

TENNESSEE COUNCIL OF JUVENILE AND FAMILY COURT JUDGES

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1998

TENNESSEE ANNUAL JUVENILE COURT STATISTICAL REPORT

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JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM IN TENNESSEE

Tennessee's juvenile courts operate under the basic philosophy of striving to assure that each child coming before the court receives the opportunity for appropriate physical, mental, and moral development. The courts endeavor to facilitate this opportunity through consideration of each child's case on its individual merits while adhering to three primary obligations: (1) protecting the community and society at large; (2) acting in the best interest and welfare of the child by means of protection, treatment, and rehabilitation; and (3) upholding the dignity of the law.

Tennessee is home to 98 juvenile courts with 112 juvenile court judges. Of these 98 courts, 16 are designated "Special Act" juvenile courts, while the remaining 82 are general sessions courts with juvenile jurisdiction. Each of these courts are county-based and administered, with at least one juvenile court located in each of the state's 95 counties. While all of Tennessee's courts with juvenile jurisdiction strive to follow the procedural guidelines established by the Tennessee Rules of Juvenile Procedure, there is very little standardization with regard to juvenile court size, management, and administration. Hence, Tennessee's juvenile court system is diverse and tends to reflect the needs and preferences of the people living within a given county or community.

Jurisdiction Of The Juvenile Court

It is said that more lives are touched by juvenile courts than by any other courts. Juvenile courts deal not only with delinquency and status offenses, but also with issues of child neglect and abuse, child support, child custody, establishing parentage, visitation, and the need for a child's medical and/or mental health treatment. Juvenile courts can be seen as performing the diverse functions of a court of law, a probation department, a "jail", a nursery, a welfare agency, and a mental health agency. Tennessee's juvenile courts have jurisdiction within the following areas:

- The adjudication of children as dependent, neglected, abused, unruly, and delinquent.
- The determination of custody or the appointment of a guardian of a child.
- The termination of parental rights.
- The ordering of treatment, evaluation, and/or commitment of mentally retarded and/or mentally ill children.
- The commitment of children to the custody of the Tennessee Department of Children's Services.
- The establishment of parentage.
- The ordering and enforcement of child support for children.
- Establishing visitation for non-custodial parents.

- The enforcement of the Compulsory School Attendance Laws.
- The removal of the age restrictions on a minor's application for a marriage license.
- The giving of judicial consent to a minor's employment or enlistment in the armed services if such consent is required by law.
- The giving of judicial consent to the medical treatment of a child when his/her parents or guardians are unable to do so.
- The adjudication of alleged traffic violations by persons under the age of eighteen.
- The transfer of juvenile cases to criminal court to be tried as adults.

Pursuant to Tennessee Code Annotated § 37-1-159, the juvenile court is a Court of Record. It may enforce its orders in any way in which a court of equity may enforce its orders and decrees, including by imprisonment and by fine for contempt.

Juvenile Court Professional Staff

The dedication of the juvenile court staff is crucial to the functioning of the juvenile court. The typical juvenile court professional staff is comprised of the Juvenile Court Judge, the Referee (primarily in the larger courts), the Youth Services Officers or Probation Officers, and the Juvenile Court Clerk.

The Juvenile Court Judge must be 30 years old, licensed to practice law (unless elected to the post prior to 1982, or the county has no qualified attorney), a resident of his/her district for one year, and elected by the people. In addition to his/her judicial duties, the Judge is the chief administrator of the court and is seen as having the following attributes: (1) learned in the law; (2) possessing administrative ability and experience; (3) maintaining a broad acquaintance with modern social problems affecting children and youth; and (4) having a realistic understanding of children and their behavior in relation to their total life needs.

The Referee is appointed by the Judge, and may be directed to hear any case or class of cases. He or she must be licensed to practice law and has the same authority and powers as the Judge to issue process and to conduct proceedings. Referees are generally appointed when the court's juvenile justice population is greater than one judge can cover, or when a commitment is probable and the Judge is not an attorney.

The Youth Services Officer (YSO) and Probation Officer (PO) are officials of the court and are essential to the functioning of the judicial process, as well as to the welfare of the children within the juvenile justice system. Their duties include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Juvenile Court Intake
- Pre-hearing Investigations
- Referral
- Supervision
- Detention Screenings
- Counseling
- Record Keeping

The Juvenile Court Clerk is the record keeping and records management backbone of the juvenile court. The clerk maintains separate minutes, dockets, and legal records of all matters pertaining to juvenile court proceedings as required by law. Historically, Juvenile Court Clerks have been responsible for the collection and handling of child support payments. This is in the process of moving to a centralized child support payment system. Juvenile court clerks also collect all fees, fines, and court costs assessed by the juvenile court.

Juvenile Court Process

In Tennessee, the basic juvenile court process is comprised of three central phases: (1) Intake, (2) Adjudication, and (3) Disposition.

Juvenile court intake is a process through which the court reviews information in order to determine whether it has the authority to intervene in a child's life and in what manner it will administer its authority. The components of the intake process are referral to intake, detention screening, and assessment of how to handle the complaint. Referral to intake involves the filing of a complaint by law enforcement, parents, or other individuals or agencies requesting the court to exercise its authority. If detention is requested by the complainant, the intake officer performs a detention screening to determine if there is probable cause (legal sufficiency) that the child committed the alleged offense and is subject to detention in accordance with statute. Lastly, an assessment is made to determine if the complaint should be excluded, if informal adjustment (a voluntary agreement between the intake officer, the child and the parents) should be pursued, or if a petition should be filed.

In most instances, if a petition is filed, the case goes into the adjudicatory phase. In this phase the case is heard by the juvenile court judge to determine if the allegations of the petition are true. In making its decision, the court considers only the child's juvenile court record and the evidence that has been formally admitted. If the allegations are not substantiated or cannot be proven, the petition will be dismissed. In those situations where the allegations are substantiated, the judge will proceed immediately or will set a later hearing to determine the appropriate outcome or disposition for the case.

The purpose of the dispositional phase is to determine an appropriate course of action regarding the child and his/her circumstances. Disposition, insofar as possible, typically attempts to meet the treatment, social, and rehabilitation needs of the child.

JUVENILE COURT DATA COLLECTION PROCESS FOR THE 1998 ANNUAL REPORT

As required by Tennessee Code Annotated § 37-1-506, 1998 data were sent to the Tennessee Juvenile Court Information System (TJCIS) by each court with juvenile jurisdiction. Ninety-four (94) courts sent data to TJCIS electronically either on diskettes or as attachments to electronic mail. These courts either used a data entry software program provided by TJCIS staff or other software that their individual court had obtained. The remaining four (4) non-automated courts sent information to TJCIS by utilizing data collection forms. After the forms data were entered, all data were cleaned, edited, and analyzed to produce the 1998 Annual Report, as well as year-end and ad hoc statistical reports.

Beginning on January 1, 1998, there was a change in the TJCIS reporting format. More detailed referral reasons regarding serious offenses were added to the referral reason codes. Collection of information on up to six referral reasons was reduced to collection of information on up to five referral reasons. There were several other smaller changes. **These changes in the format have led to a decrease in the reporting of some referrals and referral categories.**

In 1998, **all of Tennessee's juvenile courts once again reported data** to TJCIS, with ninety-six percent (96%) of these courts sending data electronically. Every Tennessee court has reported data to TJCIS for the past four years, thereby distinguishing Tennessee as having one of the relatively few juvenile court statewide databases in the country with every court reporting. All automated court systems were required to utilize data edits developed by TJCIS staff. These required data edits did not allow many incomplete or incorrectly coded records to be copied to diskette for inclusion in the TJCIS database. Data received in this fashion were mostly error free with respect to coding issues.

Limitations of the 1998 Juvenile Court Data

Courts vary in the completeness of their reporting of dependency and neglect cases. This is because of a sometimes-complex division of labor between the juvenile court and the juvenile court clerk's office in reporting such data. Steps are under way to provide training and technical assistance to improve this situation.

It is also important to note that many juvenile courts do not hear traffic cases. In these jurisdictions, traffic cases go to city court. Since some courts' statistics include traffic cases and some do not, one must be cautious in comparing courts with each other. Additionally, although juvenile courts handle adult cases such as contributing to the dependency or delinquency of a minor, these cases are not reported to TJCIS.

There were 48 new judges as the result of judicial elections in August 1998. Consequently, there were many new court staff as well. TJCIS staff spent a great deal of time on training and technical assistance for the new staff, but it is possible that due to unfamiliarity some of the new staff may not have reported data as reliably as previous staff. Conversely, it is documentable that in some counties, the new staff are doing a much better job than their predecessors.

1998 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

With all of Tennessee's 98 juvenile courts participating, information regarding 69,941 children, 98,366 cases, and 119,471 referral reasons was reported to the Tennessee Juvenile Court Information System for the period between January 1, 1998 and December 31, 1998. The number of children increased slightly from 1997, whereas the number of cases and referrals decreased slightly from calendar year 1997.

Beginning on January 1, 1998, there was a change in the TJCIS reporting format. More detailed referral reasons regarding serious offenses were added to the referral reason codes. Collection of information on up to six referral reasons was reduced to collection of information on up to five referral reasons. There were several other smaller changes. **These changes in the format have led to a decrease in the reporting of some referrals and referral categories.**

During 1998, over half (65%) of the referral reasons in Tennessee's juvenile courts were for alleged delinquent offenses. Status offenses represented 12% of referral reasons, while non-offense referral reasons comprised an additional 23% of the total juvenile court referrals. When comparing the 1998 data with those of 1995, 1996 and 1997, the two most commonly referred delinquent offenses continued to be traffic offenses and theft of property. Truancy remained the most often-reported referral reason within the status offense category for 1998, and in-state runaway charges remained the second most reported status offense. Referral reasons surrounding issues of dependency/neglect and custody remained the most prevalent within the non-offense category.

The 1998 data continued to reflect that males were referred to juvenile court almost twice as often as females, and were referred for alleged delinquent offenses almost four times more often than their female counterparts. The number of referral reasons for status offense and non-offense reasons, however, continued to vary much less with respect to gender (9,213 status offense referrals of females; 11,965 status offense referrals of males). Age statistics for 1998 showed that 15-year-olds through 18-year-olds for both genders constituted 34% of the juvenile court population and those 17 through 18 accounted for 25%.

Regarding race, little difference was seen between previous years' data and those of 1998. In 1998, African American and other non-white children were reported as representing 37% of the juvenile court population, while constituting only 22% of the overall juvenile population of Tennessee. Conversely, white children were reported as making up 60% of the juvenile court population, while constituting 78% of the overall juvenile population. (Race was not reported for 3% of the children.)

Law enforcement continued to be the most often cited referral source for juveniles to the courts (54%), while parents continued to represent the second most often cited referral source (11%). With regard to the most frequently reported reason for referral, law enforcement personnel appeared more likely to refer juveniles for traffic complaints, while parents made referrals most often for "Other," unruly behavior and child support.

In 1998, 66% of the referral reasons were processed as formal adjudications, while 11.6% of the referrals to juvenile court were processed informally; 4.1% by Pretrial Diversion and 7.5% by Informal Adjustment. The remaining 26.4% of referral reasons were otherwise handled.

The 1998 data was analyzed to determine the number of children transferred to adult court for the alleged commitment of delinquent offenses. The data showed that, of the 309 children transferred to adult court in 1998, 94% were males, with 54% being African American males. The court with the largest number of children transferred was the Shelby County Juvenile Court, which accounted for 51% of the statewide transfers. The next two courts with the highest numbers of transfers to adult court were the Davidson County (9%) and Rutherford County (6%) juvenile courts.

The number of children referred to juvenile courts for allegedly committing offenses has been relatively steady since 1995 (please see Appendix 1). With a few exceptions like Assault, there has been no or very little growth in the number of children reported as referred to the juvenile courts in Tennessee. As mentioned before, some of the decreases in 1998 are due to a new data format, but the overall trend is very consistent.

NUMBER OF CHILDREN REFERRED TO JUVENILE COURTS

1998

During the reporting period between January 1, 1998 and December 31 1998, information regarding 69,941 children was reported by the juvenile courts to the Tennessee Juvenile Court Information System (TJCIS). This number represents a slight statewide increase of three percent (3%) or 1,989 children compared to calendar year 1997. Limitations to the data notwithstanding, this smaller than normal increase in the number of children reported to TJCIS can be explained principally by the fact that the improved data collection efforts of the past six years have become institutionalized within the courts and the data capture has, therefore, become stabilized. Additionally, forty-one (41) juvenile courts reported fewer children than were reported in 1997. Follow up with many of the courts found these decreases to be valid. Tennessee (especially certain counties) seems to be in a period of slowing growth with respect to the numbers of children handled by the juvenile courts.

The juvenile courts reporting the largest number of children referred and disposed were Shelby County/ Memphis, Davidson County/Nashville, Hamilton County/Chattanooga, and Knox County/Knoxville. Once again, Shelby County reported the largest number of children (16,369), while Scott County, reporting 18 children, was the county with the smallest number of children reported to be referred to juvenile court. Scott County only reported data for the first half of 1998 (and was the only county not providing a year's data).

Please refer to the chart on pages 8-9 for a county by county listing of the numbers of children, cases, and referrals. ***The reader should note that the TJCIS definition of case is as follows: "All referral reasons/charges reported to the court (via complaint, petition, motion, etc.) on a given day for a given child."***

**Tennessee Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges
Number of Children, Cases and Referral Reasons By Court
Based on Number of Reported Cases
January 1, 1998 - December 31, 1998**

	Children	Number of 1998 Cases	Referral Reasons
ANDERSON	313	502	1,004
BEDFORD	249	297	439
BENTON	104	117	149
BLEDSON	144	188	209
BLOUNT	511	600	639
BRADLEY	845	1,233	1,533
CAMPBELL	175	177	178
CANNON	82	94	94
CARROLL	257	287	365
CARTER	511	739	739
CHEATHAM	632	765	875
CHESTER	232	232	258
CLAIBORNE	277	404	480
CLAY	72	82	89
COCKE	570	869	894
COFFEE	461	601	743
CROCKETT	76	105	164
CUMBERLAND	409	460	532
DAVIDSON	9,860	16,350	20,819
DECATUR	30	32	45
DEKALB	127	170	171
DICKSON	402	498	658
DYER	552	801	881
FAYETTE	355	540	541
FENTRESS	152	208	222
FRANKLIN	233	263	271
GIBSON	413	601	769
GILES	170	200	282
GRAINGER	373	374	378
GREENE	617	782	916
GRUNDY	132	204	241
HAMBLIN	416	529	533
HAMILTON	3,718	5,251	5,835
HANCOCK	27	29	37
HARDEMAN	425	529	732
HARDIN	129	187	216
HAWKINS	749	1,003	1,134
HAYWOOD	208	264	351
HENDERSON	267	347	520
HENRY	373	508	664
HICKMAN	169	264	299
HOUSTON	113	236	247
HUMPHREYS	201	266	290
JACKSON	78	93	106
JEFFERSON	227	301	341
JOHNSON	160	164	185
KNOX	2,440	3,182	3,683
LAKE	81	109	124
LAUDERDALE	613	811	933
LAWRENCE	349	418	419
LEWIS	121	145	193

**Tennessee Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges
Number of Children, Cases and Referral Reasons By Court
Based on Number of Reported Cases
January 1, 1998 - December 31, 1998**

	Children	Number of 1998 Cases	Referral Reasons
LINCOLN	220	381	381
LOUDON	261	417	510
MCMINN	411	519	638
MCNAIRY	516	531	557
MACON	284	399	456
MADISON	820	1,001	1,482
MARION	291	419	431
MARSHALL	500	737	896
MAURY	1,388	1,917	2,719
MEIGS	63	75	85
MONROE	304	351	394
MONTGOMERY	1,888	2,237	3,073
MOORE	28	30	31
MORGAN	144	151	161
OBION	320	370	452
OVERTON	145	178	210
PERRY	74	106	130
PICKETT	53	68	72
POLK	80	88	100
PUTNAM	814	1,114	1,484
RHEA	354	447	575
ROANE	313	424	439
ROBERTSON	499	553	640
RUTHERFORD	1,048	1,412	2,130
SCOTT *	18	18	20
SEQUATCHIE	102	121	146
SEVIER	1,272	1,936	2,407
SHELBY	16,369	23,090	28,126
SMITH	95	103	123
STEWART	186	274	321
SULLIVAN	285	375	481
SUMNER	1,810	3,179	3,671
TIPTON	356	431	587
TROUSDALE	116	172	229
UNICOI	198	244	271
UNION	213	214	243
VAN BUREN	22	35	42
WARREN	827	1,179	1,366
WASHINGTON	1,065	1,735	1,800
WAYNE	174	189	224
WEAKLEY	387	529	610
WHITE	185	224	243
WILLIAMSON	1,838	2,720	3,223
WILSON	798	969	974
JOHNSON CITY	961	1,142	1,362
BRISTOL	719	924	1,120
SULLIVAN DIV. 2	927	1,227	1,416
Total	69,941	98,366	119,471

* Only reported data for the first half of 1998.

1998 RACE, SEX AND AGE INFORMATION BASED ON NUMBER OF CHILDREN

The 1998 juvenile court data in the tables on pages 11 -13 reveal that slightly less than twice as many males were reported as females regardless of race. White males, totaling 26,308 and representing 38% of the overall juvenile court population, outnumbered their female counterparts, who totaled 15,547 and represented 22% of the juvenile court population, by slightly less than two to one. African American males, totaling 15,349 and representing 22% of the juvenile court population, outnumbered by slightly less than double their female counterparts, who totaled 9,510 and represented 14% of the juvenile court population. These percentage data are consistent with those of 1995, 1996, and 1997.

Regarding race, non-white (African American, Native American, Asian, and Mixed Race) children were reported as representing 37% of the juvenile court population, while constituting only 22% of the overall juvenile population of Tennessee. Conversely, white children, constituting 78% of the overall juvenile population, were reported as making up 60% of the juvenile court population. Those counties reporting the highest percentages of non-white children within their juvenile court population were as follows:

Davidson - 58% (non-white children represent 31.6% of the county's juvenile population) *

Fayette - 65% (non-white children represent 52.8% of the county's juvenile population) *

Hardeman - 56% (non-white children represent 47.9% of the county's juvenile population) *

Haywood - 78% (non-white children represent 58.9% of the county's juvenile population) *

Madison - 62% (non-white children represent 40.5% of the county's juvenile population) *

Shelby - 78% (non-white children represent 55.3% of the county's juvenile population) *

When looking at age, the 1998 data indicated that the largest number of children continued to fall within the 15 through 16 years of age category (see chart on page 16). Prior to the 1994, 1995 and 1996 data, African American females historically were represented more in the Birth to 10 years of age category. In 1994, 1995 and 1996, African American females were most represented in the 15 through 16 age group. In 1997 and again in 1998, the modal category for African American females returned to the Birth to 10 years age category.

