

2015 ANNUAL REPORT

Kentucky Court Designated Worker Program



**Working Toward
a Brighter Future**



Court system key partner in Kentucky's efforts to improve juvenile justice system

The Administrative Office of the Courts made great progress in implementing juvenile justice reform in 2015, the first full year after passage of Senate Bill 200.

The AOC expanded the staff of the Court Designated Worker Program; established 45 of the state's 60 Family Accountability, Intervention, and Response Teams; and provided a comprehensive training program to court staff, judges, school districts, and government and community partners. The FAIR Teams also began partnering with the state's Regional Interagency Council to identify the need for services and facilitate access to those services.

Another major milestone was the Supreme Court adopting Kentucky's first uniform Juvenile Court Rules of Procedure and Practice. This major undertaking resulted in a set of rules that are consistent with the mandates of SB 200 and apply to juvenile justice cases in all 120 counties.

It is difficult to overstate how important court designated workers are to Kentucky's juvenile justice system. Working within the AOC's Department of Family and Juvenile Services, CDWs are on call 24/7 statewide to process status and public complaints against youth under age 18. CDWs give our young people a second chance at success by avoiding incarceration and the formal court process through diversion programs and community-based treatment.

I commend the court staff, judges and agency representatives who are working together to improve how Kentucky treats its youthful offenders.



*John D. Minton Jr.
Chief Justice of Kentucky*

CONTENTS

1	CDW Program Highlights for 2015	11	Successful Diversions
1	Courts have enhanced record-tracking role under SB 200	12	Terms of Diversion
2	AOC working to establish FAIR Teams statewide	12	Service Learning Hours
2	FAIR Teams begin partnership with Regional Interagency Councils	13	Counseling With Diversion
3	Supreme Court adopts first statewide Juvenile Court Rules	13	Teen Court Diversion Program
3	AOC provides training to agencies implementing juvenile justice reform	14	Truancy Diversion Program
4	About the Court Designated Worker Program	15	Juvenile Recidivism
5	Pre-Complaints	16	Successful Diversions Among Juvenile Cohort
6	Public & Status Complaints	16	Unsuccessful Diversions Among Juvenile Cohort
7	Complaints by Race & Gender	16	Juvenile Complaints: Summary of Statistics
8	Status Complaints Filed	17	CDW Case Management System: Definitions & Methodology
9	Public Complaints Filed	17	CDW Case Management System Disclaimer
9	Restitution	18	Glossary
10	Custody Outcomes for Public & Status Complaints	20	CDW Field Supervisors & Supervisory Regions
11	Diversion Agreements	Back Cover	AOC Department of Family and Juvenile Services
		Back Cover	Acknowledgments

Court Designated Worker Program making impressive progress on juvenile justice reform



Rachel Bingham,
Executive Officer,
Department of Family
and Juvenile Services,
Administrative Office
of the Courts

Highlights for Calendar Year 2015

I am honored to present the 2015 Court Designated Worker Program Annual Report. The CDW Program is overseen by the Department of Family and Juvenile Services of the Administrative Office of the Courts.

Senate Bill 200 requires the CDW Program to produce an annual report that tracks our performance and identifies areas for improvement. Court designated workers play a critical role in diverting youth from the formal justice system and I'm proud to highlight their efforts and success during a time of great transition.

After the passage of Senate Bill 200 in 2014, the AOC began laying the foundation to carry out the mandates of juvenile justice reform. Our work grew exponentially in 2015 as we hired and trained new staff, established 45 of the 60 Family Accountability, Intervention, and Response Teams, and developed policies and tools to support changes in how our program operates.

This report provides a comprehensive look at what CDWs accomplished in 2015, which includes the following:

- Conducted 12,486 status offense pre-complaints.
- Entered 21,313 juvenile complaints.
- Closed out 10,348 diversion agreements.
- Assisted with the release of 7,651 juveniles detained in custody by law enforcement.

I want to commend our dedicated CDWs and thank our state and community partners for their support as we all strive to be agents of change for the youth of Kentucky.

Courts have enhanced record-tracking role under Senate Bill 200

Senate Bill 200 requires the Court Designated Worker Program to produce an annual report offering a detailed analysis of the youth served by the program.

The 2015 CDW Annual Report is the third report prepared under this mandate. The data in this report comes from the CDWCMS, the electronic case management system used by the CDW Program.

The changes in reporting can be found in KRS 605.020, which was amended in part to read:

(6) (a) The Administrative Office of the Courts shall collect and track data, and provide an annual report to the oversight council created in KRS 15A.063 containing the following information:

1. The number and type of complaints received by each court-designated worker;
2. The outcome of each complaint, including whether a referral was made to the county attorney or the Department for Community Based Services;
3. The number of children committed to the Department for Community Based Services pursuant to KRS 620 who were originally charged with status offenses under KRS 630 or whose cases were amended from status to dependency, neglect, and abuse; and
4. Whether a child who successfully completed a diversion agreement was, within one (1) year following completion of the agreement, adjudicated a public offender or convicted in the adult court of a criminal offense.

AOC working to establish FAIR Teams statewide

Senate Bill 200 requires the Administrative Office of the Courts to take the lead in establishing Family Accountability, Intervention, and Response Teams in each of the 60 judicial districts. FAIR Teams will use an enhanced case management process to assist youth in diversion and are a critical component of juvenile justice reform. The AOC is implementing FAIR Teams in three phases:

Community Partner Orientation. The first step is to invite community members to an orientation to learn about the impact of SB 200 on the Court Designated Worker Program and how the FAIR Team will be implemented.

FAIR Team Orientation. After that, FAIR Team members meet to receive in-depth information about the CDW process, the purpose and function of the FAIR Team, and the logistics of participating in ongoing meetings.

Initial FAIR Team Meeting. The FAIR Team then holds its first meeting to review cases referred to the team and provide recommendations to the CDW specialist.

As of Dec. 31, 2015, FAIR Teams in 45 judicial districts were actively reviewing cases. The remaining 15 districts had started establishing FAIR Teams by hosting orientations for community partners and FAIR Team members.

FAIR Teams begin partnership with Regional Interagency Councils

The Regional Interagency Council operates statewide as a collaborative group of local agencies included in Kentucky's System of Care. The System of Care serves children with or at risk of developing an emotional disability. FAIR Teams have begun to partner with the council by using the RIAC model of conducting team case reviews. SB 200 also requires specific RIAC members to be representatives on the FAIR Team.

FAIR Teams and the RIAC provide mutual benefits, with FAIR Teams identifying the need for services and the RIAC facilitating access to those services. The RIAC has recently shifted its focus from case reviews to expanding the local system of care by addressing barriers preventing youth and families from receiving services appropriate to their level of need. Because FAIR Teams can readily identify such barriers, the teams are a natural resource for information about the need for local services.

Rachel Bingham, executive officer of the AOC's Department of Family and Juvenile Services and chair of the State Inter-

In 2015, FAIR Teams held 433 meetings and reviewed 836 new cases. Of these cases:

- 428 met high-needs criteria.
- 197 were unsuccessful status diversions.
- 119 involved youth who failed to appear for appointments for a status offense.
- 7 involved youth who declined to participate in diversion on a status offense.
- 22 involved youth being referred from court to the CDW Program due to a FAIR Team not yet fully implemented in a particular district.
- 6 involved youth being referred from Director of Pupil Personnel to FAIR Team for consultation.
- 5 were referred from program staff who believed youth would benefit from FAIR Team process but did not meet any other criteria.

Of the 836 cases reviewed by FAIR Teams, 196 were successfully diverted, 37 were referred to the county attorney and dismissed, and 242 cases were unsuccessfully diverted and referred to court for further action.

