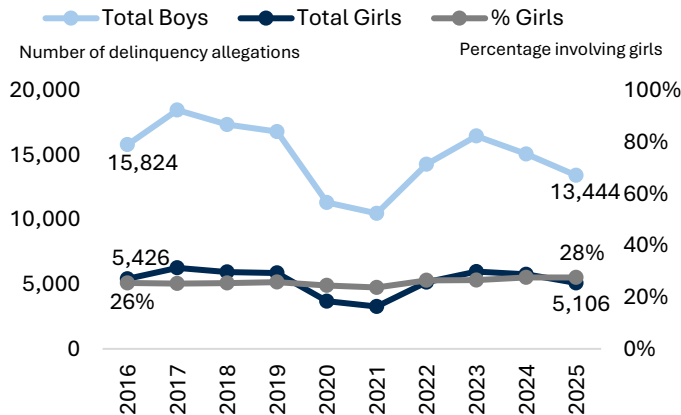


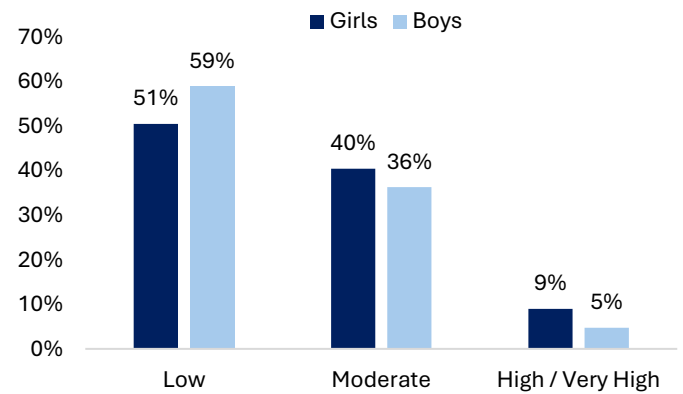
Girls in the Pennsylvania Juvenile Justice System

September 2026

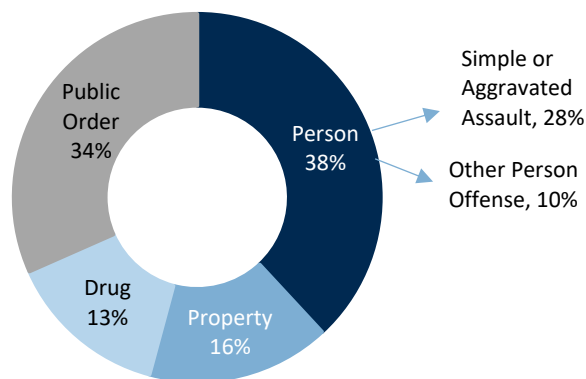
While boys continue to account for the majority of delinquency allegations in Pennsylvania, the proportion of girls has grown.



Girls are more likely to score moderate risk or higher on the Youth Level of Service (YLS)



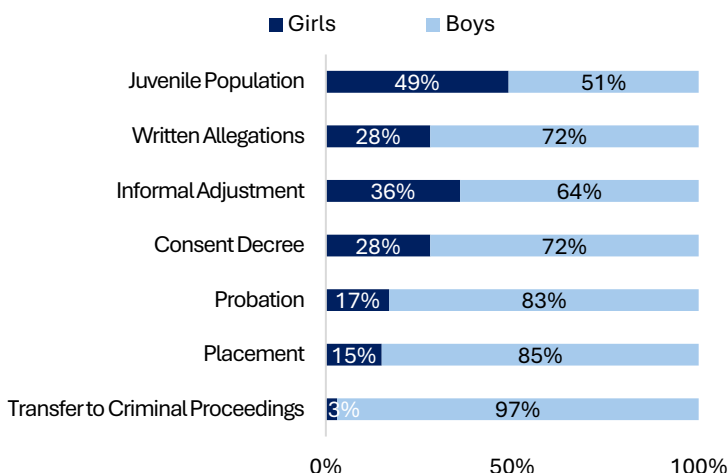
Person-related offenses account for 38% of all delinquency referrals for girls, with 28% involving simple or aggravated assault.



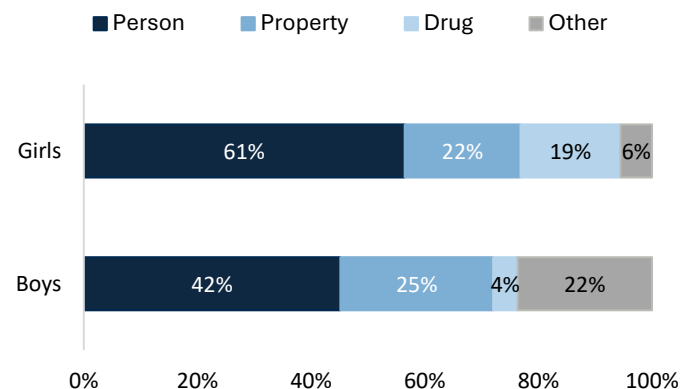
The most frequent offenses committed by girls are simple assault and possession of drugs.

Top 5 Offenses for Girls vs. Boys*				
*Failure to comply certifications from MDJs are excluded from these figures				
	Girl Offenses	Girl % of All Offenses	Boy Offenses	Boy % of All Offenses
1	Simple Assault	18%	Theft-Related Offense	13%
2	Possession of Drugs	9%	Simple Assault	10%
3	Aggravated Assault	7%	Possession of Drugs	8%
4	Theft-Related Offense	5%	Weapons Offense	7%
5	Retail Theft	5%	Terroristic Threats	5%

Girls are more likely to be diverted from adjudication.



Girls are more likely than boys to receive a placement disposition for a person offense.



*Note: Data is reflective of 2025 written allegations and dispositions, unless otherwise noted.

Source: Pennsylvania Juvenile Court Judges' Commission

For questions, contact: RA-OAJCJCDATA@pa.gov



Pennsylvania
Juvenile Court
Judges' Commission