

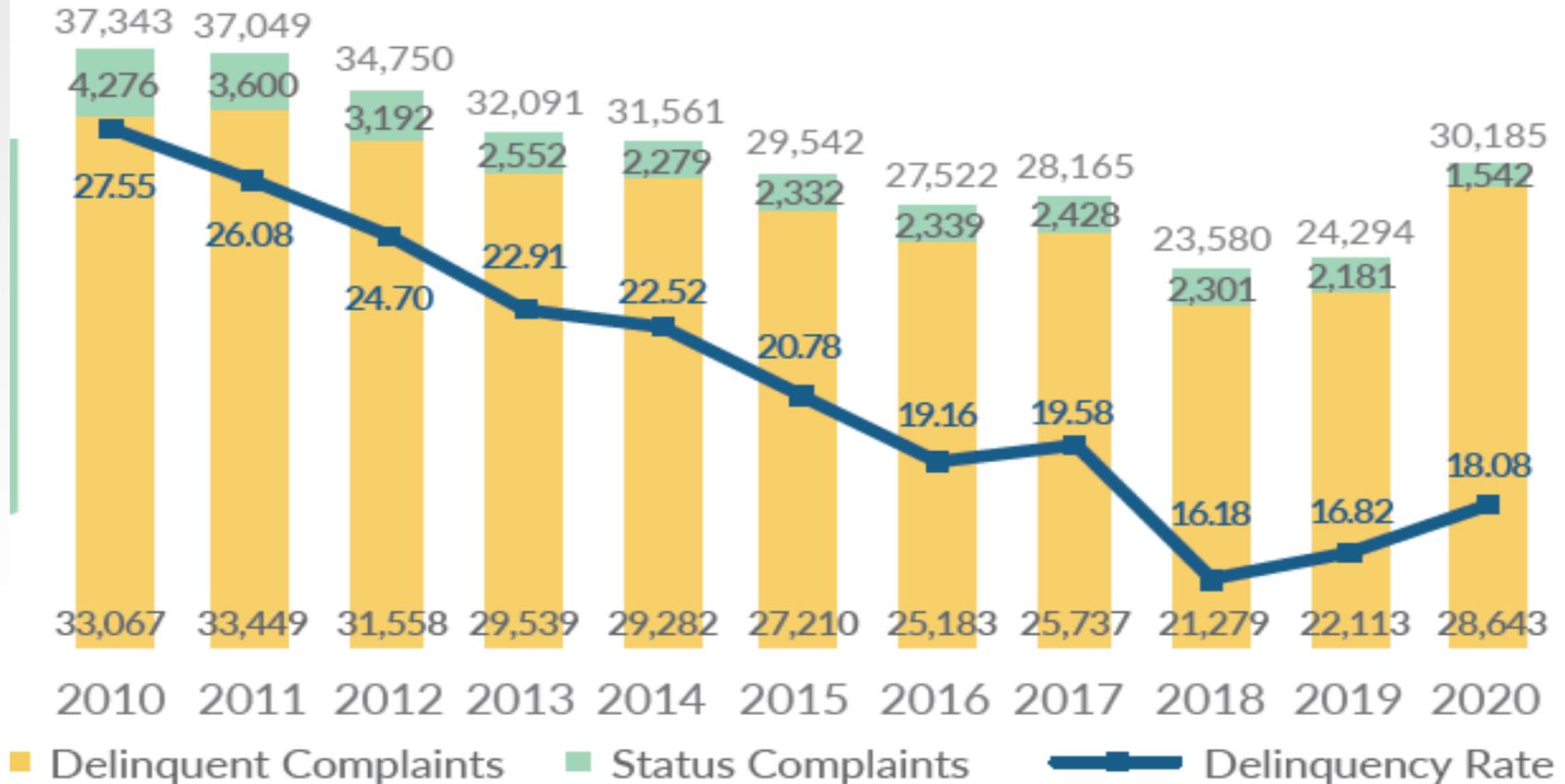


# Juvenile Justice Update

Fall Conference  
William Lassiter, NC DPS Deputy Secretary  
for Juvenile Justice

# Juvenile Delinquency Trends

## Complaints Received and Delinquency Rate 2010-2020



# RtA Implementation Update

- ▶ More 16 & 17 year olds are being served through Juvenile Community Programs
- ▶ With school back in session, the number of complaints and associated juveniles is rising
- ▶ September 2021 was the highest month of Class H-3 juveniles seen since RtA implementation.
- ▶ From January 2020 through September 2021, the ADP increased 40% in juvenile detention
- ▶ Length of stay in detention is increasing. On October 1, 2021, the average length of stay for Transfer to Superior Court youth in detention was 180 days.

# Raise the Age

## Complaints for 16 and 17-year-olds

2020 – 1 Year Into Raise the Age

Below are early statistics to help understand how the older population is appearing in the Juvenile Justice system for the first year of Raise the Age.

