



# JUVENILE JUSTICE STATISTICS

## NATIONAL REPORT SERIES BULLETIN

Eileen M. Garry, Acting Administrator

January 2018

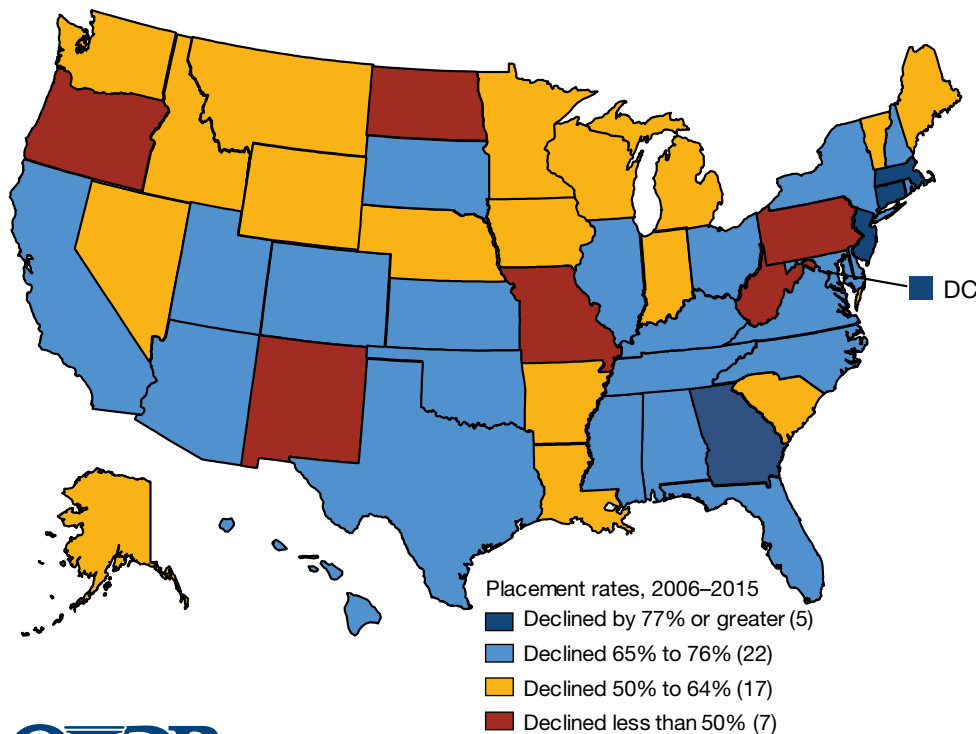
# Juveniles in Residential Placement, 2015

Sarah Hockenberry

## Highlights

The 2015 Census of Juveniles in Residential Placement (CJRP) shows that the number of youth in placement continues to decline. Between 2006 and 2015, nearly 9 in 10 states cut their rates by half or more. The overall number of youth in residential placement decreased 54% to 48,043 in 2015, its lowest level since the data collection began in 1997 when 105,055 youth were held in out-of-home placement.

### Juvenile placement rates declined in every state from 2006 to 2015—most states cut their rates by half or more



- Of the offenders held in residential placement in 2015, 95% were held for a delinquency offense and 5% were held for a status offense. Less than 40% were held for a person offense.
- Females accounted for 15% of the placement population, and they tended to be slightly younger than male residents (peak age of 16 years for girls, compared with 17 years for boys).
- Minority youth accounted for 69% of youth in placement in 2015, with black males forming the largest share.
- The national detention rate for black youth was six times the rate for white youth, and their commitment rate was nearly five times the rate for white youth.
- Although private facilities account for nearly half of facilities (48%) holding juvenile offenders in 2015, they held just 31% of juvenile offenders in placement.
- Two-thirds of youth held in residential placement in 2015 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

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 confirm that the number of juvenile offenders detained in and committed to residential facilities continues to decline. In 2015, the number of youth in placement was at its lowest level since this survey was established two decades ago. This is good news because according to the National Academy of Sciences report, *Reforming Juvenile Justice: A Developmental Approach*, system involvement and confinement can have detrimental effects on the healthy development of adolescents.

We hope the information that this bulletin provides will encourage juvenile justice professionals and policymakers to continue to investigate appropriate alternatives to confinement for young offenders, improve their conditions of confinement, and provide the programs that these youth need to help them become successful adults.

Eileen M. Garry  
Acting Administrator

## CJRP provides detailed data on juveniles in residential facilities

CJRP is administered biennially and collects information from all secure and nonsecure residential placement facilities that house juvenile offenders, defined as persons younger than age 21 who are held in a residential setting as a result of some contact with the justice system (that is, they are charged with or adjudicated for an offense). This encompasses both status offenses and delinquency offenses, and includes youth who are either temporarily detained by the court or committed after adjudication for an offense. The census does not include federal facilities or those exclusively for drug or mental health treatment or for abused/neglected youth. It also does not capture data from adult prisons or jails. Therefore, CJRP does not include all juveniles whom criminal courts sentenced to incarceration or placement in a residential facility.

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 53% of arrests of youth younger than age 18, 44% of delinquency court cases, and 54% 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 number of residents in placement decreased across census years, but profiles remained similar

## Over 8 in 10 residents were juveniles held for delinquency offenses

The vast majority of residents in juvenile residential placement facilities on October 28, 2015, were juvenile offenders (87%). Youth held for delinquency offenses accounted for 83% of all residents, and those held for status offenses accounted for 4%. 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 the facility 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 13% of all residents.

## Half of facilities were private but held less than one-third of juvenile offenders

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. Thus, although similar numbers of private and public facilities report nationwide, public facilities hold the majority of juvenile offenders on any given day. In 2015, private facilities accounted for 48% of facilities holding juvenile offenders; however, they held just 31% of juvenile offenders in placement.

### The profile of juvenile offenders in residential placement changed little between 1997 and 2015

Placement population	Number			Percent of total		
	1997	2007	2015	1997	2007	2015
All residents	116,701	98,128	55,167	100%	100%	100%
Juvenile offenders	105,055	86,814	48,043	90	88	87
Delinquency	98,813	83,404	45,715	85	85	83
Person offense	35,138	31,140	18,119	30	32	33
Violent offense	26,304	21,688	12,827	23	22	23
Status offenders	6,242	3,410	2,328	5	3	4
Other residents	11,646	11,314	7,124	10	12	13

**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, 2007, and 2015 [machine-readable data files].

### Although the number of public and private facilities was similar in 2015, public facilities housed more than twice as many offenders

Facility operation	Number			Percent change	
	1997	2007	2015	1997–2015	2007–2015
<b>Facilities:</b>					
All facilities	2,842	2,537	1,947	–31%	–23%
Public facilities	1,106	1,147	991	–10	–14
Private facilities	1,736	1,390	956	–45	–31
<b>Juvenile offenders:</b>					
All facilities	105,055	86,814	48,043	–54	–45
Public facilities	75,600	60,624	33,031	–56	–46
Private facilities	29,455	26,190	15,012	–49	–43

■ Overall, the number of juvenile offenders in residential placement decreased 54% between 1997 and 2015.

