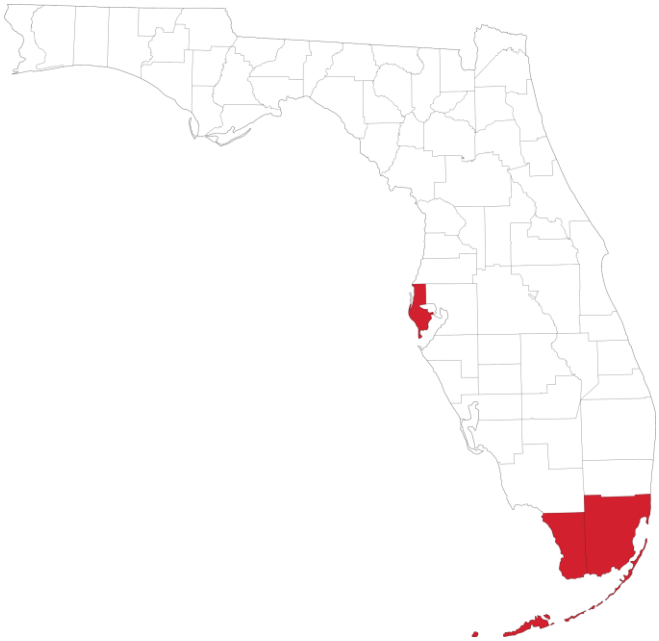
Stepping Up™

Florida's Top Juvenile Civil Citation Efforts™

Advocating the Importance of Civil Citation Programs While Recognizing Those That Do It Best



Highlighted counties represent the top-performing counties in this year's Stepping Up Study

2017 Study

CONDUCTED BY

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Introduction







My nonpartisan organization studies the problem of arrests of youth for common acts of misbehavior and the strategy of juvenile civil citations. To-date in Florida, we have conducted three state studies, 201 county reports, and a report to inform legislative decision-making.

A hidden but important point missing from all the data, rankings, analysis and recommendations of the studies is that juvenile civil citations has widespread bipartisan support from the entire political spectrum -- a rare characteristic for any issue in today's highly divisive political and social environments.

Take, for instance, the sponsors and partners of Stepping Up. Some have a public image of being conservative leaning, some liberal leaning. All are non-partisan.

When meeting with the sponsors and partners, provided the dialogue is limited to juvenile civil citations, there is no significant disagreement among anyone. This is a meeting with passionate liberals and outspoken conservatives, yet there are no heated arguments because everyone is in agreement that arrests for common youth misbehavior is a problem and juvenile civil citations is a major solution.

An overview of the problem of arrests for common youth misbehavior and the solution of juvenile civil citations is provided on page 38.



Stepping Up: Florida's Top Juvenile Civil Citation Efforts 2017 is authored by Dewey Caruthers, one of Florida's top civil citation experts. *Stepping Up* is an annual study in its third year.

Study Author:
Dewey Caruthers
The Caruthers Institute
(formerly dewey & associates)

Contents // Sponsors

Changes to this year's study.....pg. 1

What we know to-date: A synopsis of three years of study.....pg. 2

Citation Table 2017.....pg. 6

Grades by County, School District and Law Enforcement Agency.....pg. 7

Key Findings: 2017.....pg. 8

Recommendations: 2017.....pg. 13

Florida's Top Juvenile Civil Citation Efforts 2017.....pg. 16
- By County
- By School District
- By Law Enforcement
- By Program

A Closer Look at the Impact of an Arrest on Youth.....pg. 23

Grades by County, School District, Law Enforcement Agency.....pg. 27

Overview of Florida Civil Citations.....pg. 38

STEPPING UP COUNTY REPORTS.....at www.caruthers.institute

Stepping Up County Reports provide reporting of the performance of each county, its school district and law enforcement agencies. Available at www.caruthers.institute.

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Changes to this Year's Study

There are five key changes in the 2017 study:

1. Grading counties, school districts and law enforcement agencies
2. Noting significant improvements
3. Revision to ranking criteria for top-performers
3. Added civil citation programs to state rankings
5. Removed national research section



1. Grading Counties, School Districts and Law Enforcement Agencies
Each county, school district and law enforcement agency has been given a letter grade based on utilization rates, which uses a grading scale applied to millions of students: A=90% or above, B=80%-89%, C=70%-79%, D=60%-69%, F=less than 60%. See page 9 for more detail. An interactive state map with grades by county is provided at www.caruthers.institute.



2. Noting Significant Improvements
Counties, districts and law enforcement agencies that have increased utilization by 10% or more since last year are noted (starts page 27).

3. Revision to Ranking Criteria for Top Performers
Starting in this year's study, only those counties, districts and agencies that receive a grade of B or higher are ranked as the top performers.



In the previous two *Stepping Up* studies, the top 20% of each division were identified as the top-performers. However, using the top 20% per division calculation resulted in some counties and districts with moderate utilization rates to be counted as a top performer. For instance, in the 2016 study, there were two counties and three districts with utilization rates at 50% or below – not an indication of top performance.



4. Adding Civil Citation Programs to State Rankings
Programs provide and coordinate community services and consequences for youth who are issued civil citations. Programs have been added to the state rankings, joining the existing categories of counties, school districts and law enforcement agencies. The success metric used for ranking programs is recidivism rate.



5. Removed National Research Section
The national research section of this annual study -- a state-by-state analysis on strength of state statutes and state data reporting of prearrest diversion - has been removed to allow for a separate national study to be conducted (release date not yet determined).

Stepping Up: Florida's Top Juvenile Civil Citation Efforts 2017

Civil citations offer an alternative to arrest for youth under the age of 18 for common youth misbehavior like a fight without injury, petit theft, disrupting a school function, underage drinking and marijuana possession.

38,224

Number of youth arrested
FY 2013-2014 to CY 2016

31,020

Number of youth issued civil citations
FY 2013-2014 to CY 2016

Felonies and other serious crimes are not eligible for juvenile civil citations.

What we know to-date: A synopsis of three years of study

Stepping Up research from 2015 – 2017 has included three state studies, more than 200 County Reports, and a white paper to inform legislative decision-making. The author, sponsors and partners of this study decided to provide a snapshot of what has been learned in the past three years of ongoing research in two categories: What we *know*; and what we *think* we know.

WHAT WE *KNOW* about arrests and juvenile civil citations for common youth misbehavior
(data from FY 2013-2014 thru CY 2016 = 3 ½ year-period)

Nearly 40,000 youth have been arrested. There have been 38,224 arrests for common youth misbehavior since July 2013.

More than 30,000 civil citations have been issued. There have been 31,020 civil citations issued for qualifying offenses since July 2013.

Juvenile civil citations increase public safety. Youth issued civil citations are less likely to reoffend. The recidivism rate for juvenile civil citations has dropped to as low as 4%, compared to the recidivism for post arrest diversion that has been as high as 12%. More specifically, when comparing nine of the most common youth offenses, arrests resulted in at least double the recidivism rate for seven of those offenses.

Juvenile civil citations improve youth opportunities and outcomes. Youth issued civil citations will not have an arrest record that could negatively impact opportunities in education, employment, housing, loans and other key success and quality of life factors.

Juvenile civil citations save taxpayer money. Arrests are more expensive than civil citations, and divert scarce public safety resources from addressing more severe offenses.

Arrests for common youth misbehavior generate more reoffenders. These reoffenders commit more crimes (when compared to those who are issued a civil citation).

Stepping Up: Florida's Top Juvenile Civil Citation Efforts 2017

When confronting common youth misbehavior, law enforcement can choose to do nothing, issue a civil citations, or make an arrest.

UTILIZATION

=

PUBLIC SAFETY

Civil citation utilization is the percent of eligible youth issued a civil citation.

What we know to-date: A synopsis of three years of study (cont.)

WHAT WE *KNOW* about arrests for common youth misbehavior and juvenile civil citations (cont.)

There is no evidence that arrests for common youth misbehavior provide comparable value. This study's author, sponsors and partners can find no evidence showing that arrests generate more or even commensurate value or benefits when compared to civil citations. Counties, school districts and law enforcement agencies opting for arrests over civil citations should provide data that show why arrests for common youth misbehavior is an effective response.

Civil citation utilization has increased significantly, but civil citations are still only used in approximately half of eligible instances. The utilization rate – percent eligible issued a civil citation - increased 15% percentage points, from 38% to 53%, since July 2013. Notably, this high watermark of 53% receives an F on the grading scale being used in this year's study.

Law enforcement utilize civil citations more often at schools than off school grounds. The utilization rates for civil citation at school are significantly higher than the rate for off school grounds. In 2016, for instance, the utilization rate at schools is 69%, while off school grounds is 47% - a 22% difference, which is similar to the previous year.

Unequal justice by geography continues by county, by city and by agency. Whether youth are arrested or issued a civil citation depends on the county or city where a youth is located when committing the offense, as well as the law enforcement agency that confronts her/him. The use of civil citations varies by county, by city and by law enforcement agency. This is the result of discretion provided to counties, cities, law enforcement agencies and school districts whether to implement a juvenile civil citation program.

There is no evidence that arrests are an effective response to common youth misbehavior, yet thousands of youth are arrested each year.

Stepping Up: Florida's Top Juvenile Civil Citation Efforts 2017

Miami-Dade, Monroe, and Pinellas ranked as top-performing counties for three consecutive years.



What we know to-date: A synopsis of three years of study (cont.)

WHAT WE *KNOW* about arrests for common youth misbehavior and juvenile civil citations (cont.)

Three counties ranked as top-performers in all three Stepping Up studies (alpha order): Miami-Dade, Monroe, and Pinellas.

Five school districts ranked as top-performers in all three Stepping Up studies (alpha order): Miami-Dade, Monroe, Pinellas, Union, and Wakulla.

WHAT WE *THINK* WE KNOW about arrests for common youth misbehavior and juvenile civil citations

What we *think* we know, but further exploration is needed:

Arrests for common youth misbehavior take more law enforcement officer time than the issuance of civil citations. This is a concern often heard from many of the top performing law enforcement agencies. The time-consuming process of an unnecessary arrest - the paperwork and processing - takes valuable resources away from preventing and handling felonies and violent crimes. The issue is being further explored as part of *Stepping Up's* research developing best practices of Florida juvenile civil citation efforts, to be released later this year.

