

A light gray map of Washington State is centered on the page. The map shows the state's outline and internal county boundaries. The text is overlaid on the map.

**Washington State**

**2019**

**Juvenile Detention  
Annual Report**

**WASHINGTON STATE CENTER  
FOR COURT RESEARCH**

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# Washington State Juvenile Detention

## 2019 Annual Report

*This report satisfies the requirement of House Bill (HB) 2449 regarding the development of an annual statewide detention report.*

### Prepared by the Washington State Center for Court Research

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## Introduction

This report was written in response to House Bill (HB) 2449, which was passed in 2016 and, among other things, requires an annual statewide juvenile detention report to be developed and presented to the legislature and other stakeholders of the juvenile justice system. The purpose of the annual report is to answer several fundamental questions regarding juvenile detention in Washington State, including the first six questions outlined below. In the 2018 annual report we added a seventh question, and continue to track this information.

1. Where are youth in Washington State placed in detention?
2. How many admissions are there to juvenile detention facilities annually?
3. How prevalent is a detention episode among the state's youth population?
4. What are the demographic characteristics of youth who experience detention?
5. What proportion of juvenile detention admissions are for non-offender matters?
6. How long does a typical detention stay last?
7. How many admissions are there to Secure Crisis Residential Centers (SCRCs) annually?

While the list of topics covered in this report is not exhaustive, the report serves as a significant step towards understanding the role and impact of detention in Washington State's juvenile justice system. Since the passing of HB 2449 a substantial portion of time has been devoted to data acquisition, management, and cleaning. A stipulation of HB 2449 was that all juvenile courts, regardless of where their youth are sent to detention, are required to securely transmit their detention data to the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) for inclusion in this statewide report. As of January 2017, all courts across the state are regularly transmitting juvenile detention data to AOC.

This statewide detention report covers 2019. It is important to note that the COVID-19 public health crisis significantly affected juvenile detention policies and practices beginning in early 2020. In fact, during the state's Stay Home order, detention admissions decreased by as much as two-thirds compared to pre COVID-19 periods.<sup>1</sup> As the crisis continues, admissions have remained low, and many juvenile courts have implemented practices that are likely to persist beyond COVID-19, and ultimately may result in long-term reductions in juvenile detention rates. Future reports will highlight these changes.

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<sup>1</sup>Gilman, A.B., & Sanford, R. (2020) Washington State Juvenile Detention: A snapshot of the use of detention during the COVID-19 crisis. Olympia, WA: Washington State Center for Court Research, Administrative Office of the Courts.

In 2019 Washington State youth were served by 20 county detention facilities, one private detention facility, two out of state detention facilities, and two Secure Crisis Residential Centers (SCRCs).

Figure 1 shows the locations of the juvenile detention facilities and SCRCs that served court-involved youth in Washington State during the 2019 calendar year. The vast majority of youth were placed in one of the state's 20 county-operated juvenile detention facilities. A smaller number of youth, depending on their geographic location, were placed in Martin Hall, a privately-operated facility in Spokane County, or a juvenile detention facility in a neighboring state. In this figure we also include the location of Washington State's two SCRCs, which are both co-located with juvenile detention centers.

**Figure 1. Juvenile Detention Facilities and Secure Crisis Residential Centers Serving Washington State Youth in 2019.**





**In 2019 there were 10,623 admissions to juvenile detention facilities, representing a 9.4% decrease from 2018.**

Table 1 shows the total number of admissions to juvenile detention facilities for all 39 counties in the state. Admissions to SCRCs are not included in this table. There are several important things to note, especially when comparing these numbers to other reports published by local jurisdictions.

- Admission counts exclude “screen and release” episodes, but include all admissions, regardless of length of stay. Other reports may exclude detention stays lasting less than four hours.
- Many county facilities have contracts to hold youth whose court involvement occurred in another state or on Tribal lands. Some facilities had a sizable number of admissions where youth were being held for another state or a Native American Tribe (across facilities, 34 admissions were noted as being holds for a Tribe, while 163 were holds for an out of state jurisdiction in 2019). This report excludes admissions for out of state and Tribal holds and includes only youth who were served by a county superior (juvenile or adult), district, or municipal court within the State of Washington and were admitted to a juvenile detention facility in 2019.
- Admissions are counted in the county where the youth’s case was processed,<sup>2</sup> regardless of where the youth was sent to serve detention or was picked up by police. This is an important distinction, as some counties do not have their own juvenile detention facilities and contract with a neighboring county (or counties) to hold their youth. Table 1 lists the primary facility (or facilities) used by each county. Youth may also be in a neighboring county when they are picked up on a warrant. Counting the youth this way allows for the calculation of population-based rates of detention.

One final point to consider is that practices regarding holding youth for other in-state, non-juvenile court jurisdictions vary by county. Some counties hold youth who are charged as adults or face charges in a district/ municipal court in their juvenile facilities, while others hold these youth in adult facilities. This report only includes admissions to juvenile detention facilities.

In addition to showing the total number of detention admissions by county, Table 1 shows the change in the number of admissions between 2018 and 2019. While there was variability across counties with regard to changes in detention admissions, the state as a whole saw a 9.4% reduction in the number of detention admissions between 2018 and 2019.

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<sup>2</sup>When holding for another jurisdiction, detention centers record the county for which the youth is being held. We used this data field to identify where the youth came from.



**Table 1. 2019 Detention Admissions and Change in Admissions from 2018, by County.** This table shows the primary detention facility used by each county, the county-level (not facility-level) detention admission counts in 2019, and the change in the number of detention admissions from 2018 to 2019.

