

USE OF ROOM CONFINEMENT/ISOLATION IN JUVENILE
DETENTION CENTERS AND SECURE CARE FACILITIES



PERFORMANCE AUDIT SERVICES
ISSUED APRIL 20, 2022

**LOUISIANA LEGISLATIVE AUDITOR
1600 NORTH THIRD STREET
POST OFFICE BOX 94397
BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA 70804-9397**

LEGISLATIVE AUDITOR
MICHAEL J. "MIKE" WAGUESPACK, CPA

FIRST ASSISTANT LEGISLATIVE AUDITOR
ERNEST F. SUMMERVILLE, JR., CPA

DIRECTOR OF PERFORMANCE AUDIT SERVICES
KAREN LEBLANC, CIA, CGAP, MSW

AUDIT TEAM
KRISTA BAKER-HERNANDEZ, CIA, CGAP, CRMA, MPP
GARY DUTY, CIA, CFE, MPA
PHILIP FACH, MPA

**FOR QUESTIONS RELATED TO THIS PERFORMANCE AUDIT, CONTACT
KRISTA BAKER-HERNANDEZ, PERFORMANCE AUDIT MANAGER,
AT 225-339-3800.**

Under the provisions of state law, this report is a public document. A copy of this report has been submitted to the Governor, to the Attorney General, and to other public officials as required by state law. A copy of this report is available for public inspection at the Baton Rouge office of the Louisiana Legislative Auditor and online at www.la.la.gov.

This document is produced by the Louisiana Legislative Auditor, State of Louisiana, Post Office Box 94397, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804-9397 in accordance with Louisiana Revised Statute 24:513. Five copies of this public document were produced at an approximate cost of \$9.50. This material was produced in accordance with the standards for state agencies established pursuant to R.S. 43:31. This report is available on the Legislative Auditor's website at www.la.la.gov. When contacting the office, you may refer to Agency ID No. 9726 or Report ID No. 40200031 for additional information.

In compliance with the Americans With Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance relative to this document, or any documents of the Legislative Auditor, please contact Jenifer Schaye, General Counsel, at 225-339-3800.



LOUISIANA LEGISLATIVE AUDITOR
MICHAEL J. "MIKE" WAGUESPACK, CPA

April 20, 2022

The Honorable Patrick Page Cortez,
President of the Senate
The Honorable Clay Schexnayder,
Speaker of the House of Representatives

Dear Senator Cortez and Representative Schexnayder:

The purpose of this audit was to provide information on the use of confinement/isolation in juvenile detention centers (local) and in juvenile secure care facilities (state) during calendar years 2019 and 2020.

We conducted this audit in response to House Resolution 50 of the 2021 Regular Legislative Session.

The Louisiana Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) licenses the 13 juvenile detention facilities in the state and establishes statewide standards for these facilities. The Office of Juvenile Justice (OJJ), which is under the Louisiana Department of Public Safety and Corrections, oversees the youth who have been assigned to one of the state's six secure care facilities.

Louisiana's juvenile detention standards allow the use of room confinement for up to 72 hours and for disciplinary reasons. We found that in 2019 and 2020 there were 6,188 instances of room confinement in detention centers involving at least 1,318 youth. The average length of confinement was 20.7 hours. However, detention centers across the state document room confinement differently and do not always include required information. We found some instances of room confinement exceeded 72 hours, which violates state standards. In addition, some detention centers did not include sleep time in their calculation of room confinement duration, which made their confinement duration shorter than centers that do.

The most common reason for room confinement was youth-on-youth fighting and physical aggression, and most instances involved 16-year-old black males. Youth-on-youth fighting and threats/violence to staff accounted for 2,171 (35.1%) of the confinements. However, the detention centers also used room confinement to punish lesser negative behaviors, such as failure to follow instructions and disruptive behavior, which accounted for 2,302 (37.2%) of the confinements.

The Honorable Patrick Page Cortez,
President of the Senate
The Honorable Clay Schexnayder,
Speaker of the House of Representatives
April 20, 2022
Page 2

Unlike detention centers, which are licensed and must follow standards, no laws or regulations govern the use of room confinement in secure care facilities. Although OJJ has developed policies that allow extended behavioral intervention for up to seven days or 168 hours, these policies do not align with recommended practices. According to OJJ policy, youth who engage in riotous behavior, major property damage, aggressive and intentional assaults on other youth or staff, escapes or attempted escapes, and other such behavior are placed in extended behavioral intervention.

We found that in 2019 and 2020 there were 751 instances of room confinement involving approximately 217 youth in secure care facilities. The average length of room confinement was 137 hours. In August 2020, OJJ changed its policy from a maximum of eight hours of room confinement to a maximum of seven days (168 hours). However, we found that 76 (33.2%) of the confinements that occurred after this policy change exceeded seven days.

The most common reason for room confinement in secure care facilities was threats, cursing or violence toward staff, followed by disruptive behavior. However, we were unable to determine what behavior led to room confinement at Swanson-Monroe because youth there destroyed confinement records. Most instances of room confinement involved 16-year-old black males.

The report contains our findings, conclusions, and recommendations. I hope this report will benefit you in your legislative decision-making process.

We would like to express our appreciation to the Department of Children and Family Services, the Office of Juvenile Justice, and the 13 juvenile detention centers for their assistance during this audit.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Mike Waguespack', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Michael J. "Mike" Waguespack, CPA
Legislative Auditor

MJW/ch

Louisiana Legislative Auditor

Michael J. “Mike” Waguespack, CPA



Use of Room Confinement/Isolation in Juvenile Detention Centers and Secure Care Facilities

April 2022

Audit Control # 40200031

Introduction

We evaluated the use of isolation in juvenile (local) detention centers and (state) secure care facilities throughout the state during calendar years 2019 and 2020.

“Isolation” is referred to by different terms, including room confinement, room isolation, solitary confinement, time out, restrictive housing, and segregation. For the purposes of this report, we use the term “room confinement.” We conducted this audit as a result of House Resolution (HR) 50 of the 2021 Regular Legislative Session, which

asked the legislative auditor to conduct an audit on the use of solitary or room confinement or room isolation in facilities housing juveniles arrested or adjudicated for a delinquent or status offense in the state of Louisiana, including the duration, reasons, and demographics of juveniles held in room confinement by facility.

The term “isolation” in juvenile justice facilities is defined as **“any instance a youth is confined alone for cause or punishment for 15 minutes or more in their sleeping room or another room or separation unit.”** Exceptions are made for protective isolation, medical isolation, or when requested by a youth. Isolation time begins when the youth is placed in the room and continues until he or she leaves, and includes sleeping time when extending overnight.

Source: *CJCA Administrators Toolkit: Reducing the Use of Isolation*, Council of Juvenile Justice Administrators, 2015.

Research has shown that isolating youth for long periods of time undermines the rehabilitative goals of youth corrections.¹ In addition, research and stakeholders have linked the use of prolonged isolation to suicide in these facilities.² As a result, juvenile detention and correctional facilities around the country have been moving away from the use of room confinement, except as a temporary response to a juvenile’s behavior that poses serious and immediate risk of physical harm to the youth or corrections staff. Room confinement as a consequence of negative behavior or in retaliation for a youth’s conduct is often called punitive confinement.

The Office of Juvenile Justice (OJJ) within the Department of Public Safety and Corrections - Youth Services and the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) operate or have oversight of facilities housing juveniles arrested or adjudicated in Louisiana. State law, regulations, and internal policies govern the use of room confinement in these

¹ *Council of Juvenile Correction Administrators Toolkit: Reducing the Use of Isolation*, Council of Juvenile Justice Administrators, 2015.

² *Solitary Confinement of Juvenile Offenders Policy Statement*, American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, 2012.

facilities, including the type and duration of room confinement allowed, conditions under which it can be used, and how confinement is approved and monitored.

Juvenile Detention Centers - These facilities may be owned or operated by any governmental, profit, nonprofit, private, or public agency. They provide secure care for youth while awaiting court proceedings. DCFS has licensing authority over the 13 juvenile detention facilities in the state and establishes statewide standards for these facilities.

1. Caddo Parish Juvenile Detention Center - Shreveport
2. Calcasieu Parish Juvenile Detention Center - Lake Charles
3. East Baton Rouge Parish Juvenile Detention Center - Baton Rouge
4. Florida Parishes Juvenile Detention Center - Covington
5. Green Oaks Juvenile Detention Center - Monroe
6. Juvenile Justice Intervention Center - New Orleans
7. Lafayette Juvenile Detention Home - Lafayette
8. Lafourche Parish Juvenile Justice Facility - Thibodaux
9. Renaissance Home for Youth - Alexandria
10. Rivarde Juvenile Detention Facility - Harvey
11. St. Bernard Parish Juvenile Detention Center - Chalmette
12. Terrebonne Parish Juvenile Justice Complex - Gray
13. Ware Youth Center - Coushatta

Secure Care Facilities - OJJ oversees youth that have been adjudicated by a court or placed under OJJ supervision or custody by a judge. Youth may be assigned to OJJ for probation, or for custody in residential placement (non-secure care treatment facility) or secure care facilities for youth considered a threat to public safety. For the scope of this audit, we focused on secure care facilities. OJJ houses females in a privately-owned contracted secure care facility (Ware Youth Center - Coushatta) that is licensed by DCFS as a residential facility. OJJ operates the following secure care facilities for males:

- Bridge City Center for Youth - Bridge City
- Swanson Center for Youth - Monroe
- Swanson Center for Youth - Columbia
- Acadiana Center for Youth - Bunkie
- Acadiana Center for Youth - St. Martinville³

To obtain confinement-related information requested in HR 50, we requested that the 13 juvenile detention centers provide us with copies of their confinement/incident reports for each instance of confinement in calendar years 2019 through 2020. Because of the number of facilities, and restrictions due to COVID, we could not visit the facilities and gather the documents ourselves. Three detention centers (East Baton Rouge, New Orleans, and Terrebonne) did not provide the source documents but instead provided a list of confinement incidents. We attempted to verify the accuracy of the data these facilities submitted. Specifically, we visited the New Orleans facility and verified that a sample of information provided to us was accurate.

³ This facility opened in August 2021 and houses youth in extended behavior intervention and youth in quarantine. Because our audit scope covered calendar years 2019 through 2020, we did not look at room confinement at this facility.

We also contacted East Baton Rouge to schedule a visit to review documents but they did not respond to multiple attempts to contact them. We also requested and received confinement incident reports for a sample of Terrebonne incidents. Also, Caddo did not provide source documents for all its incidents and New Orleans did not provide confinement documentation nor information for part of the scope of our audit. The objectives of this audit were:

- 1. To provide information on the use of confinement/isolation in juvenile detention centers during calendar years 2019 and 2020.**
- 2. To provide information on the use of confinement/isolation in juvenile secure care facilities during calendar years 2019 and 2020.**

Our results are summarized on the next page and discussed in detail throughout the remainder of the report. Appendix A-1 contains DCFS's response; Appendix A-2 contains responses from the juvenile detention centers; and Appendix A-3 contains OJJ's response. Appendix B contains the report's Scope and Methodology, Appendix C includes confinement information for each of the 13 juvenile detention centers, and Appendix D includes confinement information for each of the three applicable secure care facilities.

Objective 1: To provide information on the use of confinement/isolation in juvenile detention centers during calendar years 2019 and 2020.

Louisiana's juvenile detention standards allow the use of room confinement for up to 72-hours and for disciplinary reasons. According to the detention centers, staffing shortages, older and more violent youth, outdated facilities that are too small, and inadequate funding directly impact the use of room confinement. Specifically, we found the following:

- **In calendar years 2019 and 2020, at least 1,318 youth were assigned to 6,188 instances of room confinement. While the average amount of room confinement time was 20.7 hours, detention centers document room confinement differently and do not always include required information, which makes it difficult to know exactly how much time youth are spending in room confinement.** However, some instances of room confinement exceeded 72 hours, which violates standards. We also found that some detention centers do not include sleep time in the calculation of room confinement duration when confinement extends overnight, which makes their confinement duration shorter than centers that do.
- **The most prevalent reason for room confinement in detention centers was youth-on-youth fighting and physical aggression, and most instances involved black 16-year-old males. Although best practices recommend avoiding room confinement as a consequence for negative behavior, Louisiana's standards allow the use of room confinement for disciplinary reasons.** Of the 6,188 instances of room confinement in calendar years 2019 and 2020, youth-on-youth fighting and threats/violence to staff accounted for 2,171 (35.1%) of confinement. However, the detention centers also used room confinement as a punishment for lesser negative behaviors, such as failure to follow instructions and disruptive behavior, which accounted for 2,302 (37.2%) of confinements.

Our findings and recommendations are discussed in more detail in the sections that follow.

In calendar years 2019 and 2020, at least 1,318⁴ youth were assigned to 6,188 instances of room confinement. While the average amount of room confinement time was 20.7 hours, detention centers document room confinement differently and do not always include required information, which makes it difficult to know exactly how much time youth are spending in room confinement. However, some instances of room confinement exceeded 72 hours which violates standards.

Act 863 of the 2010 Regular Legislative Session required DCFS to develop and establish rules governing the licensing of juvenile detention facilities by January 1, 2012. State Juvenile Detention Standards (standards)⁵ allow detention centers to hold youth in room confinement a maximum of four to 72 hours depending on the situation⁶ and require detention centers to have written policies and procedures regarding the use of room confinement. Standards also require that facilities maintain information regarding room confinement, including the following:

- Name of youth;
- Date and time of the youth's beginning of confinement;
- Date and time of the youth's release from confinement;
- Type and reason for confinement;
- Name of staff requesting confinement;
- Date, time, location, and brief description of the incident that led to confinement; and
- Efforts made to de-escalate the situation and alternatives to isolation that were attempted.

State regulations⁷ require DCFS to conduct at least one unannounced inspection of each detention center annually to determine compliance with licensing standards. According to DCFS, during an inspection, staff check to see if a detention center maintains required confinement information, including the dates and times of confinement.

