



Annual Report on Forensic Services in State Supported Living Centers Fiscal Year 2015

As Required by
Texas Health and Safety Code
Section 555.002(e)

**Texas Department of Aging and Disability Services
State Supported Living Centers Division**

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An Equal Opportunity Employer and Provider

Introduction and Charge

As required by Texas Health and Safety Code 555.002(e), the Department of Aging and Disability Services (DADS) shall collect data regarding the commitment of alleged offender residents to state supported living centers (SSLCs), including any offense with which an alleged offender resident is charged, the location of the committing court, whether the alleged offender resident has previously been in the custody of the Texas Juvenile Justice Department (TJJD) or the Department of Family and Protective Services (DFPS), and whether the alleged offender resident receives mental health services or previously received any services under a Section 1915(c) waiver program. The agency shall annually submit to the governor, lieutenant governor, speaker of the House of Representatives and standing committees of the Legislature with primary subject matter jurisdiction over SSLCs a report of the information collected under this section. The report cannot contain identifiable information for any resident.

For the purposes of this report, and as set out in Health and Safety Code, §555.001(1), an “alleged offender resident” of an SSLC is defined as a “person with an intellectual disability who (a) was committed to or transferred to an SSLC under Chapter 46B or 46C, Code of Criminal Procedure, as a result of being charged with or convicted of a criminal offense; or (b) is a child committed to or transferred to an SSLC under Chapter 55, Family Code, as a result of being alleged by petition or having found to have engaged in delinquent conduct constituting a criminal offense.”

The following information provides context for and trending of data related to the provision of appropriate services and supports for residents classified as “alleged offender residents” of SSLCs in Texas. As of August 31, 2015, 195 alleged offenders were receiving services in SSLCs, representing 6 percent of the 3,186 SSLC service population (see Figure 1).

Designation of Primary Forensic Facility and High Risk Determinations

Consistent with direction set by Senate Bill 643, 81st Legislature, Regular Session, 2009, Mexia SSLC has been designated as the primary provider of residential services and supports for alleged offender residents. Policies, procedures, practices and organizational structures have been modified to ensure all alleged offender residents are assessed following admission to determine if they are at high risk of inflicting substantial physical harm to other residents. If determined to be at high risk, the resident will be assessed annually thereafter. If determined not to be at high risk, the resident may request a transfer to another SSLC.

Currently, all male alleged offenders admitted under Chapter 46B of the Code of Criminal Procedure or

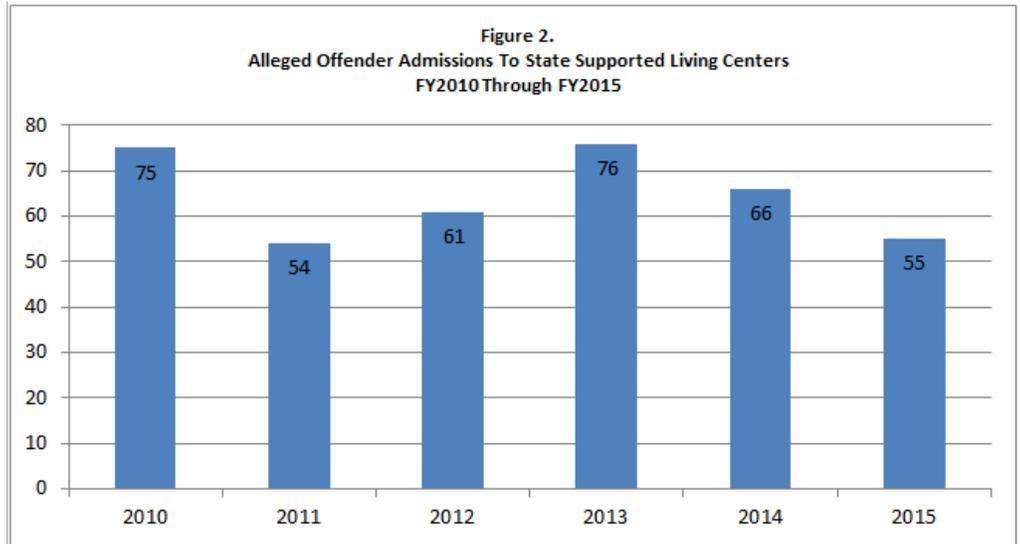
Facility	Totals	% of Total
Abilene	0	0.0%
Austin	1	0.51%
Brenham	0	0.00%
Corpus Christi	8	4.10%
Denton	5	2.56%
El Paso	2	1.03%
Lubbock	4	2.05%
Lufkin	1	0.51%
Mexia	143	73.33%
Richmond	0	0.0%
Rio Grande	1	0.51%
San Angelo	28	14.36%
San Antonio	2	1.03%
Total	195	

Chapter 55 of the Family Code are served at Mexia SSLC and female alleged offenders are served at San Angelo SSLC.