■ The decline in offenders held in public facilities accounted for 75% of the overall drop in the youth residential placement population between 1997 and 2015.

**Data source:** Author's analysis of OJJDP's *Census of Juveniles in Residential Placement* for 1997, 2007, and 2015 [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 juveniles who the court has committed to the facility following adjudication as part of their disposition and a smaller proportion of juveniles who are detained pending adjudication, disposition, or placement elsewhere.

### Placement status profile, 2015:

Placement status	Facility operation		
	Total	Public	Private
Total	100%	100%	100%
Committed	66	56	86
Detained	33	43	12
Diversion	1	1	2

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

Of all juveniles who were detained, 89% were in public facilities. For committed juveniles, 59% were in public facilities.

# Nationwide, approximately 48,000 juvenile offenders were in residential placement on October 28, 2015

## Public and private facility populations have fairly similar offense profiles

In 2015, delinquent youth accounted for the vast majority of juvenile offenders in both public and private facilities (98% 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, 2015:

Most serious offense	Facility operation		
	All	Public	Private
<b>Total</b>	100%	100%	100%
<b>Delinquency</b>	95	98	89
Person	38	40	33
Crim. homicide	2	2	0
Sexual assault	7	6	9
Robbery	10	12	6
Agg. assault	8	9	6
Simple assault	8	8	9
Other person	3	3	2
Property	22	22	21
Burglary	9	9	9
Theft	5	5	5
Auto theft	4	4	3
Arson	1	1	1
Other property	4	4	3
Drug	5	5	7
Drug trafficking	1	1	1
Other drug	5	4	6
Public order	13	12	13
Weapons	5	5	4
Other public ord.	8	7	9
Technical viol.	18	19	16
<b>Status offense</b>	5	2	11

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

On the census date in 2015, public facilities held 71% of delinquents in residential placement and 28% of status offenders. Public facilities housed 75% of those held for violent crimes (i.e., criminal homicide, rape, robbery, and aggravated assault). In contrast, only 61% of juvenile offenders held for drug offenses were in public facilities.

## The number of youth in residential placement declined for all offenses between 1997 and 2015

Most serious offense	Juvenile offenders in residential placement, 2015			Percent change 1997–2015		
	Type of facility			Type of facility		
	All	Public	Private	All	Public	Private
<b>Total</b>	48,043	33,031	15,012	–54%	–56%	–49%
<b>Delinquency</b>	45,715	32,373	13,342	–54	–56	–46
Person	18,119	13,218	4,901	–48	–51	–39
Criminal homicide	767	705	62	–60	–61	–39
Sexual assault	3,433	2,127	1,306	–38	–46	–19
Robbery	4,717	3,800	917	–49	–52	–33
Aggravated assault	3,910	3,025	885	–59	–60	–53
Simple assault	3,910	2,484	1,426	–41	–40	–43
Other person	1,382	1,077	305	–37	–36	–41
Property	10,412	7,302	3,110	–67	–68	–65
Burglary	4,241	2,962	1,279	–66	–69	–59
Theft	2,346	1,568	778	–68	–70	–63
Auto theft	1,793	1,357	436	–73	–69	–80
Arson	325	222	103	–64	–67	–53
Other property	1,707	1,193	514	–64	–64	–62
Drug	2,607	1,592	1,015	–71	–75	–63
Drug trafficking	421	279	142	–85	–87	–79
Other drug	2,186	1,313	873	–65	–68	–57
Public order	6,020	4,080	1,940	–41	–44	–35
Weapons	2,360	1,802	558	–43	–45	–36
Other public order	3,660	2,278	1,382	–40	–43	–35
Technical violation	8,557	6,181	2,376	–31	–40	12
<b>Status offense</b>	2,328	658	1,670	–63	–58	–64

- The number of juvenile offenders held for person offenses decreased 48% between 1997 and 2015, and the number of property and drug offenders was cut by more than half (67% and 71% decrease, respectively).
- Overall, the number of juvenile offenders held for both public order and technical violation offenses declined between 1997 and 2015 (41% and 31%, respectively). However, despite this downward trend, private facilities reported holding 12% more juvenile offenders who had committed technical violations.
- The number of status offenders in residential placement was cut substantially (63%) between 1997 and 2015.

**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 2015 [machine-readable data files].

# The number of youth in placement for an offense in 2015 was at its lowest level since 1997

## The largest delinquency population reported to CJRP was in 1999

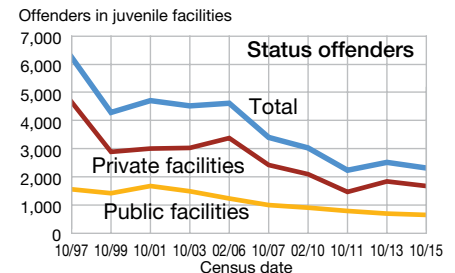
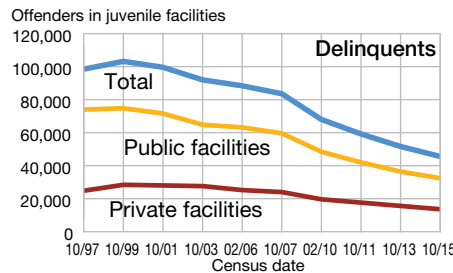
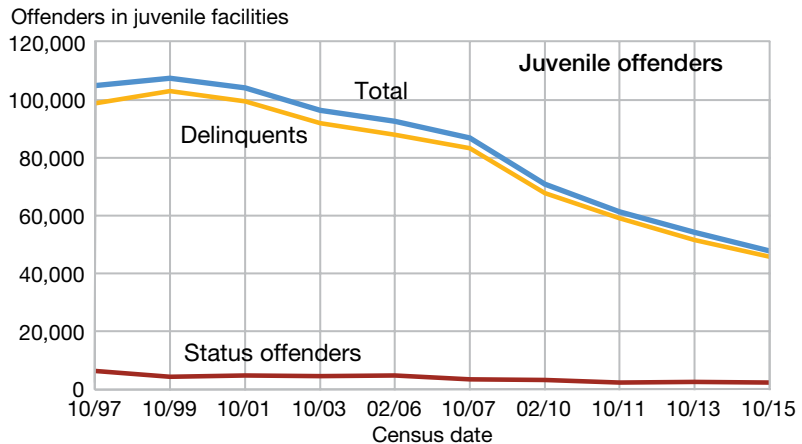
The number of delinquents held in placement increased 4% between 1997 and 1999 and then decreased 55% to its lowest level in 2015. Although the number of delinquents held in public facilities outnumbered those held in private facilities, delinquents held in private facilities accounted for 82% of the overall increase between 1997 and 1999. Since 1999, the number of delinquents held in public facilities decreased 57% and the number held in private facilities decreased 53%.

