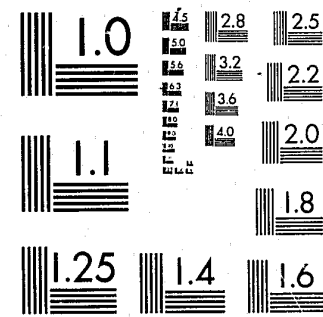


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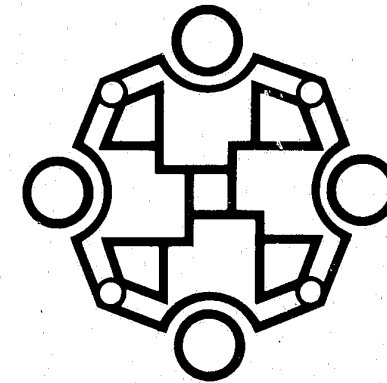


U.S. Department of Justice  
Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention  
National Institute for Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention

# Reports of the National Juvenile Justice Assessment Centers

## A Preliminary National Assessment of the Numbers and Characteristics of Juveniles Processed in the Juvenile Justice System

77157



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U.S. Department of Justice

Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention

National Institute for Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention

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### A Preliminary National Assessment of the Numbers and Characteristics of Juveniles Processed in the Juvenile Justice System

by

T. Edwin Black

Charles P. Smith

June 1981

U.S. Department of Justice  
National Institute of Justice

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## Foreword

The National Institute for Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention established an Assessment Center Program in 1976 to partially fulfill the mandate of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 1974, as amended, to collect and synthesize knowledge and information from available literature and statistics on all aspects of juvenile delinquency.

This report provides insight into the critical area of the number and characteristics of persons under 18 processed nationally by the official juvenile justice system. This assessment is primarily one concerning the processing of juvenile delinquent and status offenses. No attempt was made to continue these analyses to cover cases of victimized or otherwise dependent children.

This is the first time nationally reported aggregate statistics have been analyzed to the degree that a transactional flow of juveniles could be presented for the entire system. Each individual decision point and processing decisions are logically interpreted in terms of the reported agency data available. For the first time, actual processing, detention, and diversion data can be attributed to individual decision-makers, and the outcomes analyzed in relation to other system agencies' reported statistics.

The assessment efforts are not designed to be complete statements in a particular area. Rather, they are intended to reflect the state of knowledge at a particular time, including gaps in available information or understanding. Each successive assessment report then may provide more general insight on a cumulative basis when compared to other reports.

Due to differences in definitions and the lack of a readily available body of information, the assessment efforts have been difficult. In spite of such complexity, the persons who participated in the preparation of this report are to be commended for their contribution to the body of knowledge.

J. Price Foster, Acting Director  
National Institute for Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention

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## Preface

As part of the Assessment Center Program of the National Institute for Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, topical centers were established to assess delinquency prevention (University of Washington), the juvenile justice system (American Justice Institute), and alternatives to the juvenile justice system (University of Chicago). In addition, a fourth assessment center was established at the National Council on Crime and Delinquency to integrate the work of the three topical centers.

This report, "A Preliminary National Assessment of the Numbers and Characteristics of Juveniles Processed in the Juvenile Justice System," has been developed by the American Justice Institute. It includes findings on the variables related to juvenile justice system processing of persons under 18 who are alleged or adjudicated to have committed a crime or status offense.

Other work of the American Justice Institute as part of the National Juvenile Justice System Assessment Center includes reports on the serious juvenile offender, the less-serious juvenile offender, the status offender, child abuse and neglect, classification and disposition of juveniles, juvenile advocacy, 24-hour intake, job opportunities for delinquents, the cost of juvenile crime, special problems of juveniles, sexual abuse and exploitation of juveniles, victimization of juveniles, change strategies, police handling of juveniles, standards, and court decisionmaking.

In spite of the limitations of these reports, each should be viewed as an appropriate beginning in the establishment of a better framework and baseline of information for understanding and action by policymakers, operational personnel, researchers, and the public on how the juvenile justice system can contribute to desired child development and control.

Charles P. Smith, Director  
National Juvenile Justice System Assessment Center

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## Executive Summary

It is estimated that 2,508,961 persons under the age of 18 were arrested or otherwise referred to the juvenile justice system in 1977. Of these, 190.7 percent (or 2,275,001 persons) were formally arrested by the police, with 49.4 percent (or 1,124,201) given informal dispositions (i.e., counsel and release) by the police and dismissed as an alternative to formal handling.

Police referred 50.6 percent (or 1,150,800) of all arrests in 1977. Apparently, no referral bias exists for either age, race, or sex. Fewer status offenders were being referred by police agencies in 1977 than were in previous years. The majority of status offenders are referred from community sources and family.

In 1977, court intake received 55.9 percent (or 1,401,705) of all system referrals. Including those received by the prosecutor's office, 52.0 percent (or 729,426 cases) were diverted. Petition filing rates show that serious offenses were filed on more often (55.4 percent) and constitute 57.7 percent of all filings. Status offenders were more often handled without filing a petition.

The intake decision to file for court action indicates that for 1977 there was apparently no filing bias due to sex or age. However, for race there is a slight tendency to file on blacks more often than on whites or other races. Juveniles with prior offense histories were referred more often, as were those charged with more serious crimes.

The prosecutor's office or function in 1977 received approximately 1,177,084 cases. Of these, 42.9 percent (or 504,805) were dismissed, primarily due to lack of evidence. Some of those dismissed had been detained. Of 300,243 juveniles who were detained, 62.8 percent were eventually filed on. Detention in secure facilities is requested in 94.1 percent of all cases detained. Smaller jurisdictions use secure facilities less often than the large jurisdictions do. Trends in 1975 and 1977 show a move toward filing more often when detention is prescribed. No detention bias is apparent for sex, race, or age. Prior delinquency referrals are apparently the primary determinant of whether a case is detained or not, along with the current living arrangements of the child. Any arrangements other than with both natural parents tend to make detention of the child more likely, especially if prior delinquency offenses are evident.

The juvenile court made formal disposition decisions in approximately 508,910 cases in 1977. Of these, 72.6 percent (or 367,652) were held within the system's supervisory control. Dismissals and diversions resulted in 27.4 percent of all cases heard. The majority of all decisions were sentenced to probation (48.6 percent, or 247,620). No apparent dispositional bias exists due to age, race, or sex. Cases having had prior delinquency court referrals tend to be given more restrictive dispositions (i.e., institutionalization), especially if the current offense is a serious one.

Cases involving serious offenses, regardless of age, race, or sex, are generally detained, filed on, and given more restrictive dispositions. Cases involving repeat offenders are generally detained and filed on. Older children tend to be handled more harshly, not because of age, but because of prior offense history.

The apparent neutral effect of the physical characteristics of the child that exists in 1977 was not true for previous years. A definite racial bias favoring whites existed in petition filing rates in 1975, but has since disappeared. Since 1975, court dispositions have changed significantly for the status offender and the serious offender. The severity of the sentence given has decreased dramatically for status offenders and has increased just as dramatically for serious offenders.

Recommendations concerning the processing of juveniles through the juvenile justice system are:

- Similar criteria should be instituted for arrests on suspicion as for detention.
- Arrests for suspicion should not be made for persons under 18 unless there is a need to detain the child.
- Safeguards should be set up at decision points of the system to assure that juveniles are not processed solely on the basis of unproven prior offenses.
- The juvenile justice system should assure that only well-trained juvenile investigators are given the authority to decide whether to forward the case to the legal system or the welfare system for treatment.
- The legal portion of the juvenile justice system should be separate from the juvenile welfare system and receive only delinquent children who have committed acts which would be considered crimes if committed by adults.
- The juvenile justice system should continue to handle status offense cases as welfare-related problems. Special nonjudicial intake procedures for community referrals should be instituted to handle status offense cases.
- Recommendation of detention status and dispositional alternatives should be left to intake supervisors, who can evaluate the reports of other investigators before making a decision.
- The juvenile justice system should assure that only serious offenders, perceived as a danger to themselves or the community, are institutionalized.

Recommendations concerning data availability are:

- Juvenile court intake and court hearing data should be reported separately.
- Juvenile court statistics should not be solely a reflection of court intake referrals.
- When analyzing prior juvenile records, the nature and type of prior offense history should be reported in detail rather than reporting only the evidence of its presence.
- Statistical sources should attempt to standardize data bases for more uniformity in making national estimates.

- Statistical sources reporting correctional data should attempt to define the movement of juvenile commitments in greater detail.
- Correctional populations should be described both in terms of a point in time and over a period of time.
- Case data concerning disposition, prior history, and case history (i.e., length of stay) should be related to institution departures or paroled entries.
- Parole statistics should be analyzed and reported for persons under age 18.

## Introduction

THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE for Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (NIJJDP) of the United States Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) established an Assessment Center Program in 1976 to partially fulfill requirements of the Juvenile Justice And Delinquency Prevention Act of 1974, as amended, that required the systematic *collection, synthesis, preparation, and publication* of data, knowledge, and information obtained from studies and research by public and private agencies in all aspects of juvenile delinquency (Title II, Part C, Sections 242(1) and 242(2)).

The National Juvenile Justice System Assessment Center (NJJSAC) has as its primary focus the flow of juveniles through the major components of the official juvenile justice system. It also focuses on the many agencies and programs that are operated by the system and have as their primary orientation the handling and treatment of juveniles, who have made contact with the system at one point or another.

The objectives of the Assessment Center focus on adding to the general knowledge base on juvenile delinquency and juvenile related problems. In attempting to achieve this objective, the NJJSAC is directed to identify and describe existing knowledge gaps and promising programs. Other objectives of the NJJSAC are to collect and synthesize data and the results of previously conducted studies and written reports as well as lend assistance to State and Federal agencies requiring information about juvenile delinquency for policy, legislative, or organizational purposes.

This preliminary assessment of the estimated numbers and characteristics of juveniles processed nationally through the juvenile justice system has been prepared for policymakers, practitioners, and researchers seeking to better understand the structure, process, and programs of the system. Processing information in its simplest form defines the system's primary decision points and specifies alternative pathways a juvenile may follow in the journey from initial contact to eventual termination from the system. Processing information can also be used to identify and define problems, measure progress toward objectives, and to evaluate the impact of programs designed to help in fulfilling the objectives of the system at large.

Policymakers who need definitive answers to questions (e.g., volume of referrals, treatment advisability, offender group characteristics) need reliable data to plan either the continuance of present programs and procedures, or the design and implementation of new programs or procedures designed to apply to a specific problem that warrants attention. Accurate and informed decisionmaking cannot be accomplished at either the policymaking level or within individual agencies unless timely and accurate processing information is available.

An examination of national processing statistics can provide new insights into individual agency policy and the resultant impact of such policy on the system as a whole.

It can also provide a valuable frame of reference for individual agencies in comparison with the rest of the Nation. Examining individual characteristics helps to further delineate the applicability of specific treatment programs, and therefore allows more in-depth analysis of the individual program objectives in terms of the juvenile population to which the program applies. Exemplary programs or policies are then judged more on the program operations, the population involved, and the resultant success or failure rates revealed. Since the collection of more accurate processing statistics has become possible, success and failure rates have also become more visible both to the public and to agency administration. Another advantage to obtaining current national processing data is that, once the statistical procedure is developed and demonstrated for the compatible comparison of national data for the entire system, the future value of the process far exceeds the value of its current usage. Once this process is routinized, trend analysis is possible for long-term changes.

This document may report how many juveniles are handled annually and show how they are processed; however, the analysis, and consequently the resultant conclusions, are focused on the decisionmakers themselves and their processing decisions. Thus, this volume goes beyond the mere reporting of data and discusses the agencies' apparent rationale for processing juveniles in different ways.

As far as can be determined, this is the first published attempt to statistically document the national flow of juveniles through all of the major components of the juvenile justice system. Such transactional data analysis has never existed and still does not exist on the national scale. By using independently reported aggregate statistics provided for each component by various national government data collection efforts, and applying the necessary interpretive logic gained from understanding the data limitations, a first attempt at this transactional analysis has been possible for 1977. The analysis does not attempt to reflect reality as much as true offender-based systems would if they were available; however, at present, national data collection reporting systems cannot even approximate such exactness. All present reporting systems showing offender statistics are decision point oriented and only *imply* transactional trends in the juvenile population movement within the system. For a more detailed description of the method used to arrive at the flow analysis, see the section on Organization of the Report in this chapter.

#### ASSESSMENT OVERVIEW

The assessment objective of this report was to describe as accurately as possible the transactional flow of the numbers and characteristics of juveniles handled throughout the juvenile justice system in the United States. In addition, by the use of national or otherwise available processing statistics, an attempt was made to better define the services of each separate component of the system, as well as to examine the use and frequency with which each separate decision point in the system, and its attendant alternatives, are utilized in the normal processing of juveniles who come into contact with it.

In addition to outlining and understanding the operational aspects of the juvenile justice system, a special area of concern has been the number and percent of juveniles who are detained and their particular characteristics, as well as whether they are held in secure or nonsecure facilities.

In attempting to accomplish these general objectives, the overall work plan involved three major tasks: (1) the identification of existing national data sources; (2) the

collection of relevant data on juvenile incidents and individuals from those sources; and (3) the analysis and preparation of a special topical report based on information available.

The primary structure underlying each of these tasks is the juvenile justice *process*, often referred to as the *system*. The NJJSAC, as part of its Phase I effort, developed a composite model of the structure and process of the juvenile justice system (Smith, Black, and Campbell, 1979:29). It is this model that provided the organizational framework for the assessment as well as the interpretation of the findings as they were being compiled. All of the conclusions and recommendations in this volume are made through the understandings provided by the use of this organizational model. Gaps and discrepancies in information available are relative to the decision network displayed by this model.

#### A NATIONAL ASSESSMENT

For organizations operating on the national or local scale, decisions on delinquency prevention and control require comprehensive and timely information. At present, no single such data base exists. Though there are individual and national processing data collection efforts presently in force that can provide actual data from each component, even when these are combined they still do not provide evidence sufficiently comprehensive to answer some of the simplest and yet most important questions. Questions such as who is being processed, and how many of them there are, cannot accurately be answered or even estimated without representative data routinely collected and presented in a manner aimed at providing the reader easy interpretation.

When decisionmakers need accurate information and they are presented little if any data, decisions are made nevertheless. Such decisions, sometimes made on no information at all, not only often do not provide solutions to problems, but they may even become part of the problem themselves. Viable solutions may also be ineffective because of inappropriate timing. Add to this the additional dimensions of applicability of the proposed solutions, volume of application, breadth of approach, and choice of the proper point and procedure on which to apply it, and the problem becomes even more complex. Any one of these dimensions can cause a given program or procedure, when implemented at some point in the system, to not only fail but become counter-productive. In a report on criminal justice statistics, Wickersham stated that:

Accurate data are the beginning of wisdom...and no such data can be had for the country as a whole, nor have they ever been available hitherto with respect to many of the activities of the Federal Government in the enforcement of Federal laws. A proper system of gathering, compiling, and reporting of statistics of crime, of criminal justice, and of penal treatment is one of the first steps in the direction of improvement (as quoted in Pope, 1975:9).

In order to develop an estimate of juveniles handled by the juvenile justice system, the NJJSAC organized its efforts toward the collection and analysis of existing data from national data sources. These sources provide the number and, at least, the summary characteristics of juveniles who are processed annually through various steps of the decision network that makes up the juvenile justice system. An additional objective was to be able to illustrate the magnitude of the problems of the juvenile justice system through this flow of juveniles.

After these initial objectives, considered to be the primary analysis, secondary analyses were conducted in an attempt to display separate incident information that would answer other questions about the juvenile justice system. Thus, this report is intended to become a source document for processing as well as for special information needs of policy and administrative decisionmakers.

Ongoing efforts of the System Assessment Center have been directed toward the development of adequate administrative procedures, information sources, and analysis methodologies. These efforts have been twofold: to assess the state of current data sources and to provide data, both for this report and for future requests, which is as complete and accurate as possible.

Though this report in itself is a sourcebook of systemwide processing data, its origin was in the growth of a process and information collection concept broadly referred to as the "assessment system." The assessment system encompasses two types of information that the Center routinely collects: (1) statistical data describing the *quantity* of juveniles who are processed through various components of the juvenile justice system, and (2) nonstatistical information that would apply to the *qualitative* description and analysis of various issues, processes, or aspects of the juvenile justice system. The Center has developed a comprehensive library of relevant documents, reports, and other publications supporting the qualitative aspects of the system, and has collected and will maintain current comprehensive statistical profiles of the juvenile justice system at the State and national levels.

#### BASIC DEFINITIONS

Prior to analyzing the movement of a juvenile through the national juvenile justice system, certain basic definitions need to be reviewed as an aid to understanding this report.

Because of the inherent differences that lie between each of the system's separate components, a group of common definitions had to be utilized in assuring the compatibility of the descriptive data being analyzed. These definitions are intended to facilitate general compatibility on the national scale, although individual State definitions may vary. Furthermore, it should be understood that in assuming singular meaning to varying operational realities, similar variability may be reflected in the data reported. Therefore, the methodologies used in combining statistical data attempt to compensate for such discrepancies between components.

The basic definitions as used in this report are given below:

- Juvenile:

A person who is not yet 18, or a person who is not yet 21 who is being processed for an act of juvenile delinquency or a crime committed prior to the 18th birthday.

- Juvenile Justice System:

The organization of interacting and interdependent statutory agencies which have jurisdiction over juveniles for rendering special services or for processing an act of juvenile delinquency.

- Juvenile Delinquency:

A violation of a law of the United States or any of its individual States, committed by a person who is not yet 18, which would have been a crime if committed by an adult and which is liable to disposition through the juvenile justice system.

- Crime:

An act that is forbidden by a law of the United States or any of its individual States and which makes the offender liable to disposition by that law through the adult justice system.

- Juvenile Dependency:

A state of need involving a person who is not yet 18 who has been brought within the formal jurisdiction of the juvenile justice system for the purpose of rendering services.

- Juvenile Adjudication:

The juvenile court decision, rendered as a result of an adjudicatory hearing, stating that the juvenile is either a delinquent, a status offender, or dependent, or that the allegations are not sustained.

- Adjudicatory Hearing:

A formal proceeding wherein the juvenile court determines whether or not there is sufficient evidence to sustain the allegations concerning the juvenile.

- Offender:

A person who is adjudicated by the adult or juvenile justice system to have committed an act of juvenile delinquency or a crime.

Thus, for the purposes of this report, a juvenile *offender* is any one of the following:

- A person not yet 18 who is adjudicated for an act of juvenile delinquency by the juvenile justice system.
- A person not yet 18 who is adjudicated for a crime by the adult justice system and is handled in some way by the juvenile justice system.
- A person not yet 21 who has been adjudicated as an offender by the juvenile justice system for acts committed prior to the 18th birthday and which would be considered juvenile delinquency.

For the sake of clarity in the use of this definition in this report, it is important to distinguish between the juvenile who has been *adjudicated* for committing a delinquent act or crime and a juvenile who is *alleged* to have committed a delinquent act or a crime. The juvenile is considered an offender only after a formal adjudication has been made; prior to this point, even if an informal adjudication is made, the juvenile is not considered to be an offender.

## METHODOLOGY

As Wickersham indicated in 1931, so the same reality still exists today--there is still no central information source which routinely collects and publishes national data (as cited in Pope, 1975:9). Because of the prohibitive costs, manpower, and compliance problems associated with developing uniform collection procedures, the basic design of the Center's assessment approach has focused on the use of existing national, State, and local sources.

### Data Collection

The assessment methodology focused primarily on developing the information needed from currently available sources. An information base was developed by following a number of interrelated tasks all directed toward the collection and substantiation of a model of the juvenile justice system:

- synthesis of nationally published juvenile justice statistics
- collection and analysis of statewide published data
- synthesis of Assessment Center's Phase I reports
- literature reviews of research and demonstration projects
- structured jurisdictional "mini-surveys"
- in-depth collection of juvenile statistics from a "representative" sample of typical jurisdictions.

Information from these sources was supplemented, when needed, with data from "key" agency contact officials who are knowledgeable about particular specialized information that designated Federal and State agencies are responsible for maintaining.

Information developed from each of these separate collection tasks was analyzed, classified, and stored in a central information catalog and bibliographic index which is broadly organized according to national, State, and local statistics. Within each basic source category, individual statistical data is further sub-categorized by system component and decision point, and then by specific type of data element (type of case, characteristics, volume and rate of referrals, staffing patterns, costs and expenditures, recidivism, and terms of service).

In order to show characteristics and national processing trends for juveniles who enter the system, data from national sources was first collected and analyzed. An attempt was made to account for the many gaps in present national data by falling back on State and local sources. Figure 1 (p. 7) illustrates the backup data collection sequence that was followed when obvious gaps or discrepancies were found to exist in the national data available.

In order to provide a report that is of the greatest value possible to the reader, data collection efforts were initiated to obtain the most current year possible from all sources used. Where the nature of the specific analysis did not necessitate a transactional flow from point to point, more recent data may have been evaluated. Considerable effort was necessary to enable the use of 1977 (the most recent year available) for all primary sources. Earlier statistics would have possibly provided

a similar pattern in the eventual analysis; however, it was reasoned that the more recent pattern would provide a better profile of how the system operates today, and therefore in the near future, than would an earlier year, because of the numerous statutory changes that have been enacted into law that affect the way juveniles are handled.

Several Federal agencies, research organizations, and Law Enforcement Assistance Administration (LEAA) projects currently collect sizeable amounts of summary juvenile processing and characteristics information. Primary sources and publications contacted and eventually collected for the years shown are:

- U.S. Department of Justice Uniform Crime Reports (UCR) 1968-1977 (regular published reports and numerous unpublished special cross tabulations prepared by the Department of Justice)
- National Council on Crime and Delinquency Uniform Parole Reports (UPR) 1977 (special cross tabulations on juveniles prepared by the Council for NJJSAC--1977 report concerns the 1976 data base)
- U.S. Department of Justice Children in Custody 1973-1977 (final and advance reports)
- National Center for Juvenile Justice. National Juvenile Court Processing Estimates, 1975-1977 (advance estimates prepared by the source for NJJSAC).

FIGURE 1  
NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM ASSESSMENT CENTER  
BACK-UP DATA COLLECTION SOURCE PROCEDURE

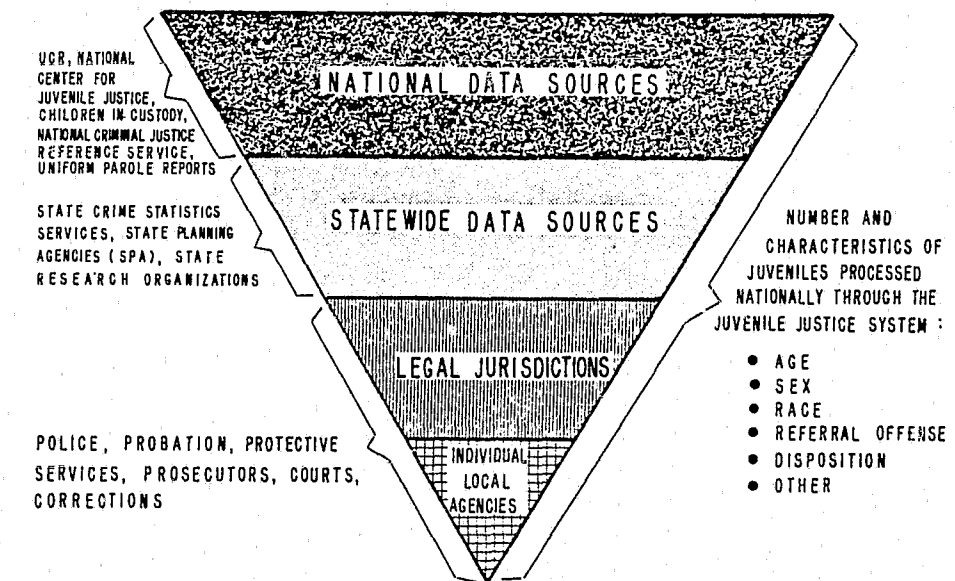


Figure constructed by the NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM ASSESSMENT CENTER (Sacramento, CA: American Justice Institute, 1980).

Many of these sources publish multi-year statistical reports which, in combination, provide both current and summary trend data for most of the primary decision points and agencies involved in the juvenile justice system. Most of the publications also contain processing information for the basic offender groups handled by the juvenile agencies (delinquents, status offenders, dependent/neglected, and abused). The FBI reports trend data for 10-year periods.

Even though published reports were available, many of the specific characteristic-related questions of this analysis could not be satisfied by regular published data on these cases. Lengthy special computer runs had to be requested of these sources in order to accomplish the special analysis of characteristics and dispositional data. National summary data could not always provide the detail necessary for an in-depth transitional analysis; thus, special State-by-State details were also requested from the original sources.

In general, these reports and special runs provided comprehensive data on juvenile arrests, intake, court process, detention, and correctional facilities. In addition to juvenile processing data, other compilations on juvenile recidivism rates, agency staffing patterns, and program expenditures either provided or published by these same sources were collected and analyzed.

#### The Data Problem

Of all the sources of juvenile justice statistics available in the United States, only a limited number can be circulated widely with confidence. In analyzing why this statement is true, only the simplest logic need be applied; for instance, representativeness--very few data collection operations exist that can honestly claim to provide good representative sampling of the Nation. Unfortunately, not only are there few individual sources supplying high quality juvenile justice statistics, there are none that supply comprehensive flow statistics for the entire system. Instead, the list of individual sources of system data is at least as numerous as there are separate agencies within it.

Centralized data collection for criminal justice statistics is probably the most sought after myth ever to occupy the minds of the ever optimistic researcher. The need is recognized equally well by recent proponents such as the Institute of Judicial Administration/American Bar Association Juvenile Justice Standards Project (Flicker, 1977:37) or earlier pacesetters such as in the 1967 President's Crime Commission Task Force Reports:

Knowledge of the whole system is particularly important insofar as the offender is concerned. Because each step in the process is critical, each step in the process is like the link of a chain. If any one is unfair or weak, the whole chain is unfair or weak. It is therefore important to be able to trace his [the offender's] path through the whole system (President's Commission on Law Enforcement and Administration of Justice, 1967:127).

At best, the data collection efforts that are available to look at the pathway traced by the juvenile offender are discontinuous. Each individual agency collects and reports its own summary statistics with little interest in what the other agencies are doing. National levels of government follow this same pattern of discordant tabulation. Police agencies record numbers of arrests, while the court counts cases, and correctional agencies tally inmates--thus the basic unit of analysis is different for each agency, and therefore each component. However, the picture can become even dimmer when the agencies only record summary statistics. In this case, no reference

can be made between the numbers of arrests made and the dispositional outcomes further along in the system.

The problem therefore is to be able, by some manner or logic, to relate initial law enforcement decisions with dispositional outcomes in other agencies further along the system, or in more precise terms, to estimate the approximate flow of juveniles from point of contact, through the alternative branches of the system, and eventually to an exit point, showing the number and manner in which they are processed.

In order to devise such a logic, each of the primary sources had to be examined with respect to how they collected their data, how they arrived at these estimates, what cautions they had to take into account in interpreting these reports, and what level of detail they could provide. Some basic tenets had to then be set up with respect to the degree of error acceptable, and therefore the level of confidence that can be expected to attend the presentation of the data. Furthermore, where the basic unit of counting or analysis differs between components, a method of relating these differences had to be devised. Appendix C (pp. 103-121) is a detailed description of the individual source analysis and the adjustment procedures utilized to arrive at compatibility across sources. One short description of the sources and their analysis is included in this introduction. However, the reader is directed to the more detailed description if more information is desired.

#### Police Processing

At present, the best national estimate of offense and arrest trends is the Uniform Crime Report (UCR) published annually (usually in October) by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). These data are reported monthly to the FBI by varying numbers of law enforcement agencies, in a routinized data collection process that virtually covers the Nation. Though it is accredited as the best estimate of *arrest* information, this is also its primary limitation--it does not extend beyond police processing.

In this report all arrest data, except where otherwise noted, have been derived from UCR published reports, or special UCR inquiries on the national data base made at NJJSAC's request.

All UCR data have been adjusted to reflect the co-reporting agencies that may cause significant variation from table to table, especially where personal characteristics such as age, race, and sex are considered. A thorough explanation of the computational formulas, as well as description of the need and rationale for the adjustment, is considered in the Police Processing section of Appendix C (pp. 103-121).

#### Court Processing

The best source for court processing data is the Advance Estimates of National Court Processing Statistics produced annually by the National Center for Juvenile Justice (NCJJ), a research division of the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges.\*

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\*Information on data usage and terminology was obtained from "Young People and the Juvenile Justice System," also produced by NCJJ (Smith, 1978).



These reports cover intake as well as juvenile court trend data for the years 1975-1977 and incorporate detention statistics as well. This series of statistical tables provides the only national tabulation and estimates of court processing statistics available.

The statistical data provided are generally collected by a number of States (14 in 1975, 18 in 1976, and 22 in 1977) that are automated enough, and willing to provide a machine readable transactional history for the year in question (Appendix D, Table D-1, p. 125).

Though these statistical reports are national estimates of the number and percent of cases processed, some additional adjustment of the data was needed for this report. A thorough explanation of the computational formulas, as well as a description of the need and rationale for the adjustment, is contained in the Court Processing section of Appendix C (pp. 103-121).

#### Placement, Custody, and Field Supervision Processing

Within the category of correctional placement, custody, and field supervision processing, two reports were used to provide national estimates: (1) Children in Custody for 1977 by the U.S. Department of Justice, and (2) Uniform Parole Reports (UPR) for 1977 by the National Council on Crime and Delinquency.

The point-in-time data for the Nation is broken down by various characteristics. The census of public and private correctional facilities includes residential juvenile establishments operated by State or local governments or by private entities, such as detention centers, shelters, reception and diagnostic centers, training schools, ranches, forestry camps, farms, halfway houses, and group homes. Primarily the reports show only actual counts that are to be assumed as the entire population; therefore, there is apparently no need of estimation procedures. Some estimations have been made and are more thoroughly explained in the Placement, Custody, and Field Supervision Processing section of Appendix C (pp. 103-121).

The primary source for correctional statistics is the Children in Custody statistical report and facility census. The advance report for 1977 supplied the total admission and departure statistics (U.S. Department of Justice, 1979(a) and (b)). However, no current information on the type of facility or number, percent, and characteristics of those processed exists after the last full report in the series was published using 1973 data (U.S. Department of Justice, December 1977). Because of the obvious need for these detailed processing ratios, 1977 relationships were examined. Table 1 (p. 11) is a comparison of related characteristics of juvenile custody residents of public and private facilities for the Children in Custody reporting years since 1973. Though significant legislative enactments have occurred in the interim, only minor fluctuations are evident in the characteristics of juveniles committed to public and private facilities. Based upon this cursory analysis, the relationships found in the 1973 full report of Children in Custody were applied to the 1977 census data to facilitate the national estimates of commitments to correctional facilities.

#### State Aggregates

National sources alone cannot provide all of the data necessary to complete the picture needed of juveniles being processed through the many alternatives available from the time they make contact with the system until they eventually break that contact.

TABLE 1  
 SELECTED CHARACTERISTICS OF PUBLIC AND PRIVATE JUVENILE CUSTODY  
 RESIDENTS AND FACILITIES (1973, 1974, 1975, and 1977)

CHARACTERISTICS	PUBLIC				PRIVATE		
	1973	1974	1975	1977	1974	1975	1977
NUMBER OF RESIDENTS	47,983	47,268	49,126	45,920	31,749	27,450	29,377
Juvenile	45,694	44,922	46,980	44,096	31,749	27,290	29,070
Male	35,057	34,783	37,926	36,921	22,104	19,152	20,387
Female	10,037	10,139	9,054	7,175	9,645	8,138	8,683
Adult	2,289	2,346	2,146	1,824	-0-	160	307
AVERAGE AGE (YEARS) <sup>1</sup>	---	---	---	15.3	---	---	14.9
Male	15.2	15.3	15.3	15.4	---	15.3	14.9
Female	14.9	14.9	15.0	15.1	---	15.4	15.0
NUMBER OF ADMISSIONS	600,960	647,175	641,189	614,385	53,661	56,708	67,045
NUMBER OF DEPARTURES	594,207	640,408	632,983	622,151	47,471	50,986	61,471
AVERAGE DAILY NUMBER OF RESIDENTS	47,385	46,753	48,794	48,032	31,384	26,740	29,611
JUVENILES PER FULL-TIME STAFF MEMBER	1.2	1.1	1.1	1.0	1.5	---	1.3

<sup>1</sup>Based on juvenile residents only.

<sup>2</sup>Statistics for private facilities not available for 1973.

Sources: U.S. Department of Justice. Law Enforcement Assistance Administration. "Children in Custody: Advance Report on the 1977 Census of Public Juvenile Facilities, No. SD-JD-5A." (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Department of Justice, 1979); and U.S. Department of Justice. Law Enforcement Assistance Administration. "Children in Custody: Advance Report on the 1977 Census of Private Juvenile Facilities, No. SD-JD-5B." (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Department of Justice, 1979).

Table constructed by the NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM ASSESSMENT CENTER (Sacramento, CA: American Justice Institute, 1980).

For those detailed descriptions of the characteristics of juvenile offenders who are being handled in various components, available State data have been utilized as a basis for estimation. Using the same procedures that have been outlined for the Uniform Parole Reports, estimates have been made as to the composition of various offender populations. The same cautions expressed for the UPR are again issued for State aggregate estimates.

Aggregate State surveys can provide data on almost every aspect of juvenile processing, but only with great reluctance would such small samples be hypothesized as being truly representative of national flow patterns. Data are from varying years and do not present unbiased conclusions when combined in an information sampling. Where this has been done, it was presented only to aid in the understanding of conclusions drawn from other national estimates.

Figure 2 (below) summarizes the sources used and various key aspects of the data which were evaluated. Each source was evaluated as to whether it provided national estimates, national tabulations, or only summary statistics; whether it provided breakdowns of personal characteristics, social characteristics, and dispositional data; and whether trend analysis using previous year's data is available.

FIGURE 2  
SOURCES OF NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE PROCESSING  
STATISTICS BY TYPE OF INFORMATION SUPPLIED

INFORMATION CATEGORY	UNIFORM CRIME REPORTS	JUVENILE COURT STATISTICS	JUVENILE COURT ESTIMATES	UNIFORM PAROLE REPORTS	CHILDREN IN CUSTODY	CENSUS OF JAILS	STATE COMPOSITES
NATIONAL ESTIMATES			■				
NATIONAL TABULATIONS	■	■		■	■	■	
NATIONAL SUMMARIES	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS	■	■	■		■		■
SOCIAL CHARACTERISTICS			■				■
DISPOSITIONAL DATA	■		■				■
MULTI-YEAR TRENDS	■			■	■		■

FIGURE CONSTRUCTED BY THE NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM ASSESSMENT CENTER (SACRAMENTO, CA: AMERICAN JUSTICE INSTITUTE, 1980).

National *summaries* are obviously the most available types of data provided by most national sources. Only one source (court statistics) actually provides estimates of national flows. A transactional analysis of national processing data is not as common as may be thought. Thus, when policy planners seek to find answers to critical questions concerning the operating philosophy of the system, they most often make those decisions on disjointed summary analyses. The practice is not improper, only misleading since there is no causal relationship expressed in the separate summaries.

### Population Estimates

Accurate population estimates of juveniles by age, sex, and race are imperative for accurate rate tables and especially rate comparisons from year to year. Sources of population analysis have not traditionally been standardized from source to source. Various sources have been used whenever criminal research has been conducted even when that research was sponsored by the same government agencies. The National Center for Juvenile Justice, for instance, in its reports of the juvenile court estimates, used a complex process that relied upon the 1970 United States census, and NCCJ itself in turn estimated population growth in subsequent years. For this report, the Current Population Reports--Population Estimates and Projections, published by the U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, was used. United States population predictions for all of the years following the 1970 census are published in this series (P-25).

Estimates of the population of the United States by single years of age, race, and sex are given for the total population and are consistent with the census level population published in 1970. The Census Bureau separates the resident and civilian populations from the total population. The resident population includes residents of the 50 States and the District of Columbia, but excludes residents of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, residents of outlying areas under United States sovereignty or jurisdiction, and other American citizens living overseas. For purposes of standardizing rate calculations, the *resident* population was used for this report.

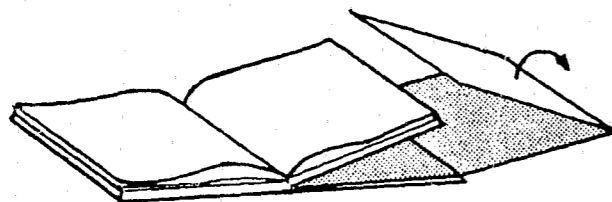
### ORGANIZATION AND USE OF THE REPORT

This report is organized around the composite decision model of the juvenile justice system discussed in Chapter III (pp. 27-84) of this report. Discussion of the interdependent agencies that comprise the system is presented as a foundation to understanding the national flow statistics presented in Chapter II (pp. 19-26). These flow statistics are based upon estimates derived from processing data collected by national sources, which were analyzed by component and adjusted where necessary to arrive at a single statistical picture of the Nation's juvenile justice system. The first portion of Chapter III draws on the more detailed component analysis given in the later separate sections, which are organized around each of the major components of the system. Separate analysis is made of the volume and characteristics of juveniles associated with each component. Individual characteristics are analyzed to better define the offender population. Where trend data have been collected and are available, supplemental trend analyses for designated decision points within these components are presented.

National processing data is the primary statistic of interest in each section; however, in order to comment on the availability and advisability of the present data collection systems, gaps which exist in presently available system data are emphasized as well. The lack of data, which leads to the lack of decisionmaking information, is in fact the more interesting fact to analyze in terms of effective future policy decision. For instance, the lack of sufficient referral data in the law enforcement component leads decisionmakers interested in prevention and apprehension to uninformed allocations of prevention program funding. Therefore, data analysis as well as deficiency analysis has been reported, sometimes with equal emphasis in the sections of Chapter III (pp. 27-84) and in the summary conclusions of the report.

Additional data are presented in Chapter III (pp. 27-84) for the purpose of answering anticipated information needs of decisionmakers as perceived by the NJJSAC staff. These data displays stemmed from a content analysis of a series of special requests that the NJJSAC has continually received since its inception. Initial experience with answering these special requests revealed that requestors were asking for information which generally showed national processing trends, case characteristics, dispositions, and recidivism rates among juveniles handled through the major components of the juvenile justice system.

For the system and the individual components themselves, data are first organized around the primary interest of the report; that is, how many juveniles are processed annually through the system or respective component, and what are the characteristics of the offender populations. In order to adequately show this, a decision model showing the flow of juveniles through the system and the respective alternative dispositional choices that are available to the decisionmaker is shown (Appendix E, pp. 93-196). The flow chart is in the latter pages of this volume, with instructions throughout the volume indicating when and how it is to be used. Generally, at the beginning of each section of Chapter III (pp. 27-84), a different aspect of this flow is examined. Prior to exploring the statistical displays and the resultant conclusions connected with the flow, the reader is encouraged to unfold the flow diagram for Appendix E (pp. 193-196) to the side of the document. The flow chart will then extend to the side of the document in order to be used as a reference to the narrative within the various portions of the text of Chapter III.



In this way, all of the data displays and statistical interpretations can be used along with the model, and thus all refer to this one common graphic interpretation of the system.

The decision model itemizes the proportional flow in terms of the number and percent of juveniles processed through each decision point of the system.

Within each section, detailed analyses of the specific offender populations being processed annually for the component are given special treatment.

Examples of some of the types of data which have been included are:

- Juvenile Arrests (1968-1977)

- estimated number of arrests by type of offense, age, sex, racial characteristics, and offense classification;
- estimated arrest rates by type of offense, age, sex, racial characteristics, and offense classification;
- police disposition of juvenile offenders taken into custody by State and geographic region.

- Intake and Juvenile Courts (1975-1977)

- estimated number and rate of delinquency cases handled through intake and juvenile courts;
- estimated number of delinquency cases processed through intake by method of handling;
- estimated number and rate of dependent/neglect cases handled through juvenile courts;
- estimated number and rate of status offense cases handled through juvenile courts;
- selected characteristics of delinquent and status offense cases handled by type of court;
- age, sex, and racial composition of juveniles detained at intake;
- source of referrals to juvenile intake by age, sex, and racial characteristics;
- number of juvenile cases with prior delinquency referrals by selected characteristics, and corresponding dispositions;
- court referrals by type of offenses, age, sex, and racial characteristics, and offense classification;
- selected characteristics of juveniles by length of time in the system;
- selected characteristics of juveniles by how they were cared for while awaiting disposition.

- Juvenile Detention and Correctional Facilities (1971-1976)

- number of detention and correctional facilities by type and location;
- estimated number of juveniles held in detention and correctional facilities;
- selected characteristics, detention status, and location of juveniles in detention and correctional facilities;
- detention capacity and average occupancy by State and geographic region.

A key table (Table 2, p. 28) located in Chapter III (pp. 27-84) itemizes some of the critical areas that special analysis has attempted to better define. The object of the table is to provide an easy reference to the entire document in one place. It acts as a summary of the data displays and their attendant discussion on each subject, so that at a glance the reader can pinpoint any reference made to the subject of interest in the document.

It should also be understood that the flow analysis shown in Appendix E (Figure E-1, p. 195) was built upon the processing decisions made in actual practice in juvenile justice system agencies across the Nation. The summary tables reported in Appendix D are aggregate counts of agency processing volumes and cannot accurately reflect the longitudinal aspect of the actual process of moving juveniles through the system. Because summary statistics are agency totals only, they may not appear in their summary form on the detailed flow chart, but may be reflected as a number of consecutive decision points.

The flow analysis describes the anticipated movement of 2,508,961 juveniles through 31 separate decision points containing 126 alternative pathways or dispositional choices. Among these dispositional alternatives, 47 lead to immediate terminations or exits from the system. In summary tables, those cases that are terminated at various points along the system within the agency are lumped together for the purpose of reporting. This lumping effect simplifies reporting; however, it can lead to the erroneous conclusions that the effects reported are actually singular in nature rather than aggregate.

An example of these effects are nationally reported juvenile court statistics. The juvenile court section of the flow analysis (Appendix E, Figure E-1, p. 195) includes decision points ⑥ through ⑱ inclusively...a total of 13 separate decision points describing 58 separate decision alternatives. In 1977, an estimated 1,401,705 juveniles were processed through these pathways. Generally, the data that describes the outcome of this entire process usually exists in one summary table (Appendix D, Table D-43, p. 167). Illustration 1A (p. 17) is the flow analysis for the juvenile court section showing the decision points ⑥ through ⑭ prior to official adjudication. Illustration 1B (p. 17) is the single table reporting the estimated court dispositions nationally for 1977 by manner of handling. Generally, those cases processed *without petition* are considered to be handled prior to adjudication. As can be seen, the summary data from the "Without Petition" (Court Intake) category are spread throughout the process. The total of 1,401,705 cases begins at decision point ⑥. Here many of the informal dispositions displayed in the table are made, such as the 94,396 cases placed upon informal supervision ①A. However, not all are as easily displayed. Those cases designated as "Certify to Adult Court" ①B are not decided on until decision point ⑫. In order to accomplish this, previous decisions had to allow for their continued movement within the system. These 23,829 cases (*with and without petitions*) later to be certified as adults, had to appear as "File for Court Action" at either decision point ⑥ or ⑦. Thus, the simple conclusion that the dispositions shown in the table were made at court intake is highly misleading and presents an oversimplified picture of the actual process of making decisions.

Only through the logic of flow analysis do the individual numbers within a summary table take on their proper meaning. For instance, under the group title of "Institutions," the "without petition" statistics could be the few cases that were summarily returned to the supervision of some existing institutional program ①C as opposed to processing them under a new offense.

The logic on where and how a case is processed is very important in the placement and understanding of each number within the flow analysis. Simple summary tables gloss over many of these significant relationships. This fact is easily seen in the category of "Dismissed Unproven" ①D. Generally, this means that there was

ILLUSTRATION 1A  
 FLOW ANALYSIS FOR JUVENILE COURT SECTION (1977)\*

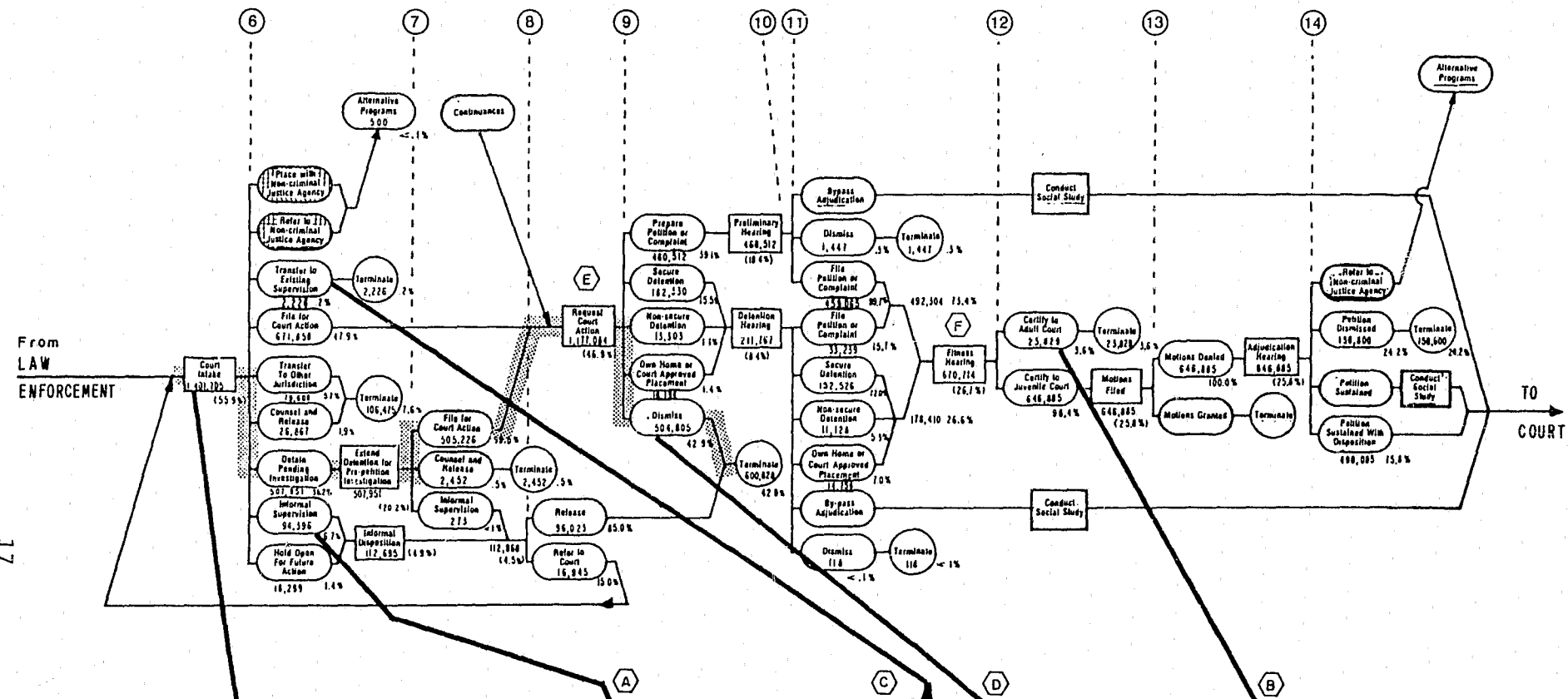


ILLUSTRATION 1B  
 NATIONAL ESTIMATES OF THE NUMBER OF PERSONS UNDER 18 REFERRED TO JUVENILE COURT  
 BY DISPOSITION AND MANNER OF HANDLING (1977)\*\*

MANNER OF HANDLING	TOTAL	TRANSFERRED TO OTHER JURISDICTION	DISMISSED	OTHER TRANSFER	HELD OVER	PROBATION	INSTITUTION			INDIVIDUAL	FINE, RESTITUTION	SPECIAL PROCEEDING	DISMISSED UNPROVED	CERTIFY TO ADULT COURT	PRIVATE AGENCY
							DELINQUENT	PUBLIC	PRIVATE						
TOTAL	1,401,705	102,324	8,410	76,673	49,060	342,061	43,453	12,615	21,026	4,205	46,256	421	661,605	23,829	9,812
WITHOUT PETITION	740,100	79,608	6,963	19,904	18,299	94,396	563	315	1,346	273	2,452	118	504,805	10,556	500
WITH PETITION	661,605	22,716	1,447	56,769	30,761	247,620	42,888	12,300	19,680	3,932	43,804	303	156,800	13,373	9,312

\* FOR ENTIRE FLOW ANALYSIS, APPLICABLE NOTES, AND EXPLANATION OF TERMS SEE APPENDIX E, FIGURE E-1, P.  
 \*\* FOR ENTIRE TABLE AND NOTES, SEE APPENDIX D, TABLE D-43, P.  
 SOURCE: NATIONAL CENTER FOR JUVENILE JUSTICE. ADVANCE ESTIMATES OF 1975, 1976, AND 1977 NATIONAL COURT PROCESSING STATISTICS. (PITTSBURGH, PA: NATIONAL CENTER FOR JUVENILE JUSTICE, 1979).  
 ILLUSTRATION CONSTRUCTED BY THE NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM ASSESSMENT CENTER. (SACRAMENTO, CA: AMERICAN JUSTICE INSTITUTE, 1980).

insufficient evidence to support the filing of a petition. In the majority of jurisdictions in the Nation, it is the prosecutor that decides the sufficiency of evidence question. Decision point ⑨ is the prosecution's decision to dismiss these 504,805 cases. The shaded area of Illustration 1A describes one possible flow of these cases. The reasoning follows that cases where evidence is scant would require slightly more investigative energy than others, and therefore could be detained temporarily for a *pre-petition investigation* that would eventually lead to a recommendation for a court filing. If these cases were decided by the intake officer, then the prosecutor intake of 1,177,084 ⑤ would be 504,805 cases lighter, or 672,279 cases.

With this explanation, it can be seen that direct correspondence between summary data and the same numbers of cases used as flow data is unlikely. Summary data collapses flow logic as if all the reported alternatives were made at the same decision point, which is highly erroneous. Percentages reported in summary tables often have little use in interpreting beyond the documentation of the agency's volume. To know, for instance, that 1.7 percent (Appendix D, Table D-43, p. 167) of the 1,401,705 cases referred to court are certified to adult court is misleading, since only 670,714 cases were actually available for such a fitness hearing ⑥. It is more realistic to show that such certified cases were actually 3.6 percent of those eventually filed on. Thus, for this analysis, all flow percentages are calculated at each decision point as the percentage of the total *number of cases being processed at that decision point*. The summary tables of Appendix D, however, present percentages in relation to the total *number of cases handled by the agency*.

The flow analysis therefore is the more critical analysis, for every decision point must balance and reflect the true result of the decision options chosen. Interpretation of the flow is therefore more informative, showing, for instance, that 42.9 percent of all the cases reaching the prosecutor are dismissed due to lack of sufficient evidence ⑤. In conclusion, then, summary tables and summary analysis should be avoided in favor of flow analysis where such data is presented. It is for this reason that each section of Chapter III begins with a *processing profile* utilizing the flow analysis of Appendix E, Figure E-1 (p. 195).

## Structure and Process of the Juvenile Justice System

### OVERVIEW

WHAT HAPPENS TO a juvenile who breaks the law? The answer to that question is not as simple as it may appear. It may depend upon where the juvenile lives, the juvenile's age, the family situation, as well as numerous other such variables. When juveniles break the law or are in need of supervision, confinement, or treatment, they are handled in some manner by the juvenile justice system. The system varies from State to State where the policies and procedures may be at best the practitioner's realistic interpretations of the statutes outlining how juveniles will be processed when they become the responsibility of the State or local agency.

Traditionally, the goal of the juvenile justice system is one of nonpunishment, one born of compassion for the child, and one whose primary actions, for and in behalf of the youth, are rehabilitative, at least in concept (President's Commission on Law Enforcement and Administration of Justice, February 1967:80). In reality, however, the juveniles, their guardians, and oftentimes even those representing juveniles, encounter a cold, sometimes unfeeling and impersonal series of institutionalized proceedings that portray the obvious cloak of authority but do little to reflect the system's therapeutic goal.

Operating under the administrative cloak of the American legal system, the juvenile justice system may well be functioning under a set of conflicting goals, which in themselves seem to belie even the label of "system." To be welfare oriented and still satisfy the administration of justice may in itself be a paradox. In this respect, "[t]he most significant fact about the history of juvenile justice is that it evolved simultaneously with the child welfare system. Most of its defects and its virtues derive from that fact" (Flicker, 1977:27).

The American Bar Association's juvenile justice standards commented on the development of the current juvenile justice system as one "...often heralded as a courageous and innovative reform movement...permeated with confused concepts, grandiose goals, and unrealized dreams" (Flicker, 1977:27). Furthermore, "[t]he system has failed in many ways. Yet it really is wonderful in many ways, too--a social institution that cares, a separate court to deal exclusively with juvenile and family problems, a blending of public and voluntary programs, a body of law focused on the best interests of the child, and a correctional authority organized for the rehabilitation of offenders" (Flicker, 1977:27).

The institutionalization of a legal system with a treatment philosophy, primarily for children, was viewed by many individual agencies as the antithesis of its

estranged parent--the criminal justice system. Children as well as adults were in fact "handled" at one time by this legal and administrative giant known as the "system"; hence, the initial reaction of many functionaries to its newly derived counterpart was one of unwillingness to observe the same rigid standards and procedures of the adult system during the processing and adjudication of youthful offenders. Juvenile offenders were viewed as persons in need of treatment, and the juvenile justice system was accepted as the vehicle whereby treatment was given. Of course, with the endorsement of this reform came the tacit acceptance of the premise that causes of juvenile misbehavior or criminality can be or should be diagnosed and treated by a court or system of justice.

Few procedural safeguards were observed uniformly across the Nation for juveniles. However, as a result of several historic Supreme Court decisions aimed at insuring uniform observance of children's rights and guarantees, this unique socio-legal entity became more of a *national* juvenile justice system governed by constitutions, statutes, and case law. By and large, the mission of the juvenile justice system is still one of social service but within certain expected standards; as the Supreme Court pointed out, "...the admonition to function in a 'parental' relationship is not an invitation to procedural arbitrariness" (*Kent vs. United States*). Rulings by the high court such as *In re Gault*, *Kent vs. United States*, and *Winship vs. United States* have reinstated some of the same procedural guarantees that the criminal justice system boasted. These concerns are evident in the Court's decision in *Kent vs. United States*, as quoted in Streib (p. 10).

While there can be no doubt of the original laudable purpose of juvenile courts, studies and critiques in recent years raise serious questions as to whether actual performance measures well enough against theoretical purpose to make tolerable the immunity of the process from the reach of constitutional guarantees applicable to adults.... There is evidence, in fact, that there may be grounds for concern that the child receives the worst of both worlds; that he gets neither the protections accorded to adults nor the solicitous care and regenerative treatment postulated for children.

The juvenile justice system, still the diagnostic and treatment vehicle for juvenile behavior problems which are brought within its purview, was also legally expected to *assure* the fairness of its treatment in hearing the facts, adjudicating innocence or guilt, and the disposition of fair penalties for the transgression of society's models of acceptable behavior.

With the onset of organizational controls, the nature and extent of the juvenile problem became clearer, and its apparent impact both on society and the Nation was now at least foreseeable. The same concern that society had for adult crime became magnified for the juvenile, when viewed as a national problem of crime and control. The juvenile justice system grew and matured into a complex and lengthy process of decisions and procedural avenues of legal stewardship, apparent and easily visible to society, at least in pieces, as the number of juveniles coming into contact with it increased in surprising numbers. More and more children and families who were experiencing behavioral problems were finding themselves involved in the "system" process. Investigative commissions were appointed to study the growing problem, or at least determine if it was growing. Public opinion polls which told of increased concern generated proposed legislation to shift the emphasis of local policy and procedures to better protect society and bring about the effective rehabilitation of past offenders or even prevent future offenses.

Associated with this fervor to assess the system effectiveness was an unfortunate absence of accurate and reliable processing data. In those initial data collection efforts, only discouragement could have resulted since these initial statistics must have depicted the presence of a frightening juvenile crime wave of overwhelming proportions when there may have been little change in actual juvenile behavior.

Since this initial urgency, policymaking bodies required accurate processing statistics before enacting major policy changes. They found that, of the official statistics compiled by various government agencies, most proved to be unreliable, fraught with error, and at best fragmentary. What they did learn, however, was that when examining the process of providing services to the Nation's children in trouble, a definite pattern had developed in their handling. Kent's initial concern about the arbitrary manner in which children were handled had been only partly true. The system had emerged from the association of separate and sometimes contrary justice agency networks, all attempting in their own way to achieve the ultimate legal and social welfare goals of the system in a fairly orderly and productive manner.

Each part of the system is theoretically united in one goal--to look after the welfare of the children--but one wonders what would be the case if the Supreme Court had not imposed upon them the requirement to standardize. For instance, Flicker (p. 34) wrote:

...if Gerald Gault had not been the victim of so flagrant an imbalance in the disposition to which he was liable as compared to an adult, would the same decision have been reached? Gault was committed to an institution for a maximum six-year term for an offense (making a lewd or indecent telephone call) for which an adult could have been punished by a fine of \$5 or \$50 or imprisonment for not more than two months. If the potential penalties for adults and juveniles had been more nearly comparable in the case, one wonders whether the court would have been moved to challenge the cherished myth of a benign, paternalistic, non-adversary proceeding designed to bring help to troubled children.

If this had been the case, the term "system" may have been a gross misnomer, and the reality much less indicative of justice and arbitrary by design.

The process of handling juveniles or any process can be called a "system" in that "...any time we assemble people and things and arrange for them to go about performing a task, we have 'designed' a system. It may be an abysmally inferior system. The system's engineering may be rated as of low quality, in some instances hardly recognizable as engineering. But it is still a system" (Ramo, 1969). With the juvenile justice system, separate agencies, each under different directives and administrative heads, each governed by legislative mandates translated into policy guidelines and routinized procedures aimed at jointly implementing the higher "system" goals, are primarily devoted to attaining the individual agencies' objectives. These objectives, though primarily concerned with juvenile justice, are more practically oriented around services and procedures that only the agency can, or should, provide.

The juvenile justice system is undoubtedly a hybrid of a legal system patterned after the criminal justice system. The system design is constantly reviewed (by trying its precepts) and redrafted by national, State, and local legislation. Based upon system logic, it seems amazing that the system functions as well as it does, for the juvenile justice system "...lacks one essential element for it to function



as a system: a true system manager" (Streib, 1978:21). Streib indicates that since no agency has the power to control the activities of the other agencies, the agencies (subsystems) may prove in any combined effort to be counterproductive. This may well be true, certainly it is not entirely untrue; yet in its entirety the juvenile justice system has been an inspiration to many regardless of its ungainly, and unprecedented, conception. Figure 3 (p. 23) illustrates in its simplest sense the system with its five *components* (law enforcement, court intake, prosecution, juvenile court, and corrections). The system is actually only a logical entity when described in terms of its unit of charge--the juvenile. Using this analogy, then, the system is a flow or process of one agency's contact with the juvenile case in question and either the termination (exit from the system) or passing on of the jurisdictional authority of the case to the next agency in the flow. Thus, the juvenile case is a child, usually under the age of 18, who has committed an offensive act or is in need of services.

The case typically flows through the system, unless otherwise diverted or dismissed, by first being reported to *law enforcement*, then being processed by *court intake*, formally charged by the *prosecutor*, tried in a *court hearing*, and possibly assigned to some form of *corrections* activity (Smith, Black, and Campbell, 1979:26). At any point in this flow, of course, a case may be diverted, dismissed, or in another way exit from the system, returning the child to the juvenile population at risk. Not shown in Figure 3 (p. 23), however, is a myriad of treatment programs for the juvenile. In these programs, the juvenile is still under the jurisdictional control of the system but in an informal manner, usually involving only an occasional report of the status of the case.

Policy Planning

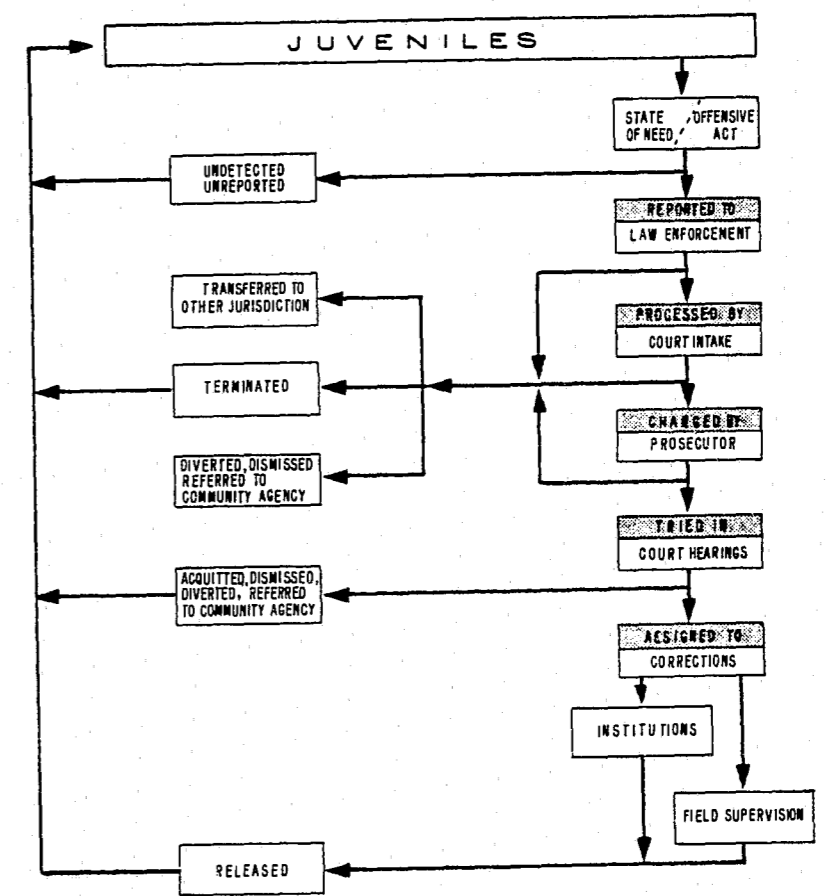
The need for statistical data is universal. There are few planning operations that are not interested in individual records containing characteristics of a case. This type of knowledge is helpful in defining and solving a problem.

In the juvenile justice system, as in the criminal justice system, the objective is to reduce crime eventually by preventing, apprehending, and rehabilitating offenders, if at the same time individual rights can be preserved. At first this would seem to be a self-fulfilling goal; that is, the process of apprehending offenders in itself would effectively institute the other two and reduce the need for further apprehension. Unfortunately, this has not been the case, yet it does seem that the concept did lie at the base as the primary directive of juvenile justice long-range planning.

The juvenile justice system tends to be short-term rather than future-oriented in its solutions to the problems pressing upon it today. System planners are reacting to the short-term needs that to them are overwhelming enough to warrant reactive strategies, and seldom do they see what the long-range needs are going to be. It seems difficult to anticipate even the results of the aggregate of short-term solutions that are being applied to the present problems.

Generally the upper levels of agency administration are more concerned about the long-range goals of the system. OJJDP, for instance, has as its overall goal the implementation of national programs that will result in viable solutions to the growing problems of juvenile delinquency and how the system handles this problem. However, there is little likelihood of any national policy providing meaningful system-wide planning without the smaller individual State or local agencies first establishing

FIGURE 3  
GENERALIZED FLOW CHART OF THE JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM



SOURCE: SMITH, CHARLES P., BLACK, T. EDWIN, CAMPBELL, FRED R. A NATIONAL ASSESSMENT OF CASE DISPOSITION AND CLASSIFICATION IN THE JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM: INCONSISTENT LABELING, VOLUME I, PROCESS DESCRIPTION AND SUMMARY. WASHINGTON D.C.: U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE, 1979: 27.

FIGURE CONSTRUCTED BY THE NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM ASSESSMENT CENTER (SACRAMENTO, CA: AMERICAN JUSTICE INSTITUTE, 1980).

their own objectives and implementing planning strategies to solve their own problems, which may not always be based on national or system-wide directives.

Policymaking is the set of activities which includes the definition of the problem, proposing of solutions, and the critical decision process of making a choice as to which solution should be used. Policyplanning then is concerned with the determination of what the agency *should do and why*. Strategy is then developed within this framework to determine what the agency *should do and how*.

All levels of the juvenile justice system are concerned with developing appropriate policies in hopes of providing adequate guidelines for achieving their goals and objectives. How this is done differs with the level of administrative control and, therefore, the means available for implementation of planning strategies. Figure 4 (p. 25) shows a simplified diagram of how the various levels of government within the national juvenile justice system are dependent upon each other in various ways.

