



*Juvenile Offenders and Victims:*



# National Report Series

*Bulletin*

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*This bulletin is part of the Juvenile Offenders and Victims National Report Series. The National Report offers a comprehensive statistical overview of the problems of juvenile crime, violence, and victimization and the response of the juvenile justice system. During each interim year, the bulletins in the National Report Series provide access to the latest information on juvenile arrests, court cases, juveniles in placement, and other topics of interest. Each bulletin in the series highlights selected topics at the forefront of juvenile justice policymaking, giving readers focused access to statistics on some of the most critical issues. Together, the National Report and this series provide a baseline of facts for juvenile justice professionals, policymakers, the media, and concerned citizens.*



## Juveniles in Residential Placement, 2011

Sarah Hockenberry

### A Message From OJJDP

How should a community hold juvenile offenders accountable for their offending behavior while ensuring the public safety? As a growing body of evidence underscores the detrimental effects that system involvement and confinement can have on healthy adolescent development, many jurisdictions are examining and developing ways to divert nonserious offenders from entering the system and to improve conditions of confinement for youth in the system. As part of our effort to inform the discussions going on in many states and communities, the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention sponsors the Census of Juveniles in Residential Placement (CJRP), a biennial survey of public and private juvenile residential facilities in every state. CJRP presents a detailed picture of the young people in residential placement across the nation—including age, race, gender, offenses, adjudication status, and more.

Although findings of the 2011 survey are generally positive—the population of juvenile offenders in residential placement has declined 42% since 1997, and the number of status offenders in residential placement was down 64% from 1997—this bulletin highlights several areas where improvement is needed, especially regarding rates of confinement for minority youth. Nationwide, the residential placement rate for black youth was more than 4.5 times the rate for white youth, and the rate for Hispanic youth was 1.8 times the rate for white youth.

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

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Administrator

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# OJJDP's placement data are the primary source of information on juveniles in residential facilities

## Detailed data are available on juveniles in residential placement

Since its inception, the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) has collected information on the juveniles held in juvenile detention and correctional facilities. Until 1995, these data were gathered through the biennial Census of Public and Private Juvenile Detention, Correctional, and Shelter Facilities, better known as the Children in Custody Census. In 1997, OJJDP initiated a new data collection program, the Census of Juveniles in Residential Placement (CJRP), to gather comprehensive and detailed information about juvenile offenders in residential placement.

CJRP is administered biennially and collects information from all secure and nonsecure residential placement facilities that house juvenile offenders, defined as persons younger than 21 who are held in a residential setting as a result of some contact with the justice system (they are charged with or adjudicated for an offense). This encompasses both status offenders and delinquent offenders, including those 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 offender younger than 21 assigned a bed in the facility on the census date. 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.

Juveniles may be committed to a facility as part of a court-ordered disposition, or they may be detained prior to adjudication or after adjudication while awaiting disposition or placement elsewhere. In addition, a small proportion of juveniles may be admitted voluntarily in lieu of adjudication as part of a diversion agreement. Because detention stays tend to be short compared with commitment placement, detained juveniles represent a much larger share of population flow data than of 1-day count data.

## State variations in upper age of juvenile court jurisdiction 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 26% of the general youth population ages 10–17, but they account for more than 50% of arrests of youth younger than age 18, more than 40% of delinquency court cases, and more than 55% 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

## Nearly 9 in 10 residents were juveniles held for delinquency offenses

The vast majority of residents in juvenile residential placement facilities on October 26, 2011, were juvenile offenders (89%). Juvenile offenders held for delinquency offenses accounted for 86% of all residents, and those held for status offenses accounted for 3%. Delinquency offenses are behaviors that would be criminal law violations for adults. Status offenses are behaviors that are not law violations for adults, such as running away, truancy, and incorrigibility. Some residents were held in the facility but were not charged with or adjudicated for an offense (e.g., youth referred for abuse, neglect, emotional disturbance, or mental retardation, or those whose parents referred them). Together, these other residents and youth age 21 or older accounted for 11% of all residents.

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

Private facilities are operated by private nonprofit or for-profit corporations or organizations; 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 there are more private than public facilities nationwide, public facilities hold the majority of juvenile offenders on any given day. In 2011, private facilities accounted for 50% of facilities holding juvenile offenders; however, they held just 31% of juvenile offenders in residential placement.

### The profile of juvenile offenders in residential placement changed little between 1997 and 2011

Placement population	Number			Percent of total		
	1997	2003	2011	1997	2003	2011
All residents	116,701	109,094	68,815	100%	100%	100%
Juvenile offenders	105,055	96,531	61,423	90	88	89
Delinquency	98,813	92,022	59,184	85	84	86
Person offense	35,138	33,170	22,964	30	30	33
Violent offense	26,304	22,039	15,683	23	20	23
Status offenders	6,242	4,509	2,239	5	4	3
Other residents	11,646	12,563	7,392	10	12	11

**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, 2003, and 2011 [machine-readable data files].

### Although the number of public and private facilities was similar in 2011, public facilities housed more than twice as many offenders

Facility operation	Number			Percent change	
	1997	2003	2011	1997-2011	2003-2011
<b>Facilities:</b>					
All facilities	2,842	2,852	2,047	-28%	-28%
Public facilities	1,106	1,170	1,033	-7	-12
Private facilities	1,736	1,682	1,014	-42	-40
<b>Juvenile offenders:</b>					
All facilities	105,055	96,531	61,423	-42	-36
Public facilities	75,600	66,210	42,584	-44	-36
Private facilities	29,455	30,321	18,839	-36	-38

■ Overall, the number of juvenile offenders in residential placement decreased 42% between 1997 and 2011.

■ The decline in offenders held in public facilities accounted for 76% of the overall drop in the youth residential placement population between 1997 and 2011.

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

Private facilities hold a different population of offenders than do public facilities. Compared with public facilities, private facilities have a greater proportion of juveniles who have been committed to the facility by the court 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, 2011:

Placement status	Facility operation		
	Total	Public	Private
Total	100%	100%	100%
Committed	68	59	88
Detained	31	40	10
Diversion	1	0	1

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

Of all juveniles who were detained, 90% were in public facilities. For committed juveniles, 60% were in public facilities.

# Nationwide, approximately 61,000 delinquents were in residential placement on October 26, 2011

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

Public and private facilities had fairly similar offense profiles in 2011, with delinquent youth accounting for the vast majority of juvenile offenders (98% in public facilities and 92% in private facilities). Compared with public facilities, private facilities had larger proportions of youth among their populations with less serious offenses (e.g., simple assault, drug, and status offenses).

