



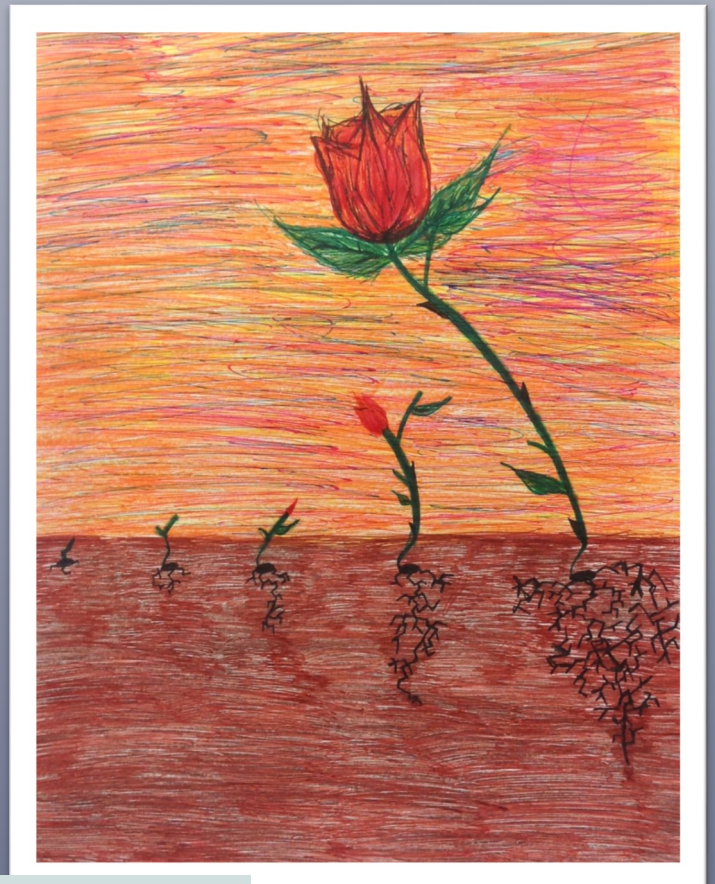
STATE OF
NEBRASKA
JUDICIAL BRANCH

Administrative Office
of the Courts & Probation

Juvenile Services Division

Fiscal Year 2015-2016

Detailed Analysis



Artwork Created by Youth on Probation

JUVENILE SERVICES DIVISION DETAILED ANALYSIS



STATE OF
NEBRASKA
JUDICIAL BRANCH
Administrative Office
of the Courts & Probation

Fiscal Year 2015/2016

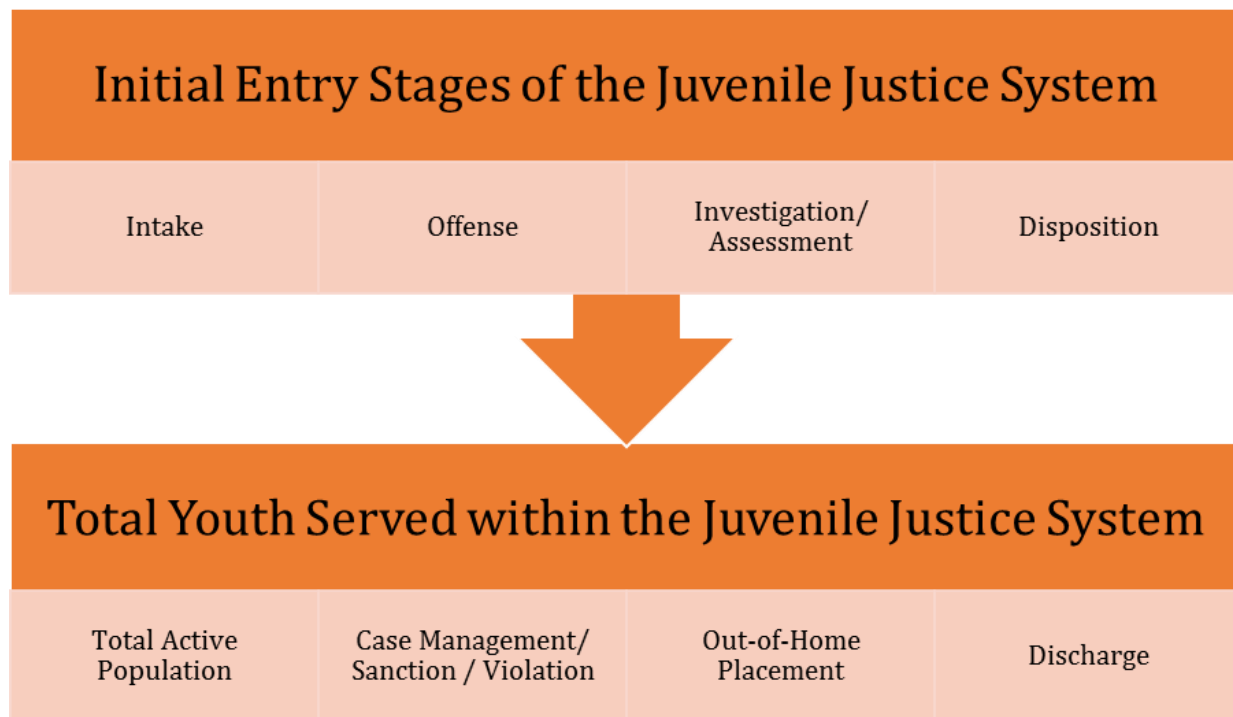
The Administrative Office of Probation, Juvenile Services Division is committed to juvenile justice reform in Nebraska. This is the first juvenile justice specific detailed analysis since the passage of Legislative Bill (LB) 561 and LB464 in 2012 and 2013. These innovative legislative bills set the foundation for changes Nebraska needed to make when serving youth and families in the juvenile justice system. A main focus was to prevent the need to make youth state wards in order to access necessary rehabilitative services and to keep youth in their communities and reduce utilization of out-of-home placements as much as possible. The Juvenile Services Division is looking forward to seeing the impact reform has on youth and families in Nebraska and this first analysis will share both progress as well as areas needing improvement.

