



2024

ANNUAL REPORT TO THE GOVERNOR AND LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD

*Community Juvenile Justice Appropriations, Riders and
Special Diversion Programs*

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TEXAS
JUVENILE JUSTICE
DEPARTMENT

Annual Report to the Governor and Legislative Budget Board

COMMUNITY JUVENILE JUSTICE APPROPRIATIONS, RIDERS, AND SPECIAL DIVERSION PROGRAMS

Texas Juvenile Justice Department

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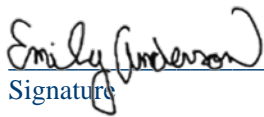


CERTIFICATE

Agency Name: TEXAS JUVENILE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT

This is to certify that the information contained in this agency Annual Report, filed with the Legislative Budget Board (LBB) and the Governor's Budget and Policy Division, is accurate to the best of my knowledge and that the electronic submission to the LBB and the bound paper copies are identical.

Deputy Executive Director, Support Operations and Finance


Signature

EMILY ANDERSON

Printed Name

11/22/2024

Date

Executive Director


Signature

SHANDRA CARTER

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11/22/2024

Date

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INTRODUCTION

The mission of the Texas Juvenile Justice Department (TJJD) is to build a unified juvenile justice system that exemplifies the agency's core values of safety, accountability, and transparency. Building this system requires the agency to develop and maintain constructive relationships with stakeholders; provide a systemwide, evidence-based continuum of services designed to produce optimal outcomes for youth, families, and communities; support the well-being of juvenile justice professionals who, in turn, support youth and fellow staff; and allocate resources based on risk and progress toward strategic goals. Working alongside local governments, courts, and other stakeholders, TJJD aims to keep youth as shallow as appropriate in the juvenile justice system and ensure public safety by operating secure facilities to rehabilitate youth who cannot be served in another less restrictive setting.

TJJD's core values include:

- **SAFETY:** Our number one priority is public safety. Providing a safe environment for our staff and youth is necessary for us to implement the most effective evidence-based programming in the most appropriate setting.
- **ACCOUNTABILITY:** We are a system rooted in accountability for our youth and staff, where everyone is held responsible for their actions and outcomes. We believe the behavior we desire to see in others should first be seen through our own actions.
- **TRANSPARENCY:** We maintain trust and transparency with all stakeholders through direct, honest, accurate, and proactive communication. We do not shy away from difficult conversations.

TJJD's vision is an effective and integrated juvenile justice system that:

- Advances public safety through rehabilitation;
- Embraces a one-system approach that includes the significant voice of county juvenile probation departments, and allows for local control;
- Equitably affords youth access to services that match their risks and needs to enhance opportunities for a satisfying and productive life;
- Employs a stable and engaged workforce fully empowered to be agents of change and reinforce rehabilitative goals for youth;
- Operates safe and therapeutic environments with positive peer cultures emphasizing mutual accountability; and
- Is a model system with innovative, data-driven, and successful programming.

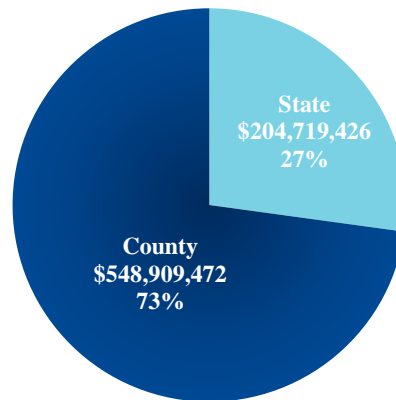
This annual report is provided in compliance with Riders 25 and 26 of TJJD's 2024-2025 appropriations bill pattern and includes the impact of initiatives such as residential placements and community-based programs and services for youth in the juvenile probation system.

DESCRIPTION OF FUNDING CONTRACT AND ALLOCATION METHODOLOGY

Funding Overview

The Texas Juvenile Justice Department (TJJJ) allocates funds appropriated by the Texas Legislature through grants to assist local juvenile boards in operating juvenile probation departments, juvenile detention and correctional facilities, and to assist in providing basic and special services to youth in the juvenile probation system. TJJJ allocates these funds to local juvenile probation departments through the State Aid and Targeted Grants Contract and General Grant Requirements that include grants to each of the state’s 164 juvenile boards. In fiscal year 2024, county funding accounted for 73% of total juvenile probation funding while state funding accounted for 27%.

Juvenile probation departments received the majority of their funding from local county governments in FY 2024



Previous departmental funding disbursements by fiscal year and by county for all probation grants are available online at <https://www.tjjd.texas.gov/probation-services/county-grants/#Disbursements>.

Community-based program information by department and grant are located in the TJJJ Program and Services Registry, which is available online at <https://www2.tjjd.texas.gov/programregistryexternal/members/searchprograms.aspx>.

Strategy A.1.1. Prevention and Intervention

Established Fiscal Year 2012

Total Amount Appropriated for Fiscal Year 2024: \$3,012,177

Description: For TJJJ grant-funded prevention and intervention programs, the target population includes youth (ages 6 to 17) who are not currently under departmental supervision but are at increased risk of delinquency, truancy, dropping out of school, or referral to the juvenile justice system. The submission guidelines indicated a preference for evidence- or research-based or promising practices.

Services are expected to be culturally competent and designed to successfully engage a youth’s family. The minimum required data include school attendance and juvenile justice referrals for students participating in the program. Counties are encouraged to engage in other data collection and analysis as possible.

Funding Allocation Methodology: TJJJ uses a competitive application process to disburse prevention and intervention grant funding. Juvenile probation departments submit an application detailing the target population, service methods, and expected outcomes of the program or service they wish to provide. A panel of TJJJ staff evaluates each application and makes recommendations for grant funding awards to TJJJ’s executive director for final approval. Funded programs include activities or services designed to focus on families, school-based intervention, out-of-school time, mental health needs, and skills- or character-building activities for youth. In fiscal year 2024, 26 juvenile probation departments received prevention and intervention grants.

Strategy A.1.2. Basic Probation Services <i>Total Amount Appropriated for Fiscal Year 2024: \$83,742,964</i>	Established Fiscal Year 1982
Strategy A.1.3. Community Programs <i>Total Amount Appropriated for Fiscal Year 2024: \$43,679,896</i>	Established Fiscal Year 2014
Strategy A.1.4. Pre & Post Adjudication Facilities <i>Total Amount Appropriated for Fiscal Year 2024: \$30,032,157</i>	Established Fiscal Year 2014
Strategy A.1.5. Commitment Diversion Initiatives <i>Total Amount Appropriated for Fiscal Year 2024: \$19,492,500</i>	Established Fiscal Year 2010
Strategy A.1.7. Mental Health Services <i>Total Amount Appropriated for Fiscal Year 2024: \$14,178,353</i>	Established Fiscal Year 2014

State Aid

Description: The State Aid grant is by far the largest source of state funds distributed in support of local juvenile boards to: (1) provide basic juvenile probation programs and services that are effectively delivered and adhere to standards and policies; (2) divert youth from commitment to a state-operated secure correctional facility through new or expanded community-based programs; and (3) increase the availability of mental health services for youth referred to and under the supervision of juvenile probation departments, including screenings, assessments, evaluations, programs, and placements. These objectives are achieved through the five component grants of State Aid—Basic Probation Services, Community Programs, Pre & Post Adjudication, Commitment Diversion, and Mental Health Services—which align with TJJD’s appropriations structure.

Funding Allocation Methodology: A funding formula determines the largest portion of departmental State Aid grant allocations. The formula accounts for each jurisdiction’s juvenile population and referrals, with adjustments made for prior years’ allocations. The majority of each juvenile probation department’s total allocation was disbursed across the five funding categories noted above based on the department’s historical spending patterns. The remainder of each juvenile probation department’s allocation was assigned to a “Flexible Funds” category that the juvenile probation department could budget under any category.

Additional funds may be distributed throughout the course of the fiscal year via the Supplemental and Emergent Needs (S&E) program. The S&E program responds to changing and unanticipated circumstances, principally in support of youth services to avoid increased commitments to TJJD. These funds are allocated to and administered by regional probation associations, with TJJD approving each grant funding distribution to an individual juvenile probation department.

The structure and budgeting requirements of the current State Aid program are designed to ensure funding flexibility as well as adherence to TJJD’s budget structure and transfer limits. In fiscal year 2024, TJJD distributed a total of \$162,920,254 through the State Aid program and \$397,022 through the S&E program.

Other Grant Programs

- **Salary Adjustment Grant:** In accordance with Rider 40, TJJD provides appropriated funds to local juvenile probation departments for salary increases. The Salary Adjustment grant provides funding in the amount of \$3,000 or 5%, whichever is higher, plus up to 20% for fringe benefits, for base salary adjustments for juvenile probation officers, juvenile supervision officers, supervisory administrators, and chief juvenile probation officers. In fiscal year 2024, TJJD distributed \$17,057,495 to local juvenile probation departments for salary increases.
- **Vocational Pilot Program:** As directed by Rider 33, TJJD allocates appropriated funds to establish and operate pilot programs in Harris, Hidalgo, and Cameron counties administered by non-profits that provide trauma-informed counseling and life-skills and hands-on vocational training for youth, including those who were previously committed to state correctional custody in the Juvenile Justice Department. The non-profit must be supported by the counties. In fiscal year 2024, TJJD distributed \$250,000 for these vocational pilot programs.

