MONTANA JUDICIAL BRANCH
Youth Court Services
13th Judicial District

Youth Court At-A-Glance

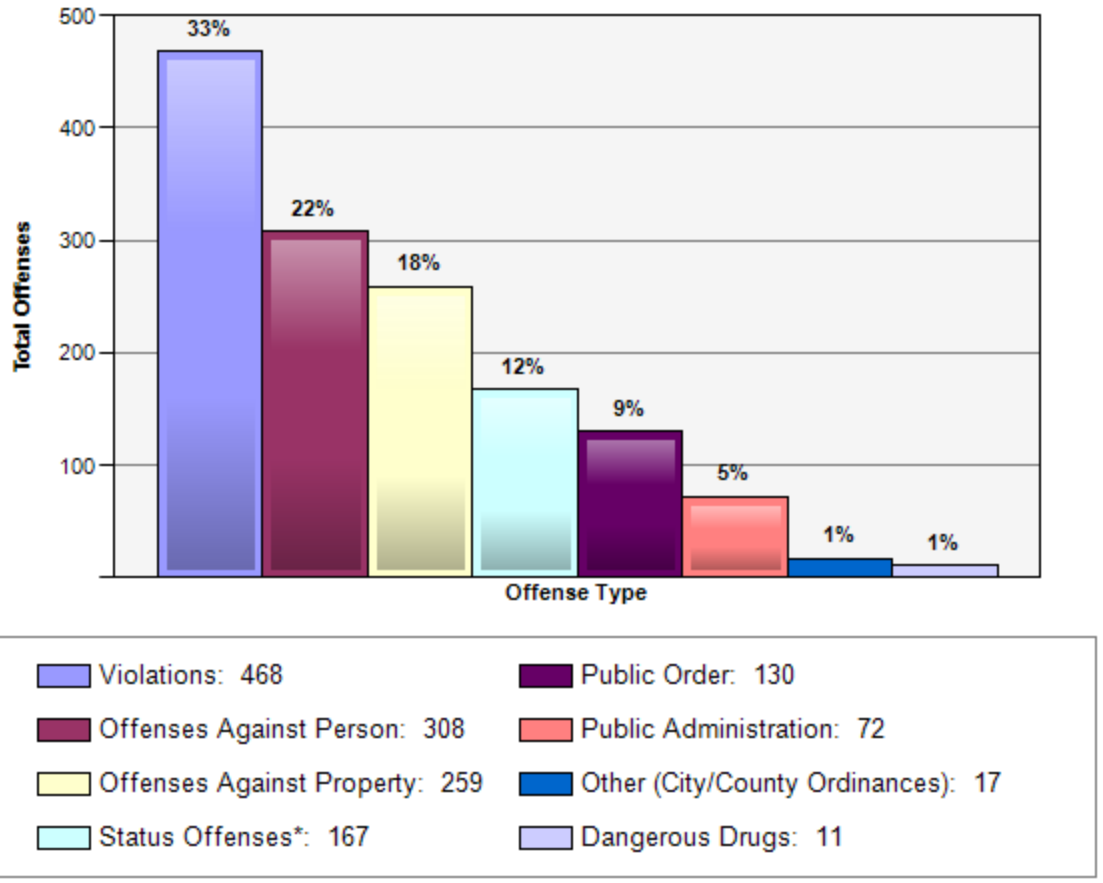
January 2023 through December 2023

Date Run: 5/14/2024

REFERRALS TO MONTANA'S YOUTH COURTS

Youth Referred to Youth Court:	577
Referrals (a youth may have multiple referrals):	741
Offenses (a referral may have multiple offenses):	1,432

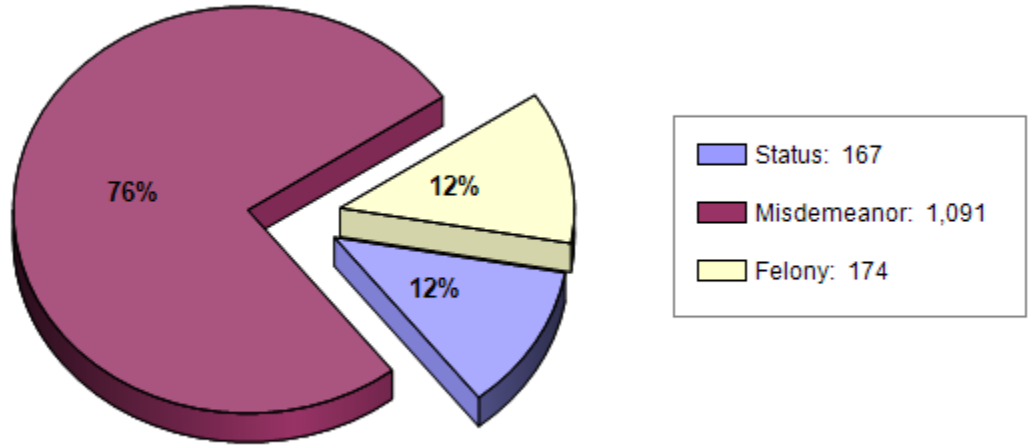
OFFENSE CATEGORIES



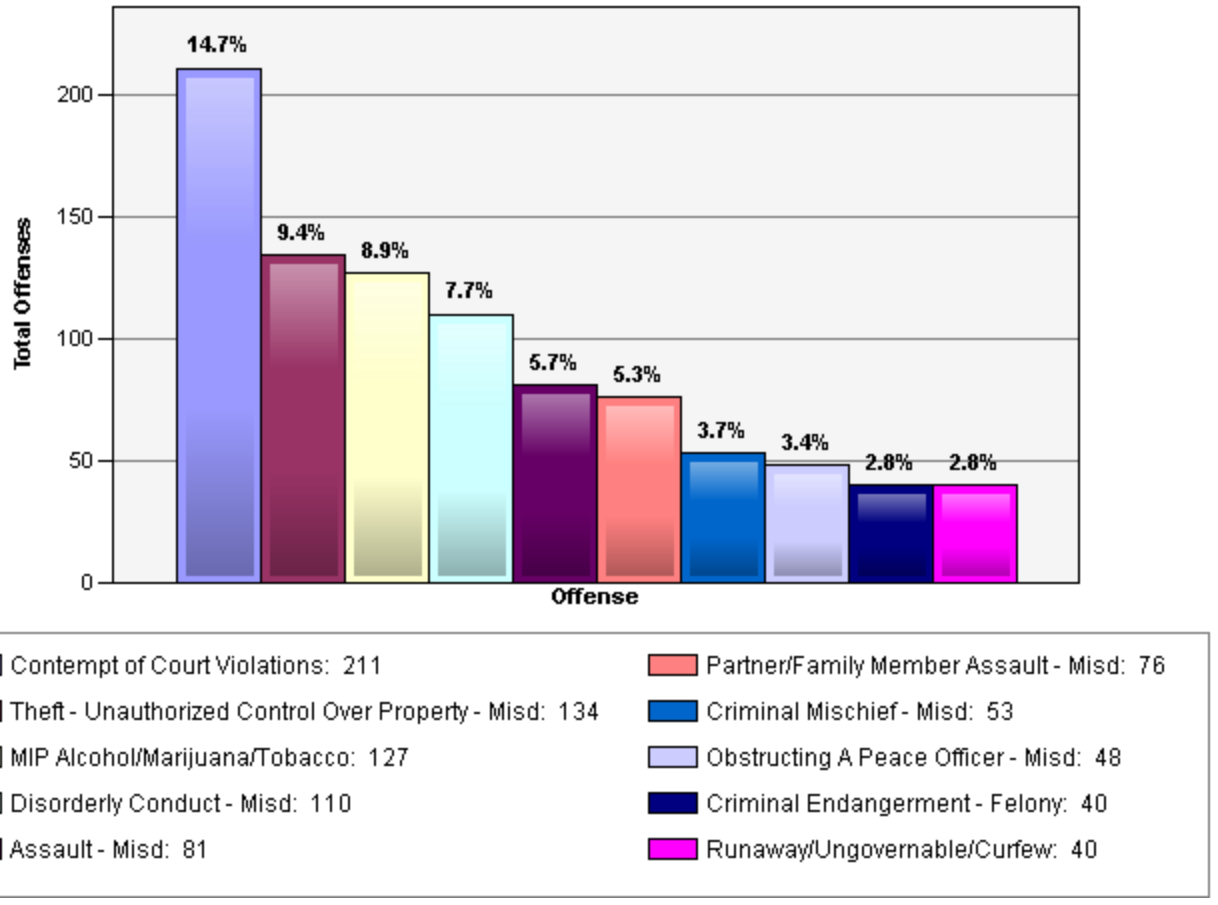
** These are matters that are offenses because of the youth's age and include such things as a minor in possession of alcohol and marijuana, truancy, curfew or a run-away violation.*

2023 change: Include 45-5-624 Possess Intox Sub & 45-5-637 Tobacco/Nicotine/Vapor Possess offenses in Status category (2 offenses).

