



## COUNTY NEEDS ASSESSMENT FY 2020-2021

## Lancaster County

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## Youth Level

- Hispanic, Native American, and Black youth are over-represented in chronic absenteeism as compared to enrollment rates in the schools.
- Youth reported mental health and substance abuse rates are all lower than state numbers, nothing stands out as a high rate.
- Arrests for juveniles for larceny/theft, motor vehicle theft and other assaults are all up from 2018 to 2019. Arrests for robberies decreased from 2018 to 2019 for all age groups, but especially so for juveniles.
- NYS domains with the highest scores are Family Circumstance/Parenting, Education/Employment, Leisure/Recreation, Personality/Behavior. There should be programs in the community to address these. Peer Relationships and Leisure/Recreation were greater issues for females than males. Native American, Hispanic and Black youth have higher needs for Education/Employment, Peer relationships and overall scores, as compared to White youth.; White youth have higher substance use needs; Black and Hispanic youth have higher needs for Personality/Behavior, and Attitudes/Orientation; and Black and Asian youth have higher Leisure/Recreation needs.
- While juveniles are not reporting high rates of gang involvement in the BOSR survey, law enforcement is aware of gang memberships and affiliations.
- Approximately 22% of youth citations are being referred to diversion and 30% of citations on probation. It is not clear where the other cases are (perhaps dropped or dismissed); the community to further examine whether cases are properly funneling through the juvenile justice system.
- Law enforcement data by race and ethnicity would be very beneficial to have a clearer picture of RED. With the exception of Asian/Pacific Islander and White, all other race/ethnicities are overrepresented compared to the demographics of Lancaster County at diversion and probation, to have cases filed in adult court, have more than one charge filed, to be over and under-ridden, be successful in probation and have probation revoked. Unfortunately, we did not receive law enforcement data by race/ethnicity so we cannot determine whether youth of each race/ethnicity are being referred to diversion and probation at a similar rate as they are receiving a citation from law enforcement.
- The disproportionality is highest for Black youth being filed on in adult court, filed on for multiple charges, probation intakes, and RAI overrides that are more severe/
- Once referring, youth of all race/ethnicity are enrolling and successfully completing diversion at the rate to which they were referred.



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Table 1.

Distribution of the Population Age 10-17 by Race/Ethnicity and Gender (5-year estimates, 2014-2018) <sup>a</sup>

## Males

Geographic Area Name	Total Count	Non-Hispanic White	Hispanic or Latino	Black	American Indian	Asian or Pacific Islander	2+ Races
Nebraska	108,494	70.4%	16.2%	5.7%	1.4%	2.0%	4.4%
<b>Lancaster</b>	<b>15,849</b>	<b>74.8%</b>	<b>9.9%</b>	<b>3.7%</b>	<b>0.7%</b>	<b>4.0%</b>	<b>7.0%</b>

## Females

Geographic Area Name	Total Count	Non-Hispanic White	Hispanic or Latino	Black	American Indian	Asian or Pacific Islander	2+ Races
Nebraska	102,658	69.9%	15.8%	5.2%	1.2%	2.5%	5.4%
<b>Lancaster</b>	<b>15,650</b>	<b>71.4%</b>	<b>11.0%</b>	<b>4.9%</b>	<b>0.5%</b>	<b>3.4%</b>	<b>8.8%</b>

[Click back to RED analysis](#)

Table 2.

School Membership by Race/ Ethnicity and School Year (2014-2019) <sup>b</sup>

Year	Geographic Area	Total Count	Hispanic	Asian	American Indian or Alaska Native	Black or African American	Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific islander	White	Two or More Races
2014-2015	<b>Lancaster</b>	<b>44,272</b>	<b>11.87%</b>	<b>4.17%</b>	<b>0.68%</b>	<b>5.63%</b>	<b>0.06%</b>	<b>70.85%</b>	<b>6.76%</b>
	Nebraska	312,281	17.74%	2.43%	1.42%	6.70%	0.13%	68.20%	3.38%
2015-2016	<b>Lancaster</b>	<b>45,243</b>	<b>12.04%</b>	<b>4.14%</b>	<b>0.63%</b>	<b>5.67%</b>	<b>0.07%</b>	<b>70.55%</b>	<b>6.90%</b>
	Nebraska	315,542	18.08%	2.53%	1.38%	6.67%	0.14%	67.72%	3.47%
2016-2017	<b>Lancaster</b>	<b>45,613</b>	<b>12.31%</b>	<b>4.24%</b>	<b>0.63%</b>	<b>5.71%</b>	<b>0.07%</b>	<b>70.00%</b>	<b>7.04%</b>
	Nebraska	318,853	18.61%	2.66%	1.38%	6.69%	0.15%	66.92%	3.59%
2017-2018	<b>Lancaster</b>	<b>47,400</b>	<b>12.35%</b>	<b>4.23%</b>	<b>0.61%</b>	<b>5.69%</b>	<b>0.07%</b>	<b>69.95%</b>	<b>7.10%</b>
	Nebraska	323,391	18.80%	2.76%	1.35%	6.67%	0.14%	66.50%	3.78%
2018-2019	<b>Lancaster</b>	<b>47,817</b>	<b>12.51%</b>	<b>4.20%</b>	<b>0.59%</b>	<b>5.73%</b>	<b>0.08%</b>	<b>69.52%</b>	<b>7.37%</b>
	Nebraska	325,984	19.13%	2.83%	1.33%	6.63%	0.15%	66.02%	3.91%



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Table 3.

