

Youth Development Division

Juvenile Crime Prevention Program

Statewide Evaluation Summary 2019-2021



Youth
Development
Division



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY AND KEY TAKEAWAYS



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY AND KEY TAKEAWAYS

Highlights from the evaluation findings and recommendations

- Service capacity and evaluation data collection improved despite Covid 19 (in 2017-19 the number of youth in the evaluation was 599 compared to 1,340 in 2019-21). Thirty-five counties and seven Tribes provided evaluation data on youth served in 2019-21 compared with 17 counties and eight Tribes in 2017-19.
 - Continue to support county juvenile departments, Tribes and community programs to submit data and identify youth in the JJIS system for the evaluation.
- High risk youth had the largest reduction in risk (74% of high-risk youth had reduced risk at the reassessment and 62% of high-risk youth did not have a criminal referral after JCP services)
 - Focus on services for high-risk youth: the positive impact for that group is impressive.



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY AND KEY TAKEAWAYS

- While more than half of the youth served were white, 38% were from under-represented race groups (Black 4%, multi-racial 5%, Native American 9%, Hispanic 18%, Asian/Pacific Islander 3%). Decreases in risk were consistent across categories of race, age, and gender with few exceptions – specifically Black and multi-racial youth, females and younger youth had greater decreases in risk for school dropout.
 - Continue to support these youth, focus on interventions to support over- (or under-) represented groups (such as younger, female, Black youth who have dropped out of school).
- Some risk factors are more challenging to impact
 - Consider expanding the evaluation to explore with JCP providers the reasons why some risk and protective factors are more or less likely to change. For example, are those areas that are focused on more likely to change, are some areas harder to impact, are some supports needed to help make change in certain areas, etc.
 - Use this information to help determine whether funding should be focused on areas with the greatest impact/change potential and what funds or other supports are needed to create change in the other areas
- Service data from the assessments was limited
 - Explore/gather information about services and providers to assess the impact of culturally specific and culturally responsive services. For example: How do these programs support youth of color and what could other programs learn from ones that are doing this well?

BACKGROUND



The goal of the Juvenile Crime Prevention Program is to support the efforts of all 36 counties and nine Federally-recognized Tribes in Oregon to serve at-risk young people and prevent criminal behavior.

JUVENILE CRIME PREVENTION

The Juvenile Crime Prevention (JCP) Program provides funds to Oregon counties and Tribes to pay for services supporting youth and their families, with the goal of preventing young people from engaging in criminal behavior. JCP monies fund services and programs identified by each community to meet its specific needs and focus on assessing and intervening with youth at risk to commit offenses. Youth eligible for JCP-funded programs and services are those who are 10-17, have a presenting problematic behavior, and have a challenge in more than one of the following risk domains:¹

- School issues
- Behavior issues
- Family functioning or support
- Substance use
- Peer relationships
- Attitudes, values, or beliefs

As part of the JCP planning process, the 36 Oregon counties and nine Tribes decide how to use their JCP funds and which organization or department will serve as the lead agency. In some communities, JCP is used to operate programs housed in juvenile/youth services departments, and in other communities the funds are subcontracted to community organizations, social services, or prevention programs.



Information on demographics, risk and protective factors, and services are collected for all JCP youth.

YOUTH ASSESSMENT AND SERVICE

An interdisciplinary work group with members from juvenile justice, education, research, academia, and youth treatment services designed an assessment tool with scoring methods to identify youth at risk. The tool has been used since 1999 and has been validated and revised several times. Training on the use of the tool is conducted by NPC Research and Oregon Youth Development Division (YDD) staff. The community-based assessment tool includes a consent process for both the services and the evaluation.

JCP Prevention Program staff members enter information about JCP services, risk and protective factors, and demographics for each youth from the risk assessment tool into one of two data systems. County juvenile departments utilize the Juvenile Justice Information System (JJIS) and community-based and Tribal programs use the YDD Data Manager system, developed by the Oregon Department of Education (ODE). These assessment data are provided to NPC Research for this statewide evaluation and summarized each biennium.

It is estimated from quarterly reports submitted to YDD that there were 3,250 youth served during the 2019-21 biennium. This includes 2,879 youth served by counties either in the community or at juvenile departments and 371 youth served by programs at the Tribes.

3,250

*youth were served
in 2019-2021*

THE EVALUATION

The total number of youth in this 2019-21 evaluation is 1,340, 41% of the estimated 3,250 youth served. These are youth with assessments in the JJIS or Youth Development Division Data Manager data systems and for whom the family consented to participate in the evaluation. The number of youth served who have assessments in the data system is likely low due to the Covid 19 Pandemic.

The 1,340 youth reported here are representative of JCP Programs in 35 of the 36 counties and seven of the nine federally recognized Oregon Tribes. This evaluation includes 825 youth from 23 juvenile department-based county JCP Prevention Programs, 402 youth from 17 community-based² county JCP Prevention Programs, and 113 youth served by programs at the Tribes.³

The new Youth Development Division Data Manager data system came online mid-way through the 2019-2021 biennium, providing access to assessments conducted in the community that were not available in the previous two biennia.

