

Illinois Circuit Court of Cook County Juvenile Temporary Detention Center

Monthly Indicators Report: August 2023

The Juvenile Temporary Detention Center (JTDC) provides temporary secure housing for youth who are awaiting adjudication of their cases by the Juvenile Division of the Cook County Courts. The Center also houses youth who have been transferred from Juvenile Court jurisdiction to Criminal Court. These youth would otherwise be incarcerated in the county jail.

The Circuit Court of Cook County JTDC Monthly Indicators Report presents a population overview followed by key indicators around time spent in the detention center, use of room confinement for behavioral and non-behavioral incidents, and time confined to rooms. The analysis was conducted by Chapin Hall using JTDC data provided through the Chief Judge's Office.

JTDC Population Overview

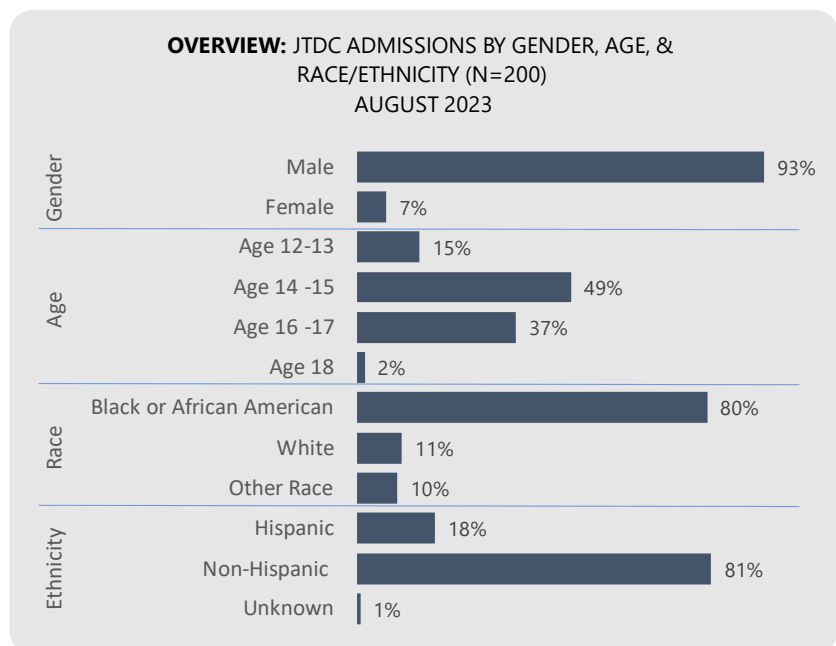
Admissions and Releases

For the reporting period a total of 200 youth were admitted into the JTDC, including three youth admitted as an adult transfer (AT) or criminal court case. During the month, 196 youth were released.

Admissions to the Center by Age, Gender, Race and Ethnicity

The following overview figure provides a breakdown of juvenile detention admissions for the reporting period by gender, age race, and ethnicity.

- Male youth accounted for 93% of admissions.
- 16 and 17 year olds accounted for 37% of admissions and 14 to 15 years of age accounted for 49%. Youth 12 to 13 years of age made up 15% of admissions and youth 18 years of age made up 2%.
- Black/African American youth accounted for 80% of admissions.
- Hispanic youth accounted for 18% of all admissions.



Charges Among Youth Admitted to the JTDC

Youth admitted during the month had, on average, 1.3 charges (minimum = 1, maximum=3). The following table shows the most serious charge for which youth were admitted to the JTDC. Of the 200 youth admitted, 89 youth were charged with unlawful use of a weapon (U UW) or aggravated unauthorized use of a weapon (AGG U UW).

| Most Serious Charge | Number of Youth |
|--|-----------------|
| Armed Robbery | 13 |
| Armed Violence | 1 |
| Battery/Agg Battery/Domestic Battery/Assault | 5 |
| Burglary | --- |
| Fleeing/Aggravated Fleeing/Attempted Fleeing | 4 |
| Juvenile Arrest Warrant | 14 |
| Murder | --- |
| Attempted Murder | 2 |
| Reckless Homicide | 1 |
| Possession of a Stolen Motor Vehicle | 5 |
| Robbery/Aggravated Robbery | 4 |
| Unlawful Possession of a Handgun | --- |
| Unlawful Use of a Weapon/Aggravated U UW | 89 |
| Vehicular Hijacking/Aggravated Vehicular Hijacking | 10 |
| Criminal Sexual Assault/Abuse | --- |
| Other Gun Related | --- |
| Other | 15 |
| Missing | 37 |
| <i>Total</i> | <i>200</i> |

