

INTRODUCTION TO JUVENILE JUSTICE



Intake and diversion

Court processing

Dispositional alternatives

Residential Settings

BIG PICTURE



Youth Aren't Mini-Adults

Purposes

- Public protection
- Deter delinquency and crime through swift, effective dispositions that emphasize accountability and appropriate rehabilitative services
- Provide an effective system of intake services
- Provide uniform procedures that assure fairness and equity; that protect constitutional rights; and that encourage proceeding with all possible speed

Who is eligible

Offenses at 8 and 9

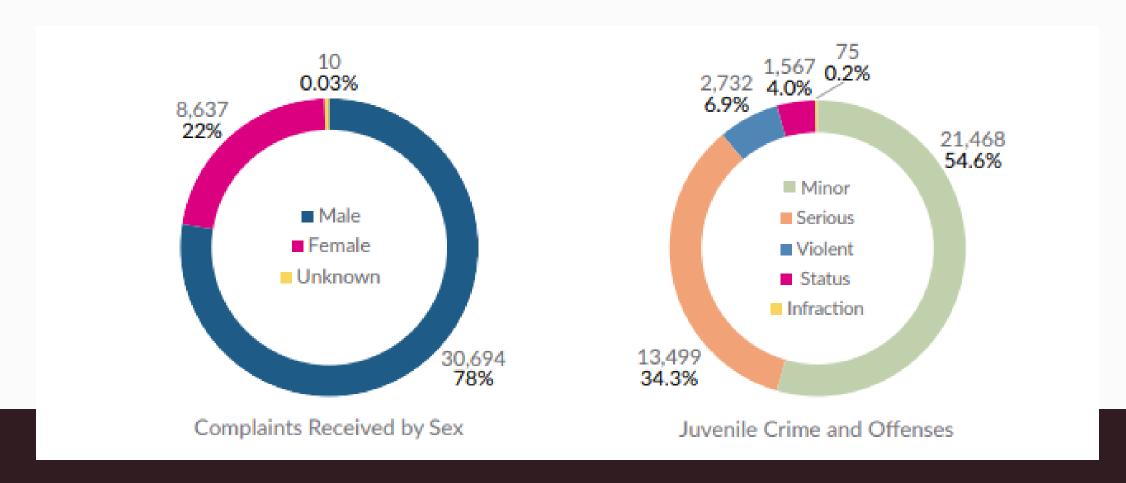
• A – G felony or any offense if previous adjudication

Offenses at 10 - 15

Everything

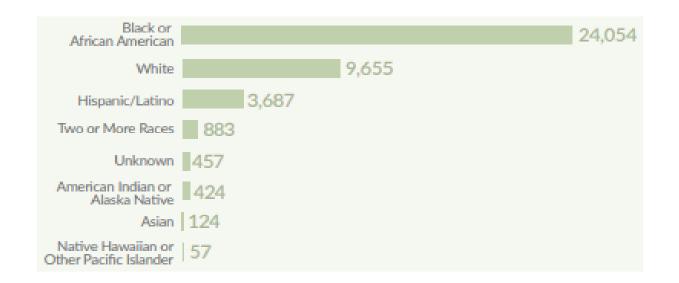
Offenses at 16/17

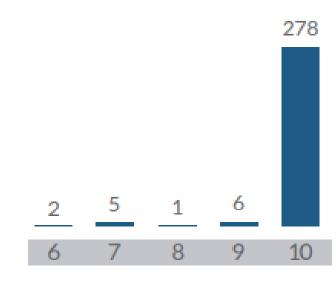
- F I felonies and misdemeanors
- No motor vehicle offenses
- A E felonies could be sent to juvenile court from superior court