Implementing this system involved notifying the community programs, creating log-in credentials, and training staff who then started regularly entering assessment data.

In March 2020, the State of Oregon called for a stay-at-home order and many programs and services were affected by closures, staff shortages, and resource reassignment. Therefore, the number of youth served during the 2019-2021 biennium is lower than in previous reporting periods and the findings should be interpreted with caution and within this content.

An evaluation is conducted each biennium to examine change in risk and protective factors and impact on juvenile crime among those served by the JCP Program.

1,340

youth with risk assessments are included in the evaluation.

youth with both an initial and a reassessment of risk and protective factors.

EVALUATION DATA SOURCES

- **JCP Risk Assessment**
 - Obtained from the Oregon Youth Authority Juvenile Justice Information System and the Youth Development Division Data Manager System
 - Initial assessments collected at JCP start date
 - Reassessments collected at six-month intervals
- **Juvenile Crime Outcome Data**
 - Obtained from the Oregon Youth Authority Juvenile Justice Information System
 - Youth referrals at 12, 24, and 36 after JCP start date
 - Youth detention at 12, 24, and 36 after JCP start date

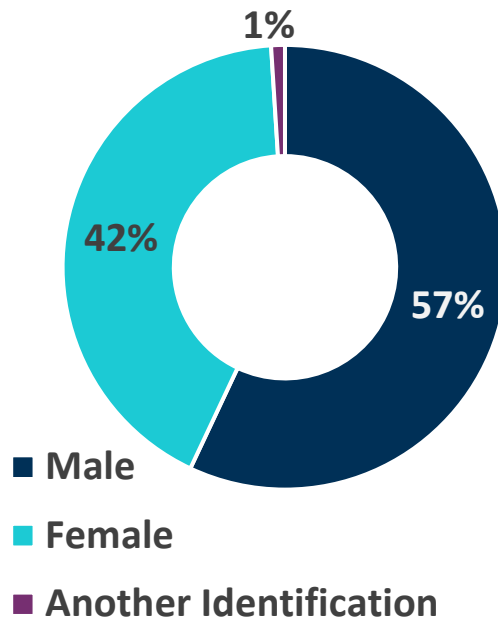
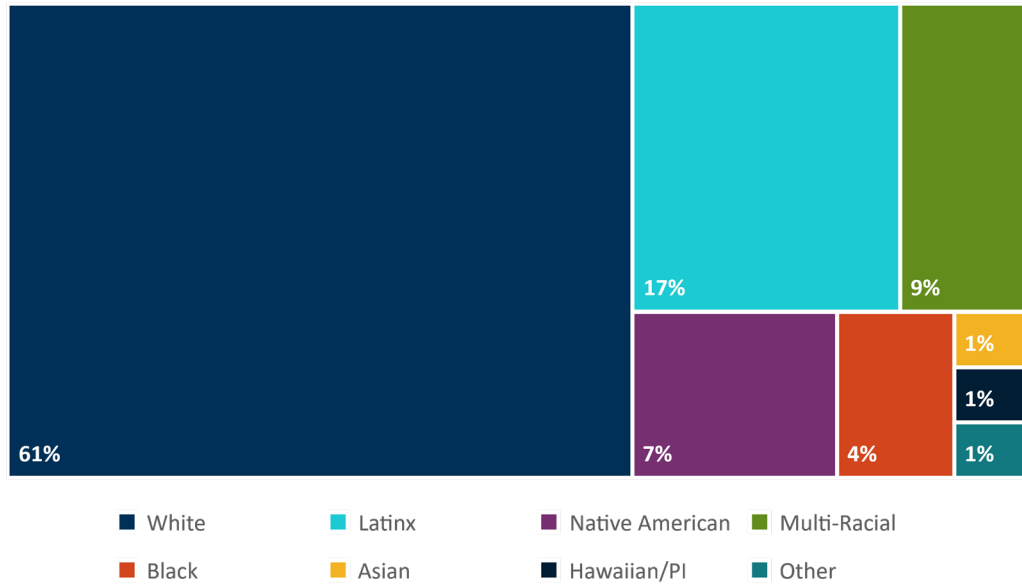


YOUTH DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE



YOUTH SERVED BY JCP PROGRAMS

9% of youth identify as multi-racial, 7% as Native American, 17% as Latinx and 4% as Black. Most youth identify as white.



Average age of youth served was

14 years

(range of 7-19).

39% identify as youth of color.

A new category for gender identity was added in 2018.⁴

1% identify as a gender identification other than male or female.

RISK/PROTECTION PROFILE



84%

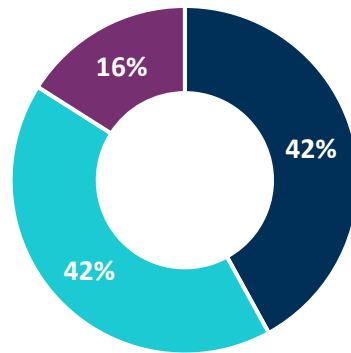
Of youth were low or medium risk at the initial assessment.⁷

More Black, Latinx and Multi-Racial youth had medium or high risk scores than did Native American and white youth.