KEY INDICATORS

The following sections present data for six key indicators across four categories including:

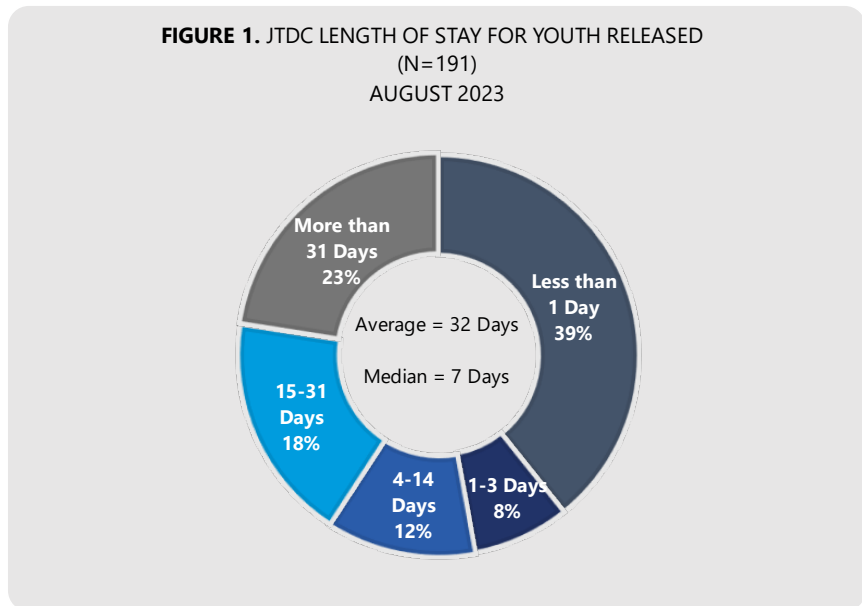
| Category | Indicator |
|---|---|
| Total Time in Detention | #1 – Length of Stay |
| Use of Room Confinement for Discipline, Behavioral Management, Medical/Mental Health, or Non-Behavior Related Reasons | #2A – Number of Room Confinements by Type #2B – Average and Median Duration of Room Confinements #2C – Number and Percentage of Youth Confined to Rooms |
| Total Time Confined to Rooms | #3 – Number of Hours Per Day Confined to Rooms |
| Supportive Services | #4 – Number of Planned, Structured Programs & Activities |

Total Time in Detention

Indicator #1 – Length of Stay

Figure 1 shows the length of stay for youth released from the JTDC during the month. Length of stay is calculated based upon the release file provided monthly by the JTDC. During the reporting period a total of 196 youth were released from the JTDC, of which 5 were adult transfer releases. Because length of stay is considerably longer for adult transfer cases, the following chart describes length of stay only for 191 juvenile releases.

- Of youth released, 39% were detained for less than 1 day.
- 8% were detained between 1-3 days, 12% for 4-14 days, and 18% for 15-31 days. The remaining 23% of youth spent more than 31 days (more than a month) in the detention center.
- The average (mean) length of stay was 32 days; the median stay was 7 days.
- The three adult transfer cases that were released during the month (not included in Figure 1) spent significantly longer in detention with an average of 697 days and a median of 776 days.



