

**An Assessment of**  
**Minority Overrepresentation**  
**in Connecticut's Juvenile Justice System**

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in Connecticut's Juvenile Justice System**

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# **I. BACKGROUND**

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## **A. PROBLEM STATEMENT**

A major issue facing juvenile justice practitioners and policy makers across the country is the overrepresentation and differential treatment of racial and ethnic minority youth in the juvenile justice system. A growing body of literature is documenting minority overrepresentation relative to their rate of representation in the youth population, and organizations across the country are seeking more information on the extent, causes and solutions to this problem.

Perhaps the most important action taken to better understand and respond to this problem is the 1988 amendment to the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act (JJDPA) of 1974 which amended Section 223(a)(23) to require each state to evaluate and address the problem of overrepresentation of minority children in secure facilities. To be eligible for their full allocation of dollars under the JJDPA, states are now required to address the overrepresentation of minority youth in secure facilities if, for any given minority group, the rate of incarceration exceeds the rate of representation in the general public. Specifically, the JJDPA requires states to:

- (1) demonstrate whether minority youths are overrepresented in secure facilities with regard to their population base; and
- (2) if overrepresentation is found to be present, determine those factors leading to this overrepresentation (e.g., intake, adjudication and/or disposition) and create a strategy for addressing this inequality.

In response to this mandate, efforts have been initiated and research conducted in several states, including: California (Austin, Dimas and Steinhart, 1991), Florida (Bishop & Frazier, 1990), Georgia (Lockhart, Kurtz, Sutphen and Gauger, 1991), Iowa (Leiber, 1992), Missouri (Kempf, Decker, and Bing, 1990), and Pennsylvania (Kempf, 1992).

In accordance with the 1988 JJDPA amendment, the State of Connecticut Office of Policy and Management (OPM) and its Juvenile Justice Advisory Committee issued a Request for Proposals to identify and retain an independent research firm to design and conduct a study on the nature and extent of overrepresentation of minorities in Connecticut's Juvenile Justice System. Based

on a competitive process. OPM awarded a grant to Spectrum Associates to conduct the desired study.\* This report presents the findings of this effort.

## **B. LITERATURE REVIEW**

While systematic research into the overrepresentation of minority youth in the juvenile justice system is in its early stages, preliminary research efforts shed some light on: (1) the presence of overrepresentation of minorities in the juvenile justice system, (2) the extent to which overrepresentation accurately reflects differences in participation in delinquent activities across race; and (3) the role that differential processing of White and minority youth by the system plays in moving a disproportionate number of minority youth through the system.

### *Are Minority Youth Overrepresented?*

Consistently, research studies examining the proportion of minority youth in the juvenile justice system have found that minorities are overrepresented when compared to their proportion of the U.S. juvenile population. In their 1990 report, The National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges stated:

There is factual data to support the premise that minority youth are overrepresented in the juvenile justice system. Further, the data suggest a trend that minority youth have an increasingly greater chance of becoming even more overrepresented as they progress through the juvenile justice system. (The National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges 1990, XV)

Based on their review of the literature, Austin, Dimas and Steinhart concluded:

There is broad agreement in the literature that minority adolescents are overrepresented at all stages of the juvenile justice system as compared to their numbers in the general population. (Austin, Dimas and Steinhart 1991, 23)

Based on the 1982 "Children in Custody Survey," Krisberg et al. reported that 50% of all youth in public juvenile correctional facilities across the United States were either Black (38%) or Hispanic (12%), while 47% were White. Based on comparisons to census data, Krisberg et al. concluded that Black males were overrepresented in incarceration rates by 179%, and Hispanic males by 86%.

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\* This study was supported with federal Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act administrative funds and state match under a grant from the State of Connecticut Office of Policy and Management.

*Is Minority Overrepresentation Explained by Differences in the Incidence of Delinquent Behaviors?*

While some interpret the overrepresentation of minority youth in police statistics and at each stage in the juvenile justice system as displaying greater and more severe delinquency on the part of minority youth, others have questioned official statistics as reliable measures of behavior. These criminologists argue that the data are not only influenced by behavior, but also by system processing decisions such as decisions by the police to apprehend and refer to court.

As an alternative approach to comparing official police and court records across race, a number of criminologists have used self-report surveys, whereby respondents are asked to complete a confidential questionnaire indicating their personal involvement in various types of offenses. The most frequently cited self-report study is the National Youth Survey (NYS), a longitudinal study of delinquent behavior, and alcohol and drug use. The NYS used a sample of representative 11-17 year olds across the continental United States, and youth in the sample were interviewed face-to-face each year from 1976-1983. Study participants were interviewed in confidential settings with all data protected by a Privacy Certification from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. The NYS included questions on 47 offenses, and respondents were asked how many times they committed each offense during the past year.

Contrary to official statistics and public perceptions about minority delinquency involvement, but similar to findings of other large scale self-report studies of delinquency (Gold and Reimer, 1975; Elliott and Voss, 1974; Williams and Gold, 1972; Bachman et al., 1987), Huizinga and Elliott concluded:

A summary of the findings would suggest that differences in incarceration rates among racial groups cannot be explained by differences in offense behavior among these groups. The assertion that differential incarceration rates stem directly from differences in delinquency involvement is not supported by these analyses. (Huizinga and Elliott 1987, 221)

Huizinga and Elliott suggest that "if differences in delinquent behavior do not explain the differential in incarceration rates, then differences in official responses to offenders/offenses (that is arrest rates, rates of referral to juvenile court, and court processing) would seem as likely candidates to explore as major determinants of the differential in incarceration rates." (Huizinga and Elliott 1987, 219).

### *Is Minority Overrepresentation Explained by Differential Handling?*

Pope and Feyerherm conducted an exhaustive literature review of publications from 1969 to 1989 to examine the issue of system processing of minority vs. White youth, and identified 46 articles that were directly relevant. Based on a review of these 46 articles, Pope and Feyerherm (1993) concluded:

- ◆ The preponderance of evidence (i.e., two-thirds of all studies reviewed) reveals significant direct and indirect effects of race in decision-making or, at a minimum, a mixed pattern where differences occurred at some decision-making points but not at others or for some offenders/offenses and not others. The studies revealed that disproportionate treatment remained after statistical controls were introduced.
- ◆ Selection bias does exist and can occur at any stage of juvenile processing.
- ◆ In some instances, small differences occur at each stage and accumulate to become pronounced at the end of the system.
- ◆ Studies finding selection bias are as sophisticated methodologically as those that have not. That is, there is no relationship between rigor of the studies and the finding of disparate treatment.

Subsequent to the review conducted by Pope and Feyerherm, findings have been released from state studies conducted in response to the 1988 JJDPa amendment. Consistent with the conclusions of Pope and Feyerherm, these studies have determined that disparities exist in system handling of minority vs. White youth. Conclusions drawn from the initial round of studies responding to the OJJDP mandate are highlighted below.

#### Florida

Bishop and Frazier examined statewide data in Florida, and found disparate treatment of minorities for filing of petitions, use of secure detention, commitment to an institution and transfer to adult court. Bishop and Frazier concluded:

Nonwhite juveniles processed for delinquency offenses in 1987 received more severe dispositions than their White counterparts at several stages of juvenile processing. Specifically, we found that when juvenile offenders were alike in terms of age, gender, seriousness of the offense which promoted the current referral, and seriousness of their prior records, the probability of receiving the harshest disposition available at each of several processing stages was higher for nonwhite than for White youth. (Bishop and Frazier 1990, 3).

## Georgia

Lockhart et al. examined the extent of racial disparity among male juveniles within the Georgia juvenile justice system. Data from 1988 were examined across Georgia's 159 counties. Lockhart et al. concluded:

A different set of decision rules appears to be operating when the offender is Black than when he is White; and those boys that exit at disposition do not deserve the degree of penetration relative to their counterparts who exit earlier. (Lockhart et al. 1991, 59)

## Iowa

Leiber examined case files to determine whether race/ethnicity influences juvenile court processing and outcomes in four counties in the state of Iowa. The four counties chosen were selected due to the size of the minority population, and data were examined for over a 12-year period, 1980 - 1991. Data were gathered on intake decisions, the filing of a petition, adjudication, and judicial disposition. Leiber concluded:

Although legal variables (e.g., severity of the offense) were most often the most significant predictors of outcome, race/ethnic effects and gender were observed at a number of stages in each of the four counties. The race/ethnicity effect occurs typically at intake and petition, while the gender effect is present at the stage of judicial disposition. Minorities were also more likely than Whites to receive an outcome involving placement in the state training school. This finding was present after controlling for relevant legal and extra legal factors. (Leiber 1993, 372)

## Missouri

Kempf, Decker and Bing studied the processing of Black and White youth across eight juvenile courts in Missouri. They concluded:

Evidence exists that decision processes are systematically disadvantaging youths who are Black, female or both. They receive harsher treatment at detention, have more petitions filed "on their behalf," and are more often removed from their family and friends at disposition. (Kempf, Decker and Bing 1990, 18)

## Pennsylvania

Based on her analysis of 20,325 White, Latino and African-American juvenile cases processed by the 14 juvenile courts in Pennsylvania in 1989, Kempf concluded:

Results of the study suggest that juvenile justice outcomes were influenced directly by race at every stage except adjudication. . . . Biased outcomes appear most clearly at early stages of the process. Cases referred to court are judged as needing more formal processing more often when minorities are involved. Minorities are also more often detained than White youths in similar situations, except among minor offenses when the reverse is true. (Kempf 1992, Abstract)

### *Summary of Literature Review*

Thus, studies conducted to date on the overrepresentation of minorities in the juvenile justice system suggest that:

- ◆ racial and ethnic minorities are often overrepresented in the juvenile justice system;
- ◆ overrepresentation can not be explained by differences in delinquent behavior across racial and ethnic groups; and
- ◆ the role of race in the processing of minority vs. White youth appears to vary by the offense type, the decision point within the system, and location.

## **C. RESEARCH GUIDELINES**

Based on research conducted to date, Pope and Feyerherm suggested a series of research guidelines to assist future efforts to study minority overrepresentation. These guidelines were offered in the OJJDP report - *Minorities and the Juvenile Justice System: Research Summary* (December, 1993). Pope and Feyerherm caution the reader that these issues are intended to guide, not direct, future research.

As the Pope and Feyerherm guidelines successfully articulate many of the factors that shaped our research design in studying minority overrepresentation in Connecticut, we have elected to directly quote their guidelines in our report, and they are listed below.

1. Future research on minorities and juvenile processing must pay more attention to the fact that race effects may be masked when information is combined on a statewide or county basis.

2. Research efforts should focus on the juvenile justice system in its entirety by examining multiple processing stages.
3. While not ignoring quantitative or statistical approaches, research should also incorporate solid qualitative strategies into its designs.
4. While research focusing on juvenile court processing should continue to be encouraged, more research should target police-juvenile encounters and correctional processing.
5. Research examining data on minority youth and the juvenile process should employ techniques that are capable of detecting direct, as well as more subtle and indirect, race effects.
6. Research should be attentive to the organizational structure within which juvenile justice decisions are reached, as well as environmental influences in the communities of which they are a part.
7. Research should attempt to focus on minorities other than African-Americans.
8. Research should attempt to include information on the family characteristics of those minority youth processed through the system.
9. Research should focus on rural and suburban jurisdictions as well as major metropolitan areas.
10. Research should take into account changes in sample size as cases are processed through the system.

#### **D. RESEARCH QUESTIONS**

In addressing the issue of minority overrepresentation in Connecticut, the following research questions were defined as most important:

- ◆ To what extent, if at all, are minorities overrepresented in secure juvenile facilities in Connecticut?
- ◆ To what extent is any observed overrepresentation the result of different decision-making for minority vs. White youth?

- ◆ If differences in system decision-making are observed, which system decisions display the greatest disparities?
- ◆ Are observed disparities across race/ethnicity more prevalent in some locations than others?
- ◆ Do observed differences remain when controlling for social, offense, and offense history variables?
- ◆ What can and should be done to reduce the overrepresentation of minorities in the Connecticut juvenile justice system?



## II. OVERVIEW OF THE CONNECTICUT JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM

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Like all state juvenile justice systems, the Connecticut system is grounded in the distinctive premise behind the original development of the juvenile court in 1899 -- to offer a flexible and individualized system that emphasizes treatment and rehabilitation. While there have been sweeping juvenile court reforms across the United States over the last 30 years (e.g., due process rulings, removal of status offenders from secure facilities, and the separation of juvenile from adult offenders in secure facilities), the juvenile justice system continues to be much more informal and discretionary than the adult system.

Please note this overview reflects the system's structure in 1991, the year for which data was collected for this study.

The age of the individual at the *time of the offense* determines if the individual will be handled by the juvenile or criminal justice system. When an offender in Connecticut commits an offense prior to his/her 16th birthday, he/she is handled by the juvenile court (i.e., Juvenile Matters\*). An individual can be involved with Juvenile Matters after his/her 16th birthday, as long as the offense in question occurred prior to his/her 16th birthday.

In most instances, the police represent the front gate through which most juveniles\*\* enter into the juvenile justice system. If a police officer observes an incident or responds to a complaint, the officer has many decisions to make, including: (a) what type of action is appropriate (e.g., giving a simple verbal warning, taking the juvenile to his/her parents, or referring the juvenile to court), (b) should the juvenile be taken into police custody, (c) is secure holding at the police station warranted, and (d) to whom should the juvenile be released (e.g., parent(s) or detention center).

If a decision is made to bring a juvenile to a detention center, a written statement must be provided to the detention staff that outlines the alleged delinquent act(s) and other factors

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\* Juvenile Matters is the component of the Superior Court, Family Division responsible for juvenile delinquency and families with service needs as well as child neglect and abuse proceedings. Juvenile Matters had 14 offices across the state to process juveniles in 1991 (the year under study).

\*\* Connecticut state law defines juveniles under the age of 16 as *children* and juveniles 16 and 17 years old as *youth*. The sections of this report discussing the State of Connecticut refer to those in the juvenile justice system as "juveniles," regardless of their age.

considered by the police in deciding to detain the juvenile. A detention or probation staff member evaluates the statement from the police, the juvenile's family circumstances, his/her prior record, and the seriousness of the alleged offense. Based on his/her evaluation of this information the staff member may decide to release the juvenile to his/her parent(s) or other family member, or place the juvenile in an appropriate facility. A juvenile accused of committing a Serious Juvenile Offense (SJO)\* can only be released by a judge. If the juvenile is not immediately released, a petition referring the juvenile to court must be filed and a Detention Hearing must be held the next business day.

At the Detention Hearing, the judge may release the juvenile to his/her parent(s) or other responsible adult, or order that the juvenile remain in detention. In order to continue detention, the judge must determine that certain criteria are met.\*\* If at the initial Detention Hearing, the judge orders the juvenile to remain in detention, a Detention Hearing is held every 15 days until the juvenile is released.

When a juvenile is referred to court, the written complaint is received by a probation officer at the Juvenile Matters office to which the juvenile was referred.\*\*\* The supervising probation officer or state's advocate\*\*\*\* within the Juvenile Matters office uses specific criteria and guidelines to determine if the case should be handled non-judicially or judicially.

Non-judicial cases include those cases where the juvenile admits to a minor offense. When a case is handled non-judicially there is no involvement by the judge. The outcome options include dismissal, discharge with a warning and non-judicial supervision. Non-judicial supervision, the most severe outcome for non-judicial cases, is voluntary, cannot exceed 90 days, and may include community service and/or restitution.

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\* In 1979, legislation was passed that labeled 41 offenses as Serious Juvenile Offenses (SJO) (e.g., murder, assault, sexual assault, kidnapping, arson, larceny). Juveniles accused of committing an SJO are subject to more stringent court sanctions than are those charged with lesser offenses. A complete list of the SJOs as of 1991 is included in Appendix A.

\*\* To order that the juvenile remain in detention, the judge must determine there is probable cause that the juvenile committed the alleged offense, and that the juvenile meets one of several other criteria (e.g., will likely run away or commit additional offense(s), placement in the juvenile's home is not safe for the juvenile and/or the community, wanted by another jurisdiction, or history of failure to appear in juvenile court).

\*\*\* Each town within the state is assigned to one of the fourteen Juvenile Matters offices within the state. Juveniles are processed by the appropriate office based on their town of residence. Appendix B provides a listing of the towns covered by each office.

\*\*\*\* State's advocates were added to Juvenile Matters staff in 1979 to serve as juvenile prosecutors.

Judicial cases include all cases for certain more serious charges (e.g., Class A, B or C felonies, or sale or intent to sell drugs) and those cases where the juvenile has a certain type of history with the court (e.g., multiple prior non-judicial adjudications, alleged delinquent acts by juveniles under judicial supervision or probation). In addition, judicial cases include all those cases where the juvenile denies the charges.

The state's advocate files a delinquency petition with the court which describes the charges, and a summons is sent to the juvenile and his/her parent(s) to appear at a Judicial Hearing.

The Judicial Hearing has two parts: (a) the adjudicatory hearing, where the judge can dismiss the case, find the juvenile not delinquent, or adjudicate the juvenile as a delinquent, and (b) the dispositional hearing, where the judge determines the disposition of the adjudicated offender (e.g., probation, or placement in a residential facility or Long Lane School, the only state-operated juvenile correctional facility).

If a juvenile is adjudicated during the adjudicatory phase, the judge orders the probation officer to complete a social history (e.g., family background, school performance and attendance, medical history, and psychological testing when warranted). The judge determines the disposition of the case based on recommendations from the probation officer and the juvenile's attorney (or public defender).

For cases that are handled judicially where the juvenile admits to the charges, the adjudicatory and disposition phases are held simultaneously.

Juvenile offenders placed on probation receive services through the Juvenile Matters. A variety of conditions may be imposed by the court, including: school attendance, probation interviews, curfew, counseling or employment. The probation officers monitor compliance with the conditions set by the court, as well as assist juveniles and their families by referring them to appropriate rehabilitative services.

Juvenile offenders determined by the judge to be in need of placement are committed to the State of Connecticut Department of Children and Families (DCF), the state agency responsible for residential placement (private or public) and parole services. The judge can commit the juvenile to direct placement or Long Lane School (includes secure and non-secure beds), and can select from certain options for how long the offender is to be committed to DCF\*. While the judge sets

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\* Juveniles adjudicated for SJOs can be committed for up to four years, and in the most severe cases the judge may order exile for up to 12 months. For juveniles adjudicated for lesser offenses, the maximum commitment in 1991 was two years.

guidelines for the juvenile's initial placement and the length of the commitment, ultimately DCF can exercise its discretion in determining where to place and when to release the juvenile.

It should also be noted that like many states, the State of Connecticut has legislation whereby some violent and repeat juvenile offenders can be transferred to the criminal justice system. In some instances transfer is mandatory based on the offense, while in other instances the transfer is discretionary based on an assessment of the offender's treatment needs\*.

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\* For some offenses, juveniles 14-15 years old must be transferred to criminal court (e.g., murder, charged with second Class A felony) if probable cause is established at the Transfer Hearing. For some clearly defined repeat offender cases involving Class A and B felonies, juveniles 14-15 years old may be transferred to criminal court if probable cause is determined at the Transfer Hearing and the juvenile is found to be not amenable to treatment in any facility for the care and treatment of children, and the juvenile requires a more secure environment or longer term of supervision than the juvenile justice system can provide.

### III. METHODOLOGY

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#### A. RESEARCH DESIGN OVERVIEW

To address the research goals established for this study a multi-phase research design was developed.

Phase One of the study compares Connecticut juvenile justice system data to census data to determine the extent to which minority juveniles 10 to 16 years of age are overrepresented at various stages in the juvenile justice system.

Phase Two consists of analyzing police, court and Department of Children and Families (DCF) data to determine:

- ◆ what, if any, differences exist in decisions made for Black, Hispanic and White juveniles who are processed for similar types of offenses\* as they move through the system; and
- ◆ if observed differences remain when controlling for offender and offense characteristics.

Phase Three consists of one-on-one interviews conducted with Black, Hispanic and White juvenile offenders to explore their experiences with, and perceptions of, the different components of the juvenile justice system.

Phase Four consists of seeking and recording reactions on the part of juvenile justice system practitioners and other interested parties to the findings presented in the report and eliciting their suggestions for ways to address these findings.

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\* Offenders were grouped in five types of offense categories: Serious Juvenile Offenses (SJOs), non-SJO felonies, misdemeanors violations, and status. However, because of the relatively small number of violation and status offenses, the majority of the analyses presented in this report include only SJO, non-SJO felony, and misdemeanor offenses.

## **B. DATA SOURCES, SAMPLING PLAN AND DATA COLLECTION**

### **1. Police Data**

Police data for Phase Two of the study were obtained by OPM staff at the time they conducted their annual audit of approximately one-third of the 93 municipal police departments and 12 state police barracks across the state.

OPM gathered data from 26 municipal police departments and five state police barracks.\* These police departments and barracks were selected by a stratified random selection process to assure: (a) representation across different geographic areas of the state, (b) representation across different size towns and cities, and (c) random selection of departments and barracks within the different size categories.

At each location, a sampling plan was used that called for the number of abstract forms completed to reflect the size of the city or town, and an over-sampling of minority cases to allow for meaningful comparisons to be made across race.

Incident reports included in the sample were randomly selected from all incident reports for Fiscal Year 1991-92. In some of the police departments the number of incident reports for Fiscal Year 1991-92 was less than the specified sampling plan (i.e., 10 Black, 10 Hispanic, and 10 White juveniles charged with SJOs). For these departments information was abstracted from all of the incident reports for the specific offense type(s).

The sampling plan for the police data was such that certain size cities/towns were more heavily sampled than others. In order to adjust the data to more accurately represent all of the incident reports that were filed at all of the police departments under study in fiscal year 1991-92, the data were weighted. The weighting procedure used is provided in Appendix C.

A total of 892 abstract forms were completed. Figure 1 displays the number of cases used for the police analysis for Phase Two of the study.

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\* Names of police departments/barracks are not provided as anonymity was promised to enable access to confidential department files.

**Figure 1**

**Police Sample**

	Most Serious Apprehension Charge		
	SJO	Non-SJO Felony	Misdemeanor
<b>Race</b>			
Black	42	64	153
Hispanic	28	62	130
White	22	106	285
Total	92	232	568

The abstract form used for gathering police data sought to obtain information on:

- ♦ the offender (race/ethnicity, age, and gender);
- ♦ the type of offense (all statutes and titles);
- ♦ police handling (action on complaint, use of secure holding at the police station, hours held at the police station, where released to, referral to court, offense for which youth was referred to court); and
- ♦ characteristics of the offense (number of offenders, possession of drugs or alcohol, and possession of a weapon)\*.

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\* Additional data were desired (e.g., gang involvement, under the influence of drugs or alcohol, victim data), but were not regularly recorded in the police incident reports.

## 2. Juvenile Matters Data

Data were gathered from Juvenile Matters from two sources: the statewide Judicial Information Systems (JIS) computerized data base and Juvenile Matters case files.

### a. JIS Data

JIS provided Spectrum Associates with data from its computerized data base on all juvenile cases disposed of by the 14 Juvenile Matters offices across the State of Connecticut in calendar year 1991. Our analysis includes 8,709\* cases.

The data provided by JIS included demographic information on the juvenile, information about the "target offense,"\*\* his/her court history, and use and length of detention for the target offense.

As the court records within JIS are in a hierarchical-based system, extensive programming was needed to extract the desired information into a useful format for analysis purposes. JIS staff wrote code to transform the hierarchical data into a fixed text format.

Upon receipt of the data, Spectrum Associates verified the precision of the programming by manually evaluating complete case histories of individual juveniles within the system and comparing it to the information provided in the data file.

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\* Although there were 9,122 cases identified by JIS as having been disposed in calendar year 1991, Spectrum Associates eliminated 413 cases from the data file for the analysis. Cases were excluded because: (a) the age of the youth was over 17 years old, raising concern that a sibling's case was recorded under the wrong juvenile identification number; (b) some youth were found to have multiple identification numbers, typically across different Juvenile Matters offices, making it impossible to accurately compile the youth's activity within the system; and (c) the most serious charge for which the youth was referred to court was only an infraction.

\*\* The target offense is the last disposed charge in calendar year 1991. When there were multiple charges disposed on that date, the most serious offense is used.

## **b. Supplemental Data**

To supplement the statewide data with additional information on the juvenile, his/her family and the offense, Spectrum Associates collected data from the case files at the 14 Juvenile Matters offices.

The sampling plan called for abstracting information for all juveniles included in the JIS data base with SJO (665 juveniles) or non-SJO felony (1,673 juveniles) target offenses and a sample of 1,500 (of 4,746) juveniles with misdemeanor target offenses, for a total of 3,838 juveniles. Ultimately, the data collectors were able to abstract information for a total of 3,286 juveniles.\*

The information gathered included:

- ◆ the charges recorded on the Police Referral Summary for the target offense;
- ◆ additional offense information (e.g., gang related, number of offenders, possession or influence of drugs or alcohol, possession and type of weapon);
- ◆ victim information;
- ◆ offender and family information (e.g., any school problems, mental health information, parents at home, number of siblings);
- ◆ the Probation Officer's dispositional recommendation; and
- ◆ type of attorney representation and payment of adjudication fees.

## **3. DCF Data**

Spectrum Associates sought to abstract data for all juveniles discharged from DCF in Fiscal Year 1991-92. Our analysis includes 472 cases.\*\* These data were abstracted from case files stored at Long Lane School.

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\* Most of the 552 cases not included in the study were: juveniles for which case files at the Juvenile Matters offices were not available (e.g., active files that could not be located during the data collection time period, or file was officially erased) and case files that did not include information for the case under study.

\*\* There were 524 juveniles discharged by DCF in FY 1991-92, but 52 files were unavailable or were missing key data elements.

Information gathered included:

- ◆ all placements for the commitment to DCF that expired in FY 1991-92;
- ◆ length of each placement;
- ◆ the reason for the commitment (statutes); and
- ◆ client demographic and family characteristics, and some court history information.

#### **4. Client Interviews**

A sample of juveniles placed at Long Lane School were interviewed to explore whether juvenile offenders believe that the juvenile justice system processes minority offenders different from White offenders. Prior to conducting the interviews, DCF obtained consent from both the respondent and his/her parent(s).

A total of 30 interviews were conducted; 10 each with Black, Hispanic and White DCF clients at Long Lane School. Within race, one-half of the interviews were conducted with males and one-half with females. To encourage candid responses, respondents were interviewed: (a) one-on-one in a setting that assured privacy, and (b) by an interviewer of the same race.

All interviews were conducted from October 16-21, 1993. The interview form included open and closed-ended questions, and each interview took 30-45 minutes to complete.

The interview guide included questions on the police, court and Long Lane School.

#### **5. Public Forums**

OPM sponsored six forums across the State of Connecticut\* to:

- ◆ share the results of Spectrum Associates' study of minority overrepresentation in Connecticut's juvenile justice system; and
- ◆ elicit practitioner and citizen input on: (a) factors that may have precipitated these findings, and (b) actions that they would recommend to solve the problems revealed by the study's findings.

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\* Forums were conducted during the day in East Hartford, Norwich, Wallingford, and Waterbury, and in the evening in Bridgeport and Hartford.

After listening to a presentation on the results of the study, forum participants took part in roundtable discussions where they brainstormed the causes of and solutions to disparate handling of minority juvenile offenders. Each roundtable focused on one component of the juvenile justice system (i.e., police, court, or corrections). The participants were assigned to roundtables based on the preference they indicated at registration. Group leaders, selected by the roundtable participants, were then asked to present to all forum participants the lists of causes and solutions identified by their group.

## **IV. EXTENT OF MINORITY OVERREPRESENTATION IN CONNECTICUT**

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This section of the report examines the extent to which Black and Hispanic juveniles 10-16 years of age are overrepresented in the juvenile justice system across the state of Connecticut. Data are presented: (a) in aggregate across the State, (b) by size of city/town, and (c) by Juvenile Matters office.

### **A. STATEWIDE OVERREPRESENTATION**

Figure 2 (see page 21) uses data obtained from JIS' computerized statewide data base (calendar year 1991) to display the number and percentage of Black, Hispanic and White juveniles: (1) referred to Juvenile Matters, (2) placed in detention, and (3) placed in Long Lane School. These data are compared to 1990 census data for 10-16 year olds, and a Disproportionate Representation Index (DRI) is provided for each race at the three decision-making points to display the extent to which 10-16 years olds of that race are over or underrepresented compared to their presence in the at risk population\*.

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\* The term DRI was developed by the Oregon Community Children & Youth Services Commission (1993) and it is a comparison, in percentage terms, of the proportion of a specific race/ethnic group processed at a specific point in the juvenile justice system compared to the proportion of this group in the youth population at risk. For example, if 10% of the 10-16 year old population is Black and they account for 30% of arrests, the DRI would have a value of 3.0 (30% divided by 10%), indicating that Black youth are 3.0 times more likely to be arrested as would be suggested by their numbers in the at risk population.

**Figure 2**  
**Extent Of Overrepresentation Of Minorities In The Connecticut Juvenile Justice System (Statewide)**

	Connecticut Population 10-16 Year Olds (1990)*		Decision Points								
	Percent	Count	Youth Referred to Juvenile Matters for Instant Offense** (1991)		Youth Placed in Detention for Instant Offense** (1991)		Youth Placed in Long Lane School for Instant Offense** (1991)				
			DRI+	Percent	Count	DRI+	Percent	Count	DRI+	Percent	Count
Asian	1.95%	5,305	.18	.35%	30	.04	0.07%	1	.00	0.00%	0
Black	10.81%	29,378	2.64	28.58%	2,456	4.26	46.04%	628	4.31	46.59%	82
Hispanic++	10.23%	27,802	1.96	20.07%	1,725	3.05	31.23%	426	3.00	30.68%	54
White	76.59%	208,219	.66	50.74%	4,361	.30	22.66%	309	.30	22.73%	40
Other	.42%	1,155	.62	.26%	22	.00	0.00%	0	.00	0.00%	0
Total	100.00%	271,859	-	100.00%	8,594	-	100.00%	1,364	-	100.00%	176

\* Based on 1990 census data.

\*\* Includes all cases used for the study disposed in 1991 that had petitions filed for Felony, Misdemeanor, Violation, or Status charges.

+ The Disproportionate Representation Index (DRI) is a comparison of the proportion of a specific race at a specific point in the juvenile justice system compared to the proportion of this group in the 10-16 year old population. If the DRI is equal to one, the representation of youth of that race at that decision point is what would be expected based on the census data. If the DRI is less than one, there is underrepresentation and if the DRI is greater than one there is overrepresentation.

++ For the census data, Hispanic youth were recorded as Asian, Black, White or other race and of Hispanic origin. In order to make comparisons to the juvenile justice system's race data, Spectrum Associates computed the number of youth within each race that were of Hispanic origin and designated "Hispanic" as a race.

As shown in Figure 2:

- ◆ Black and Hispanic juveniles are clearly overrepresented at each of the three court decision points, and the extent of that overrepresentation increases as juveniles move from court referral to confinement (i.e., detention and Long Lane School).
- ◆ While overrepresentation is sizeable for both Black and Hispanic juveniles, it is considerably greater for Black juveniles.
- ◆ Although White juveniles account for over three-fourths (76.59%) of the State's 10-16 year old population, they account for only one-half (50.74%) of the juveniles referred to court, and less than one-fourth of the juveniles placed in detention (22.66%) or in Long Lane School (22.73%). As such, their court referral DRI is only .66 and their detention and Long Lane School placement DRIs are only .30.
- ◆ At the furthest point in the system (placement in Long Lane School), Black juveniles have a DRI of 4.31 and Hispanic juveniles a DRI of 3.00.

## **B. OVERREPRESENTATION BY SIZE OF CITY/TOWN**

Figures 3-6 break out the data presented in Figure 2 by size of city or town\* (e.g., large cities, small cities, large towns, and small towns). While these tables provide the opportunity to examine overrepresentation for different size communities, we caution the reader to be careful in making comparisons across the tables due to the great variation in the percentage of Black, Hispanic and White juveniles residing in each location. Any attempts to make comparisons should look at changes in the percentage, and not solely the DRI.\*\*

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\* For purposes of this study the following size definitions were used: large city more than 120,000 residents, small city 50,000 - 120,000 residents, large town 25,000 - 49,999 residents, and small town less than 25,000 residents.

\*\* For example, a community where 2% of the population and 6% of the youth referred to court were Black would have a DRI of 3.0, while a community where 30% of the population and 60% of the youth referred to court were Black would have a DRI of 2.0. It is arguable as to which of these communities has the most overrepresentation of Black juveniles referred to court.

Figures 3-6 (see pages 24-27) reveal that for the most part, the statewide findings hold true when the data are broken out by the different size cities/towns. Specifically, these different tables show that:

- ◆ Black and Hispanic juveniles are overrepresented compared to White juveniles;
- ◆ Black juveniles are overrepresented more than Hispanic juveniles; and
- ◆ the extent of overrepresentation accumulates as juveniles move through the system.

A more detailed look across the different size cities/towns reveals that:

- ◆ In the three large cities, the number of Hispanic juveniles moving through the system is about what one would expect based on the census data. However, the number of Black juveniles is much higher (51 - 59% vs. census data of 41%) and the number of White juveniles much lower (3 - 10% vs. census data of 20%).
- ◆ In the small cities, Blacks account for about one-tenth of 10-16 year olds but almost 30% of the juveniles referred to court, while White juveniles account for almost three-fourths of the juvenile population but less than one-half of those referred to court and about one-third of those placed in detention or Long Lane School.
- ◆ In the large towns, where Black juveniles account for less than 6% of the juvenile population, they account for more than 14% of the juveniles referred to court and about one-fourth (23%) of those juveniles placed in detention and Long Lane School (29%). Overrepresentation also occurs for Hispanic juveniles in these towns, but it is much less than was displayed for Black juveniles.
- ◆ In small towns, similar, but less dramatic, findings are observed as those reported for large towns.

