




JUVENILE JUSTICE STATISTICS

NATIONAL REPORT SERIES BULLETIN

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Juveniles in Residential Placement, 2019

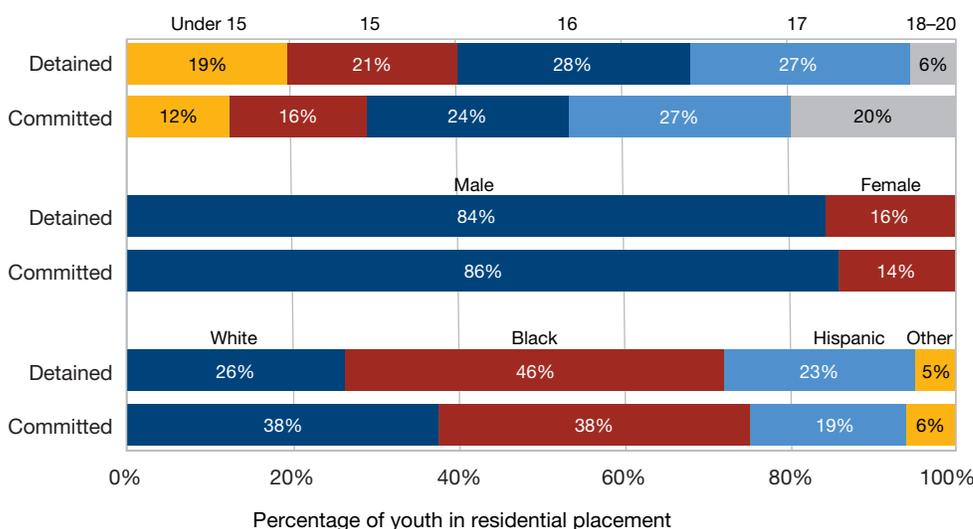
Sarah Hockenberry

Highlights

The 2019 Census of Juveniles in Residential Placement (CJRP) shows that the number of youth in placement continues to decline. Between 1997 and 2019, the number of youth in residential placement decreased 65% to 36,479, its lowest level since the data collection began in 1997 when 105,055 youth were held in out-of-home placement. The decrease in the number of youth held for an offense in

public facilities was slightly less than the decrease in the number held in private facilities during the same time period (down 64% and 68%, respectively). The number of public facilities decreased 18% between 1997 and 2019, compared with 65% for private facilities.

In 2019, youth older than age 17, males, and white youth comprised a larger share of the committed population than the detained placement population



Notes: A court disposition may commit a youth to a facility, or a youth may be detained prior to or after adjudication while awaiting disposition or placement elsewhere. Other race includes American Indians/Alaska Natives, Asians/Pacific Islanders, and youth of two or more races.

- Of youth held for an offense in residential placement in 2019, 96% were held for a delinquency offense and 4% were held for a status offense. Thirty-seven percent were held for a person offense.
- Females accounted for 15% of youth held for an offense, and they tended to be slightly younger than males.
- Black youth accounted for the largest share of youth in placement for an offense in 2019 (41%).
- In 2019, 26% of youth in placement for an offense were held in private facilities, which comprised 40% of facilities holding youth for an offense.
- In 2019, 58% of youth held for an offense in residential placement were committed to the facility as part of a court-ordered disposition; the remaining youth were detained pending adjudication, disposition, or placement elsewhere, or were in the facility as part of a diversion agreement.

A Message From OJJDP and NIJ

The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention sponsors the Census of Juveniles in Residential Placement (CJRP) to gather comprehensive and detailed information about youth in residential placement because of law-violating behavior. This biennial survey details the characteristics of youth held for delinquency and status offenses in public and private residential facilities in every state. The data provide a detailed picture of these youth, including their age, gender, race, offenses, and adjudication status.

The most recent CJRP data show that the number of youth in placement continues to decline. Between 1997 and 2019, the number of youth in residential placement decreased 65% to 36,479, its lowest level since the data collection began in 1997. Females accounted for 15% of the placement population, and they tended to be slightly younger than male residents. Black youth accounted for the largest share of youth in placement in 2019 (41%).

Juvenile justice professionals and policymakers, along with others in the field, can use the information in this bulletin to explore appropriate alternatives to confinement for justice-involved youth, improve their conditions of confinement, and provide the programs that these youth need to help them live productive lives.

Chyrl Jones
OJJDP Acting Administrator

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CJRP provides detailed data on juveniles in residential facilities

CJRP is administered biennially and collects information from secure and nonsecure residential placement facilities that hold youth who were charged with or adjudicated for law violations. These law violations encompass both delinquency offenses and status offenses. CJRP does not capture data on adult prisons, jails, or federal facilities, nor does it include information for youth who were convicted in criminal court and sentenced to incarceration. Additionally, CJRP does not include facilities used exclusively for mental health or substance abuse treatment or for abuse/neglect cases (nonoffenses). Reporting facilities may hold youth for nonoffense reasons (e.g., for abuse/neglect or mental health/substance abuse problems), as well as some adults. However, unless noted otherwise, this bulletin focuses on youth under age 21 who are in residential placement after being charged with or adjudicated for an offense. As used in this bulletin, “youth” always refers to those held for an offense.

The census typically takes place on the fourth Wednesday in October of the census year.* CJRP asks all juvenile residential facilities in the United States to describe each person younger than age 21 who was assigned a bed in the facility on the census date because of an offense. Facilities report individual-level information on gender, date of birth, race, placement authority, most serious offense charged, court adjudication status, and admission date.

One-day count and admission data give different views of residential populations

CJRP provides 1-day population counts of juveniles in residential placement facilities. Such counts give a picture of the standing population in facilities. One-day counts are

substantially different from annual admission or release data, which provide a measure of facility population flow.

A court disposition may commit a juvenile to a facility, or a youth may be detained prior to or after adjudication while awaiting disposition or placement elsewhere. In addition, a small proportion of juveniles may be admitted as part of a diversion agreement. Because detention stays tend to be shorter than commitment placements, detained juveniles represent a larger share of population flow data than of 1-day count data.

State variations influence placement rates

Although state placement rate statistics control for upper age of original juvenile court jurisdiction, comparisons among states with different upper ages are problematic. Youth ages 16 and 17 constitute 25% of the general youth population ages 10–17, but they account for 48% of arrests of youth younger than age 18, 43% of delinquency court cases, and 52% of juveniles in residential placement. If all other factors were equal, one would expect higher juvenile placement rates in states where older youth are under juvenile court jurisdiction.

Differences in age limits of extended jurisdiction also influence placement rates. Some states may keep a juvenile in placement for several years beyond the upper age of original jurisdiction; others cannot. Laws that control the transfer of juveniles to criminal court also affect juvenile placement rates. If all other factors were equal, states with broad transfer provisions would be expected to have lower juvenile placement rates than other states.

Demographic variations among jurisdictions should also be considered. The urbanicity and economy of an area are thought to be related to crime and placement rates. Available bedspace also influences placement rates, particularly in rural areas.

*The 2005 and 2009 censuses were delayed until February of the following year.