The remaining cases were still actively on diversion and pending at the time of data collection.

agency Council, visited 15 RIAC programs in 2016, where she shared:

- Local FAIR Team and Court Designated Worker Program data.
- How frequently local services are being used.
- Gaps in services.
- Barriers identified by FAIR Teams that families face when trying to access services.
- Specific case examples of what happens when youth are unable to obtain appropriate services, such as local inpatient crisis stabilization, alternative placements to detention and placement for victims of human trafficking.

"I appreciate the RIAC's positive response to our request to work with the FAIR Teams," AOC Director Laurie K. Dudgeon said. "Our young people win when agencies bring their efforts and expertise to bear on a common goal. Our partnership will help us address barriers to providing critical services to youth and their families."

Supreme Court adopts first statewide Juvenile Court Rules

The Supreme Court of Kentucky has adopted the commonwealth's first statewide uniform Juvenile Court Rules of Procedure and Practice in response to the passage of juvenile justice reform through Senate Bill 200 in 2014.

In anticipation of SB 200 being implemented, the new JCRPP are to be applied to all juvenile justice cases involving status and public offenses in every Family Court and District Court in all 120 counties.

Local rules and practices may not be inconsistent or otherwise conflict with the JCRPP. The rules are posted at http://courts.ky.gov/courts/supreme/Rules_Procedures/201605.pdf.

Process to Create New Juvenile Court Rules

Realizing the need for a set of Juvenile Court Rules that would be consistent with the mandates of SB 200, Chief Justice John D. Minton Jr. convened a Juvenile Court Rules of Procedure and Practice Advisory Committee in the fall of 2014.

The success of the Advisory Committee depended on input from key stakeholders, so judges, court personnel, attorneys and representatives from the Department of Juvenile Justice, the Cabinet for Health and Family Services and the Department of Education were asked to serve as members.

AOC provides training to agencies implementing juvenile justice reform

Training for court designated workers, judges, school personnel and children's advocates has been critical to the smooth implementation of juvenile justice reform. The AOC worked with court staff and partner agencies on a statewide educational campaign to offer the following training sessions in 2015.

Regional Trainings for Judges. The AOC conducted seven regional training sessions to help judges implement SB 200.

Juvenile Justice Reform Regional Trainings. The AOC assisted in trainings for school district administrators in nine locations. The sessions covered the responsibilities that school districts have under SB 200.

Professional Conferences. AOC staff presented at conferences for the Directors of Pupil Personnel, the Kentucky Association of Superintendents, the Kentucky Bar Association, the Kentucky Cabinet for Health and Family Services' Family Resource and Youth Services Centers, Kentucky Safe Schools and the Kentucky Department of Education's Behavioral Institute.

With SB 200 as a guide, the members made recommendations to a Juvenile Court Rules Drafting Committee and a new Supreme Court Standing Committee on Juvenile Court Rules of Procedure and Practice.

In addition, Kentucky judges discussed the JCRPP during the "SB 200 Regional Sessions for Judges." The Administrative Office of the Courts hosted the sessions in the seven Supreme Court districts in May 2015. The JCRPP were also posted for review on the Kentucky Court of Justice website in June 2015 and were discussed during a Supreme Court Rules Hearing at the 2015 Kentucky Bar Association Annual Convention, also in June.

Based on feedback about implementing the JCRPP statewide, the Supreme Court released the rules on a pilot basis so that the final provisions of SB 200 and the JCRPP were both available on July 1, 2015. The Supreme Court did not adopt the final version of the JCRPP until the fall of 2016 so there would be time to address any concerns.

"I appreciate Deputy Chief Justice Mary Noble (ret.), the judges and the court employees who have spent hundreds of hours on tight deadlines to craft Kentucky's first set of Juvenile Court Rules," Chief Justice Minton said. "Their work to write the rules will have a positive, lasting impact on Kentucky's youth."



About the Court Designated Worker Program

When a young person is in trouble, positive intervention can mean the difference between a bright future and one with challenges. In Kentucky, court designated workers process complaints against juveniles under age 18, giving CDWs the opportunity to help thousands of children and teens every year.

The Court Designated Worker Program began in 1986 when the Kentucky General Assembly established a statewide pre-court program. The program addresses complaints filed against juveniles prior to any action taken in formal court.

Every Kentucky county has the services of a CDW who is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The CDW Program operates under the direction of the Department of Family and Juvenile Services of the Administrative Office of the Courts.

The CDW Program ensures due process for juveniles by involving them in the complaint review process and explaining their rights under the law. They are also informed of the options for handling their case, whether informally through a diversion agreement or formally through the court system.

When appropriate, juveniles are diverted from the formal court system. Those who are eligible for diversion will not have a formal court record if they successfully complete the supervised educational and treatment-based program agreed upon in a pre-court contract, called a diversion agreement.

Duties of a Court Designated Worker

CDWs are responsible for:

- Processing all public and status complaints on children under age 18.
- Assisting in the custody process.
- Conducting preliminary investigations and interviews.
- Developing and supervising diversion agreements.

The CDW receives all complaints, which fall into two categories, status offenses and public offenses. Status offenses are non-criminal forms of juvenile behavior, such as running away from home, not attending school, tobacco and alcohol offenses, and exhibiting beyond-control behaviors at home or at school. Public offenses are defined in the same terms as adult charges.

Anyone can file a complaint against a juvenile, including a police officer, victim, parent or school official. Juveniles who have a complaint filed against them are given the opportunity to meet with a CDW.

Custody Instead of Arrest

Under Kentucky's juvenile justice system, children under age 18 are taken into custody instead of being arrested. CDWs assist law enforcement officials in finding appropriate placements, such as with parents or guardians, relatives or an emergency shelter. Detention may be authorized by a judge if there are concerns that a juvenile may reoffend or fail to appear for court.

Appropriate Placements

It is always the intent of the CDW to find the least-restrictive placement option. CDWs have five least-restrictive alternatives to consider when making placement decisions:

- Parent or custodial guardian, unless prohibited by the court for alleged abuse.
- Responsible adult, such as a relative, neighbor or friend of family.
- Emergency shelter.
- Crisis stabilization units, if applicable.
- In-patient mental health assessment, if applicable.

Diversion Agreements

The goal of diversion is to reduce further involvement in the court system. CDWs follow established criteria to determine if a juvenile is eligible to participate in a diversion agreement or if the case, by law, must be referred to formal court. If the juvenile is eligible and agrees to the informal process, he or she enters into a diversion agreement with the CDW.

The diversion agreement holds juveniles accountable for past actions and provides tools to manage current behavioral issues. These tools include:

- Prevention and education programs
- Service learning projects
- Community service
- Restitution
- Curfew
- School attendance
- Counseling
- Treatment

The CDW monitors juveniles throughout the diversion program, which helps ensure they are given the tools and skills necessary to make better decisions in the future.

When the juvenile successfully completes a diversion program, the case is closed and no formal court record is created.

CDW Program by the Numbers

Pre-Complaints

Court designated workers use the pre-complaint conference to coordinate a young person's case management and any prevention services prior to a complaint being filed.

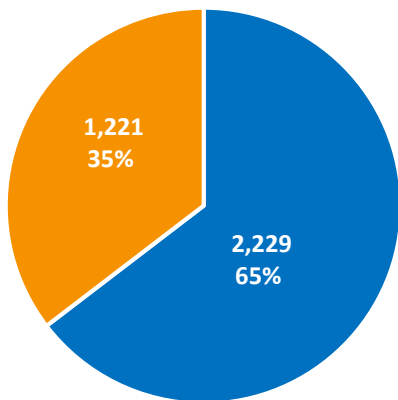
During the pre-complaint conference, CDWs gather information that includes family history, behavior issues, previous assessments or services, and assessments or services that may be beneficial moving forward.

