



Department of  
**Children's Services**

REPORT TO GOVERNOR BILL LEE  
AND  
THE CHIEF CLERKS OF THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

PURSUANT TO T.C.A. 37-5-105

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Submitted by Tennessee Department of Children's Services  
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## **Introduction**

The Office of Juvenile Justice (OJJ), is a division of the Tennessee Department of Children's Services, which provides oversight of custodial and non-custodial services for juvenile justice involved delinquent youth, including the John S. Wilder Youth Development Center and all juvenile justice placements, OJJ also administers the Interstate Compact for Juveniles and oversees the Department's Absconder and Electronic Monitoring Units in addition to, providing funding to juvenile courts and other community programs to help divert youth from entering state's custody. Lastly, OJJ monitors compliance with the Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) for the department and covered contracted providers. This annual report provides an overview of OJJ during the period of July 1, 2021-June 30, 2022, fiscal year.

## Juveniles Adjudicated Delinquent in Tennessee- Probation Information

T.C.A. § 37-1-131 (a)(2)(A)(i) provides that, after a finding of delinquency, the court may place a youth “under the supervision of the probation officer of the court or the Department of Children's Services (DCS), any person, or persons or agencies designated by the court, or the court of another state as provided in § 37-1-143”.

Probation services in Tennessee are primarily provided in four ways: (1) Local Probation – services funded and provided by local juvenile courts; (2) State Probation - non-custodial supervision services supervised by DCS employees, (3) Grant-funded probation - services supported by DCS-funded grants and (4) Private Probation Agencies- juvenile courts refer juvenile probationers, at the youth/family's expense, to selected private probation agencies for non-custodial supervision services.

### Youth Served by State Probation

Probation services are provided as preventive measures to divert delinquent youth from entering state custody. Although state probation services are provided in all 95 counties, the numbers of youth served are low in Davidson, Shelby, Knox, and Hamilton counties because those courts have created local probation programs. DCS Juvenile Probation Officers (JPOs) are responsible for supervising youth who have been placed on state probation by monitoring compliance with court ordered terms, addressing public safety, accountability for offenses and competency development. DCS JPOs are charged with helping youth under their supervision to succeed in becoming law abiding, productive members of their community by:

- Ensuring court ordered and/or DCS stipulations (Rules of Probation) are followed;
- Utilizing the Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths (CANS) assessment tool to determine the level of supervision and guide interventions;
- Empowering and engaging the youth and family in the development of an individualized non-custodial family permanency plan that will chart a “plan of action” on how the needs/concerns identified for the youth and family through assessments and information gathering will be addressed;
- Maintaining contact with youth, parents/guardians, school officials and service providers;
- Maintaining face-to-face contact with youth through home, school and/or office visits;
- Monitoring school attendance, behavior, and grades;
- Conducting random drug screens, as needed;
- Working with local courts.

During FY 2022, 2,159 youth adjudicated delinquent received state probation services. Figure 1 shows this total broken out by DCS region of adjudication. (See Appendix A for a breakdown by each county of adjudication).

Figure 1: Youth Adjudicated Delinquent on State Probation in FY22 by DCS Region of Adjudication

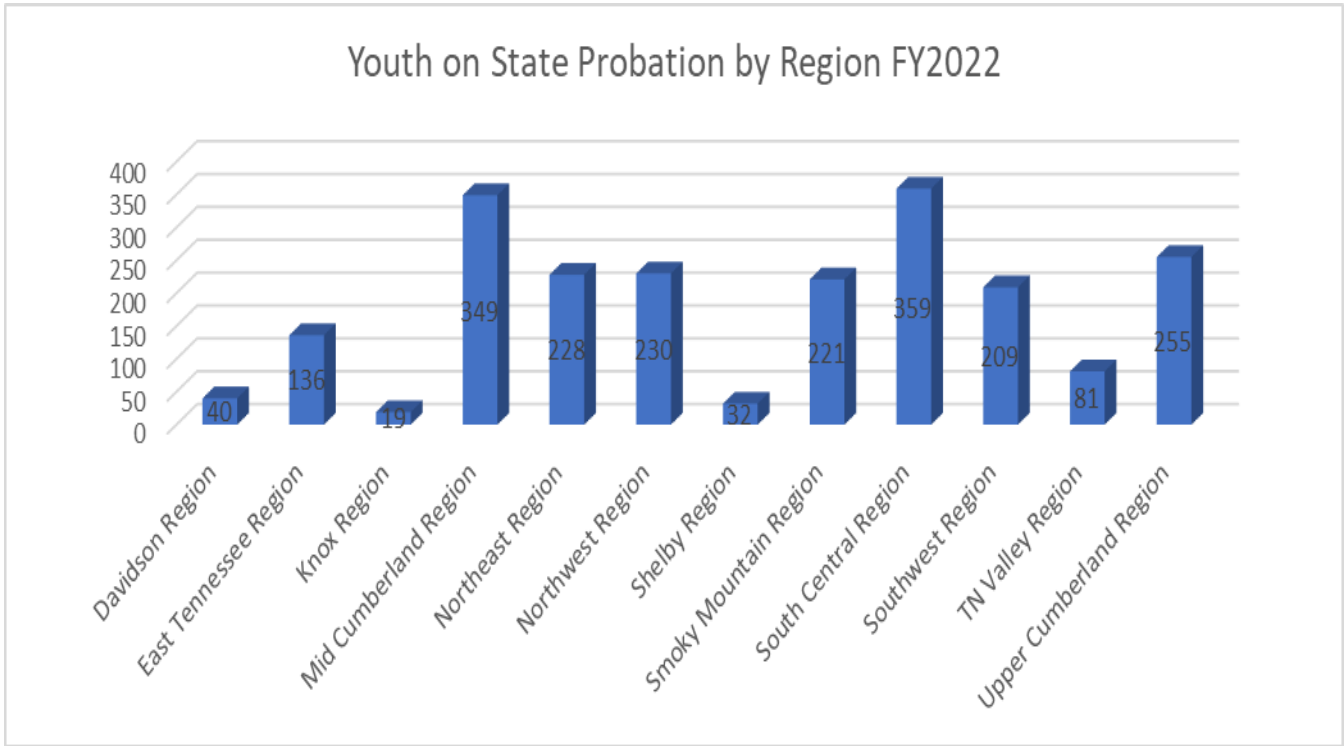
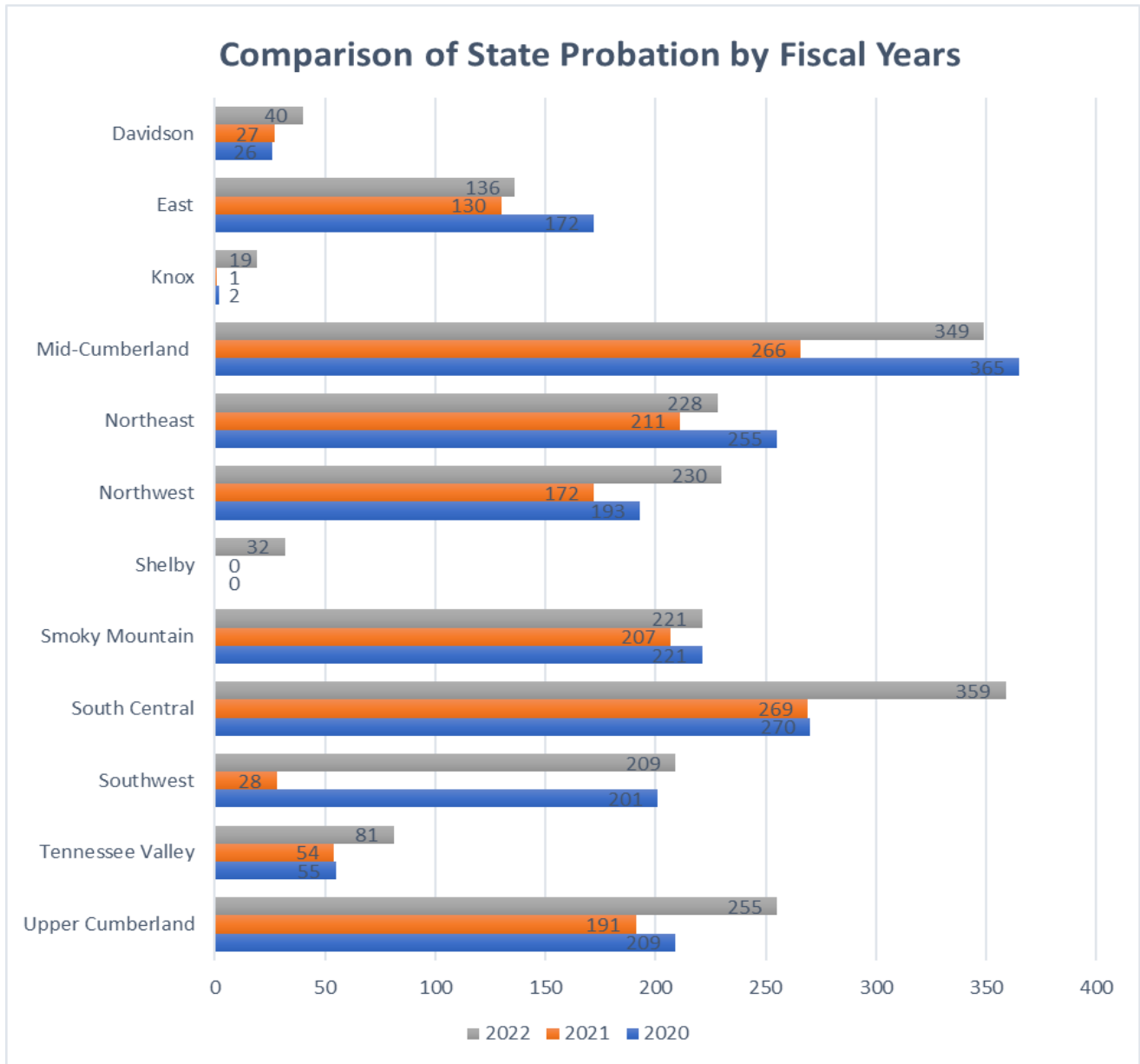


