



Office of Youth and
Community Restoration

State Advisory Committee on Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention

September 17, 2025



Agenda

- Welcome and Call to Order
- Action item: Approve June 2025 Minutes
- SACJJD Chair Updates
- Discussion: Review Proposed By-Laws
 - Action item: Approval of By-Laws
- OYCR's Focus on Juvenile Justice Commissions Statewide
- Member Discussion: Subcommittee Updates
- *Break*
- Member Discussion: Subcommittee Updates
- Presentation: SB 823 | 2025 DJJ Realignment Report
- Public Comment
- Announcements and Adjourn



Action Item

- Approval of June 2025 Minutes



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SACJJDJP Committee Chair Updates

Action Items

- Vote on By-Laws



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OYCR'S Focus on Juvenile Justice Commissions Statewide

Introduction and Overview



1.

**California's Juvenile
Commissions & Councils**



2.

**OYCR's Focused Work With
Commissions & Councils**



3.

**Opportunities
for Collaboration**

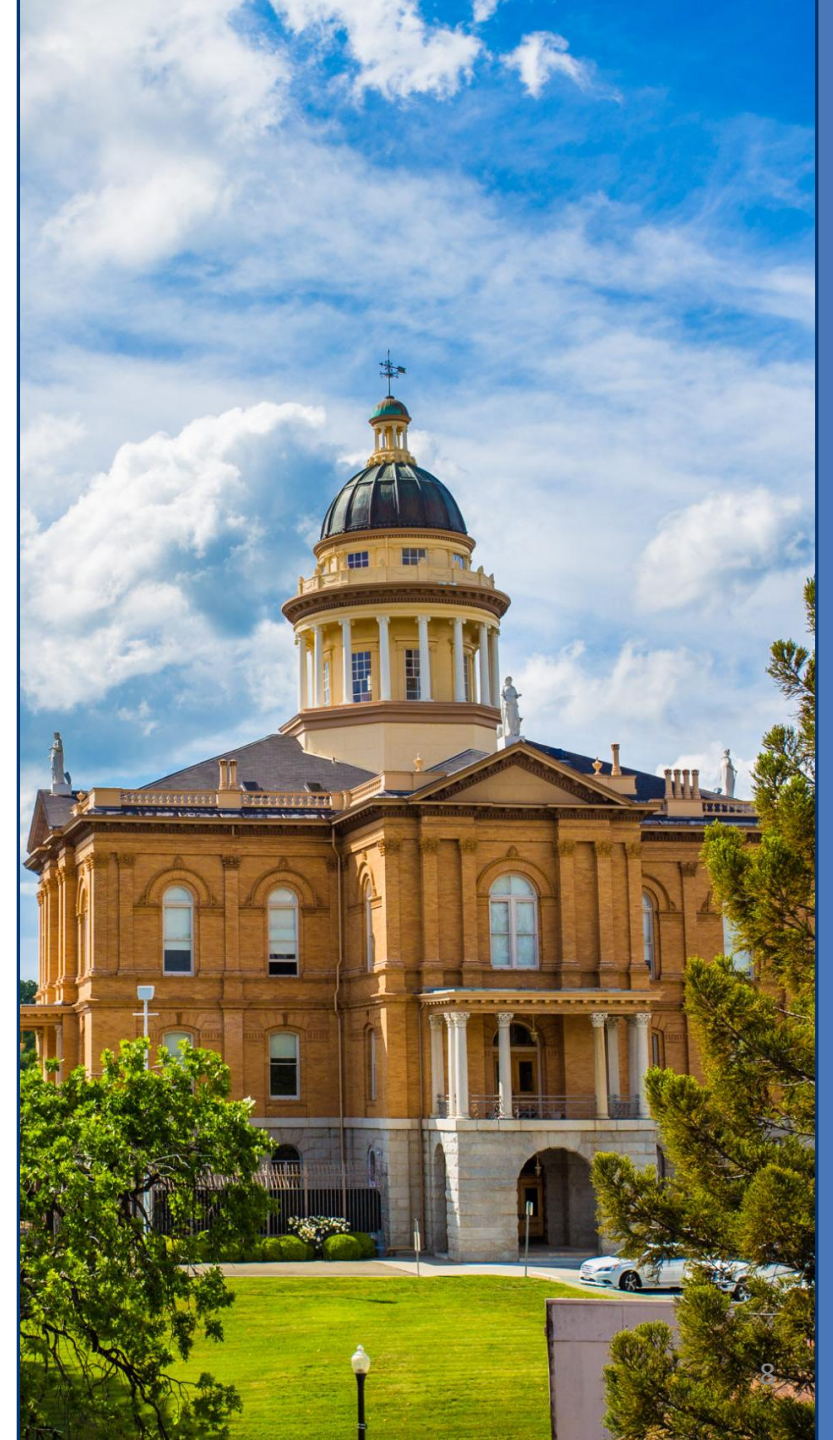
Juvenile Justice Commissions (JJC's):

How do JJC's ensure accountability in California's youth justice landscape?

Per Welf. & Inst. Code § 225 et. seq., **Juvenile Justice Commissions** are appointed by a juvenile court to inquire into the administration of juvenile court law in the county in which the commission serves.

Juvenile Justice Commissions:

- Annually inspect and publish reports on any law enforcement facility that held a youth in secure detention (if so delegated by the juvenile court judge)
- Inspect any jail, lock-up, juvenile hall, camp, or secure youth treatment facility that was used for the confinement of youth for more than 24 hours
- May hold hearings, with a judge of the juvenile court issuing subpoenas to require attendance, testimony, and the production of papers



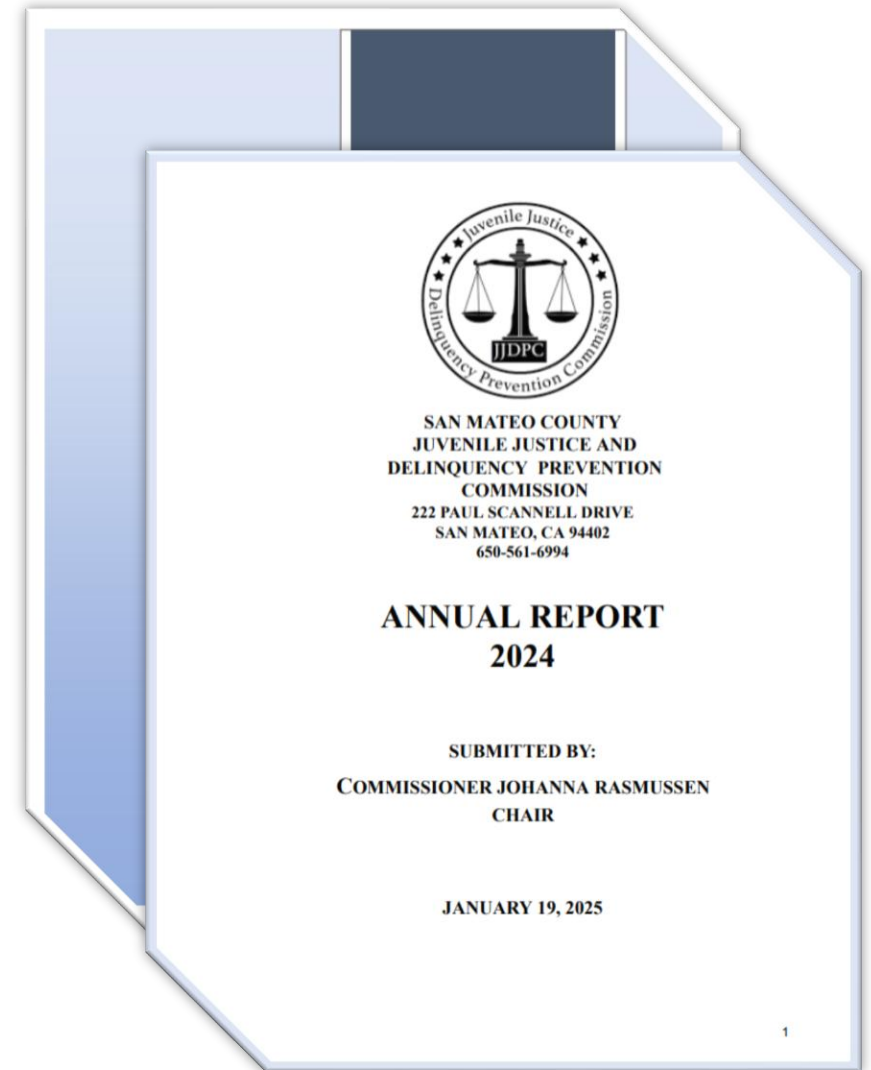
Juvenile Justice & Delinquency Prevention Commissions (JJDPs):

How do JJDPs differ from JJs?

