



Quarterly Indicators Report



Fiscal Year 2026 Quarter 1

July 1, 2025 – September 30, 2025



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Purpose

The Quarterly Indicators Report highlights trends in essential Philadelphia Department of Human Services (DHS), Community Umbrella Agency (CUA) and provider agencies, functions, key outcomes, and progress toward the four primary goals of Improving Outcomes for Children (IOC).

Improving Outcomes for Children (IOC) Goals



More children and youth maintained safely in their own homes and communities.



A reduction in the use of residential placement.



More children and youth achieving timely reunification or other permanence.



Improved child, youth, and family functioning.

DHS Vision, Mission, and Values

Vision

Philadelphia children and youth have access to the support, resources, and opportunities they need to thrive within their communities.

Mission

Serve Philadelphia's children, youth, families, and communities by building on their strengths and advancing safe and supportive environments.

Values

Respect, Transparency, Accountability, Equity, and Wellness



Executive Summary



Strengths: Safely Reducing the Use of Formal Services

Fewer families are accepted for DHS services.

In the first quarter of Fiscal Year 2026, there were fewer families open for formal services than in any of the previous four years. This reduction was possible because prevention programs continued to serve a high number of families despite increases in reports received by the Hotline. Additionally, seven of ten CUAs closed more cases than were opened.



Strengths: Safely Reduce the Use of Residential Placement

Decrease in the use of residential placement.

At the end of the first quarter of Fiscal Year 2026, 168 dependent youth in placement were in professionally operated dependent residential placement facilities. There has been a 46 percent decline in youth in dependent residential placement since September 2021.

Executive Summary



Strengths: More Children Supported in their Own Communities

Focusing on keeping children with kin instead of foster parents.

Just under half (45%) of the children and youth not in their own homes on September 30, 2025, were in kinship care, higher than the percentage of children and youth in foster care (42%) or residential placement (7%).



Fewer children and youth removed from their homes.

Prioritizing supporting children in their own homes.

The number of children and youth who were removed from their homes decreased in Fiscal Year 2025. The number of children in dependent placement has also declined, down 43 percent since September 2021.



Area of Focus: Room for Growth in Reunification and Permanency

Ongoing challenges reuniting and getting youth and children to permanency.

The percentage of children and youth reunifying with family has trended down since FY22 but has stabilized in the last three years.

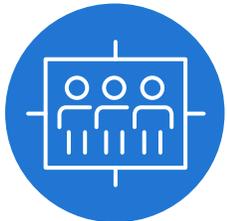
Executive Summary



Area of Focus: Recruiting and Retaining Staff

Staff turnover at CUAs remains a challenge.

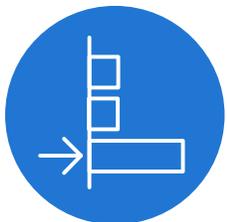
Four of the ten CUA providers are still working to increase recruitment and decrease turnover. DHS and CUA are engaged in multiple strategies to improve recruitment and retention at these CUAs including efforts to make caseload averages more equal.



Area of Focus: Increases in Delinquent Residential Placement

More youth placed and placed longer in Delinquent Residential Placement.

While the number of youth held in detention at PJJSC decreased by 38 percent since September 30, 2022, the number of youth placed and the median stay in delinquent residential placement has increased.



In Progress: Serving Everyone Reduces Disproportionality

With better service for all families and children, disproportionality is reduced

While Black children are still over-represented in Philadelphia's child welfare system, disproportionality compared to national peers is diminishing.



Hotline and Investigations



Glossary of Terms



DHS Hotline and Investigations Units are responsible for receiving and investigating reports of alleged child abuse and neglect.

- **Hotline** - The unit within CWO responsible for receiving reports of alleged child abuse and neglect and determining if reports rise to the level of needing an investigation.
- **Child Protective Services (CPS)**- Services provided by DHS for child abuse as defined by Pennsylvania law.
- **General Protective Services (GPS)**- Services and activities provided by each county agency for cases requiring services under Philadelphia policies, but that do not rise to the level of CPS.
- **Secondary Diversion** - A process to review GPS reports that were accepted for investigation with a 3-7-day priority. The goal is to divert these reports if possible, using the Safe Diversion Protocol.
- **Safe Diversion Protocol** - A process for Hotline supervisors to divert a case after an initial review or deploy a Hotline worker for screening. Deployed Hotline workers may choose to send a case to Intake for investigation or divert it.

Glossary of Terms (continued)



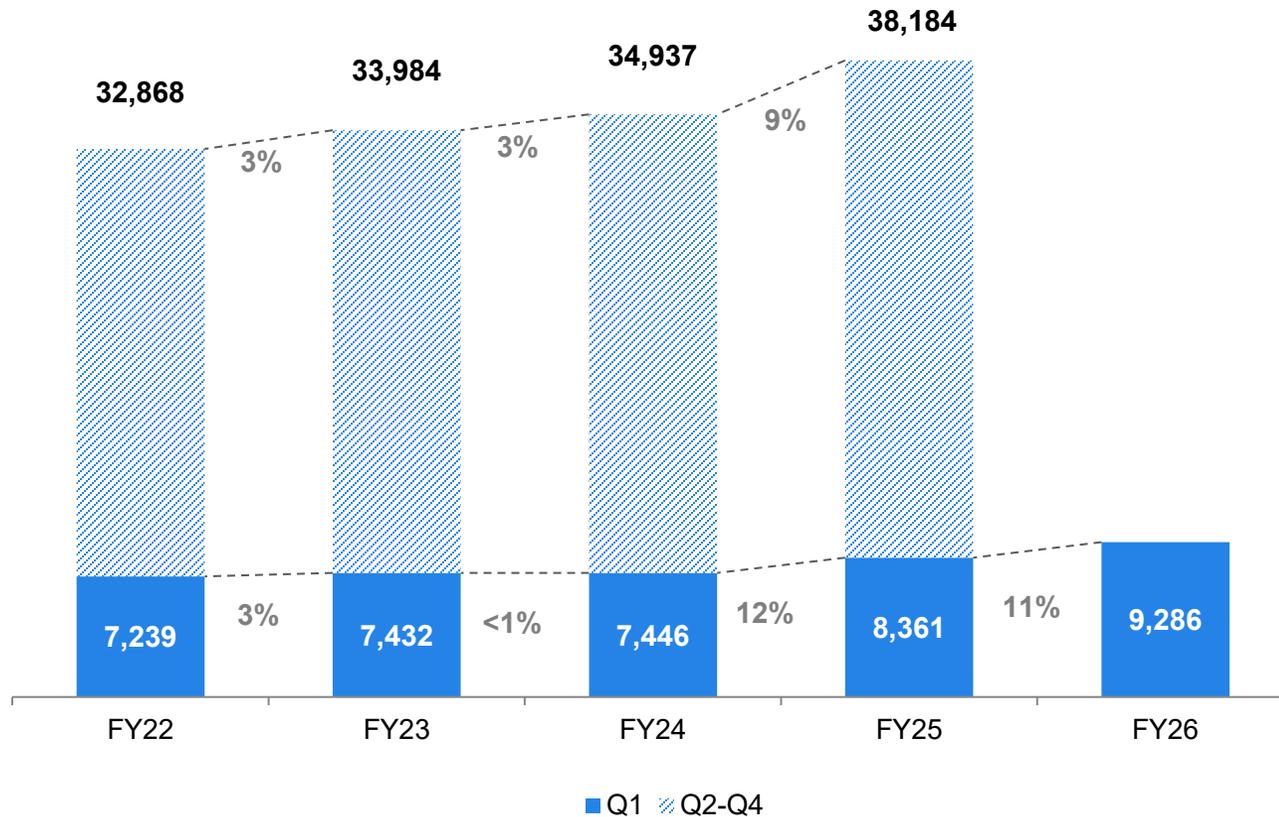
Hotline and Investigations - Counts and Measures

- **Intake** - The unit within CWO responsible for investigating reports of suspected child abuse and neglect after they are referred from hotline.
- **Report** - An account of suspected abuse or neglect by a member of the public or other person who contacts DHS (e.g., family friend, teacher, nurse, neighbor, police officer). Reports are usually the unit of measurement for hotline and investigations indicators.
- **Investigation** - The process of fact finding related to a report. Findings from the investigation inform whether a youth is unsafe and accepted for child welfare services.
- **Repeated Maltreatment:** Youth with an indicated or founded safety CPS report who had a second indicated or founded CPS report within 12 months following the original report. DHS uses the Federal measure on the Federal fiscal year.

I. Hotline

Call Volume

Figure 1. Total Hotline Reports



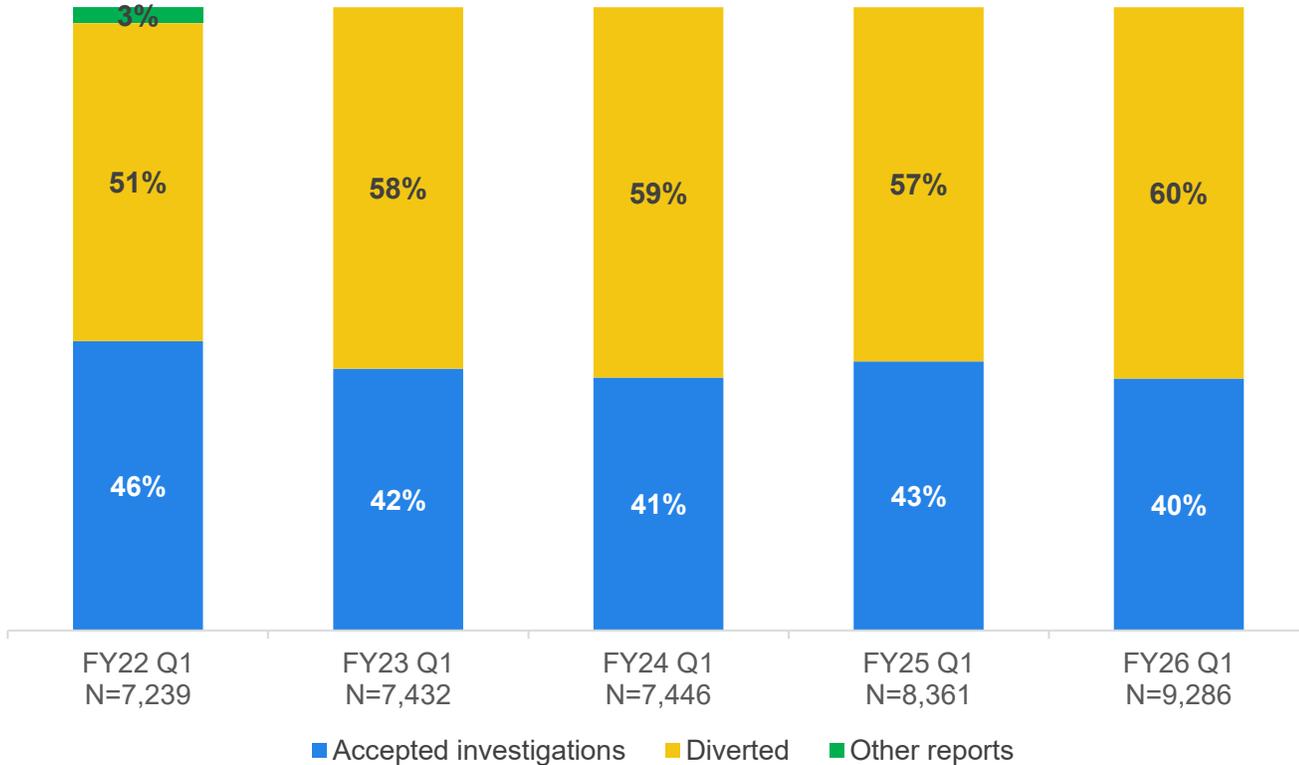
There were 9,286 reports to the Hotline in FY26 Q1, an 11 percent increase compared to the same quarter in the previous year.

Data run 10/27/2025

I. Hotline

Hotline Decisions

Figure 2. Hotline Action



Continuing the trend of diverting more Hotline reports than accepting for investigation, three of every five (60%) reports were diverted in FY26 Q1.

In FY26 Q1, two of every five (40%) reports were accepted for investigation, the lowest rate in the last five years.

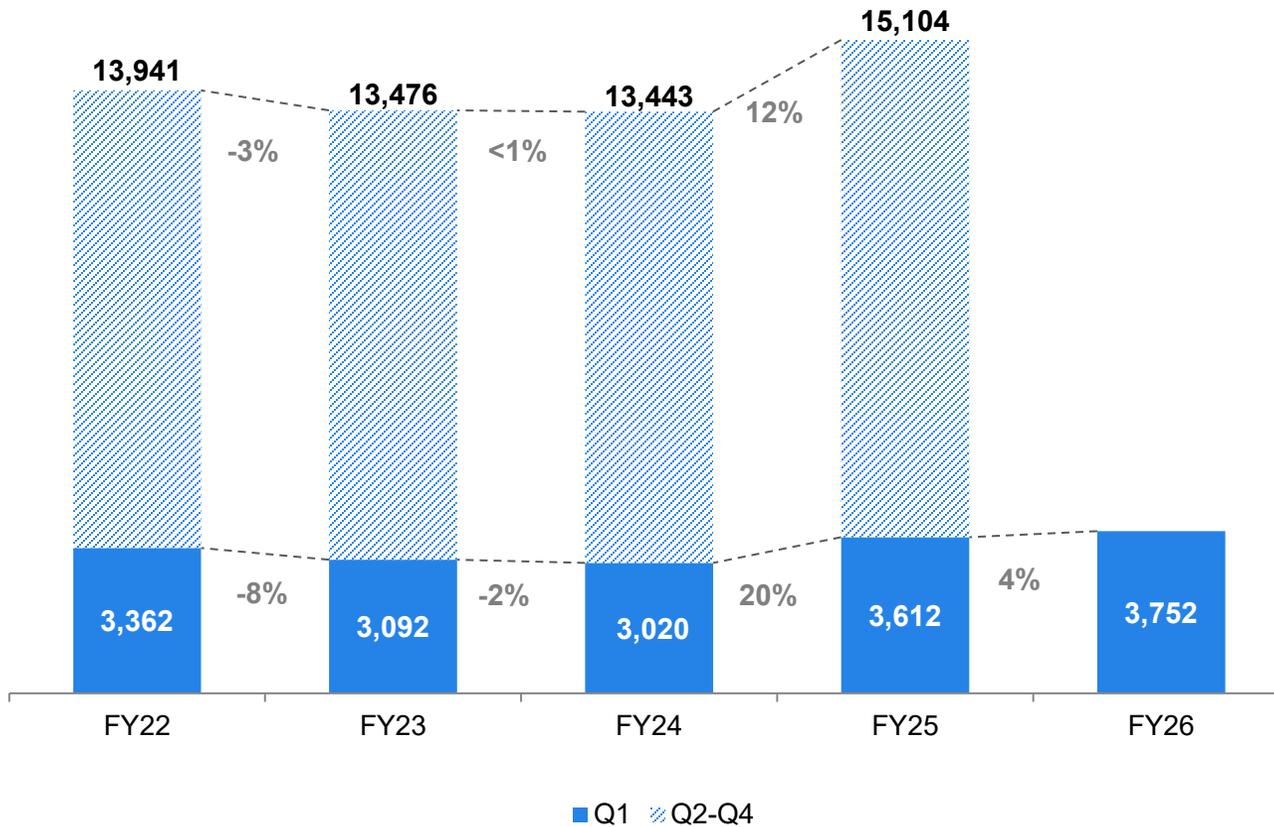
Data run 10/27/2025

In FY23, DHS redefined these categories to remove the category of "Other" because reports previously categorized as Other are still screened using Hotline Guided Decision Making protocols and can subsequently be accepted for investigation.

I. Hotline

Investigations

Figure 3. Total Investigations



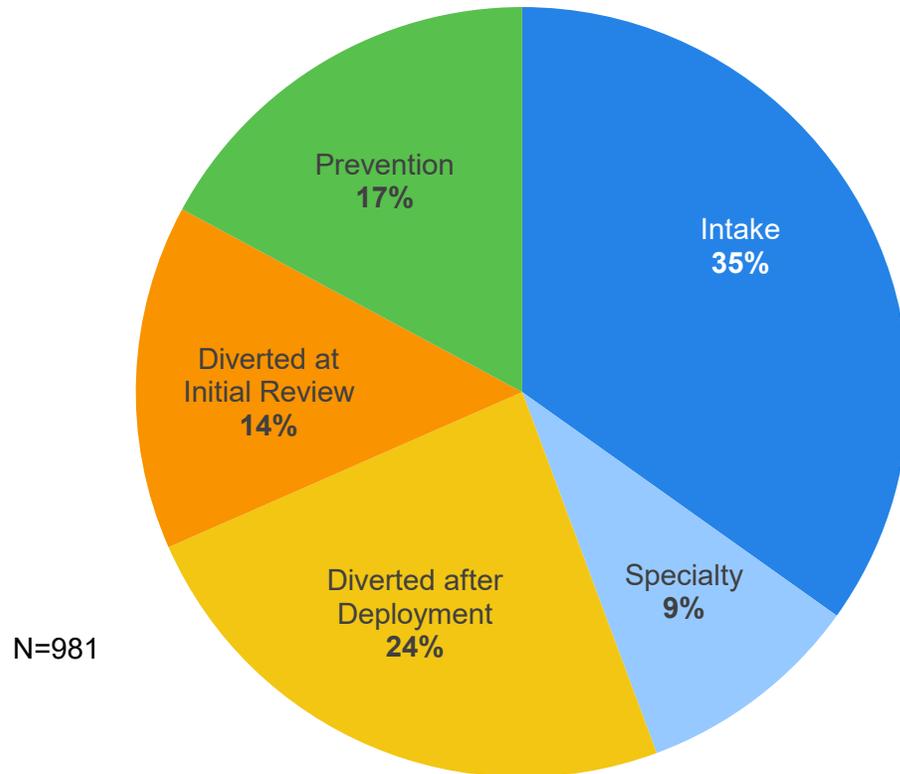
In FY26 Q1, there were 3,752 investigations, a four percent increase from the same quarter in FY25.

Data run 10/27/2025

I. Hotline

Hotline Decisions

Figure 4. Secondary Diversions by Type



Data run 10/27/2025

Percentages for this figure have been rounded to the nearest whole number, so total may not equal 100%



In FY26 Q1, 981 reports were sent to the secondary diversion unit, and over half (56%, N=546) were diverted.

Almost two in five (39%, N=378) reports were diverted at initial review or after deploying Hotline staff.

Nearly one in every five (17%, N=168) reports were referred to Prevention services.

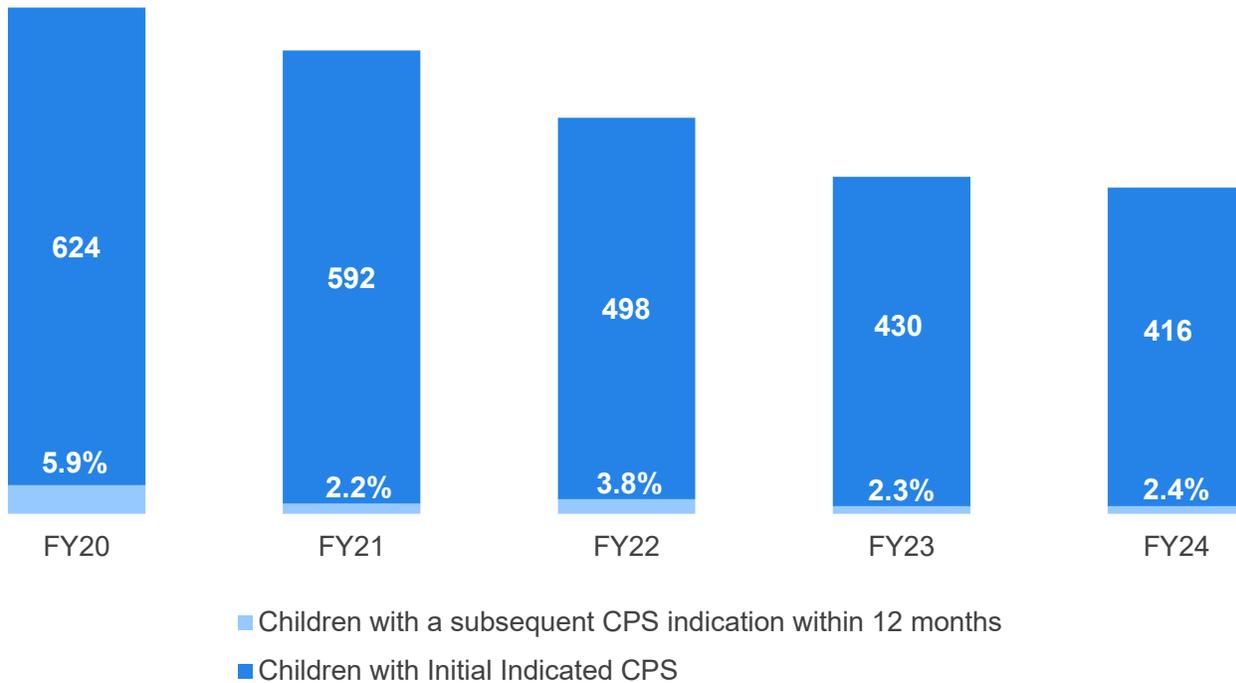
More than two in five (44%, N=435) secondary-diversion reports were sent to Intake or Specialty Investigations.

I. Hotline

Investigations



Figure 5. Repeat Maltreatment: Federal Measure during most recent federal fiscal year



Of the 416 children with an indicated or founded CPS report between October 1st of 2023 and September 30th of 2024, 10 children (2.4%) had a repeat indicated CPS report within 12 months.

Data run 10/27/2025
Because this measure looks forward in time, there is a one-year delay in reporting repeat maltreatment. These data are updated once a year based on the Federal fiscal year of October 1st to September 30th.

I. Hotline

Hotline and Investigations Summary



In FY26 Q1, the total number of reports to the DHS Hotline of suspected abuse and neglect increased by 11 percent from the same period the previous year.

Of these reports, 40 percent were accepted for investigation, a slight decrease from previous years.

At 60 percent in FY26 Q1, Hotline staff continued to divert most reports, and repeat maltreatment remained consistent with previous years.



Overall, despite Hotline reports continuing to increase, Hotline and secondary-diversion staff continued to divert most reports.



DHS Prevention Programs





Glossary of Terms

DHS Prevention programs are voluntary services offered to families in Philadelphia who have been the subject of a Hotline report but do not need a formal safety service.

- **CAPTA** - Family Case Coordination Program under the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act
- **FEP** - Family Empowerment Programs, including both:
 - **FES** - Family Empowerment Services
 - **FEC** - Family Empowerment Centers
- **RSR** - Rapid Service Response
 - Note - All families receiving RSR are referred by Intake and most have an open investigation.

