

*THE*  
***MONTGOMERY COUNTY COMMISSION***  
***CLARKSVILLE CITY COUNCIL***

*PRESENT THE*

***2023 LEGISLATIVE AGENDA***

*TO THE*

*Soon to Convene*  
***113TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY***  
***STATE DELEGATION***

***Senator Bill Powers***  
***Representative Curtis Johnson***  
***Representative Jay Reedy***  
***Representative Jason Hodges***

*Forwarded by*  
***Montgomery County Mayor Wes Golden***  
***City of Clarksville Mayor Joe Pitts***

***OCTOBER 2022***

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## **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

<b><u>Legislative Successes</u></b>	Pages 3-4
<b><u>Combined County &amp; City Road Projects</u></b>	Page 5
<b><u>Montgomery County Legislative Items</u></b>	
1. Regional Juvenile Resource and Justice Center	Page 6
2. Private Act to Allow Wine Sales by Grocery Stores in Unincorporated Areas of Montgomery County	Page 7
3. Low-Income Housing Tax Credit Program in Tennessee	Page 8
4. Emergency Medical Services Training Stipend	Page 9
5. Expansion of Pre-Kindergarten Program – Age 4	Page 10
6. Creation of Super Speeder Fine	Page 11
7. Fire Station Staffing	Page 12
8. Veteran Dental Assistance	Page 13
9. EMS TCRS Addition to Years of Service for COVID	Page 14
10. Private Act Limitation of Co. Commissioners to Hold Incompatible Offices	Page 15
<b><u>City of Clarksville Legislative Items</u></b>	
1. Road Projects / Infrastructure	Page 17
2. Grant for Infrastructure for Fire Departments to be Brought Up to Current Standards	Pages 17-18
3. Raise the Limit to Hire a State Contractor to Manage City Projects From \$25,000 to \$50,000	Page 18
4. Ongoing Access to State Information System	Page 18-19
5. Private Utilities	Page 19
6. Request State Legislators to Create an Emancipation Day Holiday	Page 19
<b><u>Items of Interest</u></b>	
1. Legalize Medical Cannabis	Page 19
2. Repeal SB 1257 Cited as the Human Life Protection Act and House Bill 2263 Known as the Heartbeat Bill	Page 19-20
<b><u>Continue to Support the Following Items</u></b>	Page 21-22
<b><u>Supporting Documents</u></b>	Page 23

## **LEGISLATIVE SUCCESSES**

- \* \$14 Million state funding for parking garage.
- \* \$20 Million in state grants for construction and establishment of the Wings of Liberty Museum.
- \* \$34 Million state funding for Nashville State College Clarksville Campus.
- \* E-911 User Fee changed back to previous rate of \$1.50 to help fund 911.
- \* Opioid task force created to address limiting the number of pills and dosage prescribed.
- \* Legislation passed granting beer permitting power to Montgomery County for Downtown Commons property.
- \* Dedicated funding for TDOT backlog of projects – IMPROVE ACT.
- \* Rural broadband and internet service – partial but need more.
- \* State Parks – Dunbar Cave repairs, Port Royal interstate signage.
- \* Joint procurement ability between local government and federal agencies.
- \* Self-driving vehicles on Tennessee roads.
- \* Defibrillator – use state funds for school purchases, annual training required.
- \* Halt military sequestration cuts - minimum local affect.
- \* Increase of state reimbursement per inmate, some but need more.
- \* Disclosure of real property depressions or sinkholes of continuous contour lines.

- \* Referendum required of the residents before annexation.
- \* Ephedrine and pseudoephedrine by prescription – moved behind pharmacy counter.
- \* Civil refund – amended TCA 8-21-901 to authorize sheriffs to collect the same fee for unsuccessful service as successful service.
- \* TMTF renamed and falls under TBI, DEA, and US Attorney’s offices, which provides better funding and in-kind resources to confront dangerous drugs.
- \* Broadband and Internet expansion – provide broadband and internet service to County areas by local/municipal providers.
- \* Revenue Sales Tax – Local Sales Tax Distribution for Internet Sales.
- \* Montgomery County Teen Learning Center – Encourage the continued funding and support of Tennessee’s Genesis Programs, which includes Montgomery County’s Teen Learning Center.
- \* Hotel/Motel Tax Modification.
- \* Capturing Sales Tax Within MPEC.
- \* Correctional Officers added to Early Retirement.
- \* Correctional Officers eligibility for local government option for mandatory retirement age with benefit enhancement.

## **COMBINED COUNTY & CITY ROAD PROJECTS**

**LEGISLATIVE ITEM:** Encourage the Tennessee Department of Transportation to obligate funding for the following road project phases in the FY23-26 Transportation Improvement Program to include:

**PURPOSE:** Support the Region and State economic vitality by enabling competitiveness, productivity, and efficiency. Increase the safety and security of the transportation system. Protect and enhance the environment, promote energy conservation, improve air quality and overall quality of life.

1. SR48 / Trenton Rd. widen from 2 to 5 lanes                      PIN: 123071.00  
(from near SR374 / 101<sup>st</sup> Pkwy. to I-24) complete the PE-Design and ROW acquisition in a timely manner.
2. I-24 widen from 4 to 6 lanes    PIN: 124656.00  
(from KY state line to SR76 / MLK Pkwy. Exit 11) complete the PE-NEPA and PE-Design in a timely manner.

For more detailed information please contact the following individual:

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Joe Pitts, City of Clarksville Mayor at [joe.pitts@cityofclarksville.com](mailto:joe.pitts@cityofclarksville.com), 931-645-7444

Letter from Transportation Planning Director included in Supporting Documents

**Thank you to everyone who took the time and effort to submit a legislative agenda item. The list presented to our legislators are items that are most feasible and best align with the challenges facing Montgomery County.**



## **1. Regional Juvenile Resource and Justice Center**

**LEGISLATIVE ITEM:** To create a regional Juvenile Resource and Justice Center

**PURPOSE:** In May 2021, Montgomery County received a finalized feasibility study based on recommendations from the 2019 Legislative Agenda. Justice Planners Consultancy Firm was hired by Montgomery County to determine whether Montgomery County needed a Juvenile Justice center. The data from the study indicated that Montgomery County needs a facility based on population growth, travel cost associated with juvenile detainees and the severity of crimes committed by juveniles. For many years, Montgomery County has contracted with Middle Tennessee Juvenile detention center that is located in Columbia, TN in Maury County. However, due to the increase and severity of juvenile crimes, Montgomery County has had to increase its contracts with Rutherford County and as far away as Putnam County. While the contract has met our temporary needs, operations of this magnitude are not sustainable and place an ever-increasing burden on Montgomery County's citizens. A regional facility would be a solution to solve this issue.

Having a regional center would make it easier for the juvenile's family and attorney to have access to visitations and maintain a continuity in county services. Additionally, a regional facility in or near Montgomery County would decrease the number of law enforcement officers taken off the road locally to transport juveniles to and from various juvenile facility locations outside the regional area for detention or evaluations. The regional facility would allow for more streamlined procedures if the facility housed rooms for the juveniles to speak to their attorneys, continue to attend school, obtain rehabilitative treatments, resources for parents and overwhelmed care takers, access the Department of Children Services (DCS) and to decrease the communication and decision-making lag time between the juvenile court employees and the judge on call.

The findings of the feasibility study indicated that juvenile crime would escalate by 2040. By serving regional counties, this will ensure that Montgomery County taxpayers are not shouldering the total financial burden.

Therefore, the Montgomery County Commission requests that the Montgomery County Delegation of the Tennessee General Assembly to appropriate state agencies to fund a Regional Juvenile Resource and Justice Center to serve Montgomery, Houston, Stewart, Cheatham, and Robertson Counties. This funding should include property acquisition, architectural design, and construction costs.

For more detailed information please contact the following:  
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Feasibility Study included in Supporting Documents.



## **2. Private Act to Allow Wine to be Sold by Grocery Stores in the Unincorporated Areas of Montgomery County**

**LEGISLATIVE ITEM:** Requesting a private act to authorize the sale of wine in grocery stores in the unincorporated areas of Montgomery County

**PURPOSE:** To have the Tennessee General Assembly pass legislation that will allow Montgomery County to provide for the legal sale of wine in grocery stores that are located in the unincorporated areas of Montgomery County outside the city limits of Clarksville, Tennessee.

Montgomery County has received several requests from business owners to allow for the legal sale of wine in grocery stores in the unincorporated areas of Montgomery County. The unincorporated area of Montgomery County has seen significant commercial growth over the past 10 years; however, this has been limited by the impediment of not being allowed to sell wine in grocery stores in the unincorporated portions of the county.

Based upon demand, commercial and retail growth is limited by the lack of legislation that would allow for wine sales in grocery or package stores in the unincorporated portion of Montgomery County. This limitation is costing the County tax revenues that would be quite substantial.

Therefore, the Montgomery County Commission requests the legislature pass legislation that by Population distinction relevant to Montgomery County and its single incorporated body that would allow the sale of wine in grocery stores within the unincorporated areas of Montgomery County.

For more detailed information please contact the following:  
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Chief of Staff Lee Harrell, [lharrell@mcgtn.net](mailto:lharrell@mcgtn.net), 931-561-0994

### **3. Low-Income Housing Tax Credit Program in Tennessee**

**LEGISLATIVE ITEM:** To exclude the value of federal affordable housing tax credits from local property assessments.

**PURPOSE:** Tennessee is currently in the minority of states that allow local property assessors to include the value of the Federal low-income housing tax credit (LIHTC) in a property's assessed/appraised value. The effect of this allowance to the appraised value inflates the value of the property with the very funds intended to make the project affordable to build and operate at the Federally mandated decreased rents. The continued utilization of this punitive valuation method is detrimental to public policy that threatens current and future affordable housing development in Tennessee.

The solution to this public policy problem is to enact legislation whereby affordable housing properties that receive Federal low-income housing tax credits are valued on the actual income derived from the property.

On July 1, 2015, the State of Tennessee approved an amendment to Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 7, Chapter 53; Title 13, Chapter 20 and Title 48, Chapter 101, Part 3, relative to projects that have received an allocation of low income housing tax credits, which allowed municipalities through their Industrial Development corporations to negotiate a Payment In-Lieu of Taxes (PILOT) with developers that have been awarded Federal LIHTC tax credits. While this is an important step forward, the developer still must find a municipality that will work with them to support the project from not losing money and it requires the municipality to negotiate and approve the PILOT. If the affordable housing properties that receive Federal low-income housing tax credits were not required to include the tax credits in their appraisal, the requirement to provide a PILOT would be unnecessary and attract more developers to Tennessee to pursue Federal low-income housing tax credits and create projects for low-income families with attainable rents in Tennessee.

The County Commission of Montgomery County, Tennessee (the "County Commission"), approves an effort to pursue an amendment to Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 7, Chapter 53; Title 13, Chapter 20 and Title 48, Chapter 101, Part 3, relative to projects that have received an allocation of low income housing tax credits that would not require local property assessors to include the value of the Federal low-income housing tax credit (LIHTC) in a property's assessed/appraised value.

For more detailed information please contact the following:  
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Chief of Staff Lee Harrell, [lharrell@mcgtn.net](mailto:lharrell@mcgtn.net), 931-561-0994

#### **4. Emergency Medical Services Training Stipend**

**LEGISLATIVE ITEM:** Annual Training Stipend for EMS personnel.

**PURPOSE:** Montgomery County is one of the fastest growing communities in Tennessee, and Montgomery County Emergency Medical Services (EMS) must continue to meet the needs of the citizens of Montgomery County efficiently and effectively.

Montgomery County EMS must continually provide training to its employees in order to maintain the high standard of care it strives to provide to the citizens of Montgomery County.

TCA 38-8-111 provides that a pay supplement of eight hundred dollars (\$800) be paid to a law enforcement officer, in addition to the officer's regular salary, upon successful completion of forty (40) hours of in-service training; and

TCA 4-24-202(a)(1) provides that a pay supplement of eight hundred dollars (\$800) be paid to an employed firefighter, in addition to the firefighter's regular salary, upon successful completion of forty (40) hours of in-service training; and

The Montgomery County Board of Commissioners requests the General Assembly pass legislation to provide this \$800 stipend to EMS personnel who complete at least forty (40) hours of in-service training annually.

For more detailed information please contact the following:

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## **5. Expansion of Pre-Kindergarten Program - Age 4**

**LEGISLATIVE ITEM:** Increase state funding to provide additional Pre-K classrooms to school districts across the state.

**PURPOSE:** According to the TN Department of Education, 22 percent of Tennessee's four-year-olds attend Pre-K programs amounting to only 18,680 children enrolled statewide. Many students who meet the qualifications to attend state funded Pre-k programs are currently on a waitlist. In December 2021, Montgomery County schools (CMCSS) reported 211 income eligible four-year-olds on a waitlist. Private schools who accept families receiving TN childcare assistance have also reported a great number of children on their waitlists. Tennessee parents strongly desire having their four-year-olds attend Pre-k.

Expanding access to state funded Pre-k programs would complement the "Tennessee Learning Loss Remediation and Student Acceleration Act" (SB7002/HB7004) by ensuring children are given access to the building blocks and foundation of literacy, numeracy, fine motor, and cognitive development. Mastering these basic skills are necessary to achieve higher learning and grade level proficiency such as reading by third grade.

According to the National Education Association, children in early childhood education programs are less likely to repeat a grade, are more prepared academically for later grades, more likely to graduate high school, and are higher earners in the workforce. Ensuring children from families who are less advantaged are able to access early childhood education would drastically change the scope in academic and workforce readiness amongst low-income families.

For more detailed information please contact the following:  
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## 6. Creation of a Super Speeder Fine

**LEGISLATIVE ITEM:** To amend TCA, Title 39; Title 55 and Title 68 by creating an additional fine as a penalty for driving offenses to be disbursed to the EMS board.

**PURPOSE:** Our Emergency Medical Service districts provide trauma transport regardless of reimbursement. Many of the factors in costly EMS responses to trauma are driving under the influence, driving 20 miles or more over the speed limit, and reckless driving. A bill was filed this past session called “The Transport Trauma Act” that aimed to offset these costs by providing funds to each EMS district, and Georgia’s “Super Speeder Bill” is very similar to that proposal and has proven successful.

[HB2338/SB2336](#) would have added an additional \$200 fine for the offenses of driving under the influence; reckless driving; and speeding, where a person is driving or operating a motor vehicle at a speed 20 miles or more over the set speed limit. The emergency medical services board would disburse the funds to develop, implement, and maintain a system to compensate members of the emergency medical services as follows:

- (1) 5% of the funds would be dispersed to the board;
- (2) 22.5% of the funds would be dispersed to the trauma system fund; and
- (3) 72.5% of the funds would be equally dispersed to each licensed ground and air medical ambulance service on a quarterly basis based upon the department's current service listing.

The Montgomery County Board of Commissioners requests passage of similar legislation to offset the costs of providing trauma services and to enable the expansion of access to state-of-the-art EMS equipment, technology, continued education, outreach, and transportation throughout the state.

For more detailed information please contact the following:  
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## **7. Fire Station Staffing**

**LEGISLATIVE ITEM:** Montgomery County seeks assistance from the state with staffing fulltime firefighters.

**PURPOSE:** Montgomery County seeks assistance from the state with staffing fulltime firefighters for areas outside the city limits of Clarksville. The most critical need for developing counties is the need for public safety. The Montgomery County Volunteer Fire Department has approximately 125 volunteer firefighters that are not available for twenty-four-hour service, and the number of missed calls keep growing.

State grants for equipment and start-up operational costs would provide critical assistance to counties looking to address a chronic need outside of municipalities.

For more detailed information please contact the following:

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## **8. Veteran Dental Assistance**

**LEGISLATIVE ITEM:** Provide veteran treatment facilities with necessary resources to provide dental care to veterans.

**PURPOSE:** Provide current veteran treatment facilities with the necessary resources to provide basic dental care to veterans with a disability rating of 70 percent and higher. Basic dental care for qualifying veterans should include cleaning, extractions, and fillings. The basic care should be available for the 5,700 veterans in Montgomery County that are rated at 70 percent and greater and do not qualify for dental treatment under the current VA disability rating.

For more detailed information please contact the following:

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## **9. Emergency Medical Services TCRS Addition to Years of Service for COVID**

**LEGISLATIVE ITEM:** TCRS addition to years of service for COVID.

**PURPOSE:** Support legislation to provide COVID-19 essential employee retirement service credit for members of the Tennessee consolidated retirement system.