Florida is a national model in prearrest diversion. Initial Stepping Up research indicates Florida is leading the nation in strength of state statutes and state data reporting. Additionally and anecdotally, Florida Dept. of Juvenile Justice regularly receives calls from other states to learn more about Florida's civil citation approach.

Dade and Pinellas Counties are state models in local juvenile civil citations. These two counties are Florida's top-performers, with high utilization rates countywide (each achieved 94% in this year's study), and per school district (95% and 97% respectively); as well as low recidivism rates at or below the state average (Dade county program – Equal Justice - and Pinellas Sheriff's Office Juvenile Diversion program).

Stepping Up: Florida's Top Juvenile Civil Citation Efforts 2017



Florida may still be losing more money than it is saving by arresting youth who are eligible for civil citations.

What we know to-date: A synopsis of three years of study (cont.)

WHAT WE *THINK* WE KNOW about arrests for common youth misbehavior and juvenile civil citations (cont.)

The cost savings of a juvenile civil citation ranges from $1,400 to $4,600 per citation issued. Data reveals that juvenile civil citations save taxpayer money because it is significantly more expensive to arrest a youth for common youth misbehavior than to issue a civil citation. The most recently developed cost savings estimates provide a range of $1,467 to $4,614 per civil citation, which is what Caruthers Institute uses. The range takes into account post-arrest diversion, not presuming all that are arrested will be prosecuted to a trial. Other cost estimates have placed the cost of issuing a civil citation at $386 and the cost of an arrest at $5,000. Further research on the topic is needed.

The overall cost savings of civil citation utilization is significant. The estimated cost savings from Florida issuing 31,020 juvenile civil citations since July 2013 is $45,506,340 to $143,126,280.

The overall lost savings of not utilizing civil citations is equally significant. The estimated cost of not using civil citations and instead arresting 38,224 youth was $56,074,608 to $176,365,536 since July 2013.

$46 million to $143 million

Estimated cost savings from issuing juvenile civil citations FY 2013-2014 to CY 2016

$46 million to $176 million

Estimated ADDITIONAL cost savings NOT realized from arrests youth FY 2013-2014 to CY 2016

Florida Civil Citation Utilization

Civil citation utilization is the percent eligible issued a civil citation. SOURCE: Florida Dept. of Juvenile Justice Civil Citation Dashboard January 2016 through December 2016. NOTE: Utilization rates are based on all statewide eligible offenses, not based on eligible offenses per county. NOTE: Civil citation reporting includes other juvenile prearrest diversion efforts operated under a different name. Accessed March 2017.

State Civil Citation Utilization

(all 67 counties)

Utilization:	*53%*
Eligible Youth:	*18,555*
Arrested:	*8,753*
Issued Civil Citation:	*9,802*

State Civil Citation Utilization by School District

(all 67 counties)

Utilization:	*69%*
Eligible Youth:	*5,258*
Arrested:	*1,653*
Issued Civil Citation:	*3,605*

State Civil Citation Utilization by Race

(all 67 counties)

	Arrest %	# Arrested	Civil Citation %
Black:	*48%*	*3,075*	*52%*
Hispanic:	*39%*	*1,321*	*61%*
Other:	*44%*	*59*	*56%*
White:	50%	4,298	50%

Black RRI: 4.29 Hispanic RRI 1.61

Relative Rate Index (RRI) is a means of comparing the rates of juvenile justice contact experienced by different groups of youth, according to the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP). The RRI above shows the arrest rate for white youth compared to the arrest rate for black and Hispanic youth.

The RRI does not necessarily imply racial bias in the arrest process. There could be many reasons other than racial bias that produced this racial disparity at arrest (e.g., different levels of delinquency behavior by white juveniles and black juveniles).

All the RRI indicates is that disparity exists and additional exploration is needed to determine the source of the bias, according to OJJDP.

State Civil Citation Utilization by Gender

(all 67 counties)

	Arrest %	# Arrested	Civil Citation %
Male:	*47%*	*5,190*	*53%*
Female:	*47%*	*3,634*	*53%*

State Civil Citation Utilization and the School-to-Prison Pipeline

(black males in all 67 counties)

	Arrest %	# Arrested	Civil Citation %
Black Male School-Based:	*36%*	*449*	*64%*
Black Male Community-Based:	*53%*	*1,338*	*47%*

The school-to-prison pipeline is a term for the national trend where children are funneled out of public schools and into the juvenile and criminal justice systems. Students of color – particularly black males – are especially vulnerable to the pipeline that may begin with arrests for common youth misbehavior and leads to continued contact with law enforcement and further arrests.

Grades by County, School District, Law Enforcement Agency

Stepping Up is introducing a grading scale for juvenile civil citation performance. Each county, school district and law enforcement agency is given a letter grade based on utilization rates, which is the percent eligible issued a civil citation. The grading scale is: A=90% or above, B=80%-89%, C=70%-79%, D=60%-69%, F=59% and below. The grading scale was developed using the Stepping Up 2016 recommendation that arrests of juveniles for common youth misbehavior should occur only in rare and exceptional circumstances, and that if a law enforcement response is required, a civil citation rather than arrest is the presumptive law enforcement response.

There is overwhelming evidence that juvenile civil citations increase public safety, improve youth opportunities, and save taxpayers money. Conversely, this evidence shows arrests for common youth misbehavior harm public safety, diminish youth futures, and fleece taxpayers. The new grading system reflects this evidence.

The grades for each county, school district and law enforcement agency starts on page 27.

Below are the numbers and percentages for the grade levels of counties, school districts and law enforcement agencies.

Stepping Up is introducing a grading scale:

A=90% and above

B=80%-89%

C=70%-79%

D=60%-69%

F=59% and below

Counties:

A= 2 / 3% (example: 2 counties or 3% received an A grade)
B= 1 / 1%
C= 6 / 9%
D= 8 / 12%
F= 50 / 75%

School Districts:

A= 10 / 15%
B= 5 / 7%
C= 12 / 18%
D= 6 / 9%
F= 34 / 51%

Law Enforcement Agencies:

A= 87 / 22%
B= 18 / 4%
C= 21 / 5%
D= 30 / 7%
F= 245 / 61%

Key Findings 2017

Key Finding 1: Statewide, arrests of youth decreased significantly, by more than 3,000 arrests.

Statewide arrests in the 2016 study were 11,872. Statewide arrests in the 2017 study are 8,753. The average number of statewide arrests for common youth misbehavior decreased from 33 per day in the 2016 study to 24 in the 2017 study.

Key Finding 2: Annual statewide utilization increased more than in previous years.

The statewide utilization rate increased 10 percentage points, slightly outpacing the annual average rate increase of 7 percentage points. The utilization rate increased from 43% in the 2016 study to 53% in the 2017 study.

Key Finding 3: Three Florida counties again comprised approximately one-quarter of all arrests statewide.

For the second consecutive year, Duval, Hillsborough and Orange counties were responsible for 24% of all arrests statewide, repeating their low performances from the 2016 study. The arrests for the three counties in the 2017 study was 2,088 - a reduction from the nearly 3,000 from the 2016 study. The total statewide arrests also dropped from the 2016 study.

In the 2017 study, Duval's utilization rate dropped to 27%, down 5 percentage points from the 2016 study. Duval's average utilization rate for Q-1 2017 has increased to 40% (an F). Notably, in May 2017 Duval adopted a new memorandum of understanding, led by its newly-elected state attorney and agreed to by all law enforcement agencies to expand its use of civil citation.

In the 2017 study, Hillsborough's rate increased to 37%, up 5 percentage points from the 2016 study. Hillsborough's average utilization rate for Q-1 2017 is 48% (an F). Notably, in July 2017, Hillsborough adopted a new memorandum of understanding, led by its newly-elected state attorney and agreed to by all law enforcement agencies, to expand its use of civil citation.

In the 2017 study, Orange's rate increased to 43%, up 26 percentage points. Orange's average utilization rate for Q-1 2017 is 54% (an F).

2

Number of consecutive years of study that Duval, Hillsborough, Orange Counties were responsible for 24% of all civil citation-eligible arrests statewide

2,088

Number of arrests in CY 2016 in Duval, Hillsborough and Orange counties

$3.1 million to $9.6 million

Estimated lost savings from youth arrests in Duval, Hillsborough, Orange counties in CY 2016

Key Findings 2017 (cont.)

Key Finding 4: One Florida county is arresting substantially more civil citation-eligible black youth than white youth, causing a notable racial disparity.

Duval County arrested civil citation-eligible black youth at a rate of 16 percentage points higher than white youth in 2016.

Duval County's arrest rate for civil citation-eligible black youth was 80%, while its rate for white youth was 64% - all based on a total of 645 cases.

This racial disparity persists into 2017. For January through June 2017 – based on a total of 351 cases - Duval County continues to show significant racial disparity, arresting civil citation-eligible black youth at a rate of 20 percentage points higher than white youth.

Notably, in May 2017, led by its new state attorney, Duval adopted a new memorandum of understanding agreed to by all law enforcement agencies, to expand use of civil citation. In the month of June – which is the first month under the new memorandum of understanding – the racial disparity was a high of 36 percentage points between black and white arrests with a total of 42 cases. Utilization of civil citations for all youth for the month spiked to an all-time high of 69% -- a D in the Stepping Up scale.





Stepping Up: Florida's Top Juvenile Civil Citation Efforts 2017

Duval County's racial disparity – which was 16 percentage points in 2016 - persists into 2017 with a high of 36 percentage points in the month of June

26
Number of counties that increased utilization by 10% or more since 2016 study

9
Number of counties that increased utilization by 25% or more since 2016 study

26
Number of school districts that increased utilization by 10% or more since 2016 study

14
Number of school districts that increased utilization by 25% or more since 2016 study

Key Findings 2017 (cont.)

Key Finding 4: Pinellas County has become one of the state's top performers in the past three years.

Pinellas County has a utilization rate of 94%, tied with Miami-Dade County, which has been utilizing juvenile civil citations for more than a decade. Pinellas County School District has a 97% utilization rate, the highest in the state. In the Stepping Up 2015 study, Pinellas County had a utilization rate of 80% and the school district had a rate of 79%.