More males and youth younger than 14 years old were medium or high risk than females or older youth.

RISK LEVEL AT INITIAL ASSESSMENT

THE MAJORITY OF YOUTH WERE EITHER LOW OR MEDIUM RISK AT THE INITIAL ASSESSMENT



■ Low Risk ■ Medium Risk ■ High Risk

Average score (8)⁶ indicated

medium risk

A lack of protective factors is counted in the average risk score

5 average number of risk indicators (0-24)

2 average number of protective indicators (0-6)

3 average number of risk domains (0-6⁵)



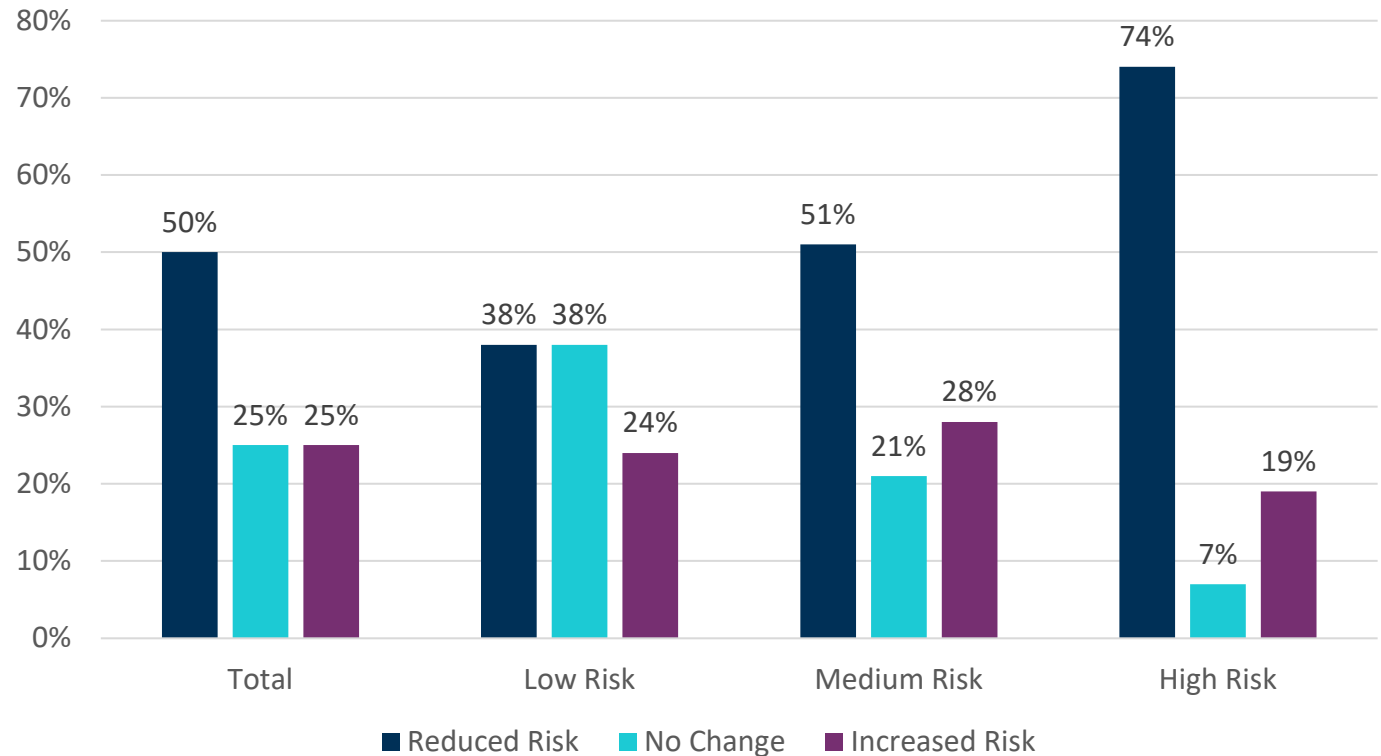
CHANGE IN RISK

Risk levels decreased or stayed the same for three-quarters of JCP youth.

Scores for youth under 14 years old increased more than for older youth.

