Trends and Characteristics of Youth in Residential Placement, 2019

The number of youth in residential placement continues to decline. The proportion of detained and committed youth held for a person offense increased between 2011 and 2019. Half of detained youth remained in placement 3 weeks after admission; half of committed youth remained after 16 weeks. Detention rates were lower in 2019 than in 2011 for all but American Indian youth. Since 1997, commitment rates declined for Asian (93%), Hispanic (85%), black (76%), white (67%), and American Indian (60%) youth.

In 2019, youth over age 16, males, and white youth accounted for a larger share of the committed population than the detained. Relative declines from 1999 to 2019 were greater for committed youth (73%) than detained youth (50%).

Notes:
- This publication was prepared by Charles Puzzanchera, National Center for Juvenile Justice, with funds provided by NIJ through grant #2019-JX-FX-K001. August 2021.
- Other race includes American Indian/Alaskan Natives and Asian/Pacific Islanders.

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Access more information on juveniles in placement:
- Review FAQs about juveniles in corrections
- Analyze data with Easy Access to the Census of Juveniles in Residential Placement