The national level differs from the State and individual agency levels in that it is far enough removed from the actual problems, at least in terms of the direct application of program related objectives, to maintain long-range goals. The closer the planning function is to the application of proposed policy in operational direction, the more functional and therefore problem-oriented the solutions become. In the same sense the solutions are more responsive to immediate feedback of operational information and, therefore, are often crisis-oriented.

National policy decisions are usually enacted into legislation, and the responsibility for its initiation is passed to the State level. Here again, State policy decisions are drafted into State legislation which helps individual agencies to draw up agency guidelines or *operational directives* which are then implemented by agency staff in their processing decisions for juveniles cases under their jurisdictional control.

#### Evaluation and Review

It is generally understood that once governmental structures have been established to handle specific problems, they assume responsibility for gathering any necessary data to evaluate solutions. Individual agencies feel the impact of these operational directives and, without a doubt, the responsibility for the results. Faced continually with their own need to establish the extent and, more particularly, the trend of juvenile delinquency within their own jurisdiction, each agency establishes some form of evaluative feedback on the problem. The processing of juveniles is then monitored by these agencies in various ways, some very complex, using the most modern data processing facilities available, and some only slightly more advanced than a paper and pencil tabulation taken at a specific point in time.

Very few agencies feel exactly the same need for data acquisition, even when the problems they face and try to solve are identical. Figure 4 (p. 25) further indicates the manner in which agency monitoring and data collection procedures are used as the bases for evaluation, agency research, and constant review of program and process-oriented procedures. This feedback allows policymakers the needed foundation for future agency policy and program related decisions.

State and national policymakers need the same informative review to effect even more significant policy changes to apply to the same problems but on a broader scale than individual agencies. However, these higher level organizations seldom are involved

FIGURE 4  
NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM ASSESSMENT CENTER  
JUVENILE JUSTICE POLICY PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTATION MODEL

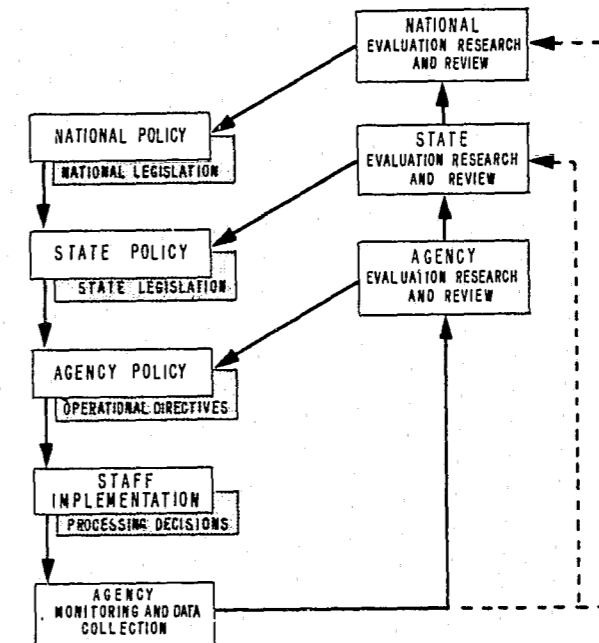


FIGURE CONSTRUCTED BY THE NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM ASSESSMENT CENTER (SACRAMENTO, CA: AMERICAN JUSTICE INSTITUTE, 1980).

in establishing the monitoring and data collection procedures, nor as they routinely involved in the regenerative feedback of firsthand information. Instead, *summary* analyses of varying degrees of quality and validity are passed upward to these evaluative and review stages. Viewing the national policymaking procedures in this way brings to light an interesting problem:

*Within government, with respect to the juvenile delinquent problem, the higher the level of organizational responsibility, the more far-reaching are its goals, the more influential are its policies, and the less informed is it as to its impact.*

In fact, the process of supplying high level policymakers and legislators extensive and, more particularly, informative juvenile processing data is so unfamiliar to them that they are often accused of having a total lack of concern for it. Coupled with the fact that the information feedback pathway is so long and arbitrary, they are often forced to use the first set of numbers that comes to hand rather than the best or most accurate statistics available. The dotted lines in Figure 4, above, show what could be the best source of timely and accurate data for any level of policymaking. Direct feedback bypasses the filtering and delaying process of passing through individual agency and State reporting and evaluation networks.

The underlying premise of any evaluation of juvenile process data is to provide adequate information for understanding the extent of the delinquency problem in the Nation. The best and most accurate data for this purpose would be transactional data showing the flow of some two and a quarter million juveniles who are arrested annually

by law enforcement agencies across the Nation. Add to that another 250,000 or more who enter the system by other means, and two and a half million juveniles are processed by the juvenile justice system annually.

This report is intended to help define and differentiate between various aspects of the juvenile processing problem by giving accurate answers to questions on juvenile processing across the entire system, such as:

- The manner in which two and a half million juveniles were processed, and how juvenile arrest rates have changed over time by offender characteristics.
- Differential treatment can be examined by tabulating the age, race, and sex distribution of the total numbers of juveniles processed annually from component to component.
- Detention criteria and whether juveniles are being unnecessarily detained can best be seen by examining national system processing ratios at various decision points.
- Diversion policy and where and by what criteria are juveniles diverted. Also, the characteristics of offender populations that are diverted at various key points in the system and changes over time are of interest to this point.
- Rehabilitation goals can best be substantiated by changes in the number of juveniles who are processed annually who have had prior delinquency referrals.
- An analysis of the dispositional rulings in similar cases as they are processed throughout the system can give valuable support to processing typologies and the corresponding policy guidelines concerning them if they exist.

## Extent of System Involvement

THE EXTENT TO which the juvenile justice system becomes involved in handling problems of juveniles is measured primarily by the number of such cases that are processed by that system. By a case, it is generally meant that a juvenile or group of juveniles are being referred to the system or one of its components for one or more states of need, incidents, or offenses.

The system itself is composed of several major components, all functioning to effect the eventual disposition of the individual case. Since the court is the only authority officially able to attach a disposition to the case, it is considered to be the pivot point of the system. In the course of processing a case, all components previous to the judge (e.g., law enforcement, court intake, prosecution) are considered to perform apprehension, processing, and screening functions, with the components following court adjudication implementing the court's dispositional choices.

Policymakers and program administrators are interested in both the number and characteristics of the population for which they periodically find themselves responsible. To arrive at a compatible unit of analysis across components, a single method of counting is necessary. Certain assumptions had to be made concerning how to equate arrests, as they are reported to national sources, and cases, as they are counted in court districts. For this report, the *case* is the basic unit of estimation. Throughout this report, all comparisons and flow analyses were made on cases, in which a case represents a single individual who may or may not have been involved in multiple offenses. The law enforcement component is primarily an offense clearing agency. Therefore, a single individual is often used to clear a number of offenses, and it is cleared offenses that are reported in national reports. However, separate trends and other descriptive interpretations that have been included in the law enforcement section of the report are expressed in terms of arrests for further delineation of the number of juvenile offenses.

Each section of this chapter is organized around an individual component and a uniform presentation that emphasizes the estimated flow of juvenile offenders through that component and its various alternates to further system penetration. Analysis of the volume of referrals, cause of referral, characteristics, and dispositional choices are further examined in each section. Gaps in the information available are pointed out to aid in understanding the conclusions drawn on what data are available.

Table 2 (p. 28) is a key to locating data related to the critical areas that special analysis within the individual components has attempted to better define. It acts as a summary of the data displays and their attendant discussion on each subject throughout the system. By using this entry to the data and the conclusions drawn from it, the mass of separate analyses that make up this report can be easily utilized

TABLE 2  
GUIDE TO SPECIAL SUBJECT AREAS

ITEM OF ANALYSIS	SYSTEM COMPONENT*					
	Law Enforcement	Court Intake	Prosecution	Court Hearing	Corrections	Release/ Aftercare
Source of Referral		p. 44	p. 56			
Prior Court Referrals		p. 49	p. 58	p. 72		
Sex	p. 37	p. 46	p. 57	p. 78	p. 81	p. 83
Race	p. 37	p. 46	p. 57	p. 78		
Age	p. 39	p. 48	p. 58	p. 78		
Family Situation		p. 62	p. 62			
Processing Decision	p. 42	p. 49	p. 57	p. 77	p. 81	p. 83
Referral Offense Type	p. 42	p. 49	p. 57	p. 68		

\*Page numbers refer to the first page of discussion areas; appropriate table and figure references can be found within these discussions.

Table constructed by the NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM ASSESSMENT CENTER (Sacramento, CA: American Justice Institute, 1980).

system-wide to satisfy specific inquiries for information. Three references are given for each item: (1) the page where it is discussed, (2) the page where the related data table is located, and (3) the page where the related conclusions can be found.

#### THE SYSTEM PROFILE

Appendix E (pp. 193-196) contains a system flow diagram of the juvenile justice system that was developed by the National Juvenile Justice System Assessment Center (Smith, Black, and Campbell, 1979). The system is visualized as a series of major processing decisions made about the case as it is handled by various system agencies. This detailed flow chart shows one way of representing the structure and processes of the juvenile justice system. It displays the logical flow of a juvenile from the first time of direct contact with the official system through the various processes or decision points that comprise the system, and eventually to one of the numerous exit points from the system. It provides a comprehensive and sequential view of what can happen to a juvenile who enters the process, the component of the system that would be involved, and the way one component influences another.

A juvenile is conceived as entering the system from the left. Flow through the system is from left to right. All vertical lines, which are sequentially numbered, represent decision points; ovals ○ represent alternative decision choices; rectangles □ represent system functions; and circles ○ represent the termination of the case by the system. Branching to "alternative programs" is considered to be an exit from the system, but not a total termination.

Whenever specific reference is made to any decision point in the system, the number of that decision point as it appears on the flow chart will follow the reference. No other indicator, such as referral to the chart or the appendix, will be given.

The term "agency" represents a wide range of public and private community resources and institutions that act on behalf of the juvenile. They range from those offering only a few services to those offering comprehensive services and institutionalization.

A clear distinction has to be made between a juvenile who is placed in a non-criminal justice agency as a final disposition without pending court action, and a similar placement with a pending court date. The same agency may be responsible for both, but it must be recognized that those in the former group exit from the juvenile justice system.

In the processing of a juvenile, and the eventual selection of processing alternatives, a distinction needs to be made between the referral of the case to another agency for handling with provision for little or no followup and the formal placement of the case with another agency with the requirement for followup. This difference is charted as either to *refer* or *place* with another agency.

Whenever a juvenile is referred to or placed with an agency, the process may begin all over again if the agency cannot handle the case. In some situations, the agency may transfer the case back to court on the original charge if the juvenile has been unresponsive. This reentry is charted as an incoming transfer from alternative programs.

Most jurisdictions have only limited choices, especially in the early phase. They often lack any intermediate agency or person to contact (e.g., special school program, youth worker, family counselor) before calling in the police or referring the juvenile to court. This forces decisionmakers--agencies, citizens, even police--either to do nothing or to take a more serious action than the situation may warrant ①

The detailed flow chart often indicates that the decisionmaker has the option to handle the case informally, such as "handle on own" or "counsel and release" ②. Where this option is shown, it is assumed that the decisionmaker has the authority to make such a decision. It is further understood that other component personnel may disagree that this authority exists.

To illustrate the volume of offenders being processed through each individual decision point, the number and percent of cases handled has been included where data or estimates were available. Percents are both vertical and horizontal. Horizontal percentages appear with conets < > at major system function rectangles and represent the portion of the total offender population handled by the system at that point. Vertical percentages appear to the side of the decision alternatives and represent only the handling of those offenders within the decision point itself. Those areas where little or no information was available have been shaded to better illustrate the apparent gaps in processing information on the national level. However, the fact that there are documented flow statistics in a particular area does not necessarily mean that they are readily available. *No single national source provides comprehensive, compatible, and easily discernible juvenile justice system flow statistics.* It was only by extensive secondary analysis of reported information that this flow analysis was possible. None of the available statistics that are quoted or referred to in tables were usable in their original form. For further explanation of the estimating processes used by this Center, see the appropriate methodology section of Appendix C of this document (pp. 103-122). Within the body of the suggestions, conclusions, and future policy recommendations in Chapter IV (pp. 85-92) of this report, some effort was devoted to providing a basis for national policymakers and funding agencies toward developing comprehensive, predictive, estimating, and reporting procedures for national processing data sources.

The total flow analysis is balanced to allow for diversion, transfer, and revocation feedback into the system. An estimated total of 2,508,961 cases entered the system in 1977 and were processed or diverted throughout the length of the system in whatever manner that national statistics indicate. Eventually, all cases exit the system by being diverted, discharged, released, or by escaping. Thus the primary factor is flow, not time. The 1977 case data base is traced throughout, and the correctional handling of these offenders is predicted upon current correctional statistics.

#### NUMBERS AND CHARACTERISTICS OF JUVENILES PROCESSED ANNUALLY THROUGH THE JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM

THIS SECTION CONTAINS REFERENCE TO THE NATIONAL FLOW ESTIMATE IN APPENDIX E. TO PROPERLY RELATE THE CONCLUSIONS OF THE FOLLOWING SECTION, FOLD CHART 1 OF APPENDIX E TO THE SIDE.

Approximately two and a half million juveniles are processed annually in the juvenile justice system. This figure is, of course, an estimate. It is an estimate of persons who have some involvement, some more than once, with some aspect of the system. It is in no way an estimate of the number of offenses involving juveniles on an annual basis. The National Juvenile Justice System Assessment Center has estimated that, for the year 1977, there were a total of 27,131,033 separate offenses or states of need of varying degrees of seriousness committed by or perpetrated upon young people under the age of 18 (Babst, Smith, and Phillips, 1979). Some go undiscovered, unreported, or unprosecuted for various reasons; yet some are observed, reported, and serviced by the system. Even so, only a portion of these are tabulated in a manner suitable to eventually become part of a national data base, to be brought together in a national picture of what is being done concerning the original 27 million offenses or states of need.

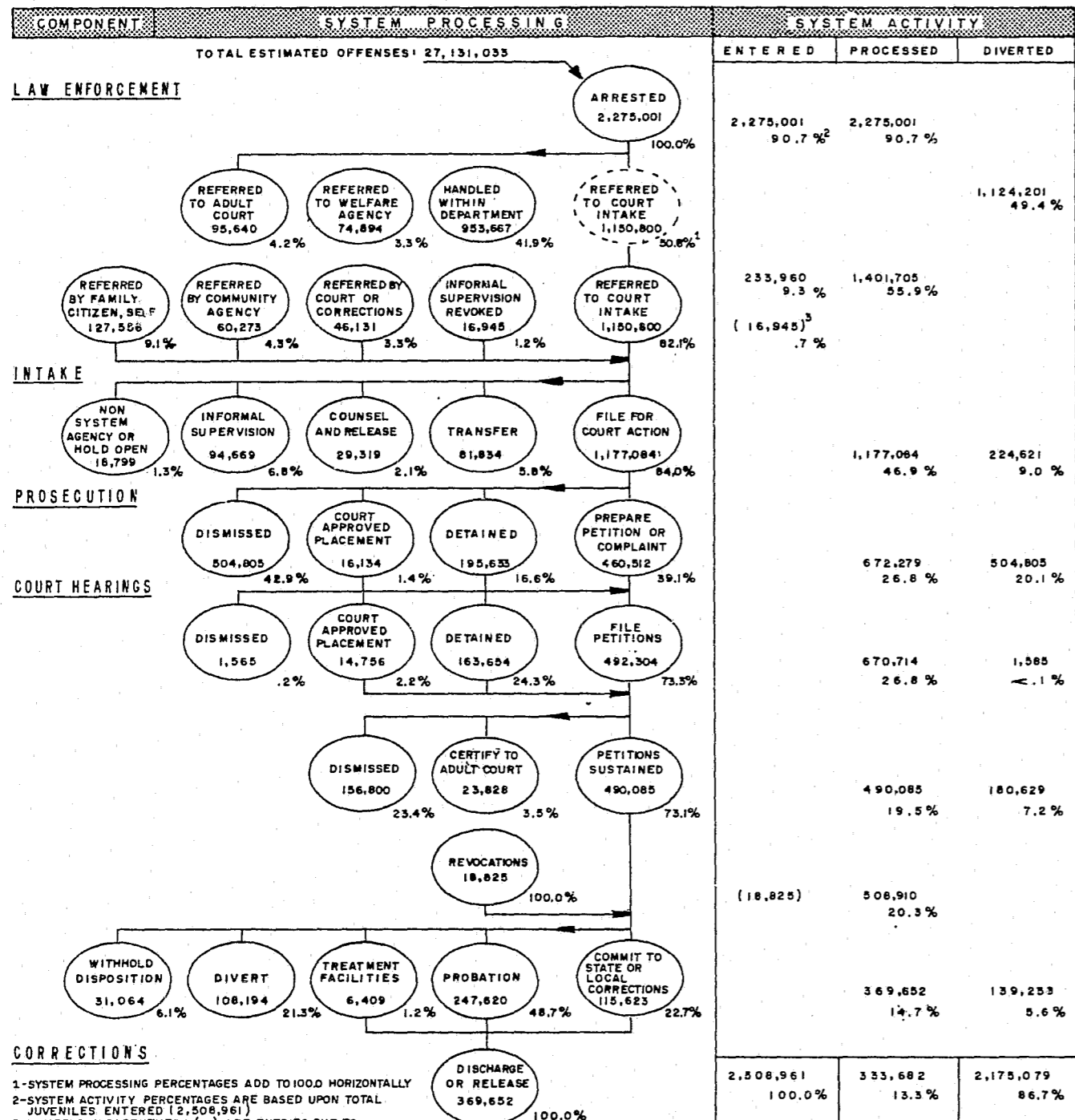
The number of offenses is the most natural starting point of both the case flow and the definition of the problem that the juvenile justice system is directed to eliminate. The system's involvement, of course, begins with the initiation of a "case," as a result of either a report of the commitment of an offensive act or the recognition of a particular state of need. These categories include not only the full range of delinquent acts and troublesome behavior, but also states of neglect, dependency, incorrigibility, and victimization. Figure 5 (p. 32) which provides a summary of the more detailed flow analysis found in Appendix E (pp. 193-196), estimates that 2,508,961 juveniles, or only 9.2 percent of all persons under 18 involved in an offense or state of need,\* enter the system annually, and that 90.7 percent of those are arrested or apprehended by law enforcement agencies. The remaining small percentage (9.3 percent) are either reported or observed by other agencies, the community, or the court itself (see decision point ①) and are processed directly into court intake.

There is not a reliable source that would allow the accurate estimation of those cases that are not arrested and processed other ways than by a referral to court. Needless to say, many must be handled as decision point ② would indicate; however, the estimates of this report are for the purpose of describing the process of system handling, and those cases are outside the system and could be considered as diverted prior to system entry.

Diversion occurs throughout the system, but, as shown in Figure 5 (p. 32), the largest number of individual offenders are diverted or otherwise referred away from the juvenile justice system by the law enforcement authorities. Approximately one-half (or 49.4 percent) of all juveniles arrested by the police are informally handled or otherwise diverted away from the system. Furthermore, of all juveniles diverted away from the system, half (51.7 percent) are diverted by police and thus receive their informal judgment by police officers in the field or station house. The next largest source of diversion occurs when the cases after being reviewed by intake are forwarded to the prosecutor. Another half million (504,805 or 23.2 percent) cases are dismissed upon the finding of insufficient evidence to sustain a request for court action at this point. This function is often considered part of intake; combined with the 224,621 cases intake officers divert, it can then be seen that 52 percent of all cases referred to court intake are dismissed or diverted.

\*It is assumed, for this comparison only, that the estimate of 27,131,033 offenses or states of need is equivalent to a count of cases as well.

FIGURE 5  
JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM PROCESSING OF PERSONS UNDER 18  
1977



1-SYSTEM PROCESSING PERCENTAGES ADD TO 100.0 HORIZONTALLY  
2-SYSTEM ACTIVITY PERCENTAGES ARE BASED UPON TOTAL JUVENILES ENTERED (2,508,961)  
3-NUMBERS IN PARENTHESES ( ) ARE ENTRIES DUE TO REVOCATIONS AND ARE NOT ADDED AGAIN IN TOTAL  
NOTE: FLOW OF CASES IS FROM TOP TO BOTTOM, RIGHT TO LEFT, EXCEPT WHERE OTHERWISE INDICATED, WITH THE MAIN SYSTEM PROCESSING LINE ON THE RIGHT, TO THE RIGHT OF EACH PROCESSING STEP IS A SUMMARY OF THE SYSTEM ACTIVITY, DETAILING THE CASES ENTERING THE SYSTEM, CASES DIVERTED AND TOTAL CASES PROCESSED ON TO THE NEXT STEP.  
SOURCES: BLACK, T. EDWIN; CAMPBELL, FRED R.; AND SMITH, CHARLES P. "A PRELIMINARY NATIONAL ASSESSMENT OF THE FUNCTION AND IMPACT OF 24-HOUR JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM INTAKE UNITS." SACRAMENTO, CA: AMERICAN JUSTICE INSTITUTE, APRIL 1980.  
NATIONAL CENTER FOR JUVENILE JUSTICE. ADVANCE ESTIMATES OF 1977 NATIONAL COURT PROCESSING STATISTICS. (PITTSBURGH, PA: NATIONAL CENTER FOR JUVENILE JUSTICE, NOVEMBER 1979).  
NATIONAL COUNCIL ON CRIME AND DELINQUENCY. UNPUBLISHED UNIFORM PAROLE REPORTS. NATIONAL DATA PROVIDED FOR THE NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE ASSESSMENT CENTER. (SAN FRANCISCO, CA: NATIONAL COUNCIL ON CRIME AND DELINQUENCY, JULY 25, 1979).  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE. FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION. UNIFORM CRIME REPORTS FOR THE UNITED STATES--1977. (WASHINGTON, D.C.: U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE, 1978).  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE. LAW ENFORCEMENT ASSISTANCE ADMINISTRATION. CHILDREN IN CUSTODY: A REPORT ON THE JUVENILE DETENTION AND CORRECTIONAL FACILITY CENSUS OF 1973. (WASHINGTON, D.C.: U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE, 1977).  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE. LAW ENFORCEMENT ASSISTANCE ADMINISTRATION. "CHILDREN IN CUSTODY: ADVANCE REPORT ON THE 1977 CENSUS OF PUBLIC JUVENILE FACILITIES, NUMBER SD-JD-SA." (WASHINGTON, D.C.: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, 1979).  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE. LAW ENFORCEMENT ASSISTANCE ADMINISTRATION. "CHILDREN IN CUSTODY: ADVANCE REPORT ON THE 1977 CENSUS OF PRIVATE JUVENILE FACILITIES, NUMBER SD-JD-SB." (WASHINGTON, D.C.: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, 1979).  
FIGURE CONSTRUCTED BY THE NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM ASSESSMENT CENTER (SACRAMENTO, CA: AMERICAN JUSTICE INSTITUTE, 1980).

After the prosecution staff have reviewed the case for sufficient evidence, 26.8 percent (672,279) of the original system entries are forwarded to the court by way of filing a petition for dispositional choice. After a series of special hearings and proceedings that may or may not be held, depending upon the local agency policy and organizational framework, 490,085, or 19.5 percent of all system entries have their petition sustained by the court and a dispositional choice made by the court's authority.

Additional diversions bring the number of juveniles to be handled by correctional programs and facilities to a little less than 15 percent (369,652) of those who entered the system.

Appendix E (pp. 193-196) contains the detailed flow of the 2,508,961 cases the system received in 1977 for either services or proceedings. Table 3 (p. 34) relates these cases (Row C) to the total at-risk population of persons under 18 (Row A) and the total estimated offense acts or states of need (Row B) available for system handling. Few persons under 18 had contact with the system, and fewer still were processed further within the system.

Though success and failure can be defined in many ways, the system is practicing its therapeutic or deterrent goal by committing relatively few persons under 18 to formal institutions. Less than 0.1 percent of all juveniles, with only 0.2 percent of those committing offense acts and 2.1 percent of those arrested or referred to the system, are committed to State correctional institutions.

NUMBERS AND CHARACTERISTICS OF JUVENILES PROCESSED ANNUALLY THROUGH THE LAW ENFORCEMENT COMPONENT OF THE JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM

THIS SECTION CONTAINS REFERENCE TO THE NATIONAL FLOW ESTIMATE IN APPENDIX E. TO PROPERLY RELATE THE CONCLUSIONS OF THE FOLLOWING SECTION, FOLD CHART 1 OF APPENDIX E TO THE SIDE.

There are a number of sources of referral to the official juvenile justice system, such as court agencies, correctional agencies, community agencies, citizens (parent or self included), and direct observation by law enforcement agencies. For each there are different procedures, such as petitions, bench warrants, arrests, and offense complaints to the police (1)

Though the juvenile may enter the system via these many different avenues, the detailed flow chart indicates the decisions that are made at entry are the same (2) Nonpolice agencies or individuals making the decision may choose to refer to another agency outside of the official juvenile justice system, to refer to the court, to handle the case on their own, to do nothing, or to refer to the police, who will then make a contact in the field.

A great deal of discretion is allowed most law enforcement personnel during the initial contacts in the field (3) An officer may choose to file for another court, to take a case into court or police custody, to counsel and release, or to refer to non-criminal justice agencies.

TABLE 3  
RELATIONSHIP OF THE NUMBERS OF PERSONS UNDER 18 HANDLED AT  
KEY DECISION POINTS IN JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM (1977)

INFORMATION CATEGORY	NUMBER	PERCENT OF POPULATION (A)	PERCENT OF OFFENSIVE ACT/NEED (B)	PERCENT OF POLICE INVESTIGATION (C)
A. Number of Persons Under 18	64,243,000	100.0	---	---
B. Offensive Act or State of Need	27,131,033	41.2	100.0	---
C. Police Investigation and Other	2,508,961	3.9	9.2	100.0
Court Intake	1,401,705	2.2	5.2	55.9
Adjudication Hearing	646,885	1.0	2.4	25.8
Petitions Sustained	490,085	0.8	1.8	19.5
Commit to State Corrections	52,001	0.1	0.2	2.1
Revoked After Parole, Probation or Aftercare	18,825	<0.1	0.1	0.8

(See Appendix E, Figure E-1, p.195).

Figure constructed by the NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM ASSESSMENT CENTER (Sacramento, CA: American Justice Institute, 1980).



When a juvenile is the victim of a crime, what may have been a single case may develop into several cases involving other juveniles or even adults. When this occurs, there are then several separate cases being processed simultaneously through the detailed flow chart. One officer may then make two separate choices on two separate but related cases (e.g., to "place" the victim with a non-criminal justice agency, and also to request a petition on the accused).

In some jurisdictions, a juvenile who is *taken into police custody* is taken to the police station for initial screening either by a regular police officer or a specifically trained juvenile officer. This may vary by locality. The problem resides in the fact that juvenile delinquency is not limited to the working hours of the agency. It may be an around-the-clock occurrence and the limited hours of formal intake may be a deterrent to the decisions available to the contracting officer. Some jurisdictions have instituted 24-hour intake (on-call, at the court, or at the place of detention). Locations may vary in how they handle a juvenile just prior to court intake. In many juvenile justice systems, the police may perform a lengthy process of investigation and decisionmaking prior to court intake ④, and in these localities police are performing an intake function of their own that may last several hours. This could, like the field decision ③, lead to a termination of the case, enrollment in alternate programs, or a *referral to court* for formal intake.

In most jurisdictions, the detention center is the first place to which a juvenile is brought ⑤. In a few jurisdictions, the juvenile may be delivered to an office of a youth service agency. Here, initial intake decisions are made by a full-time youth worker. And, of course, a mixture of these procedures may also occur. Less-serious cases are taken to a youth service agency; more serious cases go directly to detention intake. In some localities, the juvenile may be taken to an after-hours probation officer at his or her home, and the complete intake function is performed in this setting without the obvious threat of detention. Most youth service agencies do not offer help on a 24-hour basis. Therefore, many of the decisions that may be available for a juvenile at intake are not available because of the hour of the day or night, and the level of sophistication of the local intake process.

Sparsely populated regions or States with regional detention facilities may have to hold a juvenile overnight in temporary detention pending court intake. Such overnight detention may be provided by use of a secure room in a fireproof building, a hospital, a courthouse, or a jail.

Some detention centers have a separate intake area in which some cases can be kept. This avoids interrupting ongoing programs for those awaiting a court hearing.

#### Processing Profile

If a juvenile is to enter the system, it is most likely that first contact will be through the police (90.7 percent). More than two million juveniles (2,275,001) entered the juvenile justice system this way during 1977.

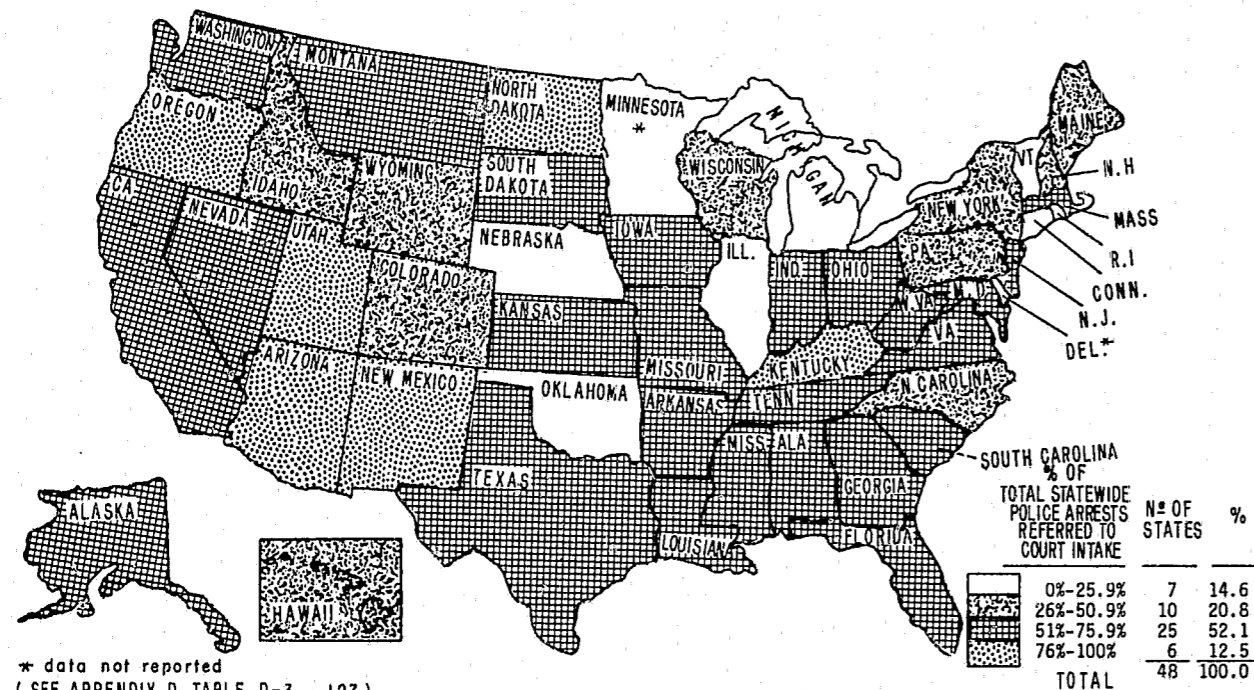
Often, there is not a direct relationship between the number of arrests and the number of individuals handled by the police. The police are an offense clearing organization; by apprehending a single juvenile, a number of offenses may be cleared by charging the juvenile with multiple offenses. Court processing data show that the relationship of juveniles referred to juvenile court and offenses charged is 1.16 cleared offenses per juvenile (Appendix D, Table D-2, p. 126). Using that analogy, but only for those persons sent to court by law enforcement officers (the ratio of

persons to cases from other sources is approximately 1 to 1), it was found that 50.6 percent of all persons under 18 are referred to court intake. *Informal adjudication resulting in diversion by law enforcement personnel occurs in 49.4 percent, or 1,124,201 of the cases handled, with a total of 1,150,800 (50.6 percent) cases being referred to court.* No information was available that would reflect on the number and percent of these juveniles who are held temporarily in a lockup facility (e.g., jail, holding tank, detention cell) while awaiting processing by police. Periodic surveys (U.S. Department of Justice, February 1979; Children's Defense Fund, December 1976) do indicate that juveniles are held in jails; however, none of these point-in-time surveys of detention indicate what portion of the juveniles processed annually are held temporarily in jails.

Figure 6 (below) shows the geographic distribution of referral rates for the Nation, reflecting individual agency policy and procedures collectively. The greater percent of the reporting States refer between 51 percent and 75 percent of all juveniles arrested. However, seven States, located primarily in the western half of the Nation, refer more than 75 percent of juveniles arrested to court intake. In these States, diversion occurs primarily within the jurisdiction of the court (Appendix D, Table D-3, p. 127).

FIGURE 6

PERCENTAGE OF POLICE DISPOSITIONS REFERRED TO COURT INTAKE BY STATE (1977)



\* data not reported (SEE APPENDIX D, TABLE D-3, p.127).  
 SOURCE: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION UNIFORM CRIME REPORTS - SPECIAL REPORT REQUESTED BY THE NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM ASSESSMENT CENTER. (WASHINGTON, D.C., 1978).  
 FIGURE CONSTRUCTED BY THE NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM ASSESSMENT CENTER (SACRAMENTO, CA - AMERICAN JUSTICE INSTITUTE, 1980).

Juvenile Population

During the period between 1968 and 1977, the total percentage of "at-risk" population 7 through 17 arrested for all offenses increased from 4.5 percent to 5.8 percent. This might not seem significant due to population increases; yet a look at population changes and the total arrest activity for persons under 18 does show a significant shift in arrest patterns. The overall at-risk population of juveniles age 7 through 17 has decreased by 1,747,000 persons (4.0 percent) from 1968 to 1977. In that same time period, the number of juvenile arrests has increased by 452,937 (22.7 percent). The net effect of these two opposing trends is that in 1977 there are about 1.3 percent more of the juvenile at-risk population who have been arrested (5.8 percent) than was true in 1968 (4.5 percent). Increases have occurred in proportion of both serious offenses (from 1.6 percent to 2.2 percent) and less-serious offenses (from 3.0 percent to 3.6 percent). In 1977, 244,493 more juveniles at-risk were arrested than were in 1968 (Appendix D, Table D-4, p. 128).

Sex and Law Enforcement

Three times as many males were arrested in 1977 than females, and over the last three years (1975 to 1977), the male/female ratio among all juveniles arrested has remained nearly constant, with 1977 figures showing 78.5 percent of all arrests being of males and 21.5 percent of females. During the same three-year period, female arrest rates and male arrest rates increased for all offenses. Female arrest rates for serious offenses remained essentially unchanged in comparison to a decreased male arrest rate of 15.5 percent. Less-serious offenses show a general increase for both male (26.1 percent) and female (18.5 percent). Three-year arrest rates for status offenses show decreases of 13.8 percent for males and 1.1 percent for females (Appendix D, Table D-5, p. 129).

Though only half of these juveniles arrested in 1977 were referred on to juvenile court, the percentage of males to females is virtually unchanged from the original arrest population, with about 80 percent male and 20 percent female. Thus, for police the sex of the offender alone appears to have no influence on whether an offender, after being arrested, is referred to the court. This being true, the reverse is also true--that for police, the sex of the offender apparently is not a major determinant to directing cases away from the system. Between 1975 and 1977, the same relationship holds true, with the ratio of males to females remaining virtually unchanged in court referrals from those arrested (Appendix D, Table D-6, p. 130).

The proportion of males (76.7 percent) to females (23.3 percent) in court referrals remains consistent with arrest statistics for total offenses; likewise, analysis of specific offense categories shows no significant variation. Apparently, sex has little influence on whether an offender is referred to court by law enforcement, regardless of the level of seriousness of the incident offense (Appendix D, Table D-7, p. 131).

Race and Law Enforcement

As shown in Appendix D, Table D-8, p. 132, racial characteristics for juveniles arrested during 1975, 1976, and 1977 show the same consistent relationship, with 1977 data indicating that three times as many whites (75.7 percent) were arrested than blacks (22.2 percent) and other races (2.1 percent). However, some changes are evident in the race of those who are referred to court. In 1977, whites drop from 75.7 percent of the racial composition of those arrested to 71.0 percent of the racial

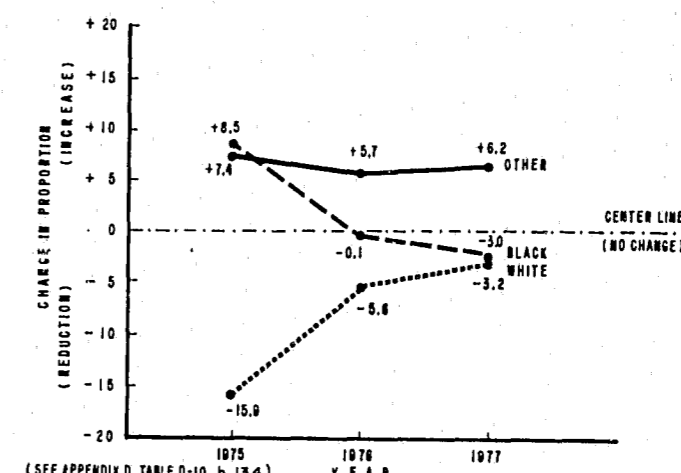
composition of those referred to court. Blacks likewise drop from 22.2 percent to 20.6 percent, while all other races rise from 2.1 percent to 8.4 percent. However, an interesting phenomenon does occur with this slight change in referrals for black and white races. The change of -4.7 percentage points from arrests to referrals for whites and -1.6 percentage points for blacks causes a proportional increase in other races of +6.3 percentage points. This change may be due to a difference in definition between the two reporting sources. Other races include those of Hispanic origin, which are of sufficient number in the United States to result in some very misleading statistics if counted as one group or another. The decrease in white and black referral rates, though small, represents 95,927 cases, which, if a percentage of those were reclassified by court jurisdiction as another race, it would greatly increase the other race referral rate. Oftentimes Hispanic juveniles are counted by law enforcement agencies as white or black rather than other races. The court may count the Hispanic juveniles as *other races*, causing the sudden increase that results when comparing the two offender populations. Generally, then, blacks and whites are referred to court at a lower rate than are Hispanics and other races. This could mean that a greater portion of blacks, as well as whites, are diverted than are other races, or it may only be a reflection of the blacks and whites being reclassified as other races by court personnel. The relationship has, however, remained relatively consistent from 1975 to 1977 (Appendix D, Table D-8, p. 132).

Correspondingly, between 1975 and 1977, the racial composition among persons under 18 who had been arrested for all crimes remained nearly constant, with 1977 figures showing 75.8 percent being white, 22.2 percent black, and 2.1 percent other races. Changes in arrest rates for all crimes during this 3-year period show that proportionately fewer white juveniles were being arrested for serious offenses compared to juveniles classified as black or other races. In all offense categories except for status offenses, blacks and other races show an increase in their representation to the arrest population since 1975. Less-serious offenses show an increase in the number of whites (11.0 percent), blacks (15.2 percent), and other races (21.2 percent) arrested, with a corresponding decrease in the number of whites (-14.0 percent), and blacks (-19.4 percent), and other races (-7.3 percent) arrested for status offenses. *It seems, therefore, that while differences do exist in the 3-year trends, only for serious crimes does there appear to be a difference identifiable by race* (Appendix D, Table D-9 p. 133).

Between 1975 and 1977, at least one significant change is apparent in the court referral rates for law enforcement agencies when taking race into account. In 1975, the proportion of blacks referred to court for less-serious offenses was 8.5 percentage points greater than those arrested, whereas for other races the proportion increased by 7.4 percent and for whites the proportion decreased by 15.9 percentage points, indicating that a greater percentage of blacks and other races arrested were referred than were whites for 1975. In 1977, this difference does not exist between blacks and whites, but it continues to exist for other races. Whites and blacks in 1977 show a proportional reduction of approximately 3.0 percentage points, and other races show a proportional increase of 6.2 percentage points. (For a thorough discussion of the use of proportional changes, see section titled "Graphing of Processing Trends," Appendix C, p. 116.) Figure 7 (p. 39) indicates the disparity that existed in the referral proportions for blacks and whites arrested and referred for less-serious offenses. In 1975, the greatest separation existed with whites comprising 15.9 percentage points *less* of the referral population than they did when arrested, and referred blacks comprising 8.5 percentage points *more* than they did when arrested. The difference in referral policy is reflected in the degree of separation between the lines representing blacks and whites for any given year. It

is obvious that the reversal of referral trends for blacks has virtually eliminated any differences in referrals by law enforcement for whites and blacks. *Thus, in 1977, there appears to be no difference in the proportion of blacks and whites arrested who are referred to court regardless of the nature of the offense. However, for less-serious offenses, the trend over the past 3 years has been one of equalizing what appears to have been a referral bias favoring whites and against blacks, but now leaving some referral bias for other races* (Appendix D, Table D-10, p. 134).

FIGURE 7  
THREE-YEAR TREND COMPARISON OF THE CHANGE IN PROPORTION OF PERSONS UNDER 18 ARRESTED, TO THOSE REFERRED TO COURT INTAKE FOR LESS-SERIOUS OFFENSES BY RACE



(SEE APPENDIX D, TABLE D-10, P. 134).  
SOURCES: NATIONAL CENTER FOR JUVENILE JUSTICE, ADVANCE ESTIMATES OF 1975, 1976, AND 1977 NATIONAL COURT PROCESSING STATISTICS. (PITTSBURGH, PA: NATIONAL CENTER FOR JUVENILE JUSTICE, 1979)  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION, *UNIFORM CRIME REPORTS--1975, 1976, AND 1977*. (WASHINGTON, D. C.: U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE, 1976, 1977, 1978).  
FIGURE CONSTRUCTED BY THE NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM ASSESSMENT CENTER. (SACRAMENTO, CA: AMERICAN JUSTICE INSTITUTE, 1980).

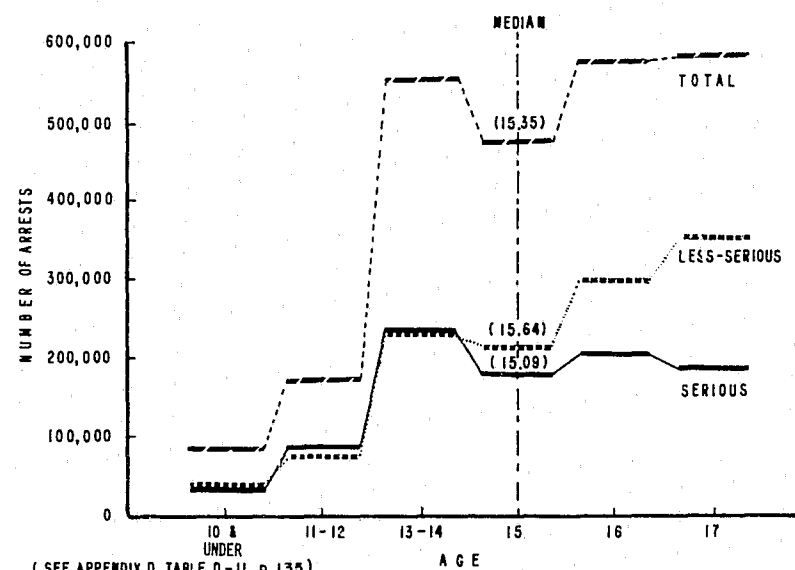
The racial composition of juveniles arrested in 1977 (regardless of the type of offense category), shows whites comprising 75.7 percent of the total number--68.2 percent for serious, 79.5 percent for less-serious, and 82.7 percent for status offenses. Court referral statistics, however, show that for 1977, proportionately fewer of the whites and blacks arrested are processed than other races. However, the change in proportion is not significant enough to indicate any unusual variation in referrals due to race and the seriousness of the incident offense (Appendix D, Table D-10, p. 134).

Age and Law Enforcement

In 1977, persons under the age of 18 accounted for 24 percent of all arrests for all ages for all offense types; 41.2 percent of all arrests for serious offenses; 46.2 percent of all arrests for property crimes; and 21.0 percent of all arrests for violent crimes (U.S. Department of Justice, 1978:180). In 1977, the peak age for all

offenses combined was 17, with 23.7 percent of those arrested for all offenses being 17. Seventeen was also the peak age for less-serious offenses, representing 29.2 percent of those arrested. The peak age for serious crimes (25.3 percent) and status offenses (28.8 percent) alike was 13 to 14.\* However, when examining the distribution shown in Figure 8 (below), the overall effect of age can be seen to more clearly extend toward the older (16 to 17) juveniles for serious offenses. In comparison to the same distribution of status offenders in Figure 9 (p. 41), there is a definite dropping off effect at the higher ages with the peak still at 13 to 14. It would appear that for serious offenses the peak age is more likely somewhere between 15 and 17, as is true for all offenses. Between 1975 and 1977, the relationship has held with only slight variation (Appendix D, Table D-11, p. 135).

FIGURE 8  
ARRESTS OF PERSONS UNDER 18 BY OFFENSE CATEGORY AND AGE (1977)



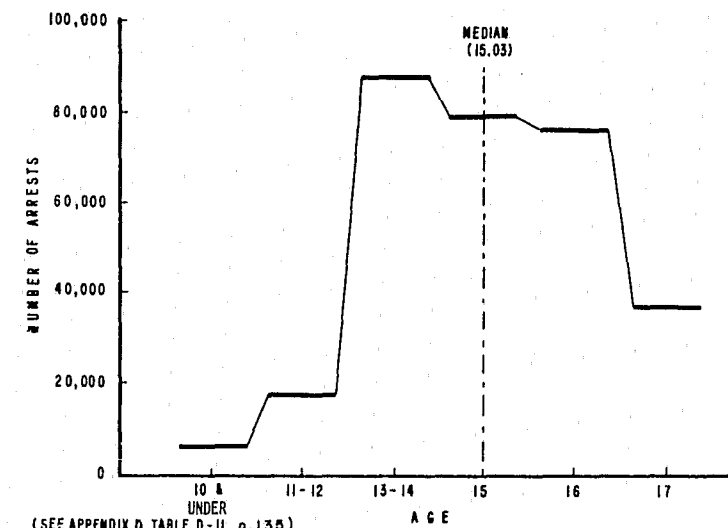
(SEE APPENDIX D, TABLE D-11, p. 135).

SOURCE: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION, UNIFORM CRIME REPORTS FOR THE UNITED STATES--1977. (WASHINGTON, D.C.: U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE, 1978).

FIGURE CONSTRUCTED BY THE NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM ASSESSMENT CENTER. (SACRAMENTO, CA: AMERICAN JUSTICE INSTITUTE, 1980).

\* The peak for serious offenses can be an artifact of the Uniform Crime Reports grouping 13- and 14-year-olds together.

FIGURE 9  
ARRESTS OF PERSONS UNDER 18 FOR STATUS OFFENSES BY AGE (1977)



(SEE APPENDIX D, TABLE D-11, p. 135).

SOURCE: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION, UNIFORM CRIME REPORTS FOR THE UNITED STATES--1977. (WASHINGTON, D.C.: U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE, 1978).

FIGURE CONSTRUCTED BY THE NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM ASSESSMENT CENTER. (SACRAMENTO, CA: AMERICAN JUSTICE INSTITUTE, 1980).

In trying to gain a better picture of the total population of juveniles being handled by the system and what effect the age of the juvenile has on the system policy, the median may prove to be a better statistic to examine. The single age group of the majority of cases, or the peak age, may not be the most helpful statistics, since the majority may only be a slight one, and the real majority is a *range* of ages that does not include the peak.

Thus, a more accurate measure of central tendency is the median age. By examining the exact median, the interpretation of Figure 8 (p. 40) is slightly less dramatic. Though serious offenses peak at 13- to 14-year-olds, the median is at 15.09. Therefore, there were as many older juveniles arrested (15 to 17) for serious crimes as there were younger juveniles (11 to 14). The median age for juveniles arrested for less-serious offenses was 15.64, for status offenses was 15.03, and for all offenses combined was 15.35. Thus, though the peak age may vary by offense group, the median age remained at approximately 15 for all offense groups, showing that for arrests there is no real majority or most likely age for being arrested for any type of offense. If anything, there is a slight skew towards the upper age groups (over 15).

Trends since 1975 show that the relationships have been fairly constant, with the only noticeable trends observed for the less-serious offense category. There has been a slight leaning toward the older ages in this category. The median age is the highest each year, at almost 16. In the 3-year period between 1975 and 1977, arrests for less-serious crimes have increased 10 percent, with most of that increase in the 15- to 17-year-old group. Arrests of 17-year-olds increased by 12.8 percent. Correspondingly, status offense arrests of persons under 18 have decreased by 11.9 percent, again with the greatest decrease for the older ages, with the greatest change

for 17-year-olds, showing a decrease of 16.6 percent. *Fewer juveniles over 15 years old are being arrested as status offenders, while more juveniles over 15 are being arrested for less-serious offenses.*

In examining the same relationship for *law enforcement referrals* to court intake, older juveniles are referred more often than the younger; (e.g., in 1977, only 29.9 percent of those 10 and under were referred to court intake as compared to 57.7 percent of the 17-year-olds). The median age of the arrest population is 15.35, and 15.62 for the referral population, showing a slight shift toward the older ages in the referral population. In the years between 1975 and 1977, no significant variations are apparent over the totals shown for 1977 (Appendix D, Table D-12, p. 136).

Referral statistics for separate offense categories confirm that the major difference lies in an increase of 17-year-olds in the referral population over the arrest population for each offense category. Between 1975 and 1977, the proportion of 17-year-olds increases 4.3 percent for all offenses, 5.9 percent for serious offenses, 4.6 percent for less-serious offenses, and 11.1 percent for status offenses. The heavy representation of 17-year-olds in referrals is most likely an artifact of the combined 17- to 19-year-olds for court referral statistics\* (Appendix D, Table D-13, p. 137).

Court intake referrals for individual offenses also include 251,754 cases referred from sources other than law enforcement, and 127,871 cases (50.8 percent) of these are referred for status offenses. Referrals by other sources account for 44.5 percent of all referrals for status offenses. Thus, any increase in status offense referrals over arrest statistics is most likely due to this major influx of juveniles from other sources (Appendix D, Table D-14, p. 138).

In a 3-year trend analysis (1975-1977) of the law enforcement referrals to court and their age breakdowns, it was found that generally the same relationship exists across all offense boundaries. Overall, *age alone therefore does not seem to be a determining factor in deciding how to process juveniles except for the very young* (Appendix D, Table D-14, p. 138).

#### NUMBERS AND CHARACTERISTICS OF JUVENILES PROCESSED ANNUALLY THROUGH THE COURT INTAKE COMPONENT OF THE JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM

THIS SECTION CONTAINS REFERENCE TO THE NATIONAL FLOW ESTIMATE IN APPENDIX E. TO PROPERLY RELATE THE CONCLUSIONS OF THE FOLLOWING SECTION, FOLD CHART 1 OF APPENDIX E TO THE SIDE.

The options at this stage vary widely from jurisdiction to jurisdiction. They greatly depend on the policy of the court.

Most intake facilities are operated by the probation department as a service to the court. However, recent organizational arrangements, though varying by locale, have emphasized the ongoing evolution of the probation department toward performing intake functions independent of the court. At intake, the discretion allowed the duty officer

\*Court referral statistics include some 18- and 19-year-olds in the "17-year-old" category due to differences in the jurisdictional age limits of individual States.

varies from merely completing a police request for detention to full authority to refer or release ⑥ ⑧.

Except for the initial detention while the investigation is being made by the probation officer at intake, the decision to file for court action ⑦ is shown as a decision logically made prior to the detention decision ⑩ though frequently made at the same hearing. A decision to file for court action and the subsequent filing of a petition ⑨ would precede the detention hearing and is usually recommended by the intake officer to the prosecuting attorney. The detention decision is then usually shown as a prosecutor decision.

#### Court Intake Processing Profile

The number of juveniles processed at court intake as they are displayed ⑥ separate those processed by intake officers and those handled primarily by the prosecuting attorney. This was done by analyzing the individual dispositions for nonpetition cases. There are no national intake statistics published; however, there are statistics on petition filing rates and court referrals. Cases where no petition was filed were handled nonjudicially, at least in the sense of not having a disposition as a result of the court dispositional hearing ⑮.

Each individual disposition (how the case was handled) was examined for nonpetition cases. Those dispositions normally rendered by prosecutorial staff were displayed in the prosecution component ⑨. It should be noted, however, that court intake diversion ratios are often quoted as the number of referred cases that were dismissed or in other ways handled prior to official court action. The actual diversion could therefore occur at the prosecutorial review for sufficiency of evidence, at special court proceedings, such as preliminary or detention hearings, or at other court functions such as certification proceedings, where the case may be found to be unfit for juvenile court. For this report, court intake statistics refer only to those juvenile cases that are normally handled by the screening facilities and personnel prior to the decision to request court action ⑨.

Of the original 2,508,961 cases that enter the system, 55.9 percent, or 1,401,705, are referred to court intake facilities, requesting official court investigation. The majority, 82.1 percent (1,150,800), are referred by law enforcement agencies which have already screened them to some degree. There is another 17.9 percent, or over 250,000 cases, that are referred from additional sources: 8.1 percent were referred from schools and other community agencies, with 5.3 percent from the juvenile, family, and friends (Figure 5, p. 32).

The court intake decision ⑥ shows that initially 16.0 percent of the referrals to court intake, or 224,621 offenders (Figure 5, p. 32), are diverted away from further processing, and another 504,805 cases, or 36.0 percent, are further dismissed by the prosecutor ⑨ due to a lack of sufficient evidence to forward to court. Together, the two decisions divert 52 percent of all court referrals away from further processing.

Thus, 670,000 cases, or 48.0 percent of the referrals to court intake, are found to warrant further processing and are forwarded to the prosecutor. Almost as many cases (36.2 percent) warrant a preliminary study or pre-petition investigation by the court intake officer. This alternative usually involves a short-term detention period while the case is being considered. Approximately 99.5 percent of these cases are

sent on to the prosecution; and in those cases where doubt exists as to the need for further processing, the prosecution dismisses them for lack of evidence.

Only about 2.0 percent (29,319 cases, or 2.1 percent) are summarily released without further deliberation. 112,968 or 8.1 percent are placed on informal probation supervision ⑦, usually being released (85.0 percent) after a short time (most after six months); however, 15 percent of these, or 16,945 cases, have to be re-referred to court ⑧ as failures of their informal status. The informal probation failure percentage is, however, only 1.2 percent of the original 1,401,705 cases referred to court intake.

The major source of referral to court intake in 1977 was the law enforcement component, providing 82.0 percent of all referrals. The highest referral rate for an individual offense category is 91.0 percent for serious offenses. In the reverse situation for status offenses, law enforcement referrals only account for about 55.5 percent of the referrals; the other 44.5 percent are referred from other sources. Serious offenses make up the majority of all referrals at 48.9 percent, with status offenses contributing 20.4 percent and less-serious offenses 30.6 percent (Appendix D, Table D-14, p. 138).

Generally, then, the court intake component receives a variety of cases from a number of sources ①. For example, in 1977, the majority of cases were referred by the police, in particular those cases involving the more serious crimes. Those offenses considered to be less-serious were often referred in 1977 by other sources (14.5 percent) with status offenses referred often by family, citizen, or self (23.2 percent) or community sources (15.8 percent) (Appendix D, Table D-15, p. 139).

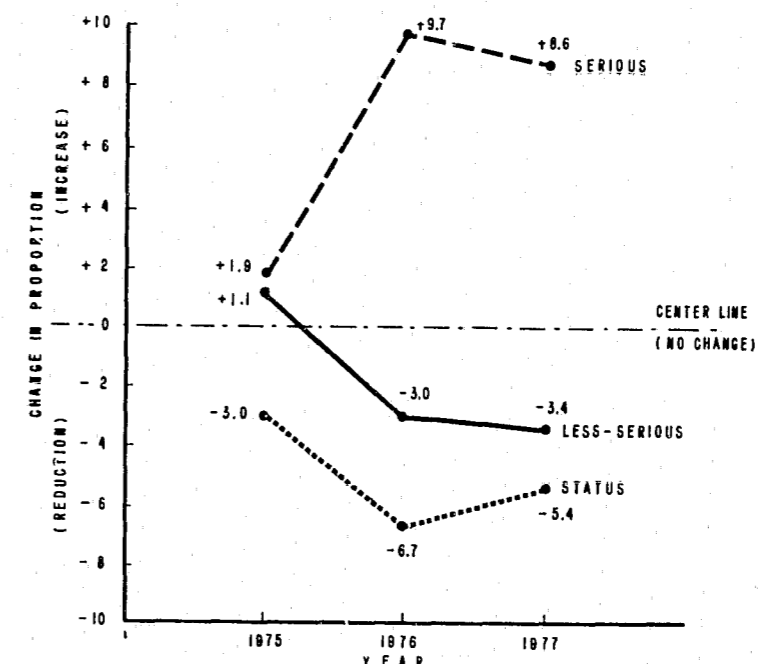
Since 1975, the referral rates for all sources have changed only slightly with the exception of referrals for status offenses. In 1975, law enforcement referrals for status offenses made up 62.2 percent of the total referrals, while in 1977 it dropped to 55.5 percent, a change of 6.7 percentage points. While law enforcement referrals are considerably less than the total referrals for 1977 status offenses, referrals from community agencies (15.8 percent) and family, citizen, or self (23.2 percent) have become more prominent. This is reflected by a corresponding increase of 5.3 percentage points for community agency referrals, and 4.3 percentage points for family, citizen, or self referrals from 1975 (Appendix D, Table D-15, p. 139). The status offense referral is becoming more of a community responsibility.

After court intake received these 1,401,705 cases, in 1977, over 53.0 percent were handled without filing a petition. Thus, approximately half of the cases are handled informally. This fact remains true for each of the individual sources of referral with the exception of those referred to court intake by corrections agencies, where 79.5 percent are handled with formal petitions. Since the majority of these referrals are primarily probation revocations for new offenses, this statistic is not surprising (Appendix D, Table D-16, p.140).

The petition filing rate for serious offenses in 1977 was 55.4 percent, slightly less for less-serious offenses (41.8 percent), and the lowest for status offenses at 34.7 percent. Over half, or 57.7 percent, of the cases filed on were for serious offenses. Though 48.9 percent of the cases referred are for serious offenses, there was still an increase in proportion to those filed of 8.6 percentage points with contrasting drops of 3.4 percentage points for less-serious offenses and 5.4 percentage points for status offenses (Appendix D, Table D-17, p. 141).

Generally, then, the more serious crimes are more likely to be handled formally by filing a petition, with status offenses being most often handled without a petition. The overall trend has not changed in the years between 1975 and 1977. Serious crime has remained the primary source of petitions filed each year; however, when analyzing the group effect of the individual changes in referral ratios since 1975, it becomes evident in Figure 10 (below) that the change in proportion of serious offense cases referred to those filed on is significantly greater in 1977 than was true in 1975. In 1975, serious and less-serious offenses were petitioned in about the same proportion that they were referred to court intake. This could indicate that agency policy or system procedure did little to favor filing petitions for either type of offense. In 1977, however, the difference is apparent in that, regardless of the number of referrals, serious offenses are receiving *more* emphasis (8.6 percentage points) in petition filing than they did for referrals, and less-serious and status offenses are receiving *less* emphasis. This disparity would indicate a change in policy or procedure in 1977 over 1975 that causes decisionmakers to emphasize increased penetration for serious offenses and the opposite for less-serious offenses or status offenses (Appendix D, Table D-17, p. 141).

FIGURE 10  
THREE-YEAR TREND COMPARISON OF THE CHANGE IN PROPORTION  
OF PERSONS UNDER 18 REFERRED TO JUVENILE COURT AND FILED  
ON BY TYPE OF OFFENSE



(SEE APPENDIX D, TABLE D-17, p.141).

SOURCE: NATIONAL CENTER FOR JUVENILE JUSTICE, ADVANCE ESTIMATES OF 1976, 1978, AND 1977 NATIONAL COURT PROCESSING STATISTICS. (PITTSBURGH, PA: NATIONAL CENTER FOR JUVENILE JUSTICE, 1979).

FIGURE CONSTRUCTED BY THE NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM ASSESSMENT CENTER (SACRAMENTO, CA: AMERICAN JUSTICE INSTITUTE, 1980).

Sex and Court Intake

The greater percentage of referrals to court intake in 1977 were male (76.7 percent). Males dominated referrals for serious (81.7 percent), less-serious (83.4 percent), and status offenses (54.9 percent). However, for status offenses the variance is much less (Appendix D, Table D-7, p. 131).

The previous section concerning the law enforcement component and its apparent criteria for referrals indicates that any bias in referral populations for those persons under 18 arrested is due solely to the makeup of the arrest population and not to the referring component's desire to process one sex or the other. More males are arrested, and therefore more are referred.

Other sources of referral also refer males in excess of females (Appendix D, Table D-18, p. 142) even though population statistics indicate that, for persons under 18, there are approximately an equal number of males to females. Referral rates, however, are significantly higher for law enforcement (3,281.0 per 100,000) than for other sources (1,036.7 per 100,000). The ratio of males to females from law enforcement is 3.80 to 1.0, and 1.61 to 1.0 from other sources. There is, therefore, a referral bias for males by law enforcement referrals that is not reflected in other sources (Appendix D, Table D-19, p. 143).

The ratio of approximately four males to every female in the referral population remains the same for those that are forwarded to the prosecutor with recommendations for filing a formal petition. The petition population consists of 80.6 percent male and 19.4 percent female for 1977, and it has not varied significantly from that proportion since 1975. Thus, it appears that *the decision to file a formal petition with the court is not influenced significantly by the sex of the person referred* (Appendix D, Table D-20, p. 144).

Race and Court Intake

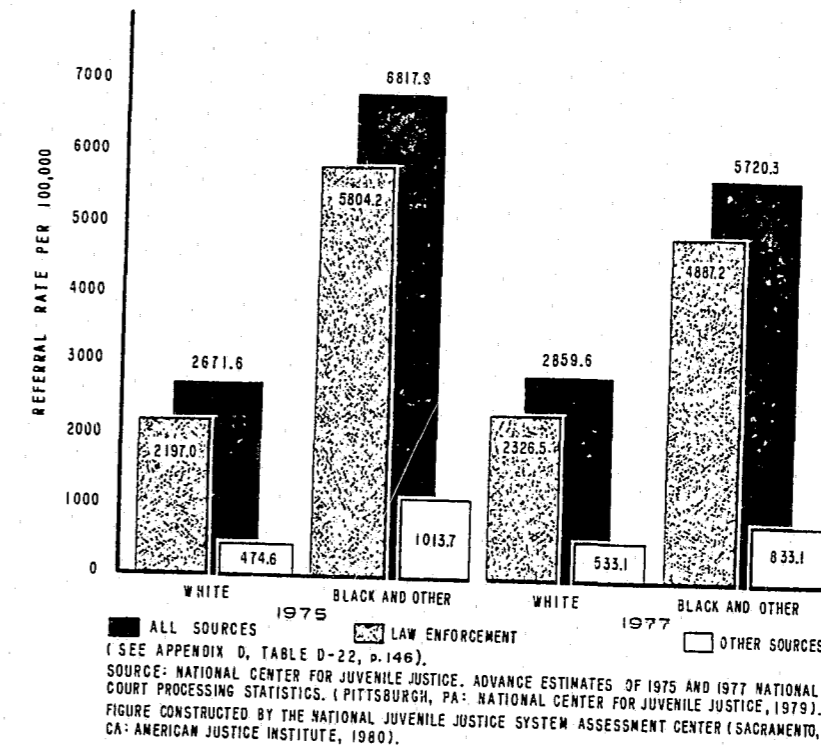
Referrals to court intake from all sources show that whites are referred more often than blacks; however, the law enforcement section pointed out that there is no apparent bias for whites or blacks being referred more often. Apparently in 1977 more whites (75.8 percent) are arrested than blacks (22.2 percent) and others (2.1 percent) (Appendix D, Table D-9, p. 133). The proportion referred varies little from those arrested, showing no apparent bias by law enforcement agencies to refer due to race.

Referrals from other sources are generally in the same proportion as law enforcement, with slight differences for those referred by other system agencies. Court referrals show 80.8 percent white and 10.0 percent black, with 9.2 percent other races. Corrections referrals show 78.5 percent white, 11.7 percent black, and 9.8 percent for other races. Other such *system agency referrals*, which are most often revocations caused by having a new offense, seem to indicate that these types of referrals have a higher percentage of whites than even the referrals due to police arrest (Appendix D, Table D-21, p. 145).

The majority of referrals for all offenses are white; however, the largest variance is between status offenses at 83.0 percent white and serious offenses at 64.7 percent white (Appendix D, Table D-10, p. 134).