The number of residents in placement decreased across census years, but profiles remained similar

More than 8 in 10 residents were youth held for delinquency offenses

The vast majority of residents (those held for either offense or nonoffense reasons) in juvenile residential placement facilities on October 23, 2019, were youth held for an offense (86%). Youth held for delinquency offenses accounted for 82% of all residents, and those held for status offenses accounted for 3%. Delinquency offenses are behaviors that would be criminal law violations for adults and include technical violations (i.e., violations of probation, parole, and valid court order). Status offenses, such as running away, truancy, and incorrigibility, are behaviors that are not law violations for adults. Some residents were held in facilities but were not charged with or adjudicated for an offense (e.g., youth referred for abuse, neglect, or mental health problems, or those whose parents referred them). Together, these other residents and individuals age 21 or older accounted for 14% of all residents.

Less than half of facilities were private and held approximately one-quarter of youth

Private nonprofit or for-profit corporations or organizations operate private facilities; those who work in these facilities are employees of the private corporation or organization. State or local government agencies operate public facilities; those who work in these facilities are state or local government employees. Private facilities tend to be smaller than public facilities and therefore hold fewer youth, while public facilities hold the majority of youth on any given day. While private facilities accounted for 40% of facilities in 2019, they held just 26% of youth in placement.

The profile of youth in residential placement changed little between 1997 and 2019

Placement population	Number			Percent of total		
	1997	2010	2019	1997	2010	2019
All residents	116,701	79,166	42,630	100%	100%	100%
Youth in placement	105,055	70,793	36,479	90	89	86
Delinquency offense	98,813	67,777	35,055	85	86	82
Person offense	35,138	26,011	15,823	30	33	37
Violent offense	26,304	18,655	10,861	23	24	25
Status offense	6,242	3,016	1,424	5	4	3
Other residents	11,646	8,373	6,151	10	11	14

Notes: Other residents include youth age 21 or older and those held in the facility but not charged with or adjudicated for an offense. Detail may not total 100% because of rounding.

Data source: Author's analysis of OJJDP's *Census of Juveniles in Residential Placement* for 1997, 2010, and 2019 [machine-readable data files].

Public facilities outnumbered private facilities in 2019, and held nearly three times as many youth

Facility operation	Number			Percent change	
	1997	2010	2019	1997–2019	2010–2019
Facilities:					
All facilities	2,842	2,259	1,523	–46%	–33%
Public facilities	1,106	1,103	907	–18	–18
Private facilities	1,736	1,156	616	–65	–47
Youth in placement:					
All facilities	105,055	70,793	36,479	–65	–48
Public facilities	75,600	49,112	27,035	–64	–45
Private facilities	29,455	21,681	9,444	–68	–56

- Overall, the number of youth in residential placement decreased 65% between 1997 and 2019.
- The decline in youth held in public facilities accounted for 71% of the overall drop in the youth residential placement population between 1997 and 2019.

Data source: Author's analysis of OJJDP's *Census of Juveniles in Residential Placement* for 1997, 2010, and 2019 [machine-readable data files].

Private facilities hold a different population of youth than do public facilities. Compared with public facilities, private facilities have a greater proportion of youth who the court has committed to the facility following adjudication as part of their disposition and a smaller proportion of youth who are detained pending adjudication, disposition, or placement elsewhere.

Placement status profile, 2019

Placement status	Facility operation		
	Total	Public	Private
Total	100%	100%	100%
Committed	58	49	83
Detained	39	49	12
Diversion	1	<1	4

Note: Detail may not total 100% because of rounding.

Of all youth who were detained, 92% were in public facilities. For committed youth, 63% were in public facilities.

Nationwide, 36,479 youth were in residential placement on October 23, 2019

Public and private facility populations have fairly similar offense profiles

In 2019, youth held for a delinquency offense accounted for the vast majority of youth in both public and private facilities (99% and 89%, respectively). Compared with public facilities, private facilities had larger proportions of youth among their populations with less serious offenses (e.g., simple assault, drug offenses, and status offenses).

Offense profile by facility type, 2019

Most serious offense	Facility operation		
	All	Public	Private
Total	100%	100%	100%
Delinquency	96	99	89
Person	43	52	36
Crim. homicide	3	3	0
Sexual assault	6	6	9
Robbery	11	13	5
Agg. assault	9	10	6
Simple assault	8	8	10
Other person	5	5	5
Property	21	20	21
Burglary	7	7	7
Theft	4	4	5
Auto theft	5	5	5
Arson	1	1	0
Other property	4	4	4
Drug	4	4	6
Drug trafficking	1	1	1
Other drug	4	3	6
Public order	14	13	15
Weapons	6	6	4
Other public ord.	8	7	11
Technical violation	14	15	11
Status offense	4	1	11

Note: Detail may not total 100% because of rounding.

On the census date in 2019, public facilities held 76% of youth held for a delinquency offense and 28% of those held for a status offense. Public facilities housed 82% of those held for violent crimes (i.e., criminal homicide, rape, robbery, and aggravated assault). In contrast, 64% of youth held for drug offenses were in public facilities.

The number of youth in residential placement declined for all offenses between 1997 and 2019

Most serious offense	Youth in residential placement, 2019			Percent change 1997–2019		
	Type of facility			Type of facility		
	All	Public	Private	All	Public	Private
Total	36,479	27,035	9,444	–65%	–64%	–68%
Delinquency	35,055	26,635	8,420	–65	–64	–66
Person	15,823	13,928	3,406	–55	–49	–57
Criminal homicide	941	903	38	–51	–50	–62
Sexual assault	2,362	1,536	826	–58	–61	–49
Robbery	4,131	3,633	498	–56	–54	–64
Aggravated assault	3,427	2,814	613	–64	–63	–67
Simple assault	3,067	2,091	976	–54	–49	–61
Other person	1,895	1,440	455	–14	–15	–13
Property	7,503	5,499	2,004	–76	–76	–78
Burglary	2,540	1,835	705	–80	–81	–77
Theft	1,576	1,136	440	–78	–78	–79
Auto theft	1,782	1,296	486	–73	–70	–77
Arson	204	170	34	–77	–75	–85
Other property	1,401	1,062	339	–70	–68	–75
Drug	1,589	1,011	578	–82	–84	–79
Drug trafficking	269	219	50	–91	–90	–93
Other drug	1,320	792	528	–79	–81	–74
Public order	5,077	3,649	1,428	–51	–50	–52
Weapons	2,087	1,742	345	–50	–47	–60
Other public order	2,990	1,907	1,083	–51	–52	–49
Technical violation	5,063	4,059	1,004	–59	–61	–53
Status offense	1,424	400	1,024	–77	–74	–78

■ The number of youth held for person offenses decreased 55% between 1997 and 2019, and the number held for property and drug offenses was cut by more than three-quarters (76% and 82% decrease, respectively).

■ Overall, the number of youth held for both public order and technical violation offenses declined between 1997 and 2019 (51% and 59%, respectively).

■ The number of youth held for status offenses in residential placement was cut substantially (77%) between 1997 and 2019.

Notes: Detail may not add to totals because of rounding.

Data source: Author's analysis of OJJDP's *Census of Juveniles in Residential Placement* for 2019 [machine-readable data files].

