

THE
PEW
CHARITABLE TRUSTS

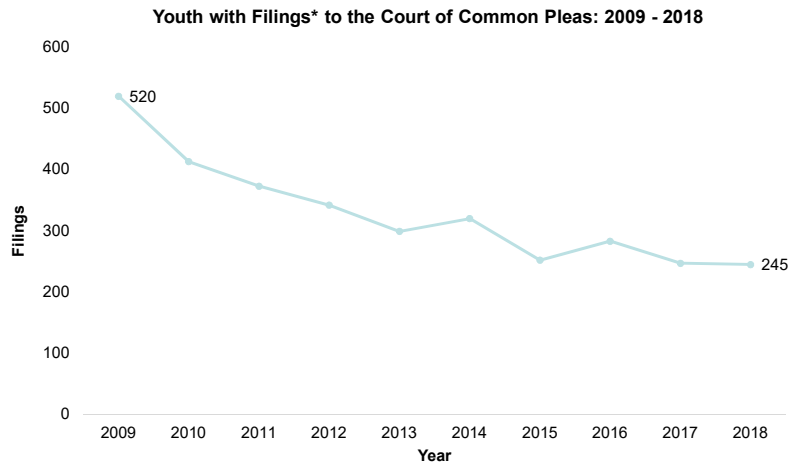
Additional Adult Prosecution Data Handout

Pennsylvania Juvenile Justice Task Force
September 30, 2020

Adult Prosecution

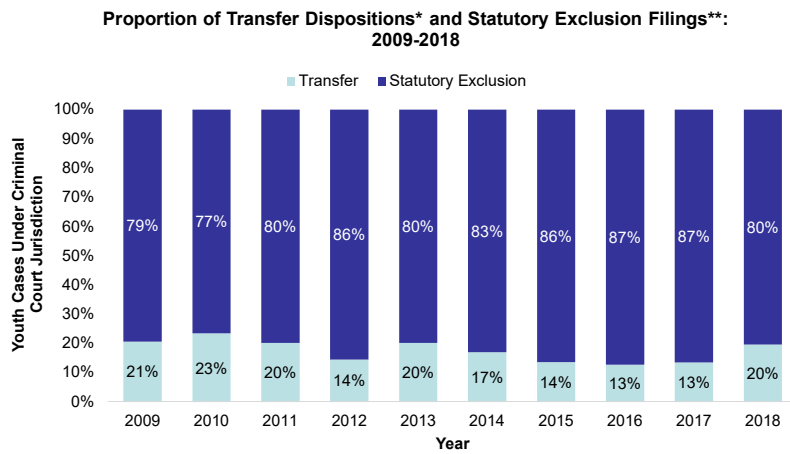
Data

Youth filings to the Court of Common Pleas have decreased 53% over the last decade



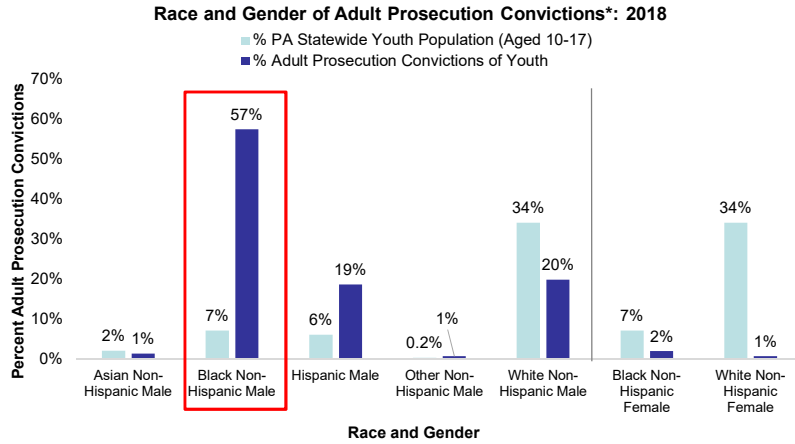
*Figures represent the number of transfer and statutory exclusion cases filed with the Court of Common Pleas 3