Chronic Absenteeism by Race/Ethnicity and School Year (2014 - 2019)<sup>b</sup>

Year	Geographic Area	Total Youth with Chronic Absenteeism	Hispanic	Asian	American Indian or Alaska Native	Black or African American	Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	White	Two or More Races
2014-2015	Lancaster	4,106	16.78%	2.65%	2.26%	10.23%	*	59.30%	8.77%
	Nebraska	35,638	24.54%	1.64%	4.42%	12.93%	0.19%	51.61%	4.68%
2015-2016	Lancaster	5,228	19.30%	2.37%	2.10%	10.39%	*	56.62%	9.22%
	Nebraska	38,812	25.73%	1.55%	4.27%	13.68%	0.27%	49.68%	4.83%
2016-2017	Lancaster	5,585	20.36%	2.24%	1.93%	10.60%	0.21%	55.08%	9.58%
	Nebraska	42,290	26.90%	1.66%	4.40%	14.22%	0.24%	47.66%	4.92%
2017-2018	Lancaster	6,357	19.79%	2.06%	1.93%	11.44%	*	54.82%	9.96%
	Nebraska	46,365	26.81%	1.77%	4.18%	14.49%	0.22%	47.37%	2389
2018-2019	Lancaster	6,376	19.87%	2.10%	1.77%	10.52%	*	55.60%	10.13%
	Nebraska	46,356	27.64%	1.76%	4.16%	14.71%	0.23%	46.27%	5.23%

Per the Nebraska Department of Education, the \* represents masked data, which they define as 10 or fewer students, for the confidentiality of the students

Table 4.

Disabilities, English Proficiency, Eligibility for Free/Reduced Lunch and School Year (2014 – 2019)<sup>b</sup>

Year	Geographic Area	Total Count	IDEA	504 Plan	Limited English Proficiency	Free/Reduced Lunch
2014-2015	Lancaster	44,272	12.99%	0.99%	5.68%	39.33%
	Nebraska	312,281	13.66%	0.76%	5.97%	44.53%
2015-2016	Lancaster	45,243	13.33%	1.35%	5.67%	38.89%
	Nebraska	315,542	13.64%	0.90%	5.90%	44.23%
2016-2017	Lancaster	45,613	14.00%	1.27%	7.46%	42.22%
	Nebraska	318,853	13.80%	0.93%	6.99%	44.76%
2017-2018	Lancaster	47,400	16.32%	0.46%	6.91%	42.35%
	Nebraska	323,391	15.87%	0.88%	6.59%	46.24%
2018-2019	Lancaster	47,817	16.84%	1.67%	6.66%	42.47%
	Nebraska	325,984	16.13%	0.85%	6.78%	45.42%

Table 5.

Nebraska Public High School 4-Year Graduation Rates by Lancaster (5-year estimates, 2015-2019)<sup>c</sup>

Lancaster	Total in Last 5 Years		Yearly Averages		Graduation Rate	Rank
	Graduates	Students	Graduates	Students		
Nebraska	100,111	112,857	20,022.2	22,571.4	88.7%	n/a
Lancaster	13,119	15,689	437.3	523.0	83.6%	91



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Data are only for public school districts and their associated high schools. The figures are aggregated based on the location of the school, not the residential location of the student. The figures for Dawes County are impacted by a vocational school where graduation rates are less than 25%; in the rest of the county graduation rates equal 93%.

Table 6.

Youth Who Report Mental Health Symptoms and Substance Use by Grade (2018) <sup>d</sup>

		8 <sup>th</sup>	10 <sup>th</sup>	12 <sup>th</sup>
<b>Lancaster</b>	Loss of sleep from worry	<b>14.7%</b>	<b>18.0%</b>	<b>19.4%</b>
Nebraska		18.0%	20.6%	21.6%
<b>Lancaster</b>	Depressed	<b>23.8%</b>	<b>32.4%</b>	<b>32.2%</b>
Nebraska		31.1%	34.8%	35.3%
<b>Lancaster</b>	Considered/Attempted suicide	<b>12.5%</b>	<b>18.8%</b>	<b>15.6%</b>
Nebraska		22.9%	18.2%	16.2%
<b>Lancaster</b>	Current alcohol	<b>7.0%</b>	<b>20.6%</b>	<b>28.4%</b>
Nebraska		9.8%	20.1%	34.2%
<b>Lancaster</b>	Current binge drinking	<b>0.3%</b>	<b>4.4%</b>	<b>11.3%</b>
Nebraska		1.3%	6.2%	15.0%
<b>Lancaster</b>	Current marijuana	<b>3.3%</b>	<b>6.3%</b>	<b>11.0%</b>
Nebraska		3.0%	7.3%	13.9%
<b>Lancaster</b>	Current tobacco	<b>1.9%</b>	<b>7.2%</b>	<b>10.6%</b>
Nebraska		3.7%	8.0%	15.3%
<b>Lancaster</b>	Current vaping	<b>7.3%</b>	<b>21.4%</b>	<b>29.2%</b>
Nebraska		10.4%	24.7%	37.3%
<b>Lancaster</b>	Hopeful for future (past week)	<b>84.2%</b>	<b>77.5%</b>	<b>78.8%</b>
Nebraska		78.0%	76.1%	77.6%

**\*\*JJI is currently waiting for the legal team at DHHS to approve providing this data**

Table 7.

Juveniles Referred to Services <sup>e</sup>

Table 8.

Juveniles Referred to Services by Race/Ethnicity, Gender, and Mental Health Diagnosis <sup>e</sup>

Table 9.

Juveniles Who Utilized Services <sup>e</sup>

Table 10.

Types of Services Utilized <sup>e</sup>



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Table 11.

Youth Who Report Gang Involvement by Grade (2018) <sup>d</sup>

		8 <sup>th</sup>	10 <sup>th</sup>	12 <sup>th</sup>
<b>Lancaster</b>	<b>Youth Reported Gang Involvement</b>	<b>2.0%</b>	<b>3.1%</b>	<b>3.8%</b>
Nebraska		3.8%	4.4%	3.8%

Table 11b.

Estimated Gang Involvement by Local Law Enforcement <sup>r</sup>

Lancaster County has a program called Operation Tipping Point (OTP) through the Lincoln Police Department. The goal of the program is to intervene with youth who are identified as gang affiliated or likely to become gang affiliated. OTP served 173 youth, primarily male (88-96%). The goal of the program is to catch youth before becoming gang members, so the program targets younger youth, but serves youth ages 9-17. OTP served more Black and Hispanic youth in 2016, 2017, and 2019, but in 2018 they served more White and Black youth. When the youth in the program reported an association, Bloods and South Side Winos were the two gangs named the most often.