- **Multisystemic Therapy Program:** Through Riders 35 and 37, TJJD provides appropriated funds to continue front-end Multisystemic Therapy (MST) teams in Harris and El Paso counties to prevent youth and adolescents from entering the juvenile justice and child welfare systems. In fiscal year 2024, TJJD distributed \$916,667 for these MST programs.
- **Special Needs Diversionary Program:** The Special Needs Diversionary Program (SNDP) increases the availability of effective services to youth with mental health needs. TJJD works in coordination with the Texas Correctional Office on Offenders with Medical or Mental Impairments (TCOOMMI) and in cooperation with local mental health authorities (LMHAs) or other local mental health service providers to implement programs that provide services to youth under the supervision of local juvenile probation departments. In fiscal year 2024, TJJD distributed \$1,895,175 for SNDP.
- **Border Children’s Justice Project:** The goal of the Border Children’s Justice Project (BCJP) is to reduce delinquency, increase juvenile accountability, and rehabilitate juveniles through a comprehensive, coordinated, community-based juvenile probation system. The BCJP facilitates collaborative efforts by United States and foreign authorities involving juvenile courts, United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), law enforcement, United States and other consulates, child protective agencies, and correctional officials. The project is designed to improve the rehabilitative efforts of Texas and foreign authorities and provide a variety of services to juveniles and their families. The objective of the BCJP is to return foreign national juvenile offenders to their respective communities after processing in the Texas juvenile justice system; to assist in the return of US citizen juveniles who have committed offenses in Mexico, Central America, or South America to their home communities in the United States; and to serve foreign nationals residing in the United States. In fiscal year 2024, TJJD distributed \$100,000 for BCJP.
- **Harris County Leadership Academy:** As directed by Rider 31, TJJD allocates appropriated funds for the Harris County Leadership Academy (HCLA), which provides an intensive, cognitive-based residential program to redirect the thinking and behavior patterns of youth and remove barriers to their successful transition back to their families and communities. In fiscal year 2024, TJJD distributed \$1,000,000 for operation of the HCLA.
- **Detention Expansion Project:** The objective of the detention expansion project is to increase the availability of beds in pre-adjudication detention facilities. With these operational costs funded, the detention expansion project provides regional access to pre-adjudication services and maintains public safety. In fiscal year 2024, TJJD distributed \$3,722,456 for these projects.

Strategy A.1.8. Regional Diversion Alternatives

Established Fiscal Year 2016

Total Amount Appropriated for Fiscal Year 2024: \$22,029,232

Description: During the 84th legislative session, policymakers created Section 203.017, Human Resources Code, which requires TJJD to implement a regionalization plan designed to keep youth receiving juvenile justice services closer to their homes and to improve outcomes through community-based services. The Regional Diversion Alternatives (RDA) program seeks to build capacity, regional collaboration, and access to programs with the goal to serve more youth closer to their homes and avoid youth commitment to state residential programs. TJJD began the planning process for this initiative immediately following the conclusion of the 84th legislative session and included the collaborative work of the Regionalization Task Force. The task force involved the participation of probation practitioners, contract vendors, advocates, legislative stakeholders, judges, and prosecutors. Planning concluded in May 2016, and TJJD began implementation of the resulting regionalization plan in June 2016. During the same session, the Texas Legislature also amended Section 223.001, Human Resources Code, to require TJJD to set aside a portion of appropriated funds for discretionary state aid to fund programs designed to address special needs or projects of local juvenile boards, including projects dedicated to specific target populations based on risk and needs, with established recidivism reduction goals.

In response to these mandates, TJJD provides funding for RDA grants and for Discretionary State Aid (DSA) grants. The majority of funds are used to reimburse local juvenile probation departments for funds spent on community-based treatment services, placement, and aftercare services intended to divert approved youth from commitment to TJJD.

- The RDA grant program (individual youth diversions) supports an array of rehabilitative services for youth, including, but not limited to, community-based, residential, re-entry, and aftercare programs. Any juvenile probation department that would otherwise recommend a youth for commitment to TJJD shall propose an individual youth diversion plan for approval by TJJD’s Regionalization Department, unless they meet exclusionary criteria. Individual youth diversion plans submitted by local departments specify the proposed youth programs and services, provide information regarding the juvenile probation department’s prior efforts with the youth, and demonstrate how the proposed plan meets the specific needs of the youth in a research-driven way.
- The DSA grant program was created to comply with Section 223.001(c), Human Resources Code, and began in fiscal year 2017. The DSA grant program supports juvenile probation department programs and services with a clearly defined target population that use research-driven practices and have well-defined recidivism reduction goals.

Section 221.003(b), Human Resources Code, states that “a juvenile probation department must, before the disposition of a child’s case and using a validated risk and needs assessment instrument or process provided or approved by [TJJD], complete a risk and needs assessment for each child under the jurisdiction of the juvenile probation department.” In response to this mandate and in support of the juvenile probation departments, TJJD uses funds from Strategy A.1.8. Regional Diversion Alternatives to cover the costs of the validated risk and needs assessment tool used by all juvenile probation departments.

Funding Allocation Methodology: TJJD uses an application process to distribute RDA funding for individual youth diversion plans. A juvenile probation department identifies a youth meeting the target population, demonstrates prior efforts to treat the youth locally, and proposes additional programs and services within the region or a nearby region that would help divert the youth from commitment to TJJD. Additionally, the juvenile probation department must certify that, if not for the regional diversion program, the juvenile probation department would recommend the juvenile court commit the youth to TJJD. Once an individual youth diversion plan is approved and its funding limit is set, the juvenile probation department starts providing the indicated services and requests reimbursement against the approved funding amount from TJJD.

TJJD also uses a competitive application process to distribute DSA grant funding. Juvenile probation departments submit an application detailing the target population, service methods, and expected outcomes of the program or service they wish to provide. A panel of TJJD staff evaluates each application and makes recommendations for grant funding awards to TJJD’s executive director for final approval.

For fiscal year 2024, TJJD approved \$12,642,078 to reimburse expenses for RDA individual youth diversions, \$7,861,513 for DSA awards to individual juvenile probation departments, and \$1,131,678 to support the validated risk and needs assessment tool costs.

Strategy A.1.9. Probation System Support

Established Fiscal Year 2016

Total Amount Appropriated for Fiscal Year 2024: \$5,042,653

Description: The Juvenile Case Management System (JCMS) is a comprehensive, web-based juvenile justice information and case management system providing common data collection, reporting, and case management for the majority of the juvenile probation departments in Texas. JCMS allows statewide data sharing between 157 juvenile boards, TJJD, and the Department of Public Safety. The system consists of core case management components (intake, referral, case management, etc.) and additional enhancement features such as detention, institution management, and juvenile justice alternative education programs (JJAEP). JCMS facilitates sharing of data between juvenile justice agencies both across and within jurisdictions to improve collaboration, coordination, and service delivery for justice-involved youth.

Funding Allocation Methodology: In fiscal year 2024, TJJD allocated \$2.5 million for the continued maintenance and operation costs of JCMS. Operation expenses include fees charged by the managed server hosting provider to host, operate, and maintain the cloud servers; storage and network components of JCMS for the production, development/test and conversion environments; upgrades to the JCMS application to provide additional functionality; and the dedicated staff who function as the JCMS support infrastructure. Maintenance-related expenses include the costs of correcting deficiencies in the existing programming or functionality of the software application.

JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM EFFECTIVENESS AND OUTCOMES

The Texas Juvenile Justice Department (TJJD) disburses funds appropriated by the Texas Legislature to local juvenile probation departments through grants and reimbursement programs encompassed in the State Aid and Targeted Grants Contract and General Grant Requirements. These funds are used to provide supervision, programs, services, and residential placements to youth under the jurisdiction of the 164 juvenile boards. Because each grant and reimbursement program includes specific expenditure requirements and spending limits, juvenile probation departments blend funds to support the most appropriate level of supervision or service for each youth.

Youth under supervision include those on informal deferred prosecution supervision as well as those on formal court-ordered probation supervision. During their time under formal probation supervision, youth typically receive numerous services and programs. In addition to the supervision provided by their probation officer, youth ending formal probation supervision in fiscal year 2024 received the following programs and services during their time on probation:

- 80% had at least one drug test
- 76% participated in at least one community-based program
- 73% had been detained at least once
- 54% received at least one behavioral health service
- 24% had been in a residential placement at least once
- 13% received at least one non-residential service

As described above, each youth was provided supervision and services through numerous TJJD grants and local funding. No singular funding source, program, or service determines success or failure of youth under supervision. The combination of the supervision and services that youth receive while under supervision determines the impact juvenile probation has on the successful rehabilitation of youth.

This section provides information on the supervision, programs, and services provided through local juvenile probation departments as well as a report on the effectiveness of the juvenile probation system.

Measuring Effectiveness

TJJD receives data from all juvenile probation departments through the monthly extract process (electronic data submission). Departments report individual-level data on all youth referred, disposed, detained, placed in a residential facility, and/or provided a program or service. Data reported must conform to TJJD's electronic data interchange (EDI) specifications. Because TJJD receives data on all youth served by juvenile probation departments statewide, analysis and evaluation of the juvenile probation system is completed using all statewide data available rather than relying on a sample of youth served. TJJD EDI specifications available online at:

<https://www.tjtd.texas.gov/operations/research-and-legislative-reports>.

TJJD evaluates the efforts, effectiveness, and accountability of the juvenile probation departments using the following measures—definitions and calculation methodologies can be found in Appendix B:

- Formal referrals to juvenile probation departments
- Average daily population (ADP) of youth on deferred prosecution and probation supervision
- Total youth served on deferred prosecution and probation supervision
- Supervision outcomes for youth ending deferred prosecution and probation supervision
- Number of youth starting programs or residential placements
- ADP of youth in secure and non-secure residential placement facilities
- Recidivism rates for youth under supervision or placed in a secure residential facility
- Commitments to TJJD
- Adult certifications

Juvenile Probation System Outcome

Prevention and Intervention Programs

TJJD funds programs for at-risk youth to prevent or intervene in delinquency, truancy, dropping out of school, or referral to the juvenile justice system. To provide programming to at-risk youth, some juvenile probation departments collaborate with service providers to offer educational assistance, mentoring, character development, and skill-building programs after school or during the summer. Other departments focus on providing parents of at-risk youth the skills, services, and supports they need to better manage their child’s challenging behaviors. Prevention and intervention programs often focus on truancy intervention and feature partnerships with local schools to provide services, supports, and resources to ensure students are and remain actively engaged in school. Successful demonstration projects are expected to reduce the likelihood that at-risk youth will engage in delinquency or truancy, drop out of school, and/or be referred to the juvenile justice system.

In fiscal year 2024, 1,508 youth participated in a TJJD-funded prevention and intervention program. During the fiscal year, 1,106 youth started a program. The average age of youth referred to a TJJD-funded prevention and intervention program was 13 years old, younger than the average age of 15 years old for youth formally referred to juvenile probation departments in the fiscal year. Of the youth served in a TJJD-funded prevention and intervention program, 42% were Hispanic, 27% were White, and 19% were Black. The remaining 12% of youth served comprised the “Other” race category, including Asian and Native American youth. Over half, or 53%, of the youth served were male. A higher proportion of female youth were served in TJJD-funded prevention and intervention programs compared with the proportion of female youth formally referred to juvenile probation departments (47% versus 31%, respectively).

During fiscal year 2024, 1,041 youth ended a TJJD-funded prevention and intervention program. While 4% of participants ended the program because they failed to comply with program requirements, 96% of youth completed all program requirements. The average length of stay in a program was 162 days. Program duration can range from a three-week summer school/social skills class to year-round after school and summer programs.

