

The Intersection of Mental Health & Juvenile Justice in Florida

Revised May, 2018



Children and youth involved in the juvenile justice system have high levels of behavioral health disorders with reports as high as 70% (Skowrya & Coccozza, 2007). Among those with mental health and substance abuse needs, 65% reported receiving needed treatment for mental health disorders while only 35% reported receiving services for substance use disorders (Skowrya & Coccozza, 2007). Reports of traumatic exposure range from 50% - 80% for youth in detention (e.g., Abram, Teplin, Charles, Longworth, McClelland, & Duncan, M. (2004), Kerig & Becker, (2012), Kerig, Arnzen Moeddel, & Becker (2011), Wolpaw, & Ford (2004). There is also evidence that trauma is associated with future delinquency, and that justice-involved youth with trauma histories are more likely to recidivate (Kerig & Becker, 2014).

Consistent with national trends, juvenile arrests are on the decline and prevention options, including civil citations, are more widely implemented with good outcomes, including the lowest recidivism rate (4%) among the Florida Department of Juvenile Justice's programs (Department of Juvenile Justice, 2016). At the same time, involuntary examinations for children, known as Baker Acts, increased 49.3% between 2010/11 and 2015/16 at a rate outpacing the growth of the child population (Baker Act Reporting Center, 2016).

The intersection of these two trends highlights the need to ensure that the services in the community are available and responsive to the needs of these youth and their families. To do this, the service array needs to

1. Be trauma-informed,
2. Be integrated, collaborative and community-based,
3. Use evidence-based programs whenever possible, and
4. Ensure that interventions are culturally and linguistically competent.

What can we do?

Continue investment in diversion programs, such as civil citations, that keep young people out of the front door of the juvenile justice system.

Ensure that there are adequate community-based services available to address the high rates of mental health and substance abuse needs among juvenile offenders.

Reinvest money spent on juvenile correctional facilities in community-based services that prevent and treat mental health and substance abuse services before a Baker Act is initiated.

Data in your area

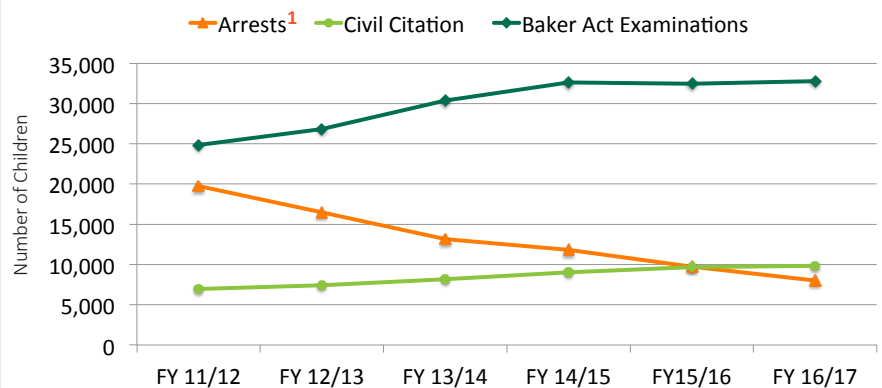
To see trends in Baker Acts, arrests and civil citations in your community, visit

Florida KIDS COUNT floridakidscount.org/index.php/fkcblog

Baker Act Reporting Center www.usf.edu/cbcs/baker-act/

Dept. of Juvenile Justice <http://www.djj.state.fl.us/research/reports/reports-and-data/interactive-data-reports/civil-citation-and-other-alternatives-to-arrest/cc-dashboard>

Baker Act Exams, Civil Citations, and Arrests for Florida Youth Under 18



¹ Youth eligible for civil citation but arrested instead of receiving a civil citation.

