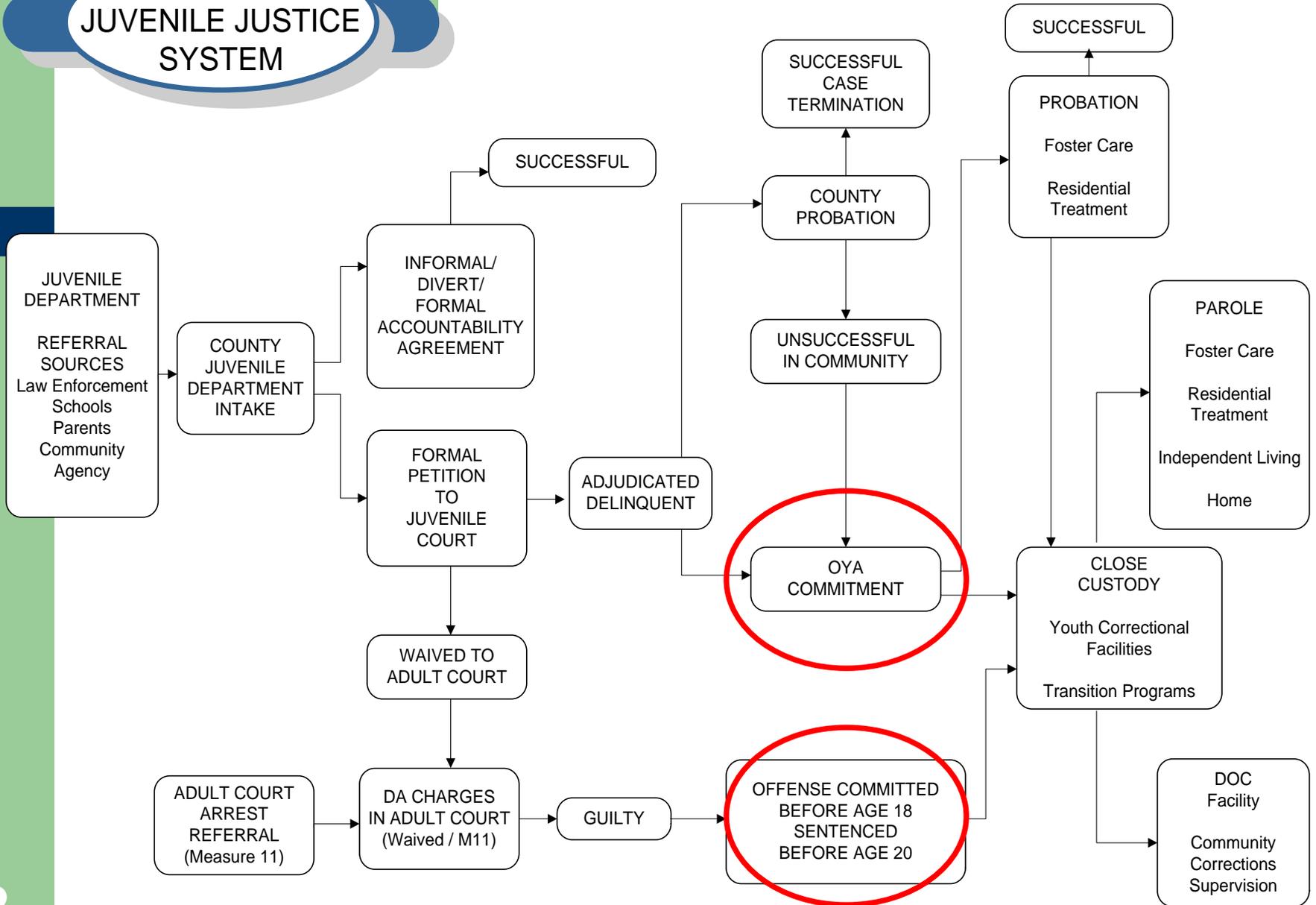




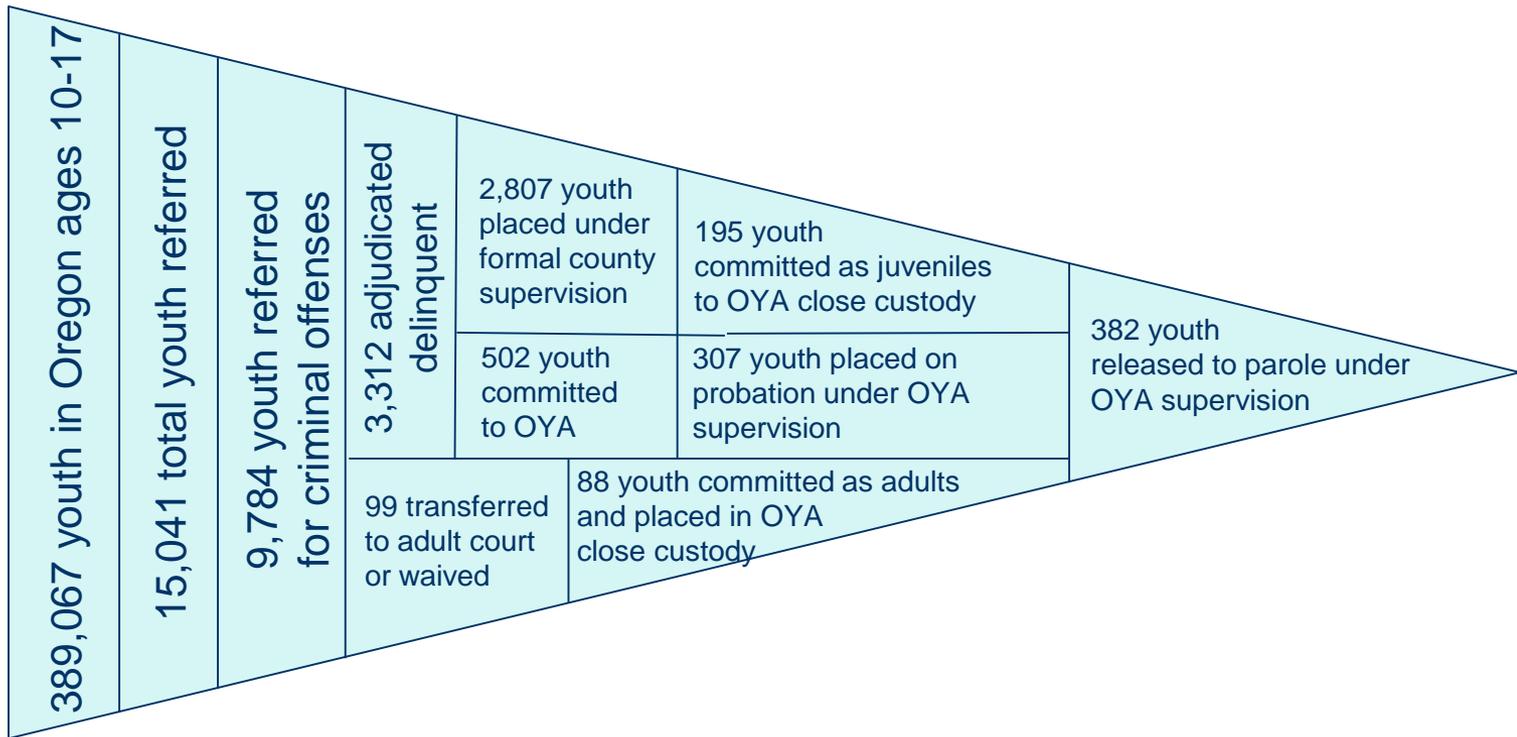
# The Oregon Youth Authority – helping youth succeed and creating safer communities



