

# Utilization of Detention Services by Juvenile Status Offenders in Kentucky

## DESCRIPTIVE DATA ANALYSES REPORT

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My many thanks go to Mr. Raynald Levesque of Montreal, Canada, an SPSS enthusiast, as he describes himself, who provided extremely valuable assistance (free of charge) with the SPSS programming related to the count of the unique date and string variables. His congenial gesture has been extremely valuable to me in this project. Without his assistance, this report would have not included critical information such as the time to re-offense, which was impossible to compute with data in the format in which it was provided.

Ramona Stone, PhD

November 22, 2009

# The Literature in Brief

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Crystal Collins-Camargo, MSSW, PhD

## *Introduction*

States vary significantly on their approach to status offences. Some are more likely to prosecute them formally than others. Variance within states was also noted (Steinhart, 1996). In 1993, Kentucky was one of four states noted by the National Council on Juvenile Justice as having higher status offender petition rates than other states (Butts et.al., 1996). Some studies noted that as a result of deinstitutionalization laws, some status youth were being re-labeled as delinquent so they could be detained (e.g. Klein, 1979; Krause & McShane, 1994). The literature has noted judicial concern that the mandates in the JJDPa interfered with their authority and that some states challenged the provisions (Steinhart, 1996).

A brief review of more current literature revealed little over the past 10 years in regards to detention of status offenders. In 1996, Steinhart noted a number of factors that were contributing to challenges of the deinstitutionalization of status offenders. These included public concern regarding juvenile crime and loss of confidence in the juvenile court system; resource limitations and lack of services for status offenders; growing youth population with risk factors for status offenses such as poverty and family breakdown; political shifts toward anti-crime and youth control; and dissipation of advocates for reform that existed in the 1970s. This article is conceptual, rather than empirically based. It is unclear the extent to which these factors were, or remain, influential.

## *Characteristics of Detained or Confined Youth*

A number of studies were found regarding the characteristics of youth detained or confined, although these studies were not restricted to status offenders. Cuellar, Kelleher, Adelsheim & Coccozza (2008) reviewed psychotropic drug use by youth before and after stays in secure facilities and found significant increase in use after release, most with onset during containment. One study found a high rate of affective disorders (42%), conduct disorder (60%) and a high rate of substance dependence among youth in detention although comparative data was not available (Pliszka, Sherman, Barrow & Irick, 2000); while another found most in a

similar sample had experienced traumatic events, with 11.2% meeting the criteria for post-traumatic stress disorder—more prevalent than a comparative community sample (Abram et. al., 2004). Yet another compared delinquent youth in a high security detention facility with secondary school pupils and found the former to exhibited lower moral competence that was judged to predate confinement. Development of a institutional moral atmosphere was deemed important in reducing antisocial behavior (Brugman & Aleva, 2004). Dishion, Dodge & Lansford (2008) review the literature that raises concern regarding the risks associated with aggregating deviant youth in group programs, and find moderately deviant youth at greatest risk. They suggest that the more time spent in group settings, the more susceptible they are to negative peer influences.

Other studies looked at how demographic characteristics were associated with detention or confinement. Race was determined to have a disproportional impact on decision-making regarding juvenile detainment disfavoring African Americans, based on analysis of twenty years of court data in one state (Leiber & Fox, 2005). Another study compared male and female incarcerated youth revealing significant differences. Males scored higher on prior offenses, and females on family/parenting, mental health, traumatic events, and health-related risks, as well as psychopathology, accountability, and peer relationships (Gavazzi, Yarcheck & Chesney-Lind, 2006). Studies such as this provide helpful information regarding revising practice with youth.

### *Alternatives to Detainment of Status Offenders*

In 2005, the OJJDP issued a best practice bulletin regarding alternatives to secure detention and confinement of status offenders. The authors make a distinction between detention and confinement based on the reasons the youth is held and the range of programs available to them while there. Detention is described as holding youth for the purpose of ensuring court appearance or protection of the community from re-offense, while confinement is for adjudicated youth who are committed to custody for a period of time. The latter offer more programs (Austin, Johnson & Weitzer, 2005).

In addition to facility overcrowding, Austin, Johnson and Weitzer (2005) make the case that alternatives to detention are needed because detention and confinement have unproven effectiveness. They cite a number of studies that demonstrate high recidivism rates of 50-70% for you in traditional confinement settings (Wiebush et al., 2005; Krisberg, 1997; Winner et.al,

1997; Fagan, 1996). Separation from the community to which they return is seen as a barrier, and community-based programs are recommended as cost effective, shielding offenders from stigma and association with youth with more serious delinquent histories, and maintaining positive family and community ties which can be leveraged to prevent recidivism.

Howell (1995) reviewed an array of studies regarding the effectiveness of community based programs. At worst, studies found these programs to be at least as effective as traditional confinement but in a much more cost-effective manner. At best, a number of studies found them more effective in reducing recidivism and community adjustment. Austin, Johnson and Weitzer cite community based programs as effective in producing these same outcomes (see Coates, Miller, & Ohlin, 198; and Krisberg, Austin, and Steele, 1989), and recommended graduated sanctions programs. New York State has shifted focus away from law enforcement and toward strength-based community interventions, and report favorable results and cost savings using interagency collaboration in response to significant legislative change forcing a shift in practice with status offenders (Chiu & Mogulescu, 2004). Pullmann and colleagues (2006) compared a wrap around program for youth with significant history of detention and identified mental health needs with outcomes for a historical group of youth receiving traditional mental health services, with the wrap around group less likely to recidivate and serve less future detention time.

Four approaches may be used to increase use of alternatives to detention: Special program initiatives, such as grants to encourage jurisdictions to develop alternative programs; legislation to require practice change; administrative change in procedures or regulations; and litigation to force change (Austin, Johnson & Weitzer, 2005). Annie E. Casey Foundation has developed a model combining administrative change and special program initiatives, which requires the development of valid and reliable tools for assessment and placement decision-making, and expansion of evidence-based program alternatives. Austin, Johnson & Weitzer (2005) assert that research has demonstrated risk assessment and objective classification tools to be reliable and valid, and offer samples relevant to different stages in the process in their publication.

A recent report from the National Center for Juvenile Justice noted that although probation is a disposition used primarily for public offenders and delinquents, 30 jurisdictions allow for its use with status offenders. Some combine delinquents and status offenders into one disposition statute. Several impose time limitations for use with status youth and conditions that

are appropriate such as school attendance and curfew. According to Szymanski, South Dakota has the most extensive procedures for use of probation with status offenders (2006). Some states give the court control of parents of status offenders on probation, such as California, the District of Columbia and Ohio. The author notes that appellate courts have addressed the issue of use of probation with status offenders in Arizona, Indiana and Texas. (Szymanski, 2006).

In a special project funded by Annie E. Casey Foundation, Steinhart (n.d.) described a number of factors contributing to detention of technical probation violators, including failure to analyze administrative data to examining the problem, lack of clear written guidelines, avoidance of risk screening, unchecked probation authority to detain technical violators, absence of mid-range or graduated sanctions, and poor interagency coordination. A number of examples of creative strategies used by various jurisdictions to address these factors are offered by Steinhart. A separate analysis of factors and strategies to reduce post-adjudication confinement are also offered. Kentucky's current initiative, which involves the analysis of data, the adoption of new screening procedures and other programming and interagency collaboration appears to be a step in the right direction.

Various alternatives to detention have been evaluated and are summarized by Austin, Johnson and Weitzer for OJJDP, although most studies are dated (2005). Brief findings regarding each type of program will be offered below with citation provided to enable further exploration if desired.

- Outright release: Limited research has been conducted in this area, however one, rather old Kentucky study indicated that youth released to home or nonsecure placement had a slightly higher rate of failure to make court appearance but no increase in rearrest prior to final disposition (Kilm & Block, 1982).
- Home detention: Descriptive studies report success in court appearance and small incidence of detention due to additional offense or recidivism (Smyka & Selke, 1982; Young & Pappenfort, 1979; Ball, Huff & Lilly, 1988)
- Electronic monitoring: Limited evaluation has been published. Vaughn (1989) reviewed 8 studies of use of electronic monitoring at different stages and reported 4.5 to 30 percent failure rate, mostly from technical violation rather than re-offense. Roy and Brown (1995) found higher program completion and lower recidivism with youth electronically monitored than those without.

- Intensive supervision: One study compared youth detained with those under intensive supervision while controlling for a number of other factors, and found the latter had approximately a 50% lower recidivism rate (Sheldon, 1999).
- Day and evening reporting centers: Although a promising model is discussed which reports a 95% success rate regarding re-arrest, no published research on this approach was found.
- Skills training programs: Similarly, published research was not found for this approach, but a model program is described which reports a significantly lower re-arrest and re-incarceration rates than other programs in the state.
- Residential programs: Young and Pappenfort (1979) analyzed foster homes, detention homes, and runaway programs and found negligible rates of re-offense and low rates of runaways. Lubrow (1999) looked at programs that combined residential services with other programs, all with low failure to appear and re-arrest rates prior to disposition. Austin, Johnson and Weitzer (2005) also summarized research on alternatives to secure confinement.
- Diversion: Early studies of diversion showed mixed results (Stanford, 1984; Ezell, 1992) but subsequent research has demonstrated reduced recidivism (Rojek, 1986; Davidson et al., 1990). Statewide implementation of a philosophy of diversion demonstrated success in Massachusetts (Coates, Miller & Ohlin, 1978; Krisberg, Austin & Steele, 1989), and in Utah (Krisberg & Howell, 1998).
- Intensive supervision programs: Variation in what “intensive” means occurs across states which may account for differing research findings. Some studies found little difference in recidivism compared with traditional probation and confinement (Greenwood & Turner, 1993; Murray & Cox, 1979), while others found lower recidivism (Barton & Butts, 1990; Fratto & Hallstrom, 1978; Wiebush, 1993). Land, McCall and Parker (1994) did not find a difference in status offenders receiving traditional vs. intensive supervision. Whether intensive supervision is linked to services as opposed to just monitoring seems to impact success (MacKenzie, 1997). Model programs exist.
- Community-based treatment and therapy: Multisystemic therapy for youth with serious behavior problems, including violent and chronic offenders, has been researched and findings suggest decreased recidivism (Henggeler, 1997), describe it as effective (Lipsey



& Wilson, 1998; Krisberg & Howell, 1998; Cullen & Gendreau, 2000), report significant decrease in rearrest, decreased mental health issues and improved family functioning (Mihalic et. al., 2001).

- **Residential treatment:** As opposed to traditional group homes, Lipsey & Wilson (1998) found teaching family homes effective in reducing recidivism. One study found treatment foster care was associated with fewer days in confinement, runaway status, and less drug use (Chamberlain & Mihalic, 1998). Visionquest, an outdoor model program, was compared with incarceration, and showed a lower re-arrest rate (Greenwood & Turner, 1987).

### *Need in Kentucky: the Kentucky Summit on Children*

In August 2007, the Administrative Office of the Courts sponsored the Kentucky Summit on Children, with support from the Juvenile Justice Advisory Board, DJJ, DCBS and an array of other public and private entities. The statewide Summit involved an educational segment as well as collection of data regarding what needed to happen in order to develop a system of care for Kentucky's children and youth. Nine regional summits followed, with survey data collected at each. The process also involved regional and discipline-based workgroups that assessed challenges and establish priorities for court procedure, statutory and service changes. The process involved collection of data from nearly 1,000 professionals and volunteers across all disciplines involved in the court system. The findings of this process are extensive and go way beyond the scope of this report, and may be found in Collins-Camargo, Anderson and Kantar (2008) and on the AOC website. Due to the nature of the topic at hand, however, a few of the findings are directly relevant and will be summarized below.

Survey respondents were asked to identify areas impacting children in the Juvenile Justice system. The top five responses were: Miscommunication among agencies (62%); lack or accessibility of treatment resources/services for children and families (60%); lack of awareness/understanding of the roles of other agencies/professionals (52%); court continuances (33%); DJJ workload (30%). Respondents were asked to select the one aspect of the overall status/delinquency process that needs the most attention. The top three responses were: prior to the youth being charged (37%); diversion (27%); and post-disposition (16%).

Responses indicating that broader systemic issues needed focus as opposed to specific stages of the status/delinquency process were analyzed. The themes here were similar but the ordering by frequency of response differed somewhat:

- **Procedural (19 across all 9 regions):** A group of individuals made recommendations regarding CDW practice, such as working more with community partners. Others focused on DJJ, such as offenders being placed in foster care when no abuse or neglect issues exist. Another group involved court practice, such as committing status offenders to DJJ rather than DCBS. Finally, some general comments were made such as increasing the focus on services and resolving family issues.

*Most of the time status offenses stem from a much larger problem at home with the parents. Stop filing charges on children and get the family help.—Two Rivers Region Participant*

- **Philosophical Approach (7 across 5 regions):** The majority of these encouraged the system to focus more on underlying issues in the family than the status/delinquent behavior itself.
- **Prevention (5 across 3 regions):** These responses emphasized working with at risk

families before status or delinquent behaviors arise.

- **Training (4 across 4 regions):** All were general statements about a need for training.
- **Accountability (4 across 4 regions):** These comments focused on offenders, as well as parents and GALs.
- **Diversion (3 individuals across 3 regions):** These comments were similar, and may in fact not need to be separated from those in the prevention category, but were separated out as the term was used specifically.
- **Other:** These comments were outliers, such as “societal change.”

Participants were asked for specific changes that should be made, and qualitative responses were analyzed for themes. One of two categories of statutory changes recommended was revising or eliminating statute on status offenses, or prohibiting detention of status offenders. Reduction of the use of detention, the need for more diversion and after care programs, and a shift in focus from a punitive approach to youth to a family-centered approach was raised by a number of survey respondents. Respondents were asked what need to happen to increase accessibility to services and similar responses were received.

Locally determined workgroups accessed the strengths and needs of their community. The need for a system of care for youth was identified, and some regions listed treatment, and specifically mental health services, as important to success in detention or alternatives to detention of status offenders. The regional summit process involved workgroups identifying the top three priorities in each of the following categories: revision of court procedures, statutory change and services. These priorities were not identified separately for the child welfare and juvenile justice systems, so responses were mixed. Child welfare-related priorities were predominant, perhaps due to the focus of individuals attending. While there was some regional variation, themes were identified based on analysis of these priorities. In terms of court procedures, three groups across three regions prioritized increasing the use and availability of diversion programs. In terms of statute, ten groups across 6 regions prioritized amending status offender statutes, ranging from eliminating status offenses, to keeping status and public cases before the same judge or in family court as opposed to juvenile court. Three groups prioritized revising the sanction/diversion process for juveniles. In regards to service priorities, services for juvenile/status offenders (and particularly alternatives to detention and more treatment) were identified by 22 groups across 8 regions (the third largest service category). These included respite/shelter placements; service coordination for community service and transition services for youth returning to the community. It is clear that there is consensus across the state that there is a tremendous need for Kentucky to shift its approach to status offenders.

### *Summary*

The bulk of the literature strongly supports the current emphasis in federal legislation for deinstitutionalization of youth who are status offenders. Much of this literature has been published fifteen to twenty years ago. Some alternatives to detention and confinement have stronger support than others. To sum, Krisberg and Howell's (1998) review of relevant research published a decade ago found that alternatives to secure confinement are at least as effective as incarceration but much less expensive to operate, highlighting 9 evidence-supported programs, three of which were tested through randomized experimental design. Deterrence, shock programs, as well as counseling without clear plans to address youth problems have been demonstrated as unsuccessful repeatedly (e.g. Andrews et. al, 1990; Dryfoos, 1990; Jansen and

Rojek, 1992). Results are mixed for intensive supervision, home confinement, and community residential programs, seeming to depend on their inclusion of rehabilitative services.

Lipsey (1992) conducted a meta-analysis of over 400 studies of programs both inside institutions and in correctional environments, and found that programs that were employment- or behavior-oriented and multimodal were most successful. He found that community-based programs tended to be more effective in reducing recidivism than those within custodial institutions. Most effective interventions are intensive, sustained, holistic and linked to rehabilitative services (Dryfoos, 1990; MacKenzie, 1997).

This brief review of the literature seems to support Kentucky's interest in analyzing its own data to look at differential recidivism rates for youth who were detained as compared to those in alternatives to detention. Based on the data collected at the Kentucky Summit on Children, there is a readiness among most professionals working in the system to align the Commonwealth's response to status offenders with federal regulations and with what appears to be the bulk of the literature. This preliminary data analysis to paint a picture of what is occurring with our youth is an important first step toward looking to the more comprehensive approaches described in model communities.

## Scope of Work

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Ramona Stone, PhD

DJJ contracted with the University of Louisville Kent School of Social Work in June 2008 to conduct secondary analysis of data provided by the three agencies named above. The research team was to perform analyses with a *matched, merged, and ready for analyses database* provided by DJJ. Due to unknown limitations, the data was provided in a raw format, and thus, a significant amount of time was spent on data management, to prepare it for analyses.