The number of youth in placement for an offense was at its lowest level in 2019

The largest delinquency population reported to CJRP was in 1999

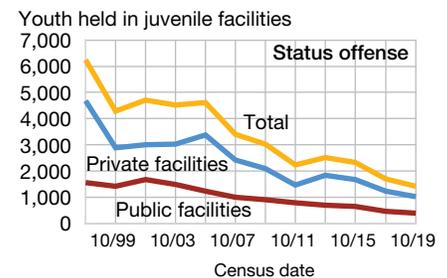
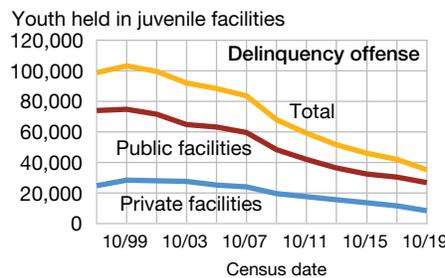
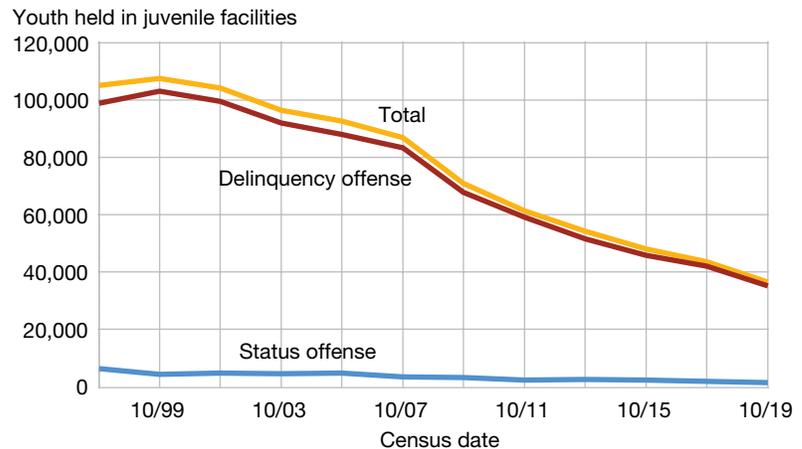
The number of youth held in placement for a delinquency offense increased 4% between 1997 and 1999 and then decreased 66% to its lowest level in 2019. Since 1999, the number of youth held for a delinquency offense in public facilities decreased 64% and the number held in private facilities decreased 70%.

Private facilities reported the largest decrease in the number of youth held for a status offense between 1997 and 2019—down 74% compared with 70% in public facilities.

Several Factors May Affect the Placement Population

Although data from the Census of Juveniles in Residential Placement cannot explain the continuing decline in the number of youth held in residential placement for an offense, they may reflect a combination of contributing factors. For example, the number of juvenile arrests decreased 58% between 2010 and 2019, which in turn means that fewer youth were processed through the juvenile justice system. Additionally, residential placement reform efforts have resulted in the movement of many youth from large, secure public facilities to less secure, small private facilities. Finally, budgetary factors have resulted in a shift from committing youth to high-cost residential facilities to providing lower cost options, such as probation, day treatment, or other community-based sanctions.

In 2019, juvenile residential facilities held 65% fewer youth for a delinquency offense and 77% fewer for a status offense than in 1997



- The total number of youth in residential placement facilities rose slightly from 1997 to 1999 and then decreased through 2019. The result was an overall decrease of 65% between 1997 and 2019.
- The number of youth held for a delinquency offense in public facilities decreased 64% between 1997 and 2019, and the number held in private facilities decreased 66%.
- Between 1997 and 1999, the number of youth held for a status offense in juvenile residential facilities dropped sharply (31%). Between 1999 and 2006, the number remained relatively unchanged, then decreased 67% between 2006 and 2019. The result was an overall decrease of 77% between 1997 and 2019.
- The number of youth held for a status offense in public facilities peaked in 2001 and then decreased 76% by 2019. The number held in private facilities increased 18% between the 1999 low and 2006, then decreased 64% between 2006 and 2019.

Data source: Author's analysis of OJJDP's *Census of Juveniles in Residential Placement* for 1997, 1999, 2001, 2003, 2006, 2007, 2010, 2011, 2013, 2015, 2017, and 2019 [machine-readable data files].

Relative declines from 1997 to 2019 were greater for committed youth than for detained youth

Offense profiles were similar for detained and committed youth

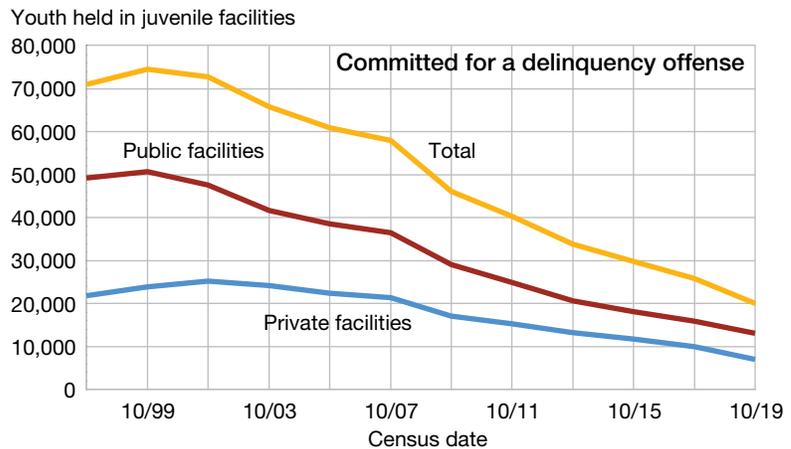
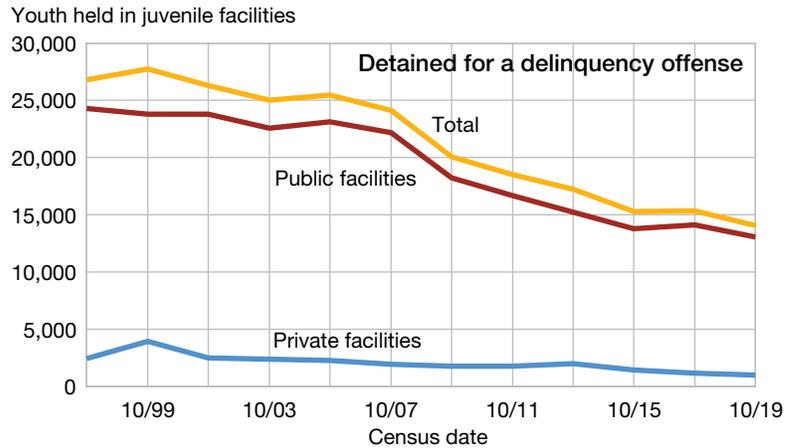
Youth held for a delinquency offense accounted for 98% of detained youth and 95% of committed youth in 2019. The offense profiles for detained and committed youth were very similar, although the committed population had a slightly larger proportion of youth held for status offenses. Status offenses accounted for 5% of the committed youth population and 2% of the detained youth population.

Offense profile of youth in placement, 2019

Most serious offense	Detained (14,344)	Committed (21,141)
Total	100%	100%
Delinquency	98	95
Person	45	43
Criminal homicide	4	2
Sexual assault	4	8
Robbery	12	11
Agg. assault	11	8
Simple assault	8	8
Other person	5	5
Property	20	21
Burglary	6	7
Theft	4	4
Auto theft	5	5
Arson	1	1
Other property	4	4
Drug	3	5
Drug trafficking	1	1
Other drug	3	4
Public order	13	14
Weapons	7	5
Other public order	6	9
Technical violation	16	12
Status offense	2	5

Note: Detail may not total 100% because of rounding.

