

Juvenile Justice Report 2012

Kenosha County Juvenile Court
Kenosha County District Attorney's Office
Juvenile Court Intake Services
Kenosha County Division of Children & Family Services
State Public Defenders' Office

May, 2013

Juvenile Justice Report 2012

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Introduction

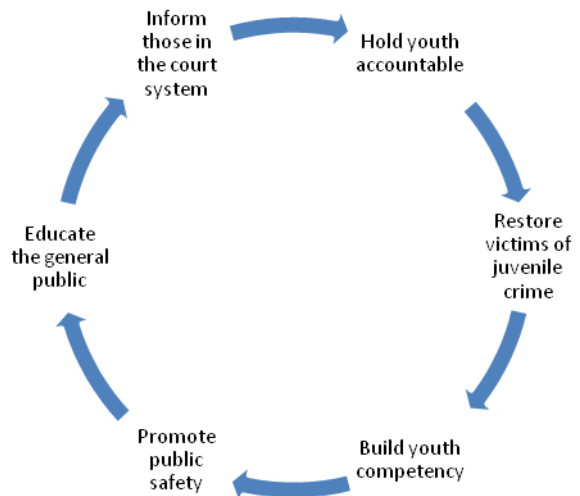
We are pleased to release the eighth Juvenile Justice Report for Kenosha County. For the past eight years we have tracked several outcome indicators to identify trends and to evaluate the impact of services provided to youth through our juvenile justice system. Kenosha County dedicates substantial resources to a balanced approach including the principles of:

- Accountability of youth offenders
- Restoring victims of juvenile crime
- Protection of the community
- Youth competency development

The data reflected in this report includes youth within Juvenile Court Intake Services (JCIS) and the Division of Children and Family Services-Court Services Unit (DCFS). Both agencies work with youth who are delinquent or habitually truant from school. JCIS provides informal supervision and diverts youth from the court process. DCFS provides formal supervision of youth who have been found delinquent or truant by the court. Youth and their families are court-ordered to comply with a number of conditions designed to meet child and community needs. In 2012:

- **53%** of the cases supervised by Juvenile Court Intake were diverted from court.
- **72%** of the youth supervised by the Division of Children and Family Services-Court Services Unit remained free of new charges in court.

While we face many challenges in our progress toward our goals, we recognize the need to invest in our youth and our community to prevent juvenile delinquency. Through partnerships with the community and other stakeholders, we continue to strive for improvements in the methods we use to serve youth and their families and their impacts on our community.



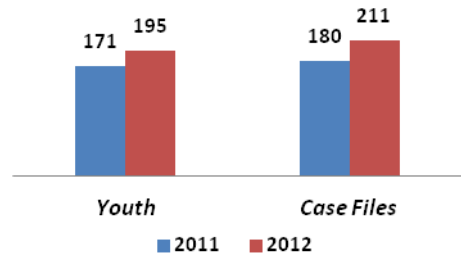
2012 Case Closures

Number of Youth and Case Files Closed—*Juvenile Court Intake*

A total of 195 JCIS youth had cases closed in 2012—a **14%** increase from 2011.

The number of cases closed increased at a slightly higher rate of **17%**, indicating higher percentage of youth had more than one case file closed in 2012.

Number of Youth & Case Files - JCIS

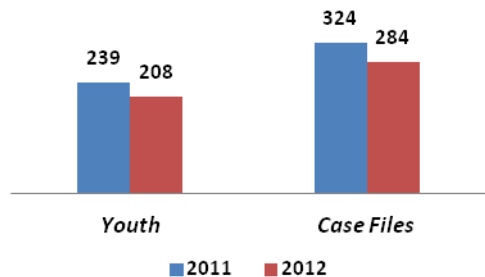


Number of Youth and Case Files Closed—*DCFS -Juvenile Court Services Unit*

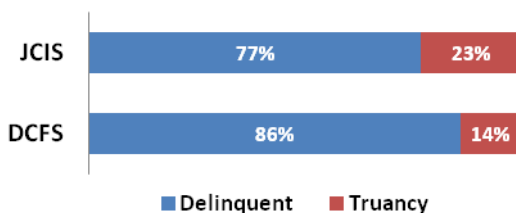
A total of 208 DCFS youth had cases closed in 2012—a **13%** decrease from 2011.

The number of cases closed decreased by just over **12%**. There were 54 youth (**26%**) with more than one case closed in 2012.

Number of Youth & Case Files - DCFS



Case Type
2012 Case Closures

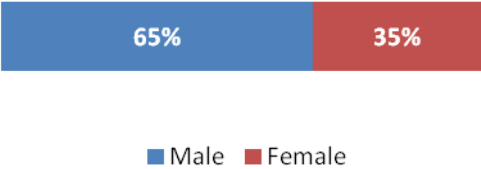


Most cases closed in 2012 were for delinquency (**82%**), the percentage of which has remained unchanged from 2011.

As shown in the chart at left, in 2012 **23%** of the cases closed by JCIS were for habitual truancy compared to **14%** of the cases closed by DCFS.

