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BLUEPRINT *for* KENTUCKY'S CHILDREN

ISSUE BRIEF SERIES

The Blueprint for Kentucky's Children is a unified policy agenda for child advocates across the Commonwealth. Our goal is to make Kentucky the best place to be young.



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Ending the Use of Incarceration for Status Offenses in Kentucky

Background

Every child needs quality learning opportunities and support in making a successful transition to adulthood and to become a productive citizen of our Commonwealth. Adolescence can be a vulnerable time for youth as they attempt to define themselves and become more independent. When adolescents engage in troubling behavior, appropriate and consistently applied discipline is needed to ensure that they have opportunities to learn from mistakes and become successful, contributing adults.¹

Status offenses are acts defined as illegal only because they are committed by people who are under 18 years of age. Status offenses are misconduct by a child. In Kentucky, status offenses include:

- ▶ **HABITUAL TRUANCY** – being reported as a truant two or more times during a one-year period. A child is considered a truant if they are absent or tardy for school without valid excuse 3 or more times during a school year.
- ▶ **BEYOND THE CONTROL OF PARENTS** – repeatedly failing to follow the reasonable directives of parents or guardians when the behavior places the child or others at risk.
- ▶ **BEYOND THE CONTROL OF SCHOOL** – repeatedly violating the lawful regulations set forth by the school.

- ▶ **HABITUAL RUNAWAY** – being absent from the lawful place of residence without the permission of custodian for at least three days during a one-year period.
- ▶ **TOBACCO OFFENSE** – purchasing, attempting to purchase, receiving, or attempting to receive a tobacco product, or using false identification for that purpose.
- ▶ **ALCOHOL OFFENSE** – Possessing or purchasing (or attempting to purchase) an alcoholic beverage, misrepresenting age or using false identification for that purpose, having another person purchase an alcoholic beverage for the person under 18, or entering premises licensed for the sale of alcohol for the purpose of purchasing or receiving alcohol.²

In 1974 Congress passed the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act (JJDP), which mandated the deinstitutionalization of status offenders as one of its core protections. The 1980 reauthorization of the JJDP included an exception that allowed incarceration of youth found guilty of a status offense and violating a valid court order.³ The JJDP still emphasizes deinstitutionalization of youth charged with status offenses, which is premised on the understanding that youth who misbehave, but have not committed a criminal offense or violated the law, are better served by social service programs in



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nonsecure (unlocked) environments than through the use of incarceration.⁴

Not only is incarceration, or secure detention, the most expensive approach, but it is also the least effective, as youth who are detained face greater risk of poor education, work, and health outcomes, as well as future incarceration.⁵ In fact, incarceration actually increases the likelihood that a youth who has committed a low level offense will misbehave again.⁶ Research has shown that even fifteen years after their release, youth who had been incarcerated worked ten percent fewer hours than people who had not been incarcerated.⁷

Youth Incarcerated for Status Offenses in Kentucky

In FY 2011, the number of Kentucky youth charged with status offenses was 9,173.⁸ In that same year, habitual truancy, beyond control, and running away were the most common status offense charges (93 percent) and accounted for 23 percent of all juvenile charges, which includes public offenses or offenses that would be a crime if committed by an adult.⁹ Youth charged with status offenses include children as young as 6 years old.¹⁰ More males than

females are charged with status offenses in Kentucky (55 vs. 45 percent).¹¹

The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention's latest available data shows Kentucky, Texas and Washington accounting for 60 percent of incarcerations of youth nationwide for an underlying status offense.¹² In 2011, youth were incarcerated 1,335 times for status offenses, which accounted for approximately one in every six youth incarcerations in Kentucky (for status and public offenses combined).¹³ Although the number of incarcerations of youth for status offenses remains higher than the 2003 level (when consistent data collection began), the number in Kentucky has dropped by 41 percent since 2007 as a result of increased awareness about the high cost and ineffectiveness of incarcerating youth, the leadership of judges, and individual and system-level advocacy.¹⁴