Lincoln Police Department also provided information about gangs in Lincoln. Known gang membership has increased since 2015, but the number of members in the age range of 14-18 has stayed steady since 2018.

Table 12.

Arrest Rates for Adults and Juveniles for 2018 and 2019 with Percent Change <sup>f</sup>

Arrestee Age	All Arrestee Ages			Under 18		
Summary Arrest Date	2018	2019	2018 - 2019 Growth %	2018	2019	2018 - 2019 Growth %
Jurisdiction by Geography	LANCASTER COUNTY					
Arrest Offense						
Total	14,935	13,591	-9.00	1,639	1,615	-1.46
Murder and Nonnegligent Manslaughter	6	6	0.00	2	0	-100.00
Rape Total	20	21	5.00	5	6	20.00
Robbery Total	83	53	-36.14	50	17	-66.00
Aggravated Assault Total	380	400	5.26	2	0	-100.00
Burglary Total	114	78	-31.58	37	13	-64.86
Larceny-Theft Total	1,945	2,119	8.95	349	411	17.77
Motor Vehicle Theft Total	73	94	28.77	36	53	47.22
Other Assaults	1,365	1,409	3.22	276	324	17.39
Arson	23	14	-39.13	14	7	-50.00
Forgery and Counterfeiting	59	56	-5.08	0	0	-
Fraud	363	361	-0.55	20	21	5.00





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Embezzlement	7	3	-57.14	6	2	-66.67
Stolen Property; Buying, Receiving, Possessing	64	36	-43.75	7	7	0.00
Vandalism	562	519	-7.65	145	132	-8.97
Weapons; Carrying, Possessing, etc.	304	258	-15.13	24	15	-37.50
Prostitution Total for Summary	43	32	-25.58	0	0	-
Sex Offenses (Except Rape and Prostitution)	110	115	4.55	16	22	37.50
Drug Violations - Sale/Manufacturing	251	197	-21.51	17	12	-29.41
Drug Violations - Possession	3,114	2,676	-14.07	274	245	-10.58
Offenses Against Family and Children	469	473	0.85	2	2	0.00
Driving Under the Influence	1,382	1,223	-11.51	11	14	27.27
Liquor Laws	1,193	821	-31.18	73	79	8.22
Disorderly Conduct	701	720	2.71	98	96	-2.04
Vagrancy	12	2	-83.33	0	0	-
All Other Offenses (Except Traffic)	2,292	1,905	-16.88	175	137	-21.71

Table 13a.

Risk Assessment Domains for Youth Assessed on Diversion (2017 - 2019) <sup>g</sup>

Score	Lancaster (2017-2019)			All NYS Counties (2015-2017)		
	0	1	2	0	1	2
Family Circumstance/Parenting	60.8%	20.5%	18.7%	60.1%	26.7%	13.1%
Education/Employment	33.4%	52.0%	14.6%	43.0%	44.0%	13.1%
Peer Relationships	34.9%	56.0%	9.1%	44.7%	46.6%	8.6%
Substance Use	56.9%	34.7%	8.4%	61.4%	30.3%	8.3%
Leisure/Recreation	43.0%	31.4%	25.5%	50.6%	33.0%	16.5%
Personality/Behavior	41.6%	44.9%	13.5%	50.1%	39.4%	10.4%
Attitudes/Orientation	52.9%	40.7%	6.4%	61.3%	33.7%	5.0%
Mean Score	M = 6.42, SD = 3.90, 0-20			M = 5.64, SD = 3.65, 0-17		

Lancaster County *n* = 1978; Statewide *n* = 2124





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Table 13b.

Risk Assessment Domains for Youth Assessed on Diversion (2017 - 2019) by Sex <sup>9</sup>

	Female	Male
Family Circumstance/Parenting	.62	.55
Education/Employment	.80	.82
Peer Relationships **	.79	.71
Substance Use	.51	.52
Leisure/Recreation *	.87	.80
Personality/Behavior	.69	.74
Attitudes/Orientation	.52	.54
Total NYS Score	6.34	6.46

Note. ANOVA for sex indicated Peer Relationships and Leisure/Recreation were greater issues for females than males. \*\* p <.01; \* p <.05

Table 13c.

Risk Assessment Domains for Youth Assessed on Diversion (2017 - 2019) by Race/Ethnicity <sup>9</sup>

	Asian	Black	Hispanic	Native Amer.	White
Family Circumstance/Parenting	.61	.58	.69	.62	.55
Education/Employment ***	.43*	.95*	.94*	1.08*	.75
Peer Relationships **	.63*	.78*	.82*	1.04*	.71
Substance Use ***	.35	.36*	.45*	.50*	.60
Leisure/Recreation *	.86*	.78*	.96*	1.04	.80
Personality/Behavior ***	.45*	.89*	.75*	.88	.65
Attitudes/Orientation ***	.39	.63*	.59*	.69	.50
Total NYS Score ***	4.90*	7.20*	7.18*	8.12*	6.01

Note. ANOVA for race/ethnicity indicated significant differences by race/ethnicity on NYS total score and all NYS domains (except for Family Circumstances/Parenting). \*\*\* p<.001 \*\* p <.01; \* p <.05

White youth were the comparison group and a \* indicates that group was statistically different from White youth



Table 14.  
Racial and Ethnic Disparities Descriptives (2015-2019) <sup>1</sup>

[Click here to see Census and School population data](#)

See [yearly data in the Appendix](#)