Unlike JJs, **Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Commissions** are appointed by a county's board of supervisors to coordinate all county-wide activities designed to prevent juvenile delinquency.

JJDPs may:

- Include members of the county's Juvenile Justice Commission (if so appointed by a County's Board of Supervisors)
- Receive an executive secretary and operational funding through governmental sources overseen by the Board of Supervisors





Juvenile Justice Coordinating Councils (JJCCs):

Juvenile Justice Coordinating Councils (Welf. & Inst. Code § 749.22) are a multi-agency body charged with developing and implementing a continuum of county-based responses to youth crime.

Required JJCC Councilmembers:

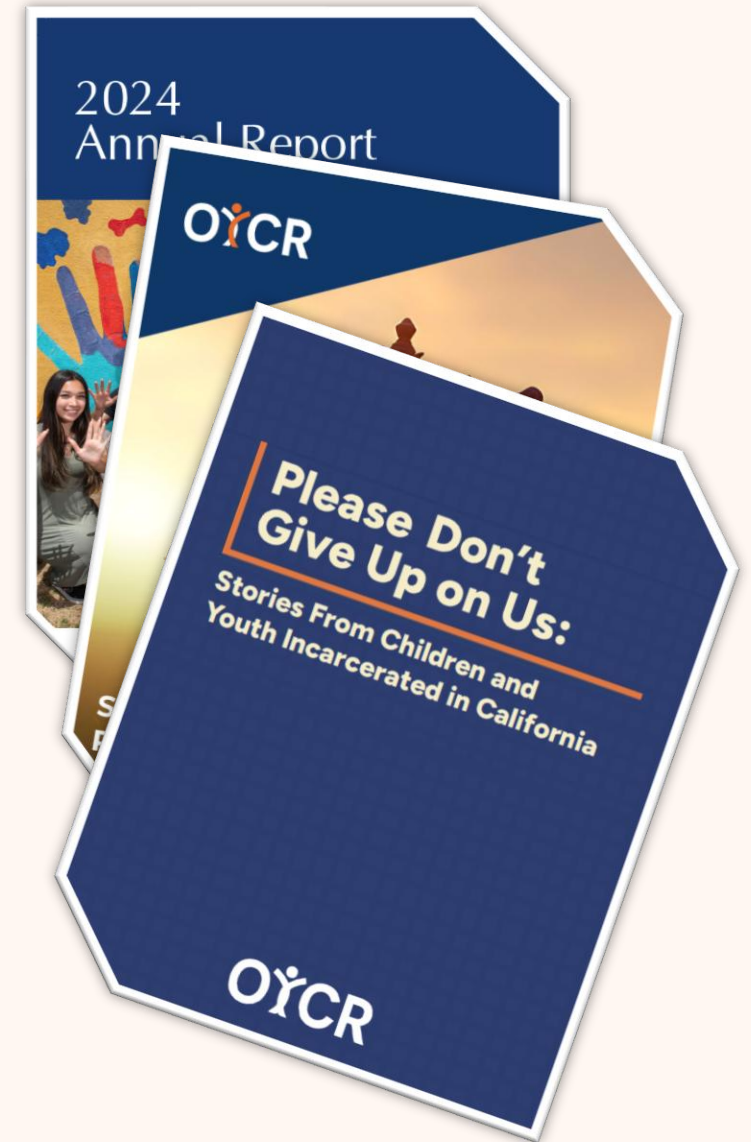
- Chief of Probation, Chair
- District Attorney's Office
- Public Defender's Office
- Sherriff & Police Department
- Board of Supervisors
- Department of Social Services
- Department of Mental Health
- County Office of Education
- 3 Community Members

JJCCs annually:

- Meet to develop a comprehensive plan that identifies the resources, strategies, and programs that will be funded through OYCR's Youth Offender and Juvenile Justice Realignment Block Grants
- Ensure civilian oversight into the fiscal and programmatic outcomes of a probation department's intervention, prevention, and carceral services

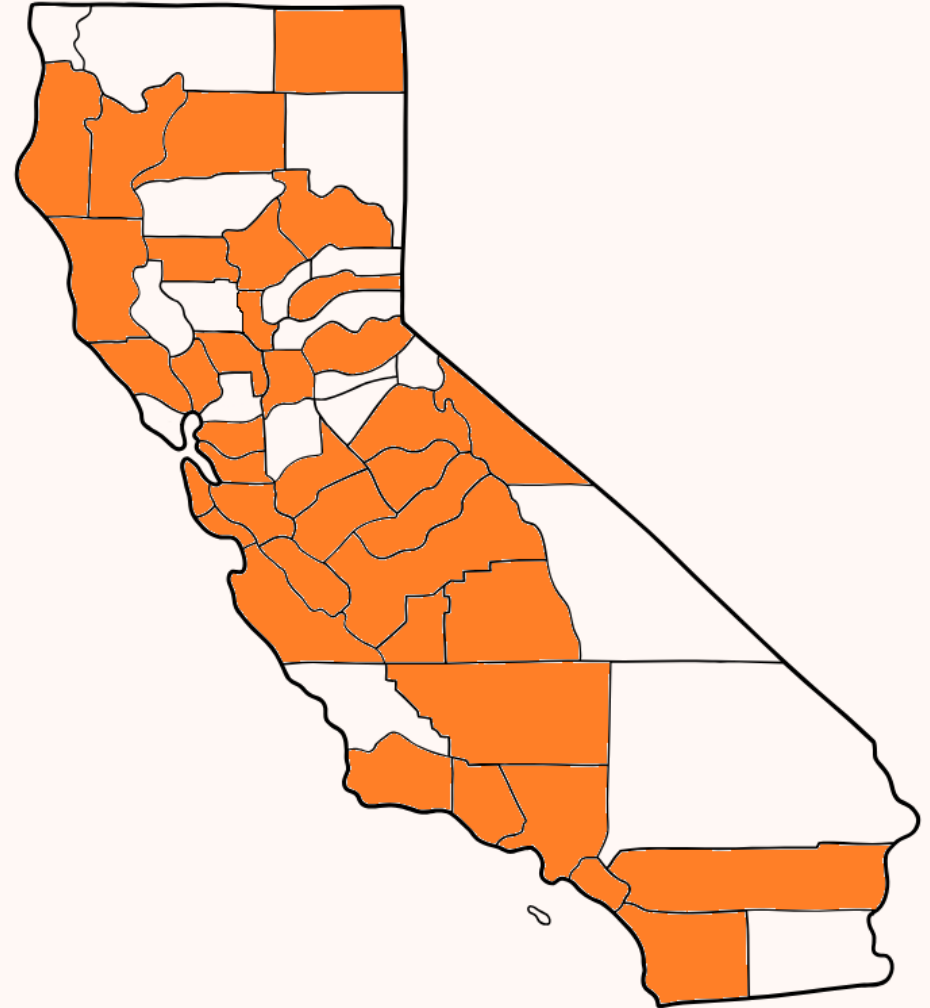
OYCR Provides TA to JJs, JJDPCs, and JJCCs by:

1. Building **diverse, county-wide stakeholder collaboratives with youth voice** representation
2. Promoting practices that **reduce the transfer of youth** into the adult criminal justice system
3. Offering **juvenile justice policy and law expertise** to support councils and commissions in their knowledge of court functions
4. Increasing **community-based responses** and interventions through capacity-building measures
5. Promoting **data driven decision-making** and policy development



JJCC Technical Assistance:

- Since the foundation of OYCR, the Office has attended **134 JJCC meetings** across **38 counties**
- Over this same time, OYCR has assisted JJCCs with **44 TA requests**





The Impact of OYCR's Work: *Promoting Accountability in California*

Across **336 meetings** and over **100 completed technical assistance requests**, OYCR has:

- Increased the **representation of community-members with lived experience** in California's councils and commissions
- Provided **guidance and policy recommendations** on the use of Less Restrictive Programs
- Connected **dozens of community-based organizations** to system partners **to promote culturally-relevant and gender-honoring interventions**
- Developed **confidential and trusted partnerships** that alert the Office promptly of potential Youth Bill of Rights violations

The Youth Advisory Board: Increasing *Youth Voice* in Commissions

Pursuant to Welf. & Inst. Code § 225 and Welf. & Inst. Code § 233, at least two youth members between the ages of 14 and 21 shall be appointed to a county's JJC or JJDPC. In partnership with the **Youth Advisory Board**, OYCR will:

- Provide technical assistance to increase the **representation of youth with lived experience** in California's councils and commissions
- Provided **guidance on centering youth voice** in creating and reviewing county plans and reports





The California Juvenile Justice Commissioners' Collaborative (CJJCC):

What is the CJJCC – and how are OYCR and the CJJCC partnering to develop the capacity of California's commissions?

Formed in early 2025, the **California Juvenile Justice Commissioners' Collaborative** includes commissioners from all 40 active JJs and JJDCs in California. As OYCR guides the transformation of California's youth justice system, the Office is partnering with the CJJCC to support civilian oversight commissions through:

- Direct Technical Assistance
- Formalized Peer-to-Peer Commissioner Trainings
- Potential Funding Opportunities





Opportunities for SACJJDPC & JJC/JJDPC Partnerships:

How can the SACJJDPC work with civilian oversight commissions to promote accountability?

Under current state law, **Juvenile Justice Commissions (JJs)** and **Juvenile Justice & Delinquency Prevention Commissions (JJDPs)** must annually inspect any law enforcement facility that held a youth in secure detention (if so delegated by a juvenile court judge), which includes reviewing a facility's policies, procedures, and detention logs.

As the **SACJJDPC** is committed to promoting the core requirements of the JJDP, the SACJJDPC could partner with JJs and JJDPs to **develop educational materials** for institutions across California **to ensure their compliance with state and federal law.**



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Questions?



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Thank you

Subcommittee Updates and Discussion

- **Policy and Legislative Advocacy Subcommittee**
- **Restorative Justice Subcommittee**
- **Racial and Ethnic Disparities Subcommittee**
- **Community Investment and System Accountability (CISA) Subcommittee**
- **Youth and Emerging Leaders Subcommittee**

SEPT 17, 2025

CO-CHAIRS: DR. TECOY PORTER & DR. B.J. DAVIS

SACJJD P POLICY AND LEGISLATIVE
ADVOCACY SUBCOMMITTEE

UPDATES SINCE LAST SACJJDP MEETING

- ▶ The Subcommittee held its first meeting on August 19th
- ▶ During the meeting, the Subcommittee elected its Co-Chair, Dr. B.J. Davis
- ▶ The Policy and Legislative Advocacy Subcommittee will support the SACJJDP by tracking policy trends, analyzing legislation, and offering data-informed, recommendations to advance youth justice reform in California to meet the goals and purposes of the Federal JJDP.
- The subcommittee will:
 - ▶ Lift-up community and youth voices
 - ▶ Track policy trends & legislation related to youth justice
 - ▶ Promote compliance with JJDP core requirements
 - ▶ Provide neutral, educational resources to legislators upon requested
 - ▶ Respond to formal legislative requests
 - ▶ Recommend data-informed strategies to SACJJDP

MEETING SCHEDULE & RECRUITMENT

- ▶ Through 2025: Monthly on 3rd Tuesdays
 - ▶ Sept 16, Oct 21, Nov 18, Dec 16
- ▶ 2026: Bi-monthly on 3rd Tuesdays
 - ▶ Jan 20, Mar 17, May 19, Jul 21, Sep 15, Nov 17
- ▶ The Subcommittee is still seeking a youth member to support its work
 - ▶ Ideal youth member would be from the Central Valley or a rural northern county with an interest in policy and advocacy

RESTORATIVE JUSTICE SUBCOMMITTEE

CHAIR KENT MENDOZA

SUBCOMMITTEE PURPOSE



The purpose of the restorative justice subcommittee is to advance healing-centered, community-rooted approaches to accountability by promoting restorative justice practices, understanding historical and systemic trauma, prioritizing relationship building, repairing harm, and centering impacted voices.

The subcommittee will work collaboratively to:

- Challenge punitive and exclusionary systems by promoting restorative alternatives;
- Support policy transformation that uplifts community-led restorative justice practices;
- Build capacity across institutions and communities to implement restorative justice frameworks that uphold safe, trauma-informed collective care with dignity;
- Move beyond oversimplified “victim/offender” binaries, recognizing the complex experiences of trauma, harm, and healing.

SUBCOMMITTEE RESPONSIBILITIES

- Gather insights from stakeholders including youth with lived experience, harmed parties and survivors, justice system workers, and restorative justice practitioners through listening sessions, Youth Advisory Board (YAB), and interviews.
- Contribute to discussions and the development of policy recommendations for the SACJJP on youth restorative justice issues.
- Connect with restorative justice leaders and experts to identify topics salient to the three-year plan or other SACJJP priorities
- Engage in restorative justice policy initiatives that align with the committee's purpose.

MEMBERSHIP AND RECRUITMENT



The subcommittee will consist of up to 15 members, including 1 Chair, 1 Co-Chair and a diverse group of practitioners, community members, and experts. The RJ Subcommittee currently consists of 15 individuals.



The Chair and subcommittee will select and conduct outreach for members of the subcommittee. OYCR will also assist with the outreach. The subcommittee will make the final decision via a vote.