The UofL was asked to analyze the data provided by the Department of Juvenile Justice, Administrative Office of the Courts, and the Department of Community Based Services to provide a descriptive report (**as much as feasible with the data provided**) to the Department of Juvenile Justice and the Juvenile Justice Advisory Board, evaluating the impact of the utilization of detention services related to continued involvement in the juvenile justice system by comparing status offenders who participated in diversion services with those who did not. Since,

there was no data item that indicated who participated in diversion (except ATD) and who did not, this comparison could not be conducted.

## Foreword on Data Management

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Ramona Stone, PhD

The data sources for this study are three different state agencies Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ), Administration of the Courts (AOC), and the Cabinet for Health and Family Services (CHFS), in Frankfort, Kentucky.

The DJJ data was matched with the data from AOC and CHFS by the DJJ staff, and then was sent to UofL de-identified, each juvenile being assigned a unique ID number. During contract discussions (meeting of spring 2008 at DJJ in Frankfort) before the study began, we were informed that we would be provided with an SPSS dataset ready for analyses; this issue was also mentioned in the contract. However, the data files were sent to UofL in a raw format, and thus, a significant amount of time had to be spent on data management (matching, merging, and unduplicating records) before data analyses could be conducted. Specifically, UofL received 14 Excel spreadsheets, with duplicated youth offenders, duplicated charges, and duplicated booking dates. Besides the need to prepare the data for analyses, the data was also incomplete; critical measures related to the diversion services needed to answer some of the questions included in the contract were missing. For instance, without case file and charges information, it was impossible to compare status offenders who were detained with those who were not, in their characteristics and outcomes. In addition, the original one-year time frame (October 1, 2006 to September 30, 2007) for the DJJ detention dates, was shrunk to only a 3-month period: June 1, 2007 to September 30, 2007; consequently, due the analyses of the recidivism rates were very limited.

Finally, due to delays in the data sharing among the agencies, UofL team has received a file with the DJJ data on September 12, 2008. The respective spreadsheet included detention booking and release dates; booking and release dates for the participating youth Alternative to Detention Program (ATD); information related to the outcome of the ATD; the offense associated with each episode of detention; charges and underlying charges including contempt of court due to violation of a valid court order. Using this limited DJJ dataset, a series of descriptive

analyses were reported on September 26, 2008, before the contract deadline of September 30, 2008.

This report includes all of the DJJ cases for which information from the DJJ, AOC, and CHFS was available. The data set received from DJJ, included status offenders who were detained at any time between **June 1, 2007 and September 30, 2007**. The data from the three agencies was merged and unduplicated by youth, by booking date, and by offense, and was prepared into a format feasible for analyses. The AOC cases that did not appear in the DJJ data file were eliminated from the analyses because they were missing the unique DJJ identifier. Without an identification number, it was impossible to identify which records belong to a specific youth.

The data management was conducted with SPSS and SAS, by merging, matching, and unduplicating the records using the DJJ unique identifier. During the first step, we created the following files: one for all cases, another that included all charges, one included the case actions, and another included the demographics and the abuse/neglect information. The AOC data has been extremely hard to manage and prepare for analyses, and thus, I had to request assistance from an SPSS specialist (see acknowledgement).

### *Contracted Data Analyses*

The original intent was that our analyses focus on the preliminary impact of the utilization of detention services for status offenders in Kentucky from October 1, 2006 to September 30, 2007. However, due to the change in the study period (see chart on page 40 for file information) and due to missing data items, the impact of diversion services could not be measured. The only proxy measure for “impact” (recidivism) that could be analyzed, was the time to re-offense, but only if the new detention booking date was before September 30, 2007.

Further, a control group of status offenders involved in diversion programs without any detention time was also intended to be created, but due to lack of information on diversion services participation (except ATD), it was impossible to tell if the records with no detention information were actually status offenders that participated in diversion services. It is noteworthy that there was a group of 582 juveniles, which were most likely status offenders since they had no detention record. However, these 582 cases had no case file and no charges information reported, and thus, no comparisons on offenses/charges with the status offenders who had a

detention record was possible. The only variables available for this group were the demographics data and the substantiated abuse/neglect (yes/no) variable.

- *The youth's ~~prior~~ (?) substantiation of abuse, neglect, or dependency* – no dates were present in the CHFS data, and thus we cannot identify if the substantiation has occurred prior (to detention ?)
- *The type of status offense: Habitual Truant, Beyond Control ~~of School~~, Beyond Control ~~of Parent~~, Truant, Runaway (use UOR Codes)* – the UOR codes do not distinguish between these two types of “beyond control.
  - ⊖ *The ~~impact of the use of diversion services within six (6) months of release or completion of diversion program~~* – how is impact measured? If by committing new offenses/being charged with another offense after ATD, then see below info on the 19 ATD recidivists.
  - ⊖ *Any ~~placements in alternatives to secure detention or secure detention after diversion for status offense?~~* – no information on secure detention services was available; the placement code was “1” for everyone, and it was not defined/labeled.
  - *Any ~~out of home placements after diversion for status offense?~~* – data item on home placements was not available; the placement code was “1” for all 524 DJJ youth with detention information.
  - *Any new adjudicated charges after diversion for status offense? Is this more severe (violent/nonviolent) than initial status charge?* – the only diversion service information was ATD; there were 19 ATD participants who had new charges (of contempt, habitual truant, habitual runaway or beyond control) after ATD release.
  - ⊖ *The impact of the use of detention services (including alternatives to secure detention and secure detention placements) within six (6) months of release from a detention placement* – What does impact mean, how is it measured? Further, detention services information was not available, and the detention booking dates were not available beyond the 3 months period.
  - ⊖ *Any ~~placements in alternatives to secure detention or secure detention after initial placement?~~* – Information not available
  - ⊖ *Any ~~placements in secure detention after initial placement?~~* – Information was not provided
  - *Any new adjudicated charges? Is this more severe (violent/nonviolent) than initial status charge?* – see above answer for the 19 ATD participants who committed a new non-violent charge.

# Data Analyses

Ramona Stone, PhD

## I. Analyses of DJJ Database<sup>1</sup>

### *Demographic Data on Youth Offenders*

Target Population: youth offenders detained by DJJ at any time between 10/1/2006 to 9/30/2007

- 523 unduplicated individual juvenile offenders,
- 619 unduplicated bookings, and
- 683 unduplicated offenses

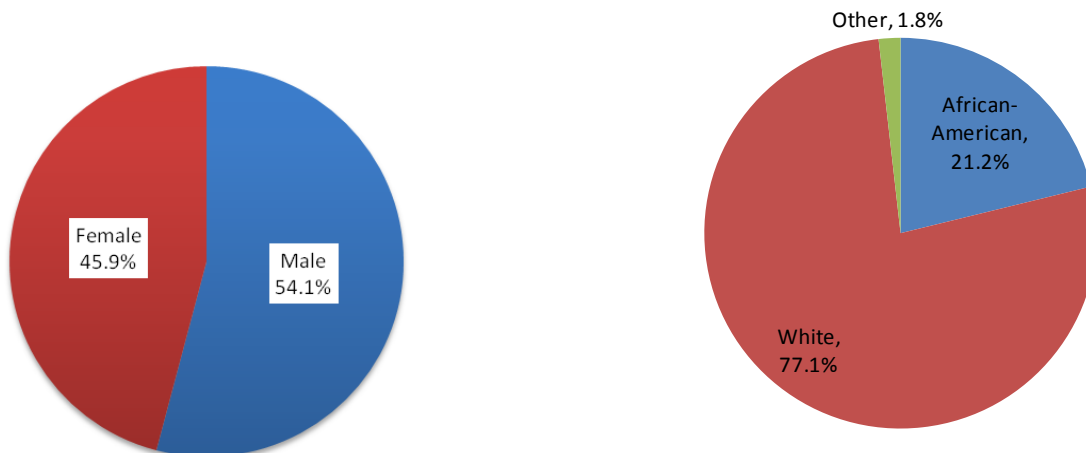


Figure 1. Distribution of Youth Offenders by Race and Gender

#### Gender

- 283 males (54.1%) and 240 females (45.9%)

#### Race

- 403 Caucasians (77.1%), 111 African American (21.2%), and 9 others (1.8%)

#### Age

- There were 220 children below age 16 and 303 age 16 and above

<sup>1</sup> Some of the data presented here were reported in the 9/26/2008 report



### Distribution of Children by Age

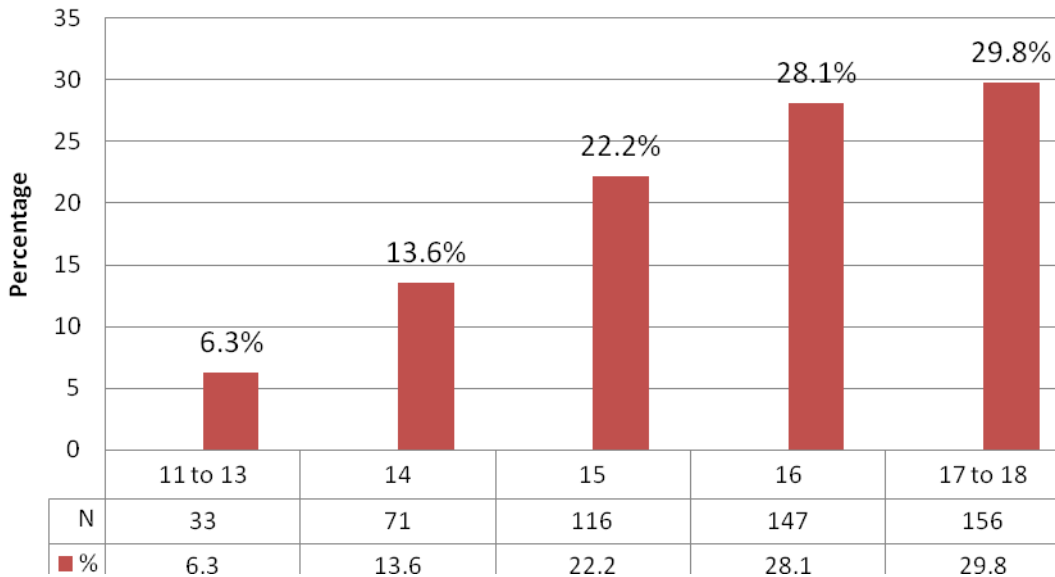


Figure 2. Distribution of Youth Offenders by Age

### Children by Booking Dates

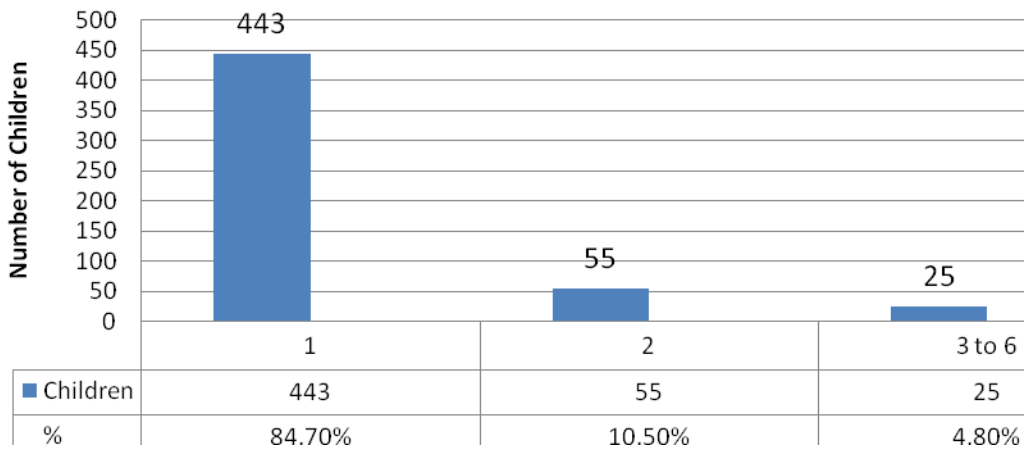
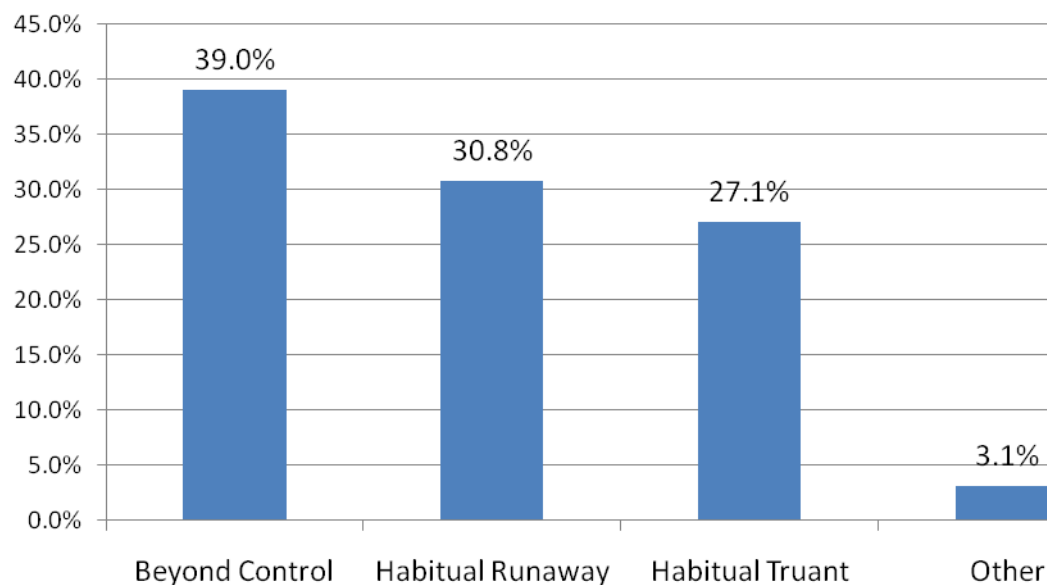


Figure 3. Distribution of Youth by the Number of Booking Dates

- 443 children (84.7%) had a single booking
- 80 children (15.3%) had between two and six separate bookings for the same or for a different type of offense
  - 55 children (10.5%) had 2 bookings
  - 25 children (4.8%) had 3-6 bookings

## Offenses

### Children by Type of Offense



**Figure 4.** Proportion of Children by Type of Offenses

**Table 1.** Type of Offense: Number and Proportion of Children (duplication of children present)

Offense Type	#Children	% Children
Beyond Control	212	39.0%
Habitual Runaway	167	30.8%
Habitual Truant	147	27.1%
Other	17	3.1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>543</b>	<b>100%</b>

Notes: "Other" offenses were Contempt of court/Curfew/Dependency action/Neglect/receiving stolen property

Duplication of children is due to multiple offenses committed by the same child.

- 523 children committed 683 offenses
- 26 children (5%) committed more than one type of offense

## Distribution of Offenses

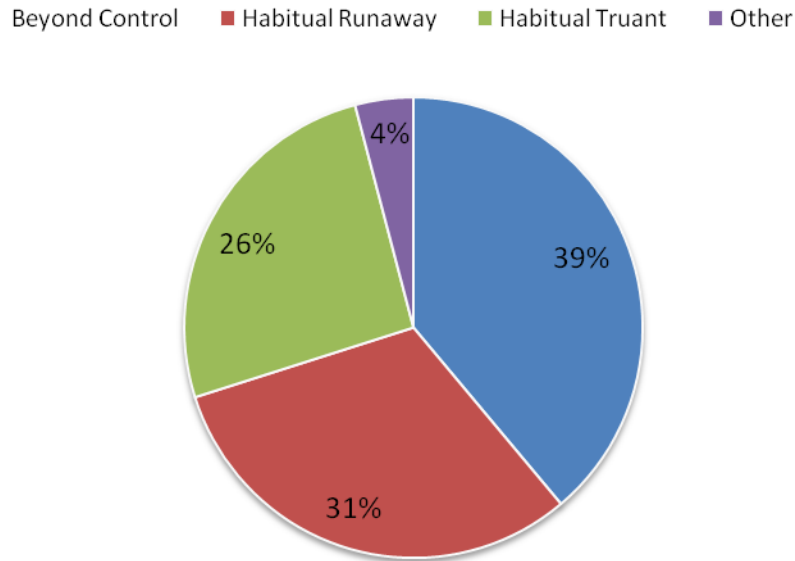


Figure 5. Type of Offenses with which Youth Were Charged

**Table 2.** Distribution of Offenses by Type<sup>2</sup>

Offense Type	# Offenses	% Offenses
Beyond Control	266	38.9%
Habitual Runaway	213	31.2%
Habitual Truant	176	25.8%
Other	28	4.1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>683</b>	<b>100%</b>

Notes: “Other” offenses were Contempt of court/Curfew/Dependency action/Neglect/receiving stolen property

Duplication of children is due to multiple offenses committed by the same child.