County	Primary Facility Used	Detention Admissions	Change in Total Admissions from 2018	
			N	%
Adams	Martin Hall	43	-12	-21.8%
Asotin	Martin Hall & Nez Perce (Idaho) Juvenile Detention	42	+33	+366.7%
Benton	Benton/Franklin Juvenile Detention	619	-122	-16.5%
Chelan	Chelan Juvenile Detention	262	-44	-14.4%
Clallam	Clallam Juvenile Detention	296	-72	-19.6%
Clark	Clark Juvenile Detention	571	-122	-17.6%
Columbia	Walla Walla Juvenile Detention	6	-4	-40.0%
Cowlitz	Cowlitz Juvenile Detention	544	-101	-15.7%
Douglas	Martin Hall & Chelan Juvenile Detention	124	-14	-10.1%
Ferry	Martin Hall	19	-8	-29.6%
Franklin	Benton/Franklin Juvenile Detention	239	-50	-17.3%
Garfield	Martin Hall	0	0	-
Grant	Martin Hall	292	-6	-2.0%
Grays Harbor	Grays Harbor Juvenile Detention	277	+55	+24.8%
Island	Island Juvenile Detention	50	-22	-30.6%
Jefferson	Kitsap Juvenile Detention	20	-17	-45.9%
King	King Juvenile Detention	943	-107	-10.2%
Kitsap	Kitsap Juvenile Detention	481	+93	+24.0%
Kittitas	Yakima Juvenile Detention	60	-8	-11.8%
Klickitat	NORCOR (Oregon)	72	+22	+44.0%
Lewis	Lewis Juvenile Detention	317	-45	-12.4%
Lincoln	Martin Hall	10	-1	-9.1%
Mason	Mason Juvenile Detention	79	-2	-2.5%
Okanogan	Okanogan Juvenile Detention	235	+51	+27.7%
Pacific	Grays Harbor Juvenile Detention & Cowlitz Juvenile Detention	47	+2	+4.4%
Pend Oreille	Martin Hall	39	-13	-25.0%
Pierce	Pierce Juvenile Detention	1,168	-255	-17.9%
San Juan	Skagit Juvenile Detention	12	+4	+50.0%
Skagit	Skagit Juvenile Detention	326	-30	-8.4%
Skamania	NORCOR (Oregon)	4	-17	-81.0%
Snohomish	Snohomish Juvenile Detention	510	-193	-27.5%
Spokane	Spokane Juvenile Detention	753	+25	+3.4%
Stevens	Martin Hall	101	+6	+6.3%
Thurston	Thurston Juvenile Detention	580	-46	-7.3%
Wahkiakum	Cowlitz Juvenile Detention	5	-4	-44.4%
Walla Walla	Walla Walla Juvenile Detention	167	-5	-2.9%
Whatcom	Whatcom Juvenile Detention	362	-39	-9.7%
Whitman	Martin Hall	27	+5	+22.7%
Yakima	Yakima Juvenile Detention	699	-23	-3.2%
JR hold	All	222	-10	-4.3%
Total		10,623	-1,096	-9.4%

Notes: when holding for another jurisdiction, detention centers record the county for which the youth is being held. We used this data field to identify where the youth came from. JR=Juvenile Rehabilitation.







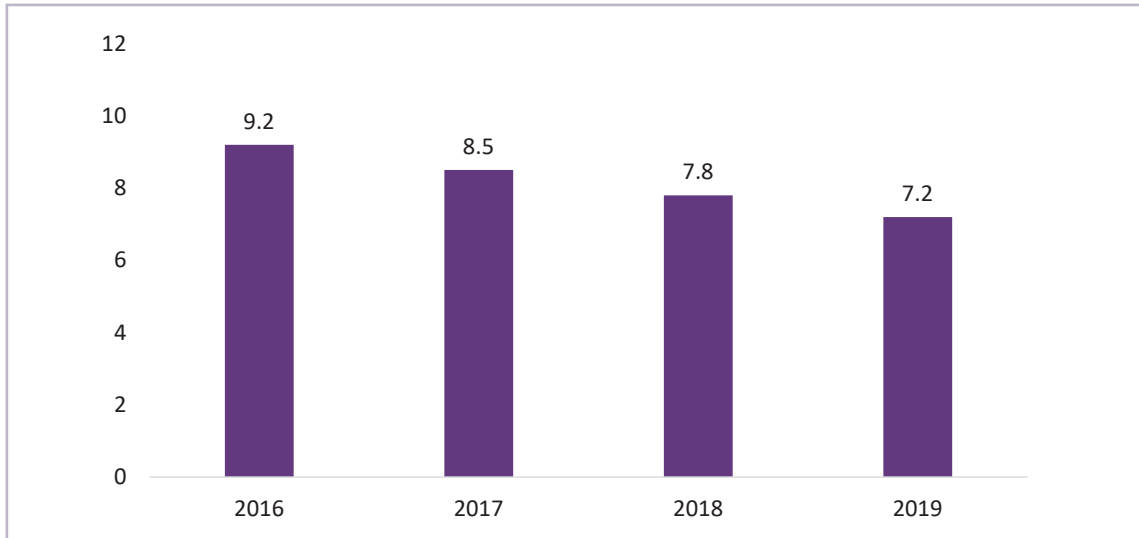
**Table 2. Youth Admitted to Detention in 2019 and Population-Based Detention Rates, by County.** *This table shows the number of unique youth who had at least one detention stay in 2019 and the youth-level population-based detention rates by county.*