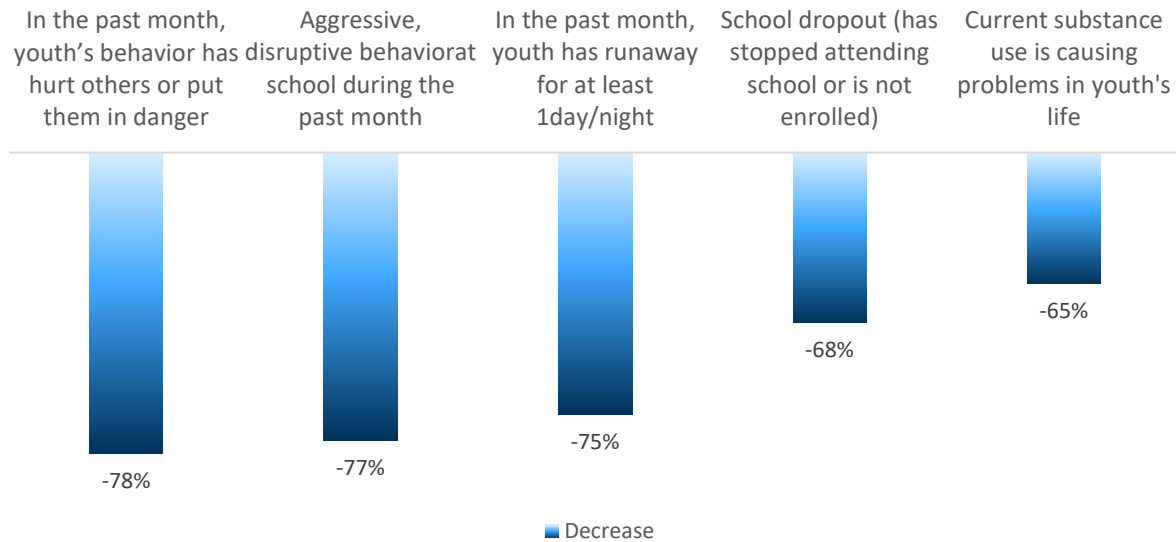
These findings were consistent across categories of race and gender.

THE GREATEST PROPORTION OF YOUTH WITH REDUCED RISK OCCURRED AMONG HIGH-RISK YOUTH

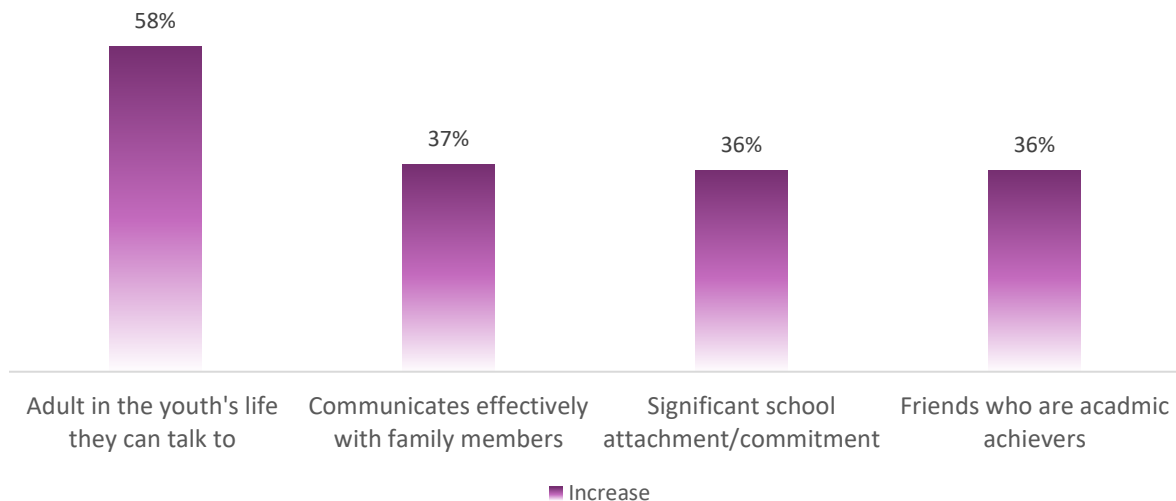


JCP YOUTH HAD REDUCTIONS IN RISK FACTORS AND INCREASES IN PROTECTIVE FACTORS

GREATEST DECREASES IN RISK



GREATEST INCREASES IN PROTECTION



78% of youth with the indicator "behavior hurts others" no longer had this risk factor at reassessment.

More than half of youth without an adult in their life that they can talk to at the initial assessment gained this protective factor.

RISK FACTORS WITH THE GREATEST DECREASE BY RACIAL GROUP

Decreases in risk were consistent across categories of race, age, and gender with a few exceptions.

Females and younger youth had greater decreases in school dropout.

ASIAN/PACIFIC ISLANDER

1. Aggressive behavior at school
2. Behavior hurts others
3. Current substance use

BLACK

1. School dropout
2. Runaway
3. Current substance use

LATINX

1. Behavior hurts others
2. Current substance use
3. Aggressive behavior at school

NATIVE AMERICAN

1. Current substance use
2. Aggressive behavior at school
3. Behavior hurts others

MULTI-RACIAL

1. School dropout
2. Runaway
3. Aggressive behavior at school

WHITE

1. Aggressive behavior at school
2. Runaway
3. Behavior hurts others

Increases in protection were consistent across categories of race, age, and gender with a few exceptions.