*Source: The 1990 U.S. Census Population and Housing, Summary Tape File 1, prepared by The Center for Business and Economic Research, The University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN, 1991.

Tennessee Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges
Total Number of Children By Race And Sex By Court
Based on Number of Children
January 1, 1998 - December 31, 1998

	WHITE MALE	AFRICAN AMERICAN MALE	OTHER RACE MALE	MALE RACE UNKNOWN	WHITE FEMALE	AFRICAN AMERICAN FEMALE	OTHER RACE FEMALE	FEMALE RACE UNKNOWN	WHITE SEX UNKNOWN	AFRICAN AMERICAN SEX UNKNOWN	OTHER RACE SEX UNKNOWN	RACE & SEX UNKNOWN	TOTAL
ANDERSON	185	22	3	0	91	11	1	0	0	0	0	0	313
BEDFORD	134	23	2	4	74	11	0	1	0	0	0	0	249
BENTON	76	2	0	0	23	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	104
BLEDSE	98	5	2	0	38	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	144
BLOUNT	290	16	5	4	177	14	2	1	1	1	0	0	511
BRADLEY	482	52	6	11	265	19	2	8	0	0	0	0	845
CAMPBELL	113	1	0	0	60	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	175
CANNON	48	1	0	0	33	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	82
CARROLL	157	28	0	0	61	11	0	0	0	0	0	0	257
CARTER	309	4	2	12	173	3	0	8	0	0	0	0	511
CHEATHAM	394	18	1	2	212	4	1	0	0	0	0	0	632
CHESTER	96	37	0	0	82	16	0	1	0	0	0	0	232
CLAIBORNE	159	1	3	0	106	2	5	1	0	0	0	0	277
CLAY	47	1	0	0	24	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	72
COCKE	305	10	4	0	243	7	1	0	0	0	0	0	570
COFFEE	248	13	9	11	171	5	2	2	0	0	0	0	461
CROCKETT	39	11	3	1	22	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	76
CUMBERLAND	252	0	0	13	138	1	0	5	0	0	0	0	409
DAVIDSON	2,098	3,148	278	124	1,660	2,152	151	128	4	8	1	108	9,860
DECATUR	21	3	0	0	3	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	30
DEKALB	75	3	0	2	47	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	127
DICKSON	189	17	62	0	96	6	32	0	0	0	0	0	402
DYER	267	87	0	25	97	37	0	36	0	0	0	3	552
FAYETTE	85	154	0	0	41	75	0	0	0	0	0	0	355
FENTRESS	110	1	1	0	40	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	152
FRANKLIN	144	13	2	3	64	5	1	1	0	0	0	0	233
GIBSON	133	131	7	1	67	63	7	3	1	0	0	0	413
GILES	75	42	0	0	35	17	1	0	0	0	0	0	170
GRAINGER	255	1	1	5	106	1	3	1	0	0	0	0	373
GREENE	388	8	0	10	185	12	0	7	1	0	0	6	617
GRUNDY	67	1	0	1	61	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	132
HAMBLEN	225	27	4	4	135	11	5	5	0	0	0	0	416
HAMILTON	1,130	1,000	20	72	708	700	17	51	1	0	0	19	3,718
HANCOCK	23	1	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	27
HARDEMAN	101	157	0	6	42	79	0	5	0	2	0	33	425
HARDIN	82	1	1	0	41	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	129

Tennessee Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges
Total Number of Children By Race And Sex By Court
Based on Number of Children
January 1, 1998 - December 31, 1998

	WHITE MALE	AFRICAN AMERICAN MALE	OTHER RACE MALE	MALE RACE UNKNOWN	WHITE FEMALE	AFRICAN AMERICAN FEMALE	OTHER RACE FEMALE	FEMALE RACE UNKNOWN	WHITE SEX UNKNOWN	AFRICAN AMERICAN SEX UNKNOWN	OTHER RACE SEX UNKNOWN	RACE & SEX UNKNOWN	TOTAL
HAWKINS	475	6	2	3	253	7	1	2	0	0	0	0	749
HAYWOOD	31	110	2	2	11	50	0	1	0	1	0	0	208
HENDERSON	160	29	5	0	61	9	3	0	0	0	0	0	267
HENRY	205	43	1	5	95	18	4	2	0	0	0	0	373
HICKMAN	94	3	2	0	67	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	169
HOUSTON	53	3	0	0	52	2	3	0	0	0	0	0	113
HUMPHREYS	113	2	0	5	69	1	3	6	0	0	0	2	201
JACKSON	47	1	0	0	30	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	78
JEFFERSON	148	7	0	0	69	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	227
JOHNSON	100	1	0	1	58	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	160
KNOX	762	166	5	339	554	154	3	309	1	0	0	147	2,440
LAKE	33	11	0	2	25	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	81
LAUDERDALE	193	169	5	1	129	111	2	2	0	1	0	0	613
LAWRENCE	220	7	1	1	116	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	349
LEWIS	77	0	0	2	39	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	121
LINCOLN	111	19	5	0	71	11	3	0	0	0	0	0	220
LOUDON	174	8	1	1	77	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	261
MCMINN	250	32	3	1	116	7	2	0	0	0	0	0	411
MCNAIRY	279	23	3	0	195	16	0	0	0	0	0	0	516
MACON	173	0	1	0	109	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	284
MADISON	208	344	5	3	100	159	1	0	0	0	0	0	820
MARION	168	4	0	0	114	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	291
MARSHALL	270	48	4	1	143	23	9	2	0	0	0	0	500
MAURY	643	199	13	24	364	130	5	10	0	0	0	0	1,388
MEIGS	43	1	0	0	19	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	63
MONROE	172	12	2	20	83	8	1	6	0	0	0	0	304
MONTGOMERY	716	351	92	25	438	179	69	15	0	0	0	3	1,888
MOORE	14	3	1	0	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	28
MORGAN	88	0	0	0	56	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	144
OBION	154	37	0	0	99	28	2	0	0	0	0	0	320
OVERTON	87	1	0	1	55	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	145
PERRY	52	6	0	1	13	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	74
PICKETT	42	0	0	0	11	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	53
POLK	52	0	1	0	26	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	80
PUTNAM	497	15	9	9	264	8	5	6	0	0	0	1	814
RHEA	198	3	6	2	131	11	2	0	0	0	0	1	354

Tennessee Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges
Total Number of Children By Race And Sex By Court
Based on Number of Children
January 1, 1998 - December 31, 1998

	WHITE MALE	AFRICAN AMERICAN MALE	OTHER RACE MALE	MALE RACE UNKNOWN	WHITE FEMALE	AFRICAN AMERICAN FEMALE	OTHER RACE FEMALE	FEMALE RACE UNKNOWN	WHITE SEX UNKNOWN	AFRICAN AMERICAN SEX UNKNOWN	OTHER RACE SEX UNKNOWN	RACE & SEX UNKNOWN	TOTAL
ROANE	175	18	4	10	92	3	1	10	0	0	0	0	313
ROBERTSON	255	63	2	4	149	20	0	4	2	0	0	0	499
RUTHERFORD	555	139	27	1	256	64	5	0	0	0	0	1	1,048
SCOTT	8	0	0	0	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	18
SEQUATCHIE	61	0	1	0	40	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	102
SEVIER	796	17	3	7	438	4	2	1	4	0	0	0	1,272
SHELBY	2,330	7,754	72	0	1,292	4,881	37	0	0	3	0	0	16,369
SMITH	59	3	4	1	26	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	95
STEWART	111	0	1	1	71	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	186
SULLIVAN	159	1	0	0	123	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	285
SUMNER	921	142	8	29	595	71	12	29	1	0	0	2	1,810
TIPTON	136	105	0	1	93	19	2	0	0	0	0	0	356
TROUSDALE	63	10	1	1	33	7	1	0	0	0	0	0	116
UNICOI	110	0	2	1	83	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	198
UNION	149	0	1	0	62	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	213
VAN BUREN	20	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	22
WARREN	440	16	1	0	345	23	2	0	0	0	0	0	827
WASHINGTON	655	10	10	4	371	5	9	1	0	0	0	0	1,065
WAYNE	115	3	0	8	47	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	174
WEAKLEY	201	36	3	9	117	13	0	8	0	0	0	0	387
WHITE	115	4	2	0	62	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	185
WILLIAMSON	986	150	10	31	558	86	6	11	0	0	0	0	1,838
WILSON	468	66	4	1	226	26	6	1	0	0	0	0	798
JOHNSON CITY	473	52	9	49	309	26	4	37	0	1	0	1	961
BRISTOL	435	11	0	0	264	6	1	2	0	0	0	0	719
Total	26,308	15,349	756	918	15,547	9,510	452	736	17	17	1	330	69,941

Tennessee Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges
Race By Sex and
Hispanic Origin By Sex
Based On Number of Children Disposed
January 1, 1998 - December 31, 1998

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Sex</u> <u>Unknown</u>	<u>Total</u>
White	26,308	15,547	17	41,872
African American	15,349	9,510	17	24,876
Native American	37	15	0	52
Asian	282	150	0	432
Mixed Race	437	287	1	725
Race Unknown or Not Reported	918	736	330	1,984
Total	43,331	26,245	365	69,941

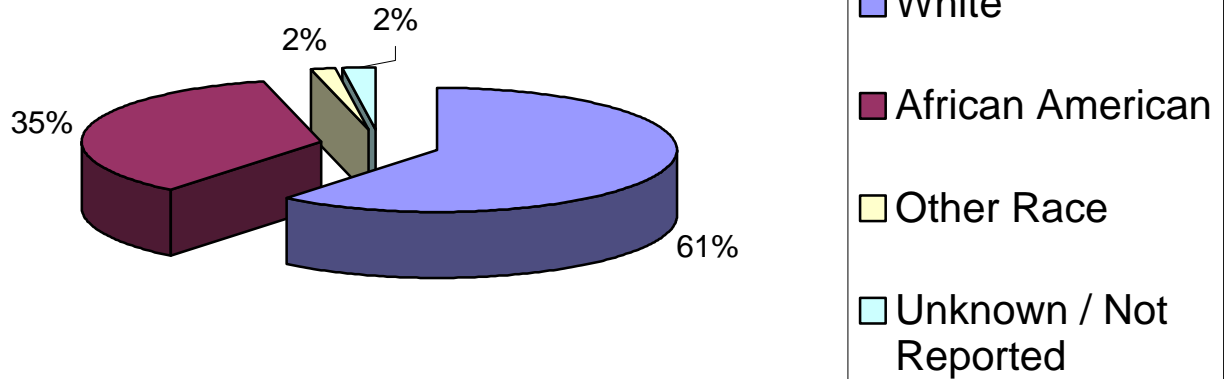
Hispanic Origin

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Sex</u> <u>Unknown</u>	<u>Total</u>
Hispanic	585	272	2	859

Race of Child - Males

January

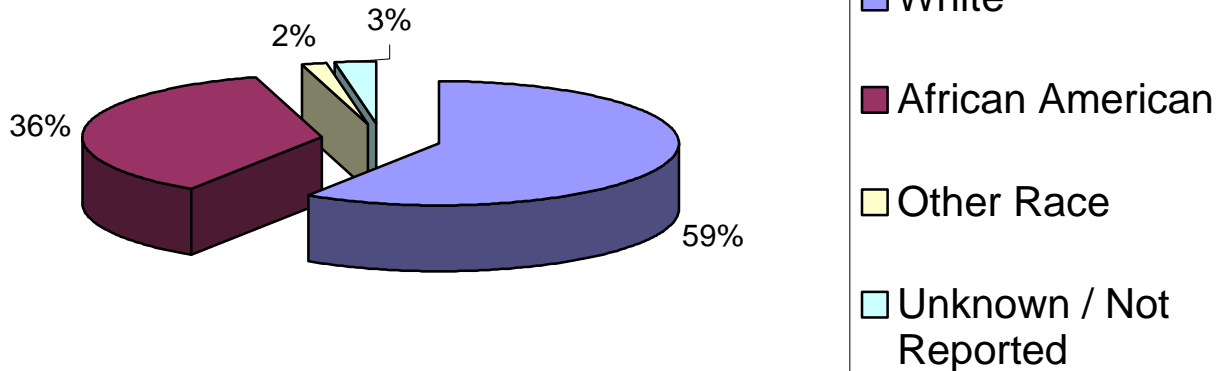
1, 1998 - December 31, 1998



Race of Child - Females

January

1, 1998 - December 31, 1998



Figures based on number of children whose case was disposed.

Figures do not reflect 330 children where both race and sex were unknown or not reported.

Tennessee Council of Juvenile And Family Court Judges
Age Group Of Children
Based On Number Of Children
January 1, 1998 - December 31, 1998

	WHITE MALE	AFRICAN AMERICAN MALE	OTHER RACE MALE	UNKNOWN RACE MALE	WHITE FEMALE	AFRICAN AMERICAN FEMALE	OTHER RACE FEMALE	UNKNOWN RACE FEMALE	WHITE SEX UNKNOWN	AFRICAN AMERICAN SEX UNKNOWN	OTHER RACE SEX UNKNOWN	RACE AND SEX UNKNOWN	TOTAL
Birth Through Age 10	3,317	3,443	196	402	2,967	3,056	177	363	11	13	0	205	14,150
Ages 11 Through 12	1,226	1,161	47	66	860	719	24	51	1	3	0	31	4,189
Ages 13 Through 14	3,478	2,631	93	102	2,418	1,693	64	106	1	1	0	27	10,614
Ages 15 Through 16	9,492	4,648	245	194	5,344	2,543	116	133	2	0	1	43	22,761
Ages 17 Through 18	8,478	3,351	172	133	3,803	1,427	67	77	1	0	0	13	17,522
Ages 19 And Over	75	39	0	5	21	22	0	1	0	0	0	2	165
Unknown/Not Reported	242	76	3	16	134	50	4	5	1	0	0	9	540
Totals	26,308	15,349	756	918	15,547	9,510	452	736	17	17	1	330	69,941

**LIVING ARRANGEMENT OF THE CHILD AT THE TIME OF REFERRAL TO
JUVENILE COURT
1998**

Consistent with the data gathered in previous years, the chart on page 18 shows the largest numbers (26,581 or 38%) of the children within the general juvenile court population were reported to be "Living With Their Mothers Only" at the time of referral to juvenile court. The second and third most reported living arrangements for the general juvenile court population were "Living With Both Natural Parents" (17%) and "Unknown" (15%).

When examining the 1998 juvenile court population by race and gender categories, different living arrangement patterns can be seen (see charts on pages 18 - 20). White female data continued to mirror the general juvenile court population figures. This data revealed a higher percentage of "Living With Mothers Only" (35%) over "Living With Both Natural Parents" (20%) and "Unknown" (10%). These figures are consistent with the 1995, 1996 and 1997 percentages.

Data regarding African American females continued to be reflective of a different living arrangement picture when compared to that of their white counterparts. Forty-five percent (45%) of African American females were reported to be "Living With Mothers Only," followed by 18% "Living With Relatives" and 18% "Unknown".

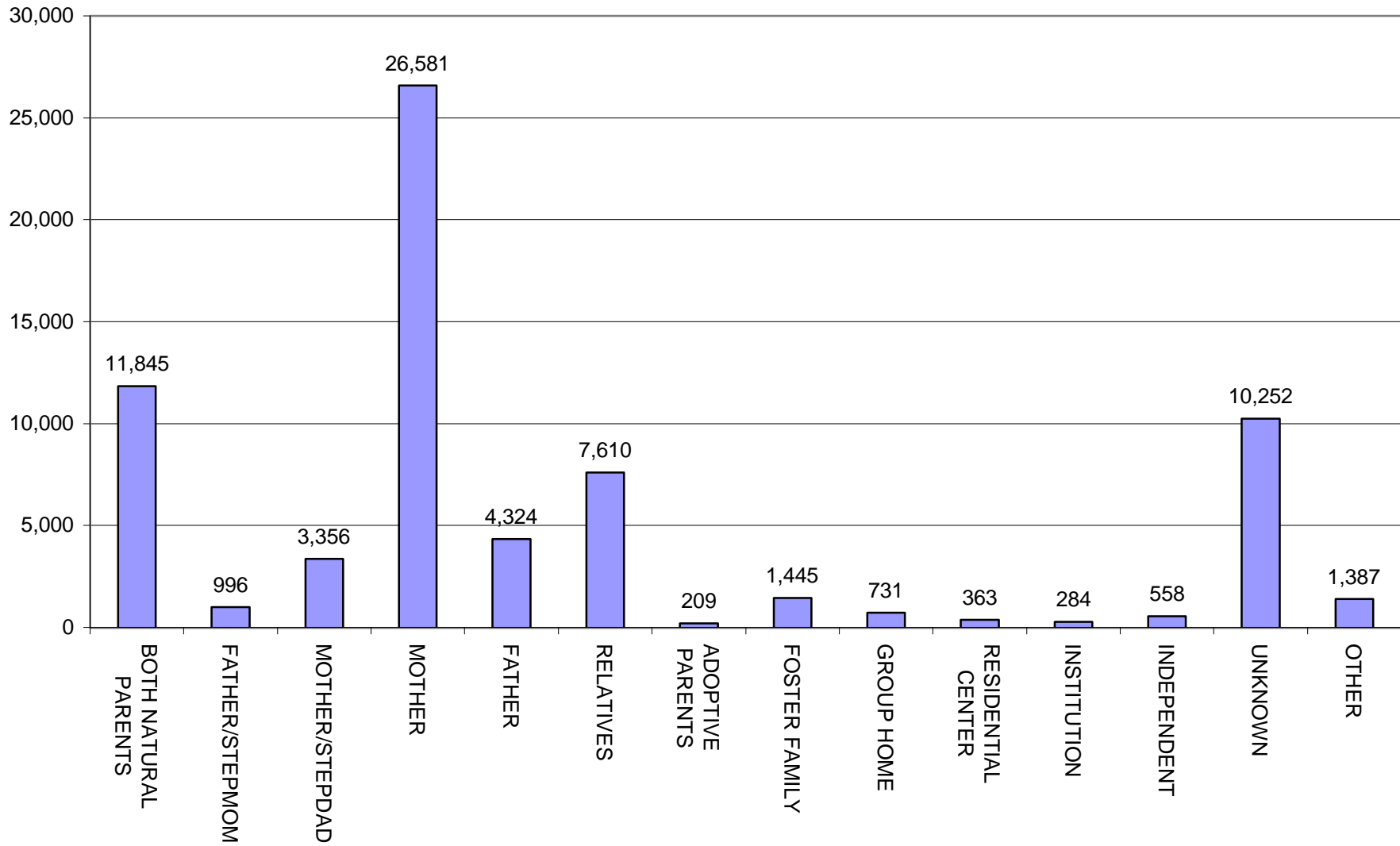
Once again, the 1998 data reflected a change from the historical trend of white males living more often with both natural parents. As in 1995, 1996 and 1997, the 1998 data showed that the largest category for white males was "Living With Mother Only" with 32%. "Living With Both Natural Parents" continued to be the second most reported living arrangement for white males (26%), followed by "Unknown" (13%).

