

Juvenile Justice Steering Committee

Juvenile Detention Population Briefing
September 8, 2026

Definitions

Senate Bill 1008

A landmark Oregon juvenile justice reform law that eliminated life-without-parole sentences for offenders under 18, ended automatic adult prosecution for 15-to-17-year-olds, and introduced "second-look" hearings. Effective January 1, 2020.

Measure 11

Oregon Ballot Measure established strict mandatory minimum sentences for serious crimes against persons, such as murder, rape, robbery, and assault. It forces offenders—including juveniles aged 15-17 in some cases—to serve full sentences without parole.

Adjudication

The formal, court-ordered determination of whether a youth (typically under 18) committed a delinquent act. For purposes of this presentation, "adjudicated" is an affirmative determination.

Referral

Young person under 18 is reported to authorities for alleged delinquent behavior (law violations) or status offenses, such as truancy or running away.

Recidivism

A youth receiving a new criminal referral within the one-year time frame of disposition.

Expungement

Legally termed a "Motion to Set Aside," seals criminal records (convictions, arrests, or charges) from public view.

Disposition

The final outcome, settlement, or sentencing that resolves a case, such as a conviction, acquittal, or dismissal.

Who does the Donald E. Long Juvenile Detention Facility serve?

The vast majority of youth in detention are **pre-adjudicated** (pending a hearing). Very few are serving a sanction or violation (law limits sanction to 8 days per petition).

Detention serves youth of **all genders** and typically **ages 12 to 17** (though we do have young adults who are 18 or older in detention on juvenile court charges).

- Multnomah County youth
- Oregon Juvenile Division Directors Association (OJDDA) Mutual Aid
- Interstate Compact
- Out-of-state Runaways
- Oregon Youth Authority youth

Total Capacity: 36 Beds (29 Multnomah County youth and 7 others)



End of Tri-county IGA agreements

Clackamas County Exit (2024–25)

Capacity Friction: Daily rates escalated to \$477.00 while Washington County's long-term pre-trial holds occupied regional slots, restricting short-term intake for Clackamas.

Relocation to Marion County: Clackamas secured alternative beds in Salem at lower fixed commitments, completely terminating its Multnomah contract in FY 2025.

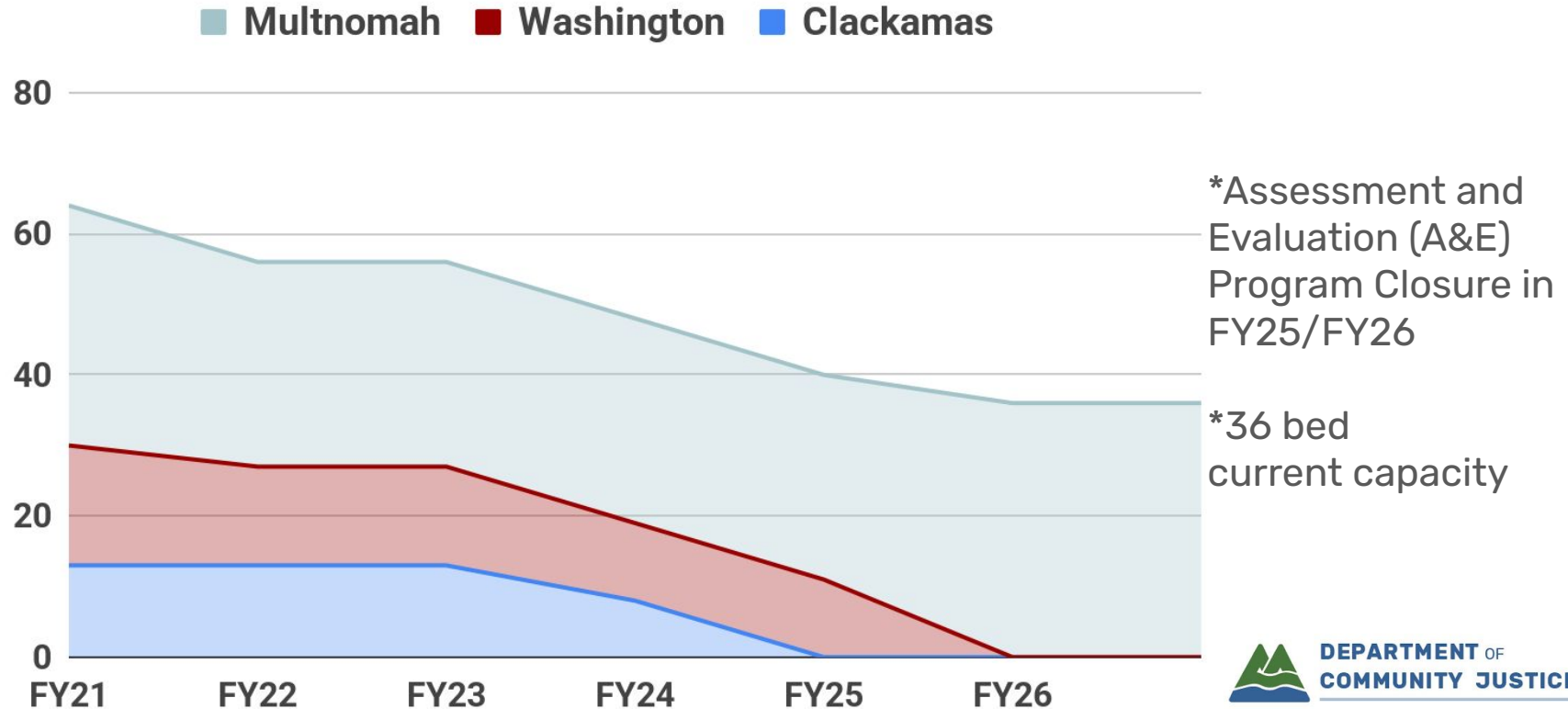
Washington County Exit (2025–26)

