



Juvenile Secure Detention Registry (JS DR)

Dashboard Quick Reference Guide

Purpose

The JS DR dashboard provides basic information about admissions and youth held in Juvenile Detention Facilities (JDFs) within a selected reporting period.

Division of Safety & Permanence data dashboards are intended to prompt questions, encourage reflection, and provide information to assist with data driven decision making.

Included data

- Admissions to the 13 JDFs in Wisconsin – Brown Co., Dane Co., Fond du Lac Co., La Crosse Co., Marathon Co., Milwaukee Co., Northwest Regional (in Eau Claire Co.), Portage Co., Racine Co. (Jonathan Delgrave Youth Development and Care Center), Rock Co., Sheboygan Co., Washington Co., and Waukesha Co – will appear in the JS DR dashboard.
- Any admission entered into the “Maintain Secure Detention Registry” page in eWiSACWIS dating back to January 1, 2019 will be included in the JS DR dashboard.

Data considerations

- Every JDF has their own facility software used to track youth in their care. The JS DR serves as a secondary record for DOJ auditing purposes. Previously, DOJ & DCF did not require JDFs to enter admissions into the JS DR within a specific timeframe. As of May 2025, **JDFs have been instructed to enter admissions by the 15th of each month.**
- The dashboard will refresh every morning at 8:30am CST. However, because the JS DR serves as a secondary record, JDFs may choose how immediately to record new admissions into eWiSACWIS. Depending on facility practice, this may mean it could take a few weeks to capture new admissions in the daily dashboard refresh. This dashboard will likely not be a helpful tool for day-to-day case practice work.
- **The dashboard will only display admissions entered into the Maintain SDR page in eWiSACWIS.** There are several county facilities known to have missing data:
 - *Milwaukee Co. JDF:* most admissions prior to 2026 are missing. Milwaukee county’s facility began documenting admissions in eWiSACWIS in April 2026.
 - *Portage Co. JDF:* most admissions prior to 2024 are missing. DCF & DOJ did not ask them to retroactively add missing data into the JS DR.
 - *Waukesha Co. JDF:* no data entered between October 2021 and March 2025 while their facility was closed.
- The dashboard default timeline is the last full calendar year. The timeframe can be adjusted for most views using filter options.
- There are some data elements captured on the eWiSACWIS Maintain SDR page that are not included in this dashboard. One of these elements – Reason for Detention – is included as a filter in the dashboard and on the Length of Stay Summary view. We do have plans to expand use of this element (and others not currently included in the dashboard) in the future pending eWiSACWIS enhancements.

Access

This dashboard contains Personally Identifiable Information (PII), so is only available in the Child Welfare Dashboards page accessed inside of eWiSACWIS or eWReports. Access to this dashboard is restricted to eWiSACWIS users with access to the Maintain SDR page. Dashboard access for those users can be requested from a county security delegate or the DCF Child Welfare Research and Analytics ([CWRA](#)) team.

Navigation

The JS DR dashboard includes a landing page and 6 tabs, or views.

- A summary of the data included in each view can be found by hovering over the orange question mark in the upper right corner of the page.
- A brief description of charts or filters on the page will display when hovering over the blue dot next to a title.
- Most filters on this dashboard are dynamic – meaning turning on a filter on one view will automatically apply it to all other views.
- Many of the charts are also dynamic – hovering over a chart may reveal additional data and clicking portions of a chart may apply a filter to the whole page.
- You can always undo these filters by clicking the same portion of the chart again.

Additional guidance about hover helps and turning on filters can be found in DCF's [dashboard user guide](#).

Dashboard views

Landing Page

Introduces the dashboard and provides examples of questions it can be used to answer.

Detention Admissions Summary

Provides an overview of all admissions to JDFs documented in the JS DR during the selected reporting period.

- Chart and map at the top of the view display the rate of detention admissions per 1,000 youth by sending county. Using a rate allows us to make comparisons across counties of different sizes. Note that a county with a small population could have a high rate of admission, but a smaller *count* of youth sent to detention than a neighboring larger county with a lower rate of admission.

Youth Summary

Provides an overview of selected characteristics of youth admitted to a JDF during the reporting period.

- The stacked bar charts at the top of the view compare the racial/ethnic breakdown of the JS DR population to the overall racial/ethnic breakdown of Wisconsin's 10-16 youth population. This comparison is one way to highlight when a racial or ethnic group may be disproportionately represented in the JS DR population.
- The chart on the bottom left of the view categorizes youth based on the number of detention admissions they had prior to the start of the selected reporting period. It is important to note that selecting an earlier start date on this chart can shrink the number of previous detention admissions. This is because expanding the reporting timeframe will capture more admissions *inside* of the window.
- The chart on the bottom right of the view categorizes youth based on the number of detention admissions they had *during* the selected reporting period.

