



Transformed Youth • Reduced Juvenile Delinquency • Safe Communities

# Tarrant County Juvenile Services Annual Report

## 2019

## Table of Contents

Tarrant County Juvenile Board Members.....	1
Tarrant County Juvenile Services: Vision, Mission & Core Values .....	2
Overview of Tarrant County Juvenile Services.....	2
Tarrant County Juvenile Services: Organizational Chart .....	4
Overview Calendar Year 2018 .....	5
Referrals to Tarrant County Juvenile Services .....	6
Formal Referrals to Tarrant County Juvenile Services .....	6
Formalized Referral Trends 2014 to 2018.....	7
Referral Demographic Information .....	8
Risk and Need of Referred Clients.....	8
Profile of Diverted Youth.....	9
Court Services .....	10
Supervision Average Daily Population .....	11
Average Caseload by Unit.....	11
Demographics of Youth Placed on Deferred Prosecution Probation (DPP).....	12
Demographics of Youth Placed on Court Ordered Probation .....	13
Specialized Probation Services .....	14
Community Service Restitution (CSR) .....	15
Victim's Assistance Unit (VAU).....	15
Community Programs.....	16
Lynn W. Ross Juvenile Detention Center .....	17
Demographics of Admitted Youth .....	17
Juvenile Justice Alternative Education Program .....	18
Tarrant County Juvenile Services Source of Funds: Fiscal Year 2018.....	19

## Tarrant County Juvenile Board Members<sup>1</sup>

Honorable Elizabeth Beach - Criminal District Court No.1  
Honorable Patricia Bennett - 360<sup>th</sup> District Court  
Honorable James Munford - 322<sup>nd</sup> District Court  
Honorable Kimberly Fitzpatrick - 342<sup>nd</sup> District Court  
Honorable Josh Burgess - 352<sup>nd</sup> District Court  
Honorable Robb Catalano - Criminal District Court No. 3  
Honorable John Chupp - 141<sup>st</sup> District Court  
Honorable Don Cosby - 67<sup>th</sup> District Court  
Honorable David Evans - 48<sup>th</sup> District Court  
Honorable George Gallagher - 396<sup>th</sup> District Court  
Honorable Ruben Gonzalez, Jr. - 432<sup>nd</sup> District Court  
Honorable David Hagermann - 297<sup>th</sup> District Court  
Honorable Kenneth Newell - 233<sup>rd</sup> District Court  
Honorable Jerome Hennigan - 324<sup>th</sup> District Court - Juvenile Board Chairman  
Honorable Tom Lowe III - 236<sup>th</sup> District Court  
Honorable Susan McCoy - 153<sup>rd</sup> District Court  
Honorable Alex Kim - 323<sup>rd</sup> District Court - Tarrant County Juvenile Judge  
Honorable Jesus Nevarez, Jr. - 231<sup>st</sup> District Court  
Honorable Wayne Salvant - Criminal District Court No. 2  
Honorable Mike Thomas - Criminal District Court No. 4  
Honorable R.H. Wallace - 96<sup>th</sup> District Court  
Honorable Megan Fahey - 348<sup>th</sup> District Court  
Honorable Judith Wells - 325<sup>th</sup> District Court  
Honorable Mollee Westfall - 371<sup>st</sup> District Court  
Honorable Glen Whitley - Tarrant County Judge  
Honorable Melody Wilkinson - 17<sup>th</sup> District Court  
Honorable Scott Wisch – 372<sup>nd</sup> District Court

---

<sup>1</sup> Juvenile Board members as of December 31, 2019.

## Tarrant County Juvenile Services: Vision, Mission & Core Values

# Vision

Transformed Youth  
Reduced Juvenile Delinquency  
Safe Communities

# Mission

To practice developmentally oriented probation strategies, commit to principles of restorative justice, support public safety and provide services that promote positive youth development.

# Core Values

**RESPECT:** We honor and act with sensitivity to racial, ethnic, and cultural life experiences, cultivating a professional and connected work environment that values everyone.

**EXCELLENCE:** We model professional excellence with the intentional pursuit of achieving the highest degree of quality.

**INNOVATION:** We implement strategies to reduce recidivism which are evidence based, data driven or research supported. We believe that change is constant and to remain relevant we must constantly improve to meet the changing needs of our youth. We are open to ideas that challenge conventional views and drive innovation.

**PARTNERSHIPS:** We prioritize engagement with families and collaboration with service providers and other stakeholders to provide resources and services that promote positive youth development.

**RESTORATIVE JUSTICE:** We use restorative practices as a framework for building community, responding to victims of juvenile crime, while addressing challenging behavior through developmentally appropriate offender rehabilitation.

**SERVICE TO THE COURT:** We serve the Court and execute its orders with the highest degree of ethical and professional standards while fostering a collaborative and dynamic working relationship with youth, families, victims, and our community.

**DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH:** We embrace an approach to juvenile justice that recognizes the unique needs, capacities and contexts of adolescents and responds to delinquent behavior in ways that promote healthy, pro-social development and long-term success.

## Overview of Tarrant County Juvenile Services

Services are provided to juveniles under the authority of the Tarrant County Juvenile Board, which has designated the 323rd State District Court to serve as the Juvenile Court. The presiding judge of the Juvenile Court during the reporting period was Judge Alex Kim. Five associate judges assisted Judge Kim: Judge Ellen Smith, Judge Kim Brown, Judge William Shane Nolen, Judge Cynthia Terry, and Judge William Porter.