Demographics

Gender

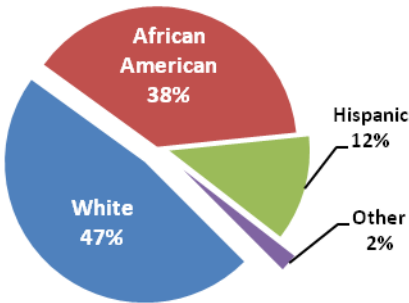


Over one-third of the 2012 case closures were female (**35%**), although this varied by agency (JCIS **37%** and DCFS **32%**).

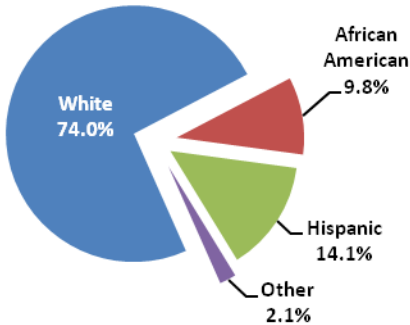
Females are less likely to commit felonies (18%) and are more likely to be under supervision for habitual truancy (68%). The most common offenses committed by females in the DCFS 2012 cohort was retail theft and theft.

Most youth with cases closed in 2012 were White (**47%**), followed by African-American (**38%**) and Hispanic (**12%**). As shown in the charts below, African-American youth are overrepresented in the juvenile justice system.

Race/Ethnicity - 2012 Case Closures



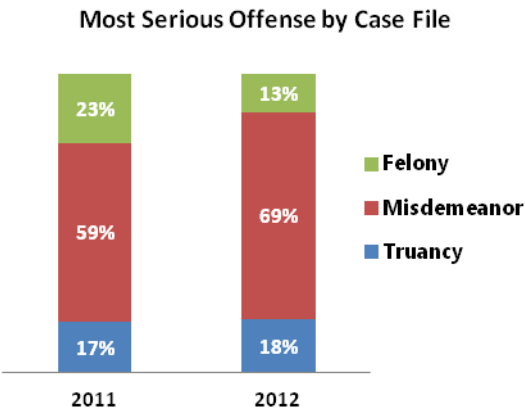
Race/Ethnicity - Youth 10-17
(Kenosha County - overall population)



Across the United States, minority youth are overrepresented at every stage of the juvenile justice system – from arrest to placement in correctional facilities. Kenosha County’s efforts have focused on three key areas: overrepresentation of youth of color in the juvenile justice system, reducing differential treatment at key decision points, and keeping minority youth from moving deeper into the court system. We have improved our data gathering capacity, implemented objective risk assessment tools, used alternatives to detention and out-of-home placements, changed probation practices and provided training opportunities to our local school district.

Most Serious Offenses by Case File

Misdemeanors, such as disorderly conduct, retail theft and misdemeanor battery comprise the highest percentage (**69%, n=339**) of “most serious offenses” committed by youth with case files closed in 2012. The percentage of truancies remained relatively steady in 2012 while the percentage of felonies decreased from **23%** of offenses for the 2011 cohort to **13%** for youth with case files closed in 2012.

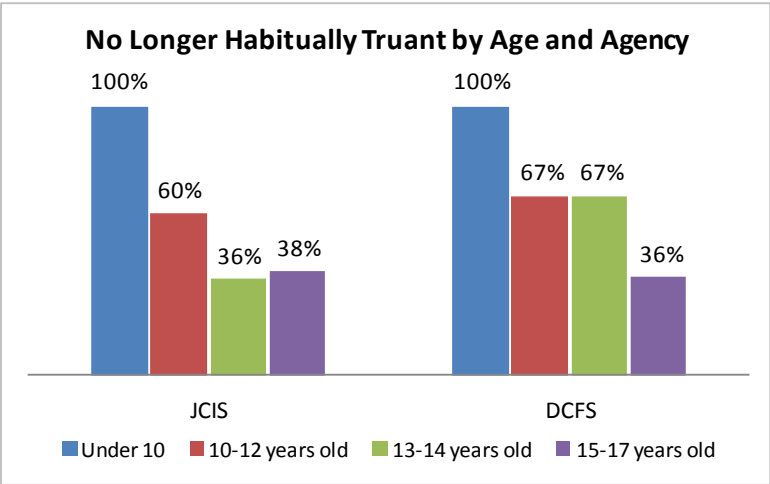


According to the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction, the habitual truancy rate for KUSD high school students during the 2011-12 school year was 40.8%.

Habitual truant—as defined by the *Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction*, means a pupil who is absent from school without an acceptable excuse for “part or all” of 5 or more days on which school is held during a school semester.

The percentage of youth under supervision for truancy no longer considered habitually truant during their most recent semester before case closure was **51%**, a decrease from 2011 where the rate was **60%**. The five year average (2008-2012) is **56%**.

“No longer truant” rates at case closure vary by age—ranging from **100%** for youth under 10 years of age for both JCIS and DCFS to a low of **36%** for youth 15 or older (DCFS).



Community service work provides juveniles the opportunity to be accountable for delinquent conduct, make a positive contribution to the community, and develop important life skills.

Community Service Work – DCFS

How many kids were ordered CSW?	104
How many total hours were ordered?	3,047
How many total hours were completed?	2,571
What is the completion percentage?	84%
How many kids completed some or all of their CSW?	97
What percentage of kids completed some or all of their CSW?	93%

Community Service Work – JCIS

How many kids were ordered CSW?	117
How many total hours were ordered?	5,488
How many total hours were completed?	3,326
What is the completion percentage?	61%
How many kids completed some or all of their CSW?	87
What percentage of kids completed some or all of their CSW?	74%

Of the JCIS cases diverted from court, the CSW completion rate was **94%** compared to **89%** of diverted cases in 2011.

