

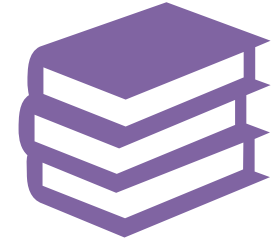
Juvenile Justice Policy and Data Board

Community Based Interventions Subcommittee
July 2025 Pre-Meeting Materials

Dually Involved Youth (DIY) Project: Literature Review

Research and Presentation Notes

This literature review explores current research on cohorts of dual system youth. The research presented is based on a national review and *may not* fully reflect the specific policies, practices, or conditions within the Commonwealth.



This presentation provides an overview of general themes and patterns identified across existing literature and *may not* fully capture the specific outcomes or nuances of individual cohorts, jurisdictions, or programs.

Specific statistics or references are hyperlinked in the text or denoted by a citation directly following the finding. Citations for broader themes are provided in a text box below each relevant section.



Complexities in Researching Dual System Youth



An intersectional lens is necessary to accurately examine and understand dual system youth: Dual system youth are impacted by intersecting identities (e.g., race, gender, sexual orientation, etc.) and co-occurring challenges (e.g., trauma, placement instability, behavioral health needs, etc.) that often overlap and compound risk of system involvement.



There are fundamental differences between child welfare and juvenile justice systems: Child welfare and juvenile justice systems have different philosophies, mission statements, and resources – care and protection, versus accountability and public safety – creating challenges when coordinating services for dual system populations.



Data within and across systems and jurisdictions is not consistently tracked or defined:

- States differ in the way that child welfare services and juvenile systems are structured (e.g., child welfare and juvenile justice under the same agency) and operated (e.g., county-based, etc.), contributing to what data is collected and how data is collected.
- Data points are shaped by local policies and practices (e.g., diversion, etc.).
- Gaps in data exist and affect the interpretation of data.

Guiding Questions

1

What is the definition of crossover youth, and what is the prevalence of dual system involvement, nationally?

2

What are the common risk factors and life experiences that contribute to dual system involvement? Who is dually involved?

3

What systemic factors contribute to dual system involvement?

4

What are the outcomes related to dual system youth?



1. What is the definition of crossover youth, and what is the prevalence of dual system involvement, nationally?

There are multiple ways to define and measure crossover, depending on the level of system involvement and timing of the contact.

Research suggests that more than half of the juvenile justice population has or will have child welfare involvement. Most crossover youth do not have concurrent system involvement.

There are multiple ways to define and measure crossover, depending on the level of system involvement and timing of the contact.

Cohort	Definition	Examples/Additional Details
Crossover youth	Youth who experience maltreatment and engage in delinquent acts	Umbrella term, youth may or may not have an investigation and/or involvement in one or both systems
Dual system *sometimes referred to as dual contact	Crossover youth who have contact in both the child welfare (CW) and juvenile justice (JJ) systems, <i>regardless of timing or extent of involvement</i>	e.g., youth is referred for a CW investigation (51A) and is <i>later</i> cited for a vandalism charge
Dually involved	A subset of dual system youth with <i>concurrent</i> involvement in both systems	e.g., youth has an open CW case and is detained for theft <i>while</i> the CW case remains open
Dually adjudicated	Youth who have been found by a court to be in need of care and protection by the CW system and delinquent (for committing a crime) by the JJ system, <i>concurrently</i>	e.g., a youth that has been committed to a JJ placement from a CW group home

✓ For the purposes of complimenting and informing the JJPAD Board's interviews to date, upcoming data analysis, and discussions to date on this topic, this presentation largely focuses on **dual system youth, dually involved youth, and dually adjudicated youth.**

Research suggests that more than half of the juvenile justice population has or will have child welfare involvement. Most crossover youth do not have concurrent system involvement.

Studies identify different process points to denote CW system involvement (e.g., referral, investigation, service provision, etc.) or JJ system involvement (e.g., arrest, court petition, detention, commitment, etc.). Based on the determined CW and JJ process point, each study identifies a unique cohort of dual system youth, making “apples to apples” comparisons between studies, challenging.

Therefore, the following range is drawn from various studies across jurisdictions:

Dual system youth

5 - 73% of youth have had involvement in both the CW and JJ systems

e.g., 5% of youth completing a JJ residential programming in Florida had an open child welfare case

e.g., 73% of youth ages 14-17 with an open care and protection case had been referred to the court on at least one delinquency referral

For more on national prevalence rates, see Appendices A & B.

When a similar definition of dual system youth is applied, prevalence rates of ~50% are observed in both the Commonwealth and in other jurisdictions.

Source: [June CBI Meeting](#)

Research suggests that more than half of the juvenile justice population has or will have child welfare involvement. Most crossover youth do not have concurrent system involvement.

A national study by the Office of Juvenile Justice Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) reported a weighted prevalence rate of 56% among dual system youth across three different jurisdictions

	Youth in First Juvenile Court Petition Cohort	Dual System Youth* (any involvement)	Dually Involved Youth** (concurrent involvement)
Cook County, IL	14,170	44.8% (n=6,348)	12.3% (n=1,740)
Cuyahoga County, OH***	11,441	68.5% (n=7,834)	25% (n=2,855)
New York City, NY	1,272	70.3% (n=894)	32.7% (n=416)

*Defined as the prevalence of dual system youth among first juvenile justice petitioners between 2010 and 2014

**Calculated as a percentage of the first juvenile justice petitioners cohort

***14.4% of dual system youth cases in Cuyahoga County could not be categorized due to missing data

2. What are the common risk factors and life experiences that contribute to dual involvement? Who is dually involved?

Dual system youth report high rates of trauma and low rates of protective factors, which can lead to serious unmet needs that may contribute to delinquent behavior.