### **BILL SUMMARY**

This past session, a bill was filed to provide this benefit to some of our most essential workers. [HB1658/SB1805](#) would have extended to any member of the Tennessee consolidated retirement system (TCRS) who reaches 25 years or more of consecutive service to obtain a COVID-19 essential employee service credit on the basis of one bonus hour of creditable service for each hour of creditable service rendered if the member was required to work during the COVID-19 state of emergency.

The bill would require employers to work with the TCRS board to identify employees eligible for the COVID-19 essential employee service credit and provide a list of those employees and their home mailing addresses to the board documenting the employees' eligibility.

The requirement of 25 years of consecutive service would have been waived for an employee who:

- (1) became disabled as the natural and proximate result of an accident or as the direct result of physical violence against the member's own person occurring while the member was in the actual performance of duty at some definite time and place, without negligence on the member's part; or
- (2) died while in service and whose retirement allowance is required to be paid to a beneficiary pursuant to present law.

The bill would have applied to eligible employees who retire on or after April 27, 2021.

The Montgomery County Board of Commissioners requests passage of similar legislation to show our appreciation with this benefit to our brave men and women who were truly essential during an unprecedented time.

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Chief of Staff Lee Harrell, [lhharrell@mcgtn.net](mailto:lhharrell@mcgtn.net), 931-561-0994



## 10. Private Act Limitation of County Commissioners to Hold Incompatible Offices

**LEGISLATIVE ITEM:** Request for legislation to limit County Commissioners from holding the office of County Commissioner and City Council coterminous for counties with a population greater than 200,000.

**PURPOSE:** Request for legislation to limit County Commissioners from holding the office of County Commissioner and City Council coterminous for counties with a population greater than 200,000. We consider the office of City Council and the office of County Commissioner to be incompatible with each other and sometimes in direct conflict of interest. New legislation that limits this could help us prevent any conflict of interest.

-The needs of the county can often differ from the needs of the city, how does the elected official who holds both offices differentiate between those needs and which body should benefit.

-Committee meeting times often overlap and that causes missed attendance.

-Another issue for committees would be if a nominating committee nominates the same person to represent the county on a committee where that person may already represent the city on the same committee.

-The city and county often work in unison where both provide money to support one or the other projects. This could cause a person who holds both offices to be voting on resolutions that allow giving money from one government to the other on to a project that may directly benefit their district/ward for the other office.

Several state statutes prohibit a person from holding more than one county office. Pursuant to T.C.A. § 5-5-102(c)(2), no person elected or appointed to fill the office of county mayor, sheriff, trustee, register, county clerk, assessor of property, or any other county-wide office filled by vote of the people or the county legislative body, shall also be nominated for or elected to membership in the county legislative body.

No member of the county legislative body nor any other county official shall be eligible for election as a member of the county board of education. T.C.A. § 49-2-202(a)(2). This statute prevents one person from holding an elected county office and being a member of the school board. Op. Tenn. Atty. Gen. 01-144 (September 4, 2001). Note also that pursuant to T.C.A. § 5-5-102(c)(2) a director of schools cannot serve as a member of the county legislative body.

In addition to statutory provisions regarding dual office-holding, there is a well-recognized common law prohibition against a public officer holding two incompatible offices at the same time. *State ex rel. Little v. Slagle*, 89 S.W. 316, 327 (Tenn. 1905).

For more detailed information please contact the following:  
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**CITY OF CLARKSVILLE  
2023 Legislative Agenda**

*Presented to the*

Clarksville/Montgomery County Delegation

Senator Bill Powers, SD-22  
Deputy Speaker & Representative Curtis Johnson, HD-68  
Representative Jason Hodges HD-67  
Representative Jay Reedy, HD-74

For the

**113th Tennessee General Assembly**

**Legislative Liaison Ad-hoc Committee Members**

Councilperson Stacey Streetman, Chair  
Councilperson Travis Holleman  
Councilperson Karen Reynolds  
Councilperson Joe Shakeenab  
Councilperson Wanda Smith  
& Clarksville City Council  
Mayor Joe Pitts

**1. ROAD PROJECTS/INFRASTRUCTURE:** Encourage the Tennessee Department of Transportation to obligate funding for the following projects:

- SR48/Trenton Rd. (from near SR374/101st Pkwy. to near I-24) the PE-NEPA and Design are underway. Next to start is the Right-of-Way;
- SR237/Rossvie Rd. (from W of Keysburg Rd. to SR374/Warfield Blvd.) the MPO will produce the Technical Report. Next to start is the PE-NEPA;
- SR374 Richview (from Memorial Dr. to SR 112/Madison St.) the Technical Report is completed. Next to start is the PE-NEPA;
- SR12/US41A Bypass (from SR76/MLK Blvd to SR 13/Riverside Dr.) the MPO will have technical report produced. Next to start is the PE-NPEPA.
- Widening of I-24 from Kentucky State Line to I-65. Next to start is the Technical Report from SR76/Montgomery County to SR45/Davidson County
- Hwy 374 extension from Hwy 149 to Dover Road and Purple Heart Parkway: New construction of four/five-lane highway with a new bridge over the western bend of the Cumberland River.

**2. GRANT FOR INFRASTRUCTURE FOR FIRE DEPARTMENTS TO BE BROUGHT UP TO CURRENT STANDARDS:**

Replacing or renovating existing fire stations or building new fire stations are among the most expensive projects a community can undertake. In 2019, NFPA took a deeper look into data from the 2015 survey in the report **Renovation Needs of the US Fire Service.** The report identified funding needs of \$70 to \$100 billion for fire station renovation and/or replacements. The report identifies 21,230 of U.S. fire stations (43 percent) are more than 40 years old, representing an 11 percent increase in aging infrastructure over the past 15 years the number of stations that are over 40-years old; are not equipped with exhaust emission control; are without backup power; do not have separate facilities for female firefighters; do not meet NFPA cancer prevention standards and need mold remediation.

When fire stations were built 40-plus years ago, departments were exclusively male. Today, the most recent Needs Assessment estimates that 10 percent of career firefighters are female. In 2009, FEMA awarded Assistance to Firefighters Fire Station Construction Grants to 120 fire departments to build new fire stations or modify existing stations, but these grants have not been awarded in recent years. The regular Assistance to Firefighters Grants program includes awards for modifying

facilities but not for new construction. These modification funds are not substantial in comparison to the amount of total funding awarded; thus, any facility improvements reflected in this report were likely funded by other sources. Renovation and replacement needs can also be linked to cancer initiatives and new NFPA standards for fire stations. The state of Tennessee currently has a cancer initiative.

### **3. RAISE THE LIMIT TO HIRE A STATE CONTRACTOR TO MANAGE CITY PROJECTS FROM \$25,000 TO \$50,000**

Any construction project over \$25,000 is required by state law to have a licensed contractor. TCA 62-6-102 4(A)(i)

- Additionally, it conflicts with the ability to raise the bid thresholds to \$50,000.
- With inflation since the enactment of this law, this has required nearly every construction project to have a licensed contractor. This requirement has significantly increased costs to the City.

### **4. ONGOING ACCESS TO STATE INFORMATION SYSTEM**

Allow the City electronic access to the County information through the State Information System by amending TCA 67-1-1704.

Clarksville is unique in that we are the only City within the County. With both Mayor's written consent allow access to the City and County tax reporting system. The state is not able to perform due diligence on every tax payer and this has caused hundreds and thousands of dollars of corrections in several years. The current process makes it near impossible to verify the City and County are receiving all the funds we are due. Access would allow us to check reporting information monthly and not cause monetary harm to either the City or the County. The letter has been sent to the Commissioner of Revenue and the response was while legal, access was denied.

67-1-1704. Disclosure for administrative purposes - Tax collection.

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**(d)** Upon request in writing, returns and tax information may be disclosed to duly authorized officials of a unit of local government of this state for the purpose of ascertaining whether proper local taxes or the tax imposed by § 67-4-704 is being paid. Upon written request, tax information may also be disclosed to duly authorized officials of a unit of local government of this state to the extent necessary to ascertain whether allocations from state levied taxes are being distributed to the correct unit of local government; provided, that such information shall not include the taxpayer's returns, receipts, income, tax liability, tax payments, or other financial information. For purposes of ascertaining whether proper local severance taxes are being paid pursuant to chapter 7, part

2 of this title, "authorized officials of a unit of local government" means the county mayor or a member of the county governing body. No unit of local government nor any official or employee of a unit of local government who receives returns or tax information under this subsection (d) shall disclose such information to any person other than the person to whom it relates, except as otherwise may be authorized by law. Any official or employee of a unit of local government who has or has had, at any time, access to any return or tax information under this subsection (d) shall be subject to all of the penalties and restrictions applicable to an officer or employee of the state under § 67-1-1709.

5. **PRIVATE UTILITIES** Request a time limit be imposed on private utility companies to address the need for them to respond to local government projects where utilities need to be moved. The utilities would have no more than 30 days from the issuing of the "notice to proceed" to begin to move their equipment or infrastructure from the site. Failure to begin construction would result in liquidated damages payable to the City.
6. **REQUEST STATE LEGISLATORS TO CREATE AN EMANCIPATION DAY HOLIDAY:** August 8 has been a significant date to commemorate the Emancipation Proclamation signed into law by President Lincoln on January 1, 1863. Sam Johnson, a former slave of Andrew Johnson, was influential in crating the First August 8th festival in 1871 in Greenville, TN. In 2007, Tennessee Governor Phil Bredeson signed legislation acknowledging August 8 as "Emancipation Day," in Tennessee, to recognize the celebration and action of Andrew Johnson, the 17th President of the United States who was then the Military Governor of Tennessee.

## ITEMS OF INTEREST

1. **LEGALIZE MEDICAL CANNABIS:** Requesting legislation allowing medical prescribing and usage. Over 36 states allow medical cannabis use and almost all states surrounding Tennessee have already approved or are in the process of approving such use. There is also federal legislation in the works to allow states to press ahead without any federal interference.
2. **REPEAL SB 1257 CITED AS THE HUMAN LIFE PROTECTION ACT AND HOUSE BILL 2263 KNOWN AS THE HEARTBEAT BILL:** The City of Clarksville supports the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists known as ACOG abortion policy

The Policy States: All people should have access to the full spectrum of comprehensive, evidence-based health care. Abortion is an essential component of comprehensive, evidence-based health care. As the leading medical organization dedicated to the health of individuals in need of gynecologic and obstetric care, the ACOG supports the availability of high-quality reproductive health services for all people and is committed to protecting and increasing access to abortion.

ACOG strongly opposes any effort that impedes access to abortion care and interferes in the relationship between a person and their healthcare professional. Because the patient-clinician relationship is a critical component of the provision of the highest quality healthcare, any efforts interfering in this relationship harm the people seeking essential healthcare and those providing it. As such, clinicians should not be subject to criminal penalties, lawsuits, fines or other punishments for providing the full spectrum of evidence-based care. ACOG condemns stigma, violence, intimidation and threats against doctors, clinicians, and members of their professional teams and families.

ACOG supports every person's right to decide whether to have children, the number and spacing of children, and to have the information, education, and access to health services to make these decisions. Individuals seeking abortion must be afforded privacy, dignity, respect, and support, and should be able to make their medical decisions without undue interference by outside parties. ACOG advocates to improve access to full-spectrum reproductive services, to integrate abortion as a component of mainstream medical care, and to oppose and overturn efforts restricting access to abortion.

**Reference:**

<https://www.acog.org/clinical-information/policy-and-position-statements/statements-of-policy/2022/abortion-policy>

Link to SB 1257 – Human Life Protection Act - [pc0351.pdf \(tnsosfiles.com\)](#)

Link to HB 2263 –Heartbeat Bill - [pc0764.pdf \(tnsosfiles.com\)](#)

**Continue  
to  
Support**



**CONTINUE TO SUPPORT THE FOLLOWING ITEMS:**

**REIMBURSEMENT FOR CUSTODY OF TDOC INMATES**

**LEGISLATIVE ITEM:** We are requesting the Tennessee State Legislature to consider increasing the daily reimbursement rate of Tennessee Department of Corrections inmates being held in the Montgomery County Jail.

**MONTGOMERY COUNTY STATE PARKS AND NATURAL AREAS**

**LEGISLATIVE ITEM:** A request to our state delegation for continued assistance and support for local state parks and natural areas located within Montgomery County.

**PUBLIC SAFETY: REQUEST TO ALLOW EMS TO BE A PART OF BRIDGE PROGRAM**

**LEGISLATIVE ITEM:** Urge legislators to include Emergency Medical Personnel in the 25/55 Bridge Program for retirement.

**SEX OFFENDER LAWS REGARDING CUSTODY**

**LEGISLATIVE ITEM:** To verify parentage of registered sex offenders. Montgomery County Sheriff's Office discovered cases where sex offenders are residing with children under the age of 13 who are claiming to have parented said minor. However, there is currently no system to verify the parentage of a sex offender living with a minor who claims that the minor is their biological child.

Secondly, there are cases where the sex offender's name is listed on the minor child's birth certificate, however, there parentage has not been verified through DNA testing.

**BAN OF BOOKING PHOTO REMOVAL FEES**

**LEGISLATIVE ITEM:** Prohibition of Fee Requirements for the Removal of Public Booking Photos. It shall be an unlawful practice for any person engaged in publishing or otherwise disseminating a booking photograph through a print or electronic medium to solicit, require, or accept the payment of a fee or other consideration from a subject individual to remove, correct, modify, or to refrain from publishing or otherwise disseminating that booking photograph.

A person operating a private business shall not utilize a booking photograph or a photograph of an inmate taken originally obtained from a public agency for commercial purposes.

## **CONTINUE TO SUPPORT THE FOLLOWING ITEMS:**

### **UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION**

**LEGISLATIVE ITEM:** To revise all legislation so that County as previous employer will be notified and allowed to contest unemployment claims. We would like to encourage the State of Tennessee to allow reimbursable employers that are Government entities the ability to contest claims that are brought before the State. Currently, the unemployment tax law allows government organizations and non-profits to opt out of the premium base tax system and into what they called a “reimbursing employer” which means the entity would be self-insured. One of the major disadvantages of this is the reimbursing employers do not get “relief of charges”. This means that if your employee resigns or terminates and goes to work elsewhere and then is terminated there then files for unemployment, the government entity could be charged a portion of that employee’s unemployment benefits even though the employee voluntarily left or was terminated. Because of the status of being a “reimbursing employer” we lose our ability to contest the claim.

### **SMOKING BAN**

**LEGISLATIVE ITEM:** To ban smoking and vaping in all public parks. We know that the youth of our community are likely more affected in their health by the presence of smoking and vaping in our communities. We would like to prohibit the use of tobacco products to include vaping on any public park, public greenway or public property that is able to be used by the youth of our community. This prohibition would not apply to any buildings, sidewalks or roads contained in that publicly owned property. We believe that this would support the need to have a greater emphasis on the health and wellbeing of citizens in our communities.

### **SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION**

**LEGISLATIVE ITEM:** Financial assistance from the State of Tennessee to help fund school construction and repairs for schools that are in the top five percent growth in Tennessee. Public education serves an integral role in the success of local communities and the State of Tennessee. Across the State of Tennessee many communities have an immediate need to build new school buildings as well as to repair existing older school buildings. Due to this immediate need, school districts are forced to utilize portable classrooms for their students which are not the optimal environment for our students. Many Tennessee counties have this need due to considerable industrial and business growth over the past several years. With such growth, there has been a marked increase in people moving to Tennessee counties to live and raise their families. Tennessee counties which have not shared in the population growth still have a need to either repair older school buildings, or where possible, construct new ones to better serve their communities. While local governments across the State of Tennessee have tried to meet the financial demand for such needs, local communities need the financial assistance from the State of Tennessee to help fund school building construction and repairs. Local communities need the State's investment in school construction and repair to continue to move Tennessee and its citizens forward.

# **SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS**

In addition to the items outlined in this Legislative Agenda, Montgomery County and the City of Clarksville support the legislative priorities identified on the 2023 Legislative Agenda of the Clarksville Area Chamber of Commerce.

