



## Ramsey County Community Corrections 2022-2023 Comprehensive Plan



*This document is the Ramsey County Community Corrections Department's 2022-2023 Comprehensive Plan. It meets the requirements of the Minnesota Department of Corrections outlines in a letter from the Director of Grants and Subsidies, dated July 31, 2021.*

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The Salary Roster will be submitted to the Minnesota Department of Corrections under separate cover.

## LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

Greetings!

Thank you for your interest in reviewing the 2022-2023 Community Corrections Comprehensive Plan for Ramsey County. Highlighted within this report are many examples of the exceptional work of our dedicated staff at Ramsey County Community Corrections, including various initiatives that we have been embarking on with our community partners, service providers, our Health and Wellness Service Team departments, and with justice system stakeholders in Saint Paul, Minnesota, and beyond!

The past several years, 2020 and 2021, have been an unprecedented time in our nation's history. Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, we have had to make significant shifts in our department's operations. Our staff have boldly continued to provide services for thousands of county residents during a national health crisis, extensive community demonstrations, protests, and dissatisfaction with the justice system and historical inequities. Communities across the Twin Cities metro area, the State of Minnesota, and the country have called for changes and reform throughout the justice system. We have been responding to these concerns and have continued our efforts to work toward significant reforms and systems transformation.

Over the past two years, we have responded to the ongoing "calls for change" and we have continued to engage in conversations with our community members, the clients we serve, justice system agencies, and with people who have been directly impacted or harmed through their involvement in our justice system. We need to all come together to address ongoing concerns and disparities, while striving to build relationships and strengthen trust with the people we serve, including clients and their families, victims, advocates, and community members.

This Comprehensive Plan highlights some of the significant changes we have implemented during the Covid-19 pandemic, and the reform work that actually began in 2005, expanded more significantly in 2015 with changes in our approaches to "deep-end" interventions, and has become even more critical and transparent in recent years. Some examples of more recent changes include the elimination of probation client service fees, reductions in the use of incarceration and "punishment only oriented approaches," increases in the utilization of community-based services, and additional co-designing and contracting of services with local community providers

There have been many service delivery changes, including significant increases in the use of technology such as the implementation of virtual contacts, and remote supervision strategies. Other changes include reduced drug testing for lower risk clients, and more creative methods in responding to technical violations of probation conditions, significant reductions in the number of residents at the Ramsey County Correctional Facility (RCCF) due to the

availability of more out-of-custody interventions and supervision strategies that provide better opportunities and outcomes for clients.

Additionally, the department continues to expand virtual educational programs and cognitive skills interventions for clients in the community and for residents at the RCCF and the Ramsey County Juvenile Detention Center (JDC). We have also expanded many training opportunities for our staff on virtual and remote learning platforms that are easily accessible and provide for greater flexibility, while also reducing potential COVID-19 health and safety risks.

Many other changes have been documented and approved by the County Managers Office and with support from the Second Judicial District Bench, and these have all been made available to the public via the "Service Delivery Redesign" reports that are available at the Ramsey County COVID-19 website. We are grateful for the ongoing support from our County Board, the Health and Wellness Service Team, and community partners. We are striving to expand our utilization of effective supervision and evidence-based practices while evaluating our services and seeking feedback by engaging with our clients. Our Community Corrections staff and leaders will forge ahead in helping and serving our clients and operating under our HOPE star values!



Helping people change

Offering opportunity

Providing accountability

Ensuring equity

In closing, I want to thank our community members for their support and for the opportunities we continue to have to hear their voices and respond to our ever-changing world. Thank you to all of our hard-working staff and leaders who care deeply about our work and truly want to help the clients under their care and supervision. Community Corrections will also continue to participate directly with the Transforming Systems Together (TST) initiative where we will share ideas, strategies and resources via a community-based decision-making model.

A special thank you to our Community Corrections Advisory Board (CAB) members for their willingness to meet throughout the year and share ideas and feedback about our services and to help us improve and truly transform our justice system!

Respectfully,

John A. Klavins, Director

Ramsey County Community Corrections

## I. DEPARTMENT HIGHLIGHTS

### MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS

#### Strategic Plan

Community Corrections continued to implement and align its work with the department's strategic plan focusing on the four priority goals of:

Goal 1 – One Client, One Plan

Goal 2 – We Reflect the Clients and Communities We Serve

Goal 3 – We Communicate and Engage

Goal 4 – More Community, Less Confinement

In addition, Community Corrections continued to collaboratively align its work with both the County's and the Health and Wellness Service Team's (HWST) priorities. These include:

- Residents First: Effective, Efficient and Accessible Operations
- Advancing Racial and Health Equity in All Decision-Making
- Inclusive, Effective and Meaningful Community Engagement
- Integrated Approach to Health, Wellness and Justice
- Advancing a Holistic Approach to Strengthen Youth and Families
- Comprehensive Economic Development to Build Prosperity
- Stability Starts with a Place to Call Home
- Talent Attraction, Retention and Promotion

#### Increased Collaboration Across Service Teams

The ongoing Covid-19 pandemic and its impact on our clients and communities has accelerated the departments reform efforts. This has led to increasing collaboration with other county departments and community partners with whom we share clients. This includes Cross Over Youth Partnership with Ramsey County Social Services, focused on identifying needs and establishing services for youth who are at high risk to enter, or continue in, the juvenile justice system. Additionally, we actively collaborate with Ramsey County Workforce Solutions in seeking employment resources for the clients we serve. This past year we initiated a collaboration with Inver Hills Community College and Ujamaa Place to provide scholarships and vocational training for our clients.

### Increased Community Engagement

Community Corrections has expanded our reform and transformation work to move beyond traditional practices and seeking client and community input and feedback in our hiring, planning, contracting and program development. We are moving toward more collaborative decision making and sharing resources with community. For instance, during the budget planning process we held several community meetings to engage and inform community of our budget priorities, as well as to seek feedback on community needs. Additionally, we have solicited and engaged community in the development of new initiatives such as Transitional Age Unit, the Reducing Revocations Challenge Initiative, and the Gender Responsive Caseload.

### Transforming Systems Together (TST)

In 2020, Ramsey County initiated Transforming Systems Together (TST), an alliance between county and community leaders to support opportunities for developing, implementing, and co-designing transformational system change. This work is focused on integrating efforts across Ramsey County and deconstructing traditional models of service delivery, while creating new collaborative and transformational services across the county including the justice system. This work focuses on racial equity, assessing the impacts and trauma experienced within the justice system, and provides opportunities for shared decision making around priorities, approaches, budgets, and program design with community at the table as an equal partner. Community Corrections has been and continues to play an integral part in co-design planning and leadership efforts for this initiative.

### Information Technology

The department began embarking upon a strategic direction towards fully utilizing statewide informational systems, particularly CSTS and in alignment with correctional agencies throughout the state of Minnesota. The department has also been working with the county to modernize technology to improve workflows within the justice system.

### Transitional Age Unit

The department started a transitional age unit to serve the 18–24-year-old clients. Research in behavior and neuroscience, developmental psychology and sociology has demonstrated that this age group are a distinct developmental group with unique needs and challenges. By implementing this model, the department will use science and evidence-based practices with our highest recidivism population to assist in keeping them in the community versus confinement or incarceration.

### Gender Responsive Caseloads

The department is implementing a caseload for female-identifying clients with children who are medium to very high risk in order to reduce the generational issues related to having a primary caregiver who is justice-system involved. The intent is to focus on a holistic approach to addressing lapses in behavior, considering females' unique pathways into the criminal justice system and provides resources and supports to be successful and remain in the community.

### Race Equity Liaisons

The department has hired two Racial and Health Equity Planning Specialists who will help facilitate equity initiatives with both staff and clients, as well as coordinate and align efforts across the service teams. They are also spearheading the creation of a Race Equity Advisory Team which will include community members and those with lived criminal justice experience.

### CSTS Migration

The department successfully migrated to the statewide informational system, CSTS in alignment with correctional agencies throughout the state of Minnesota.

### Community Alternatives Program

The Community Alternative Program (CAP) is a new initiative designed for adult probationers who have been court ordered to be incarcerated or are eligible to be in a program that allows them to remain in the community. It focuses on collaboration of resources and the enhancement of existing programs offered by field supervision units and the Ramsey County Correctional Facility (RCCF). This initiative provides better community accessibility for clients and provides agents and judges with a structured alternative to incarceration. This initiative provides better access to services that clients may need through other departments within the Health and Wellness Service Team and community agencies.

### Expanded Role of Research and Evaluation Unit

As the department has increased its reform efforts the need to use accurate data to inform decisions and monitor the effectiveness and equity of service delivery changes remains at the forefront. The Community Corrections Research and Evaluation Unit began documenting and tracking the service delivery changes that the department made and published a COVID -19 Report for the county (*found in the appendix*).

### Increased Mental Health Resources at the Facilities

Moving the Ramsey County Correctional Facility and the Juvenile Detention Center under one division offered an opportunity to consolidate and expand mental health services for clients at both facilities. This collaboration has also increased our ability to share staffing and programming resources.

### Correctional Core Practice Training at JDC

The majority of staff at the Juvenile Detention Center have now been trained in Correctional Core Practices (CCP). First established in the 1980s, CCPs are approaches that, when used with fidelity, have demonstrated efficacy in reducing recidivism and misconduct. Through a contract with the University of Cincinnati Corrections Institute, in 2021, the department built internal capacity to deliver CCP curricula and coaching by training 6 new instructors and 11 new coaches.

### Revocation Reform

In 2019, Community Corrections partnered with the Robina Institute at the University of Minnesota Law School to implement the Reducing Revocations Challenge. Ramsey County was one of 10 jurisdictions from around the country selected to participate in this initiative funded by Arnold Ventures and led by CUNY's Institute for State and Local Governance. The goal of the initiative is to transform probation supervision and reduce unnecessary failures that contribute to mass incarceration. Phase I of the initiative focused on research to better understand why revocations are happening and how they can be prevented.

- In August 2021, Ramsey County was one of five sites awarded funding for the second phase of this initiative which will focus on identifying and developing specific policy and practice interventions that will enhance success on probation and confront racial inequities in outcomes. A 'Three Lane Approach' is being developed and implemented based on findings and recommendations from Phase 1 and input from the advisory/steering committee.
  - To View Ramsey County's *Reducing Revocations Challenge* Phase 1 final report:  
[https://robinainstitute.umn.edu/sites/robinainstitute.umn.edu/files/robina\\_rrc\\_report\\_final.pdf](https://robinainstitute.umn.edu/sites/robinainstitute.umn.edu/files/robina_rrc_report_final.pdf)
  - For more information on the nationwide findings:  
<https://islg.cuny.edu/resources/pathways-to-success-on-probation>



## II. INTRODUCTION TO RAMSEY COUNTY

### GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION

Ramsey County -centrally located in the Minneapolis-Saint Paul metropolitan region- is home to striking landscapes, a diverse population, and is the heart of Minnesota's state government. In the last few decades, increasing population and land development have resulted in the almost complete urbanization of the county, which is comprised of 18 cities and 1 township. Saint Paul is the county's largest city and is known for its walkable neighborhoods, the state capitol, and expansive views of the Mississippi River Valley.



*Downtown St. Paul*

## RAMSEY COUNTY

### VISION

A vibrant community where all are valued and thrive.

### MISSION

A county of excellence working with you to enhance  
our quality of life.

## GOALS



#### WELL-BEING

**Strengthen individual, family and community health, safety and well-being**

through effective safety-net services, innovative programming, prevention and early intervention, and environmental stewardship.



#### PROSPERITY

**Cultivate economic prosperity and invest in neighborhoods with concentrated financial poverty**

through proactive leadership and inclusive initiatives that engage all communities in decisions about our future.



#### OPPORTUNITY

**Enhance access to opportunity and mobility for all residents and businesses**

through connections to education, employment and economic development throughout our region.



#### ACCOUNTABILITY

**Model fiscal accountability, transparency and strategic investments**

through professional operations and financial management.

### GOVERNMENT STRUCTURE

On Ramsey County is governed by an elected Board of Commissioners who establishes the county's strategy, creates policies, and adopts a biennial budget. The Board consists of seven commissioners elected from districts, each of which contains approximately 72,000 people. The County Manager, hired by the Board of Commissioners, is responsible for carrying out the policies and resolutions of the Board of Commissioners, for overseeing the day-to-day operations of the county, and for providing leadership and direction to executive leaders and staff.

Ramsey County is organized into four Service Teams: Health and Wellness, Safety and Justice, Economic Growth and Community Investment, and Information and Public Records. The County Manager appoints the heads of the county's Service Teams. Community Corrections is a member of the Health and Wellness Service Team.

#### Ramsey County Board of Commissioners



**Nicole Joy Frethem**  
District 1



**Rafael E. Ortega**  
District 5



**Mary Jo McGuire**  
District 2



**Jim McDonough**  
District 6



**Trista MatasCastillo**  
District 3



**Victoria Reinhardt**  
District 7



**Toni Carter**  
District 4

Ramsey County  
Manager



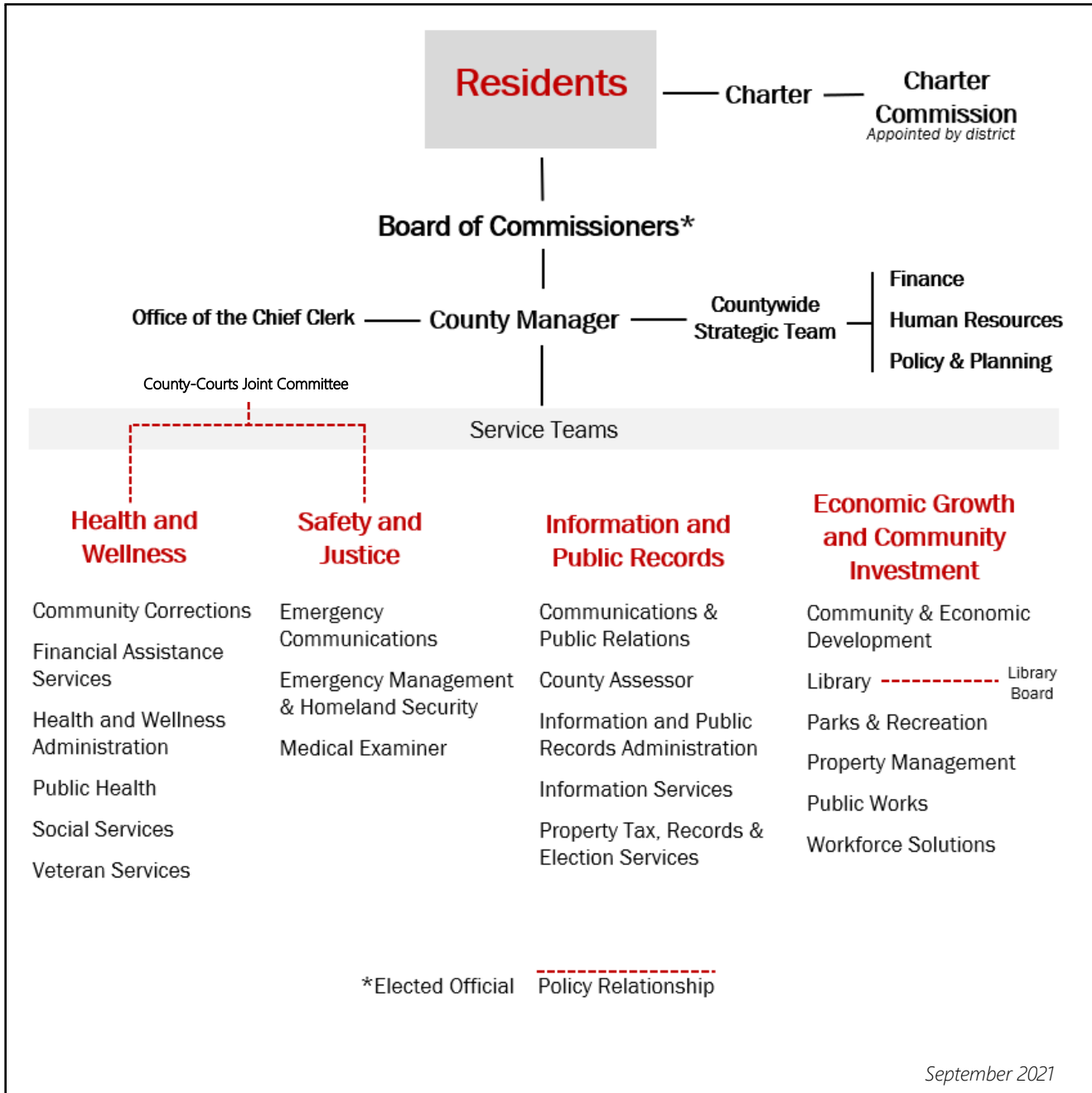
**Ryan T. O'Connor**

Deputy County Manager  
Health and Wellness Service Team

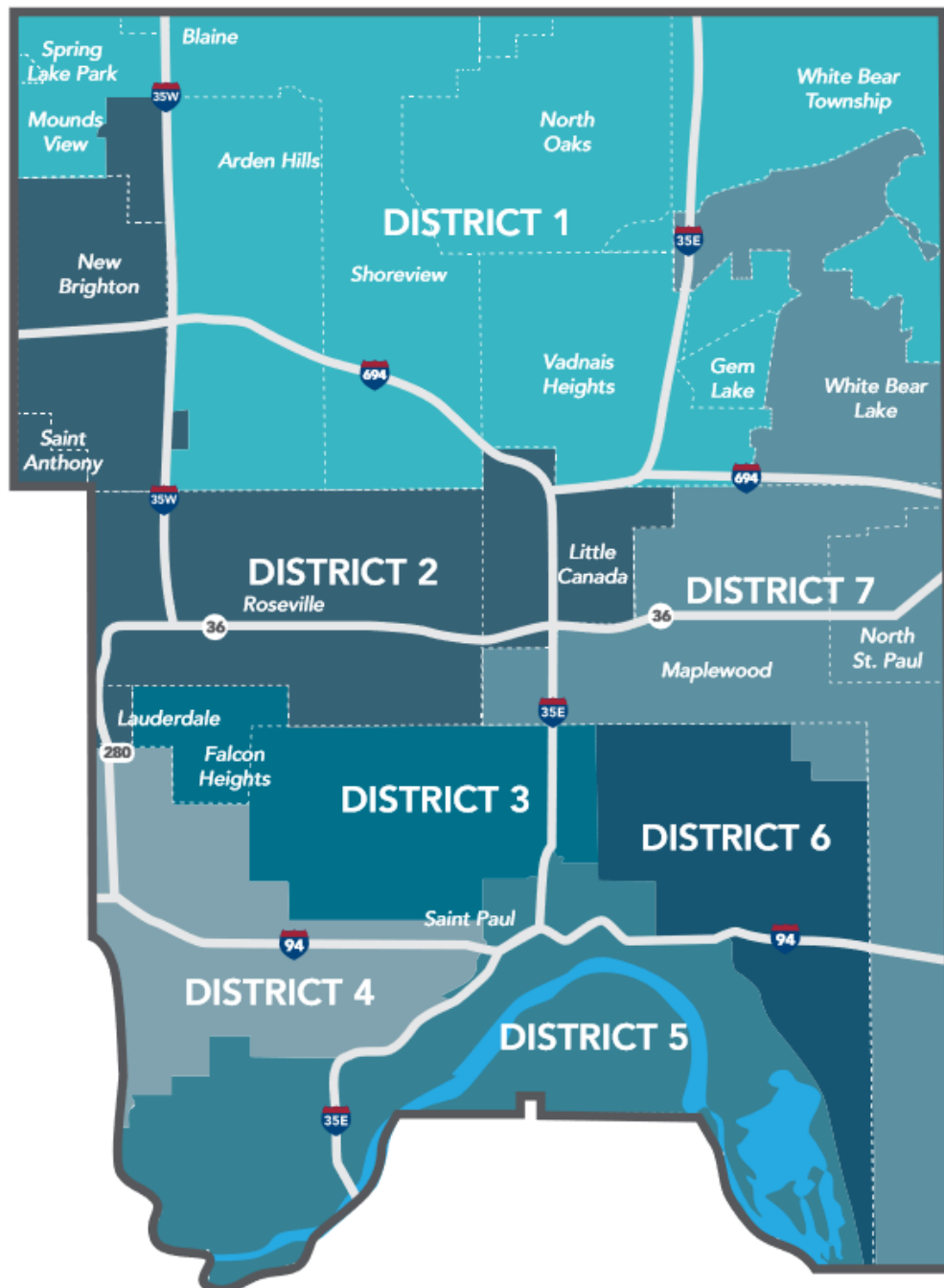


**Kathy Hedin**

### RAMSEY COUNTY ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE



Ramsey County  
Commissioner Districts



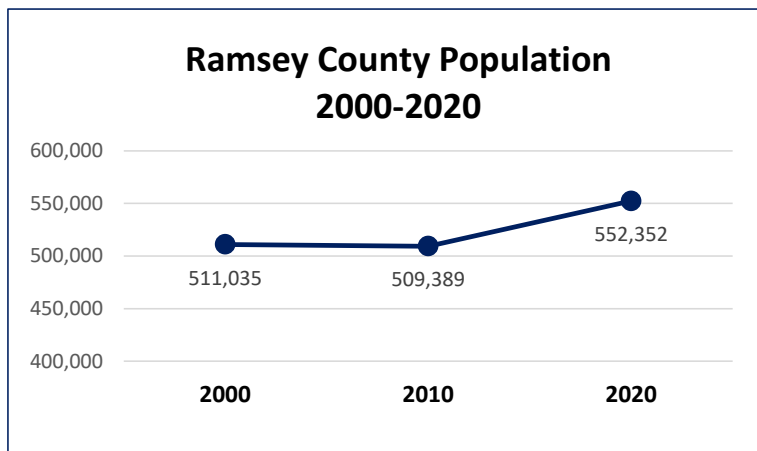


### DEMOGRAPHICS

With an estimated total population of 552,352 living in an area of 170 square miles, Ramsey County is the smallest and most densely populated county in Minnesota. The population in Ramsey County, one of the most diverse counties in Minnesota, makes about 10 percent of the state's residents. St. Paul is the largest city in Ramsey County with an estimated population of 311,527.

More than **550,000** Minnesotans make their home in Ramsey County.

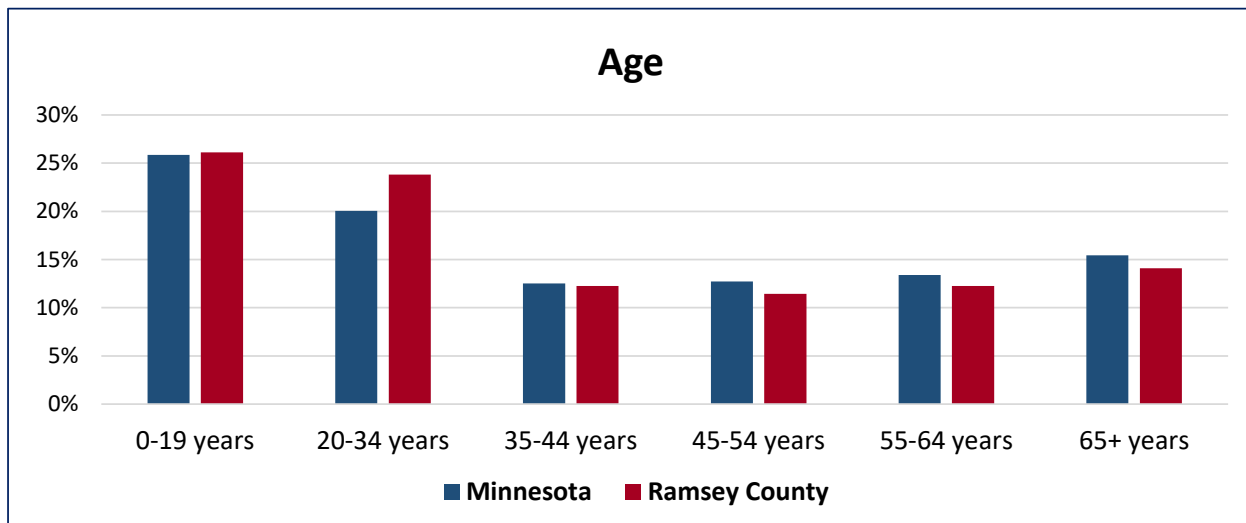
**Population Change** - Ramsey County has seen an 8.4% increase in its population since the 2010 U.S. Census.



Data Source: 2000-2020 U.S. Census Bureau

Ramsey County is the most densely populated county in Minnesota and is expected to grow by over **77,000** individuals by **2030**.

**Age** - On average, Ramsey County residents are younger than other Minnesotans. The median age of Ramsey County residents is 35 years while the median age of Minnesotans is 38 years.



Data Source: 2015-2019 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

**Race and Ethnicity** - Ramsey County is one of the most diverse counties in the state and continues to become more racially diverse. Persons of color comprise 33.7% of the total Ramsey County population.

Race	United States	Minnesota	Ramsey County
White alone	72.5%	82.8%	66.3%
Black/African American alone	12.7%	6.4%	12.1%
Asian alone	5.5%	4.8%	14.4%
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander alone	0.2%	0.04%	0.03%
American Indian/Alaska Native alone	0.8%	1.0%	0.6%
Some other race	4.9%	1.9%	2.1%
Two or more races	3.3%	3.0%	4.3%
Total	100%	100%	100%
Ethnicity	United States	Minnesota	Ramsey County
Hispanic/Latino	18.0%	5.4%	7.5%
Not Hispanic or Latino	82.0%	94.6%	92.5%

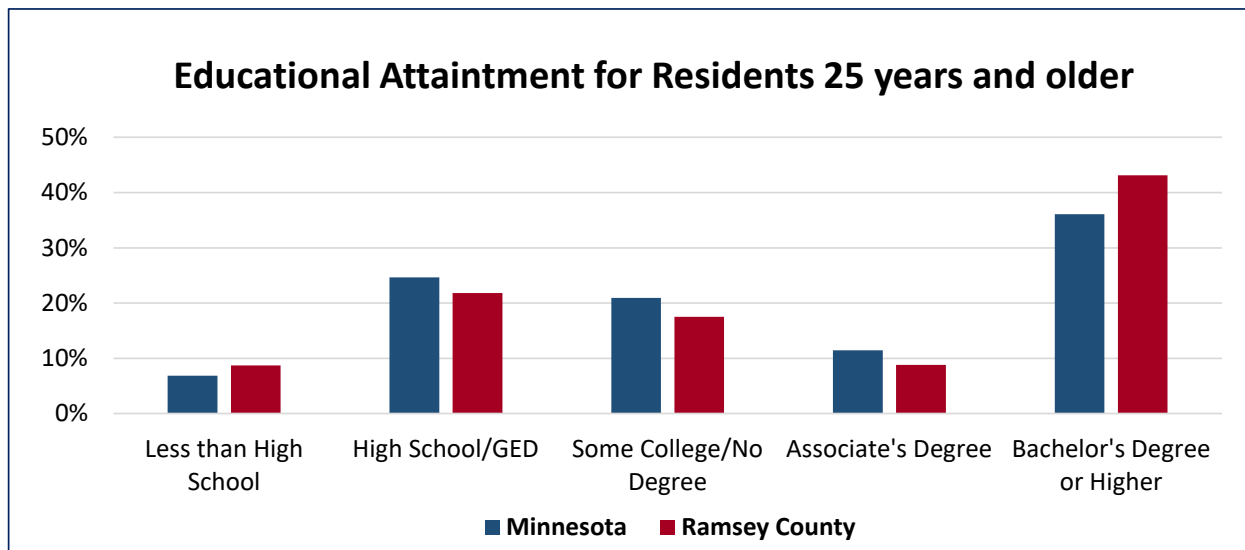
Data Source: 2015-2019 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

**Language Spoken at Home** - As the population has become more diverse, English is often not the primary language spoken within the home. In Ramsey County, for example, the percentage of population over 5 years of age in a home where a language other than English is spoken is 24.0% (Minnesota is 12.3% and nationally it is 22.0%).

Language Spoken in Home	Minnesota	Ramsey County
English	87.7%	76.0%
Spanish	4.0%	5.3%
Asian/Pacific Islander languages	3.5%	11.1%
Other Indo-European languages	2.1%	2.6%
Other languages	2.8%	4.9%

Data Source: 2015-2019 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

**Educational Attainment** - Ramsey County has a higher percentage of residents with a bachelor's degree or higher compared to the state of Minnesota. However, Ramsey County also has a higher percentage of residents with less than a high school degree.



Data Source: 2015-2019 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

## ECONOMY

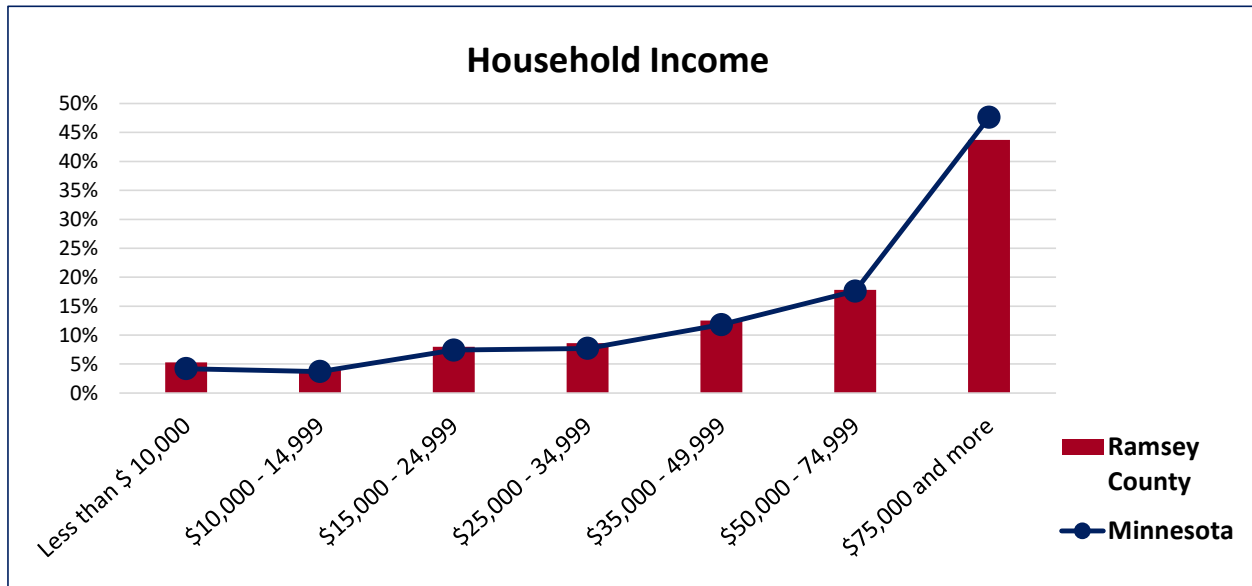
**Housing** - Ramsey County has older homes in its neighborhoods. 45.5% of occupied housing units were built prior to 1960. In Minnesota, 30.5% of occupied housing units were built prior to 1960 (U.S. occupied housing units built prior to 1960: 27.8%).

	United States	Minnesota	Ramsey County
Owner-occupied housing units	64.0%	71.6%	59.4%
Renter-occupied housing units	36.0%	28.4%	40.6%
Median value owner-occupied houses	\$217,500	\$223,900	\$229,600

Data Source: 2015-2019 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

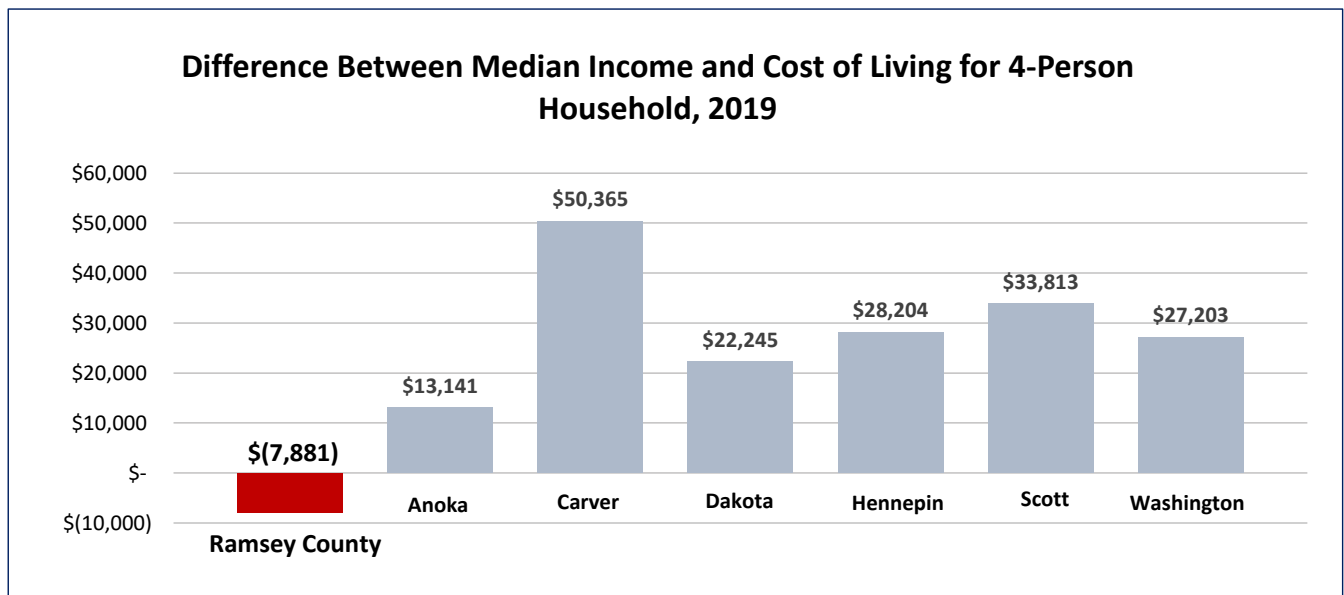


**Income** - The median household income for Minnesota was \$71,306; in Ramsey County, the median household income was lower at \$64,660 (nationally it is \$62,843).



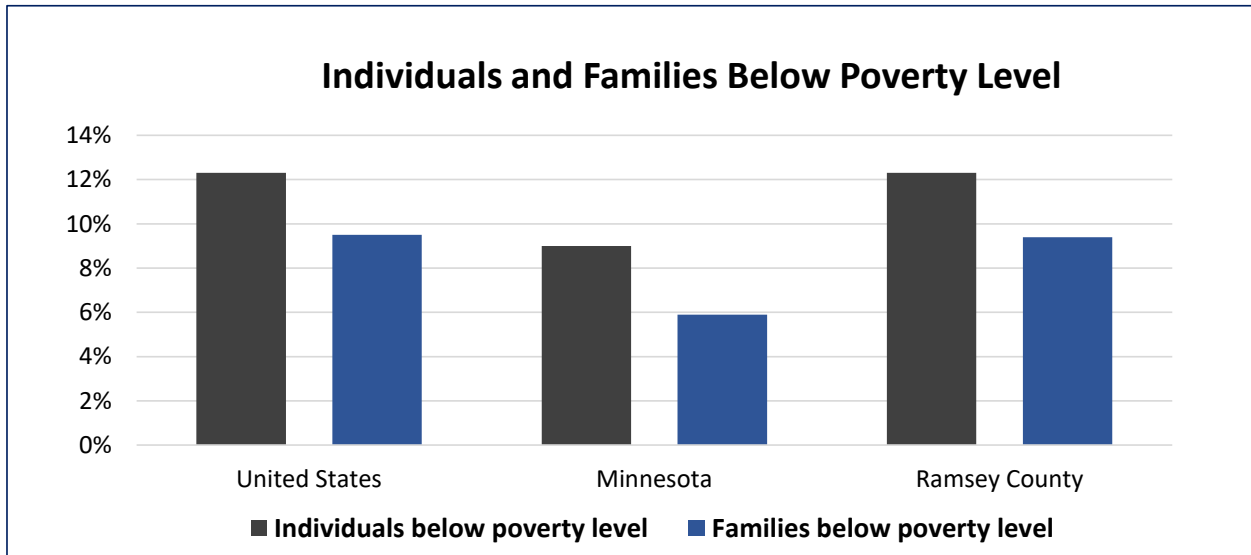
Data Source: 2015-2019 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

**Affordability** - Compared to other metro counties, Ramsey County remains the only county where the cost of living is higher than the median income. This gap continues to increase



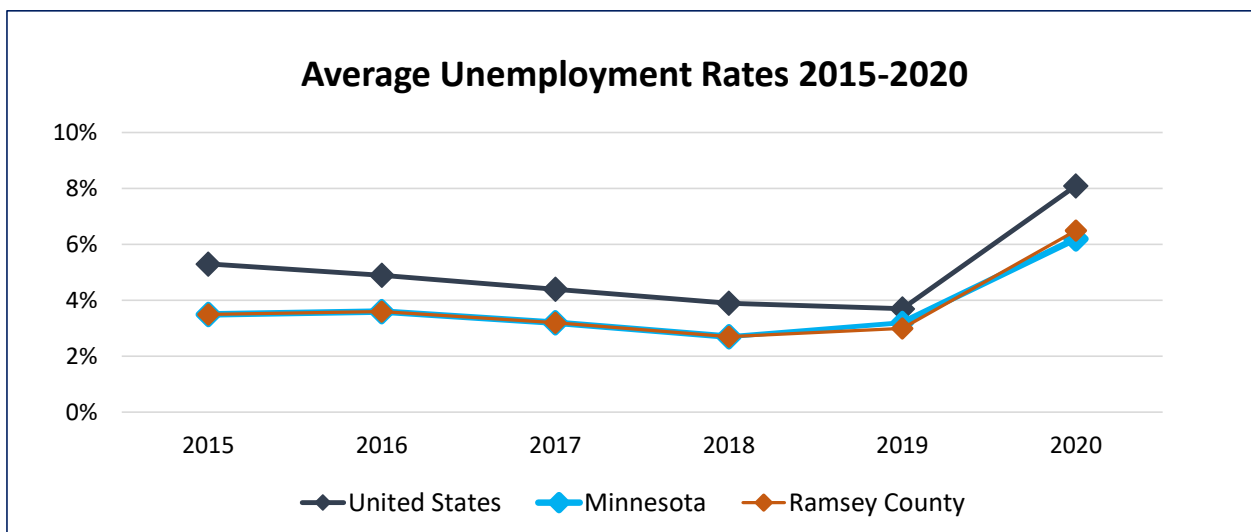
Data Source: 2015-2019 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates and Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development, Cost of Living tool: 2020.

**Poverty Level** - The poverty level for families in Ramsey County (9.4%) is comparable to the national poverty level (9.5%), but higher than the rate for Minnesota (5.9%).



