. G.I.R.L.S. - Mentor Services	61	38 (76%)	7 (14%)	5 (10%)	50
TIPs - Mentor Services	68	46 (73%)	11 (17%)	6 (10%)	63
Youth Conversion - Mentor Services	66	31 (58%)	11 (21%)	11 (21%)	53
<b>Other</b>					
Big Thought - Creative Solutions	33	16 (49%)	9 (27%)	8 (24%)	33

Programs and interventions are at the heart of DCJD juvenile services. Youth who present with any kind of need including mental health issues, family dysfunction, educational and vocational deficits, and substance abuse disorders, among many others, can take advantage of the opportunity to avail themselves of any of the internal or community programs within the department.

- The DCJD hosts a number of specialized programs to support youth for a variety of problems and issues
- Most are community-based programs, allowing youth to participate and remain in the community while they are under the authority of the DCJD
- As seen in the tables, program completions (successful exits) tend to exceed 50%
- Diversion Programs had high successful discharge rates
- Mental and Behavioral Health programs also largely had successful exits
- Contract Community Programs fill service gaps that exist between the DCJD and community-based programs
- Contract Community Programs also represent partnerships between the DCJD and organizations that can provide program and other intervention services to youth
- Included in the metrics are youth who were discharged from the programs for neutral reasons and classified as "Other Exits." Such exits can include youth who had insufficient time to complete the program and any other reasons not related to the youth's performance

# DR. JEROME MCNEIL, JR. DETENTION CENTER

1,597

Youth Served

1,260

Unique Youth  
Served

37

ALOS (Days)

1,439

Admissions

1,153

Unique Youth  
Admitted

141

ADP

The Dr. Jerome McNeil, Jr. Juvenile Detention Center is co-located with the Henry Wade Juvenile Justice Center. Youth can be released to the detention center by law enforcement as a result of a referral for an offense. The juvenile detention center has a capacity of 184 male and 48 female youth. Youth who are processed into the facility will be met with structure and behavioral expectations. Additionally, they can avail themselves of services that include crisis intervention, a medical and psychological evaluation, and a risk and needs assessment that will inform case planning and service provision for identified needs.

In 2024, the Dallas County Juvenile Center discharged 1,500 youth. Youth are typically released to a parent or guardian, to a residential placement facility, or to another jurisdiction.

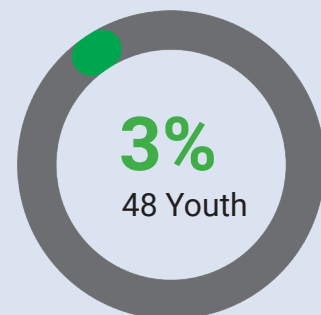
## DISCHARGES



Home



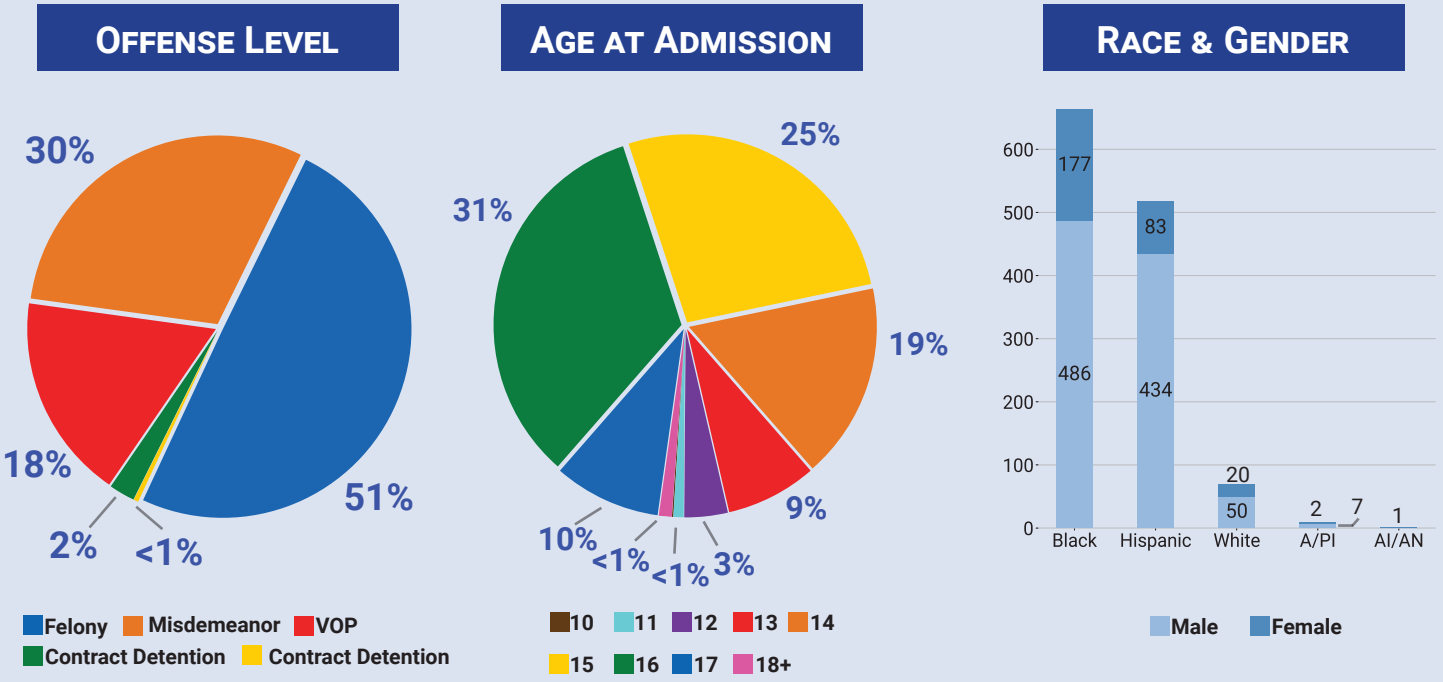
Placement



Other



# YOUTH SERVED



The Dr. Jerome McNeil, Jr. Juvenile Detention Center admitted 1,439 youth in 2024 and served 1,597. Youth stayed in detention an average of 37 days and the average number of youth per day was 141. Most youth were detained for a felony offense (51%) and almost one-third (30%) for a misdemeanor offense.

Three-fourths of detained youth were 14, 15, or 16 years of age. A considerable 85% of these youth represented the middle adolescent age strata with 10% being 17 years of age. Male youth comprised 78% of detained youth and Black youth represented 53%. Hispanic youth comprised 41% of detained youth and White youth almost 7%. Interestingly, White males comprised 4% of detained youth, down 1% from 2023, and Black female youth comprised 15%, up 1% from 2023.

# RISK & NEEDS

NOT ADMINISTERED = 26 (2%)*		Risk Level			TOTAL
		Low	Moderate	High	
Need Level	Low	433 (30%)	193 (13%)	0	626 (43%)
	Moderate	25 (2%)	295 (20%)	314 (22%)	634 (44%)
	High	0	3 (1%)	150 (10%)	153 (11%)
TOTAL		458 (32%)	491 (34%)	464 (32%)	1413 (98%)

\*The PACT assessment is not required to be administered to Contract Detention youth.

# LETOT CENTER

One of the integral residential placement facilities operated by the Dallas County Juvenile Department is the Letot Center, located in Northwest Dallas. The center primarily serves female youth, though Letot Shelter also accepts males. Letot is comprised of three components: (1) intake; (2) the Assessment, Stabilization, and Advancement Program for Trafficked Youth (ASAP); and (3) the Letot Shelter. Youth typically begin with intake, which takes a comprehensive approach to assessment, identifying runaways or youth in crisis. These youth receive various supportive services and are released to their families with an individualized treatment plan, along with recommendations and referrals for community-based follow-up.

Female youth identified as high risk for trafficking or exploitation are offered the opportunity to participate in the ASAP program, which has 8 dedicated beds. These youth can access a wide range of support services, from immediate needs like nutrition, clothing, and medical care to more complex needs such as mental health, therapeutic, and other interventional services that encourage family involvement. The Letot Shelter is a 24-hour emergency residential facility that houses up to 10 boys and 24 girls, offering services such as case management and clinical support.

## LETOT-INTAKE

Letot Intake had 423 admissions in 2024 with 371 unique youth served. Similar to 2023, the largest proportion of participants were Black female youth (35%) followed by Black males (25%). Hispanic youth (31%) comprised almost one-third of the participant population. Youth were also predominantly assessed as both low risk and low need (38%), with less than 10% being either high risk or high need.

423

Youth Served

423

Admissions

371

Unique Youth Served

371

Unique Youth Admitted

2

ADP

2

ALOS (Days)

Race	Sex	
	Male	Female
Black	96	123
Hispanic	49	70
White	14	17
Other	0	2

Needs Level	Risk Level			TOTAL
	Low	Moderate	High	
Low	160 (38%)	6 (1%)	0	166 (39%)
Moderate	93 (22%)	54 (13%)	22 (5%)	169 (40%)
High	0	15 (4%)	16 (4%)	31 (8%)
TOTAL	251 (60%)	73 (18%)	23 (9%)	423 (86%)

\*Not Administered = 57 (14%)

### OFFENSE LEVEL

CINS  
99%

Misdemeanor  
1%

## LETOT-ASAP

The ASAP program was developed for and is specific to female youth. In 2024, 35 youth were admitted representing 29 unique youth. Participants were 67% Black and 27% Hispanic. These youth largely presented with status offenses and were assessed as low risk. Additionally, they tended to be assessed with disproportionate needs. Of the 34 discharges 50% (n = 17) were successful.

	Sex
Race	Female
Black	20
Hispanic	8
White	2

	Exits
Successful	17
Unsuccessful	10
Other	7

	Risk Level			TOTAL
Needs Level	Low	Moderate	High	
Low	13 (37%)	0	0	13 (37%)
Moderate	14 (40%)	5 (14%)	3 (9%)	22 (63%)
High	0	0	0	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>27 (77%)</b>	<b>5 (14%)</b>	<b>3 (9%)</b>	<b>35 (100%)</b>

36

Youth Served

30

Unique Youth Served

2

ADP

35

Admissions

29

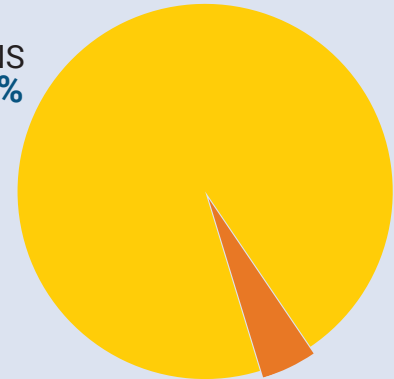
Unique Youth Admitted

23

ALOS (Days)

### OFFENSE LEVEL

CINS  
96%



Misdemeanor  
4%

## LETOT-SHELTER

In 2024, Letot Shelter admitted 128 unique youth. Almost two-thirds 63% (n = 80) of youth were Black, with Black females comprising the largest proportion of participants at 34% (n = 43). Black male youth comprised 29% (n = 37) and Hispanic females, 17% (n = 22). The average number of days in the program was 21 and the population averaged 7 youth per day. A considerable proportion were assessed as low risk and had disproportionate needs, 46% of participants were assessed as having moderate or high needs.

