



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES  
**PROBATION**  
DEPARTMENT

**Los Angeles County Probation  
COVID-19 Weekly Update**

**August 27, 2021**

**Efforts to address the medically fragile population in detention facilities**

The Probation Department currently does not have any youth with compromised immune systems or other medical conditions placing them at higher risk for COVID-19 infection. As of August 26, 2021, Juvenile Court Health Services (JCHS) has identified 21 youth in care with underlying medical conditions which might exacerbate the impact of such infection. There are 15 youth in juvenile hall and 6 in camp. If infection were to occur JCHS and the Probation Department will be working together on individualized plans to address their care.

**Efforts to further reduce population in adult and juvenile detention facilities while balancing public safety**

The Probation Department's juvenile detention population has declined during the COVID-19 pandemic. On March 2, 2020, the total juvenile detention population was 840.

On August 26, 2021, the total population was 419. The population for the two juvenile halls was 291 and the population for the five camps was 128.

The California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) continued to schedule early releases from California prisons to the Probation Department AB109 program. For the month of July 2021, there were 39 early releases. Since April 2020, 3,339 individuals were released early from CDCR.

## **Efforts to provide resources to support those released from jails, and juvenile detention facilities to prevent homelessness**

The Probation Department continues to make efforts to reduce the population in juvenile halls by releasing youth to parents, guardians, and suitable placements when appropriate. Youth are not released into the community without a place to live.

The Probation Department continues to partner with CDCR to receive early releases from California prisons to AB109 supervision in the communities. All homeless adult clients are provided with housing referrals. Of the 39 early releases in the month of July 2021, 19 required referrals for housing.

## **Plans for quarantining and isolating youth in custody**

The Probation Department continues to utilize the plans for quarantine and isolation in accordance with the Public Health Order to reduce the transmission of COVID-19. All isolations and quarantines in detention facilities continue to occur in partnership with JCHS personnel. Upon entry to probation facilities, all youth continue to be tested for COVID-19 and remain apart from the general population and living units under quarantine.

As of August 26, 2021, there was one youth who tested positive for COVID-19 and 102 youth quarantined for possible exposure to someone with COVID-19. Youth residing in quarantine living units do not interact with youth in non-quarantine living units.

All juvenile hall living units and camps under quarantine have full programming. Youth under quarantine continue to have access to virtual visiting and an increase in telephone communication with families. The youth in quarantine continue to participate in programming with their living unit, with limits set to avoid interaction with the non-quarantined youth. The youth under quarantine in juvenile halls have individual laptops for virtual remote learning services, provided by the Los Angeles County Department of Education (LACOE).

The quarantined youth in camp continue to have programming and activities. The camps under quarantine remain closed to newly admitted youth who have been given camp dispositions from juvenile court. Quarantined units are precautionary measures that have been placed due to a possible COVID-19 exposure and the youth are monitored to identify illness if present.

### **Increased washing of hands, hygiene, additional cleaning supplies and custodial services**

The Probation Department has continued to utilize the hygiene and cleaning plans outlined in the first weekly update. The Probation Department continues to receive additional supplies to assist with cleaning and enhanced safety measures. The field offices have safety plans in place that evolve to keep pace with local and state health orders.

### **Screening of youth, focus on healthy staffing in the detention facilities**

The Probation Department continues to screen newly detained youth upon their arrival to juvenile hall. They are separated from other youth until negative COVID-19 results are received. Employees continue to be screened prior to their entrance into detention facilities. Youth who have tested positive remain in medical isolation and those youth who potentially have been exposed are quarantined and continue to be monitored by JCHS.

### **Information on Probation Employees' COVID-19 status**

Since February 2020, 901 Probation Department employees have tested positive for COVID-19. Of the 901 employees, 436 employees work in juvenile facilities and 465 work in field offices which includes 3 contract employees. The totals include five employees from juvenile facilities, 11 employees from field operations, and one contract employee that tested positive for COVID-19 this past week.

The Probation Department continues monitoring to ensure employees are wearing masks, washing hands, and maintaining physical distancing.

### **In person visitation and virtual visitation continue to keep families connected and increase communication.**

There were 99 in-person visits in the juvenile halls and camps this past weekend. Specifically, 58 visits occurred in the juvenile halls and 41 occurred in the camps.

### **Additional Information**

As of August 26, 2021, there were 140 youth in Short Term Residential Treatment Programs (STRTP) and 24 youth with Resource Families. This past week, no youth tested positive for COVID-19 and four youth had to quarantine due to possible exposure to someone who tested positive with COVID-19.



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*The Los Angeles County Probation Department is committed to rebuilding lives and providing for healthier and safer communities for all 10 million residents of Los Angeles County. Through a variety of programs, community partnerships and services, the Probation Department's mission is to enhance public safety, ensure victims' rights and effect positive probationer behavioral change. The Probation Department comprises nearly 6,100 employees and has an operational budget of \$900 Million as of 2019.*

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