### Offense profile by facility type, 2011:

Most serious offense	Facility operation		
	All	Public	Private
<b>Total</b>	100%	100%	100%
<b>Delinquency</b>	96	98	92
Person	37	39	34
Crim. homicide	1	2	0
Sexual assault	6	5	8
Robbery	9	11	5
Agg. assault	9	10	6
Simple assault	9	8	10
Other person	3	3	4
Property	24	24	23
Burglary	11	11	10
Theft	5	5	6
Auto theft	3	3	3
Arson	1	1	1
Other property	4	4	3
Drug	7	6	10
Drug trafficking	1	1	1
Other drug	6	5	9
Public order	12	12	12
Weapons	4	5	4
Other public ord.	8	7	8
Technical viol.	16	17	14
<b>Status offense</b>	4	2	8

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

On the census date in 2011, public facilities held 71% of delinquents in residential placement and 35% of status offenders. Public facilities housed 76% of those held for violent crimes (i.e., criminal homicide, rape, robbery, and aggravated assault). In contrast, only 57% of juvenile offenders held for drug offenses were in public facilities.

## The number of offenders in residential placement declined for all offenses between 1997 and 2011

Most serious offense	Juvenile offenders in residential placement, 2011			Percent change 1997–2011		
	Type of facility			Type of facility		
	All	Public	Private	All	Public	Private
<b>Total</b>	61,423	42,584	18,839	-42%	-44%	-36%
<b>Delinquency</b>	59,184	41,799	17,385	-40	-44	-30
Person	22,964	16,650	6,314	-35	-39	-21
Criminal homicide	801	734	67	-58	-59	-34
Sexual assault	3,914	2,319	1,595	-30	-42	-1
Robbery	5,708	4,742	966	-39	-40	-30
Aggravated assault	5,260	4,117	1,143	-44	-46	-39
Simple assault	5,250	3,376	1,874	-21	-18	-25
Other person	2,031	1,362	669	-8	-19	28
Property	14,705	10,352	4,353	-54	-55	-51
Burglary	6,687	4,715	1,972	-47	-50	-37
Theft	3,364	2,293	1,071	-54	-55	-49
Auto theft	1,781	1,269	512	-73	-71	-76
Arson	448	294	154	-50	-57	-30
Other property	2,425	1,781	644	-48	-46	-53
Drug	4,315	2,453	1,862	-52	-61	-32
Drug trafficking	737	477	260	-74	-78	-62
Other drug	3,578	1,976	1,602	-42	-52	-22
Public order	7,317	5,058	2,259	-29	-31	-24
Weapons	2,647	1,963	684	-36	-40	-21
Other public order	4,670	3,095	1,575	-24	-23	-25
Technical violation	9,883	7,286	2,597	-20	-29	23
<b>Status offense</b>	2,239	785	1,454	-64	-50	-69

■ The number of juvenile offenders held for person offenses decreased 35% between 1997 and 2011, and the number of property and drug offenders was cut by more than half (54% and 52% decrease, respectively).

■ Overall, the number of juvenile offenders held for both public order and technical violation offenses declined between 1997 and 2011 (29% and 20%, respectively). However, despite this downward trend, private facilities reported holding 23% more juvenile offenders who had committed technical violations.

■ The number of status offenders in residential placement was cut substantially (64%) between 1997 and 2011.

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 2011 [machine-readable data files].

# The number of offenders in placement in 2011 was at its lowest level since 1997

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

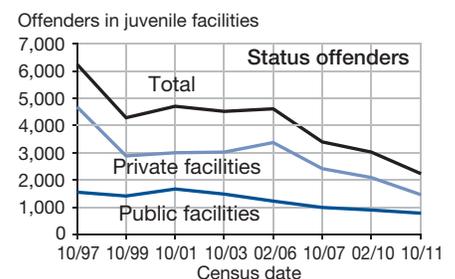
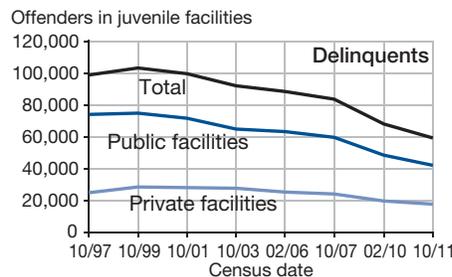
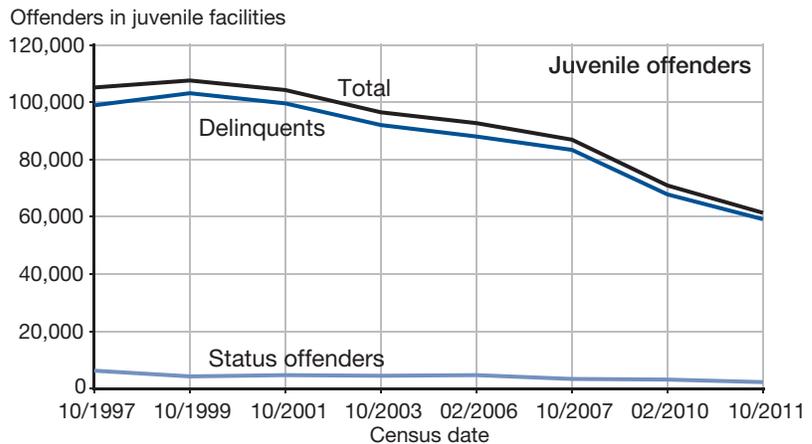
The number of delinquents held in placement increased 4% between 1997 and 1999 and then decreased 43% to its lowest level in 2011. Although the number of delinquents held in public facilities outnumbered those held in private facilities, delinquents held in private facilities accounted for 82% of the overall increase between 1997 and 1999. Since 1999, the number of delinquents held in public facilities decreased 44%, and the number held in private facilities decreased 39%.

Private facilities reported the largest decrease in the number of status offenders between 1997 and 2011—down 69% compared with 50% in public facilities.

### Several factors may affect the placement population

Although data from CJRP cannot explain the continuing decline in the number of offenders held in residential placement, they may reflect a combination of contributing factors. For example, the number of juvenile arrests decreased 31% between 2002 and 2011, which in turn means that fewer juveniles were processed through the juvenile justice system. Additionally, residential placement reform efforts have resulted in the movement of many juveniles from large, secure public facilities to less secure, small private facilities. Finally, economic factors have resulted in a shift from committing juveniles to high-cost residential facilities to providing lower cost options, such as probation, day treatment, or other community-based sanctions.

