

PENNSYLVANIA

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania,
Tom Wolf, Governor



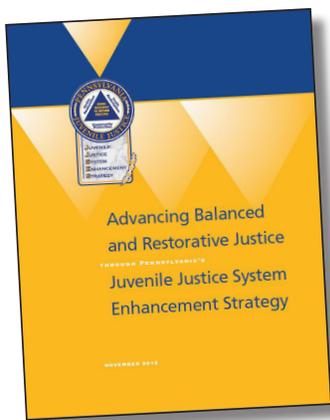
Juvenile Justice

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE PENNSYLVANIA JUVENILE COURT JUDGES' COMMISSION

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BARJ/JJSES Monograph Unveiled at 2015 James E. Anderson Pennsylvania Conference on Juvenile Justice



For two decades, Pennsylvania's juvenile justice system has aspired to achieve the mission of balanced and restorative justice (BARJ) by advancing the goals of community protection, competency development, and accountability. As we commemorate 20 years of BARJ, we can point to a number of milestones that have clarified our mission and focused our efforts. Three White Papers defined each of the BARJ goals and served as guideposts to help orient and direct the system. In addition, several important initiatives, such as the MacArthur Foundation's Models for Change initiative, moved us forward in achieving our BARJ mission.

After years of steady progress, Pennsylvania's juvenile justice system was uniquely positioned to embrace evidence-based practices, especially after witnessing the successful impact of evidence-based approaches and programs within the field of prevention science in Pennsylvania.

In 2010, Pennsylvania initiated the Juvenile Justice System Enhancement Strategy (JJSES), supported by a plethora of research regarding "what works" to reduce risk of recidivism among youth. The JJSES Statement of Purpose outlined our vision for collecting and analyzing data, relying on and incorporating research evidence into practice, and demonstrating a commitment to continuous improvement. Since that time, probation departments—small and large, rural and urban—have been reviewing their practices under the guidance of the JJSES and are in the process of retooling their operations to improve outcomes.

There is no doubt that the JJSES has produced a seismic shift in how we conduct business in Pennsylvania. Our sights remain firmly fixed on the BARJ goals but our path forward has been forever altered by the JJSES. Research and practice are interwoven as never before. Criminogenic needs, static risk, dynamic risk, responsivity, drivers, service matrices, motivational interviewing, and a host of other concepts that were unheard of a few years ago are now part of our everyday vernacular. Implementing the many facets of the JJSES has been challenging. Change is never easy, but the extraordinary level of commitment among Pennsylvania's juvenile justice practitioners has produced impressive results in just a few years.

This monograph seeks to highlight the interrelationship between the JJSES and BARJ. The JJSES is a means to an end—a means to achieving our statutory mission and our BARJ goals. The success of the JJSES initiative is not measured by the number of counties using actuarial assessment instruments, engaged in motivational interviewing, or delivering cognitive behavioral interventions; rather, the success of the JJSES initiative is determined by how it improves our ability to achieve the goals of balanced and restorative justice—community protection, competency development, and accountability.

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Did you know...

Between 2007 and 2013, the number of delinquency placements **DECREASED 37%**, from 7,525 to 4,762.

37%

Changes in JCJC Leadership and Membership

Judge Kim Berkeley Clark Elected Chair of the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission

The Juvenile Court Judges' Commission unanimously elected Judge Kim Berkeley Clark, Juvenile Court Administrative Judge in Allegheny County, as Chair of the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission (JCJC) during their July 2015 meeting. Judge Clark currently serves as President of the Pennsylvania Conference of State Trial Judges, and is Past President of the Juvenile Court Section of the conference. She is a member of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court's Juvenile Court Procedural Rules Committee and the Domestic Relations Procedural Rules Committee. She also serves on Pennsylvania's Interbranch Commission on Racial, Gender, and Ethnic Fairness; the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Committee; Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency; the State Council for Interstate Juvenile Supervision; the Pennsylvania State Children's Roundtable (Chair of the Dependent Children of Incarcerated Parents Workgroup and Dependency Bench Book Committee); and the Pennsylvania Legal Aid Network. In June of 2013, Judge Clark had the honor of moderating a panel discussion on the needs of caregivers of children of incarcerated parents at the White House.