*The number of community service hours completed by youth with cases closed in 2012 totaled **\$42,753***.*

*Calculated using Wisconsin’s minimum hourly wage.

Restitution

Restitution – DCFS

How many kids were ordered to pay restitution?	25
What was the total amount determined?	\$20,856
What was total amount recovered?	\$11,242
What is the recovery percentage?	54%
How many kids paid at least one-half of their restitution?	14
What percentage of kids paid at least one-half of their restitution?	56%

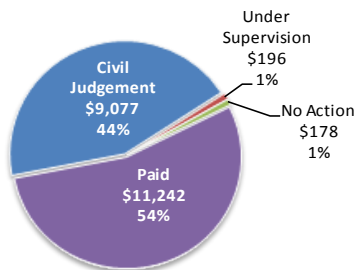
6 kids (23%) were responsible for 76% (\$17,443) of the total restitution amount.

Restitution – JCIS

How many kids were ordered to pay restitution?	19
What was the total amount determined?	\$3,743
What was total amount recovered?	\$2,090
What is the recovery percentage?	56%
How many kids paid at least one-half of their restitution?	12
What percentage of kids paid at least one-half of their restitution?	63%

7 kids (37%) were responsible for 61% (\$2,271) of the total restitution amount.

DCFS - Restitution (2012 Closed Files)



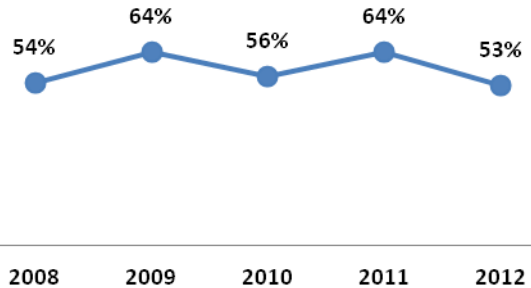
DCFS takes seriously a youth's obligation to pay restitution in cases in which it is ordered. At times, a juvenile case file will close with outstanding restitution still owed. This may occur for several reasons such as youth have met all other conditions of supervision, are unable to be extended on supervision, enter the adult system while on juvenile supervision, or are under supervision with DCFS on another file. The chart at left illustrates how the Division continues to make youth accountable for their restitution obligation after the juvenile court order expires.

The goal of the Summer Youth Employment Program is to build competencies in youth and provide them with valuable work experience. A secondary benefit to the program is that youth who have a restitution obligation and are involved in the Summer Youth Employment Program are required to sign a wage assignment form. The form allows 15% of their salary to be paid to Juvenile Court Intake Services and applied towards their restitution. Youth can then transfer the skills learned during the program to obtain unsubsidized employment and successfully fulfill their restitution obligation.

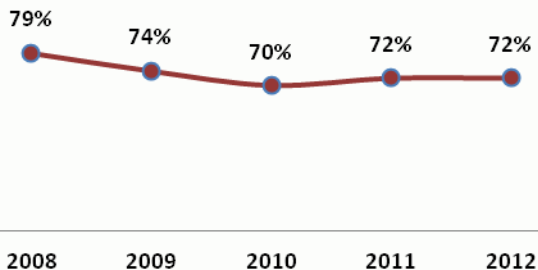
Diversion & Non-Recidivism

In 2012, **53%** of deferred prosecution files closed through Juvenile Court Intake Services, were successfully diverted from formal juvenile court involvement. The five-year average diversion rate (2008-2012) is **58%**.

Diversion Rate - Juvenile Court Intake



Non-Recidivism Rate - Court Services Unit (DCFS)

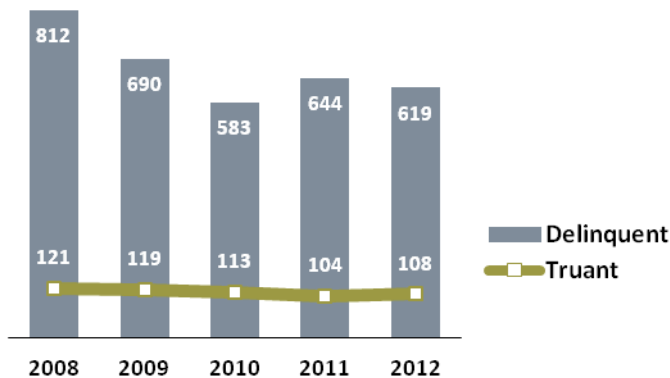


Of the **208** youth with cases closed by DCFS-Juvenile Court Services in 2012, **72%** were free of new charges filed in court during the length of their supervision. The five-year average non-recidivism rate (2008-2012) is **73%**.

Of the 92 youth at least 17 years of age at case closure in 2011, **78%** (n=65) were not convicted of a criminal offense - either misdemeanor or felony—in adult court one year after case closure.

Incoming Referrals—2012

Incoming Referrals - Juvenile Court Intake Services



Delinquency referrals to JCIS in 2012 decreased nearly **4%**. Compared to 2008 the number of delinquency referrals have decreased almost **24%**.