PROTECTIVE FACTORS WITH THE GREATEST INCREASE BY RACIAL GROUP

ASIAN/PACIFIC ISLANDER

1. Friends who are academic achievers
2. Adult they can talk to

BLACK

1. Communication with family
2. Friends who are academic achievers

LATINX

1. Adult they can talk to
2. Significant school attachment

MULTI-RACIAL

1. Adult they can talk to
2. Friends who disapprove of unlawful behavior

NATIVE AMERICAN

1. Adult they can talk to
2. Friends who are academic achievers

WHITE

1. Adult they can talk to
2. Communication with family

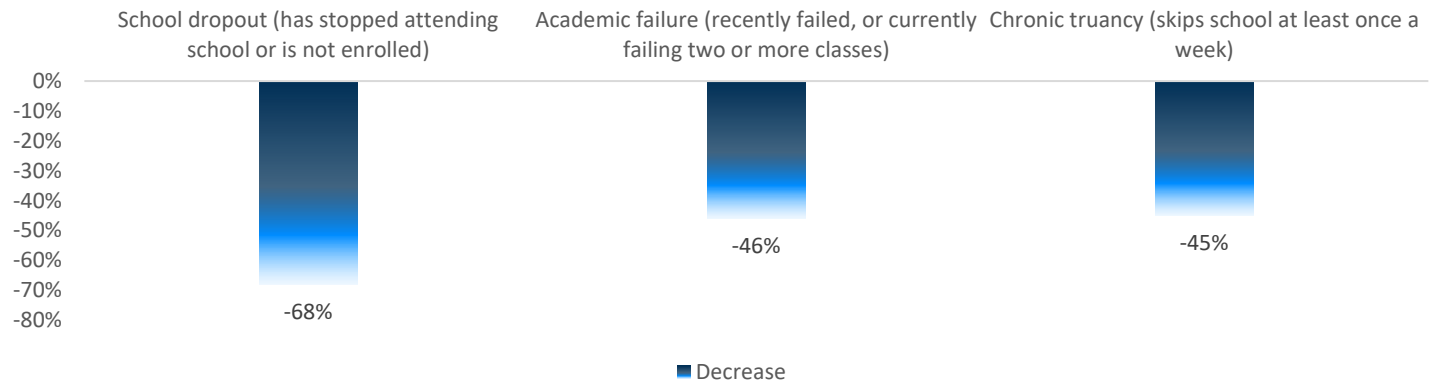
IMPROVEMENTS IN THE SCHOOL DOMAIN

Youth who had dropped out but then re-started school were primarily younger, female, Black and Multi-Racial and were involved with juvenile departments rather than community programs.

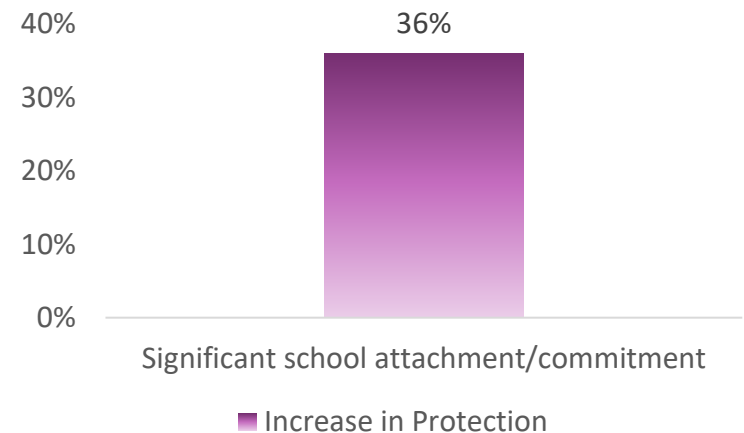
58%

JCP youth with an issue in the school domain.

DECREASE IN RISK



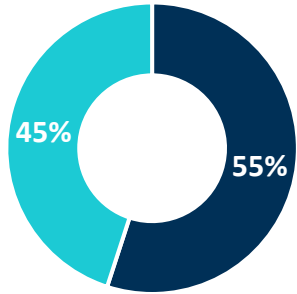
INCREASE IN PROTECTION



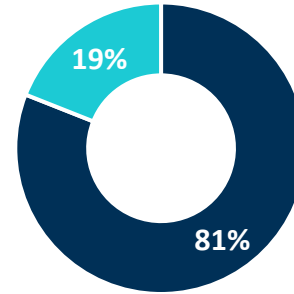
JUVENILE CRIME PREVENTION OUTCOMES



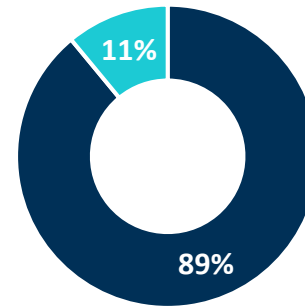
MOST JCP YOUTH HAD NO CRIMINAL REFERRALS OR DETENTION IN THE 12 MONTHS AFTER JCP ⁸



- Proportion with No Criminal Referrals Before Participating in JCP services (55%)
- Proportion with One or More Criminal Referral Before Participating in JCP services (45%)



- Proportion with No Criminal Referrals in 12 Months After JCP (81%)
- Proportion with One or More Criminal Referrals in 12 Months After JCP (19%)



- Proportion with No Detention in 12 Months After JCP (89%)
- Proportion with Detention in 12 Months After JCP (11%)

55%

Percentage of youth without a criminal referral before JCP.

81%

Percentage of youth who did not have criminal referrals after JCP.

89%

Percentage of youth who did not have detention after JCP.