Figure 2: Comparison of Youth Adjudicated Delinquent on State Probation in FYs 2020, 2021 and 2022 by DCS Region of Adjudication:



## Custodial Information

The juvenile court judge has the authority under T.C.A. §37-1-131 and 137 to commit an adjudicated delinquent youth to state custody. Commitment to DCS empowers the Department to make all placement decisions according to determinations made by DCS employees, agents, or contractors. See T.C.A. §37-1-129(c).

Per TCA § 37-1-137(a)(1), a juvenile court may impose either (1) an indefinite (indeterminate) commitment in which a child is committed to the custody of the Department of Children's Services for treatment and rehabilitation for an indefinite period, up to age 19 or (2) a determinate commitment period up to age 19 which cannot be greater than the sentence for an adult convicted of the same crime. A determinate commitment is an option, only when the youth:

- Has been tried and adjudicated delinquent in juvenile court for these serious offenses: first degree murder, second degree murder, rape, aggravated rape, rape of a child, aggravated rape of a child, aggravated sexual battery, kidnapping, especially aggravated kidnapping, aggravated robbery, especially aggravated robbery, aggravated arson, aggravated burglary, especially aggravated burglary, commission of an act of terrorism, carjacking, or violations of § 39-17-417(b),(i) or (j) or an attempt to commit such offenses or
- Has been previously adjudicated delinquent in three (3) felony offenses arising out of separate criminal episodes at least one (1) of which has resulted in institutional commitment to the department of children's services, or
- Is within six (6) months of the child's eighteenth birthday at the time of the adjudication of the child's delinquency.

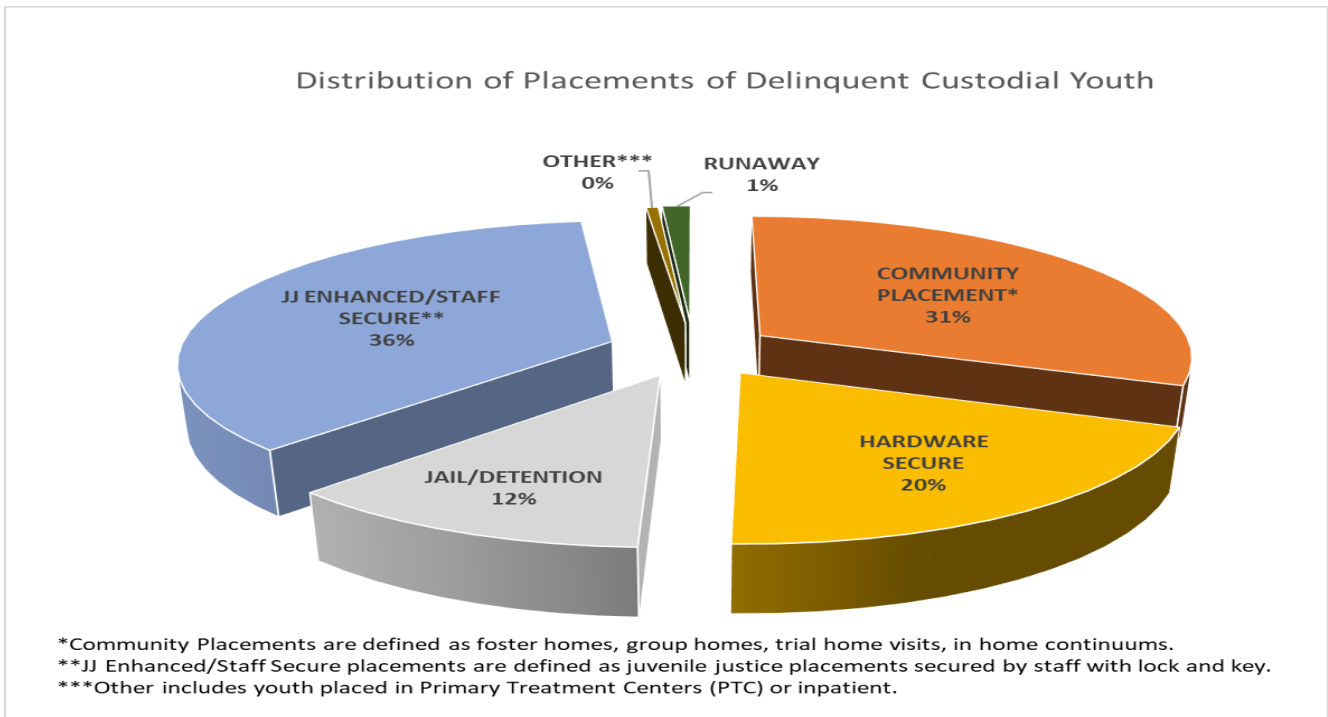
Once a youth is committed to state custody, a detailed process guided by state law and DCS policies takes place to determine placement and services and case management is provided by a Juvenile Justice Service Worker (JSW). Once the youth complete treatment, permission to release the child must be approved by the DCS Commissioner and/or the juvenile court.

## Youth in Juvenile Justice Placements

Residential services for delinquent youth in DCS' custody fall into three categories: Hardware Secure, Staff secure and Community-based. In FY 2022, four facilities totaling 127 beds, provided hardware-secure residential placements with the highest level of supervision. For youth appropriate for staff secure residential placement or community setting, DCS contracts with 30 private service agencies for community-based placements at three levels of care varying in the degree of supervision provided.

The number of youths in residential placements fluctuates over the course of a fiscal year. To provide a representative count, April 1, 2022, was selected as a date in time that avoided holidays, variations associated with the school calendar, etc. The graph below shows the distribution of placements for custodial delinquent youth on that date. (See Figure 3)

Figure 3: JJ Youth in Custody on 04/01/22



### Average Daily Cost per Youth in Community Placements

The average daily cost for a youth in community-based placement is specified by the approved rates paid to the providers. The average varies across the levels of supervision with Level 4 supervision the costliest and Level 2 the least costly.

Within a level of supervision, there is additional variation to accommodate specialized services, e.g., for youth with special needs. The average daily rate within each level is as follows:

- Level 2: \$142.50
- Level 3: \$238.40
- Level 4: \$411.25

### Youth Development Center/Hardware Secure

One youth development center (YDC) and three hardware secure facilities were operating in FY 2022: Wilder Youth Development Center (WYDC), Mountain View Academy for Young Men (Hardware Secure), Hollis Residential Treatment Center (hardware secure for females) and CSI-Rockdale Academy (Texas). Of the 353 total youth served in YDC/hardware secure placements, 169 or 48% were at Wilder, 135 or 38% were at Mountain View, 28 or 8% were at Hollis Residential Treatment Center and 21 or 6% were at CSI-Rockdale Academy (Texas).