Most youth come under criminal court jurisdiction through statutory exclusion without judicial review



*Figures represent the total number of transfer dispositions that occurred in Pennsylvania juvenile courts
 **Figures represent the number of statutory exclusion cases filed with Pennsylvania Minor Courts 4

Black Non-Hispanic males account for 57% of adult convictions compared to 7% of statewide youth population

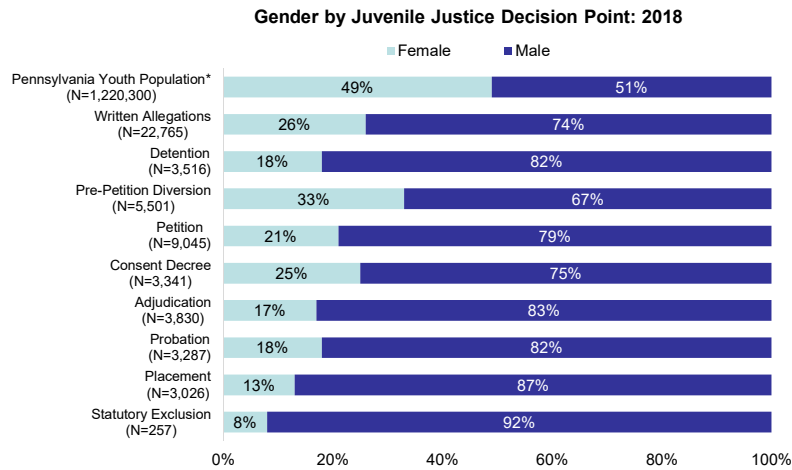


*Figures represent the number of statutory exclusion cases filed with Pennsylvania Minor Courts and the number of transfer dispositions that occurred in Juvenile Court. Asian Non-Hispanic females, Hispanic females, and Other Non-Hispanic females have been excluded from this analysis due to their small numbers

Statutory Exclusion

Data

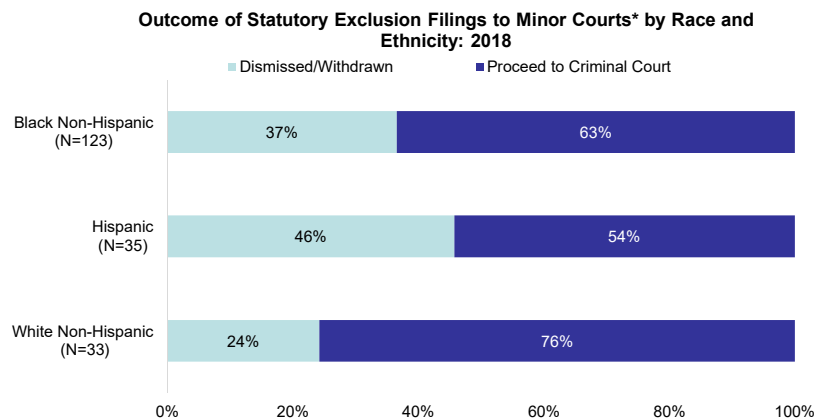
Males account for the overwhelming majority of statutory exclusion filings



*Pennsylvania youth population data were retrieved from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

7

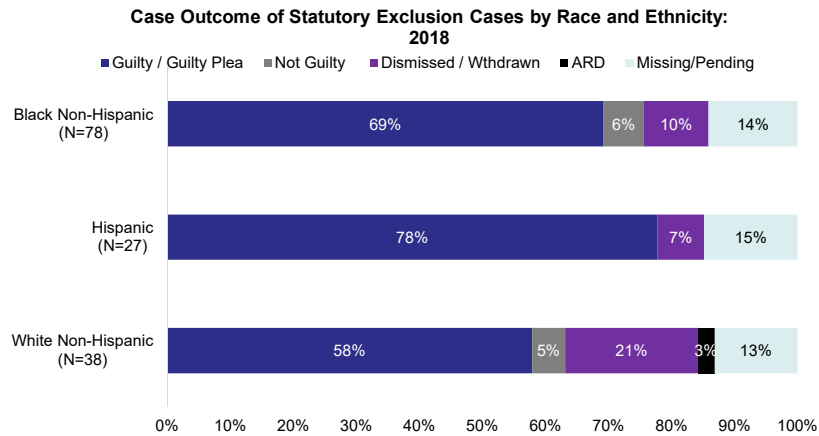
Almost half of statutory exclusion filings to the minor courts for Hispanic youth are dismissed or withdrawn