According to detention center documentation, the average amount of time youth were assigned room confinement was 20.7 hours; however, detention centers document room confinement differently and do not always include required information, which makes it difficult to know exactly how much time youth are spending in room confinement. Because there is no standardized form to document room confinement, detention centers all document it differently. For example, even though standards require that detention centers document the date and time that room confinement began and ended, some detention centers did

⁴ Terrebonne did not provide the names of the youth, so we could not include them in this number.

⁵ LAC Title 67, Part V, Subpart 8, 7501-7525

⁶ Standards define Room Confinement as the restriction of youth to his/her assigned sleeping room due to disciplinary reasons for no longer than 72 hours. Standards define Room Isolation as the restriction of a youth to a room that is separated from the general population due to current acting out behavior for no longer than four hours. For the purposes of this audit, we do not distinguish between these two types of confinement.

⁷ LAC Title 67, Part V, Subpart 8, 7507(A)(13)

not include the exact date and time and instead included only the duration in hours (i.e., 12 hours), or in days (1/4/19 – 1/6/19). In addition, detention centers do not consistently document when youth are allowed out of confinement for programming activities, such as meals, school, and recreation time, in addition to time visiting with their attorney or court time. Standards do not specify the reasons youth are allowed out of confinement except for one hour of physical activity per day and access to bathroom facilities. Because detention centers do not always document when youth are allowed out of confinement in incident reports,⁸ the actual length of time may be shorter.

In addition, some detention centers do not include sleep time in the calculation of room confinement duration⁹ when confinement extends overnight, which makes their confinement duration shorter than centers that do. According to DCFS, even though the standards do not include any guidance on whether sleep time should be included, detention centers should include this time in their calculation of duration. Exhibit 1 summarizes each detention center, a description of the type of the source documentation it provided, the average and median length of confinement, the maximum length of confinement, and total instances of confinement. As the exhibit shows, the duration of room confinement varies greatly among the detention centers, and the confinement duration is much lower for those centers that do not include sleep time.

Documentation Source for Confinement Calculations

To calculate the length of time youth spent in room confinement, we requested source documentation and calculated the duration using the beginning and ending date and time if the documentation included that information. If not, we used the amount of time listed. Three detention centers (East Baton Rouge, New Orleans, and Terrebonne) did not provide the source documents but instead provided a list of confinement incidents with the confinement duration calculated by the centers. Caddo first provided source documents for some of its incidents but later provided a list of all confinement incidents which we relied solely upon for our analysis. New Orleans also did not submit any information for instances of confinement that took place between July through December 2019, due to a cyberattack. These facilities cited the impact of Hurricane Ida and/or the lack of staff to gather the documents that were located in individual youth's files.

⁸ Detention centers keep logs when staff check in on youth every 15 minutes, but these documents may be kept separate from the incident reports.

⁹ We determined this based on our review of detention center's incident reports, written policies, and interviews of detention center staff.

Exhibit 1					
Juvenile Detention Centers Room Confinement Use - Calendar Years 2019 through 2020					
Detention Facility	Primary Documentation Source*	Average Length of Confinement (Hours)	Median Length of Confinement (Hours)	Maximum Length of Confinement (Hours)	Total Instances of Confinement
Confinement Duration Excludes Sleep Time (Duration may be understated)					
Caddo	List of instances containing confinement duration; confinement beginning/ending times not listed	7.2	8.0	28.0	288
Calcasieu	Copies of incident reports with confinement duration; confinement beginning/ending times not listed	6.8	8.0	8.0	646
East Baton Rouge Parish	List of instances containing confinement duration; confinement beginning/ending times not listed	15.8	7.0	72.0	913
Lafourche	Copies of incident reports with confinement duration; confinement beginning/ending times not listed	1.2	1.0	4.0	146
Terrebonne	List of instances containing confinement duration; confinement beginning/ending times not listed	3.8	2.2	14.0	347
Confinement Duration Includes Sleep Time					
Florida Parishes	Copies of incident reports containing confinement beginning/ending dates and times	17.6	1.5	94.9	926
Green Oaks**	Copies of incident reports containing confinement beginning/ending dates and times	103.5	127.2	368.0	216
Lafayette	Copies of incident reports containing confinement beginning/ending dates	66.3	72.0	78.0	367
New Orleans JJIC	List of instances with confinement beginning/ending dates and times.	1.3	1.0	5.0	1,186
Renaissance	Incident logs containing confinement duration but not the beginning/ending dates and times***	43.5	24.0	72.0	315
Rivarde**	Copies of incident reports containing confinement beginning/ending dates and times	20.8	20.2	92.0	409
St. Bernard	Incident reports containing confinement duration but not the beginning/ending dates and times	43.7	48.0	72.0	223
Ware	Copies of incident reports containing confinement beginning/ending dates and times	42.5	48.0	72.0	206
Total		20.7	6.0	368.0	6,188
<p>*If we could not determine confinement duration from any of the incident reports, we followed up with detention center staff. In some cases, they could only provide the duration without any further documentation.</p> <p>**Green Oaks and Rivarde did not include sleep time in their room confinement duration, but their confinement documentation allowed us to include sleep time in our calculation.</p> <p>***Renaissance documents the beginning/ending dates and times in its incident reports, but this information was not included in the documentation provided to LLA.</p> <p>Source: Prepared by legislative auditor's staff using information provided by detention centers.</p>					

Some instances of room confinement exceeded 72 hours, which violates detention center standards. Some detention centers also assigned youth to back-to-back room confinements. While the overall average length of confinement met the maximum allowed by standards, we found 159 instances where the room confinement was longer than 72 hours in four of the detention centers.¹⁰ Of these, 142 (89.3%) were at Green Oaks.¹¹ Other detention centers with instances that lasted more than 72 hours told us they try to avoid these instances, but there are rare times in which a youth is out of control and a danger to other youth and staff and must be in room confinement longer than usual for the safety of others.

We also identified instances where youth were subject to back-to-back room confinements due to the same incident or incidents that occurred during prior room confinements. Although these successive room confinements are not prohibited by standards and are usually separated by a period without confinement, in aggregate, they could last for weeks. For example, a youth at the Lafayette Detention Center was subject to four separate room confinements, each for 72 hours, for incidents that occurred on June 15th, 16th, 17th, and 19th in 2019. The room confinement began June 15th and extended to June 27th, with the youth not in room confinement for only two days, June 18th and June 22nd, during this period. While this does not violate any detention standards, it violates the intent of the standards. While detention center staff told us that successive room confinements may be necessary for certain youth who are a constant danger to other youth and staff, use of successive room confinements should be assessed against the potential harm that they may cause.

Louisiana's standards do not require detention facilities to collect and report any confinement data. Best practices recommend limiting the use of room confinement, and that youth should be returned to regular programming as soon as the youth has regained self-control and is no longer engaging in behavior that threatens immediate harm.¹² For example, the Juvenile Detention Alternative Initiative (JDAI) recommends limiting room confinement to no more than four hours.¹³ In addition, the federal First Step Act of 2018 prohibits facilities that house youth in federal custody from confining youth longer than three hours.

Best practices and research also recommend practices that help reduce the use of room confinement in juvenile correctional facilities, including collecting data to manage, monitor, and

¹⁰ We were able to calculate this information based on documentation provided, but because other facilities do not include sleep time and did not provide documentation to allow us to correctly calculate confinement duration, there may be other instances of room confinement lasting longer than 72 hours.

¹¹ During the audit period, Green Oaks did not include sleep time in its room confinement calculation, but the facility's confinement documentation allowed us to include sleep time in our calculation. Green Oaks staff informed us that they have changed their policy to include sleep time.

¹² *Council of Juvenile Correctional Administrators Toolkit: Reducing the Use of Isolation*, Council of Juvenile Justice Administrators, March 2015

¹³ *Juvenile Detention Alternative Initiative (JDAI) Detention Facility Assessment Standards – 2014 Update to standards*. The standards are published by the Annie E. Casey Foundation. The Center for Children's Law and Policy (CCLP) and the Youth Law Center (YLC) developed the standards based on case law, consent decrees, federal statutes, model state laws, professional standards, best practices and expert opinion.

be accountable for the use of room confinement.¹⁴ Data on the use of room confinement is a key tool in creating a culture change, as it provides transparency on what is occurring in a facility. States and local jurisdictions, such as Massachusetts; Colorado; and Shelby County, Tennessee, have used the regular review of data on room confinement practices in their efforts to reduce the use of room confinement in their youth facilities. Although not required by the standards, collecting and reporting data on the use of confinement in Louisiana's juvenile detention centers would help DCFS monitor the use of confinement and improve transparency.

Many of the detention centers' room confinement records are handwritten paper files that are kept in each youth's file, although some facilities, such as Florida Parishes, Renaissance, and Ware, use software to record some or all of this information. Facilities may also record confinement-related information in handwritten logbooks. Most detention centers do not regularly compile any confinement-related data nor conduct any review or analysis of the information. In addition, as mentioned previously, the documentation is often missing information such as the date and time of confinement. We also found that detention centers did not always include what efforts were made to de-escalate situations and identify alternatives to room confinement, even though this is required by state standards.¹⁵ Because reliable data on room confinement is important, DCFS should consider developing a standardized form or template that all detention centers should use to collect and report data.

Recommendation 1: DCFS should consider developing a standardized form that all detention centers use to document room confinement information. This would help ensure that all detention centers maintain all information required by the Juvenile Detention Standards, such as start and end times. This form should also include when youth are allowed out of the confinement area in order to participate in meals, school, or other activities.

Summary of Management's Response: DCFS agrees with this recommendation and stated that it will work with licensed juvenile detention providers to ensure they document all required information regarding the use of room confinement and will consider whether a standardized reporting form would be feasible since each provider uses various mechanisms and reporting systems to document adherence to the standards.

Recommendation 2: DCFS should consider revising Juvenile Detention Standards to comply with recommended practices that state youth should be returned to regular programming as soon they are no longer engaging in behavior that threatens immediate harm.

¹⁴ *Council of Juvenile Correctional Administrators Toolkit: Reducing the Use of Isolation*, Council of Juvenile Justice Administrators, March 2015. Other practices that help reduce the use of room confinement include positive, rewards-based behavioral management techniques; ongoing training and coaching of staff on positive behavior-management, particularly de-escalation techniques designed for youth; and maintaining a staff-to-youth ratio of at least 1:8 during waking hours and 1:12 during sleeping hours.

¹⁵ The only facility that consistently had this information was the Florida Parishes Juvenile Detention Center.

Summary of Management’s Response: DCFS agrees with this recommendation and stated that it will work with the Louisiana Juvenile Detention Association, licensed juvenile detention providers, and other interested parties to determine what revisions are needed to the standards with regard to room confinement in order to identify the best outcomes for youth while protecting the safety of youth served and staff working in the facilities.

Recommendation 3: DCFS should ensure that juvenile detention centers’ written policies and procedures comply with Juvenile Detention Standards and that actual room confinement practices comply with these written policies and procedures.

Summary of Management’s Response: DCFS agrees with this recommendation and stated that it will conduct a thorough onsite review of all juvenile detention facilities’ written policies and procedures with regard to room confinement in order to ensure that all policies, procedures and practices meet standards.

Recommendation 4: DCFS should consider revising Juvenile Detention Standards to require that detention centers collect electronic data on the use of confinement and report this information to DCFS on a regular basis.

Summary of Management’s Response: DCFS agrees with this recommendation and stated that it will work with the Louisiana Juvenile Detention Association and licensed juvenile detention providers to review current licensing standards and determine the type of data collection that provides transparency and uniformity across providers.

The most prevalent reason for room confinement in detention centers was youth-on-youth fighting and physical aggression, and most instances involved black 16-year-old males. Although best practices recommend avoiding room confinement as a consequence for negative behavior, Louisiana’s standards allow the use of room confinement for disciplinary reasons.

While Louisiana’s standards allow the use of room confinement for disciplinary reasons, best practices state that confinement should be avoided as a consequence for negative behavior (non-compliance), as punishment, or in retaliation for a youth’s conduct.¹⁶ Rather, confinement should be used as a last resort in order to protect youth from self-harm, hurting others, or causing

¹⁶ *Council of Juvenile Correctional Administrators Toolkit: Reducing the Use of Isolation*, Council of Juvenile Justice Administrators, March 2015.

significant property damage. States, such as Florida, South Carolina, Tennessee, and Oklahoma, have banned punitive confinement of juveniles in correctional facilities.¹⁷

In calendar years 2019 and 2020, detention centers used room confinement to protect other youth, staff, and property, but they often used punitive room confinement in response to less extreme negative behaviors. Detention centers used room confinement in response to severe behavior, such as youth-on-youth fighting, threats/violence towards staff, discovery of weapons, and property damage. Of the 6,188 instances of room confinement in calendar years 2019 and 2020, youth-on-youth fighting and threats/violence to staff accounted for 2,171 (35.1%) of confinements, with incident reports describing youth assaulting both other youth and staff. However, the detention centers also used room confinement as a punishment for lesser negative behaviors, such as failure to follow instructions and disruptive behavior, which accounted for 2,302 (37.2%) of confinements. Exhibit 2 summarizes the reasons for room confinement and the average hours of confinement for each category.

Exhibit 2			
Reasons* for Room Confinement - Juvenile Detention Centers			
Calendar Years 2019 through 2020			
Offense Categories**	Number of Instances	Percentage of Total Instances	Average Duration of Confinement (Hours)
Attempted Escape	26	0.4%	56.7
Contraband – includes drugs, weapons, any other prohibited materials found on youth	217	3.5%	22.6
Cursing/Verbal Aggression (youth-on-youth)	954	15.4%	16.2
Disruptive Behavior – includes horseplay, kicking doors, playing loud music	983	15.9%	12.0
Failure to Follow Instructions – includes refusing to leave bedroom, refusing to attend class, being in unauthorized area, general disobedience of direct orders.	1,319	21.3%	10.3
Fighting/Physical Aggression (youth-on-youth)	1,512	24.4%	33.0
Other – includes self-harm, threats of self-harm, sexual threats/misconduct, inappropriate communication, unauthorized computer usage	91	1.5%	24.7
Property Damage – includes flooding floors, defacing walls, destroying clothing/bedding, breaking windows	400	6.5%	27.3
Threats/Cursing/Violence Towards Staff	659	10.7%	26.0
Blank/Could Not Determine – Either the reason was not included in documentation or we could not determine specific reason based on what was included in documentation.	27	0.4%	6.5
Total	6,188	100.0%	20.7
*Incident reports often noted multiple offenses. In those cases, we cited the most serious offense as the reason the youth was given confinement.			
**Because the detention centers did not have standard categories for offenses, we created the above categories.			
Source: Created by legislative auditor’s staff using self-reported information from detention centers.			