More youth participated in a prevention and intervention program in FY 2024 compared with FY 2023

	2023	2024
Youth Started a Program	660	1,106
Youth Ended a Program	795	1,041
Youth Completed a Program	753	994
Percent Completed a Program	95%	96%

Referrals and Dispositions

In fiscal year 2024, there were 50,482 formal referrals to juvenile probation departments throughout Texas. This represents a 3% decrease from the 51,778 formal referrals in fiscal year 2023. Of these referrals, 45% were for Class A or B misdemeanor delinquent conduct, 41% were for felony delinquent conduct, 10% were for violations of probation, and 4% were for conduct indicating a need for supervision (CINS). In fiscal year 2024, 13% of formal referrals were for violent felony delinquent conduct. The number of formal referrals for violent felony delinquent conduct reduced from 6,456 in fiscal year 2023 to 6,352 in fiscal year 2024, a 2% decrease.

These 50,482 referrals came from 38,042 youth, 69% of whom were male. Of all youth formally referred in the fiscal year, 51% were Hispanic, 27% were Black, and 20% were White. The average age of youth formally referred to juvenile probation departments was 15 years old. Of the 38,042 youth referred in fiscal year 2024, a majority, or 81%, had one referral during the year, while 12% had two referrals and 7% had three or more referrals. Of the youth referred to juvenile probation departments in fiscal year 2024, 33% had identified mental health needs.

At the time of referral, 78% of youth were attending regular, charter, home, private, or online school; 9% of youth were attending school in a disciplinary alternative education program (DAEP) or in a juvenile justice alternative education program (JJAEP). Formally referred youth are assessed at the time of intake to determine if they have a need for substance use disorder services. The youth had a known substance use disorder in 14% of referrals in fiscal year 2024; a need for substance use disorder services was suspected in 9% of referrals.

There were dispositions by juvenile probation departments, prosecutors, and juvenile courts in 48,672 cases in fiscal year 2024. This represents a 2% increase from the 47,556 dispositions in fiscal year 2023. Juvenile case dispositions include supervisory caution, deferred prosecution supervision, probation supervision, TJJD commitment, or adult certification. Juvenile cases may also be dismissed, transferred, or consolidated with another court disposition.

In fiscal year 2024, TJJD commitment accounted for 1% of total dispositions. Commitment dispositions increased from 533 in fiscal year 2023 to 602 in fiscal year 2024, a 13% increase. Of the commitment dispositions, 47% were for a violation of a felony probation court order, 40% were for violent felony delinquent conduct, and 13% were for non-violent felony delinquent conduct.

Accounting for less than 1% of all dispositions, 148 youth were certified as adults in fiscal year 2024. Compared with fiscal year 2023, this represents a 5% decline in adult certifications. While all youth certified as adults committed the alleged conduct while under the age of 17, not all cases were referred to juvenile court before the youth turned age 18, which is the age at which the juvenile court loses jurisdiction. Of youth certified as adults, 67% were age 17 or younger at the time of the referral to juvenile court, while 33% were age 18 or older. The average age at certification was 19 years old. Because the juvenile court loses jurisdiction at age 18, the only mechanism to pursue a felony case referred after the person has turned 18 is certification. The case is dismissed if certification is not sought, if certification is sought but not granted, or if the case is ineligible for certification (i.e., not a felony).

There were less referrals and more dispositions in FY 2024 compared with FY 2023

	2023	2024	Change
Formal Referrals to Juvenile Probation Departments	51,778	50,482	-3%
Youth Referred	39,884	38,042	-5%
Referrals for Felony Delinquent Conduct	21,477	20,775	-3%
Referrals for Violent Felony Delinquent Conduct	6,456	6,352	-2%
Total Dispositions	47,556	48,672	2%
Youth Committed to TJJD	533	602	13%
Youth Certified as an Adult	155	148	-5%

Youth Under Supervision

Youth referred to a juvenile probation department may be placed under supervision in the community through deferred prosecution or court-ordered probation. In fiscal year 2024, 24,907 youth started deferred prosecution or probation supervision. During the year, 37,536 youth were served on deferred prosecution or probation supervision. Of the youth served on deferred prosecution or probation supervision, 55% were referred for felony delinquent conduct, with 34% of those youth referred for violent felony delinquent conduct.

Deferred prosecution is a voluntary supervision where the youth, the parent/guardian, the prosecutor, and the juvenile probation department agree on conditions of supervision. If the youth violates the conditions of the deferred prosecution agreement, the juvenile probation department may decide to proceed with a formal court adjudication and start probation supervision. Deferred prosecution supervision can last up to six months, and youth are eligible to receive services and programming offered by the juvenile probation department. Of the 14,910 youth who started deferred prosecution supervision in fiscal year 2024, 64% were assessed as having a low risk to reoffend.

Youth placed on adjudicated probation receive court-ordered supervision and must abide by the conditions of supervision stipulated in their court order. Youth are most often placed on probation supervision for a term of one year but may be placed on probation supervision until their eighteenth birthday. In fiscal year 2024, 9,997 youth started probation supervision. Of these youth, 25% were assessed as having a high risk to reoffend, and 29% were assessed as having a medium risk to reoffend. Youth under probation supervision may be served on a regular, specialized, or intensive caseload. Specialized caseloads target youth with special needs by providing additional supervision, contacts, and services. Examples of specialized caseloads include those for youth with mental health needs, youth with substance use disorders, youth who engaged in delinquent sexual conduct, youth who are gang members, and female youth.

There were more youth on deferred prosecution and probation supervision in FY 2024 than FY2023

	2023	2024	Change
Youth Started Deferred Prosecution Supervision	15,127	14,910	-1%
Youth Started Probation Supervision	9,487	9,997	5%
Total Youth Started Deferred Prosecution or Probation Supervision	24,614	24,907	1%
Youth Served on Deferred Prosecution Supervision	19,718	20,760	5%
Youth Served on Probation Supervision	15,660	16,776	7%
Total Youth Served on Deferred Prosecution or Probation Supervision	35,378	37,536	6%
Average Daily Population of Youth on Deferred Prosecution Supervision	5,840	6,168	6%
Average Daily Population of Youth on Probation Supervision	8,098	8,686	7%

In fiscal year 2024, 22,689 youth ended deferred prosecution or probation supervision. Possible supervision outcomes include successful completion, termination due to failure to comply with the conditions of supervision, TJJD commitment, or transfer to the adult system. During the fiscal year, 86% of youth ended deferred prosecution supervision successfully, and 84% of youth ended probation supervision successfully. Of all youth ended supervision in the fiscal year, only 1% were committed to TJJD.

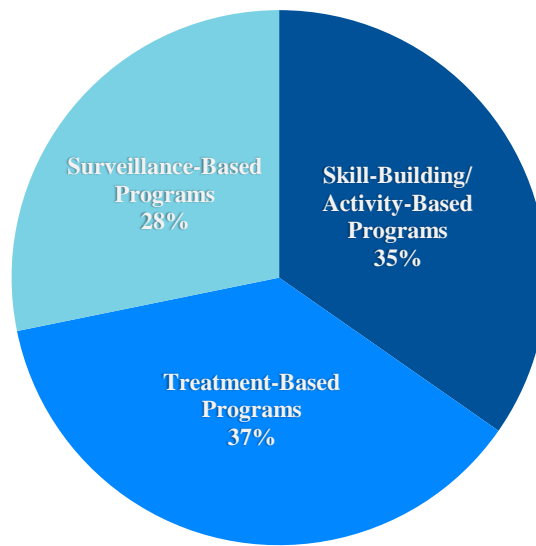
Supervision outcomes were comparable for FY 2023 and FY 2024

	Fiscal Year 2023				Fiscal Year 2024			
	Successful		Not Successful		Successful		Not Successful	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Deferred Prosecution	11,387	86%	1,909	14%	13,007	86%	2,121	14%
Probation	5,796	84%	1,140	16%	6,331	84%	1,230	16%
Total	17,183	85%	3,049	15%	19,338	85%	3,351	15%

Youth in Community-Based Programs

In order to keep youth closer to their home communities, juvenile probation departments have been charged with the task of pairing youth with appropriate community-based resources, services, and programming. In fiscal year 2024, juvenile probation departments offered 1,299 community-based programs to youth under their jurisdiction, at-risk youth, and the families of these youth.

Most youth participated in treatment-based and skill-building programs in FY 2024



Programs offered by juvenile probation departments are designed to meet the needs of a wide array of youth. Of program participants in fiscal year 2024, 37% participated in a treatment-based program, 35% participated in a skill-building/activity-based program, and 28% participated in a surveillance-based program.

Juvenile probation departments do not always wait until disposition to enroll a youth in needed programming. Across the state, 711 programs allow youth who are awaiting disposition to participate. Of the 8,750 youth enrolled in a pre-disposition program, 43% were under temporary pre-court monitoring or conditional pre-disposition supervision in fiscal year 2024. The most common pre-disposition programs were electronic monitoring and early intervention/first referral.

Of the youth served in a community-based program during fiscal year 2024, 81% were under deferred prosecution or probation supervision. Of the youth under deferred prosecution or probation supervision and enrolled in programming, 60% were referred for felony delinquent conduct and 39% were referred for Class A or B misdemeanor delinquent conduct. On average, these youth had two prior referrals to a juvenile probation department and entered programming at the age of 15 years. Youth may participate in numerous programs during their supervision. In fiscal year 2024, 18,711 youth under deferred prosecution or probation supervision added up to 36,133 program enrollments. During the fiscal year, 23% of youth were enrolled in three or more programs.