Figure 11 (below) illustrates the variance between referral rates for whites and non-whites, and their source of referral. Though whites constitute the majority of all referrals to court intake, the referral rate per 100,000 of at-risk population is only 2,671.6, while the black and other referral rate is three times greater at 6,817.9 for 1975. For 1977, the number of referrals for blacks and other nonwhites declined 16.1 percent and increased 7.0 percent for whites. Law enforcement referral rates regardless of race are higher than those referred by other sources. The ratio of law enforcement to other sources is 4.4 to 1.0 for whites and 5.9 to 1.0 for blacks and others. Generally, then, *though the referrals to court proportionately involve more whites than minorities, there are considerably more minorities at risk referred than whites, with the highest rates for those referred by law enforcement agencies. Sources other than police arrests refer at approximately the same ratio of whites and minorities as exists in the at-risk population* (Appendix D, Table D-22, p. 146).

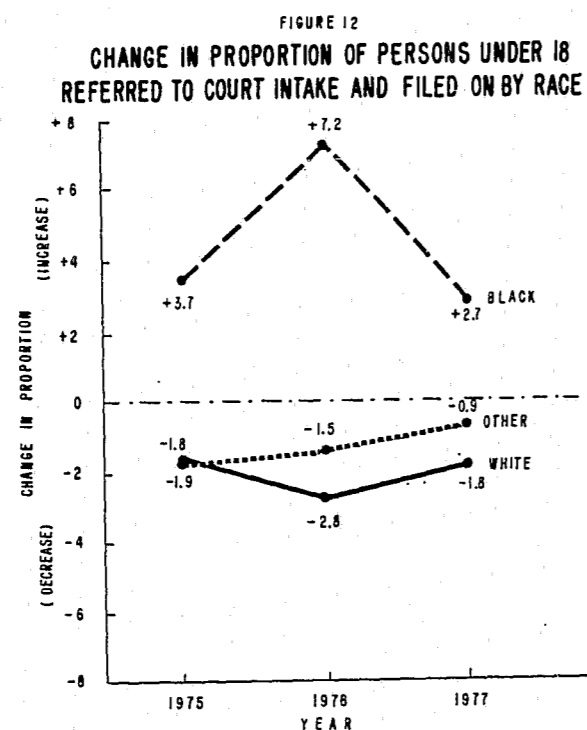
FIGURE 11  
CHANGE IN NATIONAL REFERRAL RATES FOR WHITE AND NONWHITE  
PERSONS AGES 7 THROUGH 17 BY SOURCE OF REFERRAL  
(1975, 1977)



Petitions were filed on 46.3 percent of all referrals in 1977. The relationship between white, black, and other races remains approximately the same as for referrals, with whites comprising 70.7 percent of all petitions, blacks 23.1 percent, and other races comprising 6.2 percent. Figure 12 (p. 48) illustrates the difference in the racial proportion of the cases filed on to those referred for these years. The fact that the change in proportion is positive for blacks and negative for whites and others indicates a small proportional bias to file less often on whites and others

referred and more often on blacks referred. In 1976, the disparity is the greatest, with blacks comprising 30.0 percent of those filed on, an increase of 7.2 percentage points over those referred (22.8 percent). Whites, however, had a characteristic decrease of -2.8 percentage points (67.4 percent) over those referred (70.2 percent) (Appendix D, Table D-23, p. 147).

It would seem, then, that while whites under 18 referred to court intake are in the majority and remain so for those filed on as well, *there has been a move toward diverting them at this decision point slightly more often than for blacks.* This relationship, however, does not necessarily indicate a pure racial bias, but could indicate that race and other factors (e.g., seriousness of offense) could account for increased petition filing rates.



(SEE APPENDIX D, TABLE D-23, p. 147).

SOURCE: NATIONAL CENTER FOR JUVENILE JUSTICE, ADVANCE ESTIMATES OF 1975, 1976, AND 1977 NATIONAL COURT PROCESSING STATISTICS. (PITTSBURGH, PA: NATIONAL CENTER FOR JUVENILE JUSTICE, 1979).

FIGURE CONSTRUCTED BY THE NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM ASSESSMENT CENTER (SACRAMENTO, CA) AMERICAN JUSTICE INSTITUTE, 1980.

#### Age and Court Intake

The median age for court intake referrals is 15.6 for 1977, with very little difference over the past 3 years. Median age by source of referral changes very little with the exception of courts at 16.3 and community agencies at 14.8. It would seem that referrals from courts come from the older age groups, and those from the community and generally younger. The relationship seems to be consistent over the last 3 years. (Appendix D, Table D-24, p. 148).

Since the majority, or 74.2 percent, of referrals made by community agencies are for status offenses, the relationship therefore would hold true with the fact that status offenders are generally, if only slightly, younger (median of 15.03). Since community agency referrals are the only agency referrals showing a high majority of status offenses, and the median age of such referrals is younger than for all other sources of referral, the conclusion is that status offenders who are not processed by arrest are more likely to be younger (Appendix D, Table D-15, p. 139).

Differences due to age, between those referred to court intake and those subsequently filed on, are virtually nonexistent. Even trends of the 3 years between 1975 and 1977 show no variance significant enough to draw any conclusions concerning age group as a determinant of further system penetration (Appendix D, Table D-25, p. 149).

*Age, it seems, is not in itself a determinant as to whether a case should be filed on or not.* Referrals vary only slightly from the median age of 15. When examining other characteristics thought to be influential, such as type of referred offense and source of referral, again, the median age varies only little. Some evidence does exist, however, to indicate that the combination of all these factors could have an influence for at least one type of offender--the status offender. Though this relationship cannot be substantiated for this report, due to the unavailability of data, it is hypothesized that status offenders are a prime concern of the community, receiving more attention by them than any other offense category, and that generally the community refers younger persons (median age at 14). Figure 13 (p. 50) illustrates these two facts by showing the comparable relationship across individual sources of the percent of referrals under the age of 15 (younger juveniles). The community as a source of referral, with its low median age, obviously becomes primarily concerned with status offenses and generally younger juveniles. The reverse assumptions can also be made, that status offenders entering the system by means other than arrest (law enforcement) are generally younger than other types of referrals.

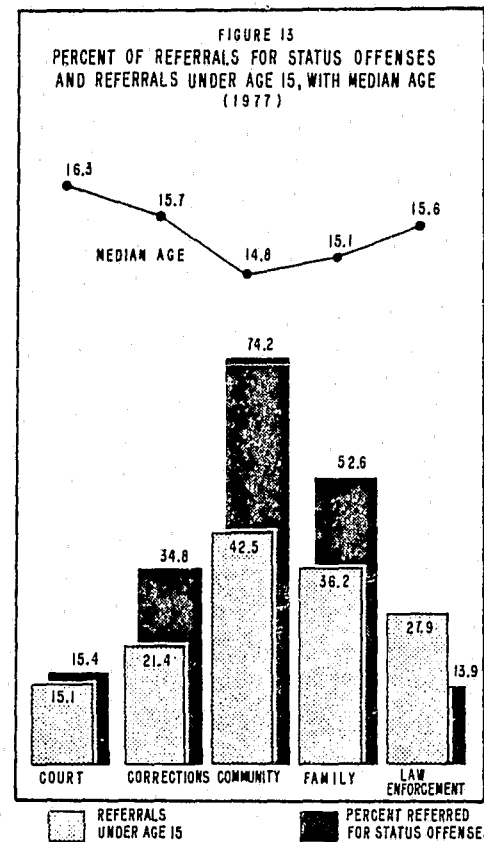
#### Prior Delinquency Referrals and Court Intake

One additional factor that research, and the literature in general, indicates is a major determinant of court intake diversions is whether or not the juvenile being referred has any prior delinquency referrals. "[T]here is general agreement that the juvenile's prior record is the most consistent influential factor in intake decisionmaking" (Smith, Black, and Weir, 1980:xix).

In 1977, 70.5 percent (or 987,798) of all cases had no apparent prior record, which is a significant fact that remains unchanged when examining the individual offense categories. *No prior record* referrals comprise the majority of serious offenses at 68.5 percent, less-serious offenses at 71.3 percent, and status offenses at 72.0 percent. Of all cases with no prior delinquency referrals, the majority (42.5 percent, or 419,838) were status offenses, followed by serious (38.9 percent or 384,067) and less-serious offenses (18.6 percent or 183,893) (Appendix D, Table D-26, p. 150).

The majority of all offenses referred by all sources are persons without apparent prior records; law enforcement does refer the majority of both categories of referrals, with 77.2 percent (871,933) of first-time referrals and 80.3 percent of those with prior referrals in 1977. Referrals from the *parent, citizen, or self* category are the next highest group at 14.3 percent (141,586) of those without a prior record and 9.8 percent (40,636) of those with a prior delinquent offense (Appendix D, Table D-27, p. 151).





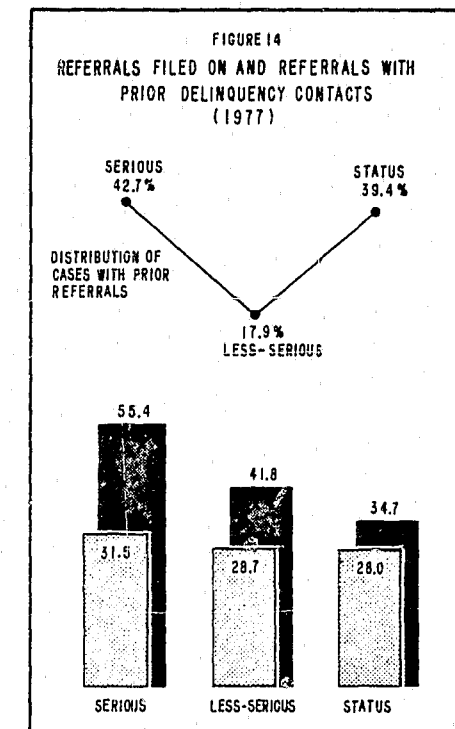
(SEE APPENDIX D, TABLES D-15 AND 24, pp. 139, 148).

SOURCE: NATIONAL CENTER FOR JUVENILE JUSTICE, ADVANCE ESTIMATES OF 1977 NATIONAL COURT PROCESSING STATISTICS. (PITTSBURGH, PA: NATIONAL CENTER FOR JUVENILE JUSTICE, 1979).

FIGURE CONSTRUCTED BY THE NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM ASSESSMENT CENTER (SACRAMENTO, CA: AMERICAN JUSTICE INSTITUTE, 1980).

Of referrals to court intake in 1977, 29.5 percent (413,503) had at least one prior delinquency referral. Of those cases, 51.1 percent had petitions filed on them as opposed to a filing rate of 39.6 percent for those cases without a prior referral. The majority of cases in each category were for cases without prior referrals; however, the proportion of those filed on increased by 5.6 percentage points, indicating that a record of prior referrals does seem to have a slight influence on petition filing rates (Appendix D, Table D-28, p. 152).

Serious offenses were filed on at a higher rate than less-serious or status offenses, and court intake referrals with prior delinquent records were primarily serious offense cases. Cases where prior offense records exist were filed on more often than those without. Figure 14 (p. 51) compares graphically these associated facts. Each offense category was similar as to prior referral cases; however, filing rates varied with serious cases being referred more often. Prior referral cases were referred more frequently. It is, therefore, plausible to assume that the combination of past juvenile record and seriousness of offense could influence whether a juvenile petition is more likely to be filed on. This is purely a deductive, or possibly intuitive, interpretation of the few relationships. The actual fact cannot as of yet be tested due to the unavailability of data.



PERCENT WITH PRIOR REFERRALS PERCENT FILED ON

(SEE APPENDIX D, TABLES D-17 AND 26, pp. 141, 150).

SOURCE: NATIONAL CENTER FOR JUVENILE JUSTICE, ADVANCE ESTIMATES OF 1975 AND 1977 NATIONAL COURT PROCESSING STATISTICS. (PITTSBURGH, PA: NATIONAL CENTER FOR JUVENILE JUSTICE, 1979).

FIGURE CONSTRUCTED BY THE NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM ASSESSMENT CENTER (SACRAMENTO, CA: AMERICAN JUSTICE INSTITUTE, 1980).

Referrals to court intake show a distribution in 1977 of approximately three times as many males (74.3 percent) as females (25.7 percent). Generally, those referrals who have had prior delinquency referrals to court intake compose about one-third (29.5 percent) of all referrals. Males prove to be the majority of both new and experienced referrals to court, with most of these referrals, regardless of sex, being new or first-time referrals (Appendix D, Table D-29, p. 153).

Of those cases referred to court intake, whites appear to have proportionately fewer repeat offenses (27.6 percent) than do blacks (36.7 percent) or other races (33.3 percent) (Appendix D, Table D-30, p. 154).

Juvenile referral rates for cases with and without prior delinquency referrals evidently show that the majority, regardless of age, are new referrals having no apparent previous contact with the system. However, the older the juvenile, the less this is evident. For 1977, 17-year-old juvenile referrals show that the ratio of no prior contact referrals to those with priors is 64.8 percent (185,294) to 35.2 percent (100,654). Referrals under 11 show 88.2 percent without priors and 11.8 percent with (Appendix D, Table D-31, p. 155).

Evidence that older referrals have had more prior experience is not an unexpected conclusion. If the propensity to commit a new offense is favored by the experience of previous offenses, then as a juvenile ages the rate of referral for new offenses should show a decrease. Oftentimes, the measurement of the growth in juvenile crime

is given as the increase in numbers of arrests for all offenses. Taking into account the proportion of those juveniles arrested having prior referrals, and counting only arrests for juveniles with no priors, would probably be a more correct indicator of the breeding of crime. It may be true that the numbers of offenses are increasing rapidly; however, only the initiation of new crimes is a true indicator of the efficacy of the deterrent aspect of the system. Prior offenders may commit new offenses primarily because of the unavoidable influence of previous offense experience. Measuring this way may indicate that the real problem is not that the system has not functioned as a *deterrent*, but more probably has only faltered as a *cure*.

NUMBERS AND CHARACTERISTICS OF JUVENILES PROCESSED ANNUALLY  
THROUGH THE PROSECUTION COMPONENT OF THE JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM

THIS SECTION CONTAINS REFERENCE TO THE NATIONAL FLOW ESTIMATE  
IN APPENDIX E. TO PROPERLY RELATE THE CONCLUSIONS OF THE FOL-  
LOWING SECTION, FOLD CHART 1 OF APPENDIX E TO THE SIDE.

The prosecutor, though often shown as making only a few decisions in the flow of the juvenile, usually related to filing a petition, does exercise a great deal of discretionary authority over a juvenile case that has been forwarded by the law enforcement component. This authority extends as far along the process as there are functional hearings concerning the suitability and sufficiency of a case to be forwarded to the court component.

In any case in which a minor is alleged to be a person qualifying for prosecution in the juvenile court, a petition should be submitted to the court through the prosecutor ⑨ and usually followed by the intake (probation) officer's submittal of a report on the behavioral patterns and social history of the minor being considered in the petition.

The prosecutor's primary function is to evaluate the case in terms of legal sufficiency. The prosecution decision ⑨ has two primary elements:

- to decide on the future status of the case (i.e., *prepare a petition or complaint, or dismiss the case*), and
- to decide on the detention status of the juvenile (i.e., hold in *secure detention*).

Often, the detention decision is instigated as a formal request forwarded by the intake officer, suggesting either secure or nonsecure detention status for the youth. This request almost always accompanies a request for the filing of a petition or complaint. However, it can be seen that the prosecutor is usually the final deciding factor and an option to a detention request is to revise the recommendations for intake and actually *dismiss* the case, thus terminating the juvenile's contact with the system.

Though many further decisions are shown as court functions, as in the case of formal hearings, ⑪, ⑫, ⑬, the case may be prepared and presented by the prosecutor.

Prosecution and Detention Processing Profile

The number of juveniles processed by the prosecutor or through the prosecution step ⑥ for 1977 is estimated at 1,177,084 individual cases. This is about 46.9 percent of all original entries into the formal processing network of the official juvenile justice system. In the initial decision concerned with the further processing of juveniles, 42.9 percent (504,805) were dismissed primarily due to a lack of sufficient evidence, in the prosecutor's opinion, to substantiate the alleged offense and, therefore, support the request for petition forwarded by court intake personnel. Cases where the decision was to process further and file a petition on, have to be handled in various ways. Some receive immediate attention as to the advisability of filing a petition and are filed on immediately. In the 1977 estimates, this group composed 39.1 percent (460,512) of all cases received by the prosecutor. The remaining cases, some 211,767 or 8.4 percent, are processed or filed on, but not before first attending to their detention status by referring the case to a detention hearing. Those filed on and detained, about 16.6 percent (195,633), are separated into 15.5 percent (182,330) in secure detention and 1.1 percent (13,303) in nonsecure detention. The remaining 16,134 (1.4 percent) cases forwarded to the hearing are not detained but are placed in their own home or a suitable alternate placement approved by the court.

Though the detention hearing ⑩ (211,767 cases, or 8.4 percent of the referrals to prosecution) is by all rights and purposes a *court hearing*, because the decision to process this case by either means is generally the responsibility of the prosecution, and since the recommendation for detention is usually made by the prosecutor, the effective processing of cases through this function of the system will be examined in this section.

Approximately 671,982 cases in 1977 (26.8 percent of all referrals to prosecution) were processed by either a preliminary hearing ⑪ or a detention hearing. Many jurisdictions combined these two system functions into one hearing. Regardless of the manner in which these two functions are handled, the official function of a hearing does take place. The results of detention hearings show that another 1,565 cases (or 0.4 percent of all cases heard) are dismissed. This is a very small percentage; thus the majority (670,714 cases) were sent to additional hearings. The fitness hearing ⑫ received 27.6 percent of the original 2,508,961 entries into the system. At this point, 73.3 percent of those entries have been diverted or otherwise routed away from further system processing.

The fitness hearing certified 23,829 (3.6 percent of the cases heard) in to adult court. The adjudication hearing ⑭ tests the petition and dismissed 150,000 (24.2 percent) cases as unsubstantiated, leaving 490,085 offenders, or 19.5 percent of the original entries, awaiting disposition.

Most juveniles taken into custody were not detained in 1977. Only 14.6 percent of those who were not filed on are detained initially. Of those who were passed through the prosecution step, 70.9 percent were not detained. However, the majority (63.8 percent) of those who were detained were filed on, with just the reverse true for those not detained (Appendix D, Table D-32, p. 156).

Since 1975, the trend in detention has been one of consistent elimination of handling nonpetition cases by detention. In 1975, 55.7 percent (204,129) of those persons under 18 who had been detained did not have petitions filed. Compared to 1977 detention rates, where only 36.2 percent (108,587) were filed on without detention, the variance over 1975 leads to two rather distinctive, if not opposing, questions--

could the obvious reduction in detention rates for cases where no petition (Figure 15, below) is filed be interpreted that since 1975 there has been a definite reduction in the number of persons under 18 who (1) are wrongfully detained and found later not to warrant petition status, or (2) are rightfully detained but an insufficiency of evidence effected a dismissal without petition (Appendix D, Table D-32, p. 156).

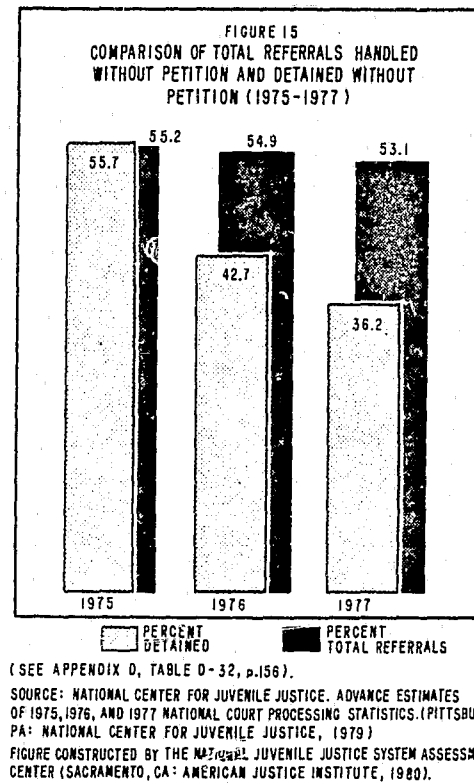
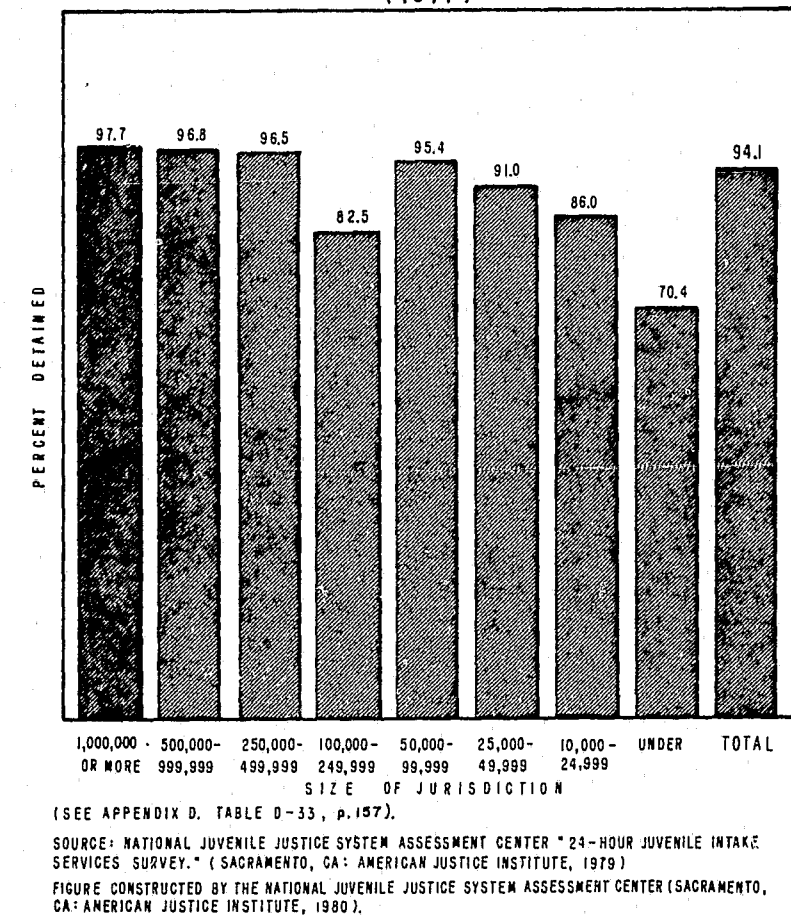


Figure 16 (p. 55) indicates that of all juveniles detained while awaiting a court hearing, approximately 94.1 percent are held in secure facilities.\* It also shows the proportion of juveniles being detained in secure facilities by the size of the jurisdiction. The proportion of total juveniles detained who are held in secure facilities decreases with the size of the jurisdiction (Appendix D, Table D-33, p. 157).

Figure 17 (p. 56) is a comparison of the proportion of total referrals that received detention and the proportion of *those* who were eventually filed on. Detention rates have changed very little since 1975; however, there is a definite reduction in the percentage that are never filed on. This reduction is somehow linked to changes in policy or procedures governing petition filing criteria used by individual agencies. This seems obvious from the fact that total detention percentages remain unchanged and petition filing rates are changing. This fact would lead one to believe that the primary motivation has been to increase the number of cases involving persons

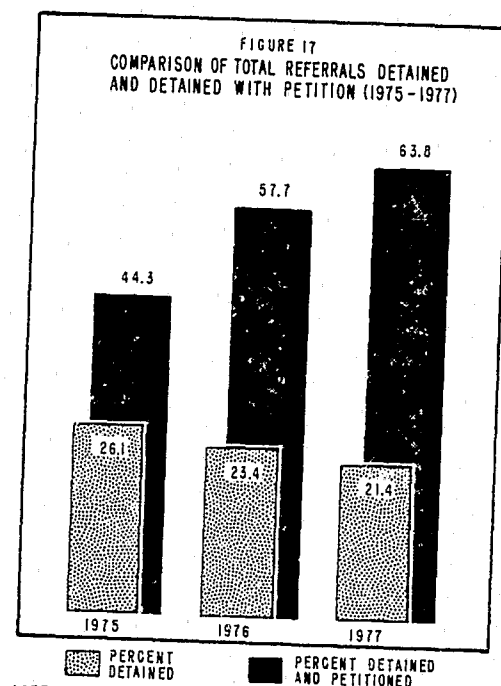
\*Based upon data collected in a sample of 280 counties in 22 States for a national survey conducted by NJJSAC in 1977.

**FIGURE 16**  
THE PERCENT OF PERSONS UNDER 18 DETAINED IN SECURE FACILITY BY SIZE OF JURISDICTION (POPULATION) (1977)



detained to meet petition filing criteria; in short, petition more of those detained.

Another function that could influence this relationship would be the fact that many jurisdictions combine the separate hearing sessions into one. Preliminary hearings and adjudication hearings may be combined with the detention hearings. This would mean that unless the juvenile had already had the detention status set by special hearing, the petition filing decision and detention decision would have been made concurrently. Concurrent decisions allow no opportunity for variance, and the ratio of juveniles detained and petitioned would approach 100.0 percent.



(SEE APPENDIX D, TABLE D-32, p.156).  
 SOURCE: NATIONAL CENTER FOR JUVENILE JUSTICE, ADVANCE ESTIMATES OF 1975, 1976, AND 1977 NATIONAL COURT PROCESSING STATISTICS. (PITTSBURGH, PA: NATIONAL CENTER FOR JUVENILE JUSTICE, 1979).  
 FIGURE CONSTRUCTED BY THE NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM ASSESSMENT CENTER (SACRAMENTO, CA: AMERICAN JUSTICE INSTITUTE, 1980).

Serious offenses in 1977 made up over half (52.5 percent) of those cases where detention was provided. This percentage has, however, increased over the 1975 proportion of 32.9 percent. Correspondingly, status offenses have decreased in 1977 to 22.0 percent, from 38.8 percent in 1975. Interestingly enough, when examining each offense category individually, serious and less-serious offense detention rates were at about 17 to 23 percent, and unchanging over time. Status offenses, however, have changed slightly. In 1975, 39.7 percent were detained, while 1977 shows only 22.2 percent were detained. Though not highly significant, status offenses do seem to be detained less in 1977, and more in 1975, possibly due to increased emphasis on unofficial handling of status offenses through diversion programs (Appendix D, Table D-34, p. 158).

As expected, those cases referred by law enforcement agencies constitute the majority of those detained (84.9 percent). However, it is of great interest to note that referrals by corrections agencies are detained at a higher rate (46.8 percent) than referrals from any other agency including law enforcement. Since the majority of corrections referrals are concerning a new offense being committed while under supervision, it seems obvious that if adjudicated offenders come from corrective status as failures, then detention is most often considered a justifiable alternative to more lenient handling. It seems evident that such is the case (Appendix D, Table D-35, p. 159).

Sex and Detention

The proportion of males and females detained is approximately that of those referred, or 74.9 percent male and 25.1 percent female in 1977. For the years between 1975 and 1977, the proportion is very similar, with essentially no change in the population detained by sex. Thus, it appears that the juvenile's sex does not substantially influence the detention decision outcome (Appendix D, Table D-36, p. 160).

Race and Detention

The three years of data that are available between 1975 and 1977 indicate that whites constitute the majority of those persons detained and the racial distribution is about the same as for those not detained. Individually, other races are detained more often than either whites or blacks. If all non-white races are combined, this group constitutes the majority of persons detained.

Although some difference does exist when grouping minorities together,\* individually it is of great interest to see that black (21.0 percent) and white (20.4 percent) juvenile detention rates are close enough to be able to stipulate that no apparent bias can be seen to exist in the detention decision outcomes due to race alone for 1977. Apparently, then, detention criteria are not a function of race, but are more probably a function of other factors (e.g., family status, prior offense history) (Appendix D, Table D-37, p. 161).

Temporary detention while awaiting a court hearing can incorporate various methods of incarceration. The majority of such cases (75.5 percent) are within the confines of the detention home. In addition, in 1977, 20.8 percent were held in adult jails or police station lockups. Since 1975, however, the trend has been to use adult jails

\*Generally, national data sources utilize a minimum of three categories when reporting race, i.e., white, black, and other. However, in one recent special report, the National Center for Juvenile Justice (NCJJ) reported court referral and detention data for the years between 1975-1977 in only two racial categories, i.e., white and minorities (all nonwhite) (Smith, 1980). This same Center (NCJJ) publishes the National Juvenile Court Estimates where in each of the three years' publications (1975-1977) they stated that:

The reporting of race varied greatly in the data. Some states reported white, black, and other, while a few states reported ten categories of race. For the purpose of consistency between states, three categories of race were selected. The "other" category refers to all races who were reported as not white or black.

and lockups to a lesser degree. In 1975, an estimated 38.3 percent (82,959) of all juveniles detained were held in adult jails or police station detention cells. This figure dropped to 19.5 percent (48,714) in 1976 and 20.8 percent (47,658) in 1977. This trend to restrict the use of adult detention facilities has been consistent for all races, with whites (3.6 percent) more likely to be held in adult jails than blacks (2.6 percent) and other races (4.3 percent) slightly higher than whites. *The shift from 1975 has been to use detention homes more often in 1977 than adult jails and lockups* (Appendix D, Table D-66, p. 190; D-67, p. 191).

#### Age and Detention

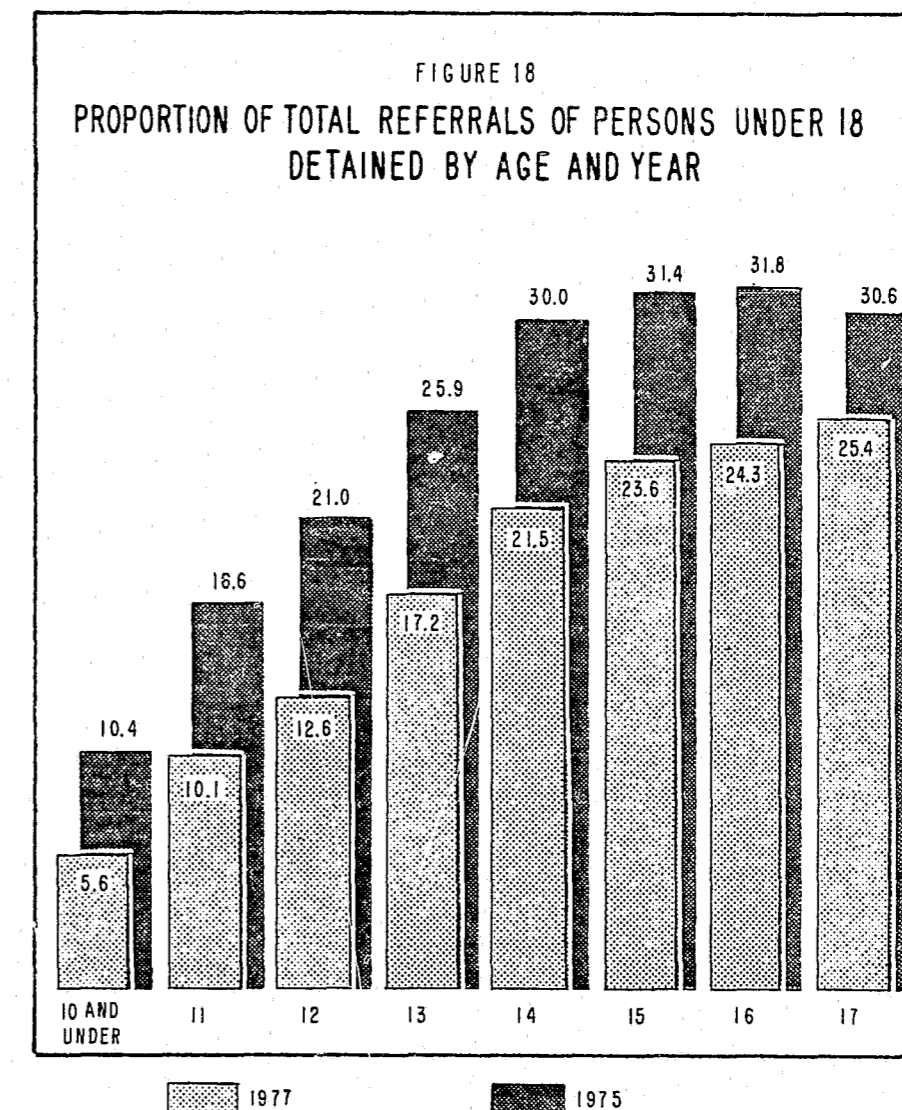
Proportionately fewer persons under 18 who were referred to the juvenile court were detained in 1977 than in 1975. That seems to be especially true for younger age groups. Of those children under the age of 11, 86.9 percent were not detained in 1975, whereas in 1977 the percentage was 94.4. Proportionately, those juveniles under the age of 10 comprise 13.0 percent of all ages who were *not detained* in 1977. In 1975, they accounted for only 3.0 percent (Appendix D, Table D-38, p. 162).

In contrast to the trends for younger juveniles, for the age groups over 10 years old, the 1975 proportions, in almost every case, were greater or the same as in 1977. This relationship holds true for all age groups. When examining the percent of the individual age group that was detained, more of the 1975 age group population was detained than for 1977 regardless of the age of the juvenile.

In conclusion, then, it would seem that older juveniles are detained more frequently than their younger counterparts. In fact, it can be seen in Figure 18 (p. 59) that in 1977 the trend is to detain fewer cases for all ages than in 1975. However, the trend to detain older juveniles is the same for both years. Figure 19 (p. 60) indicates another aspect of detention that cannot be seen by examining detention rates; that is, the change in proportion of those juveniles referred but not detained by individual age group between 1975 and 1977. Though it appears that detention may be related to the more advanced ages, it probably is not entirely a function of age. The median ages do not differ significantly from detention to non-detention over the years since 1975 (Appendix D, Table D-38, p. 162).

Age itself can be the medium for many other related effects. For example, Figure 20 (p. 61) is the graphic representation of two singular effects (prior court referrals and detention) and their separate relationships to age\* for 1977. It seems obvious that the relationship of age to prior court referrals is very similar to that of detention--older juveniles are detained at a higher percentage and also have more prior court referrals. In conjunction with this fact is the additional fact that for 1977, 41.5 percent of all court referrals detained had prior referrals, and only 27.3 percent of those not detained had priors. The apparent conclusion, therefore, even without analytical proof, is that age alone is probably not a major determinant of a referral's detention status. Any such indication is illusory, and more likely a function of a juvenile's prior referral history. Merely being 17 (an older juvenile) does not necessarily increase the probability of being detained. However, being 17 does indicate a propensity toward having previous court referrals (Appendix D, Tables D-31, p. 155; D-38, p. 162; D-39, p. 163; and D-40, p. 164).

\*The three-way relationship of prior referrals, detention status, and age could not be analyzed statistically because of the fact that such three-way interactions or cross-tabulations are not presently included in the national juvenile court estimates provided by the National Center for Juvenile Justice.

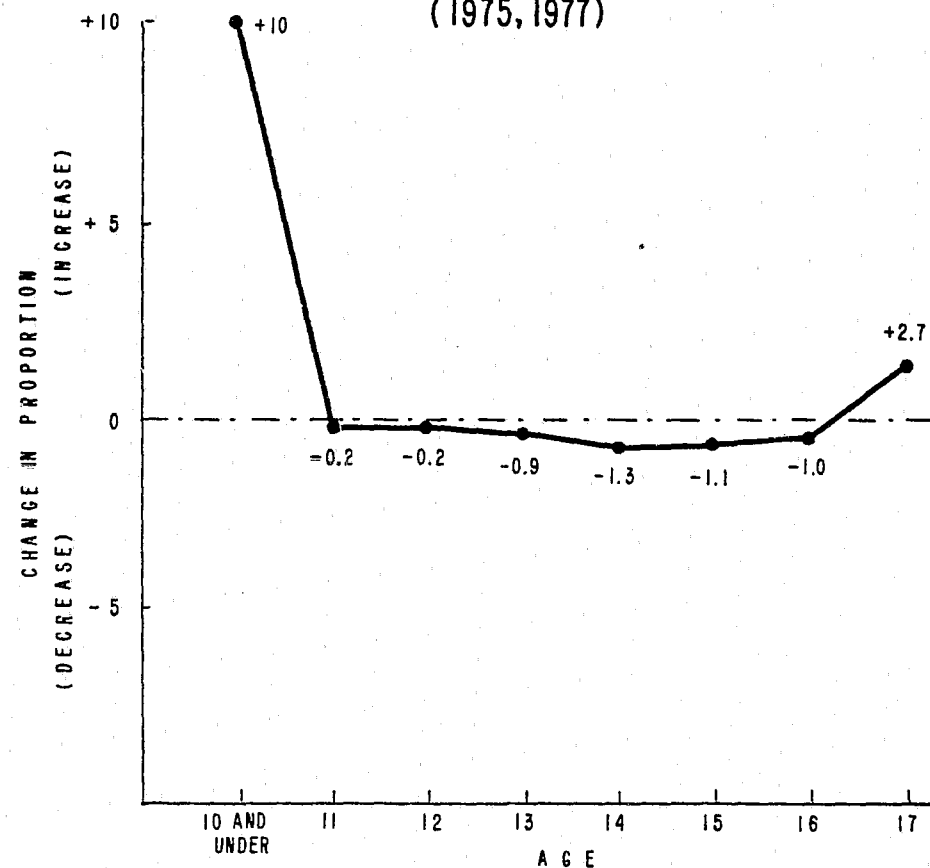


(SEE APPENDIX D, TABLE D-38, p. 162).

SOURCE: NATIONAL CENTER FOR JUVENILE JUSTICE, ADVANCE ESTIMATES OF 1975 AND 1977 NATIONAL COURT PROCESSING STATISTICS. (PITTSBURGH, PA: NATIONAL CENTER FOR JUVENILE JUSTICE, 1979).

FIGURE CONSTRUCTED BY THE NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM ASSESSMENT CENTER (SACRAMENTO, CA: AMERICAN JUSTICE INSTITUTE, 1980).

FIGURE 19  
 CHANGE IN PROPORTION OF COURT REFERRALS  
 NOT DETAINED, BY AGE  
 (1975, 1977)

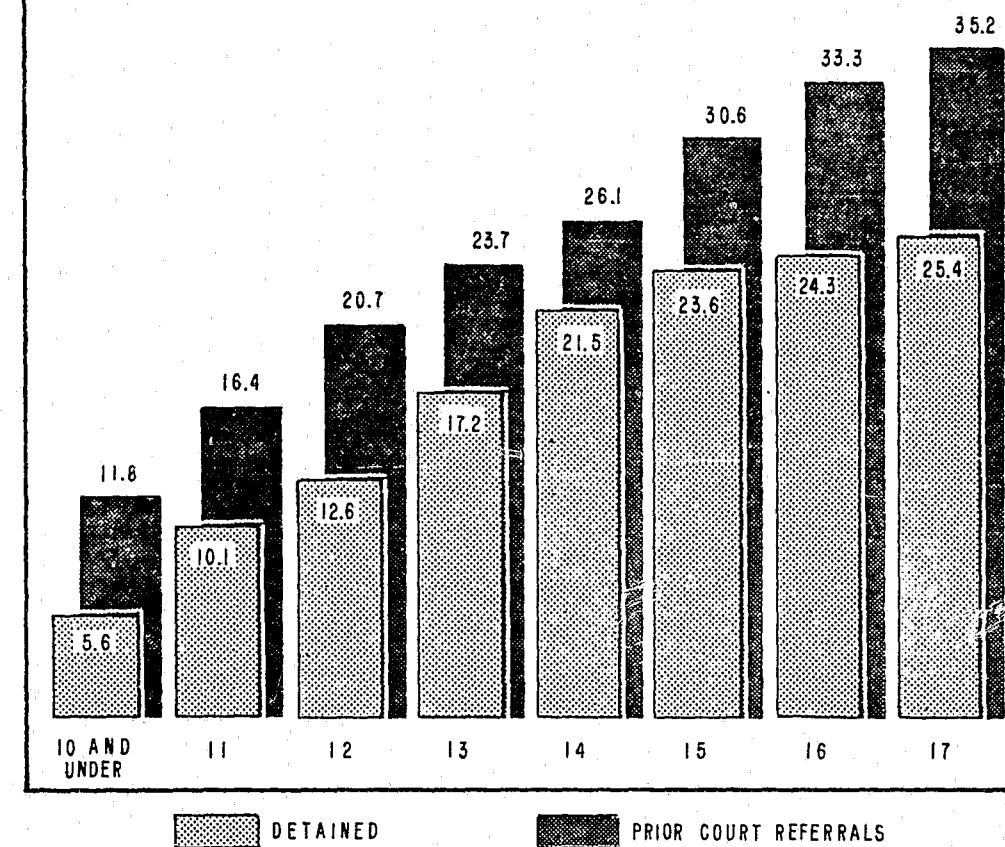


(SEE APPENDIX D, TABLE D-38, p.162).

SOURCE: NATIONAL CENTER FOR JUVENILE JUSTICE. ADVANCE ESTIMATES OF 1975 AND 1977 NATIONAL COURT PROCESSING STATISTICS. (PITTSBURGH, PA: NATIONAL CENTER FOR JUVENILE JUSTICE, 1979).

FIGURE CONSTRUCTED BY THE NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM ASSESSMENT CENTER (SACRAMENTO, CA: AMERICAN JUSTICE INSTITUTE, 1980).

FIGURE 20  
 A COMPARISON OF THE PROPORTION OF COURT REFERRALS  
 DETAINED AND THOSE HAVING PRIOR COURT REFERRALS, BY AGE  
 (1977)



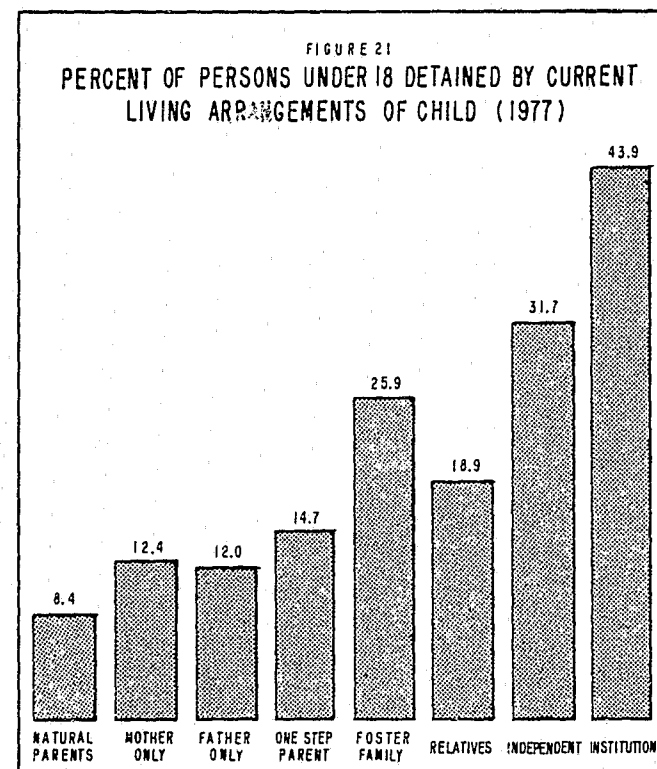
(SEE APPENDIX D, TABLES D-31 AND 38, pp.155,162).

SOURCE: NATIONAL CENTER FOR JUVENILE JUSTICE. ADVANCE ESTIMATES OF 1977 NATIONAL COURT PROCESSING STATISTICS. (PITTSBURGH, PA: NATIONAL CENTER FOR JUVENILE JUSTICE, 1979).

FIGURE CONSTRUCTED BY THE NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM ASSESSMENT CENTER (SACRAMENTO, CA: AMERICAN JUSTICE INSTITUTE, 1980).

In conclusion, *variance in detention decision outcomes for 1977 is probably most highly related to the number of prior delinquency referrals to juvenile court.* Individual physical characteristics are most likely the least effective influence on whether or not a juvenile should be detained. If they exert any universal influence, it would most likely be in conjunction with either prior offense history or the incident offense and not as the sole determinant of the detention decision outcomes.

Even though offense-related variables prove to be the major determinants, and not physical characteristics, it has been shown in other studies that some social variables can account for differences in detention decision outcomes (Cohen, 1975c; Smith, Black, and Weir, 1979). In 1977, the fact that a juvenile was living with natural parents when referred to juvenile court intake favored the child's release to their custody. Of such cases, 91.6 percent were released and not detained. Figure 21 (below) illustrates that there is a definite relationship between living arrangements and the decision to detain. Juveniles who are either independent or institutionalized are more likely to be detained. Independent children's detention rate was 31.7 percent, while those juveniles already institutionalized had a similarly high detention rate of 43.9 percent. The indication seems to be that *living arrangements that appear to be less responsible or appear less able to be responsible for the child (split-families) do influence decisionmakers to detain slightly more often.* The conclusion would indicate that there probably is another axiom, in addition to the three first mentioned, that comes into play as a criterion for detention: this one concerning the environment the child would be released to and its ability to afford the child adequate guidance and supervision while awaiting the disposition of the court (Appendix D, Table D-41, p. 165).

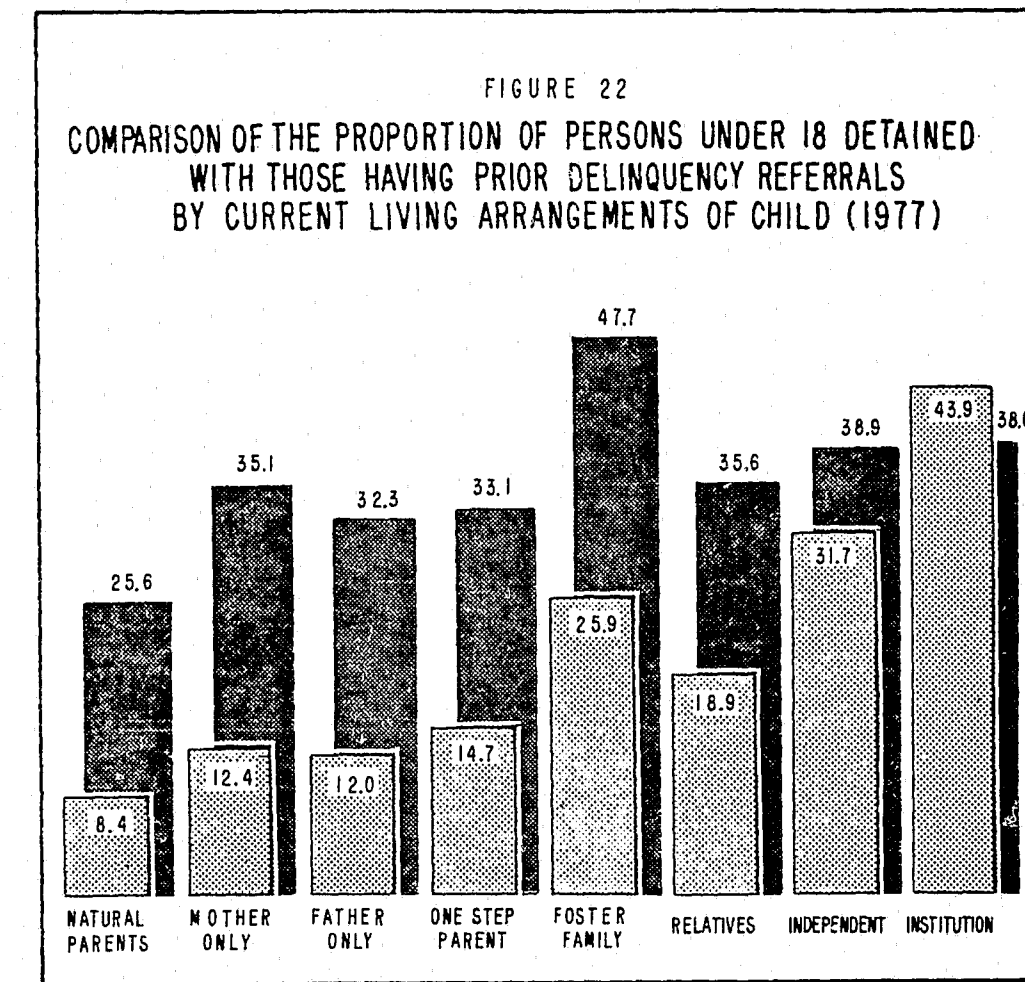


(SEE APPENDIX D, TABLE D-41, p. 165).

SOURCE: NATIONAL CENTER FOR JUVENILE JUSTICE. ADVANCE ESTIMATES OF 1977 NATIONAL COURT PROCESSING STATISTICS. (PITTSBURGH, PA: NATIONAL CENTER FOR JUVENILE JUSTICE, 1979)  
FIGURE CONSTRUCTED BY THE NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM ASSESSMENT CENTER (SACRAMENTO, CA: AMERICAN JUSTICE INSTITUTE, 1980).

The unusual rate of 25.9 percent detained for foster families is more easily understood as a function of prior delinquency referrals rather than the family situation. Foster families often have children who have been previously referred to juvenile court. In 1977, 47.7 percent of children referred who were living in a foster home did have at least one prior referral. This was the highest percentage of any living arrangement examined. Figure 22 (below) shows the corresponding trends for juveniles detained and those having prior referrals, taking into account their living arrangements. The influence of priors is probably at least a partial influence in even this (Appendix D, Table D-42, p. 166).

Generally, *the factor of prior delinquency referrals is the most influential determinant of detention decision outcomes, and is an influence in conjunction with the current incident offense and the living arrangements of the child at the time of referral.*



(SEE APPENDIX D, TABLES D-41 AND 42, pp. 165, 166).  
SOURCE: NATIONAL CENTER FOR JUVENILE JUSTICE. ADVANCE ESTIMATES OF 1977 NATIONAL COURT PROCESSING STATISTICS. (PITTSBURGH, PA: NATIONAL CENTER FOR JUVENILE JUSTICE, 1979).  
FIGURE CONSTRUCTED BY THE NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM ASSESSMENT CENTER (SACRAMENTO, CA: AMERICAN JUSTICE INSTITUTE, 1980).

NUMBERS AND CHARACTERISTICS OF JUVENILES PROCESSED ANNUALLY  
THROUGH THE COURT HEARINGS COMPONENT OF THE JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM

THIS SECTION CONTAINS REFERENCE TO THE NATIONAL FLOW ESTIMATE  
IN APPENDIX E. TO PROPERLY RELATE THE CONCLUSIONS OF THE FOL-  
LOWING SECTION, FOLD CHART 1 OF APPENDIX E TO THE SIDE.

Court procedures are sufficiently varied to complicate description. It is particularly important to distinguish between the physical movement of the juvenile and the progress of the case. A juvenile may physically be located at the intake or detention facility in either a secure or nonsecure environment, depending upon the petition that is filed. However, at the same time, the "case" may actually pass through several hearings where decisions are made by the court relative to the eventual status of the juvenile.

The many court phases may be shown as:

- the detention hearing (10)
- the preliminary hearing (11)
- the fitness hearing (to certify as adult or juvenile) (12)
- the hearing of motions filed (13)
- the adjudication hearing (a hearing of fact) (14)
- the disposition (placement) (15)

Many juveniles will proceed directly to disposition from the preliminary hearing, while others will have multiple hearings, motions filed and heard, and special fitness hearings prior to the actual disposition. Despite the large number of different possible court procedures, not all of these court procedures need be in every system.

The disposition hearing (15) has many varied dispositional alternatives. These options range from an *acquittal* to full *commitment* to either a *State* or *local correctional agency*. A court officer may, in order to *conduct further social studies* or because of a *change in status* (16) (18), *elect to withhold disposition and reprocess the case*. The court may *elect to be lenient* (17) and *suspend the case* with or without conditions imposed.

If probation is the disposition, then the juvenile may be referred to the probation department for *formal* or *informal jurisdiction* (19)

In almost all cases, any action, change, or upgrading of the juvenile's status as a case made after the disposition decision (15) is under the jurisdictional control of the court, regardless of what component may have the actual physical or supervisory jurisdiction of the juvenile.

The court hearings component is primarily concerned with the disposition hearing. There are many other hearings leading to this one; however, they are all seen as preparatory hearings aimed at defining the purpose and need of the dispositional hearing

in each case. Those hearings leading to this function of the juvenile court are rightfully court functions and are conducted by court personnel. Because of their preparatory nature and their precedence to the disposition, these hearings have been discussed and analyzed in the sections on the Court Intake Component (pp. 42-51) and the Prosecution Component (pp. 52-58) in this document. This section deals primarily with the dispositional decision as the key point in juvenile justice processing. All previous decisions made concerning the processing of juvenile cases are made relative to the presence of this hearing. Cases not warranting this hearing are dismissed or diverted away from further processing before reaching this point in the system. It is for this reason that court dispositional decisions can be considered as the keystone of juvenile *justice*.

Court Hearings Processing Profile

An estimate of about 508,910 cases were heard by juvenile or family courts (15) in the United States in 1977. This represents about 20.3 percent of all cases referred to the system from all sources. Of these cases, 490,085 were processed from the prosecution component and were adjudicated (petition sustained) on new or first-time offenses. The remaining 18,825 cases, or 3.7 percent of those cases heard, were as a result of system revocations of a current parole, probation, or aftercare status.

Of the 11 dispositional choices available, 27.4 percent or 139,258 cases had decisions rendered by the court that resulted in either dismissal or diversion away from formal system processing. In 31,064 cases, or 6.1 percent of those disposed of, the decision was to withhold disposition due to a continuance or change in status. Of these cases, 28,430 (5.6 percent) were acquitted, or the commitment was suspended, and were released from further processing. Another 4.5 percent (22,716) were transferred to other jurisdictions.

Of 508,910 cases decided upon in 1977, some 72.6 percent (369,652) were kept under the jurisdictional control of the system in one form or another. The most frequent disposition was a commitment to probation. An estimated 247,620 cases, or 48.6 percent of the 508,910 cases decided, were placed on probation in 1977. The decision to commit to local correctional agencies was reached in 12.5 percent (63,622) of all cases, and commitments to State correctional agencies decided on for 10.2 percent (52,701) of all cases heard. By far the largest number of cases are placed on probation, and the next greatest number sent to local correctional agencies, eventually resulting in placement in local camps, group homes, foster homes, or other suitable court-approved placements.

In examining the court dispositional hearing, generally each dispositional choice is approached as a measurement of severity. In rendering one choice over another, the decision is often seen as a matching process where the juvenile court tries to attach the correct alternative to the crime perpetrated or the situation presented. "In essence, the contention is that certain youths are more likely to be accorded severe treatment, not necessarily because of the nature of the offenses with which they are charged, but rather because they fit the preconceived notions or stereotypes of the delinquent that court officials have formulated" (Cohen, 1975a:13).

In examining the characteristics of the population of offenders where disposition decisions are rendered, this report is only attempting to illustrate the nature and description of the offender base so handled. Any attempt to extrapolate a causal relationship to offender characteristics is inherently contrary to the justice system, its practices, and its policies.



Other studies such as that done by Cohen (1975a) initially indicate the intention to empirically examine variables most substantially related to the severity of disposition. In this report, the assumption is that the underlying philosophy of the juvenile justice system is not one of penalty but of treatment. In this way, all dispositions made by the court, though penalty may be inherent by the nature of the alternative chosen, are assumed to be chosen as the court's indication of the proper handling (or treatment) for the juvenile's needs.

A status offender who receives a commitment to a local correctional agency so as to be placed in a foster home should not be evaluated as receiving a more or less severe disposition than another offender placed on probation under the supervision of the parents. Each case is evaluated on its own merits and the dispositional choice made in recognition of the offender's particular needs. Since the basis of all juvenile justice philosophy is treatment or rehabilitation, then when a habitual offender is committed to an institution, it could be viewed as the court's enactment of the rehabilitative goal of the system and not one of punishment. *Severity* as measured by the restrictiveness of the court's dispositional choice is only a statement of the nature of the disposition, not its purpose. In deference to the adult system, punishment is not the goal of the juvenile court's dispositional choices. Therefore, any finding showing that offender characteristics are related to the disposition is merely a measure of chance association, not of causal bias.

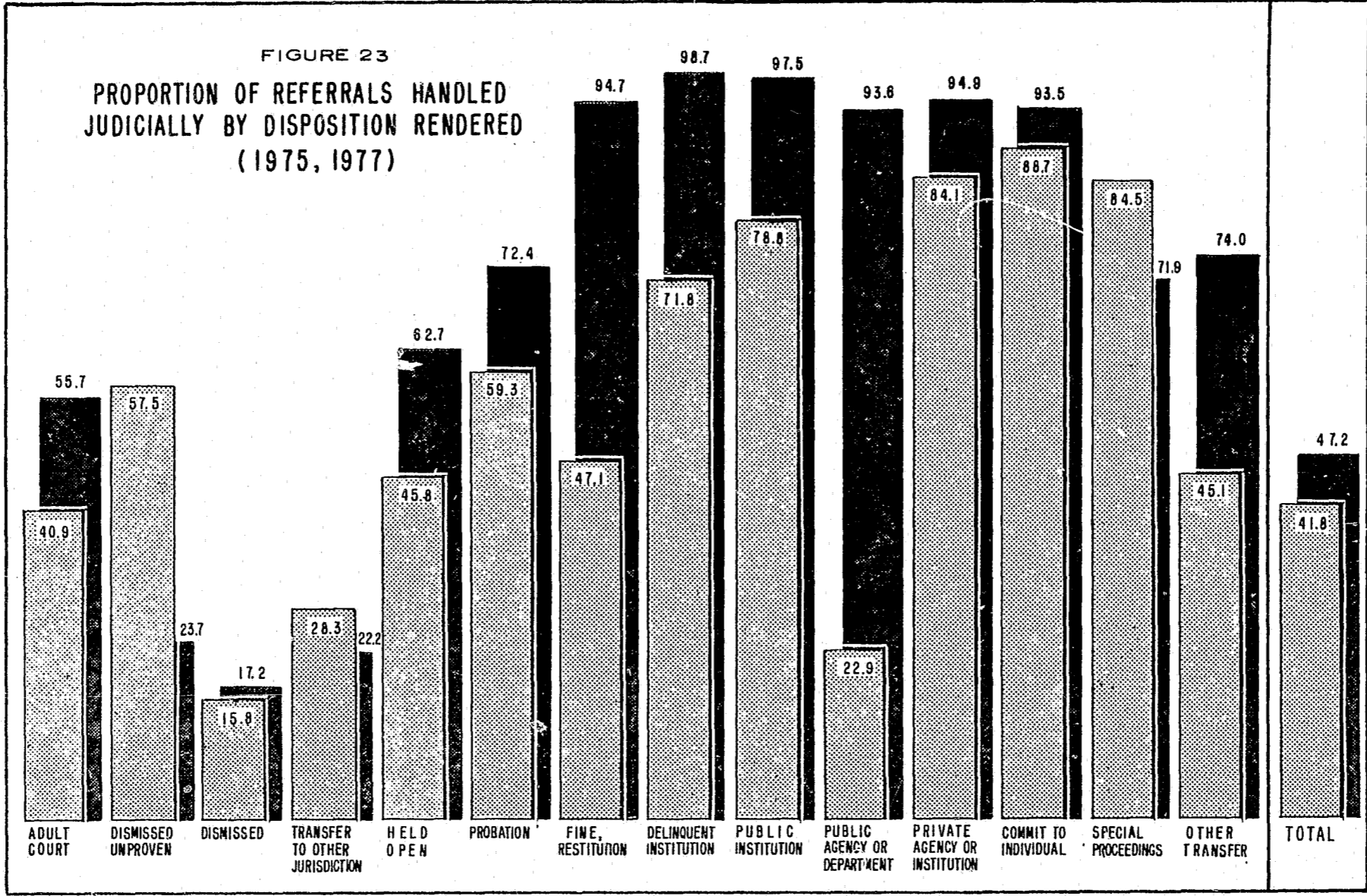
Those cases handled by the court at the dispositional hearing (15) are cases having petitions. Nonpetition cases are handled prior to official court action and may have similar dispositions only labeled as handled unofficially. In 1977, 72.4 percent (247,620) of all cases referred and handled by a disposition of *probation* had formal petitions, with 27.6 percent (94,396) handled informally (6). Informal probation is usually instituted by the court intake officer. Generally, the cases where institutionalization or placement with an official agency within the system is called for are handled by petition. Cases usually resulting in diversion or dismissal are usually handled long before the court dispositional hearing. Nearly 87 percent (86.8) of all cases resulting in dismissal, 76.3 percent of all cases dismissed or unproven, and 77.8 percent of all cases resulting in referrals to other jurisdictions are handled without a petition.

Generally, only cases resulting in some form of physical restriction under the jurisdictional control of the corrections component are forwarded to the court under petition. Figure 23 (p.67) is a comparison of the petition cases by their dispositions for 1975 and 1977. With the exception of those dispositional choices resulting in dismissal or diversion (e.g., dismissal, transfer, and special proceedings), 1977 statistics show an increase in the number of these dispositions being rendered by official dispositional hearings under petition. Commitments or referrals to a public agency or department were 22.9 percent handled by petition in 1975 and 93.6 percent in 1977. However, the number (16,308 cases in 1975 and 19,680 cases in 1977) of individual cases has not changed significantly. The change, therefore, that accounts for so dramatic an increase in the percentage is the dramatic reduction in the total number of cases so disposed. In 1975, 70,304 cases were referred to public agencies with 77.1 percent of them placed nonjudicially without a petition. In 1977, only 21,026 cases were placed in public agencies or departments, with the greatest portion or 93.6 percent of these handled officially after hearing a petition (Appendix D, Table D-43, p. 167).

The dramatic reduction in the rate of petitions that are dismissed as unproven in the dispositional hearings is another significant difference between 1975 and 1977. In

# CONTINUED

## 1 OF 3



(SEE APPENDIX D, TABLE D-43, p. 167).  
 SOURCE: NATIONAL CENTER FOR JUVENILE JUSTICE. ADVANCE ESTIMATES OF 1975 AND 1977 NATIONAL COURT PROCESSING STATISTICS. (PITTSBURGH, PA: NATIONAL CENTER FOR JUVENILE JUSTICE, 1979).  
 FIGURE CONSTRUCTED BY THE NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM ASSESSMENT CENTER (SACRAMENTO, CA: AMERICAN JUSTICE INSTITUTE, 1980).

1975, 57.5 percent of all cases dismissed due to insufficient evidence were petition cases that were handled judicially. In 1977, only 23.7 percent of these cases were dismissed at the court hearing; the majority were handled prior to the hearing. The probable explanation would be the increased activity and responsibility of the prosecutor's office in recent years in screening the petition requests for the efficacy of the request (Appendix D, Table D-43, p. 167).

Figure 24 (p. 69) illustrates the overall change in the dispositional decision outcomes between 1975 and 1977. Examining the outcomes in this way points out the changing face of dispositional decisionmaking policy. Fluctuations due to numbers of cases may dramatically change the petition rates but will not necessarily show realistic shifts in the total philosophy of making dispositional choices. Generally, there was very little change in the total picture of dispositional choices for petitioned cases. *Dismissals* were down by 12.8 percentage points, and *dismissals unproved* increased by 9.3 percentage points, a net change of -3.5 percentage points. Special proceedings or having a case handled in some special way have increased 15.9 percentage points; however, the proportion of cases handled in this way (some 303, or less than 0.1 percent) is significant. Probation remains the major dispositional choice for 37.4 percent (247,620) of petition cases. In 1975, probation was chosen for 47.3 percent (277,656) of petitioned cases (Appendix D, Table D-43, p. 167).

It should be noted here that any further analysis of court dispositions and offender characteristics cannot be confidently associated with the dispositional hearing alone or the outcome of such a hearing. The primary reason for this fact is the nature of the data. Since this report is essentially a secondary analysis of juvenile court statistics provided by other sources, it is limited to the type and form of data available. National juvenile court data are essentially an analysis of *intake* statistics. To segment these data to help describe the court hearing would necessitate in-depth multi-way analyses requiring the combined effects of more than two variables. The national estimates supplied for this secondary analysis only report the effects of two variables, and furthermore, make no particular attempt to apply any of these to answering pertinent questions.