¹⁷ *Jurisdiction Survey of Juvenile Solitary Confinement Rules in Juvenile Justice Systems*, Lowenstein Center for the Public Interest, July 2016. “Juvenile Correctional Facilities” does not include short-term placements in what are commonly known as detention centers.

Most instances of room confinement involved black youth. Exhibit 3 summarizes the total instances of room confinement in calendar years 2019 through 2020 by race and gender. Of the 6,188 instances of room confinement, 4,945 (79.9%) involved black male youth. In comparison, black males made up 55.0% of the total detention centers population during this period, although this information is incomplete because the East Baton Rouge Parish detention center did not provide demographics data for its entire population as requested.¹⁸

Exhibit 3									
Juvenile Detention Centers									
Room Confinement Instances - By Race, Gender									
Calendar Years 2019 through 2020									
	American Indian	Asian	Black	Hispanic	Pacific Islander	White	Multi-Racial	Cannot Determine	Total
Female	1	0	337	1	0	69	3	0	411
Male	35	4	4,945	34	1	721	33	2	5,775
Cannot Determine	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1*	2
Total	36	4	5,282	35	1	791	36	3	6,188

*The information provided did not contain the race or gender of the youth involved in the incident.
Source: Prepared by legislative auditor's staff based on information provided by detention centers.

Exhibit 4		
Juvenile Detention Centers		
Room Confinement Instances- By Age		
Calendar Years 2019 through 2020		
Age	Instances of Confinement	% of Instances of Confinement
11	15	0.3%
12	162	2.6%
13	341	5.5%
14	1,022	16.5%
15	1,266	20.4%
16	1,784	28.8%
17	1,371	22.2%
18	221	3.6%
19	1	0.02%
20	2	0.03%
Cannot Determine	3	0.05%
Total	6,188	100.0%

Source: Prepared by legislative auditor's staff using information provided by detention centers.

Sixteen-year-old youth accounted for the largest number of room confinement instances. Exhibit 4 summarizes the total instances of room confinement by age. Of the 6,188

¹⁸ We counted all youth who entered into each detention center for calendar years 2019 through 2020, except East Baton Rouge. Calcasieu also included youth who entered into the facility during calendar year 2018 but were still in the facility during calendar year 2019.

instances of room confinement, 1,784 (28.8%) involved 16-year-old youth in calendar years 2019 through 2020. Sixteen-year-old youth were also the largest age group (25.1%) represented in the total number of youth who entered into the detention centers in those years. According to some detention centers, the “Raise the Age” law¹⁹ that was fully implemented as of July 1, 2020, resulted in an increase in older youth charged with crimes of violence entering their facilities. These older youth are often more violent, which impacts the use of room confinement.

Recommendation 5: DCFS should consider revising Juvenile Detention Standards to comply with best practices that recommend only using room confinement as a last resort in order to protect youth from self-harm, hurting others, or causing significant property damage.

Summary of Management’s Response: DCFS agrees with this recommendation and stated that it will work with the Louisiana Juvenile Detention Association, licensed juvenile detention providers, and other interested parties to determine what revisions are needed to the standards with regard to room confinement to identify best outcomes for youth while protecting the safety of youth served and staff working in the facilities.

¹⁹ ACT 501 of the 2016 Regular Legislative Session. The law was implemented in two stages. As of March 1, 2019, 17-year-olds charged with non-violent offenses began entering the juvenile justice system. As of July 1, 2020, 17-year-olds charged with crimes of violence began entering the juvenile justice system.

Objective 2: To provide information on the use of confinement/isolation in juvenile secure care facilities during calendar years 2019 and 2020.

Unlike detention centers that are licensed and must follow state standards, there are no state laws or regulations that govern the use of room confinement in secure care facilities. OJJ has developed policies that allow the use of extended behavioral intervention for up to seven days or 168 hours. According to this policy, youth who engage in behaviors such as riotous behavior, major property damage, aggressive and intentional assaults on other youth or staff, and escapes or attempted escapes are placed in extended behavioral intervention. According to OJJ, multiple challenges have resulted in the need to use extended behavioral intervention, including an increase in the number of violent youth and a lack of experienced staff. Specifically, we found the following:

- **In calendar years 2019 and 2020, approximately 217 youth in secure care facilities were assigned 751 instances of room confinement. The average amount of time youth were in room confinement was 137 hours. In August 2020, OJJ changed its policy from a maximum of eight hours to a maximum of seven days (168 hours). However, we found that 76 (33.2%) of the instances of confinement that occurred after this policy change exceeded seven days (168 hours).** In addition, the overall average length of confinement for youth in secure care facilities is higher than the national average.
- **The most prevalent reason for room confinement in secure care facilities was threats, cursing, or violence towards staff, followed by disruptive behavior.** However, we were unable to determine what behavior led to room confinement at Swanson-Monroe because youth destroyed confinement records. Most instances of room confinement were for black 16-year-old males.

Our findings and recommendations are discussed in more detail in the sections that follow.

In calendar years 2019 and 2020, approximately 217 youth in secure care facilities were assigned 751 instances of room confinement. The average amount of time youth were in room confinement was 137 hours. In August 2020, OJJ changed its policy from a maximum of eight hours to a maximum of seven days (168 hours). However, we found that 76 (33.2%) of the instances of confinement that occurred after this policy change exceeded seven days (168 hours).

OJJ’s internal policies specify how room confinement will be administered and documented. During calendar years 2019 through 2020, three of OJJ’s secure care facilities had designated rooms/areas for room confinement for behavioral intervention. Prior to August 2020, OJJ policy specified that youth could not be placed in confinement for more than eight hours at a time. On August 7, 2020, OJJ implemented a new policy called “extended behavioral intervention” (BI) that allowed youth to be in room confinement for up to seven days (168 hours) at a time. According to policy, extended BI is used for youth who engage in behaviors that are destabilizing or highly disruptive, including large-scale incidents involving riotous behavior, major property damage, aggressive and intentional youth/youth and youth/staff assaults, youth/youth assaults involving multiple youth, and escape or attempted escape. During the scope of our audit, youth assigned to extended BI were only housed in the Cypress unit on the Swanson-Monroe campus.²⁰

OJJ refers to room confinement as “**behavioral intervention**” (BI) and defines it as the temporary assignment of a youth to a self-contained unit when their continued presence in the general population poses a threat to staff or other youth, pending investigation of a potential threat, or when their activities are destabilizing or highly disruptive to programming.

Source: OJJ Behavioral Intervention/(BI) and Extended (BI) policy, dated 8/7/2020.

OJJ policies require staff to complete a “Behavioral Intervention Room Placement and Release Report” each time a youth is placed in room confinement for both BI and extended BI. This form includes the date and time that the youth is placed and released from room confinement, as well as the reason for placement. Policies also require that staff engage in crisis intervention techniques and make visual contact with each youth at least every 15 minutes to monitor the youth’s condition and record the exact times of this contact. Staff must also document the youth’s behavior while in room confinement and any assessments conducted of the youth while in confinement. OJJ staff conduct annual onsite reviews at each secure care facility to verify compliance with policies and other requirements.

²⁰ In August 2021, the extended behavior unit was moved to a facility in St. Martinville because, according to OJJ, the Swanson-Monroe facility was damaged by youth, and youth were constantly escaping the aging facility. OJJ refers to this facility as the Acadiana Center for Youth-St. Martinville. As of November 2021, OJJ policy allows extended BI to take place at a youth’s currently-assigned facility.

Although the average amount of time youth spent in room confinement in secure care facilities was 137 hours in calendar years 2019 through 2020, 310 (41.3%) instances of room confinement violated OJJ's policies. Exhibit 5 summarizes the confinement duration before and after OJJ's policy change for each secure care facility with behavior intervention rooms; the source documentation OJJ provided for that facility; the average, median, and maximum length of confinement; and total instances of confinement. As the exhibit shows, there were instances of confinement that violated OJJ policy both before and after the August 2020 change. We found that of the 229 total instances that occurred after OJJ revised its policy, 76 (33.2%) exceeded seven days (168 hours); however, the longest confinement took place in March 2020, before OJJ revised its policy, and lasted 90 days, or 2,160 hours.

Documentation Source for Confinement Calculations

OJJ provided copies of room confinement reports for the Acadiana and Bridge City facilities for calendar years 2019 through 2020 but could not provide all reports for the Swanson-Monroe facility because youth at that facility destroyed confinement documentation during a riot in April 2020. Although OJJ provided some documentation and data on the use of extended BI at Swanson-Monroe, the documentation did not always contain all necessary information, and the data did not include the reason youth were assigned to extended BI. As a result, the information on extended BI at Swanson-Monroe is incomplete.

Exhibit 5 Room Confinement Use* – Secure Care Facilities Calendar Years 2019 through 2020

Secure Care Facility	Primary Documentation Source	Average Length of Confinement (Hours)	Median Length of Confinement (Hours)	Max Length of Confinement (Hours)	Total Instances of Confinement
Before OJJ Policy Change (1/1/2019 - 8/6/2020) – room confinement up to eight hours					
Acadiana	N/A**	6.1	4.4	17.7	8
Bridge City	Behavior Intervention Packet Documents	7.4	1.8	115.3	149
Swanson – Monroe***	Behavior Intervention Packet Documents, OJJ Data	250.8	144.0	2,160.0	365
After OJJ Policy Change (8/7/2020 - 12/31/2020) – room confinement up to seven days (168 hours)					
Acadiana	Behavior Intervention Packet Documents	6.5	6.5	6.5	1
Bridge City	Behavior Intervention Packet Documents	2.5	1.9	15.1	57
Swanson-Monroe	Behavior Intervention Packet Documents, OJJ Data	183.9	168.0	672.0	171
Total		136.8	48.0	2,160.0	751

*Does not include room confinement for medical reasons, including quarantining due to COVID-19. It also does not include the Swanson-Columbia or Ware facilities, because youth are not placed in confinement at these facilities.

**Acadiana Center for Youth opened in March 2019. Room confinements in this facility did not begin until March 2020.

***May not include all instances of confinement.

Source: Prepared by legislative auditor's staff using information provided by OJJ.

OJJ contracts with Ware Youth Center, which is licensed by DCFS as a residential facility to house females that are assigned to secure care. The facility does not have any rooms with locks, so youth may be placed in an unlocked room to cool down but are free to leave at any

point. However, because there was no way to confine youth exhibiting severe behavior, 81 (30.0%) of 270 behavior incidents²¹ that occurred in calendar years 2019 and 2020 resulted in the facility staff having to call law enforcement to arrest the youth. These incidents often began with the youth attempting to escape, because there was no fence around the facility, and escalating when staff tried to stop the youth. According to Ware officials, they have now installed a fence around the facility, which has dramatically decreased the number of attempted escapes and resulting behavioral incidents. The facility has also developed additional programming for youth and implemented the Missouri Approach Program Model²² in March 2021. Ware officials told us that, as a result of these changes, there has been a significant decrease in facility staff calling law enforcement because of a youth's threatening behavior.

The overall average length of confinement for youth in secure care facilities is higher than the national average. Although, best practices recommend limiting the use of room confinement,²³ current OJJ policies allow room confinement for up to 168 hours for those youth placed in extended BI. As Exhibit 6 shows, the overall average duration of confinement at OJJ's secure care facilities was higher than the national averages for the months of April and October in calendar years 2019 and 2020 as reported by Performance-based Standards (PbS),²⁴ primarily due to the Swanson-Monroe facility, which houses youth placed in extended BI.

Exhibit 6
Comparison to National Average of Confinement Duration - Secure Care Facilities
(in Hours)
Months of April and October in Calendar Years 2019 through 2020

	Apr-19	Oct-19	Apr-20	Oct-20
National Average*	8.1	9.2	7.3	10.2
Secure Care Facilities				
Acadiana	0.0	0.0	2.9	0.0
Bridge City	3.4	30.1	1.1	2.8
Swanson-Monroe	144.0	**	246.3	210.9
Total	23.5	30.1	180.5	146.6

*From Performance-based Standards

**OJJ could not provide documentation due to youth breaking into a file room and destroying files. According to information OJJ provided to PbS, Swanson-Monroe had one instance of room confinement lasting 0.9 hours for that month.

Source: Prepared by legislative auditor's staff using information provided by OJJ, including PbS outcome measures for secure care facilities.

²¹ Ware staff document each incident in which a youth becomes disruptive. Ware provided this documentation to us.

²² The Missouri Program Model (Missouri Approach) developed by the Missouri Division of Youth Services is a therapeutic approach focusing on facilitating small group interactions and processes. The Missouri Youth Services Institute trained Ware staff on implementing this program at the Ware Youth Center.

²³ *Council of Juvenile Correctional Administrators Toolkit: Reducing the Use of Isolation*, Council of Juvenile Justice Administrators, March 2015.

²⁴ Performance-based Standards is a national program created by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention. The program compares the performance of participating juvenile justice agencies using confinement data for the months of April and October of each calendar year.

According to OJJ, a portion of the youth population within OJJ has grown more violent over the past three years, and certain youth have not been able to function within the dormitory setting. This group of youth attack other youth, attack staff, destroy property, and/or escape and do not respond to treatment. Staffing shortages also exist, and many staff are new and inexperienced. These youth know this and take advantage of these situations, wreaking havoc, and disrupting any sense of order. In order to maintain stability within the facility and keep other youth, the staff, and the public safe, OJJ stated it needs to place these youth in a setting that separates them and allows for individual one-on-one intensive treatment. The use of behavioral intervention and extended behavioral intervention has become a necessity for this small group of youth in order to maintain order within the dormitory settings at its secure facilities.