	Sex	
Race	Male	Female
Black	37	43
Hispanic	18	22
White	4	4

	Risk Level			TOTAL
Needs Level	Low	Moderate	High	
Low	69 (50%)	2 (2%)	0	71 (52%)
Moderate	38 (28%)	15 (11%)	6 (5%)	59 (44%)
High	0	0	2 (2%)	2 (2%)
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>107 (78%)</b>	<b>17 (13%)</b>	<b>8 (7%)</b>	<b>134 (98%)</b>

134

Youth Served

128

Unique Youth Served

7

ADP

128

Admissions

124

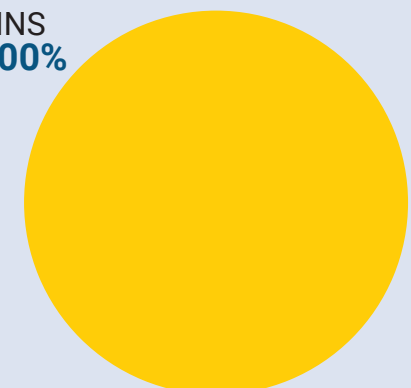
Unique Youth Admitted

21

ALOS (Days)

### OFFENSE LEVEL

CINS  
100%



# LETOT - RTC

63

Youth Served

52

Unique Youth  
Served

116

ALOS (Days)

47

Admissions

39

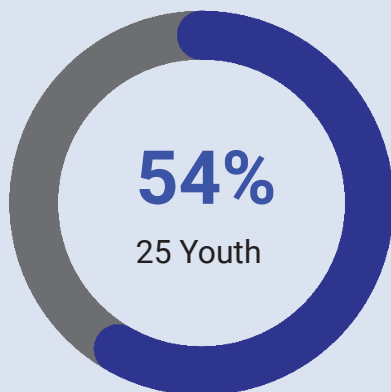
Unique Youth  
Admitted

13

ADP

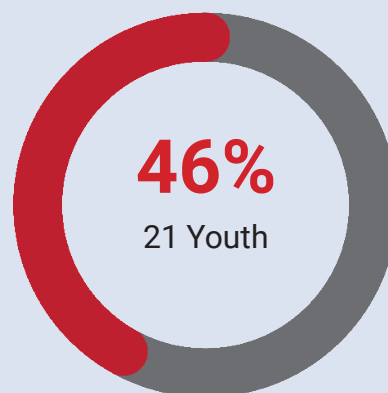
Girls who are referred to the Dallas County Juvenile Department and are ultimately adjudicated can be placed in the Letot Residential Treatment Center (RTC). It is a non-secure facility with availability for 96 female youth aged 13 to 17 years. Girls who have been neglected and exploited are prioritized with the idea that prosociality is inculcated in them. Families of residents are encouraged to participate and are included in all services provided. They are considered integral and an important therapeutic catalyst for making forward progress in treatment. Girls can avail themselves of a broad compendium of services that include education facilitated through the Academy for Academic Excellence, Family therapy and other clinical services administered in individual and group formats, crisis intervention, mental health evaluations and services, and substance abuse assessments and treatment. Educational services has a vocational component that teaches marketable skills through culinary arts programs, leading to food handling certification. Other services available to residents include specialized groups, anger management, improved communication skills, and parenting classes. In 2024, the Letot RTC admitted 47 youth and discharged 46. There were 25 (54%) successful discharges from Letot in 2024.

## DISCHARGES



Successful

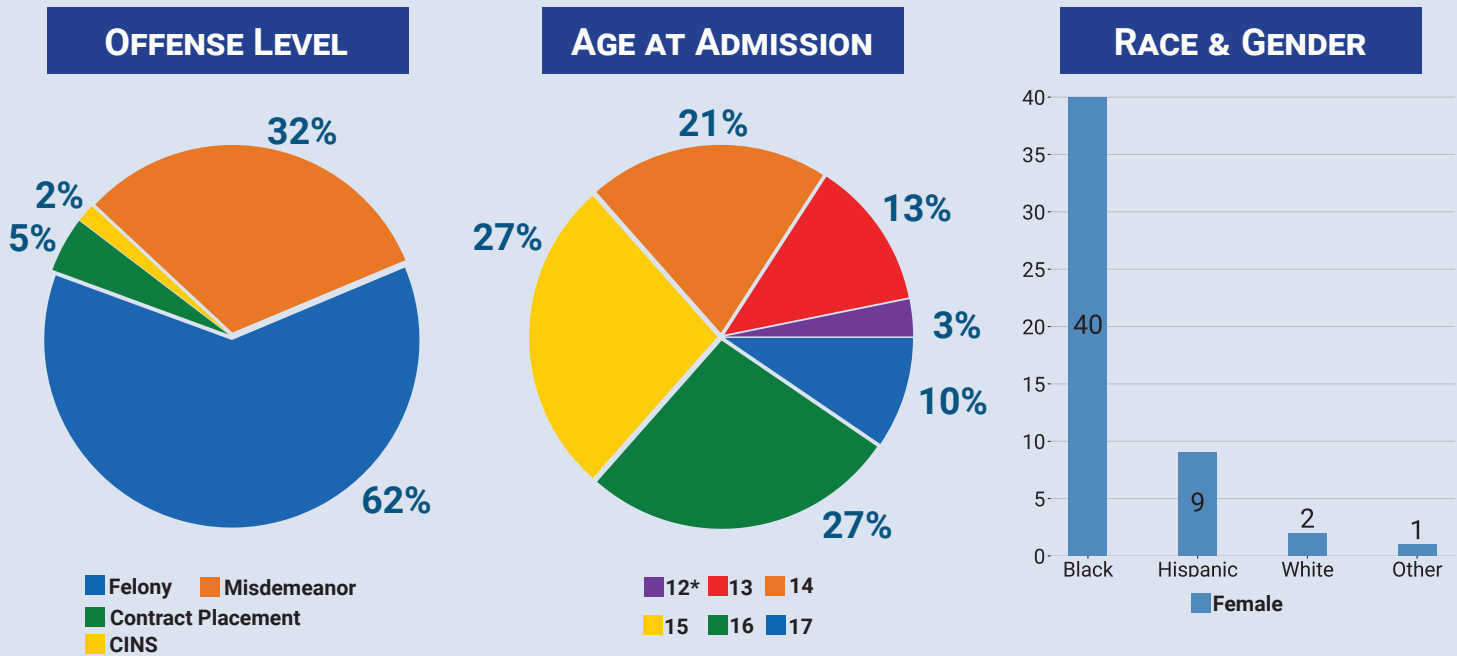
	ALOS (Days)
Max	240
Average	159
Min	39



Unsuccessful

	ALOS (Days)
Max	274
Average	67
Min	2

# YOUTH SERVED



The Letot RTC served 63 youth (52 unique) in 2024. The average stay in the program was 116 days, but ranged between 2 and 274 days. The average daily population was 15 youth. Almost two-thirds of participants had a felony offense. Youth were predominantly Black (80%). Over one half of participants were 15 or 16 years of age, with the next largest age group being 14-year-olds at 21%.

Of all youth who participated in Letot-RTC, 63 (95%) were administered a risk and needs assessment. Of those who were assessed, 51% (n=32) were assessed as high risk and moderate needs, and 92% were either high or moderate risk and 86% were either high or moderate needs.

# RISK & NEEDS

NOT ADMINISTERED = 3 (5%)**		Risk Level			TOTAL
		Low	Moderate	High	
Need Level	Low	1 (2%)	4 (6%)	0	5 (8%)
	Moderate	1 (2%)	7 (11%)	32 (51%)	40 (64%)
	High	0	0	15 (24%)	15 (24%)
TOTAL		2 (4%)	11 (17%)	47 (75%)	63 (95%)

\*One youth was an exception to the age criteria.  
\*\*The PACT assessment is not required to be administered to Contract Detention youth.

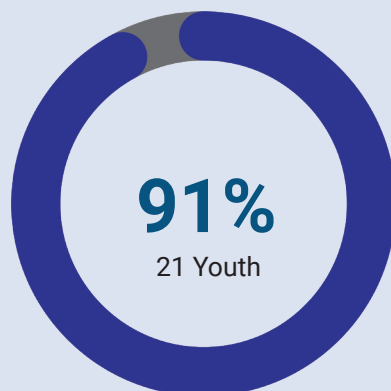


# LETOT - RDT



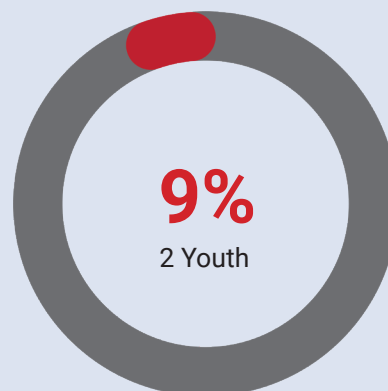
Within the Letot Residential Treatment Center (RTC), there is a Residential Drug Treatment (RDT) program specifically developed and designed for female youth aged 13 to 17 years with a substance abuse problem. The RDT program in Letot focuses on girls who have been diagnosed with a substance use disorder with a recommendation for an escalated level of treatment. The length of the program is between 180-270 days. Participants have the opportunity to engage in various support services, including clinical services. Aftercare is an integral element of the RDT treatment process, and youth are expected to participate in the appropriate groups. Participants must also attend school and work to perform at their grade level. While the core curriculum is emphasized, youth are also afforded the opportunity to participate in vocational training for culinary arts and food handling. In 2024, Letot RDT admitted 24 youth and discharged 23. Of the 23 youth who were discharged, 21 or 91% were successfully discharged.

## DISCHARGES



Successful

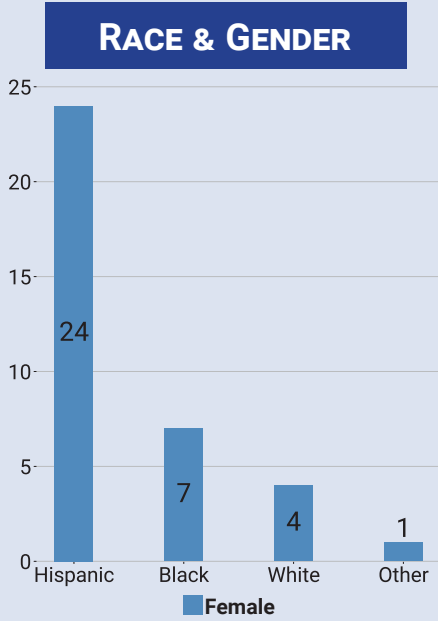
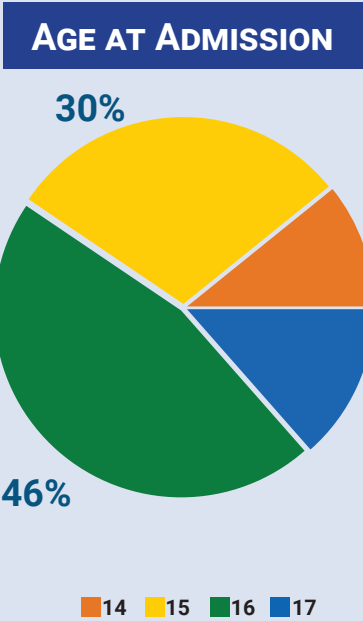
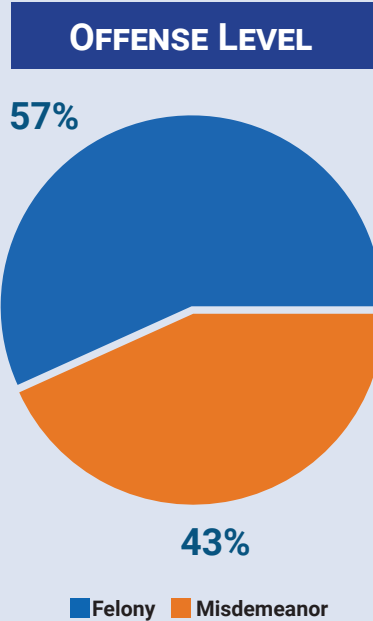
	ALOS (Days)
Max	310
Average	227
Min	106



Unsuccessful

	ALOS (Days)
Max	102
Average	73
Min	44

# YOUTH SERVED



Letot RDT served 37 total youth and 36 unique youth in 2024. The average time in the program was 213 days but ranged from 44 to 310 days. Similar to 2023, youth who were discharged successfully had remained in the program longer relative to those who were discharged unsuccessfully. The program averaged 15 youth per day.