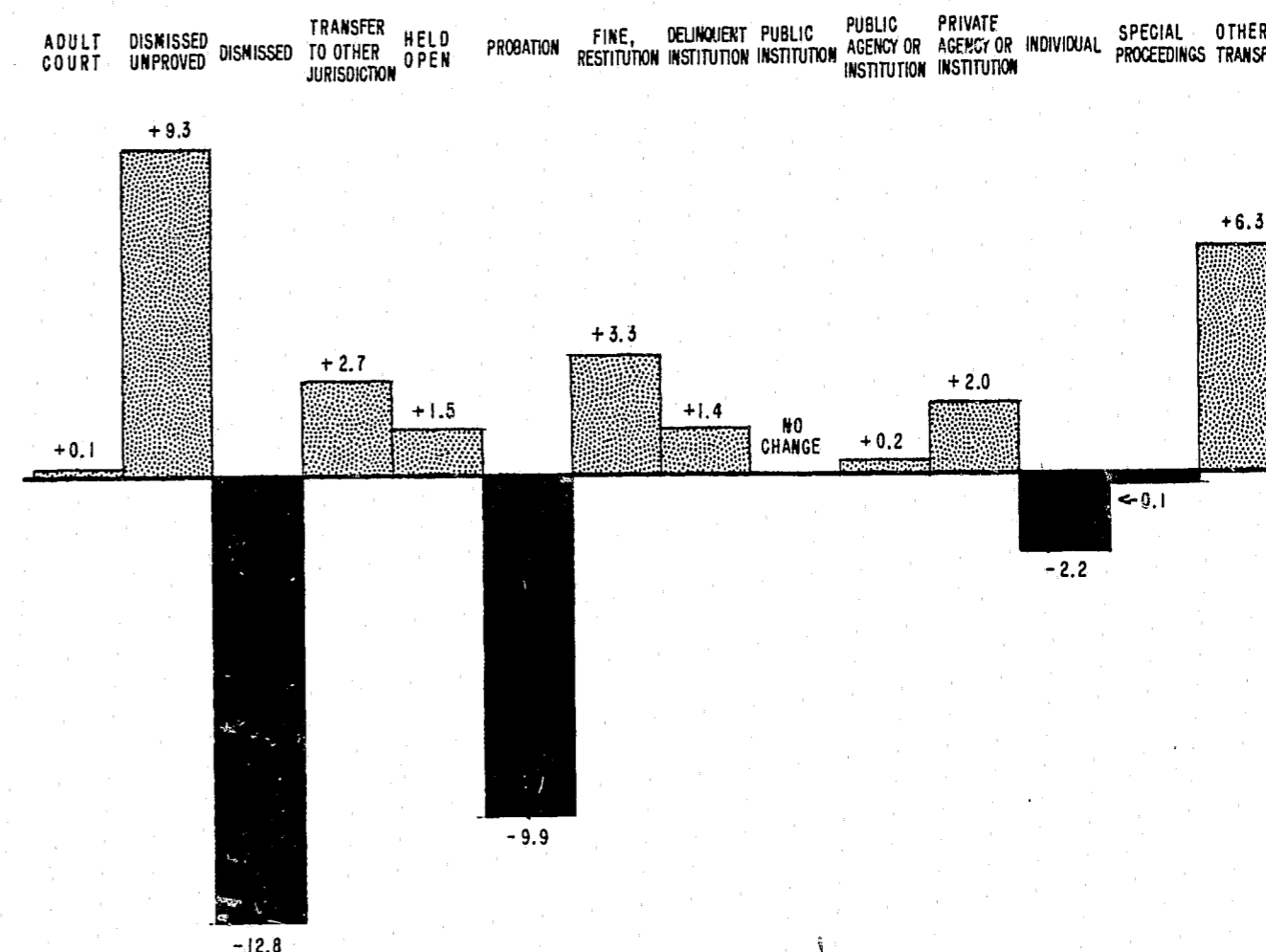
In order to examine any special effect and its association with the disposition rendered, three variables would normally need to be considered to separate intake dispositions from those of the court.

Therefore, further examination of the dispositional choices rendered and any subsequent relationships with other variables are not expressly for court hearings but include intake dispositions as well as can only be generalized to the *court's* decision process by association. Future reports of this nature should attempt to better separate these effects in attempting a definitive description of the juvenile court hearing process and its outcomes.

In the following analysis of dispositional data, all cases are referred to as offenders, even though some are not adjudicated as such.\* In general, the largest number of offenders referred to juvenile court are dismissed. Some are dismissed summarily (*dismissed*) while others are dismissed due to insufficient evidence to sustain the allegation that a crime had been committed or to indicate that the child's situation

\*Court data supplied by the National Center for Juvenile Justice did not allow the separation of adjudicated versus nonadjudicated cases when examining disposition by characteristics.

FIGURE 24  
CHANGE IN PROPORTION OF PERSONS UNDER 18 HANDLED IN  
A DISPOSITIONAL HEARING BY DISPOSITION RENDERED  
(1975, 1977)



(SEE APPENDIX D, TABLE D-43, p. 167).

SOURCE: NATIONAL CENTER FOR JUVENILE JUSTICE. ADVANCE ESTIMATES OF 1975 AND 1977 NATIONAL COURT PROCESSING STATISTICS. (PITTSBURGH, PA: NATIONAL CENTER FOR JUVENILE JUSTICE, 1979).

FIGURE CONSTRUCTED BY THE NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM ASSESSMENT CENTER (SACRAMENTO, CA: AMERICAN JUSTICE INSTITUTE, 1980).

warranted system intervention (*dismissed unproved*). Together, these two dismissal categories account for 46.2 percent of all disposition decisions. For individual offense categories, 51.8 percent of less-serious offenses, 47.0 percent of status offenses, and 42.4 percent of serious offenses are dismissed (Appendix D, Table D-44, p. 168).

#### The Offense and the Disposition

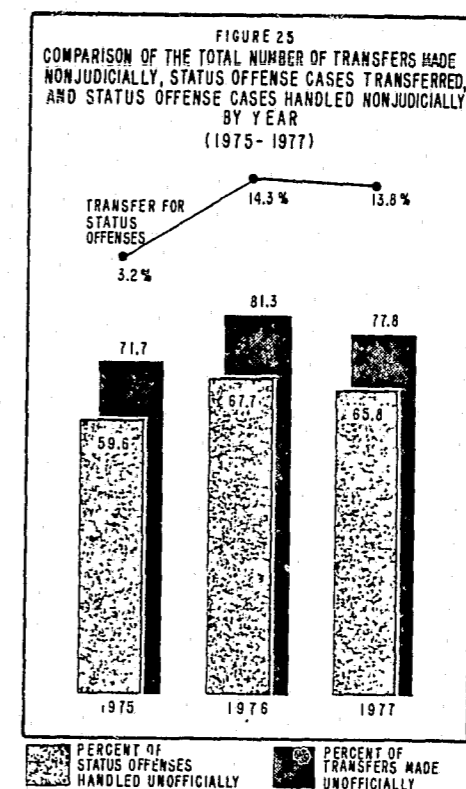
Probation of the juvenile, including informal probation, is the second most often rendered decision by the system in general.

The type of offense does seem to make a difference in 1977 as to whether a decision-maker will place the juvenile on probation. Of all serious offenders, 30.3 percent were placed on probation, as were 21.3 percent of less-serious offenders and 17.7 percent of status offenders. Though the proportion of each offense type placed on probation is different (e.g., considerably more serious offenders receive probation than status offenders), the decision choice to use probation as a treatment is the major system alternative for all types of offenses. Other than probation, status offenders are transferred more often than serious or less-serious offenders. This would seem to comply with the basic tenet or goal of the therapeutic nature of the system. Status offenders are generally cases requiring services other than jurisdictional restriction, services often best handled by welfare or children's service agencies (Appendix D, Table D-44, p. 168).

Between the years of 1975 and 1977, the overall dispositional pattern has changed very little, with the possible exception of the use of transfer of jurisdictional control for status offenders. In 1975, *transfers to other jurisdictions or departments* comprised only 3.2 percent of the dispositional choices for status offenders. In 1977, transfers were utilized 13.8 percent of the time. An obvious increase in the proportion of status offenses being transferred, hypothetically to welfare agencies, in recent years would indicate a substantiation of the decisionmaker's propensity to direct status offenders away from systematic jurisdictional control. Deinstitutionalization legislation when instituted as agency policy and decisionmaker's directives would tend to favor transferring the offender for status offenses and not other offense types (Appendix D, Table D-44, p. 168).

The combined knowledge that the majority of offenses transferred are handled without petitions (77.8 percent) and that status offenders are generally handled unofficially (65.8 percent) would indicate that persons under 18 referred for status offenses are more likely to be transferred to other welfare or children's service agencies prior to the official court hearing. Figure 25 (p. 71) is a comparison of these two trends showing that since 1975 the trend has been to handle and transfer a majority of status offenders unofficially or without a formal petition. In addition to these, the proportion of status offenders handled by transfer is shown. The fact that all three trends follow the same pattern would indicate a close causal relationship such as would be true if the most frequent means of handling status offenders was to transfer them at court intake. This fact leads to the additional supposition that this phenomenon is basically a change in the intake policy, favoring the transfer and handling of status offenders outside of the system in 1977, where this was not as widespread in 1975 (Appendix D, Table D-43, p. 167; Table D-44, p. 168; and Table D-45, p. 169).

Status offender cases are usually cases due to a chance situation rather than a propensity within the child to run counter to the law. Thus, they most often are cases of a single offense (72.0 percent) with no prior offense history resulting in previous referrals to court (Appendix D, Table D-26, p. 150).



(SEE APPENDIX D, TABLES D-43, 44 AND 45, pp. 167, 168, 169).

SOURCE: NATIONAL CENTER FOR JUVENILE JUSTICE, ADVANCE ESTIMATES OF 1975, 1976, AND 1977 NATIONAL COURT PROCESSING STATISTICS. (PITTSBURGH, PA: NATIONAL CENTER FOR JUVENILE JUSTICE, 1979).

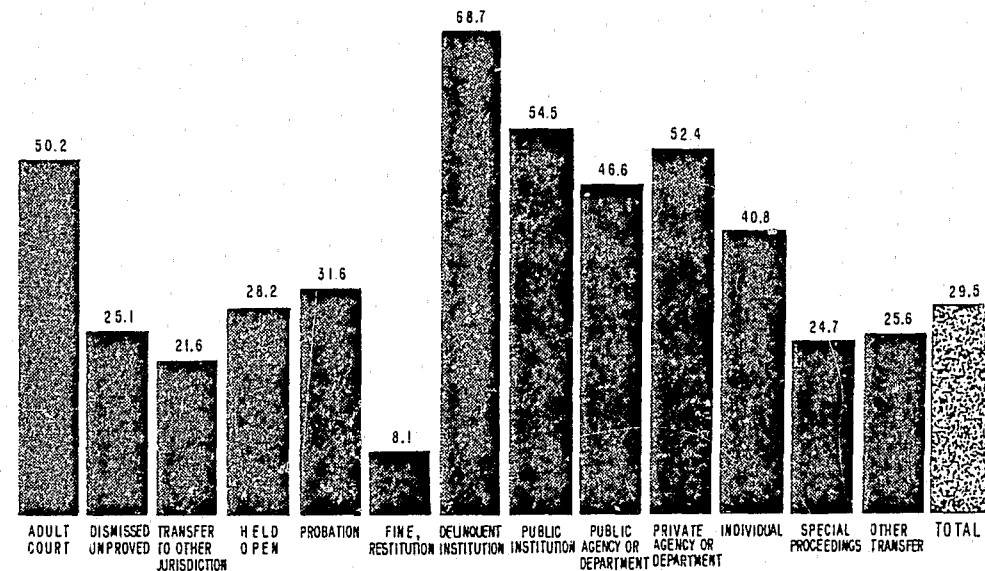
FIGURE CONSTRUCTED BY THE NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM ASSESSMENT CENTER (SACRAMENTO, CA: AMERICAN JUSTICE INSTITUTE, 1980).

Very seldom is there any single effect that is the only true determinant of a given relationship. Certainly in the history of juvenile justice research there has not been a single physical, social, or offender related characteristic that could account for why children are processed or handled in the way they are within the system. What has been found, however, is that there is one single factor that is almost indisputedly a major determinant of system processing. However, that factor, the prior offense history of an offender, applies only when taken in combination with one or more factors such as age, sex, race, or offense type.

In 1977, 70.5 percent of all offenders had no prior court referrals, and 29.5 percent had one or more. The major proportion of both groups were placed on probation, or 28.7 percent of those without priors, and 31.8 percent of those with prior referrals. Only 7.7 percent of prior offenders were placed in institutions; however, 68.7 percent of those placed in institutions had prior court referrals. Figure 26 (p.72) indicates the percentage of each type of disposition that were cases with prior referrals to court. With total referrals showing twice as many first-time or new offenders as prior offenders, any dispositions showing an opposite relationship would indicate at least a partial consideration of the significance of an offender's previous record. It does seem consistent with processing trends that institutional placements within State-operated facilities or private agencies show a high percentage of prior referrals, and contrastingly, low percentage of prior referrals for cases that were dismissed (25.1 percent), transferred to other

jurisdictions (21.6 percent), held open (28.2 percent), or had to pay fines or restitution (8.1 percent). Offenders who are referred to court repeatedly do eventually make up the largest portion of what are often referred to as the more severe or restrictive dispositions (Appendix D, Table D-46, p. 170).

FIGURE 26  
PROPORTION OF COURT DISPOSITIONS HAVING ONE OR MORE PRIOR REFERRALS TO COURT (1977)



(SEE APPENDIX D, TABLE D-46, p. 170).

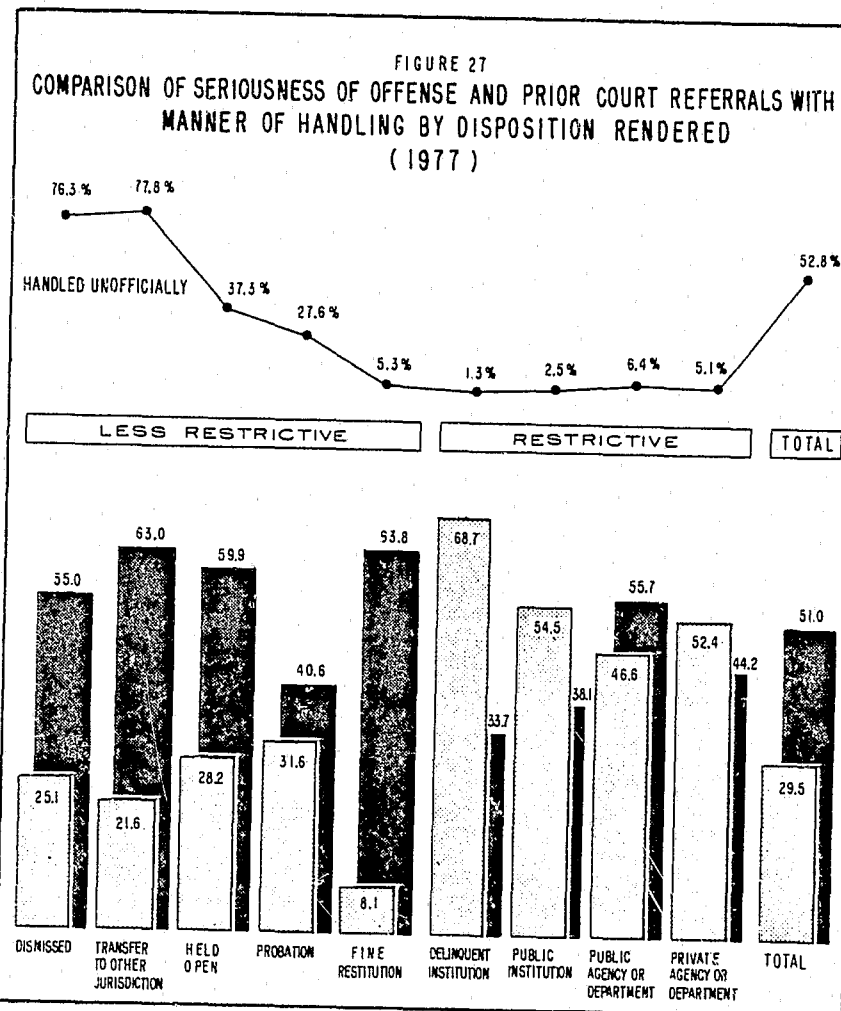
SOURCE: NATIONAL CENTER FOR JUVENILE JUSTICE, ADVANCE ESTIMATES OF 1977 NATIONAL COURT PROCESSING STATISTICS. (PITTSBURGH, PA: NATIONAL CENTER FOR JUVENILE JUSTICE, 1979).

FIGURE CONSTRUCTED BY THE NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM ASSESSMENT CENTER (SACRAMENTO, CA: AMERICAN JUSTICE INSTITUTE, 1980).

Figure 27 (p. 73) is a comparison of selected dispositions and the characteristics of the offenders handled. It seems evident that the less restrictive dispositions are usually cases with few prior referrals and charged with less serious offenses, and consequently are more likely to be handled unofficially at intake than the more serious offenses, having many prior referrals. The question brought to mind here is concerning the nature of these prior offenses: Are cases which have prior offense histories and referred for either serious or less serious offenses receiving more severe dispositions because of the nature of their history or the current offense?

Of the less restrictive dispositional choices, there are some interesting points of fact. Offenders placed on probation are primarily referred to court and handled as official cases--only 27.6 percent are actually handled unofficially--yet only 31.6 percent have prior court referrals. Figure 27 (p. 73) indicates that only 40.6 percent of cases given probation are for less-serious offenses. It would seem, then, that these less-serious offenses having few or no prior referrals could be the cases handled at intake. However, a majority of cases given probation are first-time offenders and are still forwarded to court. Thus, it would seem that in some cases

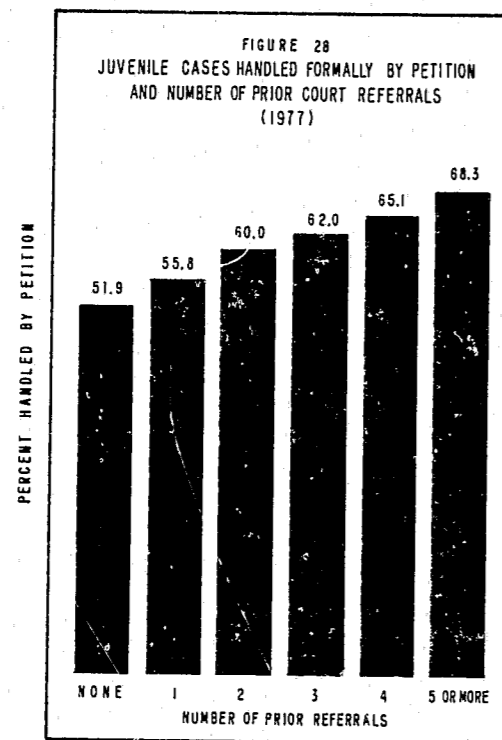
the incident offense would be a major determinant. For the purposes of this report, recognizing that conclusions cannot be drawn without further testing, it appears that there is a split effect that influences the referral of cases to the court and the subsequent disposition rendered. One side of the effect is that for serious cases (using the incident offense), prior referrals weigh very heavily on the case, and it is most likely to receive a more restrictive disposition. Of offenders sentenced to delinquency institutions, few had less serious offenses (33.7 percent), but a majority had prior offenses (68.7 percent), and only 41.3 percent were handled unofficially. The other side of the effect is reflected in that for less serious cases, prior referrals are probably evaluated more objectively. Serious criminal records are probably referred to the court for disposition, and less habitual prior records are probably not evaluated any more strongly than the nature of the incident offense would require (Appendix D, Table D-46, p. 170).



(SEE APPENDIX D, TABLES D-43, 44 AND 46, pp. 167, 168, 170).  
SOURCE: NATIONAL CENTER FOR JUVENILE JUSTICE, ADVANCE ESTIMATES OF 1977 NATIONAL COURT PROCESSING STATISTICS. (PITTSBURGH, PA: NATIONAL CENTER FOR JUVENILE JUSTICE, 1979).  
FIGURE CONSTRUCTED BY THE NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM ASSESSMENT CENTER (SACRAMENTO, CA: AMERICAN JUSTICE INSTITUTE, 1980).

This split is further substantiated by two facts, the first being that the number of prior offenses is equally distributed among the offenses. Serious offenders make up the majority of prior offenders in each category regardless of the number of prior referrals. Status offenders have fewer, regardless of the number of priors. Thus, prior criminal experience is approximately equal among each type of offender (Appendix D, Table D-47, p. 171).

Serious offenses are handled officially (filing a petition) more often than any other offense type, and they also make up the greater percentage of the prior offenders category. This leads to the second fact, that court cases with prior court referrals are petitioned and handled formally more often than those without. Figure 28 (below) indicates that not only is this true, but the more prior referrals evident in a case history, the more likely the case is to be referred (Appendix D, Table D-48, p. 172).

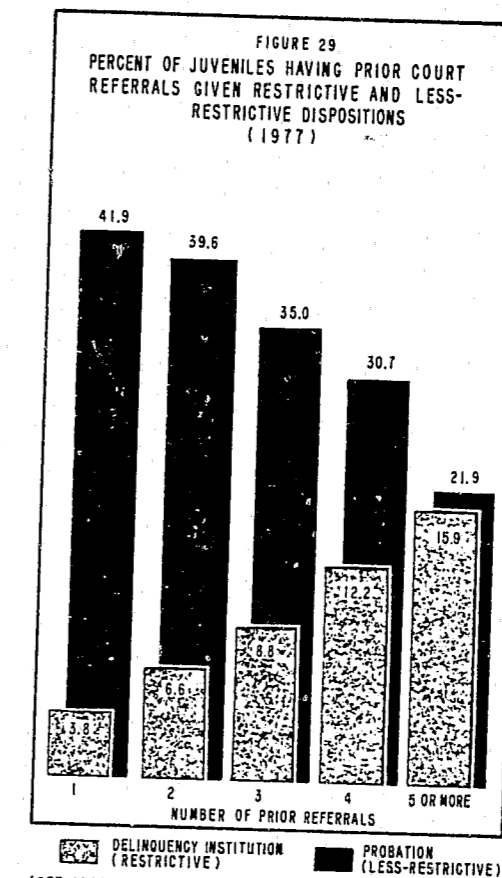


(SEE APPENDIX D, TABLE D-48, p.172).  
SOURCE: NATIONAL CENTER FOR JUVENILE JUSTICE, ADVANCE ESTIMATES OF 1977 NATIONAL COURT PROCESSING STATISTICS. (PITTSBURGH, PA: NATIONAL CENTER FOR JUVENILE JUSTICE, 1979).  
FIGURE CONSTRUCTED BY THE NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM ASSESSMENT CENTER (SACRAMENTO, CA: AMERICAN JUSTICE INSTITUTE, 1980).

Thus, serious offenses are handled formally more often and petition filing rates do seem to be highly related to the number of prior referrals a juvenile has on his record. Court dispositions do also seem to be related to a juvenile's prior offense history. Figure 29 (p.75) displays the proportion of offenders having various numbers of prior referrals and their disposition of probation (less restrictive) and placement in a delinquency institution (restrictive).\* It seems fairly conclusive

\*These two were found to generally be representative of the two categories of dispositional severity.

that the more priors an offender has to his record, the more likely he is to be placed in a more restrictive environment (Appendix D, Table D-49, p. 173).

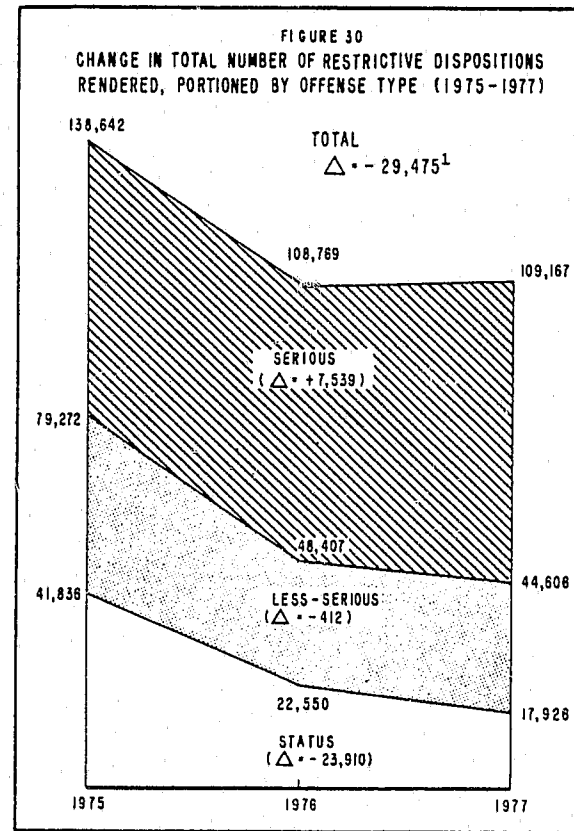


(SEE APPENDIX D, TABLE D-49, p.173).  
SOURCE: NATIONAL CENTER FOR JUVENILE JUSTICE, ADVANCE ESTIMATES OF 1977 NATIONAL COURT PROCESSING STATISTICS. (PITTSBURGH, PA: NATIONAL CENTER FOR JUVENILE JUSTICE, 1979).  
FIGURE CONSTRUCTED BY THE NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM ASSESSMENT CENTER (SACRAMENTO, CA: AMERICAN JUSTICE INSTITUTE, 1980).

In Figure 27 (p.73), the significant reduction in the serious dispositions rendered unofficially is probably more a function of the authority of the court than intake decision criteria. In most jurisdictions, only the court has the authority to place a juvenile in an institution or in some similarly restrictive alternative, except for police placement in jails, and other detention by police. This can be more easily seen in the graph (Figure 27) for fines and restitutions where 63.8 percent of the cases levied with a fine are less-serious offenses, and very few are prior offenders, yet only 1.3 percent are handled unofficially this way. Only the court can actually place such a sentence upon a juvenile offender. Thus, the fine and restitution disposition could be referred to as a more restrictive disposition, though not in a physical sense.

The influence of prior court referrals may not have always been the same as it is in 1977. In 1975, 42.2 percent (30,262) of those cases referred to court and subsequently sentenced to a delinquency institution had no prior offenses. In 1977, that

percentage had dropped to 31.3 percent (14,478). Though the percentage had dropped, the primary variance is in the total number of cases sentenced to delinquency institutions; in 1975, an estimated 71,710 cases were placed in such institutions, while in 1977 there were 46,256 cases (Appendix D, Table D-46, p. 170). This represents a reduction of 35.5 percent in commitments to delinquency institutions. No other individual disposition has shown such a decline, indicating a definite change in policy or commitment criteria for institutionalization. Figure 30 (below) indicates that though the total number of commitments to delinquency institutions and other restrictive dispositions have declined by 29,475 cases since 1975, commitments for serious offenses have increased, with little change for less serious offenses. The only actual decline in commitments in line with the total trend is in the number of status offenders being committed to delinquency institutions. Since 1975, the disposition proportions have changed significantly for all dispositions rendered, resulting in highly restrictive handling of juvenile offenders. Dispositions for serious offenses were much more severe in 1977 at 59.2 percent (64,561) than in 1975 at 42.8 percent (59,370). Status offenses show the largest change since 1975. In 1975, 41,836 juveniles were referred for status offenses and were given restrictive dispositions. In 1977, that figure dropped to 17,926 cases, or only 16.4 percent, receiving restrictive dispositions (Appendix D, Table D-50, p. 174).



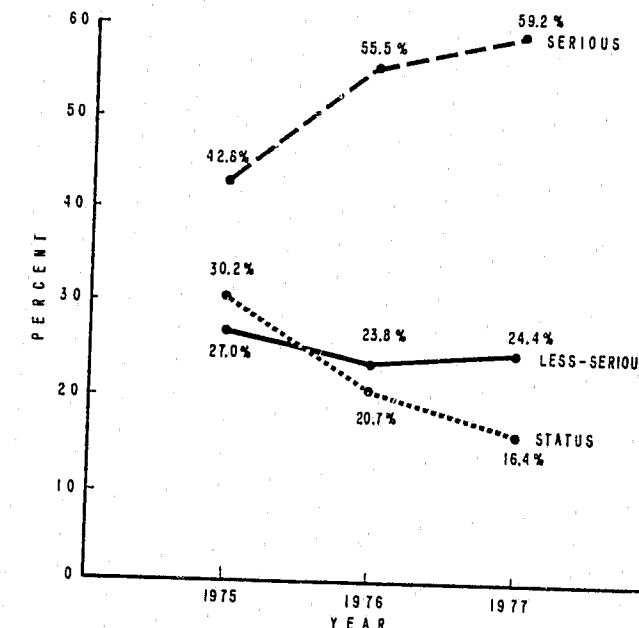
(SEE APPENDIX D, TABLE D-50, p.174).  
<sup>1</sup> Δ - CHANGE IN 1977 FROM 1975.

SOURCE: NATIONAL CENTER FOR JUVENILE JUSTICE, ADVANCE ESTIMATES OF 1975 AND 1977 NATIONAL COURT PROCESSING STATISTICS. (PITTSBURGH, PA: NATIONAL CENTER FOR JUVENILE JUSTICE, 1979).

FIGURE CONSTRUCTED BY THE NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM ASSESSMENT CENTER (SACRAMENTO, CA: AMERICAN JUSTICE INSTITUTE, 1980).

The change in sentencing philosophy between 1975 and 1977 is evident in Figure 31 (below), with a sharp decline in restrictive handling of status offenders, and the increase in serious offenders. Proportionately by offense, only status offenders dispositions in 1975, and 7.2 percent in 1977. Thus, the real change was a reduction in severity of sentencing for status offenders since 1975. The contrasting increase in serious offense cases receiving restrictive dispositions is a reactive shift caused by the reduction in status offense percentages. Thus, it would seem that the deinstitutionalization of status offenders is a reality that has become increasingly evident since the national legislation in 1974 (Appendix D, Table D-50, p. 174).

FIGURE 31  
 CHANGE IN THE COMBINED RESTRICTIVE DISPOSITIONS  
 RENDERED BY OFFENSE TYPE  
 (1975 - 1977)



(SEE APPENDIX D, TABLE D-50, p.174).

SOURCE: NATIONAL CENTER FOR JUVENILE JUSTICE, ADVANCE ESTIMATES OF 1975, 1976, AND 1977 NATIONAL COURT PROCESSING STATISTICS. (PITTSBURGH, PA: NATIONAL CENTER FOR JUVENILE JUSTICE, 1979).

FIGURE CONSTRUCTED BY THE NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM ASSESSMENT CENTER (SACRAMENTO, CA: AMERICAN JUSTICE INSTITUTE, 1980).

### Detention Status and Disposition

The criteria for detaining a juvenile is not to be interpreted as a forecast of the expected disposition to follow in the case. However, it may often be an indirect determinant of the form of dispositional choices available to the youth. To determine prior to adjudication that the juvenile is a threat to the community, therefore warranting restrictive detention, and then after adjudication dismissing the case with a fine, would seem to be an indication of a lack of a consistent orientation in system procedures and facilities. Generally, case dispositions do indicate that for

more restrictive dispositions, a greater percentage were detained, and contrastingly, the less restrictive cases are detained less often prior to adjudication. The only significant exception is for cases transferred to other jurisdictions, where 63.7 percent of these cases were detained. Transfers constitute 20.4 percent (67,860) of all those detained (Appendix D, Table D-51, p. 175).

Transfers to other jurisdictions are about 40.0 percent (39,267) status offenses in 1977, and in 1975 were 85.0 percent (11,744). Since runaways generally are detained in some form or another and then transferred to the original jurisdiction or the juvenile's home, it would seem that this finding is consistent with other such findings. The growth in transfers is surprising; however, in 1975 approximately 13,823 cases were transferred in this way, or about 1.0 percent of the total cases. In 1977, this total had increased to 98,476, or 7.0 percent of total cases (Appendix D, Table D-44, p. 168).

#### Sex and Disposition

In 1977, approximately 76.8 percent (1,076,812) of all court referrals were male, with 23.2 percent (324,893) female. An examination of the court disposition rendered leads to no further conclusion. Virtually all dispositions are distributed in the same respect as the total. This ratio (3 to 1) is the same as that earlier found to be so in arrest statistics. *It is therefore assumed that sex itself is not a significant determinant of court dispositional outcomes* (Appendix D, Table D-52, p. 176).

#### Race and Disposition

Generally, for each disposition rendered there are more whites than any other races. This is in line with the total for 1977 where 72.2 percent (1,012,248) of all juveniles referred to juvenile court are white, 20.1 percent are black, and 7.7 percent are from other races. Even with this larger proportional difference, there is still a slight decrease in white offenders receiving the more restrictive dispositions. Of those receiving commitment to delinquency institutions, 64.1 percent were white, 29.0 percent were black, and 6.9 percent were of other races. For probation (a non-restrictive disposition), 71.6 percent were white. The difference is not critical; however, it does indicate a slight variance that seems to be spread across all similar restrictive and nonrestrictive dispositions (Appendix D, Table D-53, p. 177).

The difference in racial composition by disposition is more easily seen when grouping restrictive disposition and nonrestrictive disposition. Here, 66.4 percent of restrictive dispositions for 1977 are white and 23.2 percent are black, with 10.4 percent other races. Consequently, 72.5 percent of nonrestrictive dispositions are white, 19.8 percent are black, and 7.7 percent are of other races. The variance is minor; however, it does not change significantly even when grouping, indicating a stability related to disposition and another factor related to dispositional choices (Appendix D, Table D-54, p. 178).

#### Age and Disposition

In 1977, regardless of the disposition rendered, older juveniles make up the largest portion of such decisions, with 17-year-olds being the obvious majority. Seventeen-year-olds generally constitute about 20 to 30 percent of each dispositional category. For all dispositions, they compose 27.8 percent of the population. Only for those certified to adult court is there a significant variance over this total. Processing statistics for 1977 show that a much greater majority of all referrals to adult court

(52.5 percent) are 17 years old. This is 24.7 percentage points over the average for all referrals (27.8 percent). Consistent with the underlying philosophy of both the adult and juvenile systems, only older ages are generally referred to the adult court. Many jurisdictions have 16 as the upper age limit for defining a juvenile. Thus, 17-year-olds are therein considered as adults. This fact could explain why such a dramatic variance exists over the expected norm (Appendix D, Table D-55, p. 179; Table D-56, p. 181).

#### NUMBERS AND CHARACTERISTICS OF JUVENILES PROCESSED ANNUALLY THROUGH THE CORRECTIONS AND AFTERCARE COMPONENTS OF THE JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM

THIS SECTION CONTAINS REFERENCE TO THE NATIONAL FLOW ESTIMATE IN APPENDIX E. TO PROPERLY RELATE THE CONCLUSIONS OF THE FOLLOWING SECTION, FOLD CHART 1 OF APPENDIX E TO THE SIDE.

A large variety of alternate paths are available at this point. A court may *withhold disposition*, due to a *change in post- or pre-adjudicative status* of the juvenile, to *order studies*, or to *continue the case* (16). A court may *commit to correctional facilities*, some of which are considered to be *local facilities* (23). Local facilities are often under a different jurisdiction, and they are usually funded by county governments. Few counties, however, have more than group homes or camps. Many feel that any juvenile who requires more specialized facilities should be committed to State institutions better able to offer the necessary programs and personnel.

Duration of commitment may vary (27) from the full length of internment to a shorter term due to, for example, a new offense while under the jurisdictional control of corrections. Such a case would lead to a *transfer* of the case back to the court for possible reprocessing. Other options leading to termination of a case would be a normal *discharge* or *placement in a pre-release unit* or to place the juvenile in an aftercare situation.

In some jurisdictions, a *commitment* is made from the county to a *diagnostic and reception center* for all new cases. After a few weeks' stay, offenders are transferred to the most appropriate program facility (20). Some States have a reception and diagnostic facility, but not a State youth service bureau. In others, local judges make commitments directly to specific institutions and maintain control over changes in motions to be released.

*Shelter facilities, psychiatric facilities, and institutions for the retarded* are sometimes run by private agencies (24). Other States have specialized programs for retarded delinquents that are listed under correctional facilities if they are on the corrections budget. In many cases, however, the State purchases such services.

The court may order probation where the juvenile is supervised in his own home (19). A distinction is made as to whether the probation would be a formal or informal supervision. It is important here to note the difference between the words *revoke* and *suspend* (21). In some jurisdictions, the court may sentence a juvenile to a term in a State facility, and then suspend that sentence and recommend a term of probation. Other court systems may sentence directly to an institution, or on probation, and if the juvenile failed to fulfill the obligations of the sentence, then that probation would be *revoked* and another disposition made (21) (28).



### Corrections and Aftercare Processing Profile

Of the 2,508,961 cases handled by the system in 1977, 247,620 (9.9 percent) eventually are placed on probation. Of these, 17.2 percent (42,591) are placed without wardship or under informal jurisdiction, and the largest portion, 82.8 percent (205,029 cases), are formally handled by probation supervision personnel. Of those cases originally placed with no supervision (informal), 14.3 percent (6,091 cases) were eventually reverted to formal probation, which is a form of offender disposition failure.

Probation status is usually limited as to the length of responsibility, and at completion the case is discharged. Discharge is accepted as the primary and most desirable form of termination for cases on probation. In 1977, 94.6 percent (193,957) of all formal probations were successfully discharged, with 99.8 percent (36,415) of those on informal probation being successfully discharged. In the same sense, some terminations were not as successful for a variety of reasons. Some cases were transferred to more restrictive correctional placements (1,273 or 0.5 percent), and others were revoked. A total of approximately 4.0 percent (9,884 cases) were revoked from probation and reentered the system to be tried by a court hearing once again.

Local correctional programs received 63,622 cases, or 12.5 percent of all court dispositions (15). Approximately 78.4 percent (49,880 cases) were placed directly, without diagnostic center recommendation. Approximately one-fifth (21.6 percent) do go to some form of a diagnostic and reception center. There, another 23,853 cases, transferred from other correctional placements, merge to form a diagnostic traffic pattern of 37,595, or 1.5 percent of the original 2,508,961 cases annually (1977). Some 61.4 percent (23,072) were placed in local correctional programs or facilities; 38.6 percent (14,523) go to more restrictive facilities such as State delinquency institutions.

Approximately 2.9 percent of the original 2,508,961 cases received by the system were handled by local correctional agencies in 1977; thus, including transfers from other programs and facilities, 72,952 cases were placed by local correctional jurisdictions. Of these, 41.9 percent (or 30,591 cases) were placed in camps, and another 9.0 percent went to group homes. About 4,224 cases (5.8 percent) were placed in their own homes. Placements other than the home include 18.0 percent (13,109) in foster homes, and 25.3 percent (18,498 cases) were placed in some other suitable arrangement.

The groups homes and camps were generally more restrictive and are under close jurisdictional control of the corrections department. Thus, termination hearings held on these cases handled 37,121 in 1977. Of these, 70.3 percent (26,078) were placed in aftercare, and 1,866 cases were transferred to other more advisable correctional programs. After accounting for the majority of restrictive placements, some 9,177 cases (24.7 percent) remain unaccounted for as escapes or unauthorized discharges. Thus, 24.7 percent exit the system essentially as unauthorized, or at least unusual, terminations.

Of the 35,831 cases (49.1 percent of local corrections admissions in nonrestrictive placements), 79.2 percent (28,367 cases) were terminated normally by discharge. Some 7,464 were transferred to other programs. Aftercare may receive some cases from nonrestrictive placements; however, accurate data were not available to substantiate this assumption.

Aftercare placements originating from local correctional programs (26,078) were eventually released. In 1977, approximately 95.8 percent (24,976 cases) were handled this way. However, about 4.2 percent (1,102 cases) were estimated to have been revoked and referred back to the court for further disposition.

Approximately 52,001 cases (10.2 percent) were originally committed to State correctional facilities by the court (15). Another 14,523 cases were estimated to have been transferred to State facilities from other local and State correctional programs and facilities. Thus, in 1977, 38.6 percent, the largest by far, of all transfers made within the corrections component were to State correctional programs, with intrinsic recommendations for institutionalization. The 1977 estimates of institutional placements for short- and long-term residency were at 66,524, including transfers. This is 2.7 percent of the original 2,508,961 cases entering the system.

At any given time, a certain number of juveniles are previous residents of correctional institutions. At the beginning of 1977, it was estimated that 49,126 juveniles were already residing in State and local institutions providing the highest degree of restriction possible. At the end of the same year, approximately 45,920 juveniles resided within these institutions. Some remained, and some were discharged by one means or another. Since the analysis of length of stay within the institution is a lengthy process, usually involving a cohort study to effectively predict the institutional environment, few data really exist on what happens to 1977 commitments, or any other year for that matter. The assumption is made here that eventually all placements will be discharged in one of the ways illustrated in decision point (29). This analysis condensed the length of stay to the same year to illustrate a continuous flow of juveniles to their eventual termination.

### Admissions

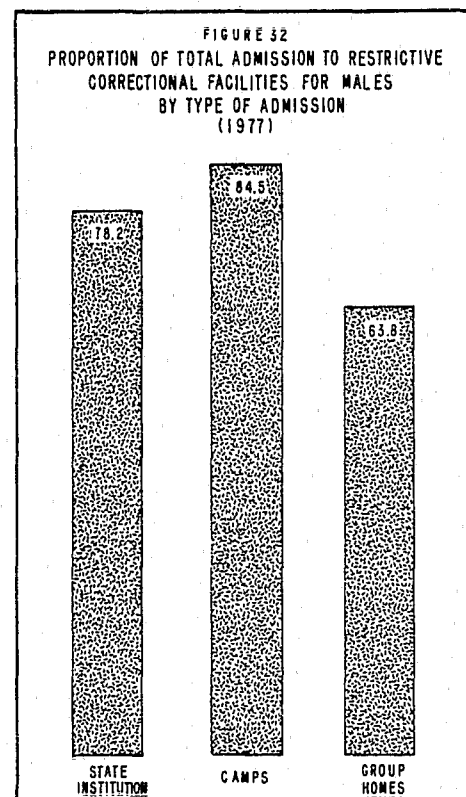
With the absence of detailed data beyond summary totals and admission to corrections programs, the last full report of admissions to correctional institutions in 1973 (Children in Custody) was used to establish a knowledge base. Tables used in this section were constructed by applying this base to 1977 estimated statistics.

The sex of the offender is the only characteristic that is reported in detail for such admissions and departures. By far the majority (64.5 percent, or 42,888 cases) of those juveniles committed to these institutions are forwarded by the court as direct commitments. Approximately 13.7 percent (9,113 cases) of all commitments were from the revocation of aftercare or parole status, with the remaining 21.8 percent (14,523 cases) as transfers from other correctional programs. The latter two are generally considered program failures, especially considering that the institutional environment is the more restrictive correctional program. Any transfers to an institution from other less restrictive programs would be considered a failure by any standard. Granting this, the total of such undesirable admissions is 23,636 cases, which is 35.5 percent of all State institutional placements, but only 0.9 percent of all juveniles entering the juvenile justice system in 1977. Less than 1 percent is probably not a critical rate; however, this figure cannot be accurately used as a measure of failure, since the rate is actually for all juveniles on parole during 1977 and not just new entries. It does stand to reason, however, that the percentage should therefore be even less for the entire parole population.

Generally, the national estimates show that males dominate admissions at 78.2 percent (52,033 cases), with females at 21.8 percent (14,491 cases). This is generally the same ratio that has existed throughout the various processing steps in the system, with very little variation due to type of admission (Appendix D, Table D-57, p. 182).

As for State institutions, admissions to camps (ranches and farms included) are primarily due to formal court dispositions (65.9 percent, or 20,159 cases), and transfers are at 30.5 percent (9,330 cases). Only a small percentage (3.6 percent, or 1,102 cases) are due to revocations of aftercare status. Males are the majority of these admissions at 84.5 percent, and females comprise 15.5 percent. The ratio does not change by type of admission. Revocations, however, do tend to be almost entirely male at 91.3 percent (1,006 cases), while females are only 96 cases, or 8.7 percent (Appendix D, Table D-58, p. 183).

The least restrictive form of incarceration is the halfway house or group home. In comparison to State institutions or camps, they generally are only 6.3 percent (or 6,530 cases) of all long-term commitments. Males are more prominent in the admissions statistics, but not nearly so much as for the other two forms of incarceration. Males comprise 63.8 percent, and females make up 36.2 percent, thus generally 15 to 20 percentage points lower than the other two. Figure 32 (below) shows this relationship with the greatest proportion of males for camp admission, possibly due to the work orientation of camps being more suitable to boys than girls (Appendix D, Table D-59, p. 184).



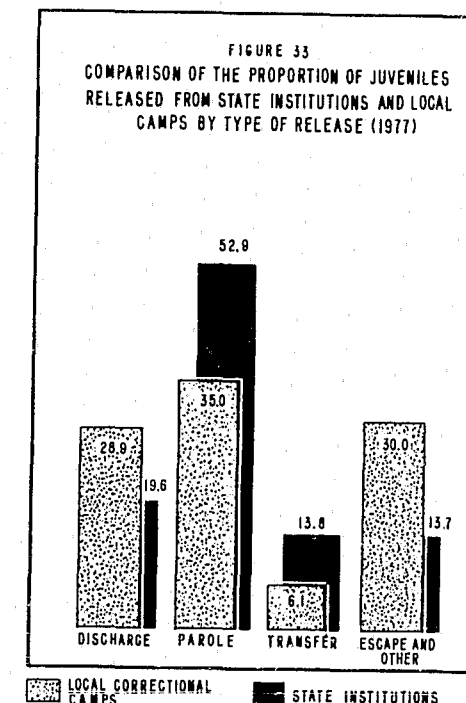
(SEE APPENDIX D, TABLE D-59, p. 184).  
 SOURCES: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, LAW ENFORCEMENT ASSISTANCE ADMINISTRATION, CHILDREN IN CUSTODY: A REPORT ON THE JUVENILE DETENTION AND CORRECTIONAL FACILITY CENSUS OF 1973. (WASHINGTON, D.C.: U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE, 1977).  
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 FIGURE CONSTRUCTED BY THE NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM ASSESSMENT CENTER (SACRAMENTO, CA: AMERICAN JUSTICE INSTITUTE, 1980).

Local correctional placements and treatment facilities were the disposition in 72,831 cases. The largest percentage (42.0 percent, or 30,591 cases) were placements to camps, with 25.4 percent (18,498 cases) under the category of other suitable placements. These are court-approved alternatives to more restrictive incarceration (Appendix D, Table D-60, p. 185).

Departures

As with admissions, the departures in 1977 are estimated at 66,524 commitments being terminated from State institutions. The fact that males are predominant in all admission statistics naturally carries through to the departures as well. Male statistics are at 77.8 percent, with females at 22.2 percent of those leaving the institution, regardless of the type of release. About 52.9 percent of all institutional releases are by way of parole. Thirteen percent (13.7 percent) are terminated as escapes and/or as temporary residents (Appendix D, Table D-61, p. 186).

Departures from camps seem to follow the same general pattern of the more restrictive State institutions, with the greatest percent (35.0 percent) released on parole. Figure 33 (below) illustrates that the magnitude is by far not as great as for institutions (52.9 percent). Other significant differences were the greater percentage of direct discharges and escapes from camps. Thirty percent (28.9 percent) were discharges from camps, while only 19.6 percent were discharges from institutions. The



(SEE APPENDIX D, TABLES D-61 AND 62, pp. 186, 187).  
 SOURCES: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, LAW ENFORCEMENT ASSISTANCE ADMINISTRATION, CHILDREN IN CUSTODY: A REPORT ON THE JUVENILE DETENTION AND CORRECTIONAL FACILITY CENSUS OF 1973. (WASHINGTON, D.C.: U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE, 1977).  
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 FIGURE CONSTRUCTED BY THE NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM ASSESSMENT CENTER (SACRAMENTO, CA: AMERICAN JUSTICE INSTITUTE, 1980).

largest variance, however, is for escapes and other unusual terminations. The figure for escapes was 13.7 percent (9,114 cases) for institutional terminations, and 30.0 percent (9,177) for camps. The variance is significant, the impact impressive--that when camps have half as many departures as institutions do, they still have twice as many of them due to escapes (Appendix D, Table D-62, p. 187).

#### Aftercare

Generally, the majority of all cases entering parole during 1977 were males at 95.3 percent, with females 4.7 percent. Fifty-one percent (51.2 percent) were whites (the majority race) and 38.6 percent were blacks; the remainder were Hispanic or of other racial origin. Nationally, the racial mixture was essentially without variance by sex. Males remained at about 95 percent for the majority race as well as for the minority races, with a greater degree of females (18.2 percent) for Hispanic races (Appendix D, Table D-63, p. 188).

Nationally, the median age for 1977 parole entries is 16.8 years. For males, the median is 16.8 years, and for females it is 16.3, indicating that parole entries are generally the older juveniles as was true for commitment statistics (Appendix D, Table D-64, p. 189).

Nationally, the median time served in an institution on a current charge was 6.6 months for parole entries in 1977. Examination of this factor by sex indicates that the median is 6.6 months for males and 6.7 for females. Institutions, therefore, are paroling a definite majority of cases after serving less than six months of their court-ordered dispositions (Appendix D, Table D-65, p. 190).

## Conclusions and Future Policy Recommendations

### GENERAL CONCLUSIONS

THE FOLLOWING DISCUSSION attempts to summarize and synthesize the findings of the aggregate data assembled and discussed in this document. Intrinsic within any such summary is the practical need to be brief, to the point, and instructive. This would therefore, of necessity, dictate a more global approach aimed at helping the interested reader in conceptualizing the handling of persons under 18 by the system. It further attempts to make recommendations within the context of the policy implications these conclusions may lead to.

No special attention will be given in this chapter to the inherent deficiencies of the data sources, except where these shortcomings are a major derivative of the conclusions being drawn. The reader is referred to Appendix C (pp. 103-122) for a more in-depth discussion of these data deficiencies and the explicit methodologies used to arrive at the national estimates.

### System Intervention and Police Apprehension

The apprehension of persons under the age of 18 is a primary function of police and law enforcement personnel. A clear majority of all juveniles who come in contact with the system do so through the formal apprehension procedures of the police. In 1977, over 2.3 million juveniles were introduced into the system in this way. Immediately following their involvement with the formal system, approximately half are released or handled within the arresting agency. The remainder, joined by those referred from other sources, are again informally adjudicated by intake officers and prosecution staff. The results show another half are released primarily due to insufficient evidence. Prior to any official court hearing, 78.5 percent of all alleged offenders are dismissed or handled informally.

The result may be *positive*; however, the *effect* may be negative in several ways. If the major goal of the juvenile justice system is rehabilitative and *that* only for the *delinquent* child, the process of apprehension may be counterproductive. Depending on how juvenile arrest statistics are reported nationally, these cases can be assumed to be formal arrests. Apprehension by police or law enforcement officers usually involves the abrupt interruption of the child's home, school, or play activities, a ride to the station house in the back of a squad car, as well as the dehumanizing process of fingerprinting and booking procedures.

Seventy percent (70.5 percent) of all juveniles arrested and referred to juvenile court are first-time offenders. The apprehension process may not serve as a *deterrent* to crime; it may only serve to label such children, to themselves and to those close to them, as (allegedly) delinquent. The process serves as a *punishment* for being

suspected, and would hardly be justifiable as a deterrent. The harshest punishment is the resultant treatment given these juveniles by the community and the system itself as a *confirmed potential delinquent*. The community views the high diversion rates by juvenile agencies as the system's failure to prosecute obvious *delinquents*. The system agencies, such as police investigators, view the files of prior arrest records as repositories of known *offenders*. Statistics do show the older a child becomes, having had prior arrests, the more likely the child is to be processed for subsequent delinquency charges.

It may be that both the community and the police are correct in their assumption of guilt in the alleged delinquency charges. It should be assumed that most juvenile arrests are founded on at least some evidence of guilt and that the agency is not arbitrary with regard to delinquency charges. The *system* simply judges, at some point, that the child should not be made to sustain further contact with the formal system. However, only 5.1 percent of all dismissals are still supervised (informal supervision). Most are released to their homes and are not considered worthy of further monitoring.

#### Police Arrest and Processing Bias

Though it is often stated that police tend to discriminate against certain groups of juveniles as to whom they arrest and whom they dismiss (Ferdinand and Luchterhand, 1970), processing statistics for 1977 do not support such a willful discrimination.

The arbitrary nature of police discretion, however, did appear to exist only a few years ago, so the statement cannot be discounted as the ramblings of an overreacting, or undereducated, public. The policy changes implemented in limiting police discretionary powers to screen delinquency suspects may have been the reason for the corrective movement.

The primary tenet of the police decision of whether or not to refer a case to juvenile court is one of screening. As a screening agent, a police officer attempts to determine if the child in question needs the treatment offered by the system or not. Intrinsic within the processing decision, concerning the child's penetration within the system, is the *choice of treatment*. Television shows are filled with inspiring examples of unfaltering police officers who have the uncanny ability to become personally involved in each case, conduct lengthy investigations, and apply the right form and manner of treatment needed in every case. Week after week, they apply just the right blend of control and social conscience to create well-adjusted juveniles from what were depressed, misunderstood, and even psychotic malcontents who would tax the counseling skills of the most revered adolescent psychologists. Even where special juvenile bureaus exist, manned by police officers who are specialized in juvenile training, decisions are probably made in the worst of environments. Unlike their television counterparts, juvenile bureau officers make screening decisions as policemen investigating a crime, and interviewing the *suspected* criminal in an attempt to *prove guilt*. They have inadequate time and evidence to pursue the interview beyond the rudimentary stages of the "rules of evidence." However, many informal judgments (i.e., counsel and release) are rendered by these same officers. Unwarranted dismissals, as well as unwarranted apprehensions, tend to have a disruptive effect on a juvenile's life and personal environment, as well as the community. Each type of error may tend to awaken a desire to test the system and encourage future infractions. A police officer is not able to function effectively as an investigator, screener, prosecutor, welfare worker, defense attorney, judge, and personal supervisor as well as those people themselves. Police also cannot avoid being biased while serving a community of victims who themselves are biased.

It does appear that the rise in specially trained juvenile officers has eliminated much of the social, cultural, and economic bias found in police screening in previous years. However, it may still be apparent in other ways, such as in selecting which crimes are investigated, who is arrested, and for what reason. Generally, it has been found that the most influential characteristic associated with juvenile arrests and eventual processing is whether the suspected delinquent has a prior history of juvenile court referrals. Older juveniles apprehended and processed by court intake are functionally more experienced. The frequent use of "prior arrest" records as investigative seeds, and processing criteria, would tend to lead to this age bias; however, if the system as it is applied to individual cases does not function as a cure but only a stimulant, older, more experienced children may desire to commit more offenses.

#### The Handling of Prior Offenders

Though the highest majority of juveniles arrested or apprehended are first-time offenders, there is a definite bias against prior offenders. In almost every relationship found in each decision point of the formal system, prior offense history has had an influence. If being arrested, booked, and held overnight is demeaning to a child who will be released eventually with a lecture, then a repeat occurrence is at least doubly defeating. Criminal law in the adult system would exclude, even discourage, such procedures as *false arrest*, subjecting the agency to a possible lawsuit. Juvenile procedures institutionalize it. When 2.5 million children are formally apprehended and 1.8 million are released or dismissed within 48 hours, not warranting a formal hearing, the effective would be negative.

The system appears hypocritical. To formally arrest, book, and contemplate sentencing a child, and then to turn to him as a friend and let him go, can only tend to discredit the formal system in the child's eyes. The child perceives an eclectic or arbitrary process often depicted on television in the proverbial "bad" guy, who one minute is harsh and forceful and the next the image of confidence, smiling and befriending. The system is initially perceived by the child as harsh and fearful. Booking procedures are foreign and frightening. Eventual release is perceived as a welcome *escape*, not a benevolent entreaty to "go and sin no more."

The *system* tends to remember as well. Prior referrals influence how severely a child is handled at each decision point. Informal adjudications are less likely to occur if the child has had several prior offenses. Detention and formal adjudication in a court hearing are more likely to occur and court dispositions are more restrictive for repeat offenders.

To be punished more than once for a single crime is carefully guarded against in the United States by the Constitution. Yet the punitive aspect of juvenile processing is repeated many times over if a child has been labeled as a prior offender. The disruption to a child's life associated with greater system penetration due to the presence of prior court referrals is, in fact, a repunishment for the original offense. Again, the system appears arbitrary and hypocritical to the juvenile. One child may commit a relatively nonserious offense and receive a date in court, when other juveniles arrested for more serious offenses are dismissed or sent home--all this because of a prior history of similar minor offenses, all of which resulted in *release* or *dismissal*, possibly as *unproven cases*.

The seemingly arbitrary nature of "standard handling" of juvenile cases leads the community and the children to lose confidence in the "unbiased" administration of justice by juvenile justice authorities. To the children involved, the flexible administration of the standards may be perceived as a game of chance. The incurable optimist will always believe that prosecution is never evident, only probable. Serious offenders do have a high rate of prior offenses, probably of less-serious offenses. The lesson learned by most repeat offenders is not one of deterrence, but of how to play the game. Children always test for the fences that restrict their curiosity, and more often than not lean on them heavily.

Not all children arrested become prior offenders at a later date. But for those who do, a seemingly uncertain standard of justice does not teach avoidance behavior. More likely than not, it inspires the competition of the child with the law. Possibly, a solution to the sliding credibility of the system that provides a more justifiable treatment of juvenile law violators would be by not requiring the justice system to provide welfare judgements.

#### The Handling of Status Offenders

The handling of status offenders within the system is a major concern of both the authorities and the community. The disposition of children who are committing violations that would not have been crimes if committed by adults is one of the most difficult decisions a juvenile authority has to make. By 1977, relatively few such offenders were being arrested by police officers. The primary referral source was the community itself.

Regardless of the source of referral, any time a legal system with law-trained personnel is expected to make a judgment on a purely personal matter, the results can be unpredictable. Anything from full institutionalization to dismissal has been prescribed for status offense cases. It is a proven psychological fact that law enforcement personnel can see crime, and therefore criminals, in purely neutral situations. What therefore can dissuade them from doing so with a child whose only crime is in reacting to an unfavorable family situation?

Statistics do indicate that since 1975, the reductions in the number of status offenders arrested, detained, prosecuted, and incarcerated reflect a cautious sensitivity to this problem by police, intake, and court officers. Juvenile court hearings have instituted a significant decline in the number of such offenders given restrictive dispositions. The status offender is in fact being deinstitutionalized nationwide in obvious compliance to the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 1974.

Typically in the juvenile justice system, the intake officer provides the major form of screening after arrest, and in turn renders a majority of all informal dispositions. After the arresting officer, the intake officer has the most influence on a case, at least as to whether it will be processed any further or not. In 1977, over 1.4 million juveniles depended exclusively on intake officers to make such decisions. The level of discretionary authority of this officer of the court closely approximates that of the juvenile court judge. Indeed, many judges rely primarily upon the social investigations conducted by the intake officer and their recommendations for making appropriate decisions in court.

Though intake personnel are usually probation officers and generally have some behavioral science background, this is not a requirement. Many times a juvenile intake officer's varied roles tend to conflict. In attempting to be a legal officer of the

system, a counselor, analyst, judge, and confidant of the accused, intake officers many times, whether knowingly or not, find themselves resolving a very important conflict. The result of this conflict is the introduction of a processing bias. Intake officers conduct pre-sentence or social history investigations on cases forwarded to court, make recommendations as to detention status and eventual disposition, after evaluating the case and rendering an informal disposition. One officer performing these three functions alone can, in effect, destroy any objectivity the system so enthusiastically wants to guard.

Once the screening decision is made, and this is usually very close after the delinquent act, the person rendering the decision to prosecute becomes an advocate of the system. The subsequent documentation of the decision, social history, and past juvenile record are gathered with the informal decision in mind. The intake officer seeks information not to close the case but to substantiate the already rendered decision to prosecute.

#### Correctional Institutions

In 1977, 66,524 juveniles were placed in State institutions, theoretically for the protection of the community. Very little evidence is given that would indicate that the protection of the community from violent or dangerous offenders is even the primary, let alone the only, reason for incarcerating persons under 18. More evidence exists that would indicate that the seriousness of the offense, and whether there is evidence of prior court referrals, is a primary determinant.

It is dubious to think that the institutional environment could be the *best* application of treatment philosophy of the juvenile justice system; nor does it seem likely that the forced association of adjudicated delinquents under the restrictive supervision of an institution would be the *best* form of community protection in the long run. The constant issue of how much harm is caused by institutionalizing delinquents is really only rhetorical. Both sides of the issue accept that harm is unavoidable. The only contest is how much of it is unnecessary.

The characteristics of juvenile offenders who have been placed on probation are not often enough different than those institutionalized. Some serious offenders need to be restricted; however, to do so with others who do not is a grave error. In a sense, those who do not "deserve" institutionalizing would have been the community the serious offender was removed from. To therefore turn around and restrict serious offenders with other nonserious or "community members" into close association seems inappropriate.

#### CURRENT JUVENILE JUSTICE AND DELINQUENCY PREVENTION ISSUES

##### The Status Offender

By examining all aspects of the decision to incarcerate or institutionalize less-serious offenders, and especially status offenders, it becomes readily apparent that the system is complying, in general, with the JJDP Act of 1974 in deinstitutionalizing the status offender. The trend is further emphasized by the movement to make less restrictive dispositional choices for status offenders as well as less-serious and first-time offenders. Status offenders are transferred to welfare agencies more frequently in 1977 than for any of the previous 2 years examined. Compliance to the Act seems evident by all forms of data analysis; however, some researchers feel that

a contrasting increase in restrictive handling of serious offenders may be either the result of increased attention to serious crimes as a reaction to deinstitutionalization of status offenders, or the result of reclassification of status offenders to serious offenders to justify incarceration. Inferential evidence seems to discredit the reclassification alternative since serious offenders incarcerated tend to be repeat offenders, where status offenders incarcerated tend to be first-time referrals. Thus, reclassification of status offenders would tend to increase the proportion of serious offenders who have no prior offense history being incarcerated. This was not the case, indicating the true deinstitutionalization is probable. Future research should be leveled at determining the impact of reclassification on compliance data.

#### Serious Youth Crime

Generally, statistics show that since 1975 a growing trend has emerged to process serious youth crime differently than less-serious crime. This is by far not the general rule in all jurisdictions; however, most do seem to recognize the need to apply present system facilities to those repeat offenders and those juveniles who commit serious offenses. Restrictive dispositions are used to a greater degree for both of these types of offenders. Generally, national sources do not agree on the true definition of what constitutes a serious crime. The malicious nature or intent of the crime is sometimes used to describe a serious offense. But this is a victim oriented approach. Some maintain that the *system* considers a juvenile crime a serious one if it has an unusually high frequency of occurrence.

Regardless of which orientation is used, conceptually a move has been made within system agencies to concentrate on the serious offender for judicial dispositions, as evidenced by a steady increase in restrictive dispositions for serious offenses since 1975.

#### The Handling of Minorities

Data presented throughout this report indicate that, when minority races are examined separately, a trend towards equitable processing has become evident. However, race is still a factor contended with by every decisionmaker within the system. Major concern in recent years has been circling around the evident discretionary bias in years past to process black juveniles differently than white juveniles. By examining number only, and by combining minority races together, this bias can be made very evident; however, when analyzing processing decisions and their resultant dispositions for blacks, whites, and other races, it becomes increasingly apparent that for race alone, the system is not as consistently favorable to whites. In fact, the trend has been consistent since 1975 towards treating whites and blacks more equitably. However, other factors still influence these outcome statistics.

1. Classification methods vary from agency to agency. Statistics show that *other* races seem to have taken up the slack, showing increases in the number of *other* races being processed, possibly due to the reclassification of *whites* to *other* races as they move from agency to agency.
2. When examining the processing statistics by the juvenile population at risk, it does indicate that for law enforcement agencies, minorities are arrested and referred to court intake proportionally more often than whites. This is not as apparent when partialling out *blacks* from all *other* races.

3. Only by examining other antecedent factors can the true dependent relationship of racial classification be documented. Very seldom is any single factor the sole reason for any consistent sociological relationship. Thus, prior offense history, seriousness of the offense, victim's preference, and other characteristics of the offense or situation may be more or less influential towards explaining any numerical differences between racial categories. Even so, studies that purport to have done this and still find racial differences usually provide little or no test of significance, and they tend to accept even the most minor variances as evidence of a racial bias on the part of the system to process, detain, and prosecute minorities over whites. Hagen (1973) took 17 of the most credible studies that related race to judicial sentencing and found that reanalysis was necessary "[b]ecause most of the studies did not compute a measure of association and because some of them also did not include a test of significance... (Hagen, 1973:363). Interestingly enough, after reanalysis of the original data of each of the 17 studies, he found that the majority of these illustrative findings were statistically insignificant. Hagen comments that "[t]he tendency to mix the meaning of causal and statistical significance may then misguidedly... result in the assignment of false importance to spurious findings."\*

#### SPECIFIC RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Juveniles should not be apprehended on suspicion unless there is significant evidence that the juveniles should be physically detained because the delinquency suspects would:
  - a. be an imminent danger to themselves and the community if unapprehended;
  - b. run from the jurisdiction when evidence warrants that a court referral be made.
2. Police officers and intake personnel should be educated as to the rules of evidence and local criteria governing intake decisions concerning dismissals.
3. Police officers should not make informal judgments except where dangerous delinquents are concerned, but should refer the facts and evidence to more professionally trained screening officers, wherever possible.
4. The juvenile justice system should assure that only well-trained juvenile investigators are given the authority to decide whether to forward the case to the legal system or the welfare system for treatment.
5. Safeguards should be instituted at each decision point of the system to assure that juveniles are not processed solely on the basis of unproven prior offenses.

