

Arizona Department of Juvenile Corrections

Annual Commitments: Demographic Data

Fiscal Year 2019



INTRODUCTION

Juveniles referred to the juvenile court and subsequently adjudicated delinquent may receive several different dispositions, one being commitment to the Arizona Department of Juvenile Corrections (ADJC). Disposition to the ADJC is governed by statute and the Arizona Code of Judicial Administration. Arizona Revised Statutes §8-342 (A) states, “A child under the age of fourteen years shall not be committed to the department of juvenile corrections nor shall a dependent or incorrigible child be awarded to the department of juvenile corrections.”

Arizona Code of Judicial Administration Part 6, Chapter 3, Section 6-304 Commitment Guidelines provides judges with the following guidelines:

1. When considering the commitment of a juvenile to the care and custody of ADJC, the juvenile court shall:
 - a. Only commit those juveniles who are adjudicated for a delinquent act and whom the court believes require placement in a secure care facility for the protection of the community;
 - b. Consider commitment to ADJC as a final opportunity for rehabilitation of the juvenile, as well as a way of holding the juvenile accountable for a serious delinquent act or acts;
 - c. Give special consideration to the nature of the offense, the level of risk the juvenile poses to the community, and whether appropriate, less restrictive alternatives to commitment exist within the community; and
 - d. Clearly identify, in the commitment order, the offense or offenses for which the juvenile is being committed and any other relevant factors that the court determines as reasons to consider the juvenile a risk to the community.
2. The juvenile court shall not consider juveniles for commitment to ADJC when charged with an incorrigible offense(s).

Of the juveniles adjudicated delinquent, very few meet criteria for and are dispositioned to ADJC. It is the least frequently used disposition in juvenile court. In FY19, 208 youth received a disposition to and where received by the ADJC. This report presents various demographic and key information about these youth.

DEMOGRAPHIC DATA FOR NEW COMMITMENTS

GENDER	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019
Male	270 (92.5%)	147 (92.5%)	189 (94.5%)	175 (92.6%)	191 (91.8%)
Female	22 (7.5%)	12 (7.5%)	11 (5.5%)	14 (7.4%)	17 (8.2%)
TOTALS	292 (100%)	159 (100%)	200 (100%)	189 (100%)	208 (100%)

RACE/ETHNICITY	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019
Hispanic	111 (38.0%)	65 (40.9%)	94 (47.0%)	82 (43.4%)	94 (45.2%)
Caucasian	86 (29.5%)	50 (31.4%)	46 (23.0%)	36 (19.0%)	39 (18.8%)
African American	31 (10.6%)	8 (5.0%)	26 (13.0%)	31 (16.4%)	31 (14.9%)
American Indian	11 (3.8%)	9 (5.7%)	5 (2.5%)	5 (2.6%)	4 (1.9%)
Mexican National	18 (6.2%)	4 (2.5%)	14 (7.0%)	10 (5.3%)	3 (1.4%)
Bi-Racial	34 (11.6%)	22 (13.8%)	14 (7.0%)	23 (12.2%)	36 (17.3%)
Asian	1 (0.3%)	1 (0.6%)	1 (0.5%)	2 (1.1%)	1 (0.5%)
Other	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS	292 (100%)	159 (100%)	200 (100%)	189 (100%)	208 (100%)

AGE	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019
13 years old or younger	6 (2.0%)	-	-	-	-
14 years old	21 (7.2%)	6 (3.8%)	15 (7.5%)	20 (10.6%)	17 (8.2%)
15 years old	49 (16.8%)	30 (18.9%)	33 (16.5%)	41 (21.7%)	42 (20.2%)
16 years old	94 (32.2%)	57 (35.8%)	67 (33.5%)	52 (27.5%)	71 (34.1%)
17 years old	78 (26.7%)	44 (27.7%)	44 (22.0%)	37 (19.6%)	39 (18.8%)
17 years old > 6 month	44 (15.1%)	22 (13.8%)	41 (20.5%)	39 (20.6%)	37 (17.8%)
18 year old	-	-	-	-	2 (1.0%)
TOTALS	292 (100%)	159 (100%)	200 (100%)	189 (100%)	208 (100%)