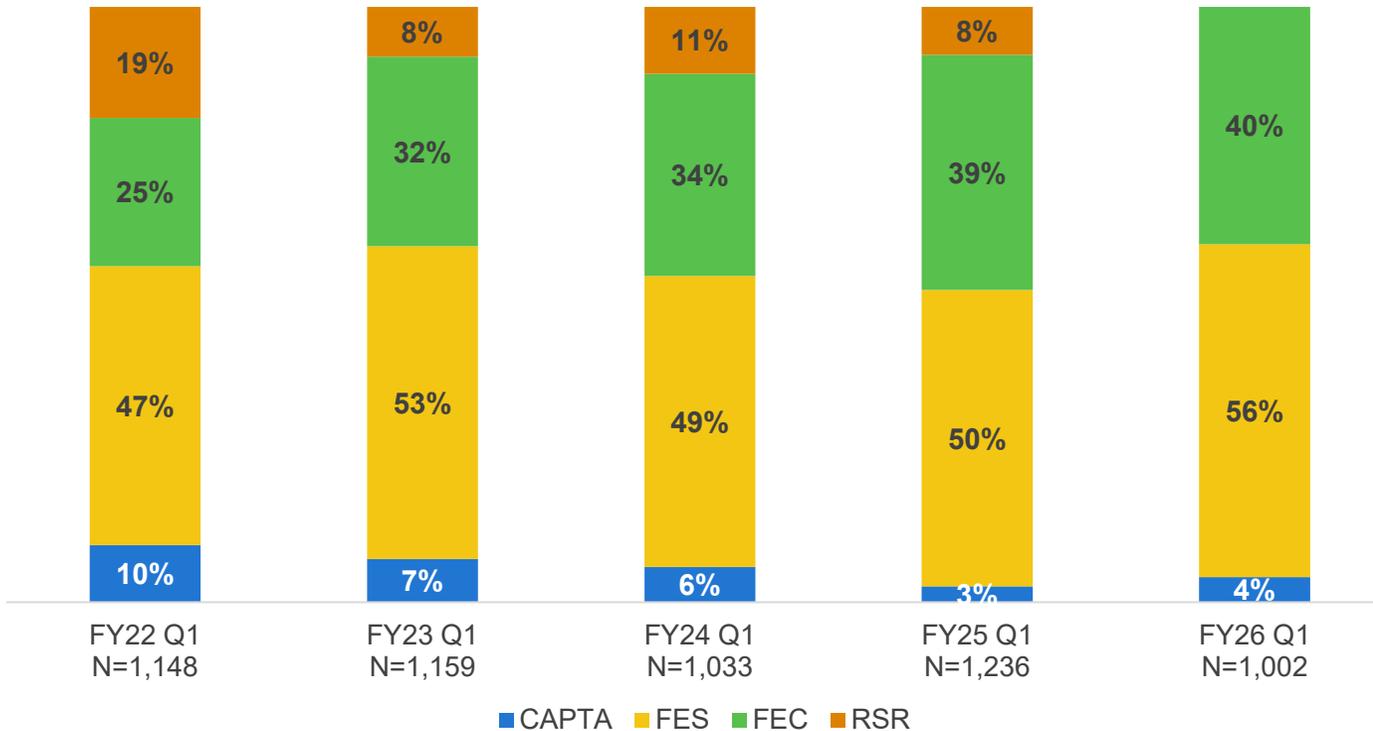
Measures

- **Total Referrals** - all families referred to child welfare prevention programs, including Front-End Referrals (diverted from Hotline or Investigations) or non-Front-End Referrals (from CUA or other sources)
- **Voluntary Service Rate** - the proportion of families who voluntarily enrolled in services out of all cases received

II. DHS Prevention Programs

Total Referrals

Figure 6. Referrals to DHS Prevention Programs by Program



In FY26 Q1, just over 1,000 families were referred to DHS Prevention programs, a 19 percent decrease from the total referrals in FY25 Q1.

Family Empowerment Services (FES) and Family Empowerment Centers (FEC) received 96 percent of FY26 Q1 referrals.

Data run on 10/30/2025

Total Referrals includes all families referred to DHS Prevention Programs with Front-End Referrals (from Hotline or Investigations) and non-Front-End Referrals (from CUA or other sources). Referrals are counted if they are received by CWO Prevention programs, rather than referrals made by front end staff. Of all referrals made, some may be subsequently rejected because families are already receiving services, referrals were made for the incorrect program or multiple referrals were made.

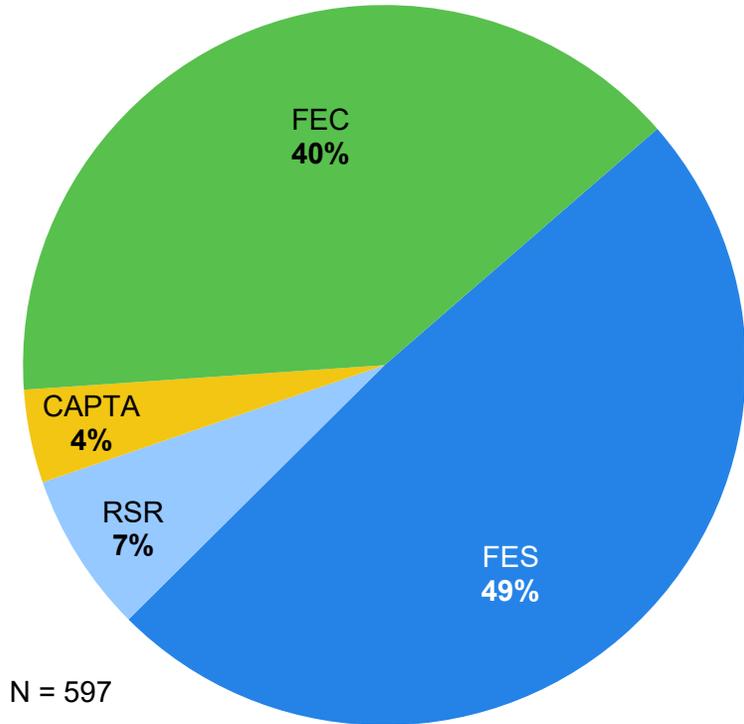
There is no RSR percentage in FY26 Q1 due to the service being temporarily unavailable.

II. DHS Prevention Programs

Total Families Served



Figure 7. Total Families Served by DHS Prevention Programs in FY26 Q1 by Program



In FY26 Q1, 60 percent of families (597 families) accepted their referral to a DHS Prevention program.

In line with the percent referred, Family Empowerment Services and Family Empowerment Centers are the most utilized DHS Prevention programs, serving nearly 90 percent of families receiving prevention services.

Data run 10/30/2025

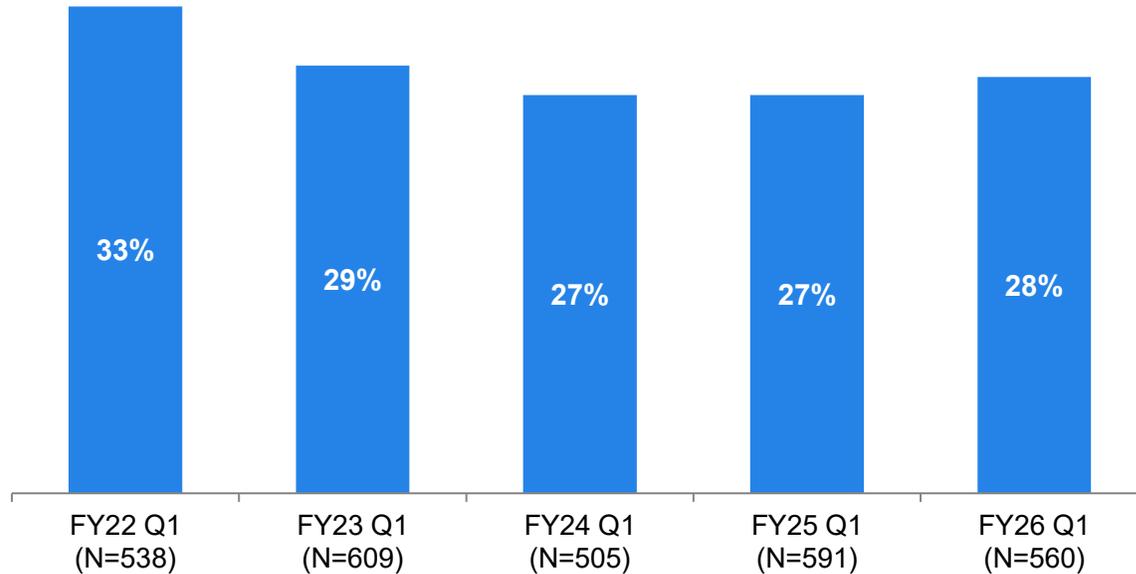
II. DHS Prevention Programs

Family Empowerment Services



Family Empowerment Services (FES) offer intensive case management supports that stabilize families to **limit future involvement** with formal child welfare services.

Figure 8. Families Voluntarily Enrolled in FES



Of the 560 families referred to FES in FY26 Q1, over a quarter of families (28%) voluntarily enrolled in services, a slight increase over the FY25 Q1 rate.

Data run on 10/30/2025

Voluntary Service Rate refers to the proportion of families who voluntarily enrolled in services out of all cases received

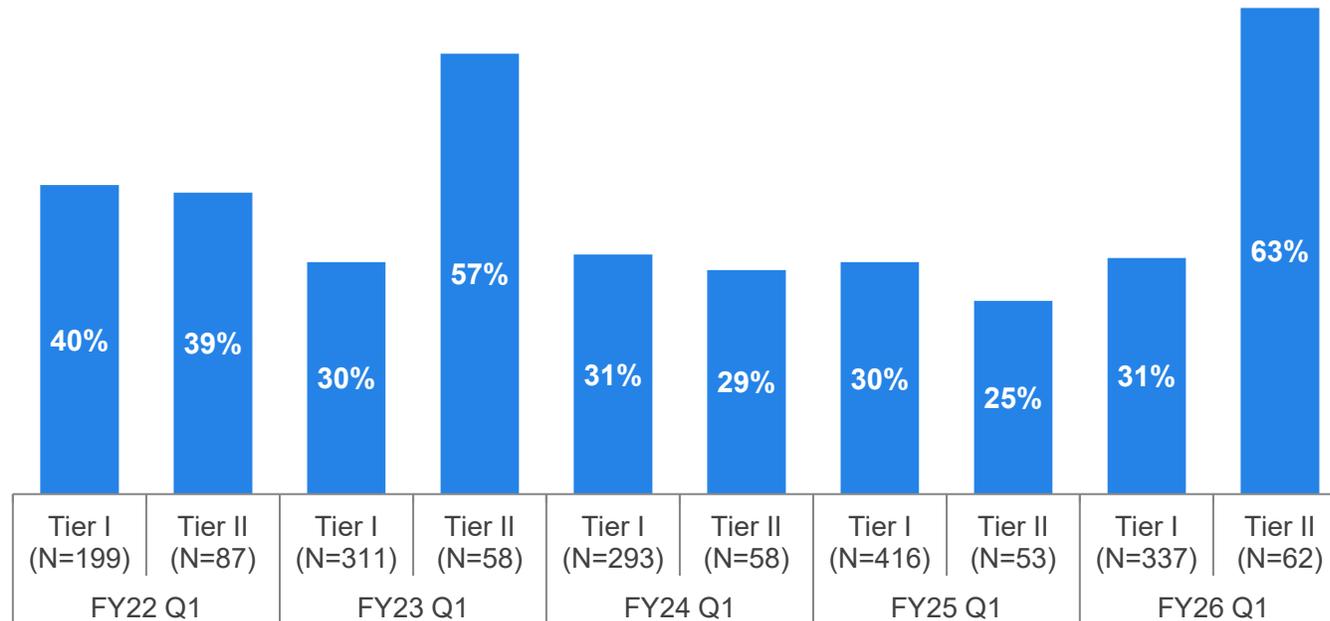
II. DHS Prevention Programs

Family Empowerment Centers



Family Empowerment Centers (FEC) are community-based hubs that provide intensive supports to families to prevent future involvement with DHS. Families receive different levels of support based on risk: lower risk families are serviced through Tier I and higher risk through Tier II.

Figure 9. Voluntary Service Rate*



In FY26 Q1, nearly one in three Tier I families and over three in five Tier II families voluntarily enrolled in FEC services, both exceeding the rates from the previous year.

Data run on 10/30/2025

*Voluntary Service Rate refers to the proportion of families who voluntarily enrolled in services out of all cases (N) referred for services

II. DHS Prevention Programs

DHS Prevention Programs Summary



The number of families referred to DHS Prevention programs was 1,002 in FY26 Q1, a 19 percent decrease from FY25 Q1.

In FY26 Q1, the rate of families accepting FES services remained steady while the rate of families accepting FEC services for both Tier I and II increased from the previous year.



Overall, at the end of FY26 Q1, DHS Prevention programs served 597 families in their own homes to prevent formal involvement with DHS.



Dependent Services

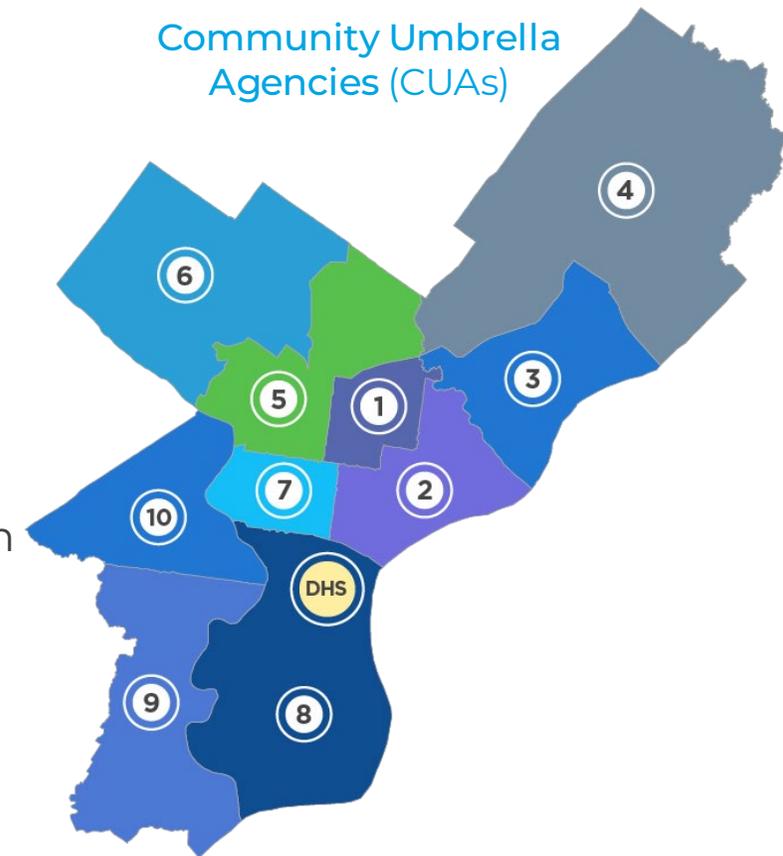


Glossary of Terms



DHS Dependent Services are for families who DHS determines through an investigation to have a safety issue requiring formal services.

- **Community Umbrella Agencies (CUAs)** - Community-based organizations that provide case management for families accepted for formal child welfare services.
- **Accepted for Service** - Process to formally open cases for families who, through investigation, intake determined to need formal services.
- **Closed** - Case status for families who received CUA services and are no longer active.
- **In-Home Safety** - Services provided to families that have been found to have active safety threats but whose children can safely stay in their own homes with a Safety Plan.
- **In-Home Non-safety** - Services provided to families in a home without active safety threats. These services are generally for families who are court mandated to receive CUA case management services due to truancy issues.





Glossary of Terms (continued)

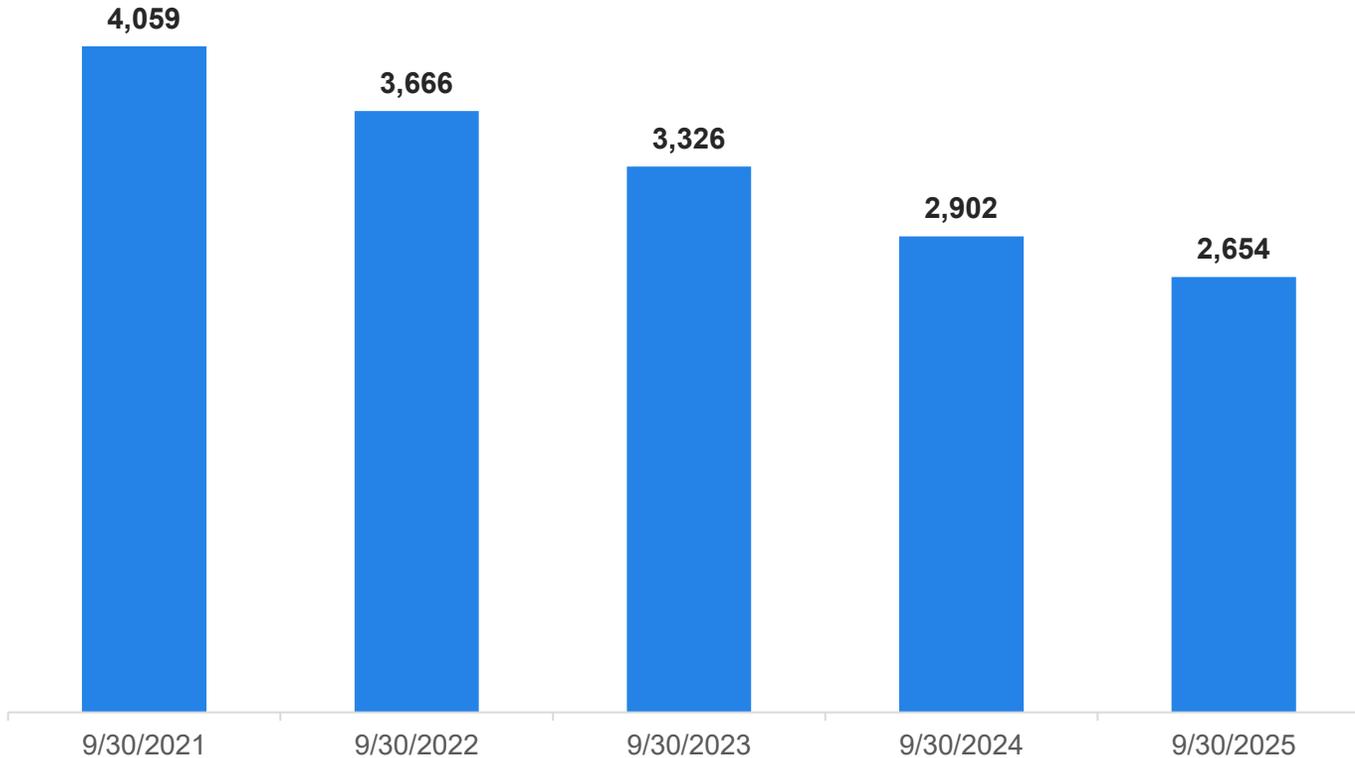
Dependent Services Placement Types and Measures

- **Dependent Placement** - A temporary placement for children whose safety can't be ensured in their home of origin. Includes family-based placements and residential placement.
- **Kinship Care** - A family-based, out-of-home placement with caregivers who the youth knew before the placement.
- **Foster Care** - A family-based, out-of-home placement with caregivers who the youth did not previously know.
- **Dependent Residential Placement** - Placement in a group setting for children or youth in dependent out-of-home placement. Includes Emergency Shelter, Group Home, Community Behavioral Health-Funded Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facilities and Institutions.
- **Caseload** - The number of cases each caseworker within DHS/CUA is responsible for managing. Each case may have multiple youth with the same caregiver(s).
- **Visitation** - Case Managers are expected to regularly visit with children to ensure their safety and well-being and help families work toward case closure. Visitation metrics measure the percentage of on-time visits that occurred within a given period.

III. Dependent Services

Total Families Open for Service

Figure 10. Total Families Open for Service on September 30, 2025



Data run on 10/23/2025

There were 2,654 families open for service on September 30, 2025.

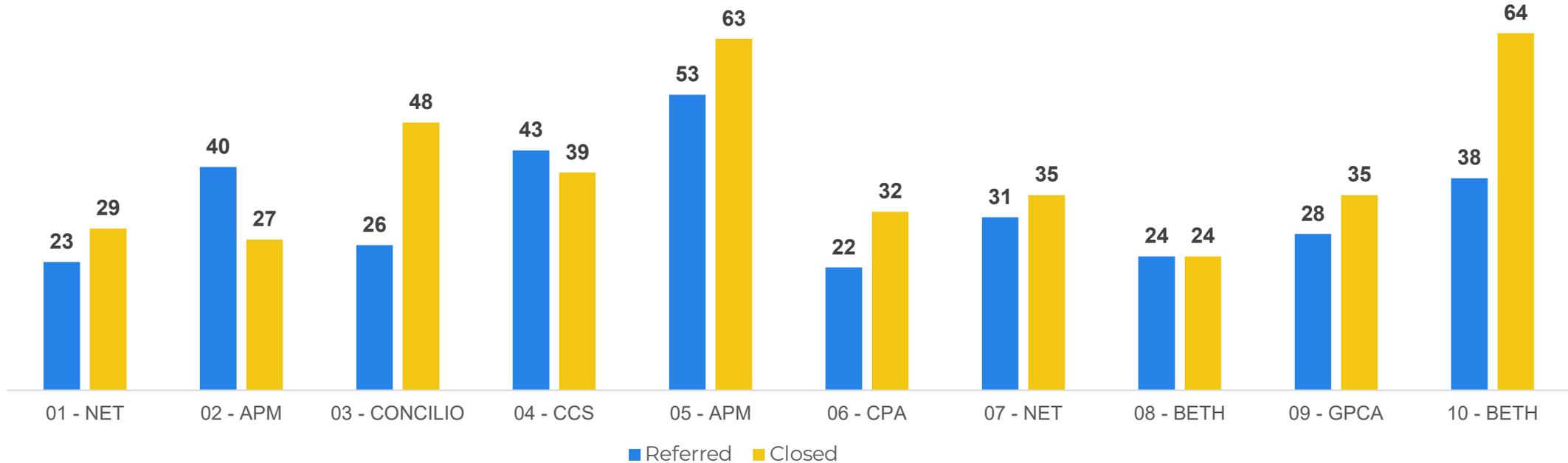
The number of families open for service has declined 35 percent since FY22.

III. Dependent Services



Families Accepted for Service and Families Closed

Figure 11. Families Referred and Closed in FY26 Q1, by CUA



In FY26 Q1, seven of ten CUAs closed more families than were referred to them.

CUA 3 had the highest ratio of closed cases to referrals, closing nearly twice as many cases as they were referred.

Data run on 10/23/2025

Families closed includes those transferred to Non-CWO Services (Delinquent or Subsidy).



III. Dependent Services

Caseload

Table 1. Case Management Workers' Caseload Distribution on September 30, 2025

CUA	Total Workers	Total Cases	Median Caseload	Average Caseload
01 - NET	24	256	11	11
02 - APM	15	193	17	13
03 - CONCILIO	24	285	13	12
04 - CCS	17	194	12	11
05 - APM	24	343	19	14
06 - CPA	21	180	9	9
07 - NET	29	259	10	9
08 - BETH	27	272	11	10
09 - GPCA	35	221	7	6
10 - BETH	44	262	7	6
Overall	260	2,465	10	9

The median caseload for CUAs was 10 cases per worker.

CUAs 9 & 10 had the lowest median caseloads (7), and CUA 5 had the highest at 19.

CUA 5 had the largest number of total cases at 343.

Data run on 10/27/2025

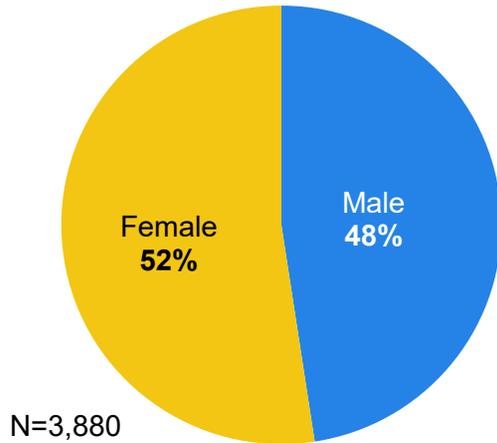
Cases that did not have a case manager designated in the electronic database at the time data were run were excluded from the analysis.

III. Dependent Services



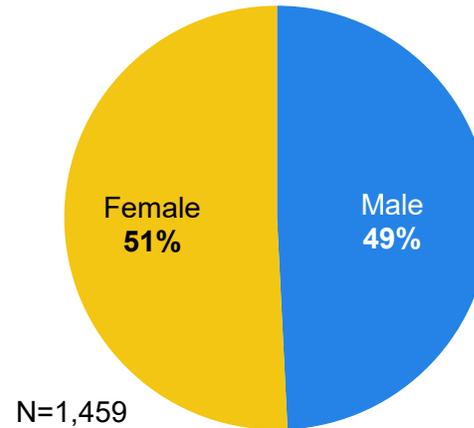
Sex of Dependent Youth – September 30, 2025

Figure 12. Sex of All Dependent Youth



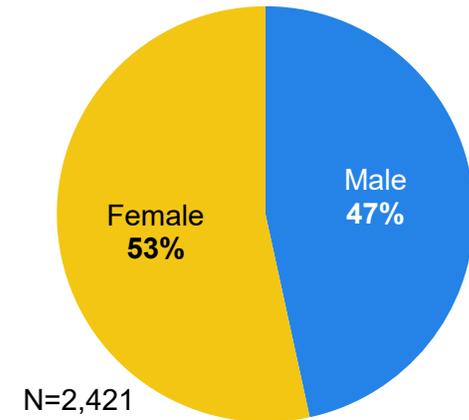
On September 30, 2025, there were slightly more female than male children and youth receiving dependent services.