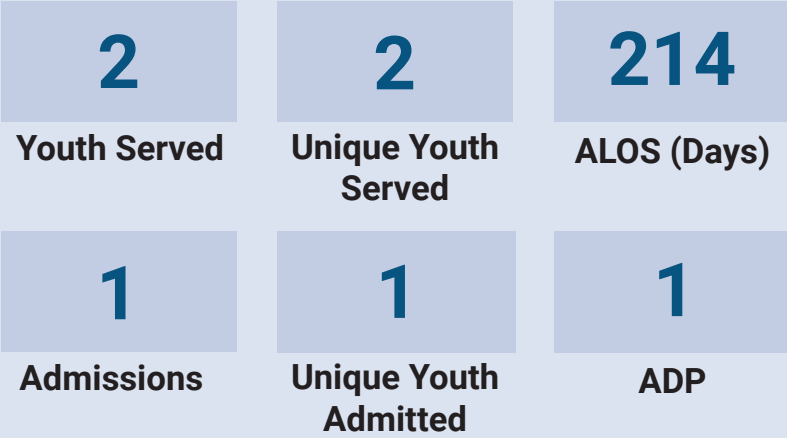
Most participants presented with a felony offense (57%), and approximately 76% were either 15 or 16 years of age, representing middle adolescence. The youth who participated in the RDT program were predominantly Hispanic (67%). Black youth represented 19% and White youth 11%. All 37 youth served were administered a risk and needs assessment. Of those youth, 49% were high risk and 30% were high risk and high needs. A considerable proportion (38%) were moderate risk and moderate needs.

# RISK & NEEDS

		Risk Level			TOTAL
		Low	Moderate	High	
Need Level	Low	2 (5%)	3 (8%)	0	5 (13%)
	Moderate	0	14 (38%)	7 (19%)	21 (57%)
	High	0	0	11 (30%)	11 (30%)
TOTAL		2 (5%)	17 (46%)	18 (49%)	37 (100%)



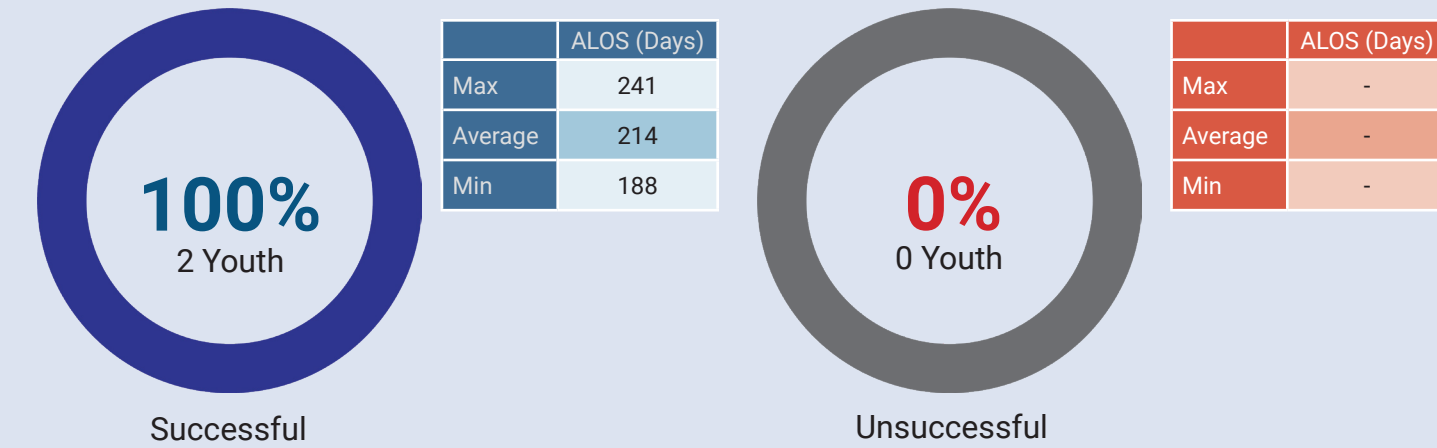
# LETOT - STARS



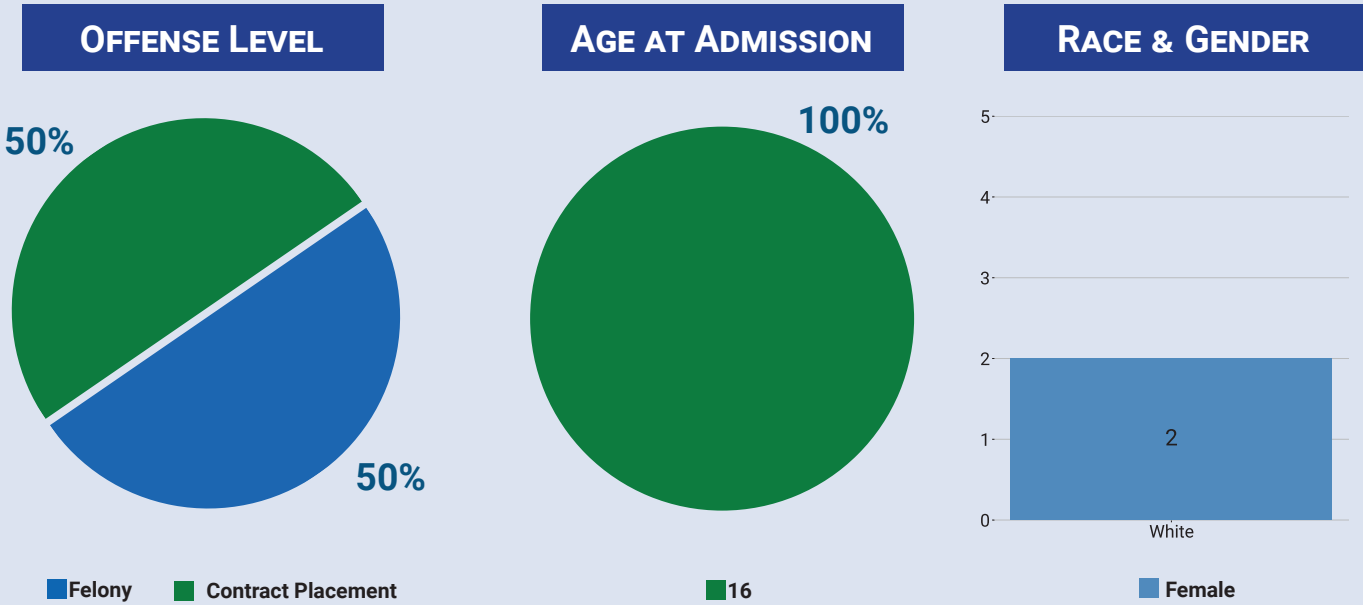
Female youth with referrals for sexually related offenses may be required to participate in one of the Dallas County Juvenile Department’s most specialized programs, called the Successful Thinking and Responsible Sexuality (STARS) program. STARS is appropriate for female youth aged 13 to 17 years who have been adjudicated for a sex-related offense. The three main objectives for this program are increasing the safety of the community, decreasing the probability of re-referral and recidivism, and increasing adaptive functioning. Youth participating in the STARS program attend weekly group sessions that focus on their thoughts and feelings. The idea is to encourage and promote healthy decisions regarding sexual behavior. The therapeutic approach is comprehensive, rigorous, and multidisciplinary, but flexible enough to accommodate the individual needs of participants, which includes allowing them to participate in various other opportunities.

In 2024, one youth was admitted to Letot STARS and two were discharged successfully. There were no participants who were discharged unsuccessfully.

## DISCHARGES



# YOUTH SERVED



The Letot STARS program served two (2) unique youth in 2024. The average number of days in the program was 214, but ranged from 188 to 241. The two participants were White and 16 years old when they were admitted to STARS. One youth had a felony offense, and the other was a contract placement. The STARS program is uniquely positioned to address the specific needs of this population while increasing public safety and decreasing the probability of future offending.

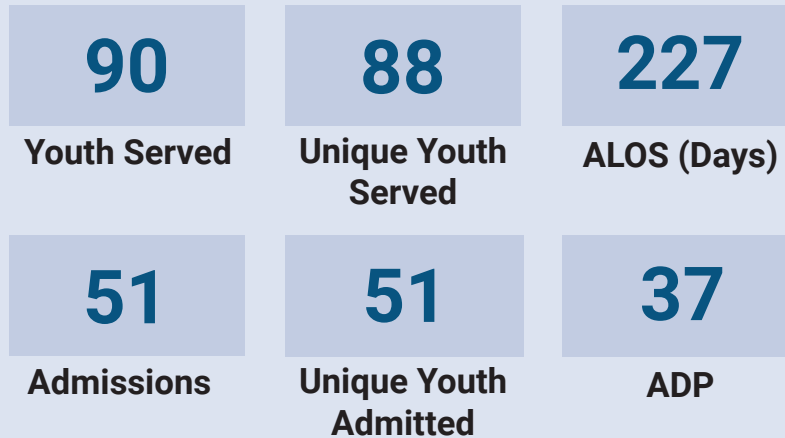
One youth was administered the PACT assessment, scoring high risk and high needs.

# RISK & NEEDS

NOT ADMINISTERED = 1 (50%)*		Risk Level			TOTAL
		Low	Moderate	High	
Need Level	Low	0	0	0	0
	Moderate	0	0	0	0
	High	0	0	1 (50%)	1 (50%)
TOTAL		0	0	1 (50%)	1 (50%)

\*The PACT assessment is not required to be administered to Contract Detention youth.

# DALLAS COUNTY - RDT



The Dallas County Residential Drug Treatment program (RDT) was developed and designed to provide an escalated level of substance abuse treatment services for up to 40 male youth who are aged 13 to 17 years. The program is approximately 180 to 270 days. Youth who are identified for participation in this program have had a comprehensive substance use evaluation with a recommendation for residential treatment and have been ordered by the court to engage in RDT services. As a participant of the RDT program, youth will be treated for their substance use disorder while also obtaining prosocial skills for decision making and better functioning. Youth are expected to attend school, participate in group and family counseling, and make forward progress based on their individualized treatment plan. As youth complete the program, staff work with them to create a step-down and relapse prevention plan, which is an essential part of preparing them for long-term success. The main idea is to do everything within the power and capacity of the staff to increase the probability of future success for these young people.

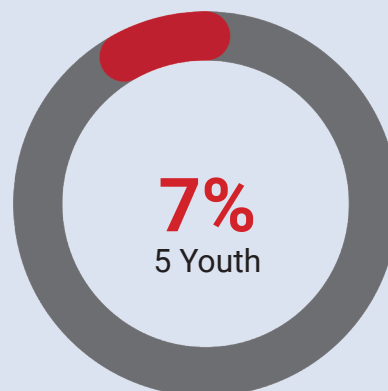
Dallas County RDT admitted 51 unique youth in 2024. The program discharged 68 youth, 63 (93%) of them successfully.