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\*This study is not of juvenile justice sentencing but is quoted here as an illustration of the pitfalls of the reporting of the same outcome data by using what could be termed "inconsistent levels of significance." Conclusions should only be applied in the understanding of faulty methodologies used in reporting system-related racial data.

6. The juvenile justice system should assure that status offenders are evaluated by specially trained personnel who have been trained in adolescent and childhood social and behavioral problems.
7. Recommendation of detention status and dispositional alternatives should be left to intake supervisors, who can evaluate the reports of other investigators prior to making a decision.
8. Future studies in the juvenile justice system should be directed to clearly identifying the effects of delinquent institutions on juvenile offenders.
9. An effective measure should be developed to equate the deterrent effects of various alternative dispositions on juvenile offenders.
10. The juvenile justice system should assure that only serious offenders perceived as a danger to themselves or the community are institutionalized.
11. Juvenile court intake and court hearing data should be reported separately. Juvenile court statistics should not be solely a reflection of court intake referrals. Many juvenile court cases are handled informally prior to an official court hearing. Unless detailed analysis can be made on those that remain to be handled formally, little can be said concerning the differences between those handled judicially and nonjudicially.
12. When analyzing prior juvenile records, the nature and type of prior offense history should be reported in detail rather than reporting only the evidence of its presence. There are no national juvenile processing statistics disclosing the type of a juvenile's prior offense history. Prior offense history may be the single most influential characteristic of juvenile processing within the system.
13. Statistical sources should attempt to standardize data bases for more uniformity in making national estimates. National juvenile processing statistics are derived almost exclusively by sampling or survey procedures. Most statistical tables, regardless of what effect they concern, are constructed from a different sample of reported sources. Even though the data base is common throughout the report, there is little correspondence between tables due to the wide variation of unreported or missing data.
14. Statistical sources reporting correctional data should attempt to define the movement of juvenile commitments in greater detail. Correctional populations are generally described as a report of those incarcerated at a point in time. Little is said about yearly admissions and departures. Case data concerning disposition, prior history, and case history (i.e., length of stay) are hardly ever related to institution departures or paroled entries.
15. Parole statistics should be analyzed and reported for persons under the age of 18.
16. Adult criminals should be analyzed as to their juvenile offense history. If adult criminal activity is in any way related to prior history, studies should be coordinated to see if juvenile criminal activity continues into adult life.

APPENDIX A  
NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM ASSESSMENT CENTER  
PERSONNEL

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APPENDIX B

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APPENDIX C  
ASSESSMENT METHODOLOGY

## ASSESSMENT METHODOLOGY

### POLICE PROCESSING

At present, the best national estimate of arrest trends is the Uniform Crime Reports (UCR) published annually (usually in October) by the FBI. These data are reported monthly to the FBI by varying numbers of law enforcement agencies in a routinized data collection process that virtually covers the Nation. Though it is accredited as the best estimate of *arrest* information, it does not extend beyond police processing.

In this report, all arrest data--except where otherwise noted--have been derived from UCR published reports, or special UCR inquiries on the national data base made at NJJSAC's request.

With respect to the limitation of this data, numerous authors have criticized the Uniform Crime Reports reporting method (Sellin and Wolfgang, 1964; Doleschal and Wilkins, 1972). The following 14 problems appeared in a summary statement by Hindelang:

- (1) Some offenses are never discovered.
- (2) Of those that are discovered, some are not reported to the authorities.
- (3) Of those offenses reported to the authorities, some are not transmitted to the Uniform Crime Reporting program.
- (4) The offense categories used by the FBI are very broad and hence very dissimilar events can fall into the same category.
- (5) Because the definitions of offense categories vary so much from state to state--in spite of the FBI's efforts to standardize the categories by providing its own definitions--police agencies in different states will inevitably be using different referents when reporting on specific offense categories.
- (6) Methods of handling multiple offenses and multiple victims are too simplistic.
- (7) Population bases for computing rates--for example, using the number of females *and* males as the base for computing the rape rate--are sometimes inappropriate.
- (8) The use of crude rates rather than the rates which are standardized along such dimensions as age, sex, and race, may result in distorted areal and temporal comparisons.

- (9) Many important offenses--e.g., drug offenses--are not among those for which offenses known to the police are reported.
- (10) The overall measure of offenses known, the crime index, is a simple sum of the offenses known in several categories--irrespective of the various offense categories.
- (11) The summary nature in which the data are compiled unnecessarily wastes information about offenses.
- (12) Many of the procedures used by the UCR in presenting results--the manner in which graphs are constructed, the use of time clocks, etc.--overemphasize the crime problem.
- (13) The manner in which the data are tabulated--for example, using different aggregates of geographic areas for different tables--often makes exact comparison of data from table-to-table and year-to-year impossible.
- (14) A good deal of important information about the nature of offense--circumstances of the offense, extent of injury and monetary loss, victim-offender relationship,--is largely ignored by the UCR format.

As an afterthought, Hindelang mentioned a 15th caution:

...to complicate matters, most of the problems enumerated above are not invariant across time and geography, but rather are free to vary as a function of policy changes, increased sophistication in police detection and investigation, changes in the reporting propensities of victims, penal code changes, changes in the local data needs and demands, etc. (Hindelang, 1974:2).

Though these cautions may seem to outweigh the confidence that researchers place in UCR statistics, the policymaker should not give up hope that such statistics are the factual basis for proper planning decisions. Hindelang was one of the few who, after criticizing the obvious, proceeded to assess the effects of these shortcomings. When comparing homicide trends reported by UCR and those reported for the same period by the Center for Health Statistics, "...the results suggest that for homicide trends and the geographic distribution of 'index' offenses, UCR and non-UCR sources depict similar patterns" (Hindelang, 1974:1).

For the purposes of this report, this critique of the UCR method of data collecting and analysis has led to the realization that many of the aforementioned shortcomings can be remedied by appropriate secondary analysis:

- (1) All rates can be calculated by using more appropriate population figures supplied by the U.S. Bureau of Census for the appropriate subgroups.
- (2) Trend analysis can be recalculated using an adjustment figure that accounts for unexpected population changes over time.
- (3) Longitudinal comparisons can be made possible by using estimates based upon reporting frequencies.

In addition to those options available for reanalysis, the basic tenet of non-differential averaging should promote some confidence where all else fails. In the

initial reporting years of the UCR, these criticisms were certainly severe and valid and required concentrated attention; however, today most of these remaining problems are not nearly as critical. The reporting of offense data has remained fairly constant over time and across the Nation, thus eliminating great variations that would tend to overemphasize differences when comparisons are made either over time or geographically. Other errors, though worth noting, may only affect the results minimally.

In the final analysis, when taking into account all the discussion of the availability of the report, even with large measurement errors due to differences in agency definitions, counting, and reporting procedures, the resultant tabulations are the best indicator of what is happening within the law enforcement component and, therefore, are useful for policy planning and flow analysis.

#### Uniform Crime Reports Adjustment Procedure

In attempting to calculate the longitudinal effects of police arrests, UCR data were adjusted, first for reporting population and secondly, rates used in trend analysis were adjusted to reflect the sub-population being examined. In this way, a rate of arrest for Index offenses for males under the age of 18 would be reflected as a frequency per 100,000 males under 18 in the United States; this differs only in that the rate is not per 100,000 juveniles under 18. Only the population of males is considered in calculating the rate for males.

Various adjustment factors have been developed to account for the population's variance across years (Smith, Alexander, Halatyn, and Roberts, 1980; National Council on Crime and Delinquency, August 1978). Regardless of the method, each is an attempt to derive an estimate for the Nation by extrapolation from the smaller percentage of these agencies that are reporting. The only problem is that any straight extrapolation assumes that the crime trend is the same for those combined agencies that are not reporting as for those that are, and that there are no demographic determinants of crime. The resultant error, however, may affect the results only minimally; and, in fact, upon examination of the estimates reported by Smith, Alexander, Halatyn, and Roberts, the variances were only slight overestimations. However, the variance grows drastically as the number of reporting agencies diminishes. This becomes the case in sex and race trend tables where the number of agencies reporting are considerably less than those reporting for the "Total Arrest" tables of the same year.\*

To properly estimate for the entire Nation from less than conclusive data, a more accurate method utilizing demographic related variances has been developed by the FBI in publishing a national estimate for total offenses (U.S. Department of Justice, 1978:172). The method they use is to classify the jurisdictions not reporting as

\*It should be noted that in trend tables, 1974 shows a drastic rise in crime that tends to make those examining it uncomfortable. In fact, the National Council on Crime and Delinquency Report (August 1978) totally eliminated that year from all trends analyzed, showing only a void and hypothesizing a steady incline from 1973 through 1975. The problem is partially due to a change in reporting procedure that year and its resultant effects. The FBI instituted monthly reporting as a change from the yearly summaries of the preceding years; thus the number of reporting agencies dropped off drastically as individual agencies attempted to gear up to the new cycle. Furthermore, the FBI only reports in trend tables those agencies that report six months or more, and in addition have reported the same months for all years included in the trend analysis.

to population size, type of agency, and geographic region, as well as many other predictive variables. Therefore, by a process of matching agencies that did not report with agencies of a similar class that did report, a good estimate of total crime in the United States is derived.

From this single table, it is therefore possible to arrive at a compatible adjustment procedure for any of the other tables for a given year.

#### UCR Adjusted Arrest Category

The relationship of the *total reported arrests* on any table to the *total estimated arrests* can be written as an adjustment factor:

$$\underline{f} = \frac{\text{Total Estimated Arrests}}{\text{Total Reported Arrests}}$$

By applying this factor to the appropriate frequency from within the table, the formula for the adjusted arrest frequency becomes:

$$\text{Adjusted Arrest Frequency} = \text{UCR Arrest Frequency} \times \underline{f}$$

By combining both the equations, the formula for estimated national arrest figures can be written:

$$\text{Adjusted Arrest Frequency} = \frac{\text{Arrest Frequency} \times \text{Total Estimated Arrests}}{\text{Total Reported Arrests}}$$

The following example will illustrate how this procedure was applied:

Example I-1. Estimate how many persons under age 18 were arrested for serious crimes in 1977.

*Solution:* UCR Table 24 provides the national estimate figure, with Table 32 providing total arrests by age.

The adjustment factor for Table 32 is

$$\underline{f} = \frac{\text{Total Estimated Arrests}}{\text{Total Reported Arrests}}$$

$$\underline{f} = \frac{10,189,900}{9,029,335}$$

$$\underline{f} = 1.13$$

Applying this factor to the appropriate frequency gives:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Adjusted Arrest Frequency} &= \text{UCR Frequency} \times \underline{f} \\ &= 818,994 \times 1.13 \\ &= 925,463 \end{aligned}$$

#### UCR Adjusted Arrest Rate

An adjusted arrest rate can be obtained by simply dividing the adjusted arrest frequency by the appropriate population figure.

$$\text{Adjusted Arrest Rate} = \frac{\text{Arrest Frequency} \times \text{Total Estimated Arrests in United States}}{\text{Group Population} \times \text{Total Reported Arrests}}$$

A slight simplification of this formula leads to:

$$\text{Adjusted Arrest Rate} = \frac{\text{Adjusted Arrest Frequency}}{\text{Group Population}}$$

To continue with the example:

Example I-2. Find the estimated arrest rate for persons under age 18 arrested for serious crimes during 1977.

*Solution:*

$$\text{Adjusted Arrest Rate} = \frac{\text{Adjusted Arrest Frequency}}{\text{Group Population}}$$

Substituting from Example I-1:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Adjusted Arrest Rate} &= \frac{925,463}{64,243 \text{ (in thousands)}} \\ &= 14.41 \end{aligned}$$

or 14.41 arrests per 1,000 persons under 18.

#### COURT PROCESSING

The best source of court processing statistics is the Advance Estimates of National Court Processing Statistics produced by the National Center for Juvenile Justice (NCJJ), a research division of the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges.

These reports cover intake as well as juvenile court trend data for the years 1975 to 1977 and incorporate detention statistics as well. This series of statistical tables is essentially unpublished, yet it is distributed to the judicial community and provides the only national tabulation and estimates of court processing statistics available.

The statistical data provided are generally collected by a number of States (14 in 1975, 18 in 1976, and 22 in 1977) that are automated enough, and willing to provide a machine readable transactional history for the year in question. Figure C-1 (p. 110) illustrates the 22 States that participated in the 1977 juvenile court estimates reported. As can be seen, a large cross-section of the Nation's juvenile court districts is represented in this widespread research effort. Over 60 percent of the

FIGURE C-1  
STATES PARTICIPATING IN NATIONAL ESTIMATES OF  
JUVENILE COURT PROCESSING STATISTICS



FIGURE CONSTRUCTED BY THE NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM ASSESSMENT CENTER  
(SACRAMENTO, CA: AMERICAN JUSTICE INSTITUTE, 1980).

Nation's juvenile population are served by the judicial districts within these 22 States, as can be seen in Table C-1 (below).

The collection and analyzing procedures used by the National Center for Juvenile Justice are too new to have been cross-validated. However, their task is relatively simpler and therefore less likely to be fraught with reporting errors or miscountings. Primarily the task of insuring compatibility of reporting methods lies completely with NCJJ.

TABLE C-1  
JUVENILE POPULATION SERVED BY  
STATES PARTICIPATING IN NATIONAL ESTIMATES OF  
JUVENILE COURT PROCESSING STATISTICS

STATE <sup>1</sup>	NUMBER OF COUNTIES <sup>2</sup>	JUVENILE POPULATION <sup>3</sup>
1. Alabama	67	1,175,000
2. California	58	6,345,000
3. Florida	67	2,337,000
4. Idaho	44	278,000
5. Illinois	102	5,492,000
6. Iowa	99	893,000
7. Kansas	105	675,000
8. Maryland	24	1,286,000
9. Michigan	83	3,012,000
10. Mississippi	82	827,000
11. Nebraska	93	481,000
12. New Jersey	21	2,214,000
13. New York	58	5,339,000
14. North Dakota	53	207,000
15. Ohio	88	3,402,000
16. Oregon	36	682,000
17. Pennsylvania	67	3,464,000
18. South Dakota	64	220,000
19. Texas	254	4,012,000
20. Utah	29	451,000
21. Washington	39	1,084,000
22. West Virginia	55	548,000
	1,588	42,425,000

Sources:

<sup>1</sup>National Center for Juvenile Justice. Advance Estimates of 1977 National Court Processing Statistics. (Pittsburgh, PA: National Center for Juvenile Justice, 1977).

<sup>2</sup>National Association of Counties. The County Year Book, 1978. (Washington, D. C.: National Association of Counties, 1978).

<sup>3</sup>U. S. Department of Commerce. Bureau of the Census. Statistical Abstract of the United States: 1976, 97th Edition. (Washington, D. C., 1976).

Table constructed by the NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM ASSESSMENT CENTER (Sacramento, CA: American Justice Institute, 1980).

States that are participating (22 in 1977) are in most cases providing the transactional histories they normally monitor for their own reporting systems, and therefore are themselves unconcerned with the joint integrity of the sample itself. NCJJ obtains what documentation is available from the State and requests the data be provided in machine readable format where possible. Where individual States may differ, such as in counting, offense definition, juvenile code or any other way, NCJJ then attempts to rectify these differences with one common criterion and in one single operation. In doing this, a master file is created for each year that has each State's individual transactional records in the new recoded structure.

Unlike the UCR report, the National Center for Juvenile Justice provides the estimates of *all* the statistics they collect and distributes the cross-tabulation tables derived from these estimates. Attached to these best estimates are a series of notes and cautions that are to be applied to any subsequent interpretation. Primarily the difference between UCR reports and these national estimates of court statistics would be that the primary orientation of the court estimate is to examine the *characteristics* of individual cases processed, where UCR orients essentially all of its presentation around the critical *offense* or offense of arrest, with only secondary attention to related characteristics.

The national estimates have not been distributed frequently enough to have attracted substantial criticisms as to their usefulness or representativeness, or their application to the critical questions policyplanners and legislative bodies are wont to ask of them. By their own assessment, these data "...[represent] the best and most extensive information ever assembled regarding young people and their system of justice" (Smith, 1978:14).

The national estimates are essentially the most accurate transactional statistics available for the juvenile court; however, several basic problems could limit their use in predictive strategies where representativeness is critical.

The process of recording could be one of these. Though the fact that the data is coded by NCJJ rather than the States themselves does eliminate State-instituted error, it also relies upon one single source (the center) to understand and interpolate State policy from 22 separate States on over 20 separate variables. A consistent error in interpretation may thus be instituted, as well as the possibility that individual State policy, on counting or classification, may go unnoticed from year to year.

Since very few States will collect exactly the same information or do so in exactly the same manner, a considerable task arises in the rationale of merging the data reported. Multiple case reporting, as opposed to single referrals alone, would cause considerable variance in reported case flows. Uniformity of data and the methods for its collection would have to vary with each State. State statutes would limit what crimes would or would not be included under the jurisdictional control of the juvenile court. Even individual elements would not be uniformly collected by all States. In the national estimates report, the policy is that the element would be included and national estimates calculated from it if any two or more States did collect it. This then would provide valuable data; however, it does indicate that national figures may have been extrapolated from the data supplied by only two States. For this reason, it becomes important to examine the ratio of known to unknown cases in the published tables.

This report utilized the advance estimates of national delinquency figures for 1975, 1976, and 1977 provided by NCJJ in 1979. Shortly before releasing final NCJJ estimates

in 1980, it became apparent that the total cases estimated for 1976 and 1977 were altered from the advance estimates. The change was due to a revision in the estimating procedure used for the final 2 years. The reduction in total numbers of cases resulted by NCJJ eliminating one jurisdiction's reported data and not using it for the estimating procedure. It was elected to maintain the present analysis of the advance estimates because the numbers were essentially estimates, and by examining the overall effect of this elimination it was found that the major relationships discussed in this volume were not affected significantly enough to alter the present analysis. Cell percentages changed very little and the 1975 estimates remained entirely unchanged. Since this volume is essentially a flow analysis requiring much interpretation and not a report of numerical significance, it was calculated that the interpretive analysis would remain unaltered even if these advance figures were adjusted.

#### Court Statistics Adjustment Procedure

Since the National Center for Juvenile Justice publishes the estimates of national juvenile court statistics, no actual adjustment procedure needs to be made for individual characteristics of juvenile offenders.

In the interest of establishing a norm for providing a continuous flow from juvenile arrest through court processing and beyond, the estimating procedure was examined to certify the representativeness of the national estimates.

The primary unit of control for juvenile court statistics is the case, which may or may not correspond with referrals as counted by law enforcement agencies. The primary jurisdictional area for the national court data collection operation is the court district. Like UCR, the National Center examined all of the court districts in the United States. Again, as in the UCR method of extrapolation, each jurisdiction or court district is classified as to the size of juvenile population it services, type of district, geographic region, and court case processing trends. Then through a matching process similar to that of the UCR, those courts not reporting are estimated as to the numbers of cases processed.

The actual matching process involves a complex series of weighting due to predictive variables, such as population size, among others, found to be related to the numbers of court cases processed. After applying the weighting factors, the districts are examined for clusters of districts that are generally similar. Reported cases processing characteristics of the known jurisdictions within any cluster are extrapolated to the unreporting districts. In this way, a national estimate is derived.

The national court estimates are predictive of the Nation based on a varying number of individual jurisdictions, depending upon the population characteristic of interest. Little if any interpretation is supplied to aid in understanding the tabular displays given. Illustration C-1A (p. 115) is the data display provided in the 1977 juvenile court estimates, as a table, showing the relationship between the race of the juvenile offenders referred to court, and whether they had prior delinquency referrals that same year or not.

It is important to realize that, in estimating, the NCJJ has estimated missing cases as well. In Illustration C-1A (p. 115), the missing cases are 82.5 percent of the total estimate; therefore, only 17.5 percent of the total number of estimated referrals are distributed. Thus, the results are not a true estimate of what the Nation



might report if every jurisdiction were reporting every element. The larger the missing case percentage is, the less confidence there is that the distribution of the remaining cases is representative of the Nation.

The 1977 total estimated cases processed in juvenile court jurisdiction is 1,401,705 cases. The grand total of Illustration C-1A (p. 115) is far less, showing a variance of over 1 million cases, primarily because of the estimated missing or unknown cases. To arrive at the more true estimated number of cases, a straight extrapolation from the known data has to be made for the unknown cases. This is not the best estimating policy; however, based upon the manner in which these data were reported, little else can be done.

Using the percentage for each effect, and noting that they add to 100 percent excluding missing cases, the frequencies in each cell are replaced by taking the same percentage of the actual total (1,401,705). Illustration C-1B (p. 115) is the adjusted table showing no missing cases. For this report, all court statistics were adjusted in this same manner.

Court frequencies were then changed to applicable rates where necessary by using the same procedure outlined for the UCR statistics (pp. 113-114).

#### PLACEMENT, CUSTODY, AND FIELD SUPERVISION PROCESSING

Within the category of placement, custody, and field supervision, two separate reports were used to provide national estimates: (1) Children in Custody for 1977 by the U.S. Department of Justice, and (2) Uniform Parole Reports for 1977 by the National Council on Crime and Delinquency.

The data, though broken down by various characteristics, is point-in-time data for the Nation. The census of public and private correctional facilities includes residential juvenile establishments operated by State or local governments or by private entities, such as detention centers, shelters, reception and diagnostic centers, training schools, ranches, forestry camps, farms, halfway houses, and group homes. Primarily the reports show only actual counts that are to be assumed as the entire population; therefore, there is apparently no need of estimation procedures.

Upon examination, the procedures used by the Bureau of the Census in the Children in Custody series covered all known public and private residential establishments in operation at the time of the census. Included were all facilities with a residential population in which 50 percent of the occupants are juveniles, or where juveniles and offenders are housed together regardless of the percentage. The last published series (1975 data) indicated that for public facilities the overall response rate of the surveys mailed was 100 percent; the rate of the private facilities was 95 percent. The only substitutional data, or estimations made by the Bureau, were for those few private facilities that did not respond. In these cases, data were extrapolated from the previous year's census (U.S. Department of Justice, October 1977).

The primary source for correctional statistics is the Children in Custody statistical report and facility census. The advance report for 1977 supplied the total admission and departure statistics. However, no current information on the type of facility or number, percent, and characteristics of those processed exists after the last full report in the series was published in 1973. Because of the obvious need for these detailed processing ratios, 1977 relationships were examined. Table C-2 (p. 117) is a comparison of related characteristics of juvenile custody residents of public and

ILLUSTRATION C-1A  
NATIONAL CENTER FOR JUVENILE JUSTICE  
NATIONAL ESTIMATES OF THE NUMBER OF JUVENILES UNDER 18 REFERRED TO JUVENILE COURT HAVING PRIOR DELINQUENT REFERRALS FOR THE SAME YEAR (BY RACE)

RACE	NUMBER OF PRIOR DELINQUENCY REFERRALS THIS YEAR (1977)						
	NONE		ONE OR MORE		MISSING	TOTAL	
	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT		NUMBER	PERCENT
WHITE	157,119	81.0	36,973	19.0	778,767	194,093	80.3
BLACK	32,425	74.4	11,137	25.6	230,727	43,362	18.0
OTHER	3,224	80.1	800	19.9	100,316	4,023	1.7
MISSING	1,227	-	1,941	-	46,939	50,157	-
TOTAL	192,767	79.8	48,910	20.2	1,136,749	241,678	100.0

PERCENTAGES  
ADD 100.0  
WITHOUT  
MISSING  
CASES.

MISSING CASES  
82.5%  
OF TOTAL  
ESTIMATE

TOTAL ESTIMATE OF  
1,378,427 CASES  
98.3% OF ACTUAL  
REFERRALS

ILLUSTRATION C-1B  
NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM ASSESSMENT CENTER  
NATIONAL ESTIMATES OF THE NUMBER OF JUVENILES UNDER 18 REFERRED TO JUVENILE COURT HAVING PRIOR DELINQUENT REFERRALS FOR THE SAME YEAR (BY RACE)

ADJUSTED  
PERCENTAGES  
REMAIN THE SAME

RACE	NUMBER OF PRIOR DELINQUENCY REFERRALS THIS YEAR (1977)						
	NONE		ONE OR MORE		MISSING	TOTAL	
	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT		NUMBER	PERCENT
WHITE	911,712	81.0	213,856	19.0		1,125,569	80.3
BLACK	187,716	74.4	64,591	25.6		252,307	18.0
OTHER	19,087	80.1	4,742	19.9		23,829	1.7
TOTAL	1,118,515	79.8	283,191	20.2		1,401,705	100.0

TOTAL (OR 100.0%) OF  
ACTUAL REFERRALS

SOURCE: NATIONAL CENTER FOR JUVENILE JUSTICE. ADVANCE ESTIMATES OF 1977 NATIONAL COURT PROCESSING STATISTICS. (PITTSBURGH, PA: NATIONAL CENTER FOR JUVENILE JUSTICE, 1979).

ILLUSTRATION CONSTRUCTED BY THE NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM ASSESSMENT CENTER. (SACRAMENTO, CA: AMERICAN JUSTICE INSTITUTE, 1980).

private facilities for the Children in Custody reporting years since 1973. Though significant legislative enactments have occurred in the interim, only minor fluctuations are evident in the characteristics of juveniles committed to public and private facilities. Based upon this cursory analysis, the relationships found in the 1973 full report of Children in Custody were applied to the 1977 census data to facilitate the national estimates of commitments to correctional facilities.

Though the Bureau of the Census did not estimate, respondents were given instruction to provide estimates for data that could not be obtained from available records. This could introduce a measure of error; however, since the report and the surveys have been collected annually since 1971 by this Bureau, it is probable that most of the facilities at this time have the requested data available, at least in sufficient numbers to lend confidence to the national tabulations.

The methodological procedures followed by the National Council on Crime and Delinquency (NCCD) for the Uniform Parole Reports were slightly different and more closely akin to those for the UCR and Court Statistics reports. Due to differences in data reporting, the number of parole jurisdictions recorded in each tabulation varied from table to table. The same cautions expressed for the previous reports would therefore be equally in effect for these publications.

As with the court statistics, NCCD did employ some estimating procedures in instances where the data provided were incomplete. These shortages were classified into two categories: (1) not all the parole population was covered, and (2) not all of the 12 months were reported for the year surveyed.

#### Graphing of Processing Trends

In general, most national processing statistics are summary in nature and usually pertain to a single decision point within the juvenile justice system. In order to analyze these statistics for the purpose of distinguishing what the system is doing with juvenile cases, various methods are used. Some researchers plot the percentage breakdowns of the juvenile population in question, and if they are skewed in one direction or another, the assumption is then made that a system bias exists in that direction. Other researchers may have sampled some exact data and be able to analyze the outcome of processing decisions for a particular portion of juvenile cases, and then generalize the same findings onto the national summary statistics. In this report, in order to present the apparent processing trends among decisionmakers, an analysis of changes in population *proportions* is utilized.

By examining the makeup of the juvenile populations within the system before and after a particular decision point, the apparent movement of these juveniles through the system can be described. As an example, Table C-3 (p. 118) brings together both arrest statistics and the referral statistics indicating what proportion of each racial category arrested are subsequently referred on to court intake. This table, therefore, describes the police disposition to process, at least in terms of the outcome of their processing decisions. Both the percent of arrest population and the proportional change in the racial makeup are given. Most often, the percentage of arrests referred would be graphed to show what variance due to race existed in the decision to refer, thus hinting at any possible system bias. However, the influence of any such bias is also reflected in the change in the racial makeup of the referral population as opposed to that of the arrest population. The effect of any single bias to process juveniles having certain characteristics is imprinted upon the proportions of all characteristics within the referral population. Thus, for trend mapping the

TABLE C- 2

SELECTED CHARACTERISTICS OF PUBLIC AND PRIVATE JUVENILE CUSTODY  
RESIDENTS AND FACILITIES (1973, 1974, 1975, and 1977)

CHARACTERISTICS	PUBLIC				PRIVATE <sup>2</sup>		
	1973	1974	1975	1977	1974	1975	1977
NUMBER OF RESIDENTS	47,983	47,268	49,126	45,920	31,749	27,450	29,377
Juvenile	45,694	44,922	46,980	44,096	31,749	27,290	29,070
Male	35,057	34,783	37,926	36,921	22,104	19,152	20,387
Female	10,037	10,139	9,054	7,175	9,645	8,138	8,683
Adult	2,289	2,346	2,146	1,824	-0-	160	307
AVERAGE AGE (YEARS) <sup>1</sup>	---	---	---	15.3	---	---	14.9
Male	15.2	15.3	15.3	15.4	---	15.3	14.9
Female	14.9	14.9	15.0	15.1	---	15.4	15.0
NUMBER OF ADMISSIONS	600,960	647,175	641,189	614,385	53,661	56,708	67,045
NUMBER OF DEPARTURES	594,207	640,408	632,983	622,151	47,471	50,986	61,471
AVERAGE DAILY NUMBER OF RESIDENTS	47,385	46,753	48,794	48,032	31,384	26,740	29,611
JUVENILES PER FULL-TIME STAFF MEMBER	1.2	1.1	1.1	1.0	1.5	---	1.3

<sup>1</sup>Based on juvenile residents only.<sup>2</sup>Statistics for private facilities not available for 1973.

Sources: U.S. Department of Justice. Law Enforcement Assistance Administration. "Children in Custody: Advance Report on the 1977 Census of Public Juvenile Facilities, No. SD-JD-SA." (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Department of Justice, 1979); and U.S. Department of Justice. Law Enforcement Assistance Administration. "Children in Custody: Advance Report on the 1977 Census of Private Juvenile Facilities, No. SD-JD-SB." (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Department of Justice, 1979).

Table constructed by the NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM ASSESSMENT CENTER (Sacramento, CA: American Justice Institute, 1980).

TABLE C-3

CHANGES IN THE NATIONAL ESTIMATES OF THE NUMBER OF PERSONS  
UNDER 18 ARRESTED AND REFERRED TO JUVENILE COURT  
BY RACE AND OFFENSE TYPE (1975-1977)

INFORMATION CATEGORY	WHITE		BLACK		OTHER		TOTAL	
	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT
<b>1975</b>								
<b>ARRESTED</b>	1,833,867	76.2 <sup>3</sup>	525,148	21.8	46,444	2.0	2,405,459	100.0 <sup>3</sup>
Serious	646,477	69.0	272,055	29.0	19,201	2.0	937,733	39.0
Less-Serious	891,984	80.5	195,820	17.7	19,815	1.8	1,107,619	46.0
Status	295,406	32.0	57,275	15.9	7,429	2.1	360,107	15.0
<b>REFERRED<sup>1</sup></b>	936,235	66.6	330,839	23.5	139,003	9.9	1,406,077	100.0
Serious	304,257	61.3	139,970	28.2	58,118	10.5	496,345	35.3
Less-Serious	358,788	64.6	145,515	26.2	51,097	9.2	555,400	39.5
Status	275,190	77.1	45,354	12.8	35,788	10.1	354,332	25.2
<b>VARIANCE<sup>2</sup></b>								
Total	51.1%	- 9.6	63.0%	-1.7	*	+ 7.9	58.6%	---
Serious	47.1%	- 7.7	51.4%	- 0.8	*	+ 8.5	52.9%	- 3.7
Less-Serious	40.2%	-15.9	74.3%	-8.5	*	+ 7.4	60.1%	- 6.5
Status	92.5%	- 4.9	79.2%	- 3.1	*	+ 8.0	98.4%	-10.2
<b>1976</b>								
<b>ARRESTED</b>	1,824,004	76.1	526,572	22.0	45,681	1.9	2,396,257	100.0
Serious	613,671	68.1	267,998	29.7	19,476	2.2	901,145	37.6
Less-Serious	943,786	80.7	205,204	17.6	19,570	1.7	1,168,560	48.8
Status	266,547	81.6	53,370	16.3	6,635	2.1	326,552	13.6
<b>REFERRED</b>	1,059,817	70.4	326,062	22.1	110,310	7.5	1,476,189	100.0
Serious	438,945	62.6	208,955	29.8	53,290	7.6	701,190	47.5
Less-Serious	335,694	75.1	77,758	17.3	32,881	7.4	444,333	30.1
Status	267,178	80.8	59,349	11.9	24,139	7.3	330,666	22.4
<b>VARIANCE</b>								
Total	57.0%	- 5.7	61.9%	+ 0.1	*	+ 5.6	61.6%	---
Serious	71.5%	- 5.5	78.0%	+ 0.1	*	+ 5.4	77.8%	- 9.9
Less-Serious	35.4%	- 5.6	37.9%	- 0.1	*	+ 5.7	38.0%	-18.7
Status	100.0%	- 0.8	73.7%	- 4.4	*	+ 5.2	*	- 8.8
<b>1977</b>								
<b>ARRESTED</b>	1,855,664	75.7	544,382	22.2	52,271	2.1	2,452,318	100.0
Serious	631,754	68.2	272,706	29.5	21,370	2.3	925,830	37.8
Less-Serious	969,386	79.5	225,525	18.5	24,017	2.0	1,219,428	49.7
Status	254,024	52.7	46,151	15.0	6,884	2.3	307,059	12.5
<b>REFERRED</b>	1,008,473	71.9	284,963	20.3	108,351	7.7	1,401,705	100.0
Serious	446,196	64.7	186,202	27.0	57,240	3.3	689,638	49.2
Less-Serious	327,267	76.3	66,483	15.5	35,172	8.2	428,922	30.6
Status	235,010	83.0	32,278	11.4	16,139	5.6	283,445	20.2
<b>VARIANCE</b>								
Total	54.3%	-3.8	52.3%	- 1.9	*	+ 5.6	57.2%	---
Serious	70.6%	- 3.5	68.3%	- 2.3	*	+ 6.0	74.5%	-11.4
Less-Serious	33.7%	- 3.2	29.5%	- 3.0	*	+ 6.2	35.2%	-19.1
Status	92.5%	- 0.5	82.0%	- 3.6	*	+ 3.3	92.2%	- 7.7

<sup>1</sup>Referral statistics include 250,000 cases referred by other sources than law enforcement.

<sup>2</sup>Variance is the change in proportion of an age group when comparing arrest and referral populations, and percent of arrest population referred.

<sup>3</sup>Percents in the total column add to 100.0 by population.

\*Percents greater than 100% due to the inclusion of 250,000 cases referred by other sources.

Sources: U.S. Department of Justice, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Uniform Crime Reports for the United States--1975, 1976, and 1977. (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1976, 1977, and 1978); and National Center for Juvenile Justice, Advance Estimates of 1975, 1976, and 1977 National Court Processing Statistics. (Pittsburgh, Pa: National Center for Juvenile Justice, 1979).

Table constructed by the NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM ASSESSMENT CENTER (Sacramento, CA: American Justice Institute, 1980).

best illustration of a processing bias will be in how population characteristics are altered proportionately from year to year.

Illustration C-2A (p. 120) shows the percentage of white and black juveniles arrested and subsequently referred for less-serious offenses during the three years between 1975 and 1977. As can be seen, both races appear to be referred less often in 1977 than in 1975, with blacks having the largest reduction. This graph does not indicate in any way the degree of racial discrepancy that existed within either the original arrest population or the resultant referral population because it shows percentages only. Illustration C-2B (p. 120), however, does show exactly that. By plotting the proportional changes of the racial makeup of the juvenile population, decision trends can be seen.

If no referral bias (or trend) exists for one racial type over another, then the proportion of whites to blacks should remain constant. This "no change" condition is shown by the center line interpreted as zero change in proportion. The area above and below the center line represents an increase or reduction respectively in the proportional makeup of the referral population over the arrest population.

In Illustration C-2B, the trend to process black juveniles more often than whites is evident in 1975. The proportion of whites to all other races decreases 15.9 percentage points from arrests to referrals, whereas the proportion of blacks increases 8.5 percentage points. This same relationship is reflected in Illustration C-2A; however, C-2B illustrates by proportions a trend in system processing that percentages cannot. The trend is that referral decisions since 1975 moved toward equalizing the apparent bias that existed in 1975. A graph of proportional changes, such as in Illustration C-2B, shows that not only has the referral rate for both races decreased, but that the overall adjustment has been a trend towards equal treatment for both races with respect to the referral decision. The proportion of both blacks and whites referred changes only slightly in 1977 (3 percentage points) over those arrested. Graphically, the lines depicting the proportional change are asymptotic to the "no change" or center line, indicating a genuine change in system policy since 1975 towards handling blacks and whites in a similar fashion.

In the first case, a simple extrapolation to the unreported population was made from the known population.

...in states which reported on a sample of their parole populations, each reported case was weighted by the inverse of the sampling percentage. For example, if a state reported on fifteen cases as a 25% random sample of its parole population, each case was multiplied by 1/.25 (which is equal to 4). The estimated total population would be 15 X 4 = 60 (National Council on Crime and Delinquency, April 1979:2).

In the second case, a simple extrapolation was made to the unreported months from those that were reported for by jurisdiction.

...where states reported data for less than twelve months...each reported case was weighted by the inverse of the percentage of the year covered. For example, if a state reported data for only nine months of the year (75% or 3/4), each reported case was multiplied by 1/.75 (which is equal to 1-1/3 (one and one-third or 4/3)). So if the data for the nine months covered fifteen case(s), the estimated total population would be 15 X 4/3 = 20 (National Council on Crime and Delinquency, April 1979:2).

ILLUSTRATION C-2A  
**THREE-YEAR TREND COMPARISON OF THE PERCENT OF PERSONS UNDER 18  
 ARRESTED AND REFERRED TO COURT INTAKE FOR LESS-SERIOUS  
 OFFENSES BY RACE\***

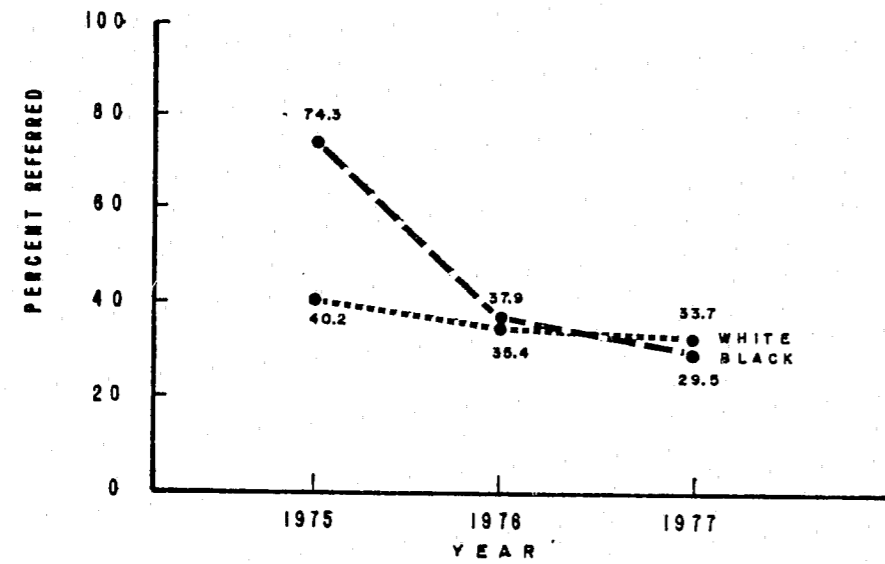
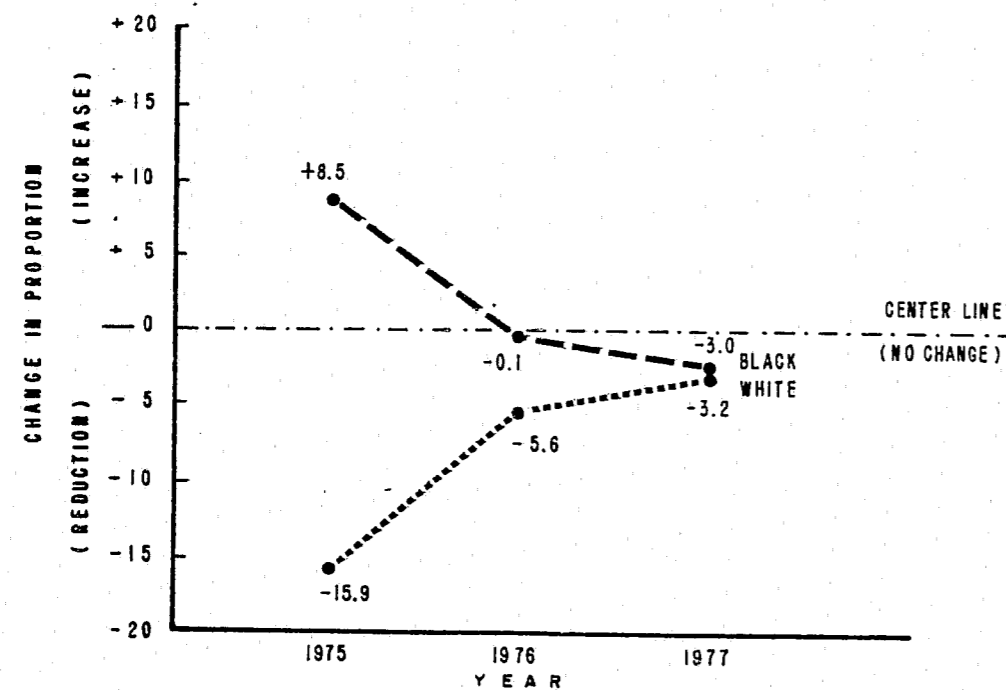


ILLUSTRATION C-2B  
**THREE-YEAR TREND COMPARISON OF THE CHANGE IN PROPORTION OF  
 PERSONS UNDER 18 ARRESTED, TO THOSE REFERRED TO COURT INTAKE  
 FOR LESS-SERIOUS OFFENSES BY RACE\***



\* ONLY BLACK AND WHITE ARE SHOWN FOR THE PURPOSE OF ILLUSTRATION. (SEE TABLE C-2, p.117).  
 SOURCES: NATIONAL CENTER FOR JUVENILE JUSTICE, ADVANCE ESTIMATES OF 1975; 1976; AND 1977 NATIONAL COURT PROCESSING  
 STATISTICS. (PITTSBURGH, PA: NATIONAL CENTER FOR JUVENILE JUSTICE, 1979).  
 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION, UNIFORM CRIME REPORTS--1975; 1976; AND 1977.  
 (WASHINGTON, D.C.: U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE, 1976, 1977, 1978).  
 ILLUSTRATIONS CONSTRUCTED BY THE NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM ASSESSMENT CENTER. (SACRAMENTO, CA:  
 AMERICAN JUSTICE INSTITUTE, 1980).

In each case, the assumption was made that those portions of either the population or time period covered that were reported on were representative of the whole. In the case of the partial year, it assumes that the composition of the parole population does not vary significantly by month of parole entry.

The assumptions may be valid; however, neither UPR nor any other research organization has tested its validity to date. The estimates were made to eliminate the bias that might have occurred from reporting national tabulations on partial data. It is therefore possible that the estimation procedure may enter another type of bias that in itself may be as objectionable. An estimation based upon trend analysis, or matched jurisdiction, such as used by both the UCR and NCJJ, would be more advisable.

APPENDIX D  
SUPPLEMENTAL TABLES

TABLE D-1  
JUVENILE POPULATION SERVED BY  
STATES PARTICIPATING IN NATIONAL ESTIMATES OF  
JUVENILE COURT PROCESSED STATISTICS

STATE <sup>1</sup>	NUMBER OF COUNTIES <sup>2</sup>	JUVENILE POPULATION <sup>3</sup>
1. Alabama	67	1,175,000
2. California	58	6,345,000
3. Florida	67	2,337,000
4. Idaho	44	278,000
5. Illinois	102	3,492,000
6. Iowa	99	893,000
7. Kansas	105	675,000
8. Maryland	24	1,286,000
9. Michigan	83	3,012,000
10. Mississippi	82	827,000
11. Nebraska	93	481,000
12. New Jersey	21	2,214,000
13. New York	58	5,339,000
14. North Dakota	53	207,000
15. Ohio	88	3,402,000
16. Oregon	36	682,000
17. Pennsylvania	67	3,464,000
18. South Dakota	64	220,000
19. Texas	254	4,012,000
20. Utah	29	451,000
21. Washington	39	1,084,000
22. West Virginia	55	548,000
	1,588	42,423,000

Sources:

<sup>1</sup>National Center for Juvenile Justice. Advance Estimates of 1977 National Court Processing Statistics. (Pittsburgh, PA: National Center for Juvenile Justice, 1979).

<sup>2</sup>National Association of Counties. The County Year Book, 1978. (Washington, D. C.: National Association of Counties, 1978).

<sup>3</sup>U. S. Department of Commerce. Bureau of the Census. Statistical Abstract of the United States: 1976, 97th Edition. (Washington, D.C.: U. S. Government Printing Office, 1976).

Table constructed by the NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM ASSESSMENT CENTER (Sacramento, CA: American Justice Institute, 1980).

TABLE D-2  
NATIONAL ESTIMATES OF THE NUMBER OF POLICE DISPOSITIONS  
FOR PERSONS UNDER 18 TAKEN INTO CUSTODY (1977)

DISPOSITION	ARRESTS		CASES		RATIO (ARRESTS: CASES)
	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	
Filed in Other Court	95,640	3.9	95,640	4.2	1:1
Referred to Juvenile Court Intake	1,304,633	53.2	1,127,316	49.6	1.16:1
Referred to Other Law Enforcement Agency	44,142	1.8	44,142	1.9	1:1
Handled within the Department	934,333	38.1	934,333	41.1	1:1
Referred to Welfare Agency	73,570	3.0	73,570	3.2	1:1
TOTAL	2,452,318	100.0	2,275,001	100.0	1.08:1

NOTE: Only direct referrals to juvenile court have other than a one-to-one (1:1) ratio.

Sources: U.S. Department of Justice. Federal Bureau of Investigation. Uniform Crime Reports for the United States--1977. (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1978); and National Center for Juvenile Justice. Advance Estimates of 1977 National Court Processing Statistics. (Pittsburgh, PA: National Center for Juvenile Justice, 1979).  
Table constructed by the NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM ASSESSMENT CENTER (Sacramento, CA: American Justice Institute, 1980).

TABLE D-3  
POLICE DISPOSITION OF PERSONS UNDER 18  
ARRESTED BY STATE (1977)

STATE	TOTAL ARRESTS	DISPOSITIONS					
		HANDLED WITHIN POLICE DEPARTMENT		REFERRED TO COURT INTAKE		OTHER DISPOSITIONS	
		NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT
Alabama	20,172	5,846	29.0	10,595	52.5	3,731	18.5
Alaska	4,089	1,080	26.4	2,738	67.0	271	6.5
Arizona	35,224	4,311	12.2	30,525	86.7	388	1.2
Arkansas	14,160	2,398	16.9	7,338	51.8	4,424	31.2
California	282,158	110,500	39.2	166,519	59.0	5,139	1.8
Colorado	25,686	12,527	48.8	8,768	34.1	4,391	17.1
Connecticut	20,809	10,764	51.7	5,760	27.7	4,285	20.6
Delaware*	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Florida	99,760	23,588	23.6	71,830	72.0	4,342	4.4
Georgia	21,042	5,438	25.8	13,774	65.5	1,830	8.7
Hawaii	9,943	4,229	42.5	5,010	50.4	704	7.0
Idaho	12,231	5,354	43.8	5,891	48.2	986	8.0
Illinois	102,053	42,411	41.6	25,988	25.5	33,654	33.0
Indiana	34,645	13,560	39.1	19,094	55.1	1,991	5.7
Iowa	22,950	7,144	31.1	14,709	64.1	1,097	4.8
Kansas	23,858	9,355	39.2	13,891	58.2	612	2.5
Kentucky	24,923	3,629	14.6	20,661	82.9	633	2.5
Louisiana	35,606	8,871	24.9	19,427	54.6	7,308	20.6
Maine	10,353	5,933	57.3	3,860	37.3	560	5.4
Maryland	55,368	19,358	35.0	34,904	63.0	1,108	2.0
Massachusetts	27,945	8,796	31.5	17,601	63.0	1,548	5.2
Michigan	42,791	34,085	79.7	3,011	7.0	5,695	13.3
Minnesota*	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Mississippi	9,493	2,037	21.5	7,064	74.4	391	4.2
Montana	7,943	2,777	35.0	4,674	58.8	492	6.2
Missouri	37,339	12,093	32.4	22,996	61.6	2,250	6.0
Nebraska*	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Nevada	10,801	569	5.3	8,180	75.7	2,052	19.0
New Hampshire	10,883	6,116	56.2	3,921	36.0	846	7.8
New Jersey	115,950	53,985	46.6	59,794	51.6	2,171	1.9
New Mexico	2,948	238	8.1	2,637	89.5	73	2.5
New York	34,856	21,119	60.6	12,273	35.2	1,464	4.2
North Carolina	14,312	6,021	42.1	6,599	46.1	1,692	11.8
North Dakota	7,138	659	9.2	6,003	84.1	576	6.7
Ohio	82,239	32,799	39.9	47,139	57.3	2,301	2.9
Oregon	37,395	5,687	15.2	30,860	82.5	848	2.2
Oklahoma	26,737	12,328	46.1	11,725	43.9	2,684	10.1
Pennsylvania	130,723	62,230	47.6	36,467	27.9	32,026	24.5
Rhode Island	12,947	8,879	68.6	3,429	26.5	639	4.9
South Carolina	8,531	2,007	23.5	6,448	75.6	76	.9
South Dakota	5,333	1,534	28.8	3,255	61.0	544	10.2
Tennessee	12,873	3,340	25.9	8,676	67.4	857	6.7
Texas	102,206	40,824	39.9	55,669	54.5	5,713	5.6
Utah	12,112	1,714	14.2	9,826	81.1	572	4.7
Vermont	1,084	691	63.7	121	11.2	272	25.1
Virginia	38,731	11,344	29.3	26,771	69.1	616	1.6
Washington	31,145	8,402	27.0	21,019	67.5	1,724	5.5
Washington, D.C.	5,289	290	5.5	4,733	89.5	266	5.1
West Virginia	8,359	2,728	32.6	5,123	61.3	508	6.1
Wisconsin	85,532	38,194	44.7	40,183	47.0	7,155	8.4
Wyoming	3,384	1,448	42.8	1,198	35.4	738	21.8
TOTAL	1,782,049	679,230	38.1	948,647	53.2	154,243	8.7

\*Unreported

Source: U.S. Department of Justice. Federal Bureau of Investigation. Uniform Crime Reports--Special report requested by the National Juvenile Justice System Assessment Center. (Washington, D. C., 1978).

Table constructed by the NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM ASSESSMENT CENTER, (Sacramento, CA: American Justice Institute, 1980).

TABLE D-4  
 CHANGES IN THE NUMBER AND RATE OF PERSONS AT RISK  
 (7 THROUGH 17) ARRESTED BY OFFENSE TYPE (1968-1977)

INFORMATION CATEGORY	REPORTING YEARS										CHANGE <sup>1</sup> 1968-1977
	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977	
<b>POPULATION*</b> (IN THOUSANDS)	43,901	44,456	44,848	45,064	45,002	44,651	44,158	43,450	42,770	42,154	- 4.0%
<b>ARRESTED</b>											
All Offenses	1,996,197	2,100,301	2,051,694	2,228,425	2,228,643	2,385,260	2,466,511	2,405,247	2,396,256	2,449,134	+22.7%
Serious Offenses	700,092	741,905	724,804	784,436	783,201	852,544	973,503	948,417	900,939	924,262	+32.0%
Less-Serious Offenses	1,296,105	1,358,396	1,326,870	1,443,989	1,445,442	1,532,716	1,493,008	1,456,830	1,495,317	1,524,872	+17.7%
<b>PERCENT OF POPULATION ARRESTED</b>											
All Offenses	4.5	4.7	4.6	4.9	5.0	5.3	5.6	5.5	5.6	5.8	+28.9%
Serious Offenses	1.6	1.7	1.6	1.7	1.7	1.9	2.2	2.2	2.1	2.2	+37.5%
Less-Serious Offenses	3.0	3.1	3.0	3.2	3.2	3.4	3.4	3.4	3.5	3.6	+20.0%
<b>ARREST RATES (PER 100,000)</b>											
All Offenses	4,547	4,724	4,575	4,945	4,952	5,342	5,586	5,536	5,603	5,810	+27.8%
Serious Offenses	1,595	1,669	1,616	1,741	1,740	1,909	2,205	2,183	2,106	2,193	+37.5%
Less-Serious Offenses	2,952	3,055	2,959	3,204	3,212	3,433	3,381	3,353	3,497	3,617	+22.5%

\*Based on a juvenile at-risk population of ages 7 through 17.

<sup>1</sup>Percent change is calculated as follows:  $\frac{1977 \text{ figure} - 1968 \text{ figure}}{1968 \text{ figure}}$ .

Source: U.S. Department of Justice. Federal Bureau of Investigation. Uniform Crime Reports for the United States--1968; 1969; 1970; 1971; 1972; 1973; 1974; 1975; 1976; and 1977. (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1969, 1970, 1971, 1972, 1973, 1974, 1975, 1976, 1977, and 1978); and U.S. Department of Commerce. Bureau of the Census. Current Population Reports--1960-1973 and 1970-77. (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1974 and 1978).

Table constructed by the NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM ASSESSMENT CENTER (Sacramento, CA: American Justice Institute, 1980).



TABLE D-5

NATIONAL ESTIMATES OF THE CHANGES IN THE NUMBER AND RATE OF PERSONS  
7-17 ARRESTED BY SEX AND OFFENSE TYPE (1975-1977)

INFORMATION CATEGORY	REPORTING YEARS						PERCENT CHANGE 1975 - 1977
	1975		1976		1977		
	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	
<u>JUVENILE POPULATION</u> (7-17) IN THOUSANDS							
MALE	22,144	51.0	21,799	51.0	21,492	51.0	- 2.9
FEMALE	21,308	49.0	20,971	49.0	20,661	49.0	- 3.0
<u>ARRESTS</u>	2,405,247	100.0	2,396,256	100.0	2,452,318	100.0	+ 2.0
MALE: ALL OFFENSES	1,894,382	78.8	1,880,394	78.5	1,925,603	78.5	+ 1.6
Serious	782,163	81.5	736,778	81.3	641,274	78.7	-18.0
Less-Serious	914,100	83.1	960,112	82.6	1,118,666	84.0	+22.4
Status	198,119	57.2	183,504	56.1	165,663	53.9	-16.4
FEMALE: ALL OFFENSES	510,865	21.2	515,862	21.5	526,715	21.5	+ 3.1
Serious	177,449	18.5	169,628	18.7	171,830	21.1	- 3.2
Less-Serious	185,471	16.9	202,466	17.4	213,063	16.0	+14.9
Status	147,945	42.8	143,768	43.9	141,822	46.1	- 4.1
<u>ARREST RATES FOR</u> <u>PERSONS 7-17</u> (PER 100,000 YOUTH)							
TOTAL	5,535.4		5,602.7		5,817.7		+ 5.1
MALE: ALL OFFENSES	8,554.8		8,626.1		8,959.6		+ 4.7
Serious	3,532.2		3,379.9		2,983.8		-15.5
Less-Serious	4,127.0		4,404.4		5,205.1		+26.1
Status	894.7		841.8		770.8		-15.8
FEMALE: ALL OFFENSES	2,397.5		2,459.9		2,549.3		+ 6.3
Serious	832.8		808.9		831.7		- 0.1
Less-Serious	870.4		965.5		1,031.2		+18.5
Status	694.3		685.6		686.4		- 1.1

Source: U.S. Department of Justice. Federal Bureau of Investigation. Uniform Crime Reports--1977. (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1978); U.S. Department of Commerce. Bureau of the Census. Current Population Report, Estimates of the Population of the United States by Age, Sex, and Race: 1970 to 1977, Series P-25, No. 721. (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1978); and National Center for Juvenile Justice. Advance Estimates of 1975, 1976, and 1977 National Court Processing Statistics. (Pittsburgh, PA: National Center for Juvenile Justice, 1979).

Table constructed by the NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM ASSESSMENT CENTER (Sacramento, CA: American Justice Institute, 1980).

TABLE D-6  
NATIONAL ESTIMATES OF THE PROPORTIONS OF PERSONS UNDER 18  
ARRESTED AND REFERRED BY LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES  
TO JUVENILE COURT BY SEX (1975-1977)

INFORMATION CATEGORY	MALES		FEMALES		TOTAL	
	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT
	1975					
Arrested	1,894,382	78.8	510,865	21.2	2,405,247	100.0
Referred	920,906	79.1	243,221	20.9	1,164,231	100.0
Percent Referred <sup>1</sup>	---	48.6	---	47.6	---	48.4
1976						
Arrested	1,880,394	78.5	515,862	21.5	2,396,256	100.0
Referred	966,880	79.2	253,298	20.8	1,220,808	100.0
Percent Referred	---	51.4	---	49.1	---	50.9
1977						
Arrested	1,925,603	78.5	526,715	21.5	2,452,318	100.0
Referred	918,338	79.8	232,462	20.2	1,150,800	100.0
Percent Referred	---	47.7	---	44.1	---	46.9

<sup>1</sup>Percent of those arrested who were referred.

Source: U.S. Department of Justice. Federal Bureau of Investigation. Uniform Crime Reports for the United States--1975; 1976; and 1977. (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1976, 1977, and 1978); and National Center for Juvenile Justice. Advance Estimates of 1975, 1976, and 1977 National Court Processing Statistics. (Pittsburgh, PA: National Center for Juvenile Justice, 1979).

Table constructed by the NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM ASSESSMENT CENTER (Sacramento, CA: American Justice Institute, 1980).

TABLE D-7  
NATIONAL ESTIMATES OF THE  
CHANGE IN THE RATIO OF MALES TO FEMALES FOR PERSONS UNDER 18  
ARRESTED AND REFERRED TO JUVENILE COURT BY OFFENSE CATEGORY (1975-1977)

INFORMATION CATEGORY	MALE		FEMALE		TOTAL	
	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT
1975						
ARRESTED <sup>1</sup>	1,894,382	78.8	510,865	21.2	2,405,247	100.0 <sup>3</sup>
Serious	782,163	81.5	177,449	18.5	959,612	39.9
Less-Serious	914,100	83.1	185,471	16.9	1,099,571	47.7
Status Offenses	198,119	57.2	147,945	42.8	346,064	14.4
REFERRED	1,070,771	76.2	335,306	23.8	1,406,077	100.0
Serious	434,798	87.6	61,547	12.4	496,345	35.3
Less-Serious	447,044	80.9	105,544	19.1	552,588	39.3
Status	188,929	52.9	168,215	47.1	357,144	25.4
VARIANCE <sup>2</sup>	---	-2.6	---	+2.6	---	---
Serious	---	+6.1	---	-6.1	---	-4.5
Non-Serious	---	-2.2	---	+2.2	---	-8.4
Status	---	-4.3	---	+4.3	---	+11.3
1976						
ARRESTED	1,880,394	78.5	515,862	21.5	2,396,256	100.0
Serious	736,778	81.3	169,628	18.7	906,406	37.8
Less-Serious	960,112	82.6	202,466	17.4	1,162,578	48.5
Status	183,504	56.1	143,768	43.9	327,272	13.7
REFERRED	1,110,426	76.4	365,763	23.6	1,476,189	100.0
Serious	571,325	82.2	183,760	17.8	695,285	47.1
Less-Serious	374,034	83.9	71,775	16.1	445,809	30.2
Status	164,867	49.2	170,228	50.8	335,095	22.7
VARIANCE	---	-2.1	---	+2.1	---	---
Serious	---	+0.9	---	-0.9	---	+9.3
Less-Serious	---	+1.3	---	-1.3	---	-18.3
Status	---	-6.9	---	+6.9	---	+9.0
1977						
ARRESTED	1,925,603	78.5	526,715	21.5	2,452,318	100.0
Serious	641,274	78.9	171,530	21.1	813,104	33.2
Less-Serious	1,118,666	84.9	213,063	16.0	1,331,729	54.3
Status	165,663	53.9	141,822	46.1	307,485	12.5
REFERRED	1,075,108	76.7	326,139	23.3	1,401,705	100.0
Serious	560,000	81.7	125,434	18.3	685,434	48.9
Less-Serious	357,720	83.4	71,201	16.6	428,921	30.6
Status	157,755	54.9	129,595	45.1	287,350	20.5
VARIANCE	---	-1.8	---	+1.8	---	---
Serious	---	+2.8	---	-2.8	---	+15.7
Less-Serious	---	-1.5	---	+0.6	---	-23.7
Status	---	+1.0	---	-1.0	---	+8.0

<sup>1</sup>Referral statistics include 250,000 cases referred by other sources than law enforcement.

<sup>2</sup>Variance is the change in proportion of an age group when comparing arrest and referral populations.

<sup>3</sup>Percents in the total column add to 100.0 by population.

Sources: U.S. Department of Justice. Federal Bureau of Investigation. Uniform Crime Reports for the United States--1975; 1976; and 1977. (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1976, 1977, and 1978); and National Center for Juvenile Justice. Advance Estimates of 1975, 1976, and 1977 National Court Processing Statistics. (Pittsburgh, PA: National Center for Juvenile Justice, 1979).

Table constructed by the NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM ASSESSMENT CENTER (Sacramento, CA: American Justice Institute, 1980).

TABLE D-8

NATIONAL ESTIMATES OF THE  
PROPORTION OF PERSONS UNDER 18 ARRESTED AND REFERRED  
TO JUVENILE COURT BY RACE (1975-1977)

INFORMATION CATEGORY	WHITE		BLACK		OTHER		TOTAL	
	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT
<b>1975</b>								
Arrested	1,883,867	76.2	525,148	21.8	46,444	2.0	2,405,459	100.0
Referred	770,935	65.9	272,576	23.3	126,344	10.8	1,169,856	100.0
Percent Referred <sup>1</sup>	---	42.0	---	51.9	---	272.0 <sup>2</sup>	---	49.0
<b>1976</b>								
Arrested	1,824,004	76.1	526,572	22.0	45,681	1.9	2,396,257	100.0
Referred	46,615	69.3	274,784	22.4	101,817	8.3	1,226,713	100.0
Percent Referred	---	2.6	---	52.2	---	222.9 <sup>2</sup>	---	51.0
<b>1977</b>								
Arrested	1,855,664	75.7	544,382	22.2	52,271	2.1	2,452,318	100.0
Referred	821,049	71.0	238,220	20.6	97,138	8.4	1,156,407	100.0
Percent Referred	---	44.2	---	45.8	---	186.0 <sup>2</sup>	---	47.0

<sup>1</sup>Percent of those arrested who were referred.

<sup>2</sup>Percents greater than 100.0 may occur due to variations in the classification procedures between components.

Sources: U.S. Department of Justice. Federal Bureau of Investigation. Uniform Crime Reports for the United States--1975; 1976; and 1977. (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1976, 1977, and 1978); and National Center for Juvenile Justice. Advance Estimates of 1975, 1976, and 1977 National Court Processing Statistics. (Pittsburgh, PA: National Center for Juvenile Justice, 1979).

Table constructed by the NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM ASSESSMENT CENTER (Sacramento, CA: American Justice Institute, 1980).

TABLE D-9

NATIONAL ESTIMATES OF THE CHANGES IN THE NUMBER AND PERCENT CHANGE  
OF PERSONS UNDER 18 ARRESTED BY RACE (1975-1977)

INFORMATION CATEGORY	WHITE		BLACK		OTHER		TOTAL	
	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT
<b>1975</b>								
All Offenses	1,833,867	76.2	525,148	21.8	46,444	2.0	2,405,459	100.0
Serious Offenses	646,477	69.0	272,055	29.0	19,201	2.0	937,733	39.0
Less-Serious Offenses	891,984	80.5	195,820	17.7	19,815	1.8	1,107,619	46.0
Status Offenses	295,406	82.0	57,273	15.4	7,428	2.1	360,109	15.0
<b>1976</b>								
All Offenses	1,824,004	76.1	526,572	22.0	45,681	1.9	2,396,257	100.0
Serious Offenses	613,671	68.1	267,998	29.7	19,476	2.2	901,145	37.6
Less-Serious Offenses	943,786	80.7	205,204	17.6	19,570	1.7	1,168,560	48.8
Status Offenses	266,547	81.6	53,370	16.3	6,635	1.2	326,552	13.6
<b>1977</b>								
All Offenses	1,855,664	75.8	544,382	22.2	52,271	2.1	2,452,318	100.0
Serious Offenses	631,754	68.2	272,706	29.5	21,370	2.3	925,830	37.8
Less-Serious Offenses	989,886	79.5	225,525	18.5	24,017	2.0	1,219,428	49.7
Status Offenses	254,024	89.7	46,151	15.0	6,384	2.3	307,059	12.5
<b>PERCENT CHANGE 1975-1977</b>								
All Offenses	---	+ 1.2	---	+ 3.6	---	+12.5	---	+ 1.9
Serious Offenses	---	- 2.3	---	+ 0.2	---	+11.3	---	- 1.3
Less-Serious Offenses	---	+11.0	---	+15.2	---	+21.2	---	+10.1
Status Offenses	---	-14.0	---	-19.4	---	- 7.3	---	-14.7

Sources: U.S. Department of Justice. Federal Bureau of Investigation. Uniform Crime Reports--1975; 1976; and 1977. (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1976, 1977, 1978).