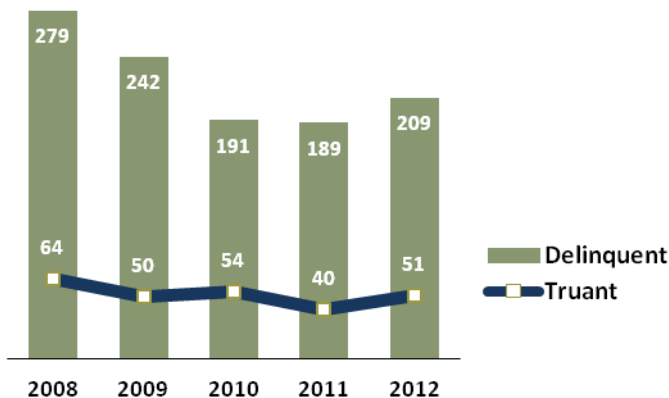
The number of truancy referrals *increased 4%* 2012 but have dropped nearly **11%** since 2008.

*There were 61 requests for waiver into adult court in 2012, a nearly **57%** increase from 2011 (n=39).*

After remaining steady from 2010 to 2011, the number of delinquency referrals to the DCFS Court Services Unit increased nearly **11%** in 2012. Compared to 2008 the number of delinquency referrals has decreased by **25%**.

Truancy referrals - representing a smaller proportion of referrals to the Court Services Unit - has varied over the past 5 years. In 2012, the number of truancy referrals increased nearly **28%**.

Incoming Referrals - DCFS Juvenile Court Services



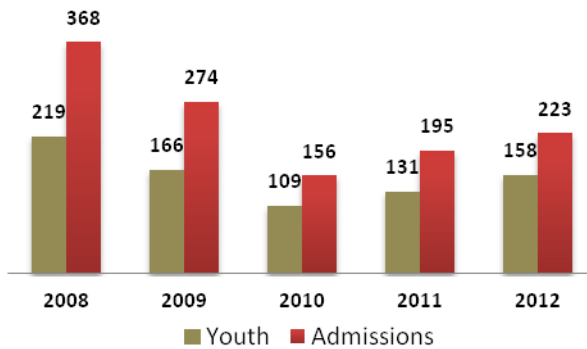
Secure Detention

Following a decrease between 2008 and 2010, the number of secure detention admissions have increased for 2 consecutive years—**25%** in 2011 and another **14%** in 2012.

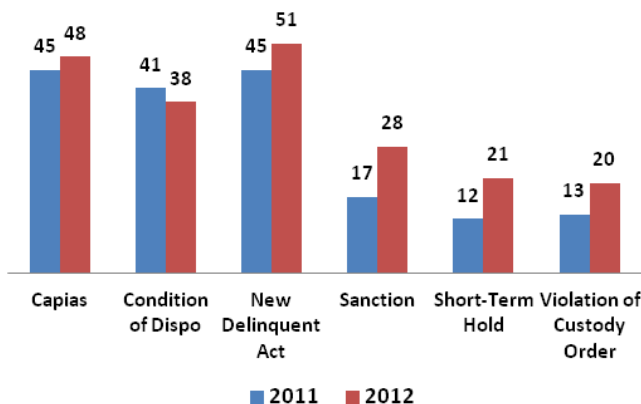
The number of unduplicated youth placed in secure detention increased **20%** in both 2011 and 2012.

The average number of secure detention admissions per youth has decreased from **1.68** in 2008 to **1.41** in 2012.

Number of Delinquent Youth Placed in Secure Detention
Number of Secure Detention Admissions



Secure Detention Placement Reasons



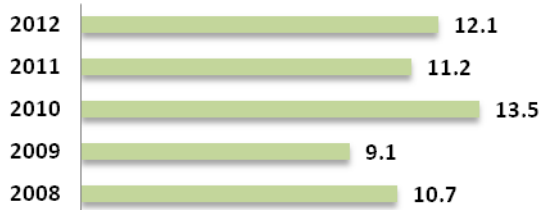
Reasons for placement into secure detention that increased more than admissions as a whole (**14%**) include short-term holds (**75%**), sanctions (**65%**), and violations of custody orders (**54%**).

Placing youth as a condition of disposition decreased just over **7%** in 2012.

Following a **48%** increase in the average length of stay from 2009 to 2010 (**9.1** to **13.5** days), the average length of stay dropped in 2011 to **11.2** days. This **17%** percent decrease was followed by another increase in 2012 (**12.1** days).

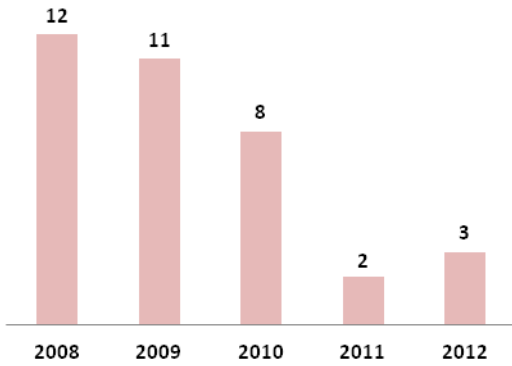
Males placed in secure detention in 2012 stayed an average of **13** days compared to **9** days for females.