# OREGON'S JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM

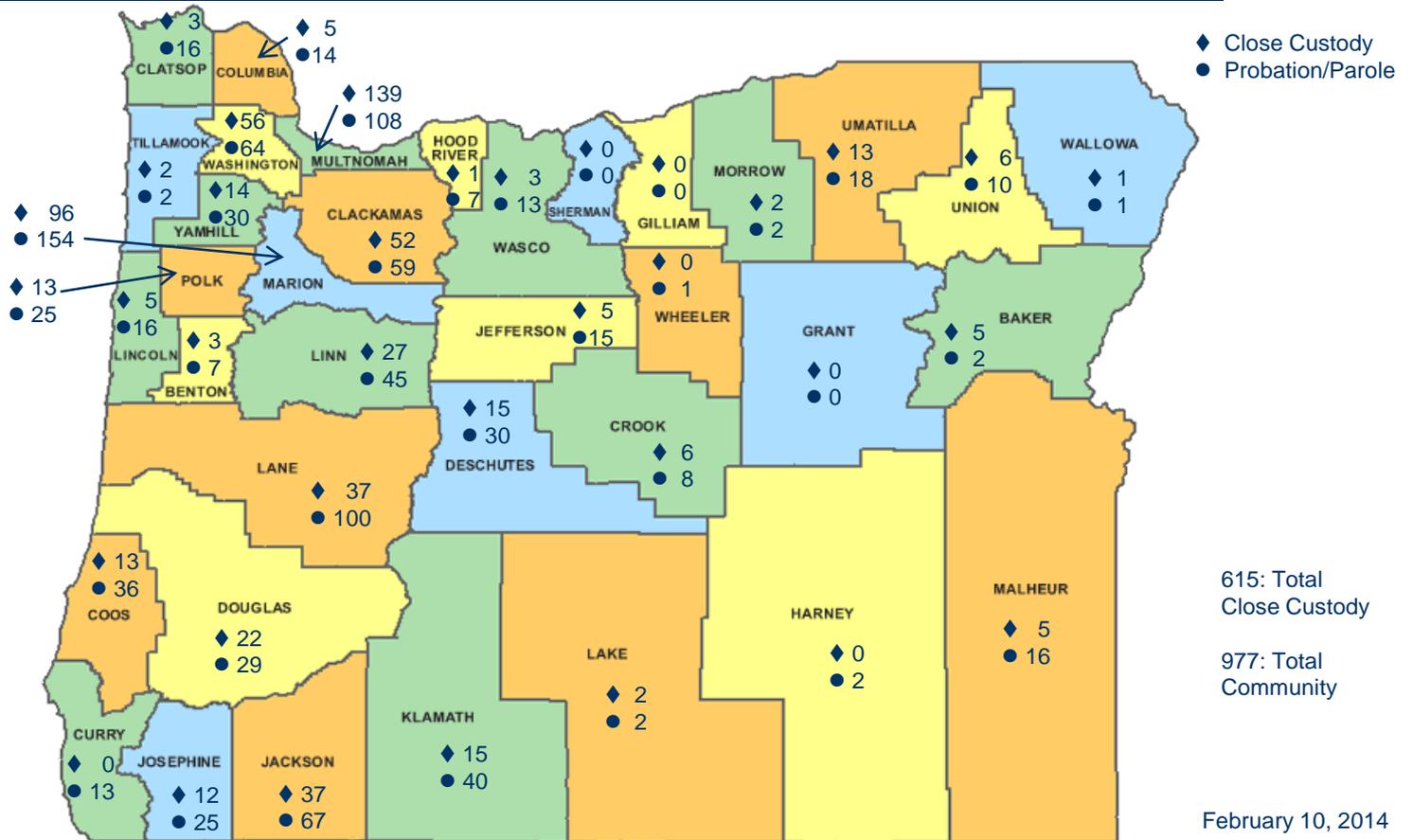


# Oregon's Juvenile Justice System