At the pre-complaint stage, youth alleged to be beyond

control of their parents will participate in the Diversion Short Screener, a tool to assist in determining potential needs. The pre-complaint conference is also a good opportunity to help families who simply need assistance connecting to a particular resource.

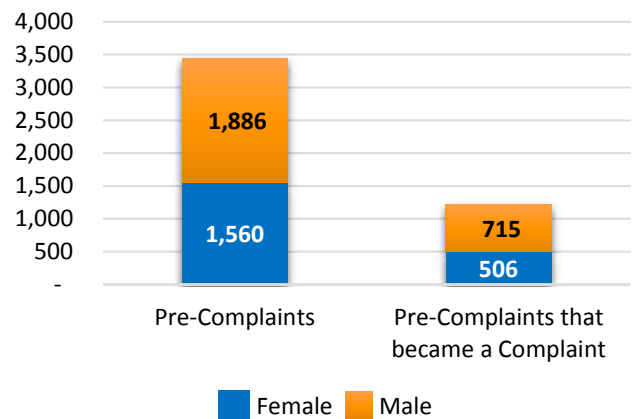
After the pre-complaint conference, the complainant will have the option to file a formal complaint or charge. That allows CDWs to provide more intense case management over an extended period of time to families who need a more formal intervention.

Pre-Complaints That Became a Formal Complaint CY 2015



■ No Complaint ■ Pre-Complaints that became a Complaint

Pre-Complaints by Gender CY 2015

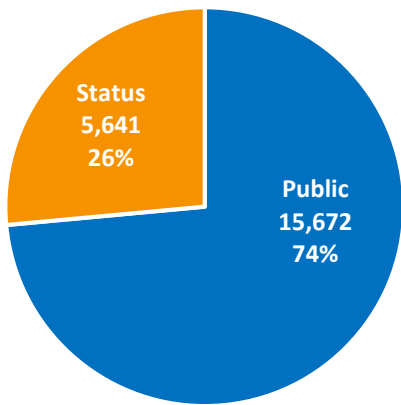


CDW Program by the Numbers

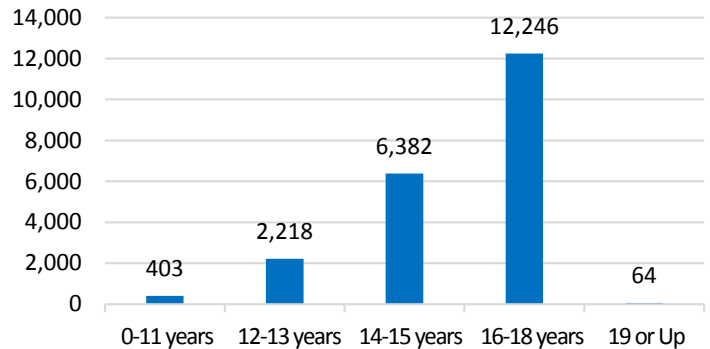
Public & Status Complaints

Of the 21,313 complaints filed against juveniles in 2015, 74 percent were for public offenses and 26 percent were for status offenses. Thirty-nine percent of the complaints were school related and 61 percent were non-school related. Status offenses comprise 49 percent of school-related complaints. School-related complaints are those initiated by the school.

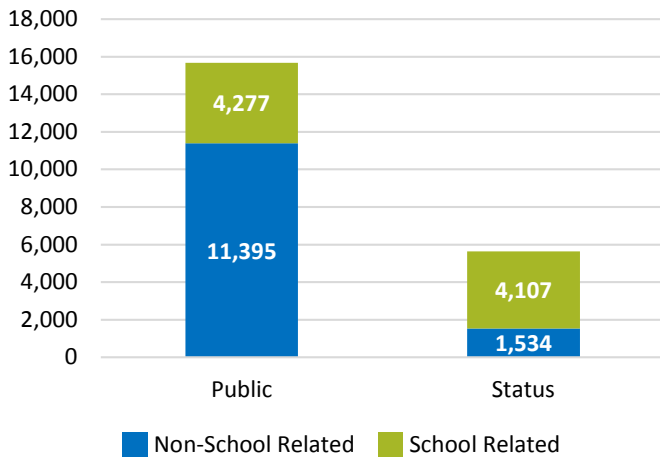
**Complaints Filed by Type:
Public vs. Status Offenses
CY 2015**



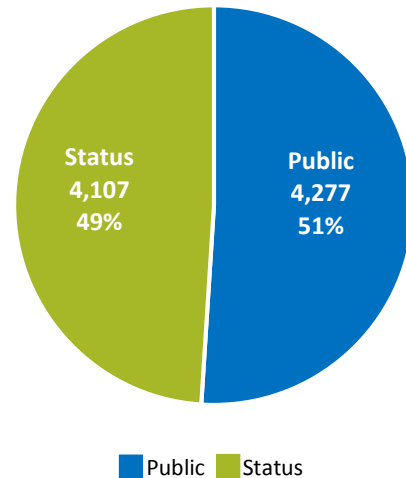
**Complaints Filed by Age
CY 2015**



**School Related vs.
Non-School Related Complaints
CY 2015**



**School-Related Complaints
CY 2015**

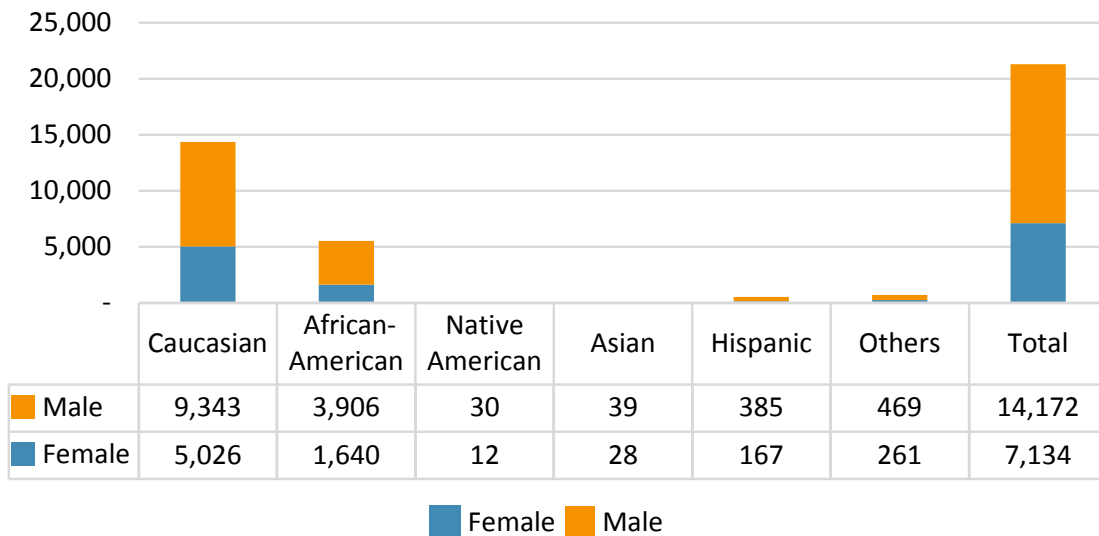


CDW Program by the Numbers

Complaints by Race & Gender

Of the 21,313 complaints in 2015, 67 percent were filed against Caucasian juveniles and 26 percent against African-American juveniles. The remaining 7 percent of complaints were filed against juveniles who were Native American, Asian, Hispanic or an other racial group not captured individually.