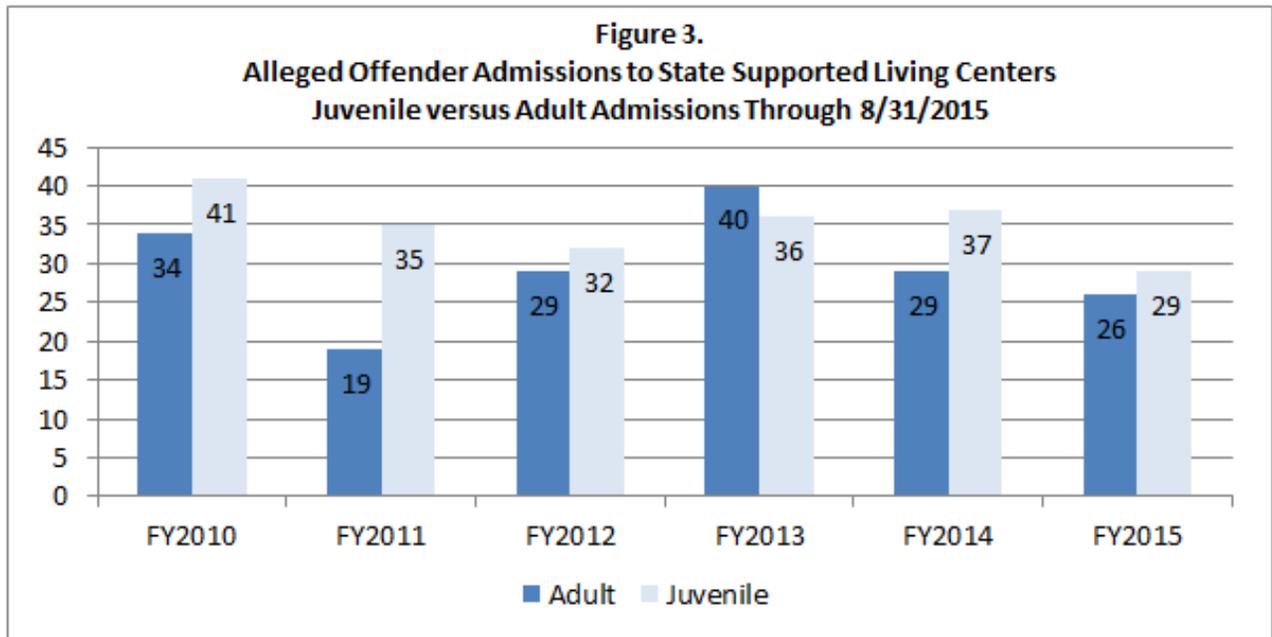
While Mexia SSLC currently serves approximately 73 percent of all alleged offenders in the system, 14 percent reside at San Angelo SSLC and 4 percent at Corpus Christi SSLC.

Trends in Admission and Separation of Alleged Offenders

A total of 387 residents classified as alleged offenders were admitted to SSLCs between FY2010 and FY2015 (Figure 2). The majority of admissions were to Mexia SSLC, with a much smaller percentage of admissions to San Angelo SSLC. All alleged offenders whose admission to the SSLC system is ordered by a court are initially admitted to Mexia SSLC (males) or San Angelo SSLC (females).



Juvenile alleged offender and adult alleged offender admissions did show a decrease in FY2015 compared to FY2014 (see Figure 3).



An analysis of commitments by county in FY2015 shows that eight counties accounted for 33 of the 55 court-ordered admissions (see Figure 4). Tarrant, Dallas and Harris counties had five or more court-ordered admissions.