Figure 12a. Sex of Dependent Youth **In-Home**



On September 30, 2025, females made up 51 percent of In-Home youth and 53 percent of youth in placement.

Figure 12b. Sex of Dependent Youth in **Placement**



Data run on 10/23/2025

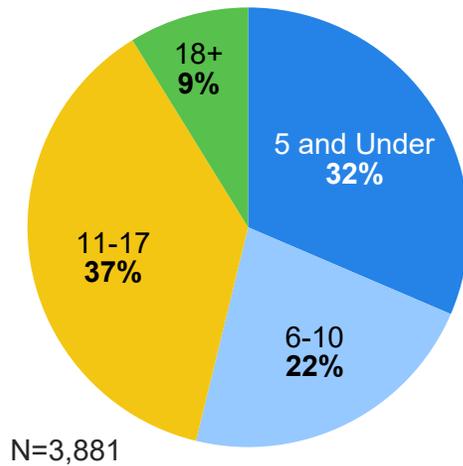
*Sample size discrepancy across sex, age, and race/ethnicity is the result of unreported sex and age. Youth is defined as children 18 and under.

III. Dependent Services



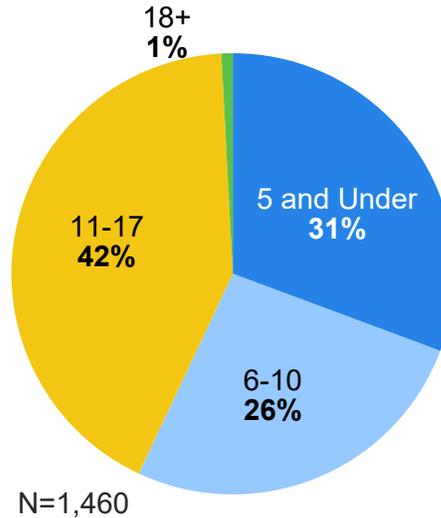
Age of Dependent Youth – September 30, 2025

Figure 13. Age of All Dependent Youth



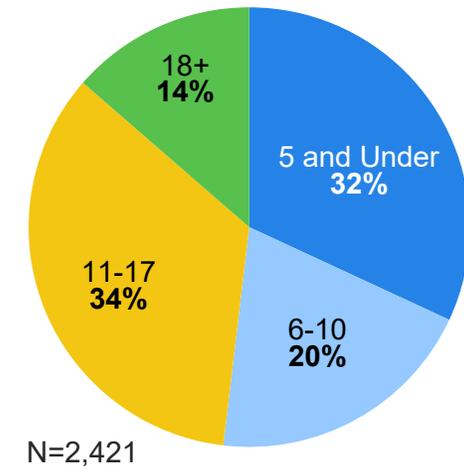
On September 30, 2025, older children aged 11-17 were the most represented age group.

Figure 13a. Age of Dependent Youth **In-Home**



On September 30, 2025, children aged 11-17 made up 42 percent of in-home youth and 34 percent of dependent youth in placement, the largest age group for both categories.

Figure 13b. Age of Dependent Youth in **Placement**



III. Dependent Services



Race/Ethnicity of Dependent Youth – September 30, 2025

Figure 14. Race/Ethnicity of All Dependent Youth

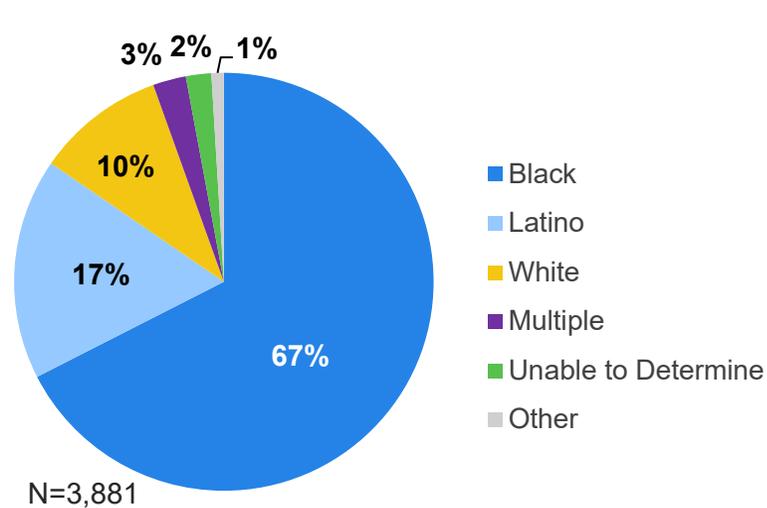


Figure 14a. Race/Ethnicity of Dependent Youth **In-Home**

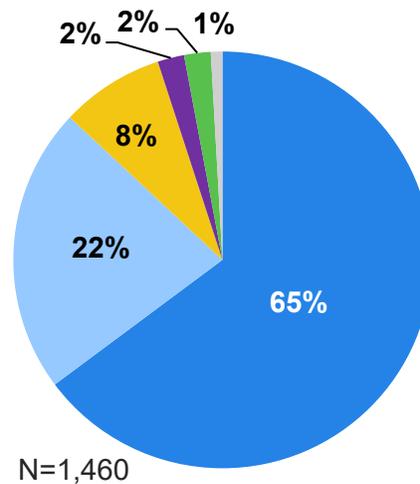
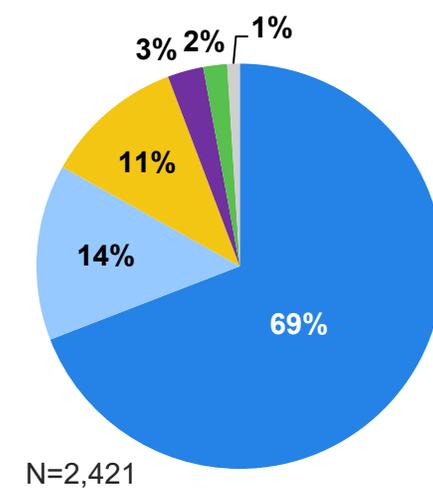


Figure 14b. Race/Ethnicity of Dependent Youth in **Placement**



Two out of three (67%) dependent youth are Black, compared to 43 percent of Philadelphia youth who are Black.

Seventeen percent of dependent youth are Latino, compared to 25 percent in Philadelphia overall.

Data run on 10/23/2025

*Sample size discrepancy across sex, age, and race/ethnicity is the result of unreported sex and age. Youth is defined as children under 18.

Philadelphia youth demographics from 2024 American Community Survey <https://data.census.gov/table?q=race/ethnicity%20by%20age%20in%20philadelphia>

III. Dependent Services

In-Home Services



Figure 15. Total **Families** with In-Home Services

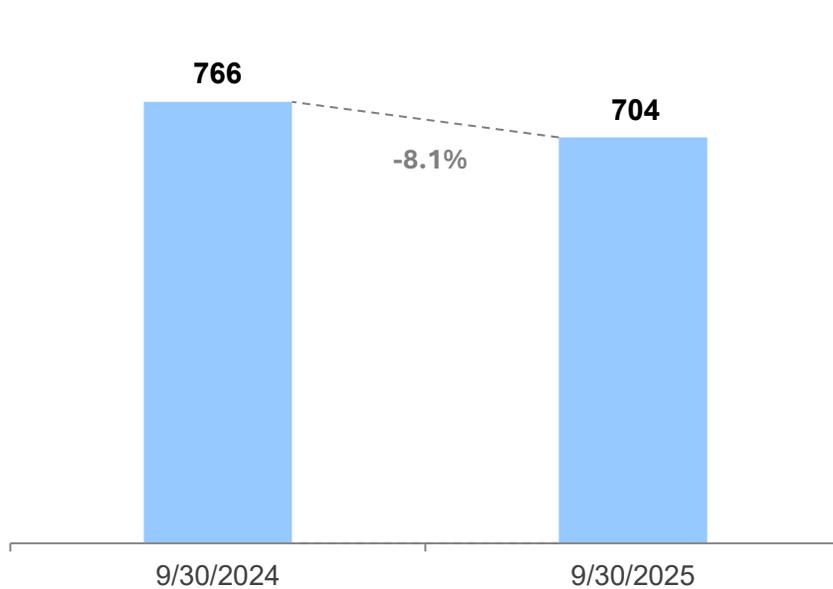
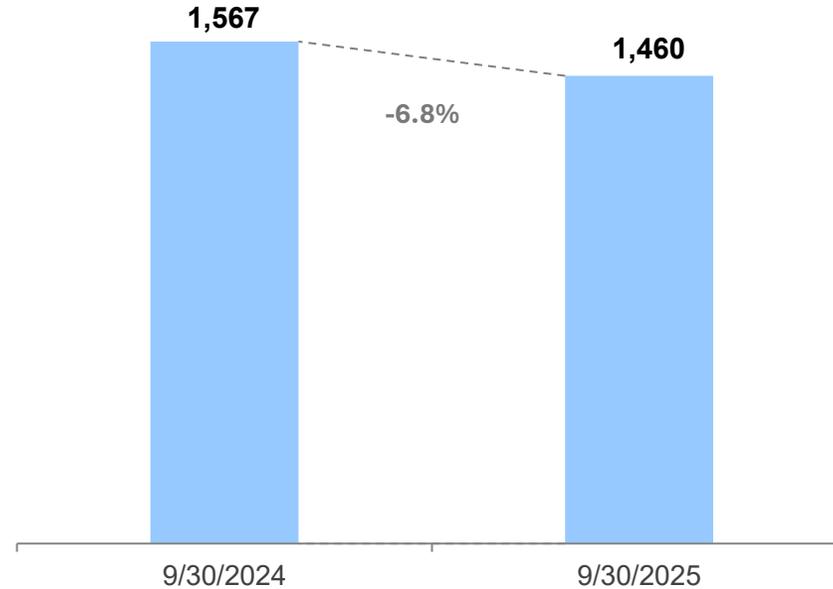


Figure 16. Total **Children** with In-Home Services



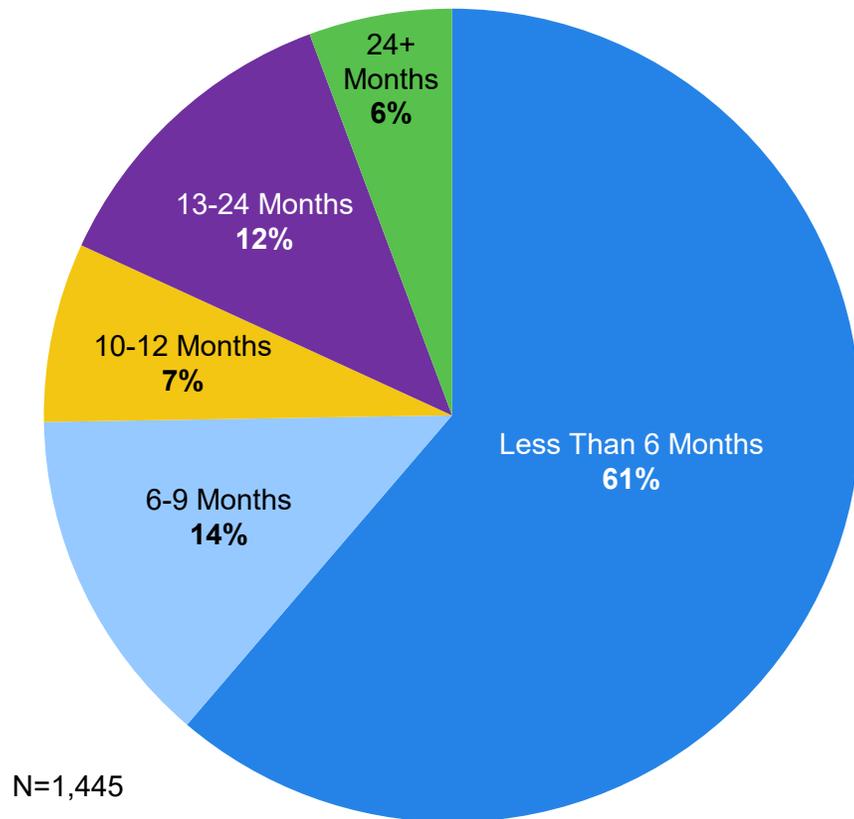
Compared to September 30, 2024, the total number of families with In-Home Services declined by over eight percent while the total number of children declined by nearly seven percent.

Data run on 10/23/2025
Family and child totals vary slightly from next slide because of missing data for CUA and Service Type.

III. Dependent Services

In-Home Services

Figure 17. Length of Stay for In-Home Services as of September 30, 2025



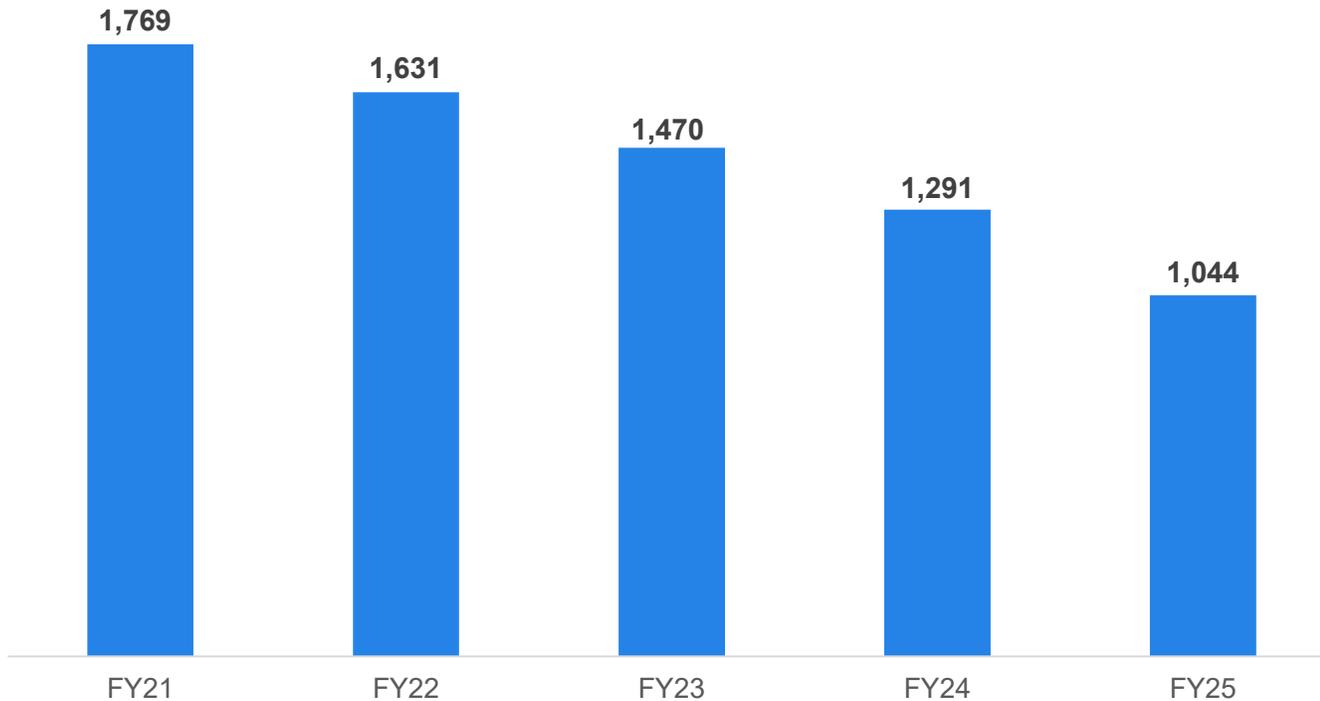
On September 30, 2025, 61 percent of youth with In-Home Services had been receiving services for less than six months.

Data run on 10/23/2025
Youth whose service information had yet to be entered into the electronic database are excluded from this figure.

III. Dependent Services

Removals from Home

Figure 18. Number of Children Removed from Home, by Federal Fiscal Year*



Between October 1, 2024 and September 30, 2025, there were 1,044 children removed from their homes.

The FY25 total represents a 41 percent decrease from FY21 (1,769 children).

Data run on 10/23/2025

Removals from home are referred to as entries into care in the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS).

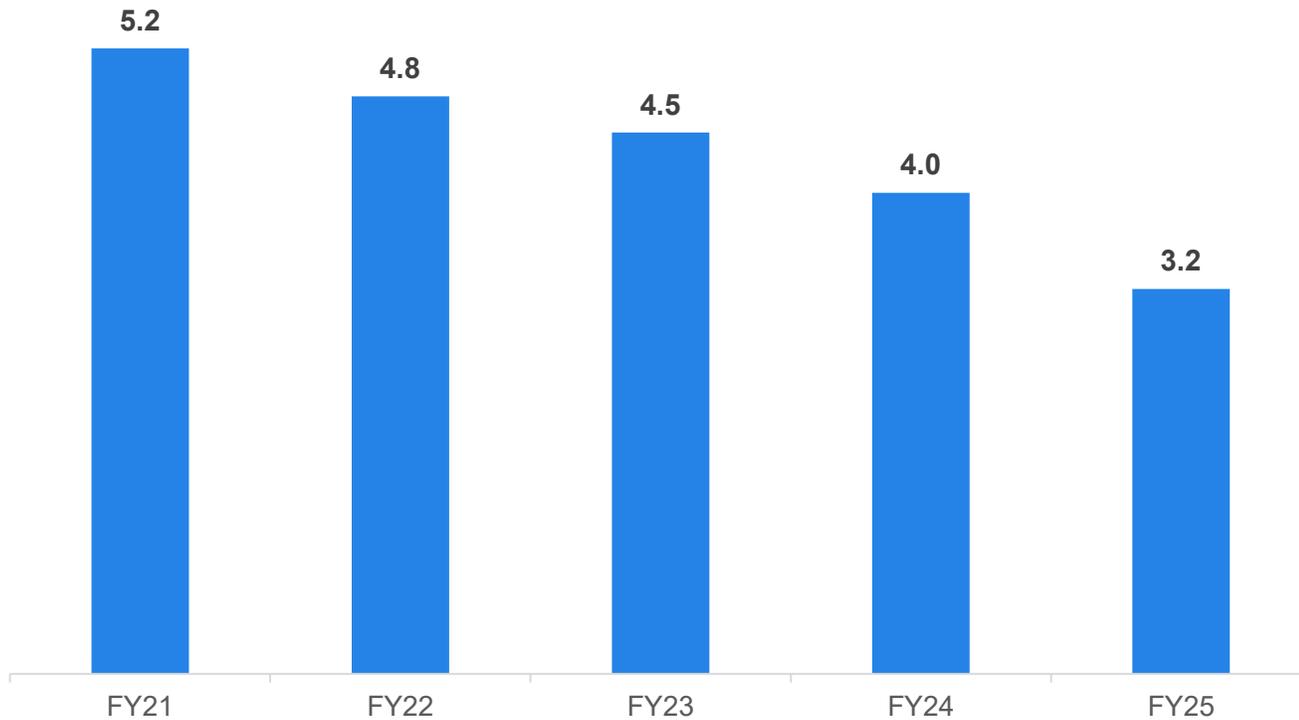
*Federal fiscal year runs 10/1 to 9/30. The federal fiscal year is used to provide better comparisons with other jurisdictions within the U.S.

III. Dependent Services



Rate of Removal from Home

Figure 19. Removal Rate of Children per 1,000 Philadelphia Children, by Federal Fiscal Year*



In Federal FY25, the removal rate of children was 3.2 per 1,000 children.

The FY25 rate represents a 39 percent decrease from FY21.

Data run on 10/23/2025

Removals from home are referred to as entries into care in the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS).

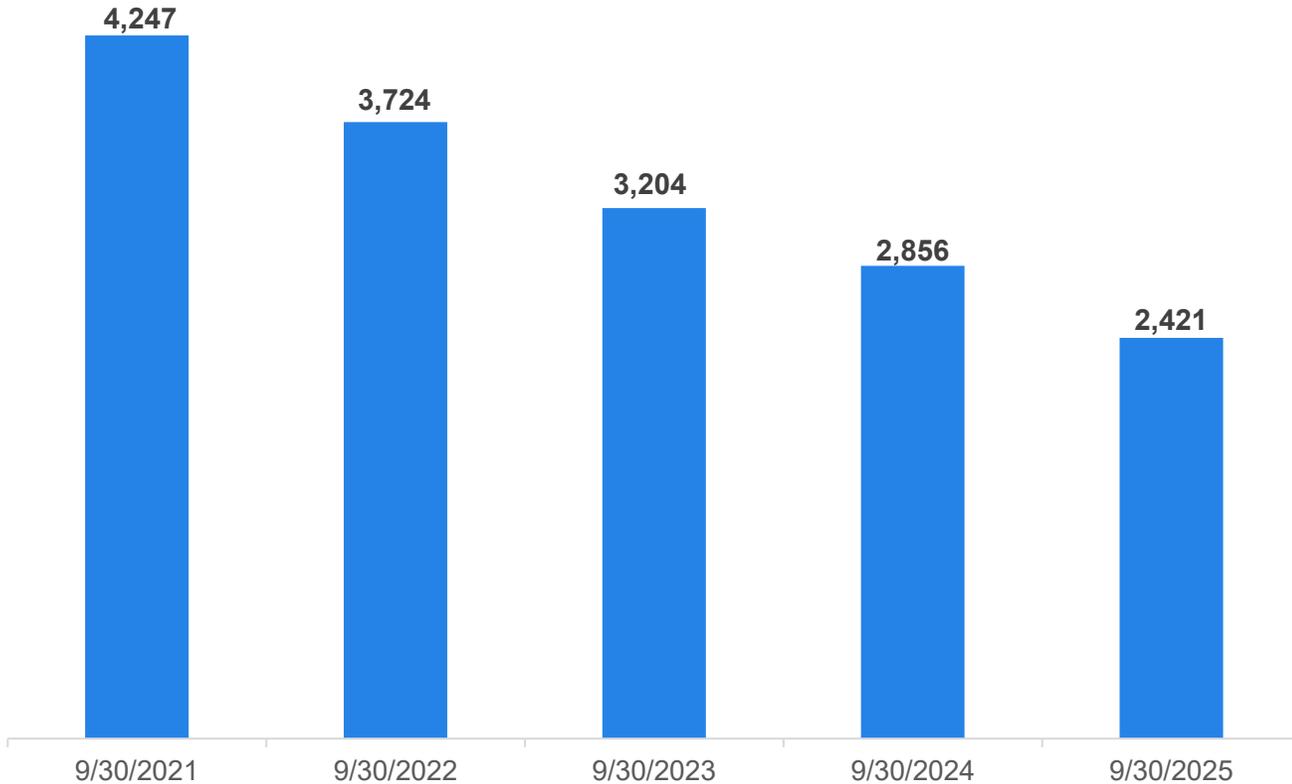
*Federal fiscal year runs 10/1 to 9/30. The federal fiscal year is used to provide better comparisons with other jurisdictions within the U.S.

III. Dependent Services

Children in Placement



Figure 20. Number of Children in Dependent Placement on September 30th of Each Year



On September 30, 2025, there were 2,421 children in dependent placement.

The number of children in placement on September 30, 2025 represents a 43 percent reduction compared to September 30, 2021 (4,247 children).