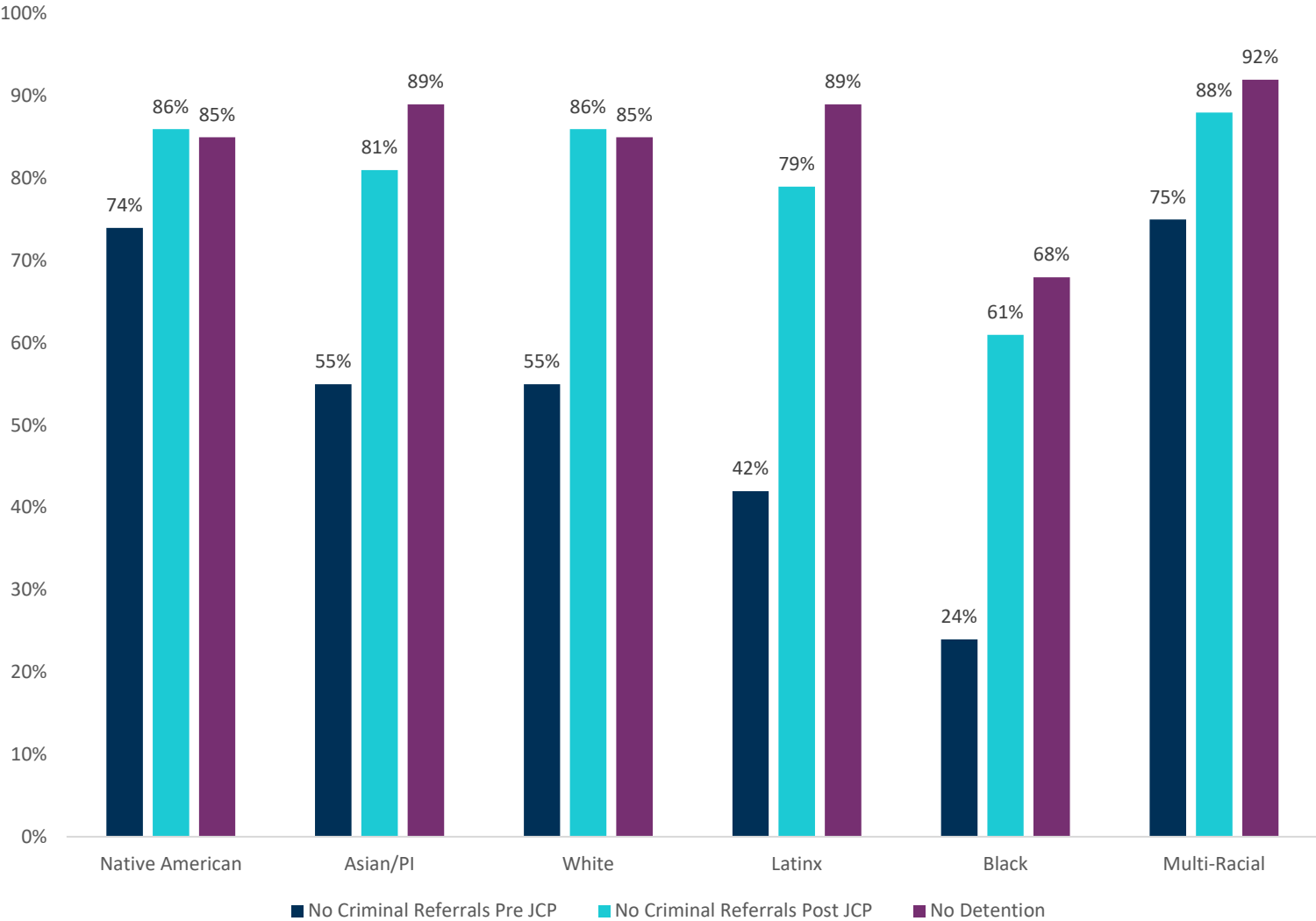


The frequency of criminal referrals (both before and after JCP) and detention varied significantly by racial group.

Females had fewer criminal referrals (before and after JCP) and less detention than males.

Younger youth had fewer criminal referrals before JCP than older youth.

