



# Quarterly Indicators Report



Fiscal Year 2026 Quarter 2

October 1, 2025 – December 31, 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).

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## 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 accepted for DHS services

In the second 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, nine 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 second quarter, 172 dependent youth in placement were in professionally operated dependent residential placement facilities. There has been a 38 percent decline in youth in dependent residential placement since December 2021.

# Executive Summary



## Strengths: More Children Supported in their Own Communities

Focusing on keeping children with kin

Over two in five (43%) children and youth not in their own homes on December 31, 2025, were in kinship care, just under the percentage of children and youth in foster care (44%) and higher than the percentage in 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 44 percent since December 2021.



## Area of Focus: Room for Growth in Reunification and Permanency

Opportunities to grow reunification and get youth to permanency

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

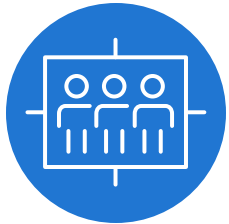
# Executive Summary



## Area of Focus: Recruiting and Retaining Staff

Staff turnover at CUAs remains a opportunity for improvement

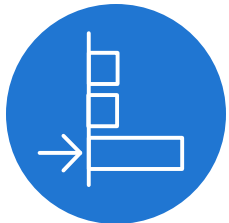
Four of ten CUA providers are still working to increase recruitment and decrease turnover. DHS and CUA are engaged in multiple strategies to improve recruitment and retention at these CUAs including efforts to make caseload averages more equal.



## 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 37 percent since December 31, 2022, the number of youth placed and the median stay in delinquent residential placement has increased.



## In Progress: Supporting the Focus on Kensington

Services for families in the Kensington area are a focus for the agency

The Kensington area has dozens of sites where youth and families can get the services they need. DHS is focusing on ways to better serve youth and families in the neighborhood, including youth already in contact with the system.



# Hotline and Investigations

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# Glossary of Terms

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**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)

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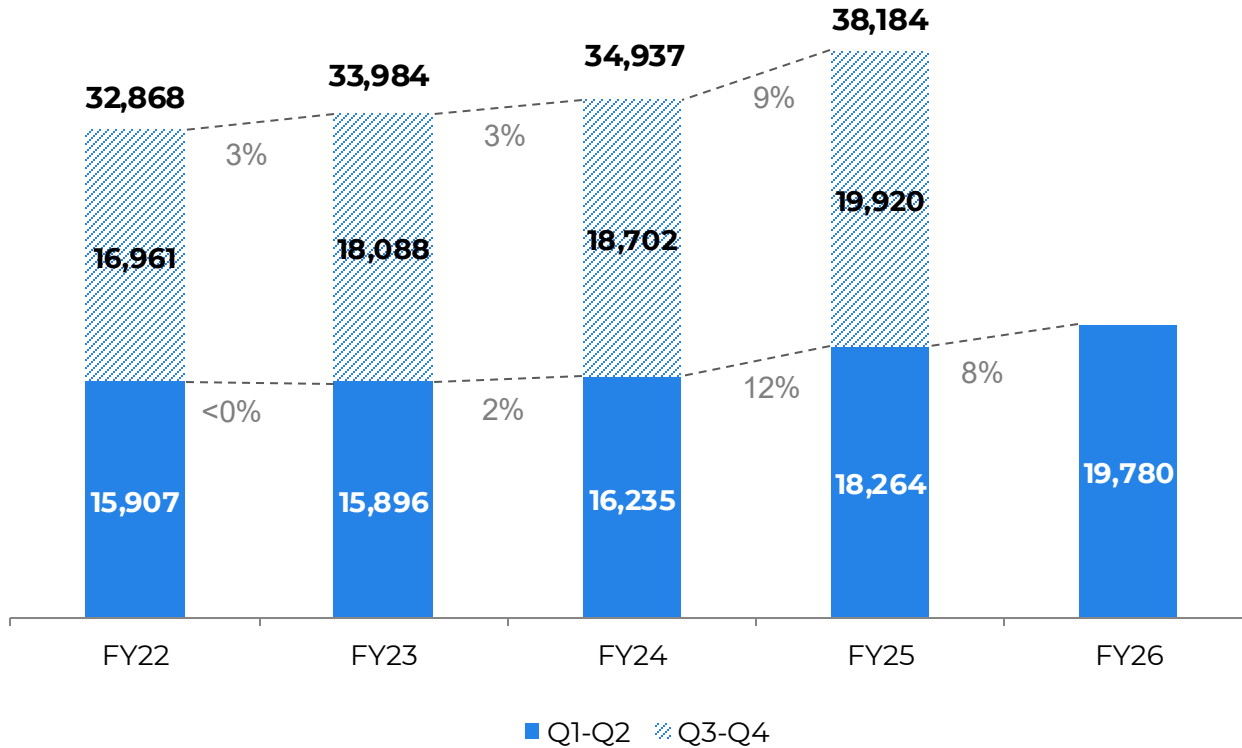
### Hotline and Investigations - Counts and Measures

- **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



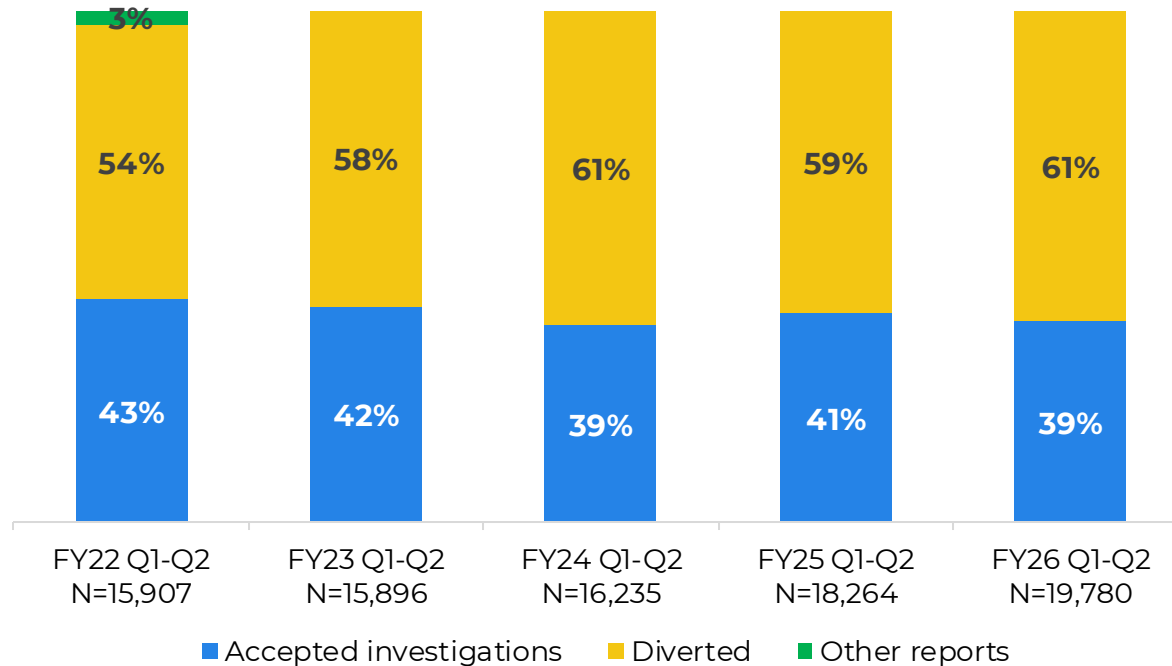
There were 19,780 reports to the Hotline in the first half of FY26, an eight percent increase compared to the first half of FY25.

Data run 1/9/2026

## I. Hotline

# Hotline Decisions

Figure 2. Hotline Action



Continuing the trend of diverting more Hotline reports than accepting for investigation, more than three of every five (61%) reports were diverted in FY26 Q1-Q2.

In FY26 Q1-Q2, fewer than two of every five (39%) reports were accepted for investigation, equaling the first half of FY24 as the lowest in recent years.

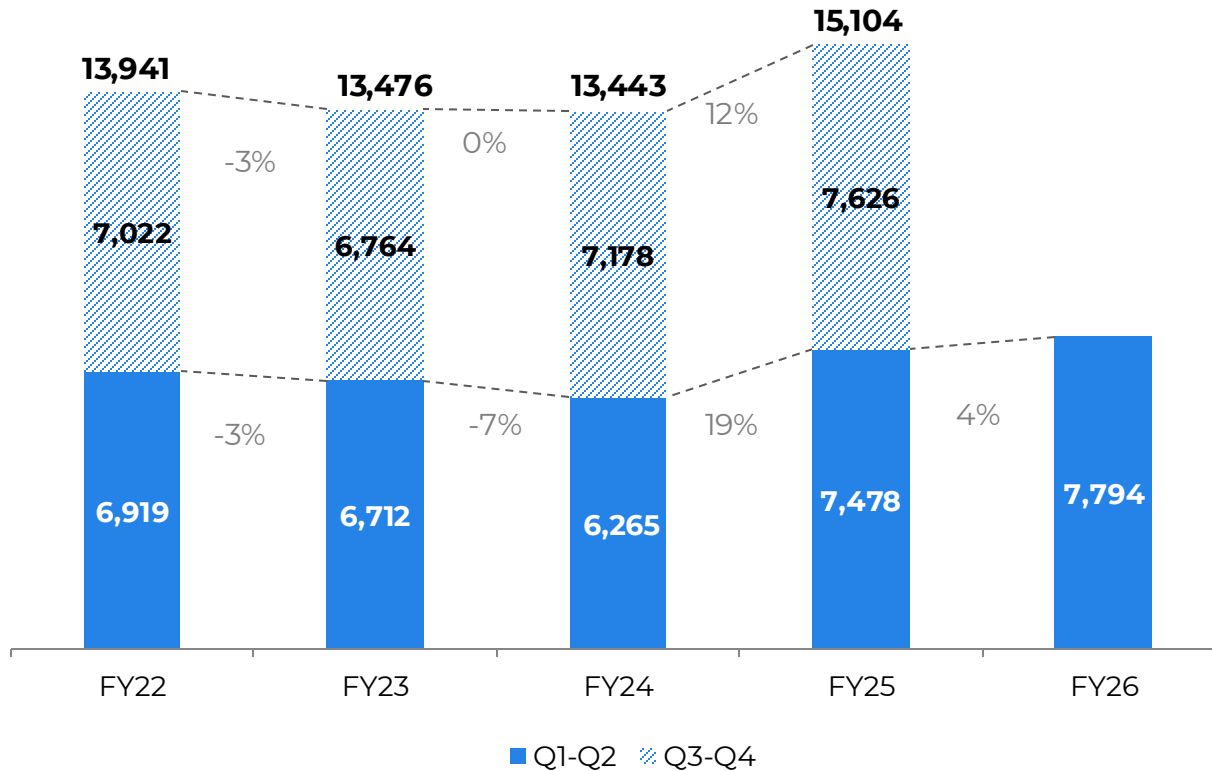
Data run 1/9/2026

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



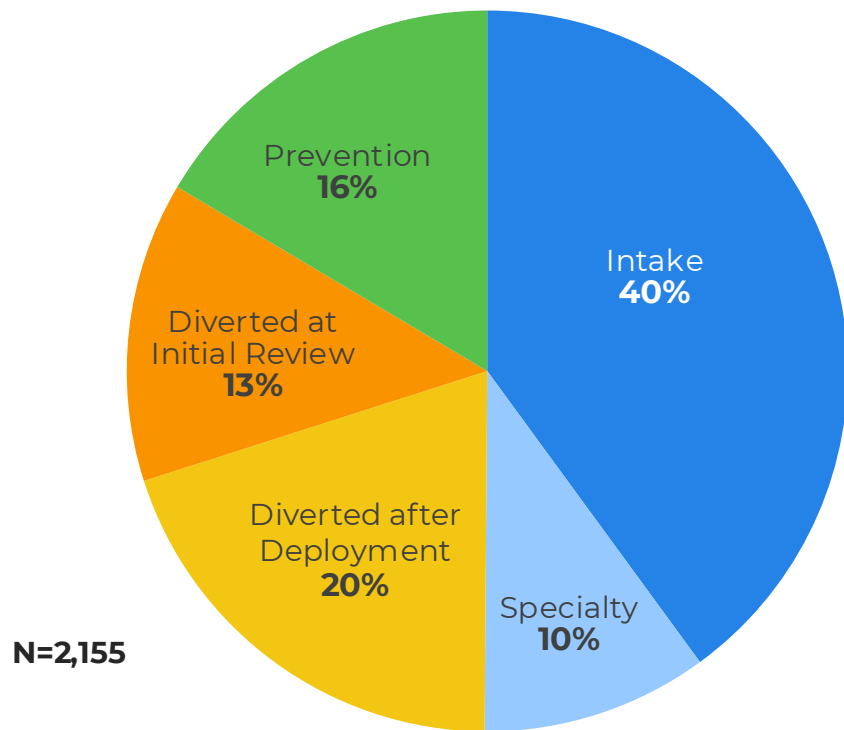
In FY26 Q1-Q2, there were 7,794 investigations, a four percent increase from the same time in FY25.

Data run 1/9/2026

## I. Hotline

# Hotline Decisions

Figure 4. Secondary Diversions by Type



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In FY26 Q1-Q2, 2,155 reports were sent to the secondary diversion unit, and half (50%, N=1,075) were diverted.

One in three (33%, N=720) reports were diverted at initial review or after deploying Hotline staff.

Nearly one in six (16%, N=355) reports were referred to Prevention services.

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Half (50%, N=1,080) of secondary-diversion reports were sent to Intake or Specialty Investigations.

Data run 1/9/2026

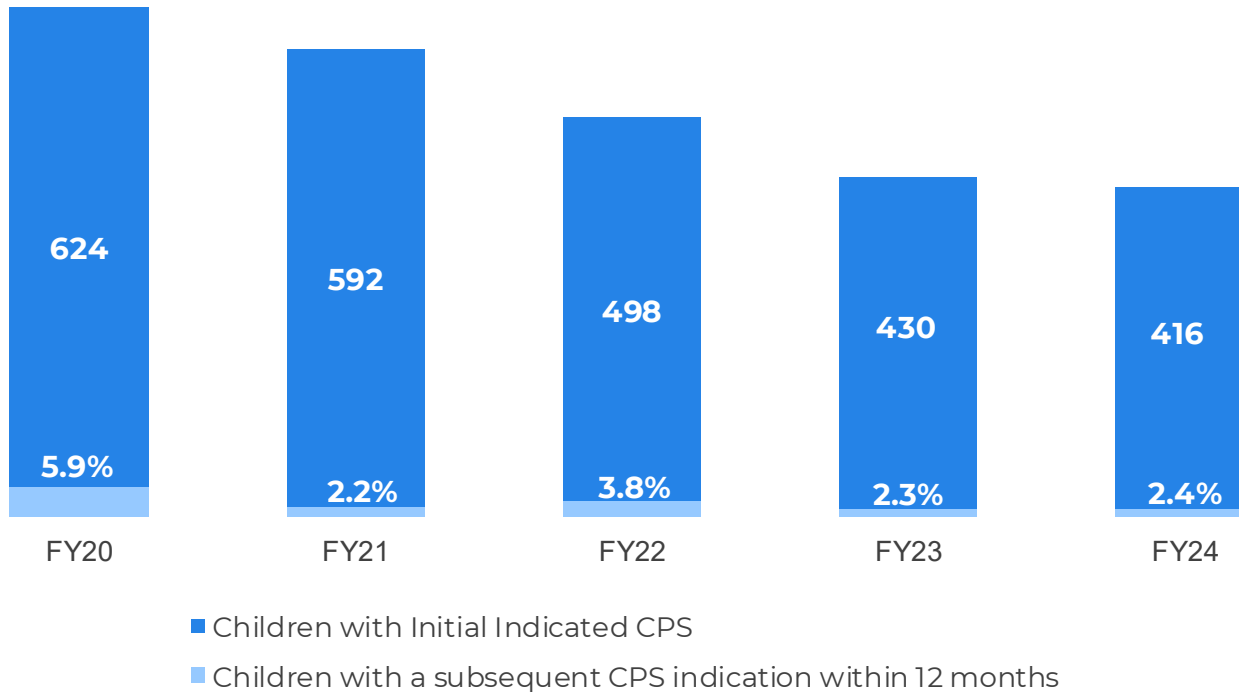
Percentages for this figure have been rounded to the nearest whole number, so total may not equal 100%

## 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 the repeat maltreatment can happen anytime for one year after the initial report, the data take a full year to come to maturity. These data are updated once a year based on the Federal fiscal year of October 1<sup>st</sup> to September 30<sup>th</sup>.

## I. Hotline

# Hotline and Investigations Summary



In FY26 Q1-Q2, the total number of reports to the DHS Hotline of suspected abuse and neglect increased by eight percent from the same period the previous year.

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Of these reports, 39 percent were accepted for investigation, a slight decrease from previous years.

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At 61 percent in FY26 Q1-Q2, 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

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## 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.

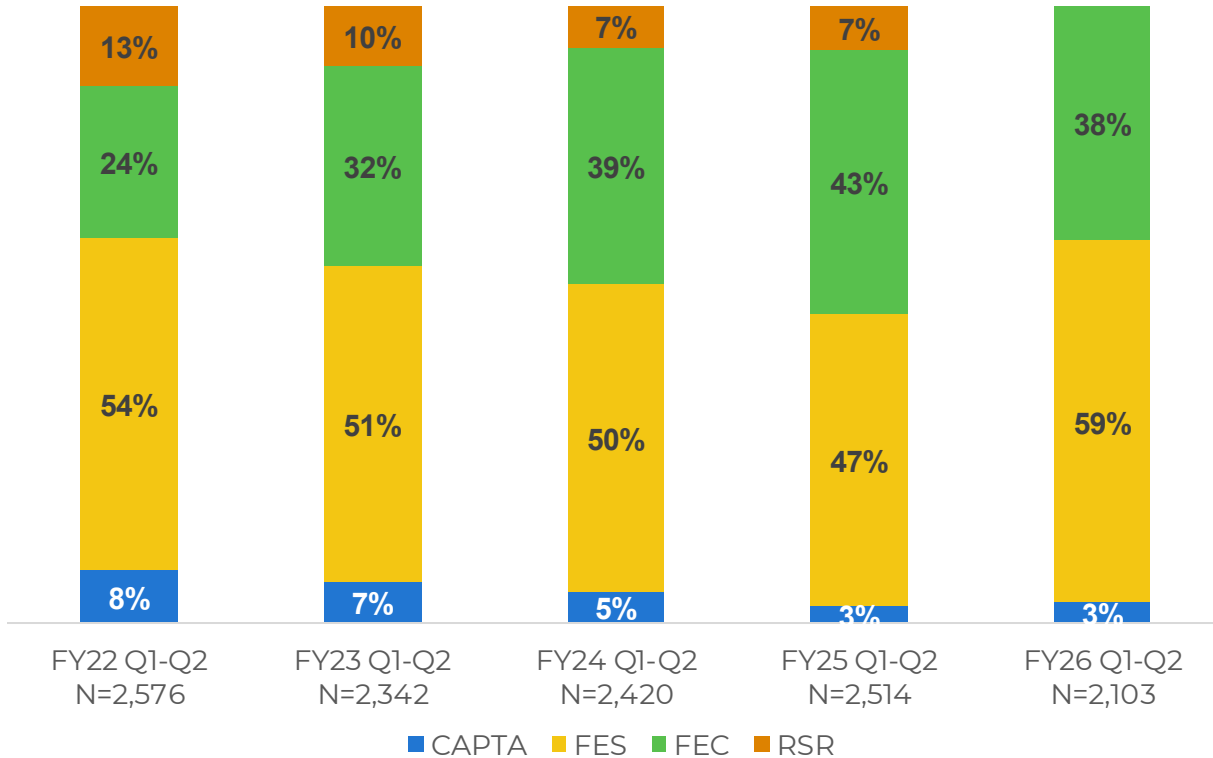
### Measures

- **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-Q2, 2,103 families were referred to DHS Prevention programs, a 16 percent decrease from the total referrals in the first half of FY25.

