

Section 4: Juveniles in the juvenile justice system



It is unclear exactly how many juveniles come to the attention of law enforcement. Many times police departments handle juvenile misbehavior informally, particularly with younger children. However, as misbehavior becomes more frequent or more serious, the cases are most likely to be formally processed through the justice system.

The juvenile system is more complicated than the adult system. Social services, family court, foster care systems, and other entities often play a role in juvenile justice system cases.

Research has found that youth at-risk of delinquent behavior are likely to have delinquent friends, few positive role models, be unsupervised after school, have problems at school, and have few life (home and school) successes. Forty years of research on conduct disorder has identified many of the risk factors associated with problem behavior, but solutions require a coordinated response from multiple systems (health, social services, and community-based programs). Few resources are devoted to building on the knowledge gained from this research, much of which has been summarized by the Institutes of Medicine.

What kinds of crimes do youth commit?

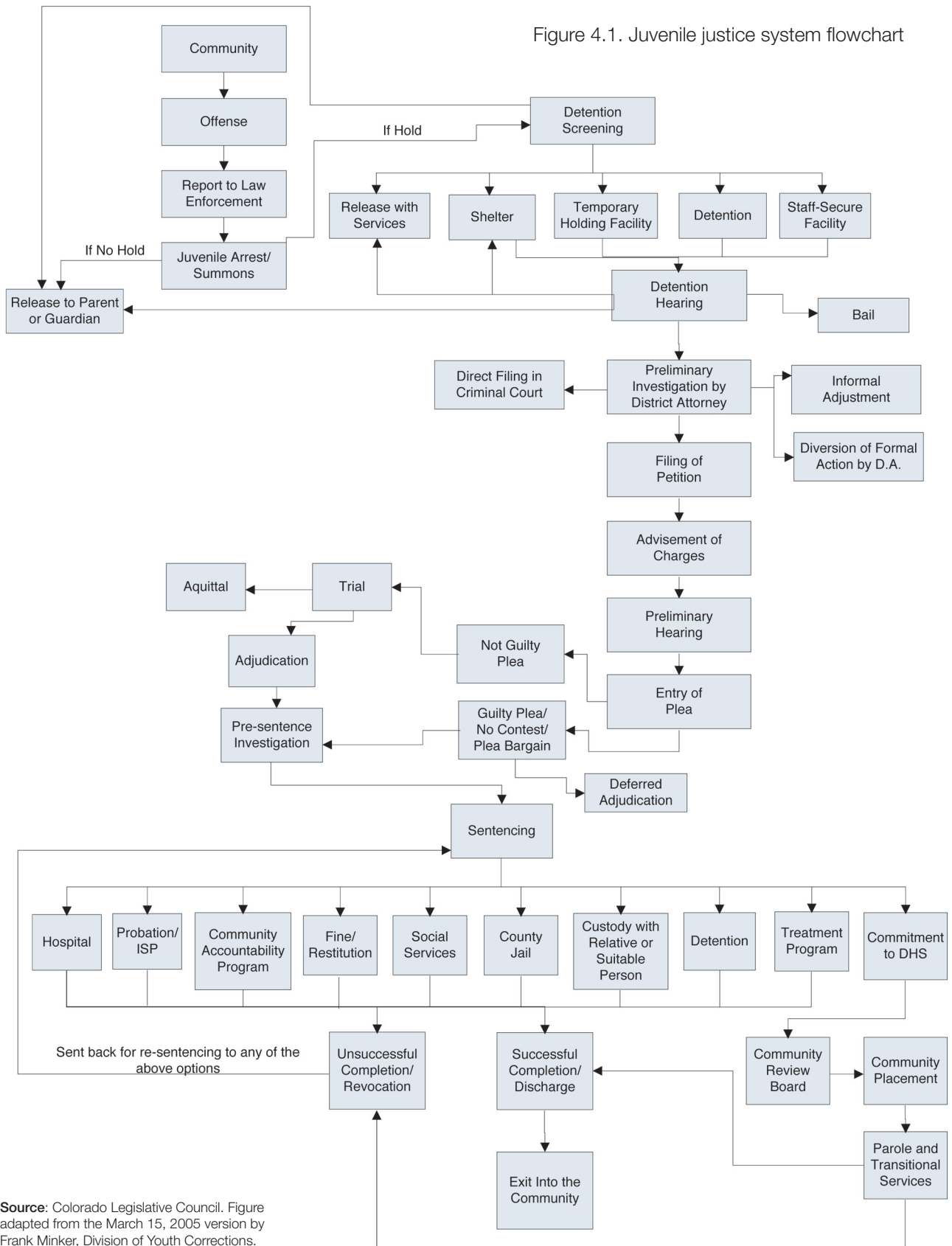
Who are the youth in Colorado that get arrested and have cases filed in court? Who gets prosecuted, and who gets convicted? Once convicted, what happens then?

What do we know about aftercare and re-entry as these pertain to juveniles?

What are the costs of juvenile placements?

Juvenile cases processed through Colorado's juvenile justice system

Figure 4.1. Juvenile justice system flowchart



Source: Colorado Legislative Council. Figure adapted from the March 15, 2005 version by Frank Minker, Division of Youth Corrections.

The juvenile justice system is a complex process that involves multiple agencies with different objectives and mandates. The community’s response to juveniles with problem behaviors involves the youth’s parents and sometimes the school system; it may involve the family court, and the first response is often a diversion program.

The juvenile court system was created early in the 20th century based on the philosophy that children are inherently different from adults, and that the role of the state should be protecting and rehabilitating young offenders. In recent years, concerns about juvenile violence--despite actual reductions in violent crime by youth--have led to tougher juvenile crime legislation and a greater reliance on incarceration as a response to delinquency. Nevertheless, the juvenile justice system allows many opportunities to divert youth from further case processing.

Community

Offense

Report to Law Enforcement

Juvenile Arrest/Summons

19-2-502 C.R.S.

Juveniles may be taken into temporary custody by law enforcement when a lawful warrant has been executed or without a court order if reasonable grounds exist to believe that a juvenile has committed a delinquent act.

Detention Screening

19-1-103 (94.5) C.R.S., 19-2-212 C.R.S, 19-2-507 C.R.S, and Colorado Rules Juvenile Procedure #3.7

Detention screening provides the initial information to determine whether a juvenile should be held in detention. The screener uses a statewide detention screening and assessment tool, the Juvenile Detention Screening and Assessment Guide. The guide uses a decision tree format that is based on the identification of factors that contribute to a juvenile’s risk of out-of-home placement and on criteria that matches youth needs with the most appropriate placements. Colorado uses a continuum of detention placements: released to a parent, guardian, or other legal custodian with services, electronic monitoring or tracking; admitted to detention, temporary holding or a shelter facility pending notification to the court and a detention hearing.

Detention Facility

19-2-507 C.R.S.

Detention is the temporary care of a juvenile in a physically restrictive facility. A juvenile may be held if the intake screener determines that the juvenile’s immediate welfare or the protection of the community requires physical restriction. A juvenile may also be admitted to a detention facility if a law enforcement agency requests that the juvenile be detained because the alleged act would constitute a serious or violent felony if committed by an adult.

Temporary Holding Facility

19-2-507 C.R.S.

This type of facility provides a holding area for juveniles from the time the juvenile is taken into custody until a detention hearing is held. This option is used if it has been determined that the juvenile requires a staff-secure or physically-secure setting.

Staff-Secure Facility

19-1-103 (101.5) C.R.S.

A staff secure facility is a group facility or home at which the juvenile is continuously under supervision and all services including education and treatment are provided. The doors to the outside in this type of facility may or may not be locked.

Shelter

19-2-508 (1) C.R.S.

A shelter provides temporary care of a juvenile in a physically unrestricted facility. Juveniles placed there are those whom the screener or court has assessed must be removed from, or are unable to return to their homes but do not require physical restriction.

Release to Parents or Guardian

19-2-507 (3) C.R.S.

The juvenile has been released to the care of the juvenile’s parents or responsible adult. The release of the juvenile may be made without restriction or upon a written promise that the juvenile will appear in court. Electronic monitoring or trackers may also be used to maintain supervision.

Release with Services

19-2-302 C.R.S.

Juveniles who are released with preadjudication services may have conditions attached to their release like: periodic telephone communication and visits with the preadjudication

service agency; home visits; drugs testing; visits to the juveniles school; undergo treatment or counseling; electronic monitoring; participate in work release programs, or day reporting.

Detention Hearing

19-2-508 C.R.S.

If an intake screener has assessed that a juvenile is to be detained after the arrest, the court must hold a detention hearing within 48 hours, excluding weekends or holidays, from the time the juvenile is taken into temporary custody. The hearing is held to determine whether the juvenile should be released or detained further. At the close of the detention hearing, one of the following orders would be issued: 1) Release to the custody of a parent or guardian without the posting of bail; 2) Placed in a shelter facility; 3) Released upon posting bail; 4) Released with services.

Bail

19-2-509 C.R.S.

Security, in the form of money or property, deposited with the court to insure the appearance of the juvenile at a specific future time and place.

Preliminary Investigation by the District Attorney (DA)

19-2-510 C.R.S.

The intake unit of the district attorney's office reviews law enforcement or probation officer referrals and decides whether to divert the case from formal filing, file charges, request an informal adjustment, and/or direct file to the criminal court.

Informal Adjustment

19-2-703 C.R.S.

A type of disposition used primarily for the first time offender, which does not involve a court hearing. If the juvenile admits the facts of the allegation (with parental consent), the child may be supervised for a period without being adjudicated.

Juvenile Diversion

19-2-704 C.R.S.

An alternative to a petition being filed, the district attorney may agree to allow a juvenile to participate in a diversion program. If the juvenile successfully meets the contract conditions and does not re-offend during the contract period, charges are dropped.

Filing of Petition

19-2-508 (3) (E) (V) C.R.S. , 19-2-512 C.R.S. through 19-2-513 C.R.S

When a court orders further detention of the juvenile or placement in a preadjudication service program after a detention hearing, the district attorney shall file a petition alleging the juvenile to be a delinquent within 72 hours after the detention hearing, excluding weekends and holidays.

Direct Filing in Criminal Court

19-2-517 C.R.S.

Juveniles may be direct filed upon in adult district court if they are 14 years old and older and are alleged to have committed a class 1 or 2 felony or committed a crime of violence; used, possessed, or threatened to use a deadly weapon; committed vehicular assault or homicide; is considered to be a "habitual juvenile offender;" or is 16 years old or older and have been adjudicated a delinquent during the previous two years.

Advisement Hearing

19-2-706 C.R.S.

The advisement hearing is the first hearing after a petition has been filed. At this time, the court advises the juvenile and the responsible person of their constitutional and legal rights. The juvenile and his/her legal guardian may request counsel or the court may appoint counsel.

Preliminary Hearing

19-2-705 C.R.S.

The preliminary hearing is conducted to determine whether probable cause exists to believe that the delinquent act declared in the petition was committed. If the court determines that probable cause exists, the finding is recorded and an adjudicatory trial is scheduled. If probable cause does not exist, a delinquent petition is dismissed and the juvenile is discharged.

Entry of Plea

19-2-708 C.R.S.

