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JUVENILE COURT STATISTICS - 1959

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JUVENILE COURT STATISTICS

1959

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE
Social Security Administration

Children's Bureau 1960

The statistics in this publication represent the volume of children's cases disposed of by juvenile courts. They are affected by several factors. Ages of children and types of cases (e.g., traffic violations) over which courts have jurisdiction are established by State law and often differ for courts in different States and sometimes for courts within the same State. This affects the number of cases reported and consequently the comparability of the reports from the various courts.

The number of children's cases reported by different courts is also greatly influenced by variations in the organization and scope of the services of other agencies. Many communities have established agencies, such as a juvenile division of the police department, that adjust many cases or refer them to other community agencies rather than to the juvenile courts. In some communities the juvenile court is one of the few agencies providing social services to children. In others, programs of social services for children are well established; in these, the juvenile court is only one of many agencies dealing with children and is primarily used only when its authority as a judicial agency is needed.

Furthermore, whether a child comes to the attention of the court is influenced by community and parental attitudes toward a child's behavior, and these attitudes vary from place to place.

Because of these and other limitations (many of which are not statistically assessable), juvenile court statistics, when taken by themselves, cannot measure the full extent of either delinquency, dependency, or neglect. They may be particularly misleading when used to make comparisons between one community and another. They do, however, indicate how frequently one important community resource, the juvenile court, is utilized for dealing with such cases. (For further discussion of the problems of measurement of juvenile delinquency, see I. Richard Perlman: "Reporting Juvenile Delinquency," National Probation and Parole Association Journal, July 1957, 3, pp. 242-249.)

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SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

Delinquency cases (excluding traffic offenses)

Extent..... About 483,000 juvenile delinquency cases (excluding traffic offenses) were handled by juvenile courts in the United States in 1959. The estimated number of different children involved in these cases was somewhat lower (416,000), since the same child may have been referred more than once during the year. These children represent 1.7 percent of all children aged 10 through 17 in the country. (Note: These data are not comparable to those reported for years prior to 1957 when traffic offenses were included with other delinquency cases. See section on "Traffic cases" below.)

(Table 1)

Trend..... In 1959, for the 11th consecutive year, delinquency cases increased over the previous year. The increase for 1959, however, was only 2 percent -- the smallest in the past decade. In other recent years, the increase in delinquency cases substantially exceeded the increases in the child population. In 1959, on the contrary, the 2 percent increase in delinquency was less than the 5 percent rise in the child population.

(Tables 4, 7 and chart)

Boys' cases increased by the same percentage as girls' cases between 1958 and 1959.

While there was an overall increase of 2 percent in delinquency cases in 1959 over 1958, those handled in urban courts decreased by 2 percent. Courts serving semi-urban and rural areas experienced substantial increases of 7 and 15 percent respectively. Thus, the pattern of court delinquency cases increasing faster in rural areas than elsewhere seems to be continuing. The semi-urban and rural courts, however, only handle about two-fifths of all the court delinquency cases in the country.

Sex ratio..... Delinquency cases are primarily a boy's problem; boys are referred more than four times as often as girls.

(Table 1)

Manner of handling. Cases handled unofficially -- without filing a petition -- are included in the data of this report. Almost half of the delinquency cases were disposed of in this way. The proportion of cases handled unofficially was higher in urban courts than in rural courts, owing perhaps to the availability of specialized intake or probation staff in the urban courts. (For a discussion of policy consideration in the unofficial disposition of cases, see Standards for Specialized Courts Dealing with Children, Children's Bureau Publication No. 346, U.S. Government Printing Office, 1954, pp. 43-45.)

(Table 2)

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS—continued

Delinquency cases (excluding traffic offenses)—continued

The increase in official delinquency cases between 1958 and 1959 was about the same as in unofficial cases (3 and 2 percent respectively) when data from all types of courts are combined. When data for rural courts and urban courts are examined separately, however, the changes in such cases between these 2 years are strikingly different. In rural courts, the increase in unofficial cases (24 percent) was about 2-1/2 times the increase in official cases (9 percent). In urban courts, the unofficial cases actually decreased while the official cases increased slightly.

Differential rates. The rate of delinquency cases (the number of cases per 1,000 child population aged 10 through 17) was about 3 times higher in predominantly urban areas than in predominantly rural areas. Courts in predominantly urban areas handle about three-fifths of all the delinquency cases in the country.

(Table 3)

Traffic cases

Extent..... In addition to the 483,000 juvenile delinquency cases, about 290,000 traffic cases were disposed of by juvenile courts in the country in 1959. These cases involved roughly 250,000 different children or about 1.0 percent of the child population. These traffic cases do not represent all traffic cases of juveniles since many juvenile courts do not have jurisdiction in such cases. They represent only those coming to the attention of juvenile courts.

(Table 5)

Change from previous year..... Traffic cases increased by 26 percent in 1959 over the estimated number in 1958. Most of this large increase is attributable to one large State where an administrative change in the manner of handling traffic cases put into effect the previous year still had its impact in 1959. Courts in that State accounted for 40,000 of the total 60,000 increase in traffic cases in the country.

(Table 6)

Discussion..... In former years traffic cases, in those courts that had jurisdiction in such cases, were included with other types of juvenile delinquency cases and could not be separately identified. Since 1957, courts were requested to report data on traffic cases separately. The reasons for doing this, which are still appropriate, were cited in last year's report (1958) as follows:

"First, most traffic offenses can hardly be considered in the same category as other types of delinquency. Most do

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS—continued

Traffic cases—continued

not involve the type of behavior or circumstances that require the study and specialized handling necessary in other forms of misconduct. This is recognized by the Standard Family and Juvenile Court Acts which permit special handling of juvenile traffic cases in a summary manner, without social investigation. It is generally believed therefore (and recommended recently by the National Council of Juvenile Court Judges) that traffic offenses should be analyzed separately from other types of delinquency. This was not very important 5 to 10 years ago when traffic cases comprised a small proportion of all juvenile delinquency cases. Lately, however, the increased availability and use of the auto by juveniles is accounting for increasingly more juvenile traffic cases.

