

JUVENILE JUSTICE ADVISTORY BOARD 2023-2024 ANNUAL REPORT



The Kentucky Department of Juvenile Justice

Designated State Agency
for the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act (1974, as amended)

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MESSAGE FROM THE JUVENILE JUSTICE ADVISORY BOARD

Dear Governor Beshear and Legislative Research Committee,

On behalf of the Kentucky Juvenile Justice Advisory Board (JJAB), we are honored to present to you and the Kentucky General Assembly, the **2023-2024 Juvenile Justice Advisory Boards' (JJAB) Annual Report**. This document is reflective of many efforts of caring people across the state who are committed to improving opportunities for youth that may assist in their growing into productive and socially responsible adults.

This Board is responsible for bringing varied and diverse perspectives to the table. Collectively, these members provide insight, input, and proposed recommendations for juvenile justice intervention and prevention.

The Board continues to support efforts that allow the state to remain attentive to and in compliance with the core promises and necessary mandates of the Federal Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act. Since initial submission to the Act, Kentucky has remained in good standing and remains in compliance today.

The JJAB looks forward to the future and its' continuing support for quality improvements throughout the juvenile justice continuum. We anticipate on-going partnerships with the Governor's office, the legislature, the judiciary, and other youth serving agencies across Kentucky. The collaborative goal is to provide the best services possible for youth, families, and communities throughout our state.

I am hopeful you find this report informative, encouraging and that it provides you with greater understanding for key elements of focus and direction that the Board has pursued over the past year. We are appreciative of your on-going support.

Respectfully,

Eric Hawkins, Chair JJAB (SAG)



The Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act (1974, as amended)

Kentucky Juvenile Justice Advisory Board

Established in 1974, and most recently reauthorized in 2002, (amended 2018) the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act (JJDP) embodies a partnership between the U.S. federal government and the states and territories to protect children and youth in the juvenile and criminal justice system, adequately address delinquent behaviors and improve community safety by preventing juvenile crime and delinquency. The Act established the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, to support local and state efforts to prevent delinquency and improve the juvenile justice system.

The Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act's goals are to prevent and reduce juvenile delinquency and improve the juvenile justice system, by ensuring appropriate sanctions and services, due process, proper treatment and safe confinement for juveniles who are involved in the juvenile justice system.

The JJDP provides for:

- A U.S. National juvenile justice planning and advisory system in all states, territories, and the District of Columbia;
- Federal Funding for delinquency prevention and juvenile justice system's improvement and state and/or local programs; and
- Operation of a federal agency – the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) that:
 - Collaborates with professionals from diverse disciplines to improve juvenile justice policies and practices;
 - Supports states, local communities, and tribal jurisdictions in their efforts to develop and implement effective programs for juveniles;
 - Strives to strengthen the juvenile justice system's efforts to protect public safety, hold offenders accountable, and provide services that address the needs of youth and their families;
 - Sponsors research, program, and training initiatives; develops priorities and goals and sets policies to guide federal juvenile justice issues; and,
 - Disseminates information about juvenile justice issues; and awards funds to states to support local programming.



Under the JJDP Act, each state must have a State Advisory Group (SAG) on juvenile justice, submit a three-year state plan for carrying out the purpose of the Act, and implement the Act's Four Core Requirements/Protections at the state and local level.

JJDP Act:

The Four (4) Core Requirement

Kentucky Juvenile Justice Advisory Board

Deinstitutionalization of Status Offenders (DSO)

Status offenses are charges that only juveniles can receive and would not be considered criminal if committed by an adult. The most common status offenses include: truancy, running away, and beyond control.

Federal guidelines require that states do not place adjudicated status offenders in secure detention or secure Youth Development Centers. Violations occur when accused status offenders are held in secure juvenile detention centers for more than 24 hours, excluding weekends and holidays; and when adjudicated status offenders are held for any length of time, in either these facilities, or any adult jail or municipal lock up.

Sight and Sound Separation of Juvenile and Adult Offenders

Federal regulations prohibit the detainment of any juvenile in any facility in which they have contact with adult inmates. Kentucky Revised Statute

610.220 states: Any child held in custody shall be sight and sound separated from any adult prisoners held in secure custody at the same location.

Jail Removal

Kentucky law prohibits the placement of any juvenile offender in adult jail facilities (KRS 640.030) and imposes a stricter time limit than that of the JJDP Act for the holding of a juvenile in adult lockup facilities (police and sheriff's departments); regardless of custody level (KRS 610.220).

Racial and Ethnic Disparity R/ED (Formerly DMC)

Federal guidelines require that states maintain delinquency prevention programs and system improvement efforts that are designed to reduce the disproportionate number of juvenile minority groups who come into contact with the juvenile justice system.