Judge Kim Berkeley Clark

Judge Clark succeeds Judge Arthur E. Grim as Chair, who served as a member of the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission for eighteen years. Judge Grim was initially appointed to the JCJC by Governor Ridge in 1997, and was re-appointed to additional three-year terms by Governors Ridge, Rendell, and Corbett. He served as Chairman of the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission for the past ten years, and represented the JCJC in an extraordinary fashion. In 2009, he was appointed as Special Master by the Supreme Court to review all Luzerne County juvenile court cases presided over by then-judge Mark Ciavarella. As a result of Judge Grim's findings and recommendations, the Supreme Court entered an order expunging the juvenile court records of over 2,000 juveniles. Judge Grim was presented with the JCJC's Judge Fred P. Anthony Award in recognition for his outstanding service to the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission on November 5, 2015, at the 2015 James E. Anderson Pennsylvania Conference on Juvenile Justice.

Judge Margaret T. Murphy and Judge David R. Workman Appointed, Judge Carol Van Horn Re-appointed, to JCJC by Governor Wolf

On October 20, 2015, Governor Tom Wolf appointed Judge Margaret Murphy and Judge David Workman to the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission. Governor Wolf also re-appointed Judge Carol Van Horn to the JCJC for another three-year term. Judge Murphy and Judge Workman succeed Judges Arthur Grim and Dwayne Woodruff as members of the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission.

Judge Margaret T. Murphy is currently the Administrative Judge of the Family Division of the Philadelphia Court of Common Pleas. She is responsible for the Juvenile and Domestic Relations Sections of Family Court, in addition to overseeing the unification of Family Court at the new courthouse located at 1501 Arch Street. Judge Murphy currently serves as a member on both the Pennsylvania Supreme Court's Domestic Relations and Juvenile Court Procedural Rules Committees. Judge Murphy is a frequent lecturer on the topic of Family Law for many organizations and law schools, including the Pennsylvania Bar Association, the Philadelphia Bar Association, and the Pennsylvania Bar Institute.

Judge David R. Workman is currently the Juvenile Court Administrative Judge of the Lancaster County Court of Common Pleas. He is the current Chairman of the Family Law section, and Vice President of the Juvenile Court Section, of the Pennsylvania Conference of State Trial Judges. He is a frequent lecturer for the Pennsylvania Bar Institute, Pennsylvania Bar Association, and numerous school and civil groups.

Judge Carol Van Horn was re-appointed to the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission for a second three-year term by Governor Wolf. She was initially appointed to the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission by Governor Corbett in 2012. Judge Van Horn is currently the President Judge of the 39th Judicial District, which encompasses both Franklin and Fulton Counties. She was appointed by Governor Rendell to the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Committee of the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency in 2009 and by the Supreme Court to its Domestic Relations Procedural Rules Committee in 2010.

PA Delegation Attends the 2015 JDAI Inter-Site Conference

A delegation of 16 juvenile justice professionals from Pennsylvania attended the 2015 Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative (JDAI) Inter-Site Conference held in Phoenix, Arizona on September 28-30, 2015. JDAI is the major juvenile justice initiative supported by the Annie E. Casey Foundation. JDAI began in the 1990's as a juvenile justice reform model that focuses on improving the outcomes of youth who become involved in the juvenile justice system by reducing the inappropriate use of secure confinement and out-of-home placement. Pennsylvania has actively participated in JDAI since 2011.

The members of the Pennsylvania delegation included Bennie Price, Deputy Chief Juvenile Probation Officer, Philadelphia County; Lauren Thompson, Probation Officer, Philadelphia County; John Burns, Probation Officer, Philadelphia County; Miriam Prioleau, Probation Officer, Philadelphia County; Rhonda McKitten, Philadelphia County Defenders Association; Michael Stackow, Philadelphia County District Attorney's Office; David Bruce, Director, Court and Community Services, Philadelphia County Department of Human Services; Honorable Eleanor Bush, Juvenile Court Judge, Allegheny County; David Evrard, Deputy Chief Juvenile Probation Officer, Allegheny County; Megan Black, Allegheny County District Attorney's Office; Latammie Bivins, Allegheny County Defense Attorney; Elizabeth Fritz, Chief Juvenile Probation Officer, Lehigh County; Ed Sweeney, Director, Lehigh County Department of Corrections; Andrea Olsovsky, Lehigh County Public Defender's Office; Robert Mesko, Lieutenant, Lehigh County Sheriff's Department; and Leo J. Lutz, JCJC.

