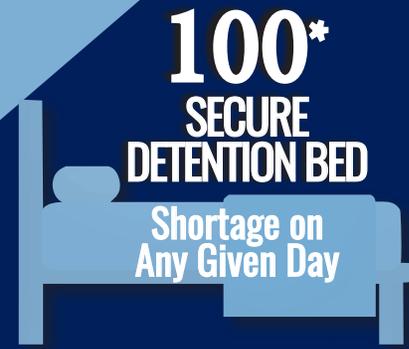


PENNSYLVANIA

Revised: August 2023

JUVENILE DETENTION

Throughout Pennsylvania's juvenile justice system, there has been a strong commitment to the philosophy that secure detention should be used only after less restrictive alternatives have been considered and rejected. Over the past decade, the number of admissions to secure detention facilities has significantly declined, resulting in the closure of nearly a dozen secure detention facilities. Despite the commitment to utilizing secure detention in only the most serious of circumstances, there are situations in every jurisdiction that require the use of a secure detention facility. When this level of custody is needed, it is essential high quality secure detention services be available. Currently, access to juvenile detention facilities is limited. Furthermore, since the December 21, 2021 effective date of the "Interest of Justice" determination requirement of the federal Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act (JJDP) reauthorization, an influx of youth historically housed in adult jails are now being held in secure juvenile detention facilities, further exacerbating the issue, resulting in what many are referring to as a "crisis situation."



8,174
FEWER

Secure Detention Admissions in 2022 vs. 2013

70% DECREASE in Secure Detention Admissions Over the Last 10 Years



PENNSYLVANIA REGIONS WITHOUT "OPEN ACCESS" DETENTION FACILITIES



9

SECURE DETENTION FACILITIES

Have Closed Since 2013***



13
OPERATING Detention Facilities



7
OPERATING Secure Detention Facilities Are Accessible to Just

6 COUNTIES

61
COUNTIES Have Access to Just

6 FACILITIES

* Includes juvenile justice needs and "Interest of Justice" population needs.

**A facility is considered "Open Access" if any county is able to contract for secure detention services with it.

***Two additional facilities, Aspire Youth Center and White Deer Run, temporarily acquired secure detention licenses to assist Allegheny County following the closure of the Shuman Detention Center. The Aspire Youth Center was closed in March 2022, and White Deer Run was closed in July 2022.