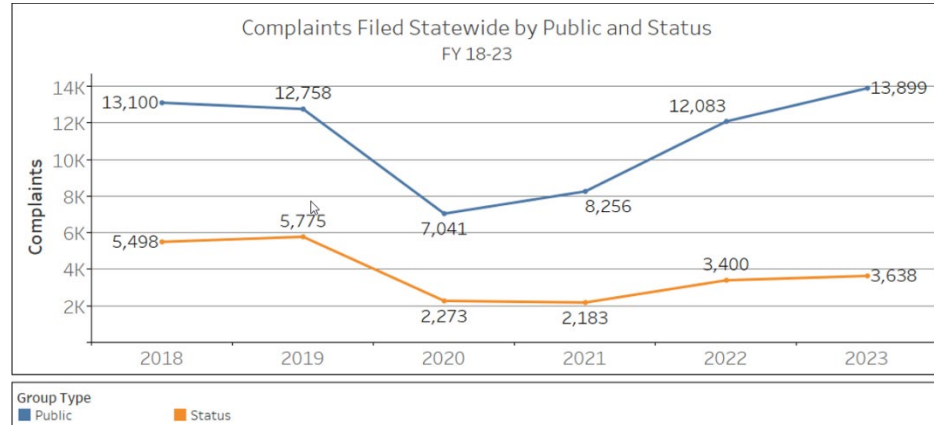


Graphs prepared by Administrative Office of the Courts

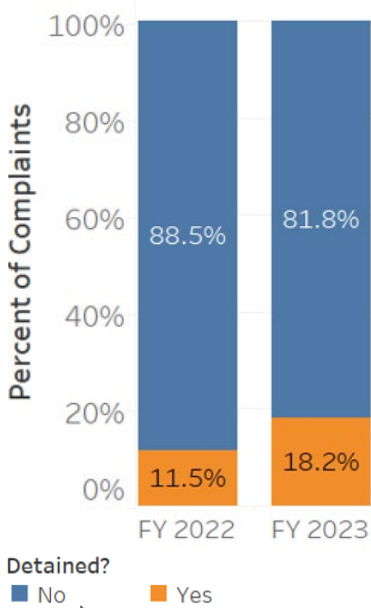
Complaints (Arrests) Filed by Race and Ethnicity, CY 2022-2023



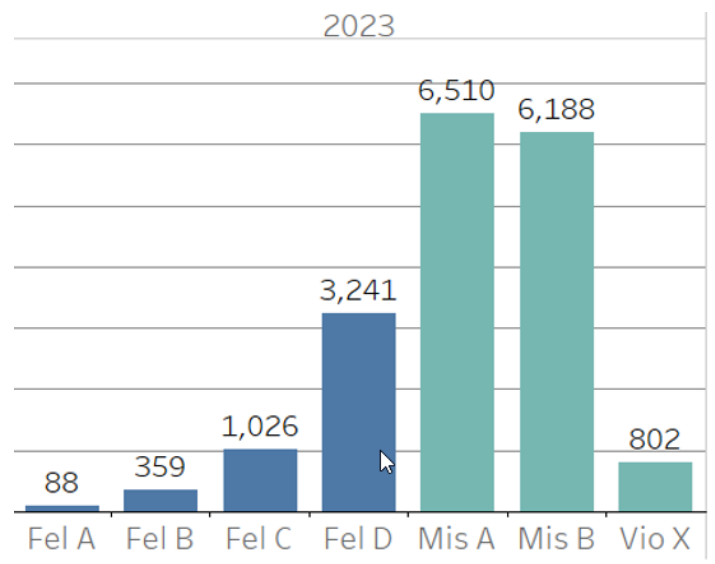
Complaints (Arrests) Trend CY 18-2022



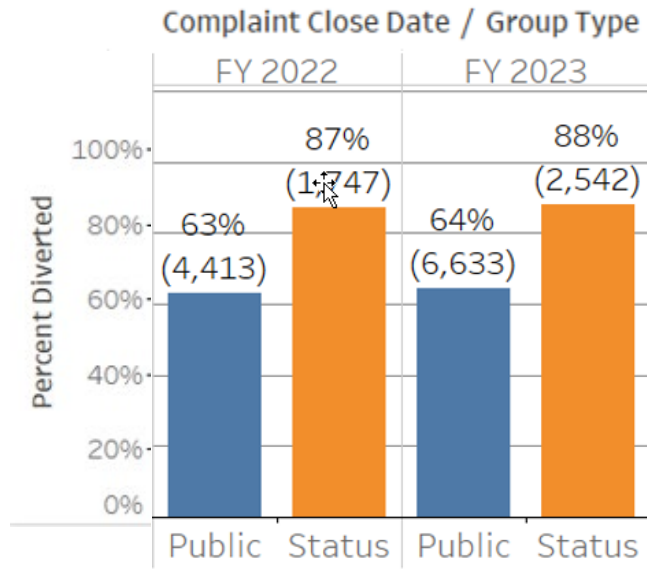
Complaints Filed by Intake Action Group, CY 2022-2023