The conference consisted of several large plenary sessions and a host of small workshops on a variety of topics related to innovations in the juvenile justice field. During his State of the Initiative keynote address, Nate Balis, Director of Annie E. Casey's Juvenile Justice Strategy Group, gave specific examples of the promising outcomes of juvenile justice policy and practice developments from across the country. Of particular note, Mr. Balis recognized Philadelphia County's police diversion program which, in its first year, has significantly reduced school based arrests. Mr. Balis summed up the energy and optimism created by these examples by proclaiming, "we can be confident that the next big innovation, the next big step forward in juvenile justice reform won't be hatched in the offices of the Casey Foundation. It will come from you. . .Remember, this is our moment. Let's make the most of it!"

Staff Development Opportunities

The JCJC/CJJT&R Staff Development schedule is being updated regularly with more workshops. Please be sure that you check the listing frequently.

- **Cognitive Behavioral Training**
Ramada Greensburg Hotel And Conference Center
Greensburg
Mark Carey 11/12/2015
- **Youth Level of Service (YLS) Master Trainer Certification**
Days Inn State College
Ben Rea, Shannon Semmel
11/18-19/2015

Please remember, all the details on these and other sponsored workshops may be reviewed at any time by visiting www.jcjcjems.state.pa.us for regular updates to the schedule.

Hosting a training you would like to see listed here? E-mail us the details and we'll list it in our next issue.

Trends in Juvenile Justice State Legislation 2011-2015

© National Conference of State Legislatures.

In the past five years, juvenile justice reform legislation in the United States has grown at a remarkable pace. The recent shift in juvenile justice policy marks a clear departure from laws enacted 20 years ago.

After a dramatic increase in serious juvenile crime in the late 1980s and early 1990s, legislatures in nearly every state passed laws to hold more young offenders accountable through adult sentencing options. Yet by 2015, state after state continues to re-examine its policies and rebalance approaches to juvenile justice to produce more effective responses to youth crime and improve overall justice systems.

Today, juvenile justice reform has become a largely bipartisan issue as lawmakers work together to develop new policies to align sound fiscal responsibility, community safety and better outcomes for youth. New legislative reforms reflect an interest in developmentally appropriate approaches to more evidence-based methods and cost-effective alternatives to incarceration. There also now exists an abundance of research that is available to lawmakers and the field on adolescent development—that includes the latest neuro, social and behavioral science that distinguishes juveniles from adult offenders. Recent trends in juvenile justice legislation across the country represent a significant new direction to broadly reform justice systems. Specific trends have emerged to:

- Restore jurisdiction to the juvenile court.
- Divert youth from the system.
- Reform detention.
- Shift resources from incarceration to community-based alternatives.
- Provide strong public defense for youth.
- Address racial and ethnic disparities in justice systems.
- Respond more effectively to the mental health needs of young offenders.
- Improve re-entry and aftercare programs for youth.

Under a long-standing partnership with the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation in Chicago, [this report](#), “Juvenile Justice Trends in State Legislation, 2011-2015,” was produced illustrating the trends in juvenile justice enactments over the past five years. The new report describes the increasing momentum of state juvenile justice policy in recent years and catalogs the volume and variety of juvenile justice legislation enacted in states. It builds on an earlier “[Trends Report](#)” released in 2012 that highlights a decade of juvenile justice legislation over 2001-2011.

For more information about the project, see [NCSL’s Juvenile Justice Partners and Resources page](#).



Additional Resources

[NCSL’s partnership with the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation](#)

[MacArthur Foundation Homepage](#)

Trends Report-PDF

http://www.ncsl.org/documents/cj/Juvenile_Justice_Trends.pdf

Models for Change

NCSL has a long-standing partnership with the MacArthur Foundation, to inform and assist state legislatures on juvenile justice issues. With [Models for Change](#), juvenile justice has accelerated the movement toward a more effective, fair and developmentally sound juvenile justice system by creating successful and replicable models that improve outcomes for youth, use resources wisely and protect communities.