**Figure 3**  
**Extent Of Overrepresentation Of Minorities In The Connecticut Juvenile Justice System**  
**(Large Cities\*)**

	Population 10-16 Year Olds (1990)**		Decision Points								
	Percent	Count	Youth Referred to Juvenile Matters for Instant Offense*** (1991)		Youth Placed in Detention for Instant Offense*** (1991)		Youth Placed in Long Lane School for Instant Offense*** (1991)				
			DRI+	Percent	Count	DRI+	Percent	Count	DRI+	Percent	Count
Asian	1.49%	555	.20	.30%	8	.00	0.00%	0	.00	0.00%	0
Black	40.55%	15,125	1.27	51.62%	1,386	1.38	55.77%	483	1.47	59.60%	59
Hispanic++	37.30%	13,911	1.03	38.25%	1,027	1.03	38.57%	334	1.00	37.37%	37
White	20.05%	7,477	.49	9.80%	263	.28	5.66%	49	.15	3.03%	3
Other	.61%	229	.05	.03%	1	.00	0.00%	0	.00	0.00%	0
Total	100.00%	37,297	-	100.00%	2,685	-	100.00%	866	-	100.00%	99

\* Large cities are defined as having more than 120,000 residents. Based on 1990 census data, there are three large cities: Bridgeport, Hartford, and New Haven.

\*\* Based on 1990 census data.

\*\*\* Includes all cases used for the study disposed in 1991 that had petitions filed for Felony, Misdemeanor, Violation, or Status charges.

+ The Disproportionate Representation Index (DRI) is a comparison of the proportion of a specific race at a specific point in the juvenile justice system compared to the proportion of this group in the 10-16 year old population. If the DRI is equal to one, the representation of youth of that race at that decision point is what would be expected based on the census data. If the DRI is less than one, there is underrepresentation and if the DRI is greater than one there is overrepresentation.

++ For the census data, Hispanic youth were recorded as Asian, Black, White or other race and of Hispanic origin. In order to make comparisons to the juvenile justice system's race data, Spectrum Associates computed the number of youth within each race that were of Hispanic origin and designated "Hispanic" as a race.

**Figure 4**  
**Extent Of Overrepresentation Of Minorities In The Connecticut Juvenile Justice System**  
**(Small Cities\*)**

	Population 10-16 Year Olds (1990)**		Decision Points								
	Percent	Count	Youth Referred to Juvenile Matters for Instant Offense*** (1991)		Youth Placed in Detention for Instant Offense*** (1991)		Youth Placed in Long Lane School for Instant Offense*** (1991)				
			DRI+	Percent	Count	DRI+	Percent	Count	DRI+	Percent	Count
Asian	2.66%	1,853	.17	.44%	11	.00	0.00%	0	.00	0.00%	0
Black	11.88%	8,284	2.45	29.09%	723	3.15	37.46%	103	3.13	37.21%	16
Hispanic++	12.90%	8,999	1.66	21.52%	535	2.11	27.27%	75	2.34	30.23%	13
White	72.03%	50,228	.67	48.47%	1,205	.49	35.27%	97	.45	32.56%	14
Other	.53%	369	.91	.48%	12	.00	0.00%	0	.00	0.00%	0
Total	100.00%	69,733	-	100.00%	2,486	-	100.00%	275	-	100.00%	43

\* Small cities are defined as having 50,000 - 120,000 residents. Based on 1990 census data, there are 14 small cities: Bristol, Danbury, East Hartford, Fairfield, Greenwich, Hamden, Manchester, Meriden, New Britain, Norwalk, Stamford, Waterbury, West Hartford, and West Haven.

\*\* Based on 1990 census data.

\*\*\* Includes all cases used for the study disposed in 1991 that had petitions filed for Felony, Misdemeanor, Violation, or Status charges.

+ The Disproportionate Representation Index (DRI) is a comparison of the proportion of a specific race at a specific point in the juvenile justice system compared to the proportion of this group in the 10-16 year old population. If the DRI is equal to one, the representation of juveniles of that race at that decision point is what would be expected based on the census data. If the DRI is less than one, there is underrepresentation and if the DRI is greater than one there is overrepresentation.

++ For the census data, Hispanic youth were recorded as Asian, Black, White or other race and of Hispanic origin. In order to make comparisons to the juvenile justice system's race data, Spectrum Associates computed the number of youth within each race that were of Hispanic origin and designated "Hispanic" as a race.

**Figure 5**  
**Extent Of Overrepresentation Of Minorities In The Connecticut Juvenile Justice System**  
**(Large Towns\*)**

	Population 10-16 Year Olds (1990)**		Decision Points								
	Percent	Count	Youth Referred to Juvenile Matters for Instant Offense*** (1991)		Youth Placed in Detention for Instant Offense*** (1991)		Youth Placed in Long Lane School for Instant Offense*** (1991)				
			DRI+	Percent	Count	DRI+	Percent	Count	DRI+	Percent	Count
Asian	1.90%	1,099	.23	.43%	7	.39	0.75%	1	.00	0.00%	0
Black	5.84%	3,366	2.47	14.43%	233	3.96	23.13%	31	4.89	28.57%	4
Hispanic++	4.14%	2,386	1.56	6.44%	104	2.16	8.96%	12	3.45	14.29%	2
White	87.73%	50,577	.89	78.51%	1,268	.77	67.16%	90	.65	57.14%	8
Other	.39%	223	.49	.19%	3	.00	0.00%	0	.00	0.00%	0
Total	100.00%	57,651	-	100.00%	1,615	-	100.00%	134	-	100.00%	14

\* Large towns are defined as having 25,000 - 49,999 residents. Based on 1990 census data, there are 21 large towns: Branford, Cheshire, East Haven, Enfield, Glastonbury, Groton, Middletown, Milford, Naugatuck, New London, Newington, Norwich, Shelton, Southington, Stratford, Torrington, Trumbull, Vernon, Wallingford, Wethersfield, and Windsor.

\*\* Based on 1990 census data.

\*\*\* Includes all cases used for the study disposed in 1991 that had petitions filed for Felony, Misdemeanor, Violation, or Status charges.

+ The Disproportionate Representation Index (DRI) is a comparison of the proportion of a specific race at a specific point in the juvenile justice system compared to the proportion of this group in the 10-16 year old population. If the DRI is equal to one, the representation of juveniles of that race at that decision point is what would be expected based on the census data. If the DRI is less than one, there is underrepresentation and if the DRI is greater than one there is overrepresentation.

++ For the census data, Hispanic youth were recorded as Asian, Black, White or other race and of Hispanic origin. In order to make comparisons to the juvenile justice system's race data, Spectrum Associates computed the number of youth within each race that were of Hispanic origin and designated "Hispanic" as a race.

**Figure 6**  
**Extent Of Overrepresentation Of Minorities In The Connecticut Juvenile Justice System**  
**(Small Towns\*)**

	Population 10-16 Year Olds (1990)**		Decision Points							
	Percent	Count	Youth Referred to Juvenile Matters for Instant Offense*** (1991)		Youth Placed in Detention for Instant Offense*** (1991)		Youth Placed in Long Lane School for Instant Offense*** (1991)			
			DRI+	Percent	Count	DRI+	Percent	Count	DRI+	Percent
Asian	1.68%	1,798	.13	.22%	4	.00	0.00%	0	0.00%	0
Black	2.43%	2,603	2.60	6.31%	114	5.09	12.36%	11	15.00%	3
Hispanic++	2.34%	2,506	1.39	3.26%	59	2.40	5.62%	5	10.00%	2
White	93.24%	99,937	.96	89.88%	1,625	.88	82.02%	73	75.00%	15
Other	.31%	334	1.06	.33%	6	.00	0.00%	0	0.00%	0
Total	100.00%	107,178	-	100.00%	1,808	-	100.00%	89	100.00%	20

\* Small towns are defined as having less than 25,000 residents. Based on 1990 census data, there are 131 small towns: Andover, Ansonia, Ashford, Avon, Barkhamsted, Beacon Falls, Berlin, Bethany, Bethel, Bethlehem, Bloomfield, Bolton, Bozrah, Bridgewater, Brookfield, Brooklyn, Burlington, Canaan, Canterbury, Canton, Chaplin, Chester, Clinton, Colchester, Colebrook, Columbia, Cornwall, Coventry, Cromwell, Darien, Deep River, Derby, Durham, East Granby, East Haddam, East Hampton, East Lyme, East Windsor, Eastford, Easton, Ellington, Essex, Farmington, Franklin, Goshen, Granby, Griswold, Guilford, Haddam, Hampton, Hartland, Harwinton, Hebron, Kent, Killingly, Killingworth, Lebanon, Ledyard, Lisbon, Litchfield, Lyme, Madison, Mansfield, Marlborough, Middlebury, Middlefield, Monroe, Montville, Morris, New Canaan, New Fairfield, New Hartford, Newtown, Norfolk, North Branford, North Canaan, North Haven, North Stonington, Old Lyme, Old Saybrook, Orange, Oxford, Plainfield, Plainville, Plymouth, Pomfret, Portland, Preston, Prospect, Putnam, Redding, Ridgefield, Rocky Hill, Roxbury, Salem, Salisbury, Scotland, Seymour, Sharon, Sherman, Simsbury, Somers, South Windsor, Southbury, Sprague, Stafford, Sterling, Stonington, Suffield, Thomaston, Thompson, Tolland, Union, Voluntown, Warren, Washington, Waterford, Watertown, Westbrook, Weston, Westport, Willington, Wilton, Winchester, Windham, Windsor Locks, Wolcott, Woodbridge, Woodbury, and Woodstock.

\*\* Based on 1990 census data.

\*\*\* Includes all cases used for the study disposed in 1991 that had petitions filed for Felony, Misdemeanor, Violation, or Status charges.

+ The Disproportionate Representation Index (DRI) is a comparison of the proportion of a specific race at a specific point in the juvenile justice system compared to the proportion of this group in the 10-16 year old population. If the DRI is equal to one, the representation of juveniles of that race at that decision point is what would be expected based on the census data. If the DRI is less than one, there is underrepresentation and if the DRI is greater than one there is overrepresentation.

++ For the census data, Hispanic youth were recorded as Asian, Black, White or other race and of Hispanic origin. In order to make comparisons to the juvenile justice system's race data, Spectrum Associates computed the number of youth within each race that were of Hispanic origin and designated "Hispanic" as a race.

### C. OVERREPRESENTATION BY JUVENILE MATTERS OFFICE

Data on the overrepresentation of Black and Hispanic juveniles were broken out by the 14 Juvenile Matters offices and are displayed in Appendix D. While these tables allow an assessment of whether differences displayed in the statewide data (Figure 2) hold true for the individual Juvenile Matters offices, we again warn the reader to exercise caution in making comparisons across locations and consider the census data and percentage changes when doing so.

Some of the more interesting findings by Juvenile Matters office are provided below:

- ◆ Overrepresentation of Black and/or Hispanic juveniles occurs at all 14 Juvenile Matters offices, although overrepresentation was found to be much less apparent in the Talcottville office and the Torrington office than in the other 12 Juvenile Matters offices.
- ◆ In the Bridgeport Juvenile Matters office, White juveniles account for 61% of the 10-16 year old population. However, White juveniles accounted for only 27% of these referred to court, 10% of those placed in detention and less than 6% of those placed at Long Lane School. In contrast, Black juveniles account for less than 20% of the juvenile population but a much higher percentage of the juveniles referred to court (40%), placed in detention (52%) or placed in Long Lane School (54%). Hispanic juveniles have similar, but not quite as dramatic, overrepresentation figures.
- ◆ In the Danbury office, Black and Hispanic juveniles collectively account for 7% of the juvenile population, but account for 45% of the juveniles placed at Long Lane School.
- ◆ In the Hartford office, Black and Hispanic juveniles account for about one-half (52%) of the juvenile population, but collectively account for 80% of the juveniles referred to court, 91% of the juveniles placed in detention and 100% of the juveniles placed at Long Lane School.
- ◆ In the Meriden office, Hispanic juveniles account for about 12% of the 10-16 year old population, but about 30% of those referred to court and placed in detention.
- ◆ In the Middletown office, Black juveniles account for about 7% of the juvenile population, but almost 20% of those referred to court and 46% of the juveniles placed in detention.

- ◆ In the Montville office, Black juveniles account for less than 6% of the juvenile population, but almost 16% of those referred to court and 36% of the juveniles placed in detention.
- ◆ In the New Haven Juvenile Matters office, Black and Hispanic juveniles account for about one-fourth (28%) of the juvenile population, but collectively account for 63% of the juveniles referred to court, 86% of the juveniles placed in detention and 94% of the juveniles placed at Long Lane School.
- ◆ In the Norwalk office, Black and Hispanic juveniles account for less than one-fifth (18%) of the juvenile population, but collectively account for 54% of the juveniles referred to court, and 90% of the juveniles placed in detention.
- ◆ In the Plainville office, Hispanic juveniles account for about 8% of the 10-16 year old population, but about 25% of those referred to court, 43% of those placed in detention and 48% of those placed at Long Lane School.
- ◆ In the Stamford office, Black juveniles account for about 17% of the juvenile population, but almost one-half (49%) of those referred to court, and over three-fourths (78%) of the juveniles placed in detention.
- ◆ In the Waterbury office, Black juveniles account for less than 10% of the juvenile population, but over one-fourth (27%) of those referred to court, 45% of the juveniles placed in detention, and 57% of those placed in Long Lane School.
- ◆ In the Willimantic office, Hispanic juveniles account for less than 5% of the 10-16 year old population, but about 12% of those referred to court, 27% of those placed in detention and 100% of those placed at Long Lane School.

## **D. SUMMARY OF OVERREPRESENTATION DATA**

Data presented in this section of the report reveal that:

- ◆ Black and Hispanic juveniles are clearly overrepresented in the juvenile justice system across the State of Connecticut.
- ◆ Overrepresentation occurs at referral to court, placement in detention and placement at Long Lane School.
- ◆ While overrepresentation is sizeable for Hispanic juveniles, it is considerably greater for Black juveniles.
- ◆ For the most part, statewide findings hold true for different size communities. However, we also found that Hispanic juveniles in large cities move through the system as would be expected based on census data.
- ◆ A comparison across Juvenile Matters offices revealed considerable overrepresentation at 12 of the 14 offices.

## V. SYSTEM PROCESSING OF JUVENILE OFFENDERS

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The preceding section of the report revealed that Black and Hispanic juveniles are, in fact, greatly overrepresented in the juvenile justice system across the State of Connecticut. This leads to three important questions:

- ◆ Are minority juveniles handled differently than White juveniles at various decision points in the juvenile justice system?
- ◆ Do observed differences in system handling across race/ethnicity remain when controlling for legal and social variables?
- ◆ Do differences that exist in the statewide data occur in some locations and not in others?

This section of the report examines decision-making for three separate components of the juvenile justice system: (a) the police, (b) Juvenile Matters, and (c) the Department of Children & Families (DCF).

For each component, data are first presented that display system processing decisions broken out by: (a) type of offense (e.g., SJOs, non-SJO felonies, and misdemeanors), and (b) within offense type, by race/ethnicity (i.e., Black, Hispanic, and White). These tables and charts depict the extent to which there are different decisions being made by police, court, and DCF for Black, Hispanic and White juveniles who are charged with similar types of offenses.

Decisions were then analyzed to determine if observed differences attributed to race/ethnicity remain when controlling for socio-demographic factors, additional offense characteristics, and the offender's juvenile justice history. To this end, Logistic Regression (dichotomous variables) and Multiple Linear Regression (continuous measure variables such as detention time) analyses were used. These multi-variable statistical techniques allow the researcher to estimate the odds that an event will or will not occur for a combination of independent or predictor variables. This type of analysis is particularly useful as it allows the researcher to determine the influence of each predictor (e.g., age, gender, most serious prior offense) on the dependent variable, and also examine the predictors' effects as a set of variables (i.e., a model). For a more detailed discussion of the statistical procedures for these analyses see Appendix E.

## A. POLICE DECISION-MAKING

As discussed in detail previously, police data presented in this section of the report were gathered by OPM from Fiscal Year 1991-92 case files on 892 juveniles at 26 municipal police departments and five state police barracks. Across the state data were gathered on: 92 juveniles apprehended for SJOs, 232 juveniles apprehended for non-SJO felonies, and 568 juveniles apprehended for misdemeanors. Data were gathered and are presented on four key police decisions:

- ◆ Did the police refer the juvenile to court or take less formal action?
- ◆ How many hours was the juvenile held in a police station?
- ◆ Was the juvenile placed in secure holding while at the police station?
- ◆ Was the juvenile placed in detention or released by the police to his/her family?

When disparities were observed, Logistic Regression and Multiple Linear Regression were used to determine whether the impact of race/ethnicity on police decisions within offense type remains when controlling for social and additional legal factors.

The factors included in this analysis were as follows.

<u>Socio-demographic</u>	<u>Incident Characteristics</u>	<u>Jurisdiction</u>
Age	Number of Offenders	Presence of a Juvenile
Gender	Possession of Alcohol	Review Board
Race/Ethnicity	Possession of Drugs	Size of City/Town
	Possession of Weapon	
	Secure Holding at Station	

For a detailed description of the predictor variables see Appendix F.

## 1. Police Action on Apprehension

Figures 7 and 8 (see page 34) display police action taken for Black, Hispanic and White juveniles charged with SJOs, non-SJO felonies, and misdemeanors. Figure 7 shows data for the 17 departments and the five state barracks that do not have Juvenile Review Boards (JRBs) as an option for the police. This table displays cases that are: referred to court, referred to a community agency, or released with a warning (includes juveniles who were and were not brought to the police station). Figure 8 presents data for the nine police departments included in the study that have JRBs as an option.

As shown in Figures 7 and 8:

- ◆ The percentage of juveniles referred to court decreased as the severity of the alleged offense decreased.
- ◆ Not having a JRB increased the likelihood that a juvenile would be referred to court.
- ◆ For departments without JRBs, White juveniles charged with misdemeanors were significantly more likely than Black and Hispanic juveniles to be referred to court and less likely to be released with a warning.
- ◆ No significant differences were found across race in those departments that had a JRB.

**Figure 7**  
**Police Action By Offense Type And Race**  
**(For Communities without Juvenile Review Boards)**

	Most Serious Charge at Apprehension								
	Serious Juvenile Offense			Non-SJO Felony			Misdemeanor		
	Black	Hisp.	White	Black	Hisp.	White	Black	Hisp.	White
<b>Police Action</b>									
Referred to Juvenile Matters.....	100%	100%	100%	96%	85%	96%	75%	69%	83%
Referred to Community Agency.	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	2%	0%	0%
Warning*.....	0%	0%	0%	4%	15%	3%	24%	31%	17%
Total..... (Base).....	100% (31)	100% (21)	100% (12)	100% (47)	100% (44)	100% (70)	100% (107)	100% (85)	100% (215)

\* Includes: speaking with juveniles and parents, bringing juveniles to the station and warning them, and conferences with juveniles, parents and others.

**Figure 8**  
**Police Action By Offense Type And Race**  
**(For Communities with Juvenile Review Boards)**

	Most Serious Charge at Apprehension								
	Serious Juvenile Offense			Non-SJO Felony			Misdemeanor		
	Black	Hisp.	White	Black	Hisp.	White	Black	Hisp.	White
<b>Police Action</b>									
Referred to Juvenile Matters.....	92%	74%	100%	85%	80%	71%	41%	58%	51%
Referred to Community Agency.	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Referred to JRB.....	8%	26%	0%	15%	20%	23%	55%	37%	42%
Warning*.....	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	6%	4%	5%	7%
Total..... (Base).....	100% (11)	100% (7)	100% (9)	100% (17)	100% (18)	100% (36)	100% (46)	100% (45)	100% (70)

\* Includes: speaking with juveniles and parents, bringing juveniles to the station and warning them, and conferences with juveniles, parents and others.

Subsequent analyses\* were conducted to determine if other factors could explain the more frequent referral of White juveniles to court for misdemeanor charges by those police departments without JRBs in their jurisdiction. These analyses revealed that:

- ◆ White juveniles charged with misdemeanors remained significantly more likely to be referred to court after controlling for predictor variables.
- ◆ Two factors that were most strongly predictive of court referrals for all juveniles were: (a) age (i.e., the older the juvenile the more likely he/she was to be referred to court), and (b) size of town/city (i.e., juveniles from smaller communities were significantly more likely to be referred to court)\*\*.

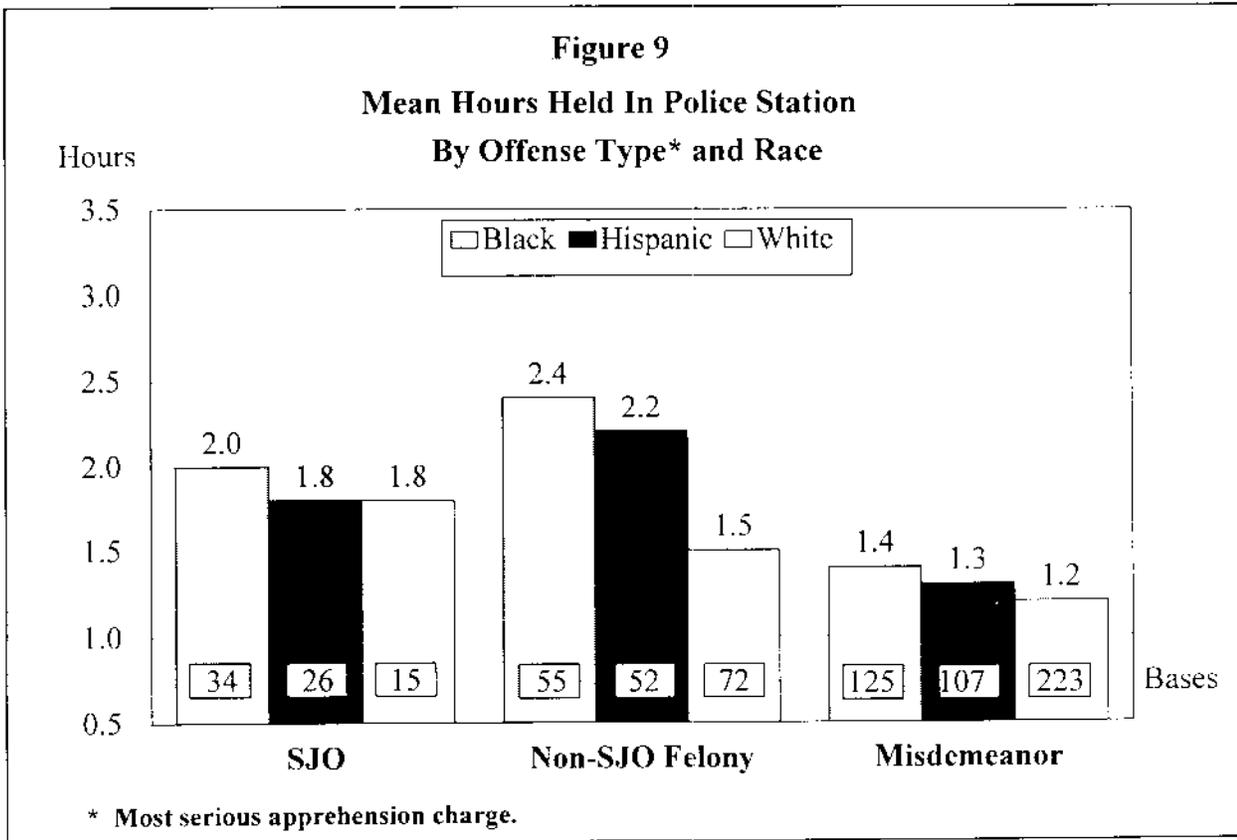
## 2. Hours Held in a Police Facility

Figure 9 displays the mean number of hours juveniles were held in the police station.

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\* For those researchers interested in receiving tables displaying the results of the multivariate analyses conducted for this study, contact the State of Connecticut Office of Policy and Management and request the document entitled *Minority Overrepresentation in Connecticut's Juvenile Justice System, Multivariate Analyses Supplement*.

\*\* This finding appears to result from the fact that about one-half of the police departments in the large and small towns routinely refer all apprehended juveniles to court.



As displayed in Figure 9:

- ◆ Both Black (mean = 2.4 hours) and Hispanic (mean = 2.2 hours) juveniles charged with non-SJO felonies averaged significantly more time in the police station than did White juveniles (mean = 1.5 hours).
- ◆ Statistically significant, but less pronounced, differences were also found when comparing time held for Black vs. White juveniles charged with misdemeanors (e.g., mean of 1.4 vs. 1.2 hours).
- ◆ No statistically significant differences were observed for SJOs, although the data suggest a similar trend.

Subsequent analysis controlling for social and other legal factors revealed that:

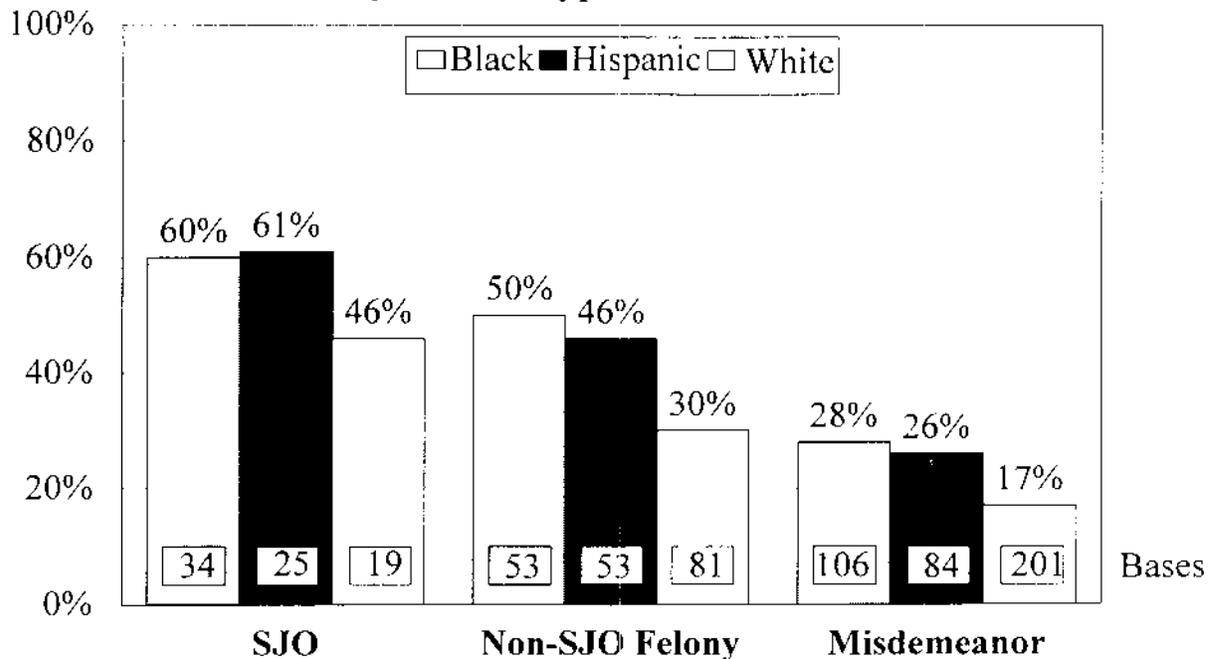
- ◆ Black juveniles charged with non-SJO felonies were held at the police station significantly longer than White juveniles charged with similar types of offenses.

- ◆ Disparities in the hours held in a police station for Hispanic vs. White juveniles charged with non-SJO felonies were neutralized by other predictor variables.
- ◆ For all offense types, the variables having the most significant impact on the length of time spent at the police station were: (a) the juvenile had been placed in secure holding, and (b) the lack of a JRB as an option to the police department.
- ◆ Juveniles charged with SJOs were held in a police station significantly longer if the police department was in one of the smaller sized towns.

### **3. Placement in Secure Holding at the Police Station**

Figure 10 displays the percentage of Black, Hispanic and White juveniles who were securely held at the police station.

**Figure 10**  
**Percent of Juveniles Placed In Secure Holding at Police Station**  
**By Offense Type\* and Race**



\* Most serious apprehension charge.

As revealed in Figure 10:

- ◆ For non-SJO felonies and misdemeanors, Black juveniles were significantly more likely to be placed in secure holding than White juveniles.
- ◆ A similar trend appears to exist for Hispanic juveniles across offense types (as well as Black SJOs), but differences were not sufficient for statistical significance.

Further analysis revealed that:

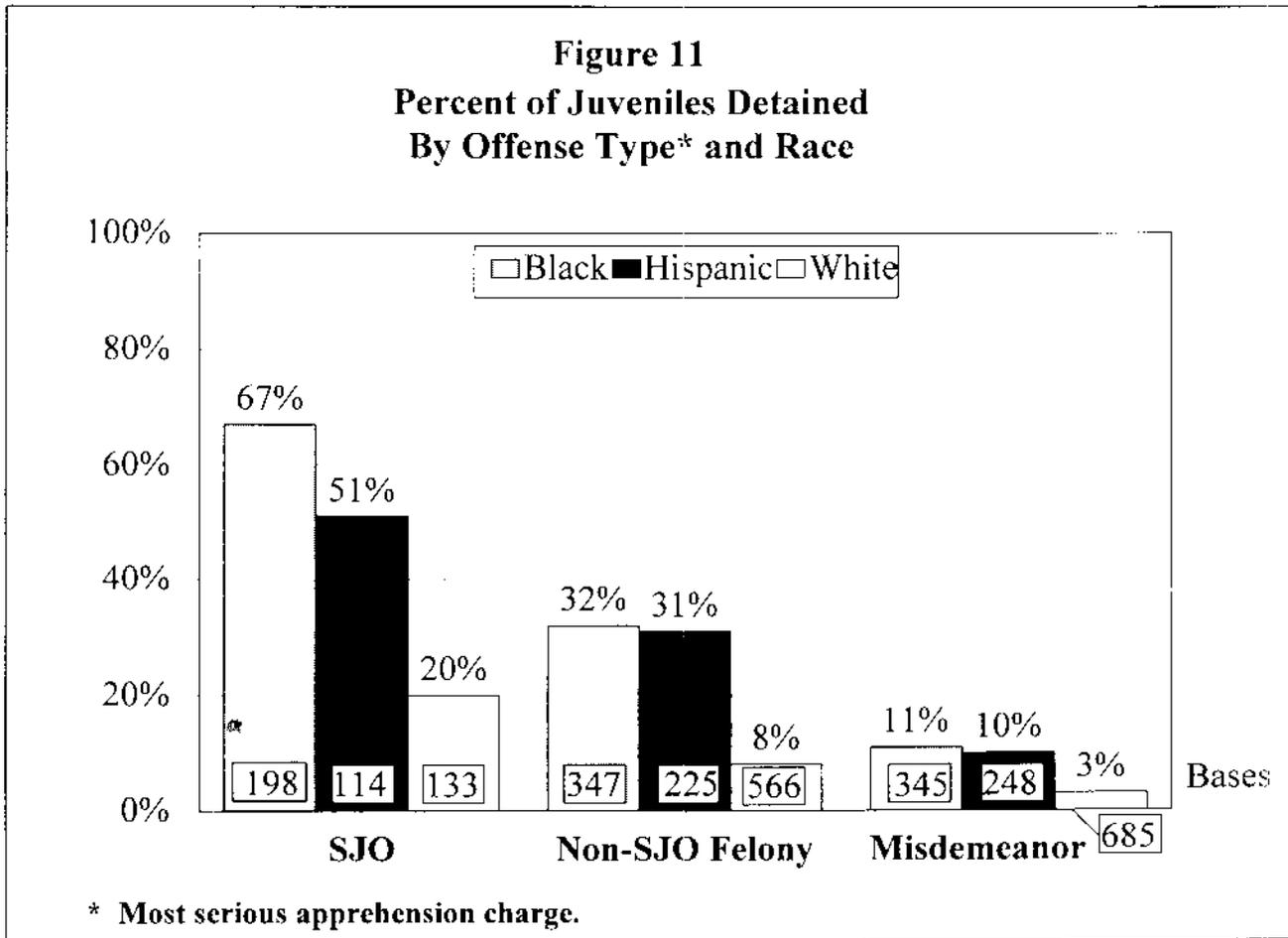
- ◆ The greater use of secure holding for Black vs. White juveniles charged with misdemeanors remains when controlling for predictor variables.
- ◆ Differences for Black juveniles charged with non-SJO felonies were neutralized by control factors.
- ◆ For juveniles charged with non-SJO felonies or misdemeanors, possession of a weapon was by far the strongest predictor of a juvenile being held securely.

- ◆ For Hispanic juveniles charged with misdemeanors, age (i.e., being older) was a significant predictor of being held securely.

#### 4. Where Juvenile is Released to

Data on where the juveniles were released to were obtained from the Judicial Information Systems (JIS) data base for all juveniles disposed in Calendar Year 1991.

Data collected from court files on the police decision to use detention are presented in Figure 11.\*



\* While this data is from the court files rather than police files, the variables used for the Logistic Regression model for this decision point were similar to the ones used for the police files (i.e., race/ethnicity, age, gender, possession of drugs, possession of weapon, and size of city/town).

As revealed in Figure 11:

- ◆ For all types of offenses, Black and Hispanic juveniles were several times more likely than White juveniles to be placed in detention.
- ◆ For all juveniles, the more severe the offense type the greater the likelihood of detention.

Subsequent analysis revealed:

- ◆ Disparities in the use of detention for Black vs. White juvenile offenders remained significant for all offense types after controlling for other predictor variables.
- ◆ The disparities for Hispanic vs. White juveniles remained significant for non-SJO felonies. For SJOs and misdemeanors, race/ethnicity was neutralized by other variables such that it was no longer a statistically significant predictor of detention.
- ◆ The two variables, other than race, that most strongly predict the use of detention were: (a) age (i.e., the older the juvenile the more likely to be placed in detention), and (b) the size of the city/town of residence (i.e., the larger communities are more likely to place a youth in detention)\*.

## 5. Summary of Police Data

Analysis of police data revealed:

- ◆ At several of the police decision-making points (i.e., length of time held at the police station, use of secure holding at the police station, and placement in detention), Black and Hispanic juveniles were found to receive more severe determinations.
- ◆ Some of these differences were neutralized when considering other social, offender and offense characteristics (e.g., possession of a weapon, age, size of city/town, presence of a JRB).

---

\* It is likely that a large contributor to this finding is the fact that all three detention centers are located in the three large cities.

- ◆ Disparities which remained significant after controlling for other predictor variables were:
  - Black juveniles charged with non-SJO felonies were held longer at the police station than White juveniles charged for similar offenses.
  - Black juveniles charged with misdemeanors were placed in secure holding within the police station more often than White juveniles similarly charged.
  - For all types of offenses, Black juveniles were several times more likely than White juveniles to be placed in detention.
  - Hispanic juveniles charged with non-SJO felonies were more likely to be placed in detention than White juveniles charged for similar offenses.
  - In contrast to the above findings, White juveniles charged with misdemeanors were referred to court more often than similarly charged Black and Hispanic juveniles.