"Second, in at least one State, recent legislation prohibits the classification of traffic offenses under the heading of 'juvenile delinquency,' unless specifically adjudicated as such.

"Third, some courts have jurisdiction in traffic cases and others do not. This disturbs the comparability of reporting. By reporting traffic cases separately, the data on delinquency cases (excluding traffic cases) become more precise. Also any changes in the methods of the handling of traffic cases (i.e., the increasing trend toward handling juvenile traffic cases in traffic courts) will only affect the series of data on traffic cases and not the other series on delinquency cases excluding traffic. Since traffic cases have been included with other delinquency cases up to now, the question may appropriately be raised as to whether the high rise in delinquency noted in the past 10 years may reflect merely the increased number of traffic offenses. This cannot be proved or disproved nationally since the data are not available. Nevertheless, the following relevant observations are appropriate.

"Examination of some State reports (California, Ohio, Missouri, Florida) that maintain separate data on traffic cases reveals that traffic offenses have increased tremendously in recent years. In the courts in some of these States traffic cases comprise half or more of all types of delinquency cases. There is no question but that in such courts, where the proportion of traffic cases is so high, the rapid increase in traffic cases would seriously bias the overall delinquency picture for these specific States. For the United States as a whole, however, it is believed that the inclusion of traffic cases with other types of delinquency has not seriously affected the overall picture.

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS—continued

Traffic cases—continued

"This belief is based on the following:

"1. Many courts do not have jurisdiction over routine juvenile traffic cases so that nationally traffic cases comprise only about one-third of all types of delinquency cases, while non-traffic delinquency cases comprise the remaining two-thirds. This ratio buffers somewhat any disproportionate effect that the increase in traffic cases may have on the overall results.

"2. Trends over the past decade in juvenile court data that include traffic cases are strikingly similar to those of the police arrest data of juveniles issued by the F.B.I. which do not include traffic offenses (except for driving while intoxicated).

"3. Delinquency data for some courts that do not have jurisdiction in juvenile traffic cases or where traffic cases are excluded show upward trends over the past 10 years. These trends parallel closely, but not exactly, the national trend where traffic cases have been included. A good example is the large State of New York where court delinquency cases more than doubled between 1948 and 1958, even though routine juvenile traffic cases are not handled by the children's courts. In Connecticut the same was true, and in several other States where data were available there were also large increases over that period.

"The above observation does not mean that the inclusion of traffic cases may not have inflated somewhat the overall, year-to-year increases nationally, but rather that the degree of inflation has not been great.

"Mention must be made of the many persons who believe that, although a lax view can sometimes be taken of traffic offenses by adults, this should not be done in the case of juveniles, who are in their formative years and for whom obedience to law should be stressed. To this group of persons, a juvenile traffic offender is as delinquent as any other delinquent child. The group holding this view would argue that juvenile court statistics understate the problem of delinquency since many juvenile traffic offenders appear in courts other than juvenile courts and are not included in the statistics.

"The preceding discussion should be taken into consideration in interpreting the statistical data in this report."

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS—continued

Other cases

Dependency and neglect.....

(Tables 8-10)

Most juvenile courts by statute have jurisdiction over court actions involving dependent and neglected children as well as delinquent children. Dependency and neglect cases in the United States totaled 128,000 in 1959. Such cases increased by 3 percent between 1958 and 1959. Thus, the upward trend which began in 1951 and occurred in each subsequent year, except 1956, continues.

Special

proceedings.....

(Appendix)

A small proportion of all court cases were those involving adoption, custody, consent to marry and other "special proceedings." Courts vary in the types of such cases handled.

SOURCES OF DATA

1. Data on the number of juvenile delinquency cases are based on reports from a national sample of juvenile courts.

The national sample of juvenile courts, drawn from the Current Population Survey Sample of the Bureau of the Census, is representative of the country as a whole. For this sample, the United States was first divided into about 2,000 primary sampling units, each consisting of a county or a number of contiguous counties, such as those in a standard metropolitan area. The 2,000 primary sampling units were then subdivided into 230 groups, each consisting of a set of sampling units as much alike as possible in such characteristics as regional location, population density, percent of nonwhite population, rate of growth, etc. From each group a single primary sample unit was selected at random, resulting in 230 sampling units in which 502 courts were located. (For a more detailed description of the Current Population Survey Sample, see Current Population Reports, Series P-23, No. 2, Bureau of the Census.)

As shown below, the majority of the urban courts serve large areas of 100,000 or more population; semi-urban courts, medium-sized areas; and rural courts, small areas of under 20,000.

Type of court	All courts	Number of courts serving populations of:				
		100,000 or over	50,000-99,999	20,000-49,999	10,000-19,999	Under 10,000
Total...	502	155	81	143	68	55
Urban.....	177	122	25	24	3	3
Semi-urban.....	175	33	48	29	18	17
Rural.....	150	-	8	60	47	35

2. Data on dependency and neglect cases are based on all the courts reporting on such cases to the Children's Bureau. The national sample was not used here since data on these cases were not available for a sizeable number of courts in the national sample. In 1959, 1,730 courts reported on dependency and neglect cases. These courts included in their jurisdictions 73 percent of the child population under 18 years of age.

DEFINITION OF TERMS

Juvenile delinquency cases are those referred to courts for acts defined in the statutes of the State as the violation of a law or municipal ordinance by children or youth of juvenile court age, or for conduct so seriously antisocial as to interfere with the rights of others or to menace the welfare of the delinquent himself or of the community. This broad definition of delinquency includes conduct such as ungovernable behavior and running away, conduct labeled "delinquency" but not usually considered a violation of law when committed by an adult. Also included but separately reported, are traffic violations whenever the juvenile court has jurisdiction in such cases.

Dependency and neglect cases are those referred to the court because of some form of neglect or inadequate care on the part of the parents or guardians (e.g., lack of adequate care or support resulting from the death, absence or physical or mental incapacity of the parents, abandonment or desertion, abuse or cruel treatment, improper or inadequate condition in the home).

Special proceedings are cases involving children referred to court for reasons other than delinquency, dependency or neglect. They include adoption, institutional commitments for special purposes, material witnesses, application for consent to marry or to enlist in the armed forces, determination of custody or guardianship of a child, and permission to hospitals for the performance of operations on children.