Data associated with African American males continued to reveal that almost half (47%) of African American males were reported as "Living With Mother Only" at the time of referral. For 18% of African American males, the reported living arrangement was "Unknown," followed by 13% "Living With Relatives."

In summary, the 1998 data continued to show that most children were "Living With Their Mothers Only" at the time of referral to juvenile court. White children of both genders continued to appear to have higher percentages of "Living With Both Natural Parents", while their African American counterparts continued to have higher percentages of "Living With Relatives."

Living Arrangement of Child At Time Of Referral

January 1, 1998 - December 31, 1998



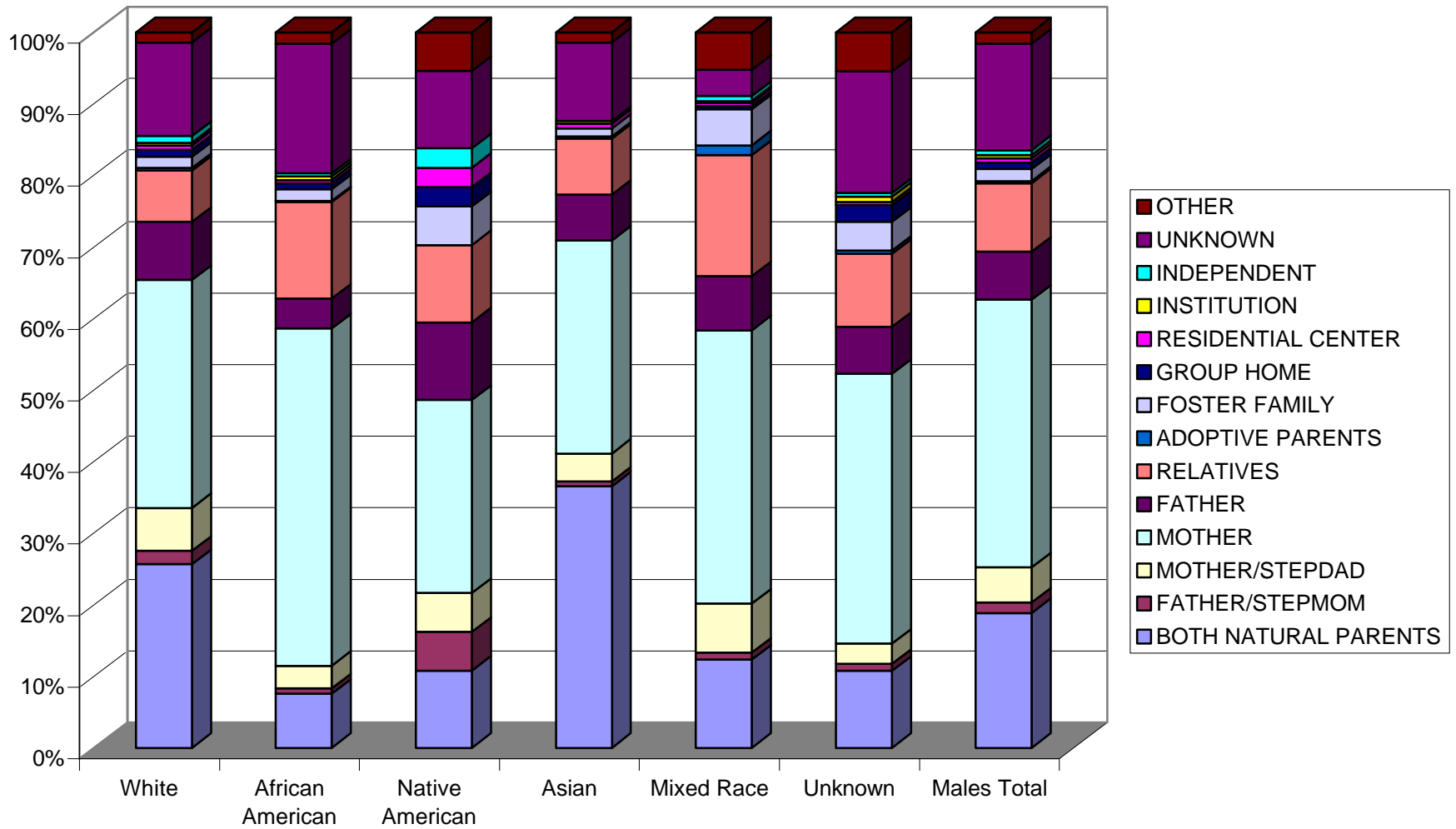
Total 69,941

Figures based on number of children whose case was disposed. Unknown includes not reported.

Living Arrangement Of Child At Time Of Referral

Percentage Of Males By Race

January 1, 1998 - December 31, 1998

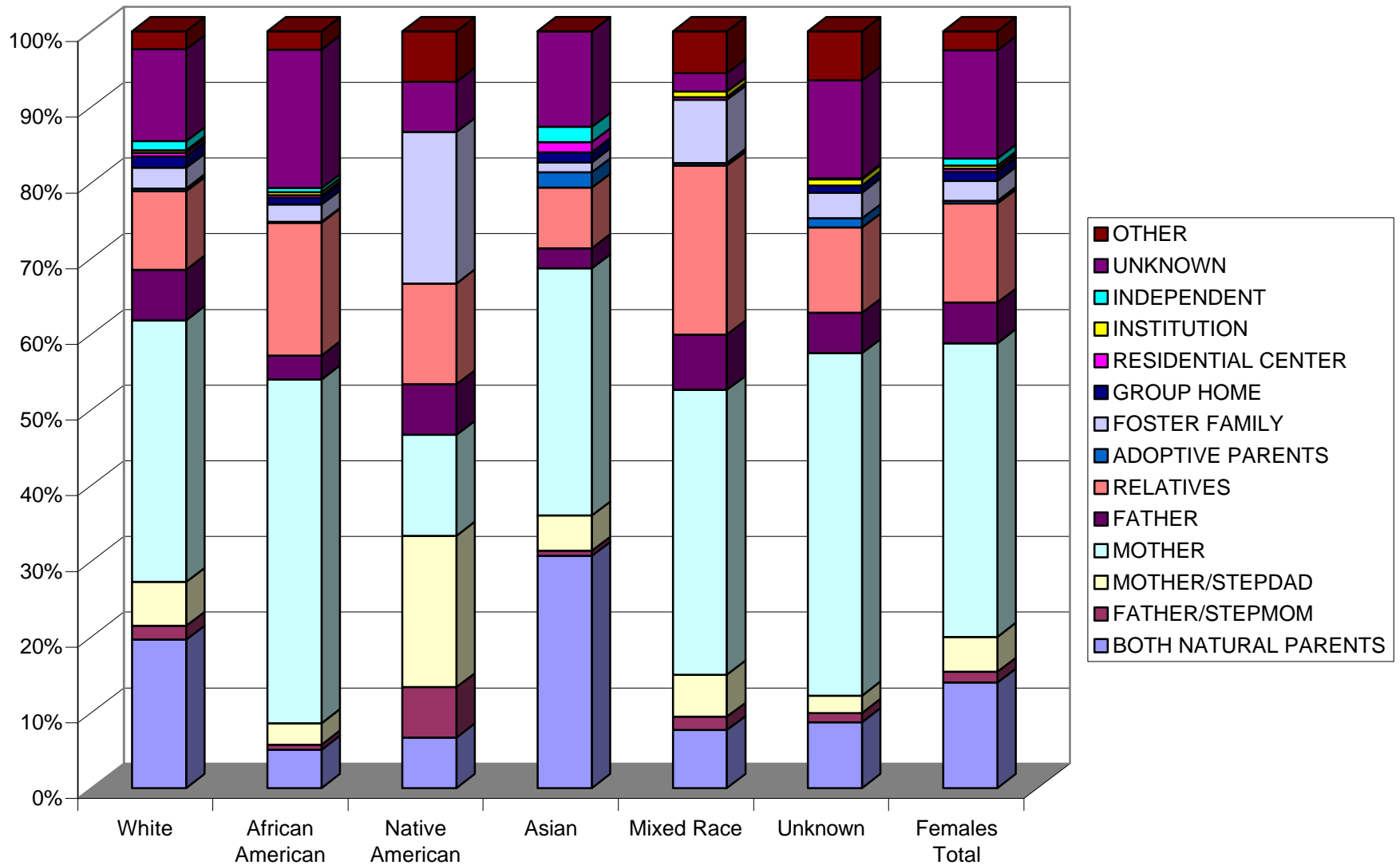


Figures based on number of children whose cases were disposed.

Living Arrangement Of Child At Time Of Referral

Percentage Of Females By Race

January 1, 1998 - December 31, 1998



Figures based on number of children whose cases were disposed.

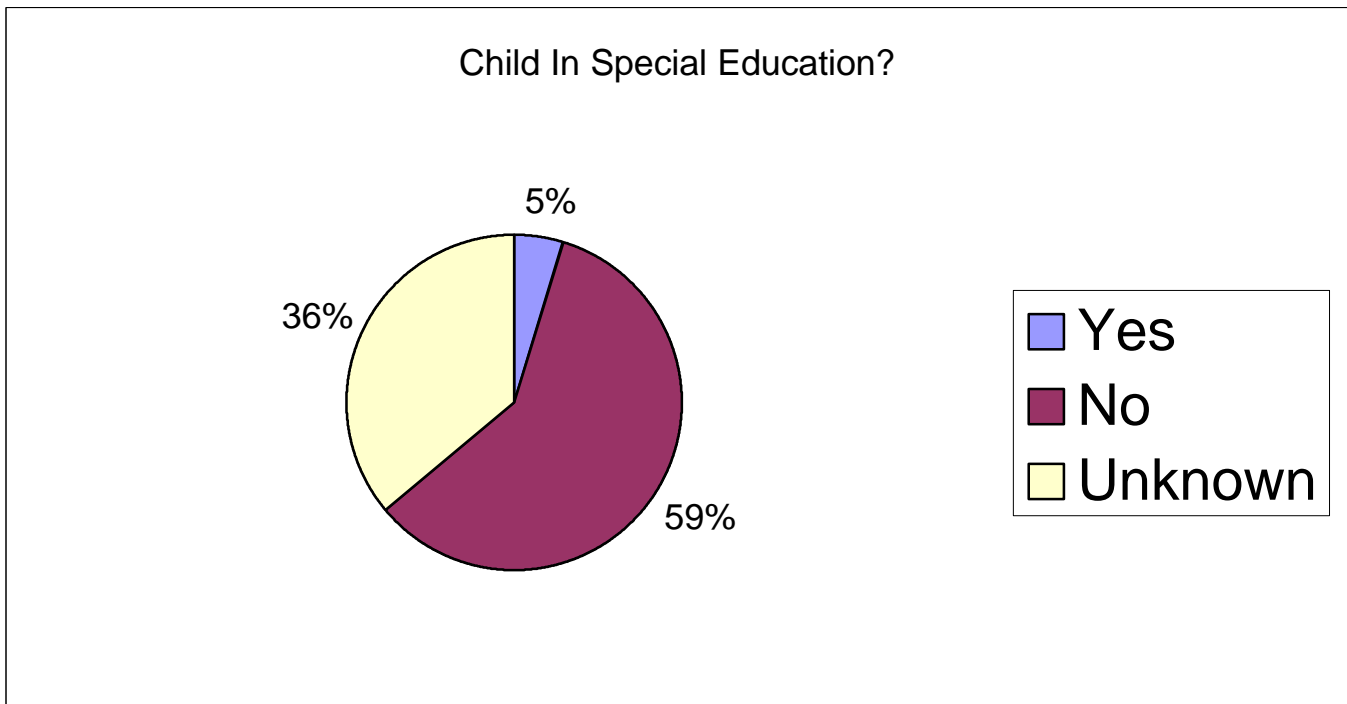
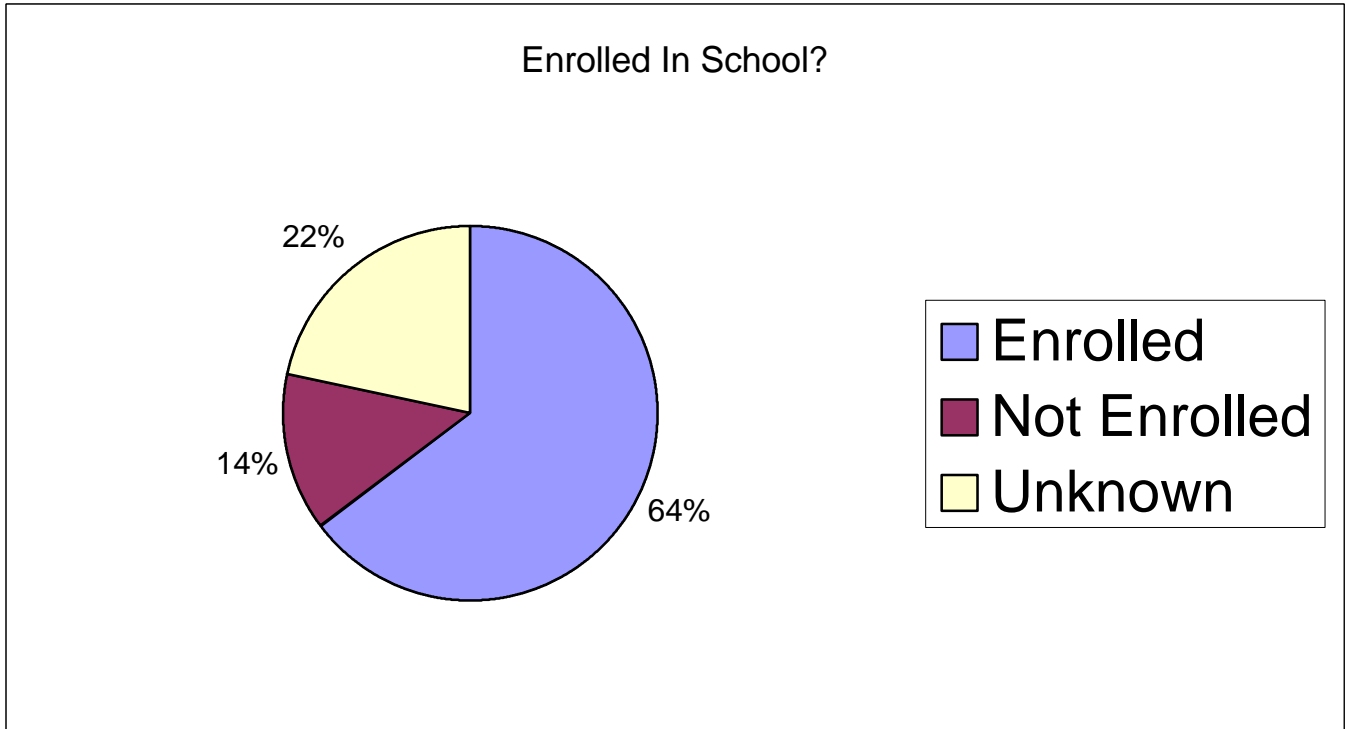
**SCHOOL STATUS OF CHILDREN AT THE TIME OF REFERRAL TO
JUVENILE COURT
1998**

The chart on page 22 shows that, in 1998, a majority (64%) of the children were reported as being formally enrolled (either full or part-time) in regular school at the time of referral to juvenile court, while 14% were reported as being out or not formally enrolled in regular school. This "out of regular school" category also included those children who had been expelled. Additionally, 5% of the general juvenile court population was reported as being enrolled in a special education curriculum at the time of referral.

Of the children whose school status was known, the 1998 data indicate that the majority of students had completed a high school grade (9th through 12th). These data are consistent with those presented in the 1995, 1996 and 1997 reports.

School Status Of Child

January 1, 1998 - December 31, 1998



Figures Based On Number of Children. Unknown Includes Not Reported.

**Tennessee Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges
Educational Information About Children
January 1, 1998 - December 31, 1998**

The following school statistics pertain to the 69,941 children whose cases were processed.

SCHOOL ENROLLMENT OF CHILD

1,134	Or	2% Too Young For School
828	Or	1% Finished Preschool
526	Or	1% Finished Kindergarten
814	Or	1% Finished First Grade
791	Or	1% Finished Second Grade
793	Or	1% Finished Third Grade
983	Or	1% Finished Fourth Grade
1,454	Or	2% Finished Fifth Grade
3,139	Or	4% Finished Sixth Grade
4,533	Or	6% Finished Seventh Grade
7,221	Or	10% Finished Eighth Grade
8,195	Or	12% Finished Ninth Grade
7,493	Or	11% Finished Tenth Grade
4,835	Or	7% Finished Eleventh Grade
891	Or	1% Finished Twelfth Grade
80	Or	0% Were Last Enrolled In Non-Graded Special Education
422	Or	1% Earned Their GED
134	Or	0% Graduated
682	Or	1% Have Never Been In School
24,993	Or	36% Were Unknown Or Not Reported
<hr style="width: 100px; margin-left: 0;"/>		
69,941		Total

SPECIAL EDUCATION STATUS

3,221	Or	5% Were Enrolled In Special Education
41,438	Or	59% Were Not Enrolled In Special Education
25,282	Or	36% Were Unknown Or Not Reported
<hr style="width: 100px; margin-left: 0;"/>		
69,941		Total

**REFERRAL INFORMATION BY RACE, SEX, AND CLASS OF
REFERRAL/OFFENSE
1998**

During the reporting period between January 1, 1998, and December 31, 1998, information regarding 119,471 referral reasons disposed of by Tennessee juvenile courts was reported to the Tennessee Juvenile Court Information System. As in previous years, over half (65%) of the 1998 referral reasons disposed of by juvenile courts fell into the category of alleged delinquent offenses. Status offenses represented approximately 12% of referral reasons, while non-offense referral reasons comprised an additional 23% of the total 1998 juvenile court referral reasons.

For the following report, the broad categories of referrals/offenses (Delinquent, Status, and Non-Offense) were broken into these classes of referrals/offenses:

Offenses Against Persons - Delinquent offenses, such as Criminal Homicide, Assault, Rape, etc., that were committed against persons.