Public & Status Complaints Filed by Race & Gender CY 2015



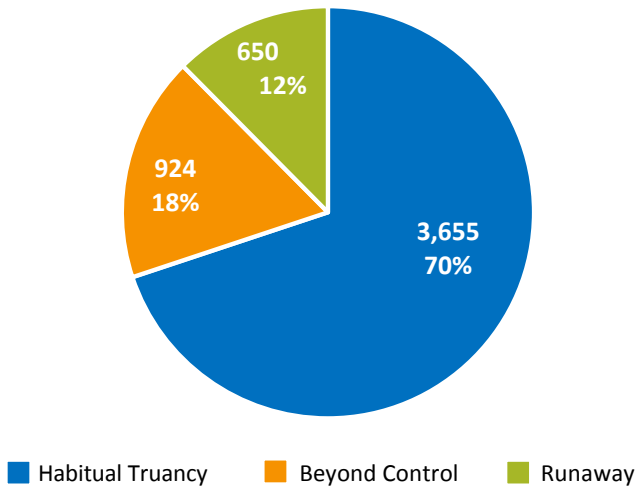
Note: 7 complaints with unknown gender are excluded.

CDW Program by the Numbers

Status Complaints Filed

There were 5,641 status complaints filed in 2015. Of the three most common status complaints, 70 percent were for habitual truancy, 18 percent were for beyond control and 12 percent were for runaway.

Status Offenses Within Complaints Filed CY 2015

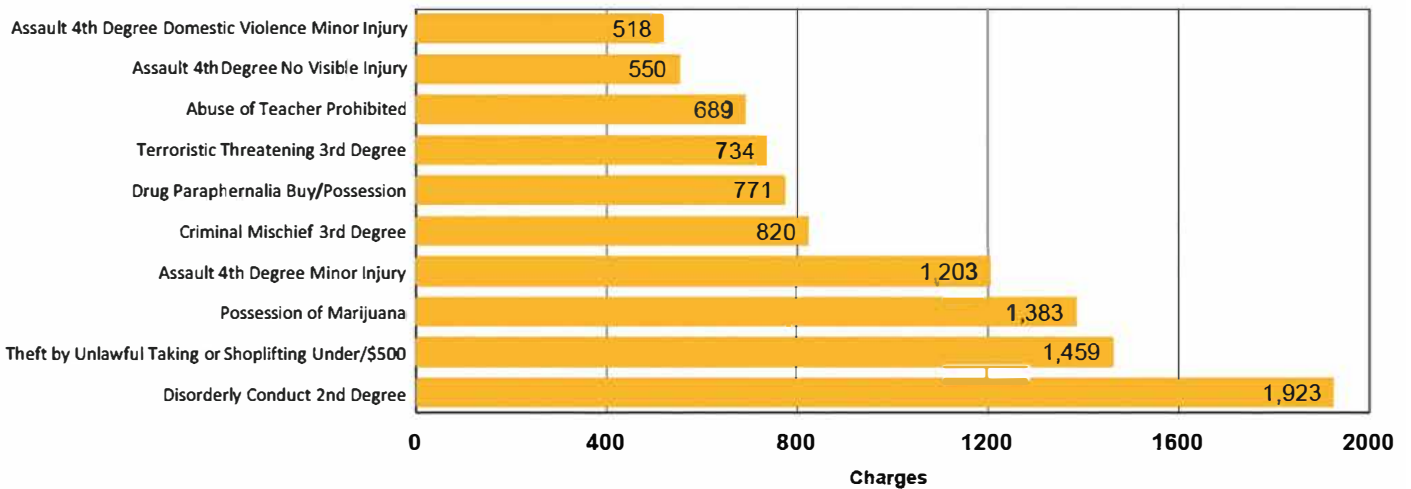


CDW Program by the Numbers

Public Complaints Filed

The 15,675 public complaints filed on juveniles in 2015 contained 24,363 charges. Of the 10 most common charges, 19 percent were for disorderly conduct 2nd, 15 percent were for theft by unlawful taking/shoplifting, 14 percent were for possession of marijuana, 12 percent were for assault 4th minor injury and 8 percent were for criminal mischief 3rd.

10 Most Common Public Offenses Filed With Statewide CDW Program CY 2015



Restitution

The amount of restitution collected from juveniles depends on the number of cases involving theft, damage to property and medical expenses for the victim. Juveniles on diversion paid \$99,245 in restitution to victims in CY 2015.

Restitution Collected Through Diversion

Calendar Year	Statewide
CY 2010	\$58,753.76
CY 2011	\$64,904.43
CY 2012	\$87,354.92
CY 2013	\$53,998.99
CY 2014	\$52,126.87
CY 2015	\$99,245.28
TOTAL	\$416,384.25

CDW Program by the Numbers

Custody Outcomes for Public & Status Complaints

A juvenile can be taken into custody by a law enforcement officer who has probable cause to believe the child has committed an offense. The law enforcement officer may release the youth to a parent, relative, guardian or custodian upon his or her written promise to appear with the child in juvenile court. However, youth meet the criteria for detention if:

- There is reasonable belief the young person is unlikely to appear in court.
- Detention is essential to protect the youth or the community.
- The youth is charged with a serious offense.
- A parent, guardian or custodian cannot be located or is unwilling to take custody.
- The youth has a reasonable basis for requesting detention.

Once a young person has been taken into custody, a court designated worker will respond to the custody site and

determine if the child meets the criteria for detention. The CDW will contact a judge if the youth is eligible to be detained.

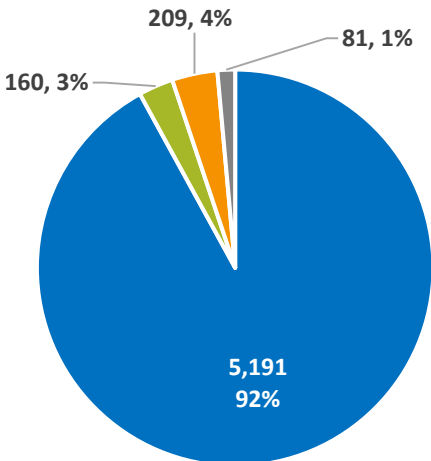
If the young person is held in a juvenile detention center, a detention hearing must be held after he or she is taken into custody. At the detention hearing, the judge:

- May dismiss the charges and release the youth if there is no probable cause he or she has committed an offense.
- May release the youth to his or her parents, guardians or custodians upon promise to reappear in juvenile court.
- May order continued detention if there is reasonable belief the youth is unlikely to reappear; if detention is essential to protect the youth or the community; if the parent, guardian or custodian cannot be located or is unwilling to take custody; or if the youth has a reasonable basis for requesting detention.

Status Complaints

There were 5,641 status complaints on juveniles in CY 2015. Of the juveniles involved, 92 percent were not taken into custody, 3 percent were released by police officers, 4 percent were detained and 1 percent was released by the court designated worker.

Custody Outcomes of Status Complaints CY 2015

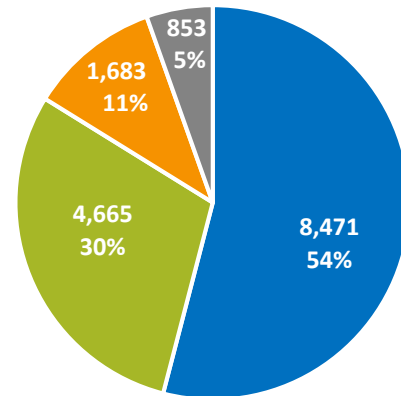


- Child Not Taken Into Custody
- Child Released by Peace Officer
- Extension of Detention
- Child Released by CDW

Public Complaints

There were 15,672 public complaints on juveniles in CY 2015. Of the juveniles involved, 54 percent were not taken into custody, 30 percent were released by peace officers, 11 percent were detained and 5 percent were released by the court designated worker.

Custody Outcomes of Public Complaints CY 2015



- Child Not Taken Into Custody
- Child Released by Peace Officer
- Extension of Detention
- Child Released by CDW

CDW Program by the Numbers

Diversion Agreements

In 2015, 5,656 public complaints and 1,700 status complaints were handled through diversion agreements. A diversion agreement is a contract, also called a case plan, that the CDW negotiates with the child.