We also found that the actual duration of confinement was higher than what OJJ reported to PbS.²⁵ The average duration of confinement based on the documentation and data OJJ provided to us was significantly higher than what OJJ reported to PbS for some months. Based on our review, this occurred because OJJ staff did not include all instances of confinement when reporting to PbS. Exhibit 7 summarizes the average confinement duration for April and October 2019 and 2020 as OJJ reported to PbS compared to our calculations.

Exhibit 7				
Comparison of Average Confinement Duration (in Hours) – Secure Care Facilities				
Months of April and October in Calendar Years 2019 through 2020				
	April 2019	October 2019	April 2020	October 2020
Bridge City				
OJJ Reported to PbS	1.2	1.0	0.9	3.4
Our Calculation	3.4	30.1	1.1	2.8
Swanson-Monroe				
OJJ Reported to PbS	0.0	0.9	8.1	133.6
Our Calculation	144.0	**	246.3	210.9
**OJJ could not provide documentation due to youth breaking into a file room and destroying files.				
Source: Prepared by legislative auditor's staff using information provided by OJJ, including PbS reports provided by OJJ.				

Recommendation 6: OJJ should limit the use of room confinement as recommended by best practices.

Summary of Management's Response: OJJ agrees with this recommendation and stated that it has plans to help alleviate the use of behavioral intervention and extended behavioral intervention in its secure care facilities. The new Swanson facility will have individual rooms throughout, eliminating the dormitory setting. This will give youth a space of their own that will allow them to cool off and separate themselves from youth that are provoking them, etc.

Recommendation 7: OJJ should ensure that the information it provides to PbS includes all instances of room confinement.

²⁵ Participating agencies in PbS self-report their room confinement-related information.

Summary of Management's Response: OJJ agrees with this recommendation and stated that agency PbS Site Coordinators recently received a refresher course on PbS. In addition, OJJ developed a process which allows its PbS Agency Coordinator to monitor the numbers being entered for this topic into the PbS database.

The most prevalent reason for room confinement in secure care facilities was threats, cursing, or violence towards staff, followed by disruptive behavior. However, we were unable to determine what behavior led to room confinement at Swanson-Monroe because youth destroyed confinement records. Most instances of room confinement were for black 16-year-old males.

OJJ policy aligns with best practices in that it does not allow the use of room confinement for discipline or punishment. In addition, as recommended by best practices, staff are required to use de-escalation techniques prior to room confinement to help the youth gain control. While we could not determine the specific reason for confinement for 524 (69.8%) of the 751 instances of room confinement,²⁶ the most prevalent reason in the records we were able to review was threats/cursing/violence toward staff with 74 (9.9%) of the total instances. Exhibit 8 summarizes the reasons for room confinement and the average hours of confinement for each category.

²⁶ These were primarily for instances of room confinement as a result of extended BI at Swanson-Monroe. While the Behavior Intervention Room Placement and Release Report includes the reason that a youth is placed in room confinement, we could not determine this information for instances in which we were not able to obtain this report and/or relied on OJJ's data, which does not include the specific behavior that led to a youth's placement in room confinement.

Exhibit 8			
Reasons* for Room Confinement - Secure Care Facilities			
Calendar Years 2019 through 2020			
Offense Categories**	Number of Instances	Percentage of Total Instances	Average Duration of Confinement (Hours)
Attempted Escape	9	1.2%	10.3
Contraband – includes drugs, weapons, any other prohibited materials found on youth	7	0.9%	3.1
Cursing/Verbal Aggression (youth-on-youth)	1	0.1%	1.8
Disruptive Behavior – includes tampering with security devices, being in an unauthorized area	52	6.9%	6.2
Failure to Follow Instructions – includes refusing to leave unauthorized area, refusing to attend class, general disobedience of direct orders	4	0.5%	10.9
Fighting/Physical Aggression (youth-on-youth)	35	4.7%	2.2
Other – includes self-harm, threats of self-harm, sexual threats/misconduct, inappropriate communication, unauthorized computer usage	18	2.4%	14.8
Property Damage – includes flooding floors, defacing walls, destroying clothing/bedding, breaking windows	27	3.6%	3.4
Threats/Cursing/Violence towards Staff	74	9.9%	13.2
Blank/Could Not Determine – Either the reason was not included in documentation, or we could not determine specific reason based on what was included in documentation	524**	69.8%	220.9
Total	751	100.0%	136.8
*If a Behavior Incident Report listed multiple offenses, we cited the most serious offense as the reason the youth was given confinement.			
**Of these, 521 were due to OJJ data not including specific behavior that led to the youth being placed in room confinement.			
Source: Created by legislative auditor’s staff using information from OJJ.			

Most instances of room confinement involved black youth and 16-year-old youth. Exhibits 9 and 10 summarize the total instances of room confinement in calendar years 2019 through 2020 by race and age. Of the 751 total instances of room confinement, 709 (94.4%) involved black male youth, and 224 (29.8%) involved 16-year-old male youth. In comparison, black males comprised approximately 82% of the total secure care facilities’ population, and 16-year-old males comprised 21.2% of total secure care facilities’ population during this period.²⁷

²⁷ We included all male youth that entered a secure care facility (Acadiana, Bridge City, Swanson-Columbia, and Swanson-Monroe) at any point during calendar years 2019 through 2020.

Exhibit 9 Secure Care Facilities Room Confinement Instances - By Race Calendar Years 2019 through 2020				
	Acadiana	Bridge City	Swanson	Total
American Indian	0	1	0	1
Black	9	204	496	709
White	0	1	24	25
Other	0	0	2	2
Multi-Racial	0	0	14	14
Cannot Determine	0	0	0	0
Total	9	206	536	751

Source: Prepared by legislative auditor's staff based on information provided by OJJ.

Exhibit 10 Secure Care Facilities Room Confinement Instances - By Age Calendar Years 2019 through 2020		
Age	Instances of Confinement	% of Instances of Confinement
12	9	1.2%
13	16	2.1%
14	49	6.5%
15	94	12.5%
16	224	29.9%
17	192	25.6%
18	106	14.1%
19	37	4.9%
20	24	3.2%
Total	751	100.0%

Source: Prepared by legislative auditor's staff using information provided by OJJ.

Recommendation 8: OJJ should place information on instances of room confinement as a result of behavioral intervention and extended behavioral intervention on its website.

Summary of Management's Response: OJJ disagrees with this recommendation and stated that the use of behavioral intervention is captured on paper forms and logbooks. Data is manually calculated for PbS purposes two months of the year and OJJ does not have the manpower to make this happen 12 months out of the year, nor does OJJ see the need for this to occur.

LLA Additional Comments: Continuously collecting and publicly reporting data on the use of behavioral intervention throughout the year would provide greater transparency and would allow OJJ management to better monitor the use of this practice.

APPENDIX A-1: DCFS MANAGEMENT'S RESPONSE



Division of Family Support
627 North 4th Street
Baton Rouge, LA 70802

(O) 225.342.9141
(F) 225.342.0963
www.dcfcs.la.gov

John Bel Edwards, Governor
Marketa Garner Walters, Secretary

April 11, 2022

Mr. Michael J. "Mike" Waguespack, CPA
Legislative Auditor
P.O. Box 94397
Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9397

RE: Use of Room Confinement/ Isolation in Juvenile Detention Centers and Secure Care Facilities
Performance Audit

Dear Mr. Waguespack:

The following is submitted in response to the recent performance audit regarding the use of room confinement in juvenile detention facilities licensed by the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) and the Office of Juvenile Justice (OJJ) state secure care facilities. DCFS' plans to address the recommendations noted in the report are presented below.

DCFS is committed to regulating conditions in juvenile detention facilities through statewide licensing standards developed to maintain safe and secure temporary custody of youth and ensure the youth's appearance in court prior to adjudication. DCFS has licensing authority and regulates 13 juvenile detention facilities in Louisiana which serve pre-adjudicated youth. OJJ monitors and oversees youth following adjudication. However, OJJ does place post-adjudicated females in one residential facility licensed by DCFS that is not a secure care facility.

We appreciate the work your office did during this audit and the recommendations you provided to improve room confinement practices. We look forward to working with providers and stakeholders to enhance juvenile detention facility standards and provide uniformity across providers.

Recommendation 1: DCFS should consider developing a standardized form that all detention centers use to document room confinement information. This would help ensure that all detention centers maintain all information required by the Juvenile Detention Standards, such as begin and end times. This form should also include when youth are allowed out of the confinement area in order to participate in meals, school, or other activities.

DCFS will work with licensed juvenile detention providers to ensure they document all required information regarding the use of room confinement and will consider whether a standardized reporting form would be feasible since each provider uses various mechanisms and reporting systems to document adherence to the standards.

Recommendation 2: DCFS should consider revising Juvenile Detention Standards to comply with recommended practices which state that youth should be returned to regular programming as soon they are no longer engaging in behavior that threatens immediate harm.



DCFS will work in conjunction with the Louisiana Juvenile Detention Association, licensed juvenile detention providers, and other interested parties to determine what revisions are needed to the Juvenile Detention Standards with regard to room confinement to identify the best outcomes for youth while protecting the safety of youth served and staff working in the facilities.

Recommendation 3: DCFS should ensure that juvenile detention centers' written policies and procedures comply with Juvenile Detention Standards and that actual room confinement practices comply with these written policies and procedure.

DCFS will conduct a thorough onsite review of all juvenile detention facilities' written policies and procedures with regard to room confinement to ensure that all policies, procedures, and practices meet the Juvenile Detention Standards as intended.

Recommendation 4: DCFS should consider revising Juvenile Detention Standards to require that detention centers collect electronic data on the use of confinement and report this information to DCFS on a regular basis.

DCFS will work in conjunction with the Louisiana Juvenile Detention Association and licensed juvenile detention providers to review current licensing standards and determine the type of data collection that provides for transparency and uniformity across providers.

Recommendation 5: DCFS should consider revising Juvenile Detention Standards to comply with best practices which recommend only using room confinement as a last resort in order to protect youth from self-harm, hurting others, or causing significant property damage.

DCFS will work in conjunction with the Louisiana Juvenile Detention Association, licensed juvenile detention providers, and other interested parties to determine what revisions are needed to the Juvenile Detention Standards with regard to room confinement to identify the best outcomes for youth while protecting the safety of youth served and staff working in the facilities.

Should you have any additional questions, please contact Angie Badeaux, Licensing Director at (225) 620-6702 or angie.badeaux.dcf@la.gov.

Sincerely,



Marketa Garner Walters
Secretary

cc: Terri Ricks, Deputy Secretary



APPENDIX A-2: JUVENILE DETENTION CENTERS - MANAGEMENT'S RESPONSES

Because the report's recommendations were not directed at the detention centers, these facilities were not required to provide a response to the report's findings and recommendations. However, we did give the 13 facilities opportunities to review draft reports and their associated data, and gave them the option of responding. Two facilities, Florida Parishes Juvenile Detention Center and Jefferson Parish Department of Juvenile Services (Rivarde Juvenile Detention Center), provided the attached responses.

After we received Florida Parishes' response, we revised the final draft of the report to remove the recommendation that DCFS consider revising standards to prohibit placing youth in room confinement for longer than four hours. In addition, the response from the Jefferson Parish Department of Juvenile Services stated that LLA failed to distinguish between "room isolation" and "room confinement." Although the state's detention center standards do distinguish between room confinement and room isolation, we used the term "room confinement" for both because HR50 combines these terms under solitary confinement. In addition, the incident reports documenting the use of confinement did not always distinguish between isolation and confinement. While some detention centers told us that room confinement means the youth is not necessarily alone, incident reports did not document whether a youth was alone or with a roommate during room confinement and we found instances where it was inferred that the youth was alone during their room confinement.



28528 HIGHWAY 190
COVINGTON, LA 70433

JOSEPH T. DOMINICK, MPA
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
FLORIDA PARISHES JUVENILE JUSTICE DISTRICT

TELEPHONE (985) 249-2902
FAX (985) 893-6294

April 6, 2022

VIA EMAIL

Office of the Louisiana Legislative Auditor
ATT: Michael J. "Mike" Waguespack, CPA – Louisiana Legislative Auditor
1600 N. 3rd St.
Baton, Rouge, LA 70804

**RE: Management's Response Letter - Performance Audit Services: Use of Room
Confinement/Isolation In Juvenile Detention Centers And Secure Care Facilities**

Dear Mr. Waguespack,

Please accept this letter as formal response to the above listed audit, which included the Florida Parishes Juvenile Detention Center. In addition to being the chief administrator for this agency, I am also the current President of the Louisiana Juvenile Detention Association. With that said, please excuse the four-page length of this letter, as there are several issues that require attention.

It is my understanding this audit was conducted by your office, in response to House Resolution 50 of the 2021 Regular Legislative Session. HR 50 is sponsored by Representative Royce Duplessis. Here, it is important to note and as a matter of context, that **prior to this audit being completed and the audit report being published**, Representative Duplessis sponsored House Bill (HB) 746 [providing relative to solitary confinement in juvenile facilities] of the 2022 Regular Legislative Session. In its original text, HB 746 seeks to promulgate much of what is suggested in this audit, **with strikingly similar language**. This audit report also states that this audit **was not** conducted with all generally accepted *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller of General of the United States; however, auditors did manage to "interview juvenile justice stakeholders" such as the Louisiana Center for Children's Rights and the Center for Children's Law and Policy (Appendix B.1), despite this step not having been part of HR 50's requesting language. To respectfully add, these two organizations have no expertise in or working

knowledge of juvenile detention center operations in Louisiana. From discussion with its staff, it is my understanding that the Louisiana Center for Children's Rights assisted in compiling the language of HB 746.