Projected vs Received Complaints

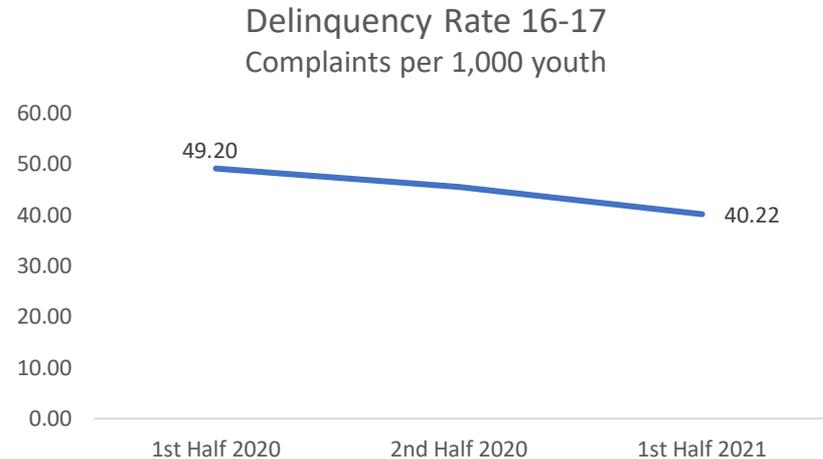
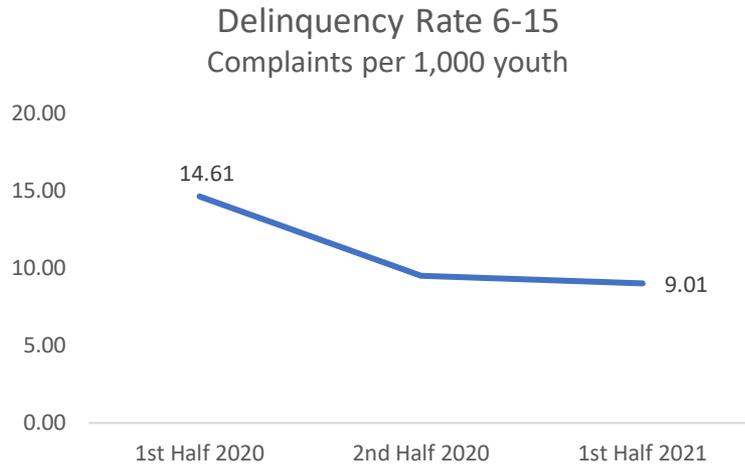
	Projected Complaints	Complaints Received	Projected % Received
<b>RtA</b>	<b>22,314</b>	<b>12,802</b>	<b>57%</b>
<b>RtA A-G</b>	<b>1,273</b>	<b>1,316</b>	<b>103%</b>
<b>RtA H-3</b>	<b>21,041</b>	<b>11,486</b>	<b>55%</b>