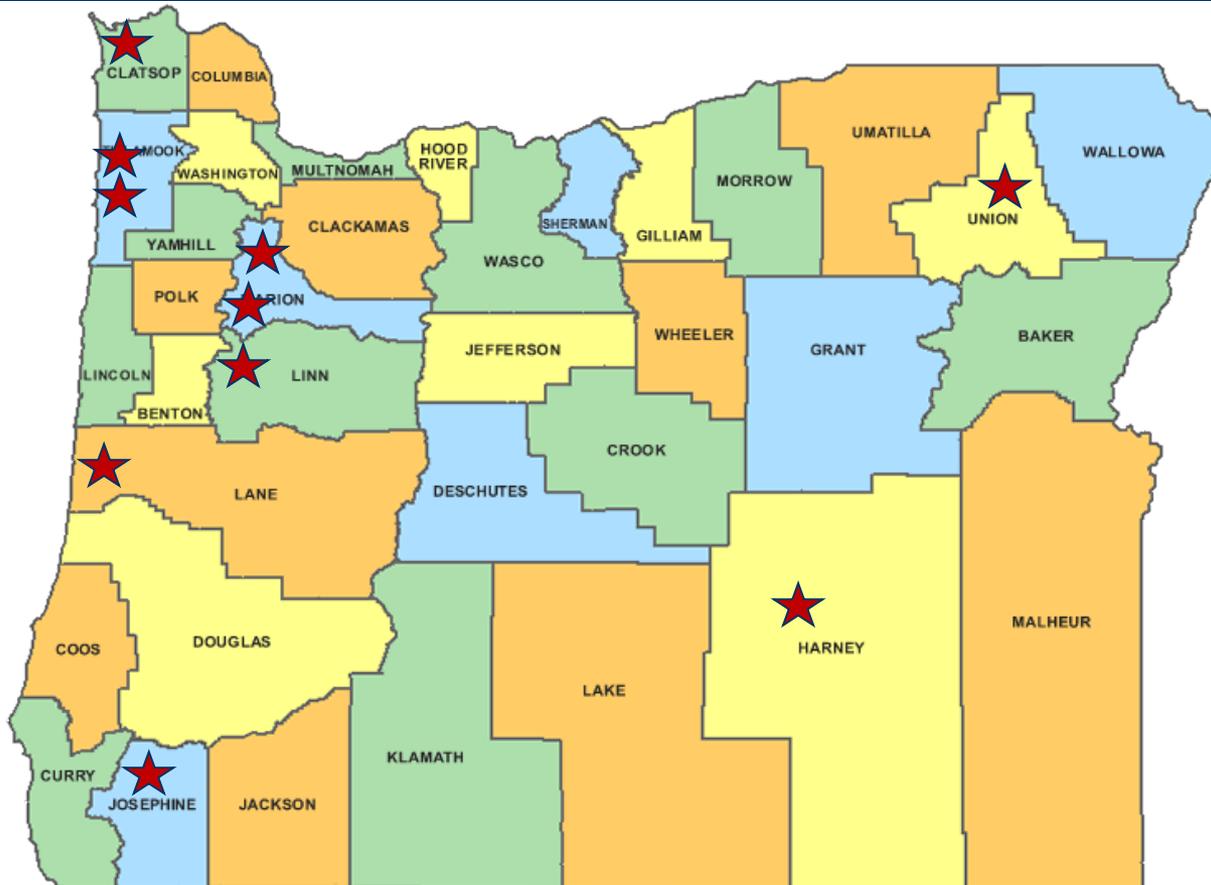


Source: JJIS data for 2013

# Youth offenders served by OYA

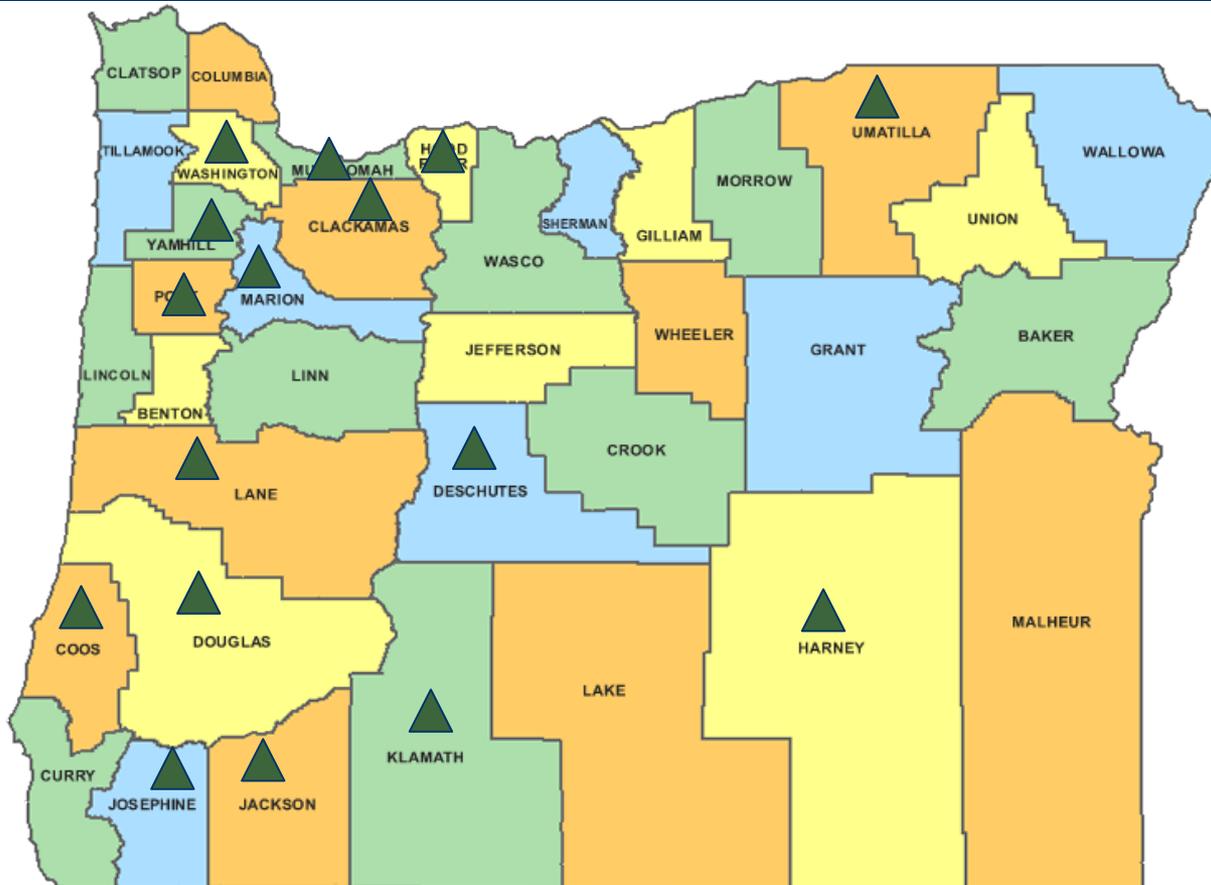


