Youth Justice Flow: Los Angeles County (2018)

980,640 young people (ages 10-17) in Los Angeles County in 2018

8,133 youth arrests reported in 2018*

9,188 youth referrals to probation reported in 2018

6,209 petitions filed in juvenile court 2018

5,542 youth declared a “ward of the court” in 2018

3,321 pre-adjudications detentions in 2018

2,612 Institutional Placement/EM***

2,930 home on probation

688 (8.5% of arrests) handled in-house**

2,979 (32% of probation referrals) closed at intake/placed on informal probation (WIC 654)

667 (11% of cases petitioned) placed on informal probation (WIC 654.2) or non-wardship probation

* The number of referrals to Probation is greater than the number of arrests in 2018. Youth can be referred to probation by law enforcement agencies within the County as well as schools; individuals; other county agencies; and law enforcement from other counties.

** According to California DOJ, youth who are “handed in house” are either (1) settled by the arresting agency and the youth is released to his or her parent, guardian or the street with no warning; or (2) placed on a local diversion program. In Los Angeles County, the number of youth diverted or handled informally at in house is increasingly higher than what is reported by DOJ.

*** The California Department of Justice (DOJ) does not have a way to extract youth placed on EM from youth committed to county facilities in their data system. Therefore, this category can refer to youth who are made wards of the court and are on ankle monitors or placed in institutions.

Source: Data were retrieved via public record request to the California Department of Justice (DOJ). DOJ collects data via the Juvenile Court and Probation Statistical System (JCPSS). The JCPSS database is designed to collect, compile and report statistical data on the administration of juvenile justice in California. It provides information on a juvenile's process through from probation intake to final case disposition. The JCPSS electronic files date from 2002 to the present and are submitted to DOJ by County Probation agencies. For more information see: https://oag.ca.gov/cjsc/databases.