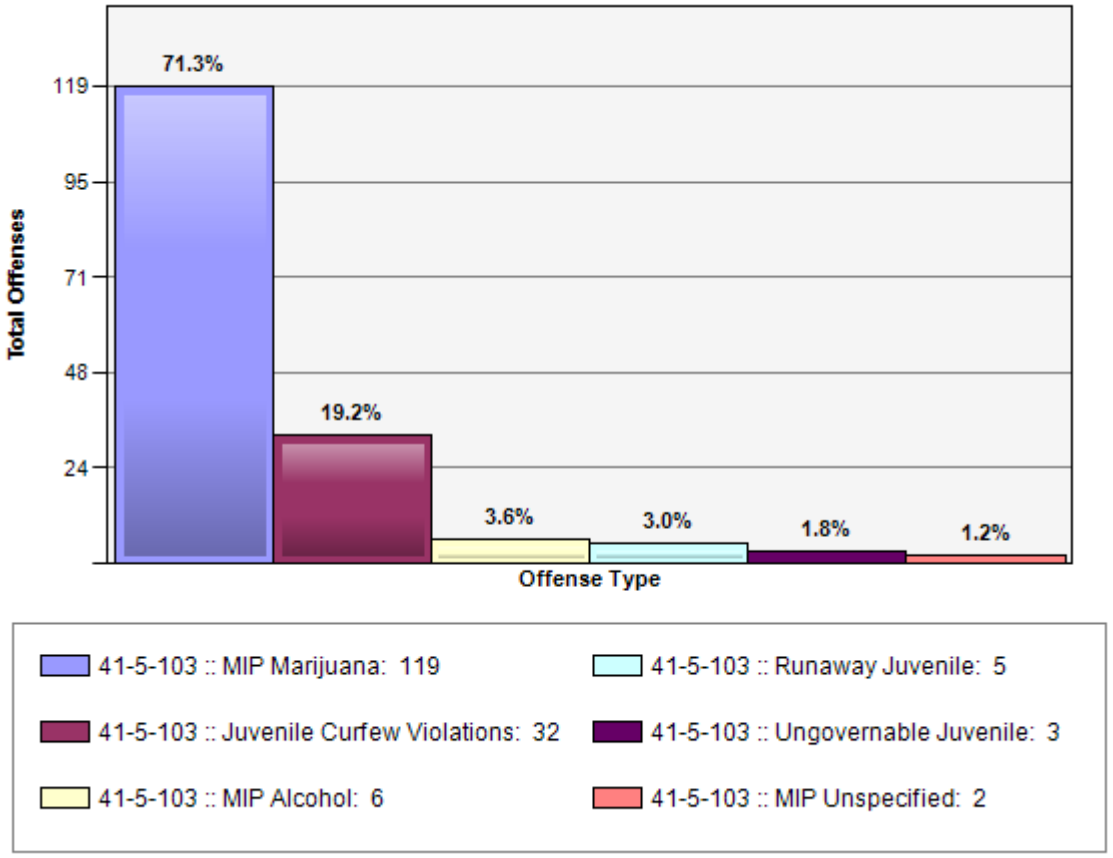
OFFENSE CLASSIFICATIONS



TOP 10 OFFENSES ASSOCIATED WITH REFERRALS TO JUVENILE PROBATION

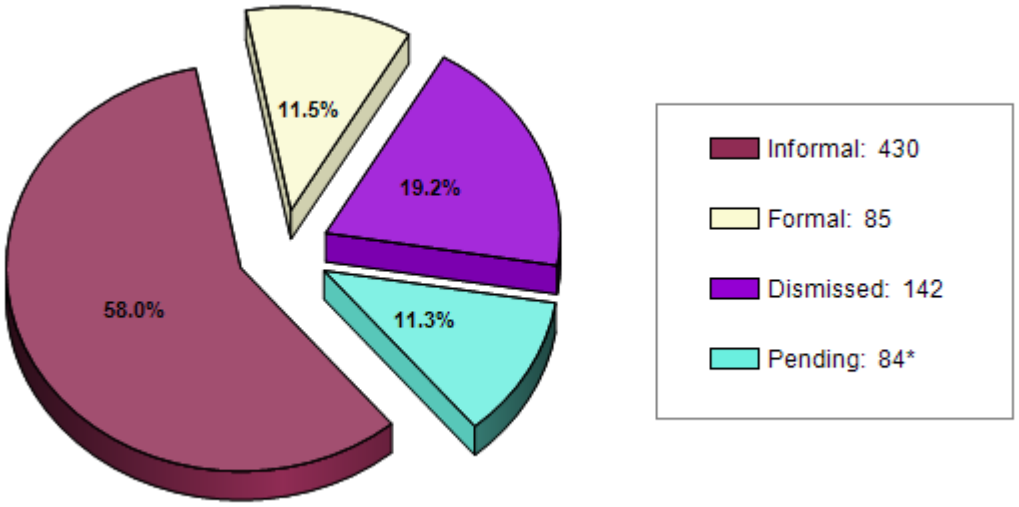


STATUS OFFENSE BREAKDOWN



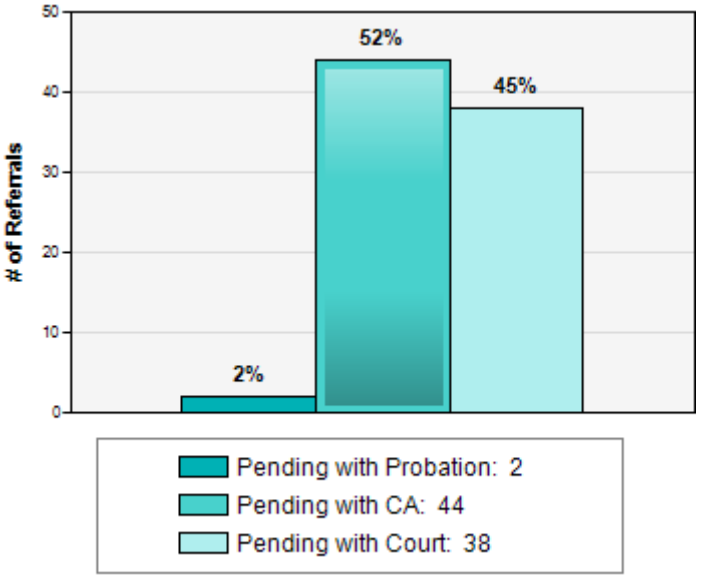
TYPE OF DISPOSITION USED

Informal: Referral handled by Juvenile Probation Officer
Formal: Referral in which youth appears before Youth Court Judge
Dismissed: Referral in which case is dismissed by Juvenile Probation Officer, County Attorney, or Court
Pending: Referral that is awaiting action from the County Attorney's Office or the Court, or a ticket has been issued and Juvenile Probation is waiting to see the youth and parent(s), or is awaiting further investigation by law enforcement