# Road Projects



**CLARKSVILLE URBANIZED AREA  
METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION**

Stan Williams  
MPO Director  
[stan.williams@cityofclarksville.com](mailto:stan.williams@cityofclarksville.com)

329 MAIN STREET  
CLARKSVILLE, TN 37040  
PHONE: (931)645-7448

Jill Hall  
Transportation Planner  
[jill.hall@cityofclarksville.com](mailto:jill.hall@cityofclarksville.com)

September 7, 2022

Re: 2023 Legislative Agenda

Dear Mayor Golden:

The Legislative Liaison Committee should consider encouraging the Tennessee Department of Transportation to obligate sufficient funding for the following road project phases in the FY23-26 Transportation Improvement Program include:

1. SR48/Trenton Rd. widen from 2 to 5 lanes      PIN: 123071.00  
(from SR374/101<sup>st</sup>Pkwy. to I-24 exit 1) complete the PE-Design and ROW acquisition in a timely manner;
2. I-24 widen from 4 to 6 lanes      PIN: 124656.00  
(from KY State line to SR76/MLK Pkwy. exit 11) complete the PE-NEPA and PE-Design in a timely manner.

Should you have any questions, contract me at your convenience.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "J. Stan Williams".

J. Stan Williams  
Transportation Planning Director

Cc: Mayor Pitts  
Jeff Tyndall  
Melisa F. Smith

**Juvenile Resource  
Center  
Feasibility Study**



# Montgomery County Juvenile Justice Center Preliminary Analysis



May 17, 2021



# Feasibility Study

Must answer the question:

*“Does Montgomery County Tennessee need a juvenile justice center that would be utilized for teaching, resources and detention?”*

## Process

- Stakeholder Interviews
- Data Analysis
- Forecasts
- Conclusions and Recommendations

# Outline

- **Stakeholder Interviews**
- Data Analysis
  - Introduction
  - Montgomery County Juvenile Court Trends
  - Youth Services Trends
  - Detention Trends
- Forecasts
- Conclusions & Recommendations

# Stakeholders Interviewed

- Administrator of Montgomery County Driver Safety
- Assistant District Attorney for Montgomery County
- Chairperson of Montgomery County Disproportionate Minority
- Clarksville Police Department
- County Commissioner of Montgomery County
- Director of Child Advocacy Center
- Director of Student Services - Board of Education
- Executive Director of the United Way for Montgomery County
- Former Detained Youth and his Mother
- General Sessions and Juvenile Court Judge for Montgomery County
- Mayor of Montgomery County
- Mayor of City of Clarksville
- Montgomery County Sheriffs Office
- President of NAACP- Clarksville Branch
- Regional Director of Juvenile Justice for Department of Children's Services
- Supervisor of Juvenile Justice for Department of Children's Services
- Youth Psychologist
- Youth Services and County Probation (Detention Team) of Montgomery County Juvenile Court
- Youth Villages-Mobile Crisis

# Stakeholder Feedback

**What challenges do you face with the current process of transporting youth out of the jurisdiction when they must be detained?**

- There is a shortage of available beds for the youth.
- The travel distances to transport the children can be up to two hours away.
- If there are no available beds, which is becoming more and more frequent, the kids must sleep at the police station. Often on the floor.
- It takes a lot of resources away from local law enforcement to transport youth out of county.
- Scheduling is an issue for the courts when youth are housed out of the county.
- There is a human cost in a lack of educational resources for the youth. This has a compounding financial impact on the community.
- Too many of the children detained are minorities, and there should be better procedures used in determining whether kids are remanded.

# Stakeholder Feedback

**In your opinion, how would a juvenile services center impact your ability to effectively carry out your responsibilities in relation to the juvenile justice system?**

- A center would help provide mental health and educational services that are not readily available out of County.
- It would be centrally located and tied to community services. It could also provide parenting services to the families as well.
- It would help to ease the burden on local law enforcement.
- It would save time and equipment costs. Female youth require two male officers if a female officer is not available to transport.
- A center would offer the ability to train and rehabilitate the youth.
- A facility would help parents stay connected and would aide those that have thrown their hands up in frustration.

# Stakeholder Feedback

## What would be some benefits of having a Youth Services Center in Montgomery County?

- It would be easier for families to visit their children and provide a greater chance of bringing the youth back into the home.
- A court integrated into a facility would be helpful too.
- Would like to see some sort of respite care as a part of a facility.
- Wants a facility to be much more than detention. It should also provide access to training and rehabilitation, as well as assistance with mental health and substance abuse issues.
- An expanded selection of classes could be provided to children in custody as well as those not being detained.
- In favor of a center to provide needed services to children but would not support a juvenile detention center without the services components.

**“There are 34,000 kids in Montgomery County, and I consider all of them to be mine”.**

# Outline

- Stakeholder Interviews
- **Data Analysis**
  - Introduction
  - Montgomery County Juvenile Court Trends
    - Youth Services Trends
    - Detention Trends
- Forecasts
- Conclusions & Recommendations

# Analysis Introduction

- This presentation details the Montgomery County Juvenile Court's workload and activities
- Reconstructed historical trends by mining the data tables that operate behind the Quest Case Management System
- Overall approach is to build multiple statistical models to identify and predict future Montgomery County Juvenile Court caseloads and populations

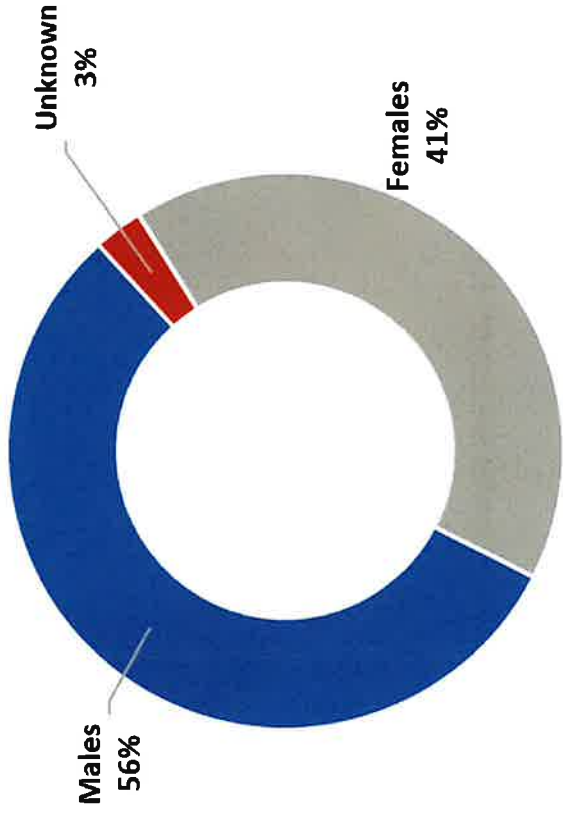


# Outline

- Stakeholder Interviews
- **Data Analysis**
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  - **Montgomery County Juvenile Court Trends**
    - Youth Services Trends
    - Detention Trends
- Forecasts
- Conclusions & Recommendations

# Montgomery County Juvenile Court Profile

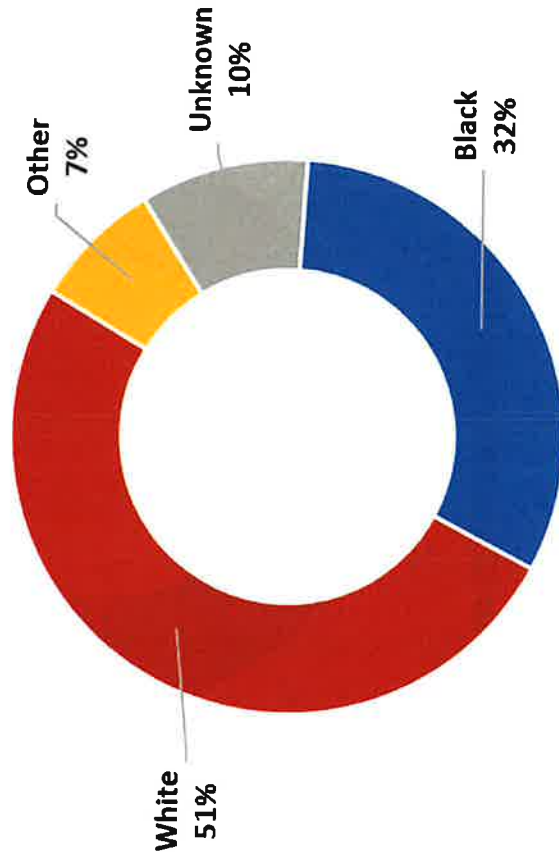
Montgomery County Juvenile Court Referrals By Gender



- Data reflect all referrals between 2016 and early March 2021
- The male percentage has grown slightly but consistently since 2016 (54%) to over (56%) in 2020

# Montgomery County Juvenile Court Profile

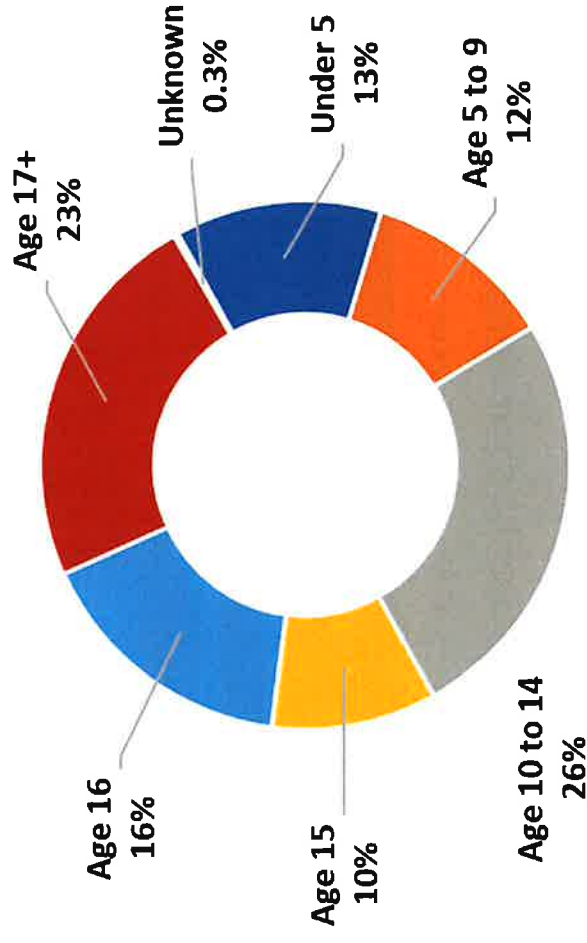
**Montgomery County Juvenile Court Referrals By Race**



- Data reflect all referrals between 2016 and early March 2021
- No trend was evident across time

# Montgomery County Juvenile Court Profile

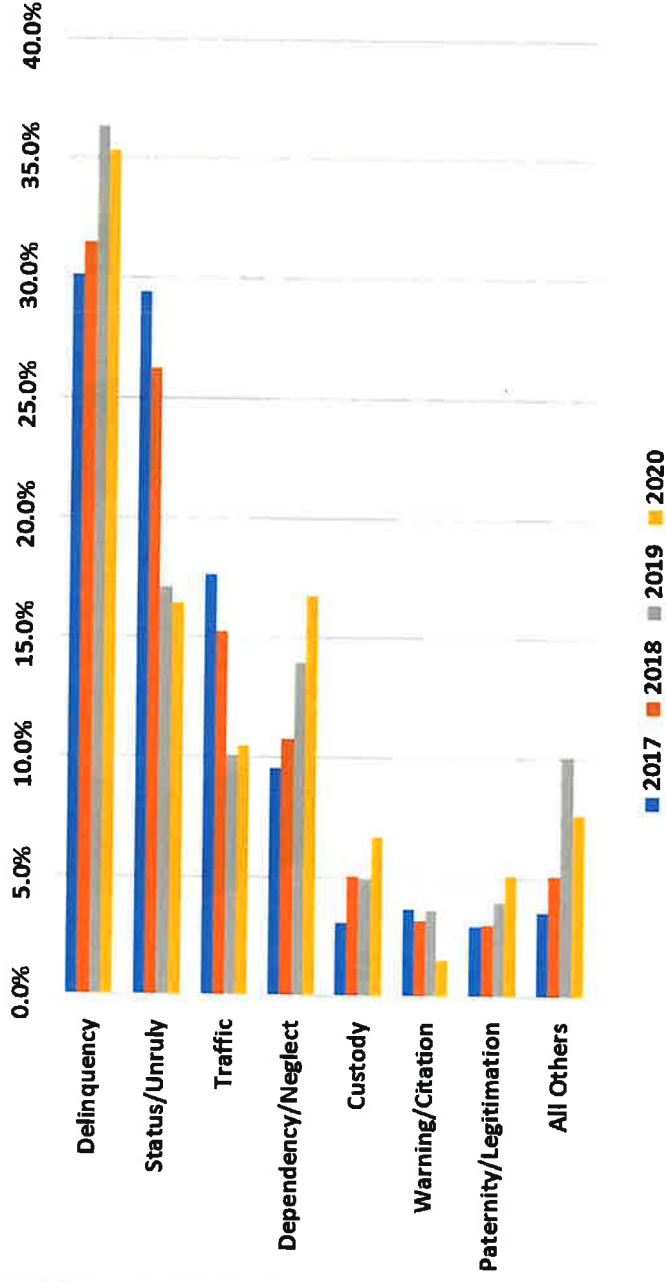
Montgomery County Juvenile Referrals By Age Group



- Data reflect all referrals between 2016 and early March 2021
- Referrals are trending younger
  - The 'Under 5' group went from 10.5% in 2016 to over 18% by 2019
  - Age 17+ went from 25.5% in 2016 to 20.6% by 2019, and 18% in 2020

# Montgomery County Juvenile Court Trends

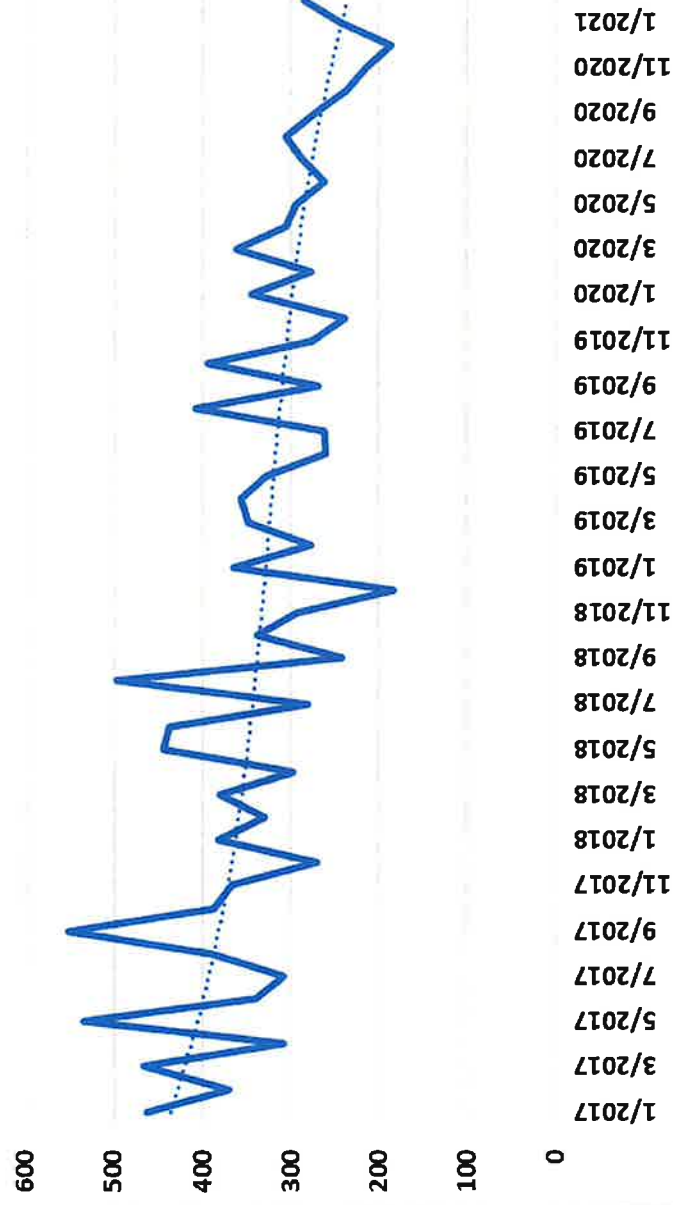
Montgomery Juvenile Court Filings By Case Type