The goal of the diversion agreement is to hold the child accountable for his or her behavior, secure services if

appropriate, and serve the best interests of the child while providing redress and restitution for his or her offenses without court action and without creating a formal court record.

Diversion agreements are customized to fit the individual needs of the child. The CDW draws upon community resources and a variety of tools and programs to resolve a complaint. Successful diversion agreements have produced a significant amount of money in the form of restitution.

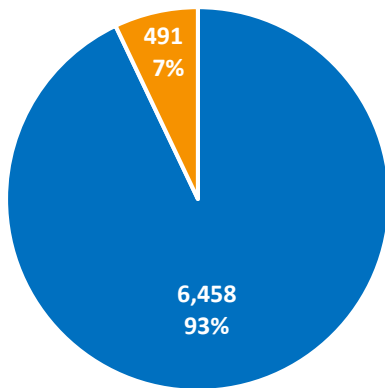
Diversion Agreements Within Complaints Closed CY 2015

	PUBLIC	STATUS	TOTAL
Complaints	7,082	3,266	10,348

Successful Diversions

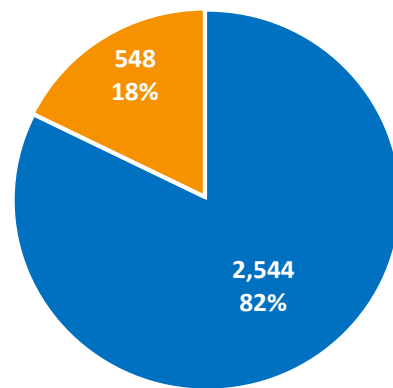
Of the 2,044 public complaints, 91 percent of the diversions were completed successfully. Status complaint cases are generally more complex than a public complaint. Of the 856 status complaints, 75 percent of the diversions were completed successfully.

Public Complaints Closed With Diversion CY 2015



■ Successful Diversion ■ Unsuccessful Diversion

Status Complaints Closed With Diversion CY 2015



■ Successful Diversion ■ Unsuccessful Diversion

CDW Program by the Numbers

Terms of Diversion

The terms used to set up a juvenile's diversion agreement must provide prevention, education, accountability and treatment when appropriate. There were 46,236 terms used in diversion agreements during 2015.

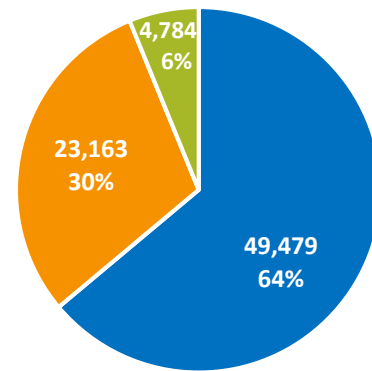
Community Service Hours. Juveniles performed 23,163 hours of community service in their local communities.

Service Learning Hours. Juveniles on diversion completed 77,426 hours of service learning.

Terms of Diversion Agreements CY 2015

	Terms
Assault Workbook/Service Learning Project	1,137
Bullying Workbook/Service Learning Project	192
Character Counts!	164
Community Service Work	1,173
Community Works	27
Counseling Assessment	2,734
Counseling Referral	4,019
Criminal Mischief Workbook/Service Learning	391
Curfew	2,092
Drug/Alcohol Education	142
Educational Diversion Assignment	4,319
Educational Seminar/Program (Specify)	611
Families Workbook/Service Learning Project	304
Farmer's, Families, Friends, & Fitness Work	1
Harassment/Internet Safety Workbook/Service	253
Letter of Apology	2,229
Look Before You Leap	69
Making Choices	71
Making It on Your Own	19
No Negative Contact	1,680
Other	1,483
Psychosexual Assessment	13
Report to CDW	3,165
Restitution	322
School Attendance	6,876
Service Learning Project (Group)	166
Service Learning Project (Individual)	7,680
Service Learning Workbook	129
Street Law for Juvenile Justice Programs	27
Substance Education Activity Program	248
Substance Workbook: Journal	433
Taking Active Control Today	1
TBUT Workbook/Service Learning Project	1,130
Teen Court Diversion	279
Theatre in Diversion	16
Tobacco Workbook/Service Learning Project	140
Truancy Diversion Program (TDP)	626
Truancy Workbook/Service Learning Project	1,875
Total	46,236

Service Learning Hours CY 2015



- Service Learning Project (Individual)
- Community Service Work
- All Other Service Learning Hours

Service Learning Hours	CY 2015
Service Learning Project (Individual)	49,479.00
Community Service Work	23,163.00
Service Learning Project (Group)	1,182.00
Character Counts!	1,178.00
Look Before You Leap	868.00
Community Works	431.00
Making Choices	330.00
Theatre in Diversion	330.00
Street Law for Juvenile Justice Programs	266.00
Making It on Your Own	175.00
Service Learning Workbook	8.00
Truancy Workbook/Service Learning Project	8.00
Taking Active Control Today	6.00
Other	2.00
Total	77,426.00

CDW Program by the Numbers

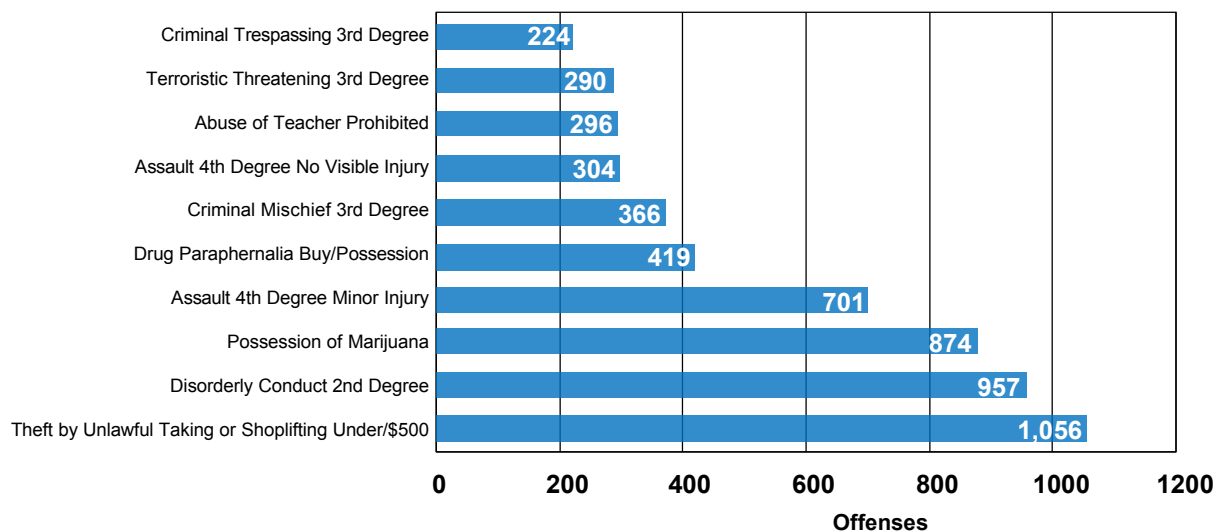
Counseling With Diversion

Counseling is an important part of a juvenile's diversion agreement. Sixty-eight percent of juveniles with public complaints and 98 percent of juveniles with status complaints participated in counseling as part of their diversion agreement.

Diversion Agreements With Terms of Counseling Assessment and/or Counseling Referral CY 2015

	PUBLIC	STATUS	TOTAL
Complaints	4,130	1,948	6,078

Top 10 Offenses Within Public Complaints Filed With Diversion Agreement CY 2015



Teen Court Diversion Program

Teen Court is based on the premise that most young people want to do what is right when making decisions. Even those who may make the wrong choice due to external factors, such as peer pressure, are often gratified to learn they have an opportunity to make amends.