COUNTY	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019
Apache	3 (1.0%)	-	1 (0.5%)	-	3 (1.4%)
Cochise	12 (4.1%)	3 (1.9%)	21 (10.5%)	15 (7.9%)	7 (3.4%)
Coconino	7 (2.4%)	4 (2.5%)	2 (1.0%)	5 (2.6%)	4 (1.9%)
Gila	8 (2.7%)	8 (5.0%)	2 (1.0%)	6 (3.2%)	5 (2.4%)
Graham	1 (0.3%)	1 (0.6%)	4 (2.0%)	3 (1.6%)	4 (1.9%)
Greenlee	1 (0.3%)	-	2 (1.0%)	-	2 (1.0%)
La Paz	3 (1.0%)	2 (1.3%)	-	-	-
Maricopa	150 (51.4%)	86 (54.1%)	103 (51.5%)	110 (58.2%)	110 (52.9%)
Mohave	20 (6.8%)	8 (5.0%)	8 (4.0%)	12 (6.3%)	15 (7.2%)
Navajo	4 (1.4%)	4 (2.5%)	1 (0.5%)	2 (1.1%)	-
Pima	20 (6.8%)	9 (5.7%)	12 (6.0%)	7 (3.7%)	19 (9.1%)
Pinal	16 (5.5%)	9 (5.7%)	4 (2.0%)	8 (4.2%)	8 (3.8%)
Santa Cruz	15 (5.1%)	2 (1.3%)	5 (2.5%)	3 (1.6%)	7 (3.4%)
Yavapai	12 (4.1%)	8 (5.0%)	13 (6.5%)	4 (2.1%)	8 (7.2%)
Yuma	20 (6.8%)	15 (9.4%)	22 (11.0%)	14 (7.4%)	16 (7.7%)
TOTALS	292 (100%)	159 (100%)	200 (100%)	189 (100%)	208 (100%)

DELINQUENCY DATA FOR NEW COMMITMENTS

Youth formally enter the juvenile court system when a referral is made. Referrals are submitted to the County Attorney alleging a youth between the ages of 8 and 17 years old committed a delinquent or incorrigible act. Referrals can be made by police, parents, school officials, probation officers, other agencies or individuals requesting the juvenile court take jurisdiction over the juvenile's conduct. In FY19, the majority of youth committed to ADJC had between 6 to 10 referrals prior to the referral resulting in commitment to ADJC. Youth committed to ADJC frequently had multiple referrals result in petitions being filed and subsequent adjudications of delinquency. In FY19, the vast majority of commitments had between 2 and 5 adjudications in addition to their current adjudication to ADJC. The most serious offense resulting in commitment to ADJC were Class 6 felonies that were either property crimes or crimes against persons.

NUMBER OF ADJUDICATIONS	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019
1 Adjudication	29 (9.9%)	9 (5.7%)	30 (15.0%)	24 (12.7%)	16 (7.7%)
2-3 Adjudications	113 (38.7%)	57 (35.8%)	55 (27.5%)	56 (29.6%)	71 (34.1%)
4-5 Adjudications	90 (30.8%)	54 (34.0%)	67 (33.5%)	61 (32.3%)	66 (31.7%)
6-7 Adjudications	44 (15.1%)	26 (16.4%)	33 (16.5%)	36 (19.0%)	31 (14.9%)
8 or More	16 (5.5%)	13 (8.2%)	15 (7.5%)	12 (6.3%)	24 (11.5%)
TOTALS	292 (100%)	159 (100%)	200 (100%)	189 (100%)	208 (100%)

NUMBER OF REFERRALS	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019
1 Referral	17 (5.8%)	3 (1.9%)	19 (9.5%)	13 (6.9%)	4 (1.9%)
2 Referrals	16 (5.5%)	6 (3.8%)	9 (4.5%)	6 (3.2%)	9 (4.3%)
3-5 Referrals	43 (14.7%)	30 (18.9%)	39 (19.5%)	25 (13.2%)	34 (16.3%)
6-10 Referrals	103 (35.3%)	49 (30.8%)	46 (23.0%)	58 (30.7%)	67 (32.2%)
11-15 Referrals	71 (24.3%)	36 (22.6%)	48 (24.0%)	40 (21.2%)	44 (21.2%)
16 or More	42 (14.4%)	35 (22.0%)	39 (19.5%)	47 (24.9%)	50 (24.0%)
TOTALS	292 (100%)	159 (100%)	200 (100%)	189 (100%)	208 (100%)

FELONY CLASS LEVEL	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019
Class 1 Felony	-	-	-	-	-
Class 2 Felony	16 (5.5%)	9 (5.7%)	11 (5.5%)	20 (10.6%)	6 (2.9%)
Class 3 Felony	56 (19.2%)	38 (23.9%)	51 (25.5%)	34 (18.0%)	37 (17.8%)
Class 4 Felony	34 (11.6%)	18 (11.3%)	32 (16.0%)	26 (13.8%)	41 (19.7%)
Class 5 Felony	21 (7.2%)	13 (8.2%)	25 (12.5%)	12 (6.3%)	12 (5.8%)
Class 6 Felony	93 (31.8%)	66 (41.5%)	65 (32.5%)	79 (41.8%)	90 (43.3%)
Misdemeanor w/Prior Felonies	22 (7.6%)	14 (8.8%)	15 (7.5%)	16 (8.5%)	19 (9.1%)
Misdemeanor Only*	49 (16.9%)	1 (0.6%)	1 (0.5%)	2 (1.0%)	3 (1.4%)
TOTALS	292 (100%)	159 (100%)	200 (100%)	189 (100%)	208 (100%)

*FY 2016 Criminal Justice Budget Reconciliation Bill (Laws 2015, Chapter 17) altered the requirements for admission to ADJC facilities requiring juveniles to have committed a felony in the past or be adjudicated as mentally ill if they have only committed a misdemeanor.