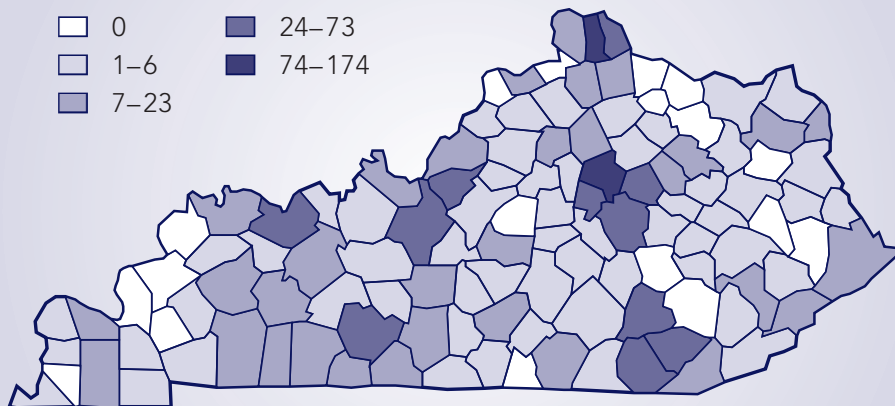
Research shows African-American youth are often over-represented in the juvenile justice system, despite having no more likelihood of committing crimes.¹⁴ African-American youth accounted for 16.7 percent of all youth detained for status offenses in 2011, yet represented only 9.2 percent of youth in Kentucky ages 10-17.¹⁵

Youth charged with status offenses are most often detained for contempt of court due to violating a valid court order.¹⁶ During sentencing it is not uncommon for judges to issue a court order that mandates compliance with specified rules. Oftentimes, these court orders simply mandate the youth to cease engaging in the offending behavior immediately and throughout the rest of their juvenile years. If a youth charged with a status offense violates any part of that court order they can be given an additional charge of contempt of court, and can be sentenced to incarceration for the contempt charge. Youth may also be detained for a brief period without a contempt of court charge, most often for habitual runaway charges.

In Kentucky, when a child is brought into family court having been charged with a status offense, the judge will often order the child to adhere to a set of conditions. These often include attending school every day, a curfew, and following parental rules. When the judge sets these boundaries, they become a valid court order.¹⁷ Most often, when children are incarcerated for status offenses, they are locked up for contempt of court because they violated the valid court order. These valid court orders have no end date, which means a 13-year-old can be ordered never to miss another day of school and be locked up if they miss another day before they turn 18.

Youth can be locked up for a status offense even before a judge has determined if they actually committed the offense with which they were charged. A youth who is alleged to have committed a status offense or is accused of being in contempt of court for an underlying status offense charge may be detained in a secure juvenile detention facility for up to 24 hours pending a detention hearing. If further incarceration is ordered at the detention hearing, a youth who is alleged to have committed a status offense may be detained in a secure juvenile detention facility for up to an additional

Number of Youth Incarcerations for Status Offenses, 2011



Source: Kentucky Department of Juvenile Justice and Louisville Metro Youth Detention Services.



24 hours, and a youth accused of being in contempt of court may be incarcerated for up to an additional 48 hours pending the child's next court appearance.¹⁸ The average length of stay for youth charged with status offenses in a Kentucky Department of Juvenile Justice detention facility is 5.4 days.¹⁹ Youth without a contempt of court charge are typically only detained for 1 to 2 days, while youth detained for being in contempt of court often have longer stays. Judges may detain a youth for up to 90 days on a contempt of court charge due to violation of a valid court order.²⁰