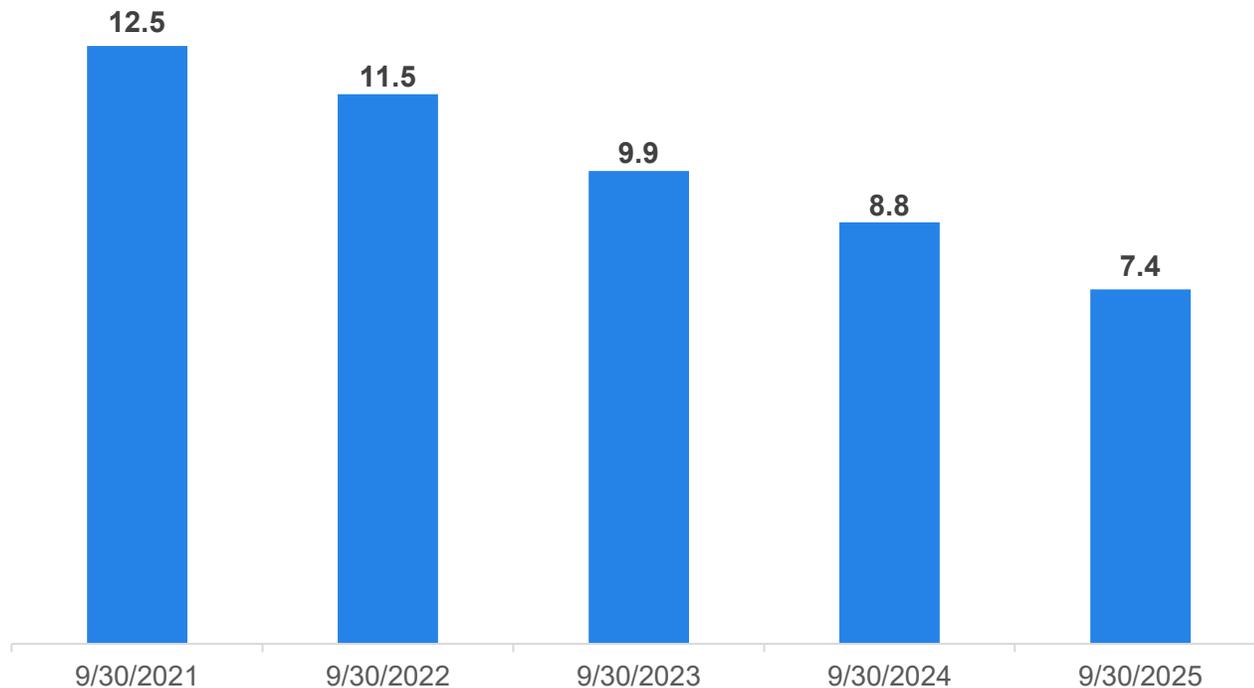
Data run on 10/23/2025

III. Dependent Services



Rate of Children in Placement

Figure 21. Rate of Children in Dependent Placement per 1,000 Philadelphia Children on September 30th of Each Year



On September 30, 2025, the rate of children in placement was 7.5 per 1,000 children.

This rate of children in dependent placement represents a 40 percent decrease from September 30, 2021 (12.5 per 1,000 children).

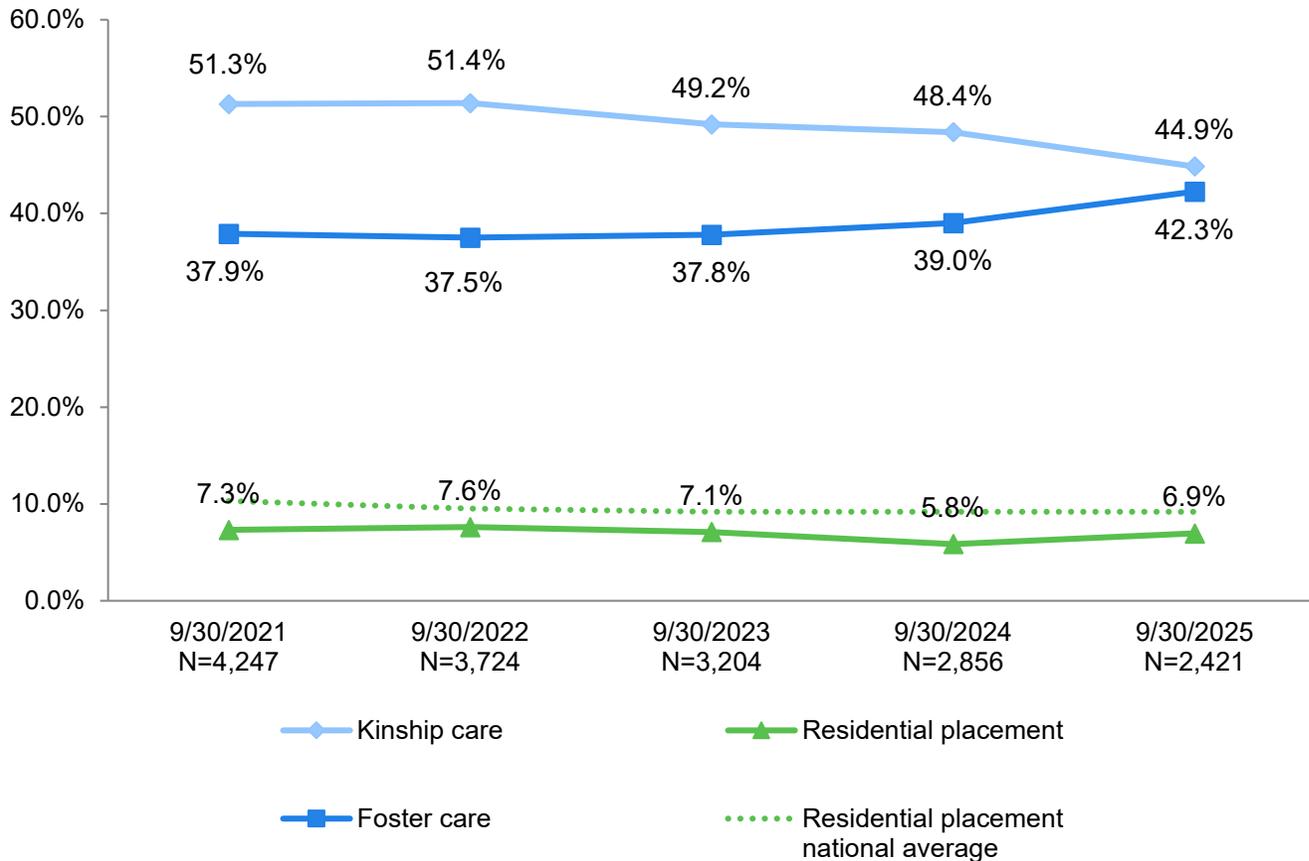
Data run on 10/23/2025

III. Dependent Services



Dependent Placements by Type

Figure 22. Dependent Placements on September 30th of Each Year



Since September 2021, overall dependent placements decreased by 43 percent.

Kinship care as a percentage of dependent placements was 44.9 percent in September 2025.

Residential placement as a percentage of dependent placements was 6.9 percent in September 2025, and below the national average.

Data run on 10/23/2025

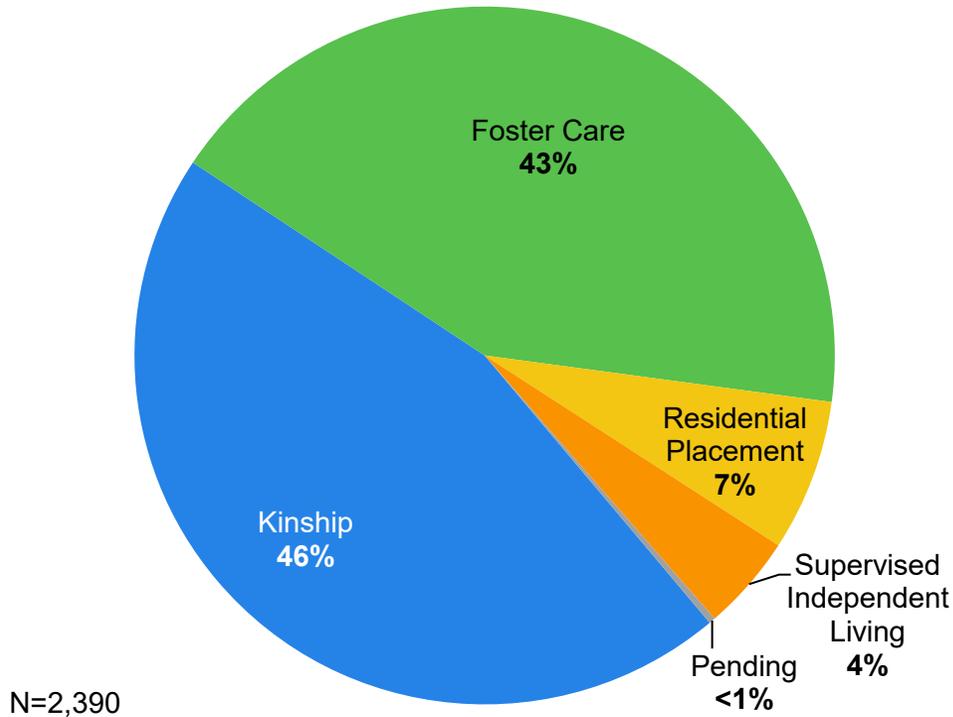
Residential Placement national average was calculated by aggregating national institution and group home totals reported in AFCARS Reports. Current average is from AFCARS Report #30, Preliminary Estimate for Federal Fiscal Year 2022, the most recent report available

III. Dependent Services



Dependent Placement Services

Figure 23. Children in Dependent Placements on September 30, 2025, by Placement Type



Nearly nine in ten (89%) youth in placement on September 30, 2025 were in Kinship or Foster Care.

Fewer than one in ten (7%) youth in placement were in residential placement.

Data run on 10/23/2025

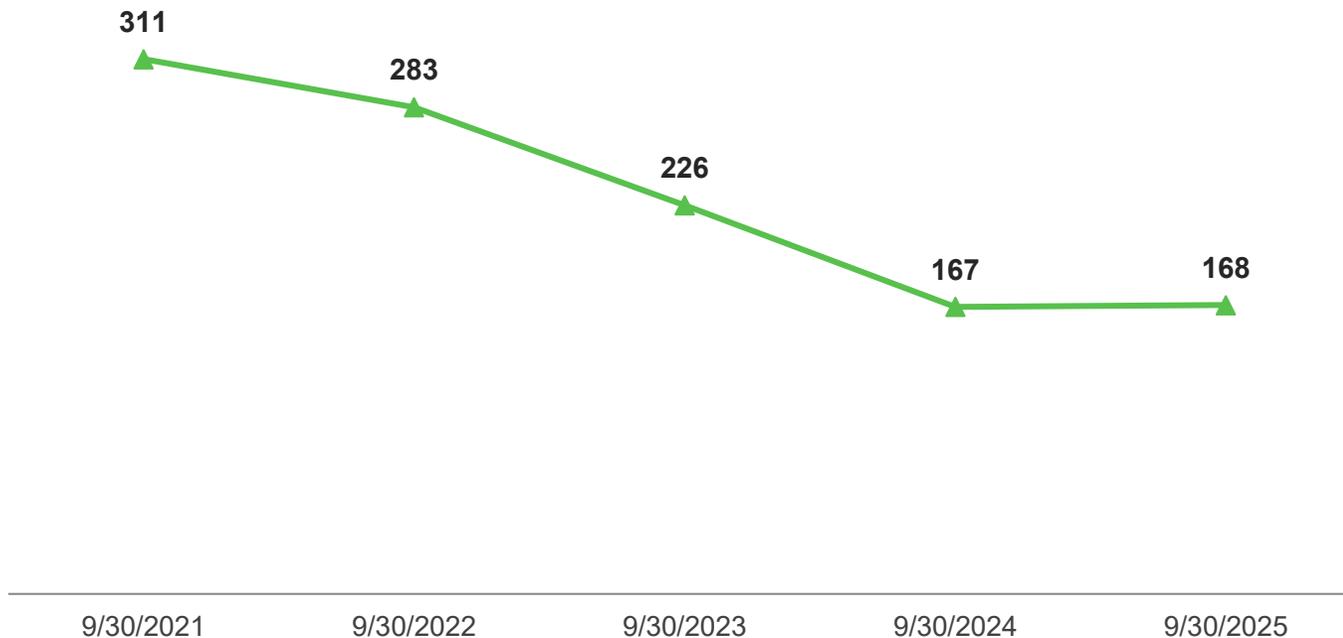
*Pending youths' service information had yet to be entered into the electronic database as of the date the data were run. Percentages for this figure have been rounded to the nearest whole number, so total may not equal 100% *ICPC not included in this graph due to the inability to confirm data

III. Dependent Services



Dependent Residential Placement Services

Figure 24. Dependent Residential Placement Totals on September 30 of Each Year



Since September 30, 2021, the number of dependent youth in residential placement settings has decreased 46 percent from 311 youth to 168 youth.

For the same timespan, overall youth in dependent placements decreased by 43 percent.

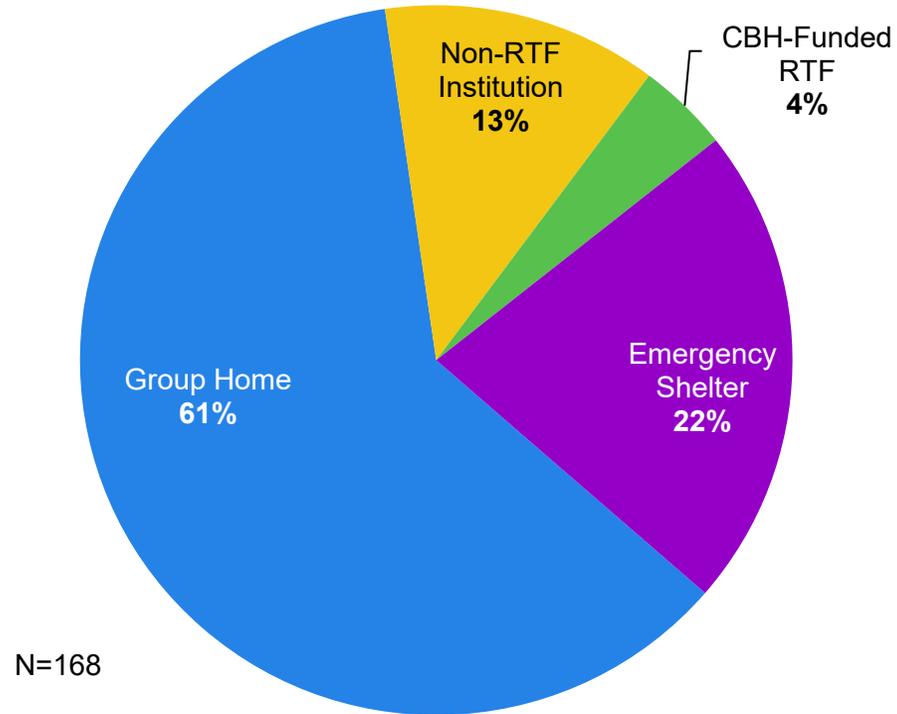
Data run on 10/23/2025

III. Dependent Services



Dependent Residential Placement Services

Figure 25. Children in Dependent Residential Placement on September 30, 2025



More than three out of five (61%) youth in dependent residential placement were in group homes on September 30, 2025.

Thirty-seven youth were in emergency shelters, representing 22 percent of residential placements.

Data run on 10/23/2025

*Residential Placement was previously termed Congregate Care

III. Dependent Services



Dependent Residential Placement Services

Table 2. Distance between Residential Placement Facilities and City Limits as of September 30, 2025

Distance	# of Facilities	# of Youth
In Philadelphia	9 (26%)	69 (41%)
Within 5 Miles	5 (14%)	38 (23%)
6 - 10 Miles	6 (17%)	15 (9%)
11 - 25 Miles	5 (14%)	14 (8%)
26 - 50 Miles	6 (17%)	14 (8%)
Over 50 Miles	4 (11%)	18 (11%)
Total	35	168

Fifty-seven percent of dependent residential placement facilities serving 73 percent of youth were either in Philadelphia or within 10 miles of the city limits.

Data run on 10/31/2025

A facility is defined as an agency site and/or campus. Providers with multiple sites within the same ZIP code are considered a campus and counted only once. Providers with sites spread across multiple zip codes are counted multiple times—once for every ZIP code.

III. Dependent Services

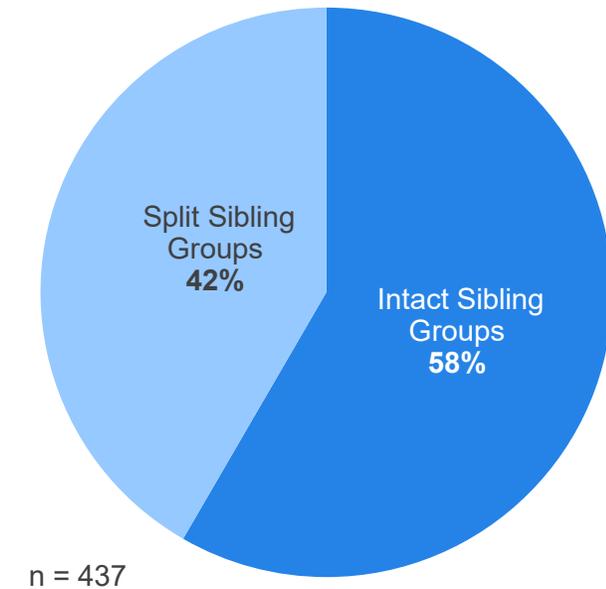


Family Foster Care Sibling Composition

Table 3. Sibling Composition of Youth in Foster Care and Kinship Care on September 30, 2025

CUA	Total Number of Sibling Groups	Total Number of Intact Sibling Groups	Percentage of Intact Sibling Groups
01 - NET	39	21	54%
02 - APM	40	24	60%
03 - CONCILIO	51	26	51%
04 - CCS	21	9	43%
05 - APM	77	45	58%
06 - CPA	34	24	71%
07 - NET	46	29	63%
08 - BETH	40	30	75%
09 - GPCA	48	21	44%
10 - BETH	41	26	63%
Overall	437	255	58%

Figure 26. Sibling Composition of Youth in Foster Care and Kinship Care on September 30, 2025



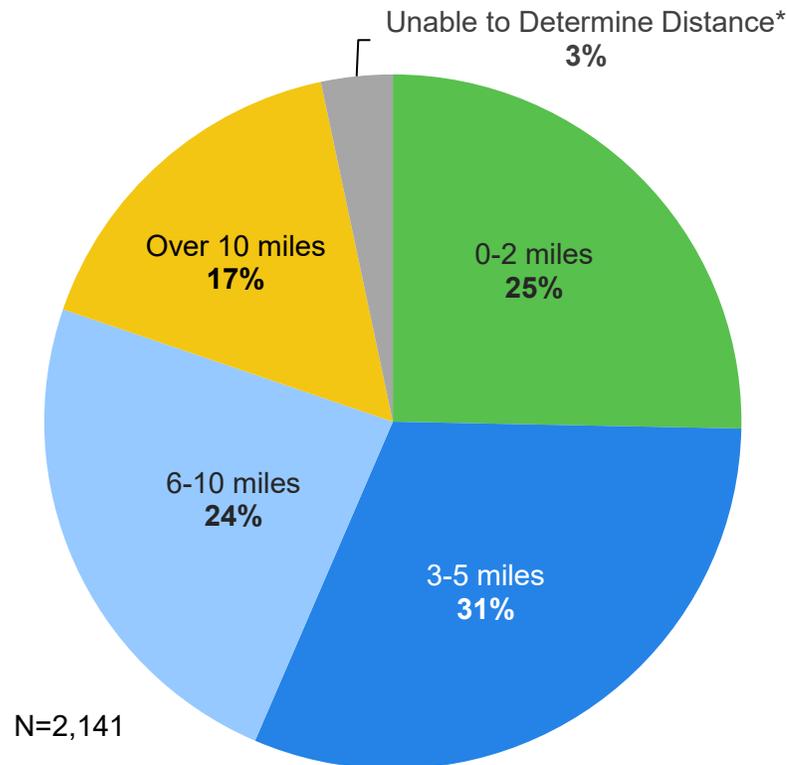
Of the 437 sibling groups placed in Family Foster Care, nearly three in five (58%) were placed together. CUA 8 had the highest percentage of intact sibling groups at 75 percent, while CUA 4 had the lowest percentage at 43 percent.

III. Dependent Services



Family Foster Care Distance from Home

Figure 27. Distance from Home for Youth in Kinship and Foster Care as of September 30, 2025



The majority of youth in Kinship and Foster Care (56%) lived within five miles of their home of origin, and four in every five (80%) youth lived within 10 miles.

Data run on 10/31/2025

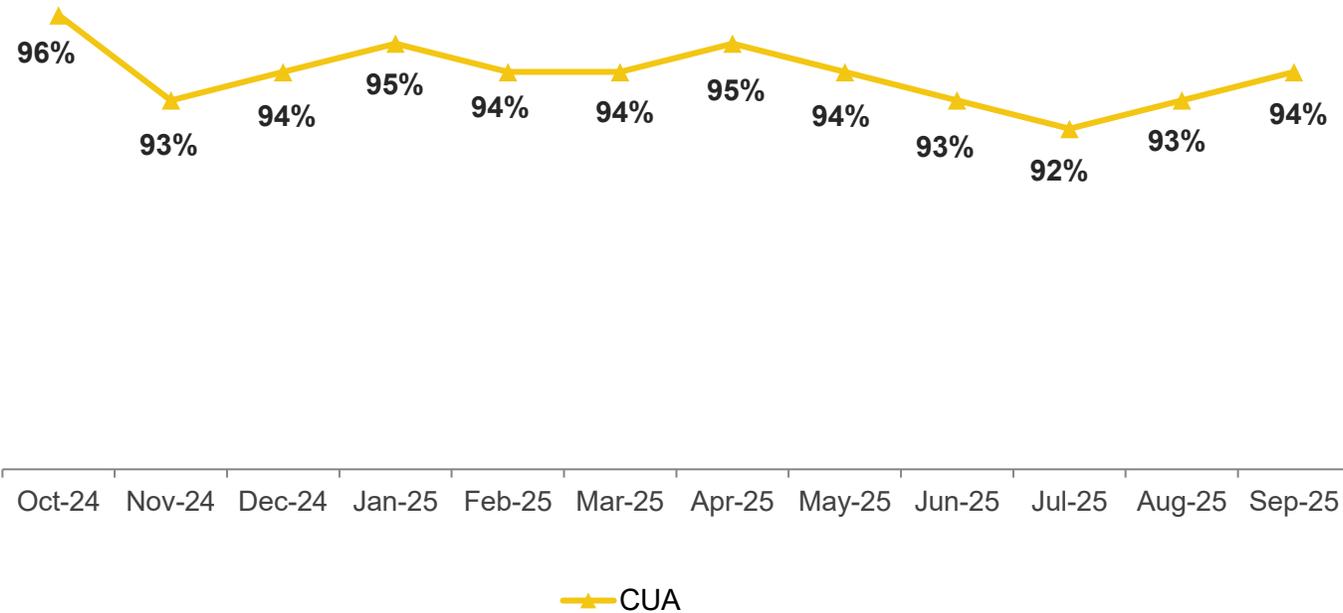
Missing addresses were removed before geocoding, resulting in a lower number of youth included in the analysis.

"Unable to Determine Distance" included houses located outside of Philadelphia or incomplete addresses that could not be geocoded.