## **B. JUVENILE MATTERS DECISION-MAKING**

As discussed previously, Juvenile Matters data were obtained via two sources:

- ◆ Judicial Information Systems (JIS) computerized data (i.e., 8,709 juvenile cases disposed of by the 14 Juvenile Matters offices across the State of Connecticut in Calendar Year 1991).
- ◆ Supplemental offender and offense data abstracted from a random sample of 3,286 juvenile case records across the 14 offices.

Data were obtained to examine whether Black, Hispanic and White juveniles:

- ◆ referred to Juvenile Matters by the police for similar charges received the same severity of petition charges;
- ◆ similarly charged by the court received similar lengths of stay when placed in detention;
- ◆ similarly charged by the court were equally likely to be handled judicially;
- ◆ charged for similar offenses received similar probation officer recommendations;
- ◆ charged for similar delinquent offenses received similar court outcomes at the adjudicatory hearing; and
- ◆ adjudicated delinquent for similar charges received similar dispositions and placements.

In seeking to answer each of these questions, we:

- ◆ tabulated the data by race and offense type for the specific decision-making point for the state in aggregate;
- ◆ broke out the data by Juvenile Matters office to determine if disparities in decision-making were more apparent in some offices than others or were found across all Juvenile Matters offices\*; and

---

\* A complete set of tables displaying the analysis by Juvenile Matters office is provided in Appendix G.

- ◆ conducted Logistic Regression and Multiple Linear Regression analyses to determine if disparities exist when controlling for social factors (e.g., age, gender, family status, mental health, school problems, poverty) and other legal variables (e.g., offense characteristics, and court history).

Variables used for the regression analyses are listed below.

<u>Socio-demographic</u>	<u>Incident Characteristics</u>	<u>Court History</u>
Age	Detention	Level of Prior Court Involvement
Family Status	Possession of Drugs	Prior Most Serious Charge
Gender	Possession of Weapon	
Mental Health Indicators		
Number of Siblings		
Poverty Indicator		
Race/Ethnicity		
School Problems		

A detailed description of the predictor variables is provided in Appendix II.

This section of the report provides a complete set of tables and charts displaying Juvenile Matters decisions broken out by offense type and, within offense type, by race/ethnicity. It should be noted that analysis of the JIS data base does not include tests of significance because the study includes all cases disposed of by Juvenile Matters in 1991 rather than a sample making such tests unnecessary.

## 1. Petition Charges

Spectrum Associates compared the most serious police referral offense to the most serious petition charge to determine if differences exist in how state's advocates (juvenile prosecutors) charge Black, Hispanic and White juveniles referred to the court by the police. These data are presented in Figure 12.

**Figure 12**  
**Most Serious Petition Charge By Offense Type And Race**

	Most Serious Police Referral Offense								
	Serious Juvenile Offense			Non-SJO Felony			Misdemeanor		
	Black	Hisp.	White	Black	Hisp.	White	Black	Hisp.	White
<b>Most Serious Petition Charge</b>									
SJO.....	100%	100%	100%	0%	0%	0%	2%	1%	0%
Non-SJO Felony.....	0%	0%	0%	96%	98%	97%	3%	2%	4%
Misdemeanor.....	0%	0%	0%	4%	2%	3%	95%	96%	96%
Total.....	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
(Base).....	(195)	(116)	(117)	(364)	(233)	(591)	(348)	(250)	(686)

As shown in Figure 12:

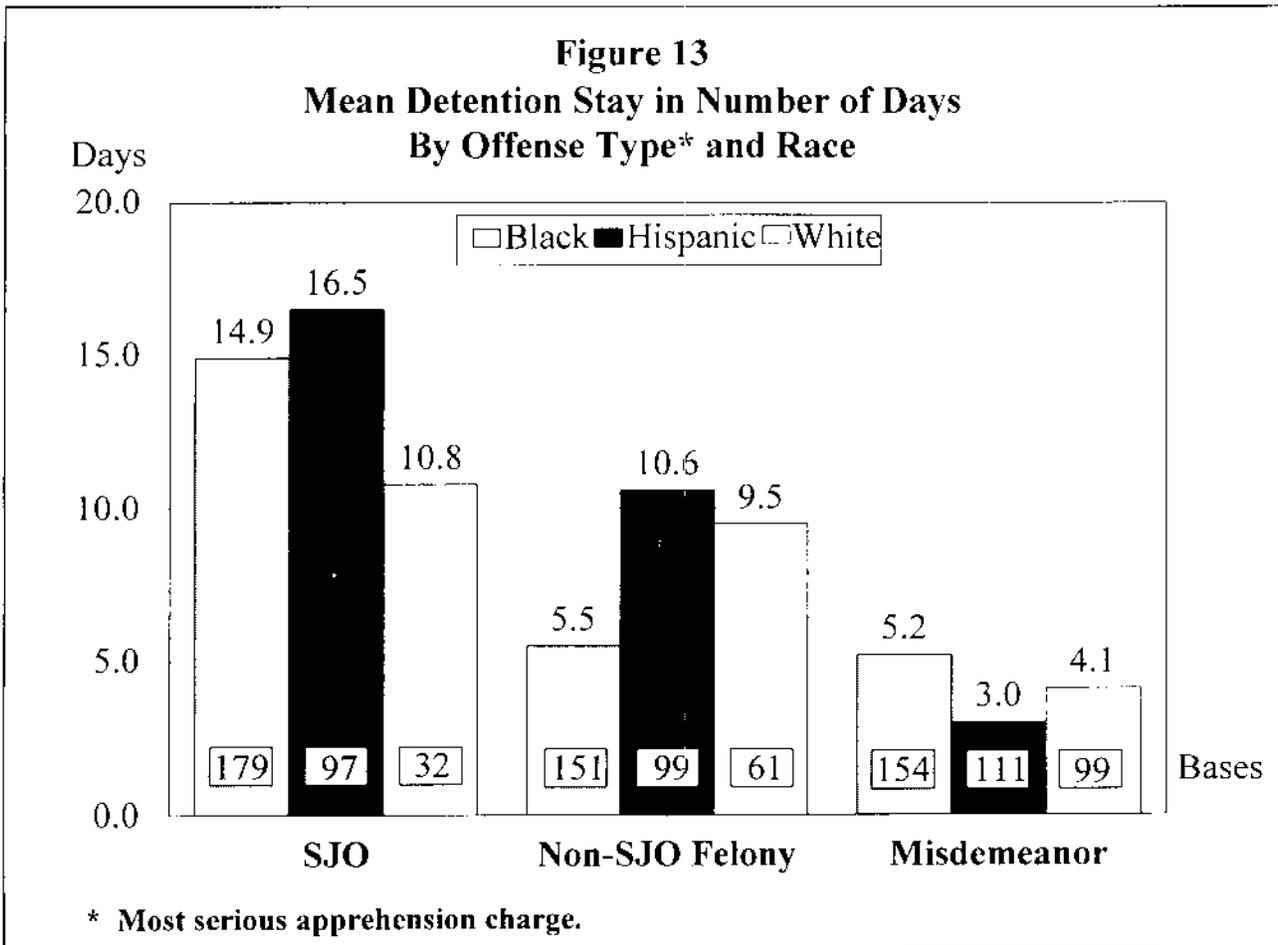
- ◆ The severity of the petition charge (SJO, non-SJO felony, or misdemeanor) matches with the police referral offense 100% of the time for SJOs and almost all of the time for non-SJO felonies and misdemeanors.
- ◆ There were no differences across race/ethnicity\*.

\* Due to the strong correlation between police referral charge and petition charge multivariate analyses were not conducted.

## 2. Length of Detention

### Statewide Data

Data were gathered on length of detention from JIS computerized statewide data on 983 juveniles placed in detention for their target offense\*. Figure 13 breaks out these data by race/ethnicity and the type of petition charge.



\* The 983 juveniles for whom detention information is used for this analysis include only those juveniles who: (a) were detained for violation of a particular statute (e.g., did not use "Take Into Custody" detentions as these are decisions that originate with the court, not the police); and (b) were admitted into a detention center just prior to or the same day as referral to court for the target offense.

Figure 13 reveals the following:

- ◆ Both Hispanic SJOs (5.7 additional days, 53% longer stay) and Black SJOs (4.1 additional days, 38% longer stay) spent considerably longer time in detention than White SJOs.
- ◆ For non-SJO felonies, Black juveniles spent less time in detention than Hispanic or White juveniles.

Subsequent analysis on the relationship between race/ethnicity and length of detention for juveniles charged with SJOs and non-SJO felonies indicate that:

- ◆ Predictor variables\* do not neutralize the effect of race/ethnicity displayed above.

#### *By Juvenile Matters Office*

A break out of detention stays by Juvenile Matters office revealed that Statewide differences observed in mean detention stays for Hispanic, Black and White juveniles charged with SJOs are largely the result of:

- ◆ the longer detention stays of minority juveniles in the Bridgeport office (Black, 18.0 days, Hispanic, 9.5 days, and White 5.5 days) and New Haven office (Black, 11.3 days, Hispanic, 8.2 days, and White 1.8 days); and
- ◆ the large number of Black and Hispanic juveniles charged with SJOs in the Hartford office where all juveniles so charged received detention stays of 13 to 14 days.

### **3. Court Handling**

In Connecticut, a state's advocate determines whether a juvenile referred to court is to be handled judicially or non-judicially based on court guidelines. Judicial cases include all cases for certain serious charges or when the juvenile denies the charges. To be handled non-judicially the juvenile must admit to the charges. The state's advocate files a delinquency petition which describes the formal charges.

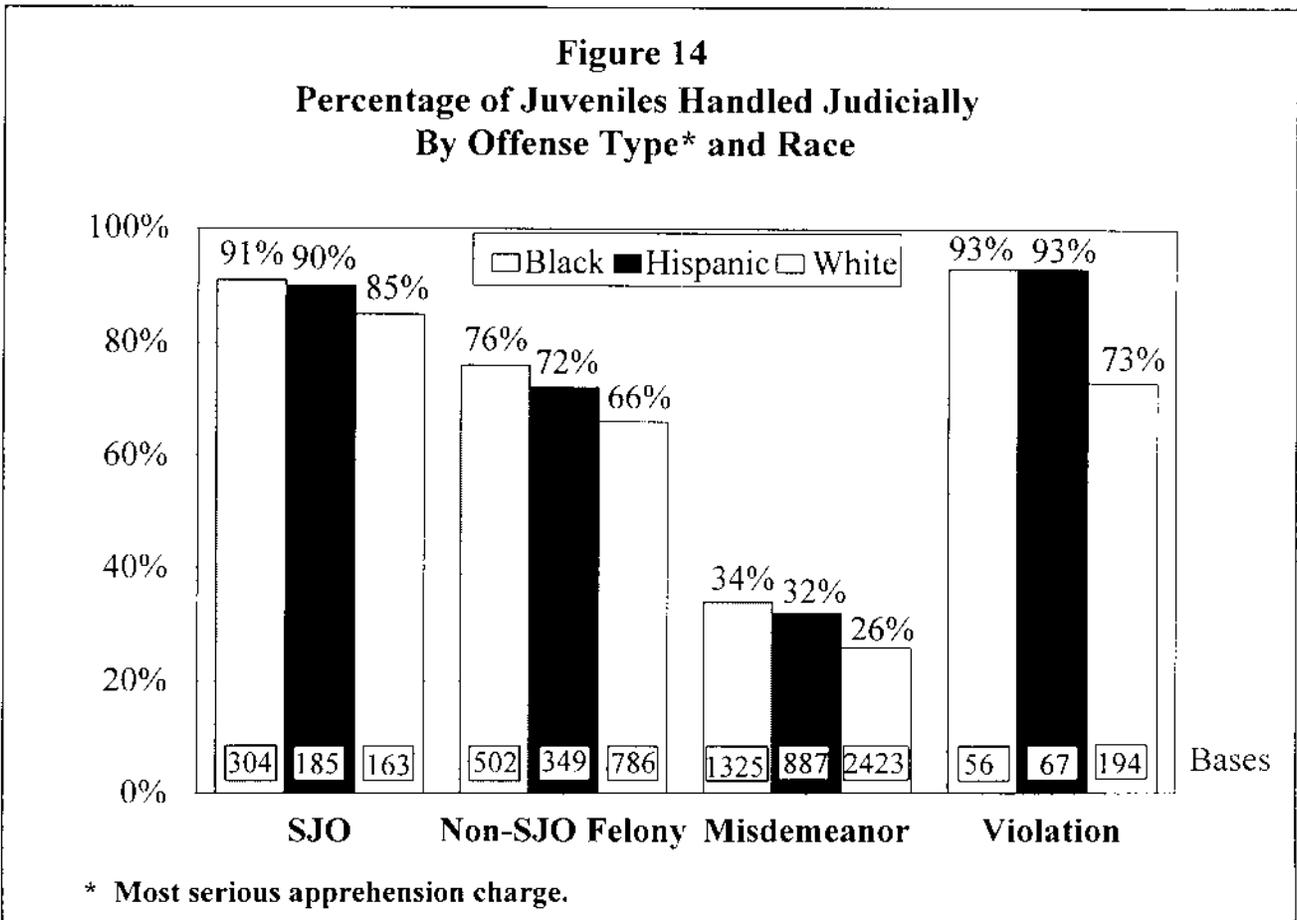
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\* As the information used for the poverty indicator predictor variable (e.g., use of a public defender or waiving of adjudication fees) is not applicable for cases that are handled non-judicially, this predictor variable was not included in this analysis because it would bias the outcome of the model.

**a. Delinquency Cases**

*Statewide Data*

Figure 14 presents statewide data on court handling of delinquency cases broken out by offense type and race.



As shown in Figure 14:

- ◆ For violations, 93% of the Black and Hispanic juveniles and 73% of the White juveniles were handled judicially.
- ◆ For non-SJO felonies Black juveniles (76%) were considerably more likely to be handled judicially than White juveniles (66%).

When examining the relationships shown in Figure 14 for predictor variables\*, we found:

- ◆ For violations\*\*, differences attributed to race/ethnicity were neutralized by the predictor variables, and the juvenile's level of prior court involvement was the only significant predictor for being handled judicially.
- ◆ For Black vs. White juveniles charged with non-SJO felonies, the impact of race on handling decisions remained as Black juveniles were significantly more likely to be handled judicially. However, there were four other predictor variables that showed a stronger prediction value than race: being older, having a history of school problems, having a history of mental health problems, and having more serious prior charges.

*By Juvenile Matters Office*

A look at the handling decision by Juvenile Matters office revealed that:

- ◆ Disparities in the judicial vs. non-judicial court handling decision of delinquency cases displayed in the aggregate statewide data resulted from small but consistent differences in many Juvenile Matters offices, most notably: Bridgeport, Hartford, New Haven, Plainville, and Waterbury.

**b. Families with Service Needs (FWSN) Cases**

*Statewide Data*

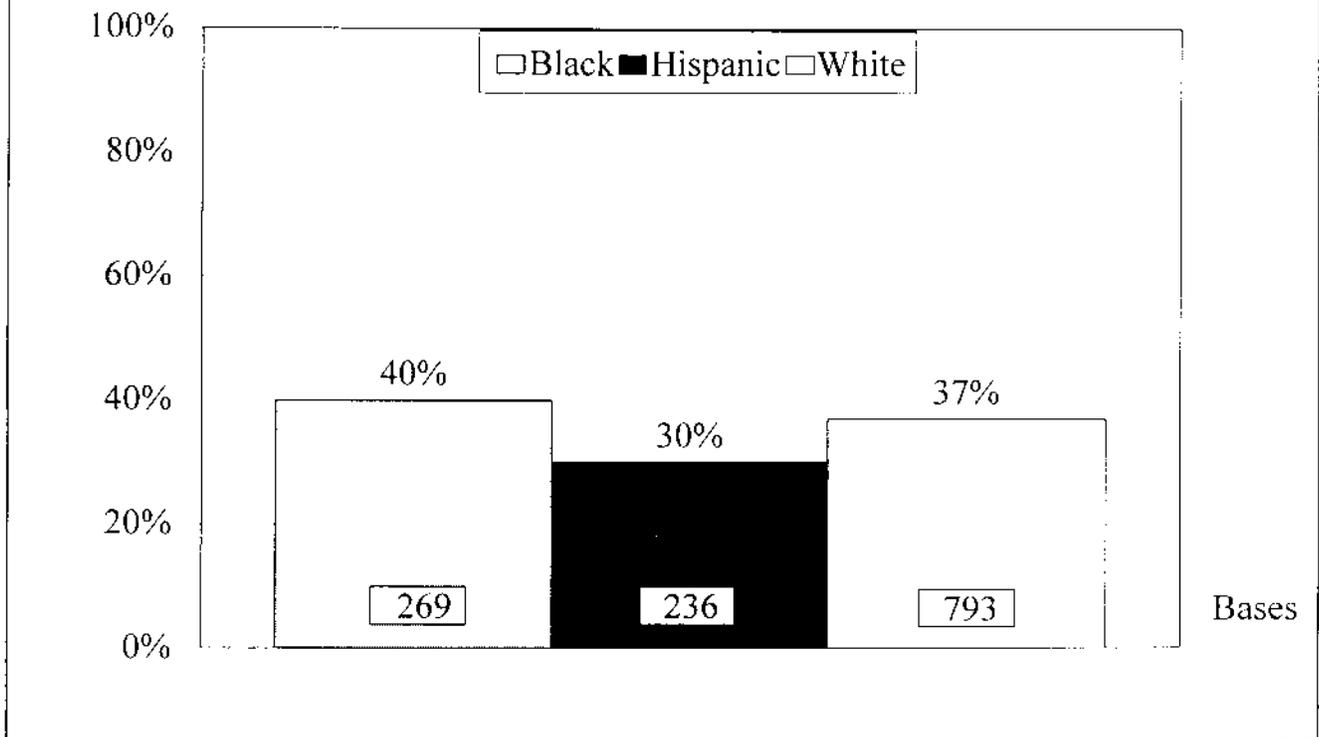
Figure 15 displays court handling of FWSN cases or status offenses -- running away, being beyond parental control, being truant, and violating school rules and regulations.

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\* As the information used for the poverty indicator predictor variable (e.g., use of a public defender or waiving of adjudication fees) is not applicable for cases that are handled non-judicially, this predictor variable was not included in this analysis because it would bias the outcome of the model.

\*\* The predictor variables used for juveniles charged with violations were more limited than other juveniles as data were not collected from the Juvenile Matters' case files for these juveniles. Therefore, the only predictor variables used were: race/ethnicity, age, gender, prior most serious charge, and level of prior court involvement.

**Figure 15**  
**Percent of FWSN Cases Handled Judicially**  
**By Race**



As shown in Figure 15:

- ◆ Black (40%) and White (37%) FWSN children were almost equally likely to be handled judicially, while Hispanic FWSN children (30%) were slightly less likely to be processed judicially.

Further analysis of the data in Figure 15 revealed:

- ◆ For a juvenile charged with as a FWSN child\*, race was not found to be a significant predictor variable.
- ◆ The most significant predictor impacting this decision for FWSN children was the juvenile's level of prior involvement with the court.

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\* The predictor variables used for juveniles charged as FWSN children were more limited than for other juveniles as data were not collected from the Juvenile Matters' case files for these juveniles. Therefore, the only variables used were: race/ethnicity, age, gender, prior most serious charge, and level of prior court involvement.

- ♦ The age of the juvenile (i.e., older) was also found to be a significant predictor when contrasting differences in handling decisions for Black vs. White FWSN children.

*By Juvenile Matters Office*

A breakout of the findings by Juvenile Matters office revealed that:

- ♦ Although statewide data show Hispanic juveniles as less likely to be processed judicially, a look across Juvenile Matters offices revealed that the only offices with a sizeable number of Hispanic juveniles where this occurred were: Meriden, New Haven and Waterbury.

#### 4. Probation Officer Recommendation

Figure 16 displays the probation officer's recommendation for disposition by offense type and race.

**Figure 16**

**Probation Officer Recommendation  
By Offense Type And Race**

	Most Serious Petition Charge								
	Serious Juvenile Offense			Non-SJO Felony			Misdemeanor		
	Black	Hisp.	White	Black	Hisp.	White	Black	Hisp.	White
<b>P.O. Disposition Recommendation</b>									
DCF Placement.....	31%	26%	20%	17%	13%	6%	1%	4%	3%
Suspended DCF Commitment.....	17%	14%	5%	6%	5%	3%	0%	1%	1%
Probation.....	44%	49%	51%	49%	36%	44%	15%	12%	12%
Non-Court Action....	1%	3%	1%	1%	5%	4%	1%	1%	2%
Dismissed.....	8%	8%	23%	27%	41%	44%	83%	82%	82%
Total..... (Base).....	100% (119)	100% (65)	100% (92)	100% (184)	100% (111)	100% (432)	100% (146)	100% (107)	100% (441)

As revealed in Figure 16:

- ◆ For SJOs, probation officers recommended dismissal for White juveniles (23%) almost three times more often than they did for Black (8%) or Hispanic (8%) juveniles. In addition, probation officers more often recommended DCF placement for Black and, to a lesser extent, Hispanic juveniles charged than they did for White juveniles.
- ◆ For non-SJO felonies, probation officers recommended dismissal for White juveniles (44%) much more often than they did for Black (27%). In addition, probation officers more often recommended DCF placement for Black (17%) and Hispanic (13%) juveniles than they did for White juveniles (6%).

When examining the impact of predictor variables on these relationships we found:

- ◆ The impact of race/ethnicity on probation officer recommendations to dismiss/not dismiss or place/not place in DCF was neutralized by the predictor variables.
- ◆ Factors that were found most often to significantly predict probation officer placement and dismissal recommendations were: age, history of a mental health problem, history of a school problem, severity of prior charge, and level of prior court involvement.

*By Juvenile Matters Office*

A breakout of probation officer recommendations by Juvenile Matters office revealed that:

- ◆ The Juvenile Matters offices where probation officers most frequently recommended dismissing White juveniles charged as SJOs were: Hartford (55%, 5 of 11), Talcottville (50%, 3 of 6), Torrington (50%, 3 of 6), Waterbury (33%, 2 of 6) and Willimantic (27%, 3 of 11).

## **5. Court Outcome for Judicial Cases**

### **a. Delinquency Cases**

*Statewide Data*

Figure 17 displays the court outcome for judicial delinquency cases. These data are broken out by offense type and race.

Figure 17

**Court Outcome Of Judicial Delinquency Cases  
By Offense Type And Race**

Court Outcome	Most Serious Petition Charge											
	Serious Juvenile Offense			Non-SJO Felony			Misdemeanor			Violation		
	Black	Hisp.	White	Black	Hisp.	White	Black	Hisp.	White	Black	Hisp.	White
Transferred to Adult Court...	0%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Adjudicated SJO..	31%	34%	17%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Adjudicated Delinquent....	52%	45%	63%	75%	66%	78%	50%	52%	56%	62%	55%	61%
Nolle.....	11%	14%	14%	20%	29%	17%	39%	41%	28%	33%	32%	25%
Not Delinquent...	3%	1%	3%	2%	2%	1%	5%	1%	3%	0%	0%	1%
Dismissed.....	3%	5%	4%	3%	4%	4%	6%	6%	13%	6%	13%	13%
Total.....	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
(Base).....	(277)	(166)	(139)	(381)	(253)	(516)	(448)	(278)	(635)	(52)	(62)	(141)

As shown in Figure 17:

- ◆ While about one-third of the Hispanic (34%) and Black (31%) juveniles charged with SJOs were adjudicated for SJOs, only 17% of the White juveniles charged as SJO were so adjudicated.

For juveniles charged with SJOs, subsequent analyses were conducted that compared SJO adjudication (and transfer) to less severe adjudications (i.e., delinquent adjudication) or other determinations (i.e., nolle, not delinquent, and dismissed). These analyses revealed the following:

- ◆ The direct effects of race/ethnicity were neutralized by the predictor variables, with age (i.e., the older the juvenile) and detention status (i.e., having been detained) found to be significant predictors of SJO adjudication.
- ◆ Since race/ethnicity predicts detention, race/ethnicity has an indirect effect on SJO adjudication. Consequently, when being placed in detention was excluded as a predictor variable, race/ethnicity was found to be a significant predictor of an SJO adjudication.

*By Juvenile Matters Office*

A break out of the statewide data of court outcome for delinquency cases revealed that differences in court outcome for juveniles charged with SJOs across race appear to have resulted from:

- ◆ apparent disparities in adjudicatory decisions in several of the Juvenile Matters offices, (i.e., Bridgeport, Montville, New Haven, and Norwalk); and
- ◆ some locations with few, if any, minorities charged with SJOs but a higher percentage of White juveniles charged with SJOs adjudicated for lesser charges or nolle (i.e., Meriden, Middletown, and Torrington).

**b. Families with Service Needs Cases**

*Statewide Data*

Figure 18 displays court outcome for judicial FWSN cases.

**Figure 18**  
**Court Outcome Of Judicial FWSN Cases By Race**

	Black	Hisp.	White
Commit to DCF*.....	9%	8%	17%
Supervision**.....	35%	44%	41%
Dismissed***.....	56%	47%	42%
Total.....	100%	100%	100%
(Base).....	(106)	(72)	(297)

- \* Includes recommitment to DCF.
- \*\* Includes vocational supervision and supervision with drug testing.
- \*\*\* Because of the way the dismissed cases are recorded, this category includes cases dismissed both with and without adjudication.

As displayed in Figure 18:

- ◆ White juveniles (17%) are the most likely to be committed to DCF as a FWSN child.

When examining the impact of predictor variables\* on this finding we found:

- ◆ Race remained a significant factor as White FWSN children were more likely than Black or Hispanic FWSN children to be committed to DCF.

---

\* The predictor variables used for juveniles charged as FWSN children were more limited than other juveniles as data were not collected from the Juvenile Matters' case files for these juveniles. Therefore, the only variables used were: race/ethnicity, age, gender, prior most serious charge, and level of prior court involvement.

*By Juvenile Matters Office*

A break out of the statewide data of court outcome for FWSN children revealed the following.

- ◆ None of the Juvenile Matters offices displayed clear or sizeable disparities in committing White FWSN children to DCF, but rather the disparity in the statewide data resulted more from the fact that several offices committed a sizeable number and percentage of White juveniles to DCF (e.g., Talcottville, 30%; Plainville, 21%; Danbury, 19%; Willimantic, 19%; Waterbury, 18%) and had very few Black or Hispanic juveniles adjudicated as FWSN on which to take action.

**6. Case Outcome for Non-Judicial Cases**

*Statewide Data*

Figure 19 displays case outcome data for juveniles handled non-judicially for delinquency cases. As SJOs are by law to be handled judicially they are excluded from this table.

**Figure 19**  
**Case Outcome Of Non-Judicial Delinquency Cases**  
**By Offense Type And Race**

	Most Serious Disposed Charge					
	Non-SJO Felony			Misdemeanor		
	Black	Hisp.	White	Black	Hisp.	White
<b>Court Outcome</b>						
Non-Judicial Supervision....	1%	3%	8%	5%	1%	5%
Discharge.....	48%	49%	64%	64%	70%	72%
Not Presented/Dismissed by Court Advocate.....	30%	29%	19%	16%	12%	13%
Not Presented by Supervising Probation Officer.....	21%	19%	9%	15%	17%	10%
Total.....	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
(Base).....	(109)	(79)	(236)	(883)	(618)	1803

As shown in Figure 19:

- ◆ Very few non-judicial cases (non-SJO felonies or misdemeanors) resulted in supervision. However, for non-SJO felonies many more White juveniles (8%) were placed on non-judicial supervision than Hispanic (3%) or Black (1%) juveniles.
- ◆ For non-SJO felonies, Black (21%) and Hispanic (19%) juveniles were more than twice as likely as White juveniles (9%) to have the case not presented by the probation officer. White (64%) juveniles were more likely than Black (48%) and Hispanic (49%) juveniles to have the case discharged.

Further analyses were conducted to determine if the differences in the percentage of Black and Hispanic vs. White juveniles charged with non-SJO felonies receiving non-judicial supervision cited above remained when allowing for predictor variables. These analyses revealed:

- ◆ Racial disparities remained and were not neutralized by the predictor variables.

*By Juvenile Matters Office*

A breakout of the data by Juvenile Matters office revealed that:

- ◆ the Juvenile Matters offices most frequently placing White juveniles adjudicated for a non-SJO felony on non-judicial supervision had few, if any, Black or Hispanic juveniles charged with non-SJO felonies that were handled non-judicially.

## **7. Court Disposition for Adjudicated Youth**

### **a. Where Juveniles Were Committed to at Disposition**

*Statewide Data*

Figure 20 displays the court disposition of all juveniles adjudicated.

Figure 20

Disposition For Judicial Delinquency Cases  
By Offense Type And Race

	Most Serious Disposed Charge											
	Serious Juvenile Offense				Non-SJO Felony			Misdemeanor			Violation	
	Black	Hisp.	White	Black	Hisp.	White	Black	Hisp.	White	Black	Hisp.	White
<b>Disposition</b>												
Committed to DCF, Long Lane.....	36%	35%	26%	15%	12%	3%	5%	6%	3%	16%	14%	10%
Committed to DCF, Direct Placement.	9%	18%	17%	7%	6%	7%	6%	6%	7%	18%	19%	30%
Probation.....	51%	44%	48%	63%	66%	77%	60%	58%	65%	42%	55%	48%
Discharged.....	5%	4%	9%	16%	17%	13%	30%	30%	25%	24%	12%	12%
Total.....	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
(Base).....	(87)	(57)	(23)	(158)	(90)	(262)	(433)	(254)	(550)	(45)	(42)	(98)

Figure 20 reveals that Black and Hispanic juveniles were more likely to be committed to Long Lane School (the only state-operated juvenile correctional facility) than White juveniles.

Specifically, we found the following:

- ◆ Black and Hispanic juveniles adjudicated for non-SJO felonies were at least four times as likely as White juveniles adjudicated for similar offenses to be committed by the court to Long Lane School (Black, 15%, Hispanic, 12%; and White, 3%). By contrast, about three-fourths of these White juveniles were placed on probation compared to 63% of the Black and 66% of the Hispanic juveniles.
- ◆ 36% of the Black juveniles and 35% of the Hispanic juveniles adjudicated as SJOs were committed to Long Lane School, compared to 26% of the White juveniles adjudicated as SJO.

Subsequent analyses were conducted that examined the impact of predictor variables on the commitment of Black, Hispanic and White juveniles to Long Lane School. These analyses revealed:

- ◆ For juveniles committed to Long Lane School for non-SJO felonies, direct race/ethnic effects were neutralized, and the only factor that significantly increased the likelihood of being committed to Long Lane School was having been detained when first charged with the offense. As race/ethnicity was found to significantly impact detention decisions, race/ethnicity exerts an indirect impact on Long Lane School commitment decisions.
- ◆ When comparing Black vs. White juveniles committed for SJOs, the differences observed in commitment to Long Lane School by race are neutralized. A juvenile was significantly more likely to be committed to Long Lane School if he/she: was older, had a more serious court history, and had a history of school problems\*.

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\* Too few juveniles were included to contrast the commitment of Hispanic vs. White juveniles committed for SJOs for predictor variables.

*By Juvenile Matters Office*

Analysis of the commitment decision by Juvenile Matters office revealed that despite having committed a number of minority juveniles to Long Lane School:

- ◆ the Hartford office did not commit any of the 52 adjudicated White juveniles to Long Lane School;
- ◆ the New Haven office only committed two of 59 adjudicated White juveniles to Long Lane School; and
- ◆ the Bridgeport office only committed 2 of 44 adjudicated White juveniles to Long Lane School.

**b. Length of Commitment**

Figure 21 displays the length of the judicial commitment for SJOs, broken out by race. Figure 21 only displays commitment lengths for SJOs as all juveniles adjudicated for offenses other than SJO offenses received two year indeterminate commitments to DCF.

**Figure 21**

**Length Of Commitment For Judicial Adjudicated SJO Cases & Race**

	Black	Hisp.	White
<b>Long Lane School</b>			
2-4 Year Commitment, 6-12 Month Exile.....	13%	10%	17%
4 Year Commitment.....	23%	15%	33%
2 Year Commitment.....	65%	75%	50%
Total.....	100%	100%	100%
(Base).....	(31)	(20)	(6)
<b>Direct Placement</b>			
2-4 Year Commitment, 6-12 Month Exile.....	0%	30%	25%
4 Year Commitment.....	25%	10%	0%
2 Year Commitment.....	75%	60%	75%
Total.....	100%	100%	100%
(Base).....	(8)	(10)	(4)

Figure 21 reveals:

- ◆ While only six White juveniles were committed to Long Lane School for SJOs, one-half received more than the regular two year commitment, compared to 25% of the Hispanic and 35% of the Black juveniles committed for SJOs.
- ◆ While the cell sizes are small for direct placement commitments for SJOs, a similar percentage of Black, Hispanic and White juveniles committed to direct placement received longer commitments than the regular two year commitment.

Due to the small number of cases, further analyses of these data were not possible.

### **c. Initial DCF Placements**

Figure 22 (see page 61) uses DCF data (all youth discharged in Fiscal Year 1991-92) to display the percentage of juveniles placed by Juvenile Matters into each type of placement as the offender's initial DCF placement. These data are broken by offense type and race. The reader needs to keep in mind that unlike Figure 20, Figure 22 only includes youth committed to DCF and excludes probation and discharge dispositions.

As shown in Figure 22:

- ◆ Across offense types (except violations), Black and Hispanic juveniles were much more likely than White juveniles to have been placed in Long Lane School for their initial DCF placement.
- ◆ The greatest difference was found for juveniles adjudicated for SJOs where the large majority of the Black (82%) and Hispanic (75%) juveniles committed to DCF went to Long Lane School vs. only one-fifth (20%) of the White juveniles.