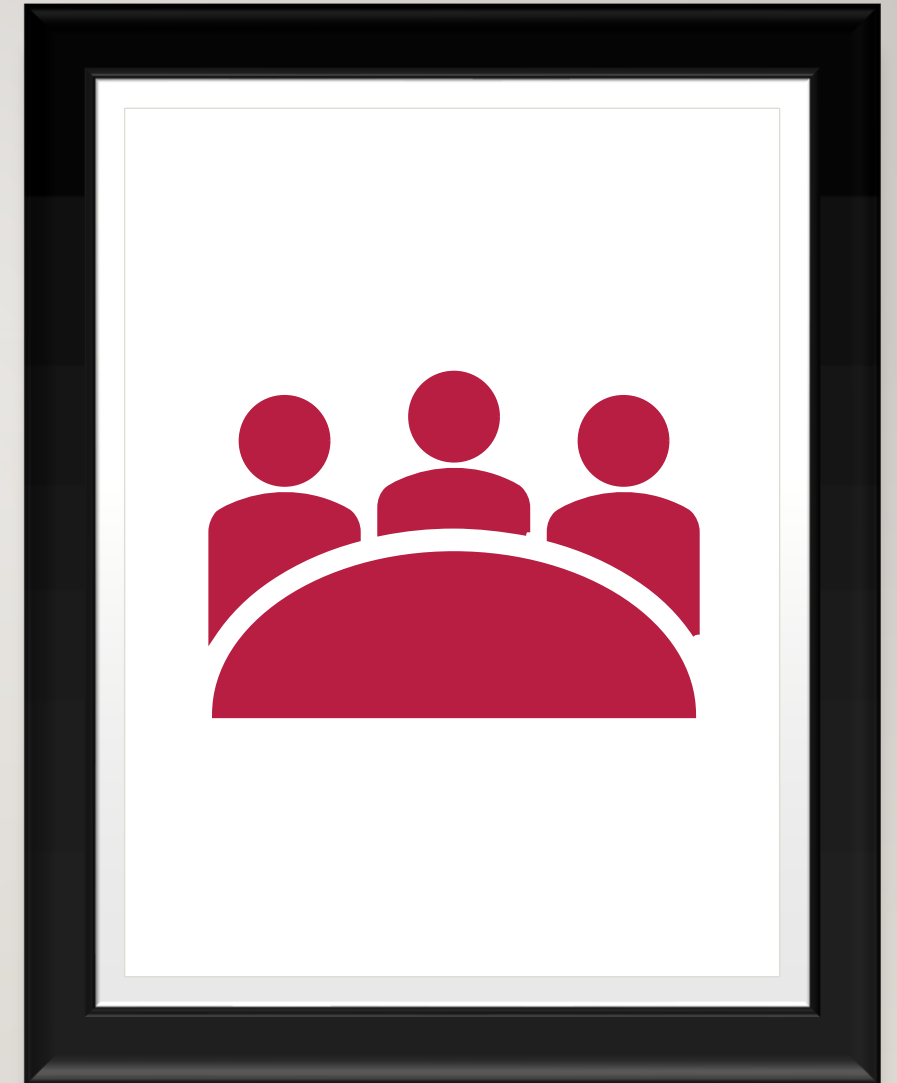
Members should have varied restorative justice experiences from across the state including survivors, lived experience individuals, youth, mental health practitioners, education experts, regional and national experts.

RJ SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS

Organization	Name	Position	Location
ARC	Kent Mendoza	Associate Director of Local Advocacy	Southern California
Prosecutors Alliance	Greg Srolestar	Research and Data	Southern California
Healing Dialogue and Action	Javier Stauring	Co-Founder and Executive Director	Southern California
Centinela Youth Services	Jessica Ellis	Executive Director	Southern California
Communities United for Restorative Youth Justice (CURYJ)	George Galvis	Executive Director	Bay Area
Alternative Restorative Communities (ARC)	Julie Hilt	Founder	Bay Area
Restorative Justice for Oakland Youth (RJOY)	Dr. Jerdine Clarke	Clinical Director	Bay Area
3Strands	Efrain Morales	Program Manger	Bay Area
Youth Transforming Justice	Don Carney	Executive Director	Bay Area
Community Justice Center	Sheri Wiedenhoefer	Executive Director	Fresno County
Santa Clara County	Kasey Halcon	Deputy County Executive	Bay Area
Youth Alliance	Rodrigo Jimenez	Associate Director	Central Coast
Yolo Conflict Resolution Center	Alannah Tomich	Executive Director	Northern California
Youth Advisory Board (YAB)-OYCR	Victoria Birch	YAB Member	Bay area
Tribal Youth Resource Center	Stephanie Autumn	Director	Southern California

MEETING CADENCE AND SCHEDULE

- The Rj subcommittee will meet no less than once per month, with additional meetings scheduled as needed.
- Meetings are typically virtual. The subcommittee will hold at least one in-person meeting annually.





RACIAL ETHNIC DISPARITIES SUBCOMMITTEE

Chair Judge Brian Back

SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS

RE/D Subcommittee Members	Organization	Region
Laura Ridolfi	Racial Justice Well-Being Strategist at the Burns Institute	Bay Area
Sandra McBrayer	CEO of the Children's Initiative	Southern California
William Feather	Ukiah Unified School District Social Worker and a member of the Round Valley Indian Tribes	Northern California
Sergio Coronel	Founder of Youngsters for Change and Gang consultant	South Central Valley
Dr. B.J. Davis	SACJJDPC member and Executive Director of Strategies for Change	Northern California
Honorable Brian Back	Retired Judge for Ventura County and RE/D subcommittee chair	Central Coast
Mikaela Galvis-Venegas	Youth Advisory Board members	Bay Area
Victoria Birch	Youth Advisory Board members	Southern Bay Area
Christina Peoples	Founder and Executive Director of the Amelia Ann Admas Whole Life Center (AAWLC)	North Central Valley
Kevin Flores	Youth Advisory Board members	Northern California

MEMBERSHIP AND RECRUITMENT

- The target size for the subcommittee is 10 members.
- The Chair and OYCR staff will recommend and select members for the subcommittee. OYCR staff will conduct outreach, while the final decision on member selection will be made by the Chair.
- Members should have experience doing racial equity work, represent a diverse geography across the state, with 4 to 6 regional representatives included.
- Diversity among members is essential, specifically in terms of racial/ethnic background, LGBTQIA identities, and leaders who have been formerly incarcerated, as well individuals who have worked within the various roles of the system.
- A Co-chair will also be appointed for the subcommittee to provide support to each other when one is unavailable.



NEXT STEPS AND QUESTIONS



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Break



Community Investment & System Accountability for Youth Justice

Chair: Dr. Carly Dierkhising
Co-Chair: Andrew Garcia

Community Investment & System Accountability (CISA) for Youth Justice:

Strengthen Relationships with Grantees: Create opportunities for engagement with grantees to foster collaboration, build trust, and share lessons learned.

Establish a Statewide Network of Practice: Connect current and former grantees to promote the exchange of innovative practices, shared challenges, and community-driven solutions across jurisdictions.

Promote Transparency and Accountability: Monitor and assess how federal and state juvenile justice funds are used by probation departments and related agencies to ensure spending aligns with intended outcomes and public trust.

Elevate Community Voice and Impact: Ensure that funding decisions and program evaluations consider the perspectives and needs of youth, families, and communities most affected by the juvenile justice system.

Serve as an Informational Resource: Provide community-based organizations and stakeholders with information about what is working in other counties and how they might replicate or adapt those approaches.

Current CISA Membership (8 out of 10)

Member	Organization
Chair – Dr. Carly Dierkhising	Professor, Cal State LA
Co-Chair – Andrew Garcia	Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Commissioner, Tulare County
Carol Biondi	Commissioner, LA County Commission for Children & Families (Retired)
Michelle Guymon	Director, Child Trafficking Unit – LA County Probation (Retired)
Matt Cervantes	Associate Vice President of Programs, Sierra Health Foundation
Anthony Ortiz Jr.	Data Specialist, California Youth Outreach
Dr. Jorja Leap	Professor, UCLA
Johny Diaz	HART Life Coach, Anti-Recidivism Coalition

Community Investment & System Accountability

Areas of Expertise of Subcommittee Members:

- Lived experience in the juvenile justice system
- Employed/previously employed within the system or CBO serving youth impacted by the juvenile justice system
- Juvenile justice researchers with program evaluation experience
- Deep knowledge on juvenile justice funding mechanisms and/or grant management
- Current or former grantees of Title II Funds

CISA Member Responsibilities:

- Uphold principles of transparency and youth-centered outcomes
- Support development of a statewide network of grantees & stakeholders to share best practices, innovations & challenges
- Serve as a conduit of information by identifying & disseminating successful strategies, services, & models that can inform practice across counties & CBOs
- Engage with grantees and system partners to gather input, provide feedback, and encourage collaborative learning
- Review grantee data, reports, and presentations to understand successes and areas for improvement
- Assist in developing recommendations that promote clear tracking and reporting of fund use and youth outcomes
- Maintain focus of ensuring public funds are used responsibly and effectively to support youth, families and communities impacted by the juvenile justice system

CISA Subcommittee Meeting Cadence & 2025 Schedule



Monthly - 3rd Tuesdays @ 2 pm-3pm

- Tuesday, July 15th
- August – No Meeting
- Tuesday, September 16th
- Tuesday, October 21st
- Tuesday, November 18th
- December – No Meeting



Youth and Emerging Leaders Subcommittee



Meetings

- **Monthly meetings** are planned to build consistency and momentum.
- **A shared calendar** will be created so everyone has dates in advance and can plan around school, work, and family schedules.