Data Source: 2015-2019 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

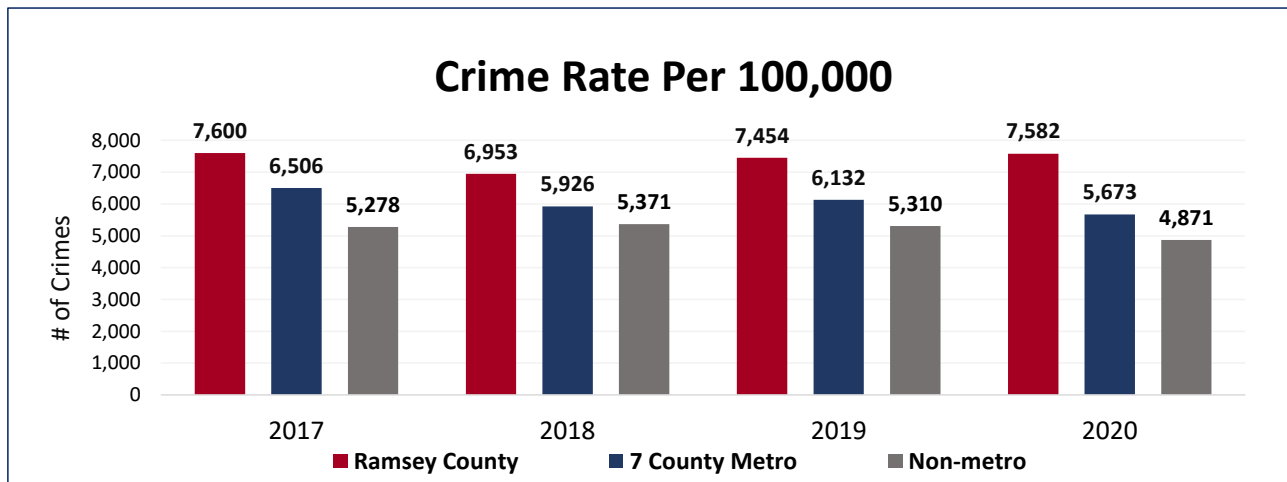
**Unemployment Rates** - Between 2015 and 2020, the average unemployment rates of Ramsey County and Minnesota followed the same trend and remained below the national average. There was a significant increase of the average unemployment rates between 2019 and 2020.



Data Source: Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development

## CRIME RATES

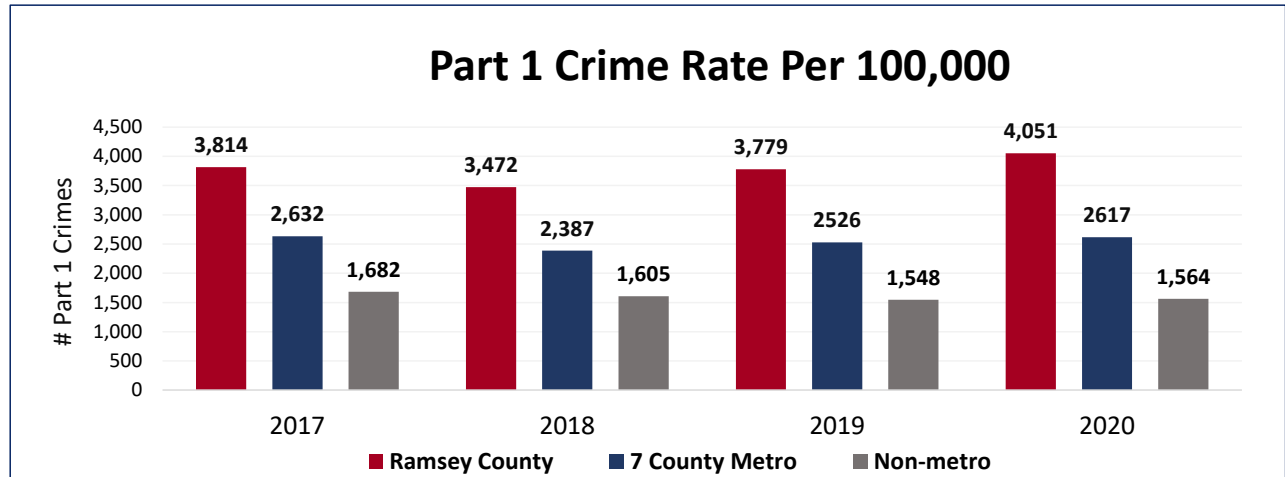
Ramsey County has a slightly higher crime rate compared to the state metro area. While there was an overall decrease in crime rates between 2017 and 2020, metro and non-metro crime rates decreased at a higher rate than county crime rates. Over this period, the Ramsey County average crime rate was 7,178 crimes per 100,000 residents: higher than in the metro area (6,146) as well as the non-metro region (5,221).



Data Source: Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension

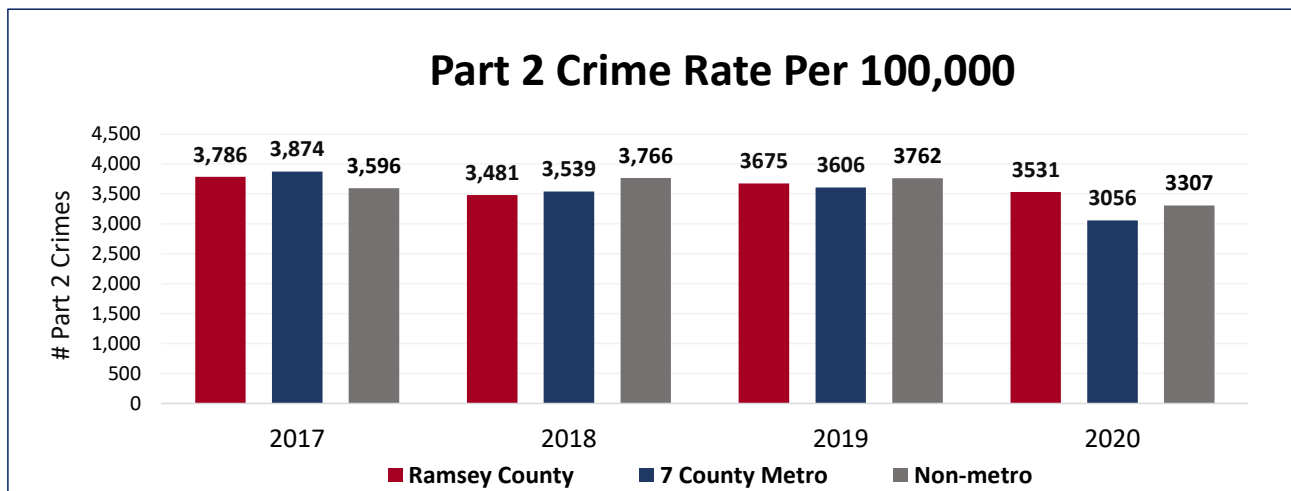
**Part I and Part II Crimes** - In Minnesota, crimes are classified into Part 1 and Part 2 crimes. Part 1 crimes include homicide, rape, aggravated assault, burglary, robbery, auto theft, theft, and arson. Part 2 crimes include simple assault, curfew offenses and loitering, embezzlement, forgery and counterfeiting, disorderly conduct, driving under the influence, drug offenses, fraud, gambling, liquor offenses, offenses against the family, prostitution, public intoxication, runaways, sex offenses, stolen property, vandalism, vagrancy, and weapons offenses.

Over 2017-2020, Ramsey County had higher Part 1 crime rates compared to the metro and non-metro areas.



Data Source: Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension

The Minnesota metro area Part 2 crime rates decreased over the last four years. Overall, Ramsey County had slightly lower Part 2 crime rates compared to the metro and non-metro areas.



Data Source: Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension

**Ramsey County Type of Offense** - Over the past few years, total offenses in Ramsey County have remained relatively stable.

Ramsey County Offenses, 2016-2020

Type of Offense*	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Murder	20	24	15	33	32
Rape	257	287	380	291	311
Robbery	818	839	663	874	666
Aggravated Assault	1,213	1,247	1,268	1,479	1,189
Burglary	3,128	3,168	2,724	3,126	2,850
Larceny	10,795	12,415	11,307	12,692	12,597
Motor Vehicle Theft	2,282	2,626	2,785	3,574	3,024
Arson	129	159	128	190	146
Human Trafficking	42	25	21	12	14
<b>Total Offenses</b>	<b>18,684</b>	<b>20,790</b>	<b>19,291</b>	<b>22,271</b>	<b>20,829</b>

Source: Bureau of Criminal Apprehension

\*This is a list of the number of offenses by county and does not exclude those offenses cleared.

### III. RAMSEY COUNTY COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS OVERVIEW

Ramsey County Community Corrections is positioned across multiple interdependent systems in the Health and Wellness Service Team, along with the Safety and Justice Service Team, the Second Judicial District and multiple community service providers. Community Corrections continues to work to further the County's Board's four primary goals of enhancing well-being, prosperity, opportunity, and accountability as well as focusing on *Residents First* and helping clients become successful, productive members of the community.

Community Corrections provides a core set of functions that support the criminal justice system. Community Corrections screens and assesses clients, prepares reports for court, provides community supervision, and offers short-term custody and programming for those who are court-ordered to serve time. Detention services for juveniles are provided by Community Corrections. Detention services for adults are provided by the Sheriff's Office.

#### OPERATING PRINCIPLES AND STRATEGIC GOALS

Community Corrections is guided by the following principles:



In 2016, Ramsey County Community Corrections began the process of creating and implementing a department wide Strategic Plan that it continues to follow today. The strategic plan lays out four major goal areas that are supportive of the Health and Wellness Service Team as well as the County Board's Strategic Plan.

**Goal 1 – One Client, One Plan.**

Provide and coordinate effective client-centered services through targeted case planning.

**Goal 2 – We Reflect the Clients and Communities We Serve.**

Recruit, hire, retain and promote a talented and diverse workforce that reflects the clients and communities we serve.

**Goal 3 – We Communicate and Engage.**

Develop and implement clear and transparent communication and consistent processes that establish trust throughout the department.

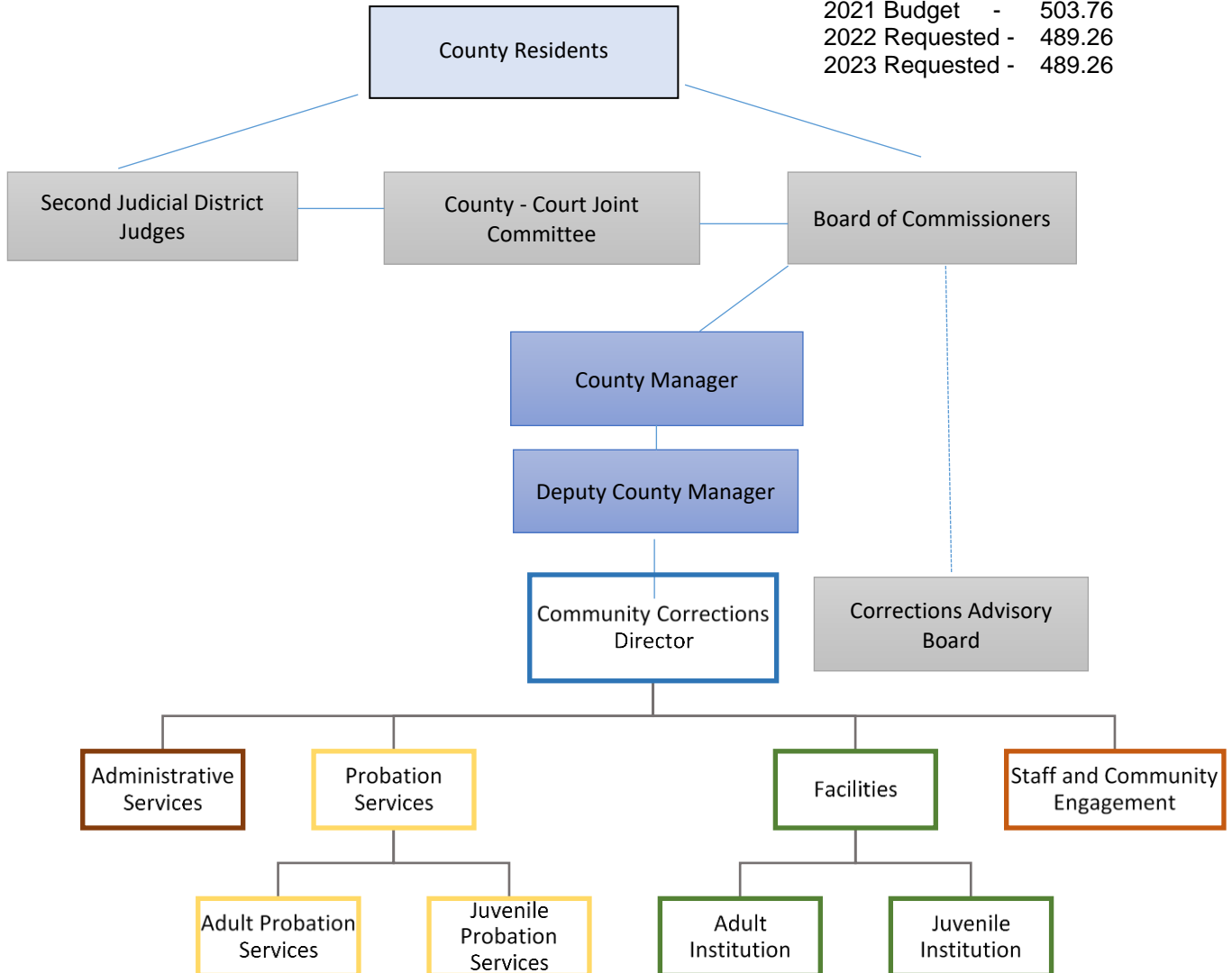
**Goal 4 – More Community, Less Confinement.**

Increase use of and success with community supervision strategies and reduce the use of incarceration and out-of-home displacements, while maintaining community safety and well-being.

### ORGANIZATIONAL CHART

#### Personnel - FTE

2020 Budget	-	504.76
2021 Budget	-	503.76
2022 Requested	-	489.26
2023 Requested	-	489.26





## COLLABORATION WITH DISTRICT COURT

Judges of the District Court in Ramsey County do not have direct responsibility for the administration of the Community Corrections Act but are very involved with RCCCD in policy and program development. There are ongoing discussions between Community Corrections and the 2<sup>nd</sup> Judicial District on various topics and services.

*Leonard Castro, Chief Judge*

*Sara Grewing, Assistant Chief Judge*

*Reynaldo A. Aligada, Jr.*

*Robert A. Awsumb*

*Joy D. Bartscher*

*Shawn M. Bartsh*

*David C. Brown*

*Kellie M. Brown*

*Patrick Diamond*

*Thomas A. Gilligan, Jr.*

*Andrew Gordon*

*John H. Guthmann*

*JaPaul Harris*

*DeAnne M. Hilgers*

*Mark Ireland*

*Richard H. Kyle Jr.*

*Lezlie Ott Marek*

*Robyn Millenacker*

*Timothy Mulrooney*

*Laura Nelson*

*Kelly L. Olmstead*

*Elena L. Ostby*

*Edward Sheu*

*Stephen L. Smith*

*Nicole J. Starr*

*George T. Stephenson*

*Sophia Y. Vuelo*

*Teresa R. Warner*

*Adam C. Yang*

*P. Paul Yang*

## COUNTY- COURTS JOINT COMMITTEE

In September 2017, the Ramsey County Board of Commissioners and the Second Judicial District adopted the creation of the County-Courts Joint Committee to take a focus on policy coordination related to services for residents including the Health and Wellness Service Team where Community Corrections is a member.

- a. Provide a forum for dialogue between the COUNTY and COURT with the goal of improving the coordination of services to the residents of Ramsey County;
- b. Review and recommend systemic and programmatic changes in the provision of criminal justice and juvenile justice related services, correctional services, public health services, mental health services, human services, and other services in Ramsey County through Ramsey County policies and procedures, and Second Judicial District policies and procedures.
- c. Discuss areas of cooperation and coordination to improve outcomes for persons who utilize services of the courts in Ramsey County; and,
- d. Discuss broader community issues and review recommendations for innovative changes that could reduce demands on COUNTY and COURT services.

#### COUNTY- COURTS JOINT COMMITTEE MEMBERS

*Leonard Castro, Chief Judge*

*The Honorable Sara Grewing*

*The Honorable Robyn Millenacker*

*Ramsey County Board Commissioner Victoria Reinhardt*

*Ramsey County Board Commissioner McDonough*

*Ramsey County Board Commissioner Ortega*

*Court Administrator Heather Kendall*

*Deputy County Manager Scott Williams*

*Deputy County Manager Kathy Hedin*

*County Manager Ryan O'Connor*

*Richard Stevens, County Manager's Office*

*Zachary Hylton, County Manager's Office*

#### CORRECTIONS ADVISORY BOARD

Minnesota Statutes § 401 requires that all counties participating in the Community Corrections Act have a Community Advisory Board (CAB). By law, representatives from various communities are required: law enforcement, prosecution, the judiciary, education, corrections, social services, and lay citizens. The responsibilities of the board are: (1) to serve as advisors to the Ramsey County Board of Commissioners and the Ramsey County Community Corrections Department; (2) to participate in the formulation of the Comprehensive Plan; and (3) to make recommendations to the County Board on the budget and Comprehensive Plan.

The Board is chaired and vice-chaired by community representatives. In addition to its work with the budget and Comprehensive Plan, CAB members meet several times each year to discuss and advise the Department Director and division deputy directors on critical issues, challenges, and initiatives of the Department.

#### ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS

*The Honorable Reynaldo Aligada Jr.*

*Gregory Ellis, Community Representative*

*Melissa Finnegan, Ramsey County Government  
Relations*

*Jonathan Fure, Community Representative*

*Ben Jones, Community Representative*

*Laura Jones, Community Representative*

*John Kelly, Ramsey County Attorney's Office*

*Xavier Martime, Community Representative*

*Christopher Nguyen, Community Representative*

*Jennifer O'Rourke, Ramsey County Government  
Relations*

*Tanya Schally, Community Representative*

*Mariah Wilberg, Community Representative*

*Maurice Nins, Community Representative*

*Neal Thao, Community Representative*

## COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS DEPARTMENT

The director of the Community Corrections Department is selected by the County Manager's office and appointed by the Ramsey County Board Commissioners. The Commissioners delegate to the Deputy County Manager and the Director authority and responsibility for the services of the department.

The authority and responsibility of the director are carried out within an organizational structure and reporting relationship that is in accordance with the administrative policies of the Ramsey County Board of Commissioners and in consultation with Second Judicial District. The director reports to the Deputy County Manager and is part of the county's senior management structure.

### Corrections Executive Team

*John Klavins, Director*

*Monica S. Long, Deputy Director, Field Services*

*Michelle Finstad, Deputy Director, Administrative Services*

*Allen Carlson, Deputy Director/Superintendent, Facilities Services*

*Christopher Crutchfield, Deputy Director, Staff and Community Engagement*

### Senior Management Team

*Gale Burke, Administrative Services Manager*

*Jan Scott, Assistant Deputy Director, Adult Services*

*Corey Hazelton, Assistant Deputy Director, Adult Services*

*Kim Stubblefield, Assistant Deputy Director, Juvenile Probation Services*

*Elizabeth Reetz, Assistant Superintendent, Ramsey County Correctional Facility*

*Timothy Vasquez, Superintendent, Juvenile Detention Center*

*Gwen Rouleau, Assistant Superintendent, Juvenile Detention Center*

*Karley Jorgensen, Staff Development and Cognitive Programming Manager*

## VOLUNTEERS

The Volunteers In Corrections (VIC) is a separate and independent 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization which supports Community Corrections.

Due to Covid-19, the VIC temporarily had to cease in person volunteer operations in the department but has been continually working to try and find ways to continue to support the department.

**Ramsey County Community Corrections**



**Volunteers in Corrections**

1. The VIC continue to provide over \$50,000 per year to the department on things such as scholarships for clients, bus tokens for interviews, money for staff retreats, gift cards for incentives for clients, and number of other initiatives that support community corrections.
2. In the spring of 2021, Community Corrections internship programs have resumed, and volunteers were allowed back into the JDC to provide needed programming.
3. The VIC has also funded a partnership between Community Corrections, Dakota County Technical College, and Ujamaa Place where clients can obtain a class B, commercial driver's license. This has allowed 12 male clients to obtain their class B license and gainful employment.
4. In 2022, the VIC Board will re-establish priorities and goals as they work to support the evolving needs of the department and community.

The VIC continues to look for new and innovative ways to support the department's efforts to achieve better outcomes and positively impact the lives of the clients that Community Corrections serves.

## ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES DIVISION

The Administrative Services Division provides fiscal support, strategic planning, training, research and evaluation, information technology, human resources management, quality assurance, and contract development and management. The goal of the Administrative Services division is to provide leadership and support for the provision of excellent and effective community corrections practices. The Deputy Director of Administrative Services, working alongside the Deputy Director of Staff and Community Engagement, as well as the managers of each unit guide day-to-day operations and long-term, strategic management.

## FISCAL SERVICES

Fiscal Services provides fiscal management for Ramsey County Community Corrections. Working together with managers, staff provide business support services, budget development and management, financial analysis and reporting, accounting for assets and capital project expenditure, and internal and external reporting. In addition, Fiscal Services manages the department's payroll, benefits, and some human resources functions.

## APPLICATIONS MANAGEMENT TEAM

The Application Management Team (AMT) supports technology and end users in Community Corrections. The team works with managers and staff to provide application support and collaborates with our internal Ramsey County Information Services, Ramsey County Sheriff, Ramsey County Attorney's Office, and Public Health. External technology partners include other Community Corrections agencies and Minnesota 2<sup>nd</sup> Judicial District Court Administration.

The department is embarking upon a strategic direction toward fully utilizing statewide informational systems, particularly CSTS and working strategically in alignment with Corrections' agencies throughout the state of Minnesota. Community Corrections went live in March 2021, merging both adult and juvenile CSTS databases into a single database to conform with STI standards for our CSTS application. One database is consistent with other Minnesota counties using CSTS. Community Corrections transitioned to Facility Admissions module July 2021 and has been working on the CSTS web rollout originally scheduled for fall 2021.

When the COVID pandemic hit the team worked to assist staff in transitioning to a remote work model. The department was innovative in developing online training and supervision practices. AMT managed the staff hardware deployment, providing laptops and setting up remote login capability for hundreds of staff. The Second Judicial District transitioned to remote court hearings using Zoom, and AMT set up workstations, purchased web cameras, computer speakers and supported client access to virtual court hearings.

In addition to the projects that support operations, the team has multiple projects underway to improve client, staff, data safety and modernization projects to better serve clients and staff and ensure our system is protected from outside influences.

## RESEARCH AND EVALUATION

The Research and Evaluation Unit provides expertise in research, data analysis and program evaluation to guide and inform the department's services and operations. The unit works closely with management, staff, service team partners and other justice system stakeholders to provide timely, accurate, useful information to help improve the outcomes of clients and their families. The unit's work is guided by county wide strategic goals and priorities, including More Community, Less Confinement, Race Equity and Community Engagement.

During COVID-19, the Research and Evaluation Unit created a report highlighting the major policy and practices changes the department made in response to the pandemic. These changes aligned with system reform initiatives already in place. The report included data and outcomes including feedback from clients and staff on their experience with changes in supervision due to COVID-19. The unit has also taken a leadership role in the Reducing Revocations Challenge Initiative. This is a nationwide initiative, funded by Arnold Ventures and led by CUNY's Institute for State and Local Governance, to disrupt mass incarceration and improve success for individuals on probation. The unit and department have partnered with the Robina Institute of Criminal Law and Criminal Justice to do this work.

## CONTRACT SERVICES AND GRANTS

The Contract Services and Grant Unit works closely with each division to assist in purchasing and supervising contracted services to enhance the options available to clients and to improve outcomes for clients and the public. Services include contracted services as well as direct services. The unit has an integral role in the grant application process and provides supports, as well as guidance throughout the grant award period.

## STRATEGIC PLANNING AND RESOURCES

Two positions support the development of a strategic approach to services and human resources. The Executive Team planner, reporting to the Department Director, works with staff from across the department to create a common strategic plan that will guide the department's efforts into the future. The Corrections Program Specialist leads efforts to recruit, hire and retain a high quality and diverse workforce.

## TRANSFORMATIVE SERVICES UNIT

The Transformative Services Unit's goal is to provide the highest quality staff and organizational development and training services. The primary focus is research-based practices that are part of internal job expectations and local, state and nationally recognized best practices. All probation services staff are required to attend 40 hours of training per year, of which 13 hours must be dedicated to Evidence Based Practices.

### Promoting Holistic & Equitable Interactions

As we strive to embody our HOPE operating principles, apply the research on best practices, and contribute to the Residents First initiative, we have been focused more intentionally on building our capacity to offer training that addresses responsivity concerns that may impact our clients. The professional relationship staff develop with their clients is a key success indicator. Establishing rapport requires not only identifying and building on the strengths of each client, but also recognizing and assisting clients in overcoming barriers they face. The specific curricula we are building capacity to deliver include the following:

- Bridges out of Poverty
- Being Trauma Informed
- Mental Health First Aid
- LGBTQ Training

### Effective Interventions to Foster Transformative Change

Grounded within our HOPE operating principles and the research on effective correctional practices, is the critical importance of delivering evidence-based interventions. Use of intentional and targeted interventions allows us to promote individualized goal attainment while reducing risk of further involvement in the justice system.

Transformative Services focused on expanding opportunities for training and coaching around individual cognitive-behavioral interventions. As a result, the following strategic actions were developed and executed:

- Core Correctional Practices (CCP)
- Carey Guides Tools of Devices (ToD)



### Implementation Science

Research indicates that without intentional and planful implementation, most initiatives fail to become integrated into daily practice. Therefore, through a contract with the Alliance for Community and Justice Innovation (ACJI), 16 Ramsey County Community Corrections staff members, representing every division and diverse positions in the department, completed the Implementation Leadership Academy (ILA). Through participation, staff were exposed to and practiced applying the 10 Essential Principles of Implementation Leadership and explored research-informed processes and strategies to adopt as we seek to install new practices.

### Statewide Training Academy

Ramsey County Community Corrections staff members have emerged as strong leaders in designing, adapting, and delivering evidence-based practice trainings at the Statewide Training Academy (STA). The STA serves all three delivery systems, primarily focused on new probation officers, supervision agents, and case managers. Our contributions and representation on the STA committee and trainer groups has provided critical support needed to continue facilitating learning opportunities both internally and in collaboration with other agencies.

## RACE EQUITY LIAISONS

In support of Ramsey County's strategic priority of Advancing Racial and Health Equity and Shared Community Power, Ramsey County Community Corrections has hired two race equity liaisons. Both liaisons are actively working to examine all of community corrections' policies and procedures through a race equity lens as well as advancing community and client engagement. The department has also funded a Racial Equity Liaison position for Veteran's Services and the Health and Wellness Service Team.

The race equity liaisons participate in juvenile staffing for placement, they have also developed interview hiring questions/sit on hiring panels, attend management meetings, and actively work with all community corrections' divisions in an effort to bring about more race equity for Community Corrections' clients. Our department liaisons are part of a larger team of liaisons that work collaboratively to support racial equity initiatives.

## IV. PROGRAM DESCRIPTIONS

### FIELD SERVICES DIVISION

In March of 2020, RCCCD Adult and Juvenile Field Services were consolidated under one Deputy Director. Historically, Adult and Juvenile Field Services each had their own Deputy Director. Staffing changes and redeployments due to COVID led to this consolidation. Staff in Adult and Juvenile services have found that this has led to better communication, increased sharing of resources, ideas, innovations, and best practices in serving clients.

### JUVENILE PROBATION SERVICES

Juvenile Probation Services provide a broad range of services to youth between the ages of 10 and 18, as well as to young adults on Extended Jurisdiction Juvenile (MS 260B.130) through age 21. Additionally some clients aged 18-24 are now served by the newly formed Transitional Age Unit. Juvenile Probation Services staff use a racial equity lens and a positive juvenile justice framework to protect public safety and reduce the delinquency behaviors of youth on probation by promoting positive behavioral change, healthy youth development, and holding young people accountable.

Through the use of Family Engaged Case Planning, probation officers combine a positive juvenile justice framework and their family engagement skills to work in collaboration with their client and their families to develop a case plan. The probation officers involve families as partners and create plans that are agreed upon and understood by each member of the youth's team.

Taking into account the seriousness of the offense, and using information gathered from the assessments and interviews, probation officers make recommendations to court that may include referrals to community services, restitution, community service, electronic home monitoring and other types of treatment or rehabilitation services. Probation staff work to increase clients' ability to maintain healthy and positive relationships with family and friends, to find and retain employment, and/or to continue on with their education.

Probation staff also partner with community organizations to augment services and respond to the diverse cultural needs of Ramsey County youth and families. Some of the programs and services that support youth include:

- Educational, life-skills, employment readiness, and vocational training for youth
- Cognitive-behavioral interventions including individual and group sessions
- Collaborative Intervention Bridging Services model (CIBS), an intensive in-home therapeutic service where the family is the client
- Functional Family Therapy (FFT), a treatment program for juvenile clients and their families

- High-fidelity Wraparound Services that offers an array of supports and programming to youth and families
- Gender specific groups that are based on restorative justice principles and practices

Over the past five years, there has been a significant reduction in the number of youth on probation. The vast majority of youth now being served by juvenile field services are at medium to high risk for reoffending.

## SUPERVISION SERVICES BY RISK LEVEL

All youth/young adults (10-24yrs) sent to a branch office for supervision, are assessed by the Youth Level of Service/Case Management Inventory (YLS/CMI) or the Level of Service/Case Management Inventory (LS/CMI) for those over 18 years of age. The purpose of this assessment tool is to determine the risk of recidivism, engage the client in their individualized case plan and provide information that helps determine criminogenic needs and responsivity factors.

Many youth on probation also receive the Massachusetts Youth Screening Instrument (MAYSI) which is used to identify potential mental health problems in need of immediate attention and to determine whether or not a youth should be referred to a mental health professional for further assessment.

Once a risk level is determined and criminogenic needs, barriers, and strengths are identified, probation officers work to engage youth and their families in developing an individualized case plan targeting interventions that have the best chance of assisting the youth with long term positive behavior change while ensuring community safety.

While current caseload levels vary based on risk level and outcomes, the average caseload size for Probation Officers who supervise medium to high-risk clients is between 15-20 youth.

## OUT OF HOME DISPLACEMENTS

Through several targeted reform efforts, including an emphasis on developing and supporting meaningful opportunities for youth in the community, Ramsey County Juvenile Services has seen a steady decline in the number of youth placed outside of the home. These reductions led to the closing of Boy Totem Town, our local residential juvenile treatment center. For those who are not able to maintain stability in the community, Ramsey County has made a commitment to keep youth close to their family and community while ensuring treatment and rehabilitative services are offered. The goal of these efforts is to increase opportunities for parents, caregivers, and other supports to stay connected and play a vital role in their child's treatment and rehabilitation.

If an out of home displacement is ordered by the district court as a last resort, the department only recommends facilities approved and licensed by the Minnesota DOC and regularly monitored by the Department of Human Services

(DHS). Juvenile agents visit the facilities regularly per policy to cultivate and nurture relationships in order to provide the best service to the youth and families served.

#### KINSHIP SEARCHES:

Whenever possible the division utilizes kinship searches to discover a person or persons related to the child by blood, marriage, adoption, and/or an individual who is an important friend/supportive adult. The goal is to ascertain whether the person identified may be able to assist the youth and family with alternative placement options, respite, mentorship and/or transportation and other critical needs. Kinship searches are voluntary.

#### TRANSITION SERVICES

In 2016, Juvenile field services staff created specialize caseloads for youth transitioning back to the community from any type of displacement. Probation officers also provide aftercare services to both the youth and their families, focusing on their needs, connecting them with community-based supports, and working together to develop a plan for success.

#### TRANSITIONAL AGE UNIT

RCCCD created a supervision model to better serve male clients ages 18-24 years old. The model was developed with input from community providers, Judges, prosecutors, defense attorneys, RCCCD staff and supervisors and, arguably most importantly, a formerly justice-involved individual. Those clients assigned to this Transitional Age Unit are supervised by probation officers from juvenile field services. Currently, there two probation officers supervising approximately 25 clients each. Clients are referred to these caseloads after weekly client assessment meetings. Referrals can come from any agent within the department. Activities within this unit may include: meeting with community providers who assist unsheltered clients; facilitating conversations between clients and community providers to deliver services, and meeting with Healing Streets, a Ramsey County Public Health program to help reduce violence in our communities. Additionally, an innovative contract with Ujamaa Place is under development which will offer clients additional hours of individual coaching per week, to assist them with long-term change community supports.

#### JUVENILE DETENTION ALTERNATIVES INITIATIVE AND DEEP END REFORM

Since 2005, Ramsey County Corrections had been implementing the Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative (JDAI). The mission of JDAI is to improve long-term outcomes for juveniles while improving public safety:

- Reducing the number of juveniles in secure detention.
- Eliminating the disproportionate representation of juveniles of color in secure detention
- Achieving systematic reform of juvenile detention practices
- Developing effective detention alternatives for juveniles who should not be held in confinement

- Reducing racial disparities in the juvenile justice system

Juvenile Field Services, along with other Ramsey County juvenile justice agencies and community organizations, continues to move forward with this initiative. Additionally, in 2015, Ramsey County expanded its work within JDAI to address the dispositional end of the system, known as the “Deep End”. The overall goal of the Deep End reform work is to safely and significantly reduce reliance on out of home placements, especially for youth of color. At the center of this work is the crucial and complex need to define the purpose for placing youth outside of their home. As system stakeholders committed to the best interests of youth and families in this community, this work is done within the JDAI collaborative with juvenile justice system partners committed to data-driven decision-making.

In continuing the Deep End reform Ramsey County has continued its transformational efforts by:

- Aligning Deep End reform work, both internally and with broader stakeholders, with the work of Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative (JDAI)
- Collaboratively developing HWST budget request to expand alternatives funding by \$500,000 (beginning on January 1, 2018) and aligning that effort with the JDAI initiatives
- Prioritizing and strengthening leadership and staff partnerships across Ramsey County HWST Departments, the Ramsey County Attorney’s Office, the Second Judicial District and community
- Linking Deep End reform progress and lessons learned with the future of out of home displacements for correctionally involved youth in Ramsey County

## COLLABORATION WITH OTHER COUNTY DEPARTMENTS

**Systems of Care (SOC):** Ramsey County convenes regular local Systems of Care (SOC) Committee meetings and manages the relationships and collaboration between County Departments, School Districts, the Family Wellbeing Agency (Change, Inc.), and local collaboratives. Through Ramsey’s two collaboratives (Ramsey County Children’s Mental Health & The Suburban Ramsey Family Collaboratives), our community partners expand to over 80 local agencies and systems and many dedicated youth, caregivers, and community leaders.

The SOC decided to provide a service that used family, youth and community input to drive modifications of a wraparound coordination model, so it meets the needs of our specific community. The goals and services were imagined after years of input from community leaders, providers, and families, and are a direct response to Ramsey County’s unique challenges and opportunities. This model chosen expands our shared vision for wraparound and creating access to individualized services.

The target population of this service is African American youth (grades K-12) with SED (Serious Emotional Disturbance) (or at risk for SED) who are disengaged, disconnected, under-supported and considered 'homebound/based' in their Ramsey County School District Communities.

**Practitioner Team:** The County has developed a practitioner team that includes representatives from Social Services, Public Health, Community Corrections, Financial Assistance Services, Healing Streets, Community Ambassadors and Workforce Solutions. Community Ambassadors and/or Healing Streets staff will be engaging clients and their families who are in need of supportive services to develop an individualized plan to address their needs and assist the client/family with community stabilization to reduce their risk of future incarceration and reentry into the system.

The process is intentionally designed to have Community Ambassadors and/or Healing Streets staff make the initial contact with the family, engage the family, and have ongoing communication directly with the client and their family. The practitioner team has been developed to support the process, troubleshoot barriers, and share resources and information.

**Ramsey County Corrections and Social Services:** The department continues to partner with Social Services to ensure better service delivery to the youth and families of Ramsey County. Quite often, a family receives services from both departments so working together is critical. Social Services staff are invited to participate in Community Correction's client assessment meetings and probation officers (POs) are invited to participate in Social Services out of home displacement discussions. The POs and Social Services workers collaborate to deliver the best possible service coordination possible. Social Services and Community Corrections have recently implemented a program for families in need of intensive mental health services called Collaborative Intensive Bridging Services (CIBS). CIBS aims to treat the complex mental health and emotional needs of youth. CIBS is an intensive in-home therapeutic model that engages the client and family in treatment and healing. For youth who need a higher level of care, short term residential treatment may be recommended.

## PROBATION DISPOSITIONAL MATRIX

Ramsey County Juvenile Probation Services is working with the Annie E. Casey Foundation (AECF) to create a policy tool to guide dispositional recommendations. The tool focuses on assessed risk and offense severity. It is a data-informed tool that aims to understand and monitor dispositional decision-making, identify resource gaps, and provide greater race equity. Once the tool is completed there will be a piloting phase to make necessary adjustments before implementing the tool. Annie E. Casey Foundation will be providing technical and other supports throughout this process.

## MENTAL HEALTH

- Juvenile Field mental health staff work alongside probation officers to engage families in a variety of community mental health services. Upon being placed on probation, youth undergo a mental health assessment called the MAYSI (Massachusetts Youth Screening Instrument) which can guide probation officers in knowing which mental health services to offer to families. The mental health system can often be confusing, however with the help of internal mental health professionals, families can get connected to community-based assessment services, one to one or group psychotherapy services, psychiatric services, and other services as needed.
- *Functional Family Therapy (FFT)*. FFT is a family-based prevention and intervention program to treat a range of high-risk youth and their families. Therapists from culturally specific community agencies form a therapeutic team that provides in-home FFT services.
- *Community Intensive Bridging Services (CIBS)* is an intensive treatment program for children ages 10 through 17 who are in need of intensive in home supports. CIBS consists of three potential phases of treatment: Phase One is the initial engagement and assessment of the youth and family via intensive in-home therapy; Phase Two, if needed, is intensive short-term residential treatment when the youth is placed out of the home to address ongoing concerns while the in home therapist works with the family during transitions in and out of residential treatment; and Phase Three is a return to intensive in-home therapy to round out the treatment process.
- Court-ordered mental health assessment that includes a continuum of services with screening, diagnostic assessment and/or psychological testing.
- Individualized mental health interventions for youth and their families at any point that the family is justice involved.
- Connecting youth and families to additional community based mental health therapy and supports services.

## SEXUALLY EXPLOITED & TRAFFICKED YOUTH

Ramsey County Juvenile Services (probation and JDC) is committed to developing an effective and comprehensive response to sexual exploitation. As part of that commitment Ramsey County Juvenile Services developed a protocol and training to guide staff to identify youth who have been, are currently, or are at risk of being sexually exploited.

By the end of 2021 all Juvenile Services staff will receive a 2-hour foundational training on Safe Harbor, identifying sexual exploitation/trafficking within juvenile justice settings, mandated reporting requirements and available community resources to support victims and survivors. In addition, Ramsey County Juvenile Services has been working with the Minnesota Department of Health-Safe Harbor to implement the Minnesota Youth Trafficking and Exploitation Tool (MYTEI) within JDC and Juvenile Probation Services. The MYTEI tool was created with the sole focus on identifying those who have been or are currently being exploited or trafficked. By introducing an exploitation and trafficking tool to the current supervision model, our intent is to more effectively identify potential victims of trafficking and exploitation, and critical next steps to ensure that young people are connected with the appropriate resources resulting in improved outcomes.

## FLEXIBLE RESOURCE OPTIONS

In late 2018 Individualized Service Funds (ISF) were created as a collaboration between Ramsey County Community Corrections, the Health Department and Social Services. These funds were created for youth who are currently open with Juvenile Probation Services and are at risk of out of home placement, have a medium to high YLSI score and/or have continuous and consistent offending behavior and whose team recommends the use of these services. The anticipated outcomes are a reduction or avoidance of placement, reduction in child's risky behaviors, increase connection between child and caring adults, increased family stabilization, and an increased participation in prosocial activities. ISF are used to purchase goods and services to meet the child/family needs. These funds were created to be used on community-based, culturally specific responses to needs presented by youth and their families. The funds can be used to fund therapy, buy furniture, sports equipment, address basic needs and much more.