**Figure 22**  
**Initial Placement**  
**By Offense Type And Race**

	<b>Most Serious Committing Adjudication</b>											
	Serious Juvenile Offense			Non-SJO Felony			Misdemeanor			Violation		
	Black	Hisp.	White	Black	Hisp.	White	Black	Hisp.	White	Black	Hisp.	White
<b>Initial Placement</b>												
Long Lane School....	82%	75%	20%	72%	75%	40%	53%	68%	31%	23%	50%	27%
Residential.....	16%	19%	50%	28%	25%	53%	39%	24%	53%	38%	45%	43%
Drug Program.....	0%	0%	10%	0%	0%	2%	3%	3%	4%	0%	5%	3%
Emergency Shelter...	0%	0%	10%	0%	0%	2%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Group Home.....	2%	3%	10%	0%	0%	0%	2%	3%	8%	31%	0%	20%
Psychiatric.....	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	2%	0%	0%	8%	0%	0%
Out-of-State Placement.....	0%	3%	0%	0%	0%	2%	2%	3%	0%	0%	0%	7%
Non-DCF Placement...	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	4%	0%	0%	0%
Total.....	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
(Base).....	(62)	(36)	(10)	(60)	(32)	(45)	(64)	(34)	(49)	(13)	(22)	(30)

Findings presented above were analyzed for predictor variables (i.e., age, gender, race/ethnicity, level of prior court involvement). These analyses revealed that:

- ◆ Race/ethnic effects remain and, in fact, typically race/ethnicity was found to be the only predictor variable included in the study that significantly predicted placement.
- ◆ When comparing Black vs. White juveniles committed for misdemeanors, older juveniles were significantly more likely to be placed at Long Lane School.

## **8. Final Court Action for Delinquency Cases**

We have presented data analyses that have addressed:

- ◆ the extent to which minority juveniles are overrepresented at three key points in the juvenile justice system (i.e., referral to court, detention and placement in Long Lane School) compared to census data; and
- ◆ to what extent different decisions are made for Black, Hispanic and White juveniles at different system decision points and the role that offense, offender and social characteristics contribute to observed differences.

Another way to look at the court data is to examine the extent to which Black, Hispanic and White juveniles exit the court through the different options available to the court. Figure 23 displays the final action taken by Juvenile Matters for the 7,168 delinquency cases disposed in Calendar Year 1991 included in this study. This table displays the cumulative impact of different decisions that occur from the handling decision (judicial vs. non-judicial) through adjudicatory and disposition decision-making.

Figure 23

Final Court Action By Offense Type And Race

	Most Serious Offense Disposed											
	Serious Juvenile Offense			Non-SJO Felony			Misdemeanor			Violation		
	Black	Hisp.	White	Black	Hisp.	White	Black	Hisp.	White	Black	Hisp.	White
<b>Final Court Action</b>												
<b>Non-Judicial</b>												
Dismissed/Not Presented.....	13%	16%	29%	15%	15%	11%	18%	17%	16%	3%	4%	4%
Discharged.....	1%	1%	1%	14%	15%	25%	36%	42%	49%	3%	3%	18%
Supervision.....	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	3%	3%	1%	3%	0%	0%	2%
<b>Judicial (Non Adjudication)</b>												
Dismissed.....	4%	7%	10%	3%	3%	3%	2%	2%	3%	4%	11%	9%
Not Delinquent.....	6%	2%	5%	2%	2%	1%	1%	0%	1%	0%	0%	1%
Misc. No Finding.....	1%	1%	0%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Nolle.....	18%	19%	23%	20%	28%	14%	11%	11%	7%	25%	27%	17%
<b>Judicial (Adjudication)</b>												
Discharged.....	3%	2%	3%	7%	6%	5%	8%	7%	5%	16%	7%	6%
Out-of-State.....	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Probation.....	29%	23%	15%	27%	23%	33%	17%	14%	13%	28%	31%	23%
Residential.....	5%	9%	5%	3%	2%	3%	2%	1%	2%	12%	11%	14%
Long Lane School.....	20%	18%	8%	9%	7%	2%	2%	3%	1%	10%	8%	5%
<b>Transfer to Adult Court</b>												
1%	2%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
<b>Total (Base)</b>	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
	154	109	73	371	258	608	1566	1032	2650	69	75	203

Figure 23 reveals considerable overrepresentation of Black and Hispanic juveniles for more severe outcome decisions for SJOs and non-SJO felonies. Specifically, Figure 23 shows the following.

#### SJOs

- ◆ 30% of the White juveniles disposed for SJOs were handled non-judicially compared to 17% of the Hispanic juveniles and 14% of the Black juveniles.
- ◆ 57% of the Black juveniles and 52% of the Hispanic juveniles disposed for SJOs were adjudicated for these offenses while only 31% of the White juveniles disposed for SJOs were adjudicated.
- ◆ Black and Hispanic juveniles disposed for SJOs were much more likely than White juveniles so disposed to be placed at Long Lane School (Black, 20%; Hispanic, 18%; and White, 8%).
- ◆ Black juveniles disposed for SJOs were four times as likely to end up at Long Lane School (20%) as a residential placement (5%). By contrast, White juveniles disposed for SJOs were only 1.6 times more likely to be placed in Long Lane School (8%) as a residential placement (5%).

#### Non-SJO Felonies

- ◆ White juveniles disposed for non-SJO felonies were slightly more likely to be processed non-judicially (39%) compared to Black (29%) and Hispanic (31%) juveniles.
- ◆ White juveniles disposed for non-felony SJOs were more likely than Hispanic and, to a lesser extent, Black juveniles so disposed to be placed on probation (White, 33%; Hispanic, 23%; Black, 27%).
- ◆ Black and Hispanic juveniles disposed for non-SJO felonies were much more likely than White juveniles so disposed to be placed at Long Lane School (Black, 9%; Hispanic, 7%; and White, 2%).
- ◆ Black and Hispanic juveniles disposed for non-SJO felonies were both several times more likely to end up in Long Lane School (Black, 9%; Hispanic, 7%) as a residential placement (Black, 3%; Hispanic, 2%). By contrast, White juveniles disposed for SJOs were slightly more likely to find themselves in a residential facility than in Long Lane School.

## Misdemeanors

- ◆ Differences across race for misdemeanors are minimal.

## Violations

- ◆ 24% of the White juveniles disposed for violation charges were handled non-judicially, compared to 7% for the Hispanic and 6% of the Black juveniles so disposed.
- ◆ Black (66%), and to a lesser extent Hispanic (57%), juveniles disposed for violation charges were much more likely to be adjudicated for the charge than White juveniles (48%).
- ◆ While the total percent of juveniles receiving placement for violation charges was similar across races, Black (10%) and Hispanic (8%) juveniles were more likely to be placed at Long Lane School than White (5%) juveniles.

## **9. Summary of Court Findings**

Analysis of JJS and Juvenile Matters data revealed a number of instances where no differences were found in court decisions across race/ethnicity (e.g., court charge vs. police referral, and the handling decision for juveniles charged with status offenses) as well as those where different decisions were found but were neutralized by predictor variables (e.g., handling decision for juveniles charged with violations, and probation officers recommendation of dismissal for juveniles charged with non-SJO felonies). However, our analysis also revealed several court decisions where Black and/or Hispanic juveniles received more severe determinations than White juveniles which were not neutralized by predictor variables. These disparities are listed below:

- ◆ Black and Hispanic juveniles charged with SJOs stayed in detention longer than White juveniles. This disparity was most notable in the Bridgeport and New Haven Juvenile Matters offices.
- ◆ Black juveniles charged with non-SJO felonies were more likely than White juveniles so charged to be handled judicially.
- ◆ Probation officers were significantly more likely to recommend dismissal for White than Hispanic juveniles charged with non-SJO felonies.

- ◆ Black and Hispanic juveniles charged with SJOs were more likely than White juveniles so charged to be adjudicated for SJOs. Race/ethnicity was found to indirectly impact this decision, as race/ethnicity significantly predicts detention decisions and detention predicts an SJO adjudication.
- ◆ For juveniles adjudicated for non-SJO felonies, race/ethnicity was found to be an indirect predictor of court commitment to Long Lane School vs. all other court options, as race/ethnicity significantly predicts detention decisions and detention predicts commitment to Long Lane School.
- ◆ Several Juvenile Matters offices rarely committed White adjudicated offenders to Long Lane School (i.e., Hartford, New Haven, and Bridgeport offices).
- ◆ When looking at initial placement for juveniles committed to DCF (i.e., Long Lane School vs. direct placement), Black and Hispanic juveniles were much more likely than White juveniles to have been placed in Long Lane School for their initial DCF placement.

Our analysis also revealed some instances where White juveniles received more severe decisions than Black or Hispanic juveniles. Specifically:

- ◆ White juveniles charged as FWSN children and handled judicially were more likely than Black or Hispanic juveniles so charged to be committed to DCF.
- ◆ For non-SJO felonies handled non-judicially, more White juveniles were placed on non-judicial supervision than Hispanic or Black juveniles.

It is important to note that analysis across Juvenile Matters offices revealed that:

- ◆ these disparities resulted from the fact that some court offices chose more severe determinations for a sizeable number and percentage of White juveniles that had few, if any, Black or Hispanic juveniles charged with these offenses.

## C. DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES DECISION-MAKING

The third key component of the juvenile justice system is the Department of Children and Families (DCF), the state agency responsible for providing placements for juveniles committed by the judge to the state for care and treatment, and providing parole services to the juveniles when released home during their commitment period.

While the judge determines whether a juvenile committed to DCF should be initially placed at Long Lane School (with input from the DCF staff) and determines the maximum commitment to DCF, DCF is responsible for all other decisions, including:

- ◆ if, when, and where juveniles were transferred from their initial placement;
- ◆ how long juvenile offenders actually spent in the various DCF placements;
- ◆ the level of security (maximum, medium, non) that juveniles placed at Long Lane School received there; and
- ◆ how long the juveniles actually remained in DCF care.

This section of the report looks at key decisions made by DCF to determine if the data suggest that different decisions were made for Black, Hispanic and White juveniles.

When disparities were observed, Logistic Regression and Multiple Linear Regression were used to determine whether the impact of race/ethnicity on the different decisions remains when controlling for predictor variables.

The factors included in the regression analyses were: race/ethnicity, gender, age and level of prior court involvement\*.

As discussed in detail in the methodology section of this report, the data presented in this section is based on data abstracted by Spectrum Associates staff from DCF case files for juveniles discharged by DCF in Fiscal Year 1991-92.

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\* Efforts were made to include additional predictor variables for the DCF analysis. However, data for a number of the variables were not consistently recorded (e.g., drug/alcohol use, financial assistance received by the family). A detailed description of the predictor variables that were included in the analyses is included in Appendix I.

## 1. All Placements

Figure 24 (see page 69) shows the percentage of juveniles committed to DCF who were placed at each type of placement (all placements during the juvenile's commitment) broken out by offense type and race.

As displayed in Figure 24:

- ◆ For all offense types, except violations, Black and Hispanic juveniles were more likely to have spent time at Long Lane School than White juveniles. White juveniles were more likely to have been placed in direct placements used by DCF (e.g., residential facilities, drug programs, group homes, and out-of-state placements).
- ◆ Except for violations, Hispanic and Black juveniles were much more likely than White juveniles to go AWOL.

Figure 24

DCF Placement\*  
By Offense Type And Race

	Most Serious Committing Adjudication											
	Serious Juvenile Offense			Non-SJO Felony			Misdemeanor			Violation		
	Black	Hisp.	White	Black	Hisp.	White	Black	Hisp.	White	Black	Hisp.	White
Long Lane School....	92%	89%	50%	88%	84%	62%	77%	74%	65%	54%	68%	57%
Residential.....	24%	19%	60%	30%	25%	62%	45%	24%	67%	54%	59%	43%
Drug Program.....	5%	0%	10%	0%	3%	11%	8%	6%	14%	0%	5%	3%
Emergency Shelter...	3%	0%	10%	0%	3%	2%	2%	3%	4%	15%	5%	0%
Group Home.....	2%	3%	10%	2%	3%	0%	8%	3%	16%	54%	0%	27%
Psychiatric.....	0%	3%	0%	0%	0%	0%	5%	0%	10%	8%	5%	7%
Out-of-State.....	8%	6%	20%	7%	3%	13%	8%	6%	14%	8%	0%	17%
Non-DCF Placement...	19%	31%	30%	20%	13%	4%	19%	24%	12%	8%	9%	0%
Home.....	76%	64%	60%	80%	84%	78%	81%	82%	82%	69%	91%	83%
AWOL.....	55%	72%	20%	53%	56%	29%	53%	53%	37%	31%	32%	33%
Base.....	62	36	10	60	32	45	64	34	49	13	22	30

\* Includes all DCF Placements during the client's commitment.

The different placements for Black, Hispanic and White juveniles cited above were analyzed for predictor variables (i.e., age, gender, race/ethnicity, and court history). These analyses revealed that:

- ◆ Race/ethnic effects remained across all offense types cited above (SJOs, non-SJO felonies and misdemeanors) with Black and Hispanic juveniles going to Long Lane School most often and White juveniles going to direct placements.
- ◆ For Black vs. White juveniles committed for non-SJO felonies and misdemeanors, age (i.e., the younger the offender) was also found to predict placement in a direct placement (rather than Long Lane School).

As the initial placement is largely the result of a judicial recommendation, analyses were conducted to break out data on all placements by the juvenile's initial placement (Long Lane School vs. Direct Placement). These data are presented in Figures 25 and 26.

**Figure 25**  
**DCF Placement\***  
**(For Juveniles First Placed at Long Lane School)**

	Most Serious Committing Adjudication											
	Serious Juvenile Offense			Non-SJO Felony			Misdemeanor			Violation		
	Black	Hisp.	White	Black	Hisp.	White	Black	Hisp.	White	Black	Hisp.	White
Long Lane School....	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Residential.....	10%	0%	0%	2%	0%	22%	3%	0%	33%	33%	27%	0%
Drug Program.....	4%	0%	0%	0%	4%	17%	3%	4%	7%	0%	0%	0%
Emergency Shelter...	4%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	4%	7%	33%	9%	0%
Group Home.....	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	6%	0%	13%	33%	0%	13%
Psychiatric.....	0%	4%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	13%	0%	9%	13%
Out-of-State.....	10%	4%	50%	9%	4%	28%	6%	4%	27%	33%	0%	25%
Non-DCF Placement...	22%	33%	50%	26%	13%	11%	24%	26%	13%	33%	9%	0%
Home.....	73%	56%	50%	81%	79%	61%	88%	91%	73%	100%	91%	63%
AWOL.....	59%	74%	0%	63%	58%	44%	53%	65%	60%	67%	36%	50%
(Base).....	(51)	(27)	(2)	(43)	(24)	(18)	(34)	(23)	(15)	(3)	(11)	(8)

\* Includes all DCF Placements during the client's commitment.

Figure 26

DCF Placement\*  
(For Juveniles First Placed in Direct Placement)

	Most Serious Committing Adjudication											
	Serious Juvenile Offense			Non-SJO Felony			Misdemeanor			Violation		
	Black	Hisp.	White	Black	Hisp.	White	Black	Hisp.	White	Black	Hisp.	White
Long Lane School....	55%	56%	38%	59%	38%	37%	50%	18%	47%	40%	36%	41%
Residential.....	91%	78%	75%	100%	100%	89%	93%	73%	84%	60%	91%	59%
Drug Program.....	9%	0%	13%	0%	0%	7%	13%	9%	19%	0%	9%	5%
Emergency Shelter...	0%	0%	13%	0%	13%	4%	3%	0%	3%	10%	0%	0%
Group Home.....	9%	11%	13%	6%	13%	0%	10%	9%	19%	60%	0%	32%
Psychiatric.....	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	10%	0%	6%	10%	0%	5%
Out-of-State.....	0%	11%	13%	0%	0%	4%	10%	9%	6%	0%	0%	14%
Non-DCF Placement...	9%	22%	25%	6%	13%	0%	13%	18%	6%	0%	9%	0%
Home.....	91%	89%	63%	76%	100%	89%	73%	64%	88%	60%	91%	91%
AWOL.....	36%	67%	25%	29%	50%	19%	53%	27%	28%	20%	27%	27%
(Base).....	(11)	(9)	(8)	(17)	(8)	(27)	(30)	(11)	(32)	(10)	(11)	(22)

\* Includes all DCF Placements during the client's commitment.

As shown in Figures 25 and 26:

- ◆ Very few Black or Hispanic juveniles placed in Long Lane School initially by the judge were subsequently placed in a DCF direct placement.
- ◆ In contrast, a sizeable percentage of White juveniles initially placed at Long Lane School by the judge for non-SJO felonies or misdemeanors were subsequently placed by DCF in a direct placement (e.g., residential placement, group home, drug placement, out-of-state placement).
- ◆ Black juveniles placed by the judge into direct placement for SJOs or non-SJO felonies were slightly more likely than their White counterparts to spend part of their DCF placement at Long Lane School.

## **2. Most Secure Placement Within Long Lane School**

Long Lane School has maximum security and medium security beds, as well as non-secure beds in cottages. Figure 27 displays the most secure placement for all juveniles placed at Long Lane School, broken out by offense type and race.

As shown in Figure 27 (see page 74):

- ◆ Over 90% of the Black and Hispanic juveniles placed at Long Lane School for SJO offenses spent time in maximum security, while only 60% of the White juveniles placed for SJOs spent time in maximum security.
- ◆ Black and Hispanic juveniles placed at Long Lane School for non-SJO felonies or misdemeanors were more likely than their White counterparts to spend time in maximum security and less likely to spend time in a cottage.

Figure 27

Most Secure Placement Within Long Lane School  
By Offense Type And Race

	Most Serious Committing Adjudication											
	Serious Juvenile Offense			Non-SJO Felony			Misdemeanor			Violation		
	Black	Hisp.	White	Black	Hisp.	White	Black	Hisp.	White	Black	Hisp.	White
<b>Security Level</b>												
Maximum.....	91%	91%	60%	47%	56%	39%	51%	40%	25%	14%	20%	18%
Medium.....	0%	0%	0%	2%	0%	0%	0%	4%	0%	14%	0%	0%
Cottage.....	9%	9%	40%	51%	44%	61%	49%	56%	75%	71%	80%	82%
Total.....	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
(Base).....	(57)	(32)	(5)	(53)	(27)	(28)	(49)	(25)	(32)	(7)	(15)	(17)

Analyses were conducted to determine the impact of predictor variables on the use of maximum security for Black, Hispanic and White juvenile offenders committed to Long Lane School for SJOs, non-SJO felonies or misdemeanors. These analyses revealed that:

- ◆ For two comparisons where Black and Hispanic juveniles were found to be placed in maximum security more often than their White counterparts (Hispanic vs. White juveniles committed for SJOs, and Black vs. White juveniles committed for misdemeanors), race/ethnicity appears to predict placement in maximum security. For the four other instances where differences were cited initially, the impact of race/ethnicity was neutralized by other predictor variables.
- ◆ For all comparisons (except Hispanic vs. White juveniles committed for SJOs), age (i.e., the younger the juvenile is) was the strongest predictor of maximum security placement.

### **3. Time Spent at Different Types of Placements**

Data were collected on how much time juveniles spent during their DCF placement:

- ◆ at Long Lane School;
- ◆ at direct placements;
- ◆ at other types of facilities outside of DCF care (e.g., police departments, detention facilities, hospitals, adult correctional facilities);
- ◆ at home; and
- ◆ AWOL.

These data can be analyzed and looked at two different ways:

- ◆ the average percentage of the commitment that DCF clients spent at each type of placement; and
- ◆ the average number of days that DCF clients spent at each type of placement.

Since the length of commitment varies across clients, these calculations could produce very different findings.

Figures 28-30 display the average percentage of commitment spent at each type of placement by offense type and race, while Figures 31-33 display the mean number of days in each type of placement.

*Average Percentage of Commitment Spent at Different Placement Types*

Figure 28 (see page 77) displays the average percentage of commitment for all juveniles discharged from DCF in FY 1991-92, broken out by race and offense type.

Figure 28 reveals:

- ◆ For juveniles placed for SJOs in particular, but for those placed for non-SJO felonies and misdemeanors as well, White juveniles averaged a smaller percentage of their DCF placement at Long Lane School than Black and Hispanic juveniles, and White juveniles averaged a greater percentage of their placement time at direct placements.
- ◆ Specifically, the ten White juveniles placed for SJOs that were discharged from DCF in Fiscal Year 1991-92 averaged only 17% of their placement at Long Lane School, while Black and Hispanic juveniles placed for SJOs each averaged 43% of their time at Long Lane School. Moreover, the White juveniles placed for SJOs averaged 65% of their DCF time at direct placement, compared to only 16% for the Black juveniles and 9% for the Hispanic juveniles placed for SJOs.
- ◆ White juveniles placed for SJOs spent a considerably smaller percentage of their placement supervised at home (9%) than the Black (30%) and Hispanic (21%) juveniles placed for SJOs. These differences are minimal for other types of offenders.
- ◆ Hispanic juveniles, particularly those placed for SJOs, spent a greater percentage of their time with DCF on AWOL status than did other juveniles.

Figure 28

Mean Time Spent In DCF Placements  
By Offense Type And Race

	Most Serious Committing Adjudication											
	Serious Juvenile Offense			Non-SJO Felony			Misdemeanor			Violation		
	Black	Hisp.	White	Black	Hisp.	White	Black	Hisp.	White	Black	Hisp.	White
Long Lane School....	43%	43%	17%	36%	32%	20%	31%	36%	20%	18%	24%	18%
Direct Placement....	16%	9%	65%	20%	16%	44%	29%	19%	45%	51%	27%	39%
Other Facilities*....	2%	2%	6%	2%	0%	0%	1%	1%	1%	0%	1%	0%
Home Placement**....	30%	21%	9%	34%	39%	32%	34%	36%	31%	29%	44%	37%
AWOL.....	9%	25%	4%	9%	13%	4%	5%	8%	3%	2%	4%	6%
(Base) .....	(61)	(36)	(10)	(58)	(32)	(45)	(64)	(34)	(49)	(13)	(22)	(30)

\* Includes hospitals, police departments, detention, and adult correctional facilities.

\*\* Includes home visits and parole.

Analyses were conducted to determine the impact of predictor variables on differences cited in the average time that Black, Hispanic and White juveniles spent in Long Lane School and direct placement. We found that:

- ◆ Findings presented above remain despite the inclusion of predictor variables (i.e., Black and Hispanic juveniles stayed longer at Long Lane School and White juveniles stayed longer in direct placement).

In addition we found:

- ◆ When comparing Hispanic vs. White juveniles committed for SJOs and placed in Long Lane School, the older offenders stayed at Long Lane School significantly longer.
- ◆ When comparing Black vs. White juveniles committed for non-SJO felonies and misdemeanors and placed in direct placement, younger offenders stayed in direct placement significantly longer.

These data were also broken out by whether the juvenile was first placed at Long Lane School (Figure 29) or not (Figure 30).

**Figure 29**  
**Time Spent In DCF Placements**  
**By Offense Type And Race**  
**(For Juveniles First Placed at Long Lane School)**

	Most Serious Committing Adjudication											
	Serious Juvenile Offense			Non-SJO Felony			Misdemeanor			Violation		
	Black	Hisp.	White	Black	Hisp.	White	Black	Hisp.	White	Black	Hisp.	White
Long Lane School....	49%	50%	49%	43%	40%	32%	44%	48%	38%	28%	35%	38%
Direct Placement....	9%	3%	43%	6%	4%	29%	5%	1%	24%	26%	9%	13%
Other Facilities*....	2%	3%	3%	2%	0%	0%	1%	2%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Home Placement**....	29%	17%	5%	38%	39%	31%	47%	44%	33%	42%	53%	41%
AWOL.....	11%	27%	0%	10%	17%	7%	3%	6%	4%	3%	4%	8%
(Base).....	50	27	2	41	24	18	34	23	15	3	11	8

\* Includes hospitals, police departments, detention, and adult correctional facilities.

\*\* Includes home visits and parole.

**Figure 30**

**Time Spent In DCF Placements  
By Offense Type And Race  
(For Juveniles First Placed in Direct Placement)**

	Most Serious Committing Adjudication											
	Serious Juvenile Offense			Non-SJO Felony			Misdemeanor			Violation		
	Black	Hisp.	White	Black	Hisp.	White	Black	Hisp.	White	Black	Hisp.	White
Long Lane School....	13%	23%	9%	18%	8%	11%	17%	11%	12%	15%	13%	11%
Direct Placement....	46%	25%	70%	53%	51%	54%	56%	58%	55%	58%	45%	48%
Other Facilities*....	2%	0%	6%	0%	0%	0%	1%	0%	0%	0%	2%	0%
Home Placement**....	37%	35%	10%	25%	38%	33%	19%	20%	30%	26%	36%	36%
AWOL.....	2%	18%	5%	4%	3%	2%	6%	11%	2%	1%	4%	5%
Base.....	11	9	8	17	8	27	30	11	32	10	11	22

\* Includes hospitals, police departments, detention, and adult correctional facilities.

\*\* Includes home visits and parole.

These tables reveal that:

- ◆ The large disparity in the percentage of commitment time that Black and Hispanic vs. White juveniles spent at Long Lane School (see Figure 28) appears to result mostly from the fact that the large majority of Black and Hispanic juveniles were placed at Long Lane School initially by the court, while the large majority of the White juveniles were initially placed in direct placement. However, Black and Hispanic juveniles initially placed at Long Lane School for non-SJO felonies and misdemeanors typically spent a somewhat greater percentage of their time in Long Lane School than White juveniles placed for similar offenses.
- ◆ The large disparity in the percentage of placement time that Black and Hispanic vs. White juveniles spent in direct placement (see Figure 28) remains for those placed for SJOs even when holding constant initial placement, but for offenders placed for non-SJO felonies or misdemeanors it only holds true for juveniles placed at Long Lane School initially.

*Average Number of Days Spent at Different Placement Types*

Figure 31 displays the mean number of days that juveniles spent at each type of placement by type of offense and race.

**Figure 31**  
**Mean Number Of Days In Each Type Of DCF Placement**  
**By Offense Type And Race**

	Most Serious Committing Adjudication											
	Serious Juvenile Offense			Non-SJO Felony			Misdemeanor			Violation		
	Black	Hisp.	White	Black	Hisp.	White	Black	Hisp.	White	Black	Hisp.	White
Long Lane School.....	216	215	92	160	174	86	159	181	119	109	131	83
Direct Placement.....	120	58	505	141	112	290	194	111	325	380	169	261
Other Facilities*....	14	14	41	4	0	0	8	6	7	0	3	0
Home Placement**.....	220	137	65	225	244	207	235	233	223	212	308	242
AWOL.....	44	136	20	37	53	17	27	47	15	8	23	33
Length of DCF Placement.....	614	560	723	567	583	601	623	579	688	708	634	619
(Base) .....	(61)	(36)	(10)	(58)	(32)	(45)	(64)	(34)	(49)	(13)	(22)	(30)

\* Includes hospitals, police departments, detention, and adult correctional facilities.

\*\* Includes home visits and parole.

Data in Figure 31 were consistent with Figure 28 and reveal the following.

#### Long Lane School

- ◆ Black and Hispanic juveniles placed for SJOs averaged about seven months at Long Lane School compared to only three months for White juveniles committed for SJOs.
- ◆ While the total number of days at Long Lane School decreases, similar differences were observed for lesser offenses.

#### Direct Placement

- ◆ White juveniles placed for SJOs averaged 16.5 months in direct placement compared to only 4 months for Black and 2 months for Hispanic juveniles placed for SJOs.
- ◆ Similar discrepancies occur for all other offense types, except for violations where Black juveniles committed for violations stayed longer than White juveniles committed for similar offenses.

#### Home Placement

- ◆ Black and Hispanic juveniles placed for SJOs spent many more days at home during their DCF commitment than did White juveniles placed for similar offenses (Black, 7 months; Hispanic, 4.5 months; and White, 2 months).

#### AWOL

- ◆ Hispanic juveniles typically averaged more time on AWOL status than Black or White juveniles committed to DCF. Hispanic juveniles placed for SJOs, average 4.5 months AWOL.

#### Total Commitment

- ◆ The large discrepancy in time spent in direct placement results in White juveniles typically averaging a considerably longer total time under DCF jurisdiction than Black and Hispanic juveniles. This is true despite the fact that Hispanic and Black juveniles spent more time on AWOL status.
- ◆ This discrepancy was greatest for juveniles placed for SJOs, as White juveniles averaged almost 24 months under DCF vs. 20 months for Black juveniles and 18 months for Hispanic juveniles.

Differences in the mean number of days Black, Hispanic and White juveniles spent at Long Lane School and direct placement were analyzed to determine the impact of predictor variables. We found that:

- ◆ Race/ethnicity continues to predict length of stay in both Long Lane School and direct placement for all types of offenses.
- ◆ Age frequently was found to be a significant predictor across offense types for length of stay at both Long Lane School and direct placement, with younger offenders staying longer.
- ◆ Gender was found to be a significant predictor of length of stay at Long Lane School for juveniles committed for misdemeanors, with females staying significantly longer than males.

Mean days in placements were also broken out based on initial placement (Long Lane School vs. other). These data are presented in Figures 32 and 33 (see pages 85 and 86).

As shown in Figures 32 and 33:

- ◆ The large disparity in the average number of days spent at Long Lane School for White vs. Black and Hispanic juveniles (see Figure 30) appears to result mostly from the fact that the large majority of the Black and Hispanic juveniles were placed at Long Lane initially, while the large majority of the White juveniles were initially placed in direct placement.
- ◆ The large discrepancy in the average number of days spent in direct placement (see Figure 31) holds true for juveniles placed for SJOs regardless of initial placement, but for non-SJO felonies and misdemeanors it only holds true for juveniles placed at Long Lane School initially.

Figure 32

Mean Number Of Days In Each Type Of DCF Placement  
By Offense Type And Race  
(For Juveniles First Placed at Long Lane School)

	Most Serious Committing Adjudication											
	Serious Juvenile Offense			Non-SJO Felony			Misdemeanor			Violation		
	Black	Hisp.	White	Black	Hisp.	White	Black	Hisp.	White	Black	Hisp.	White
Long Lane School.....	245	244	92	194	213	152	219	233	197	183	198	172
Direct Placement.....	65	21	314	44	26	208	34	2	147	399	51	93
Other Facilities*....	14	18	3	5	0	0	8	9	18	2	8	0
Home Placement**....	210	108	5	243	241	176	316	265	196	310	380	269
AWOL.....	51	141	0	44	65	37	18	38	19	15	24	48
Length of DCF Placement.....	585	532	413	531	545	573	595	547	578	908	660	581
(Base).....	(50)	(27)	(2)	(41)	(24)	(28)	(34)	(23)	(15)	(3)	(11)	(8)

\* Includes hospitals, police departments, detention, and adult correctional facilities.

\*\* Includes home visits and parole.

Figure 33

Mean Number Of Days In Each Type Of DCF Placement  
By Offense Type And Race  
(For Juveniles First Placed in Direct Placement)

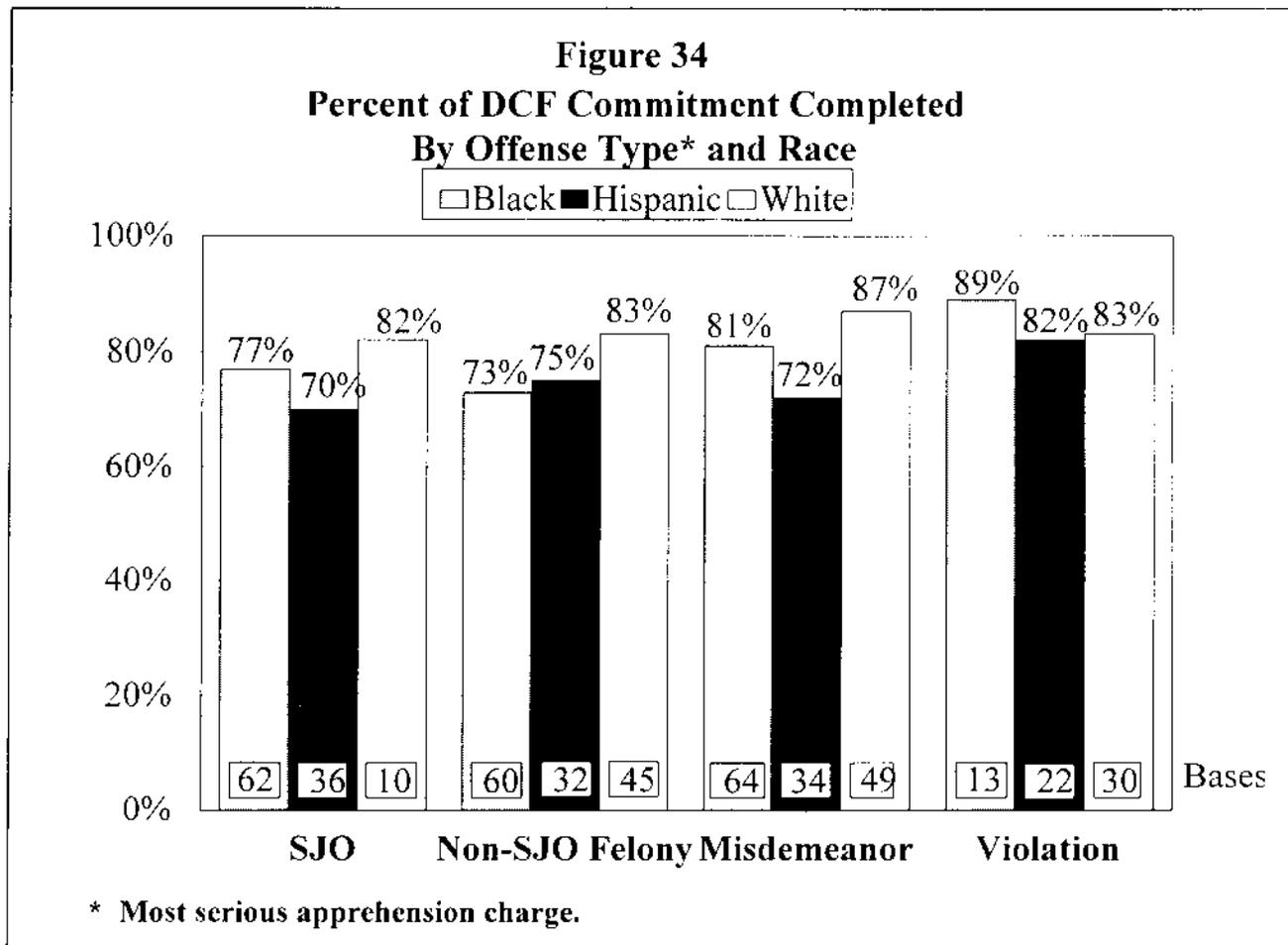
	Most Serious Committing Adjudication											
	Serious Juvenile Offense			Non-SJO Felony			Misdemeanor			Violation		
	Black	Hisp.	White	Black	Hisp.	White	Black	Hisp.	White	Black	Hisp.	White
Long Lane School.....	88	127	105	77	56	42	90	70	88	87	65	50
Direct Placement.....	366	172	544	356	368	346	375	339	400	374	279	323
Other Facilities*....	15	0	57	17	1	0	10	1	2	0	7	0
Home Placement**.....	264	225	75	181	255	228	144	168	234	182	236	232
AWOL.....	9	120	28	21	16	5	37	68	14	6	22	28
Length of DCF Placement.....	743	643	810	652	697	620	655	645	738	648	609	632
(Base) .....	(11)	(9)	(7)	(17)	(8)	(27)	(30)	(11)	(32)	(10)	(11)	(22)

\* Includes hospitals, police departments, detention, and adult correctional facilities.