III. Dependent Services

Monthly Visitation

Figure 28. CUA Visitation Rates by Month



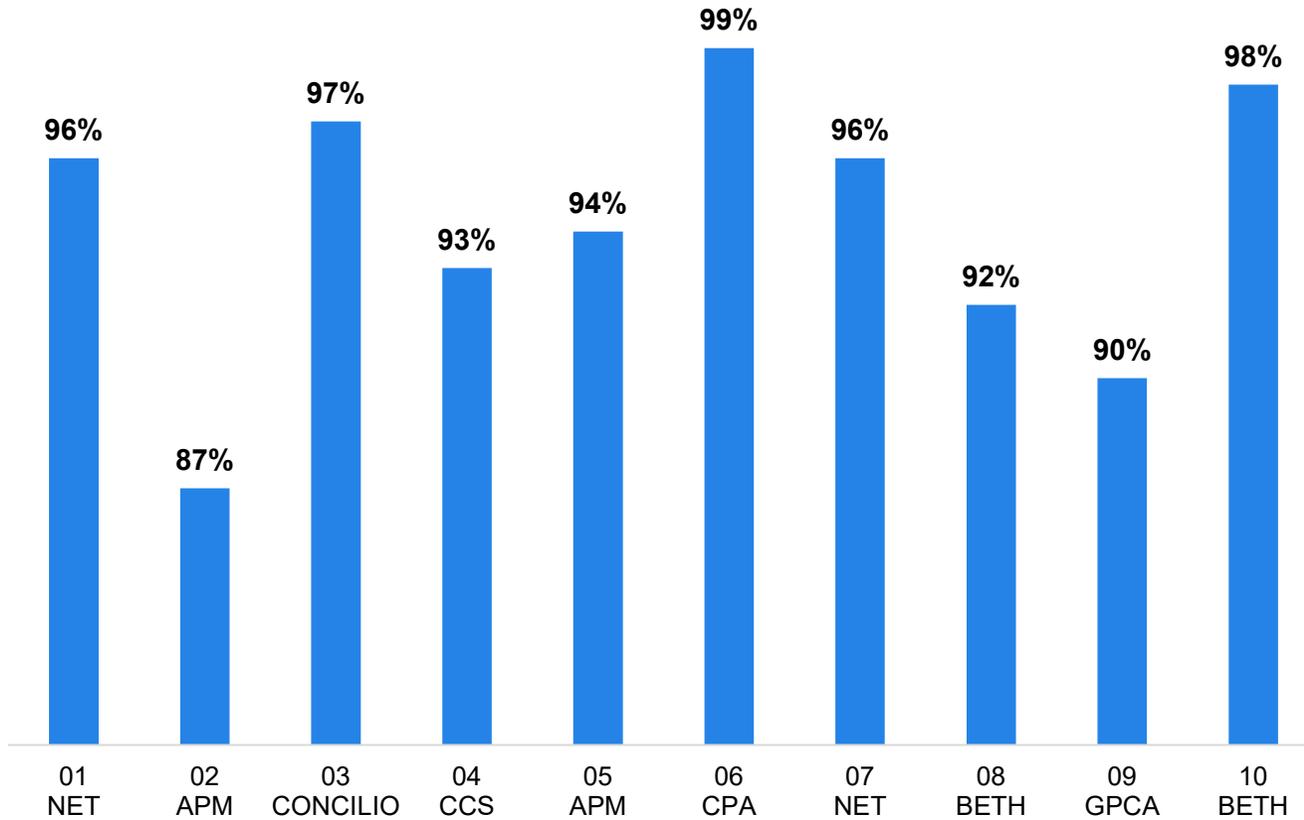
CUAs overall achieved the benchmark of visiting 90 percent of families every month in the last full year ending on September 30.

Data run on 10/15/2025

III. Dependent Services

Monthly Visitation

Figure 29. September 2025 Visitation Rates, by CUA



In September 2025, nine of ten CUAs met the benchmark visitation rate of 90 percent or higher. The highest visitation rate in September was at 06-CPA with 99 percent, while the lowest was 87 percent at 02-APM.

Data run on 10/15/2025

III. Dependent Services

Dependent Services Summary



The number of families open for service continued to decline. Both the number of children with In-Home Services (1,460) and children with Dependent Placement Services (2,421) decreased.

While caseloads in the system overall are within recommended levels, some CUAs have more than double the median caseload of others.

Less than half of youth in dependent placement were in kinship care (45%), lower than recent years but still higher than those in foster care (42%).

At 168 youth on September 30, 2025, the total number of youth in dependent residential placement was similar to FY24, and lower than earlier fiscal years.



While more progress can be made, more children and youth are being supported in their own homes and communities.



Permanency





Glossary of Terms

DHS Permanency Services aim to reunite children in placement with their families of origin or with a permanent family to achieve a stable, long-term living arrangement.

- **Reunification** - Process through which children in dependent placement go back to living with their families of origin. Reunification is always the first goal for children in dependent placement.
- **Adoption** - Process of establishing a legal relationship of parent and child between persons who are not so related by birth.
- **Permanent Legal Custodianship (PLC)** - A legal option approved in Court granting legal custody of a child to a person(s) while maintaining some of the birth parents' rights.
- **Life Connection** - An adult with whom the youth has a connection. A life connection can be kin, a former foster parent, or mentor that is willing to help provide support and resources to the youth as they transition out of the system.



Glossary of Terms (continued)

Permanency Measures

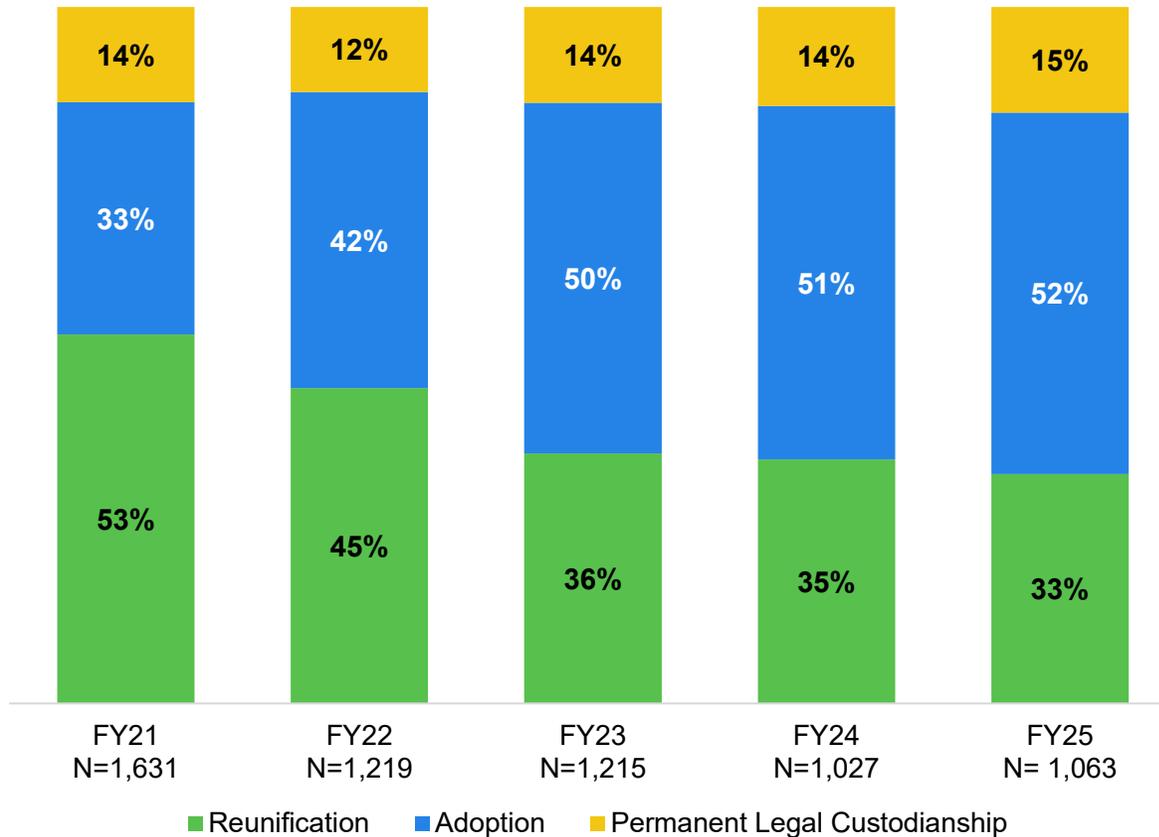
- **One Year Re-Entry Rate** - Percentage of children who are reunified that re-enter foster care within one year of reunification.
- **Permanency data** are updated once every six months to more clearly show patterns on youth attaining permanency.

IV. Permanency



Permanency Rates and Totals

Figure 30. Permanency Totals by Permanency Type



In FY25, 1,063 children and youth attained permanency through Reunification, Adoption, and Permanent Legal Custodianship, similar to FY24.

One-third (33%) of permanencies in FY25 were Reunifications, and over half (52%) were Adoptions.

Data run on 7/1/2025.

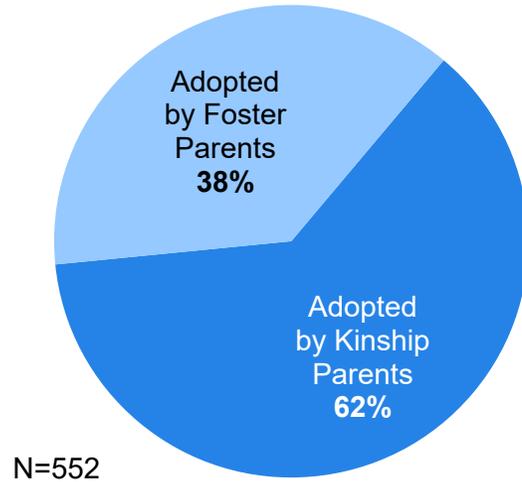
Permanency data are updated once every six months to more clearly show patterns on youth attaining permanency.

IV. Permanency



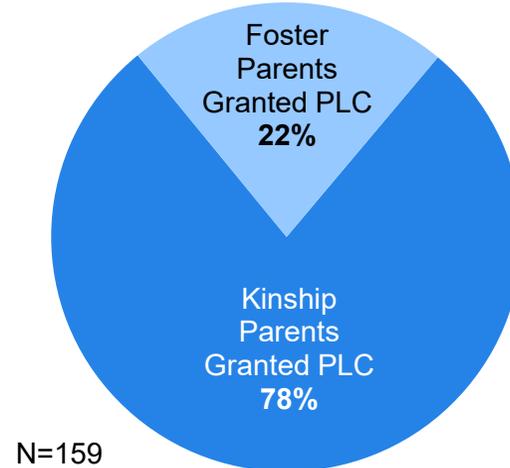
Adoptions and Permanent Legal Custody (PLC)

Figure 31. Youth Who are **Adopted** by Foster and Kinship Parents



Of the 552 children and youth who were adopted in FY25, more than six in ten (62%) were adopted by their kinship resource parents.

Figure 32. Youth who were **Discharged to PLC** with Foster and Kinship Parents



Of the 159 children and youth who were discharged to PLC, over three-quarters (78%) were discharged to their kinship resource parents.

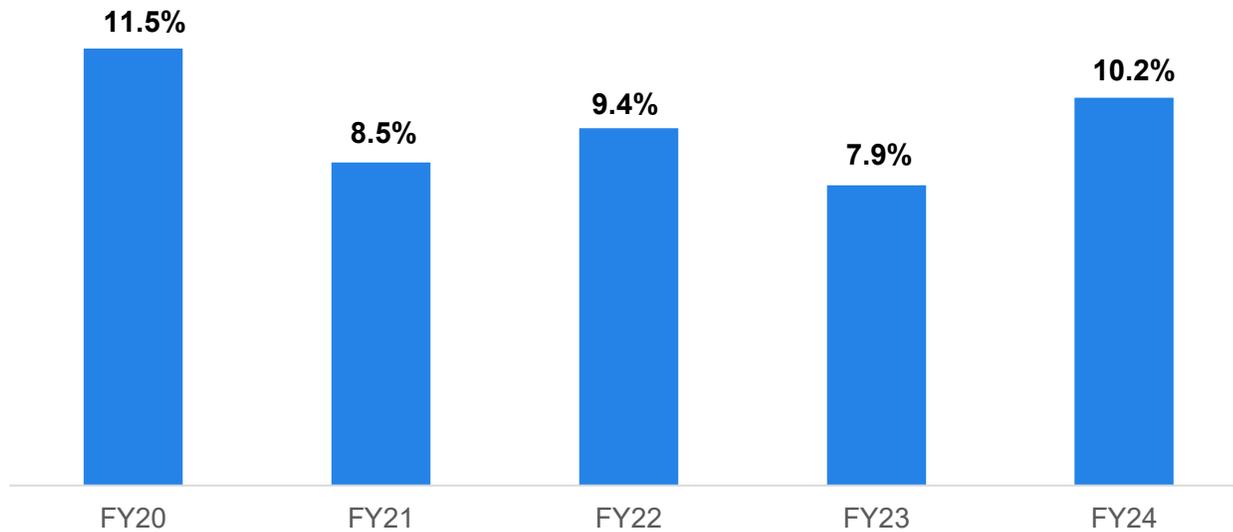
Data run on 7/1/2025

Permanency data are updated once every six months to more clearly show patterns on youth attaining permanency.

IV. Permanency

Permanency- Re-Entry

Figure 33. One-Year Re-Entry



Over one in ten (10.2%) youth who were reunified between October of 2023 and September of 2024 re-entered dependent placement within one year.

Data run on 10/27/2025

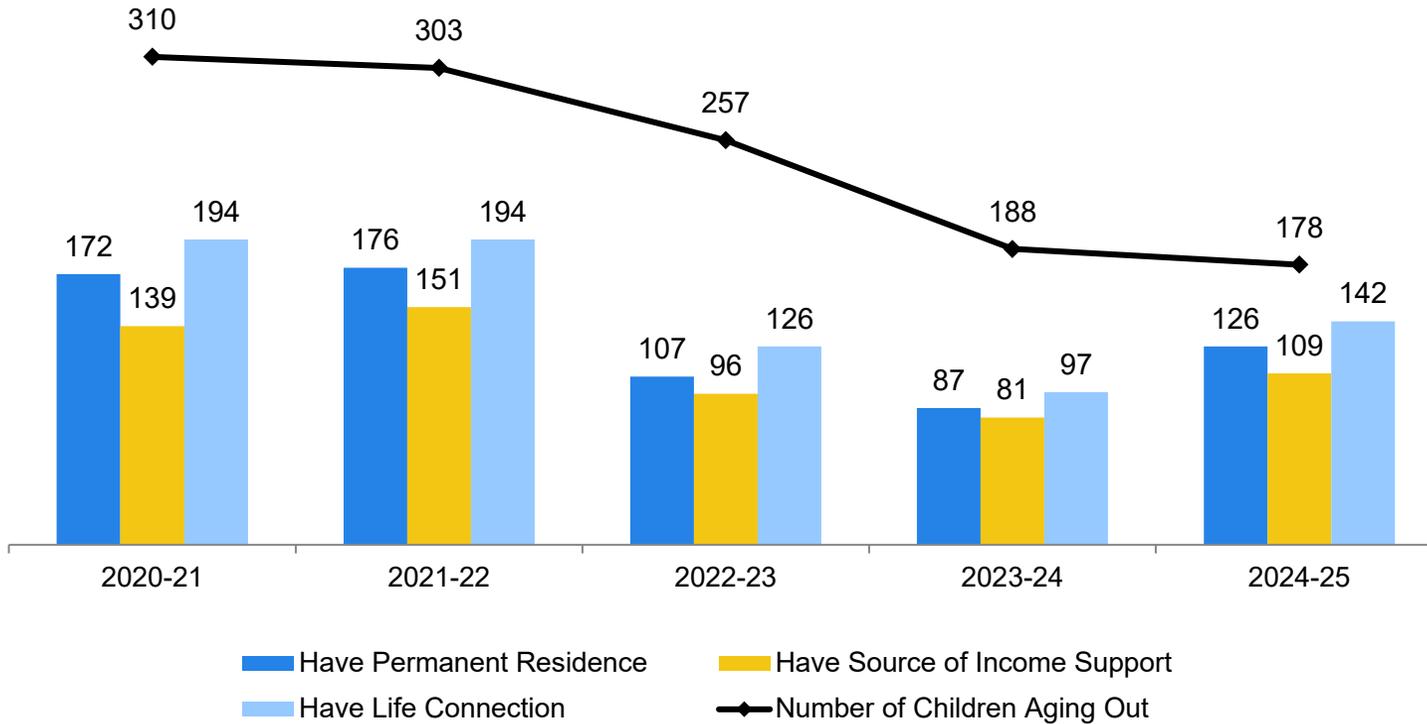
Because this measure looks forward in time, there is a one-year delay in reporting repeat maltreatment. These data are updated once a year based on the Federal fiscal year of October 1st to September 30th.

IV. Permanency



Outcomes for Youth Aging Out of Care

Figure 34. Aging Out Data



The number of youth aging out of care decreased 43 percent from FY21 to FY25, from 310 youth to 178 youth.

Data run on 7/1/2025

Aging out data and accompanying narrative are reproduced from Philadelphia's 2025-26 Needs-Based Plan & Budget (NBPB) submission to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

IV. Permanency

Permanency Summary



The percentage of permanencies through Reunification has been on a downward trend over the last five years.

Re-entry of children to Foster Care within a year of permanency has fluctuated over the last five years.

The number of youth aging out of care has trended downward since FY21.



The percentage of children and youth reunifying with family has trended down since FY21 but has stabilized in the last three years.



Juvenile Justice Programs



Glossary of Terms



DHS' Division of Juvenile Justice Services mission is to provide safe and secure detention options that focus on youths' well-being through trauma-informed practices, while diverting youth at risk of delinquency from the formal juvenile justice system through Community-Based Prevention Services.

DHS Juvenile Justice - Prevention Programs

- **Intensive Prevention Services (IPS)** - Community-based services that provide support to youth (ages 10-19) who are having disciplinary issues at school or conflicts at home. The goal is to improve behavior and prevent entry into the juvenile justice system.
- **Community Evening Resource Centers (CERCs)** - free, safe spaces, activities, and connection to resources for youth ages 10-17 every night from 7pm-2am. CERCs can also receive youth who are in violation of the City's minor curfew law and have come to the attention of the Philadelphia Police.



Glossary of Terms (continued)

DHS Juvenile Justice - Alternatives to Detention

- **Evening Reporting Centers (ERCs)** - ERCs offer programming to help youth complete probation terms, prevent reentry in the juvenile justice system, and successfully reintegrate them into their communities. There are four different types of ERCs:
 - **The Pre-ERC:** for youth in the pre adjudicatory phase.
 - **The Community Intervention Center (CIC) ERC:** for youth during their court case.
 - **The Post-ERC:** for youth after their case has been adjudicated.
 - **Aftercare ERC (AERC):** for youth who have been discharged from JJ residential placement.
- **In-Home Detention (IHD)** - a court-ordered program for delinquent youth, offering an alternative to residential detention.
- **Intensive Supervision Program (ISP)** - a community-based prevention program offered to youth aged 10 to 19 who are at risk for involvement with the Juvenile Justice System.



Glossary of Terms (continued)

Juvenile Justice Detention and Residential Placement and Measures

- **Philadelphia Juvenile Justice Services Center (PJJSC)** - Philadelphia's only secure juvenile detention center for youth. The PJJSC holds youth at the request of the Courts while they wait for their day in court.
- **Delinquent Residential Placement** - Facility-based placements for juvenile justice-involved youth who are adjudicated delinquent by the Court and ordered into a residential placement. Includes Group Homes, CBH-Funded Residential Treatment Facilities (RTFs), Non-RTF Institutions, and State Institutions.
- **Length of Stay** - Amount of time youth has spent in a particular service location. Length of stay is calculated by taking the median number of days all youth spent at the PJJSC or residential placement in a specified time-period.

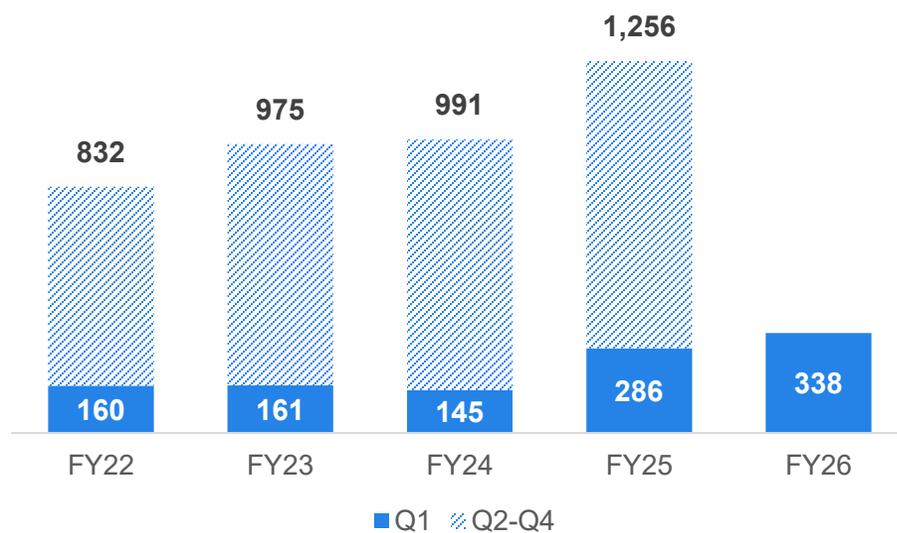
V. Juvenile Justice Programs

Intensive Prevention Services

Intensive Prevention Services (IPS) serve youth between 10 and 19 years old who are at risk for becoming dependent or juvenile justice-involved due to high-risk behaviors.



Figure 35a. IPS Service **Referrals**

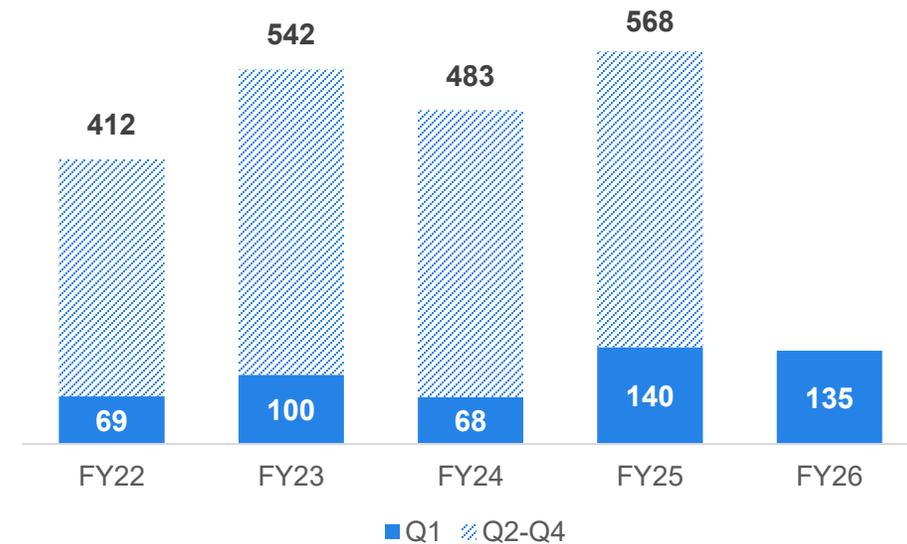


IPS received 338 referrals in FY26 Q1, the most in the past five years.

Data run on 10/29/2025

Service Referrals consist of all youth referred who were eligible to be served.