# OYA close-custody facilities





# OYA contracted residential treatment programs

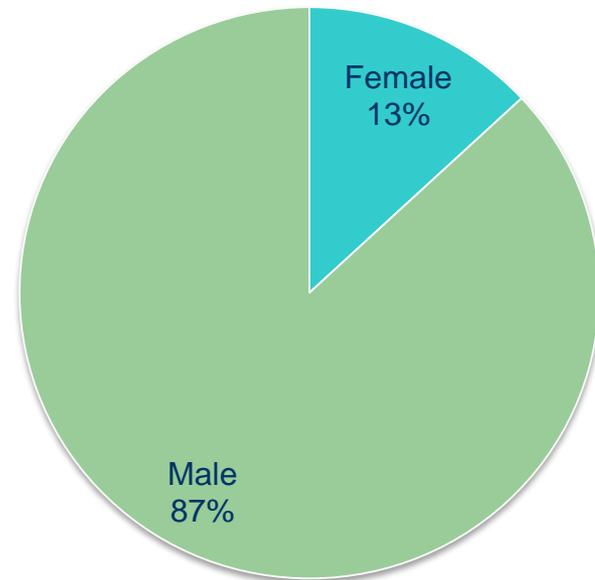
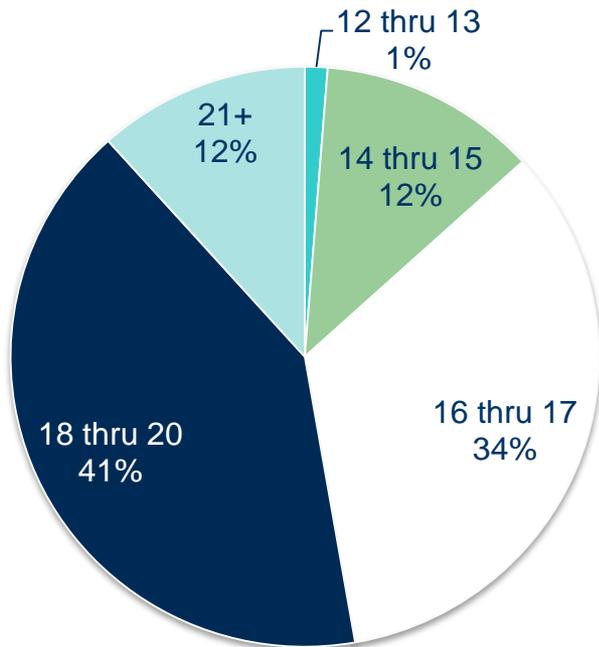