Teen Court gives juveniles the opportunity to participate in a less formal court process carried out by their peers. As part of his or her diversion, a juvenile agrees to participate in Teen Court and have his or her sentence set by their peers.

The goals of Teen Court are to:

- Reduce repeat offenses by young offenders.
- Change the attitudes of offenders toward law enforcement, society and themselves.
- Hold young offenders accountable for their actions.
- Increase young offenders' understanding of how their behavior affects others.

Complaints Closed by Case Close Reason With Teen Court Diversion Agreement CY 2015

PUBLIC COMPLAINTS	
CDW Referred Case for Formal Processing	1
Formal Court Referral - County Attorney Requested	1
Successful Diversion	233
Unsuccessful Diversion	25
Total	260
STATUS COMPLAINTS	
CDW Referred Case for Formal Processing	1
Successful Diversion	14
Unsuccessful Diversion	1
Total	16
GRAND TOTAL	276

CDW Program by the Numbers

Truancy Diversion Program

The Administrative Office of the Courts created the Truancy Diversion Program in 2005 to help students at risk of being charged with truancy because of too many unexcused absences.

The program uses a multidisciplinary team approach to help students become more successful. The team consists of judges, school personnel and court designated workers. They meet weekly to help students develop good attendance habits and improve their overall school experience. During 2014-2015, 183 schools in 75 counties participated in the Truancy Diversion Program.

The Truancy Diversion Program is divided into two phases.

Pre-Complaint Phase. The Pre-Complaint Phase is when the truant student and his or her parents meet with the TDP Review Team and attend a two-hour educational workshop.

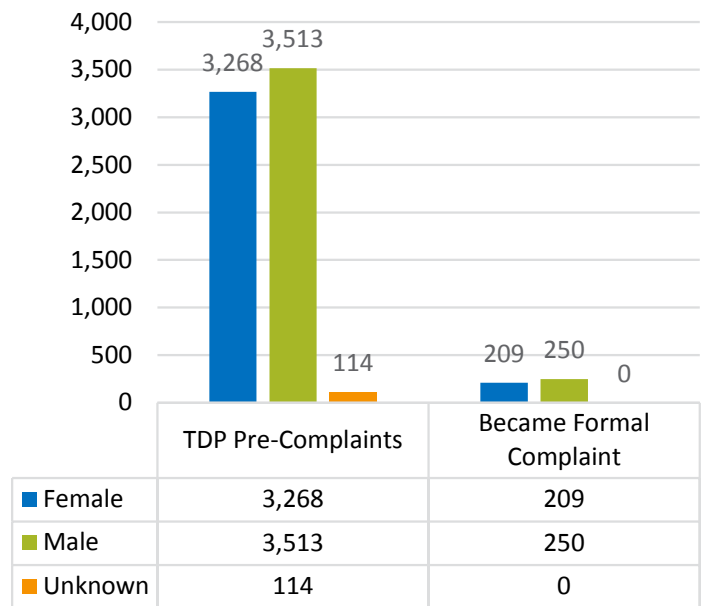
Complaint Phase. The Complaint Phase is when the student has been absent or tardy six or more times without a valid excuse and is considered habitually truant. The CDW fills out a complaint on the student. The student and his or her parents attend weekly sessions with the TDP Review Team and comply with recommendations and requirements set forth by the team. The Complaint Phase of the program lasts 10 weeks.

Truancy by Gender

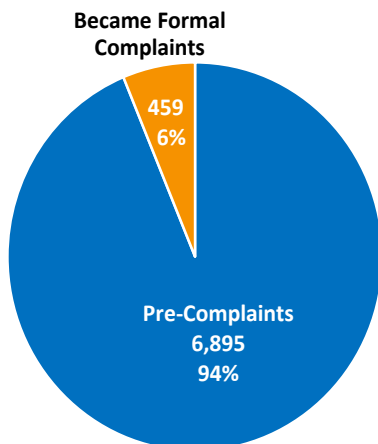
Of the 7,489 pre-complaints related to truancy, 55 percent involved males and 45 percent involved females (excludes 39 unknown).

- CDWs provided case management to 7,489 TDP pre-complaints in Phase One.
- Only 579 cases advanced to Phase Two, which resulted in a formal complaint being filed.

TDP Pre-Complaint Conferences by Gender CY 2015



TDP Pre-Complaint Conferences CY 2015



CDW Program by the Numbers

Juvenile Recidivism

The Department of Family and Juvenile Services conducted a juvenile recidivism study on a cohort of 9,300 distinct juvenile offenders who had a complaint filed during CY 2012 and were processed through the diversion program.

The juvenile cohort was tracked through the Court Designated Worker Case Management System for at least two years from the complaint date to determine whether subsequent complaints had been filed since Jan. 1, 2012. The majority of the juveniles, 86 percent (8,002), had an initial* referral, which was a successful diversion, and the remaining 14 percent (1,298) had an initial referral that was an unsuccessful diversion.

Among the cohort of 9,300 juveniles, 60 percent did not reoffend while under age 18 and 20 percent reoffended only once after the initial complaint in 2012 through Dec. 31, 2015.

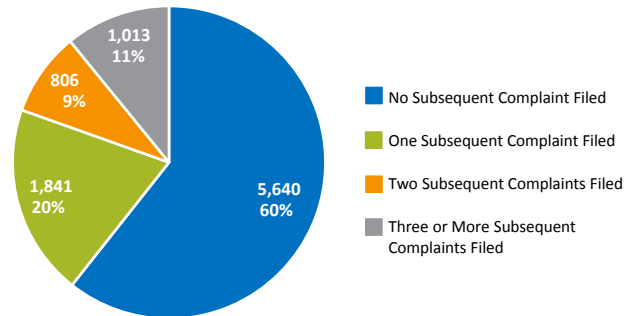
The study did not analyze adult criminal record checks for the 72 percent of juveniles in the cohort who turned 18 by Dec. 31, 2015, and were no longer eligible for CDW referrals.

** For the purpose of this study, the initial referral was not necessarily the juvenile's actual first referral but instead was his or her first referral during CY 2012.*

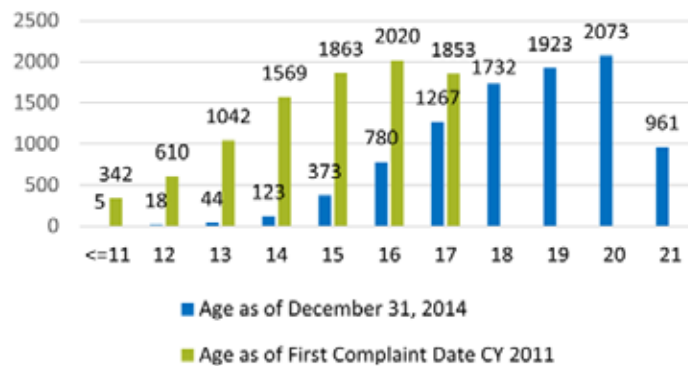
First Complaint Filed for Juveniles by Case Close Reason CY 2011

	Public	Status	Total
Successful Diversion	5,476	2,526	8,002
Unsuccessful Diversion	514	784	1,298
Total Distinct Juveniles	5,990	3,310	9,300

Any Subsequent Complaint Filed for Juveniles 1/1/2011 - 12/31/2015



Ages of Juveniles Within Cohort



CDW Program by the Numbers

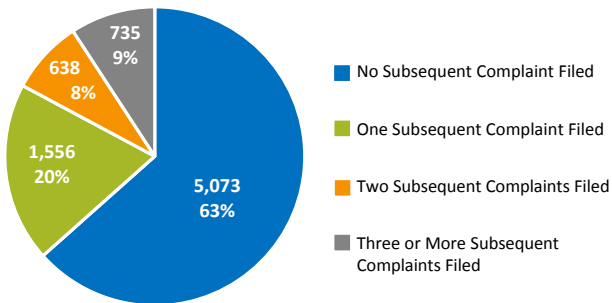
Successful Diversions Among Juvenile Cohort

Of the 8,002 juveniles who successfully completed the diversion program, 63 percent did not reoffend or have any subsequent complaints filed while under 18 years old as of Dec. 31, 2015.