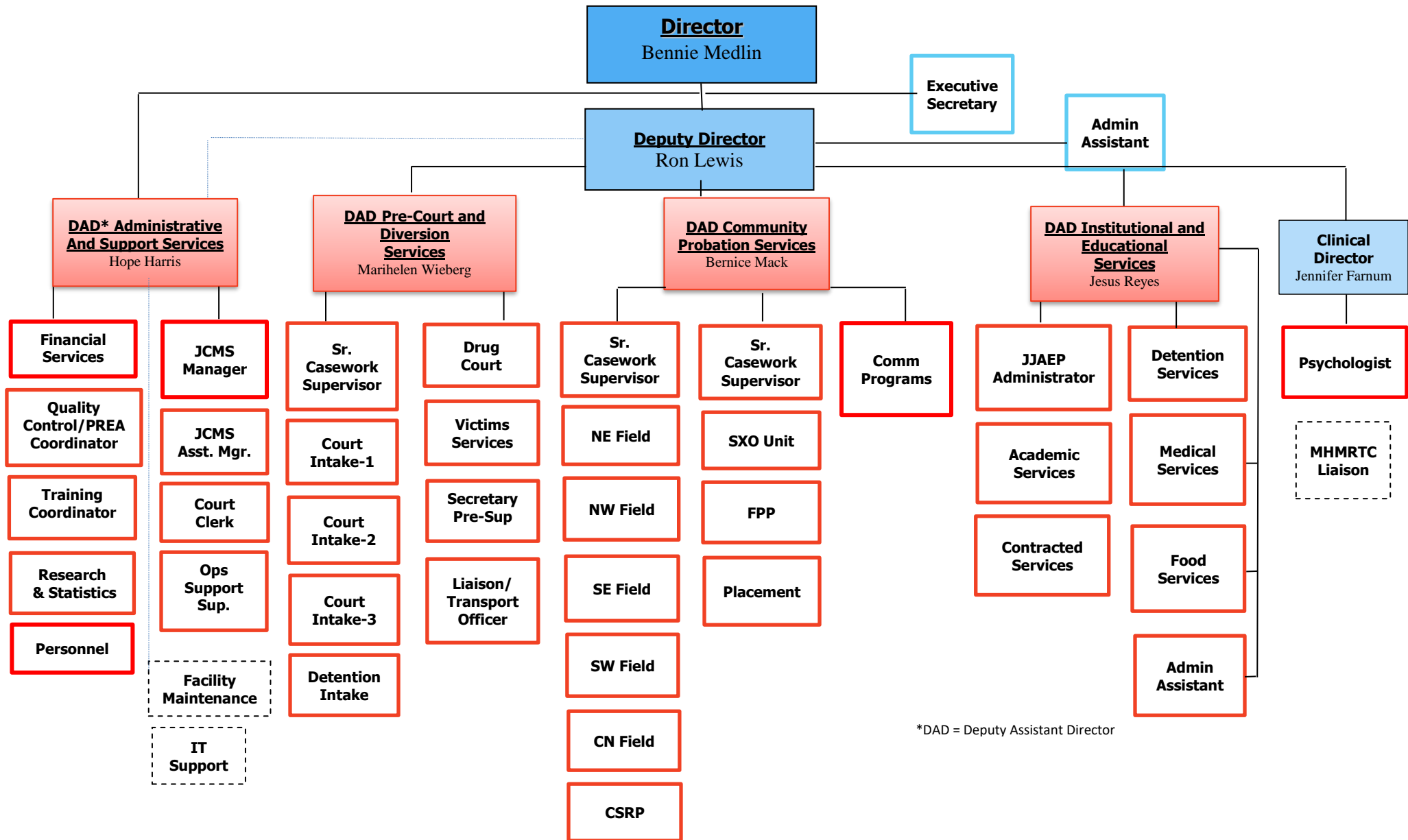
By statute, Tarrant County Juvenile Services (TCJS) is the agency designated to receive law enforcement reports of law violations defined either as delinquent conduct or conduct indicating a need for supervision allegedly committed by juveniles (children ages 10 through 16). Delinquent conduct is conduct, other than a traffic offense, that violates a criminal law of Texas or of the United State and is punishable by imprisonment or by confinement in jail. This includes Class A & B misdemeanors as well as felony-grade offenses. Conduct indicating a need for supervision (CINS) is conduct, other than a traffic offense, involving fine-only offenses such as Class C misdemeanors transferred from a justice or municipal court and include public intoxication, truancy, running away, inhalant abuse, and violation of school disciplinary codes that result in expulsion.

Services performed by TCJS include screening and diversion of cases to community resources, presenting objective reports to the court for use at disposition, executing court-ordered treatment and supervision, administering community corrections programs, securing alternative placement, and administering collection of court-ordered probation fees. TCJS has developed programs and operations with the goal of diverting youth from the juvenile justice system at the earliest appropriate point. The Juvenile Court endorses this belief by striving to identify the least restrictive environment for the care and rehabilitation of children while assuring community safety. To this end, TCJS has developed a range of community and home-based programs as additional options in solving the problem of juvenile crime. TCJS has the ability to offer a diverse continuum of services to youth and families of Tarrant County.

TCJS operates the Juvenile Detention Center, which is a 24-hour secure facility for the temporary detention of juveniles for serious law violations. The goal of the center is to provide supervision, activities, and counseling that will benefit each child during his stay. Services provided include educational, medical, recreational, and life skills training as well as daily written observations of each child for use by the court.

TCJS operates the Juvenile Justice Alternative Education Program (JJAEP), to provide services to youth who were expelled from public school for serious school-related law violations and as an alternatives site for students referred for serious violations of the Student Code of Conduct while placed in district alternative education programs.

## Tarrant County Juvenile Services: Organizational Chart



\*DAD = Deputy Assistant Director

## Overview Calendar Year 2019

Total Number of Formal Referrals	3676
Total Number of Youth Referred	2616
Tarrant County Population	2,074,442 <sup>2</sup>
Percent of Tarrant County Population that are Juveniles	10.4% <sup>3</sup>
Referral Rate per 1,000 Juvenile Population	17.0
Percent of Juvenile Population with a Formal Referral	1.2%
Total Number of Detention Admissions	1654
Total Number of Youth Detained	1113
Percent of Juvenile Population Detained	0.5%
Total Number of Adjudications	861
Percent of Dispositions resulting in Adjudication	16.3%
Total Number of Adjudicated Youth	641
Total Number of Court-Ordered Probation Dispositions	764
Total Number of Youth Placed on Court-Ordered Probation	519
Probation Rate per 100 Adjudications	88.7%
Percent of Dispositions resulting in Court-Ordered Probation	14.5%
Total Number of Deferred Prosecution Probation Dispositions	481
Total Number of Youth Placed on Deferred Prosecution Probation	380
Percent of Dispositions placed on Deferred Prosecution Probation	72.1%
Total Number of Modifications	255
Percent of Referrals resulting in Modification	6.9%
Total Number of Texas Juvenile Justice Department Commitments	84
Total Number of Certifications	12

---

<sup>2</sup> Population projection based on 0.5 migration scenario as provided by the Texas State Demographer for 2018. 2019 Data was not available.

<sup>3</sup> Aged 10-16 (215,892).

## Referrals to Tarrant County Juvenile Services

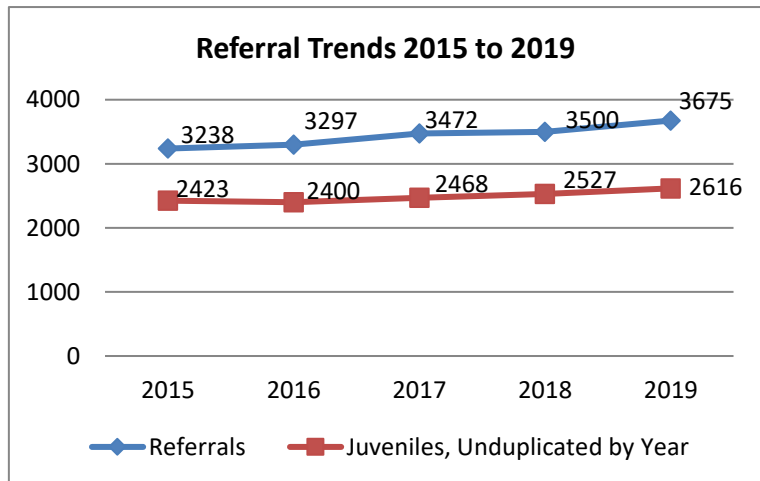
The Texas Family Code defines referral to juvenile court as “the referral of a child or child’s case to the office or official, including intake officer or probation officer, designated by the juvenile board to process children within the juvenile justice system” (p. 199).<sup>4</sup> Juveniles are referred to Tarrant County Juvenile Service (TCJS) for alleged delinquent behavior (including both felony and misdemeanor referrals), violation of probation, or conduct indicating a need for supervision (CINS offense). A juvenile can be referred to TCJS by a law enforcement agency, school, or probation department.

Referral Type	Frequency	Percentage
<b>Formal Referrals</b>		
Formalized	<b>1620</b>	<b>44.1%</b>
Paper Formalized	<b>2055</b>	<b>55.9%</b>
Total Formal Referrals	<b>3675</b>	<b>100.0%</b>
<b>Other Referrals</b>		
Interim/Interstate	<b>100</b>	
Contract Detention	<b>64</b>	
Other Administrative	<b>447</b>	
Paper Referrals Disposed as Paper	<b>356</b>	
Prevention Intervention	<b>257</b>	

### Formal Referrals to Tarrant County Juvenile Services

A referral is considered a formal referral when a face-to-face contact occurs between the youth and the probation department. Formal referrals are received in one of two ways, out-of-custody and in-custody. (1) When a youth is referred out-of-custody, the referring agency notifies TCJS of the offense and a letter is sent to the youth’s residence requesting that they appear for intake and processing. Once the youth appears for intake the referral becomes formal. (2) A youth who is referred in-custody is physically brought to the Lynn W. Ross Detention Center by a law enforcement agency for processing and temporary holding/detainment.