WHO IS INVOLVED

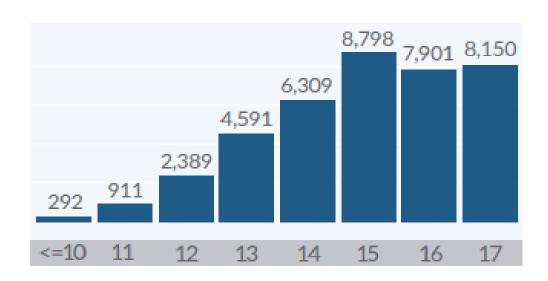
All data in this presentation are from the NC Division of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention 2023 Annual Report available at https://www.ncdps.gov/division/juvenile-justice/2023-jjdp-annual-report/download?attachment



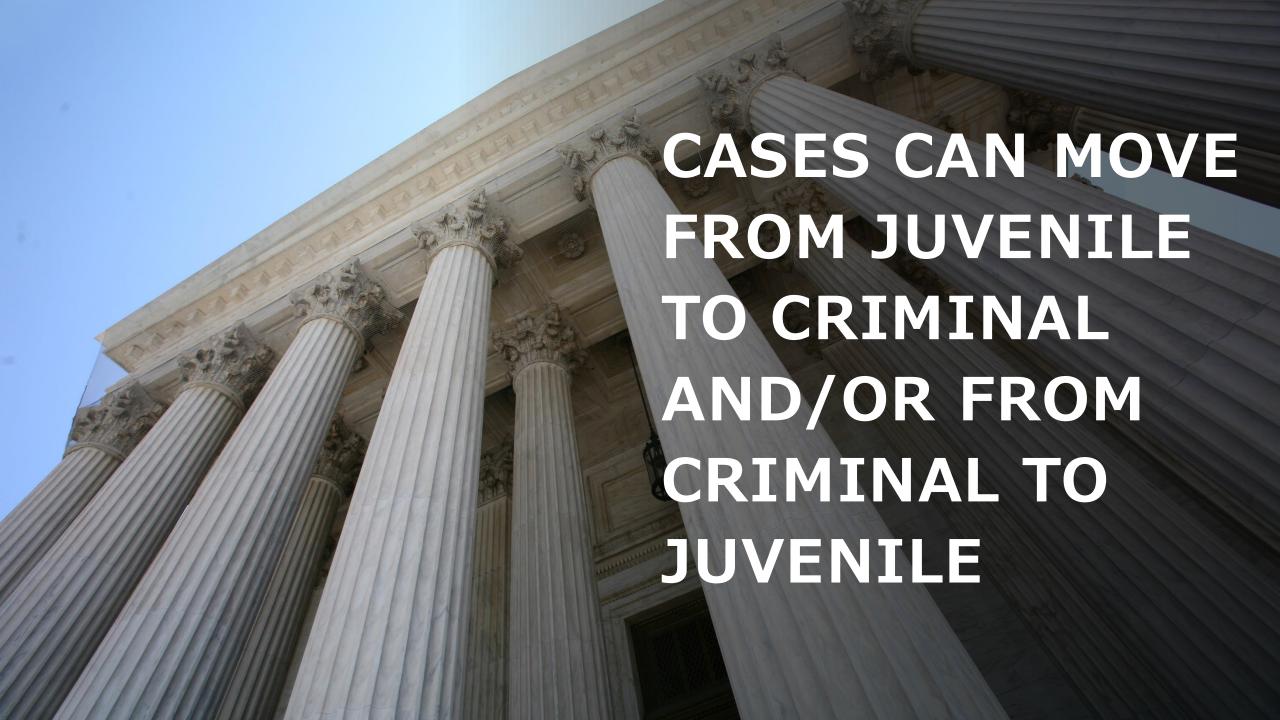


Complaints Received by Race/Ethnicity

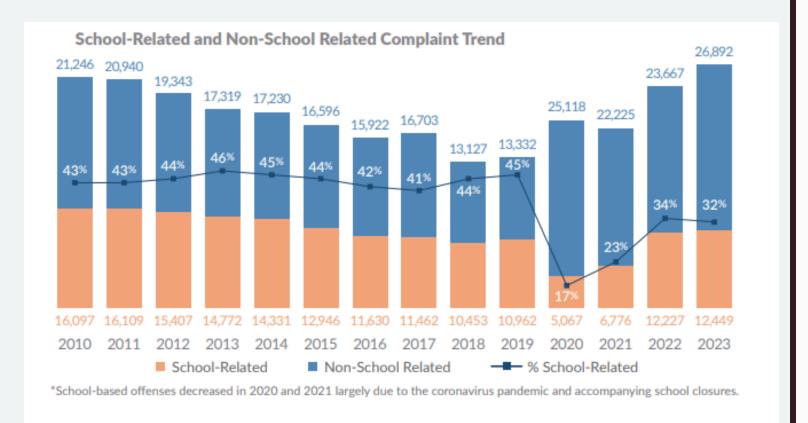
Complaints Received by Age <=10











SCHOOLS AND JUVENILE JUSTICE

SCHOOLS AND JUVENILE JUSTICE

Top 10 School-Based Offenses: CY 2023

Charged Offense	Complaints
(M) misdemeanor (F) felony (S) status offense	Complaints
Simple assault (M)	2,477
Simple affray (M)	1,371
Disorderly Conduct at School (M)	1,132
Communicating threats (M)	675
Possession of weapons other than firearms and explosives on school grounds (M)	659
Truant < 16 (S)	596
Simple possession schedule VI controlled substance (M)	393
Communicating Threat of Mass Violence on Educational Property (F)	355
Assault government official / employee (M)	319
Disorderly Conduct by engaging in fighting or other violent conduct or in conduct creating the threat of imminent fighting or other violence (M)	272



The Players

- Prosecutor (District Attorney)
- Attorney for the juvenile
- The juvenile as respondent (and decision maker)
- The parent, guardian, or custodian of the juvenile
- Court counselors (DJJ)



Intake and diversion

Court processing

Dispositional alternatives

Residential Settings

Intake

- 1.Complaint to court counselor
- 2.Some must be filed as petitions in court, most can be closed, diverted, or approved for filing



Intake Process (Review of Complaint) 39,341 Complaints 15,353 Juveniles Diversion 24.5% Complaints 15.1% 6,100 3,925 6,655 Juveniles* Complaints Juveniles* Juveniles* Complaints

INTAKE