Offenses Against Property - Delinquent offenses, such as Burglary, Arson, Vandalism, etc., that were committed against property.

Illegal Conduct - Delinquent behavior that includes such offenses as Possession or Sale of Controlled Substances, Disorderly Conduct, Criminal Trespass, etc.

Status Offenses - Offenses committed by a child, that if committed by an adult, would not be considered an offense or unlawful act. These can include such actions as Runaway, Truancy, Unruly Behavior, etc.

Dependency/Neglect Issues - Issues that affect the safety and well being of the referred child, such as Abuse, Dependency, Neglect, Termination of Parental Rights, etc. This is a non-offense category as the referred child is the "victim", not the offender.

Other Violation Proceedings - Violation of Pretrial Diversion and Violation of Informal Adjustment.

Special Proceedings - Judicial actions taken on behalf of the child or upon request of the child and parent/guardian. Such actions include Consent to Marry, Parentage proceedings, Child Support, etc. This is also a non-offense category.

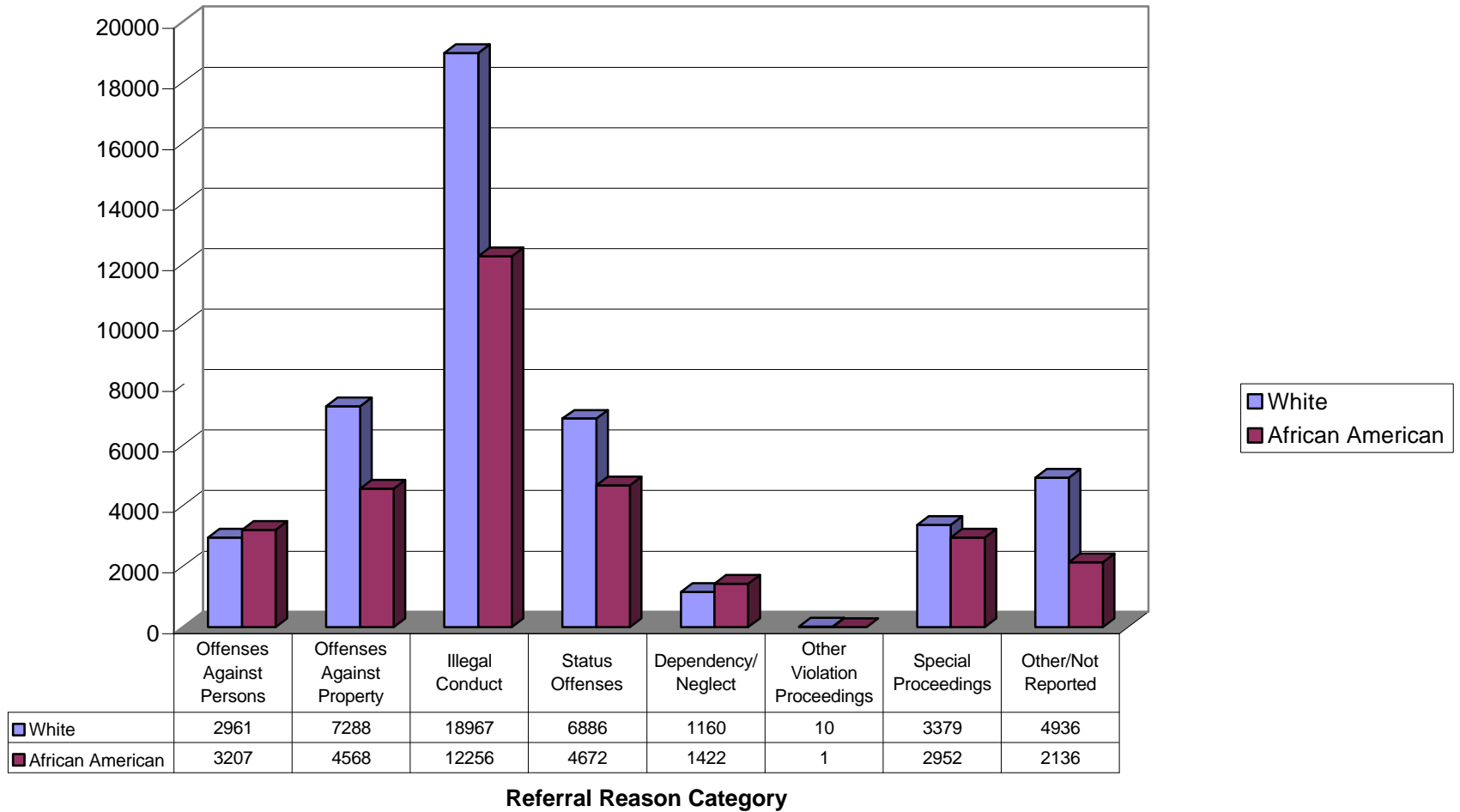
The chart on page 26 indicates that the first, second, and third most often reported classes of referral reasons for males differed by race. Among white males, the two most commonly reported classes of referral/offense continued to be Illegal Conduct and Property Offenses. Forty-two (42%) percent of white male referral reasons were for Illegal Conduct and 16% were for Offenses Against Property. Status Offenses represented the third most reported class of referral/offense for white male referrals at 15%.

Thirty-five percent (35%) of African American male referral reasons were for Illegal Conduct. The second most reported class of referral/offense for African-American males was Status Offenses at 15%, and the third was Offenses Against Property at 14.6%.

The chart on page 27 indicates that the first and second most often reported classes of referral/offenses for females differed by race. Twenty-eight percent (28%) of white female referral reasons were for Illegal Conduct and 24% of African American female referral reasons were for Status Offenses. Twenty-six percent (26%) of white female referral reasons were for Status Offenses, while 21% of African American female referral reasons were for Illegal Conduct. The third most often reported class for both white females and African American females was Special Proceedings, with 19% of African American female referral reasons and 9% of white female referral reasons.

Male Referrals By Race

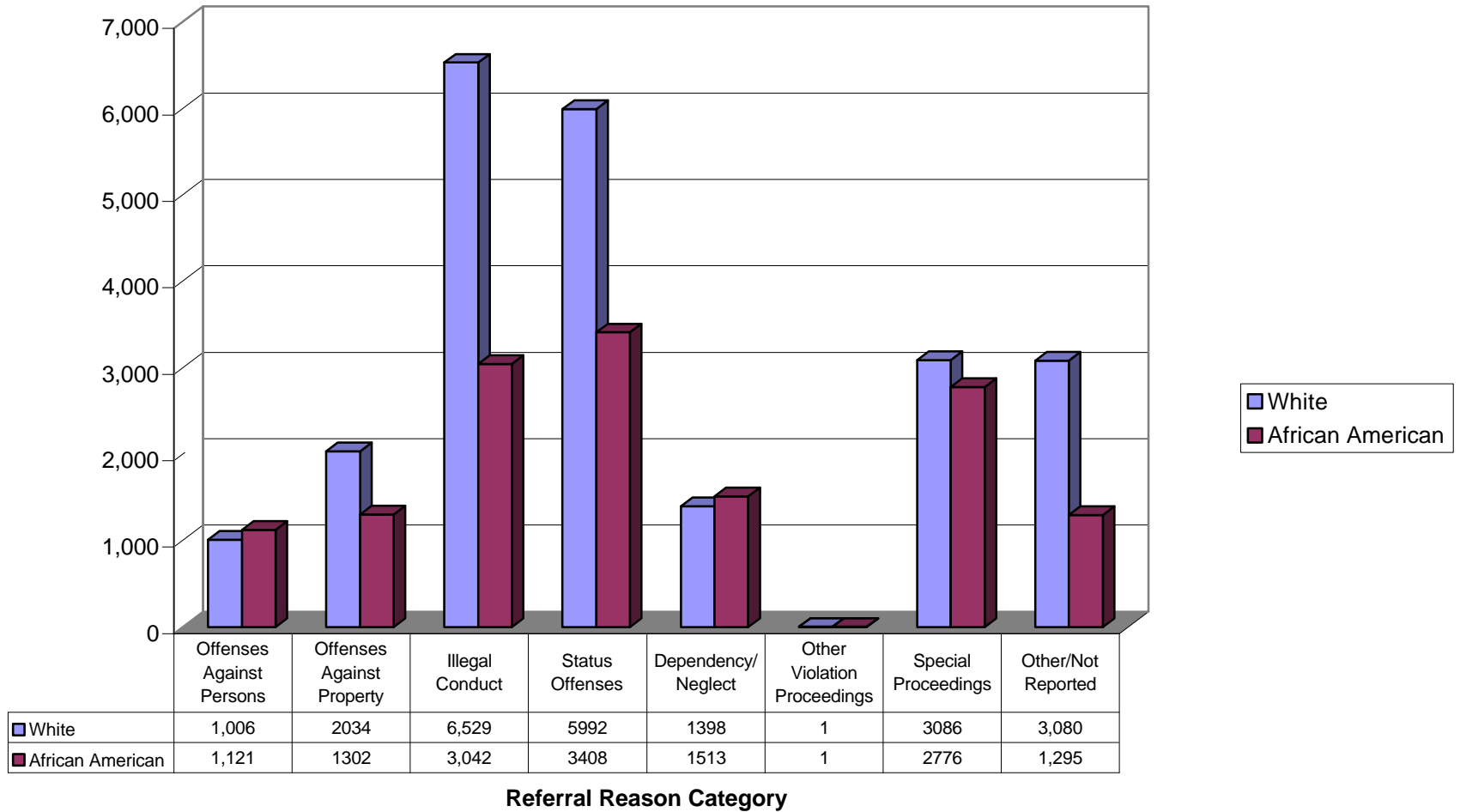
January 1, 1998 - December 31, 1998



Figures based on number of referral reasons disposed.

Female Referrals By Race

January 1, 1998 - December 31, 1998



Figures based on number of referral reasons disposed.

REFERRAL REASONS BY RACE AND SEX 1998

Please refer to the tables on pages 29 – 31 for data regarding referral reasons by race and gender. Since these data are spread between 83 potential referral reasons, most of the percentages presented in this discussion will be small. ***It is important to note that many juvenile courts do not hear traffic cases. In these jurisdictions, traffic cases go to city court. It is also important to note that the category of “Unknown” includes not reported.***

The 1998 data showed the most commonly reported delinquent referral reasons to be traffic offenses, theft of property, assault, and disorderly conduct. The most often reported status offense referral reasons were truancy, in-state runaway and unruly behavior, while referral reasons surrounding issues of custody and dependency/neglect remained the most prevalent within the non-offense category. These data were consistent with those of 1995, 1996, and 1997.

When looking at race and gender, the top four specific referral reasons for white males reported in 1998 were Traffic Offenses (16%), “Other” (11%), Theft of Property (8%), and Truancy (6%). The most often reported specific referral reasons associated with African American males were Theft of Property (9%), Disorderly Conduct (7.2%), Other (6.8%), and Traffic (6.7%).

The 1998 data revealed the most often cited specific referral reasons for white females were Traffic Offenses (14%), Other (13%), Truancy (11%), and In-State Runaway (7%). Regarding African American females, the most often cited specific referral reasons in 1998 were Dependency/Neglect (10%), Truancy (9.4%), Disorderly Conduct (9.3%), and Theft of Property (8%).

Tennessee Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges 1998 Referral Reasons By Race And Sex

	African			Unknown	African			Unknown	White	African	Other	Race	Totals
	White	African	Other	Race	White	African	Other	Race	Unknown	African	Race	And Sex	
	Male	Male	Male	Male	Female	Female	Female	Female	Race	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	
<i>Offenses Against Persons</i>													
Criminal Homicide	9	8	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	21
First Degree Murder	22	15	2	1	6	3	0	0	0	0	0	2	51
Second Degree Murder	10	2	0	0	3	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	17
Aggravated Rape	18	21	2	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	45
Rape of a Child	55	29	2	0	9	4	2	0	0	0	0	0	101
Aggravated Vehicular Homicide	5	2	0	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	10
Especially Aggravated Robbery	13	34	0	1	3	5	0	1	0	0	0	0	57
Especially Aggravated Kidnapping	8	8	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	18
Aggravated Robbery	63	255	2	1	8	14	0	0	0	0	0	1	344
Aggravated Kidnapping	9	13	0	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	26
Aggravated Child Abuse/Neglect	3	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4
Aggravated Sexual Battery	32	27	2	2	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	67
Rape	53	79	1	2	5	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	143
Voluntary Manslaughter	4	9	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	15
Vehicular Homicide	5	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7
Sexual Abuse of Child	12	1	0	1	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	17
Other Sexual Offense	106	124	0	4	19	13	1	0	0	0	0	0	267
Aggravated Assault	454	551	13	11	95	210	6	4	1	0	0	2	1,347
Robbery	37	146	1	0	2	12	0	0	0	0	0	0	198
Criminally Negligent Homicide	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Attempt Against Person	22	35	6	0	10	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	79
Assault	1,831	1,703	58	42	786	835	25	16	0	0	0	2	5,298
Reckless Endangerment	190	144	6	1	38	14	0	0	0	0	0	0	393
Totals	2,961	3,207	97	66	1,006	1,121	36	21	1	0	0	9	8,525
<i>Offenses Against Property</i>													
Aggravated Arson	25	13	0	0	4	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	48
Arson	87	25	2	2	7	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	127
Aggravated Burglary	560	548	22	15	53	47	1	4	0	0	0	1	1,251
Theft Of Property	3,528	2,877	126	61	1,495	1,098	52	33	0	0	0	7	9,277
Vandalism	1,647	401	36	22	225	81	1	7	0	0	0	8	2,428
Forgery	107	53	5	0	51	16	4	0	0	0	0	0	236
Worthless Checks	15	1	0	0	19	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	38
Illegal Poss./Fraud. Cards	31	18	2	2	22	9	0	1	0	0	0	0	85
Burglary	1,088	546	50	22	75	20	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,801
Unauthorized Use Of A Vehicle	176	76	7	2	83	18	3	1	0	0	0	0	366
Cruelty to Animals	24	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	34
Totals	7,288	4,568	250	126	2,034	1,302	61	46	0	0	0	16	15,691

**Tennessee Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges
1998 Referral Reasons By Race And Sex**

	African American			Unknown Race	African American			Unknown Race	White	African American	Other Race	Race And Sex	Totals
	White Male	African American Male	Other Male	Unknown Male	White Female	African American Female	Other Female	Unknown Female	White Race	African American Unknown	Other Unknown	Unknown	
<i>Illegal Conduct</i>													
Sale Of Controlled Substances	178	576	3	0	23	32	0	0	0	0	0	2	814
Other Drug Offenses	996	495	34	13	224	46	2	3	0	0	0	0	1,813
Possession Of Controlled Substances	1,739	1,029	29	19	397	115	5	1	0	0	0	0	3,334
Criminal Attempt	111	261	14	1	34	12	1	0	0	0	0	0	434
Weapons On School Property	175	161	6	1	65	97	1	0	0	0	0	0	506
Carrying/Possession Of A Weapon	375	536	14	5	58	48	3	0	0	0	0	0	1,039
Evading Arrest	343	741	18	6	62	39	2	3	1	0	0	2	1,217
Escape	201	97	5	16	44	6	0	3	0	0	0	3	375
Driving Under The Influence (DUI)	293	21	9	4	49	1	0	2	0	0	0	1	380
Possession/Consumption Of Alcohol	2,309	285	43	21	845	41	14	5	0	0	0	0	3,563
Resist Stop Frisk Halt Arrest Or Search	206	295	9	1	50	82	4	2	0	0	0	0	649
Aggravated Criminal Trespass	33	10	1	1	13	2	1	1	0	0	0	0	62
Harassment	149	22	4	3	124	25	1	3	0	0	0	0	331
Failure To Appear	60	13	1	2	18	3	0	2	0	0	0	0	99
Filing A False Police Report	43	18	1	1	40	9	1	1	0	0	0	0	114
Criminal Impersonation	67	99	5	4	51	31	2	1	0	0	0	0	260
Disorderly Conduct	912	2,248	24	8	357	1,342	18	2	1	0	0	1	4,913
Criminal Trespass	613	966	9	14	140	143	2	8	0	0	0	2	1,897
Public Intoxication	388	174	4	2	58	33	1	0	0	0	0	0	660
Gambling	5	128	2	0	4	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	142
Traffic	7,458	2,088	173	64	3,135	423	43	15	1	0	1	5	13,406
Local Ordinances	223	301	13	0	65	45	3	0	0	0	0	0	650
Violation Of Wildlife Regulations	177	23	0	1	13	6	0	1	0	0	0	3	224
Contempt Of Court	286	409	12	23	110	184	8	27	0	1	0	10	1,070
Violation of Probation	1,513	1,118	75	19	527	262	23	11	0	0	0	2	3,550
Violation of Aftercare	114	142	4	7	23	13	1	0	0	0	0	0	304
Totals	18,967	12,256	512	236	6,529	3,042	137	91	3	1	1	31	41,806
<i>Status Offenses</i>													
Unruly Behavior	1,443	644	23	9	1,196	571	25	14	0	0	0	4	3,929
Truancy	2,726	1,878	40	65	2,466	1,354	42	88	0	1	0	8	8,668
In-State Runaway	1,072	751	29	19	1,537	1,022	49	24	0	0	0	3	4,506
Out-Of-State Runaway	50	4	1	0	75	4	5	2	0	0	0	0	141
Possession of Tobacco Products	342	222	3	3	111	19	0	0	0	0	0	0	700
Violation of a Valid Court Order	229	71	9	0	209	39	5	0	0	0	0	0	562
Violation Of Curfew	1,024	1,102	64	13	398	399	15	7	0	0	0	3	3,025
Totals	6,886	4,672	169	109	5,992	3,408	141	135	0	1	0	18	21,531

**Tennessee Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges
1998 Referral Reasons By Race And Sex**

	African American		Unknown Race		African American		Unknown Race		White	African American	Other	Race And Sex	Totals
	White Male	African American Male	Other Male	Unknown Race Male	White Female	African American Female	Other Female	Unknown Race Female	Unknown Race	Unknown Race	Unknown Race	Unknown Race	
<i>Dependency/Neglect</i>													
Sexually Abused Child	4	0	0	1	13	1	0	11	0	0	0	0	30
Physically Abused Child	26	20	0	6	31	13	0	9	1	0	0	7	113
Dependency/Neglect	1,017	1,297	83	124	1,233	1,400	70	112	0	4	0	51	5,391
Termination of Parental Rights	113	105	9	11	121	99	8	15	0	0	0	9	490
Totals	1,160	1,422	92	142	1,398	1,513	78	147	1	4	0	67	6,024

Other Violation Proceedings

Violation of Pretrial Diversion	6	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7
Violation of Informal Adjustment	4	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	6
Totals	10	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	13

Special Proceedings

Judicial Review	483	17	14	1	330	9	14	0	0	0	0	0	868
Administrative Review	152	569	0	0	141	596	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,458
Foster Care Review	361	190	14	51	342	163	26	46	0	0	0	19	1,212
Custody	1,382	881	69	152	1,389	826	56	102	4	2	0	43	4,906
Visitation	271	321	32	32	252	330	22	17	0	1	0	7	1,285
Paternity/Legitimation	258	298	17	47	216	269	17	36	1	3	0	57	1,219
Child Support	459	673	35	135	388	581	26	119	2	10	0	90	2,518
Request For Medical Treatment	10	3	0	0	12	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	27
Consent To Marry	3	0	0	1	16	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	21
Totals	3,379	2,952	181	419	3,086	2,776	161	321	7	16	0	216	13,514

Other	4,936	2,136	189	225	3,080	1,295	141	235	13	2	0	115	12,367
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Totals	45,587	31,214	1,490	1,323	23,126	14,458	755	996	25	24	1	472	119,471
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THE REFERRAL SOURCES OF CHILDREN TO THE JUVENILE COURT 1998

Anyone perceiving a need for the court to intervene in a child's affairs can refer that child to the juvenile court. Frequently, the referral source is closely related to the reason for referral. For example schools refer truants and law enforcement officers refer children who have committed illegal acts.