Budget Rebalancing: Facing a \$20.5 million General Fund budget deficit, Washington County restructured its public safety footprint.

Contract Conclusion: Formal notification was issued in February 2025, terminating its 11-bed agreement effective August 2025 to transfer youth to Marion County.

Timeline of Juvenile Detention Bed Capacity

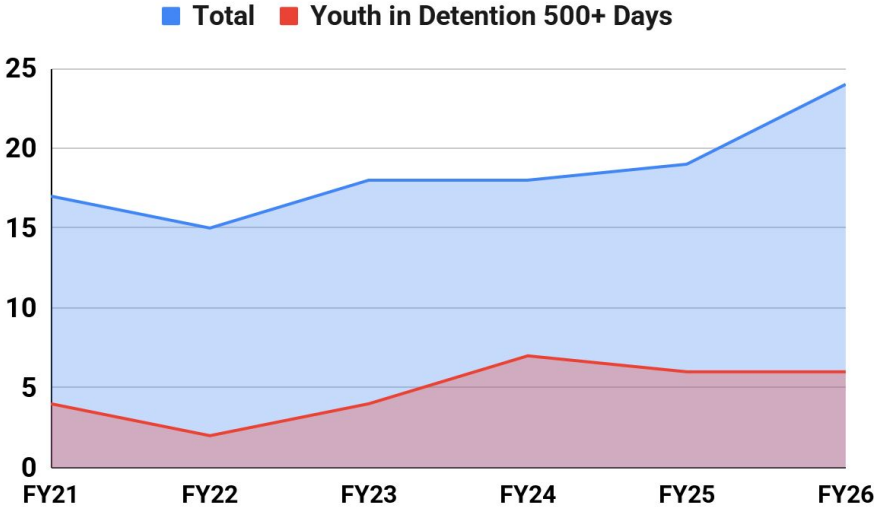
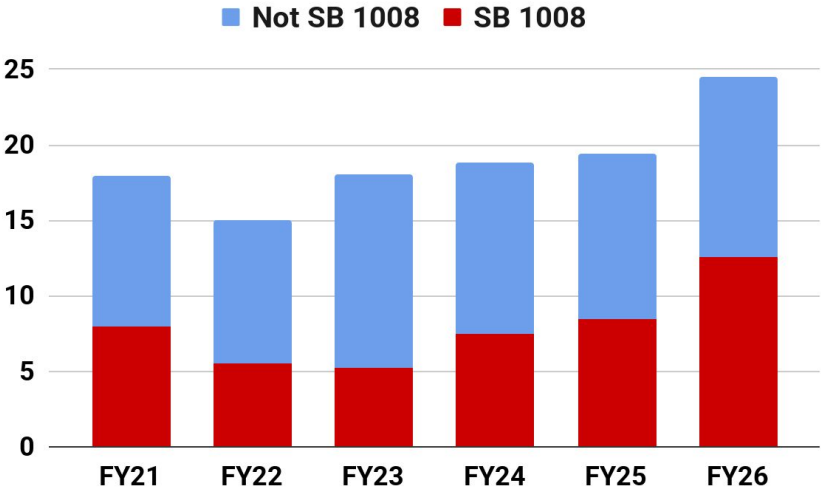
Program Offer 50054