#### The number of beds available at each facility:

- Wilder: Maximum capacity maintained at 32
- Mountain View Academy for Young Men (Hardware Secure) is 72
- Hollis Residential Treatment Center (Hardware Secure) is 11



CSI-Rockdale Academy (Texas) is 12

Cost per day per bed:

Wilder: \$657

Mt. View-Hardware Secure: \$495

Hollis Residential Treatment Center: \$495

CSI-Rockdale Academy (Texas): \$495

## Youth On Aftercare

Custodial youth who successfully complete a thirty-day trial home visit, are released from the legal custody of the Department and automatically placed on aftercare, unless otherwise ordered by the court. Aftercare supervision is designed to ensure the youth continues to successfully transition into the community upon completion of the trial home visit. The period of supervision is based on assessed needs of the youth and the family and the reduction of community risk. DCS JSWs are charged with helping youth under their supervision to succeed in becoming law abiding, productive members of their community by:

- Ensuring court ordered and/or DCS stipulations (Rules of Aftercare) are followed;
- Utilizing the Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths (CANS) assessment tool to determine the level of supervision and guide interventions;
- Empowering and engaging the youth and family in continuing to follow the family permanency plan and continue to assess needs/concerns identified for the youth and family through assessments and information gathering;
- Maintaining contact with youth, parents/guardians, school officials and service providers;
- Maintaining face-to-face contact with youth through home, school and/or office visits;
- Monitoring school attendance, behavior, and grades;
- Conducting random drug screens, as needed;
- Working with local courts.

A total of 723 youth adjudicated delinquent received aftercare services during FY 2022. Figure 4 shows this total broken out by DCS region of adjudication.

Figure 4: JJ Youth on Aftercare in FY22

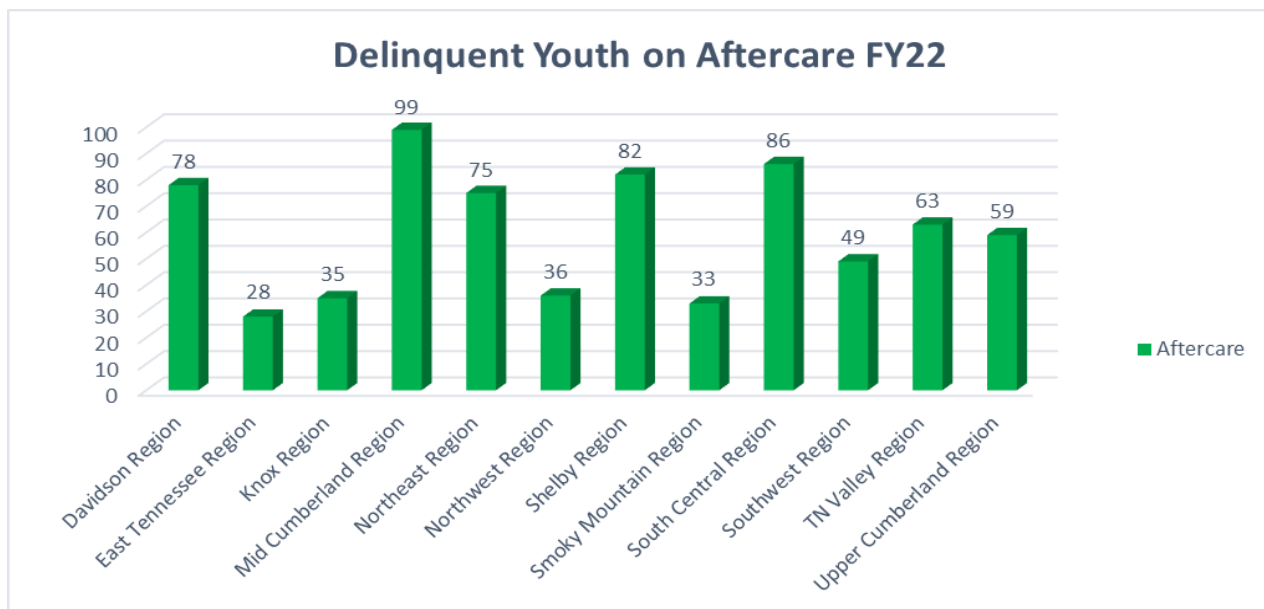
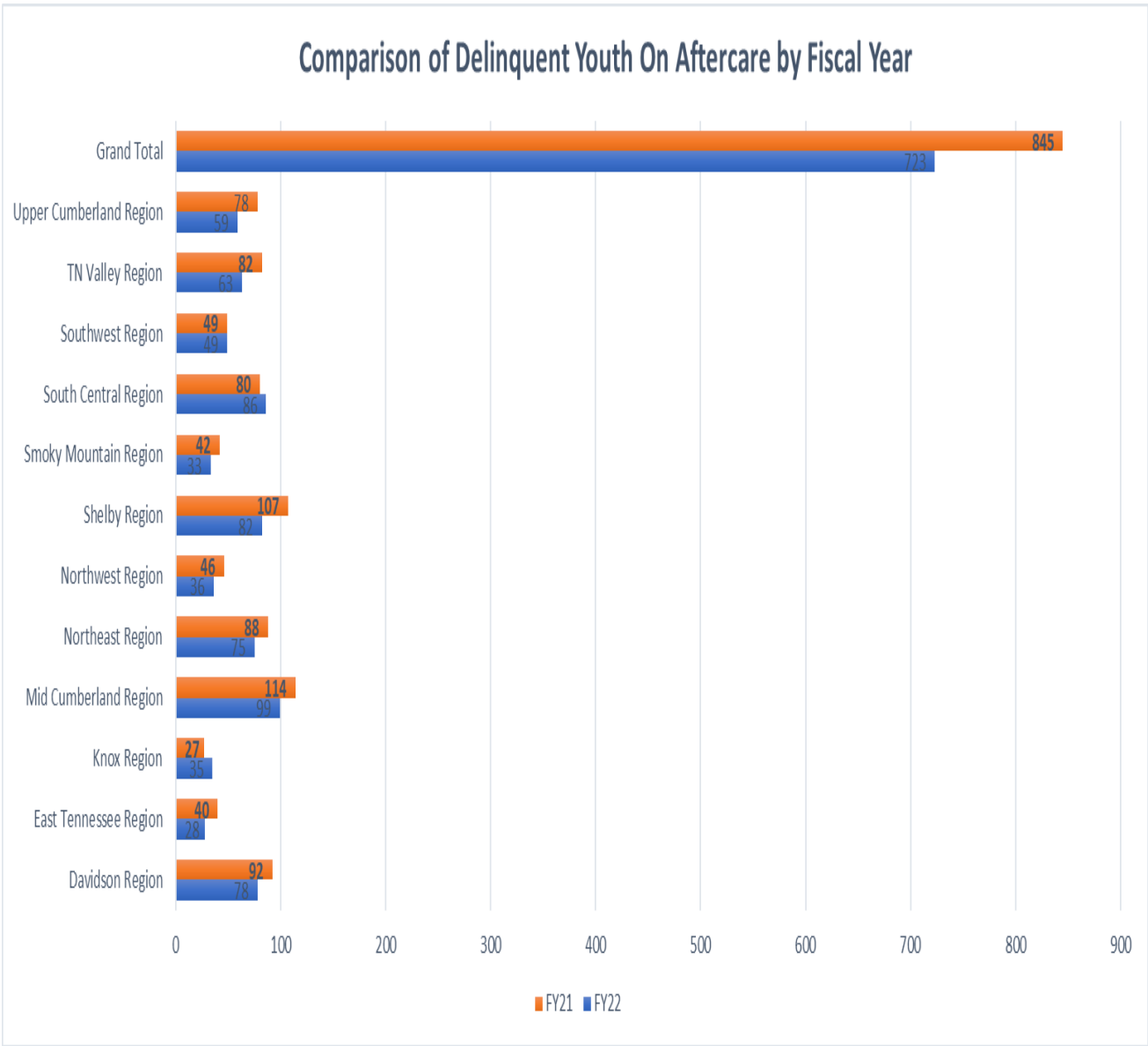


Figure 5: Comparison of Youth Adjudicated Delinquent on Aftercare in FYs 2021 and 2022 by region:



## Evidence-Based Services Information

T.C.A. § 37-5-121 requires evidence-based programs for the prevention, treatment, or care of delinquent juveniles, specifically stating:

*The Department of Children's Services, and any other state agency that administers funds related to the prevention, treatment, or care of delinquent juveniles, shall not expend state funds on any juvenile justice program or program related to the prevention, treatment, or care of delinquent juveniles, including any service model or delivery system in any form or by any name, unless the program is evidence-based.*

*"Evidence-based" is defined as policies, procedures, programs, and practices demonstrated by scientific research to reliably produce reductions in recidivism or has been rated as effective by a standardized program evaluation tool.*

### DCS-Funded Evidence-Based Treatment Services

DCS-funded treatment services include those provided to youth in residential facilities. To meet the Department's statutory obligation to solely procure evidence-based services, all contracts with private service providers require vendors to provide documentation verifying the utilization of Evidenced-Based Programming (EBP) throughout its service array.