System Point	N	Amer. Indian/ Alaskan Native	Asian/ Pacific Islander	Black	Hispanic/ Latino	Multiple/ Other	Unspec/ Missing	White
Law enforcement contact	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Youth taken to temporary custody	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Youth issued citation/referral	9165	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Youth referred to diversion	2044	2.70%	2.40%	21.40%	11.70%	2.30%	7.20%	52.30%
Youth enrolled in diversion	1791	2.90%	2.60%	21.50%	12.70%	2.60%	1.40%	56.40%
Successful completion diversion	1478	2.40%	2.60%	20.0%	12.20%	2.90%	1.60%	58.30%
Youth with multiple charges	540	3.50%	1.10%	25.20%	14.10%	0%	8.0%	48.10%
Filed on in adult court	136	3.70%	2.20%	33.80%	14.70%	0%	7.4%	38.20%
RAI Override: More Severe	583	6.50%	0.90%	31.70%	17.50%	3.40%	0%	40%
RAI Underride: Less Severe	57	0%	1.80%	21.10%	21.10%	7%	0%	49.10%
Probation intake	1047	5.60%	1.10%	32.60%	17.20%	3.90%	0%	39.60%
Successful probation	1929	3.70%	1.20%	18.60%	16.90%	3.30%	0%	56.20%
Revocation of probation	837	4.80%	1.90%	30.20%	15.90%	4.90%	0%	42.30%
Youth in OJS custody	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
OJS custody: placed in detention	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Youth booked into detention	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Youth booked into detention more than once	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--



## Family Level

- Compared to state data, Lancaster County has slightly higher rate of household renters and low rates of household owners.
- A large percentage of students have access to internet at home.
- Almost 75% of child abuse and neglect reports are unfounded.

Table 15.

Poverty/SES, Educational Attainment, Technology and Computers in Home, Housing, and Transportation (5-year estimates, 2014-2018) <sup>a</sup>

Measurement		Lancaster	Nebraska
<b>Poverty/SES</b>	Children <18 in Poverty	<b>14.4%</b>	14.8%
	Number of children 12-17 below 185% poverty	<b>5,982</b>	43,814
	Percent of children 12-17 below 185% poverty	<b>26.4</b>	28.9
<b>Educational attainment</b>	Age 25+ with B.D.	<b>38.8%</b>	31.3%
	Lancaster Rank	<b>3</b>	-
	Age 25+ with some college, no degree	<b>21.6%</b>	23.0%
	Lancaster Rank	<b>77</b>	-
	Age 25+ with HS degree	<b>93.5%</b>	91.1%
	Lancaster Rank	<b>28</b>	-
<b>Technology and computers in the home</b>	% under 18 with a computer at home	<b>98.5%</b>	96.9%
	Lancaster Rank	<b>43</b>	-
	% under 18 with an internet subscription at home	<b>93.3%</b>	91.0%
	Lancaster Rank	<b>30</b>	-
	% under 18 with broadband internet access at home	<b>93.1%</b>	90.8%
	Lancaster Rank	<b>27</b>	-
<b>Housing</b>	Owner-occupied households	<b>73,619</b>	498,567
	Total households	<b>122,646</b>	754,063
	Owner %	<b>60.0%</b>	66.1%
	Renters	<b>49,027</b>	255,496
	Renter %	<b>40.0%</b>	33.9%



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<b>Transportation</b>	Households with no vehicle available	<b>7,033</b>	40,465
	Total households	<b>122,646</b>	754,063
	No vehicle %	<b>5.7%</b>	5.4%

Table 16.  
Youth Who Report Supportive Adults by Grade (2018) <sup>d</sup>

		<b>8<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>10<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>12<sup>th</sup></b>
<b>Lancaster</b>	Adult at home who listens	<b>90.0%</b>	<b>85.6%</b>	<b>88.5%</b>
Nebraska		87.3%	85.0%	85.6%
<b>Lancaster</b>	Adult at school who listens	<b>88.4%</b>	<b>85.9%</b>	<b>90.2%</b>
Nebraska		85.2%	85.0%	87.4%

Table 17.  
Domestic Violence Reports and Cleared by Arrest or Exceptional Means (2019) <sup>h</sup>

	Aggravated Domestic Assaults Reported	Aggravated Domestic Assaults Cleared by Arrest or Exceptional Means	Simple Domestic Assaults Reported	Simple Domestic Assaults Cleared by Arrest or Exceptional Means
<b>Lancaster</b>	<b>228</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>1510</b>	<b>669</b>
Nebraska	562	402	2512	2019

Table 18.  
Child Abuse and Neglect Reports (2018) <sup>i</sup>

	Abuse/Neglect Calls	Reports Assessed	Substantiated	Unfounded
<b>Lancaster</b>	<b>7,014</b>	<b>31%</b>	<b>16%</b>	<b>72%</b>
Nebraska	36,480	33.4%	16.0%	68.3%



## Community Level

- For all ages, there are high arrest numbers for violent crimes, especially aggravated assault.
- Juvenile record sealing is not “automatic” even if statute requires it to seal. Sealing a record requires administrative staff to initiate the process. Dismissed or dropped cases should be sealed at a rate of 100%. All others should be sealed at the rate to which youth successfully complete their court requirements (completion of diversion, probation, restorative practice, or other treatment).
- There are high rates of missing race/ethnicity data at the trial court (JUSTICE) and older diversion data. Data for race and ethnicity at each juvenile justice system point is imperative for an accurate Racial and Ethnic Disparities (RED) analysis.

Table 19.

Community Violence Measured by Arrests for Violent Crime (2019) <sup>i</sup>

Type of Violence	Lancaster	% in the state	Nebraska
Murder and Nonnegligent manslaughter	6	17.6%	34
Rape	21	8.0%	264
Robbery	53	14.4%	367
Aggravated Assault	400	24.4%	1,639
Other Assaults	1,409	16.0%	8,782

Table 20.

Youth Perceptions of Community Attitudes on Substance Use by Grade (2018) <sup>d</sup>

		8 <sup>th</sup>	10 <sup>th</sup>	12 <sup>th</sup>
<b>Lancaster</b>	Wrong/very wrong – Marijuana	<b>96.3%</b>	<b>89.3%</b>	<b>86.5%</b>
Nebraska		94.4%	89.8%	85.2%
<b>Lancaster</b>	Wrong/very wrong – alcohol	<b>91.8%</b>	<b>81.2%</b>	<b>72.0%</b>
Nebraska		89.1%	80.4%	68.7%
<b>Lancaster</b>	Wrong/very wrong – cigarettes	<b>94.6%</b>	<b>88.9%</b>	<b>83.7%</b>
Nebraska		92.9%	89.0%	78.7%



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Table 21.