Dual system youth are typically between the ages of 14 and 16 years old, and the following groups are overrepresented in dual system cohorts compared to youth involved in one system:

- Girls
- Youth of color
- LGBTQ+ or gender nonconforming (GNC) youth*

*While research suggests this population is *likely* overrepresented in the dual status population, as discussed further on slide 18, there is currently a lack of research on dual status rates for LGBTQ+/GNC youth compared to youth involved in single systems.

Crossover youth experience high rates of trauma and exhibit high acuity needs that may contribute to delinquency/system involvement.

According to multiple studies, dual system youth report **exposure to more types of trauma and adverse experiences compared to** single system youth, as demonstrated by:

- More CW referrals and investigations
- High rates of prior victimization and chronic maltreatment
- Exposure to multiple types of maltreatment

Many studies show that dual system youth have high rates of mental health diagnoses, emotional dysregulation, and behavior challenges, requiring a more intense array of trauma-informed services than single system youth.

Sources: (Modrowski et al., 2023); (Herz & Dierkhising, 2018); (Peterson, 2018); (Vidal et al., 2017); (Baglivio et al., 2016); (Randall et al., 2015); (Young et al., 2015); (Ryan, et al., 2013); (Bogie et al., 2011); (Chuang & Wells, 2010); (G. J. Halemba et al., 2004); (Jonson-Reid & Barth, 2000)

Maltreatment contributes to delinquency:

- Several studies suggest that maltreatment and exposure to violence contributes to short- and long-term behavior problems that manifest during adolescence.
- Trauma responses and/or untreated traumatic behaviors are often characterized as delinquent behaviors, creating a pathway to delinquency for youth with complex experiences and needs.

Sources: (Vidal et al., 2017); (Mersky et al. 2012); (US Attorney General's National Task Force on Children Exposed to Violence, 2012) (Ryan et al., 2008); (Ryan & Testa, 2005); (Jonson-Reid & Barth, 2000)

Crossover populations, due to the nature of their child welfare status, may lack key protective factors, compared to single system youth.

Multiple studies show that crossover youth face more adverse family circumstances, compared to single system youth, as demonstrated by:

- **Greater exposure to trauma and violence:** higher levels of violence, parental drug use, and parental criminal justice system involvement
- **Higher socioeconomic stress:** lower family income
- **Weaker social bonds:** a lack of strong relationships and positive role models with family and peers

According to [one study](#), **crossover youth with concurrent involvement have specific risk/needs** compared to youth with nonconcurrent involvement, including:

Lower levels of:

- family support
- optimism for the future, and
- a reduced ability to limit compulsive behavior and control aggressive behavior

Higher levels of:

- physical violence,
- parental drug use, and
- a greater belief that physical aggression is an appropriate way to handle disagreements

According to [one study of crossover youth in Rhode Island](#):

28%
were exposed to
domestic violence*

41%
experienced
parental substance
use**

78%
received public
assistance***

*compared to 20% of CW-only

**compared to 24% of CW-only

***compared to 45% of CW-only

Crossover populations exhibit higher levels of educational deficits and behavioral challenges compared to their grade-level peers.

Across multiple sources, a high proportion of crossover youth have **adverse school outcomes** and are likely to:

- Display patterns of truancy and report poor attendance
- Require special education services
- Fall more than one year behind in school

[One study](#) showed that cohorts of youth with concurrent system involvement are more likely to have behavioral health problems in school*:

- ✓ **76% Dually-involved youth**
- ✓ **71% Crossover youth**
- ✓ **65% JJ-only youth**

**Defined as a behavioral health problem reported by a teacher in the most recent term*

Dual contact youth **perform lower academically than their JJ-only peers.**

According to [one study](#) in Washington State:

26%

of dually involved youth report good performance*

31%

of JJ-only youth report good performance*

17%

of dually involved youth are likely to graduate from high school or vocational school**

30%

of JJ-only youth are likely to graduate from high school or vocational school**

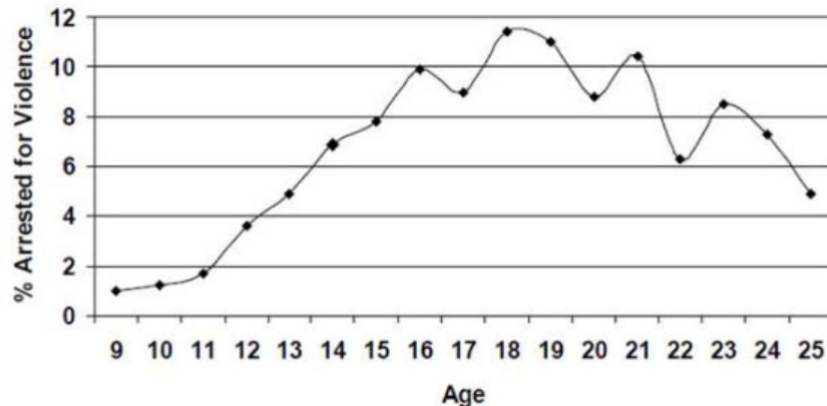
**youth's academic performance in the most recent school term is a "C" or better*

***as reported by the youth's probation officer*

Crossover youth are typically older at their first child welfare investigation (compared to child welfare only youth) and younger at their first entry into the juvenile justice system (compared to juvenile justice only youth).

Dual involvement **peaks during adolescence** (14 – 16 years old), slightly younger than the general delinquency population.

Age-Crime Curve



The age-crime curve for the general population indicates rising crime rates during adolescence, a peak in the late teens, and a gradual decline throughout early adulthood.

Source: [National Institute of Justice](#)

Sources: (Eastman et al., 2025); (Herz & Dierkhising, 2018); (Vidal et al., 2017); (Randall et al., 2015); (Young et al., 2015); (National Institute of Justice, 2014); (Mersky et al., 2012); (Ryan, et al., 2013); (G. Halembe & Siegel, 2011); (Ryan et al., 2007); (G. J. Halembe et al., 2004); (Jonson-Reid & Barth, 2000)

A wide body of research indicates that youth who were older at the time of their first CW contact are more likely to cross over.