County (number of admissions)	Youth Admitted	Youth Population Aged 10-17	Detention Rate per 1,000 ((youth/population)x1,000)
Adams (43)	28	3,108	9.0
Asotin (42)	20	2,099	9.5
Benton (619)	247	24,652	10.0
Chelan (262)	129	8,086	16.0
Clallam (296)	123	5,798	21.2
Clark (571)	273	53,829	5.1
Columbia (6)	4	335	11.9
Cowlitz (544)	227	11,442	19.8
Douglas (124)	56	5,193	10.8
Ferry (19)	6	545	11.0
Franklin (239)	102	13,531	7.5
Garfield (0)	0	188	0.0
Grant (292)	158	12,978	12.2
Grays Harbor (277)	134	7,012	19.1
Island (50)	35	6,177	5.7
Jefferson (20)	11	1,794	6.1
King (943)	552	196,456	2.8
Kitsap (481)	184	24,161	7.6
Kittitas (60)	27	3,620	7.5
Klickitat (72)	26	1,989	13.1
Lewis (317)	149	7,682	19.4
Lincoln (10)	6	1,146	5.2
Mason (79)	44	5,835	7.5
Okanogan (235)	108	4,380	24.7
Pacific (47)	26	1,604	16.2
Pend Oreille (39)	16	1,274	12.6
Pierce (1,168)	724	90,927	8.0
San Juan (12)	6	1,137	5.3
Skagit (326)	119	12,511	9.5
Skamania (4)	2	1,074	1.9
Snohomish (510)	296	81,210	3.6
Spokane (753)	387	51,455	7.5
Stevens (101)	62	4,618	13.4
Thurston (580)	280	27,548	10.2
Wahkiakum (5)	5	388	12.9
Walla Walla (167)	78	5,858	13.3
Whatcom (362)	157	19,665	8.0
Whitman (27)	14	3,337	4.2
Yakima (699)	372	33,166	11.2
JR hold (222)	99	-	-
Total (10,623)	5,292	737,808	7.2



Figure 3 shows the youth-level population-based detention rates for Washington State from 2016 through 2019. There has been a steady decrease across the four years from 9.2 youth per 1,000 youth in 2016 to 7.2 youth per 1,000 youth in 2019. The change from 2018 to 2019 represents 408 fewer youth who experienced detention and 1,096 fewer admissions to detention.

**Figure 3. Youth-Level Detention Rates for Washington State, 2016-2019.** *This figure shows the number of youth (per 1,000 youth age 10-17 in the state) who had at least one detention stay in 2016, 2017, 2018, and 2019.*