<sup>2</sup> Duplication of children is possible due to children committing more one type of offense

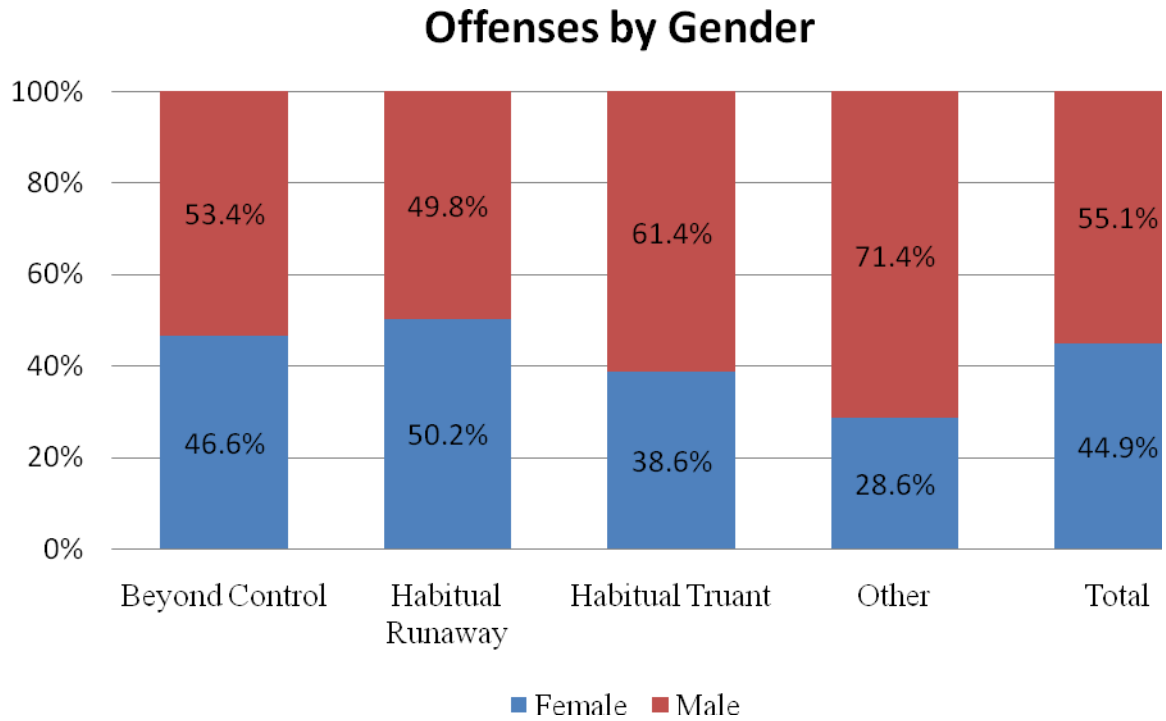


Figure 6. Type of Offenses by Gender

Table 3. Offenses by Gender of Offender

Offense Type	Female		Male		Total
	N	%	N	%	N
Beyond Control	124	46.6%	142	53.4%	266
Habitual Runaway	107	50.2%	106	49.8%	213
Habitual Truant	68	38.6%	108	61.4%	176
Other	8	28.6%	20	71.4%	28
Total	307	44.9%	376	55.1%	683

Notes: "Other" offenses were Contempt of court/Curfew/Dependency action/Neglect/receiving stolen property

Duplication of children is due to multiple offenses committed by the same child.

### Offenses by Race

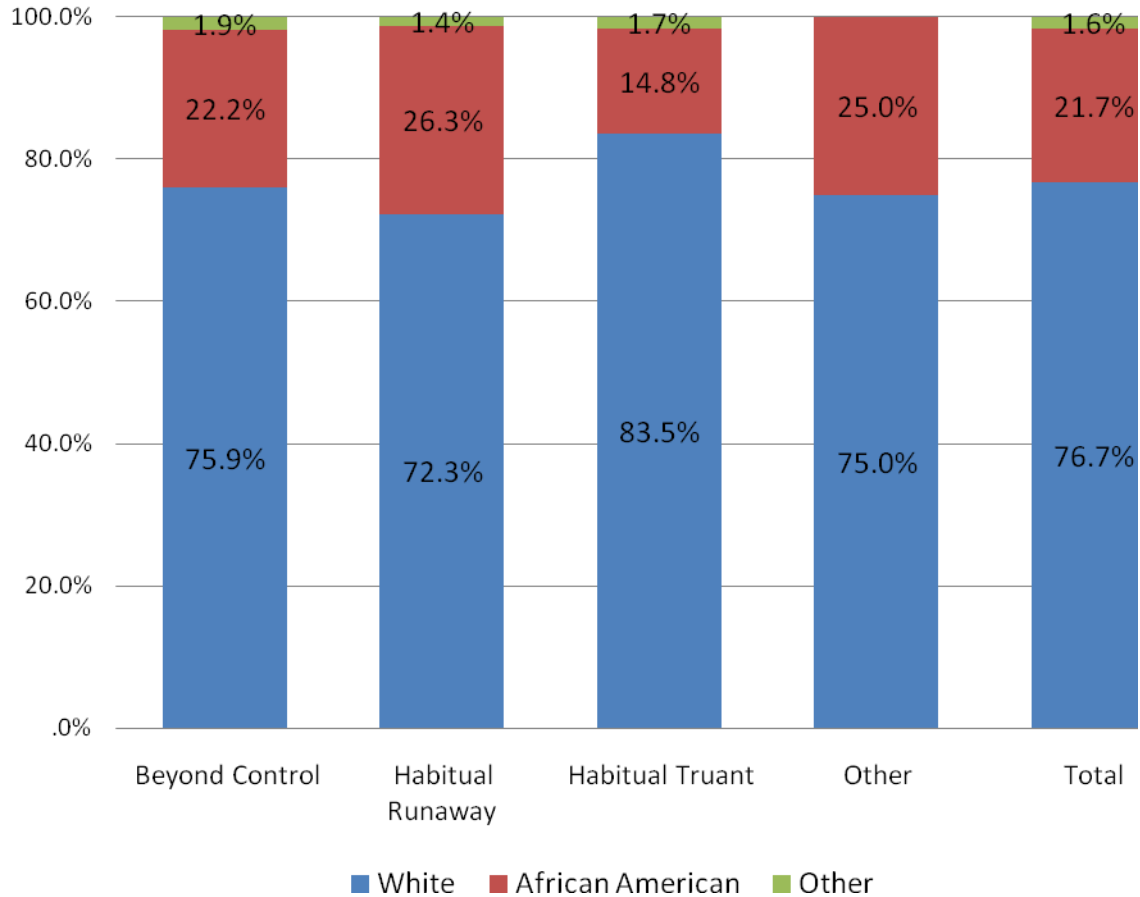


Figure 7. Type of Offense by Race

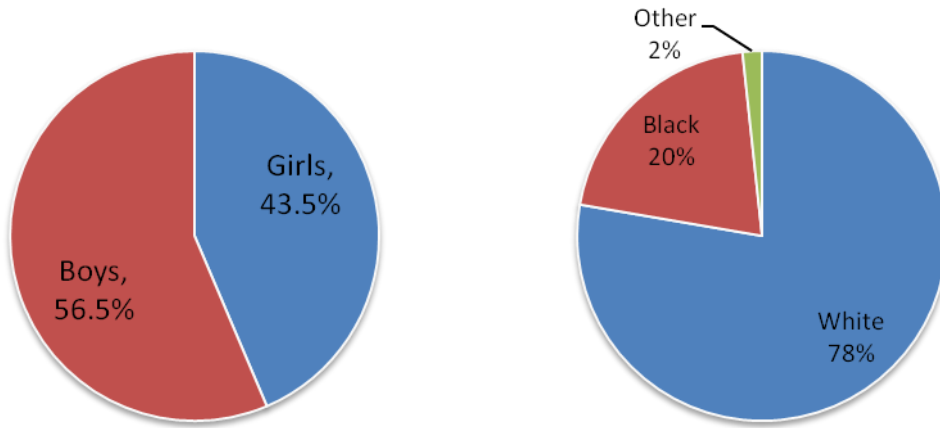
Table 3. Offenses by Race of Offender

Offense type	White		African American		Other		Total
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N
Beyond Control	202	75.9%	59	22.2%	5	1.9%	266
Habitual Runaway	154	72.3%	56	26.3%	3	1.4%	213
Habitual Truant	147	83.5%	26	14.8%	3	1.7%	176
Other	21	75.0%	7	25.0%	0	.0%	28
Total	524	76.7%	148	21.7%	11	1.6%	683

Notes: “Other” offenses were Contempt of court/Curfew/Dependency action/Neglect/receiving stolen property

Duplication of children is due to multiple offenses committed by the same child.

### Contempt of Court



**Figure 8.** Court Contempt by Gender and by Race

- Out of the 683 offenses 515 were underlying charges for contempt of court
- Of the 515 contempts 56% were committed by males and 77% by white offenders

**Table 4.** Court Contempt by Race and by Gender

Race	Contempt		No contempt	
	N	%	N	%
White	400	77.7%	124	73.8%
Black	106	20.6%	42	25.0%
Other	9	1.7%	2	1.2%
Total	515	100%	168	100%
Gender	N	%	N	%
Female	224	43.5%	83	49.4%
Male	291	56.5%	85	50.6%
Total	515	100%	168	100%

### Underlying Charge - Court Contempts

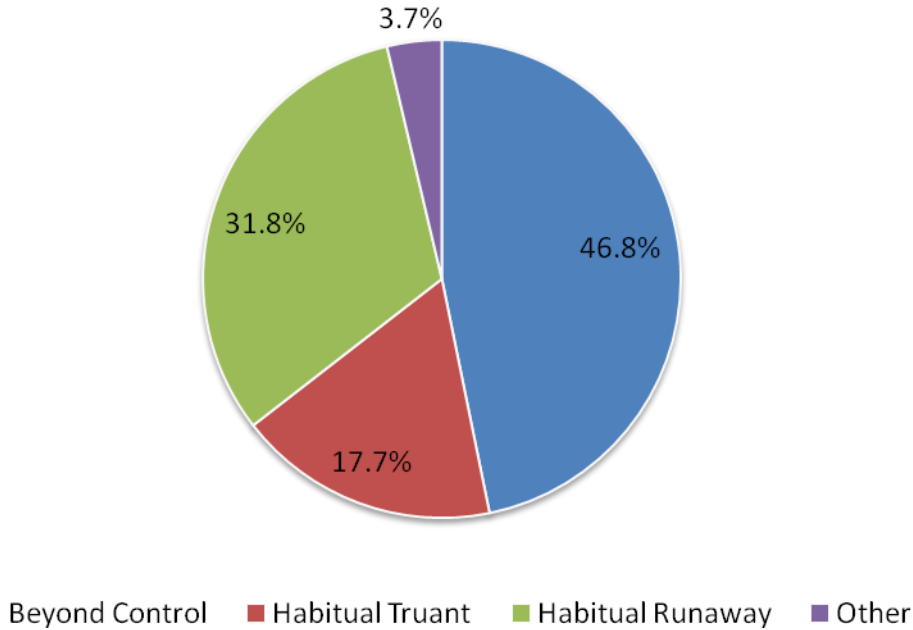


Figure 9. Underlying Charges for Court Contempts

Table 5. Underlying Charges for Offenders in Court Contempt

Underlying Charge	Court Contempt		Not in Contempt	
	N	%	N	%
Beyond Control	241	46.8%	25	14.9%
Habitual Runaway	91	17.7%	122	72.6%
Habitual Truant	164	31.8%	12	7.1%
Other	19	3.7%	9	5.4%
Total	515	100%	168	100.0

Notes: “Other” offenses were Contempt of court/Curfew/Dependency action/Neglect/receiving stolen property. One child may have been in contempt more than once.

- Majority of court contempts (46.8% and respectively 31.8%) were committed by children who are beyond control or are habitual truants
- Children who were habitual runaways were the least likely to be in contempt of court (72.6%)

### Counts of Contempt of Court

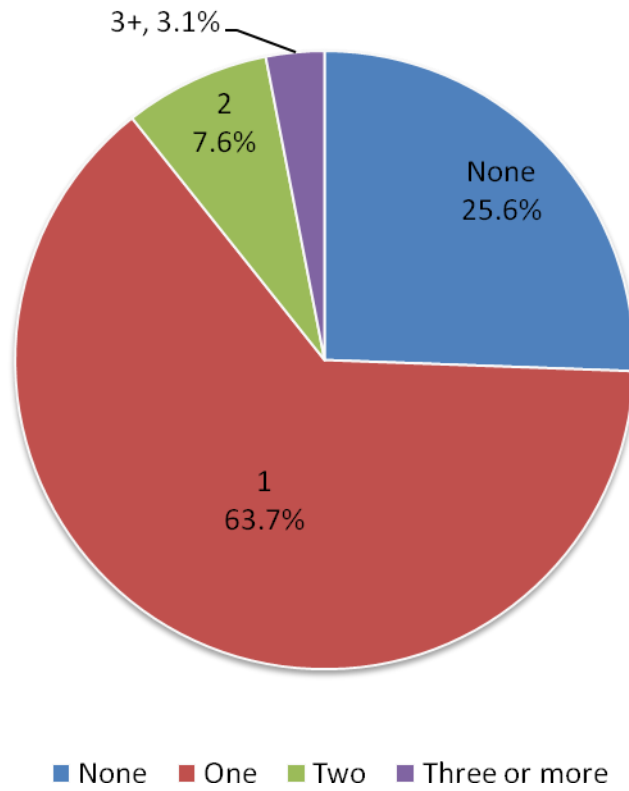
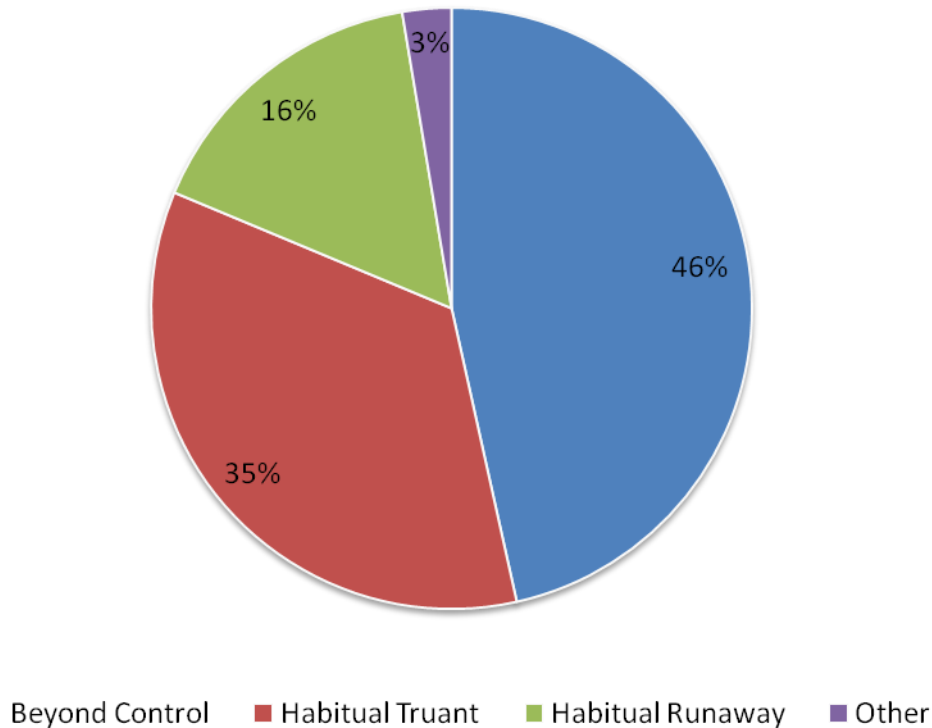


Figure 10. Counts of Contempt of Court

- 390 (75.9%) unduplicated children were in contempt of court at least once
  - 56 children were in contempt of court 2+ times
  - 16 children were in contempt of court 3+ times



### Children in Contempt by Underlying Charge



**Figure 11.** Number of Children in Contempt of Court by the Underlying Charge

There were 417 children in contempt of court<sup>3</sup> and they are distributed by the type of underlying charge as follows:

- beyond control (194 children),
- habitual truant (145 children),
- habitual runaway (67 children), and
- other type of offense (11 children).

---

<sup>3</sup> The 417 children = unduplicated cases by juvenile and by type of underlying charge

- when a child was in contempt multiple times with the same underlying charge s/he was counted once;
- if the child was in contempt of court multiple times with different underlying charges, s/he was counted separately for each type of charge.

## Detention

### Children by Counts of Detention Episodes

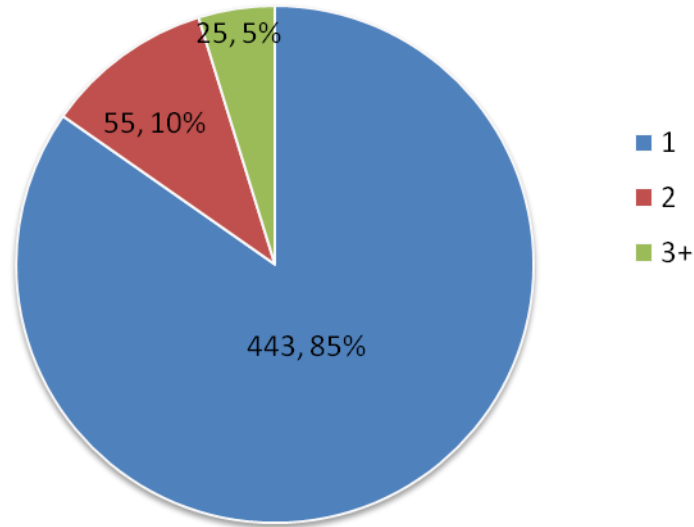


Figure 12. Number of Children by the Counts of Detention Episode

The number of children by the number of episodes of detainment is presented in figure 12; there was no statistically significant difference in the number of episodes across gender or race.