Between 1997 and 2019, the detained delinquency population decreased 47% and the committed delinquency population decreased 72%



■ Despite a slight increase between 1997 and 1999 in the number of youth detained for a delinquency offense (those held prior to adjudication or disposition who were awaiting a hearing in juvenile or criminal court or those held after disposition who were awaiting placement elsewhere), the number of these youth remained relatively stable between 1997 and 2007 and then decreased 42% between 2007 and 2019.

■ The number of youth in residential placement for an offense decreased 65% between 1997 and 2019. A 72% decrease in the number of youth committed for a delinquency offense held in public facilities during this period accounted for more than half of the overall decline.

Data source: Author's analysis of OJJDP's *Census of Juveniles in Residential Placement* for 1997, 1999, 2001, 2003, 2006, 2007, 2010, 2011, 2013, 2015, 2017, and 2019 [machine-readable data files].

CJRP data identify the state where the offense was committed and the state where the youth was held

Nationally, facilities reported that at least 93% of youth in residential placement on the 2019 census date had committed their offense in the same state as the facility in which they were held

State of facility	State of offense (percentage of youth in placement)			State of facility	State of offense (percentage of youth in placement)		
	Same as facility	Different from facility	Unknown		Same as facility	Different from facility	Unknown
U.S. total	93%	2%	5%	Missouri	93%	5%	1%
Alabama	96	0	4	Montana	97*	0*	3*
Alaska	100	0	0	Nebraska	65	0	34
Arizona	93	0	7	Nevada	99	0	1
Arkansas	94	3	3	New Hampshire	45*	3*	52*
California	97	0	3	New Jersey	98	1	0
Colorado	98	0	2	New Mexico	100	0	0
Connecticut	100*	0*	0*	New York	87	0	13
Delaware	100	0	0	North Carolina	100	0	0
District of Columbia	96	0	4	North Dakota	99*	1*	0*
Florida	94	0	6	Ohio	99	1	0
Georgia	97	1	2	Oklahoma	90	1	9
Hawaii	100*	0*	0*	Oregon	93	0	7
Idaho	81	17	2	Pennsylvania	79	9	12
Illinois	94	0	6	Rhode Island	100	0	0
Indiana	87	0	12	South Carolina	97	0	2
Iowa	67	25	8	South Dakota	94	6	0
Kansas	90	0	10	Tennessee	72	0	28
Kentucky	100	0	0	Texas	98	0	1
Louisiana	98	0	2	Utah	78	19	3
Maine	100*	0*	0*	Vermont	–	–	–
Maryland	95	1	3	Virginia	98	2	0
Massachusetts	83	8	9	Washington	99	1	0
Michigan	91	6	3	West Virginia	78	0	22
Minnesota	97	1	2	Wisconsin	82	0	18
Mississippi	100	0	0	Wyoming	92	8	0

■ In 2019, information about the state where a youth committed an offense was unknown or otherwise not reported for 5% of all youth in residential placement on the CJRP census date, but there is considerable variation across states.

*Percentage is based on a small denominator (fewer than 100 but at least 20 youth) and may be unreliable.

– Too few youth (fewer than 20) to calculate a reliable percentage.

Note: Detail may not total 100% because of rounding.

Data source: Author's analysis of OJJDP's *Census of Juveniles in Residential Placement* for 2019 [machine-readable data files].

How State Data Are Presented in This Bulletin

The Census of Juveniles in Residential Placement (CJRP) data collection supports two ways of summarizing state information. The first is based on the state in which the offense was committed (state of offense); the second is based on the state where the facility holding the youth is located (state of facility). CJRP is an individual-level data collection of youth in placement; therefore,

the state of offense has become the primary method for presenting state data. In most cases, the state of offense and the state of facility are the same, but the proportion varies by state. There are instances, however, where the state of offense is unknown for some youth or not reported for any youth. CJRP tables organized by state of offense cannot properly account for these youth since

there is no way to determine where they committed their offense. Therefore, these youth are excluded from the state analyses in such tables, and the exclusion is noted. In 2019, all youth for whom state of offense was unknown (1,895) were held in private facilities, and 72% of these youth were held as part of a court-ordered commitment.

The number of facilities per state varied considerably, ranging from 1 to 108 on October 23, 2019

In the 2019 census, 11 states reported having more private facilities than public facilities

State of offense	Number of facilities, 2019			Number of youth, 2019			State of offense	Number of facilities, 2019			Number of youth, 2019		
	Total	Public	Private	Total	Public	Private		Total	Public	Private	Total	Public	Private
U.S. total	1,523	907	616	36,479	27,035	9,444	Missouri	50	45	5	588	567	21
Alabama	36	13	23	798	486	312	Montana	15	5	10	138	81	57
Alaska	15	7	8	255	192	63	Nebraska	10	5	5	309	237	72
Arizona	14	11	3	606	582	24	Nevada	14	11	3	546	492	54
Arkansas	24	15	9	465	387	78	New Hampshire	3	*	*	24	*	*
California	108	72	36	4,131	3,651	480	New Jersey	25	*	*	513	*	*
Colorado	23	12	11	753	696	57	New Mexico	15	*	*	270	*	*
Connecticut	4	*	*	96	*	*	New York	76	19	57	837	441	396
Delaware	8	*	*	129	*	*	North Carolina	31	23	8	744	639	105
Dist. of Columbia	6	3	3	117	87	30	North Dakota	4	*	*	78	*	*
Florida	72	24	48	2,001	882	1,119	Ohio	69	59	10	1,746	1,593	153
Georgia	33	26	7	1,119	1,011	105	Oklahoma	26	15	11	345	273	72
Hawaii	4	*	*	63	*	*	Oregon	32	22	10	651	564	90
Idaho	16	13	3	342	297	45	Pennsylvania	85	22	63	1,566	684	882
Illinois	28	24	4	834	804	30	Rhode Island	7	1	6	108	48	57
Indiana	61	30	31	1,155	756	399	South Carolina	21	8	13	633	438	198
Iowa	39	10	29	441	213	231	South Dakota	16	9	7	171	117	54
Kansas	17	12	5	360	351	12	Tennessee	24	15	9	345	270	75
Kentucky	28	23	5	588	450	138	Texas	83	68	15	3,699	3,270	429
Louisiana	29	15	14	693	489	204	Utah	25	14	11	246	186	60
Maine	1	*	*	60	*	*	Vermont	2	*	*	18	*	*
Maryland	25	13	12	495	402	93	Virginia	39	*	*	918	*	*
Massachusetts	36	19	17	288	177	111	Washington	31	*	*	693	*	*
Michigan	48	28	20	1,353	753	600	West Virginia	39	10	29	483	231	249
Minnesota	34	17	17	948	801	147	Wisconsin	46	25	21	477	408	69
Mississippi	16	*	*	198	*	*	Wyoming	10	6	4	147	126	21

- Nine states had fewer than 10 facilities on the census date and only 1 had 100 or more. The average number of facilities for all states was 30 in 2019.
- Although many states reported having more private than public facilities on the census date, 34 states indicated they had more youth in their public facilities than private in 2019.
- The percent of youth held at public facilities ranged from 44% to 100%.

*Detail is not displayed in states with one or two private facilities to preserve the privacy of individual facilities.

Notes: U.S. total includes 1,895 youth held in private facilities for whom state of offense was not reported and 4 youth who committed their offense in a U.S. territory. Detail may not sum to totals because of rounding.

Data source: Author's analysis of OJJDP's *Census of Juveniles in Residential Placement* for 2019 [machine-readable data files].