*Pennsylvania Minor Courts include Magisterial District Courts and Philadelphia Municipal Court

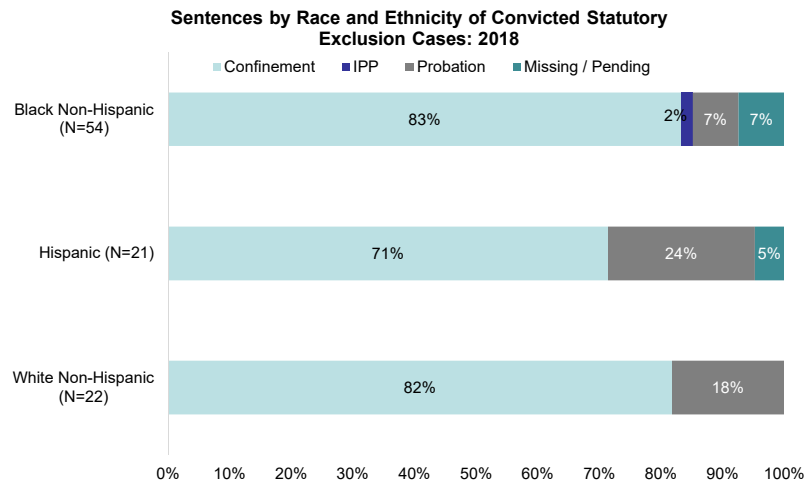
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Most youth with statutory exclusion offenses in criminal court are convicted across three racial/ethnic groups



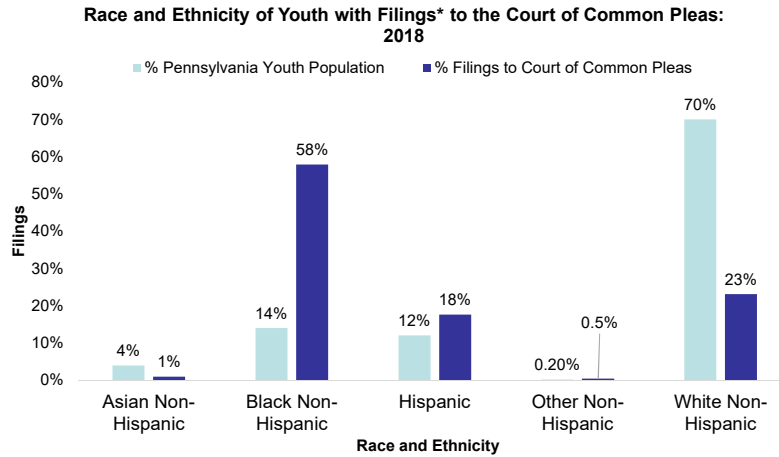
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Confinement is the most common sentence, regardless of race and ethnicity



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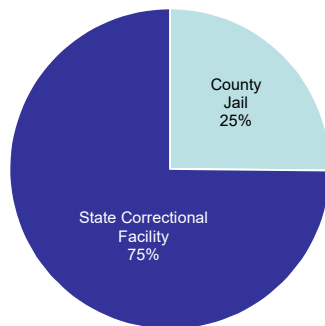
Black Non-Hispanic youth account for 58% of filings to the Court of Common Pleas but 14% of the youth population