Table constructed by the NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM ASSESSMENT CENTER (Sacramento, CA: American Justice Institute, 1980).

TABLE D-10  
 CHANGES IN THE NATIONAL ESTIMATES OF THE NUMBER OF PERSONS  
 UNDER 18 ARRESTED AND REFERRED TO JUVENILE COURT  
 BY RACE AND OFFENSE TYPE (1975-1977)

INFORMATION CATEGORY	WHITE		BLACK		OTHER		TOTAL	
	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT
<b>1975</b>								
<b>ARRESTED</b>	1,833,867	76.2 <sup>3</sup>	525,148	21.8	46,444	2.0	2,405,459	100.0 <sup>3</sup>
Serious	646,477	69.0	272,055	29.0	19,201	2.0	937,733	39.0
Less-Serious	891,984	80.5	195,820	17.7	19,815	1.8	1,107,619	46.0
Status	295,406	82.0	57,273	15.9	7,429	2.1	360,107	15.0
<b>REFERRED<sup>1</sup></b>	936,235	66.6	330,839	23.5	139,003	9.9	1,406,077	100.0
Serious	304,257	61.3	139,970	28.2	58,118	10.5	496,345	35.3
Less-Serious	358,788	64.6	145,515	26.2	51,097	9.2	555,400	39.5
Status	273,190	77.1	45,354	12.8	35,788	10.1	354,332	25.2
<b>VARIANCE<sup>2</sup></b>								
Total	---	- 9.6	---	+1.7	---	+ 7.9	---	---
Serious	---	- 7.7	---	- 0.8	---	+ 8.5	---	- 3.7
Less-Serious	---	-15.9	---	+8.5	---	+ 7.4	---	- 6.5
Status	---	- 4.9	---	- 3.1	---	+ 8.0	---	+10.2
<b>1976</b>								
<b>ARRESTED</b>	1,824,004	76.1	526,572	22.0	45,681	1.9	2,396,257	100.0
Serious	613,671	68.1	267,998	29.7	19,476	2.2	901,145	37.6
Less-Serious	943,786	80.7	205,204	17.6	19,570	1.7	1,168,560	48.8
Status	266,547	81.6	53,370	16.3	6,635	2.1	326,552	13.6
<b>REFERRED</b>	1,039,817	70.4	326,062	22.1	110,310	7.5	1,476,189	100.0
Serious	438,945	62.6	208,955	29.8	53,290	7.6	701,190	47.5
Less-Serious	333,694	75.1	77,758	17.5	32,881	7.4	444,333	30.1
Status	267,178	80.8	39,349	11.9	24,139	7.3	330,666	22.4
<b>VARIANCE</b>								
Total	---	- 5.7	---	+ 0.1	---	+ 5.6	---	---
Serious	---	- 5.5	---	+ 0.1	---	+ 5.4	---	+ 9.9
Less-Serious	---	- 5.6	---	- 0.1	---	+ 5.7	---	-18.7
Status	---	- 0.8	---	- 4.4	---	+ 5.2	---	+ 8.8
<b>1977</b>								
<b>ARRESTED</b>	1,855,664	75.7	544,382	22.2	52,271	2.1	2,452,318	100.0
Serious	631,754	68.2	272,706	29.5	21,370	2.3	925,880	37.8
Less-Serious	969,886	79.5	225,525	18.5	24,017	2.0	1,219,428	49.7
Status	254,024	82.7	46,151	15.0	6,884	2.3	307,059	12.5
<b>REFERRED</b>	1,008,473	71.9	284,963	20.3	108,551	7.7	1,401,705	100.0
Serious	446,196	64.7	186,202	27.0	57,240	8.3	689,638	49.2
Less-Serious	327,267	76.5	66,483	18.5	35,172	8.2	428,922	30.6
Status	235,010	83.0	32,278	11.4	16,139	5.6	283,445	20.2
<b>VARIANCE</b>								
Total	---	-3.8	---	- 1.9	---	+ 5.6	---	---
Serious	---	- 3.5	---	- 2.5	---	+6.0	---	+11.4
Less-Serious	---	- 3.2	---	- 3.0	---	+ 6.2	---	-19.1
Status	---	- 0.3	---	- 3.6	---	+ 3.3	---	+ 7.7

<sup>1</sup>Referral statistics include 250,000 cases referred by other sources than law enforcement.

<sup>2</sup>Variance is the change in proportion of an age group when comparing arrest and referral populations.

<sup>3</sup>Percents in the total column add to 100.0 by population.

Sources: U.S. Department of Justice, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Uniform Crime Reports for the United States--1975; 1976; and 1977. (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1976, 1977, and 1978); and National Center for Juvenile Justice, Advance Estimates of 1975, 1976, and 1977 National Court Processing Statistics. (Pittsburgh, PA: National Center for Juvenile Justice, 1979).

Table constructed by the NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM ASSESSMENT CENTER (Sacramento, CA: American Justice Institute, 1980).

TABLE D-11  
 NATIONAL ESTIMATES OF THE CHANGES IN THE NUMBER AND PERCENT CHANGE  
 OF PERSONS UNDER 18 ARRESTED BY AGE (1975-1977)

INFORMATION CATEGORY	MEDIAN AGE	10 AND UNDER		11-12		13-14		15		16		17		TOTAL	
		NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT
<b>1975</b>															
All Offenses	15.29	91,606	3.8	184,241	7.7	552,964	23.0	473,649	19.7	554,179	23.0	548,606	22.8	2,405,247	100.0
Serious Offenses	15.04	41,745	4.4	91,738	9.7	241,713	25.5	184,188	19.4	202,761	21.4	186,273	19.6	948,417	39.4
Less-Serious Offenses	15.59	43,760	4.0	73,031	6.6	213,891	19.3	200,397	18.1	261,789	23.6	316,026	28.4	1,108,893	46.1
Status Offenses	15.07	6,101	1.8	19,473	5.6	97,360	28.0	89,065	25.6	89,629	25.7	46,620	13.4	348,249	14.5
<b>1976</b>															
All Offenses	15.32	88,920	3.7	179,862	7.5	539,721	22.5	476,670	19.9	565,055	23.6	546,027	22.8	2,396,255	100.0
Serious Offenses	15.07	38,042	4.2	85,975	9.5	224,982	25.0	176,954	19.6	197,732	21.9	177,254	19.7	900,939	37.6
Less-Serious Offenses	15.59	45,392	3.8	76,818	6.5	228,742	19.3	217,506	18.3	285,115	24.1	331,923	28.0	1,185,496	49.5
Status Offenses	15.06	5,485	1.8	17,070	5.5	85,997	27.8	82,211	26.5	82,208	26.5	36,850	11.9	309,821	12.9
<b>1977</b>															
All Offenses	15.35	87,819	3.6	176,295	7.2	556,115	22.7	477,043	19.5	573,339	23.4	581,707	25.7	2,452,318	100.0
Serious Offenses	15.09	38,553	4.2	84,767	9.2	234,325	25.3	179,046	19.3	202,351	21.9	186,421	20.1	925,463	37.7
Less-Serious Offenses	15.64	43,489	3.6	73,884	6.1	233,456	19.1	218,787	17.9	294,099	24.1	356,389	29.2	1,220,104	49.8
Status Offenses	15.03	5,777	1.9	17,644	5.8	88,334	28.8	79,210	25.8	76,889	25.1	38,897	12.7	306,751	12.5
<b>PERCENT CHANGE</b>															
<b>1975-1977</b>															
All Offenses	---	---	-4.1	---	-4.3	---	+0.6	---	+ 0.7	---	+ 3.5	---	+ 6.0	---	+ 2.0
Serious Offenses	---	---	-7.6	---	-7.6	---	-3.1	---	- 2.8	---	- 0.2	---	+ 0.0	---	- 2.4
Less-Serious Offenses	---	---	-0.6	---	+1.2	---	+9.1	---	+ 9.2	---	+12.3	---	+12.8	---	+10.0
Status Offenses	---	---	-5.3	---	-9.4	---	-9.3	---	-11.1	---	-14.2	---	-16.6	---	-11.9

Sources: U.S. Department of Justice. Federal Bureau of Investigation. Uniform Crime Reports--1975; 1976; and 1977. (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1976, 1977, 1978).

Table constructed by the NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM ASSESSMENT CENTER (Sacramento, CA: American Justice Institute, 1980).

TABLE D-12

## NATIONAL ESTIMATES OF THE PROPORTION OF PERSONS UNDER 18 ARRESTED AND REFERRED TO JUVENILE COURT BY AGE (1975-1977)

1975	MEDIAN AGE	10 AND UNDER		11-12 YEARS		13-14 YEARS		15 YEARS		16 YEARS		17 YEARS AND OLDER		TOTAL	
		NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT
Arrested	15.20	91,606	3.8	84,241	7.7	552,964	23.0	473,649	19.7	554,179	23.0	548,606	22.8	2,405,245	100.0
Referred	15.38	26,626	2.3	69,995	6.0	270,873	23.1	247,757	21.2	265,748	22.7	288,857	24.7	1,169,856	100.0
Percent Referred*	---	---	29.1	---	38.0	---	49.0	---	52.3	---	48.0	---	52.7	---	51.4
1976															
Arrested	15.32	88,920	3.7	179,862	7.5	539,721	22.5	476,670	19.9	565,055	23.6	546,027	22.8	2,396,255	100.0
Referred	15.39	30,412	2.5	78,281	6.4	276,760	22.6	253,178	20.7	282,269	23.1	301,927	24.7	1,222,827	100.0
Percent Referred	---	---	34.2	---	43.5	---	51.3	---	53.1	---	50.0	---	55.3	---	49.0
1977															
Arrested	15.35	87,819	3.6	176,295	7.2	556,115	22.7	477,043	19.4	573,339	23.4	581,707	23.7	2,452,318	100.0
Referred	15.62	26,238	2.3	62,547	5.4	231,082	20.2	220,088	19.2	270,767	23.6	335,934	29.3	1,146,656	100.0
Percent Referred	---	---	29.9	---	35.5	---	41.6	---	46.1	---	47.2	---	57.7	---	53.2

\*Percent of those arrested who were referred.

Sources: U.S. Department of Justice. Federal Bureau of Investigation. *Uniform Crime Reports for the United States--1975; 1976; and 1977.* (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1976, 1977, and 1978); and National Center for Juvenile Justice. *Advance Estimates of 1975, 1976, and 1977 National Court Processing Statistics.* (Pittsburgh, PA: National Center for Juvenile Justice, 1979).

Table constructed by the NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM ASSESSMENT CENTER (Sacramento, CA: American Justice Institute, 1980).

TABLE D-13

CHANGES IN THE NATIONAL ESTIMATES OF THE NUMBER OF PERSONS UNDER 18 ARRESTED AND REFERRED TO JUVENILE COURT BY AGE AND OFFENSE TYPE (1975-1977)

INFORMATION CATEGORY	MEDIAN AGE	10 AND UNDER		11 - 12		13 - 14		15		16		17 AND OVER		TOTAL	
		NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT
<b>1975</b>															
<b>ARRESTED</b>	15.29	91,606	3.8	104,241	7.7	552,964	23.0	475,649	19.7	554,179	23.0	548,919	22.8	2,405,558	100.0 <sup>5</sup>
Serious	15.04	41,745	4.4	91,738	9.7	241,713	25.5	184,188	19.4	202,761	21.4	186,275	19.6	948,418	39.4
Less-Serious	15.59	43,760	3.9	73,030	6.0	213,891	19.3	200,397	18.1	261,789	23.6	316,026	28.5	1,108,893	46.1
Status	15.07	6,101	1.7	19,473	5.6	97,360	28.0	89,064	25.6	89,629	25.7	46,620	13.4	348,247	14.5
<b>REFERRED<sup>1</sup></b>	15.32	52,607	2.3	85,553	6.1	335,432	23.9	305,345	21.7	315,576	22.4	331,564	23.6	1,406,077	100.0
Serious	15.21	13,544	2.6	37,464	7.3	128,504	25.0	108,802	21.2	110,855	21.6	114,449	22.3	513,218	36.5
Less-Serious	15.6	14,291	2.8	30,114	5.9	101,571	19.9	97,488	19.1	117,904	23.0	149,039	29.2	510,406	36.3
Status	15.13	4,972	1.3	17,975	4.7	105,557	27.6	99,055	25.9	86,817	22.7	68,076	17.8	382,454	27.2
<b>VARIANCE<sup>2</sup></b>															
Total	+0.03	---	-1.5	---	-1.6	---	+0.9	---	+2.0	---	-0.6	---	+0.8	---	---
Serious	+0.17	---	-1.8	---	-2.4	---	-0.5	---	+1.8	---	+0.2	---	+2.7	---	-2.9
Less-Serious	+0.01	---	-1.1	---	-0.7	---	+0.6	---	+1.0	---	-0.6	---	+0.7	---	-9.8
Status	+0.06	---	-0.4	---	-0.9	---	-0.4	---	+0.3	---	-3.0	---	+4.4	---	+12.7
<b>1976</b>															
<b>ARRESTED</b>	15.32	88,920	3.7	179,363	7.5	539,721	22.5	476,670	19.9	565,055	23.6	546,027	22.8	2,395,756	100.0
Serious	15.07	38,042	4.2	85,975	9.5	224,982	25.0	176,954	19.6	197,732	21.9	177,254	19.7	900,939	37.6
Less-Serious	15.37	45,392	3.8	76,318	6.4	228,742	19.3	217,506	18.4	235,115	24.1	331,923	28.0	1,184,996	49.5
Status	15.06	5,486	1.8	17,070	5.5	85,997	27.8	82,210	26.5	82,208	26.5	36,850	11.9	309,821	12.9
<b>REFERRED<sup>1</sup></b>	15.36	36,559	2.5	87,453	6.0	343,512	23.4	313,542	21.3	339,850	23.1	348,756	23.7	1,469,672	100.0
Serious	15.25	20,206	2.9	48,045	7.0	171,403	24.8	144,230	20.9	151,680	22.0	154,680	22.4	690,244	47.0
Less-Serious	15.66	11,997	2.7	23,994	5.4	83,979	18.9	84,868	19.1	108,417	24.4	131,078	29.5	444,333	30.2
Status	15.21	4,356	1.3	15,414	4.6	88,130	26.3	84,444	25.2	79,753	23.8	62,998	18.8	335,095	22.8
<b>VARIANCE<sup>2</sup></b>															
Total	+0.04	---	-1.2	---	-1.5	---	+0.9	---	+1.4	---	-0.5	---	+0.9	---	---
Serious	+0.18	---	-1.3	---	-2.5	---	-0.2	---	+1.3	---	+0.1	---	+2.7	---	+9.4
Less-Serious	+0.29	---	-1.1	---	-1.0	---	-0.4	---	+0.7	---	-0.3	---	+1.5	---	-19.3
Status	+0.15	---	-0.5	---	-0.9	---	-1.5	---	-1.3	---	-2.7	---	+6.9	---	+9.9
<b>1977</b>															
<b>ARRESTED</b>	15.35	87,819	3.6	176,295	7.2	556,115	22.7	477,043	19.5	573,339	23.4	581,707	2.7	2,452,318	100.0
Serious	15.09	38,553	2.6	84,767	9.2	234,325	25.3	179,046	19.3	202,351	21.9	186,421	20.1	925,463	37.7
Less-Serious	15.64	45,489	3.6	73,884	6.1	233,456	19.1	218,787	17.9	294,099	24.1	356,389	29.1	1,220,104	49.8
Status	15.03	5,777	1.9	17,644	5.8	88,334	28.8	79,210	25.8	76,889	25.1	38,897	12.7	306,751	12.5
<b>REFERRED<sup>1</sup></b>	15.56	32,798	2.3	73,142	5.6	291,605	20.8	277,894	19.8	329,034	23.5	392,232	20.0	1,401,705	100.0
Serious	15.42	17,050	2.6	46,896	6.8	155,169	22.5	135,169	10.6	155,169	22.5	179,306	26.0	689,635	49.0
Less-Serious	15.83	10,428	2.4	20,422	4.7	73,435	16.9	77,781	17.9	105,591	24.3	146,872	33.8	434,459	31.0
Status	15.43	4,440	1.6	10,824	3.8	65,001	22.7	64,944	23.4	68,274	24.6	66,057	23.8	277,537	20.0
<b>VARIANCE<sup>2</sup></b>															
Total	+0.21	---	-1.3	---	-1.6	---	-1.9	---	+0.3	---	+0.1	---	+4.3	---	---
Serious	+0.33	---	0.0	---	-2.4	---	-2.8	---	+0.3	---	+0.6	---	+5.9	---	+11.3
Less-Serious	+0.19	---	-1.2	---	-1.4	---	-2.2	---	0.0	---	+0.2	---	+4.6	---	-18.8
Status	+0.40	---	-0.3	---	-2.0	---	-6.1	---	-2.4	---	-0.5	---	+11.1	---	+7.5

<sup>1</sup>Referral statistics include 250,000 cases referred by other sources than law enforcement.<sup>2</sup>Variance is the change in proportion of an age group when comparing arrest and referral populations.<sup>3</sup>Percentages in the total column add to 100.0 by population.<sup>4</sup>Number of referrals may exceed number of arrests due to referrals from sources other than law enforcement.

Sources: U.S. Department of Justice, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Uniform Crime Reports for the United States--1975; 1976; and 1977. (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1976, 1977, and 1978); and National Center for Juvenile Justice, Advance Estimates of 1975, 1976, and 1977 National Court Processing Statistics. (Pittsburgh, PA: National Center for Juvenile Justice, 1979).

Table constructed by the NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM ASSESSMENT CENTER (Sacramento, CA: American Justice Institute, 1980).

TABLE D-14

NATIONAL ESTIMATES OF THE NUMBER OF PERSONS UNDER 18  
REFERRED TO JUVENILE COURT BY THE SOURCE OF REFERRAL  
AND OFFENSE CATEGORY (1977)

OFFENSE CATEGORY	LAW ENFORCEMENT		OTHER		TOTAL	
	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT
All Offenses	1,149,951	82.0	251,754	18.0	1,401,705	100.0
Serious	623,745	91.0	61,689	9.0	685,434	48.9
Less-Serious	366,727	85.5	62,194	14.5	428,921	30.6
Status	159,479	55.5	127,871	44.5	287,350	20.5

Source: National Center for Juvenile Justice. Advance Estimates of 1977 National Court Processing Statistics. (Pittsburgh, PA: National Center for Juvenile Justice, November 1979).

Table constructed by the NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM ASSESSMENT CENTER (Sacramento, CA: American Justice Institute, 1980).



TABLE D-15  
 CHANGES IN THE NATIONAL ESTIMATES OF THE NUMBER OF PERSONS UNDER 18 REFERRED TO  
 JUVENILE COURT BY SOURCE OF REFERRAL AND OFFENSE TYPE (1975-1977)

INFORMATION CATEGORY	SERIOUS			LESS-SERIOUS			STATUS			TOTAL	
	NUMBER	PERCENT	( )	NUMBER	PERCENT	( )	NUMBER	PERCENT	( )	NUMBER	PERCENT
<u>1975</u>	494,940	35.5	(100.0)	553,994	39.4	(100.0)	357,143	25.1	(100.0)	1,406,077	100.0
Court	10,394	33.8	( 2.1)	12,188	39.6	( 2.2)	8,214	26.7	( 2.3)	30,796	( 2.2)
Corrections	2,970	9.0	( 0.6)	7,202	22.0	( 1.3)	22,500	69.0	( 6.3)	32,672	( 2.3)
Community Agency	2,475	4.8	( 0.5)	11,079	21.7	( 2.0)	37,500	73.5	(10.5)	51,054	( 3.6)
Family, Citizen, Self	18,313	14.4	( 3.7)	42,104	33.1	( 7.6)	66,786	52.5	(18.7)	127,203	( 9.1)
Law Enforcement	460,788	39.6	( 93.1)	481,421	41.3	( 86.9)	222,143	19.1	( 62.2)	1,164,352	(82.8)
<u>1976</u>	702,666	47.6	(100.0)	445,809	30.2	(100.0)	327,714	22.2	(100.0)	1,476,189	100.0
Court	12,648	41.1	( 1.8)	11,591	37.6	( 2.6)	6,544	21.3	( 2.0)	30,793	( 2.1)
Corrections	4,919	12.9	( 0.7)	17,832	46.7	( 4.0)	15,403	40.4	( 4.7)	38,154	( 2.6)
Community Agency	6,323	11.1	( 0.9)	9,808	17.3	( 2.2)	40,637	71.6	(12.4)	56,768	( 3.8)
Family, Citizen, Self	42,863	33.1	( 6.1)	24,965	19.3	( 5.6)	61,610	47.6	(18.8)	129,438	( 8.8)
Law Enforcement	635,913	52.1	( 90.5)	381,613	31.2	( 85.6)	203,510	16.7	( 62.1)	1,221,036	( 82.7)
<u>1977</u>	685,434	48.9	(100.0)	427,520	30.5	(100.0)	288,751	20.6	(100.0)	1,401,705	100.0
Court	13,709	43.0	( 2.0)	13,253	41.6	( 3.1)	4,909	15.4	( 1.7)	31,871	( 2.3)
Corrections	3,427	10.9	( 0.5)	17,100	54.3	( 4.0)	10,973	34.8	( 3.8)	31,500	( 2.2)
Community Agency	6,854	11.2	( 1.0)	8,978	14.6	( 2.1)	45,623	74.2	(15.8)	61,455	( 4.4)
Family, Citizen, Self	37,699	29.6	( 5.5)	22,659	17.8	( 5.3)	66,990	52.6	(23.2)	127,348	( 9.1)
Law Enforcement	623,745	54.3	( 91.0)	365,530	31.8	( 85.5)	160,256	13.9	( 55.5)	1,149,531	( 82.0)

Note: Two percentages are presented: The horizontal (row) percentages indicate how much of the row total is represented under each column. The vertical (column) percentages (in parentheses) indicate how much of the column total is represented in each row.

Sources: U.S. Department of Justice. Federal Bureau of Investigation. Uniform Crime Reports for the United States--1975; 1976; and 1977. (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1976, 1977, and 1978); and National Center for Juvenile Justice. Advance Estimates of 1975, 1976, and 1977 National Court Processing Statistics. (Pittsburgh, PA: National Center for Juvenile Justice, 1979).

Table constructed by the NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM ASSESSMENT CENTER (Sacramento, CA: American Justice Institute, 1980).

TABLE D-16

NATIONAL ESTIMATES OF THE NUMBER OF PERSONS UNDER 18 REFERRED TO JUVENILE COURT  
WITH AND WITHOUT PETITION BY SOURCE OF REFERRAL

INFORMATION CATEGORY	WITHOUT PETITION		WITH PETITION		TOTAL	
	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT
<b>1975</b>	758,562	54.0 (100.0)	647,515	46.0 (100.0)	1,406,077	100.0
Court	18,493	54.8 ( 2.4)	15,253	45.2 ( 2.4)	33,746	( 2.4)
Corrections	11,917	33.9 ( 1.6)	23,234	66.1 ( 3.6)	35,151	( 2.5)
Community Agency	28,684	53.3 ( 3.8)	26,153	46.7 ( 4.0)	53,837	( 3.8)
Family, Citizen, Self	61,123	46.2 ( 8.0)	71,049	53.8 (11.0)	132,172	( 9.4)
Law Enforcement	638,345	55.5 (84.2)	511,826	44.5 (79.0)	1,150,171	(81.8)
<b>1976</b>	816,010	55.3 (100.0)	660,179	44.7 (100.0)	1,476,189	100.0
Court	15,469	50.0 ( 1.9)	15,531	50.0 ( 2.4)	31,000	( 2.1)
Corrections	5,395	21.5 ( 0.6)	19,700	78.5 ( 3.0)	25,095	( 1.7)
Community Agency	26,796	45.4 ( 3.3)	32,251	54.6 ( 4.9)	59,047	( 4.0)
Family, Citizen, Self	61,674	47.5 ( 7.6)	68,231	52.5 (10.3)	129,905	( 8.8)
Law Enforcement	706,676	57.4 (86.6)	524,466	42.6 (79.4)	1,231,142	(83.4)
<b>1977</b>	743,651	53.0 (100.0)	658,054	47.0 (100.0)	1,401,705	100.0
Court	15,571	48.3 ( 2.1)	16,668	51.7 ( 2.5)	32,239	( 2.3)
Corrections	4,310	20.5 ( 0.6)	16,716	79.5 ( 2.6)	21,026	( 1.5)
Community Agency	31,289	49.6 ( 4.2)	31,788	50.4 ( 4.8)	63,077	( 4.5)
Family, Citizen, Self	64,552	50.1 ( 8.7)	64,404	49.9 ( 9.8)	128,956	( 9.2)
Law Enforcement	627,929	54.3 (84.4)	528,478	45.7 (80.3)	1,156,407	(82.5)

Note: Two percentages are presented: The horizontal (row) percentages indicate how much of the row total is represented under each column. The vertical (column) percentages (in parentheses) indicate how much of the column total is represented in each row.

Source: National Center for Juvenile Justice. Advance Estimates of 1975, 1976, and 1977 National Court Processing Statistics. (Pittsburgh, PA: National Center for Juvenile Justice, 1979).

Table constructed by the NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM ASSESSMENT CENTER (Sacramento, CA: American Justice Institute, 1980).

TABLE D-17

NATIONAL ESTIMATES OF THE NUMBER OF PERSONS UNDER 18  
REFERRED TO JUVENILE COURT AND FILED ON BY OFFENSE CATEGORY  
(1975-1977)

INFORMATION CATEGORY	SERIOUS		LESS SERIOUS		STATUS		TOTAL	
	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT
<b>1975</b>								
Referred	496,345	35.3	552,588	39.3	357,144	25.4	1,406,077	100.0
Filed On	245,483	37.2	266,826	40.4	147,694	22.4	660,003	100.0
Percent Filed	---	49.5	---	48.3	---	41.4	---	46.9
Variance	---	+1.9	---	+1.1	---	-3.0	---	---
<b>1976</b>								
Referred	695,285	47.1	445,809	30.2	335,095	27.7	1,476,189	100.0
Filed On	375,308	56.8	179,066	27.2	105,852	16.0	660,226	100.0
Percent Filed	---	31.6	---	40.2	---	54.0	---	44.7
Variance	---	+9.7	---	-3.0	---	-6.7	---	---
<b>1977</b>								
Referred	685,434	48.9	428,921	30.6	287,350	20.5	1,401,705	100.0
Filed On	379,730	57.7	179,230	27.2	99,712	15.1	658,672	100.0
Percent Filed	---	55.4	---	41.8	---	34.7	---	47.0
Variance	---	+8.6	---	-3.4	---	-5.4	---	---

Note: Variance reflects the change in proportion.

Source: National Center for Juvenile Justice. Advance Estimates of 1975, 1976, and 1977 National Court Processing Statistics. (Pittsburgh, PA: National Center for Juvenile Justice, 1979).

Table constructed by the NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM ASSESSMENT CENTER (Sacramento, CA: American Justice Institute, 1980).

TABLE D-18

## NATIONAL ESTIMATES OF THE NUMBER OF PERSONS UNDER 18 REFERRED TO JUVENILE COURT BY SOURCE OF REFERRAL AND SEX (1975-1977)

SOURCE OF REFERRAL	MALE		FEMALE		TOTAL	
	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT
<b>1975</b>	1,070,502	76.1 (100.0)	335,575	23.9 (100.0)	1,406,077	100.0
Court	22,365	72.3 ( 2.1)	8,569	27.7 ( 2.6)	30,934	( 2.2)
Corrections	20,601	63.7 ( 1.9)	11,739	36.3 ( 3.5)	32,340	( 2.3)
Community Agencies	32,159	61.8 ( 3.0)	19,865	38.2 ( 5.9)	52,024	( 3.7)
Family, Citizen, Self	74,469	58.8 ( 7.0)	52,078	41.2 (15.5)	126,547	( 9.0)
Police Agency	920,908	79.1 (86.0)	243,324	20.9 (72.5)	1,164,232	(82.8)
<b>1976</b>	1,128,115	76.4 (100.0)	348,074	23.6 (100.0)	1,476,189	100.0
Court	22,172	75.1 ( 2.0)	7,352	24.9 ( 2.1)	29,524	( 2.0)
Corrections	25,293	65.9 ( 2.2)	13,088	34.1 ( 3.8)	38,381	( 2.6)
Community Agencies	36,659	63.7 ( 3.3)	20,912	36.3 ( 6.0)	57,571	( 3.9)
Family, Citizen, Self	77,111	59.4 ( 6.8)	52,794	40.6 (15.2)	129,905	( 8.8)
Police Agency	966,880	79.2 (85.7)	253,928	20.8 (72.9)	1,120,808	(82.7)
<b>1977</b>	1,075,515	76.7 (100.0)	326,190	23.3 (100.0)	1,401,705	100.0
Court	24,502	76.0 ( 2.3)	7,757	24.0 ( 2.4)	32,259	( 2.3)
Corrections	20,877	67.7 ( 1.9)	9,961	32.3 ( 3.0)	30,838	( 2.2)
Community Agencies	37,246	61.8 ( 3.5)	23,027	38.2 ( 7.1)	60,273	( 4.3)
Family, Citizen, Self	74,552	58.4 ( 6.9)	53,003	41.6 (16.2)	127,555	( 9.1)
Police Agency	918,338	79.8 (85.4)	232,462	20.2 (71.3)	1,150,800	(82.1)

Note: Two percentages are presented: The horizontal (row) percentages indicate how much of the row total is represented under each column. The vertical (column) percentages (in parentheses) indicate how much of the column total is represented in each row.

Source: National Center for Juvenile Justice. Advance Estimates of 1975, 1976, and 1977 National Court Process Statistics. (Pittsburgh, PA: National Center for Juvenile Justice, 1979).

Table constructed by the NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM ASSESSMENT CENTER (Sacramento, CA: American Justice Institute, 1980).

TABLE D-19

## CHANGES IN THE NUMBER AND RATE OF PERSONS 7-17 REFERRED TO JUVENILE COURT BY SEX AND SOURCE OF REFERRAL IN THE UNITED STATES (1975-1977)

INFORMATION CATEGORY	1975		1976		1977		PERCENT CHANGE 1975-1977
	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	
<b>POPULATION (IN THOUSANDS)</b>							
Male	43,452	100.0	42,770	100.0	42,153	100.0	+ 3.0
Female	22,144	51.0	21,799	51.0	21,492	51.0	- 2.9
	21,308	49.0	20,971	49.0	20,661	49.0	- 3.0
<b>REFERRALS</b>	1,406,077	100.0	1,476,189	100.0	1,401,705	100.0	- 0.3
Male	1,070,502	76.1	1,128,115	76.4	1,075,515	76.7	+ 0.5
Law Enforcement	920,908	86.0	966,880	85.7	918,338	85.4	- 0.3
Other	149,594	14.0	161,235	14.3	157,177	14.6	+ 5.1
Female	335,575	23.9	348,074	23.6	326,190	23.3	- 2.8
Law Enforcement	243,324	72.5	253,928	73.0	232,462	71.3	- 4.5
Other	92,251	27.5	94,146	27.0	93,728	28.7	+ 1.6
<b>REFERRAL RATES (PER 100,000 POPULATION)</b>	3,235.9		3,451.5		3,325.3		+ 2.8
Male	4,834.3		5,175.1		5,004.3		+ 3.5
Law Enforcement	4,158.7		4,435.4		4,272.9		+ 2.7
Other	675.6		739.6		731.3		+ 8.2
Female	1,574.9		1,659.8		1,578.8		+ 0.2
Law Enforcement	1,141.9		1,210.9		1,125.1		- 1.5
Other	432.9		448.9		453.7		+ 4.8

Sources: National Center for Juvenile Justice. Advance Estimates of 1975, 1976, and 1977 National Court Processing Statistics. (Pittsburgh, PA: National Center for Juvenile Justice, 1979); and U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census. Current Population Reports: Estimates of the Population of the United States by Age, Sex, and Race: 1970 to 1977. Series P-25, no. 721. (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, April 1978).

Table constructed by the NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM ASSESSMENT CENTER (Sacramento, CA: American Justice Institute, 1980).

TABLE D-20

NATIONAL ESTIMATES OF THE PROPORTION OF PERSONS UNDER 18  
REFERRED TO JUVENILE COURT AND FILED ON BY SEX  
(1975-1977)

INFORMATION CATEGORY	MALE		FEMALE		TOTAL	
	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT
<u>1975</u>						
Referred	1,064,400	75.7	341,677	24.3	1,406,077	100.0
Filed On	516,789	78.2	144,067	21.8	660,856	100.0
Percent Filed	---	48.6	---	42.2	---	47.0
Variance	---	+2.5	---	-2.5	---	---
<u>1976</u>						
Referred	1,126,332	76.3	349,857	23.7	1,476,189	100.0
Filed On	532,755	80.8	126,998	19.2	659,753	100.0
Percent Filed	---	47.3	---	36.3	---	44.7
Variance	---	+4.5	---	-4.5	---	---
<u>1977</u>						
Referred	1,070,903	76.4	330,802	23.6	1,401,705	100.0
Filed On	531,168	80.6	127,690	19.4	658,858	100.0
Percent Filed	---	49.6	---	38.6	---	47.0
Variance	---	+4.2	---	-4.2	---	---

Note: Variance reflects the change in proportion.

Source: National Center for Juvenile Justice. Advance Estimates of 1975, 1976, and 1977 National Court Processing Statistics. (Pittsburgh, PA: National Center for Juvenile Justice, 1979).

Table constructed by the NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM ASSESSMENT CENTER (Sacramento, CA: American Justice Institute, 1980).

TABLE D-21

NATIONAL ESTIMATES OF THE NUMBER OF PERSONS UNDER 18 REFERRED TO  
COURT INTAKE BY SOURCE OF REFERRAL AND RACE (1975-1977)

SOURCE OF REFERRAL	WHITE			BLACK			OTHER			TOTAL	
	NUMBER	PERCENT	( )	NUMBER	PERCENT	( )	NUMBER	PERCENT	( )	NUMBER	PERCENT
<u>1975</u>	937,486	66.7	(100.0)	328,627	23.4	(100.0)	139,964	9.9	(100.0)	1,406,077	100.0
Court	22,146	75.0	( 2.4)	4,252	14.4	( 1.3)	3,130	10.6	( 2.2)	29,528	( 2.1)
Corrections	23,608	73.0	( 2.5)	5,239	16.2	( 1.6)	3,493	10.8	( 2.5)	32,340	( 2.3)
Community Agencies	33,230	69.5	( 3.6)	12,454	26.1	( 3.8)	2,122	4.4	( 1.5)	47,806	( 3.4)
Family, Citizen, Self	87,567	69.2	( 9.3)	34,106	26.9	( 10.4)	4,875	3.9	( 3.5)	126,547	( 9.0)
Police Agency	770,935	65.9	( 82.2)	272,576	23.3	( 82.8)	126,344	10.8	( 90.3)	1,169,855	(83.2)
<u>1976</u>	1,033,066	70.0	(100.0)	330,538	22.4	(100.0)	112,585	7.6	(100.0)	1,476,189	100.0
Court	23,412	79.3	( 2.3)	3,307	11.2	( 1.0)	2,805	9.5	( 2.5)	29,524	( 2.0)
Corrections	28,786	75.0	( 2.8)	5,987	15.6	( 1.8)	3,608	9.4	( 3.2)	38,381	( 2.6)
Community Agencies	38,304	70.1	( 3.7)	14,751	27.0	( 4.5)	1,564	2.9	( 1.4)	54,619	( 3.7)
Family, Citizen, Self	92,452	72.8	( 8.9)	31,709	25.0	( 9.6)	2,791	2.2	( 2.5)	126,952	( 8.6)
Police Agency	850,112	69.3	( 82.3)	274,784	22.4	( 83.1)	101,817	8.3	( 90.4)	1,226,713	(83.1)
<u>1977</u>	1,009,181	72.0	(100.0)	284,229	20.3	(100.0)	108,295	7.7	(100.0)	1,401,705	100.0
Court	24,916	80.8	( 2.5)	3,084	10.0	( 1.1)	2,837	9.2	( 2.6)	30,837	( 2.2)
Corrections	24,207	78.5	( 2.4)	3,608	11.7	( 1.3)	3,022	9.8	( 2.8)	30,837	( 2.2)
Community Agencies	44,474	75.5	( 4.4)	12,119	20.6	( 4.3)	2,279	3.9	( 2.1)	58,872	( 4.2)
Family, Citizen, Self	94,535	75.8	( 9.4)	27,198	21.8	( 9.5)	3,019	2.4	( 2.8)	124,752	( 8.9)
Police Agency	821,049	71.0	( 81.3)	238,220	20.6	( 83.8)	97,138	8.4	( 89.7)	1,156,407	(82.5)

Note: Two percentages are presented: The horizontal (row) percentages indicate how much of the row total is represented under each column. The vertical (column) percentages (in parentheses) indicate how much of the column total is represented in each row.

Source: National Center for Juvenile Justice. Advance Estimates of 1975, 1976, and 1977 National Court Processing Statistics. (Pittsburgh, PA: National Center for Juvenile Justice, 1979).

Table constructed by the NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM ASSESSMENT CENTER (Sacramento, CA: American Justice Institute, 1980).

TABLE D-22

NATIONAL ESTIMATES OF THE CHANGES IN THE NUMBER AND RATE OF PERSONS AT RISK (7 THROUGH 17)  
REFERRED TO JUVENILE COURT BY RACE AND SOURCE OF REFERRAL (1975-1977)

INFORMATION CATEGORY	WHITE		BLACK AND OTHER		TOTAL	
	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT
<b>POPULATION (IN THOUSANDS)</b>						
1975	35,091	83.6	6,873	16.4	41,964	100.0
1976	35,897	83.9	6,873	16.1	42,770	100.0
1977	35,291	83.7	6,862	16.3	42,153	100.0
% Change (1975-1977)	---	+0.6	---	-0.2	---	+0.5
<b>REFERRALS</b>						
1975	937,486	66.7 (100.0)	468,591	33.3 (100.0)	1,406,077	100.0
Law Enforcement	770,935	65.9 (82.2)	398,920	34.1 (85.1)	1,169,855	(83.2)
Other	166,551	70.5 (17.8)	69,671	29.5 (14.9)	236,222	(16.8)
1976	1,033,066	70.0 (100.0)	443,123	30.0 (100.0)	1,476,189	100.0
Law Enforcement	850,112	69.3 (82.3)	376,601	30.7 (85.0)	1,226,713	(83.1)
Other	182,954	73.3 (17.7)	66,522	26.7 (15.0)	249,476	(16.9)
1977	1,009,181	72.0 (100.0)	392,524	28.0 (100.0)	1,401,705	100.0
Law Enforcement	821,049	71.0 (81.4)	335,358	29.0 (85.4)	1,156,407	(82.5)
Other	188,132	76.7 (18.6)	57,166	23.3 (14.6)	245,298	(17.5)
% Change (1975-1977)						
Total		+7.6		-16.2		-0.3
Law Enforcement		+6.5		-15.9		-1.1
Other		+13.0		-17.9		+3.8
<b>REFERRAL RATES (PER 100,000 POPULATION)</b>						
1975	2671.6		6817.9		3350.7	
Law Enforcement	2197.0		5804.2		2787.8	
Other	474.6		1013.7		562.9	
1976	2877.9		6447.3		3451.5	
Law Enforcement	2368.2		5479.4		2868.2	
Other	509.7		967.9		583.3	
1977	2859.6		5720.3		3325.3	
Law Enforcement	2326.5		4887.2		2743.4	
Other	533.1		833.1		581.9	
% Change (1975-1977)						
Total		+7.0		-16.1		-0.8
Law Enforcement		+5.9		-15.8		-1.6
Other		+12.3		-17.8		+3.4

Sources: National Center for Juvenile Justice. Advance Estimates of 1975, 1976, and 1977 National Court Processing Statistics. (Pittsburgh, PA: National Center for Juvenile Justice, 1979); and U.S. Department of Commerce. Bureau of the Census. Current Population Report, Estimates of the Population of the United States by Age, Sex, and Race: 1970 to 1977, Series P-25, No. 721. (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1978).

Table constructed by the NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM ASSESSMENT CENTER (Sacramento, CA: American Justice Institute, 1980).

TABLE D-23

NATIONAL ESTIMATES OF THE PROPORTION OF PERSONS UNDER 18  
REFERRED TO JUVENILE COURT AND FILED ON BY RACE (1975-1977)

INFORMATION CATEGORY	WHITE		BLACK		OTHER		TOTAL	
	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT
<b>1975</b>								
Referred	964,569	68.6	321,992	22.9	126,923	8.6	1,406,077	100.0
Filed On	446,595	66.8	177,740	26.6	44,621	6.7	668,956	100.0
Percent Filed	---	46.3	---	55.2	---	36.9	---	47.6
Variance	---	-1.8	---	+5.7	---	-1.9	---	---
<b>1976</b>								
Referred	1,036,285	70.2	336,571	22.8	103,333	7.1	1,476,189	100.0
Filed On	440,421	67.4	176,363	30.0	36,683	5.6	653,467	100.0
Percent Filed	---	42.5	---	52.4	---	35.5	---	44.3
Variance	---	-2.8	---	+7.2	---	-1.5	---	---
<b>1977</b>								
Referred	1,016,236	72.5	285,948	20.4	99,521	7.1	1,401,705	100.0
Filed On	459,339	70.7	149,837	23.1	40,107	6.2	649,283	100.0
Percent Filed	---	45.2	---	52.4	---	40.3	---	46.3
Variance	---	-1.8	---	+2.7	---	-0.9	---	---

Note: Variance reflects the change in proportion.

Source: National Center for Juvenile Justice. Advance Estimates of 1975, 1976, and 1977 National Court Processing Statistics. (Pittsburgh, PA: National Center for Juvenile Justice, 1979).

Table constructed by the NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM ASSESSMENT CENTER (Sacramento, CA: American Justice Institute, 1980).

TABLE D-24  
 NATIONAL ESTIMATES OF THE NUMBER OF PERSONS UNDER 18 REFERRED TO JUVENILE COURT  
 BY SOURCE OF REFERRAL AND AGE (1975-1977)

SOURCE OF REFERRAL	MEDIAN AGE	10 AND UNDER		11 YEARS		12 YEARS		13 YEARS		14 YEARS		15 YEARS		16 YEARS		17 AND OVER		TOTAL	
		NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT
<u>1975</u>	15.6	33,746	2.4	28,122	2.0	56,243	4.0	119,516	8.5	215,130	15.3	305,119	21.7	316,367	22.5	331,834	23.6	1,406,077	100.0
Court	16.0	304	0.9	337	0.9	731	2.1	1,793	5.1	3,872	11.0	6,102	17.3	9,491	26.9	12,610	35.8	35,240	( 2.5)
Corrections	15.3	496	1.3	309	0.8	956	2.6	2,510	6.7	6,239	16.7	9,746	26.1	9,491	25.4	7,632	20.4	37,391	( 2.7)
Community Agencies	14.6	1,704	3.6	985	2.1	2,419	5.2	5,857	12.6	10,541	22.7	14,036	30.2	6,960	15.0	3,932	8.6	46,484	( 3.3)
Family, Citizen, Self	15.0	4,266	3.9	3,178	2.7	5,455	4.7	12,309	10.5	20,653	17.7	27,460	23.5	24,677	21.1	18,583	15.9	116,937	( 6.8)
Police Agency	15.4	26,626	2.3	23,313	2.0	46,682	4.0	97,047	8.3	173,825	14.8	247,757	21.2	265,748	22.7	289,027	24.7	1,170,925	(83.2)
<u>1976</u>	15.3	36,904	2.5	31,000	2.1	63,476	4.3	125,476	8.5	218,476	14.8	312,952	21.2	338,047	22.9	349,857	23.7	1,476,189	100.0
Court	15.7	276	0.9	310	1.0	571	1.8	1,380	4.5	3,059	9.9	5,633	18.2	8,113	26.3	11,545	37.4	30,887	( 2.1)
Corrections	15.5	200	0.6	279	0.7	889	2.3	2,510	6.6	5,899	15.5	9,389	24.7	10,141	26.6	8,746	23.0	38,054	( 2.5)
Community Agencies	14.7	1,690	3.0	1,240	2.2	3,047	5.3	6,901	12.0	12,234	21.3	15,961	27.7	10,141	17.6	6,297	10.9	57,511	( 3.9)
Family, Citizen, Self	15.0	4,326	3.3	3,131	2.5	6,728	5.3	12,924	10.2	22,285	17.6	28,791	23.7	27,383	21.6	21,342	16.8	126,910	( 8.7)
Police Agency	15.4	3,412	2.5	26,040	2.1	52,241	4.3	101,761	8.3	174,999	14.3	253,178	20.7	282,269	23.1	301,927	24.7	1,222,827	(82.8)
<u>1977</u>	15.6	33,641	2.4	25,231	1.8	51,863	3.7	105,128	7.5	187,828	13.4	277,538	19.8	329,400	23.5	391,076	27.9	1,401,705	100.0
Court	16.3	305	0.9	227	0.7	519	1.5	1,367	3.9	2,817	8.1	5,273	15.2	8,894	25.7	15,252	14.0	34,654	( 2.5)
Corrections	15.7	137	0.4	177	0.5	570	1.7	1,787	5.2	4,696	13.6	8,049	23.3	8,894	25.8	10,168	29.5	34,478	( 2.5)
Community Agencies	14.8	2,961	4.8	1,337	2.2	2,956	4.8	6,729	11.0	12,021	19.7	16,097	26.4	11,529	18.9	7,430	12.2	61,060	( 4.4)
Family, Citizen, Self	15.1	4,000	13.2	2,952	2.4	5,809	4.6	11,984	9.6	20,473	16.4	28,031	22.4	29,316	23.5	22,292	17.9	124,857	( 8.8)
Police Agency	15.6	26,238	2.3	20,538	1.8	42,009	3.7	83,261	7.3	147,821	12.8	220,088	19.2	270,767	23.6	335,934	29.3	1,146,656	(81.8)

Source: National Center for Juvenile Justice. Advance Estimates of 1975, 1976, and 1977 National Court Processing Statistics. (Pittsburgh, PA: National Center for Juvenile Justice, 1979).

Table constructed by the NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM ASSESSMENT CENTER (Sacramento, CA: American Justice Institute, 1980).

TABLE D-25  
 NATIONAL ESTIMATES OF THE PROPORTIONS OF PERSONS UNDER 18 REFERRED TO JUVENILE COURT  
 AND FILED ON BY AGE (1975-1977)

INFORMATION CATEGORY	10 AND UNDER		11 YEARS		12 YEARS		13 YEARS		14 YEARS		15 YEARS		16 YEARS		17 YEARS AND OLDER		TOTAL	
	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT
<u>1975</u>																		
Referred	33,746	2.4	28,122	2.0	56,243	4.0	119,516	8.5	215,130	15.3	305,119	21.7	316,367	22.5	331,834	23.6	1,406,077	100.0
Filed On	11,888	1.9	11,398	1.8	22,854	3.7	51,011	8.2	97,202	15.7	140,724	22.7	139,834	22.6	144,236	23.3	619,147	100.0
Percent Filed	---	35.2	---	40.5	---	40.6	---	42.7	---	45.2	---	46.1	---	44.2	---	43.5	---	44.0
Variance	---	-0.5	---	-0.2	---	-0.3	---	-0.3	---	+0.4	---	+1.0	---	+0.1	---	-0.3	---	---
<u>1976</u>																		
Referred	36,904	2.5	31,000	2.1	63,476	4.3	125,476	8.5	218,476	14.8	312,952	21.2	338,047	22.9	349,857	23.7	1,476,189	100.0
Filed On	9,621	1.5	10,879	1.6	24,097	3.6	51,796	7.8	97,439	14.8	146,082	22.1	156,824	23.7	163,740	24.8	660,478	100.0
Percent Filed	---	26.1	---	35.1	---	38.0	---	41.3	---	44.6	---	46.7	---	46.4	---	46.8	---	44.7
Variance	---	-1.0	---	-0.5	---	-0.7	---	-0.7	---	+0.0	---	+0.9	---	+0.8	---	+1.1	---	---
<u>1977</u>																		
Referred	33,641	2.4	25,231	1.8	51,863	3.7	105,128	7.5	187,828	13.4	277,538	19.8	329,400	23.5	391,076	27.9	1,401,705	100.0
Filed On	9,815	1.5	10,067	1.4	22,796	3.3	49,001	7.2	93,982	13.8	141,980	20.9	169,247	24.9	183,388	27.0	680,276	100.0
Percent Filed	---	29.2	---	39.9	---	44.0	---	46.6	---	50.0	---	51.2	---	51.4	---	46.9	---	48.5
Variance	---	-0.9	---	-0.4	---	-0.4	---	-0.3	---	+0.4	---	+1.1	---	+1.4	---	-0.9	---	---

Source: National Center for Juvenile Justice. Advance Estimates of 1975, 1976, and 1977 National Court Processing Statistics. (Pittsburgh, PA: National Center for Juvenile Justice, 1979).

Table constructed by the NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM ASSESSMENT CENTER (Sacramento, CA: American Justice Institute, 1980).



TABLE D-26

NATIONAL ESTIMATES OF THE NUMBER OF PERSONS UNDER 18 REFERRED TO JUVENILE COURT BY REASON FOR REFERRAL AND BY PRIOR DELINQUENCY REFERRALS FOR PREVIOUS YEARS (1975-1977)

INFORMATION CATEGORY	NONE		ONE OR MORE		TOTAL			
	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT		
<u>1975</u>	1,056,030	75.1	(100.0)	350,047	24.9	(100.0)	1,406,077	100.0
Serious	346,532	72.7	(32.8)	130,128	27.3	(37.2)	476,660	(33.9)
Less-Serious	436,368	77.2	(41.3)	128,875	22.8	(36.8)	565,243	(40.2)
Status	273,130	75.0	(25.9)	91,044	25.0	(26.0)	364,174	(25.9)
<u>1976</u>	1,042,051	70.6	(100.0)	434,138	29.4	(100.0)	1,476,189	100.0
Serious	437,600	69.1	(42.0)	195,685	30.9	(45.1)	633,285	(42.9)
Less-Serious	292,602	71.3	(28.1)	117,779	28.7	(27.1)	410,381	(27.8)
Status	311,849	72.1	(29.9)	120,674	27.9	(27.8)	432,523	(29.3)
<u>1977</u>	987,798	70.5	(100.0)	413,907	29.5	(100.0)	1,401,705	100.0
Serious	384,067	68.5	(38.9)	176,615	31.5	(42.7)	560,682	(40.0)
Less-Serious	183,893	71.3	(18.6)	74,021	28.7	(17.9)	257,914	(18.4)
Status	419,838	72.0	(42.5)	163,271	28.0	(39.4)	583,109	(41.6)

Note: Two percentages are presented: The horizontal (row) percentages indicate how much of the row total is represented under each column. The vertical (column) percentages (in parentheses) indicate how much of the column total is represented in each row.

Source: National Center for Juvenile Justice. Advance Estimates of 1975, 1976, and 1977 National Court Processing Statistics. (Pittsburgh, PA: National Center for Juvenile Justice, 1979).

Table constructed by the NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM ASSESSMENT CENTER (Sacramento, CA: American Justice Institute, 1980).

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TABLE D-27

NATIONAL ESTIMATES OF THE NUMBER OF PERSONS UNDER 18 REFERRED TO JUVENILE COURT  
BY SOURCE OF REFERRAL AND BY PRIOR DELINQUENCY REFERRALS FOR PREVIOUS YEARS  
(1975-1977)

INFORMATION CATEGORY	NONE		ONE OR MORE		TOTAL	
	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT
<u>1975</u>	1,056,090	75.1 (100.0)	349,987	24.9 (100.0)	1,406,077	100.0
Court	16,472	78.1 ( 1.6)	40,619	21.9 ( 1.3)	21,091	( 1.5)
Corrections	13,908	47.1 ( 1.3)	15,620	52.9 ( 4.5)	29,528	( 2.1)
Community Agency	69,606	72.8 ( 6.6)	26,007	27.2 ( 7.4)	95,613	( 6.8)
Family, Citizen, Self	140,847	79.5 ( 13.3)	36,319	20.5 ( 10.4)	177,166	(12.6)
Law Enforcement	815,257	75.3 ( 77.2)	267,422	24.7 ( 76.4)	1,082,679	(77.0)
<u>1976</u>	1,051,565	71.2 (100.0)	424,624	28.8 (100.0)	1,476,189	100.0
Court	23,597	69.5 ( 2.2)	10,355	30.5 ( 2.4)	339,952	( 2.3)
Corrections	10,866	43.3 ( 1.0)	14,229	56.7 ( 3.4)	25,095	( 1.7)
Community Agency	46,960	72.3 ( 4.5)	17,992	27.7 ( 4.2)	64,952	( 4.4)
Family, Citizen, Self	140,174	77.2 ( 13.3)	41,398	22.8 ( 9.7)	181,572	(12.3)
Law Enforcement	829,968	70.9 ( 78.9)	340,650	29.1 ( 80.2)	1,170,618	(79.3)
<u>1977</u>	987,138	70.4 (100.0)	414,567	29.6 (100.0)	1,401,705	100.0
Court	21,525	69.8 ( 2.2)	9,313	30.2 ( 2.2)	30,838	( 2.2)
Corrections	9,125	46.5 ( 0.9)	10,499	53.5 ( 2.5)	19,624	( 1.4)
Community Agency	52,969	71.3 ( 5.4)	21,321	28.7 ( 5.1)	74,290	( 5.3)
Family, Citizen, Self	141,586	77.7 ( 14.3)	40,636	22.3 ( 9.8)	182,222	(13.0)
Law Enforcement	761,933	69.6 ( 77.2)	332,798	30.4 ( 80.3)	1,094,731	(78.1)

Note: Two percentages are presented: The horizontal (row) percentages indicate how much of the row total is represented under each column. The vertical (column) percentages (in parentheses) indicate how much of the column total is represented in each row.

Source: National Center for Juvenile Justice. Advance Estimates of 1975, 1976, and 1977 National Court Processing Statistics. (Pittsburgh, PA: National Center for Juvenile Justice, 1979).

Table constructed by the NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM ASSESSMENT CENTER (Sacramento, CA: American Justice Institute, 1980).

TABLE D-28

NATIONAL ESTIMATES OF THE PROPORTION OF PERSONS UNDER 18 REFERRED TO  
JUVENILE COURT AND FILED ON BY PRIOR DELINQUENCY REFERRALS  
(1975-1977)

INFORMATION CATEGORY	NONE		ONE OR MORE		TOTAL	
	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT
<u>1975</u>						
Referred	1,055,964	75.1	350,113	24.9	1,406,077	100.0
Filed On	570,611	70.7	236,477	29.3	807,088	100.0
Percent Filed	---	54.0	---	67.5	---	57.4
Variance	---	-4.4	---	+4.4	---	---
<u>1976</u>						
Referred	1,052,523	71.3	423,666	28.7	1,476,189	100.0
Filed On	441,956	65.8	229,710	34.2	671,666	100.0
Percent Filed	---	42.0	---	54.2	---	45.5
Variance	---	-5.5	---	+5.5	---	---
<u>1977</u>						
Referred	988,202	70.5	413,503	29.5	1,401,705	100.0
Filed On	391,328	64.9	211,300	35.1	602,628	100.0
Percent Filed	---	39.6	---	51.1	---	43.0
Variance	---	-5.6	---	+5.6	---	---

Note: Variance reflects the change in proportion.

Source: National Center for Juvenile Justice. Advance Estimates of 1975, 1976, and 1977 National Court Processing Statistics. (Pittsburgh, PA: National Center for Juvenile Justice, 1979).

Table constructed by the NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM ASSESSMENT CENTER (Sacramento, CA: American Justice Institute, 1980).

TABLE D-29

NATIONAL ESTIMATES OF THE NUMBER OF PERSONS UNDER 18 REFERRED TO JUVENILE COURT  
BY PRIOR DELINQUENCY REFERRALS AND SEX (1975-1977)

PRIOR DELINQUENCY REFERRALS	MALE		FEMALE		TOTAL	
	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT
<u>1975</u>	1,067,550	75.9 (100.0)	338,527	24.1 (100.0)	1,406,077	100.0
None	791,847	74.1 ( 74.2)	276,772	25.9 ( 81.8)	1,068,619	(76.0)
One or More	275,703	81.7 ( 25.8)	61,755	18.3 ( 18.2)	337,458	(24.0)
<u>1976</u>	1,127,011	76.3 (100.0)	349,178	23.7 (100.0)	1,476,189	100.0
None	768,093	73.7 ( 68.2)	274,096	26.3 ( 78.5)	1,042,189	(70.6)
One or More	358,918	82.7 ( 31.8)	75,082	17.3 ( 21.5)	434,000	(29.4)
<u>1977</u>	1,042,006	74.3 (100.0)	359,699	25.7 (100.0)	1,401,075	100.0
None	704,588	71.3 ( 67.6)	283,614	28.7 ( 78.8)	988,202	(70.5)
One or More	337,418	81.6 ( 32.4)	76,085	18.4 ( 21.2)	413,503	(29.5)

Note: Two percentages are presented: The horizontal (row) percentages indicate how much of the row total is represented under each column. The vertical (column) percentages (in parentheses) indicate how much of the column total is represented in each row.

Source: National Center for Juvenile Justice. Advance Estimates of 1975, 1976, and 1977 National Court Processing Statistics. (Pittsburgh, PA: National Center for Juvenile Justice, 1979).

Table constructed by the NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM ASSESSMENT CENTER (Sacramento, CA: American Justice Institute, 1980).

TABLE D-30

NATIONAL ESTIMATES OF THE NUMBER OF PERSONS UNDER 18 REFERRED TO JUVENILE COURT  
BY PRIOR DELINQUENCY REFERRALS BY RACE (1975-1977)

PRIOR DELINQUENCY REFERRALS	WHITE		BLACK		OTHER		TOTAL	
	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT
<u>1975</u>	1,041,791	74.1 (100.0)	336,518	23.9 (100.0)	27,768	2.0 (100.0)	1,406,077	100.0
None	801,449	76.1 ( 76.9)	230,640	21.9 ( 68.5)	21,063	2.0 ( 75.9)	1,053,152	(74.9)
One or More	240,342	68.1 ( 23.1)	105,878	30.0 ( 31.5)	6,705	1.9 ( 24.1)	352,925	(25.1)
<u>1976</u>	1,193,543	80.8 (100.0)	259,632	17.6 (100.0)	23,014	1.6 (100.0)	1,476,189	100.0
None	861,710	82.8 ( 72.2)	163,392	15.7 ( 62.9)	15,611	1.5 ( 67.8)	1,040,713	(70.5)
One or More	331,833	76.2 ( 27.8)	96,240	22.1 ( 37.0)	7,403	1.7 ( 32.2)	435,476	(29.3)
<u>1977</u>	1,124,590	80.2 (100.0)	254,852	18.2 (100.0)	22,263	1.6 (100.0)	1,401,705	100.0
None	813,454	82.2 ( 72.3)	161,305	16.3 ( 63.3)	14,845	1.5 ( 66.7)	989,604	(70.6)
One or More	311,136	75.5 ( 27.6)	93,547	22.7 ( 36.7)	7,418	1.8 ( 33.3)	412,101	(29.4)

Note: Two percentages are presented: The horizontal (row) percentages indicate how much of the row total is represented under each column. The vertical (column) percentages (in parentheses) indicate how much of the column total is represented in each row.

Source: National Center for Juvenile Justice. Advance Estimates of 1975, 1976, and 1977 National Court Processing Statistics. (Pittsburgh, PA: National Center for Juvenile Justice, 1979).

Table constructed by the NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM ASSESSMENT CENTER (Sacramento, CA: American Justice Institute, 1980).

TABLE D-31

NATIONAL ESTIMATES OF THE NUMBER OF PERSONS UNDER 18 REFERRED TO JUVENILE COURT  
BY PRIOR DELINQUENCY REFERRALS AND AGE (1975-1977)

PRIOR DELINQUENCY REFERRALS	MEDIAN AGE	10 AND UNDER		11 YEARS		12 YEARS		13 YEARS	
		NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT
<u>1975</u>	15.3	40,776	2.9 (100.0)	32,340	2.3 (100.0)	57,649	4.1 (100.0)	122,329	8.7 (100.0)
None	15.2	33,640	3.4 ( 82.5)	24,870	2.5 ( 76.9)	43,525	4.4 ( 75.5)	88,933	9.1 ( 72.7)
One or More	15.4	7,136	1.7 ( 17.5)	7,470	1.8 ( 23.1)	14,124	3.3 ( 24.5)	33,396	7.9 ( 27.3)
<u>1976</u>	15.2	47,238	3.2 (100.0)	35,429	2.4 (100.0)	69,381	4.7 (100.0)	129,905	3.8 (100.0)
None	15.1	41,711	4.0 ( 88.3)	28,768	2.8 ( 81.2)	55,297	5.3 ( 79.7)	99,767	9.6 ( 76.8)
One or More	15.5	5,527	1.3 ( 11.7)	6,661	1.5 ( 18.8)	14,084	3.2 ( 20.3)	30,138	6.9 ( 23.2)
<u>1977</u>	15.3	44,855	3.2 (100.0)	32,239	2.3 (100.0)	64,478	4.6 (100.0)	121,948	8.7 (100.0)
None	15.1	39,562	4.0 ( 88.2)	26,952	2.7 ( 83.6)	51,131	5.2 ( 79.3)	93,046	9.4 ( 76.3)
One or More	15.6	5,293	1.3 ( 11.8)	5,287	1.3 ( 16.4)	13,347	3.2 ( 20.7)	28,902	7.0 ( 23.7)

PRIOR DELINQUENCY REFERRALS	10 YEARS		11 YEARS		12 YEARS		13 YEARS AND OLDER		TOTAL	
	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT
<u>1975</u>	212,318	15.1 (100.0)	510,743	22.1 (100.0)	309,337	22.0 (100.0)	320,586	22.8 (100.0)	1,406,077	100.0
None	149,897	15.3 ( 70.6)	212,548	21.6 ( 68.4)	209,421	21.3 ( 67.7)	220,563	22.4 ( 68.8)	983,396	(69.9)
One or More	62,421	14.8 ( 29.4)	98,195	23.2 ( 31.6)	99,916	23.6 ( 32.3)	100,023	23.7 ( 31.2)	422,681	(30.1)
<u>1976</u>	221,428	15.0 (100.0)	318,857	21.6 (100.0)	322,142	22.5 (100.0)	321,809	21.8 (100.0)	1,476,189	100.0
None	160,978	15.5 ( 72.7)	221,606	21.3 ( 69.5)	224,196	21.5 ( 67.5)	208,854	20.0 ( 64.9)	1,041,177	(70.5)
One or More	60,450	13.9 ( 27.3)	97,251	22.4 ( 30.5)	107,946	24.8 ( 32.5)	112,955	26.0 ( 35.1)	435,012	(29.5)
<u>1977</u>	204,649	14.6 (100.0)	294,358	21.0 (100.0)	353,230	25.2 (100.0)	285,948	20.4 (100.0)	1,401,705	100.0
None	151,236	15.3 ( 73.9)	204,284	20.7 ( 69.4)	235,604	23.9 ( 66.7)	185,294	18.8 ( 64.8)	987,109	(70.4)
One or More	53,413	12.9 ( 26.1)	90,074	21.7 ( 30.6)	117,626	28.3 ( 33.3)	100,654	24.3 ( 35.2)	414,596	(29.6)

Note: Two percentages are presented: The horizontal (row) percentages indicate how much of the row total is represented under each column. The vertical (column) percentages (in parentheses) indicate how much of the column total is represented in each row.

Source: National Center for Juvenile Justice. Advance Estimates of 1975, 1976, and 1977 National Court Processing Statistics. (Pittsburgh, PA: National Center for Juvenile Justice, 1979).

Table constructed by the NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM ASSESSMENT CENTER (Sacramento, CA: American Justice Institute, 1980).