The table on page 33 lists each referral source and its corresponding percentage of referrals. As can be seen by this table, in 1998, law enforcement remained the most often cited referral source for juveniles to the courts (53.7%), while parents continued to represent the second most often cited referral source (10.9%). The 1998 data shows schools (7.9%) as the third most often reported source, while court staff (6.6%) became the fourth and relatives (6.5%) became the fifth.

When looking at the six most frequently reported referral reasons associated with each referral source, the table on pages 34 - 36 reveals that, in 1998, law enforcement personnel continued to appear more likely to refer juveniles for traffic complaints (21%), while other (19%) was the most often cited reason for referral by parents. With regard to schools, truancy remained the most cited referral reason (77%), while victims continued to refer more often for theft of property (27%).

Referral Source

January 1, 1998 - December 31, 1998

	Total	Percent
Law Enforcement	63,904	53.5%
Parents	12,929	10.8%
Relatives	7,749	6.5%
Self	331	0.3%
School	9,417	7.9%
CSA	68	0.1%
DCS	5,119	4.3%
Other State Departments	442	0.4%
Distirct Attorney	321	0.3%
Court Staff	7,873	6.6%
Social Agency	998	0.8%
Other Court	274	0.2%
Victim	6,181	5.2%
Child And Parent	258	0.2%
Hospital	39	0.0%
Unknown/Not Reported	668	0.6%
Other	2,900	2.4%
Total	119,471	100%

Figures based on number of reported referrals disposed.

**Tennessee Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges
1998 Six Most Frequent Referral Reasons By Source
Based On Number Of Referral Disposed**

Referral Source Referral Reasons	Totals	Percent
Law Enforcement	63,904	
1. Traffic	13,194	21%
2. Theft Of Property	7,199	11%
3. Disorderly Conduct	4,465	7%
4. Possession/Consumption Of Alcohol	3,396	5%
5. Assault	3,196	5%
6. Possession Of Controlled Substance	3,099	5%
Parents	12,929	
1. Other	2,495	19%
2. Unruly Behavior	2,061	16%
3. Child Support	1,809	14%
4. In-State Runaway	1,457	11%
5. Custody	1,377	11%
6. Parentage	1,007	8%
Relatives	7,749	
1. Dependency/Neglect	2,558	33%
2. Custody	1,737	22%
3. Other	1,277	16%
4. Administrative Review	1,155	15%
5. Visitation	409	5%
6. Unruly Behavior	157	2%
Self	331	
1. Other	279	84%
2. Custody	10	3%
3. Violation of Probation	6	2%
4. Dependency/Neglect	6	2%
5. Harassment	4	1%
6. Consent to Marry	4	1%
School	9,417	
1. Truancy	7,286	77%
2. Other	382	4%
3. Dependency/Neglect	355	4%
4. Unruly Behavior	353	4%
5. Disorderly Conduct	253	3%
6. Assault	148	2%

**Tennessee Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges
1998 Six Most Frequent Referral Reasons By Source
Based On Number Of Referral Disposed**

Referral Source	Totals	Percent
Referral Reasons		
Community Service Agencies	68	
1. Dependency/Neglect	27	40%
2. Custody	9	13%
3. Other	9	13%
4. Violation of Probation	8	12%
5. In-State Runaway	7	10%
6. Violation of Aftercare	4	6%
Department of Children's Services	5,119	
1. Other	1,352	26%
2. Dependency/Neglect	796	16%
3. Foster Care Review	548	11%
4. In-State Runaway	528	10%
5. Violation of Probation	359	7%
6. Custody	318	6%
Other State Department	442	
1. Child Support	141	32%
2. Other	135	31%
3. Parentage	48	11%
4. Violation of Probation	21	5%
5. In-State Runaway	20	5%
6. Judicial Review	15	3%
District Attorney	321	
1. Child Support	193	60%
2. Parentage	69	21%
3. Other	37	12%
4. Aggravated Robbery	4	1%
5. Judicial Review	4	1%
6. Contempt of Court	3	1%
Court Staff	7,873	
1. Other	2,705	34%
2. Violation of Probation	2,430	31%
3. Judicial Review	708	9%
4. Foster Care Review	586	7%
5. Violation Of A Valid Court Order	331	4%
6. Truancy	177	2%

**Tennessee Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges
1998 Six Most Frequent Referral Reasons By Source
Based On Number Of Referral Disposed**

Referral Source	Totals	Percent
Referral Reasons		
Social Agency	998	
1. Dependency/Neglect	186	19%
2. Administrative Review	177	18%
3. Termination Of Parental Rights	163	16%
4. Violation Of Probation	96	10%
5. In-State Runaway	95	10%
6. Other	64	6%
Other Court	274	
1. Theft Of Property	51	19%
2. Possession/Consumption Alcohol	44	16%
3. Other	33	12%
4. Violation Of Probation	18	7%
5. Possession Of Controlled Substance	14	5%
6. Burglary	12	4%
Victim	6,181	
1. Theft Of Property	1,645	27%
2. Assault	1,390	22%
3. Custody	561	9%
4. Vandalism	526	9%
5. Criminal Trespass	217	4%
6. Harassment	201	3%
Child and Parent	258	
1. Other	84	33%
2. Assault	54	21%
3. Unruly Behavior	36	14%
4. Custody	24	9%
5. Harassment	9	3%
6. In-State Runaway	8	3%
Hospital	39	
1. Medical Treatment	16	41%
2. Parentage	12	31%
3. Other	4	10%
4. Vandalism	3	8%
5. Truancy	2	5%
6. Aggravated Arson	1	3%

MANNER OF HANDLING THE REFERRAL 1998

After determining that a referral warrants action, the court must decide whether to process the referral formally or informally. This decision affects how the referral is handled by court staff. If the referral is to be disposed of by a judge or referee through a formal adjudicatory and dispositional proceeding, then a petition outlining the charges must be filed as part of the intake process. The filing of a petition, however, does not necessarily result in a formal hearing.

The table on page 38 shows that petitions or motions were filed on 57.4% of the 1998 referrals. This figure is reflective of the number of petitions or motions that resulted in judicial action of some kind. Petitions that were filed but ended in an informal adjustment are explained later in this report.

Citation/Tickets, which may be used by law enforcement in lieu of a petition, were issued in 9.7% of the referrals, while reviews accounted for 6.2% of reported referrals.

Another way that referrals reach the juvenile court is the notification of acknowledgment of parentage forwarded to the court by the hospital where the child in question was born. In 1998, courts reported receiving and processing 120 of these acknowledgments.

Intake Actions

January 1, 1998 - December 31, 1998

	Number	Percent
Petition Filed	60,235	50.4%
Motion Filed	6,792	5.7%
Citation Processed	11,357	9.5%
Paternity Processed	120	0.1%
Judicial Review	6,737	5.6%
Administrative Review	135	0.1%
Foster Care Review	373	0.3%
Unknown/Not Reported	2,715	2.3%
Does Not Apply	16,178	13.5%
Other	14,829	12.4%
Total	<u>119,471</u>	<u>100.0%</u>

Figures based on number of reported referral reasons disposed.

DETENTION INFORMATION 1998

After receiving an offense-related referral, one of the immediate decisions the court must make is whether or not to detain the child. When the court believes that a child, referred for offense-related reasons, is in need of protection or may be a threat to the community, the court may elect to detain the child. The 1998 data revealed that in 68.1% of reported cases, children were not considered for detention. In 16.3% of reported cases, however, children were considered for and detained in a juvenile detention facility. Remember that the definition of case (from page 7) is “all referral reasons/charges reported to the court (via complaint, petition, motion, etc.) on a given day for a given child.” Please refer to the table below and the chart on page 40 for more information.

	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Not Considered For Detention	63,933	64.99%
Non-Secure Place	4,050	4.12%
Juvenile Detention	15,325	15.58%
Jail Complete Separation	278	0.28%
Jail Partial Separation	7	0.01%
Jail No Separation	15	0.02%
Psychiatric Hospital	129	0.13%
Unknown/Not Reported	13,462	13.68%
Other	<u>1,175</u>	<u>1.19%</u>
 Total	 98,374	 100.0%

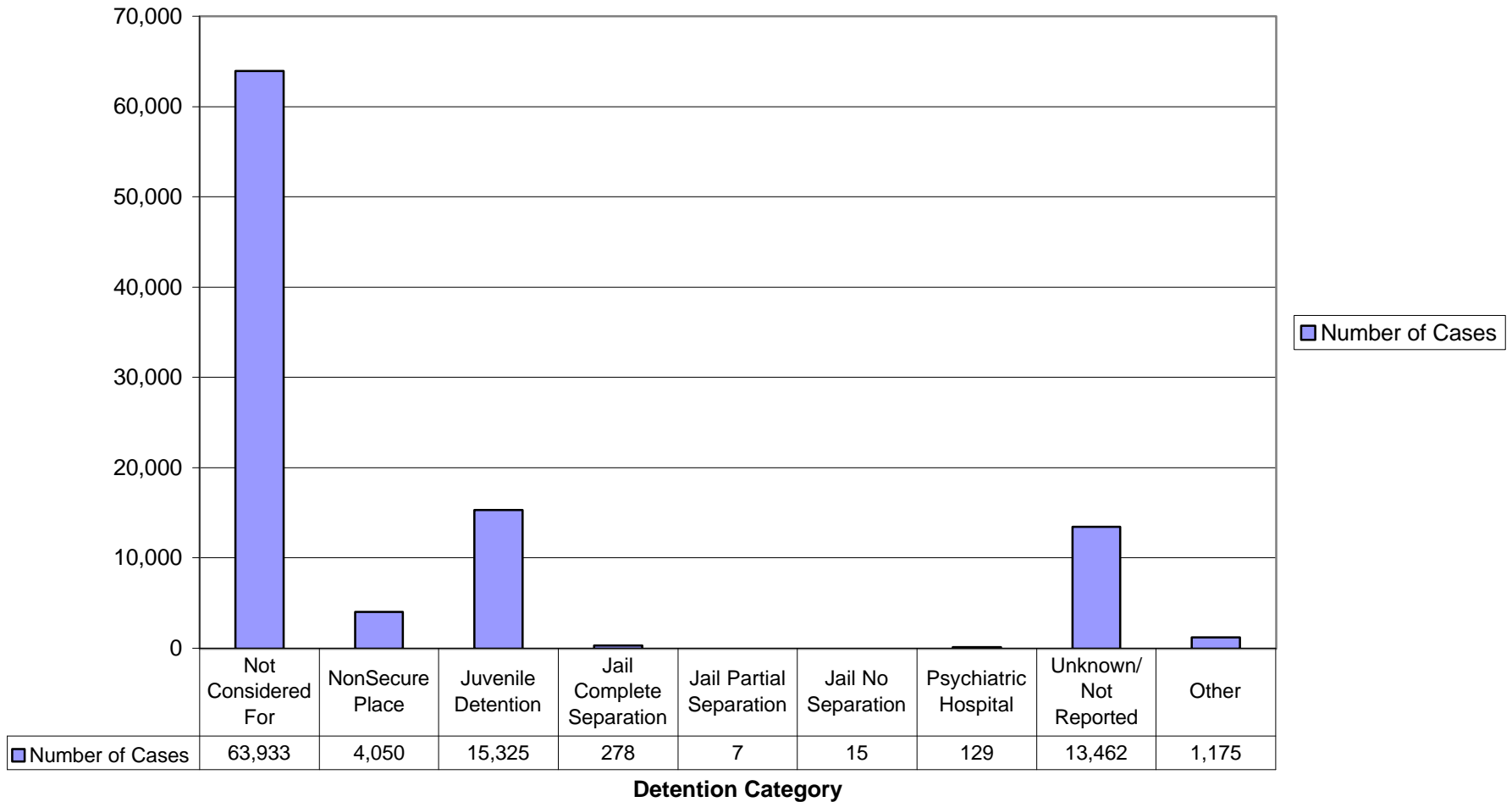
Non-secure placements provide children with shelter and supervision in a setting that enables them to continue as many normal activities as possible. Emergency foster homes and shelters constitute most of the non-secure placements used by juvenile courts. The 1998 data showed 4,050 or 4.3% of the juvenile court cases resulted in placement in one of these non-secure settings.

Conversely, the 1998 data revealed 278 or 0.3% of cases resulted in children being placed in adult jails completely separated by sight and sound from all adult prisoners, and 22 or 0.03% were placed in adult jails with partial or no separation.

If the child's behavior and mental health status so warrant, he/she may be placed in a secure psychiatric hospital setting. This placement is prior to adjudication and in lieu of juvenile detention. The 1998 data indicated that children were placed in a psychiatric hospital in lieu of juvenile detention in 129 or 0.1% of cases.

Detention Information

January 1, 1998 - December 31, 1998



Based on number of reported cases disposed.

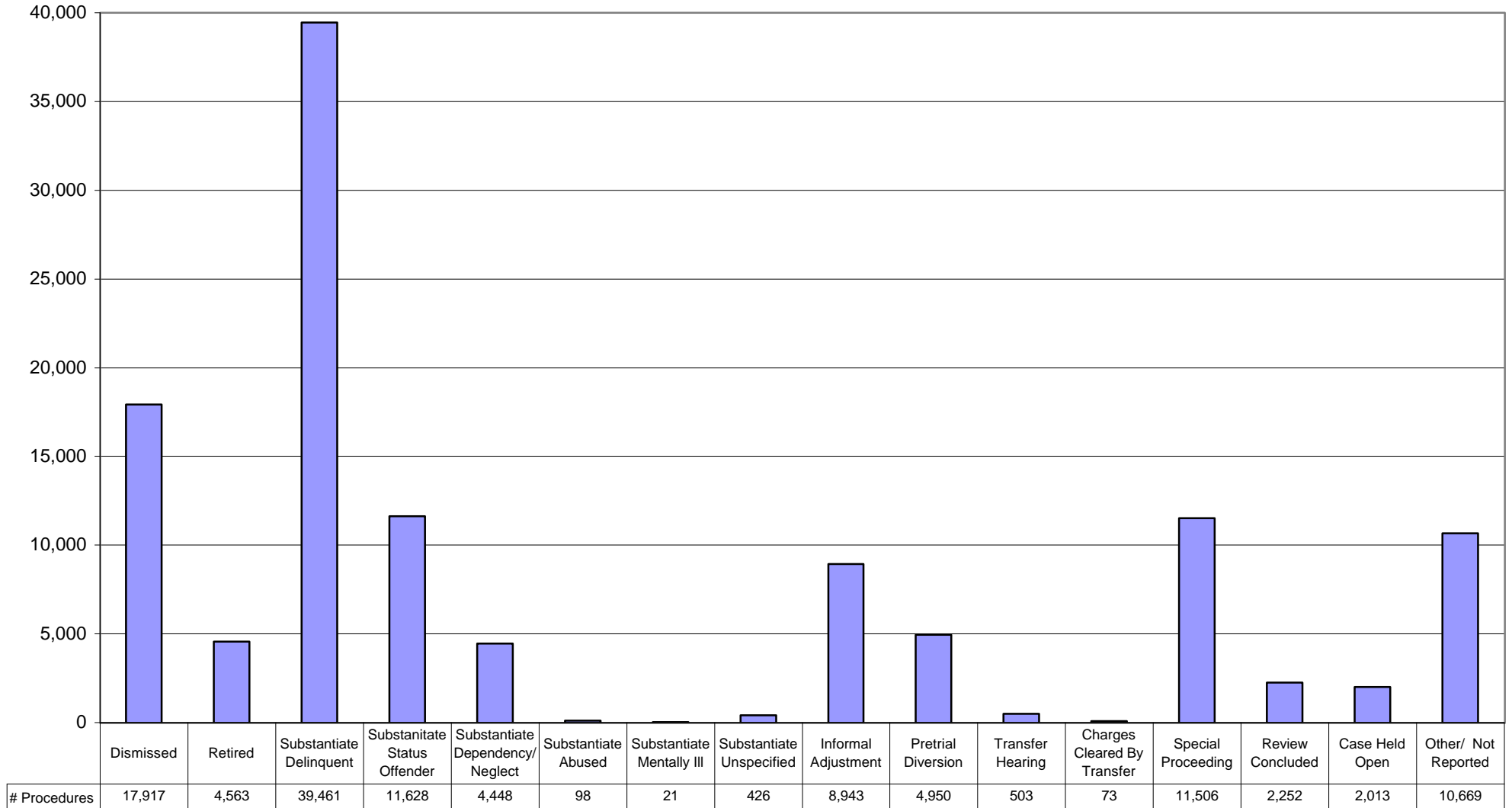
JUVENILE COURT ADJUDICATORY & DISPOSITIONAL PROCEDURES 1998

As mentioned before, after a referral is made to the juvenile court, decisions are made regarding how the court will proceed. If the decision is made to handle the referral informally, two options are open to the court; Pretrial Diversion and Informal Adjustment. These two procedures are quite similar in that they are both a voluntary agreement between the court officer, the child and the parents which addresses the problem but avoids a formal court hearing and an official finding of guilt. The difference between Pretrial Diversion and Informal Adjustment is seen in the extent to which the judge or referee is involved. Pretrial Diversion requires judicial approval of the voluntary agreement. Informal Adjustment is subject to judicial approval but does not require it prior to initiation. The graph on page 46 reveals that, in 1998, 11.6% of the referrals to juvenile court were processed informally; 4.1% by Pretrial Diversion and 7.5% by Informal Adjustment.