Juvenile Probation Outcomes

The goal of juvenile probation in Nebraska is to prevent juveniles from returning to the juvenile justice system or entering the adult criminal justice system by:

- Engaging juveniles and their families in the court process;
- Eliminating barriers to accessing effective treatment and services; and
- Partnering with educational and community stakeholders.

Detailed Analysis Structure



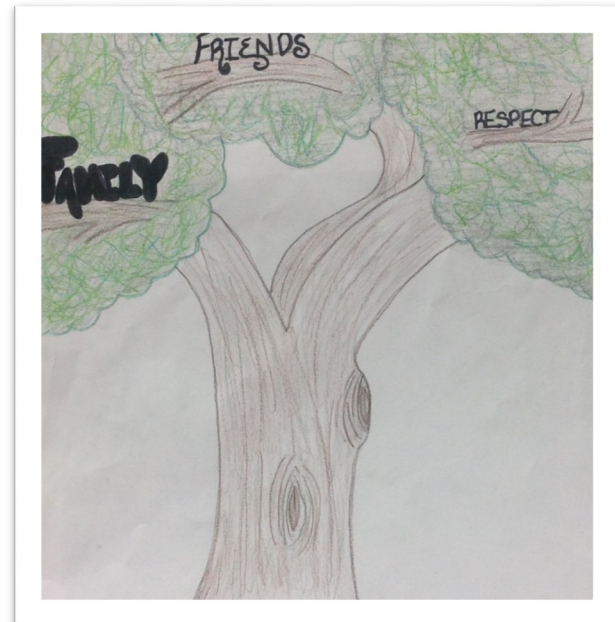
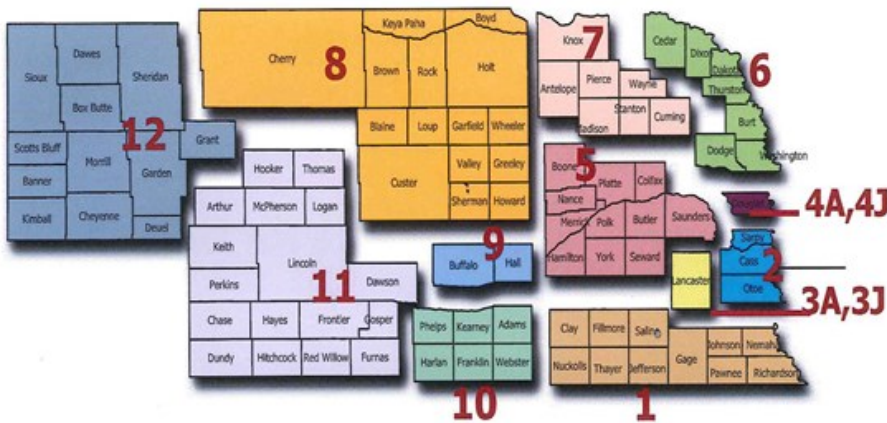
Juvenile Service Division Detailed Analysis

Fiscal Year 2015/2016

"We, the leaders in community corrections, juvenile and restorative justice, are unified in our dedication to delivering a system of seamless services which are founded on evidence-based practices and valued by Nebraska's communities, victims, offenders and courts. We create constructive change through rehabilitation, collaboration, and partnership in order to enhance safe communities."