Membership & Representation

- **Current Members:** Juan Gamez, Isabella Suleiman, Edwyn Burgara, Ronaldo Villeda, and Clarissa Pena.
- **Goal:** Grow to 15 members statewide with more representation from Northern, Central, and rural California, not just Southern California.
- **Subcommittee Involvement:** Considering placing at least one youth member on each SACJJD subcommittee to ensure youth leadership is integrated throughout the Council's work.
- **Leadership:** Preparing to select a co-chair, but needs more youth members to broaden the leadership pool.

Challenges

- **Geographic diversity:** Too many members are currently in Southern California.
- **Scheduling:** Balancing school, work, and family commitments with regular meetings has been a challenge.
- **Leadership development:** More youth members, must finalize a co-chair, and support cross-subcommittee work.

Long Term Goals

- ✓ Establish a 15-member statewide youth leadership team with strong regional representation.
- ✓ Build a leadership pipeline so youth members can grow into roles across SACJJD and other public bodies.
- ✓ Ensure youth representation in every SACJJD subcommittee.
- ✓ Develop youth-led feedback and accountability tools for Title II programs and state plan implementation.
- ✓ Produce a report that includes youth voices from the YAB and YELS.



Next Steps

- Continue outreach.
- Plan our first meeting.
- Build our leadership pool beyond the current chair.
-



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SB 823 | 2025 DJJ Realignment Report

Overview of the Presentation

- Socialize findings of the 2025 DJJ Realignment Report
- Understand the implications of SB 823
- Emphasize the shift from punishment to healing and accountability
- Discuss collaborative opportunities for sustainable reform

Why Now?

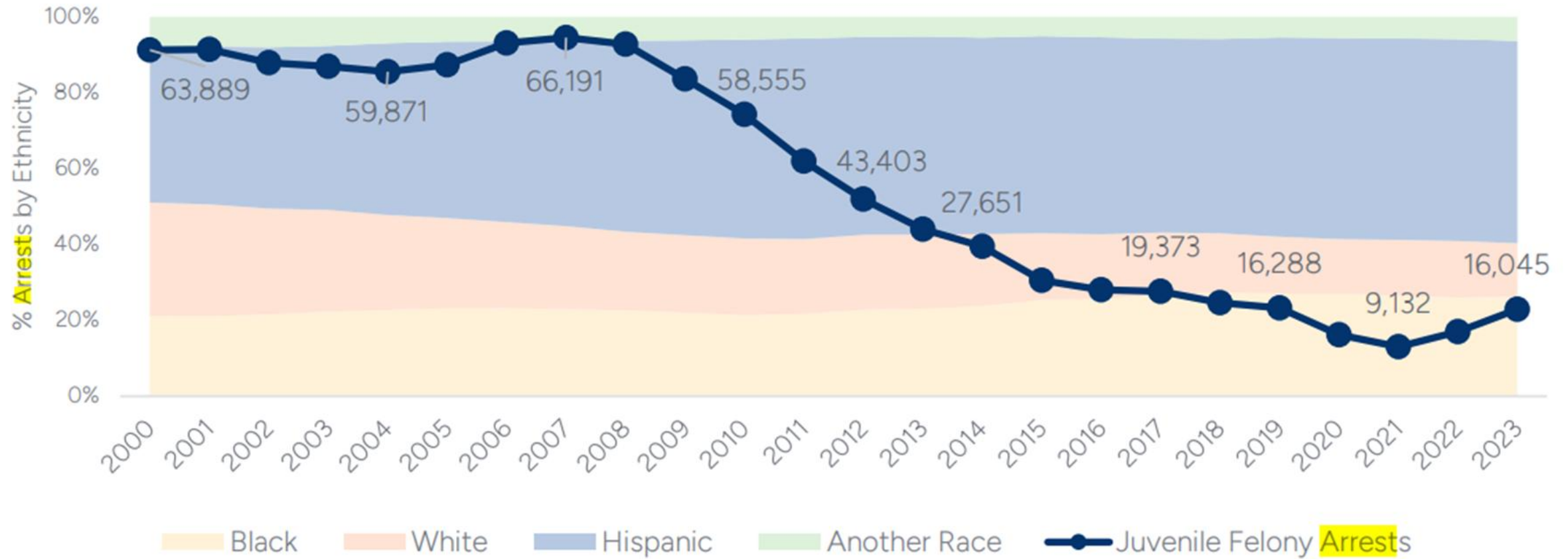
- DJJ fully closed as of July 1, 2023
- Youth justice intersects with education, public health, child welfare
- We are two years into SB 823 implementation
- This is a key moment to reflect, learn, and act

The Shift in California Youth Justice

- SB 823 (2020): Ends DJJ commitments; transfers responsibility to counties
- Establishes OYCR
- Expands juvenile court jurisdiction (up to age 25)
- Creates Secure Youth Treatment Facilities (SYTFs)

What the Data Shows About Arrests

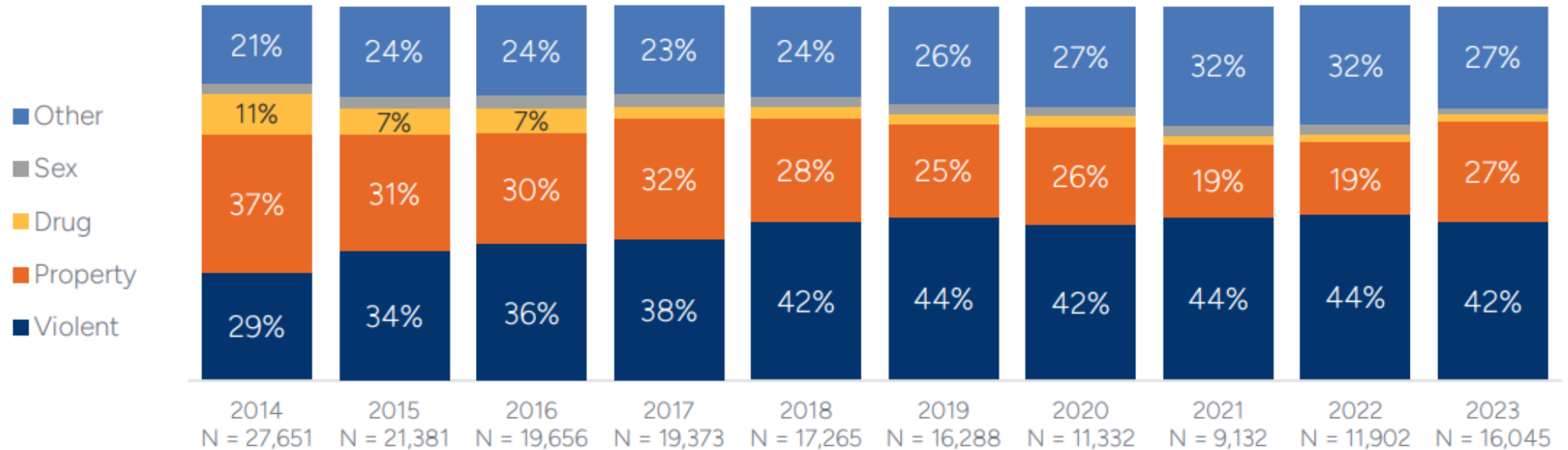
Figure 1. Total California Juvenile Felony Arrests (Line) and Percentage, by Ethnicity (Area) 2000-2023



Source: California Department of Justice, OpenJustice Data Portal.