## PANDEMIC RESPONSE- DISTRIBUTING DEVICES, PPE, ETC.

In response to COVID-19, juvenile field services adjusted its policies and practices so it could continue to provide services to youth both safely and effectively. These changes include:

- Implementing *virtual/remote contacts* with youth and families
- *Limiting in-person contacts* with clients to community programs that are open (e.g. treatment centers, residential placements, etc.) with strict adherence to social distancing protocols
- *Continuing to limit the use of probation violation warrants* only for those violations that involve a new offense, absconding, or unsuccessful discharge from placement order to reduce the number of youth who are detained
- *Targeting drug testing* only to those youth who are high-risk or on probation for felony level or person related offenses
- *Offering virtual community-based programming and cognitive behavioral interventions*

## PROGRAMMING/COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

The Juvenile Probation Services offers a variety of programming to meet the needs of youth served. The following are programs offered:

- *High Fidelity Wraparound (HFW)* -a service offered through the SOC is a youth-guided and family-driven planning process that follows a series of steps to help youth and their families realize their hopes and dreams. It is a planning process that brings people together (with natural supports and providers) from various parts of



the youth and family's life. It helps the youth and family achieve the goals they have identified and prioritized, with assistance from their natural supports and system providers

- *Decision Points* - a short-term intervention that targets anti-social thought and skill deficits.
- *Victim Impact: Listen and Learn* - geared toward helping youth to become more aware of the impact that crime has on victims, take responsibility for their actions and begin to make amends. The curriculum makes victims and their rights a central premise. This service has not been offered in the past year. We will return to programming as soon as we are able to be in person again
- *Rebound* - provides intensive outreach case management for up to 1 year following a youth's discharge from an out of home placement and return to the community. Case management targets connection to school and community resources to help resolve underlying concerns in the community.
- *Community Coaching*- The community coaching program is a 5 month mentoring program for youth ages 11-21 years old and who are on probation. The Community Coaching program provides one-to-one connections with caring adults, and opportunities for positive social development and linkages to pro-social community-based activities
- *P.I.N.E* - a partnership with Ramsey County Parks and Recreation to provide a wide variety of recreation activities including gardening, fishing, snowshoeing, hiking and more targeting youth on probation. It has been on hold due to COVID 19
- *The JK Movement*- The JK Movement goals are to foster a commitment for justice involved young people, that promote strong interpersonal skills, educational and career pathways and reassert a sense of hope for their future.
- *Talitha Cumi* - a signature program offered through Generation 2 Generation INC. They provide a safe space for justice involved girls using Restorative Justice Circles to allow girls to talk about life, hardships, relationships social justice, beauty images, healing and traumatic experiences.
- *Cognitive Behavioral Interventions for Substance Abuse (CBI-SA)* - a curriculum that relies on a cognitive-behavioral approach to teach participants strategies for avoiding substance abuse. The program places heavy emphasis on skill-building activities to assist with cognitive, social, emotional, and coping skills development.
- *30,000 feet* - is a culturally relevant model focused on reducing recidivism among African American youth. The program provides youth with culturally relevant college and career support and social and emotional support. Black Tech Geeks programming (ages 11-14): specifically focused on African American teens interested in computer science and engineering fields. College and career readiness case management (ages 14-18) in partnerships with the Metropolitan State University and available also for Saint Paul College. Support is provided at least 3 times a week during a 3-hour period each day.
- *Enough* - Offers services to youth who identify as female and services include one to one Life Coaching – advocacy, goal setting/management, basic need support, safety planning, education/employment support, transportation support, housing support and referrals, mentoring, connections/referrals to other community resources/agencies.

Groups – Prevention and Intervention based groups using the *LOVE146 #NotANumber* Curriculum and *Girls Circle H.E.A.R.T* Curriculum. Independent Living Skills Workshops and Activities., as well as Youth Action Boards, which are paid, part-time youth leadership opportunities are available.

- *The Healing Streets Project, A program out of Ramsey County Public Health* - The Healing Streets Project is a community-centered healing-based approach to Violence Prevention, Intervention, & Healing group/gun violence in Saint Paul and Ramsey County.
- *HIRED* - Provided coaching, support, and training to help youth and young adults complete a diploma or GED, explore careers, and gain employment in a field they're passionate about.
- *Power In Peace* - A youth program to reduce weapon violence and increase safety in our community.

## ADULT FIELD SERVICES

Adult Field Services provides a broad range of services to clients who are 18 years or older when they have been placed on supervision. Adult Field Services staff interact with clients throughout their involvement with the criminal justice system with services such as bail evaluations, presentence investigations, community supervision (probation and supervised release), local confinement at the Ramsey County Correctional Facility and re-entry services. Adult Division staff assess client risks and factors contributing to criminal behavior and work jointly with their clients to help them become successful and crime-free.

## PRETRIAL SERVICES

Contracted provider Justice Point offers pre-trial services for Ramsey County and the Second Judicial Court. These services support effective and informed decision-making about detention or release for individuals accused of a crime and detained in jail. Services include:

- Jail Screening: All individuals arrested in Ramsey County are screened to assist the Court in making decisions about whether to release the individuals from custody prior to trial.
- Pretrial Supervision (Conditional Release): The agency supervises defendants who are released from jail with conditions set by the Court, pending disposition of their criminal case in court.

## ADULT SERVICES

Adult Services supervises clients that have either been placed on probation or supervised release from Minnesota prisons. The goal of the division is to balance the need to protect the community and hold clients accountable with rehabilitative services to help them live pro-social, productive and crime-free lives that lead to long term desistance. This often includes monitoring compliance with court-ordered conditions; drug testing; community work service; and referrals to treatment, programming and alternative sanctions that are attuned to the needs, risk and individual characteristics of the client. Adult Services partners with community organizations to augment services and respond to the diverse cultural needs of the community.

Some of the community programs that support clients and supplement the Adult Services Division include:

- Sentence-to-Service work crews and individual community work service hours.

- Cognitive-behavioral groups, such as *Thinking for a Change*, *Moving On*, and *Decision Points*.
- Re-entry planning and support.
- Treatment programs for adults convicted of sex and domestic abuse offenses and chemically dependent clients.

In 2020, **16,440** adult clients were served. (See attached Fact Sheets Appendix for additional information about clients served, demographics, risk profile, length on probation, etc.,)

## EFFECTIVE SUPERVISION PRACTICES

Ramsey County Community Corrections Department's framework for client-centered evidenced-based supervision is Effective Supervision Practices (ESP). The principles of ESP are:

- Effective Supervision Practices is an evidence-based framework for ALL Ramsey County Corrections professionals working with clients.
- Each Corrections professional engages in developing his/her core competencies within their roles and responsibilities related to core correctional practices.
- By using a common framework, the client receives high quality services and a greater chance of success to exit the system and sustain a healthy future.
- Continuous learning and improvement for all employees using multiple modes of development (1:1 coaching, classroom, E-learning, tapes). Training alone does not develop staff.



## RISK/NEEDS ASSESSMENT

Risk Assessment tools are used to determine a client's risk level (low, medium, high, and very high) and to help direct subsequent assignment to one of the Division's units. Scores are also used to determine the appropriate level of supervision and resource allocation. High risk individuals are placed on caseloads where the probation officer has fewer cases and more time to monitor their behavior. The LS/CMI (Level of Service-Case Management Inventory) is administered prior to case assignment. A LS/CMI is re-administered after nine months on supervision, and then annually thereafter or upon discharge.

Specialty risk assessment tools are used for specific types of offenses. The STABLE/ACUTE and STATIC-99 are specialized tools administered to clients convicted of sex/predatory offenses. The ODARA (Ontario Domestic Abuse Risk Assessment) is used to assess risk levels for domestic abuse/violence offenses.

## SUPERVISION SERVICES BY RISK LEVEL

Once a risk level is determined and criminogenic needs are identified, a client is assigned to a probation officer in one of three locations: The Probation Service Center (PSC), a geographic field office, or a specialty unit. Lower risk clients are generally assigned to the Probation Service Center. High risk clients are generally assigned to either a geographic field office or a specialty unit. Specialty units, such as the Predatory Offender Unit, the Domestic Abuse Unit and the DWI Unit, all supervise crime-specific cases. This allows agents to gain expertise with certain types of crimes, state statutes, and specialized treatment and program resources.

The Adult Services Division has established a goal of having caseloads at manageable sizes for probation and supervised release officers. Smaller caseloads allow probation officers to spend more time with high-risk clients and provide a higher level of both supervision and service. The Division's goal for caseload sizes includes not more than 50 high risk clients per agent, or 70 to 100 medium risk clients per agent. This does not include clients on Intensive Supervised Release (ISR), where statute caps individual caseloads at 15 clients. Due to some operational challenges, particularly during the pandemic including staff redeployments along with higher client numbers in certain areas, these goals have only been partially achieved throughout the Division.

## CLIENT HOUSING

In Ramsey County, the following housing options are made available to clients: re-entry housing, halfway housing, and rental units for clients convicted of Level 3 sex offenses. ATTIC housing is one option for re-entry housing that provides sublet apartments for high- risk clients. ATTIC housing has been expanded by three beds through funding from local

levy, and now totals 11 available beds in Ramsey County. The County also maintains subsidy money for short-term halfway house placements. The halfway houses operated by RS Eden are staffed 24 hours a day, seven days a week and provide supervised living plus referrals to other organizations.

Ramsey County has also been actively engaged in partnerships with community-based organizations to maintain and expand client housing. The County is collaborating with organizations like The Network for Better Futures and RS Eden to explore further options for housing.

### Unsheltered Probation Partnership

RCCCD created the Unsheltered Probation Partnership (UPP) in response to the unique barriers and needs that unsheltered clients have. Some of these needs and barriers include, but are not limited to: lack of a telephone to communicate; lack of adequate and consistent transportation; financial concerns; prevalence of mental and chemical health concerns; lack of trust in government agencies and representatives; inability to provide for basic needs; fear that personal property kept at their encampment could be stolen if they leave to meet with Probation; frequent relocation of their encampment by City representatives; and the stigma of being unsheltered. Through a significant commitment to community-based supervision, staff that serve these clients spend significant time meeting clients at shelters, outreach meetings, encampments, etc. Partnerships have been formed with outreach staff from non-profit organizations that have led to meaningful relationships being formed with unsheltered clients, as RCCCD staff are starting to be seen not through the lens of someone trying to impose consequences on clients, but as a resource to help navigate their supervision. Staff have reconnected clients with Probation Officers and programming and have requested that Probation Violation warrants for technical violations, oftentimes stemming from their lack of stability, be quashed, with a renewed commitment from the clients to maintain contact with Probation. Staff have volunteered to hand out lunches to unsheltered residents. Staff have received significant monies from the Volunteers in Corrections (VIC) Board to assist clients with basic needs, including clothing, sleeping bags, tents, etc. Also, a partnership has been developed with Washington County Community Corrections to provide for surplus FEMA blankets to hand out to clients in the winter months. As of this writing, at least 100 clients have been placed in temporary or permanent housing as a result of UPP team member referrals.

## SPECIAL POPULATIONS AND PROGRAMMING

The Adult Services Division recognizes the need for differentiated strategies in client supervision and services and has taken several steps to identify those underserved. Division staff members, including probation officers, case aides, and support staff now represent a more diverse workforce. In addition, many units have at least one bilingual employee.

The Division is also partnering with many community organizations to provide culture and issue- sensitive programs and services, allowing more clients to become better served.

Clients convicted of sex offenses and domestic offenses as well as chemically dependent clients, are specialized populations supervised by the Division. To help facilitate personal change within these types of clients, the Division works with a variety of community providers to offer specific services:

- Sex offender treatment (outpatient) is subsidized at community vendors.
- Chemical dependency services depend on the type and severity of the addiction. These services, including assessment, *Driving with Care*, *Prime for Life*, *The Flex Modules by the Change Companies*, and outpatient treatment are offered by a number of community partners. These partners include Comunidades Latinas Unidas En Servicio (CLUES), Hmong American Partnership, HEM Counseling and CAPI (a community-based, Somali-speaking human services organization).
- Domestic abuse programming is offered by a diverse group of community vendors located throughout the county and metro area. Funding comes through agencies, foundation support and client co-pays. Domestic Programming includes referrals to use over 18 domestic abuse community programs that are tailored for client's risk level, offense type, dosage requirement as well as cultural and gender specific domestic programming. Ramsey County also employs two individual contractors to accentuate our domestic programming options, and also provide the Achieving Change through Value Based Behavior (ACTV) program, free of charge, for all clients.

#### Adult Intervention Model (AIM) Development

RCCCD is currently developing an updated response guide to client behaviors. Until now, our response guide has addressed lapses in behavior only. However, in addition to revamping that guide, a large workgroup was convened to explore how incentivizing pro-social behavior could be added to our response guide. In addition to a lengthy literature review, several focus groups with current clients were conducted to discover what clients felt were important accomplishments in their lives, and how they wish Probation would have responded to those. Those accomplishments, in addition to those identified by the literature review and the workgroup have led to the creation of a grid that provides for the incentivizing of accomplishments. Currently, another large workgroup is developing an updated grid to response to client lapses in behavior that focus on relying far less on incarceration as a response to lapses and focusing on providing community-based supports and programming that can better address client lapses. RCCCD has partnered with the Robina Institute to review current practices, research current data regarding misconduct, and provide recommendations for better responses. That project has received funding through the Arnold Foundation's Reducing Revocations Challenge to assist with these efforts. It is expected that by leveraging technology to record the addressing of all client behaviors, staff are able to share the full picture of a client at any moment, providing a more balanced review of the client's behaviors and RCCCD responses.

#### Goodwill Easter Seals/RCCCD Pilot Project

Goodwill Easter Seals Minnesota (GESMN) approached RCCCD to explore the possibility of a pilot project to provide intensive programming for clients. RCCCD determined that clients assigned to the Domestic Abuse Unit (DAU) were appropriate, given the services GESMN was committed to providing. These include: mentoring; employment services; Father Project; family stability; individualized case management services; cognitive skills programming. Clients that are subject to a technical Probation Violation or would be subject to a technical Probation Violation without additional services are the target population, with a goal of providing an alternative to incarceration. GESMN has started accepting referrals and providing services to clients, and the long-term hope for this project are to find that clients are having better outcomes so that a permanent program can be developed. Additionally, GESMN, RCCD, and the University of Wisconsin – River Falls have applied for a Federal grant to provide significant up-front services to clients that are similar to those provided for by the pilot project and transition those services from when the client may be incarcerated to when they come back to the community to provide the opportunity for better long-term outcomes.

#### Sentence to Service

RCCCD has historically contracted with RS Eden to provide Sentence to Service (STS) programming for clients in lieu of being incarcerated. Historically, clients that are sentenced to incarceration time, if they meet specific criteria, were afforded the opportunity to engage in community-based service in place of incarceration. For the past four years, this criteria has been waived, so all clients are eligible to participate, with Probation Officer input being taken into account. This has allowed for an additional alternative to incarceration to be an option. Additionally, programming was not integrated into the STS program. Currently, a workgroup from Adult Services, RCCF, and RS Eden are developing a more robust, evidence-based service that not only allows clients to remain in the community, but to engage in skill development through cognitive skills programming, individual programming related to identified criminogenic needs (i.e. chemical health assessments and programming), individual programming related to non-criminogenic needs (i.e. mental health assessments and programming), and the implementation of a therapeutic community that clients can be a part of.

#### Trauma-informed PSI Pilot

RCCCD is finalizing a plan to introduce a validated trauma assessment at the Pre-Sentence Investigation (PSI) level. Research has suggested that over 80% of justice-involved individuals have experienced trauma in their lives. RCCCD is interested in seeing if providing supervising agents, and clients, with information regarding how past trauma may be impacting them currently, will lead to better outcomes. Following sentencing, the plan for clients



identified as having had prior trauma will be provided with referrals, should they be interested, to assist them in addressing past trauma. Of note, and consistent with evidence-based practices, trauma and mental health are not criminogenic needs that must be addressed through correctional intervention, so Probation will not be recommending that the Court order programming to address any identified trauma history.

#### Tele-Work and Tele-Supervision

Since March 2020, Community Corrections has developed tele-work capabilities and utilized tele-supervision to work with clients. In response to COVID-19, transformative efforts were made to ensure remote probation supervision and services.

Tele-work, or remote work, is technology-aided work environments, processes, and support mechanisms that allow corrections professionals to conduct their daily business from any location (mainly outside of agency offices). Technology such as laptops with VPN encryption, smart phones with hotspot, software suites, cloud, case management software, video conferencing options and an e-signature service have all been introduced and are in daily use. A "Tele-Work Super Users" group was created to ensure further support and development of tele-work.

Tele-supervision is technology-aided supervision of probation clients using video and phone contacts (explicitly where these interactions are not conducted in-person). Community Corrections is focused on ensuring that Effective Supervision Practices happen from any location. Community Corrections has found that tele-supervision has eliminated some barriers to success (client needs for childcare, transportation, parking, time off work, etc.), improved access to probation (eliminated physical distance), promoted flexibility for agents and clients, increased the percentage of completed contacts, and promoted overall safety.

#### Gender-responsive Services

Ramsey County Community Corrections is committed to supporting the county's *Residents First* and *Racial Equity* priorities. As part of these efforts we are constantly looking for more effective strategies to improve our supervision practices to be responsive to the unique needs of our clients.

Various programs are offered to female clients. *Moving On* is a specialized cognitive and behavioral restructuring program that provides services regularly to female clients in the Adult Substance Abuse Court and is now available to women assessed as high-risk within the supervision units. Residential services are available through a contract with RS Eden Metro. *Breaking Free*, a program designed to break the cycle of prostitution, provides services directly to the female clients.

Recognizing that women enter the legal system with a number of challenges that are different than men, we are exploring the possibility of creating gender-responsive caseloads for women with children. The opportunity to implement a gender-responsive caseload would ensure policies, strategies and programming are grounded in

evidence-based practices and gender-responsive principals from the start. As part of the development of the gender-responsive caseloads we have engaged with multiple stakeholders including courts, community, and women most impacted by the system. This model will provide both for public safety and link women to community-based services that address basic needs, increase their hope for the future and promote well-being and safety for themselves and their families. Additional work is being done to ensure that culturally-responsive, community-based alternatives to incarceration are available for women. This includes mapping the current continuum of services and identifying gaps. Both of these efforts center Black and Native American women who are overrepresented in our system.

## FACILITIES DIVISION

In 2020, the Ramsey County Correctional Facility (RCCF) combined divisions with the Juvenile Detention Center (JDC) to make one division focused on facilities. This has allowed RCCF and JDC to create more consistency across the two facilities in terms of policies and procedures. It has also allowed for the sharing of resources. RCCF and JDC have combined training resources, mental health support, and cognitive skills coordination and inspections. Moving into the future, the department is exploring and assessing the utilization of staff resources. The combination of these efforts has created more efficient and flexible teams that available to serve the needs of the residents at both facilities.

## JUVENILE DETENTION CENTER

The Ramsey County Juvenile Detention Center (JDC) is a 44-bed facility that provides secure detention for youth. The JDC provides a safe, secure and structured setting for males and females ages 10 through 17 who are charged with committing offenses, are arrested on warrants or are in violation of their probation on a previous offense.



Prior to being admitted to JDC, youth are assessed to see if they meet admission criteria. Youth who are picked up by law enforcement for truancy, runaway or curfew violations and/or are delinquent but are determined low risk are released to their families or to shelters. Youth are only admitted to detention when there is reason to believe they would not appear for their next court hearing, are a risk to public safety or are awaiting court or out of home placement.

In compliance with the Juvenile Justice Detention Prevention Act and the Prison Rape Elimination Act, Ramsey County youth are also booked at the JDC. This ensures that youth are kept within a youth centered facility, reducing the

amount of time it takes to process youth and reduce trauma associated with the booking process, especially for youth encountering the criminal justice system for the first time.

Youth at the JDC receive quality programs and services in a culturally sensitive, safe, secure and structured environment.



## COVID RESPONSE

JDC leaders have worked with Ramsey County Public Health experts throughout the pandemic, to implement protocols to keep youth safe. Due to strict adherence to these protocols, there has been no COVID infections due to transmission in the facility. JDC staff worked with stakeholders to limit admissions and release youth who could safely return to the community.

To reduce client isolation while confined, the JDC established family video visitation and updated connectivity within the building to ensure that youth could stay connected to loved ones. The facility staff supported distance learning for youth when the SPPS left the building due to covid restrictions. In addition, the facility secured funding to provide youth with a learning specialist to improve their distance learning experience. A staff position was also allocated to help youth participate in video court proceedings.

Once vaccines were available, all JDC staff and partners, were invited to participate in public health immunization clinics, so that professionals could safely return to the JDC to meet directly with residents.

## EDUCATION SERVICES FOR YOUTH

Staff working in the facility assumed additional responsibilities: sanitizing the facility, providing support St. Paul public schools (SPPS) with distance learning and hybrid platforms, supporting virtual court and providing technology support and supervision for youth in the virtual courtroom setting.

With Covid protections in place, distance learning and hybrid platforms were provided until SPPS returned to in-person instruction at the JDC. During distance learning, JDC staff were responsible for educational support with technology, including the implementation of iPads.

As part of our race equity reforms, the name of the school at the JDC was changed to the Downtown School to address concerns of student transcripts reflecting a detention stay. JDC created a position for a school liaison/case manager; to provide attention and resources for collaboration and organization with distance learning and returning to in-person teaching. On site school personnel conduct an intake and incorporate IEPS (individual education plan) in the JDC setting, with a school social worker & counselors working with JDC to encourage residents to actively participate in school, to recover/obtain school credits. A new library was created for the residents, with a plethora of books and authors available for residents to check out through an online system. During the 2021-2022 school year, students will move to a 7 hour-school day, to reflect what is offered throughout SPPS.

#### EXPANDED PROGRAMMING

In 2020, we began creating individual case plans for each resident at JDC. The plans include goals for overall behavior adjustment, participation in school and recreation activities. Access to mental health resources for youth have been enhanced at the JDC. Mental health staff conduct an intake within the first 72 hours, and provide individual crisis support and group work. Community-based agencies provide gender-specific programming for females, canine therapy, dance and haircuts for youth. A contract is in place for project restore, MN, to provide additional resources for tutoring, coaching, art, life skills, and emergency readiness.

The facility has expanded programming in the facility including young men's and substance use groups. Cognitive behavioral programming offerings have also been expanded. Probation officers are getting additional training in 1:1 cognitive behavioral interventions and assistant probation officers will all receive training in core correctional practices for direct supervision living units.

## RAMSEY COUNTY CORRECTIONAL FACILITY



The Ramsey County Correctional Facility (RCCF) is a 556-bed facility, housing both adult male and female residents who are sentenced to serve up to one year. RCCF also contracts with Dakota County to detain its female clients, both sentenced and pre-sentenced. Prior to COVID, the facility housed about 250 men and women. The population has now decreased to less than 100 people due to various efforts during the pandemic that will be discussed throughout this document.

In response to the COVID pandemic, RCCF worked closely with Public Health to aggressively limit the risk of infection in the facility. All residents go through a quarantine period upon entering the facility. Once they test negative, residents meet with their RCCF Probation Officer and have a Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) assessment along with classification interview. The Probation Officer and resident determine a programming plan to address court ordered conditions as well as criminogenic needs that are driving the resident's involvement in the criminal justice system. Program options include: cognitive skills programming, mental health and psychiatric services, CD assessment, workforce programming (not during COVID), and adult basic education.

Although programming was suspended for a time due to the strict adherence to COVID safety protocols, RCCF was able to resume in person programming in the facility. The main goal, even during a pandemic, is to provide a supportive environment to the residents by being responsive to their individual needs, so they can build skills and confidence which will ultimately enhance their opportunities for success when they return to their community. The RCCF is committed to providing evidence-based programming designed to reduce recidivism and connect residents



with ample community-based resources. Both the men's and women's units are utilizing interventions specific to those populations and their unique needs.

## COVID RESPONSE AND REFORM

Due in large part to the partnership with Public Health that included a strong communication and decision-making process, RCCF had minimal residents test positive (while in quarantine) for COVID, with no fatalities. As a congregate care facility, COVID has been challenging but has also provided opportunities for long-lasting change and reform.

At the inception of the COVID pandemic, RCCF worked closely with its Public Health partners to provide the safest setting possible for residents and staff. The facility designated a housing unit as a separate quarantine space. Once admitted into the facility, residents are placed in quarantine for 14 days. On day 9, they are COVID tested. The results determine if the resident is moved immediately to isolation or into general population after the completion of the 14 days. Another protocol change was to have each resident in an individual cell, with a door that could close rather than living in an open dorm.

Given the size and current layout of the facility it was imperative to reduce the population. RCCF immediately communicated with the Court about ways to put more low-level residents and those that are immunocompromised on the EHM program. Through that process, the Court provided RCCF Delegated Authority that gave broader qualifying offense criteria for EHM and also provided RCCF authority to determine who was immunocompromised and should be placed on EHM. This allowed RCCF to significantly decrease the population in a short period of time and ultimately house each resident in a single cell. Research and Evaluation tracked these EHM populations and determined that public safety was not compromised by the administrative changes. So RCCF used this data to create permanent changes to our EHM program, which has gone through an entire transformation and will be discussed in further detail in the *Community Alternative Program Section*.

As RCCF's population decreased, the female population was significantly impacted. The population of Ramsey County female residents was typically in the 30-40 range prior to COVID. Since COVID, that population has not been greater than 10. Through reform efforts and utilizing more community partners, Ramsey County Community Corrections plans to maintain these low numbers post COVID. On the other hand, the Dakota County population has decreased some, but it has been minimal. Currently, RCCF is opening dorms and incurring staffing costs along with other fixed costs to detain the Dakota county population. It no longer makes financial sense to do so. Effective 2022, the RCCF will no longer house or detain Dakota County female clients. This change provides the department with a unique opportunity to enhance the services we provide to reduced Ramsey County female population sentenced to RCCF. We are currently exploring new programming options for this group of clients.

Another measure RCCF employed to reduce the population during COVID, was submitting a 10 day early release request for any inmate that had a place to stay in the community. If they had housing, the request was made despite offense type. This request was sent to the resident's sentencing judge and these were approved on an individual basis. For most requests, these were approved, which helped keep residents moving out of the facility faster than they normally would, creating more space for new residents coming in, helping RCCF maintain COVID protocol. The Research and Evaluation Unit determined that public safety was not compromised through this measure. Of all the residents released 10 days early, none of them recidivated in that 10-day period. This lends to the idea that incarceration time periods can be arbitrary and are not linked to a person's success. RCCF is still completing 10-day early releases, but post-COVID, RCCF plans to determine how this data can be utilized to reform incarceration periods for residents.

For safety reasons, all visitation sessions were cancelled during COVID to limit the public entering the facility. Therefore, phone calls became even more important to the residents. Prior to COVID, in order to put money on someone's account using a credit card, there was a processing fee of \$6.95. RCCF requested that the contracted vendor eliminate this processing fee and they complied. RCCF wanted to ensure that it was easier for the public to put money on someone's account and that all the money being added was going straight to the inmate and not to fees. Additionally, RCCF provided each resident with one free phone call per day to make communication more possible for all residents. COVID has highlighted the changes RCCF needs to make in terms of facilitating easier, less costly communication between residents and the community. RCCF is currently negotiating for a new contracted phone vendor and RCCF's main priority is to support resident communication even more than we have been. RCCF wants the public to be able to complete video visitation with residents from any place in the community rather than needing to come onsite to do so and they also want free phone calls for all residents. A new phone vendor will be selected by the end of 2021 with a new system implemented in 2022.

## COMMUNITY ALTERNATIVE PROGRAM

In 2020, RCCF revised criteria for its Electronic Home Monitoring (EHM) and Work/School Release programs and created the **Community Alternative Program (CAP)**. The program is designed for adult probationers who have been court ordered to serve jail time or are eligible to be in a program that allows them to remain in the community. It is an alternative to confinement that allows clients to serve their sentence in the community while being monitored using an ankle bracelet or other electronic monitoring device. To participate, clients must be authorized by the Court and meet RCCF's eligibility requirements. RCCF also eliminated all fees to make the program more accessible to clients regardless of socioeconomic status or housing situation.



The program consists of two tracks:

Track 1: **CAP Non-Incarcerated:** Clients approved for the RCCF's CAP Non-Incarcerated option for either a probation violation or original sentence will be using electronic monitoring equipment. CAP staff suggest which monitoring option would be best for each client. CAP is also used for treatment court and DWI clients, if appropriate. This program allows clients to live and continue being in the community.

Track 2: **CAP Incarcerated:** The RCCF's CAP Incarcerated Program allows eligible clients to serve their sentence at home and in the community while under the supervision of CAP. The program allows clients to maintain employment while serving their sentences. Clients are also able to maintain family and community support. Clients will be booked in as an RCCF resident but will complete his/her/their sentence on CAP. The client will receive RCCF good time and RCCF time credit (but not custody credit for future sentences).

By 2022, RCCF will be able to book people into the jail remotely from Metro Square, eliminating the need for clients to enter a correctional facility.

## MEN'S UNIT PROGRAMMING

The Men's Unit programming focuses on offering men cognitive skills programming along with workforce development. The men, on average, serve longer sentences at RCCF than the women, which allows them take advantage of more programming that is also longer in duration.

A significant number of male clients at RCCF have a domestic violence offense and have failed to complete court ordered programming prior to their incarceration. We therefore offer domestic violence programming to meet the needs of this population. The Domestic Violence Education Program address the experiences and beliefs that justify domestic violence, the role of anger and overcoming anger, and principles of healthy relationships including accountability and responsibility, boundaries, and self-control. In terms of cognitive skills programming, RCCF offers Decision Points, a short-term intervention that targets anti-social thoughts and skill deficits. Since it is a short-term program, it caters to both our long-term and short-term residents. Participants are taught alternative ways to examine their thinking and the actions that lead them into trouble. The purpose of the group is to positively impact the behavior and decision making of participants by challenging them to consider how their thinking controls their behavior. For residents with short stays, we can introduce them to Decision Points and begin programming, and they can pick up where they left off in a community-based group once they are released from custody. This allows for continuity of care.

In addition to Decision Points, RCCF also offers Cognitive Behavioral Interventions for Individuals Seeking Employment (CBI-EMP). This curriculum is designed for individuals who are moderate to high need in the area of employment. There is a heavy emphasis on skill building activities to assist with cognitive, social, emotional, and coping skill development for the work environment. As part of the program, participants work in the kitchen and earn several culinary certificates.

The Men's Learning Center offers individualized and group learning opportunities for students working on their GED, preparing for college, training, or employment, or improving their English language skills. Students have a primary goal of improving their reading or math skill level. TABE assessment tests are required for enrollment, as well as every 40-60 hours of class instruction.

## WOMEN'S UNIT PROGRAMMING

The Women's Unit is focused on gender-specific programming to effectively serve female residents and their unique needs. Women typically commit crimes for different reasons than men. As a facility, RCCF aims to address those reasons to reduce future recidivism. Main areas of focus for women are cognitive skills, trauma, and chemical dependency.

A variety of cognitive programming designed specifically for women is offered at RCCF including: Decision Points, a cognitive behavioral intervention targeting antisocial thinking and skill deficits; A Woman's Way through the 12 Steps, an evidence informed program that is designed to target criminogenic needs specific to women; Beyond Trauma, an 11-session curriculum that uses cognitive behavioral techniques, mindfulness and expressive arts to discuss and help women through the trauma they have experienced in their lives; and finally, Healing Trauma, a condensed version of Beyond Trauma that can be targeted to women with short incarceration periods.

The Women's Learning Center is a place for women to further their academic skills and prepare for the workforce. A licensed teacher works with the women to support and guide their studies, but the students work at their own pace. Women can work on Adult Basic Education skills as well as prepare for and take the GED tests for Reading, Social Studies, Science and Math. Women who are interested in post-secondary education can explore fields of study along with short-term training programs.

## PARENTING PROGRAMMING

Over the years, RCCF has placed an emphasis on focusing on residents as parents. Since 2012, RCCF has had a partnership with the MN Prison Doula Project to work with our female population, offering doula services, parenting programming, and individual parent support. In 2017, the program evolved to incorporate face-to-face visits between women and their children. The Ramsey County Correctional Facility has invested in the creation of a parent-child visiting space which includes child friendly seating, games, and books that parents and children can read together. The doulas supervise in person visits with parents and children. In 2019, the MN Prison Doula Project

expanded its services to work with our male population as well. The MN Prison Doula Project facilitators offer the Parenting Inside Out (PIO) curriculum for men; Parenting Inside Out teaches parents a way of navigating life that uses healthy, pro-social skills to interact with children, partners, co-parents, officials, friends, and family. With *PIO* training, residents learn skills they can put into practice to become better parents and role models for their children. Ramsey County is also participating in a grant with the U.S. Department of Justice Second Chance Act *Addressing the Needs of Incarcerated Parents and Their Minor Children program*. This grant includes resources and participation in a learning community for Model Jail Practices and Services to incarcerated parents and their children. The grant goes through 2023 and will help us continue to improve services provide to parents and children in Ramsey County.

## CHEMICAL HEALTH

RCCF contracts with Restorative Counseling and Community Services (RCCS) to provide chemical dependency (CD) programming. While in custody, residents have the opportunity to complete a CD assessment and subsequent treatment, depending on their needs and length of stay.

## MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

Mental Health Services (MHS) at RCCF are coordinated across adult probation, RCCF, and the JDC. A team of five mental health practitioners are assigned to the unit. All staff are cross trained to support juvenile and adult mental health. Mental health staff at RCCF work with clients in the facility and when they are released into the community on adult probation. Mental Health staff members engage clients that are identified as having suicidal concerns, needing access to services, and request mental health follow up. Clients have several access points in which they can be referred to Mental Health services: through the intake process with medical staff, with their case manager at classification, and they can self-refer. Mental health services are voluntary for client's at RCCF.

Mental health staff work with clients to offer in facility care related to mental health, but a main priority is to help the resident establish mental health services in the community, so they are not depending on Community Corrections for mental health support. MHS aims to help residents learn how to navigate community options and services so they can access them independently.

MHS also provides group support by facilitating a Men's Depression group and Dialectical Behavior Therapy (DBT).

RCCF and JDC offer psychiatric care for medication management and transfer of that service to the community. MHS can also complete diagnostic assessments, referrals for case management/ACT/FACT, and functional assessments needed for Intensive Residential Treatment Services (IRTS) placements.

Mental Health Services also works with pre-petition screening if commitment is a level of care that is needed. Working to coordinate care with case management and civil commitment providers.

Mental health staff are also assigned to specific adult field probation offices offering mental health care (direct services, therapeutic interventions, assessment, and care coordination) for clients and probation as needed to decrease access to care being a barrier in probation. Mental health providers are also able to refer for health insurance through providers engaged at RCCF to help coordinate health insurance.

## TRANSITION SERVICES

A commitment to providing reentry services to residents upon release to the community is a priority at the Ramsey County Correctional Facility (RCCF). Transition Services include resources to facilitate reentry to the community for residents at the RCCF and assistance to clients on the Community Alternative Program (CAP).

RCCF and CAP clients are connected with organizations that provide services in the community. Transitions Services offers detailed information about these agencies to increase their comfort level and knowledge, so they are more apt to access these services post release. Allowing opportunities for clients to enroll in programs begins the reentry process that will continue into the community.

Clients can request information about:

- Job training programs available in the community
  - Goodwill Easter Seals
  - Takoda Institute (AIOIC)
  - Ujamaa Place
- Legal assistance and expungement (criminal records, unlawful detainers, etc.)
  - Volunteer Lawyers Network
  - Southern Minnesota Regional Legal Services
  - Hamline Mitchell Law School
  - Dispute Resolution Center
- Accessing the Ramsey County Law Library
- Information on Economic Impact Payments
- Housing and homelessness information
- Employment assistance
  - Ramsey County Workforce Solutions
- Agencies that provide community support
  - Amicus
  - Mom's and Dad's Club in Ramsey County
  - Veteran's Community Resource and Referral Agency

- College Enrollment, FAFSA, degree programs, career interest
  - TRIO-Adult Learning Opportunity Center

Clients can request to enroll in community programs and apply for services. RCCF provides one on one virtual meetings. These meetings allow clients to work with staff from various agencies to complete applications, enroll in community programs and request services they will need upon their reentry to the community. Examples include:

- Enroll in health insurance with Portico Healthnet Navigators
- Enroll in College-Complete FAFSA paperwork
- Enroll in grant funded programs with Takoda Institute
- Apply for a duplicate or renewed state ID
- Work on child support issues with Ramsey County Child Support Workers
- Request assistance for Veterans from Ramsey County and the Veteran's Administration
- Complete homelessness assessments
- Request absentee ballots if clients are eligible to vote
- Clients can request 1040 Tax paperwork so they can file their 2020 Tax Return. This allows them to receive their Economic Impact Payments. RCCF will mail tax returns at client's request.

Reentry services is working directly with programs and grants in the community. Examples include:

The Reentry-Rapid Stabilization Project is a grant funded program to assist youth who will be homeless upon release. Housing assistance includes limited case management, one-time funding for housing related costs, and rental assistance. Clients complete the RentWise curriculum and financial planning to learn the skills needed to be successful. They also work on establishing education and employment goals. The Familywise program works with clients when they reenter the community.

A partnership with the Takoda Institute will provide clients with the opportunity to enroll in the Project Soar, grant funded, Pathway Home Program. Clients serving 20-180 days are eligible to enroll in the program while at the RCCF. Clients can choose between education and training options. While they are at the RCCF clients will meet with programming staff from the Takoda Institute who will establish a working relationship and prepare clients for the program that will start when they are in the community. Takoda Institute staff will follow enrolled clients for up to 3 years after they have completed the training program.

Another MOU has been signed for a second grant funded project through Takoda Institute that is directed at youth who are exiting facilities. Approval is still pending.

RCCF is working with the Veteran 's Administration (VA) to provide clients access to needed services. The RCCF has been chosen for a pilot program that will provide VA iPads that will allow clients to interact with VA staff via a secured

platform. Once they are received, the iPads will only access VA services and RCCF staff will supervise clients while they utilize the device.

Finally, clients need to believe that success is possible. For that reason, the inspirational speaker program was created. This program is meant to instill hope and demonstrate that success is achievable, despite the barriers. Clients at the RCCF are given numerous resources, but at the same time, they need to believe it is possible to succeed. Speakers include previously incarcerated individuals who successfully overcame barriers, judges, and community activists. RCCF invites these individuals to speak with clients about what they can expect when they reenter the community and challenges that they may face, but provide hope that success is an option.

Justice involved clients are impacted when government policies are changed and updated. To ensure barriers are addressed in these changes, the RCCF Transitions Coordinator is directly involved with many agencies and boards in the community.