Admission Trends

Illustrates how JDF admissions and youth admitted to detention change over time.

- The chart at the top of the view compares the last 5 years of JDF admissions by month.

- The chart at the bottom of the view uses corresponding colors to compare the number of unique youths admitted to JDFs per year.
- Like the other views in this dashboard, this view can be filtered to display data from a specific facility, county, race, gender, age group, or reason for detention. However, the timeframe on this view cannot be adjusted.

Facility Daily Population

Compares the Average Daily Population from each JDF during the last full calendar year.

- Average Daily Population (ADP) is a calculation used by the Department of Corrections to communicate the approximate number of youths in a facility during a specified period. In this chart, we are illustrating the ADP by month for each facility with admissions documented within the timeframe.
- Unlike other views in this dashboard, filters are turned off. This view will only display facility data from the last full calendar year.

Length of Stay Summary

Illustrates the length of JDF admissions that began during the reporting period.

- While these charts are complimentary, it is important to look at each chart separately since they each slice length of stay in a slightly different way.
- The chart in the upper left side of the view shows the distribution for the length of stay of every admission during the reporting period. This chart uses categories (0-1day, 2-3 days, 4-10 days, 11-29 days, 30 days+) that correspond with common lengths of detention stays.
- The chart on the upper right side of the view shows the median length of stay by facility. Median is the middle value in a value set. We use median rather than average, because it is more resistant to outliers (meaning a few long-term admissions in a facility will not drive up the median length of stay).
- The chart at the bottom of the view shows the median length of stay organized by reason for detention. Important to note, there are a few known issues with current Reason for Detention data. Not all facilities use "Long Term Program" as a reason for long term stays (some long-term admissions are documented as "Dispositional"). Additionally, many admissions currently have a reason for detention that is "Not documented," in part because "adult jurisdiction" is not currently an available option in eWiSACWIS. We plan to address this in a future eWiSACWIS update.

Admission Details

This view contains Personally Identifiable Information, DO NOT SCREENSHARE

Displays the admission details for all youth admitted to secure detention at any point during the selected timeframe.

- This view displays the details of all admissions included in the dashboard – including name, birthdate, admission dates, etc. This includes details for youth outside of your county and/or facility, so please proceed with caution when using this view.
- We've included this view in the dashboard because it can be easier to filter and export than the Maintain SDR page in eWiSACWIS. This could be useful if reviewing the dashboard prompts additional questions about use of detention in your community.

Using the "Maintain Secure Detention Registry" page in eWiSACWIS

Review of this dashboard may prompt additional questions about the Maintain SDR Page in eWiSACWIS (also called the Secure Detention Registry, JS DR, or SDR).

- [Secure Detention Registry User Guide](#)
- [PDSOnline eWiSACWIS Web Based Module: Detention](#)

A note about JS DR admission entry: Information from the JS DR is used in an annual federal audit of JDFs. If you do not work in a JDF and notice an admission addition or update is needed to the JS DR, **please connect with facility staff to make the needed changes**. This will help to prevent duplicative entries, which can be challenging to remove.

Asking for help

Any of the options below can be consulted for help, but we would recommend starting with the DCF CWRA or YJ teams.

DCF Child Welfare Research and Analytics (CWRA) Team

Contact: DCFCWRA@wisconsin.gov

- Can answer questions about the data and logic used in this dashboard
- Can triage concerns about data included in the report and direct those concerns to the appropriate channel within DCF
- Can support county navigation and use of this dashboard

DCF Youth Justice (YJ) Team

Contact: DCFYJ@wisconsin.gov

- Can answer questions related to YJ standards or policy
- Logs dashboard enhancement requests
- Can triage concerns about data included in the dashboard and direct those concerns to the appropriate channel within DCF
- Can support county navigation and use of this dashboard

DCF Service Desk

Contact: DCFServicedesk@wisconsin.gov

- Can provide immediate support for issues related to eWiSACWIS/eWReports
- Service desk tickets are used to document concerns/requests, which are used to prioritize future enhancements/work

The Department of Children and Families is an equal opportunity employer and service provider. If you have a disability and need to access services, receive information in an alternate format, or need information translated to another language, please call the Bureau of Youth Services at 608-266-8787. Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing, deaf-blind or speech disabled can use the free Wisconsin Relay Service (WRS) – 711 to contact the department.