See our Terminology & Sources page for citations & methods. <http://floridakidscount.org/docs/fkc-mh-jj-sources.pdf>

Baker Act Exams, Civil Citations, and Arrests for Florida Youth Under 18 by County



Involuntary Baker Act Exams for Children Under 18					FL DJJ Youth Eligible for Civil Citation					FL DJJ Youth Intake/Arrests by Offense Type ¹				
FY11/12	FY16/17	% Change 11/12 - 16/17	Issued Civil Citation FY11/12	Issued Civil Citation FY16/17	% Change 11/12 - 16/17	Arrested FY11/12	Arrested FY16/17	% Change 11/12 - 16/17	Misdemeanor FY11/12	Misdemeanor FY16/17	% Change 11/12 - 16/17	Felony FY11/12	Felony FY16/17	% Change 11/12 - 16/17
Florida	24,836	31.9	6,959	9,879	42.0	19,776	8,015	-59.5	30,629	14,048	-54.1	22,632	18,286	-19.2
Alachua	310	75.8	138	180	30.4	290	75	-74.1	418	167	-60.0	332	274	-17.5
Baker	40	-25.0	*	*	*	54	*	*	54	76	-72.4	40	40	0.0
Bay	164	107.9	0	89	N/A	557	189	-66.1	640	271	-57.7	264	289	9.5
Brevard	25	124.0	0	0	N/A	25	17	-32.0	43	28	-34.9	36	31	-13.9
Broward	898	34.4	248	167	-32.7	570	363	-36.3	833	513	-38.4	614	522	-15.0
Broward	1,799	-0.6	135	900	566.7	2,130	323	-84.8	2,985	654	-78.1	2,217	1,532	-30.9
Calhoun	26	3.8	0	0	N/A	*	*	*	17	*	*	12	*	*
Charlotte	160	116.3	*	82	*	248	111	-55.2	302	141	-53.3	137	102	-25.5
Citrus	231	45.9	64	46	-28.1	69	33	-52.2	145	54	-62.8	136	102	-25.0
Clay	269	51.7	41	74	80.5	318	132	-58.5	357	157	-56.0	232	129	-44.4
Collier	185	131.4	238	286	20.2	328	121	-63.1	494	216	-56.3	219	238	8.7
Columbia	168	211.1	11	14	27.3	77	39	-49.4	104	53	-49.0	99	75	-24.2
Miami-Dade	1,839	32.6	2,003	1,072	-46.5	229	47	-79.5	1,469	435	-70.8	2,491	1,653	-33.6
DeSoto	31	219.4	*	*	*	46	22	-52.2	62	45	-27.4	33	43	30.3
Dixie	33	*	0	0	N/A	13	14	7.7	18	18	0.0	13	18	38.5
Duval	1,663	11.3	67	252	276.1	960	389	-59.5	1,423	598	-58.0	1,170	975	-16.7
Escambia	595	27.4	0	209	N/A	579	238	-58.9	724	372	-48.6	515	432	-16.1
Flagler	119	126	24	42	75.0	141	42	-70.2	213	88	-58.7	93	65	-30.1
Franklin	12	12	*	*	*	13	13	0.0	19	12	-36.8	14	12	-14.3
Gadsden	32	55	71.9	*	*	34	14	-58.8	63	31	-50.8	57	44	-22.8
Gilchrist	18	32	77.8	*	*	14	*	*	25	17	-32.0	18	20	11.1
Glades	11	*	0	*	N/A	14	*	*	21	15	-11.8	15	*	*
Gulf	17	25	47.1	0	*	13	12	-7.7	17	15	-11.8	13	*	*
Hamilton	*	20	0	0	N/A	10	14	40.0	21	21	0.0	16	18	12.5
Hardale	22	52	136.4	0	N/A	52	42	-19.2	71	58	-18.3	34	27	-20.6
Henry	11	43	290.9	13	*	86	37	-57.0	121	45	-62.8	52	66	26.9
Hernando	227	375	174	117	-32.8	162	90	-44.4	260	174	-33.1	159	150	-5.7
Highlands	105	131	16	16	24.8	129	92	-28.7	200	134	-33.0	158	130	-17.7
Hillsborough	2,124	2,799	699	563	-19.5	1,253	624	-50.2	2,206	1,144	-48.1	1,831	1,446	-21.0
Holmes	35	34	10	0	-100.0	11	*	*	28	11	-60.7	18	20	11.1