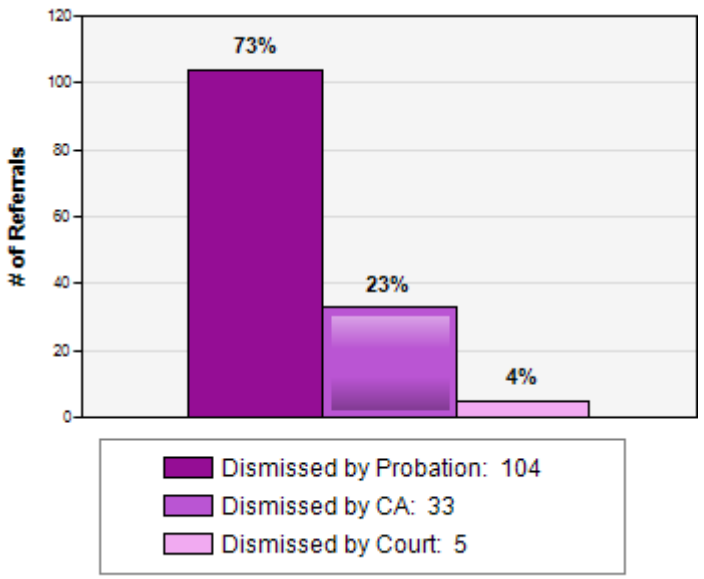


** Pending may include "In Progress" intakes, which are not included in other totals.*

Pending Disposition Breakdown

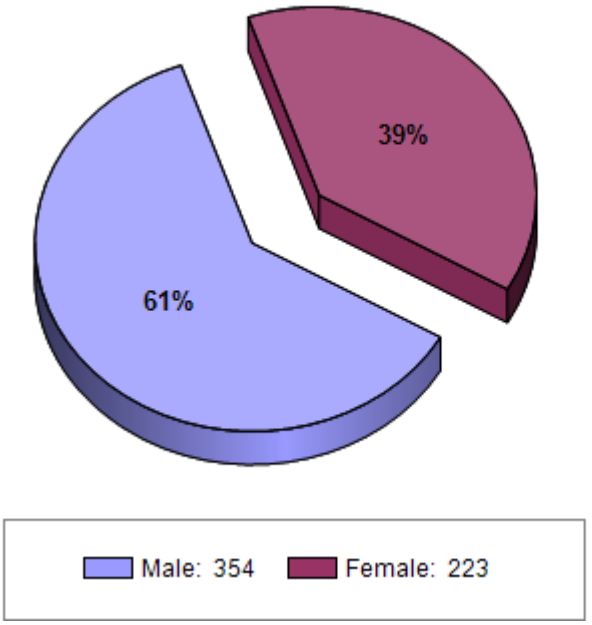


Dismissed Disposition Breakdown

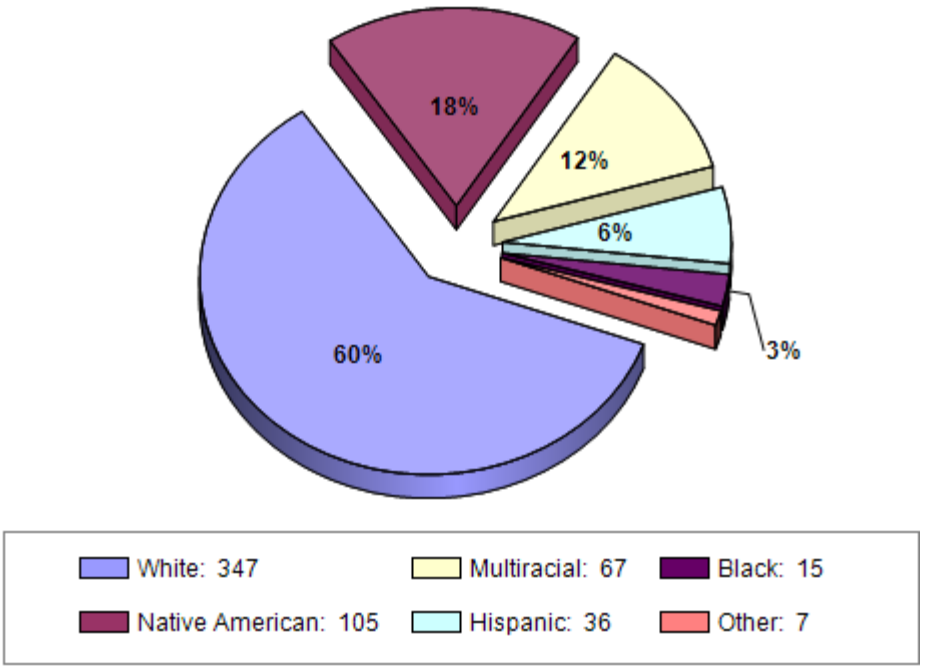


YOUTH DEMOGRAPHICS

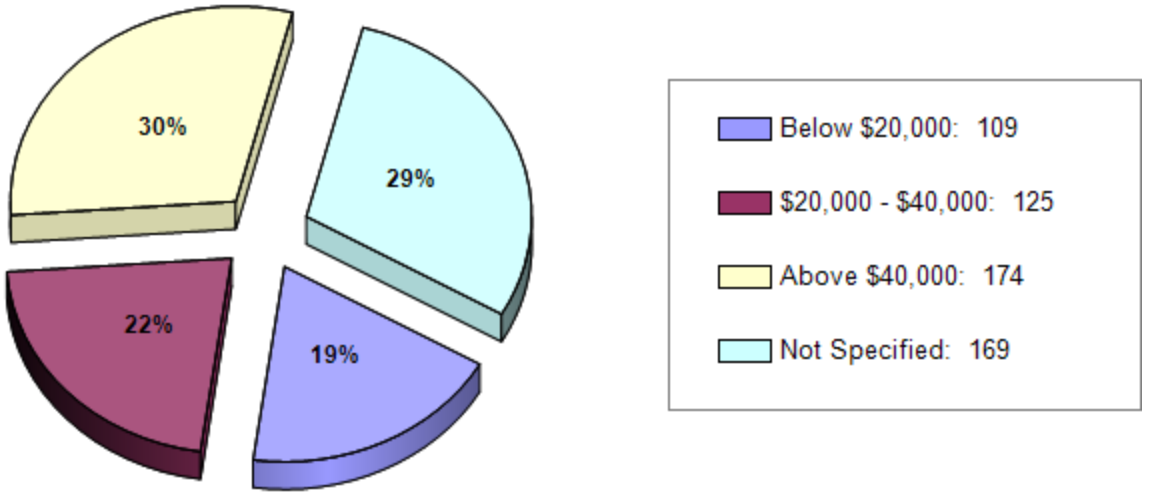
GENDER

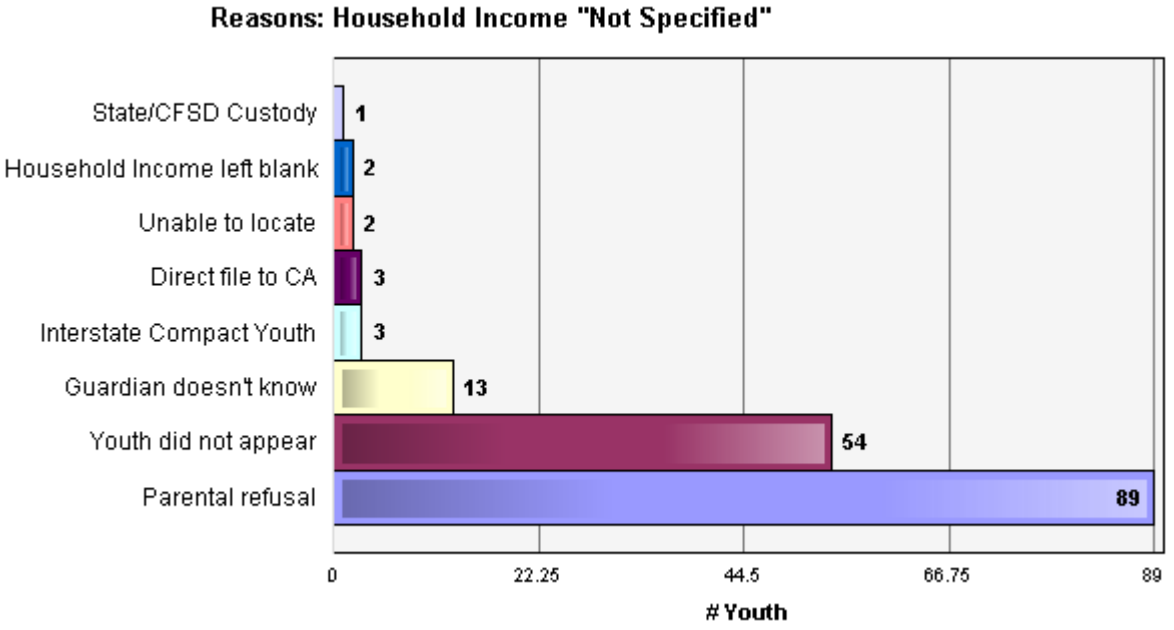


RACE

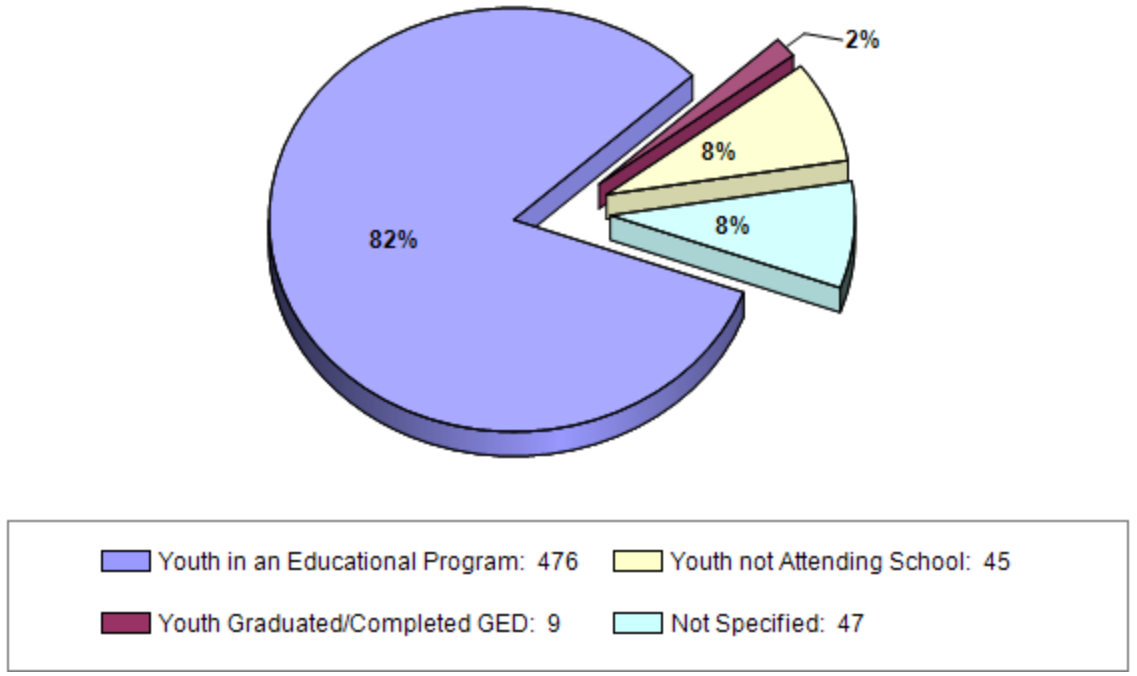


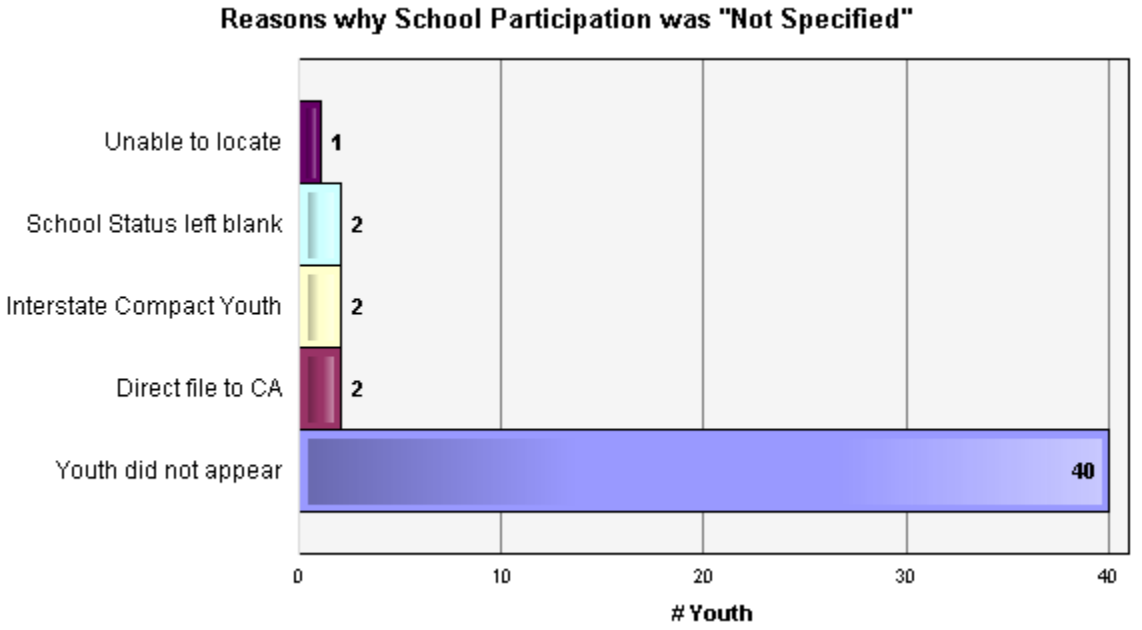
FAMILY'S HOUSEHOLD INCOME (UNDUPLICATED YOUTH)



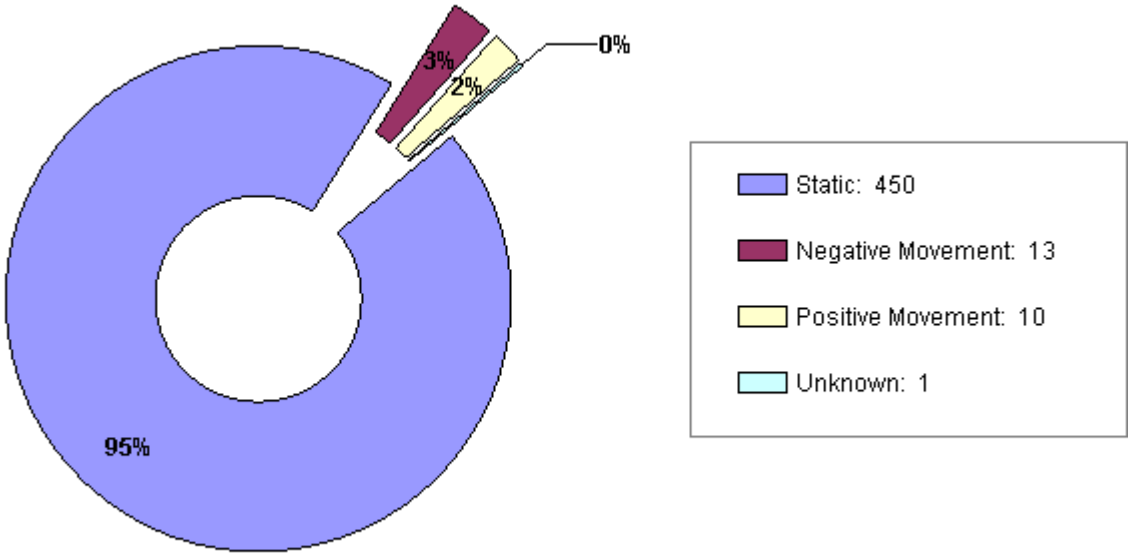


SCHOOL PARTICIPATION (UNDUPLICATED YOUTH)





SCHOOL PARTICIPATION:
AT TIME OF INTAKE VS AT CLOSURE



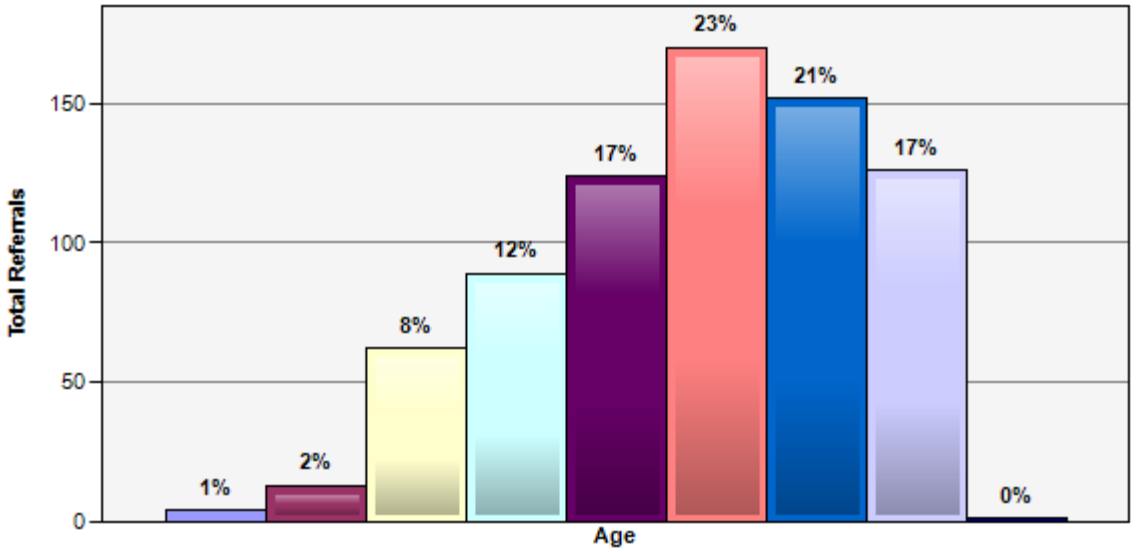
Positive Movement:

School Status at Time of Intake		***School Status at Intake Closure***
Youth in an Educational Program	-------->	Youth Graduated/Completed GED
Youth not Attending School	-------->	Youth in an Educational Program
Youth not Attending School	-------->	Youth Graduated/Completed GED
Youth Education Not Specified	-------->	Youth in an Educational Program

Negative Movement:

School Status at Time of Intake		***School Status at Intake Closure***
Youth in an Educational Program	-------->	Youth not Attending School
Youth in an Educational Program	-------->	Youth Education Not Specified

AGE AT TIME OF OFFENSE



10 and Under: 4	13 years: 89	16 years: 152
11 years: 13	14 years: 124	17 years: 126
12 years: 62	15 years: 170	18 +: 1

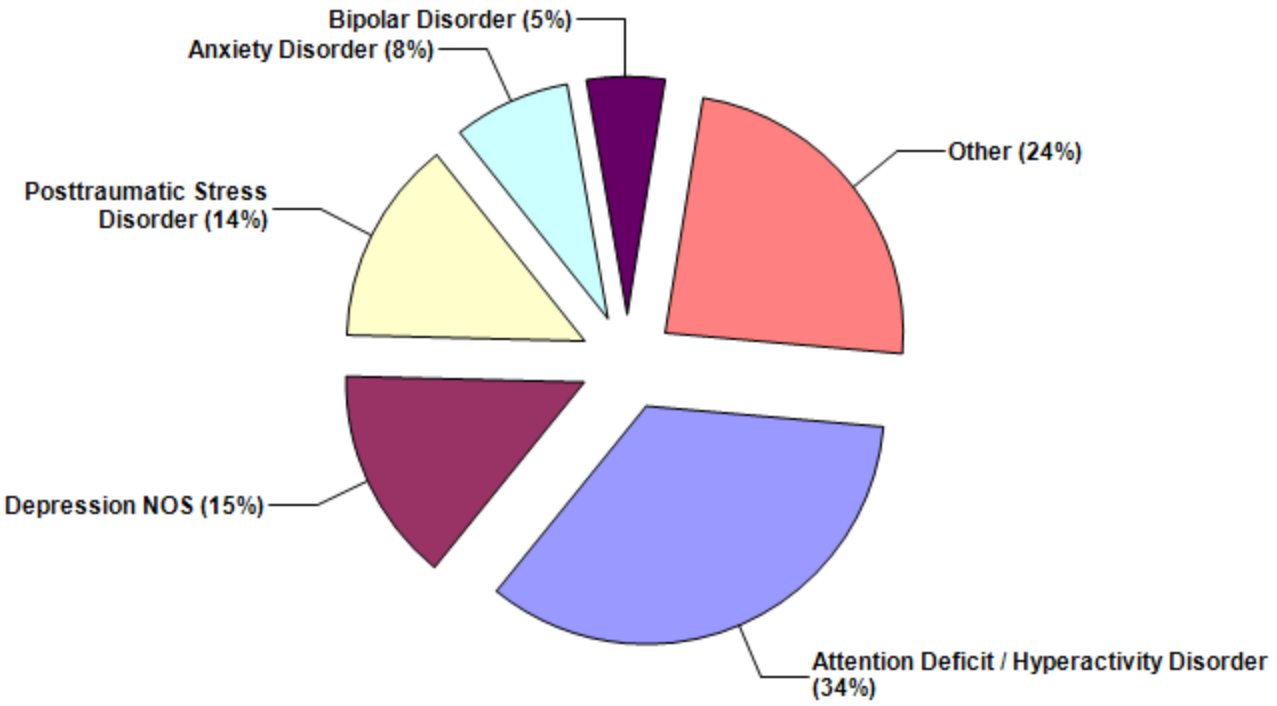
MENTAL HEALTH

TOP MENTAL HEALTH DIAGNOSES

Oftentimes, a juvenile referred to youth court services may already be addressing a mental health matter, or as a result of services provided by youth court a mental health issue is identified.

Out of 577 Unduplicated youth, 26%* (151) identified a mental health diagnosis.

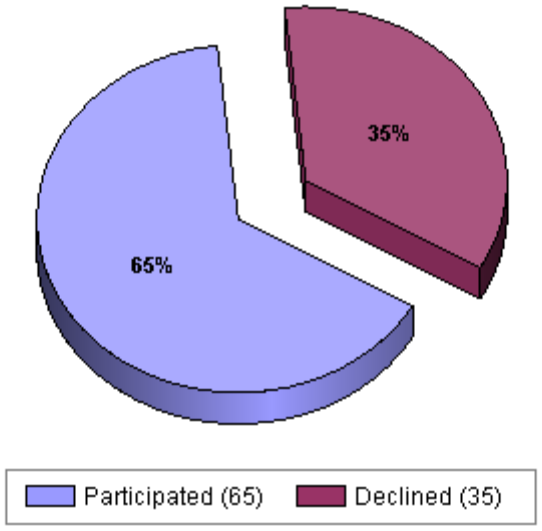
** not all youth are required to provide mental health information so this number may be higher.*



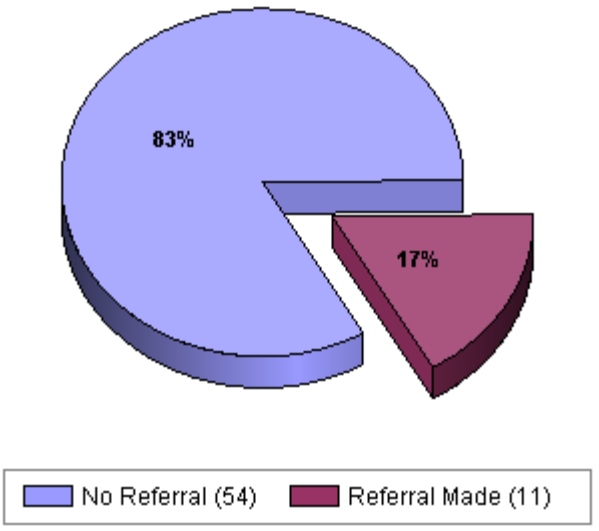
EXPERIENCES AND EXPRESSIONS SCREENER (EES)

To engage in case planning that addresses trauma and victimization, the Experiences and Expressions Screener (EES) was implemented in 2021 and must be used when a youth is moderate or high risk to reoffend and placed on informal or formal supervision. The following charts include findings from administration of the EES this reporting period.