The defendant will enter one of the following pleas: a) guilty or b) not guilty

a. Plea of Not Guilty>>>Proceed to Adjudicatory Trial

b. Plea of Guilty>>>Proceed to Sentencing

Deferred Adjudication

19-2-709

The juvenile has agreed with the district attorney to enter a plea of guilty, which waives the right to a speedy trial and sentencing. Upon accepting the guilty plea, the court may continue the case for a period not to exceed one year from the date of entry of the plea. The juvenile may be placed under the supervision of probation and with additional conditions of supervision imposed. If the juvenile complies with all the conditions of supervision, their plea will be withdrawn and the case dismissed with prejudice. If the juvenile fails to comply with the terms of supervision, the court shall enter an order of adjudication and proceed to sentencing.

Adjudicatory Trial

19-2-801 C.R.S., *et seq*

At the adjudicatory trial the court considers whether the allegations of the petition are supported by evidence beyond a reasonable doubt. Jury trials are granted by special request and only in cases where commitment is a sentencing option. If the juvenile is found not guilty, the court dismisses the petition and discharges the juvenile from any previous detention or restrictions. If the juvenile is found guilty, the court then proceeds to sentencing or directs that a separate sentencing hearing be scheduled within 45 days of the adjudicatory trial.

Pre-sentence Investigation

19-2-905 C.R.S.

Pre-sentence investigations are required only for youth with felony adjudications, but can be requested with other adjudications. The reports may include details of the offense; victim statements; amount of restitution requested; criminal, education, employment, and substance abuse history; description of family and peer relationships; programs available in the juvenile’s judicial district; review of placement and commitment criteria; and disposition and treatment recommendations.

Sentencing

19-2-907 C.R.S.

The court may impose any or a combination of the following sentences as appropriate: commitment to DHS; county jail; detention; placement of custody with a relative or suitable person; probation; community accountability program; placement with social services or in a hospital; fines; restitution; or in a treatment program. Any sentence may also include conditions for the parent/guardian, pursuant to 19-2-919, C.R.S. If the sentence includes school attendance, a notice to the school is required.

Commitment

19-2-909 C.R.S.

The court may commit a juvenile to the department of human services for a determinate period of up to two years if the juvenile is adjudicated for an offense that would constitute a felony or a misdemeanor if committed by an adult; except if the juvenile is younger than twelve years of age and is not adjudicated an aggravated juvenile offender, the court may commit the juvenile to the department of human services only if the juvenile is adjudicated for an offense that would constitute a class 1, class 2, or class 3 felony if committed by an adult.

County Jail

19-2-910 (2) C.R.S.

The court may sentence a person who is eighteen years of age or older on the date of a sentencing hearing to the county jail for a period not to exceed six months or to a community correctional facility or program for a period not to exceed one year, which may be served consecutively or in intervals, if he or she is adjudicated a juvenile delinquent for an act committed prior to his or her eighteenth birthday.

Detention

19-2-911 C.R.S.

The court may sentence any juvenile adjudicated for an offense that would constitute a class 3, class 4, class 5, or class 6 felony or a misdemeanor if committed by an adult to detention for a period not to exceed forty-five days.

Custody with a Relative or Suitable Person

19-2-912 C.R.S.

The court may place the juvenile in the legal custody of a relative or other suitable person. The court may impose additional conditions like placing the juvenile on probation or under other protective supervision.

Probation

19-2-913 C.R.S., 19-2-925 C.R.S., and 19-2-926 C.R.S.

When a juvenile is sentenced to probation, the court may impose additional conditions like: placing the juvenile in the intensive supervision program (JISP); participate in a supervised work program; or being sentenced to the county jail for those juveniles eighteen years of age or older at the time of sentencing. The jail sentence should not exceed ninety days; except when a sentence may be up to one hundred eighty days if the court orders the juvenile released for school attendance, job training, or employment.

Community Accountability Program

19-2-914 C.R.S.

The court may sentence the juvenile to participate in the community accountability program. This sentence shall be a condition of probation and shall be for higher risk juveniles who would have otherwise been sentenced to detention or out-of-home placement or committed to the department of human services. Also this sentence shall be conditioned on the availability of space in the community accountability program and on a determination by the division of youth corrections that the juvenile's participation in the program is appropriate. In the event that the division of youth corrections determines the program is at maximum capacity or that a juvenile's participation is not appropriate, the juvenile shall be ordered to return to the sentencing court for another sentencing hearing.

Social Services

19-2-915 C.R.S.

The court may place legal custody of the juvenile in the county department of social services.

Hospital

19-2-916 C.R.S.

The court may order that the juvenile be examined or treated by a physician, surgeon, psychiatrist, or psychologist or other special care by placing the juvenile in a hospital or other. A juvenile will not be placed in a mental health facility until the juvenile has received a mental health hospital placement prescreening resulting in a recommendation that the juvenile be placed in a facility for an evaluation. No order for a seventy-two-hour treatment and evaluation shall be entered unless a hearing is held and evidence indicates that the prescreening report is inadequate, incomplete, or incorrect and that competent professional evidence is presented by a mental health professional that indicates that mental illness is present in the juvenile. Placement in any mental health facility shall continue for such time as ordered by the court or until the professional person in charge of the juvenile's treatment concludes that the treatment or placement is no longer appropriate.

Fines/Restitution

Fines: 19-2-917 C.R.S.

The court may impose a fine of not more than three hundred dollars.

Restitution: 19-2-918 C.R.S.

If the court finds that a juvenile who receives a deferred adjudication or who is adjudicated a juvenile delinquent has damaged or lost the personal property of a victim, or has caused personal injury to the victim as a result of the delinquent act, the court will require the juvenile to make restitution.

Treatment Program

19-2-918.5 C.R.S.

Any juvenile who has been adjudicated for the commission of cruelty to animals, in which the underlining factual basis included knowing or intentional torture or torment of an animal which needlessly injures, mutilates, or kills an animal, may be ordered to complete an anger management treatment program or any other treatment program deemed appropriate by the court.

Community Referral and Review

19-2-210 C.R.S.

Prior to placement of a juvenile in a residential community placement, the juvenile community review board shall review the case file of the juvenile. A decision regarding residential community placement shall take into consideration the results of the objective risk assessment by the department of human services, the needs of the juvenile, and the criteria established by the juvenile community review board based on the interests of the community.

Community Placement

Parole and Transitional Services

19-2-909 (1)(b) C.R.S., 19-2-1002 C.R.S., et seq.

The Juvenile Parole Board has the authority to grant, deny, defer, suspend, or revoke the parole of a juvenile. The Board is made up of nine part-time members who are appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate. Members are chosen from the Department of Human Services, the Department of Public Safety, the Department of Education, and the Department of Labor and Employment. One member is a local elected official and four members are citizens. Juveniles committed to the department of human services there is a mandatory parole period of six months; however parole can be extended if a juvenile committed one or more offenses that would constitute a felony if committed by an adult (i.e. incest, aggravated incest, child abuse, etc.), or if special circumstance have been found to exist parole can be extended up to 15 months.

Parole Revocation

19-2-1004 C.R.S.

A juvenile parolee who violates the conditions of parole, may have their parole revoked. Such violations include a warrant out for the parolees arrest, a new offense has been committed, belief that the parolee has left the state, refusal to appear before the board to answer charges of violations, or testing positive for an illegal or unauthorized substance. After the arrest or summons of the parolee, the parole officer can request a preliminary hearing. A hearing relating to the revocation will be held. If the hearing panel determines that a violation of a condition(s) of parole has been committed, they will hear further evidence related to the disposition of the parolee. At the conclusion of the hearing, the hearing panel will advise the parties of its findings and recommendations and of their right to request a review before the board. If a review before the board is not requested or the right to review is waived, the findings and recommendations of the hearing panel, if unanimous, shall become the decision of the juvenile parole board.

Unsuccessful Completion

If a juvenile does not complete the sentence successfully, the youth will be sent back for re-sentencing.

Parole Discharge

19-2-1002 (9) C.R.S.

The board may discharge a juvenile from parole after the juvenile has served the mandatory parole period of six months but prior to the expiration of his or her period of parole supervision when it appears to the board that there is a reasonable probability that the juvenile will remain at liberty without violating the law or when such juvenile is under the probation supervision of the district court, in the custody of the department of corrections, or otherwise not available to receive parole supervision.

Successful Completion

The juvenile successfully completes their sentence and is free to integrate back into the community.

Sources: Colorado Revised Statutes Pertaining to Criminal Law 2006 with Rules of Criminal Procedure and Rules of Evidence by the Colorado District Attorneys' Council; Colorado's Three-Year Juvenile Justice Plan 2005-07, Office of Juvenile Justice, Colorado Division of Criminal Justice available at <http://dcj.state.co.us/ojj/>.

Juvenile arrests

and 34 percent of juvenile property crime index arrests.

Table 4.1. Percent of total estimated juvenile arrests that were female, and percent change in male and female total arrests

Most serious offense	% total juvenile female arrests	% change 1995-2004	% change 2000-2004	% change 2003-2004
Violent crime index	19%	-31%	-5%	-1%
Murder and nonnegligent manslaughter	9%	-63%	-8%	0%
Forcible rape	3%	-22%	-10%	0%
Robbery	10%	-44%	-5%	0%
Aggravated assault	24%	-23%	-6%	-2%
Property crime index	34%	-40%	-15%	-3%
Burglary	12%	-39%	-15%	-4%
Larceny-theft	42%	-38%	-14%	-2%
Motor vehicle theft	17%	-53%	-21%	-9%
Arson	14%	-34%	-10%	-3%
Non-index				
Other assaults	33%	8%	7%	1%
Forgery and counterfeiting	34%	-47%	-31%	5%
Fraud	36%	-35%	-29%	-2%
Embezzlement	37%	-21%	-46%	-12%
Stolen property (buying, receiving, possessing)	17%	-49%	-49%	-4%
Vandalism	14%	-32%	-32%	-4%
Weapons (carrying, possessing, etc)	11%	-30%	11%	6%
Prostitution and commercialized vice	72%	36%	44%	7%
Sex offense (except forcible rape and prostitution)	9%	12%	-3%	0%
Drug abuse violations	17%	-4%	-6%	-2%
Liquor law violations	35%	-4%	-22%	-5%
Drunkenness	23%	-30%	-23%	-4%
Disorderly conduct	32%	-2%	7%	2%

Source: Snyder, H.N. (2006). *Juvenile Arrests 2004*. Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, D.C.; *Crime in the United States 2004*, Tables 29, 32, 34, 36, 38, and 40. Arrest estimates were developed by the National Center for Juvenile Justice.

- Nationwide, juveniles were involved in 12 percent of all violent crimes cleared in 2004, the most recent year for which data are available. Specifically, 5 percent of homicides, 12 percent of forcible rapes, 14 percent of robberies, and 12 percent of aggravated assaults.
- In 2004, law enforcement agencies nationwide made an estimated 60,450 juvenile arrests for aggravated assault. Between 1995 and 2004, the annual number of such arrests fell 23 percent.
- In 2004, females accounted for 30 percent of all juvenile arrests, 19 percent of juvenile violent crime index arrests,

- In 2004, youth under the age of 15 accounted for about one-third of all violent and property crime arrests.
- Nationwide, juvenile arrests for violence in 2004 were the lowest since 1987.