# Delinquency Rates

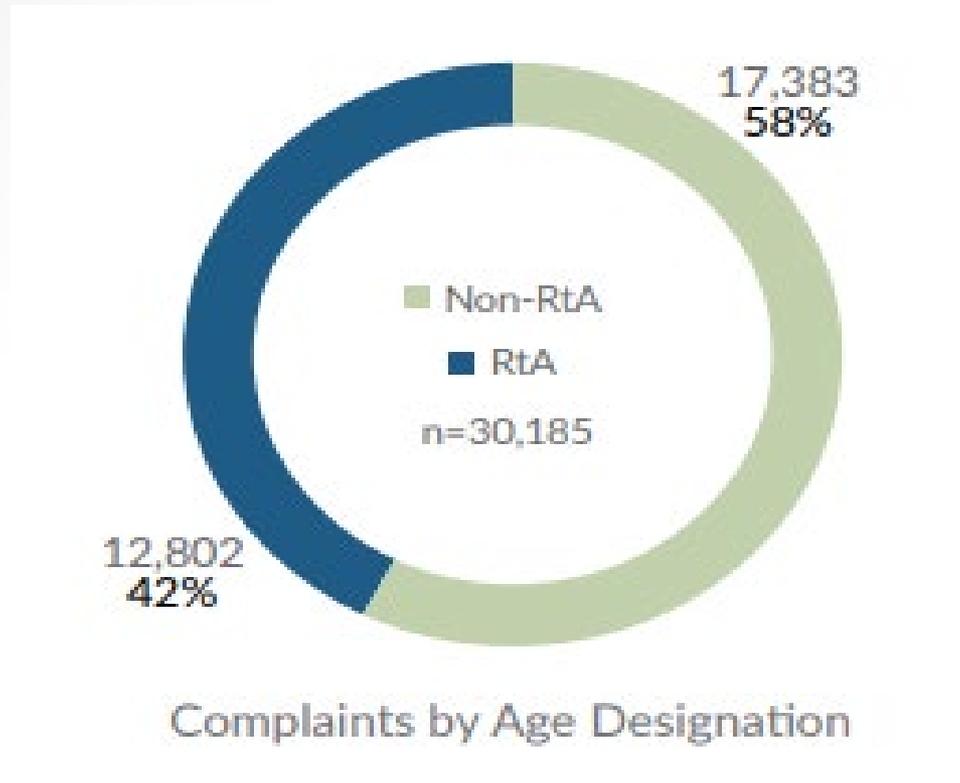
## 18 months

- ▶ Ages 6-15
- ▶ Complaints per juvenile: 2.59

- ▶ Ages 16-17
- ▶ Complaints per juvenile: 2.85



# Raise the Age's impact



# Juvenile Complaint Outcomes

2020 Complaints | # Juveniles Affected