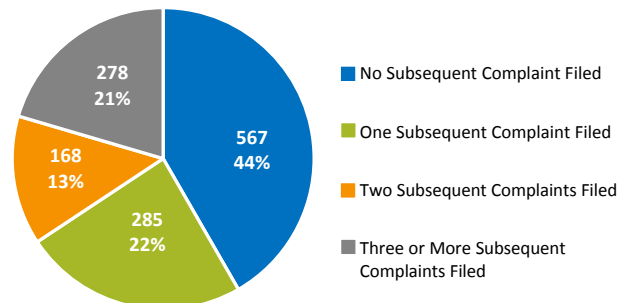
Unsuccessful Diversions Among Juvenile Cohort

Of the 1,298 juveniles who did not successfully complete the diversion program, 42 percent did not reoffend or have any subsequent complaints filed.

Successful Diverted Juveniles Reoffense Rate 1/1/2011 - 12/31/2015



Unsuccessful Diverted Juveniles Reoffense Rate 1/1/2011 - 12/31/2015



Juvenile Complaints: Summary of Statistics CY 2015

Complaint Types	Number of Complaints
• Total status pre-complaints filed	3,450
• Status pre-complaints that became a formal complaint	1,221
• Total public complaints	15,672
• Total status complaints	5,641
• Total school related complaints	8,384
• School related status complaints	3,678
• School related public complaints	4,697

Complaints with Diversion Agreements
37 different types of terms available to be included in diversion agreements
8,893 Distinct juveniles with one or more diversion agreement
2,131 public complaint diversions
1,960 public complaint diversions successfully completed
747 status complaint diversions
538 status complaint diversions successfully completed

Recidivism
63% of successful diversions in CY2011 did not have any further complaints by Dec. 31, 2015
42% of juveniles with an unsuccessful diversion in CY2011 did not have any further complaints filed by Dec. 31, 2015.

CDW Case Management System: Definitions & Methodology

The statistical information in this report is from the Court Designated Worker Case Management System. The CDWCMS statewide electronic database is maintained by the Department of Family and Juvenile Services of the Administrative Office of the Courts. The following definitions explain the methodology used to produce the statistical reports.

Intake Action Date. Date that the intake action (release or detention) is applied.

Juvenile ID Number. Each juvenile is assigned a unique identifier the first time he or she is entered into the CDWCMS. That identifier remains with the juvenile for each subsequent referral/complaint, ensuring that the CDWCMS maintains a count of distinct juveniles.

Number of Complaints/Referrals. The terms complaint and referral are interchangeable. A juvenile may have more than one complaint during any given time frame. A complaint may be a status complaint or a public complaint. Status complaints are those that include offenses unique to juveniles, such as beyond control, habitual truant, runaway, and various alcohol and tobacco offenses. Public offenses are those that would be crimes if committed by adults and, thus, are not unique to juveniles; these are the same types of charges that can also be brought against adults (such as felonies, misdemeanors and violations).

Number of Referrals by Case Close Reason. The case close reason, or outcome, is the definitive action taken and recorded in the CDWCMS regarding how a particular complaint/referral ended. The case close reason date is used to determine when the complaint will be counted and reported for statistical purposes.

Recidivism Methodology. Recidivism data was obtained by looking at juveniles processed through the CDW Program whose first complaint was processed during calendar year 2011. These cases were closed due to a successful or unsuccessful diversion. The study followed those juveniles to see if they had one or more subsequent complaints filed through Dec. 31, 2015.

The cases involving first complaints were broken down by:

- No subsequent complaints, one subsequent complaint, two subsequent complaints, and three or more subsequent complaints.
- No re-offense, re-offense less than a year, re-offense within a year, and two years or more to re-offend.

The offense period was defined as the day after the first complaint date in 2011 through Dec. 31, 2015. A juvenile was counted as a recidivist if he or she had an additional complaint filed during that time frame.

The study excluded juveniles who committed a serious offense and were tried as an adult, juveniles who turned 18 prior to Dec. 31, 2015, and were processed as an adult within the criminal system, and juveniles who aged out of the juvenile system and reoffended within the adult system.

Referrals Filed/Closed. The date that complaints/referrals are filed are obtained by a query by referral filing date. The same is true for complaints/referrals closed, which are queried by the closing date.

Note: A comprehensive breakdown of recidivism data is on page 15.

CDW Case Management System Disclaimer

The data from the Court Designated Worker Case Management System – CDWCMS – is subject to changes, reprogramming, format modifications and availability at the direction of the Administrative Office of the Courts. At any particular moment, the data may not reflect the most up-to-date status due to ordinary limitations or errors in the system's operation.

It is also important to note that when juvenile justice reform was passed through Senate Bill 200 in 2014, the CDWCMS

was not capable of tracking all of the data mandated by the bill. Although the AOC has been hard at work to upgrade the system, some information for the 2015 Annual Report cannot be retrieved.

This includes data that spans case management systems, such as the number of children who are adjudicated a public offender or convicted of a criminal offense in an adult court within one year of successfully completing a juvenile diversion agreement.

Glossary

The following definitions describe the terms used by the Court Designated Worker Program. Please note that the terms are used in pre-court situations and may differ from the terms used in formal court settings.

Beyond Control of Parents. A child who has repeatedly failed to follow the reasonable directives of his or her parents, legal guardian or person exercising custodial control or supervision other than a state agency. The behavior results in danger to the child or others and does not constitute behavior that would warrant the filing of a petition under KRS Chapter 645, which is the Mental Health Act of the Unified Juvenile Code.

Child/Juvenile. Any person who has not reached his or her 18th birthday, unless otherwise provided.

Cognitive Intervention Skills. The use of cognitive interactive skills with juveniles to reinforce prosocial behaviors and attitudes and discourage antisocial behaviors and attitudes.

Commitment. A court order that places a child under the custodial control or supervision of the Cabinet for Health and Family Services, Department of Juvenile Justice, or another facility or agency until the child reaches age 18 unless otherwise provided by law.

Complaint. A verified statement that sets forth allegations regarding a child and contains sufficient facts supporting any subsequent petition that may be filed in court.

Complaint Filing Date. Date that a complaint was signed by the complainant.

Complaint Close Date. Date that the complaint was closed.

Contempt of Court. Willful disobedience of a court order or willful interference with the administration of justice.

Decline Diversion. A situation in which a child does not wish to participate in diversion or does not agree to the terms of a diversion, but does not request that the case be formally processed in the court system. If the case is a status offense and the child declines diversion, the case is consequently referred to the FAIR Team.

Diversion Agreement. An agreement between a court designated worker and a child charged with committing a public or status offense. It is designed to hold the child accountable for his or her behavior and, if appropriate, to secure services for the child. The purpose of a diversion agreement is to serve

the best interests of the child and provide redress for his or her behavior without court action and without the creation of a formal court record.

Evidence-Based Practice. An evidence-based practice is the objective, balanced and responsible use of current research and the best available data to guide policy and practice decisions to improve outcomes for consumers.

Failure to Appear. A situation in which a child does not appear for a scheduled appointment. If the case is a status offense and the child fails to appear for an appointment, the case is consequently referred to the FAIR Team.

