



## Fact Sheet: Kansas

### Key Facts:

- African American youth made up 18.7% of youth arrested in 2006. White youth made up 63%.<sup>1</sup>
- The average daily population for the Juvenile Correctional Facilities (JCF) in FY07 is 407.7 youth. There were 535 youth that were admitted to a JCF in FY07 and 480 released from the JCF.<sup>2</sup>
- In the 2007 fiscal year, 28% of youth under custody supervision were black and 69% were white.<sup>3</sup>
- 42.8% of youth in custody of the Kansas Juvenile Justice Authority (JJA) were charged with property offenses.<sup>4</sup>
- 30.7% of juveniles are placed in the home or with a relative, 19.5% are placed in a juvenile correctional facility (JFC), and 9.5% are in detention.<sup>5</sup>
- The average youth was under custody of the Juvenile Justice Authority (JJA) for 18.5 months in 2006.<sup>6</sup> Youth of color spent more time under custody than white youth: African American, 19.7 months; Native Alaskan/American Indian, 24.6 months.
- Juveniles place in Kansas facilities were there for an average of 8.9 months in the 2006 fiscal year. Whites had an average stay of 8.4 months while blacks had an average stay of 9.5 months.<sup>7</sup>

### Major Developments:

- A 2006 measure requires the Kansas Advisory Group on Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention to study the effectiveness of their programs at reducing racial and geographic biases that exist in the system, and offered grants to counties to address these issues.<sup>8</sup>
- Courts have started "immediate intervention," an education program for low-level, first-time offenders where, if completed, the juvenile's case will be dismissed without a finding of guilt.<sup>9</sup>
- Kansas uses the Communities that Care prevention strategy, which focuses on risk-based prevention and helps guide communities in determining the outcomes of their programs.<sup>10</sup>

### What Kansas Law Says:

- Kansas State law allows youth as young as 10-years-old to be tried as adults.<sup>11</sup>
- No state mandate requiring screening tools to guide detention decisions exists in the 14 secure detention facilities in the state.<sup>12</sup>
- Youth cannot be sentenced to detention in Kansas, but some jurisdictions have established Sanction Houses as a result of a 1997 law authorizing this function.<sup>13</sup> Courts may place youth in Sanction