When the court believes that it is in the best interest of the child and/or the community, a formal adjudicatory proceeding or hearing is held regarding the child's referral to juvenile court. The adjudicatory hearing is a formal proceeding in which the judge or referee determines whether the motion made on behalf of the child, or the complaint made against the child is substantiated. If substantiation of the motion/complaint occurs, a dispositional hearing must be held either immediately or at a later date. The 1998 data indicated that 66% of the referrals to juvenile court resulted in a formal adjudicatory proceeding. The graph on page 42 further shows that the formal adjudicatory proceedings resulted in 72% of the motions/complaints against children being substantiated, while 22.8% of motion/complaints were formally dismissed and 5.8% were retired.

Adjudicatory Procedures

January 1, 1998 - December 31, 1998



Figures based on number of referral reasons.

Tennessee Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges
Dispositional Procedures
Based On Number Of Reported Cases
January 1998-December 1998

Of the 98,374 cases disposed, the procedure used to dispose or adjust each of the 119,471 referral reasons was:

78,562	Or	66.0%	Were Formally Adjudicated
8,943	Or	7.5%	Were Informally Adjusted
31,966	Or	26.4%	Were Otherwise Handled

Of the 78,562 referral reasons that were disposed by formal adjudicatory proceedings

17,917	Or	22.81%	Were Dismissed
4,563	Or	5.81%	Were Retired
39,461	Or	50.23%	Were Substantiated Delinquent
11,628	Or	14.80%	Were Substantiated Status Offender
4,448	Or	5.66%	Were Substantiated Dependency/Neglect
98	Or	0.12%	Were Substantiated Abused
21	Or	0.03%	Were Substantiated Mentally Ill
426	Or	0.54%	Were Substantiated Unspecified

Of the 31,966 referral reasons that were otherwise handled

4,950	Or	4%	Were Pretrial Diversion
503	Or	0%	Were Transfer Hearing
73	Or	0%	Were Charges Cleared By Transfer
11,506	Or	10%	Were Special Proceeding
2,252	Or	2%	Were Review Concluded
2,013	Or	2%	Were Case Held Open
10,669	Or	9%	Were Other/Not Reported

**DISPOSITIONAL PROCEDURE INFORMATION BY RACE, GENDER, AND
CLASS OF REFERRAL/OFFENSE
1998**

In looking at classes of referrals/offenses across the general juvenile court population, the 1998 data reflected in the table on pages 45 - 46 continued to indicate that referrals for delinquent, status, and dependency/neglect reasons were more likely to be formally adjudicated than informally adjusted (delinquent - 83.6%, status - 84.1%, dependency/neglect - 65.5%).

For the non-offense class of dependency/neglect, the rate of formal adjudication continued to be significantly higher than informal adjustment across all race and gender categories.

**Tennessee Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges
 Procedure Used By Class Of Referral/Offense
 By Race And Sex
 January 1, 1998 - December 31, 1998**

	White Male	African American Male	Other Race Male	Unknown Race Male	White Female	African American Female	Other Race Female	Unknown Race Female	White Unknown	African American Unknown	Other Race Unknown	Race And Sex Unknown	Total
<u>Offenses Against Persons</u>													
Formal Adjudication	2,101	2,544	69	35	663	908	21	14	1	0	0	6	6,362
Pretrial Diversion	169	92	3	9	97	30	1	0	0	0	0	0	401
Informal Adjustment	16	10	0	0	13	10	1	1	0	0	0	0	51
Other	295	169	11	9	106	64	6	2	0	0	0	3	665
Total	2,581	2,815	83	53	879	1,012	29	17	1	0	0	9	7,479

Offenses Against Property

Formal Adjudication	4,434	3,595	139	68	1,176	983	35	29	0	0	0	6	10,465
Pretrial Diversion	504	120	14	8	183	50	7	4	0	0	0	1	891
Informal Adjustment	57	21	1	11	24	17	0	0	0	0	0	0	131
Other	413	100	11	10	133	35	4	4	0	0	0	0	710
Total	5,408	3,836	165	97	1,516	1,085	46	37	0	0	0	7	12,197

Illegal Conduct

Formal Adjudication	11,238	8,583	277	130	3,803	2,248	87	47	1	0	1	16	26,431
Pretrial Diversion	984	220	23	13	420	74	9	4	0	0	0	0	1,747
Informal Adjustment	197	72	12	2	78	32	3	2	0	0	0	0	398
Other	1,916	468	54	36	816	179	11	26	0	1	0	11	3,518
Total	14,335	9,343	366	181	5,117	2,533	110	79	1	1	1	27	32,094

Status Offenses

Formal Adjudication	4,437	3,878	104	67	3,565	2,731	67	71	0	1	0	8	14,929
Pretrial Diversion	279	70	2	4	204	41	4	10	0	0	0	0	614
Informal Adjustment	68	34	11	0	48	21	4	2	0	0	0	1	189
Other	829	190	14	20	794	138	12	22	0	0	0	0	2,019
Total	5,613	4,172	131	91	4,611	2,931	87	105	0	1	0	9	17,751

Other Does Not Include Not Reported.

Tennessee Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges
Procedure Used By Class Of Referral/Offense
By Race And Sex
January 1, 1998 - December 31, 1998

	White Male	African American Male	Other Race Male	Unknown Race Male	White Female	African American Female	Other Race Female	Unknown Race Female	White Unknown	African American Unknown	Other Race Unknown	Race And Sex Unknown	Total
<u>Neglect and Abuse</u>													
Formal Adjudication	686	928	31	122	834	1,022	28	121	1	2	0	63	3,838
Pretrial Diversion	7	10	0	6	13	8	1	3	0	0	0	3	51
Informal Adjustment	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other	427	461	54	5	501	461	48	10	0	2	0	1	1,970
Total	1,120	1,399	85	133	1,348	1,491	77	134	1	4	0	67	5,859

Violation Proceedings

Formal Adjudication	8	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	9
Pretrial Diversion	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Informal Adjustment	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other	4	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6
Total	12	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	15

Special Proceedings

Formal Adjudication	837	756	24	184	736	790	23	132	1	4	0	77	3,564
Pretrial Diversion	131	38	1	8	115	36	0	11	0	0	0	1	341
Informal Adjustment	1	3				7				1		1	13
Other	2,269	1,962	144	198	2,120	1,767	129	151	6	8	0	87	8,841
Total	3,238	2,759	169	390	2,971	2,600	152	294	7	13	0	166	12,759

Other

Formal Adjudication	1,760	542	39	137	907	216	27	130	3	0	0	55	3,816
Pretrial Diversion	235	25	1	1	143	12	0	3	1	0	0	1	422
Informal Adjustment	14	5	1	0	10	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	32
Other	2,668	1,530	138	68	1,887	1,024	109	75	8	2	0	33	7,542
Total	4,677	2,102	179	206	2,947	1,254	136	208	12	2	0	89	11,812

Other Does Not Include Not Reported.

**NUMBER OF CHILDREN TRANSFERRED TO ADULT COURT
BY COURT, RACE AND SEX *
1998**

The 1998 data were analyzed to determine the number of children transferred to adult court for the alleged commission of delinquent offenses. The data reported in the table on pages 51 - 52 show that 394 children were transferred to adult court in 1998. Males (94%) were the overwhelming majority of transferred children. When looking at race, 60% of the children transferred were African American males, while their white male counterparts represented 31% of the overall transfers. African American females represented 3% all transfers and white females represented 3% of all transfers to adult court.

The court reporting the largest number of children transferred was the Shelby County Juvenile Court, which accounted for 42% of the statewide transfers. The next two courts with the highest numbers of transfers to adult court were the Davidson County (9%) and Rutherford County (5%) juvenile courts. Fifty-five (55) courts reported at least one transfer while 33 reported no transfers.

* The Transferred to Adult Court numbers have been revised since the printed publication of the 98 Annual Report. This is due to courts sending us corrected information.

**Tennessee Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges
Total Number Of Children Transferred By Race And Sex
January 1, 1998 - December 31, 1998**

	White Male	African American Male	Other Race Male	Unknown Race Male	White Female	African American Female	Other Race Female	Unknown Race Female	White Unknown	African American Unknown	Other Race Unknown	Race And Sex Unknown	Total
BEDFORD	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
BLEDSON	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
BRADLEY	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
CAMPBELL	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
CARROLL	3	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5
CLAIBORNE	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
CLAY	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
COCKE	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
COFFEE	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6
CROCKETT	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
DAVIDSON	7	23	4	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	35
DICKSON	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
FAYETTE	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4
GIBSON	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
GILES	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
GRAINGER	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
GRUNDY	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
HAMBLETON	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
HAMILTON	6	8	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	16
HAYWOOD	0	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6
HENRY	14	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	15
HOUSTON	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
HUMPHREYS	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
KNOX	4	1	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8
LAUDERDALE	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
LEWIS	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
LINCOLN	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
LOUDON	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
MCMINN	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
MACON	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3

* The Transferred to Adult Court numbers have been revised since the printed publication of the 98 Annual Report. This is due to courts sending us corrected information.

**Tennessee Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges
Total Number Of Children Transferred By Race And Sex
January 1, 1998 - December 31, 1998**

	White Male	African American Male	Other Race Male	Unknown Race Male	White Female	African American Female	Other Race Female	Unknown Race Female	White Unknown	African American Unknown	Other Race Unknown	Race And Sex Unknown	Total
MADISON	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
MARSHALL	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
MAURY	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
MONROE	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
MONTGOMERY	5	9	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	15
OBION	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
PUTNAM	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
ROANE	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
ROBERTSON	2	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4
RUTHERFORD	10	6	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	19
SEVIER	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
SHELBY	8	153	0	0	0	5	1		0	0	0	0	167
STEWART	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
SUMNER	8	3	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	12
TIPTON	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
UNICOI	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
WARREN	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
WASHINGTON	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7
WAYNE	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
WEAKLEY	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
WILLIAMSON	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
WILSON	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
JOHNSON CITY	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
BRISTOL	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
SULLIVAN DIV 2	2	1	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	6
Total	123	237	8	3	11	11	1	0	0	0	0	0	394

* The Transferred to Adult Court numbers have been revised since the printed publication of the 98 Annual Report. This is due to courts sending us corrected information.

03/02/2000

INDIVIDUAL DISPOSITIONAL ACTIONS BY RACE AND SEX 1998

This report looks at individual dispositional actions taken by the juvenile courts in 1998. As the data are spread between sixty-one (61) potential dispositional actions, most of the percentages presented will be small. **The users of the 1998 data should keep in mind that these figures reflect the numbers of individual dispositional actions, not the number of children disposed with these outcomes. Multiple cases that are disposed together can result in inflated outcomes.**

With respect to the 1998 reporting of individual dispositional actions, the table on pages 54-56 reveals that the most often reported specific dispositional choice was "Other". **Because of the uninterpretable nature of this dispositional choice, "Other" will not be included in the most often cited dispositional actions presented in the remainder of this discussion.** Of the remaining dispositional choices, "Court Costs", "Case Dismissed", and "Public Service" were the three most often cited for the general juvenile court population.

When looking at race and gender, the top three dispositional actions associated with white males were reported to be Court Costs (13.0%), Case Dismissed (8.4%), and Public Service (8.3 %). The most often reported dispositional actions associated with African American males were Case Dismissed (10.9%), Warned/Counseled (10.3%), and Court Costs (8.7%).

The three most often reported dispositional actions for white females were Court Costs (11.5%), Case Dismissed (9.0%), and Warned/Counseled (6.4%). On the other hand, the most often cited dispositional action for African American females was Case Dismissed (13.2%). Warned/Counseled (12.1%) and Court Costs (7.6%) were the second and third most commonly reported actions for African American females.

Tennessee Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges
Outcome/Dispositional Data
January 1, 1998 - December 31, 1998

	Race				Race				Race				Total
	White Male	African American Male	Other Race Male	Unknown Race Male	White Female	African American Female	Other Race Female	Unknown Race Female	White Unknown	African American Unknown	Other Race Unknown	And Sex Unknown	
General Action Codes													
Case Dismissed	6,392	4,473	120	193	3,412	2,456	63	132	5	3	0	76	17,325
Case Retired	1,666	845	59	31	855	236	4	13	0	0	0	3	3,712
Warned/Counseled	4,138	4,209	104	35	2,447	2,261	47	36	1	0	0	7	13,285
Held Open For Review	2,190	1,071	64	65	1,316	565	35	46	2	0	0	16	5,370
Probation To Court	4,464	2,856	158	80	2,037	709	56	50	1	0	0	9	10,420
Probation To Parents	681	217	14	10	377	120	9	6	0	0	0	3	1,437
Referred For Supervision	1,188	1,303	35	16	776	915	23	4	0	1	0	2	4,263
Mental Health Counseling	677	425	17	7	401	255	9	8	0	0	0	3	1,802
Alcohol and Drug Counseling	1,549	506	35	23	491	71	16	5	0	0	0	1	2,697
Alternative School	181	48	8	2	93	20	5	1	0	0	0	0	358
Private Agency	34	15	0	0	24	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	76
Defensive Driving School	2,190	124	22	7	1,067	38	10	4	0	0	0	0	3,462
Alcohol Safety School	368	99	7	8	107	14	3	1	0	0	0	1	608
Court Education-Based Program	645	208	36	11	354	96	16	9	0	0	0	0	1,375
Driver's License Held Informally	1,191	276	16	12	406	65	2	2	0	0	0	0	1,970
Voluntary MHMR Placement	6	1	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	10
Private Mental Health Placement	15	3	0	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	23
Priv. Mental Retardation Place.	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
City/County Placement	448	1,556	40	1	101	158	10	2	0	0	0	0	2,316
Relative Placement	648	1,648	28	27	612	1,378	29	30	0	5	0	9	4,414
Fine	4,325	693	114	78	1,794	249	31	52	0	0	1	4	7,341
Public Service	6,281	2,741	168	102	2,428	859	78	66	2	0	0	10	12,735
Restitution	2,171	995	82	34	412	169	10	8	0	0	0	2	3,883
Runaway Returned	275	227	13	3	435	239	27	5	0	0	0	2	1,226
No Contact Order	853	372	9	21	445	209	13	11	0	0	0	2	1,935
Injunction	262	65	3	5	142	54	2	0	0	0	0	0	533
House Arrest	401	231	6	4	174	67	5	1	0	0	0	0	889
Court Curfew	431	192	10	8	208	34	4	4	0	0	0	1	892
Dismissed From Informal	37	4	0	0	23	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	67
Dismissed From Diversion	162	12	0	9	100	9	0	4	0	0	0	0	296
Released From Probation	532	280	18	8	180	96	7	1	0	0	0	1	1,123

Tennessee Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges
Outcome/Dispositional Data
January 1, 1998 - December 31, 1998

	Race			Race			Race			Race			
	African	Other	Unknown	African	Other	Unknown	African	Other	Unknown	African	Other	And	
White	American	Race	Race	White	American	Race	White	American	Race	White	American	Sex	Total
Male	Male	Male	Male	Female	Female	Female	Female	Female	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	

Formal Action Codes

Transferred To Adult Court	181	231	9	11	18	17	0	2	0	0	0	1	470
MHMR Involuntary Commitment	5	2	0	0	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	10
DCS Commitment - Determinate	124	83	18	0	24	4	2	0	0	0	0	0	255
DCS Commitment	1,863	1,302	50	71	967	463	39	43	1	0	0	14	4,813
DCS Commitment - Suspended	664	584	20	16	197	83	6	9	0	0	0	2	1,581
DCS Intensive Probation	192	32	6	10	28	13	2	0	0	0	0	1	284
Other Intensive Probation	611	196	8	5	141	13	3	6	0	0	0	0	983
DCS Probation	1,521	463	26	19	358	121	7	6	0	0	0	2	2,523
Placed Under Valid Court Order	1,788	276	35	27	946	108	27	27	0	0	0	1	3,235
DCS Supervision	208	23	4	3	159	23	4	11	0	0	0	4	439
Tranferred To Other Juv. Court	589	124	16	13	270	40	5	10	0	0	0	0	1,067
Parental Rights Terminated	123	140	14	13	138	123	15	10	0	0	0	9	585
Parental Rights Not Terminated	13	0	0	0	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	21

Special Proceedings

Order of Reference To DCS	110	11	3	0	106	17	2	1	0	0	0	0	250
Court Costs	9,866	3,563	337	178	4,358	1,415	167	98	2	1	1	43	20,029
Foster Care Terminated	95	15	1	10	92	10	8	9	0	0	0	3	243
Foster Care Continued	405	54	5	43	404	76	15	46	0	0	0	21	1,069
Custody Changed	1,848	806	104	137	1,877	769	121	96	3	2	0	39	5,802
Custody Unchanged	512	183	24	78	533	202	24	76	1	0	0	33	1,666
Visitation Changed	495	381	26	45	509	348	25	34	2	1	0	12	1,878
Visitation Unchanged	61	13	4	4	40	12	3	5	0	1	0	1	144
Paternity Voluntary Acknowledment	18	2	0	4	10	1	2	1	0	0	0	0	38
Paternity Determined	208	232	17	28	174	206	9	19	2	4	0	49	948
Paternity Not Determined	22	10	0	1	8	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	46
Child Support Granted	435	394	27	66	334	341	21	63	2	5	0	62	1,750
Child Support Amended	186	324	23	49	192	305	12	40	0	3	0	28	1,162
Child Support Denied	6	7	0	0	14	7	2	1	0	0	0	0	37
Child Support Terminated	7	0	1	0	11	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	20
Medical Treatment Granted	7	2	0	1	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	16
Medical Treatment Denied	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Consent To Marry Granted	2	0	0	0	12	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	14
Consent To Marry Denied	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	3

All Other Outcome Actions

	9,165	5,728	357	310	4,858	2,565	183	299	7	4	0	126	23,602
TOTALS	75,732	40,877	2,321	1,942	38,020	18,636	1,219	1,416	32	30	2	603	180,830

**JUVENILE COURT REFERRALS DISPOSED BY
JANUARY 1, 1998 - DECEMBER 31, 1998**

As mentioned earlier in this report, juvenile court cases and referrals can be disposed of (depending upon the procedure used) by Judges, Referees, or Youth Services/Probation Officers. All cases resulting in a formal hearing and adjudication must be disposed of by judicial staff (judges, referees, special judges). Cases that are handled informally through informal adjustment or other informal, non-judicial actions can be disposed of by the court officers.

The 1998 data, as reflected in the table below, shows that 76% of referral reasons were disposed of by judicial staff: 44% by judges and 32% by referees. Youth Services/Probation Officers were reported as disposing of 14% of referral reasons, while 10% of referral reasons were reported as being disposed by Other (9.5%) or not reported (.5%).