Public Complaints Statewide by Max Offense Level and Class, 2023



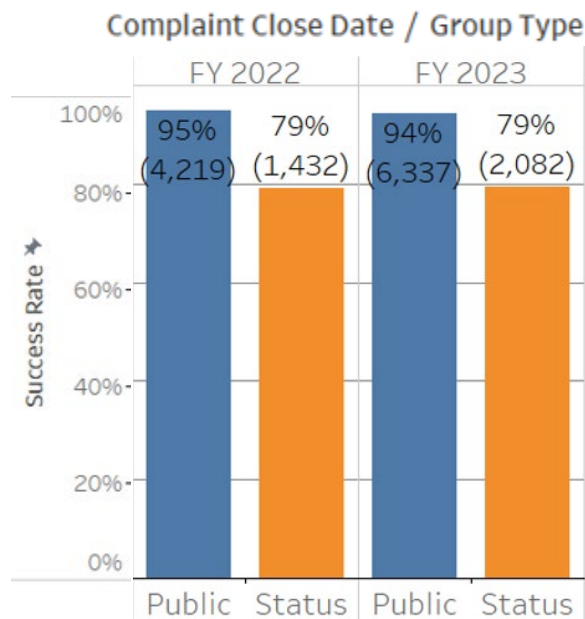
Diversion Eligible Complaints Diverted Statewide by Complaint Type, CY 2022-2023



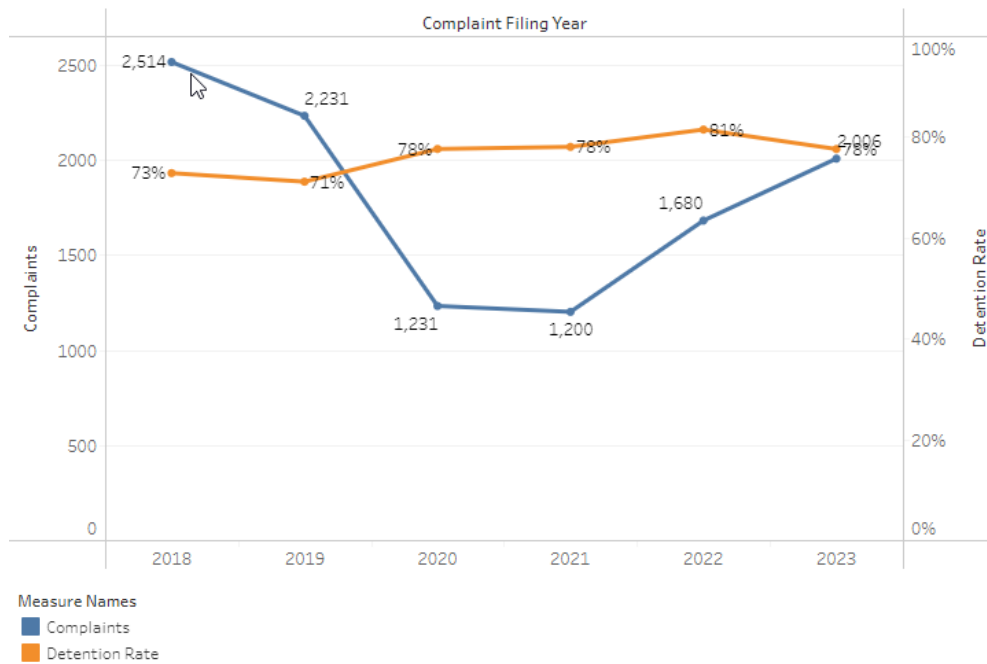
*Note that the group types of "Added" and "No UOR" were excluded from this chart

*Diversion eligibility was identified by filtering to closed complaints with the following close reasons: Successful Diversion, Unsuccessful Diversion, Child FTA for PI Interview, Child Requested Formal Court, Formal Court Ref - County Atty Req, Formal Court Ref - Judge Req

Diversion Success Rates Statewide by Complaint Type, FY 2022-2023



Complaints Filed by Intake Action, CY 2018-2023



Complaints Filed in Detention by Race, CY 2023

Detained Complaints by Race CY 2023