Nationwide, juvenile arrests for violence in 2004 were the lowest since 1987.

Table 4.2. State arrest rates for juveniles, 2004

State	Reporting coverage	2004 juvenile arrest rate			
		Violent crime index	Property crime index	Drug abuse	Weapons
United States	77%	285	1395	587	122
Alabama	88%	125	760	245	30
Alaska	97%	204	1599	375	52
Arizona	97%	236	1796	833	79
Arkansas	53%	142	1481	383	63
California	94%	347	1109	495	189
Colorado	86%	228	2012	707	148
Connecticut	83%	295	1194	565	97
Delaware	91%	491	1762	661	173
District of Columbia	0%	NA	NA	NA	NA
Florida	100%	468	1951	764	147
Georgia	36%	335	1542	607	165
Hawaii	87%	237	1369	371	35
Idaho	91%	162	1880	530	134
Illinois	73%	323	1283	448	29
Indiana	73%	323	1283	448	29
Iowa	85%	246	1835	378	31
Kansas	71%	157	1190	513	64
Kentucky	25%	248	2083	892	82
Louisiana	70%	401	1977	597	76
Maine	100%	101	1749	566	33
Maryland	100%	511	1965	1245	234
Massachusetts	72%	270	509	355	40
Michigan	93%	147	902	313	56
Minnesota	70%	170	1702	595	94
Mississippi	51%	125	1514	571	100
Missouri	83%	289	1613	622	96
Montana	0%	NA	NA	NA	NA
Nebraska	93%	119	1942	615	99
Nevada	97%	271	1686	328	72
New Hampshire	76%	73	804	601	11
New Jersey	97%	360	884	661	217
New Mexico	76%	266	1236	634	148
New York	51%	260	1117	529	82
North Carolina	71%	243	1361	423	179
North Dakota	81%	59	1866	385	72
Ohio	68%	148	1063	379	65
Oklahoma	97%	196	1610	486	82
Oregon	95%	221	2033	623	76
Pennsylvania	86%	419	1177	560	133
Rhode Island	100%	222	1340	563	161
South Carolina	16%	277	1051	427	86
South Dakota	55%	90	1575	416	68
Tennessee	82%	236	1173	541	112
Texas	99%	190	1329	608	67
Utah	64%	174	2622	598	171
Vermont	84%	66	484	256	19
Virginia	87%	120	814	316	88
Washington	76%	236	1970	474	124
West Virginia	58%	58	601	164	25
Wisconsin	72%	212	3018	896	223
Wyoming	97%	126	1689	1038	99

Notes: NA=Arrest counts were not available for this state in the FBI's *Crime in the United States, 2004*. Arrest rates for jurisdictions with less than complete reporting may not be representative of the entire state. Rates were classified as "Data not available" when law enforcement agencies with jurisdiction over more than 50 percent of the state's population did not report.

Source: Snyder, H.N. (2006). *Juvenile Arrests 2004*. Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, D.C. Authors' analysis of arrest data from the FBI's *Crime in the United States, 2004* and population data from the National Center for Health Statistics estimates of the July 1, 2000–July 1, 2003, United States resident population from the vintage 2004 postcensal series by year, county, age, sex, race, and Hispanic origin.

Table 4.3. Arrest of juveniles under 18 per 100,000 juveniles ages 10-17, 2003

State	# of agencies	Reporting percent	Arrest of juveniles under 18 per 100,000 juveniles ages 10-17				
			Violent crime index	Robbery	Aggravated assault	Other assault	Weapons
Alabama	261	91%	126	43	73	470	31
Alaska	28	97%	243	28	180	557	85
Arizona	93	96%	223	45	171	768	72
Arkansas	137	66%	131	23	102	348	64
California	676	99%	365	111	243	529	181
Colorado	137	71%	231	48	167	756	168
Connecticut	90	65%	290	84	190	946	90
Delaware	40	100%	595	163	403	1579	147
District of Columbia	0	0%					
Florida	582	100%	524	99	404	993	109
Georgia	227	55%	266	81	169	838	154
Hawaii	3	100%	197	101	83	814	36
Idaho	107	94%	160	11	136	849	122
Illinois	1	23%	944	342	552	2114	383
Indiana	147	74%	318	36	273	444	28
Iowa	154	90%	251	29	214	816	45
Kansas	0	48%	131	12	107	868	25
Kentucky	13	26%	229	47	175	394	56
Louisiana	148	73%	355	64	267	1357	61
Maine	177	100%	78	11	53	762	26
Maryland	137	100%	505	184	306	1444	224
Massachusetts	270	70%	269	40	219	387	28
Michigan	567	97%	166	31	118	321	53
Minnesota	284	83%	177	29	121	648	102
Mississippi	81	48%	136	49	58	711	70
Missouri	219	97%	295	64	214	1111	87
Montana	52	60%	202	33	161	562	32
Nebraska	210	86%	96	28	59	848	83
Nevada	34	0%					
New Hampshire	101	69%	71	22	43	717	9
New Jersey	531	93%	386	144	233	654	214
New Mexico	24	55%	220	33	178	673	175
New York	408	45%	264	90	161	449	70
North Carolina	382	79%	310	95	199	1023	180
North Dakota	61	85%	45	10	20	600	33
Ohio	279	50%	150	46	85	774	70
Oklahoma	291	100%	217	30	171	390	81
Oregon	148	91%	149	34	105	503	53
Pennsylvania	655	85%	402	139	240	734	123
Rhode Island	46	100%	288	62	179	970	160
South Carolina	83	13%	47	10	33	307	73
South Dakota	25	86%	108	1	88	516	82
Tennessee	372	84%	223	51	157	767	100
Texas	917	94%	185	46	123	793	64
Utah	86	72%	216	17	175	804	183
Vermont	51	77%	81	0	63	347	11
Virginia	276	75%	106	33	64	676	89
Washington	210	74%	246	60	152	1013	113
West Virginia	205	45%	40	2	34	158	7
Wisconsin	3	76%	184	36	121	558	176
Wyoming	64	95%	88	4	79	1062	81
United States	10093	76%	291	77	198	738	116

Notes: 2004 data were not available at time of printing. NA = Arrest counts were not available for this state in the FBI's *Crime in the United States 2003*. Arrest rates for jurisdictions with less than complete reporting may not be representative of the entire state. Rates were classified as "Data not available" when law enforcement agencies with jurisdiction over more than 50% of their state's population did not report.

Source: Snyder, H.N. and Sickmund, M. 2006. *Juvenile Offenders and Victims: 2006 National Report*. U.S. Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention available at <http://ojjdp.ncjrs.gov/ojstatbb/nr2006/downloads/chapter3.pdf>. Authors' analysis of arrest data from the FBI's *Crime in the United States 2003* and population data from the National Center for Health Statistics estimates of the July 1, 2000–July 1, 2003, United States resident population from the vintage 2003 postcensal series by year, county, age, sex, race, and Hispanic origin.

- Colorado’s overall juvenile violent index crime arrest rate in 2003 was about 20 percent below the national average (231 compared to 291 per 100,000 youth age 10-17).
- Colorado had a much higher weapons arrest rate and a slightly higher non-aggravated assault rate, compared to the national average in 2003.
- Colorado’s overall juvenile property crime arrest rate in 2003 was 30 percent above the national average.
- While Colorado’s juvenile burglary arrest rate was below the national average in 2003, arrest rates for larceny, motor vehicle theft and vandalism were considerably higher than the national average.

In 2004, 30 percent of juvenile arrests involved females¹

- Between 1994 and 2004, arrests of juvenile females generally increased more (or decreased less) than male arrests in most offense categories.

Table 4.4. Percent change in juvenile arrests 1995–2004, by gender, national data

	Female	Male
Violent crime index	-11%	-35%
Aggravated assault	-3%	-28%
Simple assault	31%	-1%
Property crime index	-21%	-46%
Burglary	-26%	-41%
Larceny-theft	-19%	-47%
Motor vehicle theft	-47%	-54%
Vandalism	-8%	-35%
Weapons	-1%	-32%
Drug abuse violations	29%	-8%
Liquor law violations	17%	-13%
DUI	69%	11%
Disorderly conduct	33%	-13%

Source: Snyder, H.N. (2006). *Juvenile Arrests 2004*. Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, D.C.; *Crime in the United States 2004*, Table 33 (updated 2/17/2006).

¹ Snyder, H.N. (2006). *Juvenile Arrests 2004*. Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, D.C.

A caution about the data

Although juvenile arrest rates may largely reflect juvenile behavior, comparisons of juvenile arrest rates across jurisdictions should be made with caution because many other factors can affect the magnitude of arrest rates. Arrest rates are calculated by dividing the number of youth arrests made in the year by the number of youth living in the jurisdiction. In general, jurisdictions that arrest a relatively large number of non-resident juveniles would have higher arrest rates than jurisdictions where resident youth behave similarly. For example, jurisdictions (especially small ones) that are vacation destinations or that are centers for economic activity in a region may have arrest rates that reflect the behavior of nonresident youth more than that of resident youth. Other factors that influence arrest rates in a given area include the attitudes of citizens toward crime, the policies of local law enforcement agencies, and the policies of other components of the justice system. Finally, in many counties, not all law enforcement agencies report their arrest data to the FBI; because a county’s rate is based on data from reporting agencies, that rate may not accurately reflect the entire county’s actual arrest rate (e.g., when a large urban police department does not report).

Source: Snyder, H.N. and Sickmund, M. 2006. *Juvenile Offenders and Victims: 2006 National Report*. U.S. Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention., U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, D.C.

- Similar gender differences also occurred in arrest trends for adults. Between 1994 and 2003, adult male arrests for aggravated assault fell 15 percent while female arrests rose 17 percent. Also, while adult male arrests for simple assault fell 5 percent between 1994 and 2003, adult female arrests rose 31 percent.
- Therefore, the disproportionate growth in female assault arrests was related to factors that affect both juveniles and adults.
- In 2003, with the exception of larceny-theft, the percentage of juvenile arrests that involved a female was similar in central cities, in suburbs, and in other communities, outside cities and suburbs.

Table 4.5. Female percent of juvenile arrests, 2003, national data

Most serious offense	Central cities	Suburban areas	Other
All offenses	30%	28%	28%
Aggravated assault	24%	22%	20%
Simple assault	33%	32%	31%
Burglary	13%	10%	11%
Larceny-theft	40%	36%	27%
Drug abuse	18%	17%	21%
Weapons	10%	11%	11%
Vandalism	14%	13%	14%
Runaways	59%	58%	57%

Source: Snyder, H.N. (2005). *Juvenile Arrests 2003*. Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, D.C.; *Crime in the United States 2003*, Tables 45, 51, 57, and 63.