- There were 443 (85%) children with a single episode,
- 55 (10%) with two episodes, and
- 25 (5%) with 3 to 6 episodes.

There were 523 juvenile offenders who were detained for a total of 3,991 days

- 19 (3.6%) children were released the same day
- 101 (19.1%) children were released the next day
- 76.7% of the children were detained for 10 days or less
  - 156 (35%) children were in detainment for one to two days
  - 186 (35.7%) children were detained for three to seven days
- 14.1% were in detainment for 15 days or more

### Time of Release from Detention

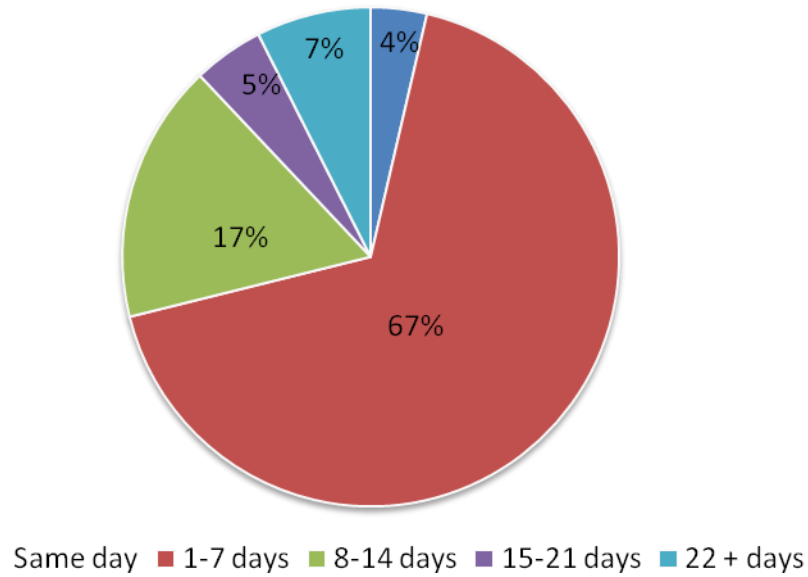
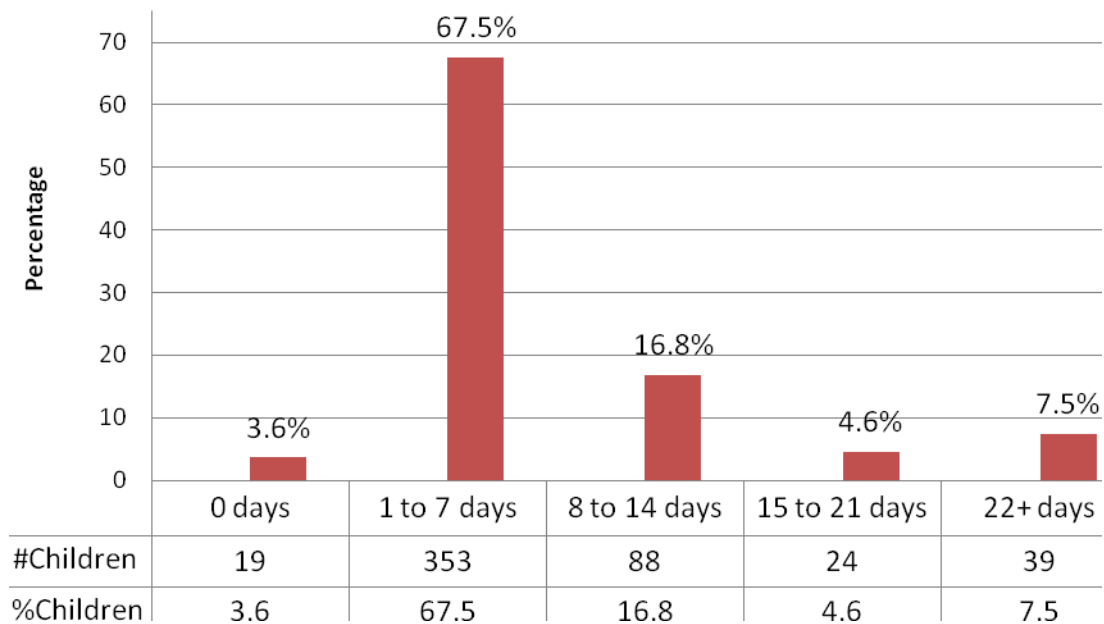


Figure 13-14. Proportion of Children by Number of Days in Detention

### Children by Days in Detention



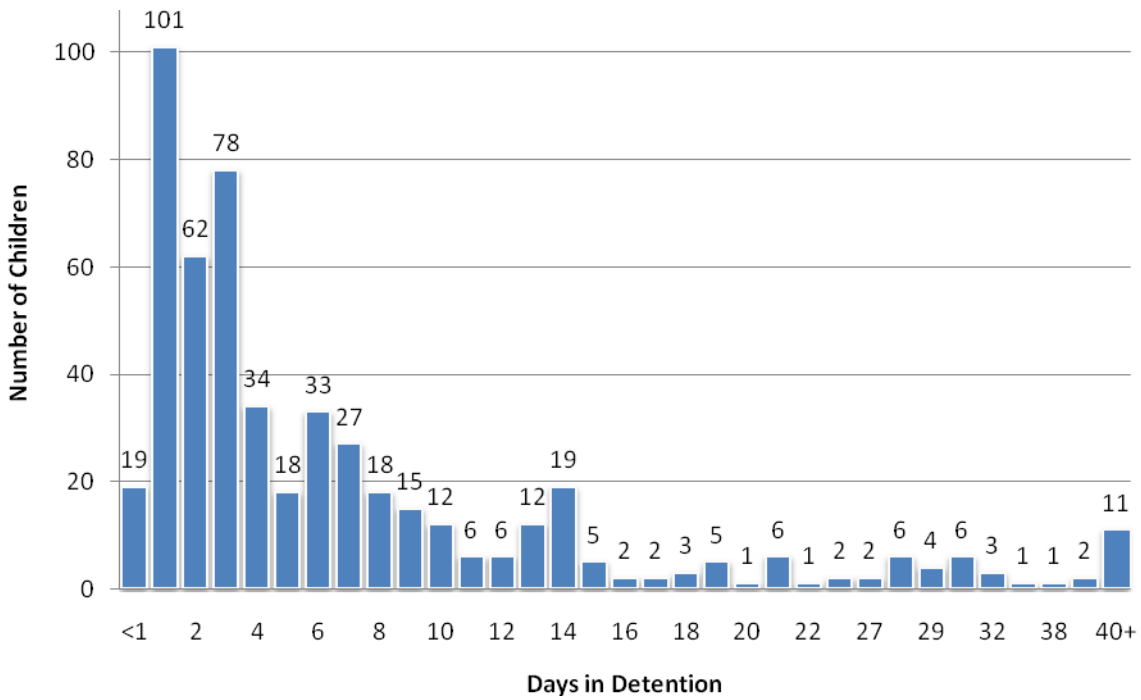


Figure 15. Number of Children by the Number of Days in Detention

- Majority of children (353, 67.5%) were in detention for up to seven days
- Less than 10% spent more than three weeks in detention during the study period

The following table displays the detention data for the children detained at least one day.

Table 6. Descriptive Statistics for the Detention Days

Episode	#Children	Average # Days	Median #Days	Std. Deviation	Maximum # Days	Total #Days
1 <sup>st</sup>	424	7.4	3.0	9.98	86	3,129
2 <sup>nd</sup>	54*	8.8	5.0	10.1	47	474*
3 <sup>rd</sup> or 4 <sup>th</sup>	25	9.2	7.0	8.71	32	231
<b>Total</b>	<b>504</b>	<b>7.6</b>	<b>4.0</b>	<b>11.95</b>	<b>157</b>	<b>3,991</b>

\*Note: 1 case with 157 days was in this category (2 episodes)

In 26 (5%) episodes, 19 (3.6%) juveniles were released the same day. One case (with 157 detention days during the 2<sup>nd</sup> episode, was eliminated from the analysis due to its impact on the central tendency and dispersion statistics).

- The average number of days in detention increases with the number of episodes
- There was less variation in the group of 25 children who had between three and six episodes of detention than in the other two groups Overall, children were in detention for an average of about one week.

The data shows that within the group with a two episodes of detention, the proportion of females was larger than in the other groups;

- Males were more likely to have a 3<sup>rd</sup> or more episodes than females. The association between gender and the number of detentions was only marginally significant ( $\chi^2=4.882$ ,  $df=2$ ,  $p=.087$ ).

There was no association between the number of detentions and race, even though in the group with two episodes the proportion of African Americans seems to be higher (29%) than in the other two groups (20%).

There was no association between the age of the status offender and the number of episodes.

### Detention Episodes by Gender and by Race

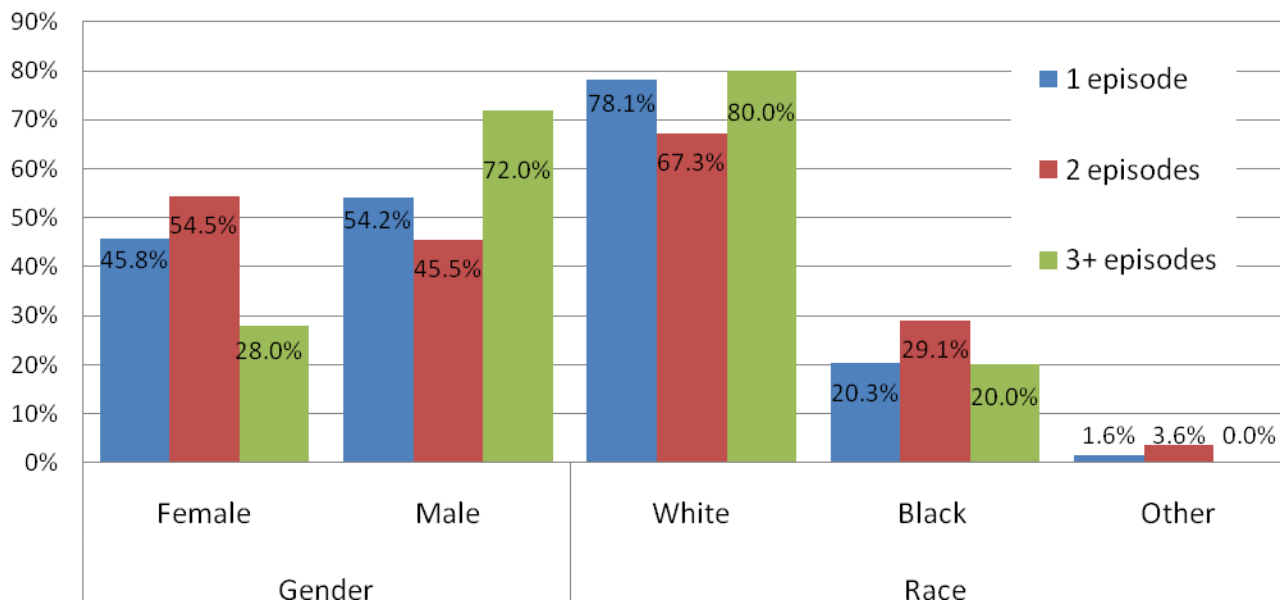


Figure 16. Proportion of Children by the Number of Detention Episodes by Race and Gender

**Table 7.** Detention Episodes by Gender and Race (unduplicated youth)

		1 <sup>st</sup> Episode		2 <sup>nd</sup> Episode		3 <sup>rd</sup> /4 <sup>th</sup> Episode		Total	
		N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Gender	Female	203	45.8%	30	54.5%	7	28.0%	240	45.9%
	Male	240	54.2%	25	45.5%	18	72.0%	283	54.1%
Race	White	346	78.1%	37	67.3%	20	80.0%	403	77.1%
	Black	90	20.3%	16	29.1%	5	20.0%	111	21.2%
	Other	7	1.6%	2	3.6%	0	0.0%	9	1.7%
Total		443	100	55	100	25	100	523	100

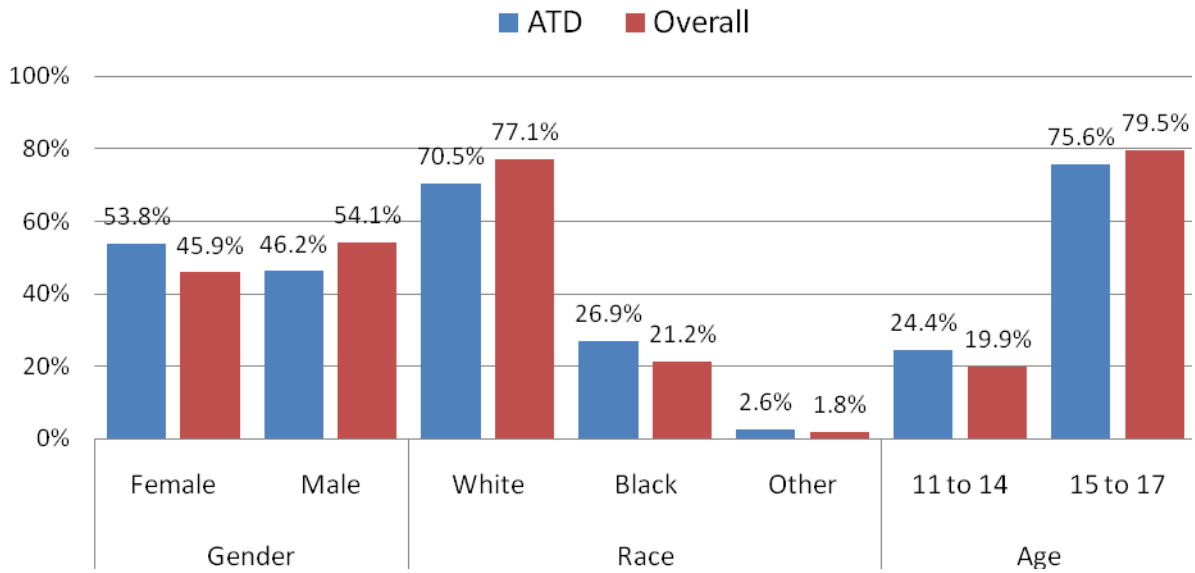
### *Time to Re-Offense*

- There were 66 juveniles who re-offended
- Overall, the number of days between release and a new detention booking date was 40 days (SD= 28 days)
- 50% of offenders committed a new offense after 34 or less days from release
- The minimum number of days until re-offense was 2 days and the maximum number of days was 102

**Participation in Alternatives to Detention**

In addition to being placed in secure detention, 78 (14.9%) youth participated in the ATD program. Detailed information regarding particular activities or services that were included in the ATD for youth was not included in the data set.

**Characteristics of ATD Participants vs. Overall**



**Figure 17.** Proportion of ATD Participants by Race and Gender as Compared to Overall Sample

**Table 8.** Participants in the Alternative to Detention as Compared to All Offenders

Demographics	ATD	Overall
Gender - Female	53.8%	45.90%
Gender - Male	46.2%	54.10%
Race - White	70.5%	77.10%
Race - Black	26.9%	21.20%
Race - Other	2.6%	1.80%
Age - 11 to 14	24.4%	19.90%
Age - 15 to 17	75.6%	79.50%

### Time in ATD by Demographics

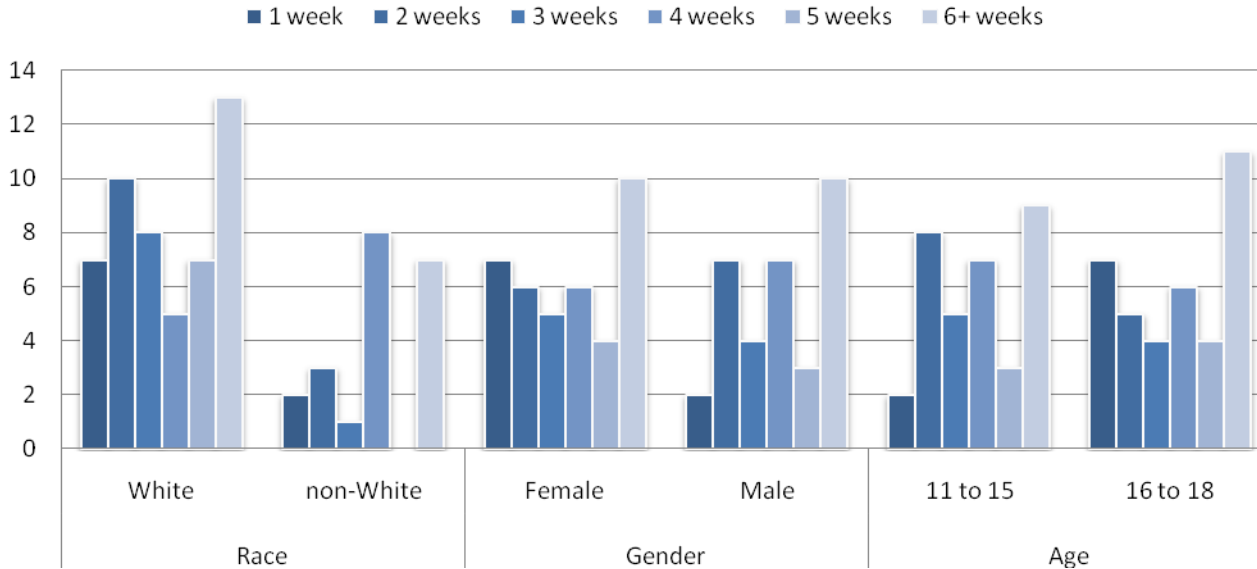


Figure 18. Number of ATD Participants by Race, Gender, Age and by the #Weeks in ATD

Table 8. Number of Participants in the Alternative to Detention by Race, Gender and Age

ATD Weeks	Race			Gender		Age	
	White	Black	Other	Female	Male	11 to 15	16 to 18
1	7	1	1	7	2	2	7
2	10	3	0	6	7	8	5
3	8	1	0	5	4	5	4
4	5	8	0	6	7	7	6
5	7	0	0	4	3	3	4
6+	13	6	1	10	10	9	11
<b>Total</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>37</b>

The 78 ADT participants had the following demographic characteristics:

- 42 (53.8%) females and 36 (46.2%) males
  - Females had a slightly higher likelihood to be placed in ATD
- 55 (70.5%) were Caucasian, 21 (26.9%) were African American, and two (2.6%) were of other race/ethnicity
  - White offenders had a lower likelihood to be placed in ATD (see 70.5% ATD as compared to 77.1% overall)
- 19 (24.4%) were ages 11 to 14; 59 (75.6%) were ages 15-17



### *Detained Youth vs. Youth Participating in Alternatives to Detention*

Re-offense rates are of significant concern with this population.