Family Empowerment Services (FES) and Family Empowerment Centers (FEC) received 97 percent of FY26 Q1-Q2 referrals.

Data run on 1/22/2026

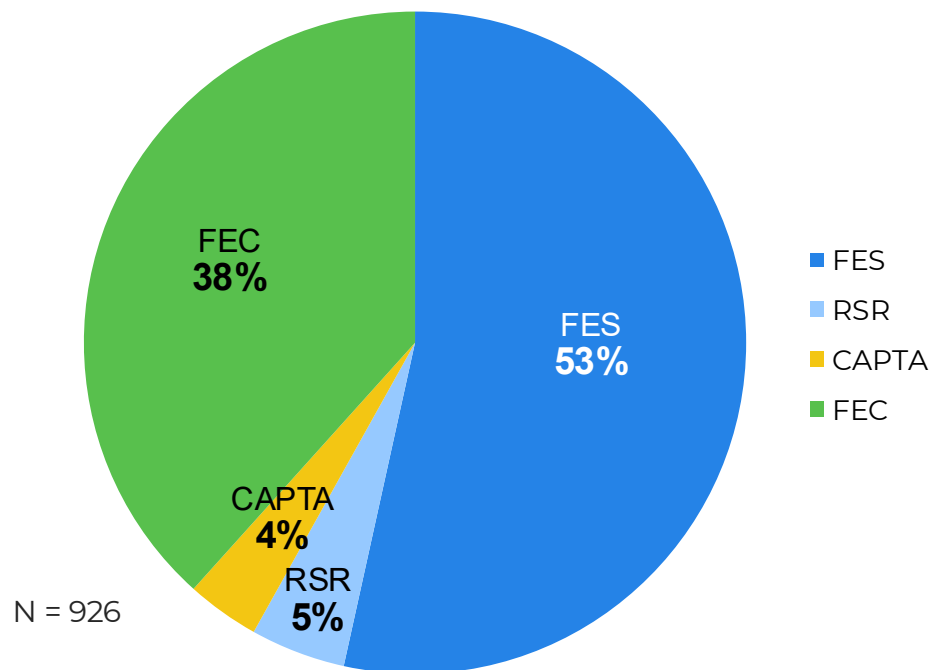
There is no RSR percentage in FY26 due to the service being temporarily unavailable.

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.

## II. DHS Prevention Programs

# Total Families Served

Figure 7. Total Families Served by DHS Prevention Programs in FY26 Q1-Q2 by Program



In FY26 Q1-Q2, 926 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 over 90 percent of families receiving prevention services.

Data run 1/22/2026

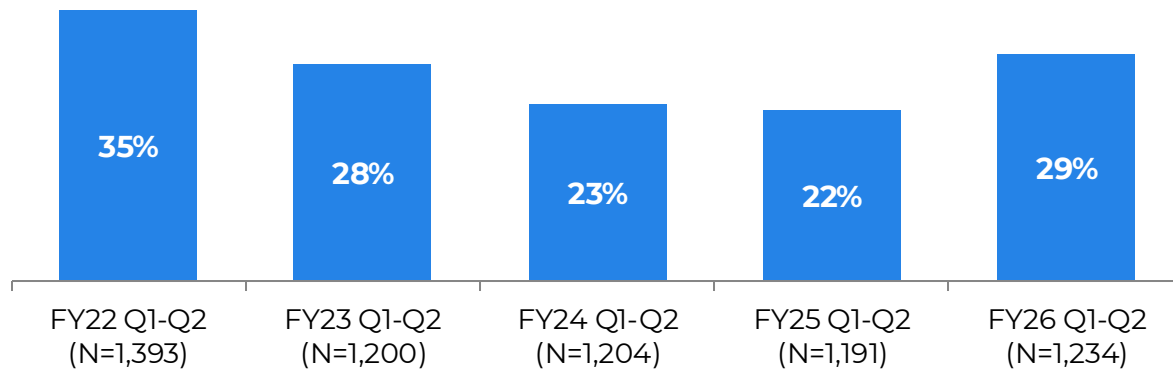
## II. DHS Prevention Programs

# 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 1,234 families referred to FES in FY26 Q1-Q2, over a quarter of families (29%) voluntarily enrolled in services, the highest rate in the past four years.

Data run on 1/22/2026

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

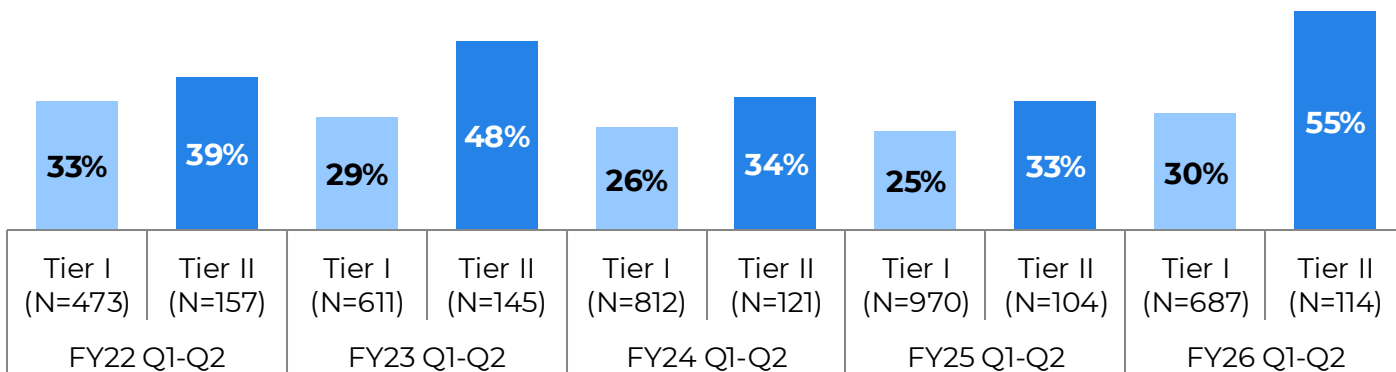
## II. DHS Prevention Programs

# 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-Q2, nearly one in three Tier I families and over half Tier II families voluntarily enrolled in FEC services, both exceeding the rates from the previous year.

Data run on 1/22/2026

\*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 2,103 in the first half of FY26, with FES and FEC receiving 97% of referrals.

The percent of families referred to Prevention programs that voluntarily enrolled in services increased in the first half of FY 2026. The rate for families referred to FES and FEC reached 29 and 55 percent, respectively.



**Overall, at the end of FY26 Q2, DHS Prevention programs served 926 families in their own homes to prevent formal involvement with DHS.**



# Dependent Services

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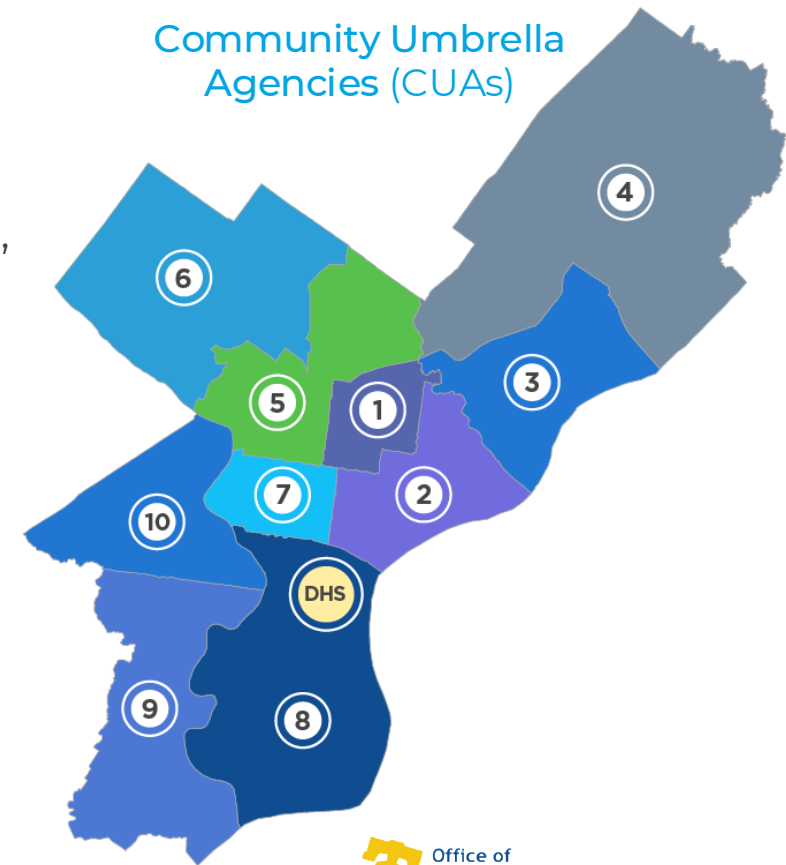


## Glossary of Terms



**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)



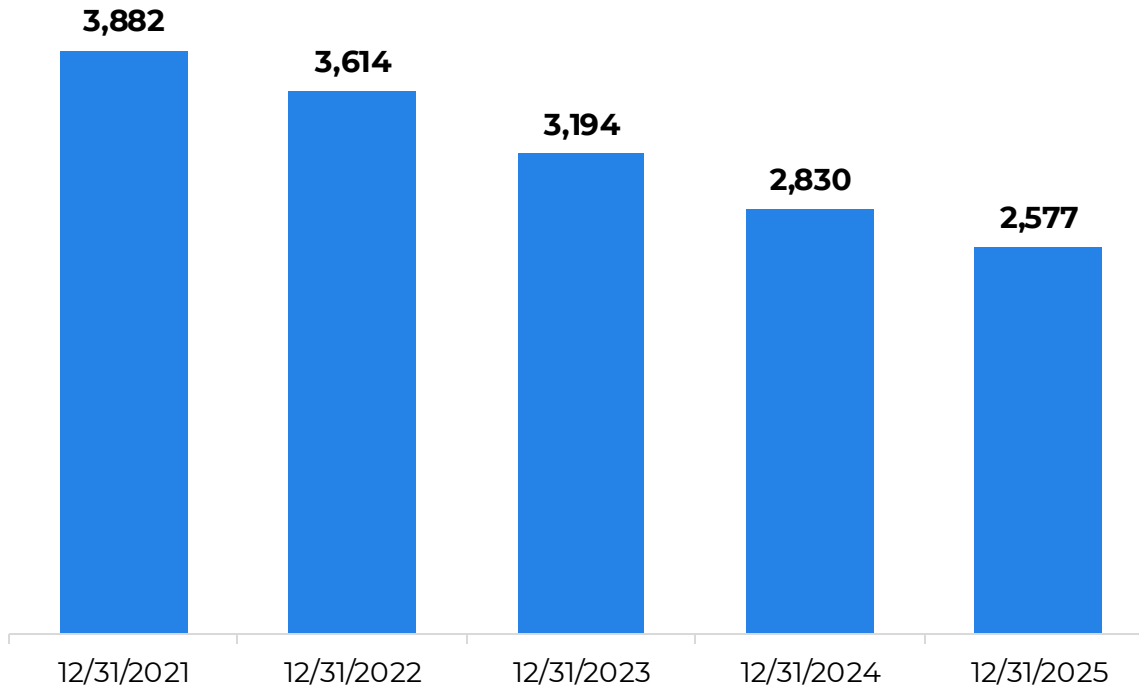
### Dependent Services Placement Types and Measures

- **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 December 31, 2025



There were 2,577 families open for service on December 31, 2025.

The number of families open for service has declined 34 percent since FY21.

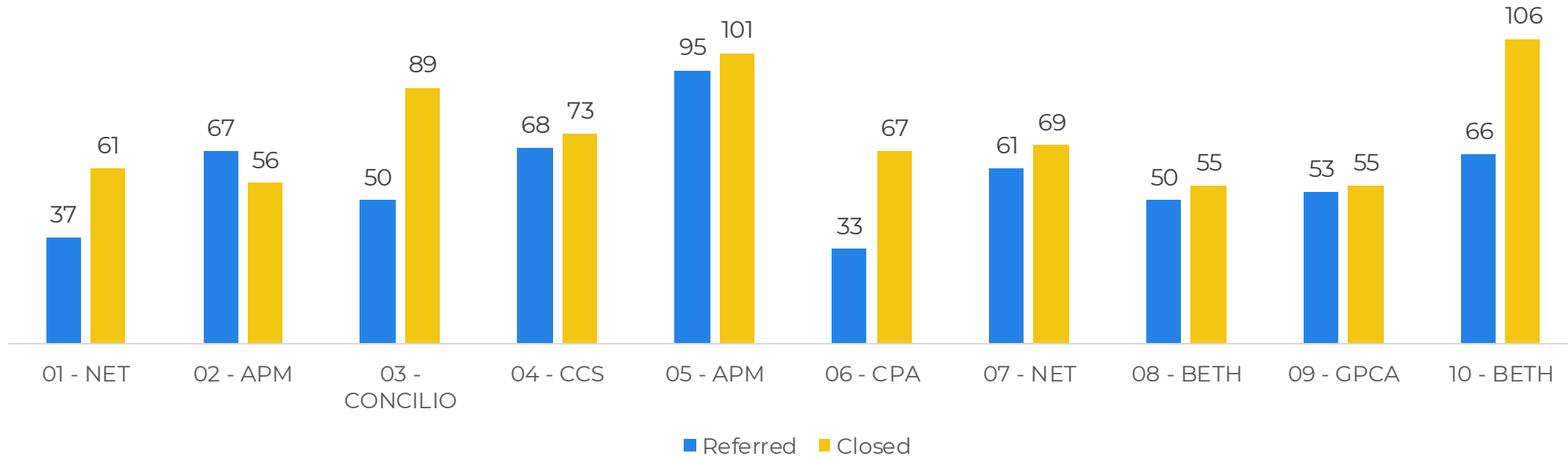
Data run on 1/12/2026

### III. Dependent Services



## Families Accepted for Service and Families Closed

Figure 11. Families Referred and Closed in FY26 Q2, by CUA



In FY26 Q2, nine 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 1/12/2026

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

### III. Dependent Services

## Caseload



Table 1. Case Management Workers' Caseload Distribution on December 31, 2025

CUA	Total Workers	Total Cases	Median Caseload	Average Caseload
01 - NET	24	235	11	10
02 - APM	17	217	16	13
03 - CONCILIO	23	267	12	12
04 - CCS	20	190	10	10
05 - APM	26	328	16	13
06 - CPA	25	180	9	7
07 - NET	30	255	9	9
08 - BETH	24	243	10	10
09 - GPCA	36	231	7	6
10 - BETH	41	247	6	6
<b>Overall</b>	<b>266</b>	<b>2,393</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>9</b>

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The median caseload for CUAs was nine cases per worker.

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CUA 10 had the lowest median caseload (6), and CUAs 2 and 5 had the highest at 16.

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CUA 5 had the largest number of total cases at 328.

Data run on 1/9/2026

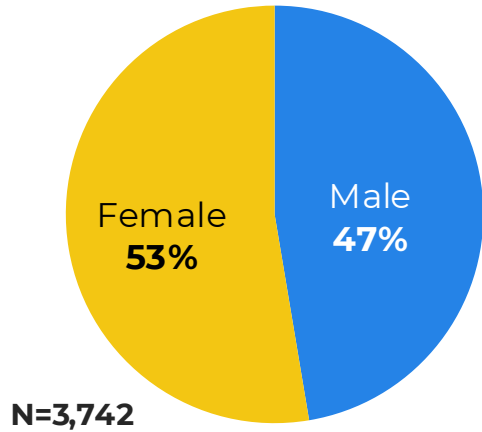
Cases that did not have a case manager designated in the electronic database at the time data were run were excluded from the analysis.

### III. Dependent Services

## Sex of Dependent Youth – December 31, 2025

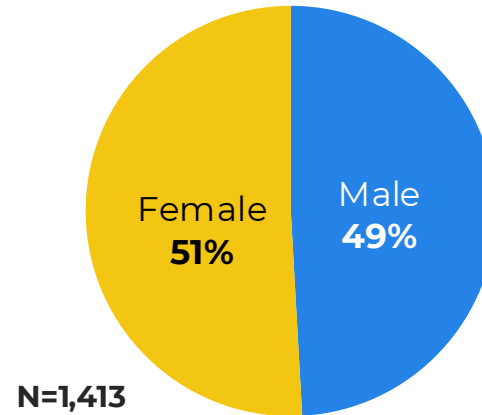


Figure 12. Sex of All Dependent Youth



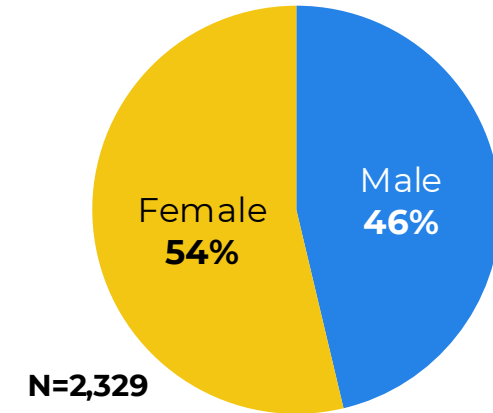
On December 31, 2025, there were slightly more female than male children and youth receiving dependent services.

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



On December 31, 2025, females made up 51 percent of In-Home youth and 54 percent of youth in placement.

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



Data run on 1/12/2026

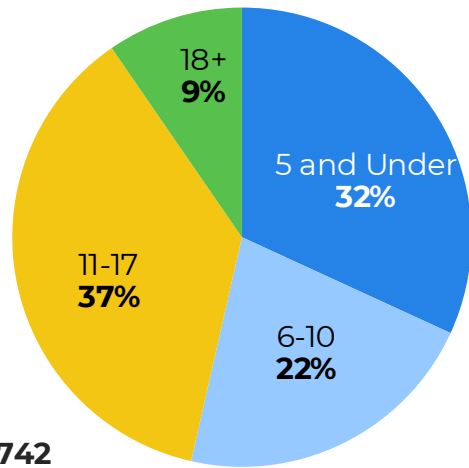
\*Sample size discrepancy across sex, age, and race/ethnicity is the result of unreported sex and age. Youth is defined as children 18 and under.

### III. Dependent Services

## Age of Dependent Youth – December 31, 2025



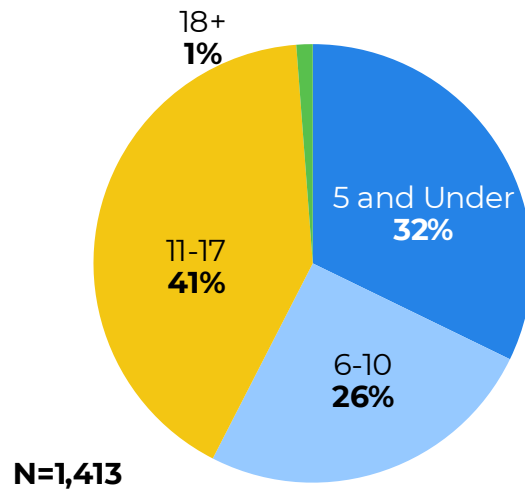
Figure 13. Age of All Dependent Youth



On December 31, 2025, older children aged 11-17 were the most represented age group.