Juvenile Court Record Sealing Analysis (2015 – 2019) <sup>m</sup>see [Appendix for yearly data](#)

	Number of charges Sealed	Total Number of charges	Sealed (%)
Dismissed or Dropped	1499	2797	53.6%
Offered Diversion, mediation, or RJ	0	13	0.0%
Filed in Juv. Court	5514	14645	37.7%
Filed in Adult Court (M or I)	698	1259	54.7%
Filed in Adult Court and Transferred to Juv. Court	3	27	11.1%
Total	7724	19063	40.5%

\*Cases offered diversion, mediation or RJ are not always available data points in in JUSTICE. Many cases filed in adult court and transferred to juvenile court overlapped with cases that were filed in adult court as a misdemeanor or infraction; as such, they were omitted from analysis



## Policy, Legal and System Level

- This county is required under statute to provide an attorney when a youth is filed on in court; the rate is above the state average.
- There are few curfew and 3A, 3B uncontrollable, and 3C filings in court so the community is diverting appropriately; however, truancy filings increased in 2019 after demonstrating a decline in 2017 and 2018.
- Diversion practices and procedures are consistent with evidence-based practices. Lancaster County may want to compare diversion fees to court costs to ensure they are comparable.

Table 22.

Percent of Youth in Juvenile Court Who Had Access to Counsel (2018) <sup>n</sup>

	Lancaster	Nebraska
Access to Counsel	80.0% -- 100.0%	73.5%

**Neb. Rev. 43-272.** Right to counsel; appointment; payment; guardian ad litem; appointment; when; duties; standards for guardians ad litem; standards for attorneys who practice in juvenile court.

(1)(a) In counties having a population of less than one hundred fifty thousand inhabitants, when any juvenile shall be brought without counsel before a juvenile court, the court shall advise such juvenile and his or her parent or guardian of their right to retain counsel and shall inquire of such juvenile and his or her parent or guardian as to whether they desire to retain counsel.

(b) In counties having a population of one hundred fifty thousand or more inhabitants, when any juvenile court petition is filed alleging jurisdiction of a juvenile pursuant to subdivision (1), (2), (3)(b), or (4) of section 43-247, counsel shall be appointed for such juvenile.

Table 23.

Frequency of Youth with a Curfew Violation (2015 – 2019) <sup>m</sup>

	Lancaster	Nebraska
Curfew Court Filing	0	352





Table 24.

Court Filing for 3A, 3B, and 3C cases (2015 – 2019) <sup>m</sup>

	Lancaster					
Filed Subtype	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	Total
3A- Homeless/Neglect	0	0	0	0	0	0
3B – Absenteeism/Truancy	23	123	1	46	102	355
3B - Uncontrollable	0	5	5	2	0	12
3C – Mentally Ill and Dangerous	0	0	0	0	0	0

	Nebraska					
Filed Subtype	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	Total
3A- Homeless/Neglect	0	2	0	2	3	7
3B – Absenteeism/Truancy	96	510	493	423	475	1997
3B - Uncontrollable	47	118	125	119	82	491
3C – Mentally Ill and Dangerous	22	48	37	22	23	306

Table 25.

County Diversion Procedures and Protocols Compared to Statewide Responses (2020) <sup>o</sup>

	Lancaster	Nebraska *
Refer ALL juveniles who are first time offenders to diversion	Yes	Yes: 27.3% No: 63.6% Not sure: 9.1%
File a juvenile's charges at the time of the referral to diversion	No	Yes: 18.2% No: 70.5% Not sure: 11.4%
File a juvenile's charges if they are unsuccessful on diversion	Sometimes	Always: 47.7% Sometimes: 47.7% Not sure: 4.5%
Allow a juvenile to complete diversion more than once	Yes	Yes: 61.4% No: 34.1% Not sure: 4.5%
Charges/offenses that make a juvenile ineligible for diversion	Yes; none specified	Yes: 86.4% No: 9.1% Not sure: 4.5%
Warning letters instead of intervention	Yes	Yes: 27.3% No: 61.4% Not sure: 11.4%
Currently drug test	No	Yes: 31.8% No: 65.9% Not sure: 2.3%



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Fees beyond restitution	Yes; \$60 for regular diversion and \$100 for intensive diversion	Yes: 86.4% No: 13.6% Not sure: 0.0%
Use of graduated responses prior to discharge	Yes; not specified	Yes: 47.7% No: 25.0% Not sure: 27.3%
Sealing diversion records	Yes; not specified	Yes: 59.1% No: 22.7% Not sure: 18.2%

\*responses included 44 juvenile diversion programs; representing 68 counties/tribe (91.9% response rate)



## Community Team Level

- A community lead should be able to get roughly a 75% response, to ensure active participation on planning issues, your response rate was 80%. This is an increase in response rate from 2019.
- Having a common agenda is the domain of collective impact where the team has rated the lowest for both years. The mean score for mutually reinforcing went down slightly, but all other mean scores increased.
- The community team should be representative of the population of that community but should also include diversity. It might be beneficial to add diverse member to your team (especially because of the patterns of over and under representation).
- Good representation of system points by team members and persons formerly involved in the system.
- About 22% of those who responded did not feel heard, which is similar to community teams across the state.