Electronic monitoring, educational, and counseling services were the predominant programs provided to youth on deferred prosecution and probation supervision in fiscal years 2023 and 2024

Program Type	Program Approach or Delivery	Programs Provided	
		2023	2024
Aftercare Management	Surveillance-Based	398	455
Anger Management	Treatment-Based	931	1,139
Border Justice Project	Surveillance-Based	20	19
Counseling Services	Treatment-Based	3,643	4,228
Cognitive Behavioral	Treatment-Based	1,132	1,004
Extended Day Program/Day Boot Camp	Treatment-Based	73	100
Drug Court	Treatment-Based	236	270
Educational	Skill-Building/Activity-Based	3,849	4,239
Electronic Monitoring	Surveillance-Based	4,646	4,862
Early Intervention/First Referral	Skill-Building/Activity-Based	1,040	1,782
Animal/Equine Therapy	Treatment-Based	203	233
Experiential Education	Skill-Building/Activity-Based	90	40
Family Preservation	Treatment-Based	756	820
Female Offender	Skill-Building/Activity-Based	117	112
Gang Prevention/Intervention	Skill-Building/Activity-Based	117	110
Home Detention	Surveillance-Based	939	759
Intensive Case Management	Surveillance-Based	924	1,140
Intensive Supervision	Surveillance-Based	2,779	2,871
Life Skills	Skill-Building/Activity-Based	1,976	1,926
Mental Health Court	Treatment-Based	109	100
Mentor	Skill-Building/Activity-Based	933	1,133
Mental Health	Treatment-Based	3,178	3,451
Other	Skill-Building/Activity-Based	333	223
Parenting (for juveniles)	Skill-Building/Activity-Based	10	10
Runaway/Truancy	Skill-Building/Activity-Based	1	5
Substance Abuse Prevention/Intervention	Skill-Building/Activity-Based	2,076	1,806
Sex Offender	Treatment-Based	1,140	979
Substance Abuse Treatment	Treatment-Based	1,593	1,670
Victim Mediation	Skill-Building/Activity-Based	95	138
Vocational Employment	Skill-Building/Activity-Based	219	306
Victim Services	Skill-Building/Activity-Based	201	203
Total Programs Participation		33,757	36,133
Total Youth Served*		17,292	18,711

**Youth may have participated in more than one program during the year.*

Special Needs Diversionary Programs

The Special Needs Diversionary Program (SNDP) provides mental health treatment and specialized supervision to rehabilitate youth with mental health needs and to prevent their further penetration into the juvenile justice system. SNDP is administered in a collaborative model by TJJJ and the Texas Correctional Office on Offenders with Medical or Mental Impairments (TCOOMMI) or local community mental health providers. Juvenile probation officers and local mental health providers coordinate community-based case management services. The program offers mental health services (including individual and group therapy), probation services (such as life skills, anger management, and mentoring), and parental support and education. This program requires in-home contact with the youth, involvement with the family, and small, specialized caseloads. In fiscal year 2024, SNDP operated in 19 juvenile probation departments.

In fiscal year 2024, SNDP served 924 youth with a diagnosed mental disorder other than substance use, intellectual disability, or autism spectrum disorder. During the fiscal year, 615 youth started the program, while 571 youth ended the program. The average daily population of youth in SNDP in fiscal year 2024 was 332.

While more youth started SNDP, less youth completed successfully in FY 2024 than FY 2023

	2023	2024
Youth Started SNDP	551	615
Youth Ended SNDP	552	571
Youth Completed SNDP Successfully	394	374
Percent Completed SNDP Successfully	71%	66%

Of youth participating in SNDP in fiscal year 2024, 32% had three or more referrals prior to starting the program, 69% had felony delinquent conduct in their history, and 7% had a prior residential placement coordinated through a local juvenile probation department.

The most frequent diagnoses were Neurodevelopmental Disorders (primarily attention deficit hyperactivity disorder), which accounted for 18% of youth participating in SNDP during fiscal year 2024. Other common diagnoses included Depressive Disorders at 17% and Disruptive, Impulse-Control, and Conduct Disorders at 11%. Of youth served in SNDP, 4% had co-occurring diagnoses involving both a mental disorder and a substance use disorder.

Youth in Residential Placements

The average daily population of youth in residential placement in fiscal year 2024 was 1,063. This represents a 4% increase from the 1,022 average daily population of youth in residential placement in fiscal year 2023. Youth under supervision may be placed in an emergency placement if there is no suitable living arrangement available or into a secure or non-secure residential facility as a condition of their deferred prosecution or probation supervision.

In fiscal year 2024, there were 2,399 youth admitted in emergency, secure, and non-secure residential facilities. Because a youth may enter more than one residential facility in a year, those youth accounted for 2,718 total placement admissions during the fiscal year.

Because residential placement removes youth from their home, it is generally reserved for those youth with the greatest need for services or those youth whose conduct and/or prior history warrants a more severe sanction than can be afforded in the community. In fiscal year 2024, 27% of youth placed outside of the home were assessed as having a high need for services, and 46% were assessed as having a high risk to reoffend. Of the youth placed in fiscal year 2024, 45% were placed outside of the home for engaging in felony delinquent conduct; 25% entered placement after a referral for the violation of a court order.

There were more placements in secure residential facilities in FY 2024 compared with FY 2023

	2023	2024	Change
Average Daily Population in Secure Placement	627	691	10%
Average Daily Population in Non-secure Placement	368	358	-3%
Average Daily Population in Emergency Placement	27	13	-52%
Average Daily Population in Residential Placement	1,022	1,063	4%
Secure Placements Started in Fiscal Year*	1,331	1,416	6%
Non-secure Placements Started in Fiscal Year*	898	878	-2%
Emergency Placements Started in Fiscal Year*	589	424	-28%

*A youth may start emergency, non-secure, or secure placement more than once during the fiscal year.

Youth entering a residential placement may be provided special programming while they are in the facility. About 14% of placements starting in fiscal year 2024 provided “general correctional” services. More specialized services were provided, with 10% of placements offering mental health treatment, 24% provided treatment for substance use disorders, while 6% offered sexual behavior specialized treatment.

Youth who started residential placement in fiscal years 2023 and 2024 most commonly received general treatment and substance abuse services

Placement Service Type	Non-secure		Secure		Total	
	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024
Boot Camp	0	0	214	187	214	187
Correctional	0	0	240	322	240	322
Female Offender	35	43	54	45	89	88
Mental Health	78	82	140	154	218	236
Other	24	25	4	10	28	35
Pregnant Female	1	0	1	0	2	0
Substance Abuse	398	367	166	182	564	549
General Treatment	270	293	440	457	710	750
Sex Offender	92	68	72	59	164	127
Total	898	878	1,331	1,416	2,229	2,294

Harris County Leadership Academy

The Harris County Leadership Academy (HCLA) provides co-ed, residential correctional programming for adjudicated youth, ages 14 to 17, who have been determined by the court to need a highly structured behavioral management program. HCLA is adaptable to Harris County’s specific needs for treatment and rehabilitation and provides an alternative to TJJD commitment.

HCLA utilizes the Intensive Behavioral Treatment (IBT) program, which is a comprehensive model incorporating evidence-based behavior modification practices with a multidisciplinary team approach. IBT’s focus is to redirect the thinking and behavior patterns of youth by instilling in them a healthy self-concept, respect for others, authority, and personal accountability. HCLA strives to provide youth with the tools for a successful reintegration into the community. Teachers from the Excel Academy Charter School provide educational classes. Therapeutic services include individual and family counseling, as well as group interventions for youth who have a history of trauma. Youth with drug and/or alcohol problems receive treatment provided through Turning Point of Houston. Volunteer- and staff-facilitated programs introduce changes in thinking, promote pro-social behaviors, and reinforce rehabilitation efforts. The facility’s intense physical training program aims to increase the physical fitness level, well-being, self-esteem, and healthy behaviors of youth. HCLA has a capacity of 24 female and 72 male beds.

In fiscal year 2024, HCLA served 126 youth, 62% of whom were placed in HCLA due to felony delinquent conduct. Youth in HCLA during the fiscal year had, on average, five prior referrals and were age 16 at the time of entry. In fiscal year

2024, 93 youth started HCLA, while 95 ended the placement. For youth who ended HCLA in fiscal year 2024, the average length of stay was 116 days, and 82% completed all program requirements while 12% failed to comply. Other youth ended HCLA because they moved to a less restrictive residential placement or transferred out of the jurisdiction.

Harris County Leadership Academy served less youth in FY 2024 than FY 2023

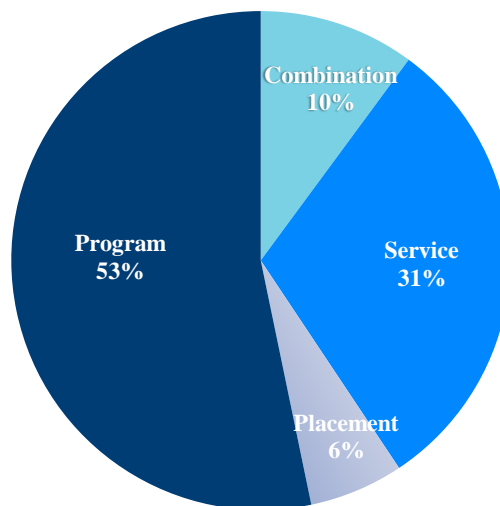
	2023	2024
Youth Started HCLA	119	93
Youth Ended HCLA	120	95
Youth Completed HCLA	123	83
Youth Failed to Comply	6	12

Commitment Diversion Initiatives

Commitment Diversion Initiatives include an array of community-based rehabilitation services intended to divert youth from commitment to state-operated secure correctional facilities. For Commitment Diversion funded programs and placements in fiscal year 2024, the average daily population was 675 and the cost per day was \$77.53.

In fiscal year 2024, 3,516 youth participated in programs, placements, or services funded completely or in part with Commitment Diversion funds. The majority, or 53%, of youth participated in a program, 6% participated in a placement, 31% participated in a service, and 10% participated in a combination of two or more of these types. A program addresses a specific purpose or goal for altering a juvenile’s behavior; has a curriculum and/or follows a strategy or plan; includes planned or coordinated activities; has measurable outcomes; and is typically required and/or tied to supervision. A service is a one-time event that provides help, assistance, or support to meet a juvenile’s immediate needs; has no curriculum or long-term strategy; is not associated with a program; and is not required and/or tied to supervision.

Most youth participated in a commitment diversion funded program in FY 2024



Of the youth served with Commitment Diversion funds in fiscal year 2024, 74% were male and 26% were female. Of the youth served, 48% were Hispanic, 29% were Black, and 22% were White. The average age of youth served by Commitment Diversion funds was 15 years old, which mirrors the age for youth formally referred to juvenile probation departments.

Of the youth served by Commitment Diversion funds in fiscal year 2024, 58% were on probation supervision and 25% were on deferred prosecution supervision. Juvenile probation departments used Commitment Diversion funds to serve youth referred for different conduct. Of these youth, 26% were on supervision for engaging in violent felony delinquent conduct, 37% for non-violent felony delinquent conduct, and 34% for Class A or B misdemeanor delinquent conduct.