- Delinquency, Paternity, and Dependency/Neglect cases consistently rising
- The bump in the 2019 'All Others' is due to Tobacco cases
- Juvenile Status/Unruly cases in 2019 were less than half of what they had been in 2017

# Montgomery County Juvenile Court Trends

Montgomery County Juvenile Court Events Per Month

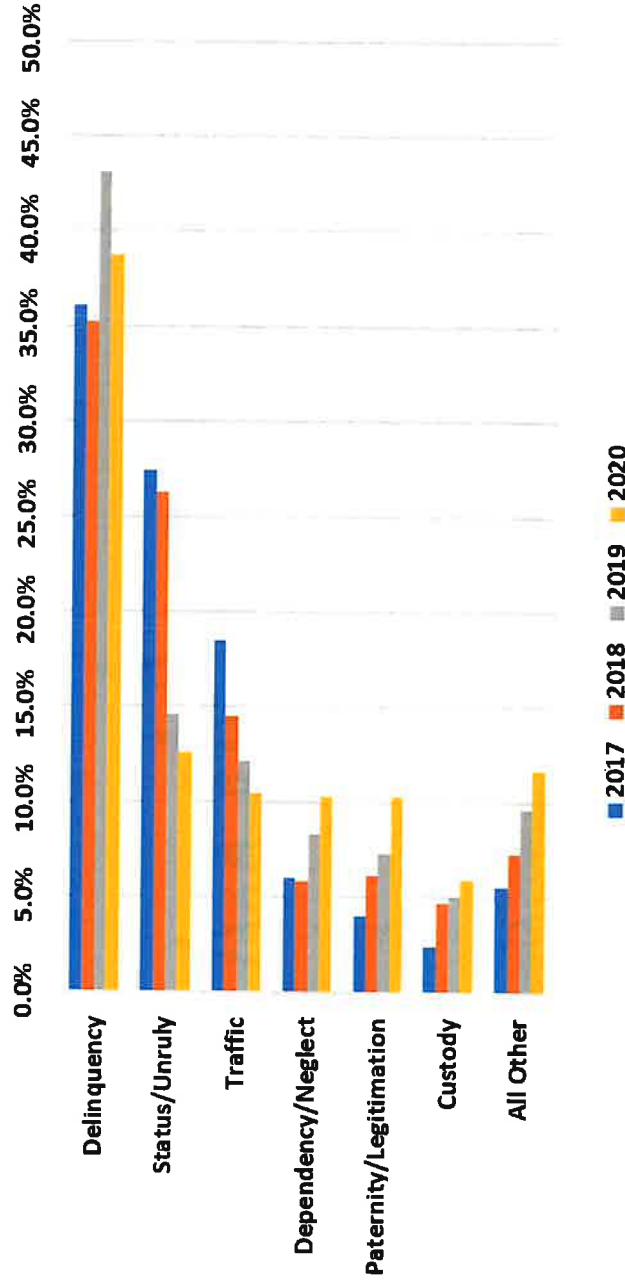


- Court events per month

Year	ADE	Change
2014	63.5	
2015	65.8	3.56%
2016	47.3	-28.1%
2017	46.1	-2.6%
2018	37.9	-17.8%
2019	34.4	-9.2%
2020	18.3	-46.9%

# Montgomery County Juvenile Court Trends

Montgomery County Juvenile Court Events By Case Type



- Note the decrease in events connected with Status/Unruly cases
- Consistent decrease in Traffic events
- Consistent increase in Dependency/Neglect, Custody, & Paternity/Legitimation events

# Montgomery County Juvenile Court Trends

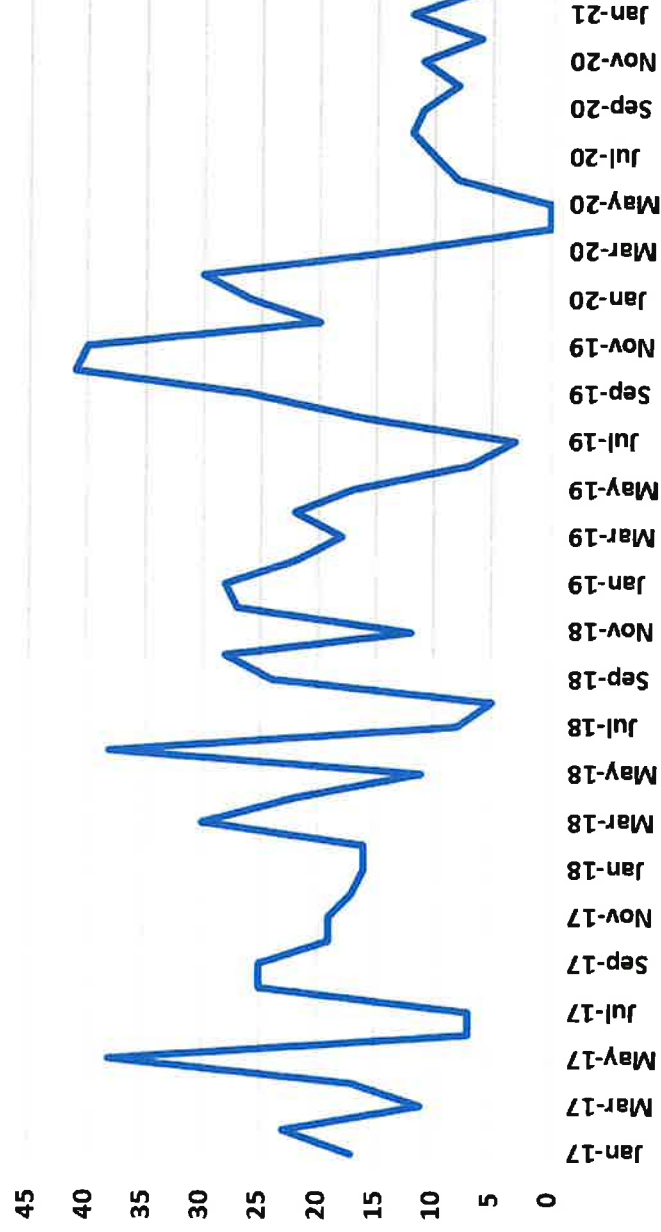
Day	Average Events Per Day
Sunday	<.01
Monday	15.8
Tuesday	6.3
Wednesday	10.8
Thursday	21.2
Friday	22.2
Saturday	.02

*Based on data between January 2017 and March 1, 2021*



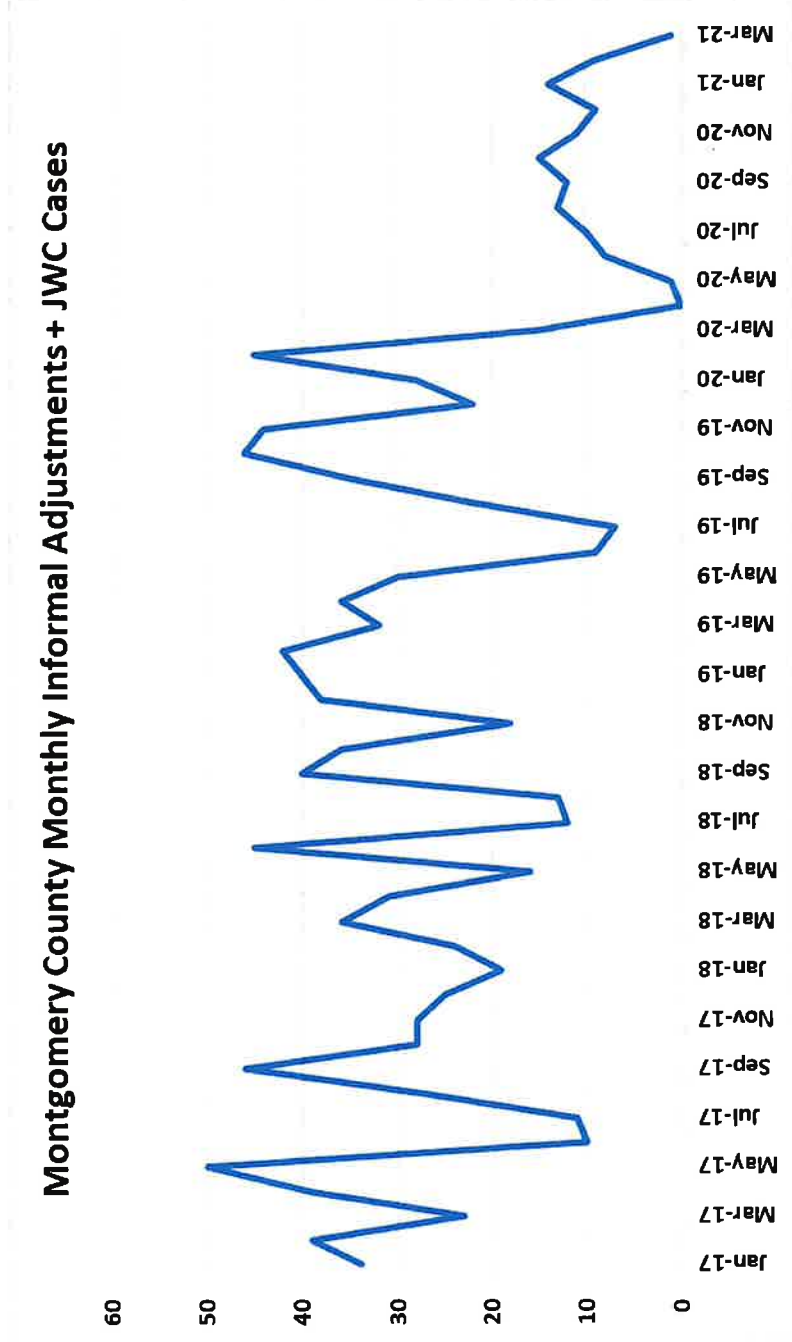
# Montgomery County Juvenile Court Trends

Montgomery County Monthly Informal Adjustments



- The pattern of informal adjustments was no different when calculated as a percentage of active cases
- Note the significant increase in 2019, consistent with what we would expect after the implementation of the Juvenile Justice Reform Act

# Montgomery County Juvenile Court Trends



- The pattern of informal adjustments was no different when calculated as a percentage of active cases
- Note the significant increase in 2019, consistent with what we would expect after the implementation of the Juvenile Justice Reform Act
- In addition to Informal Adjustments, the Judicial Warning Court provides a unique and effective method of disposing appropriate cases
- Pre-pandemic, a monthly average of 29 matters were disposed via IA or JWC

# Outline

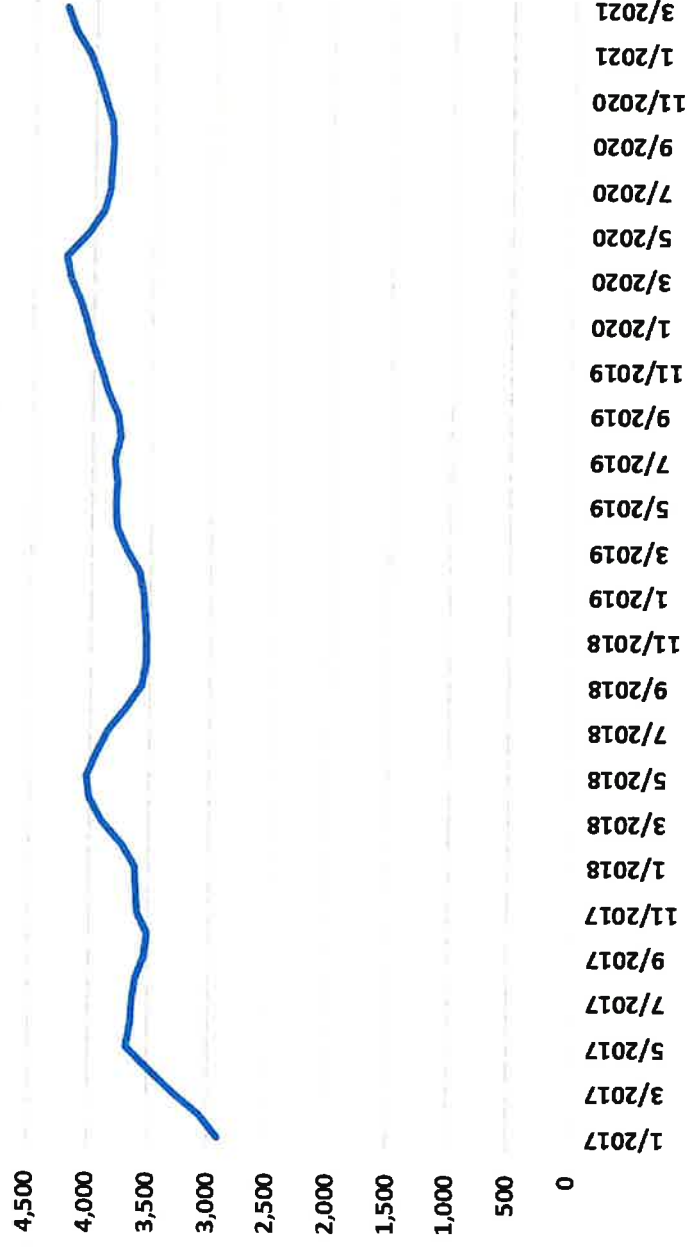
- Stakeholder Interviews
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  - Introduction
  - Montgomery County Juvenile Court Trends
  - **Youth Services Trends**
    - Detention Trends
- Forecasts
- Conclusions & Recommendations

# Montgomery County Youth Services Trends

- Extremely challenging to model youth services/probation data in terms of average daily caseloads
- Many cases need to remain open in the system
  - Ongoing case obligations and requirements
- To model the daily caseload
  - Series of statistical estimates
  - Utilized multiple date fields throughout the data system
  - Built linear algebraic models to generate an estimated caseload time series trend

# Montgomery County Youth Services Trends

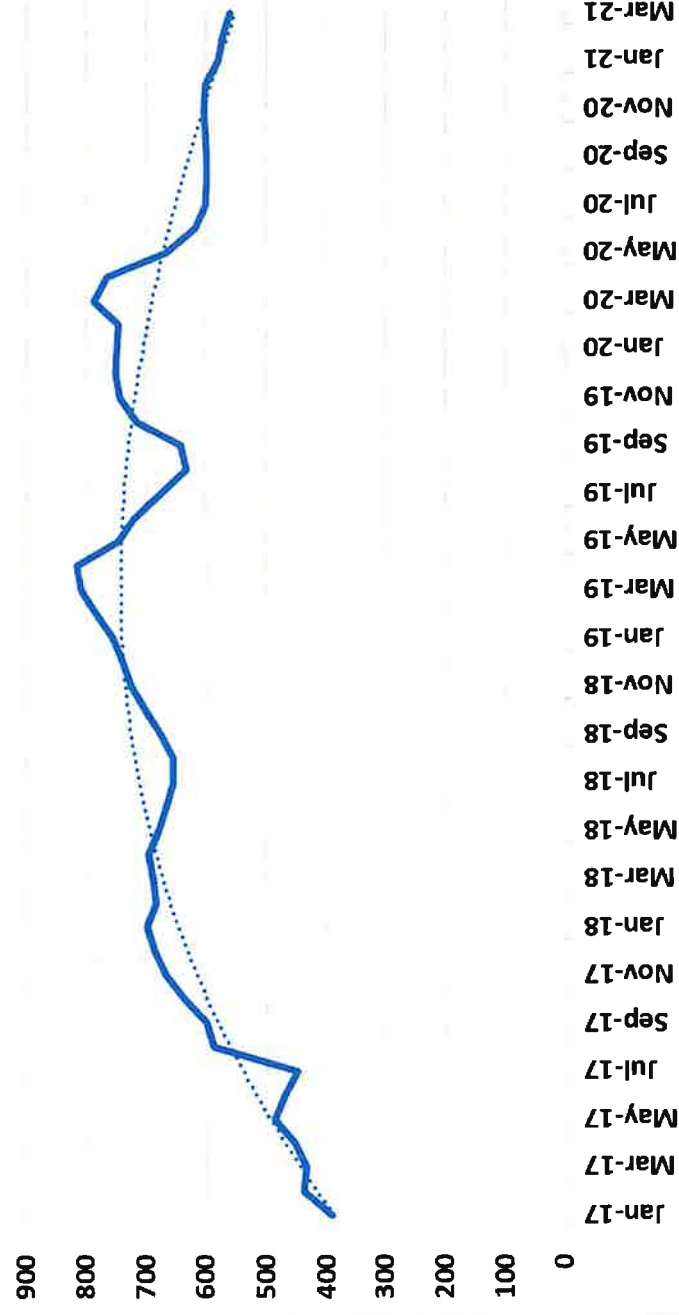
Montgomery Juvenile Court Daily Average Of Open Cases