- Nebraska State Probation Mission

Map of Nebraska Probation Districts



Artwork Created by Youth on Probation

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Fiscal Year 2015/2016

Initial Entry Stages of the Juvenile Justice System

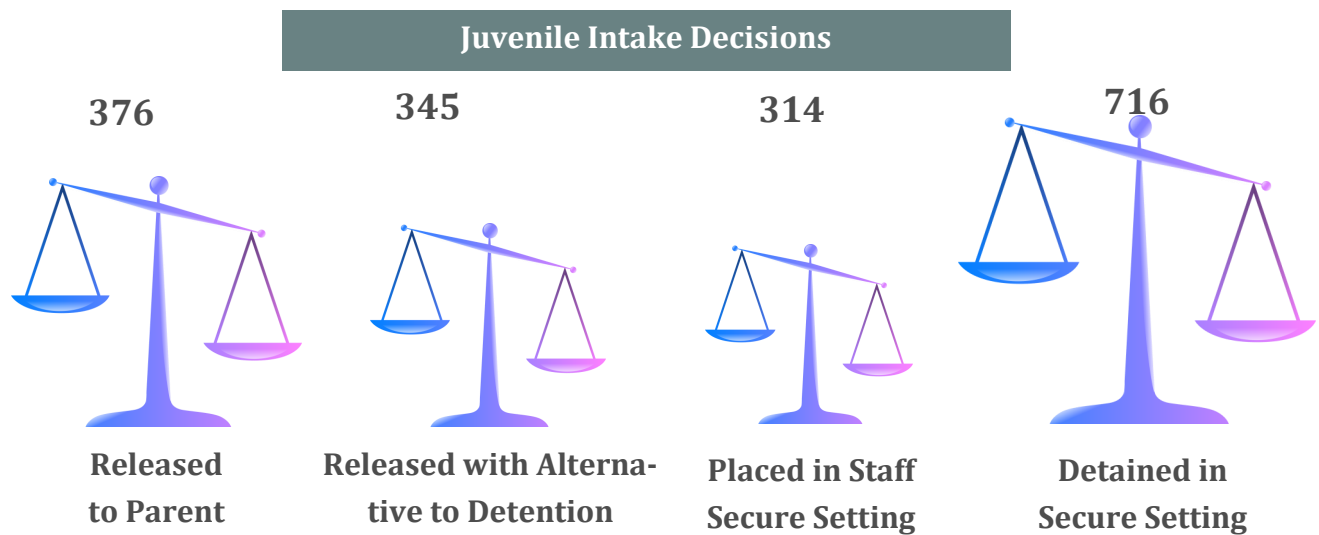
NEBRASKA PROBATION VISION

Be a nationally recognized leader in the field of justice
committed to excellence and safe communities.

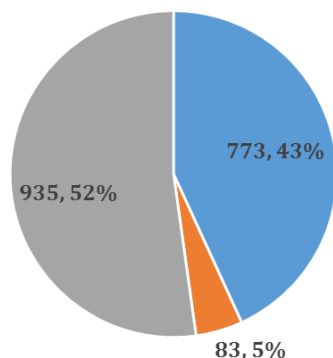
Initial Entry Stages of the Juvenile Justice System

Juvenile Intakes

Nebraska state statutes § 43-250 & 43-260 authorize probation to manage the juvenile intake function. Public safety and accountability are the primary goal of the juvenile intake process. This is accomplished through a standardized risk assessment tool that is administered when law enforcement contacts probation for the purpose of assisting in an intake decision. The detention screening instrument examines the youth's risk of reoffending or failing to appear for a subsequent court hearing. Juvenile intake is designed to identify and offer appropriate services which are the least intrusive and restrictive to the juvenile and family, and to balance the juvenile's best interest and safety of the community. In fiscal year 2015-2016, 1,751 separate intakes were completed by a probation officer, with the following outcomes:



Juvenile Intake Tool Override Decisions



■ Override to Higher Level ■ Override to Lower Level ■ No Override

Overrides occur when there are special circumstances that a probation officer considers when approving a higher or lower intervention than recommended by the intake tool. Overrides are to ensure community safety while utilizing the least restrictive options available and must be approved by a supervisor.

Juvenile Detention Alternatives in Nebraska

Since 1992, the Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative (JDAI), a project of the Annie E. Casey Foundation, has demonstrated that jurisdictions can safely reduce the use of secure confinement of juveniles without impacting public safety.

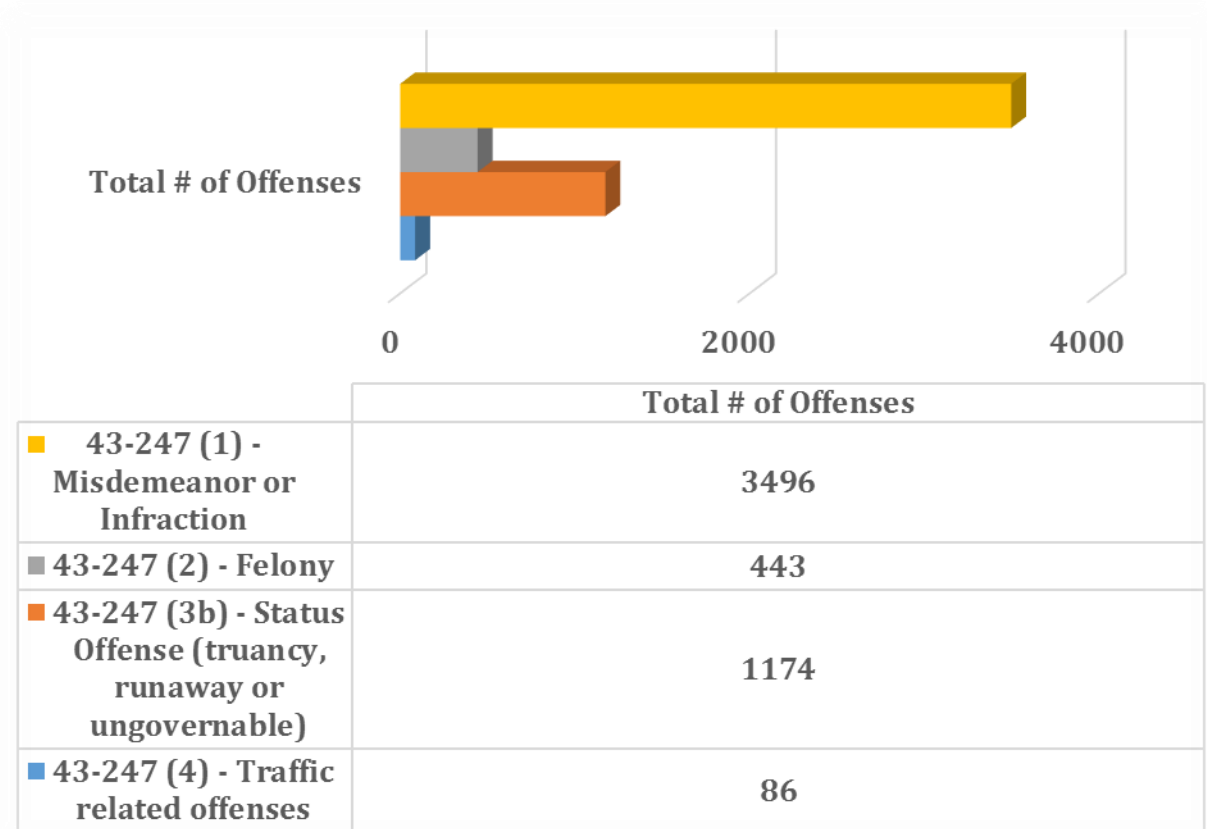
Nebraska has two local JDAI sites: Douglas County and Sarpy County. Douglas County began their JDAI work in 2011 and Sarpy County in 2012. Detention alternatives historically have been limited throughout Nebraska, especially in rural areas. Through the philosophy of the JDAI and implementation of LB561, local probation districts in collaboration with communities and providers, are working towards developing a purposeful continuum of alternatives to detention statewide.