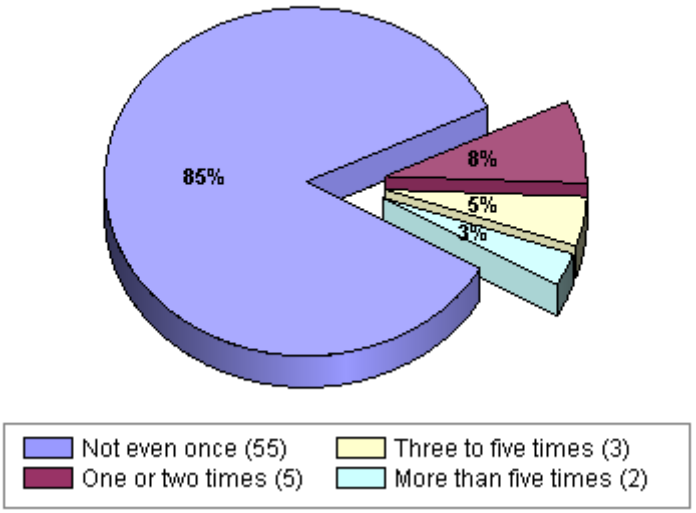
EES Participation



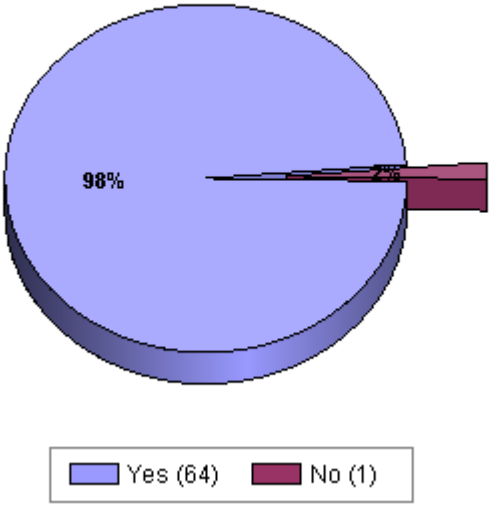
EES Outcomes



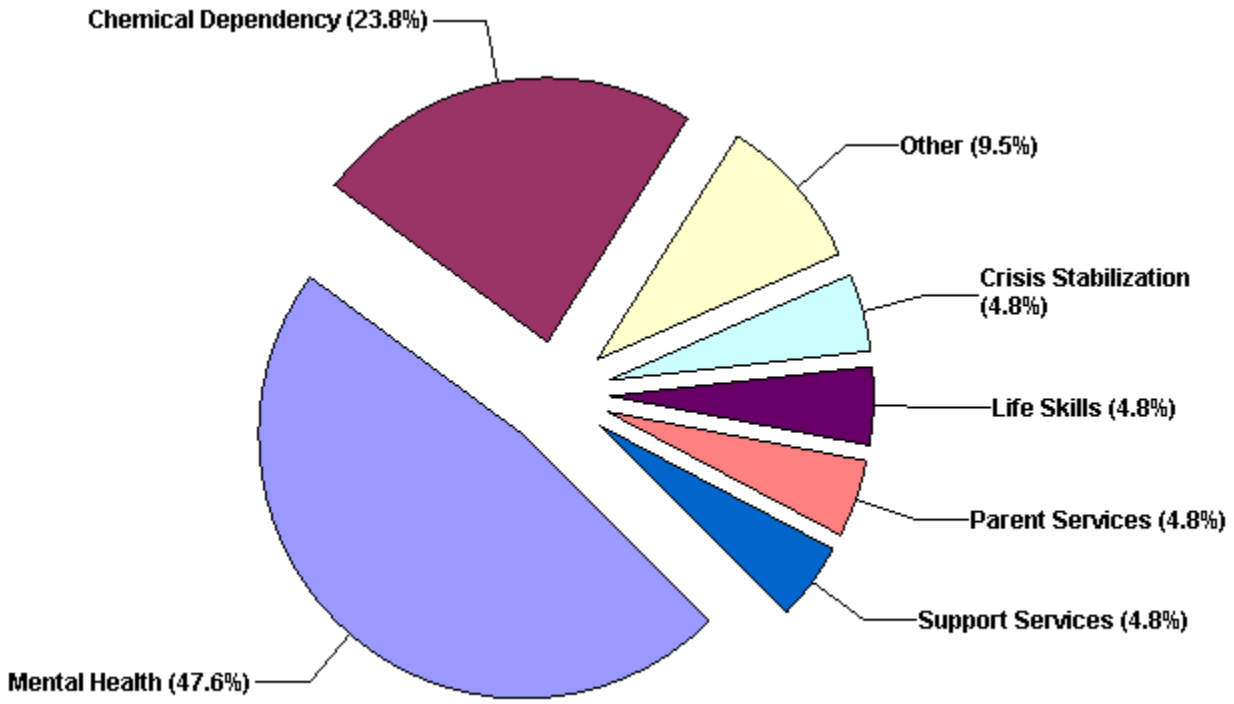
Thoughts of Suicide



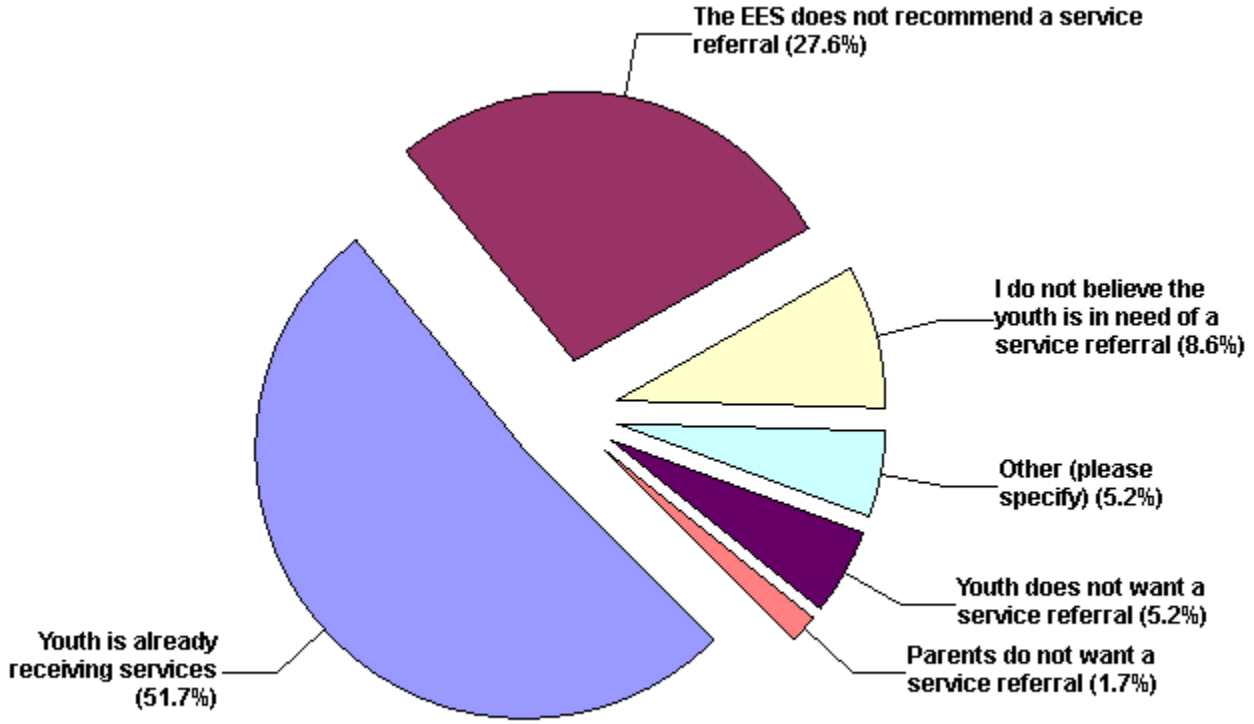
Feel Safe at Home



EES: SERVICES REFERRED TO



EES: REASONS NO REFERRAL



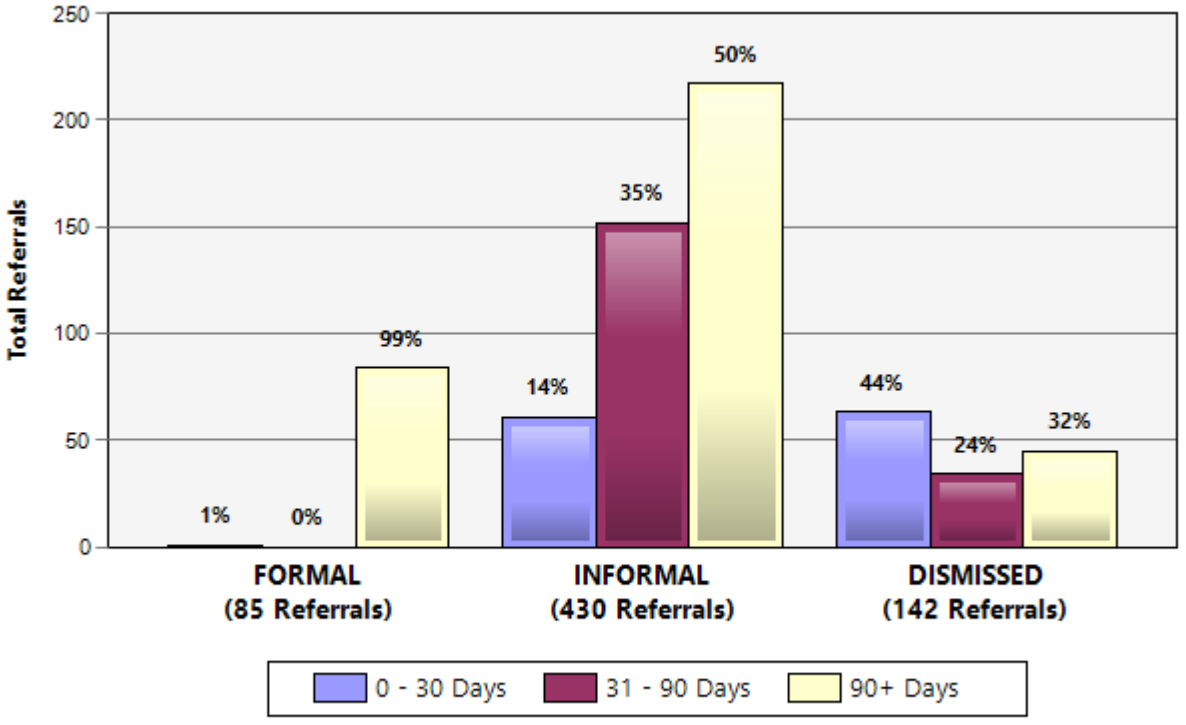
RESTORING JUSTICE TO VICTIMS AND HOLDING OFFENDERS ACCOUNTABLE

AVERAGE LENGTH OF DISPOSITION

Length of Disposition	Number of Referrals	
0-30 days:	125	(19.0%)
31-90 days:	186	(28.3%)
90+ days:	346	(52.7%)

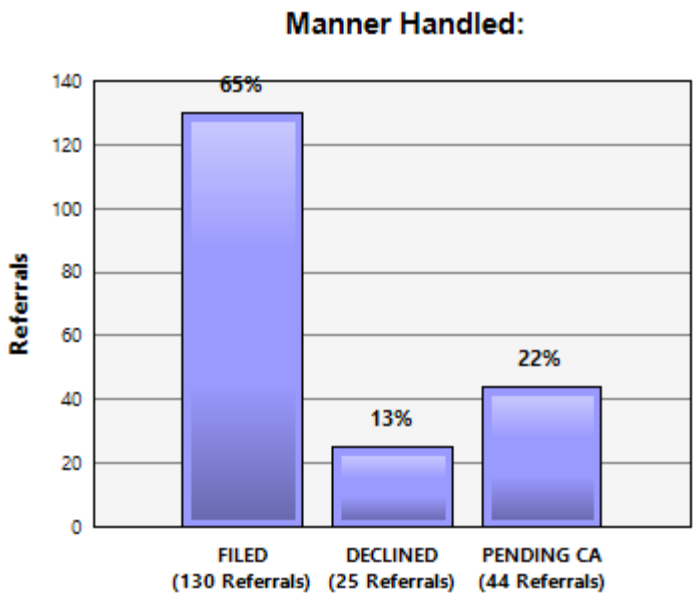
Every referral has a disposition, which is the equivalent to an adult sentence handed down by a Judge.
* Includes all dispositions except *Pending* because those referrals don't yet have a disposition end date.