Figure 4. Court-Ordered Two or More Admissions FY2015	
County	# of Orders
Tarrant	8
Dallas	7
Harris	5
Bexar	4
Jefferson	3
San Jacinto	2
Hidalgo	2
Randall	2

As expected, the data reflect larger numbers of court-ordered admissions from the more populous Dallas, Harris and Tarrant counties. Counties with two or more court-ordered admissions in FY2015 were Bexar, Jefferson, San Jacinto, Hidalgo and Randall.

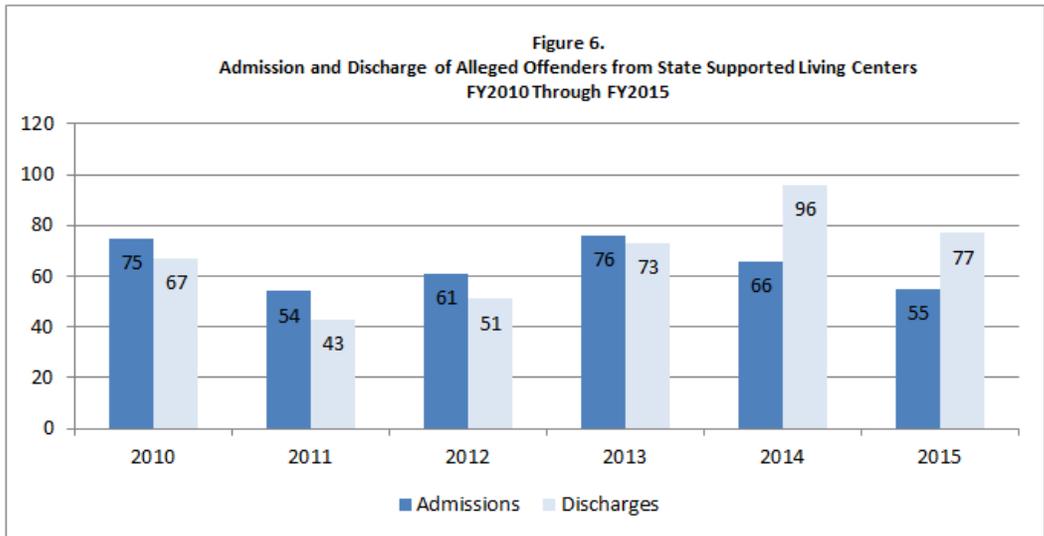
Data related to the primary alleged offenses for the 55 individuals admitted in FY2015 reveal a large majority of the alleged offenses are in three areas: assault/injury/murder (67 percent), charges associated with burglary/theft/robbery (9 percent) and sexual offenses (13 percent). The offense categories are detailed in Figure 5.

The 55 admissions in FY2015 included one resident who had previously received services through the TJJD; 12 residents having previously been in the conservatorship of the DFPS; one resident having previously received services under Section 1915 (c) waiver program; and 40 residents receiving psychiatric care.

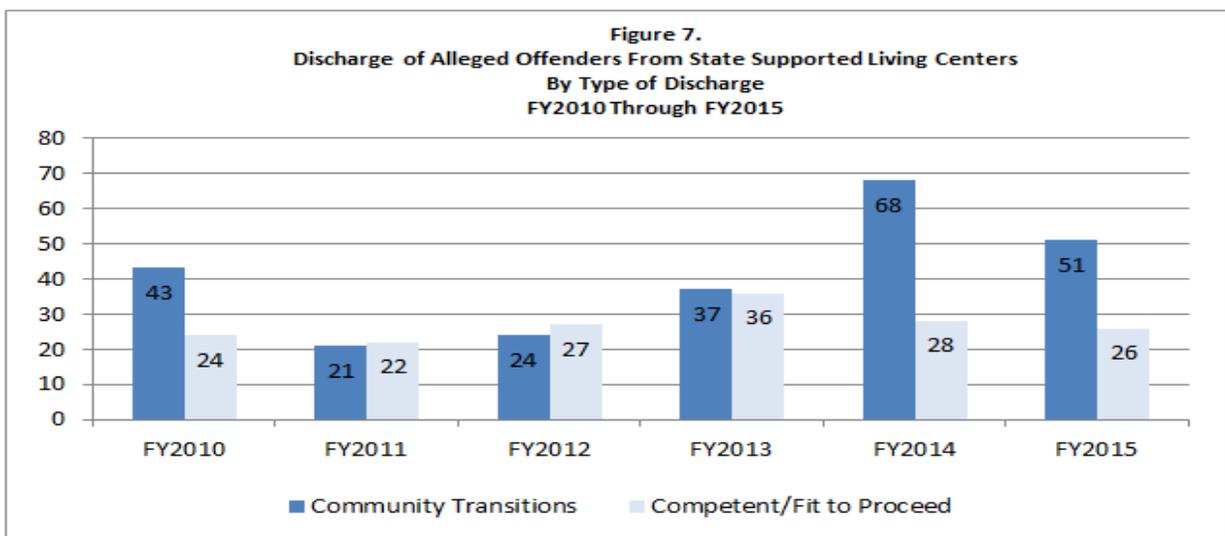
Once a resident is admitted to an SSLC through court order, the resident’s interdisciplinary team determines appropriate services and also determines, in accordance with federal regulations, when the resident is able to transition to a less-restrictive setting. If a resident is determined to be appropriate for transition from the SSLC, the SSLC notifies the committing court about the planned transition.