During fiscal year 2024, 1,989 youth ended the supervision associated with a program, placement, or service funded by Commitment Diversion. Of the youth who ended supervision, 80% successfully completed their supervision, 13% failed to comply with the terms of their supervision, and 3% were absent without permission. The juvenile courts committed 74 youth to TJJD and transferred 6 youth to the adult system.

Commitment Diversion funded services to 1,408 youth in fiscal year 2024. Of those youth, 39% received two or more grant-funded services. In total, there were 4,800 Commitment Diversion funded services. Of these services, 86% were behavioral health services (e.g., crisis intervention, psychological evaluation, and single counseling session), 11% were non-residential services (e.g., clothing, dental appointments, and educational assessments), and 3% were drug tests.

In fiscal year 2024, 1,864 youth were enrolled in a community-based program funded by Commitment Diversion. Approximately 20% participated in two or more grant-funded programs. In total, there were 5,248 Commitment Diversion funded programs. Commitment Diversion funds were most often used to fund behavioral health treatments, counseling services, and mental health programs. Youth ended 4,373 grant-funded programs during the fiscal year. Of the youth who ended a program, 32% successfully completed their program and 5% failed to comply with program requirements.

Commitment Diversion funded the residential placement of 251 youth during fiscal year 2024. Of these youth, 51% entered placement after engaging in felony delinquent conduct and 28% entered placement after a violation of probation. During the fiscal year, 1% of youth participated in two or more grant-funded placements. In total, there were 264 Commitment Diversion funded placements. Of these placements, 91% were in a secure facility and 9% were in a non-secure facility. Youth ended 208 grant-funded placements during the fiscal year. Of the youth who ended a placement, 66% successfully completed their placement, 18% failed to comply with the placement requirements, and the remaining 16% ended for administrative reasons (e.g., transferred out of jurisdiction; changed facility, cost per day or level of care). The average length of stay was 212 days for a Commitment Diversion funded placement. At the end of fiscal year 2024, 129 youth had completed at least 180 days in a secure post-adjudication facility, or were in the sixth month of their placement.

Regional Diversion Alternatives Program

In 2015, the 84th Texas Legislature instructed TJJD, in consultation with local juvenile probation departments, to develop and adopt a regionalization plan for keeping youth closer to their home in lieu of committing them to TJJD.

The Regional Diversion Alternatives (RDA) Program provides resources to juvenile probation departments to obtain rehabilitative services for youth including, but not limited to, the following programs: evidence-based, community-based, residential, reentry, and aftercare programs.

The RDA Program diverts appropriate youth from commitment to TJJD to:

- An evidence-based program;
- A post-adjudication secure correctional facility;
- A non-secure correctional facility;
- A residential child-care facility; or
- Any other post-adjudication residential facility.

The Regionalization Department includes nine staff: one director, seven regional county program administrators, and one county grants data analyst. A planner also provides support to the Regionalization Department. This department:

- Approves plans and related protocols to administer the developed regional model;
- Assists in research-based program development;
- Monitors contract and program measures for the regionalization plan;
- Analyzes department data to provide clear guidance to local probation departments on outcome measures;
- Reports on the performance of specific programs and placements to assist in implementing best practices and maximize the impact of state funds;
- Provides training on best practices for all local probation departments affected by the regionalization plan; and
- Provides consultative services, technical assistance, and support to probation departments regarding diversion activities related to mental and behavioral health and other special population programs and services.

Target Population for Diversion

The goal of regionalization is to safely reduce the number of TJJD commitments and, at the same time, ensure that the most severe juvenile justice dispositions are limited to youth with the highest risks and needs. From a research-informed perspective, the appropriate target population for TJJD commitment is youth with a high risk of recidivism for whom less restrictive alternatives have been attempted prior to TJJD commitment. Consequently, an important focus of regionalization is to divert youth from TJJD commitment, particularly youth with a low or moderate risk to reoffend and rehabilitative needs that can be met at the county level of the juvenile justice system.

The initial target population of youth appropriate for regionalization diversion are all youth who are eligible, and under consideration, for commitment to TJJD. In order to qualify, the juvenile probation department must demonstrate a prior effort to provide appropriate intervention, with priority given to the treatment needs of the youth. Interventions should be commensurate with county resources.

Youth who may be especially appropriate for diversion include:

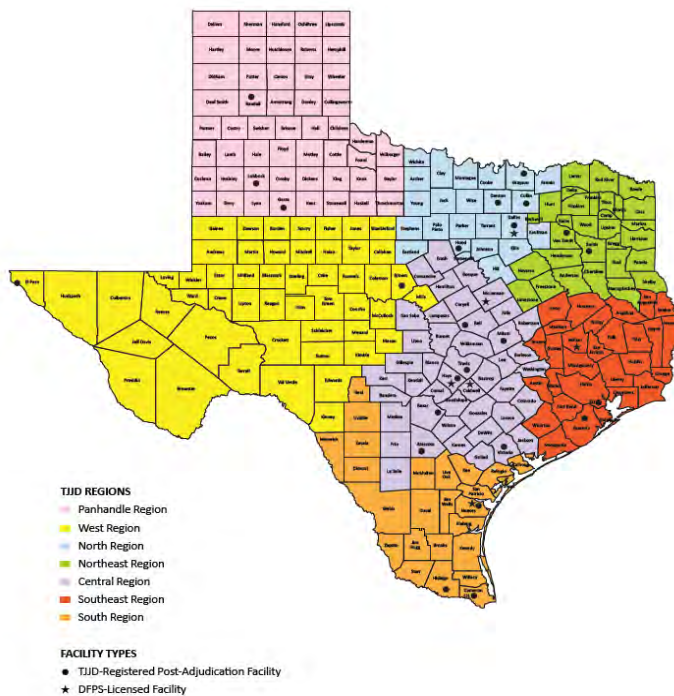
- Younger youth (those between the ages of 10-14);
- Youth with a serious mental illness;
- Youth with a developmental or intellectual disability;
- Youth with only non-violent conduct;
- Youth with low or moderate risk levels for re-offending;
- Youth for whom there is clear concern they have been, will be, or are being sex trafficked, as defined in Section 20A.02, Penal Code;
- Youth who have four or more adverse childhood experiences (ACEs);
- Youth who are/will be parenting;
- Female youth with a specialized treatment need; and/or
- Older youth in need of vocational or educational services.

As risk and needs assessments increasingly guide programming and placement decisions and local services are developed and enhanced, TJJD expects to see changes in the youth whom counties commit to state facilities and those whom counties seek to divert to regional alternatives. As these changes occur, TJJD will reevaluate the target population and application parameters for regional diversions to include more high-risk and moderate-high-risk youth.

The Seven Regions of Texas

Historically, the state's 164 juvenile probation departments have been divided into seven regional associations. These regional associations are the basis for the seven regions used for the regionalization plan. The leadership within each region plays a vital role in successfully implementing regionalization efforts. Each region contains considerable diversity. In more densely populated areas, juvenile probation departments often can offer more robust and varied programs and services, while smaller departments often have fewer program and service options.

All post-adjudication correctional facilities within each region offer some form of behavioral intervention or therapeutic programming; however, the availability of specialized treatment services or programs varies among facilities. Specialized programming may include substance use, sexual behavior, or mental health treatment or programming for special populations such



as female youth, young youth, or youth with intellectual or developmental disabilities. Determining the types of programming and the intensity of the services provided are important factors in appropriately matching the treatment needs of a youth with a program.

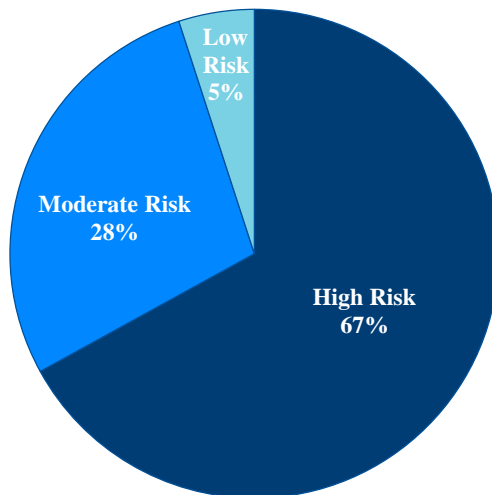
The regions' juvenile probation departments also provide various community programs and services, which are operated directly by the departments or through service-provider contracts. Community programs and services vary greatly across departments and regions and may include: specialized substance use, mental health, and sexual behavior treatment, programs for female youth or for youth who engage in violent delinquent conduct, and various psychoeducational and skills-building services for youth.

Regional Diversion Applications

During fiscal year 2024, juvenile probation departments submitted 380 regional diversion applications to the Regionalization Department. Of those 380 applications, 279 were approved for the RDA Program; however, not all youth who are approved for the RDA Program are subsequently placed in a residential facility. The final disposition decision remains with the local judiciaries. In fiscal year 2024, there were 229 youth placed in a residential facility using RDA funds. In addition to the traditional RDA Program, facilities in Travis, Randall, El Paso, Nueces, Garza, and Harris counties participated in residential expansion projects, which increased regional beds and diverted an additional 45 youth from TJJD commitment.

Of the submitted regional diversion applications, 85% were for male youth while 15% were for female youth, and the average age of the youth was 15 years old. Additionally, 67% of the youth had a high risk to reoffend, while 33% had a low or moderate risk to reoffend. Each of the seven regions of Texas submitted regional diversion applications. Of the 380 regional diversion applications, 30% came from the Central Region, 13% from the North Region, 15% from the Northeast Region, 5% from the Panhandle Region, 13% from the South Region, 12% from the Southeast Region, and 12% from the West Region.

Most youth had a high risk to reoffend according to applications submitted in FY 2024



Outcomes for Regional Diversion Alternatives

In fiscal year 2024, there were 231 discharges from an RDA-funded residential placement. Of these discharges, 78% successfully completed the placement, and 15% were subsequently committed to TJJD. There were 16 discharges from the six placement facilities participating in residential expansion projects. Of these discharges, 81% ended the placement successfully, and 13% were subsequently committed to TJJD.