Secure Detention
Average Length of Stay (days)



Substitute Care

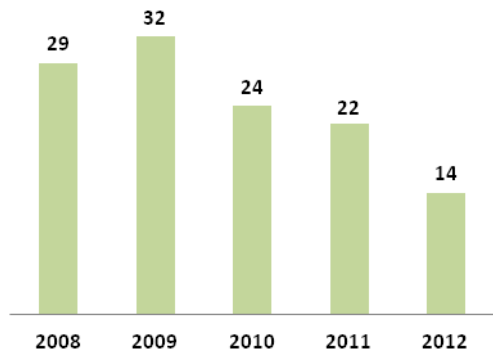
Number of Delinquent Youth Placed in Regular Foster Care



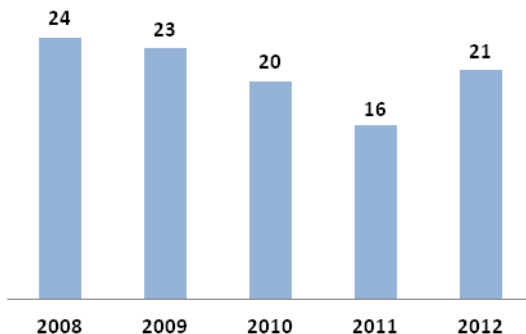
Temporary placement with a foster family is considered the least restrictive of out-of-home placements. A very small number of delinquent youth are placed in regular foster care in any given year. Since 2008 the number has dropped **75%**. Females are overrepresented in the foster care population (**43%** of placements compared to **30-35%** of the delinquent population as a whole).

Treatment foster parents receive a higher level of training to work with youth that require a more intensive level of care. The number of delinquent youth placed in this setting has decreased by **56%** since 2009. The median length of stay for youth placed during this time period has ranged from **9.3** months in 2009 to **5.9** months in 2011. Youth placed in 2012 were in care **6.5** months (median).

Number of Delinquent Youth Placed in Treatment Foster Care



Number of Delinquent Youth Placed in Group Homes



Group homes provide structured living settings, often for older adolescents and specialize in the type of care they provide, such as those with drug abuse issues.

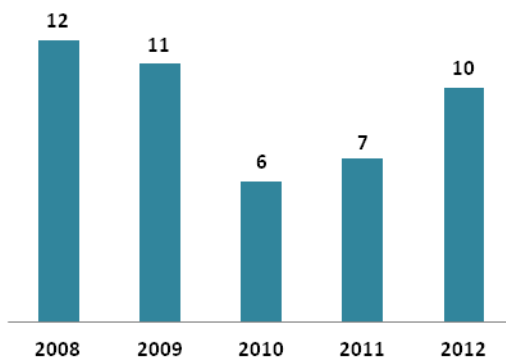
With the exception of 2011, the number of delinquent youth placed in a group home setting ranged from **20-24** in a given year. In 2012 the number increased by **31%**, from 16 to 21 youth. Of the youth placed between 2008 and 2012, **94%** were male. The median length of stay in 2012 was **5.4** months, down from **6.6** months in 2011.

Substitute Care

Residential treatment centers provide highly structured settings where youth receive intensive counseling and therapy. Youth placed in these settings generally have severe behavioral problems requiring a highly ordered environment.

The number of delinquent youth placed in RTCs increased nearly **43%** in 2012. Overall, the number of delinquent youth placed in RTCs is very small. The median length of stay in 2012 was **4.0** months.

Number of Delinquent Youth Placed in Residential Treatment Centers



The number of youth placed in corrections decreased **20%** in 2012—the lowest number since this report was published.

- * Eight (8) of the 12 youth placed in juvenile corrections during 2012 were African American (**67%**) and nearly **17%** (n=2) were Hispanic.
- * One (1) youth was placed out of the home under a CHIPS order (compared to 4 of the 15 youth placed in 2011).
- * *All of the youth* (100%) had some type of child welfare system involvement prior to their first delinquency adjudication:

Number of Youth Placed in Juvenile Corrections



- Six (6) youth were involved with a substantiated child abuse or neglect referral (**50%**).
- Five (5) youth were involved with an unsubstantiated child abuse or neglect referrals (**42%**).
- One (1) youth was involved with a child welfare service referral (**8%**).

Crossover Youth

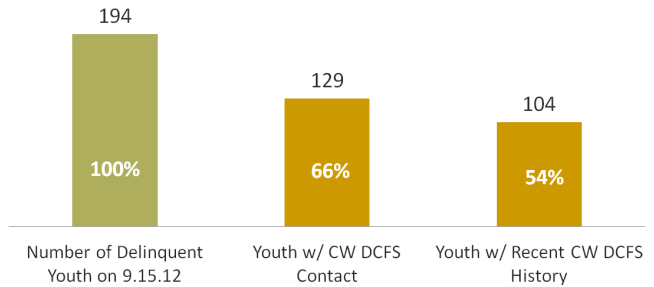
Definition of Crossover Youth:

Youth who experience maltreatment and engage in delinquency and who may or may not be known to the child welfare and/or juvenile justice systems.

Question:

Do we have crossover youth? If so, when does it occur? To answer this question, we examined delinquent cases that were open with the Juvenile Court Services Unit as of September 15, 2012.

