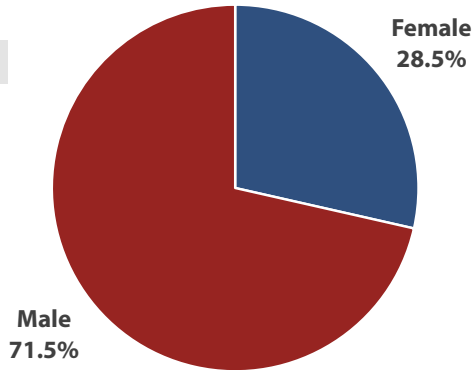


Oklahoma Youth Justice Landscape Data

Majority of youth referrals are for males

Total youth referrals 2019

Total: 11,071



During 2019, Oklahoma saw a **total of 11,071 youth referrals**. A majority were for males.

Referral: An official complaint or report filed with the state, alleging a violation of the law by a young person.

Oklahoma's referral rates vary widely by county

Highest referral rates

County	Rate	Number	Youth Pop.
Delaware	31.4	274	8,719
Pontotoc	30.6	280	9,136
Craig	27.4	88	3,212
Ellis	27.3	26	952

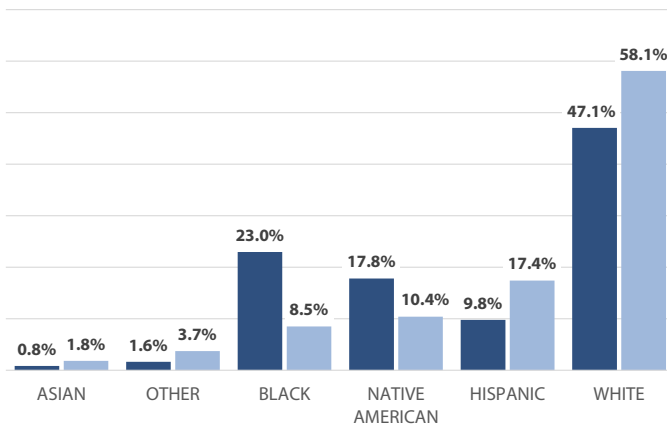
Lowest referral rates

County	Rate	Number	Youth Pop.
Beaver	1.5	2	1,359
Grant	1.9	2	1,062
Harper	2.0	2	1,019
Noble	3.6	10	2,785

Referral rates for Black and Native youth far exceed other racial groups

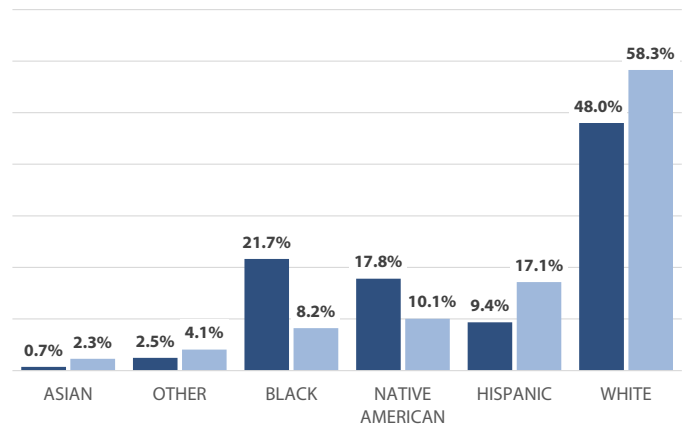
Males by race in Oklahoma, 2019

■ Percent of referrals ■ Percent of total child population



Females by race in Oklahoma, 2019

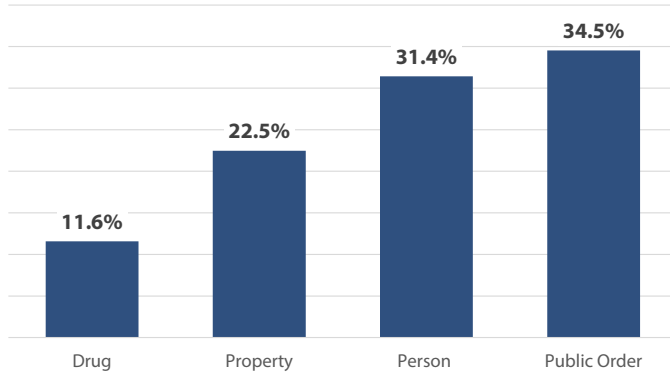
■ Percent of referrals ■ Percent of total child population