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Judge	52,337	44%
Referee	38,566	32%
YSO	17,185	14%
Other	<u>11,383</u>	10%
	119,471	

APPENDIX 1

Number of Children By Referral Reason

Trends

1995 - 1998

Tennessee Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges
Number of Children By Referral Reason 1995 - 1998
(Data Based On Cases Concluded)

Referral Reason	1995		95-96 Percent		96-97 Percent		97-98 Percent		95-98 Percent		Average Percent Change
	1995	1996	Change	1997	Change	1998	Change	Change	Change		
<i>Offenses Against Persons</i>											
Criminal Homicide	100	93	-7%	76	-18%	86	13%	-14%	-13%		
Aggravated Rape	47	69	47%	40	-42%	42	5%	-11%	-2%		
Aggravated Robbery	520	496	-5%	428	-14%	326	-24%	-37%	-19%		
Rape	115	111	-3%	114	3%	126	11%	10%	3%		
Voluntary Manslaughter	8	8	0%	4	-50%	12	200%	50%	0%		
Vehicular Homicide	14	18	29%	7	-61%	7	0%	-50%	-28%		
Assault	4,244	4,379	3%	4,611	5%	4,618	0%	9%	6%		
Sexual Abuse of Child	37	46	24%	34	-26%	16	-53%	-57%	-20%		
Other Sexual Offense	210	238	13%	254	7%	222	-13%	6%	9%		
Aggravated Assault	1,172	1,336	14%	1,399	5%	1,168	-17%	0%	6%		
Robbery	205	258	26%	189	-27%	180	-5%	-12%	-4%		
<i>Offenses Against Property</i>											
Arson	216	186	-14%	159	-15%	163	3%	-25%	-18%		
Aggravated Burglary	829	1,005	21%	1,080	7%	1,060	-2%	28%	19%		
Theft Of Property	9,063	9,017	-1%	8,969	-1%	8,021	-11%	-11%	-4%		
Vandalism	2,533	2,723	8%	2,458	-10%	2,120	-14%	-16%	-6%		
Forgery	199	219	10%	199	-9%	184	-8%	-8%	-2%		
Worthless Checks	55	58	5%	41	-29%	29	-29%	-47%	-24%		
Illegal Poss./Fraud. Use of Credit/Debit Cards	76	72	-5%	74	3%	74	0%	-3%	-2%		
Burglary	1,677	1,901	13%	1,711	-10%	1,437	-16%	-14%	-4%		
Unauthorized Use Of A Vehicle	304	325	7%	280	-14%	345	23%	13%	2%		
Cruelty to Animals	59	29	-51%	37	28%	34	-8%	-42%	-22%		

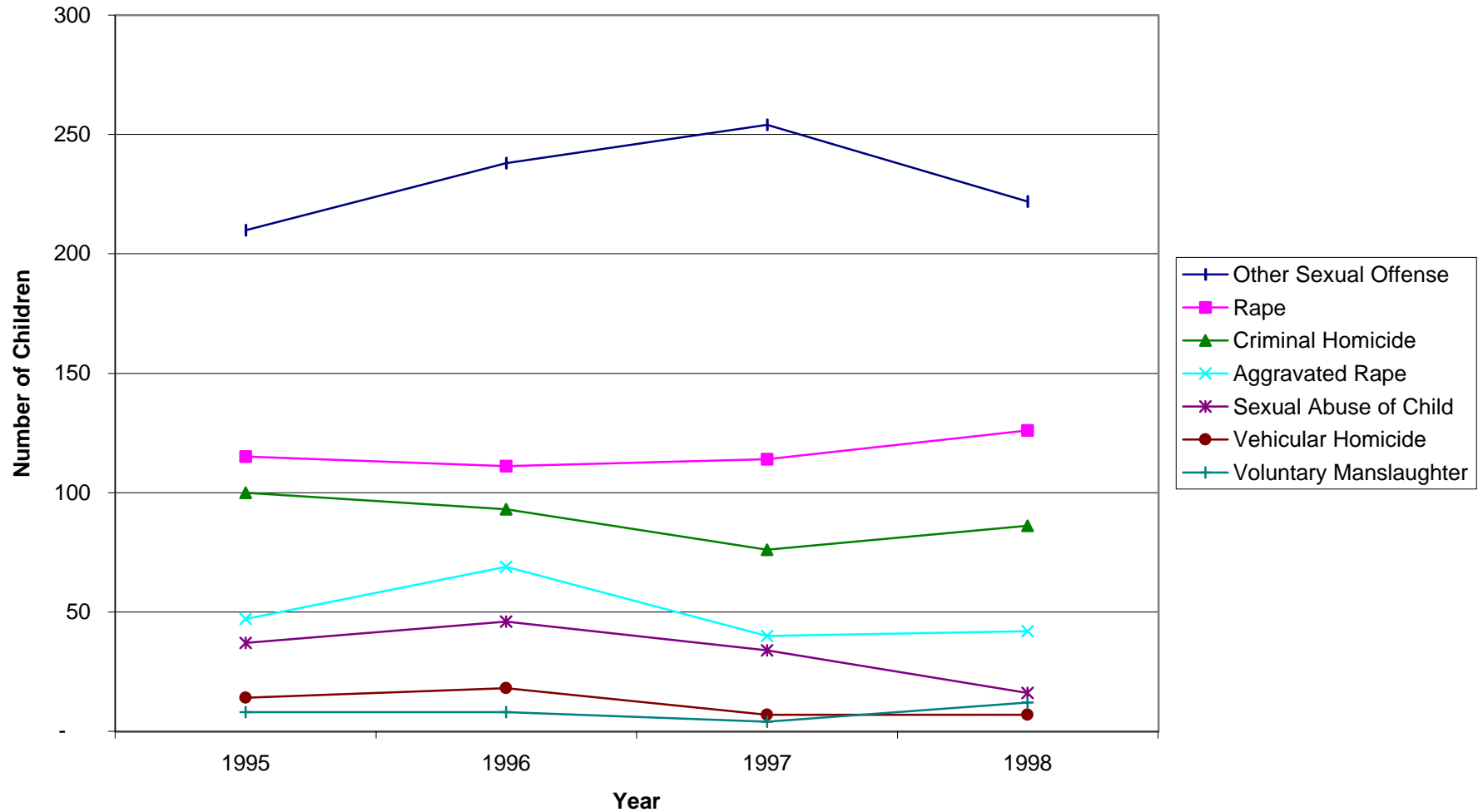
Tennessee Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges
Number of Children By Referral Reason 1995 - 1998
(Data Based On Cases Concluded)

Referral Reason	1995		95-96 Percent		96-97 Percent		97-98 Percent		95-98 Percent		Average Percent Change
	1995	1996	Change	1997	Change	1998	Change	Change	Change		
<i>Illegal Conduct</i>											
Sale Of Controlled Substances	834	811	-3%	796	-2%	675	-15%	-19%	-8%		
Other Drug Offenses	1,680	2,004	19%	2,107	5%	1,565	-26%	-7%	6%		
Possession Of Controlled Substances	1,706	2,016	18%	2,347	16%	3,040	30%	78%	38%		
Criminal Attempt	516	509	-1%	452	-11%	383	-15%	-26%	-13%		
Carrying Weapons On School Property	652	557	-15%	436	-22%	488	12%	-25%	-20%		
Unlawful Carrying/Possession Of A Weapon	995	881	-11%	843	-4%	984	17%	-1%	-6%		
Evading Arrest	1,086	1,267	17%	1,176	-7%	1,123	-5%	3%	4%		
Escape	132	163	23%	217	33%	331	53%	151%	69%		
Driving Under The Influence (DUI)	334	352	5%	345	-2%	369	7%	10%	5%		
Possession/Consumption Of Alcohol	2,330	2,378	2%	2,375	0%	3,233	36%	39%	14%		
Resisting Stop, Frisk, Halt, Arrest, Or Search	569	529	-7%	614	16%	620	1%	9%	6%		
Aggravated Criminal Trespass	248	287	16%	146	-49%	58	-60%	-77%	-37%		
Harassment	248	317	28%	294	-7%	316	7%	27%	16%		
Failure To Appear	60	79	32%	68	-14%	96	41%	60%	26%		
Disorderly Conduct	3,304	3,454	5%	4,040	17%	4,430	10%	34%	19%		
Criminal Trespass	1,643	1,570	-4%	1,850	18%	1,741	-6%	6%	6%		
Public Intoxication	722	717	-1%	853	19%	637	-25%	-12%	2%		
Gambling	109	86	-21%	130	51%	135	4%	24%	18%		
Traffic	9,740	8,783	-10%	9,629	10%	10,262	7%	5%	2%		
Local Ordinances	910	659	-28%	485	-26%	588	21%	-35%	-30%		
Violation Of Wildlife Resource Regulations	141	124	-12%	90	-27%	183	103%	30%	-3%		
<i>Status Offenses</i>											
Ungovernable/Unruly Behavior	4,548	4,490	-1%	3,838	-15%	3,564	-7%	-22%	-12%		
Truancy	6,882	6,925	1%	6,832	-1%	7,491	10%	9%	3%		
In-State Runaway	3,965	4,155	5%	3,778	-9%	3,636	-4%	-8%	-4%		
Out-Of-State Runaway	304	270	-11%	182	-33%	136	-25%	-55%	-33%		
Violation Of Curfew	2,354	2,337	-1%	2,720	16%	2,820	4%	20%	12%		
Violation Of Probation	2,127	2,225	5%	2,274	2%	2,620	15%	23%	10%		
Violation Of Aftercare	194	206	6%	190	-8%	247	30%	27%	9%		
Violation Of A Valid Court Order	896	753	-16%	849	13%	415	-51%	-54%	-19%		

Tennessee Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges

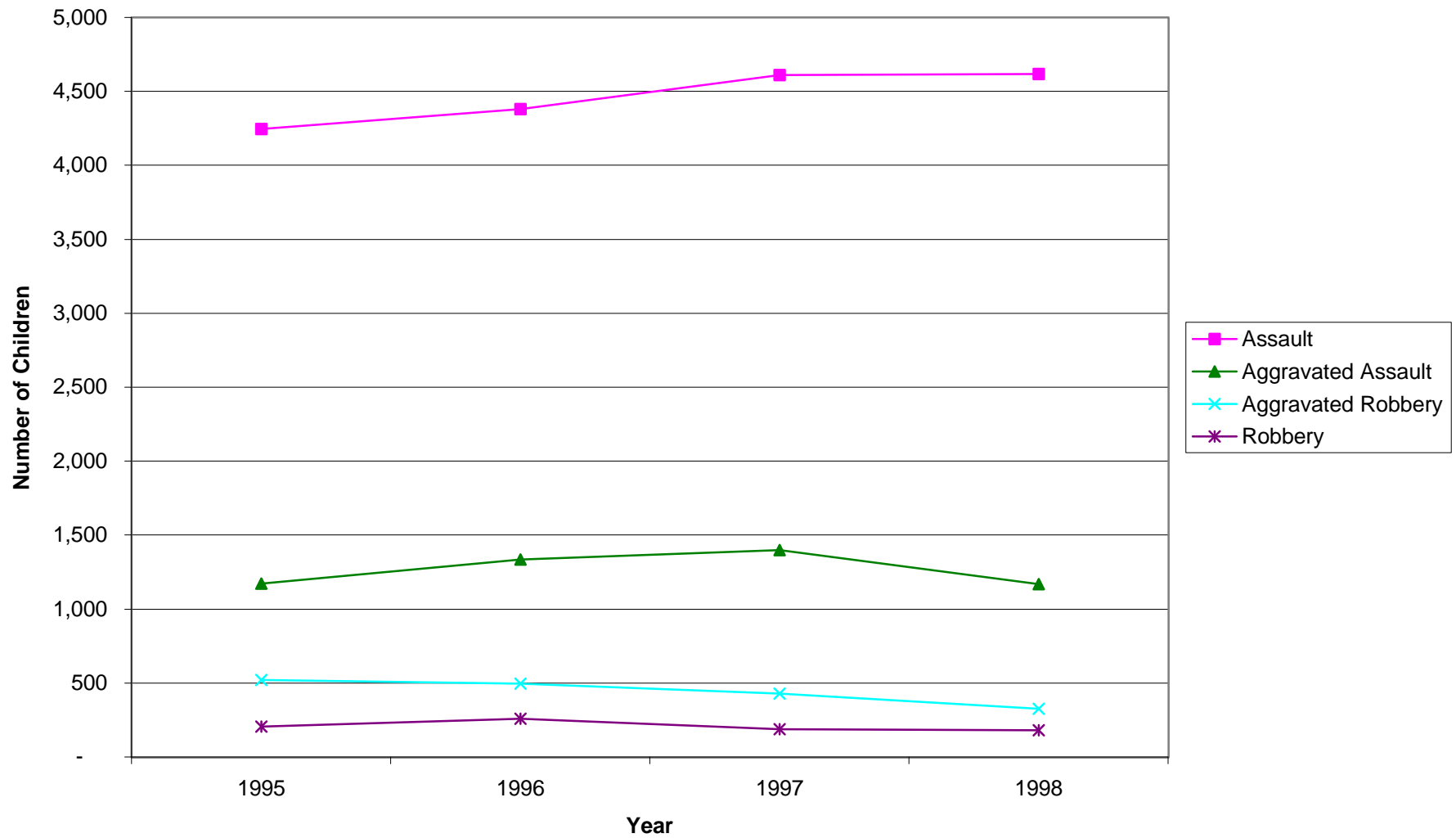
Offenses Against Persons 1995 - 1998

(Data Based On Cases Concluded)



Tennessee Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges

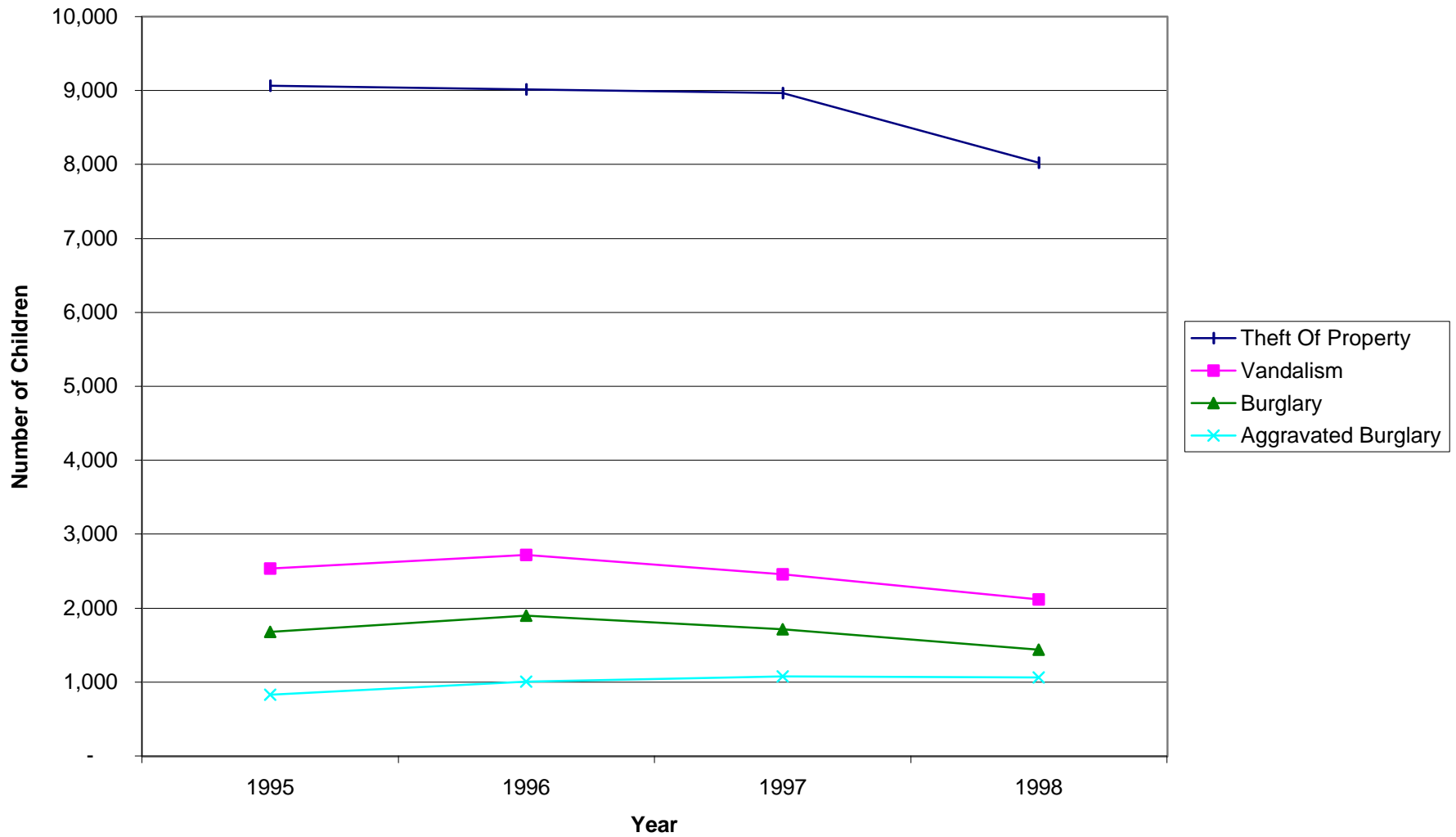
Offenses Against Persons 1995 - 1998 (Data Based On Cases Concluded)