Kentucky counties vary in their use of incarceration for youth who commit status offenses. Knox County had the highest rate of youth booked for status offenses in 2011, followed by Clark and Kenton Counties (see table on page 7). Kenton County had the highest number of times youth were incarcerated for status offenses in 2011 but also was among the five counties with the greatest drop from the previous year. Campbell, Henderson, Kenton, McCracken, and Whitley Counties all saw substantial decreases in the number of bookings from 2010 to 2011, ranging from a decrease of 40 in

McCracken County to a decrease of 34 in Henderson County.²¹

Incarceration: An Ineffective and Expensive Approach

Incarceration has not proved effective in addressing status offenses and in fact can increase the likelihood of offending when youth are locked up for minor things.²² Using incarceration fails to address factors that contribute to the inappropriate behavior. Further, the costs of incarceration significantly outweigh other placement options that can address underlying problems. Obviously, youth must be held accountable for their actions, but this should be done with programs that are both cost-effective and improve public safety.

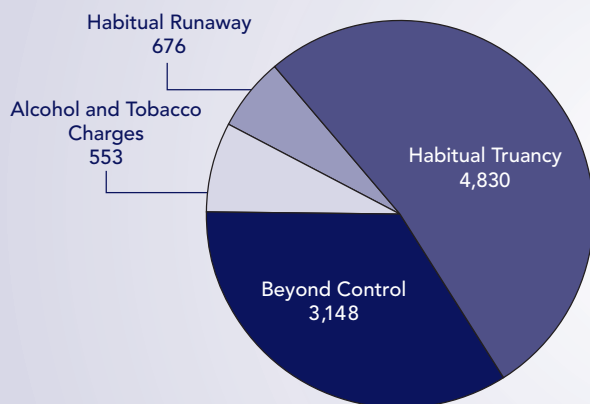
INCARCERATION IS MORE EXPENSIVE THAN COMMUNITY ALTERNATIVES

In Kentucky, the county in which a youth resides is responsible for paying the cost of incarceration and/or out-of-home placement for a youth who has committed a status offense. The cost to a county is

\$94 per day for incarceration compared to \$92.50 per day for emergency shelter care and between \$78.50 to \$82.00 per day for a supervised foster care placement.²³ For incarceration, the total cost (an average of \$210 per day) exceeds what counties are charged, and the state covers the remainder of the cost of detention.²⁴ Kentucky uses another alternative to detention called home incarceration or "tracking," which the state pays for using federal funds. Home incarceration only costs \$25 per youth per day, which includes an electronic monitoring bracelet used to monitor the youth's location and a case management service that checks in with youth by phone and in person on a regular basis.²⁵

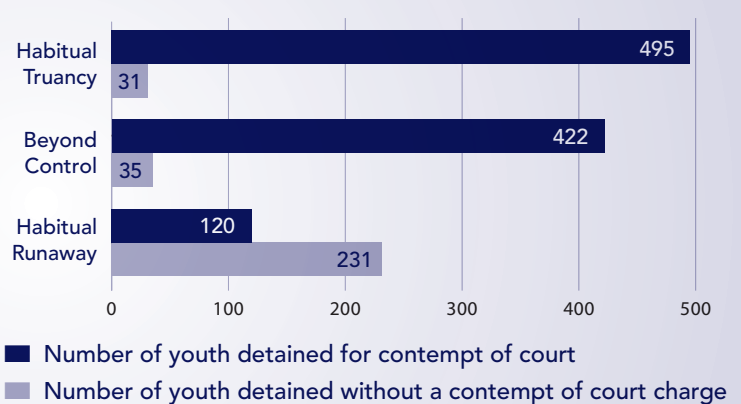
The sheriffs' offices in many counties also incur costs when youth are detained for status offenses. Sheriffs' offices spend a considerable amount of time and money transporting youth charged with a status offense back and forth between the nearest regional state-run juvenile detention center and their county courthouse. Locking up youth who are not a threat to the community detracts resources from sheriff's offices that are needed for public safety.

Habitual Truancy Leading Status Offense Charge, FY 2011



Source: Administrative Office of the Courts, Court Designated Worker Database.