# Youth offenders served by OYA

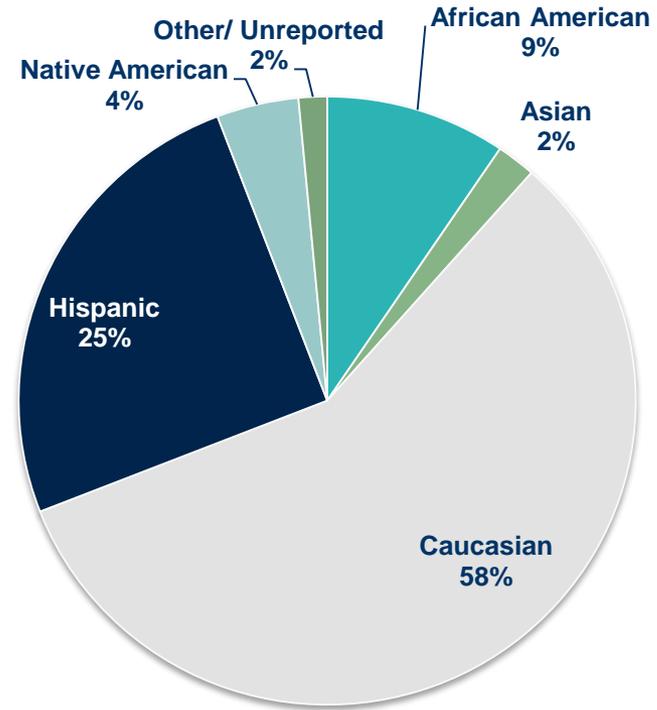
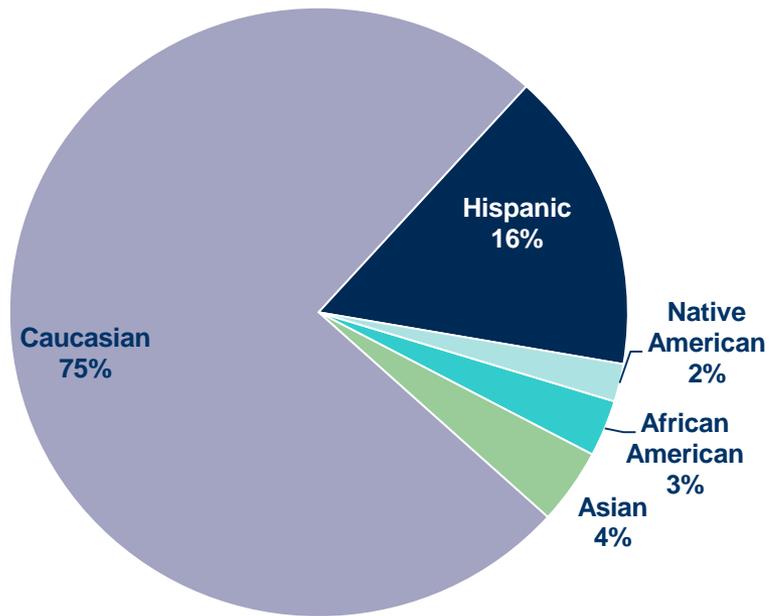
- The state's most delinquent youth offenders
- Ages 12 – 24
- Crimes committed prior to 18<sup>th</sup> birthday
- Crimes include murder, rape, arson, robbery, other violent crimes, and substance abuse
- OYA maintains legal and physical custody of youth offenders adjudicated to OYA by juvenile courts
- OYA has physical custody of youth offenders committed to DOC by adult courts and placed with OYA due to their age