Figure 35b. IPS Service **Acceptances**



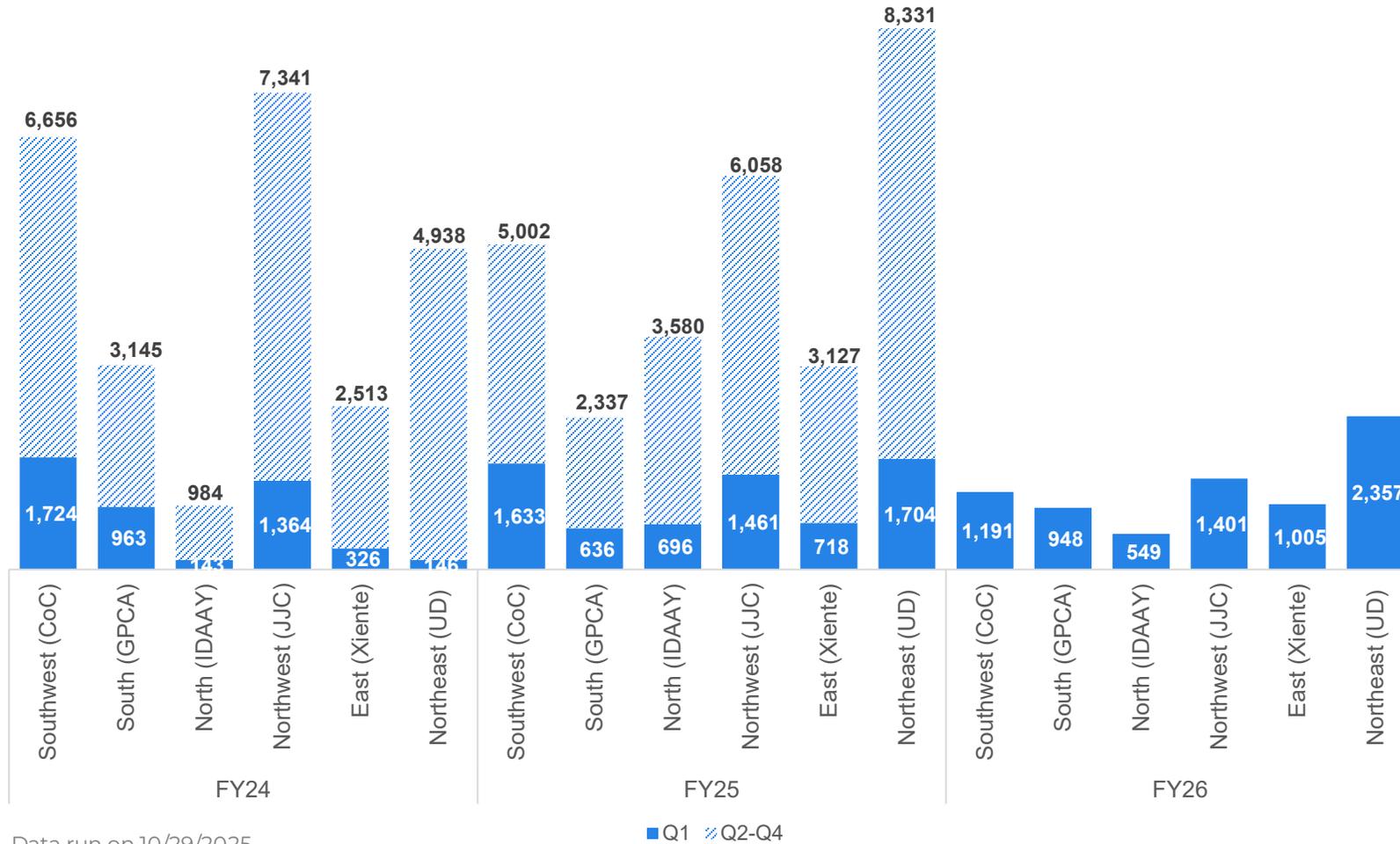
Of these referrals, 135 were accepted, representing a 40 percent acceptance rate, somewhat lower than last year (51%).

V. Juvenile Justice Programs



Community Evening Resource Center (CERC) Visit Volume

Figure 36. Total CERC Visits



In FY26 Q1, CERCs received over 7,450 visits representing a 9 percent increase from FY25 Q1.

Unique Dreams in Northeast Philadelphia had the most visits (2,357) in FY26 Q1.

Data run on 10/29/2025

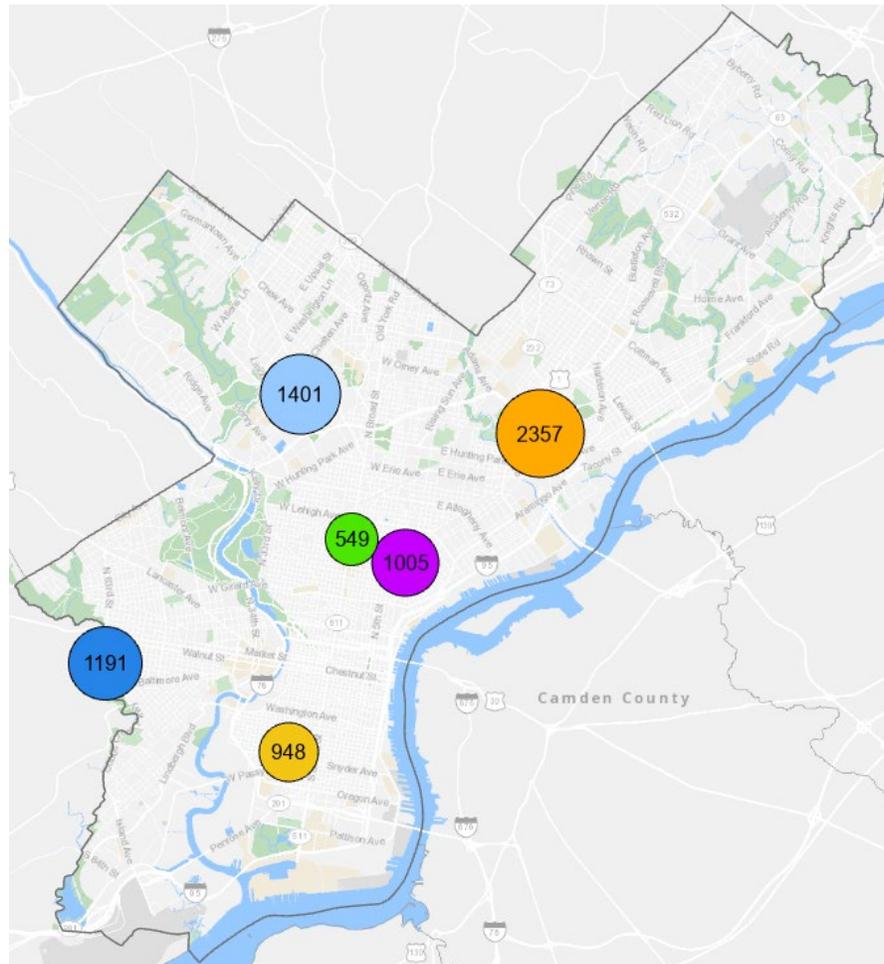
CERC programming expanded over time with the North and Northwest divisions opening in FY23Q2 and the East and Northeast divisions opening in FY24Q1.



V. Juvenile Justice Programs

CERC Visits by Provider – FY26 Q1

Figure 37. CERC Visits by Provider



Northeast, Northwest and Southwest CERCs saw the most visits in FY26 Q1 accounting for nearly two-thirds (66%, N=4,949) of all visits.

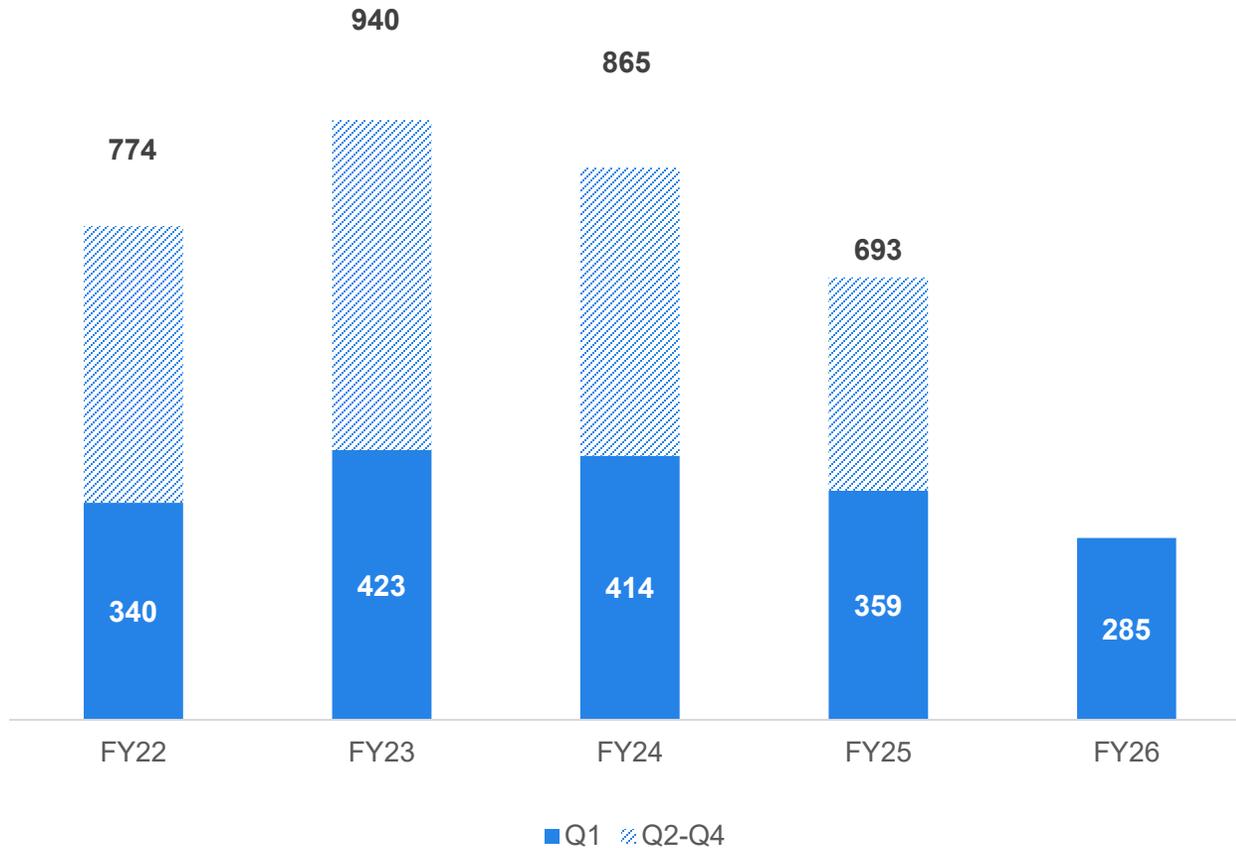
- Southwest (CoC)
- Northwest (JJC)
- South (GPCA)
- East (Xiente)
- North (IDAAY)
- Northeast (UD)

Data run on 10/29/2025



In-Home Detention Program

Figure 38a. In-home Detention (IHD) Participants



In FY26 Q1, 285 youth used IHD services, down 21 percent from FY25 Q1.

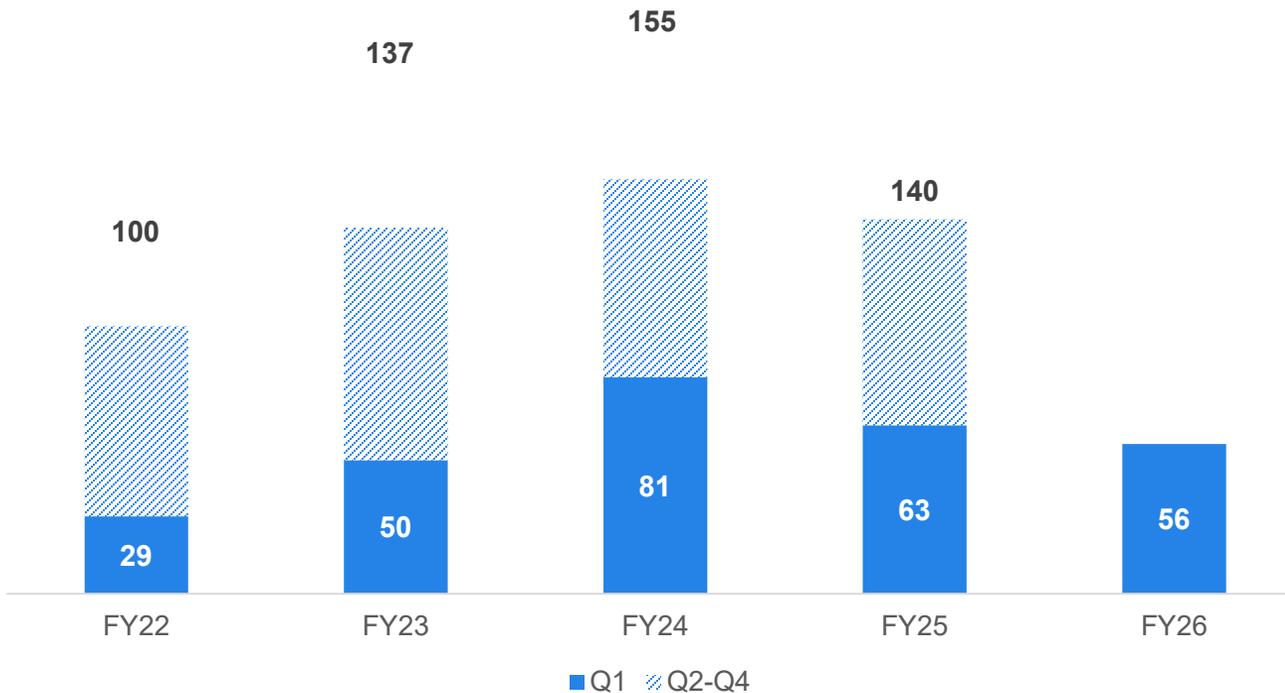
Data run on 2/6/2026

V. Juvenile Justice Programs

Intensive Supervision Program



Figure 38b. Intensive Supervision Program (ISP) Participants



In FY26 Q1, 56 youth used ISP services, down 10 percent from FY25 Q1.

Data run on 2/6/2026

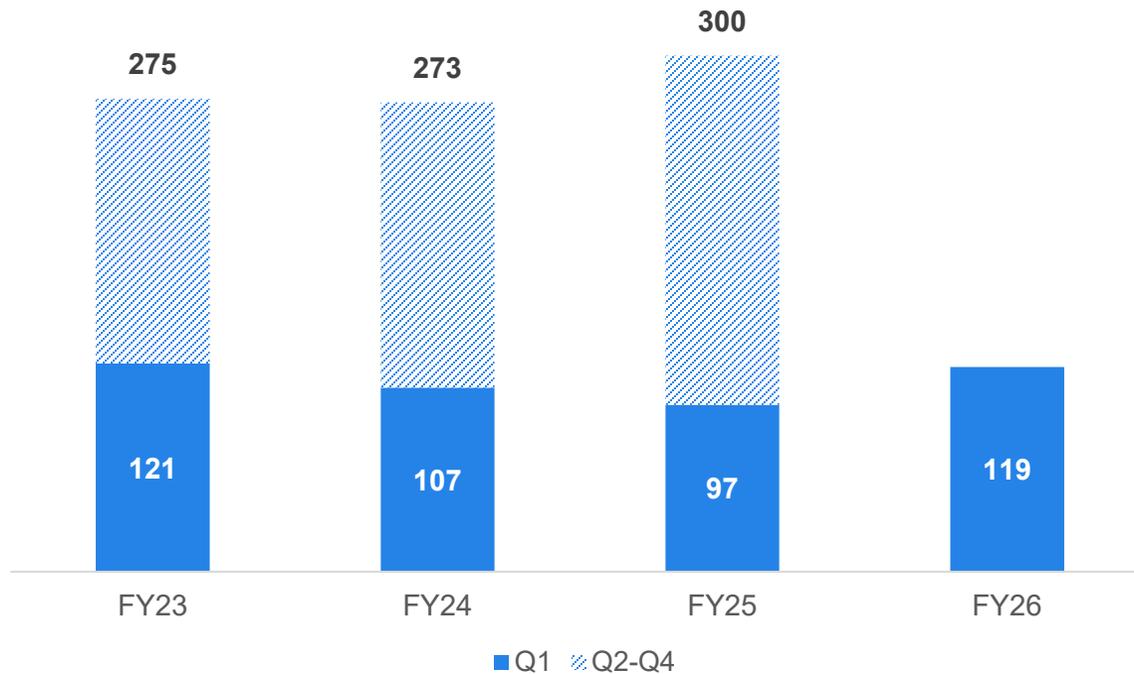
V. Juvenile Justice Programs

Evening Reporting Centers



Evening Reporting Centers (ERCs) are community-based, afterschool programs that provide daily structured activities and serve as an alternative to placement for juvenile justice-involved youth ages 14-18.

Figure 39. Youth Receiving Evening Reporting Center Services



Evening Reporting Centers served 119 youth in FY26 Q1, the most youth since FY23.

Data run on 10/29/2025

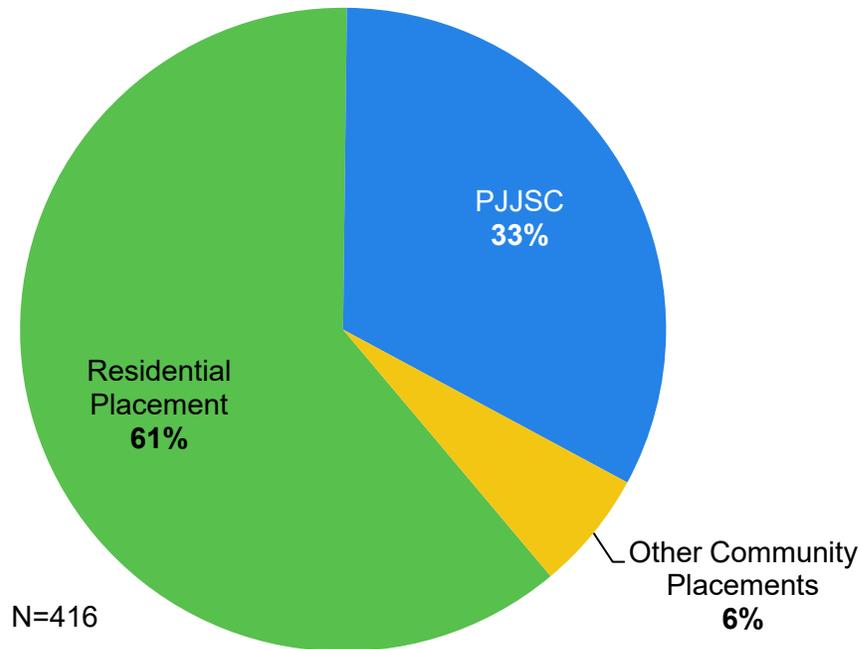
V. Juvenile Justice Programs



Juvenile Justice-Involved Youth Placed Outside of Home

PJJSC, Delinquent Residential Placement & Community Placements

Figure 40. Juvenile Justice-Involved Youth Placed Outside the Home on September 30, 2025 by Location



On September 30, 2025, there were 416 juvenile justice-involved youth placed outside the home.

More than three in five (61%) youth were placed in residential placement, and one third were in detention at the Philadelphia Juvenile Justice Services Center (PJJSC).

Data run on 10/30/2025

"Other community placements" include foster care and supervised independent living

Data for Juvenile Justice-involved youth in placement alternatives, such as GPS monitoring, are not tracked directly by DHS

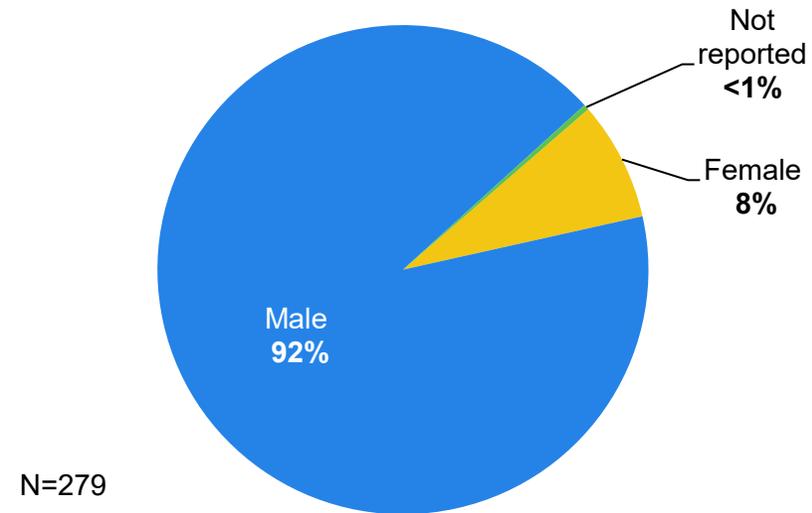
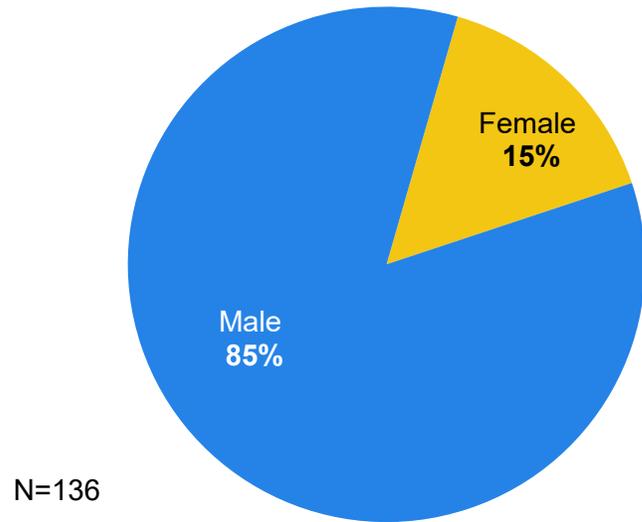
V. Juvenile Justice Programs



Sex of Juvenile Justice-Involved Youth – September 30, 2025

Figure 41a. Sex of Youth Held in the Philadelphia Juvenile Justice Services Center (PJJSC)

Figure 41b. Sex of Youth in Delinquent Residential and Community Placement



On September 30, more than four in five (85%) youth held in detention at the PJJSC were male.

More than nine in ten (92%) youth in residential and community placement at the end of September were male.

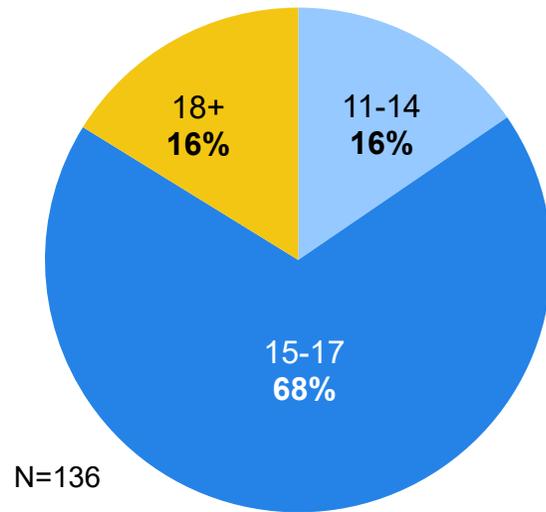
Data run on 10/30/2025

V. Juvenile Justice Programs



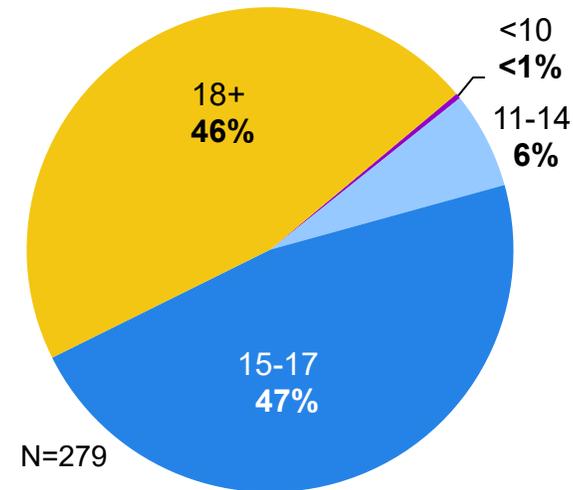
Age of Juvenile Justice-Involved Youth – September 30, 2025

Figure 42a. Age of Youth Held in the Philadelphia Juvenile Justice Services Center (PJJSC)



On September 30, over two in three (68%) youth held in detention at the PJJSC were 15-17 years old.

Figure 42b. Age of Youth in Delinquent Residential and Community Placement



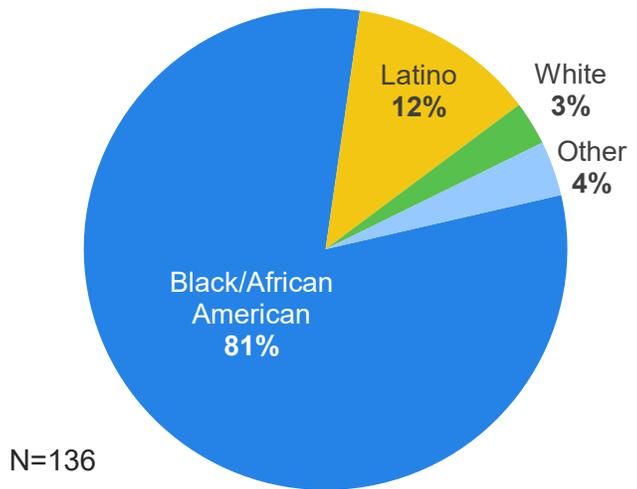
Over 90 percent of youth in residential and community placement were at least 15 years old.