RESEARCH IN BRIEF

Part 20 in a series

Source Document: Carroll, A., Gordon, K., et al. (2012). "Goal Setting and Self-Efficacy Among Delinquent, At-Risk, and Not At-Risk Adolescents." *Journal of Youth and Adolescence* 42: 431-443

The body of scientific knowledge related to the field of juvenile justice is growing at an exponential rate. With this knowledge, new processes leading to improved outcomes are routinely generated. Clearly, the need to have access to, and understand scientific information is critical. Unfortunately, practitioners often do not have the time to sort through the literature. With this issue in mind, in 2006, *the Colorado Division of Probation Services* began to publish **Research in Briefs (RIB's)**. These documents are intended to summarize potentially helpful research related to effective practices, as well as provide ideas for practical applications of the information. More information on **RIB's** can be found here: http://www.courts.state.co.us/userfiles/file/Administration/Probation/ResearchInBriefs/RIB_Summary1213.pdf

Pennsylvania's Juvenile Justice System Enhancement Strategy (JJSES) rests on two interlinked foundations: the best empirical research available in the field of juvenile justice and a set of core beliefs about how to integrate this research into practice. With this in mind, as an ongoing feature of *Pennsylvania Juvenile Justice*, "**Research In Brief (RIBs)**" will provide summaries of published research related to various aspects of the JJSES. The **RIBs** will convey how various scientific studies support the JJSES Statement of Purpose.

Implications for Goals Setting

Reprinted with Permission from: Colorado Division of Probation Services. (October, 2015).

Goal Setting and Self-Efficacy Among Delinquent, At-Risk and Not At-Risk Adolescents.

Retrieved from: https://www.courts.state.co.us/userfiles/file/Administration/Probation/ResearchInBriefs/RIB_Goals_and_SE_Oct-15.pdf

The current study examined how self-efficacy and goal setting differed between adolescent groups. The results of the study discovered that the delinquent group had a significantly lower number of goals, goals that were easier, and lower commitment to goals than the youth not at-risk. The type of goals were also significantly different between the two groups. Not at-risk youth were more likely to have high educational and interpersonal goals and low delinquency goals. Delinquent youth were more likely to have high delinquency goals and low education and interpersonal goals. Finally, the delinquent youth were more likely to have low self-efficacy with regard to academics and self-control.

There is still much to discover regarding the underpinnings of goal setting. In this study, researchers were interested if there were differences in goals and self-efficacy between delinquent and pro-social youth. The study recruited youth not at-risk and at-risk from Australian high schools. Using an assessment checklist, researchers placed youth in either the at-risk or not at-risk groups. The study utilized youth in a correctional

facility for the delinquent group. The total study population consisted of 280 adolescents (95 not at-risk, 97 at-risk, and 88 delinquent).

Youth from all three groups were asked to list and rank no more than 8 goals. Participants were then asked to complete a self-report questionnaire regarding commitment, goal difficulty, and feelings regarding self-efficacy. Researchers utilized statistical modeling on the data gathered to determine if there were any correlations within the results.

The researchers discovered that group membership can be predicted by goal type. Youth who had high delinquency goals with low education and interpersonal goals were more likely to be from the delinquent group, while individuals with low delinquent goals and high education and interpersonal goals were from the not at-risk group. Not at-risk youth were more likely to have a higher level of goal commitment, higher number of goals, and goals that were more challenging than their delinquent counterparts. Finally, the delinquent group

also had significantly lower academic and self-control self-efficacy. There were not any significant results for the at-risk group. This may be due to the group being transitional in nature.

Practical Applications

- ✓ Delinquent youth set fewer goals and are less committed to their goals. It may be helpful to enlist the support of people the adolescent identifies as positive influences to encourage the development of challenging and meaningful goals.
- ✓ Discuss assessment results to help target need areas. Also looking at protective factors may be helpful in determining how to support youth in accomplishing their goals (what internal supports/strengths can they pull from).
- ✓ Let youth decide and set on their goals. While the delinquent group had the fewest self-set goals, they still averaged almost 3 goals each.
- ✓ Before setting goals, have a discussion regarding self-efficacy with youth. Depending on the subject the youth may have higher or lower belief in their ability.
- ✓ Consider discussing goal commitment as youth make progress with case plan goals and action steps.
- ✓ Help youth identify goals that are structured and provide opportunities to connect with pro-social peers.
- ✓ Utilize positive reinforcement with youth that complete case plan goals and action steps.