- Chart shows a reconstruction of the open cases using each case's 'Start Date' and 'End Date' fields
- It appears that cases are not being closed out in the Quest system

# Montgomery County Youth Services Trends

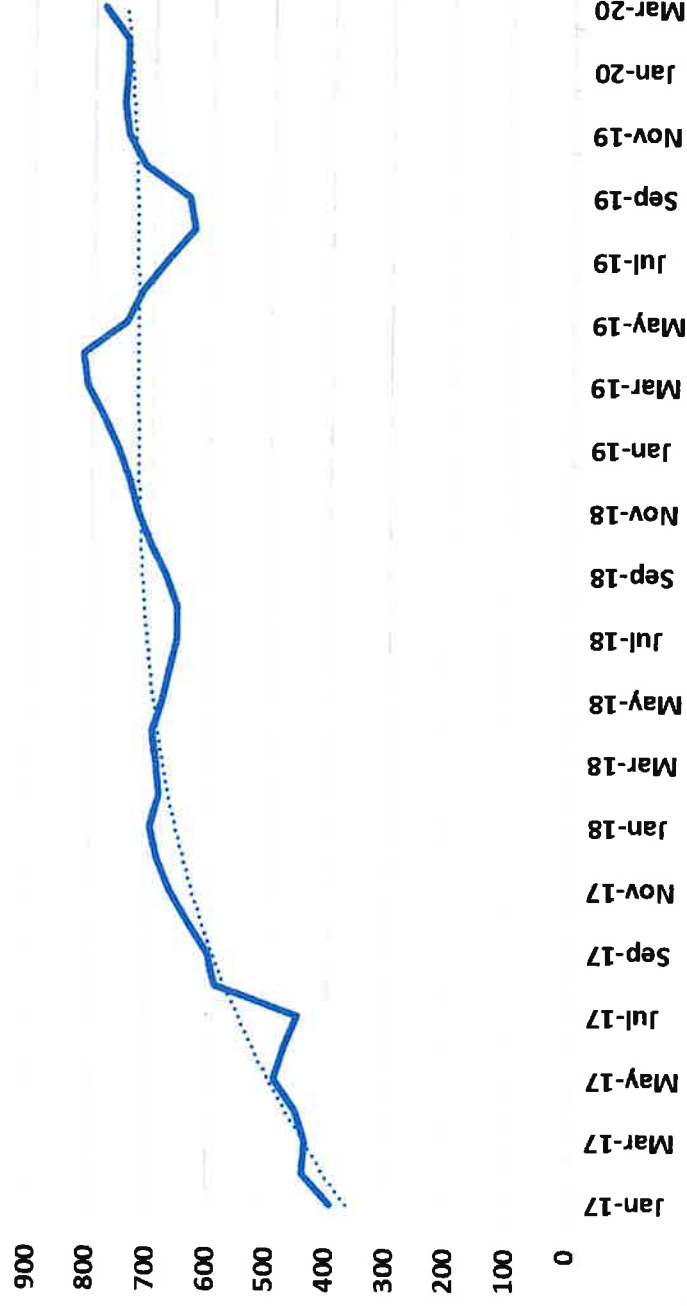
Montgomery County Youth Services Active Case Assignments



- Chart contains all case types
- Reflects an average of each day's open case counts based on *case assignment* Start and End dates, rather than the actual case Start and End dates

# Montgomery County Youth Services Trends

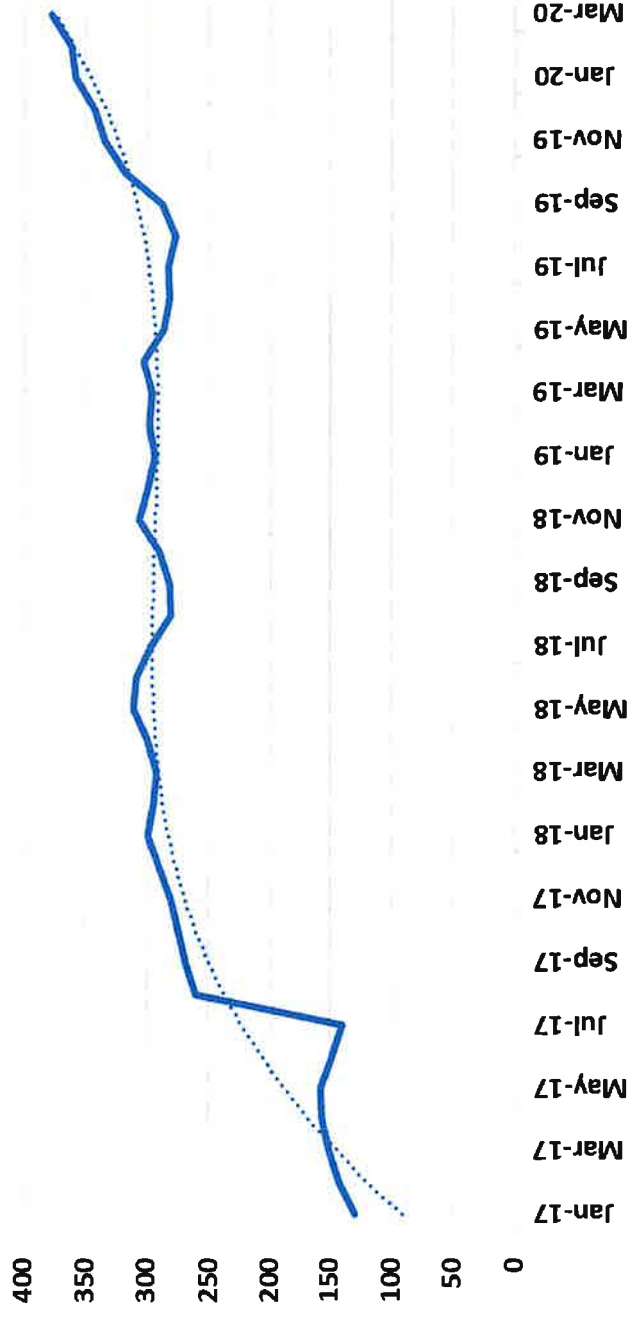
Montgomery County Youth Services Active Case Assignments



- This is the same data as the previous slide, but stops before the pandemic
- Between 2017 and the start of 2020:  
81% ↑ in caseload

# Montgomery County Youth Services Trends

**Montgomery County Youth Services Active Juvenile  
Delinquency Case Assignments**



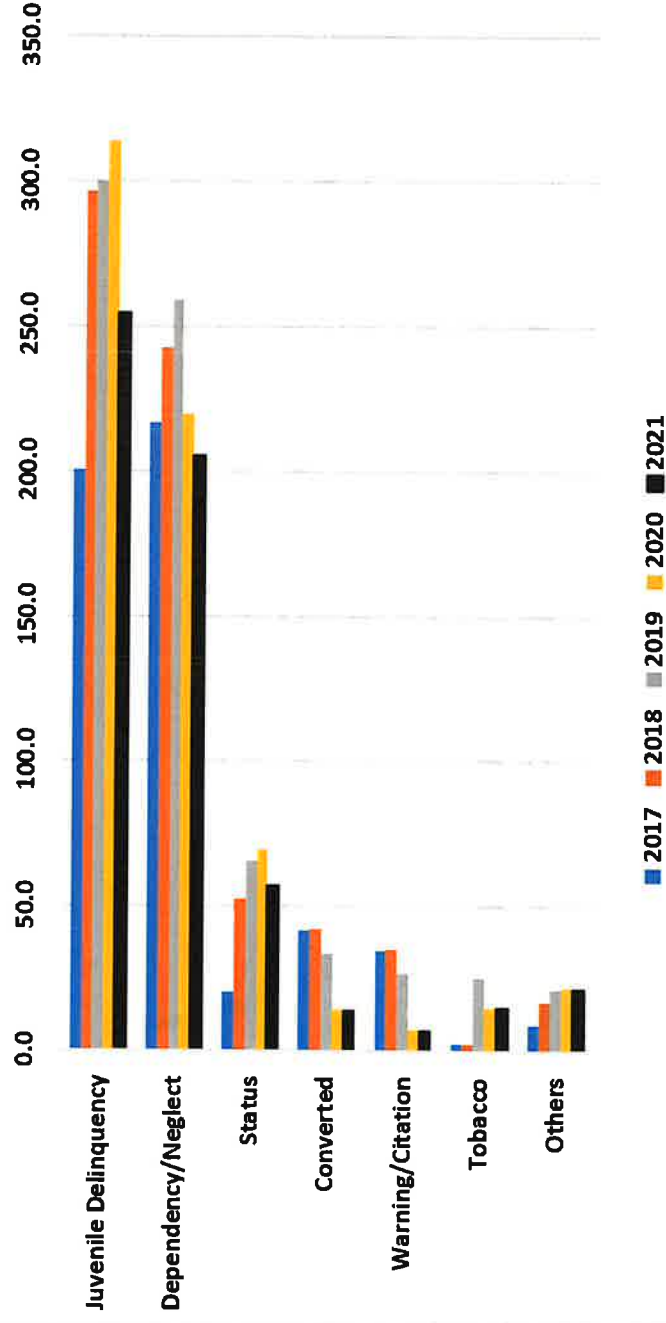
Between 2017 and the start  
of 2020:

151% ↑ in Juvenile  
Delinquency cases



# Montgomery County Youth Services Trends

Youth Services Caseload By Case Type



Comparing 2017 and 2020:

- 57% ↑ in Juvenile Delinquency cases
- 240% ↑ in Juvenile Status cases
- 448% ↑ in Tobacco cases

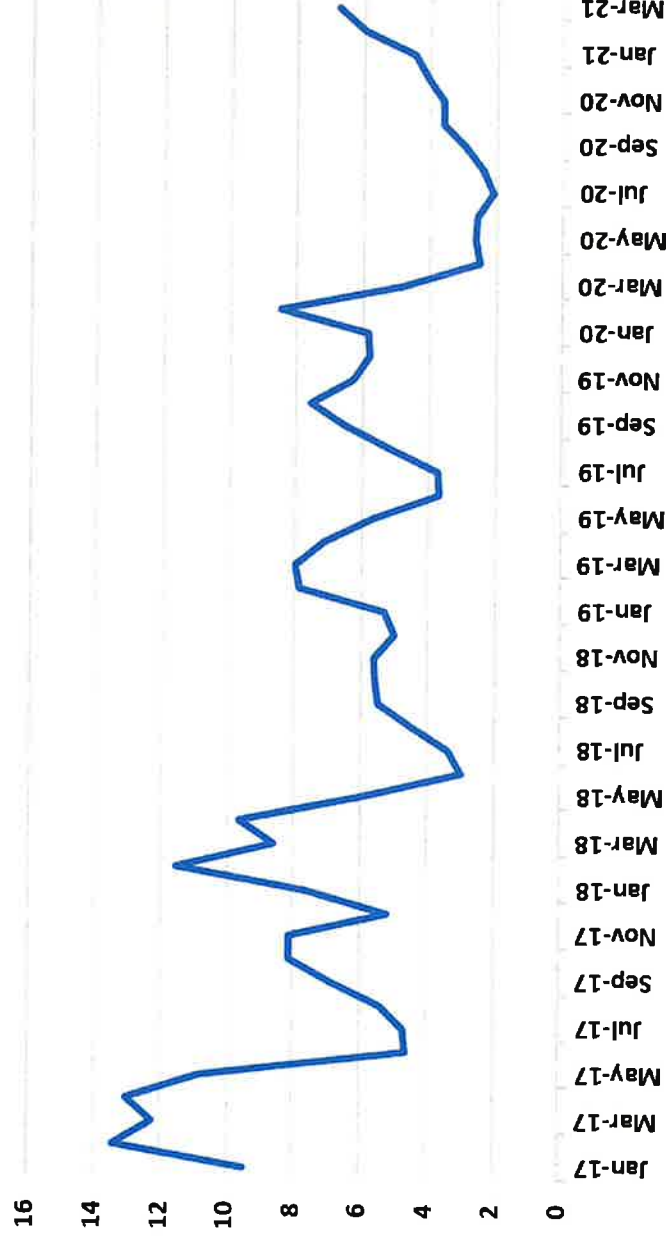
# Montgomery County Youth Services Trends

Active Delinquency/Status Cases By Most Serious Offense

	Truancy	Violent Misd	Public Order Misd	Conditional Release Violation	Other	Drugs Misd	Violent Felony	Unruly	Theft/Fraud Misd	Runaway	Traffic Misd	12 Other Categories
2016	37.2%	11.0%	7.2%	4.3%	5.7%	4.6%	4.4%	4.1%	5.5%	3.9%	3.7%	8.3%
2017	43.8%	9.8%	5.6%	4.6%	4.7%	4.5%	4.1%	4.5%	4.3%	3.6%	3.5%	7.0%
2018	39.1%	11.5%	6.3%	5.7%	4.8%	4.3%	4.6%	4.6%	4.0%	3.5%	3.5%	8.1%
2019	28.4%	13.3%	7.1%	6.4%	5.8%	5.4%	5.9%	5.8%	4.8%	4.5%	4.4%	8.2%
2020	27.6%	13.6%	5.7%	7.1%	5.7%	6.3%	5.7%	4.9%	5.4%	5.7%	4.5%	7.8%
2021	33.8%	11.6%	4.7%	6.2%	5.2%	5.9%	5.6%	5.1%	4.2%	5.5%	4.3%	7.9%
Total	35.7%	11.7%	6.3%	5.6%	5.3%	5.0%	4.9%	4.7%	4.7%	4.2%	3.9%	7.9%

# Montgomery County Youth Services Trends

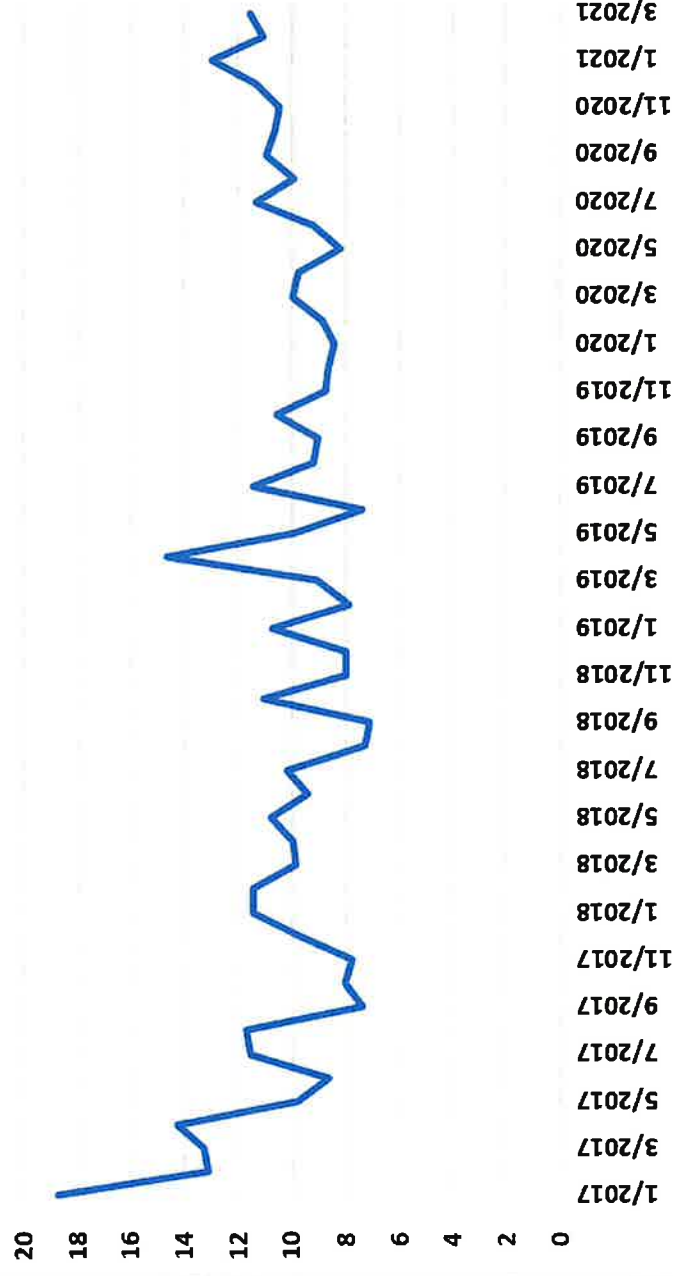
Montgomery County Juvenile Monthly Incidents Per Day