## In 2011, juvenile residential facilities held 40% fewer delinquents and 64% 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 43% from 1999 to 2011. The result was an overall decrease of 42% between 1997 and 2011.
- The number of delinquents held in public facilities decreased 44% between 1997 and 2011, while the number held in private facilities decreased 30%.
- The number of status offenders held in juvenile residential facilities dropped sharply (31%) between 1997 and 1999. Between 1999 and 2006, the number of status offenders remained relatively unchanged, decreased in 2007, and reached its lowest level in 2011.
- The number of status offenders held in public facilities peaked in 2001 and then decreased 53% by 2011. The number of status offenders held in private facilities increased 18% between the 1999 low and 2006 and then decreased 57% between 2006 and 2011.

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

# Relative declines from 1997 to 2011 were greater for the committed population than for the detained

## Offense profiles differed for detained and committed offenders

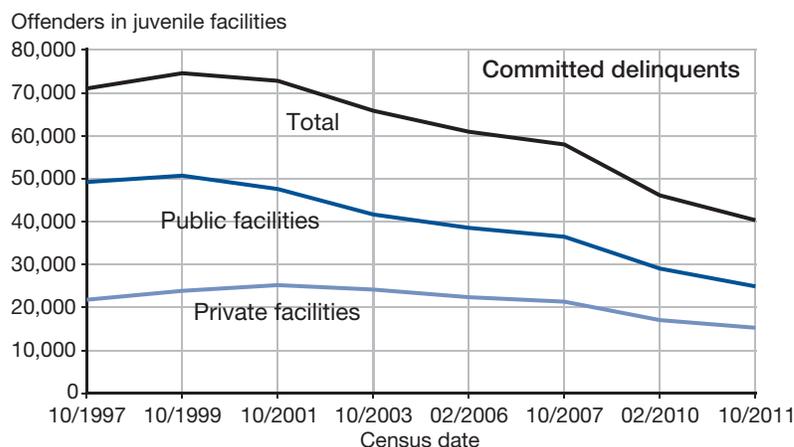
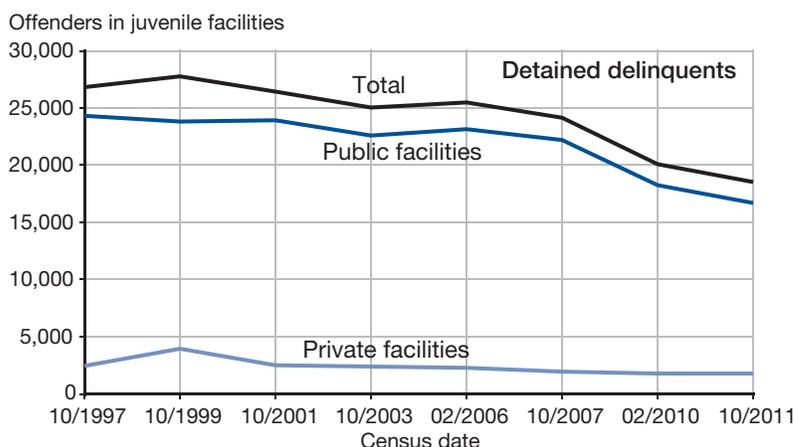
Delinquents accounted for 97% of detained offenders and 96% of committed offenders in 2011. Compared with the detained population, the committed population had a greater proportion of youth held for most major offense groups and fewer youth held for technical violations of probation or parole. The committed population also had a slightly larger proportion of youth held for status offenses. Status offenders accounted for 4% of committed youth and 3% of detained youth.

### Offense profile of juvenile offenders in placement, 2011:

Most serious offense	Detained (19,014)	Committed (41,934)
Total	100%	100%
Delinquency	97	96
Person	36	38
Crim. homicide	2	1
Sexual assault	4	7
Robbery	9	9
Agg. assault	9	8
Simple assault	8	9
Other person	3	3
Property	22	25
Burglary	10	11
Theft	5	6
Auto theft	3	3
Arson	1	1
Other property	4	4
Drug	6	7
Drug trafficking	1	1
Other drug	5	6
Public order	12	12
Weapons	5	4
Other public ord.	7	8
Technical viol.	22	13
Status offense	3	4

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

Between 1997 and 2011, the detained delinquency population decreased 31% and the committed delinquency population decreased 43%



- 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 proportion of these youth remained relatively stable between 1997 and 2007 and then decreased 23% between 2007 and 2011.
- The number of offenders in residential placement decreased 42% between 1997 and 2011; a 49% decrease in the number of committed delinquents held in public facilities during this period drove this trend.
- Between 1997 and 2011, declines were also evident in the number of detained and committed status offenders (60% and 62%, respectively) (not shown).

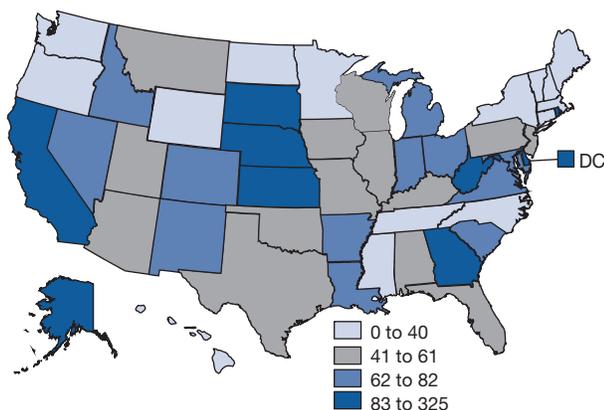
**Data source:** Author's analysis of OJJDP's *Census of Juveniles in Residential Placement* for 1997, 1999, 2001, 2003, 2006, 2007, 2010, and 2011 [machine-readable data files].