Limitations of Information

The study was conducted with Australian youth. There may be differences in population and culture from youth in Pennsylvania. The study population was largely male and it contained a small sample size. All data used in the study was self-report data. The role between the adolescents and researchers may have been different from that of practitioners.

***Caveat:** The information presented here is intended to summarize and inform readers of research and information relevant to probation work. It can provide a framework for carrying out the business of probation as well as suggestions for practical application of the material. While it may, in some instances, lead to further exploration and result in future decisions, it is not intended to prescribe policy and is not necessarily conclusive in its findings. Some of its limitations are described above.*

JJSES Statement of Purpose

We dedicate ourselves to working in partnership to enhance the capacity of Pennsylvania's juvenile justice system to achieve its balanced and restorative justice mission by: employing evidence-based practices, with fidelity, at every stage of the juvenile justice process; collecting and analyzing the data necessary to measure the results of these efforts; and, with this knowledge, striving to continuously improve the quality of our decisions, services and programs.

Readers are encouraged to submit ideas and suggestions related to the JJSES they would like to have addressed. Ideas and suggestions may be submitted to: Leo J. Lutz at LeLutz@pa.gov.



National Juvenile Justice Announcements

The following announcements are reprinted from JUVJUST, an OJJDP news service:

Baltimore Receives \$1.5 Million in Federal Grants To Prevent Youth Violence

On October 28, 2015, the Departments of Justice (DOJ) and Health and Human Services (HHS) [announced \\$1.5 million in new federal grants](#) to support violence prevention efforts in Baltimore, MD. OJJDP Administrator Robert L. Listenbee announced the DOJ awards of more than \$1.3 million. These grants—to be administered by OJJDP and the Office for Victims of Crime (OVC)—were awarded as part of the Department’s public health approach to prevent and reduce crime in communities.

The three grants from the U.S. Department of Justice include:

- National Forum on Youth Violence Prevention funding to implement strategies and evidence-based programs to reduce youth violence. The Baltimore City Health Department and the Baltimore Public School System will implement a school-wide positive behavioral interventions and support model.
- OJJDP funding to integrate the faith community into activities to prevent and reduce youth violence and victimization within and around the Safe Streets Baltimore areas.
- OVC funding to support male survivors of violence and their families, including helping them with the effects of trauma and victimization.

In addition, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, through HHS, awarded the National Association of County and City Health Officials funding for a Safe Streets pilot in Baltimore.

Resources:

Learn more about the [National Forum on Youth Violence Prevention](#).

Learn more about the [Supporting Male Survivors of Violence Initiative](#) and other assistance that the [Office for Victims of Crime](#) provides.

Justice Department Awards \$94 Million in Second Chance Act, Drug Court Grants

The Department of Justice has released grants for the following programs:

- **Second Chance Act.** On October 1, 2015, the U.S. Department of Justice [awarded \\$53 million in Second Chance Act \(SCA\) grants](#) to state, local, and tribal organizations in 45 jurisdictions to reduce recidivism among adults and youth after confinement. OJJDP grant award programs support reentry services for Latino/a youth; help reduce recidivism and improve outcomes for young fathers returning to their families

and communities; strengthen families and children of incarcerated parents; implement reentry systems reform; and support efforts to improve outcomes for juveniles under community supervision. In addition, the [National Reentry Resource Center](#) will continue to offer resources for grantees.

- **Adult, Family, and Juvenile Drug Courts.** On October 5, 2015, the U.S. Department of Justice [announced more than \\$41 million in grants](#) to support adult, family, and juvenile drug courts nationwide. OJJDP awarded \$4 million to 10 jurisdictions in support of the [Juvenile Drug Courts Addressing Systematic Barriers](#) program and \$2 million to the [National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges](#) to bring together “Juvenile Drug Court Communities of Practice” to ensure positive outcomes and treatment for youth dealing with substance abuse. In addition, OJJDP provided nearly \$1.6 million to support five family drug court statewide system reform efforts based on “[Guidance to States: Recommendations for Developing Family Drug Court Guidelines](#),” an OJJDP-sponsored publication. OJJDP also provided \$1 million to the Family Drug Court Training and Technical Assistance program.