The total number of formal referrals has increased by 13.5% in the last five years (2015-2019). More recently, between 2018 and 2019 there was a 5.0% increase in formal referrals. The number of unduplicated juveniles referred to the department has increased 8.0% in the last five years, and there has been a 3.5% increase between 2018 and 2019.



<sup>4</sup> Sampson, J. & Tindall, H.L. (2013). *Texas Family Code Annotated*. New York, NY: Thomson Reuters.

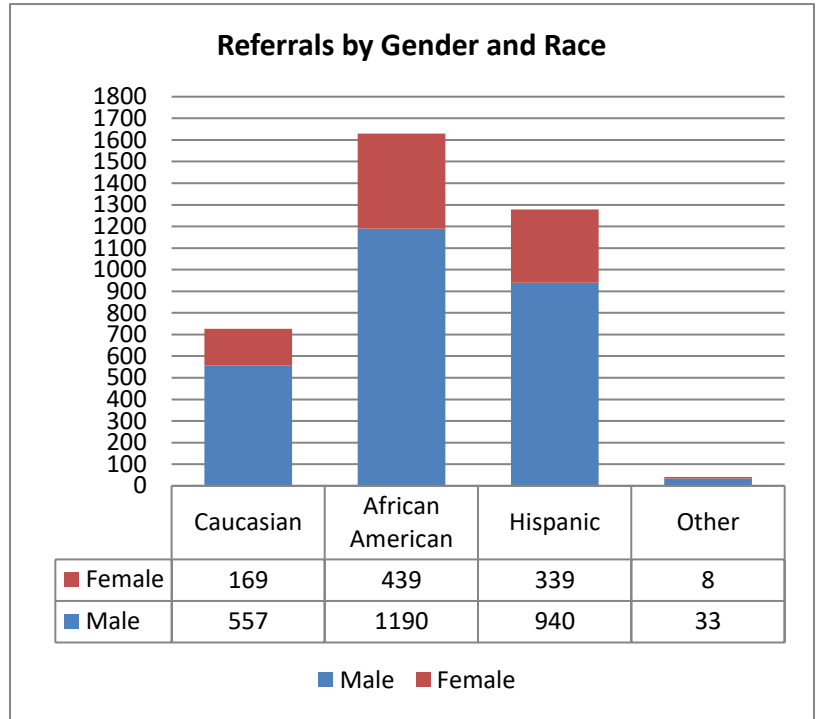
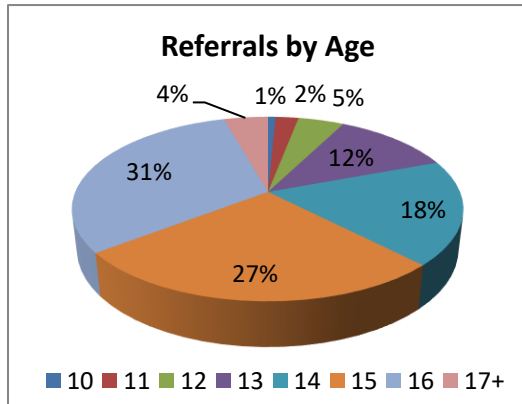


## Formalized Referral Trends 2015 to 2019

Felonies	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	1 Year % Change 2018-2019	5 Year % Change 2015-2019
<b><u>Violent Referrals</u></b>							
Homicide	3	9	5	8	4	50.0%(-)	33.3%(+)
Attempted Homicide	0	0	0	0	0	-	-
Sexual Assault, related	102	122	132	109	107	1.8%(-)	4.9%(+)
Robbery	90	102	138	125	137	9.6%(+)	52.2%(+)
Aggravated Assault	193	202	275	296	282	4.7%(-)	46.1%(+)
Other Violent	2	3	5	2	3	50.0%(+)	50.0%(+)
<b>Total Violent Referrals</b>	<b>390</b>	<b>438</b>	<b>555</b>	<b>540</b>	<b>533</b>	<b>1.3%(-)</b>	<b>36.7%(+)</b>
<b><u>Non-Violent Referrals</u></b>							
Burglary	187	209	160	110	131	19.1%(+)	29.9%(-)
Theft	65	62	68	71	74	4.2%(+)	13.8%(+)
Motor Vehicle Theft/UUMV	42	65	59	83	97	16.9%(+)	>100.0%(+)
Drug Offenses	45	66	66	87	207	>100.0%(+)	>100.0%(+)
Weapons Violations	29	40	33	34	25	26.5%(-)	13.8%(-)
Other Felony	108	157	154	144	201	39.6%(+)	86.1%(+)
<b>Total Non-Violent Referrals</b>	<b>476</b>	<b>599</b>	<b>540</b>	<b>529</b>	<b>735</b>	<b>38.9%(+)</b>	<b>54.4%(+)</b>
<b>Total Felonies</b>	<b>866</b>	<b>1037</b>	<b>1095</b>	<b>1069</b>	<b>1268</b>	<b>18.6%(+)</b>	<b>46.4%(+)</b>
Weapons Violations	13	33	37	26	36	38.5%(+)	>100.0%(+)
Assault	565	577	646	779	767	1.5%(-)	35.8%(+)
Theft	603	418	433	335	312	6.9%(-)	48.3%(-)
Drug Offenses	334	357	327	359	279	22.3%(-)	16.5%(-)
Other Misdemeanor	271	338	350	327	361	10.4%(+)	33.2%(+)
Contempt of Court	6	1	7	24	3	87.5%(-)	50.0%(+)
<b>Total Class A &amp; B Misdemeanors</b>	<b>1792</b>	<b>1724</b>	<b>1800</b>	<b>1850</b>	<b>1758</b>	<b>5.0%(-)</b>	<b>1.9%(-)</b>
<b>Total Delinquent Conduct Referrals</b>	<b>2658</b>	<b>2761</b>	<b>2895</b>	<b>2919</b>	<b>3026</b>	<b>3.7%(+)</b>	<b>13.8%(-)</b>
<b>Violation of Probation</b>	<b>488</b>	<b>454</b>	<b>491</b>	<b>524</b>	<b>577</b>		
Truancy	0	0	0	0	0	-	-
Runaway	88	82	86	56	69	23.2%(+)	21.6%(-)
Theft	0	0	0	0	0	-	-
Disorderly Conduct	0	0	0	0	0	-	-
Inhalant Abuse	0	0	0	0	0	-	-
DUI	0	0	0	0	0	-	-
Liquor Laws	0	0	0	0	0	-	-
Expulsions	1	0	0	0	0	-	100.0%(-)
Other	3	0	0	1	3	>100.0%(+)	-
<b>Total CINS Referrals</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>26.3%(+)</b>	<b>21.7%(-)</b>
<b>Total Referrals</b>	<b>3238</b>	<b>3297</b>	<b>3472</b>	<b>3500</b>	<b>3675</b>	<b>5.0%(+)</b>	<b>13.5%(+)</b>
<b>Total Juveniles</b>	<b>2423</b>	<b>2400</b>	<b>2468</b>	<b>2527</b>	<b>2616</b>	<b>3.5%(+)</b>	<b>8.0%(+)</b>

## Referral Demographic Information

In 2019, 74.0% of juveniles referred were male (n=2720). African American youth accounted for 44.3% of the referrals to the department, followed by Hispanic (34.8%) and Caucasian youth (19.8%). The average age at time of referral was 14.7 years.