## DISCHARGES



Successful

	ALOS (Days)
Max	321
Average	237
Min	53

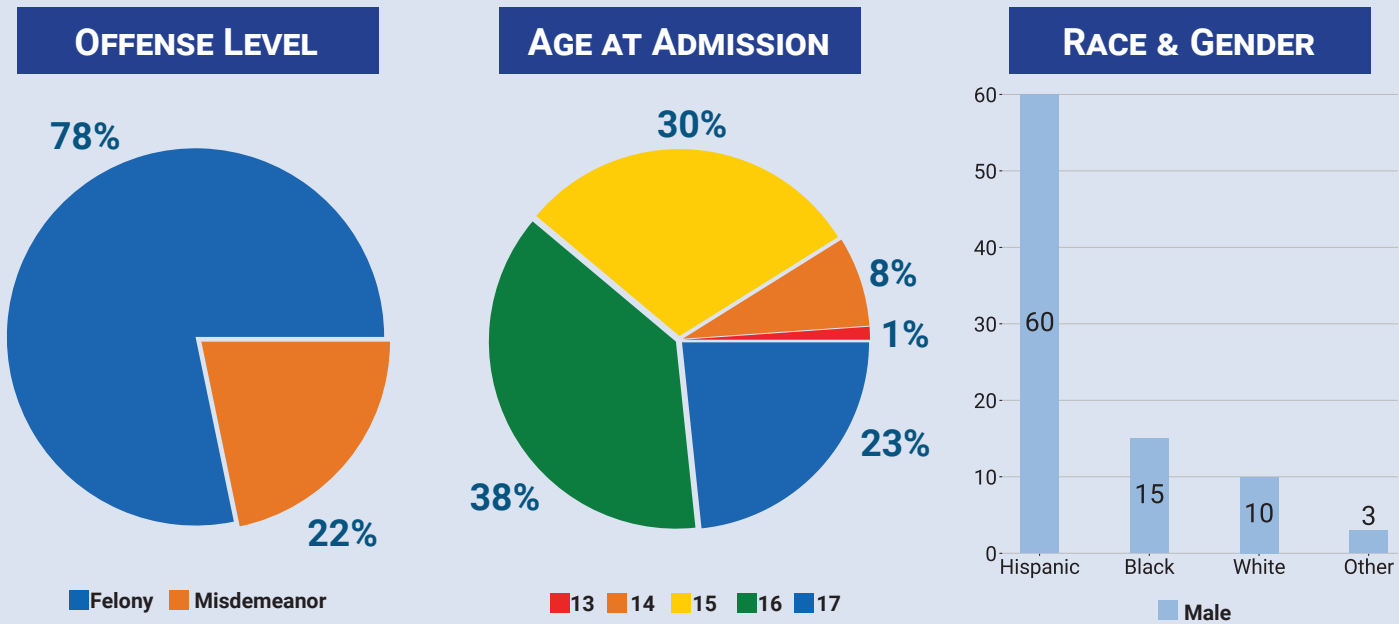


Unsuccessful

	ALOS (Days)
Max	155
Average	110
Min	53



# YOUTH SERVED



The Dallas County Juvenile Department RDT program served 90 male youth, 88 unique youth in 2024. The program averaged 37 youth per day and the average time in the program was 227 days, but ranged between 53 and 321 days. Youth who were discharged successfully from the program had a higher average time in the program: 237 days, minimum = 53, maximum = 321.

The youth profile includes 78% having a felony offense and 68% were either 15 or 16 years of age when they were admitted to RDT. Participants were also largely Hispanic (n = 60, 68%). Black youth comprised 17% of the participant population, and White youth 11%.

The RDT assessed all youth for risk and needs, The distribution is shown in the matrix below. Participants were largely moderate and high risk (88%) moderate and high need (78%). Almost one-fifth were high risk and high need while, 41% were moderate risk and moderate need.

# RISK & NEEDS

		Risk Level			TOTAL
		Low	Moderate	High	
Need Level	Low	11 (12%)	9 (10%)	0	20 (22%)
	Moderate	0	37 (41%)	16 (18%)	53 (59%)
	High	0	0	17 (19%)	17 (19%)
TOTAL		11 (12%)	46 (51%)	33 (37%)	90 (100%)

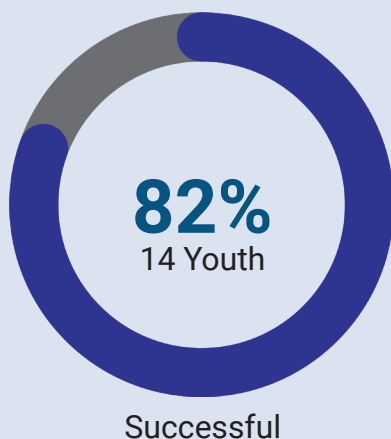
# DALLAS COUNTY - STARS



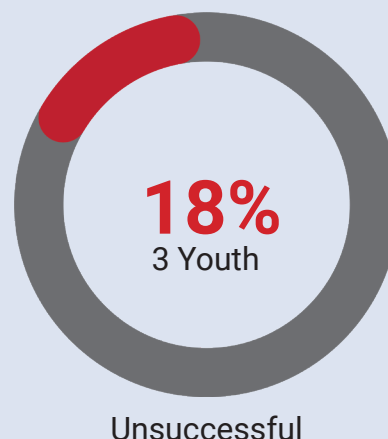
Male youth with referrals for sexually related offenses may be required to participate in one of the Dallas County Juvenile Department's specialized programs called the Successful Thinking and Responsible Sexuality (STARS) program. STARS is appropriate for male youth aged 12 to 17 years who have been referred to the juvenile department and adjudicated for a sex-related offense. The three main objectives for this program are increasing the safety of the community, decreasing the probability of re-referral and recidivism, and increasing adaptive functioning. Youth participating in the STARS program attend weekly group sessions that focus on their thoughts and feelings. The idea is to encourage and promote healthy decisions regarding sexual behavior. The therapeutic approach is comprehensive, rigorous, and multidisciplinary but flexible enough to accommodate the individual needs of participants, which includes allowing them to participate in various other opportunities.

In 2024, 16 youth were admitted to Dallas County STARS, and 17 were discharged, 14 successfully. There were three youth who were discharged unsuccessfully.

## DISCHARGES

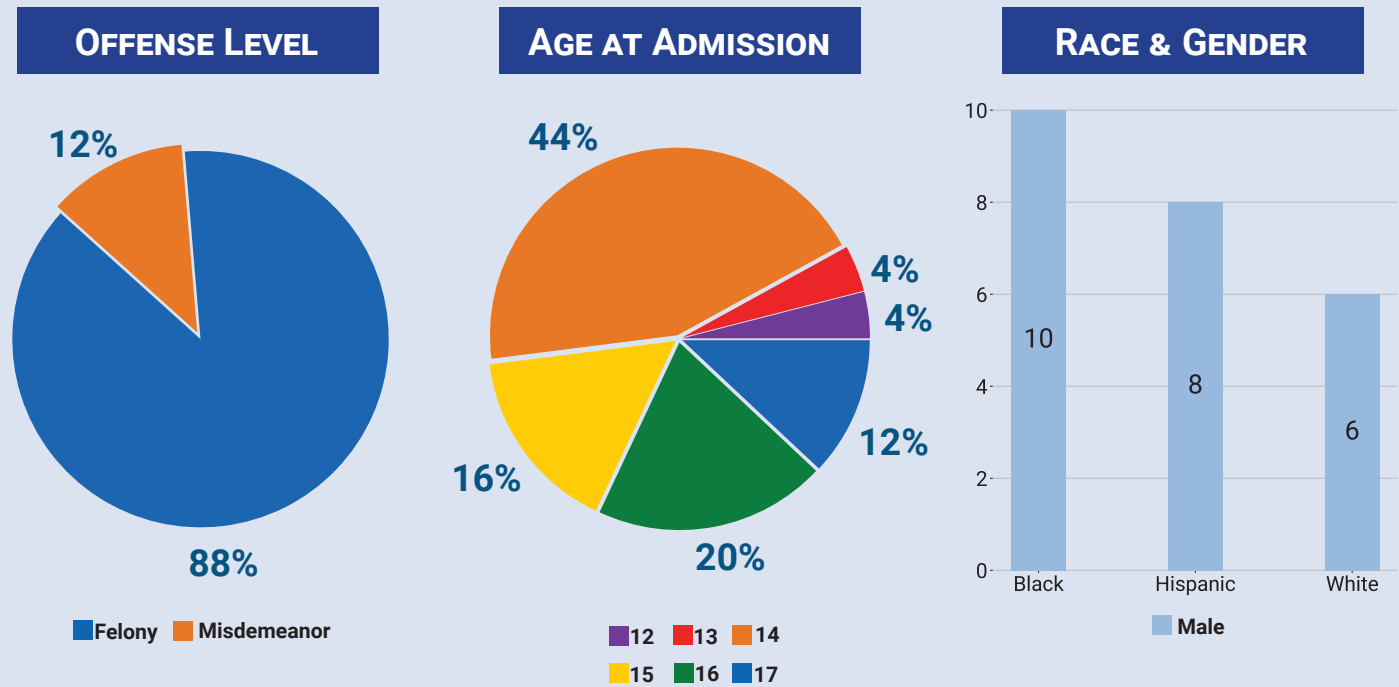


	ALOS (Days)
Max	398
Average	224
Min	108



	ALOS (Days)
Max	324
Average	201
Min	1

# YOUTH SERVED



Dallas County STARS served 24 unique male youth and 25 total youth in 2024. The average number of youth per day was 9 and the average time in the program was 220 days but ranged between 1 day and 398 days. Youth who were discharged successfully had a higher average length of stay (ALOS).

The participant profile for Dallas County STARS included 88% being on supervision for a felony offense, and 80% were from the middle adolescent age bands (14, 15, and 16 years). The racial/ethnic distribution of youth in the program was 42% Black, 33% Hispanic, and 25% White.

All youth were assessed for risk and needs. The matrix below represents the risk and need level distribution. Youth were largely moderate and high risk (96%). While one youth (4%) was assessed as low risk, 11 (44%) were assessed as low need.

# RISK & NEEDS

		Risk Level			TOTAL
		Low	Moderate	High	
Need Level	Low	1 (4%)	10 (40%)	0	11 (44%)
	Moderate	0	2 (8%)	7 (28%)	9 (36%)
	High	0	1 (4%)	4 (16%)	5 (20%)
TOTAL		1 (4%)	13 (52%)	11 (44%)	25 (100%)

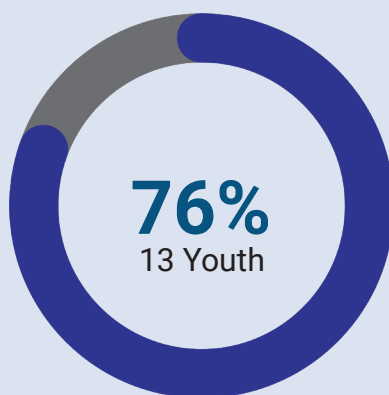
# DALLAS COUNTY - HOPE



The Dallas County Juvenile Department administers a specialized program for female youth who are assessed with high needs, needing individualized treatment in a structured environment. The program is called Healing by Opportunities and Positive Experiences or HOPE. Youth who are referred and identified for participation in the HOPE program are placed in a residential setting that is both safe and secure. They are exposed to considerable structure and regularly monitored. Emotional stabilization and mood regulation are two of the main objectives when youth first arrive. As they proceed through the program, they transition from a secure setting to one that is less secure. The program is designed for female youth aged 13 to 17 years. Youth participating in HOPE are expected to attend school through the Academy for Academic Excellence. They are also expected to engage in various therapeutic activities that promote positive functioning, such as individual, group, and family counseling. Youth have a multitude of opportunities for recreation, spiritual support, and life skills training. HOPE can accommodate up to eight (8) female youth and lasts approximately 180 days.