Fueling this high performance is the Pinellas Park Police Department and St. Petersburg Police Department., each with a utilization rate of 98%. Additionally, the Pinellas County Sheriff's Office, which had the most eligible youth of any agency in the county, has a utilization rate of 90%. It is worth noting the Pinellas Sheriff's Office has the highest utilization rate of any sheriff's office in the state, and the sheriff's office operates a top-performing program in the state with a recidivism rate of 4%.

Law enforcement agencies with moderate and smaller numbers of eligible youth also contributed to the county's top-performance: Tarpon Springs Police, St. Pete Beach Police, Treasure Island Police, Kenneth City Police, and Gulfport Police had 100% utilization rates, which means there were no arrests for common youth misbehavior in these municipalities.

Key Finding 5: Miami-Dade County's performance continues to be among the best in the state.

Miami-Dade County has a utilization rate of 94%, and a school district a rate of 95%. Dade County had a utilization rate of 91% or above since the Stepping Up studies began in 2015 (91% in 2015 and 2016). Additionally, Miami-Dade County School District has been at 92% or higher during this time period (94% in 2015, 92% in 2016).

Furthermore, in this year's study there are 20 Miami-Dade County law enforcement agencies with a utilization rate of 100%.

Moreover, Miami-Dade County's program has a recidivism rate of 3%, which is lower than the state average of 4%.

Miami-Dade continues to set the standard for the state.

11
Counties with zero juvenile civil citation utilization
(down from 13 last year)

16
School districts with zero juvenile civil citation utilization
(down from 21 last year)

145
Law enforcement agencies with zero juvenile civil citation utilization
(down from 159 last year)

Imagine a Florida where all counties performed similarly as Miami-Dade and Pinellas.

Key Findings 2017 (cont.)

Key Finding 6: Most programs have recidivism rates that exceed the state average.

Most programs have recidivism rates higher than the state average. Nearly 6-in-10 (58%) programs have recidivism rates higher than the state average of 4%.

Key Finding 7: A significant number of programs have no reoffenders.

A small percentage of programs have zero recidivism. Nearly 1-in-5 (18%) programs of significant size (with at least 15 or more youth participating in the program) have no recidivism.

Key Finding 8: There were no county top-performers in Divisions Two or Three.

There were no counties in Divisions 2 or 3 (those counties with 99 or fewer eligible youth) that achieved at least an 80% utilization rate, which is a B.

Stepping Up: Florida's Top Juvenile Civil Citation Efforts 2017



15.6
Average age of youth entering programs

83%
Average program completion rate

109.3
Average length of days of program

__Programs__ are ranked solely on recidivism, which is within their control. Civil citation utilization is not within the control of a program.

__Counties, school districts and law enforcement agencies__ are ranked solely on civil citation utilization. Recidivism is not within their control.

Key Findings 2017 (cont.)

Key Finding 9: Most counties and law enforcement agencies fail to earn a passing grade.

Despite the overwhelming data showing juvenile civil citations generate measurable and meaningful benefits to public safety, youth and taxpayers – and no evidence showing arrests for common youth misbehavior is an effective response and efficient use of law enforcement resources – there are large numbers of counties, school districts and law enforcement agencies that continue to opt for arrests over civil citations.

In fact, most counties received an F for civil citation performance.

More specifically, 75% of counties, 51% of school districts, and 61% of law enforcement agencies received a failing grade – and this does not include those struggling with D grades.

Key Finding 10: Approximately one-third of counties and school districts are moving in the right direction, with some moving more rapidly, since the 2016 study.

There are 26 counties that increased utilization by 10% or more, including 11 that had 25% or higher increases; and there are 26 school districts that increased by 10% or more, including 14 with 25% or higher increases.

Stepping Up: Florida's Top Juvenile Civil Citation Efforts 2017

If the Florida Dept. of Juvenile Justice were mandated to treat failing juvenile civil citation efforts similar to how the Florida Dept. of Education does failing schools, the State of Florida would need to take over the operation of juvenile civil citations in most counties.



Duval and Hillsborough Counties recently adopted new memorandums of understanding, led by its newly-elected state attorneys and agreed to by all law enforcement agencies, to expand the use of civil citation.

Recommendations

This year's recommendations are the most important in the three years of this study.

Recommendation 1: Every county, school district and law enforcement agency in Florida should develop a policy that makes juvenile civil citations the presumptive norm and allows for arrests in only rare and exceptional circumstances; and when using an arrest rather than a civil citation, law enforcement should be required to document, justify and obtain supervisory approval in order to arrest.

By adopting this recommendation, counties, school districts and law enforcement agencies will be effectively addressing all of the problems caused by common youth misbehavior this study has chronicled in its three years, which include:

- unequal justice by geography
- increasing recidivism
- inflicting mental health trauma on youth
- diminishing youth futures
- high financial costs to taxpayers
- diverting public safety resources from addressing felonies
- racial disparity
- case dismissals that provide no consequences to youth

All of these problems are diminished or eliminated by local entities adopting this recommendation, because the result of such policies would be counties, districts and agencies with utilization rates of 90% or higher.

These higher local rates would also spike statewide utilization, effectively addressing the current statewide F-grade of 53% utilization.

By adopting this recommendation, Florida would save ***$24,498,166 - $77,051,493***

This year's recommendations are the most important in the three years of this study.

If the legislature is not inclined to increase utilization with the "stick" of a mandate, it should at least provide the "carrot" of funding.



Recommendations (cont.)

Recommendation 2: If the Florida Legislature is not going to mandate, then it should focus on funding.

Over the last two legislative sessions, the Florida Legislature has considered but failed to enact legislation that would make the use of civil citations mandatory. Legislation mandating civil citations, and removing law enforcement discretion, has been the sole focus of the legislature – all the while thousands of youth are being arrested each year.

If the legislature is not inclined to increase utilization with the "stick" of a mandate, it should at least provide the "carrot" of funding to any county, school district or law enforcement agency that wants to adopt Recommendation 1 as its policy.

It should be noted the *Stepping Up* study takes no position on the issue of the Florida Legislature mandating law enforcement to issue civil citations.

Recommendation 3: Juvenile civil citation programs with high recidivism and low completion rates should act quickly to become more effective.

Law enforcement needs to have confidence in its local programs. If youth who are issued civil citations are funneled into a program with a high recidivism rate and a low completion rate, law enforcement may reasonably choose an arrest over a civil citation in hopes the post-arrest program is more effective.

To instill and sustain law enforcement confidence, programs should target recidivism rates no higher than 4% (state average) and completion rates no lower than 90%.

The Caruthers Institute offers research-based best practices, which provide a data-rich path toward increased utilization and reduced recidivism.

Recommendations (cont.)

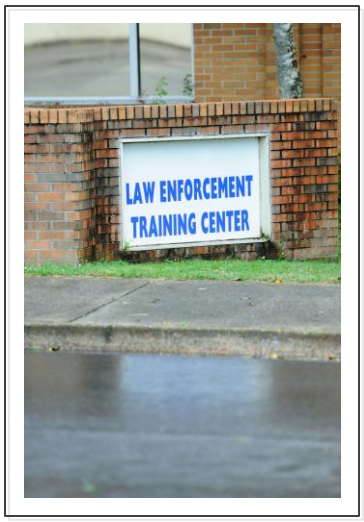
Recommendation 4: Every Florida law enforcement officer authorized to make an arrest should have training on juvenile civil citations, which should occur annually in all police academies, police departments and sheriff's offices.

Law enforcement training on juvenile civil citations is the least expensive and least invasive of all strategies to increase utilization. Requiring all police academies, police departments, and sheriff's offices to annually provide quality training on juvenile civil citations is reasonable, and would not require legislators to pass a new law or local leaders to agree on something controversial. Adding a one-hour law enforcement training on the topic should be simple and straightforward solution that could reduce arrests by thousands each year.

Including training in all police academies would ensure that the next generation of law enforcement officers will be familiar with this important public safety tool and appreciate the purpose and benefits of juvenile civil citations, as well as the harm of an arrest for common youth misbehavior.

Adding annual best-practices training in police departments and sheriff's offices provides for all Florida law enforcement to have not only a basic understanding of juvenile civil citations but also information on how best to implement and deploy juvenile civil citations programs.

This recommendation is an outgrowth of a Stepping Up 2015 study recommendation, which showed that nearly half (48%) of civil citation programs surveyed as part of that study reported either not having a schedule for law enforcement training or not knowing how often training occurs.



Annual law enforcement training should be in all police academies, police departments and sheriff's offices.

Florida's Top Civil Citation Efforts: By COUNTY

This study classifies Florida counties into three divisions based on the number of civil citation-eligible youth, which allow for fairer comparisons.

- Division One counties with 100 or more eligible youth
- Division Two counties with 31-99 eligible youth
- Division Three counties with 30 or less eligible youth.

The tables below use data from the Florida DJJ Civil Citation Dashboard for calendar year 2016 (gathered March 2017). Previous *Stepping Up* studies ranked the top 20% of each division. This year's study sets the benchmark for top-performance at 80% utilization or higher, which is equivalent to grades A-B.

Top Civil Citation Utilization by COUNTY

DIVISION ONE

(of 35 counties with 100 or more eligible youth)

1.	Dade County	94%
2.	Pinellas County	94%
3.	Monroe County	87%

Top Civil Citation Utilization by COUNTY

DIVISION TWO

(of 12 counties with 31-99 eligible youth)

No counties in this division had utilization rates of 80% or higher.

Top Civil Citation Utilization by COUNTY

DIVISION THREE

(of 20 counties with 30 or less eligible youth)

No counties in this division had utilization rates of 80% or higher.



Stepping Up grading scale:

A=90% and above

B=80%-89%

C=70%-79%

D=60%-69%

F=59% and below

Florida's Top Civil Citation Efforts: By SCHOOL DISTRICT

This study classifies Florida school districts into three divisions based on the number of civil citation-eligible youth, which allow for fairer comparisons.

- Division One districts with 100 or more eligible youth
- Division Two districts with 31-99 eligible youth
- Division Three districts with 30 or less eligible youth.