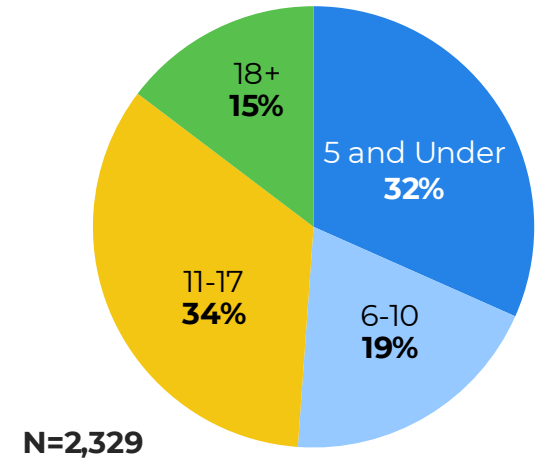
Data run on 1/12/2026

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



On December 31, 2025, children aged 11-17 made up 41 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 – December 31, 2025



Figure 14. Race/Ethnicity of All Dependent Youth

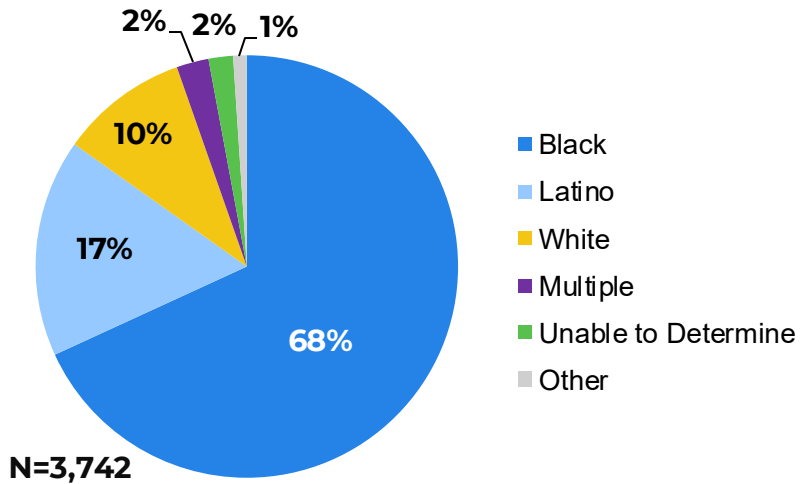


Figure 14a. Race/Ethnicity of Dependent Youth **In-Home**

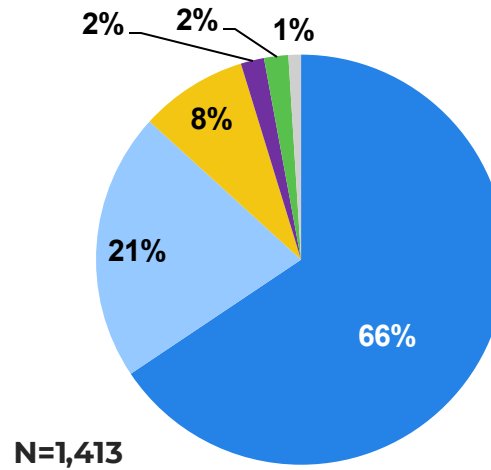
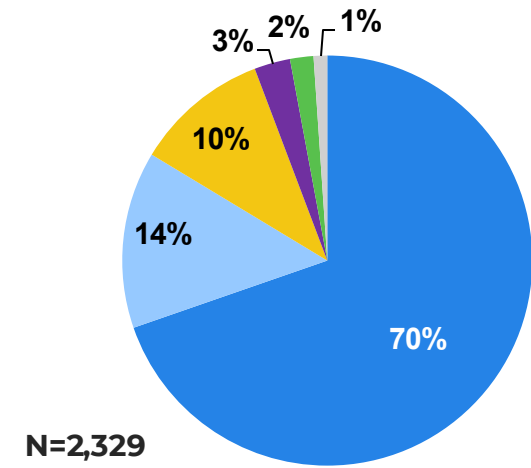


Figure 14b. Race/Ethnicity of Dependent Youth in **Placement**



More than two out of three (68%) 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 1/12/2026

\*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

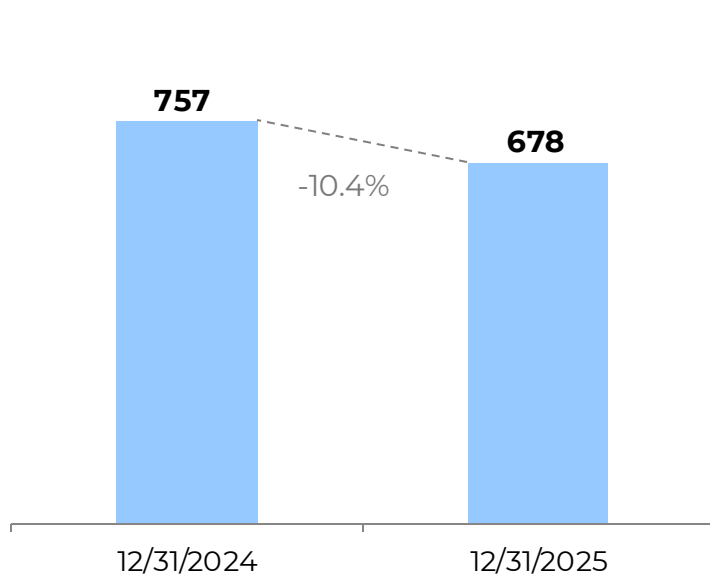
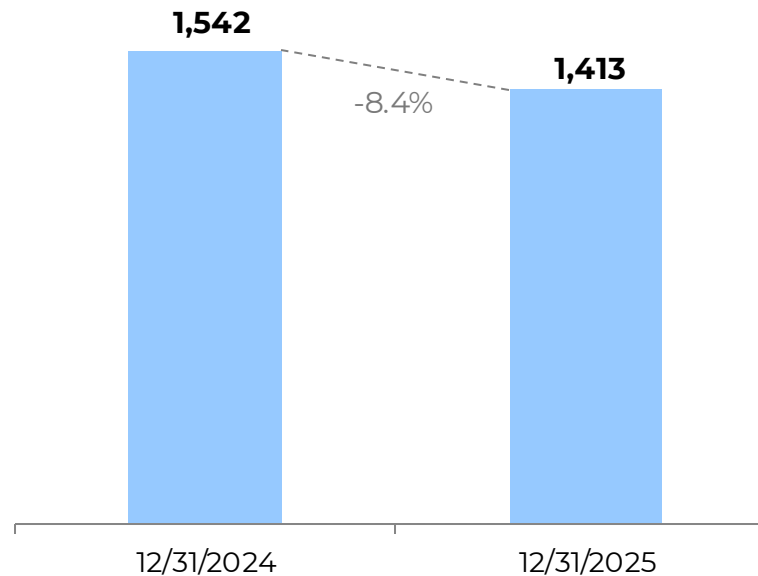


Figure 16. Total **Children** with In-Home Services



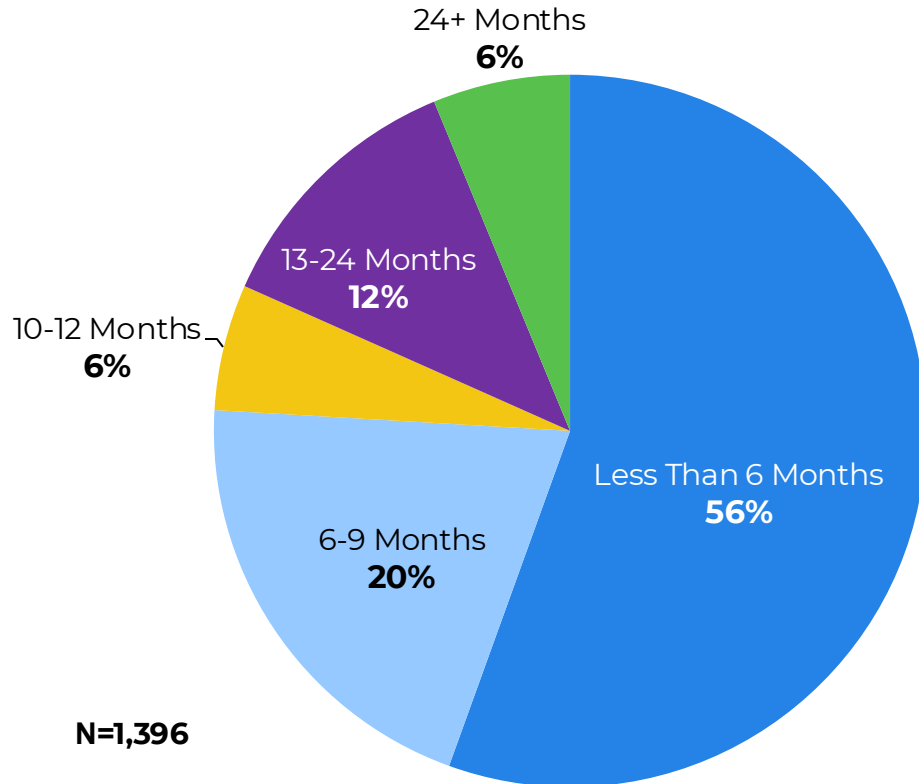
Compared to December 31, 2024, the total number of families with In-Home Services declined by over 10 percent while the total number of children declined by over eight percent.

Data run on 1/12/2026  
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 December 31, 2025



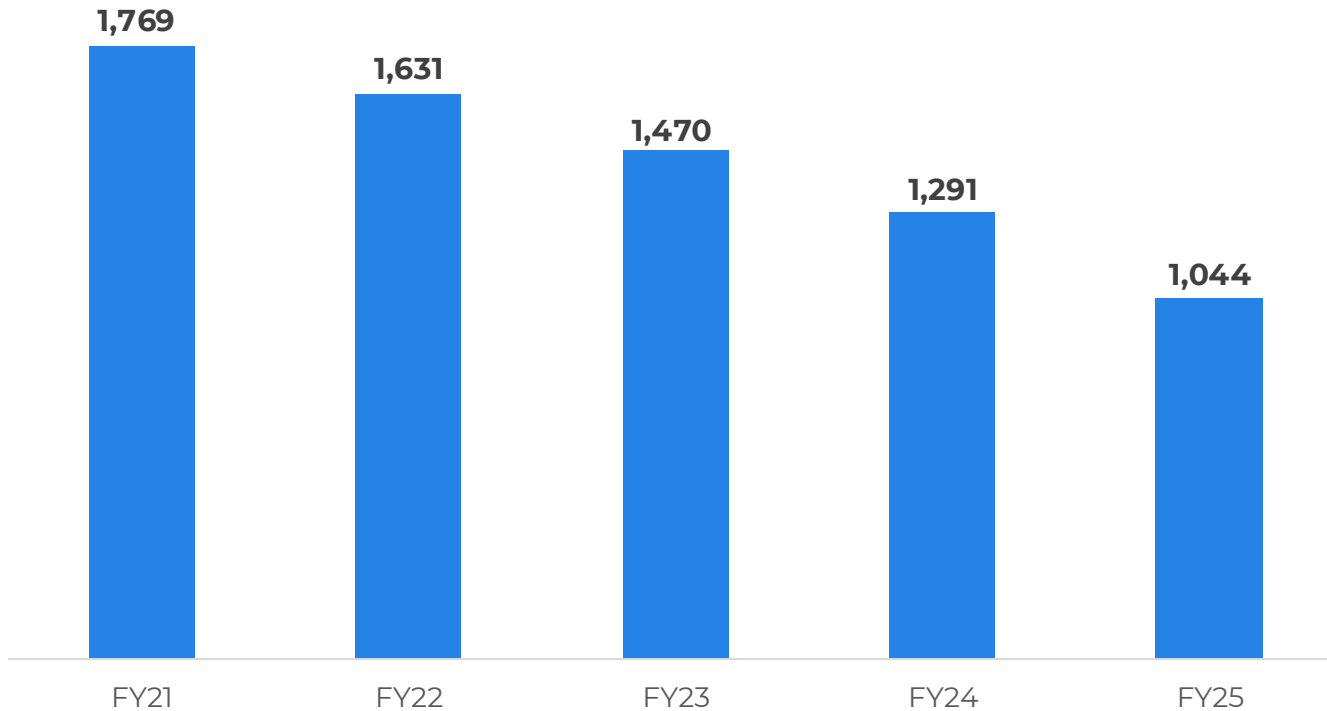
On December 31, 2025, over half (56%) of youth with In-Home Services had been receiving services for less than six months.

Data run on 1/12/2026  
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

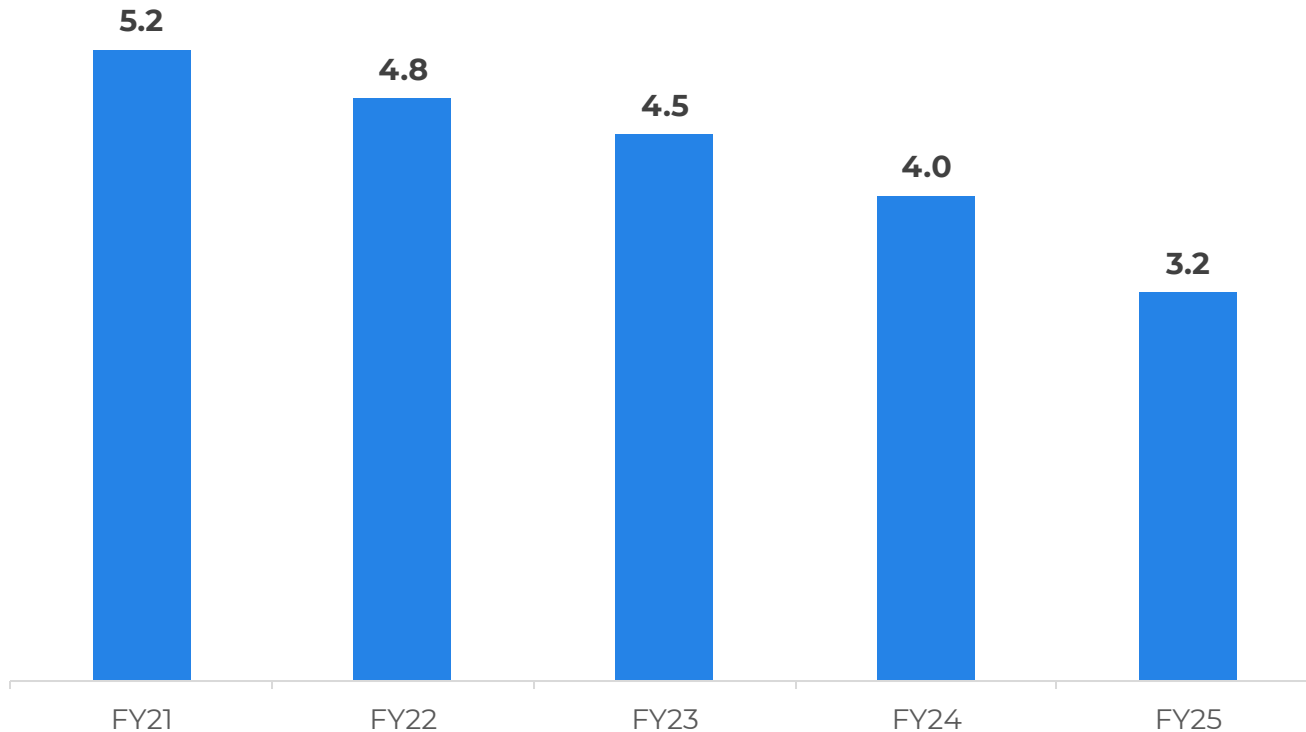
Removals from home are referred to as entries into care in the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS).

\*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

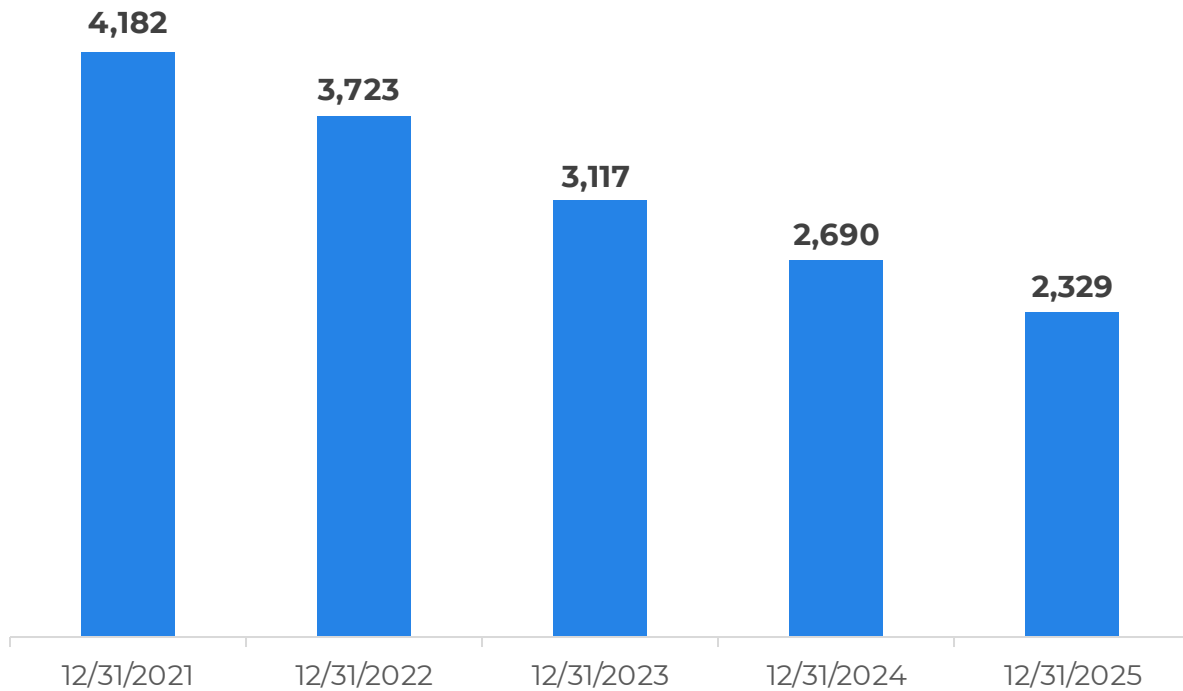
Removals from home are referred to as entries into care in the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS).

\*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 December 31<sup>st</sup> of Each Year



On December 31, 2025, there were 2,329 children in dependent placement.

The number of children in placement on December 31, 2025 represents a 44 percent reduction compared to December 31, 2021 (4,182 children).