Unit of count is the case disposed of by the court. A case is counted each time a child is referred to court during the year on a new referral in delinquency, dependency or neglect cases or in special proceedings. Referrals for alleged, as well as adjudged, delinquency cases are included. Not included are many children who have presented similar problems of conduct, but who either were not apprehended or were dealt with by the police, by social agencies, by schools, or by youth-serving agencies without referral to court.

Type of court is determined by the percentage of the population it serves that live in urban areas (as classified by the Bureau of the Census): for "urban courts," 70 percent or more; for "semi-urban courts," 30 to 69 percent; for "rural courts," under 30 percent.

Method of handling cases is classified into official and unofficial, sometimes referred to as judicial and nonjudicial. "Official cases" are those that are placed on the official court calendar for adjudication by the judge or referee, through filing a petition or other legal paper to initiate court action. "Unofficial cases" are those not placed on the official court calendar through filing a petition or affidavit but adjusted by the judge, referee, probation officer, or other officer of the court.

United States excludes Alaska and Hawaii in all national estimates of this 1959 report. Data for these two States which will probably be available for the 1960 report should not change the total figures significantly.

SUMMARY TABLES

Table 1.--Number of Delinquency Cases (Excluding Traffic) Disposed of by Juvenile Courts, United States, 1959^a

Type of court	Total		Boys		Girls	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total.....	<u>483,000</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>393,000</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>90,000</u>	<u>100</u>
Urban.....	295,000	61	236,000	60	59,000	66
Semi-urban.....	127,000	26	104,000	26	23,000	25
Rural.....	61,000	13	53,000	14	8,000	9

^a Data are from the national sample of juvenile courts.

Table 2.--Manner of Handling Delinquency Cases (Excluding Traffic) Disposed of by Juvenile Courts, United States, 1959^a

Type of court	Total		Official		Unofficial	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total.....	<u>483,000</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>250,000</u>	<u>52</u>	<u>233,000</u>	<u>48</u>
Urban.....	295,000	100	157,000	53	138,000	47
Semi-urban.....	127,000	100	59,000	46	68,000	54
Rural.....	61,000	100	34,000	56	27,000	44

^a Data are from the national sample of juvenile courts.

Table 3.--Rate of Delinquency Cases (Excluding Traffic) Disposed of by Juvenile Courts, United States, 1959^a

Type of court	Rate per 1,000 child population ^b			
	All courts	Age jurisdiction of court		
		Under 16	Under 17	Under 18 ^c
Urban.....	40.3	29.2	37.6	46.1
Semi-urban.....	27.1	15.5	22.0	32.3
Rural.....	13.5	3.5	7.2	18.1

^a Data are from the national sample of juvenile courts.

^b These differential rates are calculated on the basis of the 1950 child population at risk; that is, from age 10 to the upper limit of the court's jurisdiction.

^c A small number of courts having jurisdiction under 21 years of age are included here. The number of cases involved does not seriously affect the rates of the courts in this column.

Table 4.--Percent Change in Delinquency Cases (Excluding Traffic) Disposed of by Juvenile Courts, United States, 1958-1959^a

Type of court	Total	Boys	Girls	Official cases	Unofficial cases
Total	+2	+2	+2	+3	+2
Urban.....	-2	-3	b/	+2	-7
Semi-urban.....	+7	+6	+11	-1	+14
Rural.....	+15	+18	b/	+9	+24

^a Data are from the national sample of juvenile courts.

^b No change from 1958 to 1959.

Table 5.--Number and Manner of Handling Traffic Cases Disposed of by Juvenile Courts, United States, 1959^a

Type of court	Total		Official		Unofficial	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total.....	<u>290,000</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>67,000</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>223,000</u>	<u>100</u>
Urban.....	203,000	70	38,000	57	165,000	74
Semi-urban.....	62,000	21	12,000	18	50,000	22
Rural.....	25,000	9	17,000	25	8,000	4

^a Data are from the national sample of juvenile courts.

Table 6.--Percent Change in Traffic Cases Disposed of by Juvenile Courts, United States, 1958-1959^a

Type of court	Total	Official	Unofficial
Total.....	^b <u>+26</u>	<u>+19</u>	^b <u>+28</u>
Urban.....	^b +24	+16	^b +26
Semi-urban.....	+33	+21	+36
Rural.....	+29	+24	+41

^a Data are from the national sample of juvenile courts.

^b Large increases mostly due to an administrative change in the method of handling traffic cases in two large urban communities in one State.

Table 7.--Trend in Delinquency Cases Disposed of by Juvenile Courts, United States, 1940-1959

Year	Delinquency cases ^a		Child population of U.S. (10-17 years of age) ^b
	Including traffic	Excluding traffic	
1940.....	200,000		19,138,000
1941.....	224,000		18,916,000
1942.....	250,000		18,648,000
1943.....	344,000		18,309,000
1944.....	330,000		17,738,000
1945.....	344,000		17,512,000
1946.....	295,000		17,419,000
1947.....	262,000		17,344,000
1948.....	254,000		17,314,000
1949.....	272,000		17,365,000
1950.....	280,000		17,398,000
1951.....	298,000		17,705,000
1952.....	332,000		18,201,000
1953.....	374,000		18,980,000
1954.....	395,000		19,551,000
1955.....	431,000		20,112,000
1956.....	520,000		20,623,000
1957.....	603,000	440,000	22,173,000
1958.....	<u>c/</u> 703,000	<u>c/</u> 473,000	23,443,000
1959.....	<u>d/</u> 773,000	483,000	24,607,000

^a Data for 1955-1959 estimated from the national sample of juvenile courts. Data prior to 1955 estimated by the Children's Bureau, based on reports from a comparable group of courts.

^b Data based on estimates from Bureau of Census, U.S. Department of Commerce (Current Population Reports, Series P-25).

^c Revised slightly upwards to reflect better data made available from one large State after original estimates were published.

^d Much of the increase is accounted for in one State by an administrative change in the method of handling juvenile traffic cases.