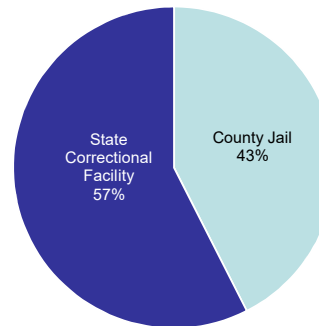
*Figures represent the number of transfer and statutory exclusion cases filed with the Court of Common Pleas

43% of youth who are prosecuted through statutory exclusion are sentenced to county jail, up from 25% in 2009

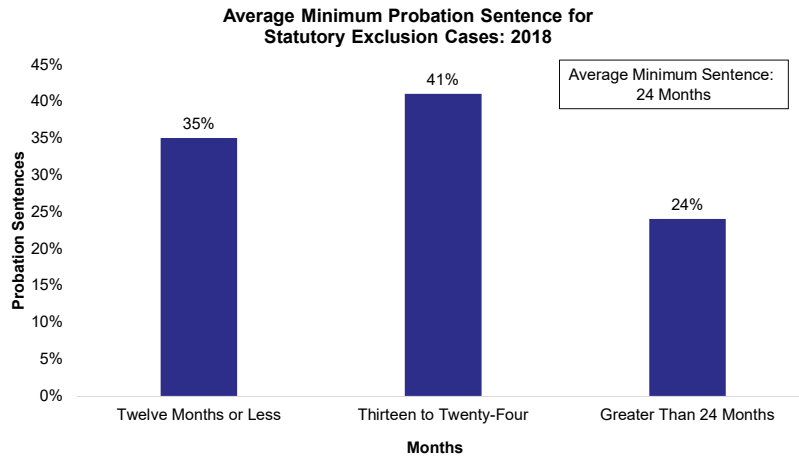
Commitment by Facility Type: 2009



Commitment by Facility Type: 2018



The average minimum probation sentence for statutory exclusion cases is approximately two years

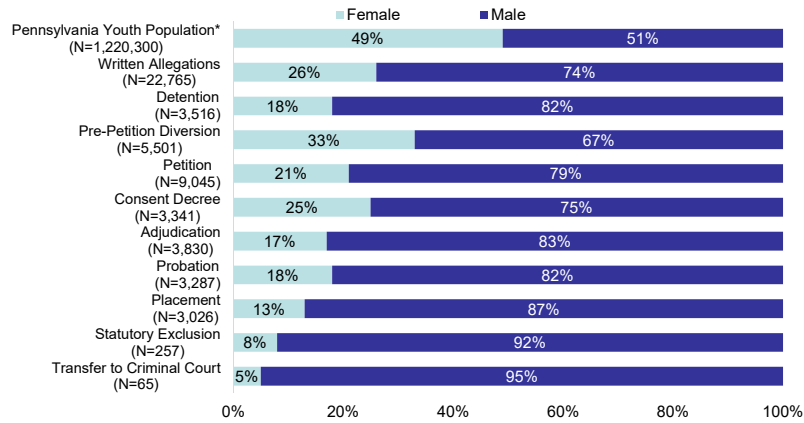


Transfer

Data

Males account for nearly all transfer to criminal court dispositions

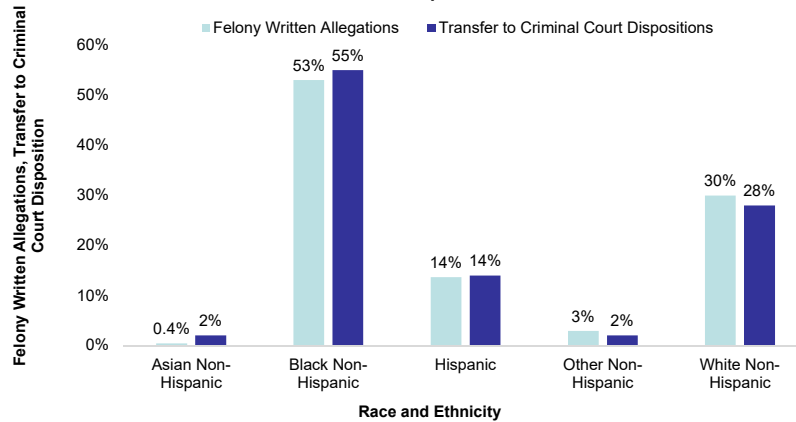
Gender by Juvenile Justice Decision Point: 2018



