

**Prevalence of DHS and OHA Program Access Prior to First OYA Commitment:  
An Exploratory Analysis**

*Key Points*

- Sample of **10,017 youth** who began their **first OYA commitment** to either probation or close custody between **January 2000 and July 2013**.
- Examined youth's **prior involvement** with **Medical Assistance, Self-Sufficiency, Mental Health Treatment Services, Alcohol and Drug Treatment Services, Child Protective Services, and Foster Care**.
- Of the youth included in the sample, **90% utilized one or more service program areas** prior to commitment.
- **Percentage involved in each program area** prior to OYA commitment:
  - o Medical Assistance: **80%**
  - o Self-Sufficiency: **64%**
  - o Mental Health Treatment Services: **58%**
  - o Alcohol and Drug Treatment Services: **40%**
  - o Child Protective Services: **21%**
  - o Foster Care: **19%**
- **Average time between first program involvement and OYA commitment:**
  - o Child Protective Services: **6 years**
  - o Foster Care, Self-Sufficiency, and Medical Assistance: **5 years**
  - o Mental Health Treatment Services: **3 years**
  - o Alcohol and Drug Treatment Services: **1 year**
- **Average age at first program involvement:**
  - o Self-Sufficiency, Child Protective Services, and Foster Care: **10 years old**
  - o Medical Assistance: **11 years old**
  - o Mental Health Treatment Services: **12 years old**
  - o Alcohol and Drug Treatment Services: **15 years old**
  - o OYA commitment: **15.5 years old**
- **Overlap** in program utilization:
  - o The majority of youth who were involved with DHS or OHA **accessed more than one program** prior to OYA commitment.
  - o Data show **notable overlap** between involvement with **Child Protective Services, Foster Care, Mental Health Treatment Services, and Alcohol and Drug Treatment Services**.
- **Key differences in program utilization by youth characteristics:**
  - o Youth committed to **close custody under OYA jurisdiction** are more likely to have been involved with **Foster Care** compared to youth committed to OYA probation or close custody under DOC jurisdiction.
  - o Compared to male youth offenders, **female youth offenders** are significantly more likely to have experienced maltreatment substantiated by **Child Protective Services** and to have been placed in **Foster Care**.
  - o **Hispanic/Latino** youth appear to have **unequal access** to Mental Health Treatment Services.
  - o **African American** youth are **disproportionally impacted** by certain program areas **including Self-Sufficiency and Foster Care**.
  - o Involvement in **Alcohol and Drug Treatment Services** prior to OYA commitment is related to **higher recidivism risk** measured by OYA's risk tools (i.e., ORRA and ORRA-V).