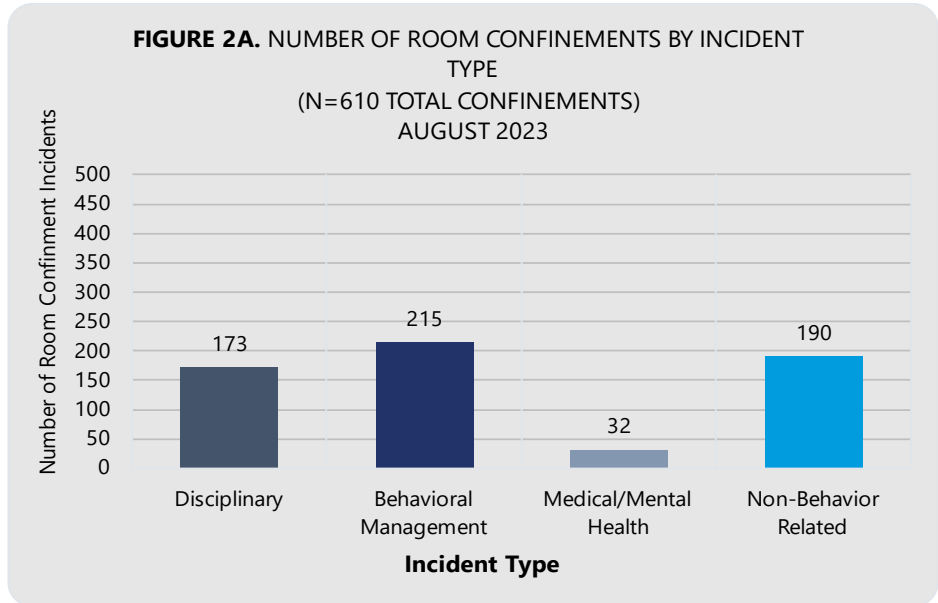
Use of Room Confinement: Behavioral & Non-Behavioral Incidents

While detained at the center, youth may be confined to their rooms for specific incidents that result in disciplinary action. **Disciplinary** incidents include **major rules violations** (e.g. intimidation or threats against peers or adults, physical fights between two youth, physical assaults, inciting a major disturbance, possession of hazardous contraband, unauthorized movement, failure to comply, and malicious destruction of property) and **extraordinary circumstances** (e.g. participation in major group disturbance resulting in injury to residents or staff, physical assault against adult, premeditated blindsided violent attack, superintendent holds). Other room confinements may occur for **Behavioral Management** incidents including "Up to an Hour" or **UTAH confinements** and **lockdowns** or **limited lockdowns due to incident** to provide the youth with a safe and secure environment. Youth may also be confined for **Medical or Mental Health** reasons, made at the request of medical or mental health staff, or for covid related rotations. Finally, youth may be confined for **Non-Behavior Related** reasons including self-confinement or court returns. The following indicators reflect room confinement for these reasons or incidents and do not include time confined for staff rotations or sleeping hours.

Indicator #2A: Number of Room Confinements for Disciplinary and Other Incidents

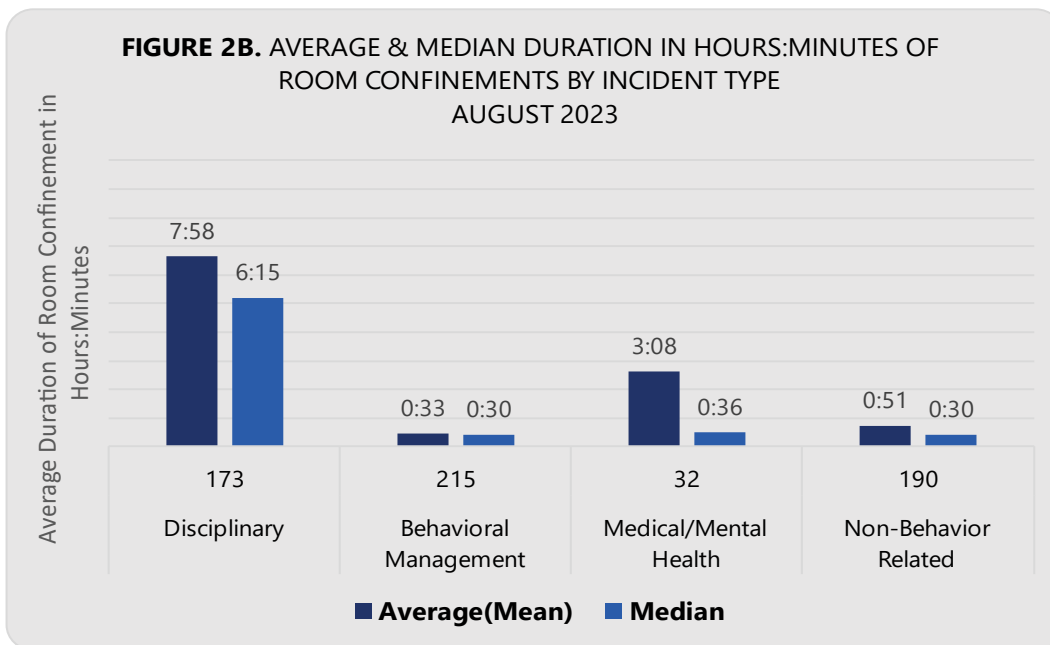
Figure 2A shows the number of room confinements that occurred during the month by incident type. There were 610 room confinements. Of these 610 confinements, 173 were used for disciplinary incidents, 215 were used for behavioral management incidents, 32 for medical or mental health incidents, and 190 for non-punitive incidents.