- Ramsey County Mom and Dad's Clubs
- Circle of Support-alternative sentencing
  - Connecting youth convicted of violent/gang related crimes with community activists who are been trained to be mentors
- Asian Youth Outreach (AYO) program.
- St. Paul Police programs that are involved in the Gun Violence Initiative
- Continuum of Care Governing Board (ending homelessness in Ramsey County)
  - Setting up Coordinated Entry System for Ramsey County
  - Assessors Priority Team – Homelessness Assessment Team
- Judge's community group for women who are justice involved
  - A group that is facilitated by judges in Ramsey County who wish to help female clients successfully reenter the community

In response to COVID-19, social distancing changes have been made. To ensure the client's health and wellness is protected, volunteers and contractors are not allowed into the facility. Staff is working to find ways to preserve the "face to face" interaction that has been so successful in the past. Cameras are being added to the transition center to facilitate live remote reentry meetings between clients and community collaborators and soon a smart board will be used so that group presentations can resume.

Our reentry services at the Ramsey County Correctional Facility work with clients as they make decisions about their future; what they want and need to do as they transition to the community. All the information and resources provided to clients in the facility are also made available to probation officers, community agencies, and anyone who requests information.

## V. OBJECTIVES , STRATEGIES AND PERFORMANCE MEASURES

### PERFORMANCE MEASURES

	Performance Measure	County Goal(s)	2018 Actual	2019 Actual	2020 Actual	2021 Estimate	2022 Estimate
1.	a) Number of youth admitted to out-of-home (dis)placement	Well-being Prosperity	88	62	56	52	48
	b) Percent of youth admitted to out-of-home (dis)placement who are racially and ethnically diverse		91%	88%	82%	80%	80%
2.	a) Number of adults who violate their supervision and are sent to prison	Well-being Prosperity	465	398	197	250*	250*
	b) Percent of adults who violate their supervision and are sent to prison who are racially and ethnically diverse		72%	73%	75%	70%	70%

### The Story Behind the Baseline

One of the primary goals of our department is More Community, Less Confinement. This entails using the least restrictive means to hold people accountable while at the same time promoting success. This goal became even more critical during the pandemic as we worked to reduce the spread of COVID-19, particularly in our correctional facilities. We either suspended or significantly reduced technical probation violations to decrease the number of adults and juveniles incarcerated.

The number of racially and ethnically diverse youth admitted to out-of-home displacement has decreased dramatically over the past five years. This is the result of years of significant juvenile justice reform efforts which included the closure of our Boys Totem Town residential treatment facility in August 2019. The reductions in displacements provide both an opportunity in the form of savings in confinement costs as well as a challenge in needing to bolster community and family supports to keep youth safely in the community. On the adult side, we are focusing on people who violate their supervision and are then sent to prison (also referred to as revoked). Ramsey County has historically had one of the highest revocation rates in the state. In partnership with the Robina Institute of Criminal Law and Criminal Justice, we, along with ten other sites across the country, were awarded funding for the Reducing Revocations Challenge Initiative. The purpose is to better understand why revocations occur and develop and implement strategies to reduce revocations and increase probation success.

While we have made significant progress in reducing both the number of youths in displacement as well as adults in confinement, our confinement disparities remain stark. In Ramsey County, Black youth represent 19% of our youth population but accounted for 49% of the out of home displacements. Black men represent 5% of Ramsey County's adult population but accounted for 55% of those who

violated their supervision and were returned to prison. We continue to work closely with the community and our justice partners to address these disparities.

#### How We Can Do Better?

To do better, we must focus reform efforts on helping clients be successful on probation by broadening community-based options, supports, and incarceration alternatives for clients who do not pose significant risk to community safety. We are exploring additional ways to support client success along with earlier intervention strategies including enhanced pretrial services. We are implementing innovative approaches to support clients with significant needs/challenges that create barriers for success including clients who are experiencing homelessness. We must hire staff that reflect and value the communities we serve, prioritize racial equity, engage with community by co-designing services and shared decision making.

COVID-19 accelerated reform-driven, operational changes including increased use of remote tele-supervision, alleviating challenges related to transportation, employment leave and childcare. Using alternative supervision strategies, the RCCF population was reduced in 2020. The HWST will monitor American Rescue Plan funds for additional resources for our clients/residents.

Anticipated challenges include:

- Balancing services and staffing, including 11 unfunded positions, to meet levy targets
- Reduced revenue and state funding
- Pre-trial services funding
- Increases in client populations in facilities/field
- Additional staff time required for secure client transports
- Future Revocation Reform
- Technology resource costs/needs
- Availability of community-based programming and alternatives
- Enhancing mental health resources
- Public safety perceptions/expectations



## VI. BUDGET AND FINANCIAL

- Grants, Subsidies, and Reimbursements
- FTEs by Program Area
- Proposed Budget

### GRANTS

GRANTS	SOURCE	2022 Estimated Revenue
Adult – Adult Intensive Supervised Release – Provide intensive supervision of adult offenders who have completed their prison sentences and have been released to the community.	Minnesota Department of Corrections	\$981,900
Adult – Remote Electronic Alcohol Monitoring	Minnesota Department of Corrections	\$78,000
Adult – Halfway House and Reentry Grant – Provide case management and residential services to enhance the quality of transitional reentry and halfway housing services available to males leaving incarceration.	Minnesota Department of Corrections	\$136,000
Adult – Sentence to Service – Contribute to the cost of providing an intermediate sanction program allowing offenders referred by the Court to work on community improvement projects.	Minnesota Department of Corrections	\$20,000
Adult – Treatment Courts Grant – Provide case management, drug testing and other services for participants in the State Treatment Courts (Mental Health, Veterans, DWI and Adult Substance Abuse Courts).	Minnesota Second Judicial District	\$118,504

## SUBSIDIES AND REIMBURSEMENTS

SUBSIDIES	SOURCE	2022 Est.
Community Corrections Act Subsidy	Minnesota Department of Corrections	\$9,799,750
REIMBURSEMENTS	SOURCE	2022 Est.
Sex Offender Evaluation – Provide psychosexual evaluations to the Court.	Minnesota Department of Corrections	\$700 (per evaluation)
Polygraph Eligibility Distribution	Minnesota Department of Corrections	\$350 (per test for some tests)
Adult Basic Education Program at the Ramsey County Correctional Facility	MN Department of Education and US Department of Education	\$80,000 (Estimate)
State Criminal Alien Assistance Program (SCAAP) – Provide confinement for non-residents	US Bureau of Justice Assistance	\$50,000 (Estimate)

# Department Summary

## PERSONNEL SUMMARY BY DIVISION

## Community Corrections

	FY20 Approved	FY21 Approved	FY22 Proposed	FY23 Proposed
<u>Operating Budget</u>				
Community Corrections Administration	38.00	38.00	46.00	46.00
Adult Probation	172.86	172.95	192.75	192.83
Correctional Facility	132.61	132.61	133.61	133.61
Juvenile Probation	55.50	55.50	46.50	46.50
Boys Totem Town	45.00	44.00	-	-
Juvenile Detention Center	51.00	51.00	63.00	63.00
Total Operating Budget	494.97	494.06	481.86	481.94

	FY20 Approved	FY21 Approved	FY22 Proposed	FY23 Proposed
<u>Grants / Projects</u>				
Intensive Supervision (G202002)	7.87	7.80	7.61	7.54
Reducing Recidivism (G208095)	1.00	1.00	0.00	0.00
Treatment Courts (G219004)	0.91	0.90	0.79	0.78
Total Existing Permanent FTE	504.76	503.76	490.26	490.26

	FY22 Proposed	FY23 Proposed
<u>FTE Changes</u>		
PREA Investigator move to Compliance	(1.00)	(1.00)
BTT close - FTE moved to various departments	(13.50)	(13.50)
Total FTE	489.26	489.26
Inc/(Dec) From Previous Year	(14.50)	(1.00)
Inc/(Dec) for 2 Years		(14.50)

**MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS**  
**COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS ACT**  
**COMPREHENSIVE PLAN BUDGET**  
(nearest dollar)

County/Group: Ramsey County

Budget Year: Calendar 2022 Proposed (to be approved by Board in Dec. 2021)

**Consolidated Budget**

FUNDING SOURCE	DOC SUBSIDY	COUNTY	OTHER	TOTAL
Personnel				52,141,470
Service & Contractual				15,190,623
Travel				0
Training				195,995
Supplies & Materials				1,345,000
Capital Outlays				805,472
*Other Services (specify below)				0
Direct Budgeted Expenses	9,799,750	57,113,128	2,765,682	69,678,560
Use of State Institutions	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Budgeted Expenses</b>	<b>9,799,750</b>	<b>57,113,128</b>	<b>2,765,682</b>	<b>69,678,560</b>

Minimum County/Group Level of Spending Current Year:

**10,570,654**

Percent of County budget

**19%**

*For Internal Use Only:*

Fiscal Services Grant Administrator Approval & Date

Date Notified Grants Administrator

**MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS**  
**COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS ACT**  
**COMPREHENSIVE PLAN BUDGET**  
(nearest dollar)

**County/Group:** Ramsey County

**Budget Year:** Calendar 2022 Proposed (to be approved by Board in Dec. 2021)

**Budget for Subsidy Program: Administration**

FUNDING SOURCE	DOC SUBSIDY	COUNTY	OTHER	TOTAL
Personnel				5,052,625
Service & Contractual				4,005,369
Travel				
Training				
Supplies & Materials				33,000
Capital Outlays				64,522
*Other Services (specify below)				
Direct Budgeted Expenses	484,839	8,670,476	201	9,155,516
Use of State Institutions				0
<b>Total Budgeted Expenses</b>	<b>484,839</b>	<b>8,670,476</b>	<b>201</b>	<b>9,155,516</b>

**Budget for Subsidy Program: Training**

FUNDING SOURCE	DOC SUBSIDY	COUNTY	OTHER	TOTAL
Personnel				
Service & Contractual				
Travel				
Training				195,995
Supplies & Materials				
Capital Outlays				
*Other Services (specify below)				
Direct Budgeted Expenses	195,995	0	0	195,995
Use of State Institutions				0
<b>Total Budgeted Expenses</b>	<b>195,995</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>195,995</b>

**Budget for Subsidy Program: Adult Facilities**

FUNDING SOURCE	DOC SUBSIDY	COUNTY	OTHER	TOTAL
Personnel				13,596,551
Service & Contractual				2,182,000
Travel				
Training				
Supplies & Materials				1,102,000
Capital Outlays				110,703
*Other Services (specify below)				
Direct Budgeted Expenses	1,936,702	13,717,675	1,336,877	16,991,254
Use of State Institutions				0
<b>Total Budgeted Expenses</b>	<b>1,936,702</b>	<b>13,717,675</b>	<b>1,336,877</b>	<b>16,991,254</b>

**MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS**  
**COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS ACT**  
**COMPREHENSIVE PLAN BUDGET**  
(nearest dollar)

**County/Group:** Ramsey County

**Budget Year:** Calendar 2022 Proposed (to be approved by Board in Dec. 2021)

**Budget for Subsidy Program: Adult Services**

FUNDING SOURCE	DOC SUBSIDY	COUNTY	OTHER	TOTAL
Personnel				21,323,442
Service & Contractual				4,412,754
Travel				
Training				
Supplies & Materials				77,000
Capital Outlays				469,244
*Other Services (specify below)				
Direct Budgeted Expenses	4,860,896	21,307,744	113,800	26,282,440
Use of State Institutions				0
<b>Total Budgeted Expenses</b>	<b>4,860,896</b>	<b>21,307,744</b>	<b>113,800</b>	<b>26,282,440</b>

**Budget for Subsidy Program: Court & Field Services**

FUNDING SOURCE	DOC SUBSIDY	COUNTY	OTHER	TOTAL
Personnel				
Service & Contractual				
Travel				
Training				
Supplies & Materials				
Capital Outlays				
*Other Services (specify below)				
Direct Budgeted Expenses				0
Use of State Institutions				0
<b>Total Budgeted Expenses</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>0</b>

**Budget for Subsidy Program: Evaluation Services**

FUNDING SOURCE	DOC SUBSIDY	COUNTY	OTHER	TOTAL
Personnel				
Service & Contractual				
Travel				
Training				
Supplies & Materials				
Capital Outlays				
*Other Services (specify below)				
Direct Budgeted Expenses				0
Use of State Institutions				0
<b>Total Budgeted Expenses</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>0</b>

**MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS**  
**COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS ACT**  
**COMPREHENSIVE PLAN BUDGET**  
(nearest dollar)

**County/Group:** Ramsey County

**Budget Year:** Calendar 2022 Proposed (to be approved by Board in Dec. 2021)

**Budget for Subsidy Program: Jail Programs**

FUNDING SOURCE	DOC SUBSIDY	COUNTY	OTHER	TOTAL
Personnel				
Service & Contractual				
Travel				
Training				
Supplies & Materials				
Capital Outlays				
*Other Services (specify below)				
Direct Budgeted Expenses				0
Use of State Institutions				0
<b>Total Budgeted Expenses</b>	-	-	-	<b>0</b>

**Budget for Subsidy Program: Juvenile Facilities**

FUNDING SOURCE	DOC SUBSIDY	COUNTY	OTHER	TOTAL
Personnel				5,781,110
Service & Contractual				1,039,000
Travel				
Training				
Supplies & Materials				108,000
Capital Outlays				89,000
*Other Services (specify below)				
Direct Budgeted Expenses	708,316	6,308,594	200	7,017,110
Use of State Institutions				0
<b>Total Budgeted Expenses</b>	<b>708,316</b>	<b>6,308,594</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>7,017,110</b>

**Budget for Subsidy Program: Juvenile Services**

FUNDING SOURCE	DOC SUBSIDY	COUNTY	OTHER	TOTAL
Personnel				5,328,838
Service & Contractual				3,296,000
Travel				
Training				
Supplies & Materials				25,000
Capital Outlays				72,003
*Other Services (specify below)				
Direct Budgeted Expenses	1,613,002	7,108,639	200	8,721,841
Use of State Institutions				0
<b>Total Budgeted Expenses</b>	<b>1,613,002</b>	<b>7,108,639</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>8,721,841</b>

**MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS**  
**COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS ACT**  
**COMPREHENSIVE PLAN BUDGET**  
(nearest dollar)

**County/Group:** Ramsey County

**Budget Year:** Calendar 2022 Proposed (to be approved by Board in Dec. 2021)

**Budget for Subsidy Program: Residential Programming**

FUNDING SOURCE	DOC SUBSIDY	COUNTY	OTHER	TOTAL
Personnel				
Service & Contractual				
Travel				
Training				
Supplies & Materials				
Capital Outlays				
*Other Services (specify below)				
Direct Budgeted Expenses				0
Use of State Institutions				0
<b>Total Budgeted Expenses</b>	-	-	-	<b>0</b>

**Budget for Subsidy Program: Non-Residential Programming**

FUNDING SOURCE	DOC SUBSIDY	COUNTY	OTHER	TOTAL
Personnel				
Service & Contractual				
Travel				
Training				
Supplies & Materials				
Capital Outlays				
*Other Services (specify below)				
Direct Budgeted Expenses				0
Use of State Institutions				0
<b>Total Budgeted Expenses</b>	-	-	-	<b>0</b>

**Budget for Subsidy Program: Parole Services**

FUNDING SOURCE	DOC SUBSIDY	COUNTY	OTHER	TOTAL
Personnel				
Service & Contractual				
Travel				
Training				
Supplies & Materials				
Capital Outlays				
*Other Services (specify below)				
Direct Budgeted Expenses				0
Use of State Institutions				0
<b>Total Budgeted Expenses</b>	-	-	-	<b>0</b>



**MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS**  
**COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS ACT**  
**COMPREHENSIVE PLAN BUDGET**  
(nearest dollar)

**County/Group:** Ramsey County

**Budget Year:** Calendar 2022 Proposed (to be approved by Board in Dec. 2021)

**Budget for Subsidy Program: Probation Services**

FUNDING SOURCE	DOC SUBSIDY	COUNTY	OTHER	TOTAL
Personnel				
Service & Contractual				
Travel				
Training				
Supplies & Materials				
Capital Outlays				
*Other Services (specify below)				
Direct Budgeted Expenses				0
Use of State Institutions				0
<b>Total Budgeted Expenses</b>	-	-	-	<b>0</b>

**Budget for Subsidy Program: Service & Contractual**

FUNDING SOURCE	DOC SUBSIDY	COUNTY	OTHER	TOTAL
Personnel				
Service & Contractual				
Travel				
Training				
Supplies & Materials				
Capital Outlays				
*Other Services (specify below)				
Direct Budgeted Expenses				0
Use of State Institutions				0
<b>Total Budgeted Expenses</b>	-	-	-	<b>0</b>

**Budget for Subsidy Program: Specialty Court (Drug, DWI, ETC)**

FUNDING SOURCE	DOC SUBSIDY	COUNTY	OTHER	TOTAL
Personnel				77,004
Service & Contractual				41,500
Travel				
Training				
Supplies & Materials				
Capital Outlays				
*Other Services (specify below)				
Direct Budgeted Expenses			118,504	118,504
Use of State Institutions				0
<b>Total Budgeted Expenses</b>	-	-	<b>118,504</b>	<b>118,504</b>

**MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS**  
**COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS ACT**  
**COMPREHENSIVE PLAN BUDGET**  
(nearest dollar)

County/Group: Ramsey County

Budget Year: Calendar 2022 Proposed (to be approved by Board in Dec. 2021)

**Budget for Subsidy Program: Supervised Release Services**

FUNDING SOURCE	DOC SUBSIDY	COUNTY	OTHER	TOTAL
Personnel				981,900
Service & Contractual				
Travel				
Training				
Supplies & Materials				
Capital Outlays				
*Other Services (specify below)				
Direct Budgeted Expenses	0	0	981,900	981,900
Use of State Institutions				0
<b>Total Budgeted Expenses</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>981,900</b>	<b>981,900</b>

**Budget for Subsidy Program: Other-**

FUNDING SOURCE	DOC SUBSIDY	COUNTY	OTHER	TOTAL
Personnel				
Service & Contractual				214,000
Travel				
Training				
Supplies & Materials				
Capital Outlays				
*Other Services (specify below)				
Direct Budgeted Expenses			214,000	214,000
Use of State Institutions				0
<b>Total Budgeted Expenses</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>214,000</b>	<b>214,000</b>

**\*OTHER SERVICES (FUNDING SOURCE SPECIFIED)**

Program Name	Description	Amount
<b>Total</b>		<b>0</b>

**NOTES:**

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**MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS**  
**COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS ACT**  
**COMPREHENSIVE PLAN BUDGET**  
(nearest dollar)

County/Group: Ramsey County

Budget Year: Calendar 2023 Proposed (to be approved by Board in Dec. 2022)

**Consolidated Budget**

FUNDING SOURCE	DOC SUBSIDY	COUNTY	OTHER	TOTAL
Personnel				52,421,310
Service & Contractual				15,234,076
Travel				0
Training				195,995
Supplies & Materials				1,350,000
Capital Outlays				4,499
*Other Services (specify below)				0
Direct Budgeted Expenses	9,799,750	56,629,062	2,777,068	69,205,880
Use of State Institutions	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Budgeted Expenses</b>	<b>9,799,750</b>	<b>56,629,062</b>	<b>2,777,068</b>	<b>69,205,880</b>

Minimum County/Group Level of Spending Current Year:

**10,570,654**

Percent of County budget

**19%**

*For Internal Use Only:*

Fiscal Services Grant Administrator Approval & Date

Date Notified Grants Administrator

**MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS**  
**COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS ACT**  
**COMPREHENSIVE PLAN BUDGET**  
(nearest dollar)

**County/Group:** Ramsey County

**Budget Year:** Calendar 2023 Proposed (to be approved by Board in Dec. 2022)

**Budget for Subsidy Program: Administration**

FUNDING SOURCE	DOC SUBSIDY	COUNTY	OTHER	TOTAL
Personnel				5,052,394
Service & Contractual				4,032,720
Travel				
Training				
Supplies & Materials				31,000
Capital Outlays				0
*Other Services (specify below)				
Direct Budgeted Expenses	484,839	8,631,074	201	9,116,114
Use of State Institutions				0
<b>Total Budgeted Expenses</b>	<b>484,839</b>	<b>8,631,074</b>	<b>201</b>	<b>9,116,114</b>

**Budget for Subsidy Program: Training**

FUNDING SOURCE	DOC SUBSIDY	COUNTY	OTHER	TOTAL
Personnel				
Service & Contractual				
Travel				
Training				195,995
Supplies & Materials				
Capital Outlays				
*Other Services (specify below)				
Direct Budgeted Expenses	195,995	0	0	195,995
Use of State Institutions				0
<b>Total Budgeted Expenses</b>	<b>195,995</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>195,995</b>

**Budget for Subsidy Program: Adult Facilities**

FUNDING SOURCE	DOC SUBSIDY	COUNTY	OTHER	TOTAL
Personnel				13,543,785
Service & Contractual				2,182,000
Travel				
Training				
Supplies & Materials				1,130,000
Capital Outlays				0
*Other Services (specify below)				
Direct Budgeted Expenses	1,936,702	13,570,840	1,348,243	16,855,785
Use of State Institutions				0
<b>Total Budgeted Expenses</b>	<b>1,936,702</b>	<b>13,570,840</b>	<b>1,348,243</b>	<b>16,855,785</b>

**MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS**  
**COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS ACT**  
**COMPREHENSIVE PLAN BUDGET**  
(nearest dollar)

**County/Group:** Ramsey County

**Budget Year:** Calendar 2023 Proposed (to be approved by Board in Dec. 2022)

**Budget for Subsidy Program: Adult Services**

FUNDING SOURCE	DOC SUBSIDY	COUNTY	OTHER	TOTAL
Personnel				21,545,383
Service & Contractual				4,438,506
Travel				
Training				
Supplies & Materials				82,000
Capital Outlays				0
*Other Services (specify below)				
Direct Budgeted Expenses	4,860,896	21,091,193	113,800	26,065,889
Use of State Institutions				0
<b>Total Budgeted Expenses</b>	<b>4,860,896</b>	<b>21,091,193</b>	<b>113,800</b>	<b>26,065,889</b>

**Budget for Subsidy Program: Court & Field Services**

FUNDING SOURCE	DOC SUBSIDY	COUNTY	OTHER	TOTAL
Personnel				
Service & Contractual				
Travel				
Training				
Supplies & Materials				
Capital Outlays				
*Other Services (specify below)				
Direct Budgeted Expenses				0
Use of State Institutions				0
<b>Total Budgeted Expenses</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>0</b>

**Budget for Subsidy Program: Evaluation Services**

FUNDING SOURCE	DOC SUBSIDY	COUNTY	OTHER	TOTAL
Personnel				
Service & Contractual				
Travel				
Training				
Supplies & Materials				
Capital Outlays				
*Other Services (specify below)				
Direct Budgeted Expenses				0
Use of State Institutions				0
<b>Total Budgeted Expenses</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>0</b>

**MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS**  
**COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS ACT**  
**COMPREHENSIVE PLAN BUDGET**  
(nearest dollar)

**County/Group:** Ramsey County

**Budget Year:** Calendar 2023 Proposed (to be approved by Board in Dec. 2022)

**Budget for Subsidy Program: Jail Programs**

FUNDING SOURCE	DOC SUBSIDY	COUNTY	OTHER	TOTAL
Personnel				
Service & Contractual				
Travel				
Training				
Supplies & Materials				
Capital Outlays				
*Other Services (specify below)				
Direct Budgeted Expenses				0
Use of State Institutions				0
<b>Total Budgeted Expenses</b>	-	-	-	<b>0</b>

**Budget for Subsidy Program: Juvenile Facilities**

FUNDING SOURCE	DOC SUBSIDY	COUNTY	OTHER	TOTAL
Personnel				5,839,034
Service & Contractual				1,026,000
Travel				
Training				
Supplies & Materials				80,000
Capital Outlays				0
*Other Services (specify below)				
Direct Budgeted Expenses	708,316	6,236,518	200	6,945,034
Use of State Institutions				0
<b>Total Budgeted Expenses</b>	<b>708,316</b>	<b>6,236,518</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>6,945,034</b>

**Budget for Subsidy Program: Juvenile Services**

FUNDING SOURCE	DOC SUBSIDY	COUNTY	OTHER	TOTAL
Personnel				5,381,790
Service & Contractual				3,299,350
Travel				
Training				
Supplies & Materials				27,000
Capital Outlays				4,499
*Other Services (specify below)				
Direct Budgeted Expenses	1,613,002	7,099,437	200	8,712,639
Use of State Institutions				0
<b>Total Budgeted Expenses</b>	<b>1,613,002</b>	<b>7,099,437</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>8,712,639</b>

**MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS**  
**COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS ACT**  
**COMPREHENSIVE PLAN BUDGET**  
(nearest dollar)

**County/Group:** Ramsey County

**Budget Year:** Calendar 2023 Proposed (to be approved by Board in Dec. 2022)

**Budget for Subsidy Program: Residential Programming**

FUNDING SOURCE	DOC SUBSIDY	COUNTY	OTHER	TOTAL
Personnel				
Service & Contractual				
Travel				
Training				
Supplies & Materials				
Capital Outlays				
*Other Services (specify below)				
Direct Budgeted Expenses				0
Use of State Institutions				0
<b>Total Budgeted Expenses</b>	-	-	-	<b>0</b>

**Budget for Subsidy Program: Non-Residential Programming**

FUNDING SOURCE	DOC SUBSIDY	COUNTY	OTHER	TOTAL
Personnel				
Service & Contractual				
Travel				
Training				
Supplies & Materials				
Capital Outlays				
*Other Services (specify below)				
Direct Budgeted Expenses				0
Use of State Institutions				0
<b>Total Budgeted Expenses</b>	-	-	-	<b>0</b>

**Budget for Subsidy Program: Parole Services**

FUNDING SOURCE	DOC SUBSIDY	COUNTY	OTHER	TOTAL
Personnel				
Service & Contractual				
Travel				
Training				
Supplies & Materials				
Capital Outlays				
*Other Services (specify below)				
Direct Budgeted Expenses				0
Use of State Institutions				0
<b>Total Budgeted Expenses</b>	-	-	-	<b>0</b>

**MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS**  
**COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS ACT**  
**COMPREHENSIVE PLAN BUDGET**  
(nearest dollar)

**County/Group:** Ramsey County

**Budget Year:** Calendar 2023 Proposed (to be approved by Board in Dec. 2022)

**Budget for Subsidy Program: Probation Services**

FUNDING SOURCE	DOC SUBSIDY	COUNTY	OTHER	TOTAL
Personnel				
Service & Contractual				
Travel				
Training				
Supplies & Materials				
Capital Outlays				
*Other Services (specify below)				
Direct Budgeted Expenses				0
Use of State Institutions				0
<b>Total Budgeted Expenses</b>	-	-	-	<b>0</b>

**Budget for Subsidy Program: Service & Contractual**

FUNDING SOURCE	DOC SUBSIDY	COUNTY	OTHER	TOTAL
Personnel				
Service & Contractual				
Travel				
Training				
Supplies & Materials				
Capital Outlays				
*Other Services (specify below)				
Direct Budgeted Expenses				0
Use of State Institutions				0
<b>Total Budgeted Expenses</b>	-	-	-	<b>0</b>

**Budget for Subsidy Program: Specialty Court (Drug, DWI, ETC)**

FUNDING SOURCE	DOC SUBSIDY	COUNTY	OTHER	TOTAL
Personnel				77,015
Service & Contractual				41,500
Travel				
Training				
Supplies & Materials				
Capital Outlays				
*Other Services (specify below)				
Direct Budgeted Expenses			118,515	118,515
Use of State Institutions				0
<b>Total Budgeted Expenses</b>	-	-	<b>118,515</b>	<b>118,515</b>



**MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS**  
**COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS ACT**  
**COMPREHENSIVE PLAN BUDGET**  
(nearest dollar)

County/Group: Ramsey County

Budget Year: Calendar 2023 Proposed (to be approved by Board in Dec. 2022)

**Budget for Subsidy Program: Supervised Release Services**

FUNDING SOURCE	DOC SUBSIDY	COUNTY	OTHER	TOTAL
Personnel				981,909
Service & Contractual				
Travel				
Training				
Supplies & Materials				
Capital Outlays				
*Other Services (specify below)				
Direct Budgeted Expenses	0	0	981,909	981,909
Use of State Institutions				0
<b>Total Budgeted Expenses</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>981,909</b>	<b>981,909</b>

**Budget for Subsidy Program: Other-**

FUNDING SOURCE	DOC SUBSIDY	COUNTY	OTHER	TOTAL
Personnel				
Service & Contractual				214,000
Travel				
Training				
Supplies & Materials				
Capital Outlays				
*Other Services (specify below)				
Direct Budgeted Expenses			214,000	214,000
Use of State Institutions				0
<b>Total Budgeted Expenses</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>214,000</b>	<b>214,000</b>

*OTHER SERVICES (FUNDING SOURCE SPECIFIED)		
Program Name	Description	Amount
Total		0

**NOTES:**

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# 2020 FACT SHEETS

**Developed by the Research and Evaluation Unit**

**Published April 2021**

For more information, contact:

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[leah.bower@co.ramsey.mn.us](mailto:leah.bower@co.ramsey.mn.us)

Notes: These fact sheets use data from CSTS, S<sup>3</sup>, Rite Track, RAI, and OMS  
Data was retrieved in February 2021

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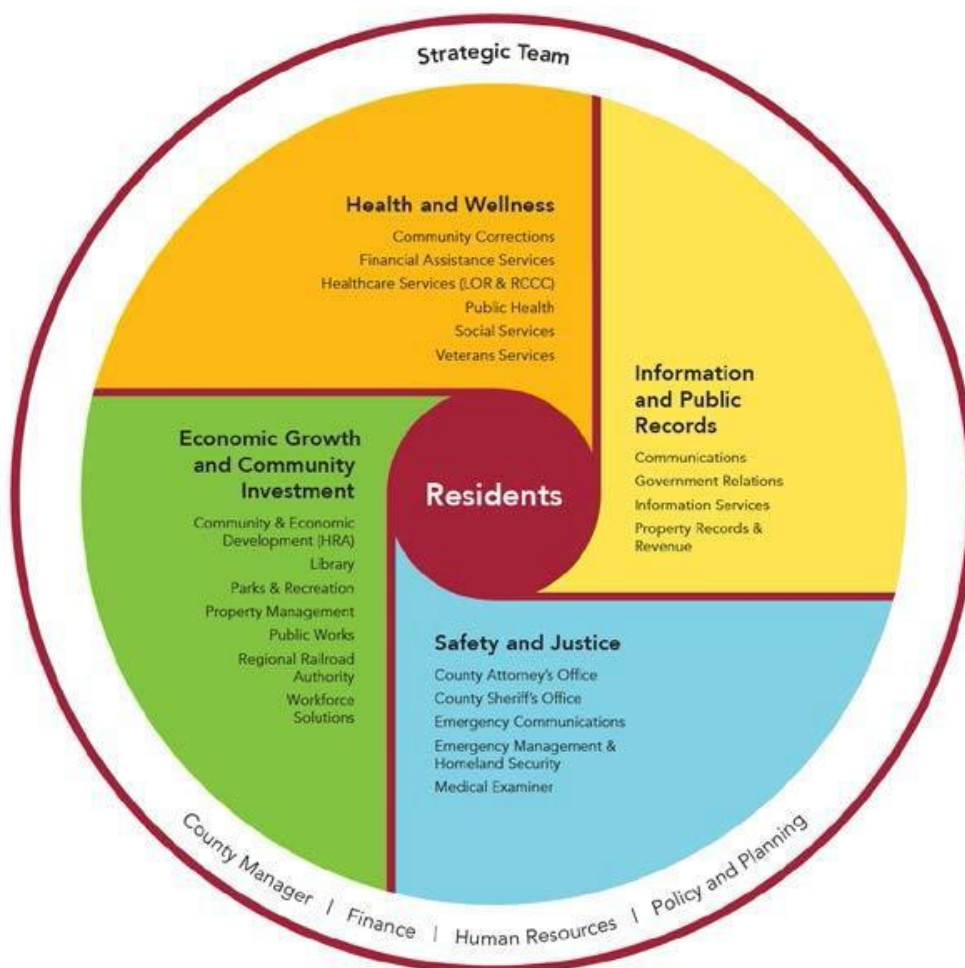
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## Introduction

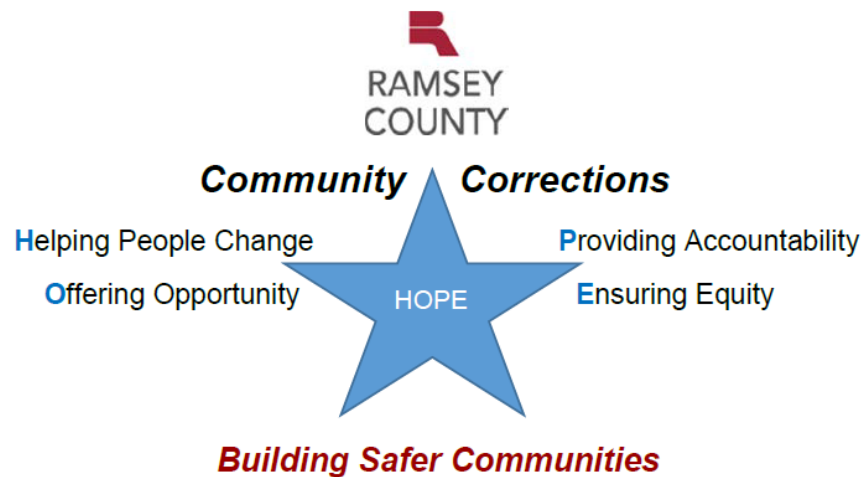
This report describes clients served and services provided by Ramsey County Community Corrections (RCCC) in 2020. The onset of the COVID-19 global pandemic brought enormous challenges and uncertainty, but also an opportunity to reflect on how we have traditionally delivered services and to adapt and innovate how we provide services moving forward. Over the past year, our community also grieved and grappled with the killing of George Floyd. We recognize the systemic health and racial disparities these events have unearthed and the hardships, isolation, fear, hurt, sadness, and anger that many in our community – including our clients – continue to endure.

Through these events, RCCC continues to provide a core set of functions that support the criminal justice system. RCCC screens and assesses clients, prepares reports for court, provides community supervision, connects clients with services and resources in the community, and offers short-term custody and programming for those who are court-ordered to serve time.

In 2015, Ramsey County reorganized its departments into four integrated service teams. RCCC is a member of the Health and Wellness Service Team which is Ramsey County's largest service team. RCCC also works closely with the Safety and Justice Service Team, the Second Judicial District, and multiple community service providers.



RCCC operates under the HOPE principles. HOPE is acronym that expresses the unique combination of personal change and accountability that the department's correctional professionals strive to enact with the clients under their care. The principles of HOPE encompass the following:



In 2016, Ramsey County Community Corrections began the process of creating and implementing a department wide strategic plan. This plan lays out four major goal areas that are supportive of the Health and Wellness Service Team as well as the County Board's Strategic Plan. The four goals are:

**Goal 1 – One Client, One Plan**

Provide and coordinate effective client-centered services through targeted case planning.

**Goal 2 – We Reflect the Clients and Communities We Serve**

Recruit, hire, retain and promote a talented and diverse workforce that reflects the clients and communities we serve.

**Goal 3 – We Communicate and Engage**

Develop and implement clear and transparent communication and consistent processes that establish trust throughout the department.

**Goal 4 – More Community, Less Confinement**

Increase use of and success with community supervision strategies and reduce the use of incarceration and out-of-home placements, while maintaining public safety.

# **JDC Profile 2020**

## **JUVENILE DETENTION CENTER (JDC)**

**Superintendent:** Timothy Vasquez    651-266-5230

**Assistant Superintendent:** Gwen Rouleau

The Ramsey County Juvenile Detention Center (JDC) is a 44-bed facility that provides secure detention for youth. The JDC provides a safe, secure and structured setting for males and females aged 10 through 17 who are charged with committing offenses, are arrested on warrants or are in violation of their probation on a previous offense.

Prior to being admitted to the JDC, youth are assessed to determine if they meet admission criteria. In 2008, the JDC implemented the Risk Assessment Instrument (RAI) to reduce the number of lower risk youth who were detained. Prior to 2008, JDC accepted all youth brought to the facility by law enforcement. With the RAI screening tool, youth who are determined to be lower risk are released to a parent/guardian or shelter with a Court date.

Youth are admitted to detention when there is a reason to believe they:

- Would not appear for their next court hearing
- Are at risk to reoffend
- Are awaiting court or out of home placement.

On June 18, 2019, JDC took over the booking process from the Ramsey County Sheriff's Office. Previously, youth were booked at the Ramsey County Law Enforcement Center, then transported to JDC to receive a RAI in order to determine if they should be admitted to detention or released. Booking entails fingerprinting and photos to verify the youth's identity.

### What was different due to COVID-19?

All youth are screened for COVID when brought to the facility. If COVID symptoms are present, and/or there has been a potential exposure, youth are placed in isolation. All youth are placed in quarantine for 14 days upon admission to the JDC. Youth are assigned cohorts, based on time of admission. Youth are tested for COVID on day nine. If there is a negative COVID test result, youth join regular programming after 14 days.

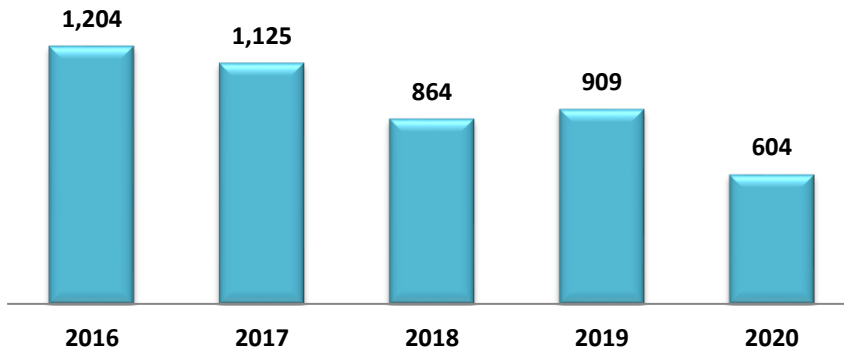
JDC witnessed reductions in RAIs completed and detention admissions as the result of COVID-19. These reductions can be attributed to several factors, including law enforcement bringing fewer youth on non-felony, non-person related offenses to the front door of detention, decreased use of warrants and court ordered admissions by the Court, and reduced utilization of out of home placement facilities by Juvenile Probation and the Court.

# JDC Profile 2020

## Risk Assessment Instrument

Since 2008, JDC has used the Risk Assessment Instrument (RAI) to objectively identify youth who can be appropriately served and monitored in the community, versus those who are at risk of re-offense or failure to appear in court and thus should be held in detention. **604** RAI's were completed in 2020.<sup>1</sup>

*RAI's Completed : Five Year Trend*



There was a 34% decrease in the number of RAI's completed in 2020 compared to 2019.