Indian River	165	163	13	96	638.5	189	62	-67.2	255	107	-58.0	143	117	-18.2
Jackson	49	49	0	0	N/A	38	24	-36.8	48	40	-16.7	45	44	-2.2
Jefferson	20	26	30.0	*	*	*	*	*	10	10	0.0	12	12	0.0
Lafayette	*	*	0	0	N/A	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Lake	396	610	40	100	150.0	376	250	-33.5	555	367	-33.9	377	282	-25.2
Lee	749	1,215	141	275	95.0	739	338	-54.3	1,070	494	-53.8	511	494	-1.0
Leon	223	443	253	205	-19.0	165	111	-32.7	348	218	-37.4	272	298	9.6
Levy	35	37.1	0	*	N/A	34	38	11.8	59	45	-23.7	45	52	15.6
Liberty	*	*	0	0	N/A	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Madison	25	40	60.0	0	N/A	47	16	-66.0	53	23	-56.6	33	12	-63.6
Manatee	349	528	51.3	267	N/A	501	103	-79.4	730	292	-60.0	430	380	-11.6
Manatee	613	782	27.6	257	-24.6	242	142	-41.3	456	256	-43.9	337	356	5.6
Marion	97	142	46.4	103	51.5	218	74	-66.1	174	124	-47.2	130	88	-32.3
Martin	37	33	-10.8	73	107	46.6	17	*	65	30	-53.8	70	41	-41.4
Monroe	80	119	48.8	35	105.9	80	32	-60.0	97	59	-39.2	57	33	-42.1
Nassau	213	349	63.8	40	300.0	360	283	-21.4	425	327	-23.1	183	212	15.8
Okechobee	64	112	75.0	31	*	51	37	-27.5	85	60	-29.4	68	32	-52.9
Orange	1,319	1,607	21.8	573	*	1,755	596	-66.0	2,416	1,039	-57.0	1,730	1,563	-9.7
Osceola	430	663	58.8	72	N/A	540	223	-58.7	737	319	-56.7	409	322	-21.3
Palm Beach	1,305	1,611	23.4	280	170.4	1,139	291	-74.5	1,730	886	-60.3	1,336	1,105	-17.3
Pasco	860	1,244	44.7	380	34.3	428	145	-66.1	665	322	-51.6	494	367	-25.7
Pinellas	1,718	2,208	28.5	1,267	-14.8	390	88	-77.4	1,112	401	-63.9	1,226	1,117	-8.9
Polk	1,209	1,476	22.1	26	N/A	1,277	815	-36.2	1,917	1,205	-37.1	1,115	800	-28.3
Putnam	72	128	77.8	51	*	99	49	-50.5	199	85	-57.3	149	113	-24.2
Santa Rosa	151	336	122.5	33	-15.2	123	123	0.0	216	177	-18.1	159	130	-18.2
Sarasota	503	695	38.2	154	N/A	255	90	-64.7	457	165	-63.9	292	220	-24.7
Sebastian	623	776	24.6	388	0	617	225	-63.5	807	428	-47.0	445	400	-10.1
St. Johns	145	171	17.9	114	86.0	127	45	-64.6	222	118	-46.8	185	130	-29.7
St. Lucie	383	477	24.5	179	306.8	323	127	-60.7	554	281	-49.3	373	293	-21.4
Sumter	47	90	91.5	13	N/A	36	35	-2.8	45	43	-4.4	47	41	-12.8
Suwannee	14	125	792.9	0	N/A	57	30	-47.4	82	49	-40.2	76	42	-44.7
Taylor	13	41	215.4	0	N/A	11	10	-9.1	27	11	-59.3	32	16	-50.0
Union	*	33	*	*	N/A	*	*	*	24	15	-37.5	29	20	-31.0
Volusia	770	888	15.3	271	271.2	838	307	-63.4	1,231	535	-56.5	682	563	-18.9
Wakulla	33	79	139.4	24	-8.3	15	19	26.7	18	36	100.0	24	30	25.0
Walton	44	69	56.8	0	N/A	215	123	-42.8	240	132	-45.0	52	42	-19.2
Washington	18	41	127.8	0	N/A	25	18	-28.0	34	20	-41.2	20	24	20.0

* Data that are suppressed due to confidentiality.

¹ Includes youth eligible for Civil Citation but arrested instead of being issued a Civil Citation.