- Incidents decreased from 2017 and were relatively stable in 2018 and 2019
- The impact of the pandemic can clearly be seen, along with indications of a return to 'normal'
- Note also the seasonality of the data, correlating roughly to the school year

# Montgomery County Youth Services Trends

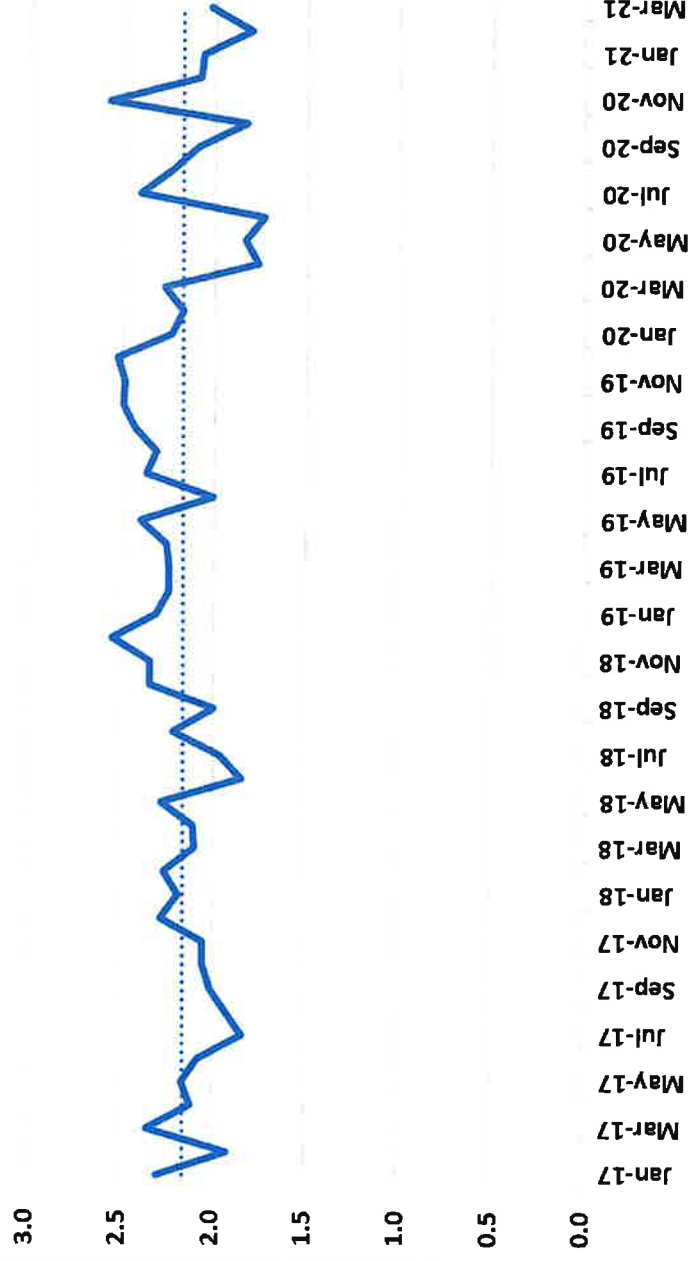
Montgomery County Juvenile Documents Per Case



- The number of documents per case is a potential indicator of case complexity
- The average per case was stable between mid-2017 until mid-2020
- There has been a 17% increase between July 2020 and March 2021

# Montgomery County Youth Services Trends

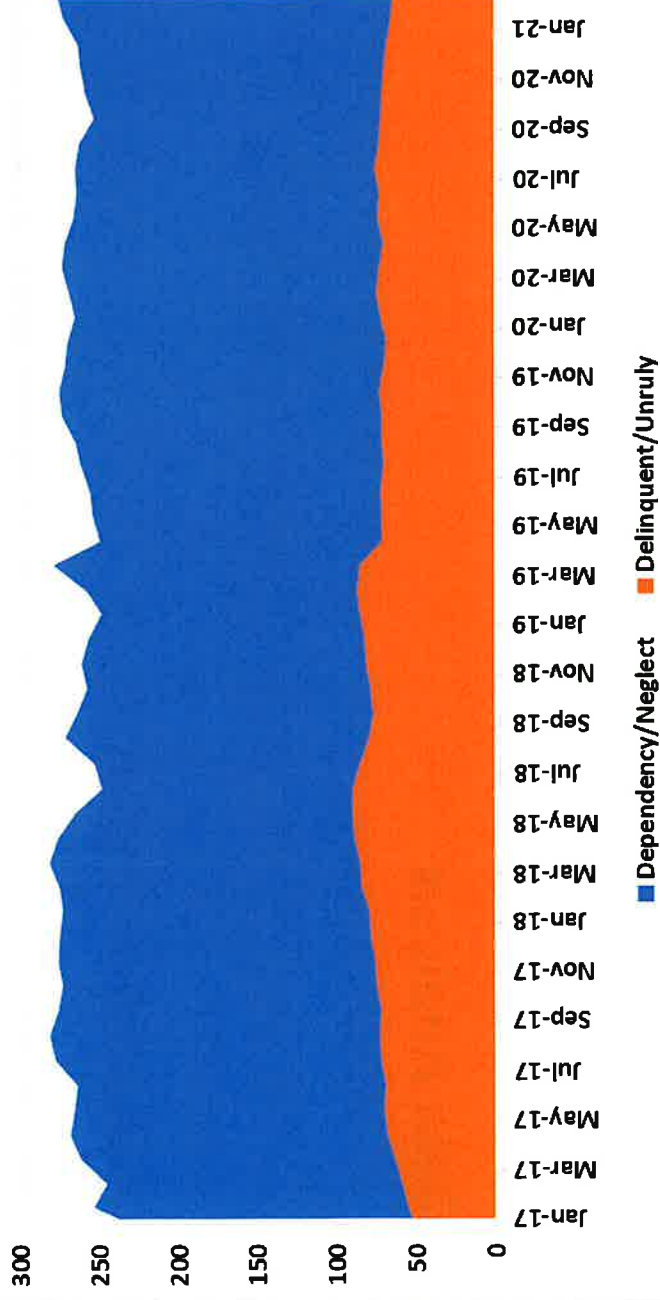
Montgomery Juvenile Monthly Requirements Per Case



- The number of requirements per case is a potential indicator of case complexity
- The average per case has been largely stable over time with only a very slight increase during 2019

# Montgomery County Youth Services Trends

Montgomery ADP of Children Held in Custody of the State



- The average daily population of children held in DCS custody has increased 12% since 2017
- Typically, 78% of the children in DCS custody are there because of a Dependency/Neglect matter

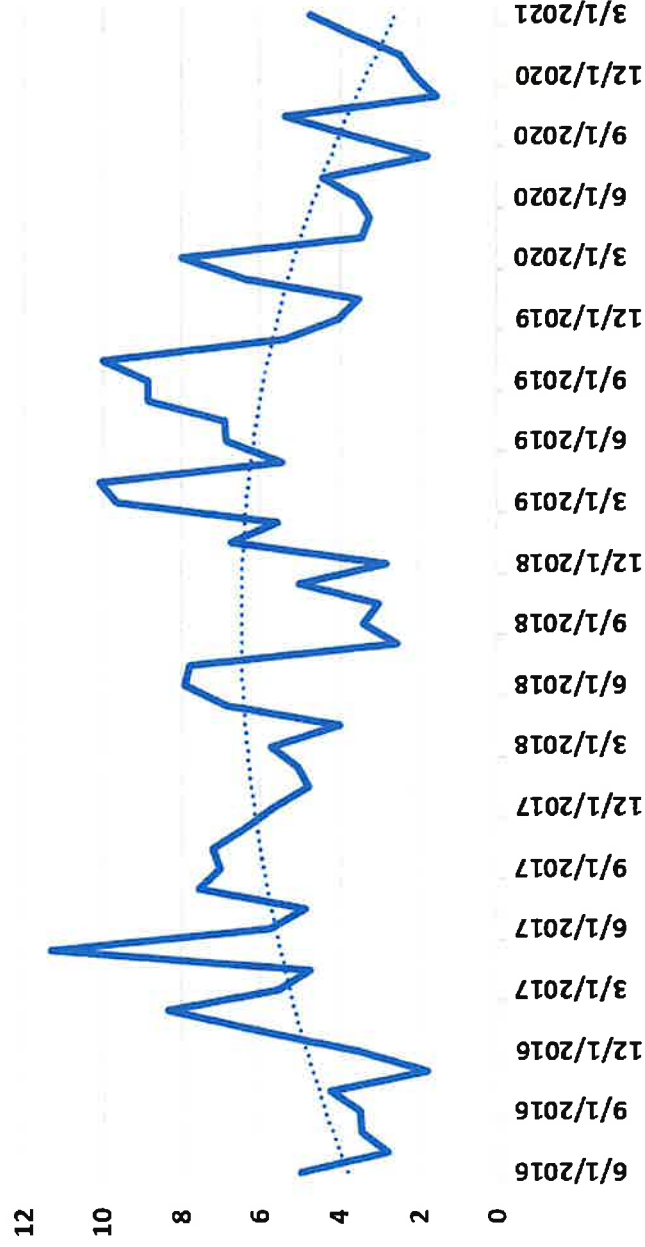
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# Montgomery Juvenile Court Detention Population

Montgomery County Juvenile Detention ADP

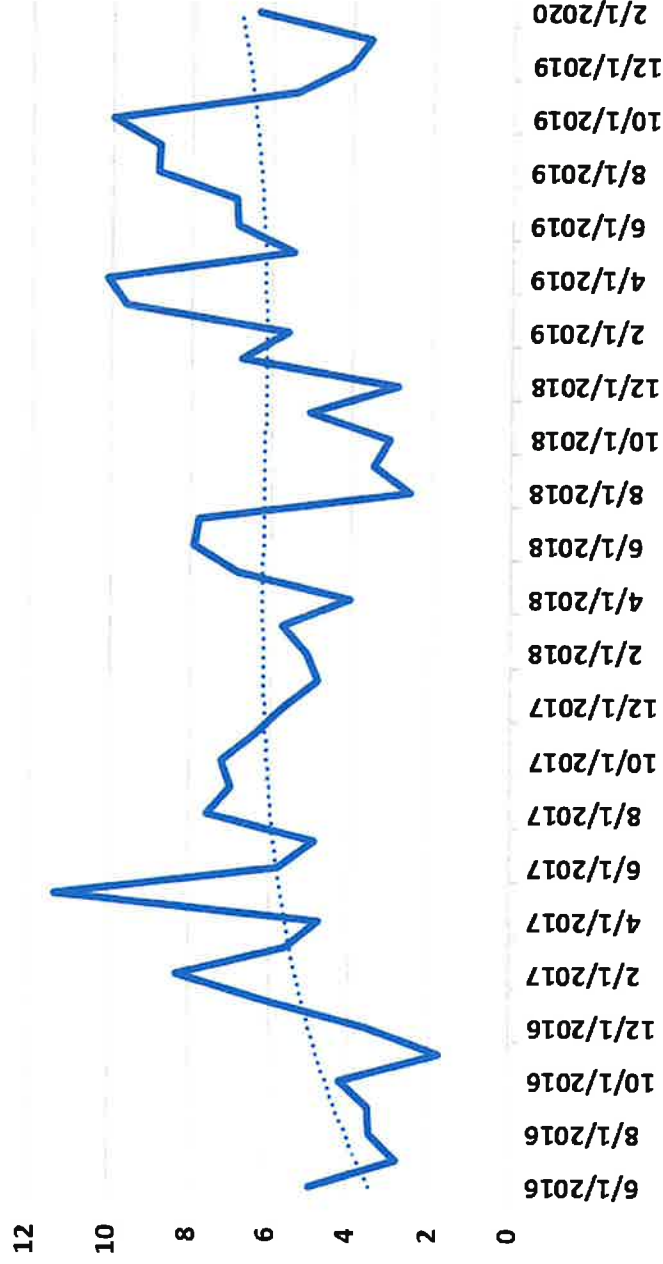


- Chart trend line heavily affected by the pandemic and possibly the impact of the Juvenile Justice Reform Act's implementation



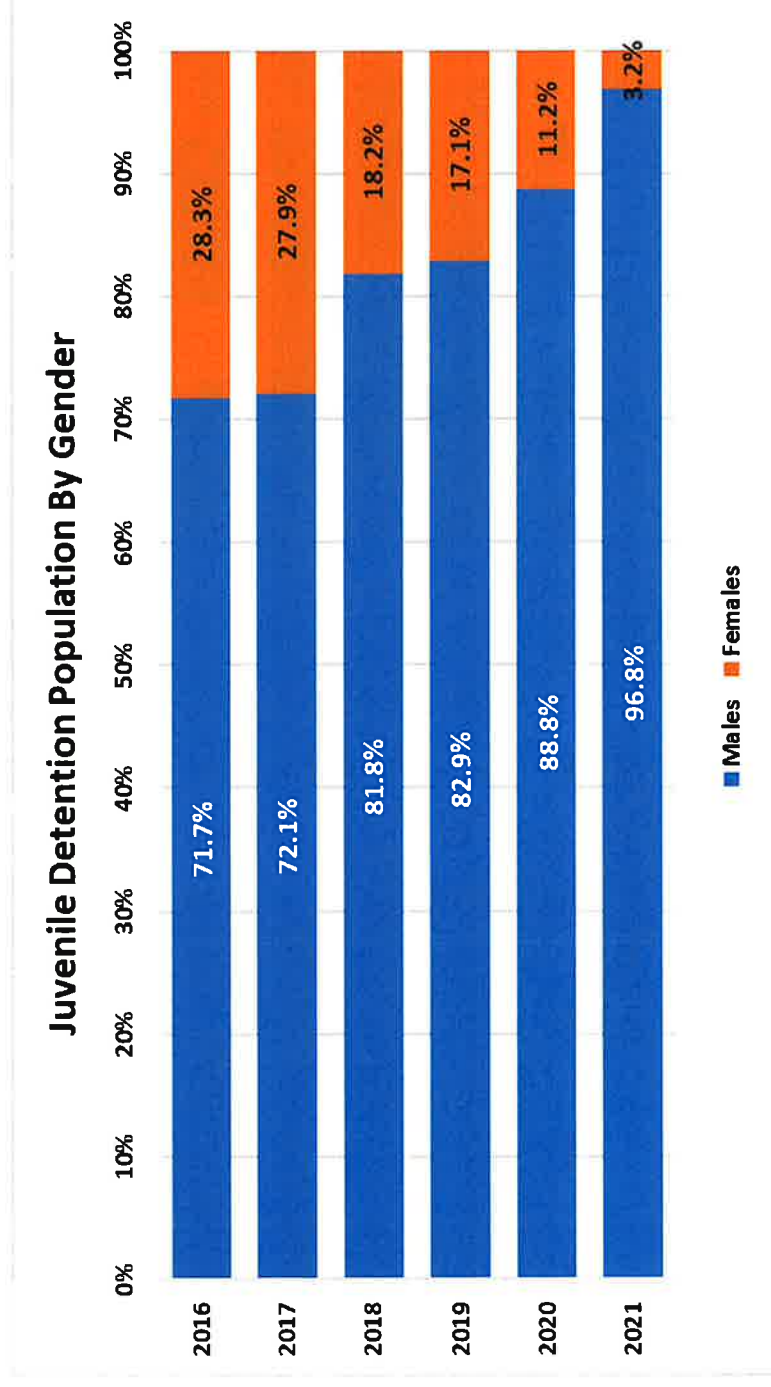
# Montgomery Juvenile Court Detention Population