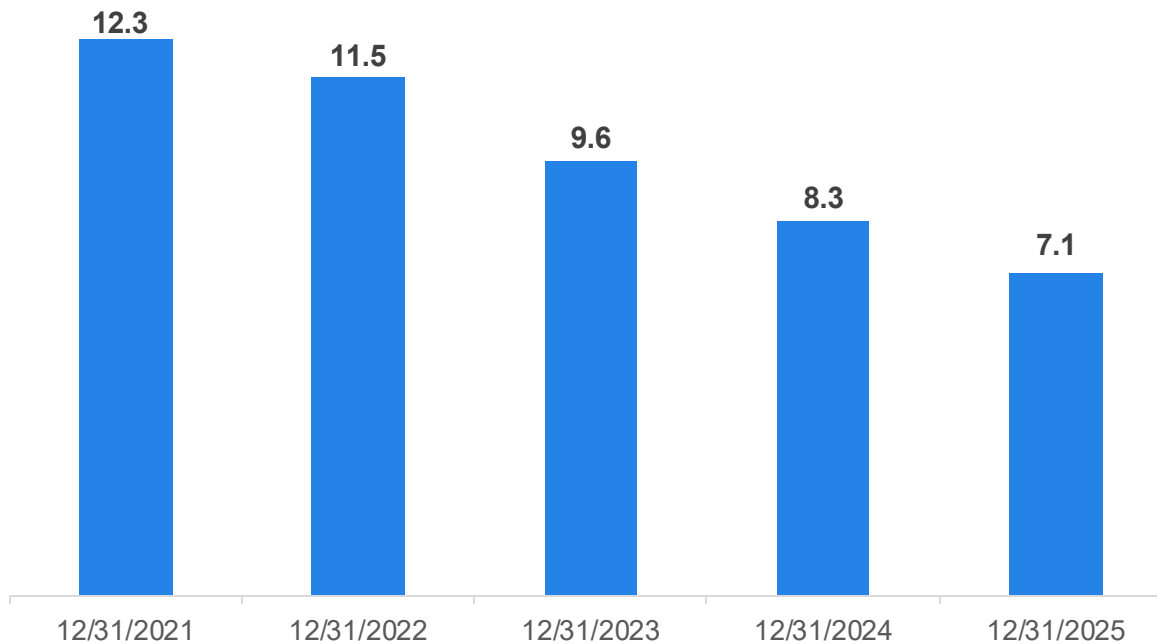
Data run on 1/12/2026

### III. Dependent Services



## Rate of Children in Placement

Figure 21. Rate of Children in Dependent Placement per 1,000 Philadelphia Children on December 31<sup>st</sup> of Each Year



On December 31, 2025, the rate of children in placement was 7.1 per 1,000 children.

This rate of children in dependent placement represents a 42 percent decrease from December 31, 2021 (12.3 per 1,000 children).

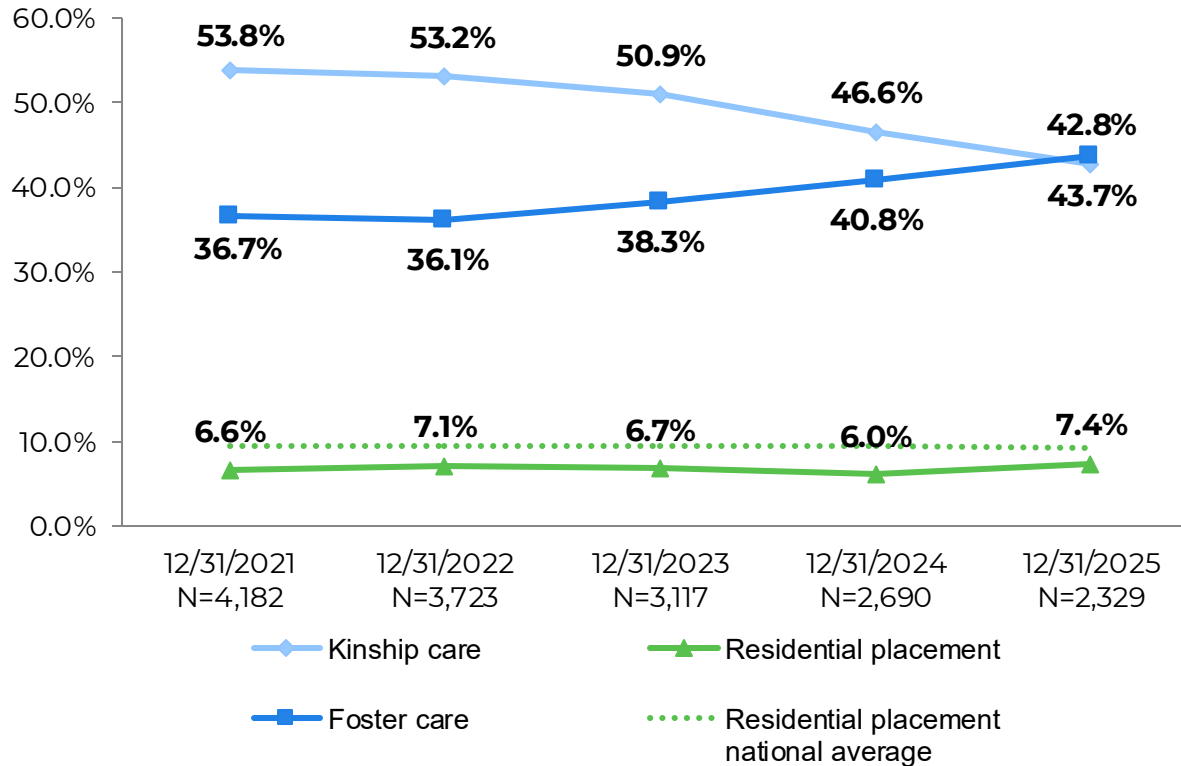
Data run on 1/12/2026

### III. Dependent Services



## Dependent Placements by Type

Figure 22. Dependent Placements on December 31<sup>st</sup> of Each Year



Children in kinship, foster, and residential placement each decreased since 2021.

Kinship care as a percentage of dependent placements was 42.8 percent in December 2025.

Residential placement as a percentage of dependent placements was 7.4 percent in December 2025, below the national average of 9.2 percent.

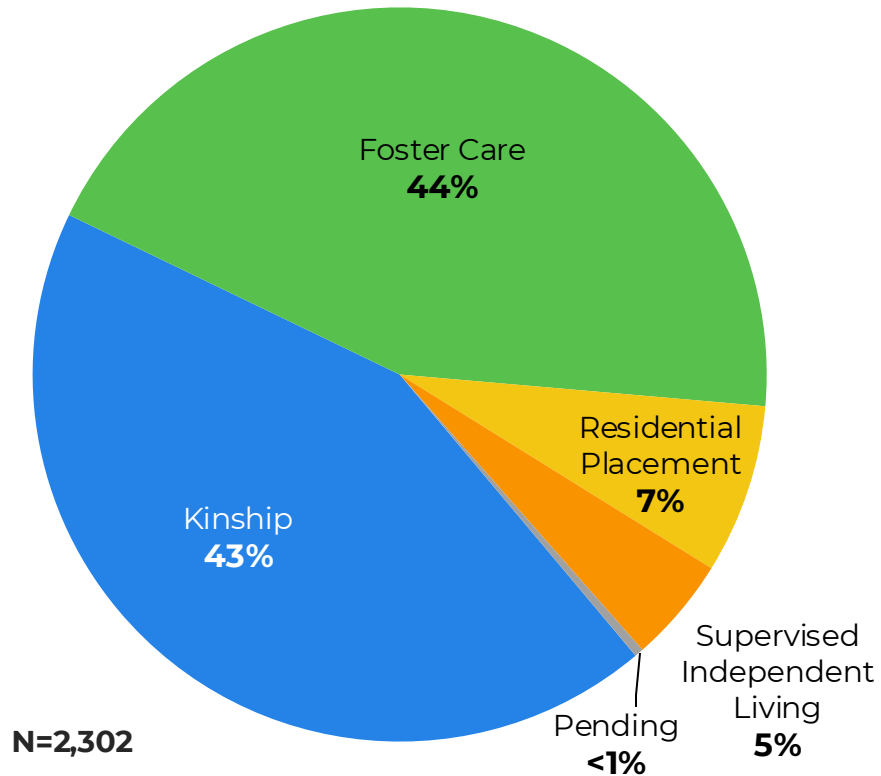
Data run on 1/12/2026

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 December 31, 2025, by Placement Type



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Nearly nine in ten (87%) youth in placement on December 31, 2025 were in Kinship or Foster Care.

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

Data run on 1/12/2026

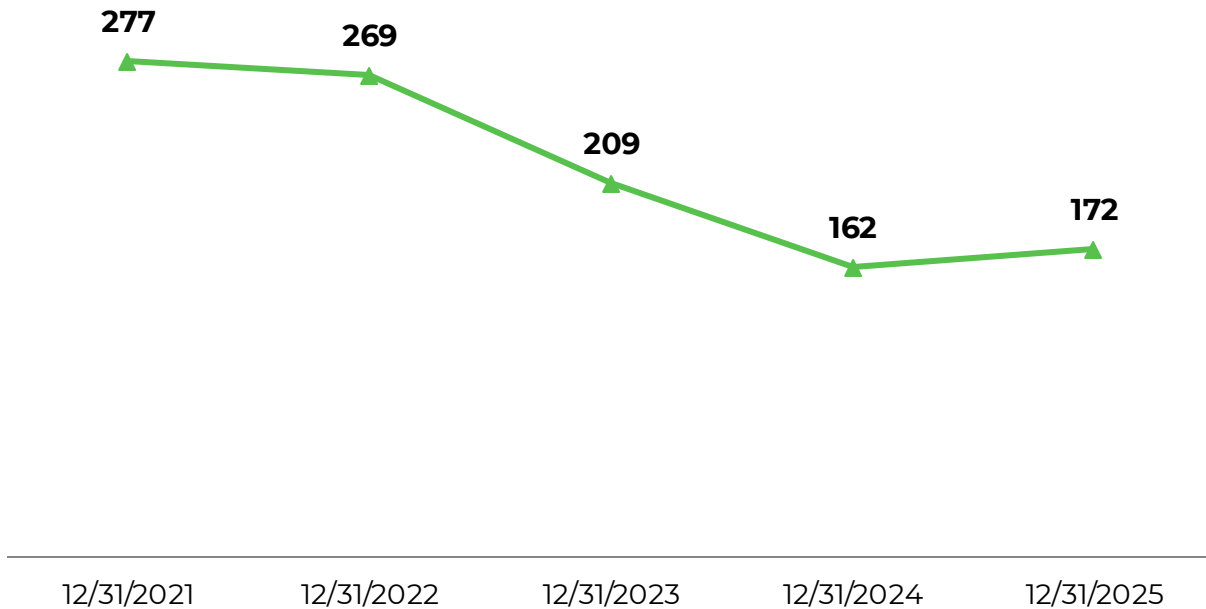
\*Pending youths' service information had yet to be entered into the electronic database as of the date the data were run. Percentages for this figure have been rounded to the nearest whole number, so total may not equal 100% \*ICPC not included in this graph due to the inability to confirm data

### III. Dependent Services



## Dependent Residential Placement Services

Figure 24. Dependent Residential Placement Totals on December 31 of Each Year



Since December 31, 2021, the number of dependent youth in residential placement settings has decreased 38 percent from 277 youth to 172 youth.

For the same timespan, overall youth in dependent placements decreased slightly faster by 44 percent.

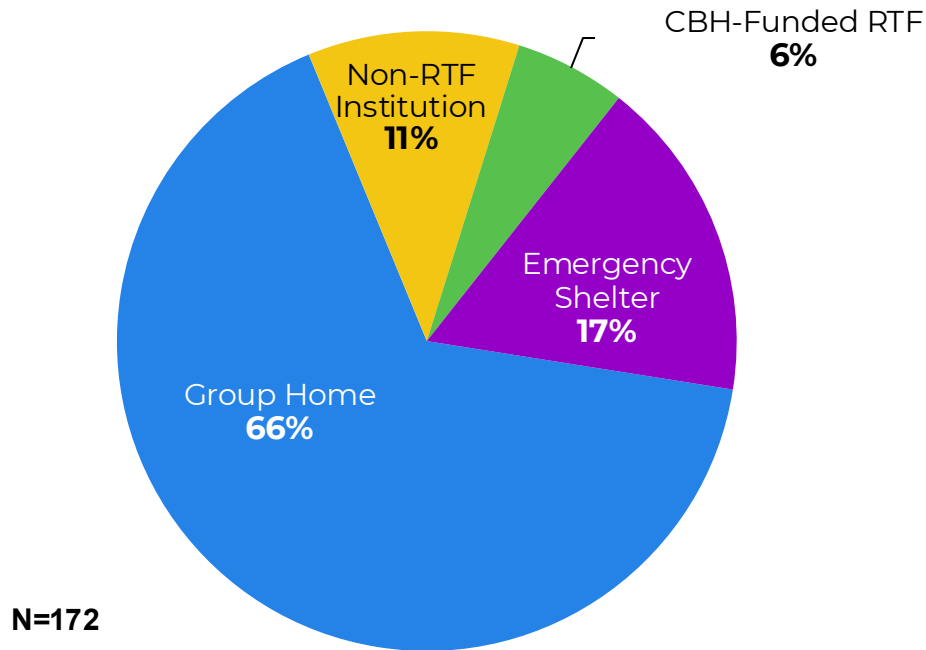
Data run on 1/12/2025

### III. Dependent Services



# Dependent Residential Placement Services

Figure 25. Children in Dependent Residential Placement on December 31, 2025



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Two out of three (66%, N=114) youth in dependent residential placement were in group homes on December 31, 2025.

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Twenty-nine youth were in emergency shelters, representing 17 percent of residential placements.

Data run on 1/12/2026

\*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 December 31, 2025

Distance	# of Facilities	# of Youth
In Philadelphia	8 (22%)	61 (35%)
Within 5 Miles	5 (14%)	40 (23%)
6 - 10 Miles	5 (14%)	15 (9%)
11 - 25 Miles	6 (17%)	15 (9%)
26 - 50 Miles	6 (17%)	14 (8%)
Over 50 Miles	6 (17%)	27 (16%)
<b>Total</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>172</b>

---

Half of dependent residential placement facilities serving 67 percent of youth were either in Philadelphia or within 10 miles of the city limits.

Data run on 1/9/2026

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.



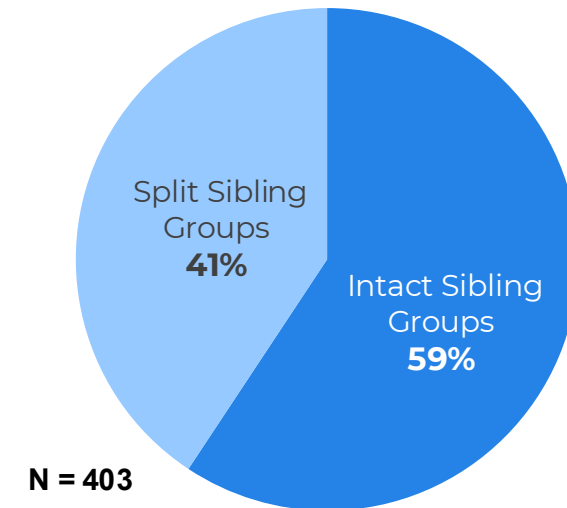
### III. Dependent Services

## Family Foster Care Sibling Composition

Table 3. Sibling Composition of Youth in Foster Care and Kinship Care on December 31, 2025

CUA	Total Number of Sibling Groups	Total Number of Intact Sibling Groups	Percentage of Intact Sibling Groups
01 - NET	35	19	54%
02 - APM	36	21	58%
03 - CONCILIO	46	26	57%
04 - CCS	18	7	39%
05 - APM	73	45	62%
06 - CPA	31	24	77%
07 - NET	46	28	61%
08 - BETH	34	26	76%
09 - GPCA	47	21	45%
10 - BETH	37	22	59%
<b>Overall</b>	<b>403</b>	<b>239</b>	<b>59%</b>

Figure 26. Sibling Composition of Youth in Foster Care and Kinship Care on December 31, 2025



Of the 403 sibling groups placed in Family Foster Care, nearly three in five (59%) were placed together. CUA 6 had the highest percentage of intact sibling groups at 77 percent, while CUA 4 had the lowest percentage at 39 percent.

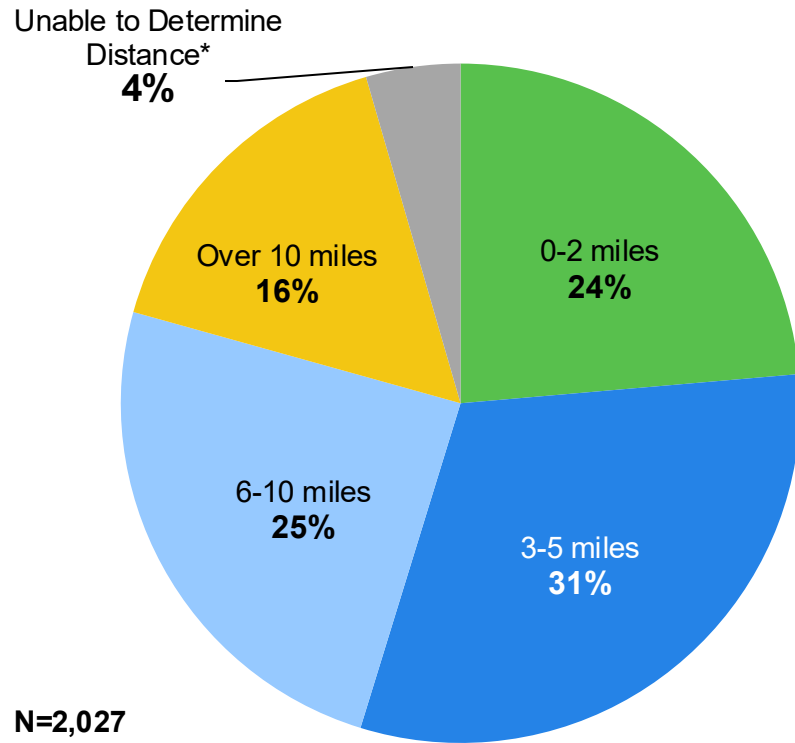
Data run on 1/12/2026

### III. Dependent Services



# Family Foster Care Distance from Home

Figure 27. Distance from Home for Youth in Kinship and Foster Care as of December 31, 2025



Over half of youth in Kinship and Foster Care (55%) lived within five miles of their home of origin, and four in every five (80%) youth lived within 10 miles.

Data run on 1/9/2026

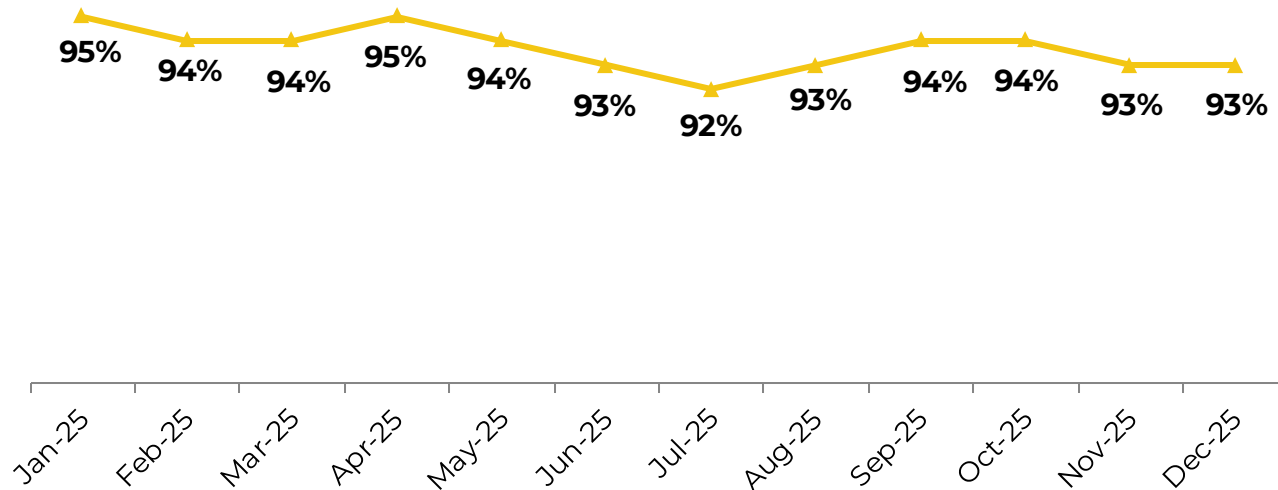
Missing addresses were removed before geocoding, resulting in a lower number of youth included in the analysis.