In 2019, 114 youth were in placement for every 100,000 youth in the U.S. population

Placement rates varied widely across states for youth held for both delinquency and status offenses

State of offense	Placement rate per 100,000, 2019					State of offense	Placement rate per 100,000, 2019				
	Total	Delinquency		Status offense			Total	Delinquency		Status offense	
		Public	Private	Public	Private			Public	Private	Public	Private
U.S. total	114	84	26	1	3	Missouri	108	97	4	7	0*
Alabama	161	97	56	1*	7	Montana	133	78	49†	0*	6*†
Alaska	330	248	70†	0*	8*	Nebraska	145	110†	27	1*	7
Arizona	80	77	3†	0*	0*	Nevada	174	156	17	1*	0*
Arkansas	146	120†	24†	1*	1*	New Hampshire	20	10	7*	0*	0*
California	102	90†	12	0*	0†	New Jersey	58	55	2†	0*	0*
Colorado	130	119	10	1*	0*	New Mexico	122	113	5	1*	3*†
Connecticut	27	24	3	0*	0*	New York	54	28	19	0*	6
Delaware	139	113	26	0*	0*	North Carolina	93	79	11†	1*	2†
District of Columbia	262	195	67†	0*	0*	North Dakota	104	80	16	4*	0*
Florida	104	46	58	0*	0*	Ohio	148	134	11	2	2
Georgia	110	99	7	0*	3	Oklahoma	80	64	17	0*	0*
Hawaii	49	45	2*†	0*	0*	Oregon	164	141	22	1*	0*
Idaho	164	141	20†	1*	3*†	Pennsylvania	129	56	62	0*	11
Illinois	64	62†	1	0*	1†	Rhode Island	114	47	57	3*	6*
Indiana	161	102	49	3	6	South Carolina	141	94	42	3	2*
Iowa	133	64	69	0*	1*	South Dakota	180	120	57	3*	3*
Kansas	113	106	4	4	0*	Tennessee	50	38	10	1*	1*†
Kentucky	130	90	7	9†	24	Texas	126	110	14	1†	0*
Louisiana	143	95	40	6	2	Utah	58	43	13	1*	1*†
Maine	51	51	0*	0*	0*	Vermont	33	6*	28	0*	0*
Maryland	82	66	15†	0*	0*	Virginia	109	105	1	3	0*
Massachusetts	46	28	17	0*	0*	Washington	94	90	3†	0*	0*
Michigan	157	82	63	5	7	West Virginia	291	134	92	5*	58
Minnesota	161	134†	20	2	5	Wisconsin	93	77	12	2*†	1*
Mississippi	61	59	0*	2*	0*	Wyoming	239	185	29	15*	5*

■ Whereas most youth held for a delinquency offense are in public facilities, most held for a status offense are in private facilities. State residential placement rates based only on youth held for a delinquency offense in public facilities are very different from rates that include those held for a status offense and those in private facilities. Several factors influence variations in state placement rates. Differences in states' upper age of juvenile court jurisdiction, extended age of jurisdiction (i.e., how long the juvenile justice system has jurisdiction over youth for dispositional purposes), provisions for transfer to criminal court, jurisdictions' demographic composition, youth's offense profiles, and bedspace availability in custodial facilities affect placement rates. Therefore, state placement rate comparisons should be interpreted with caution.

■ In 27 states, the placement rate for youth held for a delinquency offense in public facilities was greater than the national rate (84).

■ The placement rate for youth held for a delinquency offense in public facilities ranged from 6 in Vermont to 248 in Alaska.

*Rate is based on fewer than 10 youth.

†Interpret data with caution. In these states, 30% or more of the information for offense (i.e., delinquency or status) was imputed. For more information about imputation, visit the methods section of the Easy Access to the Census of Juveniles in Residential Placement data analysis tool, available at ojjdp.gov/ojstatbb/ezacjrp/asp/methods.asp.

Notes: Placement rate is the count of youth in placement on the census date per 100,000 youth age 10 through the upper age of original juvenile court jurisdiction in each state. U.S. total includes 1,895 youth in private facilities for whom state of offense was not reported and 4 youth who committed their offense in a U.S. territory.

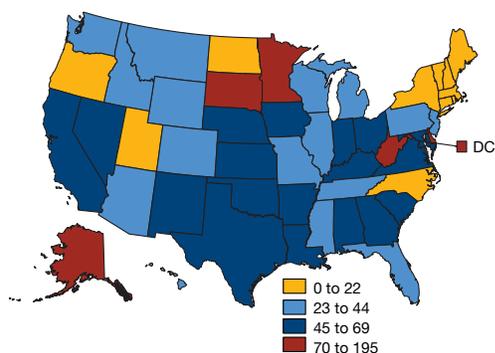
Data source: Author's analysis of OJJDP's *Census of Juveniles in Residential Placement* for 2019 [machine-readable data files].

In 2019, the national commitment rate was 1.5 times the detention rate, but rates varied by state

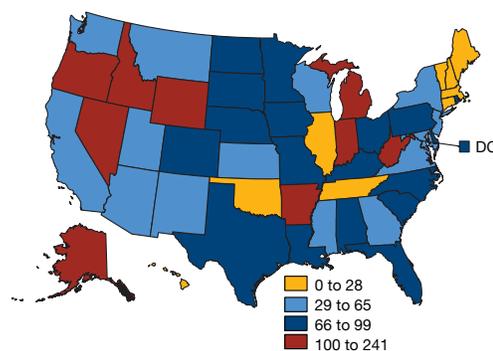
In 16 states, the commitment rate was more than double the detention rate

State of offense	Placement rate per 100,000, 2019		State of offense	Placement rate per 100,000, 2019	
	Detained	Committed		Detained	Committed
U.S. total	45	66	Missouri	27	81
Alabama	62†	90	Montana	43	58
Alaska	85	241	Nebraska	58	85†
Arizona	42	36	Nevada	56	108
Arkansas	45	101†	New Hampshire	5*	10
California	50†	51†	New Jersey	24	33†
Colorado	44	85	New Mexico	68	53
Connecticut	17	9	New York	20	33
Delaware	71	68	North Carolina	17	74
District of Columbia	195	67	North Dakota	16	84
Florida	28	66	Ohio	63	83
Georgia	60	50	Oklahoma	59	20
Hawaii	23	23	Oregon	14†	147
Idaho	37	109	Pennsylvania	29	99
Illinois	39	24†	Rhode Island	22	76
Indiana	46†	109	South Carolina	67	71
Iowa	48	75	South Dakota	101	76
Kansas	58	55	Tennessee	38†	12
Kentucky	52	73	Texas	59	67
Louisiana	54	88	Utah	17	39
Maine	0*	28	Vermont	6*	11*
Maryland	48	33	Virginia	56	52
Massachusetts	20	22	Washington	28	63
Michigan	43	110	West Virginia	115	170
Minnesota	82†	67	Wisconsin	25	61
Mississippi	26	30	Wyoming	34	205

Detention rate



Commitment rate



*Rate is based on fewer than 10 youth.

†Interpret data with caution. In these states, 30% or more of the information for placement status (i.e., detained or committed) was imputed.

Notes: Placement rate is the count of youth in placement on the census date per 100,000 youth age 10 through the upper age of original juvenile court jurisdiction in each state. U.S. total includes 1,895 youth in private facilities for whom state of offense was not reported and 4 youth who committed their offense in a U.S. territory.