Initial Entry Stages of the Juvenile Justice System

Offenses

The Administrative Office of Probation is responsible for youth who are subject to supervision by a probation officer and have been adjudicated under one or more of the following subdivisions of Nebraska Revised Statute § 43-247 (1), (2), (3b) and (4). Each subdivision refers the type of act that brought the youth before the court and the chart below identifies the percentage of youth who were adjudicated under each category. Youth may be adjudicated for multiple offenses which are represented in the data below. The majority of youth placed on probation are adjudicated under subdivision (1) for offenses which would be considered a misdemeanor or infraction.

Offenses Resulting in Being Placed on Probation



In fiscal year 2015-2016 of the 1174 status offenses, 47% were for habitual truancy.

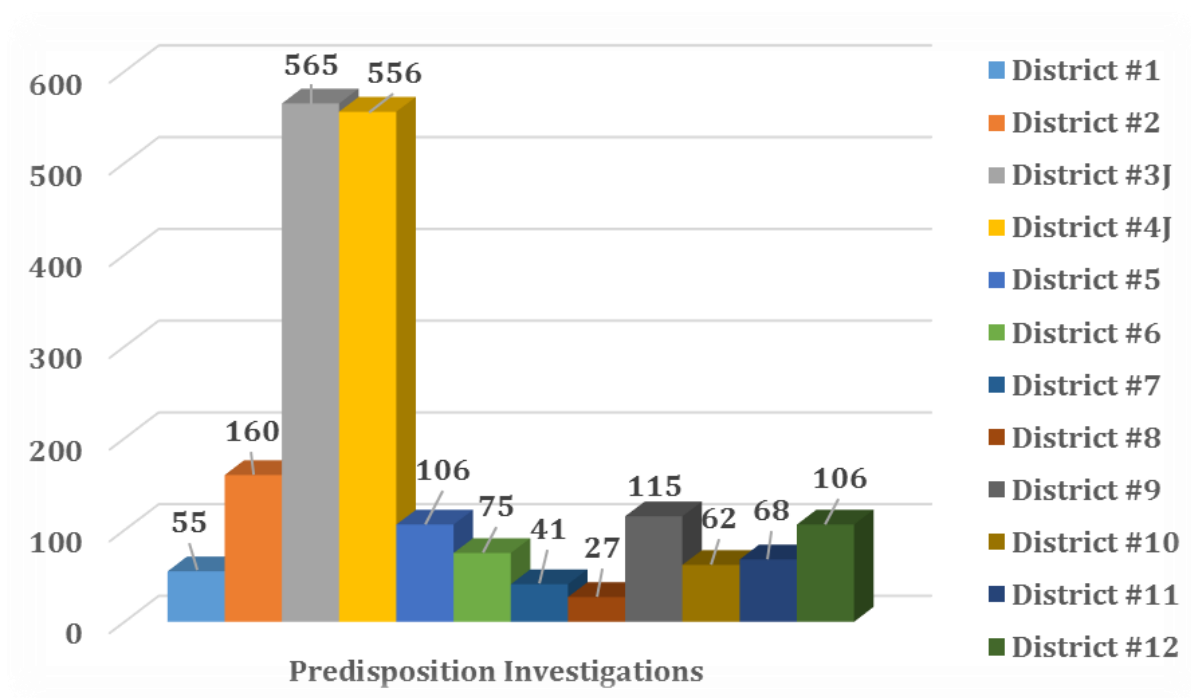
Initial Entry Stages of the Juvenile Justice System

Youth Investigations and Assessed Risk Level

Investigations

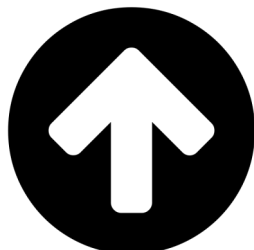
Probation utilizes a validated risk assessment, as well as screening instruments and evaluations to assist in the completion of a comprehensive predisposition investigation. The investigation assists the court in identifying probation conditions that can target both risk and need, as well as the services that will be most effective in reducing the juvenile’s risk for continued delinquent behaviors.

Predisposition Investigations Completed by District



Assessing Risk Level

Probation staff utilize the Youth Level of Service/Case Management Inventory (YLS/CMI) risk assessment tool to analyze a youth’s criminogenic risk. Criminogenic risk considers eight different domains. These include: prior and current offenses/dispositions; family circumstances/parenting; education/employment; peer relations; substance abuse; leisure/recreation; personality/behavior; and attitudes/orientation.