Incarcerations of Youth for Most Common Status Offenses, 2011



Source: Kentucky Department of Juvenile Justice and Louisville Metro Youth Detention Services.

Data Note: Youth may be counted in more than one offense category if they were charged with or incarcerated for multiple status offenses.



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INCARCERATION DOES NOT ADDRESS CORE PROBLEM

Incarcerating a youth charged with a status offense fails to address the causes of the troubling behavior that brought him or her to the attention of the courts. Until the underlying causes of a youth's behavior are effectively addressed the behavior will probably continue.

A prime example of incarceration's failure to rehabilitate is regarding youth charged with habitual truancy. Youth who habitually miss school often have underlying factors that contribute to their poor attendance, such as parents who are disengaged from their education or lack the supervision and discipline skills they need to effectively parent. Incarcerating youth who are truant without investigating the underlying factors that lead youth to miss school does nothing to mitigate those contributing factors nor does incarceration help the child become more connected to school in the long-term. For youth charged with habitual truancy, incarceration just extends the amount of time a youth is disconnected from his or her school. Youth who feel connected to their schools are less likely to engage in criminal behaviors, whereas a low level of school attachment is a long-term risk factor for juvenile violence.²⁶ Feeling disconnected from school also increases a youth's risk of dropping out. Youth who leave incarceration and do not return to school may face higher unemployment, poorer health (and a shorter life), and receive less earnings than youth who do return and complete school.²⁷ Additionally, dropouts are 3.5 times more likely than high school graduates to be arrested.²⁸

Incarceration also puts youth rehabilitation at risk by separating youth from their families and communities. Developing a strong social network and support system is a critical step in youth successfully transitioning from adolescence to

adulthood.²⁹ The individuals and institutions that constitute a young person's support system have the greatest influence on youth and should be included in attempts to end negative behaviors.

INCARCERATION PUTS COMMUNITY SAFETY AT RISK

Researchers have found not only a tendency for youth who have been incarcerated to commit the same misbehaviors that got them in trouble in the first place, but that incarceration itself is the most significant factor in increasing the odds a youth will continue to misbehave after being incarcerated.³⁰ Several studies show that incarcerated youth are more likely to misbehave again than youth placed under supervision in a community-based setting, or not incarcerated at all.³¹ Youth incarcerated for status offenses are locked up with youth who have committed serious criminal offenses.³² Research shows that for a statistically significant number of youth who commit low level offenses, incarceration can actually raise the likelihood that they will engage in criminal activity after being released.³³

The overreliance on incarceration as a response to child misbehavior costs the community both in terms of safety and

economics. The estimated annual cost to incarcerate one child in a juvenile detention facility in Kentucky is \$76,600.³⁴ On the other hand, one year of an afterschool program for a child at risk of not succeeding costs just \$3,800.³⁵ If a youth is not given the support and services needed to successfully transition into adulthood and ends up engaging in a life of crime, the accumulated cost to society will be \$3.8 million.³⁶ Alternately, a college graduate pays an estimated \$1 million in taxes in his or her lifetime.³⁷ In other words, not only do alternatives to incarceration address the root cause of misbehavior and improve the lives of children, but by using these alternatives, the community saves money, improves safety, and benefits from the taxes paid by a successful, contributing member of society.

Effective Approaches in Kentucky

Kentucky has utilized a number of effective approaches in addressing status offenses while reducing repeat misbehavior. These efforts range from working preventatively to address problems before they must be referred to the juvenile justice system to helping youth already charged with offenses address underlying problems at home or at school.

**Communities are Decreasing Use in Recent Years of
Incarcerations of Youth for Status Offenses, 2003-2011**



Source: Kentucky Department of Juvenile Justice and Louisville Metro Youth Detention Services.