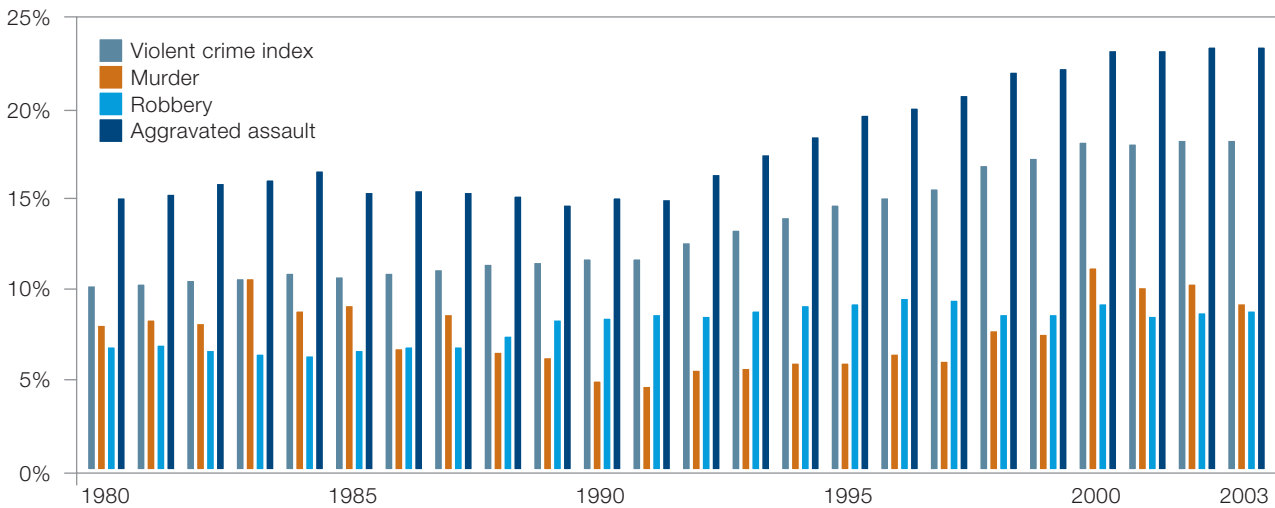
Nationally, law enforcement agencies refer approximately two-thirds of all arrested youth to a court with juvenile jurisdiction for further processing. As with law enforcement, the court may decide to divert some juveniles away from the formal justice system to other agencies for service.

Source: Snyder, H.N. and Sickmund, M. 2006. *Juvenile Offenders and Victims: 2006 National Report*. U.S. Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, page 152, from the 2000 *Law Enforcement Management and Statistics* data collection by B.J.S.

Crime rates for girls have been rising since about 1990

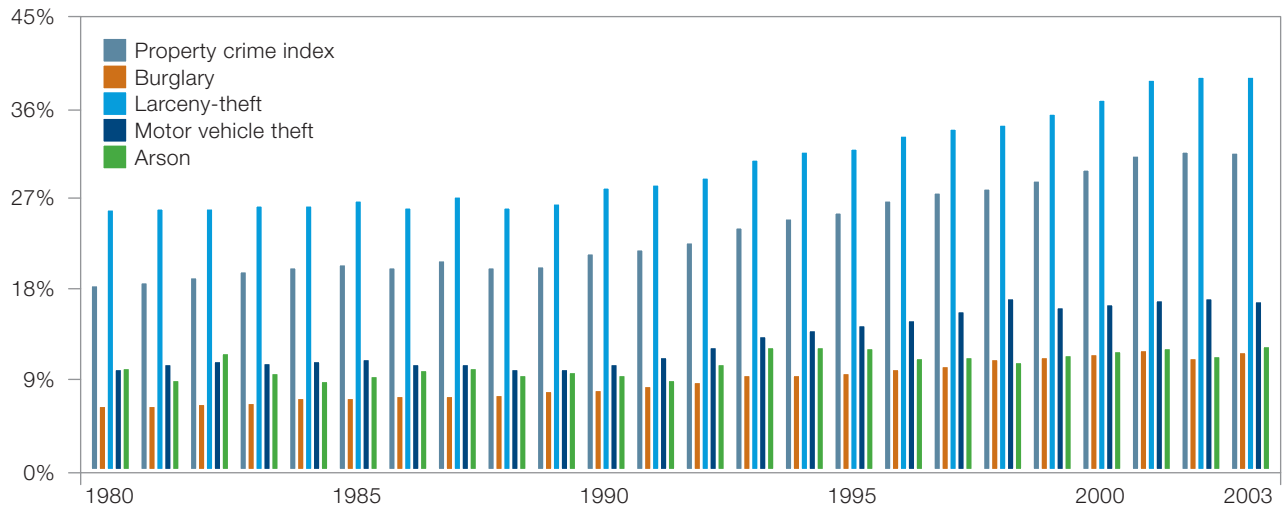
- Violent crime arrests of girls increased over 60 percent between 1990 and 2003.
- Girls arrested for aggravated assault, as a percentage of juvenile arrests, increased 64 percent between 1990 and 2003.

Figure 4.2. Female percent of juvenile arrests: Violent crimes, national data, 1980-2003



Source: Snyder, H.N. and Sickmund, M. 2006. *Juvenile Offenders and Victims: 2006 National Report*. U.S. Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention available at <http://ojjdp.ncjrs.gov/ojstatbb/nr2006/downloads/chapter3.pdf>.

Figure 4.3. Female percent of juvenile arrests: Property crimes, national data, 1980-2003



Source: Snyder, H.N. and Sickmund, M. 2006. *Juvenile Offenders and Victims: 2006 National Report*. U.S. Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention available at <http://ojjdp.ncjrs.gov/ojstatbb/nr2006/downloads/chapter3.pdf>.

- Between 2002 and 2003, violent and property arrest rates of girls as a percentage of juvenile arrests, declined slightly or stabilized.
- For arrests involving prostitution, drug abuse and running away, female arrest rates in 2003 were at 1980 levels.

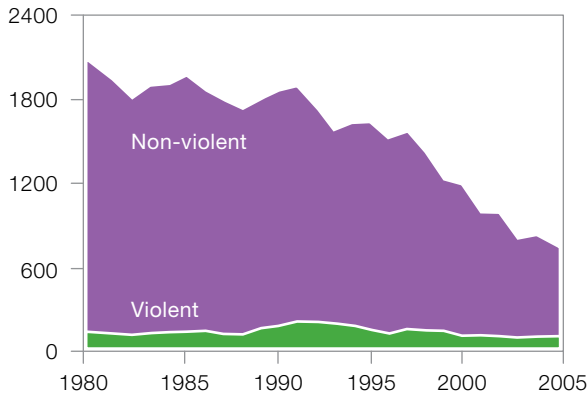
Table 4.6. Female percent of juvenile arrests: Other crimes, national data, 1980-2003

Year	Other assaults	Vandalism	Weapons	Prostitution & commercialized vice	Drug abuse	Liquor law violation	Curfew and loitering	Running away
1980	21.0%	7.9%	5.6%	68.5%	16.6%	22.8%	23.1%	58.5%
1981	21.2%	8.1%	5.8%	69.7%	16.0%	23.0%	21.6%	53.6%
1982	21.5%	8.2%	6.6%	69.6%	16.2%	23.4%	22.2%	58.1%
1983	21.7%	8.3%	6.4%	68.6%	16.2%	25.3%	23.5%	57.9%
1984	22.8%	8.5%	6.3%	69.5%	15.0%	25.6%	23.7%	57.9%
1985	22.9%	8.4%	6.8%	69.7%	14.6%	26.5%	24.7%	57.3%
1986	22.4%	9.0%	6.4%	65.1%	14.0%	25.6%	25.5%	57.7%
1987	22.7%	8.9%	7.2%	67.8%	13.1%	27.0%	25.0%	57.2%
1988	23.0%	8.7%	6.8%	64.4%	12.3%	26.8%	25.5%	55.6%
1989	22.8%	9.0%	6.5%	59.8%	11.4%	27.9%	25.7%	56.0%
1990	23.1%	8.4%	6.3%	54.3%	11.1%	28.1%	27.2%	56.3%
1991	23.7%	8.3%	6.5%	52.8%	10.4%	27.7%	26.8%	56.7%
1992	24.6%	8.5%	7.3%	52.1%	10.4%	28.4%	26.9%	56.8%
1993	26.0%	9.6%	8.0%	54.4%	10.7%	28.4%	28.0%	57.2%
1994	26.3%	10.3%	8.1%	48.8%	11.8%	28.8%	28.9%	56.9%
1995	27.5%	10.7%	8.3%	47.7%	12.2%	28.8%	29.6%	57.4%
1996	27.7%	11.0%	8.4%	52.4%	12.8%	29.6%	29.3%	57.2%
1997	29.0%	11.7%	9.4%	54.0%	13.2%	29.9%	30.0%	58.1%
1998	30.7%	12.1%	9.4%	50.3%	13.7%	30.1%	30.5%	58.2%
1999	30.4%	12.0%	9.4%	53.6%	14.4%	31.0%	30.5%	59.2%
2000	30.9%	12.5%	10.3%	54.8%	14.5%	31.4%	31.3%	58.8%
2001	31.7%	13.0%	10.8%	69.1%	15.4%	32.2%	31.0%	59.4%
2002	32.1%	13.5%	11.0%	66.6%	16.1%	33.7%	31.3%	59.8%
2003	32.5%	13.8%	11.1%	68.7%	16.5%	35.0%	30.3%	58.7%

Source: Snyder, H.N. and Sickmund, M. 2006. *Juvenile Offenders and Victims: 2006 National Report*. U.S. Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention available at <http://ojjdp.ncjrs.gov/ojstatbb/nr2006/downloads/chapter3.pdf>.

Juvenile violent vs. property arrests

Figure 4.4. Juvenile arrest rates for violent arrests vs. property arrests, 1980-2005



Note: Rates are per 100,000 juveniles. Violent arrests include homicide, forcible rape, robbery, and aggravated assault. Property arrests include larceny-theft, burglary, motor vehicle theft, and arson.

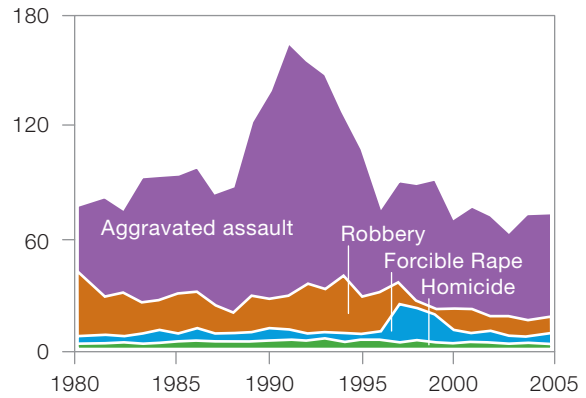
Sources: Arrest Data: Colorado Bureau of Investigations Annual Reports, 1980-2005. Population Data: Colorado State Demographer Office, Department of Local Affairs.

- Juvenile violent arrests on average make up less than 10 percent of all arrests in Colorado.
- Over the last twenty-five years, violent and property arrests in Colorado have decreased. Violent arrests have fallen 21 percent to 98.8 per 100,000 residents, while property arrests have declined by 63 percent to 760.8 per 100,000 residents.
- According to the FBI's *Crime in the United States, 2005* report, juveniles (under 18 years of age) accounted for 15.3 percent of all the people arrested in 2005. Juveniles accounted for 15.8 percent of people arrested for violent crimes, and 26 percent of arrests for property crimes.

Aggravated assault arrests of juveniles peaked dramatically in the early 1990s but have since fallen below the rate seen in 1980.