Data source: Author's analysis of OJJDP's *Census of Juveniles in Residential Placement* for 2019 [machine-readable data files].

Between 1997 and 2019, the number of youth in placement declined for all demographic groups

Youth ages 16 and 17 accounted for more than half of youth in placement in 2019

With the exception of 1999, the proportion of youth in placement ages 16 and 17 ranged from 50% to 56% between 1997 and 2019. During that period, the number of youth in placement declined 69% each for youth younger than age 15 and for youth age 15, 67% for youth age 16, and 60% each for youth ages 17 and 18–20.

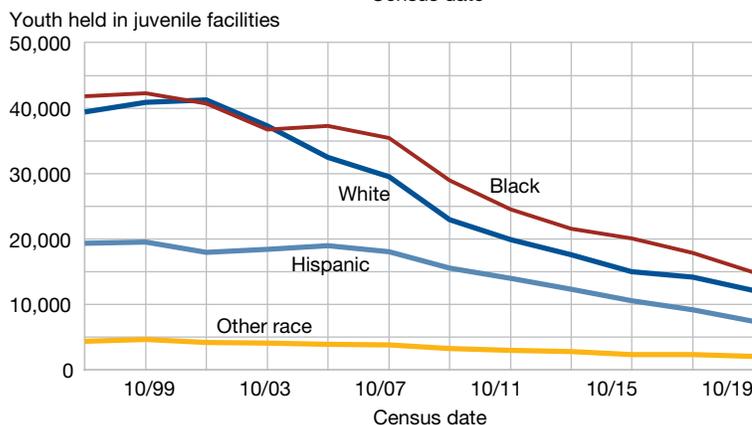
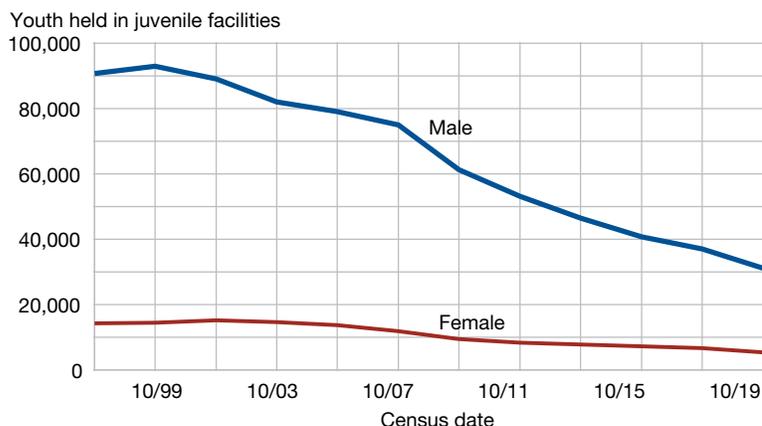
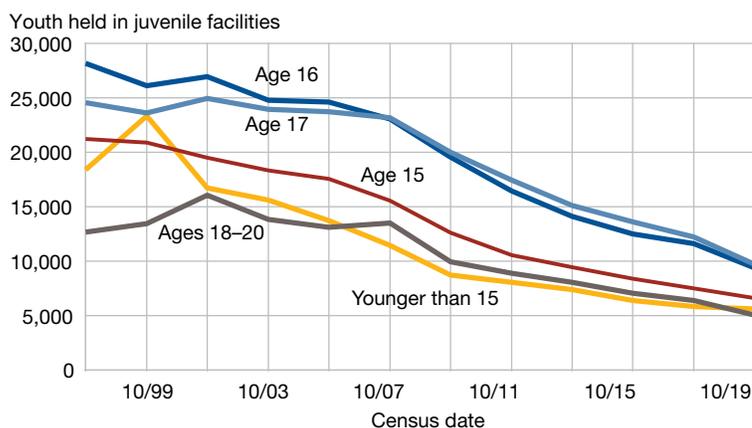
The number of male and female youth in placement decreased between 1997 and 2019

Male youth in placement outnumbered females for all years between 1997 and 2019. During that time, the decrease in the number of males outpaced the decline in females (down 66% and 62%, respectively). Despite the larger decrease for males, the proportion of males in placement remained level for all years, ranging between 85% and 87%.

Black youth accounted for at least 38% of youth in placement between 1997 and 2019

Black youth accounted for the largest proportion of youth in placement for most years between 1997 and 2019, ranging from 38% to 42% of the placement population. Across the data collection period, white youth accounted for approximately one-third of youth in placement and Hispanic youth accounted for approximately one-fifth. American Indian youth, Asian youth, and youth of two or more races comprised no more than 6% of youth in placement between 1997 and 2019. Since 1997, the number of white youth decreased 69%, followed by Black youth (64%), Hispanic youth (62%), and youth of other races (54%).

Between 1997 and 2019, the number of youth in placement declined most for youth age 15 and younger, males, and white youth



■ The number of youth in placement in 2019 was at the lowest level since at least 1997 for all age, gender, and race groups.

Note: Other race includes American Indians/Alaska Natives, Asians/Pacific Islanders, and youth of two or more races.

Data source: Author's analysis of OJJDP's *Census of Juveniles in Residential Placement* for 2019 [machine-readable data files].

Females accounted for a relatively small proportion of the residential placement population

Females accounted for 15% of youth in residential placement

The juvenile justice system predominantly consists of male youth. This is especially true of the residential placement population. Males represent half of the juvenile population and are involved in approximately 70% of juvenile arrests and delinquency cases that juvenile courts handle each year, but they represented 85% of youth held in

residential placement in 2019. The proportion of females in residential placement was greater for private facilities (16%) than for public facilities (14%) and greater for detained youth (16%) than committed youth (14%). Females represented 17% of all youth admitted to placement under a diversion agreement. Although the number of females in residential placement has declined since 1997, their proportion of the placement population has remained stable.

Nearly one-third of females in residential placement were held in private facilities

In 2019, private facilities held 29% of females and 25% of males in juvenile residential placement. The proportion of females placed in private facilities varied substantially by offense category: 69% of all females held for a status offense were in private facilities, as were 46% of those held for drug offenses aside from trafficking, 39% of those held for burglary, 33% of those held for simple assault, and 26% of those held for theft.

Females in residential placement tended to be younger than their male counterparts

In 2019, 43% of females in residential placement were younger than age 16, compared with 32% of males. For females in placement, the peak age was 16, accounting for 27% of all females in placement facilities. For males, the peak age was 17 (27%). There was a greater proportion of youth age 18 and older among males (15%) than among females (7%).

Age profile of youth in placement, 2019

Age	Total	Male	Female
Total	100%	100%	100%
12 and younger	2	2	2
13	4	4	6
14	10	9	13
15	18	18	22
16	26	26	27
17	27	27	23
18–20	14	15	7

Note: Detail may not total 100% because of rounding.

A greater proportion of females than males were held for technical violations or status offenses

Most serious offense	Offense profile for youth in residential placement, 2019					
	All facilities		Public facilities		Private facilities	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Delinquency	97	91	99	96	91	78
Person	44	37	47	39	37	31
Violent Crime Index*	32	16	35	19	23	8
Other person	12	21	12	21	14	23
Property	21	19	21	18	21	21
Property Crime Index†	17	14	17	13	18	16
Other property	4	4	4	4	3	4
Drug	4	5	4	4	6	8
Drug trafficking	1	0	1	1	1	0
Other drug	3	5	3	4	5	8
Public order	15	9	14	10	17	7
Technical violation	13	21	13	24	11	11
Status offense	3	9	1	4	9	22

■ A status offense was the most serious offense for 9% of females in residential placement in 2019—down from 21% in 1997.

