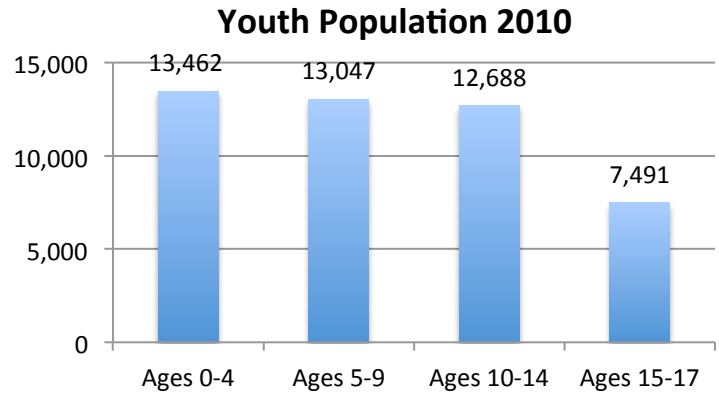


## Little Rock Youth Data

For use in the development of a Master Plan for Children, Youth and Families

### Population:

- The City's total youth population ages 0-17 is approximately 46,688.
- Across five of the seven areas of the City, youth population has remained fairly stable. The number of youth in 2010 in the West, Northwest, Southwest, Central and East areas are very similar to the number of youth in those areas in 1990. Youth population growth has occurred from 1990 to 2010 in the Far West Area of Little Rock. More of Little Rock's youth live in the Far West area than in any other area of the city. The Midtown area, which accounted for one fifth of the City's youth population in 1990, saw its youth population as a percent of the City's total population cut nearly in half.



### Poverty:

- In 2010, 23% of youth were living in poverty city-wide. Where poverty exists has changed between 1990 and 2010. In some areas of the City the change has been drastic. In 1990, 54% of youth in the East area lived in poverty. That percent was reduced to 20% in 2010. During the same period, the percent of youth in Southwest that live in poverty doubled from 19% to 40%. According to Federal guidelines, poverty above 40% in an area is extreme. Southwest, Midtown, and Central are high poverty areas.

### Transportation:

- The areas with highest poverty (above 40%) are also the areas with more households without reliable transportation. In the Central area, only 78 out of every 100 households have at least one vehicle.

### Education:

- In areas of Little Rock with high poverty rates (above 40%) between one in five and one in three young adults have not completed high school.
- Although nearly one-fourth of all 18 to 24 year-olds living in the Far West and North West areas have obtained a bachelor's degree, fewer than one in twenty have a college degree in the West, Southwest and East areas. 10% and 21% of individuals living in the Midtown and Central areas, respectively hold a bachelor's degree.

### Juvenile crime:

- Though the rate of juvenile crime has been decreasing since 1991, The City of Little Rock experienced a spike in juvenile crime in 2011. Between 2011 and 2014 there was a 9%

Sources: New Futures for Youth, Status of Youth in Little Rock Report 2010; NLC Leadership for Juvenile Justice Reform TA Initiative presentation; and Department of Community Programs-Prevention, Intervention, and Treatment Funded programs.

## Little Rock Youth Data

For use in the development of a Master Plan for Children, Youth and Families decrease in charges filed against youth (2,636 in 2011 compared to 2,392 in 2014) and 40% decline in youth arrests (1,777 in 2011 compared to 1,064 in 2014).

- More than 2,000 arrests were made in schools in years 2010-2012. Most juvenile arrests occur between 8 a.m.-4 p.m., and most are on or around school grounds.

### *Department of Community Programs:*

The City of Little Rock currently serves approximately 4000 youth<sup>1</sup> (2000 in community based programs; 1000 in summer programming; 1000 through departmental collaborations {Parks and Recreation & Little Rock Police Department}).

Through FUTURE-Little Rock, \$3.02 million per year was appropriated for Prevention, Intervention, and Treatment (PIT) programs for Little Rock citizens. This ongoing appropriation is administered through the Department of Community Programs by contracting with established 501c(3) community and faith-based organizations to provide services. These programs include the following:

- **Prevention – Purpose/approach:** Reach children and young adults before they commit a crime or become involved in youth and gang violence.
  - These programs are contracted services designed to offer specialized tutoring and homework assistance for Little Rock youth ages 3 through 9 or 10-12 or 13-18.
  - The program seeks to enhance specific skills in areas appropriate to grade level as well as afford participants opportunities to apply skills learned through planned projects, exercises, field trips, etc.
  - Examples include: Boys & Girls Clubs, Inner City Futurenet.
- **Intervention – Purpose/approach:** Deliberate outreach to children and young adults before they become involved in criminal activities or change current activities.
  - The YIP program offers several programs targeting at-risk youth between the ages of 13-19 years of age.
  - The staff provides intensive case management and they are available 24 hours a day to provide emergency support to youth and their families.
  - YIP examples: Greater Second Care, Hamilton, Better Community Development.
- **Treatment – Purpose/approach:** Reach children and young adults who have become addicted to drugs and alcohol.

Services from the City of Little Rock Department of Community Services in 2015 include:

1. Re-entry programs/services
2. Skills training
3. PIT expansion and youth development (prevention and afterschool programs)
4. Transition/disconnected youth
5. Domestic violence (education, training, and awareness services)
6. Summer programs

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<sup>1</sup> 4,000 youth include more than neighborhood-based programs. It is inclusive of partnership and additional programs.

Sources: New Futures for Youth, Status of Youth in Little Rock Report 2010; NLC Leadership for Juvenile Justice Reform TA Initiative presentation; and Department of Community Programs-Prevention, Intervention, and Treatment Funded programs.