The tables below use data from the Florida DJJ Civil Citation Dashboard for calendar year 2016 (gathered March 2017). Previous studies ranked the top 20% of each division. This year's study sets the benchmark for top-performance at 80% utilization or higher, which is equivalent to grades A-B.

Top Civil Citation Utilization by SCHOOL DISTRICT

DIVISION ONE

(of 19 districts with 100 or more eligible youth)

1.	Pinellas	97%
2.	Dade	95%
2.	Palm Beach	95%
4.	Collier	84%
4.	Pasco	84%
6.	Hernando	83%

Top Civil Citation Utilization by SCHOOL DISTRICT

DIVISION TWO

(of 18 districts with 31-99 eligible youth)

1.	Monroe	98%
2.	Citrus	91%
2.	Putnam	91%
2.	St. Johns	91%
5.	Alachua	84%
6.	Indian River	81%

Top Civil Citation Utilization by SCHOOL DISTRICT

DIVISION THREE

(of 30 districts with 30 or less eligible youth)

1.	Glades	100%
1.	Union	100%
3.	Wakulla	100%

Stepping Up: Florida's Top Juvenile Civil Citation Efforts 2017

Stepping Up grading scale:

A=90% and above

B=80%-89%

C=70%-79%

D=60%-69%

F=59% and below



Florida's Top Civil Citation Efforts: By LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY

This study classifies Florida law enforcement agencies into three divisions based on the number of civil citation-eligible youth, which allow for fairer comparisons.

- Division One agencies with 100 or more eligible youth
- Division Two agencies with 31-99 eligible youth
- Division Three agencies with 30 or less eligible youth.

The tables below use data from the Florida DJJ Civil Citation Dashboard for calendar year 2016 (gathered March 2017). Previous studies ranked the top 20% of each division. This year's study sets the benchmark for top-performance at 80% utilization or higher, which is equivalent to grades A-B.

Top Civil Citation
Utilization by LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY
DIVISION ONE

(of 57 agencies with 100 or more eligible youth)

1.	Miami-Dade Police (Dade Co.)	100%
2.	Pinellas Park Police Dept. (Pinellas Co.)	98%
2.	St. Petersburg Police Dept. (Pinellas Co.)	98%
4.	Homestead Police Dept. (Dade Co.)	96%
5.	Palm Beach School Dist. Police (Palm Bch)	94%
6.	Miami Police Dept. (Dade Co.)	93%
6.	Dade Co. Public Schools Police (Dade Co.)	93%
8.	Pinellas Co. Sheriff's Office (Pinellas Co.)	90%
9.	MetroDade Police Dept. (Dade Co.)	88%
10.	Clearwater Police Dept. (Pinellas Co.)	86%
10.	Gainesville Police Dept. (Alachua)	86%
12.	Pembroke Pines Police Dept. (Broward Co.)	82%
12.	Coral Springs Police Dept. (Broward Co.)	82%
14.	Sunrise Police Dept. (Broward Co.)	80%
14.	St. Johns Co. Sheriff's Office (St. Johns Co.)	80%



Stepping Up: Florida's Top Juvenile Civil Citation Efforts 2017

Stepping Up grading scale:

A=90% and above

B=80%-89%

C=70%-79%

D=60%-69%

F=59% and below

Top Civil Citation
Utilization by LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY
DIVISION TWO

(of 60 agencies with 31-99 eligible youth)

1.	Tarpon Springs Police Dept. (Pinellas Co.)	100%
1.	Hialeah Police Dept. (Dade Co.)	100%
1.	Pinellas Co. School Police Dept. (Pinellas)	100%
4.	Hillsborough Co. Sheriff's Office-District IV	98%
5.	Largo Police Dept. (Pinellas Co.)	97%
6.	Doral Police Dept. (Dade Co.)	96%
6.	Aventura Police Dept. (Dade)	96%
8.	North Miami Police Dept. (Dade Co.)	94%
8.	Key West Police Dept. (Monroe Co.)	94%
10.	North Miami Beach Police Dept. (Dade Co.)	88%
11.	Miami Gardens Police Dept. (Dade Co.)	85%
12.	Jupiter Police Dept. (Palm Beach Co.)	82%
12.	Monroe Co. Sheriff's Office (Monroe Co.)	82%

Top Civil Citation

Utilization by LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY

DIVISION THREE

(of 284 agencies with 30 or less eligible youth)

1.	Bal Harbour Village Police Department (Dade Co.)	100%
1.	Biscayne Park Police Department (Dade Co.)	100%
1.	Broward County Clerk of Circuit Court (Broward)	100%
1.	Broward County School Board Police Department (Broward)	100%
1.	Bureau Of Alcohol, Tobacco & Firearms (Hillsborough)	100%
1.	Division of Alcohol, Tobacco & Firearms (Brevard)	100%
1.	Escambia County Road Prison (Escambia)	100%
1.	Escambia County Solid Waste Department (Escambia)	100%
1.	Florida Highway Patrol - Troop C (Pinellas)	100%
1.	George Stone Area VoTech Center (Alachua)	100%
1.	Golden Beach Police Department (Dade)	100%
1.	Havana Police Department (Gadsden)	100%
1.	Hillsboro Beach Police Department (Broward)	100%
1.	Juno Beach Police Department (Palm Beach)	100%
1.	Leon County Clerk Of Circuit Court (Leon)	100%
1.	Longboat Key Police Dept. (Manatee)	100%
1.	Manatee Technical Institute (Manatee)	100%
1.	Miami-Dade Police Dept. – Hammocks (Dade)	100%
1.	Oakland Police Dept. (Orange)	100%
1.	Palm Beach County Clerk Of Circuit Court (Palm Beach)	100%
1.	Pasco Hernando Community College (Pasco)	100%
1.	Public Defender's Office (Indian river)	100%
1.	Public Defender's Office (Lake)	100%
1.	Seminole JAC (Seminole)	100%
1.	South Palm Beach Public Safety Dept. (Palm Beach)	100%
1.	St. Johns County Clerk Of Circuit Court (St. Johns)	100%
1.	St. Pete Beach Police Dept. (Pinellas)	100%
1.	State Attorney's Office (Orange)	100%
1.	State Attorney's Office - 5th Jud. Cir.(Lake)	100%
1.	Sumter Correctional Institution (Sumter)	100%
1.	Surfside Police Department (Dade)	100%
1.	Tequesta Police Dept. (Palm Beach)	100%
1.	Thirteenth Circuit - Juvenile Justice (Hillsborough)	100%
1.	Wakulla County Clerk Of Circuit Court (Wakulla)	100%
1.	Bay Harbor Island Police Dept. (Dade)	100%
1.	Division of Alcoholic Beverage and Tobacco (DBPR Leon)	100%
1.	Division Of Alcoholic Beverages And Tobacco (DBPR Orange)	100%
1.	Florida Highway Patrol - Troop K (Dade)	100%
1.	Gretna Police Dept. (Gadsden)	100%
1.	Medley Police Dept. (Dade)	100%
1.	Miami-Dade Police Dept. – Palmetto Bay (Dade)	100%
1.	Pasco County Clerk Of Circuit Court (Pasco)	100%
1.	El Portal Police Dept. (Dade)	100%
1.	Florida Highway Patrol - Troop K (Palm Beach)	100%
1.	Ocean Ridge Public Safety Dept. (Palm Beach)	100%
1.	Orange County Public Schools District Police (Orange)	100%
1.	Pinecrest Police Department (Dade)	100%
1.	Treasure Island Police Dept. (Pinellas)	100%
1.	Key Biscayne Police Dept. (Dade)	100%
1.	Lighthouse Point Police Dept. (Broward)	100%
1.	Sunny Isles Police Dept. (Dade)	100%
1.	Trenton Police Dept. (Gilchrist)	100%
1.	Div. of Alcoholic Beverages & Tobacco (DBPR Hillsborough)	100%

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Stepping Up: Florida's Top Juvenile Civil Citation Efforts 2017

Stepping Up is grading scale:

A=90% and above

B=80%-89%

C=70%-79%

D=60%-69%

F=59% and below



Top Civil Citation

Utilization by LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY

DIVISION THREE

(of 284 agencies with 30 or less eligible youth)

CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

1.	Ponce Inlet Police Dept. (Volusia)	100%
1.	Coral Gables Police Dept. (Dade)	100%
1.	South Miami Police Dept. (Dade)	100%
1.	Carrabelle Police Dept. (Franklin)	100%
1.	Kenneth City Police Dept. (Pinellas)	100%
1.	State Attorney's Office (Monroe)	100%
1.	Indian Shores Police Dept. (Pinellas)	100%
1.	Opa Locka Police Dept. (Dade)	100%
1.	Palm Springs Police Department (Palm Beach)	100%
1.	Div. of Alcoholic Beverage & Tobacco (DBPR Palm Beach)	100%
1.	Div. of Alcoholic Beverages & Tobacco (DBPR Dade)	100%
1.	Div. of Alcoholic Beverages & Tobacco (DBPR Broward)	100%
1.	Sweetwater Police Dept. (Dade)	100%
1.	Gulfport Police Dept. (Pinellas)	100%
68.	State Attorney's Office (Suwannee)	96%
69.	Palm Beach Police Dept. (Palm Beach)	93%
70.	Hialeah Gardens Police Dept. (Dade)	92%
71.	Florida City Police Dept. (Dade)	89%
72.	Fernandina Beach Police Department (Nassau)	86%
72.	Satellite Beach Police Dept. (Brevard)	86%
72.	Stuart Police Dept. (Martin)	86%
75.	Lady Lake Police Dept. (Lake)	82%
76.	Miami Shores Police Dept. (Dade)	80%
76.	Lantana Police Dept. (Palm Beach)	80%



Stepping Up: Florida's Top Juvenile Civil Citation Efforts 2017

Stepping Up is introducing a grading scale:

A=90% and above

B=80%-89%

C=70%-79%

D=60%-69%

F=59% and below

Florida's Top Civil Citation Efforts: By PROGRAMS

This study classifies Florida programs into three divisions based on the number of civil citation-eligible youth, which allow for fairer comparisons.

- Division One programs with 100 or more total releases
- Division Two programs with 31-99 total releases
- Division Three programs with 30 or less total releases.