In addition to the glaring issue presented above, my review of the audit report has identified the following list of items/discrepancies that are noteworthy:

1. Page 1 cites the Council of Juvenile Correctional Administrators (CJCA) as defining "isolation" and stating, "Isolation time begins when the youth is placed in the room and continues until he or she leaves and includes sleeping time when extending overnight". The entity in the citation is now titled the Council of Juvenile Justice Administrators (CJJA), which I am a member of. When considering time in isolation and/or room confinement, by this cited source, sleeping time should be counted. This was not the case when considering the data received from all detention centers audited. As the audit report states on Page 6, "In addition, some detention centers do not include sleep time in the calculation of room confinement duration". This is very problematic, as the data collected and represented does not give a true perspective of average, median, and maximum lengths of confinement. It also negatively skews the data against facilities who reported their confinement data correctly (the inclusion of sleeping hours).
2. Page 2 cites "restrictions due to COVID" as reason for auditors not visiting facilities to gather data; however, our facility never received a request for a site visit. From the onset of the audit, auditors requested specific data to be uploaded to a secure portal. As such, it was then my understanding that would be the method of conducting this audit. Given the public nature of our business, accommodations were in place for outside agencies to engage in on-site business with this agency. With auditors not having seen first-hand the operations, along with locations of rooms and general facility layout, it would seem very difficult to acquire good data and a good working knowledge of facility operations. I cannot speak to regulations prohibiting entry to other facilities. Regardless, it would be prudent and beneficial to observe processes and engage with auditees first hand, instead of receiving input from the non-practitioners mentioned on the first page of this letter.
3. On Page 4, and again on Page 8, the audit report states Louisiana's Juvenile Detention Standards "do not meet recommended practices regarding the length of room confinement". The audit report goes on to suggest that a four-hour or less time frame for utilizing room confinement is the recommended practice. To put this notion into context, the original draft of this report stated "best practices" instead of "recommended practices". In discussions with the auditors, I pointed out there is no data, research, or published body of work, locally or nationally, that supports a best practice of four hours or less related to length of confinement, nor is there such supporting a recommended practice for that matter.

In furthering its argument of the four-hour or less time frame, the audit report cites the *Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative (JDAI) Detention Facility Assessment Standards - 2014 Update to standards* in footnote Number 14. This cited instrument is a “Juvenile Detention Facility Assessment” developed by the Annie E. Casey Foundation. Its presented concept of staff not placing a youth in room confinement for longer than four hours is a checklist item. The checklist is designed to identify if the assessed facility conforms to JDAI’s own standard, not any industry standard. The idea of limiting room confinement to only four hours IS NOT listed as a best or recommended practice anywhere in this document, nor is there any research in the field of juvenile justice that would support such. When a youth in detention is placed in room confinement, due to assaulting others or being in an active hostile/violent state (reasons for placement), the youth’s release from confinement is to be conditioned on he/she presenting as being in a non-violent state – no longer a threat. Since every youth is different, there could be no possible “recommended practice” timeframe to dictate when a youth is safe to return to regular programming interactions with peers and others. Ultimately, it is purely anecdotal to assign a time frame of four hours or less as a best or recommend practice, for the purpose of room confinement pertaining to a hostile or combative youth in detention.

Additionally, footnote Number 14 mentions the Center for Children’s Law and Policy (CCLP) and the Youth Law Center (YLC) as having developed standards. CCLP states, on its website, it “**co-authored the JDAI Juvenile Detention Facility Assessment Standards**” [the same assessment standards first cited in footnote No. 14] and its “staff have trained officials in many jurisdictions to use the standards to assess conditions in their juvenile facilities **as part of the Annie E. Casey Foundation’s Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative**”. The YLC presents itself as an organization comprised primarily of attorneys who represent the interests of youth in the juvenile justice system, much like those organizations listed on the first page of this letter.

4. On Page 5 the audit report states, “detention centers document room confinement differently and do not always include required information”. The report goes on to cite an example of Louisiana Juvenile Detention Standards **requiring centers** to document the date and time that room confinement began and ended, with some centers not reporting the exact date and time. Later, Recommendation 1 (Pg. 9) suggests DCFS should consider a standardized reporting form to ensure centers maintain information, such as begin and end times, when reporting on room confinement. The issue here is not that centers document confinement differently, instead, the audit suggests some centers failed in adhering to a standard that is already in place. [With regards to Room Confinement, Louisiana Juvenile Detention Standards for licensure state, “The following shall be recorded and maintained”: “the date, time and type of the youth’s restriction” and “the date and time of the youth’s release from restriction”, with restriction referring to room restriction/room confinement.]

It does not matter what the document looks like, if a facility fails to report. The issue at that point is with the facility.

5. Recommendation 2 (Pg. 9) suggests DCFS revise Juvenile Detention Standards “to comply with recommended practices” and lists prohibiting a youth from being in room confinement for longer than four hours; however, again, there is no research or study that supports this, nor has this audit report effectively cited such. Considering every adolescent is different in their ability to deescalate hostility and aggression, it is impossible to place a set time on doing so, and in such a short period as four hours. In my 26 years as a detention practitioner, I have frequently witnessed youth take more than a 24-hour period to deescalate and that being with administrative and mental health/clinical support.

Furthermore, the audit report cites the average hours of room confinement (for all centers audited over the two-year period) as being 20.7 hours. This is substantially higher than the audit report’s recommended four-hour time limit; however, it is also substantially lower than the 72-hour limit allowed by Louisiana’s Juvenile Detention Standards. This shows that centers frequently encounter situations where youth are likely still a threat to themselves or others beyond a four-hour time frame. The Juvenile Detention Standards current 72-hour limit also provides for cases where youth refuse to deescalate over a longer period of time, even with other interventions in place.

In closing, it is my understanding this type of audit is designed to provide a reasonable assurance in the detection of performance issues. There is no guarantee of uncovering 100% of performance deficiencies; however, based on the items I have presented, one must question the efficacy of this audit report, the accuracy of the data presented, as well as the accuracy of the issues and the resulting recommendations.

Respectfully,



Joseph Dominick

CC: Hon. Royce Duplessis, Louisiana State Representative – District 93
Rachel Gassert, Policy Director – Louisiana Center for Children’s Rights



JEFFERSON PARISH

DEPARTMENT OF JUVENILE SERVICES

CYNTHIA LEE SHENG
PARISH PRESIDENT

April 11, 2022

ROY L. JUNCKER, JR.
DIRECTOR

Office of the Louisiana Legislative Auditor
ATTN: Michael J. "Mike" Waguespack, CPA
Louisiana Legislative Auditor
1600 N. 3rd Street
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804

RE: Management's Response Letter – Performance Audit Services: Use of Room Confinement/Isolation in Juvenile Detention Centers and Secure Care Facilities

Dear Mr. Waguespack:

I am writing in response to your April 2022 Legislative Auditor Report on Juvenile Detention Isolation/Room Confinement. I offer the following:

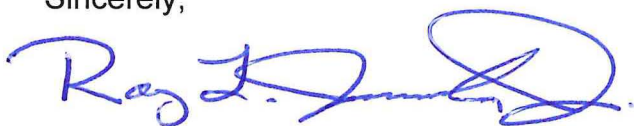
1. The report co-mingles the terms "room isolation" and "room confinement". The JDAI standards (VI.B. & E.) and Louisiana Juvenile Detention Center standards (§7515.E.3 & 4) distinguish between the two intentionally – Isolation is for immediate intervention when a youth is at imminent risk of harming him/herself or others, or property (no longer than 4 hours). Confinement is a consequence for a rule infraction and should be done after a hearing (no longer than 72 hours). This failure to distinguish between these constructs is the basis for your entire position.
2. The report cites various violations by some facilities, and the recommendations seem to be mostly advisable; however, rather than enforcing the current standards, the report recommends changing them or making more regulations. Changing the standards will not ensure compliance.
3. Page 8 cites the CJCA Toolkit for the definition of "room confinement" which lumps any time alone in a room into one category, but, as mentioned above, the Louisiana standards use JDAI definitions that separate isolation and confinement. There's a reason why JDAI, after 25+ years of doing this, has separated them. They, too, recognize there's potential for abuse when these separate responses are combined. Both serve very different purposes – one for safety and the other for behavior modification through punishment.

4. Page 12, Recommendation 5, says something to the effect of revising Louisiana Standards to say facilities should use room confinement only to protect youth from self-harm, hurting others, or preventing significant property damage. Louisiana Standards already indicate that under the section for isolation (p. 52) “[Room] isolation shall be utilized only while the youth is an imminent threat to safety and security.”
5. Page 13, OJJ reports indicate noncompliance with Louisiana Standards. Rather than resorting to adding another law to the books, perhaps reviewing the American Correctional Association (ACA) standards to make sure OJJ’s facilities are comporting with these standards. Or, alternatively, require OJJ to comply with Louisiana’s Standards instead. (That would certainly change OJJ’s focus of intervention from “Corrections” to “Juvenile Justice”.)
6. Page 14. The Legislative Auditor did not review any of the ACA juvenile facility standards according to the methodology section (neither is ACA mentioned anywhere in the report).

I believe there are better ways at getting compliance instead of passing another law with duplicative standards that contradict the standards already in place. It’s interesting how a small handful of people at the Louisiana Center for Children’s Rights (LCCR) can un-do or even modify the efforts of everyone who worked countless hours/days/months on the Louisiana Juvenile Detention Standards. I do not agree with the recommendations being made by this report and to implement them would make detention centers in Louisiana dangerous for both the staff and residents alike.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Roy L. Juncker, Jr.", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Roy L. Juncker, Jr.
Director

RLJjr/cl

C: Honorable Royce Duplessis, Louisiana State Representative – District 93
Honorable Debbie Villio, Louisiana State Representative – District 79
Honorable Joseph A. Marino, III, Louisiana State Representative – District 85
Rachel Gassert, Policy Director – Louisiana Center for Children’s Rights

APPENDIX A-3: OJJ MANAGEMENT'S RESPONSE



April 7, 2022

TRANSMITTED VIA EMAIL

Michael J. "Mike" Waguespack, CPA
Louisiana Legislative Auditor
1600 North Third Street
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804-9397

Dear Mr. Waguespack,

Please accept the attached as our response to the performance audit of the Office of Juvenile Justice (OJJ) entitled *Use of Room Confinement/Isolation in Juvenile Detention Centers and Secure Care Facilities*. OJJ concurs with all but one of the findings cited in your report.

The secure care population has become more violent, with a small amount of youth disrupting operations, assaulting staff and other youth, destroying property, etc. We have certainly increased our use of behavioral intervention for these reasons. We appreciate the feedback and recommendations provided by your audit staff concerning this practice.

We would like to express our thanks to your staff for their professionalism and cooperation with the agency while conducting this audit. We will consider all factors outlined in the recommendations provided by your office as we continue to make improvements in the use of room confinement within the Office of Juvenile Justice.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "William A. Sommers".

William A. Sommers
Deputy Secretary

WS:et

attachments:

- OJJ Response to Recommendations
- Checklist for Audit Recommendations

cc: Karen Leblanc, CIA, MSW

**OJJ Response to Legislative Auditor
Performance Audit – Use of Room Confinement/Isolation
in Juvenile Detention Centers and Secure Facilities
April 7, 2022**

Recommendation #6: OJJ should limit the use of room confinement as recommended by best practices.

Concur. As stated by OJJ previously, the youth population within OJJ has grown more and more violent over the past few years. There are certain youth that have not been able to function within the dormitory setting. These youth attack other youth, attack staff, destroy property, and/or escape. These particular youth are not responding to treatment and groups, as the other population does. The use of behavioral intervention and extended behavioral intervention has become a necessity for this small group of youth, to maintain order within the dormitory settings at our secure facilities. However, there are plans in place to help alleviate this situation. The new Swanson facility will have individual rooms throughout, eliminating the dormitory setting. This will give youth a space of their own that will allow them to cool off and separate themselves from youth that are provoking them, etc.

Recommendation #7: OJJ should ensure that the information it provides to PbS includes all instances of room confinement.

Concur. The agency PbS Site Coordinators recently received a refresher course on PbS. In addition, the OJJ PbS Agency Coordinator has put a process in place whereby during data collection months, she receives shift packets from each facility, which includes documentation on the use of room confinement. This will allow her to monitor the numbers being entered for this topic in the PbS database.

Recommendation #8: OJJ should place information on instances of room confinement as a result of behavioral intervention and extended behavioral intervention on its website.

Disagree. The use of behavioral intervention is captured on paper forms and logbooks. There is not an automated process to calculate this data. Data is manually counted for PbS purposes two months out of the year and reported. OJJ does not have the manpower to make this happen 12 months out of the year, nor do we see the need for this to occur.

APPENDIX B: SCOPE AND METHODOLOGY

This report provides the results of our performance audit on the use of room confinement in juvenile detention centers and secure care facilities. We conducted this performance audit under the provisions of House Resolution (HR) 50 of the 2021 Regular Legislative Session and Title 24 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, as amended. This audit covered calendar years 2019 through 2020. Our audit objectives were:

- 1. To provide information on the use of confinement/isolation in juvenile detention centers during calendar years 2019 and 2020.**
- 2. To provide information on the use of confinement/isolation in juvenile secure care facilities during calendar years 2019 and 2020.**

This audit was not conducted in accordance with generally accepted *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States; however, we used those standards as a guide and believe the evidence obtained provides a reasonable basis for our findings and conclusions. To answer our objective, we performed the following audit steps:

- Researched Louisiana laws and regulations relevant to juvenile detention centers and secure care facilities. This included Louisiana Juvenile Detention Standards. Also researched federal laws relevant to the use of solitary confinement for juveniles in federal custody.
- Reviewed previous Performance Audit Services audits regarding OJJ's use of room confinement.
- Reviewed juvenile justice organizations' research and reports regarding the use of room confinement.
- Contacted the 13 juvenile detention centers in the state licensed through DCFS to discuss their room confinement practices and how each documents instances of confinement.
- Interviewed OJJ staff on the use of room confinement in secure care facilities and reviewed OJJ policies regarding the use of behavioral intervention (room confinement).
- Interviewed juvenile justice stakeholders, such as the Louisiana Center for Children's Rights and the Center for Children's Law and Policy.
- Researched best and recommended practices regarding the use of confinement/isolation for juveniles in correctional facilities. Compared

Louisiana's practices (detention centers and secure care facilities) to those practices.