Several studies suggests that dual contact peaks during the transition to adolescence because:

- youth undergo developmental changes and an increase in risk-taking behavior
- youth have a greater number of social stressors and reduced likelihood of stable placement and schooling

14.2

average age at first delinquency adjudication for a cohort of [Rhode Island youth](#) with a history of maltreatment

Girls are overrepresented in crossover youth populations relative to their proportion in the general juvenile justice population.

Per multiple sources:

- **girls with a CW history have a higher rate of entry to the JJ system** compared to girls from the general population.
 - ✓ In [one study](#), the proportion of girls entering the JJ system with CW histories was **three times greater** than the proportion entering from the general county population (compared to two times greater for boys).
- **as CW involvement deepens (e.g., investigation versus home removal), the rate of entry to the JJ system increases more steeply for girls than boys.**

Research suggests that girls are overrepresented in dual system populations due to:

- Punitive responses to trauma due to unresolved trauma histories, characterized by higher rates of ACEs and complex trauma
- A lack of gender-responsive services to address the unique developmental, emotional, and relational needs of girls
- Criminalization of victim behaviors
- (e.g., CSEC, substance use, survival crimes)

Sources: (Eastman et al., 2025); (Salisbury & Crawford, 2025); (Saar et al., 2020); (Flores et al., 2018); (Baglivio et al., 2014); (Baglivio et al., 2016); (Jonson-Reid & Barth, 2000)

Sources: (Herz & Dierkhising, 2018); (Baglivio et al., 2016); (Young et al., 2015); (Ryan, et al., 2013); (G. Halemba & Siegel, 2011); (Ryan et al., 2007); (Jonson-Reid & Barth, 2000)

Youth of color are overrepresented within crossover populations and experience deeper system involvement compared to their white peers.

According to [one study in Connecticut](#), the odds of crossing over were:

1.9

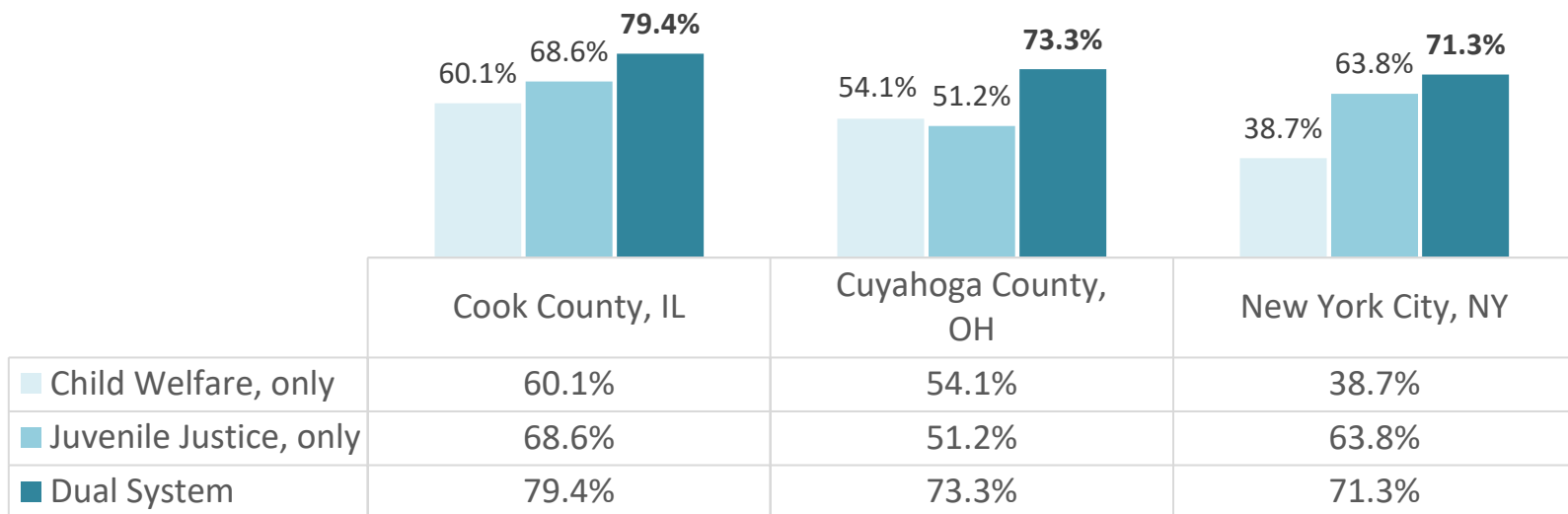
times greater for **Black youth**
compared to white youth

