



Office of Child and Family Ombudsman:

Data on reports of missing youth from the Child and Family Services Division.

This information is a sub-set of youth specific to the Office of Child and Family Ombudsman (OCFO). The youth in this report are also included in the overall data of all missing youth in Montana.

MCA 41-3-209 required DPHHS Child and Family Services Division (CFSD) to notify the DOJ Office of Child and Family Ombudsman of any youth who is currently receiving services from CFSD and is also reported missing. Receiving services is a more general category than youth who are in out of home care. Some of these reports involve a youth who is in the care of legal guardians/caregivers and also receiving some support services from CFSD.

The Montana Department of Justice Missing Persons Specialist, Office of Child and Family Ombudsman and Child and Family Services meet monthly to review the reports of missing youth in Montana.

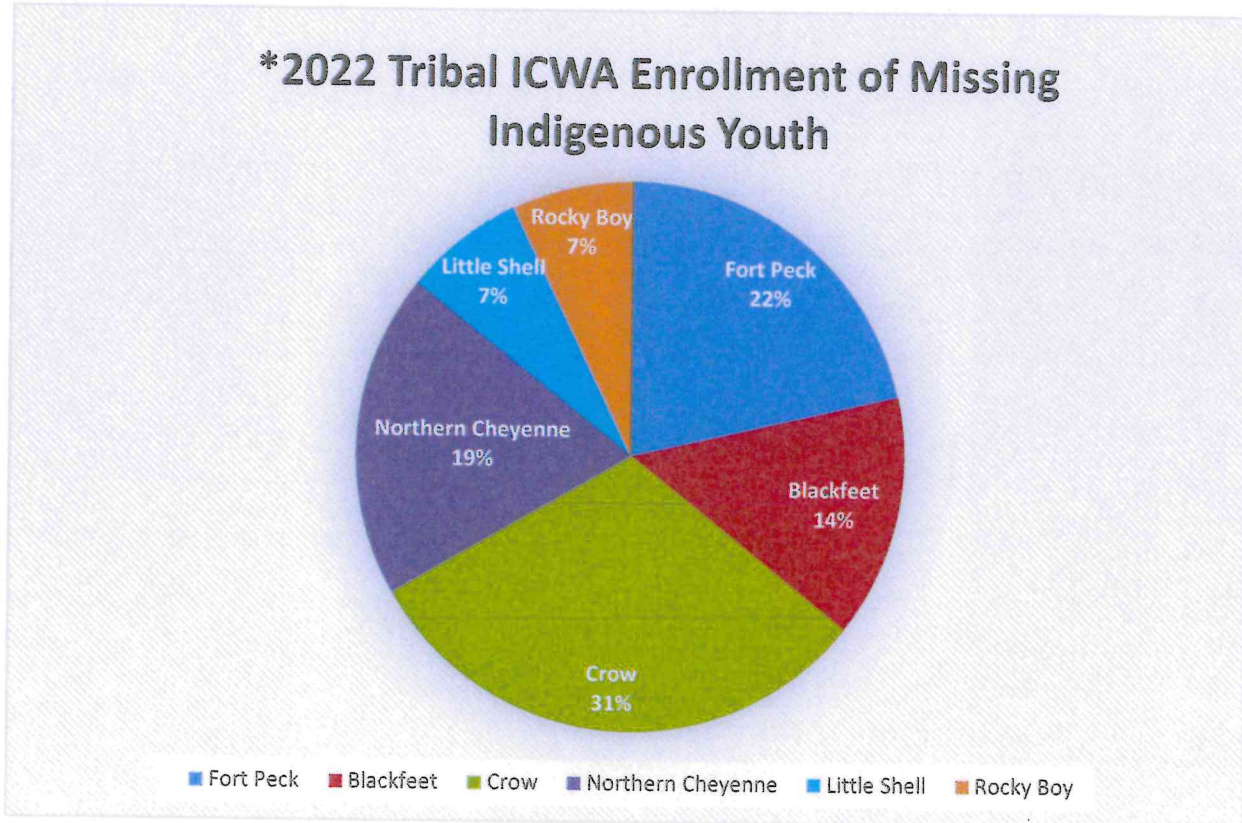
- **Office of Child and Family Ombudsman cross check every youth reported missing statewide with the Child and Family Services databases.**
- **Youth with a current open status with Child and Family Services are identified and Child and Family Services is notified of those youth.**
- **Each of the youth is reviewed in the monthly meeting to close any communication gaps between the families, CFSD and law enforcement agencies.**
- **The case review typically identifies a number of youths listed as missing who have been located or have returned but are still listed as missing.**
- **The Department of Justice Missing Persons Specialist notifies the appropriate law enforcement agency of the youth's location and the local agency removes that name from the active missing list.**
- **As of July 30, 2023 there were three (3) youth receiving services from CFSD who remained missing.**