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Juvenile Detention and Allegation Trends

Average Daily Population by Allegation



*FY26 data is provided to date as of April 2026

Average length of stay **29 days*

Daily Population Occupancy Peaks



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Board Adopted Capacity Management Plan

Adopted July 2, 2026

Statutory Framework

"County Court" (ORS 174.100) empowers boards of county commissioners to establish capacity limits and set emergency release standards for local juvenile detention facilities.

Plan Adoption

The Capacity Management Plan ("Plan") was adopted pursuant to ORS § 419A.055 to address circumstances where youth population exceeds facility capacity.

■ Population Emergency

Triggered if population exceeds capacity, or falls below adjusted capacity because a MCC § 25.440 emergency renders facility zones uninhabitable.

■ Release Priorities

Prioritizes beds for highest-risk youth, strictly retaining those with violent or ORS § 137.707 charges. Governed by DSI, FTA, and escape history.

■ Forced Release & Victim Rights

Requires a formal "Forced Release Agreement." JSD and the DA must coordinate victim notifications under Or. Const. Art. I, § 42.



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Staffing Challenges

Unpredictable Daily Demands

- **Longer Length of Stay:** Complex court proceedings following SB 1008 increase youth stay durations.
- **Youth Acuity & Behavioral Health:** Higher oversight and specialized mental health needs require continuous active supervision.
- **Strict Separation Rules:** Mandatory isolation based on gender identity, age, offense acuity, and co-defendant status.
- **Unplanned Staff Leave:** FMLA, medical leave, and coverage gaps drop active worker availability below baseline.

Policy & Operational Levers

- **Budget Allocation:** General Fund currently supports 38 FTE. Baseline should be a minimum 44 FTE. We rely on on-calls and overtime to meet minimum need.
- **Capacity Management & Emergency Plan:** Sets administrative thresholds to manage population surges and prevent overcrowding.
- **OJDDA Mutual Aid & IGAs:** Governs state/county partnerships and inter-county support (Yamhill is only one example).
- **Continuous 24/7 Operations:** Maintains continuous 24/7 intake and critical facility security posts.



External Capacity Relief Valves

OJDDA Statewide Mutual Aid

Short-Term Emergency Framework: Governed by the Oregon Juvenile Department Directors Association (OJDDA) mutual aid agreement, establishing a rapid contingency mechanism during localized crises.

Statewide Facility Network: Grants Multnomah County the legal authority and operational channels to place youth in partner detention centers across Oregon when local capacity peaks.

Strict Timeframe Constraints: Designed exclusively for short durations and immediate emergency relief, requiring prompt repatriation once local bed pressure subsides.

Short-Term Relief- Emergency Surge Protocol
Across Oregon Facilities

Yamhill County IGA

Extended Operational Latitude: Unlike short-term mutual aid, the bilateral IGA with Yamhill County establishes a formal, longer-term intergovernmental framework for bed access.

Greater Bed Access & Flexibility: Secures dedicated regional beds in McMinnville, accommodating youth across extended timeframes without violating local capacity caps.

Buffer Against Legal Overages: Provides a vital safety valve for long-term pre-trial cases, safeguarding DEL against triggering ORS § 419A.055 population emergency releases.

Longer-Term Latitude- Dedicated External Bed
Access & Extended Stays

| Four Core Focus Areas



**1. Admissions
Drivers**



**2. Length of Stay
Bottlenecks**



**3. Placement
Alternatives**



**4. Staffing &
Capacity**

Questions and Reflection