Table 26.  
Collective Impact Survey Response Rates <sup>P</sup>

	Lancaster		Nebraska	
Year of survey	2019	2020	2019	2020
Number of surveys sent	24	40	1407	780
Number of completed surveys	10	32	221	345
Response rate	41.7%	80.0%	28.3%	24.5%

Table 27.  
Collective Impact Survey Scores <sup>P</sup>

	Lancaster		Nebraska	
Year of survey	2019	2020	2019	2020
	Mean Score		Mean Score	
Common agenda	5.39	5.59	5.29	5.69
Mutually reinforcing	5.62	5.59	5.37	5.50
Shared measurement	5.64	5.94	5.21	5.45
Continuous communication	5.78	6.16	5.49	5.55



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Backbone agency	5.62	6.16	5.52	5.78
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The five elements of Collective Impact are:

- **Common agenda:** Participants have a shared vision and common understanding of both the problem and potential solutions to that problem.
- **Mutually reinforcing activities:** Participant activities must be differentiated while still being coordinated through a mutually reinforcing plan of action.
- **Shared measurement:** Collecting data and measuring results consistently across all participants ensures efforts remain aligned and participants hold each other accountable.
- **Continuous communication:** Consistent and open communication is needed across stakeholders to build trust, assure mutual objectives, and create common motivation.
- **Backbone support:** Creating and managing Collective Impact often requires a separate organization(s) with staff and a specific set of skills to serve as the backbone for the entire initiative and to coordinate participating organizations <sup>q</sup>

Table 28.  
Community Planning Team Diversity <sup>p</sup>

	Lancaster		Nebraska	
	N = 32	(%)	N = 345	(%)
<b>Gender</b>				
Male	11	34.4%	101	29.3%
Female	20	62.5%	229	66.4%
Missing	1	3.1%	15	4.3%
<b>Age</b>				
Under 30	1	3.1%	19	5.6%
30-39	10	31.2%	68	19.6%
40-49	10	31.2%	88	25.4%
50-59	7	21.9	90	25.8%
60 and over	3	9.4	44	13%
Missing	1	3.1%	36	10.4%
<b>Race/Ethnicity</b>				
White	22	68.8%	230	66.7%
Black	3	9.4%	10	2.9%
Hispanic	1	3.1%	13	3.8%
Native American	1	3.1%	6	1.7%
Asian	--	--	1	0.3%



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Other	--	--	2	0.6%
Provided town name	5	15.6%	63	18.3%
Missing	--	--	19	5.5%
<b>Previous System Involvement</b>				
Yes	7	21.9%	98	28.4%
No	25	78.1%	242	70.1%
Missing	--	--	5	1.4%
<b>System Point *</b>				
Law enforcement	2	4.2%	34	7.8%
Lancaster attorney/ juvenile court	1	2.1%	32	7.3%
K-12 or secondary education	3	6.3%	65	14.9%
Ministry/faith based	1	2.1%	10	2.3%
Diversion	6	12.5%	55	12.6%
Probation	3	6.3%	31	7.1%
Public defender/ defense counsel/ guardian ad litem	1	2.1%	8	1.8%
DHHS or Child Welfare	2	4.2%	13	3.0%
Treatment provider	5	10.4%	40	9.2%
Post adjudication or detention	1	2.1%	8	1.8%
Community based program	23	47.9%	109	25.0%
Elected official or government	--	--	6	1.4%
Restorative practices	--	--	6	1.4%
Backbone or system improvement	--	--	3	0.7%
Other	--	--	16	3.7%
<b>Voice on Team</b>				
Feel heard	25	78.1%	270	78.3%
Do not feel heard	7	21.9%	75	21.7%

\*note. Team members could have selected more than one system point; as such, they do not add up to 100%

## References and Resources

<sup>a</sup> **Population data:** Table B01001 race series, 2014-2018 American Community Survey, U.S. Census Bureau  
Compiled and Prepared by: David Drozd, UNO Center for Public Affairs Research on July 10, 2020

<sup>a</sup> **Youth employment:** Table B23001, 2014-2018 American Community Survey, U.S. Census Bureau  
Compiled and Prepared by: David Drozd, UNO Center for Public Affairs Research on July 10, 2020

<sup>a</sup> **Poverty/SES:** Table B10724, 2014-2018 American Community Survey, U.S. Census Bureau  
Prepared by: David Drozd, UNO Center for Public Affairs Research on 3-18-2020

<sup>a</sup> **Technology in household:** Table B28005, 2014-2018 American Community Survey, U.S. Census Bureau  
Compiled by: David Drozd, UNO Center for Public Affairs Research on 8-11-20

<sup>a</sup> **Home owner/transportation:** Table B25045, 2014-2018 American Community Survey, U.S. Census Bureau  
Compiled and Prepared by: David Drozd, UNO Center for Public Affairs Research on 8-11-20

<sup>a</sup> **Education attainment:** Table B15002, 2014-2018 American Community Survey, U.S. Census Bureau  
Prepared by: David Drozd, UNO Center for Public Affairs Research on 3-18-2020

<sup>b</sup> **School membership, chronic absenteeism, student disability, and free/reduced lunch:** Prepared by  
Sara Simonsen, Nebraska Department of Education

<sup>c</sup> **Graduation rates:** Special Tabulation by Sara Simonsen, Nebraska Department of Education  
Prepared by: David Drozd, UNO Center for Public Affairs Research on 7-24-2020

<sup>d</sup> **Mental health, Substance use, gang, and community perceptions of substance use:** Bureau of  
Sociological Research, Nebraska Risk and Protective Factors Survey:  
<https://bosr.unl.edu/current-nrpfss-county-level-data>

<sup>e</sup> **Referral to and utilization of services:** Department of Health and Human Services

<sup>f</sup> **Adult and juvenile arrests:** Nebraska Crime Commission, Crime Statistics:  
<https://crimestats.ne.gov/public/Browse/browsetables.aspx>

<sup>g</sup> Diversion programs

<sup>h</sup> **Domestic violence:** Nebraska Crime Commission, Domestic Assault:  
[https://ncc.nebraska.gov/sites/ncc.nebraska.gov/files/doc/2019%20Domestic%20Assault%20and%20Arrest%20by%20County\\_0.pdf](https://ncc.nebraska.gov/sites/ncc.nebraska.gov/files/doc/2019%20Domestic%20Assault%20and%20Arrest%20by%20County_0.pdf)

<sup>i</sup> Child abuse and neglect

<sup>j</sup> **Community violence:** Nebraska Crime Commission, Crime Statistics:  
<https://crimestats.ne.gov/public/Browse/browsetables.aspx>