\*\* Includes home visits and parole.

#### 4. Percentage of Maximum Court Commitment Completed and Reason for Discharge

Figure 34 displays the average percentage of their DCF maximum commitment that juveniles completed, broken out by race and offense type.



As shown in Figure 34:

- ◆ For all offense types, except violations, White juveniles committed to DCF served a slightly larger percentage of their maximum commitment to DCF.

The percent of the maximum DCF commitment completed was analyzed to determine the impact of predictor variables. Added to the other predictor variables used in analyzing the DCF data (i.e., race/ethnicity, age, gender, level of prior court involvement) was type of placement(s) during commitment (Long Lane School, direct placement). This analysis revealed that:

- ◆ In most instances, the predictor variables neutralized the impact of race, although the models were weak in their ability to predict the percentage of the commitment served.
- ◆ Age was the most consistent significant predictor variable, with younger offenders serving a larger percentage of their commitment.
- ◆ For non-SJO felonies, juveniles who were only placed at direct placement during their commitment and who were not placed at Long Lane School served a significantly greater percentage of their commitment than juveniles who went to Long Lane School.

The percentage of the maximum DCF commitment served was also analyzed by first placement (Long Lane School vs. direct placement). These data are displayed in Figure 35.

Figure 35

Percent Of Commitment Completed  
By Offense Type And Race

	Most Serious Committing Adjudication											
	Serious Juvenile Offense			Non-SJO Felony			Misdemeanor			Violation		
	Black	Hisp.	White	Black	Hisp.	White	Black	Hisp.	White	Black	Hisp.	White
First Placed at Long Lane School...	74%	65%	57%	67%	71%	78%	79%	69%	79%	90%	81%	80%
(Base).....	(51)	(27)	(2)	(43)	(24)	(18)	(34)	(23)	(15)	(3)	(11)	(8)
First Placed in Direct Placement..	90%	83%	87%	88%	88%	85%	84%	78%	90%	89%	83%	84%
(Base).....	(11)	(9)	(7)	(17)	(8)	(27)	(30)	(11)	(32)	(10)	(11)	(22)

As shown in Figure 35, differences observed in Figure 34 correlate with the fact that more White juveniles are typically initially committed to direct placement while Black and Hispanic juveniles go to Long Lane School, and juveniles who go to direct placement typically serve a larger percentage of their DCF commitment.

To shed further light on the differences cited above, we tabulated reasons given for discharge by race and offense type. The data are displayed in Figure 36.

Figure 36 (see page 91) reveals that:

- ◆ Most juveniles were discharged when they reach the end of their scheduled commitment or 18 years of age.
- ◆ Most juveniles discharged from DCF before the end of their scheduled date were discharged from DCF care for negative reasons (e.g., AWOL, moved to adult system, unable to help juvenile) rather than positive reasons (e.g., positive behavior, family supportive).
- ◆ Hispanic juveniles appear more likely than White and Black juveniles to be discharged prior to completing their commitment for negative reasons (moved to adult system, AWOL, unable to help juvenile). For example, for misdemeanors, 50% of the Hispanic juveniles were discharged for a negative reason vs. 25% of the Black juveniles and 20% of the White juveniles.

Figure 36

Reason For Discharge  
By Most Serious Committing Offense And Race

	Most Serious Committing Adjudication											
	Serious Juvenile Offense			Non-SJO Felony			Misdemeanor			Violation		
	Black	Hisp.	White	Black	Hisp.	White	Black	Hisp.	White	Black	Hisp.	White
Commitment Expired/ Majority.....	50%	33%	60%	42%	44%	67%	58%	35%	61%	62%	55%	50%
Family Moved.....	8%	8%	10%	2%	9%	2%	6%	3%	0%	0%	0%	0%
AWOL.....	8%	14%	0%	10%	9%	2%	2%	9%	2%	0%	5%	3%
New Charges, Moved to Adult System....	18%	28%	10%	25%	19%	13%	17%	32%	16%	8%	9%	7%
Unable to Help Youth Positive Behavior	2%	8%	0%	0%	6%	2%	6%	9%	2%	0%	9%	3%
/Support from Home	3%	3%	20%	12%	0%	11%	6%	9%	6%	23%	5%	13%
Other.....	2%	3%	0%	0%	6%	0%	2%	0%	4%	0%	14%	13%
None Given.....	10%	3%	0%	10%	6%	2%	3%	3%	8%	8%	5%	10%
Total.....	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
(Base).....	(62)	(36)	(10)	(60)	(32)	(45)	(64)	(34)	(49)	(13)	(22)	(30)

## 5. Summary of Department of Children and Families Data

Analysis of where Black, Hispanic and White juveniles were placed within DCF and for how long revealed significant differences in DCF placements experienced by Black, Hispanic and White juvenile offenders committed by the court to DCF care.

Specifically, we found:

- ◆ For all offense types, except violations, Black and Hispanic juveniles were more likely to have spent time at Long Lane School, while White juveniles were more likely to have been placed in direct placements used by DCF (e.g., residential facilities, drug programs, group homes, and out-of-state placements). These differences remain when controlling for predictor variables.
- ◆ Very few Black or Hispanic juveniles placed in Long Lane School initially by the judge were subsequently placed in a DCF direct placement. In contrast, a sizeable percentage of White juveniles initially placed at Long Lane School by the judge for non-SJO felonies or misdemeanors were subsequently placed by DCF into a direct placement. These differences remained when including predictor variables in the analysis.
- ◆ In some instances (i.e., Hispanic vs. White juveniles committed for SJOs, and Black vs. White juveniles committed for misdemeanors), Black and Hispanic juveniles were more likely to be placed in maximum security even when controlling for predictor variables. In other instances, observed disparities were neutralized by these variables, most notably by age, where the younger the juvenile was the more likely he/she was to be placed in maximum security.
- ◆ For all offense types, White juveniles averaged a smaller percentage of their DCF placement at Long Lane School than Black and Hispanic juveniles and, conversely, a greater percentage of their placement time at direct placements. This finding held when including predictor variables in the analysis.
- ◆ Black and Hispanic juveniles placed in Long Lane School for SJOs averaged about seven months at Long Lane School compared to only three months for White juveniles committed for similar offenses. In contrast, White juveniles placed for SJOs averaged 16.5 months in direct placement compared to only 4 months for Black and 2 months for Hispanic juveniles placed in direct placement for SJOs. These discrepancies remained when controlling for predictor variables.

- ◆ Age and gender were also found to impact length of stay at Long Lane School, as younger and female offenders stayed at Long Lane School for longer stays than did older and male offenders.
- ◆ The large discrepancy in time spent in direct placement resulted in White juveniles averaging a considerably longer total time under DCF jurisdiction than Black and Hispanic juveniles. This is true despite the fact that Hispanic and Black juveniles spent more time on AWOL status.
- ◆ For all offense types, except violations, White juveniles committed to DCF served a slightly larger percentage of their maximum commitment to DCF. However, predictor variables neutralized these findings with age (i.e., younger offenders serving a greater percentage of their commitments) being the most significant factor.

## **VI. JUVENILE OFFENDER PERCEPTIONS OF DIFFERENTIAL HANDLING**

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To supplement the quantitative data gathered through case files and computerized records, a series of in-depth interviews were conducted with juveniles who had moved through the juvenile justice system and were residing at Long Lane School at the time of study. Juveniles included in the study had served an average of four months at Long Lane School at the time of the interview.

A total of 30 interviews were conducted with residents at Long Lane School. Study respondents were chosen by: (a) stratifying residents by race to allow for 10 interviews each with Black, Hispanic and White juvenile offenders, (b) breaking out residents by gender to allow for an equal mix of boys and girls, and (c) randomly selecting residents within race and gender. DCF obtained signed consent forms from study participants and their parent(s) or legal guardian before scheduling an interview with a resident.

The primary objectives of the juvenile offender interviews were to determine: (a) if juveniles who had been handled and treated by the juvenile justice system felt that race/ethnicity impacted how they and other kids were treated by the police, the court and DCF, and (b) if so, how. As such, the juveniles were asked a series of questions about each phase of the system (i.e., police, court, and DCF).

A structured interview guide was developed and used with all study respondents. To avoid any possible "leading" of study participants, all juveniles were first asked a series of questions about system processing (i.e., police, court, Long Lane School) that did not refer to race/ethnicity. These questions were followed by questions about the same three components of the system that specifically asked respondents if they felt the police, court and Long Lane School treated minority juveniles the same as or differently than White juveniles.

### **A. PERCEPTIONS OF THE POLICE**

Long Lane School residents were asked if they believed that the police:

- ◆ treat all kids that they stop the same and, if not, which types of kids do the police treat better or worse than others;
- ◆ had been fair or unfair to them and, if unfair, what did the police do that they felt was unfair;

- ◆ treat Black, Hispanic and White juveniles the same and, if not, who gets treated better or worse and why; and
- ◆ consider race or ethnicity in their arrest decision and, if so, who are police most likely to arrest.

A review of the data gathered through the 30 interviews reveals the following.

- ◆ About three-fourths of the juveniles interviewed answered the unaided question by saying said that police officers treat some kids better than others, and about 40% of the study participants said that the police officers they have dealt with did not treat them fairly.
- ◆ When asked to explain their response, almost all of the minority juveniles said that police officers treated White kids better than Black and/or Hispanic kids, while the White juveniles typically focused on differences based on the age of the juveniles and the severity of the crime. However, it should be noted that a few of the White respondents said that Black juveniles were treated worse than White juveniles.
- ◆ In response to a direct question about whether the police treat White and minority juveniles the same or differently, we found 18 of the 20 minority juveniles and five of the 10 White juveniles said that police usually treat Black, Hispanic and White kids differently. All 18 of these respondents said the White juveniles get treated the best. The Black respondents typically said that Black kids get treated the worst, while the Hispanic juveniles offered a mixed response (Black, Hispanic or both). The White juveniles either felt minority kids get treated worse, or it is the race of the police officer that determines who gets treated best.
- ◆ 17 of the 25 juveniles responding said they believe that the police arrest Black and/or Hispanic kids before they arrest White kids, and only seven said that they thought police do not consider race.
- ◆ Minority respondents cited examples of differential treatment of offenders by the police regarding: verbal abuse, physical abuse, arrest decisions, and detention decisions.

Representative verbatim responses are provided below.

- "It seems like because White kids are the (police officer's) own race that they treat them like brothers and sisters, and they treat us like dirt and slam us on the ground even if we are not resisting arrest. . . . We also get insulted by words, verbal insults." (Black, female)

- "If they seen a Black person walking down the street, they will throw him up against the car unlike a White kid. They have to have a reason to throw him up against a car. . . . They rough up Blacks and Puerto Ricans." (Black, male)
- "Hispanics they treat like slaves. . . . They yell at them and don't give them time to explain." (Black, male)
- "If there is a Black kid who steals, they send him to 'juvenile' first, and then call the parents afterwards. Unlike White kids. Race, as well as how pretty you are, sometimes determines if you go to juvenile detention. Also, if there is a fight between a White kid and a Black kid, the Black person goes to jail. It doesn't matter who started the fight." (Black, female)
- "I got in a fight with a White kid. When the police came, I got arrested but the White kid didn't. I got thrown out of the mall for 39 days, but the White kid didn't. Because I was darker than the White kid they threw me against the wall and handcuffed me." (Hispanic, male)
- "They picked me up by the neck. I had bruises and blood clots. I tell you they beat you. The majority of us are Puerto Rican and Black. . . . They should restrain us, but they beat us up even in the streets. They use more force than necessary." (Hispanic, female)
- "They treat White kids better. Blacks and Puerto Ricans are treated worse. I'm Black and Puerto Rican and they didn't treat me right. I saw White kids get away with a lot. They get let go the same day." (Hispanic, male)
- "Look what happened to Rodney King. They take advantage. They know they can get away with it. There are more White cops than Puerto Ricans. They want us to kiss up to them. That's not going to happen with me. That is why I get into trouble. Even a detention officer told me that police are always going to go to Blacks and Puerto Ricans first." (Hispanic, male)
- "White kids are treated better, Black kids are treated worse." (Black, male)
- "White cops treated me badly. My mother had to come out and tell them to stop slamming me. They threw me around and told my mother to 'shut up,' and even in the elevator he still tried to push me around and talked nasty to me." (Black, female)
- "They treat White kids better. One day my brother was coming home, he looks White though we are half Puerto Rican and half Black, and a White cop made a comment to him when he saw a group of Hispanics (saying) 'I can't stand those Spics.' They're prejudiced." (Black, female)
- "It depends on what color the cop is. One time I was arrested with a white girl, and he put me in handcuffs and he didn't put her in cuffs." (Black, female)
- "Even if it's a Black cop they treat White kids different, and give them more leeway than Black kids." (Black, female)

- "White cops are always chasing Black people, and when they catch them, they sometimes beat them up." (Black, male)
- "The police think that Blacks are wild, crazy and dirty." (Hispanic, female)
- "They give White kids a lot of breaks. If there is a car full of White people they will pass it. If there is a car filled with Hispanics or Blacks they will stop them." (Hispanic, male)
- "(I feel that Whites get treated better because) they don't get manhandled by the police. They don't get called black motherf\_\_\_\_\_ or Spic." (Hispanic, female)
- "I see them explaining things to the White people, like 'Calm down, get in the car.' With us, they are searching us, and have their guns out when we don't have guns." (Hispanic, male)
- "It depends on what town and what race. Mostly, all of the cops I know are prejudiced. Like if they're White, they don't like any of the Blacks or Hispanics. If they're Black, they don't like Whites or Hispanics." (White, male)
- "(I believe Blacks are treated worse) because there are more prejudiced people vs. Blacks, and when they get caught there is more resistance. They get beat up more usually. The cops are tough with them." (White, male)
- "Black kids are treated the worst. Cops are prejudiced. The police stop Blacks for no reason." (White, male)
- "(Who gets treated better) depends on the race of the police officer." (White, female)
- "Black cops treat Blacks better. White cops treat White kids better. Hispanic cops treat Hispanic kids better." (White, male)

## **B. PERCEPTIONS OF JUVENILE MATTERS**

Similar to the police component of the interview, questions on Juvenile Matters included:

(1) unaided questions on treating kids the same or differently, and (2) questions that focused directly on perceived differences across race and ethnicity. Specifically, respondents were asked if they thought the court:

- ◆ treats all kids the same and, if not, which types of kids get treated better or worse than the others;
- ◆ had been fair or unfair to them, and if unfair, what did the court do that they felt was unfair;

- ◆ treats Black, Hispanic and White juveniles the same and, if not, who gets treated better or worse and why;
- ◆ gives more severe placements or punishments to Black, Hispanic or White juveniles; and
- ◆ is more likely to place Black, Hispanic or White juveniles at Long Lane School or makes no distinction across race and ethnicity.

A review of the data gathered through the 30 juveniles interviewed revealed that juveniles believe that disparate court treatment of minority juveniles occurs at the disposition stage. Specifically, we found that:

- ◆ Most of the White and Black study participants indicated that they believe for most of the court process, the court treats all kids the same. In contrast, the Hispanic juveniles said that they felt that the court treats White kids better than Black and Hispanic kids. Moreover, four of the 10 Hispanic juveniles interviewed said that they personally were not treated fairly by the court.
- ◆ A direct question on whether the court gives more severe placements and punishments to Black, Hispanic or White juveniles resulted in most respondents citing harsher treatment for minorities. Eight of the 10 Hispanic juveniles and seven of the 10 Black juveniles said that they thought minority juveniles receive more severe placements and punishments than White juveniles.
- ◆ Seven of the 10 Black juveniles, as well as three White and three Hispanic juveniles, said that Black kids are the most likely to be placed in Long Lane School.
- ◆ When asked to describe how minority juveniles receive more severe placements and punishments study participants said that: White kids get away with more, minority kids are sent to Long Lane for petty stuff, and White kids are sent to the better placements. Several expressed the feeling that the court does not care about the minority kids and just wants to "get rid" of them by locking them up.

Representative verbatim responses are listed below.

- "White kids get treated better than the rest, especially if it is a White judge. White kids would come in with drug charges and would be let go. I would come in with breach of the peace and they would put me in detention. (Black kids get most severe sentences as) some of the Black kids get sent here (to Long Lane) for petty stuff." (Hispanic, female)

- "They think that we are not going to do anything with our life. If we are locked away, the less they have to worry about us." (Hispanic, female)
- "White kids are treated better. The judges and prosecutors let them get away with a lot." (Hispanic, male)
- "They don't give Hispanics a break at all. White kids would be out the same day." (Hispanic, female)
- "My parole officer (was unfair). I had a personal problem at home, so instead of putting me in family counseling they sent me to Long Lane. I felt that was unfair. I guess they just wanted to get rid of me." (Hispanic, female)
- "I feel the only time they would sentence a White kid is if it were a really bad crime. But the Black and Hispanic kids they lock up." (Hispanic, female)
- "Black kids get more time for crimes." (Hispanic, female)
- "I think they treat the kids who are not on welfare better. . . . They made me rush. They made me say yes to everything. I feel they did not give all fairness I deserved. They made it sound like they were doing things to help you, to get out. But, it wasn't. It was stuff to hurt you. I see a lot of (White kids) are not on welfare. They have the money and they buy better lawyers. That is how they fight the case better." (Hispanic, male)
- "Most of the time, even if you have a White kid who got an assault charge and a Black kid ran away from home, they send the Black kid to Long Lane and the White kid gets placement." (Black, female)
- "They might send a White person to a good placement if they did a lot of crimes and send a Black person to jail, like here. They think it is too bad (here at Long Lane School) for a White person." (Black, female)
- "Most of the people in Bridgeport court are White and they want to send the Black kids away quick. They let White kids slide the first time, but not the Black kids. . . . They lock up Black kids and tell them they only have to do four months, and when they get here it's a different story, like 18 months or two years." (Black, male)
- "If we come in with serious stuff like drugs, we go away for a long time and Whites get treated better." (Black, male)
- "They lock (Hispanics) up for a long time and send them to a place like this. They won't put them anywhere else. That is why there are so many Hispanics here." (Black, male)
- "When I was in court, a lot of White people were stealing cars, robberies, breaking into houses, and they only stay less than three weeks at New Haven detention. Blacks who do the same thing stay longer." (Black, male)
- "It's obvious that (Black kids are more likely to be placed at Long Lane) as there ain't many White people here." (White, male)

- "More of the Blacks and Puerto Ricans get placed here, but a lot of Puerto Ricans go to residential placements." (White, male)

### C. PERCEPTIONS OF LONG LANE SCHOOL

Respondents were asked a variety of questions about their Long Lane School experience and their perceptions of whether race/ethnicity impacts how kids are treated by Long Lane staff. Specifically, respondents were asked:

- ◆ if they wanted to go to Long Lane School or preferred to go to some other facility;
- ◆ how helpful or harmful their stay has been at Long Lane School and why;
- ◆ if they thought the staff at Long Lane School treats all kids the same and, if not, which types of kids are treated better or worse than others;
- ◆ if most of the staff at Long Lane School have usually treated them fairly and, if not, what have they done that was unfair;
- ◆ if Long Lane School staff treat Black, Hispanic and White juveniles the same and, if not, who gets treated better or worse and why they feel that way; and
- ◆ if they feel that the staff of their race/ethnicity treated them better than other staff.

The client interviews revealed the following.

- ◆ 12 (40%) of the 30 study participants (five Black, four Hispanic, and three White) said that they wanted to go to Long Lane School rather than another placement. For nine of the 12 kids the main reason they wanted to go Long Lane School was because they thought they would serve less time there than at another facility.
- ◆ For each race/ethnicity, one-half of the kids said that Long Lane School had helped them, three or four kids said Long Lane School had no impact on them, and one or two kids said Long Lane School had harmed them.
- ◆ Kids who felt that they have been helped, most often mentioned: controlling their temper, developing a more positive attitude, and staying out of trouble so they won't have to go back to Long Lane.

- ◆ Overall, 25 (83%) of the 30 kids said that staff treat some kids better than others. For both Black and Hispanic juveniles, nine of the 10 kids interviewed said that Long Lane School staff treat some kids better than others. For White juveniles, seven of 10 said that there were differences.
- ◆ A variety of reasons were cited for why kids believe staff treat some residents better than others. One-half of the Black respondents and a few Hispanic respondents said that White kids are treated better than Black and Hispanic kids. The other most frequently cited reason was that staff treat kids better who are the same race or ethnicity as they are. Additional reasons cited were: residents who have been at Long Lane School longer get treated better, some of the worst kids (e.g., in gangs, always fighting) get treated better because staff are scared of them, and the "brownosers" get treated better.
- ◆ Almost one-half of the 30 juveniles interviewed said that Long Lane School staff treat kids differently based on race and ethnicity. When asked to describe the differential treatment respondents cited cases of: minorities being transferred to detention or locked up for misbehavior while White offenders get counseling; minorities not being allowed outside after running away while White juveniles were able to go to school; White staff not treating minority juveniles with any respect; White kids get to go home quicker; and White kids get more privileges.

Representative verbatim responses are listed below.

#### Does Long Lane Staff Treat Kids Differently

- "Whites are treated better and others treated worse. Two weeks ago they said I attacked a White girl, and I (as a result) am pending transfer to a detention facility. A White girl did the same thing and she got five hours out of her room into an anger group. . . . I guess that they think Black kids always start the problem even if you're the victim. Hispanics who look White are treated differently (better), also" (Black, female)
- "If a Black kid ran they'd have to go on PJs -- keeping them on all of the time so they can't go outside. And two other White kids did the same thing, and they go to put on their clothes and the next day go to school." (Black, female)
- "White staff don't have respect for Blacks and Puerto Ricans. . . . The higher people, like supervisors, are White and they treat the White kids better. Give them more chances. Even if Blacks or Puerto Ricans are doing real good they won't put them in Wadsworth House. . . . Black people need special or certain hygiene products and hair products while Whites need haircuts. The Whites can get haircuts and the Blacks can't get their hair done so it falls out." (Black, female)

- "If there is an argument between two Black girls, they will lock them up and that will be the end of it. If two White girls are fighting they will be taken into a room and talked to." (Black, female)
- "Staff comes down harder on Black kids." (Black, male)
- "(Staff treat better) the kind of kids who kiss their butt or brownnose. A Black kid said something in the shower and he was locked up by Puerto Rican staff. A Puerto Rican kid said something and nothing happened." (Black, male)
- "White kids get to go home quicker and get away with more. White staff treat them better. . . . All staff, except the Black staff, treat Black kids worse." (Black, male)
- "There are some kids that staff are scared of who are treated better. Gang kids, afraid of them because they threaten (the staff)." (Black, male)
- "The Hispanics get babied if they go crying to staff." (Black, female)
- "Because there are a lot Hispanic staff. They talk to the Spanish kids in Spanish. Hispanics get more snacks." (Black, male)
- "Kids who have been here a long time get treated better by some staff. New kids get blamed for stuff. . . . The third shift staff will give pizza to (kids who have been here along time) and they don't share it with new kids." (Black, male)
- "White kids are treated better. Hispanics and Blacks are treated worse. If we ask White staff for something they say no. If a White kid asks for it they say yes. . . . White kids get more privileges than we do." (Hispanic, female)
- "The White kids are quiet. The staff does not deal with them much. The majority of kids here are Black and Puerto Rican." (Hispanic, female)
- "The Hispanics and Blacks are treated better because most of the staff is Black or Hispanic. The Whites think that because they are White they are better. Not here. The staff here knows what Hispanic or Black kids go through." (Hispanic, male)
- "It depends on the staff. There are some White staff that when some White kid does something wrong, they don't take it as seriously as if a Black or Puerto Rican did it. White staff favor White kids." (Hispanic, female)
- "I think they are rough on the big kids and petty with the small ones. All staff do this." (Hispanic, male)
- "(Differences aren't due to race.) Just that some staff like some kids better." (White, male)

- "Black staff treats Black kids better, White staff treat Whites better and the same is true with Hispanics. . . . In my unit there are mostly Hispanic staff and Hispanic kids. I'll ask for extra food and the staff will say no. But, I'll hear an Hispanic kid ask for extra food and he'll say yes." (White, male)
- "Kids who have been here the longest get all kinds of attention compared to the new kids. One Black staff person treats this Black girl like she is better than all of the rest of us. It goes on a lot. . . . The Black staff will in bring in candy for the Black kids and not the rest of us. . . . The Hispanic kids get treated worst. They are getting locked up more than anyone else. White and Black staff do that to them." (White, female)
- "Kids who have been here longer get treated better." (White, female)
- "The kids that fight anybody get treated better because the staff is scared of them. . . . Since most of the staff are Black, the Blacks kids get treated best. They get away with things." (White, female)
- "Staff treats kids that are positive better. Help them more. Kids that get in trouble. staff just locks them down, they don't do anything with them." (White, male)
- "They (Black staff) try to tell us things like try to do what you have to do to get out. Don't prove them right." (Black, female)
- "They (Black staff) treat us with the same respect that we treat them." (Black, female)
- "(Black staff) aren't petty. They don't yell at you for every little thing." (Black, male)
- "Some (Black) staff know you from the outside and they hook you up with snacks at night." (Black, male)
- "(Hispanic staff) gives us chances, the White staff does not." (Hispanic, female)
- "She (Hispanic staff person) understands me. You can relate better to your own kind." (Hispanic, female)
- "(White staff) treats me a little better. They are easier to talk to, to have regular conversations with." (White, male)

### How Has Long Lane School Helped/Harmed You

#### *Helped*

- "They helped me by controlling my temper a little bit." (Black, male)
- "They have helped me to control my attitude problem and disruptive behavior." (Black female)
- "They have helped me deal with my frustrations." (Black, male)

- "I am not going to get in trouble because I don't want to come back here." (Black, male)
- "Teaching me not to be negative and to be positive. Show you how to look for a job. They give you jobs and you get paid." (Black, male)
- "Before I used to have a bad attitude. They made me understand that it is not going to get me anywhere. I found God here, too." (Hispanic, female)
- "They try to get your frustrations off your back. They help you with sports, and help you learn how to do things in the community." (Hispanic, male)
- "I have learned how to listen to adults." (Hispanic, male)
- "It has given me time to think about my problems, and where I am wrong. It has helped me mature a bit." (Hispanic, female)
- "I guess I have learned from my mistakes and I learned a lot at school." (Hispanic, male)
- "It has taught me to stay out of trouble so I won't come back." (White, female)
- "It has helped me deal with my problems, like my temper and my disregard for the law. I guess." (White, male)

*Harmed*

- "I've been getting in to more trouble here than I got arrested for before. I let my anger out here more. I don't trust staff here. I don't feel comfortable talking to the staff. Instead of being able to talk to them and calm down, they send you to isolation. (Black, female)
- "Because it seems like they want to make people go against each other, like snitch on each other." (Black, female)
- "This place hurts people. It doesn't help nobody. It put me away from my family. We don't communicate anymore. They don't want to come see me here." (Hispanic, female)
- "It hasn't helped me. I need family counseling. They are not providing me with (that). I have been in and out since 1990." (Hispanic, female)
- "The kids jump me, the APOs broke my nose, and the staff just yell at you and call you names." (White, female)

## **D. SUMMARY OF OFFENDER PERCEPTIONS**

The client interviews strongly indicate that many juvenile offenders believe that the police, Juvenile Matters and DCF treat minority juvenile offenders different from their White counterparts. Specifically, the interviews revealed a perception on the part of many of the juvenile offenders interviewed that:

- ◆ Police are more likely to arrest Black and Hispanic juveniles than White juveniles involved in the same behaviors, subject minority juvenile offenders to physical and verbal abuse, and place minorities in detention but release White juveniles to their families.
- ◆ Juvenile Matters does not exhibit a great disparity in treatment across race/ethnicity until the disposition stage, where Black and Hispanic juvenile offenders were perceived as receiving more severe placements than their White counterparts.
- ◆ Long Lane School treats some kids better than others. While a variety of factors were believed to impact preferred treatment (e.g., length of time at Long Lane, race of staff), often these differences were attributed by the juveniles interviewed to preferred treatment of White kids. Perceived disparities included: more privileges for White kids, White kids getting away with more behaviors, stricter punishments of minority kids, lack of respect for minority kids, and discharging White kids earlier.

## VII. PUBLIC FORUM INPUT

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As discussed earlier, six public forums were held to share the results of this study and to obtain practitioner and citizen input on: (a) factors that may have precipitated these findings, and (b) actions that they would recommend to solve the problems revealed by the study's findings.

To obtain input, the forum participants participated in roundtable discussions on the causes of and solutions to disparate handling of minority juvenile offenders. It should be noted that at the forum the only findings from the study that were presented were those where differential treatment was found and was not neutralized when considering the other predictor variables. It was these findings that the forum participants were asked to address.

Forum participants listed a wide variety of factors that they thought might explain the findings of disparate treatment of minority juveniles. Some of the factors cited were given to justify differential decisions, while others were indictments calling out for corrective action.

The causal factors listed by forum participants typically were attributed to either: (a) the specific system component being discussed by the group (i.e., police, court or corrections); (b) other aspects of the juvenile justice system; (c) the juvenile offender's family; or (d) the juvenile offender.

This section of the report summarizes the main causes and solutions identified by participants in the 39 roundtables (i.e., 6 police, 16 court, and 17 corrections) across the six forums, broken out by system component (i.e., police, court, and corrections).

### A. POLICE

#### **Causes for the Differential Treatment of Minority Juveniles**

The participants seemed to attribute more of the factors causing differential treatment to the police officers and/ or their departments than they did to the juvenile justice system overall or the juvenile and his/her family.

### Police Factors

- ◆ There is racism or cultural insensitivity on the part of the police officers.
- ◆ Police are not from the minority offenders' neighborhoods, and don't know the juveniles or their families.
- ◆ There is an assumption, by some officers, of minority gang affiliation or violence.
- ◆ The officer's race/ethnicity, sex or age may impact his/her decisions.
- ◆ There is a language/communication barrier between minorities and non-minorities which affects the treatment of minority juveniles by non-minority officers.
- ◆ More minorities are placed in detention due to some federal/state laws and police department practices/policies (e.g., limit on number of hours a juvenile can be held at the police station results in more minorities being placed in detention as it is more difficult to get minority families to the station to pick up their child within the mandated time period).

### Other Juvenile Justice System Factors

- ◆ More minorities are placed in detention because of the location of the detention centers (i.e., in the three large cities where the minority population is the largest) and the lack of alternatives to detention.

### Family Factors

- ◆ More minorities are placed in detention because the police have more difficulty contacting minority families or the families are unable to pick up their child.
- ◆ More minorities are placed in detention because some minority families refuse to pick up the child.
- ◆ The neighborhood (e.g., poor, gang problems) in which the juvenile lives can influence the detention decision.

### Juvenile Offender Factors

- ◆ The attitude, respect, and cooperation given by the juvenile to the police officer impacts the officer's decisions.

### **Proposed Solutions**

For the proposed solutions, the forum participants focused on changes to the police, the overall juvenile justice system, and the family.

### Changes to Police

- ◆ Increase standards and background checks when hiring police officers.
- ◆ Increase the number of minority police officers and supervisors.
- ◆ Mandate cultural sensitivity training for police officers.
- ◆ Have the administration set the tone for the department's policies.
- ◆ Have a peer review process to ensure the policies are followed.
- ◆ Increase communication between the police and the community.
- ◆ Have better public relations to increase respect for the police and educate the community about the role of the police in the community.
- ◆ The police should have a stake in the community (i.e., participate in community meetings, fund community programs, etc.).

### Changes to the Juvenile Justice System Overall

- ◆ Increase community service centers (e.g., host homes, community management teams, and citizen review board).
- ◆ Improve communication and cooperation between agencies (e.g., police, DCF, school, and court).
- ◆ Review confidentiality laws that don't allow sharing of information.

- ◆ Develop alternatives to the detention centers for the police to take appropriate juveniles.

#### Changes to the Family

- ◆ Hold parents accountable for the actions of their children.
- ◆ Provide transportation for the family to pick up their children at the police station.

## **B. COURT**

### **Causes for the Differential Treatment of Minority Juveniles**

Forum attendees participating in the court roundtables attributed differential treatment at the juvenile court to a combination of court, family, and juvenile factors.

#### Court Factors

- ◆ There is racism across the system.
- ◆ There is a lack of minority staff and administration.
- ◆ There is a lack of understanding of cultural differences.
- ◆ There are not enough culturally appropriate resources and programs.
- ◆ There is a lack of alternatives to detention.
- ◆ The detention centers are located in the big cities where more minority juveniles live.
- ◆ There is a lack of alternative programs (e.g., drug treatment, sex offender program).
- ◆ Minority juveniles choose adjudication and/or Long Lane School to get out of detention (e.g., detention time doesn't count) resulting in more frequent initial placements to Long Lane School.
- ◆ There is lack of quality legal representation for poor offenders.

### Family Factors

- ◆ Minority families do not understand or trust the system.
- ◆ There are language barriers preventing families from effectively communicating their desires or understanding the options available.
- ◆ Minority families more often lack family support, responsibility or stability.
- ◆ Minority parents are more likely to be unwilling or unable to pick up juveniles from detention.
- ◆ Minority families more often are less educated.
- ◆ Minority families are more often poor.
- ◆ Minority families often live in bad neighborhoods which impacts court decisions.

### Juvenile Offender Factors

- ◆ Minority juveniles' attitude and appearance impact decision-making.
- ◆ Minority juveniles are more likely to choose Long Lane School over residential placement (e.g., shorter time, more "minority friendly," to get out of detention).
- ◆ Minority juveniles more often deny charges resulting in judicial rather than non-judicial court processing.
- ◆ Minority juveniles may be experiencing school problems.
- ◆ Minority juveniles more likely to have a gang affiliation.

