



Justice Center

THE COUNCIL OF STATE GOVERNMENTS

MICHIGAN JUVENILE JUSTICE REFORM TASK FORCE

**FOURTH TASKFORCE MEETING: SYSTEM FINANCING
DECEMBER 17, 2021**

Juvenile Justice Financing Best Practices: Ohio

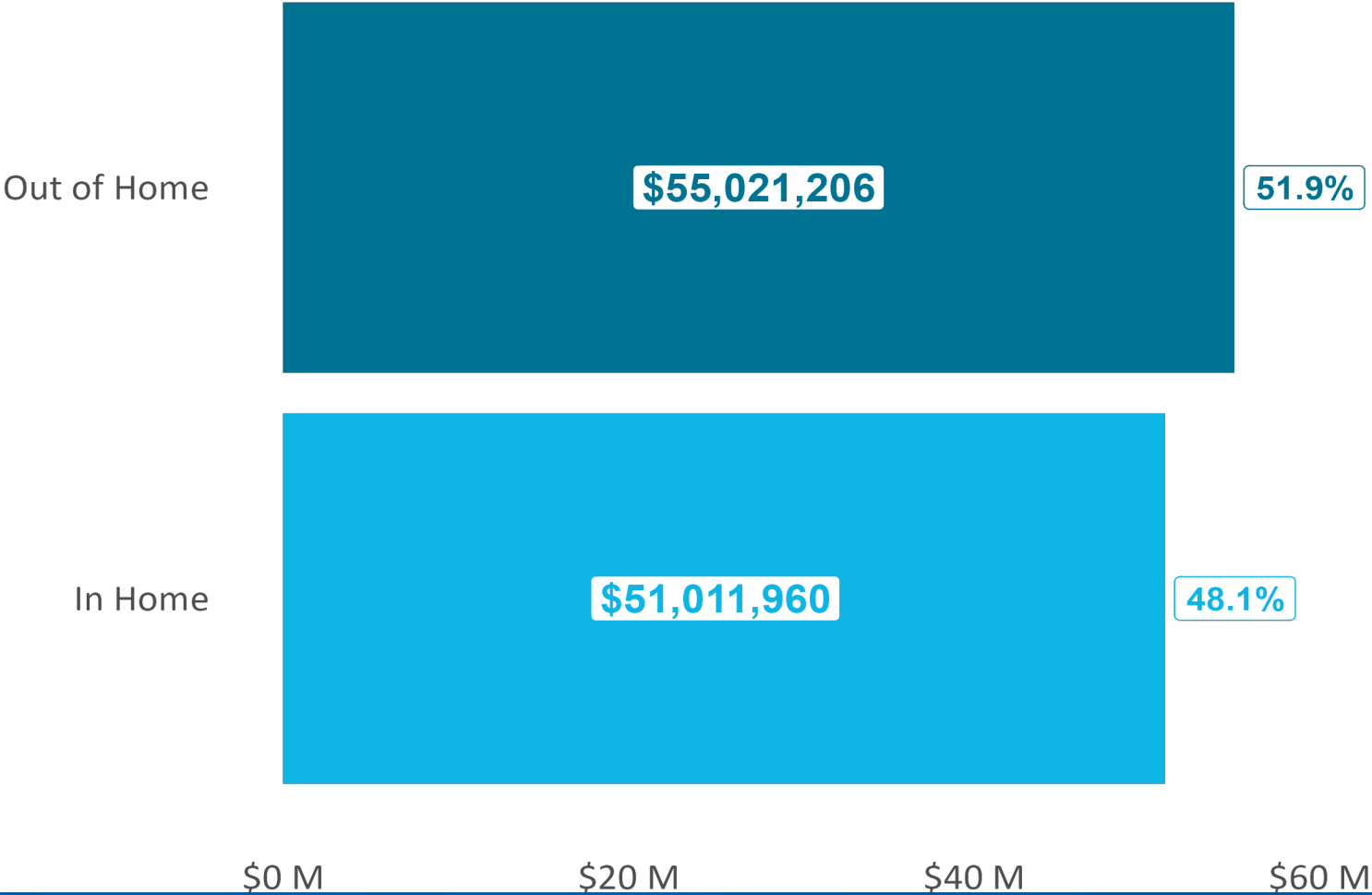
- 88 counties with juvenile courts operate majority of the juvenile justice system; youth in state custody are placed with the Department of Youth Services (DYS).
- State provides approximately \$40-50 million annually to local courts to support diversion from out of home placement and use of evidence-base programs/practices. Counties receive a **base grant**--minimum of \$50,000 with additional funding allocated on a per capita basis.
- **Reclaim Ohio**: funding for courts based on a formula that includes four-year average of felony adjudications **minus number of DYS bed days used** (with youth committed to DYS for most serious offenses not held against counties)
- **Targeted Reclaim**: \$6.5 million granted to most populous counties for **evidence-based programs**, must target youth who commit felony offenses who would otherwise be committed to DYS. **Must use Ohio Youth Assessment System, engage in regular QA activities and meetings, and collect and report data.**
- **Competitive Reclaim**: Courts can apply for funding for **evidence-based/promising programs** and initiatives to further divert youth from out of home placement. Same requirements as above.
- Ohio **partners with local universities** including the University of Cincinnati for training, evidence-based program certification, quality assurance monitoring, data collection, and statewide evaluation of funding effectiveness.
- Youth who participate in RECLAIM funded programs have significantly lower recidivism rates compared to youth committed to DYS, including a 37% recidivism rate for high-risk youth in the community compared to 59% for youth committed to DYS.