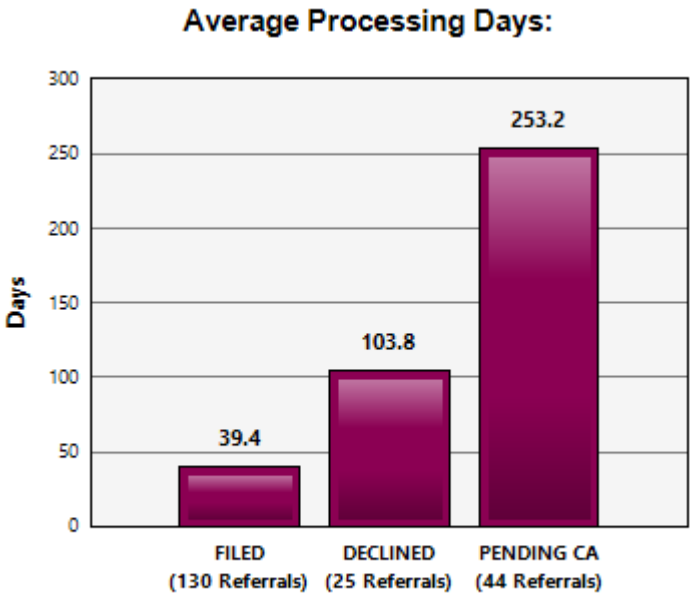
AVERAGE LENGTH OF DISPOSITION - BY TYPE



FORMAL REFERRALS TO THE COUNTY ATTORNEY

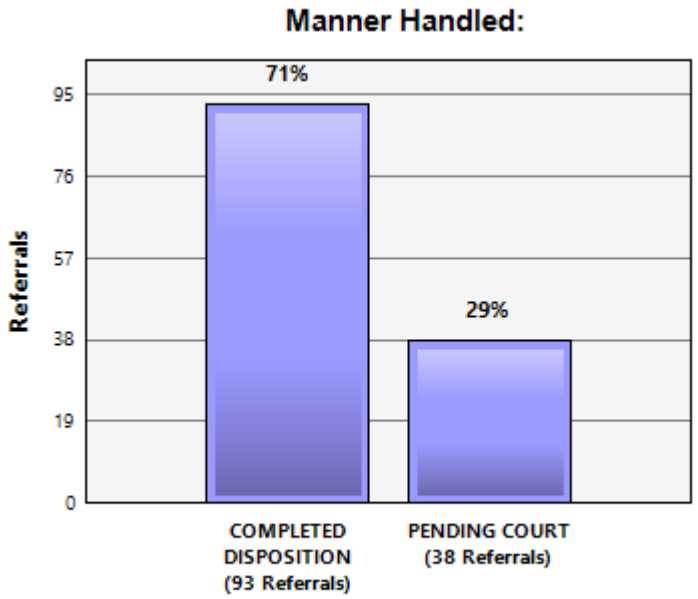
Referrals made to the County Attorney: 199

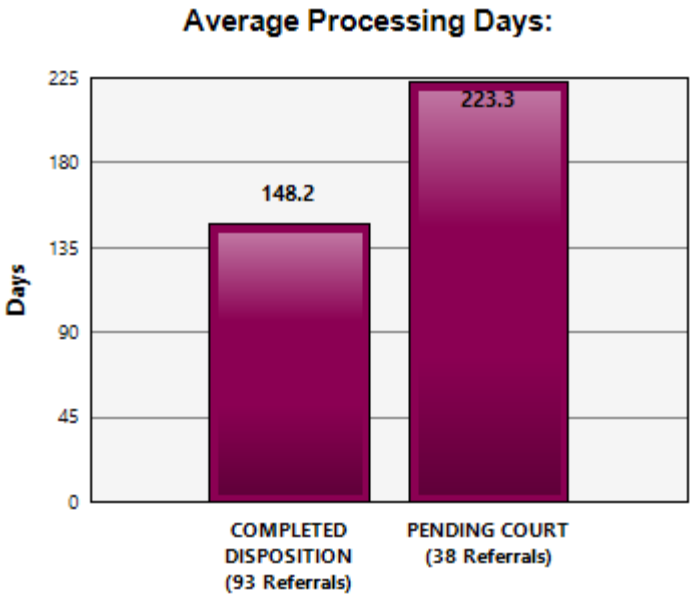




FORMAL REFERRALS TO THE COURT

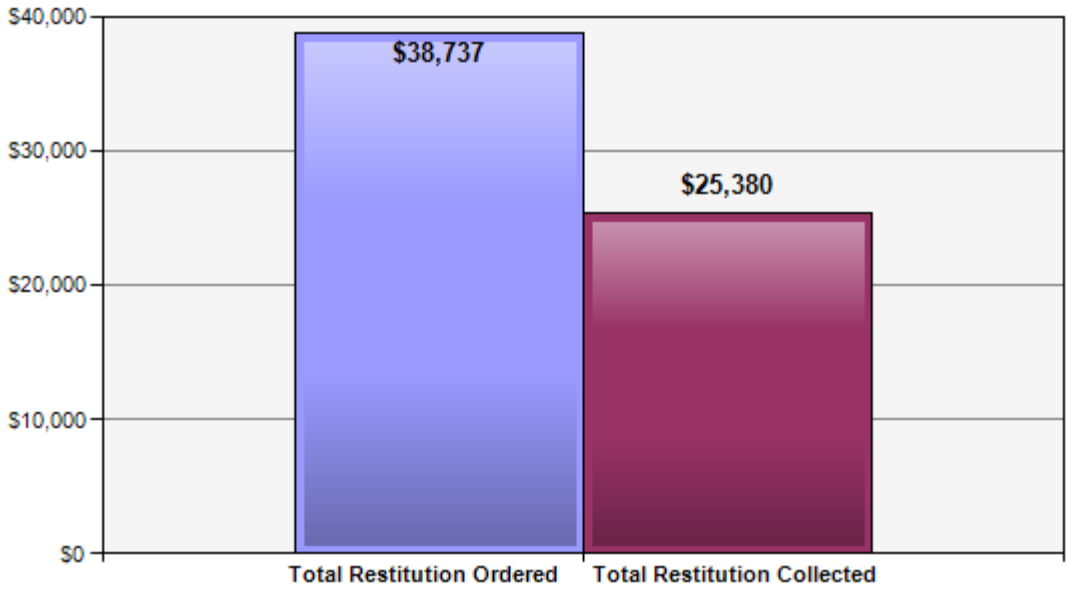
Petitions filed with Youth Court: 131





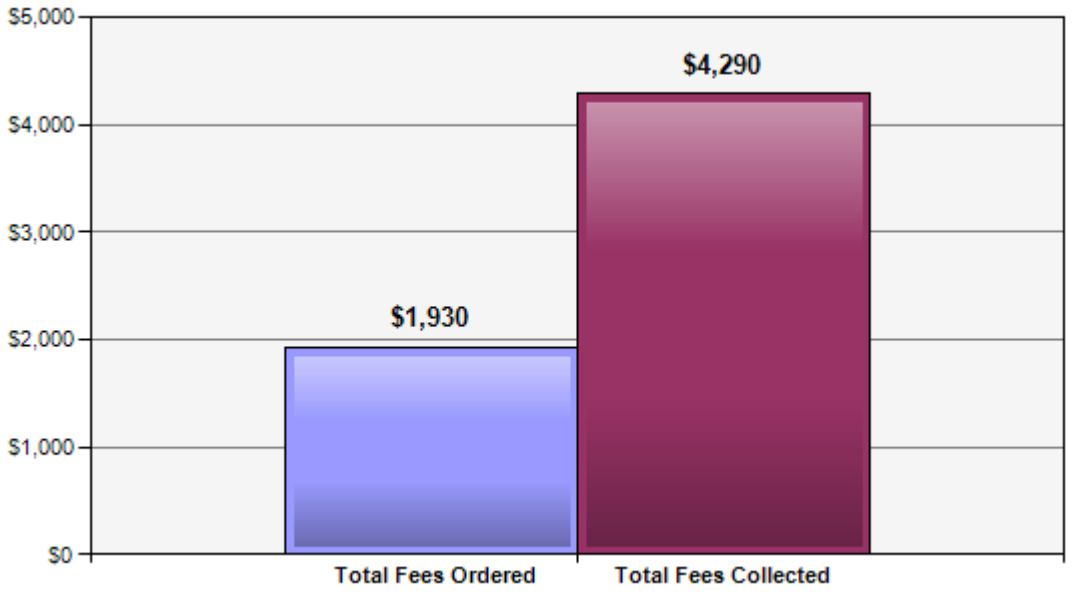
RESTITUTION

Number of Youth Ordered to Pay Restitution: 54



FEES

Number of Youth Ordered to Pay Fees: 19

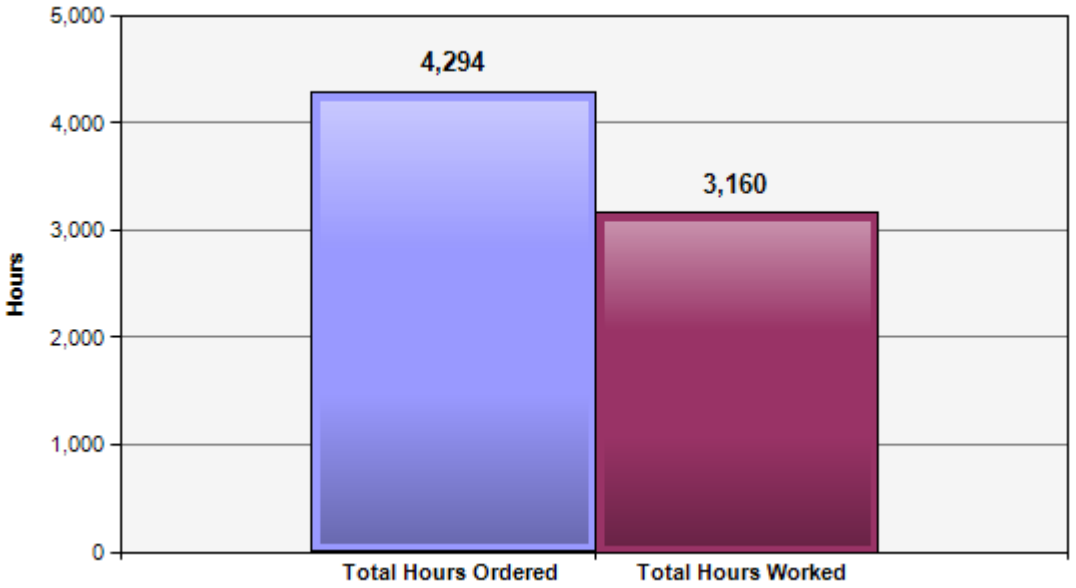


Fees used to offset cost of drug testing, workers' compensation, and other services.

Effective 10/1/2023 youth court no longer charges or collects fees pursuant to HB500.

COMMUNITY SERVICE HOURS

Number of Youth Ordered to Complete Community Service: 263



COMMUNITY SERVICE SWEAT EQUITY HOURS

Many youth are unable to contribute towards their restitution obligation because they have no family support, are not old enough to get a job, or lack the necessary social skills to get and keep a job. The Community Service Sweat Equity program is offered to youth as an opportunity, by utilizing community service, to earn restitution money to repay their victims.

Total Number of Youth that Worked Sweat Equity Hours:	19
Total Sweat Equity Hours Worked:	463.75
Total Money Earned to Pay to Victims:	$4,614.33

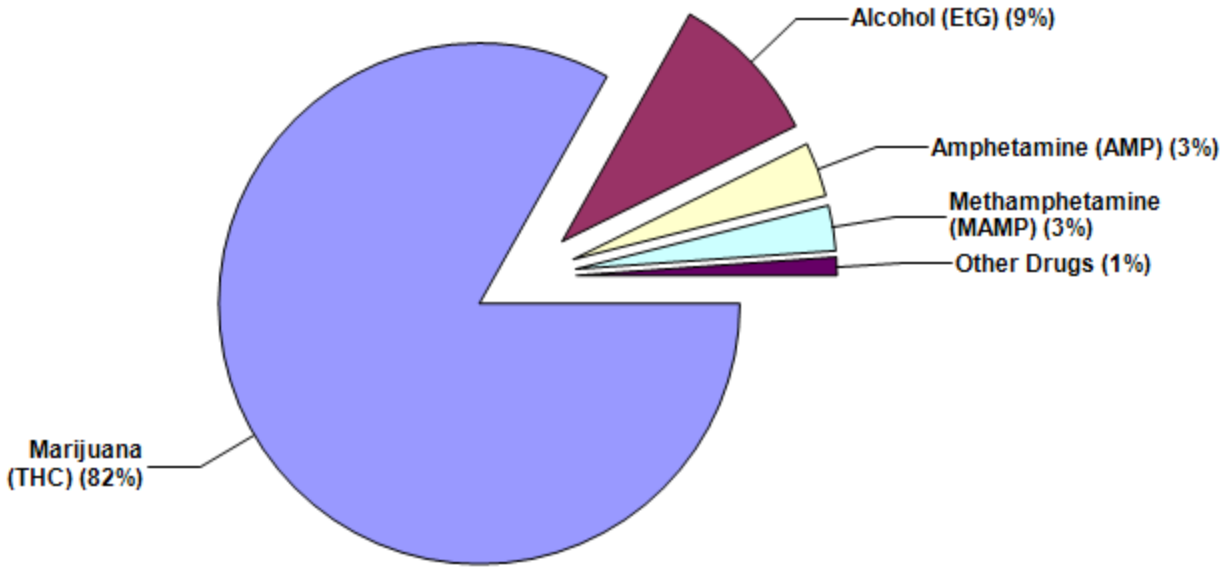
RESISTANCE TO DRUGS

Offenders ordered to submit to drug testing are tested randomly unless there is suspicion to believe the youth has recently been using. Youth going through drug court may be required to test more often as required by the judge.