- Out of the 80 (15.3%) youth with multiple episodes of charges only 17 (3.3%) participated in ATD
- There were no differences in age, race, and gender between the ATD group and the other youth.

Differences between youth in ATD and those who were not:

The following table presents the number of days in detention by the ATD participation and by the number of detention episodes.

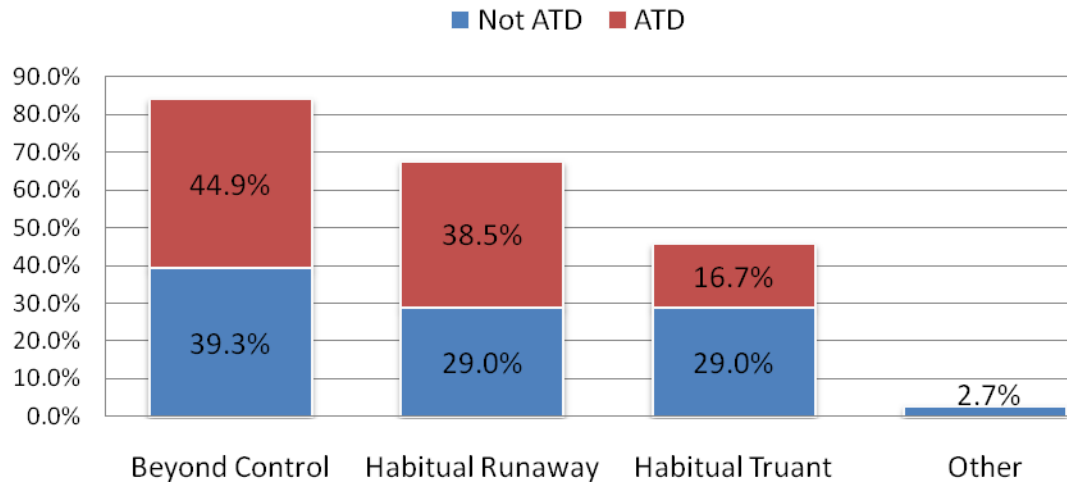
**Table 9.** Detention Days by Detention Episode and by ATD Participation

Episode	ATD	N	Median #days	Mean #days	Std. Deviation
1 <sup>st</sup>	No	382	3	6.94	9.81
	Yes	61	3	7.85	10.36
	Total	443	3	7.06	9.88
2 <sup>nd</sup>	No	43	5	9.79	10.99
	Yes	11	4	4.82	3.37
	Total	54	5	8.78	10.10
3 <sup>rd</sup> +	No	19	7	8.58	8.80
	Yes	6	10.5	11.33	8.87
	Total	25	7	9.24	8.71
Total	No	444	3.5	7.28	9.90
	Yes	78	4	7.69	9.61
	Total	522	4	7.34	9.85

Independent t-tests showed that there were no significant difference in the number of consecutive days of detention between the youth in ATD and the youth not in ATD, in any of the episode groups and/or overall.

*Use of Alternatives to Detention*

**ATD Participation by Status Offense**



**Figure 19.** Distribution of Offenses by ATD Group

**Table 9.** ATD Participation by Type of Offense

	<i>Not ATD</i>		<i>ATD</i>		<i>Total</i>	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Beyond Control	175	39.3%	35	44.9%	210	40.2%
Habitual Runaway	129	29.0%	30	38.5%	159	30.4%
Habitual Truant	129	29.0%	13	16.7%	142	27.2%
Other	12	2.7%	0	.0%	12	2.3%
<b>Total</b>	<b>445</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>523</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Table 10.** Number of Days to Re-Offense by ATD Participation

	Count	Mean	SD	Median	Minimum	Maximum
ATD	16	42.4	22.8	47	6	75
Not ATD	50	38.9	29.4	33.5	2	102
<b>Total</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>39.8</b>	<b>27.8</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>102</b>

**Table 11.** Days in Detention, in ATD, and to Re-Offense by ATD Participation

Re-Offense	Number of Days	Not in ATD					
		N	Avg.	SD	Median	Min	Max
Yes	Until re-offense	50	39	29	34	2	102
	In Detention	50	3	5	2	1	28
No	In Detention	395	7	10	3	1	86
		ATD					
Yes	Until re-offense	16	42	23	47	6	75
	In Detention	16	2	2	1	1	9
	In ATD	14	18	15	16	2	63
No	In Detention	62	8	10	3	1	45
	In ATD	57	29	20	28	3	111

Note: Due to missing information on ATD booking dates, some ATD cases are excluded from these analyses

#### One-time Offenders: ATD vs. non-ATD

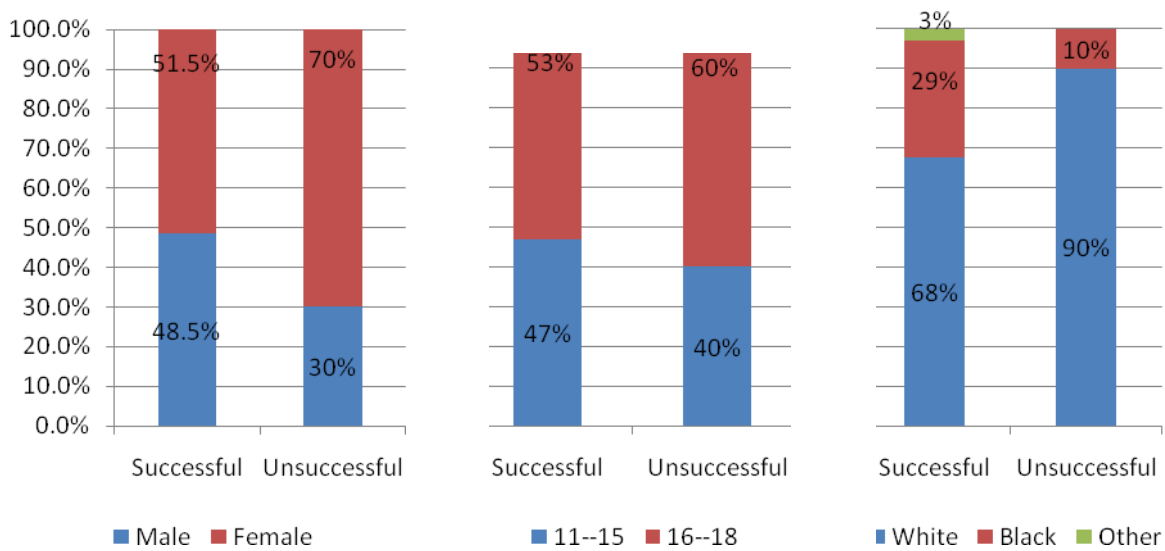
- The average number of detention days for ATD was 8, while for non-ATD was 7 days
- The average number of days in ATD was 29 days
- The maximum number of days in detention in the ATD group was 45, while in the non-ATD was 111 days.
- 50% of the ATD group were in detention for 3 or less days
- 50% of the non-ATD group was in detention for 28 or less days

#### Re-Offenders: ATD vs. non-ATD

- 66 youth re-offended, 16 of them participated in ATD, 50 did not
- The average number of days in detention was 2 days for the ATD group and 3 days for the non-ATD group
- The non-ATD group is more heterogeneous (greater difference between offenders) in the number of days in detention than the ATD group (note that the non-ATD have a range of 17 days, while the ATD group only 8 days; also the SD is 2 days for ATD and 5 days for the non-ATD group)
- The time until re-offense is greater in the ATD group: on average the ATD group reoffends after 42 days as compared to 39 days in the non-ATD group. 50% of the non-ATD group reoffended after 34 days or less, while 50% of the ATD group reoffended after 47 days or less

*Successfulness of the Alternatives to Detention Program*

**ATD Success by Demographics**



**Figure 20.** ATD Success by Gender, Age, and Race

- Males, minorities and younger offenders appear to be more successful in ATD

**Table 12.** ATD Success by Race, Gender and Age

		Successful		Unsuccessful	
		N	%	N	%
Gender	Male	33	48.5%	3	30%
	Female	35	51.5%	7	70%
Race	White	46	67.6%	9	90%
	Black	20	29.4%	1	10%
	Other	2	2.9%	0	
Age	11 to 15	32	47.1%	4	40%
	16 to 18	36	52.9%	6	60%

- 68 (87.2%) of the 78 ATD participants were successful in completing the program
- Average age for the 68 successful and 10 unsuccessful ATD participants was about the same 15.5 years old.

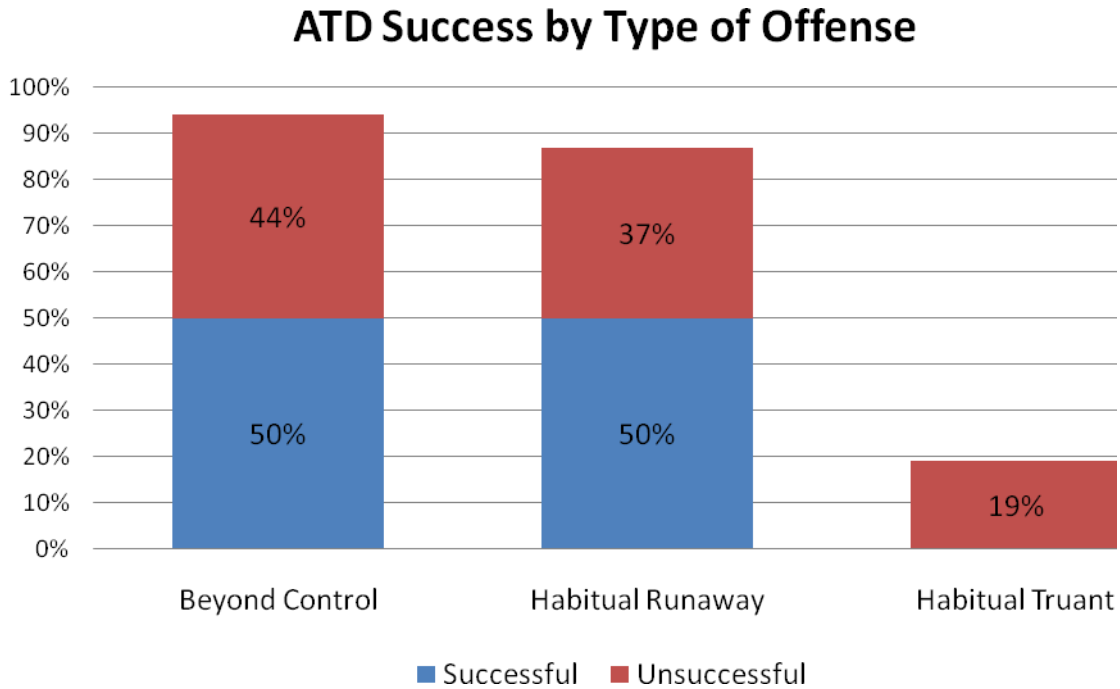


Figure 21. ATD Success by Type of Offense

Table 13. ATD Success by Type of Offense

Offense	Successful		Unsuccessful	
	N	%	N	%
Beyond Control	30	44.1%	5	50%
Habitual Runaway	25	36.8%	5	50%
Habitual Truant	13	19.1%	0	
Total	68	100%	10	100%

- None of the habitual truants participating in the ATD has successfully completed the program

### ATD Success by Detention Episodes

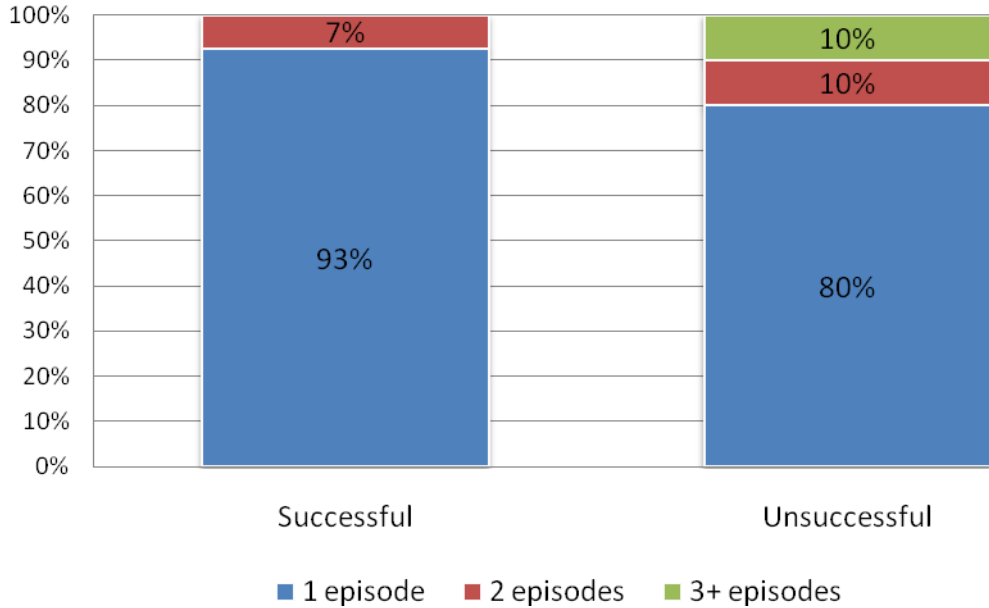


Figure 22. ATD Success by Number of Detention Episodes

There were 16 out of the 78 (20.5%) ATD participants have re-offended; 12 of them have successfully completed the ATD program and 4 have not.

- 12 out of the 68 (17.6%) successful ATD have re-offended
- 4 out of the 10 (40%) of the unsuccessful ATD participants have re-offended
- Overall, 1 in 5 ATD participants re-offended

Table 13. ATD Success by Length of time to Re-Offense

ATD success		Days to Re-Offense	Detention Days	ATD Days
Yes (N=12)	Mean	43	2	20
	Median	47	1	17
No (N=4)	Mean	41	3	14
	Median	40	2	15

- 50% of the Offenders who did not complete the ATD program reoffended after 40 days or less, while 50% of those who completed ATD reoffended after 47 days or less.

- The average number of days to re-offense for the ATD graduates was greater by 2 days than of those who did not complete ATD

## II. DJJ Data Analyses using AOC & CHFS Information

### *Data Availability*

The first 3-agency matched data was provided early March 2009, but due to issues related to the completeness of the data (missing demographic information and unique IDs for a large number of records) the latest batch of data was received by UofL on August 13, 2009.

DJJ provided the UofL research team with 13 Excel spreadsheets/files:

The data provided included:

- 1 file with the **demographic** information
- 1 file with the CHFS information (**abuse/neglect**)

The CourtNet file included 10 spreadsheets:

- 4 included **case file** information (case file date, case disposition, status offender information, case closing date), separately for status offenders from others
- 4 included **charges** information (charge date, county, charge number, offense code, offense description, disposition date, use of weapon, referral closure date, charge closing reason), separately for status offenders from others
- 2 included **case action** information (case action date, action type, action closing reason)

The DJJ Detention & ATD file included:

- 1 file included the **detention** booking and release dates, detention placement code, ATD placement and release dates, number of days in detention, primary charge, underlying charge, number of days in ATD, and ATD success.

The UofL research analyst has unduplicated the records in several ways (by individual; by individual and by offense type; by individual and by charge), however, the master file include all of the information described above in a single, unified, unduplicated SPSS database, readily available for additional analyses.