## Risk and Need of Referred Clients

All clients formally referred to the department receive a risk and need assessment prior to disposition of the referral.<sup>5</sup> The Positive Achievement Change Tool (PACT) is the risk and need assessment utilized by TCJS. This assessment is used to determine the juvenile’s risk to reoffend and identify each client’s criminogenic needs that are contributing to their delinquent behavior. A little less than half (45.0%) of the youth receiving a PACT in 2019 were identified as low risk to reoffend. Approximately half (51.3%) were identified as low need.

### Referrals by Risk and Need Level

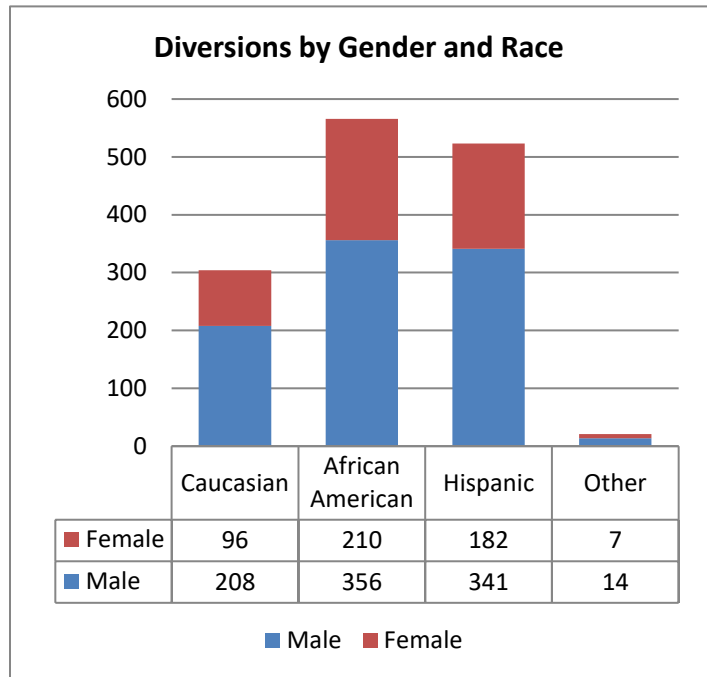
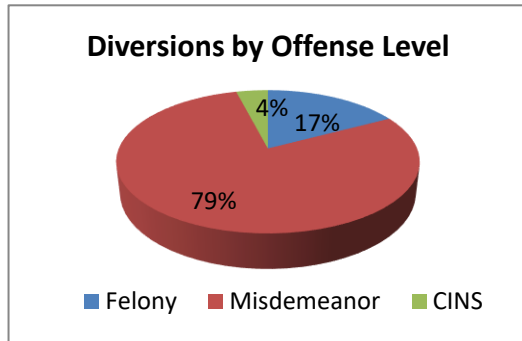
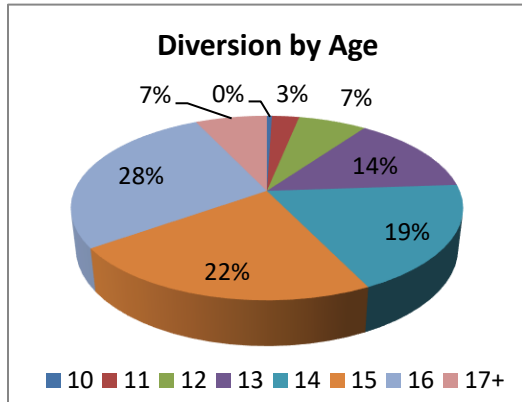
		Risk Level			TOTAL
		Low	Moderate	High	
Need Level	Low	1408 (41.8%)	320 (9.5%)	0 (0.0%)	1728 (51.3%)
	Moderate	107 (3.2%)	532 (15.8%)	538 (16.0%)	1177 (34.9%)
	High	0 (0.0%)	31 (0.9%)	434 (12.9%)	465 (13.8%)
TOTAL		1515 (45.0%)	883 (26.2%)	972 (28.8%)	3370 (100.0%)

<sup>5</sup> In 2019, there were 305 referrals without an associated PACT.

## Profile of Diverted Youth

Diversion is defined as (1) a youth who is formally referred to the department and subsequently disposed of as supervisory caution without having any other pending referrals or supervision, or (2) a youth who is successfully discharged from the Tarrant County Juvenile Drug Court.

The gender distribution of diverted referrals is 65.0% male and 35.0% female. Forty percent



of the diversions involved African American youth (40.0%), followed by Hispanic youth (37.0%), and Caucasian youth (21.5%). The majority of diverted referrals (82.6%) were for either a misdemeanor (78.7%; n=1113) or CINS offense (4.0%; n=57).

### Diversion by Risk and Need Level

The vast majority (81.4%; n=1082) of diverted youth receiving a PACT were identified as low risk to reoffend and approximately three-quarters (75.6%; n=1006) were identified as low need.<sup>6</sup>

		Risk Level			TOTAL
		Low	Moderate	High	
Need Level	Low	981 (73.8%)	25 (1.9%)	0 (0.0%)	1006 (75.6%)
	Moderate	101 (7.6%)	160 (12.0%)	14 (1.1%)	275 (20.7%)
	High	0 (0.0%)	26 (2.0%)	23 (1.7%)	49 (3.7%)
TOTAL		1082 (81.4%)	211 (15.9%)	37 (2.8%)	1330 (100.0%)

<sup>6</sup> In 2019, there were 84 diverted referrals that did not have an associated PACT.

## Court Services

The 323<sup>rd</sup> Family District Court is comprised of four courts that hear Child Welfare and Juvenile Delinquency cases. The most common hearings heard by the Court include detention, adjudication, modification, and disposition hearings. (1) All youth who are detained at the Lynn W. Ross Detention Center are scheduled for a detention hearing the next business day after admission. At this hearing, the judge decides whether to continue detaining the youth or whether the law violation can be safely and effectively resolved if the youth goes home. Youth who continue to be detained receive subsequent detention hearings every ten days and have the opportunity to request additional detention hearings at any time. (2) During the adjudication hearing the Court renders a decision that a delinquent act was or was not committed by the youth as alleged. If the youth is adjudicated delinquent a disposition hearing occurs. (3) At the disposition hearing the Court reviews the social history report and may order probation supervision, placement out of the home, or commitment of the youth to the Texas Juvenile Justice Department (TJJD). (4) Modification hearings are held for youth who have allegedly violated the conditions of their court-ordered probation. Youth who are found to have violated can have their probation term extended or conditions modified as a result of a modification hearing.

In addition to these more common hearings, the Court also hears determinate sentence and certification hearings. Determinate sentence hearings are reserved for more serious felonies and provide the Court with the option of giving the youth a disposition (probation or commitment) that extends beyond their 18<sup>th</sup> birthday. A certification hearing is held as the result of the District Attorney filing a motion to waive jurisdiction of the youth’s felony case to criminal court for criminal proceedings. Youth are eligible for certification based on their age at the time of the alleged felony offense and degree of that offense.