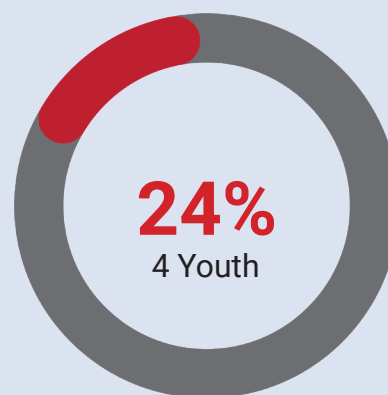
The HOPE program admitted 15 youth in 2024 and discharged 17, 13 successfully.

## DISCHARGES



Successful

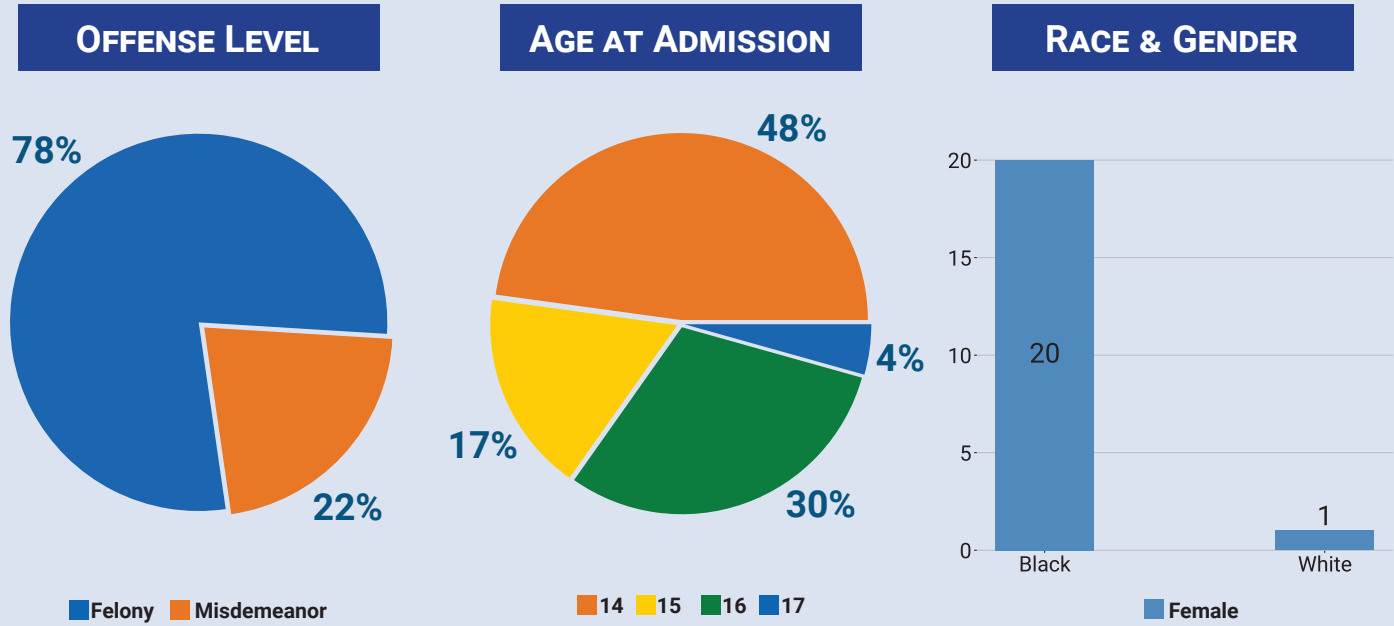
	ALOS (Days)
Max	218
Average	169
Min	107



Unsuccessful

	ALOS (Days)
Max	106
Average	39
Min	4

# YOUTH SERVED



The Dallas County Juvenile Department HOPE program served 23 total youth and 21 unique youth in 2024. The youth profile included 78% having a felony offense and almost half were 14 years of age at the time of admission into the program. Almost all youth were Black (n = 20, 95%). The program had one White participant in 2024. The program averaged 6 youth daily, and the average time spent in the program was 138 days, but ranged between 4 and 218 days. On average, youth who completed HOPE successfully remained in the program longer (n = 13, 76%) relative to those who were discharged unsuccessfully (n = 4, 24%).

Youth who are eligible and begin the program are assessed using the Positive Achievement Change Tool or PACT. The risk and need distribution levels are shown in the matrix below. Youth were almost all assessed as high risk (96%), and 57% were assessed as high risk and high need. Youth who are referred to and participate in HOPE are regarded as a population with improved outcomes when they have high expectations and a highly structured and regulated environment.

# RISK & NEEDS

		Risk Level			TOTAL
		Low	Moderate	High	
Need Level	Low	0	0	0	0
	Moderate	0	1 (4%)	9 (39%)	10 (43%)
	High	0	0	13 (57%)	13 (57%)
TOTAL		0	1 (4%)	22 (96%)	23 (100%)



# MEDLOCK

118

Youth Served

116

Unique Youth  
Served

181

ALOS (Days)

75

Admissions

73

Unique Youth  
Admitted

39

ADP

The Lyle B. Medlock Residential Treatment Center (RTC) is a secure placement facility located in Hutchins, Texas for male youth who are between 13 and 17 years of age. The Medlock facility was designed for post-adjudicated male youth who need a highly structured environment with considerable monitoring and supervision offered by a secure residential placement facility. Participants are expected to attend and engage in various interventions, including individual, group, and life-skills counseling. They are also encouraged to attend drug education sessions and participate in recreational activities. There are also various programs that emphasize prosocial skills, promote physical and mental health, teach and reinforce good hygiene practices, encourage independent living, and obtaining employment.

The Medlock Center admitted 75 youth in 2024, 73 were unique. The Center also discharged 83 youth, 76 (92%) successfully. Five youth (6%) were discharged unsuccessfully, and two (2) youth were administratively discharged.

## DISCHARGES

	ALOS (Days)
Max	331
Average	194
Min	37

	ALOS (Days)
Max	117
Average	56
Min	20

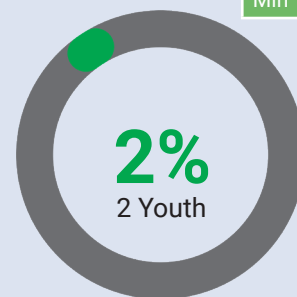
	ALOS (Days)
Max	36
Average	27
Min	18



Successful



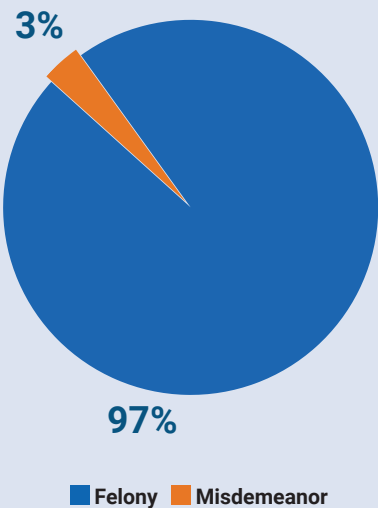
Unsuccessful



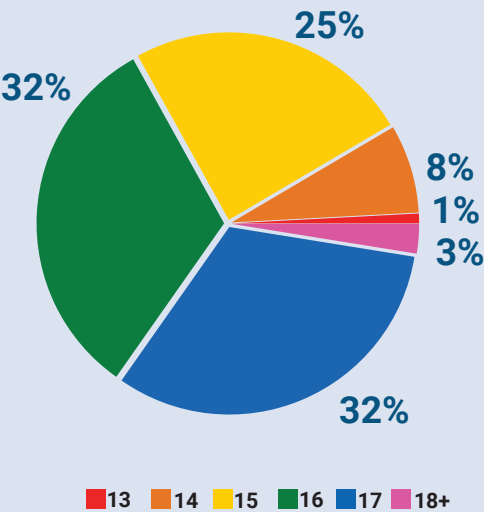
Other

# YOUTH SERVED

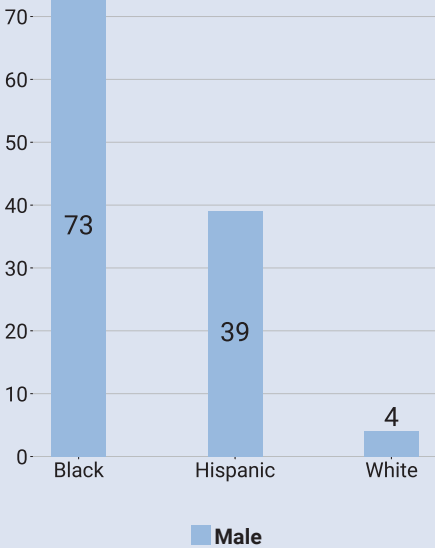
OFFENSE LEVEL



AGE AT ADMISSION



RACE & GENDER



The Medlock RTC served 118 total youth and 116 unique youth in 2024. The average number of youth per day was 39 and the average time in the program was 181 days but ranged between 18 and 331 days. Youth who were discharged successfully from Medlock had a higher average lengths of stay (ALOS) relative to those who were discharged unsuccessfully or for other reasons.

The large majority of participants (97%) had a felony offense and 89% came from the age band of adolescence that includes 15-, 16-, and 17-year-olds. Most youth participants were Black (63%), followed by Hispanic youth (34%), and White youth represented the smallest race category (3%).

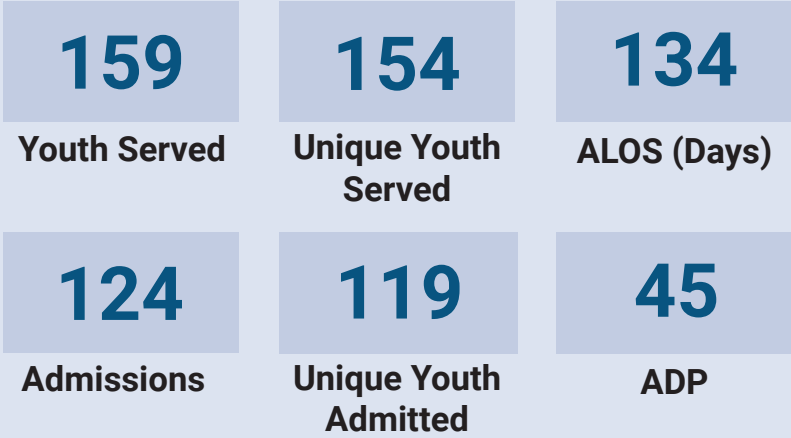
All youth participants were assessed for risk and needs. The distribution of risk and need levels is shown below. Most youth were assessed as high risk (70%) and moderate or high need (75%). Almost one-fifth were assessed as high risk and high need. While youth placed in Medlock are generally assessed at higher risk bands, the 2024 population had 29 (25%) assessed as low need.

