

Administrative Office of the Courts

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Report for Juvenile Justice Oversight Council Submitted by Zach Ramsey, AOC Director October 8th, 2025

The Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) is pleased to report its continued progress on several key juvenile justice initiatives aimed at improving outcomes for youth across the Commonwealth. This report will provide an update on the following:

- ➤ Enhancing Youth Accountability and Support Through Case Plans
- Outcomes and Attendance Data for Family, Accountability, Intervention, and Response (FAIR) Teams, including participation by mandated members.
- Trends in Juvenile Complaint Filings, with a focus on both public and status offenses.

Enhancing Youth Accountability and Support Through Case Plans

Family & Juvenile Services (FJS) has successfully advanced to phase four of implementing a case plan approach in diversion statewide. This milestone follows three pilot phases and six regional trainings, ensuring that by October 6, 2025, the Court Designated Worker (CDW) Program will be fully transitioned to the new approach. The case plan model strengthens CDW Diversion Agreements by identifying each youth's criminogenic needs, building on their individual strengths, and setting clear goals and action steps. This approach enhances youth accountability while connecting them to resources and interventions that reduce recidivism.

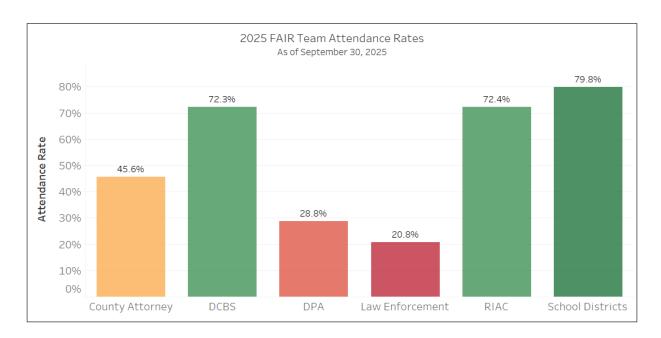
Since Summer 2023, FJS has piloted diversion case plans and refined practices through monthly staff discussions. With full implementation, these discussions will expand to multiple groups to sustain engagement, share lessons learned, and support continuous quality improvement efforts.

FAIR Team Outcomes and Member Attendance

The AOC reports outcomes for cases reviewed by FAIR Teams at each Juvenile Justice Oversight Council meeting.

- FAIR Teams were referred 2,149 complaints in 2023, 2,480 complaints in 2024, and, as of August 15, 2025, 2,389 in 2025.
- ➤ Of the 1,475 complaints closed thus far in 2025 that had been referred to FAIR Teams, 20% of the cases were resolved outside of court while 80% were referred to court.
 - Nearly half of the court referrals were for truancy cases placed on diversion and referred to court for accumulating four unexcused absences.
- ➤ FAIR attendance rates are noted in the chart below. Attendance data was pulled on September 30, 2025.

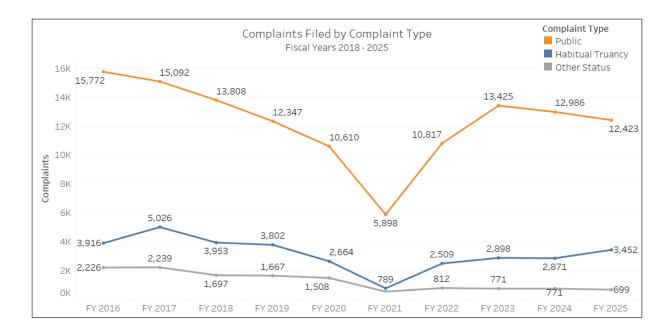
Attendance rates are generally 1% to 5% lower than in 2024 with the exception being RIACs. RIAC representatives have a 5% higher attendance rate than in 2024.



Trends in Complaint Filings

In FY 2025, the CDW program experienced a diverging trend in the filing of complaints for public and status offenses. Public complaint filings declined statewide for a second straight year, with a 4% decline in FY 2025. Conversely, status offense complaint filings increased in FY 2025. The increase in status complaint filings can be entirely attributed to a 20% rise in habitual truancy complaints, including significant increases in Warren (713%), Harrison (231%), Pulaski (167%), Henderson (98%), Jefferson (80%), Campbell

(75%), and Daviess (60%) counties. The trend in public and status complaint filings over the past 10 years is presented below.



Mandatory Detention

Mandatory detention provisions from KRS 610.265 were implemented statewide at the beginning of FY 2025. During FY 2025, 348 complaints were detained at intake that met mandatory detention criteria, and up to an additional 126 detentions may have met the criteria. A complete list of mandatory detention qualifying offenses can be found under KRS 439.3401.

This report provides a comprehensive overview and update on the Kentucky Juvenile Justice System. The AOC remains committed to keeping the Juvenile Justice Oversight Council informed and will continue to provide updates on ongoing and future initiatives.