The number of confinements for medical or mental health incidents is lower than seen during the period prior to July 2023 due to a change in policy, with youth no longer being confined upon admission for covid testing.



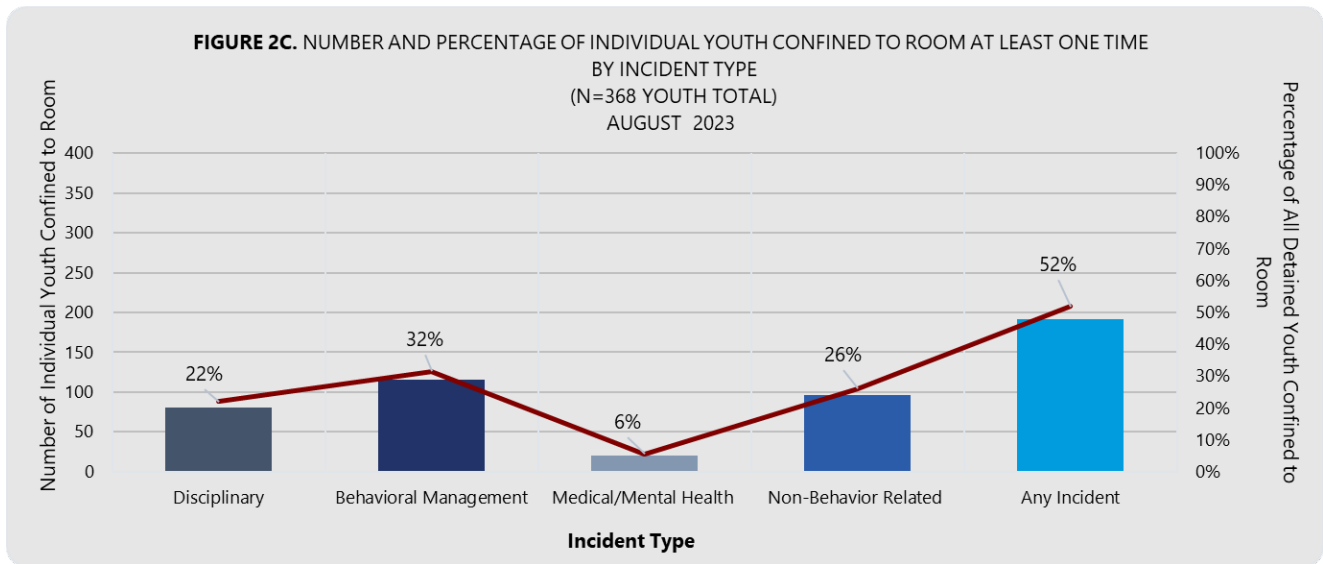
Indicator #2B: Average and Median Duration of Room Confinements

Figure 2B shows the average duration of all room confinements (in hours and minutes) that occurred during the month by incident type. For example, of the 173 disciplinary incidents, confinements lasted 7 hours and 58 minutes on average, with a median of 6 hours 15 minutes.



Indicator #2C: Number and Percentage of Individual Youth Confined to Room

The following summarizes use of room confinement among individual youth during the month. Not every youth in the detention center is involved in an incident that results in room confinement for disciplinary, behavioral management, medical/mental health, or non-behavior related reasons, while other youth are confined multiple times for the same or different type of incident. There were 368 youth identified as residing in the JTDC during the month, of which 191, or 50%, were confined to their rooms for at least one disciplinary, behavioral management, medical/mental health, or non-behavior related incident at some point during their stay. Figure 2C shows the number of individuals (bars) and percentage of all 368 detained youth (line) confined at least once for each incident type.