# RISK & NEEDS

		Risk Level			TOTAL
		Low	Moderate	High	
Need Level	Low	6 (5%)	23 (20%)	0	29 (25%)
	Moderate	0	6 (5%)	63 (53%)	69 (58%)
	High	0	0	20 (17%)	20 (17%)
TOTAL		6 (5%)	29 (25%)	83 (70%)	118 (100%)



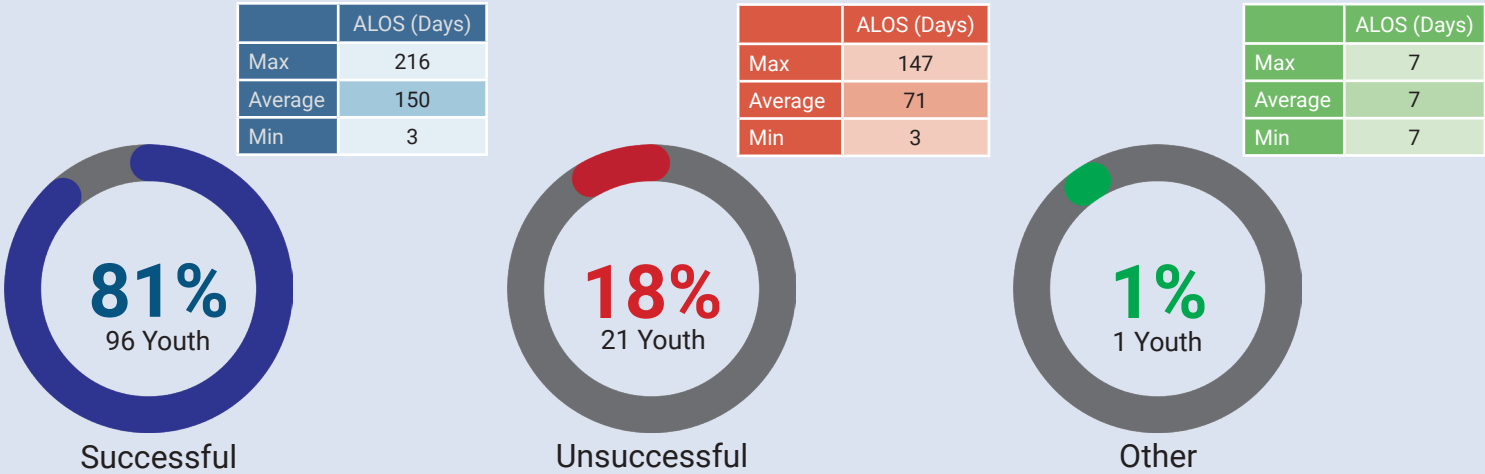
# YOUTH VILLAGE



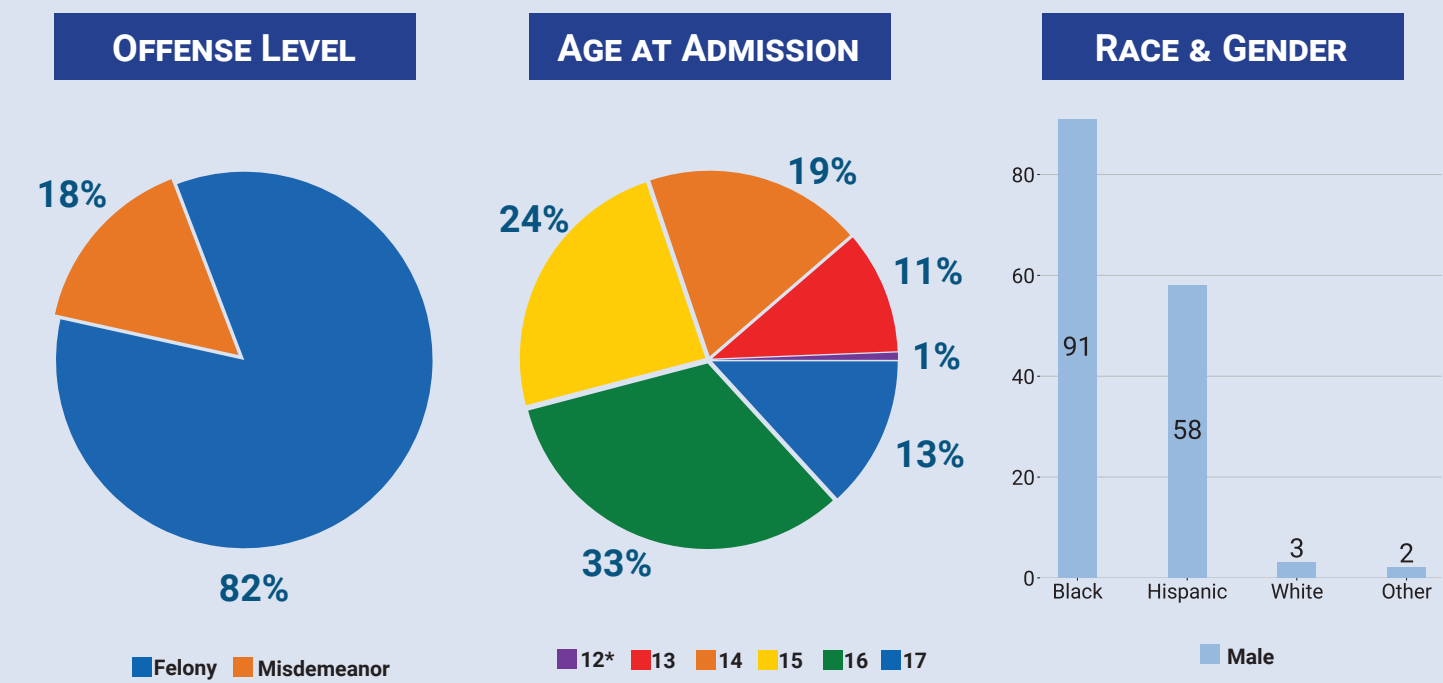
Whereas the Medlock facility provides youth with secure placement, Youth Village is nonsecure. It is designed for male youth aged 13 to 17 years. Youth Village is unique in that it addresses a gap in the continuum of services for youth who need more structure than what is provided by community-based programs. Youth identified for participation in Youth Village are expected to attend school and counseling sessions. Expectations are based on the supervision plan that is developed for each youth with the goal of advancing and progressing through the placement, achieving the objectives they set for themselves, ultimately setting themselves up for success in the community. Youth Village offers vocational training in culinary arts and ServSafe certification; a welding program leading to OSHA-10 certification, and forklift operation. Preparing these youth for their release from residential placement and providing them with marketable skills decreases recidivism probability while increasing the likelihood of optimal outcomes.

Youth Village admitted 124 total youth in 2025, 119 which were unique youth. A significant proportion (81%) completed the program successfully.

## DISCHARGES



# YOUTH SERVED



The Youth Village residential program served 159 total youth, and 154 unique youth in 2024. The average daily population for the program was 45 youth and the average time in the program was 134 days, but ranged from 3 to 216 days. Of the youth who participated, 82% had a felony offense and most youth (76%) represented the middle adolescent age band that includes 14-, 15-, and 16-year-olds. It was interesting that one youth was 12 years of age at the time of admission into Youth Village. Most youth were Black (n=91, 59%), with Hispanic youth being the next largest racial/ethnic group (n=58, 38%).

All youth were assessed for risk and needs. The distribution of risk and need levels is shown below. Youth were predominantly assessed as high risk (63%). Additionally, youth represented a significant percentage of the moderate or high need strata. More than one quarter were assessed as high risk and high need and 27% were assessed as low need.

# RISK & NEEDS

		Risk Level			TOTAL
		Low	Moderate	High	
Need Level	Low	10 (6%)	34 (21%)	0	44 (27%)
	Moderate	0	16 (10%)	58 (37%)	74 (47%)
	High	0	0	41 (26%)	41 (26%)
TOTAL		10 (6%)	50 (31%)	99 (63%)	159 (100%)

\*The one youth was an exception to the program age criteria.

# Community Resources:

Community Resources located throughout the Dallas area provide services to Dallas County youth, these resources were highlighted at the resource fair and on the dashboard.



MetroCare at the Community Resource Fair

Dallas County Juvenile Department (DCJD) strives to serve the youth that it comes into contact with, not only assisting youth while they are under their direct care but also when they leave. One of the many ways that DCJD assists youth is through the Community Resource Fair and Resource Dashboard, which are available to DCJD employees. Both initiatives highlight community resources available to youth and their families. These resources aim to help youth and families succeed.

The Resource Fair took place on September 25, 2024, and showcased 38 vendors, each providing a variety of resources available to the youth and their families. There were vendors who had previously partnered with DCJD, while others sought to contribute to the existing network. Organizations like Waterford Counseling LLC, Texas Health and Human Services, and Dallas Sigma Counseling Services Inc were present, all displaying the various mental health services they provide. Other organizations, such as Big Thought, were passing out CDs showcasing their art-as-workforce intervention program called Creative Solutions. The Resource Fair was an opportunity for probation officers, mental health clinicians, and educators to meet and discuss with vendors regarding the services they provide, as well as understand referral caveats.

For the hard work and dedication it took to organize the Resource Fair, the Training Department was named September's Unit of the Month. Their efforts did not go unrecognized, nor the impact of the event. The Community Resource Fair provided an amazing in-person opportunity to connect with service providers. DCJD also provides a Community Resource Dashboard, which offers constant access to community resources.

The Resource Dashboard showcases over 200 organizations, including both community and internal resources, that provide resources to meet a variety of youth and family needs. On the interactive dashboard, individuals can search for resources by location, category, or the organization's name. These resources fall into a variety of categories, including anger management, childcare, crisis intervention, family support, mental health needs, substance abuse, and legal aid. These community resources support youth and families with their specific needs.

Resources such as mental health services provide youth and families with support as they work through various situations or experiences. Other resources, such as legal aid, can reduce pressure for families. Meeting these needs is essential in supporting the success of the youth. Other community resources address essential needs such as food, clothing, health care, shelter, and general financial needs. By providing youth with access to essential resources, they can easily obtain necessary items that will keep them safe and healthy.

On the dashboard, DCJD staff can suggest community resources that they believe will serve the youth. As community needs evolve, this dashboard continues to grow to better serve youth and families. The vendors present at the Resource Fair and the community resources displayed on the Resource Dashboard continue to support the youth served by DCJD.



Vendor booths at the Resource Fair



# VOCATIONAL PROGRAMS

## 2024 CALENDAR YEAR

Program Location	Total Served	Successful Exits	Unsuccessful Exits	Other Exits	Total Exits
Letot					
Culinary	101	72 (82%)	16 (18%)	0 (0%)	88
Coding	90	55 (97%)	2 (3%)	0 (0%)	57
Medlock					
Culinary	13	10 (83%)	0 (0%)	2 (17%)	12
Youth Village					
Culinary	37	30 (97%)	0 (0%)	1 (3.2%)	31
Welding	14	7 (58%)	0 (0%)	5 (42%)	12