MOST SERIOUS COMMITTING OFFENSE	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019
Property Offenses	113 (38.7%)	66 (41.5%)	72 (36.0%)	79 (41.8%)	76 (36.5%)
Crimes Against Persons	72 (24.7%)	49 (30.8%)	61 (30.5%)	54 (28.6%)	64 (30.8%)
Drug Offenses	54 (18.5%)	20 (12.6%)	39 (19.5%)	33 (17.5%)	27 (13.0%)
Public Order Offenses	34 (11.6%)	16 (10.1%)	18 (9.0%)	11 (5.8%)	23 (11.1%)
Weapons Offenses	8 (2.7%)	6 (3.8%)	5 (2.5%)	9 (4.8%)	9 (4.3%)
All Other Offenses	11 (3.8%)	2 (1.3%)	5 (2.5%)	3 (1.6%)	9 (4.3%)
TOTALS	292 (100%)	159 (100%)	200 (100%)	189 (100%)	208 (100%)

OTHER IMPORTANT NEW COMMITMENT DATA

For this report, serious mental illness statistics represent youth who have been diagnosed by a qualified ADJC mental health professional as having a psychiatric disorder that causes significant functional impairment requiring structured psychiatric and/or psychological services provided in a specialized mental health unit or moderate functional impairment requiring frequent psychiatric and/or psychology services and possible monitoring. Substance problems indicate youth who have been assessed by a qualified ADJC mental health professional as having a substance use disorder(s), varying in degree, which requires treatment on a specialty unit or part of core programs.

Special education statistics represent youth who have been diagnosed with a learning disability and who have been placed on an individual learning plan to address their educational needs.

Dually adjudicated youth are those who have been found both dependent and delinquent and are therefore involved in both systems. Here, dually adjudicated youth are those whose responsible party at the time of commitment was a Department of Child Safety (DCS) official rather than a parent or other guardian.

About 33 percent of the youth committed to ADJC in FY19 were identified as being gang-involved. These youth met the criteria for and were a validated documented gang member in GangNet, a cross-jurisdictional gang intelligence database, before or at the time of commitment.

ADJC uses the AZYAS (Arizona Youth Assessment System) to determine overall risk to recidivate. The AZYAS contains validated tools developed by the University of Cincinnati that are utilized in juvenile probation as well. Risk levels reflected in the table below are from the time of intake assessed through the Residential tool. The majority of juveniles committed to ADJC are moderate or high risk to recidivate.

	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019
Serious Mental Illness	110 (37.7%)	72 (45.3%)	92 (46.0%)	59 (31.2%)	84 (40.4%)
Substance Problems	223 (76.4%)	131 (82.4%)	166 (83.0%)	160 (84.7%)	176 (84.6%)
Special Education	70 (24.1%)	43 (27.0%)	60 (30.0%)	47 (24.9%)	48 (23.1%)
Dually Adjudicated	58 (20.0%)	29 (18.3%)	34 (17.0%)	51 (27.0%)	43 (20.7%)
Gang Involved	120 (41.1%)	71 (44.6%)	81 (40.5%)	70 (37.0%)	70 (33.7%)
Risk (AZYAS)					
Low	43 (14.7%)	24 (15.1%)	41 (20.5%)	24 (12.8%)	31 (14.9%)
Moderate	112 (38.4%)	66 (41.5%)	87 (43.5%)	96 (51.3%)	106 (51.0%)
High	137 (46.9%)	69 (43.4%)	72 (36.0%)	67 (35.8%)	71 (34.1%)
TOTALS	292	159	200	189	208

TOTAL ADJC POPULATION

Total Number of Juveniles in ADJC Secure Care Custody*					
	As of 6/30/2015	As of 6/30/2016	As of 6/30/2017	As of 6/30/2018	As of 6/30/2019
Adobe Mountain School	283	184	182	176	216
TOTALS	283	184	182	176	216

*Includes new commitments, re-commitments, parole revoked, and pending revocation juveniles.

