Highlights From the 2020 Juvenile Residential Facility Census

The latest data reveal changes in where youth are placed and the screenings provided.

The majority of facilities reported screening all or some youth for service needs within one week of admission.

The number of youth in placement fell 77% between 2000 and 2020.

The proportion of facilities operating over capacity has declined since 2000.

The proportion of small facilities has increased, but a larger proportion of youth are still held in medium-sized facilities.

The proportion of facilities that are locally operated has increased, as has the proportion of youth in these facilities.

The COVID-19 pandemic had significant effects on all stages of the juvenile justice system, including juvenile residential facilities, which may have impacted the number of youth in residential placement reported in 2020 and the services they received.