A small proportion of youth were subsequently committed to TJJD after discharge from RDA or residential expansion placements in fiscal years 2023 and 2024

	2023	2024
RDA Placement Discharges	274	231
RDA Placement Ended Successfully	194	181
Percent Completed RDA Placement Successfully	71%	78%
Youth Received Subsequent TJJD Commitment	43	35
Percent Received Subsequent TJJD Commitment	15%	15%
Residential Expansion Placement Discharges	25	16
Percent Received Subsequent TJJD Commitment	16%	13%

Recidivism

To achieve its mission of creating a safer Texas through effective programs and services, TJJD tracks the re-referral/arrest (re-offense) and incarceration rates of youth served by the juvenile probation system. The supervision disposition date, program start date, or placement end date as recorded by the TJJD monthly extract data marks the start of the recidivism tracking period. Matching this data to the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) criminal history records and the Texas Department of Criminal Justice (TDCJ) records captures referrals and arrests that occur outside the originating juvenile probation department as well as arrests and incarcerations that occur in the adult criminal justice system.

A re-offense recidivism event includes a subsequent delinquent conduct (i.e., felony, Class A misdemeanor, and Class B misdemeanor) that resulted in a referral to a juvenile probation department, an arrest by a law enforcement agency, or both. TJJD also tracks youth whose subsequent conduct results in a recidivism event of placement in a secure post-adjudication residential facility, commitment to TJJD, or incarceration in a Texas adult prison. Conduct resulting in a subsequent incarceration recidivism event includes felony delinquent conduct and violation of court order, as it is possible to be committed to TJJD for a violation of felony probation.

There are four sections of recidivism analysis. The first section includes three-year recidivism rates for youth who received a disposition of deferred prosecution supervision or probation supervision in fiscal year 2021. The second section includes three-year recidivism rates for youth who ended residential placement in fiscal year 2021. The third section includes three-year recidivism rates for youth who started a Commitment Diversion funded program in fiscal year 2021 and for youth who ended a Commitment Diversion funded placement in fiscal year 2021. The fourth section includes three-year recidivism rates for youth who ended a Commitment Diversion funded placement in fiscal year 2021, for youth who ended a Regional Diversion funded placement in fiscal year 2021, and for youth released from a state-operated secure correctional facility in fiscal year 2021.

Recidivism Rates for Youth who Received Disposition of Deferred Prosecution Supervision or Probation Supervision

Youth who received disposition of deferred prosecution supervision or probation supervision in fiscal year 2021 were followed for three years from the supervision disposition date. The table below provides re-offense rates, subsequent secure placement, and subsequent incarceration rates as defined above. Of the 12,155 youth who received a disposition of supervision in fiscal year 2021, 50% committed a re-offense, 13% had a subsequent secure placement at a county facility, and 7% had a subsequent incarceration within the three-year tracking period. Of the youth who re-offended after starting supervision, 19% recidivated with violent felony delinquent conduct.

Half of the youth who received a disposition of deferred prosecution or probation supervision in FY 2021 re-offended within the three-year tracking period

	Year One	Year Two	Year Three	Total
Probation Supervision	30%	17%	9%	56%
Deferred Prosecution Supervision	23%	12%	8%	43%
Total Re-offense	26%	15%	9%	50%
Subsequent Secure Placement ¹	6%	5%	2%	13%
Subsequent Incarceration	2%	2%	3%	7%

Percentages may not sum to total due to rounding.

¹ Subsequent secure placement includes only secure residential placements and excludes youth 15 or older at the time of disposition.

Recidivism Rates for Youth who Ended Residential Placement

Youth in residential placement typically exhibit the greatest need for services and have a history of serious delinquent conduct, which warrant a more restrictive and intense treatment setting than can be provided in the community. Consequently, youth placed in residential facilities generally have higher re-offense and subsequent incarceration rates than youth on probation in the community.

The table below provides the three-year re-offense and subsequent incarceration recidivism analysis for youth who ended secure or non-secure residential placement in fiscal year 2021. Of the 1,769 youth who ended residential placement in fiscal year 2021, 68% committed a re-offense and 20% were subsequently committed to TJJJ or incarcerated in a Texas adult prison within the three-year tracking period. Of the youth who re-offended after ending residential placement, 24% recidivated with violent felony delinquent conduct.

Over half of the youth who ended residential placement in FY 2021 re-offended within the three-year tracking period

	Year One	Year Two	Year Three	Total
Ended Secure Placement	45%	17%	10%	72%
Ended Non-secure Placement	36%	17%	9%	62%
Total Re-offense	41%	17%	9%	68%
Subsequent Incarceration	7%	6%	7%	20%

Percentages may not sum to total due to rounding.

Recidivism Rates for Youth Served in a Commitment Diversion Funded Program or Placement

The purpose of Commitment Diversion Initiatives is to divert youth from commitment to a state-operated secure correctional facility by focusing additional services on high-risk youth in the community. Juvenile probation departments use Commitment Diversion funds for community-based programs and services and for residential placements.

The table below provides recidivism analysis for youth who started a Commitment Diversion funded program or ended a Commitment Diversion funded placement in fiscal year 2021. These youth were followed for three years from the program start date or placement end date. Youth who ended a Commitment Diversion funded placement had a re-offense rate of 66% while youth who started a Commitment Diversion funded program had a re-offense rate of 58%. Of the youth who re-offended after starting a Commitment Diversion funded program, 25% recidivated with violent felony delinquent conduct.

Youth who ended a commitment diversion funded placement have a higher re-offense rate compared with youth who started a commitment diversion funded program in FY 2021²

		Year One	Year Two	Year Three	Total
Started Commitment Diversion Program	Total Re-offense	39%	13%	6%	58%
	Subsequent Incarceration	3%	6%	7%	15%
Ended Commitment Diversion Placement	Total Re-offense	38%	17%	10%	66%
	Subsequent Incarceration	11%	6%	4%	21%

Percentages may not sum to total due to rounding.

² Youth served both in programs and placements were included in the recidivism rates both for programs and placements. Analysis includes both secure and non-secure Commitment Diversion funded placements.

Recidivism Rates for Youth Released from a Commitment Diversion Funded Placement, a Regional Diversion Funded Placement, or a State-Operated Secure Correctional Facility

Regional Diversion Alternatives seek to build capacity, regional collaboration, and access to programs and services with the goal to treat more youth closer to their homes and to divert youth from TJJJ commitment by focusing additional services on youth with a low or moderate risk to reoffend. Juvenile probation departments use Regional Diversion funds for community-based programs and services and for residential placements.

The table below highlights the three-year re-offense and subsequent incarceration rates for youth who ended a Commitment Diversion funded secure or non-secure placement, youth who ended a Regional Diversion funded secure or non-secure placement, and youth released from a state-operated secure correctional facility in fiscal year 2021. All youth served in a Commitment Diversion or Regional Diversion funded placement are included in the analysis if Commitment Diversion or Regional Diversion accounted for more than 50% of the funding.

Youth released from a state-operated secure correctional facility in fiscal year 2021 have higher three-year recidivism rates than youth who ended Regional Diversion or Commitment Diversion funded placements in fiscal year 2021. The re-offense rate was 74% for youth released from a state-operated secure correctional facility, compared with 66% for youth who ended a Commitment Diversion funded placement and 60% for youth who ended a Regional Diversion funded placement. Of the youth who re-offended, 46% of those released from a state-operated secure correctional facility recidivated with violent felony delinquent conduct, compared with 17% of those who ended a Regional Diversion funded placement and 22% of those who ended a Commitment Diversion funded placement. The subsequent incarceration rate was 35% for youth released from a state-operated secure correctional facility, compared with 23% of youth who ended a Regional Diversion funded placement and 21% of youth who ended a Commitment Diversion funded placement.

Re-offense and subsequent incarceration rates were highest for youth released from a state-operated secure correctional facility in FY 2021

		Year One	Year Two	Year Three	Total
Ended Commitment Diversion Placement	Total Re-offense	38%	17%	10%	66%
	Subsequent Incarceration	11%	6%	4%	21%
Ended Regional Diversion Placement	Total Re-offense	36%	17%	7%	60%
	Subsequent Incarceration	14%	5%	4%	23%
Ended State-Operated Secure Facility	Total Re-offense	48%	19%	7%	74%
	Subsequent Incarceration	17%	9%	9%	35%

Percentages may not sum to total due to rounding.

DESCRIPTION OF TRAINING, MONITORING, AND INVESTIGATION

TJJD works in partnership with local juvenile boards and juvenile probation departments to support and enhance juvenile probation services throughout the state by providing funding, technical assistance, and training; establishing and enforcing standards; collecting, analyzing, and disseminating information; and facilitating communications between state and local entities. TJJD also provides oversight of county-operated facilities. Below are descriptions of the agency’s efforts during the fiscal year to provide training, monitor secure pre- and post-adjudication facilities, and investigate abuse, neglect, and exploitation allegations in county-operated facilities and juvenile probation department programs.

Juvenile Justice Training Academy

The TJJD Juvenile Justice Training Academy (JJTA) is committed to the mission of developing, evaluating, and delivering quality training, executed in a thorough and professional manner to equip agency staff and juvenile justice stakeholders with the professional skills needed for exemplifying and achieving TJJD’s goals. Two Training Academy team members are dedicated full-time to the professional development of juvenile probation staff, while two other employees work with other aspects of juvenile probation training on a part-time basis.

Many counties still rely heavily on virtual training because they lack adequate staffing and virtual options offer cost savings. In fiscal year 2024, JJTA provided 61 virtual trainings with 4,965 participants. There were 52 in-person trainings with 1,255 participants.

More virtual than in-person training events held in FY 2024

	Number	Participants
Virtual	61	4,965
In-Person	52	1,255
Total	113	6,220

Monitoring and Inspections of Secure and Non-secure Community Based Facilities

Before changes made during the 88th regular legislative session, TJJD was required to annually inspect each public and private juvenile pre-adjudication secure detention facility, post-adjudication secure correctional facility, and non-secure correctional facility. Facilities are identified in the TJJD facility registry—the statutorily mandated registry of secure and non-secure facilities—which is updated on an annual basis. The TJJD Monitoring and Inspections Division schedules announced on-site facility inspections in which agency staff verify the facility’s compliance with applicable Texas Administrative Code (TAC) rules (i.e., minimum standards) through a comprehensive review of the facility’s policies, operating practices, resident services, and physical plant. These on-site inspections are supplemented with pre-visit desk reviews of various facility documents.

At the conclusion of each comprehensive on-site inspection, TJJD issues a web-based suitability report that is sent to the attention of the facility administrator, the jurisdiction’s juvenile board chairperson, and each of the jurisdiction’s juvenile judges. Formal findings of standards non-compliance require the facility to provide a prompt corrective action plan that TJJD monitoring staff review and ultimately substantiate.