■ A person offense was the most serious offense for 37% of females in residential placement in 2019—up from 25% in 1997.

■ Technical violations and status offenses were more common among females in placement than among males. Person, property, and public order offenses were more common among males in placement than among females.

*Violent Crime Index = criminal homicide, sexual assault, robbery, and aggravated assault.

†Property Crime Index = burglary, theft, auto theft, and arson.

Note: Detail may not add to totals because of rounding.

Data source: Author's analysis of OJJDP's *Census of Juveniles in Residential Placement* for 2019 [machine-readable data files].

White youth accounted for 33% of youth in residential placement in 2019

Black youth made up the largest share of youth in placement

In 2019, the population of youth held in residential placement for delinquency or status offenses was 41% Black, 33% white, and 20% Hispanic. Youth of other races (i.e., American Indian, Asian, or two or more races) combined accounted for 6% of youth in residential placement.

Between 2010 and 2019, the number of youth in residential placement dropped 48%. The number of white youth in residential placement dropped 47% and the number dropped 49% for youth from racial and ethnic minority groups.

Youth in placement, 2019

Race/ethnicity	Number	Percent change	
		2010–2019	1997–2019
Total	36,479	-48%	-65%
White	12,152	-47	-69
Minority	24,327	-49	-63
Black	14,902	-49	-64
Hispanic	7,409	-52	-62
American Indian	752	-39	-53
Asian	357	-51	-84
Two or more	907	-31	61

In 2019, youth from racial and ethnic minority groups made up the majority of both males and females in residential placement (67% and 62%, respectively). Black youth represented the largest racial proportion among males (42%), and white youth were the largest proportion among females (38%).

Black youth accounted for 62% of youth held for robbery and 54% of those held for weapons offenses

Most serious offense	Racial/ethnic profile of youth in placement, 2019					
	Total	White	Black	Hispanic	American Indian	Asian
Total	100%	33%	41%	20%	2%	1%
Delinquency	100	32	42	21	2	1
Criminal homicide	100	20	46	29	2	1
Sexual assault	100	55	25	16	2	1
Robbery	100	11	62	23	1	2
Aggravated assault	100	24	46	25	2	1
Simple assault	100	40	34	19	3	1
Burglary	100	29	50	15	2	1
Theft	100	34	49	11	2	1
Auto theft	100	29	43	22	2	1
Drug trafficking	100	32	37	27	2	0
Other drug	100	49	23	22	2	1
Weapons	100	17	54	25	1	1
Technical violation	100	33	36	25	2	1
Status offense	100	59	23	9	2	1

In 2019, 11% of white youth in residential placement were held for sexual assault, compared with 6% of American Indian youth, 5% of Hispanic youth, and 4% each of Black youth and Asian youth

Most serious offense	Offense profile of youth in placement, 2019					
	Total	White	Black	Hispanic	American Indian	Asian
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Delinquency	96	93	98	98	96	96
Criminal homicide	3	2	3	4	3	3
Sexual assault	6	11	4	5	6	4
Robbery	11	4	17	13	5	17
Aggravated assault	9	7	10	12	9	10
Simple assault	8	10	7	8	13	9
Burglary	7	6	8	5	8	9
Theft	4	4	5	2	5	5
Auto theft	5	4	5	5	6	3
Drug trafficking	1	1	1	1	1	0
Other drug	4	5	2	4	4	3
Weapons	6	3	8	7	3	6
Technical violation	14	14	12	17	16	14
Status offense	4	7	2	2	4	4

Notes: Racial categories (i.e., white, Black, American Indian, and Asian) do not include youth of Hispanic ethnicity. The American Indian racial category includes Alaska Natives; the Asian racial category includes Native Hawaiians and Other Pacific Islanders. Totals include persons of unspecified race. Detail may not add to totals because of rounding.

Data source: Author's analysis of OJJDP's *Census of Juveniles in Residential Placement* for 2019 [machine-readable data files].

On the 2019 census date, youth held for person offenses had been committed or detained longer than youth held for other offenses

CJRP provides individual-level data on time spent in placement

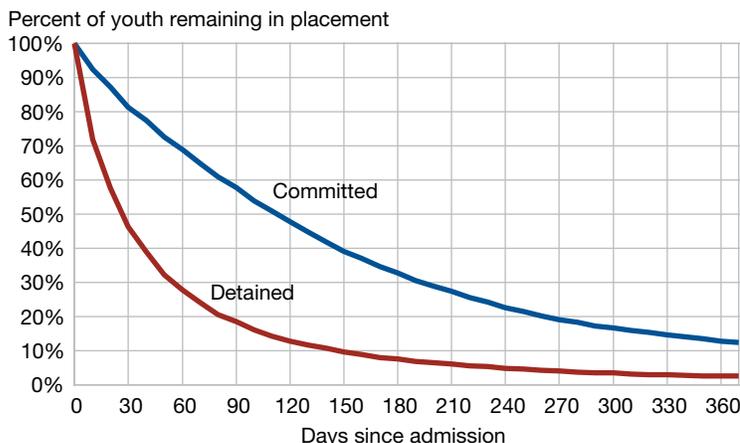
Information on length of stay is key to understanding the justice system’s handling of youth in residential placement. Ideally, length of stay would be calculated for individual youth by totaling the days of their stay in placement, from their initial admission to their final release relating to a particular case. These individual lengths of placement would then be averaged for different release cohorts of youth (cohorts would be identified by year of release, offense, adjudication status, or demographic characteristics).

CJRP captures information on the number of days since admission for each youth in residential placement. These data represent the number of days the youth had been in the facility up to the census date. Because CJRP data reflect only a youth’s placement at one facility, the complete length of stay—from initial admission to the justice system to final release—cannot be determined.

Nevertheless, CJRP provides an overall profile of the time youth had been in the facility at the time of the census—a 1-day snapshot of time in the facility.

Because CJRP data are reported for individuals, averages can be calculated for different subgroups of the population. In addition, analysts can use the data to get a picture of the proportion of residents remaining after a certain number of days (e.g., what percentage of youth have been held longer than a year). This sort of analysis provides juvenile justice policymakers with a useful means of comparing the time spent in placement for different categories of youth.

In 2019, 33% of committed youth, but just 8% of detained youth, remained in placement 6 months after admission



- Among detained youth (those awaiting adjudication, disposition, or placement elsewhere), 80% had been in the facility for at least a week, 64% for at least 15 days, and 46% for at least 30 days.
- Among committed youth (those held as part of a court-ordered disposition), 81% had been in the facility for at least 30 days, 69% for at least 60 days, and 58% for at least 90 days. After a full year, 12% of committed youth remained in placement.

Data source: Author’s analysis of OJJDP’s *Census of Juveniles in Residential Placement* for 2019 [machine-readable data files].