Resources:

Visit the Office of Justice Programs’ [reentry](#) resource page.

Learn more about the [Second Chance Act](#).

Learn more about [reentry and other OJJDP programs](#).

Find out about the [National Drug Court Resource Center](#).

View and download the OJJDP bulletin “[Juvenile Drug Courts: A Process, Outcome, and Impact Evaluation](#).”

Administrator Listenbee Announces Policy Statement at White House Convening Supporting System-Involved Girls of Color

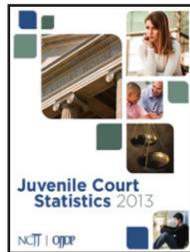
On October 28, 2015, OJJDP Administrator Robert L. Listenbee announced at a White House convening the [OJJDP policy statement](#) supporting underrepresented girls and young women of color in the juvenile justice system. The event brought together stakeholders for a discussion on improving policies and practices to interrupt the sexual abuse/trauma-to-prison pipeline of girls and young women of color in the juvenile justice system. The policy guidance outlines OJJDP’s commitment to addressing the needs of system-involved girls and young women of color through technical assistance, grants, research, and data collection. It also includes eight focus areas for states, tribes, and local communities to improve system and programmatic responses.

Resources:

[Learn more](#) about OJJDP’s research and programs related to girls in the juvenile justice system.

National Center for Juvenile Justice Releases Juvenile Court Statistics 2013

The [National Center for Juvenile Justice](#) (NCJJ) has released [Juvenile Court Statistics 2013](#). The report describes delinquency cases and petitioned status offense cases processed by courts with juvenile jurisdiction in 2013. The report also presents trends in delinquency cases since 1985 and in status offense cases since 1995. Data include case counts and rates, detailed by juvenile demographics and offenses charged.



In 2013, courts handled nearly 1.1 million delinquency cases (down 44 percent from the peak in 1997). Twenty-eight percent of these cases involved females, 53 percent involved youth younger than 16, and 62 percent involved white youth.

Resources:

The report draws on data from the OJJDP-sponsored [National Juvenile Court Data Archive](#).

See OJJDP's [Statistical Briefing Book](#) for additional information on juvenile court case processing.

NCJJ is the research division of the [National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges](#).

OJJDP Bulletin Examines Child Forensic Interviewing

OJJDP has released "[Child Forensic Interviewing: Best Practices](#)." This bulletin highlights best practices for interviewing children in cases of alleged abuse. The authors discuss the purpose of the child forensic interview, provide historical context, review overall considerations, and outline each stage of the interview. Key considerations include:



No two children will relate their experiences in the same way or with the same level of detail and clarity.

Some children require more time to become comfortable with the process and the interviewer.

Encouraging children to give detailed responses early in the interview enhances their responses later on.

Forensic interviewers should use open-ended questions and should allow for silence or hesitation without moving to more focused prompts too quickly.

Resources:

[Learn](#) more about the [National Children's Alliance](#).

Learn more about the [National Children's Advocacy Center](#).

Access the OJJDP bulletin [Evaluating Children's Advocacy Centers Response to Child Sexual Abuse](#).

OJJDP Bulletin Explores Psychiatric Disorders Among Youth Processed in Juvenile and Adult Courts

OJJDP has released "[Detained Youth Processed in Juvenile and Adult Court: Psychiatric Disorders and Mental Health Needs](#)." The bulletin is part of OJJDP's [Beyond Detention series](#), which examines the findings of the Northwestern Juvenile Project—a large-scale longitudinal study of youth detained at the Cook County Juvenile Temporary Detention Center in Chicago, IL. This bulletin presents findings on the prevalence of psychiatric disorders among youth transferred to adult criminal court compared with those processed in juvenile court. Key findings include:



Males, African Americans, Hispanics, and older youth are significantly more likely to be processed in adult criminal court than females, non-Hispanic whites, and younger youth.

The prevalence of one or more disorders is similar among youth processed in adult and juvenile courts.

Youth processed in adult court who were sentenced to prison had significantly greater odds than those who received a less severe sentence of having a disruptive behavior disorder, a substance use disorder, or co-occurring affective and anxiety disorders.