Additionally, TJJD has the ability to conduct unannounced on-site inspections of any registered facility and does so based on identified need as determined by individual circumstances that may be brought to TJJD’s attention. While unannounced on-site inspections may be comprehensive in nature, they more frequently have a limited scope of review as determined by the circumstances precipitating the unannounced inspection.

During fiscal year 2024, the TJJJ Monitoring and Inspections Division completed a total of 87 inspections for 49 pre-adjudication secure detention facilities (including two short-term/holdover facilities), 35 post-adjudication secure correctional facilities, and 3 non-secure correctional facilities. Moving forward, statute requires TJJJ to conduct these inspections based on risk, rather than a prescribed annual schedule.

Majority inspections during FY 2024 were at pre-adjudication secure detention facilities

	Number	Percent
Pre-adjudication Secure Detention	49	56%
Post-adjudication Secure Correctional	35	40%
Non-secure Correctional	3	4%
Total Comprehensive On-Site Inspections	87	100%

Abuse, Neglect, and Exploitation Investigation

The Office of Inspector General (OIG) investigates allegations of abuse, neglect, and exploitation (ANE) at the county and state levels, including contract care facilities. The Incident Reporting Center (IRC) operated by OIG receives allegations through various reporting mechanisms, including by phone and email. Juveniles held in county-operated facilities have the right to report allegations of abuse, neglect, or exploitation directly to the IRC 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Reports can be made by juveniles, facility staff, parents, or the public. The allegations are assessed and assigned for investigation, if warranted. Once an investigation is initiated, OIG works closely with facility personnel and local law enforcement to conduct thorough investigations of the allegations.

Over half of OIG county referrals in FY 2024 were grievance reports

	Number	Percent
Grievance	2,105	55%
Serious Incidents	780	21%
Non-Reportable	427	11%
Allegations of ANE	202	5%
Other/Duplicates/Standards Violation	183	5%
Complaints	83	2%
Non-Jurisdiction	24	1%
Total	3,804	100%

Of the 3,804 total reports received by OIG in fiscal year 2024, 55% of the calls placed to the IRC were grievances that did not meet the definition of abuse, neglect, or exploitation and were therefore handled at the local level. OIG investigated 5% of the calls received by the IRC as allegations of abuse, neglect, and exploitation.

Over half of the ANE cases receiving a disposition were unfounded or indeterminable

	Number	Percent
Unfounded	84	42%
Confirmed	84	42%
Unable to Determine	32	16%
Exonerated	0	0%
Total	200	100%

Investigations are counted by perpetrator and or victim. Therefore, the number may exceed the count of reports received.

From the 202 reported allegations of abuse, neglect, or exploitation received in fiscal year 2024, 241 abuse, neglect, and exploitation investigations were opened. Of the abuse, neglect, or exploitation cases receiving a disposition in fiscal year 2024, 42% were *Unfounded* and 16% were *Unable to Determine*. A preponderance of evidence resulted in affirmative findings for 42% of investigations. The average length of time for an investigation to be concluded decreased from 101 days in fiscal year 2023 to 92 days in fiscal year 2024. At the end of the fiscal year, 41 investigations are ongoing.

FINANCIAL MONITORING OF COUNTY GRANTS

Financial monitoring and auditing of all grants awarded to local juvenile probation departments is critical to effective grant management at the state level. TJJJ's financial monitoring is a process that assesses the quality of internal control performance, allowable expenditures, and compliance with applicable laws and regulations. General principles for determining allowable costs under all TJJJ grants have been established for juvenile probation departments that receive state funds.

The application of these principles is based on the fundamental premises that:

- The juvenile probation departments shall be responsible for the efficient and effective administration of state funds through the application of sound management and accounting practices; and
- The juvenile probation departments shall assume responsibility for administering the grant funds in a manner consistent with underlying agreements, program objectives, and the terms and conditions of the State Aid and Targeted Grants Contract and General Grant Requirements.

Expenditure of Grant Funds

Juvenile probation departments statewide are required to expend all grant funds solely for the provision of juvenile probation services and juvenile justice programs within the budget categories of Basic Probation Services, Community Programs, Pre & Post Adjudication, Commitment Diversion, and Mental Health Services or according to the specific requirements of the individual grant. Examples of programs and services include community-based mental health services, individual and family counseling, substance use prevention and intervention, anger management, intensive supervision, family preservation, sexual behavior treatment, electronic monitoring, mentoring, after school programs, psychological and psychiatric evaluation, and therapeutic treatment. Funds may also be expended for the placement of youth in non-secure facilities and secure pre- and post-adjudication facilities where they receive education, treatment, and specialized services.

Reporting Requirements

Each juvenile probation department is required to submit a quarterly expenditure report detailing the utilization of all state funds received by the department and expenditures from local funds as required in the State Aid and Targeted Grants Contract and General Grant Requirements. The quarterly expenditure report gives an assessment of whether expenditure patterns are consistent with the department's approved budget application submitted at the start of each fiscal year. This report identifies expenditures associated with each grant allocated to the juvenile probation department. In addition to documenting expenditures, the review of the quarterly expenditure report determines whether expenditures are allowable or unallowable under each grant. These reports can identify areas of concern during the fiscal year, such as unfilled positions and funds not being utilized for juvenile programs and services.

Monitoring

TJJJ staff conduct financial monitoring and compliance activities on all grant funds allocated to local juvenile probation departments. The State Aid and Targeted Grants Contract and General Grant Requirements require local juvenile probation departments to maintain sufficient records to account for the use of state funds and provide TJJJ with reasonable evidence that service delivery is consistent with provisions in the grant requirements. TJJJ also provides technical assistance to juvenile probation departments and county staff regarding the proper expenditure of and accounting for state funds. During financial monitoring, TJJJ staff review financial documents such as payroll reports, general ledger, expenditure detail reports, caseload summary reports, timesheets, and service provider contracts to determine if expenditures are allowable under each grant provision.

The financial monitoring tasks include, but are not limited to:

- Interviewing the chief juvenile probation officer, financial manager, county auditor’s office, and treasurer’s staff;
- Reviewing purchase requisitions for authorization;
- Determining whether expenditures are reasonable;
- Comparing journal entries to actual invoices and costs for accuracy;
- Ensuring expenditures were incurred in the correct grant period;
- Ensuring expenditures comply with all grant requirements;
- Reviewing travel reimbursement documents for compliance with approved state travel rates;
- Determining compliance of juvenile probation officers’ salaries paid out of specialized grants by reviewing TJJD caseload summary reports and timesheets; and
- Reviewing all private service provider contracts paid in whole or part with TJJD funds.

Fiscal analysts also review the submitted annual budget applications, quarterly expenditure reports, and independent audit reports in preparation for the financial monitoring. TJJD follows a schedule that allows staff to review each department approximately once every two years. The time between audits can be shortened if significant findings are revealed in the department’s independent audit, a new chief is hired, or community complaints indicate a need for more frequent auditing.

In fiscal year 2024, fiscal analysts audited 81 juvenile probation departments. Staff conducted 81 off-site reviews. All audits are entered into the Compliance Monitoring and Enforcement Tracking System (COMETS), which allows TJJD staff to generate and immediately issue a summary report based on the outcome of the monitoring process. The juvenile probation department must respond to findings with a corrective action plan through the COMETS web-based system.

Independent Audit Requirement

Each fiscal year, juvenile probation departments are required to undergo an independent financial compliance audit of funds received from TJJD under the State Aid and Targeted Grants Contract and General Grant Requirements. A juvenile probation department may request a waiver to their audit. A certified public accountant conducts the audit in accordance with the most current auditing standards. The audit report is prepared in accordance with Generally Accepted Auditing Standards, Generally Accepted Governmental Auditing Standards, and TJJD’s audit requirements. The audit includes, as part of the Report on Compliance and Internal Control, the specific financial assurances contained in each specific grant requirement. The audit report includes an opinion on whether the department complied with the applicable assurance as well as a summary of all material instances of non-compliance and an identification of the total amount of any funds in question for each assurance. The independent audit reports for the fiscal year ending August 31st are due on March 1st of the following fiscal year.

The following process is followed to ensure consistent, efficient, and effective review of the audit reports:

1. TJJD mails the audit requirements to each county fiscal officer and chief juvenile probation officer, and a copy is published on the agency’s website.
2. The juvenile probation department submits one copy of the report, which will be maintained at TJJD. The Fiscal Unit coordinator conducts an initial review of the report after it has been received by TJJD.
3. The initial review of the report, with preliminary information, is entered into a “County Grant Information” document. This form documents the county name, auditor name, date report is received, type of grants received, and whether receipts, expenditures, and budgets reported in the audit report reconcile to TJJD records.
4. After the “County Grant Information” document is complete, the audit report is submitted to the Grants fiscal reviewer for a desk review.

The audit review ensures the following:

- The report meets generally accepted and government auditing standards;
- All grants are accounted for in the report;
- Receipts are reported using cash basis accounting for each grant;
- Expenditures are reported in proper budget categories;
- Expenditures agree with TJJJ's financial system; and
- The budget-to-actual operating statements include a variance column.

The required format for the independent audit report is as follows:

- Statement of revenues, expenditures, and changes in funds balance of all TJJJ grant funds;
- Required notes to the financial statements per audit requirements;
- Report on compliance and on internal control over financial reporting based on an audit of financial statements performed in accordance with Generally Accepted Governmental Auditing Standards; and
- Schedule of findings and questioned costs for current and prior years.

After the review, each juvenile probation department receives a letter based on recommendations from the audit review that may include a request for additional information, a corrective action plan for each finding or questioned cost, and, if applicable, a request for refund. A copy of the letter is mailed to the department's chief juvenile probation officer and fiscal officer and to the respective independent audit firm.

If the response from the department is accepted, the audit is considered closed and filed with the audit report. If the response is unacceptable, communications will continue until compliance is achieved. If compliance has not been achieved within 14 working days, TJJJ issues a Non-compliance Citation Report (NCCR) and may suspend funds.

Findings and questioned costs noted from the audit report (current and previous years) are included in the risk assessment monitoring tool and reviewed during the financial monitoring of the juvenile probation department.

APPENDIX A: ANNUAL REPORT TO STATE LEADERSHIP

The Texas Juvenile Justice Department is required to produce this annual report in accordance with Riders 25 and 26 of the 2024-2025 General Appropriations Act. The text of these riders is shown below.