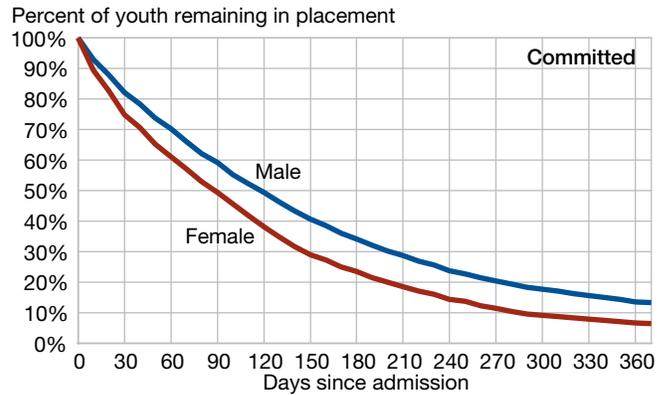
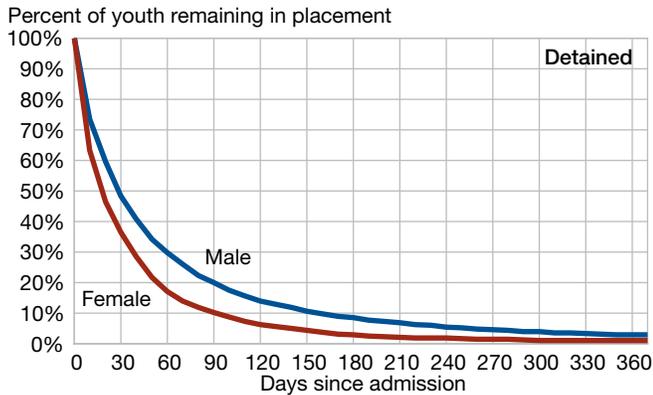
Youth’s average time in the facility varied by adjudication status, offense, and facility type

Most serious offense	Median days in placement		
	Detained (all facilities)	Public	Private
All offenses	26	112	115
Delinquency	27	112	113
Person	36	147	129
Property	20	97	104
Drugs	18	78	97
Public order	24	104	134
Technical violation	16	63	84
Status offense	16	83	126

- Half of all youth committed to public facilities for an offense remained in placement after 112 days (115 for private facilities). In contrast, half of those detained for an offense remained in placement after 26 days.
- With the exception of those adjudicated for person offenses, youth committed to private facilities had been in the facilities longer than those committed to public facilities.

Data source: Author’s analysis of OJJDP’s *Census of Juveniles in Residential Placement* for 2019 [machine-readable data files].

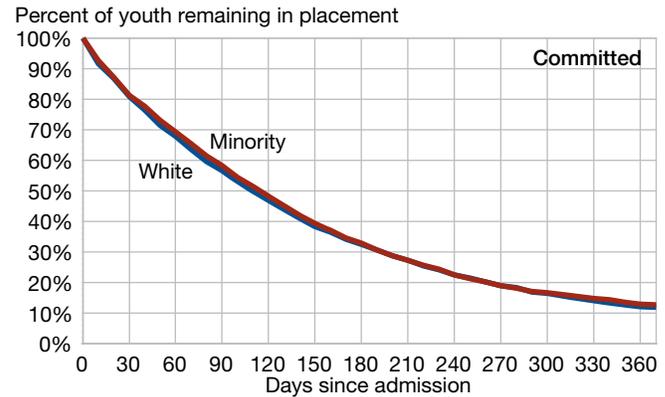
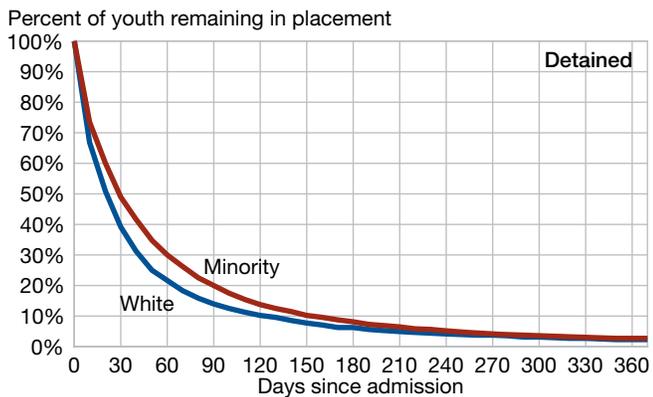
In 2019, males tended to stay in facilities longer than females



- After 30 days, 48% of detained males and 36% of detained females remained in residential placement.
- After 60 days, 30% of detained males and 17% of detained females remained in residential placement.
- After 180 days (approximately half a year), 34% of committed males and 24% of committed females remained in residential placement.
- After a full year (365 days), 13% of committed males and 7% of committed females remained in residential placement.

Data source: Author's analysis of OJJDP's *Census of Juveniles in Residential Placement* for 2019 [machine-readable data files].

White youth were detained for less time than youth from racial and ethnic minority groups, but there was virtually no difference in the time in residential placement for committed youth across race or ethnicity



- Among youth detained for an offense, 39% of white youth had been in the facility at least 30 days, compared with 49% of youth from racial and ethnic minority groups.
- Among youth committed for an offense, time in residential placement was virtually the same for youth of all racial and ethnic groups.
- After 180 days, approximately one-third of youth committed for an offense remained in residential placement regardless of race or ethnicity.

Note: Black, Hispanic, American Indian/Alaska Native, Asian/Pacific Islander, and youth of two or more races were combined into a category labeled "Minority" for readability in the graphic.

Data source: Author's analysis of OJJDP's *Census of Juveniles in Residential Placement* for 2019 [machine-readable data files].

CJRP Data Include the Number of Deaths in Custody

The Census of Juveniles in Residential Placement (CJRP) asked facilities if any youth in placement died while in the facility's legal custody between October 1, 2018 and September 30, 2019. In 2019, facilities reported that nine youth died while in their

care. While CJRP only collects the number of youth who died while in residential placement, the Juvenile Residential Facility Census (JRFC), the companion data collection to CJRP, collects information about the demographics of youth who died

as well as the cause of death. The most recent JRFC publication is available at ojjdp.ojp.gov/library/publications/juvenile-residential-facility-census-2018-selected-findings.

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Data sources

Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention. 1998, 2000, 2002, 2004, 2007, 2008, 2011, 2012, 2014, 2016, 2018, and 2020. *Census of Juveniles in Residential Placement* for 1997, 1999, 2001, 2003, 2006, 2007, 2010, 2011, 2013, 2015, 2017, and 2019 [machine-readable data files]. Washington, DC: U.S. Census Bureau (producer).

National Center for Health Statistics (prepared under a collaborative arrangement with the U.S. Census Bureau), *Vintage 2019 Postcensal Estimates of the Resident Population of the United States (April 1, 2010, July 1, 2010–July 1, 2019), by Year, County, Single-Year of Age (0, 1, 2, . . . , 85 Years and Over), Bridged Race, Hispanic Origin, and Sex* [machine-readable data files available online at [cdc.gov/nchs/nvss/bridged_race.htm](https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/nvss/bridged_race.htm), released 7/9/20].

Visit OJJDP's Statistical Briefing Book for More Juvenile Placement Information

OJJDP's online Statistical Briefing Book (SBB) offers access to a wealth of information about juvenile crime and victimization and about youth involved in the juvenile justice system. Visit the "Juveniles in Corrections" section of the SBB at ojjdp.gov/ojstatbb/corrections/faqs.asp for the latest information about juveniles in corrections. **Easy Access to the Census of Juveniles in Residential Placement** is a data analysis tool that gives users quick access to national data on the characteristics of youth held in residential placement facilities. Census of Juveniles in Residential Placement (CJRP) questionnaires are available online by clicking SBB's National Data Sets tab and choosing CJRP in the dropdown menu.

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