What the Data Shows About Arrests

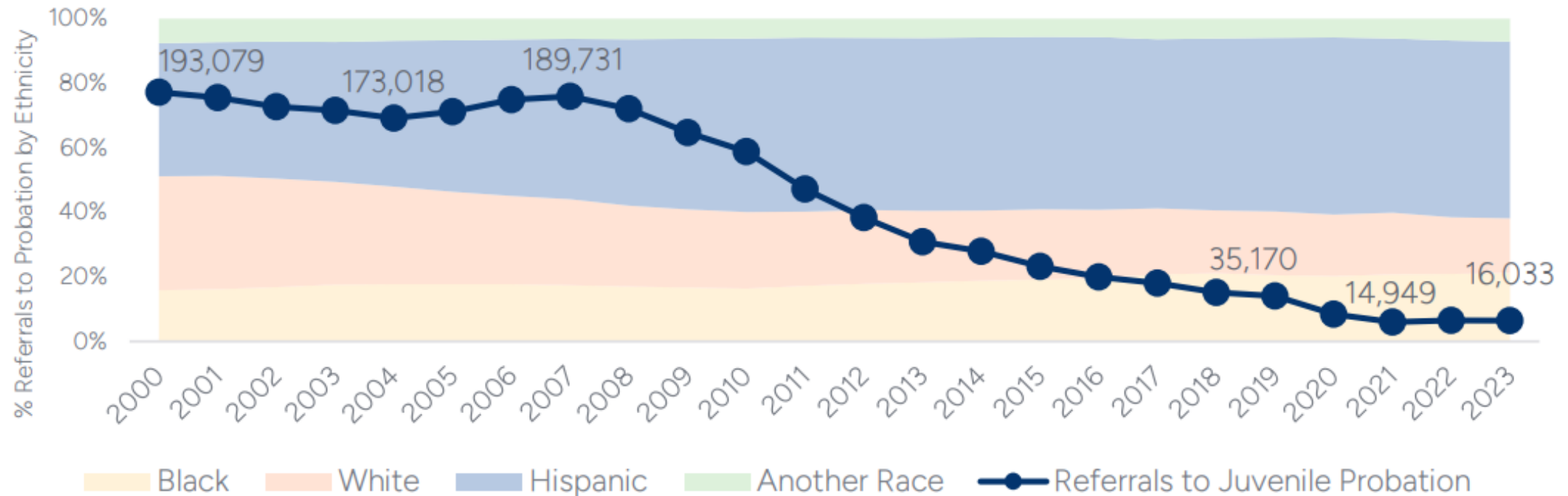
Figure 2. Juvenile Felony Arrests, by Offense Type (2014-2023)



Source: California Department of Justice, OpenJustice Data Portal. Felony arrests by Offense type for juveniles (Under 18 years old). Other felony arrests includes offenses not listed separately, such as certain property crimes, fraud, forgery, and other non-violent or non-specific Penal Code violations.

What the Data Shows About Referrals

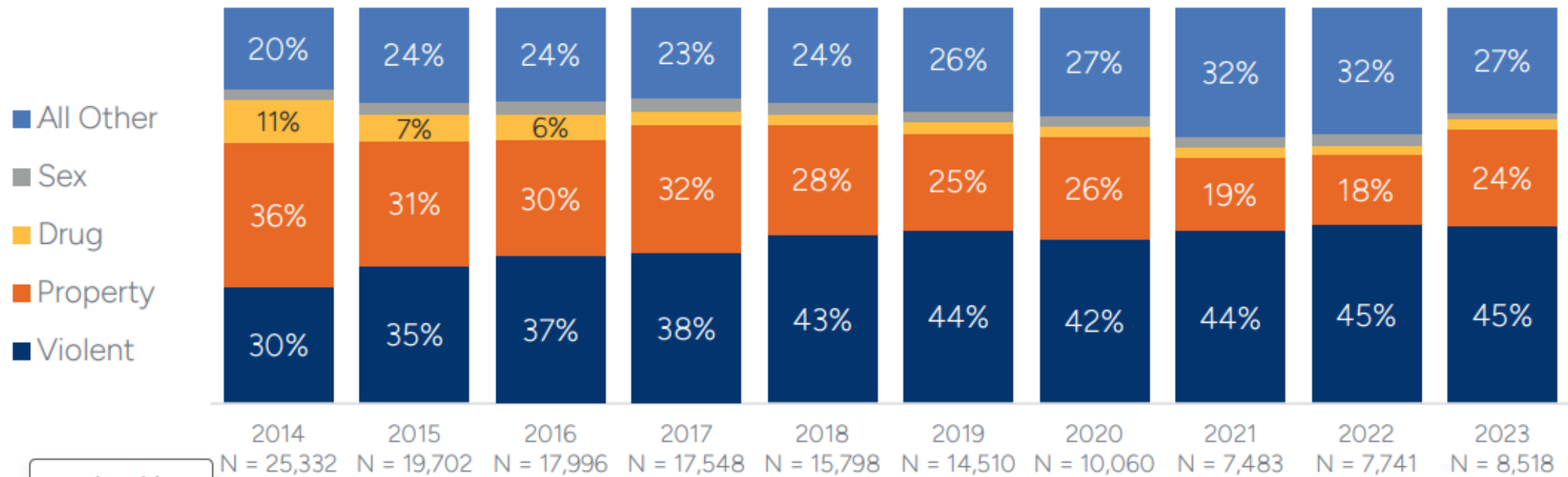
Figure 3. California Juvenile Referrals to Probation (Line) and Percentage, by Ethnicity (Area) 2000-2023



Source: California Department of Justice, OpenJustice Data Portal. Arrest Dispositions. Includes referrals to Juvenile probation for Felony, Misdemeanor, and Status offenses.

What the Data Shows About Referrals

Figure 4. Felony Referrals to Juvenile Probation, by Felony Offense Type (2014-2023)