Note the differences in scale used in the figures on this page.

Figure 4.5. Colorado adult arrest rates for violent arrests, 1980-2005

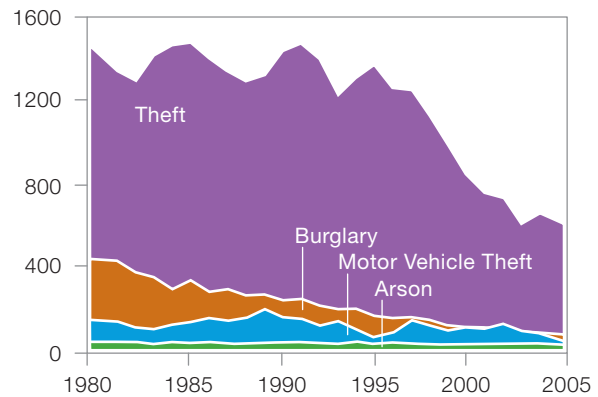


Note: Rates are per 100,000 juveniles.

Sources: Arrest Data: Colorado Bureau of Investigations Annual Reports, 1980-2005. Population Data: Colorado State Demographer Office, Department of Local Affairs.

- Aggravated assaults make up a majority of juvenile violent arrests both nationally and in Colorado.
- Aggravated assault arrests of juveniles peaked dramatically in the early 1990s but have since fallen below the rate seen in 1980.

Figure 4.6. Juvenile arrest rates for property arrests, 1980-2005



Note: Rates are per 100,000 juveniles.

Sources: Arrest Data: Colorado Bureau of Investigations Annual Reports, 1980-2005. Population Data: Colorado State Demographer Office, Department of Local Affairs.

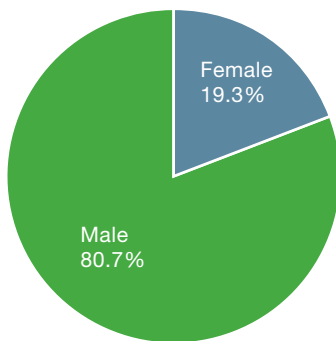
- Juveniles are arrested very often for larceny-theft offenses.
- Historically, juveniles are highly involved in arson offenses. According to the *Crime in the United States, 2005* report from the FBI, 48.6 percent of the people arrested for arson in 2005 were juveniles. And of those, 59.4 percent were under the age of 15.

Who gets arrested?

Arrest data were extracted from the Colorado Bureau of Investigation's Colorado Criminal History database by means of the Colorado Justice Analytics Support System (CJASS). This data source differs from that used to compile CBI's annual *Crime in Colorado* report statistics, and include only arrests in which a fingerprint was taken, which will generally include only arrests involving more serious crimes.

- The demographic characteristics of juveniles arrested in 2006 reflect those of adults.

Figure 4.7. Colorado juvenile arrests by gender, 2006 (N=3217)



Source: Arrest data were extracted from the Colorado Bureau of Investigation's Colorado Criminal History (CCH) data via the CICJIS/CJASS and analyzed by DCJ's Office of Research and Statistics.

- In 2006, most arrested youth in Colorado were male (80.7 percent) and 79.4 percent were white.

Table 4.7. Colorado juvenile arrests by race, 2006 (N=3217)

Race	Percent
Asian	0.7%
Black	18.6%
American Indian	1.3%
White	79.4%
Total	100.0%

Source: Arrest data were extracted from the Colorado Bureau of Investigation's Colorado Criminal History (CCH) data via the CICJIS/CJASS and analyzed by DCJ's Office of Research and Statistics.

- Black juveniles represented 18.6 percent of all juvenile arrestees in Colorado in 2006 although blacks represent only about 4 percent of the state population.

- The average age of juveniles arrested was 15.2 years. The median age was 15.0. Male and female juvenile arrestees did not differ in age, unlike adult arrestees.

Black juveniles represented 18.6 percent of all juvenile arrestees in Colorado in 2006 although blacks represent only about 4 percent of the state population.

Table 4.8. Colorado juvenile arrests by age, 2006 (N=3217)

Juvenile arrestee age	Percent
<13	6.9%
13-14	24.3%
15	19.0%
16	23.2%
17	26.6%
Total	100.0%

Juvenile arrestee gender	Age
Female	15.2
Male	15.2
Total	15.2

Source: Arrest data were extracted from the Colorado Bureau of Investigation's Colorado Criminal History (CCH) data via the CICJIS/CJASS and analyzed by DCJ's Office of Research and Statistics.

- In Colorado in 2006, increasing age corresponded with increasing numbers of arrests. Half (49.8 percent) of all juveniles arrested were 16 or 17 years of age.

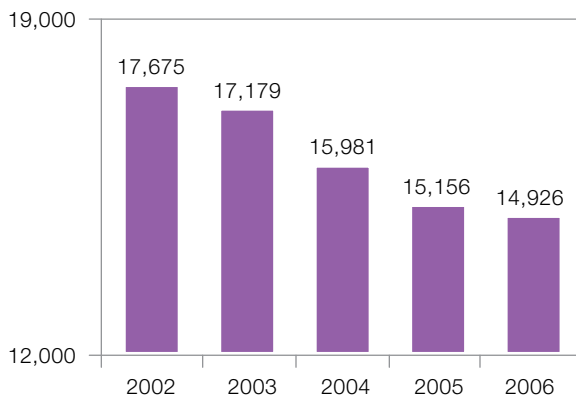
More 13 and 14 year olds were arrested in 2003 than scored Advanced on reading CSAP (9,043 versus 8,463).²

² Colorado Education Index ,Report Card 2006, available at http://www.reportcardcolorado.com/Files/ReportCard_2006.pdf.

Who gets prosecuted?

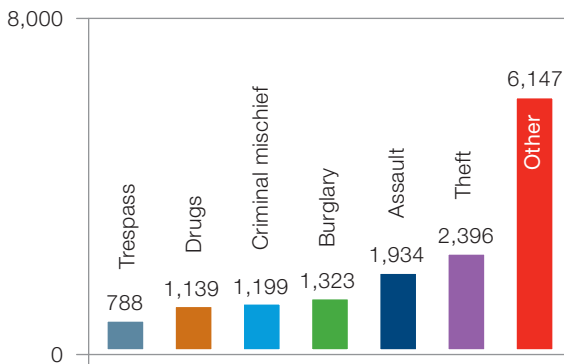
When a juvenile is accused of a crime in Colorado, the criminal process is very different than in adult court. The juvenile crime is called an act of delinquency and requires juvenile court intervention to deal with the delinquency. The district attorney decides whether to dismiss the matter, to handle the matter informally, or whether to file a delinquency petition in court. An adjudicatory trial then takes place to determine whether the allegations of the delinquency petition are supported by the evidence.

Figure 4.8. Colorado juvenile delinquency petitions filed FY 2002 to FY 2006



Source: Colorado Judicial Department Annual Reports FY 2002-2006.

Figure 4.9. Colorado juvenile delinquency petitions filed FY 2006 by type of case (N=14,926)



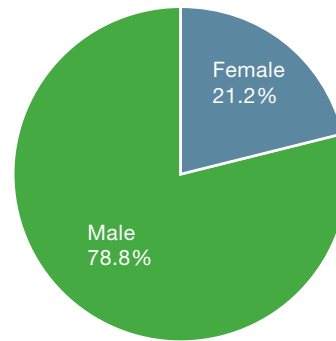
Source: Colorado Judicial Department Annual Report FY 2006.

- The number of juvenile delinquency cases filed statewide in Colorado in FY 2006 decreased over the past five years.
- The most common single crime filed in juvenile delinquency cases in FY 2006 was theft, followed by assault.

- The crime types involved with delinquency filings varied little over the past three years.

Data concerning juvenile delinquency cases were extracted from the Judicial Department’s Integrated Colorado Online Network (ICON) information management system by means of the Colorado Integrated Criminal Justice Information System’s (CICJIS) Criminal Justice Analytics Support System (CJASS) and analyzed by DCJ’s Office of Research and Statistics. The information below is taken from 16,961 Colorado juvenile court petitions disposed, or were concluded with a finding in calendar year 2006. In many cases, these individuals were arrested and filed on prior to 2006.

Figure 4.10. Colorado juvenile delinquency petitions disposed in 2006: Gender (N=16,579)



Source: Data were extracted from the Judicial Department’s information management system (ICON) via the CICJIS/CJASS and analyzed by DCJ’s Office of Research and Statistics.

- The majority of juveniles in 2006 with cases filed in district courts were male (79 percent) and white (73 percent).

Table 4.9. Colorado juvenile delinquency petitions disposed in 2006: Race (N=16,485)

Race	Percent
Asian	0.8%
Black	12.2%
Hispanic	13.2%
American Indian	0.8%
Other	0.3%
White	72.6%
Total	100.0%

Source: Data were extracted from the Judicial Department’s information management system (ICON) via the CICJIS/CJASS and analyzed by DCJ’s Office of Research and Statistics.

CONDUCT DISORDER

What is conduct disorder?

Children with conduct disorder repeatedly violate the personal or property rights of others and the basic expectations of society. A diagnosis of conduct disorder is likely when symptoms continue for 6 months or longer. Conduct disorder is known as a “disruptive behavior disorder” because of its impact on children and their families, neighbors, and schools.

Another disruptive behavior disorder, called oppositional defiant disorder, may be a precursor of conduct disorder. A child is diagnosed with oppositional defiant disorder when he or she shows signs of being hostile and defiant for at least 6 months. Oppositional defiant disorder may start as early as the preschool years, while conduct disorder generally appears when children are older. Oppositional defiant disorder and conduct disorder are not co-occurring conditions.

What are the signs of conduct disorder?

Symptoms of conduct disorder include:

- Aggressive behavior that harms or threatens other people or animals;
- Destructive behavior that damages or destroys property;
- Lying or theft;
- Truancy or other serious violations of rules;
- Early tobacco, alcohol, and substance use and abuse; and
- Precocious sexual activity.

Children with conduct disorder or oppositional defiant disorder also may experience:

- Higher rates of depression, suicidal thoughts, suicide attempts, and suicide;

What are the signs of conduct disorder?

- Academic difficulties;
- Poor relationships with peers or adults;
- Sexually transmitted diseases;
- Difficulty staying in adoptive, foster, or group homes; and
- Higher rates of injuries, school expulsions, and problems with the law.

How common is conduct disorder?

Conduct disorder affects 1 to 4 percent of 9- to 17-year-olds, depending on exactly how the disorder is defined (U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, 1999). The disorder appears to be more common in boys than in girls and more common in cities than in rural areas.

Who is at risk for conduct disorder?

Research shows that some cases of conduct disorder begin in early childhood, often by the preschool years. In fact, some infants who are especially “fussy” appear to be at risk for developing conduct disorder. Other factors that may make a child more likely to develop conduct disorder include:

- Early maternal rejection;
- Separation from parents, without an adequate alternative caregiver;
- Early institutionalization;
- Family neglect;
- Abuse or violence;
- Parental mental illness;
- Parental marital discord;
- Large family size;
- Crowding; and
- Poverty.

What help is available for families?