Total Number of Juveniles on Parole					
	As of 6/30/2015	As of 6/30/2016	As of 6/30/2017	As of 6/30/2018	As of 6/30/2019
Home	90	47	26	30	27
Abscond	11	17	7	4	8
Residential Treatment Center	20	14	8	5	7
TOTALS	121	78	41	39	42

Total Number of Interstate-In					
	As of 6/30/2015	As of 6/30/2016	As of 6/30/2017	As of 6/30/2018	As of 6/30/2019
Males	89	90	80	61	54
Females	16	16	22	16	11
TOTALS	105	106	102	77	65

LENGTH OF STAY SERVED

Although most juveniles committed to the Arizona Department of Juvenile Corrections (ADJC) receive a court-ordered minimum length of stay by a juvenile court judge, the Department has the discretion to keep a juvenile until they have completed their appropriate program or until they reach the age of majority. The tables below indicate the average length of stay a juvenile remained in a secure facility within each status.

AVERAGE LENGTH OF STAY SERVED BY STATUS IN MONTHS

	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019
New Commitment (secure care)	8.5	10.7	8.3	7.7	9.2
Parole Revoked (secure care)	5.2	5.3	4.8	5.3	5.9
Parole (community)	4.3	4.5	3.5	3.2	3.9

MEDIAN LENGTH OF STAY SERVED BY STATUS IN MONTHS

	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019
New Commitment (secure care)	7.2	8.6	6.4	6.5	7.9
Parole Revoked (secure care)	4.4	4.6	3.9	4.6	5.4
Parole (community)	3.1	3.2	2.8	2.3	3.4

Secure Care – New Commitment

	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019
30 Days or Less	0	0	7 (3.7%)	2 (1.0%)	0
31-90 Days	11 (3.6%)	6 (2.3%)	11 (5.9%)	13 (6.8%)	9 (5.4%)
91-150 Days	71 (23.3%)	40 (15.6%)	36 (19.1%)	34 (17.7%)	23 (13.7%)
151-210 Days	58 (19.0%)	40 (15.6%)	53 (28.2%)	61 (31.8%)	33 (19.6%)
211-270 Days	69 (22.6%)	49 (19.1%)	23 (12.2%)	32 (16.7%)	44 (26.2%)
271-365 Days	40 (13.1%)	51 (19.8%)	21 (11.2%)	25 (13.0%)	27 (16.1%)
Over 365 Days	56 (18.4%)	71 (27.6%)	37 (19.7%)	25 (13.0%)	32 (19.0%)

Secure Care – Parole Revoked

	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019
30 Days or Less	12 (6.6%)	12 (7.8%)	16 (11.4%)	8 (9.2%)	2 (2.8%)
31-90 Days	31 (17.0%)	23 (15.0%)	24 (17.1%)	13 (14.9%)	12 (16.7%)
91-150 Days	64 (35.2%)	51 (33.3%)	54 (38.6%)	27 (31.0%)	18 (25.0%)
151-210 Days	30 (16.5%)	32 (20.9%)	21 (15.0%)	19 (21.8%)	18 (25.0%)
211-270 Days	21 (11.5%)	17 (11.1%)	7 (5.0%)	11 (12.6%)	11 (15.3%)
271-365 Days	14 (7.7%)	11 (7.2%)	12 (8.6%)	3 (3.4%)	6 (8.3%)
Over 365 Days	10 (5.5%)	7 (4.6%)	6 (4.3%)	6 (6.9%)	5 (6.9%)

DISCHARGES

A discharge occurs when a youth is released from ADJC custody. Discharge can occur for different reasons such as the youth may become an adult in which ADJC loses jurisdiction, or the youth may be transferred to the adult court for adult charges, or may have earned an absolute discharge. An absolute discharge means ADJC has granted an end to the juvenile's commitment to ADJC and they are released with no further ADJC jurisdiction.

DISCHARGES	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019
Turned 18	287 (76.9%)	231 (77.0%)	169 (69.8%)	150 (76.1%)	123 (74.1%)
Absolute Discharge	43 (11.5%)	34 (11.3%)	43 (17.8%)	14 (7.1%)	23 (13.9%)
Transferred to Adult Jurisdiction	22 (5.9%)	25 (8.3%)	17 (7.0%)	15 (7.6%)	17 (10.2%)
ICE Discharge	20 (5.4%)	9 (3.0%)	10 (4.1%)	16 (8.1%)	2 (1.2%)
Other	1 (0.3%)	1 (0.3%)	3 (1.2%)	2 (1.0%)	1 (0.6%)
TOTALS	373 (100%)	300 (100%)	242 (100%)	197 (100%)	166 (100%)



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Arizona Department of Juvenile Corrections
Continuous Improvement Bureau

Deborah D. Jones, PhD
Bureau Administrator

Stella Vasquez
Senior Planning and Research Analyst

1624 West Adams Street
Phoenix Arizona, 85007
www.adjc.az.gov