Only those programs with a 4% (state average) or lower recidivism rate are ranked as top-performers. The tables below use 2014-2015 data from the Florida DJJ Civil Citation Comprehensive Accountability Report (CAR). Previous Stepping Up studies did not include program rankings. This is the first time this study has ranked programs.

Top Civil Citation Utilization by PROGRAM

DIVISION ONE

(of 20 programs with 100 or more total releases)

1.	17 Circuit Civil Citation Broward Co. Countywide Coordination	2%
1.	15 Circuit CC Alternative Juvenile First Offender Program	2%
3.	08 Circuit CC Alternative Div. Alachua Co. Teen Court	3%
3.	14 Circuit Civil Citation Bay Co. DJJ	3%
3.	11 Circuit Civil Citation Equal Justice	3%
3.	13 Circuit CC Alternative Div. Juvenile Arrest Avoidance Project	3%
3.	20 Circuit Civil Citation Lee Co. Sheriff's Office	3%
8.	18 Circuit Civil Citation Crosswinds Brevard Co.	4%
8.	01 Circuit Civil Citation Escambia Co. Court Admin.	4%
8.	05 Circuit Civil Citation WILA Marion. Co.	4%
8.	06 Circuit Civil Citation Pinellas Co. Sheriff's Office Juv. Div. Prog.	4%



4%

Program recidivism: State average

Florida's Top Civil Citation Efforts: By PROGRAMS (continued)

Top Civil Citation
Utilization by PROGRAM
DIVISION TWO

(of 12 programs with 31-99 total releases)

1.	20 Circuit Civil Citation Charlotte Co. Human Services	0%
1.	12 Circuit Civil Citation Manatee Co. Civil Diversion Program	0%
1.	01 Circuit CC Alternative Div. Santa Rosa Co. Teen Court	0%
1.	07 Circuit Civil Citation St. Johns Co. Sheriff's Office	0%
5.	05 Circuit Civil Citation Alternative Div. Hernando Co. Teen Court	2%
6.	05 Circuit CC Alternative Div. Marion Co. Teen Court	3%

Top Civil Citation
Utilization by PROGRAM
DIVISION THREE

(of 20 programs with 30 or less total releases)

1.	08 Circuit CC Alternative Div. Baker Co. Teen Court	0%
1.	07 Circuit Civil Citation Putnam Co. Juvenile Crime Prevention Off.	0%
1.	05 Circuit CC Alternative Div. Citrus Co. Teen Court	0%
4.	07 Circuit Civil Citation Flagler Co. Sheriff's Office	4%



Stepping Up: Florida's Top Juvenile Civil Citation Efforts 2017

52

Number of juvenile civil citation programs in Florida.



A Closer Look at the Impact of an Arrest for Common Youth Misbehavior

Past Stepping Up studies have addressed, in general, the impact of an arrest on a youth's future opportunities. In this year's study, the impact of an arrest is more deeply investigated through the following topics:

- The mental health trauma of an arrest and the following stigmatization
- The "labeling" effect and future arrests
- An arrest for common youth misbehavior as a "Social Determinant of Health"
- Aging-in and aging-out of adolescent criminal behavior

The mental health trauma of an arrest and the following stigmatization

An arrest for common youth misbehavior often causes significant mental health trauma, followed by the additional trauma of stigmatization.

<u>The mental health trauma from an arrest:</u>
"Arrests can be traumatizing, even if the individual is ultimately warned and released or diverted. Worse, between 75% and 93% of youth in the juvenile justice system have already experienced some degree of trauma, and arrests may trigger a post-trauma stress response."
Gilhuly K, Gaydos M, Avey H. *Reducing Youth Arrests Keeps Kids Healthy and Successful: A Health Analysis of Youth Arrest in Michigan (2017)*

<u>The additional trauma of stigmatization:</u>
"Being detained by police – whether at one's home, at school, on the street, or in another public location – can be stigmatizing for youth. Even if the young person is innocent, being placed in handcuffs, put into a squad car, brought down to the police station, and/or booked can all contribute to them being perceived and subsequently treated differently by their family, friends and authority figures."
Gilhuly K, Gaydos M, Avey H. *Reducing Youth Arrests Keeps Kids Healthy and Successful: A Health Analysis of Youth Arrest in Michigan (2017)*

"Experiencing trauma in childhood is widespread. In the United States, about 2 out of every 3 youth have been exposed to violence, crime, abuse and/or psychological trauma."
Pickens, I. B., Siegfried, C. B., Surko, M., & Dierkhising, C. B. (2016). Victimization and Juvenile Offending. Retrieved from http://www.nctsn.org/sites/default/files/assets/pdfs/victimization_juvenile_offending.pdf

"Once youth are labeled as 'delinquent' they can often be looked at differently by those most important for future opportunities like teachers, principals and school resource officers."

A Closer Look at the Impact of an Arrest for Common Youth Misbehavior (cont.)

The "labeling" effect

Youth arrested for common youth misbehavior are labeled "delinquent" - leading to them being treated differently by authority figures, including law enforcement that is more likely to arrest for future minor misbehaviors.

Labeling youth "delinquent"

"Once a youth is in the system, they are labeled 'delinquent' - making them more likely to be picked up by police for subsequent misbehaviors, and receive harsher punishments. For example, youth misbehaviors that could have previously resulted in police turning a blind eye to misconduct could now result in an arrest."

Liberman A, Kirk D, Kim K. Labeling Effects of First Juvenile Arrests: Secondary Deviance and Secondary Sanctioning. *Criminology.* 2014: 52(3):345-370

Basically, labeling a youth as delinquent creates an expectation by external actors of continued antisocial behavior and increases the likelihood they will be treated differently than others who were not arrested.

Wilson H, Hoge R. The effect of youth diversion programs on recidivism: A meta-analytic review. *Crim Justice Behav*. 2013: 40(5):497-518

Increased likelihood of arrest

A recent study in Chicago revealed youth with a previous arrest, compared to similar youth without an arrest, were more likely to be arrested in the future even if they engaged in similar levels of future delinquency (55% of those arrested previously were re-arrested vs. 9% of those not arrested previously).

Liberman A, Kirk D, Kim K. Labeling Effects of First Juvenile Arrests: Secondary Deviance and Secondary Sanctioning. *Criminology.* 2014: 52(3):345-370



The social determinants of health are the circumstances in which people are born, grow up, live, work, and age, as well as the systems put in place to deal with illness. These circumstances are in turn shaped by a wider set of forces: economics, social policies, and politics.
Centers for Disease Control



A Closer Look at the Harm of an Arrest for Common Youth Misbehavior (cont.)

An arrest for common youth misbehavior is a Social Determinant of Health

Being arrested for common youth misbehavior can negatively impact health in the short-term as adolescents, as well as into the long-term as adults. A youth arrest is one of the "social determinants of health," which is most easily described as where people live, work, play, grow and age; as well as the wider set of forces and systems - economic and social - that shape the conditions of a person's life.

Social Determinants of Health (SDOH)
"Although health care and individual behaviors undoubtedly influence health and well-being, more than 50% of our health is actually determined by social and environmental conditions called 'social determinants of health (SDOH).' These are shaped by environmental, economic, and social policies, which can either help build healthier communities or harm them."
Commission on the Social Determinants of Health. Closing the Gap in a Generation: Health Equity through Action on the Social Determinants of Health. Geneva, Switzerland: World Health Organization (2008)

Arrests impact education, a SDOH
Youth arrested by age 15 are 25% more likely to drop out of high school, and average 1.5 fewer years of education.
Kirk DS, Sampson RJ Juvenile Arrest and Collateral Educational Damage in the Transition to Adulthood. Social Educ. 2013; 86(1):36-62

More education leads to better health
People with more education can expect to live 7 years longer, on average, than their less educated peers.
Cutler DM, Lleras-Muney A. *Education and Health: Evaluating Theories and Evidence.* National Bureau of Economic research; (2006) Accessed March 22, 2013

Income is one of the largest predictors of health
"Higher incomes afford individuals and their families the benefit of economic security and wealth accumulation, which reduces stress, makes it easier to obtain health care when needed, increases access to healthy food, promotes physical activity, and makes it easier to find a home."
Egerter S, Braveman P, Sadegh-Nobari T, Grossman-Kahn R, Dekker M. *Education Matters for Health* (2009) San Francisco, CA: Robert Wood Johnson Foundfation; 20199 1-15

"Youth who are charged with a crime between the ages of 14 and 22 will experience approximately 20% lower earnings as adults."
Allgood S, Mustard D, Warren RS. *Impact of Youth Criminal Behavior on Adult Earnings*.; 2007. https://www.researchgate.net/publication/228713289

A Closer Look at the Harm of an Arrest for Common Youth Misbehavior (cont.)

Aging-in and aging-out of criminal behavior
Most adults during their adolescence were involved in some sort of common youth misbehavior that today could result in an arrest.

Aging-in
"Researchers found that 1/3 of young people engage in behaviors deemed delinquent before becoming an adult."
Holman B, Ziedenberg J. *The Dangers of Detention: The Impact of Incarcerating Youth in Detention and Other Secure Facilities.* Justice policy Institute; no date

Aging-out
"Research shows that the majority of youth naturally 'age-out' of delinquent behavior."
Elliot D. Serious Violent Offenders: Onset Developmental Course and Termination – the American Society of Criminology 1993 Presidential Address. Criminology 1994;32:1-21

"Rates of delinquency peak in adolescence and decline quickly after about the age of 20."
Kirk DS, Sampson RJ. Juvenile Arrest and Collateral Educational Damage in the Transition to Adulthood. *Social Educ.* 2013;86(1):36-62



"Detaining youth may actually interrupt and delay the normal pattern of 'aging-out' since detention disrupts their natural engagement with families, school, and work."
Holman B, Ziedenberg J. The Dangers of Detention: The Impact of Incarcerating Youth in Detention and Other Secure Facilities. Justice policy Institute; no date.

Florida County Rankings by Grade

Civil citation utilization is the percent eligible issued a civil citation. SOURCE: Florida Department of Juvenile Justice Civil Citation Dashboard January – December 2016. Accessed March 2017. Grade scale: A=90% and above; B=80%-89%; C=70%-79%;D=60%-69%; F= 59% and below.

