

Tribe-Affiliated Youth in Juvenile Justice Special Programs

New Mexico Children, Youth and Families Department (CYFD) | October 2023



There are **23 Native American tribes, nations, and pueblos** in New Mexico.

New Mexico Tourism Department

17,000+ New Mexico youth between the ages of 10 and 17 are affiliated with tribes, nations, or pueblos. *2021 U.S. Census Bureau*

In state fiscal year 2022, **417** tribe-affiliated youth were referred to CYFD **Juvenile Justice Services (JJS)** for pending charges (both delinquent and non-delinquent).

Tribe-affiliated youth are **overrepresented** in JJS nationally. Here's why:

- Historical Trauma
- Limited Cultural Instruction
- Poverty
- Limited Mental & Substance Use Treatment

Community

- Poor Educational Outcomes
- Substance Use
- Violence
- Suicide

Outcomes

- High rate of detention far from tribal lands
- Low diversion rate

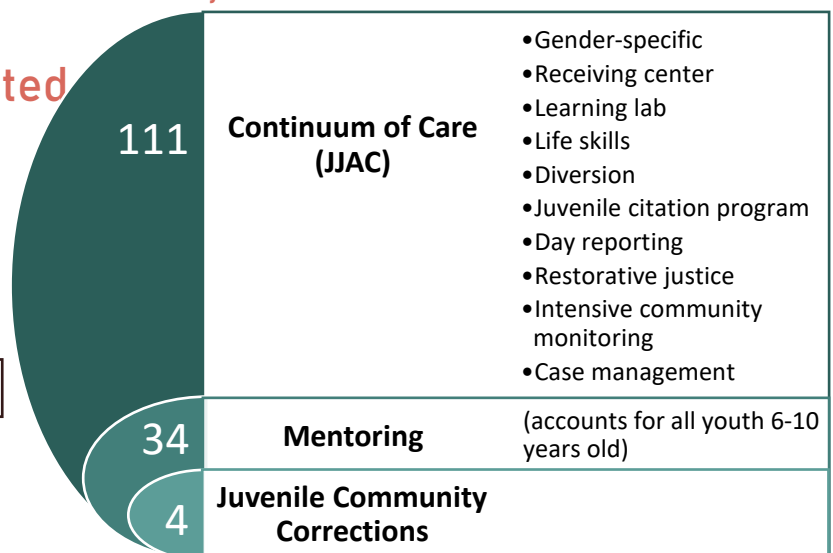
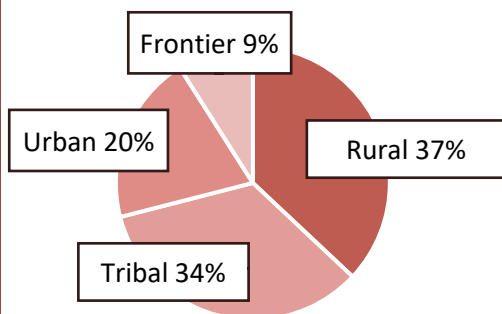
JJS Involvement

Since July 2020, JJS **Special Programs** has served **149** unique tribe-affiliated youth using Continuum of Care, Mentoring, and JCC programs. Here's some info about them:

19 Tribes, Nations, & Pueblos represented (17 in New Mexico) **81%** with no prior offense

Special Programs serve system involved youth and those at risk of JJS involvement.

16 Counties represented
6 to 19 Years Old
Geographic Area



How can JJS and partners better serve tribe-affiliated clients?

- Pretrial detention is appropriate only when a court believes a youth to be at risk of committing crimes or fleeing during court processing.
- Provide reentry services when detention is necessary
- Provide culturally appropriate and tribe-directed screening, assessment, and care
- Engage and empower tribe-affiliated youth
- Incorporate opportunities to maintain cultural ties into case plans

Resources



Special Programs Descriptions

CYFD Website

<https://www.cyfd.nm.gov/juvenile-justice/special-programs/grant-management-unit/>

Enhancing Tribal Juvenile Justice with Trauma-Informed Systems Change

Recorded Panel Discussion

<https://www.tribalyouth.org/resources/resource-library/enhancing-tribal-juvenile-justice-with-trauma-informed-systems-change-trauma-expert-panel/>

Tribal State Relations to Support Juvenile Justice Improvements

Recorded Panel Discussion

<https://www.tribalyouth.org/resources/resource-library/panel-tribal-state-relations-to-support-juvenile-justice-improvements/>

Aligning Efforts to Support Resilient Native Youth

Boys & Girls Clubs of America Report

https://www.tribalyouth.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/3176-17-Great-Think-Indian-Country_White-Paper_Digital_1.pdf

Tribal Youth in the Juvenile Justice System

Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) Report

<https://www.tribalyouth.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/Tribal-youth-in-the-Juvenile-Justice-System.pdf>

Supporting Tribal Youth Attendance Achievement

OJJDP and Tribal Law and Policy Institute Report

<https://www.tribalyouth.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/06/Supporting-Tribal-Youth-Attendance-Achievement-June-2022.pdf>

Strategies for Creating Offender Reentry Programs in Indian Country

Office of Justice Programs Report

https://www.tribalyouth.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/full_prisoner_reentry.pdf

Juvenile Detention Explained

Annie E. Casey Foundation Article

<https://www.aecf.org/blog/what-is-juvenile-detention>