

# QUICK FACTS: JUVENILE DISPOSITIONS

DECEMBER 2025

#### FISCAL YEAR 2025

- ⇒ In FY 2025, there were 3,185 delinquent dispositions imposed, a 2% decrease from FY 2024.
- ⇒ Nearly half (48%) of dispositions were for Minor offenses (e.g., Class 1-3 misdemeanors); 20% of Serious offenses were Class A1 misdemeanors.
- → The most frequent dispositions were for person and property offenses (41% and 39% respectively); the fewest were for drug offenses (3%).
- ⇒ Dispositions for juveniles adjudicated for a Minor offense with a Low delinquency history level comprised the largest group (39%).

#### Offense Classification

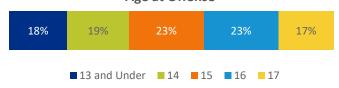


Adjudicated Offense Type	N	%
Person	1,304	41
Property	1,227	39
Other	542	17
Drug	112	3

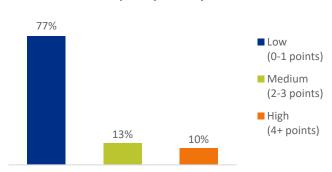
#### **Juvenile Characteristics**

- The majority (82%) of juveniles were male.
- 55% of juveniles were Black, 28% were White, 11% were Hispanic, and 6% were Other.
- The average age at offense was 15; 39% of juveniles were 16-17 years old (i.e., the Raise the Age [RtA] population).
- Over three-fourths (77%) had a Low delinquency history level; 69% had no delinquency history points.

#### Age at Offense



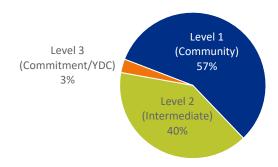
#### **Delinquency History Level**



#### **Dispositions Imposed**

- 57% of dispositions imposed were Level 1.
- For Level 1 and Level 2 dispositions, the most frequently imposed length of probation was 12 months (41%) followed by 6 months (33%).
- Very few (3%) Level 3 dispositions (i.e., Commitment/Youth Development Center [YDC]) were imposed.
- By statute, juveniles with a Level 3 disposition must be committed to a YDC for a minimum of 6 months; the average length of stay was 15 months.
- The top 5 adjudicated offenses accounted for 26% of dispositions imposed in FY 2025.

#### **Dispositions Imposed**



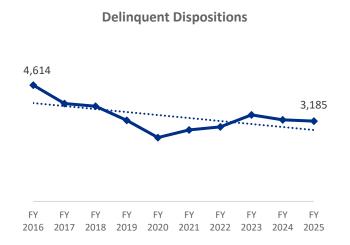
Top 5 Adjudicated Offenses	Class	N
Simple Assault	2	352
Larceny of Motor Vehicle (Felony)	Н	135
Misdemeanor Larceny	1	125
Breaking or Entering a Motor Vehicle	1	113
Possess Handgun by Minor	1	102

## **QUICK FACTS: JUVENILE DISPOSITIONS**

### FISCAL YEAR 2016 - FISCAL YEAR 2025

Delinquent dispositions have decreased 31% since 2016 with the most significant declines attributable to the pandemic. While dispositions increased with system recovery and the introduction of RtA juveniles into the juvenile justice system, delinquent dispositions have declined 7% since FY 2023.

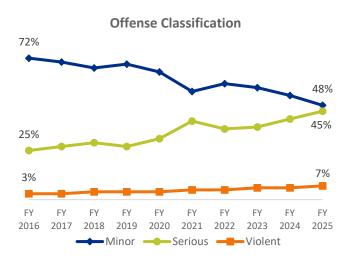
The percentage of Level 1 dispositions has declined over the time period shown, while the percentage of Level 2 dispositions has increased. Level 3 dispositions continue to account for a very small percentage of overall dispositions.



**Dispositions Imposed** 61% 57% 40% 36% 3% 3% 2016 2024 2025 2017 2018 2019 2020 2021 2022 2023 Level 2

Similar percentages of delinquent dispositions were for Minor (48%) and Serious (45%) offenses in FY 2025, a shift from FY 2016 when Minor offenses comprised 72% of dispositions. Violent offenses increased from a low of 3% to a high of 7% in FY 2025.

The number of Level 3 dispositions has fluctuated over the past ten years with a high of 133 in FY 2016 and a low of 80 in FY 2017. In FY 2025, there were 110 Level 3 dispositions.





NOTE: FY 2020 data captured the first 7 months of the Juvenile Justice Reinvestment Act (JJRA) implementation, which increased the age of juvenile jurisdiction to include most 16- and 17-year-olds. Every year following includes a full year of empirical data on JJRA. SOURCE: NC Sentencing and Policy Advisory Commission, FY 2016 – FY 2025 Disposition Simulation Data

NC Sentencing and Policy Advisory Commission PO Box 2448 | Raleigh, NC 27602 (919) 890-1470 The Honorable Charlie Brown, Chairman Michelle Hall, Executive Director

For the NC Sentencing and Policy Advisory Commission's annual *Youth Development Center Population Projections* and all other publications, *see* the Commission's website: www.NCSPAC.org.