What We Found



"Recent CW DCFS History" is defined as a CPS report up to 5 years prior to first delinquency referral.

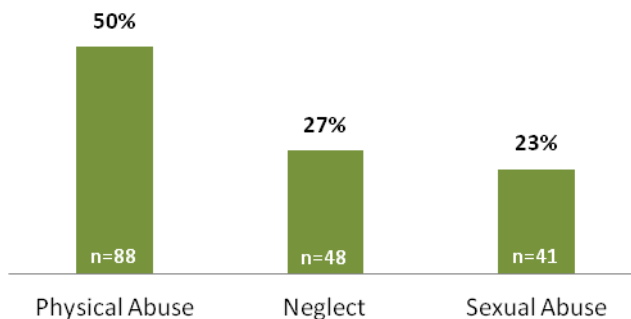
Child Welfare System Contact

Of the **194** delinquent youth, **129 (66%)** were identified in eWiSACWIS to have had been associated with a case that was referred to the Division of Children and Family Services for allegations of child abuse or neglect. There were a total of **499** allegations.

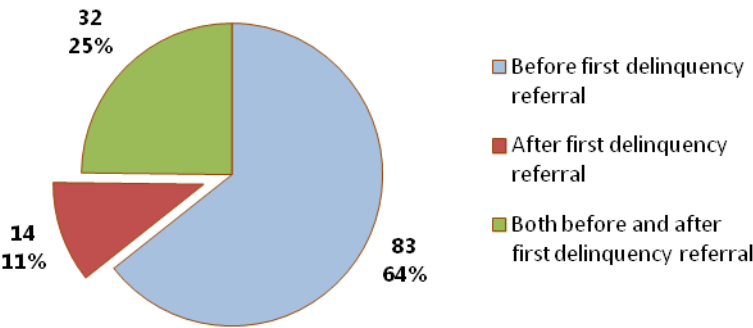
The chart at below contains the number and percentage of youth by maltreatment report type. Comparing this chart with the number of duplicated CPS reports (table at right) there were on average **2.2** physical abuse reports per youth, followed by **1.8** neglect reports and **1.6** sexual abuse reports.

CAN Type	#	%
Physical Abuse	191	38.3
Neglect	85	17.0
Sexual Abuse	67	13.4
Sexual Contact/Intercourse	53	10.6
Emotional Damage/Abuse	36	7.2
Other	35	7.0
Lack of Supervision	17	3.4
Other Medical Neglect	6	1.2
Circum. Justifying Belief A/N will Occur	3	0.6
Sexual Exploitation	2	0.4
Mutual Sexual Activity	2	0.4
Abuse or Neglect Likely to Occur	2	0.4
Total Allegations	499	100%

Percentage of Youth by Maltreatment Report Type



Timing of CPS Report to First Delinquency Referral



Our assumption that child welfare contact in Kenosha County generally occurs *before* entry into the juvenile justice system was confirmed.

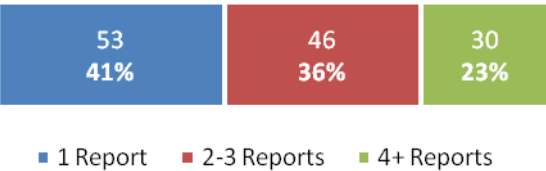
Females were more likely to be identified as crossover youth – they represented **27%** of the delinquent population examined compared to **33%** of those with prior child welfare contact.

There was no difference among racial/ethnic groups—Caucasian youth were just as likely to be crossover youth compared to African American and Hispanic youth.

Just over **40%** of youth had one CPS report and another **36%** had 2-3 reports occurring either before or after their first delinquency referral.

Thirty youth (**23%**) were associated with 4 or more CPS reports.

Number of CPS Reports per Youth



For the purposes of this report, child welfare DCFS contact was defined as a child protective services report in eWISACWIS or HSRs (Human Services Reporting System).

- * Reports could be either screened in or screened out.
- * Child welfare service reports were not included.
- * Juvenile justice service records were not included.

Youth Assessment and Screening Instrument

The Youth Assessment and Screening Instrument (YASI™) assesses risk, needs, and protective factors in youth populations. The YASI™ has been field tested and validated based on empirical research and is in used in several countries. Kenosha County began using the YASI™ in March, 2010 to help staff identify and address specific factors that increase a delinquent youth's risk of recidivism and build on their strengths.

A total of 457 unduplicated youth have had the YASI™ administered at their initial assessment. Both initial and re-assessments have been conducted with 178 youth. Below is a snapshot of the results.