Some examples of evidence-based interventions currently provided by contract providers are: Functional Family Therapy (FFT), Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT), Aggression Replacement Training (ART), Moral Recognition Therapy, and Thinking for a Change. The evidence-based interventions provided in the YDCs include Aggression Replacement Training (ART), Cognitive-Behavioral Therapy (CBT), Structured Psychotherapy for Adolescents Responding to Chronic Stress (SPARCS) and Dialectical Behavior Therapy (DBT).

### DCS-Funded Prevention and Intervention Services

The Office of Juvenile Justice provides funding to prevent youth from entering state custody. Twenty-eight grants totaling \$4.8M were awarded this year to juvenile courts and community agencies that serve youth at risk of entering state custody for delinquency, truancy, and other status offenses. A total of 3155 youth were served this year. Ninety-seven percent of youth served were diverted from state custody. Funded services include juvenile court intake, county probation, intensive probation, intensive aftercare, educational programs that provide an effective learning environment and a continuum-of-care for at-risk students.

In accordance with T.C.A. § 37-1-162, each year the OJJ distributes state supplement grants to counties for the improvement of juvenile court services. This year, eighty-nine Tennessee counties received state supplement funding.

The following are prevention and intervention services provided to status offenders and/or juveniles who have not yet been adjudicated for a delinquent offense but are deemed to be at risk. The youth served by these prevention and intervention services differ from the other youth represented in this report, all of whom have been adjudicated delinquent. These efforts at early intervention are geared to prevent youth from ever becoming involved with the juvenile justice system, which is supported by current research as the most successful tool in prevention.

Table 1 below shows the DCS-funded prevention and intervention programs in FY2022, the counties served, the number of youths served as provided via the grantees' Annual Reports and the contract amounts.

Table 1: DCS-Funded Prevention and Intervention Grants

Counties Served	Type of Grant and Vendor	Number of Youth Served	FY2021 Contract Amount
<b>Custody Prevention</b>			
Crockett	Alamo Board of Education	7	\$54,817
Benton	Benton County Juvenile Court	47	\$92,617
Blount	Blount County Juvenile Court	4	\$98,668
Bradley	Bradley County Juvenile Court	373	\$66,581
Crockett	Crockett County Schools (Crockett Academy)	42	\$68,520
Knox	Knox County Juvenile Court (Inner Change)	102	\$183,392
Rutherford	Rutherford County Juvenile Court	44	\$46,448
Stewart	Stewart County Juvenile Court	66	\$14,607
Tipton	Tipton County Juvenile Court	61	\$343,970
	<b>Total-Custody Prevention</b>	<b>746</b>	<b>\$969,620</b>
<b>Child and Family Intervention</b>			
Davidson	Davidson County Juvenile Court	143	\$434,333
Madison	Madison County Juvenile Court	41	\$135,375
Montgomery	Montgomery County Juvenile Court	615	\$70,929
	<b>Total-Child &amp; Family</b>	<b>799</b>	<b>\$640,637</b>
<b>Truancy Prevention</b>			
Decatur	Decatur County Juvenile Court	110	\$54,817
Dyer	Dyersburg City Schools	102	\$68,520
Henry	Henry County Board of Education	374	\$48,917
Lauderdale	Lauderdale County Juvenile Court	323	\$68,571
Sullivan	Sullivan County Juvenile Court	171	\$53,720
	<b>Total-Truancy Prevention</b>	<b>1080</b>	<b>\$294,545</b>
<b>Day Treatment/Education</b>			
Carroll, Benton, Weakley, Henry, and Henderson	Carroll County Juvenile Court (Carroll Academy)	143	\$643,884
Montgomery	Montgomery County Juvenile Court	44	\$422,082
Rutherford	Rutherford County Juvenile Court	38	\$417,696

	<b>Total-Day Treatment/Education</b>	<b>225</b>	<b>\$1,483,662</b>
<b>Aftercare Programs</b>			
Anderson, Blount, Campbell, Cocke, Claiborne, Grainger, Hamblen, Jefferson, Knox, Loudon, Morgan, Monroe, Roane, Scott, Sevier, Union	Helen Ross McNabb (EXIT Program)	45	\$296,493
Chester, Decatur, Fayette, Hardeman, Hardin, Haywood, Henderson, Lauderdale, Madison, McNairy, Tipton	Quinco Mental Health (Reunion Program)	41	\$148,208
	<b>Total-Aftercare Programs</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>\$444,701</b>
	<b>Total</b>	<b>3155</b>	<b>\$4,788,635</b>

1. Nine Custody Prevention Grants:

Grantees under this classification offer program services for unruly and delinquent youth that include; case management, counseling, supervision, parenting classes, assessment, substance abuse groups and other family services as deemed necessary.

- Benton, Blount, Bradley, Crockett, Knox, Rutherford, Stewart, and Tipton counties had custody prevention programs available
- A total of 746 youth served
- Twenty-six youth were placed in state custody, resulting in a diversion rate of 97%
- The cost per day per youth in Custody Prevention Programs is an average of \$5.00

2. Three Child and Family Intervention Grants:

In recognition of the importance of the intake process in diverting youth from the juvenile justice system, OJJ provides prevention and/or intervention grants to three juvenile courts to enhance this process. OJJ funds are used to completely or partially fund additional juvenile court personnel to conduct risk/needs assessments, mental health screenings and make referrals to community-based interventions.

These programs also serve youth who are at imminent risk of entering state custody. These services include county probation, counseling, case management and/or direct delivery of services, transportation, and liaisons for educational issues.

- Davidson, Madison, and Montgomery counties provided Child and Family Intervention Programs
- A total of 799 youth served
- Twenty-one youth were placed in state custody, resulting in a diversion rate 97%
- The cost per day per youth in Child and Family Intervention Programs is an average of \$3.08

### 3. Five Truancy Prevention Grants:

These programs utilize funds to employ a Truancy Specialist to keep abreast of youth experiencing truancy issues, focusing on decreasing truancy and improving academic performance by attendance monitoring, GED classes, and counseling. Diverting juvenile offenders to truancy prevention programs can keep truant youth and other less serious offenders from moving deeper into the juvenile justice system and allow the courts to save the most severe and costly sanctions for the most serious offenders.

- Decatur, Dyer, Henry, Lauderdale, and Sullivan counties had Truancy Prevention Programs available
- A total of 1080 youth served
- Eight youth were placed in state custody, resulting in a diversion rate 99.61%
- The cost per day per youth for Truancy Programs is an average of \$1.05

### 4. Three Day Treatment/Education Grants:

Carroll Academy and two programs run by Genesis Learning Centers (Montgomery County Teen Learning Center, and Rutherford County Teen Learning Center), provide educational and therapeutic day treatment services for delinquent youth who have been referred by the local courts. All these youth are at high-risk of state custody and these programs allow the youth to be educated and treated in their communities. In addition to providing Department of Education (DOE) approved education services, these programs provide a therapeutic component utilizing cognitive behavioral intervention, with focus on life skills development, drug and alcohol education/counseling, and anger management. Referrals to these programs are under the supervision of the juvenile court as well as local schools.

- Benton, Carroll, Henderson, Henry, Montgomery, Rutherford, and Weakley County youth had access to a Day Treatment/Education program
- A total of 255 youth served
- One youth receiving day treatment services was placed into state custody, resulting in a diversion rate of 99.6%
- The cost per day, per student to attend a Day Treatment/Education Program is an average of \$25.36

### 5. Two Aftercare Grants:

OJJ strives to prevent re-entry into state custody by providing funding to community-based aftercare programs that help youth and their families adjust to reunification following a custody stay. These programs offer intensive wrap around case management, treatment services and are designed to manage cases involving mental health issues and/or drug and alcohol abuse. Both grants provide case management services before a youth is released from custody which continues when youth return home. In East TN (Knox County/East TN regional area) OJJ contracts with Helen Ross McNabb to administer the EXIT program. In West TN the Reunion program is administered by Quinco Mental Health Center.