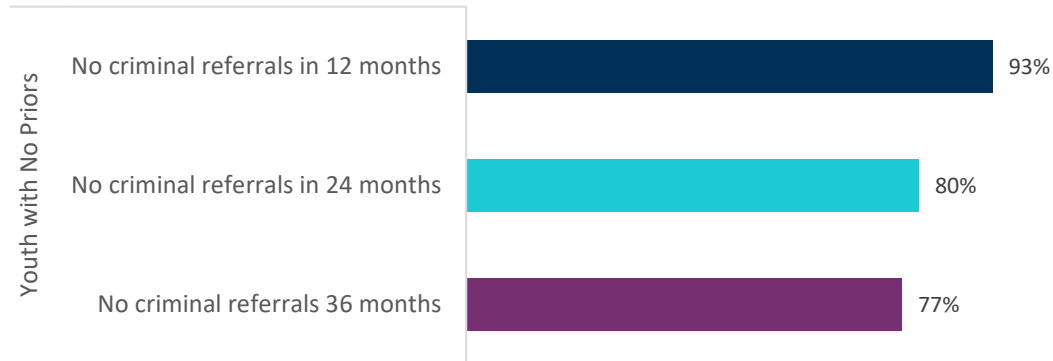
CRIMINAL REFERRALS AND DETENTION VARY BY RACIAL GROUP



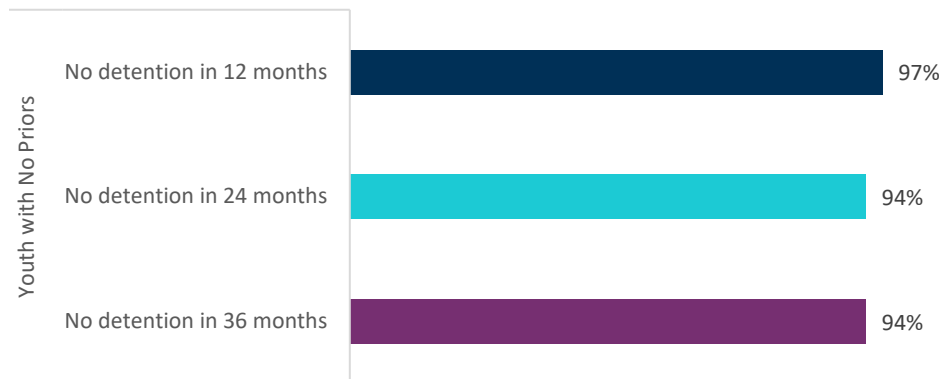
SUSTAINED OUTCOMES FOR YOUTH WITHOUT CRIMINAL INVOLVEMENT BEFORE JCP

THOSE WHO DID NOT HAVE CRIMINAL INVOLVEMENT PRIOR TO JCP CONTINUED TO AVOID CRIMINAL REFERRALS

YOUTH WHO AVOIDED CRIMINAL REFERRALS



YOUTH WHO DID NOT HAVE DETENTION



77%

of youth with no referrals before JCP continued to avoid criminal referrals up to 36 months after JCP

94%

of youth with no referrals before JCP avoided detention up to 36 months

SUSTAINED OUTCOMES FOR YOUTH WITH CRIMINAL REFERRALS BEFORE JCP

THOSE WHO DID HAVE CRIMINAL INVOLVEMENT PRIOR TO JCP SHOWED A SUSTAINED REDUCTION IN SUBSEQUENT JUVENILE CRIME AND DETENTION FOR UP TO 3 YEARS

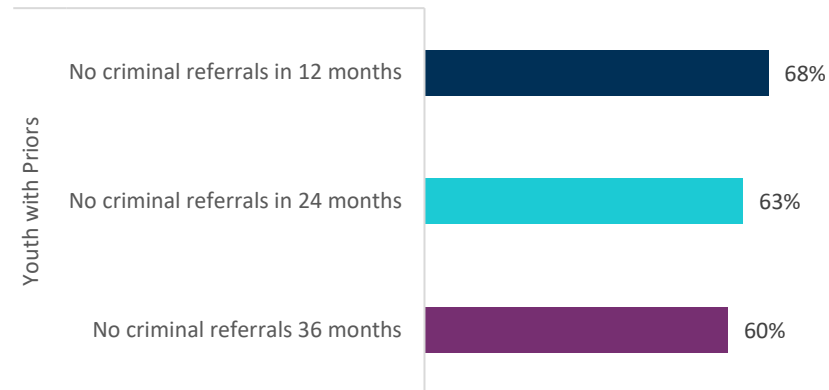
60%

of youth with criminal involvement before JCP had no additional referrals after 36 months