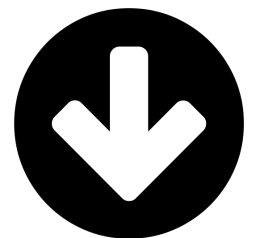
In Fiscal Year 2015-2016

42%

Of youth placed on probation were assessed as very high, high or high-moderate risk using the YLS/CMI.

58%

Of youth placed on probation were assessed as moderate-low or low risk using the YLS/CMI.



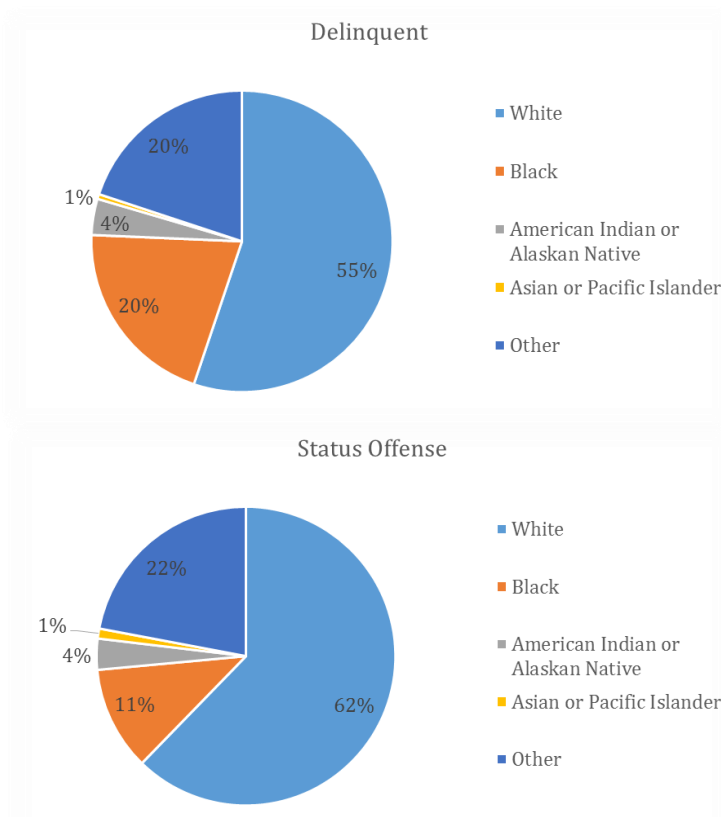
Initial Entry Stages of the Juvenile Justice System

Disposition Population and Demographics

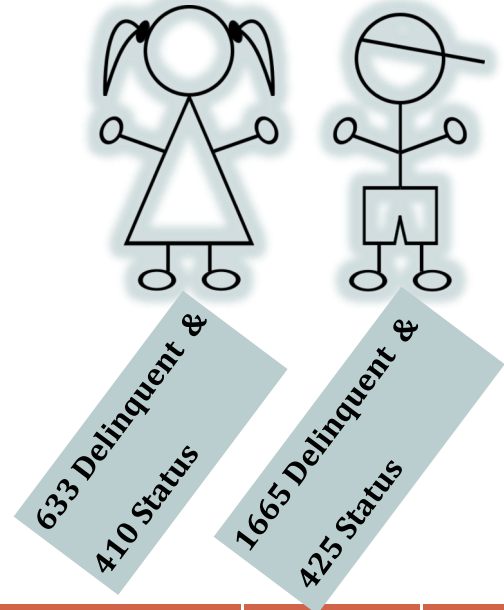
Since implementation of juvenile reform youth placed on probation increased as youth previously served by the Office of Juvenile Services transitioned to the Administrative Office of Probation. There were 3,133 youth placed on probation during fiscal year 2015-2016. The demographic information below reflects youth placed on probation for delinquent and status related offenses. A status youth is before the court for non-delinquent behaviors such as habitual truancy and running away from home or other behaviors a parent is not able to control.

Youth Placed on Probation by Age			
Age of Youth	Delinquent	Status	Total
12 & Under	65	32	97
13	125	44	169
14	248	87	335
15	248	118	531
16	547	238	785
17	685	260	945
18	215	56	271
Total	2298	835	3133

Probationers by Race



Probationer by Gender



Probationers by Ethnicity	Delinquent	Status
Hispanic Origin	521	225
Not of Hispanic Origin	1777	610
Total	2298	835