Private facilities reported the largest decrease in the number of status offenders between 1997 and 2015—down 64% compared with 58% 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 56% between 2006 and 2015, 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, economic 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 2015, juvenile residential facilities held 54% fewer delinquents and 63% fewer status offenders than in 1997



- The total number of juvenile offenders in residential placement facilities rose 2% from 1997 to 1999 and then decreased 55% from 1999 to 2015. The result was an overall decrease of 54% between 1997 and 2015.
- The number of delinquents held in public facilities decreased 56% between 1997 and 2015, and the number held in private facilities decreased 46%.
- Between 1997 and 1999, the number of status offenders held in juvenile residential facilities dropped sharply (31%). Between 1999 and 2006, the number of status offenders remained relatively unchanged, then decreased 50% between 2006 and 2015. The result was an overall decrease of 63% between 1997 and 2015.
- The number of status offenders held in public facilities peaked in 2001 and then decreased 61% by 2015. The number of status offenders held in private facilities increased 18% between the 1999 low and 2006, then decreased 51% between 2006 and 2015.

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



# Relative declines from 1997 to 2015 were greater for committed youth than for detained youth

## Offense profiles differed for detained and committed youth

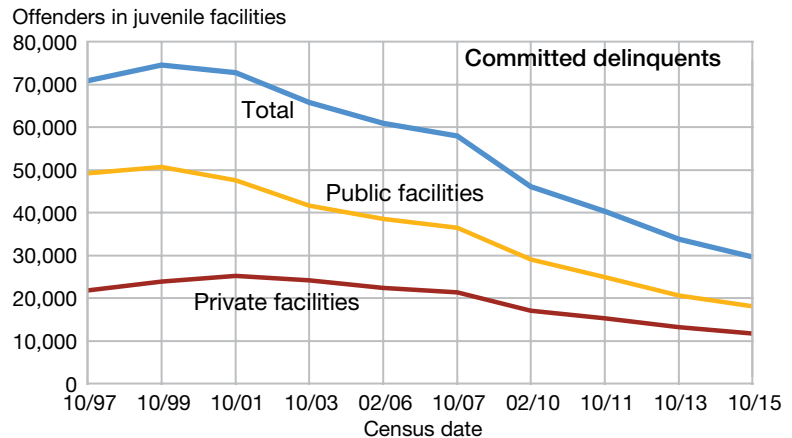
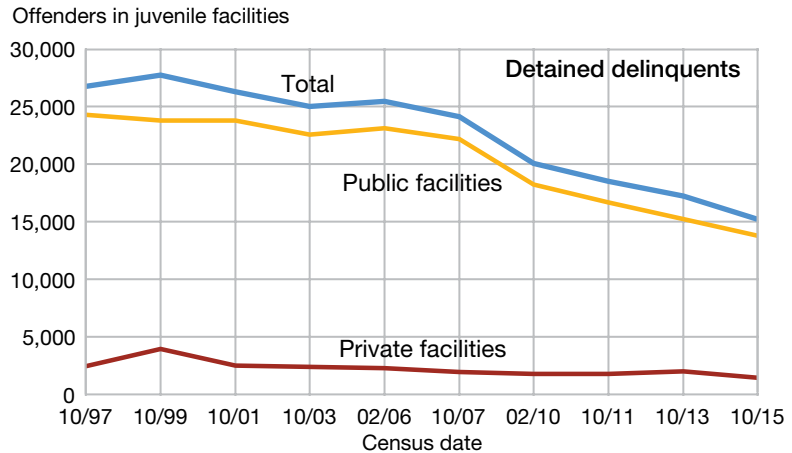
Delinquents accounted for 97% of detained offenders and 95% of committed offenders in 2015. Compared with the detained population, the committed population had a greater proportion of youth held for most major offense groups and fewer youth held for technical violations of probation or parole. The committed population also had a slightly larger proportion of youth held for status offenses. Status offenders accounted for 5% of committed youth and 3% of detained youth.

### Offense profile of juvenile offenders in placement, 2015:

Most serious offense	Detained (15,816)	Committed (31,487)
Total	100%	100%
Delinquency	97	95
Person	37	38
Criminal homicide	3	1
Sexual assault	4	9
Robbery	10	10
Agg. assault	9	8
Simple assault	8	8
Other person	3	3
Property	19	23
Burglary	8	9
Theft	4	5
Auto theft	4	4
Arson	1	1
Other property	3	4
Drug	5	6
Drug trafficking	1	1
Other drug	4	5
Public order	13	12
Weapons	6	4
Other public order	6	8
Technical violation	23	15
Status offense	3	5

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

Between 1997 and 2015, the detained delinquency population decreased 36% and the committed delinquency population decreased 58%



- Despite a slight increase between 1997 and 1999 in the number of detained delinquents (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 37% between 2007 and 2015.
- The number of youth in residential placement for an offense decreased 54% between 1997 and 2015. A 63% decrease in the number of committed delinquents held in public facilities during this period accounted for more than half of the overall decline.
- Between 1997 and 2015, declines were also evident in the number of detained and committed status offenders (59% each) (not shown).

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

# CJRP data identify the state of offense and the state of facility

Nationally, facilities reported that 95% of youth in residential placement on the 2015 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 offenders)			State of facility	State of offense (percentage of offenders)		
	Same as facility	Different from facility	Unknown		Same as facility	Different from facility	Unknown
U.S. Total	95%	2%	3%	Missouri	98%	2%	0%
Alabama	94	0	6	Montana	98	0	2
Alaska	100	0	0	Nebraska	92	8	0
Arizona	95	4	1	Nevada	100	0	0
Arkansas	82	2	16	New Hampshire	88*	0*	8*
California	97	0	3	New Jersey	100	0	0
Colorado	95	0	5	New Mexico	91	0	9
Connecticut	92	0	8	New York	99	0	1
Delaware	100	0	0	North Carolina	87	0	13
District of Columbia	75	0	25	North Dakota	100	0	0
Florida	94	0	6	Ohio	98	1	0
Georgia	100	1	0	Oklahoma	92	0	8
Hawaii	100*	0*	0*	Oregon	94	6	0
Idaho	92	8	0	Pennsylvania	83	9	9
Illinois	100	0	0	Rhode Island	100	0	0
Indiana	99	0	1	South Carolina	92	0	8
Iowa	74	26	0	South Dakota	82	4	14
Kansas	95	0	5	Tennessee	98	2	0
Kentucky	100	0	0	Texas	99	0	1
Louisiana	100	0	0	Utah	85	1	14
Maine	100*	0*	0*	Vermont	100*	0*	0*
Maryland	95	2	3	Virginia	100	0	0
Massachusetts	87	3	10	Washington	99	1	0
Michigan	93	4	4	West Virginia	94	0	7
Minnesota	95	3	2	Wisconsin	94	2	3
Mississippi	100	0	0	Wyoming	78	19	4

■ In 2015, information about the state where a youth committed an offense was unknown or otherwise not reported for 3% 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 juveniles total) and may be unreliable.