1.8

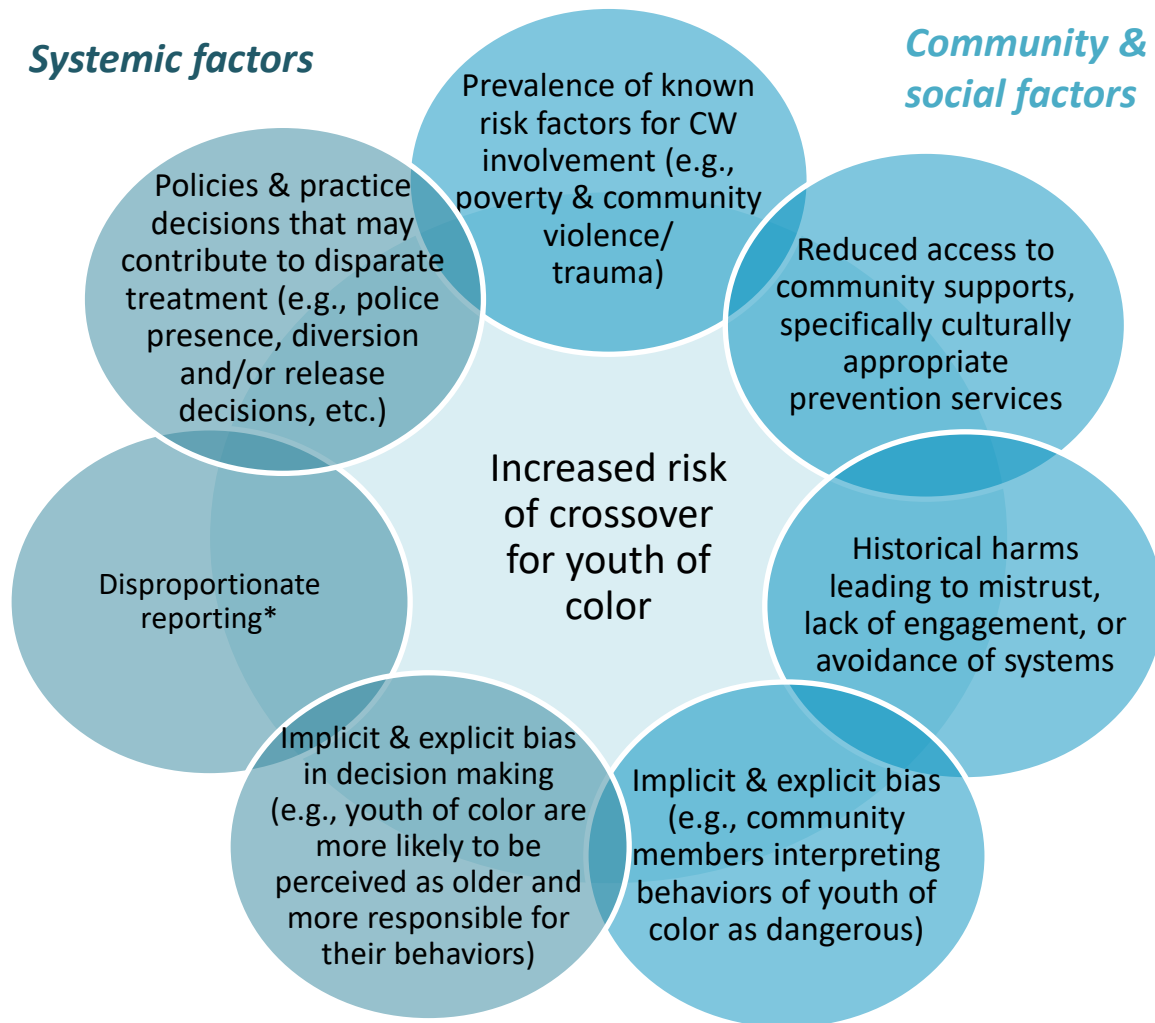
times greater for **Hispanic youth**
compared to white youth

While **black youth are overrepresented** (compared to white youth) in all cohorts, the amount of **overrepresentation is greatest among dual system populations**:

Percent of Black Youth in each Cohort



Youth of color face compounding and cumulative risk of dual system involvement.



Youth of color face an increased risk of crossover due to an accumulation of **systemic** factors as well as **community and social** factors. These factors often compound and push youth of color deeper into both systems (see Appendix C).

Sources: (Heldman & Hon, 2021); (Abrams et al., 2021); (Ryan et al., 2013); (Chapin Hall Center for Children, 2009); (Ryan et al., 2007); (Jonson-Reid & Barth, 2000); (Bridges & Steen, 1998)

**While true maltreatment and offending rates are unknown, some studies of self-reporting among higher risk populations of youth found similar rates of maltreatment between white youth and youth of color (Lau, et. al, 2003).*

There may be an overrepresentation of LGBTQ+ and gender nonconforming (GNC) youth within crossover populations.

There is insufficient research on crossover prevalence rates for LGBTQ+ and GNC youth in part due to many CW and JJ systems not routinely or reliably collecting this data.

However, numerous studies suggest that there is an overrepresentation of LGBTQ+/GNC youth within each system:

Compared to their non-LGBTQ+ peers, **LGBTQ+ and GNC youth are more likely to be involved in both the child welfare and juvenile justice systems.**

LGBTQ+ and GNC youth face **elevated risk factors** that increase their likelihood of entering **both the child welfare and juvenile justice systems.**

In one study in Los Angeles, there were **1.5 – 2 times** as many LGBTQ youth living in foster care as LGBTQ youth in the general population.

Source: (Wilson et al., 2014)

Risk factors include:

- **Higher rates of family rejection and maltreatment** due to sexual orientation or gender identity
- **Lack of affirming support services and placements** contributing to repeated or deepened system involvement

Sources: (Irvine & Canfield, 2015); (Wilson et al., 2014); (Irvine, 2010)

The proportion of LGBTQ+ justice-involved youth is as much as two times greater than the proportion of LGBTQ+ youth in the general population.

Sources: (Conron, 2020); (Irvine & Canfield, 2018)

Risk factors include:

- **Higher levels of homelessness, mental health challenges, and substance use**
- **Criminalization of survival behaviors** that contribute to system involvement (e.g., running away, CSEC, etc.)

Sources: (Kynn et al., 2024); (Irvine & Canfield, 2015); (Wilson et al., 2014); (Irvine, 2010)

3. What systemic factors contribute to dual involvement?

Child welfare &
juvenile justice
system practices

Practitioner
decision making

A variety of
offenses, including
status offenses and
“survival crimes”

Dual system youth have higher rates of placement instability and out-of-home placement than their child welfare peers.