Juvenile Justice Financing Best Practices: Washington

- 33 counties with juvenile courts operate majority of the juvenile justice system; youth in state custody are placed with Juvenile Rehabilitation (JR).
- State appropriates \$38 million to local county juvenile courts each two-year budget cycle to reduce reliance on state-operated institutions and implement community-based, evidence-based programs and practices.
- **Block grant funding supports counties to use evidence-based programs and practices.** Funding formula incentivizes counties to **use evidence-based programs, serve higher risk youth in these programs, and for counties to serve a higher risk court population overall** (therefore incentivizing diversion as well).
- Evidence-based programs are determined through a **partnership with the Washington State Institute for Public Policy**, which conducts research, evaluation, and cost-benefit analysis to support effective programming.
- Funding oversight is **partnership between JR and Washington Association of Juvenile Court Administrators.**
 - JR central and regional offices provides fiscal/billing support along with program development, oversight and support to all the juvenile courts
 - WAJCA helped develop **statewide risk assessment** for required use by all counties along with Case Management Assessment Process, associated statewide Quality Assurance Committee, **statewide quality assurance staffing and certified trainers/fidelity monitors**, with each county required to develop its own QA plan.
 - All juvenile court **probation officers must attend initial 40-hour CMAP training** and be certified every three years.

In FY21, the state reimbursed counties approximately \$106M through the CCF for juvenile justice expenses; out of home reimbursements represented over half of all expenses.