Total Number of Youth Drug Tested:	57
Total Number of Tests Administered:	458
Total Number of Youth Testing Positive:	43

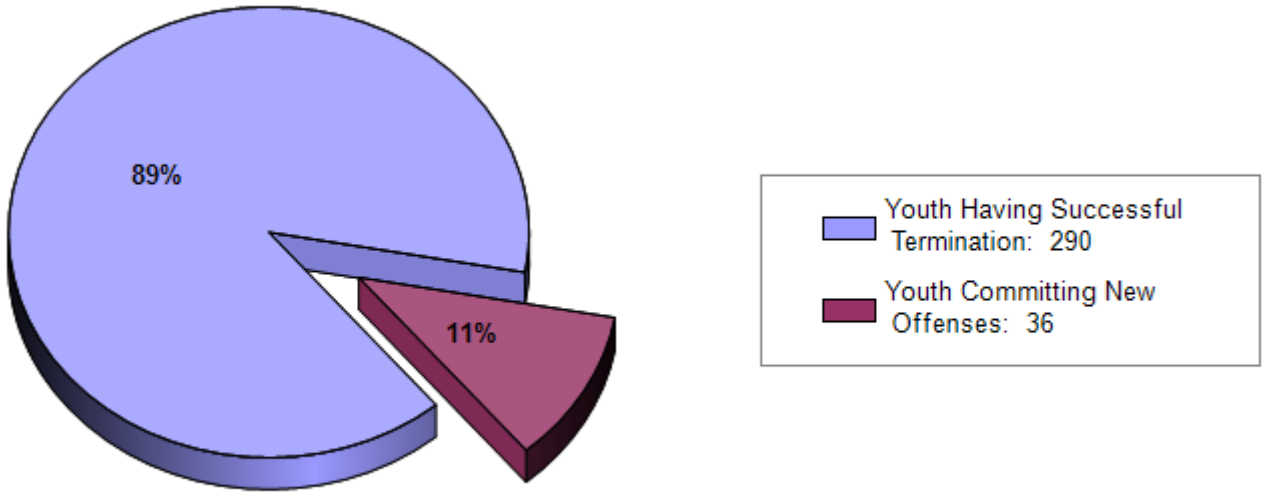
* A single youth may have tested positive multiple times

TOP DRUGS USED



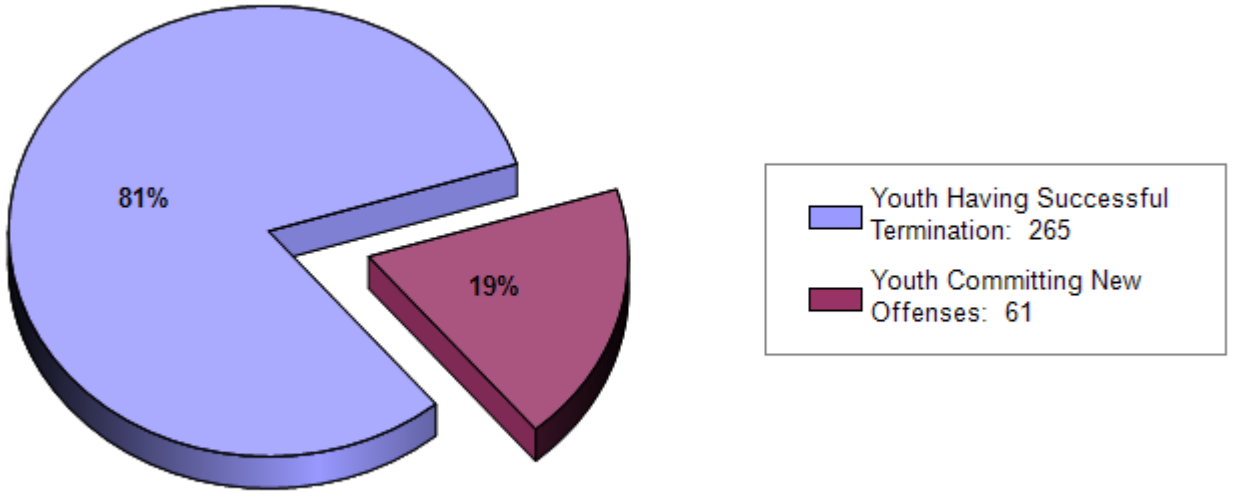
RECIDIVISM WHILE UNDER SUPERVISION
(UNDUPLICATED YOUTH NEW TO THE SYSTEM)

Recidivism on unduplicated youth that had their initial Intake in **2022** and committed a new offense prior to the disposition end date.



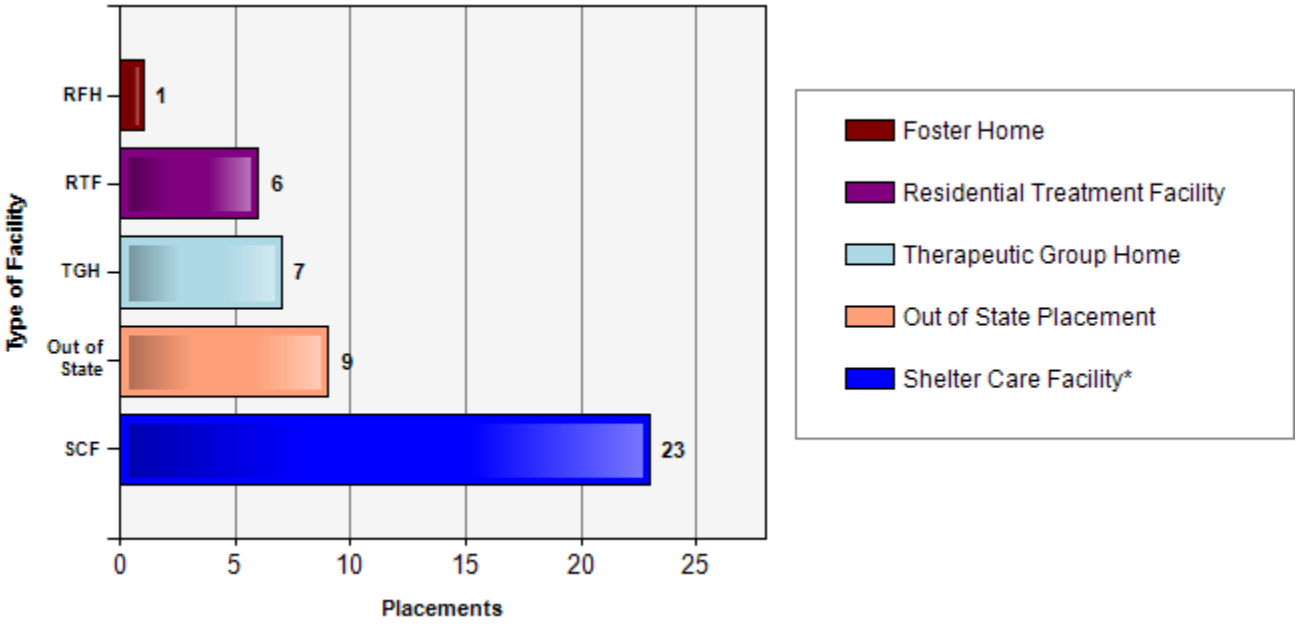
RECIDIVISM WITHIN 1 YR AFTER CASE COMPLETION
(UNDUPLICATED YOUTH NEW TO THE SYSTEM)

Recidivism on unduplicated youth that had their initial Intake in **2022** and committed a new offense within 1 year of the original disposition end date.



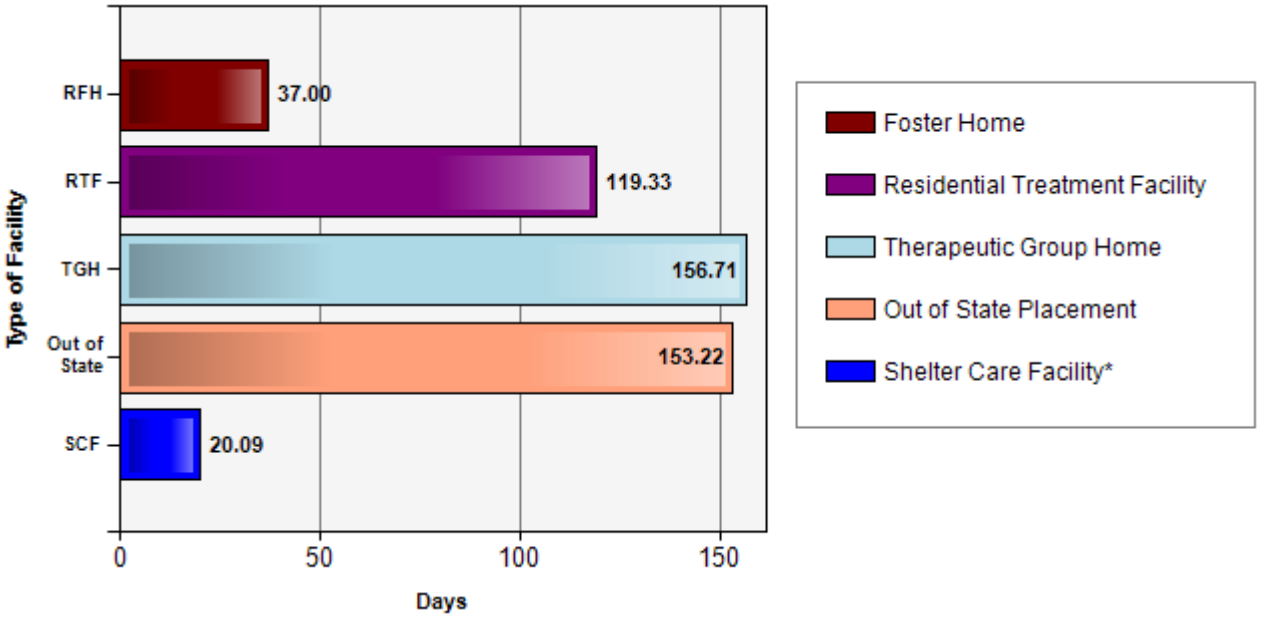
OUT-OF-HOME PLACEMENTS

Out of 741 referrals to Youth Court, 35 youth were placed in out-of-home placements for this reporting year. Please note that a single youth may be placed multiple times and other agencies may have been responsible for the placement during this reporting period.



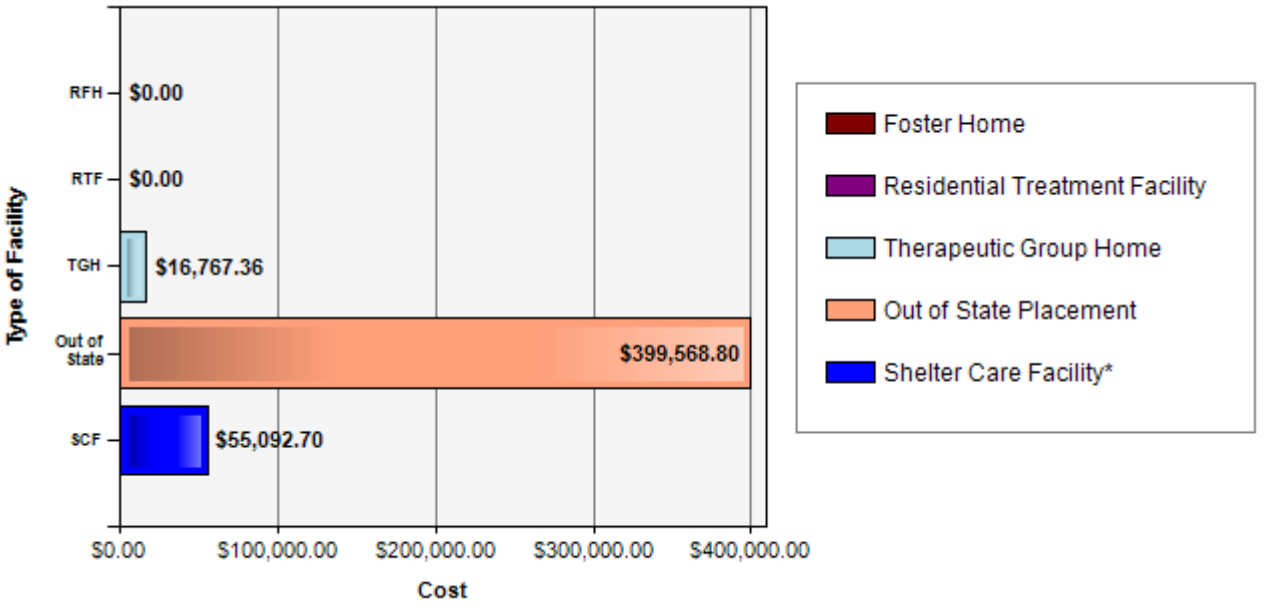
** Shelter care, the most common placement, is a very short-term placement used when Youth Court is assessing the youth and family's situation.*

OUT-OF-HOME PLACEMENTS - AVG LENGTH OF STAY



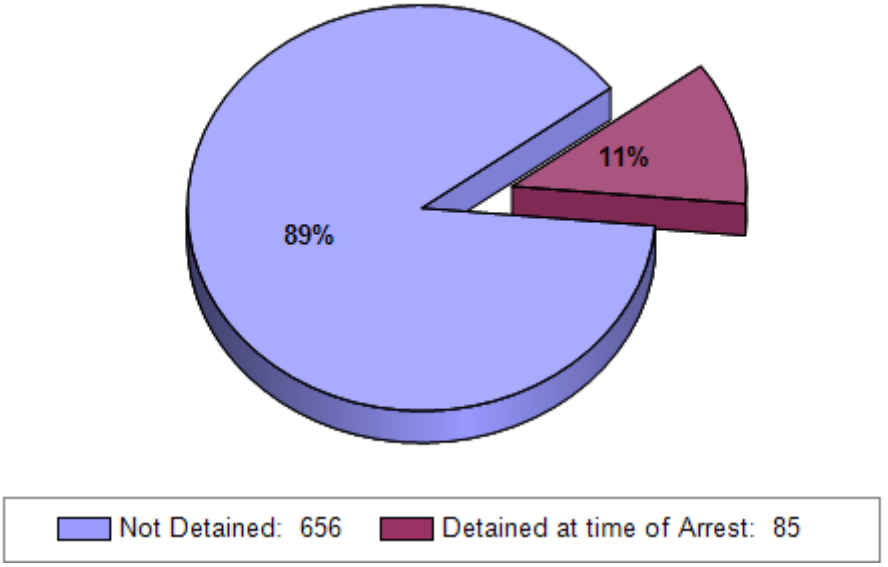
OUT-OF-HOME PLACEMENTS - COST

These are the general fund costs incurred by the Youth Courts of Montana and do not include additional funding sources and cost-shares that may have been made by collaborating agencies (Medicaid, DPHHS, CMHB).