Rider 25 of the 2024-2025 General Appropriations Act—Reporting Requirements to the Legislative Budget Board

From funds appropriated above, the Juvenile Justice Department shall maintain a specific accountability system for tracking funds targeted at making a positive impact on youth. JJD shall implement a tracking and monitoring system so that the use of all funds appropriated can be specifically identified and reported to the Legislative Budget Board. In addition to any other requests for information, the agency shall produce an annual report on the following information for the previous fiscal year to the Legislative Budget Board by December 1st of each year:

- a. The report shall include detailed monitoring, tracking, utilization, and effectiveness information on all funds appropriated in Goal A, Community Juvenile Justice. The report shall include information on the impact of any new initiatives and all programs tracked by JJD. Required elements include, but are not limited to, prevention and intervention programs, residential placements, enhanced community-based services for serious and chronic felons such as sex offender treatment, intensive supervision, and specialized supervision, community-based services for misdemeanants no longer eligible for commitment to the Juvenile Justice Department, Commitment Diversion Initiatives, and Regional Diversion Alternatives.
- b. The report shall include information on all training, inspection, monitoring, investigation, and technical assistance activities conducted using funds appropriated in Goals A and E. Required elements include training conferences held, practitioners trained, facilities inspected, and investigations conducted.
- c. The annual report submitted to the Legislative Budget Board pursuant to this provision must be accompanied by supporting documentation detailing the sources and methodologies utilized to assess program effectiveness and any other supporting material specified by the Legislative Budget Board.
- d. The annual report submitted to the Legislative Budget Board pursuant to this provision must contain a certification by the person submitting the report that the information provided is true and correct based upon information and belief together with supporting documentation.
- e. The annual report submitted to the Legislative Budget Board pursuant to this provision must contain information on each program receiving funds from Strategy A.1.1, Prevention and Intervention, including all outcome measures reported by each program and information on how funds were expended by each program.

In addition to the annual report described above, the Juvenile Justice Department shall report juvenile probation population data as requested by the Legislative Budget Board on a monthly basis for the most recent month available. JJD shall report to the Legislative Budget Board on all populations specified by the Legislative Budget Board, including additions, releases, and end-of-month populations. End of fiscal year data shall be submitted indicating each reporting county to the Legislative Budget Board no later than two months after the close of each fiscal year. JJD will use Legislative Budget Board population projections for probation supervision and state correctional populations when developing its legislative appropriations request for the 2026-27 biennium.

Upon the request of the Legislative Budget Board, the Juvenile Justice Department shall report expenditure data by strategy, program, or in any other format requested, including substrategy expenditure detail.

The Comptroller of Public Accounts shall not allow the expenditure of funds appropriated by this Act to JJD in Goal F, Indirect Administration, if the Legislative Budget Board certifies to the Comptroller of Public Accounts that JJD is not in compliance with any of the provisions of this Section.

Rider 26 of the 2024-2025 General Appropriations Act—Commitment Diversion Initiatives.

Out of the funds appropriated above in Strategy A.1.5, Commitment Diversion Initiatives, \$19,492,500 in General Revenue Funds in fiscal year 2024 and \$19,492,500 in General Revenue Funds in fiscal year 2025, may be expended only for the purposes of providing programs for the diversion of youth from the Juvenile Justice Department (JJD). The programs may include residential, community-based, family, and aftercare programs.

The allocation of State funding for the program is not to exceed a daily rate based on the level of care the juvenile receives. JJD shall ensure that the State is refunded all unexpended and unencumbered balances of State funds at the end of each fiscal year.

These funds shall not be used by local juvenile probation departments for salary increases or costs associated with the employment of staff hired prior to September 1, 2009.

JJD shall require juvenile probation departments participating in the diversion program to report to JJD regarding the use of funds within thirty days after the end of each quarter. JJD shall report to the Legislative Budget Board regarding the use of the funds within thirty days after receipt of each county's quarterly report. Items to be included in the report include, but are not limited to, the amount of funds expended, the number of youth served by the program, the percent of youth successfully completing the program, the types of programming for which the funds were used, the types of services provided to youth served by the program, the average actual cost per youth participating in the program, the rates of recidivism of program participants, the number of youth committed to JJD, any consecutive length of time over six months a juvenile served by the diversion program resides in a secure corrections facility, and the number of juveniles transferred to criminal court under Family Code, §54.02.

JJD shall maintain a mechanism for tracking youth served by the diversion program to determine the long-term success for diverting youth from state juvenile correctional incarceration and the adult criminal justice system. A report on the program's results shall be included in the report that is required under JJD Rider 25 to be submitted to the Legislative Budget Board by December 1st of each year. In the report, JJD shall report the cost per day and average daily population of all programs funded by Strategy A.1.5, Commitment Diversion Initiatives, for the previous fiscal year.

The Comptroller of Public Accounts shall not allow the expenditure of funds appropriated by this Act to JJD in Goal F, Indirect Administration, if the Legislative Budget Board certifies to the Comptroller of Public Accounts that JJD is not in compliance with any of the provisions of this Section.

APPENDIX B: DEFINITIONS AND CALCULATION METHODOLOGIES

This appendix provides the definitions and calculation methodologies used for the effectiveness and accountability measures of the juvenile probation system. All data used for these calculations are reported to the Texas Juvenile Justice Department by local juvenile probation departments through the monthly data extract submission process.

Definitions

Formal Referral: An event that occurs only when all three of the following conditions exist: (1) a juvenile has allegedly committed delinquent conduct, conduct indicating a need for supervision, or a violation of probation; (2) the juvenile court served by the juvenile probation department has jurisdiction; and (3) the office or official designated by the juvenile board has made face-to-face contact with the juvenile and the alleged offense has been presented as the reason for this contact or the office or official has given written or verbal authorization to detain the juvenile.

Disposition of Commitment to the Texas Juvenile Justice Department (TJJJ Commitment): This occurs when a youth is committed to the care, custody, and control of TJJJ. As of 2007, all commitments to the TJJJ, except those under the determinate sentencing act, are for an indeterminate term not to extend beyond the 19th birthday of the youth.

Disposition of Certified as an Adult: This is a situation in which the juvenile court waives its jurisdiction in order for the accused youth to be prosecuted as an adult in the criminal justice system. Certification is permissive and not mandatory under Texas law. Depending upon the type of felony committed, a youth as young as 14 years of age can be certified to stand trial as an adult.

Deferred Prosecution: This is a voluntary supervision in which the youth, parent/guardian(s), prosecutor, and the juvenile probation department agree upon conditions of supervision. Deferred prosecution can last up to six months and can be extended an additional six months by the court. If the youth violates any of the conditions of supervision, the department may elect to proceed with formal court adjudication.

Probation: This is a form of community-based supervision that is usually assigned for six months to one year, though it may be assigned until the 18th birthday of the youth. While on adjudicated probation, the youth may be required to participate in any program or placement deemed appropriate.

Calculations

Average Daily Population (ADP) of Youth on Deferred Prosecution and Probation Supervision: This is the average number of youth under active supervision per day during a specified period of time. It is calculated by obtaining the start and end dates of every youth under deferred prosecution and probation supervision in a given fiscal year, summing the total days these youth were under each type of supervision in that year, and dividing that total by the total number of days in the fiscal year. For youth whose supervision began prior to the start of the fiscal year, 09/01/2023 is used for the start date. For youth whose supervision ended after the end of the fiscal year, 08/31/2024 is used for the end date.

Total Youth Served on Deferred Prosecution and Probation Supervision: This is calculated by identifying which youth started deferred prosecution or probation supervision during a given fiscal year, which youth started before the fiscal year and ended during or after the fiscal year, and which youth started before the fiscal year and are still currently under supervision. The number of youth in each category is summed to determine the total number of youth served.

Number of Youth Started a Program: This is calculated by identifying which youth started a program during a given fiscal year. A program is a non-residential, department-operated or contracted/purchased service. A program must have a measurable or reportable objective and outcome. A program serves youth who are on some type of supervision. It does not include community service restitution or services received while in detention or residential placement. Youth are counted once for each program they participate in during the fiscal year.

Number of Youth Started Residential Placement: This is calculated by identifying which youth started residential placement during a given fiscal year. Residential placement is the placement of youth in a secure or non-secure residential facility. Residential placements include secure placements, non-secure placements, court-ordered placement into a foster-care-eligible facility, and probation emergency-shelter placements. Child Protective Services (CPS), kinship, hospital, and parental placements are not included in the number of residential placements.

Average Daily Population (ADP) of Youth in Secure and Non-secure Placements: This is the average number of youth in placement per day during a specified period of time. It is calculated by obtaining the start and end dates of every youth in residential placement in a given fiscal year, summing the total days these youth were in placement in that year, and dividing that total by the total number of days in the fiscal year. For youth whose placement began prior to the start of the fiscal year, 09/01/2023 is used for the start date. For youth whose placement ended after the end of the fiscal year, 08/31/2024 is used for the end date.

Supervision Outcomes for Youth who Ended Deferred Prosecution and Probation Supervision: This is the outcome for the supervision to which the youth received a disposition of deferred prosecution or probation supervision. The frequency and percent of outcomes are calculated based on youth terminating supervision during the fiscal year. The possible supervision termination outcomes are: Completed (sometimes called Successful), Transferred to the Adult System, TJJD Commitment, and Failure to Comply.

To calculate the percent of youth whose outcome is successful, the total number of youth with an outcome of Completed is divided by the sum of the numbers of youth with an outcome of Completed, Transferred to the Adult System, TJJD Commitment, or Failure to Comply.

Three-Year Re-offense Recidivism Rates: Calculations track behavior for three years from the supervision disposition date, the program start date, or the placement end date. This rate includes formal referrals to the juvenile justice system and arrests in either the adult or juvenile justice system. The rate includes only subsequent referrals and arrests for felony delinquent conduct as well as Class A or B misdemeanor delinquent conduct. Youth are tracked using TJJD monthly extract data as well as Department of Public Safety (DPS) criminal history records to capture referrals and arrests that occur outside of the originating juvenile probation department as well as arrests that occur in the adult criminal justice system.

Three-Year Subsequent Incarceration and Placement Recidivism Rates: Calculations track behavior for three years from the supervision disposition date, the program start date, or the placement end date. This rate includes commitment dispositions to the Texas Juvenile Justice Department for felony delinquent conduct or violation of felony probation as well as incarcerations in the adult prison system, as reported by the Texas Department of Criminal Justice (TDCJ). The subsequent placement rate tracks behavior for three years from the supervision disposition date or the placement end date and includes subsequent placement in a secure residential facility for any conduct.