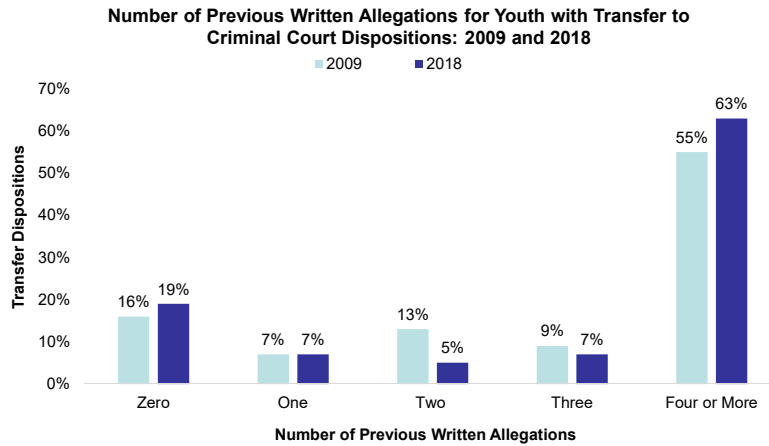
*Pennsylvania youth population data were retrieved from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Among most racial/ethnic groups, share of written allegations eligible for transfer is similar to the proportion of transfers

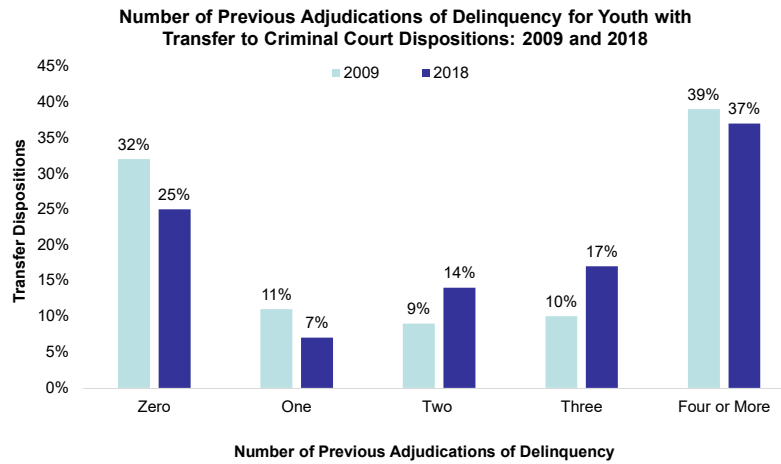
Race and Ethnicity of Eligible Felony Written Allegations vs. Transfer to Criminal Court Dispositions: 2018



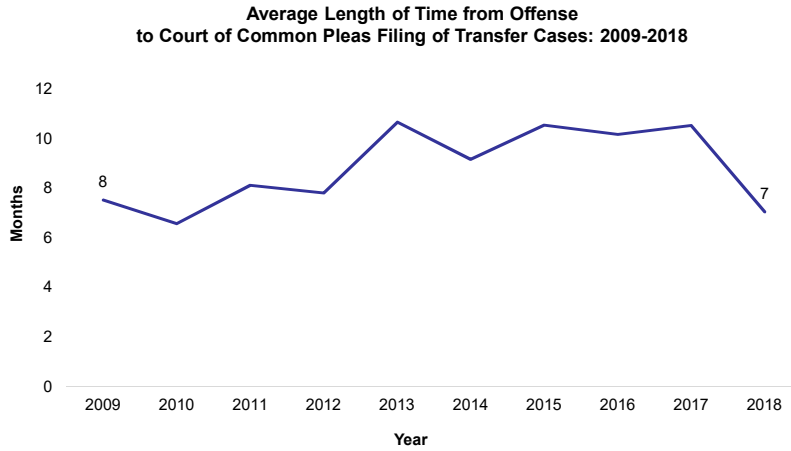
Almost two-thirds of youth transferred to criminal had four or more previous written allegations to juvenile court