In FY 2022, aftercare services were provided to a total of eighty-six youth with a diversion rate of 90% (8 youth re-committed to state custody). Cost per day per youth in the Aftercare Programs is an average of \$19.89.

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<sup>2</sup> For services funded by DCS grants, the average daily cost per child served can be calculated by dividing the amount of the grant by the total number of service days to the youth served. Note, however, that this figure is based on the grant funds provided by DCS. Local courts supplement this amount with additional resources so the total average daily cost including the local contribution is more than the cost amounts stated here,

Figure 6: Grantee Self Report of Clients Served via Evidence-Based Assessment and/or Services



7. Six Community Intervention Services (CIS) Grants:

DCS provides grants to six service providers that deliver intensive probation services, case management, and counseling for delinquent youth who have violated county and/or state probation. The goal of CIS grantees is to reduce the number of commitments to DCS by keeping these delinquent youth in their home and community by providing a blend of intensive supervision and treatment.

- Claiborne, Clay, Cocke, Cumberland, DeKalb, Fentress, Franklin, Grainger, Greene, Hamblen, Jackson, Jefferson, Knox, Macon, Marion, McMinn, Meigs, Overton, Pickett, Rhea, Smith, Sullivan, Warren, and Williamson counties had Community Intervention Services available
- A total of 219 youth served
- Eighteen youth were placed in state custody, resulting in a diversion rate of 92%
- The average cost per day for CIS supervised youth is \$38

As noted above, DCS provides grants for intensive county probation services to some juvenile courts and human resource agencies. FY 2022 grants and the number of youths served are itemized in Table 2.

Table 2: DCS-Funded Community Intervention Services Grants for Intensive Probation

<b>Grant Recipient</b>	<b>Number of Youth Served</b>	<b>Counties Served</b>	<b>Grant Amount</b>
East TN Human Resource Agency	51	Claiborne, Cocke, Grainger, Hamblen, Jefferson	\$146,712
Helen Ross McNabb Center (Home Base)	27	Knox, Greene, Washington, & part of Sullivan County	\$266,782
Southeast TN HRA	33	Franklin, Marion, McMinn, Meigs, & Rhea	\$101,064
Sullivan County Juvenile Court (Project REACH)	12	Sullivan	\$57,494
Upper Cumberland HRA	70	Clay, Cumberland, Dekalb, Fentress, Jackson, Macon, Overton, Pickett, Smith, Warren	\$191,418
Williamson County Juvenile Court	26	Williamson	\$192,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>219</b>		<b>\$955,470</b>



## Multi-Systemic Therapy (MST)

In October 2017, DCS and Youth Villages entered a 5-year, 15-million-dollar contract to provide intensive in-home services and assessment through the Multisystemic Therapy (MST) Program, as well as a MST adaptation for older youth called MST for Emerging Adults (MST-EA) that was provided through 2021. These evidence-based programs reduce delinquent commitments to DCS statewide and reduce the recidivism rate of youth involved with the court and DCS. During the summer of 2021, the Family First Prevention Act (FFPA) became the funding source of this program.

DCS receives MST referrals from our staff and juvenile court officials for youth ages 12-18 that are at-risk of court involvement for delinquent behavior or out of the home placement. In addition, referrals are made for youth who are returning home from state's custody to prevent recommitment.

Each youth and family receive services from a therapist who works directly with the youth and family in the family home and is available 24 hours a day. Therapists work with the families on current behaviors and provide goal directed services including increasing family affection, decreasing association with deviant peers, increasing pro-social peers, engaging youth/family in positive recreational activities, improving school attendance and performance and aiding the family in meeting concrete needs such as housing, medical care, and other resources.

MST, which has served 1,325 youth to date, has generated a success rate at discharge of 90% for the FY2020 to FY2022 timeframe, defined by those youth living successfully at home or living independently who received a minimum of 60 days of services).<sup>1</sup> At one-year post-discharge, follow-up surveys conducted show the following outcomes (for the FY2020 – FY2022 timeframe):

- 89% Living with family/independently.
- 94% In school, graduated, or employed.
- 89% No trouble with the law

In addition, 96% of families reported they were satisfied with MST services.

The MST-EA team, which served 77 young adults from 2018 - 2021, generated a success rate of 92% (as defined by youth living successfully at home or living independently) for youth who received a minimum of 60 days of services. At one-year post-discharge, follow-up surveys conducted show the following outcomes:

- 7 out of 8 living with family/independently-
- 6 out of 8 in school, graduated, or employed-
- 7 out of 7 no trouble with the law

At the end of fiscal year 2021, the MST-EA team slots were transitioned to the MST teams to provide additional MST services in targeted areas as identified by the Department of Children's Services.

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<sup>1</sup>The total number of discharges during the FY20-22 timeframe was 870; 119 youth discharged prior to 60 days of services and are, therefore, not included in the success rate.

## **Recidivism and System Penetration Information**

The goal of a juvenile justice system is to provide effective behavior change interventions and supervision to juvenile offenders and that they engage in no further delinquent behavior. Recidivism rates, which is the per portion of such treated offenders who reoffend, is, therefore, the preeminent indicator of the performance of a juvenile justice system. The lower the recidivism rate, all else equal, the more effective the juvenile justice system has been for both enhancing public safety and improving the life trajectories of the youth involved.

However, recidivism is a more complex concept than it appears on the surface. First, recidivism is only a meaningful indicator of successful intervention with a juvenile offender if that offender is at risk to reoffend. Many of the youth who enter the juvenile justice system have made mistakes common to many adolescents and are unlikely to reoffend irrespective of juvenile justice intervention. Indeed, there is some evidence that juvenile justice intervention can make the outcomes for low-risk youth worse instead of better. Low recidivism rates for juveniles with little risk to reoffend say nothing about the performance of the juvenile justice system for reducing delinquency.

To be informative, therefore, recidivism rates must be interpreted in the context of the risk levels of the juveniles involved. They are most meaningful for high-risk offenders when they indicate less subsequent offenses after juvenile justice intervention than would have been expected to occur without that intervention. Risk assessment instruments, such as those used by DCS, can differentiate youth according to their risk for further delinquency, but the results of such assessments are not provided to or shared with the Department comprehensively across the state for the youth adjudicated in the local courts.

A further complication in calculating recidivism rates is that there are different indicators of recidivism that carry different kinds of information. Researchers use confidential interviews with delinquent youth to gauge if their behavior led to involvement with authorities and brought charges. However, a more practical way of collecting recidivism data for a juvenile justice system is reviewing court records to include orders, petitions, and police reports to get a clearer picture of the actual delinquent behavior of the youth involved. When examined in relation to the risk for reoffending of those juveniles, re-arrest recidivism is the most direct indicator of the performance of the juvenile justice system.

Other recidivism indicators move even further away from youths' actual delinquent behavior and pick up more information about the system's response to that behavior. Recidivism measures restricted to re-adjudication, probation supervision, and state custody as subsequent events following initial system processing, for example, are indicators of this type. Though indicating that new offenses have been committed and possibly their severity, these are also indicators of the extent of system penetration resulting from those offenses—something that can be as much a function of how the system handles new offenses as it is of youths' actual delinquent behavior.

### **Recidivism Rates for Tennessee Juvenile Justice**

In this context, it must be recognized that, because Tennessee does not have a consolidated court system, no re-arrest data are produced and compiled statewide, nor are there associated risk assessment data centrally stored. As a result, it is not possible to report recidivism in the way that is most informative about system performance. The only recidivism data available for delinquent youth at the state level are indicators of DCS involvement after some form of prior involvement with DCS services. That recidivism data, therefore, is limited to a relatively high degree of system penetration and is limited to delinquent youth known to DCS via DCS's own data system (TFACTS).

The population for the Juvenile Justice System Penetration Report below (Table 3) consists of youth who received state probation services and subsequently entered custody with an adjudication of delinquency, or were committed to the TN Department of Corrections, after the end of State probation. The measure looks at penetration event at one (1) year. Hamilton and Shelby County are not included because no youth from those counties received state probation services during FY 2021.