<sup>k</sup> **Distance to detention facility:** Google Maps

<sup>l</sup> **Racial and ethnic disparities:** Prepared by Mitch Herian, University of Nebraska-Lincoln with data provided  
by:



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Nebraska Crime Commission, Crime Statistics:

<https://crimestats.ne.gov/public/Browse/browseables.aspx>

Nebraska Crime Commission, Juvenile Case Management System

Nebraska Judicial Branch Trial Court Case Management System, JUSTICE

Nebraska Judicial Branch, Juvenile Services Division

<sup>m</sup> **Court Filings and Juvenile Record Sealing:** Data provided by the Nebraska Judicial Branch Trial Court Case Management System, JUSTICE. Prepared by: Lindsey Wylie, UNO Juvenile Justice Institute on 9-1-20

<sup>n</sup> **Access to Counsel:** Kids County in Nebraska Report, Voices for Children, retrieved from: [www.voicesforchildren.com/kidscount](http://www.voicesforchildren.com/kidscount). Data originally from Nebraska Judicial Branch Trial Court Case Management System, JUSTICE

<sup>o</sup> **Diversion procedures and protocols:** Diversion survey distributed to Juvenile Diversion programs, 2020. Prepared by: Lindsey Wylie, UNO Juvenile Justice Institute

<sup>p</sup> **Collective impact:** Collective impact surveys distributed to Community Planning Teams, 2019 and 2020. Prepared by: Anne Hobbs and Erin Wasserburger, UNO Juvenile Justice Institute

<sup>q</sup> **Collective Impact Elements:** Kania, J., & Kramer, M. (2011). Collective Impact. *Stanford Social Innovation Review*.

<sup>r</sup> **Estimated Gang Involvement by Local Law Enforcement:** Lincoln Police Department Memo, Descriptive Analysis of Operation Tipping Point data prepared by: Officer Luke Bonkiewicz, and Lincoln Police Department Memo, Gang Data prepared by: Jeff Peterson, LPD CAIU Manager. Both reports provided to JJI by Matt Baker.





## Appendix: RED Descriptives

2015

[Click back to RED Summary data](#)

System Point	N	Amer. Indian/ Alaskan Native	Asian/ Pacific Islander	Black	Hispanic/ Latino	Multiple/ Other	Unspec/ Missing	White
Law enforcement contact	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Youth taken to temporary custody	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Youth issued citation/referral	2120	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Youth referred to diversion	506	4.50%	4.30%	13%	12.10%	2.20%	18%	45.80%
Youth enrolled in diversion	404	5.40%	5.20%	14.40%	15.10%	2.70%	1%	56.20%
Successful completion diversion	282	3.90%	5%	10.60%	15.20%	2.80%	0.70%	61.70%
Youth with multiple charges	51	2%	2%	27.50%	13.70%	0%	7.80%	47.10%
Filed on in adult court	7	0%	0%	14.30%	14.30%	0%	14.30%	57.10%
RAI Override: More Severe	167	3.60%	1.20%	38.90%	12.60%	1.80%	0%	41.90%
RAI Override: Less Severe	10	0%	0%	30%	10%	10%	0%	50%
Probation intake	259	3.50%	0.80%	37.10%	12.40%	3.50%	0%	42.90%
Successful probation	515	2.90%	0.80%	18.60%	15.90%	3.90%	0%	57.90%
Revocation of probation	193	5.20%	3.60%	29%	12.40%	5.20%	0%	44.60%
Youth in OJS custody	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
OJS custody: placed in detention	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Youth booked into detention	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Youth booked into detention more than once	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--



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2016

System Point	N	Amer. Indian/ Alaskan Native	Asian/ Pacific Islander	Black	Hispanic/ Latino	Multiple/ Other	Unspec/ Missing	White
Law enforcement contact	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Youth taken to temporary custody	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Youth issued citation/referral	1857	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Youth referred to diversion	435	2.80%	2.30%	18.90%	9.90%	0.70%	9.90%	55.60%
Youth enrolled in diversion	367	2.70%	2.70%	20.20%	10.40%	0.80%	2.20%	61%
Successful completion diversion	320	2.20%	3.10%	19.10%	10.30%	0.90%	2.50%	61.90%
Youth with multiple charges	149	6%	0.70%	24.80%	14.10%	0%	8.70%	45.60%
Filed on in adult court	29	0%	0%	31%	17.20%	0%	3.40%	48.30%
RAI Override: More Severe	83	6%	1.20%	27.70%	15.70%	3.60%	0%	45.80%
RAI Override: Less Severe	5	0%	0%	20%	0%	20%	0%	60%
Probation intake	176	4.50%	2.30%	29.50%	14.80%	3.40%	0%	45.50%
Successful probation	434	3.70%	0.90%	20.30%	17.10%	4.10%	0%	53.90%
Revocation of probation	222	4.10%	1.40%	28.80%	15.30%	4.50%	0%	45.90%
Youth in OJS custody	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
OJS custody: placed in detention	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Youth booked into detention	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Youth booked into detention more than once	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--



## COUNTY NEEDS ASSESSMENT FY 2020-2021

2017

System Point	N	Amer. Indian/ Alaskan Native	Asian/ Pacific Islander	Black	Hispanic/ Latino	Multiple/ Other	Unspec/ Missing	White
Law enforcement contact	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Youth taken to temporary custody	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Youth issued citation/referral	1934	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Youth referred to diversion	364	0.50%	1.60%	28%	11.30%	0.80%	0%	57.70%
Youth enrolled in diversion	333	0.60%	1.50%	27.90%	11.40%	0.60%	0%	58%
Successful completion diversion	280	0.70%	1.80%	26.80%	10.70%	0.70%	0%	59.30%
Youth with multiple charges	135	0.70%	1.50%	24.40%	17%	0%	7.40%	48.90%
Filed on in adult court	26	0%	0%	42.30%	15.40%	0%	3.80%	38.50%
RAI Override: More Severe	73	5.50%	1.40%	31.50%	21.90%	1.40%	0%	38.40%
RAI Override: Less Severe	7	0%	0%	14.30%	14.30%	0%	0%	71.40%
Probation intake	143	5.60%	1.40%	34.30%	18.20%	0.70%	0%	39.90%
Successful probation	451	3.80%	1.60%	13.70%	16.40%	3.30%	0%	61.20%
Revocation of probation	202	4%	1.50%	33.20%	16.80%	4%	0%	40.60%
Youth in OJS custody	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
OJS custody: placed in detention	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Youth booked into detention	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Youth booked into detention more than once	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--



