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PENNSYLVANIA JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM RECIDIVISM

One of the primary tools used to measure the success of programs and policies within the juvenile justice system is to track recidivism, or the return to crime. Since 2012, Pennsylvania has tracked the outcomes of juvenile offenders for a period of two years after juvenile closure to determine the percentage that remained law-abiding citizens. Special attention has been given to the recidivism rates of youth prior to, versus after, the implementation of the Juvenile Justice System Enhancement Strategy (JJSES).

YOUTH

90%

Assessed as **LOW** Risk on the Youth Level of Service™ (YLS) Assessment Tool Did Not Recidivate Within Two Years of JUVENILE CLOSURE

YOUTH

77%

Assessed as **MODERATE** Risk on the YLS Assessment Tool Did Not Recidivate Within Two Years of JUVENILE CLOSURE

YOUTH

59%

Assessed as **HIGH/VERY HIGH** Risk on the YLS Assessment Tool Did Not Recidivate Within Two Years of JUVENILE CLOSURE

11.7%

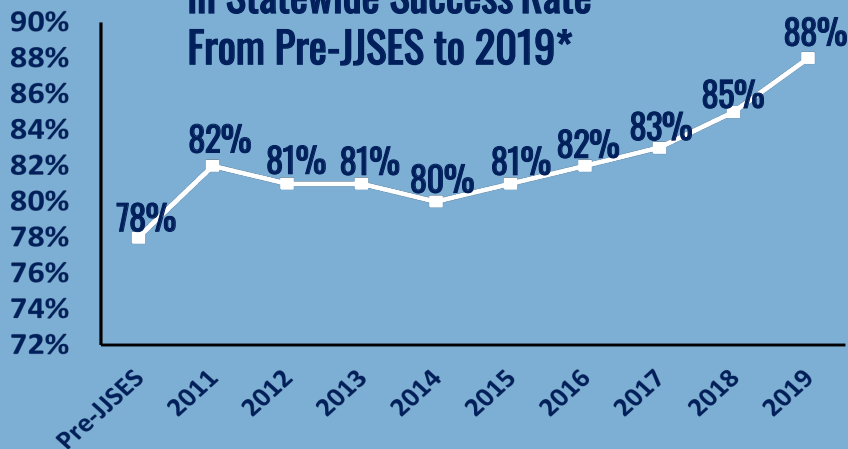
RECIDIVISM RATE of Youth Two Years After Leaving System

75%

Counties Had a LOWER RECIDIVISM RATE POST-JJSES VS. PRE-JJSES

13%

INCREASE in Statewide Success Rate From Pre-JJSES to 2019*



Note: All Data Is Based on Youth Closed in 2019.

*Success Is Defined as No Subsequent Adjudications of Delinquency or Convictions in Criminal Court for a Felony or Misdemeanor Offense Within Two Years of Juvenile Closure.