"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



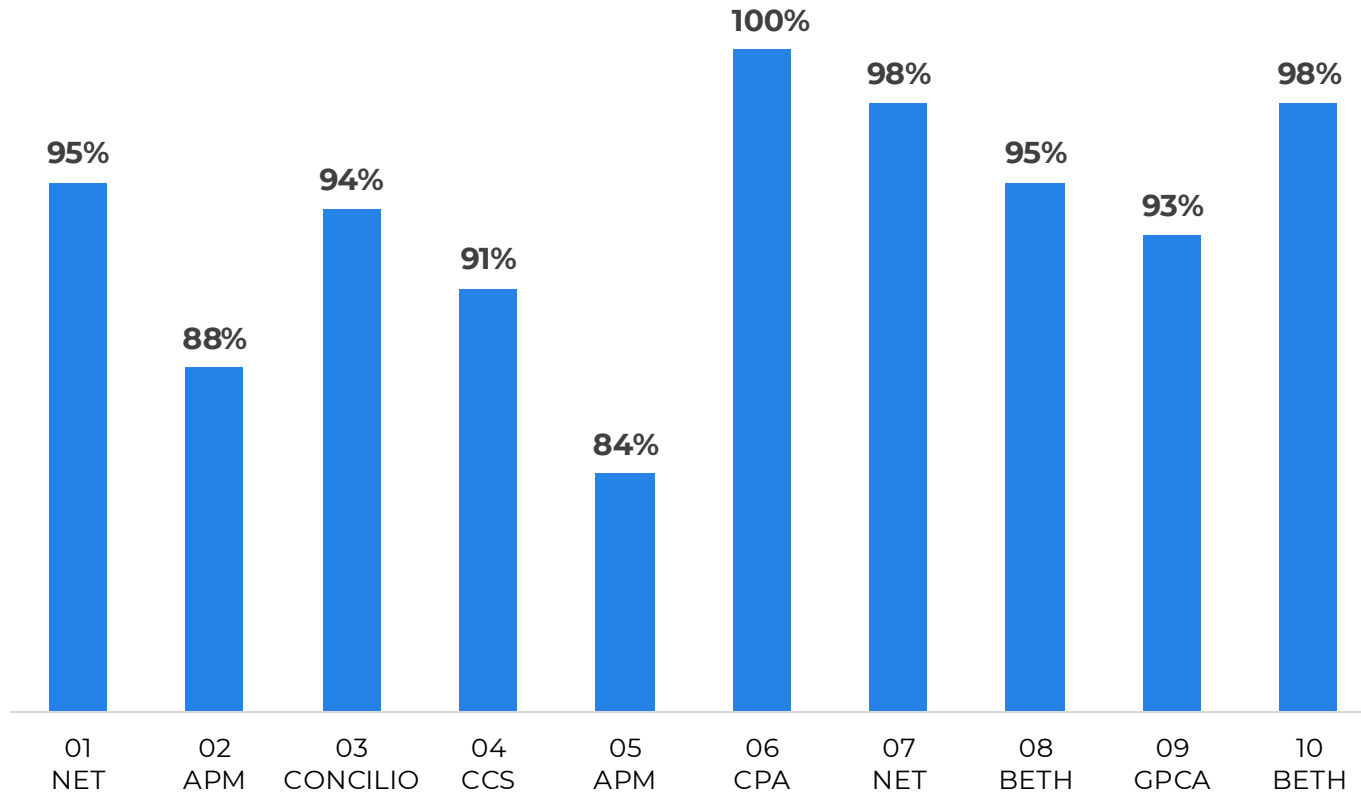
CUAs overall exceeded the benchmark of visiting 90 percent of families every month in the last full year ending on December 31.

Data run on 1/15/2026

### III. Dependent Services

# Monthly Visitation

Figure 29. December 2025 Visitation Rates, by CUA



In December 2025, eight of ten CUAs met the benchmark visitation rate of 90 percent or higher. The highest visitation rate in December was at 06-CPA with 100 percent, while the lowest was 84 percent at 05-APM.

Data run on 1/15/2026

### 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 (1,413) and children with Dependent Placement Services (2,329) 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 (43%), lower than recent years and just below those in foster care (44%).

At 172 youth on December 31, 2025, the total number of youth in dependent residential placement was slightly higher than FY24, but 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

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## 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)

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### Permanency Measures

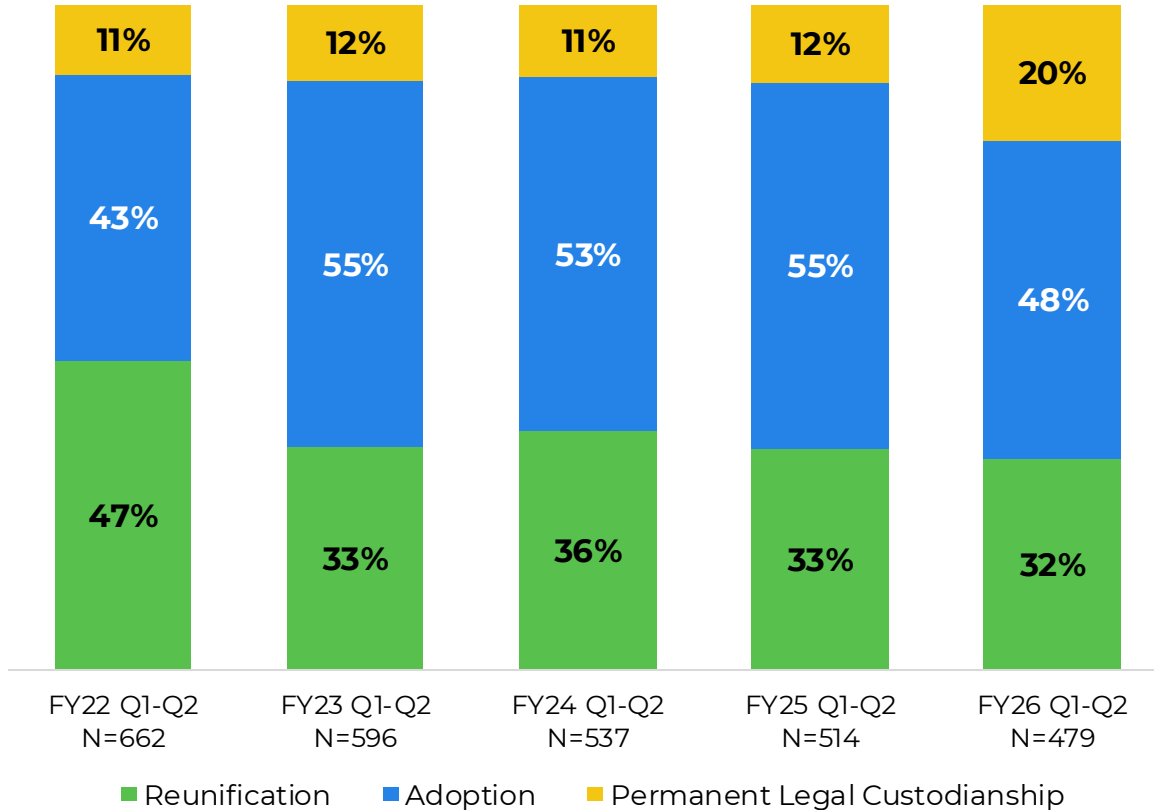
- **One Year Re-Entry Rate** - Percentage of children who are reunified that re-enter foster care within one year of reunification.
- **Permanency data** are updated once every six months to more clearly show patterns on youth attaining permanency.

## IV. Permanency



# Permanency Rates and Totals

Figure 30. Permanency Totals by Permanency Type



In the first half of FY26, 479 children and youth attained permanency through Reunification, Adoption, and Permanent Legal Custodianship.

Under one-third (32%) of permanencies in FY25 were Reunifications, and nearly half (48%) were Adoptions.

Data run on 1/9/2026.

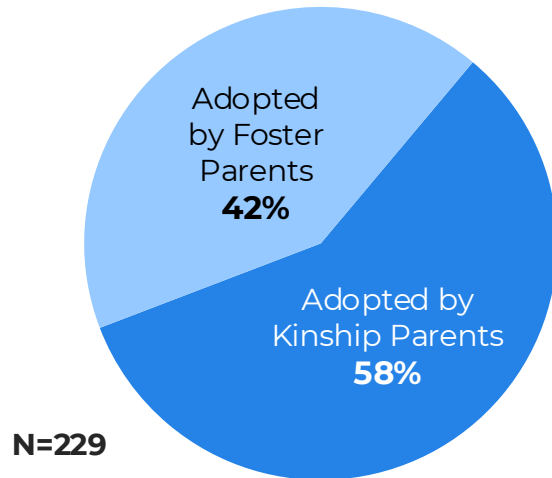
Permanency data are updated once every six months to more clearly show patterns on youth attaining permanency.

## IV. Permanency



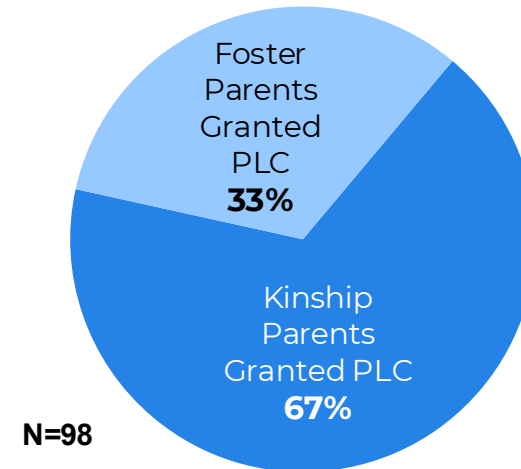
# Adoptions and Permanent Legal Custody (PLC)

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



Of the 229 children and youth who were adopted in the first half of FY26, nearly three in five (58%) were adopted by their kinship resource parents.

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



Of the 98 children and youth who were discharged to PLC, over two-thirds (67%) were discharged to their kinship resource parents.

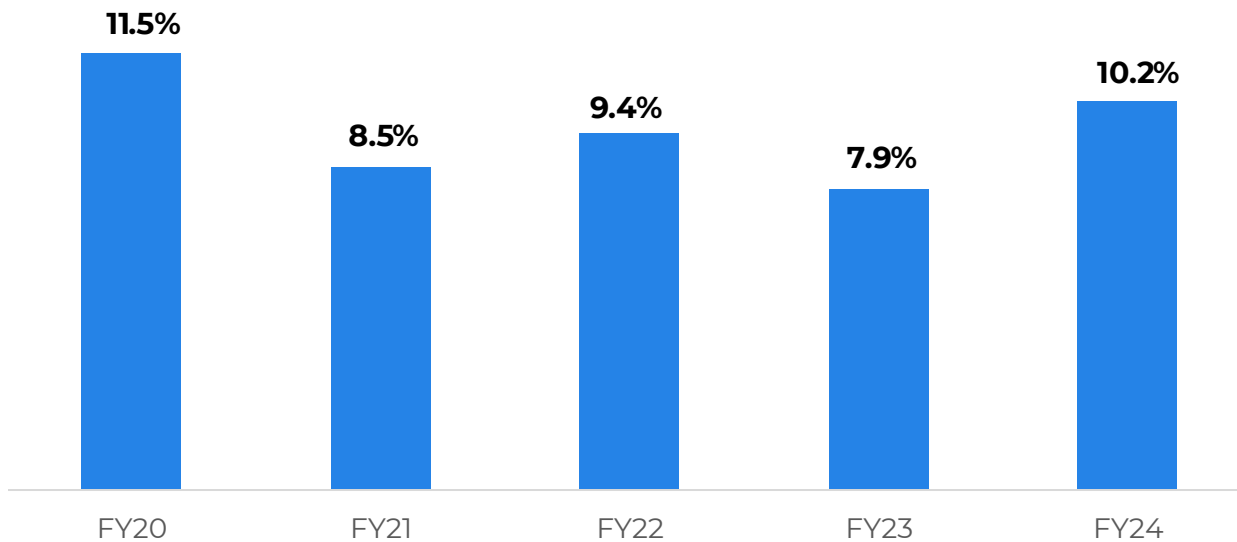
Data run on 1/8/2026

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.

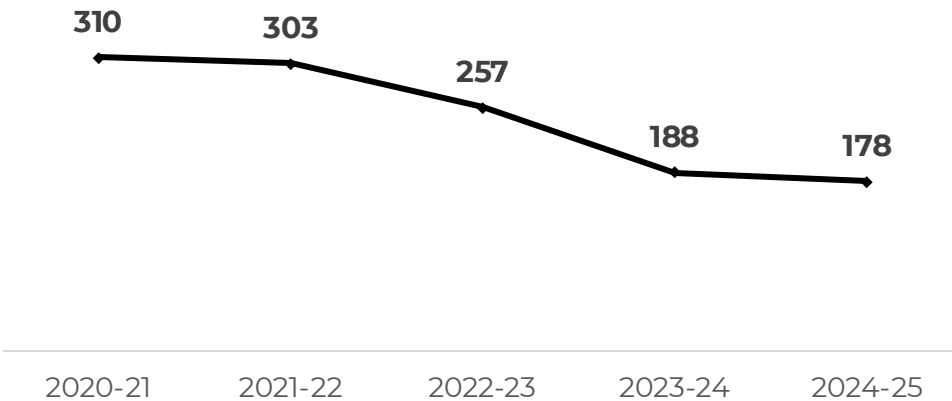
These data are updated once a year based on the Federal fiscal year of October 1<sup>st</sup> to September 30<sup>th</sup>.

## IV. Permanency

# Outcomes for Youth Aging Out of Care



Figure 34a. Aging Out Totals

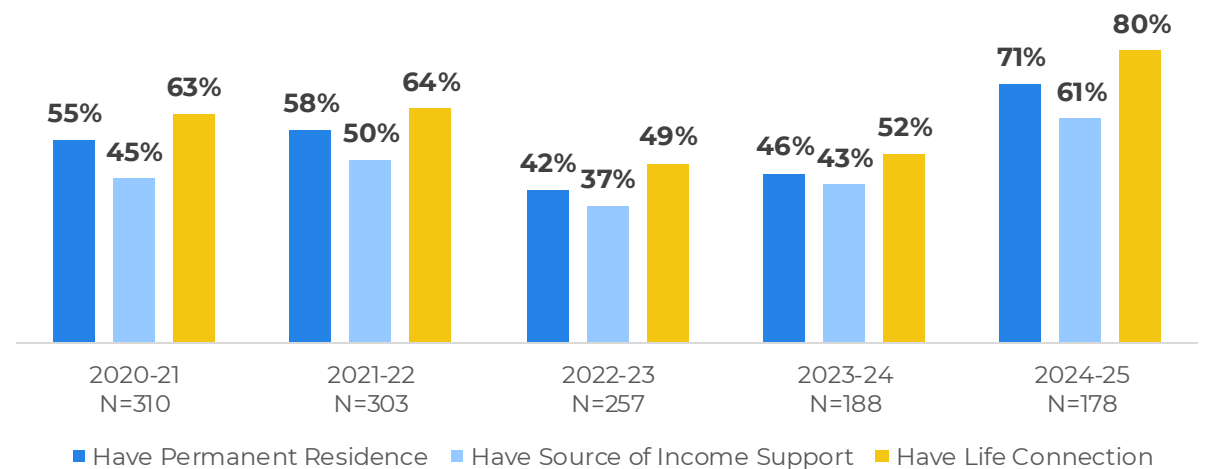


The number of youth aging out of care decreased 43 percent from FY21 to FY25, from 310 youth to 178 youth.

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.

Figure 34b. Outcomes for Youth Aging Out



The percentages of youth aging out with support has been increasing since FY23.

## 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, and higher percentages of youth aging out have supports.



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



# Juvenile Justice Programs

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## Glossary of Terms

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**DHS' Division of Juvenile Justice Services** goal 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.

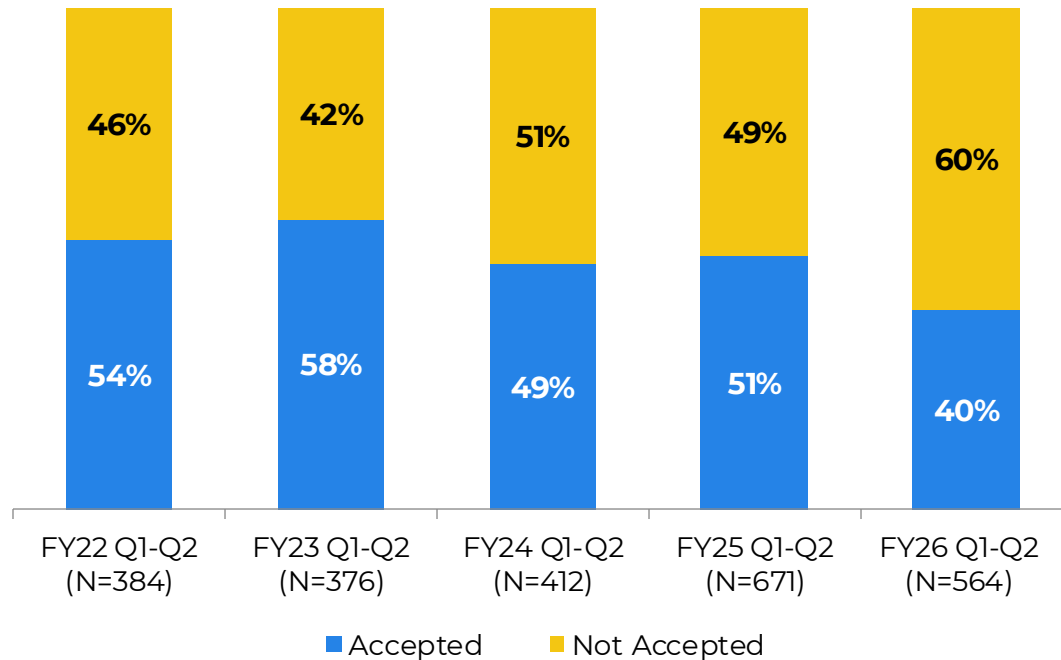
## V. Juvenile Justice Programs

# 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 35. IPS Voluntary Service Rate



IPS received 564 referrals in FY26 Q1-Q2, below the count from FY25 but higher than prior years.

Of these referrals, 225 were accepted, representing a 40 percent acceptance rate, somewhat lower than last year (51%).