Fiscal Year 2015/2016

Total Youth Served within the Juvenile Justice System



Artwork Created by Youth on Probation

Total Youth Served within the Juvenile Justice System

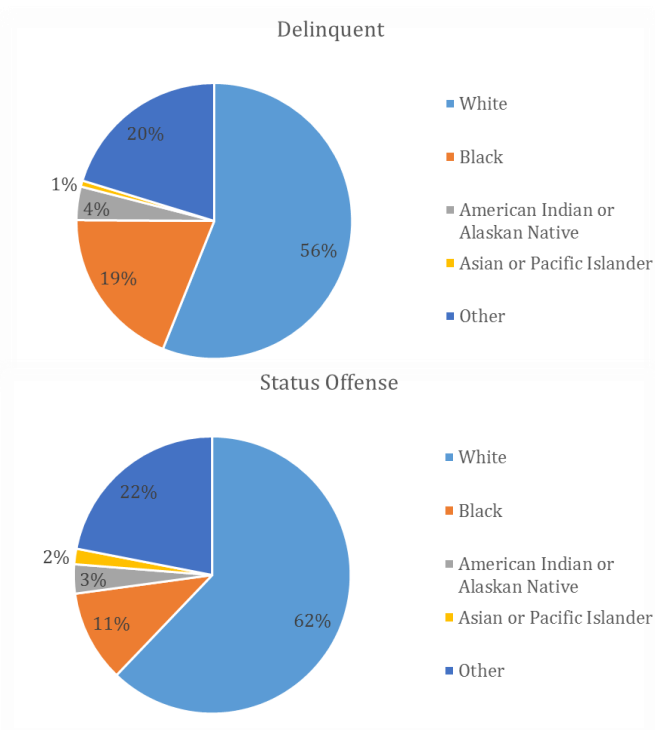
Total Active Population Demographics

In this section of the report all data will represent the total population of youth served on probation which includes youth already on probation with continued supervision into 2016. There were 6,210 youth served during fiscal year 2015-2016.

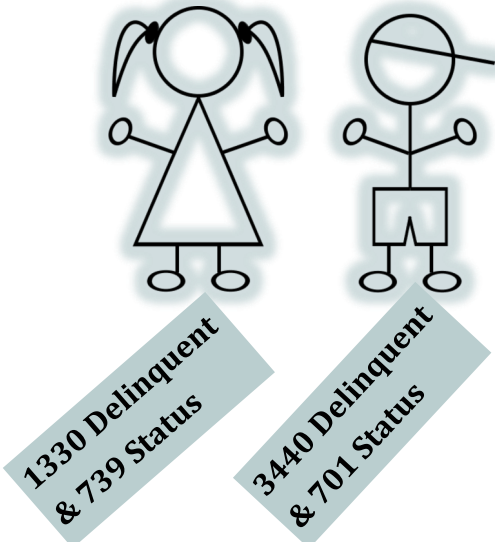
Below is demographic data by age of the population of youth served by probation separated by delinquent and status related offenses. As previously noted, a status youth comes before the court for non-delinquent behaviors such as habitual truancy and running away behaviors.

Total Youth Served by Age			
Age of Youth	Delinquent	Status	Total
12 & Under	178	57	235
13	303	83	386
14	576	158	734
15	920	277	1197
16	1210	433	1643
17	1264	377	1641
18	319	55	374
Total	4770	1440	6210

Total Youth Served by Race



Total Youth Served by Gender



Ethnicity	Delinquent	Status
Hispanic Origin	1071	343
Not of Hispanic Origin	3699	1097
Total	4770	1440

Total Youth Served within the Juvenile Justice System

Case Management

Juvenile justice strives to provide a balanced approach. While juvenile probation officers still have a primary responsibility to hold youth accountable, enforce orders of the court, and ensure public safety, they also have a responsibility to facilitate youth rehabilitation. Probation officers accomplish this through targeted case management. A focus is on empowering families to be a part of the decision-making process to enhance the chance of success for youth.

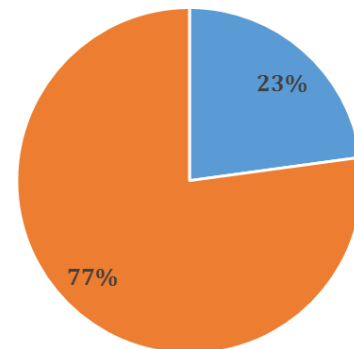
With the passage of LB561 youth can now access both treatment and non-treatment services without becoming state wards. Provide the *right service*, at the *right time*, for the *right youth* is the focus for juvenile probation. Right dosage, or amount of services and treatment, are imperative to creating individualized case plans for youth on probation. Treatment services may include: substance use treatment (out-patient or residential), counseling, medication management and mental health treatment. Non-treatment services may include: educational tutoring, electronic monitoring, tracker, shelter care, foster care and transportation.

In Fiscal Year 2015-2016

- ◆ Of the youth served by probation 1,131 accessed financial assistance for treatment services.
- ◆ Of the youth served by probation 3,819 accessed financial assistance for non-treatment services.

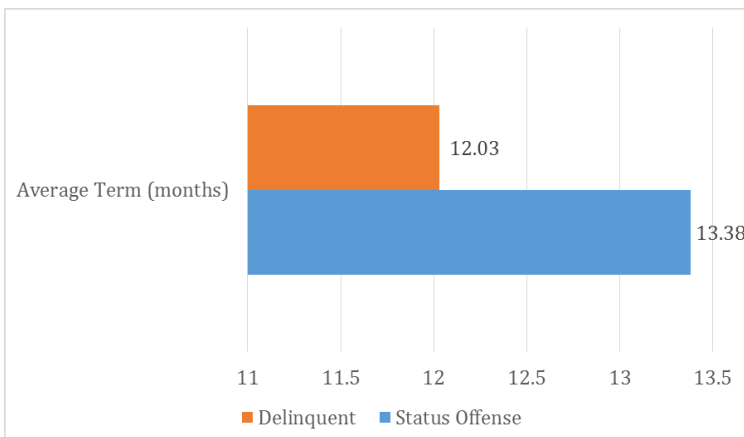
Service provision for youth that were funded by alternative streams is not represented. (i.e. Medicaid, Private Insurance, etc.) / Youth may appear in both treatment and non-treatment counts/detention is not included.

