Juvenile justice services

Corrections agency

Some variation and fluidity exists among states for the type of agency charged with juvenile corrections.

Between 1993 and 2005, eight states separated juvenile corrections responsibility into an independent agency dedicated to juvenile corrections (Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Kansas, Louisiana, North Carolina, Oklahoma and Oregon). In contrast, between 2005 and 2015, two states merged independent juvenile corrections agencies within a broader adult corrections department (Kansas and North Carolina).

Learn more

- The Council of Juvenile Correctional Administrators (CJCA) (professional membership organization of state agency leaders)
- Kansas change (2015)
- North Carolina change (2013)

Various state executive branch agencies administer commitments to state juvenile correctional facilities. These agencies are responsible for maintaining operations and managing administrative functions, including finance and human resources or managing contracts to private provider networks. A four-category typology was created by NCJJ during the early 1990s to chart change.

Independent juvenile corrections agency: State agencies of equal stature to a state’s adult department of corrections.

Family/child welfare agency or division: Agencies within a broader social or human services agency or independent children and youth serving agencies that manage both child protection and juvenile corrections.

Broad human services agency: The general public welfare agency.

Adult corrections agency or division: Adult corrections agency, often with an internal division for juvenile corrections.

1993 2005 2015
JTGPS - Juvenile Justice, Geography, Policy, Practice & Statistics

A project from the National Center for Juvenile Justice funded by the MacArthur Foundation.
The National Center for Juvenile Justice is the research division of the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges.

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