
STATE OF NEW JERSEY JUVENILE JUSTICE COMMISSION

Biennial Data Report Regarding Youth Committed to JJC Custody 2022-2023

Pursuant to P.L. 2019, c.363, which took effect on November 1, 2020, the Juvenile Justice Commission (JJC) shall establish a program to collect and analyze data regarding youth sentenced to a term of incarceration with the JJC, and to publish on its website biennial reports summarizing the aggregate data collected and analyzed. A description of specific data elements required under the law follows.

- A. For youth sentenced to a term of incarceration with the JJC, specific data elements required include:
 - 1) the offense for which youth were incarcerated
 - 2) the classification of the youth
 - 3) the term (length) of incarceration imposed
 - 4) whether an extended term of incarceration was imposed
 - 5) committing county
 - 6) age, gender, race, and ethnicity of the youth
- B. For adjudicated youth who are paroled from JJC custody and whose parole is subsequently revoked, specific data elements required include:
 - 1) the amount of time remaining on the sentence at the time of revocation
 - 2) whether the revocation was due to a technical violation of parole conditions or a new offense
 - 3) county where the youth was originally adjudicated delinquent
 - 4) age, gender, race, and ethnicity of the youth
- C. For all youth housed in JJC facilities, specific data elements required include:
 - 1) the number of incidents of violence
 - 2) the number of suicides and suicide attempts
 - 3) the number of hospitalizations
 - 4) the number of incidences of segregation/isolation

This report has been prepared and published to meet the statutory requirements articulated above. The information contained in this report was gathered from existing JJC sources maintained by the Information Technology Unit, the Office of Classification, Intake, and Release, the Healthcare and Safety Services Unit, and the Office of Investigations. The report was prepared by the Research & Evaluation Unit. This report reflects activity during 2022 and 2023.

A. Youth Committed¹ to a Term of Incarceration with the JJC – 2022-2023

During 2022-2023, 244 youth were committed to a term of incarceration with the JJC by the Superior Court. The data in this section describe these 244 youth.

1. Offense for which youth were incarcerated (lead/most serious offense)

	#	%
Aggravated Assault*	46	18.9%
Firearms/Weapons*	42	17.2%
Robbery*	36	14.8%
Homicide*	34	13.9%
Violation of Probation	25	10.2%
Underlying Offenses:		
• Firearms/Weapons*	6	2.5%
• Aggravated Assault*	6	2.5%
• Robbery*	4	1.6%
• Theft	3	1.2%
• Criminal Sexual Contact*	2	0.8%
• Offense Against Children/Family*	1	0.4%
• Criminal Trespass	1	0.4%
• Obstruction Administration of Law	1	0.4%
• Burglary	1	0.4%
Theft	17	7.0%
Burglary	12	4.9%
Carjacking*	11	4.5%
Sexual Assault*	10	4.1%
Obstructing Administration of Law	6	2.5%
Controlled Dangerous Substances	2	0.8%
Offense Against Children/Family*	2	0.8%
Bias Intimidation*	1	0.4%
Total	244	100%

During 2022-2023, 82.4% (201) of youth were committed on an offense involving violence/harm to a person or weapons (marked with an * in the table), or on a violation of probation where the underlying offense involved violence/harm to a person or weapons. In addition, youth averaged a total of 5.9 separate adjudications/convictions in their court history at the time of commitment to the JJC.

¹ The term "committed" is used to reflect both youth adjudicated delinquent and disposed in the Family Part of the Superior Court as juveniles ("juvenile court") and youth waived to the Criminal Part of the Superior Court and convicted and sentenced as adults. The date of commitment is the date JJC receives notification that a youth has been committed (sentenced or disposed) to its custody.

2. Classification

	#	%
Committed by juvenile court	191	78.3%
Committed by criminal court	53	21.7%
TOTAL	244	100.0%

Of the 244 youth committed to a term of incarceration with the JJC, 191 were adjudicated delinquent and disposed in the Family Part as juveniles ("juvenile court"), and 53 were waived to the Criminal Part and convicted and sentenced as adults.

3. Length of term of incarceration imposed

	#	%
Less than 1 year	11	4.5%
1 year	32	13.1%
1-3 ² years	102	41.8%
3-5 years	37	15.2%
5-8 years	32	13.1%
8-12 years	11	4.5%
12+ years	19	7.8%
TOTAL	244	100%

The average term of incarceration imposed by the court was almost 5 years (4.9). The longest term of incarceration imposed was 75 years (life with the possibility of parole).

4. Was an extended term of incarceration imposed?

	#	%
Extended term imposed	1	0.5%
No extended term imposed	190	99.5%
TOTAL	191	100.0%

N.J.S.A. 2A:4A-44 provides for maximum terms of incarceration for youth adjudicated delinquent in juvenile court, ranging from 6 months for disorderly persons offenses to 20 years for murder. It also identifies certain circumstances where, upon application by the prosecutor, the maximum term allowed for the offense can be extended. During 2022-2023 of the 191 youth committed to the JJC by the juvenile court, only one youth was disposed under the extended term provisions.