Risk and Protective Factors

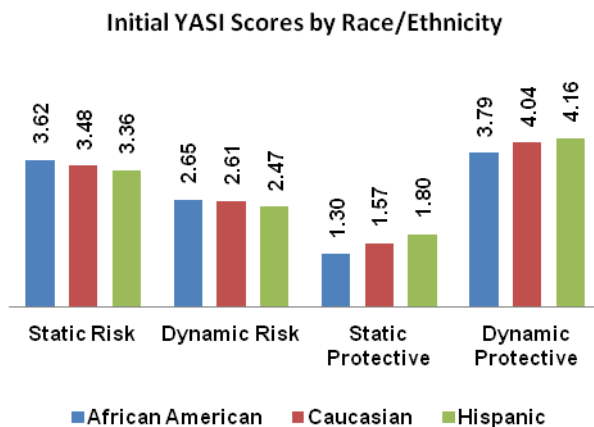
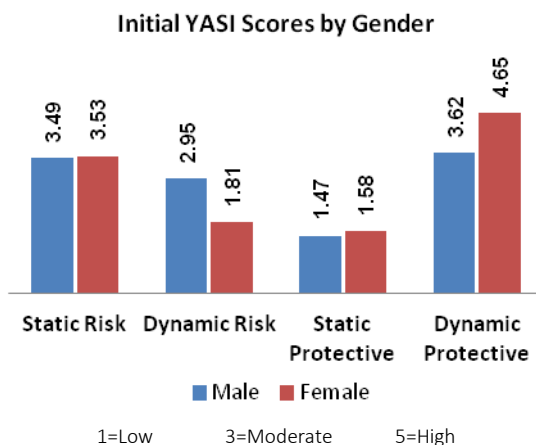
The assessment measures risk and protective factors along two types: static (not changeable) and dynamic (changeable). As shown in the chart at right, males have a higher dynamic risk compared to females (e.g., school, aggression).

The average dynamic protective score is significantly higher for females compared to males (e.g., family).

Statistically Significant Improvements

(initial to re-assessment):

- ✓ Employment and Free Time (males)
- ✓ School
- ✓ Attitude
- ✓ Aggression (males)
- ✓ Family (females)
- ✓ Community/Peers (females)
- ✓ Skills (males)



Hispanic youth in general had lower static and dynamic risk scores while static and protective factors were higher compared to Caucasian and African American youth.

The average overall dynamic risk score decreased between initial and re-assessment for all races although the change was not significantly significant for Hispanics. African American youth saw statistical decreases in several factors, including school, aggression, attitudes, skills, as well as employment and free time. Caucasians saw significant improvements in family, school, aggression, attitude and skills.

Summer Youth Employment Program

Kenosha County continues to support a very successful Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP). Kenosha Police Department records continue to show an average 37% decline in juvenile arrest during the program duration as compared to the same time period prior to SYEP implementation. At the end of the 2012 program nearly 11% of youth were hired (unsubsidized) by their SYEP employer. This compares to 6-7% for similar programs nationwide.

Summer Youth Employment Program	2010	2011	2012
Number of Youth	214	191	210
Number of Job Sites	49	42	41
Number of Job Types	39	48	52
Total Hours Worked	23,000	26,194	22,614
Number of Youth Obtaining Unsubsidized Employment	13	21	24
Number of Youth Earning ½ credit toward graduation	113	106	121

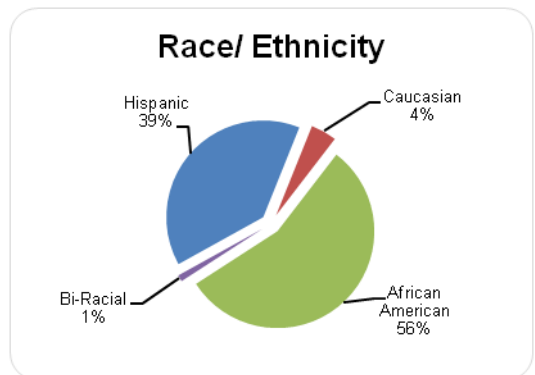
Youth Gang Diversion Program

The goal of Kenosha County's gang prevention effort is to reduce delinquent behavior and gang -risk/involvement by incorporating research based interventions to address personal, family and community factors that contribute to juvenile delinquency and gang activity. Kenosha County contracts with the Boys & Girls Club and Community Impact Programs to provide gang prevention programming directly to youth.

The Gang Intervention Supervisor also works with the provider agencies and other community-based organizations including the Kenosha Police and Sheriff's Departments, Kenosha Unified School District, private agencies, and the faith-based community to combat youth gang involvement, strengthen neighborhoods against crime and educate youth and families about gangs.

2011-2012 Outcomes

- **91%** of youth were not apprehended for a new offense while in the program
- **85%** of youth maintained or reduced their gang risk score
- **74%** of youth that completed the program improved their school performance (i.e. grades)



Program Spotlight: Intensive Supervision Youth Competency

The Intensive Supervision Youth Competency Program is designed to address the needs of youth adjudicated delinquent by juvenile court, whose problematic behavior puts them at risk for an out-of-home placement. This program uses the concepts of positive youth development to provide services to help youth successfully complete their supervision, commit no new delinquent acts, improve decision making, and assist parents in establishing clear, consistent rules and age appropriate expectations. In 2012 the program served **104** youth with an average length of service of 7 months.

2012 Program Highlights:

- * **92%** of youth remained in their current or a less restrictive placement during program involvement.
- * **88%** of youth did not re-adjudicate during program involvement.
- * **83%** of youth remained in their homes and did not re-adjudicate six months after successful program completion.
- * **51** program youth completed over **1,200** hours of community service work.
- * **32** youth were employed by local businesses or through the Summer Youth Employment Program.