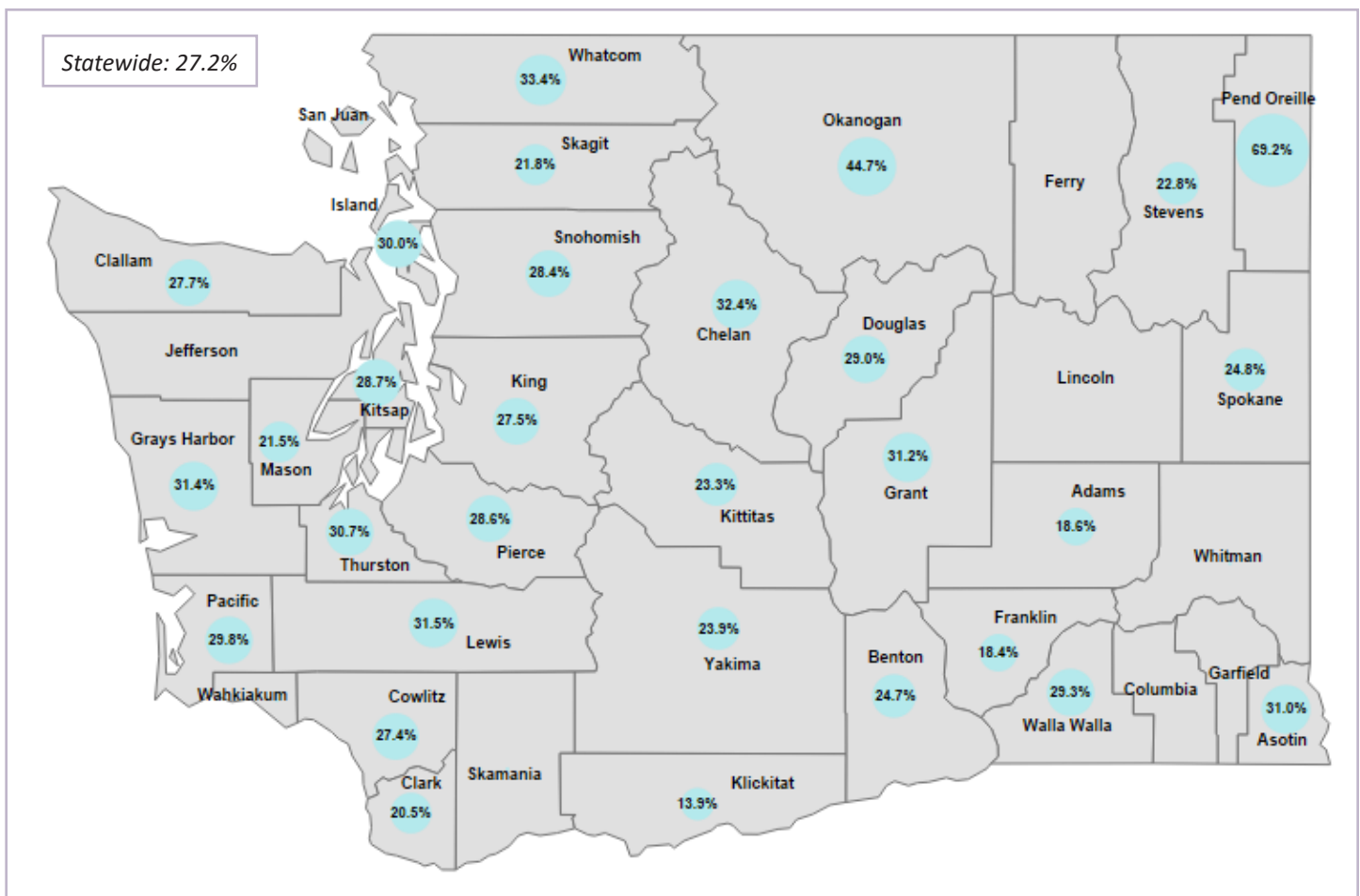


Note: the 2016 rate excludes seven very small counties for which data were not available, while the 2017, 2018, and 2019 rates include all counties in the state. However, when we removed data from these seven counties from the 2017, 2018, and 2019 calculations, the rates remained the same.

In 2019 27.2% of admissions to detention were accounted for by girls, and 51.0% were accounted for by youth of color.

Figure 4 shows the percentage of admissions accounted for by girls. Only counties that had at least 30 detention admissions in 2019 are included in this figure, to avoid potentially misleading generalizations from small populations (please see Table 3 for the gender breakdown in each county). Across all counties as well as Juvenile Rehabilitation (JR) holds, 27.2% of all admissions were accounted for by girls. There was no noteworthy change in the gender composition of youth in detention between 2018 and 2019.

**Figure 4. Girls in Detention in 2019 by County.** This figure shows the percentage of admissions accounted for by girls in 2019.



Note: counties with fewer than 30 total admissions in 2019 are excluded from this figure.



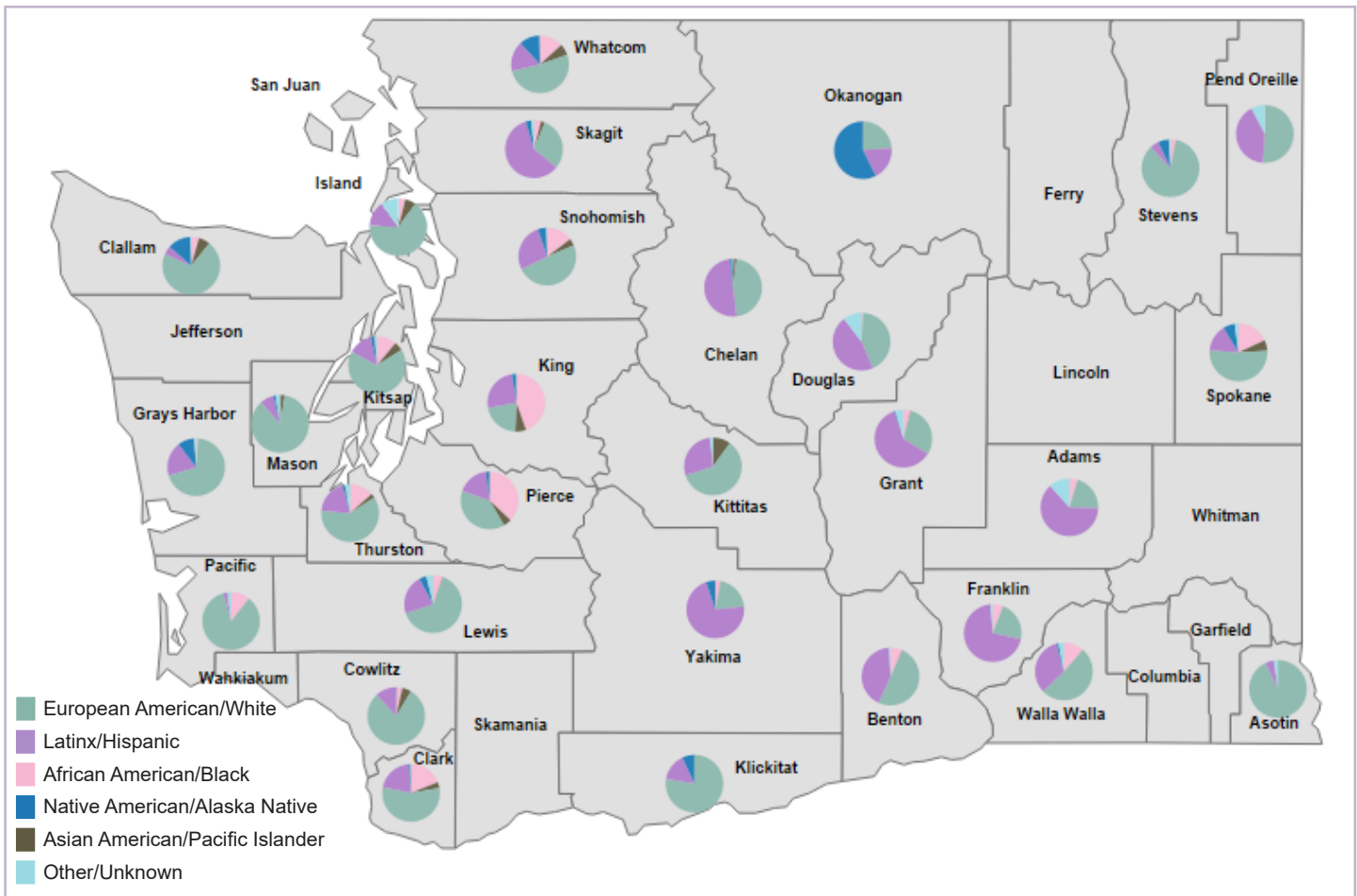
**Table 3. Admissions to Detention in 2019 by Gender and County.**