Total Time Confined to Rooms

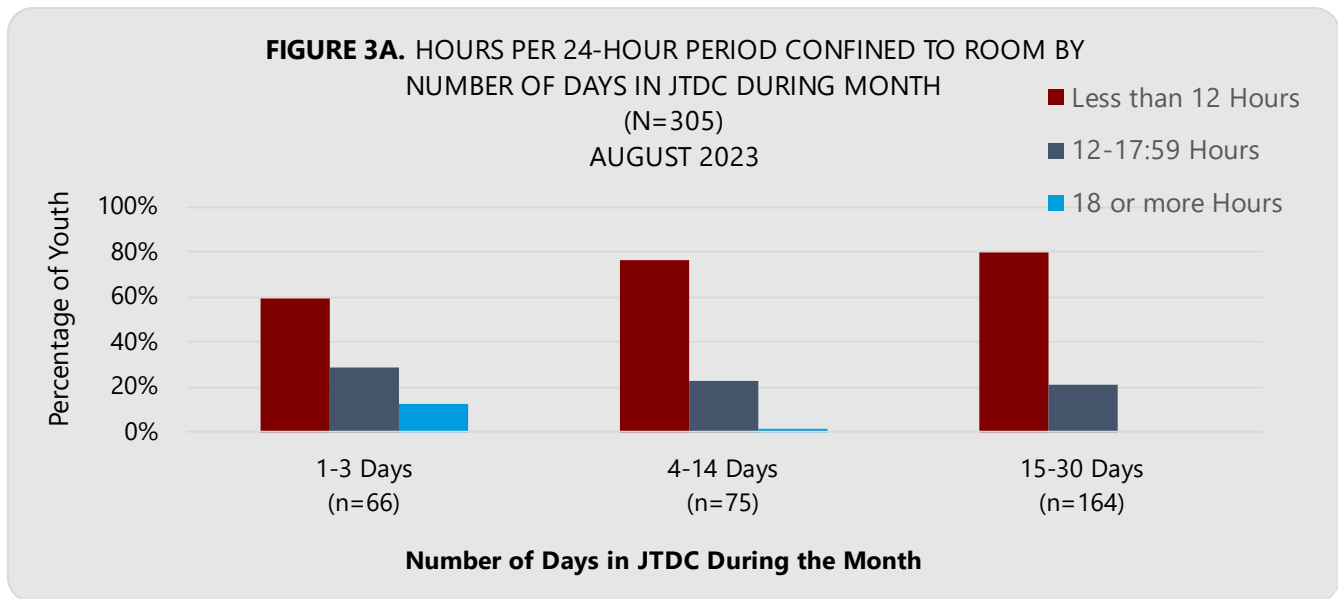
Indicator #3: Hours Per Day at the JTDC Individual Youth Spend Confined to Room

In addition to room confinement for disciplinary, behavioral management, medical/mental health, and non-punitive incidents, the center places residents in their rooms during shift changes - these periods are called "Secured Reflection". Residents are also in their rooms overnight. Bedtimes vary based on a behavioral level (Levels 1-4) and range from 8:00 pm for Level 1 to 9:45 for Level 4. Residents wake at 6:15 am on weekdays and 8:00 am on weekends. Accounting for time residents spend in their rooms during Secured Reflection and overnight in addition to confinement for an incident offers a fuller picture of the amount of time youth spend confined to their room during their stay at the center.

The following figures show the percentage of youth (by days in the JTDC during the month) who spent 1) under 12 hours per 24-hour period in their room, 2) between 12 hours and 17 hours 59 minutes, and 3) 18 hours or more. These include time confined to their room for disciplinary incidents, behavioral management, medical/mental health incidents, non-behavior related incidents as well as Secured

Reflections or staff rotations, and overnight. The time per 24-hour period for each youth was calculated as the hours confined in total divided by the number of days detained during the month¹.