A youth's recommended release decision is based on his/her RAI score (unless there is an override). RAI scores and corresponding release decisions are grouped as follows:

**0-9: Release** to parent/guardian

**10-14: Release** to 36-hour alternative to detention (ATD)

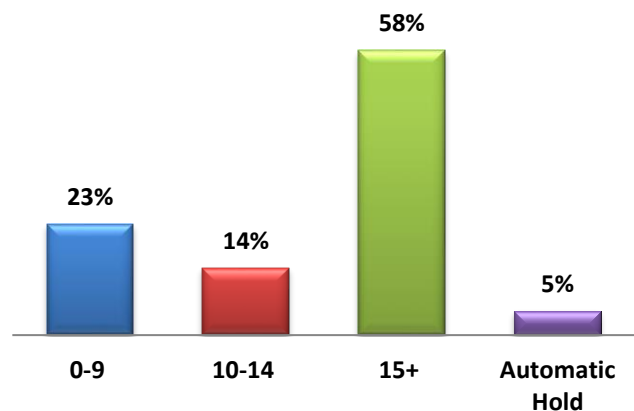
**15+: Detain**

**Automatic Hold: Detain** automatically per policy.

Reasons for an automatic hold include warrant, failure of placement, certification/ EJJ, and out of state residence.<sup>2</sup>

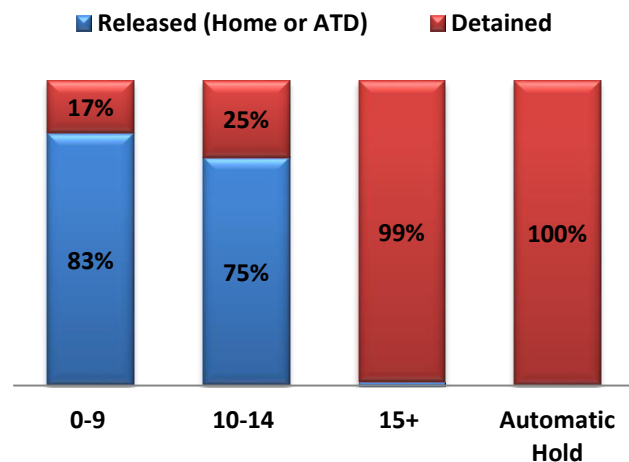
*2020 RAI Scores*

(n= 604)

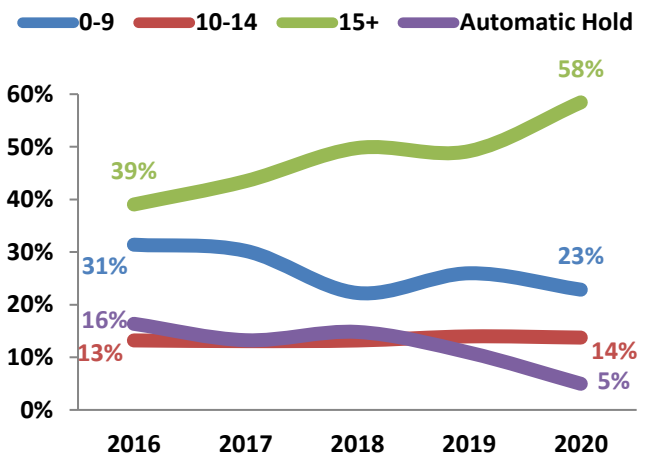


*2020 RAI Scores by Release Decision*

(n= 604)



*RAI Scores: Five Year Trend*



<sup>1</sup> Not all youth who are admitted to detention receive a RAI. Reasons for detention admission without the completion of a RAI include court orders to detain, transfers/changes of venue, and out of county/state warrants.

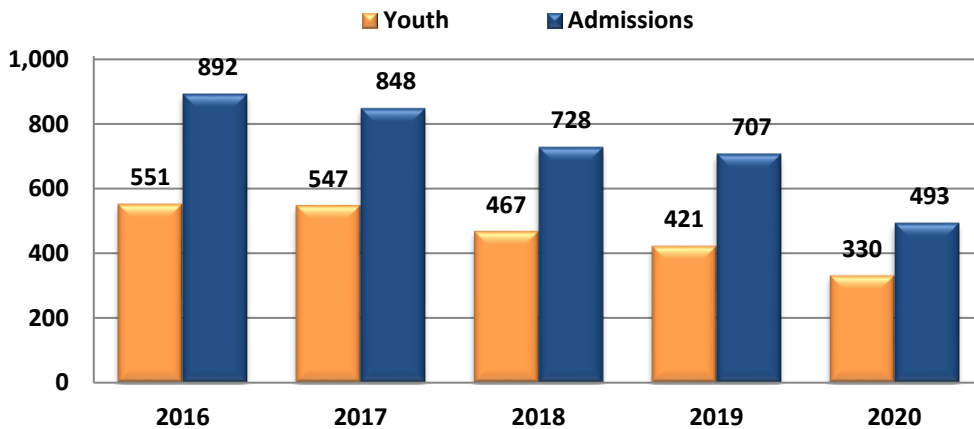
<sup>2</sup> Automatic holds are based on policy. Does not include administrative overrides to detention (e.g. no 36-hour ATD available, parent/guardian unable or unwilling to pick up the youth)..

# JDC Profile 2020

## Admissions

There were **493** admissions to JDC in 2020. This includes both admissions where a RAI was administered, as well as those where no RAI was completed (e.g. out of county/state warrants and court orders to detention). The charts below provide detail on admissions by race, gender, age, and reason for admission.

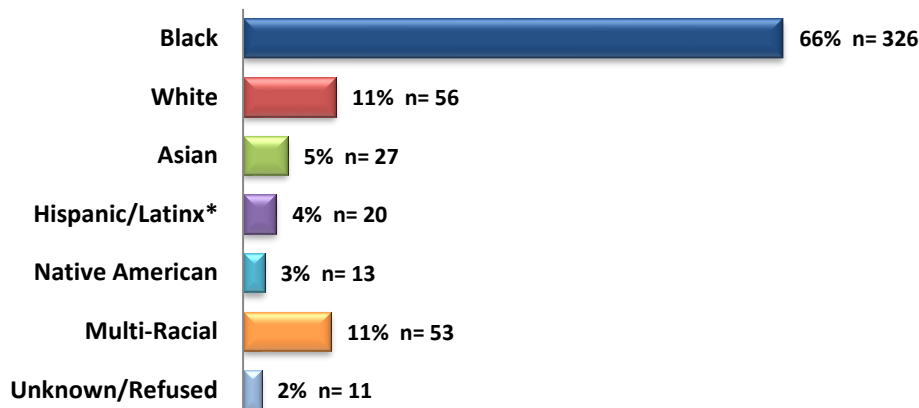
*JDC Admissions: Five Year Trend*



In 2020, there was a 30% decrease in detention admissions compared to 2019.

*2020 Admissions by Race*

(n= 493)

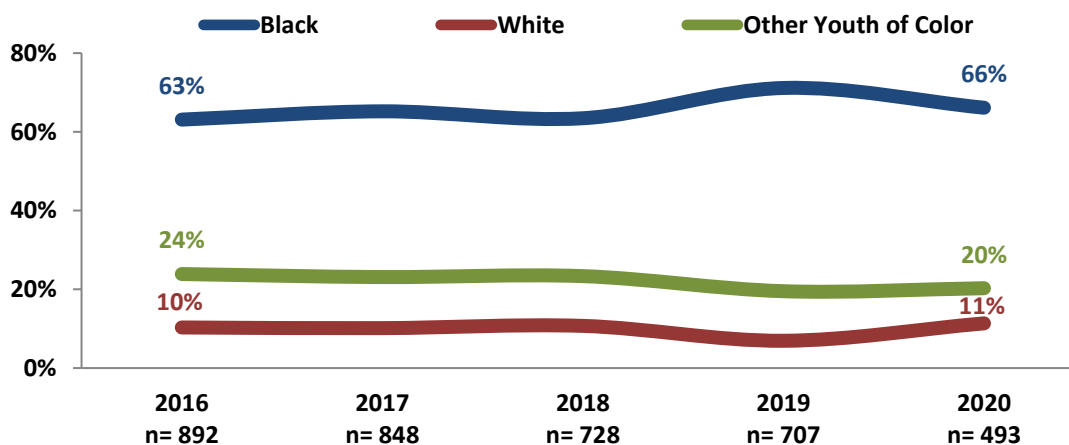


\* Hispanic/Latinx is recorded as a race and as an ethnicity within the JDC data system. Therefore, counts by race will exceed total admissions.

Black youth comprise approximately 19% of the Ramsey County youth population (ages 10-17) but accounted for 66% of detention admissions in 2020.

By contrast, White youth comprise about 47% of the youth population but accounted for just 11% of the admissions.

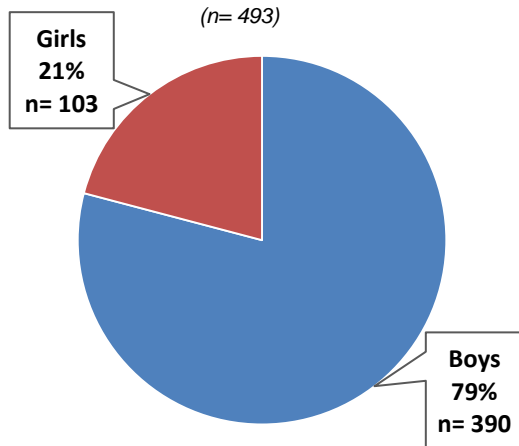
*Admissions by Race: Five Year Trend*



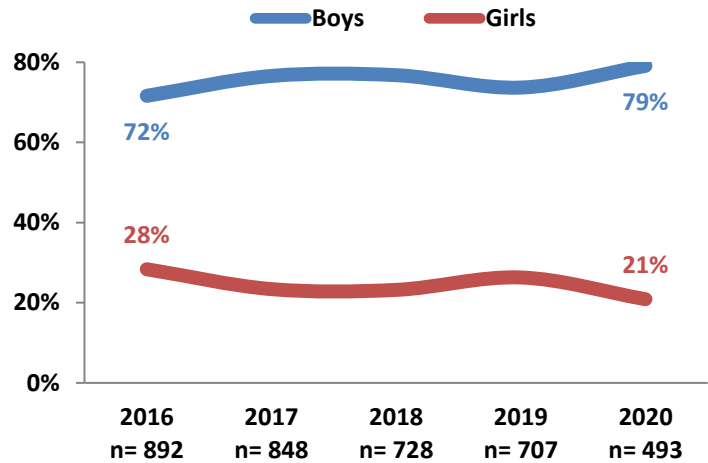


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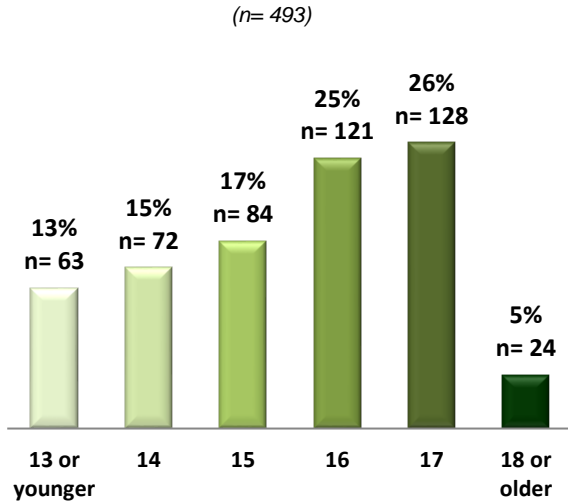
2020 Admissions by Gender



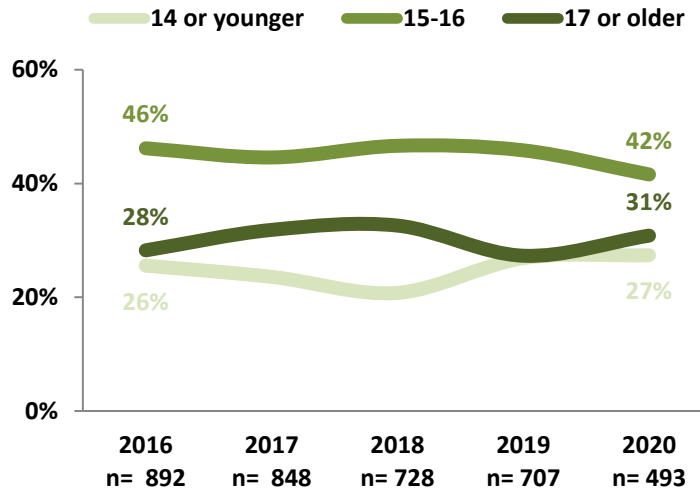
Admissions by Gender: Five Year Trend



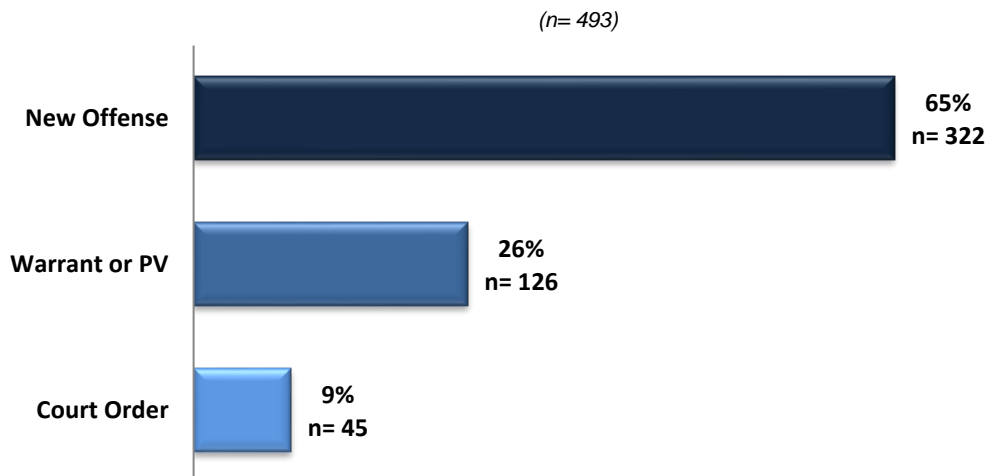
2020 Admissions by Age



Admissions by Age: Five Year Trend



2020 Admissions by Reason



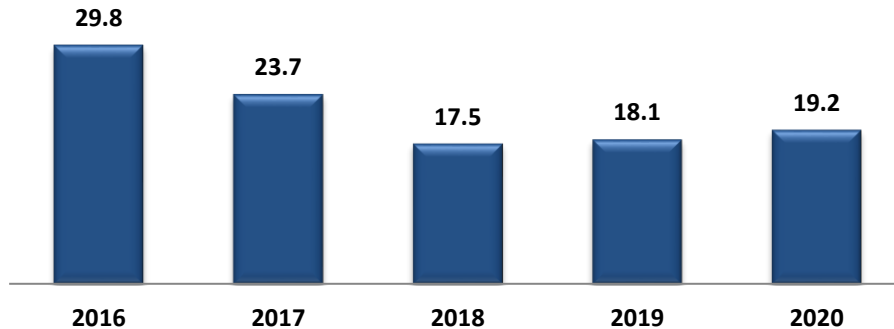
The most common reason for admission to detention in 2020 was a new offense. Of the new offense admissions, 85% were for felony level charges.

# JDC Profile 2020

## Average Daily Population and Average Length of Stay

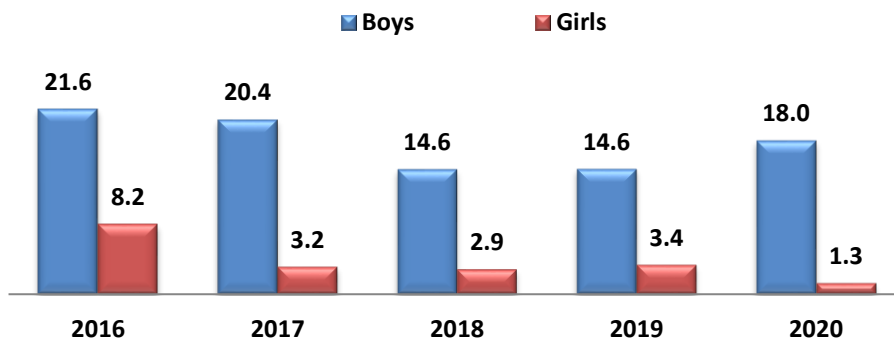
The charts below look at average daily population (ADP) and average length of stay (ALOS) at JDC over the past five years.

### Average Daily Population (ADP): Five Year Trend



Despite 214 fewer admissions to JDC in 2020 compared to 2019, the ADP actually increased slightly.

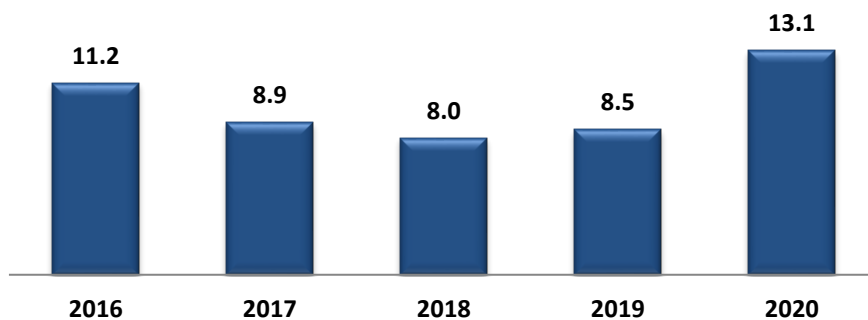
### ADP by Gender: Five Year Trend



In 2020, the ADP for boys increased over the previous year.

For girls, the ADP continued

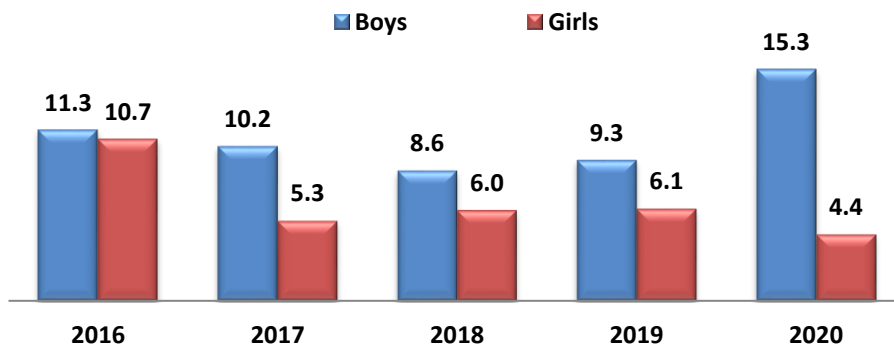
### Average Length of Stay (ALOS): Five Year Trend



While the ALOS increased by about 5 days in 2020, the majority of admissions to JDC continue to have a stay of 3 days or less.

Youth who are pending certification to the adult system, awaiting a Rule 20 competency hearing, or charged with very serious offense (e.g. murder) tend to have a significantly longer LOS.

### ALOS by Gender: Five Year Trend



In 2020, the ALOS increased by 6 days for boys, but decreased by nearly 2 days for girls.

# Juvenile Probation Profile 2020

## JUVENILE PROBATION

Deputy Director: Monica Long 651-266-2301

Assistant Director: Kim Stubblefield

Juvenile Probation provides a broad range of services to youth between the ages of 10 and 18, as well as to young adults on extended juvenile jurisdiction through age 21. Juvenile Probation uses a racial equity lens and positive juvenile justice framework to protect public safety and reduce the delinquency behaviors of youth on probation by promoting behavioral change and healthy youth development, and by holding young people accountable.

Taking into account the seriousness of the offense and using information gathered from the assessments and interviews, Juvenile Probation makes recommendations to court that may include community service, restitution, referrals for services, electronic home monitoring, or out of home placement. Juvenile Probation staff work to increase their client's ability to maintain healthy and positive relationships with family and friends, to succeed at school, to find and retain employment and/or to continue on with their education.

Juvenile Probation also partners with community organizations to augment services and respond to the diverse cultural needs of Ramsey County youth. Some of the programs and services that support youth include:

- Educational, life-skills, employment readiness, and vocational training for youth
- Cognitive-behavioral groups
- Functional Family Therapy, a treatment program for juvenile clients and their families
- High-fidelity Wraparound that "wraps" youth and their families with supports and services
- Gender specific groups that are based on restorative justice principles and practices.

### What was different due to COVID-19?

In response to COVID-19, Juvenile Probation adjusted its policies and practices so it could continue to provide services to youth both safely and effectively. These changes include:

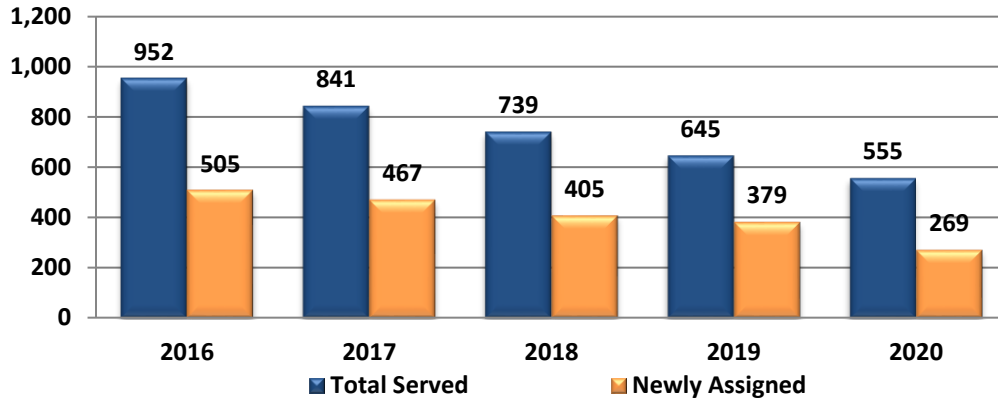
- Implementing **virtual/remote contacts** with youth.
- **Limiting in-person contacts** with clients to community programs that are open (e.g. treatment centers, residential placements, etc.) with strict adherence to social distancing protocols.
- **Continuing to limit the use of probation violation warrants** only for those violations that involve a new offense, absconding, or unsuccessful discharge from placement order to reduce the number of youth who are detained.
- **Targeting drug testing** only to those youth who are high-risk or on probation for felony level or person related offenses.
- **Offering virtual community-based programming and cognitive behavioral interventions** to youth on probation.

# Juvenile Probation Profile 2020

## Youth Served

In 2020, Juvenile Probation-Corrections served 555 youth. Of these youth, 269 were newly assigned.

*Youth Served by Juvenile Probation: Five Year Trend*

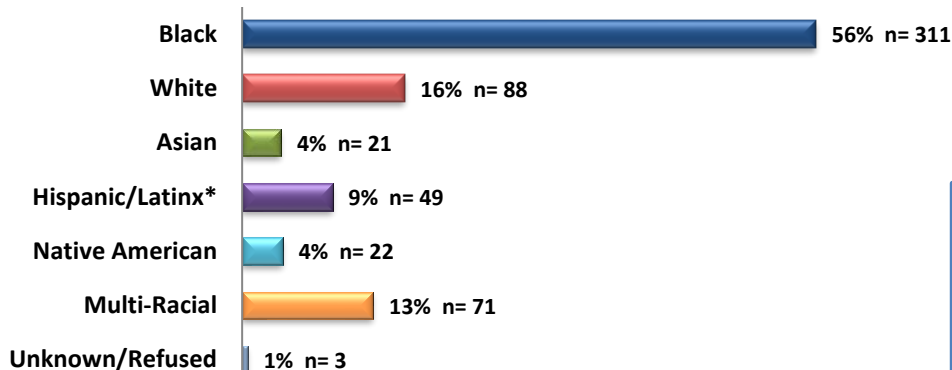


Since 2016, the number of youth served by Juvenile Probation has decreased by 42%.

The next series of charts identify the demographic characteristics of youth served, broken out by race, gender, age range, zip code, and system status.

*2020 Youth Served by Race*

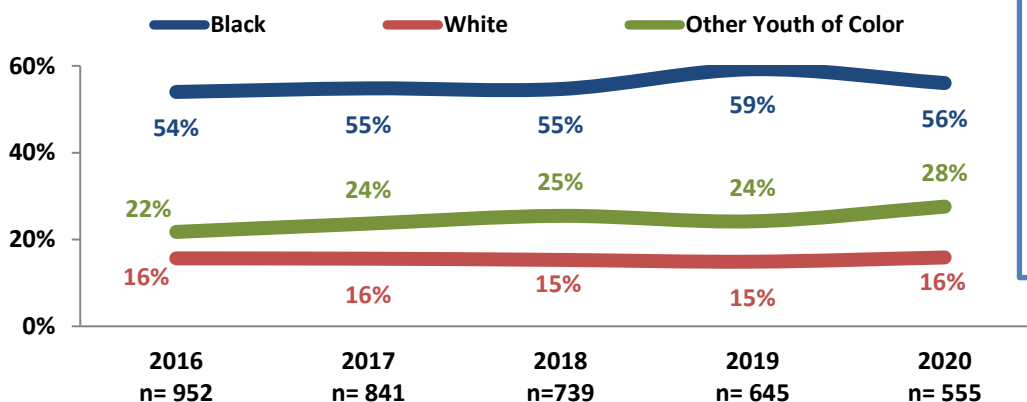
(n= 555)



\* Hispanic/Latinx is recorded as a race and as an ethnicity within the Juvenile Probation data system. Therefore, counts by race will exceed the total number of youth served.

Black youth comprise approximately 19% of the Ramsey County youth population (ages 10-17) but accounted for 56% of the youth served by Juvenile Probation in 2020.

*Youth Served by Race: Five Year Trend*

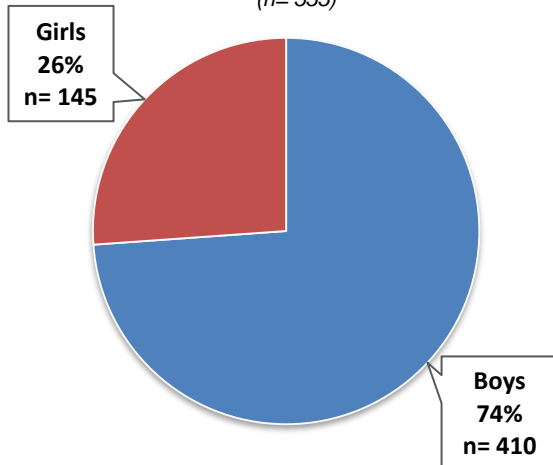


By contrast, White youth comprise about 47% of the youth population (ages 10-17) but represent just 16% of those served in 2020.

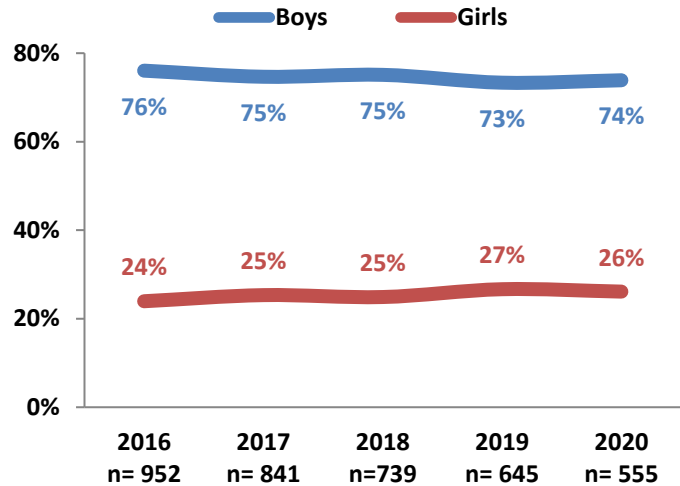
# Juvenile Probation Profile 2020

2020 Youth Served by Gender

(n= 555)

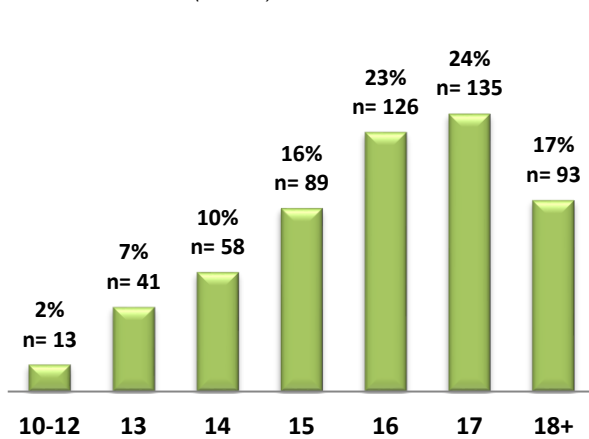


Youth Served by Gender: Five Year Trend

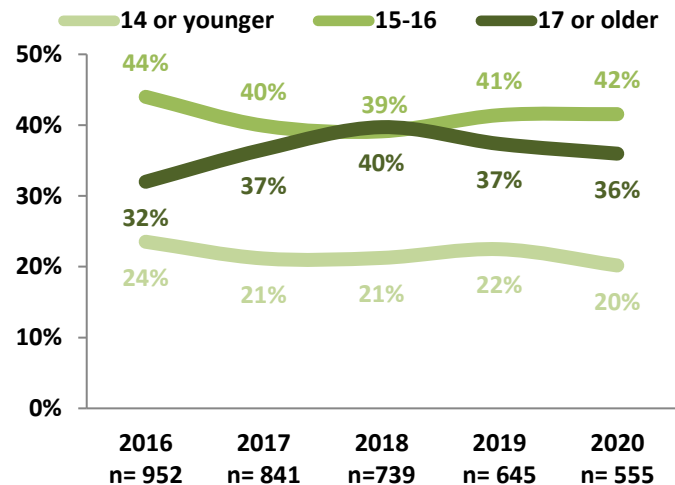


2020 Youth Served by Age

(n= 555)



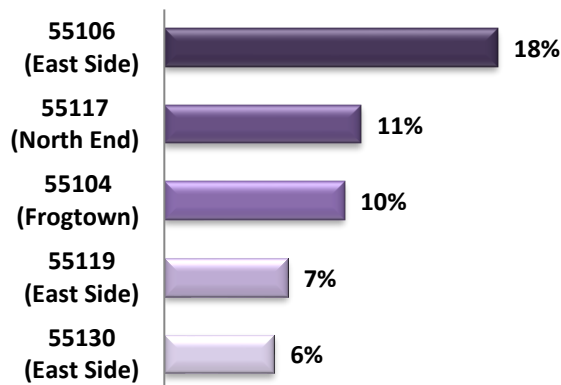
Youth Served by Age: Five Year Trend



2020 Youth Served by Zip Code

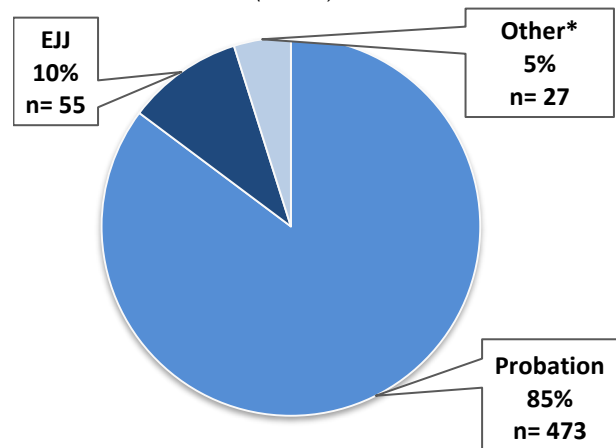
(Top 5)

(n= 555)



2020 Youth Served by Status

(n= 555)



\*Other includes conditional release and pending certification cases that did not move onto probation or EJJ.

# Juvenile Probation Profile 2020

## Risk Assessment (YLS/CMI)

In keeping with evidence-based practices, Juvenile Probation uses the Youth Level of Service/Case Management Inventory (YLS/CMI) 2.0 – a validated risk assessment tool to (1) identify a young person's major risks, needs, strengths, and protective factors; (2) assess his/her likelihood for continued delinquent activity; and (3) inform decision making related to supervision, service referrals, case planning, and placement. A higher score indicates a greater level of risk and need.

In general, assessments are not completed for youth with low-level delinquency offenses, or youth who score low on a screening tool.

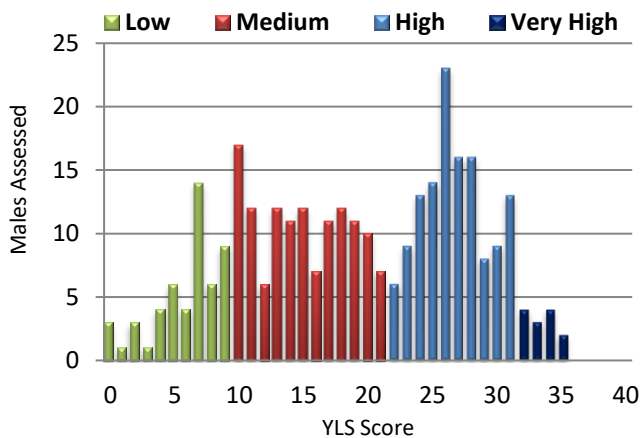
In 2020, **394** YLS/CMI assessments were completed on **303** youth.

- **Low risk** scores represent 15% of the youth assessed.
- **Medium risk** scores represent 41% of the youth assessed.
- **High risk** and **Very High risk** scores represent 44% of the youth assessed.

The YLS/CMI 2.0 is a gender informed tool that provides separate risk scales for boys and girls.

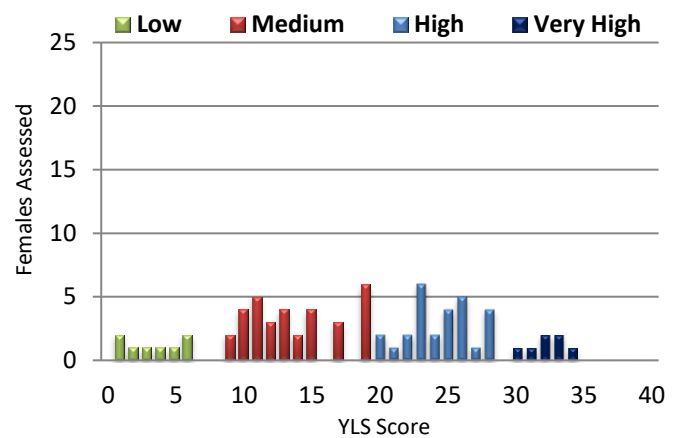
*2020 Risk Scores for Boys on Probation*

(n= 319)

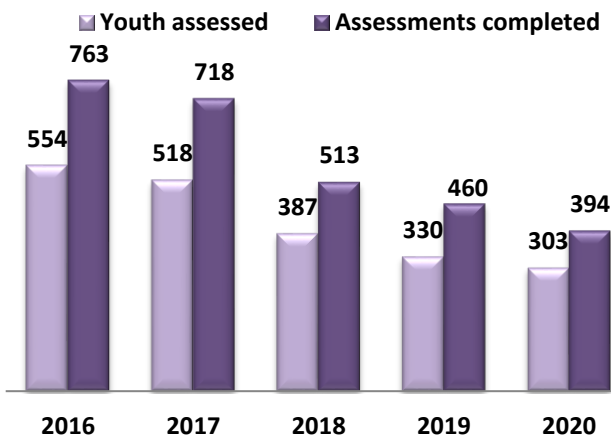


*2020 Risk Scores for Girls on Probation*

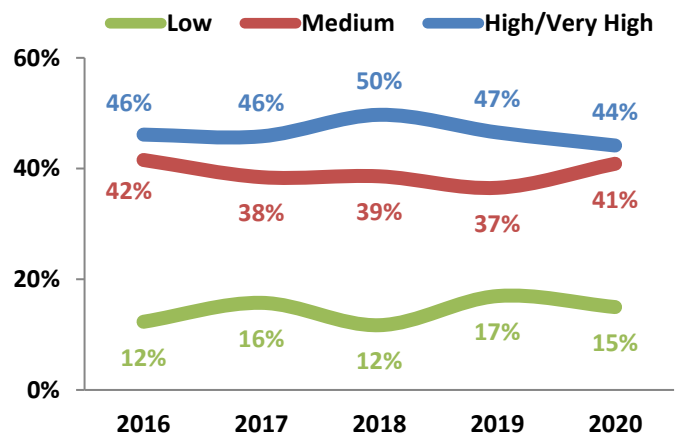
(n= 75)



*YLS/CMIs: Five Year Trend*



*YLS/CMIs by Risk Level; Five Year Trend*



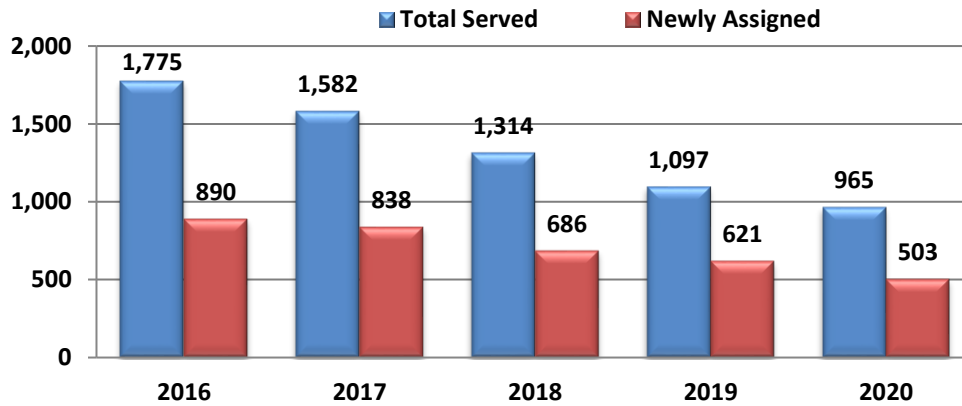
Over the past five years, there has been a reduction in the number of youth on probation. The vast majority of youth being served by Juvenile Probation are at medium to high risk for re-offense.

# Juvenile Probation Profile 2020

## Cases and Offenses

In 2020, **965** cases were served by Corrections. Of these cases, **503** were newly assigned in 2020. Case totals reflect the following case types: probation, extended juvenile jurisdiction (EJJ), investigations, pending certifications, and monitoring for traffic court.<sup>1</sup>

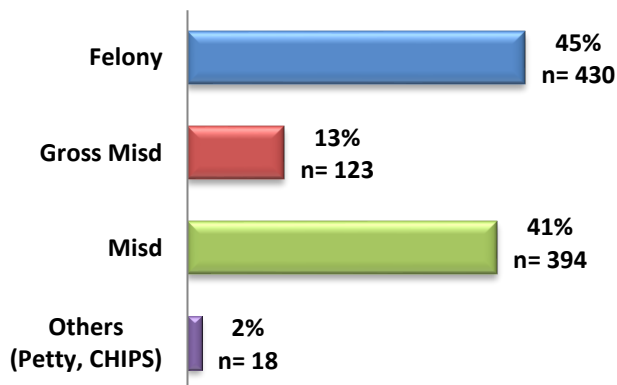
### Cases Served by Juvenile Probation: Five Year Trend



The number of newly assigned cases has decreased by 43% over the last five years.