County (Number of Admissions)	Female		Male		Unknown	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Adams (43)	8	18.6	34	79.1	1	2.3
Asotin (42)	13	31.0	29	69.0	0	0.0
Benton (619)	153	24.7	466	75.3	0	0.0
Chelan (262)	85	32.4	177	67.6	0	0.0
Clallam (296)	82	27.7	214	72.3	0	0.0
Clark (571)	117	20.5	454	79.5	0	0.0
Columbia (6)	3	50.0	3	50.0	0	0.0
Cowlitz (544)	149	27.4	395	72.6	0	0.0
Douglas (124)	36	29.0	88	71.0	0	0.0
Ferry (19)	8	42.1	11	57.9	0	0.0
Franklin (239)	44	18.4	195	81.6	0	0.0
Garfield (0)	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Grant (292)	91	31.2	201	68.8	0	0.0
Grays Harbor (277)	87	31.4	190	68.6	0	0.0
Island (50)	15	30.0	35	70.0	0	0.0
Jefferson (20)	4	20.0	16	80.0	0	0.0
King (943)	259	27.5	684	72.5	0	0.0
Kitsap (481)	138	28.7	343	71.3	0	0.0
Kittitas (60)	14	23.3	46	76.7	0	0.0
Klickitat (72)	10	13.9	62	86.1	0	0.0
Lewis (317)	100	31.5	216	68.1	1	0.3
Lincoln (10)	2	20.0	8	80.0	0	0.0
Mason (79)	17	21.5	62	78.5	0	0.0
Okanogan (235)	105	44.7	130	55.3	0	0.0
Pacific (47)	14	29.8	33	70.2	0	0.0
Pend Oreille (39)	27	69.2	12	30.8	0	0.0
Pierce (1,168)	334	28.6	833	71.3	1	0.1
San Juan (12)	6	50.0	6	50.0	0	0.0
Skagit (326)	71	21.8	255	78.2	0	0.0
Skamania (4)	0	0.0	4	100.0	0	0.0
Snohomish (510)	145	28.4	364	71.4	1	0.2
Spokane (753)	187	24.8	566	75.2	0	0.0
Stevens (101)	23	22.8	78	77.2	0	0.0
Thurston (580)	178	30.7	402	69.3	0	0.0
Wahkiakum (5)	2	40.0	3	60.0	0	0.0
Walla Walla (167)	49	29.3	118	70.7	0	0.0
Whatcom (362)	121	33.4	241	66.6	0	0.0
Whitman (27)	11	40.7	16	59.3	0	0.0
Yakima (699)	167	23.9	532	76.1	0	0.0
JR Hold (222)	19	8.6	203	91.4	0	0.0
Total (10,623)	2,894	27.2	7,725	72.7	4	0.0

Note: percentages may not add to 100 due to rounding.

Figure 5 shows the admission-level racial/ethnic breakdown of detention admissions for all counties that had at least 30 admissions in 2019 (please see Table 4 for the racial/ethnic breakdown in each county). In order to prevent individuals from possibly being identified (especially in smaller jurisdictions with limited racial/ethnic diversity), cells in Table 4 with fewer than 10 cases<sup>5</sup> are not shown, except in the instance when doing so does not provide any identifying information (i.e., in the other/unknown category). Across all counties as well as JR holds, 47.7% of all admissions to detention in 2019 involved a European American/White youth, 28.3% involved a Latinx/Hispanic youth, 14.9% involved an African American/Black youth, 4.6% involved a Native American/Alaska Native youth, and 3.2% involved an Asian American/Pacific Islander youth. There was substantial variability in the racial/ethnic makeup of youth in detention in 2019 by county, with patterns emerging by geographic region. For example, counties in Central and Eastern Washington showed the highest admission rates for Latinx/Hispanic youth, while counties in Western Washington had higher admission rates for African American/Black youth than counties in other regions. There were no notable changes in the racial/ethnic makeup of detention admissions between 2018 and 2019.

**Figure 5. Detention Admissions in 2019 by Race/Ethnicity and County.** *This figure shows the racial/ethnic breakdown for all detention admissions in 2019.*



Note: counties with fewer than 30 total admissions in 2019 are excluded from this figure.

<sup>5</sup> If only one cell had fewer than 10 cases, the next largest cell was also excluded.