Montgomery County Juvenile Detention ADP

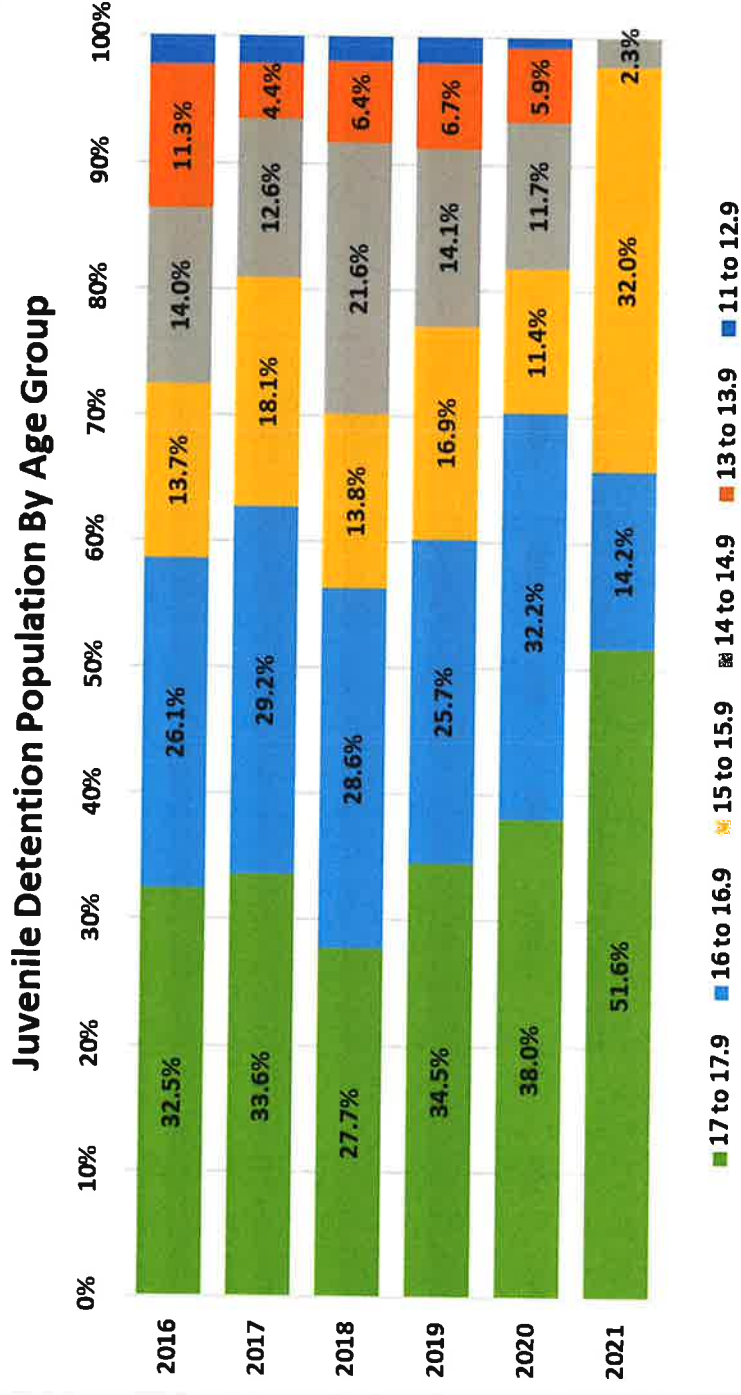


- This chart cuts off immediately before the onset of the pandemic
- Trend line appears to forecast an increase in the detention population

# Montgomery Juvenile Court Detention Population



# Montgomery Juvenile Court Detention Population



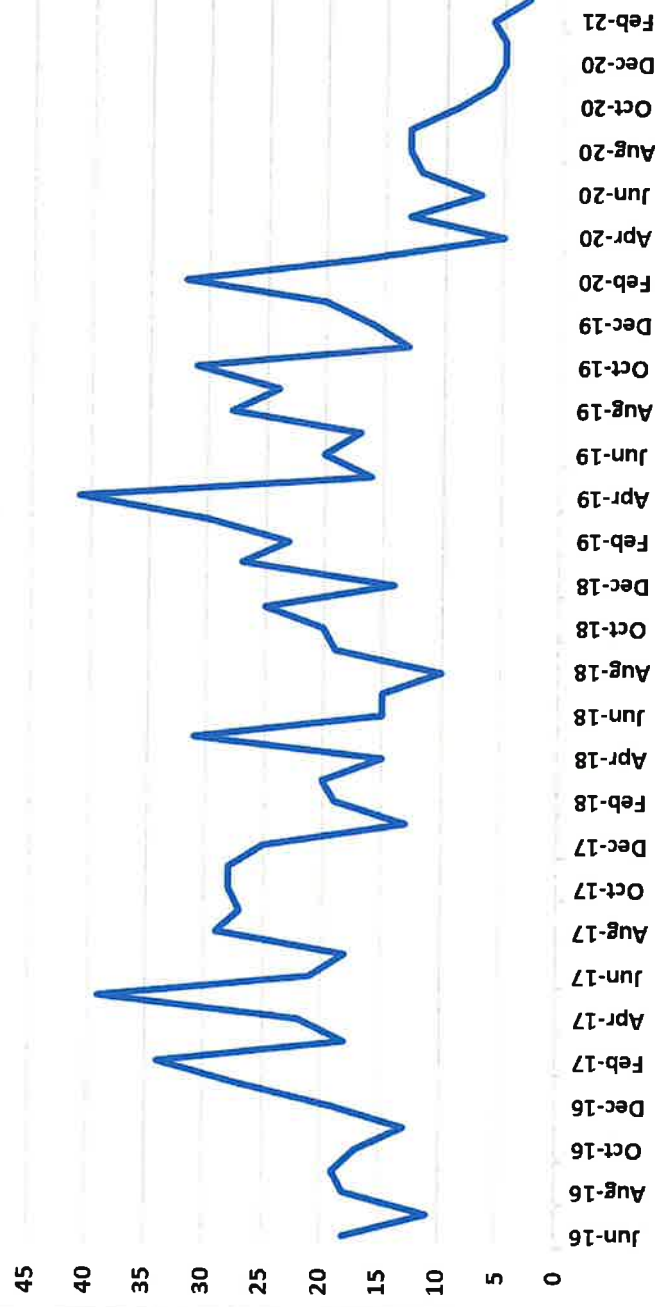
# Montgomery Juvenile Court Detention Population

**Detention Population By Most Serious Offense**

	Violent Felony	Conditional Release Violation	Burglary Felony	Violent Misd	Unknown	Theft/Fraud Felony	Public Order Felony	Drugs Felony	Drugs Misd	Unruly	Theft/Fraud Misd	12 Other Categories
<b>2017</b>	33.9%	18.0%	12.3%	14.1%	4.9%	3.8%	2.1%	0.2%	1.4%	1.7%	0.9%	6.7%
<b>2018</b>	56.2%	12.5%	12.7%	9.4%	0.6%	0.7%	1.4%	0.9%	1.1%	0.9%	0.6%	2.9%
<b>2019</b>	50.5%	12.9%	11.3%	12.6%	2.4%	0.8%	1.0%	2.8%	0.8%	0.7%	0.8%	3.3%
<b>2020</b>	56.2%	16.7%	7.4%	5.0%	1.7%	4.1%	0.8%	1.0%	1.2%	0.8%	1.8%	3.3%
<b>2021</b>	84.0%	9.1%	0.0%	6.8%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>47.4%</b>	<b>14.6%</b>	<b>10.6%</b>	<b>10.6%</b>	<b>5.3%</b>	<b>2.0%</b>	<b>1.3%</b>	<b>1.3%</b>	<b>1.1%</b>	<b>1.1%</b>	<b>0.9%</b>	<b>3.9%</b>

# Montgomery Juvenile Court Detention Admissions

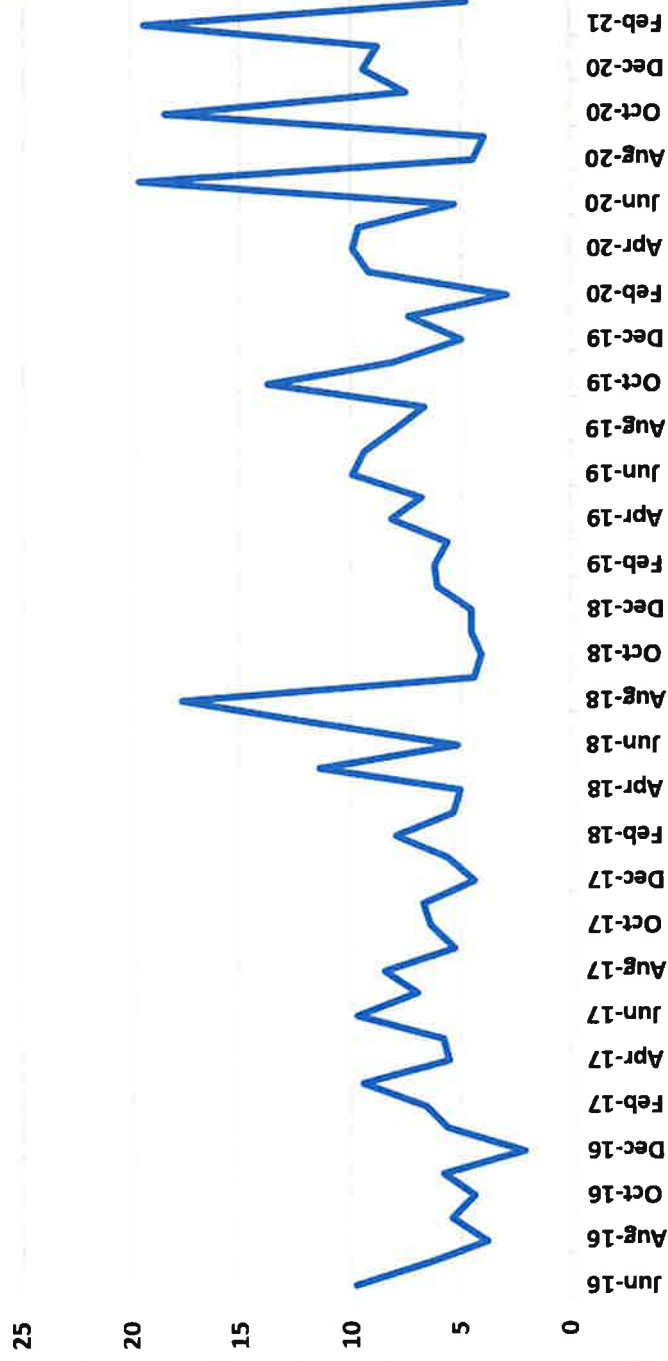
Juvenile Detention Monthly Admissions



Year	Average Daily Admissions	Change
2016	0.6	
2017	1.5	165.5%
2018	1.0	-31.6%
2019	1.3	32.4%
2020	0.7	-46.9%
2021	0.1	-90.8%

# Montgomery Juvenile Court Detention ALOS

Juvenile Detention Monthly Average Length of Stay



Year	ALOS	Change
2016	5.4	
2017	6.6	22.4%
2018	7.4	11.8%
2019	8.0	8.4%
2020	8.6	6.9%
2021	12.5	45.8%



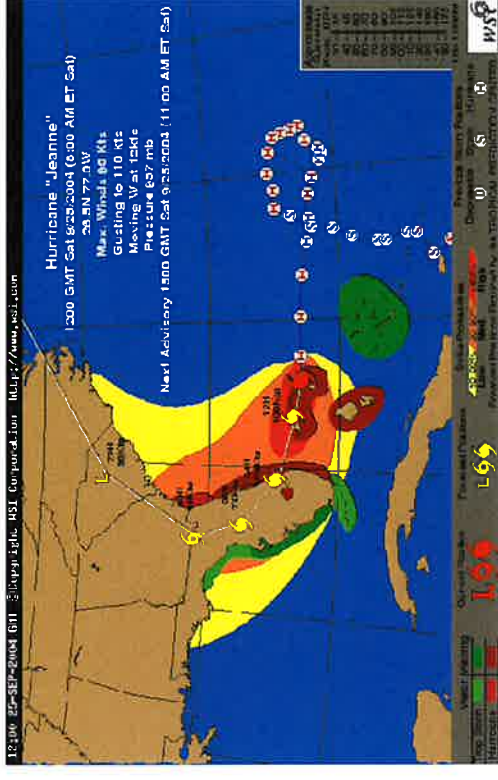
# Outline

- Stakeholder Interviews
- Data Analysis
  - Introduction
  - Montgomery County Juvenile Court Trends
  - Youth Services Trends
  - Detention Trends
- **Forecasts**
- Conclusions & Recommendations

# Montgomery County Juvenile Court Forecasts

## Criminal Justice Forecasting

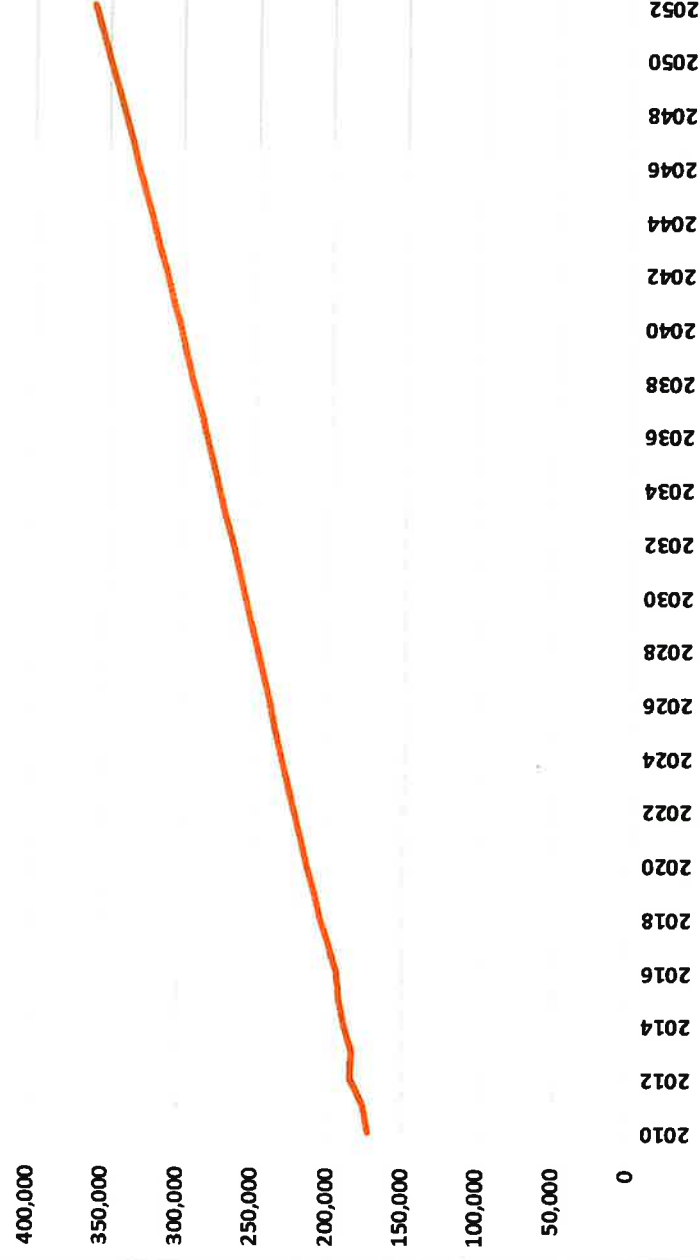
- All forecasts are built with the assumption that there are no changes or alterations to laws, practices, public policy, etc. when the forecast was produced
- As with weather forecasting, unforeseen events may impact accuracy