Wooden bench crafted by youth

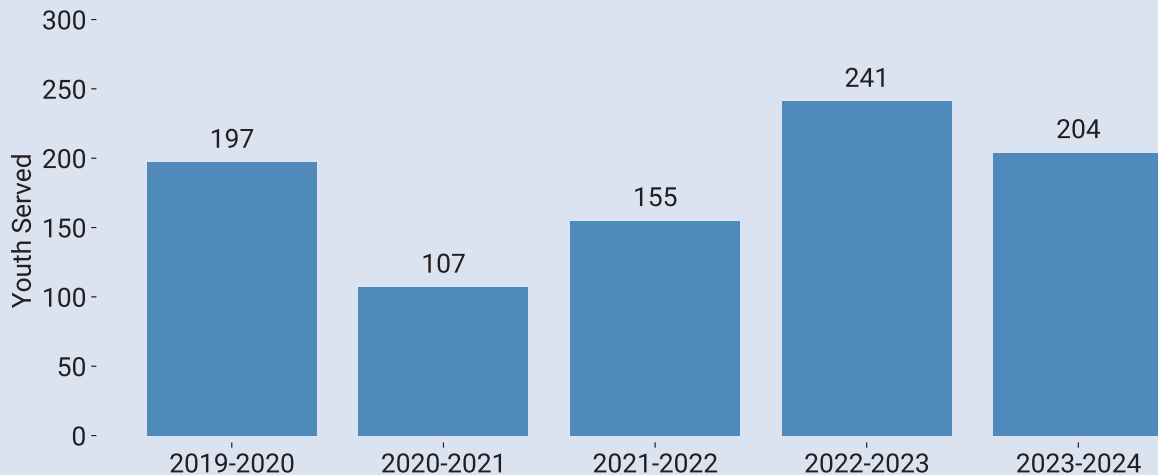


Culinary students cooking



Welding workshop area

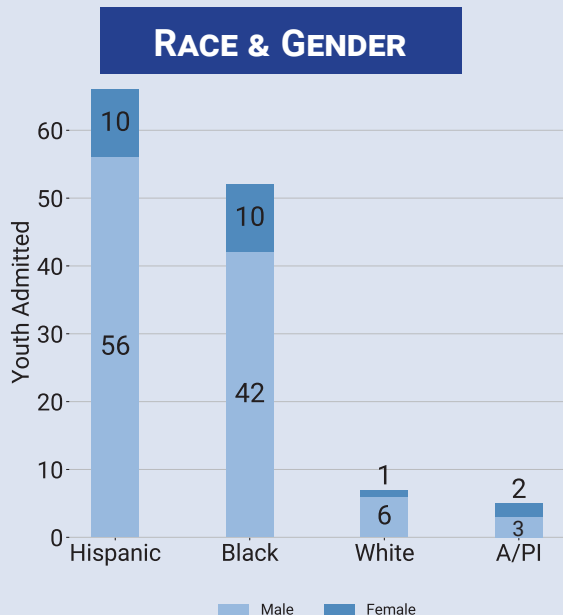
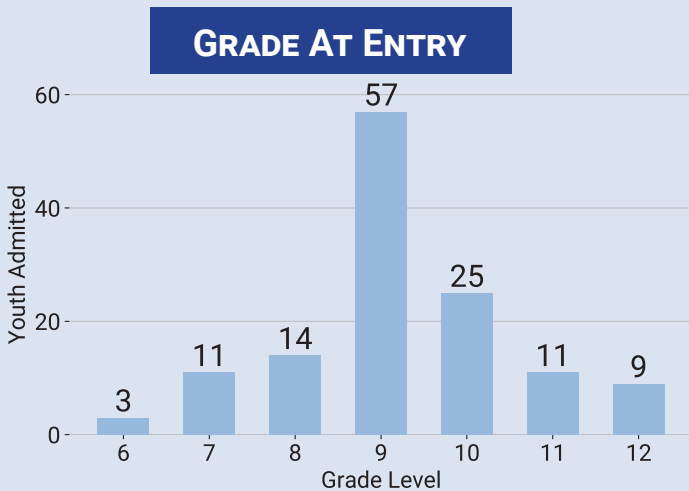
# JUVENILE JUSTICE ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION PROGRAM



The Texas Legislature mandates that juvenile boards in counties with a population greater than 125,000 operate a Juvenile Justice Education Program (JJAEP). The JJAEP provides education services to youth who have been expelled from their conventional school settings for serious school-related conduct. Students receive instruction in Math, Science, English Language Arts, and Social Studies.

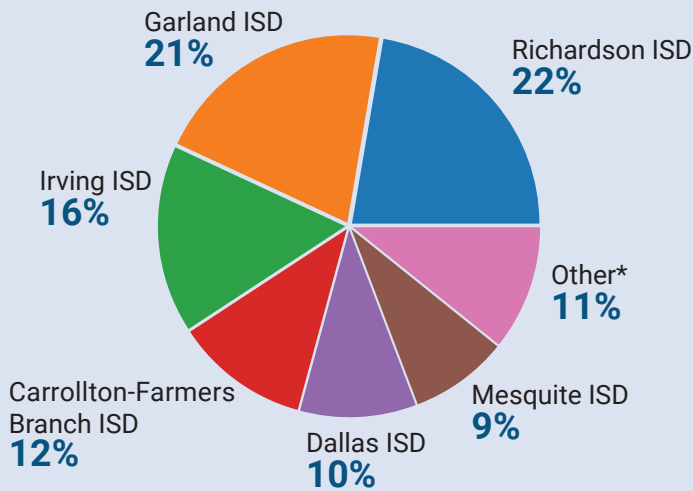
The bar graph above provides the academic year-to-year number of youth served by the JJAEP.

- The last two academic years have exceeded the pre-COVID year considerably. A 45% increase in youth served by JJAEP is observed from the 2021-2022 to the 2022-2023 academic years. A 15% decrease is subsequently observed in 2023-2024
- The Grade at Entry bar graph indicates that most youth were in the 9th grade (44%). The 10th grade comprised 19% of the 2023-2024 admission population.
- Hispanic youth comprised 51% of the JJAEP population
- Black youth comprised 40% of the JJAEP population
- Female youth represented approximately 18% of the JJAEP population

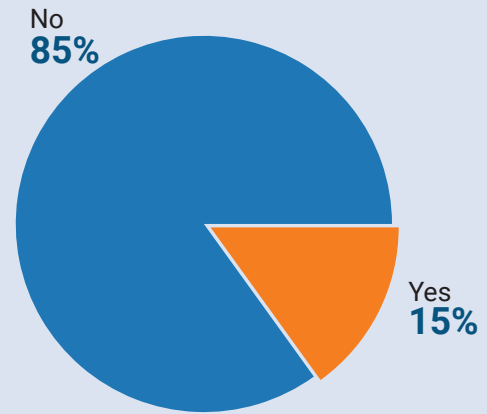


# JUVENILE JUSTICE ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION PROGRAM

## SCHOOL DISTRICT



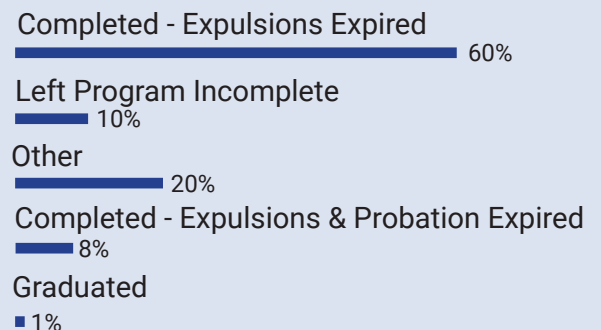
## SPECIAL EDUCATION



The JJAEP population was comprised of youth from several North Texas independent school districts (ISDs). Richardson, Garland, and Irving ISD represented 59% of the JJAEP population. The "Other" category represented 11% of the JJAEP population and was comprised of small proportions of youth from Lancaster and DeSoto ISDs, among others.

- 15% of youth required special education support
- 139 youth were discharged from Dallas County JJAEP
- Most youth completed JJAEP (60%) or their expulsion expired
- 10% left the JJAEP prior to completion
- One percent (1%) graduated from JJAEP with a high school diploma
- A large proportion of youth (82%) were placed in JJAEP for a mandatory offense

## 2023 DISCHARGES (n=139)



	Expulsion Type
Mandatory	114
Discretionary	25

\*"Other" category summarizes all ISDs with fewer than 10 students referred.

# Beyond the Courtroom: Building Stronger Families Through FFT

Dallas County's Functional Family Therapy Externship offers hope and healing for justice-involved youth and their families.



FFT Externship Training Session

The Dallas County Juvenile Department (DCJD) has a multitude of programs and interventions at its disposal, all developed specifically for youth and families. These programs address criminogenic factors such as substance use, vocational and education deficits, differential association and interactions with antisocial others, and antisocial personality to name a few. For youth, perhaps one of the more impactful factors that require attention is their family. This includes the overall family dynamic, as well as individual and familial interactions. The hallmark evidence-based intervention for youth and families in the DCJD inventory is Functional Family Therapy (FFT). FFT is a structured, manualized intervention that works to involve the entire family with the goal of increased communication and decreased adverse behaviors. It is intense and designed for post-adjudicated youth who score as moderate and high on the DCJD risk and need assessment instrument (the Positive Achievement Change Tool or PACT). In tandem with providing the FFT curriculum as an alternative, there is an inherent need to train and certify FFT facilitators/supervisors. The FFT Externship provides the specialized training and live supervision that is necessary to become an FFT “site lead” while also providing an abbreviated but accelerated version of the FFT program to some youth and families who may not qualify for the full 12-week version of FFT, but who may present with a need for family-based intervention.

The FFT Externship is a multi-faceted, intervention multiplier for the DCJD. Not only does it allow for an expansion of family-based services for youth and their families, it also provides specialized training to individuals and clinicians that can lead to additional trained and certified FFT site leads, and more FFT sites. In a recent interview with Dr. Darius Campinha-Bacote, the DCJD FFT manager/FFT Externship co-coordinator and Mr. Calvin Thomas, the FFT supervisor/FFT Externship co-coordinator, they provided a wide breadth and in-depth description and portrayal of the program beginning with an overall account of the project's purpose and activities. Dr. Campinha-Bacote (affectionately known as Dr. C by most DCJD staff) accounts an efficient if not ambitious training schedule that is consolidated and condensed into “rounds” of training so that trainees or externs have a full dosage of training for them to become site leads for FFT. The training takes place in the DCJD with youth and families who have presented with a need. Externs receive live supervision in an experiential learning laboratory that is closely monitored, and subsequently receive feedback and an evaluation. Those who pass with a favorable evaluation can return to their home bases and become FFT site leads.





FFT Externship Cohorts

The Externship provides participants with an accelerated version of FFT. They get the entire FFT curriculum (Engagement & Motivation, Behavior Change, and Generalization) in three “rounds” that are protracted individual sessions that conclude within three weeks of the program starting. Prospective site leads are then evaluated so that their sites can be certified for administering the FFT curriculum. The FFT Externship is a compartmentalized project that draws on the knowledge and experience of veteran FFT interventionists. However, what is admirable and special is that there are very few Externship sites in the United States. In fact, there are only two other Externship sites in the United States and one, Dallas County, is the only Externship site that is comprised of justice-involved youth. The FFT Externship not only represents a multiplier for Dallas County, it is also a considerable element in the expansion of FFT. The fact that the Dallas County Juvenile Department was selected as the third Extern site speaks volumes about the quality of the work that is done in the juvenile department.

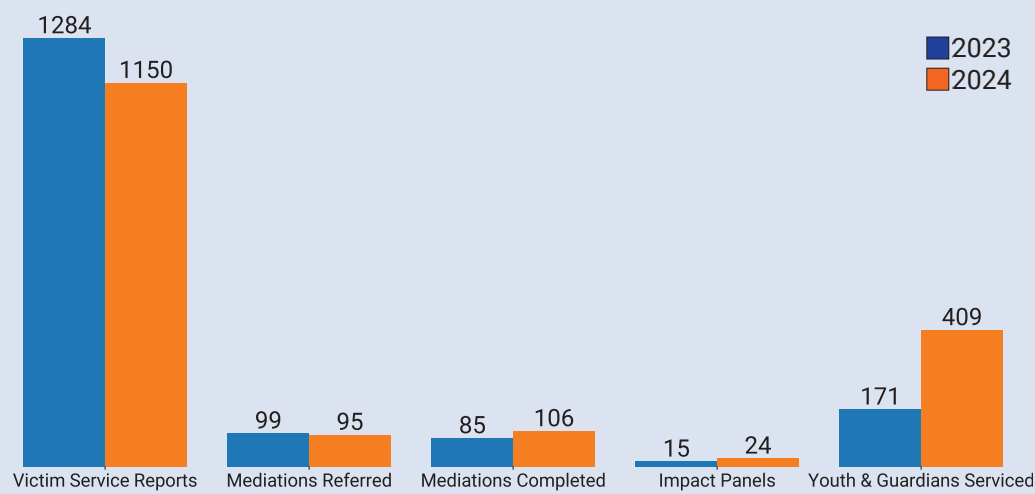
Dr. C and Mr. Thomas are very proud of the work they have done to get the Externship from concept to being operational with five cohorts of prospective site leads completed. It has taken approximately two years and several implementation challenges to have a certified FFT Externship program that trains several clinicians approximately every three weeks. Both have emphasized many of the positive aspects of the program, but they also respectfully recognized and acknowledged the many challenges, which included transportation of externs and participant families, having substandard audio-visual equipment for Externship sessions, and having the need for more staff and space. Dr. C and Mr. Thomas waxed lyrical about having an aesthetically pleasing space that is conducive for training and therapy for the future of the FFT Externship program in Dallas County.