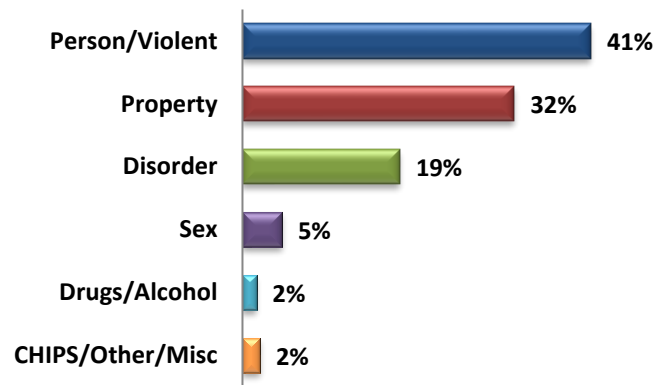
### 2020 Cases Served by Offense Level

(n= 965)

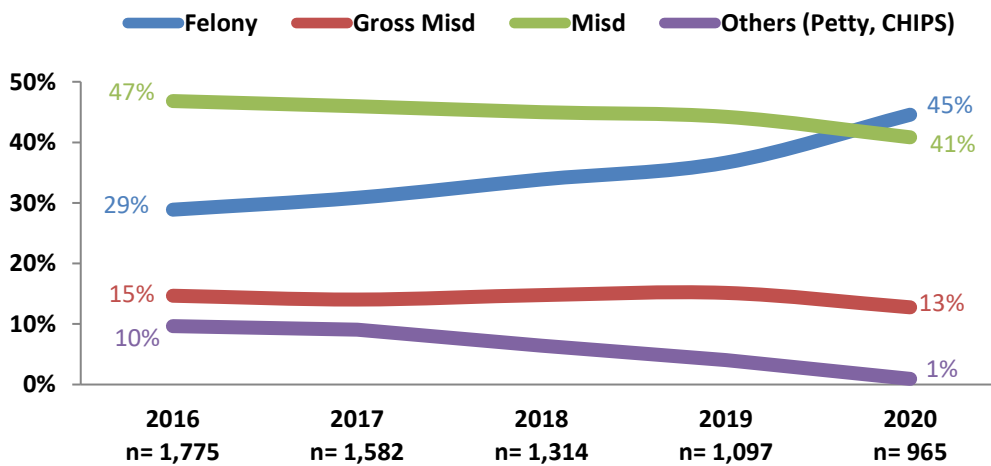


### 2020 Cases Served by Offense Type

(n= 965)



### Cases Served by Offense Level: Five Year Trend



Over the past five years, there has been an increase in the percentage of felony cases served (29% of cases in 2016 versus 45% of cases served in 2020).

<sup>1</sup> Cases supervised by the Youth Engagement Program (YEP) at Social Services, as well as conditional release cases that did not move onto probation are excluded from this count.

# Juvenile Probation Profile 2020

## Community Based Programming

In an effort to reduce the rates of incarceration and out-of-home placements, while maintaining public safety, Juvenile Probation offers a variety of community based programming options for youth and their families.

**146** youth were served by the following community programs in 2020:

**30,000 Feet** - Prepares youth for college and tech careers, provides support and mentorship.

**Community Coaches** - Individual mentors promote pro-social development and community based activities.

**Community Resolve** - Community family mentors work with youth and their families, provide weekly circles.

**Decision Points** - Cognitive behavioral intervention that targets anti-social thoughts and distortions.

**Enough** - Individual support for youth who are system-involved, high-risk, or experiencing sexual exploitation/human trafficking.

**Functional Family Therapy (FFT)** - Family therapy sessions that build on family's strengths and resources.

**Girls Realizing Our Worth** - Leadership program for female youth.

**HIRED** - Provides pre-employment services and other support services.

**JK Movement** - Offers lessons in healthy lifestyle, career readiness, mentorship, and physical activity.

**JL Griffis** - Provides opportunities to perform professional automotive services and explore aviation careers.

**Neighborhood House** - Empowers youth to develop positive self-identities and hopeful visions for the future.

**Park Involved Nature Education** - Offers meaningful outdoor experiences.

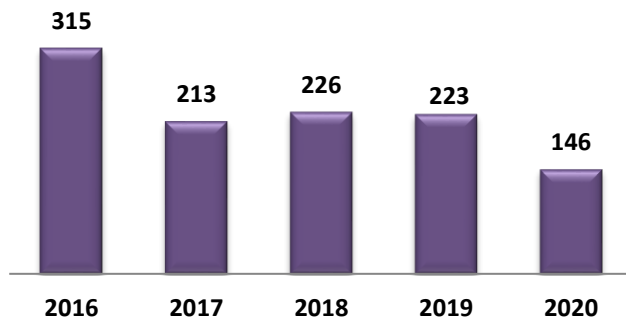
**Rebound** - Aftercare services to youth re-entering the community after out-of-home placement.

**Talitha Cumi** - Helps female youth build their emotional intelligence and develop a greater sense of self-awareness, self-confidence, self-identity, and self-worth using the circle process.

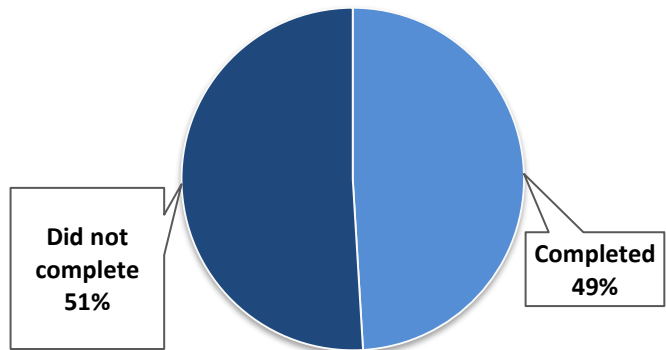
**Victim Impact** - Standardized curriculum to teach youth about the human consequences of crime.

**Wraparound** - "Wraps" youth and their families with supports and services in order to achieve their goals.

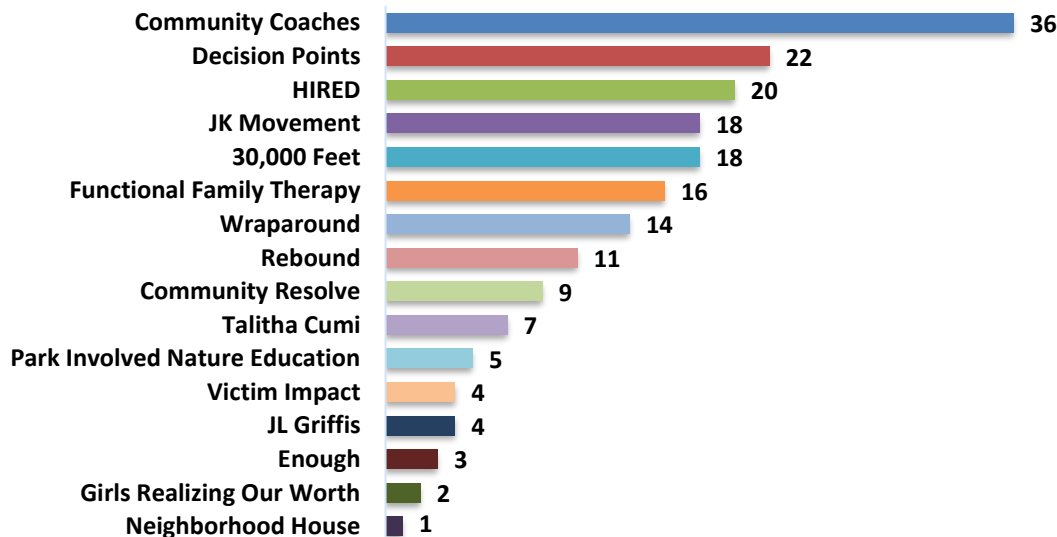
Youth Served by Community  
Programs : Five Year Trend



2020 Community Program Completion Rates



2020 Number of Youth Served by Program



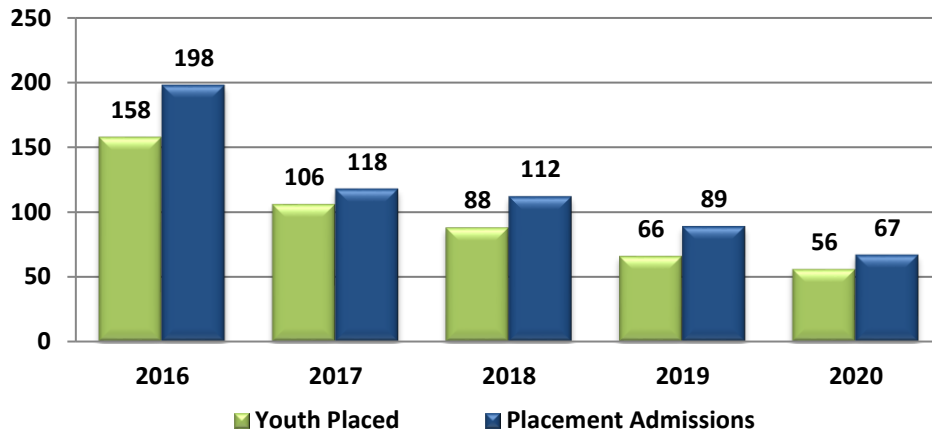


# Juvenile Probation Profile 2020

## Out-of-Home Placement

Out-of-home placement is a response typically prescribed for youth (1) whose behavior in the community constitutes a threat to public safety, and (2) with needs that necessitate intervention in a residential treatment or correctional setting.

*Youth Placed: Five Year Trend*



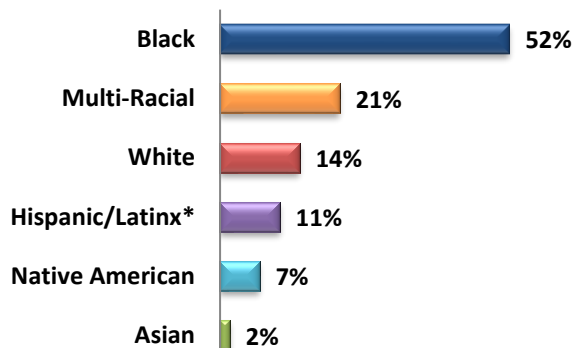
Since 2016, the number of youth placed has decreased by 65%.

Over the past five years, the reduction in youth placed (65%) has outpaced the decrease of youth served by probation (42%).

In 2020, there were **56** youth admitted to an out-of-home placement. This includes group homes, both short and long term residential programs, sex offender treatment, and correctional/DOC facilities. Note that in August of 2019, Boys Totem Town closed. The charts below show demographics, offense level, and risk level for the youth who were placed.

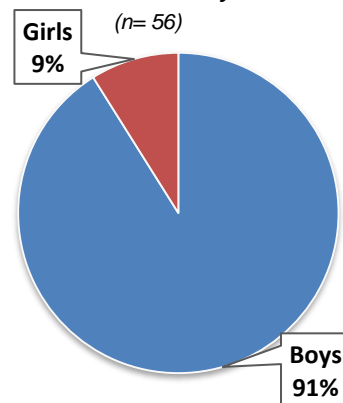
*2020 Youth Placed by Race*

(n= 56)



*2020 Youth Placed by Gender*

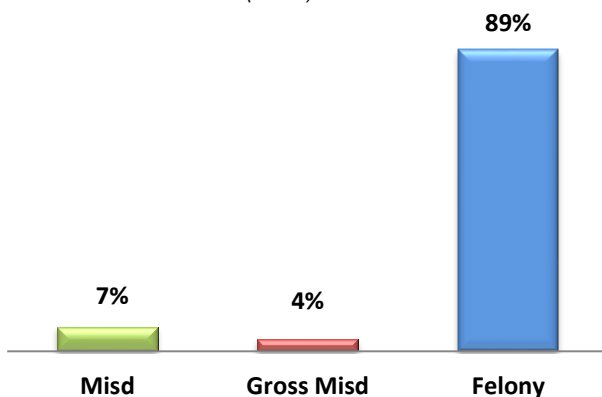
(n= 56)



\* Hispanic/Latinx is recorded as a race and as an ethnicity within the Juvenile Probation data system. Therefore, counts by race will exceed the total number of youth placed.

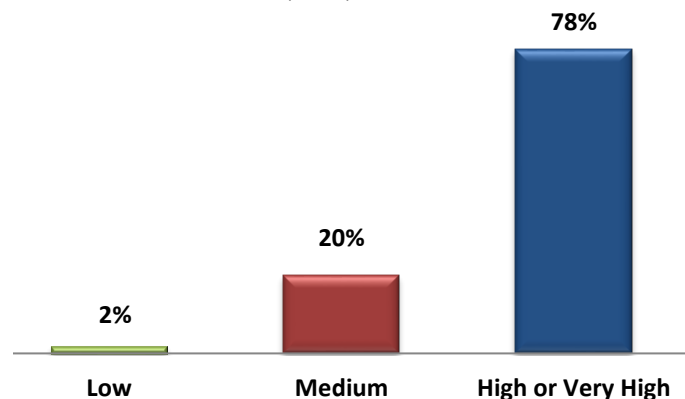
*2020 Youth Placed by Offense Level*

(n= 56)



*2020 Youth Placed by YLS/CMI Risk Level*

(n= 56)

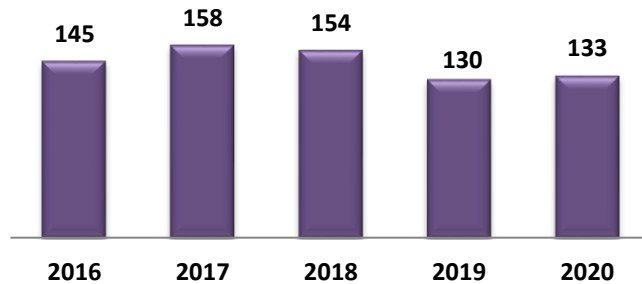


# Juvenile Probation Profile 2020

## Electronic Home Monitoring

Electronic Home Monitoring (EHM) is a community-based alternative sanction used for youth who are on pre-dispositional conditional release and for youth who are at risk for out-of-home placement. In 2020, **133** youth open with Juvenile Probation were ordered to EHM.

*Youth Ordered to EHM*

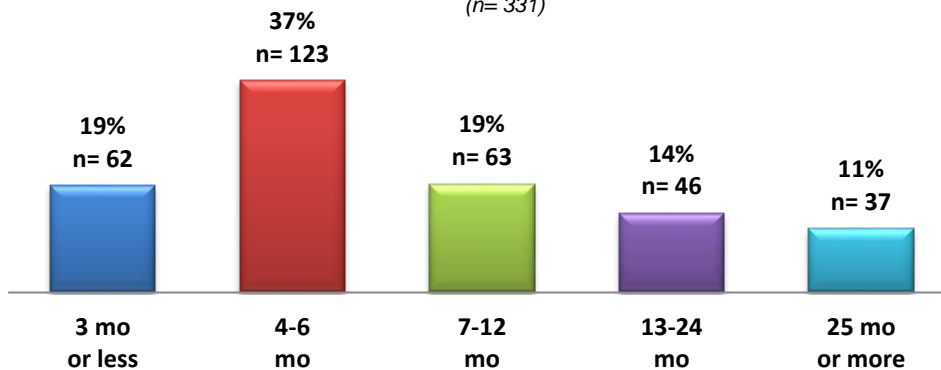


## Probation Length

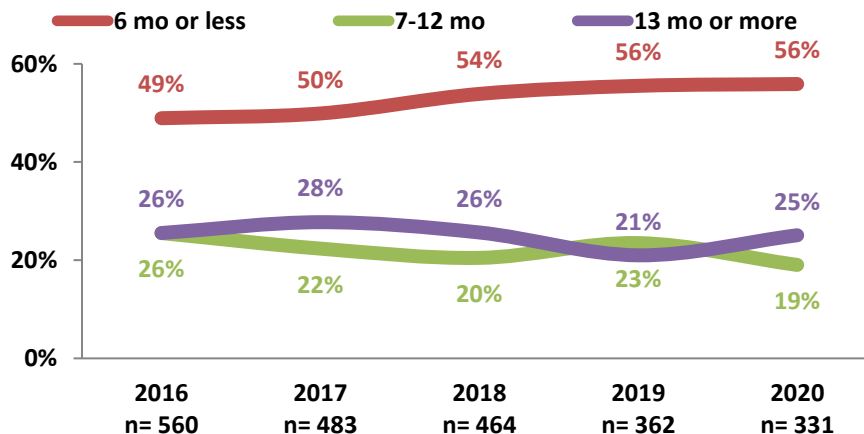
In 2020, there were **331** youth discharged from Juvenile Probation. The charts below look at the number of months youth are open on probation.

*2020 Youth Discharged by Length of Probation*

(n= 331)



*Length of Probation: Five Year Trend*



Over the past five years, over 50% of youth were open on probation for a period of 6 months or less.

## Adult Services Profile 2020

### ADULT SERVICES

Deputy Director: Monica Long 651-266-2301

Assistant Director: Jan Scott

Assistant Director: Corey Hazelton

Adult Services supervises clients that have either been placed on probation or released from Minnesota prisons onto supervised release. The goal of the division is to balance the need to protect the community and hold clients accountable with rehabilitative services to help them live pro-social, productive, and crime-free lives. This often includes monitoring compliance with court-ordered conditions; drug testing; community work service; and referrals to treatment, programming and alternative sanctions that are attuned to the needs, risk, and individual characteristics of the client.

Adult Services partners with community organizations to augment services and respond to the diverse cultural needs of the community. Some of the community programs that support clients include:

- GED and vocational services.
- Sentence-to Service work crews and individual community service work.
- Cognitive-behavioral programming.
- Re-entry planning and support.
- Treatment programs for adults convicted of sex and domestic abuse offenses as well as chemically dependent clients.
- The UJAMAA Place and Ramsey County Supervised Release partnership grant directs specific services and support to 18-24-year-old African American males, specifically those released from prison. Services include, but are not limited to: Cognitive skills programming, employment counseling, GED preparation, and mentoring.

#### What was different due to COVID-19?

In order to minimize face-to-face interactions and reduce the spread of COVID-19, Adult Services implemented several policy and practice changes. These include:

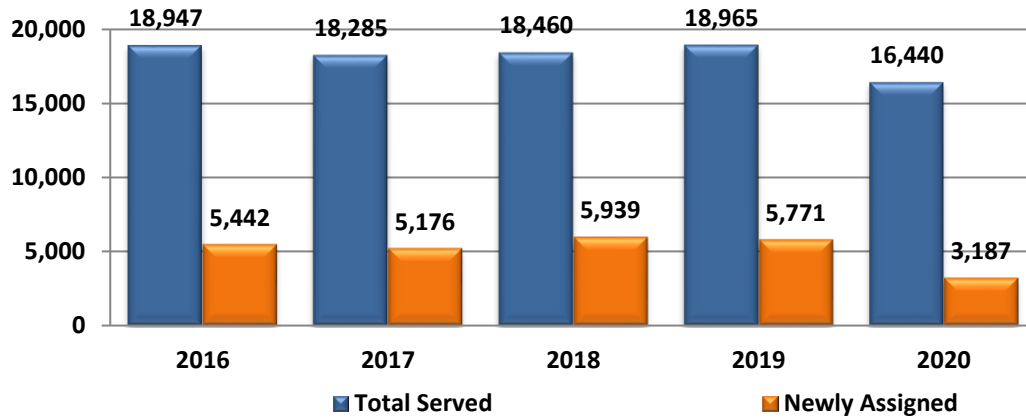
- ***Elimination of supervision fees*** - On March 27, 2020, Community Corrections eliminated the collection of probation supervision fees for all adult clients.
- ***In-person contacts*** - Office visits were suspended and visits in the community limited. Probation officers continued to conduct visits with high risk clients in the community with strict adherence to social distancing and masking protocols. Clients on supervised release or intensive supervised release who have mandated community visits were moved from a two-agent per contact model to one-agent per contact.
- ***Virtual contacts*** - Probation officers were instructed and authorized to utilize several forms of virtual communication to conduct remote appointments with clients.
- ***Virtual programming*** - Cognitive behavioral programming - group based and one-on-one was provided virtually to adult clients.
- ***Probation Violations (PV)*** - In order to reduce the number of clients being incarcerated for a PV, Adult Probation suspended technical violations (e.g. violations not involving a new offense or absconding from supervision).
- ***Drug Testing*** - Initially, drug testing was suspended for all clients. Gradually, testing was reinstated for clients with documented substance use issues or who pose a significant risk to public safety.

# Adult Services Profile 2020

## Adults Served

16,440 clients were served by the Adult Services Division in 2020. 3,187 clients were newly assigned to Adult Services in 2020. These totals reflect adults on supervision, investigation, transferred out, and warrant status.

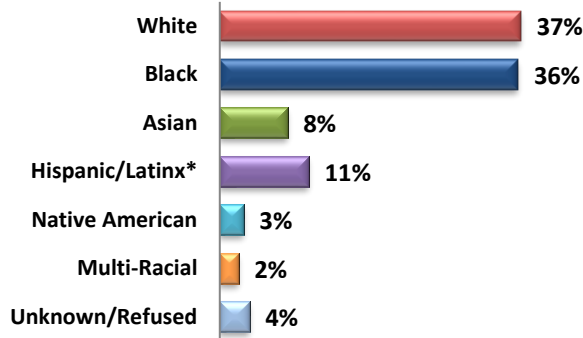
*Adults Served by Corrections: Five Year Trend*



In 2020, there was a 13% decrease in the number of adults served.

*2020 Adults Served by Race*

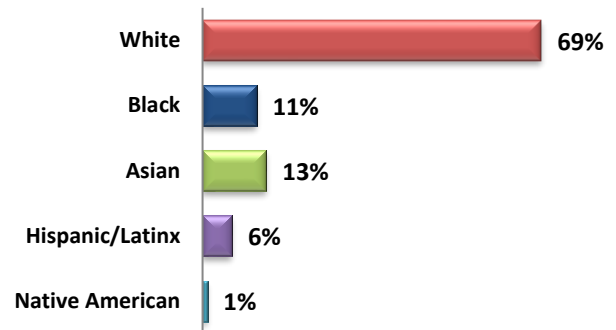
(n= 16,440)



\* Hispanic/Latinx is recorded as a race and as an ethnicity within the Adult Services data system. Therefore, counts by race will exceed the total number of adults served.

*Ramsey County Adult Residents*

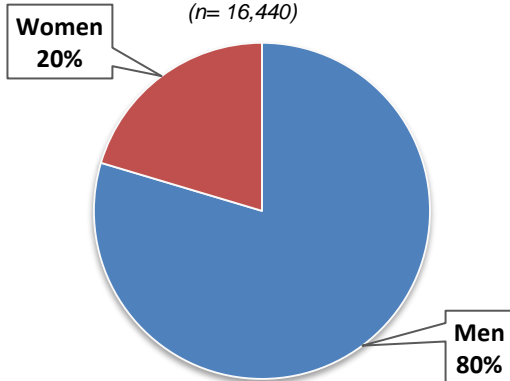
*by Race<sup>1</sup>*



Black adults comprise approximately 11% of the county's population (18 or older) but accounted for 36% of adults served by the division in 2020.

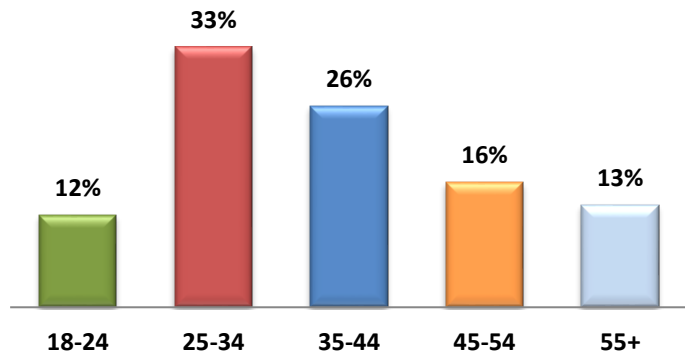
*2020 Adults Served by Gender*

(n= 16,440)



*2020 Adults Served by Age Range*

(n= 16,440)



<sup>1</sup> Five year population estimate (2015-2019). Retrieved from [www.ojdp.gov/ojstatbb/ezapop](http://www.ojdp.gov/ojstatbb/ezapop).

# Adult Services Profile 2020

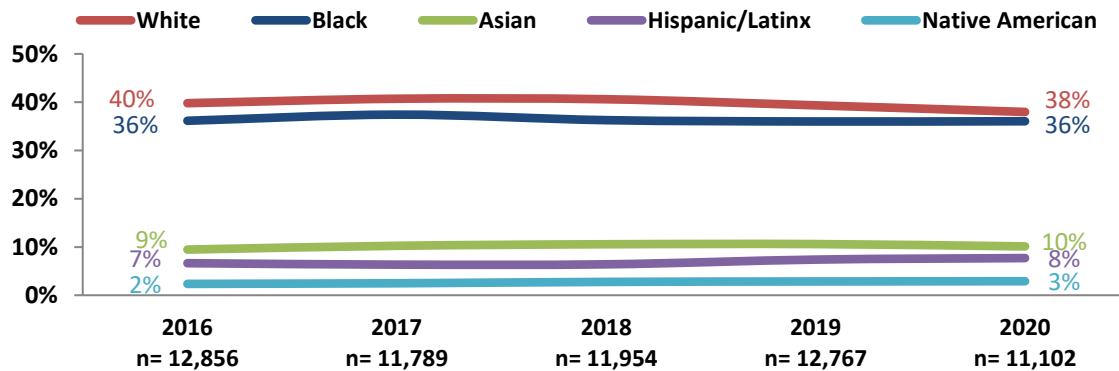
## Adults Supervised

Of the 16,440 clients served in 2020, **11,102** (68%) were on active supervision (probation or supervised release) with the Adult Division.

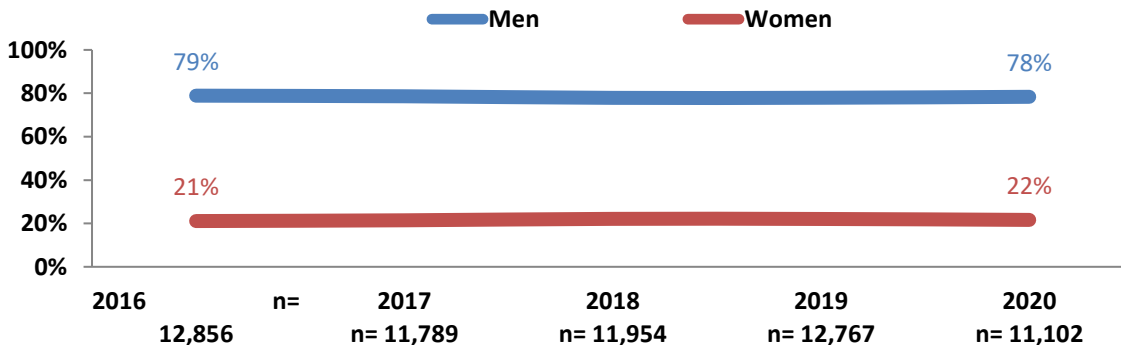
*Adults Supervised: Five Year Trend*



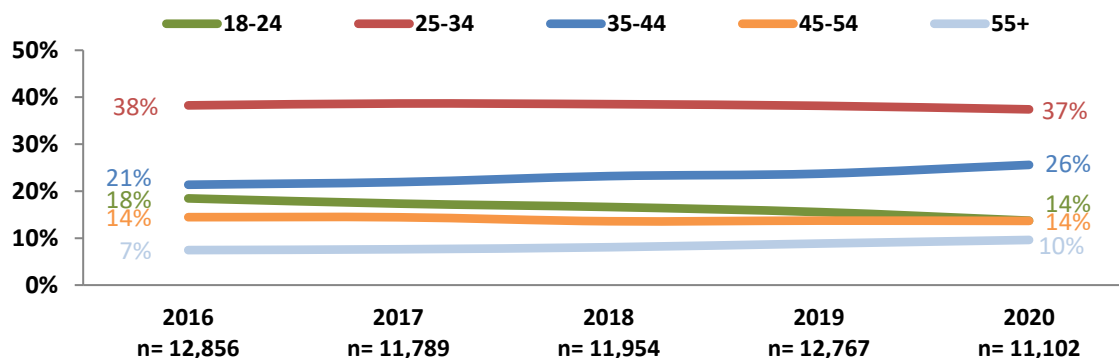
*Adults Supervised by Race: Five Year Trend*



*Adults Supervised by Gender: Five Year Trend*



*Adults Served by Age Range: Five Year Trend*



# Adult Services Profile 2020

## Risk Assessment (LS/CMI)

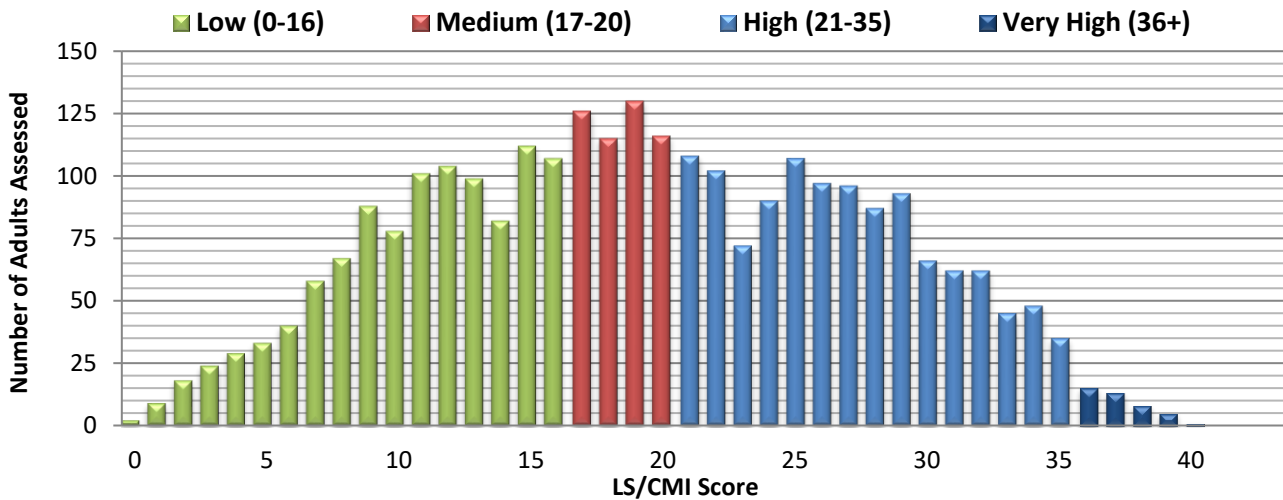
In keeping with best practice Adult Services uses the Level of Service/Case Management Inventory (LS/CMI) to determine a client's risk for re-offending, identify needs to be targeted during supervision, and measure client change.

In 2020, **2,750** LS/CMI assessments were completed for clients assigned to Adult Services. This includes both initial assessments and reassessments. Not all clients receive an LS/CMI. In general, LS/CMIs are completed on individuals that receive a full pre-sentence investigation, score high on a screening tool, or are assigned to high-risk supervision. A screening assessment is used with lower level clients.

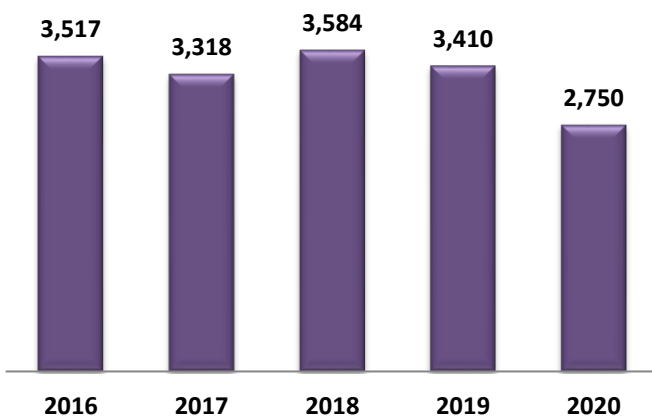
A higher score on the LS/CMI indicates a greater level of need and risk for reoffending.

- **Low scores (0-16)** represent 38% of adults assessed
- **Moderate scores (17-20)** represent 18% of adults assessed
- **High scores (21-35)** represent 43% of adults assessed
- **Very High scores (36+)** represent 2% of adults assessed.

*2020 LS/CMI Assessments for Adults Served*

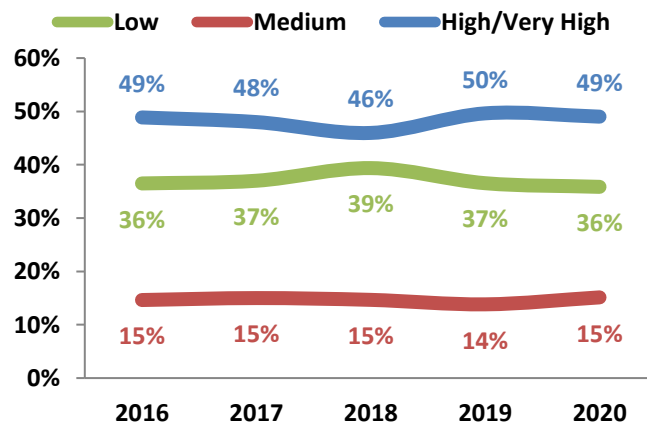


*LS/CMIs Completed: Five Year Trend*



There was decrease in the number of assessments completed in 2020 due to reductions in case volume during the pandemic.

*Initial LS/CMIs by Risk Level: Five Year Trend*



About 50% of adults are initially assessed at high or very high risk to reoffend.

# Adult Services Profile 2020

## Cases and Offenses

In 2020, **4,215** new cases were opened in Adult Services. Cases typically start either as an investigation or on supervision. This represents a 43% decrease compared to 2019.

## Investigation Cases

Of the 4,215 new cases opened in 2020, **3,348** (79%) originated as an investigation. There are four broad types of investigation cases in Adult Services: Pre-Sentence, Pre-Release, Case Transfer, and Restitution related investigations.

### **Pre-Sentence Investigation (PSI):**

Investigations ordered by the Court to determine the appropriate sentencing. Investigations are tailored to an individual's offense and include a variety of components such as family history, work history, chemical use history, and psychological assessments.

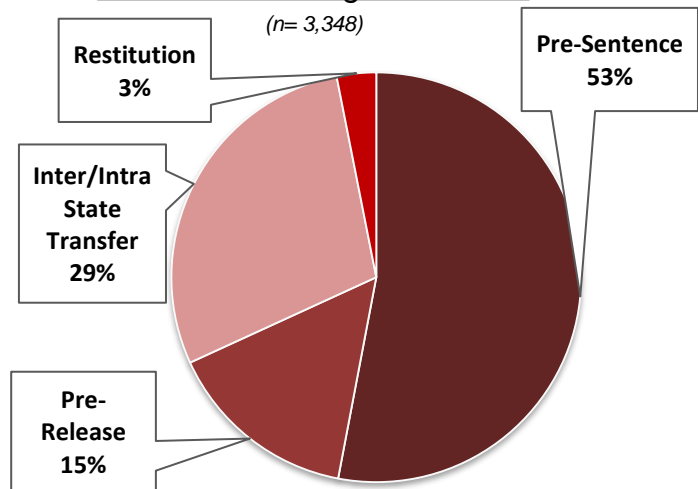
**Pre-Release Investigation:** Investigations conducted prior to the release of a client from prison to verify all aspects of supervision and terms of supervised release.

### **Inter/Intra State Case Transfer**

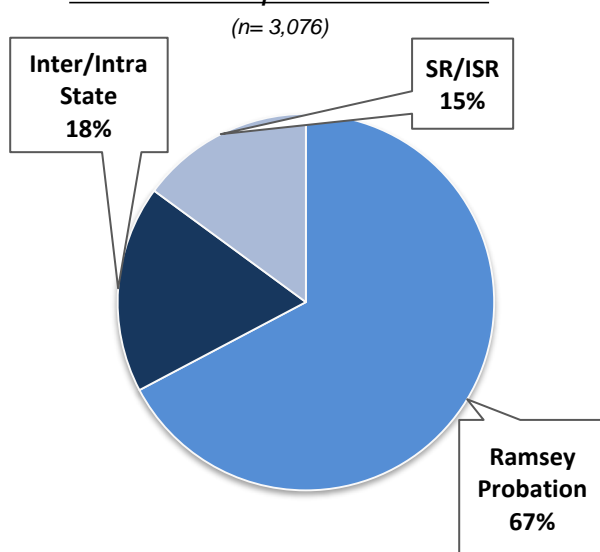
**Investigation:** Investigations related to the transfer of clients on probation or supervised release from other states or Minnesota counties to Ramsey County for supervision.

**Restitution Investigation:** Investigations related to post-sentence cases that have an outstanding restitution matter.

### 2020 New Investigation Cases



### 2020 New Supervision Cases



## Supervision Cases

**3,076** cases started on supervision in 2020. There are several types of supervision cases:

**Ramsey County Probation:** The Second Judicial Court places an adult on probation after he or she has pled or been found guilty for a crime. The Court outlines the specific conditions of probation the person must follow in order to successfully complete probation.

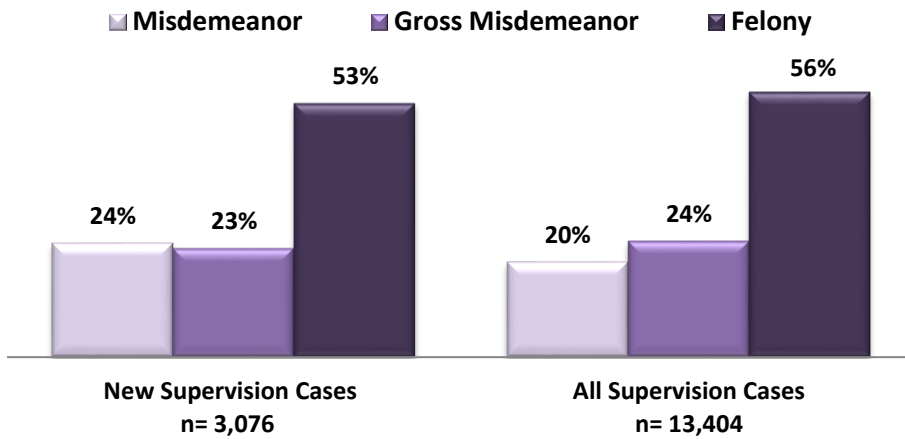
**Inter/Intra State Probation:** Adults that have been transferred to Ramsey County from other states or Minnesota counties for probation.

**Supervised Release/Intensive Supervised Release:** Adults released from Minnesota prisons are assigned to supervised release or intensive supervised release based on the type of offense and their risk for reoffending. Adults remain on SR/ISR until they reach expiration of their sentence.

## Adult Services Profile 2020

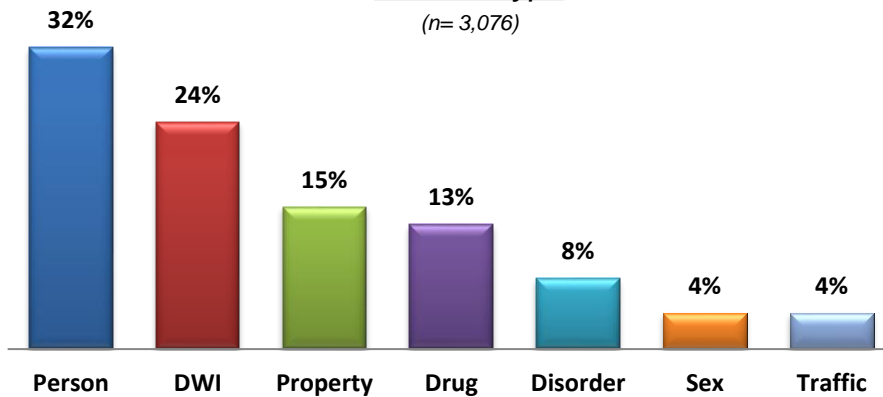
The chart below compares the level of offense of new supervision cases with all cases supervised in 2020. New supervision cases are a subset of all supervision cases.

2020 Supervision Cases by Offense Level



The percentage of supervised cases that are at a felony level has increased. Felony cases accounted for 53% of new supervision cases in 2020, compared to 42% of new supervision cases in 2019.

2020 New Supervision Cases by Offense Type  
(n= 3,076)



Person, impaired driving, property, and drug offenses represent 84% of all cases supervised in 2020. This is consistent with previous years.