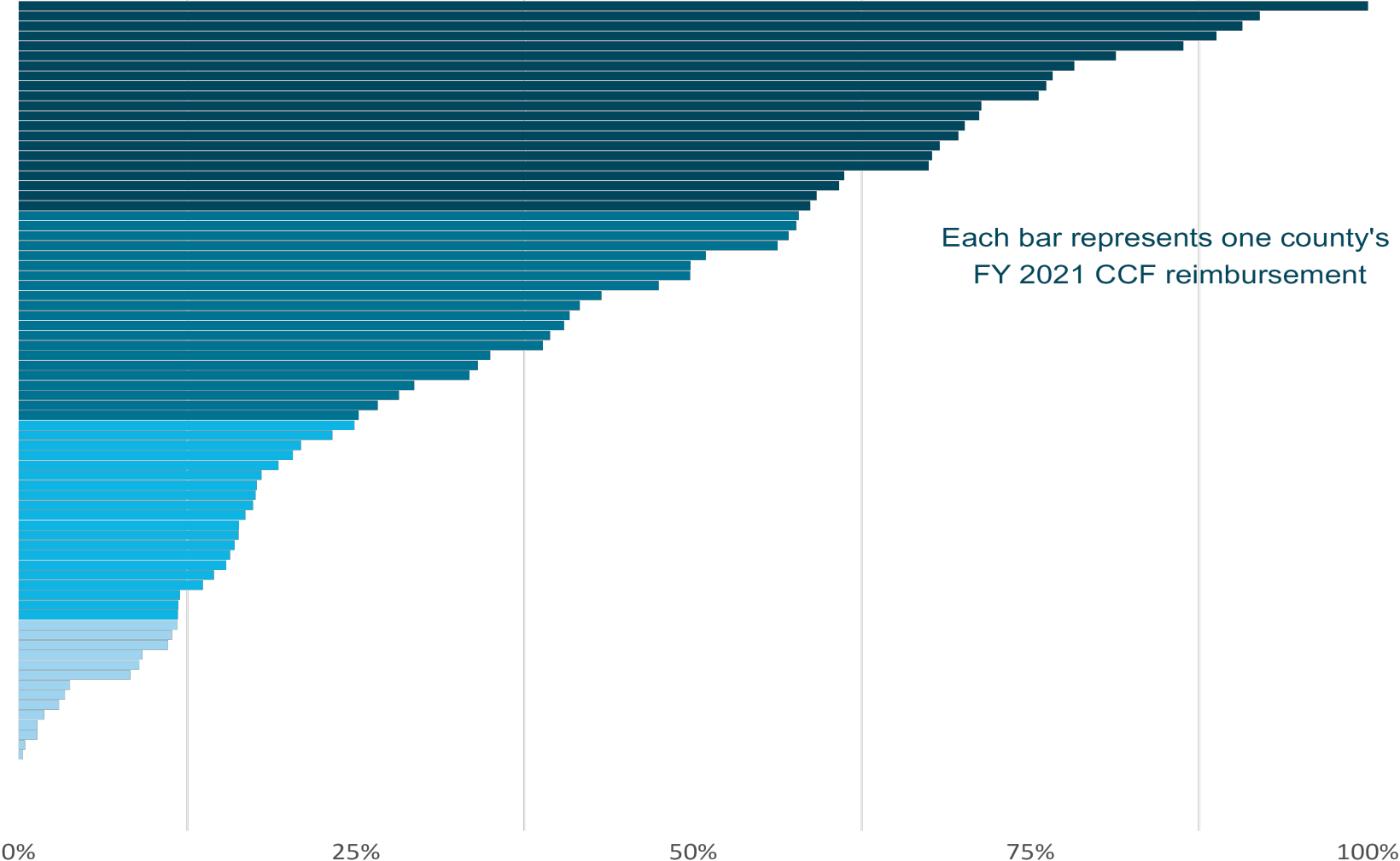
In Home vs Out of Home CCF Reimbursement, FY 2021