Division 1 [bold = top-ranked]

Rank	County	CC UTIL %
GRADE: A		
1	**Dade**	**94%**
1	**Pinellas**	**94%***
GRADE: B		
3	**Monroe**	**87%**
GRADE C:		
4	St Johns	77% *
5	Alachua	73% *
6	Palm Beach	71% *
7	Broward	70%
GRADE: D		
8	Collier	69% *
9	Sarasota	68% *
9	Pasco	68% *
11	Marion	66%
12	Leon	62%
13	Hernando	61%
13	Seminole	61%
GRADE: F		
15	Indian River	59% *
16	St Lucie	58% *
17	Martin	57% *
18	Bay	55%
19	Volusia	51% *
20	Escambia	50%
21	Manatee	48% *
22	Orange	43% *
23	Charlotte	39% *
24	Lee	37%
25	Lake	36%
25	Hillsborough	36%
27	Duval	28%
28	Osceola	27%
29	Brevard	26%
30	Clay	20%
31	Highlands	17%
32	Santa Rosa	14%
33	Okaloosa	8%
34	Walton	1%
35	Polk	0%

Division 2 [bold = top-ranked] (cont.)

Rank	County	CC UTIL %

Note, there are no counties with A-D grades.

GRADE: F		
1	Flagler	52% *
2	Citrus	49% *
3	Nassau	46%
4	Putnam	44% *
5	Suwannee	36% *
6	Sumter	27% *
6	Okeechobee	27% *
8	Columbia	24%
9	Hendry	22%
10	Bradford	0%
10	Levy	0%
10	Hardee	0%

*

An asterisk * noted next to utilization rate means there was at least a 10% increase in utilization from the 2016 study.

Division 3 [bold = top-ranked]

There are no counties with A-B grades

GRADE: C		
1	Lafayette	75% *
2	Union	70%
GRADE: D		
3	Glades	67% *
GRADE: F		
4	Franklin	58% *
5	Wakulla	54%
6	Liberty	38% *
6	Gilchrist	38% *
8	Baker	32%
9	Jefferson	29%
10	Desoto	26% *
11	Gadsden	19% *
12	Jackson	17%
13	Hamilton	6%
14	Calhoun	0%
14	Holmes	0%
14	Dixie	0%
14	Taylor	0%
14	Madison	0%
14	Gulf	0%
14	Washington	0%

Florida School District Rankings by Grade

Civil citation utilization is the percent eligible issued a civil citation. SOURCE: Florida Department of Juvenile Justice Civil Citation Dashboard January – December 2016. Accessed March 2017. Grade scale: A=90% and above; B=80%-89%; C=70%-79%;D=60%-69%; F= 59% and below.

Division 1 [bold = top-ranked]

Rank	District	% UTIL
GRADE: A		
1	**Pinellas**	**97% ***
2	**Dade**	**95%**
2	**Palm Beach**	**95% ***
GRADE: B		
4	**Collier**	**84%**
4	**Pasco**	**84%**
6	**Hernando**	**83%**
GRADE: C		
7	Marion	76%
7	Broward	76%
9	Leon	75%
10	Escambia	74%
11	Lee	73%
12	Volusia	72%
GRADE: D		
13	St Lucie	62% *
13	Orange	62% *
15	Seminole	61%
15	Lake	61%
GRADE: F		
17	Manatee	58% *
18	Hillsborough	45% *
19	Polk	0%

Division 2 [bold = top-ranked]

Rank	District	% UTIL
GRADE: A		
1	**Monroe**	**98%**
2	**Citrus**	**91% ***
2	**Putnam**	**91% ***
2	**St Johns**	**91% ***
GRADE: B		
5	**Alachua**	**84% ***
6	**Indian River**	**81% ***
GRADE: C		
7	Bay	79% *
8	Sarasota	75% *
9	Okaloosa	74% *
10	Martin	72% *
GRADE: D		
11	Charlotte	69% *
GRADE: F		
12	Clay	54%
13	Suwannee	49% *
14	Highlands	45%
14	Brevard	45%
16	Santa Rosa	44%
17	Osceola	31%
18	Duval	26%

Division 3 [bold = top-ranked]

Rank	District	% UTIL

Note, there are no districts with B grades.

GRADE: A		
1	**Glades**	**100% ***
1	**Union**	**100%**
1	**Wakulla**	**100%**
GRADE: C		
4	Flagler	73% *
5	Nassau	70%
GRADE: D		
6	Liberty	67% *
GRADE: F		
7	Desoto	57% *
7	Hendry	57% *
9	Okeechobee	53% *
10	Sumter	52% *
11	Lafayette	50%
12	Columbia	45% *
13	Gilchrist	30% *
14	Baker	20%
15	Walton	9%
16	Calhoun	0%
16	Gulf	0%
16	Holmes	0%
16	Jackson	0%
16	Madison	0%
16	Taylor	0%
16	Jefferson	0%
16	Bradford	0%
16	Hamilton	0%
16	Levy	0%
16	Washington	0%
16	Gadsden	0%
16	Hardee	0%

*

An asterisk * noted next to utilization rate means there was at least a 10% increase in utilization from the 2016 study.

There are two districts – Dixie and Franklin – that had no eligible youth, which means that common youth misbehavior was handled without either an arrest or a civil citation.

Florida Law Enforcement Agency Rankings by Grade

Civil citation utilization is the percent eligible issued a civil citation. SOURCE: Florida Department of Juvenile Justice Civil Citation Dashboard January – December 2016. Accessed March 2017. Grade scale: A=90% and above; B=80%-89%; C=70%-79%;D=60%-69%; F= 59% and below.

Division 1 [bold = top-ranked]

Rank	County	Agency	% UTIL
GRADE: A			
1	**Dade**	**Miami Dade Police Department**	**100%**
2	**Pinellas**	**Pinellas Park Police Department**	**98%**
2	**Pinellas**	**St. Petersburg Police Department**	**98%**
4	**Dade**	**Homestead Police Department**	**96%**
5	**Palm Beach**	**Palm Beach County School District Police**	**94%**
6	**Dade**	**Miami Police Department**	**93%**
6	**Dade**	**Dade County Public Schools Police**	**93%**
8	**Pinellas**	**Pinellas County Sheriff's Office**	**90% ***
GRADE: B			
9	**Dade**	**MetroDade Police Department**	**88%**
10	**Pinellas**	**Clearwater Police Department**	**86% ***
10	**Alachua**	**Gainesville Police Department**	**86% ***
12	**Broward**	**Pembroke Pines Police Department**	**82%**
12	**Broward**	**Coral Springs Police Department**	**82%**
14	**Broward**	**Sunrise Police Department**	**80%**
14	**St Johns**	**St. Johns County Sheriff's Office**	**80% ***
GRADE: C			
16	Broward	Broward County Sheriff's Office	79%
17	Seminole	Altamonte Springs Police Department	77%
18	Sarasota	Sarasota County Sheriff's Office	74% *
19	Pasco	Pasco County Sheriff's Office	73% *
20	Escambia	Pensacola Police Department	72%
21	Collier	Collier County Sheriff's Office	70% *
GRADE: D			
22	Bay	Bay County Sheriff's Office	69%
22	Seminole	Seminole County Sheriff's Office	69%
24	Marion	Ocala Police Department	68%
25	Marion	Marion County Sheriff's Office	67%
26	Leon	Tallahassee Police Department	65%
26	St Lucie	Port St. Lucie Police Department	65% *
26	Indian River	Indian River County Sheriff's Office	65% *
29	Leon	Leon County Sheriff's Office	63%
30	Broward	Miramar Police Department	62%
30	Hernando	Hernando County Sheriff's Office	62%
32	Seminole	Sanford Police Department	60%
33	Volusia	Volusia County Sheriff's Office	60%

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An asterisk * noted

next to utilization rate means there was at least a 10% increase in utilization from the 2016 study.

Florida Law Enforcement Agency Rankings by Grade

Civil citation utilization is the percent eligible issued a civil citation. SOURCE: Florida Department of Juvenile Justice Civil Citation Dashboard January – December 2016. Accessed March 2017. Grade scale: A=90% and above; B=80%-89%; C=70%-79%;D=60%-69%; F= 59% and below.

Division 1 [bold = top-ranked]

Rank	County	Agency	% UTIL
GRADE: F			
34	Palm Beach	Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office	57%
35	St Lucie	St. Lucie County Sheriff's Office	52% *
35	Volusia	Daytona Beach Police Department	52% *
37	Lake	Lake County Sheriff's Office	51%
38	Martin	Martin County Sheriff's Office	50% *
38	Manatee	Manatee County Sheriff's Office	50% *
40	Lee	Fort Myers Police Department	44%
41	Escambia	Escambia County Sheriff's Office	42%
42	Orange	Orlando Police Department	41% *
43	Charlotte	Charlotte County Sheriff's Office	39% *
44	Lee	Cape Coral Police Department	38% *
44	Orange	Orange County Sheriff's Office	38% *
46	Lee	Lee County Sheriff's Office	37%
47	Hillsborough	Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office	34%
48	Hillsborough	Tampa Police Department	31%
49	Duval	Jacksonville Sheriff's Office	27%
50	Brevard	Brevard County Sheriff's Office	26%
51	Clay	Clay County Sheriff's Office	22%
52	Highlands	Highlands County Sheriff's Office	20%
53	Osceola	Osceola County Sheriff's Office	19%
54	Santa Rosa	Santa Rosa County Sheriff's Office	14%
55	Okaloosa	Okaloosa County Sheriff's Office	9%
56	Walton	Walton County Sheriff's Office	1%
57	Polk	Polk County Sheriff's Office	0%

*

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Florida Law Enforcement Agency Rankings by Grade

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Division 2 [bold = top-ranked]