Intake and diversion

Court processing

Dispositional alternatives

Residential Settings

Preliminary Procedures

- First appearance
- Probable Cause
- Capacity issues may be raised
- Discovery and negotiations may occur

ADJUDICATION

Is the juvenile responsible for the charged offense(s) beyond a reasonable doubt?

DISPOSITION

What should happen as a result of the adjudication?

Post - Disposition

- Violation hearings
- Other motions for review
- Termination of probation
- Termination of jurisdiction



Intake and diversion

Court processing

Dispositional alternatives

Residential Settings

Range of Dispositional Options

No disposition (dismissal) **DSS** custody **Probation supervision (with terms and conditions) Community service** Restitution Days in detention Out of home non secure settings Secure juvenile facilities



Intake and diversion

Court processing

Dispositional alternatives

Residential Settings



Detention Secure (cells that lock, barbed wire fencing)

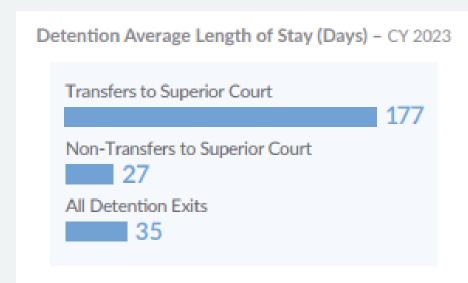
Intended to be short-term

Education

Nurse

Outdoor rec space











Facility Type	Facility	Capacity	Average Daily Population
Youth Development Centers	Cabarrus	64	62.0
	*Chatham	24 32	28.5
	Edgecombe	44	42.4
	*Lenoir	22 32	27.0
State-Operated Juvenile Detention Centers	Alexander	24	32.1
	Cabarrus	62	71.8
	Chatham	8	7.4
	Cumberland	18	23.9
	*Dillon	35 45 47 70	50.1
	*Dobbs/Lenoir	22 12	16.4
	New Hanover	18	22.2
	Pitt	18	24.2
	Richmond Jenkins	24	5.3
	Wake	24	26.9
County-Operated Juvenile Detention Centers	*Brunswick	12 10	9.8
	Durham	14	12.6
	Foothills	15	8.7
	Guilford	44	32.4
	*Madison	19 25	28.6

^{*}Facilities indicating multiple capacity counts throughout 2023 reflect 1) changes from YDC to DC beds, 2) openings/closures due to staffing, renovation, or other operational needs.