The CW system seeks to place youth in the least restrictive setting, moving youth to alternate settings or higher levels of care based on presenting behaviors and circumstances. Per multiple studies, causes of placement changes include:

- **Significant behavioral health needs:** CW-youth that externalize trauma behaviors, receive mental health services, and have been diagnosed with a mental health disorder are more likely to experience a placement change than CW-youth who do not meet these conditions.
- **Availability and quality of placement options:** Placements that are not able to meet the needs of youth can lead to placement disruptions, rejections, or removals.

According to [one study](#), 76% of placement disruptions were due to a foster parents' inability or unwillingness to continue fostering, in part (28%) due to an inability to tolerate a youth's behavioral or emotional challenges.

Sources: (Eastman et al., 2025); (Soto-Ramirez et al., 2025); (Clark, et al., 2020); (D. Herz et al., 2012); (Ryan et al., 2008); (Zinn et al., 2006)

Placement instability can increase the likelihood of delinquency:

Dual system youth experience more frequent placement changes and have a higher average number of placements, specifically a higher number of out-of-home placements, than CW-only youth. Out-of-home placement, specifically group home placement, can contribute to system involvement due to:

- education and service disruptions
- peer pressure (“contagion”)
- lack of program or facility resources to address the diversity of the population’s needs
- restrictive policies that require staff to report disruptive behaviors that biological or kin placements may tolerate

Sources: (Eastman et al., 2025); (Maguire et al., 2024); (Herz & Dierkhising, 2018); (Randall et al., 2015); (G. Halemba & Siegel, 2011); (Ryan et al., 2008); (Ryan & Testa, 2005)

Due to their child welfare system involvement, dual system youth may require alternative arrangements or considerations.

Crossover youth present challenges to practitioners due to the complexities of a care and protection *and* a delinquency case. Dual system youth have a unique set of circumstances that distinguishes them from the general delinquency population.

Juvenile justice decision makers are often required to consider the following:

Placement decisions

Restrictive settings (e.g., pretrial detention) may be used as placement more frequently for CW youth than JJ-only youth, due in part to a lack of stable placements (Conger & Ross, 2001).

***Key consideration:** Judges and law enforcement personnel consider public safety and the youth's safety, among other factors, when making placement decisions. Judicial decision makers may opt to use detention as a placement when there is no safe placement available for a CW youth and/or when a secure option promotes safety and prevents harm (e.g., the alleged offense involved an altercation with an individual at the CW group home).*

Viable sanction options

Dual status youth may be **less likely to receive probation** than JJ-only youth (Ryan et al., 2007).

***Key consideration:** Probation often requires residential stability where youth can be supervised and supported by trusted adults. Probation may not be an option for CW youth in temporary placements or CW youth who may lack the informal supports necessary to maintain compliance with required programming (e.g., transportation).*

There are disparities in decision making for youth crossing over from the child welfare system into the juvenile justice system.

*Compared to JJ-only youth, **crossover youth** were more likely to...*

- Be **subject to formal case processing** (D.C. Herz et al., 2010)
- Receive **out-of-home placement** (Ryan et al., 2007)
- Be **detained pretrial** (Conger & Ross, 2001)
- Be **detained more frequently** and **spend more time in detention**, generally (G. Halembe & Siegel, 2011)

This observed “**child welfare bias**” is due to the perception/reality of a lack of protective factors and “release resources”, including:

- In-court presence of a responsible, trusted adult to take custody of the youth
- Family and kin support
- Stable and safe placement
- Financial support (e.g., money for bail payments)

Multiple studies report harsher dispositions even when holding additional factors constant:

- D.C. Herz et al. (2010) controls for offense type
- Ryan, et al. (2007) controls for age, gender, race, and type of offense
- Conger & Ross (2001) compares youth without prior detentions who were charged with misdemeanors and minor felonies

“Findings...indicate that court officials impose more severe sanctions when individuals are perceived as poor subjects for rehabilitation...Adolescents in the child welfare system are probably not perceived as coming from ‘good families.’”

- [Ryan, et. al., 2007](#)

Sources: (D. C. Herz & Dierkhising, 2018); (Flores et al., 2018); (Young et al., 2015); (G. Halembe & Siegel, 2011); (D.C. Herz et al., 2010); (Ryan et al., 2007); (G. J. Halembe et al., 2004); (Conger & Ross, 2001)

Dual system youth are alleged of committing a variety of offenses.

Crossover youth are frequently alleged of committing person offenses and property offenses.

- According to [one study](#) in Kings County, Washington, 74% of youth with a history of CW legal activity/placement were referred for misdemeanor offenses.

Offenses often arise from conflict at home or in placement:

- [One study](#) found that between 33 – 50% of crossover youth were charged with person offenses related to assaults occurring at home, in a group home, or at school
- [Youth in group homes](#) are more likely to be arrested for a threat related offense compared to youth in foster care settings

Some studies suggest that crossover youth are more likely to be charged with a violent offense than the general JJ population.

Sources: (D.C. Herz et al., 2021); (Herz & Dierkhising, 2018); (Hirsch et al., 2018); (Vidal et al., 2017); (Baglivio et al., 2016); (Young et al., 2015); (D. Herz et al., 2012); (G. Halembe & Siegel, 2011); (Ryan et al., 2007); (G.J. Halembe et al., 2004); (Wiig et al., 2003)

Some research suggests that **status offenses (e.g., truancy) may entangle youth with the justice system at an early age by:**

- criminalizing typical adolescent behaviors often associated with testing boundaries and seeking autonomy, and
- punishing common trauma responses and coping strategies such as running away, truancy, and substance use.

