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DEPT. OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES



Jim Pillen, Governor

December 31, 2025

Mr. Brandon Metzler  
Clerk of the Legislature  
P.O. Box 94604  
Lincoln, NE 68509

Subject: Office of Juvenile Services Annual Report

Dear Mr. Metzler:

Nebraska Statute § 43-405(6) requires the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), Office of Juvenile Services to submit an annual report to the Legislature describing an assessment of the administrative costs of operating the facilities, cost of programming, and savings realized through reductions in commitments, placements, and evaluations.

Sincerely,

*Kathleen Stolz*

Kathleen Stolz  
Acting Director, Division of Children and Family Services

Attachment

# **Division of Children and Family Services: Office of Juvenile Services**

## **Office of Juvenile Services Annual Report**

**December 2025**

**Neb. Rev. Stat. § 43-405**

# Administrative and Programming Costs

The Youth Rehabilitation Treatment Center (YRTC) tables illustrate the programming, administrative, and facility costs for all YRTC facilities during State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2025. Please note that the table for The Office of Juvenile Services (OJS), located on Page 4, includes its own administrative costs as well as the total costs of all the facilities. Budgeted amounts do not include Medicaid dollars.

## YRTC Lincoln

YRTC Lincoln Costs SFY 2025			
	Programming	Administrative	Total Costs
Total Salaries Budgeted	\$3,683,983	\$301,717	\$3,985,700
Salary Expenditures	\$3,647,530	\$298,595	\$3,946,125
Salary % Expended	99.01%	98.97%	99.01%
Total Benefits Budgeted	\$1,044,397	\$106,073	\$1,150,470
Benefits Expenditures	\$1,075,709	\$109,301	\$1,185,010
Benefits % Expended	103.00%	103.04%	103.00%
Total Operating Budgeted	\$108,963	\$705,407	\$814,370
Operating Expenditures	\$119,607	\$774,638	\$894,245
Operations % Expended	109.77%	109.81%	109.81%
Total Budgeted	\$4,837,343	\$1,113,197	\$5,950,540
Total Expenditures	\$4,842,846	\$1,182,534	\$6,025,380
Total % Expended	100.11%	106.23%	101.26%

## YRTC Hastings

YRTC Hastings Costs SFY 2025			
	Programming	Administrative	Total Costs
Total Salaries Budgeted	\$3,635,949	\$1,193,951	\$4,829,900
Salary Expenditures	\$3,739,859	\$1,228,348	\$4,968,207
Salary % Expended	102.86%	102.88%	102.86%
Total Benefits Budgeted	\$1,014,440	\$414,070	\$1,428,510
Benefits Expenditures	\$1,070,406	\$429,591	\$1,499,997
Benefits % Expended	105.52%	103.75%	105.00%
Total Operating Budgeted	\$213,917	\$2,453,380	\$2,667,297
Operating Expenditures	\$211,322	\$2,422,219	\$2,633,541
Operations % Expended	98.79%	98.73%	98.73%
Total Budgeted	\$4,864,306	\$4,061,401	\$8,925,707
Total Expenditures	\$5,021,587	\$4,080,158	\$9,101,745
Total % Expended	103.23%	100.46%	101.97%

## YRTC Kearney

YRTC Kearney Costs SFY 2025			
	Programming	Administrative	Total Costs
Total Salaries Budgeted	\$8,557,890	\$1,448,849	\$10,006,739
Salary Expenditures	\$8,981,246	\$1,537,864	\$10,519,110
Salary % Expended	104.95%	106.14%	105.12%
Total Benefits Budgeted	\$2,464,540	\$603,631	\$3,068,171
Benefits Expenditures	\$2,613,633	\$678,548	\$3,292,181
Benefits % Expended	106.05%	112.41%	107.30%
Total Operating Budgeted	\$243,355	\$2,834,713	\$3,078,068
Operating Expenditures	\$103,340	\$2,286,243	\$2,389,583
Operations % Expended	42.46%	80.65%	77.63%
Total Budgeted	\$11,265,785	\$4,887,193	\$16,152,978
Total Expenditures	\$11,698,219	\$4,502,655	\$16,200,874
Total % Expended	103.84%	92.13%	100.30%

## Office of Juvenile Services Total Costs

Total OJS Costs SFY 2025				
	Total OJS Administrative Costs	Total YRTC Programming Costs	Total YRTC Administrative Costs	Total OJS
Total Salaries Budgeted	\$323,000	\$15,877,822	\$2,944,517	\$19,145,339
Salary Expenditures	\$298,134	\$16,368,635	\$3,064,807	\$19,731,576
Salary % Expended	92.30%	103.09%	104.09%	103.06%
Total Benefits Budgeted	\$89,000	\$4,523,377	\$1,123,774	\$5,736,151
Benefits Expenditures	\$92,955	\$4,759,748	\$1,217,440	\$6,070,143
Benefits % Expended	104.44%	105.23%	108.33%	105.82%
Total Operating Budgeted	\$185,000	\$566,235	\$5,993,500	\$6,744,735
Operating Expenditures	\$144,572	\$434,269	\$5,483,100	\$6,061,941
Operations % Expended	78.15%	76.69%	91.48%	89.88%
Total Budgeted	\$597,000	\$20,967,434	\$10,061,791	\$31,626,225
Total Expenditures	\$535,661	\$21,562,652	\$9,765,347	\$31,863,660
Total % Expended	89.73%	102.84%	97.05%	100.75%

# YRTC Commitment and Placement Demographics

The tables below show the comparisons of admissions from SFY 2023 through SFY 2025 of the YRTC facilities. The average length of stay only includes the time that a youth stays in that facility. Total admissions include both those youth admitted directly to the facility and those who transferred from another YRTC facility.

YRTC-Hastings			
	SFY2023	SFY2024	SFY2025
Rated Capacity	24	24	24
Average Length of Stay	214 days 7.03 months	191 days 6.4 months	277 days 9.1 months
Average Daily Population	13 youth	13 youth	13 youth
Total Admissions	31 youth	31 youth	22 youth
Average Age at Admission	17 years	17 years	16 years
Recidivism Rate (return to facility within 12 months)	7%	7%	31%

YRTC-Kearney			
	SFY2023	SFY2024	SFY2025
Rated Capacity	172	172	142
Average Length of Stay	288 days 9.5 months	256 days 8.5 months	308 days 10.1 months
Average Daily Population	52 youth	62 youth	78 youth
Total Admissions	77 youth	79 youth	111 youth
Average Age at Admission	17 years	17 years	17 years
Recidivism Rate (return to facility within 12 months)	14%	17%	20%

YRTC-Lincoln			
	SFY2023	SFY2024	SFY2025
Rated Capacity	20	20	20
Average Length of Stay	244 days 8 months	155 days 5.2 months	239 days 7.8 months
Average Daily Population	8 youth	12 youth	14 youth
Total Admissions	* admissions 19 transfers	8 admissions 19 transfers	* admissions 15 transfers
Average Age at Admission	17 years	16 years	17 years
Recidivism Rate (return to facility within 12 months)	12%	14%	12%

\* All values between 1-5 are masked to protect privacy.

## Cost Savings

During the SFY 2025, OJS experienced a 15% increase in juvenile commitments, placements, and evaluations compared to the SFY 2024. In total, OJS ended the year having expended 100.75% of the allotted budget. The YRTCs do not possess any authority over juvenile commitments within the justice system and are unable to deny placement into the program. Juveniles are adjudicated through the courts, and if committed to OJS, must enter the program. OJS makes continuous efforts to reduce recidivism and increase successful rehabilitation through advocating for all youth committed to services, placements, and evaluations.