Most youth referrals are for low-level public order offenses

Referral type 2019



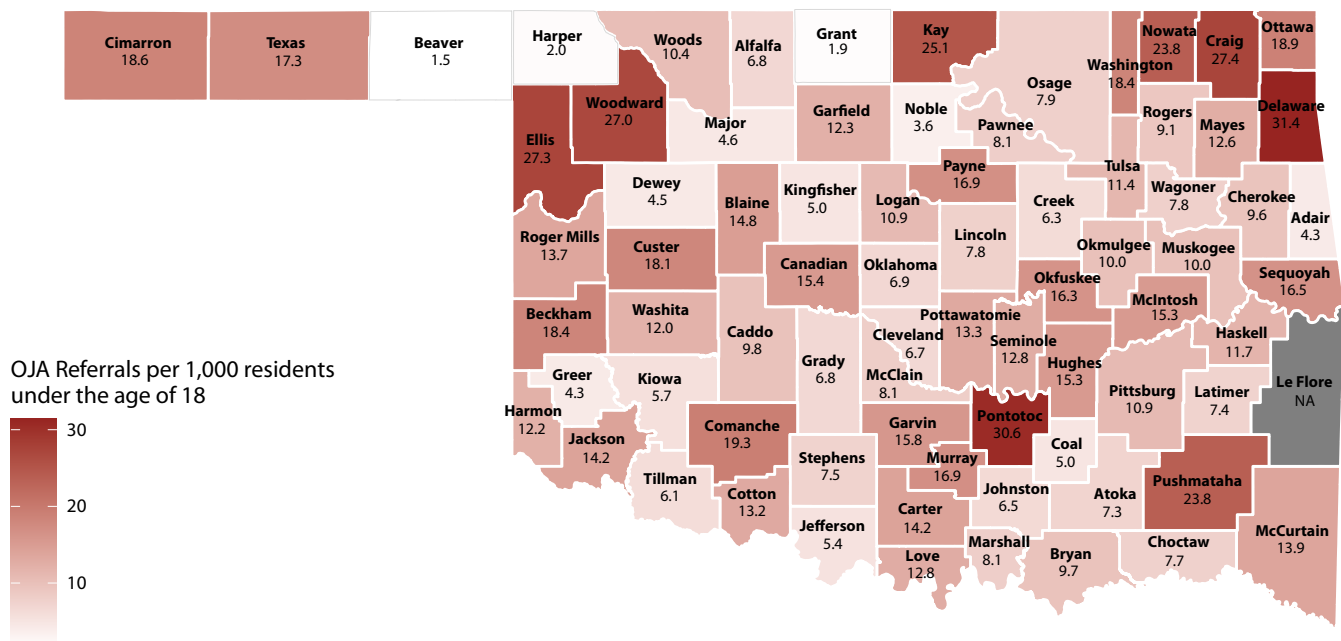
Referral types were identified and categorized using the Uniform Crime Reporting Manual¹ definitions and guides.

Top referral sources for youth in 2019

Source	Number	Percent
Law enforcement agency	8,546	79.4%
Juvenile agency	957	9.0%
Public school	702	6.6%
Family	168	1.6%
Self	62	0.6%

Referrals across the state

OJA Referrals per 1,000 residents under the age of 18 by county, includes all OJA referrals from FY 2019



¹ "NIBRS User Manual - FBI." <https://www.fbi.gov/file-repository/ucr/ucr-2019-1-nibrs-user-manua-093020.pdf/view>. Accessed 24 Feb. 2022.



Diversion Types: Informal adjustments & deferred delinquency

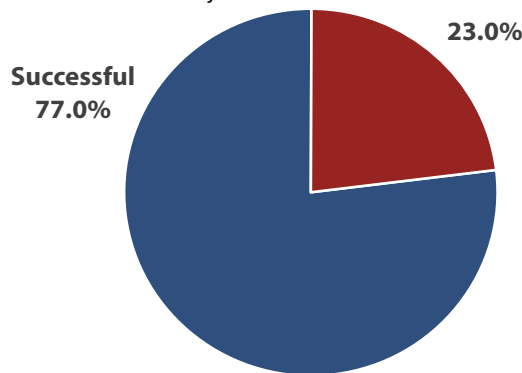
Oklahoma has two main forms of diversion: informal adjustments and deferred delinquency.

The first level of diversion is typically informal adjustments unless the alleged violation is severe. In addition, to qualify for an informal adjustment the child must have no previous delinquency adjudications. An informal adjustment is an alternative to filing a petition for formal court processing.

In a deferred delinquency case, after a petition is filed, the court defers delinquency proceedings pending completion of a treatment program. Treatment programs for both types of diversion are individualized based on the treatment needs of the child.

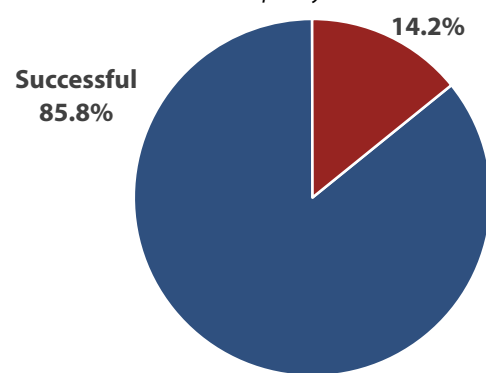
A vast majority of informal adjustments are successful

Program Outcomes: Informal Adjustments 2019



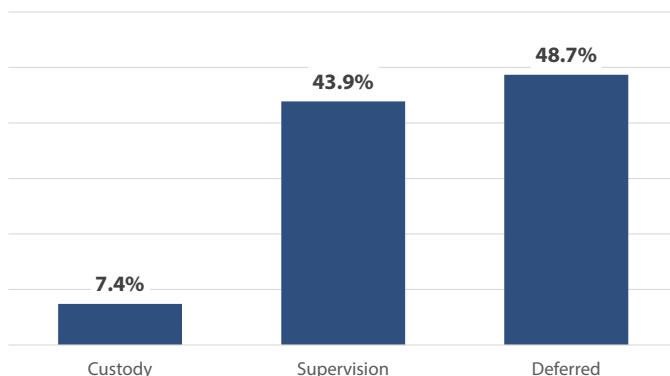
Most youth successfully complete deferral programs

Program Outcomes: Deferred Delinquency 2019



Majority of referred Oklahoma youth receive some type of diversion

Case outcomes: 2019



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The **Oklahoma Policy Institute** is a non-partisan, non-profit organization focused on advancing equitable and fiscally responsible policies that expand opportunity for all Oklahomans through non-partisan research, analysis, and advocacy.