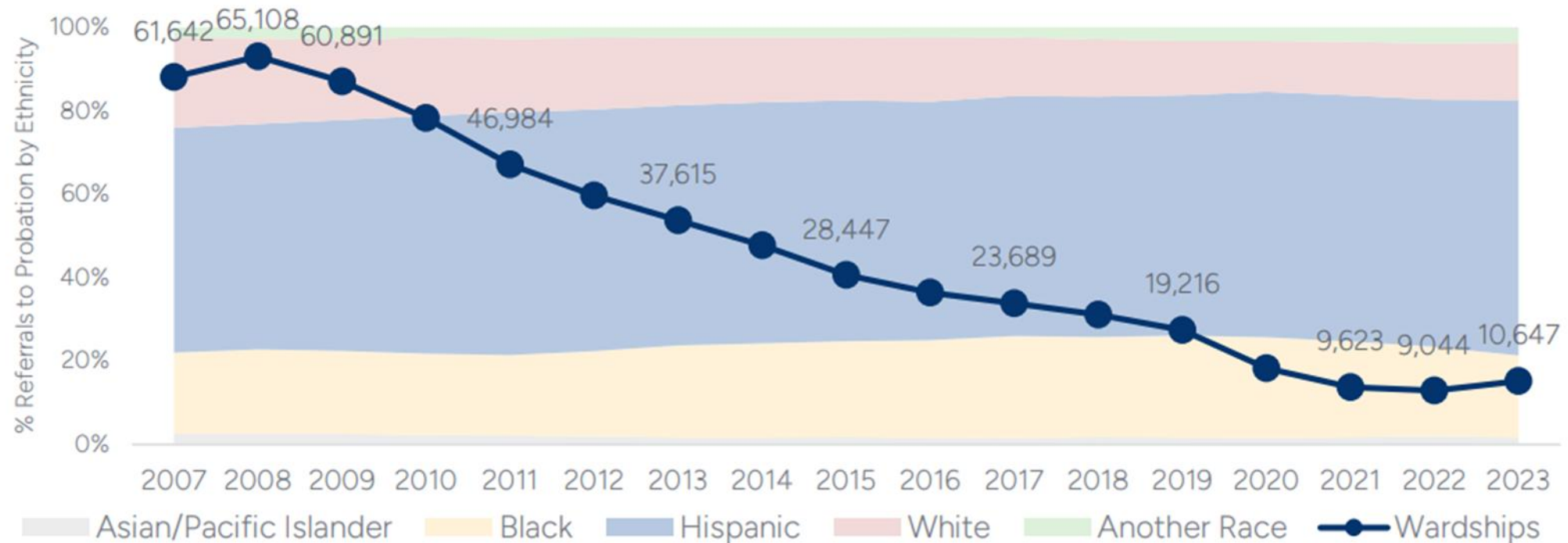


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Source: California Department of Justice, OpenJustice Data Portal. Arrest Dispositions – Referrals to Juvenile probation among juvenile felony arrests.

What the Data Shows About Adjudications

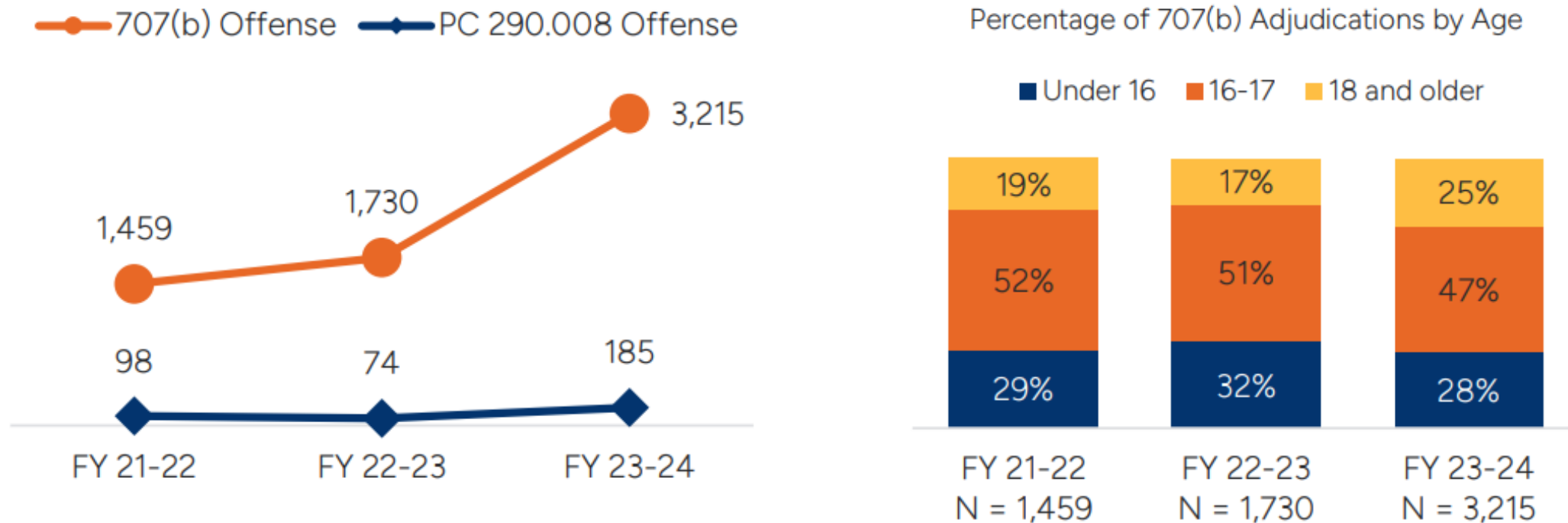
Figure 5. Statewide Juvenile Court Adjudications (Line), by Race/Ethnicity (Area), 2007-2023



Source: California Department of Justice, OpenJustice Data Portal. Juvenile Court and Probation.

Youth Justice Involvement Trends Post SB 823

Figure 9. Post-SB 823 Adjudications, by Offense and Age (AB 102 Reports)

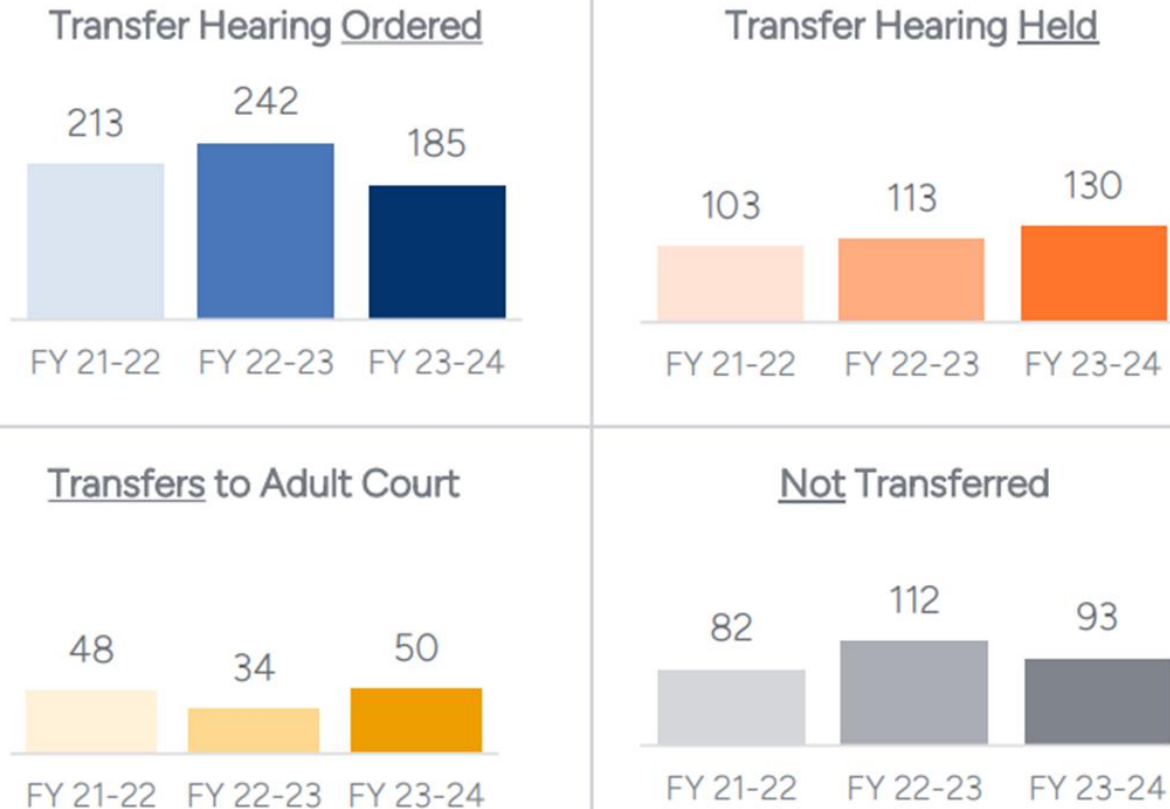


Source: AB 102 data by county (B1 and B2).