Sources: (Development Services Group, Inc., 2015); (Salsich & Trone, 2013)

To cope with unmet needs, trauma, and a perceived lack of autonomy, **crossover youth may engage in survival tactics**, increasing the risk of system contact due to:

- higher rates of missing from care, linked to victimization and CSEC concerns, drug or alcohol use, or obtaining a weapon
- gang involvement, which may perpetuate a cycle of violence and increase the risk of delinquent behavior*

**While it is difficult to estimate the prevalence of youth gang involvement, the circumstances of crossover youth may increase the risk and likelihood of gang entry.*

Sources: (Eastman et al., 2025); (National Gang Center, 2020); (Flores et al., 2018); (The National Child Traumatic Stress Network, 2009)

4. What are the outcomes related to dual system youth?

Individual impacts:
instability, worse
permanency outcomes,
and recidivism

Systemic impacts: long-
term reliance on public
assistance

Having two systems involved in a youth's life can lead to negative short- and long-term impacts on a youth.

In the short-term:

According to multiple sources, involvement in two systems often **disrupts mental and emotional stability and relationships** due to:

- placement changes,
- educational and service disruptions, and
- difficulty forming secure attachments/lack of stable connections to teachers, peers, and resources

Dual system involvement places a burden on youth and their families to navigate two complex systems with different sets of requirements, services, and legal expectations, which may lead to:

- conflicting or overlapping court dates, appearances, and meetings
- conflicting or duplicative case management decisions and/or treatment orders

Sources: (Herz & Dierkhising, 2018) (G. Halembe & Siegel, 2011); (D. Herz et al., 2012); (Ryan et al., 2007)

Per administrative data from [Washington](#):

- *Within six months, 42% of dual system youth were referred on a new case compared to 17% of JJ-only youth*
- *After two years, 70% of dual system youth were referred on at least one new charge compared to 34% of JJ-only youth.*

In the long-term:

Studies suggest that dual system youth:

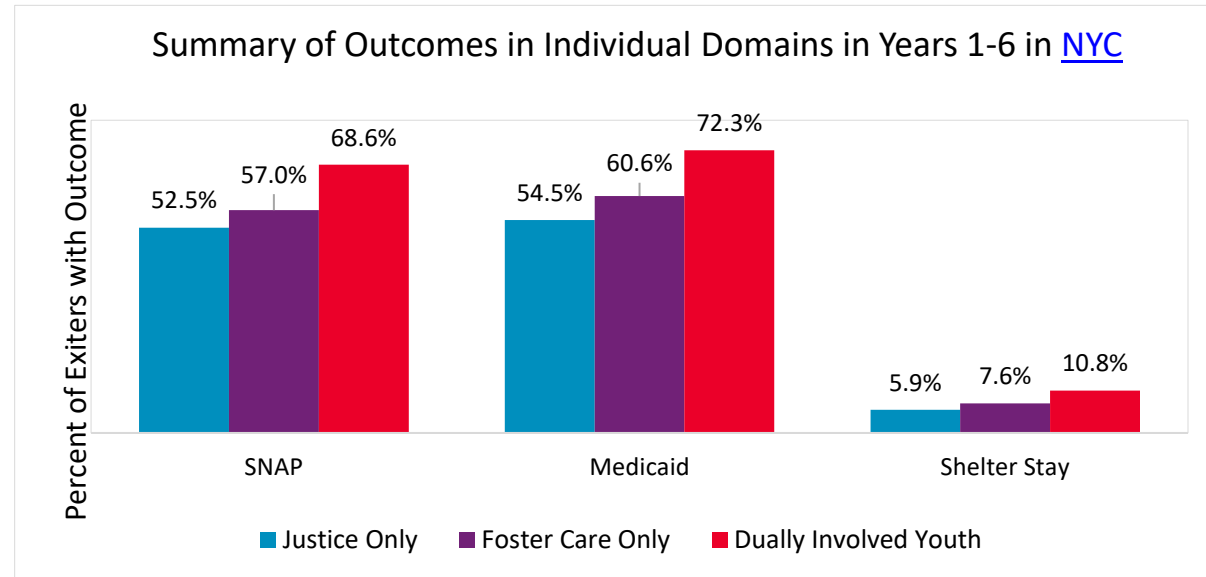
- report **worse permanency outcomes** compared to their CW peers,
- are **more likely to age out without reaching permanency** compared to their CW peers, and
- **experience worse recidivism outcomes** than JJ-only youth.

Sources: (Eastman et al., 2025); (Clark, et al., 2020); (Herz & Dierkhising, 2018); (Center for Innovation through Data Intelligence, 2015); (Ryan et al., 2013); (Herz et al., 2012); (Culhane et al., 2011); (G. Halembe & Siegel, 2011); (G.J. Halembe et al., 2004)

Having two systems involved in a youth's life can lead to negative short- and long-term impacts on a youth.

Per two major studies of young adult outcomes, dual system youth typically **earn less, report higher levels of unemployment** than single system youth, and are **heavy users of public systems into adulthood**.

Sources: (Center for Innovation through Data Intelligence, 2015); (Culhane et al., 2011)



In [one study](#) of youth exiting dependent or delinquency care in Los Angeles county:

The crossover group's cumulative earnings were \$15,000 less four years post-involvement than the CW-only group:

\$36,367: crossover group
\$52,179: CW-only group

A larger proportion of the crossover group experienced a period of extreme poverty during their young adult years*:

50%: crossover group
33%: CW-only group
25%: JJ-only group

*measured by the receipt of two forms of cash assistance

Having two systems involved in a youth's life can lead to negative short- and long-term impacts on public systems.

In the short-term...

Processing a dual system youth's case is resource intensive on the JJ and CW systems.