**Table 14.** Data Availability by Timeframe

<b>Date</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>Earliest Date</b>	<b>Latest Date</b>
Case filing	944	14-May-2001	21-Apr-2008
Case disposition	430	31-May-2001	03-Sep-2008
Case close	748	02-Oct-2006	21-Oct-2008
Charge	944	11-May-2001	21-Oct-2008
Charge disposition	433	31-May-2001	21-Oct-2008
Referral close	748	02-Oct-2006	21-Oct-2008
Case action	748	02-Oct-2006	22-Oct-2008
<b>Detention booking</b>	<b>524</b>	<b>01-Jun-2007</b>	<b>29-Sep-2007</b>
Detention release	524	13-Oct-2006	23-Jan-2008
<b>ATD placement</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>05-Jun-2007</b>	<b>28-Sep-2007</b>
<b>ATD release</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>12-Jun-2007</b>	<b>05-Nov-2007</b>

Note: There was one offender for whom the prior release date was outside the time frame of our study (Oct 2006). Therefore, it appeared to have a release date before the detention booking date and yielded a large negative number of days in detention. For this case, the number of days in detention, during a single episode, was 4 days.

Table 15 displays the number of cases for which the information described above was available. This chart shows the number of youth offenders with offense, case action, detention records, along with ATD participation and ATD outcome. There were 582 cases for which only demographics and child abuse/neglect data was available. A separate descriptive analysis of the items available, for the 582 cases, follows below.



**Table 15.** Data Items Linkages

Total	Cases & Charges		Case Action		Detention		ATD		ATD Successful
	1679 Demographic & CHFS	Yes	944	Yes	748	Yes	319	Yes	49
No				196	No	52	No	7	7
No		735	Yes	0	Yes	153	Yes	22	18
			No	735	No	582	No	0	

## Descriptive Statistics on the 582 records

- *No case, charges, or detention information was available*

**Table 16.** Descriptive and child abuse/neglect information on the “582” offenders

		N	%
Gender	Female	331	56.9
	Male	251	43.1
Race	White	500	85.9
	Black	71	12.2
	Other	11	1.9
CHFS TWIST		337	57.9
	Substantiated	234	40.2
	Not substantiated	103	17.7
Not in TWIST		245	42.1
Total		582	100

- 337 or 57.9% of the 582 cases had a TWIST record
- 234 of the 337 (69.4%) who have a TWIST record have been substantiated for abuse and/or neglect
- 245 or 42.1% of these records were not known to CHFS, or have never been recorded in the CHFS administrative data system by the time the matching of the files has been conducted (March 2009)

## Substantiated Abuse and/or Neglect

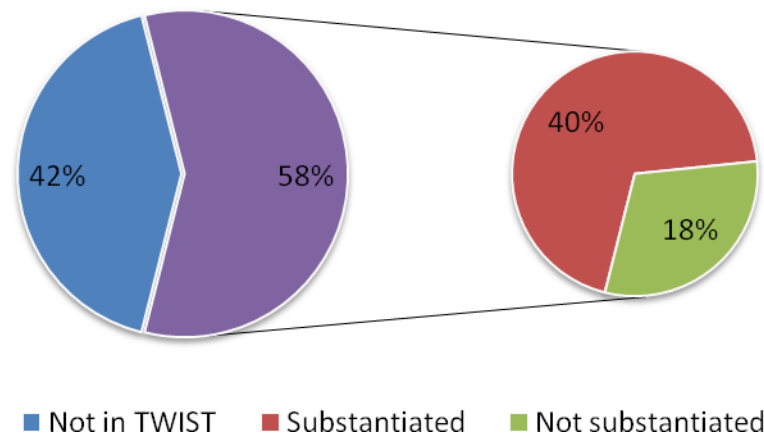


Figure 23. Abuse/neglect for the 582 Offenders

## Descriptive Statistics for 1,097 youth offenders

### Target Population

- Youth offenders detained by DJJ at any time between 10/1/2006 to 9/30/2007, which had a detention record, as shown by the presence of a detention booking date.
- 1,097 unduplicated individual juvenile offenders of which
  - 524 unduplicated individual juvenile offenders had detention 619 unduplicated detention bookings dates
- The 1,097 youth committed a total of 2,361 total offenses for which a total of 4,364 charges were brought
  - 683 unduplicated offenses (count the same offense once per person)
  - and 1,264 unduplicated charges

### Offense Types

Taking into account the type of offenses committed the youth offenders were classified as either status or public offender. Table 17 displays the type of records available by the type of offenses committed.

### Groups by Type of Offense

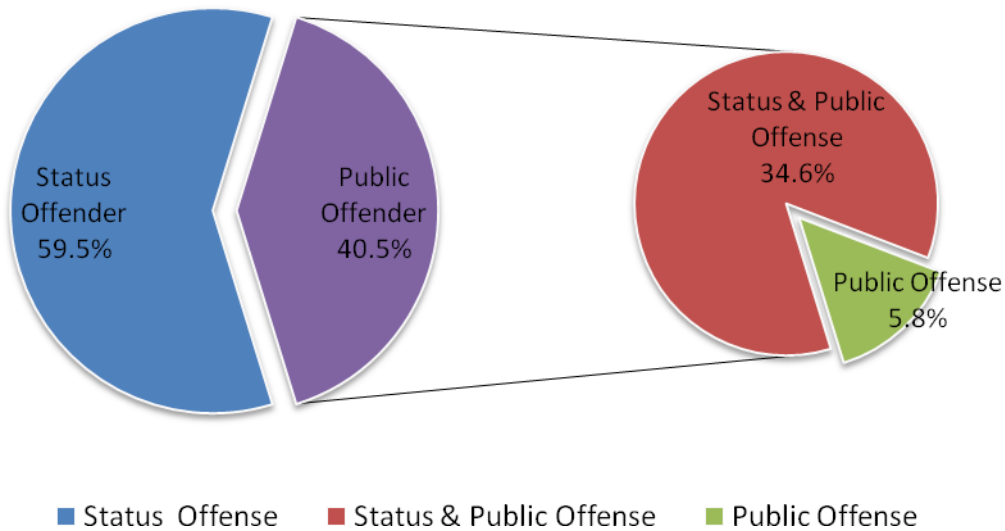


Figure 24. Distribution of Youth by Offense Status

Table 17. Data Available for Youth Offenders by Type of Offenses Committed

Data Available		Offender				Totals
		Status	Public			
		Status Offenses	Status & Public Offenses	Public Offenses	Public Offense Total	
Cases & Charges Files	No	153	0	0	0	153
	Yes	500	380	64	444	944
Case Action File	No	154	131	64	195	349
	Yes	499	249	0	249	748
Detention File	No	291	233	49	282	573
	Yes	362	147	15	162	524
ATD Participant	No	600	357	62	419	1019
	Yes	53	23	2	25	78

If youth committed only status offenses then s/he was classified as a “status offender”, while if a youth offender had records of public offenses only or of both status and public offenses s/he was classified as a “public offenders” (per Aug 6, 2009 conversation with Mr. Caleb Astridge).

**Table 18.** Number and Proportion of Children by Type of Offense

Offender Group	#Children	% Children
Status Offender	653	59.5%
Public Offender	444	40.5%
Total	1,097	100%

### *Demographic Data by Offender Type (Public vs. Status Offender)*

**Table 17.** Demographic Characteristics by Offender Type

Demographic	Status Offender		Public Offender		Total
	N	%	N	%	N
Gender					
Male	366	60.9%	235	39.1%	601
Female	286	57.8%	209	42.2%	495
Race					
White	530	62.6%	316	37.4%	846
Black	110	48.5%	117	51.5%	227
Other	13	54.2%	11	45.8%	24
Age Category					
13 or less	24	57.1%	18	42.9%	42
14 - 15	169	58.7%	119	41.3%	288
16 - 17	368	61.7%	228	38.3%	596
18 - 19	92	53.8%	79	46.2%	171

#### Gender

- 601 males (54.8%) and 495 females (45.1%)

#### Race

- 846 Caucasians (77.1%), 227 African American (20.7%), and 24 others (2.1%)

#### Age

- There were 42 (3.8%) children age 13 or below, 288 (26.3%) were ages 14 to 15, and 596 (54.3%) were ages 16 to 17, and 171 (15.6%) were 18 to 19 years of age.

### Youth Demographics by Type of Offense

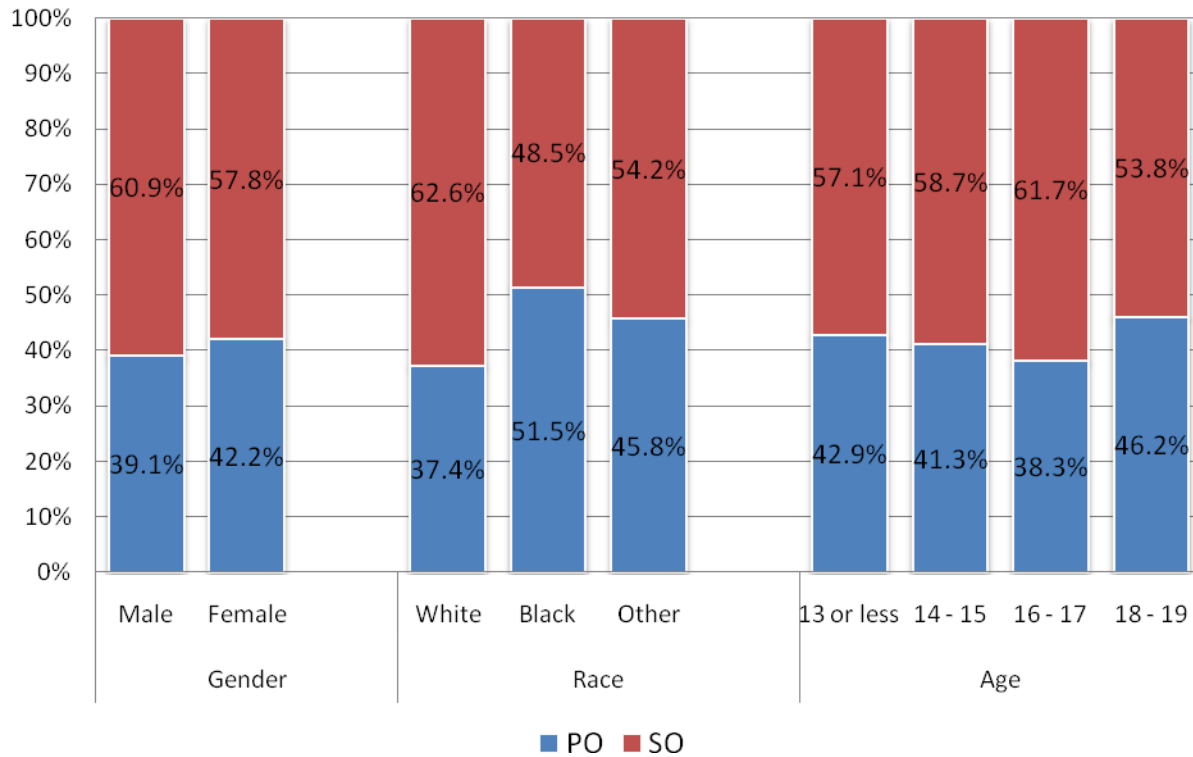


Figure 25. Distribution of Youth by Offense Status and Demographics

- About 39% of males and 42% of females were status offenders
- The proportion of minority who committed public offenses was larger than the proportion of white youth
- The proportion of youth committing public offenses is larger for the younger and older groups: 43% at age 13 or less, and 46% for the 18-19 year old group.

### Status Offenses by Group

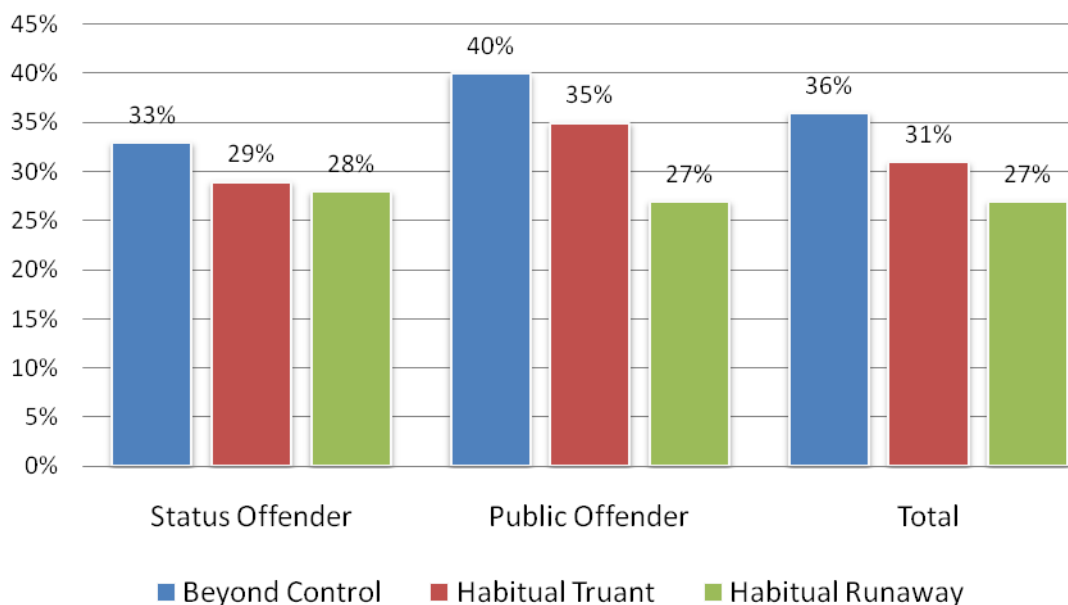


Figure 26. Status Offenses by Offender Group

Table 18. Distribution of Status Offenses by Offender Group<sup>4</sup>

Offense Type	Status Offender		Public Offender		Total	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Beyond Control	215	33%	176	40%	391	36%
Habitual Truant	189	29%	154	35%	343	31%
Habitual Runaway	182	28%	119	27%	31	27%
Total Status Offenses	586		449		765	

Notes: Duplication of children is due to multiple offenses committed by the same child.

- A total of 765 status offenses were committed by the 1097 youth
  - 586 offenses were committed by status offenders (who did not commit any public offenses)
  - 449 offenses were committed by youth who in addition to status offenses also committed public offenses

<sup>4</sup> Duplication of children is possible due to children committing more one type of offense

### Status Offenses by Group and by Gender

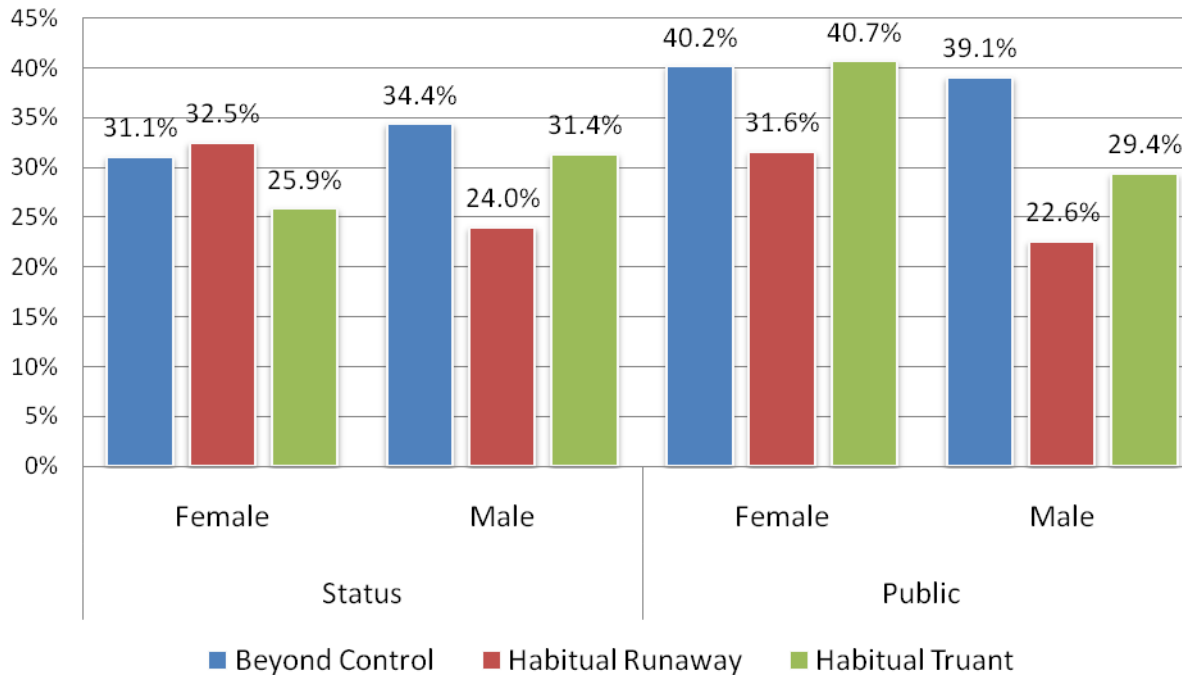


Figure 27. Type of Offenses by Gender

Table 19. Offenses by Gender

Offense Type	Female				Male				Total	
	Status		Public		Status		Public			
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Beyond Control	89	31.1%	84	40.2%	126	34.4%	92	39.1%	391	35.7%
Habitual Runaway	93	32.5%	66	31.6%	88	24.0%	53	22.6%	300	27.4%
Habitual Truant	74	25.9%	85	40.7%	115	31.4%	69	29.4%	343	31.3%
Total	256		235		329		214		1034	

Notes: "Other" offenses were Contempt of court/Curfew/Dependency action/Neglect/receiving stolen property

Duplication of children is due to multiple offenses committed by the same child.