# In 2011, 196 juvenile offenders were in placement for every 100,000 juveniles in the U.S. population

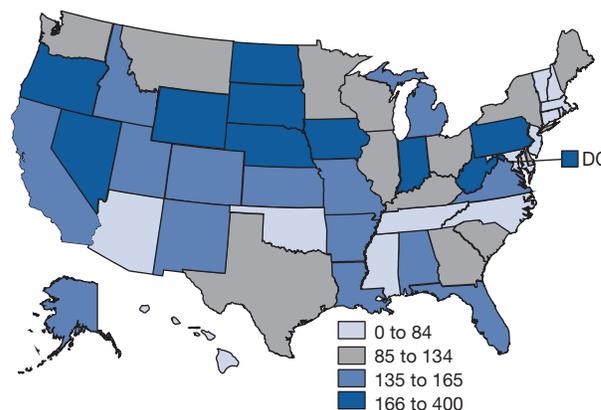
In 2011, the national commitment rate was 2.2 times the detention rate, but rates varied by state

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	61,423	196	61	134	<b>Upper age 17 (continued)</b>				
<b>Upper age 17</b>					Oklahoma	576	141	58	78
Alabama	1,026	198	49	138	Oregon	1,098	281	40	240
Alaska	222	270	121	150	Pennsylvania	3,075	238	44	194
Arizona	936	130	49	80	Rhode Island	186	180	104	75
Arkansas	711	224	62	160	South Dakota	429	492	100	386
California	9,810	233	97	135	Tennessee	783	116	37	78
Colorado	1,254	234	70	164	Utah	732	200	49	151
Delaware	180	194	87	107	Vermont	36	59	20	39
Dist. of Columbia	258	618	323	294	Virginia	1,686	203	67	136
Florida	3,744	203	41	156	Washington	1,062	150	39	111
Hawaii	99	75	20	52	West Virginia	489	278	92	186
Idaho	399	213	70	142	Wyoming	249	433	31	396
Indiana	1,878	258	71	188	<b>Upper age 16</b>				
Iowa	729	225	46	170	Connecticut*	252	75	31	43
Kansas	813	255	97	157	Georgia	1,788	184	90	94
Kentucky	747	163	52	109	Illinois	2,106	171	56	115
Maine	165	129	19	108	Louisiana	957	222	80	140
Maryland	939	153	76	77	Massachusetts	543	95	31	63
Minnesota	828	145	32	108	Michigan	2,085	221	64	155
Mississippi	258	77	36	41	Missouri	1,122	202	45	156
Montana	168	169	48	114	New Hampshire	90	76	3**	74
Nebraska	669	337	92	244	South Carolina	726	173	72	102
Nevada	720	245	75	170	Texas	4,671	175	59	115
New Jersey	1,005	106	41	65	Wisconsin	915	174	49	125
New Mexico	522	229	71	158	<b>Upper age 15</b>				
North Dakota	156	241	23	218	New York	2,139	148	31	116
Ohio	2,490	200	75	125	North Carolina	567	74	21	53

Detention rate



Commitment rate



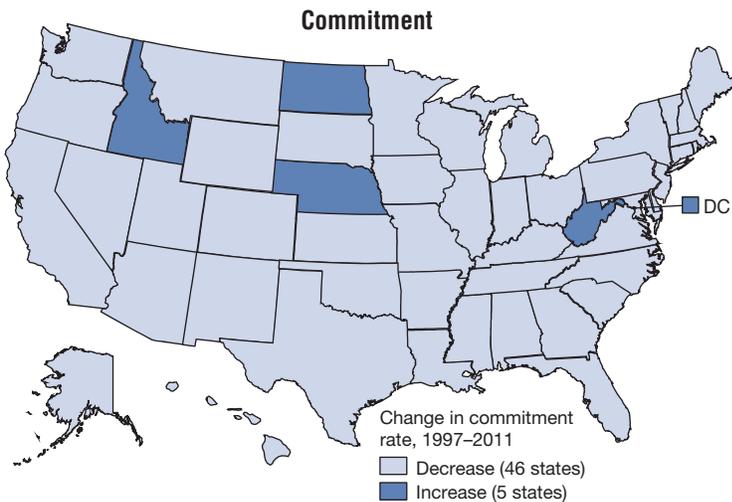
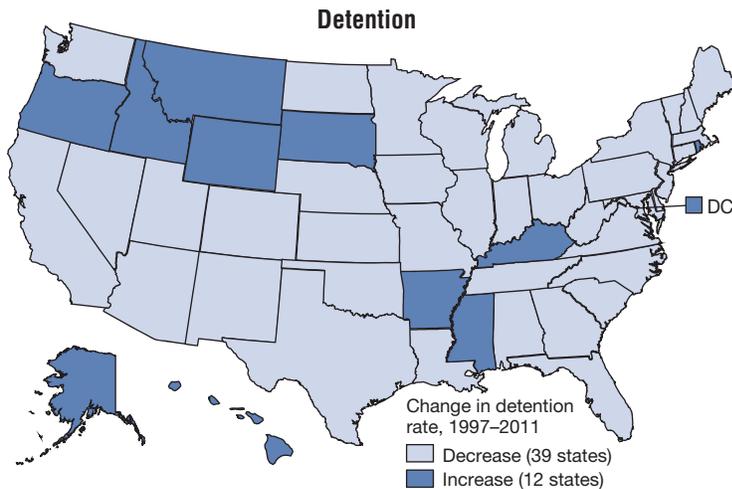
\* Connecticut's upper age of juvenile court jurisdiction was raised from 16 to 17 in 2012. In 2011, it was 16.

\*\* Rate is based on fewer than 10 juveniles.

**Notes:** Placement rate is the count of juvenile offenders in placement per 100,000 youth ages 10 through the upper age of juvenile court jurisdiction in each state. U.S. total includes 2,324 youth in private facilities for whom state of offense was not reported and 5 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 2011 [machine-readable data files].

**Although national placement rates declined from 1997 to 2011, not all states experienced declines**



■ From 1997 to 2011, detention rates increased in about one-quarter of the states and declined in the other three-quarters.

■ In 2011, 9 in 10 states had lower commitment rates than in 1997, but in 5 states the commitment rate increased.

**Notes:** Placement rate is the count of juvenile offenders in placement per 100,000 youth ages 10 through the upper age of juvenile court jurisdiction in each state.

**Data source:** Author's analysis of OJJDP's *Census of Juveniles in Residential Placement* for 1997 and 2011 [machine-readable data files].

**Unlike detained youth, committed youth were in a variety of facilities**

Group home facilities held the largest proportion of committed offenders (42%), but 11% were committed to detention centers.

**Facility type profiles, 2011:**

Facility type	Detained offenders	Committed offenders
Total	100%	100%
Detention center	86	11
Shelter	3	2
Reception/diagnostic	2	2
Group home	3	42
Ranch/wilderness camp	0	5
Long-term secure	5	37
Other	0	1

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

**For all facilities except detention centers, the majority of offenders were committed youth**

Not all offenders held in detention centers were held with detained placement status. In 2011, 21% of offenders in detention centers had been committed to the facility.