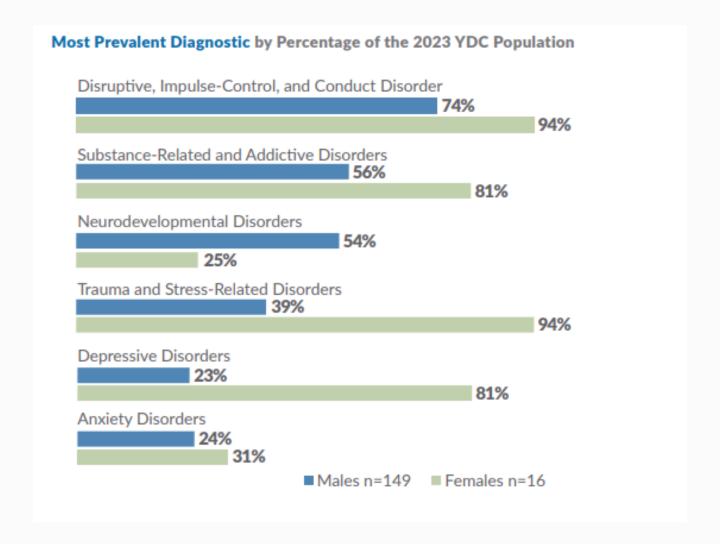
Intake and diversion

Court processing

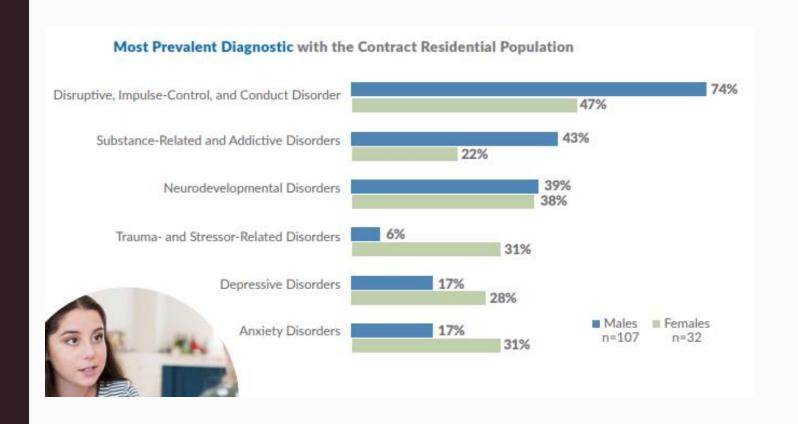
Dispositional alternatives

Residential Settings

SIGNIFICANT
MENTAL HEALTH
NEEDS AMONG
JUSTICE-INVOLVED
YOUTH



SIGNIFICANT
MENTAL HEALTH
NEEDS AMONG
JUSTICE-INVOLVED
YOUTH



Trauma and Juvenile Justice

- 2/3 justice-involved youth have complex histories of trauma "including exposure to neglect, emotional, physical, and sexual abuse, family and community violence, traumatic losses, and disrupted relationships with primary caregivers."
- Complex Trauma Treatment Network of the National Child Traumatic Stress Network. (2016). Complex trauma: In juvenile justice-system involved youth. Los Angeles, CA, & Durham, NC: National Center for Child Traumatic Stress

(file:///I:/jacqui22/teaching/Adolescent%20health %20law%20conference/complex_trauma_in_juvenile _justice_system_involved_youth.pdf)

Contact Information

Jacqui Greene
UNC School of Government

greene@unc.sog.edu

(919) 966-4327