**Notes:** Detail may not total 100% because of rounding.

**Data source:** Author's analysis of OJJDP's *Census of Juveniles in Residential Placement* for 2015 [machine-readable data files].

## How State Data Are Presented in This Bulletin

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 2015, all youth for whom state of offense was unknown (1,593) were held in private facilities, and 89% of these youth were held as part of a court-ordered commitment.

# Person offenses accounted for the largest share of both detained and committed youth in 32 states

**In 8 states in 2015, technical violations accounted for a greater share of detained offenders than did person offenses**

State of offense	Offense profile of detained youth, 2015						State of offense	Offense profile of detained youth, 2015					
	Person	Property	Drugs	Public order	Technical violation	Status		Person	Property	Drugs	Public order	Technical violation	Status
U.S. total	37%	19%	5%	13%	23%	3%	Missouri	31%	34%	3%	16%	12%	2%
Alabama	26	29	7	11	25	1	Montana	40*	20*	5*	10*	30*	5*
Alaska	35*	15*	0*	12*	35*	0*	Nebraska	26	14	9	14	16	21
Arizona	23	12	7	11	44	3	Nevada	35	13	10	17	20	3
Arkansas	36	24	4	14	14	6	New Hampshire	–	–	–	–	–	–
California	42	14	3	10	30	1	New Jersey	52	10	4	24	10	0
Colorado	39	31	8	16	5	1	New Mexico	28	15	5	5	49	0
Connecticut	16*	16*	4*	8*	60*	0*	New York	42	16	4	8	14	17
Delaware	40*	16*	4*	24*	16*	0*	North Carolina	47	27	3	12	8	3
Dist. of Columbia	70*	10*	5*	10*	0*	5*	North Dakota	–	–	–	–	–	–
Florida	24	29	6	14	27	2	Ohio	40	20	3	14	20	2
Georgia	65	16	6	11	3	0	Oklahoma	18	27	8	9	37	0
Hawaii	43*	29*	14*	0*	0*	14*	Oregon	47	9	3	5	36	0
Idaho	33	18	15	15	18	0	Pennsylvania	28	13	4	11	43	2
Illinois	31	22	3	33	11	0	Rhode Island	–	–	–	–	–	–
Indiana	31	24	8	19	13	6	South Carolina	35	16	5	12	28	5
Iowa	34	29	7	12	12	8	South Dakota	38*	13*	19*	6*	19*	6*
Kansas	39	20	6	9	24	4	Tennessee	34	13	8	17	25	2
Kentucky	52	20	5	6	14	2	Texas	31	21	7	10	30	2
Louisiana	39	27	4	7	13	8	Utah	16	18	5	11	50	0
Maine	–	–	–	–	–	–	Vermont	–	–	–	–	–	–
Maryland	44	21	16	11	6	2	Virginia	33	23	2	13	25	3
Massachusetts	46	26	6	17	4	1	Washington	51	18	5	12	13	1
Michigan	34	18	1	9	35	3	West Virginia	25	9	3	8	11	45
Minnesota	39	14	4	13	25	5	Wisconsin	47	19	2	9	19	3
Mississippi	29*	39*	3*	16*	10*	6*	Wyoming	50*	13*	13*	13*	25*	0*

- The proportion of juvenile offenders detained for a technical violation of probation or parole or a violation of a valid court order was less than 35% in all but nine states.
- The District of Columbia and Georgia had the highest proportions of person offenders among detained juveniles (70% and 65%, respectively). Connecticut and Utah had the lowest proportions (16% each).
- The proportion of juvenile offenders detained for drug offenses was 19% or less in all states.
- In all states but Hawaii, Nebraska, New York, and West Virginia, status offenders accounted for less than 10% of detained offenders.

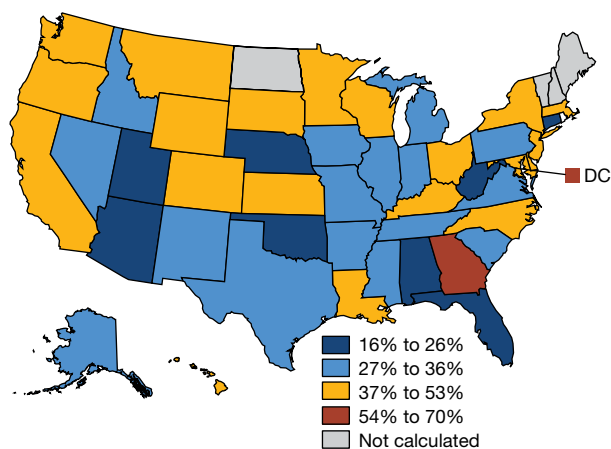
\*Percentage is based on a small denominator (fewer than 100 but at least 20 juveniles total) and may be unreliable.

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

**Notes:** U.S. total includes 174 youth detained in private facilities for whom state of offense was not reported. Detail may not total 100% because of rounding.

**Data source:** Author's analysis of OJJDP's *Census of Juveniles in Residential Placement* for 2015 [machine-readable data files].

**Percent of detained juvenile offenders held for person offenses**





**In 23 states and the District of Columbia in 2015, the percentage of committed youth held for person offenses was greater than the national average (38%)**