FAIR – Family Accountability, Intervention, and Response – Team. A multidisciplinary team that will exist in every judicial district and will be comprised of no more than 15 members. The FAIR Team reviews the work of the local court designated worker and creates enhanced case management plans and opportunities to provide resources and services for youth in diversion. Senate Bill 200 mandates that the FAIR Team include legal, education, social service and mental health professionals as well as representatives of agencies that provide services to youth in the juvenile justice system.

Formal Process. A young person has the right to waive the informal processing of his or her case and request a formal court hearing to determine the validity of the allegations.

GAIN-Q3. The Global Appraisal of Individual Needs Quick is a needs assessment conducted on every child that scores high on the GAIN-SS. The GAIN-Q3 provides in-depth information on the needs of a child on diversion and how those needs can be met.

GAIN-SS. The Global Appraisal of Individual Needs Short Screener is a screening conducted on every child referred to the Court Designated Worker Program. The GAIN-SS asks a short series of questions meant to quickly identify areas that potentially need further mental health assessment.

Habitual Runaway. Any child found by the court to have been absent from his or her place of lawful residence without the permission of his or her custodian for at least three days during a one-year period.

Habitual Truant. Any child who has been found by the court to have been reported as a truant two or more times during a one-year period. Truancy is defined in KRS 159.150(1).

Glossary

High Needs. Level of score used to identify those children referred to the FAIR Team for service coordination, based on the score of a child's Global Appraisal of Individual Needs Short Screener (GAIN-SS) and Global Appraisal of Individual Needs Quick (GAIN-Q3).

Informal Process. Court designated workers are authorized by statute to informally process a total of three status or non-felony public offense complaints per youth and, with the written approval of the county attorney, one felony complaint that did not involve the commission of a sexual offense or the use of a deadly weapon.

KRS. Kentucky Revised Statutes are the laws of the commonwealth of Kentucky.

Petition. A verified statement that sets forth allegations regarding a child and initiates formal court involvement in the child's case.

Pre-Complaint. A meeting with the child, parent/guardian and possibly the complaining witness to assist in the coordination of a case management plan and prevention services prior to a complaint being filed.

Preliminary Intake Process. Kentucky's Unified Juvenile Code directs whether a juvenile complaint is eligible to be processed formally in a court setting or informally through a diversion agreement.

Principle of Effective Intervention. The foundation for what works in rehabilitating juveniles is adherence to the Principles of Effective Intervention. These principles include: Risk Principle (tells who to target), Need Principle (tells what to target), Responsivity Principle (tells how to work effectively with juveniles) and Fidelity Principle (tells how to do this work right).

Public Offense. An action that would be a crime if committed by an adult, whether a felony, misdemeanor or violation, other than an allegation that a child age 16 or older has committed a motor vehicle offense.

Restitution Payment. Full or partial compensation paid to the victim of a status or public offense.

Retain in Custody. After a child has been taken into custody, the continued holding of the child by a law enforcement officer for a period of time not to exceed 12 hours when authorized by the court or the court designated

worker for the purpose of making preliminary inquiries.

Secure Juvenile Detention Facility. Any physically secure facility used for the secure detention of children other than any facility in which adult prisoners are confined.

Senate Bill 200. Legislation passed by the Kentucky General Assembly in 2014 that enacted systemwide juvenile justice reform by steering more children to treatment instead of detention. SB 200 was fully effective July 1, 2015.

Status Offense. An offense that would not be a crime if committed by an adult. The behavior, which is unique to juveniles and is not to be considered criminal or delinquent, includes offenses such as beyond control of parents or school, habitual truant, habitual runaway, and various alcohol and tobacco offenses.

Successful Diversion. A young person's successful completion of a diversion agreement.

Teen Court. A program that provides an alternative disposition for juveniles who have committed a public offense but are otherwise eligible for diversion. Teen Court is based on the premise that most young people want to make the right choices. The peer pressure in this setting is thought to have a more meaningful effect on a juvenile than the traditional juvenile justice approach.

Truancy Diversion Program. A program for students at risk of being charged with habitual truancy that uses a multidisciplinary team approach to help them become successful.

Truant. A child between the ages of 6 and 18 who has been absent from school without a valid excuse for three or more days or tardy without a valid excuse on three or more days. Truancy is defined in KRS 159.150(1).

Unified Court System. Kentucky has a unified court system that provides centralized administration and standardized judicial organization statewide to streamline legal matters and reduce duplication of efforts.

Unsuccessful Diversion. A child's failure to complete a diversion agreement. In the event of an unsuccessful diversion, cases involving status offenses are referred to the FAIR Team and cases involving public offenses are referred to the county attorney.

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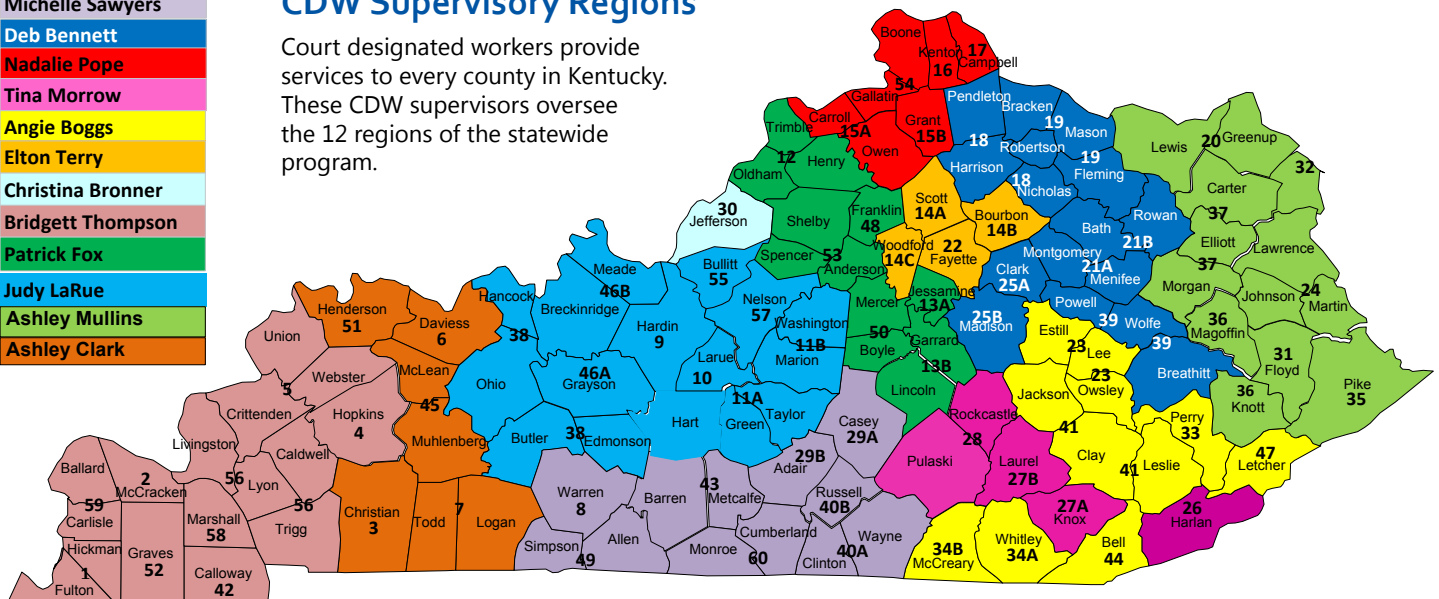
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CDW Supervisory Regions

Court designated workers provide services to every county in Kentucky. These CDW supervisors oversee the 12 regions of the statewide program.



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2015 Court Designated Worker Annual Report

Submitted pursuant to Kentucky Revised Statute 605.020

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