**Table 4. Detention Admissions in 2019 by Race/Ethnicity and County.**

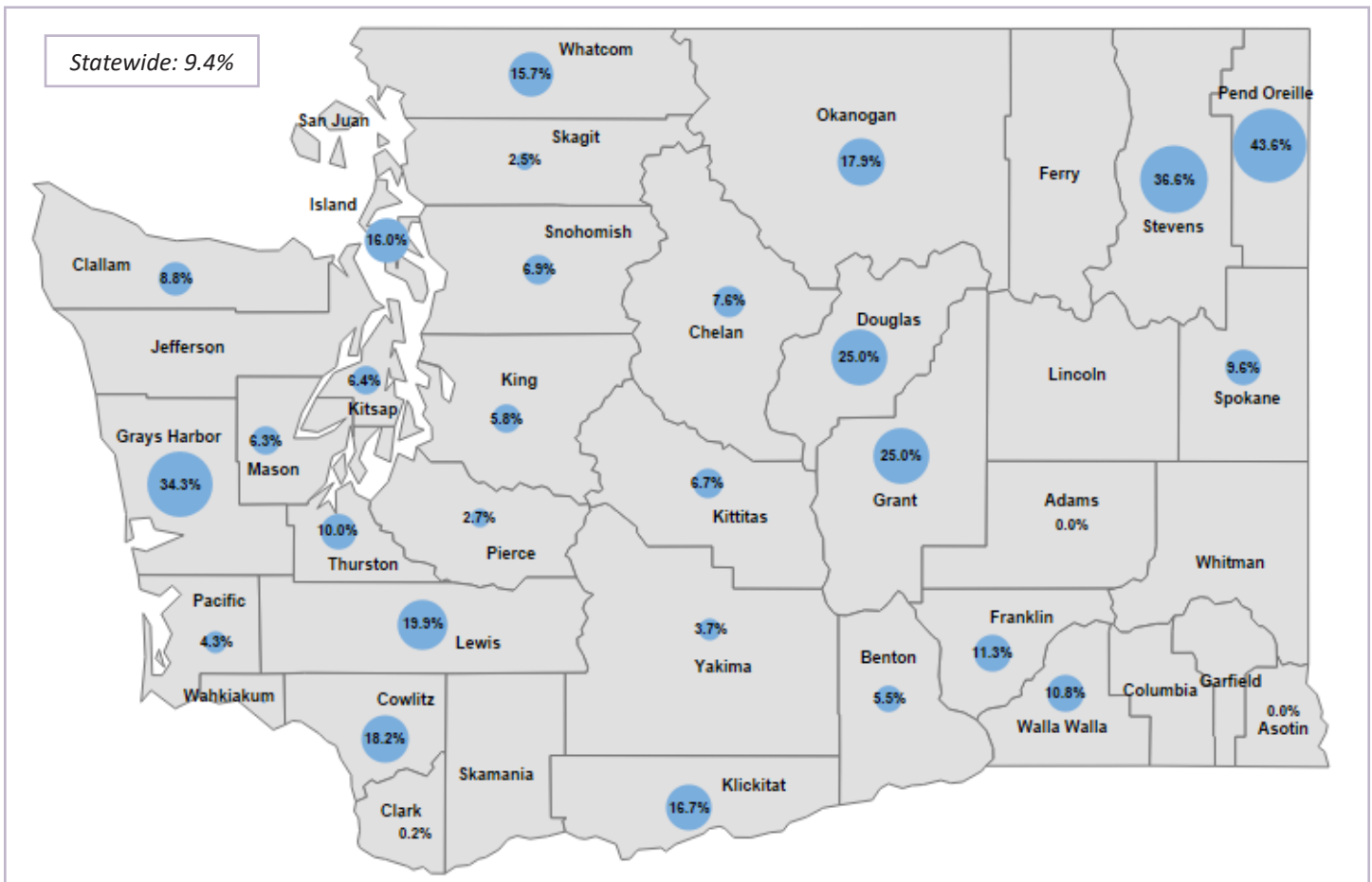
County (Number of Admissions)	European American/ White		Latinx/ Hispanic		African American/ Black		Native American/ Alaska Native		Asian American/ Pacific Islander		Other/ Unknown	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Adams (43)			27	62.8								
Asotin (42)	39	92.9										
Benton (619)	309	49.9	261	42.2	41	6.6						
Chelan (262)	121	46.2	131	50.0								
Clallam (296)	210	70.9	14	4.7	13	4.4	38	12.8	19	6.4	2	0.7
Clark (571)	320	56.0	116	20.3	108	18.9			19	3.3		
Columbia (6)												
Cowlitz (544)	433	79.6	62	11.4	19	3.5			28	5.1		
Douglas (124)	53	42.7	57	46.0							13	10.5
Ferry (19)							16	84.2				
Franklin (239)	54	22.6	168	70.3	14	5.9						
Garfield (0)	0	N/A	0	N/A	0	N/A	0	N/A	0	N/A	0	N/A
Grant (292)	86	29.5	178	61.0	12	4.1					13	4.5
Grays Harbor (277)	192	69.3	53	19.1			26	9.4				
Island (50)	33	66.0										
Jefferson (20)	17	85.0										
King (943)	204	21.6	239	25.3	420	44.5	22	2.3	57	6.0	1	0.1
Kitsap (481)	322	66.9	66	13.7	53	11.0			24	5.0		
Kittitas (60)	36	60.0	17	28.3								
Klickitat (72)	56	77.8	11	15.3								
Lewis (317)	204	64.4	70	22.1	17	5.4	13	4.1				
Lincoln (10)												
Mason (79)	68	86.1										
Okanogan (235)	55	23.4	44	18.7			135	57.4				
Pacific (47)	40	85.1										
Pend Oreille (39)	20	51.3	16	41.0								
Pierce (1,168)	453	38.8	206	17.6	432	37.0	23	2.0	54	4.6	0	0.0
San Juan (12)												
Skagit (326)	97	29.8	194	59.5	13	4.0	10	3.1				
Skamania (4)												
Snohomish (510)	251	49.2	137	26.9	75	14.7	24	4.7	20	3.9	3	0.6
Spokane (753)	393	52.2	113	15.0	136	18.1	50	6.6	45	6.0	16	2.1
Stevens (101)	86	85.1										
Thurston (580)	351	60.5	113	19.5	78	13.4					17	2.9
Wahkiakum (5)												
Walla Walla (167)	86	51.5	55	32.9	19	11.4						
Whatcom (362)	187	51.7	61	16.9	48	13.3	42	11.6	23	6.4	1	0.3
Whitman (27)	19	70.4										
Yakima (699)	142	20.3	499	71.4	21	3.0	36	5.2				
JR Hold (222)	93	41.9	64	28.8	48	21.6	12	5.4				
Total (10,623)	5,068	47.7	3,005	28.3	1,586	14.9	493	4.6	337	3.2	134	1.3

Notes: to avoid potential identification of individuals, some cells with a small number of cases are not shown. Percentages may not add to 100 due to rounding.

