

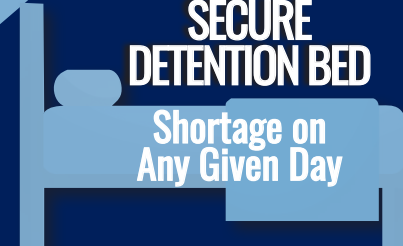
# PENNSYLVANIA

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."

**100\***  
SECURE  
DETENTION BED

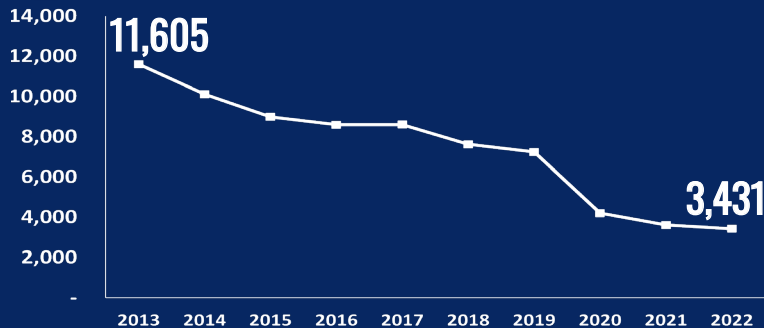


Shortage on  
Any Given Day

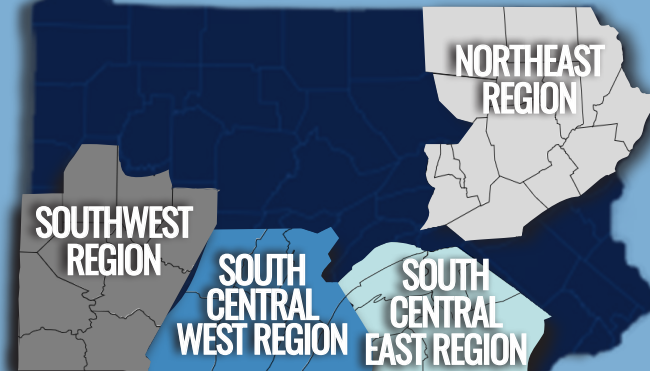
**8,174**  
FEWER

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.