Figure 5. Primary Alleged Offenses for all Admissions FY2015		
Alleged Offenses	# of Residents	Percentage
Arson	2	3.64%
Assault/Injury/Murder	37	67.27%
Burglary/Theft/Robbery	5	9.09%
Drug-Related Offenses	1	1.82%
Sexual Offenses	7	12.73%
Other	3	5.45%
Total Admissions	55	

Data related to the separation of alleged offenders from the SSLCs from FY2010 through FY2015 were compared to similar data for admissions during this same period of time. An average of 65 residents were admitted to the SSLCs as alleged offenders during each fiscal year. During this same period, an average of 68 alleged offenders were discharged or transitioned from the SSLCs each fiscal year. Figure 6 outlines admissions and separations of alleged offenders from SSLCs from FY2010 through FY2015.



Separations of alleged offenders fall into two main categories: (1) discharge due to a determination of competency/fitness to proceed through the court system and (2) transition to the community. If the resident is assessed during his or her initial evaluation period and is determined competent or fit to proceed, he or she is returned to the criminal justice system for appropriate dispensation of pending charges. If determined not competent or not fit to proceed, the resident is provided services and supports to develop appropriate skills and abilities to transition safely and appropriately to a less-restrictive residential setting.



Between FY2010 to FY2015, 163 alleged offender residents were determined competent/fit to proceed, and 244 alleged offender residents were transitioned to a community setting after the resident was determined to no longer require the extensive services and supports provided by the SSLC system.

Demographic Trends of Current Alleged Offender Residents (FY2015)

An evaluation of the 195 alleged offenders receiving SSLC services as of August 31, 2015 found:

- **Alleged offenders are young.**

The average age of the alleged offender resident is 31 which compares to the average age of 49 for non-alleged offenders. Of the alleged offender residents, 31 percent are 21 or younger. Eight percent are 55 or older. Refer to Figure 8 for a breakdown of age.

- **Alleged offenders are predominantly male.**

Of the alleged offenders in SSLCs, 92 percent are male which compares to 61 percent who are non-alleged offenders.

- **Alleged offenders have significant behavior management needs.**

Severe, profound or moderate behavior management needs are those that cause major disruption and threaten the health and safety of the resident, peers and staff if allowed to continue. These behaviors often require intensive intervention. Behavior management needs are categorized as severe or profound for 80 percent of alleged offender residents. This compares to 45 percent of the residents who are non-alleged offenders.

- **A high percentage of alleged offender residents have behavioral health needs requiring extensive psychiatric supports.**

Intensive behavioral health supports, including routine psychiatric services, are required for 77 percent of the current alleged offender residents, which compares to 58 percent of residents who are non-alleged offenders.

Figure 8. Age Categories of Alleged Offenders (In Residence in FY2015)		
Age Category	Frequency	Percentage
Age 0-17	33	16.9%
Age 18-21	28	14.4%
Age 22-34	73	37.4%
Age 35-44	22	11.3%
Age 45-54	24	12.3%
Age 55-64	12	6.2%
Age 65-75	3	1.5%
Total	195	