Because the number of days each month that youth are detained at the JTDC varies, these figures are presented for youth at the JTDC for only 1 day, 2-7 days, 8-14 days, and 15-31 days.² Those youth at the JTDC for less than 1 day are excluded³, resulting in 305 youth in total. Regardless of total days spent in the JTDC during the month, few youth spent more than 18 hours per day confined to their rooms.



Programs at the JTDC

Indicator #4: Number of Planned, Structured Programs & Activities

During the month, the JTDC provided planned and structured programs and activities to youth across 80 sessions.⁴ Programs include those provided by the JTDC (typically in the afternoon/after school). They also include “Supportive Services” which are services provided during the evening hours (after school and other JTDC programs are done and before bedtime). The breakdown of these sessions by

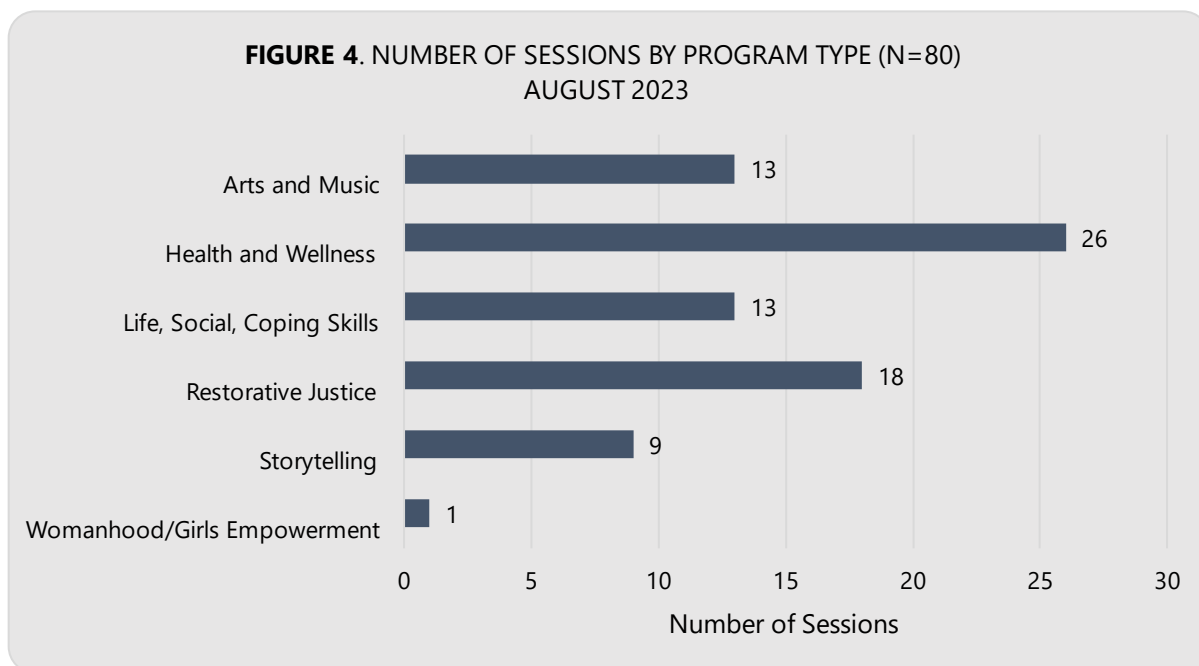
¹ For youth missing one or more day of data in the confinement log (based on admission and release files and confinement records) we imputed one thirty-minute Secured Reflection confinement and one overnight period for each missing day of data.

² A “day” refers to a 24-hour period.

³ The most common type of confinement among youth who spend less than 1 day at the JTDC is medical/mental health.

⁴ Data come from reports by each JTDC Center. We excluded the provision of incentives and commissary use from this analysis. Data are included for the following centers: Alpha and Medical, Destiny, Houston, Legacy, Renaissance, and WINGS. The Omega Center is excluded due to data quality issues.

type is shown in Figure 4. The most frequently offered programming was health and wellness and restorative justice.



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All analysis was conducted by Chapin Hall. This work was reviewed by the University of Chicago Crown Family School of Social Work/Chapin Hall Institutional Review Board (IRB) and received a non-human subjects research determination. The analysis and interpretation of findings presented in this report are solely those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect those of JTDC or the Office of the Chief Judge.

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