Data run on 1/9/2026

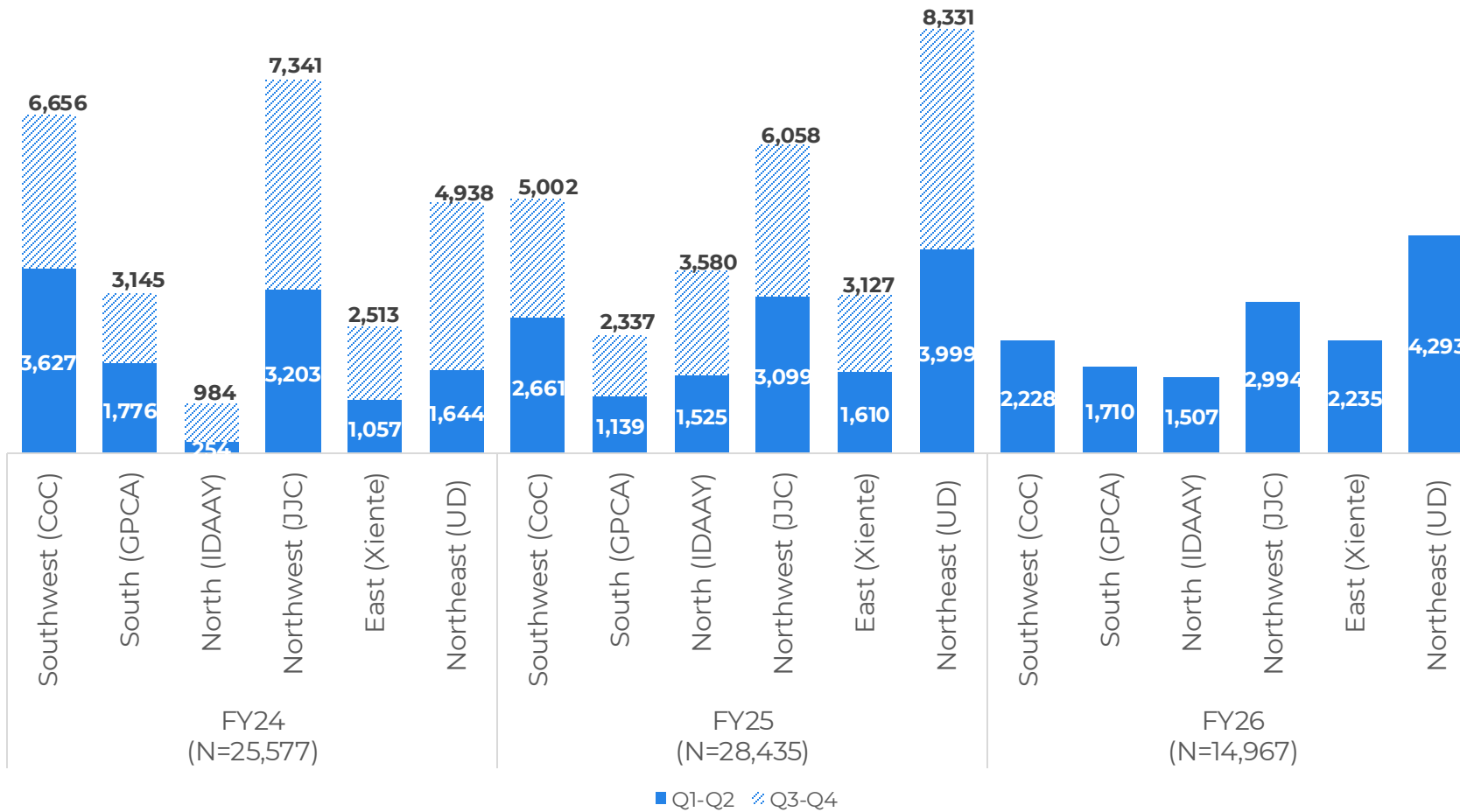
Service Referrals consist of all youth referred who were eligible to be served.



## V. Juvenile Justice Programs

# Community Evening Resource Center (CERC) Visit Volume

Figure 36. Total CERC Visits



In FY26 Q1-Q2, CERCs received nearly 15,000 visits representing a seven percent increase from FY25 Q1-Q2.

Unique Dreams in Northeast Philadelphia had the most visits (4,293) in FY26 Q1-Q2.

Data run on 1/9/2026

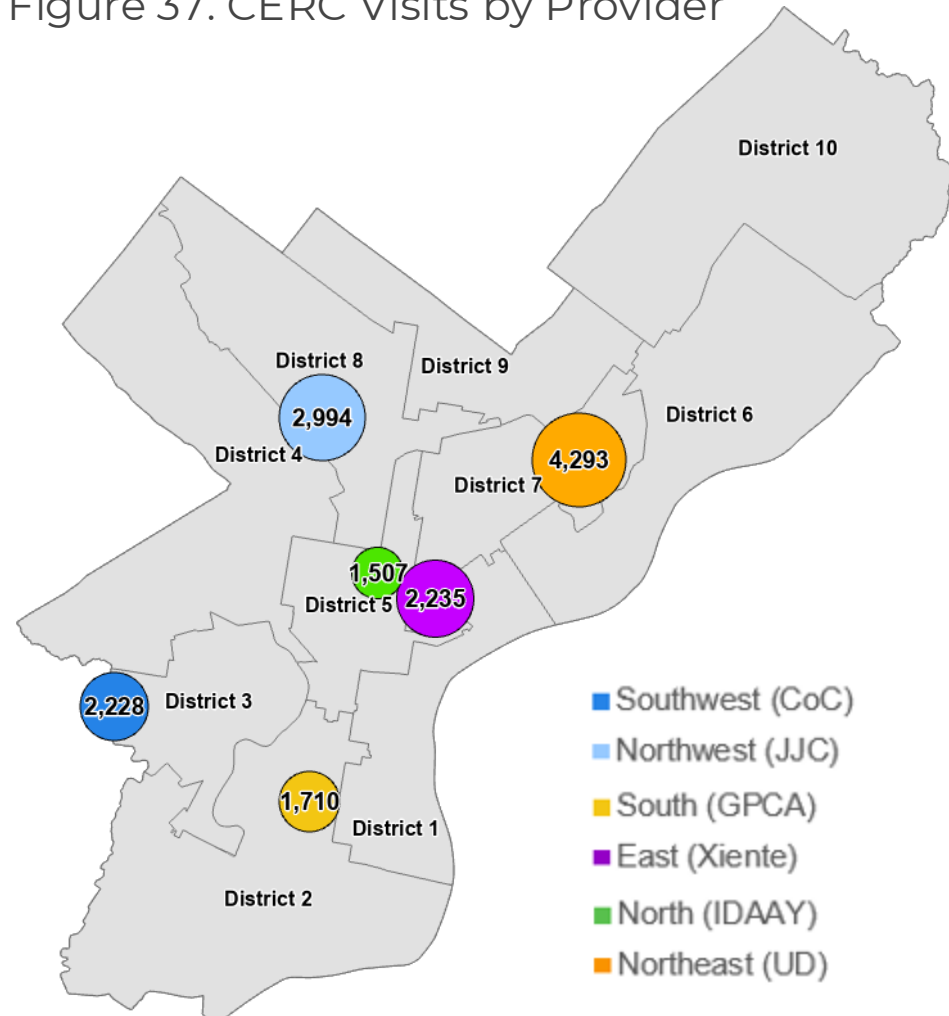
CERC programming expanded over time with the North and Northwest divisions opening in FY23Q2 and the East and Northeast divisions opening in FY24Q1.



## V. Juvenile Justice Programs

# CERC Visits by Provider – FY26 Q1-Q2

Figure 37. CERC Visits by Provider



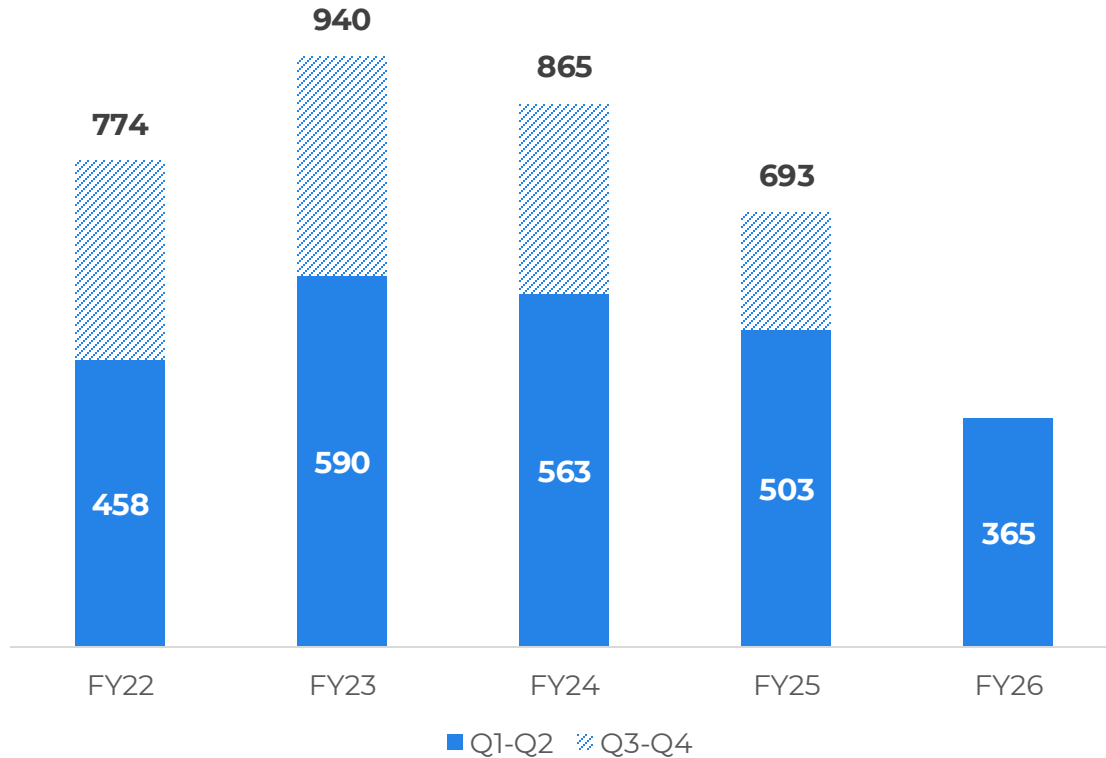
Northeast and Northwest CERCs saw the most visits in the first half of FY 2026, accounting for nearly half (49%, N=7,287) of all visits.

Data run on 1/9/2026

# In-Home Detention Program



Figure 38a. Youth Served in In-home Detention (IHD)



In FY 2026 Q1-Q2, 365 youth used IHD services, continuing the downward trend from FY 2023.

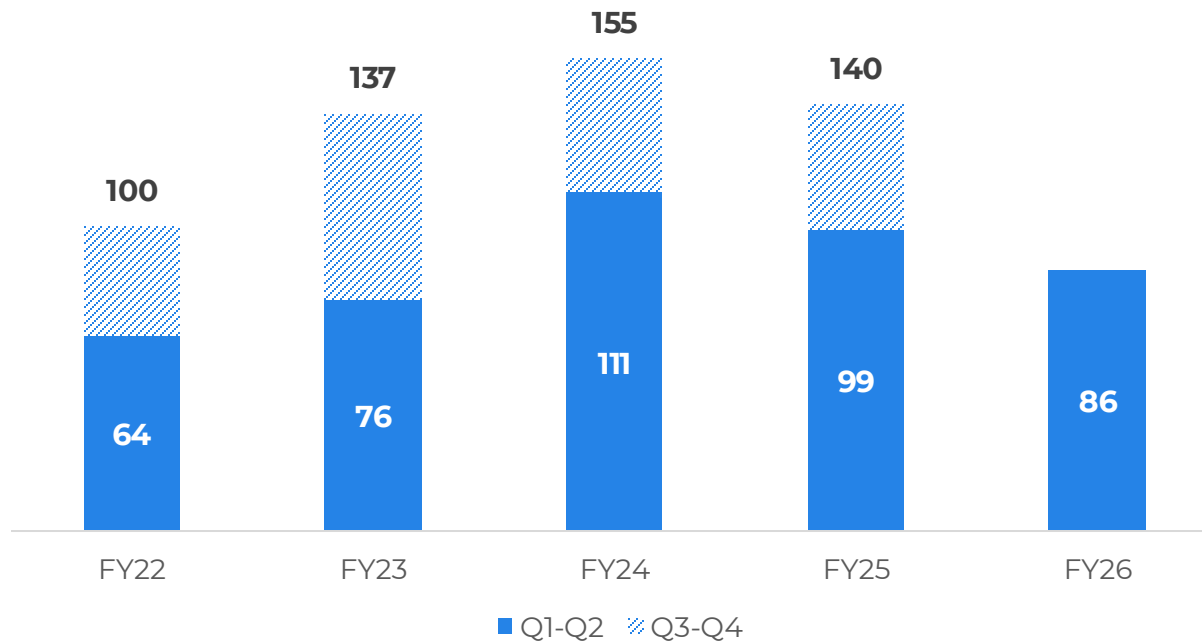
Data run on 1/9/2026

## V. Juvenile Justice Programs

# Intensive Supervision Program



Figure 38b. Youth Served in Intensive Supervision Programs (ISP)



In FY 2026 Q1-Q2, 86 youth used ISP services, down 13 percent from FY25 Q1-Q2.

Data run on 1/9/2026

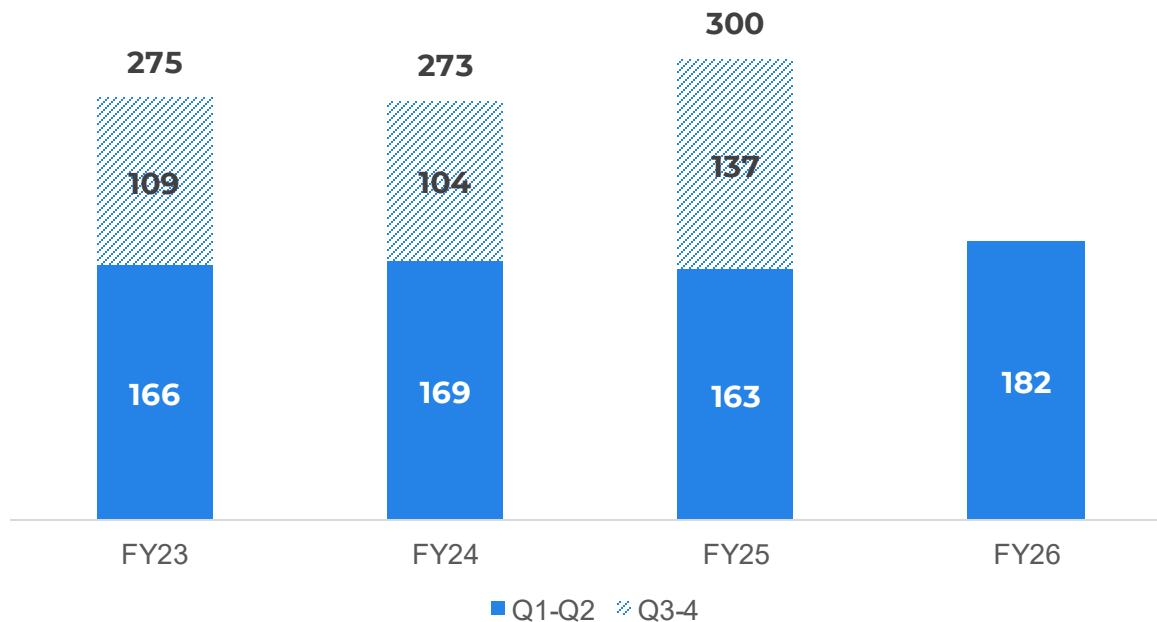
## V. Juvenile Justice Programs

# 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 182 youth in FY26 Q1-Q2, the most youth in the past four years.

Data run on 1/9/2026

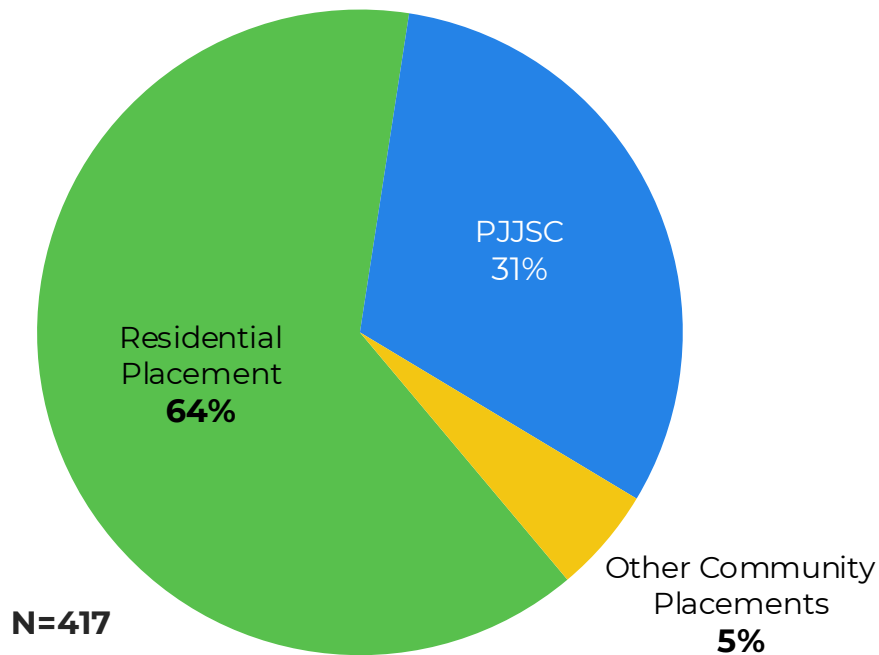
## V. Juvenile Justice Programs

# 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 December 31, 2025 by Location



On December 31, 2025, there were 417 juvenile justice-involved youth placed outside the home.

More than three in five (64%) youth were placed in residential placement, and under one-third were in detention at the Philadelphia Juvenile Justice Services Center (PJJSC).

Data run on 1/9/2026

“Other community placements” include foster care and supervised independent living

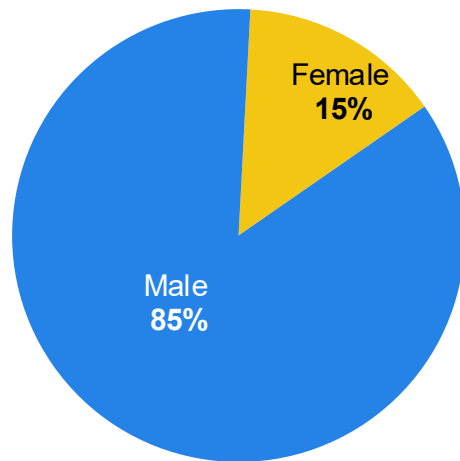
Data for Juvenile Justice-involved youth in placement alternatives, such as GPS monitoring, are not tracked directly by DHS

## V. Juvenile Justice Programs



# Sex of Juvenile Justice-Involved Youth – December 31, 2025

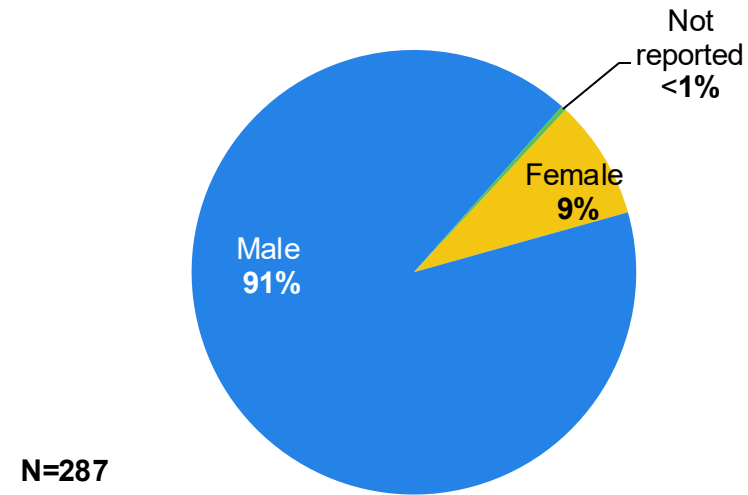
Figure 41a. Sex of Youth Held in the Philadelphia Juvenile Justice Services Center (PJJSC)



On December 31, more than four in five (85%) youth held in detention at the PJJSC were male.

Data run on 1/9/2026

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



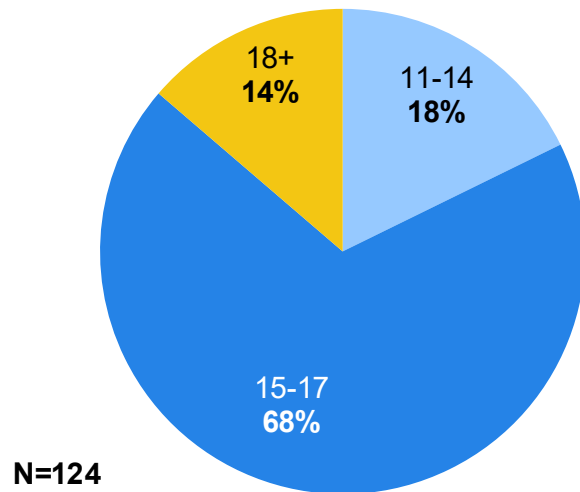
More than nine in ten (91%) youth in residential and community placement at the end of December were male.