# Youth offender profile: age and gender

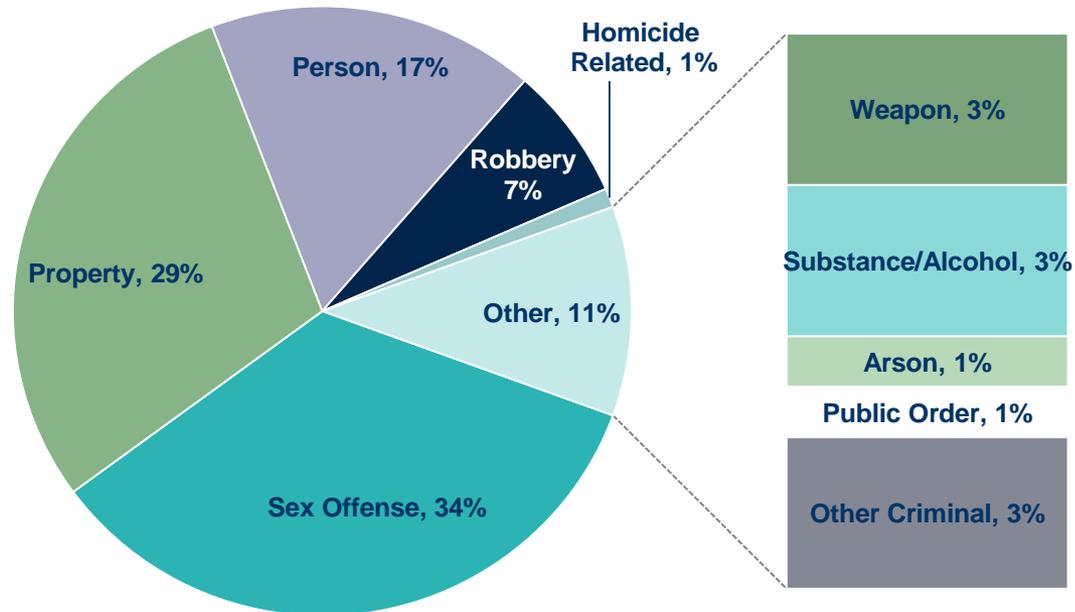


# Youth offender profile: race and ethnicity

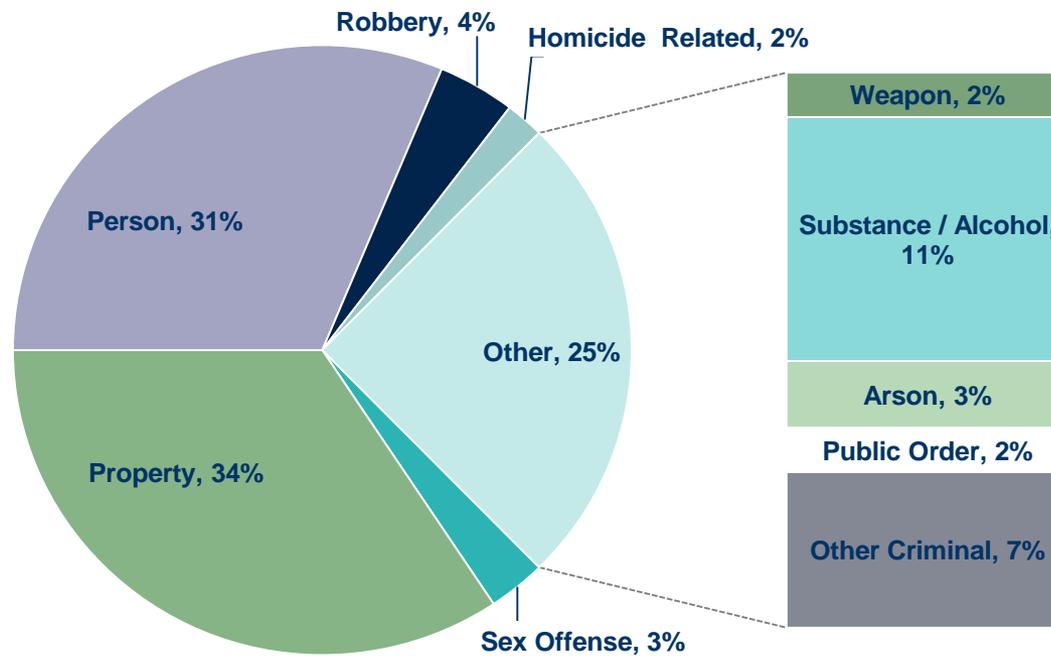
Oregon Population Ages 10 – 17



# Youth offender profile: criminal activity, males



# Youth offender profile: criminal activity, females



# Youth offender profile: social characteristics

PERCENT MALES	CATEGORY	PERCENT FEMALES
69	Abused Alcohol or Drugs	81
58	Parents Abused Alcohol or Drugs	72
40	Diagnosed Mental Health Disorder Other than Conduct Disorder	65
48	Diagnosed Conduct Disorder	40
14	Sexually Abused	37
29	Special Education	35
6	Past Suicidal Behavior	21
14	Youth is a Parent	10

# Myths and facts about youth offenders

## Perception

- Once an offender, always an offender
- Sex offenders should be locked up a long time, because they will reoffend
- Spending money on treatment wastes resources
- It's a waste of money to educate youth offenders

## Reality

- Overall, more than 70% of offenders do not reoffend
- Just 4% of youth sex offenders commit another sex offense
- The return on investment ranges from 7:1 to 25:1
- The more education, the lower the recidivism rate

# Oregon Youth Authority mission, vision and values

The **mission** of the Oregon Youth Authority is to protect the public and reduce crime by holding youth offenders accountable and providing opportunities for reformation in safe environments.