State of offense	Offense profile of committed youth, 2015						State of offense	Offense profile of committed youth, 2015					
	Person	Property	Drugs	Public order	Technical violation	Status		Person	Property	Drugs	Public order	Technical violation	Status
U.S. total	38%	23%	6%	12%	15%	5%	Missouri	36%	26%	7%	9%	10%	11%
Alabama	23	28	10	8	23	8	Montana	35	24	14	11	8	5
Alaska	35	13	5	15	30	0	Nebraska	31	24	5	10	5	25
Arizona	25	25	9	15	25	1	Nevada	22	21	20	11	20	6
Arkansas	34	27	9	12	15	4	New Hampshire	53*	16*	5*	11*	5*	11*
California	37	22	3	13	23	2	New Jersey	50	11	8	15	14	0
Colorado	49	27	9	10	4	1	New Mexico	30	10	7	7	46	0
Connecticut	32*	32*	5*	23*	9*	5*	New York	38	24	1	18	5	13
Delaware	34*	28*	7*	31*	3*	0*	North Carolina	27	28	2	4	39	0
Dist. of Columbia	67*	13*	7*	7*	0*	7*	North Dakota	16	16	26	23	2	14
Florida	25	32	3	10	28	1	Ohio	47	20	4	11	16	2
Georgia	66	17	1	11	4	0	Oklahoma	60	16	3	18	1	1
Hawaii	20*	40*	0*	10*	20*	0*	Oregon	57	23	8	11	1	0
Idaho	52	26	9	11	1	1	Pennsylvania	34	15	6	11	23	11
Illinois	45	35	5	12	2	0	Rhode Island	35	32	10	11	10	2
Indiana	29	17	14	18	16	7	South Carolina	37	24	4	12	18	5
Iowa	41	31	10	18	1	1	South Dakota	25	18	10	18	20	8
Kansas	44	21	10	19	5	1	Tennessee	40	18	8	10	14	10
Kentucky	52	14	5	11	7	13	Texas	42	21	3	11	17	6
Louisiana	39	41	2	9	5	4	Utah	19	27	17	20	13	4
Maine	52*	32*	4*	16*	0*	0*	Vermont	71*	14*	0*	0*	0*	0*
Maryland	39	24	4	8	25	1	Virginia	52	25	1	7	12	3
Massachusetts	46	18	6	26	3	1	Washington	50	26	3	6	11	2
Michigan	37	22	3	12	15	11	West Virginia	31	8	6	10	4	41
Minnesota	39	21	4	21	7	8	Wisconsin	49	22	4	19	2	4
Mississippi	16	55	6	6	14	2	Wyoming	24	14	12	10	28	12

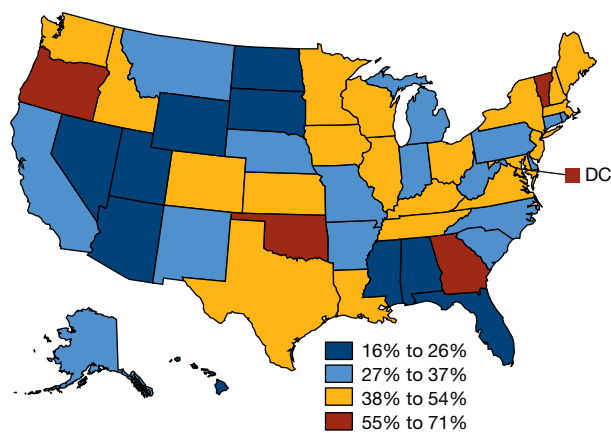
- Except for New Mexico and North Carolina, the number of juvenile offenders committed for a technical violation of probation or parole was less than one-third of the total offenders committed in each state.
- The District of Columbia had the highest proportion of person offenders among committed juveniles (67%). North Dakota had the lowest proportion (16%).
- In more than half of all states, status offenders accounted for less than 5% of committed offenders.

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

**Notes:** U.S. total includes 1,411 committed youth in private facilities for whom state of offense was not reported and 2 youth who committed their offense in a U.S. territory. Detail may not total 100% because of rounding.

**Data source:** Author's analysis of OJJDP's *Census of Juveniles in Residential Placement* for 2015 [machine-readable data files].

**Percent of committed juvenile offenders held for person offenses**

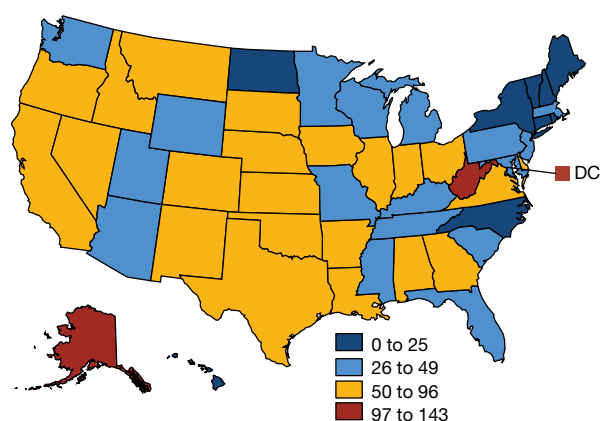


# In 2015, 152 juvenile offenders were in placement for every 100,000 juveniles in the U.S. population

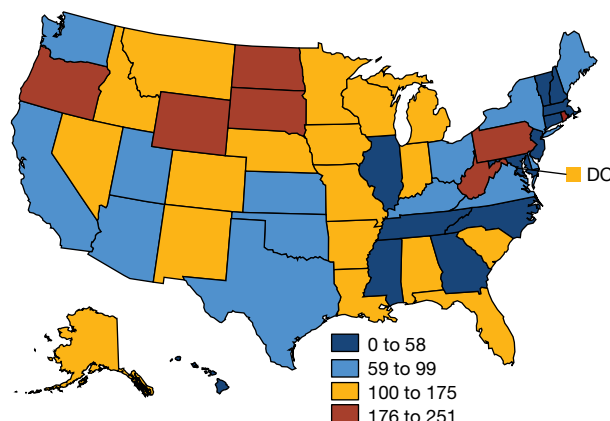
In 2015, the national commitment rate was twice the detention rate, but rates varied by state

State of offense	Juveniles in placement	Placement rate per 100,000			State of offense	Juveniles in placement	Placement rate per 100,000		
		Total	Detained	Committed			Total	Detained	Committed
U.S. total	48,043	152	50	100	<b>Upper age 17 (continued)</b>				
<b>Upper age 17</b>					New Jersey	636	69	30	39
Alabama	849	168	57	110	New Mexico	363	164	53	111
Alaska	207	262	99	152	North Dakota	144	203	21	182
Arizona	717	98	30	66	Ohio	2,163	178	81	97
Arkansas	555	175	66	108	Oklahoma	552	131	65	65
California	6,726	165	65	96	Oregon	1,113	286	51	233
Colorado	999	177	57	117	Pennsylvania	2,826	228	31	196
Connecticut	141	38	20	18	Rhode Island	198	200	6*	191
Delaware	162	176	81	94	South Dakota	228	254	53	200
Dist. of Columbia	105	251	143	107	Tennessee	660	97	41	53
Florida	2,853	153	38	114	Utah	453	114	29	85
Hawaii	51	39	16	23	Vermont	27	47	16*	37
Idaho	393	200	60	139	Virginia	1,227	147	73	73
Illinois	1,524	112	56	56	Washington	921	130	44	85
Indiana	1,563	217	63	145	West Virginia	567	329	113	214
Iowa	675	207	54	149	Wyoming	177	296	40	251
Kansas	564	177	77	98	<b>Upper age 16</b>				
Kentucky	510	112	42	68	Georgia	1,110	111	60	51
Maine	81	67	2*	62	Louisiana	831	193	62	130
Maryland	612	101	48	53	Michigan	1,554	172	49	123
Massachusetts	426	66	32	33	Missouri	948	173	32	140
Minnesota	852	149	29	117	South Carolina	693	161	30	129
Mississippi	243	74	28	45	Texas	4,299	153	62	87
Montana	171	170	60	111	Wisconsin	762	147	37	107
Nebraska	465	225	63	160	<b>Upper age 15</b>				
Nevada	627	209	60	143	New York	1,386	99	23	71
New Hampshire	69	54	9	44	North Carolina	468	60	23	36

Detention rate



Commitment rate



\*Rate is based on fewer than 10 juveniles.