Person includes murder, manslaughter, criminal vehicular homicide, assault, robbery, domestic abuse, order for protection and no contact order violations, interfering with a 911 call, kidnapping, stalking, terroristic threats, malicious punishment of a child, harassment, riot, and weapons offenses.

DWI includes driving while intoxicated, DWI test refusal, criminal vehicular operation, criminal vehicular operation, and underage drinking and driving offenses.

Property includes burglary, theft, arson, forgery, counterfeiting, fraud, identity theft, receiving stolen property, and criminal damage to property offenses.

Drug includes drug sale and drug possession offenses.

Disorder includes aiding an offender, fleeing police, giving false information to police, obstructing the legal process, and disorderly conduct offenses.

Sex includes criminal sexual conduct, sex trafficking, pornography, prostitution, and violation of predatory offender registration offenses.

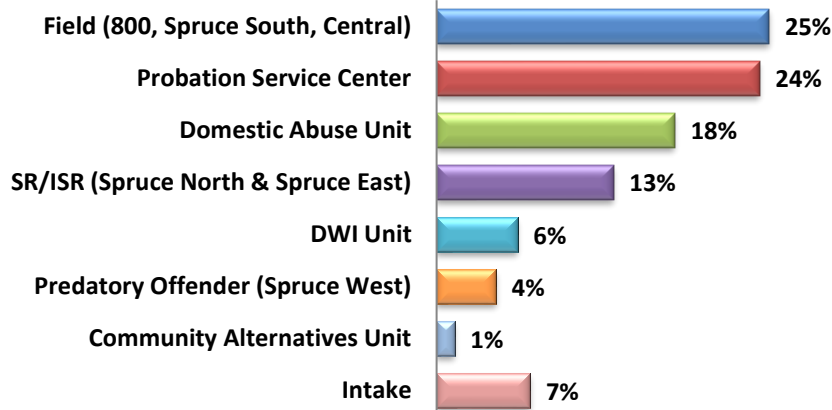
Traffic includes careless driving, reckless driving, and driving after cancellation.



## Adult Services Profile 2020

### 2020 New Supervision Cases by Unit Assigned

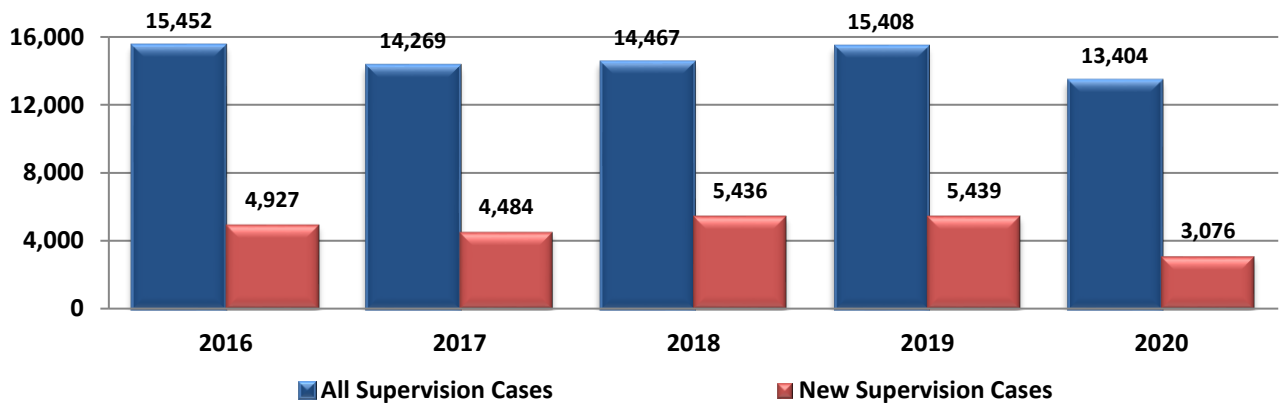
(n= 3,076)



In 2020, 24% of new supervision cases were assigned to the Probation Service Center (PSC) which services clients who need a less restrictive form of probation supervision. This represents a decrease compared to previous years (typically 33-40% of new supervision cases are assigned to PSC).

There were **13,404** cases on active supervision (probation or supervised release) in 2020; 23% of these cases were newly assigned in 2020.

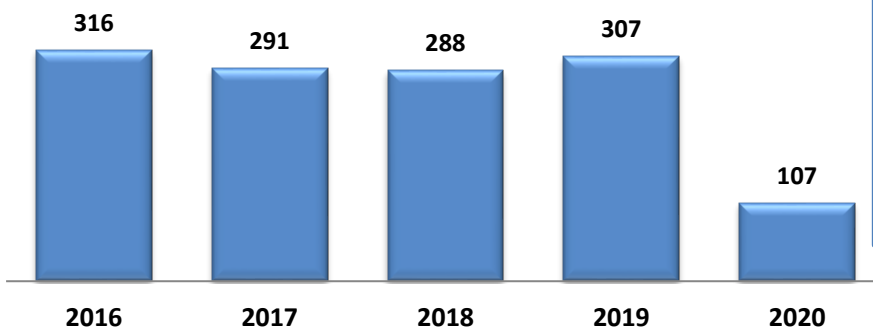
### Supervision Cases: Five Year Trend



### Sentence to Service

Sentence to Service (STS) is an alternative to incarceration for low-risk clients. STS offers an opportunity for eligible clients to repay the community for harm incurred by working on community service projects.

### Adults Served by STS: Five Year Trend

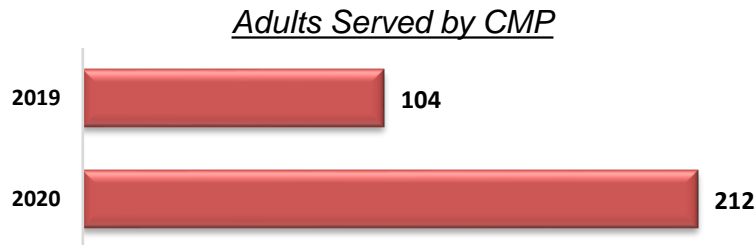


There was a 65% reduction in clients served by STS. This decrease can be attributed to a reduction in the number of crews and crew size limitations enacted during COVID-19.

# Adult Services Profile 2020

## Community Monitoring Program

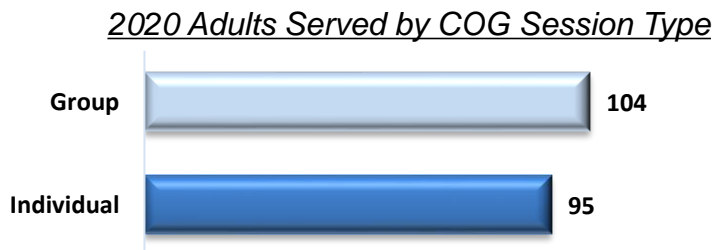
In support of the Department's strategic goal of *More Community, Less Confinement*, the Community Monitoring Program (CMP) was introduced in August 2018. The program gives probation officers additional behavioral response options beyond incarceration in response to probationer misconduct.



The number of clients served by CMP doubled in 2020. This increase can be attributed to efforts to reduce the number of clients being incarcerated due to a probation violation (PV).

## Cognitive Behavioral Programming

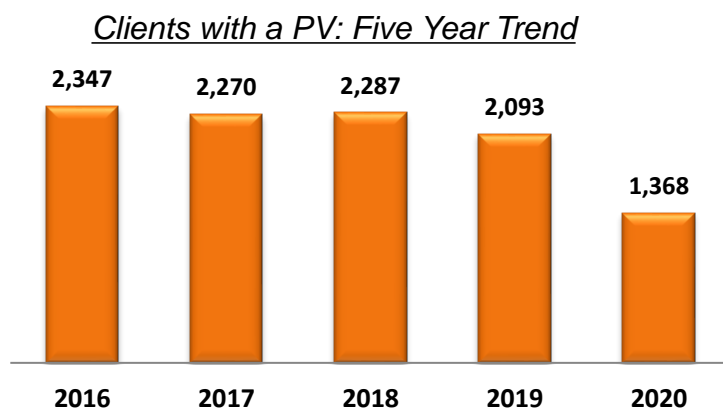
Prior to the pandemic, cognitive behavioral programming and coaching (COG) opportunities were provided to clients in-person. However, since the advent of COVID-19, COG has been delivered remotely/virtually in both group and individual based formats. Clients who attended group based COG sessions participated in *Decision Points*, a nationally utilized curriculum that focuses on anger management, emotional support, problem solving, and communication skills. In collaboration with one of the curriculum's authors, *Decision Points* was piloted virtually in Ramsey County in May 2020.



In 2020, 146 adult clients participated in remote/virtual COG. There were 53 clients who participated in both group and individual based COG sessions.

## Probation Violations

A probation violation (PV) is submitted to the 2nd Judicial District Court (Ramsey County) when a client has failed to follow or violated the terms and conditions of probation. Reasons for filing a PV could include failure to remain law abiding, absconding from supervision, or failure to enter or complete specialized programming (e.g. sex offender or domestic abuse). The determination to file a PV is based on the client's risk level and the seriousness of the current misconduct, per the behavioral criteria and guidelines specified in the Response to Offender Misconduct (ROMP).



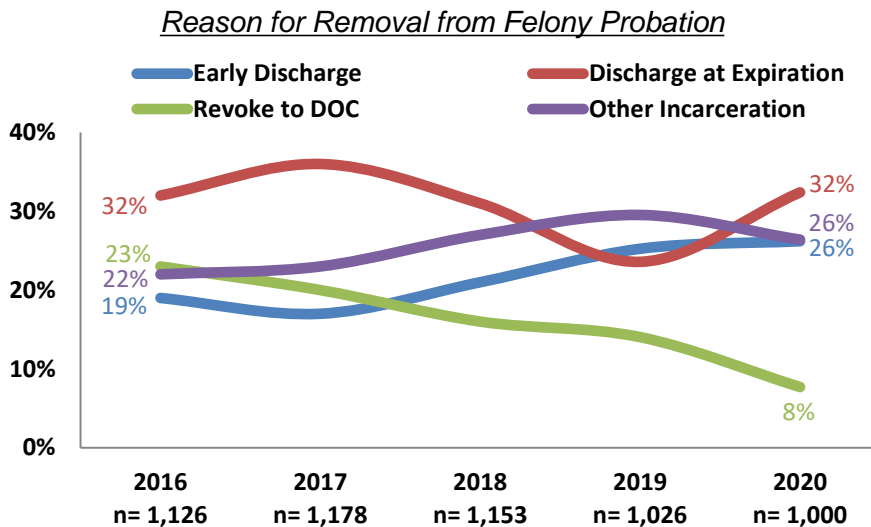
There was a 35% reduction in clients with a PV in 2020. As the result of COVID-19, In order to reduce the number of clients being incarcerated due to a PV, the Adult Division curtailed filing PVs for technical violations (e.g. violations that don't involve new crimes or absconding from supervision).

# Adult Services Profile 2020

## Probation Length

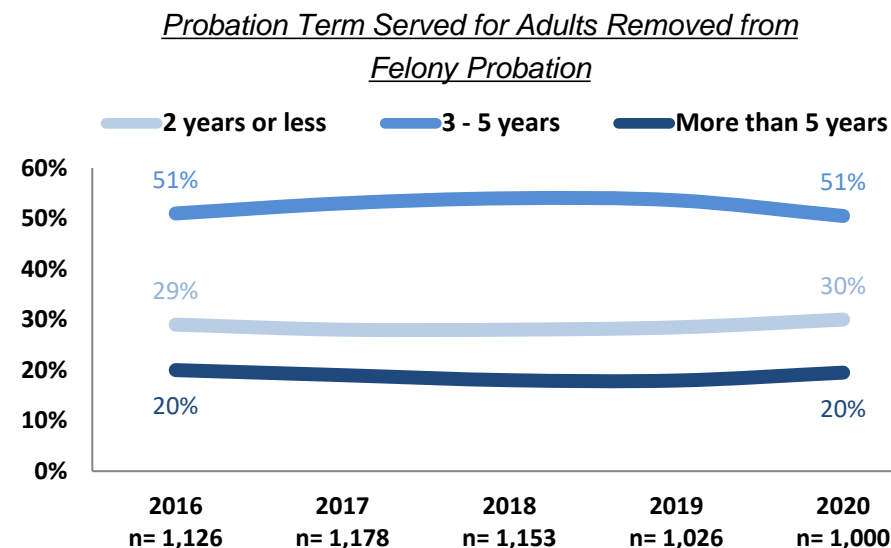
In 2020, there were **1,000** adults who were closed/removed from felony probation.<sup>2</sup> Clients may be closed for various reasons:

- *Early Discharge* - Client successfully completes probation early.
- *Discharge at Expiration* - Client is discharged upon completion of full probation term.
- *Revoke to MN Department of Corrections (DOC)* - Client has probation revoked and is committed to prison.
- *Other Incarceration* - Client is discharged from probation upon release from RCCF or for credit for time served in custody.
- *Other reasons* (not plotted on the chart) - Client removed from probation due to death or other court action.



Over the past five years, the percentage of clients removed from probation as the result of a revocation to the DOC (prison) has decreased (23% of felony probation closures in 2016 versus 8% in 2020).

The chart below shows the length of probation term served for adults who were closed/removed from felony probation, regardless of the reason for closure.



In 2020, 51% of adults removed from probation were on felony supervision for 3 to 5 years.

<sup>2</sup> Clients sentenced to probation in Ramsey County. Excludes clients discharged from inter/intra state probation or supervised release. Excludes clients sentenced in Ramsey County but transferred out to another county or jurisdiction for probation.

## RCCF Profile 2020

### RAMSEY COUNTY CORRECTIONAL FACILITY

Correctional Facility Superintendent: Allen Carlson 651-266-1441

Assistant Superintendent: Elizabeth Reetz

The Ramsey County Correctional Facility (RCCF) is a 556-bed facility, housing both male and female adult residents who have received a sentence from the Court for up to one year.

In addition to housing Ramsey County commits, RCCF contracts with Dakota County to board both its sentenced and pre-sentenced female residents. After receiving a sentence, residents will either turn themselves in at a date and time agreed upon by the Court, or they may be transported to the RCCF from the Ramsey County Law Enforcement Center (LEC) after their court hearing.

With the help of over 120 volunteers, RCCF staff are committed to ensure the men and women serving their sentences at the facility have more support, opportunity, and investment upon their return to the community.

#### What was different due to COVID-19?

To reduce the transmission of COVID-19, on March 17, 2020 RCCF granted ***early release to residents with ten or fewer days left to serve*** with authorization from the Second Judicial District Court. On March 22, the Second Judicial District Court ***delegated authority*** to RCCF to release residents to electronic home monitoring (EHM) or GPS, enabling individuals to serve their sentences under supervision in the community.

Other clients were diverted from a stay at RCCF through ***expanded utilization of the Community Monitoring Program (CMP)*** as an alternative to incarceration by the Adult Division. In addition, the Adult Division suspended probation violations for technical violations (e.g. violations not involving a new offense or absconding from supervision) which often result in a sentence to the facility.

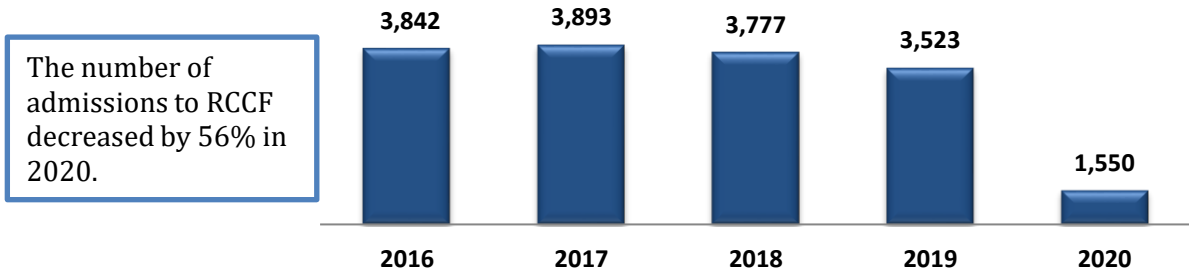
Over the past five years, the average daily population at RCCF ranged between approximately 250 to 330 residents. ***As the result of these policy and practice changes due to COVID-19, the average daily population at RCCF in 2020 was 109 residents.***

# RCCF Profile 2020

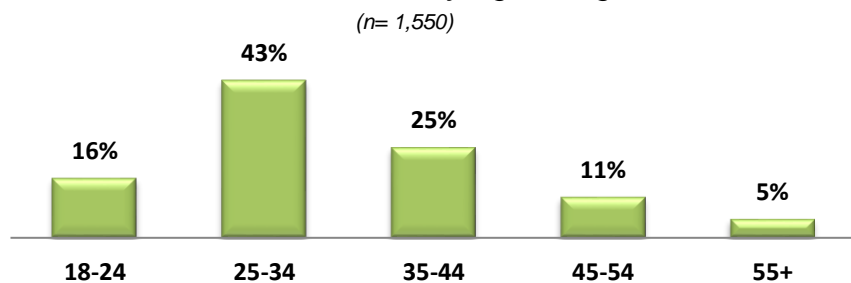
## Residents and Admissions

In 2020, RCCF served **1,771** residents. This includes both residents in custody prior to January 1, 2020 (**221**), and new residents admitted during 2020 (**1,550**). In addition to housing Ramsey County commits, RCCF contracts with Dakota County to board both its sentenced and pre-sentenced commits who are women.

*RCCF Admissions: Five Year Trend*

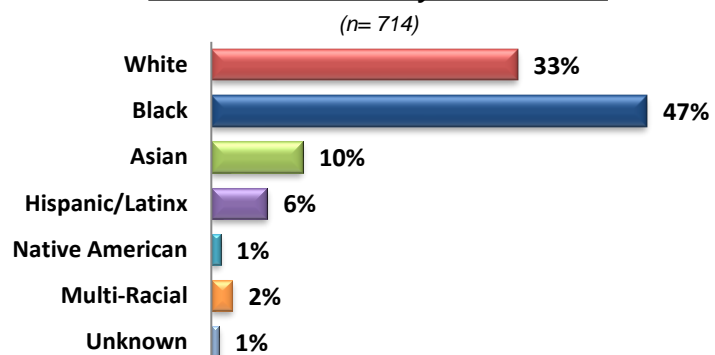


*2020 Admissions by Age Range*

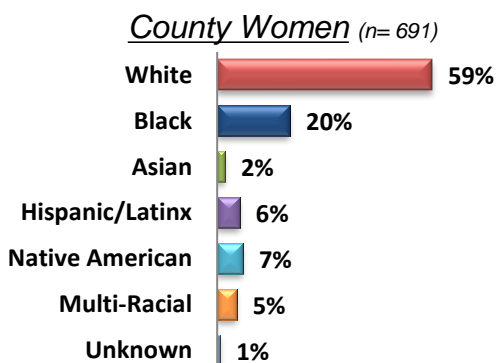


RCCF residents are disproportionately persons of color compared to the overall adult population in Ramsey County. Persons of color comprise 31% of the county's adult population, but accounted for 66% of the admissions (male and Ramsey female) in 2020.

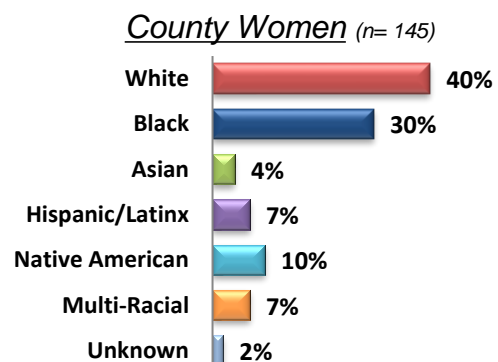
*2020 Admissions by Race - Men*



*2020 Admissions by Race - Dakota*

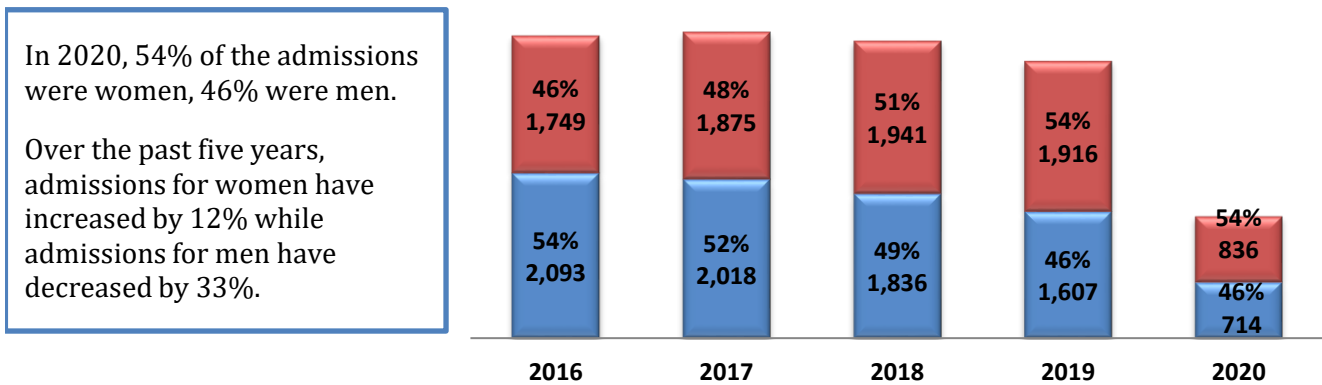


*2020 Admissions by Race - Ramsey*



# RCCF Profile 2020

## Admissions by Gender: Five Year Trend

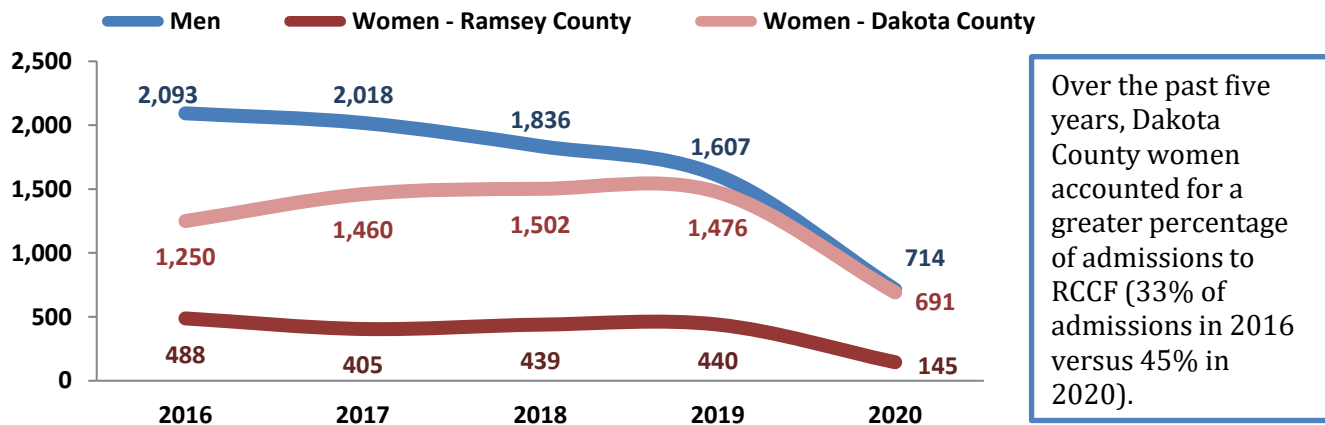


RCCF serves residents from two county jurisdictions:

**Ramsey County:** Men and women who have been sentenced and who are committed by the Ramsey County 2nd Judicial Court.

**Dakota County:** Women who are either sentenced or pre-sentenced.

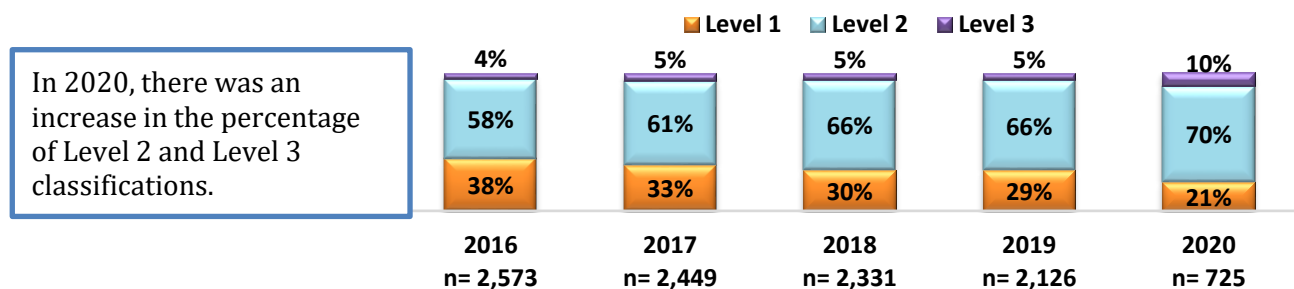
## Admissions by Gender and Jurisdiction: Five Year Trend



Within 72 hours of being booked into the facility, residents are classified based largely on their offense history and previous institutional behavior. Classification determines dorm assignment, work opportunities, and other privileges. Level 1 is the least restrictive classification, Level 3 the most restrictive.

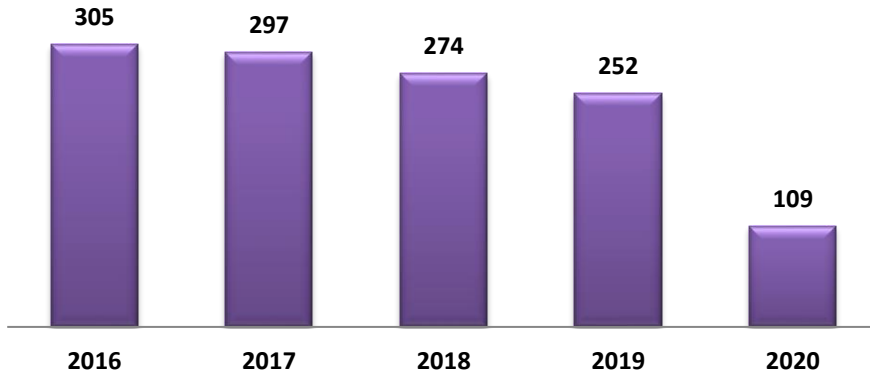
The following residents do not receive a classification: (a) those admitted but released on the same day to electronic home monitoring; and (b) those who stay less than 72 hours.

## Admissions by Classification: Five Year Trend



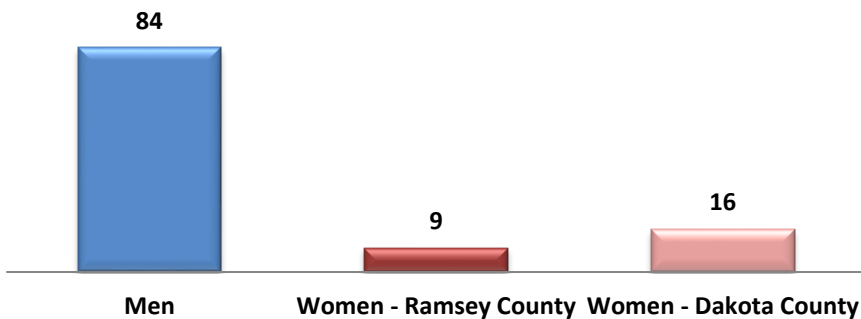
## RCCF Profile 2020

*Average Daily Population: Five Year Trend*



The average daily population (ADP) reflects residents being served in the facility. Due to COVID-19 related changes in policy, the ADP decreased by 57% in 2020.

*2020 Average Daily Population by Gender*



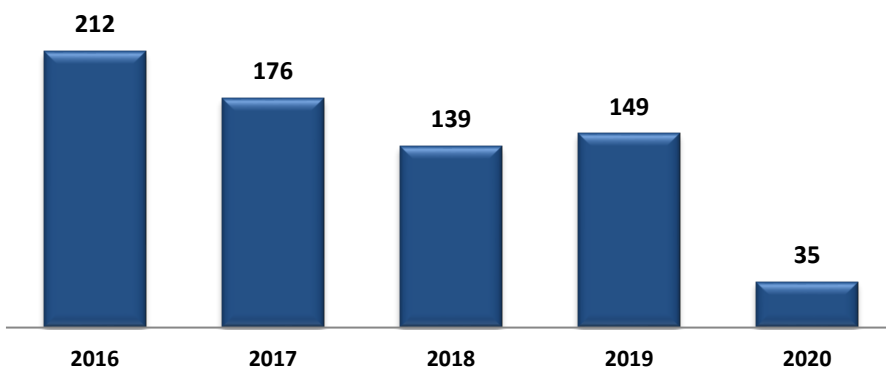
In 2020, male residents comprised 77% of the ADP at RCCF. Females comprised 23% of the ADP, with more Dakota women than Ramsey women.

### Work Release

The work release (WR) program allows eligible residents to work or attend school while serving their sentence at RCCF. Residents must have authorization from the Court, provide proof of continuous and legitimate employment/post-secondary enrollment, and meet other eligibility requirements to participate.

In 2020, **35** residents participated in WR. Due to COVID-19, on March 23 RCCF suspended WR for all residents.

*Number of Residents on WR*



Despite a decrease in the number of residents participating in WR, annually about 7% of admissions participate in WR. Due to COVID-19, fewer residents (4%) participated in WR in 2020.

# RCCF Profile 2020

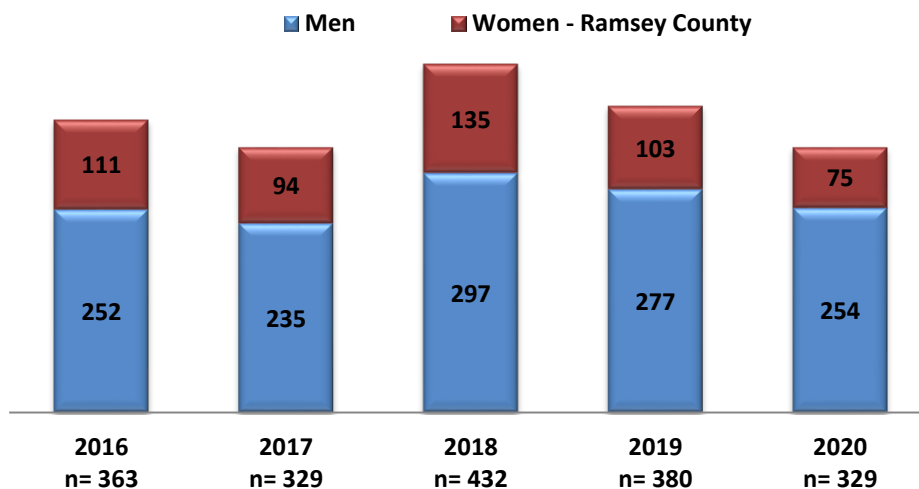
## Electronic Home Monitoring

The electronic home monitoring (EHM) program allows eligible residents to serve their sentence at home using an electronic monitoring system, as an alternative to incarceration. Residents need to have authorization from the Court, have a sentence between 20-150 days on a non-person/violent offense, be drug free, and meet other eligibility criteria for the RCCF EHM program. Dakota County women are eligible for EHM through their own county. However, they cannot do it through Ramsey County.

Due to COVID-19, the Second Judicial Court delegated authority to RCCF to release clients to Electronic Home Monitoring (EHM). This change in policy allowed more clients to be eligible for EHM in 2020 compared to previous years.

In 2020, **329** residents participated in EHM.

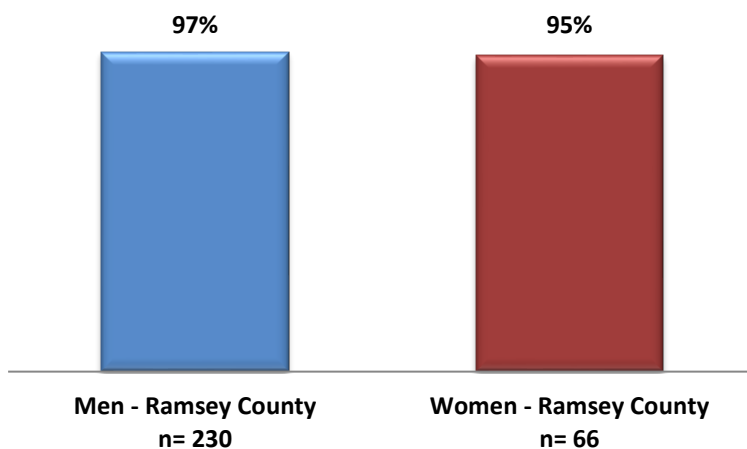
Number of Residents on EHM: Five Year Trend



Since 2018, there has been an increase in the percentage of residents on EHM (19% in 2019 versus 15% in 2015).

In 2020, due to COVID-19 changes in policy around client releases, more residents (38%) were released to EHM.

2020 EHM Program Completion Rates



296 residents were discharged from EHM in 2020. Overall, 96% successfully completed EHM.



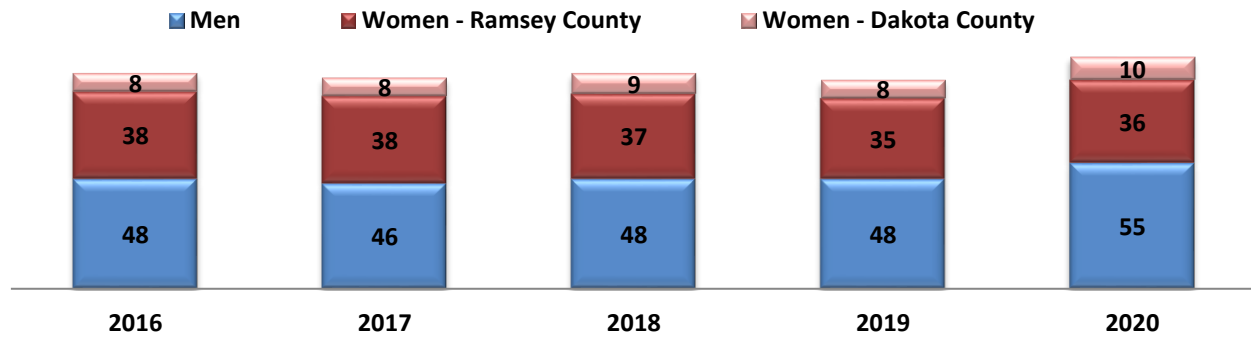
# RCCF Profile 2020

## Releases and Average Length of Stay

In 2020, **1,671** residents were released from RCCF. Due to the changes in policy around client releases during COVID-19, some residents were released early from the facility. Men accounted for 48% of the releases, Ramsey County women for 9%, and Dakota County women for 43%.

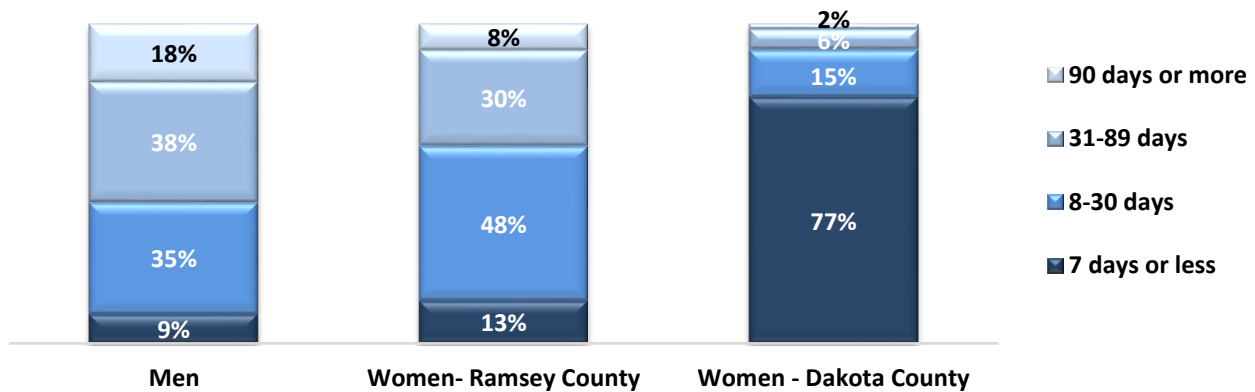
The charts below look at average length of stay (ALOS) at RCCF.

*Average Length of Stay (Days) by Gender: Five Year Trend*



In 2020, the ALOS increased for male inmates. On average, men have longer stays at RCCF than women. Ramsey women have a longer ALOS than Dakota women.

*2020 Length of Stay (Days) by Gender*



77% of Dakota women residents had a stay of 7 days or less, compared to 13% of Ramsey women and 9% of the men.

# COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS' POLICY AND SERVICE DELIVERY RESPONSES TO COVID-19

## Background

In response to COVID-19, Ramsey County Community Corrections adjusted its current policies and practices so it could continue effectively serving clients during the pandemic. The changes implemented align with system reform initiatives already in place.

A previous version of this report was published in September of 2020. The current report expands on the data reported last year. It also includes feedback from clients and staff on their experience with changes in supervision due to COVID-19. We identified changes in eight major areas based on data availability.

## Purpose of the analysis

The purpose of this report is to describe:



Major COVID-19 related changes in Community Corrections' policies and practices in 2020.



The impact of COVID-19 related changes on clients, the community overall, and department staff. The analysis highlights the implications of these changes on racial equity.



Lessons learned and considerations for moving forward in 2021.

## Data Collection

Data were retrieved from the Court Services Tracking Systems (CSTS), Offender Management System (OMS), and the Ramsey County District Courts.

Additionally, survey data were collected from clients and input gathered from Adult and Juvenile Probation staff.

Ramsey County Community Corrections is highly committed to its strategic goal of **More Community, Less Confinement** as well as the County's **Residents First** and **Racial Equity** priorities. In pursuit of these goals and as an ongoing response to COVID-19, Community Corrections implemented changes in the following areas:



**Reduced Incarceration**

PAGES 2-4



**Probation Violations**

PAGES 5-6



**Elimination of Fines and Fees**

PAGE 7



**Drug Testing**

PAGE 8



**Virtual Contacts**

PAGES 9-10



**Virtual Coaching and Programming**

PAGES 11-12



**CMR Releases from the DOC**

PAGE 13



**Additional Supports**

PAGE 14

# Reduced Incarceration



To reduce the spread of COVID-19, Ramsey County Correctional Facility (RCCF) released eligible clients from the facility early. It used its delegated authority to release other eligible clients to Electronic Home Monitoring or GPS so they could finish their sentence in the community instead of RCCF.



## CHANGES IN POLICIES AND PRACTICES

RCCF implemented changes related to client releases in partnership with other justice system stakeholders.

### Early Release

On March 17, 2020, RCCF started submitting requests to the Second Judicial Court for the early release of clients with 10 or fewer days left on their sentence and a stable address. Most requests were approved. Depending on the terms set by the Court at sentencing, some clients went on to be supervised on probation.

### Delegated Authority

On March 22, 2020, the Second Judicial Court delegated authority to RCCF to release clients to Electronic Home Monitoring (EHM) or GPS. This enabled clients to serve their sentences while being supervised in the community.

To be eligible for EHM/GPS release, clients had to meet specific offense criteria and have a stable address. Clients released to EHM/GPS are considered in-custody and are supervised by a field probation officer and facility probation officer.

RCCF also received authority to release medically high-risk clients (per the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidelines) with a stable address to GPS regardless of offense type. This population was not eligible for EHM.