## **Proposed Solutions**

The solutions suggested by the participants addressed changes to the court, changes to the juvenile justice system overall, and changes to the family.

### Changes to the Court

- ◆ Hire more minority staff at all levels (e.g., judges, advocates, public defenders, administration, and probation officers).
- ◆ Mandate cultural diversity/sensitivity training for court staff at all levels.
- ◆ Have more staff evaluations (e.g., clinical and educational), peer supervision, and accountability for decisions made.
- ◆ Increase the overall number of court staff.
- ◆ Mandate caps for case loads (probation officers and public defenders).
- ◆ Have alternatives to the detention centers (e.g., intensive supervision).
- ◆ Have detention centers in the rural and suburban areas.
- ◆ Provide more money to the system.
- ◆ Have pro-bono mediators and private attorneys to ensure equal legal representation.

### Changes to the Juvenile Justice System Overall

- ◆ Have the state run more residential facilities and day schools.
- ◆ Make Long Lane School and the residential facilities more similar in terms of length of stay so minority juveniles won't choose Long Lane School.
- ◆ Increase collaboration between various constituencies (i.e., community, police, school, court), and address confidentiality issues (i.e., statutes now limit sharing of information).
- ◆ Establish more community-based programs (e.g., mentoring, recreation), including culturally relevant programs.

### Changes to the Family

- ◆ Hold the parents accountable/responsible (e.g., create statutes).
- ◆ Educate parents about the court system and the options available for the juvenile.
- ◆ Empower and educate the parent.
- ◆ Provide economic assistance (e.g., affordable housing, health care).
- ◆ Have community liaisons or family advocates (e.g., help to educate the family, advocate for the family).
- ◆ Provide employment and job training opportunities for the parents and juvenile.

## **C. CORRECTIONS**

### **Causes for the Differential Treatment of Minority Juveniles**

The participants who discussed disparate treatment in regard to the corrections component of the juvenile justice system suggested possible causes coming from Department of Children and Families (DCF), other juvenile justice system areas, as well as the juvenile and his/her family.

#### DCF Factors

- ◆ White staff are not knowledgeable or sensitive about minorities.
- ◆ Minorities are seen as threatening by White staff.
- ◆ There is racism and prejudice on the part of decision-makers resulting from ignorance, fear, stereotypes and media reports. Racism may be subconscious or conscious, and overt or subtle. Racism impacts the outcomes of psychological exams.
- ◆ Kids' needs are not being adequately assessed before DCF placement decisions.
- ◆ There is not enough minority staff at all levels within DCF.

### Other Juvenile Justice System Factors

- ◆ There is a lack of viable alternatives for placing minority juveniles other than Long Lane School.
- ◆ Treatment programs that do exist often refuse to accept minority juveniles (e.g., feel there is better chance of positive outcomes with kids from intact and more supportive families; reactions to child's presentation or demeanor; minority youth do not meet admission criteria regarding academic ability, type of offense history or receptivity to treatment model; and racism on part of neighborhood in which these program facilities are located).
- ◆ There are different philosophies at different probation offices.
- ◆ Court system is overloaded so cases are handled badly.

### Family Factors

- ◆ Lack of support from the child's family impacts DCF placement and length of placement decisions (e.g., problems at home, break down of the family, and lack of parenting skills).
- ◆ White families are fearful of their child being placed in Long Lane School and strongly advocate for other placement, while minority parents either: (1) distrust treatment approach and seek the shortest placement option, or (2) do not know about these alternative placements and do not push for them.
- ◆ Minority juvenile offenders are more likely than White juvenile offenders to come from poor families and, as such are: (1) more often represented by a public defender rather than private attorney, and (2) less likely to be able to pay for private placements.

### Juvenile Offender Factors

- ◆ Minority juveniles choose to go to Long Lane School (e.g., get out quicker, friends are there, closer to home, uncomfortable at "White" facilities, peer influence/"badge of honor" to go to Long Lane School), while White kids choose residential (e.g., accept treatment approach and fear being at Long Lane School).
- ◆ Minorities are placed in maximum security due to poor communications with staff (cultural differences and prejudice).
- ◆ Minority juveniles use aggression as a coping skill to adapt to a prejudiced setting resulting in secure placements.
- ◆ Minorities may be placed in maximum security for protection from gangs.
- ◆ Minority juveniles may be placed in maximum security more often than White juveniles or stay longer because of more frequently engaging in negative behaviors at Long Lane School (e.g., runaway, out of control, fighting, etc.).
- ◆ System is based on middle class value system which minority kids reject resulting in more severe sanctions.

### **Proposed Solutions**

Consistent with suggested solutions for the police and court components, the participants who discussed the corrections component of the system suggested changes to DCF, the juvenile justice system overall, and the family to address the disparate treatment in juvenile corrections.

### Changes to DCF

- ◆ Admit racism exists.
- ◆ Implement better intake assessments/diagnostics at DCF to determine who should and should not go to Long Lane School.
- ◆ Standardize admission criteria.
- ◆ Use contracts to require residential placements to take more minority delinquents.

- ◆ Refer more minority juveniles to community-based programs.
- ◆ Hire more minority staff at all levels, including admission staff and for all shifts at Long Lane School.
- ◆ Conduct cultural diversity and sensitivity training seminars for all staff and at all levels.
- ◆ Make time of stay equal for all Long Lane School clients.
- ◆ Do not emphasize duration of stay at residential or Long Lane School but rather stress treatment and rehabilitation goals.
- ◆ Standardize placement length for Long Lane School and treatment programs.
- ◆ Have impartial advocate to review all intake and discharge decisions.
- ◆ Promote positive images of cultural diversity.
- ◆ Have a consistent, measurable disciplinary code at Long Lane School.

#### Changes to the Juvenile Justice System Overall

- ◆ Hire more minority staff in all components of the system.
- ◆ Conduct cultural diversity and sensitivity training seminars for all components, including judges and residential placements.
- ◆ Fund/create more in-state treatment programs that admit and address the needs of culturally diverse clients (e.g., group homes, community-based programs) and withhold funding of facilities that continue to reject minority offenders.
- ◆ Find locations for group homes that are not in racist neighborhoods.
- ◆ Allow more out-of-state placements.
- ◆ Provide support services in the community (after school, counseling, drug/alcohol treatment).
- ◆ Provide more and better legal representation for minorities.

- ◆ Have cross-cultural representation in developing psychological assessment and testing instruments.

### Changes to the Family

- ◆ Assist client families (e.g., parenting programs, Big Brother programs, mentors, church/community collaborations, help develop family support for juveniles).
- ◆ Inform minority parents about different placement options.
- ◆ Provide educational outreach on legal rights.
- ◆ Educate and empower parents.
- ◆ Reduce economic stressors on the individual and family that result from poverty.
- ◆ The treatment of offenders should be directed at helping the whole family.

## VIII. JUVENILE JUSTICE ADVISORY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

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### **Important Note**

The recommendations provided in this section of the report were developed and written by the Juvenile Justice Advisory Committee (JJAC). The recommendations are provided in this report to inform the reader of the direction the JJAC feels should be taken with regard to the over-representation of minorities in the juvenile justice system.

Spectrum Associates' study identified situations where minority juveniles are receiving more severe juvenile justice system decisions than White juveniles and elicited public and practitioner input on the causes and solutions to these disparities. After reviewing Spectrum Associates' report, the Juvenile Justice Advisory Committee developed a series of recommendations, with implementation strategies, to spur action to address study findings and to begin the process of remedying these situations.

The recommendations below are divided into two categories--personnel policy changes and program modifications. Recommendation categories are listed in the table below. Following the table, each recommendation is explored in detail, including an explanation of the problems it addresses, and a listing of possible strategies to implement the recommendation.

Please note that in the following recommendations, juvenile correction agencies refer to local and nonprofit agencies as well as to state-operated facilities.

#### **Personnel Recommendations**

- ◆ Employment
- ◆ Training
- ◆ Accountability

#### **Program Recommendations**

- ◆ Police
- ◆ Court
- ◆ Juvenile corrections
- ◆ Empowering juveniles and parents
- ◆ Investment in positive alternatives for children
- ◆ Monitoring progress

## **A. PERSONNEL RECOMMENDATIONS**

The differences in system processing decisions noted in the study can be interpreted in many ways. System practitioners and members of the public provided many interpretations and comments at the six forums that can best be addressed, at least in part, through personnel policy and practice changes. These interpretations include racial bias, cultural insensitivity, misunderstanding, fear of the unknown, overreaction to stereotypes, unclear policies or procedures, poor supervision, and limited documentation of decision-making.

The recommendations that follow are general in nature and not meant to imply that any particular agency is deficient in its personnel policies. Rather it is important to note that every agency working in the juvenile justice system is encouraged to review these recommendations and increase its efforts to insure fair and responsible decision-making.

### **Recommendation 1 (Employment)**

- A. The numbers of minority employees at all levels within police, court, and juvenile correction agencies should more closely reflect the numbers of minority juveniles served by the agency.**
- B. Hiring, job performance, and promotional policies and practice for all police, court, and juvenile correction agencies should include consideration of a candidate's ability and experience in working well with persons of differing races and cultures.**

Recommendation 1A grew out of the general consensus of the JJAC and the forum participants that hiring more minorities at all levels, not just those employees who work directly with juveniles, would increase agency responsiveness to racial and cultural differences, and favorably impact how minority juveniles interact with system staff.

It is hoped that more responsive hiring, job performance evaluation, and promotional policies might reduce disparate treatment of juveniles.

### Implementation Strategies

- ◆ Collect and analyze data on current minority employment in juvenile justice agencies
- ◆ Revise hiring policies and practices
- ◆ Enhance upward mobility programs
- ◆ Increase recruitment opportunities
- ◆ Develop suggested criteria to measure ability and experience working well with those of differing races and cultures
- ◆ Develop model policy concerning background checks to disqualify candidates who have a history of poor relations with those of differing races and cultures

### **Recommendation 2 (Training)**

**Employees at all levels within police, court, and juvenile correction agencies including commissioners, administrators, judges, attorneys, line staff, and staff of private contractors should be culturally competent.**

Cultural competency means awareness of, and sensitivity to, the many cultural differences found in Connecticut. This is important for state, local and private employees who deal directly with juveniles and their families. It is equally important for those in administrative and management positions who oversee and guide line staff, and design and revise policies and procedures for agency wide implementation.

### Implementation Strategies

- ◆ Conduct regular and periodic training
- ◆ Develop model curricula
- ◆ Compile a speakers bureau for use in planning training programs

### **Recommendation 3 (Accountability)**

- A. All juvenile justice agencies should have clear policies concerning decision-making with criteria specified for each decision point, particularly for detention and placement decisions, and a system of on-going impartial review of staff decisions.**
- B. All decisions regarding the handling of accused and adjudicated offenders should be consistently well documented with appropriate record keeping systems in place and utilized.**

Often, record keeping of items in client files was not set up in a manner to allow for studying the effects of a number of social and legal factors that could impact decision-making. Also, accountability for decisions is limited when policies and procedures do not require documentation of specific reasons for decisions. The repeated suggestions from forum participants that the JJAC heartily endorses are that all juvenile justice agencies--police, court, and juvenile correction--adopt clear policies concerning decision-making, and institute some type of ongoing impartial review of decisions, possibly a peer review process.

#### Implementation Strategies

- ◆ Develop and/or revise policies and procedures
- ◆ Adopt consistent record keeping
- ◆ Design standardized data collection formats for distribution
- ◆ Prepare suggested policies for agencies to modify and adopt
- ◆ Develop models for peer review process

## **B. PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS**

Although implementing the personnel recommendations described in Recommendations 1 through 3 above is necessary to address the overrepresentation of minorities in Connecticut's juvenile justice system, it is not enough. Many of the differences in system processing decisions reflect the lack of alternatives and resources for juveniles within the system and within their local communities. The different system processing decisions for minorities also reflect cultural differences that may best be equalized by directing program resources towards parents and towards specific high crime, high poverty neighborhoods.

The recommendations that follow present program ideas for each component of the juvenile justice system as well as for parents and the community.

### **Recommendation 4 (Police)**

**Police departments should be active participants in the communities they serve. They should be knowledgeable about available children's services; aware of, and responsive to, people's safety concerns; and always trying to improve citizens' understanding of police functions.**

Improving police-community relations needs to be a top priority with every police department. This is particularly true for police-juvenile relations because juveniles may be less informed about police functions.

Police usually have more discretion with juvenile offenders including possible referral to local counseling and recreation services. Therefore, police need to be more familiar with what is available in the community for children and must know how to access it. Knowledge of local resources might also promote early intervention, lessen police referrals to court, and decrease police transportation to detention.

Increasing communication between police and the community will require police to review their policies with an eye towards community perceptions and concerns. As police officers become more active in community events and more of an integral part of everyday community activities, they will have a better understanding, and less fear, of the people they serve.

### Implementation Strategies

- ◆ Enhance public relations on the police role
- ◆ Increase police participation in community events
- ◆ Train police departments on available state and local juvenile services programs
- ◆ Expand community policing
- ◆ Develop and distribute specific police/community relations strategies that have shown promise
- ◆ Designate more youth officers
- ◆ Establish additional Juvenile Review Boards

### **Recommendation 5 (Court)**

**Sufficient services for accused juvenile offenders should be available including several alternatives in addition to those of placement home with no services and placement in secure detention, and including provision of adequate legal representation.**

Some of the most significant findings of our study concerned the detention decision points. Minority juveniles were found to be placed in detention more often than white juveniles and, in some cases, to stay longer. Those Black juveniles detained were more likely to be adjudicated as serious juvenile offenders (SJOs), and those minorities detained for non-SJO felonies were more likely to be placed in Long Lane School.

Clearly efforts to address minority overrepresentation must focus on the initial decision to send a juvenile to detention and on the lack of alternatives to a detention placement. There need to be expanded options for both police and court officials including such alternatives in the community as intensive supervision, electronic monitoring, and non-secure placement.

This recommendation also addresses a common concern of forum participants that there is a lack of quality legal representation for poor offenders.

### Implementation Strategies

- ◆ Develop and fund alternatives to detention
- ◆ Reduce public defender caseloads to insure adequate legal representation
- ◆ Expand continuing education of attorneys on juvenile justice matters

### **Recommendation 6 (Juvenile Correction)**

**Sufficient services for adjudicated juvenile offenders should be available including extending the length of stay at Long Lane School to make it the least desirable placement option, and additional accessible (can not be turned away) community-based residential and non-residential programs.**

According to study findings, minority juveniles were more likely to be placed at Long Lane School, averaged longer Long Lane School placements, and, in some cases, were more likely to spend time in maximum security at Long Lane School. White juveniles were more likely to be placed in residential placements other than Long Lane School, and averaged more time in other residential placements.

Many forum participants attributed the large numbers of minorities at Long Lane School to the lack of viable alternatives for placing minority juveniles other than at Long Lane and to minority juveniles choosing to go to Long Lane for a number of reasons--short length of stay, friends are there, closer to home, uncomfortable at "White" facilities, peer influence/badge of honor to go to Long Lane School.

To remedy these disparate juvenile correction placements this program recommendation stresses increased resources available and accessible to minorities. This would also allow Long Lane School to lengthen average stays and end the perception that Long Lane School, the most severe placement option, is a preferred placement because of its shorter stay.

### Implementation Strategies

- ◆ Develop and fund additional community-based residential and non-residential programs
- ◆ Review and revise procedures for contracting for residential and non-residential programs to insure accessibility, appropriate programs for minority juveniles, and compliance with the Personnel Recommendations 1 through 3 listed above

## **Recommendation 7 (Empowering Juveniles and Parents)**

**All juvenile justice agencies should present clear, complete and consistent information on referral, program and placement alternatives, as well as on agency procedures, to the juvenile and his/her parents/guardian/attorney so that they can be active and informed participants in all juvenile justice system handling decisions.**

It was clear from forum participants that the juvenile justice system could do a better job involving parents and focusing on families. All juvenile justice cases should have a family focus, and this focus should go beyond family counseling to include general support with such family issues as employment, housing, health, and parenting.

In addition parents need to be educated about the juvenile justice system to become effective participants in it. This includes eliminating language and cultural barriers at police, court, and juvenile correction agencies and having in place protocols to insure juvenile and parental education and understanding of procedures, child and parent choices, and probable outcomes.

A particular concern of parents--transportation--was repeated at all the forums and needs to be addressed in order to empower juveniles and their parents. This means transportation of parents to the police station when their children have been picked up by police, transportation to court and detention centers, and transportation of family members to recommended community services.

### Implementation Strategies

- ◆ Revise policies and procedures to assure consistent information to juveniles and parents
- ◆ Develop educational materials for parents
- ◆ Identify and support transportation options for juveniles and parents

## **Recommendation 8 (Investment in Positive Alternatives for Children)**

**Every child in Connecticut should be positively involved with his or her family, school, peers, and community. At a minimum this requires education, cultural and recreational opportunities, and job training and placement.**

To deal with the overrepresentation of minorities in the juvenile justice system and juvenile delinquency in general, we must invest resources in our children before they are in trouble. This

means prevention programming for skills development so our children can learn to resist peer and adult pressure to engage in crime and use alcohol or other drugs, so they can learn to earn a living without resorting to crime, so they have positive activities to occupy their time and contribute to their communities and keep them out of harm's way, and so they can lead their own children down the path to successful citizenship and adulthood.

#### Implementation Strategies

- ◆ Develop and fund additional prevention programs

#### **Recommendation 9 (Monitoring Progress)**

**The State of Connecticut through its Juvenile Justice Advisory Committee (JJAC) should continue its lead role in addressing minority overrepresentation in the juvenile justice system by overseeing implementation of its recommendations and reporting annually to the Governor on progress toward a more equitable system.**

It is important to assign responsibility for the implementation of these recommendations. This issue of fairness and equity in the juvenile justice system in Connecticut is part of our heritage and will significantly affect us all as today's juveniles become tomorrow's leaders and citizens or adult criminals. Since all of the recommendations are addressed to more than one agency, and because of the interrelatedness of the juvenile justice system components and the three personnel and five program recommendations, it is appropriate that an interagency committee appointed by the Governor such as the JJAC oversee the implementation process.

The JJAC must continue its ongoing work with each state agency in encouraging and monitoring progress. Measuring progress through an annual report to the Governor and the General Assembly can heighten awareness of the issue which must remain high if changes are to be carried out.

#### Implementation Strategies

- ◆ Prepare an annual report on progress towards these recommendations
- ◆ Distribute report and recommend additional strategies and activities as necessary

**APPENDIX A**

Listing of Serious Juvenile Offenses (1991)

## STATE OF CONNECTICUT SERIOUS JUVENILE OFFENSES (1991)

<b>Statute</b>	<b>Statute Name</b>
21a-277(a)	Sale of Hallucinogen/Narcotic
21a-277(b)	Sale of Controlled Substance
21a-277(c)	Operation of Drug Factory
21a-278(a)	Sale of Certain Illegal Drugs
21a-278(b)	Sale of Certain Illegal Drugs
21a-278a(a)	Dist. Cont. Sub. to Person <18 Yr.
21a-278a(b)	Cont. Sub. within 1,000 Feet of School
21a-278a(c)	Use Minor to Dist. Cont. Subst.
53-80a	Ill. Bomb Manufacture
53-206b	Ill. Training of Weapons Use
53-390	Extortionate Advance of Credit
53-391	Extortionate Advance of Money
53-392	Extortionate Collection
53a-54a	Murder
53a-54b(1)	Murder-Peace Officer
53a-54b(2)	Murder-Pecuniary Gain
53a-54b(3)	Murder-Prior Murder Conviction
53a-54b(4)	Murder-Serving Life Sentence
53a-54b(5)	Murder-Victim of Kidnapping
53a-54b(6)	Murder-Result of Sale of Drugs
53a-54b(7)	Murder-Victim of Sex Assault 1
53a-54b(8)	Murder-Multiple Victims
53a-54c	Murder-Commission of Felony
53a-54d	Murder-Commission of Arson
53a-55	Manslaughter 1st Degree
53a-55a	Manslaughter 1st Degree-Firearm
53a-56	Manslaughter 2nd Degree
53a-56a	Manslaughter 2nd Degree-Firearm
53a-57	Misconduct with Motor Vehicle
53a-59	Assault 1st Degree
53a-59(a)(1)	Assault 1st Degree-Ser. Phys. Injry.
53a-59(a)(2)	Assault 1st Degree-Disfigure
53a-59(a)(3)	Assault 1st Degree-Ex. Ind. to Life
53a-59a	Assault 1st Degree-Victim >60 Years
53a-60	Assault 2nd Degree
53a-60a	Assault 2nd Degree Firearm
53a-60b	Assault 2nd Degree-Victim >60 Years
53a-60c	Assault 2nd Degree-Victim >60-Frarm.
53a-60d*	Assault 2nd Degree-Motor Vehicle
53a-70	Sexual Assault 1st Degree
53a-70a	Sexual Assault 1st Deg-Aggrvtd.
53a-70b	Sexual Assault-Spouse/Cohabitr.
53a-71	Sexual Assault 2nd Degree
53a-72b	Sexual Assault 3rd Degree-Firearm
53a-86	Promoting Prostitution 1st Degree
53a-92	Kidnap 1st Degree
53a-92a	Kidnap 1st Degree-Firearm
53a-94	Kidnap 2nd Degree
53a-95	Unlawful Restraint 1st Degree

<b>Statute</b>	<b>Name Statute</b>
53a-101	Burglary 1st Degree
53a-101(a)(1)	Burglary 1st Degree-Deadly Weapon
53a-101(a)(2)	Burglary 1st Degree-Bodily Injury
53a-111	Arson 1st Degree
53a-112	Arson 2nd Degree
53a-113	Arson 3rd Degree
53a-122(a)1	Larceny 1st by Extortion
53a-123(a)3	Larceny 2nd from Person
53a-134	Robbery 1st Degree
53a-134(a)(1)	Robbery 1st Degree-Ser. Phys. Injury.
53a-134(a)(2)	Robbery 1st Degree-Deadly Weapon
53a-134(a)(3)	Robbery 1st Degree-Dangerous Inst.
53a-134(a)(4)	Robbery 1st Degree-Firearm Threat
53a-135	Robbery 2nd Degree
53a-166	Hindering Prosecution 1st Degree
53a-167c	Assault-Peace Officer/Fireman
53a-174(a)	Convey Unauth. Item into Inst.
53a-196a	Employ Minor-Obscene Performance
53a-211	Pos. Sawed Off Shotgun/Silencer

**APPENDIX B**

Juvenile Matters Offices' Town Listings

## JUVENILE MATTERS OFFICES' TOWN LISTING (1991)

### **Danbury Juvenile Matters Office**

Bethel	Newtown
Bridgewater	Redding
Brookfield	Ridgefield
Danbury	Roxbury
New Fairfield	Sherman
New Milford	

### **Stamford Juvenile Matters Office**

Greenwich	Stamford
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### **Norwalk Juvenile Matters Office**

Darien	Weston
New Canaan	Westport
Norwalk	Wilton

### **Bridgeport Juvenile Matters Office**

Bridgeport	Shelton
Easton	Stratford
Fairfield	Trumbull
Monroe	

### **Hartford Juvenile Matters Office**

Bloomfield	Hartford
East Hartford	West Hartford
Glastonbury	Windsor

### **Plainville Juvenile Matters Office**

Avon	Hartland
Berlin	New Britain
Bristol	Newington
Burlington	Plainville
Canton	Rocky Hill
East Granby	Simsbury
Farmington	Southington
Granby	Wethersfield

### **Montville Juvenile Matters Office**

Bozrah	New London
Colchester	North Stonington
East Lyme	Norwich
Franklin	Old Lyme
Griswold	Preston
Groton	Salem
Lebanon	Sprague
Ledyard	Stonington
Lisbon	Voluntown
Lyme	Waterford
Montville	

**Torrington Juvenile Matters Office**

Barkhamsted	North Canaan
Bethlehem	Plymouth
Canaan	Salisbury
Colebrook	Sharon
Cornwall	Thomaston
Goshen	Torrington
Harwinton	Warren
Kent	Washington
Litchfield	Watertown
Morris	Winchester
New Hartford	Woodbury
Norfolk	

**Middletown Juvenile Matters Office**

Chester	Haddam
Clinton	Killingworth
Cromwell	Middlefield
Deep River	Middletown
Durham	Old Saybrook
East Haddam	Portland
East Hampton	Westbrook
Essex	

**New Haven Juvenile Matters Office**

Bethany	New Haven
Branford	North Branford
East Haven	North Haven
Guilford	Orange
Hamden	West Haven
Madison	Woodbridge
Milford	

**Meriden Juvenile Matters Office**

Cheshire	Wallingford
Meriden	

**Talcottville Juvenile Matters Office**

Bolton	Stafford
East Windsor	Suffield
Ellington	Talcottville
Enfield	Tolland
Manchester	Vernon
Somers	Windsor Locks
South Windsor	

**Waterbury Juvenile Matters Office**

Ansonia	Prospect
Beacon Falls	Seymour
Derby	Southbury
Middlebury	Waterbury
Naugatuck	Wolcott
Oxford	

**Willimantic Juvenile Matters Office**

Andover	Marlborough
Ashford	Plainfield
Brooklyn	Pomfret
Canterbury	Putnam
Chaplin	Scotland
Columbia	Sterling
Coventry	Thompson
Eastford	Union
Hampton	Willimantic
Hebron	Willington
Killingly	Woodstock
Mansfield	

## **APPENDIX C**

### **Weighting Procedure For Police Sample**

## WEIGHTING PROCEDURE FOR POLICE SAMPLE

In collecting data from the police departments/barracks, a stratified sampling plan was used that: (1) randomly selected departments/barracks within different size cities/towns, and (2) over-sampled Black and Hispanic juveniles. This approach was used to enable comparisons across different size cities/towns and race/ethnicity.

As the analysis for this study always breaks out the data by race/ethnicity, there is no need to adjust the data to compensate for the over-sampling of Black and Hispanic juvenile offenders. However, since data across police departments/barracks are aggregated, it is necessary to weight the data to represent the actual distribution of incident reports across the police departments/barracks. Therefore, the data were adjusted via a weighting procedure to compensate for the over or under-sampling of departments/barracks in particular size cities/towns. The weighting procedure was conducted by:

- determining the "universe" of incident reports in each of the 26 departments and 5 barracks under study for Fiscal Year 1991-92\*;
- calculating each department's/barrack's actual percentage of the universe;
- calculating the percentage of abstract forms completed from each department/barrack; and
- computing and applying a weighting factor to correct for differences between the universe and sampled percentages.

By weighting the data, the "weight" of the responses provided by those departments/barracks that account for a large percentage of the incident report universe is increased to represent its proportion of the universe, while the "weight" of the responses provided by the departments/barracks that account for a small percentage of the incident report universe is decreased to reflect its actual size.

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\* The universe information was provided by the Office of Policy and Management.

**APPENDIX D**

Overrepresentation Data by Juvenile Matters Office

**EXTENT OF OVERREPRESENTATION OF MINORITIES IN THE CONNECTICUT JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM**  
(Danbury Office)

	Decision Points											
	Population 10-16 Year Olds (1991)*		Youth Referred to Juvenile Matters for Instant Offense** (1991)			Youth Placed in Detention for Instant Offense** (1991)			Youth Placed in Long Lane School for Instant Offense** (1991)			
	Percent	Count	DRI+	Percent	Count	DRI+	Percent	Count	DRI+	Percent	Count	
Asian	3.27%	563	.32	1.05%	4	--	0%	0	--	0%	0	
Black	2.92%	504	4.93	14.40%	55	11.85	34.61%	9	12.45	36.36%	4	
Hispanic++	4.45%	766	1.82	8.11%	31	.87	3.85%	1	2.04	9.09%	1	
White	89.01%	15,336	.84	74.87%	286	.69	61.54%	16	.61	54.55%	6	
Other	.35%	60	4.49	1.57%	6	--	0%	0	--	0%	0	
Total	100.00%	17,229	--	100.00%	382	--	100.00%	26	--	100.00%	11	

\* Based on 1990 census data.

\*\* Includes all cases used for the study disposed in 1991 that had petitions filed for Felony, Misdemeanor, Violation, or Status charges.

+ The Disproportionate Representation Index (DRI) is a comparison of the proportion of a specific race at a specific point in the juvenile justice system compared to the proportion of this group in the 10-16 year old population. If the DRI is equal to one, the representation of youth of that race at that decision point is what would be expected based on the census data. If the DRI is less than one, there is underrepresentation and if the DRI is greater than one there is overrepresentation.

++ For the census data, Hispanic youth were recorded as Asian, Black, White or other race and of Hispanic origin. In order to make comparisons to the juvenile justice system's race data, Spectrum Associates computed the number of youth within each race that were of Hispanic origin and designated "Hispanic" as a race.

**EXTENT OF OVERREPRESENTATION OF MINORITIES IN THE CONNECTICUT JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM**  
(Stamford Office)

	Population 10-16 Year Olds (1991)*		Decision Points											
			Youth Referred to Juvenile Matters for Instant Offense** (1991)				Youth Placed in Detention for Instant Offense** (1991)				Youth Placed in Long Lane School for Instant Offense** (1991)			
	Percent	Count	DRI+	Percent	Count	DRI+	Percent	Count	DRI+	Percent	Count	DRI+	Percent	Count
Asian	4.29%	519	--	0%	0	--	0%	0	--	0%	--	0%	0	
Black	17.43%	2,113	2.81	48.92%	159	4.49	78.26%	18	3.83	66.67%	2	66.67%	2	
Hispanic++	9.99%	1,210	1.02	10.16%	33	1.31	13.04%	3	--	0%	0	0%	0	
White	68.00%	8,241	.60	40.92%	133	.13	8.70%	2	.49	33.33%	1	33.33%	1	
Other	.29%	35	--	0%	0	--	0%	0	--	0%	0	0%	0	
Total	100.00%	12,118	--	100.00%	325	--	100.00%	23	--	100.00%	3	100.00%	3	

\* Based on 1990 census data.

\*\* Includes all cases used for the study disposed in 1991 that had petitions filed for Felony, Misdemeanor, Violation, or Status charges.

+ The Disproportionate Representation Index (DRI) is a comparison of the proportion of a specific race at a specific point in the juvenile justice system compared to the proportion of this group in the 10-16 year old population. If the DRI is equal to one, the representation of youth of that race at that decision point is what would be expected based on the census data. If the DRI is less than one, there is underrepresentation and if the DRI is greater than one there is overrepresentation.

++ For the census data, Hispanic youth were recorded as Asian, Black, White or other race and of Hispanic origin. In order to make comparisons to the juvenile justice system's race data, Spectrum Associates computed the number of youth within each race that were of Hispanic origin and designated "Hispanic" as a race.

**EXTENT OF OVERREPRESENTATION OF MINORITIES IN THE CONNECTICUT JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM**  
(Norwalk Office)

	Population 10-16 Year Olds (1991)*		Decision Points											
			Youth Referred to Juvenile Matters for Instant Offense** (1991)				Youth Placed in Detention for Instant Offense** (1991)				Youth Placed in Long Lane School for Instant Offense** (1991)			
	Percent	Count	DRI+	Percent	Count	DRI+	Percent	Count	DRI+	Percent	Count	DRI+	Percent	Count
Asian	2.60%	343	--	0%	0	--	0%	0	--	0%	--	0%	0	
Black	10.23%	1,350	3.52	36.05%	137	5.87	60.00%	6	9.78	100.00%	1			
Hispanic++	7.54%	994	2.34	17.63%	67	3.98	30.00%	3	--	0%	0			
White	79.37%	10,471	.58	46.05%	175	.13	10.00%	1	--	0%	0			
Other	.26%	34	1.04	.27%	1	--	0%	0	--	0%	0			
Total	100.00%	13,192	--	100.00%	380	--	100.00%	10	--	100.00%	1			

\* Based on 1990 census data.

\*\* Includes all cases used for the study disposed in 1991 that had petitions filed for Felony, Misdemeanor, Violation, or Status charges.

+ The Disproportionate Representation Index (DRI) is a comparison of the proportion of a specific race at a specific point in the juvenile justice system compared to the proportion of this group in the 10-16 year old population. If the DRI is equal to one, the representation of youth of that race at that decision point is what would be expected based on the census data. If the DRI is less than one, there is underrepresentation and if the DRI is greater than one there is overrepresentation.

++ For the census data, Hispanic youth were recorded as Asian, Black, White or other race and of Hispanic origin. In order to make comparisons to the juvenile justice system's race data, Spectrum Associates computed the number of youth within each race that were of Hispanic origin and designated "Hispanic" as a race.

**EXTENT OF OVERREPRESENTATION OF MINORITIES IN THE CONNECTICUT JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM**  
(Bridgeport Office)

	Population 10-16 Year Olds (1991)*		Decision Points											
	Percent	Count	Youth Referred to Juvenile Matters for Instant Offense** (1991)			Youth Placed in Detention for Instant Offense** (1991)			Youth Placed in Long Lane School for Instant Offense** (1991)					
			DRI+	Percent	Count	DRI+	Percent	Count	DRI+	Percent	Count			
Asian	2.21%	641	.21	.47%	5	--	0%	0	--	0%	0			
Black	16.91%	4,893	2.36	39.96%	426	3.10	52.38%	154	3.21	54.29%	19			
Hispanic++	19.64%	5,684	1.66	32.64%	348	1.92	37.76%	111	2.04	40.00%	14			
White	60.72%	17,573	.44	26.74%	285	.16	9.86%	29	.09	5.71%	2			
Other	.52%	150	.37	.19%	2	--	0%	0	--	0%	0			
Total	100.00%	28,941	--	100.00%	1,066	--	100.00%	294	--	100.00%	35			

\* Based on 1990 census data.

\*\* Includes all cases used for the study disposed in 1991 that had petitions filed for Felony, Misdemeanor, Violation, or Status charges.

+ The Disproportionate Representation Index (DRI) is a comparison of the proportion of a specific race at a specific point in the juvenile justice system compared to the proportion of this group in the 10-16 year old population. If the DRI is equal to one, the representation of youth of that race at that decision point is what would be expected based on the census data. If the DRI is less than one, there is underrepresentation and if the DRI is greater than one there is overrepresentation.

++ For the census data, Hispanic youth were recorded as Asian, Black, White or other race and of Hispanic origin. In order to make comparisons to the juvenile justice system's race data, Spectrum Associates computed the number of youth within each race that were of Hispanic origin and designated "Hispanic" as a race.