Hearing Type	Number of Hearings Convened	Percent of Convened Hearings
<b>Adjudication Hearings</b>	750	12.3%
<b>Adjudication/Disposition Hearings</b>	619	10.2%
<b>Disposition Hearings</b>	347	5.7%
<b>Motion to Modify Hearings</b>	437	7.2%
<b>Detention Hearings</b>	3271	53.8%
<b>Determinate Sentence Hearings</b>	121 (34 Granted)	2.0%
<b>Certifications filed by D.A.</b>	37 (12 Granted)	0.6%
<b>Miscellaneous Hearings</b>	499	8.2%
<b>Total Hearings</b>	<b>6081</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

During 2019, detention hearings accounted for 53.8% of the total hearings heard by the 323<sup>rd</sup> Family District Court. Adjudication (12.3%), adjudication/disposition (10.2%), modification (7.2%), and disposition (5.7%) hearings accounted for 35.4% of the hearings convened. Of the 121 determinate sentence hearings held, 28.1% (n=34) resulted in the youth receiving a determinate sentence probation or commitment to TJJD. Of the 37 certifications filed by the District Attorney’s Office, 32.4% (n=12) resulted in the youth being waived to stand trial as an adult for the alleged offense.

## Supervision Average Daily Population

The Tarrant County Juvenile Probation Department (JPD) provides three types of supervision: pre-adjudication, deferred prosecution (DPP), and court-ordered probation. (1) Pre-adjudication supervision is reserved for youth who are pending a court decision and have been placed in a pre-adjudication program or have been released from detention with conditions of release. These supervisions are assigned to a court intake officer who is responsible for ensuring the youth complies with the conditions of the pre-adjudication supervision. Clients participating in the Drug Court program are also supervised at this level. (2) DPP is front-end, post-arrest, pre-adjudication supervision primarily reserved for juveniles charged with a Class A or B misdemeanor or for a singular, first time felony property offense. DPP supervision is short-term, lasting a maximum of six months, with the option of terminating at three months based on the client’s compliance with the conditions of his/her supervision. (3) Juveniles with lengthy or serious referral histories may be placed on court-ordered probation supervision for unlawful behavior for a period not exceeding their 18<sup>th</sup> birthday. Probation supervision allows for public safety and teaches juveniles accountability for delinquent conduct. Probation supervision is implemented in partnership with the families to ensure success and promote long-term positive behavioral change.

Supervision Type	ADP
<b>All Supervisions</b>	1008.5
<b>Court-Ordered Probation</b>	588.2
<b>Deferred Prosecution Probation</b>	176.0
<b>Pre-Adjudication Supervision</b>	244.3

## Average Caseload by Unit

The Tarrant County JPD operates three court intake units, five traditional field probation units, and five specialized caseloads. The annual average caseload by unit is presented below.

Unit	Average Caseload
<b>Court Intake</b>	40.7
<b>Traditional Probation</b>	17.3
<b>Placement</b>	7.7
<b>Family Partnership Program (FPP)-SNDP</b>	14.4
<b>Family Partnership Program (FPP)-Specialized</b>	7.8
<b>Sex Offending &amp; Project SAFeR</b>	14.4
<b>Drug Court</b>	13.8
<b>Drug Court Intake<sup>7</sup></b>	62.5

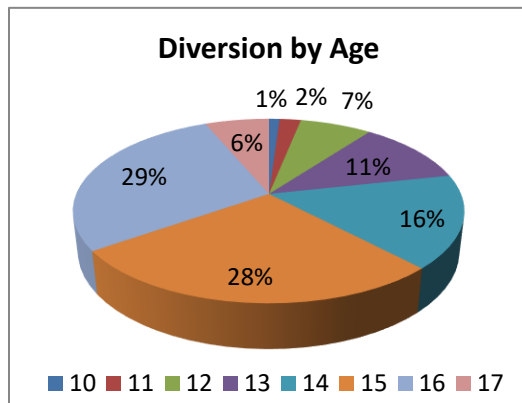
<sup>7</sup> The Drug Court Intake caseload was consolidated into the intake Caseload in December of 2019.

## Demographics of Youth Placed on Deferred Prosecution Probation (DPP)

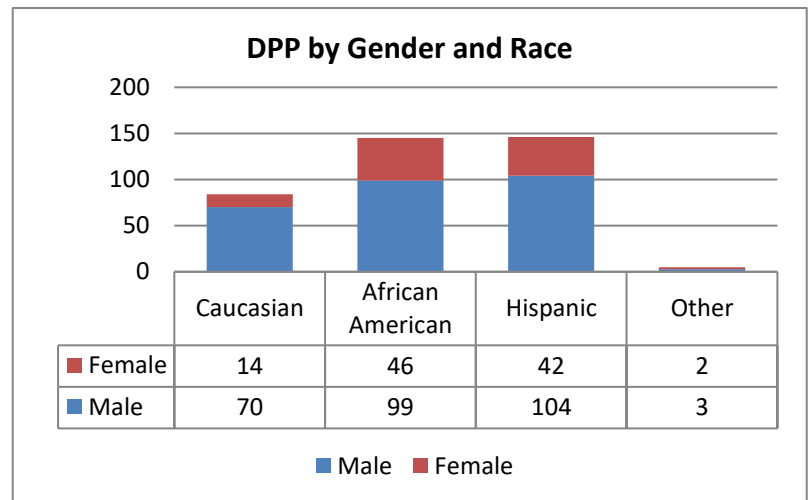
In 2019, 380 youth were placed on deferred prosecution probation (DPP) with the Tarrant County JPD. The majority (54.2%) of youth placed on DPP had been referred for a felony offense (n=206). The remaining 174 youth had been referred for a misdemeanor offense. The most common offense category for a youth on DPP was crime against person (54.5%; n=207), followed by property (25.5%; n=97).

### Offense Category of Juveniles Placed on DPP

Offense Level	Offense Type	Frequency (%)
<b>FELONY</b>	Violent Against Person	89 (23.4%)
	Property	64 (16.8%)
	Drug	30 (7.9%)
	Weapon	7 (1.8%)
	Public Order	8 (2.1%)
	Against Person	7 (1.8%)
<b>MISDEMEANOR</b>	Against Person	111 (29.2%)
	Property	33 (8.7%)
	Drug	19 (5.0%)
	Public Order	10 (2.6%)
	Weapon	2 (0.5%)
	Contempt of Court	0 (0.0%)



The gender distribution of youth placed on DPP is 27.4% female and 72.6% male. Hispanic youth accounted for 38.4% of youth beginning DPP in 2019, followed by African American youth (38.2%) and Caucasian youth (22.1%). The average age of youth beginning DPP was 14.7 years.