Tennessee Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges

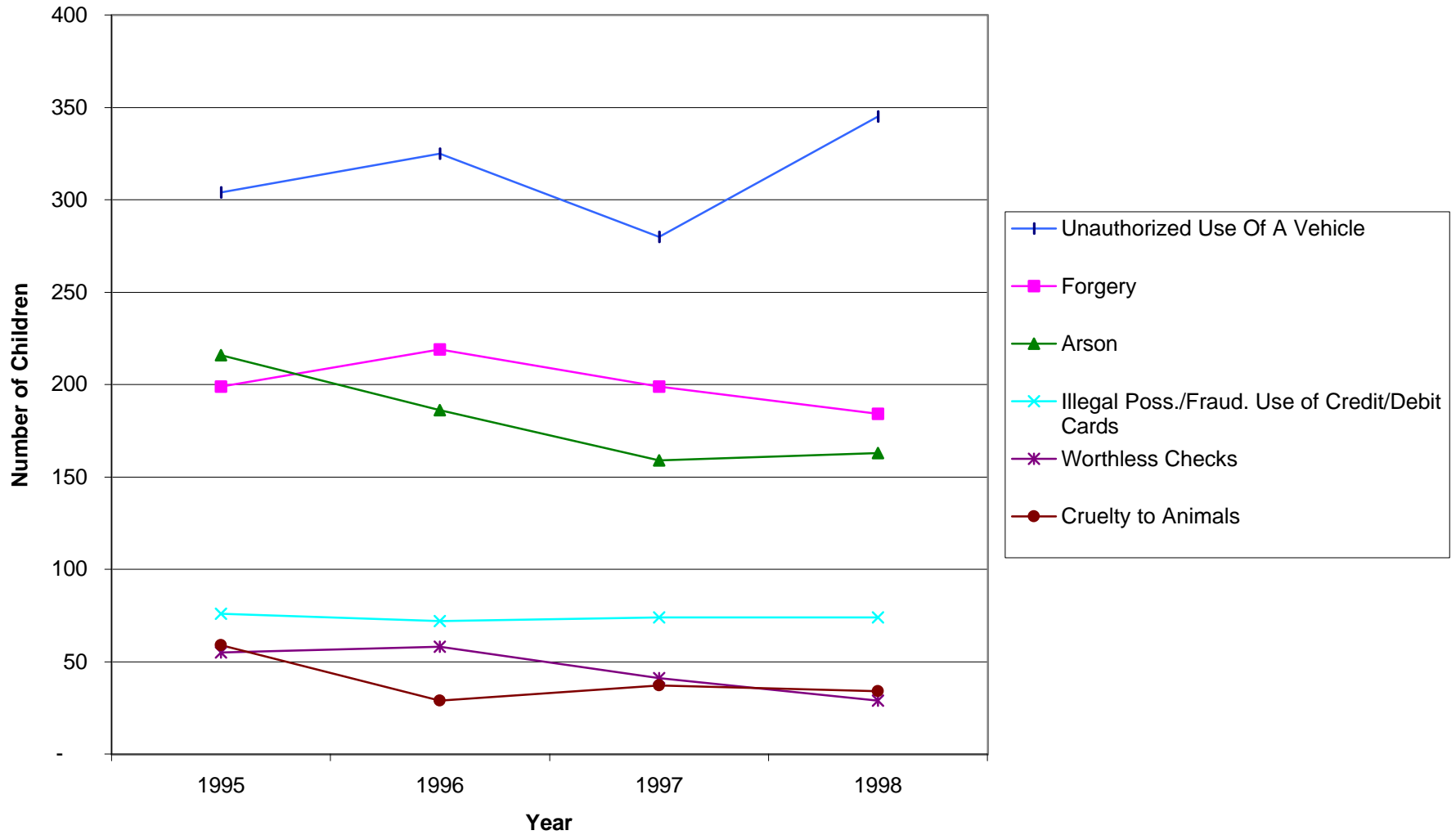
Offenses Against Property 1995 - 1998

(Data Based On Cases Concluded)



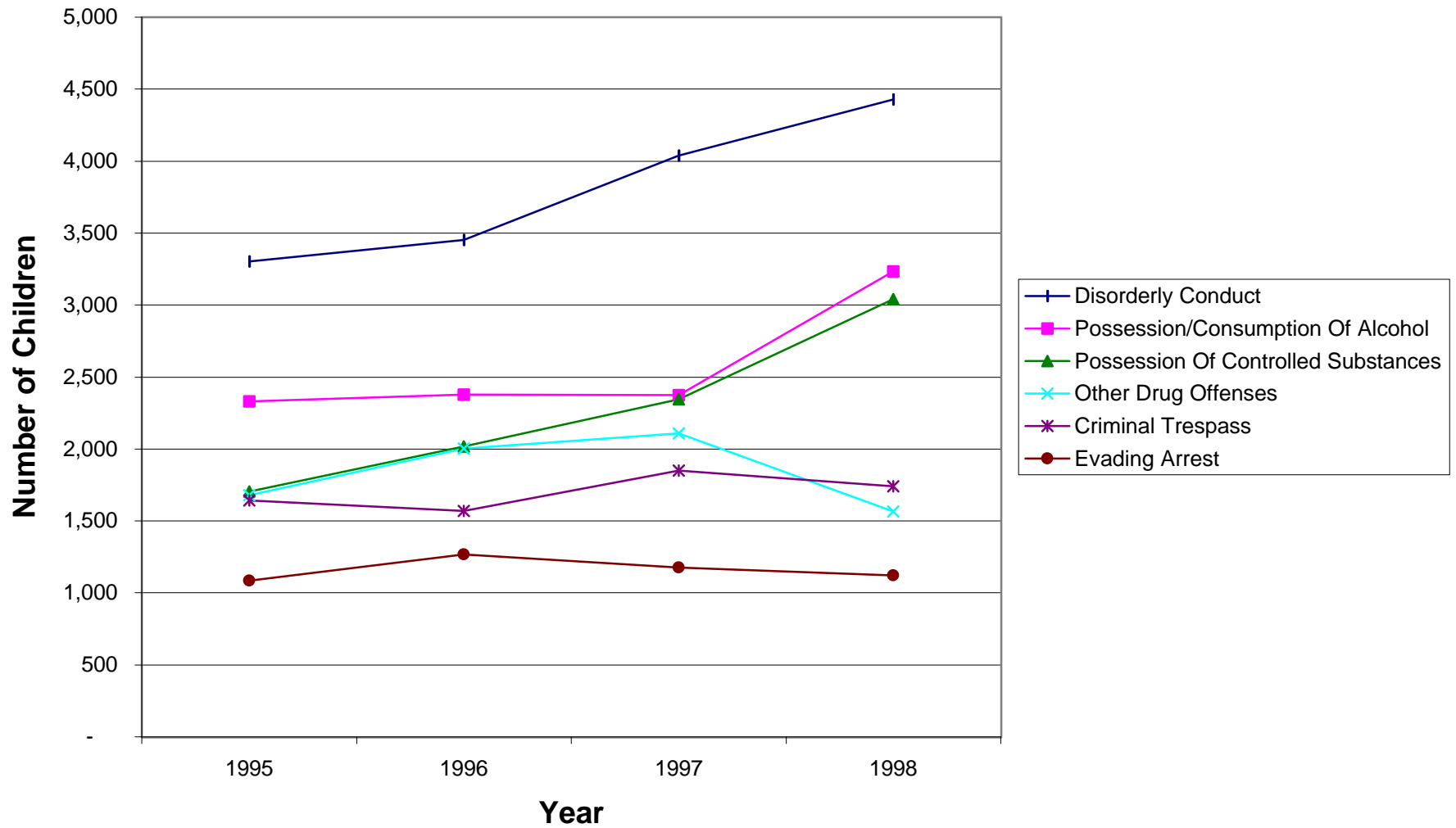
Tennessee Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges

Offenses Against Property 1995 - 1998 (Data Based On Cases Concluded)



Tennessee Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges

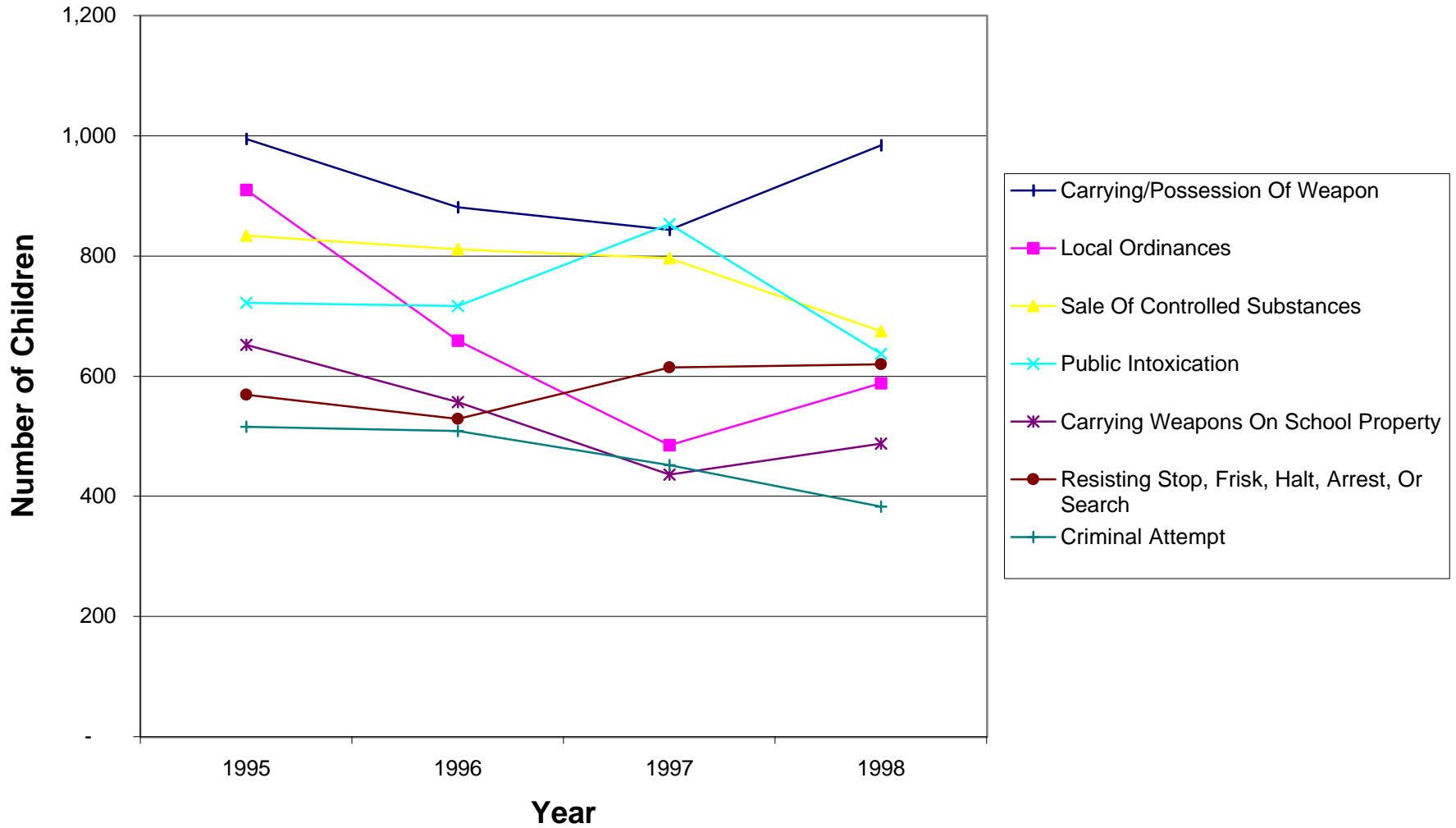
Illegal Conduct 1995 - 1998 (Data Based On Cases Concluded)



Tennessee Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges

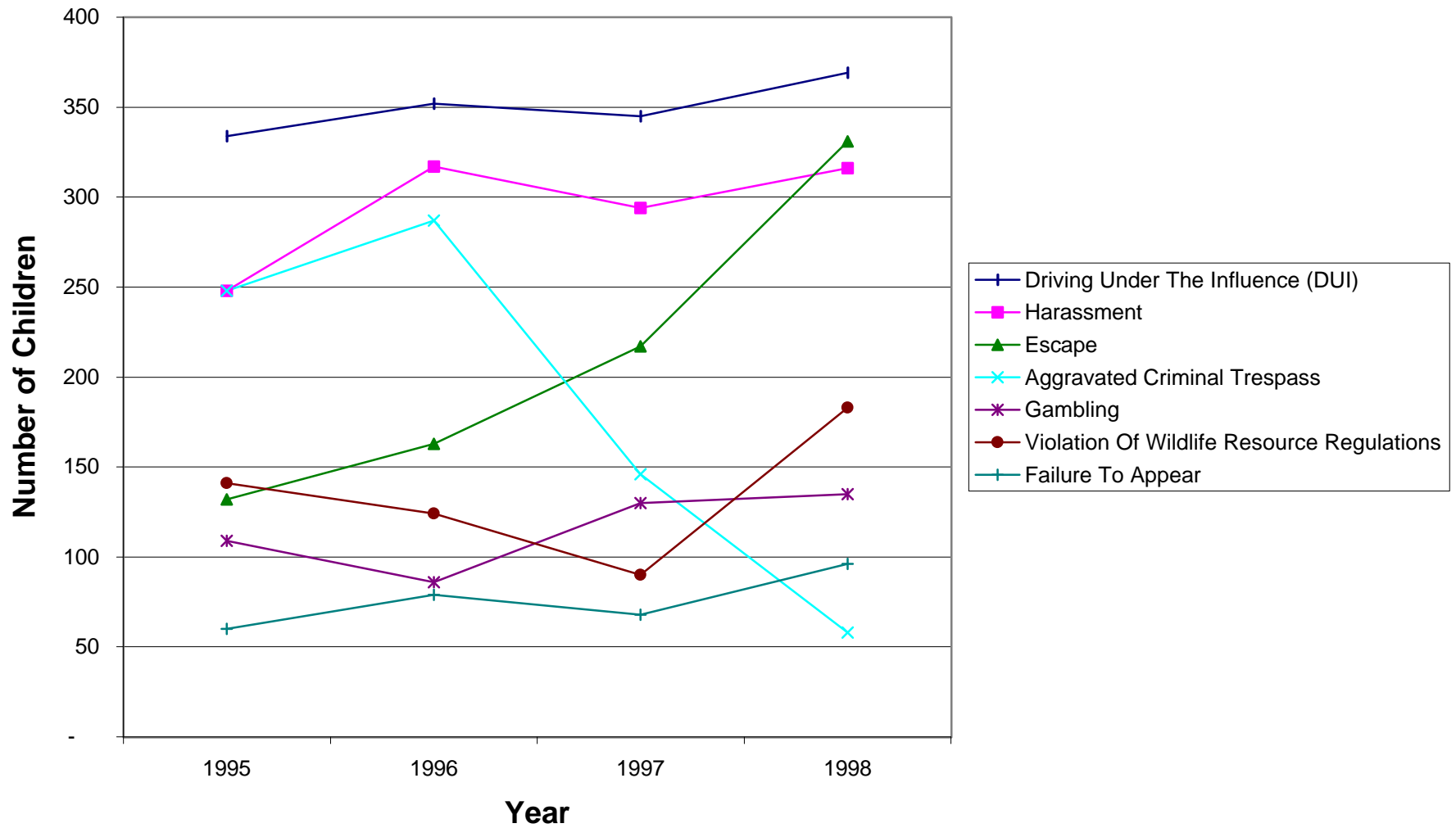
Illegal Conduct 1995 - 1998

(Data Based On Cases Concluded)



Tennessee Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges

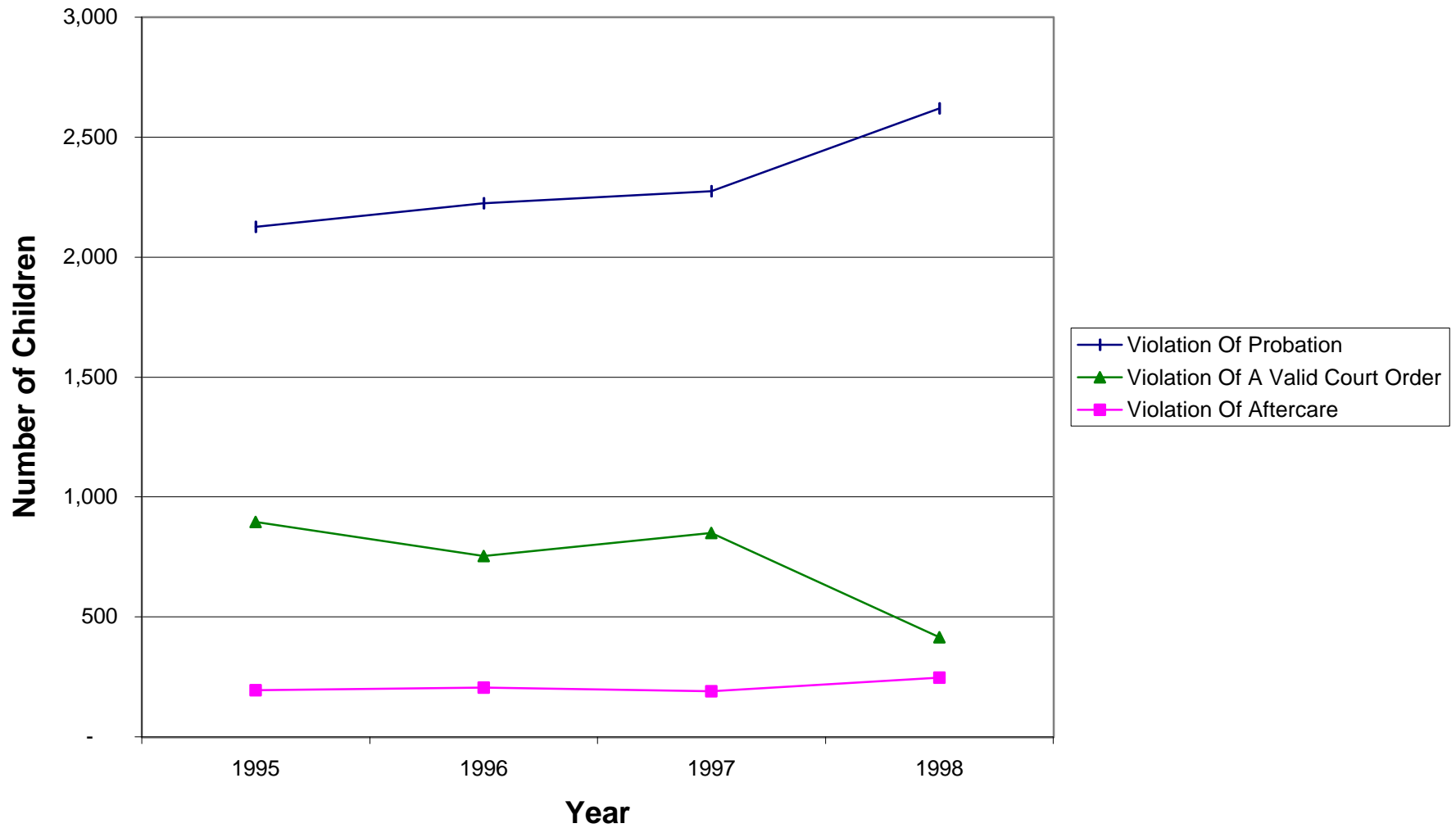
Illegal Conduct 1995 - 1998 (Data Based On Cases Concluded)



Tennessee Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges

Violation Proceedings 1995 - 1998

(Data Based On Cases Concluded)



Tennessee Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges

Status Offenses 1995 - 1998

(Data Based On Cases Concluded)