- Collected Performance-based Standards reports (detention centers and secure care facilities) containing confinement-related outcome measures for the audit scope.
- Requested from the 13 juvenile detention centers documentation (that contained requested information from HR 50 of the 2021 Regular Legislative Session) for all instances of room confinement that occurred during calendar years 2019 through 2020. Because of the number of facilities, time and resource restrictions, and restrictions due to COVID-19, we could not visit all the facilities and gather the documents ourselves. Therefore, we could not test the completeness of the information provided.
 - Three of the 13 detention centers (East Baton Rouge, New Orleans, Terrebonne) did not submit source documentation for some or all of their confinement incidents. These facilities submitted a list of room confinement incidents instead.
 - New Orleans did not submit any information for confinement incidents for July 2019 through December 2019. According to New Orleans, due to a cyberattack in December 2019, the data for confinement incidents during this time was lost.
 - Caddo Parish did not provide source documentation for all incidents. It first provided copies of incident reports for approximately half of the youth entering the facility during the audit scope, but later, due to time constraints, provided a list of all confinement instances. We relied upon this list for our analysis.
 - If demographics information was not contained in source documentation, we requested this information from the detention center.
- Compiled confinement information from documentation provided by the detention centers into spreadsheets. Submitted spreadsheets to detention centers for review and requested clarification for any confusing or missing information. Revised spreadsheets as needed. Contacted relevant detention centers to gather explanations for trends and findings noted. As noted in the report body, we found issues with the confinement documentation that likely affects the reliability of the confinement analysis results.
- Analyzed juvenile detention centers' confinement data and compared results to state juvenile detention standards and best/recommended practices.
- Requested written policies and procedures relating to room confinement from the 13 juvenile detention centers. Compared these policies to state juvenile detention standards and best/recommended practices.

- Requested intake logs for Calendar Years 2019 through 2020 from each of the detention centers. East Baton Rouge did not provide this information.
- Visited two detention centers (New Orleans and Lafayette) based on the results of our analysis of the confinement data. We requested a visit to East Baton Rouge but staff did not respond to our requests.
- Requested copies of the Behavioral Intervention Room Placement and Release Report and related documentation for each instance of room confinement that occurred in the applicable secure care facilities for calendar years 2019 through 2020.
 - Because some confinement records were destroyed as a result of youth breaking into a file room at the Swanson-Monroe facility in April 2020, OJJ could not provide all reports for this facility prior to this time.
 - To identify room confinement instances at Swanson-Monroe for March 2020 through December 2020, we used data provided by OJJ. We used data from a previous performance audit *Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic in Secure Care Facilities – Office of Juvenile Justice*, issued May 19, 2021, that contained confinement instances for March 2020 through mid-September 2020. We requested additional data from OJJ to identify room confinement incidents for mid-September 2020 through December 2020. For this data, we identified the wing used for extended BI placements at Swanson-Monroe during this time. According to OJJ, youth in its Behavioral Health Treatment Unit were also housed in this wing near the end of calendar year 2020, so our analysis may include these youth.
- Compiled confinement information from Behavioral Intervention Room Placement and Release Reports and related documentation into spreadsheets and combined with OJJ data for Swanson-Monroe.
- Analyzed secure care facilities confinement data and compared results to OJJ policies and best/recommended practices.
- Requested data of entire secure care population for calendar years 2019 through 2020.
- Provided preliminary results to OJJ, DCFS, and detention centers for review and feedback.

APPENDIX C: DETENTION CENTERS' CONFINEMENT INFORMATION

Caddo Parish Juvenile Detention Center

Calendar Year 2019				
Average Length in Confinement (Hours)	Median Length of Confinement (Hours)	Max Length of Confinement (Hours)	Total Instances of Confinement	Number of Youth Involved in Instances of Confinement
7.1	8.0	28.0	194	72
Calendar Year 2020				
Average Length in Confinement (Hours)	Median Length in Confinement (Hours)	Max Length in Confinement (Hours)	Total Instances of Confinement	Number of Youth Involved in Instances of Confinement
7.3	8.0	24.0	94	32
<p>The total youth population, including youth that entered the facility multiple times during the year, in CY 2019 was 542 and in CY 2020 was 392.</p> <p>Source: Prepared by legislative auditor's staff using information provided by the Caddo Parish Juvenile Detention Center.</p>				

Calendar Years 2019 through 2020			
Offense Categories	Number of Instances	Percentage of Instances	Average Duration of Confinement (Hours)
Attempted Escape	0	0.0%	0.0
Contraband	4	1.4%	7.0
Cursing/Verbal Aggression	11	3.8%	6.2
Disruptive Behavior	61	21.2%	6.9
Failure to Follow Instructions	43	14.9%	6.9
Fighting/Physical Aggression	73	25.4%	7.5
Other	1	0.3%	Cannot Determine
Property Damage	18	6.3%	6.4
Threats/Violence to Staff	68	23.6%	7.2
Blank/Could Not Determine	9	3.1%	11.1
Total	288	100.0%	7.2
<p>Source: Prepared by legislative auditor's staff using information provided by the Caddo Parish Juvenile Detention Center.</p>			

Caddo - Calendar Years 2019 through 2020									
	American Indian	Asian	Black	Hispanic	Pacific Islander	White	Multi-Racial	Cannot Determine	Total
Female	0	0	21	0	0	5	0	0	26
Male	0	0	244	0	0	17	0	1	262
Cannot Determine	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	0	0	265	0	0	22	0	1	288

Source: Prepared by legislative auditor's staff using information provided by the Caddo Parish Juvenile Detention Center.

Caddo - Calendar Years 2019 through 2020		
Age	Number of Instances of Confinement	Percentage of Instances of Confinement
11	0	0.0%
12	8	2.8%
13	22	7.7%
14	36	12.5%
15	68	23.6%
16	113	39.2%
17	36	12.5%
18	5	1.7%
19	0	0.0%
20	0	0.0%
Cannot Determine	0	0.0%
Total	288	100.0%

Source: Prepared by legislative auditor's staff using information provided by the Caddo Parish Juvenile Detention Center.

Calcasieu Parish of Juvenile Detention Center

Calendar Year 2019				
Average Length in Confinement (Hours)	Median Length of Confinement (Hours)	Max Length of Confinement (Hours)	Total Instances of Confinement	Number of Youth Involved in Instances of Confinement
6.8	8.0	8.0	394	105
Calendar Year 2020				
Average Length in Confinement (Hours)	Median Length in Confinement (Hours)	Max Length in Confinement (Hours)	Total Instances of Confinement	Number of Youth Involved in Instances of Confinement
6.7	8.0	8.0	252	63
The total youth population, including youth that entered the facility multiple times during the year, in CY 2019 was 300 and in CY 2020 was 191. Source: Prepared by legislative auditor’s staff using information provided by the Calcasieu Parish Juvenile Detention Center.				

Calendar Years 2019 through 2020			
Offense Categories	Number of Instances	Percentage of Instances	Average Duration of Confinement (Hours)
Attempted Escape	3	0.5%	8.0
Contraband	35	5.4%	4.1
Cursing/Verbal Aggression	98	15.2%	7.9
Disruptive Behavior	208	32.2%	6.0
Failure to Follow Instructions	19	2.9%	7.4
Fighting/Physical Aggression	93	14.4%	7.9
Other	23	3.5%	2.6
Property Damage	58	9.0%	6.1
Threats/Violence to Staff	109	16.9%	7.9
Blank/Could Not Determine	0	0.0%	0.0
Total	646	100.0%	6.8
Source: Prepared by legislative auditor’s staff using information provided by the Calcasieu Parish Juvenile Detention Center.			

Calcasieu - Calendar Years 2019 through 2020									
	American Indian	Asian	Black	Hispanic	Pacific Islander	White	Multi-Racial	Cannot Determine	Total
Female	0	0	32	0	0	7	0	0	39
Male	0	1	466	8	0	131	0	0	606
Cannot Determine	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Total	0	1	498	8	0	138	0	1	646
Source: Prepared by legislative auditor's staff using information provided by the Calcasieu Parish Juvenile Detention Center.									

Calcasieu - Calendar Years 2019 through 2020		
Age	Number of Instances of Confinement	Percentage of Instances of Confinement
11	3	0.5%
12	6	0.9%
13	41	6.3%
14	90	13.9%
15	186	28.8%
16	184	28.5%
17	109	16.9%
18	25	3.9%
19	0	0.0%
20	0	0.0%
Cannot Determine	2	0.3%
Total	646	100.0%
Source: Prepared by legislative auditor's staff using information provided by the Calcasieu Parish Juvenile Detention Center.		

East Baton Rouge Juvenile Detention Center

Calendar Year 2019				
Average Length in Confinement (Hours)	Median Length of Confinement (Hours)	Max Length of Confinement (Hours)	Total Instances of Confinement	Number of Youth Involved in Instances of Confinement
11.2	6.0	72.0	412	102
Calendar Year 2020				
Average Length in Confinement (Hours)	Median Length in Confinement (Hours)	Max Length in Confinement (Hours)	Total Instances of Confinement	Number of Youth Involved in Instances of Confinement
19.6	8.0	72.0	501	97
<p>The total number of youth that entered the facility in calendar year 2019 was 704 and in calendar year 2020 was 470.</p> <p>Source: Prepared by legislative auditor's staff using information provided by the East Baton Rouge Juvenile Detention Center</p>				

Calendar Years 2019 through 2020			
Offense Categories	Number of Instances	Percentage of Instances	Average Duration of Confinement (Hours)
Attempted Escape	2	0.2%	60.0
Contraband	22	2.4%	7.8
Cursing/Verbal Aggression	229	25.1%	9.0
Disruptive Behavior	155	17.0%	5.7
Failure to Follow Instructions	182	19.9%	5.7
Fighting/Physical Aggression	186	20.4%	42.3
Other	19	2.1%	21.4
Property Damage	12	1.3%	23.7
Threats/Violence to Staff	106	11.6%	15.0
Blank/Could Not Determine	0	0.0%	N/A
Total	913	100.0%	15.8
<p>Source: Prepared by legislative auditor's staff using information provided by the East Baton Rouge Juvenile Detention Center</p>			

East Baton Rouge - Calendar Years 2019 through 2020									
	American Indian	Asian	Black	Hispanic	Pacific Islander	White	Multi-Racial	Cannot Determine	Total
Female	0	0	56	0	0	0	0	0	56
Male	0	0	852	0	0	5	0	0	857
Cannot Determine	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	0	0	908	0	0	5	0	0	913
Source: Prepared by legislative auditor’s staff using information provided by the East Baton Rouge Parish Juvenile Detention Center.									

East Baton Rouge - Calendar Years 2019 through 2020		
Age	Number of Instances of Confinement	Percentage of Instances of Confinement
11	2	0.2%
12	28	3.1%
13	50	5.5%
14	164	18.0%
15	157	17.2%
16	325	35.6%
17	170	18.6%
18	15	1.6%
19	0	0.0%
20	2	0.2%
Cannot Determine	0	0.0%
Total	913	100.0%
Source: Prepared by legislative auditor’s staff using information provided by the East Baton Rouge Juvenile Detention Center.		

Florida Parishes Juvenile Detention Center

Calendar Year 2019				
Average Length in Confinement (Hours)	Median Length of Confinement (Hours)	Max Length of Confinement (Hours)	Total Instances of Confinement	Number of Youth Involved in Instances of Confinement
15.9	1.4	75.2	451	108
Calendar Year 2020				
Average Length in Confinement (Hours)	Median Length in Confinement (Hours)	Max Length in Confinement (Hours)	Total Instances of Confinement	Number of Youth Involved in Instances of Confinement
19.2	1.5	94.9	475	111
The total youth population, including youth that entered the facility multiple times during the year, in CY 2019 was 603 and in CY 2020 was 472. Source: Prepared by legislative auditor’s staff using information provided by the Florida Parishes Juvenile Detention Center.				

Calendar Years 2019 through 2020			
Offense Categories	Number of Instances	Percentage of Instances	Average Duration of Confinement (Hours)
Attempted Escape	1	0.1%	1.4
Contraband	17	1.9%	9.8
Cursing/Verbal Aggression	414	44.7%	13.1
Disruptive Behavior	14	1.5%	14.6
Failure to Follow Instructions	237	25.6%	15.3
Fighting/Physical Aggression	151	16.3%	31.8
Other	4	0.4%	1.6
Property Damage	85	9.2%	22.1
Threats/Violence to Staff	2	0.2%	70.2
Blank/Could Not Determine	1	0.1%	46.7
Total	926	100.0%	17.6
Source: Prepared by legislative auditor’s staff using information provided by the Florida Parishes Juvenile Detention Center.			

Florida Parishes - Calendar Years 2019 through 2020									
	American Indian	Asian	Black	Hispanic	Pacific Islander	White	Multi-Racial	Cannot Determine	Total
Female	0	0	41	0	0	30	2	0	73
Male	0	0	539	3	1	291	19	0	853
Cannot Determine	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	0	0	580	3	1	321	21	0	926
Source: Prepared by legislative auditor's staff using information provided by the Florida Parishes Juvenile Detention Center.									

Florida Parishes - Calendar Years 2019 through 2020		
Age	Number of Instances of Confinement	Percentage of Instances of Confinement
11	0	0.0%
12	13	1.4%
13	51	5.5%
14	192	20.8%
15	176	19.0%
16	266	28.7%
17	175	18.9%
18	52	5.6%
19	1	0.1%
20	0	0.0%
Cannot Determine	0	0.0%
Total	926	100.0%
Source: Prepared by legislative auditor's staff using information provided by the Florida Parishes Juvenile Detention Center.		