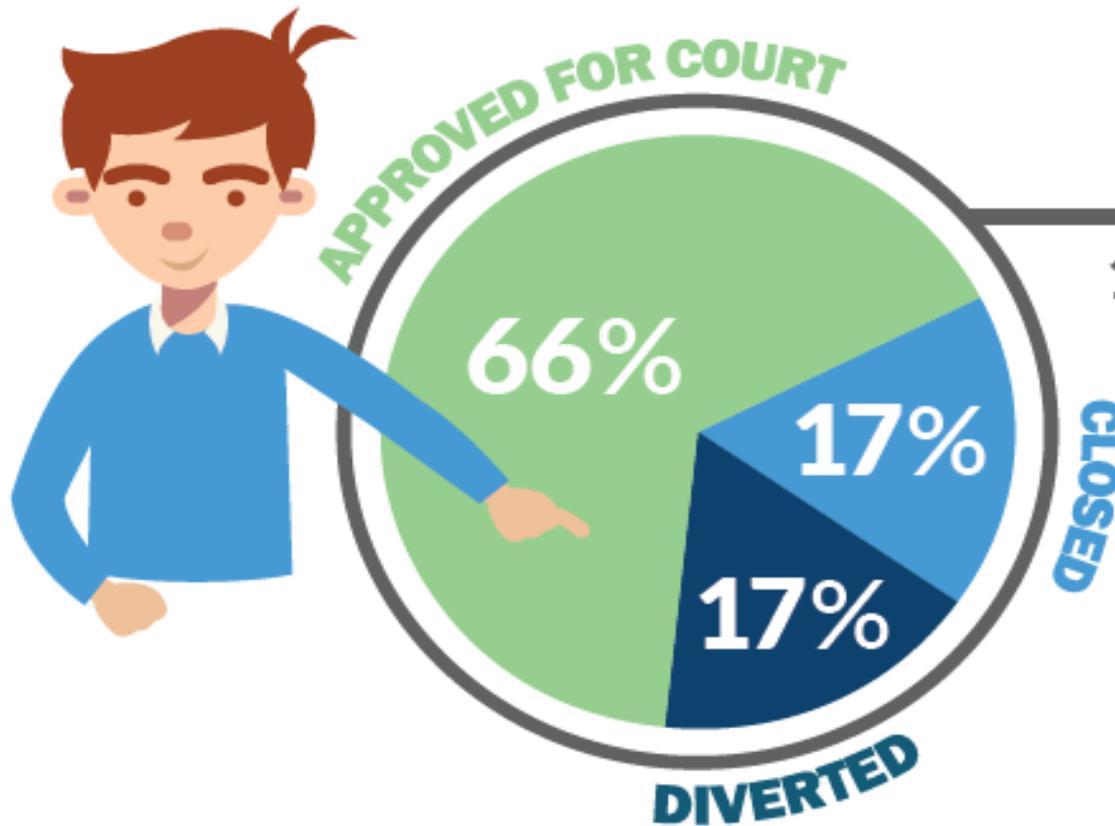
17% | 3,396 Juveniles

17% | 3,301 Juveniles

66% | 5,075 Juveniles

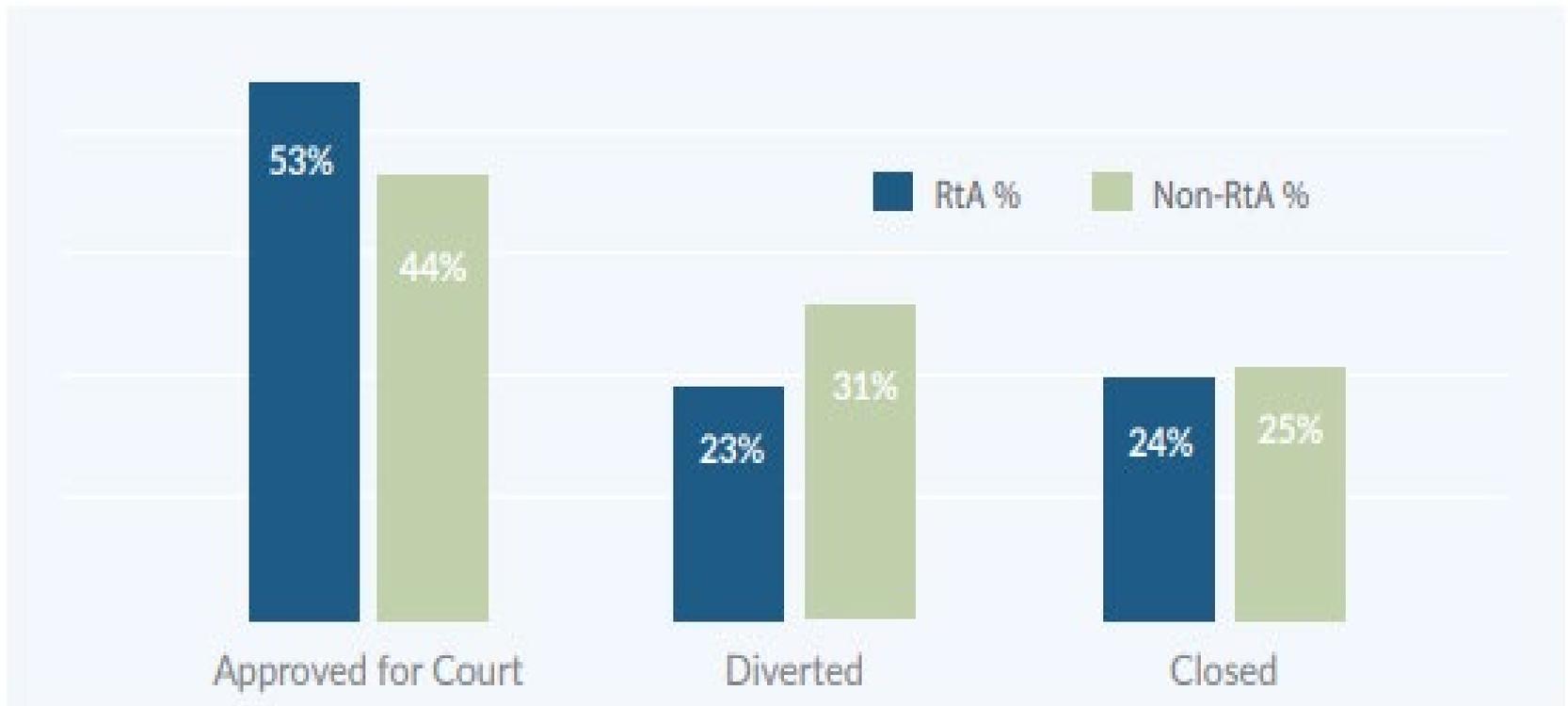
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100% | 10,800 Juveniles  
(=30,185 Total Complaints)