### DPP by Risk and Need Level

Slightly less than half (46.2%) of youth placed on DPP were identified as low risk to reoffend and 55.4% were identified as low need.<sup>8</sup>

		Risk Level			TOTAL
		Low	Moderate	High	
Need Level	Low	162 (43.8%)	43 (11.6%)	0 (0.0%)	205 (55.4%)
	Moderate	9 (2.4%)	97 (26.2%)	23 (6.2%)	129 (34.9%)
	High	0 (0.0%)	7 (1.9%)	29 (7.8%)	36 (9.7%)
TOTAL		171 (46.2%)	147 (39.7%)	52 (14.1%)	370 (100.0%)

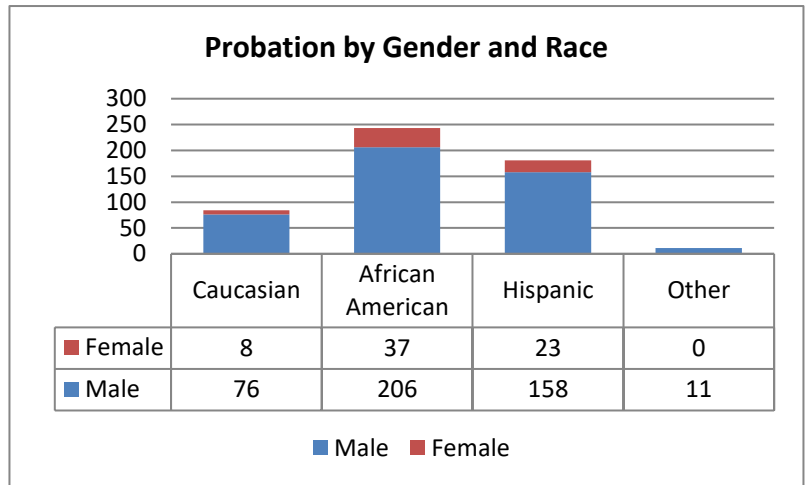
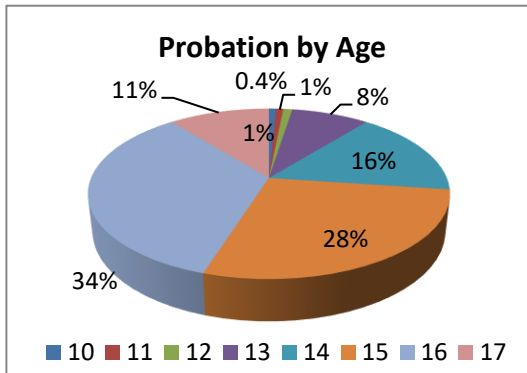
<sup>8</sup> In 2019, 10 youth beginning DPP did not have an associated PACT.

## Demographics of Youth Placed on Court Ordered Probation

In 2019, 519 youth were placed on court-ordered probation with the Tarrant County JPD. The majority (61.5%) of the youth placed on probation were adjudicated delinquent for a felony offense (n=319) and the remaining for a misdemeanor (n=200). The most common offense category for a youth on probation was crime against person (31.4%; n=163), followed by property (29.5%; n=153).

### Offense Category of Juveniles Placed on Probation

Offense Level	Offense Type	Frequency (%)
<b>FELONY</b>	Violent Against Person	148 (28.5%)
	Property	114 (22.0%)
	Public Order	19 (3.7%)
	Drug	19 (3.7%)
	Weapon	4 (0.8%)
	Against Person	15 (2.9%)
<b>MISDEMEANOR</b>	Against Person	92 (17.7%)
	Drug	26 (5.0%)
	Property	39 (7.5%)
	Public Order	30 (5.8%)
	Weapon	13 (2.5%)



The gender distribution of youth placed on probation is 13.1% female and 86.9% male. African American (46.8%) and Hispanic (34.9%) youth accounted for the majority of youth placed on probation, followed by Caucasian youth (16.2%) and those falling into other racial categories (2.1%). The average age of youth beginning probation in 2019 was 15.1 years.

### Probation by Risk and Need Level

Approximately 73% of the youth placed on probation were identified as moderate (34.0%; n=173) or high risk to reoffend (39.1%; n=199). Whereas 60.1% of youth placed on probation were identified as having moderate (45.0%; n=229) or high (15.1%; n=77) criminogenic needs.<sup>9</sup>

		Risk Level			TOTAL
		Low	Moderate	High	
Need Level	Low	131 (25.7%)	72 (14.1%)	0 (0.0%)	203 (39.9%)
	Moderate	6 (1.2%)	100 (19.6%)	123 (24.2%)	229 (45.0%)
	High	0 (0.0%)	1 (0.2%)	76 (14.9%)	77 (15.1%)
TOTAL		137 (26.9%)	173 (34.0%)	199 (39.1%)	509 (100.0%)

<sup>9</sup> In 2019, 10 youth beginning probation did not have an associated PACT.

## Specialized Probation Services

TCJS operates several specialized probation caseload programs.

**Juvenile Drug Court** targets juvenile offenders referred for drug offenses. The program offers eligible youth a voluntary opportunity to receive substance abuse treatment as an alternative to being placed on formal probation. A wraparound service treatment model is utilized to provide the services that youth and their families need to be successful, such as counseling/therapy, drug treatment, drug education, and family preservation services.

The **Placement Unit** oversees the supervision of all youth placed in residential placement as a condition of their court-ordered probation. Residential placement of youth is utilized when less restrictive efforts to achieve law abiding behaviors have been ineffective.

The **Sex Offending Caseload** provides specialized probation supervision for juveniles adjudicated for sex offenses. Juveniles on this caseload are expected to participate in a 9 to 12 month program of mandatory treatment that includes individual, family, and group therapy. Attendance at treatment sessions is closely monitored by specialized probation officers and a licensed sex offender treatment provider.

**Project SAFeR** is a pre-disposition program designed to prevent future problematic sexual behavior for first time juvenile offenders ages 10-12 who are referred for sex offenses. Juveniles on this caseload receive individual and family outpatient therapy to address sexual behavior, boundary setting, sex education, self-regulation, social skills, and how to acknowledge and apologize for inappropriate sexual behavior.

**Family Partnership Program (FPP)** is a collaborative partnership between Mental Health Mental Retardation of Tarrant County (MHMR) and TCJS to provide intensive, home-based services for juveniles on probation with mental health needs. FPP operates from a team-focused, strength-based platform, employing a team that consists of a juvenile probation officer, a therapist, and family members. The FPP unit has two caseloads: Special Needs Diversionary Program (SNDP) and Specialized. SNDP caseload primarily serves youth who display externalizing disorders (e.g. conduct disorder), while the Specialized caseload primarily serves youth who exhibit internalizing disorders (e.g. depression).

### Specialized Services Number Served & Completion Status

Specialized Unit	Number Served	Number of Completions	Other Completions	Successful Completions	Unsuccessful Completions
Placement	60	33	0	32 (97.0%)	1 (3.0%)
FPP SNDP	118	69	6	45 (71.4%)	18 (28.6%)
FPP Specialized	62	37	4	21 (63.6%)	12 (36.4%)
Sex Offending	128	48	7	27 (65.9%)	14 (34.1%)
Project SAFeR	2	1	0	1 (100.0%)	0 (0.0%)
Drug Court	87	45	2	32 (74.4%)	11 (25.6%)



## Community Service Restitution (CSR)

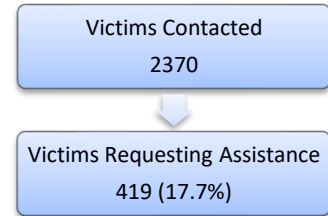
Community Service Restitution (CSR) is a program in which juveniles perform a period of community service as a condition of supervision for offenses which result in property loss or personal injury. This program constitutes a strategy to help juveniles assume responsibility for their actions while being responsive to community and victim concerns. It also provides a positive experience in community involvement and socialization.

### Community Service Statistics

Total Number of Hours Performed	<b>12822</b>
Number Youth Participating	474
Successful Completions	302
Unsuccessful Completions	66
Other Completions	14

## Victim's Assistance Unit (VAU)

The Victim Assistance Unit (VAU) was established for the purpose of implementing statutory rights accorded to victims of juvenile crime. The VAU is responsible for **victim notification and case management**, the collection of restitution and fees, and mediation. In 2019, VAU staff sent 2370 victim impact statements informing victims of their rights. Of these, 17.7% requested services from the VAU.

