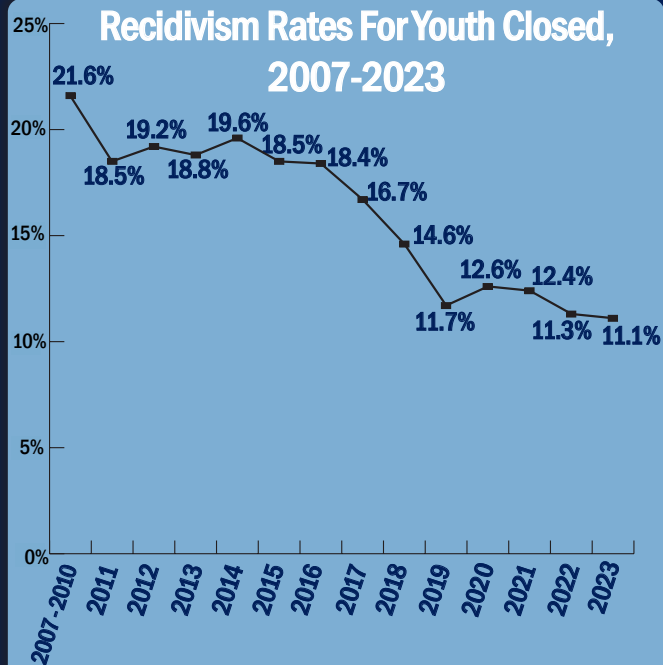


Revised: 08.2026

PENNSYLVANIA JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM RECIDIVISM

One of the primary tools used to evaluate the effectiveness of juvenile justice programs and policies is the measurement of recidivism, or reoffending. Since 2012, Pennsylvania has tracked the outcomes of youth for a two-year period following the closure of their juvenile case to determine the percentage who remained law-abiding. Particular attention has been given to comparing recidivism rates before and after implementation of the Juvenile Justice System Enhancement Strategy (JJSES).



11.1%

**RECIDIVISM RATE
of Youth Two Years
After Leaving System**

7%

**Recidivism Rate of Youth
DIVERTED FROM
ADJUDICATION**



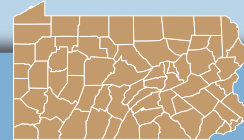
10%

**Recidivism Rate of
Youth Who Committed
MISDEMEANORS**



93%

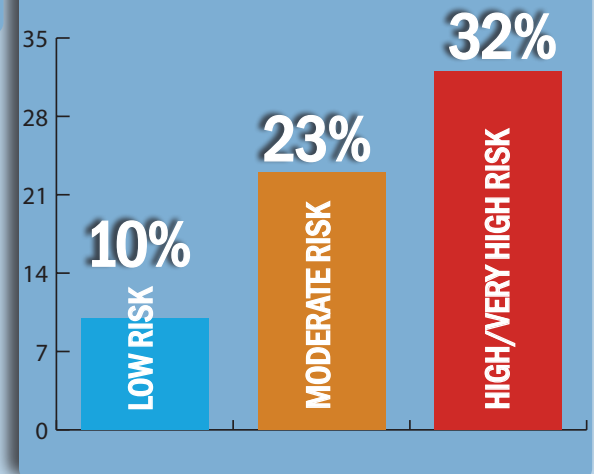
**Counties Had Lower Recidivism
Rates in 2023 VS PRE-JJSES**



7%

**Recidivism Rate of
FIRST-TIME
JUSTICE-INVOLVED
YOUTH**

**Recidivism Rates
By Closing YLS Risk Level, 2023**



Note: All Data Is Based on Youth Closed in 2023.

*Success Is Defined as No Subsequent Adjudications of Delinquency or Convictions in Criminal Court for a Felony or Misdemeanor Offense Within Two Years of Juvenile Closure.



Pennsylvania
Juvenile Court
Judges' Commission