## V. Juvenile Justice Programs

# Age of Juvenile Justice-Involved Youth – December 31, 2025



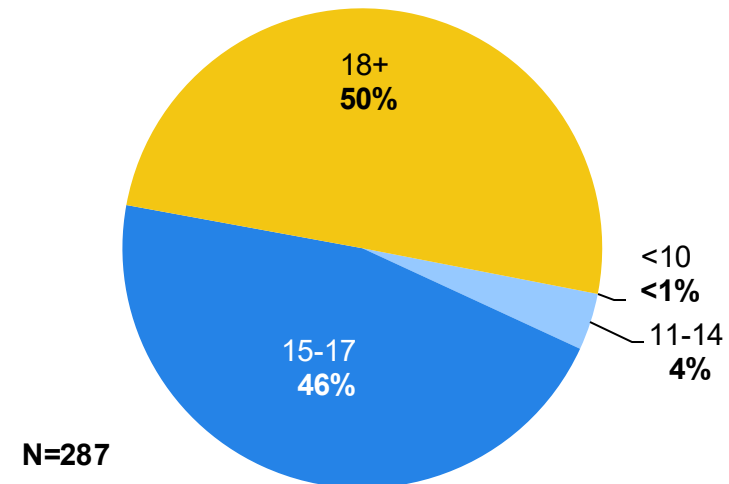
Figure 42a. Age of Youth Held in the Philadelphia Juvenile Justice Services Center (PJJSC)



On December 31, over two in three (68%) youth held in detention at the PJJSC were 15-17 years old.

Data run on 1/9/2026

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



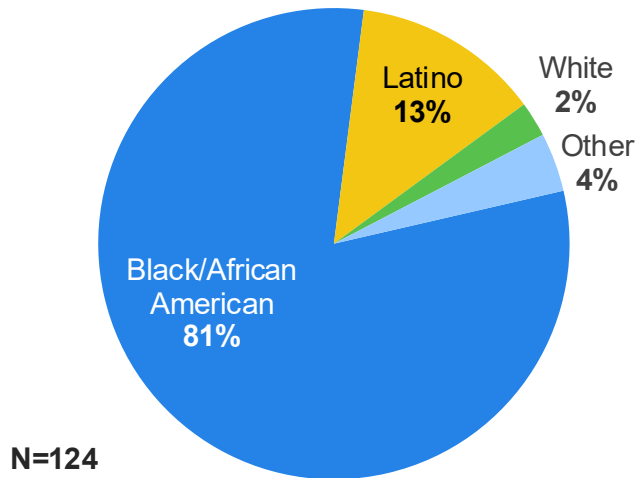
Over 95 percent of youth in residential and community placement were at least 15 years old.



## V. Juvenile Justice Programs

# Race/Ethnicity of Juvenile Justice-Involved Youth – December 31, 2025

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

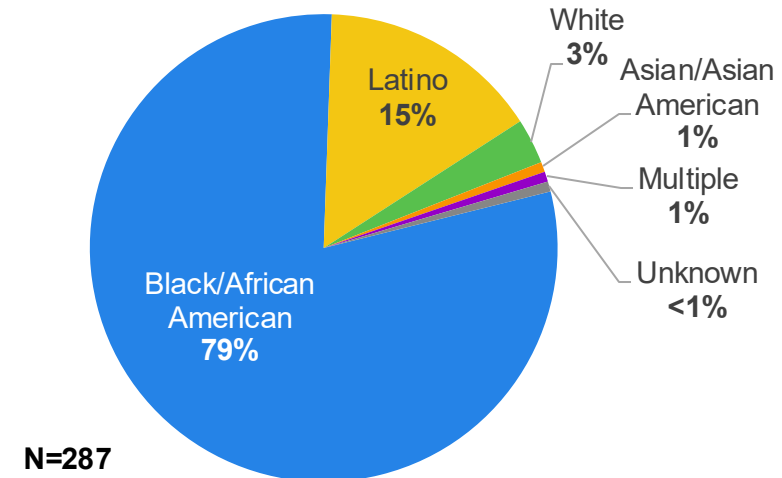


On December 31, more than four in five youth held in detention at the PJJSC identified as Black compared to 43 percent of youth in Philadelphia who are Black.

Data run on 1/9/2026

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

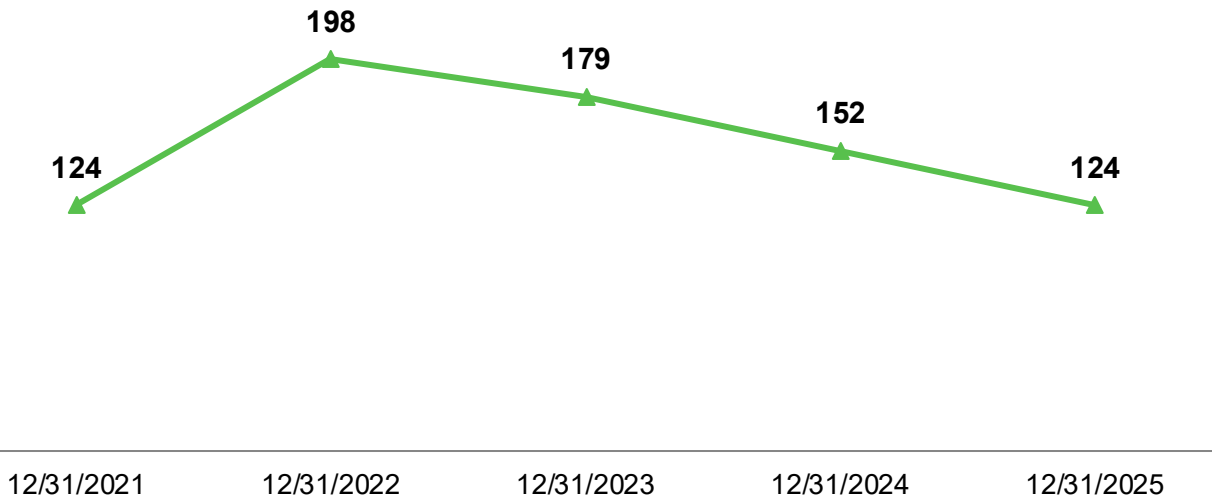


On December 31, nearly four in five youth in delinquent residential and community placement identified as Black.

## V. Juvenile Justice Programs

# Juvenile Justice Placement Services

Figure 44. PJJSC Placement Totals on December 31<sup>st</sup> of Each Year



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On December 31, there were 124 youth in detention at the PJJSC.

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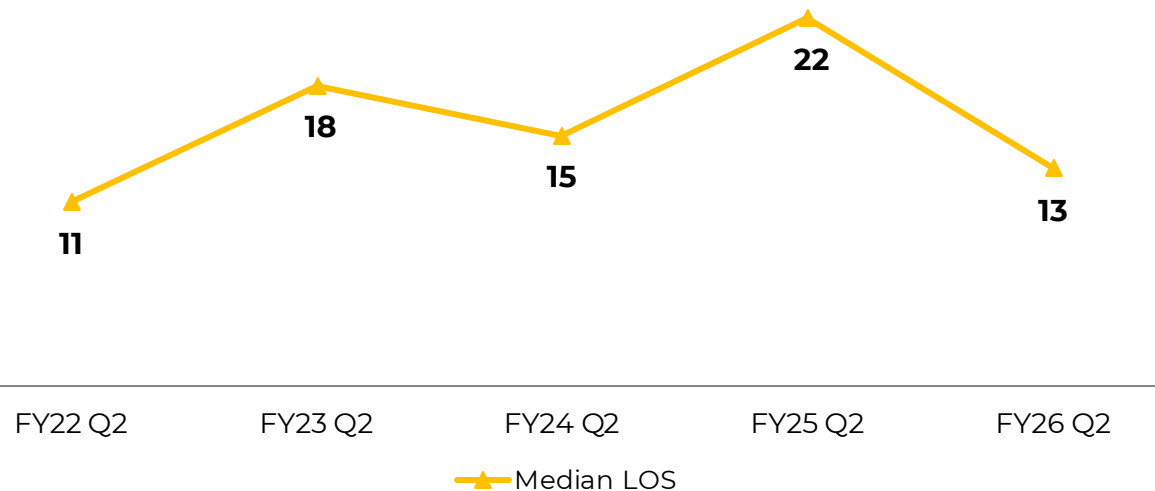
The number of youth held in detention at the PJJSC has been decreasing since 2022.

Data run on 1/9/2026  
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 has fluctuated in recent years, reaching 13 days in FY26 Q2.

Data run on 1/9/2026

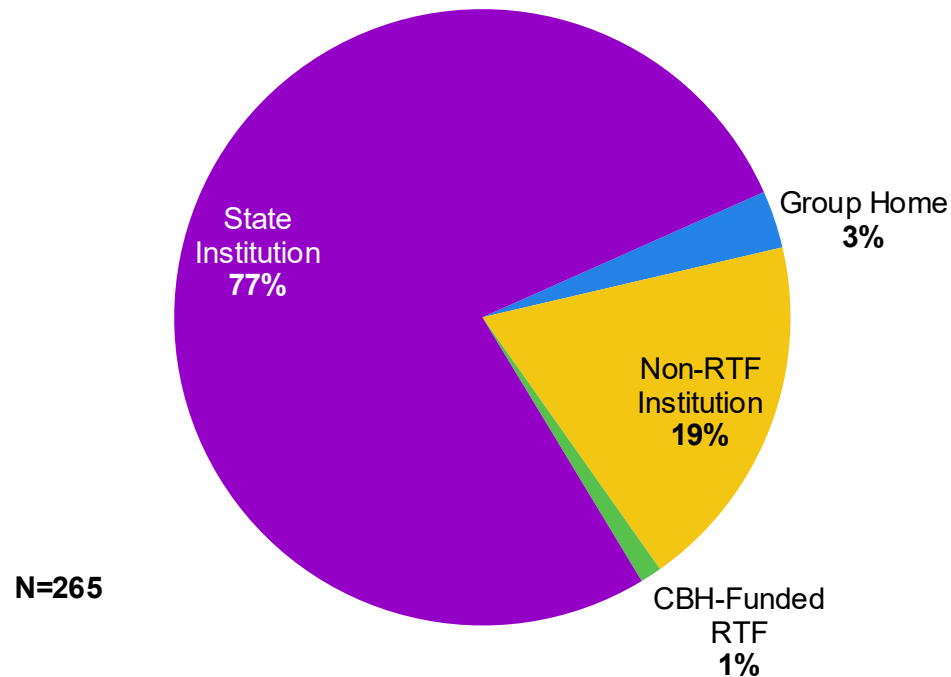
Median length of stay is used to describe trends in length of stay because averages can be thrown off by very long and short stays. Youth who entered and exited the PJJSC on the same calendar day were not counted.

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 December 31, 2025



More than three in four (77%) youth placed in Delinquent Residential Placement were in a state institution on December 31, 2025.

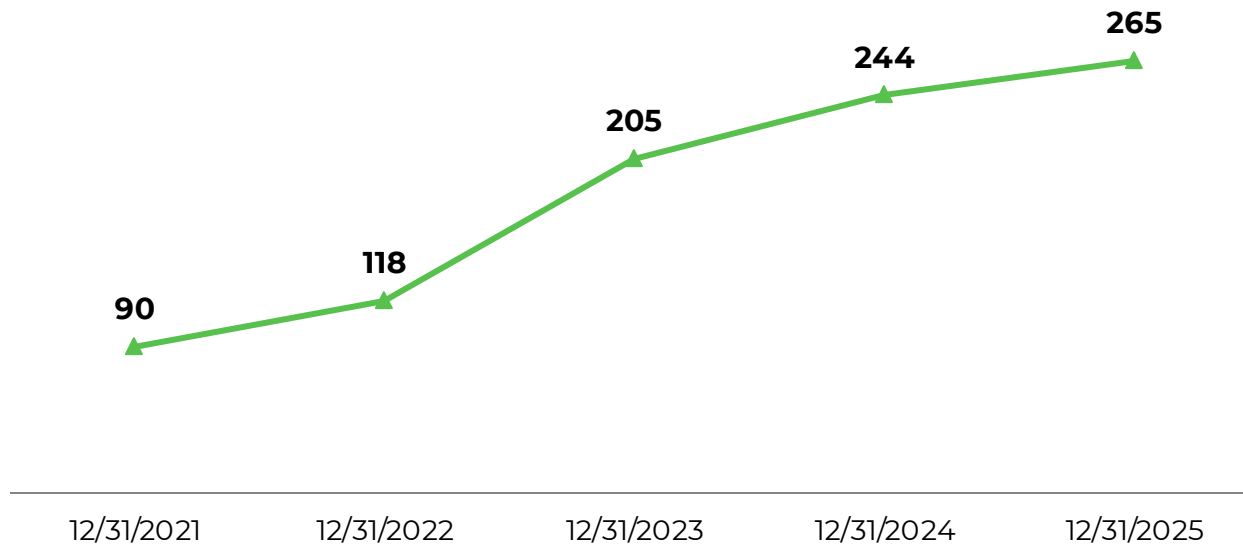
Four percent of youth placed in Delinquent Residential Placement were in Group Home or CBH-Funded RTF settings.

Data run on 1/9/2026

## V. Juvenile Justice Programs

# Juvenile Justice Placement Services

Figure 47. Delinquent Residential Placement Totals on December 31 of Each Year



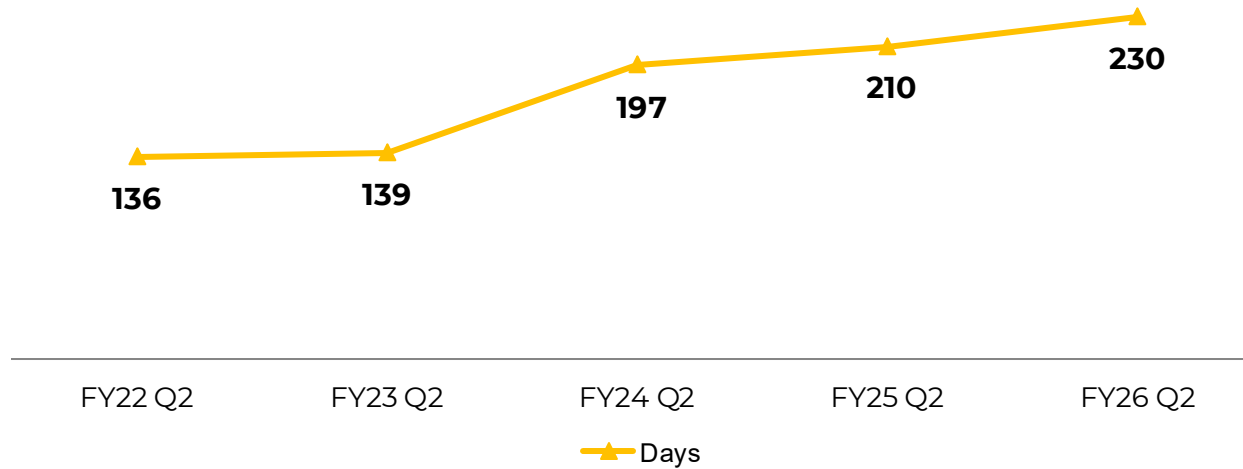
The total number of youth in delinquent residential placement from court ordered treatment, rehabilitation, and supervision has increased each year since 2021, reaching 265 in December 2025.

Data run on 1/9/2026

## 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 Q2 was 230 days, a 69 percent increase over FY22.

Data run on 1/9/2026

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 December 31, 2025

Distance	# of Facilities	# of Youth
In Philadelphia	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
Within 10 Miles	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
11 – 50 Miles	1 (7%)	11 (4%)
51 – 100 Miles	3 (20%)	101 (38%)
101 – 200 Miles	4 (27%)	111 (42%)
200 + Miles	7 (47%)	42 (16%)
<b>Total</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>265</b>

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No delinquent residential placements were in Philadelphia on December 31, 2025.

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

Data run on 1/9/2026

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 564 referrals in FY26 Q1-Q2, a decrease from the previous year. Evening Reporting Centers provided an alternative to detention for 182 youth in FY26 Q1-Q2, the most in the past four 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 13 days in FY26 Q2, the median length of stay at the PJJSC has continued to fluctuate. Delinquent Residential Placement length of stay increased to 230 days in FY26 Q2.



**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

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## Glossary of Terms

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**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 School District of Philadelphia. C2L offers youth and young adults ages 12-24 paid, work-based career exposure, exploration, and skill development. Facilitated by JEVS Human Services, 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)

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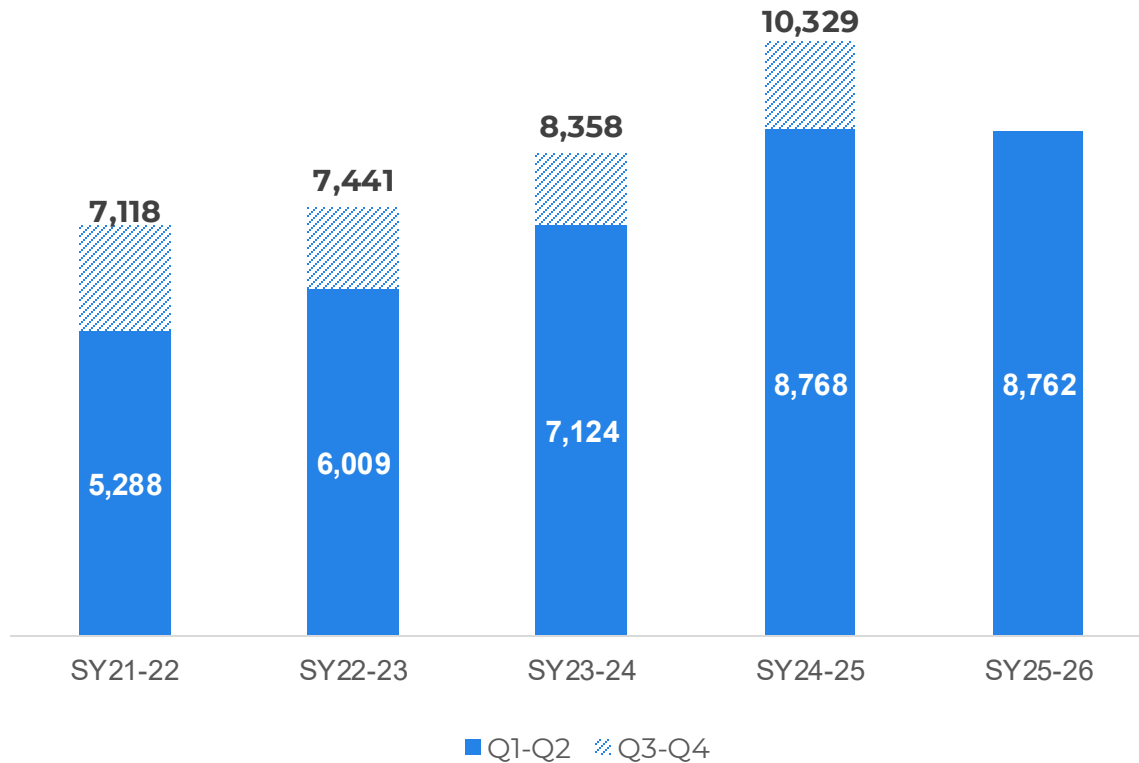


- **Education Support Center (ESC)** - The Education Support Center collaborates with cross-system partners to minimize educational disruptions, address learning barriers, and align supports for children and youth involved with DHS.
- **PHLpreK** - PHLpreK is the City of Philadelphia's free, quality 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.
- **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.