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USING COMMUNITY-BASED APPROACHES FIRST

Per new Family Law Rules of Procedure enacted in 2011, Kentucky schools and courts must make and document every effort to use school-based and community services first in an attempt to treat misbehavior, before reverting to judicial intervention.³⁸ The most effective community programs focus on the youth's family and provide skills to the parents or guardians responsible for supervising the child.³⁹ These new procedures demonstrate the understanding that judicial intervention should be used as a last resort when all other interventions have been tried but were ineffective. Numerous interventions exist in Kentucky that can be utilized before formal court charges are filed against a child, including afterschool programs for children who are at-risk of becoming truant, intensive in-home services to address the root causes of incorrigibility, and emergency shelters for runaway youth.⁴⁰

SUCCESSFUL DIVERSION PROGRAMS

Diversion gives youth an opportunity to make up for their offense without court action. When someone brings a complaint of an offense against a youth, Kentucky's Court Designated Worker program works with youth first to evaluate the appropriateness of diversion. With the approval of the county attorney, the youth may avoid court by entering into a voluntary diversion program. When a youth successfully completes diversion no formal court record is created. In addition to managing the diversion process, the Court Designated Worker program operates the Truancy Diversion Program - in collaboration with judges and school districts - to specifically address habitual truancy (see box).⁴¹

EXISTING ALTERNATIVES TO DETENTION

Alternatives to detention are programs designed to prevent the needless incarceration of children before their adjudication.⁴² The alternatives to detention that Kentucky currently employ provide a good foundation to work from in increasing the use of effective programming that holds youth accountable for status offenses while keeping them on track to become contributing citizens of Kentucky. It is critical to ensure that alternatives to detention are available in all counties and that courts are aware of the options available in the area. Additionally, Kentucky can review the promising practices being used in other states to address juvenile justice.



The Truancy Diversion Program

- ▶ Administered by the Kentucky Administrative Office of the Courts, Court Designated Worker Program
- ▶ In existence since October 2005
- ▶ Operated in 171 schools in 67 Kentucky counties in FY 2011
- ▶ Handled 7,829 cases of youth who were at risk of being charged with habitual truancy
- ▶ Successful outcomes for 97% of those youth

Source: Personal correspondence with Administrative Office of the Courts, February 2012.

Kentucky law allows that even before a judge finds that a child has committed the status offense with which he or she is charged, a child can be incarcerated for violating a court order or for the protection of the child or society.⁴³ Alternatives to detention offer a safer, more effective means of addressing these concerns. If a youth is a danger to himself or herself due to mental instability, a mental health treatment provider offers a more appropriate setting. For those youth who need additional supervision in order to ensure court appearances are kept, home incarceration with tracking can be used. For those youth whose home is not safe enough to return to or whose parents cannot be located, supervised foster care or emergency shelter care can be utilized. If a child runs away repeatedly, a youth shelter can offer not only a safe place to live but help in addressing the underlying causes of this misbehavior. In short, alternatives to detention can more effectively and less expensively address issues that arise before and during court processing.

Model Programs to Consider

There is a growing body of cost-effective, evidence-based programs that address problematic behavior in youth while holding them responsible for their actions. The federal Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention's Model Programs Guide lists several programs specifically designed to reduce the incarceration of youth for status offenses either through targeting those at risk of becoming involved with the juvenile justice system or by providing interventions that are based in the home, community, or nonsecure settings.⁴⁴

The Center for the Study and Prevention of Violence has rigorously examined hundreds of strategies around youth violence and has designated three



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approaches targeting youth already engaged with the juvenile justice system as “blueprint models,” meaning repeated studies have provided evidence of significant positive results.⁴⁵ These programs, Functional Family Therapy, Multi-Systemic Therapy, and Multidimensional Treatment Foster Care, all work intensively with youth and their families addressing the root problems behind the troubling behaviors.⁴⁶ On average these programs have reduced repeat misbehavior by 16 percent, 11 percent, and 22 percent respectively, and they provide from \$10.69 - \$13.36 in benefits for each dollar spent on the service.⁴⁷ Other promising strategies within juvenile justice include providing wraparound services (coordinated interagency efforts to meet children’s and families’ needs), using day and evening reporting centers, and adopting restorative justice practices such as peer juries.⁴⁸