In 2019 there were 999 admissions to detention for non-offender matters, representing a 26.8% decrease from 2018.

Figure 6 shows the percent of detention admissions where the most serious admission reason was a non-offender matter (i.e., court contempt regarding a petition for At-Risk Youth [ARY], Child in Need of Services [CHINS], Truancy, or Dependency) for each county that had at least 30 total detention admissions in 2019 (please see Table 5 for the breakdown in each county).<sup>6</sup> There was considerable variability across counties with regard to the proportion of detention admissions that were for non-offender matters. As shown in Table 5, in 999 of the state's 10,623 total detention admissions (9.4%) the most serious reason was a non-offender matter. Of the non-offender admissions, detention admissions as a result of an ARY petition were most common (4.5% of all admissions), followed by a truancy petition (4.0%). Admissions for dependency-related matters were less common (0.7%), and admissions for CHINS petitions or another non-offender matter were very rare (0.2% of all admissions). There was a 26.8% decrease in the number of admissions for non-offender matters between 2018 and 2019, with the greatest decrease (-67.2%) observed for dependency-related admissions (please see Figure 7).

**Figure 6. Non-Offender Admissions to Detention in 2019 by County.** This figure shows the percentage of admissions in 2019 where the most serious reason for detention was a non-offender matter.



Note: counties with fewer than 30 total admissions in 2019 are excluded from this figure.

<sup>6</sup> In some counties, in rare instances, non-offender youth may be charged with a criminal contempt, in which case the detention admission would not appear as being related to a non-offender matter. However, there is no indication that this practice is used with any regularity.

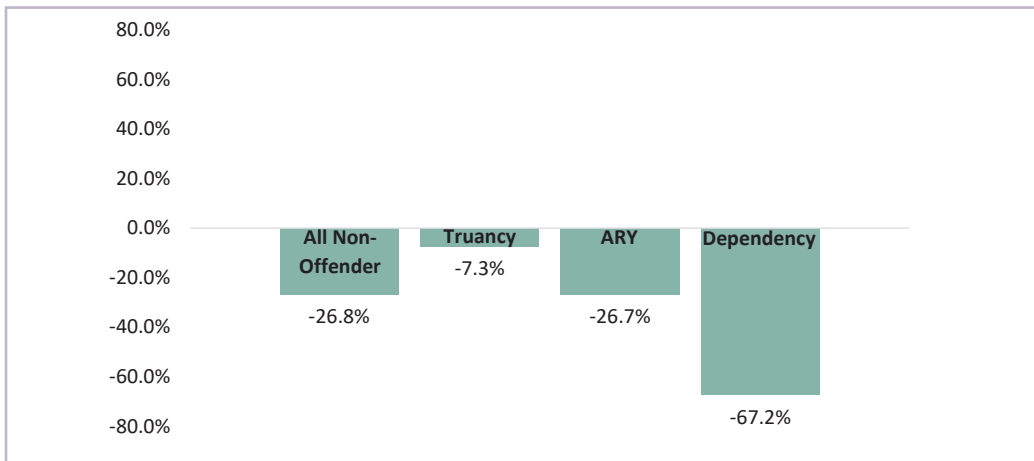


**Table 5. Breakdown of Non-Offender Admissions in 2019 by County.**

County (Total Number of Admissions)	Non-Offender Admissions	=	Truancy	+	ARY	+	Dependency	+	CHINS and Other
Adams (43)	0		0		0		0		0
Asotin (42)	0		0		0		0		0
Benton (619)	34		8		26		0		0
Chelan (262)	20		8		12		0		0
Clallam (296)	26		18		7		1		0
Clark (571)	1		1		0		0		0
Columbia (6)	1		1		0		0		0
Cowlitz (544)	99		75		20		1		3
Douglas (124)	31		18		13		0		0
Ferry (19)	3		3		0		0		0
Franklin (239)	27		17		9		0		1
Garfield (0)	0		0		0		0		0
Grant (292)	73		57		14		0		2
Grays Harbor (277)	95		54		38		1		2
Island (50)	8		6		2		0		0
Jefferson (20)	0		0		0		0		0
King (943)	55		1		27		25		2
Kitsap (481)	31		1		26		4		0
Kittitas (60)	4		1		2		0		1
Klickitat (72)	12		4		8		0		0
Lewis (317)	63		32		25		6		0
Lincoln (10)	1		0		1		0		0
Mason (79)	5		1		1		3		0
Okanogan (235)	42		31		9		0		2
Pacific (47)	2		2		0		0		0
Pend Oreille (39)	17		5		11		0		1
Pierce (1,168)	32		4		21		7		0
San Juan (12)	0		0		0		0		0
Skagit (326)	8		1		7		0		0
Skamania (4)	0		0		0		0		0
Snohomish (510)	35		11		23		1		0
Spokane (753)	72		14		46		10		2
Stevens (101)	37		16		20		1		0
Thurston (580)	58		5		36		15		2
Wahkiakum (5)	0		0		0		0		0
Walla Walla (167)	18		2		16		0		0
Whatcom (362)	57		5		50		1		1
Whitman (27)	6		5		1		0		0
Yakima (699)	26		13		10		3		0
JR Hold (222)	0		0		0		0		0
<b>Total (10,623)</b>	<b>999</b>		<b>420</b>		<b>481</b>		<b>79</b>		<b>19</b>