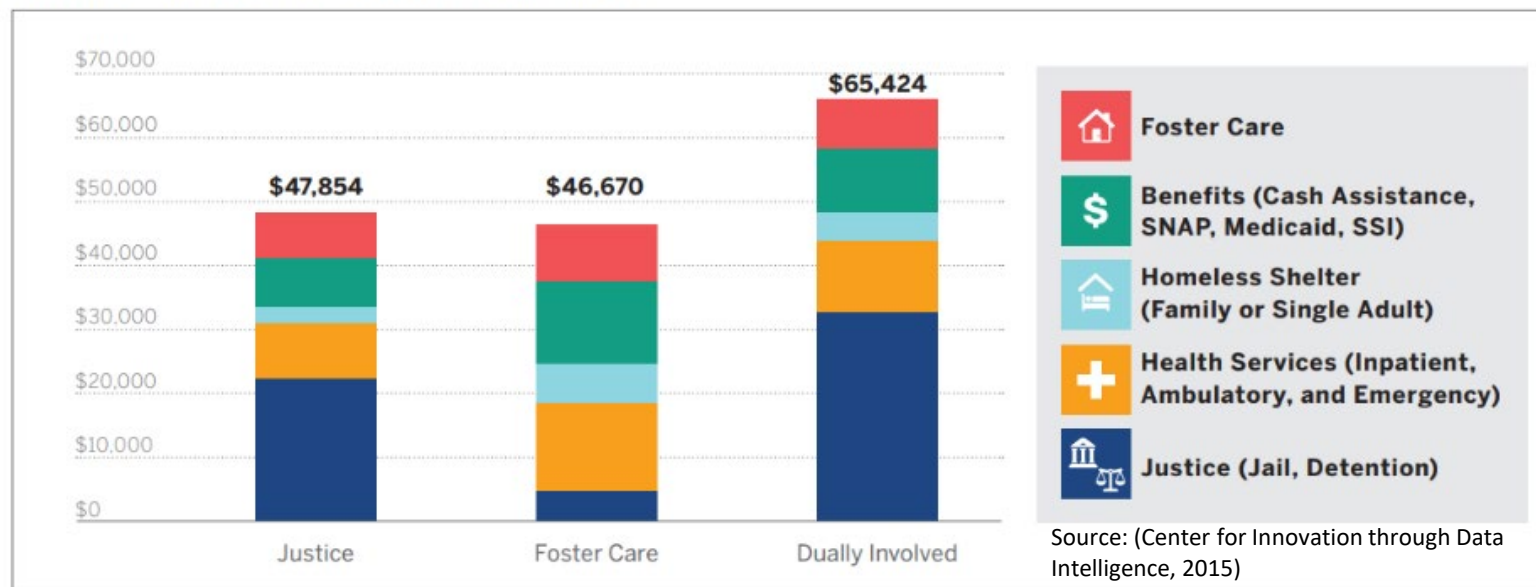
- E.g., Two sets of court hearings, legal timelines, and statutory requirements increases the administrative and personnel load on JJ systems
- E.g., Identifying placement options and court-ordered interventions requires additional coordination within CW systems

In the long-term...

The cost burden on public systems extends into adulthood.

- Six years post-involvement, the average cumulative cost of dual involvement [in NYC](#), was **40% higher** than youth with single system involvement.
- Four years post-involvement, the average per-person public service utilization cost for crossover youth [In Los Angeles County](#) was **more than double** that of single system youth.

Average Cumulative Cost of Services Used in Years 1-6



Sources: (Center for Innovation through Data Intelligence, 2015); (G. Halemba & Siegel, 2011); (Culhane et al., 2011); (G. J. Halemba et al., 2004)