### Status Offenses by Group and by Race

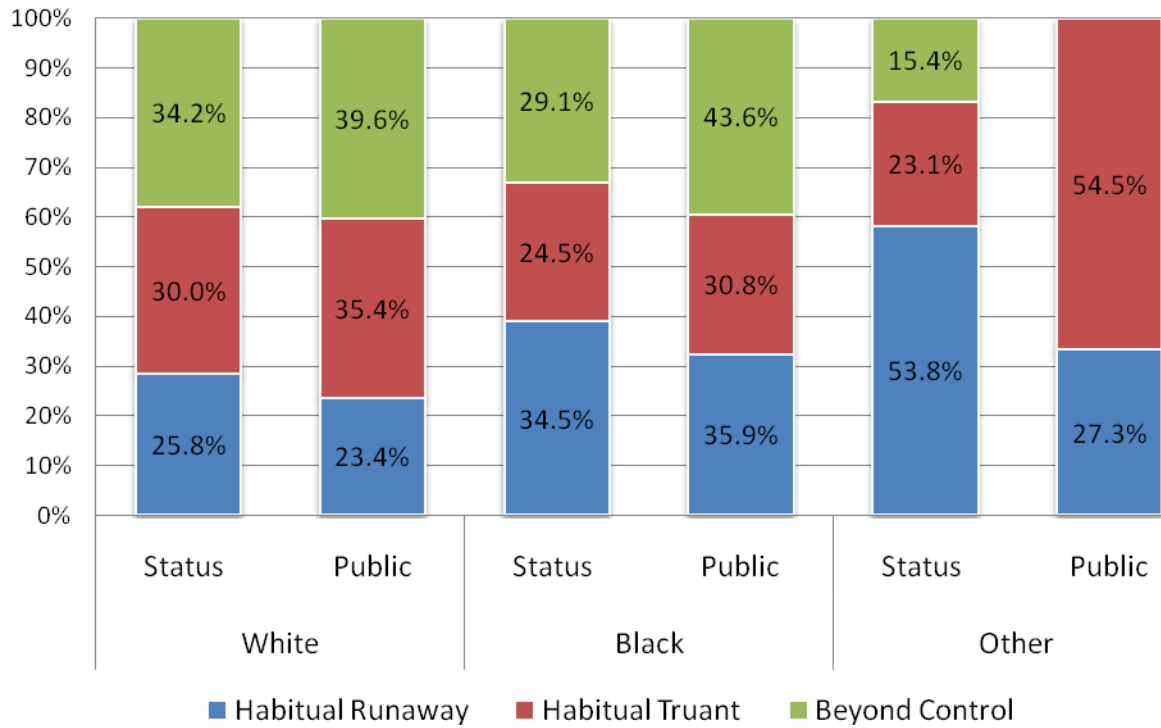


Figure 27. Type of Offense by Race

Table 20. Offenses by Group and by Race

Race	White				Black				Other			
	Status		Public		Status		Public		Status		Public	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Beyond Control	181	34.2%	125	39.6%	32	29.1%	51	43.6%	2	15.4%	0	0.0%
Habitual Runaway	137	25.8%	74	23.4%	38	34.5%	42	35.9%	7	53.8%	3	27.3%
Habitual Truant	159	30.0%	112	35.4%	27	24.5%	36	30.8%	3	23.1%	6	54.5%

Notes: “Other” offenses were Contempt of court/Curfew/Dependency action/Neglect/receiving stolen property

Duplication of children is due to multiple offenses committed by the same child.



**Substantiated Abuse and Neglect**

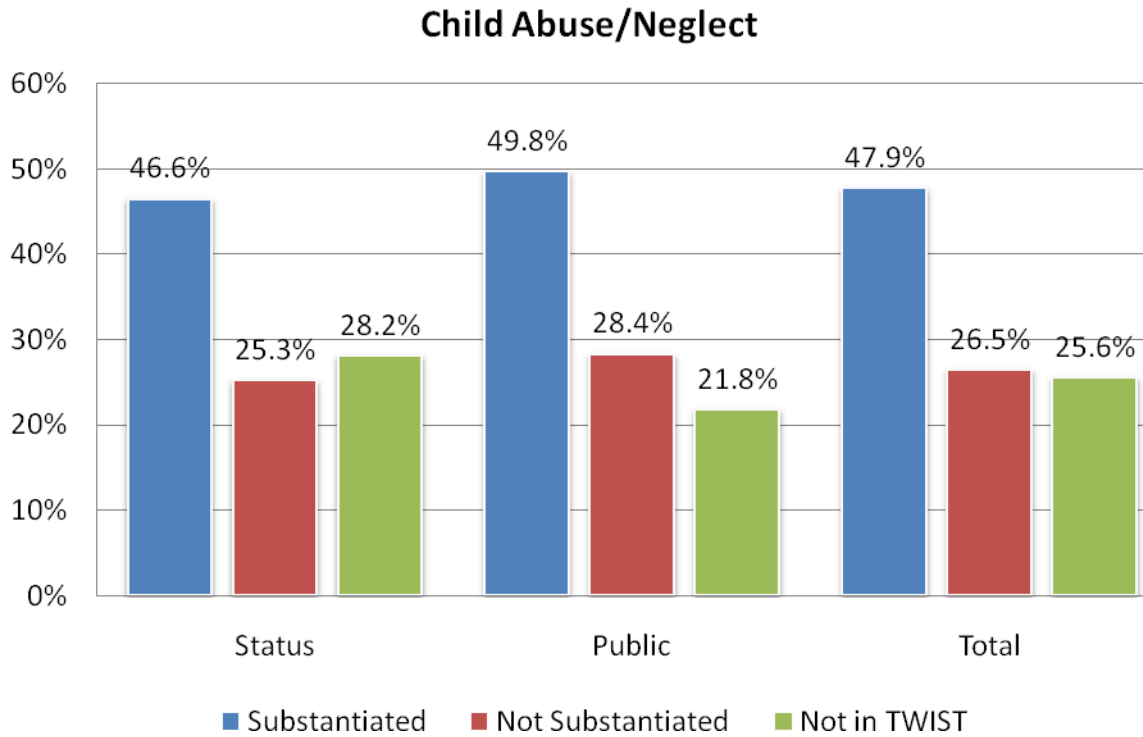


Figure 28. Proportion of cases with Substantiated abuse and/or neglect by Group

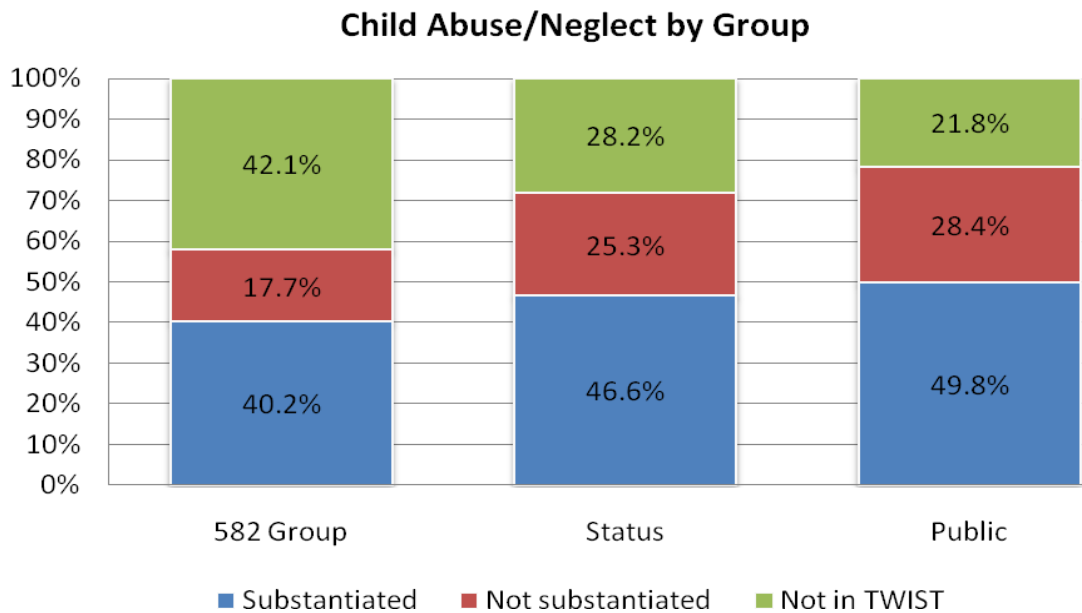


Figure 29. Proportion of cases with Substantiated abuse and/or neglect by Group

- The '582' group had significantly lower proportion of children with substantiated abuse/neglect than the other two groups (status and public offenders)
- The differences between the status and public offender groups were only marginally significant ( $p=.071$ )

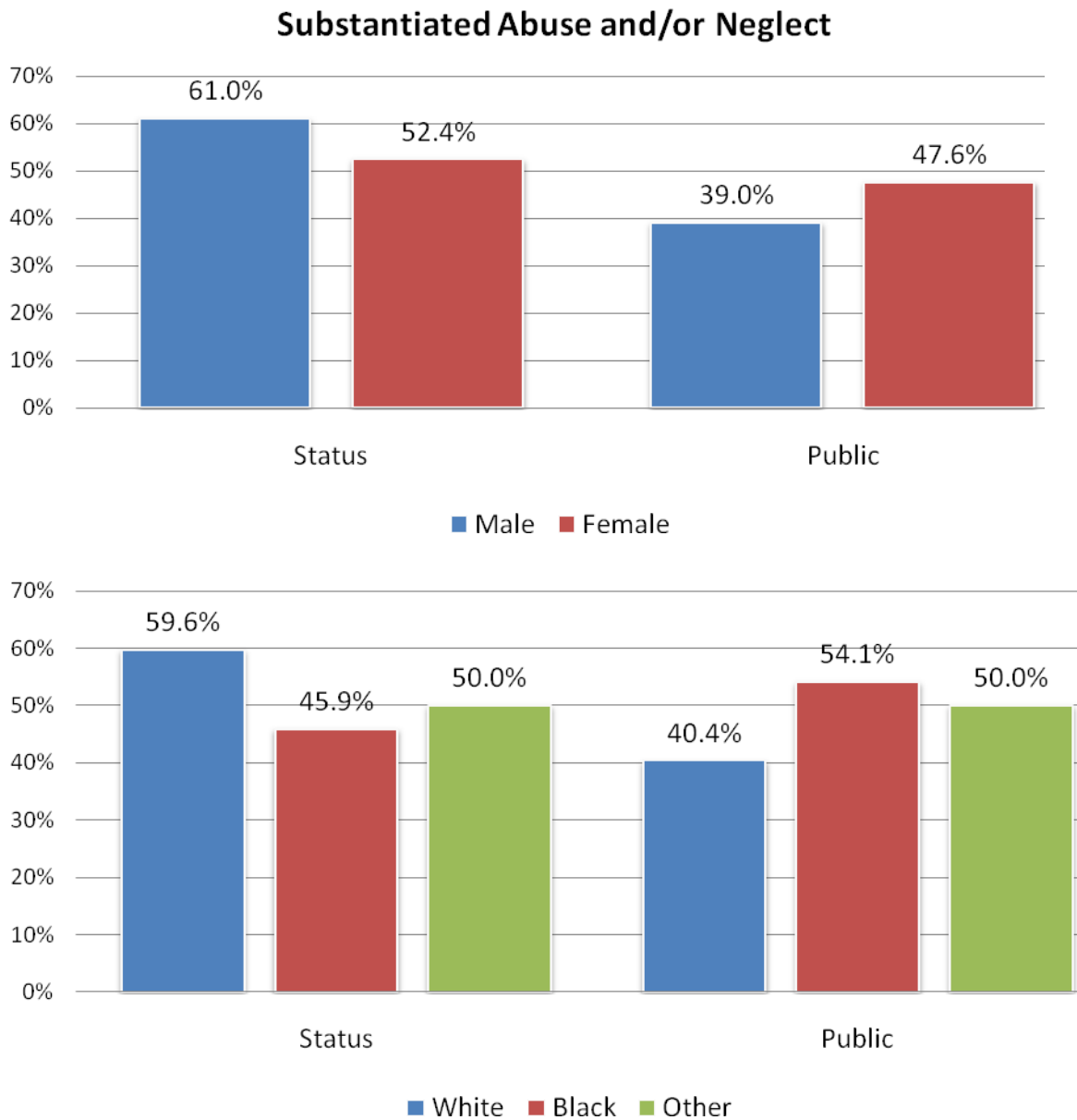


Figure 29. Substantiated abuse and/or neglect by Group, by Gender, and by Race

### Child Abuse/ Neglect by Group and by Status Offense

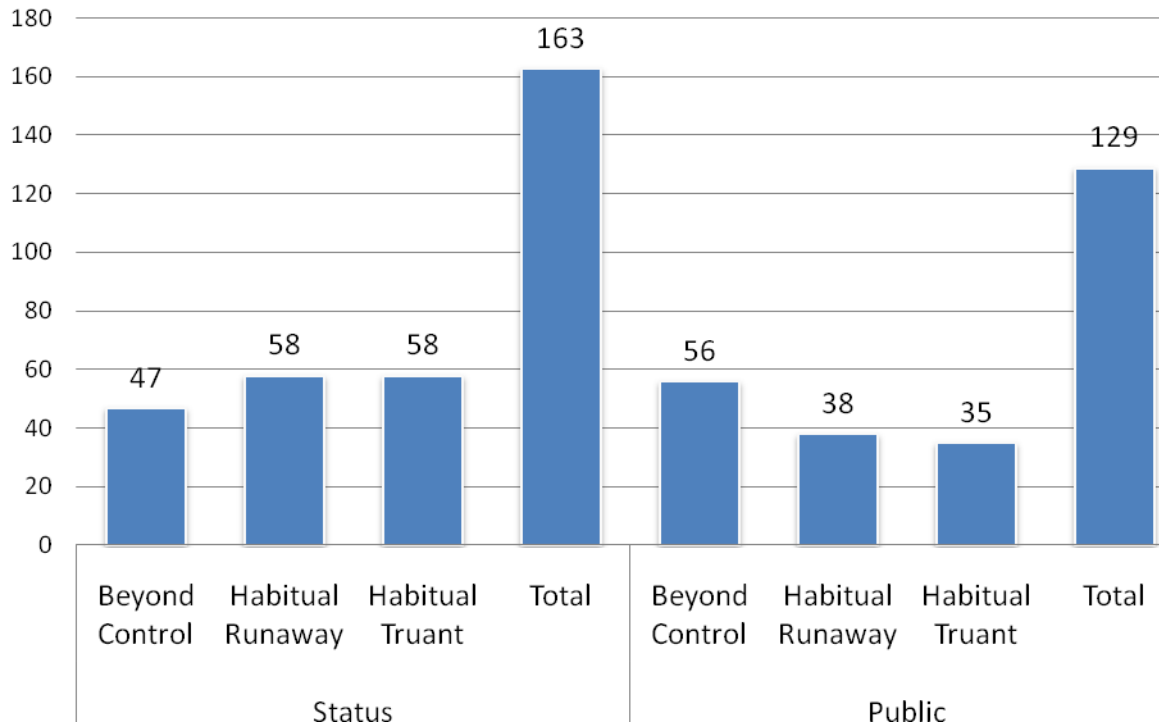


Figure 30. Counts of Abuse and/or Neglect by Group and by Status Offense

Table 20. Status Offenses by Group and by Race

Status Group	Status Offense	Substantiated for Abuse/Neglect							
		Yes		No		No referral		Total	
Status	Beyond Control	47	28.8%	118	40.0%	50	39.1%	215	36.7%
	Habitual Runaway	58	35.6%	88	29.8%	36	28.1%	182	31.1%
	Habitual Truant	58	35.6%	89	30.2%	42	32.8%	189	32.3%
	Total	163	100%	295	100%	128	100%	586	100%
Public	Beyond Control	56	43.4%	90	40.2%	30	31.3%	176	39.2%
	Habitual Runaway	38	29.5%	59	26.3%	22	22.9%	119	26.5%
	Habitual Truant	35	27.1%	75	33.5%	44	45.8%	154	34.3%
	Total	129	100%	224	100%	96	100%	449	100%

- Within the group of youth substantiated for abuse and/or neglect, a greater proportion of females than males commit public offenses
- Majority of white youth offenders substantiated for abuse neglect were more likely to commit status offenses, instead of a combination of public and status offenses.
- A greater proportion of beyond control public offenders were substantiated for abuse/neglect (43.4%) than the “beyond control” status offenders (28.8%)
- A greater proportion (35.6%) of habitual truants or habitual runaway status offenders were substantiated for abuse/neglect than their public offender counterparts (29.5% and 27.1%)

