

**Arkansas Division of Youth Services**  
**Dyslexia Report**  
**School Year 2020-2021**

The Division of Youth Services uses the Woodcock Johnson-4<sup>th</sup> Edition as a screener to identify students who demonstrate characteristics that reflect the need for further assessment. Students who score below 90 in spelling, along with one or more other areas in reading, are scheduled to receive additional testing. The Comprehensive Test of Phonological Processing, also known and referred to as the CTOPP, is administered by a professional located at the AJATC campus where student intake procedures and processes take place and other assessments occur. Students who are ultimately identified as having dyslexia need explicit, systematic, direct instruction specifically designed to help improve reading fluency and comprehension.

Between July 1, 2020, and June 30, 2021, **104** students were tested using the Woodcock Johnson, IV and the CTOPP. Of the 104 students tested, **88** of the students tested had scores that reflected the need for dyslexia interventions which equates to **84.6%**.

**RESULTS:** **84.6%** of students who were remanded to the custody of DYS and were assigned to a residential facility between July 1, 2020, and June 30, 2021, were scheduled into a critical reading class which was taught by a highly qualified, certified, and licensed teacher specifically trained to use Orton Gillingham's Reading Intervention program - a highly effective, multi-sensory method used to help struggling readers. The Sonday System helps students learn how to decode words, chunk words into syllables, and comprehend the meaning of sentences and passages. DYS/ROP teachers have been trained to utilize specialized instructional strategies to address dyslexia. Teachers have also participated in additional reading training through Arkansas IDEAS and the Science of Reading Instruction.

As always, it is the goal of DYS and ROP to provide a free and appropriate education for ALL students. We know that when a student learns to read, or improves their ability to read, many other areas of their lives also improve. Opportunities and experiences become available to them that otherwise might not have been possible without the ability to read and effectively communicate.