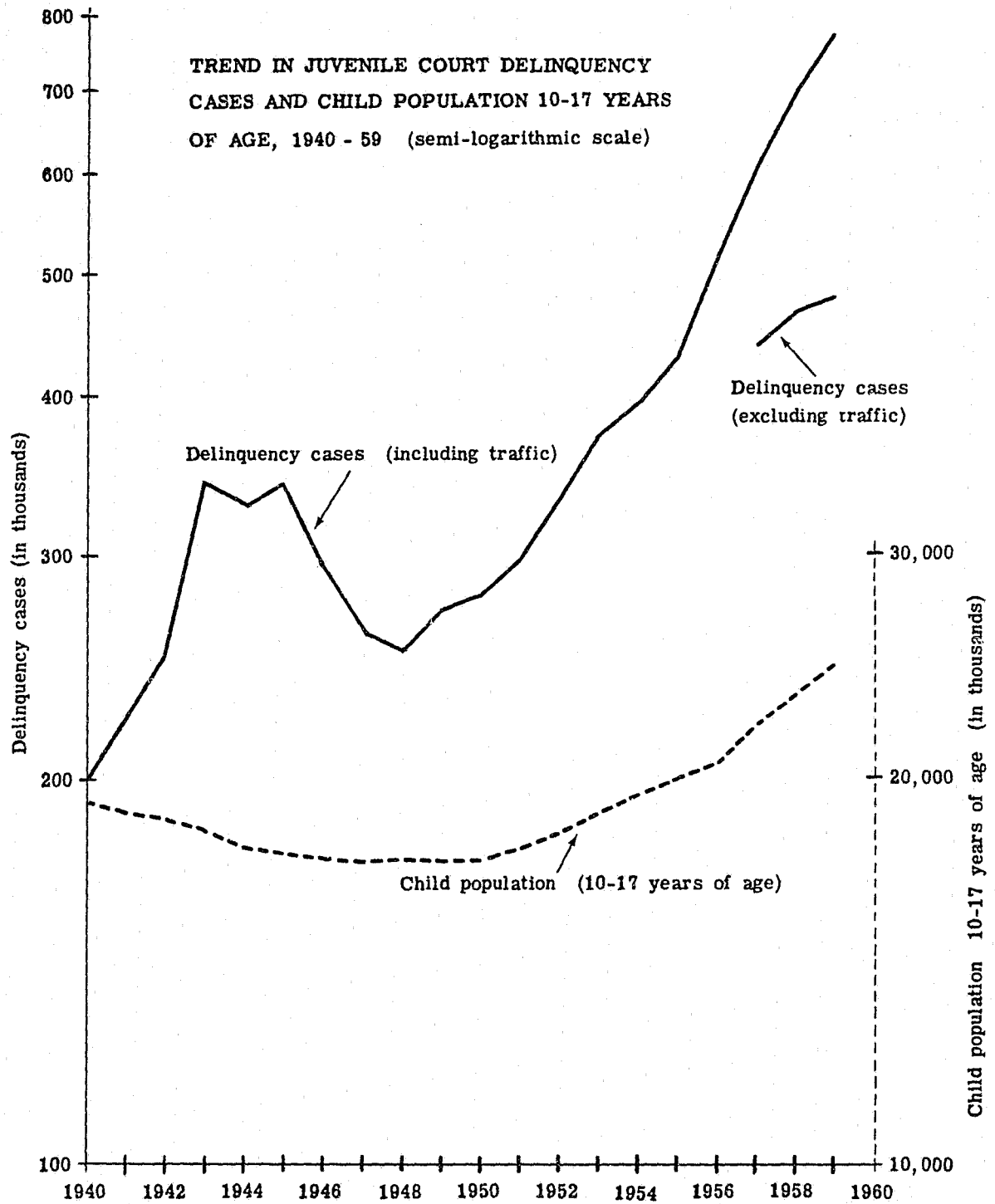


Table 8.--Number and Rate of Dependency and Neglect Cases Disposed of by Juvenile Courts, United States, 1959^a

Type of court	Number of cases	Rate per 1,000 child population ^b			
		All courts	Age jurisdiction of court		
			Under 16	Under 17	Under 18 ^c
Urban.....	77,000	4.0	3.6	4.6	3.8
Semi-urban.....	37,000	3.1	3.8	3.0	2.8
Rural.....	14,000	1.2	0.6	1.6	1.4

^a Estimates based on data from 1,730 courts whose jurisdictions include 73 percent of the child population under 18 years of age.

^b Calculated on basis of the 1950 child population at risk; that is, the child population under 16 for courts whose age jurisdiction is under 16, etc.

^c A small number of courts having jurisdiction under 21 years of age are included here. The number of cases involved does not seriously affect the rates of the courts in this column.

Table 9.--Percent Change in Dependency and Neglect Cases Disposed of by Juvenile Courts, United States, 1958-1959^a

Type of court	Total	Official	Unofficial
Total.....	<u>+3</u>	<u>+6</u>	<u>-2</u>
Urban.....	+2	+6	-6
Semi-urban.....	+8	+8	+8
Rural.....	<u>b/</u>	+1	-3

^a Estimates based on data from 1,506 courts reporting each year whose jurisdictions include about 67 percent of the child population under 18 years of age.

^b No change from 1958 to 1959.

Table 10.--Trend in Dependency and Neglect Cases Disposed of by Juvenile Courts, United States, 1946-1959

Year	Dependency and neglect cases ^a	Child population of U. S. (Under 18 years of age) ^b
1946.....	101,000	41,759,000
1947.....	104,000	43,301,000
1948.....	103,000	44,512,000
1949.....	98,000	45,775,000
1950.....	93,000	47,017,000
1951.....	97,000	48,598,000
1952.....	98,000	50,296,000
1953.....	103,000	51,987,000
1954.....	103,000	53,737,000
1955.....	106,000	55,568,000
1956.....	105,000	57,377,000
1957.....	114,000	59,336,000
1958.....	124,000	61,238,000
1959.....	128,000	63,038,000

^a Data for 1955-1959 estimated from courts serving about two-thirds of the child population under 18 years of age in the United States. Data prior to 1955 estimated by the Children's Bureau, based on reports from a smaller but comparable group of courts.