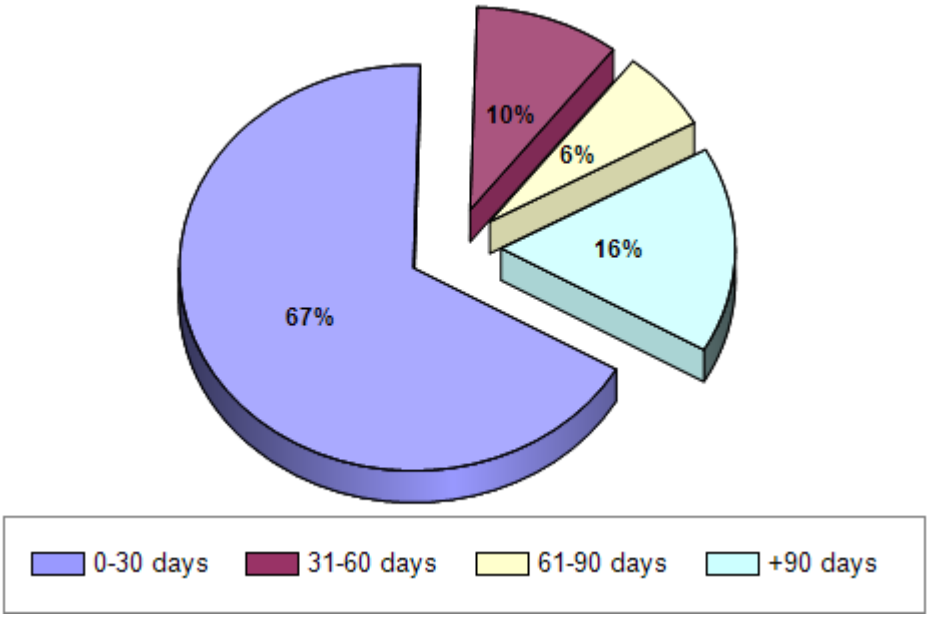
DETENTION

Youth detention facilities, which are physically restricting youth facilities designed to prevent a youth from departing at will are mostly funded and operated by counties. Local law enforcement officers make the decision to detain at the time of arrest. (A youth may be placed in detention more than once.)



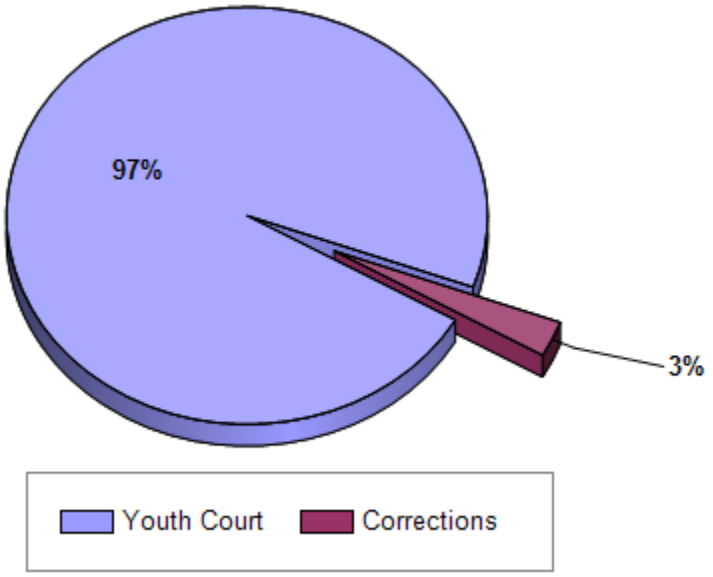
DETENTION - LENGTH OF STAY

When a youth is taken into custody, a hearing to determine probable cause must be held within 24 hours, excluding weekends and legal holidays. A hearing is not required if the youth is released prior to the time of the required hearing. If the court determines that continued custody of the youth is necessary and the criteria outlined in the Montana Youth Court Act is met, the youth may be placed in a secure detention facility pending an initial appearance before a youth court judge and placement may continue through time of disposition. (A youth may be placed in detention more than once.)



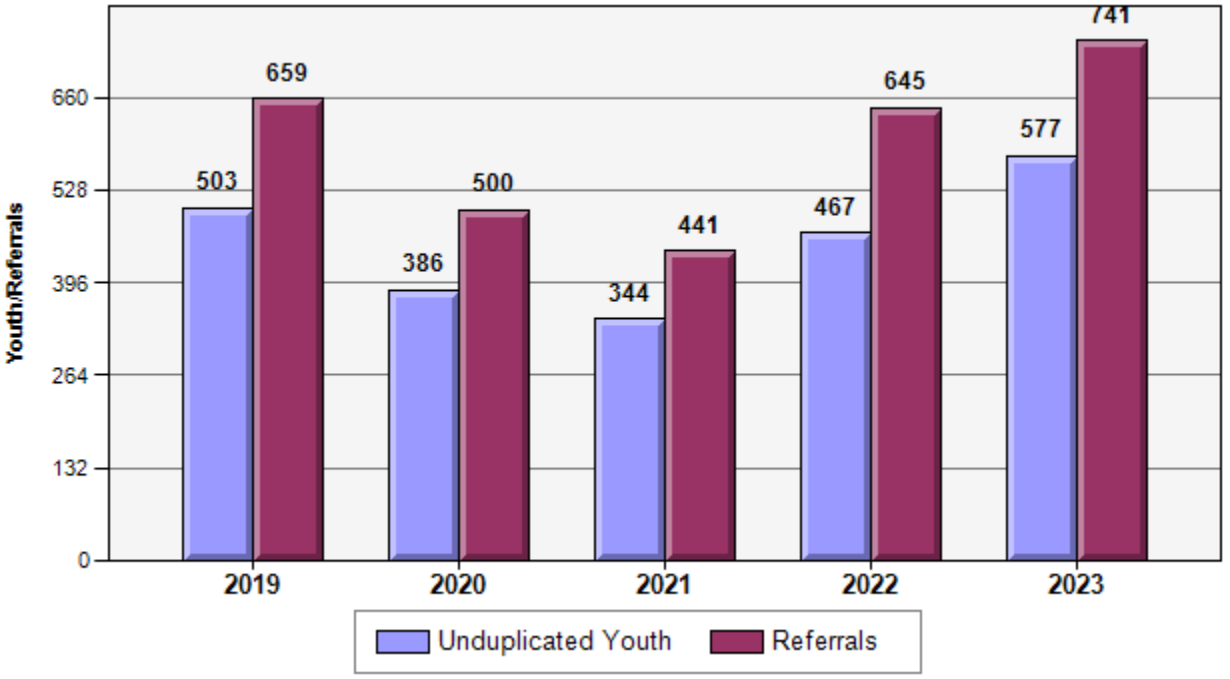
DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS COMMITMENTS

Only a Youth Court judge may sentence a youth to the Department of Corrections. Statewide, approximately 1% of all youth referred to juvenile probation are sentenced to the Department of Corrections.
16 youth were committed to the Department of Corrections for placement in a youth correctional facility within the calendar year.



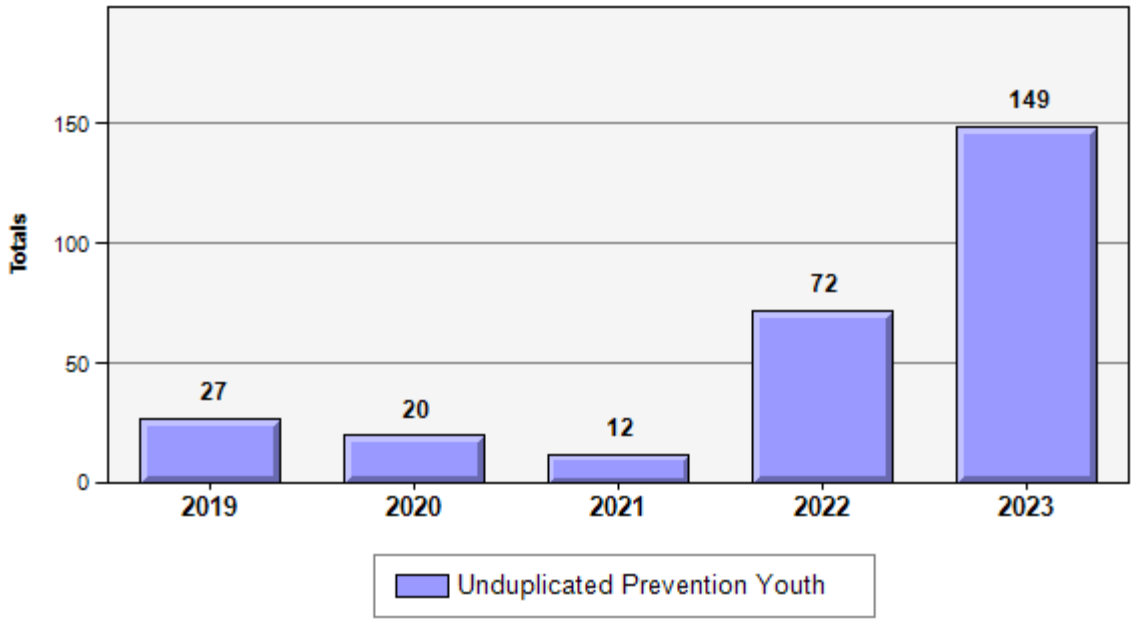
5 YEAR TRENDS

UNDUPLICATED YOUTH AND REFERRALS

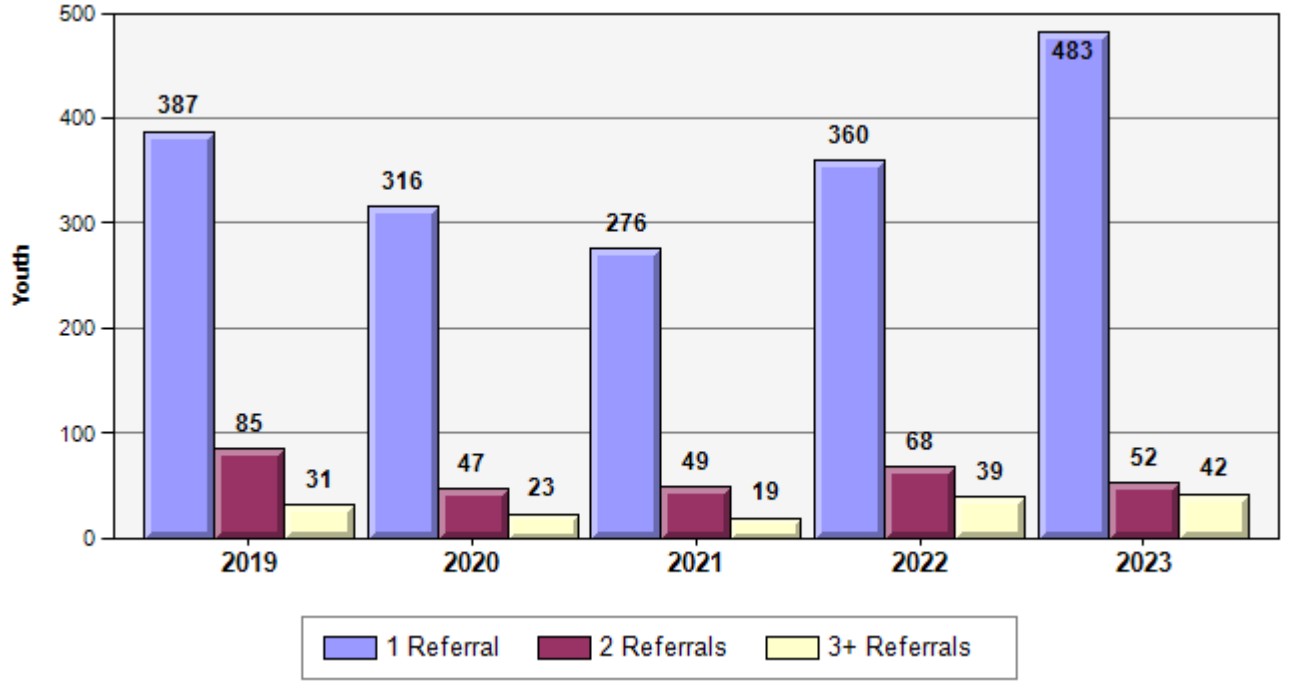


UNDUPLICATED PREVENTION YOUTH

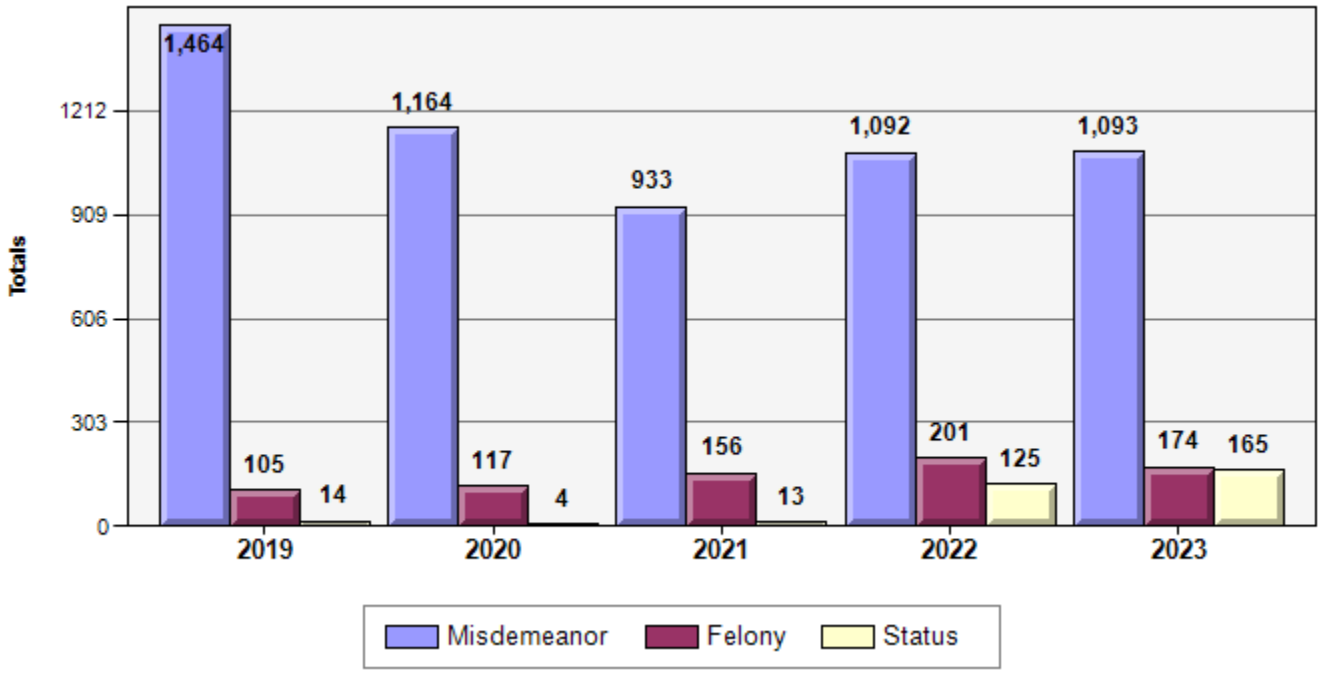
Through the State of Montana ***Juvenile Delinquency Intervention Program (JDIP)***, judicial districts are provided the opportunity to develop prevention programs in which both youth referred to youth court services, as well as at-risk youth who have not come into contact with probation, can access services that promote positive growth and development. This graph identifies those prevention youth.