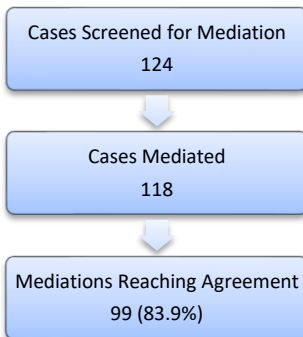


In 2019, the VAU collected \$92,706.44 in **restitution and fees**. Restitution can be either court-ordered or voluntary and is used to compensate the victim for injury or loss. Fees are paid by the client to offset the costs of attorney, court, and supervision. Similar to fees, court-ordered child support is used to offset the cost of placement for youth who are placed by the Court.

### Restitution and Fees

Restitution/Fee Type	Total Active Cases 2019	New Cases Added 2019	Amount Collected
<b>Restitution</b>	1269	237	\$59,374.65
<b>Fees</b>	5223	992	\$55,101.28
<b>Court-Ordered Child Support</b>	6	3	\$1,750.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>6498</b>	<b>1232</b>	<b>\$116,225.93</b>

**Victim Offender Mediation** is a voluntary opportunity for offenders and their victims to have a face-to-face encounter led by a trained mediator. Mediation provides an opportunity for the victim and juvenile offender to resolve conflicts, negotiate reconciliation, and attain offender accountability. By contract with a local service provider, some families who participate in mediation for an event involving family conflict or violence may also obtain follow-up counseling through *Victim Family Preservation Services* offered through TCJS.



### Victim Family Preservation

Number Served	18
Successful Completions	5
Unsuccessful Completions	4
Other Completions	2

## Community Programs

Program	Number Served	Number of Completions	Other Completions*	Successful Completions	Unsuccessful Completions
<b>PREVENTION PROGRAMS</b>					
Arlington ISD Truancy Reduction	354	190	13	169 (95.5%)	8 (4.5%)
Mentoring and Advocacy for Siblings	32	25	0	23 (92.0%)	2 (8.0%)
<b>SURVEILLANCE PROGRAMS</b>					
Community Based-Detention (CBD)	37	37	3	25 (73.5%)	9 (26.5%)
Electronic Monitoring (EM)	21	21	0	20 (95.2%)	1 (4.8%)
Electronic Monitoring Field Services**	117	117	0	96 (82.1%)	21 (17.9%)
Electronic Monitoring Home Detention	520	518	0	370 (71.4%)	148 (28.6%)
<b>COMMUNITY PROGRAMS</b>					
Spanish Language Mental Health Services	14	14	1	11 (84.6%)	2 (15.4%)
Cassata (Educational)	8	8	0	6 (75.0%)	2 (25.0%)
DSA	46	27	2	16 (64.0%)	9 (36.0%)
Families in Transition (Family Preservation)	120	116	15	69 (68.3%)	32 (31.7%)
Functional Family Therapy (Family Preservation)	111	104	19	63 (74.1%)	22 (25.9%)
Ground Zero	29	26	5	13 (61.9%)	8 (38.1%)
REACH (Mental Health)	60	59	4	39 (70.9%)	16 (29.1%)
TCAP-Court Transition (Mentorship)	153	153	16	107 (78.1%)	30 (21.9%)
TCAP-Traditional (Mentorship)	91	89	5	69 (82.1%)	15 (17.9%)

\*Youth who are discharged from programs for "other" reasons are not included in the calculation of percent of successful and unsuccessful completions.

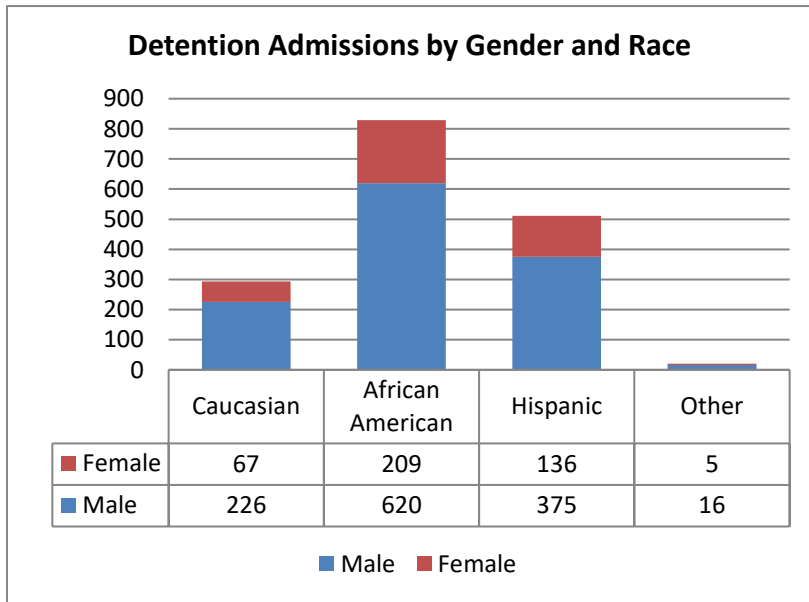
\*\* Electronic Monitoring Home Field Services and Electronic Monitoring Home Detention started in December 2018.

## Lynn W. Ross Juvenile Detention Center

Tarrant County Juvenile Services operates the Lynn W. Ross Juvenile Detention Center, which is a 24-hour secure facility for the temporary detention of juveniles who are pending court disposition for alleged law violations or violation of conditions of probation. The center provides supervision, activities, and individual as well as group counseling that benefit juveniles during their stay. Every juvenile is screened for identification of emotional and mental health concerns and receives a basic health care screening through an on-site medical clinic.

<b>Number of Admissions</b>	<b>1654</b>
<b>Number of Individual Youth Admitted</b>	<b>1113</b>
<b>Child Care Days</b>	<b>28884</b>
<b>Average Daily Population</b>	<b>79.13</b>
<b>Average Length of Stay</b>	<b>18.19</b>

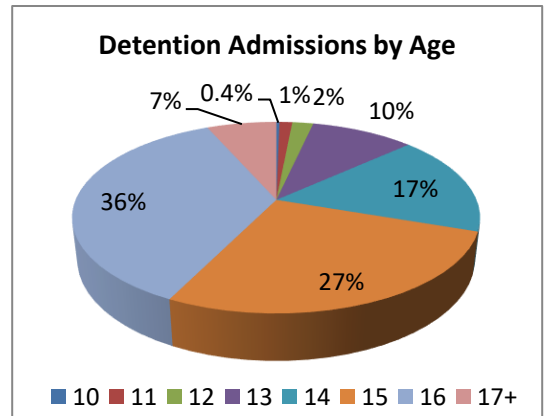
### Demographics of Admitted Youth



The majority of youth admitted into the detention center were male (74.8%). The average age at detention admission was 15 years. African American youth accounted for 50.1% of youth admitted into detention in 2019, followed by Hispanic (30.9%) and Caucasian youth (17.7%). The most frequent reasons for detaining a youth were that the youth was believed to be a danger to self or others (32.8%) or the youth had been previously found delinquent (32.6%).