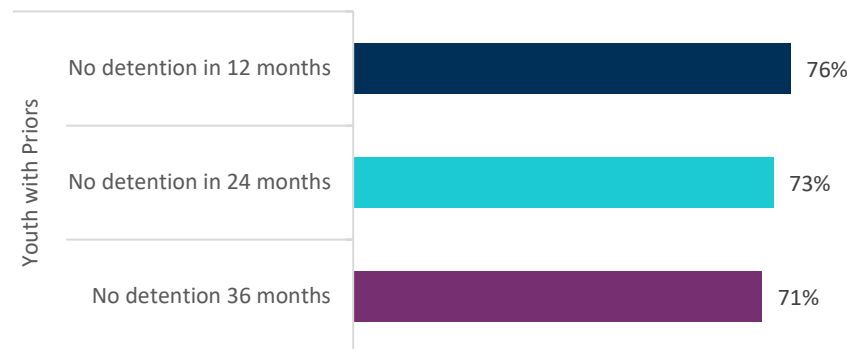
71%

of youth with criminal involvement before JCP had no detention after 36 months

YOUTH WITH NO CRIMINAL REFERRALS



YOUTH WITH NO DETENTION

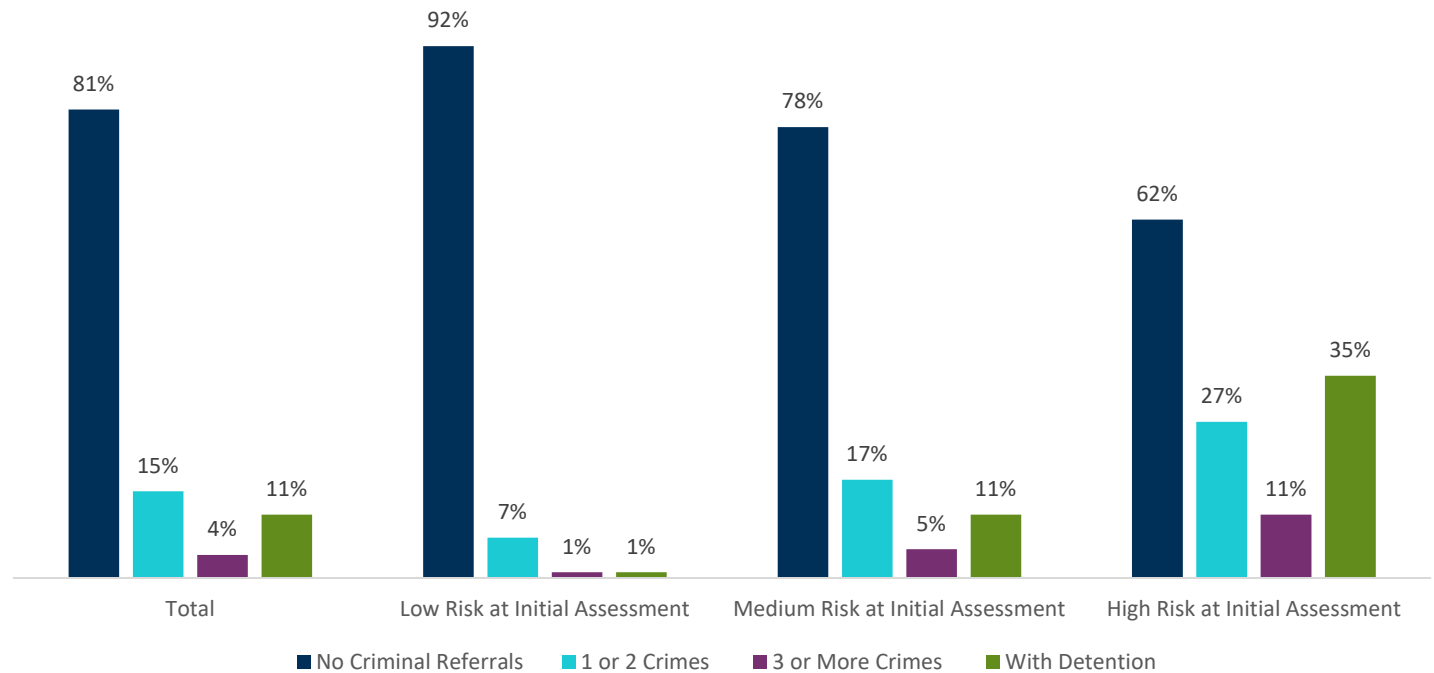


JUVENILE CRIME BY RISK LEVEL

Based on previous research, at least 75% of high-risk youth would be expected to have a new criminal referral and 25% of referrals include a detention admission. Fewer than half (38%) of the high-risk JCP youth had a new referral.

Youth in the low-risk category had an average score of 3; medium average was 9 and high average was 17.

62% OF HIGH-RISK YOUTH DID NOT HAVE A NEW REFERRAL AFTER JCP



ENDNOTES

¹The first five risk domains are listed in Oregon Revised Statutes 417.855. The additional validated factor (antisocial attitudes, values, and beliefs) is supported by research and became policy subsequent to the legislation.

²Some counties had both juvenile department-based and community-based services in the 2019-21 biennium. Several counties had assessments for fewer than 4 youth (Jackson, Morrow, Sherman, Union) and Wheeler had no assessments. Among the Tribes, Burns and Umatilla had no assessments.

³See the JCP Data Tables for the list of included counties/Tribes and the number of youth from each county/Tribe that was entered into JJIS, entered into the YDD Data Manager, or submitted to NPC.

⁴A new category for gender identity was added to the YDD Data Manager in 2018 (though not all programs were using a paper JCP assessment tool that had this option) and to the JJIS assessment (sometime later in the 2017-2019 biennium). The table in Appendix D illustrates the demographic and risk information for JCP youth in the third gender identity category.

⁵There were over 100 youth with 0 risk factors included in these analyses, most from the same few programs. This is likely a training issue.

⁶Due to rounding, the average risk score is 8 ($5.4 + 2.1 = 7.5$, rounded to 8).

⁷See Appendix A for details of risk level and risk reduction by demographics and change in risk level. See Appendix B for details of risk reduction within demographic groups. See Appendix C for details of risk level and risk reduction for youth ages 9 and younger (youth outside of the intended population for JCP services).

⁸Includes youth under 17 years of age who started JCP services prior to 3/1/2021, to ensure a complete 12-month follow-up period.

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NPC Research is located on the ancestral homelands of the Willamette, Tumwater, Clackamas, Mollala, Watlala, Multnomah, other Chinookan people, as well as the Tualatin Kalapuya who resided in what is now called Portland, Oregon.

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