Green Oaks Juvenile Detention Center

Calendar Year 2019				
Average Length in Confinement (Hours)	Median Length of Confinement (Hours)	Max Length of Confinement (Hours)	Total Instances of Confinement	Number of Youth Involved in Instances of Confinement
90.1	84.0	151.8	120	56
Calendar Year 2020				
Average Length in Confinement (Hours)	Median Length in Confinement (Hours)	Max Length in Confinement (Hours)	Total Instances of Confinement	Number of Youth Involved in Instances of Confinement
118.9	128.5	368.0	96	52
The total youth population, including youth that entered the facility multiple times during the year, in CY 2019 was 458 and in CY 2020 was 368.				
Source: Prepared by legislative auditor's staff using information provided by the Green Oaks Juvenile Detention Center.				

Calendar Years 2019 through 2020			
Offense Categories	Number of Instances	Percentage of Instances	Average Duration of Confinement (Hours)
Attempted Escape	4	1.9%	111.8
Contraband	13	6.0%	61.5
Cursing/Verbal Aggression	5	2.3%	103.9
Disruptive Behavior	7	3.2%	85.7
Failure to Follow Instructions	31	14.4%	110.4
Fighting/Physical Aggression	108	50.0%	109.2
Other	3	1.4%	134.9
Property Damage	21	9.7%	91.6
Threats/Violence to Staff	24	11.1%	100.2
Blank/Could Not Determine	0	0.0%	0.0
Total	216	100.0%	103.5
Source: Prepared by legislative auditor's staff using information provided by the Green Oaks Juvenile Detention Center.			

Green Oaks - Calendar Years 2019 through 2020									
	American Indian	Asian	Black	Hispanic	Pacific Islander	White	Multi-Racial	Cannot Determine	Total
Female	0	0	17	0	0	7	0	0	24
Male	0	0	166	2	0	24	0	0	192
Cannot Determine	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	0	0	183	2	0	31	0	0	216
Source: Prepared by legislative auditor’s staff using information provided by the Green Oaks Juvenile Detention Center.									

Green Oaks - Calendar Years 2019 through 2020		
Age	Number of Instances of Confinement	Percentage of Instances of Confinement
11	5	2.3%
12	10	4.6%
13	22	10.2%
14	41	19.0%
15	63	29.2%
16	54	25.0%
17	21	9.7%
18	0	0.0%
19	0	0.0%
20	0	0.0%
Cannot Determine	0	0.0%
Total	216	100.0%
Source: Prepared by legislative auditor’s staff using information provided by the Green Oaks Juvenile Detention Center.		

Lafayette Parish Juvenile Detention Center

Calendar Year 2019				
Average Length in Confinement (Hours)	Median Length of Confinement (Hours)	Max Length of Confinement (Hours)	Total Instances of Confinement	Number of Youth Involved in Instances of Confinement
68.3	72.0	78.0	170	52
Calendar Year 2020				
Average Length in Confinement (Hours)	Median Length in Confinement (Hours)	Max Length in Confinement (Hours)	Total Instances of Confinement	Number of Youth Involved in Instances of Confinement
64.6	72.0	72.0	197	41
The total youth population, including youth that entered the facility multiple times during the year, in CY 2019 was 380 and in CY 2020 was 188.				
Source: Prepared by legislative auditor's staff using information provided by the Lafayette Parish Juvenile Detention Center.				

Calendar Years 2019 through 2020			
Offense Categories	Number of Instances	Percentage of Instances	Average Duration of Confinement (Hours)
Attempted Escape	9	2.4%	72.0
Contraband	26	7.1%	61.4
Cursing/Verbal Aggression	48	13.1%	67.4
Disruptive Behavior	35	9.5%	70.3
Failure to Follow Instructions	23	6.3%	26.1
Fighting/Physical Aggression	91	24.8%	72.0
Other	5	1.4%	36.8
Property Damage	38	10.3%	67.3
Threats/Violence to Staff	92	25.1%	70.8
Blank/Could Not Determine	0	0.0%	0.0
Total	367	100.0%	66.3
Source: Prepared by legislative auditor's staff using information provided by the Lafayette Parish Juvenile Detention Center.			

Lafayette Parish - Calendar Years 2019 through 2020									
	American Indian	Asian	Black	Hispanic	Pacific Islander	White	Multi-Racial	Cannot Determine	Total
Female	0	0	8	0	0	2	0	0	10
Male	0	0	308	6	0	43	0	0	357
Cannot Determine	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	0	0	316	6	0	45	0	0	367
Source: Prepared by legislative auditor’s staff using information provided by the Lafayette Parish Juvenile Detention Center.									

Lafayette Parish - Calendar Years 2019 through 2020		
Age	Number of Instances of Confinement	Percentage of Instances of Confinement
11	0	0.0%
12	0	0.0%
13	14	3.8%
14	70	19.0%
15	15	4.1%
16	85	23.2%
17	182	49.6%
18	1	0.3%
19	0	0.0%
20	0	0.0%
Cannot Determine	0	0.0%
Total	367	100.0%
Source: Prepared by legislative auditor’s staff using information provided by the Lafayette Parish Juvenile Detention Center.		

Lafourche Parish Juvenile Detention Center

Calendar Year 2019				
Average Length in Confinement (Hours)	Median Length of Confinement (Hours)	Max Length of Confinement (Hours)	Total Instances of Confinement	Number of Youth Involved in Instances of Confinement
1.0	1.0	4.0	85	22
Calendar Year 2020				
Average Length in Confinement (Hours)	Median Length in Confinement (Hours)	Max Length in Confinement (Hours)	Total Instances of Confinement	Number of Youth Involved in Instances of Confinement
1.5	1.5	3.0	61	16
The total youth population, including youth that entered the facility multiple times during the year, in CY 2019 was 85 and in CY 2020 was 76. Source: Prepared by legislative auditor’s staff using information provided by the Lafourche Parish Juvenile Detention Center.				

Calendar Years 2019 through 2020			
Offense Categories	Number of Instances	Percentage of Instances	Average Duration of Confinement (Hours)
Attempted Escape	0	0.0%	0.0
Contraband	0	0.0%	0.0
Cursing/Verbal Aggression	21	14.4%	1.2
Disruptive Behavior	61	41.8%	1.1
Failure to Follow Instructions	46	31.5%	1.3
Fighting/Physical Aggression	4	2.7%	1.6
Other	0	0.0%	0.0
Property Damage	0	0.0%	0.0
Threats/Violence to Staff	14	9.6%	1.2
Blank/Could Not Determine	0	0.0%	0.0
Total	146	100.0%	1.2
Source: Prepared by legislative auditor’s staff using information provided by the Lafourche Parish Juvenile Detention Center.			

Lafourche Parish - Calendar Years 2019 through 2020									
	American Indian	Asian	Black	Hispanic	Pacific Islander	White	Multi-Racial	Cannot Determine	Total
Female	0	0	6	0	0	0	0	0	6
Male	3	0	114	0	0	9	14	0	140
Cannot Determine	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	3	0	120	0	0	9	14	0	146
Source: Prepared by legislative auditor's staff using information provided by the Lafourche Parish Juvenile Detention Center.									

Lafourche Parish - Calendar Years 2019 through 2020		
Age	Number of Instances of Confinement	Percentage of Instances of Confinement
11	0	0.0%
12	0	0.0%
13	5	3.4%
14	12	8.2%
15	36	24.7%
16	56	38.4%
17	26	17.8%
18	11	7.5%
19	0	0.0%
20	0	0.0%
Cannot Determine	0	0.0%
Total	146	100.0%
Source: Prepared by legislative auditor's staff using information provided by the Lafourche Parish Juvenile Detention Center.		

New Orleans Juvenile Justice Intervention Center

Calendar Year 2019				
Average Length in Confinement (Hours)	Median Length of Confinement (Hours)	Max Length of Confinement (Hours)	Total Instances of Confinement	Number of Youth Involved in Instances of Confinement
1.3	1.0	5.0	355	72
Calendar Year 2020				
Average Length in Confinement (Hours)	Median Length in Confinement (Hours)	Max Length in Confinement (Hours)	Total Instances of Confinement	Number of Youth Involved in Instances of Confinement
1.2	1.0	4.0	831	115
The total youth population, including youth that entered the facility multiple times during the year, in CY 2019 was 431 and in CY 2020 was 285.				
Source: Prepared by legislative auditor's staff using information provided by the New Orleans Juvenile Justice Intervention Center.				

Calendar Years 2019 through 2020			
Offense Categories	Number of Instances	Percentage of Instances	Average Duration of Confinement (Hours)
Attempted Escape	1	0.1%	2.0
Contraband	46	3.9%	1.3
Cursing/Verbal Aggression	31	2.6%	1.2
Disruptive Behavior	255	21.5%	1.1
Failure to Follow Instructions	473	39.9%	1.2
Fighting/Physical Aggression	205	17.3%	1.7
Other	9	0.8%	1.3
Property Damage	80	6.7%	1.2
Threats/Violence to Staff	69	5.8%	1.3
Blank/Could Not Determine	17	1.4%	1.9
Total	1,186	100.0%	1.3
Source: Prepared by legislative auditor's staff using information provided by the New Orleans Juvenile Justice Intervention Center.			

New Orleans - Calendar Years 2019 through 2020									
	American Indian	Asian	Black	Hispanic	Pacific Islander	White	Multi-Racial	Cannot Determine	Total
Female	0	0	34	0	0	0	0	0	34
Male	0	0	1,152	0	0	0	0	0	1,152
Cannot Determine	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	0	0	1,186	0	0	0	0	0	1,186
Source: Prepared by legislative auditor's staff using information provided by the New Orleans Juvenile Justice Intervention Center.									

New Orleans - Calendar Years 2019 through 2020		
Age	Number of Instances of Confinement	Percentage of Instances of Confinement
11	3	0.3%
12	10	0.8%
13	31	2.6%
14	201	16.9%
15	195	16.4%
16	326	27.5%
17	354	29.9%
18	66	5.6%
19	0	0.0%
20	0	0.0%
Cannot Determine	0	0.0%
Total	1,186	100.0%
Source: Prepared by legislative auditor's staff using information provided by the New Orleans Juvenile Justice Intervention Center.		

Renaissance Home for Youth

Calendar Year 2019				
Average Length in Confinement (Hours)	Median Length of Confinement (Hours)	Max Length of Confinement (Hours)	Total Instances of Confinement	Number of Youth Involved in Instances of Confinement
41.2	24.0	72.0	148	41
Calendar Year 2020				
Average Length in Confinement (Hours)	Median Length in Confinement (Hours)	Max Length in Confinement (Hours)	Total Instances of Confinement	Number of Youth Involved in Instances of Confinement
45.5	48.0	72.0	167	37
The total youth population, including youth that entered the facility multiple times during the year, in CY 2019 was 173 and in CY 2020 was 129.				
Source: Prepared by legislative auditor's staff using information provided by the Renaissance Home for Youth.				

Calendar Years 2019 through 2020			
Offense Categories	Number of Instances	Percentage of Instances	Average Duration of Confinement (Hours)
Attempted Escape	0	0.0%	0.0
Contraband	25	7.9%	45.9
Cursing/Verbal Aggression	40	12.7%	32.6
Disruptive Behavior	29	9.2%	35.6
Failure to Follow Instructions	52	16.5%	26.4
Fighting/Physical Aggression	81	25.7%	55.5
Other	13	4.1%	40.6
Property Damage	27	8.6%	48.2
Threats/Violence to Staff	48	15.3%	52.3
Blank/Could Not Determine	0	0.0%	0.0
Total	315	100.0%	43.5
Source: Prepared by legislative auditor's staff using information provided by the Renaissance Home for Youth.			

Renaissance - Calendar Years 2019 through 2020									
	American Indian	Asian	Black	Hispanic	Pacific Islander	White	Multi-Racial	Cannot Determine	Total
Female	0	0	25	0	0	10	0	0	35
Male	0	0	239	0	0	41	0	0	280
Cannot Determine	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	0	0	264	0	0	51	0	0	315
Source: Prepared by legislative auditor's staff using information provided by the Renaissance Home for Youth.									

Renaissance - Calendar Years 2019 through 2020		
Age	Number of Instances of Confinement	Percentage of Instances of Confinement
11	0	0.0%
12	52	16.5%
13	45	14.3%
14	44	14.0%
15	73	23.2%
16	67	21.3%
17	32	10.1%
18	2	0.6%
19	0	0.0%
20	0	0.0%
Cannot Determine	0	0.0%
Total	315	100.0%
Source: Prepared by legislative auditor's staff using information provided by the Renaissance Home for Youth.		

Rivarde Juvenile Detention Center

Calendar Year 2019				
Average Length in Confinement (Hours)	Median Length of Confinement (Hours)	Max Length of Confinement (Hours)	Total Instances of Confinement	Number of Youth Involved in Instances of Confinement
17.7	15.5	72.1	234	91
Calendar Year 2020				
Average Length in Confinement (Hours)	Median Length in Confinement (Hours)	Max Length in Confinement (Hours)	Total Instances of Confinement	Number of Youth Involved in Instances of Confinement
24.9	24.0	92.0	175	74
The total youth population, including youth that entered the facility multiple times during the year, in CY 2019 was 762 and in CY 2020 was 554.				
Source: Prepared by legislative auditor's staff using information provided by the Rivarde Juvenile Detention Center.				

Calendar Years 2019 through 2020			
Offense Categories	Number of Instances	Percentage of Instances	Average Duration of Confinement (Hours)
Attempted Escape	2	0.5%	48.0
Contraband	9	2.2%	19.7
Cursing/Verbal Aggression	11	2.7%	15.4
Disruptive Behavior	35	8.6%	9.9
Failure to Follow Instructions	37	9.0%	19.3
Fighting/Physical Aggression	285	69.7%	21.5
Other	2	0.5%	37.5
Property Damage	10	2.4%	20.2
Threats/Violence to Staff	18	4.4%	32.1
Blank/Could Not Determine	0	0.0%	0.0
Total	409	100.0%	20.8
Source: Prepared by legislative auditor's staff using information provided by the Rivarde Juvenile Detention Center.			