Service Type per Youth who Received Financial Assistance



■ Treatment ■ Non-Treatment

Length of Time on Probation Discharged Fiscal Year 2015-2016



Average Cost of Probation per Youth

	Overall Average per Youth	Monthly Average per Youth
In-home Services	\$ 3,995.09	\$ 332.92
Out-of-Home Services	\$ 24,118.00	\$ 2,009.83

*The average daily cost for supervising a youth is \$8.68 for fiscal year 2015-2016 (includes personnel, operating expenses and county expenses). Services funded by Probation are tracked through vouchers. Approximately, 49% of youth did not receive funding for services while on probation.

Total Youth Served within the Juvenile Justice System

Sanctions and Violations

While a violation of probation can be filed as a motion to revoke probation in the court case, the probation officer and other vital team members often work together to evaluate options that present the best possible outcome for the youth involved. This may involve an officer utilizing an administrative sanction which directly addresses the violation and allows the youth to adjust their behavior and not have to return to court.

Nebraska Revised Statute § 43-286.01 defines an “administrative sanction” as additional probation requirements imposed to hold a youth accountable for technical violations of probation conditions. An example of an administrative sanction is increased substance use testing.

In fiscal year 2015-2016, 77% of youth had received an administrative sanction before probation requested a filing of a motion to revoke.

Administrative Sanction is considered if completed one year or less prior to violation filing

Violations (Motion to Revoke Filed) by District for Juvenile Probationers		
District/Violation Type	Law	Technical
1	18	18
2	13	34
3J	76	160
4J	27	387
5	58	35
6	77	50
7	66	41
8	19	7
9	183	64
10	62	35
11	138	53
12	26	33
Total	763	917

TECHNICAL OR LAW VIOLATION



Q. What is a technical violation? Law violation?

A technical violation is when a youth violates a court condition or a part of their probation terms. For example, a youth misses their drug testing, has a positive drug or alcohol test, misses scheduled treatment, or is truant from school.

A law violation means that the youth obtained a new delinquent charge while on probation (i.e. shoplifting, theft, assault, etc.).

Total Youth Served within the Juvenile Justice System

Out-of-Home Placement Demographics

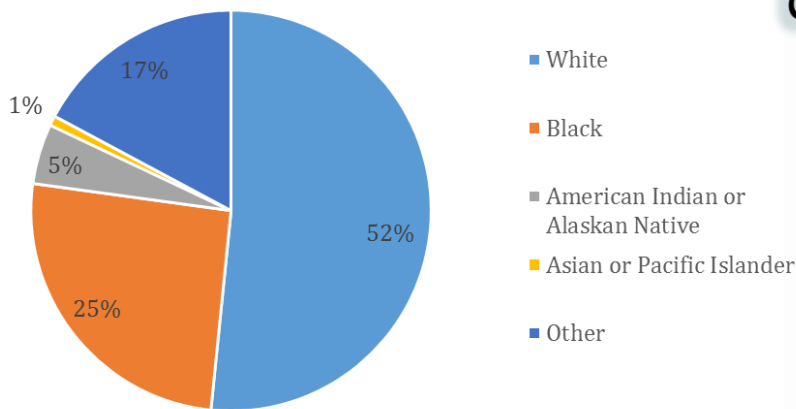
Although a priority of probation is to serve youth in their family homes and within their local communities, there are times when placement outside of the home is necessary. Placement in a variety of out-of-home settings for community safety and treatment services is an option for youth involved in the juvenile justice system. These temporary placement options range from detention facilities, state-licensed group or foster homes, residential treatment centers, youth rehabilitation and treatment centers, shelter care facilities, and relative or kinship placement. Those youth who remain in Nebraska and enter an out-of-home placement continue to be supervised by a probation officer who monitors the youth's progress, behavior, treatment, and continued need for placement. In fiscal year 2015-2016, 2,269 total youth were served in an out-of-home placement for one day or more. These youth are represented as follows:

Age at Out-of-Home Admission

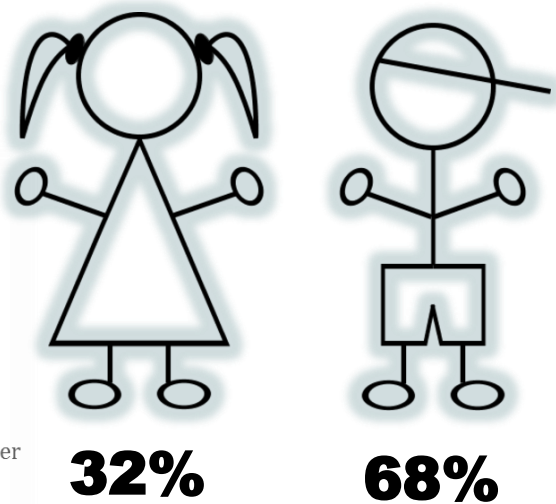
Placed on Probation by Age	
Age of Youth	Total
12 & Under	83
13	132
14	237
15	428
16	633
17	555
18	201
Total	2269

Out-of-Home Placement by Ethnicity	Total
Hispanic Origin	445
Not of Hispanic Origin	1824
Total	2269