V. Juvenile Justice Programs

Race/Ethnicity of Juvenile Justice-Involved Youth – September 30, 2025



Figure 43a. Race/Ethnicity of Youth Held in the Philadelphia Juvenile Justice Services Center (PJJSC)



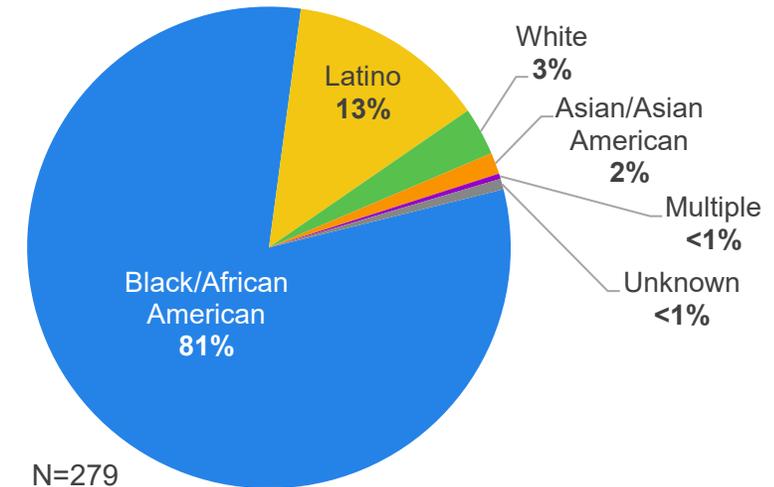
On September 30, more than four in five youth held in detention at the PJJSC identified as Black compared to 43 percent of youth in Philadelphia who are Black.

Data run on 10/30/2025

There were no youth described as Asian American, Hawaiian/Pacific Islander, or Mixed Race in the PJJSC on September 30.

Philadelphia youth demographics from American Community Survey at <https://data.census.gov/table?q=race/ethnicity%20by%20age%20in%20philadelphia>

Figure 43b. Race/Ethnicity of Youth in Delinquent Residential and Community Placement



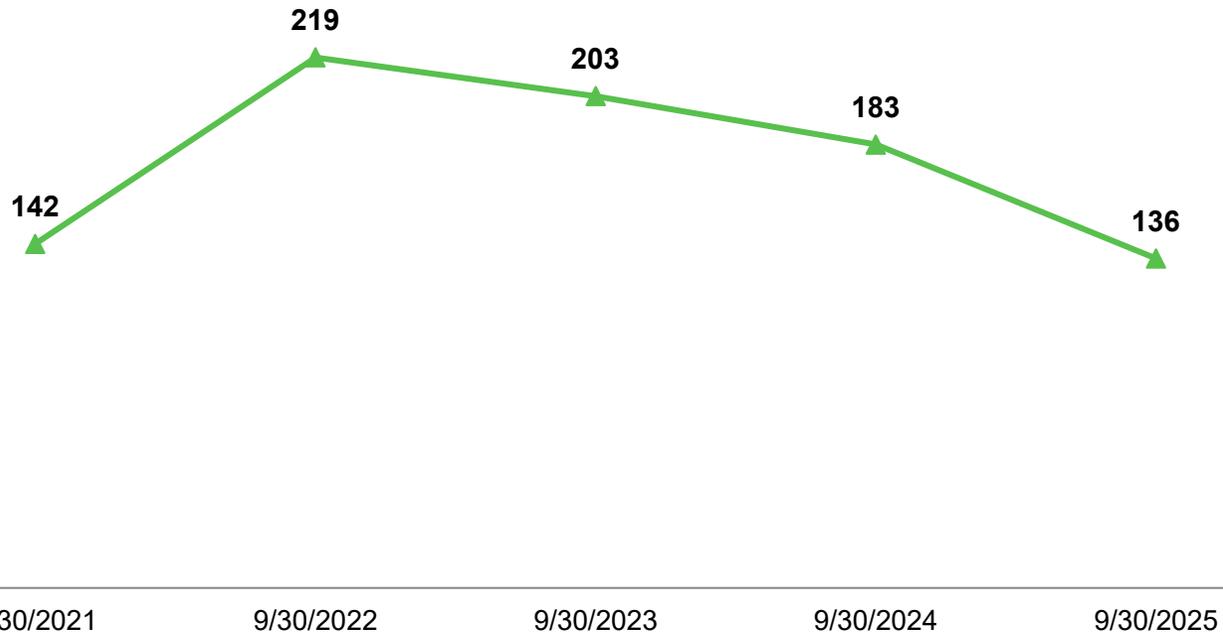
On September 30, more than four in five youth in delinquent residential and community placement identified as Black.

V. Juvenile Justice Programs

Juvenile Justice Placement Services



Figure 44. PJJSC Placement Totals on September 30 of Each Year



On September 30, there were 136 youth in detention at the PJJSC.

The number of youth held in detention at the PJJSC has been decreasing since 2022.

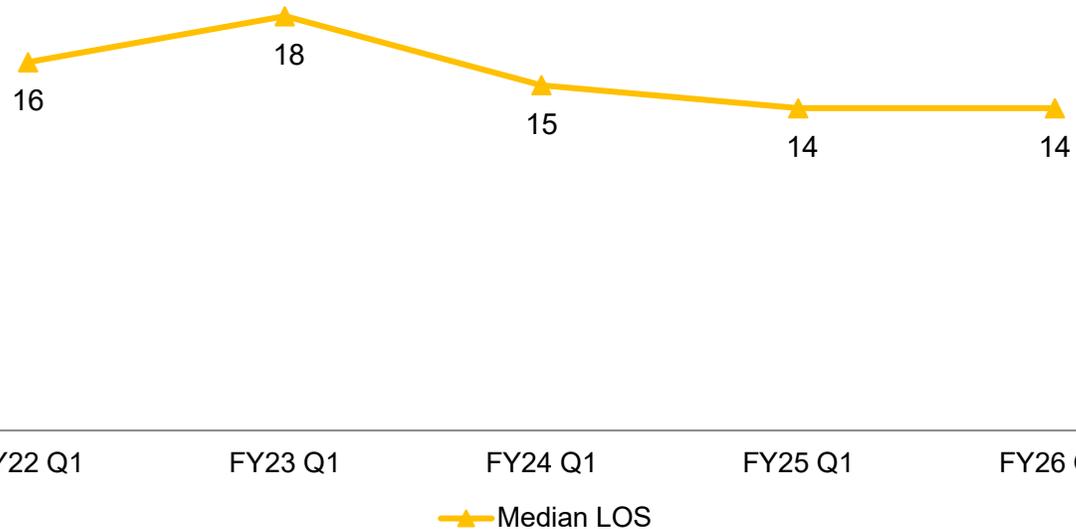
Data run on 10/30/2025
Data is preliminary and may not reflect all discharges as of data run date

V. Juvenile Justice Programs

Juvenile Justice Placement Services



Figure 45. Median Length of Stay (Days) for Youth Exiting the PJJSC



The median length of stay for youth who left the PJJSC in FY26 Q1 was 14 days, showing stability over the last three years.

Data run on 10/30/2025

Median length of stay is used to describe trends in length of stay because averages can be thrown off by very long and short stays.

Youth who entered and exited the PJJSC on the same calendar day were not counted.

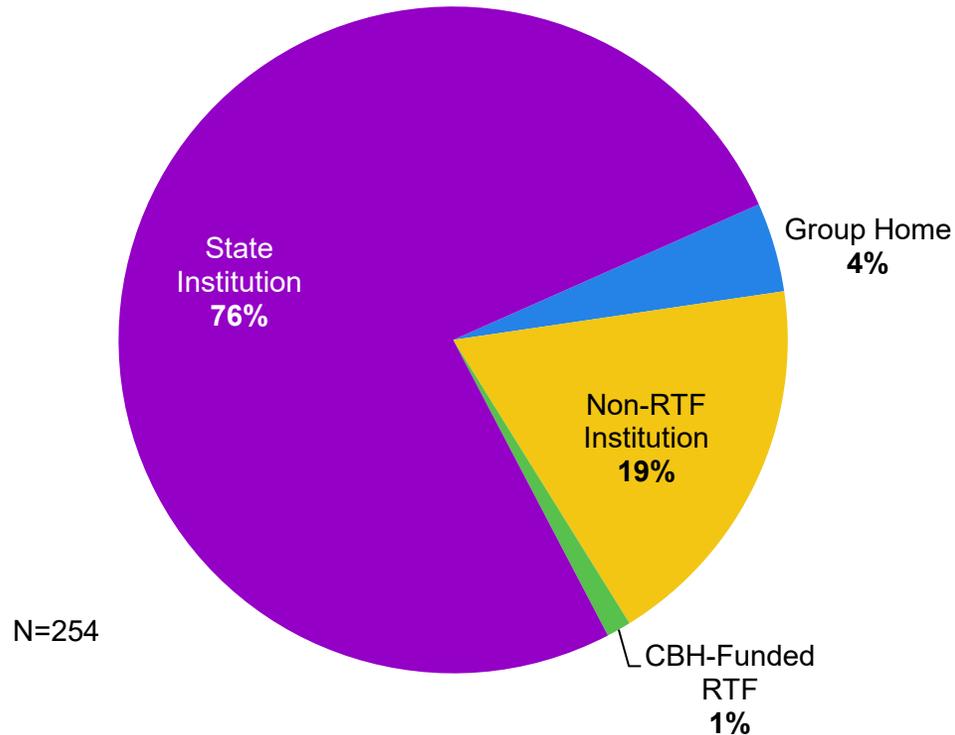
This measure uses an exit cohort which may over represent those youth who leave the PJJSC quickly.

Data is preliminary and may not reflect all discharges as of data run date



Juvenile Justice Placement Services

Figure 46. Children in Delinquent Residential Placement on September 30, 2025



More than three in four (76%) youth placed in Delinquent Residential Placement were in a state institution on September 30, 2025.

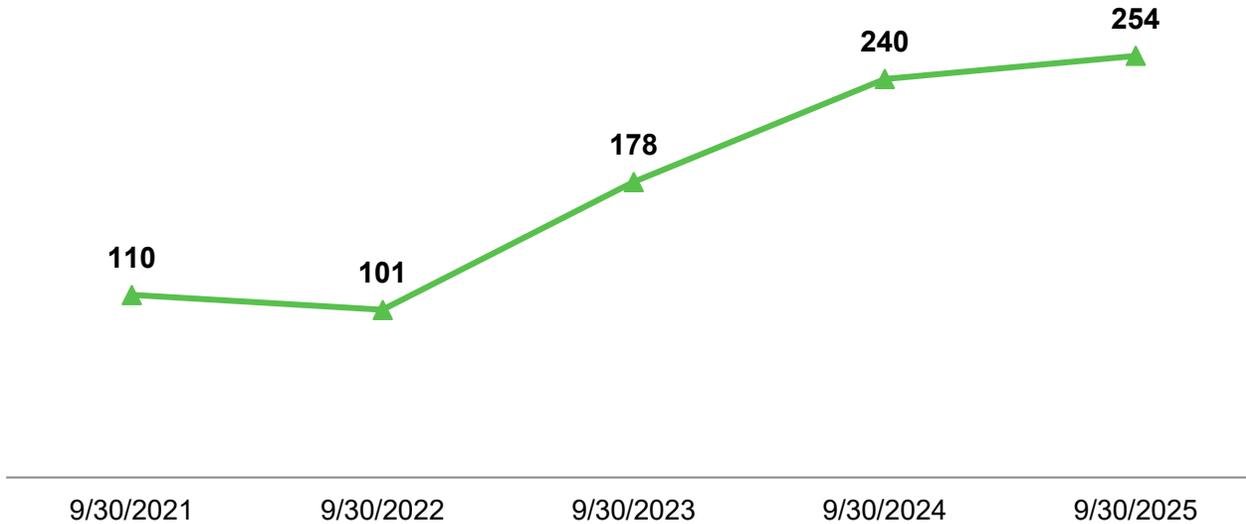
Five percent of youth placed in Delinquent Residential Placement were in Group Home or CBH-Funded RTF settings.

Data run on 10/30/2025



Juvenile Justice Placement Services

Figure 47. Delinquent Residential Placement Totals on September 30 of Each Year



The total number of youth in delinquent residential placement from court ordered treatment, rehabilitation, and supervision has increased each year since 2022, reaching 254 in September 2025.

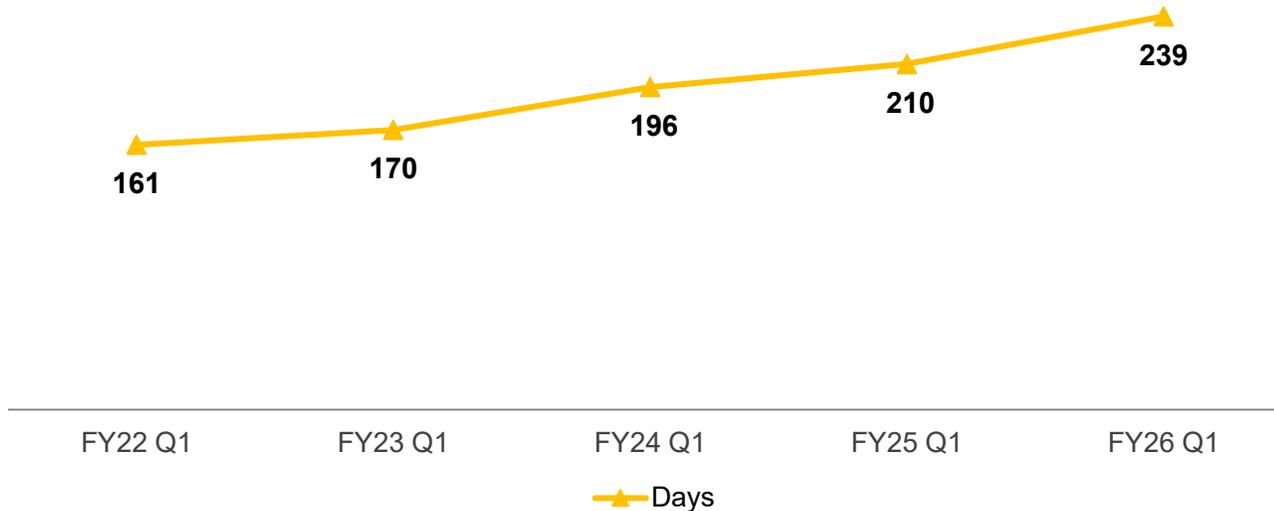
Data run on 10/30/2025

V. Juvenile Justice Programs

Juvenile Justice Placement Services



Figure 48. Median Length of Stay (Days) for Youth Exiting **Delinquent Residential Placement**



The median length of stay for youth who exited Delinquent Residential Placement settings in FY26 Q1 was 239 days, a 46 percent increase over FY22.

Data run on 10/30/2025

Median length of stay (midpoint) is used to describe trends in length of stay over average length of stay, which can be affected by very long and short stayers. Residential Placement placements include Group Homes, CBH-Funded Residential Treatment Facilities (RTFs), Non-RTF Institutions, and State Institutions. This measure uses an exit cohort which may over represent those youth who leave residential placement quickly.

V. Juvenile Justice Programs

Juvenile Justice Placement Services



Table 4. Distance between Residential Placement and City Limits as of September 30, 2025

Distance	# of Facilities	# of Youth
In Philadelphia	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
Within 10 Miles	1 (7%)	1 (<1%)
11 – 50 Miles	1 (7%)	9 (4%)
51 – 100 Miles	3 (21%)	104 (41%)
101 – 200 Miles	4 (29%)	100 (39%)
200 + Miles	4 (29%)	39 (15%)
Data in Process	1 (7%)	1 (<1%)
Total	13	254

No delinquent residential placements were in Philadelphia on September 30, 2025.

Over 95 percent of youth in residential placement were placed at least 50 miles from Philadelphia.

Data run on 10/31/2025

A facility is defined as an agency site and/or campus. Providers with multiple sites within the same Zip code are considered a campus and counted only once. Providers with sites spread across multiple ZIP codes are counted multiple times—once for every ZIP code.

V. Juvenile Justice Programs

Juvenile Justice Programs Summary



Intensive Prevention Services received 338 referrals in FY26 Q1, the most in the past five years. Evening Reporting Centers provided an alternative to detention for 119 youth in FY26 Q1, the most in the past three years.

The number of youth held in detention at the PJJSC decreased, while the number of youth in Delinquent Residential Placement continued to increase.

At 14 days in FY26 Q1, the median length of stay at the PJJSC has remained stable.

Delinquent Residential Placement length of stay increased to 239 days in FY26 Q1.



DHS served more children and youth in their own homes and communities through prevention programs and alternatives to detention. The overall number of youth in delinquent Residential Placement increased and most delinquent Residential Placement facilities for JJ-involved youth were far from Philadelphia.



Additional OCF Programs



Glossary of Terms



The Office of Children and Families (OCF) administers additional City-supported programs regarding Children and Family Support and Early Childhood Education.

- **Out of School Time (OST)** – Aligned with School District of Philadelphia (SDP) goals, OST has three age-based models; the elementary school model focuses on literacy, the middle school model focuses on career exposure, and the high school model focuses on career experience.
- **Career Connected Learning (C2L)** - C2L is a joint effort between the City, Philadelphia Works, and the SDP. C2L offers youth and young adults ages 12-24 paid, work-based career exposure, exploration, and skill development. Youth participate in internships, service-learning projects, career exposure and exploration, professional development, mentoring, and job shadowing. Additionally, students enrolled in High School OST programs participate in C2L activities where they can earn incentives for participation and meeting program goals.

Glossary of Terms (continued)

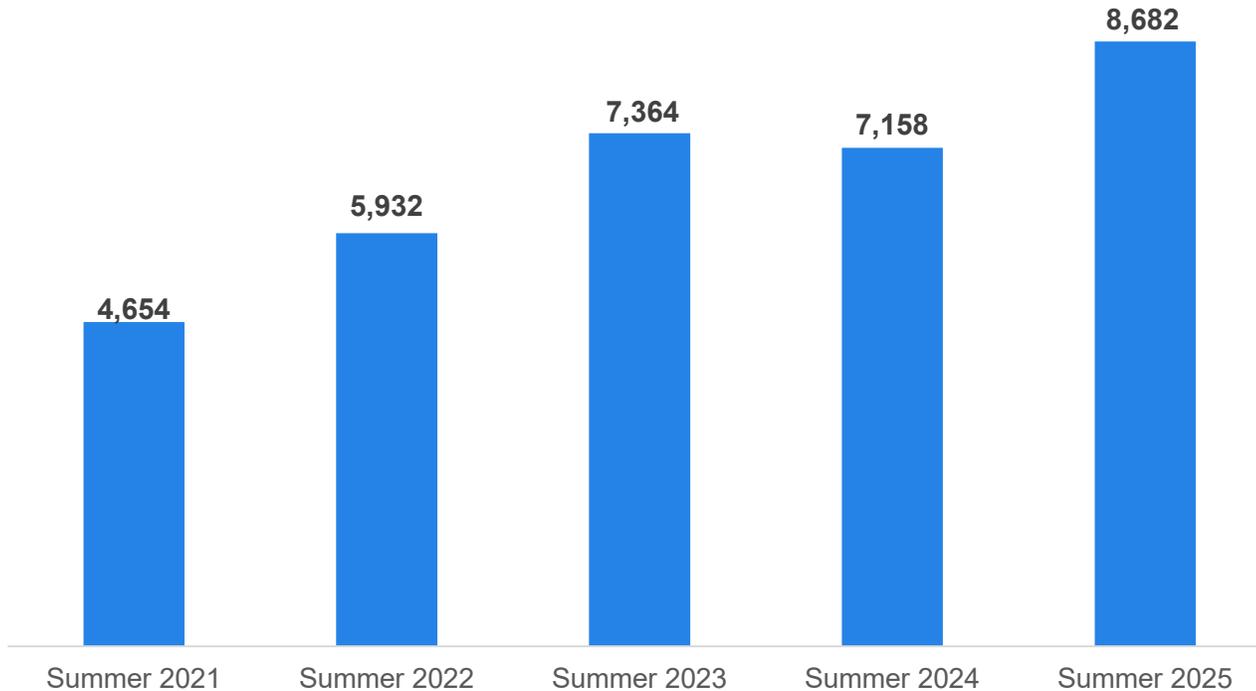


- **Truancy Intervention and Prevention Services (TIPS) Early Intervention** – At designated schools, Truancy Case Managers connect with truant youth and their families with the goal of promoting attendance and diverting youth from Truancy Court. This service is for students that are beginning to accrue unexcused absences to prevent additional truancy and more formal involvement in the child welfare system.
- **Education Support Center (ESC)** - The Education Support Center collaborates with cross-system partners to minimize educational disruptions, address learning barriers, and align supports for children and youth involved with DHS.
- **PHLpreK** - PHLpreK is the City of Philadelphia’s free, quality pre-K program, supported by the Philadelphia Beverage Tax. All of Philadelphia’s children who are 3 or 4 years old are eligible. There are no income or employment requirements.

VI. Additional OCF Programs

Out of School Time (OST)

Figure 49. Summer OST Attendance



Over 8,600 youth attended OST programming in Summer 2025, including 1,241 High School OST participants who took part in C2L programming.

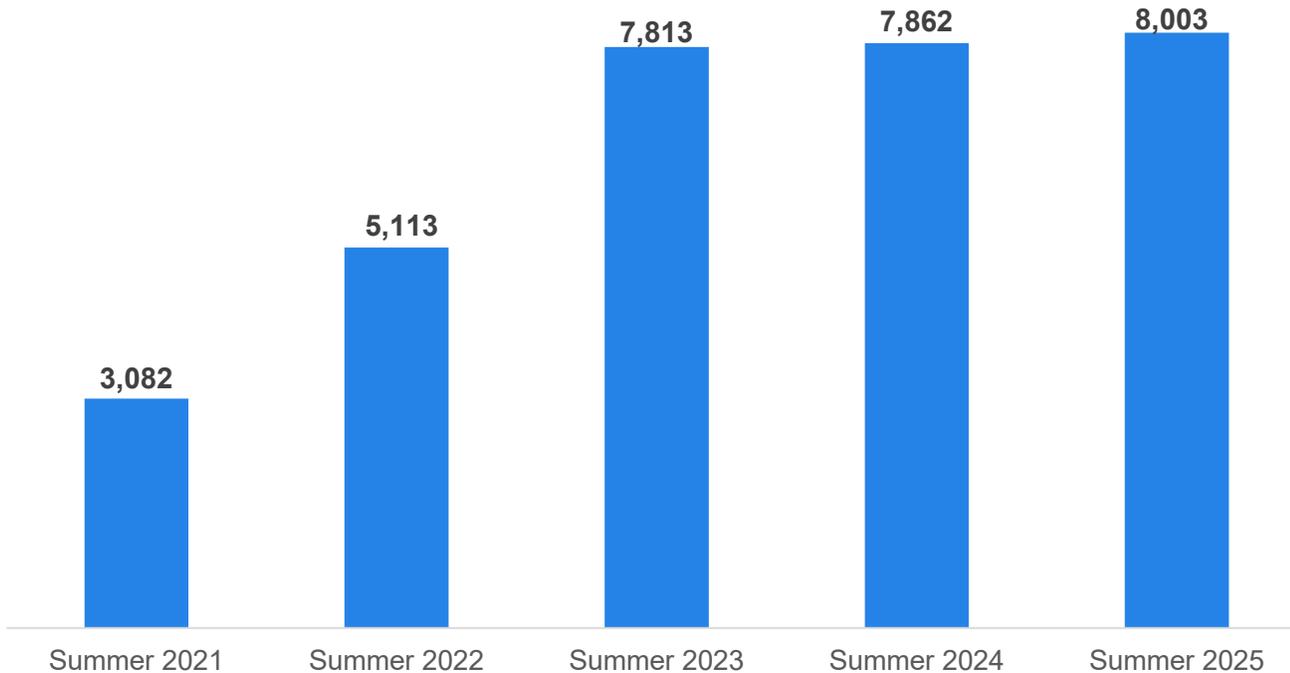
Since 2021, attendance has increased 87 percent.

Data run on 8/31/2025
School Year OST is reported in Q2-Q4.