Table 3: Juvenile Justice System Penetration Regional Summary

Youth Exiting State Probation in State Fiscal Year 2021  
Report Generated Date: 11/08/2022

Court Region	Court County	Total Youth Exiting NC Services	Youth Reentering Within One Year
Davidson Region	Davidson	25	0
<b>Region Subtotals</b>		<b>25</b>	<b>0</b>
East Tennessee Region	Anderson	31	0
	Campbell	4	0
	Loudon	8	1
	Monroe	22	2
	Morgan	1	0
	Roane	2	0
	Scott	13	1
	Union	6	0
<b>Region Subtotals</b>		<b>87</b>	<b>4</b>
Knox Region	Knox	1	0
<b>Region Subtotals</b>		<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>
Mid Cumberland Region	Cheatham	1	0
	Montgomery	38	4
	Robertson	4	0
	Rutherford	149	0
	Sumner	37	2
	Williamson	17	0
	Wilson	83	1
<b>Region Subtotals</b>		<b>329</b>	<b>7</b>
Northeast Region	Carter	2	0
	Greene	8	0
	Hancock	4	0
	Hawkins	12	1
	Johnson	11	0
	Sullivan	77	3
	Unicoi	27	0
	Washington	15	0
<b>Region Subtotals</b>		<b>156</b>	<b>4</b>
Northwest Region	Benton	1	0
	Carroll	5	0

	Crockett	5	0
	Dickson	13	0
	Dyer	20	0
	Gibson	22	1
	Henry	3	0
	Houston	1	0
	Lake	4	0
	Obion	41	0
	Weakley	4	0
	<b>Region Subtotals</b>	<b>119</b>	<b>1</b>
Smoky Mountain Region	Blount	41	0
	Claiborne	14	0
	Cocke	18	0
	Hamblen	25	2
	Jefferson	20	0
	Sevier	45	0
	<b>Region Subtotals</b>	<b>163</b>	<b>2</b>
South Central Region	Bedford	25	2
	Coffee	14	1
	Franklin	14	1
	Giles	14	1
	Grundy	8	0
	Hickman	4	0
	Lawrence	8	0
	Lincoln	10	0
	Marshall	13	0
	Maury	12	1
	Moore	1	0
	Wayne	12	1
	<b>Region Subtotals</b>	<b>135</b>	<b>7</b>
Southwest Region	Chester	7	0
	Decatur	7	0
	Fayette	3	0
	Hardeman	16	0
	Hardin	8	0
	Haywood	14	0
	Henderson	1	0
	Lauderdale	14	0
	Madison	15	0
	McNairy	7	0
	<b>Region Subtotals</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>0</b>
TN Valley Region	Bledsoe	1	0
	Bradley	4	0
	McMinn	17	0
	Polk	1	0

	Sequatchie	8	0
<b>Region Subtotals</b>		<b>31</b>	<b>0</b>
UNASSIGNED	UNASSIGNED	2	0
<b>Region Subtotals</b>		<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>
Unassigned	Out-of-state	103	1
<b>Region Subtotals</b>		<b>103</b>	<b>1</b>
Upper Cumberland Region	Cannon	7	0
	Clay	3	0
	Cumberland	23	0
	DeKalb	9	0
	Fentress	14	0
	Jackson	5	0
	Macon	7	0
	Overton	5	0
	Pickett	6	0
	Putnam	58	2
	Smith	1	0
	Van Buren	6	0
	Warren	34	1
	White	19	0
<b>Region Subtotals</b>		<b>197</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Statewide Totals</b>		<b>1,440</b>	<b>29</b>

Table 4 below, shows as of June 30, 2021, 761 delinquent youth exited custody since July 1, 2020. Of the delinquent youth that exited custody in fiscal year 2021, 141 or 18.53% re-entered custody within 12 months.

Table 4: Delinquent Youth Re-entries by County

County	Delinquent Custodial Youth		
	Exits FY 21	Re-entries w/12	Rate
Davidson	77	27	35.06%
Anderson	20	4	20.00%
Campbell	2	0	0.00%
Loudon	2	0	0.00%
Monroe	5	0	0.00%
Roane	5	1	20.00%
Knox	20	7	35.00%
Cheatham	7	0	0.00%
Montgomery	34	6	17.65%
Robertson	10	1	10.00%
Rutherford	8	2	25.00%
Sumner	22	5	22.73%
Williamson	9	0	0.00%
Wilson	10	0	0.00%
Carter	3	1	33.33%
Greene	9	2	22.22%
Hancock	3	0	0.00%
Hawkins	11	6	54.55%
Sullivan	30	9	30.00%
Unicoi	1	0	0.00%
Washington	5	0	0.00%
Carroll	1	0	0.00%
Dickson	3	0	0.00%
Dyer	3	0	0.00%
Gibson	23	7	30.43%
Henry	2	0	0.00%
Houston	1	0	0.00%
Humphreys	1	0	0.00%
Stewart	4	1	25.00%
Shelby	152	17	11.18%
Blount	5	0	0.00%
Claiborne	3	1	33.33%
Cocke	5	2	40.00%
Grainger	2	0	0.00%
Hamblen	10	2	20.00%
Jefferson	7	1	14.29%
Sevier	4	1	25.00%

Bedford	7	4	57.14%
Coffee	4	0	0.00%
Franklin	9	1	11.11%
Giles	6	1	16.67%
Grundy	1	0	0.00%
Hickman	4	0	0.00%
Lawrence	4	1	25.00%
Lewis	3	0	0.00%
Lincoln	7	1	14.29%
Marshall	10	2	20.00%
Maury	4	0	0.00%
Moore	1	0	0.00%
Wayne	2	0	0.00%
Fayette	5	0	0.00%
Hardeman	3	0	0.00%
Haywood	4	0	0.00%
Henderson	3	0	0.00%
Lauderdale	3	0	0.00%
Madison	21	3	14.29%
Mcnairy	3	0	0.00%
Tipton	8	1	12.50%
Bledsoe	1	0	0.00%
Bradley	7	0	0.00%
Hamilton	33	8	24.24%
Marion	3	0	0.00%
Mcminn	20	5	25.00%
Polk	1	0	0.00%
Rhea	6	0	0.00%
Sequatchie	1	0	0.00%
Cannon	2	1	50.00%
Cumberland	10	5	50.00%
Dekalb	8	1	12.50%
Jackson	3	2	66.67%
Macon	5	0	0.00%
Overton	2	0	0.00%
Pickett	1	0	0.00%
Putnam	7	1	14.29%
Smith	4	0	0.00%
Vanburen	3	0	0.00%
Warren	7	0	0.00%
White	6	1	16.67%
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>761</b>	<b>141</b>	<b>18.53%</b>

## Interstate Compact for Juveniles (ICJ)

The Office of Juvenile Justice administers the Interstate Compact for Juveniles. The Compact is the only legal means to transfer a juvenile's supervision from one state to another and to return out of state runaways. ICJ allows for the return of runaway youth (escapees, absconders, accused delinquent and non-delinquent) who cross state lines and provides for the monitoring/supervision of juveniles on probation or parole (aftercare) who move out of state and still have requirements remaining. Tennessee, as part of the compact, also accepts supervision of probation and parole cases from other states when families move into this state. For FY 2022 the ICJ program accepted 127 Probation cases and 7 Parole cases for supervision in Tennessee. Tennessee sent 94 Probation cases and 19 Parole cases to other states for supervision. The Office also returned a total of 148 runaway youth to and from Tennessee; this is an increase from previous years. The figures below show the comparison in data for FY21 and FY22.