Out-of-Home Placement by Race



Out-of-Home Placement by Gender



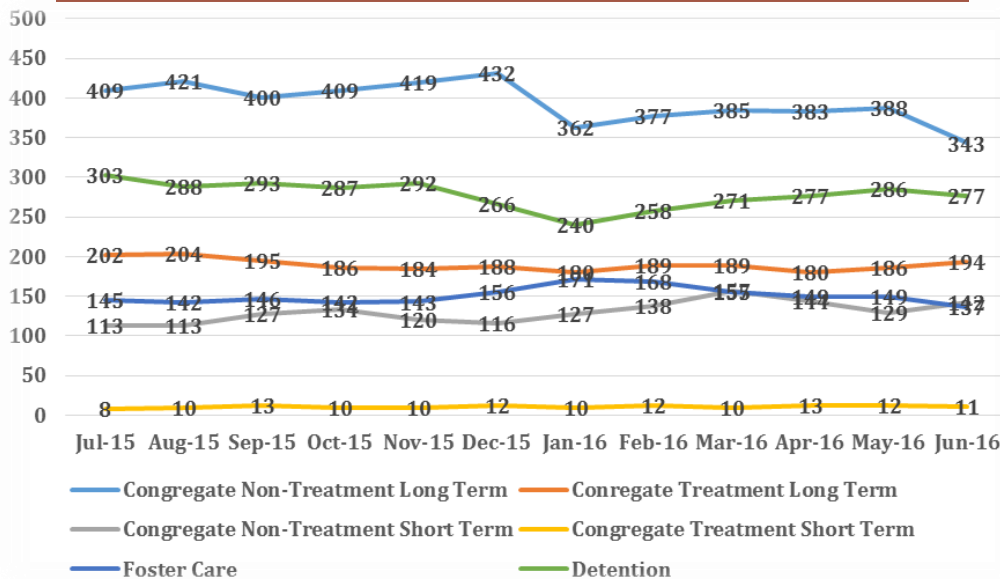
Out-of-Home Placement includes: congregate care (treatment and non-treatment), foster care, detention, runaway, YRTC and jail.

Total Youth Served within the Juvenile Justice System

Out-of-Home Placement

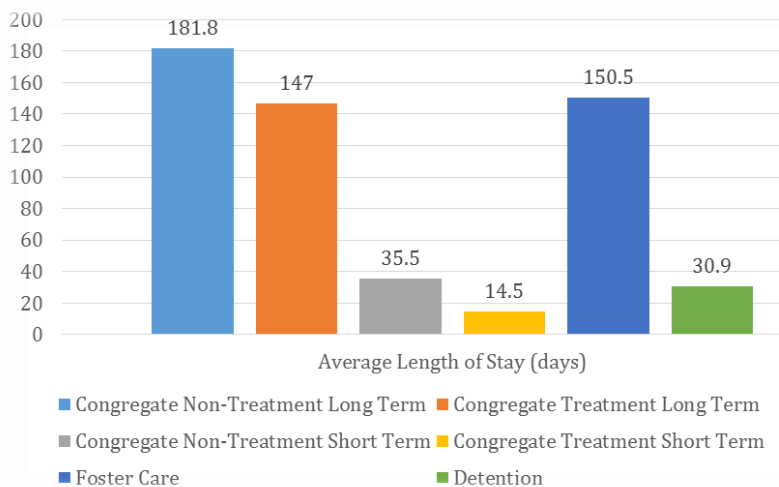
When a youth is placed out-of-home for one day or more the probation officer works immediately with the placement, youth and family to develop a plan for the youth to transition back to their home and local community. This is especially important when a youth is placed out-of-state for services. Additionally, each out-of-home service has an identified “average length of time” detailed in the *Juvenile Services Guide*. This “average length of time” identifies the average period of time a youth requires to reach the service outcomes with the overarching goal of reducing risk and need.

Total Number of Youth in Out-of-Home Placement per Month



In fiscal year 2015-2016, of the youth placed out-of-home 242 youth or 11% were placed out of the state of Nebraska.

Average Length of Time in Out-of-Home Placement



23% of youth are detained for 5 days or less.


- Long Term: Congregate Treatment includes: psychiatric residential treatment facilities, and treatment group homes; Congregate Non-Treatment includes: group homes (A and B), maternity group homes (parenting and non-parenting), and independent living; Foster Care includes: emergency foster care, foster care, relative/kinship and respite
- Short Term: Congregate Treatment includes: acute inpatient hospitalization, and short term residential; Congregate Non-Treatment includes: crisis stabilization, enhanced shelter, and shelter; Detention includes: secure and staff secure

Total Youth Served within the Juvenile Justice System

Discharge from Probation

When a youth is placed on probation it is key that a skilled probation officer work closely with the youth to ensure all court ordered probation conditions are successfully completed. This should result in a reduction of the youth's risk and a change in those behaviors that brought the youth before the court. Once a youth has completed his or her probation conditions, a judge releases the youth from probation supervision. A youth may be discharged from probation successfully or unsuccessfully or probation may be revoked. A basic measure of success for juvenile probation is the number of youth that successfully complete probation (including straight release).

In fiscal year 2015-2016, 3,916 juvenile court cases were discharged from probation.



In Fiscal Year 2015-2016
75% of youth on probation
were discharged successfully

District/Discharge Type	Successful Discharges	Unsuccessful/Revoked Discharges
1	88	35
2	243	39
3J	394	202
4J	724	250
5	237	57
6	156	42
7	144	43
8	55	10
9	359	106
10	86	57
11	295	80
12	168	46
Total	2949	967

In fiscal year 2015-2016 of the youth cases discharged 5% were age 19 years old.



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Contact Us

**Nebraska Probation
Administration—
Supreme Court**

Juvenile Services Division

521 S 14th Street
5th Floor
Lincoln, NE 68508

(402)471-4816

Visit us on the web at www.supremecourt.nebraska.gov/10824/juvenile-services