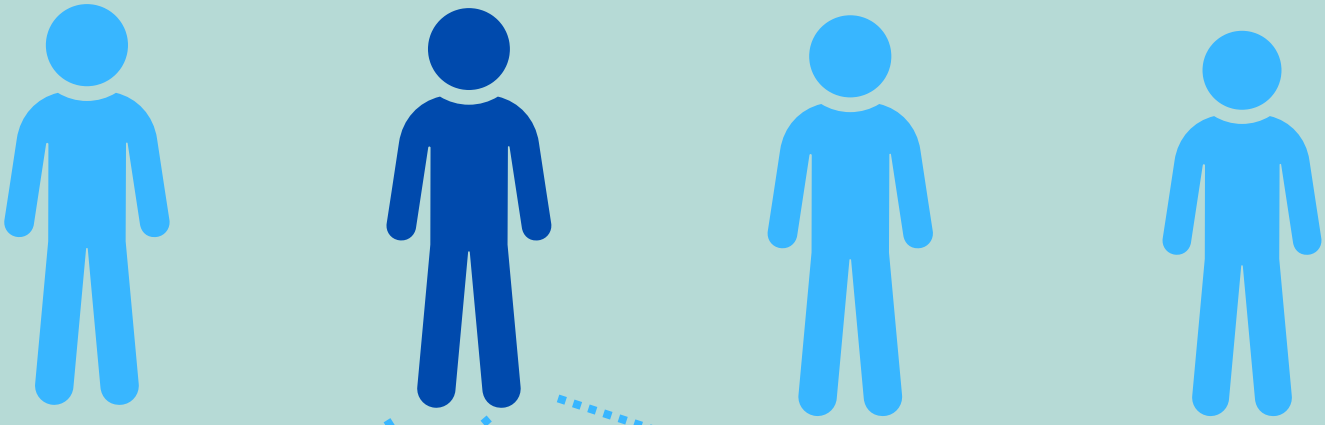
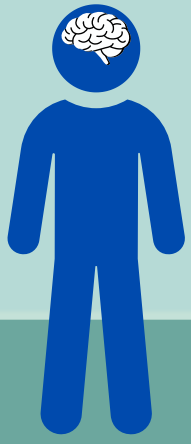
# HARMS OF JUVENILE DETENTION

Detention disrupts every aspect of a young person's life, from their physical and mental health to their educational and employment success. Confinement exposures youth to violence and trauma, and disproportionately impacts Black, Latine and Native/Indigenous youth. After detention, youth are also more likely to be adjudicated delinquent, withdraw from school, experience poor health and mental health outcomes and become pushed farther into the criminal legal system.

**More than 1 in 4 children awaiting adjudication spend time in pre-trial detention. (1)**



## Poor health outcomes



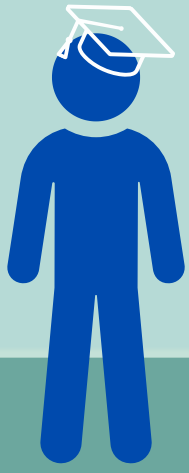
**1 in 3 youth**

develop depression after entering detention (2)

***AND***

Youth are more likely to develop depressive symptoms as an adult if they experienced detention as a youth. (3)

## Lack of access to education



**1/4** of youth drop out of school within 6 months of release. (4)

Detention has **Less & Fewer** Special Education instruction hours of instruction. (4)

## Increased contact with the legal system



**Just 1 day in detention** increases the likelihood that a young person will commit another offense in the future by **33%** (5)

**The average detention stay costs $588 per day, or $214,620 per year.(6)**

**Days 40** Average length of stay in pre-trial detention is 40 days.(7)

**8x** Black youth are 8x more likely to be detained than white youth.(8)

Updated 2026

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