2022 Data of Youth Reported Missing by CFSD to OCFO:

Total number of missing reports received	179
Total number of unique individual youth reported missing	107
Total number of youths reported missing more than one time	72
Total number of missing youths who were aged 17	28
Total number of missing youths designated as an Indian Child Welfare (ICWA) case	42
Total of number of ICWA youth reported missing more than once	17

**Some ICWA eligible youth are identified with parents enrolled in two different tribes. In this graph both possible tribal affiliations are counted*

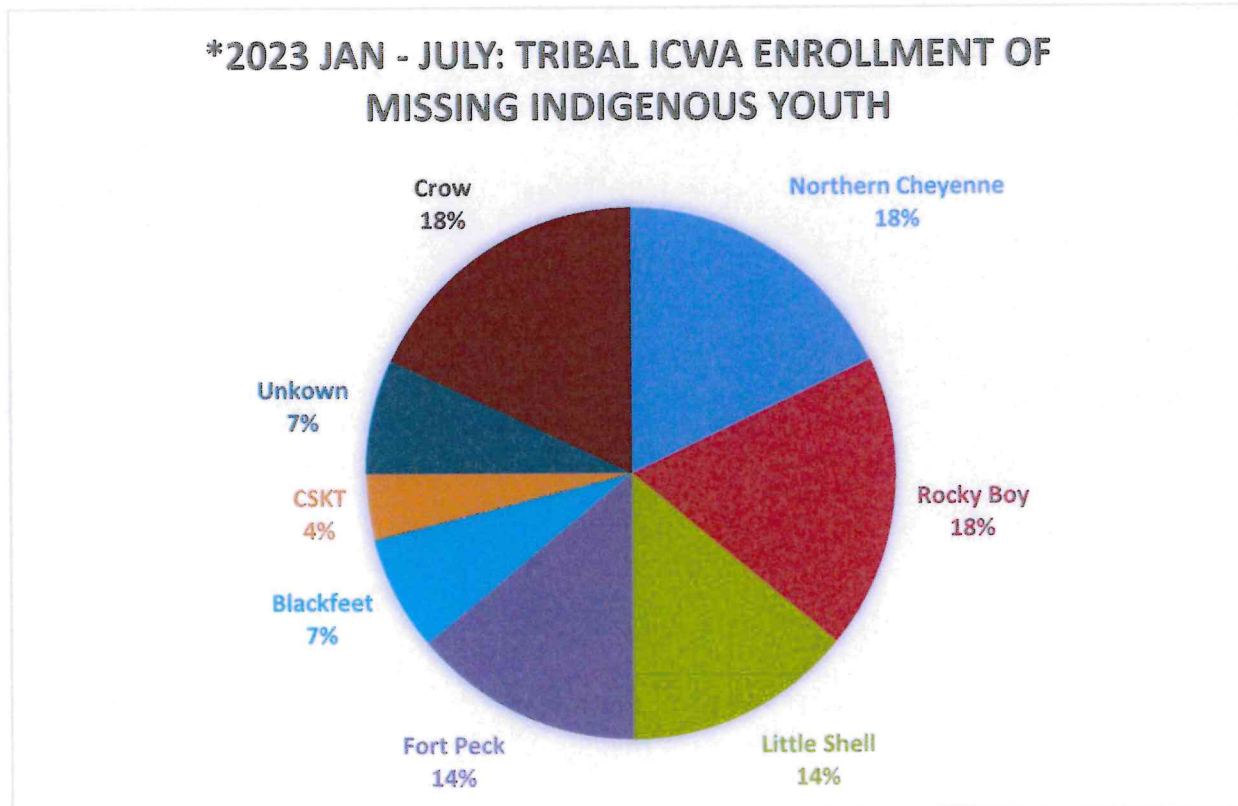


January - July 2023 of Youth Reported Missing by CFSD to OCFO:



Total number of missing reports received	101
Total number of unique individual youth reported missing	81
Total number of youths reported missing more than one time	20
Total number of missing youths who were aged 17	10
Total number of missing youths designated as an Indian Child Welfare (ICWA) case	25
Total of number of ICWA youth reported missing more than one time	16

*Some ICWA eligible youth are identified with parents enrolled in two different tribes. In this graph both possible tribal



affiliations are counted.