^b Data based on estimates from Bureau of the Census, U. S. Department of Commerce (Current Population Report, Series P-25).

APPENDIX

CHILDREN'S CASES DISPOSED OF OFFICIALLY AND UNOFFICIALLY BY ALL JUVENILE COURTS REPORTING FOR 1959^a

Area served by court ^b	Age under which court has original jurisdiction	OFFICIAL CASES				UNOFFICIAL CASES			
		Delinquency (except traffic)	Traffic	Dependency and neglect	Special proceedings	Delinquency (except traffic)	Traffic	Dependency and neglect	Special proceedings
ALABAMA:									
Jefferson Co. (Birmingham).....	c 16, 18	1,083	16	1,005	--	696	3	759	--
Mobile Co. (Mobile).....	16	458	3	501	--	269	--	65	--
Montgomery Co. (Montgomery).....	c 16, 18	191	--	48	--	195	--	750	--
64 small courts.....	16	1,430	44	1,157	--	192	1	20	--
ARIZONA:									
Maricopa Co. (Phoenix).....	18	7,020	345	379	3,303	1,046	--	10	206
ARKANSAS:									
Pulaski Co. (Little Rock).....	21	244	(d)	149	--	385	(d)	310	--
26 small courts.....	21	951	(d)	157	36	71	(d)	63	15
CALIFORNIA:									
Alameda Co. (Oakland).....	21	1,759	405	459	47	2,940	8,915	1,287	1,097
Contra Costa Co. (Richmond).....	21	930	39	357	3	4,057	4,057	186	293
Fresno Co. (Fresno).....	21	977	41	244	2	49	160	43	123
Kern Co. (Bakersfield).....	21	911	29	282	18	876	4,527	66	331
Los Angeles Co. (Los Angeles).....	21	9,045	526	2,855	56	1,187	73,731	387	1,254
Monterey Co. (Monterey).....	21	409	11	90	9	852	30	49	132
Orange Co. (Santa Ana).....	21	1,283	25	378	12	1,853	7,841	246	409
Riverside Co. (Riverside).....	21	801	14	281	7	528	3,028	98	1
Sacramento Co. (Sacramento).....	21	737	53	224	8	1,414	4,072	229	426
San Bernardino Co. (San Bernardino).....	21	1,025	60	328	4	538	2,094	110	1
San Diego Co. (San Diego).....	21	1,785	60	828	19	2,855	12,522	665	662
San Francisco Co. (San Francisco).....	21	1,183	20	754	1	2,544	3,801	838	182
San Joaquin Co. (Stockton).....	21	547	13	212	1	659	1	64	1
San Mateo Co. (San Mateo).....	21	529	8	219	1	629	4,947	184	191
Santa Clara Co. (San Jose).....	21	871	3	409	22	1,641	8,675	341	170
Solano Co. (Vallejo).....	21	167	2	105	--	231	1,163	44	95
Sonoma Co. (Santa Rosa).....	21	236	9	82	3	339	296	267	96
Stanislaus Co. (Modesto).....	21	294	43	145	3	546	--	25	178
Tulare Co. (Tulare).....	21	495	25	157	5	402	1,394	42	88
Ventura Co. (Oxnard).....	21	321	21	83	4	508	2,200	67	225
38 small courts.....	21	3,056	525	980	54	3,921	4,422	493	395
COLORADO:									
Denver (City & Co.).....	18	1,389	16	875	1,563	155	2	81	22
32 small courts.....	18	3,687	59	239	772	168	--	1	--
CONNECTICUT:									
First District (Bridgeport).....	16	559	(d)	284	196	1,938	(d)	--	--
Second District (New Haven).....	16	556	(d)	435	497	2,194	(d)	--	--
Third District (Hartford).....	16	451	(d)	538	516	1,124	(d)	--	--
DELAWARE:									
Newcastle Co. (Wilmington).....	18	1,750	630	22	776	--	--	--	--
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA:									
Washington - City.....	18	1,056	178	295	--	1,173	53	7	--
FLORIDA:									
Dade Co. (Miami).....	17	2,209	88	682	143	1,028	185	807	7
Duval Co. (Jacksonville).....	17	1,246	414	989	155	582	6	338	48
Escambia Co. (Pensacola).....	17	698	361	687	14	264	--	132	2
Hillsborough Co. (Tampa).....	17	901	1,090	1,431	102	1,333	3	292	2
Orange Co. (Orlando).....	17	477	405	153	97	468	5	34	12
Palm Beach Co. (W. Palm Beach).....	17	451	37	123	44	552	54	281	9
Pinellas Co. (St. Petersburg).....	17	350	816	268	32	799	--	290	3
60 small courts.....	17	4,677	1,867	1,522	371	4,023	1,414	1,269	27
GEORGIA:									
Bibb Co. (Macon).....	17	317	13	121	22	--	--	--	--
DeKalb Co. (Decatur).....	17	772	116	286	249	215	4	214	--
Fulton Co. (Atlanta).....	17	2,578	249	1,008	--	--	--	--	--
Muscogee Co. (Columbus).....	17	702	49	242	--	--	--	--	--
Richmond Co. (Augusta).....	17	426	66	73	21	144	23	51	27
17 small courts.....	17	1,954	234	551	138	1,535	39	855	90
HAWAII:									
First Circuit (Honolulu).....	18	2,018	730	276	573	978	293	162	--
ILLINOIS:									
Cook Co. (Chicago).....	18	6,815	(e)	1,574	6,143	968	(e)	1,135	12
Du Page Co. (Elmhurst).....	18	124	(e)	107	301	--	(e)	72	--
Kane Co. (Aurora).....	18	94	(e)	156	274	115	(e)	294	--
Lake Co. (Waukegan).....	18	265	(e)	457	320	96	(e)	114	--
Madison Co. (Alton).....	18	78	(e)	169	242	--	(e)	--	--
Peoria Co. (Peoria).....	18	39	(e)	164	342	50	(e)	20	--
St. Clair Co. (E. St. Louis).....	18	104	(e)	145	334	(e)	(e)	--	--
Will Co. (Joliet).....	18	75	(e)	31	160	76	(e)	21	--
Winnebago Co. (Rockford).....	18	137	(e)	216	402	647	(e)	380	--
11 small courts.....	18	226	(e)	138	487	257	(e)	106	--
INDIANA:									
Lake Co. (Gary).....	18	604	(d)	190	--	643	(d)	--	--
Marion Co. (Indianapolis).....	18	1,969	(d)	490	287	35	(d)	8	9
9 small courts.....	18	435	7	97	147	706	5	128	197