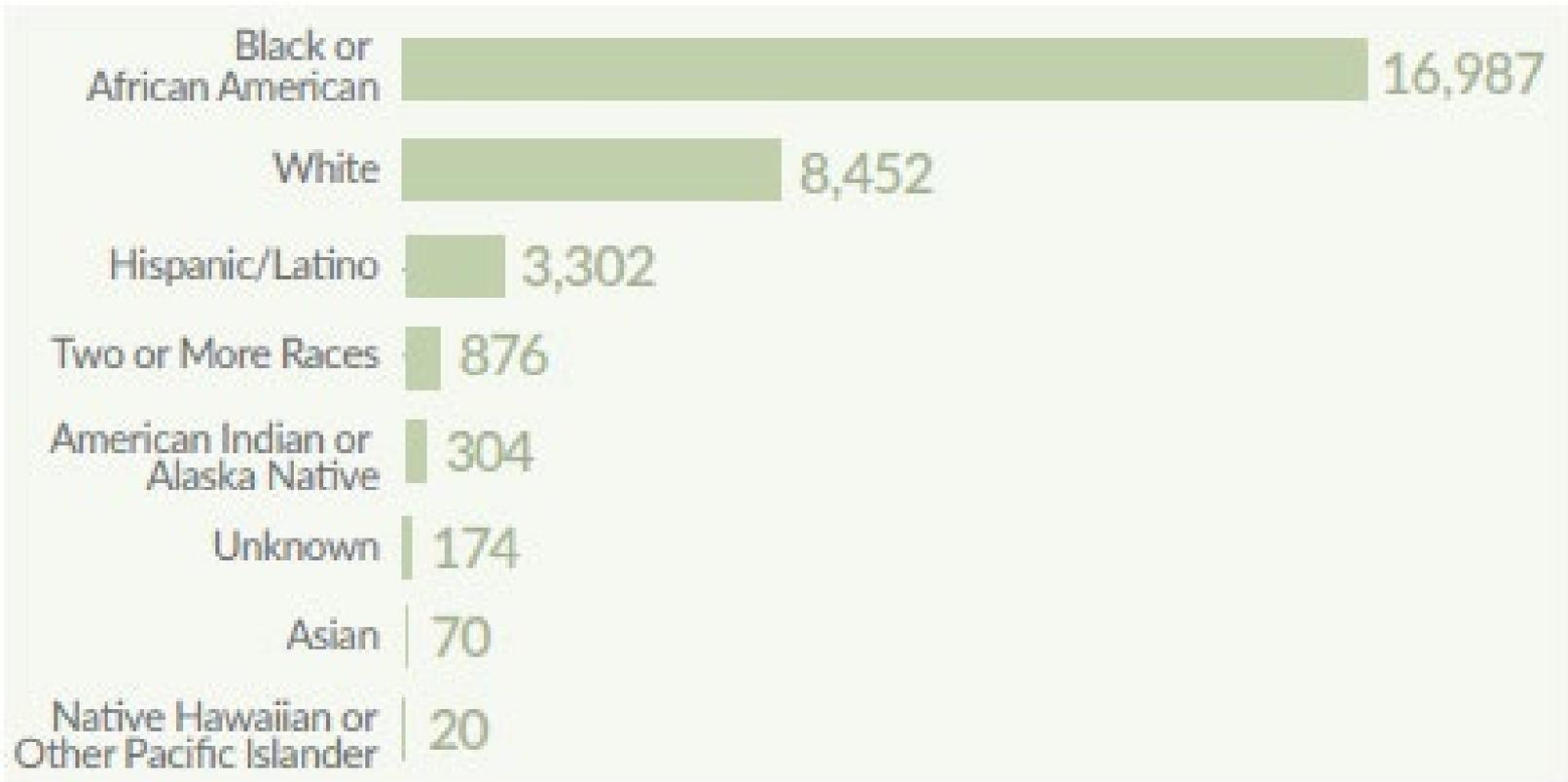


# Raise the Age's Impact

Distinct Juveniles by Hierarchical Complaint Decision



# Demographics



Complaints Received by Race/Ethnicity

# School-Based Complaints

## Complaints Impact from COVID School-Based Offenses



**45%**

**school-based complaints in 2019**

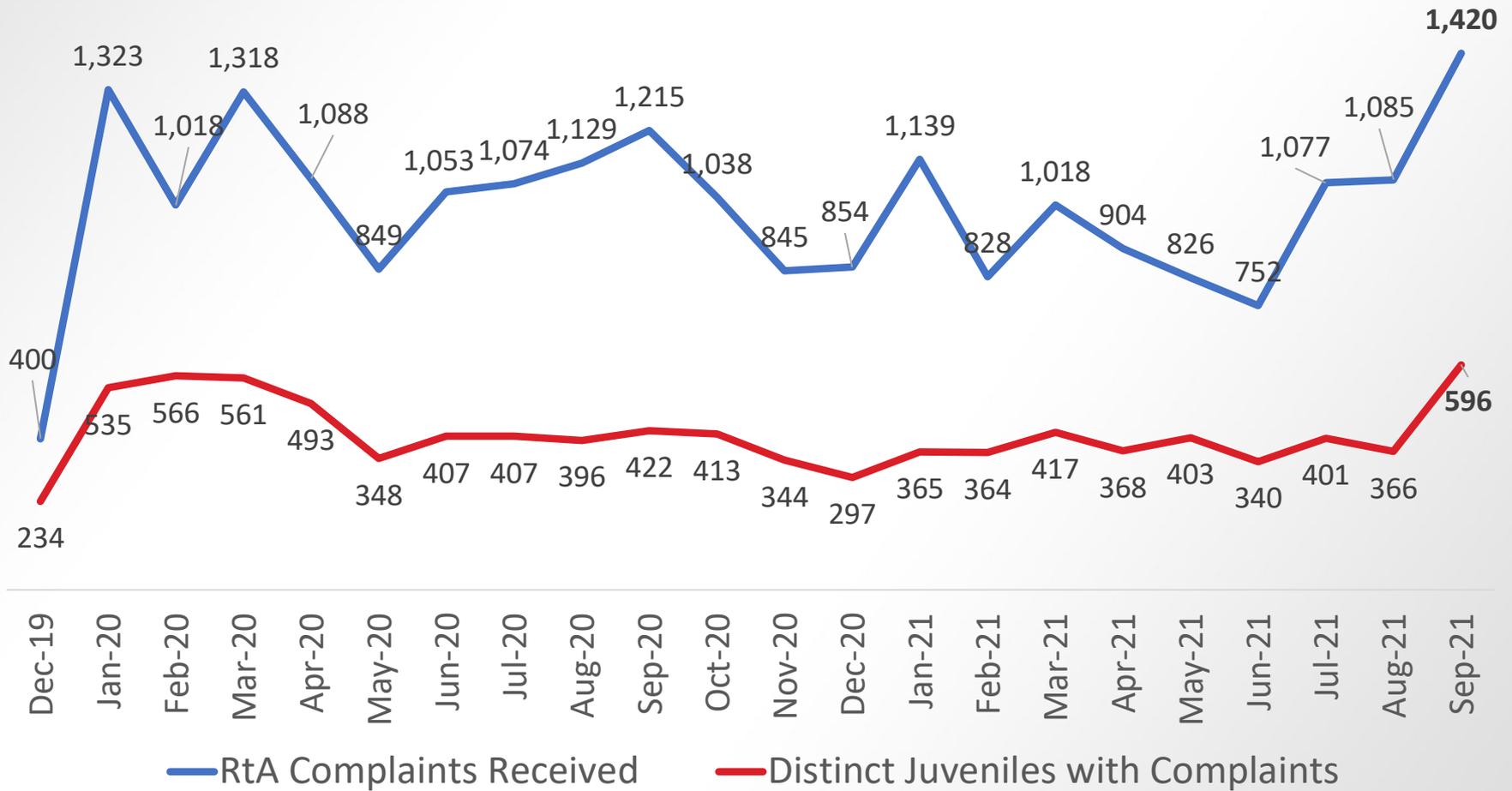


**17%**

**school-based complaints in 2020**

School-based complaints composed 45% of all complaints in calendar year 2019, and typically represent over 40% of all complaints each year. However, when schools were closed in March of 2020 for the pandemic response, the number of complaints received dramatically decreased and represent only 17% of all complaints received in 2020, which includes both open and closed school months.