Note: Interpret counts with caution. Trends represent statewide totals. Patterns may not be consistent across all counties. Comparisons between FY 2021-22 and FY 2023-24 may also be difficult due to COVID-related disruptions.

Youth Justice Involvement Trends Post SB 823

Figure 10. Post-SB 823 Transfers to Adult Court (AB 102 Reports)



Counts reflect statewide totals within each fiscal year. Patterns may not be consistent across all counties. Comparisons should not be made between each category as counts do not reflect the path of individual cases.

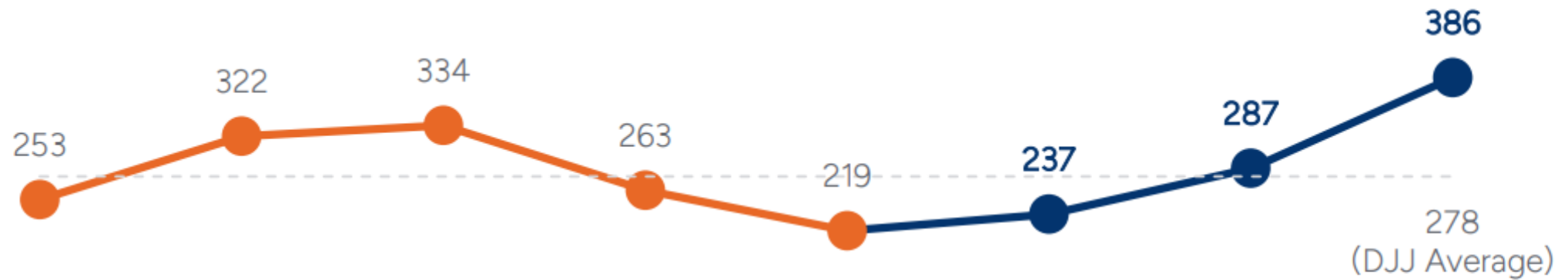
AB 102 totals also do not align with historical DOJ counts (reported in calendar years). See OYCR AB 102 report (forthcoming) for additional analyses and insights.

Source: AB 102 data by county (D1, D2a, D2b, and D2c).

Note: Represents statewide totals. Patterns may not be consistent across all counties. Counts in each category are not intended to be a direct subsample of each stage of the transfer process as each case may not reach all stages within the same fiscal year.

Youth Justice Involvement Trends Post SB 823

Figure 11. DJJ and SYTF Commitment Comparison CY 2016 through FY 2023-24



2017

2018

2019

2020

2021

FY 21-22

FY 22-23

FY 23-24

DJJ Commitments

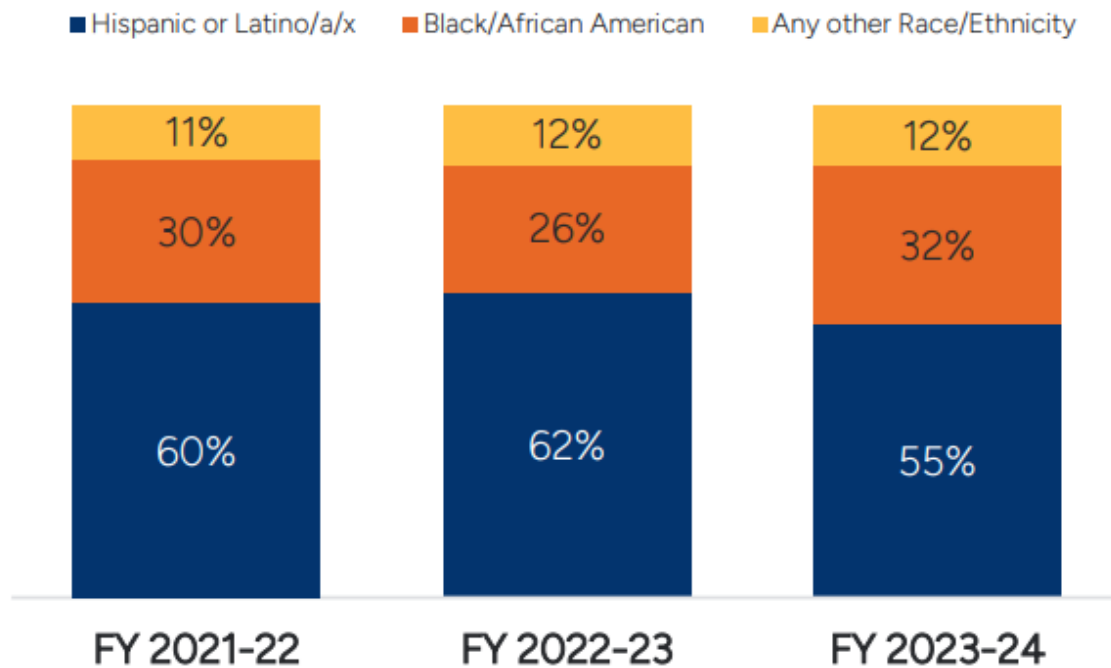
SYTF Commitments

Source: DJJ Commitment Reports (Total DJJ Commitments) and AB 102 data by county (A).

Note: FY 2022-23 total equals SYTF commitments minus the total number recalled and committed to SYTF due to DJJ closure (140). DJJ commitments and SYTF commitments are an imperfect, but best available, comparison. DJJ commitments were reported in calendar years, while SYTF commitments are counted by fiscal year. Interpret with caution.

What the Data Shows about Disparities

Figure 12. Racial Identities of Youth Committed to SYTF



Source: AB 102 Data by County (A)

The proportion of youth committed to a SYTF who were Black/African American increased slightly between FY 2021-22 (30%) and the most recent data (32%). White/Caucasian youth comprised about half of the “Any other Race/Ethnicity” category in FY 2021-22 and FY 2022-23, and 65% of “Any other Race/Ethnicity” in FY 2023-24.⁴¹ The proportion of White/Caucasian youth increased 36% between FY 2021-22 and FY 2023-24 (from 14 to 31).

The Science Behind the Reform

- Adolescent brains are wired for risk, but also change
- Trauma impacts behavior and development
- Positive interventions are more effective than punishment
- ACEs linked to future justice involvement

A New Restorative Approach

- Healing-centered, youth- and family-driven care
- Individual Rehabilitation Plans (IRPs)
- Step-down programs and progress review hearings
- Culturally responsive, community-based services

Key Implementation Challenges

- Uneven infrastructure and services across counties
- Staffing shortages
- Need for better data systems and outcomes tracking
- Resistance to culture change from punitive models

Early Progress

- Counties repurposing spaces, increasing visitation
- Regional treatment hubs (e.g., Fresno, Sonoma)
- Probation departments piloting new service models
- Youth reporting stronger relationships with staff and programs

What's Needed Next

- Cross-sector collaboration
- Long-term funding for SYTFs and alternatives
- Youth and community voices at the center
- Policy alignment across justice, education, and health

Call to Action

- Lean into culture change: healing and accountability, not punishment
- Elevate restorative practices
- Invest in infrastructure, staff, and data
- Work together to ensure every youth has a real chance to thrive



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Questions?

Thank You

- Kamilah.Holloway@chhs.ca.gov
- oycr.research@chhs.ca.gov
- Full Report: [SB 823: 2025 DJJ Realignment Report](#)



Office of Youth and
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Public Comment



Office of Youth and
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Announcements and Adjourn

Meeting Dates for 2025

SACJJDP

- December 17, 2025