Figure 7: ICJ Case Types Accepted by TN from Other States in FY21 and FY22

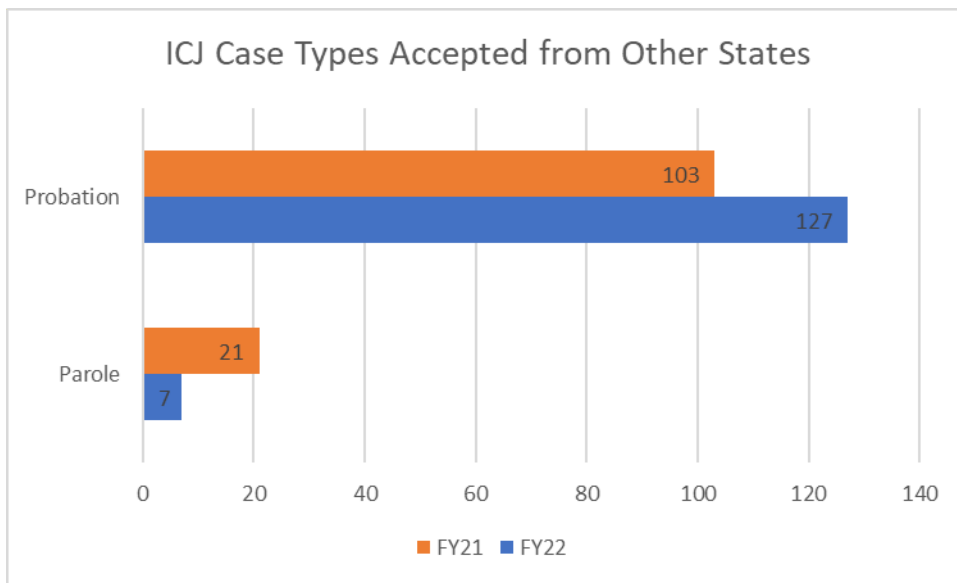


Figure 8: ICJ Case Types Sent from TN to Other States in FY21 and FY22

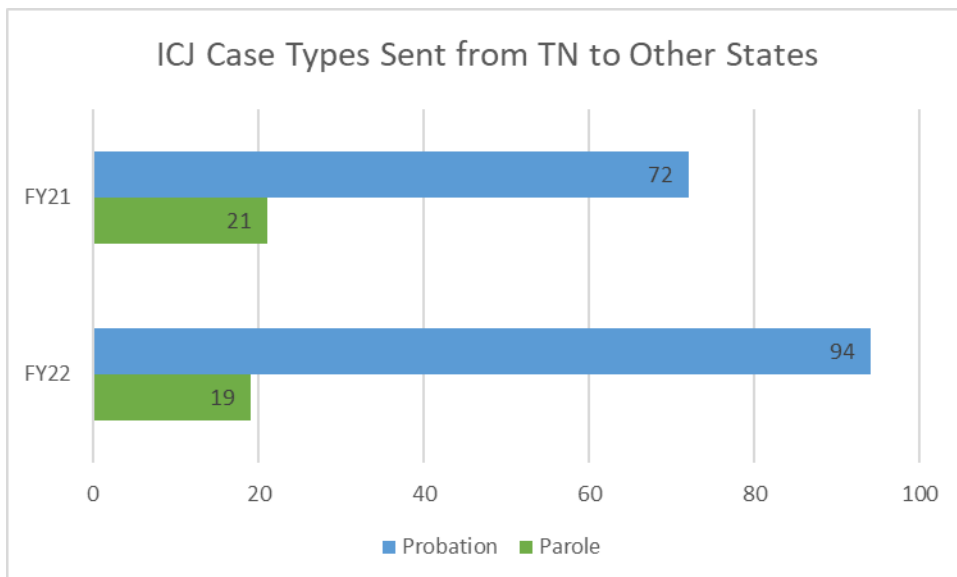
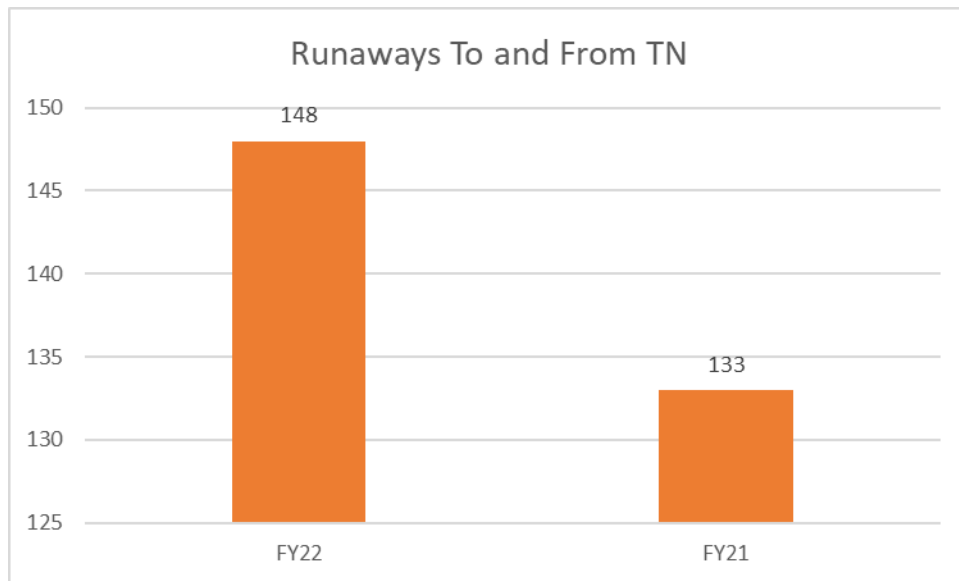




Figure 9: Runaways To and From TN in FY21 and FY22



## Absconder Unit

The Absconder Unit (AU) actively searches for youth who have absconded from DCS custody following leads, teaming with fellow DCS workers, law enforcement, TBI Missing Children of Tennessee (MCOT), National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC) and community parents. Daily duties of AU Investigators include:

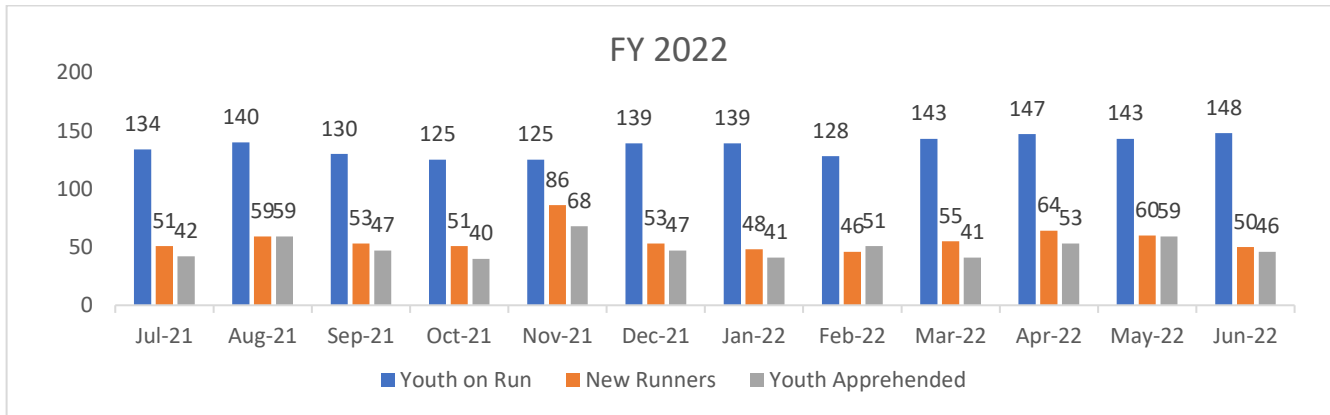
- Following up on leads
- Actively working with law enforcement and the TBI
- Maintaining regular contact with the DCS case managers and facilitating monthly regional meetings reviewing all runaways in the region
- Registering and deleting youth from the MCOT website
- Conducting searches for youth information in TFACTS and public data bases.
- Maintaining spreadsheets and documentation related to finding children, especially noting human trafficking, mental or physical health risks, etc.

For FY2022, the Absconder Unit received 676 new cases of youth that had absconded from DCS custody. The Absconder Unit successfully apprehended/located a total of 594 youth returning them to safety. Table 5 below shows a monthly breakdown of total cases, new cases, and apprehended youth for FY2022.

Table 5: Monthly Breakdown for FY22

	Youth on Run	New Runners	Youth Apprehended
Jul-21	134	51	42
Aug-21	140	59	59
Sep-21	130	53	47
Oct-21	125	51	40
Nov-21	125	86	68
Dec-21	139	53	47
Jan-22	139	48	41
Feb-22	128	46	51
Mar-22	143	55	41
Apr-22	147	64	53
May-22	143	60	59
Jun-22	148	50	46

Figure 10: Monthly Breakdown for FY22



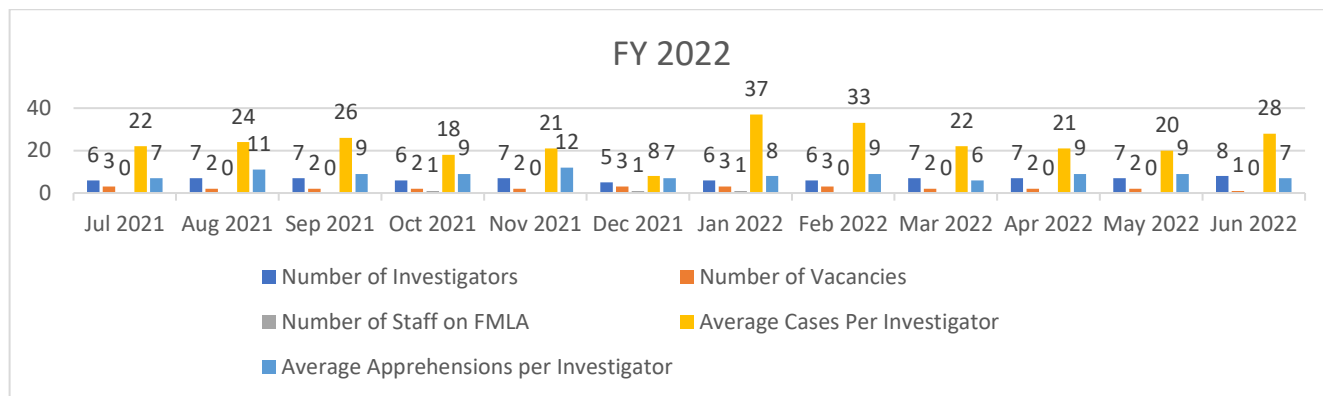
## Absconder Unit Staffing

The DCS Absconder Unit is under the supervision of the Office of Juvenile Justice. The unit covers the entire state of Tennessee and is divided into three (3) grand regions: West, Middle, East. There are three Absconder Investigators assigned to each grand region for a total of nine investigators. The Absconder Unit is supervised by a Program Coordinator under the direction of an Office of Juvenile Justice State Director. Table 6 below shows a breakdown of staffing and average caseloads and apprehensions per Absconder Investigator for FY22.