VI. Additional OCF Programs

Career Connected Learning (C2L)

Figure 50. Summer C2L Attendance



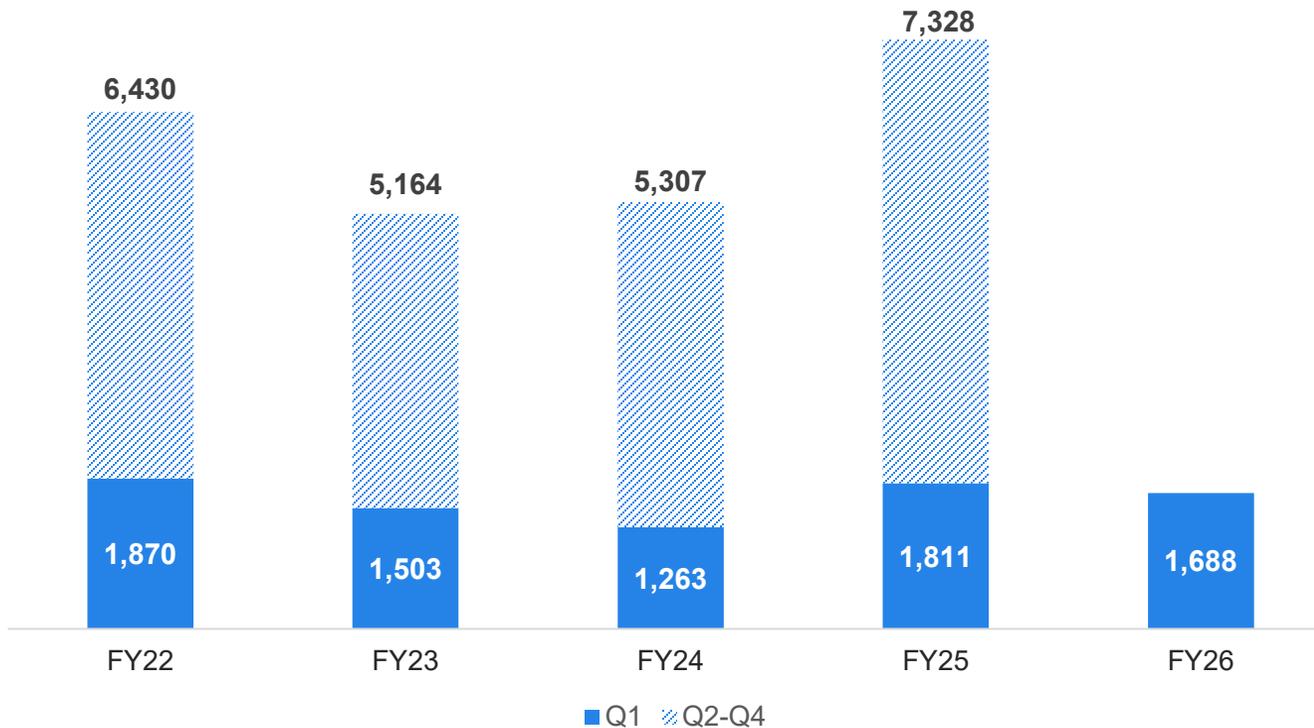
In Summer 2025, over 8,000 youth participated in C2L programming, a slight increase from the previous summer, and a 160 percent increase from 2021.

Data provided by JEVS Human Services in October 2025. Prior to Summer 2024, C2L was referred to as WorkReady and was facilitated by Philadelphia Youth Network.

VI. Additional OCF Programs

Education Support Center (ESC)

Figure 51. Education Stability Consults



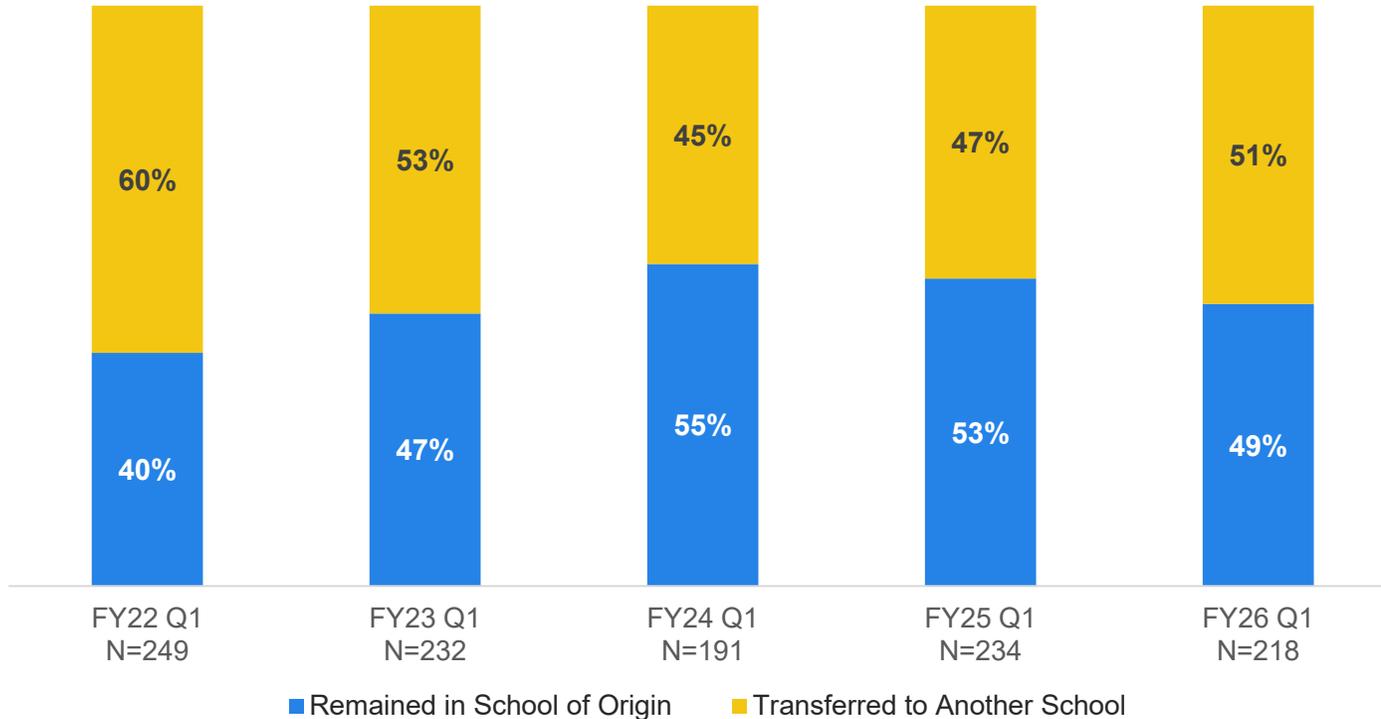
In FY26 Q1, 1,688 education stability consults were requested for students, a slight decrease from FY25 Q1.

Data run on 8/15/2025, 9/15/2025, and 10/15/2025
Consults can be requested to support students with concrete goods and academic records requests, a Best Interest Determination conference, or a general education consult.

VI. Additional OCF Programs

Education Support Center (ESC)

Figure 52. Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) Best Interest Determination (BID) Conferences



Of the 218 youth who had ESSA BID conferences because they were in dependent placement with DHS in FY26 Q1, 49 percent remained in their school of origin during their placement.

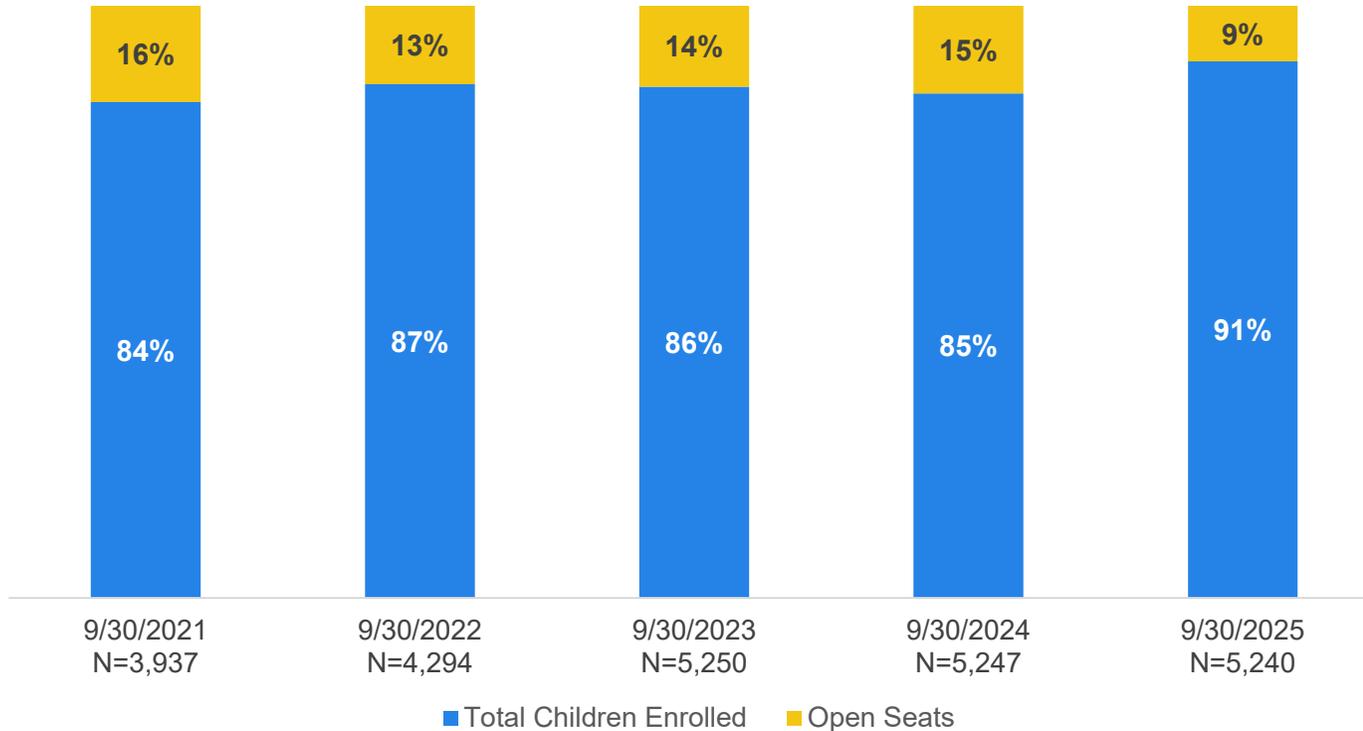
Data run on 10/29/2025

The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) provides all children and youth in foster care with core protections for school stability and access. Best Interest Determination (BID) Conferences are held for children entering placement to determine if the child should remain in their school of origin and what supports they will need to do so.

VI. Additional OCF Programs

PHLpreK

Figure 53. Allocated Seat and Enrollment Data



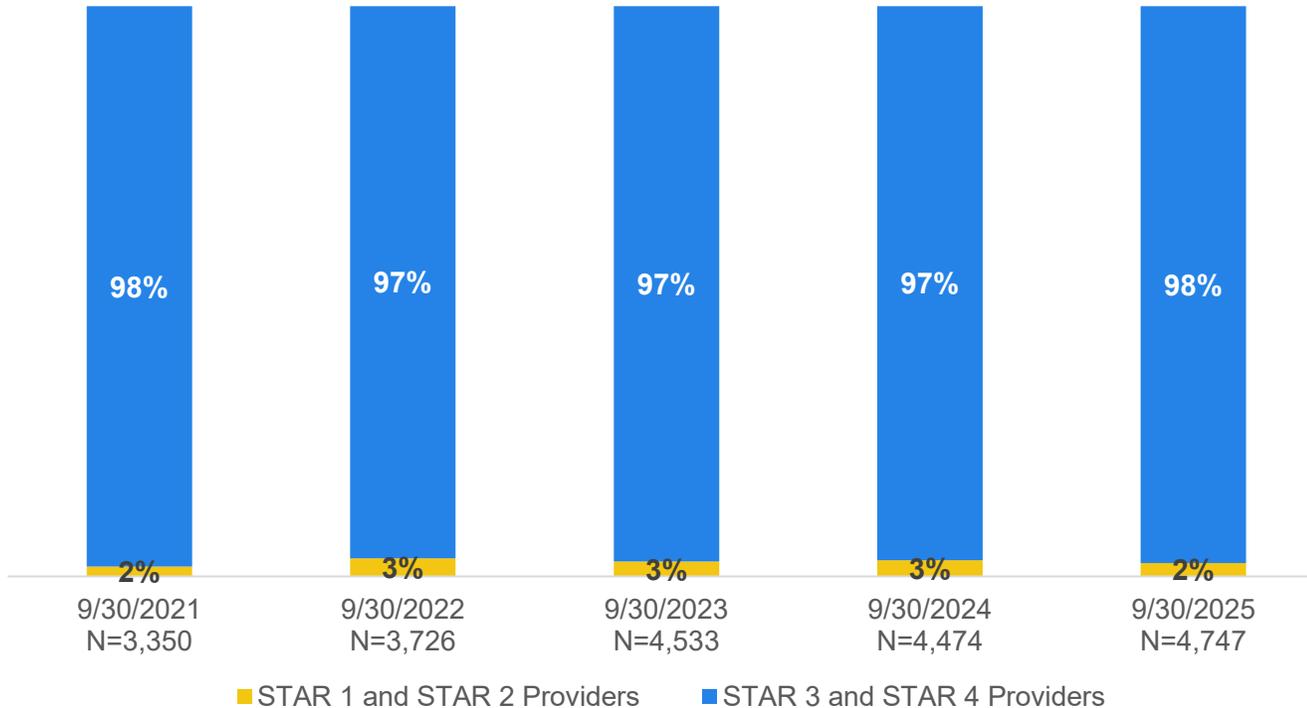
At the end of FY26 Q1, there were 4,747 children enrolled in PHLpreK, filling 91 percent of the total allocated seats (N=5,240).

Data from 9/29/2025 PHLpreK Enrollment Report

VI. Additional OCF Programs

PHLpreK

Figure 54. PHLpreK Enrollment by Provider STAR Rating on September 30, 2025



At the end of FY26 Q1, over 4,600 children were enrolled in STAR 3 and STAR 4 PHLpreK programs, representing 98 percent of all enrolled children.

The percentage of STAR 3 and 4 programs increased from 97 percent in FY25 Q1.

Data from 9/29/2025 PHLpreK Enrollment Report.
Keystone STARS (Standards, Training/Professional Development, Assistance, Resources, and Supports) is a quality rating system that promotes quality improvement in early learning and development programs and school-age childcare.

VI. Additional OCF Programs

Additional OCF Programs Summary



The number of youth attending OST programs, including C2L, continued to increase.

Following an ESSA BID conference, the number of youth remaining in their school of origin while in dependent DHS placement fell below the number transferring to another school in Q1 of FY26.

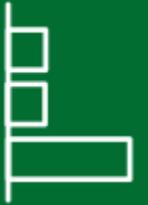
The percentage and number of youth enrolled in high-quality public PreK programs continued to increase.



Overall, OCF programs regarding Children and Family Support and Early Childhood Education continue to see increases in enrollment and attendance.



Progress on Disproportionality



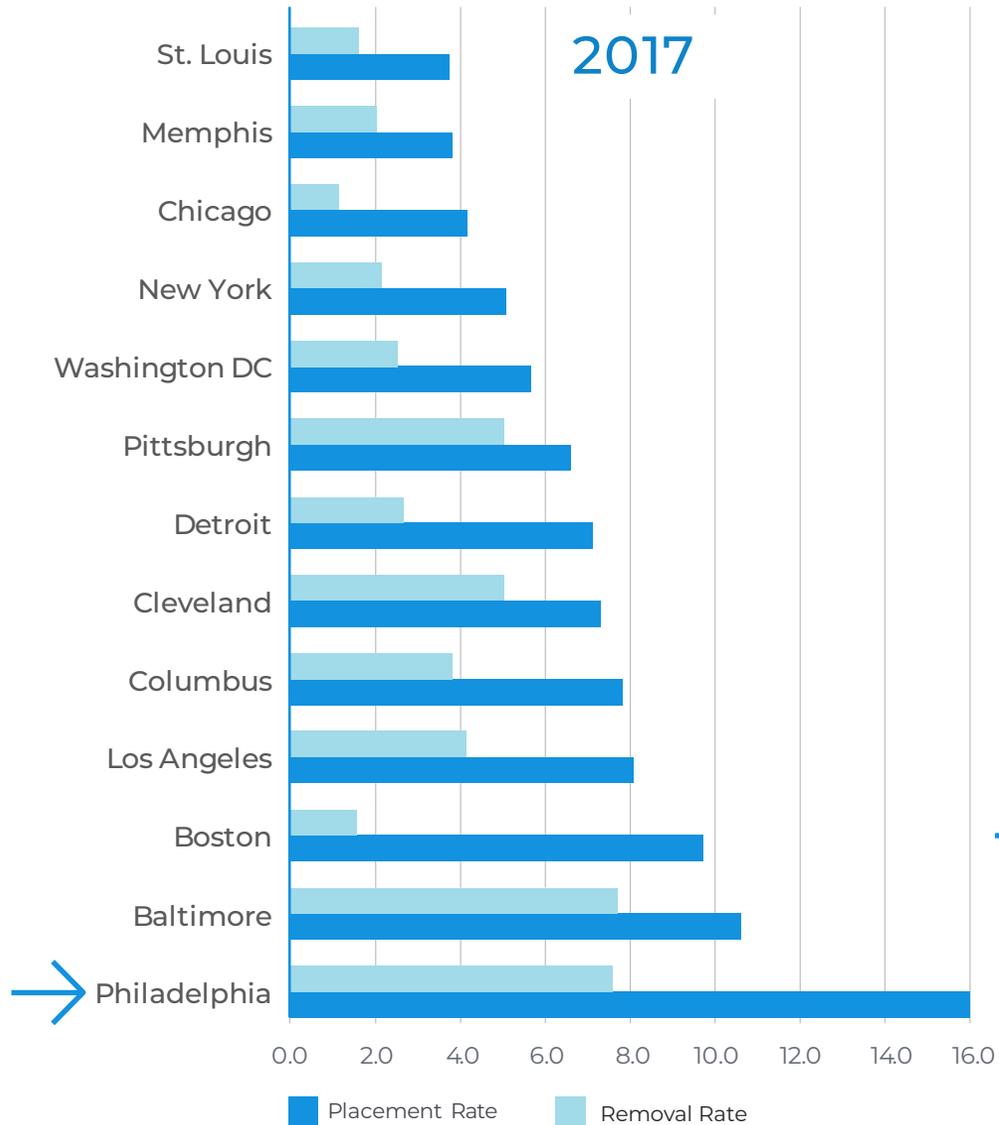
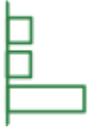


Addressing Racial Disparities and Promoting Equity

Racial disparities persist in DHS-involvement at all levels of service, with Black families, children, and youth being disproportionately represented in both dependent and juvenile justice services.

- Findings from the Entry Rate and Disproportionality Study show that these racial disparities begin at the point of Hotline and persist across the service trajectory. The study also found that predominantly Black neighborhoods that are more affected by both social and structural risk factors, such as a history of red-lining and disinvestment, are over-surveilled with disproportionately high reports to DHS' Hotline.
- To address racial disparities, DHS has strived to embrace upstream, cross-sector interventions that work to support families and address pervasive resource deprivation across communities.
- The following slides show the progress DHS has made in addressing the entry rate and racial disparities in both dependent and juvenile justice services.

VII. Progress on Disproportionality

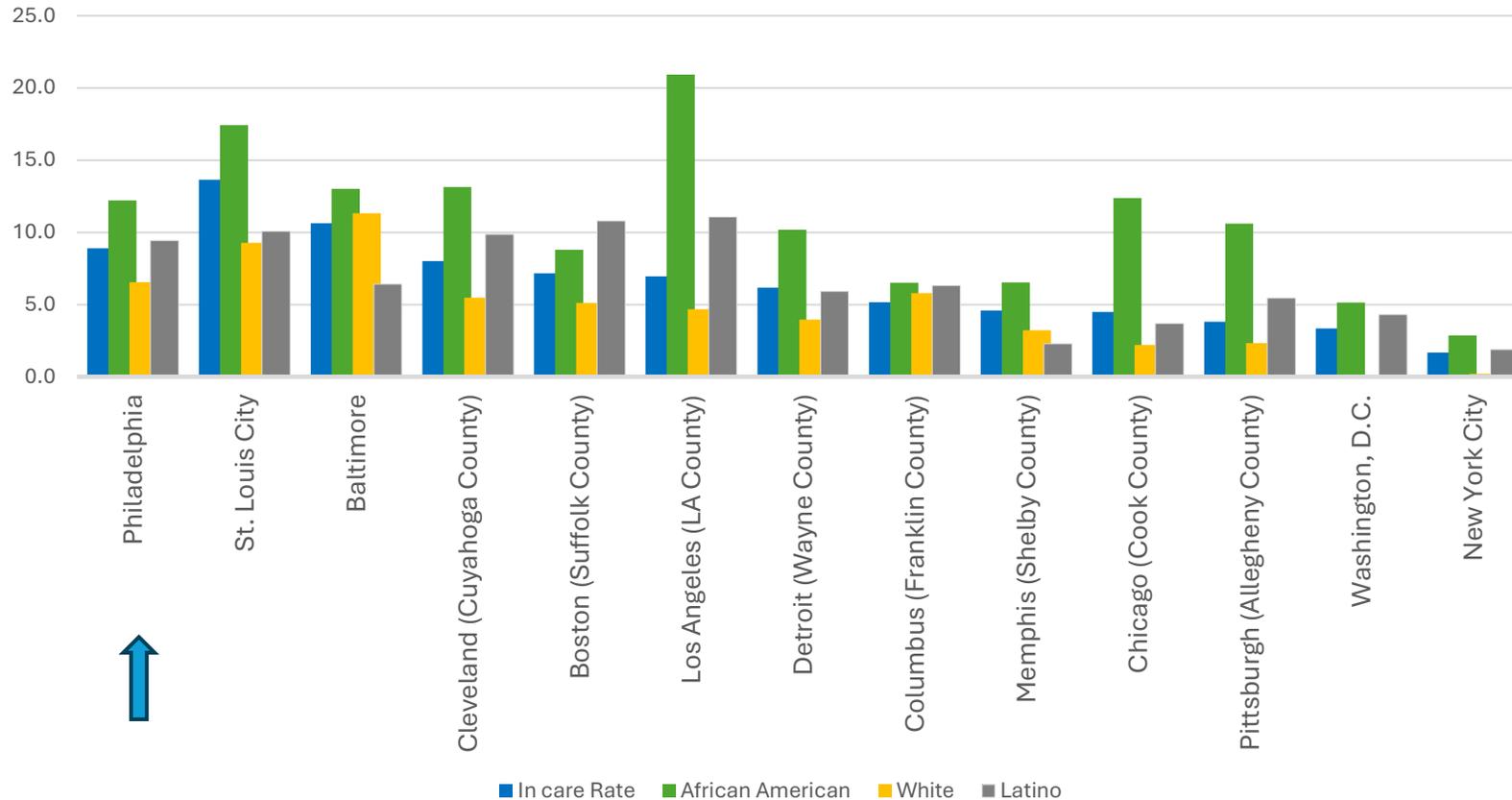


Data drawn from the 2017 and 2023 AFCARS, and the 2017 and 2023 Census.

VII. Progress on Disproportionality

Race of Youth in Placement Across Cities

Figure 56. In-placement Rates per 1,000 Youth in 2023



In the most recently publicly available data, 12.2 per 1,000 Black youth were in placement, while the rate for White youth was only 6.6.

Data drawn from the 2017 and 2023 AFCARS, and the 2017 and 2023 Census.

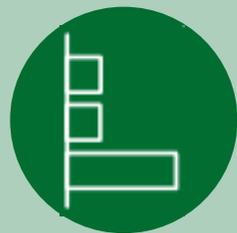
VII. Progress on Disproportionality

Disproportionality Progress Summary



Philadelphia DHS' focus on working to families' strengths and serving children in their homes and communities is creating a more proportionate system of Child Welfare, leading to placement and removal rates that are better aligned with other systems nationally.

Black children in Philadelphia are still more likely than White children to be involved in the child welfare system, but by improving services for all children, this disproportionality is decreasing.



While Philadelphia DHS has more work to do improving services for families and children in the city, progress is being made toward a higher quality system for all.

Thank you.



Office of
Children and Families
CITY OF PHILADELPHIA

Department of Human Services