**Notes:** Placement rate is the count of juvenile offenders 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 1,593 youth in private facilities for whom state of offense was not reported and 2 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 2015 [machine-readable data files].

# Females account for a relatively small proportion of the residential placement population

## Females accounted for 15% of offenders in residential placement

Male offenders dominate the juvenile justice system. 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 juvenile offenders in residential placement in 2015. The proportion of female juveniles in residential placement was slightly greater for private facilities (17%) than for public facilities (14%) and greater for detained juveniles (17%) than committed juveniles (14%). Females represented 17% of all juveniles 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.

## One-third of females in residential placement were held in private facilities

In 2015, private facilities held 35% of females and 31% of males in juvenile residential placement. The proportion of females placed in private facilities varied substantially by offense category: 72% of all females held for a status offense were in private facilities, as were 42% of those held for drug offenses aside from trafficking, 34% of those held for simple assault, and 24% of those held for auto theft. In general for both males and females, the less serious the offense category, the greater the likelihood the youth was in a private facility.

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

In 2015, 37% of females in residential placement were younger than age 16, compared with 30% 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. There was a greater proportion of offenders age 18 and older among males (15%) than among females (11%).

### Age profile of residents, 2015:

Age	Total	Male	Female
Total	100%	100%	100%
12 and younger	1	1	1
13	3	3	4
14	9	9	11
15	17	17	20
16	26	26	27
17	28	29	26
18–20	15	15	11

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

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

### Offense profile for juvenile offenders in residential placement, 2015

Most serious offense	All facilities		Public facilities		Private facilities	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
<b>Total</b>	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
<b>Delinquency</b>	96	88	99	95	92	75
Person	38	34	40	38	34	26
Violent Crime Index*	29	15	31	18	24	9
Other person	10	19	9	19	10	17
Property	22	17	23	17	22	16
Property Crime Index†	19	13	19	14	18	12
Other property	4	4	4	3	3	4
Drug	5	6	5	6	7	7
Drug trafficking	1	1	1	1	1	0
Other drug	4	6	4	5	6	7
Public order	13	8	13	9	14	5
Technical violation	17	24	18	26	15	20
<b>Status offense</b>	4	12	1	5	8	25

■ Status offenders were 12% of females in residential placement in 2015—down from 21% in 1997.

■ Person offenders were 34% of females in residential placement in 2015—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 2015 [machine-readable data files].

# Minority youth accounted for 69% of offenders in residential placement in 2015

## Blacks made up the largest share of youth offenders in placement

In 2015, the population of youth held in residential placement for delinquency or status offenses was 42% black, 31% white, and 22% Hispanic. Youth of other races, including those of two or more races, accounted for 5% of youth in residential placement.

Between 2006 and 2015, the population of offenders dropped 48%. The declines, however, did not affect all race/ethnicity groups equally. Since 2006, the number of white youth in residential placement for an offense dropped 54%, compared with 45% for minority youth in general and 45% for Hispanic youth.

### Juvenile offenders in placement, 2015:

Race/ethnicity	Number	Percent change	
		2006–2015	1997–2015
Total	48,043	-48%	-54%
White	15,024	-54	-62
Minority	33,019	-45	-50
Black	20,136	-46	-52
Hispanic	10,545	-45	-45
American Indian	839	-51	-48
Asian	402	-65	-82
Two or more	1,097	8	95

In 2015, minority youth made up the majority of both males and females in residential placement (68% and 60%, respectively). Blacks represented the largest racial proportion among males (42%), and whites were the largest proportion among females (37%).

## Black youth accounted for 66% of juveniles held for robbery and 60% of those held for weapons offenses

### Racial/ethnic profile of juvenile offenders in placement, 2015

Most serious offense	Total	White	Black	Hispanic	American	
					Indian	Asian
<b>Total</b>	100%	31%	42%	22%	2%	1%
<b>Delinquency</b>	100	30	42	22	2	1
Criminal homicide	100	18	48	29	2	1
Sexual assault	100	55	25	16	2	0
Robbery	100	10	66	21	1	1
Aggravated assault	100	23	44	28	1	1
Simple assault	100	34	39	20	2	1
Burglary	100	27	50	19	2	1
Theft	100	31	47	16	2	1
Auto theft	100	27	42	26	2	1
Drug trafficking	100	27	44	26	1	1
Other drug	100	45	24	26	2	1
Weapons	100	14	60	23	1	1
Technical violations	100	32	38	26	2	1
<b>Status offense</b>	100	48	31	14	3	1

## In 2015, 13% of white youth in residential placement were held for sexual assault, compared with 8% of American Indian youth, 5% of Hispanic youth, 4% of black youth, and 3% of Asian youth

### Offense profile of juvenile offenders in placement, 2015

Most serious offense	Total	White	Black	Hispanic	American	
					Indian	Asian
<b>Total</b>	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
<b>Delinquency</b>	95	93	96	97	91	97
Criminal homicide	2	1	2	2	1	2
Sexual assault	7	13	4	5	8	3
Robbery	10	3	15	9	4	13
Aggravated assault	8	6	9	10	6	12
Simple assault	8	9	8	8	10	10
Burglary	9	7	10	8	9	7
Theft	5	5	5	4	5	5
Auto theft	4	3	4	4	5	4
Drug trafficking	1	1	1	1	0	1
Other drug	5	7	3	5	6	6
Weapons	5	2	7	5	3	6
Technical violations	18	18	16	21	18	16
<b>Status offense</b>	5	7	4	3	9	3

**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 2015 [machine-readable data files].

# Nationally, placement rates were highest for black youth, regardless of commitment status

In 2015, the national detained placement rate for black youth was 6 times the rate for white youth; the committed placement rate for black youth was nearly 5 times the rate for white youth