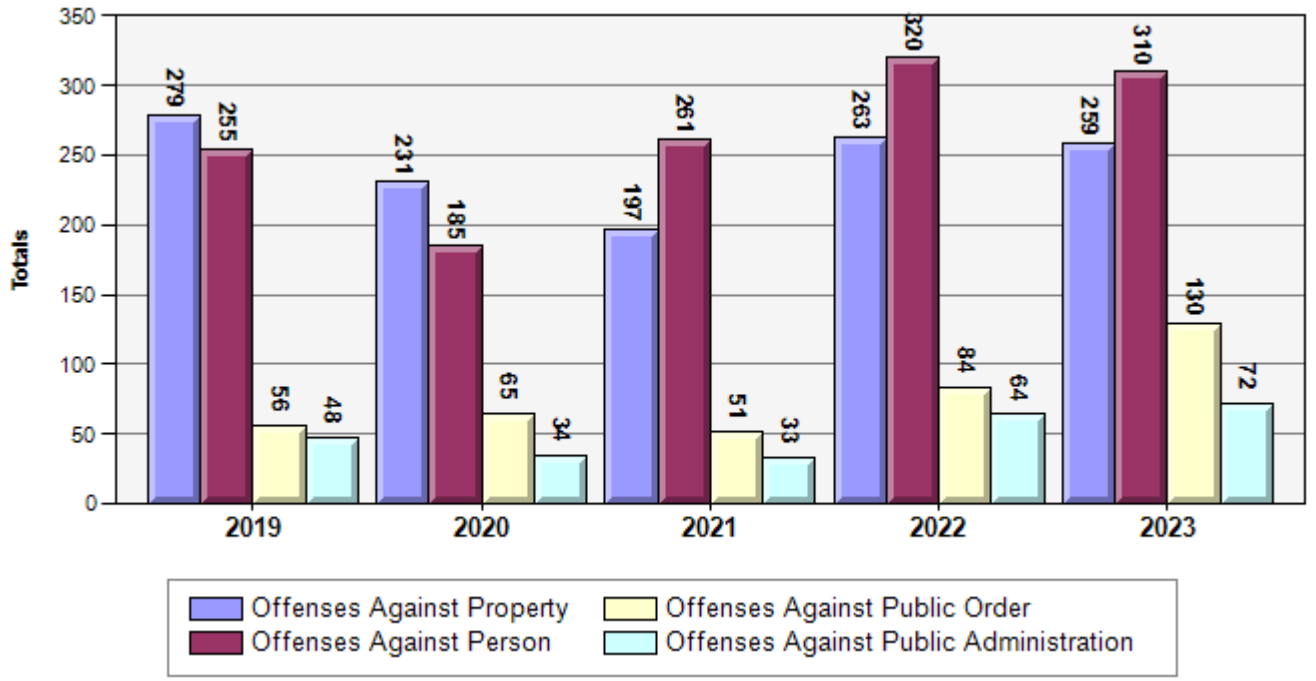
NUMBER OF REFERRALS PER YOUTH



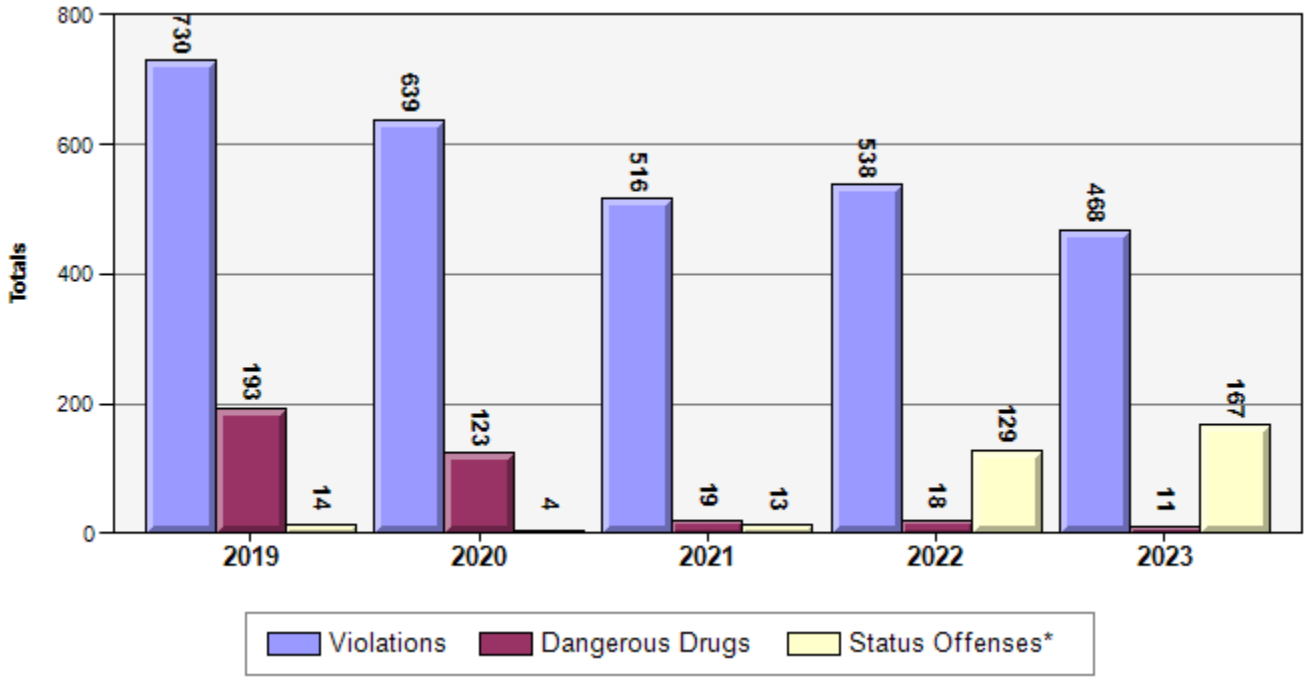
OFFENSE CLASSIFICATIONS



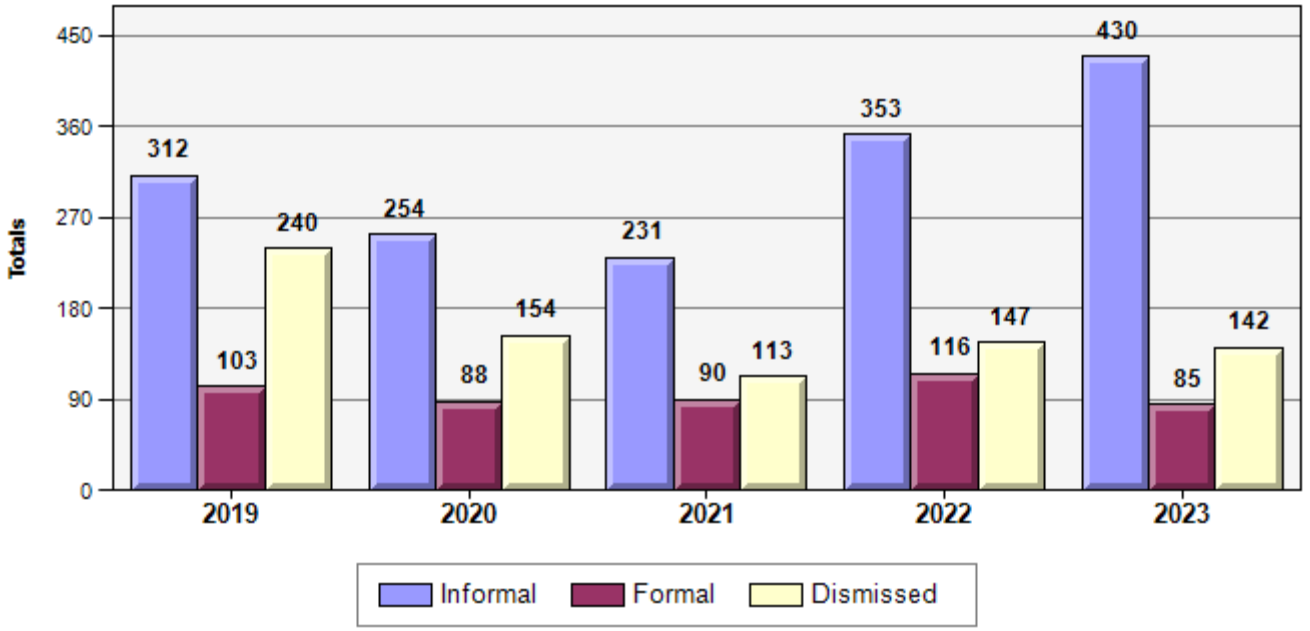
OFFENSE CATEGORIES



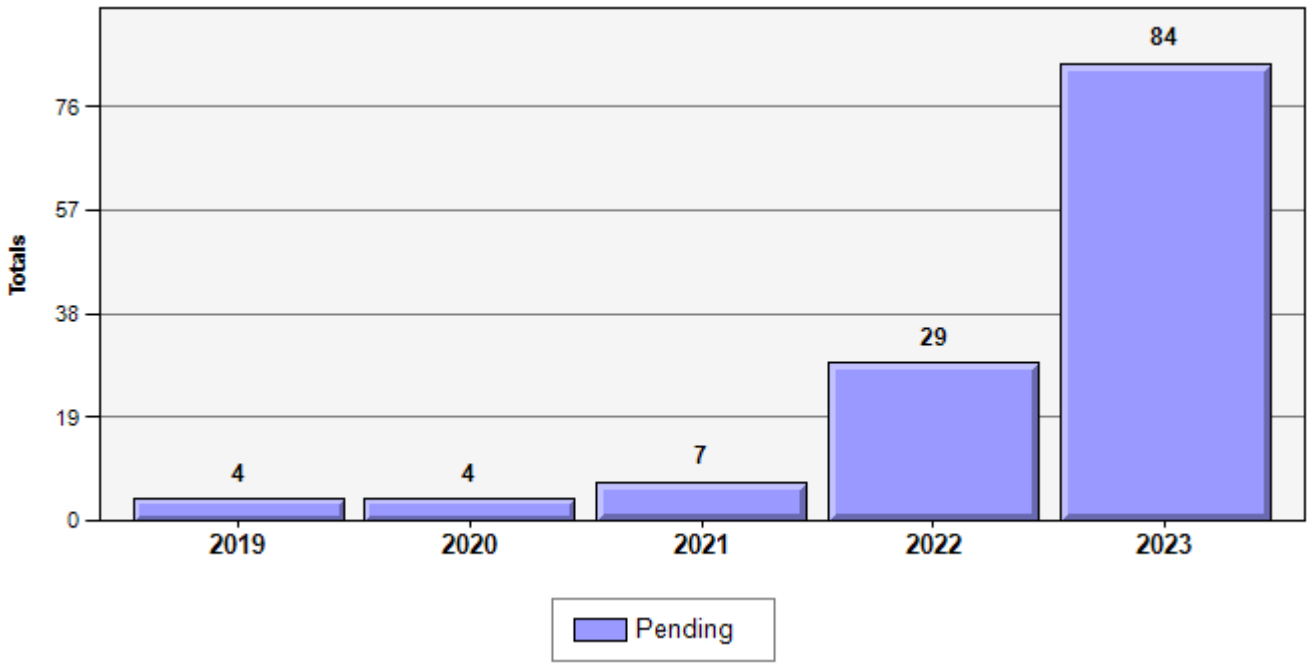
OFFENSE CATEGORIES



TYPE OF DISPOSITION USED



REFERRALS PENDING DISPOSITION



** These are referrals that are awaiting action from the county attorney's office or court, require further investigation by law enforcement, or a ticket has been issued and juvenile probation is waiting to see the youth and parent(s)*