The **vision** of the Oregon Youth Authority is that youth who leave OYA go on to lead productive, crime-free lives.

The **values** that guide the agency's decisions, actions and priorities are:

- Integrity
- Professionalism
- Accountability
- Respect



# Building better lives

## Key indicators of success

- Treatment progress
- Educational achievement
- Job-readiness



# Building better lives: treatment

- Accountability
- Empathy
- Mental health treatment
- Drug and alcohol treatment
- Offense-specific treatment
- Violent offender treatment
- Restitution and community service
- Gang intervention
- Functional life skills
- Transition services

# Treatment is a good investment

## Returns on each \$1 investment in youth

- \$25 for life-skills training  
(University of Pennsylvania, 2008)
- \$14 for functional family therapy  
(University of Pennsylvania, 2008)
- \$11 for alcohol and drug treatment  
(NIH, 2004)
- \$ 8 for crime-specific interventions  
(Wilder Foundation, 2007)
- \$ 7 for multi-systemic behavioral therapy  
(Kleitz, Borduin and Schaeffer, 2010)

# Building better lives: education

- Youth in OYA close custody are required to work toward a high school diploma or GED certificate
- Youth in close custody attend 220 days of school each year
- During 2013:
  - 123 youth in close custody received high school diplomas
  - 120 received vocational certificates
  - 44 received GED certificates
  - 4 earned two-year college degrees
  - 1 earned four-year undergraduate degree

# Education is a good investment

## Recidivism rates relative to education

The more education youth offenders receive, the less likely they will be to commit another crime

- 28% -- average recidivism rate
- 25% -- two-year college degree
- 13% -- four-year undergraduate degree
- 0% -- graduate degree

(Texas Department of Criminal Justice, 2002)

# Building better lives: job skills

OYA offers a range of vocational education opportunities that offer certificates of completion:

- Barbering
- Carpentry
- Culinary arts
- Plumbing
- Veterinary care
- Wastewater treatment
- Welding
- Woodworking

# Vocational education is a good investment

## Youth with job skills contribute to society

Youth with jobs:

- Are able to pay taxes
- Need fewer social services
- Are less likely to commit future crimes

# About Riverbend Youth Transitional Facility

Riverbend YTF was opened in 1979 as a work-study camp known as Camp Hilgard. A newer facility was built on the site in 2002, and the camp was renamed.

The facility design, which provides living units around an enclosed courtyard, is similar to that of the other regional close-custody facilities.

Today, Riverbend serves 25 male youth in one unit.

# Treatment and education programs offered at Riverbend YTF

- The treatment programs at Riverbend YTF focus on serving youth with alcohol, tobacco, and other drug problems.
- A small accredited on-site high school serves youth who still need to acquire high school diplomas or GEDs
- On-line college courses also are offered:
  - Youth may take free courses provided by some colleges
  - Youth may pay for courses if they have the money
  - Youth may apply for Pell grants
  - Youth not eligible for Pell grants may apply for scholarships through New Beginnings, a private OYA grant program funded by donations

# Job-skills offered at Riverbend YTF

- Vocational programs at Riverbend include:
  - Building maintenance (e.g., custodial skills)
  - Culinary skills (e.g., food service worker)
  - Grounds maintenance
  - Industrial laundry skills
  - Waste water treatment
  - Wildland fire fighting
  - Community service and volunteer opportunities
  - Other trades
- Certificates are available in many of these programs

# Helping youth succeed and creating safer communities

Through treatment, classroom education and vocational education, OYA helps youth succeed in reforming their lives.

Everyone benefits when OYA achieves its vision of seeing all youth who leave OYA go on to lead productive, crime-free lives.

# Thank you

E-mail: [oya.info@oya.state.or.us](mailto:oya.info@oya.state.or.us)

Web: <http://www.oregon.gov/OYA>

Twitter: @OregonYouth