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Area served by court ^b	Age under which court has original jurisdiction	OFFICIAL CASES				UNOFFICIAL CASES			
		Delinquency (except traffic)	Traffic	Dependency and neglect	Special proceedings	Delinquency (except traffic)	Traffic	Dependency and neglect	Special proceedings
IOWA:									
Black Hawk Co. (Waterloo).....	18	108	(d)	127	--	518	(d)	159	--
Linn Co. (Cedar Rapids).....	18	69	(d)	26	--	558	(d)	74	--
Polk Co. (Des Moines).....	18	259	(d)	167	--	826	(d)	60	--
Scott Co. (Davenport).....	18	95	(d)	39	--	217	(d)	40	--
Woodbury Co. (Sioux City).....	18	281	(d)	121	--	464	(d)	393	--
71 small courts.....	18	1,000	(d)	484	--	1,850	(d)	443	--
KANSAS:									
Sedgwick Co. (Wichita).....	c 16, 18	527	133	147	--	1	--	--	--
Shawnee Co. (Topeka).....	c 16, 18	55	62	93	--	34	55	14	--
Wyandotte Co. (Kansas City).....	c 16, 18	219	58	79	--	364	10	62	--
90 small courts.....	c 16, 18	582	345	274	--	822	224	94	--
KENTUCKY:									
Kenton Co. (Covington).....	18	192	5	17	--	203	--	--	--
3 small courts.....	18	449	--	32	800	--	--	--	--
LOUISIANA:									
Caddo Parish Co. (Shreveport).....	17	257	--	212	99	522	61	24	--
E. Baton Rouge Parish (Baton Rouge).....	17	616	688	209	74	323	--	--	--
4th Judicial Dist. (Monroe).....	17	324	101	75	12	198	--	60	7
Orleans Parish (New Orleans).....	17	1,024	1,238	214	--	6,780	--	761	--
46 small courts.....	17	2,589	723	825	234	2,633	143	637	225
MAINE:									
45 small courts.....	17	1,099	200	35	3	96	1	--	--
MARYLAND:									
Anne Arundel Co. (Annapolis).....	18	362	(d)	100	1	242	(d)	3	--
Baltimore (City).....	16	3,298	(d)	2,056	79	470	(d)	--	--
Baltimore Co. (Silver Spring).....	18	1,115	(d)	251	3	--	(d)	--	--
Montgomery Co. (Silver Spring).....	18	593	1,262	244	--	582	4	119	--
Prince Georges Co. (Hyattsville).....	18	785	(d)	94	2	15	(d)	1	2
18 small courts.....	18	1,195	(d)	416	43	69	(d)	10	14
MASSACHUSETTS:									
BOSTON:									
Boston (Central Section).....	17	614	(e)	71	--	--	(e)	--	--
Brighton.....	17	43	(e)	--	--	--	(e)	--	--
Charlestown.....	17	160	(e)	5	--	--	(e)	--	--
Dorchester.....	17	286	(e)	16	--	--	(e)	--	--
East Boston.....	17	163	(e)	9	--	144	(e)	--	--
Roxbury.....	17	665	(e)	89	--	--	(e)	--	--
South Boston.....	17	172	(e)	11	--	--	(e)	--	--
West Roxbury.....	17	236	(e)	1	--	--	(e)	--	--
DISTRICT:									
Worcester Cent. (Worcester).....	17	609	(e)	50	--	68	(e)	--	--
E. Norfolk (Quincy).....	17	157	(e)	11	--	63	(e)	--	--
E. Middlesex, 1st (Malden).....	17	286	(e)	2	--	17	(e)	--	--
Lawrence (Lawrence).....	17	158	(e)	13	--	--	(e)	--	--
Lovell (Lovell).....	17	138	(e)	24	--	--	(e)	--	--
Bristol, 2nd (Fall River).....	17	169	(e)	--	--	180	(e)	--	--
Somerville (Somerville).....	17	77	(e)	3	--	--	(e)	--	--
Southern Essex (Lynn).....	17	305	(e)	8	--	--	(e)	--	--
Springfield (Springfield).....	17	362	(e)	48	--	--	(e)	--	--
Bristol, 3rd (New Bedford).....	17	216	(e)	--	--	171	(e)	--	--
E. Middlesex, 3rd (Cambridge).....	17	288	(e)	41	--	--	(e)	--	--
54 small courts.....	17	3,634	(e)	251	--	243	(e)	--	--
MICHIGAN:									
Berrien Co. (Benton Harbor).....	17	69	1	37	--	272	409	26	--
Calhoun Co. (Battle Creek).....	17	179	--	157	--	63	282	42	--
Genesee Co. (Flint).....	17	449	34	523	--	3	55	1	--
Ingham Co. (Lansing).....	17	166	2	181	--	4	875	3	--
Jackson Co. (Jackson).....	17	76	--	47	--	9	469	7	--
Kalamazoo Co. (Kalamazoo).....	17	147	5	81	--	400	918	87	--
Kent Co. (Grand Rapids).....	17	258	3	273	--	73	1,480	6	--
Macomb Co. (East Detroit).....	17	385	3	113	--	19	1,079	21	--
Muskegon Co. (Muskegon).....	17	119	--	57	--	128	377	34	--
Oakland Co. (Pontiac).....	17	517	6	434	--	247	2,244	110	--
Saginaw Co. (Saginaw).....	17	212	--	95	--	77	1,155	85	--
Washtenaw Co. (Ann Arbor).....	17	188	2	120	--	--	122	--	--
Wayne Co. (Detroit).....	17	2,483	--	1,993	--	839	9,097	11	--
70 small courts.....	17	1,433	32	965	--	925	3,793	537	--
MINNESOTA:									
Hennepin Co. (Minneapolis).....	18	1,400	3,218	851	601	1,211	--	--	--
Ramsey Co. (St. Paul).....	18	978	103	357	--	277	2,463	--	--
St. Louis Co. (Duluth).....	18	254	35	77	--	306	389	--	--
6 small courts.....	18	587	905	73	9	142	41	93	--
MISSISSIPPI:									
Hinds Co. (Jackson).....	18	312	3	20	--	169	1	1	--
73 small courts.....	18	1,230	11	861	--	699	9	181	--
MISSOURI:									
Greene Co. (Springfield).....	17	82	8	49	80	263	215	1	--
Jackson Co. (Kansas City).....	17	909	38	90	424	1,390	429	220	5
St. Louis Co. (University City).....	17	638	22	50	431	1,137	389	307	46
St. Louis (City).....	17	466	5	320	694	3,060	200	469	50
102 small courts.....	17	1,398	346	527	853	1,187	740	74	6