**Offender population profiles, 2011:**

Facility type	Detained offenders	Committed offenders
Detention center	78%	21%
Shelter	44	53
Reception/diagnostic	31	69
Group home	3	95
Ranch/wilderness camp	1	98
Long-term secure	6	94
Other	10	90

Note: Detail may total less than 100% because some facilities held youth other than detained or committed youth.

# Person offenses accounted for the largest share of both detained and committed offenders in 25 states

**In 11 states in 2011, technical violations accounted for a greater share of detained offenders than did person offenses**

State of offense	Offense profile of detained offenders, 2011						State of offense	Offense profile of detained offenders, 2011					
	Person	Property	Drugs	Public order	Technical violation	Status		Person	Property	Drugs	Public order	Technical violation	Status
U.S. total	36%	22%	6%	12%	22%	3%	Missouri	40%	25%	7%	7%	17%	5%
Alabama	27	29	7	15	18	4	Montana	19*	13*	13*	13*	44*	0*
Alaska	24*	*27	3*	6*	36*	3*	Nebraska	30	20	3	5	34	10
Arizona	20	18	11	8	41	3	Nevada	33	12	21	18	18	0
Arkansas	29	20	8	9	32	3	New Hampshire	–	–	–	–	–	–
California	42	24	4	14	15	1	New Jersey	51	9	7	15	18	0
Colorado	40	30	11	14	4	2	New Mexico	20	19	7	4	50	0
Connecticut	6	3	0	3	91	0	New York	43	18	4	9	19	8
Delaware	30*	19*	11*	15*	22*	0*	North Carolina	42	17	4	8	28	2
Dist. of Columbia	47	27	4	7	11	4	North Dakota	–	–	–	–	–	–
Florida	27	29	6	10	27	1	Ohio	40	21	3	12	23	2
Georgia	38	22	4	15	15	6	Oklahoma	24	29	9	11	23	4
Hawaii	44*	11*	11*	11*	22*	0*	Oregon	35	17	6	10	33	0
Idaho	27	30	14	14	9	5	Pennsylvania	31	17	6	6	37	2
Illinois	33	20	6	19	22	0	Rhode Island	50	14	6	8	25	0
Indiana	30	29	7	12	16	6	South Carolina	28	19	4	17	27	6
Iowa	30	36	10	6	16	2	South Dakota	14*	10*	14*	7*	48*	10*
Kansas	34	25	8	11	22	1	Tennessee	37	23	11	13	13	4
Kentucky	40	16	3	16	24	3	Texas	33	19	8	9	30	1
Louisiana	33	25	9	10	12	10	Utah	17	17	7	13	45	2
Maine	25*	38*	0*	25*	13*	0*	Vermont	–	–	–	–	–	–
Maryland	52	21	15	11	0	1	Virginia	38	20	3	6	31	2
Massachusetts	52	22	3	17	7	2	Washington	40	35	5	9	8	4
Michigan	25	19	3	10	37	5	West Virginia	41	19	6	9	13	11
Minnesota	33	22	3	12	25	5	Wisconsin	43	34	5	13	2	5
Mississippi	28	40	10	13	5	5	Wyoming	–	–	–	–	–	–

- 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.
- Maryland and Massachusetts had the highest proportions of person offenders among detained juveniles (52% each). Connecticut had the lowest proportion (6%).
- With the exception of Nevada, the proportion of juvenile offenders detained for drug offenses was 15% or less.
- In all states but Louisiana, Nebraska, South Dakota, and West Virginia, status offenders accounted for less than 10% of detained offenders.

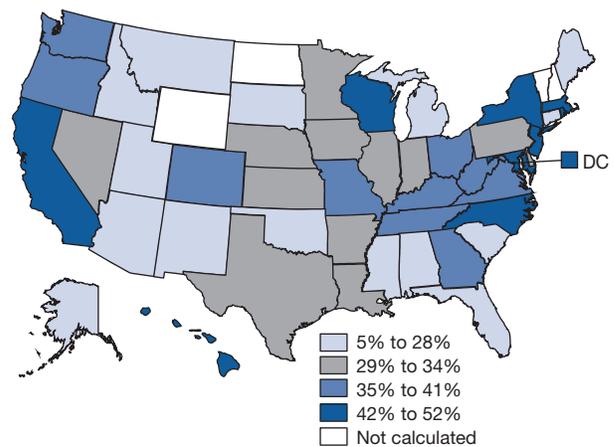
\* Percentage is based on a small denominator (fewer than 100 but at least 20 juveniles total) and may be unreliable.

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

**Notes:** U.S. total includes 209 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 2011 [machine-readable data files].

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



**In 23 states in 2011, the percentage of committed offenders held for person offenses was greater than the national average (38%)**

State of offense	Offense profile of committed offenders, 2011						State of offense	Offense profile of committed offenders, 2011					
	Person	Property	Drugs	Public order	Technical violation	Status		Person	Property	Drugs	Public order	Technical violation	Status
U.S. total	38%	25%	7%	12%	13%	4%	Missouri	30%	32%	9%	9%	10%	10%
Alabama	24	31	6	11	18	10	Montana	34	34	16	5	3	11
Alaska	34	22	2	5	29	5	Nebraska	30	30	10	11	9	10
Arizona	22	30	16	14	17	3	Nevada	17	27	20	11	16	6
Arkansas	41	24	7	9	13	5	New Hampshire	48*	24*	3*	3*	7*	10*
California	40	21	5	14	19	1	New Jersey	47	19	7	17	11	0
Colorado	38	24	7	18	12	1	New Mexico	26	16	7	6	46	1
Connecticut	29	25	6	23	15	4	New York	40	22	2	8	11	17
Delaware	36*	18*	9*	18*	15*	3*	North Carolina	44	43	3	4	2	3
Dist. of Columbia	51	20	7	7	12	2	North Dakota	17	19	13	17	0	34
Florida	32	34	10	10	14	0	Ohio	47	19	4	10	18	2
Georgia	44	31	4	11	8	2	Oklahoma	42	40	4	12	2	0
Hawaii	35*	61*	0*	0*	0*	0*	Oregon	55	23	5	14	2	0
Idaho	24	34	16	18	8	1	Pennsylvania	32	18	12	12	22	4
Illinois	50	26	5	9	10	0	Rhode Island	19*	35*	35*	0*	15*	0*
Indiana	30	28	9	16	8	9	South Carolina	30	24	5	11	25	5
Iowa	40	30	12	11	3	4	South Dakota	18	19	14	20	17	12
Kansas	42	26	8	22	2	1	Tennessee	47	23	9	7	10	5
Kentucky	32	24	4	16	16	8	Texas	44	23	6	9	17	0
Louisiana	45	29	6	7	3	11	Utah	24	18	22	29	4	3
Maine	37	39	7	15	2	0	Vermont	50*	25*	0*	0*	0*	13*
Maryland	38	26	13	10	6	7	Virginia	52	27	2	4	12	2
Massachusetts	55	22	4	14	2	2	Washington	51	22	3	8	13	2
Michigan	35	24	3	14	13	11	West Virginia	28	25	6	9	17	14
Minnesota	42	22	2	20	11	3	Wisconsin	49	25	4	18	0	2
Mississippi	22	59	4	15	2	0	Wyoming	12	20	12	8	33	16

■ Except for New Mexico and Wyoming, 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.