Numerous states have recently begun to re-evaluate how they respond to status offense behaviors given the ineffectiveness of incarceration. For example, in 2005, Connecticut stopped the practice of incarcerating youth for status offenses and instead began to designate these children and their families as Families with Service Needs. They also decided not to put the changes into effect until 2007, giving services time to prepare for the changes. Under new regulations, Families with Service Needs are eligible for a variety of services, including respite care, and Connecticut has seen a 41 percent drop in court referrals and no children incarcerated for status offenses.⁴⁹

Conclusions and Recommendations

While status offenses denote troublesome behavior, they do not pose a threat to public safety. Incarceration is the most expensive of the options currently

available in Kentucky and research has shown it to be the least effective approach to correcting youth misbehavior and putting youth on track toward becoming contributing members of society.

The Kentucky Department of Juvenile Justice recognizes that alternatives to detention are most appropriate for non-violent, low-level juvenile offenders, but over the years budget cuts have resulted in the elimination and capping of certain alternatives to detention.⁵⁰ Kentucky can reduce the use of incarceration for status offenses and reinvest funds that have gone toward incarceration into effective alternatives. This option is even more important in these tough budgetary times.

Not only would the day-to-day costs of incarcerating youth charged with status offenses decrease, but long-term savings would also be realized due to decreased tendency to misbehave after being incarcerated, fewer juveniles entering into the adult criminal justice system, and fewer juveniles at risk of the poor educational and employment outcomes associated with incarceration.

There are a multitude of ways Kentucky can decrease its use of incarceration for youth who commit status offenses, while still holding youth accountable.

- ▶ Expand the availability of successful diversion programs so that all counties are served, and increase the utilization of such programs in counties where they are already available, such as the truancy diversion program.
- ▶ Increase the use of currently available alternatives to detention during court processing, and in the sentencing of youth who have violated a valid court order.
- ▶ Expand available community-based interventions to include evidence-based practices that have proven to be effective at decreasing negative behaviors.

Kentucky is in dire need of additional appropriate and effective alternatives to incarceration for youth who have run away. The courts are justifiably concerned that during the judicial process these youth will run away again, putting themselves in danger on the street.

- ▶ Amend Kentucky’s laws on status offenses in ways that could significantly reduce the use of incarceration, specifically:

- Enact time limits on valid court orders for status offenses, with the option to reissue orders when deemed appropriate. This would prevent youth from having to continue to comply with rules that may no longer be relevant to their situation, and would free up law enforcement from picking up youth on years old warrants pertaining to status offenses.
- Statute should be changed to align with new Family Law Rules of Procedure mandating that schools must utilize all alternatives before referring a child to formal court processing for a status offense. Aligning statute with the new rules ensures that only the most serious cases of truancy and beyond control behavior make their way to court, thereby saving money and limiting the use of incarceration.
- Create a statutory framework that effectively addresses status offense behaviors using a Children or Families in Need of Services model. Addressing the misbehavior as a family issue rather than an offense will ensure that the underlying causes of child misbehavior are addressed.
- Do not allow the incarceration of youth who have been charged with status offenses but not yet adjudicated for the offense. When there is a need to ensure the safety of a child charged with a status offense (for example, habitual runaways), use proven effective alternatives to detention.