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		Delinquency (except traffic)	Traffic	Dependency and neglect	Special proceedings	Delinquency (except traffic)	Traffic	Dependency and neglect	Special proceedings
MONTANA:									
2 small courts.....	18	65	--	--	--	1,624	282	--	--
NEBRASKA:									
3 small courts.....	18	262	(e)	203	2	(r)	(r)	(r)	(r)
NEW HAMPSHIRE:									
84 small courts.....	18	339	1	61	7	22	--	--	--
NEW MEXICO:									
Bernalillo Co. (Albuquerque).....	18	890	560	--	--	747	2,681	--	--
28 small courts.....	18	1,084	1,483	--	--	5,224	1,453	--	--
NEW YORK:									
Albany Co. (Albany).....	16	269	5	147	257	--	(e)	--	--
Broome Co. (Binghamton).....	16	73	--	54	91	84	(e)	--	--
Chautauque Co. (Jamestown).....	16	128	--	66	173	2	(e)	--	--
Dutchess Co. (Poughkeepsie).....	16	148	--	--	78	--	(e)	--	--
Erie Co. (Buffalo).....	16	662	6	198	899	65	(e)	--	--
Memroe Co. (Rochester).....	16	397	9	125	668	--	(e)	--	--
New York (City).....	16	12,112	(e)	2,751	457	952	(e)	1,567	--
Niagara Co. (Niagara Falls).....	16	189	4	160	208	315	(e)	146	3
Ontario Co. (Utica).....	16	170	3	22	2	--	(e)	--	--
Oranada Co. (Syracuse).....	16	430	4	217	480	--	(e)	--	--
Orange Co. (Newburgh).....	16	143	1	24	69	--	(e)	--	--
Rensselaer Co. (Troy).....	16	106	--	3	91	--	(e)	--	--
Schenectady Co. (Schenectady).....	16	113	2	42	131	--	(e)	--	--
Suffolk Co. (Islip).....	16	397	7	68	42	--	(e)	--	--
Westchester Co. (Yonkers).....	16	204	6	232	382	327	(e)	--	--
44 small courts.....	16	1,900	17	1,082	2,752	497	(e)	441	65
NORTH CAROLINA:									
Buncombe Co. (Asheville).....	16	135	1	69	143	11	--	--	--
Durham Co. (Durham).....	16	304	4	46	35	--	--	--	--
Forsyth Co. (Winston-Salem).....	16	346	5	281	193	119	5	13	12
Gaston Co. (Gastonia).....	16	93	--	67	89	197	3	103	32
Guilford Co. (Greensboro).....	16	294	35	257	170	366	5	12	8
Mecklenburg Co. (Charlotte).....	16	485	11	52	214	571	11	275	122
Wake Co. (Raleigh).....	16	296	8	139	324	41	--	4	--
99 small courts.....	16	2,543	80	639	222	49	3	7	1
NORTH DAKOTA:									
First Judicial District (Fargo).....	18	345	105	73	140	228	597	29	38
2 small courts.....	18	33	22	--	3	169	5	9	--
OHIO:									
Buller Co. (Hamilton).....	18	227	637	55	5	904	--	2	2
Clerk Co. (Springfield).....	18	125	44	68	--	455	296	1	--
Cuyahoga Co. (Cleveland).....	18	2,407	181	505	116	1,457	4,483	3	--
Franklin Co. (Columbus).....	18	278	1,501	244	15	416	1	18	--
Hamilton Co. (Cincinnati).....	18	710	2,845	401	--	3,099	5	56	2
Lorain Co. (Lorain).....	18	142	9	133	--	408	360	--	--
Lucas Co. (Toledo).....	18	607	1,536	34	141	1,695	301	4	152
Mahoning Co. (Youngstown).....	18	132	11	130	1	884	741	34	3
Montgomery Co. (Dayton).....	18	615	227	308	176	1,588	1,692	10	5
Stark Co. (Canton).....	18	94	--	92	--	--	--	--	--
Summit Co. (Akron).....	18	94	154	301	37	2,319	1,197	--	5
Trumbull Co. (Warren).....	18	179	101	112	17	329	458	--	--
70 small courts.....	18	4,990	5,553	1,477	667	2,963	1,575	156	94
OKLAHOMA:									
Oklahoma Co. (Oklahoma City).....	16, 18	789	(e)	275	175	411	(e)	33	--
Tulsa Co. (Tulsa).....	16, 18	261	165	187	4	592	10	370	4
7 small courts.....	16, 18	175	35	120	6	44	89	6	--
OREGON:									
Lane Co. (Eugene).....	18	477	33	88	16	671	10	71	15
Marion Co. (Salem).....	18	538	255	160	98	442	12	174	71
Multnomah Co. (Portland).....	18	879	744	881	218	2,099	2,829	938	86
26 small courts.....	18	2,164	521	819	110	3,049	72	884	452
PENNSYLVANIA:									
Allegheny Co. (Pittsburgh).....	18	4,770	286	951	75	924	355	957	--
Beaver Co. (Aliquippa).....	18	142	3	36	--	273	64	11	--
Berk Co. (Reading).....	18	156	2	153	7	335	--	33	--
Bleir Co. (Altoona).....	18	124	6	32	5	109	1	48	6
Bucks Co. (Bristol).....	18	197	10	115	19	279	57	299	--
Chester Co. (West Chester).....	18	470	11	23	--	178	3	17	--
Delaware Co. (Chester).....	18	625	--	331	383	265	--	207	--
Erie Co. (Erie).....	18	135	--	17	--	187	--	13	--
Fayette Co. (Uniontown).....	18	104	7	2	5	189	--	4	2
Lackawanna Co. (Scranton).....	18	216	44	17	--	74	--	--	--
Lehigh Co. (Allentown).....	18	179	10	84	2	74	1	13	1
Luzerne Co. (Wilkes-Barre).....	18	393	84	2	--	--	--	--	--
Mercer Co. (Sharon).....	18	101	79	39	--	29	--	10	--
Montgomery Co. (Harrisburg).....	18	92	174	5	--	279	--	154	--
Northampton Co. (Bethlehem).....	18	93	5	23	5	232	21	5	3
Philadelphia (City and Co.).....	18	9,301	79	1,785	255	--	--	--	--
Schuylkill Co. (Pottsville).....	18	297	37	133	28	489	--	101	20
Washington Co. (Washington).....	18	187	62	42	--	93	--	--	--
Westmoreland Co. (New Kensington).....	18	229	10	6	2	481	11	--	1
York Co. (York).....	18	106	18	--	--	479	--	--	--
5 small courts.....	18	163	1	56	1	210	--	119	--