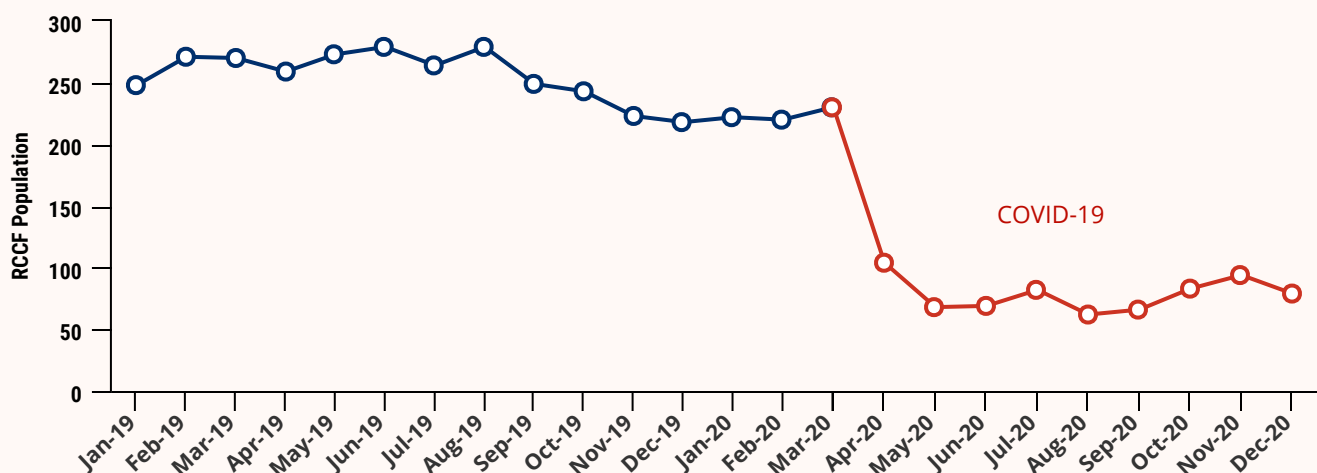
In addition to housing Ramsey County clients, RCCF contracts with Dakota County and houses its sentenced and pre-sentenced female clients. The following data include Dakota County women.



## WHAT WAS THE IMPACT OF THE POLICY CHANGES?

1. The daily population at RCCF decreased dramatically during COVID-19.

2019 and 2020 RCCF Population (In-Facility)

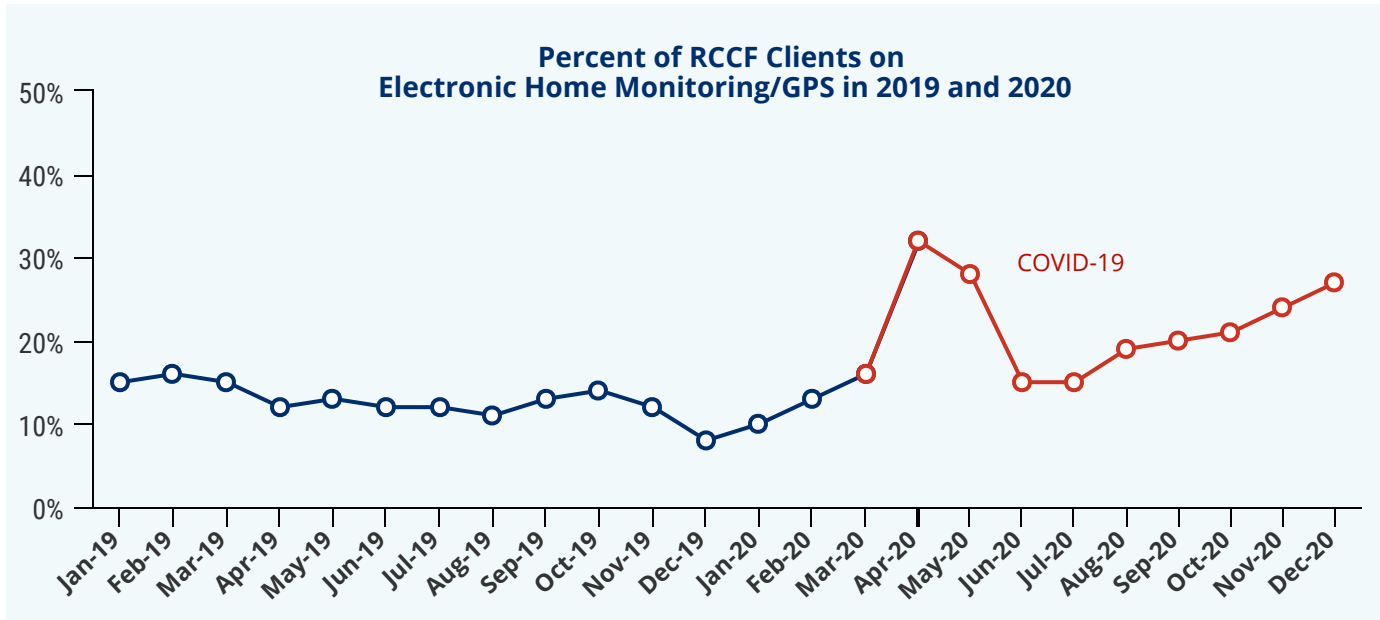


# Reduced Incarceration

## (continued)

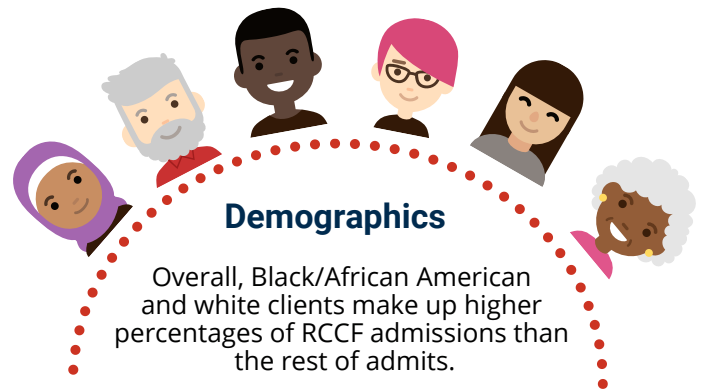


2. A higher percentage of RCCF clients were on EHM/GPS during COVID-19 than 2019.

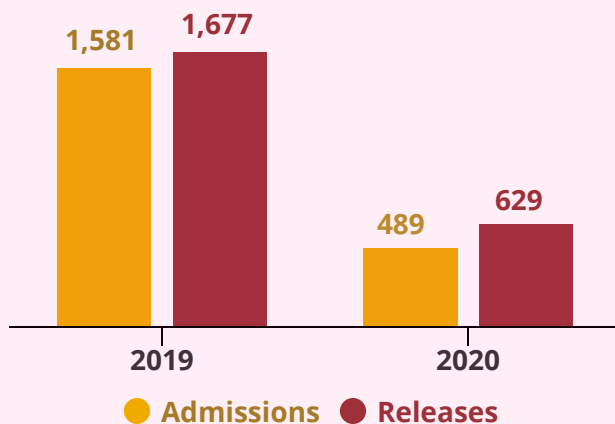


The following data focus on Ramsey County clients only.

3. The number of clients admitted to RCCF was lower during COVID-19. In both years, there were more releases than admissions to the facility.



**RCCF Admissions and Releases**  
(March 16 - December 31)



**Racial Composition of Clients Admitted to RCCF**  
(March 16 - December 31)

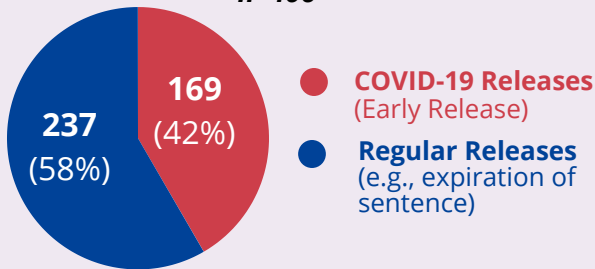
	2019	2020
Black/African American	43%	47%
White	37%	31%
Asian/Pacific Islander	8%	11%
Hispanic/Latinx	5%	6%
Native American	4%	3%
Multi-Racial	3%	2%
	100%	100%

# Reduced Incarceration (continued)

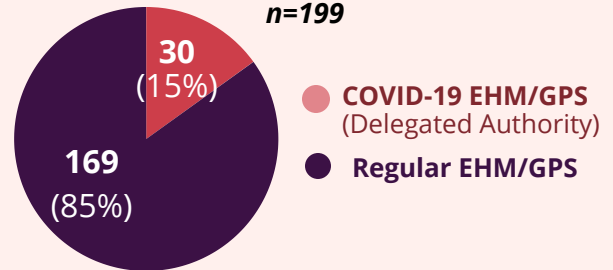


4. RCCF released 169 clients early during COVID-19. It used its delegated authority to release 30 clients to EHM/GPS supervision, enabling them to serve their sentence in the community.

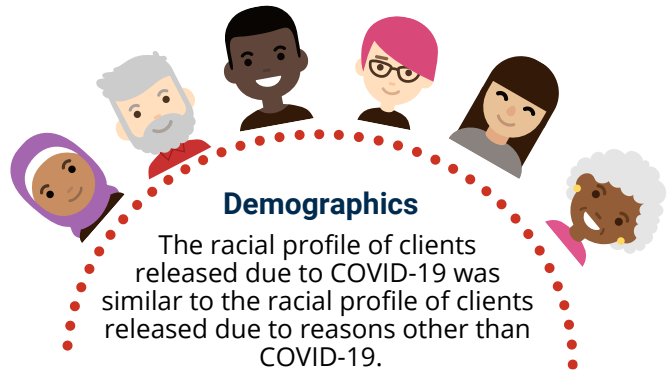
**2020 RCCF Releases**  
(March 16 - December 31)  
**n=406**



**2020 EHM/GPS Releases**  
(March 16 - December 31)  
**n=199**



## WHAT WAS THE IMPACT ON PUBLIC SAFETY?



Community Corrections' COVID-19 policies to reduce RCCF's population **did not compromise public safety.**

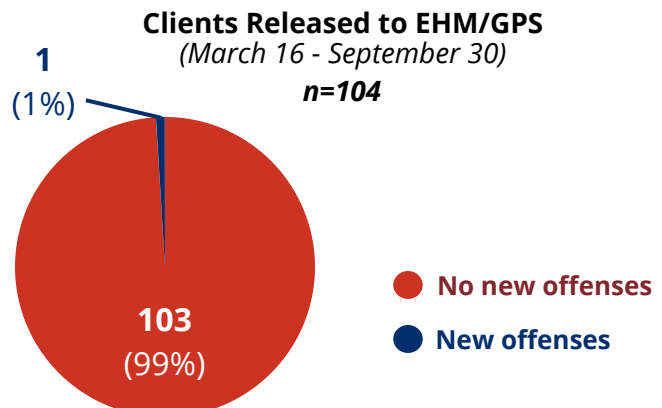
### Early Release

5. Between March 16 and September 30, 2020, there were 124 clients released early. None committed a new offense during the time they would have been incarcerated (10 days).



### Delegated Authority

6. There were 104 clients released to EHM/GPS. 99% were offense-free while under RCCF's authority.



# Probation Violations



Community Corrections suspended and/or reduced technical probation violations (PV) to reduce the number of clients incarcerated because of a PV.

The **Adult Division** established the following supervision guidelines on **probation violations**:



## CHANGES IN POLICIES AND PRACTICES

- Use of Probation Review Bench Warrants (blue warrants) was temporarily suspended.
- Probation violation warrants for technical violations were temporarily suspended except for clients who absconded from supervision.
- Staff may request probation violation warrants for new crimes against a person, weapons charges, or in certain domestic cases.
- In November of 2020, the department resumed probation violations for technical violations or new non-person offenses.

The **Juvenile Division** suspended probation violation warrants for technical violations. Probation officers may request probation violation warrants for youth who absconded or were discharged from placement/programming.



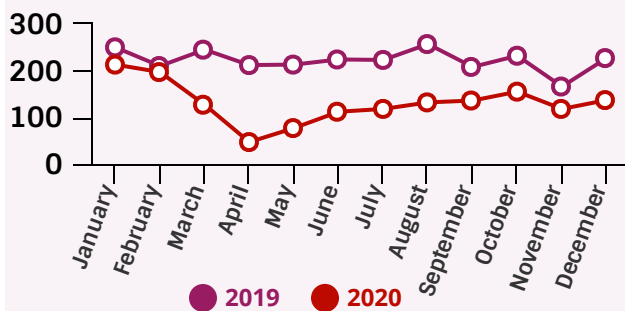
## WHAT WAS THE IMPACT ON PROBATION VIOLATIONS?

1. Overall, fewer clients had a probation violation in 2020 than in 2019.

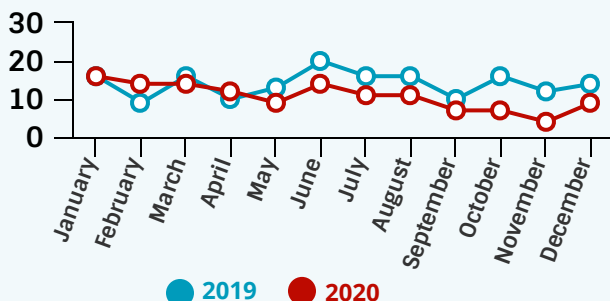
There was a 37% decrease in the number of adult clients with a PV filed in 2020 compared to 2019.



Adults with a Probation Violation



Youth with a Probation Violation



COVID-19 related changes did not impact the racial composition of adults with a PV.

## Demographics

Racial Composition of Adult Clients with a PV  
(March 16 - December 31)

	2019	2020
Black/African American	45%	43%
White	33%	31%
Asian/Pacific Islander	8%	9%
Hispanic/Latinx	5%	5%
Native American	4%	5%
Multi-Racial	4%	5%
	100%	100%

# Probation Violations

## Reducing Revocations Challenge in Ramsey County



Since 2019, the department has been working with the Robina Institute to implement the Reducing Revocations Challenge. The goal of this new initiative is to reduce revocation rates of adult clients on probation.

This initiative aligns with departmental changes made in response to COVID-19.

**A technical violation is a violation of a probation condition that is not a new crime or arrest.**

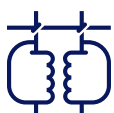


Examples include failing to maintain contact with the probation officer, failing to complete programming, having multiple positive drug tests.

### WHAT IS THE REDUCING REVOCATIONS CHALLENGE?

The Reducing Revocations Challenge (RRC) is a national project funded by Arnold Ventures with technical assistance led by the City University of New York (CUNY) Institute for State and Local Governance. **This initiative aims to 1) transform community supervision, 2) reduce failures of supervision that contribute to probation revocations and incarceration, and 3) increase probation success.**

### WHY IS IT IMPORTANT TO REDUCE PROBATION REVOCATIONS?



**Revocations make up a large part of prison populations.** The Council of State Governments Justice Center (CSG) found that 65% of Minnesota's prison admissions in 2017 were from revocations.



**Incarceration is expensive and more costly than community supervision.** The CSG reported that in 2015, state prison costs added more than \$40 billion, or nearly 10 times the cost of community supervision, yet state probation and parole populations are three times larger than state populations.



**Incarceration adversely impacts the children and families of those who are incarcerated.** Barriers and harms include housing instability, economic well-being, parent-child attachment, and trauma.

**A revocation occurs when a client's supervision is terminated and they are incarcerated.**



A revocation may result from a new offense or a 'technical' violation (e.g., failure to complete treatment, substance use, absconding from supervision).

### REDUCING REVOCATIONS CHALLENGE IN RAMSEY COUNTY



**In October of 2019, Ramsey County Community Corrections, in partnership with the Robina Institute of Criminal Law and Criminal Justice, was one of ten sites selected to participate in the Reducing Revocations Challenge initiative.** Ramsey County has historically had one of the highest revocation rates in Minnesota and a rate twice that of its neighbor, Hennepin County.



**In early 2020, Ramsey County assembled an advisory committee to provide oversight and guidance.** The committee is made up of Ramsey County community members and criminal justice system stakeholders. The advisory committee plays a critical role in interpreting research findings and guiding local strategies.



The initiative seeks to understand the factors contributing to probation revocations in Ramsey County. It will use the findings to develop and implement local strategies to reduce revocations and increase probation success.



# Elimination of Fines and Fees



In response to COVID-19, on March 27, 2020, Community Corrections eliminated the collection of fines and fees for adult clients. This included supervision/probation, electronic home monitoring, and patient healthcare fees.

Eliminating fines and fees was part of an ongoing effort to address some of the disparities and challenges people face in the justice system.

## ELIMINATING FINES AND FEES IN RAMSEY COUNTY



Community Corrections is part of a county-wide effort to examine and eliminate criminal justice fees, particularly the impact of fees on low-income communities and communities of color.



In 2019, Ramsey County was one of three jurisdictions selected in the U.S. to look at ways to reduce its reliance on criminal justice fees as a source of revenue. Community Corrections began efforts to reduce supervision fees for certain types of adult cases.



When COVID-19 began, Community Corrections was in the process of furthering its work to reduce or eliminate probation and correctional fees.



## CHANGES IN POLICIES AND PRACTICES

On April 14, 2020, the Ramsey County Board of Commissioners approved the elimination of all criminal justice fines and fees for all adult clients on probation. Ramsey County also eliminated fees at the Ramsey County Correctional Facility. This included patient healthcare fees and fees for clients released to electronic home monitoring from the facility.

Ramsey County Community Corrections planned to phase out all fines and fees in 2020, but COVID-19 accelerated its timeline. The Board embraced the opportunity to approve the elimination of supervision fees as part of Community Corrections' COVID-19 response.

## WHY IS ELIMINATING FEES IMPORTANT?



**Fines and fees disproportionately impact low-income families and communities of color.**

These are populations that are also experiencing significant health and economic consequences of COVID-19. Eliminating fines and fees will help alleviate the economic burdens on justice-involved individuals.

## WHAT WAS THE IMPACT ON OUR BUDGET?



Over the last three years, our department collected about \$2.6 million from fines and fees.



# Drug Testing



Community Corrections decreased or suspended drug testing for some clients to reduce social interactions and the spread of COVID-19.

To keep clients safe and healthy during COVID-19, the drug testing vendor implemented preventative measures per the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommendations. These include proper use of personal protective equipment (e.g., gloves, masks), increased and proper handwashing of all staff, temperature and symptom checks for staff and clients, increased Patient Care Center (PCC) cleaning and sanitation, and physical distancing (e.g., encouraging clients to visit during slow times, limiting the number of clients in a facility to 10 or less).



## CHANGES IN POLICIES AND PRACTICES

The **Adult Division** established the following supervision guidelines on **drug testing**:

- On March 17, 2020, drug testing was suspended for high-, medium-, and low-risk clients in good standing (e.g., clients in compliance with probation conditions, clients without new offenses, etc.).
- On July 27, 2020, high-risk clients resumed drug testing 1–3 times a month. Drug testing remained suspended for low- and medium-risk clients.

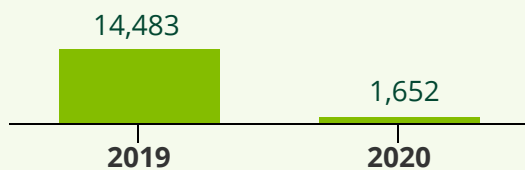
The **Juvenile Division** drug tested only youth who were high-risk and youth on probation for certain offenses (e.g., felony-level or person-related offenses, aggravated assault offenses, or offenses involving guns).



## WHAT WAS THE IMPACT ON DRUG TESTING?

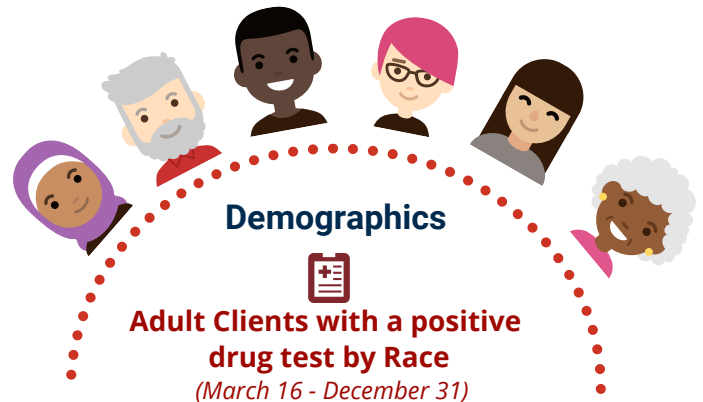
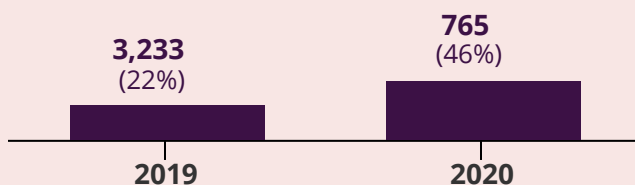
- The number of drug tests completed were significantly lower during COVID-19.

**Drug Tests of Adult Clients**  
(March 16 - December 31)



- The percentage of **positive drug tests** was **24% higher during COVID-19**. This could be attributed to the department's more targeted approach to drug testing.

**Positive Drug Tests of Adult Clients**  
(March 16 - December 31)



	2019	2020
Multi-Racial *	26%	67%
Black/African American	26%	54%
White	22%	41%
Asian/Pacific Islander	15%	34%
Native American	13%	14%

\*Please note that multi-racial clients represent a small proportion of adults on probation.

# Virtual Contacts



To prevent the spread of COVID-19, Community Corrections suspended office visits, limited in-person visits, and implemented virtual/remote contacts with clients.

Virtual contacts provided clients with the opportunity to maintain contact and fulfill their probation conditions during COVID-19. It helped reduce some contact barriers such as transportation or childcare. Probation officers used different forms of communication to contact their clients including phone calls, Facetime, Google Duo, Zoom, and Microsoft Teams. The department provided most probation officers with laptops and cell phones.



**Adult Probation** and **Juvenile Probation** established the following supervision guidelines for **client contacts during the pandemic**:

- Probation officers must use several forms of virtual communication when working with clients. Agents may decide the form of communication (e.g., phone call, Facetime, Microsoft Teams, Skype, Zoom, Duo).

## CHANGES IN POLICIES AND PRACTICES

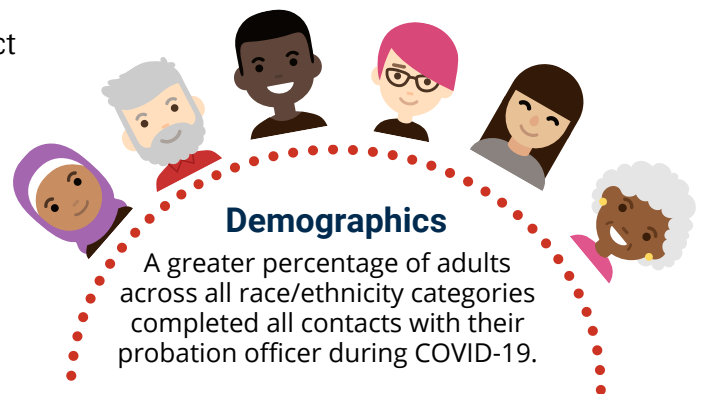
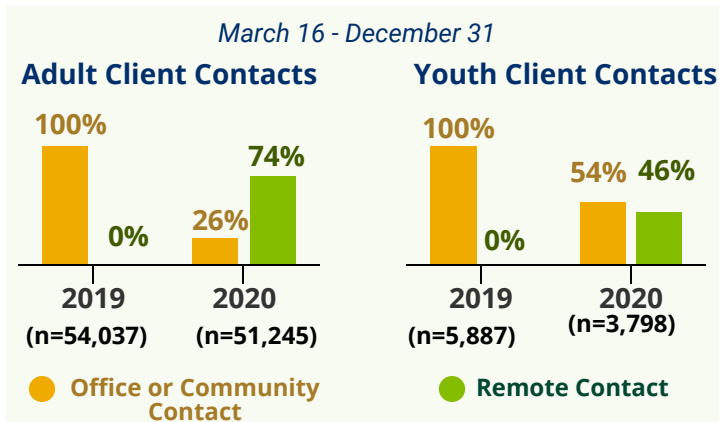
**Adult Probation** officers with clients who have mandated community visits (Intensive Supervision or Supervised Released clients) moved from a two-agent per contact model to one-agent per contact visits. They must also follow social distancing protocols.

**Juvenile Probation** officers must use the newly implemented remote contacts and must continue community visits to programs that are open (e.g., treatment centers, residential programs, etc.) following social distancing protocols.



## WHAT WAS THE IMPACT OF POLICY AND PRACTICE CHANGES?

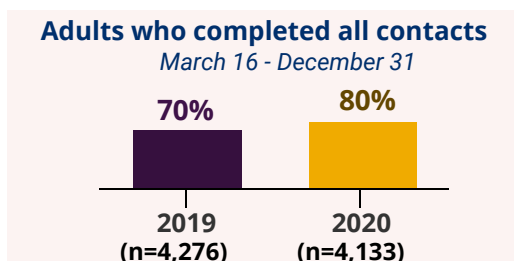
1. During COVID-19, **most contact between probation officers and adult clients was remote**. Remote contact was more frequent with adult clients than youth.



### Adult clients who completed all contacts by Race/Ethnicity

	2019	2020
Asian/Pacific Islander	75%	85%
White	74%	81%
Native American	65%	84%
Hispanic/Latinx	69%	78%
Black/African American	65%	78%
Multi-Racial	64%	69%

2. During COVID-19, **more adults completed all contacts** with their probation officer.



# Virtual Contacts (continued)



Community Corrections collected feedback from clients and staff on their experience with virtual contacts. Overall, clients and staff reported positive experiences using virtual contacts.

## Client Survey

In November of 2020, the department emailed a survey to all clients with an email address on record. 518 clients completed the survey. The survey asked clients about their relationship with their probation officer and their experience with virtual contacts.



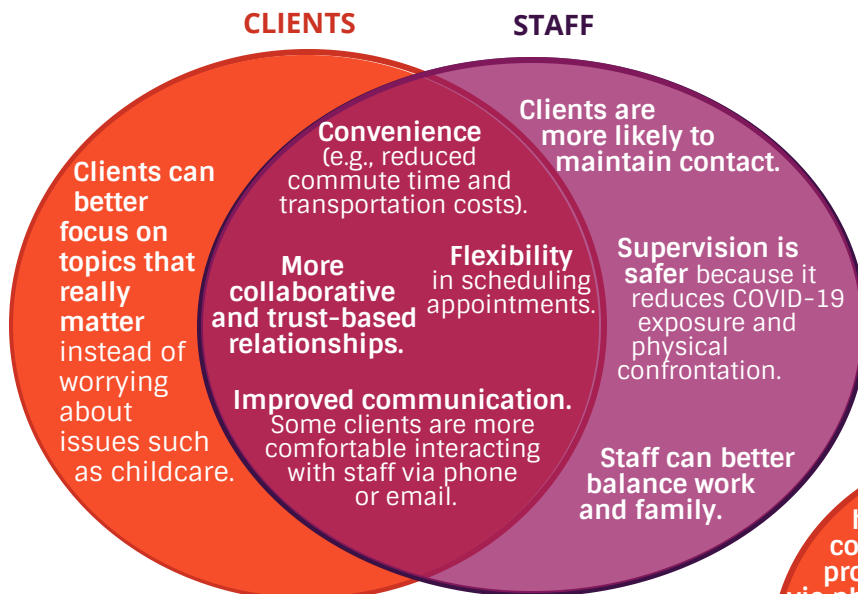
## Staff Group Interviews

From October to December of 2020, the department conducted group interviews with staff to learn about their perspectives on and experience with remote/virtual client supervision. 175 staff participated.



## WHAT DID WE LEARN FROM CLIENTS AND STAFF ?

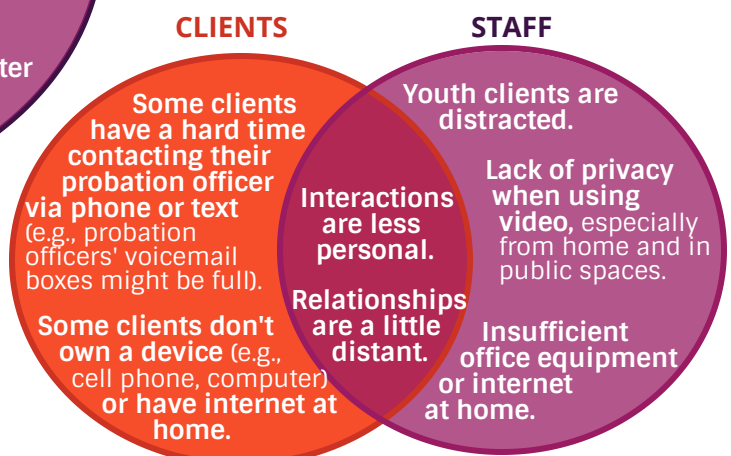
### POSITIVE VIEWS OF VIRTUAL CONTACT



**Staff** reported mostly positive feedback with virtual contacts. Staff with county-issued laptops and cell phones reported more positive feedback than staff who used their own devices. Staff reported using multiple methods to maintain contact with clients including text messages, email, and phone calls.

**Clients** reported positive working relationships with probation officers, even during COVID-19. Survey participants seemed to prefer virtual visits over in-person community and/or office visits. However, some clients said they would like to meet with probation officers in person (e.g., at home, work, etc.) or at the office like they did before COVID-19.

### NEGATIVE VIEWS OF VIRTUAL CONTACT



# Virtual Coaching and Programming



Community Corrections implemented virtual cognitive behavior programming and coaching (COG) so it could continue providing programming to clients during the pandemic. Coaching was available in group and individual-based formats.

During COVID-19, the department took an innovative approach to deliver services and continue supporting clients in the community. One of its biggest initiatives was implementing virtual coaching and programming for clients on probation. Since implementation, staff have been practicing and supporting one another to improve their ability to deliver virtual COG programming and conduct virtual coaching sessions with clients.

The department usually offers a variety of COG programs. However, between March 16 and December 31, 2020, it offered only Decision Points.

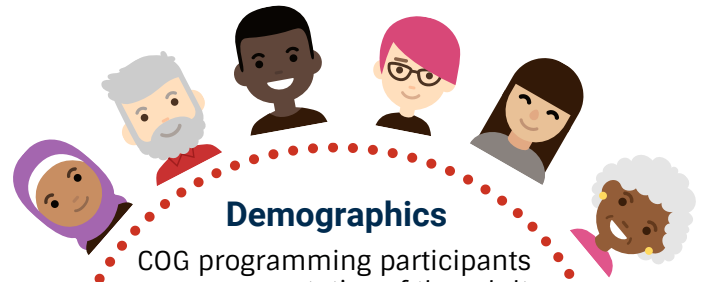
In May 2020, Community Corrections piloted Decision Points virtually. Decision Points is a national program that focuses on anger management, emotional support, problem solving, and communication skills. The virtual pilot was launched in collaboration with one of the curriculum's authors. This was the first time the curriculum was ever delivered virtually.



## CHANGES IN POLICIES AND PRACTICES

The **Adult and Juvenile Divisions** established the following supervision guidelines on programming:

Traditional in-person cognitive programming was temporarily suspended. The COG Unit must use remote platforms (e.g., Zoom, Facetime, phone) to provide group and one-on-one programming.



## Demographics

COG programming participants were representative of the adults and youth on probation.

Most adults who participated in Decision Points were Black or African American (41%) followed by white (40%). Most participants were male.

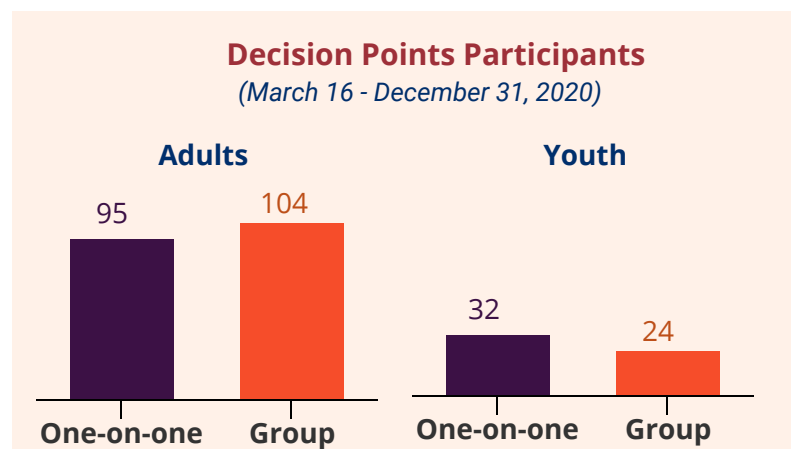


## COG PROGRAMMING DURING COVID-19



**Between March 16 and December 31, the department delivered Decision Points programming virtually.**

1. **182 clients** (146 adults and 36 youths) participated in one or more virtual COG sessions during COVID-19. COG sessions were delivered in one-on-one and group-based formats. Most clients attended multiple sessions, and some clients attended both one-on-one and group-based sessions.




# Virtual Coaching and Programming (continued)



## DECISION POINTS PARTICIPATION AND COMPLETION

Between March 16 and December 31, 2020, **182 clients** participated in virtual Decision Points groups. **124 clients (68%)** graduated from the program.



 Participated	Completed
<b>Adults</b>	<b>146</b>
<b>Youth</b>	<b>18</b>



Adults were more likely to attend virtual COG groups than youth.



## PARTICIPANT FEEDBACK ON DECISION POINTS VIRTUAL SESSIONS

The department collected some feedback from Decision Points participants and graduates:



The majority of participants reported feeling comfortable sharing their thoughts/feelings or experiences with their peers in virtual groups.



Participants reported accessing group on their own cell phone (75%) or laptop/desktop computer (25%). The majority of participants reported using their home internet to participate in group. Some reported using their phone data.

Most participants did not have technological issues accessing group. However, some clients reported sometimes missing group because they didn't have a device (e.g., cell phone, computer) or WiFi/internet access.



To improve their experience, participants suggested adjusting the times groups were offered (e.g., some clients had schedule conflicts due to family responsibilities).

"[Overall, my virtual programming experience] was great! I have no complaints."

Graduate

"The group is nice and simple. We all get along and understand each other."

Participant

"[My experience with virtual group] was good. I prefer virtual programming".

Graduate

# CMR Releases from the DOC



To reduce COVID-19 exposure in state adult correctional facilities, the Minnesota Department of Corrections (DOC) released medically high-risk clients to community supervision.

The DOC used conditional medical release (CMR) criteria to determine eligibility. To be released under CMR criteria, clients had to have a stable address.



## CHANGES IN POLICIES AND PRACTICES

In March of 2020, the DOC instituted a COVID-19 CMR process to release medically high-risk clients to community supervision. Clients with underlying medical conditions who believed they would be severely affected if they contracted COVID-19 were eligible for release. The CMR program's goals were to prevent the spread of COVID-19 in facilities and protect medically at-risk clients.

Ramsey County Adult Probation Division accepted clients released under CMR criteria from the DOC.



## WHAT WAS THE IMPACT OF THE POLICY CHANGES?

Due to the increase in adult caseloads and CMR clients' special conditions and high needs, probation officers faced unique challenges supervising this population.

Since March of 2020, Ramsey County supervised 23 clients released under CMR criteria from the DOC. CMR clients were supervised at the SR (Supervised Released) and ISR (Intensive Supervised Released) units. At the time of reporting, 10 clients completed their CMR supervision and 13 were still under supervision.

## Supervisors provided feedback on their experience with CMR clients:



Clients released from the DOC seemed to have high needs (e.g., housing, employment, or financial help). Probation officers supervised CMR clients in addition to their regular caseloads (40-50 clients). They invested a lot of time providing extra support while ensuring CMR clients adhered to their release conditions.

"These clients don't have a lot of supports on their own."

ISR Supervisor



Probation officers had some difficulty supervising CMR clients due to clients' CMR release criteria (e.g., specific type of work, restricted work hours while on supervision).



Some CMR clients have statutory release dates (*sentence end-dates set by the court*) that are 3-4 years in the future. These clients will continue to be supervised in the community during COVID-19, but it is unclear what will happen after the pandemic ends.



# Additional Supports



Community Corrections worked with Workforce Solutions and community partners to provide supplies (e.g., cell phones, laptops) and internet access to clients on probation.

Virtual communication reduced some barriers for clients such as transportation and childcare. However, other barriers remained such as limited or no technology and/or internet access. To reduce these barriers, Community Corrections partnered with Workforce Solutions and used Individualized Service Funds to provide technology supplies to clients in the community. These resources enabled clients to maintain contact with their probation officer during COVID-19.

## TechPaks

In December of 2020, Community Corrections partnered with Workforce Solutions to offer TechPaks to clients on probation. This county-wide initiative was funded by the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act. All Ramsey County residents, including Corrections clients, could request a TechPak.

TechPaks include:



### CHANGES IN PRACTICES



Laptops and  
computer support.



Headsets and  
Hotspot Internet  
access.



Digital Navigators who provide individual support and resources for computer and internet skills training, and referrals to job training, education, and social services.

## Individualized Service Funds

The Individualized Youth and Families Service Fund (ISF) supports youth and their families by helping them meet their basic needs such as food, clothing, rent and utility bill assistance, and mental health supports. ISF fills gaps in services in the juvenile justice and other social service systems. ISF serves youth on probation, at-risk youth, and youth at risk of out-of-home placement.

During COVID-19, ISF increased funding for technology supplies (e.g., cell phones, computers) to support youth and their families in the community.



## WHO RECEIVED ADDITIONAL SUPPORTS?



20 youth received a TechPak.

Most were male and Black or African American. Most youth were 17 or 18 years old.



Between March 16 and December 31 of 2020, ISF allocated \$12,784 to technology (e.g., cell phones, computers) to support youth and their families.



# Lessons Learned and Recommendations Moving Forward

## WHAT WE LEARNED



Having a strategic plan that prioritized system reform ensured that we incorporated reform into service redesign plans during COVID-19.



Reducing incarceration by supervising clients in the community does not compromise public safety.



Targeting drug testing resulted in cost savings and a reduction in probation violations (PVs) and drug tests during COVID-19.



Virtual contacts (or tele-supervision) is a viable supervision strategy.



Virtual programming is a viable way to deliver services and support clients in the community.



Supervising medically fragile clients in the community takes extra time, supports, and resources.



Clients need technology supports such as cell phones, laptops, and internet access to maintain contact with their probation officer and access services.



## RECOMMENDATIONS

Continue supporting system reform work that addresses other financial barriers in the criminal justice system.

Continue promoting community supervision while ensuring public safety.

**Identify what policies and practices should remain in place after the pandemic.**

**Expand eligibility for early release and release to EHM/GPS.**

**Look for other alternatives to incarceration.**

Continue developing strategies that support clients' probation success.

**Institute targeted drug testing.**

**Develop alternative ways to respond to technical probation violations.**

Continue offering clients a variety of ways to maintain contact with their probation officers.

**Identify what types of contact (e.g., in person, virtual, hybrid) are most effective for different types of clients.**

**Establish policies and procedures to guide remote supervision.**

Continue building virtual COG programming capacity.

**Identify what types of programming delivery methods (e.g., in person, virtual, hybrid) are most effective for different types of clients.**

**Provide on-going training and support to online programming facilitators.**

**Identify other programs that could be delivered virtually.**

Develop strategies to better support medically high-risk, high-needs clients with special conditions in the community.

**Develop a wrap-around model that helps identify and provide resources needed to effectively serve CMR clients.**

Continue investing resources and building partnerships to provide clients with technological support.

**Partner with other departments and community agencies to effectively help clients access technology.**