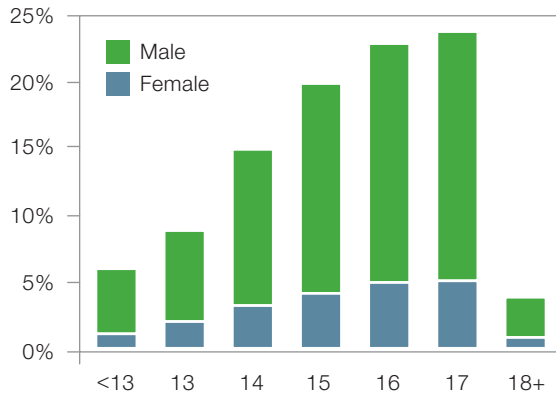
Although conduct disorder is one of the most difficult behavior disorders to treat, young people often benefit from a range of services that include:

- Training for parents on how to handle child or adolescent behavior.
- Family therapy.
- Training in problem solving skills for children or adolescents.
- Community-based services that focus on the young person within the context of family and community influences.

Source: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, at <http://mental-health.samhsa.gov/publications/allpubs/CA-0010/default.asp>.

- The majority of juveniles in court were white (72.6 percent). Hispanic juveniles represented 13.2 percent, and African American juveniles represented 12.2 percent of juvenile court cases that closed in 2006.

Figure 4.11. Colorado juvenile delinquency petitions disposed in 2006: Age at filing (N=16,755)



Source: Data were extracted from the Judicial Department's information management system (ICON) via the CICJIS/CJASS and analyzed by DCJ's Office of Research and Statistics.

- The average age of juveniles filed on in district courts in 2006 was just over 15, with a median age of 16.

Six percent of juveniles in court in 2006 were under age 13.

- Six percent of juveniles in court in 2006 were under age 13. Two-thirds (66.5 percent) of juveniles filed on were between the ages of 15 and 17. Situations do occur in which a crime was committed by an individual aged 17 or under, but who has reached the age of 18 by the time an arrest or a court filing actually takes place.
- There is very little difference in the age distribution of male and female juveniles in court. The average age for both groups is 15.3.

Table 4.10. Colorado juvenile delinquency petitions disposed in 2006: average age at filing (N=16,755)

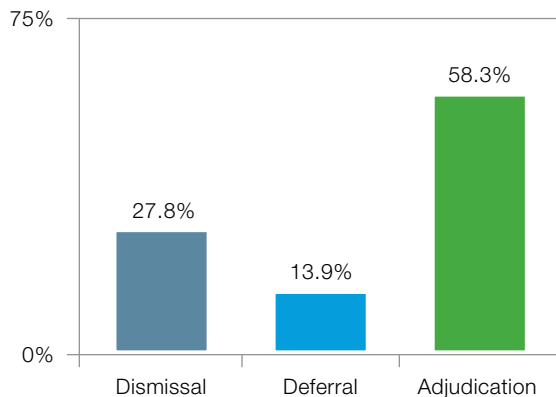
Gender	Average age	Median
Females	15.3	16
Males	15.3	16
Total	15.3	16

Source: Data were extracted from the Judicial Department's information management system (ICON) via the CICJIS/CJASS and analyzed by DCJ's Office of Research and Statistics.

How are juvenile delinquency petitions disposed?

A juvenile delinquency petition may have several outcomes. A finding of guilty results in adjudication. If charges are dropped or a finding of not guilty is reached, the case is dismissed. Alternatively, a deferred adjudication may be given. This is an arrangement in which a juvenile pleads guilty and is placed under probation supervision. If the supervision period is successfully completed, the guilty plea is withdrawn and the case is dismissed without the youth incurring an official record of adjudication.

Figure 4.12. Dispositions of Colorado juvenile delinquency cases closed in 2006 (N=16,961)

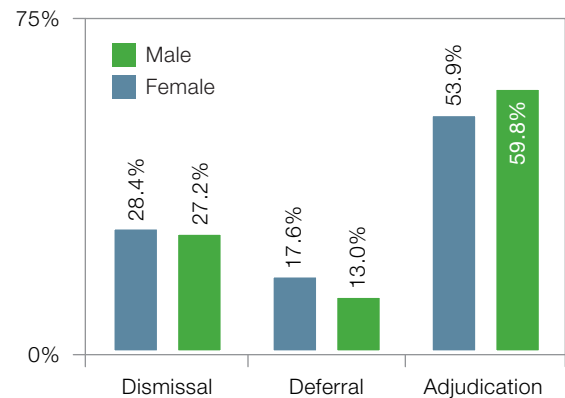


Source: Data were extracted from the Judicial Department's information management system (ICON) via the CICJIS/CJASS and analyzed by DCJ's Office of Research and Statistics.

- Fewer juvenile delinquency cases result in adjudication (58.3 percent) than adult cases resulted in a conviction (70.2 percent). In 2006 slightly more juveniles were afforded a deferral than were adults (13.9 percent compared to 11.2 percent). Over a quarter of juvenile delinquency cases were dismissed.

The court is most likely to grant a deferred adjudication when the offender presents with a minor crime or a minimal history of delinquent behavior.

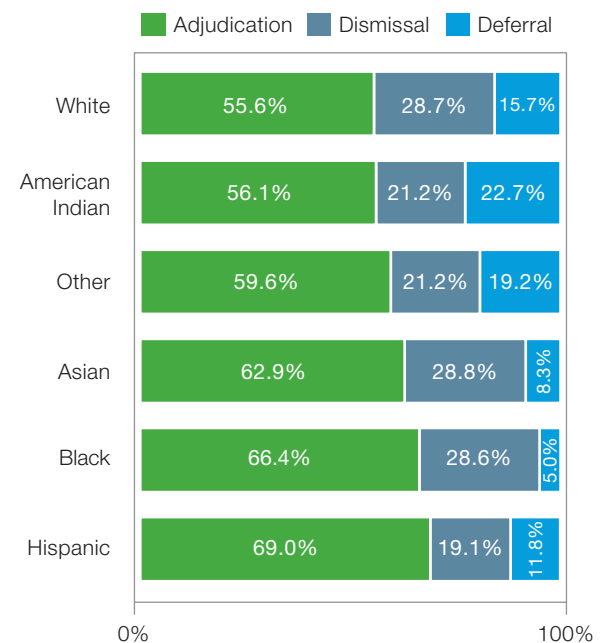
Figure 4.13. Dispositions of Colorado juvenile delinquency cases closed in 2006 by gender (N=16,579)



Source: Data were extracted from the Judicial Department's information management system (ICON) via the CICJIS/CJASS and analyzed by DCJ's Office of Research and Statistics.

- In 2006, as with adult filings, males were adjudicated more often than females (59.8 percent versus 53.9 percent). Females were also afforded the opportunity of a deferred adjudication more often than males (17.6 percent versus 13.0 percent). The court is most likely to grant a deferred adjudication when the offender presents with a minor crime or a minimal history of delinquent behavior.

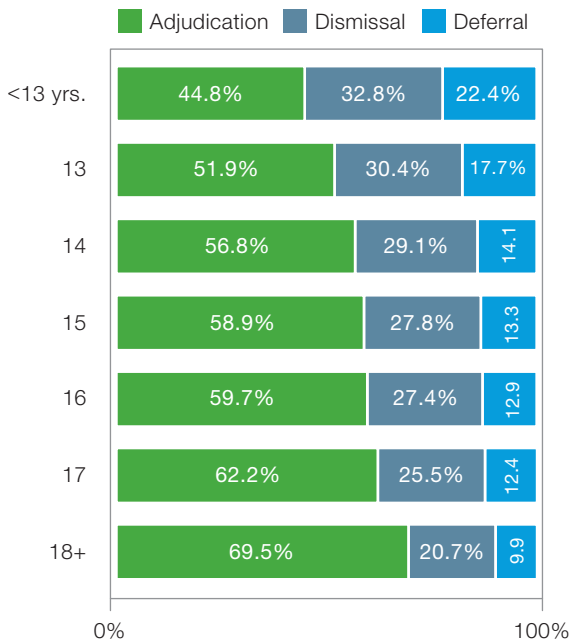
Figure 4.14. Dispositions of Colorado juvenile delinquency cases closed in 2006 by ethnicity (N=16,485)



Source: Data were extracted from the Judicial Department's information management system (ICON) via the CICJIS/CJASS and analyzed by DCJ's Office of Research and Statistics.

- The prosecution of black and Hispanic juveniles resulted in an adjudication more often than for juveniles in other ethnic groups in 2006. Deferred adjudications were given to American Indian juveniles more often than to juveniles in any other ethnic group (22.7 percent). Black juveniles were least likely to receive a deferred adjudication (5.0 percent).

Figure 4.15. Dispositions of Colorado juvenile delinquency cases closed in 2006 by age at filing (N=16,755)



Source: Data were extracted from the Judicial Department’s information management system (ICON) via the CICJIS/CJASS and analyzed by DCJ’s Office of Research and Statistics.

- As demonstrated in Figure 4.15, the proportion of cases dismissed declined as the age of juveniles increased. This likely was linked to a more lengthy criminal history of the older juveniles. Similarly, the proportion of cases resulting in a deferred adjudication also declined with increasing age.

The proportion of cases dismissed declines as the age of juveniles in district court increases. This likely is linked to a more lengthy criminal history of the older juveniles.

SB 94

Colorado Senate Bill 91-94 (SB 94) was signed into law on June 5, 1991 as the General Assembly recognized the increasing demands for secure detention and commitment capacity for delinquent youth. This became the impetus for the Division of Youth Corrections (DYC) SB 94 Program. The General Assembly intended DYC to develop a broader array of less restrictive detention options, including community-based services, since these would be more cost effective than only building and maintaining state-run facilities. SB 94 also emphasized serving more youth in their own communities with the expectation that this approach would result in better outcomes for youth and communities.

According to the most recent evaluation by the Tri-West Group, the SB 94 Program has been successful in accomplishing the General Assembly’s vision over the last 14 years, reducing the use of secure detention in DYC facilities. DYC also promotes ongoing detention reform through efforts to broaden and implement more appropriate use of the detention continuum by focusing on two key concepts. The first is that detention is a status, and not a place, and the second is that detention consists of a continuum of options, only one of which is secure confinement. In carrying out these objectives, the SB 94 Program also supports the Children’s Code that seeks to balance the needs of young persons with concern for the safety of all members of society.

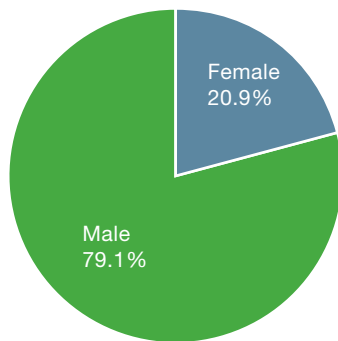
According to the evaluation, the SB 94 Program faced two continuing major system changes in FY 2006. The first was that this was the third fiscal year of the statutory cap on the use of juvenile detention beds. Although Judicial District SB 94 Programs again successfully managed to their caps, it is clear that the strain of doing so has markedly increased. The second area of major system change is the opportunity provided by funding increases allocated by the General Assembly. In FY 2006, funding for the SB 94 Program was increased about 17% from the FY 2005 level. This significantly offset the multi-year budget cuts that began in FY 2003.