**EXTENT OF OVERREPRESENTATION OF MINORITIES IN THE CONNECTICUT JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM**  
(Hartford Office)

	Population 10-16 Year Olds (1991)*		Decision Points											
			Youth Referred to Juvenile Matters for Instant Offense** (1991)				Youth Placed in Detention for Instant Offense** (1991)				Youth Placed in Long Lane School for Instant Offense** (1991)			
	Percent	Count	DRI+	Percent	Count	DRI+	Percent	Count	DRI+	Percent	Count	DRI+	Percent	Count
Asian	2.33%	655	.18	.43%	6	--	0%	0	--	0%	0	--	0%	0
Black	26.96%	7,586	1.55	41.77%	589	1.61	43.44%	159	1.55	41.67%	15	1.55	41.67%	15
Hispanic++	26.07%	7,336	1.47	38.30%	540	1.79	46.72%	171	2.24	58.33%	21	2.24	58.33%	21
White	44.19%	12,433	.44	19.50%	275	.22	9.84%	36	--	0%	0	--	0%	0
Other	.45%	125	--	0%	0	--	0%	0	--	0%	0	--	0%	0
Total	100.00%	28,135	--	100.00%	1,410	--	100.00%	366	--	100.00%	36	--	100.00%	36

\* Based on 1990 census data.

\*\* Includes all cases used for the study disposed in 1991 that had petitions filed for Felony, Misdemeanor, Violation, or Status charges.

+ The Disproportionate Representation Index (DRI) is a comparison of the proportion of a specific race at a specific point in the juvenile justice system compared to the proportion of this group in the 10-16 year old population. If the DRI is equal to one, the representation of youth of that race at that decision point is what would be expected based on the census data. If the DRI is less than one, there is underrepresentation and if the DRI is greater than one there is overrepresentation.

++ For the census data, Hispanic youth were recorded as Asian, Black, White or other race and of Hispanic origin. In order to make comparisons to the juvenile justice system's race data, Spectrum Associates computed the number of youth within each race that were of Hispanic origin and designated "Hispanic" as a race.

**EXTENT OF OVERREPRESENTATION OF MINORITIES IN THE CONNECTICUT JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM**  
(Plainville Office)

	Decision Points											
	Population 10-16 Year Olds (1991)*		Youth Referred to Juvenile Matters for Instant Offense** (1991)			Youth Placed in Detention for Instant Offense** (1991)			Youth Placed in Long Lane School for Instant Offense** (1991)			
	Percent	Count	DRI+	Percent	Count	DRI+	Percent	Count	DRI+	Percent	Count	
Asian	1.62%	472	.26	.42%	3	--	0%	0	--	0%	0	
Black	3.39%	991	3.14	10.65%	77	5.36	18.18%	20	4.22	14.29%	3	
Hispanic++	8.02%	2,342	3.07	24.62%	178	5.33	42.73%	47	5.94	47.62%	10	
White	86.68%	25,322	.74	63.76%	461	.45	39.09%	43	.44	38.09%	8	
Other	.29%	87	1.90	.55%	4	--	0%	0	--	0%	0	
Total	100.00%	29,214	--	100.00%	723	--	100.00%	110	--	100.00%	21	

\* Based on 1990 census data.

\*\* Includes all cases used for the study disposed in 1991 that had petitions filed for Felony, Misdemeanor, Violation, or Status charges.

+ The Disproportionate Representation Index (DRI) is a comparison of the proportion of a specific race at a specific point in the juvenile justice system compared to the proportion of this group in the 10-16 year old population. If the DRI is equal to one, the representation of youth of that race at that decision point is what would be expected based on the census data. If the DRI is less than one, there is underrepresentation and if the DRI is greater than one there is overrepresentation.

++ For the census data, Hispanic youth were recorded as Asian, Black, White or other race and of Hispanic origin. In order to make comparisons to the juvenile justice system's race data, Spectrum Associates computed the number of youth within each race that were of Hispanic origin and designated "Hispanic" as a race.

**EXTENT OF OVERREPRESENTATION OF MINORITIES IN THE CONNECTICUT JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM**  
(Montville Office)

	Decision Points											
	Population 10-16 Year Olds (1991) *		Youth Referred to Juvenile Matters for Instant Offense** (1991)			Youth Placed in Detention for Instant Offense** (1991)			Youth Placed in Long Lane School for Instant Offense** (1991)			
	Percent	Count	DRI+	Percent	Count	DRI+	Percent	Count	DRI+	Percent	Count	
Asian	1.67%	351	.14	.24%	2	--	0%	0	--	0%	0	
Black	5.77%	1,212	2.76	15.93%	133	6.17	35.59%	21	8.67	50.00%	2	
Hispanic++	4.79%	1,006	1.52	7.30%	61	2.12	10.17%	6	--	0%	0	
White	87.00%	18,270	.88	76.41%	638	.62	54.24%	32	.57	50.00%	2	
Other	.77%	162	.16	.12%	1	--	0%	0	--	0%	0	
Total	100.00%	21,001	--	100.00%	835	--	100.00%	59	--	100.00%	4	

\* Based on 1990 census data.

\*\* Includes all cases used for the study disposed in 1991 that had petitions filed for Felony, Misdemeanor, Violation, or Status charges.

+ The Disproportionate Representation Index (DRI) is a comparison of the proportion of a specific race at a specific point in the juvenile justice system compared to the proportion of this group in the 10-16 year old population. If the DRI is equal to one, the representation of youth of that race at that decision point is what would be expected based on the census data. If the DRI is less than one, there is underrepresentation and if the DRI is greater than one there is overrepresentation.

++ For the census data, Hispanic youth were recorded as Asian, Black, White or other race and of Hispanic origin. In order to make comparisons to the juvenile justice system's race data, Spectrum Associates computed the number of youth within each race that were of Hispanic origin and designated "Hispanic" as a race.

**EXTENT OF OVERREPRESENTATION OF MINORITIES IN THE CONNECTICUT JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM**  
(Torrington Office)

	Population 10-16 Year Olds (1991)*		Decision Points											
	Percent	Count	Youth Referred to Juvenile Matters for Instant Offense** (1991)			Youth Placed in Detention for Instant Offense** (1991)			Youth Placed in Long Lane School for Instant Offense** (1991)					
			DRI+	Percent	Count	DRI+	Percent	Count	DRI+	Percent	Count			
Asian	1.26%	153	.49	.62%	2	--	0%	0	--	0%	0	--	0%	0
Black	1.21%	147	2.30	2.78%	9	--	0%	0	--	0%	0	--	0%	0
Hispanic++	1.39%	170	.66	.92%	3	6.54	9.09%	1	28.78	40.00%	2			
White	95.86%	11,675	1.00	95.68%	310	.95	90.91%	10	.63	60.00%	3			
Other	.28%	34	--	0%	0	--	0%	0	--	0%	0			
Total	100.00%	12,179	--	100.00%	324	--	100.00%	11	--	100.00%	5			

\* Based on 1990 census data.

\*\* Includes all cases used for the study disposed in 1991 that had petitions filed for Felony, Misdemeanor, Violation, or Status charges.

+ The Disproportionate Representation Index (DRI) is a comparison of the proportion of a specific race at a specific point in the juvenile justice system compared to the proportion of this group in the 10-16 year old population. If the DRI is equal to one, the representation of youth of that race at that decision point is what would be expected based on the census data. If the DRI is less than one, there is underrepresentation and if the DRI is greater than one there is overrepresentation.

++ For the census data, Hispanic youth were recorded as Asian, Black, White or other race and of Hispanic origin. In order to make comparisons to the juvenile justice system's race data, Spectrum Associates computed the number of youth within each race that were of Hispanic origin and designated "Hispanic" as a race.

**EXTENT OF OVERREPRESENTATION OF MINORITIES IN THE CONNECTICUT JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM**  
(Middletown Office)

	Population 10-16 Year Olds (1991)*		Decision Points										
	Percent	Count	Youth Referred to Juvenile Matters for Instant Offense** (1991)		Youth Placed in Detention for Instant Offense** (1991)		Youth Placed in Long Lane School for Instant Offense** (1991)						
			DRI+	Percent	Count	DRI+	Percent	Count	DRI+	Percent	Count		
Asian	1.09%	125	.90	.98%	2	--	0%	--	0%	0	--	0%	0
Black	6.91%	791	2.84	19.61%	40	6.68	46.15%	2.41	16.67%	1	--	0%	0
Hispanic++	3.56%	407	1.24	4.41%	9	2.16	7.70%	--	0%	0	--	0%	0
White	88.10%	10,084	.85	75.00%	153	.52	46.15%	.95	83.33%	5	--	0%	0
Other	.34%	39	--	0%	0	--	0%	--	0%	0	--	0%	0
Total	100.00%	11,446	--	100.00%	204	--	100.00%	13	100.00%	13	--	100.00%	6

\* Based on 1990 census data.

\*\* Includes all cases used for the study disposed in 1991 that had petitions filed for Felony, Misdemeanor, Violation, or Status charges.

+ The Disproportionate Representation Index (DRI) is a comparison of the proportion of a specific race at a specific point in the juvenile justice system compared to the proportion of this group in the 10-16 year old population. If the DRI is equal to one, the representation of youth of that race at that decision point is what would be expected based on the census data. If the DRI is less than one, there is underrepresentation and if the DRI is greater than one there is overrepresentation.

++ For the census data, Hispanic youth were recorded as Asian, Black, White or other race and of Hispanic origin. In order to make comparisons to the juvenile justice system's race data, Spectrum Associates computed the number of youth within each race that were of Hispanic origin and designated "Hispanic" as a race.

**EXTENT OF OVERREPRESENTATION OF MINORITIES IN THE CONNECTICUT JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM**  
(New Haven Office)

	Decision Points											
	Population 10-16 Year Olds (1991)*		Youth Referred to Juvenile Matters for Instant Offense** (1991)			Youth Placed in Detention for Instant Offense** (1991)			Youth Placed in Long Lane School for Instant Offense** (1991)			
			Percent	Count	DRI+	Percent	Count	DRI+	Percent	Count	DRI+	Percent
Asian	1.64%	570	--	0%	0	--	0%	0	--	0%	0	
Black	19.63%	6,822	2.38	46.76%	584	3.31	64.98%	193	4.14	81.25%	26	
Hispanic++	8.78%	3,051	1.86	16.33%	204	2.34	20.54%	61	1.42	12.50%	4	
White	69.54%	24,173	.53	36.83%	460	.21	14.48%	43	.09	6.25%	2	
Other	.41%	142	.20	.08%	1	--	0%	0	--	0%	0	
Total	100.00%	34,758	--	100.00%	1,249	--	100.00%	297	--	100.00%	32	

\* Based on 1990 census data.

\*\* Includes all cases used for the study disposed in 1991 that had petitions filed for Felony, Misdemeanor, Violation, or Status charges.

+ The Disproportionate Representation Index (DRI) is a comparison of the proportion of a specific race at a specific point in the juvenile justice system compared to the proportion of this group in the 10-16 year old population. If the DRI is equal to one, the representation of youth of that race at that decision point is what would be expected based on the census data. If the DRI is less than one, there is underrepresentation and if the DRI is greater than one there is overrepresentation.

++ For the census data, Hispanic youth were recorded as Asian, Black, White or other race and of Hispanic origin. In order to make comparisons to the juvenile justice system's race data, Spectrum Associates computed the number of youth within each race that were of Hispanic origin and designated "Hispanic" as a race.

**EXTENT OF OVERREPRESENTATION OF MINORITIES IN THE CONNECTICUT JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM**  
(Meriden Office)

	Population 10-16 Year Olds (1991)*		Decision Points											
	Percent	Count	Youth Referred to Juvenile Matters for Instant Offense** (1991)			Youth Placed in Detention for Instant Offense** (1991)			Youth Placed in Long Lane School for Instant Offense** (1991)					
			DRI+	Percent	Count	DRI+	Percent	Count	DRI+	Percent	Count			
Asian	1.55%	168	.22	.34%	1	--	0%	0	--	0%	0	--	0%	0
Black	3.27%	353	2.87	9.40%	28	--	0%	0	--	0%	0	--	0%	0
Hispanic++	11.79%	1,275	2.48	29.19%	87	2.65	31.25%	5	--	0%	0	--	0%	0
White	83.11%	8,984	.73	60.40%	180	.83	68.75%	11	--	0%	0	--	0%	0
Other	.28%	30	2.39	.67%	2	--	0%	0	--	0%	0	--	0%	0
Total	100.00%	10,810	--	100.00%	298	--	100.00%	16	--	100.00%	16	--	0%	0

\* Based on 1990 census data.

\*\* Includes all cases used for the study disposed in 1991 that had petitions filed for Felony, Misdemeanor, Violation, or Status charges.

+ The Disproportionate Representation Index (DRI) is a comparison of the proportion of a specific race at a specific point in the juvenile justice system compared to the proportion of this group in the 10-16 year old population. If the DRI is equal to one, the representation of youth of that race at that decision point is what would be expected based on the census data. If the DRI is less than one, there is underrepresentation and if the DRI is greater than one there is overrepresentation.

++ For the census data, Hispanic youth were recorded as Asian, Black, White or other race and of Hispanic origin. In order to make comparisons to the juvenile justice system's race data, Spectrum Associates computed the number of youth within each race that were of Hispanic origin and designated "Hispanic" as a race.

**EXTENT OF OVERREPRESENTATION OF MINORITIES IN THE CONNECTICUT JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM**  
(Talcottville Office)

	Population 10-16 Year Olds (1991)*		Decision Points											
	Percent	Count	Youth Referred to Juvenile Matters for Instant Offense** (1991)				Youth Placed in Detention for Instant Offense** (1991)				Youth Placed in Long Lane School for Instant Offense** (1991)			
			DRI+	Percent	Count	DRI+	Percent	Count	DRI+	Percent	Count	DRI+	Percent	Count
Asian	2.09%	397	.38	.79%	3	--	0%	0	--	0%	0	--	0%	0
Black	2.94%	558	2.53	7.43%	28	.97	2.86%	1	6.8	20.00%	1	6.8	20.00%	1
Hispanic++	2.43%	460	1.42	3.45%	13	2.35	5.71%	2	8.23	20.00%	1	8.23	20.00%	1
White	92.25%	17,492	.95	87.27%	329	.99	91.43%	32	.65	60.00%	3	.65	60.00%	3
Other	.29%	55	3.66	1.06%	4	--	0%	0	--	0%	0	--	0%	0
Total	100.00%	18,962	--	100.00%	377	--	100.00%	35	--	100.00%	35	--	100.00%	5

\* Based on 1990 census data.

\*\* Includes all cases used for the study disposed in 1991 that had petitions filed for Felony, Misdemeanor, Violation, or Status charges.

+ The Disproportionate Representation Index (DRI) is a comparison of the proportion of a specific race at a specific point in the juvenile justice system compared to the proportion of this group in the 10-16 year old population. If the DRI is equal to one, the representation of youth of that race at that decision point is what would be expected based on the census data. If the DRI is less than one, there is underrepresentation and if the DRI is greater than one there is overrepresentation.

++ For the census data, Hispanic youth were recorded as Asian, Black, White or other race and of Hispanic origin. In order to make comparisons to the juvenile justice system's race data, Spectrum Associates computed the number of youth within each race that were of Hispanic origin and designated "Hispanic" as a race.

**EXTENT OF OVERREPRESENTATION OF MINORITIES IN THE CONNECTICUT JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM**  
(Waterbury Office)

	Decision Points											
	Population 10-16 Year Olds (1991) *		Youth Referred to Juvenile Matters for Instant Offense** (1991)			Youth Placed in Detention for Instant Offense** (1991)			Youth Placed in Long Lane School for Instant Offense** (1991)			
	Percent	Count	DRI+	Percent	Count	DRI+	Percent	Count	DRI+	Percent	Count	
Asian	.93%	185	.32	.30%	2	1.20	1.12%	1	--	0%	0	
Black	9.53%	1,899	2.82	26.91%	183	4.72	44.94%	40	6.00	57.14%	8	
Hispanic++	12.19%	2,427	1.34	16.32%	111	.92	11.24%	10	.59	7.14%	1	
White	76.72%	15,276	.74	56.47%	384	.56	42.70%	38	.47	35.72%	5	
Other	.63%	125	--	0%	0	--	0%	0	--	0%	0	
Total	100.00%	19,912	--	100.00%	680	--	100.00%	89	--	100.00%	14	

\* Based on 1990 census data.

\*\* Includes all cases used for the study disposed in 1991 that had petitions filed for Felony, Misdemeanor, Violation, or Status charges.

+ The Disproportionate Representation Index (DRI) is a comparison of the proportion of a specific race at a specific point in the juvenile justice system compared to the proportion of this group in the 10-16 year old population. If the DRI is equal to one, the representation of youth of that race at that decision point is what would be expected based on the census data. If the DRI is less than one, there is underrepresentation and if the DRI is greater than one there is overrepresentation.

++ For the census data, Hispanic youth were recorded as Asian, Black, White or other race and of Hispanic origin. In order to make comparisons to the juvenile justice system's race data, Spectrum Associates computed the number of youth within each race that were of Hispanic origin and designated "Hispanic" as a race.

**EXTENT OF OVERREPRESENTATION OF MINORITIES IN THE CONNECTICUT JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM**  
(Willimantic Office)

	Decision Points											
	Population 10-16 Year Olds (1991)*		Youth Referred to Juvenile Matters for Instant Offense** (1991)			Youth Placed in Detention for Instant Offense** (1991)			Youth Placed in Long Lane School for Instant Offense** (1991)			
	Percent	Count	DRI+	Percent	Count	DRI+	Percent	Count	DRI+	Percent	Count	
Asian	1.17%	163	--	0%	0	--	0%	0	--	0%	0	
Black	1.14%	159	2.06	2.35%	8	5.85	6.67%	1	--	0%	0	
Hispanic++	4.83%	674	2.43	11.73%	40	5.52	26.67%	4	--	0%	0	
White	92.31%	12,889	.93	85.63%	292	.72	66.66%	10	1.08	100.00%	3	
Other	.55%	77	.53	.29%	1	--	0%	0	--	0%	0	
Total	100.00%	13,962	--	100.00%	341	--	100.00%	15	--	100.00%	3	

\* Based on 1990 census data.

\*\* Includes all cases used for the study disposed in 1991 that had petitions filed for Felony, Misdemeanor, Violation, or Status charges.

+ The Disproportionate Representation Index (DRI) is a comparison of the proportion of a specific race at a specific point in the juvenile justice system compared to the proportion of this group in the 10-16 year old population. If the DRI is equal to one, the representation of youth of that race at that decision point is what would be expected based on the census data. If the DRI is less than one, there is underrepresentation and if the DRI is greater than one there is overrepresentation.

++ For the census data, Hispanic youth were recorded as Asian, Black, White or other race and of Hispanic origin. In order to make comparisons to the juvenile justice system's race data, Spectrum Associates computed the number of youth within each race that were of Hispanic origin and designated "Hispanic" as a race.

## **APPENDIX E**

Logistic Regression and Multiple Linear Regression Descriptions

## LOGISTIC REGRESSION AND MULTIPLE LINEAR REGRESSION

The type of procedure used to examine the impact of social and other legal factors on the impact of race depends on what decision we are explaining, and how that decision is measured. In this study, we are attempting to model both discrete decisions, as well as decisions involving lengths of time. Different procedures are used for each of these decisions.

For most decisions, Logistic Regression techniques are used because we are attempting to model the decisions of juvenile justice agencies. These decisions usually are discrete (separate) choices. Thus, the decisions we are attempting to model either are dichotomous (i.e., there are only two possible outcomes, such as detain or release), or they are ordered (e.g., adjudicate SJO, adjudicate delinquent, nolle prosecution, dismiss). The properties of these outcome variables require specific statistical procedures whose assumptions are appropriate for these types of discrete variables. Logistic Regression solves this problem by modeling the odds associated with the occurrence of an event (sentence outcome in this case), and by utilizing maximum likelihood methods to estimate model parameters (by selecting the coefficients for independent variables that make observed results most likely). Logistic Regression allows the researcher to identify the relative influence of all independent variables on the dependent variable simultaneously, instead of the one-at-a-time approach that separate analyses would produce.

For variables with continuous measures (e.g., sentence length, detention length), we use Multiple Linear Regression. The assumptions of Multiple Linear Regression procedures are appropriate for this type of outcome variable. That is, the measure of the decision is a continuous variable with a wide range, there is a normal distribution of the outcome variable, and the relationships between the predictors and the outcome variable are linear.

**APPENDIX F**

Description of Predictor Variables Used for Police Component

## PREDICTOR VARIABLES FOR POLICE REGRESSION ANALYSES

<u>Variable</u>		<u>Values</u>
Race	White vs. Hispanic White vs. Black	-1 = White 1 = Black or Hispanic
Age	Juvenile's age at Apprehension	Age in years
Gender	Juvenile's gender	0 = Male 1 = Female
Poss. Alcohol	Possession of alcohol at time of apprehension	0 = No 1 = Yes
Poss. Drugs	Possession of drugs at time of apprehension	0 = No 1 = Yes
Poss. Weapon	Possession of Weapon at time of apprehension	0 = No 1 = Yes
# Offenders	Number of offenders at apprehension	1 = 1 2 = 2 3 = 3+
Secure	Placed in secure holding at police station	0 = No 1 = Yes
Court	Referred to juvenile court	0 = No 1 = Yes
Dept	Size of city/town police department is located in	1 = Large city 2 = Small city 3 = Large town 4 = Medium town 5 = Small town 6 = State police barracks
JRB	Juvenile Review Board available as option for police	0 = No 1 = Yes
Town	Town of residence	1 = Large city 2 = Small city 3 = Large town 4 = Medium town 5 = Small town

**APPENDIX G**

Juvenile Matters Analyses by Juvenile Matters Office

**FIGURE 13  
DETENTION STAY BY MOST SERIOUS PETITION CHARGE  
JUVENILE MATTERS OFFICE AND RACE**

	Danbury		Stamford		Norwalk		Bridgeport		Hartford	
	Black	White	Black	White	Black	White	Black	White	Black	White
SJO										
Mean.....	1.0	1.0	15.4	7.5	31.0	8.0	9.0	18.0	9.5	5.5
< 1 day.....	0%	0%	40%	0%	0%	0%	0%	14%	20%	25%
1 day.....	100%	0%	0%	50%	0%	0%	0%	16%	20%	9%
2-3 days.....	0%	0%	40%	0%	0%	0%	0%	23%	13%	9%
4-15 days.....	0%	0%	0%	50%	0%	75%	100%	30%	33%	0%
16+ days.....	0%	0%	20%	0%	100%	0%	0%	18%	13%	25%
(Base).....	(1)	(0)	(5)	(2)	(2)	(4)	(1)	(44)	(30)	(4)
Nor. SJO Felony										
Mean.....	1.0	1.0	5.6	1.5	7.0	3.2	2.2	6.6	6.6	12.2
< 1 day.....	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	43%	33%	5%
1 day.....	100%	100%	43%	0%	0%	0%	0%	23%	25%	38%
2-3 days.....	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	16%	29%	24%
4-15 days.....	0%	0%	57%	0%	0%	100%	0%	11%	13%	14%
16+ days.....	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	7%	0%	38%
(Base).....	(2)	(1)	(7)	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)	(44)	(24)	(7)
Misdemeanor										
Mean.....	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
1 day.....	100%	80%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	34%	29%	36%
2-3 days.....	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	20%	10%	36%
4-15 days.....	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	10%	10%	14%
16+ days.....	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
(Base).....	(3)	(0)	(1)	(0)	(0)	(2)	(0)	(4)	(14)	(4)

(continued)

FIGURE 13  
DETENTION STAY BY MOST SERIOUS PETITION CHARGE  
JUVENILE MATTERS OFFICE AND RACE

	Plainville		Montville		Torrington		Middletown		New Haven			
	Black	Hisp.	White	Black	Hisp.	White	Black	Hisp.	White	Black	Hisp.	White
SJO												
Mean.....	21.0	9.8	2.7	51.0	5.0	37.7	23.0	14.5	1.0	11.3	8.2	1.8
< 1 day.....	0%	20%	0%	13%	0%	0%	0%	50%	0%	0%	0%	0%
1 day.....	0%	20%	33%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	100%	26%	32%	50%
2-3 days.....	0%	0%	33%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	11%	21%	50%
4-15 days.....	0%	40%	33%	13%	100%	0%	0%	0%	0%	32%	32%	0%
16+ days.....	100%	20%	0%	75%	0%	100%	0%	50%	0%	24%	16%	0%
(Base).....	(1)	(5)	(3)	(8)	(1)	(3)	(1)	(2)	(2)	(74)	(19)	(4)
Non-SJO Felony												
Mean.....	10.1	43.7	6.7	14.8	3.0	16.0	8.3	21.0	1.0	4.9	2.2	4.7
< 1 day.....	0%	20%	17%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	24%	10%
1 day.....	29%	0%	25%	0%	0%	25%	0%	33%	100%	0%	27%	10%
2-3 days.....	14%	20%	23%	25%	100%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	33%	40%
4-15 days.....	43%	30%	25%	25%	0%	25%	0%	33%	0%	13%	20%	40%
16+ days.....	14%	30%	8%	50%	0%	50%	0%	33%	0%	8%	0%	0%
(Base).....	(7)	(10)	(12)	(4)	(1)	(4)	(0)	(3)	(1)	(39)	(15)	(10)
Misdemeanor												
Mean.....	6.0	5.3	10.8	15.8	5.0	5.6	4.0	4.0	2.3	2.8	2.8	4.9
< 1 day.....	0%	0%	0%	17%	0%	45%	0%	0%	0%	28%	50%	25%
1 day.....	25%	25%	25%	17%	0%	18%	0%	0%	0%	35%	20%	31%
2-3 days.....	25%	38%	0%	17%	30%	9%	0%	0%	0%	20%	10%	13%
4-15 days.....	50%	25%	53%	0%	50%	18%	0%	100%	0%	15%	10%	19%
16+ days.....	0%	13%	13%	50%	0%	9%	0%	0%	0%	2%	10%	13%
(Base).....	(4)	(8)	(8)	(6)	(2)	(11)	(0)	(2)	(0)	(46)	(10)	(16)

(continued)

**FIGURE 13  
DETENTION STAY BY MOST SERIOUS PETITION CHARGE  
JUVENILE MATTERS OFFICE AND RACE**

	Meriden		Talcottville			Waterbury			Willimantic			
	Black	Hisp.	White	Black	Hisp.	White	Black	Hisp.	White	Black	Hisp.	White
	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)	(1)	(3)	(10)	(3)	(3)	(0)	(1)	(2)
<b>SCD</b>												
Mean.....					6.0	5.0	4.3	190.7	6.0		21.0	2.5
< 1 day.....	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	33%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
1 day.....	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	33%	30%	33%	33%	0%	0%	0%
2-3 days.....	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	40%	0%	33%	0%	0%	100%
4-15 days.....	0%	0%	0%	0%	100%	33%	30%	0%	33%	0%	0%	0%
16+ days.....	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	67%	0%	100%	0%	0%
(Base).....	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)	(1)	(3)	(10)	(3)	(3)	(0)	(1)	(2)
<b>Non-SCD Felony</b>												
Mean.....	1.0	3.0		7.7		4.7	2.5	16.1				22.0
< 1 day.....	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	22%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
1 day.....	0%	67%	0%	33%	0%	56%	50%	29%	0%	0%	0%	0%
2-3 days.....	0%	0%	0%	33%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
4-15 days.....	0%	33%	0%	0%	0%	11%	30%	14%	0%	0%	0%	0%
16+ days.....	0%	0%	0%	33%	0%	11%	0%	57%	0%	0%	0%	100%
(Base).....	(0)	(2)	(3)	(3)	(0)	(9)	(2)	(7)	(0)	(0)	(1)	(1)
<b>Misdemeanor</b>												
Mean.....	6.5	5.0	17.0	5.0		9.3	1.5	2.6				
< 1 day.....	0%	0%	0%	25%	0%	32%	0%	14%	100%	0%	0%	0%
1 day.....	0%	25%	0%	0%	0%	33%	50%	36%	0%	0%	0%	0%
2-3 days.....	0%	0%	0%	38%	0%	0%	50%	29%	0%	0%	0%	0%
4-15 days.....	0%	50%	0%	25%	0%	0%	0%	21%	0%	0%	0%	0%
16+ days.....	0%	0%	100%	13%	0%	33%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
(Base).....	(0)	(2)	(1)	(4)	(0)	(8)	(4)	(2)	(1)	(0)	(0)	(0)

**FIGURE 14  
COURT HANDLING BASED ON DISPOSITION CODE BY MOST SERIOUS PETITION CHARGE  
JUVENILE MATTERS OFFICE AND RACE**

	Danbury			Stamford			Norwalk			Bridgeport			Hartford		
	Black	Hisp.	White	Black	Hisp.	White	Black	Hisp.	White	Black	Hisp.	White	Black	Hisp.	White
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
<b>SJO</b>															
Delinquent Judicial	100%	100%	100%	79%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	89%	93%	96%	90%	96%	63%
Non-Judicial	0%	0%	0%	21%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	11%	17%	4%	10%	4%	37%
(Base)	(3)	(4)	(2)	(19)	(9)	(13)	(7)	(2)	(7)	(65)	(54)	(54)	(67)	(54)	(19)
<b>Non SJO Felony</b>															
Delinquent Judicial	70%	100%	70%	89%	75%	88%	56%	71%	77%	71%	73%	79%	79%	73%	65%
Non Judicial	30%	0%	30%	11%	25%	13%	44%	29%	23%	29%	27%	21%	21%	27%	35%
(Base)	(10)	(4)	(61)	(35)	(4)	(16)	(18)	(14)	(22)	(110)	(67)	(99)	(117)	(117)	(48)
<b>Misdemeanor</b>															
Delinquent Judicial	22%	11%	16%	23%	56%	26%	24%	27%	30%	33%	35%	28%	32%	32%	21%
Non-Judicial	78%	89%	84%	77%	44%	74%	76%	73%	70%	67%	65%	71%	68%	68%	78%
FWSN	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Non Judicial	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	0%	0%	0%	1%
(Base)	(36)	(78)	(161)	(79)	(19)	(65)	(90)	(45)	(117)	(236)	(193)	(356)	(269)	(269)	(163)
<b>Violation</b>															
Delinquent Judicial	0%	100%	78%	86%	100%	71%	100%	100%	75%	71%	80%	100%	100%	100%	57%
Non-Judicial	0%	0%	22%	14%	0%	29%	0%	0%	24%	29%	20%	0%	0%	0%	43%
FWSN	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Non Judicial	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
(Base)	(0)	(1)	(18)	(7)	(1)	(7)	(1)	(0)	(17)	(7)	(10)	(14)	(14)	(17)	(7)

**FIGURE 14  
COURT HANDLING BASED ON DISPOSITION CODE BY MOST SERIOUS PETITION CHARGE  
JUVENILE MATTERS OFFICE AND RACE**

	Plainville			Montville			Torrington			Middletown			New Haven		
	Black	Hisp.	White	Black	Hisp.	White	Black	Hisp.	White	Black	Hisp.	White	Black	Hisp.	White
	(3)	(17)	(22)	(9)	(3)	(16)	(0)	(1)	(8)	(0)	(0)	(7)	(100)	(29)	(13)
SJO															
Delinquent Judicial.....	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	94%	0%	100%	63%	0%	0%	100%	95%	86%	85%
Non-Judicial.....	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	6%	9%	0%	38%	0%	0%	0%	5%	14%	15%
(Base).....	(3)	(17)	(22)	(9)	(3)	(16)	(0)	(1)	(8)	(0)	(0)	(7)	(100)	(29)	(13)
Non SJO Felony Delinquent:															
Judicial.....	81%	60%	77%	90%	64%	83%	100%	9%	66%	80%	50%	72%	79%	82%	74%
Non-Judicial.....	19%	40%	23%	10%	36%	17%	0%	0%	34%	20%	50%	28%	21%	18%	26%
(Base).....	(21)	(30)	(84)	(20)	(12)	(122)	(1)	(0)	(38)	(10)	(2)	(25)	(116)	(51)	(86)
Misdemeanor Delinquent															
Judicial.....	47%	33%	27%	43%	32%	33%	57%	50%	30%	27%	33%	31%	49%	33%	33%
Non-Judicial.....	53%	67%	72%	56%	66%	67%	43%	50%	70%	73%	67%	69%	51%	67%	67%
FWSN															
Judicial.....	0%	0%	0%	0%	3%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Non-Judicial.....	0%	0%	0%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
(Base).....	(43)	(79)	(228)	(93)	(38)	(373)	(7)	(2)	(101)	(26)	(6)	(72)	(247)	(78)	(254)
Violation Delinquent															
Judicial.....	100%	89%	72%	100%	100%	79%	0%	0%	67%	100%	0%	69%	92%	86%	77%
Non-Judicial.....	0%	11%	24%	0%	0%	21%	0%	0%	33%	0%	0%	31%	8%	14%	15%
FWSN															
Judicial.....	0%	0%	3%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	8%
Non-Judicial.....	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
(Base).....	(3)	(18)	(29)	(2)	(1)	(26)	(0)	(0)	(0)	(2)	(0)	(16)	(12)	(7)	(13)

**FIGURE 14  
COURT HANDLING BASED ON DISPOSITION CODE BY MOST SERIOUS PETITION CHARGE  
JUVENILE MATTERS OFFICE AND RACE**

	Meriden		Talcottville		Waterbury		Willimantic	
	Black	White	Black	White	Black	White	Black	White
	Hisp.		Hisp.		Hisp.		Hisp.	
SJO								
Delinquent								
Judicial.....	100%	83%	80%	67%	92%	86%	0%	69%
Non-Judicial.....	0%	17%	20%	33%	8%	14%	0%	31%
(Base).....	(2)	(6)	(5)	(9)	(24)	(4)	(0)	(13)
Non-SJO Felony								
Delinquent								
Judicial.....	40%	63%	40%	32%	75%	62%	100%	46%
Non Judicial.....	60%	37%	60%	68%	25%	38%	0%	54%
(Base).....	(5)	(30)	(5)	(73)	(51)	(26)	(1)	(57)
Misdemeanor								
Delinquent								
Judicial.....	17%	15%	21%	20%	30%	29%	40%	28%
Non-Judicial.....	83%	84%	79%	79%	70%	72%	60%	71%
FWSN								
Judicial.....	0%	1%	0%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Non-Judicial.....	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%
(Base).....	(18)	(108)	(14)	(163)	(87)	(203)	(5)	(137)
Violation								
Delinquent								
Judicial.....	0%	67%	100%	73%	100%	86%	0%	55%
Non-Judicial.....	0%	33%	0%	20%	0%	14%	0%	45%
FWSN								
Judicial.....	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	0%	0%	0%
Non-Judicial.....	0%	0%	0%	7%	0%	0%	0%	0%
(Base).....	(0)	(3)	(2)	(25)	(1)	(14)	(0)	(11)