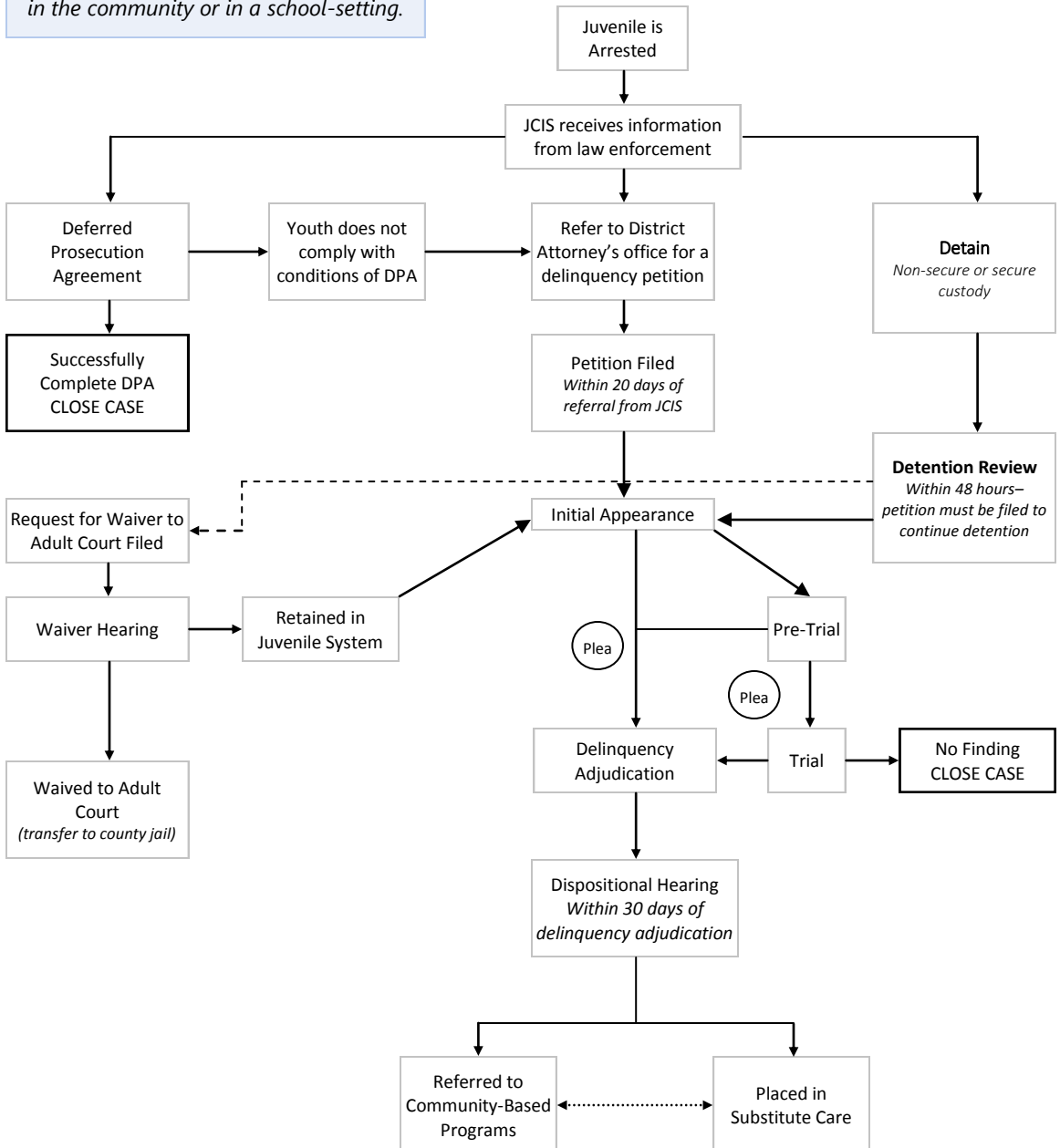
Washington Aggression Interruption Training (W.A.I.T.)

Staff provided W.A.I.T. to assist youth in dealing with aggression, to develop valuable communication skills, gain tools that allow them to problem solve, make decisions and interact positively in social situations. W.A.I.T. consists of three components; social skills training, anger control training and moral reasoning. Key features of the curriculum include role modeling, practicing new skills and critical thinking. W.A.I.T. has been shown to be highly effective in reducing aggression in youth.

Girls Circle – Staff provided a Girls Circle component to enhance skill building for female youth. Girls Circle is recognized as a promising approach in the Model Programs Guide of the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention. Outcomes of Girls Circle participants show significant increases in self-efficacy, body image, and social connections. It is a structured support group for girls that integrates relational theory, resiliency practices, and skills training in a specific format designed to increase positive connection, personal and collective strengths, and competence in girls. **89%** of youth who successfully completed W.A.I.T. or Girls Circle remained delinquency free.

Juvenile Justice Code - Chapter 938

The chart below is a scaled-down illustration of what generally occurs when a juvenile is arrested. An arrest can occur in the community or in a school-setting.



2012 Partners and Stakeholders

Juvenile Court Intakes Services Staff
DCFS-Court Services Unit Staff

Boys and Girls Club of Kenosha
Children's Hospital of Wisconsin Community Services
Community Impact Programs
Kenosha Area Family and Aging Services
Kenosha Human Development Services
One Hope United
Prevention Services Network
Professional Services Group

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