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PUERTO RICO: 7 small courts.....	16	2,592	159	4,889	17	2,091	64	795	--
RHODE ISLAND: State (Providence).....	18	898	578	155	610	184	--	--	--
SOUTH CAROLINA: Greenville Co. (Greenville).....	18	416	58	107	627	174	--	42	116
Spartanburg Co. (Spartanburg).....	18	290	4	--	266	--	--	--	--
3 small courts.....	18	445	--	202	84	22	--	18	--
SOUTH DAKOTA: 57 small courts.....	18	1,055	379	187	119	1,439	946	51	15
TEXAS: Bexar Co. (San Antonio).....	c 17, 18	814	(d)	--	--	1,405	(d)	--	--
Cameron Co. (Brownsville).....	c 17, 18	120	--	--	--	425	--	--	--
Dallas Co. (Dallas).....	c 17, 18	583	--	368	1,399	3,547	25	1,172	--
Galveston Co. (Galveston).....	c 17, 18	36	--	--	--	682	11	--	--
Hidalgo Co. (McAllen).....	c 17, 18	24	--	--	--	464	4	--	--
Jefferson Co. (Beaumont).....	c 17, 18	132	10	11	211	1,194	--	--	--
Lubbock Co. (Lubbock).....	c 17, 18	92	--	--	--	600	37	6	--
McLennan Co. (Waco).....	c 17, 18	57	--	30	71	1,118	2	271	15
Nueces Co. (Corpus Christi).....	c 17, 18	334	--	--	--	1,003	--	--	--
Travis Co. (Austin).....	c 17, 18	339	--	290	226	561	31	96	454
117 small courts.....	c 17, 18	2,453	11	842	4,351	10,050	74	1,407	531
UTAH: First District (Ogden).....	18	459	2,310	77	--	1,288	--	69	--
Second District (Salt Lake City).....	18	879	4,193	253	--	1,595	--	104	--
Third District (Provo).....	18	664	1,620	92	--	772	--	105	--
3 small courts.....	18	585	873	106	--	222	--	28	--
VERMONT: 17 small courts.....	16	165	(d)	284	--	--	--	--	--
VIRGIN ISLANDS: 2 small courts.....	16	84	7	89	11	--	--	--	--
VIRGINIA: Arlington Co.....	18	674	832	131	11	--	--	--	--
Fairfax Co. (Falls Church).....	18	1,146	974	261	284	--	--	--	--
Norfolk Co. (City).....	18	1,418	606	444	219	--	--	--	--
119 small courts.....	18	8,099	5,313	1,630	882	1,511	32	328	175
WASHINGTON: King Co. (Seattle).....	18	2,202	4,957	721	738	635	8	247	36
Pierce Co. (Tacoma).....	18	373	105	139	176	433	544	183	14
Snohomish Co. (Everett).....	18	166	559	160	19	42	4	49	6
Spokane Co. (Spokane).....	18	196	1,534	121	47	1,057	197	276	2
Yakima Co. (Yakima).....	18	180	69	28	111	974	1,135	145	5
27 small courts.....	18	1,444	1,654	225	303	3,824	2,353	759	46
WEST VIRGINIA: Cabell Co. (Huntington).....	18	251	--	23	67	--	--	--	--
Kanawha Co. (Charleston).....	18	142	--	112	209	165	--	--	--
53 small courts.....	18	1,709	394	486	499	718	16	284	35
WISCONSIN: Dane Co. (Madison).....	18	82	33	1	--	1,160	513	--	--
Milwaukee Co. (Milwaukee).....	18	1,703	1,566	446	535	4,367	250	421	8
Racine Co. (Racine).....	18	21	--	21	5	27	--	--	--
59 small courts.....	18	3,023	901	1,014	354	1,485	369	94	4

^a NOTE WELL: This table is not limited to the sample group of courts but rather includes all courts that transmitted reports to the Children's Bureau. The data in this table should not be used to make comparisons between communities regarding the extent of delinquency. Questions concerning changes in an individual court's data from one year to another should be directed to that individual court.

^b Courts serving areas with population of 100,000 or more are listed separately, showing the chief city located in each area. Courts serving areas with less than 100,000 population are combined for each State and are presented as "small courts."

^c The age under which court has original jurisdiction is different for boys and girls. The age for boys appears first.

^d Inapplicable -- juvenile court does not have jurisdiction over juvenile traffic cases.

^e Data on traffic cases not reported separately from other types of delinquency cases. They are included under "Delinquency - except traffic."

^f Reported on official cases only.