### Detention

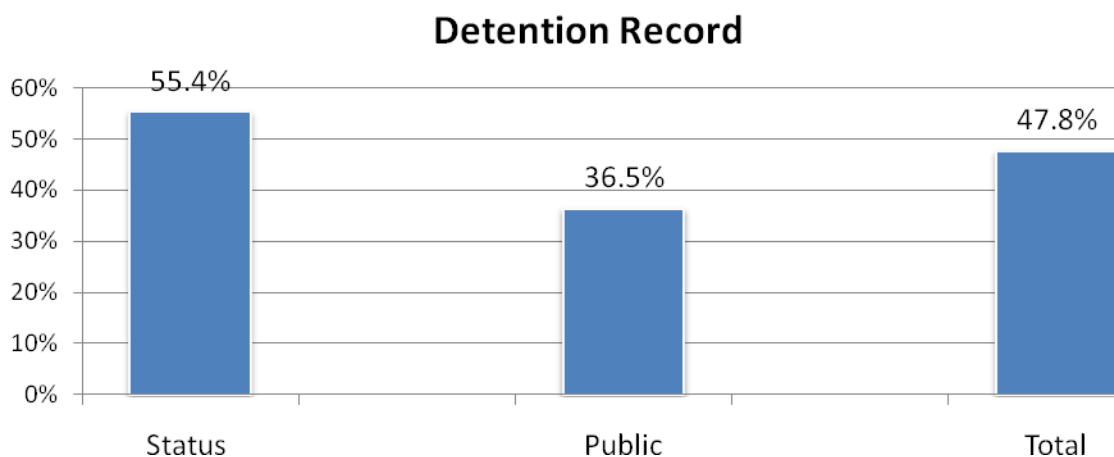


Figure 31. Detention Records by Offender Group

Table 21. Availability of Detention Records by Group

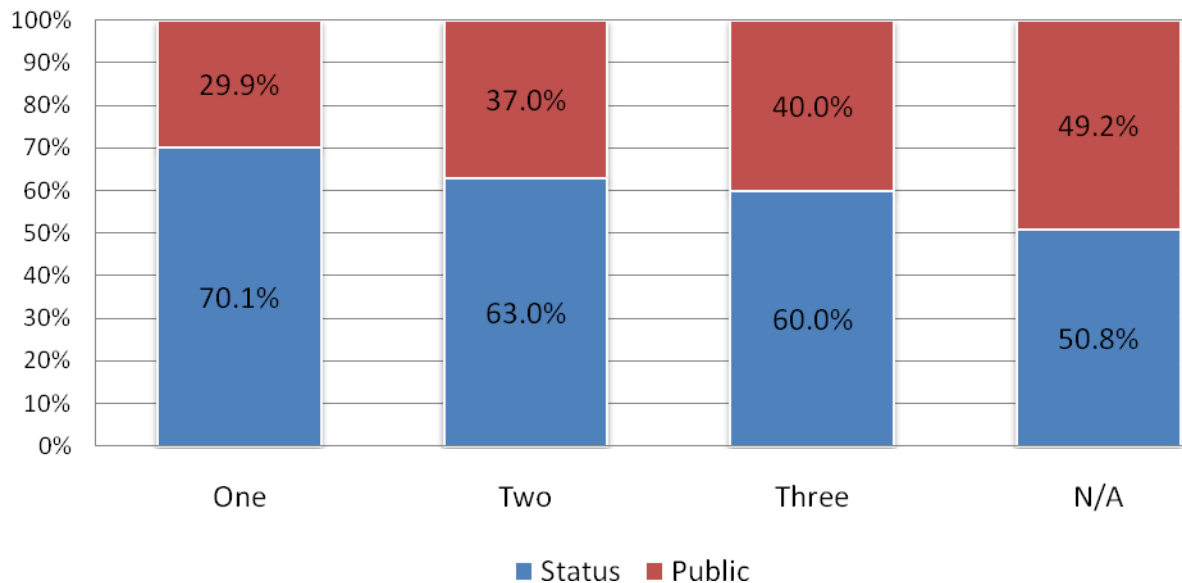
Detention	Offender Group				Total	
	Status		Public			
No	291	44.6%	282	63.5%	573	52.2%
Yes	362	55.4%	162	36.5%	524	47.8%
Total	653	100%	444	100%	1097	100%

- Detention information was available for 55.4% of the status offenders, and for 36.5% of the public offenders
- Overall, detention records were available for 47.8% of the offenders.

**Table 22.** Availability of Detention Records by Group

Episodes	Offender Group				
	Status		Public		Total
	N	%	N	%	N
N/A	291	50.8%	282	49.2%	573
One	321	70.1%	137	29.9%	458
Two	29	63.0%	17	37.0%	46
Three	12	60.0%	8	40.0%	20
Total	653		444		1097

**Detention Episodes by Group**

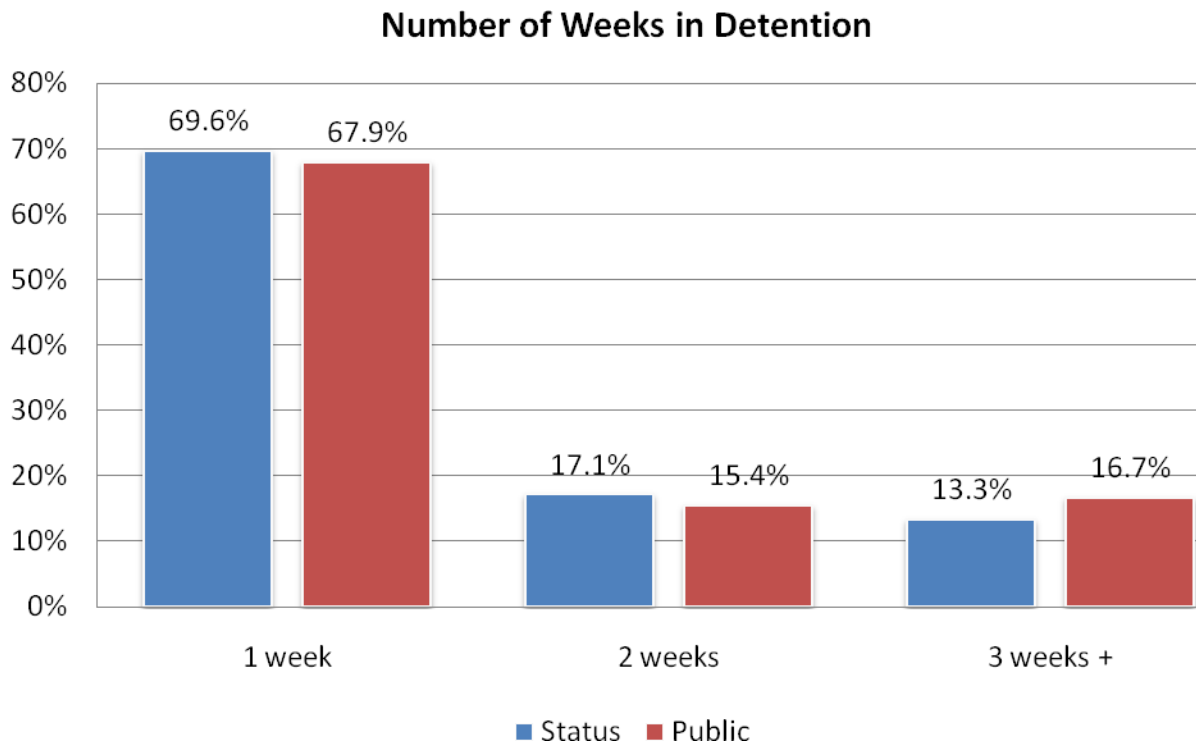


**Figure 32.** Proportion of Offenders by Number of Detention Episode by Group

The total number of days in detention was computed by summing the number of days between booking dates and release dates; if an offender was released the same day, we counted one day of detention.

**Table 23.** Total Time in Detention by Group

	Status Offender		Public Offender	
	N	%	N	%
1 week or less	252	69.6%	110	67.9%
2 weeks	62	17.1%	25	15.4%
3 weeks +	48	13.3%	27	16.7%
Total	362		162	



**Figure 33.** Percentage of Youth by Number of Weeks in Detention by Group

- Majority of offenders in both status and public offenders groups spent one week or less in detention
- As expected, the proportion of public offenders with three or more weeks (21+ days) of detention was greater in the public offender group

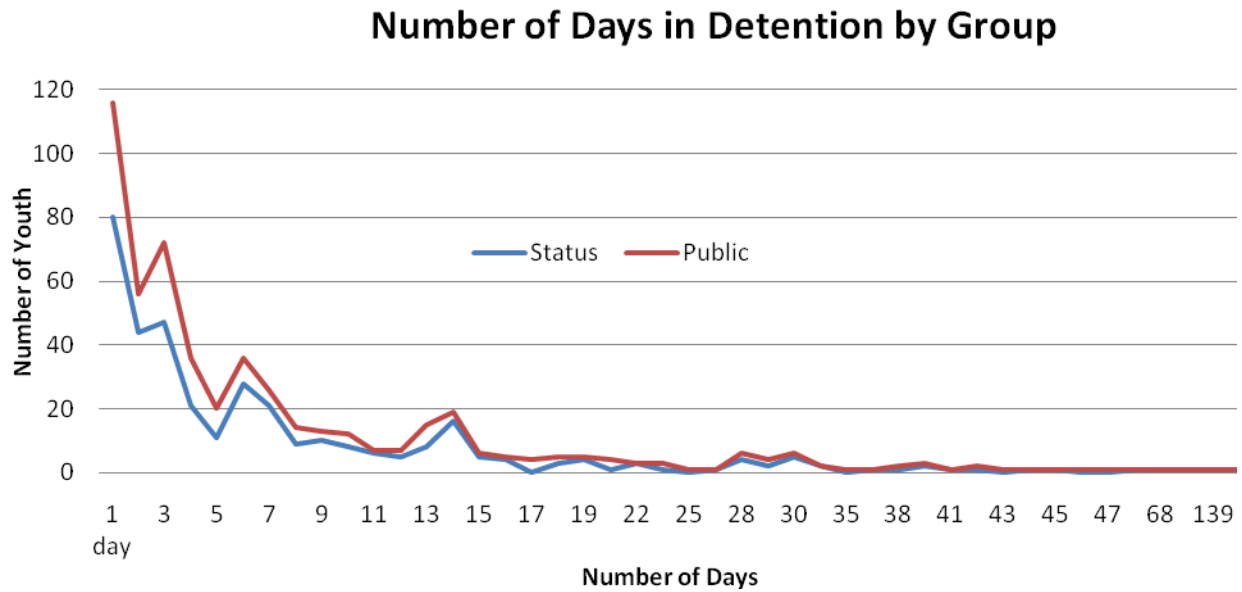


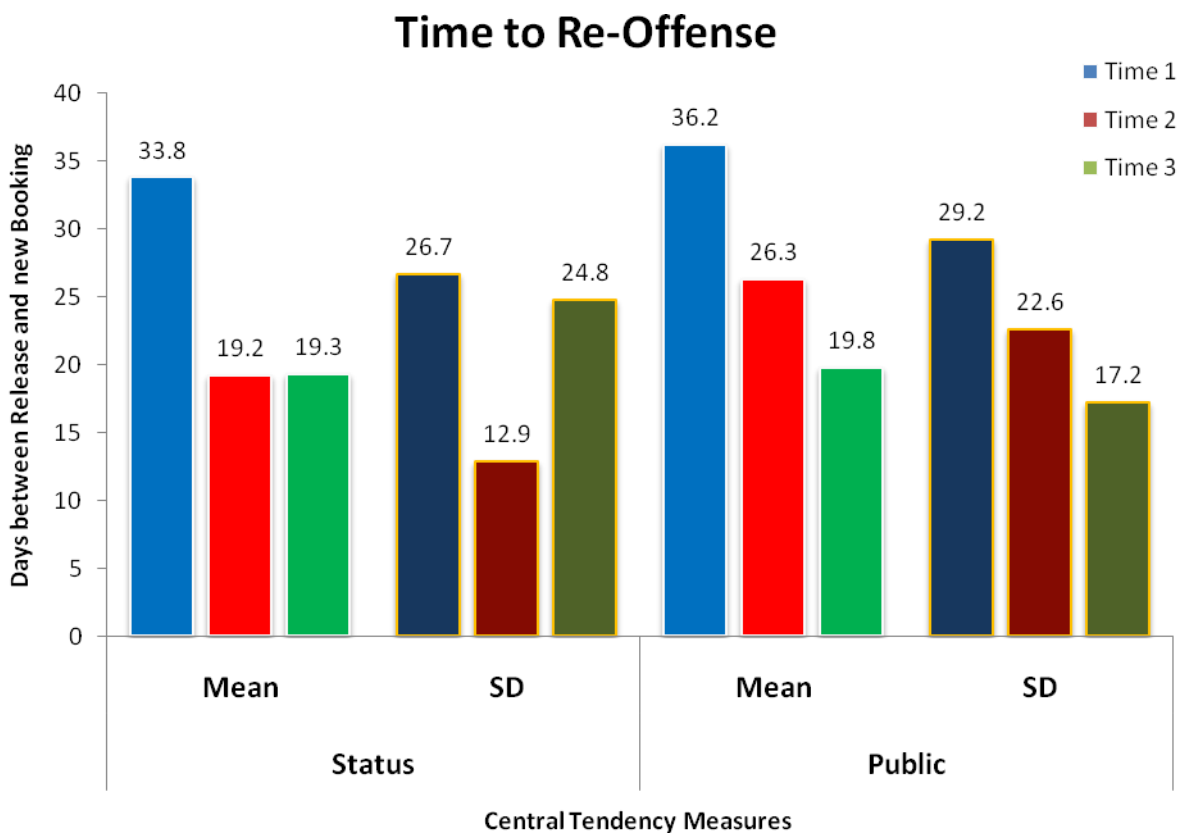
Figure 34. Number of Youth by Number of Days in Detention by Group

### Time to Re-Offense

Time to re-offense was computed as the number of days between the release from detention and the subsequent detention booking date.

**Table 23.** Descriptive Statistics of Time to Re-Offense by Group

Time to Re-Offense (days)	Status Offender			Public Offender		
	N	Mean	SD	N	Mean	SD
Re-Offense 1	41	33.8	26.7	25	36.2	29.2
Re-Offense 2	12	19.2	12.9	8	26.3	22.6
Re-Offense 3	3	19.3	24.8	4	19.8	17.2



**Figure 35.** Central Tendency Measures for Time to Re-Offense: Status vs. Public Offenders



- Bright blue, bright red, and bright green show the average number of days to re-offense after the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and respectively 3<sup>rd</sup> release
- The darker blue/red/green columns show the amount of variation in the number of days within the group; the greater the variation (or the heterogeneity) the wider the range of possible values, the smaller it is the more similar re-offenders are with each other in the number of days it takes for them to re-offend
- The average number of days between the 1<sup>st</sup> release and the 2<sup>nd</sup> booking date (bright blue) and between the 2<sup>nd</sup> release and 3<sup>rd</sup> booking date (bright red) appear to be higher for public offenders but t-test showed that none of the differences in the average number of days from release to the next offense were statistically significant
- Standard deviation (SD) shows variation within the group in the number of days to re-offense. The number of days to re-offense after the second release varies greatly for public offenders (dark red)

**Table 24.** Time between Detention Episodes by Group

Time to Re-Offense	t	df	p	Mean	Std. Error	95% CI	95% CI
				Difference	Difference	Lower	Upper
time 1	-.351	64	.727	-2.5	7.0	-16.5	11.5
time 2*	-.803	10.1	.441	-7.1	8.8	-26.7	12.6
time 3	-.027	5	.980	-0.4	15.7	-40.8	40.0

Note: The p-value > .05 indicates no statistically significant difference in means. \* Variances in the two groups could not be assumed equal

- There were no significant differences in the average number of days to re-offense between status and public offenders
- Although the two groups were not different in the average number of days to re-offend after the 2<sup>nd</sup> release, there were differences between offenders within the groups. The variation in the number of days to re-offense after 2<sup>nd</sup> release for the status offenders was significantly smaller than the public offenders. In other words the status offenders were more alike each other, while the public offenders differ greatly in their number of days to re-offense after the 2<sup>nd</sup> release.

**Appendix**

## Frequency of Action Types and Action Reasons from Case Actions File

(I did not know how to use/make sense of this information)

Actions	Frequency
CDW Ref Case for Formal Proc	333
Diversion Agreement	175
Reopen Closed Case	19
Schedule Diversion Conference	163
Amended Diversion	14
Successful Diversion	39
Unsuccessful Diversion	133
Formal Court Ref - Co Atty Req	143
Formal Court Ref - Judge Req	318
Child FTA for P.I. Interview	82
Child Req Formal Court Hearing	41
Conduct Preliminary Inquiry	118
Schedule Preliminary Inquiry	708
Co Atty Req Inf Proc/Dismiss	39
Court Generated Charge	189
No Probable Cause	15
Youthful Off Referral	9
Info Not Available	720
Close Case	748

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