# Montgomery County Juvenile Court Forecasts

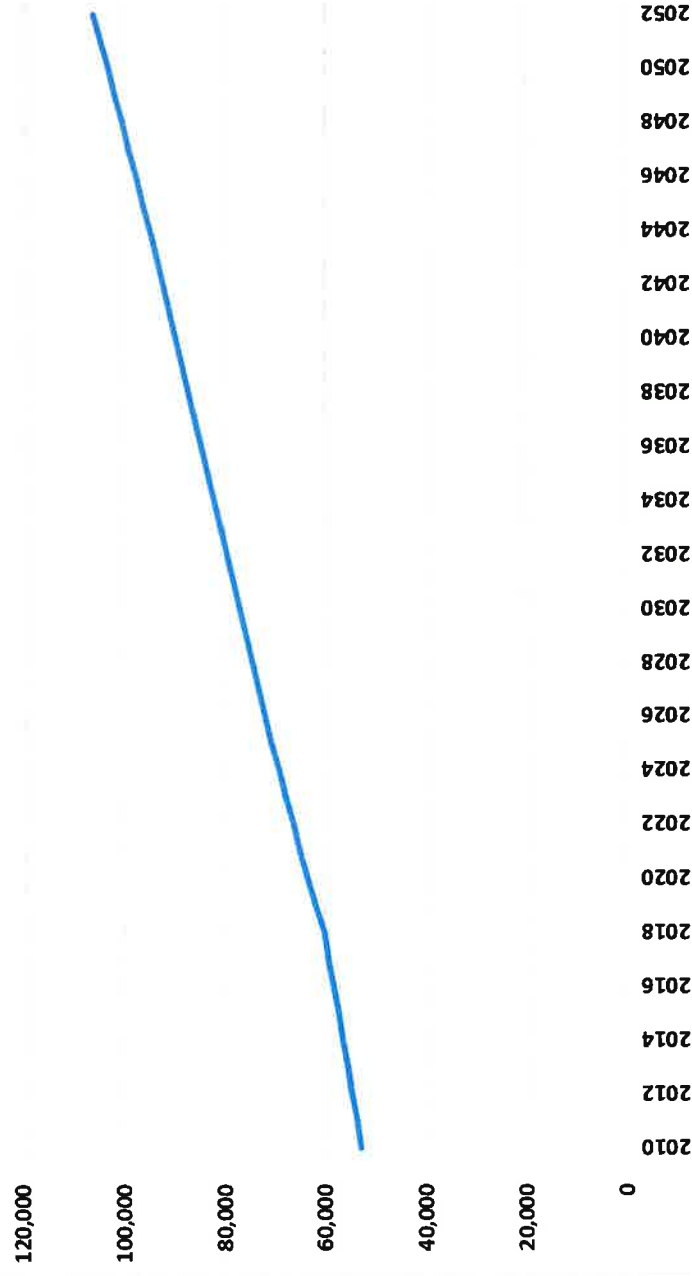
Montgomery County Population Forecast



- It is critical to understand that the expected growth of the county has a major impact on our forecast models
- The overall population of Montgomery County is expected to grow nearly 65% by 2052

# Montgomery County Juvenile Court Forecasts

**Age 18 and Under Montgomery County Population Forecast**



- The population of citizens age 18 and under is expected to grow nearly 64% by 2052

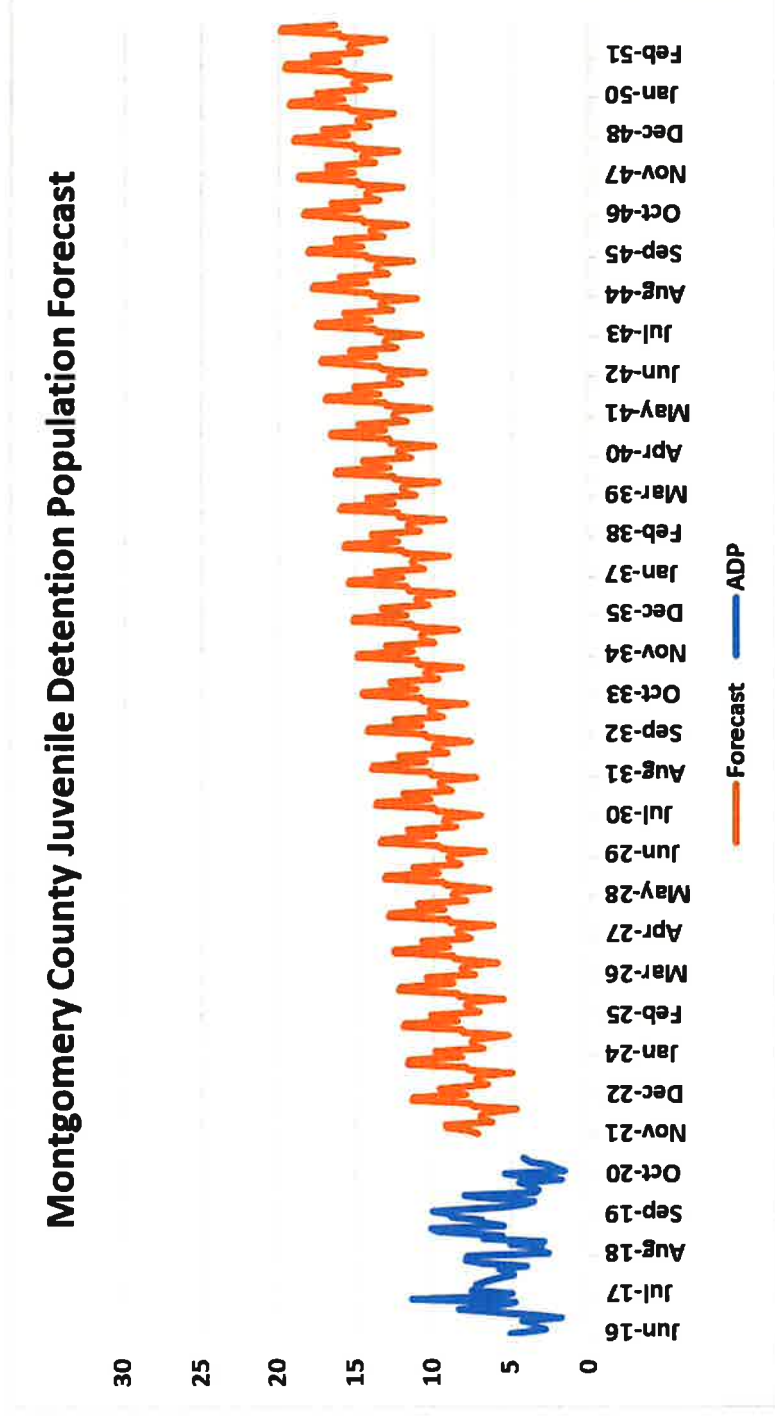
# Montgomery County Detention ADP Forecasts

## Detention Forecast Details

- Our process resulted in a seasonal ARIMA model which used Montgomery County projected population, average length of stay, and the prior history of the detention population as predictors (weighting female ADP to balance out impact of past bed scarcity upon population)
- Model calls for significant growth in the detention population in 25 years
- Model accuracy in the short run (before the construction of any facility) will be impacted by bed availability of out of county sites
- County population growth will inevitably result in a higher detention population

# Montgomery County Detention ADP Forecasts

- The population of citizens age 18 and under is expected to grow nearly 64% by 2052



# Montgomery County Projected Detention Bed Need

## Average Daily Population vs. Actual Beds Needed

- Keep in mind that the forecast points to an average daily population over time
- In order to maintain safety and security, two factors must be added to the ADP forecast number:
  1. A Peaking Factor – the facility’s population must have necessary capacity to absorb rises and falls in the population during the year
  2. A Classification Factor – the facility must have available bedspace in order to withstand fluctuations within population groups

# Montgomery County Projected Detention Bed Need

Year	Females				Males				Total Bed Need
	ADP	Peaking (130%)	Class. (15%)	Bed Need	ADP	Peaking (42%)	Class. (15%)	Bed Need	
2026	2.4	3.1	0.4	5.9	6.7	2.8	1.0	10.5	16.4
2031	2.8	3.6	0.4	6.8	7.8	3.3	1.2	12.2	19.1
2036	3.2	4.1	0.5	7.8	8.9	3.7	1.3	13.9	21.7
2041	3.6	4.6	0.5	8.7	10.0	4.2	1.5	15.6	24.4
2046	3.9	5.1	0.6	9.7	11.0	4.6	1.7	17.3	27.0
2051	4.3	5.6	0.6	10.6	12.1	5.1	1.8	19.0	29.6

# Montgomery County Respite Bed Forecast

## Respite Beds

- Detention is only a small fraction of what the juvenile justice system does
- Should consider developing a non-detention setting for keeping children safe:
  - Children detained for status offenses
  - Children who for some reason cannot be home
- Currently no such facility or alternative exists
- Examined the data to determine the number of children who may have needed such a facility since 2017



# Montgomery County Respite Bed Forecast

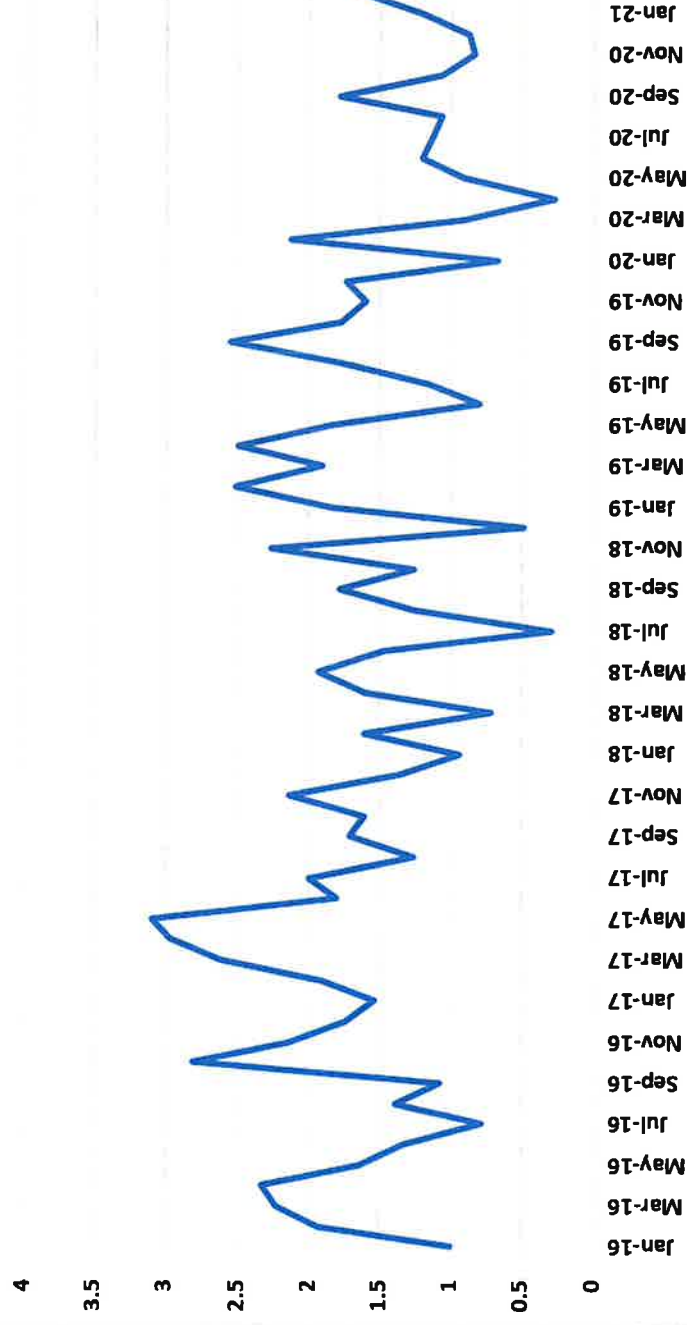
## Respite Forecast Details

- Selected Juvenile Delinquency and Status cases where the most serious offense was ‘unruly’ or ‘in-state runaway’
- We assumed a 3-day stay for each person.
- Using the opening dates of these cases and breaking them into months, an Average Daily Population was estimated that ranges between 1 and 4 people



# Montgomery County Juvenile Court Forecasts - Respite

Montgomery County ADP of Possible Respite Candidates



- Prior to the pandemic, the number of children with a most serious offense of 'In-State Runaway' or 'Unruly' is seasonal, but stable
- Applying our peaking analysis approach, we recommend 7 beds, with 2 being designated for females

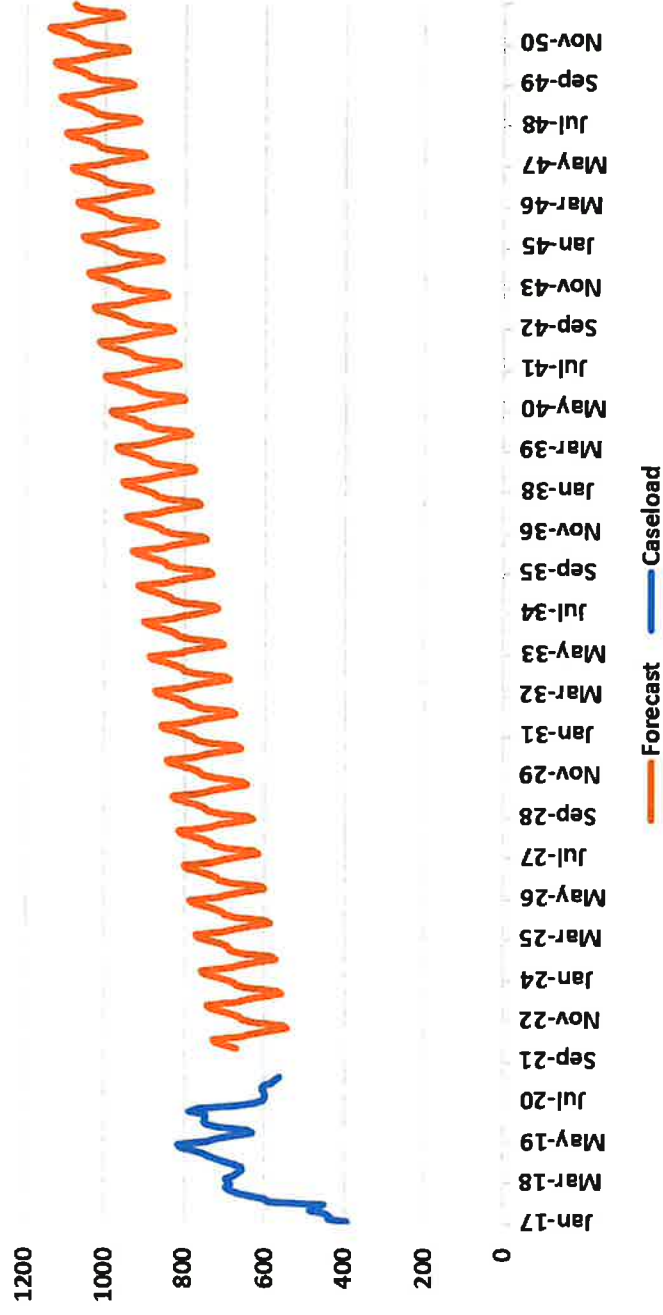
# Montgomery County Caseload Forecast

## Youth Services Caseload Forecast Details

- We took the reconstructed caseload numbers based on case assignment dates and employed the ARIMA forecast process
- We utilized projected Montgomery County population growth and the past history of the case assignment trend as predictors
- Similar to the detention forecast, the results point to significant growth, albeit not as high

# Montgomery County Juvenile Court Caseload Forecasts

Montgomery County Youth Services Caseload Forecast



- Forecast model calls for a nearly 45% growth in the active caseload by the year 2051, which is actually below the expected population growth for the county
- Historically, the caseload has not grown as quickly as the county's population

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# Conclusions

- There is near-unanimous support among stakeholders interviewed for a juvenile justice center that would be utilized for teaching, resources and detention
- Despite a sustained decrease in case filing counts, the work of the Juvenile Court is significantly increasing over time
- Youth Services caseloads are increasing
- Case complexity is also increasing,
  - Proportional growth in more significant crimes
  - Small increases in documents and requirements per case
  - More children being held in DCS custody
- Detention population heavily affected by out of county bed availability
- Forecasts significantly impacted by anticipated Montgomery County growth

# Planning Recommendations

1. Youth Services, the Courts and the Clerk's Office should be co-located in one building, since they work so closely together.
2. The detention component of any new Youth Services Center should be a distinct secure component with approximately 30 secure detention beds. The detention component should be designed in accordance with current evidence-based best practices.
3. Secure detention should be reserved for offenders who have been charged with committing a violent crime.

# Planning Recommendations

4. Non-violent offenders and status offenders can be housed in a less-secure, staff-secure facility that has softer finishes and a more home-like environment, to reduce the trauma of incarceration. Approximately 7 staff-secure assessment/respite beds would be needed.
5. Montgomery County Youth Services active caseload is anticipated to grow by approximately 45% above its current caseload by 2051. The number of offices and workstations should be determined in consultation with key Youth Services decision-makers.

# Next Steps

- County Board Decision on Moving Forward
- Estimate Square Footage Needs
- Estimate Preliminary Staffing Needs
- Submit and Present Reports