## VI. Additional OCF Programs

# Out of School Time (OST)

Figure 49. Summer OST Attendance



Over 8,700 youth attended OST programming in the first half of School Year 2025-26 including 1,526 High School OST participants who took part in C2L programming.

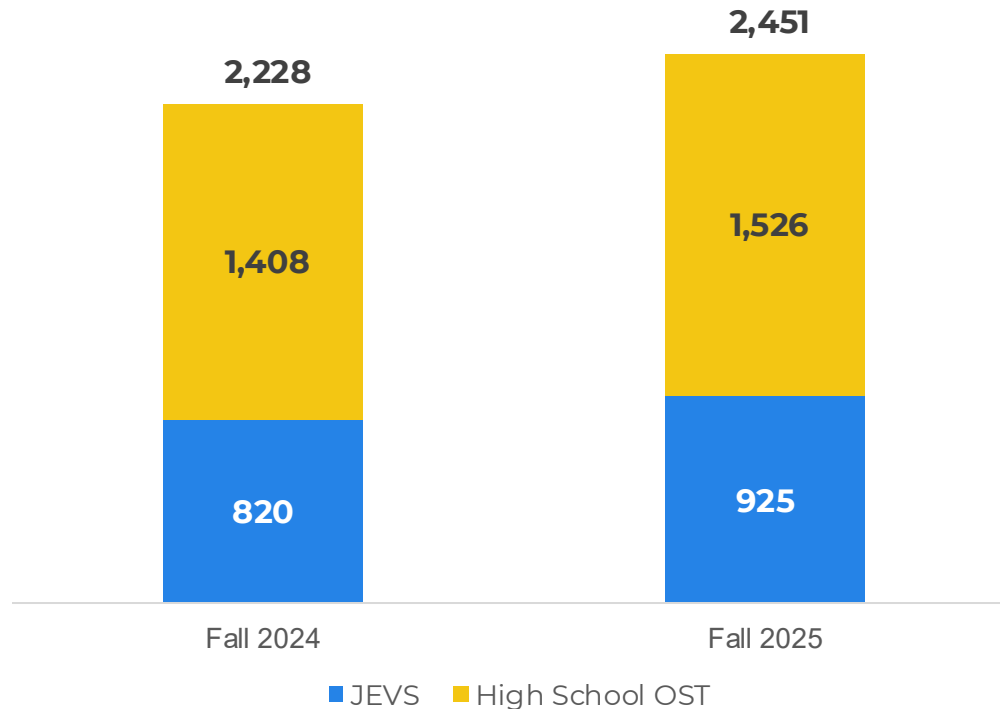
Since 2021, attendance has increased 66 percent.

Data run on 1/10/2026

## VI. Additional OCF Programs

# Career Connected Learning (C2L)

Figure 50. Summer C2L Attendance



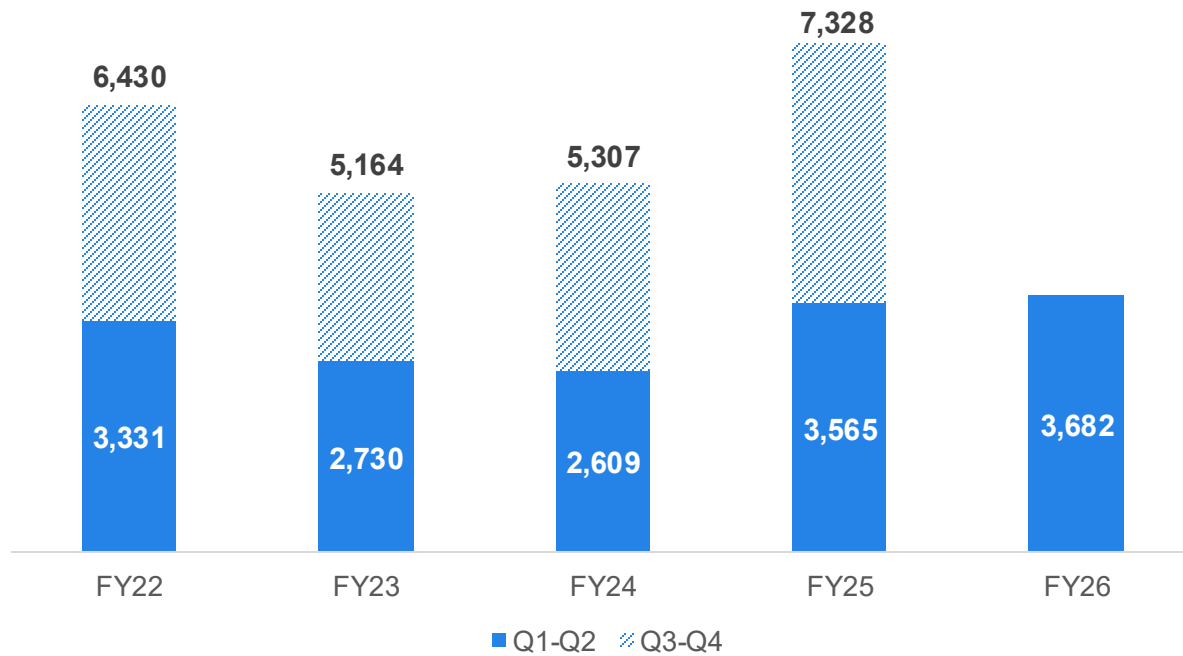
Fall 2025 C2L programs hosted over 2,450 youth, a 10 percent increase from the previous fall.

Data provided by JEVS Human Services in January 2026. Prior to 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



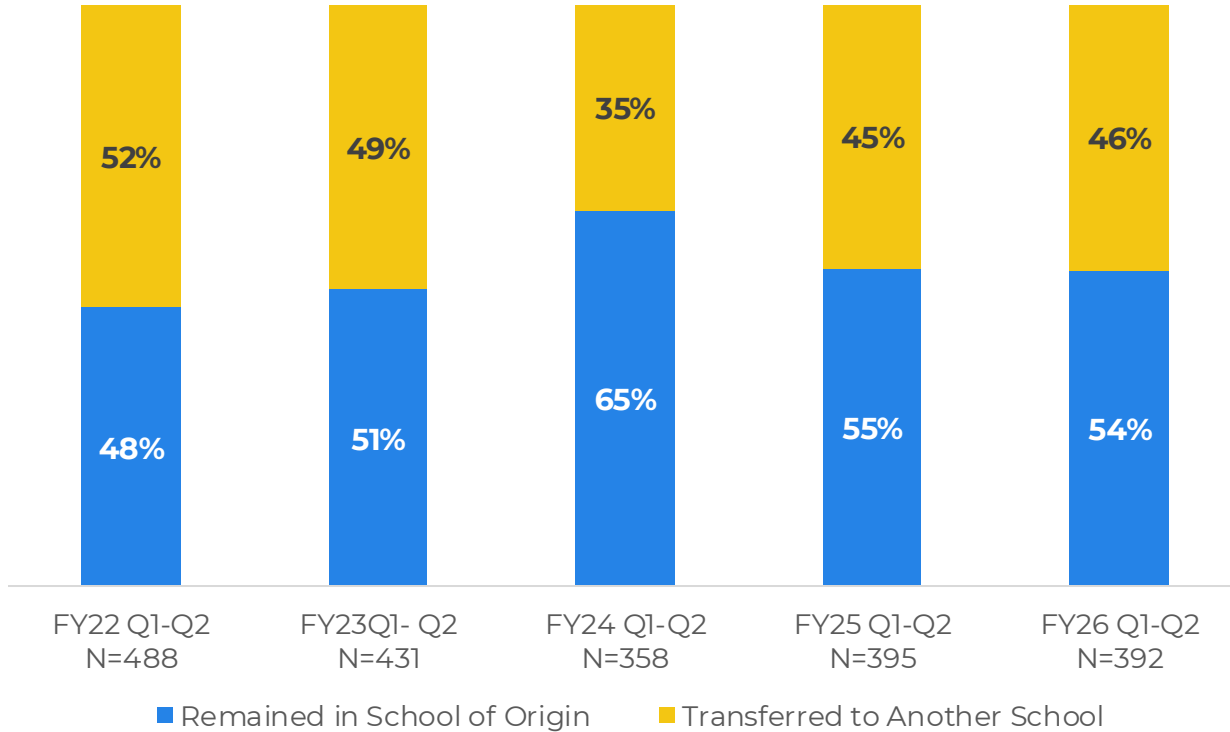
In FY26 Q1-Q2, 3,682 education stability consults were requested for students, a slight increase from FY25 Q1-Q2.

Data run on 10/15/2025, 11/15/2025, and 12/15/2025  
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 392 youth who had ESSA BID conferences in the first half of FY26, 54 percent remained in their school of origin during their placement.

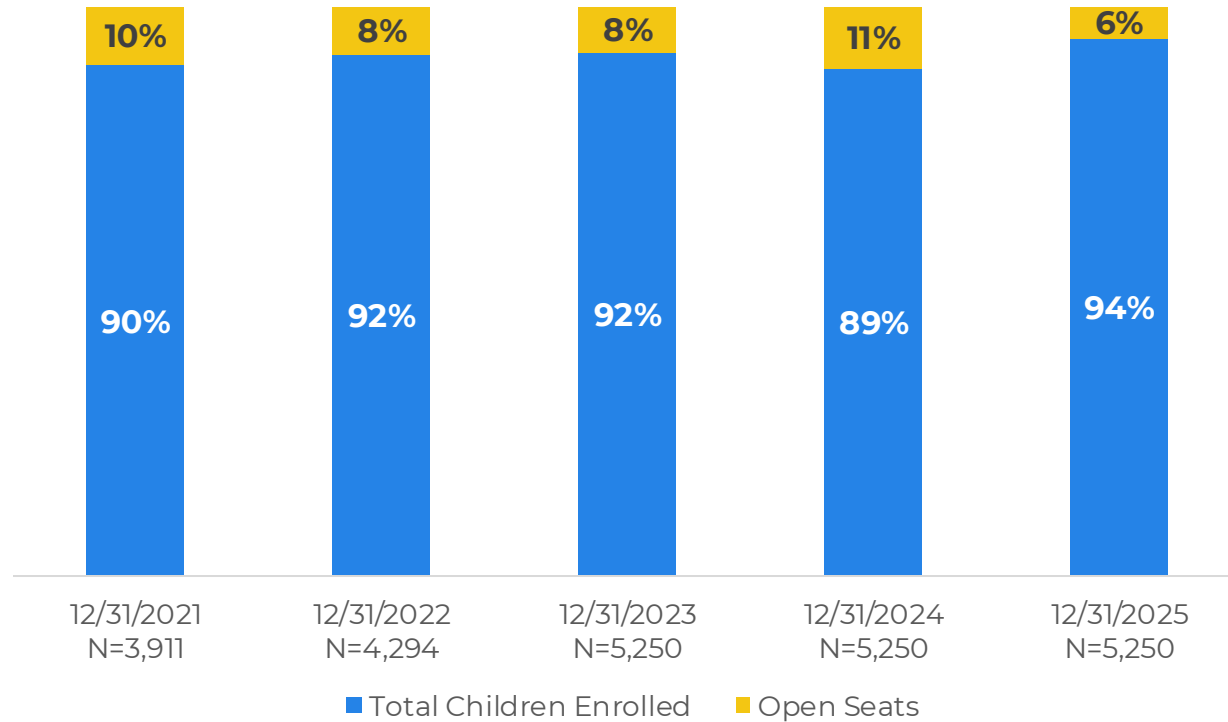
Data run on 1/9/2026

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



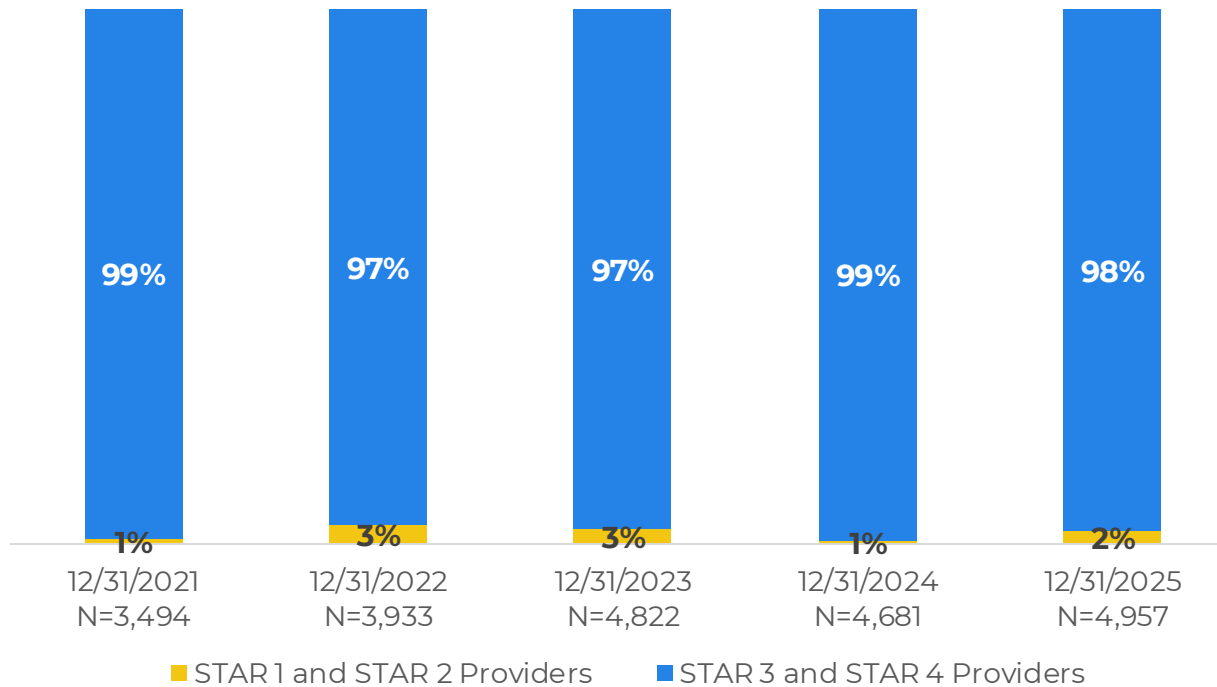
At the end of FY26 Q2, there were 4,957 children enrolled in PHLpreK, filling 94 percent of the total allocated seats (N=5,250).

Data from 12/30/2025 PHLpreK Enrollment Report

## VI. Additional OCF Programs

# PHLpreK

Figure 54. PHLpreK Enrollment by Provider STAR Rating on December 31, 2025



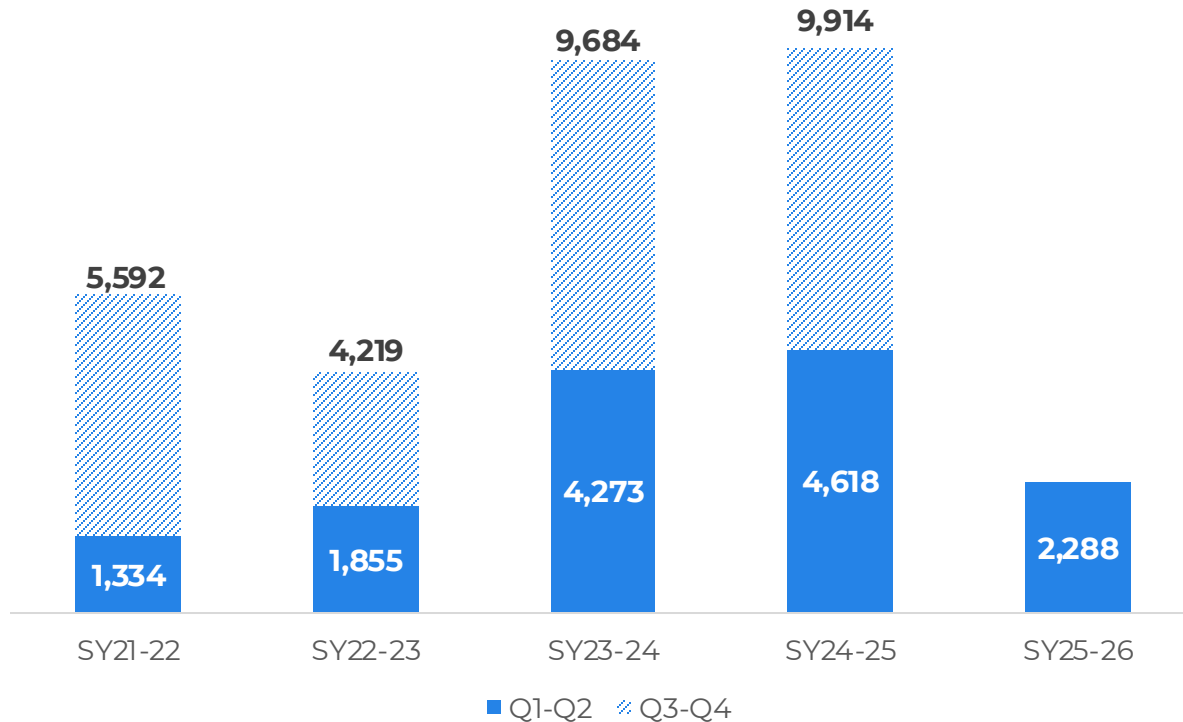
At the end of FY26 Q2, over 4,900 children were enrolled in STAR 3 and STAR 4 PHLpreK programs, representing 98 percent of all enrolled children.

Data from 12/30/2025 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

# Truancy Intervention and Prevention Services (TIPS)

Figure 55. TIPS Early Intervention Active Cases



In the first half of School Year 2025-26, TIPS Early Intervention services were provided for nearly 2,300 youth, a 50 percent decrease from the same time the previous school year.

Data run on 1/9/2026

## 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 continues to be higher than the number transferring to another school.

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.**



# Kensington Community Revival

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## DHS Services in Kensington

**Kensington is one of the most historic and diverse areas in Philadelphia** with a history of rapid deindustrialization, job loss, and disinvestment since the 1960s. The City is committed to restoring Kensington through prevention, intervention, and enforcement efforts.

### Dependent Services

- By the end of FY 2026 Q2, there were 48 families and 95 youth in Kensington open for in-home services. These families and youth represent seven percent of those receiving in-home services in Philadelphia (n=678, n=1,413)
- In the first half of FY 2026, 116 youth from Kensington were in placement, around five percent of all children in placement in Philadelphia (n=2,329).

### Juvenile Justice Services

- In the first half of FY 2026, In-Home Detention served 20 youth, Intensive Supervision Programs served four youth, and Intensive Prevention Services served 19 youth, each representing less than 10 percent of city-wide services.
- The Community Evening Resource Centers (CERCs) nearest to Kensington served 254 unique youth through 6,528 visits, representing 44 percent of all CERC visits (N=14,967).

## VII. Kensington Community Revival

# City-funded Community Resources in Kensington



Community Resources inside the Kensington boundary include:

- 1 Community School
- 3 OST Sites
- 1 Extended Day/Extended Year (EDEY) School
- 15 Free Food and Meal Sites
- 6 PHLpreK Sites
- 5 TIPS Early Intervention Schools

## VII. Kensington Community Revival

# Kensington Community Revival Summary



Despite enduring significant trauma, the Kensington community has shown incredible strength and resiliency.

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Community members have been invaluable partners, helping to guide and lead the City's efforts to increase public safety, health and wellness, quality of life, and economic opportunity.



**The City is committed to transforming Kensington by prioritizing quality of life and resetting norms that will create lasting, positive changes.**

# Thank you.

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Office of  
**Children and Families**  
CITY OF PHILADELPHIA

Department of Human Services