# RtA Complaints Received and Distinct Juveniles by Month



# Transfers to Superior Court

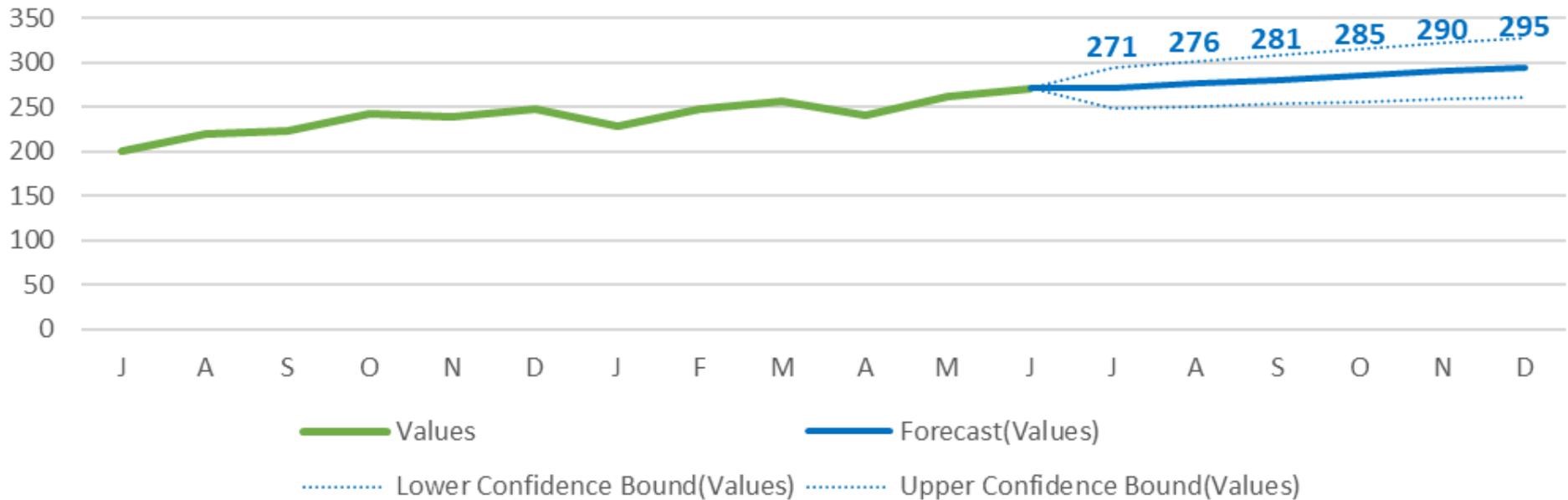
- Since Dec. 1, 2019, 459 juveniles\* have been transferred to Superior Court
- 53% of transferred juveniles have been admitted to detention
- In detention, transfers to superior court consist of approximately 25% of the population
- Since October 2020, the TSC ADP has been 49 or higher
- Since Dec. 1, 2019, an average of 24 juveniles a month are being transferred
  - Jul – Dec 2020 average per month: 27.3
  - Jan – Jun 2021 average per month: 28.3

\*have a juvenile complaint that was moved into transferred status

# 6-Month Detention Maximum Population Projection

Baseline: July 2020-June 2021 (1st 12)

Projection: July 2021-December 2021 (Last 6)