Source: TriWest Group. (2006). *Senate Bill 94 Evaluation for FY 2006*, for the Colorado Department of Human Services, Office of Children, Youth and Family Services, Division of Youth Corrections. TriWest Group, Boulder, CO. Available at http://www.cdhs.state.co.us/dyc/PDFs/SB94_2006_Annual_Report.pdf.

Who gets adjudicated?

According to the Children's Code of the Colorado Revised Statutes (19-1-103), adjudication is the determination by the court that it has been proven that the juvenile has committed a delinquent act or that a juvenile has pled guilty to committing a delinquent act. The adjudication may be deferred, in which case the juvenile pleads guilty and is sentenced. If the sentence is successfully completed, the guilty plea is withdrawn and the case is dismissed without the youth incurring an official record of adjudication. The data in this section includes both adjudications and deferred adjudications.

Figure 4.16. Colorado juvenile delinquency adjudications and deferred adjudications in 2006: Gender (N=12,022)



Source: Data were extracted from the Judicial Department's information management system (ICON) via the CICJIS/CJASS and analyzed by DCJ's Office of Research and Statistics.

- The majority of juveniles adjudicated were male (79.1 percent) and white (71.3 percent).

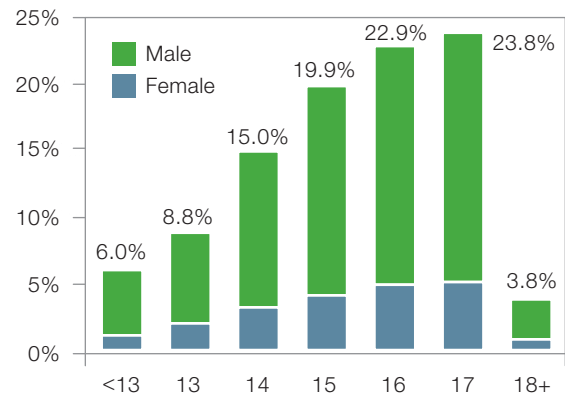
Table 4.11. Colorado juvenile delinquency adjudications and deferred adjudications in 2006: Race (N=11,979)

Race	Percent
Asian	0.8%
Black	12.0%
Hispanic	14.7%
American Indian	0.9%
Other	0.3%
White	71.3%
Total	100.0%

Source: Data were extracted from the Judicial Department's information management system (ICON) via the CICJIS/CJASS and analyzed by DCJ's Office of Research and Statistics.

- The majority of juveniles adjudicated were white (71.3 percent). Hispanic juveniles represented 14.7 percent, and Black juveniles represented 12.0 percent of juvenile adjudications.

Figure 4.17. Colorado juvenile delinquency adjudications and deferred adjudications in 2006: Age (N=12,131)



Note: Age refers to the age of the juvenile at the time of filing.

Source: Data were extracted from the Judicial Department's information management system (ICON) via the CICJIS/CJASS and analyzed by DCJ's Office of Research and Statistics.

- The average age at the time of filing of the juveniles who were adjudicated is slightly older (15.4 years) than the average age of all juveniles filed on (15.3 years).
- The average filing age of juveniles adjudicated was 15 years and 4 months, with a median age of 16. Six percent of juveniles adjudicated were under the age of 13. Over two-thirds (67.6 percent) of juveniles adjudicated were ages 15 through 17.

Table 4.12. Colorado juvenile delinquency adjudications and deferred adjudications in 2006: Average age (N=12,131)

Gender	Average age	Median
Females	15.4	16
Males	15.4	16
Total	15.4	16

Note: Age refers to the age of the juvenile at the time of filing.

Source: Data were extracted from the Judicial Department's information management system (ICON) via the CICJIS/CJASS and analyzed by DCJ's Office of Research and Statistics.

Were they found guilty of their original charges?

The table below depicts the dispositions of juvenile delinquency cases terminated in 2006. Table 4.13 displays the most serious crime category that a juvenile was originally charged with and whether they were adjudicated under that charge. Table 4.14 displays the proportions of those adjudicated under a different charge, and whether that charge was another violent offense or a non-violent offense. For example, if a juvenile was charged with homicide, but found guilty of aggravated assault, the case would appear in the chart as a homicide charge but under the “violent crime adjudication” category (which excludes the original charge). If a person was charged with homicide and found guilty of homicide the case would appear in the table under “found guilty as charged.” In this analysis, the violent charges examined include homicide, sexual assault, aggravated assault and robbery. Non-violent charges include burglary, theft, motor

vehicle theft, arson, and drug offenses. Adjudications of males and females are examined individually.

- Over half of all juveniles adjudicated in 2006 were adjudicated of the crime classification for which they were originally charged, with the exception of juveniles charged with homicide. Only 2 of the 8 juveniles charged with homicide and subsequently adjudicated were actually found guilty of homicide.
- Sexual assault was the violent crime most likely to be adjudicated as charged.
- With the exception of homicide, females were less likely than males to be adjudicated as charged for violent crimes.
- Females were *more* likely than males to be adjudicated as charged for motor vehicle theft, arson, and drug offenses.
- Overall, juvenile drug offenders were the most likely to be adjudicated as charged in 2006.

Table 4.13. Adjudicated as charged: Colorado juvenile delinquency cases terminated in 2006

Original charge	Total N adjudications	Found guilty as charged: percent of total adjudications		
		Females	Males	All
Violent charges				
Homicide*	9	50.0%	28.6%	33.3%
Sexual assault	455	50.0%	65.4%	64.8%
Robbery	255	51.5%	56.3%	55.7%
Assault	960	49.1%	53.0%	52.3%
All violent crimes**	1,995	54.6%	64.2%	63.0%
Non-violent charges				
Burglary	1,445	46.5%	52.9%	52.2%
Theft	1,202	52.8%	54.8%	54.4%
Motor vehicle theft	393	70.4%	67.1%	67.9%
Arson	64	75.0%	63.5%	65.6%
Drug	670	82.9%	76.4%	78.1%
All non-violent crimes***	3,774	62.0%	58.8%	59.4%

Notes: *The 3 sustained homicide charges included criminally negligent homicide and manslaughter. The 6 dismissed homicide charges included 4 counts of attempted murder 1, 1 of attempted murder 2 and 1 of attempted manslaughter.

**In addition to the violent crimes listed, other violent crimes include sex crimes other than sexual assault, weapons charges, kidnap, cruelty to animals, and rioting.

***In addition to the non-violent crimes listed, other non-violent crimes include trespass, fraud, escape, vehicular eluding, tampering, contributing to the delinquency of a minor, bribery, destruction of wildlife, false reporting, misdemeanors, unspecified inchoate crimes.

Source: Data were extracted from the Judicial Department’s information management system (ICON) via the CICJIS/CJASS and analyzed by DCJ’s Office of Research and Statistics.

Table 4.14. Adjudicated of a charge other than original filing charge: Colorado juvenile delinquency cases disposed in 2006

Original charge	Other violent crime adjudication: Percent of total adjudications			Non-violent crime adjudication: Percent of total adjudications		
	Females	Males	All	Females	Males	All
Violent charges						
Homicide*	0.0%	42.9%	33.3%	50.0%	28.6%	33.3%
Sexual assault	12.5%	5.7%	5.9%	37.5%	28.9%	29.2%
Robbery	9.1%	12.2%	11.8%	39.4%	31.5%	32.5%
Assault	8.0%	5.9%	6.3%	42.9%	41.1%	41.5%
All violent crimes**	7.6%	5.8%	6.1%	37.8%	29.9%	30.9%
Non-violent charges						
Burglary	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	53.7%	47.1%	47.8%
Theft	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	47.2%	45.2%	45.6%
Motor vehicle theft	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	29.6%	32.9%	32.1%
Arson	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	25.0%	36.5%	34.4%
Drug	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	17.1%	23.6%	21.9%
Any non-violent crimes***	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	38.0%	41.2%	40.6%

Notes: *The 3 sustained homicide charges included criminally negligent homicide and manslaughter. The 6 dismissed homicide charges included 4 counts of attempted murder 1, 1 of attempted murder 2 and 1 of attempted manslaughter.

**In addition to the violent crimes listed, other violent crimes include sex crimes other than sexual assault, weapons charges, kidnap, cruelty to animals, and rioting.

***In addition to the non-violent crimes listed, other non-violent crimes include trespass, fraud, escape, vehicular eluding, tampering, contributing to the delinquency of a minor, bribery, destruction of wildlife, false reporting, misdemeanors, unspecified inchoate crimes.

Source: Data were extracted from the Judicial Department's information management system (ICON) via the CICJIS/CJASS and analyzed by DCJ's Office of Research and Statistics.

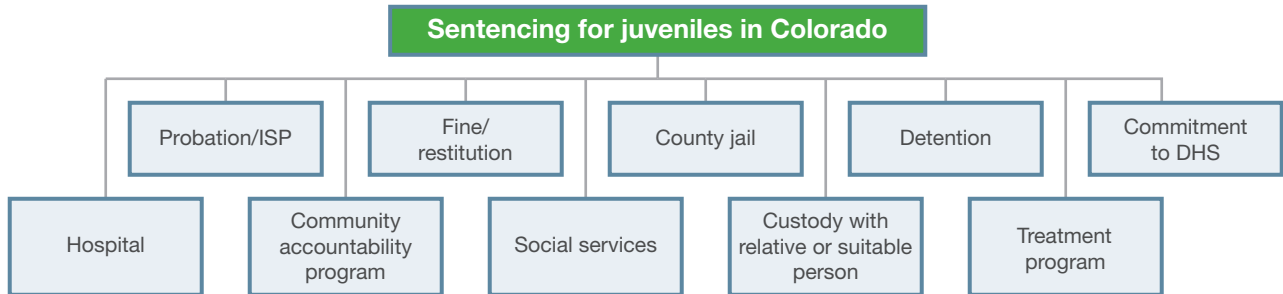
Among juveniles in 2006 sexual assault was the violent crime most likely to be adjudicated as charged (Table 14.13).

Juvenile placements

Once a juvenile is adjudicated, the courts may impose any combination of the following sentences: commitment to Department of Human Services (Division of Youth Corrections); county jail; detention; placement of custody with a relative or suitable person; probation; community accountability program; placement with social services or in

a hospital; fine; restitution; or in a treatment program. Any sentence may also include conditions for the parent/guardian, pursuant to 19-2-919, C.R.S. If the sentence includes school attendance, a notice to the school is required. For a description of these juvenile placements, please refer back to the flowchart of juveniles through Colorado's juvenile justice system (Figure 4.1).

Figure 4.18. Juvenile placements



Source: Figure adapted from the March 15, 2005 version by Frank Minker, Division of Youth Corrections.