TABLE D-32

NATIONAL ESTIMATES OF THE NUMBER OF PERSONS UNDER 18 REFERRED TO JUVENILE COURT  
BY MANNER OF HANDLING AND DETENTION STATUS (1975-1977)

MANNER OF HANDLING	DETAINED		NOT DETAINED		TOTAL	
	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT
<u>1975</u>	366,649	26.1 (100.0)	1,039,428	73.9 (100.0)	1,406,077	100.0
Without Petition	204,129	26.3 ( 55.7)	572,026	73.7 ( 55.0)	776,155	(55.2)
With Petition	162,520	25.8 ( 44.3)	467,402	74.2 ( 45.0)	629,922	(44.8)
<u>1976</u>	345,428	23.4 (100.0)	1,130,761	76.6 (100.0)	1,476,189	100.0
Without Petition	147,498	18.2 ( 42.7)	662,626	81.8 ( 58.6)	810,124	(54.9)
With Petition	197,930	29.7 ( 57.3)	468,135	70.3 ( 41.4)	666,065	(45.1)
<u>1977</u>	299,965	21.4 (100.0)	1,101,740	78.6 (100.0)	1,401,705	100.0
Without Petition	108,587	14.6 ( 36.2)	635,704	85.4 ( 57.7)	744,291	(53.1)
With Petition	191,378	29.1 ( 63.8)	466,036	70.9 ( 42.3)	657,414	(46.9)

Note: Two percentages are presented: The horizontal (row) percentages indicate how much of the row total is represented under each column. The vertical (column) percentages (in parentheses) indicate how much of the column total is represented in each row.

Source: National Center for Juvenile Justice. Advance Estimates of 1975, 1976, and 1977 National Court Processing Statistics. (Pittsburgh, PA: National Center for Juvenile Justice, 1979).

Table constructed by the NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM ASSESSMENT CENTER (Sacramento, CA: American Justice Institute, 1980).



TABLE D-33

THE NUMBER OF PERSONS UNDER 18 DETAINED BY TYPE OF DETENTION  
AND SIZE OF JURISDICTION SAMPLE (1977)

SIZE OF JURISDICTION	SECURE		NON-SECURE		TOTAL	
	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT
Total	110,865	94.1 (100.0)	6,923	5.9 (100.0)	117,788	100.0
Class 1 (1,000,000 or more)	33,041	97.7 (29.8)	785	2.3 (11.3)	33,826	(28.7)
Class 2 (500,000-999,999)	26,185	96.8 (23.6)	857	3.2 (12.4)	27,042	(23.0)
Class 3 (250,000-499,999)	20,195	96.5 (18.2)	722	3.5 (10.4)	20,917	(17.8)
Class 4 (100,000-249,999)	15,578	82.5 (14.1)	3,312	17.5 (47.3)	18,890	(16.0)
Class 5 (50,000-99,999)	10,242	95.4 (9.2)	489	4.6 (7.1)	10,731	(9.1)
Class 6 (25,000-49,999)	4,201	91.0 (3.8)	416	9.0 (6.0)	4,617	(3.9)
Class 7 (10,000-24,999)	995	86.0 (0.9)	162	14.0 (2.3)	1,157	(1.0)
Class 8 (Under 10,000)	428	70.4 (0.4)	180	29.6 (2.6)	608	(0.5)

Note: Two percentages are presented: The horizontal (row) percentages indicate how much of the row total is represented under each column. The vertical (column) percentages (in parentheses) indicate how much of the column total is represented in each row.

Source: Black, T. Edwin; Campbell, Fred R.; and Smith, Charles P. "A Preliminary National Assessment of the Function and Impact of 24-Hour Juvenile Justice System Intake Units." Sacramento, CA: American Justice Institute, April 1980.

Table constructed by the NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM ASSESSMENT CENTER (Sacramento, CA: American Justice Institute, 1980).

TABLE D-34

NATIONAL ESTIMATES OF THE NUMBER OF PERSONS UNDER 18 REFERRED TO JUVENILE COURT BY  
REASON FOR REFERRAL AND DETENTION STATUS (1975-1977)

DETENTION STATUS	SERIOUS		LESS-SERIOUS		STATUS		TOTAL	
	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT
<u>1975</u>	494,939	35.2 (100.0)	569,461	40.5 (100.0)	341,677	24.3 (100.0)	1,406,077	100.0
Detained	115,321	32.9 ( 23.3)	99,086	28.3 ( 17.4)	155,646	38.8 ( 39.7)	350,053	(24.9)
Not Detained	379,618	36.0 ( 76.7)	470,375	44.5 ( 82.6)	206,031	19.5 ( 60.3)	1,056,024	(75.1)
<u>1976</u>	699,714	47.4 (100.0)	441,381	29.9 (100.0)	335,094	22.7 (100.0)	1,476,189	100.0
Detained	151,838	44.4 ( 21.7)	78,124	22.9 ( 17.7)	111,921	32.7 ( 33.4)	341,883	(23.1)
Not Detained	547,876	48.3 ( 78.3)	363,257	32.0 ( 82.3)	223,173	19.7 ( 66.6)	1,134,306	(76.9)
<u>1977</u>	677,024	48.3 (100.0)	427,520	30.5 (100.0)	297,161	21.2 (100.0)	1,401,705	100.0
Detained	157,747	52.5 ( 23.3)	76,526	25.5 ( 17.9)	65,970	22.0 ( 22.2)	300,243	(21.4)
Not Detained	519,277	47.1 ( 76.7)	350,994	31.9 ( 82.1)	231,191	21.0 ( 77.8)	1,101,462	(78.6)

Note: Two percentages are presented: The horizontal (row) percentages indicate how much of the row total is represented under each column. The vertical (column) percentages (in parentheses) indicate how much of the column total is represented in each row.

Source: National Center for Juvenile Justice. Advance Estimates of 1975, 1976, and 1977 National Court Processing Statistics. (Pittsburgh, PA: National Center for Juvenile Justice, 1979).

Table constructed by the NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM ASSESSMENT CENTER (Sacramento, CA: American Justice Institute, 1980).

TABLE D-35

NATIONAL ESTIMATES OF THE NUMBER OF PERSONS UNDER 18 REFERRED TO JUVENILE COURT  
BY SOURCE OF REFERRAL AND DETENTION STATUS (1975-1977)

INFORMATION CATEGORY	DETAINED		NOT DETAINED		TOTAL	
	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT
<u>1975</u>	350,113	24.9 (100.0)	1,055,964	75.1 (100.0)	1,406,077	100.0
Court	3,805	12.3 ( 1.1)	27,129	87.7 ( 2.6)	30,934	( 2.2)
Corrections	8,317	45.5 ( 2.4)	9,962	54.5 ( 0.9)	18,279	( 1.3)
Community Agency	5,129	9.6 ( 1.5)	48,302	90.4 ( 4.6)	53,431	( 3.8)
Family, Citizen, Self	21,940	16.6 ( 6.3)	110,231	83.4 (10.4)	132,171	( 9.4)
Law Enforcement	310,384	26.5 (88.7)	860,878	73.5 (81.5)	1,171,262	(83.3)
<u>1976</u>	345,737	23.4 (100.0)	1,130,451	76.6 (100.0)	1,476,189	100.0
Court	3,345	10.3 ( 1.0)	29,131	89.7 ( 2.6)	32,476	( 2.2)
Corrections	11,970	47.7 ( 3.5)	13,125	52.3 ( 1.2)	25,095	( 1.7)
Community Agency	6,731	11.4 ( 1.9)	52,317	88.6 ( 4.6)	59,048	( 4.0)
Family, Citizen, Self	23,508	17.5 ( 6.8)	110,825	82.5 ( 9.8)	134,333	( 9.1)
Law Enforcement	300,183	24.5 (86.8)	925,053	75.5 (81.8)	1,225,237	(83.0)
<u>1977</u>	300,203	21.4 (100.0)	1,101,502	78.6 (100.0)	1,401,705	100.0
Court	3,740	11.6 ( 1.2)	28,499	88.4 ( 2.6)	32,239	( 2.3)
Corrections	10,496	46.8 ( 3.5)	11,951	53.2 ( 1.1)	22,427	( 1.6)
Community Agency	7,437	11.5 ( 2.5)	57,042	88.5 ( 5.2)	64,479	( 4.6)
Family, Citizen, Self	23,675	17.6 ( 7.9)	110,889	82.4 (10.1)	134,564	( 9.6)
Law Enforcement	254,855	22.2 (84.9)	893,141	77.8 (81.0)	1,147,996	(81.9)

Note: Two percentages are presented: The horizontal (row) percentages indicate how much of the row total is represented under each column. The vertical (column) percentages (in parentheses) indicate how much of the column total is represented in each row.

Source: National Center for Juvenile Justice. Advance Estimates of 1975, 1976, and 1977 National Court Processing Statistics. (Pittsburgh, PA: National Center for Juvenile Justice, 1979).

Table constructed by the NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM ASSESSMENT CENTER (Sacramento, CA: American Justice Institute, 1980).

TABLE D-36  
 NATIONAL ESTIMATES OF THE NUMBER OF PERSONS UNDER 18 REFERRED TO JUVENILE COURT  
 BY SEX AND DETENTION STATUS (1975-1977)

DETENTION STATUS	MALE			FEMALE			TOTAL	
	NUMBER	PERCENT	( )	NUMBER	PERCENT	( )	NUMBER	PERCENT
<u>1975</u>	1,071,431	76.2	(100.0)	334,646	23.8	(100.0)	1,406,077	100.0
Detained	246,429	70.4	( 23.0)	103,406	29.6	( 30.9)	349,835	(24.9)
Not Detained	825,002	78.1	( 77.0)	231,240	21.9	( 69.1)	1,056,242	(75.1)
<u>1976</u>	1,123,815	76.1	(100.0)	352,374	23.9	(100.0)	1,476,189	100.0
Detained	245,179	71.9	( 21.8)	95,821	28.1	( 27.2)	341,000	(23.1)
Not Detained	878,636	74.4	( 78.2)	256,553	22.6	( 72.8)	1,135,189	(76.9)
<u>1977</u>	1,065,302	76.0	(100.0)	336,403	24.0	(100.0)	1,401,705	100.0
Detained	224,674	74.9	( 21.1)	75,291	25.1	( 22.4)	299,965	(21.4)
Not Detained	840,628	76.3	( 78.9)	261,112	23.7	( 77.6)	1,101,740	(78.6)

Note: Two percentages are presented: The horizontal (row) percentages indicate how much of the row total is represented under each column. The vertical (column) percentages (in parentheses) indicate how much of the column total is represented in each row.

Source: National Center for Juvenile Justice. Advance Estimates of 1975, 1976, and 1977 National Court Processing Statistics. (Pittsburgh, PA: National Center for Juvenile Justice, 1979).

Table constructed by the NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM ASSESSMENT CENTER (Sacramento, CA: American Justice Institute, 1980).

TABLE D-37

NATIONAL ESTIMATES OF THE NUMBER OF PERSONS UNDER 18 REFERRED TO JUVENILE COURT  
BY RACE AND DETENTION STATUS (1975-1977)

DETENTION STATUS	WHITE			BLACK			OTHER			TOTAL	
	NUMBER	PERCENT		NUMBER	PERCENT		NUMBER	PERCENT		NUMBER	PERCENT
<u>1975</u>	937,853	66.7	(100.0)	340,271	24.2	(100.0)	127,953	9.1	(100.0)	1,406,077	100.0
Detained	236,339	67.2	( 25.2)	65,332	18.6	( 19.2)	49,774	14.2	( 38.9)	351,445	(25.0)
Not Detained	701,514	66.5	( 74.8)	274,939	26.1	( 80.8)	78,179	7.4	( 61.1)	1,054,632	(75.0)
<u>1976</u>	1,050,574	71.1	(100.0)	328,460	22.3	(100.0)	97,155	6.6	(100.0)	1,476,189	100.0
Detained	234,231	68.1	( 22.3)	72,574	21.1	( 22.1)	37,147	10.8	( 38.2)	343,952	(23.3)
Not Detained	816,343	72.1	( 77.7)	255,886	22.6	( 77.9)	60,008	5.3	( 61.8)	1,132,237	(76.7)
<u>1977</u>	1,040,416	74.2	(100.0)	268,721	19.1	(100.0)	92,568	6.6	(100.0)	1,401,705	100.0
Detained	211,861	70.3	( 20.4)	56,356	18.7	( 21.0)	33,150	11.0	( 35.8)	301,367	(21.5)
Not Detained	828,555	75.3	( 79.6)	212,365	19.3	( 79.0)	59,418	5.4	( 64.2)	1,100,338	(78.5)

Note: Two percentages are presented: The horizontal (row) percentages indicate how much of the row total is represented under each column. The vertical (column) percentages (in parentheses) indicate how much of the column total is represented in each row.

Source: National Center for Juvenile Justice. Advance Estimates of 1975, 1976, and 1977 National Court Processing Statistics. (Pittsburgh, PA: National Center for Juvenile Justice, 1979).

Table constructed by the NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM ASSESSMENT CENTER (Sacramento, CA: American Justice Institute, 1980).

TABLE D-38  
 NATIONAL ESTIMATES OF THE NUMBER OF PERSONS UNDER 18 REFERRED TO JUVENILE COURT  
 BY DETENTION STATUS AND AGE (1975-1977)

DETENTION STATUS	MEDIAN AGE	10 AND UNDER		11 YEARS		12 YEARS		13 YEARS		14 YEARS		15 YEARS		16 YEARS		17 AND OVER		TOTAL	
		NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT
<b>1975</b>	15.4	33,746	2.4 (100.0)	28,122	2.0 (100.0)	56,243	4.0 (100.0)	119,517	8.5 (100.0)	209,505	14.9 (100.0)	293,870	20.9 (100.0)	321,992	22.9 (100.0)	343,082	24.4 (100.0)	1,406,077	100.0
Detained	15.5	3,510	0.8 (10.4)	4,668	1.1 (16.6)	11,810	2.9 (21.0)	30,955	7.5 (25.0)	62,351	15.2 (30.0)	92,275	22.3 (31.4)	102,393	24.8 (31.8)	104,403	23.4 (30.6)	415,406	(29.4)
Not Detained	15.3	30,236	3.0 (86.9)	23,454	2.4 (83.4)	44,432	4.5 (79.0)	88,562	8.9 (74.1)	146,654	14.8 (70.0)	201,595	20.3 (68.6)	219,599	22.1 (68.2)	238,679	24.0 (69.4)	990,671	(70.6)
<b>1976</b>	15.4	38,331	2.6 (100.0)	32,476	2.2 (100.0)	63,476	4.3 (100.0)	125,476	8.5 (100.0)	215,524	14.6 (100.0)	304,095	20.6 (100.0)	343,952	23.3 (100.0)	352,809	23.9 (100.0)	1,476,189	100.0
Detained	15.5	2,610	0.8 (6.8)	3,442	1.0 (10.6)	9,450	2.8 (14.9)	24,593	7.2 (19.6)	50,433	14.7 (23.4)	76,936	22.4 (25.3)	88,052	25.7 (25.6)	86,791	23.3 (24.6)	342,315	(23.2)
Not Detained	15.3	35,721	3.1 (93.2)	29,034	2.4 (89.4)	54,026	4.8 (85.1)	100,883	8.9 (80.4)	165,091	14.5 (76.6)	227,159	20.0 (74.7)	255,900	22.6 (74.4)	266,018	23.5 (75.4)	1,133,874	(76.8)
<b>1977</b>	15.6	35,043	2.5 (100.0)	26,632	1.9 (100.0)	53,265	3.8 (100.0)	105,120	7.5 (100.0)	186,427	13.5 (100.0)	273,332	19.5 (100.0)	332,204	23.7 (100.0)	289,674	27.8 (100.0)	1,401,705	100.0
Detained	15.8	1,962	0.6 (5.6)	2,690	0.9 (10.1)	6,711	2.1 (12.6)	18,082	5.8 (17.2)	40,082	12.8 (21.5)	64,506	20.6 (23.6)	80,726	25.7 (24.3)	98,919	31.5 (25.4)	313,678	(22.4)
Not Detained	15.5	33,081	13.0 (94.4)	23,942	2.2 (89.9)	46,554	4.3 (87.4)	87,038	8.0 (82.8)	146,345	13.5 (79.5)	208,826	19.2 (76.4)	251,478	23.1 (75.7)	290,755	26.7 (74.6)	1,088,027	(77.6)
<b>Percent Change (1975-1977)</b>																			
Detained			-0.2 (-4.8)		-0.2 (-6.5)		-0.8 (-8.4)		-1.7 (-8.7)		-2.4 (-8.5)		-1.7 (-7.8)		+0.9 (-7.5)		+6.1 (-5.2)		(-7.0)
Not Detained			+10.0 (+7.5)		-0.2 (+6.5)		-0.2 (+8.4)		-0.9 (+8.7)		-1.3 (+8.5)		-1.1 (+7.8)		+1.0 (+7.5)		+2.7 (+5.2)		(+7.0)

Note: Two percentages are presented: The horizontal (row) percentages indicate how much of the row total is represented under each column. The vertical (column) percentages (in parentheses) indicate how much of the column total is represented in each row.

Source: National Center for Juvenile Justice. Advance Estimates of 1975, 1976, and 1977 National Court Processing Statistics. (Pittsburgh, PA: National Center for Juvenile Justice, 1979).

Table constructed by the NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM ASSESSMENT CENTER (Sacramento, CA: American Justice Institute, 1980).

TABLE D-39

NATIONAL ESTIMATES OF THE NUMBER OF PERSONS UNDER 18 REFERRED TO JUVENILE COURT BY PRIOR DELINQUENCY REFERRALS IN PREVIOUS YEARS AND DETENTION STATUS (1975-1977)

INFORMATION CATEGORY	DETAINED		NOT DETAINED		TOTAL	
	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT
<u>1975</u>	325,219	23.1 (100.0)	1,080,858	76.9 (100.0)	1,406,077	100.0
None	196,806	19.2 ( 60.5)	828,224	80.8 ( 76.6)	1,025,030	(72.9)
One or More	128,413	33.7 ( 39.5)	252,634	66.3 ( 23.4)	381,047	(27.1)
<u>1976</u>	245,312	16.6 (100.0)	1,230,877	83.4 (100.0)	1,476,189	100.0
None	141,939	13.6 ( 57.9)	901,727	86.4 ( 73.3)	1,043,666	(70.7)
One or More	103,373	33.9 ( 42.1)	329,150	76.1 ( 26.7)	432,523	(29.3)
<u>1977</u>	216,220	15.4 (100.0)	1,185,485	84.6 (100.0)	1,401,705	100.0
None	126,490	12.8 ( 58.5)	861,712	87.2 ( 72.7)	988,202	(70.5)
One or More	89,730	21.7 ( 41.5)	323,773	78.3 ( 27.3)	413,503	(29.5)

Note: Two percentages are presented: The horizontal (row) percentages indicate how much of the row total is represented under each column. The vertical (column) percentages (in parentheses) indicate how much of the column total is represented in each row.

Source: National Center for Juvenile Justice. Advance Estimates of 1977 National Court Processing Statistics. (Pittsburgh, PA: National Center for Juvenile Justice, 1979).

Table constructed by the NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM ASSESSMENT CENTER (Sacramento, CA: American Justice Institute, 1980).

TABLE D-40

NATIONAL ESTIMATES OF THE NUMBER OF PERSONS UNDER 18 REFERRED TO JUVENILE COURT  
BY NUMBER OF PRIOR REFERRALS AND AGE (1977)

INFORMATION CATEGORY	NONE		ONE		TWO		THREE		FOUR		FIVE OR MORE		TOTAL	
	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT
Median Age		15.3		15.5		15.6		15.7		15.7		15.9		15.5
Total	813,986	58.1 (100.0)	206,823	16.9 (100.0)	123,744	8.8 (100.0)	80,150	5.7 (100.0)	41,831	3.0 (100.0)	105,171	7.5 (100.0)	1,401,705	100.0
10 and Under	30,212	82.9 ( 3.7)	3,426	9.4 ( 1.4)	1,094	3.0 ( 0.9)	620	1.7 ( 0.8)	292	0.8 ( 0.7)	801	2.2 ( 0.8)	36,444	( 2.6)
11 Years	20,054	75.3 ( 2.5)	3,196	12.0 ( 1.3)	1,278	4.8 ( 1.0)	719	2.7 ( 0.9)	453	1.7 ( 1.1)	932	3.5 ( 0.9)	26,632	( 1.9)
12 Years	38,267	70.0 ( 4.7)	7,653	14.0 ( 3.2)	3,335	6.1 ( 2.7)	1,859	3.4 ( 2.3)	1,203	2.2 ( 2.9)	2,350	4.3 ( 2.2)	54,667	( 3.9)
13 Years	69,968	63.9 ( 8.5)	18,240	16.9 ( 7.7)	7,771	7.2 ( 6.3)	4,749	4.4 ( 5.9)	2,482	2.3 ( 5.9)	5,721	5.3 ( 5.4)	107,931	( 7.7)
14 Years	115,412	60.1 (14.2)	33,222	17.3 (14.0)	16,515	8.6 (13.3)	10,178	5.3 (12.7)	5,185	2.7 (12.4)	11,522	6.0 (11.0)	192,034	(13.7)
15 Years	159,680	55.5 (19.6)	53,130	18.4 (22.4)	27,143	9.4 (21.9)	18,191	6.3 (22.7)	9,240	3.2 (22.1)	21,368	7.4 (20.3)	288,752	(20.6)
16 Years	180,949	54.7 (22.2)	58,552	17.7 (24.7)	33,080	10.0 (26.7)	20,510	6.2 (25.6)	10,585	3.2 (25.3)	27,126	8.2 (25.8)	330,802	(23.6)
17 and Over	200,444	55.0 (24.6)	59,404	16.3 (25.1)	33,529	9.2 (27.1)	23,324	6.4 (29.1)	12,391	3.4 (29.6)	35,351	9.7 (33.6)	364,443	(26.0)

Note: Two percentages are presented: The horizontal (row) percentages indicate how much of the row total is represented under each column. The vertical (column) percentages (in parentheses) indicate how much of the column total is represented in each row.

Source: National Center for Juvenile Justice. Advance Estimates of 1977 National Court Processing Statistics. (Pittsburgh, PA: National Center for Juvenile Justice, 1979).

Table constructed by the NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM ASSESSMENT CENTER (Sacramento, CA: American Justice Institute, 1980).



TABLE D-11

NATIONAL ESTIMATES OF THE NUMBER OF PERSONS UNDER 18 REFERRED TO JUVENILE COURT  
BY LIVING ARRANGEMENTS AND DETENTION STATUS (1977)

INFORMATION CATEGORY	DETAINED			NOT DETAINED			TOTAL	
	NUMBER	PERCENT	( )	NUMBER	PERCENT	( )	NUMBER	PERCENT
Total	165,086	11.8	(100.0)	1,236,619	88.2	(100.0)	1,401,705	100.0
Natural Parents	54,044	8.4	(32.7)	589,339	91.6	(47.7)	643,383	(45.9)
Mother Only	55,793	12.4	(33.8)	394,154	87.6	(31.9)	449,947	(32.1)
Father Only	7,906	12.0	( 4.8)	57,974	88.0	( 4.7)	65,880	( 4.7)
One Stepparent	17,720	14.7	(10.7)	102,827	85.3	( 8.3)	120,547	( 8.6)
Foster Family	5,083	25.9	( 3.1)	14,541	74.1	( 1.2)	19,624	( 1.4)
Relatives	11,127	18.9	( 6.7)	47,744	81.1	( 3.9)	58,871	( 4.2)
Independent	2,222	31.7	( 1.3)	4,787	68.3	( 0.4)	7,009	( 0.5)
Institution	7,384	43.9	( 4.5)	9,436	56.1	( 0.8)	16,820	( 1.2)
Other	3,807	19.4	( 2.3)	15,817	80.6	( 1.3)	19,624	( 1.4)

Note: Two percentages are presented: The horizontal (row) percentages indicate how much of the row total is represented under each column. The vertical (column) percentages (in parentheses) indicate how much of the column total is represented in each row.

Source: National Center for Juvenile Justice. Advance Estimates of 1977 National Court Processing Statistics. (Pittsburgh, PA: National Center for Juvenile Justice, 1979).

Table constructed by the NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM ASSESSMENT CENTER (Sacramento, CA: American Justice Institute, 1980).

TABLE D-42

NATIONAL ESTIMATES OF THE NUMBER OF PERSONS UNDER 18 REFERRED TO JUVENILE COURT  
BY PRIOR DELINQUENCY REFERRALS AND LIVING ARRANGEMENTS (1977)

INFORMATION CATEGORY	NONE		ONE OR MORE		TOTAL	
	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT
Total	977,839	69.8 (100.0)	423,866	30.2 (100.0)	1,401,705	100.0
Natural Parents	530,820	74.4 (54.3)	182,648	25.6 (43.1)	713,468	(50.9)
Mother Only	227,426	64.9 (23.3)	123,000	35.1 (29.0)	350,426	(25.0)
Father Only	33,214	67.7 ( 3.4)	15,846	32.3 ( 3.7)	49,060	( 3.5)
One Stepparent	99,401	66.9 (10.2)	49,180	33.1 (11.6)	148,581	(10.6)
Foster Family	10,263	52.3 ( 1.0)	9,361	47.7 ( 2.2)	19,624	( 1.4)
Relatives	46,038	64.4 ( 4.7)	25,449	35.6 ( 6.0)	71,487	( 5.1)
Independent	10,277	61.1 ( 1.1)	6,543	38.9 ( 1.5)	16,820	( 1.2)
Institution	9,467	61.4 ( 1.0)	5,952	38.6 ( 1.4)	15,419	( 1.1)
Other	10,933	65.0 ( 1.1)	5,887	35.0 ( 1.4)	16,820	( 1.2)

Note: Two percentages are presented: The horizontal (row) percentages indicate how much of the row total is represented under each column. The vertical (column) percentages (in parentheses) indicate how much of the column total is represented in each row.

Source: National Center for Juvenile Justice. Advance Estimates of 1977 National Court Processing Statistics. (Pittsburgh, PA: National Center for Juvenile Justice, 1979).

Table constructed by the NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM ASSESSMENT CENTER (Sacramento, CA: American Justice Institute, 1980).

TABLE D-43  
 NATIONAL ESTIMATES OF THE NUMBER OF PERSONS UNDER 18 REFERRED TO JUVENILE COURT  
 BY DISPOSITION AND MANNER OF HANDLING (1975-1977)

MANNER OF HANDLING	CERTIFIED TO ADULT COURTS		DISMISSED UNPROVED		DISMISSED		TRANSFERRED TO OTHER JURISDICTION		HELD OPEN		PROBATION		FINE, RESTITUTION		DELINQUENCY INSTITUTION	
	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT
<b>1975</b>	28,122	2.0 (100.0)	147,638	10.5 (100.0)	482,285	34.3 (100.0)	15,467	1.1 (100.0)	39,370	2.8 (100.0)	468,223	33.3 (100.0)	40,776	2.9 (100.0)	42,182	3.0 (100.0)
Without Petition	16,620	2.0 (59.1)	62,746	7.7 (42.5)	406,084	49.6 (84.2)	11,090	1.4 (71.7)	21,339	2.6 (54.2)	190,567	23.3 (40.7)	21,571	2.6 (51.9)	11,895	1.4 (28.2)
With Petition	11,502	1.9 (40.9)	84,891	14.4 (57.5)	76,201	15.0 (15.8)	4,377	0.7 (28.3)	18,031	3.1 (45.8)	277,656	47.3 (59.3)	19,205	3.3 (47.1)	30,287	5.1 (71.8)
<b>1976</b>	10,333	0.7 (100.0)	757,285	51.3 (100.0)	5,905	0.4 (100.0)	109,238	7.4 (100.0)	56,095	3.8 (100.0)	342,476	23.2 (100.0)	41,333	2.8 (100.0)	44,286	3.0 (100.0)
Without Petition	1,281	0.2 (12.4)	589,925	71.3 (77.9)	5,185	0.6 (87.8)	88,810	10.7 (81.3)	17,726	2.1 (31.6)	101,715	12.3 (29.7)	2,604	0.3 (6.3)	354	<0.1 (0.8)
With Petition	9,052	1.4 (87.6)	167,360	25.8 (22.1)	720	0.1 (12.2)	20,428	3.1 (18.7)	38,369	5.9 (68.4)	240,761	37.1 (70.3)	38,729	6.0 (93.7)	43,932	6.8 (99.2)
<b>1977</b>	23,829	1.7 (100.0)	661,605	47.2 (100.0)	8,410	0.6 (100.0)	102,324	7.3 (100.0)	49,060	3.5 (100.0)	342,061	24.4 (100.0)	46,256	3.3 (100.0)	43,453	3.1 (100.0)
Without Petition	10,556	1.4 (44.3)	504,805	68.2 (76.3)	6,963	0.9 (82.8)	79,608	10.8 (77.8)	18,299	2.5 (37.3)	94,396	12.7 (27.6)	2,452	0.3 (5.3)	563	0.1 (1.3)
With Petition	13,273	2.0 (55.7)	156,800	23.7 (23.7)	1,447	0.2 (17.2)	22,716	3.4 (22.2)	30,761	4.6 (62.7)	247,620	37.4 (72.4)	43,804	6.6 (94.7)	42,888	6.5 (98.7)
<b>VARIANCE (1975-1977)</b>		-0.3 (-0-)	+36.7 (-0-)		-33.7 (-0-)		+6.2 (-0-)		+0.7 (-0-)		-8.9 (-0-)		+0.4 (-0-)		+0.1 (-0-)	
Without Petition		-0.6 (-14.8)	+60.5 (+33.8)		-48.7 (-1.4)		+9.4 (+6.1)		-0.1 (-16.9)		-10.6 (-13.1)		-2.3 (-46.6)		-0.3 (-26.9)	
With Petition		+0.1 (+14.8)	+9.3 (-33.8)		-12.8 (+1.4)		+2.7 (-6.1)		+1.5 (+16.9)		-9.9 (+13.1)		+3.3 (+46.6)		+1.4 (+26.9)	

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MANNER OF HANDLING	PUBLIC INSTITUTION		PUBLIC AGENCY OR DEPARTMENT		PRIVATE AGENCY OR INSTITUTION		INDIVIDUAL		SPECIAL PROCEEDINGS		OTHER TRANSFER		TOTAL	
	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT
<b>1975</b>	14,061	1.0 (100.0)	70,304	5.0 (100.0)	8,436	0.6 (100.0)	18,279	1.3 (100.0)	1,406	0.1 (100.0)	29,528	2.1 (100.0)	1,406,077	100.0
Without Petition	2,981	0.4 (21.2)	53,996	6.6 (77.1)	1,341	0.2 (15.9)	2,066	0.5 (11.3)	218	<0.1 (15.5)	16,211	2.0 (54.9)	818,725	(58.2)
With Petition	11,080	1.9 (78.8)	16,308	2.8 (22.9)	7,095	1.2 (84.1)	16,213	2.6 (88.7)	1,188	0.2 (84.5)	13,317	2.3 (45.1)	587,352	(41.8)
<b>1976</b>	10,333	0.7 (100.0)	20,667	1.4 (100.0)	10,333	0.7 (100.0)	1,476	0.1 (100.0)	-0-	-0-	66,429	4.5 (100.0)	1,476,189	100.0
Without Petition	176	<0.1 (1.7)	1,426	0.2 (6.9)	568	0.1 (5.5)	105	<0.1 (7.1)	-0-	-0-	17,139	2.1 (25.8)	827,014	(56.0)
With Petition	10,157	1.6 (98.3)	19,241	2.9 (93.1)	9,765	1.5 (94.5)	1,371	0.7 (92.9)	-0-	-0-	49,290	7.6 (74.2)	649,175	(44.0)
<b>1977</b>	12,615	0.9 (100.0)	21,026	1.5 (100.0)	9,812	0.7 (100.0)	4,205	0.3 (100.0)	421	0.0 (100.0)	76,673	5.5 (100.0)	1,401,705	100.0
Without Petition	315	<0.1 (2.5)	1,346	0.2 (6.4)	500	0.1 (5.1)	273	<0.1 (6.5)	118	<0.1 (28.1)	19,904	2.7 (26.0)	740,100	(52.8)
With Petition	12,300	1.9 (97.5)	19,680	3.0 (93.6)	9,312	1.4 (94.9)	3,932	0.6 (93.5)	303	<0.1 (71.9)	56,769	9.6 (74.0)	661,605	(47.2)
<b>VARIANCE (1975-1977)</b>		-0.1 (-0-)	-3.5 (-0-)		+0.1 (-0-)		-1.0 (-0-)		-0.1 (-0-)		+3.4 (-0-)		(-0-)	
Without Petition		>-0.3 (-18.7)	-6.4 (-70.7)		-0.1 (-10.8)		>-0.2 (-4.8)		>0.0 (+12.6)		+0.7 (-28.9)		(-5.4)	
With Petition		-0- (+18.7)	+0.2 (+70.7)		+0.2 (+10.8)		-2.2 (+4.8)		<0.1 (-12.6)		+7.3 (+28.9)		(+5.4)	

Note: Variance reflects the change in proportion.  
 Source: National Center for Juvenile Justice. Advance Estimates of 1975, 1976, and 1977 National Court Processing Statistics. (Pittsburgh, PA: National Center for Juvenile Justice, 1979).  
 Table constructed by the NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM ASSESSMENT CENTER (Sacramento, CA: American Justice Institute, 1980).

TABLE D-44  
NATIONAL ESTIMATES OF THE NUMBER OF PERSONS UNDER 18 REFERRED TO JUVENILE COURT BY OFFENSE TYPE AND DISPOSITION (1975-1977)

INFORMATION CATEGORY	Certified to Adult Court		Dismissed Unproved		Dismissed		Transfer to Other Jurisdiction		Hold Open		Probation		Fine, Restitution	
	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT
1975	25,294	1.8 (100.0)	135,858	9.7 (100.0)	496,082	35.3 (100.0)	13,823	1.0 (100.0)	36,300	2.6 (100.0)	478,532	34.0 (100.0)	37,727	2.7 (100.0)
Serious	8,189	1.6 (32.4)	49,646	9.7 (36.5)	146,378	28.6 (29.5)	1,024	0.2 (7.4)	11,260	2.2 (31.0)	209,843	41.0 (43.9)	11,772	2.3 (31.2)
Less-Serious	11,600	2.2 (45.8)	59,055	11.2 (43.5)	205,112	38.9 (41.3)	1,055	0.2 (7.6)	14,764	2.8 (40.7)	165,566	31.4 (34.6)	18,982	3.6 (50.3)
Status	5,505	1.5 (21.8)	27,157	7.4 (20.0)	144,592	39.4 (29.1)	11,744	3.2 (85.0)	10,276	2.8 (28.3)	103,123	28.1 (21.5)	6,973	1.9 (18.5)
1976	9,840	0.7 (100.0)	726,553	49.2 (100.0)	6,014	0.4 (100.0)	105,804	7.1 (100.0)	54,123	3.7 (100.0)	352,573	23.9 (100.0)	37,350	2.5 (100.0)
Serious	6,930	1.0 (70.5)	318,458	45.9 (43.8)	2,775	0.4 (46.1)	35,384	5.1 (33.4)	24,283	3.5 (44.9)	199,817	28.8 (56.7)	14,570	2.1 (39.0)
Less-Serious	2,229	0.5 (22.7)	245,195	55.0 (33.7)	2,229	0.5 (37.1)	22,290	5.0 (21.1)	17,387	3.9 (32.1)	91,837	20.6 (26.0)	16,049	3.6 (43.0)
Status	673	0.2 (6.8)	162,900	48.4 (22.4)	1,010	0.3 (16.8)	48,130	14.3 (45.5)	12,453	3.7 (23.0)	60,919	12.1 (17.3)	6,731	2.0 (18.0)
1977	23,613	1.7 (100.0)	639,424	45.6 (100.0)	8,438	0.6 (100.0)	98,476	7.0 (100.0)	46,272	5.3 (100.0)	350,135	25.0 (100.0)	43,691	3.1 (100.0)
Serious	13,737	2.0 (58.2)	287,784	41.9 (45.0)	3,434	0.5 (40.7)	36,402	5.3 (37.0)	18,545	2.7 (40.1)	208,121	30.3 (59.4)	15,797	2.3 (36.2)
Less-Serious	7,315	1.7 (31.0)	219,895	51.1 (34.4)	3,012	0.7 (35.7)	22,807	5.3 (23.0)	15,492	5.6 (33.5)	91,659	21.3 (26.2)	18,504	4.3 (42.3)
Status	2,561	0.9 (10.8)	131,745	46.3 (20.6)	1,992	0.7 (23.6)	39,267	13.8 (40.0)	12,235	4.3 (26.4)	50,365	17.7 (14.4)	9,390	3.3 (21.5)

INFORMATION CATEGORY	Delinquent Institution		Public Institution		Public Agency or Department		Public Agency or Institution		In Diversion		Special Procedures		Other Transfer		TOTAL		
	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	
1975	41,894	3.0 (100.0)	17,178	1.2 (100.0)	65,111	4.6 (100.0)	14,459	1.0 (100.0)	16,737	1.2 (100.0)	-0-	-0-	-0-	27,082	1.9 (100.0)	1,406,077	100.0
Serious	24,055	4.7 (57.4)	8,189	1.6 (47.7)	21,496	4.2 (33.0)	5,630	1.1 (38.9)	4,606	0.9 (27.5)	-0-	-0-	-0-	9,724	1.9 (35.9)	511,812	(36.4)
Less-Serious	11,600	2.2 (27.7)	4,218	0.8 (24.6)	17,927	3.4 (27.6)	3,691	0.7 (25.5)	3,691	0.7 (22.1)	-0-	-0-	-0-	10,018	1.9 (37.0)	527,279	(37.5)
Status	6,239	1.7 (14.9)	4,771	1.3 (27.7)	25,688	7.0 (39.4)	5,138	1.4 (35.5)	8,440	2.3 (50.4)	-0-	-0-	-0-	7,340	2.0 (27.1)	366,986	(26.1)
1976	47,285	3.2 (100.0)	22,184	1.5 (100.0)	26,906	1.8 (100.0)	12,394	0.8 (100.0)	2,953	0.2 (100.0)	1,140	0.1 (100.0)	-0-	71,069	4.8 (100.0)	1,476,189	100.0
Serious	30,528	4.4 (64.6)	11,795	1.7 (53.2)	11,795	1.7 (43.8)	6,244	0.9 (50.4)	1,388	0.2 (47.0)	694	0.1 (60.9)	-0-	29,140	4.2 (41.0)	693,809	(47.0)
Less-Serious	10,699	2.4 (22.6)	6,687	1.5 (30.1)	5,350	1.2 (19.9)	3,121	0.7 (25.2)	892	0.2 (30.2)	446	0.1 (39.1)	-0-	21,398	4.8 (30.1)	445,809	(30.2)
Status	6,058	1.8 (12.8)	3,702	1.1 (16.7)	9,761	2.9 (36.3)	3,029	0.9 (24.4)	673	0.2 (22.8)	-0-	-0-	-0-	20,531	6.1 (28.9)	336,571	(22.8)
1977	47,619	3.4 (100.0)	24,410	1.7 (100.0)	24,835	1.8 (100.0)	12,303	0.9 (100.0)	5,059	0.4 (100.0)	3	-0-	(100.0)	77,427	5.5 (100.0)	1,401,705	100.0
Serious	31,594	4.6 (66.3)	15,110	2.2 (61.9)	10,989	1.6 (44.2)	6,868	1.0 (55.8)	2,061	0.3 (40.7)	2	-0-	(66.7)	36,402	5.3 (47.0)	686,836	(49.0)
Less-Serious	11,188	2.6 (25.5)	6,455	1.5 (26.4)	5,594	1.3 (22.5)	3,443	0.8 (28.0)	1,291	0.3 (25.5)	-0-	-0-	-0-	23,668	5.5 (30.6)	430,323	(30.7)
Status	4,837	1.7 (10.2)	2,845	1.0 (11.7)	8,252	2.9 (33.2)	1,992	0.7 (16.2)	1,707	0.6 (33.7)	1	-0-	(33.3)	17,357	6.1 (22.4)	284,546	(20.3)

Note: Two percentages are presented: The horizontal (row) percentages indicate how much of the row total is represented under each column. The vertical (column) percentages (in parentheses) indicate how much of the column total is represented in each row.

Source: National Center for Juvenile Justice. Advance Estimates of 1975, 1976, and 1977 National Court Processing Statistics. (Pittsburgh, PA: National Center for Juvenile Justice, 1979).

Table constructed by the NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM ASSESSMENT CENTER (Sacramento, CA: American Justice Institute, 1980).

TABLE D-45

NATIONAL ESTIMATES OF THE NUMBER OF PERSONS UNDER 18 REFERRED TO  
JUVENILE COURT BY MANNER OF HANDLING AND OFFENSE TYPE (1975-1977)

MANNER OF HANDLING	SERIOUS		LESS-SERIOUS		STATUS		TOTAL	
	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT
<u>1975</u>	482,284	34.3 (100.0)	558,213	39.7 (100.0)	365,580	26.0 (100.0)	1,406,077	100.0
Without Petition	236,801	31.7 (49.1)	291,387	39.1 (52.2)	217,886	29.2 (59.6)	746,074	(53.1)
With Petition	245,483	37.2 (50.9)	266,826	40.4 (47.8)	147,694	22.4 (40.4)	660,003	(46.9)
<u>1976</u>	704,142	47.7 (100.0)	444,333	30.1 (100.0)	327,714	22.2 (100.0)	1,476,189	100.0
Without Petition	328,834	40.3 (46.7)	265,267	32.5 (59.7)	221,862	27.2 (67.7)	815,963	(55.3)
With Petition	375,308	56.8 (53.3)	179,066	27.1 (40.3)	105,852	16.0 (32.3)	660,226	(44.7)
<u>1977</u>	685,434	48.9 (100.0)	424,716	30.3 (100.0)	291,555	20.8 (100.0)	1,401,705	100.0
Without Petition	305,704	41.1 (44.6)	245,486	33.0 (57.8)	191,843	25.8 (65.8)	743,033	(53.0)
With Petition	379,730	57.7 (55.4)	179,230	27.2 (42.2)	99,712	15.1 (34.2)	658,672	(47.0)

Note: Two percentages are presented: The horizontal (row) percentages indicate how much of the row total is represented under each column. The vertical (column) percentages (in parentheses) indicate how much of the column total is represented in each row.

Source: National Center for Juvenile Justice. Advance Estimates of 1975, 1976, and 1977 National Court Processing Statistics. (Pittsburgh, PA: National Center for Juvenile Justice, 1979).

Table constructed by the NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM ASSESSMENT CENTER (Sacramento, CA: American Justice Institute, 1980).

TABLE D-46  
 NATIONAL ESTIMATES OF THE NUMBER OF PERSONS UNDER 18 REFERRED TO JUVENILE COURT  
 BY DISPOSITION AND PRIOR DELINQUENCY REFERRALS PREVIOUS YEARS (1975-1977)

INFORMATION CATEGORY	FINED		COUNSELING		DISMISSED		INFORMAL		SPECIAL PROGRAMS		PROBATION		JUVENILE INSTITUTIONS		TOTAL	
	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT
1975	15,467	1.1 (100.0)	144,826	10.3 (100.0)	407,762	29.0 (100.0)	44,995	3.2 (100.0)	75,928	5.4 (100.0)	514,624	36.6 (100.0)	61,867	4.4 (100.0)	71,710	5.1 (100.0)
None	7,563	0.7 (48.9)	108,185	10.2 (74.7)	342,928	32.5 (84.1)	40,001	3.8 (88.9)	53,985	5.1 (71.1)	381,851	36.2 (74.2)	48,937	4.6 (79.1)	30,262	2.9 (42.2)
One or More	7,904	2.3 (51.1)	36,641	10.5 (25.3)	64,834	18.5 (15.9)	4,994	1.4 (11.1)	21,943	6.3 (28.9)	132,773	37.9 (25.8)	12,930	3.7 (20.9)	41,448	11.8 (57.8)
1976	22,143	1.5 (100.0)	550,618	37.3 (100.0)	-0-	-0-	129,905	8.8 (100.0)	104,809	7.1 (100.0)	475,333	32.2 (100.0)	5,905	0.4 (100.0)	51,666	3.5 (100.0)
None	11,049	1.1 (49.9)	420,672	40.4 (76.4)	-0-	-0-	100,157	9.6 (77.1)	71,689	6.9 (68.4)	330,832	31.8 (69.6)	5,261	0.5 (80.1)	16,430	1.6 (31.8)
One or More	11,094	2.6 (50.1)	129,946	29.9 (23.6)	-0-	-0-	29,748	6.9 (22.9)	33,120	7.6 (31.6)	144,501	33.3 (30.4)	644	0.1 (10.9)	35,236	8.1 (68.2)
1977	21,026	1.5 (100.0)	553,673	39.5 (100.0)	-0-	-0-	135,965	9.7 (100.0)	100,923	7.2 (100.0)	414,905	29.6 (100.0)	5,607	0.4 (100.0)	46,256	3.3 (100.0)
None	10,471	1.1 (49.8)	414,701	41.9 (74.9)	-0-	-0-	106,597	10.8 (78.4)	72,463	7.3 (71.8)	283,795	28.7 (68.4)	5,153	0.5 (91.9)	14,478	1.5 (31.3)
One or More	10,555	2.5 (50.2)	138,972	33.7 (25.1)	-0-	-0-	29,368	7.1 (21.6)	28,460	6.9 (28.2)	131,110	31.8 (31.6)	454	0.1 (8.1)	31,778	7.7 (48.7)

INFORMATION CATEGORY	FINED		COUNSELING		DISMISSED		INFORMAL		SPECIAL PROGRAMS		OTHER TRANSFER		TOTAL	
	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT
1975	7,030	0.5 (100.0)	23,903	1.7 (100.0)	14,061	1.0 (100.0)	9,843	0.7 (100.0)	-0-	-0-	14,061	1.0 (100.0)	1,406,077	100.0
None	3,810	0.4 (54.2)	16,397	1.6 (68.6)	6,890	0.6 (49.0)	7,313	0.7 (74.3)	-0-	-0-	7,804	0.7 (55.5)	1,055,926	(75.1)
One or More	3,220	0.9 (45.8)	7,506	2.1 (31.4)	7,171	2.1 (51.0)	2,530	0.7 (25.7)	-0-	-0-	6,257	1.8 (44.5)	350,151	(24.9)
1976	5,905	0.4 (100.0)	31,000	2.1 (100.0)	13,286	0.9 (100.0)	5,905	0.4 (100.0)	4,428	0.3 (100.0)	75,286	5.1 (100.0)	1,476,189	100.0
None	2,769	0.3 (46.9)	16,151	1.5 (52.1)	5,899	0.6 (44.4)	3,419	0.5 (57.9)	2,648	0.2 (59.8)	54,658	5.2 (72.6)	1,041,634	(70.6)
One or More	3,136	0.7 (53.1)	14,849	3.4 (47.9)	7,387	1.7 (55.6)	2,486	0.6 (42.1)	1,780	0.4 (40.2)	20,628	4.7 (27.4)	434,555	(29.4)
1977	7,009	0.5 (100.0)	30,838	2.1 (100.0)	4,205	0.3 (100.0)	5,607	0.4 (100.0)	1,402	0.1 (100.0)	74,290	5.3 (100.0)	1,401,705	100.0
None	3,189	0.3 (45.5)	16,467	1.7 (53.4)	2,002	0.2 (47.6)	3,319	0.3 (59.2)	1,056	0.1 (75.3)	55,272	5.6 (74.4)	988,963	(70.5)
One or More	3,820	0.9 (54.5)	14,371	3.5 (46.6)	2,203	0.5 (52.4)	2,288	0.6 (40.8)	346	0.1 (24.7)	19,018	4.6 (25.6)	412,742	(29.5)

Note: Two percentages are presented: The horizontal (row) percentages indicate how much of the row total is represented under each column. The vertical (column) percentages (in parentheses) indicate how much of the column total is represented in each row.

Source: National Center for Juvenile Justice, Advance Estimates of 1975, 1976, and 1977 National Court Processing Statistics. (Pittsburgh, PA: National Center for Juvenile Justice, 1979).

Table constructed by the NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM ASSESSMENT CENTER (Sacramento, CA: American Justice Institute, 1980).

TABLE D-47

NATIONAL ESTIMATES OF THE NUMBER OF PERSONS UNDER 18 REFERRED TO JUVENILE COURT  
BY OFFENSE TYPE AND NUMBER OF PRIOR REFERRALS (1977)

OFFENSE TYPE	NONE		ONE		TWO		THREE		FOUR		FIVE OR MORE		TOTAL	
	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT
Total	815,327	58.2 (100.0)	237,601	17.0 (100.0)	125,529	8.8 (100.0)	79,898	5.7 (100.0)	41,103	2.9 (100.0)	104,247	7.4 (100.0)	1,401,705	100.0
Serious	432,616	58.9 (53.1)	121,926	16.6 (51.3)	61,697	8.4 (49.9)	39,663	5.4 (49.6)	20,566	2.8 (50.0)	58,025	7.9 (55.7)	734,493	(52.4)
Less-Serious	232,964	55.4 (28.6)	72,749	17.3 (30.6)	40,369	9.6 (32.7)	26,913	6.4 (33.7)	13,877	3.3 (33.8)	33,640	8.0 (32.3)	420,512	(30.0)
Status	149,747	60.7 (18.4)	42,926	17.4 (18.1)	21,463	8.7 (17.4)	13,322	5.4 (16.7)	6,660	2.7 (16.2)	12,582	5.1 (12.0)	246,700	(17.6)

Note: Two percentages are presented: The horizontal (row) percentages indicate how much of the row total is represented under each column. The vertical (column) percentages (in parentheses) indicate how much of the column total is represented in each row.

Source: National Center for Juvenile Justice. Advance Estimates of 1977 National Court Processing Statistics. (Pittsburgh, PA: National Center for Juvenile Justice, 1979).

Table constructed by the NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM ASSESSMENT CENTER (Sacramento, CA: American Justice Institute, 1980).

TABLE D-48  
NATIONAL ESTIMATES OF THE NUMBER OF PERSONS UNDER 18 REFERRED TO JUVENILE COURT  
BY NUMBER OF PRIOR REFERRALS AND MANNER OF HANDLING (1977)

INFORMATION CATEGORY	WITHOUT PETITION		WITH PETITION		TOTAL	
	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT
TOTAL	630,836	45.0 (100.0)	770,869	55.0 (100.0)	1,401,705	(100.0)
NONE	429,478	48.1 ( 68.1)	463,408	51.9 ( 60.1)	892,886	( 63.7)
ONE	94,172	44.2 ( 14.9)	118,887	55.8 ( 15.4)	213,059	( 15.2)
TWO	40,369	40.0 ( 6.4)	60,554	60.0 ( 7.9)	100,923	( 7.2)
THREE	22,904	38.0 ( 3.6)	37,369	62.0 ( 4.8)	60,273	( 4.3)
FOUR	13,698	34.9 ( 2.2)	25,550	65.1 ( 3.3)	39,248	( 2.8)
FIVE OR MORE	30,215	31.7 ( 4.8)	65,101	68.3 ( 8.4)	95,316	( 6.8)

Note: Two percentages are presented: The horizontal (row) percentages indicate how much of the row total is represented under each column. The vertical (column) percentages (in parentheses) indicate how much of the column total is represented in each row.

Source: National Center for Juvenile Justice. Advance Estimates of 1977 National Court Processing Statistics. (Pittsburgh, PA: National Center for Juvenile Justice, 1979).

Table constructed by the NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM ASSESSMENT CENTER (Sacramento, CA: American Justice Institute, 1980).

TABLE D-49  
NATIONAL ESTIMATES OF THE NUMBER OF PERSONS UNDER 18 REFERRED TO JUVENILE COURT  
BY DISPOSITION AND NUMBER OF PRIOR REFERRALS (1977)

DISPOSITION	NONE		ONE		TWO		THREE	
	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT
Total	815,797	58.1 (100.0)	236,853	16.9 (100.0)	123,354	8.8 (100.0)	80,391	5.7 (100.0)
Waived to Adult Court	19,771	45.5 ( 2.4)	6,692	15.4 ( 2.8)	4,345	10.0 ( 3.5)	3,042	7.0 ( 3.8)
Dismissed Unproved	351,512	70.8 (43.2)	65,499	13.2 (27.7)	27,788	5.6 (22.5)	15,879	3.2 (19.8)
Dismissed	7,045	71.8 ( 0.9)	952	9.7 ( 0.4)	422	4.3 ( 0.3)	294	3.0 ( 0.4)
Referred	75,699	76.2 ( 9.1)	10,059	10.4 ( 4.2)	4,449	4.6 ( 3.6)	2,904	3.0 ( 3.6)
Held Open	31,437	62.3 ( 3.9)	8,427	16.7 ( 3.6)	3,936	7.8 ( 3.2)	2,270	4.5 ( 2.8)
Probation	249,027	54.0 (30.6)	99,150	21.5 (41.9)	48,883	10.6 (39.6)	28,130	6.1 (35.0)
Fine, Restitution	3,428	81.5 ( 0.4)	366	8.7 ( 0.2)	193	4.6 ( 0.2)	126	3.0 ( 0.2)
Delinquent Institution	8,528	15.6 ( 1.0)	8,965	16.4 ( 3.8)	8,200	15.0 ( 6.6)	7,107	13.0 ( 8.8)
Public Institution	10,268	22.2 ( 1.3)	10,408	22.5 ( 4.4)	8,789	19.0 ( 7.1)	7,540	16.3 ( 9.4)
Public Agency or Department	12,376	32.7 ( 1.5)	7,606	20.1 ( 3.2)	5,450	14.4 ( 4.4)	4,466	11.8 ( 5.6)
Private Agency or Institution	5,172	24.6 ( 0.6)	4,500	21.4 ( 1.9)	3,343	15.9 ( 2.7)	2,966	14.2 ( 3.7)
Individual	2,082	29.7 ( 0.3)	1,984	28.3 ( 0.8)	1,142	16.3 ( 0.9)	911	13.0 ( 1.1)
Special Proceedings	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
Other	39,652	54.4 ( 4.9)	12,245	16.8 ( 5.2)	6,414	8.8 ( 5.2)	4,738	6.5 ( 5.0)

DISPOSITION	FOUR		FIVE OR MORE		TOTAL	
	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT
Total	42,090	3.0 (100.0)	105,219	7.5 (100.0)	1,401,705	100.0
Waived to Adult Court	2,042	4.7 ( 4.9)	7,561	17.4 ( 7.2)	43,453	( 3.1)
Dismissed Unproved	10,420	2.1 (24.6)	25,306	5.1 (24.1)	496,204	(35.4)
Dismissed	216	2.2 ( 0.5)	883	9.0 ( 0.8)	9,812	( 0.7)
Referred	1,644	1.7 ( 3.9)	3,965	4.1 ( 5.8)	96,718	( 6.9)
Held Open	1,312	2.6 ( 3.1)	3,078	6.1 ( 2.9)	50,460	( 3.6)
Probation	12,913	2.8 (30.7)	25,058	5.0 (21.9)	461,161	(32.9)
Fine, Restitution	42	1.0 ( 0.1)	50	1.2 ( 0.0)	4,205	( 0.3)
Delinquent Institution	5,138	9.4 (12.2)	16,728	30.6 (15.9)	54,666	( 3.9)
Public Institution	2,128	4.6 ( 5.1)	7,123	15.4 ( 6.8)	46,256	( 3.3)
Public Agency or Department	2,006	5.3 ( 4.8)	5,942	15.7 ( 5.6)	37,846	( 2.7)
Private Agency or Institution	1,451	6.9 ( 3.4)	3,574	17.0 ( 3.4)	21,026	( 1.5)
Individual	301	4.3 ( 0.7)	589	8.4 ( 0.6)	7,009	( 0.5)
Special Proceedings	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
Other	2,478	3.4 ( 5.9)	7,362	10.1 ( 7.0)	72,889	( 5.2)

Note: Two percentages are presented: The horizontal (row) percentages indicate how much of the row total is represented under each column. The vertical (column) percentages (in parentheses) indicate how much of the column total is represented in each row.

Source: National Center for Juvenile Justice. Advance Estimates of 1977 National Court Processing Statistics. (Pittsburgh, PA: National Center for Juvenile Justice, 1979).

Table constructed by the NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM ASSESSMENT CENTER (Sacramento, CA: American Justice Institute, 1980).



TABLE D-50

## NATIONAL ESTIMATES OF THE NUMBER OF PERSONS REFERRED TO JUVENILE COURT BY TYPE OF DISPOSITION AND OFFENSE (1975-1977)

INFORMATION CATEGORY	RESTRICTIVE <sup>1</sup>		NON-RESTRICTIVE <sup>2</sup>		TOTAL <sup>3</sup>	
	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT
<u>1975</u>	138,642	10.7 (100.0)	1,692,022	89.3 (100.0)	1,300,664	100.0
Serious	59,370	12.4 ( 42.8)	418,663	87.6 ( 36.0)	478,033	( 36.8)
Less-Serious	37,436	7.7 ( 27.0)	449,770	92.3 ( 38.7)	487,206	( 37.5)
Status	41,836	12.5 ( 30.2)	293,589	87.5 ( 25.3)	335,425	( 25.8)
<u>1976</u>	108,769	8.1 (100.0)	1,228,294	91.9 (100.0)	1,337,063	100.0
Serious	60,362	9.6 (55.5)	571,004	90.4 ( 46.5)	631,366	( 47.2)
Less-Serious	25,857	6.4 (23.8)	377,600	93.6 ( 30.7)	403,457	( 30.2)
Status	22,550	7.5 (20.7)	279,690	92.5 ( 22.8)	302,240	( 22.6)
<u>1977</u>	109,167	8.7 (100.0)	1,140,164	91.3 (100.0)	1,249,331	100.0
Serious	64,561	10.5 (59.2)	551,528	89.5 (48.4)	616,089	( 49.3)
Less-Serious	26,680	7.0 (24.4)	355,877	93.0 (31.2)	382,557	( 30.6)
Status	17,926	7.2 (16.4)	232,759	92.8 (20.4)	250,685	( 20.1)

<sup>1</sup>Includes disposition of commitments to delinquency institution, public institutions, and private institutions.

<sup>2</sup>Includes disposition of dismissal, transfer to other jurisdictions, probation, and fines and restitution.

<sup>3</sup>Total does not include all referrals for selected years.

Source: National Center for Juvenile Justice. Advance Estimates of 1975, 1976, and 1977 National Court Processing Statistics. (Pittsburgh, PA: National Center for Juvenile Justice, 1979).

Table constructed by the NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM ASSESSMENT CENTER (Sacramento, CA: American Justice Institute, 1980).

TABLE D-51

NATIONAL ESTIMATES OF THE NUMBER OF PERSONS UNDER 18 REFERRED TO JUVENILE COURT BY DISPOSITION AND DETENTION STATUS (1975-1977)

DETENTION STATUS	Certified to Adult Court		Dismissed Unproved		Dismissed		Transfer to Other Jurisdiction		Held Open		Probation		Fine, Restitution		Delinquent Institution	
	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT
<b>1975</b>	23,093	1.7 (100.0)	140,608	10.0 (100.0)	510,406	36.3 (100.0)	12,655	0.9 (100.0)	40,776	2.9 (100.0)	461,193	32.8 (100.0)	40,776	2.9 (100.0)	37,964	2.7 (100.0)
Detained	7,625	2.0 (31.9)	32,059	8.6 (22.8)	111,779	29.8 (21.9)	8,365	2.2 (66.1)	8,359	2.2 (20.5)	112,531	30.0 (24.4)	5,464	1.5 (13.4)	20,614	5.5 (54.3)
Not Detained	16,278	1.6 (68.1)	108,549	10.5 (77.2)	398,627	38.6 (78.1)	4,290	0.4 (33.9)	32,417	3.1 (79.5)	348,662	33.8 (75.6)	35,312	3.4 (86.6)	17,350	1.7 (45.7)
<b>1976</b>	10,333	0.7 (100.0)	748,428	50.7 (100.0)	7,381	0.5 (100.0)	112,190	7.6 (100.0)	59,048	4.0 (100.0)	339,524	23.0 (100.0)	41,333	2.8 (100.0)	42,810	2.9 (100.0)
Detained	5,363	1.6 (51.9)	124,987	36.9 (16.7)	2,045	0.6 (27.7)	44,876	13.2 (40.0)	9,979	2.9 (16.9)	80,476	23.8 (23.7)	3,555	1.1 (8.6)	26,071	7.7 (60.9)
Not Detained	4,970	0.4 (48.1)	623,441	54.8 (83.3)	5,336	0.5 (72.3)	67,314	5.9 (60.0)	49,069	4.3 (83.1)	259,057	22.8 (76.3)	37,778	3.3 (91.4)	16,739	1.4 (39.1)
<b>1977</b>	14,017	1.0 (100.0)	667,212	47.6 (100.0)	9,812	0.7 (100.0)	106,530	7.6 (100.0)	49,060	3.5 (100.0)	332,204	23.7 (100.0)	49,060	3.5 (100.0)	43,453	3.1 (100.0)
Detained	5,761	1.7 (41.1)	98,080	29.5 (14.7)	1,403	0.4 (14.3)	67,860	20.4 (63.7)	6,770	2.0 (13.8)	75,743	22.8 (22.8)	5,642	1.7 (11.5)	25,463	7.7 (58.6)
Not Detained	8,256	0.8 (58.9)	569,132	53.2 (85.3)	8,409	0.8 (85.7)	38,670	3.6 (36.3)	42,290	4.0 (86.2)	256,461	24.0 (77.2)	43,418	4.0 (88.5)	17,990	1.7 (41.4)

DETENTION STATUS	Public Institution		Public Agency or Department		Public Agency or Institution		Individual		Special Procedures		Other Transfer		TOTAL	
	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT
<b>1975</b>	14,061	1.0 (100.0)	70,304	5.0 (100.0)	15,467	1.1 (100.0)	11,249	0.8 (100.0)	-0-	-0-	26,715	1.9 (100.0)	1,406,077	100.0
Detained	8,127	2.2 (57.8)	39,370	10.5 (56.0)	8,677	2.3 (56.1)	6,547	1.8 (58.2)	-0-	-0-	5,263	1.4 (19.7)	374,780	(26.7)
Not Detained	5,934	0.6 (42.2)	30,934	3.0 (44.0)	6,790	0.7 (43.9)	4,702	0.5 (41.8)	-0-	-0-	21,452	2.1 (80.3)	1,031,297	(73.3)
<b>1976</b>	10,333	0.7 (100.0)	22,143	1.5 (100.0)	10,333	0.7 (100.0)	1,476	0.1 (100.0)	1,476	0.1 (100.0)	69,381	4.7 (100.0)	1,476,189	100.0
Detained	6,076	1.8 (58.8)	10,164	3.0 (45.9)	5,900	1.7 (57.1)	459	0.1 (31.1)	334	0.1 (22.6)	18,525	5.5 (26.7)	338,801	(23.0)
Not Detained	4,257	0.4 (41.2)	11,979	1.1 (54.1)	4,433	0.4 (42.9)	1,017	0.1 (68.9)	1,142	0.1 (77.4)	50,856	4.5 (73.3)	1,137,388	(77.0)
<b>1977</b>	12,615	0.9 (100.0)	21,026	1.5 (100.0)	9,812	0.7 (100.0)	4,205	0.3 (100.0)	1,400	<0.1 (100.0)	81,299	5.8 (100.0)	1,401,705	100.0
Detained	7,859	2.4 (62.3)	9,525	2.9 (45.3)	5,642	1.7 (57.5)	1,291	0.4 (30.7)	321	<0.1 (22.9)	21,463	6.4 (26.4)	332,823	(23.7)
Not Detained	4,756	0.4 (37.7)	11,501	1.1 (54.7)	4,170	0.4 (42.5)	2,914	0.3 (69.3)	1,079	0.1 (77.1)	59,836	5.6 (73.6)	1,068,882	(76.3)

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Note: Two percentages are presented: The horizontal (row) percentages indicate how much of the row total is represented under each column. The vertical (column) percentages (in parentheses) indicate how much of the column total is represented in each row.

Source: National Center for Juvenile Justice. Advance Estimates of 1975, 1976, and 1977. National Court Processing Statistics. (Pittsburgh, PA: National Center for Juvenile Justice, 1979).

Table constructed by the NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM ASSESSMENT CENTER (Sacramento, CA: American Justice Institute, 1980).