Rank	County	Agency	% UTIL
GRADE: A			
1	**Pinellas**	**Tarpon Springs Police Department**	**100% ***
1	**Dade**	**Hialeah Police Department**	**100%**
1	**Pinellas**	**Pinellas County School Police Department**	**100%**
4	**Hillsborough**	**Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office-District IV**	**98%**
5	**Pinellas**	**Largo Police Department**	**97%**
6	**Dade**	**Doral Police Department**	**96%**
6	**Dade**	**Aventura Police Department**	**96%**
8	**Dade**	**North Miami Police Department**	**94%**
8	**Monroe**	**Key West Police Department**	**94% ***
GRADE: B			
10	**Dade**	**North Miami Beach Police Department**	**88% ***
11	**Dade**	**Miami Gardens Police Department**	**85%**
12	**Palm Beach**	**Jupiter Police Department**	**82% ***
12	**Monroe**	**Monroe County Sheriff's Office**	**82%**
GRADE: C			
14	Palm Beach	West Palm Beach Police Department	79% *
15	Collier	Naples Dept. of Police & Emergency Services	76% *
16	Pasco	New Port Richey Police Department	74% *
17	Sarasota	Sarasota Police Department	72% *
17	Broward	Davie Police Department	72%
19	Alachua	Alachua County Sheriff's Office	70% *
GRADE: D			
20	Broward	Coconut Creek Police Department	69%
20	Orange	Ocoee Police Department	69% *
22	Palm Beach	Boca Raton Police Department	65% *
23	Broward	Plantation Police Department	63%
24	Orange	Apopka Police Department	62% *
25	Bay	Division of Alcoholic Beverages & Tobacco (DBPR)	60%
25	Orange	Winter Garden Police Department	60% *

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Florida Law Enforcement Agency Rankings by Grade

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Division 2 [bold = top-ranked]

Rank	County	Agency	% UTIL
GRADE: F			
27	Citrus	Citrus County Sheriff's Office	59% *
28	Osceola	Kissimmee Police Department	57% *
29	Sarasota	North Port Police Department	56% *
30	Putnam	Putnam County Sheriff's Office	55% *
31	St Lucie	Fort Pierce Police Department	54% *
31	Flagler	Flagler County Sheriff's Office	54% *
33	Manatee	Bradenton Police Department	50% *
34	Seminole	Winter Springs Police Department	49%
35	Broward	Lauderhill Police Department	46%
36	Seminole	Longwood Police Department	45%
37	Seminole	Oviedo Police Department	42%
37	Bay	Panama City Beach Police Department	42%
39	Manatee	Palmetto Police Department	39% *
40	Duval	Jacksonville Beach Police Department	34%
41	Hendry	Hendry County Sheriff's Office	33% *
42	Broward	Hollywood Police Department	32% *
43	Okeechobee	Okeechobee County Sheriff's Office	31% *
44	Hillsborough	Plant City Police Department	29%
45	Sumter	Sumter County Sheriff's Office	27% *
46	Bay	Panama City Police Department	23%
46	Brevard	Melbourne Police Department	23%
48	Nassau	Nassau County Sheriff's Office	22%
49	Brevard	Palm Bay Police Department	21%
50	Volusia	Port Orange Police Department	20% *
51	Palm Beach	Boynton Beach Police Department	16%
52	Osceola	St. Cloud Police Department	0%
52	Suwannee	Suwannee County Sheriff's Office	0%
52	Lake	Clermont Police Department	0%
52	Polk	Lake Wales Police Department	0%
52	Lake	Leesburg Police Department	0%
52	Polk	Bartow Police Department	0%
52	Polk	Haines City Police Department	0%
52	Polk	Winter Haven Police Department	0%
52	Polk	Lakeland Police Department	0%

*

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Florida Law Enforcement Agency Rankings by Grade

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Division 3 [bold = top-ranked]

Asterisks identifying utilization improvement not calculated for agencies with less 30 than eligible youth.

Rank	County	Agency	% UTIL
GRADE: A			
1	Dade	Bal Harbour Village Police Department	100%
1	Dade	Biscayne Park Police Department	100%
1	Broward	Broward County Clerk of Circuit Court	100%
1	Broward	Broward County School Board Police Department	100%
1	Hillsborough	Bureau Of Alcohol, Tobacco & Firearms	100%
1	Brevard	Division of Alc Beverage, Tobacco & Firearms (Brevard)	100%
1	Escambia	Escambia County Road Prison	100%
1	Escambia	Escambia County Solid Waste Department	100%
1	Pinellas	Florida Highway Patrol - Troop C	100%
1	Alachua	George Stone Area VoTech Center	100%
1	Dade	Golden Beach Police Department	100%
1	Gadsden	Havana Police Department	100%
1	Broward	Hillsboro Beach Police Department	100%
1	Palm Beach	Juno Beach Police Department	100%
1	Leon	Leon County Clerk Of Circuit Court	100%
1	Manatee	Longboat Key Police Department	100%
1	Manatee	Manatee Technical Institute	100%
1	Dade	Miami-Dade Police Department – Hammocks	100%
1	Orange	Oakland Police Department	100%
1	Palm Beach	Palm Beach County Clerk Of Circuit Court	100%
1	Pasco	Pasco Hernando Community College	100%
1	Indian River	Public Defender's Office	100%
1	Lake	Public Defender's Office	100%
1	Seminole	Seminole JAC	100%
1	Palm Beach	South Palm Beach Public Safety Department	100%
1	St Johns	St. Johns County Clerk Of Circuit Court	100%
1	Pinellas	St. Pete Beach Police Department	100%
1	Orange	State Attorney's Office	100%
1	Lake	State Attorney's Office - 5th Jud. Cir.	100%
1	Sumter	Sumter Correctional Institution	100%
1	Dade	Surfside Police Department	100%
1	Palm Beach	Tequesta Police Department	100%
1	Hillsborough	Thirteenth Circuit - Juvenile Justice	100%
1	Wakulla	Wakulla County Clerk Of Circuit Court	100%
1	Dade	Bay Harbor Island Police Department	100%
1	Leon	Division of Alcoholic Beverage and Tobacco (DBPR)	100%
1	Orange	Division Of Alcoholic Beverages And Tobacco (DBPR)	100%
1	Dade	Florida Highway Patrol - Troop K	100%
1	Gadsden	Gretna Police Department	100%
1	Dade	Medley Police Department	100%
1	Dade	Miami-Dade Police Department – Palmetto Bay	100%
1	Pasco	Pasco County Clerk Of Circuit Court	100%
1	Dade	El Portal Police Department	100%
1	Palm Beach	Florida Highway Patrol - Troop K	100%
1	Palm Beach	Ocean Ridge Public Safety Department	100%
1	Orange	Orange County Public Schools District Police	100%

Florida Law Enforcement Agency Rankings by Grade

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Division 3 [bold = top-ranked]

Asterisks identifying utilization improvement not calculated for agencies with less 30 than eligible youth.

GRADE: (A cont.)

Rank	County	District	% UTIL
1	**Dade**	**Pinecrest Police Department**	**100%**
1	**Pinellas**	**Treasure Island Police Department**	**100%**
1	**Dade**	**Key Biscayne Police Department**	**100%**
1	**Broward**	**Lighthouse Point Police Department**	**100%**
1	**Dade**	**Sunny Isles Police Department**	**100%**
1	**Gilchrist**	**Trenton Police Department**	**100%**
1	**Hillsborough**	**Division of Alcoholic Beverages & Tobacco (DBPR)**	**100%**
1	**Volusia**	**Ponce Inlet Police Department**	**100%**
1	**Dade**	**Coral Gables Police Department**	**100%**
1	**Dade**	**South Miami Police Department**	**100%**
1	**Franklin**	**Carrabelle Police Department**	**100%**
1	**Pinellas**	**Kenneth City Police Department**	**100%**
1	**Monroe**	**State Attorney's Office**	**100%**
1	**Pinellas**	**Indian Shores Police Department**	**100%**
1	**Dade**	**Opa Locka Police Department**	**100%**
1	**Palm Beach**	**Palm Springs Police Department**	**100%**
1	**Palm Beach**	**Division of Alcoholic Beverage & Tobacco (DBPR)**	**100%**
1	**Dade**	**Division of Alcoholic Beverages & Tobacco (DBPR)**	**100%**
1	**Broward**	**Division of Alcoholic Beverages & Tobacco (DBPR)**	**100%**
1	**Dade**	**Sweetwater Police Department**	**100%**
1	**Pinellas**	**Gulfport Police Department**	**100%**
68	**Suwannee**	**State Attorney's Office**	**96%**
69	**Palm Beach**	**Palm Beach Police Department**	**93%**
70	**Dade**	**Hialeah Gardens Police Department**	**92%**
GRADE: B			
71	**Dade**	**Florida City Police Department**	**89%**
72	**Nassau**	**Fernandina Beach Police Department**	**86%**
72	**Brevard**	**Satellite Beach Police Department**	**86%**
72	**Martin**	**Stuart Police Department**	**86%**
75	**Lake**	**Lady Lake Police Department**	**82%**
76	**Dade**	**Miami Shores Police Department**	**80%**
76	**Palm Beach**	**Lantana Police Department**	**80%**
GRADE: C			
78	**Bay**	**Bay District Schools Police**	**75%**
78	**Palm Beach**	**Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission**	**75%**
78	**Jackson**	**Florida Highway Patrol - Troop A**	**75%**
78	**Lafayette**	**Lafayette County Sheriff's Office**	**75%**
78	**Volusia**	**Volusia County Beach Services**	**75%**
78	**Bay**	**Lynn Haven Police Department**	**75%**
84	Volusia	Orange City Police Department	74%
85	Duval	Division of Alcoholic Beverages & Tobacco (DBPR)	70%
85	Union	Union County Sheriff's Office	70%

Florida Law Enforcement Agency Rankings by Grade

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Division 3 [bold = top-ranked]

Asterisks identifying utilization improvement not calculated for agencies with less 30 than eligible youth.