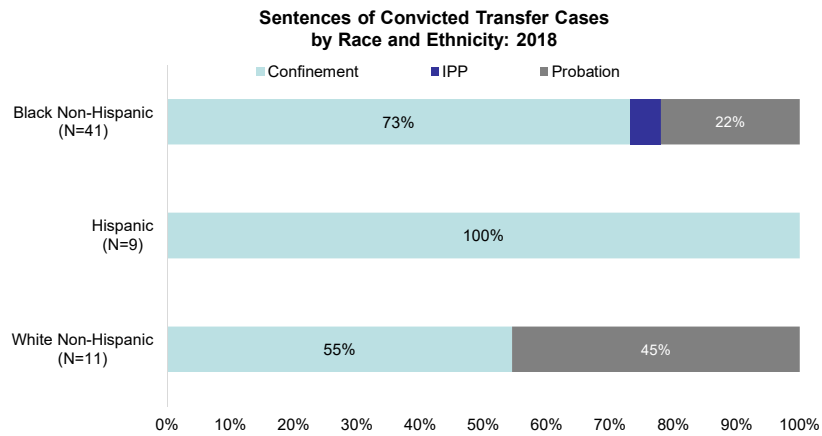
Among youth transferred to criminal court, approximately 25% had no previous adjudications of delinquency



The average length of time from offense to court filing for transfer cases is seven months



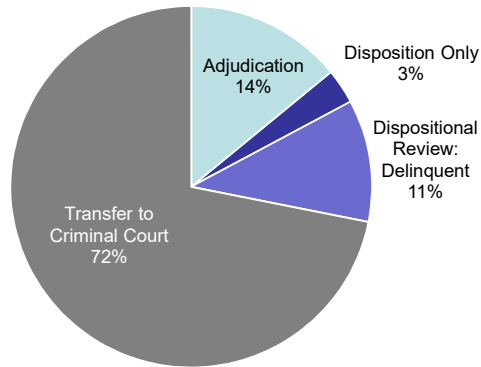
Confinement is the most common sentence for convicted transfer cases across three racial/ethnic groups



*Asian Non-Hispanic and Other Non-Hispanic youth are excluded from these figures due to their small overall N 20

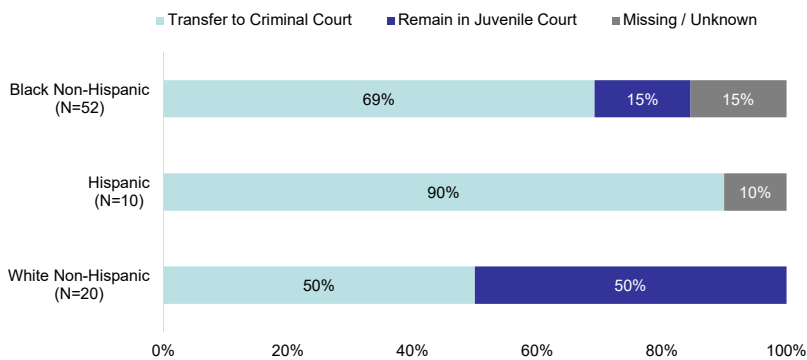
One in four transfers occur at hearings other than formal transfer to criminal court hearings