Dr. C and Mr. Thomas believe that having the FFT Externship in Dallas County allows for the realization of a significant strategic goal: the expansion of the FFT program to more sites which will necessarily increase the capacity for participants. Both FFT leaders acknowledge that they have received excellent feedback from externs and participant youth and families and will use the feedback to make improvements to the program. Additionally, when asked what they would like others to know about the FFT Externship, they both agreed that they want people to know about the good work that the FFT Externship program is doing, particularly how hard they have worked to make a favorable impression on externs and participant youth and families. They were provided with a challenging opportunity to bring the FFT Externship to Dallas County and develop a program that intends to shape the future of the FFT framework while providing a relevant and needed service to participant youth and families, and training FFT facilitators of the future, ultimately building a legacy of improved family function and positive relationships for those who availed themselves of these services.



# VICTIM SERVICES UNIT

## VICTIM SERVICES UNIT ACTIVITIES



The Victim Services Unit of the Dallas County Juvenile Department (DCJD) is an advocacy measure that was developed for offense victims. Victims are most often defined by having a violent or property offense against them by a juvenile offender under the authority of the DCJD. Victim Services ensures that victims are aware of their rights, and that they also know and understand the proceedings in their corresponding cases, including relevant court dates and are provided notifications about the status of their cases as necessary.

Youth Service Reports were down in 2024 from 2023; however, the number of youth and guardians services more than doubled for the same time period. Mediations completed also increased by 25%. Mediations are a specific advocacy measure that facilitates a face-to-face interaction between the victim(s) and the offender. The interactions are monitored by specially trained staff with the objective of discussing restitution and encouraging offender accountability.

## COMMUNITY SERVICE RESTITUTION

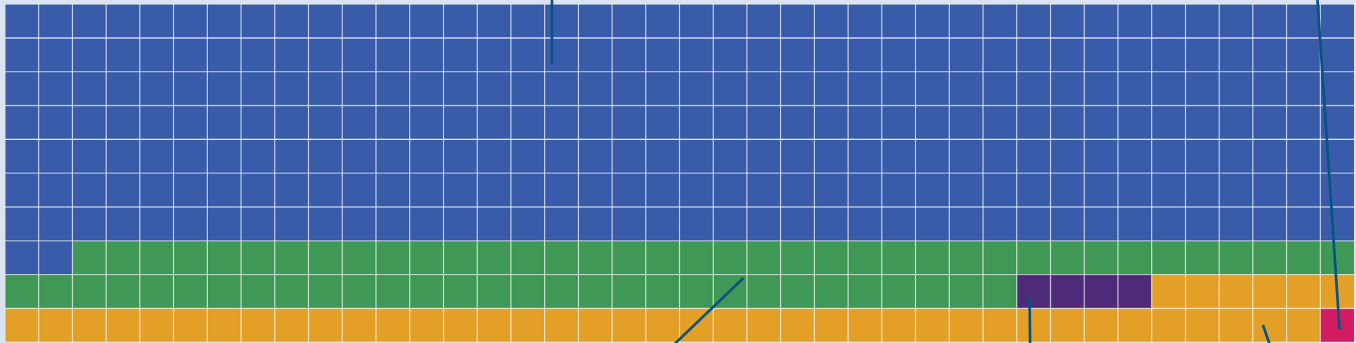
Community Service Restitution is an accountability measure imposed by the court requiring youth to complete volunteer hours with a government or nonprofit organization that reinforces prosocial behavior. These hours represent a considerable benefit to the juvenile department. The hours also represent a proactive and meaningful way of fortifying the tenets of social responsibility and accountability. In 2024, 27,000 hours of community service were completed by youth under the juvenile department authority.



# 2024 FISCAL YEAR EXPENDITURES

Dallas County	70.62%
General Fund	\$ 65,048,836

Local Funds	0.23%
Youth Services Advisory Board Fund	\$ 216,411



State Aid	16.88%
Basic Probation Supervision	\$ 8,396,617
Community Programs (Non-Residential)	\$ 1,213,505
Pre & Post Adjudication (Residential)	\$ 2,493,329
Commitment Diversion	\$ 2,092
Mental Health Services	\$ 1,263,801
Grant M - Special Needs Diversionary Program (SNDP)	\$ 239,632
Regionalization	\$ 124,819
Discretionary State Aid	\$ 77,841
Salary Adjustment Grant	\$ 1,738,159

Office of the Governor (OOG)	0.89%
Juvenile Residential Drug Treatment Center	\$ 256,749
Mental Health Court	\$ 102,229
ASAP Grant	\$ 394,501
Girls Who Code	\$ 62,970

Education	11.38%
Academy for Academic Excellence (AAE-Texas Education Agency Funds)	\$ 8,554,975
Juvenile Justice Alternative Education Program (JJAEP)	\$ 1,923,274

## TOTAL

## \$ 92,109,740

Note: Due to particular reporting requirements, this Annual Report represents the 2024 calendar year, however, the financial data reported on this page is for FY2024, which is represented by the period from October 1, 2023 through September 30, 2024.

# SERVICE PINS & RETIREES

## 20 YEARS

Maria Aguilera

Derek Bailey

Sandra Banks

Tiffanie Bembry

Ruben Caballero

Louis Casillas

Elvia Conejo-Portugal

Hope County-Collins

Stormy Roberts

Shenna Davis

Derk Eilert

Jonathan Ferguson

Sarah Henderson

Jeannette Johnson

Lonnie Johnson

Dolores Juarez

Charlotte Laster

Alvin Lovely Ila Sharp

Sheterric Malone

Angie Manning

Michael Medina

Janet Miles

Karim Moghrabi

Markeisha Moody-Asher

Nikitia Morris

Jennifer Paige

Shannon Wells

## 25 YEARS

Mariitza Almanza

Claudia Avila

Leana Baxley

Shonda Clark

Cashayla Garrett

Lakeisha Jordan

Patricia Mitchell

Diane Moore

Stella Oyeka

Danny Sanchez

## 30 YEARS

Christopher Ambers

Tony Burley

Tara English

Michael Harris

Lenious Payne

Tony Seymore

## RETIREES

Reginell Adkins

Eva Bowman

Barbara Bowser

Robert Davis

Martha Hall

Willie Hill

Brenda Hinojosa

Tommie Hylkema

Lajauana Jackson

Alvin Johnson

Clinton Johnson Jr.

Jimmy Mathew

Yolanda McCullen

Gwendolyn Myles

Patricia Otuomagie

Sharlotte Owens-George

Loteta Peebles

Ramona Peterson

Olga Pomaes

James Pyles

Daryl Robertson

Valiya Thomas

# GLOSSARY

**Adjudicated** - Juveniles can be adjudicated delinquent or not delinquent. When a juvenile is adjudicated delinquent, the allegations against him/her are found “true” by a judge or jury.

**ADP** - Average Daily Population is a metric that represents the daily average of the number of youths in a facility. The value of this metric is based on a certain amount of elapsed time.

**ALOS** - Average Length of Stay is a metric that represents the average amount of time (measured in days) the youth has spent in a program or facility.

**Caseworker** - The primary contact between a youth’s parent or guardian and TJJD. A caseworker monitors a youth’s progress and advises him/her.

**Classification** - The process of determining the needs and requirements of youth who have been ordered to confinement in a juvenile justice facility and for assigning them to housing units and programs according to their existing resources.

**Clinical Services** - Healthcare services administered to juveniles in a therapeutic setting by a person or persons qualified to practice in one of the healthcare professions.

**CINS** - Conduct in Need for Supervision (defined by the Texas Family Code), referred to as status offenses and includes (1) runaway; (2) violations of certain city ordinances (i.e., inhalant abuse); and (3) some less serious law violations.

**Contract Detention** - Juveniles who are out-of-state runaways, juveniles who are being held at the request of TJJD, CPS, INS, etc., or juveniles who are being detained until they can be transferred to their home jurisdiction are coded as “contract detention.” This also applies to bench warrants. “Contract” in this context means there is an agreement between jurisdictions to hold/detain the juvenile.

**Contract Placement** - Used by counties that operate a placement facility and place juveniles from other jurisdictions. Juveniles who are being held at the request of TJJD, INS, etc. should be coded as contract placement. “Contract” in this context means there is an agreement to place the juvenile for another jurisdiction.

**DCJD** - Dallas County Juvenile Department.

**DPP (Deferred Prosecution Program)** - A voluntary, limited supervision program made available to youth who have [generally] been referred to a juvenile department for the first time and represent a low to moderate risk to reoffend. Youth who complete the DPP can have their case dismissed at the end of the time period, typically 180 days.

**Delinquent Conduct** - Defined by the Texas Juvenile Justice Code as conduct, other than a traffic offense, which violates a penal law of the State of Texas and is punishable by confinement; or a violation of a reasonable and lawful order which was entered by a juvenile court.

**Diversion** - Associated with a specific program or court where participation and a successful completion effectively “diverts” (i.e., reroutes) the youth from the standard juvenile justice proceedings that involve adjudication and probation.

**Juvenile Probation** - A mechanism used by juvenile justice agencies that serve as a sanction for juveniles adjudicated in court, and in many cases, as a way of diverting status offenders or first-time offenders from the formal court system.

**PACT (Positive Achievement Change Tool)** - The PACT is the actuarial juvenile risk and needs assessment instrument used in the State of Texas.

**Probation** - A dispositional alternative available to a juvenile court judge after a youth is adjudicated as delinquent. It is a community-based corrections approach requiring youth to comply with a set of rules and requirements, typically addressing the needs of the youth and his/her family.

**QA** - Quality Assurance.

**Residential Placement** - An option available to the Juvenile Court and Juvenile Department for youth who may be assessed as high risk and have difficulty functioning prosocially in the community. Residential placement can be in a secure or non-secure facility and incorporates a course of rehabilitative, educational, and programmatic measures for the youth.

**Risk & Needs** - Static and dynamic factors that are identified through the process of actuarial assessment of the youth. Such an assessment is administered to a youth when s/he is placed under the authority of the juvenile department.

**Secure Facility** - A juvenile site/location/setting that is specifically designed and operated to ensure that all entrances and exits are under the exclusive control of the site’s staff. Youth are not allowed to leave unsupervised or without permission.

**TJJD** - Texas Juvenile Justice Department.

**VOP (Violation of Probation)** - After a juvenile is duly placed on probation by court and notified of the conditions of said probation, if the juvenile fails to comply with one of any of the conditions, then the District Attorney may file a Violation of Probation with the Court.

This image shows a full page of blank, lined paper. The paper is white, and it features evenly spaced, horizontal blue lines running across its entire width. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the page.