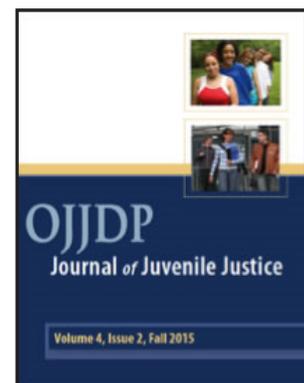
Resources:

Beyond Detention series are now available in [EPUB](#) and [MOBI](#) formats.

Learn more about the [Northwestern Juvenile Project](#), cosponsored by OJJDP.

OJJDP Releases Fall 2015 Issue of Journal of Juvenile Justice

OJJDP has released the [Fall 2015 issue](#) of the online "[Journal of Juvenile Justice](#)." This issue features articles on substance use treatment programs for system-involved and at-risk youth, parenting stressors and family management techniques, stress-reduction training for juvenile justice officers, and truancy prevention. Other articles examine best practices for educating juvenile detainees about sexually transmitted diseases and employers' perceptions of juvenile records.



Resources:

Access [previous issues](#) of the semi-annual, peer-reviewed journal.

[Submit manuscripts](#) for the journal.

OJJDP Statistical Briefing Book Offers New Data on Juveniles in Residential Placement

OJJDP has updated its [Statistical Briefing Book](#) (SBB) to include data resources from the 2013 Census of Juveniles in Residential Placement, including:

A new [Data Snapshot](#) summarizing recent trends.

State-level [FAQs](#) about juveniles in corrections.

State profiles and state comparisons in [Easy Access to the Census of Juveniles in Residential Placement](#).

[Documentation](#) of data collection and analysis methods.

Developed by the [National Center for Juvenile Justice](#), the research division of the [National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges](#), SBB offers easy online access to statistics on a variety of juvenile justice topics.

Resources:

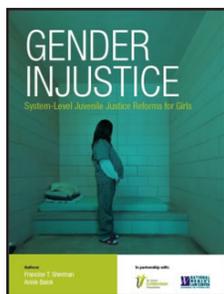
Access the [OJJDP Statistical Briefing Book](#).



Report Addresses Gender Inequity in the Juvenile Justice System

The [National Crittenton Foundation](#), in partnership with the [National Women's Law Center](#), has released "[Gender Injustice: System-Level Juvenile Justice Reforms for Girls](#)."

The report presents research and data showing that, in the last two decades, girls' presence in the juvenile justice system has increased at all stages of the process. Key findings include the following:



Despite overall declining juvenile arrest rates, arrests for girls have increased by 45 percent.

Court caseloads for girls have increased 40 percent.

The number of girls in detention has increased 40 percent.

Post-adjudication probation increased 44 percent.

Post-adjudication placement increased 42 percent.

The report makes nine reform recommendations, including decriminalizing girls' behavior linked to trauma, engaging families, addressing unnecessary detention of girls, and enacting trauma-informed approaches and evidence-informed practices.

Resources:

View and download the [executive summary](#) and a [comprehensive infographic](#).

Learn about OJJDP's [National Girls Initiative](#).

[Learn more](#) about OJJDP's research and programs regarding girls' delinquency.

Urban Institute Releases Report on System-Involved LGBTQ Youth Engaged in Survival Sex

The Urban Institute has released [Locked In: Interactions with the Criminal Justice and Child Welfare Systems for LGBTQ Youth, YMSM, and YWSW Who Engage in Survival Sex](#).

This report, supported by OJJDP, documents the cycle of involvement in the juvenile justice, criminal justice, and child welfare systems affecting youth who engaged in survival sex and are self-identified as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, or questioning (LGBTQ); young men who have sex with men (YMSM); and young women who have sex with women (YWSW). The report is based on interviews with stakeholders involved in these systems and those youth whose interactions in the justice and child welfare systems were linked to their involvement in the commercial sex trade. The report offers practice and policy recommendations to repurpose law enforcement-based responses to youth engaged in survival sex and to provide services to meet their needs without system involvement.



Resources:

View and download the OJJDP-funded Urban Institute report "[Surviving the Streets of New York: Experiences of LGBTQ Youth, YMSM, and YWSW Engaged in Survival Sex](#)."

This publication is produced monthly at the Center for Juvenile Justice Training and Research at Shippensburg University. Guest articles are always welcome; please submit them by e-mail to rtomassini@pa.gov.

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