TABLE D-52  
 NATIONAL ESTIMATES OF THE NUMBER OF PERSONS UNDER 18 REFERRED TO JUVENILE COURT  
 BY SEX AND DISPOSITION (1975-1977)

INFORMATION CATEGORY	Certified to Adult Court		Dismissed Unproved		Dismissed		Transfer to Other Jurisdiction		Hold Open		Probation		Fine, Restitution		Delinquent Institution	
	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT
<b>1975</b>	25,309	1.8 (100.0)	136,389	9.7 (100.0)	494,939	35.2 (100.0)	14,061	1.0 (100.0)	36,558	2.6 (100.0)	479,472	34.1 (100.0)	37,965	2.7 (100.0)	42,182	3.0 (100.0)
Male	20,247	1.6 (80.0)	106,656	10.0 (78.2)	358,434	33.5 (72.4)	7,336	0.7 (52.2)	27,272	2.6 (74.6)	382,254	35.8 (79.7)	30,205	2.8 (79.6)	36,994	3.5 (87.7)
Female	5,062	1.5 (20.0)	29,733	8.8 (21.8)	136,505	40.5 (27.6)	6,725	2.0 (47.8)	9,286	2.8 (25.4)	97,218	28.9 (20.3)	7,760	2.3 (20.4)	5,188	1.5 (12.3)
<b>1976</b>	10,333	0.7 (100.0)	726,285	49.2 (100.0)	5,905	0.4 (100.0)	106,186	7.2 (100.0)	54,619	3.7 (100.0)	352,809	23.9 (100.0)	29,301	2.6 (100.0)	47,238	3.2 (100.0)
Male	9,258	0.8 (89.6)	538,903	47.8 (74.2)	4,399	0.4 (74.5)	70,361	6.3 (66.2)	42,876	3.8 (78.5)	285,775	25.4 (81.0)	31,711	2.8 (82.7)	40,577	3.6 (85.9)
Female	1,075	0.3 (10.4)	187,382	56.3 (25.8)	1,506	0.4 (25.5)	35,825	10.3 (33.8)	11,743	3.4 (21.5)	67,034	19.2 (19.0)	6,640	1.9 (17.3)	6,661	1.9 (14.1)
<b>1977</b>	23,829	1.7 (100.0)	637,776	45.5 (100.0)	8,410	0.6 (100.0)	98,119	7.0 (100.0)	46,256	3.3 (100.0)	350,426	25.0 (100.0)	43,453	3.1 (100.0)	47,658	3.4 (100.0)
Male	20,088	1.9 (84.3)	475,143	44.1 (74.5)	6,190	0.6 (73.6)	65,740	6.1 (67.0)	35,432	3.3 (76.6)	285,597	26.5 (81.5)	34,762	3.2 (80.0)	41,319	3.8 (86.7)
Female	3,741	1.1 (15.7)	162,633	50.1 (25.5)	2,220	0.7 (26.4)	32,379	10.0 (33.0)	10,824	3.3 (23.4)	64,829	19.9 (18.5)	8,691	2.7 (20.0)	6,339	2.0 (13.3)

INFORMATION CATEGORY	Public Institution		Public Agency or Department		Public Agency or Institution		Individual		Special Procedures		Other Transfer		TOTAL	
	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT
<b>1975</b>	16,873	1.2 (100.0)	64,680	4.6 (100.0)	14,061	1.0 (100.0)	16,873	1.2 (100.0)	-0-	-0-	26,715	1.9 (100.0)	1,406,077	100.0
Male	14,207	1.3 (84.2)	44,629	4.2 (69.0)	10,335	1.0 (73.5)	10,411	1.0 (61.7)	-0-	-0-	20,143	1.9 (75.4)	1,069,123	(76.0)
Female	2,666	0.8 (15.8)	20,051	6.0 (31.0)	3,726	1.1 (26.5)	6,462	1.9 (38.3)	-0-	-0-	6,572	2.0 (24.6)	336,954	(24.0)
<b>1976</b>	22,143	1.5 (100.0)	26,571	1.8 (100.0)	11,809	0.8 (100.0)	2,952	0.2 (100.0)	2,952	0.2 (100.0)	67,906	4.6 (100.0)	1,476,189	100.0
Male	19,065	1.7 (86.1)	18,121	1.6 (68.2)	9,010	0.8 (76.3)	2,102	0.2 (71.2)	2,317	0.2 (78.5)	52,216	4.6 (76.9)	1,126,724	(76.3)
Female	3,078	0.9 (13.9)	8,450	2.4 (31.8)	2,799	0.8 (23.7)	850	0.2 (28.8)	635	0.2 (21.5)	15,687	4.5 (23.1)	349,465	(23.7)
<b>1977</b>	23,829	1.7 (100.0)	25,231	1.8 (100.0)	11,214	0.8 (100.0)	4,205	0.3 (100.0)	4,205	0.3 (100.0)	77,094	5.5 (100.0)	1,401,705	100.0
Male	21,184	2.0 (88.9)	17,233	1.6 (68.3)	8,848	0.8 (78.9)	2,977	0.3 (70.8)	2,859	0.3 (68.0)	59,440	5.5 (77.1)	1,076,877	(76.8)
Female	2,645	0.8 (11.1)	7,998	2.5 (31.7)	2,366	0.7 (21.1)	1,228	0.4 (29.2)	1,346	0.4 (32.0)	17,654	5.4 (22.9)	324,828	(23.2)

Note: Two percentages are presented: The horizontal (row) percentages indicate how much of the row total is represented under each column. The vertical (column) percentages (in parentheses) indicate how much of the column total is represented in each row.

Source: National Center for Juvenile Justice. Advance Estimates of 1975, 1976, and 1977 National Court Processing Statistics. (Pittsburgh, PA: National Center for Juvenile Justice, 1979).

Table constructed by the NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM ASSESSMENT CENTER (Sacramento, CA: American Justice Institute, 1980).

TABLE D-53

NATIONAL ESTIMATES OF THE NUMBER OF PERSONS UNDER 18 REFERRED TO JUVENILE COURT  
BY RACE AND DISPOSITION (1975-1977)

RACE	Certified to Adult Court		Dismissed Unproved		Dismissed		Transfer to Other Jurisdiction		Hold Open		Probation		Fine, Restitution		Delinquent Institutions	
	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT
<b>1975</b>	25,309	1.8 (100.0)	136,389	9.7 (100.0)	493,533	35.1 (100.0)	14,061	1.0 (100.0)	35,152	2.5 (100.0)	463,690	34.4 (100.0)	37,965	2.7 (100.0)	42,182	3.0 (100.0)
White	16,016	1.7 (63.3)	81,015	8.5 (59.4)	336,164	35.4 (68.1)	12,259	1.3 (87.2)	24,079	2.5 (68.5)	327,660	34.5 (67.7)	29,623	3.1 (78.0)	22,905	2.4 (54.3)
Black	7,816	2.5 (30.5)	47,736	15.3 (35.0)	93,848	15.5 (19.0)	1,375	0.4 (9.8)	10,686	3.4 (30.4)	102,222	32.9 (21.1)	7,728	2.5 (20.4)	16,577	5.3 (39.3)
Other	1,477	1.0 (5.8)	7,638	5.3 (5.6)	63,521	36.4 (12.9)	427	0.3 (3.0)	387	0.3 (1.1)	53,808	37.0 (11.1)	614	0.4 (1.6)	2,700	1.9 (6.4)
<b>1976</b>	10,333	0.7 (100.0)	732,190	49.6 (100.0)	5,905	0.4 (100.0)	104,809	7.1 (100.0)	54,619	3.7 (100.0)	354,285	24.0 (100.0)	33,852	2.3 (100.0)	47,238	3.2 (100.0)
White	6,241	0.6 (60.4)	501,550	48.2 (68.5)	4,352	0.4 (73.7)	84,371	8.1 (80.5)	41,947	4.0 (76.8)	249,771	24.0 (70.5)	29,471	2.8 (86.8)	28,768	2.8 (60.9)
Black	3,379	1.0 (32.7)	176,458	54.0 (24.1)	1,334	0.4 (22.6)	12,053	3.7 (11.5)	11,798	3.6 (21.6)	75,108	23.0 (21.2)	3,293	1.0 (9.7)	15,778	4.8 (33.4)
Other	713	0.7 (6.9)	54,182	49.7 (7.4)	218	0.2 (3.7)	8,385	7.7 (8.0)	874	0.8 (1.6)	29,406	27.0 (8.3)	1,188	1.1 (3.5)	2,692	2.5 (5.7)
<b>1977</b>	23,829	1.7 (100.0)	643,382	45.9 (100.0)	8,410	0.6 (100.0)	98,119	7.0 (100.0)	46,256	3.3 (100.0)	351,828	25.1 (100.0)	39,248	2.8 (100.0)	47,658	3.4 (100.0)
White	12,320	1.2 (51.7)	455,514	45.0 (70.8)	6,350	0.6 (75.5)	78,593	7.8 (80.1)	37,560	3.7 (81.2)	251,909	24.9 (71.6)	34,970	3.5 (89.1)	30,549	3.0 (64.1)
Black	7,220	2.6 (30.3)	142,188	50.5 (22.1)	1,817	0.6 (21.6)	10,401	3.7 (10.6)	7,910	2.8 (17.1)	69,310	24.6 (19.7)	2,355	0.8 (6.0)	13,821	4.9 (29.0)
Other	4,289	4.0 (19.0)	45,680	42.2 (7.1)	244	0.2 (2.9)	9,125	8.4 (9.3)	786	0.7 (1.7)	30,609	28.3 (8.7)	1,923	1.8 (4.9)	3,288	3.0 (6.9)

RACE	Public Institution		Public Agency or Department		Public Agency or Institution		Individual		Special Programs		Other Transfer		TOTAL	
	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT
<b>1975</b>	16,873	1.2 (100.0)	64,680	4.6 (100.0)	14,061	1.0 (100.0)	16,873	1.2 (100.0)	-	-	25,309	1.8 (100.0)	1,406,077	100.0
White	9,922	1.0 (58.8)	49,739	5.3 (76.9)	9,295	1.0 (66.1)	12,250	1.3 (72.6)	-	-	18,729	2.0 (74.0)	949,656	(67.5)
Black	4,319	1.4 (25.6)	7,632	2.5 (11.8)	3,065	1.0 (21.8)	2,210	0.7 (13.1)	-	-	5,770	1.9 (22.8)	310,904	(22.1)
Other	2,632	1.8 (15.6)	7,309	5.0 (11.3)	1,701	1.2 (14.3)	2,413	1.7 (14.3)	-	-	810	0.5 (3.2)	145,437	(10.3)
<b>1976</b>	20,667	1.4 (100.0)	28,048	1.9 (100.0)	13,286	0.9 (100.0)	2,952	0.2 (100.0)	1,476	0.1 (100.0)	66,429	4.5 (100.0)	1,476,189	100.0
White	12,483	1.2 (60.4)	19,886	1.9 (70.9)	9,393	0.9 (70.7)	2,072	0.2 (70.2)	1,224	0.1 (82.9)	48,958	4.7 (73.7)	1,040,497	(70.5)
Black	4,381	1.4 (21.2)	5,974	1.8 (21.3)	2,511	0.8 (18.9)	484	0.2 (16.4)	196	0.0 (13.3)	14,017	4.3 (21.1)	326,764	(22.1)
Other	3,803	3.5 (18.4)	2,188	2.0 (7.8)	1,382	1.3 (10.4)	396	0.4 (13.4)	56	0.0 (3.7)	3,454	3.1 (5.2)	108,938	(7.4)
<b>1977</b>	25,231	1.8 (100.0)	25,231	1.8 (100.0)	12,615	0.9 (100.0)	5,607	0.4 (100.0)	444	0.0 (100.0)	74,291	5.3 (100.0)	1,401,705	100.0
White	15,139	1.5 (60.0)	18,696	1.8 (74.1)	9,121	0.9 (72.3)	4,222	0.4 (75.3)	398	0.0 (89.8)	56,907	5.6 (76.6)	1,012,248	(72.2)
Black	4,971	1.8 (19.7)	4,617	1.6 (18.3)	2,245	0.8 (17.8)	953	0.3 (17.0)	27	0.0 (6.0)	13,743	4.9 (18.5)	281,550	(20.1)
Other	5,122	4.7 (20.3)	1,918	1.8 (7.6)	1,249	1.2 (9.9)	432	0.1 (7.7)	19	0.0 (4.2)	3,640	3.4 (4.9)	108,305	(7.7)

Note: Two percentages are presented: The horizontal (row) percentages indicate how much of the row total is represented under each column. The vertical (column) percentages (in parentheses) indicate how much of the column total is represented in each row.

Source: National Center for Juvenile Justice. Advance Estimates of 1975, 1976, and 1977 National Court Processing Statistics. (Pittsburgh, PA: National Center for Juvenile Justice, 1979).

Table constructed by the NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM ASSESSMENT CENTER (Sacramento, CA: American Justice Institute, 1980).

TABLE D-54

NATIONAL ESTIMATES OF THE NUMBER OF PERSONS UNDER 18 REFERRED TO JUVENILE COURT  
BY TYPE OF DISPOSITION AND RACE (1975-1977)

RACE	NON-RESTRICTIVE		RESTRICTIVE		TOTAL	
	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT
<u>1975</u>	1,165,638	89.4 (100.0)	137,796	10.6 (100.0)	1,303,434	100.0
White	786,721	89.5 (67.5)	91,861	10.5 (66.7)	878,582	(67.4)
Black	252,909	88.9 (21.7)	31,593	11.1 (22.9)	284,502	(21.8)
Other	126,008	89.8 (10.8)	14,342	10.2 (10.4)	140,350	(10.8)
<u>1976</u>	1,231,141	91.9 (100.0)	109,239	8.1 (100.0)	1,340,380	100.0
White	869,516	92.5 (70.6)	70,550	7.5 (64.6)	940,046	(70.1)
Black	268,246	90.4 (21.8)	28,644	9.6 (26.2)	296,890	(22.2)
Other	93,379	90.3 (7.6)	10,065	9.7 (9.2)	103,444	(7.7)
<u>1977</u>	1,140,988	91.1 (100.0)	110,736	8.8 (100.0)	1,251,724	100.0
White	827,336	91.8 (72.5)	73,505	8.2 (66.4)	900,841	(72.0)
Black	226,071	89.8 (19.8)	25,654	10.2 (23.2)	251,725	(20.1)
Other	87,581	88.3 (7.7)	11,577	11.7 (10.4)	99,158	(7.9)

Note: Two percentages are presented: The horizontal (row) percentages indicate how much of the row total is represented under each column. The vertical (column) percentages (in parentheses) indicate how much of the column total is represented in each row.

Source: National Center for Juvenile Justice. Advance Estimates of 1975, 1976, and 1977 National Court Processing Statistics. (Pittsburgh, PA: National Center for Juvenile Justice, 1979).

Table constructed by the NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM ASSESSMENT CENTER (Sacramento, CA: American Justice Institute, 1980).

TABLE D-55  
 NATIONAL ESTIMATES OF THE NUMBER OF PERSONS UNDER 18 REFERRED TO JUVENILE COURT  
 BY DISPOSITION AND AGE (1975-1977)

Information Category	Certified to Adult Court		Dismissed - Improved		Dismissed		Transfer to other Jurisdiction		Held Open		Probation		Fine, Restitution	
	number	percent	number	percent	number	percent	number	percent	number	percent	number	percent	number	percent
<b>1975</b>														
Median Age	15.9		15.5		15.2		14.9		15.6		15.3		15.5	
Total	24,513	1.7 (100.0)	116,002	8.2 (100.0)	514,151	36.6 (100.0)	15,232	1.1 (100.0)	37,768	2.7 (100.0)	481,397	34.6 (100.0)	28,476	2.0 (100.0)
10 and Under	945	2.8 ( 3.8)	2,970	8.8 ( 2.5)	17,851	52.9 ( 3.5)	203	0.6 ( 1.3)	1,620	4.8 ( 4.3)	7,660	22.7 ( 1.6)	641	1.9 ( 2.3)
11 Years	478	1.7 ( 2.0)	2,334	8.3 ( 2.0)	13,076	46.5 ( 2.5)	253	0.9 ( 1.7)	1,012	3.6 ( 2.7)	8,268	29.4 ( 1.7)	506	1.8 ( 1.8)
12 Years	731	1.3 ( 3.0)	4,050	7.2 ( 3.5)	24,691	43.9 ( 4.8)	450	0.8 ( 2.9)	1,744	3.1 ( 4.6)	18,560	33.0 ( 3.8)	1,012	1.8 ( 3.6)
13 Years	1,209	1.0 ( 5.0)	8,706	7.2 ( 7.5)	47,160	39.0 ( 9.2)	1,572	1.3 ( 10.3)	3,386	2.8 ( 9.0)	43,170	35.7 ( 8.8)	2,177	1.8 ( 7.6)
14 Years	2,598	1.2 ( 10.6)	15,591	7.2 ( 13.4)	76,437	35.3 ( 14.9)	3,032	1.4 ( 19.9)	5,630	2.6 ( 14.9)	80,984	37.4 ( 16.6)	4,114	1.9 ( 14.4)
15 Years	3,985	1.3 ( 16.2)	23,909	7.8 ( 20.6)	105,138	34.5 ( 20.4)	4,508	1.5 ( 30.2)	8,276	2.7 ( 21.9)	13,414	37.0 ( 23.3)	6,131	2.0 ( 21.5)
16 Years	5,354	1.7 ( 21.8)	24,882	7.9 ( 21.4)	107,402	34.1 ( 20.9)	3,150	1.0 ( 20.7)	7,874	2.5 ( 20.8)	14,531	36.3 ( 23.5)	5,669	1.8 ( 19.9)
17 and Older	9,213	2.8 ( 37.6)	33,560	10.2 ( 28.9)	122,396	37.2 ( 23.8)	1,974	0.6 ( 13.0)	8,226	2.5 ( 21.8)	101,010	30.7 ( 20.7)	8,226	2.5 ( 28.9)
<b>1976</b>														
Median Age	16.8		15.5		15.5		15.4		15.4		15.3		16.0	
Total	10,333	0.7 (100.0)	724,809	49.1 (100.0)	5,905	0.4 (100.0)	106,286	7.2 (100.0)	54,619	3.7 (100.0)	354,285	24.0 (100.0)	38,381	2.6 (100.0)
10 and Under	-0-	0.0 ( -0- )	25,368	69.3 ( 3.5)	177	0.5 ( 3.0)	2,338	6.4 ( 2.2)	1,529	4.2 ( 2.8)	4,606	12.6 ( 1.3)	384	1.0 ( 1.0)
11 Years	21	0.1 ( 0.2)	19,570	62.3 ( 2.7)	95	0.3 ( 1.6)	1,701	5.4 ( 1.6)	1,256	4.0 ( 2.3)	6,023	19.2 ( 1.7)	384	1.2 ( 1.0)
12 Years	41	0.1 ( 0.4)	36,240	57.1 ( 5.0)	195	0.3 ( 3.3)	3,720	5.9 ( 3.5)	2,567	4.0 ( 4.7)	14,171	22.3 ( 4.0)	921	1.5 ( 2.4)
13 Years	83	0.1 ( 0.8)	65,233	51.9 ( 9.0)	431	0.3 ( 7.3)	8,184	6.5 ( 7.7)	4,533	3.6 ( 8.3)	31,177	24.8 ( 8.8)	3,149	1.7 ( 5.6)
14 Years	155	0.1 ( 1.5)	104,373	41.8 ( 14.4)	750	0.3 ( 12.7)	15,943	7.5 ( 15.0)	7,647	3.5 ( 14.0)	57,749	26.5 ( 16.3)	4,030	1.8 ( 10.5)
15 Years	692	0.2 ( 6.7)	144,962	46.2 ( 20.0)	1,258	0.4 ( 21.3)	23,383	7.5 ( 22.0)	11,306	3.6 ( 20.7)	82,194	26.2 ( 23.2)	6,832	2.2 ( 17.8)
16 Years	1,994	0.6 ( 19.3)	154,384	45.6 ( 21.3)	1,464	0.4 ( 24.8)	26,571	7.8 ( 25.0)	12,563	3.7 ( 23.0)	86,091	25.4 ( 24.3)	9,634	2.8 ( 25.1)
17 and Older	7,347	2.1 ( 71.1)	174,679	50.2 ( 24.1)	1,535	0.4 ( 26.0)	24,446	7.0 ( 23.0)	13,218	3.8 ( 24.2)	12,274	20.8 ( 20.4)	14,047	4.0 ( 36.6)
<b>1977</b>														
Median Age	16.6		15.5		15.5		15.7		15.4		15.5		15.9	
Total	23,829	1.7 (100.0)	625,161	44.6 (100.0)	7,009	0.5 (100.0)	95,316	6.8 (100.0)	49,060	3.5 (100.0)	356,033	25.4 (100.0)	47,658	3.4 (100.0)
10 and Under	119	0.4 ( 0.5)	21,880	65.2 ( 3.5)	294	0.9 ( 4.2)	1,906	5.7 ( 2.0)	1,423	4.2 ( 2.9)	4,984	14.9 ( 1.4)	429	1.3 ( 0.9)
11 Years	143	0.5 ( 0.6)	14,379	55.9 ( 2.3)	182	0.7 ( 2.6)	1,430	5.6 ( 1.5)	1,226	4.8 ( 2.5)	5,341	20.8 ( 1.5)	524	2.0 ( 1.1)
12 Years	334	0.6 ( 1.4)	26,882	51.3 ( 4.3)	336	0.6 ( 4.8)	2,955	5.6 ( 3.1)	2,159	4.1 ( 4.4)	12,817	24.5 ( 3.6)	1,144	2.2 ( 2.4)
13 Years	715	0.7 ( 3.0)	50,013	47.5 ( 8.0)	547	0.5 ( 7.8)	6,005	5.7 ( 6.3)	3,729	3.6 ( 7.6)	27,771	26.4 ( 7.8)	2,907	2.8 ( 6.1)
14 Years	1,620	0.9 ( 6.8)	81,271	43.4 ( 13.0)	946	0.5 ( 13.5)	12,105	6.4 ( 12.7)	6,868	3.7 ( 14.0)	51,981	27.8 ( 14.6)	5,195	2.8 ( 10.9)
15 Years	2,907	1.1 ( 12.2)	116,905	41.9 ( 18.7)	1,164	0.4 ( 16.6)	18,873	6.8 ( 19.8)	10,057	3.6 ( 20.5)	77,259	27.7 ( 21.7)	8,388	3.0 ( 17.6)
16 Years	5,481	1.7 ( 23.0)	135,035	40.9 ( 21.6)	1,612	0.5 ( 23.0)	23,257	7.0 ( 24.4)	12,069	3.7 ( 24.6)	89,008	27.0 ( 25.0)	12,486	3.8 ( 26.2)
17 and Older	13,510	3.2 ( 52.5)	178,796	46.0 ( 28.6)	1,928	0.5 ( 27.5)	28,785	1.4 ( 30.2)	11,529	3.0 ( 23.5)	86,872	22.4 ( 24.4)	16,585	4.3 ( 34.8)

( TABLE D-55 continued on next page )

( TABLE D-55 continued )

Information Category	Delinquent Institution		Public Institution		Public Agency or Department		Private Agency or Institution		Individual		Special Proceedings		Other Transfer		Total	
	number	percent	number	percent	number	percent	number	percent	number	percent	number	percent	number	percent	number	percent
<b>1975</b>																
Median Age	15.5		15.6		15.7		15.1		15.1				15.4		15.3	
Total	40,264	2.9 (100.0)	17,921	1.3 (100.0)	62,971	4.5 (100.0)	15,200	1.1 (100.0)	18,122	1.3 (100.0)	34	<0.1 (100.0)	28,026	2.0 (100.0)	1,406,077	100.0
10 and Under	101	0.3 ( 0.3)	135	0.4 ( 0.8)	607	1.8 ( 1.0)	135	0.4 ( 0.9)	169	0.5 ( 0.9)	34	0.1 (100.0)	675	2.0 ( 2.4)	33,746	( 2.4)
11 Years	337	1.2 ( 0.8)	141	0.5 ( 0.8)	703	2.5 ( 1.1)	169	0.6 ( 1.1)	338	1.2 ( 1.9)	-0-	0.0 ( 0.0)	506	1.8 ( 1.8)	28,121	( 2.0)
12 Years	787	1.4 ( 2.0)	358	0.6 ( 1.9)	1,651	2.9 ( 2.6)	562	1.0 ( 3.7)	675	1.2 ( 3.7)	-0-	0.0 ( 0.0)	1,012	1.8 ( 3.6)	56,243	( 4.0)
13 Years	2,902	2.4 ( 7.2)	1,088	0.9 ( 6.1)	4,111	3.4 ( 6.5)	1,451	1.2 ( 9.5)	1,814	1.5 ( 10.0)	-0-	0.0 ( 0.0)	2,177	1.8 ( 7.8)	120,923	( 8.6)
14 Years	6,063	2.8 ( 15.1)	2,598	1.2 ( 14.5)	8,878	4.1 ( 14.1)	2,815	1.3 ( 18.5)	3,465	1.6 ( 19.1)	-0-	0.0 ( 0.0)	4,331	2.0 ( 15.5)	216,536	( 15.4)
15 Years	9,809	3.2 ( 24.4)	4,291	1.4 ( 23.9)	12,567	4.1 ( 20.0)	3,985	1.5 ( 26.2)	4,291	1.4 ( 23.7)	-0-	0.0 ( 0.0)	6,131	2.0 ( 21.9)	306,525	( 21.8)
16 Years	10,384	3.3 ( 25.8)	4,724	1.5 ( 26.4)	16,378	5.2 ( 26.0)	3,780	1.2 ( 24.9)	4,409	1.4 ( 24.3)	-0-	0.0 ( 0.0)	6,614	2.1 ( 23.6)	314,961	( 22.4)
17 and Older	9,871	3.0 ( 24.5)	4,606	1.4 ( 25.7)	18,096	5.5 ( 28.7)	2,303	0.7 ( 15.2)	2,961	0.9 ( 16.3)	-0-	0.0 ( 0.0)	6,580	2.0 ( 23.5)	329,022	( 23.4)
<b>1976</b>																
Median Age	15.6		15.6		15.0		15.0		15.3		15.7		15.5		15.3	
Total	47,238	3.2 (100.0)	22,143	1.5 (100.0)	26,571	1.6 (100.0)	11,810	0.8 (100.0)	2,952	0.2 (100.0)	1,476	0.1 (100.0)	69,381	4.7 (100.0)	1,476,189	100.0
10 and Under	142	0.4 ( 0.3)	177	0.5 ( 0.8)	452	1.2 ( 1.7)	106	0.3 ( 0.9)	92	0.3 ( 3.1)	40	0.1 ( 2.7)	1,180	3.2 ( 1.7)	36,591	( 2.5)
11 Years	283	0.9 ( 0.6)	133	0.4 ( 0.6)	478	1.5 ( 1.8)	177	0.6 ( 1.5)	32	0.1 ( 1.1)	18	<0.1 ( 1.2)	1,249	4.0 ( 1.8)	31,420	( 2.1)
12 Years	898	1.4 ( 1.9)	310	0.5 ( 1.4)	1,275	2.0 ( 4.8)	520	0.8 ( 4.4)	124	0.2 ( 4.2)	46	0.1 ( 3.1)	2,428	3.8 ( 3.5)	65,456	( 4.3)
13 Years	2,929	2.3 ( 6.2)	1,174	0.9 ( 5.3)	2,870	2.3 ( 10.8)	1,252	1.0 ( 10.6)	230	0.2 ( 7.8)	125	0.1 ( 8.5)	5,342	4.3 ( 7.7)	125,712	( 8.5)
14 Years	1,755	3.1 ( 14.3)	3,211	1.5 ( 14.5)	4,916	2.3 ( 18.5)	2,244	1.0 ( 19.0)	437	0.2 ( 14.8)	204	0.1 ( 13.8)	9,852	4.5 ( 14.2)	218,266	( 14.8)
15 Years	11,951	3.8 ( 25.3)	5,381	1.7 ( 24.3)	6,722	2.1 ( 25.3)	3,224	1.0 ( 27.3)	750	0.2 ( 25.4)	230	0.1 ( 15.6)	14,917	4.8 ( 21.5)	315,802	( 21.3)
16 Years	12,707	3.8 ( 26.9)	6,687	2.0 ( 30.2)	6,032	1.8 ( 22.7)	2,657	0.8 ( 22.5)	688	0.2 ( 23.3)	398	0.1 ( 27.0)	16,860	5.0 ( 24.3)	338,730	( 23.0)
17 and Older	11,573	3.3 ( 24.5)	5,070	1.5 ( 22.9)	3,826	1.1 ( 14.4)	1,630	0.5 ( 13.8)	599	0.2 ( 20.3)	415	0.1 ( 28.1)	17,553	5.0 ( 25.3)	348,212	( 23.5)
<b>1977</b>																
Median Age	15.8		16.0		15.2		15.1		15.4				15.5		15.6	
Total	46,256	3.3 (100.0)	26,632	1.9 (100.0)	26,632	1.9 (100.0)	12,615	0.9 (100.0)	4,205	0.3 (100.0)	-0-	0.0 ( 0.0)	81,299	5.8 (100.0)	1,401,705	100.0
10 and Under	93	0.3 ( 0.2)	106	0.3 ( 0.4)	479	1.4 ( 1.8)	177	0.5 ( 1.4)	97	0.3 ( 2.3)	-0-	0.0 ( 0.0)	1,545	4.6 ( 1.9)	33,532	( 2.4)
11 Years	231	0.9 ( 0.5)	80	0.3 ( 0.3)	479	1.9 ( 1.8)	189	0.7 ( 1.5)	51	0.2 ( 1.2)	-0-	0.0 ( 0.0)	1,463	5.7 ( 1.8)	25,718	( 1.8)
12 Years	879	1.7 ( 1.9)	320	0.6 ( 1.2)	906	1.7 ( 3.4)	441	0.9 ( 3.5)	164	0.3 ( 3.9)	-0-	0.0 ( 0.0)	3,087	5.9 ( 3.8)	52,426	( 3.7)
13 Years	2,405	2.3 ( 5.2)	1,092	1.0 ( 4.1)	2,424	2.3 ( 9.1)	1,173	1.1 ( 9.3)	341	0.3 ( 8.1)	-0-	0.0 ( 0.0)	6,097	5.8 ( 7.5)	105,219	( 7.5)
14 Years	6,152	3.3 ( 13.3)	2,770	1.5 ( 10.4)	4,288	2.3 ( 16.1)	2,334	1.2 ( 18.5)	639	0.3 ( 15.2)	-0-	0.0 ( 0.0)	11,138	5.9 ( 13.7)	187,307	( 13.4)
15 Years	10,546	3.8 ( 22.8)	5,646	2.0 ( 21.2)	6,525	2.3 ( 24.5)	3,343	1.2 ( 26.5)	887	0.3 ( 21.1)	-0-	0.0 ( 0.0)	16,585	5.9 ( 20.4)	279,085	( 19.9)
16 Years	12,906	3.9 ( 27.9)	7,297	2.2 ( 27.4)	6,338	1.9 ( 23.8)	3,154	1.0 ( 25.0)	971	0.3 ( 23.1)	-0-	0.0 ( 0.0)	20,244	6.1 ( 24.9)	329,858	( 23.5)
17 and Older	13,044	3.3 ( 28.2)	9,321	2.4 ( 35.0)	5,183	1.3 ( 19.5)	1,804	0.5 ( 14.3)	1,055	0.3 ( 25.1)	-0-	0.0 ( 0.0)	21,138	5.4 ( 26.0)	388,560	( 27.8)

Note: Two percentages are presented: The horizontal (row) percentages indicate how much of the row total is represented under each column. The vertical (column) percentages (in parentheses) indicate how much of the column total is represented in each row.

Sources: National Center for Juvenile Justice. Advance Estimates of 1975, 1976, and 1977 National Court Processing Statistics. (Pittsburgh, PA: National Center for Juvenile Justice, 1979).

Table constructed by the NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM ASSESSMENT CENTER (Sacramento, CA: American Justice Institute, 1980).

TABLE D-56

NATIONAL ESTIMATES OF THE NUMBER OF PERSONS UNDER 18 REFERRED TO JUVENILE COURT  
BY NON-RESTRICTIVE AND RESTRICTIVE DISPOSITION AND AGE (1975-1977)

AGE	NON-RESTRICTIVE		RESTRICTIVE		TOTAL	
	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT
<u>1975</u>	1,161,258	89.5 (100.0)	136,356	10.5 (100.0)	1,297,614	100.0
10 and under	29,325	96.8 (2.5)	978	3.2 (0.7)	30,303	(2.3)
11 years	24,437	94.8 (2.1)	1,350	5.2 (1.0)	25,787	(2.0)
12 years	48,763	93.6 (4.2)	3,318	6.4 (2.4)	52,081	(4.0)
13 years	102,785	91.5 (8.9)	9,552	8.5 (7.0)	112,337	(8.7)
14 years	180,158	89.8 (15.5)	20,354	10.2 (14.9)	200,512	(15.4)
15 years	253,190	89.2 (21.8)	30,652	10.8 (22.5)	283,842	(21.9)
16 years	255,434	87.9 (22.0)	35,276	12.1 (25.9)	290,710	(22.4)
17 and older	267,166	88.5 (23.0)	34,876	11.5 (25.6)	302,042	(23.3)
<u>1976</u>	1,229,666	91.9 (100.0)	107,762	8.1 (100.0)	1,337,428	100.0
10 and under	32,873	97.4 (2.7)	877	2.6 (0.8)	33,750	(2.5)
11 years	27,773	96.3 (2.3)	1,071	3.7 (1.0)	28,844	(2.2)
12 years	55,247	94.8 (4.5)	3,003	5.2 (2.8)	58,250	(4.4)
13 years	107,174	92.9 (8.7)	8,225	7.1 (7.6)	115,399	(8.6)
14 years	182,845	91.4 (14.9)	17,126	8.6 (15.9)	199,971	(14.9)
15 years	258,629	90.5 (21.0)	27,278	9.5 (25.3)	285,907	(21.4)
16 years	278,144	90.8 (22.6)	28,083	9.2 (26.1)	306,227	(22.9)
17 and older	286,981	92.9 (23.3)	22,099	7.1 (20.5)	309,080	(23.1)
<u>1977</u>	1,131,177	91.0 (100.0)	112,135	9.0 (100.0)	1,243,312	100.0
10 and under	29,493	97.2 (2.6)	855	2.8 (0.8)	30,348	(2.4)
11 years	21,856	95.7 (1.9)	979	4.3 (0.9)	22,835	(1.8)
12 years	44,134	94.5 (3.9)	2,546	5.5 (2.3)	46,680	(3.8)
13 years	87,243	92.5 (7.7)	7,094	7.5 (6.3)	94,337	(7.6)
14 years	151,498	90.7 (13.4)	15,544	9.3 (13.9)	167,042	(13.4)
15 years	222,589	89.5 (19.7)	26,060	10.5 (23.2)	248,649	(20.0)
16 years	261,398	89.8 (23.1)	29,695	10.2 (26.5)	291,093	(23.4)
17 and older	312,966	91.4 (27.7)	29,362	8.6 (26.2)	342,328	(27.5)

Note: Two percentages are presented: The horizontal (row) percentages indicate how much of the row total is represented under each column. The vertical (column) percentages (in parentheses) indicate how much of the column total is represented in each row.

Source: National Center for Juvenile Justice. Advance Estimates of 1975, 1976, and 1977 National Court Processing Statistics. (Pittsburgh, PA: National Center for Juvenile Justice, 1979).

Table constructed by the NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM ASSESSMENT CENTER (Sacramento, CA: American Justice Institute, 1980).



TABLE D-57

NATIONAL ESTIMATES OF THE NUMBER OF PERSONS UNDER 18  
ADMITTED TO STATE CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTIONS  
BY TYPE OF ADMISSION AND SEX (1973, 1977)

TYPE OF ADMISSION	MALE		FEMALE		TOTAL	
	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT
<u>1973</u>	40,722	78.3 (100.0)	11,301	21.7 (100.0)	52,023	100.0
Committed by court	26,541	79.1 (65.2)	6,998	20.9 (61.9)	33,539	(64.5)
Revocations	5,446	76.5 (13.4)	1,669	23.5 (14.8)	7,115	(13.7)
Transferred and other	8,735	76.8 (21.4)	2,634	23.2 (23.3)	11,369	(21.3)
<u>1977</u>	52,033	78.2 (100.0)	14,491	21.8 (100.0)	66,524	100.0
Committed by court	33,924	79.1 (65.2)	8,964	20.9 (61.9)	42,888	(64.5)
Revocations	6,999	76.8 (13.4)	2,114	23.2 (14.6)	9,113	(13.7)
Transferred and other	11,110	76.5 (21.4)	3,413	23.5 (23.5)	14,523	(21.8)

Note: Two percentages are presented: The horizontal (row) percentages indicate how much of the row total is represented under each column. The vertical (column) percentages (in parentheses) indicate how much of the column total is represented in each row.

Source: U.S. Department of Justice. Law Enforcement Assistance Administration. Children in Custody: A Report on the Juvenile Detention and Correctional Facility Census of 1973. (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1977); and U.S. Department of Justice. Law Enforcement Assistance Administration. "Children in Custody: Advance Report on the 1977 Census of Public Juvenile Facilities, No. SD-JD-5A." (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Department of Justice, 1979).

Table constructed by the NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM ASSESSMENT CENTER (Sacramento, CA: American Justice Institute, 1980).

TABLE D-58

NATIONAL ESTIMATES OF THE NUMBER OF PERSONS UNDER 18  
ADMITTED TO RANCHES, FORESTRY CAMPS, AND FARMS  
BY TYPE OF ADMISSION (1973, 1977)

TYPE OF ADMISSION	MALE		FEMALE		TOTAL	
	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT
<u>1973</u>	20,223	84.5 (100.0)	3,709	15.5 (100.0)	23,932	100.0
Committed by court	13,566	86.1 (67.1)	2,197	13.9 (59.2)	15,763	(65.9)
Revocations	785	91.3 (3.9)	75	8.7 (2.0)	860	(3.6)
Transferred and other	5,872	80.3 (29.0)	1,437	19.7 (38.7)	7,309	(30.5)
<u>1977</u>	25,855	84.5 (100.0)	4,736	15.5 (100.0)	30,591	100.0
Committed by court	17,357	86.1 (67.1)	2,802	13.9 (59.2)	20,159	(65.9)
Revocations	1,006	91.3 (3.9)	96	8.7 (2.0)	1,102	(3.6)
Transferred and other	7,492	80.3 (29.0)	1,838	19.7 (38.8)	9,330	(30.5)

Note: Two percentages are presented: The horizontal (row) percentages indicate how much of the row total is represented under each column. The vertical (column) percentages (in parentheses) indicate how much of the column total is represented in each row.

Source: U.S. Department of Justice. Law Enforcement Assistance Administration. Children in Custody: A Report on the Juvenile Detention and Correctional Facility Census of 1973. (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1977); and U.S. Department of Justice. Law Enforcement Assistance Administration. "Children in Custody: Advance report on the 1977 Census of Public Juvenile Facilities, No. SD-JD-5A." (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Department of Justice, 1979).

Table constructed by the NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM ASSESSMENT CENTER (Sacramento, CA: American Justice Institute, 1980).

TABLE D-59

NATIONAL ESTIMATES OF THE NUMBER OF PERSONS UNDER 18  
ADMITTED TO LONG-TERM CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES BY SEX  
(1973, 1977)

TYPE OF FACILITY AND STATE OR LOCAL ADMINISTRATION	MALE		FEMALE		TOTAL	
	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT
<u>1973</u>	70,751	80.4 (100.0)	17,205	19.6 (100.0)	87,956	100.0
State correctional institution	53,166	78.7 (75.1)	14,358	21.3 (83.4)	67,524	(76.8)
Ranch, forestry camp, and farm	14,047	94.4 (19.9)	836	5.6 (4.9)	14,883	(16.9)
Halfway house and group home	3,538	63.8 (5.0)	2,011	36.2 (11.7)	5,549	(6.3)
<u>1977</u>	82,054	79.2 (100.0)	21,591	20.8 (100.0)	103,645	100.0
State correctional institution	52,033	78.2 (63.4)	14,491	21.8 (67.1)	66,524	(64.2)
Ranch, forestry camp, and farm	25,855	84.5 (31.5)	4,736	15.5 (21.9)	30,591	(29.5)
Halfway house and group home	4,166	63.8 (5.1)	2,364	36.2 (11.0)	6,530	(6.3)

Note: Two percentages are presented: The horizontal (row) percentages indicate how much of the row total is represented under each column. The vertical (column) percentages (in parentheses) indicate how much of the column total is represented in each row.

Source: U.S. Department of Justice. Law Enforcement Assistance Administration. Children in Custody: A Report on the Juvenile Detention and Correctional Facility Census of 1973. (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1977); and U.S. Department of Justice. Law Enforcement Assistance Administration. "Children in Custody: Advance Report on the 1977 Census of Public Juvenile Facilities, No. SD-JD-5A." (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Department of Justice, 1979).

Table constructed by the NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM ASSESSMENT CENTER (Sacramento, CA: American Justice Institute, 1980).

TABLE D-60

NATIONAL ESTIMATES OF THE NUMBER OF PERSONS UNDER 18  
PLACED IN LOCAL CORRECTIONAL PROGRAMS (1977)

TYPE OF PROGRAM	NUMBER	PERCENT
Total	72,831	100.0
Own home	4,224	5.8
Foster	13,108	18.0
Camp	30,591	42.0
Hospital	146	0.2
Shelter	6,263	8.6
Suitable placement	18,498	25.4

Source: California. Department of Justice. Bureau of Criminal Statistics. Unpublished Court Processing Statistics Provided for the National Juvenile Justice System Assessment Center, Sacramento, California, 1979.

Table constructed by the NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM ASSESSMENT CENTER (Sacramento, CA: American Justice Institute, 1980).

TABLE D-61  
 NATIONAL ESTIMATES OF THE NUMBER OF PERSONS UNDER 18  
 TERMINATING FROM STATE CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTIONS  
 BY TYPE OF DEPARTURE AND SEX (1973, 1977)

TYPE OF DEPARTURE	MALE		FEMALE		TOTAL	
	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT
<u>1973</u>	39,923	77.8 (100.0)	11,387	22.2 (100.0)	51,310	100.0
Discharge	8,146	81.6 (20.4)	1,842	18.4 (16.2)	9,988	(19.6)
Parole	20,552	75.8 (51.5)	6,577	24.2 (57.8)	27,129	(52.9)
Transfer	5,656	79.9 (14.2)	1,424	20.1 (12.5)	7,080	(13.8)
Escape or other	5,569	78.3 (13.9)	1,544	21.7 (13.6)	7,113	(13.7)
<u>1977</u>	51,786	77.8 (100.0)	14,738	22.2 (100.0)	66,524	100.0
Discharge	10,640	81.6 (20.5)	2,399	18.4 (16.3)	13,039	(19.6)
Parole	26,675	75.8 (51.5)	8,516	24.2 (57.8)	35,191	(52.9)
Transfer	7,335	79.9 (14.2)	1,845	20.1 (12.5)	9,180	(13.8)
Escape or other	7,136	78.3 (13.8)	1,978	21.7 (13.4)	9,114	(13.7)

Note: Two percentages are presented: The horizontal (row) percentages indicate how much of the row total is represented under each column. The vertical (column) percentages (in parentheses) indicate how much of the column total is represented in each row.

Source: U.S. Department of Justice. Law Enforcement Assistance Administration. Children in Custody: A Report on the Juvenile Detention and Correctional Facility Census of 1973. (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1977); and U.S. Department of Justice. Law Enforcement Assistance Administration. "Children in Custody: Advance Report on the 1977 Census of Public Juvenile Facilities, No. SD-JD-5A." (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Department of Justice, 1979).

Table constructed by the NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM ASSESSMENT CENTER (Sacramento, CA: American Justice Institute, 1980).

TABLE D-62  
 NATIONAL ESTIMATES OF THE NUMBER OF PERSONS UNDER 18  
 TERMINATED FROM CAMPS BY TYPE OF DEPARTURE  
 (1973, 1977)

TYPE OF DEPARTURE	MALE		FEMALE		TOTAL	
	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT
<u>1973</u>	19,347	84.4 (100.0)	3,571	15.6 (100.0)	22,918	100.0
Discharge	5,802	86.5 (30.0)	905	13.5 (25.3)	6,707	(28.9)
Parole	6,781	85.1 (35.0)	1,185	14.9 (33.2)	7,966	(35.0)
Transfer	1,235	88.2 (6.4)	165	11.8 (4.6)	1,400	(6.1)
Escape or other	5,529	80.8 (28.6)	1,316	19.2 (36.9)	6,845	(30.0)
<u>1977</u>	25,820	84.4 (100.0)	4,771	15.6 (100.0)	30,591	100.0
Discharge	7,647	86.5 (29.6)	1,194	13.5 (25.0)	8,841	(28.9)
Parole	9,112	85.1 (35.3)	1,595	14.9 (33.4)	10,707	(35.0)
Transfer	1,646	88.2 (6.4)	220	11.8 (4.6)	1,866	(6.1)
Escape or other	7,415	80.8 (28.7)	1,762	19.2 (36.9)	9,177	(30.0)

Note: Two percentages are presented: The horizontal (row) percentages indicate how much of the row total is represented under each column. The vertical (column) percentages (in parentheses) indicate how much of the column total is represented in each row.

Source: U.S. Department of Justice. Law Enforcement Assistance Administration. Children in Custody: A Report on the Juvenile Detention and Correctional Facility Census of 1973. (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1977); and U.S. Department of Justice. Law Enforcement Assistance Administration. "Children in Custody: Advance Report on the 1977 Census of Public Juvenile Facilities, No. SD-JD-5A." (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Department of Justice, 1979).

Table constructed by the NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM ASSESSMENT CENTER (Sacramento, CA: American Justice Institute, 1980).

TABLE D-63  
 NATIONAL ESTIMATES OF THE NUMBER OF PERSONS UNDER 18  
 ENTERING PAROLE BY SEX AND RACE (1977)

ETHNICITY	MALE		FEMALE		TOTAL	
	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT
Total	33,526	95.3 (100.0)	1,665	4.7 (100.0)	35,191	100.0
White	17,189	95.4 (51.3)	829	4.6 (49.8)	18,018	(51.2)
Black	13,299	97.9 (39.7)	285	2.1 (17.1)	13,584	(38.6)
Hispanic	2,475	81.8 (7.4)	551	18.2 (33.1)	3,026	(8.6)
American Indian	563	100.0 (1.7)	-0-	0.0 (0.0)	563	(1.5)

Note: Two percentages are presented: The horizontal (row) percentages indicate how much of the row total is represented under each column. The vertical (column) percentages (in parentheses) indicate how much of the column total is represented in each row.

Source: National Council on Crime and Delinquency. Unpublished Uniform Parole Reports National Data Provided for the National Juvenile Justice System Assessment Center. (San Francisco, CA: National Council on Crime and Delinquency, July 25, 1979).

Table constructed by the NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM ASSESSMENT CENTER (Sacramento, CA: American Justice Institute, 1980).

TABLE D-64  
 NATIONAL ESTIMATES OF THE NUMBER OF PERSONS UNDER 18  
 ENTERING PAROLE BY SEX AND AGE (1977)

AGE	MALE		FEMALE		TOTAL	
	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT
Median Age	16.82		16.25		16.81	
Total	33,928	96.4 (100.0)	1,263	3.6 (100.0)	35,191	100.0
Under 15	3,763	93.8 (11.3)	249	6.2 (19.7)	4,012	(11.4)
15 years	1,513	100.0 (4.5)	-0-	0.0 (0.0)	1,513	(4.3)
16 years	3,786	88.2 (11.3)	507	11.8 (40.1)	4,293	(12.2)
17 years	24,866	98.0 (74.4)	507	2.0 (40.1)	25,373	(72.1)

Note: Two percentages are presented: The horizontal (row) percentages indicate how much of the row total is represented under each column. The vertical (column) percentages (in parentheses) indicate how much of the column total is represented in each row.

Source: National Council on Crime and Delinquency. Unpublished Uniform Parole Reports National Data Provided for the National Juvenile Justice System Assessment Center. (San Francisco, CA: National Council on Crime and Delinquency, July 25, 1979).

Table constructed by the NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM ASSESSMENT CENTER (Sacramento, CA: American Justice Institute, 1980).

TABLE D-65

NATIONAL ESTIMATES OF THE NUMBER OF PERSONS UNDER 18  
ENTERING PAROLE BY SEX AND TIME SERVED ON CURRENT CHARGE (1977)

TIME SERVED	MALE		FEMALE		TOTAL	
	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT
Median Time Served (In Months)	6.63		6.70		6.64	
Total	33,776	96.0 (100.0)	1,415	4.0 (100.0)	35,191	100.0
Less than 6 months	8,398	97.4 (24.9)	224	2.6 (15.8)	8,622	(24.5)
6 months but under 1 year	13,386	95.1 (39.6)	690	4.9 (48.8)	14,076	(40.0)
1 year but under 2 years	8,175	97.2 (24.2)	236	2.8 (16.7)	8,411	(23.9)
2 years but under 3 years	2,041	100.0 (6.0)	-0-	0.0 (0.0)	2,041	(5.8)
3 years but under 4 years	457	100.0 (1.4)	-0-	0.0 (0.0)	457	(1.3)
4 years or more	1,319	83.3 (3.9)	265	16.7 (18.7)	1,584	(4.5)

Note: Two percentages are presented: The horizontal (row) percentages indicate how much of the row total is represented under each column. The vertical (column) percentages (in parentheses) indicate how much of the column total is represented in each row.

Source: National Council on Crime and Delinquency. Unpublished Uniform Parole Reports National Data Provided for the National Juvenile Justice System Assessment Center. (San Francisco, CA: National Council on Crime and Delinquency, July 25, 1979).

Table constructed by the NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM ASSESSMENT CENTER (Sacramento, CA: American Justice Institute, 1980).

TABLE D-66  
 NATIONAL ESTIMATES OF PERSONS UNDER 18 REFERRED TO  
 JUVENILE COURT BY CASE PENDING DISPOSITION AND DETENTION STATUS  
 (1975-1977)

DETENTION STATUS	DISPOSITION													
	NONE OVERNIGHT		JAIL, POLICE STATION		DETENTION HOME		FOSTER HOME		OTHER PLACE		COMBINATION		TOTAL	
	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT
<b>1975</b>	1,148,765	81.7 (100.0)	82,959	5.9 (100.0)	130,765	9.3 (100.0)	4,218	0.3 (100.0)	36,558	2.6 (100.0)	2,812	0.2 (100.0)	1,406,072	(100.0)
Detained	0	0.0 ( 0.0)	82,959	38.3 (100.0)	130,765	60.4 (100.0)	0	0.0 ( 0.0)	0	0.0 ( 0.0)	2,767	1.3 ( 98.4)	216,491	( 15.4)
Not Detained	1,148,765	96.5 (100.0)	0	0.0 ( 0.0)	0	0.0 ( 0.0)	4,218	0.4 (100.0)	36,558	3.1 (100.0)	45	<0.1 ( 1.6)	1,189,586	( 84.6)
<b>1976</b>	1,203,099	81.5 (100.0)	48,714	3.3 (100.0)	191,905	13.0 (100.0)	4,428	0.3 (100.0)	5,905	0.4 (100.0)	22,143	1.5 (100.0)	1,476,189	(100.0)
Detained	1,203	0.5 ( 0.1)	48,714	19.5 (100.0)	191,713	76.7 ( 99.9)	1,917	0.8 ( 43.3)	5,793	2.3 ( 98.1)	620	0.2 ( 2.8)	249,960	( 16.9)
Not Detained	1,201,891	98.0 ( 99.9)	0	0.0 ( 0.0)	192	5.1 ( 0.1)	2,511	0.2 ( 56.7)	112	7.1 ( 1.9)	21,523	1.8 ( 97.2)	1,226,229	( 83.1)
<b>1977</b>	1,142,389	81.5 (100.0)	47,658	3.4 (100.0)	172,410	12.3 (100.0)	11,214	0.8 (100.0)	8,410	0.6 (100.0)	19,624	1.4 (100.0)	1,401,705	(100.0)
Detained	0	0.0 ( 0.0)	47,658	20.8 (100.0)	172,410	75.5 (100.0)	0	0.0 ( 0.0)	8,360	3.7 ( 99.4)	0	0.0 ( 0.0)	228,428	( 16.3)
Not Detained	1,142,389	97.4 (100.0)	0	0.0 ( 0.0)	0	0.0 ( 0.0)	11,214	0.9 (100.0)	50	<0.1 ( 0.6)	19,624	1.7 (100.0)	1,173,277	( 83.7)

Note: Two percentages are presented: The horizontal (row) percentages indicate how much of the row total is represented under each column. The vertical (column) percentages (in parentheses) indicate how much of the column total is represented in each row.

Source: National Center for Juvenile Justice. Advance Estimates of 1975, 1976, and 1977 National Court Processing Statistics. (Pittsburgh, PA: National Center for Juvenile Justice, 1979).

Table constructed by the NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM ASSESSMENT CENTER (Sacramento, CA: American Justice Institute, 1980).

TABLE D-67  
 NATIONAL ESTIMATE OF PERSONS UNDER 18 REFERRED TO  
 JUVENILE COURT BY CASE PENDING DISPOSITION AND RACE (1975-1977)

RACE	DISPOSITION													
	NONE OVERNIGHT		JAIL, POLICE STATION		DETENTION HOME		FOSTER FAMILY		OTHER PLACE		COMBINATION		TOTAL	
	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT
<u>1975</u>	1,148,765	81.7 (100.0)	81,553	5.8 (100.0)	132,171	9.4 (100.0)	4,218	0.3 (100.0)	37,964	2.7 (100.0)	1,406	0.1 (100.0)	1,406,077	(100.0)
White	767,375	81.7 ( 66.8)	60,594	6.5 ( 74.5)	81,814	8.7 ( 61.9)	3,682	0.4 ( 87.3)	24,790	2.6 ( 65.3)	1,177	0.1 ( 83.7)	939,432	( 66.8)
Black	371,051	82.0 ( 32.3)	19,246	4.3 ( 23.6)	48,507	10.7 ( 36.7)	435	0.1 ( 10.3)	12,946	2.9 ( 34.1)	174	0.1 ( 12.4)	452,359	( 32.2)
Other	10,339	72.4 ( 0.9)	1,713	11.9 ( 2.1)	1,850	13.0 ( 1.4)	101	0.7 ( 2.4)	228	1.6 ( 0.6)	55	0.4 ( 3.9)	14,286	( 1.0)
<u>1976</u>	1,201,618	81.4 (100.0)	48,714	3.3 (100.0)	191,905	13.0 (100.0)	4,428	0.3 (100.0)	23,619	1.6 (100.0)	5,905	0.4 (100.0)	1,476,189	(100.0)
White	872,375	82.0 ( 72.6)	38,581	3.6 ( 79.2)	125,506	11.8 ( 65.4)	3,831	0.4 ( 86.5)	19,226	1.8 ( 81.4)	4,151	0.4 ( 70.3)	1,063,670	( 72.1)
Black	308,816	79.9 ( 25.7)	9,158	2.4 ( 18.8)	61,985	16.1 (32.3)	447	0.1 ( 10.1)	4,157	1.1 ( 17.6)	1,724	0.4 ( 29.2)	386,287	( 26.1)
Other	20,427	77.9 ( 1.7)	974	3.7 ( 2.0)	4,414	16.8 ( 2.3)	151	0.6 ( 3.4)	236	0.9 ( 1.0)	30	0.1 ( 0.5)	26,232	( 1.8)
<u>1977</u>	1,143,791	81.6 (100.0)	47,658	3.4 (100.0)	168,204	12.0 (100.0)	11,214	0.8 (100.0)	21,026	1.5 (100.0)	9,812	0.7 (100.0)	1,401,705	(100.0)
White	880,719	81.5 ( 77.0)	38,794	3.6 ( 81.4)	124,471	11.5 ( 74.0)	9,397	0.9 ( 83.8)	18,040	1.7 ( 85.8)	8,782	0.8 ( 89.5)	1,080,203	( 77.0)
Black	243,627	82.4 ( 21.3)	7,768	2.6 ( 16.3)	39,528	13.4 ( 23.5)	1,133	0.4 ( 10.1)	2,818	1.0 ( 13.4)	873	2.9 ( 8.9)	295,747	( 21.1)
Other	19,445	75.4 ( 1.7)	1,096	4.3 ( 2.3)	4,205	16.3 ( 2.5)	684	2.7 ( 6.1)	168	0.7 ( 0.8)	157	0.6 ( 1.6)	25,756	( 1.9)

Note: Two percentages are presented: The horizontal (row) percentages indicate how much of the row total is represented under each column. The vertical (column) percentages (in parentheses) indicate how much of the column total is represented in each row.

Source: National Center for Juvenile Justice. Advance Estimates of 1975, 1976, and 1977 National Court Processing Statistics. (Pittsburgh, PA: National Center for Juvenile Justice, 1979)

Table constructed by the NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM ASSESSMENT CENTER (Sacramento, CA: American Justice Institute, 1980).

APPENDIX E  
NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM ASSESSMENT CENTER  
JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM FLOW CHART



NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM ASSESSMENT CENTER  
**NATIONAL ESTIMATES OF PERSONS UNDER 18 PROCESSED ANNUALLY  
 THROUGH THE JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM (1977)**

This detailed flow chart shows one way of representing the structure and processes of the juvenile justice system. It displays the logical flow of a juvenile from the first time of direct contact with the official system through the various processes or decision points that comprise the system, and eventually to one of the numerous exit points from the system. It provides a comprehensive and sequential view of what can happen to a juvenile who enters the process, the component of the system that would be involved, and the way one component influences another.

Prior to official contact, a juvenile "case" will be the result of either the commitment of an offensive act or the recognition of a state of need.

Included under these categories are not only the full range of delinquent acts and troublesome behaviors, but also states of neglect, dependency, incorrigibility, and victimization. Obviously, some offensive acts are committed by those in some state of need.

The Juvenile Justice System only comes in direct contact with those juveniles who are referred to it as victims or who are apprehended. This will represent only part of all juveniles who commit offenses or who are victimized.

**INTRODUCTION**

A juvenile is conceived as entering the system from the left. Flow through the system is from left to right. All vertical lines represent decision points and are sequentially numbered; ovals

○ represent alternative decision

choices; rectangulars □ represent system functions or notes; and circular

○ exit symbols represent the termination of the case, or that the case is no longer within the jurisdiction of the system. Branching to "alternative programs" is considered to be an exit from the system, but not a total termination.

The term "agency" represents a wide range of public and private community resources and institutions that act on behalf of the juvenile. They range from those offering only a few services to those offering comprehensive services and institutionalization.

A clear distinction has to be made between a juvenile who is placed in a non-criminal justice agency as a final disposition without pending court action, and a similar placement with a pending court date. The same agency may be responsible for both, but it must be recognized that those in the former group exit from the juvenile justice system.

In the processing of a juvenile, and the eventual selection of processing alternatives, a distinction needs to be made between the transfer of the case to another agency for handling with provision for little or no followup and the formal placement of the case with another agency with the requirement for followup. This difference is charted as either to *refer or place* with another agency.

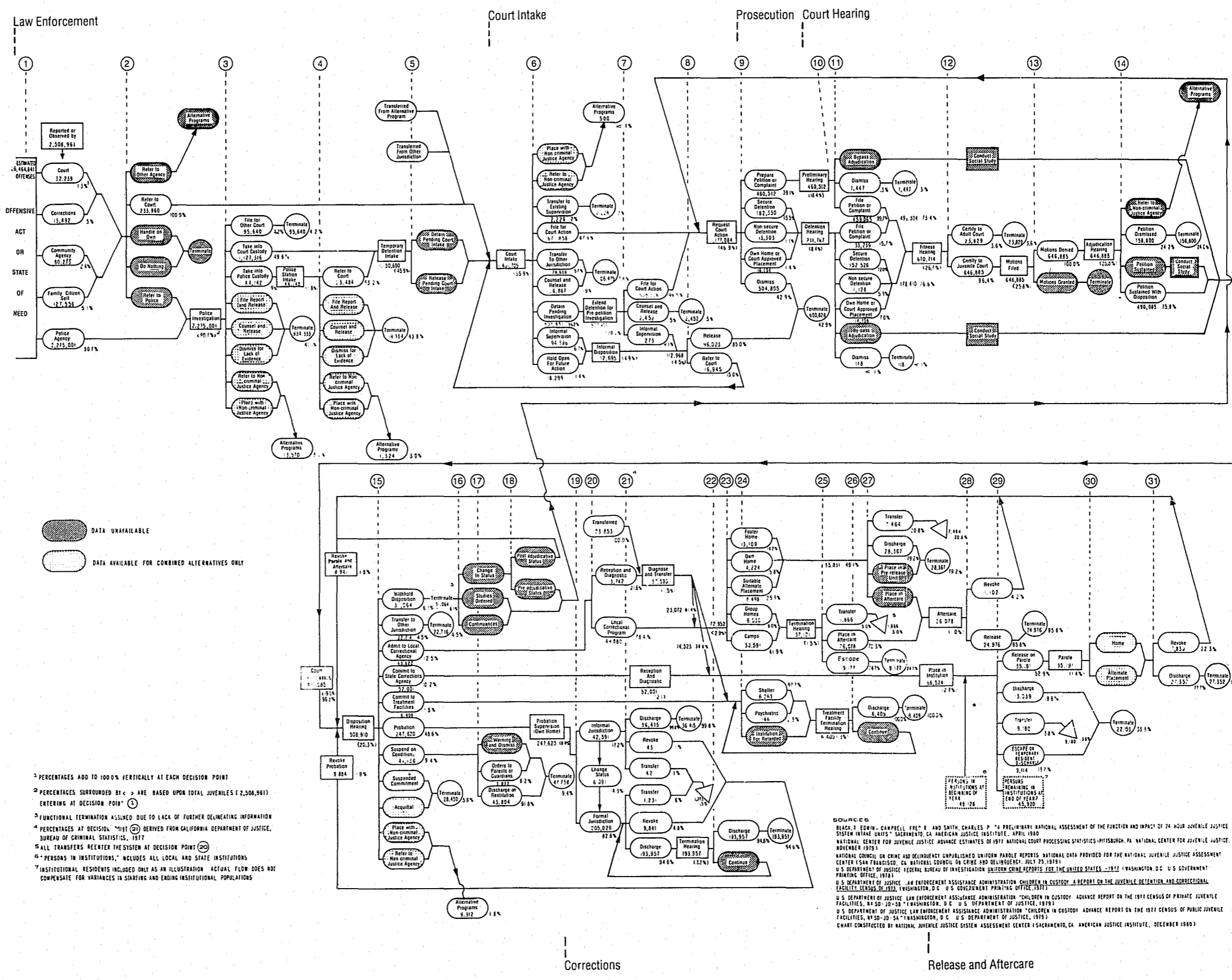
Whenever a juvenile is referred to or placed with an agency, the process may begin all over again if the agency cannot handle the case. In some situations, the agency may transfer the case back to court on the original charge if the juvenile has

been unresponsive. This re-entry is charted as an incoming *transfer from alternative programs*.

Most jurisdictions have only limited choices, especially in the early phases. They often lack any intermediate agency or person to contact (e.g., special school program, youth worker, family counselor) before calling in the police or referring the juvenile to court. This forces decision makers — agencies, citizens, even police on the beat — either to do nothing or to take a more serious action than the situation may warrant ①.

The detailed flow chart often indicates that the decision maker has the option to handle the case informally, such as "handle on own" or "counsel and release" ②. Where this option is shown, it is assumed that the decision maker has the authority to make such a decision. It is further understood that other component personnel may disagree that this right exists.

THIS CHART IS AN ILLUSTRATION OF THE MORE IN-DEPTH ANALYSIS OF THE NUMBER AND CHARACTERISTICS OF JUVENILES (PERSONS UNDER 18) WHO ARE PROCESSED ANNUALLY ACROSS THE NATION BY THE JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM. FOR FURTHER EXPLANATION AS TO HOW THIS FLOW ANALYSIS WAS CONDUCTED OR TO OBTAIN FURTHER INFORMATION ON THE POPULATION IT CONCERNS, REFER TO "A PRELIMINARY NATIONAL ASSESSMENT OF THE NUMBERS AND CHARACTERISTICS OF JUVENILES PROCESSED IN THE JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM" (BLACK AND SMITH, 1980).



- 1 PERCENTAGES ADD TO 100% VERTICALLY AT EACH DECISION POINT
- 2 PERCENTAGES SURROUNDED BY < > ARE BASED UPON TOTAL JUVENILES (2,508,961) ENTERING AT DECISION POINT 1
- 3 FUNCTIONAL TERMINATION ASSIGNED DUE TO LACK OF FURTHER DELINEATING INFORMATION
- 4 PERCENTAGES AT DECISION POINT 21 DERIVED FROM CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, BUREAU OF CRIMINAL STATISTICS, 1977
- 5 ALL TRANSFERS REENTER THE SYSTEM AT DECISION POINT 20
- 6 \*PERSONS IN INSTITUTIONS\* INCLUDES ALL LOCAL AND STATE INSTITUTIONS
- 7 INSTITUTIONAL RESIDENTS INCLUDED ONLY AS AN ILLUSTRATION. ACTUAL FLOW DOES NOT COMPENSATE FOR VARIANCES IN STARTING AND ENDING INSTITUTIONAL POPULATIONS

**SOURCES:**  
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**END**