Table 6: Staffing, Caseloads and Apprehensions per Investigator for FY22

Month	Number of Investigators	Number of Vacancies	Number of Staff on FMLA	Average Cases Per Investigator	Average Apprehensions per Investigator
Jul 2021	6	3	0	22	7
Aug 2021	7	2	0	24	11
Sep 2021	7	2	0	26	9
Oct 2021	6	2	1	18	9
Nov 2021	7	2	0	21	12
Dec 2021	5	3	1	8	7
Jan 2022	6	3	1	37	8
Feb 2022	6	3	0	33	9
Mar 2022	7	2	0	22	6
Apr 2022	7	2	0	21	9
May 2022	7	2	0	20	9
Jun 2022	8	1	0	28	7

Figure 11: Staffing, Caseloads and Apprehensions per Investigator for FY22



## Electronic Monitoring Unit (EMU)

DCS may utilize electronic monitoring services for youth who are under custodial and non-custodial supervision. Electronic monitoring is a supervision tool that requires a youth to wear an electronic monitor equipped with Global Positioning System (GPS). This electronic device enables the worker to monitor and verify a youth’s movement, school or work attendance and compliance with curfew. DCS uses these monitors to assess if youth are complying with supervision rules and to support community safety. Often monitors are used as a less restrictive tool to prevent placement in detention or state’s custody. The table below shows the monthly average of youth on electronic monitoring per region in FY22.

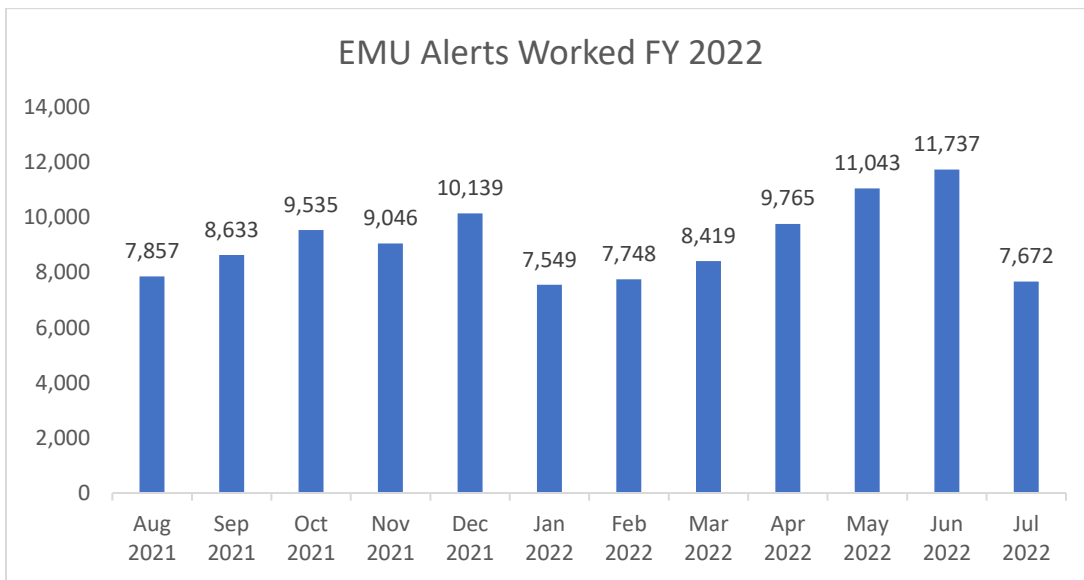
Table 7: Regional Average of Youth on Electronic Monitoring FY22

Regions	July 2021	Aug 2021	Sept 2021	Oct 2021	Nov 2021	Dec 2021
Davidson	27	25	26	21	21	21
East	29	26	18	17	20	21
Knox	14	16	17	18	13	15
Mid Cumberland	28	34	39	40	46	51
Northeast	43	48	42	42	49	56
Northwest	9	11	14	16	16	15
Shelby	17	16	17	17	17	22
Smoky	15	17	21	26	24	27
Southcentral	33	29	28	29	31	30
Southwest	17	18	19	24	21	22
Tn Valley	27	26	30	13	37	36
Upper Cumberland	14	12	14	15	14	12
<b>Total for the month</b>	<b>273</b>	<b>268</b>	<b>285</b>	<b>278</b>	<b>266</b>	<b>328</b>

Regions	Jan 2022	Feb 2022	Mar 2022	April 2022	May 2022	June 2022
Davidson	25	25	28	26	29	26
East	23	20	25	24	24	27
Knox	14	13	19	19	21	14
Mid Cumberland	45	42	44	42	52	69
Northeast	58	56	40	45	52	47
Northwest	14	13	17	21	17	18
Shelby	19	15	16	16	16	13
Smoky	24	26	20	20	23	26
Southcentral	26	25	25	27	35	36
Southwest	26	27	23	24	24	23
Tn Valley	23	23	30	29	28	26
Upper Cumberland	9	10	10	12	11	11
<b>Total for the month</b>	306	295	287	286	332	336

The EMU is responsible for responding when alert notifications are received from the VeriTracks Monitoring System. Alerts are generated when there are issues with youth being outside of established perimeters or having equipment concerns. The figure below shows the number of alerts worked monthly for FY22.

Figure 12: Number of Alerts worked by EMU Monthly for FY22



### Appendix A

Youth Adjudicated Delinquent on State probation by County of Adjudication  
July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2022 (n=2,159)

Adjudication County	Youth Adjudicated Delinquent on State Probation	Adjudication County	Youth Adjudicated Delinquent on State Probation	Adjudication County	Youth Adjudicated Delinquent on State Probation
Anderson	36	Hamilton	0	Morgan	2
Bedford	49	Hancock	2	Obion	69
Benton	1	Hardeman	30	Overton	4
Bledsoe	2	Hardin	14	Perry	5
Blount	26	Hawkins	22	Pickett	4
Bradley	18	Haywood	21	Polk	2
Campbell	26	Henderson	9	Putnam	2
Cannon	15	Henry	8	Rhea	0
Carroll	7	Hickman	4	Roane	12
Carter	14	Houston	0	Robertson	5
Cheatham	3	Humphreys	4	Rutherford	50
Chester	10	Jackson	10	Scott	9
Claiborne	23	Jefferson	12	Sequatchie	8
Clay	1	Johnson	10	Sevier	81
Cocke	41	Knox	5	Shelby	0
Coffee	48	Lake	5	Smith	2
Crockett	3	Lauderdale	45	Stewart	2
Cumberland	54	Lawrence	5	Sullivan	105
Davidson	13	Lewis	5	Sumner	138
Decatur	5	Lincoln	28	Tipton	10
DeKalb	18	Loudon	15	Trousdale	6
Dickson	18	Macon	16	Unicoi	6
Dyer	39	Madison	14	Union	3
Fayette	9	Marion	4	Van Buren	3
Fentress	35	Marshall	65	Warren	87
Franklin	32	Mauzy	44	Washington	25
Gibson	63	McMinn	16	Wayne	33
Giles	27	McNairy	21	Weakley	8
Grainger	3	Meigs	0	White	4
Greene	26	Monroe	27	Williamson	17
Grundy	11	Montgomery	76	Wilson	52
Hamblen	39	Moore	0	<b>Total</b>	<b>2,159</b>

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