

# SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF JUVENILE JUSTICE

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Raise the Age Senate Select Committee  
October 22, 2019



# Raise the Age Impact

- Detention Data (July 1, 2019 and October 17, 2019):
  - **86 youth detained at DJJ Detention Center at age 17 at the time of admission**
  - **131 youth detained (statewide) of youth at age 17 at the time of admission**
    - Juvenile Detention Center, SCDJJ
    - Greenville County Detention Center, Greenville County
    - Alvin S. Glenn Detention Center, Richland County
    - Charleston Detention Center, Charleston County



# Secure vs. Community Evaluation

There were 789 Community Evaluation dispositions in FY2018-2019 and (coincidentally) also 789 Secure Evaluation dispositions for the same period.

Top Ten Offenses (Community Evals) FY18/19*	
Offense	Number of Cases
Assault/Battery, 3rd degree	71
Contempt of Court (Status)	71
Assault/Battery, 2nd degree	50
Carrying Weapons (school)	41
Status: Runaway	35
Public Disorderly Conduct	31
School: Student Threats	28
Marijuana, Simple Possession	27
Assault: Assault & Battery 1st degree	27
Incorrigible (status)	25

Top Ten Offenses (Secure Evals) FY18/19*	
Offense	Number of Cases
Assault/Battery, 3rd degree	56
Probation: Violation for Cat. V - Misd.	47
Contempt of Court (Status)	45
Status: Runaway	38
Incorrigible (status)	30
Poss./Sale of Unlawful Weapon	28
Larceny: Motor Vehicle	27
Probation: Violation for Cat. III - Felony	27
Assault: Assault & Battery 1st degree	26
Assault/Battery, 2nd degree	24

# Offense Data

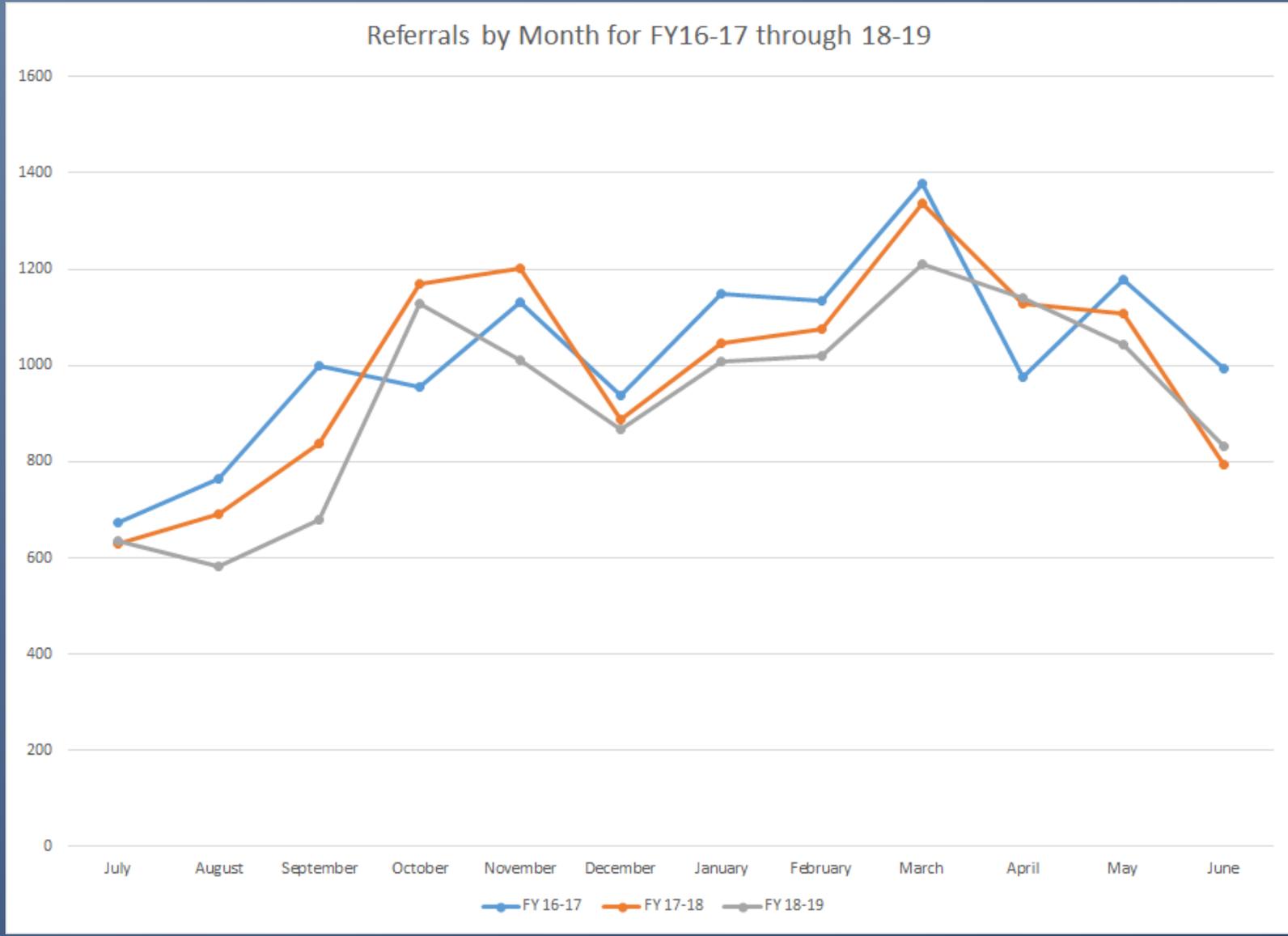
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## Youth Detained for Violent Offenses:

- **In FY 18/19, 944 juveniles were admitted to the DJJ Detention Center:**  
179 (19%) were there with a hold charge that is considered violent.
- **In FY 18/19, 1,242 juveniles were admitted to the DJJ's Evaluation Centers:**  
96 (8%) were there with a direct charge that is considered violent.
- **In FY 18/19, 251 juveniles were admitted to the DJJ's Broad River Road Complex (BRRC):**  
29 (12%) were there with a direct charge that is considered violent.
- **In FY 18/19, 479 juveniles were admitted alternative placement:**  
12 (3%) were there with a direct charge that is considered violent.



# Referral Data



# Referrals by Month:

## 2017

1/1/2017	1307
2/1/2017	1274
3/1/2017	1513
4/1/2017	1090
5/1/2017	1312
6/1/2017	1150
7/1/2017	721
8/1/2017	777
9/1/2017	912
10/1/2017	1298
11/1/2017	1309
12/1/2017	991

## 2018

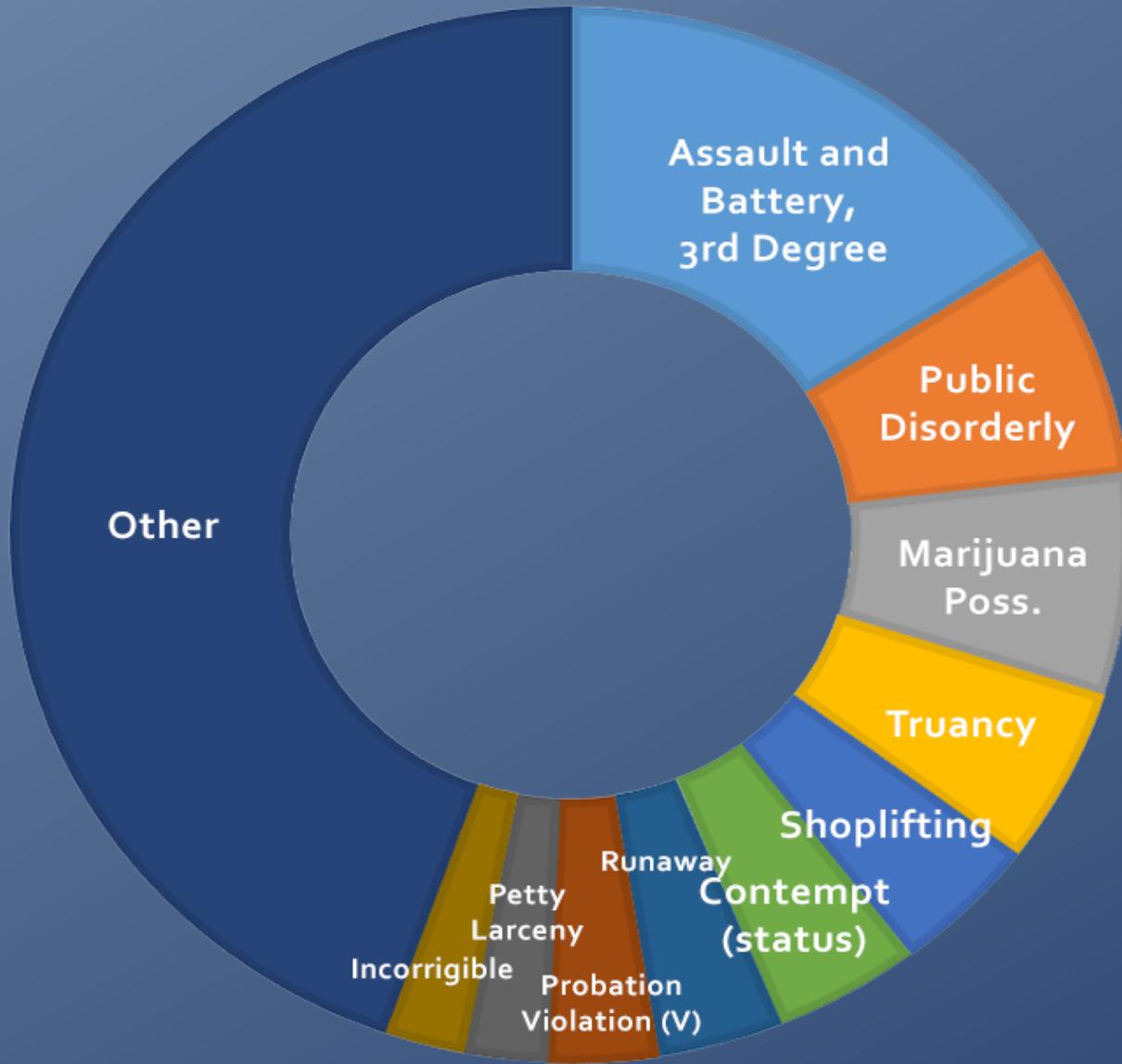
1/1/2018	1151
2/1/2018	1211
3/1/2018	1464
4/1/2018	1261
5/1/2018	1202
6/1/2018	830
7/1/2018	663
8/1/2018	643
9/1/2018	742
10/1/2018	1216
11/1/2018	1103
12/1/2018	966

## 2019

1/1/2019	1050
2/1/2019	1069
3/1/2019	1259
4/1/2019	1188
5/1/2019	1107
6/1/2019	834