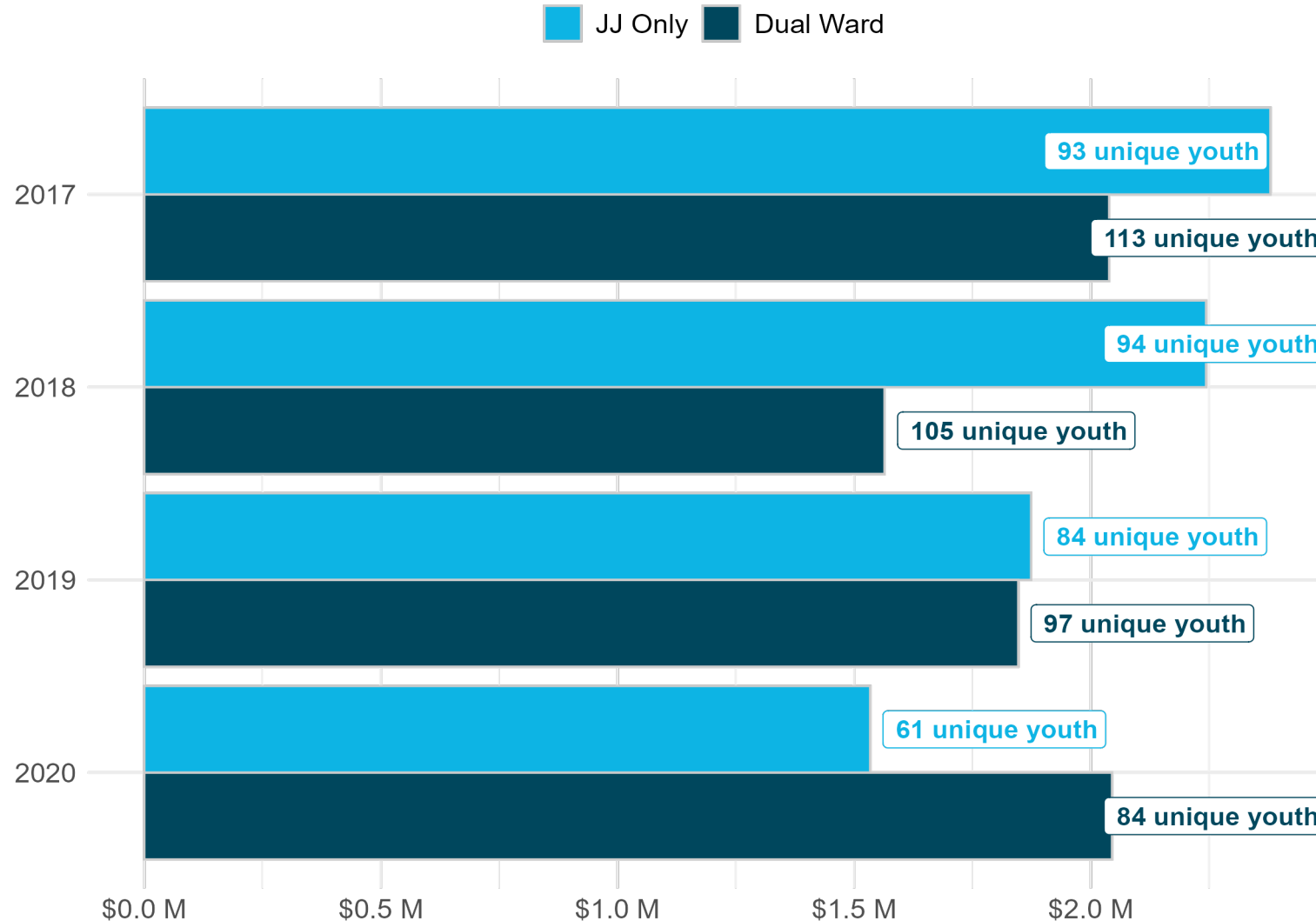
The proportion of total CCF reimbursement allocated for out of home placement varies significantly by county

■ 58%+ ■ 25% to 58% ■ 12% to 25% ■ Less than 12%

Out of Home Placement Reimbursement (as of % of Total CCF Reimbursement) by County, FY 2021



Federal Title IV-E funding is claimed for a small number of justice involved youth



Key Questions for the Taskforce to Begin to Consider

1. What if any responsibility should the state have to pay for local juvenile justice programs and services? What if any policies, programs, QA/data collection should locales have to adopt in return for receiving this funding?
2. Does the current system financing structure in Michigan promote the use of statewide policies, programs, and practices that research shows work to improve public safety and youth outcomes? Diversion from system involvement? From out of home placement? Use of evidence-based/promising programs?
3. Does the current financing structure promote an equitable approach to juvenile justice across geographic boundaries and demographic groups while retaining local discretion, authority, and customization?
4. Does the current reimbursement nature of the Child Care Fund create an adversarial dynamic between counties and the state? An unnecessary administrative burden for both locales and the state?
5. Could a different funding model or approach incentivize/support improved policies, practices, efficiencies, and state/local collaboration? Or are improvements just needed to how the Child Care Fund currently operates?
6. Regardless of funding approach, what level of quality assurance is needed to ensure funding is used effectively? Technical assistance on evidence-based programs and practices? Data collection, analysis, and reporting? Other supports/oversight/accountability mechanisms?



Key Questions for the Taskforce to Begin to Consider

7. Should the state continue to seek Title IV funding for juvenile justice populations and providers? What impact does this funding have on ensuring juvenile justice policies and services are tailored to the distinct needs of the juvenile justice (as opposed to child welfare) population?
8. What level of funding is needed for state facilities and private residential facilities to effectively meet the complex needs of the high-risk youth that they serve? What is the best way to procure/fund these services?
9. Does the Juvenile Justice Division have the resources, structure, and staff needed to effectively meet the needs of the youth committed to its care? During placement? Reentry? Statewide coordination/QA/data collection?
10. What opportunities exist to better leverage and coordinate other federal/state funding streams to support improved programs and services for youth in the juvenile justice system (i.e Family First, Medicaid, Education, Workforce Development, etc.)?