Hearing Types that Resulted in Transfer to Criminal Court Dispositions: 2018



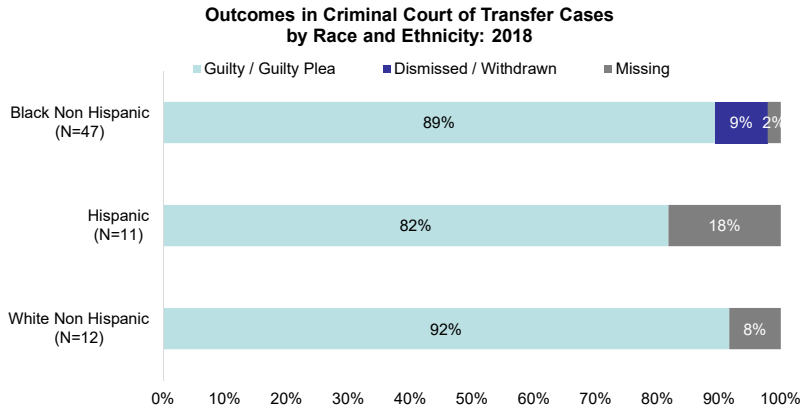
White Non-Hispanic youth are more likely to remain in juvenile court compared to Non-White youth

Outcomes of Transfer to Criminal Court Hearings: 2018

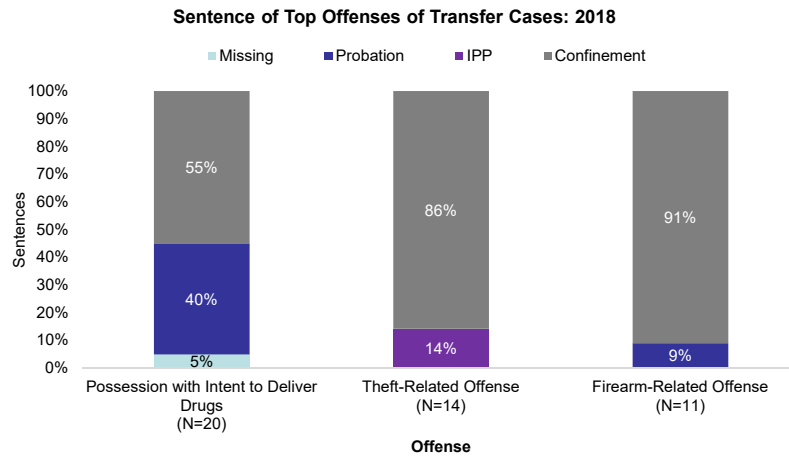


*Asian Non-Hispanic youth and Other Non-Hispanic youth were excluded from this analysis due to their small N 22

Nearly all youth transferred from juvenile court to criminal court are convicted across three racial/ethnic groups

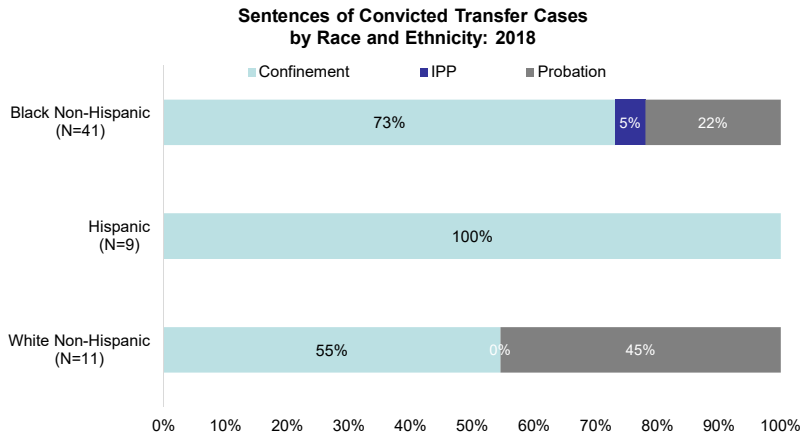


Confinement is the most frequently utilized sentence, regardless of offense



*Confinement includes county jails and state correctional facilities

Confinement is the most common sentence for convicted transfer cases across three racial/ethnic groups



*Asian Non-Hispanic and Other Non-Hispanic youth are excluded from these figures due to their small overall N 25

The minimum probation sentence for convicted youth is nearly two years