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2018

System Point	N	Amer. Indian/ Alaskan Native	Asian/ Pacific Islander	Black	Hispanic/ Latino	Multiple/ Other	Unspec/ Missing	White
Law enforcement contact	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Youth taken to temporary custody	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Youth issued citation/referral	1639	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Youth referred to diversion	355	2%	0.80%	22.80%	14.60%	3.70%	2%	54.10%
Youth enrolled in diversion	326	2.10%	0.60%	19.90%	14.70%	4%	2.10%	56.40%
Successful completion diversion	277	1.40%	0.70%	18.40%	14.10%	4.70%	2.50%	58.10%
Youth with multiple charges	112	4.50%	0.90%	24.10%	10.70%	0%	7.10%	52.70%
Filed on in adult court	38	10.50%	0%	44.70%	13.20%	0%	7.90%	23.70%
RAI Override: More Severe	95	11.60%	1.10%	29.50%	18.90%	3.20%	0%	35.80%
RAI Override: Less Severe	10	0%	10%	20%	40%	0%	0%	30%
Probation intake	190	8.40%	1.60%	32.60%	18.90%	3.70%	0%	34.70%
Successful probation	337	3.90%	1.80%	20.80%	20.20%	2.10%	0%	51.30%
Revocation of probation	122	4.10%	1.60%	26.20%	23.80%	2.50%	0%	41.80%
Youth in OJS custody	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
OJS custody: placed in detention	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Youth booked into detention	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Youth booked into detention more than once	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--



## COUNTY NEEDS ASSESSMENT FY 2020-2021

2019

System Point	N	Amer. Indian/ Alaskan Native	Asian/ Pacific Islander	Black	Hispanic/ Latino	Multiple/ Other	Unspec/ Missing	White
			4%	6%	13%			66%
Law enforcement contact	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Youth taken to temporary custody	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Youth issued citation/referral	1615	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Youth referred to diversion	384	2.90%	2.30%	27.60%	10.90%	4.40%	1.60%	50.30%
Youth enrolled in diversion	361	3%	2.20%	26.30%	11.60%	4.70%	1.70%	50.40%
Successful completion diversion	319	3.40%	2.20%	24.80%	11.30%	5.30%	1.90%	51.10%
Youth with multiple charges	93	3.20%	1.10%	26.90%	14%	0%	8.60%	46.20%
Filed on in adult court	36	2.80%	8.30%	22.20%	13.90%	0%	11.10%	41.70%
RAI Override: More Severe	165	7.30%	0%	27.90%	20.60%	6.10%	0%	38.20%
RAI Override: Less Severe	25	0%	0%	20%	24%	8%	0%	48%
Probation intake	279	6.50%	0%	29.40%	21.50%	6.50%	0%	36.20%
Successful probation	192	5.20%	1.60%	22.40%	14.60%	2.10%	0%	54.20%
Revocation of probation	98	8.20%	1%	34.70%	12.20%	10.20%	0%	33.70%
Youth in OJS custody	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
OJS custody: placed in detention	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Youth booked into detention	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Youth booked into detention more than once	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--



## Appendix: Sealed Court Records by Year

\*Cases offered diversion, mediation or RJ are not available data points in in JUSTICE. All cases filed in adult court and transferred to juvenile court overlapped with cases that were filed in adult court as a misdemeanor or infraction; as such, they were omitted from analysis

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2015	Number of charges Sealed	Total Number of charges	Sealed (%)
Dismissed or Dropped	288	497	57.9%
Offered Diversion, mediation, or RJ	--	--	--
Filed in Juv. Court	1237	2922	42.3%
Filed in Adult Court (M or I)	213	318	67.0%
Filed in Adult Court and Transferred to Juv. Court	--	--	--
Total	1744	3760	46.4%

2016	Number of charges Sealed	Total Number of charges	Sealed (%)
Dismissed or Dropped	435	757	57.5%
Offered Diversion, mediation, or RJ	--	--	--
Filed in Juv. Court	1774	4212	42.1%
Filed in Adult Court (M or I)	183	315	58.1%
Filed in Adult Court and Transferred to Juv. Court	--	--	--
Total	2401	5346	44.9%

2017	Number of charges Sealed	Total Number of charges	Sealed (%)
Dismissed or Dropped	316	559	56.5%
Offered Diversion, mediation, or RJ	--	--	--
Filed in Juv. Court	1457	2948	49.4%
Filed in Adult Court (M or I)	90	235	38.3%
Filed in Adult Court and Transferred to Juv. Court	--	--	--
Total	1866	3810	49.0%



## COUNTY NEEDS ASSESSMENT FY 2020-2021

2018	Number of charges Sealed	Total Number of charges	Sealed (%)
Dismissed or Dropped	208	528	39.4%
Offered Diversion, mediation, or RJ	--	--	--
Filed in Juv. Court	716	2456	29.2%
Filed in Adult Court (M or I)	76	198	38.4%
Filed in Adult Court and Transferred to Juv. Court	1	2	50.0%
Total	1003	3315	30.3%

2019	Number of charges Sealed	Total Number of charges	Sealed (%)
Dismissed or Dropped	252	456	55.3%
Offered Diversion, mediation, or RJ	0	13	0.0%
Filed in Juv. Court	330	2107	15.7%
Filed in Adult Court (M or I)	127	193	65.8%
Filed in Adult Court and Transferred to Juv. Court	0	12	0.0%
Total	710	2832	25.1%