² When a range is provided, the first number reflects that number of years plus 1 day. For example, 1-3 years mean 1 year and 1 day to 3 years.

5. Committing county

	#	%
Essex	46	18.9%
Middlesex	35	14.3%
Camden	33	13.5%
Passaic	25	10.2%
Union	19	7.8%
Atlantic	16	6.6%
Hudson	14	5.7%
Burlington	12	4.9%
Monmouth	7	2.9%
Bergen	7	2.9%
Ocean	5	2.0%
Gloucester	4	1.6%
Mercer	4	1.6%
Morris	4	1.6%
Cumberland	4	1.6%
Salem	4	1.6%
Somerset	3	1.2%
Sussex	1	0.4%
Warren	1	0.4%
Cape May	0	0.0%
Hunterdon	0	0.0%
TOTAL	244	100%

6a. Age of youth at commitment

	#	%
14	3	1.2%
15	15	6.1%
16	42	17.2%
17	61	25.0%
18	79	32.4%
19	22	9.0%
20	11	4.5%
21+	11	4.5%
TOTAL	244	100%

The average age of youth upon commitment to the JJC was 18.0; 50.4% of youth were 18 or older.

6b. Gender of youth

	#	%
Male	239	98.0%
Female	5	2.0%
TOTAL	244	100%

6c. Race/ethnicity of youth

	#	%
Black	179	73.4%
Hispanic	42	17.2%
White	22	9.0%
Asian	1	0.4%
TOTAL	244	100.0%

B. Youth Whose Parole is Revoked – 2022-2023³

For youth committed to its custody by juvenile court, JJC is responsible for providing parole supervision upon release and for administering parole revocation processes. ⁴ In 2022-2023, the JJC supervised 168 youth on parole. Nineteen of those youth had their parole revoked and the vast majority (94.7%) of those revocations were due to a new offense. On average, 575 days remained on the parole term at the time of revocation.

1. Time remaining on parole term at time of revocation

	Days
Average # of days remaining on parole term	575

2. Reason for parole revocation

	#	%
Charged with new offense	18	94.7%
Technical violation of parole	1	5.3%
TOTAL	19	100%

³ Waived youth are not included as the State Parole Board retains all authority over the circumstances of parole, supervision, and revocation for waived youth.

3. County where youth originally adjudicated delinquent

	#	%
Camden	6	31.6%
Essex	6	31.6%
Passaic	3	15.8%
Atlantic	1	5.3%
Union	1	5.3%
Bergen	1	5.3%
Monmouth	1	5.3%
TOTAL	19	100.0%

4a. Age of youth at revocation

	#	%
17	4	21.1%
18	4	21.1%
19	1	5.3%
20	3	15.8%
21	0	0.0%
22	2	10.5%
23	1	5.3%
24	2	10.5%
25	2	10.5%
TOTAL	19	100.0%

4b. Gender of youth

	#	%
Male	18	94.7%
Female	1	5.3%
TOTAL	19	100.0%

4c. Race/ethnicity of youth

	#	%
Black	16	84.2%
Hispanic	2	10.5%
White	1	5.3%
TOTAL	19	100.0%

C. Incidents Involving Youth Housed in JJC Facilities – 2022-2023

In 2022-2023, 518 unique/unduplicated youth were served through JJC secure and residential facilities. The data in this section reflect the experiences of those youth.

1. Violent incidents – substantiated assaults⁵

	#
Youth on youth assault	285
Youth on staff assault	112
Staff on youth assault	1
TOTAL	398

2. Suicides and suicide attempts

	#
Suicides	0
Suicide attempts	0
TOTAL	0

3. Hospitalizations

	#
Hospital admissions	17

While the JJC provides comprehensive medical services to youth in its care through a contracted provider, at times hospitalization becomes a medical necessity. Hospitalization may be needed to address an injury sustained through an incident described above or an injury sustained through recreational activity, but hospitalization is also required to address a healthcare need identified during the process of providing comprehensive, routine medical care.⁶

4. Incidences of segregation/isolation

A full report regarding the JJC's use of room restriction, as required under P.L. 2015, c.89, can be found on the JJC's website at www.njjjc.org, under [JJC Library/Reports/Forms](#). As reflected in that report, in 2022 and 2023, no youth were placed in room restriction for longer than 24 hours.

⁵ Data involving youth as the perpetrator reflect substantiated disciplinary infractions, as determined by a JJC Hearing Officer. Data involving staff as the perpetrator reflect substantiated allegations, as determined by the JJC Office of Investigations.

⁶ For the current reporting period, the majority of the hospital admissions were in response to medical issues non-specific to incarceration (e.g., asthma, hypoglycemia seizures). There were a few admissions related to mental health issues and ingestion of foreign bodies. Ultimately, all hospitalized youth were treated and discharged.