Rank	County	Agency	% UTIL
GRADE: F (cont.)			
133	Gilchrist	Gilchrist County Sheriff's Office	24%
133	Columbia	Columbia County Sheriff's Office	24%
135	Duval	Duval County School Police	20%
136	Hernando	Brooksville Police Department	17%
136	Collier	Marco Island Police Department	17%
136	Citrus	Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission	17%
136	Volusia	Ormond Beach Police Department	17%
136	Brevard	Rockledge Police Department	17%
141	Columbia	FL Fish & Wildlife Conserv. Commission	14%
141	Brevard	Indialantic Police Department	14%
141	Indian River	Sebastian Police Department	14%
144	Hamilton	Hamilton County Sheriff's Office	13%
145	Santa Rosa	Gulf Breeze Police Department	10%
146	Volusia	Edgewater Police Department	8%
146	Gadsden	Gadsden County Sheriff's Office	8%
148	Jackson	Jackson County Sheriff's Office	7%
149	Brevard	Cocoa Police Department	6%
150	Flagler	Bunnell Police Department	0%
150	Levy	Cedar Key Police Department	0%
150	Sumter	Center Hill Police Department	0%
150	Polk	D C F District 14 - T A C	0%
150	Volusia	Department of Corrections - Probation	0%
150	St Lucie	Division of Alcoholic Beverages & Tobacco (DBPR)	0%
150	Orange	Eatonville Police Department	0%
150	Alachua	Eighth Circuit - Juvenile Justice	0%
150	Hillsborough	FDLE	0%
150	Hillsborough	Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission - C-13	0%
150	Lee	FL Fish & Wildlife Conserv. Comm. Div. Of Law Enforcement	0%
150	Leon	Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University	0%
150	Leon	Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles	0%
150	Leon	Florida Department of Law Enforcement	0%
150	Lee	Florida Gulf Coast University Police Department	0%
150	Escambia	Florida Highway Patrol - Troop A	0%
150	Alachua	Florida Highway Patrol - Troop B	0%
150	Hernando	Florida Highway Patrol - Troop C (C-5)	0%
150	Osceola	Florida Highway Patrol - Troop D	0%
150	Desoto	Florida Highway Patrol - Troop F	0%
150	Manatee	Florida Highway Patrol - Troop F	0%
150	Duval	Florida Highway Patrol - Troop G	0%
150	Gadsden	Florida Highway Patrol - Troop H	0%
150	Broward	Florida Highway Patrol - Troop L	0%

Florida Law Enforcement Agency Rankings by Grade

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Division 3 [bold = top-ranked]

Asterisks identifying utilization improvement not calculated for agencies with less 30 than eligible youth.

Rank	County	Agency	% UTIL
GRADE: F (cont.)			
150	Okaloosa	Florida Highway Patrol - Troop A	0%
150	Columbia	Florida Highway Patrol - Troop B	0%
150	Dixie	Florida Highway Patrol - Troop B	0%
150	Orange	Florida Highway Patrol - Troop K	0%
150	Hillsborough	Florida Highway Patrol - Troop K (circuit 13)	0%
150	Lake	Fruitland Park Police Department	0%
150	Franklin	FWC – Franklin County	0%
150	Lake	Groveland Police Department	0%
150	Holmes	Holmes County Sheriff's Office	0%
150	Polk	Lake Hamilton Police Department	0%
150	Lee	Lee County Clerk Of Circuit Court	0%
150	Santa Rosa	Milton Police Department	0%
150	Clay	Orange Park Police Department	0%
150	Alachua	Santa Fe Community College Police Department	0%
150	Lee	Twentieth Circuit - Juvenile Justice	0%
150	Alachua	University of Florida	0%
150	Hamilton	White Springs Police Department	0%
150	Desoto	Arcadia Police Department	0%
150	Lake	Astatula Police Department	0%
150	Leon	Florida Highway Patrol - General HQ	0%
150	Lake	Florida Highway Patrol - Troop D	0%
150	Highlands	Lake Placid Police Department	0%
150	Lake	Mascotte Police Department	0%
150	Taylor	Perry Police Department	0%
150	Gadsden	Quincy Police Department	0%
150	Polk	Davenport Police Department	0%
150	Hamilton	Jasper Police Department	0%
150	Jackson	Marianna Police Department	0%
150	Okaloosa	Niceville Police Department	0%
150	St Johns	St. Augustine Beach Police Department	0%
150	Hardee	Wauchula Police Department	0%
150	Hardee	Bowling Green Police Department	0%
150	Washington	Chipley Police Department	0%
150	Walton	DeFuniak Springs Police Department	0%
150	Polk	Florida Game and Freshwater Fish Commission	0%
150	Alachua	High Springs Police Department	0%
150	Manatee	Holmes Beach Police Department	0%
150	St Johns	St. Augustine Police Department	0%
150	Citrus	State Attorney's Office - Citrus County	0%
150	Lake	Tavares Police Department	0%
150	Taylor	Taylor County Sheriff's Office	0%
150	Levy	Williston Police Department	0%
150	Indian River	Fellsmere Police Department	0%

Florida Law Enforcement Agency Rankings by Grade

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Division 3 [bold = top-ranked]

Asterisks identifying utilization improvement not calculated for agencies with less 30 than eligible youth.

Rank	County	Agency	
GRADE: F (cont.)			
150	Alachua	Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission	0%
150	Gulf	Gulf County Sheriff's Office	0%
150	Polk	Lake Alfred Police Department	0%
150	Suwannee	Live Oak Police Department	0%
150	Okeechobee	Okeechobee Police Department	0%
150	Gulf	Port St. Joe Police Department	0%
150	Duval	State Attorney's Office	0%
150	Brevard	Cocoa Beach Police Department	0%
150	Madison	Madison County Sheriff's Office	0%
150	Washington	Washington County Sheriff's Office	0%
150	Highlands	Sebring Police Department	0%
150	Okaloosa	Fort Walton Beach Police Department	0%
150	Bradford	Starke Police Department	0%
150	Clay	State Attorney's Office	0%
150	Okaloosa	Crestview Police Department	0%
150	Putnam	Palatka Police Department	0%
150	Bradford	Bradford County Sheriff's Office	0%
150	Hendry	Clewiston Police Department	0%
150	Escambia	FWC- Bureau of Marine Enforcement - Pensacola	0%
150	Pasco	Dade City Police Department	0%
150	Brevard	Titusville Police Department	0%
150	Volusia	Deland Police Department	0%
150	Levy	Levy County Sheriff's Office	0%
150	Broward	Fort Lauderdale Police Department	0%
150	Hardee	Hardee County Sheriff's Office	0%
150	Polk	Auburndale Police Department	0%

Overview of Florida Juvenile Civil Citations

The 2015 Stepping Up study revealed juvenile civil citations generate three key benefits: Increasing public safety, improving youth outcomes, and saving lots of taxpayer money. The following represents last year's relevant narrative and key benefits.

Separating Common Youth Misbehavior from Serious Offenses

Common youth misbehaviors in the 21st Century result in dramatically different consequences. Decades ago, getting into a fight at school when no one was injured or vandalizing a bathroom wall previously brought consequences like a trip to the principal's office, apologies, shaking hands, or scrubbing the bathroom wall. In the community, stealing a key chain from a surf shop or underage beer drinking resulted in calls to parents, who would bring their own consequences of punishment and prevention from repeating those behaviors.

Today, such common youth misbehavior can result in being arrested – handcuffs, riding in the backseat of a police car, fingerprints, being detained until making bail, and most harmful having a criminal misdemeanor record that will impact employment, housing, loans and postsecondary education for the rest of one's life. For instance, try leasing a college apartment with a petit theft misdemeanor (stealing the key chain); or getting a part-time job to help pay for college with an assault and battery misdemeanor (fight without injury); or joining the military to serve your country with a misdemeanor drug charge (caught with a marijuana joint).

Florida leads the nation with the solution that separates common youth misbehavior from more serious offenses - it's called a civil citation and it provides an alternative to arrest.

Civil Citations Increase Public Safety, Improve Youth Opportunities and Save Taxpayer Money

Civil citations offer an alternative to arrest for youth under the age of 18 for the following common youth misbehavior:

+ Affray
+ Criminal mischief
+ Disrupting school function
+ Possession of marijuana
+ Disorderly conduct
+ Loitering
+ Battery
+ Petit theft
+ Possession of alcohol
+ Trespassing
+ Vandalism
+ Prowling

To receive a civil citation, youth must take responsibility for their actions, and complete the civil citation program that can involve:

- Community service (up to 50 hours)
- Mental health assessment to determine if youth are "first-time, one-time offenders" or are likely to reoffend
- Mandatory counseling for those deemed likely to reoffend, such as anger management for a teenage boy in a fight
- Letters of apology to the victim
- Letters of apology to law enforcement officers outlining their consequences had the officer chose to arrest

Overview of Florida Juvenile Civil Citations (cont.)

Research clearly shows civil citations increase public safety, improve youth opportunities and save taxpayer money. For public safety, the recidivism rate for civil citations is 4%, while it is 9% for other diversion programs.

With civil citations, valuable and limited "law and order" resources can be used to prevent and handle serious misdemeanors and all felonies, instead of being squandered on arrests for common youth misbehavior. In many Florida counties this amounts to hundreds of thousands, if not millions, of dollars of increased law & order resources to address serious crimes and criminals. What taxpayer doesn't want law & order resources shifted from arresting a 14-year-old girl stealing a blouse from the mall to preventing violent criminals committing armed robbery?

Civil citations improve youth opportunities by not burdening youth with a lifelong arrest record, which may be required to be disclosed on applications for employment, school, loans, military, housing and other aspects of life that shape quality of life and determine individual success. Additionally, resources like mental health counseling provided for youth deemed at risk to reoffend increase the likelihood of future individual success.

Civil citations save taxpayer money because it is significantly more expensive to arrest a youth for common youth misbehavior than to issue a civil citation. Cost savings estimates range from $1,467 to $4,614 per civil citation. The cost can be seamlessly reinvested into preventing and handling serious crimes and criminals.

A 2011 study by Florida TaxWatch Center for $mart Justice - *"Expansion of Civil Citation Programs Statewide Would Save Taxpayers Tens of Millions of Dollars and Improve Public Safety"* - showed a range of taxpayer savings of $44 million to $109 million annually. A 2012 study by the same organization - *"Modern Management and Sensible Savings*" - found diversion programs like civil citations can reduce the prison population by 10 percent and save taxpayers up to $139 million each year.

Another cost savings study in 2010 by Associated Industries of Florida - *"Getting Smart on Juvenile Crime in Florida: Taking It to the Next Level"* - places the cost of processing youth through the criminal justice system at $5,000 and the cost of issuing one civil citation $386. This is the current cost savings analysis utilized by the Florida Department of Juvenile Justice.