■ Massachusetts and Oregon had the highest proportions of person offenders among committed juveniles (55% each). Wyoming had the lowest proportion (12%).

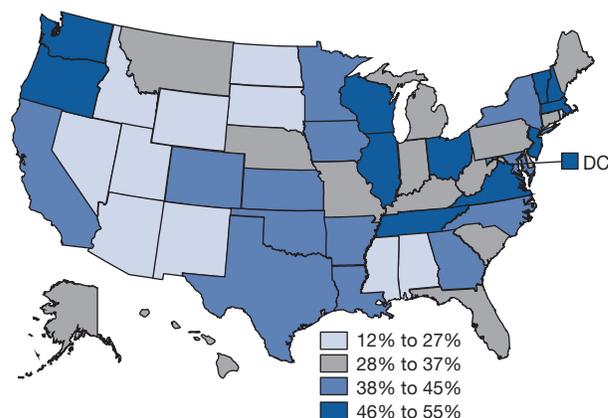
■ In more than half of all states, status offenders accounted for less than 5% of committed offenders.

\* 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 2,097 committed youth in private facilities for whom state of offense was not reported and 5 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 2011 [machine-readable data files].

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



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

## Females accounted for 14% 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 86% of juvenile offenders in residential placement in 2011. The proportion of female juveniles in residential placement was slightly greater for private facilities (15%) than for public facilities (13%) and greater for detained juveniles (16%) than committed juveniles (12%). The proportion of females among those admitted to placement under a diversion agreement was 18%. 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 2011, private facilities held 33% of females and 30% of males in juvenile residential placement. The proportion of females placed in private facilities varied substantially by offense category: 66% of all females held for a status offense were in private facilities, as were 43% of those held for drug offenses aside from trafficking, 37% of those held for simple assault, and 34% 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 2011, 38% of females in residential placement were younger than 16, compared with 29% 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 (9%).

### Age profile of residents, 2011:

Age	Total	Male	Female
Total	100%	100%	100%
12 and younger	1	1	1
13	3	3	4
14	8	8	11
15	18	17	21
16	28	27	27
17	28	29	26
18 and older	14	15	9

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

## Females were more likely than males to be held for technical violations or status offenses

### Offense profile for juvenile offenders in residential placement, 2011

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>	97	89	99	95	95	78
Person	38	32	40	33	34	30
Violent Crime Index*	27	14	30	16	22	10
Other person	11	18	10	17	12	21
Property	25	18	25	18	24	17
Property Crime Index†	21	14	21	14	21	14
Other property	4	3	4	4	4	3
Drug	7	6	6	5	10	8
Drug trafficking	1	1	1	1	2	1
Other drug	6	5	5	5	9	7
Public order	12	9	12	10	13	8
Technical violation‡	15	24	15	28	14	15
<b>Status offense</b>	3	11	1	5	5	22

- Status offenders were 11% of females in residential placement in 2011—down from 21% in 1997.
- Person offenders were 32% of females in residential placement in 2011—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.

‡ Technical violation = violation of probation, parole, and valid court order.

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 2011 [machine-readable data files].

# Minority youth accounted for 68% of offenders in residential placement in 2011

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

In 2011, the population of juvenile offenders held in residential placement was 40% black, 32% white, and 23% Hispanic. Youth of other races, including those of two or more races, accounted for 5% of youth in residential placement. The race/ethnicity profile of offenders in residential placement shifted substantially from a decade earlier. In 2001, 40% of juvenile offenders in residential placement were white, 39% were black, and 18% were Hispanic.

Between 2001 and 2011, the population of offenders dropped 41%. The declines, however, did not affect all race/ethnicity groups equally. Since 2001, when the white proportion was at its peak, the number of whites dropped 52%. In comparison, the number of minority offenders in residential placement declined only 34% over the time period. Hispanic offenders had the smallest relative decrease (22%) between 2001 and 2011.

### Juvenile offenders in placement, 2011:

Race/ethnicity	Number	Percent change	
		2001–2011	1997–2011
Total	61,423	-41%	-42%
White	19,927	-52	-49
Minority	41,496	-34	-37
Black	24,574	-40	-41
Hispanic	13,973	-22	-28
Amer. Indian	1,191	-41	-26
Asian	566	-63	-74
2 or more	1,192	92	112

In 2011, minority youth made up the majority of both males and females in residential placement (69% and 61%, respectively). Black offenders represented the largest racial proportion among males (41%), and white offenders were the largest proportion among females (39%).

## Black youth accounted for 65% of juveniles held for robbery and 52% of those held for weapons offenses

### Racial/ethnic profile of juvenile offenders in placement, 2011

Most serious offense	Total	White	Black	American		
				Hispanic	Indian	Asian
<b>Total</b>	100%	32%	40%	23%	2%	1%
<b>Delinquency</b>	100	32	40	23	2	1
Criminal homicide	100	17	42	33	2	5
Sexual assault	100	53	28	14	2	1
Robbery	100	9	65	23	1	1
Aggravated assault	100	22	42	32	2	1
Simple assault	100	37	39	19	3	1
Burglary	100	31	45	20	2	1
Theft	100	37	42	16	2	1
Auto theft	100	33	38	24	2	1
Drug trafficking	100	26	43	27	1	1
Other drug	100	42	28	26	2	1
Weapons	100	16	52	29	0	1
Technical violations	100	33	36	26	2	1
<b>Status offense</b>	100	47	33	10	4	0

## 10% of white youth in residential placement were held for sexual assault, compared with 6% of American Indian youth and 4% each of black, Hispanic, and Asian youth

### Offense profile of juvenile offenders in placement, 2011

Most serious offense	Total	White	Black	American		
				Hispanic	Indian	Asian
<b>Total</b>	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
<b>Delinquency</b>	96	95	97	98	92	96
Criminal homicide	1	1	1	2	2	7
Sexual assault	6	10	4	4	6	4
Robbery	9	3	15	10	3	8
Aggravated assault	9	6	9	12	8	13
Simple assault	9	10	8	7	12	9
Burglary	11	10	12	10	8	11
Theft	5	6	6	4	5	5
Auto theft	3	3	3	3	3	3
Drug trafficking	1	1	1	1	1	1
Other drug	6	7	4	7	7	5
Weapons	4	2	6	6	1	3
Technical violations	16	17	14	18	18	11
<b>Status offense</b>	4	5	3	2	8	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 Other Pacific Islanders. Detail may not add to totals because of rounding.