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Number and Rate of Bookings of Youth for Status Offenses and Estimated Cost of Incarceration, 2011

	# Unique Bookings	Rate per 10,000 youth ages 10-17	# Days Booked	Estimated Total Cost	Estimated Charge to County
Kentucky	1,335	29.1	7,191	\$1,482,600	\$663,640
Adair	8	41.9	28	\$5,880	\$2,632
Allen	7	31.6	62	\$13,020	\$5,828
Anderson	1	*	16	\$3,360	\$1,504
Ballard	3	*	10	\$2,100	\$940
Barren	12	25.5	41	\$8,610	\$3,854
Bath	7	54.4	110	\$23,100	\$10,340
Bell	12	40.1	79	\$16,590	\$7,426
Boone	13	8.9	37	\$7,770	\$3,478
Bourbon	3	*	10	\$2,100	\$940
Boyd	10	20.9	28	\$5,880	\$2,632
Boyle	2	*	6	\$1,260	\$564
Bracken	0	0.0	0	\$0	\$0
Breathitt	4	*	11	\$2,310	\$1,034
Breckinridge	6	26.0	27	\$5,670	\$2,538
Bullitt	73	81.4	298	\$62,580	\$28,012
Butler	2	*	3	\$630	\$282
Caldwell	2	*	3	\$630	\$282
Calloway	4	*	15	\$3,150	\$1,410
Campbell	50	54.0	219	\$45,990	\$20,586
Carlisle	3	*	127	\$26,670	\$11,938
Carroll	7	57.6	45	\$9,450	\$4,230
Carter	17	55.9	92	\$19,320	\$8,648
Casey	1	*	8	\$1,680	\$752
Christian	19	24.5	152	\$31,920	\$14,288
Clark	35	90.9	305	\$64,050	\$28,670
Clay	0	0.0	0	\$0	\$0
Clinton	0	0.0	0	\$0	\$0
Crittenden	0	0.0	0	\$0	\$0
Cumberland	2	*	11	\$2,310	\$1,034
Davies	42	40.7	82	\$17,220	\$7,708
Edmonson	1	*	1	\$210	\$94
Elliott	0	0.0	0	\$0	\$0
Estill	5	*	23	\$4,830	\$2,162
Fayette	164	63.7	744	\$156,240	\$69,936
Fleming	0	0.0	0	\$0	\$0
Floyd	0	0.0	0	\$0	\$0
Franklin	10	21.4	27	\$5,670	\$2,538
Fulton	1	*	1	\$210	\$94
Gallatin	0	0.0	0	\$0	\$0
Garrard	1	*	4	\$840	\$376
Grant	15	48.2	86	\$18,060	\$8,084
Graves	8	19.3	33	\$6,930	\$3,102
Grayson	4	*	13	\$2,730	\$1,222
Green	3	*	7	\$1,470	\$658
Greenup	3	*	24	\$5,040	\$2,256
Hancock	2	*	4	\$840	\$376
Hardin	42	34.8	189	\$39,690	\$17,766
Harlan	1	*	2	\$420	\$188
Harrison	3	*	19	\$3,990	\$1,786
Hart	10	47.7	27	\$5,670	\$2,538
Henderson	22	46.3	129	\$27,090	\$12,126
Henry	2	*	8	\$1,680	\$752
Hickman	0	0.0	0	\$0	\$0
Hopkins	10	20.5	207	\$43,470	\$19,458
Jackson	0	0.0	0	\$0	\$0
Jefferson	13	1.7	131	n.a.	n.a.
Jessamine	38	67.9	274	\$57,540	\$25,756
Johnson	1	*	1	\$210	\$94
Kenton	174	101.4	381	\$80,010	\$35,814
Knott	2	*	24	\$5,040	\$2,256
Knox	54	149.8	474	\$99,540	\$44,556
Larue	5	*	26	\$5,460	\$2,444
Laurel	35	54.4	438	\$91,980	\$41,172
Lawrence	3	*	18	\$3,780	\$1,692
Lee	3	*	32	\$6,720	\$3,008