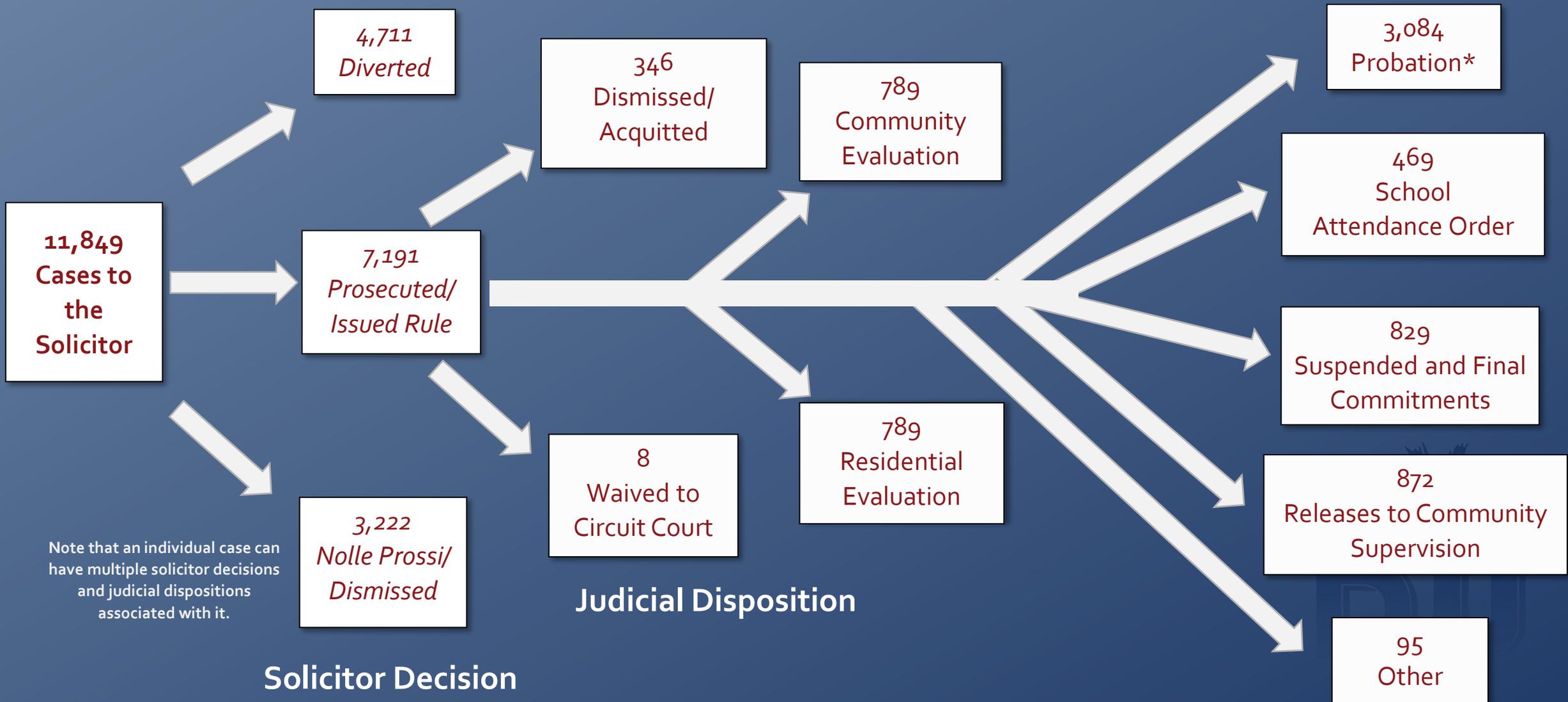
# Most Common Referral Offenses, FY 2018-2019



Rank	Offense*	# of Cases	% of All Referrals
1	Assault and Battery 3rd degree	1,881	16%
2	Public Disorderly Conduct	857	7%
3	Simple Possession of Marijuana	805	7%
4	Truancy (status)	643	5%
5	Shoplifting	508	4%
6	Contempt of Court (Status Offense)	503	4%
7	Runaway (status)	427	4%
8	Probation Violation (Cat. V) Misdemeanor*	380	3%
9	Petty Larceny	283	2%
10	Incorrigible (status)	276	2%

\* based on the most serious offense committed on each case

# Decisions and Dispositions, FY 2018-2019



Note that an individual case can have multiple solicitor decisions and judicial dispositions associated with it.

\* Includes probation sentences concurrent with commitment or placement

# Release Mechanism

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Proviso 67.13 - According to Proviso 67.13 of the 2019-2020 Appropriations Bill (full text attached), the Department has the authority to release juveniles from secure facilities or community programs in order to avoid unconstitutional levels of overcrowding when appropriation reductions necessitate that SCDJJ close a facility, program, or housing unit that it operates, or when the Department is unable to fund any additional residential program.



## Proviso 67.14

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“67.14. (DJJ: Raise the Age) The department must use carry forward funds to implement Act 268 of 2016 by contracting in the current fiscal year with local child-serving non-profit organizations and Judicial Circuit Solicitor's offices for community-based diversion and intervention services. The department shall give preference to multi-agency and organizational collaborations that include stakeholders from the Family Court, Department of Education, Public Defenders' Offices, the Department of Mental Health, the Department of Social Services, and community based non-profits that utilize best practices.”



# DJJ Reform Outline

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- **Proposed statute amendments**
  - Divert 1<sup>st</sup> time non-violent offenders
  - Youth Commitment
  - Evaluation criteria
  - Referral criteria
  - Administrative Sanctions Program
  - Probation Transformation
  - Diversionary Program Administrative Oversight
- **Juvenile Detention Alternative Initiative**



# THANK YOU

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