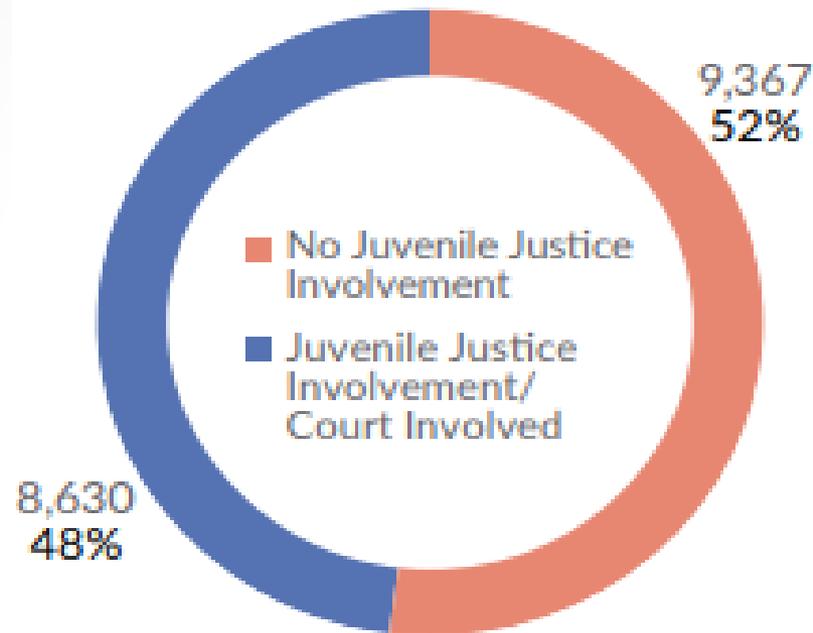


# Juveniles Served by Community Programs

## Youth Served by Program Funding Source FY 2019-2020

Funding Source	Youth Served
JCPC Funds	17,997
Residential Contractual Services	687
Community-Based Contractual Services	415
JCPC Level II Dispositional Alternatives	174
JCPC Alternatives to Commitment Programs	116
<b>Total</b>	<b>19,389</b>

# Legal Status of Juveniles served by JCPC Programs



by Legal Status

# Race of Juveniles served by JCPC programs



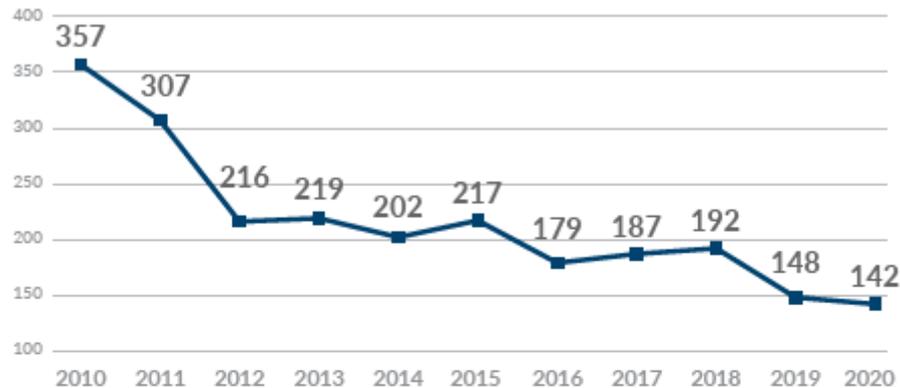
by Race/Ethnicity



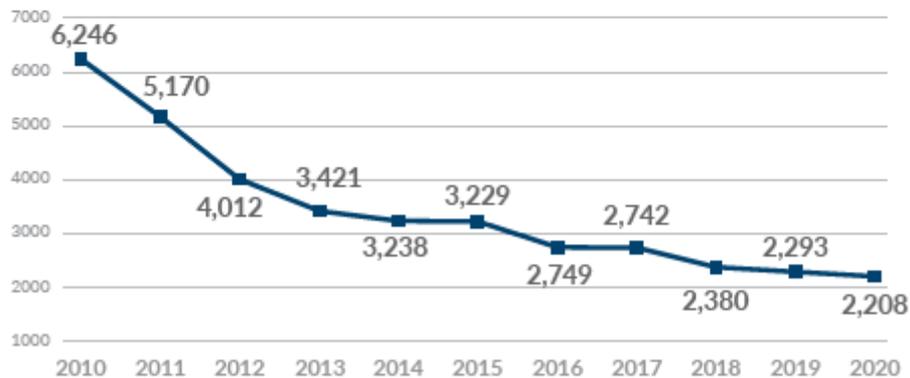
# Dentition and Youth Development Centers