Appendix A: National Prevalence Rates for Dual System Youth

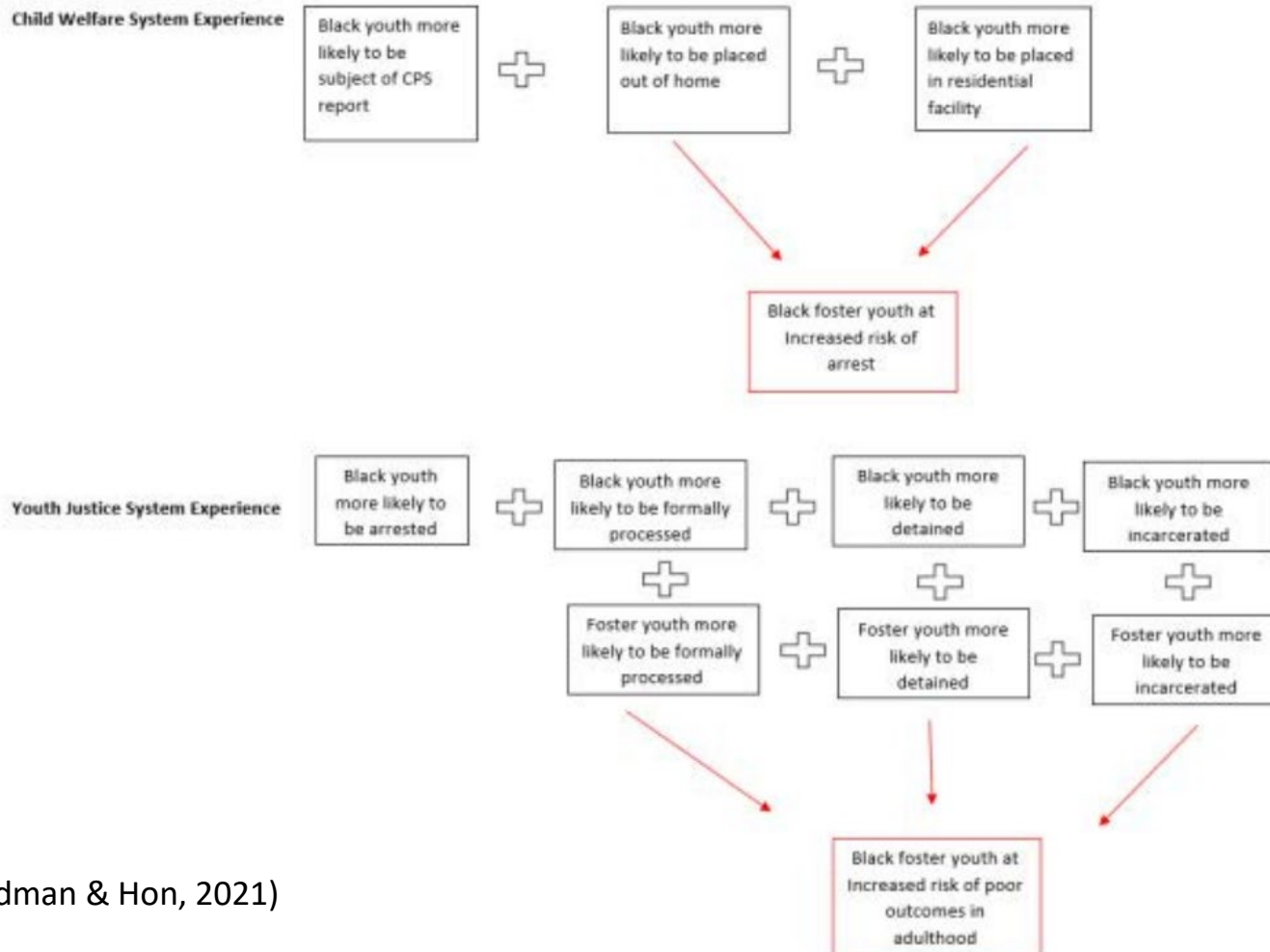
Rate	Definition	Citation	Link
73%	Youth ages 14-17 with an open care and protection case in Cochise, Coconino, Maricopa and Pima counties that had been referred to the court on at least one delinquency referral	(G. J. Halemba et al., 2004)	Arizona Dual Jurisdiction Study Final Report
70%	Youth with a first juvenile justice petition and child welfare involvement of any type in New York City	(D. C. Herz & Dierkhising, 2018)	OJJDP Dual System Youth Design Study
69%	Youth with a first juvenile justice petition and child welfare involvement of any type in Cuyahoga County	(D. C. Herz & Dierkhising, 2018)	OJJDP Dual System Youth Design Study
67%	Youth referred to the King County Juvenile Court on one or more offender matters and have had some form of Children’s Administration (CW) involvement	(G. Halemba & Siegel, 2011)	Doorways to Delinquency
64%	Youth with a first juvenile justice petition and one child welfare investigation since birth	(D. C. Herz et al., 2021)	Dual system youth and their pathways in Los Angeles County
50%	Youth in a secure detention facility in the Mountain West with history of a substantiated child welfare maltreatment petition prior to their involvement in the current study	(Modrowski et al., 2023)	Youth Dually-Involved in the child welfare and juvenile justice systems
45%	Youth with a first juvenile justice petition and child welfare involvement of any type in Cook County	(D. C. Herz & Dierkhising, 2018)	OJJDP Dual System Youth Design Study
29%	Youth who had spent at least one year in out-of-home placement and had ever been in juvenile detention/placement in Allegheny County	(Kolivoski et al., 2014)	Developmental Trajectories and Predictors of Juvenile Detention, Placement, and Jail
19%	Youth who received an investigation following a maltreatment report and had later record of commitment to the California Youth Authority (JJ facility)	(Jonson-Reid & Barth, 2000)	From maltreatment report to juvenile incarceration: the role of child welfare services
17%	Youth with an open dock in juvenile court at least six months after a substantiated allegation of mistreatment in Connecticut	(Randall et al., 2015)	Crossover-Youth-Technical-Report.pdf
9%	Youth who experienced out-of-home care in LA County foster care at any point between birth and age 18 and experienced a juvenile court petition by their 18 th birthday	(Eastman et al., 2025)	Contact with Foster Care and the Juvenile Delinquency Court

Appendix B: National Prevalence Rates for Dually Involved Youth

Rate	Definition	Citation	Link
59%	Youth ages 14-17 in Cochise, Coconino, Maricopa and Pima counties who had one or more delinquency petitions and an open care and protection case	(G. J. Halembe et al., 2004)	Arizona Dual Jurisdiction Study Final Report
35%	Youth leaving Probation supervision who had open child welfare cases in Los Angeles county	(McCroskey et al., 2017)	Crossover Youth: Los Angeles County Probation Youth with Previous Referrals to Child Protective Services
33%	Youth with a first juvenile justice petition and concurrent child welfare involvement of any type in NYC	(D. C. Herz & Dierkhising, 2018)	OJJDP Dual System Youth Design Study
25%	Youth in a secure detention facility in the Mountain West who were under the care and custody of the state at the time of study participation	(Modrowski et al., 2023)	Youth Dually-Involved in the child welfare and juvenile justice systems
25%	Youth with a first juvenile justice petition and concurrent child welfare involvement of any type in Cuyahoga County	(D. C. Herz & Dierkhising, 2018)	OJJDP Dual System Youth Design Study
12%	Youth with a first juvenile justice petition and concurrent child welfare involvement of any type in Cook County	(D. C. Herz & Dierkhising, 2018)	OJJDP Dual System Youth Design Study
10%	Youth in Washington State who had an open child welfare case at the time of arrest	(Ryan et al., 2013)	Adolescent Neglect, Juvenile Delinquency and the Risk of Recidivism
7%	Youth who have an open child welfare case and are simultaneously involved with probation following their first arrest in Los Angeles County	(Ryan et al., 2007)	Maltreatment and delinquency: Investigating child welfare bias in juvenile justice processing
5%	Youth completing juvenile justice residential programming in Florida with an open child welfare case	(Baglivio et al., 2016)	Maltreatment, Child Welfare, and Recidivism

Appendix C: Compounding Risk Factors of Dual System Involvement for Youth of Color

Youth of color experience disproportionate contact and disparate outcomes within both systems, increasing their risk of dual system involvement.



Source: (Heldman & Hon, 2021)

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