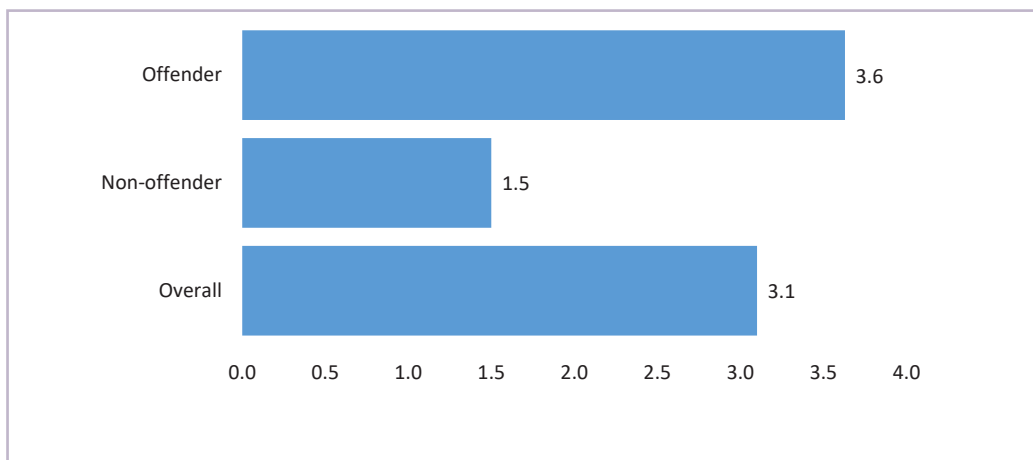
**Figure 7. Change in Detention Admissions for Non-Offender Matters from 2018 to 2019.** *This figure shows the percent change in the number of admissions for all non-offender matters, Truancy, ARY, and Dependency, respectively, between 2018 and 2019.*



**In 2019 the median length of stay for a detention admission was 3.1 days.**

Figure 8 shows the median length of stay<sup>7</sup> across all counties, broken down by admissions for offender matters and non-offender matters. Length of stay takes into account the time the youth physically spent in secure detention, subtracting any temporary leave, furlough time, or time spent in alternatives to secure detention (such as electronic home monitoring). The median, rather than the mean (average) is presented here because it is a more accurate measure of the “typical” length of stay in detention. Very long detention stays (e.g., for youth who are being tried as adults) tend to skew the average length of stay upward. Indeed, the average length of stay in 2019 was 9.4 days, while the median length of stay was 3.1 days, indicating that half of all admissions were shorter than about three days and half were longer. The median length of stay for admissions related to an offender matter (3.6 days) was more than two times longer than the median length of stay for admissions related to a non-offender matter (1.5 days).

**Figure 8. Median Length of Stay (in Days) in Detention in 2019.**



<sup>7</sup> Length of stay was calculated for each admission that ended in 2019, regardless of whether it began in 2018 or 2019.



**In 2019 there were 91 admissions to the two Secure Crisis Residential Centers in Washington State.**

As shown in Figure 1, in 2019 there were two Secure Crisis Residential Centers (SCRCs) operating in Washington State, located in Chelan and Clallam Counties.<sup>8</sup> Both are co-located with the county’s juvenile detention facility; however, youth admitted to SCRCs are prohibited from having contact with youth in the main detention facility. Under current law, SCRCs are intended to provide temporary housing (up to five days) to youth who have run away from their residence and/or are found by law enforcement to be in dangerous circumstances.<sup>9</sup> Senate Bill 5290, which was passed in 2019, phases out the use of detention for non-offender matters between 2020 and 2023 and encourages the use of SCRCs in lieu of detention when confinement is deemed necessary. Thus, it is important to track how often and under what circumstances SCRCs are currently being used in the state. As shown in Table 6, in 2019 there were a total of 91 admissions to SCRCs involving 73 unique youth. Of all SCRC admissions, 78.0% were as a result of the youth running away, 17.6% were due to the youth being found in dangerous circumstances, and 4.4% were for other reasons.

**Table 6. Admissions to Secure Crisis Residential Centers in 2019.**

Facility	SCRC Admissions	Youth Admitted	Admission Reason					
			Runaway		Dangerous Circumstances		Other	
			N	%	N	%	N	%
Chelan SCRC	26	23	24	92.3	2	7.7	0	0.0
Clallam SCRC	65	50	47	72.3	14	21.5	4	6.2
Total	91	73	71	78.0	16	17.6	4	4.4

Notes: example of other reasons for admission to SCRC includes “transfer from another court placement”. Percentages may not add to 100 due to rounding.

**Conclusion**

The goal of this detention report is to provide a useful tool to juvenile justice stakeholders to help evaluate practices and guide policy decisions, and we hope that this information will be used to continue to make improvements in service delivery to the youth and families involved with the juvenile court. Each annual report provides an opportunity to observe trends, as well as a chance to improve data reporting and quality. We were pleased to be able to include all jurisdictions in the last three reports, and are looking forward to expanding the data elements included in each report in subsequent years. Washington State saw a reduction in both overall detention admissions and admissions for non-offender matters between 2018 and 2019. Future reports will allow for an even more in-depth analysis of changes over time.

<sup>8</sup> Only admissions to SCRCs are included in this report. Washington also has several non-secure or semi-secure Crisis Residential Centers operating across the state which are not affiliated with detention centers. Please see: <http://www.commerce.wa.gov/wp-content/uploads/2018/02/hau-ohy-grantee-map-1-29-2018.pdf> for more information.

<sup>9</sup> See <https://www.dcyf.wa.gov/services/at-risk-youth/secure-crc>.