

To: DCF/DMCPS Administrator  
DCF Area Administrators  
Child Placing Agency Directors  
Child Welfare Agency Directors  
County Departments of Community Programs Directors  
County Departments of Human Services Directors  
County Departments of Social Services Directors  
Group Home Providers  
Tribal Social Service/Indian Child Welfare Directors  
Private Child Placing Agencies  
Residential Care Center Providers  
Shelter Care Providers  
Tribal Chairpersons

From: Wendy Henderson  
Administrator



**Re: 2019 Youth Justice Referrals and Intake Report**

#### **PURPOSE**

The purpose of this memo is to share the first Youth Justice Referrals and Intake report for Calendar Year (CY) 2019. The report summarizes the first full year of available data from the statewide centralized case management system (eWiSACWIS), providing a snapshot of an early decision point in Wisconsin's community-based Youth Justice (YJ) system.

#### **BACKGROUND**

While decisions are made at many points in the Youth Justice system, only referrals to the youth justice system and intake information are currently tracked in eWiSACWIS. Wisconsin began collecting intake and referral data in eWiSACWIS in the middle of CY 2018. The data included in this report is from CY 2019, the first full year of available data in eWiSACWIS. As DCF's capacity to track YJ decision points in eWiSACWIS grows, future data collection will allow for analyses of trends over time and more detailed analyses on topics of interest.

#### **INFORMATION SUMMARY**

Referral and intake data included in this report focuses on youth characteristics and referral details. Youth data includes demographic information like gender, age, race, ethnicity, and prior CPS involvement. Referral data includes information like referral type, source, and intake worker recommendation. Offense information is also summarized for two referral types; Delinquency and JIPS Non-Truancy.

In 2019, 10,357 youth were referred to the YJ system and a total of 16,977 referrals were received statewide. Referred youth were most commonly White (58%), 16 years old (22%), males (66%), and had prior CPS involvement (80%). Referrals were most commonly for Delinquency type (83%), came from Law Enforcement (90%), and had an intake recommendation of case closure (45%).

The report concludes with a summary of referrals received, referred youth, referral type, and Intake Worker recommendation organized by county.

CENTRAL OFFICE CONTACT: Youth Justice Policy Coordinator  
Bureau of Youth Services  
(608) 422-6899  
DCFYJ@wisconsin.gov

MEMO WEB SITE: <http://dcf.wisconsin.gov/memos>

LINKS: 2019 Youth Justice Referrals and Intake Report  
<https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/files/cwportal/yj/pdf/yj-referrals-intake-rpt.pdf>

Youth Justice in Wisconsin  
<https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/yj>