### Detention Admissions by Reason Detained

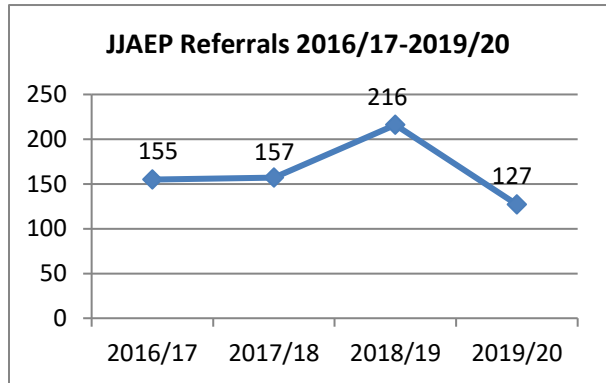
Detention Reason	Frequency
Dangerous to Self/Others	<b>543 (32.8%)</b>
Previously found Delinquent	<b>540 (32.6%)</b>
Inadequate Supervision	<b>161 (9.7%)</b>
No Parent Guardian	<b>170 (10.3%)</b>
Alleged Delinquent Conduct	<b>156 (9.4%)</b>
Court Order	<b>49 (3.0%)</b>
Likely to Abscond	<b>27 (1.6%)</b>
Pending Transport to TJJD	<b>7 (0.4%)</b>
Pending Transport to Placement	<b>1 (0.1%)</b>



## Juvenile Justice Alternative Education Program

The Texas Legislature mandates that juvenile boards in counties with populations greater than 125,000 operate Juvenile Justice Alternative Education Programs (JJAEPs). The JJAEP provides services to youth who were expelled from public schools for serious school-related law violations as well as provides an alternative site for students referred for violations of the Student Code of Conduct while placed in District Alternative Education Programs. JJAEP data is presented for the 2019/2020 school year.

The number of referrals to the JJAEP has decreased by more than 18.1% (n=28) in the last four years. In the most recent school year (2019/20), the majority (88.2%) of referrals to the JJAEP were mandatory. Males represented 85.0% of the referrals to JJAEP. Hispanic (53.5%) and African American (24.4%) youth accounted for the majority of students referred to JJAEP, followed by Caucasian youth (19.7%). The majority of the referrals (73.2%) were for high school

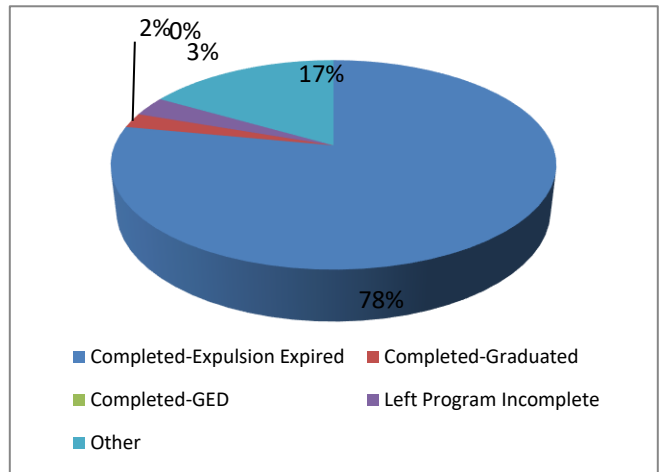


### JJAEP Referrals: 2019/2020

		Frequency (%)
<b>Students Referred</b>		<b>127</b>
<b>Expulsion Offense</b>	Mandatory	112 (88.2%)
	Discretionary	15 (11.8%)
<b>Gender</b>	Male	108 (85.0%)
	Female	19 (15.0%)
<b>Ethnicity</b>	African American	31 (24.4%)
	Hispanic	68 (53.5%)
	Caucasian	25 (19.7%)
	Asian	3 (2.4%)
	Other	0 (0.0%)
<b>Grade Level</b>	4 <sup>th</sup>	0 (0.0%)
	5 <sup>th</sup>	1 (0.8%)
	6 <sup>th</sup>	5 (3.9%)
	7 <sup>th</sup>	12 (9.4%)
	8 <sup>th</sup>	16 (12.6%)
	9 <sup>th</sup>	29 (22.8%)
	10 <sup>th</sup>	25 (19.7%)
	11 <sup>th</sup>	24 (18.9%)
	12 <sup>th</sup>	15 (11.8%)
<b>Classified Special Education</b>		<b>12 (9.4%)</b>
<b>School District</b>	Fort Worth	37 (29.1%)
	Arlington	33 (26.0%)
	Hurst-Euless-Bedford	15 (11.8%)
	Grapevine-Colleyville	14 (11.0%)
	Other	28 (22.0%)

students (9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade). Approximately nine percent (n=12) of the students referred were classified as special education. Fort Worth ISD generated the most referrals to the JJAEP (29.1%), followed by Arlington ISD (26.0%), Hurst-Euless-Bedford ISD (11.8%), and Grapevine-Colleyville ISD (11.0%). During the 2019/20 school year, 132 students discharged from the JJAEP. The majority (78.0%, n=103) were discharged after having completing the requirements of their expulsion.

### JJAEP Discharges: 2019/2020

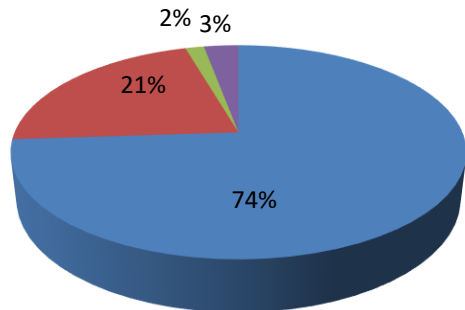


## Tarrant County Juvenile Services Source of Funds: Fiscal Year 2019

<b>COUNTY GENERAL FUND</b>	<b>\$22,347,655</b>
General Fund - Administration & Probation	\$15,921,459
▪ Includes support funding for JJAEP and Grant Match	
General Fund - Detention	7,381,136
Children's Home Trust	2,816
Probation Fees	22,550
Miscellaneous Donations	4,919
Interest Account	14,775
<b>STATE AID – TEXAS JUVENILE PROBATION COMMISSION</b>	<b>\$6,930,100</b>
State Aid	\$6,446,327
Special Needs Diversionary Program	157,199
Prevention/Intervention	216,800
Attendance Improvement Grant	109,774
<b>FEDERAL AID AND GRANTS</b>	<b>\$315,536</b>
Title IV-E Reimbursements (Through TDPLRS)	\$87,695
National School Lunch Program	227,841
<b>OTHER SOURCES</b>	<b>\$884,811</b>
JJAEP Mandatory Reimbursement - TJJD	\$591,336
JJAEP Discretionary Reimbursement - ISD's	293,475
<b>GRAND TOTAL – FY 2018 SOURCES OF FUNDS</b>	<b>\$30,478,102</b>

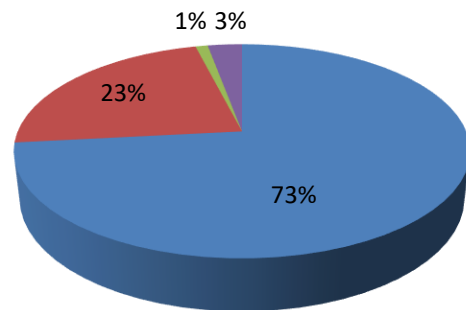
### Source of Funds Comparison: FY 2018-FY 2019

**FY 2018 Total Funds: \$30,169,649**



■ County General Fund    ■ State Aid  
■ Federal Aid and Grants    ■ Other Sources

**FY 2019 Total Funds: \$30,478,102**



■ County General Fund    ■ State Aid  
■ Federal Aid and Grants    ■ Other Sources

**Tarrant County Juvenile Probation Department**  
2701 Kimbo Road Fort Worth, TX 76111  
Phone: 817-838-4600  
<http://access.tarrantcounty.com/en/juvenile-services.html>



**Credits**

Elise Morrison, Bennie Medlin,  
Kim Dixon, Derek Bassey