	# Unique Bookings	Rate per 10,000 youth ages 10-17	# Days Booked	Estimated Total Cost	Estimated Charge to County
Leslie	1	*	1	\$210	\$94
Letcher	10	40.6	124	\$26,040	\$11,656
Lewis	5	*	56	\$11,760	\$5,264
Lincoln	1	*	6	\$1,260	\$564
Livingston	0	0.0	0	\$0	\$0
Logan	14	45.5	31	\$6,510	\$2,914
Lyon	0	0.0	0	\$0	\$0
McCracken	22	33.2	54	\$11,340	\$5,076
McCreary	5	*	53	\$11,130	\$4,982
McLean	4	*	14	\$2,940	\$1,316
Madison	35	44.9	181	\$38,010	\$17,014
Magoffin	0	0.0	0	\$0	\$0
Marion	11	48.8	49	\$10,290	\$4,606
Marshall	2	*	12	\$2,520	\$1,128
Martin	6	46.9	16	\$3,360	\$1,504
Mason	0	0.0	0	\$0	\$0
Meade	23	66.5	116	\$24,360	\$10,904
Menifee	1	*	5	\$1,050	\$470
Mercer	1	*	5	\$1,050	\$470
Metcalfe	6	55.7	15	\$3,150	\$1,410
Monroe	1	*	1	\$210	\$94
Montgomery	8	27.3	66	\$13,860	\$6,204
Morgan	2	*	7	\$1,470	\$658
Muhlenberg	11	34.9	56	\$11,760	\$5,264
Nelson	4	*	28	\$5,880	\$2,632
Nicholas	3	*	5	\$1,050	\$470
Ohio	7	26.9	30	\$6,300	\$2,820
Oldham	1	*	4	\$840	\$376
Owen	6	49.2	37	\$7,770	\$3,478
Owsley	1	*	4	\$840	\$376
Pendleton	7	39.3	18	\$3,780	\$1,692
Perry	11	38.8	46	\$9,660	\$4,324
Pike	13	19.6	80	\$16,800	\$7,520
Powell	2	*	9	\$1,890	\$846
Pulaski	5	*	5	\$1,050	\$470
Robertson	0	0.0	0	\$0	\$0
Rockcastle	1	*	2	\$420	\$188
Rowan	2	*	4	\$840	\$376
Russell	3	*	9	\$1,890	\$846
Scott	12	22.0	52	\$10,920	\$4,888
Shelby	3	*	5	\$1,050	\$470
Simpson	7	36.4	42	\$8,820	\$3,948
Spencer	2	*	5	\$1,050	\$470
Taylor	6	24.7	15	\$3,150	\$1,410
Todd	7	48.4	18	\$3,780	\$1,692
Trigg	1	*	5	\$1,050	\$470
Trimble	0	0.0	0	\$0	\$0
Union	0	0.0	0	\$0	\$0
Warren	40	35.1	154	\$32,340	\$14,476
Washington	0	0.0	0	\$0	\$0
Wayne	7	31.8	27	\$5,670	\$2,538
Webster	2	*	4	\$840	\$376
Whitley	28	69.4	531	\$111,510	\$49,914
Wolfe	2	*	4	\$840	\$376
Woodford	3	*	8	\$1,680	\$752

* Rates were not calculated for counties with fewer than 6 bookings.

Sources: Booking data from the Kentucky Department of Juvenile Justice and Louisville Metro Youth Detention Services. Youth population data for the rate calculation from the U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 Decennial Census. Estimated cost calculated by Kentucky Youth Advocates.

Notes: Data represent unique bookings for which a booking date and release date were determined. Based on correspondence with DJJ, an average of \$210 per day was used for cost calculation, with \$94 charged to the county. Bookings which had the same booking and release date were not counted in the cost estimate. Twelve of the counted detention stays began in 2011 but ended in early 2012, and the days were included in the cost estimate due to the initial bookings having occurred in 2011. Louisville Metro operates a local youth detention center, so the state does not incur costs.



ENDING THE USE OF INCARCERATION FOR STATUS OFFENSES IN KENTUCKY

Endnotes

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