**Data source:** Author's analysis of OJJDP's *Census of Juveniles in Residential Placement* for 2011 [machine-readable data files].

# Nationally, placement rates were highest for black youth

For every 100,000 black juveniles living in the United States, 521 were in a residential facility on October 26, 2011; the rate was 202 for Hispanic youth and 112 for white youth

State of offense	Placement rate (per 100,000), 2011					State of offense	Placement rate (per 100,000), 2011				
	White	Black	Hispanic	American Indian	Asian		White	Black	Hispanic	American Indian	Asian
U.S. total	112	521	202	361	36	Missouri	148	464	172	269*	28*
Alabama	122	364	87	85*	45*	Montana	122	504*	251	518	0*
Alaska	156	639	49*	568	44*	Nebraska	197	1,476	340	1,683	70*
Arizona	98	287	140	203	29*	Nevada	166	684	243	284*	66
Arkansas	140	564	132	210*	174*	New Hampshire	67	372*	177*	0*	0*
California	106	795	278	216	40	New Jersey	33	412	101	298*	7*
Colorado	157	1,063	236	534	83	New Mexico	140	295	276	184	0*
Connecticut	23	287	121	0*	0*	New York	61	453	134	140*	11
Delaware	74	500	114	0*	0*	North Carolina	29	190	43	107	15*
Dist. of Columbia	107*	791	198*	0*	0*	North Dakota	153	608*	290*	916	0*
Florida	161	533	38	103*	23	Ohio	114	603	117	185*	26*
Georgia	72	378	93	0*	9*	Oklahoma	86	524	99	146	35*
Hawaii	123	557	50*	0*	35	Oregon	231	888	359	751	108
Idaho	197	361*	247	667	106*	Pennsylvania	98	903	334	123*	31
Illinois	92	432	164	946	34	Rhode Island	93	874	208	0*	89*
Indiana	204	602	147	429*	24*	South Carolina	90	337	81	0*	0*
Iowa	163	949	294	850	91*	South Dakota	298	716	424	1,588	261*
Kansas	191	1,003	171	314	106*	Tennessee	60	312	53	163*	26*
Kentucky	113	533	171	339*	0*	Texas	91	446	180	64*	18
Louisiana	98	422	65	81*	43*	Utah	142	726	392	533	204
Maine	114	517	224*	490*	142*	Vermont	58	0*	0*	0*	0*
Maryland	48	348	81	0*	0*	Virginia	96	548	117	0*	24
Massachusetts	40	328	243	0*	28*	Washington	109	430	203	455	35
Michigan	117	660	153	111*	22*	West Virginia	232	715	193*	898*	0*
Minnesota	68	664	151	1,146	85	Wisconsin	70	981	150	487	53*
Mississippi	26	140	31*	0*	0*	Wyoming	388	1,378	416	1,166	0*

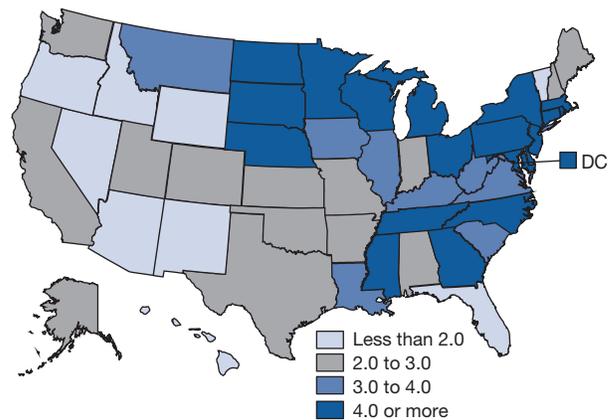
- In every state but Vermont, the placement rate for black juvenile offenders exceeded the rate for whites.
- In half of the states, the ratio of the minority placement rate to the nonminority placement rate exceeded 3.5 to 1. In five states (Connecticut, District of Columbia, Minnesota, Pennsylvania, and Wisconsin), the ratio of minority to white rates was 6 to 1 or higher.

\* Rate is based on fewer than 10 juveniles.

**Notes:** The placement rate is the number of juvenile offenders in residential placement on October 26, 2011, per 100,000 juveniles age 10 through the upper age of original juvenile court jurisdiction in each state. U.S. total includes 2,324 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 Other Pacific Islanders.

**Data source:** Author's analysis of OJJDP's *Census of Juveniles in Residential Placement* for 2011 [machine-readable data files]

Ratio of minority placement rate to white placement rate



# On the 2011 census date, person offenders had been committed or detained longer than other offenders

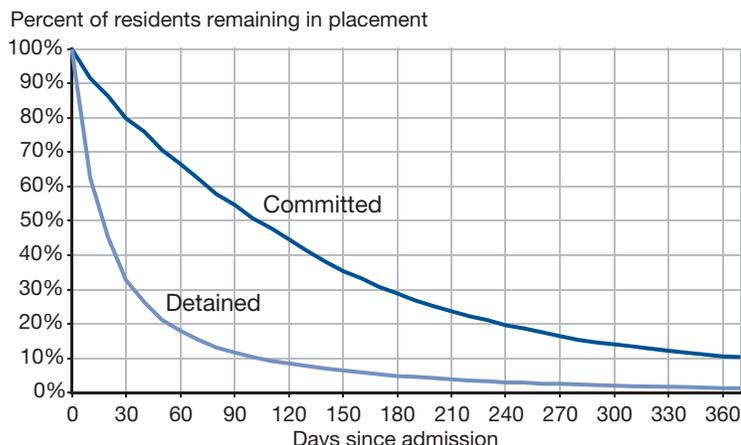
## CJRP provides individual-level data on time spent in placement

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 juveniles.