# Juveniles served in Detention and YDCs

## Youth Development Center Commitments 2010-2020



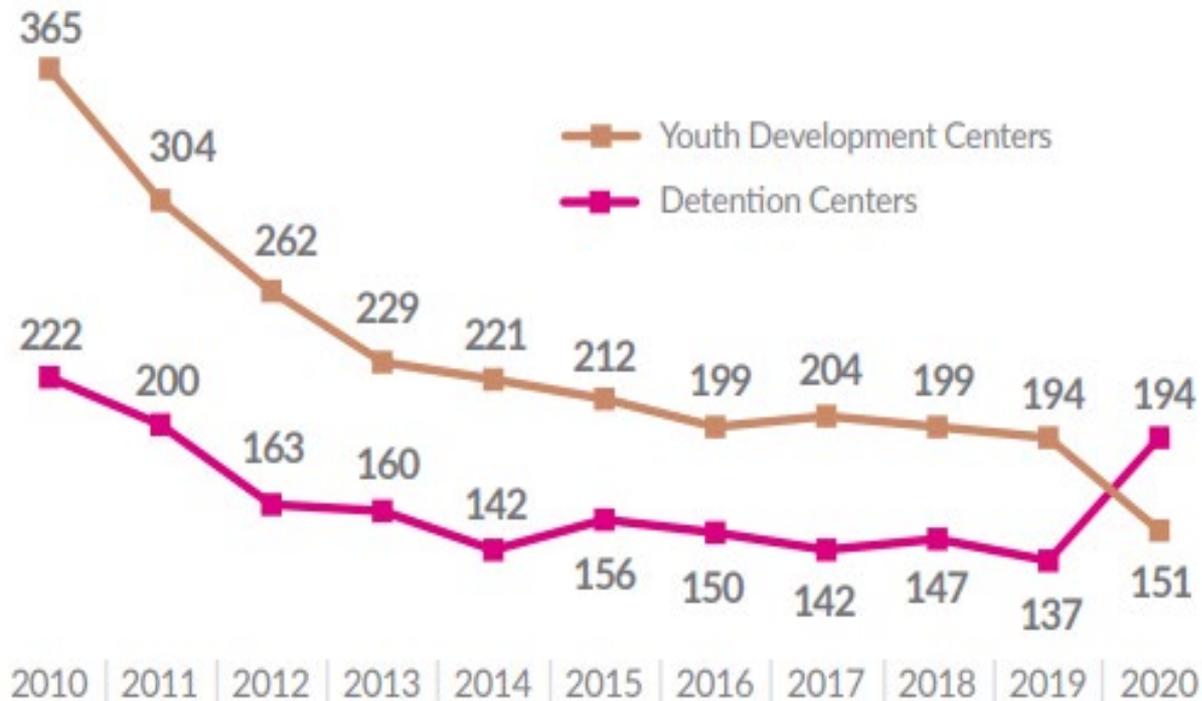
## Detention Center Admissions Trends 2010-2020



# Average Daily Population

2010-2020

## Juvenile Detention Centers and Youth Development Centers



# Average Daily Detention Population

2020





# Legislation and Budget

# SB 207

- Raising the minimum age of juvenile jurisdiction from 6 to 10 for all **undisciplined** offenses.
- Raising the minimum age of juvenile jurisdiction from 6 to 10 for **delinquent** offenses.
  - EXCEPTION: Delinquency jurisdiction remains only for Class A – G felonies committed at ages 8 and 9
  - EXCEPTION: Youth ages 8 and 9 at time of offense, who have a previous delinquency adjudication, remain included in juvenile jurisdiction for any new offense.

# SB 207

- ▶ Creates a juvenile consultation mechanism for youth ages 6 through 9 who are not subject to juvenile jurisdiction and have committed a crime or infraction, whereby Court Counselors are empowered to provide case management, screenings/assessments, and community programming/referral services (and related transportation as able) to these youth and their families/guardians. These youth are defined as “vulnerable juveniles.” All confidentiality requirements that apply to current juveniles are extended to vulnerable juveniles. Consultation lasts for up to 6 months, with a possible 3-month extension. Court Counselors are tasked with convening a diverse Juvenile and Family Team for each child under consultation to ensure wrap-around services.

# SB 207

- Conforming amendments to G.S. 7B-1602 and G.S. 7B-2513, related to YDC Extended Commitment Age for 16- and 17-year-olds.
- Conforming amendments to G.S. 7B-2514(c), G.S. 7B-2516(c), and G.S. 7B-2600.
- Language to allow transfer to superior court youth to be housed in juvenile detention post sentencing: G.S. 7B-2204(d).
- Procedures to authorize the entry of a secure custody order on remand.
- Prosecutorial discretion in whether to transfer youth ages 16 or 17 at time of offense, if they are charged with a class D, E, F, or G felony offense.

# SB 207

- ▶ Care Review Teams: The current requirement for the court to refer a juvenile to the LME for evaluation before disposition when there is any evidence of mental illness or developmental disability is replaced with a new structure. Under the new structure, if there is any evidence of mental illness, or developmental or intellectual disability, the youth must either have a comprehensive clinical assessment (or equivalent assessment) within 45 days of adjudication or the court must order an assessment after adjudication. The court then must order juvenile justice to convene a care review team if (1) the assessment shows that the juvenile has severe emotional disturbance or developmental or intellectual disability, which substantially contributed to the delinquency and (2) the juvenile is eligible for a Level 3 commitment and/or recommended for a psychiatric residential treatment facility (PRTF) placement. The care review team has 30 days to provide recommendations for the court to consider when determining the disposition in the case.

# Budget

- ▶ 5% raises for all state employees (2.5% per year)
- ▶ \$1,000 bonuses for all state employees
- ▶ An additional \$500 bonuses for staff who work directly with juveniles or for state employees making less than \$75,000 a year.
- ▶ \$1.3 Million to create the Division of Juvenile Justice (13 FTEs)
- ▶ \$2.5 Million for Re-Entry services for juveniles returning to the community.

# Budget

- ▶ \$1.875 Million to fund Integrated Behavioral Support services for DPS employees.
- ▶ \$10.7 Million to renovate Richmond Detention Center.