**FIGURE 15**  
**COURT HANDLING BASED ON DISPOSITION CODE BY MOST SERIOUS PETITION CHARGE**  
**JUVENILE MATTERS OFFICE AND RACE**

	Darienbury			Stamford			Norwalk			Bridgeport			Hartford		
	Black	Hisp.	White	Black	Hisp.	White	Black	Hisp.	White	Black	Hisp.	White	Black	Hisp.	White
Status Offense	0%	0%	0%	5%	0%	3%	10%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	2%	0%	5%
Delinquent	17%	25%	32%	32%	100%	25%	29%	50%	5%	21%	9%	34%	27%	14%	
Non-Judicial	83%	75%	68%	63%	0%	72%	62%	50%	95%	79%	91%	64%	73%	81%	
FWSN															
Judicial															
Non Judicial															
(Base).....	(6)	(4)	(44)	(19)	(1)	(32)	(21)	(4)	(12)	(20)	(24)	(32)	(53)	(83)	(37)

(continued)



**FIGURE 15  
COURT HANDLING BASED ON DISPOSITION CODE BY MOST SERIOUS PETITION CHARGE  
JUVENILE MATTERS OFFICE AND RACE**

	Meriden		Talcottville		Waterbury		Willimantic		
	Black	Hisp. White	Black	Hisp. White	Black	Hisp. White	Black	Hisp. White	
Status Offense	0%	0%	0%	1%	0%	0%	2%	0%	0%
Delinquent									
Non-Judicial.	0%	48%	0%	32%	27%	15%	44%	50%	33%
FWSN									
Judicial.....	100%	52%	100%	67%	73%	85%	55%	50%	67%
Non-Judicial.									
(Base).....	(3)	(33)	(2)	(3)	(15)	(13)	(77)	(2)	(9)
									(74)

**FIGURE 16  
PROBATION OFFICER RECOMMENDATION BY MOST SERIOUS PETITION CHARGE  
JUVENILE MATTERS OFFICE AND RACE**

	Danbury		Stamford			Norwalk			Bridgeport			Hartford			
	Black	Hisp.	White	Black	Hisp.	White	Black	Hisp.	White	Black	Hisp.	White	Black	Hisp.	White
<b>SJO</b>															
DCF Placement.....	67%	0%	50%	22%	33%	25%	50%	0%	26%	27%	67%	19%	15%	9%	
Susp. DCF Commit...	0%	0%	0%	22%	0%	13%	50%	0%	22%	0%	0%	6%	15%	0%	
Probation.....	33%	50%	50%	56%	67%	63%	0%	100%	52%	67%	33%	52%	65%	36%	
Non-Court Action...	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	3%	0%	0%	
Dismissed.....	0%	50%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	7%	0%	21%	5%	55%	
(Base).....	(3)	(2)	(2)	(9)	(3)	(8)	(2)	(4)	(23)	(15)	(3)	(33)	(20)	(11)	
<b>Non SJO Felony</b>															
DCF Placement.....	0%	0%	0%	24%	0%	8%	17%	0%	22%	10%	33%	17%	12%	10%	
Susp. DCF Commit...	0%	0%	7%	6%	0%	0%	0%	7%	22%	10%	0%	8%	7%	0%	
Probation.....	50%	67%	40%	71%	0%	92%	83%	93%	56%	50%	67%	45%	45%	29%	
Non Court Action...	0%	0%	2%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	10%	0%	2%	2%	0%	
Dismissed.....	50%	33%	51%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	20%	0%	27%	33%	62%	
(Base).....	(4)	(3)	(45)	(17)	(0)	(12)	(6)	(14)	(9)	(10)	(3)	(48)	(42)	(21)	
<b>Maldenearor</b>															
DCF Placement.....	0%	0%	0%	0%	33%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	2%	5%	2%	
Susp. DCF Commit...	0%	25%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	8%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	2%	
Probation.....	0%	0%	3%	100%	33%	100%	100%	92%	100%	100%	0%	14%	10%	4%	
Non-Court Action...	0%	0%	0%	0%	33%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	100%	2%	0%	4%	
Dismissed.....	100%	75%	97%	0%	0%	0%	20%	0%	0%	0%	0%	81%	85%	87%	
(Base).....	(7)	(4)	(39)	(3)	(3)	(5)	(5)	(12)	(2)	(1)	(1)	(43)	(40)	(45)	

(continued)

**FIGURE 16  
PROBATION OFFICER RECOMMENDATION BY MOST SERIOUS PETITION CHARGE  
JUVENILE MATTERS OFFICE AND RACE**

	Plainville		Montville		Torrington		Middletown		New Haven		
	Black	Hisp. White	Black	Hisp. White	Black	Hisp. White	Black	Hisp. White	Black	Hisp. White	
SJO											
DCF Placement.....	100%	0%	71%	50%	0%	100%	17%	0%	38%	30%	17%
Susp. DCF Commit....	0%	33%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	22%	30%	0%
Probation.....	0%	67%	29%	50%	0%	0%	33%	0%	34%	20%	83%
Non-Court Action....	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	20%	0%
Dismissed.....	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	50%	0%	6%	0%	0%
(Base).....	(2)	(3)	(7)	(2)	(0)	(1)	(6)	(0)	(32)	(10)	(6)
Non-SJO Felony											
DCF Placement.....	40%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	19%	14%	6%
Susp. DCF Commit....	0%	8%	6%	20%	0%	0%	31%	0%	7%	0%	3%
Probation.....	20%	15%	81%	20%	100%	0%	54%	50%	35%	21%	31%
Non-Court Action....	0%	23%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	2%	0%	3%
Dismissed.....	40%	54%	13%	60%	0%	0%	15%	50%	37%	64%	56%
(Base).....	(5)	(13)	(16)	(5)	(1)	(0)	(13)	(2)	(43)	(14)	(32)
Misdemeanor											
DCF Placement.....	0%	2%	4%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Susp. DCF Commit....	0%	4%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Probation.....	0%	8%	17%	17%	100%	0%	33%	0%	7%	0%	8%
Non-Court Action....	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	4%	0%	0%	0%	2%
Dismissed.....	100%	85%	79%	83%	0%	0%	73%	100%	93%	100%	91%
(Base).....	(5)	(13)	(24)	(12)	(1)	(0)	(26)	(2)	(29)	(10)	(53)

(continued)

**FIGURE 16**  
**PROBATION OFFICER RECOMMENDATION BY MOST SERIOUS PETITION CHARGE**  
**JUVENILE MATTERS OFFICE AND RACE**

	Meriden		Talcottville		Waterbury		Willimantic	
	Hisp.	White	Black	Hisp.	White	Black	Hisp.	White
SJO								
DCF Placement.....	0%	0%	0%	0%	33%	0%	25%	45%
Susp. DCF Commit...	0%	0%	0%	0%	17%	0%	25%	0%
Probation.....	0%	50%	100%	0%	50%	0%	25%	27%
Non-Court Action...	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Dismissed.....	0%	50%	0%	100%	0%	0%	25%	27%
(Base).....	(0)	(2)	(1)	(2)	(6)	(0)	(4)	(11)
Non-SJO Felony								
DCF Placement.....	0%	17%	0%	0%	26%	0%	100%	7%
Susp. DCF Commit...	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Probation.....	100%	83%	0%	0%	35%	0%	0%	30%
Non-Court Action...	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	2%
Dismissed.....	0%	0%	100%	100%	62%	39%	100%	60%
(Base).....	(1)	(6)	(2)	(1)	(3)	(2)	(4)	(4)
Misdemeanor								
DCF Placement.....	0%	100%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	14%
Susp. DCF Commit...	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Probation.....	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	6%
Non Court. Action...	0%	0%	0%	0%	7%	0%	0%	0%
Dismissed.....	0%	0%	100%	100%	86%	100%	100%	81%
(Base).....	(0)	(1)	(2)	(2)	(25)	(19)	(4)	(36)

**FIGURE 17  
COURT OUTCOME OF JUDICIAL DELINQUENCY CASES BY MOST SERIOUS PETITION CHARGE  
JUVENILE MATTERS OFFICE AND RACE**

	Darbury			Stamford			Norwalk			Bridgeport			Hartford		
	Black	Hisp.	White	Black	Hisp.	White	Black	Hisp.	White	Black	Hisp.	White	Black	Hisp.	White
	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)
<b>SJO</b>	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Transfer Adult Ct	33%	25%	0%	13%	1%	15%	57%	0%	0%	64%	51%	31%	27%	35%	25%
Adj. SJO	57%	50%	100%	60%	56%	46%	29%	100%	100%	24%	22%	46%	55%	47%	50%
Adj. Del.	0%	25%	0%	27%	33%	38%	14%	0%	0%	9%	18%	23%	12%	14%	25%
Nolle	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Not Del.	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	2%	0%	0%	2%	0%	0%
Dismissed	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	2%	7%	0%	5%	4%	0%
(Base)	(3)	(4)	(2)	(15)	(9)	(13)	(7)	(2)	(7)	(58)	(45)	(13)	(60)	(51)	(12)
<b>Non SJO Felony</b>	0%	0%	0%	0%	33%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Transfer Adult Ct	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Adj. SJO	57%	100%	93%	84%	67%	79%	90%	100%	100%	76%	71%	82%	79%	72%	74%
Adj. Del.	29%	0%	7%	16%	0%	21%	10%	0%	0%	19%	29%	18%	19%	27%	26%
Nolle	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Not Del.	14%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	3%	0%	0%	1%	1%	0%
Dismissed	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
(Base)	(7)	(4)	(43)	(31)	(3)	(14)	(10)	(10)	(17)	(78)	(49)	(22)	(77)	(85)	(31)
<b>Misdemeanor</b>	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	6%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Transfer Adult Ct	100%	100%	60%	72%	80%	65%	91%	92%	97%	62%	60%	48%	49%	48%	60%
Adj. Del.	0%	0%	32%	28%	20%	29%	5%	8%	3%	34%	40%	42%	50%	45%	37%
Nolle	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Not Del.	0%	0%	8%	0%	0%	0%	5%	0%	0%	4%	0%	3%	2%	6%	3%
Dismissed	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
(Base)	(8)	(2)	(25)	(18)	(10)	(17)	(22)	(12)	(35)	(74)	(67)	(31)	(107)	(85)	(25)
<b>Violation</b>	0%	100%	64%	83%	0%	60%	100%	100%	92%	60%	50%	50%	36%	4%	75%
Adj. Del.	0%	0%	29%	17%	100%	40%	0%	0%	8%	40%	50%	50%	50%	35%	25%
Nolle	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Not Del.	0%	0%	7%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	14%	24%	0%
Dismissed	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
(Base)	(0)	(1)	(14)	(6)	(1)	(5)	(1)	(2)	(33)	(5)	(8)	(2)	(14)	(17)	(4)

(cont. inued)

FIGURE 17  
 COURT OUTCOME OF JUDICIAL DELINQUENCY CASES BY MOST SERIOUS PETITION CHARGE  
 JUVENILE MATTERS OFFICE AND RACE

	Plainville			Montville			Torrington			Middletown			New Haven		
	Black	Hisp.	White	Black	Hisp.	White	Black	Hisp.	White	Black	Hisp.	White	Black	Hisp.	White
SJO															
Transfer Adult Ct	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Adj. SJO	0%	18%	23%	33%	67%	7%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	24%	0%
Adj. Del.	100%	71%	64%	56%	33%	80%	0%	100%	60%	0%	0%	43%	62%	60%	91%
Nolle	0%	0%	5%	11%	0%	0%	0%	0%	40%	0%	0%	0%	10%	8%	0%
Not Del.	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	7%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	29%	9%	8%	9%
Dismissed	0%	12%	9%	0%	0%	7%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	14%	2%	0%	0%
(Base)	(3)	(17)	(22)	(9)	(5)	(15)	(0)	(1)	(5)	(0)	(0)	(7)	(94)	(25)	(11)
Non-SJO Felony															
Transfer Adult Ct	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Adj. SJO	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Adj. Del.	88%	83%	91%	78%	29%	81%	100%	0%	72%	75%	100%	78%	63%	36%	50%
Nolle	0%	11%	6%	17%	57%	12%	0%	0%	28%	25%	0%	17%	26%	43%	36%
Not Del.	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	8%	10%	5%
Dismissed	6%	6%	3%	6%	14%	7%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	6%	2%	12%	9%
(Base)	(17)	(18)	(65)	(18)	(7)	(101)	(1)	(0)	(25)	(8)	(1)	(18)	(91)	(42)	(64)
Misdemeanor															
Transfer Adult Ct	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Adj. Del.	75%	62%	79%	43%	33%	45%	75%	100%	66%	43%	100%	82%	27%	19%	22%
Nolle	25%	31%	5%	28%	58%	25%	25%	0%	34%	57%	0%	9%	48%	58%	43%
Not Del.	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	18%	8%	22%
Dismissed	0%	8%	16%	30%	8%	30%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	9%	7%	15%	13%
(Base)	(20)	(26)	(62)	(40)	(12)	(24)	(4)	(1)	(61)	(7)	(2)	(22)	(120)	(26)	(83)
Violator															
Adj. Del.	100%	88%	71%	50%	100%	23%	0%	0%	38%	50%	0%	91%	55%	0%	20%
Nolle	0%	0%	10%	50%	0%	27%	0%	0%	63%	50%	0%	9%	35%	82%	60%
Not Del.	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	20%
Dismissed	0%	13%	19%	0%	0%	50%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	9%	17%	0%
(Base)	(3)	(16)	(21)	(2)	(1)	(22)	(0)	(0)	(8)	(2)	(0)	(11)	(57)	(16)	(20)

(Cont. Intend)

**FIGURE 17  
COURT OUTCOME OF JUDICIAL DELINQUENCY CASES BY MOST SERIOUS PETITION CHARGE  
JUVENILE MATTERS OFFICE AND RACE**

	Meriden			Fairfieldville			Waterbury			Willimantic		
	Black	Hisp.	White	Black	Hisp.	White	Black	Hisp.	White	Black	Hisp.	White
	(2)	(1)	(5)	(4)	(1)	(6)	(22)	(3)	(12)	(5)	(4)	(9)
<b>SJO</b>												
Transfer Adult Ct	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	33%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Adj. SJO	0%	0%	0%	25%	0%	17%	23%	67%	33%	0%	25%	22%
Adj. Del.	0%	0%	60%	50%	0%	67%	68%	0%	42%	0%	50%	67%
Not Del.	100%	0%	20%	0%	100%	17%	9%	0%	25%	0%	25%	0%
Not Del.	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Dismissed	0%	100%	20%	25%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	11%
(Base)	(2)	(1)	(5)	(4)	(1)	(6)	(22)	(3)	(12)	(5)	(4)	(9)
<b>Not SJO Felony</b>												
Transfer Adult Ct	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Adj. SJO	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Adj. Del.	50%	55%	89%	50%	0%	79%	74%	69%	76%	0%	67%	68%
Not Del.	0%	36%	11%	0%	100%	9%	26%	31%	24%	0%	33%	20%
Dismissed	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	4%
(Base)	(2)	(1)	(19)	(2)	(1)	(23)	(38)	(16)	(49)	(1)	(6)	(25)
<b>Misdemeanor</b>												
Transfer Adult Ct	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Adj. Del.	0%	33%	25%	33%	100%	52%	62%	38%	54%	50%	50%	79%
Not Del.	67%	42%	63%	33%	0%	34%	35%	59%	32%	50%	33%	13%
Dismissed	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	2%	0%	0%	0%
(Base)	(3)	(12)	(16)	(3)	(1)	(29)	(26)	(16)	(56)	(2)	(6)	(39)
<b>Violation</b>												
Adj. Del.	0%	50%	100%	50%	100%	73%	100%	20%	75%	0%	100%	67%
Not Del.	0%	0%	0%	50%	0%	18%	0%	80%	17%	0%	0%	33%
Dismissed	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
(Base)	(0)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(1)	(11)	(6)	(5)	(12)	(0)	(2)	(6)

**FIGURE 18**  
**COURT OUTCOME OF JUDICIAL FWSN CASES BY MOST SERIOUS DISPOSED CHARGE**  
**JUVENILE MATTERS OFFICE AND RACE**

	Danbury		Stamford		Norwalk			Bridgeport			Hartford				
	Black	Hisp.	White	Black	Hisp.	White	Black	Hisp.	White	Black	Hisp.	White			
Commit to DCF*	0%	0%	29%	40%	0%	63%	0%	100%	25%	0%	0%	0%	0%		
Supervision**	0%	100%	14%	60%	100%	25%	67%	0%	50%	0%	67%	50%	32%		
Dismissed***	100%	0%	57%	0%	0%	13%	33%	0%	25%	100%	20%	44%	66%		
(Base).....	(1)	(1)	(14)	(5)	(1)	(8)	(6)	(2)	(4)	(1)	(5)	(3)	(18)	(22)	(5)

\* Includes recommitment to DCF.

\*\* Includes vocational supervision and supervision with drug testing.

\*\*\* The disposition code used for dismissed includes cases with and without adjudication.

(continued)

**FIGURE 18**  
**COURT OUTCOME OF JUDICIAL FWSN CASES BY MOST SERIOUS DISPOSED CHARGE**  
**JUVENILE MATTERS OFFICE AND RACE**

	Plainville		Montville		Torrington		Middletown		New Haven		Meriden		Talcottville	
	Hisp.	White	Black	Hisp.	White	Black	White	Black	Hisp.	White	Hisp.	White	Hisp.	White
Commit to DCJ**	8%	21%	100%	33%	10%	14%	50%	6%	12%	5%	0%	24%	0%	30%
Supervision***	54%	38%	0%	33%	42%	36%	50%	42%	41%	49%	50%	53%	0%	26%
Dismissed***	38%	40%	0%	33%	48%	50%	0%	50%	47%	46%	50%	24%	100%	44%
(Base).....	(13)	(42)	(1)	(3)	(31)	(14)	(2)	(12)	(17)	(65)	(2)	(17)	(1)	(27)

\* Includes recommitment to DCF.

\*\* Includes vocational supervision and supervision with drug testing.

\*\*\* The disposition code used for dismissed includes cases with and without adjudication.

(continued)

**FIGURE 18**  
**COURT OUTCOME OF JUDICIAL FWSN CASES BY MOST SERIOUS DISPOSED CHARGE**  
**JUVENILE MATTERS OFFICE AND RACE**

	Waterbury			Willimantic		
	Black	Hisp.	White	Black	Hisp.	White
Commit to DCF*	0%	0%	18%	0%	0%	19%
Supervision**	50%	50%	47%	0%	67%	43%
Dismissed***	50%	50%	35%	100%	33%	38%
(Base)	(4)	(2)	(34)	(1)	(3)	(21)

\* Includes recommitment to DCF.  
 \*\* Includes vocational supervision and supervision with drug testing.  
 \*\*\* The disposition code used for dismissed includes cases with and without adjudication.

**FIGURE 19**  
**COURT OUTCOME OF NON-JUDICIAL DELINQUENCY CASES BY MOST SERIOUS DISPOSED CHARGE**  
**JUVENILE MATTERS OFFICE AND RACE**

	Danbury			Stamford			Norwalk			Bridgeport			Hartford		
	Black	Hisp.	White	Black	Hisp.	White	Black	Hisp.	White	Black	Hisp.	White	Black	Hisp.	White
Non-SCO Felony															
Non Judicial Supervision...	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	11%	5%	0%	0%	6%
Discharge.....	67%	0%	64%	25%	0%	100%	0%	67%	47%	50%	58%	50%	50%	50%	78%
Not Presented/Dismissed by Advocate.....	33%	0%	29%	50%	100%	0%	33%	38%	22%	17%	43%	29%	43%	29%	11%
Not Presented by SPO.....	0%	0%	7%	25%	0%	0%	0%	16%	17%	7%	21%	21%	7%	21%	6%
(Base).....	(3)	(0)	(14)	(4)	(1)	(1)	(3)	(32)	(18)	(24)	(14)	(24)	(14)	(24)	(18)
Misdemeanor															
Non Judicial Supervision...	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	11%	5%	1%	8%	4%	1%	4%	1%	7%
Discharge.....	64%	69%	64%	81%	88%	90%	59%	69%	78%	74%	64%	69%	64%	69%	79%
Not Presented/Dismissed by Advocate.....	25%	6%	11%	10%	13%	8%	19%	7%	7%	14%	19%	15%	19%	15%	9%
Not Presented by SPO.....	11%	25%	24%	10%	0%	2%	11%	18%	14%	4%	13%	15%	13%	15%	5%
(Base).....	(28)	(16)	(140)	(62)	(8)	(49)	(83)	(100)	(129)	(156)	(250)	(187)	(250)	(187)	(126)

(continued)

**FIGURE 19  
COURT OUTCOME OF NON-JUDICIAL DELINQUENCY CASES BY MOST SERIOUS DISPOSED CHARGE  
JUVENILE MATTERS OFFICE AND RACE**

	Plainville		Montville		Torrington		Middletown		New Haven			
	Black	Hisp. White	Black	Hisp. White	Black	Hisp. White	Black	Hisp. White	Black	Hisp.	White	
Non-SOC Felony												
Non-Judicial Supervision....	0%	11%	100%	0%	0%	17%	0%	14%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Discharge.....	75%	63%	0%	100%	0%	33%	100%	57%	42%	22%	39%	39%
Not Presented/ Dismissed by Advocate.....	25%	9%	0%	0%	0%	50%	0%	29%	17%	33%	30%	30%
Not Presented by SPO.....	0%	18%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	42%	44%	30%	30%
(Base).....	(4)	(19)	(1)	(2)	(0)	(6)	(2)	(7)	(24)	(9)	(23)	(23)
Misdemeanor												
Non Judicial Supervision....	0%	4%	6%	4%	0%	5%	5%	14%	8%	4%	4%	4%
Discharge.....	83%	75%	62%	67%	67%	71%	63%	100%	45%	48%	54%	54%
Not Presented/ Dismissed by Advocate.....	9%	9%	6%	7%	33%	18%	32%	0%	18%	12%	19%	19%
Not Presented by SPO.....	9%	13%	26%	22%	0%	0%	0%	0%	28%	37%	23%	23%
(Base).....	(23)	(54)	(53)	(27)	(3)	(1)	(19)	(4)	(127)	(52)	(171)	(171)

(continued)

**FIGURE 19  
COURT OUTCOME OF NON-JUDICIAL DELINQUENCY CASES BY MOST SERIOUS DISPOSED CHARGE  
JUVENILE MATTERS OFFICE AND RACE**

	Meriden		Talcottville		Waterbury		Willimantic	
	Black	White	Black	White	Black	White	Black	White
	Hisp.		Hisp.		Hisp.		Hisp.	
Non-SJO Felony								
Non-Judicial Supervision.....	0%	0%	0%	10%	0%	0%	0%	3%
Discharge.....	67%	63%	67%	67%	43%	86%	0%	66%
Not Presented/Dismissed by Advocate.....	0%	0%	0%	17%	57%	14%	0%	31%
Not Presented by SPO.....	33%	38%	33%	7%	8%	0%	0%	0%
(Base).....	(3)	(8)	(3)	(42)	(7)	(22)	(0)	(29)
Misdemeanor								
Non-Judicial Supervision.....	0%	0%	17%	12%	3%	0%	33%	2%
Discharge.....	60%	69%	42%	64%	74%	80%	33%	62%
Not Presented/Dismissed by Advocate.....	13%	7%	25%	18%	14%	14%	35%	30%
Not Presented by SPO.....	27%	24%	17%	6%	7%	7%	0%	6%
(Base).....	(15)	(9)	(12)	(22)	(5)	(152)	(3)	(98)

**FIGURE 20  
DISPOSITION FOR JUDICIAL DELINQUENCY CASES BY MOST SERIOUS DISPOSED CHARGE  
JUVENILE MATTERS OFFICE AND RACE**

	Danbury			Stamford			Norwalk			Bridgeport			Hartford		
	Black	Hisp.	White	Black	Hisp.	White	Black	Hisp.	White	Black	Hisp.	White	Black	Hisp.	White
	(1)	(1)	(0)	(2)	(1)	(2)	(4)	(0)	(0)	(37)	(23)	(4)	(16)	(18)	(3)
<b>SJO</b>															
Commit DCF, LLS	100%	0%	0%	50%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	30%	39%	25%	31%	39%	0%
Commit DCF, DP	0%	0%	0%	50%	100%	0%	25%	0%	0%	5%	4%	0%	19%	28%	67%
Probation.....	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	50%	75%	0%	0%	65%	48%	75%	38%	33%	33%
Discharged.....	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	3%	9%	0%	13%	0%	0%
(Base).....	(1)	(1)	(0)	(2)	(1)	(2)	(4)	(0)	(0)	(37)	(23)	(4)	(16)	(18)	(3)
<b>Non-SJO Felony</b>															
Commit DCF, LLS	0%	0%	3%	9%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	10%	11%	6%	20%	9%	0%
Commit DCF, DP	0%	0%	9%	18%	0%	7%	0%	3%	0%	3%	0%	18%	0%	4%	0%
Probation.....	100%	100%	61%	73%	0%	78%	100%	50%	50%	61%	84%	65%	65%	78%	63%
Discharged.....	0%	0%	27%	0%	0%	1%	0%	0%	0%	26%	5%	12%	15%	9%	38%
(Base).....	(4)	(2)	(33)	(11)	(0)	(9)	(3)	(4)	(14)	(31)	(19)	(17)	(20)	(23)	(8)
<b>Misdemeanor</b>															
Commit DCF, LLS	33%	0%	13%	0%	0%	0%	4%	0%	0%	5%	4%	0%	5%	11%	0%
Commit DCF, DP	0%	0%	0%	21%	15%	11%	8%	8%	5%	5%	0%	9%	5%	5%	5%
Probation.....	33%	67%	52%	67%	85%	84%	80%	89%	93%	51%	37%	36%	64%	61%	55%
Discharged.....	33%	33%	35%	12%	0%	5%	8%	5%	7%	39%	59%	55%	26%	23%	39%
(Base).....	(9)	(6)	(23)	(33)	(13)	(19)	(25)	(19)	(44)	(62)	(54)	(22)	(104)	(89)	(38)
<b>Violation</b>															
Commit DCF, LLS	0%	0%	22%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	33%	0%	0%	13%	25%	0%
Commit DCF, DP	0%	0%	44%	60%	0%	33%	0%	50%	18%	0%	0%	0%	13%	25%	0%
Probation.....	0%	100%	33%	40%	0%	67%	100%	0%	33%	33%	83%	100%	38%	38%	100%
Discharged.....	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	50%	4%	33%	17%	0%	38%	13%	0%
(Base).....	(0)	(1)	(9)	(5)	(0)	(3)	(1)	(12)	(12)	(3)	(6)	(1)	(9)	(8)	(3)

(cont. inward)

**FIGURE 20  
DISPOSITION FOR JUDICIAL DELINQUENCY CASES BY MOST SERIOUS DISPOSED CHARGE  
JUVENILE MATTERS OFFICE AND RACE**

	Plainville		Montville		Torrington		Middletown		New Haven			
	Black	White	Black	White	Black	White	Black	White	Black	Hisp.	White	
	Hisp.		Hisp.		Hisp.		Hisp.		Black	Hisp.	White	
<b>SJO</b>												
Commit DCF, LLS	0%	0%	67%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	50%	33%	0%	
Commit DCF, DP	0%	20%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	11%	0%	0%	
Probation	0%	80%	33%	100%	0%	0%	0%	0%	39%	67%	0%	
Discharged	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	
(Base)	(0)	(5)	(3)	(2)	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)	(18)	(6)	(0)	
<b>Nor. SJO felony</b>												
Commit DCF, LLS	10%	7%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	24%	14%	10%	
Commit DCF, DP	10%	9%	17%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	6%	7%	0%	
Probation	50%	65%	83%	50%	0%	89%	0%	100%	51%	50%	71%	
Discharged	30%	19%	0%	50%	0%	0%	100%	0%	20%	29%	19%	
(Base)	(10)	(43)	(12)	(2)	(0)	(9)	(3)	(1)	(52)	(14)	(21)	
<b>Misdemeanor</b>												
Commit DCF, LLS	5%	3%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	4%	9%	0%	
Commit DCF, DP	0%	3%	0%	0%	50%	0%	0%	100%	2%	6%	9%	
Probation	48%	65%	77%	100%	25%	65%	60%	0%	60%	72%	53%	
Discharged	48%	30%	23%	0%	25%	0%	40%	0%	34%	22%	38%	
(Base)	(21)	(74)	(22)	(5)	(4)	(49)	(5)	(1)	(82)	(18)	(34)	
<b>Violation</b>												
Commit DCF, SJS	33%	18%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	14%	0%	0%	
Commit DCF, DP	33%	24%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	14%	50%	25%	
Probation	33%	41%	67%	100%	0%	60%	100%	0%	43%	50%	75%	
Discharged	0%	18%	33%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	29%	0%	0%	
(Base)	(3)	(17)	(3)	(1)	(0)	(1)	(1)	(0)	(14)	(2)	(4)	

(continued)

**FIGURE 20  
DISPOSITION FOR JUDICIAL DELINQUENCY CASES BY MOST SERIOUS DISPOSED CHARGE  
JUVENILE MATTERS OFFICE AND RACE**

	Meriden			Talcottville			Waterbury			Willimantic		
	Black	Hisp.	White	Black	Hisp.	White	Black	Hisp.	White	Black	Hisp.	White
<b>SJC</b>												
Commit DCF, LLS	0%	0%	0%	100%	0%	100%	20%	0%	25%	0%	0%	0%
Commit DCF, DP	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	100%	50%
Probation.....	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	60%	0%	50%	0%	0%	0%
Discharged.....	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	20%	0%	0%	0%	0%	50%
(Base).....	(0)	(0)	(0)	(1)	(0)	(1)	(5)	(2)	(4)	(0)	(1)	(2)
<b>Non SJO Felony</b>												
Commit DCF, LLS	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	8%	13%	7%	0%	0%	0%
Commit DCF, DP	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	17%	17%	0%	20%	0%	0%	10%
Probation.....	0%	100%	67%	100%	0%	83%	67%	38%	67%	0%	0%	80%
Discharged.....	0%	0%	33%	0%	0%	0%	8%	50%	7%	0%	0%	10%
(Base).....	(0)	(1)	(6)	(1)	(0)	(6)	(12)	(8)	(15)	(0)	(1)	(10)
<b>Misdemeanor</b>												
Commit DCF, LLS	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	3%	10%	0%	4%	0%	0%	7%
Commit DCF, DP	0%	0%	17%	0%	100%	17%	7%	0%	11%	0%	14%	25%
Probation.....	0%	11%	50%	100%	0%	72%	54%	33%	53%	0%	14%	37%
Discharged.....	100%	89%	33%	0%	0%	7%	29%	67%	32%	100%	71%	30%
(Base).....	(1)	(9)	(16)	(3)	(1)	(29)	(4)	(6)	(53)	(1)	(7)	(43)
<b>Violation</b>												
Commit DCF, LLS	0%	0%	0%	0%	100%	11%	33%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Commit DCF, DP	0%	0%	0%	100%	0%	33%	0%	33%	45%	0%	50%	25%
Probation.....	0%	100%	50%	0%	0%	33%	33%	67%	45%	0%	0%	75%
Discharged.....	0%	0%	50%	0%	0%	22%	33%	0%	0%	0%	50%	0%
(Base).....	(0)	(1)	(2)	(1)	(1)	(5)	(6)	(3)	(17)	(0)	(2)	(4)

## **APPENDIX H**

Description of Predictor Variables Used for Juvenile Matters Component

## PREDICTOR VARIABLES FOR COURT REGRESSION ANALYSES

<u>Variable</u>	<u>Values</u>	<u>Values</u>
Race	White vs. Hispanic White vs. Black	-1 = White 1 = Black or Hispanic
Age	Juvenile's age at disposition	Age in years
Gender	Juvenile's gender	0 = Male 1 = Female
Indigent	Indication of poverty (indication that a public defender was used or adjudication fees were waived)	0 = No 1 = Yes
Family	Family Status	0 = Non-parent supervision 1 = 1 natural parent 2 = 1 natural parent & step-parent 3 = 2 natural parents
Siblings	Number of siblings	Actual number
School prob.	School problem history (i.e., attendance and/or suspension)	0 = No history 1 = History of one type 2 = History of both types
Mental Hist.	Mental health history	0 = No exam given 1 = Exam given, no problem 2 = Problem found, no recommendation 3 = Special education recommended 4 = Out-patient recommended 5 = In-patient recommended
Poss. Drugs	Possession of drugs at time of apprehension	0 = No 1 = Yes
Poss. Weapon	Possession of Weapon at time of apprehension	0 = No 1 = Yes
Prior Charge	Prior most serious charge	1 = SJO 2 = Non-SJO Felony 3 = Misdemeanor 4 = Violation 5 = Infraction 6 = FWSN 7 = none
Court History	Level of prior court involvement	1 = No priors 2 = Prior Referral(s) 3 = Prior FWSN Adjudication(s) 4 = Prior Delinquent Adjudication(s) 5 = Prior Probation Period(s) 6 = Prior Placement(s)
Detain	Juvenile was placed in detention for the case under study	0 = No 1 = Yes

## **APPENDIX I**

Description of Predictor Variables Used for the Department of Children and Families Component

**PREDICTOR VARIABLES FOR DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN & FAMILIES  
REGRESSION ANALYSES**

<u>Variable</u>		<u>Values</u>
Race	White vs. Hispanic White vs. Black	-1 = White 1 = Black or Hispanic
Age	Juvenile's age at disposition	Age in years
Gender	Juvenile's gender	0 = Male 1 = Female
Court History	Level of prior court involvement	1 = No priors 2 = Prior Referral(s) 3 = Prior FWSN Adjudication(s) 4 = Prior Delinquent Adjudication(s) 5 = Prior Probation Period(s) 6 = Prior Placement(s)

## **APPENDIX J**

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