## In 2011, 29% of committed offenders, but just 5% of detained offenders, remained in placement 6 months after admission



- Among detained offenders (those awaiting adjudication, disposition, or placement elsewhere), 72% had been in the facility for at least a week, 52% for at least 15 days, and 33% for at least 30 days.
- Among committed juveniles (those held as part of a court-ordered disposition), 80% had been in the facility for at least 30 days, 66% for at least 60 days, and 55% for at least 90 days. After a full year, 10% of committed offenders remained in placement.

**Data source:** Author’s analysis of OJJDP’s *Census of Juveniles in Residential Placement* for 2011 [machine-readable data files].

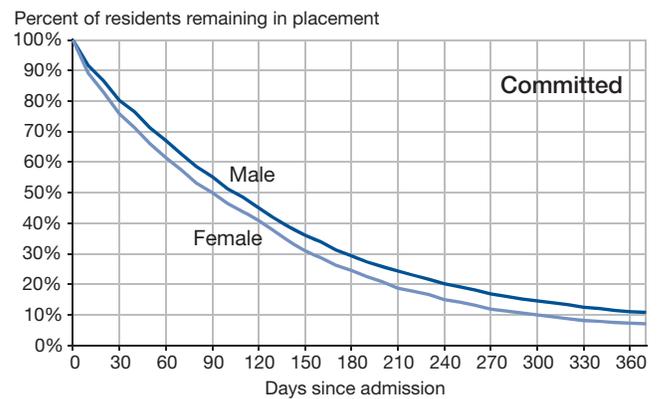
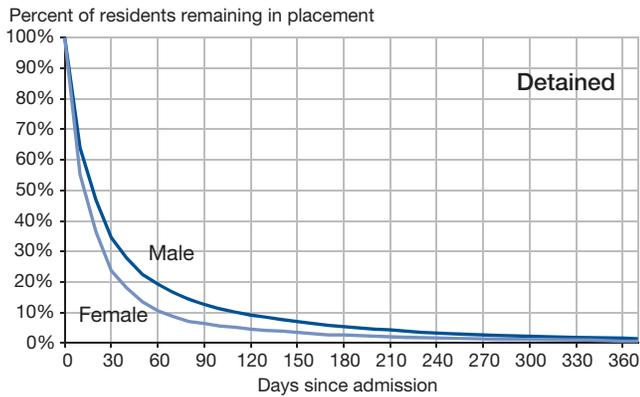
## Offenders’ average time in the facility varied by adjudication status, offense, and facility type

Most serious offense	Median days in placement		
	Detained (all facilities)	Committed	
		Public	Private
All offenses	15	97	111
Delinquency	16	98	111
Person	22	128	127
Property	15	85	103
Drugs	13	77	93
Public order	16	97	120
Technical violation	12	50	93
Status offense	11	68	100

- Half of all offenders committed to public facilities remained in placement after 97 days (111 for private facilities). In contrast, half of detained offenders remained in placement after only 15 days.
- With the exception of those adjudicated for person offenses, offenders committed to private facilities had been in the facilities longer than those committed to public facilities.

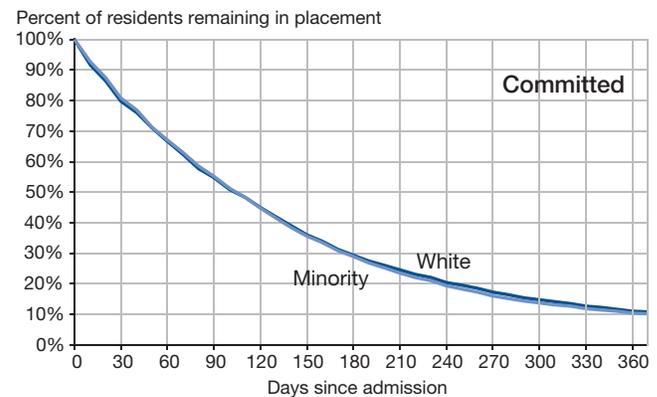
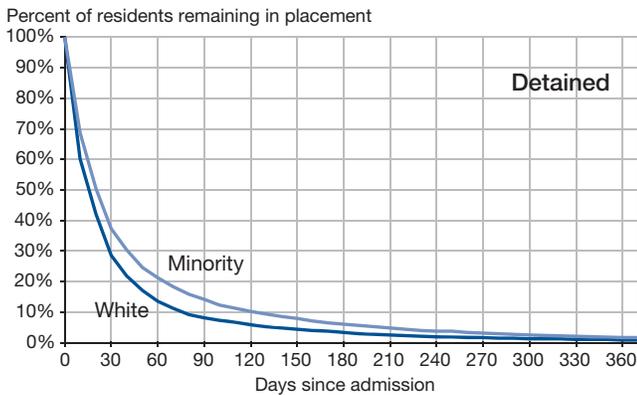
**Data source:** Author’s analysis of OJJDP’s *Census of Juveniles in Residential Placement* for 2011 [machine-readable data file].

## In 2011, males tended to stay in facilities longer than females



- After 30 days, 35% of detained males and 24% of detained females remained in residential placement.
- After 60 days, 19% of detained males and 11% of detained females remained in residential placement.
- After 180 days (approximately half a year), 30% of committed males and 25% of committed females remained in residential placement.
- After a full year (365 days), 11% 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 detained offenders, 28% of white youth had been in the facility at least 30 days, compared with 36% of minority youth.
- Among committed offenders, time in residential placement was virtually the same for white youth and minority youth.
- After 180 days, approximately one-third of both committed white and minority youth remained in residential placement.

**Data source:** Author's analysis of OJJDP's *Census of Juveniles in Residential Placement* for 2011 [machine-readable data files].



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## Data sources

National Center for Health Statistics (prepared under a collaborative arrangement with the U.S. Census Bureau), *Vintage 2012 Postcensal Estimates of the Resident Population of the United States (April 1, 2010, July 1, 2010–July 1, 2012), 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 6/13/13].

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

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Points of view or opinions expressed in this document are those of the author and do not necessarily represent the official position or policies of OJJDP or the U.S. Department of Justice.

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## 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. The **Census of Juveniles in Residential Placement Databook** contains a large set of predefined tables detailing the characteristics of juvenile offenders in residential placement facilities. **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. CJRP questionnaires are available online by clicking SBB's National Data Sets tab and choosing CJRP in the dropdown menu.