Rivarde - Calendar Years 2019 through 2020									
	American Indian	Asian	Black	Hispanic	Pacific Islander	White	Multi-Racial	Cannot Determine	Total
Female	0	0	25	1	0	0	1	0	27
Male	0	0	332	11	0	38	0	1	382
Cannot Determine	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	0	0	357	12	0	38	1	1	409
Source: Prepared by legislative auditor’s staff using information provided by the Rivarde Juvenile Detention Center.									

Rivarde - Calendar Years 2019 through 2020		
Age	Number of Instances of Confinement	Percentage of Instances of Confinement
11	0	0.0%
12	0	0.0%
13	25	6.1%
14	73	17.8%
15	88	21.5%
16	107	26.2%
17	102	25.0%
18	13	3.2%
19	0	0.0%
20	0	0.0%
Cannot Determine	1	0.2%
Total	409	100.0%
Source: Prepared by legislative auditor’s staff using information provided by the Rivarde Juvenile Detention Center.		

St. Bernard Parish Juvenile Detention Center

Calendar Year 2019				
Average Length in Confinement (Hours)	Median Length of Confinement (Hours)	Max Length of Confinement (Hours)	Total Instances of Confinement	Number of Youth Involved in Instances of Confinement
41.1	48.0	72.0	105	39
Calendar Year 2020				
Average Length in Confinement (Hours)	Median Length in Confinement (Hours)	Max Length in Confinement (Hours)	Total Instances of Confinement	Number of Youth Involved in Instances of Confinement
46.0	48.0	72.0	118	36
The total youth population, including youth that entered the facility multiple times during the year, in CY 2019 was 264 and in CY 2020 was 146.				
Source: Prepared by legislative auditor's staff using information provided by the St. Bernard Juvenile Detention Center.				

Calendar Years 2019 through 2020			
Offense Categories	Number of Instances	Percentage of Instances	Average Duration of Confinement (Hours)
Attempted Escape	0	0.0%	0.0
Contraband	9	4.1%	37.3
Cursing/Verbal Aggression	31	13.9%	41.1
Disruptive Behavior	70	31.4%	36.0
Failure to Follow Instructions	36	16.1%	29.9
Fighting/Physical Aggression	48	21.5%	63.7
Other	9	4.1%	45.3
Property Damage	11	4.9%	47.4
Threats/Violence to Staff	9	4.0%	61.3
Blank/Could Not Determine	0	0.0%	0.0
Total	223	100.0%	43.7
Source: Prepared by legislative auditor's staff using information provided by the St. Bernard Juvenile Detention Center.			

St. Bernard - Calendar Years 2019 through 2020									
	American Indian	Asian	Black	Hispanic	Pacific Islander	White	Multi-Racial	Cannot Determine	Total
Female	0	0	9	0	0	5	0	0	14
Male	0	3	154	2	0	50	0	0	209
Cannot Determine	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	0	3	163	2	0	55	0	0	223
Source: Prepared by legislative auditor's staff using information provided by the St. Bernard Juvenile Detention Center.									

St. Bernard - Calendar Years 2019 through 2020		
Age	Number of Instances of Confinement	Percentage of Instances of Confinement
11	1	0.4%
12	15	6.8%
13	12	5.4%
14	21	9.4%
15	78	35.0%
16	40	17.9%
17	48	21.5%
18	8	3.6%
19	0	0.0%
20	0	0.0%
Cannot Determine	0	0.0%
Total	223	100.0%
Source: Prepared by legislative auditor's staff using information provided by the St. Bernard Juvenile Detention Center.		

Terrebonne Parish Juvenile Detention Center

Calendar Year 2019				
Average Length in Confinement (Hours)	Median Length of Confinement (Hours)	Max Length of Confinement (Hours)	Total Instances of Confinement	Number of Youth Involved in Instances of Confinement*
3.8	2.2	14.0	248	Could Not Determine
Calendar Year 2020				
Average Length in Confinement (Hours)	Median Length in Confinement (Hours)	Max Length in Confinement (Hours)	Total Instances of Confinement	Number of Youth Involved in Instances of Confinement
4.0	3.3	10.0	99	Could Not Determine

*Terrebonne did not send the names of the youth involved in the instances of room confinement. The total youth population, including youth that entered the facility multiple times during the year, in CY 2019 was 248 and in CY 2020 was 99.
Source: Prepared by legislative auditor’s staff using information provided by the Terrebonne Parish Juvenile Detention Center.

Calendar Years 2019 through 2020			
Offense Categories	Number of Instances	Percentage of Instances	Average Duration of Confinement (Hours)
Attempted Escape	0	0.0%	0.0
Contraband	2	0.6%	7.7
Cursing/Verbal Aggression	1	0.3%	2.0
Disruptive Behavior	21	6.1%	3.1
Failure to Follow Instructions	137	39.5%	3.3
Fighting/Physical Aggression	90	25.9%	4.1
Other	0	0.0%	0.0
Property Damage	14	4.0%	3.8
Threats/Violence to Staff	82	23.6%	4.6
Blank/Could Not Determine	0	0.0%	0.0
Total	347	100.0%	3.9

Source: Prepared by legislative auditor’s staff using information provided by the Terrebonne Parish Juvenile Detention Center.

Terrebonne Parish - Calendar Years 2019 through 2020									
	American Indian	Asian	Black	Hispanic	Pacific Islander	White	Multi-Racial	Cannot Determine	Total
Female	1	0	12	0	0	2	0	0	15
Male	32	0	254	0	0	45	0	0	331
Cannot Determine	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Total	33	0	266	0	0	48	0	0	347
Source: Prepared by legislative auditor's staff using information provided by the Terrebonne Parish Juvenile Detention Center.									

Terrebonne Parish - Calendar Years 2019 through 2020		
Age	Number of Instances of Confinement	Percentage of Instances of Confinement
11	0	0.0%
12	20	5.8%
13	14	4.0%
14	58	16.7%
15	84	24.2%
16	110	31.7%
17	61	17.6%
18	0	0.0%
19	0	0.0%
20	0	0.0%
Cannot Determine	0	0.0%
Total	347	100.0%
Source: Prepared by legislative auditor's staff using information provided by the Terrebonne Parish Juvenile Detention Center.		

Ware Juvenile Detention Center

Calendar Year 2019				
Average Length in Confinement (Hours)	Median Length of Confinement (Hours)	Max Length of Confinement (Hours)	Total Instances of Confinement	Number of Youth Involved in Instances of Confinement
41.6	24.0	72.0	79	58
Calendar Year 2020				
Average Length in Confinement (Hours)	Median Length in Confinement (Hours)	Max Length in Confinement (Hours)	Total Instances of Confinement	Number of Youth Involved in Instances of Confinement
43.1	48.0	72.0	127	62
The total youth population, including youth that entered the facility multiple times during the year, in CY 2019 was 532 and in CY 2020 was 385.				
Source: Prepared by legislative auditor's staff using information provided by the Ware Juvenile Detention Center.				

Calendar Years 2019 through 2020			
Offense Categories	Number of Instances	Percentage of Instances	Average Duration of Confinement (Hours)
Attempted Escape	4	1.9%	48.0
Contraband	9	4.4%	34.7
Cursing/Verbal Aggression	14	6.8%	41.1
Disruptive Behavior	32	15.5%	45.0
Failure to Follow Instructions	3	1.5%	56.0
Fighting/Physical Aggression	97	47.1%	35.9
Other	3	1.5%	40.0
Property Damage	26	12.6%	55.4
Threats/Violence to Staff	18	8.7%	57.3
Blank/Could Not Determine	0	0.0%	0.0
Total	206	100.0%	42.5
Source: Prepared by legislative auditor's staff using information provided by the Ware Juvenile Detention Center.			

Ware- Calendar Years 2019 through 2020									
	American Indian	Asian	Black	Hispanic	Pacific Islander	White	Multi-Racial	Cannot Determine	Total
Female	0	0	51	0	0	1	0	0	52
Male	0	0	125	2	0	27	0	0	154
Cannot Determine	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	0	0	176	2	0	28	0	0	206

Source: Prepared by legislative auditor's staff using information provided by the Ware Juvenile Detention Center.

Ware - Calendar Years 2019 through 2020		
Age	Number of Instances of Confinement	Percentage of Instances of Confinement
11	1	0.5%
12	0	0.0%
13	9	4.4%
14	20	9.7%
15	47	22.8%
16	51	24.8%
17	55	26.7%
18	23	11.1%
19	0	0.0%
20	0	0.0%
Cannot Determine	0	0.0%
Total	206	100.0%

Source: Prepared by legislative auditor's staff using information provided by the Ware Juvenile Detention Center.

APPENDIX D: SECURE CARE FACILITIES' CONFINEMENT INFORMATION

Acadiana Center for Youth

Calendar Year 2019*				
Average Length in Confinement (Hours)	Median Length of Confinement (Hours)	Max Length of Confinement (Hours)	Total Instances of Confinement	Number of Youth Involved in Instances of Confinement
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Calendar Year 2020				
Average Length in Confinement (Hours)	Median Length in Confinement (Hours)	Max Length in Confinement (Hours)	Total Instances of Confinement	Number of Youth Involved in Instances of Confinement
6.2	4.97	17.68	9	7
<p>* Acadiana Center for Youth opened in March 2019. Room confinements in this facility did not begin until March 2020. Source: Prepared by legislative auditor's staff using information provided by OJJ.</p>				

Calendar Years 2019 through 2020			
Offense Categories	Number of Instances	Percentage of Instances	Average Duration of Confinement
Attempted Escape	0	0.0%	N/A
Contraband	0	0.0%	N/A
Cursing/Verbal Aggression	0	0.0%	N/A
Disruptive Behavior	1	11.1%	N/A
Failure to Follow Instructions	0	0.0%	7.8
Fighting/Physical Aggression	2	22.2%	2.8
Other	0	0.0%	N/A
Property Damage	0	0.0%	N/A
Threats/Violence to Staff	5	55.6%	7.4
Blank/Could Not Determine	1	11.1%	5.0
Total	9	100.0%	6.2
<p>Source: Prepared by legislative auditor's staff using information provided by OJJ.</p>			

Acadiana Center for Youth - Instances of Confinement by Age Calendar Years 2019 through 2020		
Age	Instances of Confinement	% of Instances of Confinement
12	0	0.0%
13	0	0.0%
14	0	0.0%
15	1	11.1%
16	0	0.0%
17	5	55.6%
18	3	33.3%
19	0	0.0%
20	0	0.0%
Total	9	100.0%
Source: Prepared by legislative auditor's staff using information provided by OJJ.		

Bridge City

Calendar Year 2019				
Average Length in Confinement (Hours)	Median Length of Confinement (Hours)	Max Length of Confinement (Hours)	Total Instances of Confinement	Number of Youth Involved in Instances of Confinement
9.0	1.9	102.6	73	32
Calendar Year 2020				
Average Length in Confinement (Hours)	Median Length in Confinement (Hours)	Max Length in Confinement (Hours)	Total Instances of Confinement	Number of Youth Involved in Instances of Confinement
4.4	1.8	115.3	133	58
Source: Prepared by legislative auditor's staff using information provided by OJJ.				

Calendar Years 2019 through 2020			
Offense Categories	Number of Instances	Percentage of Instances	Average Duration of Confinement
Attempted Escape	3	1.5%	10.3
Contraband	7	3.4%	3.1
Cursing/Verbal Aggression	1	0.5%	1.8
Disruptive Behavior	49	23.8%	3.6
Failure to Follow Instructions	3	1.5%	1.4
Fighting/Physical Aggression	33	16.0%	2.2
Other	16	7.7%	14.8
Property Damage	25	12.1%	2.5
Threats/Violence to Staff	67	32.5%	9.5
Blank/Could Not Determine	2	1.0%	1.2
Total	206	100.0%	6.0
Source: Prepared by legislative auditor's staff using information provided by OJJ.			

Bridge City - Instances of Confinement by Age Calendar Years 2019 through 2020		
Age	Instances of Confinement	% of Instances of Confinement
12	1	0.5%
13	8	3.9%
14	19	9.2%
15	16	7.8%
16	60	29.1%
17	51	24.8%
18	29	14.1%
19	11	5.3%
20	11	5.3%
Total	206	100.0%
Source: Prepared by legislative auditor's staff using information provided by OJJ.		

Swanson-Monroe

Calendar Year 2019*				
Average Length in Confinement (Hours)	Median Length of Confinement (Hours)	Max Length of Confinement (Hours)	Total Instances of Confinement	Number of Youth Involved in Instances of Confinement
185.8	144.0	385.3	74	39
Calendar Year 2020				
Average Length in Confinement (Hours)	Median Length in Confinement (Hours)	Max Length in Confinement (ours)	Total Instances of Confinement	Number of Youth Involved in Instances of Confinement
220.7	168.0	2,160.0	462	153
Source: Prepared by legislative auditor's staff using information provided by OJJ.				

Swanson-Monroe - Calendar Years 2019 through 2020			
Offense Categories	Number of Instances	Percentage of Instances	Average Duration of Confinement
Attempted Escape	6	1.1%	Could Not Determine
Contraband	0	0.0%	N/A
Cursing/Verbal Aggression	0	0.0%	Could Not Determine
Disruptive Behavior	2	0.4%	68.3
Failure to Follow Instructions	1	0.2%	39.4
Fighting/Physical Aggression	0	0.0%	N/A
Other	2	0.4%	Could Not Determine
Property Damage	2	0.4%	28.0
Threats/Violence to Staff	2	0.4%	147.3
Blank/Could Not Determine	521	97.1%	222.9
Total	536	100.0%	220.4
Source: Prepared by legislative auditor's staff using information provided by OJJ.			

Swanson Monroe - Instances of Confinement by Age Calendar Years 2019 through 2020		
Age	Instances of Confinement	% of Instances of Confinement
12	8	1.5%
13	8	1.5%
14	30	5.6%
15	77	14.3%
16	164	30.6%
17	136	25.4%
18	74	13.8%
19	26	4.9%
20	13	2.4%
Total	536	100.0%
Source: Prepared by legislative auditor's staff using information provided by OJJ.		