State of offense	Detained placement rate (per 100,000), 2015					State of offense	Committed placement rate (per 100,000), 2015				
	White	Black	Hispanic	American Indian	Asian		White	Black	Hispanic	American Indian	Asian
U.S. total	25	153	50	74	7	U.S. total	60	275	89	185	15
Alabama	29	121	41	0*	0*	Alabama	68	207	62	0*	0*
Alaska	48	284	0*	220	0*	Alaska	115	426	0*	202	0*
Arizona	29	66	25	40	25*	Arizona	45	197	55	96	25*
Arkansas	28	214	43	0*	46*	Arkansas	65	303	43	0*	46*
California	33	285	68	84	11	California	40	411	107	98	14
Colorado	37	237	69	139*	14*	Colorado	68	454	157	139*	42*
Connecticut	8	79	28	0*	0*	Connecticut	7	66	20	0*	0*
Delaware	18*	247	48*	0*	0*	Delaware	24	258	48*	0*	0*
Dist. of Columbia	0*	214	0*	0*	0*	Dist. of Columbia	0*	160	0*	0*	0*
Florida	27	115	3	0*	0*	Florida	69	327	42	54*	5*
Georgia	21	130	24	0*	0*	Georgia	21	105	21	0*	7*
Hawaii	12*	0*	0*	0*	7*	Hawaii	24*	0*	16*	0*	22*
Idaho	55	204*	72	114*	0*	Idaho	125	204*	198	228*	89*
Illinois	14	228	40	0*	0*	Illinois	29	198	24	0*	4*
Indiana	38	217	38	0*	0*	Indiana	106	390	101	157*	18*
Iowa	30	343	51	219*	35*	Iowa	108	687	164	658*	35*
Kansas	52	326	71	84*	30*	Kansas	63	384	115	168*	30*
Kentucky	22	196	27*	0*	0*	Kentucky	53	164	27*	0*	0*
Louisiana	17	133	27*	0*	0*	Louisiana	45	267	14*	175*	0*
Maine	3*	0*	0*	0*	0*	Maine	54	333	0*	260*	0*
Maryland	12	113	34	0*	0*	Maryland	17	124	17	0*	0*
Massachusetts	10	119	83	0*	0*	Massachusetts	12	98	89	0*	7*
Michigan	25	140	61	0*	0*	Michigan	71	339	69	163	9*
Minnesota	17	124	19*	133	0*	Minnesota	57	507	97	766	42
Mississippi	16	46	0*	0*	0*	Mississippi	14	84	0*	0*	0*
Missouri	16	122	18*	0*	0*	Missouri	96	387	82	0*	23*
Montana	40	212*	112*	120	0*	Montana	73	1,061	281	150	0*
Nebraska	36	229	84	228*	53*	Nebraska	87	562	252	685	106*
Nevada	25	226	50	100*	12*	Nevada	102	481	105	300*	36*
New Hampshire	5*	103*	0*	0*	0*	New Hampshire	42	103*	93*	0*	0*
New Jersey	4	153	20	0*	0*	New Jersey	7	182	35	149*	3*
New Mexico	25	177*	64	25*	0*	New Mexico	61	295	140	38*	0*
New York	7	77	21	48*	3*	New York	43	216	46	97*	11
North Carolina	9	61	11	29*	0*	North Carolina	12	101	19	57*	0*
North Dakota	16*	114*	0*	49*	0*	North Dakota	119	569	173*	541	0*
Ohio	41	275	43	0*	0*	Ohio	56	283	62	206*	11*
Oklahoma	44	230	33	68	0*	Oklahoma	39	279	38	51	0*
Oregon	48	184	44	97*	0*	Oregon	185	919	282	679	56
Pennsylvania	13	93	64	0*	6*	Pennsylvania	79	762	247	255*	26
Rhode Island	5*	0*	14*	0*	0*	Rhode Island	93	659	279	0*	170*
South Carolina	16	44	72	0*	0*	South Carolina	71	196	253	333*	39*
South Dakota	35	114*	0*	145	0*	South Dakota	127	228*	135*	606	183*
Tennessee	25	93	37	0*	0*	Tennessee	35	100	79	0*	21*
Texas	31	179	59	0*	2*	Texas	59	226	76	66*	7*
Utah	17	130*	78	70*	22*	Utah	57	476	160	417	44*
Vermont	17*	0*	0*	0*	0*	Vermont	34	189*	0*	0*	0*
Virginia	27	190	112	0*	5*	Virginia	32	218	31	0*	0*
Washington	28	198	48	136	18	Washington	59	275	85	294	9*
West Virginia	99	177	79*	1,053*	0*	West Virginia	201	389	159*	0*	0*
Wisconsin	12	228	43	97*	16*	Wisconsin	43	600	85	290	33*
Wyoming	19*	875*	74*	0*	0*	Wyoming	225	292*	223	921	0*

\*Rate is based on fewer than 10 juveniles.

**Notes:** The placement rate is the number of juvenile offenders in residential placement on October 28, 2015, per 100,000 youth age 10 through the upper age of original juvenile court jurisdiction in each state. U.S. total includes 1,593 juvenile offenders in private facilities for whom state of offense was not reported and 5 youth who committed their offense in a U.S. territory. 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.

**Data source:** Author's analysis of OJJDP's *Census of Juveniles in Residential Placement* for 2015 [machine-readable data files].



# On the 2015 census date, person offenders had been committed or detained longer than other offenders

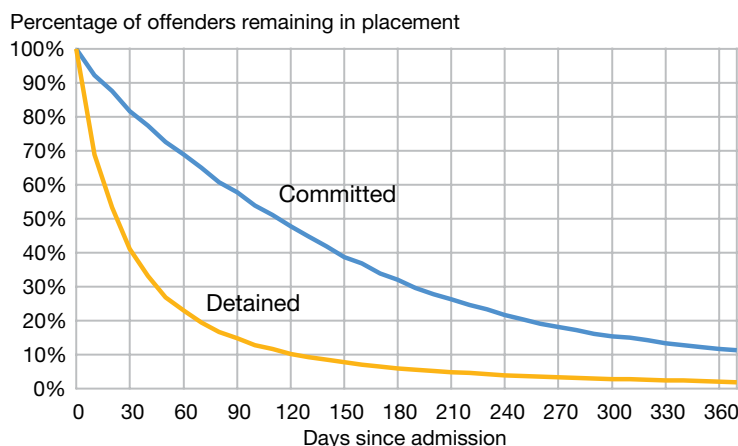
## CJRP provides individual-level data on time spent in placement

Information on length of stay is key to understanding the justice system’s handling of juveniles in residential placement. Ideally, length of stay would be calculated for individual juveniles 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 juveniles (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 juvenile in residential placement. These data represent the number of days the juvenile had been in the facility up to the census date. Because CJRP data reflect only a juvenile’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 juveniles 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 2015, 32% of committed offenders, but just 6% of detained offenders, remained in placement 6 months after admission**



- Among detained offenders (those awaiting adjudication, disposition, or placement elsewhere), 78% had been in the facility for at least a week, 60% for at least 15 days, and 41% for at least 30 days.
- Among committed juveniles (those held as part of a court-ordered disposition), 82% 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, 11% of committed offenders remained in placement.

**Data source:** Author’s analysis of OJJDP’s *Census of Juveniles in Residential Placement* for 2015 [machine-readable data files].

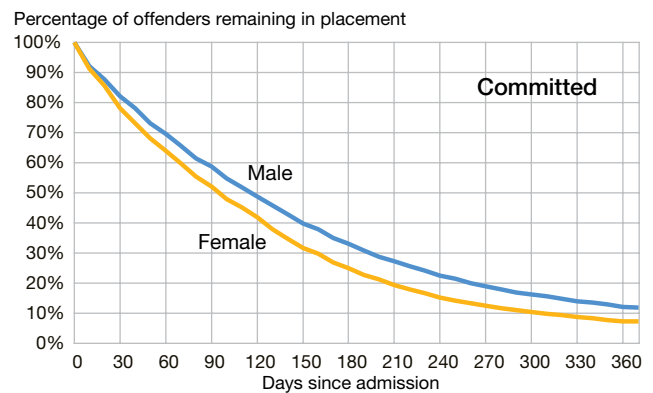
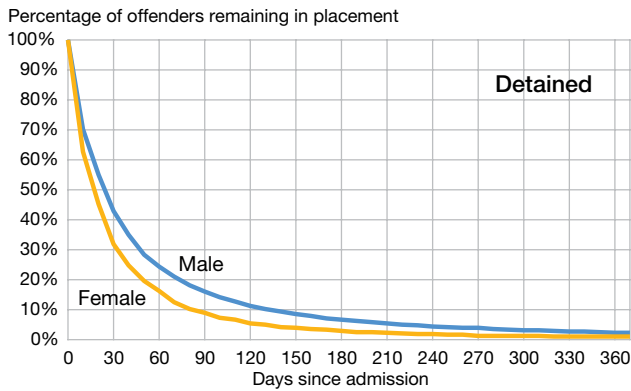
## Youth’s average time in the facility varied by adjudication status, offense, and facility type

Most serious offense	Median days in placement		
	Detained (all facilities)	Committed	
		Public	Private
All offenses	21	105	121
Delinquency	21	105	123
Person	32	141	139
Property	18	92	118
Drugs	15	84	93
Public order	22	105	146
Technical violation	15	61	99
Status offense	21	63	106

- Half of all youth committed to public facilities for an offense remained in placement after 105 days (121 for private facilities). In contrast, half of those detained for an offense remained in placement after 21 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.

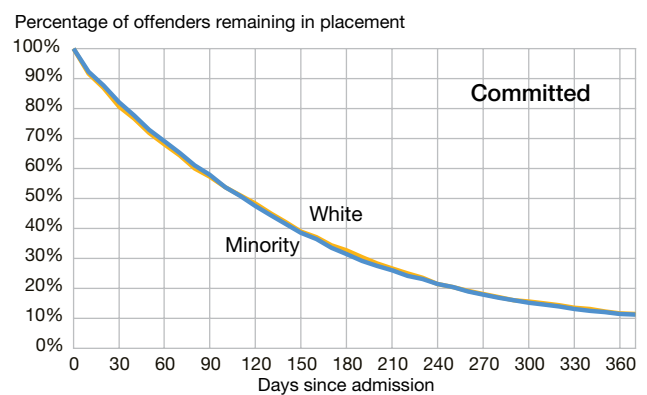
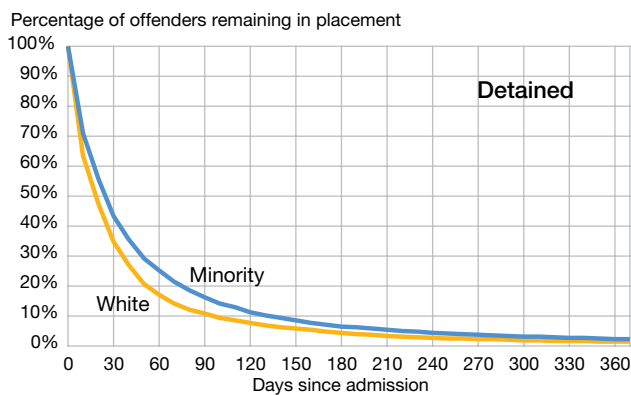
**Data source:** Author’s analysis of OJJDP’s *Census of Juveniles in Residential Placement* for 2015 [machine-readable data file].

## In 2015, males tended to stay in facilities longer than females



- After 30 days, 43% of detained males and 32% of detained females remained in residential placement.
- After 60 days, 24% of detained males and 16% of detained females remained in residential placement.
- After 180 days (approximately half a year), 33% of committed males and 25% of committed females remained in residential placement.
- After a full year (365 days), 12% of committed males and 7% of committed females remained in residential placement.

## Minority youth were detained longer than white youth, but there was virtually no difference in the time in residential placement between minority and white committed youth



- Among youth detained for an offense, 35% of white youth had been in the facility at least 30 days, compared with 43% of minority youth.
- Among youth committed for an offense, time in residential placement was virtually the same for white youth and minority youth.
- After 180 days, approximately one-third of both white and minority youth committed for an offense remained in residential placement.

**Data source:** Author's analysis of OJJDP's *Census of Juveniles in Residential Placement* for 2015 [machine-readable data files].

## CJRP Data Include the Number of Deaths in Custody

For the first time in *Census of Juveniles in Residential Placement* (CJRP) history, facilities were asked if any justice-involved youth died while in the facility's legal custody between October 1, 2014 and September 30, 2015.

In 2015, facilities reported that 15 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.gov/pubs/250123.pdf](http://ojjdp.gov/pubs/250123.pdf).

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Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention  
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### Data Sources

National Center for Health Statistics (prepared under a collaborative arrangement with the U.S. Census Bureau), *Vintage 2015 Postcensal Estimates of the Resident Population of the United States (July 1, 2010–July 1, 2015), 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 [www.cdc.gov/nchs/nvss/bridged\\_race.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/nvss/bridged_race.htm), released 6/28/16].

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

### Acknowledgments

This bulletin was written by Sarah Hockenberry, Research Associate, with assistance from Charles Puzzanchera, Senior Research Associate, at the National Center for Juvenile Justice, with funds provided by OJJDP to support the National Juvenile Justice Data Analysis Program.

This bulletin was prepared under grant number 2013–MU–FX–0005 from the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP), U.S. Department of Justice.

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*The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention is a component of the Office of Justice Programs, which also includes the Bureau of Justice Assistance; the Bureau of Justice Statistics; the National Institute of Justice; the Office for Victims of Crime; and the Office of Sex Offender Sentencing, Monitoring, Apprehending, Registering, and Tracking.*

### 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](http://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.