Colorado sentencing for youth

Colorado sentencing options for youth

19-2-907 C.R.S

- (1) Court may enter decree imposing any or a combination, as appropriate:
 - (a) Commitment to DHS (19-2-909)
 - (b) County Jail (19-2-910)
 - (c) Detention (19-2-911)
 - (d) Placement of custody with a relative or suitable person (19-2-912)
 - (e) Probation (19-2-913) (19-2-925 through 19-2-926)
 - (f) Community Accountability Program (19-2-914) – unfunded option
 - (g) Placement with social services (19-2-915)
 - (h) Placement in hospital (19-2-916)
 - (i) Fine (19-2-917)
 - (j) Restitution (19-2-918)
 - (k) Anger management treatment or any other appropriate treatment program (19-2-918.5)
- (2) Judge may sentence as special offender (19-2-908)
 - (a) Mandatory sentence offender
 - (b) Repeat juvenile offender
 - (c) Violent offender
 - (d) Aggravated juvenile offender
- (3) Sentence may include parent conditions (19-2-919)
- (4) If sentence includes school attendance-notice to school is required
- (5) If placement out of the home-court to consider criteria of 19-2-212, evaluation of 19-1-107, and 19-3-701(5).

Source: State of Colorado, Juvenile Justice System Flowchart prepared by Frank Minkner – revised 3/15/2005.

Where do they go once adjudicated?

The data presented here represent sentences for juveniles adjudicated as delinquent or who received a deferred adjudication in 2006. Sentencing placements are shown by index crimes. The “other” category includes sentencing options not listed, such as community service, fines, electronic home monitoring and restitution payments.

The majority of adjudicated youth received a probation sentence in 2006.

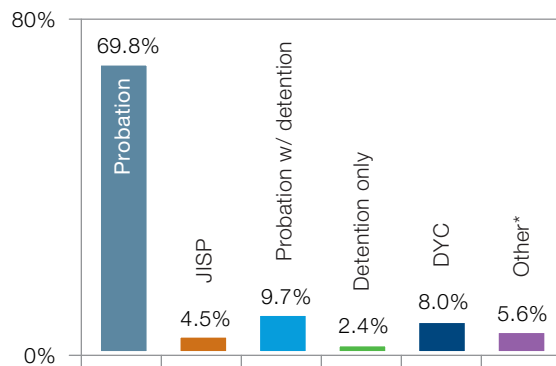
Table 4.15. Juvenile placements by adjudication crime for 2006 Colorado juvenile delinquency adjudications (N=11,448)

Crime	Prob	JISP	Jail	Prob & jail	Prob with detention	Detention only	Commitment	Other	Total
Murder	50.0%	50.0%							100.0%
Sexual assault	69.5%	9.4%	2.3%	0.8%	6.6%		10.2%	1.2%	100.0%
Agg. assault	49.3%	6.9%	1.9%	2.5%	15.7%	3.2%	18.2%	2.3%	100.0%
Robbery	40.0%	17.0%	0.7%	3.0%	17.8%	3.7%	17.8%		100.0%
Burglary	62.4%	6.8%	1.0%	2.0%	11.8%	0.9%	11.0%	4.1%	100.0%
Theft	65.9%	5.2%	3.2%	0.9%	9.2%	2.3%	9.8%	3.5%	100.0%
Motor vehicle theft	58.0%	8.1%	1.1%	1.4%	10.6%	3.4%	15.7%	1.7%	100.0%
Arson	66.1%	1.6%			8.0%	6.5%	8.1%	9.7%	100.0%
Drugs	67.0%	5.0%	1.0%	1.8%	11.5%	2.6%	8.1%	3.0%	100.0%
All crimes	68.8%	4.5 %	1.9%	1.0%	9.7%	2.4%	8.0%	3.7%	100.0%
Total N	7879	515	215	117	1109	272	914	427	11,448

Source: Data were extracted from the Judicial Department’s information management system (ICON) via the CICJIS/CJASS and analyzed by DCJ’s Office of Research and Statistics.

- The majority of adjudicated youth received a probation sentence in 2006.
- All of the juveniles adjudicated on homicide charges in juvenile court received a probation sentence in 2006. Juveniles charged with homicide and certain other violent crimes may be charged as adults in the district court, and are therefore included in Table 3.18 in Section 3.
- In certain circumstances, an individual may have reached the age of 18 by the time a disposition in a juvenile delinquency filing is reached. Such an individual may then receive a sentence including time in jail.

Figure 4.19. Placements for 2006 Colorado juvenile delinquency adjudications (N=11,448)

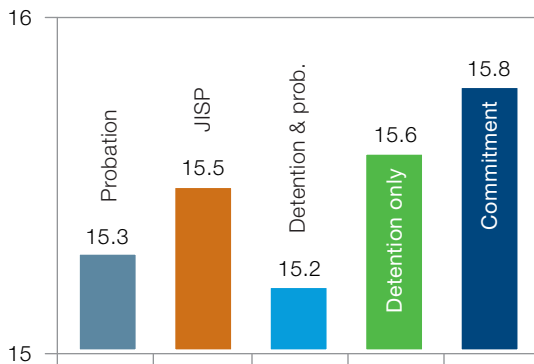


Note: *Other* includes community service, fines, restitution and jail.

Source: Data were extracted from the Judicial Department’s information management system (ICON) via the CICJIS/CJASS and analyzed by DCJ’s Office of Research and Statistics.

Characteristics of who goes where

Figure 4.20. Average age for 2006 Colorado juvenile delinquency adjudications (N=10,723)

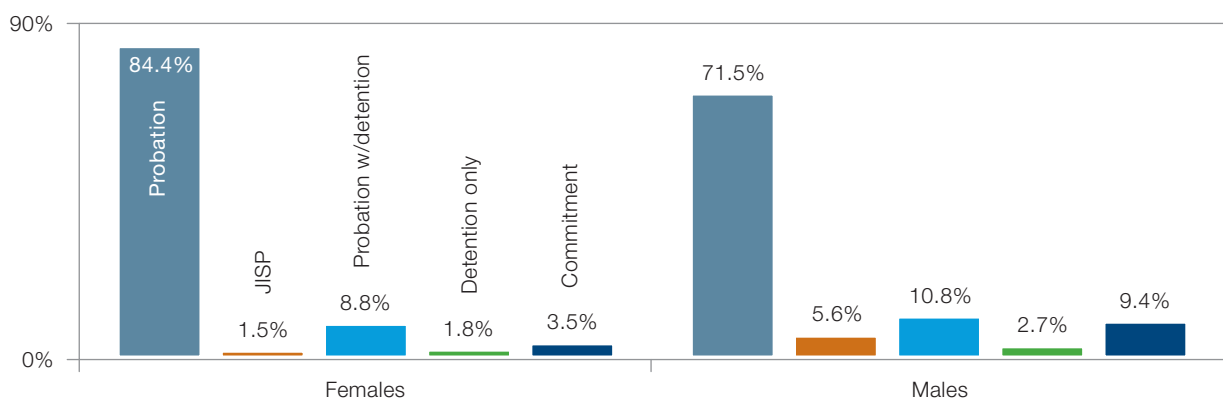


Source: Data were extracted from the Judicial Department's information management system (ICON) via the CICJIS/CJASS and analyzed by DCJ's Office of Research and Statistics.

- The average age of adjudicated juveniles varied very little by placement. Those sentenced to DYC tended to be oldest, at 15.8 years. Those sentenced to regular probation averaged 15.3 years of age.
- In 2006 adjudicated female juvenile offenders were more likely to get a probation sentence than males.
- Males were much more likely to receive a residential placement than females.

- Overall in 2006, white juvenile offenders were the most likely to receive community sentences than sentences of confinement.
- Adjudicated African American juveniles in 2006 were most likely to receive sentences to juvenile intensive supervision probation (JISP) and long-term confinement than regular probation.
- Fewer females had detention and commitment sentences than males, but equal proportions of African American male and female juveniles were sent to detention in 2006. However, far fewer black female juveniles received a commitment sentence than black males. This difference likely reflects the seriousness of the crime or the offender's criminal history, or both.
- Hispanic males in 2006 were just as likely to be sent to detention as black males, but Hispanic females were much less likely than black females to receive this sentence.
- Both male and female black juveniles were most likely in 2006 to receive sentences to JISP rather than regular probation, compared to youth of other ethnicities.
- Juvenile intensive supervision probation (JISP) is an important out-of-confinement placement for many adjudicated juveniles.

Figure 4.21. Gender of offenders by select placements for 2006 Colorado juvenile delinquency adjudications (N=10,618)



Note: Other sentencing options are excluded.

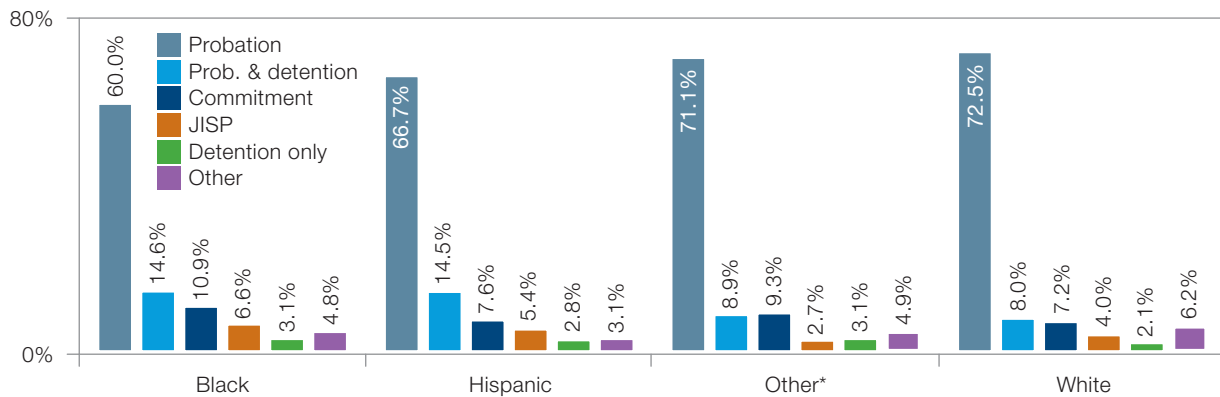
Source: Data were extracted from the Judicial Department's information management system (ICON) via the CICJIS/CJASS and analyzed by DCJ's Office of Research and Statistics.

Table 4.16. Race of offenders by placement and gender for 2006 Colorado juvenile delinquency adjudications (N=11,213)

		Asian	Black	Hispanic	American Indian	Other	White	N
Females	Probation	90.0%	67.9%	77.5%	75.0%	85.7%	81.1%	1,853
	JISP		3.6%	2.6%			1.0%	34
	Probation & detention	10.0%	15.7%	10.3%	8.3%		6.8%	193
	Detention only		2.0%	2.6%			1.5%	39
	Commitment		4.8%	2.9%	4.2%		3.2%	77
	Other		6.0%	4.1%	12.5%	14.3%	6.4%	144
	Total		100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Males	Probation	63.6%	58.2%	64.2%	76.0%	63.4%	70.1%	5,993
	JISP	6.5%	7.2%	6.1%	1.3%		4.8%	469
	Probation & detention	9.1%	14.4%	15.4%	8.0%	13.3%	8.3%	904
	Detention only	5.2%	3.4%	2.8%	4.0%		2.3%	225
	Commitment	7.8%	12.3%	8.6%	10.7%	20.0%	8.3%	786
	Other	7.8%	4.5%	2.9%		3.3%	6.2%	480
	Total		100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Combined	Probation	66.7%	60.0%	66.6%	75.8%	69.2%	72.5%	7,854
	JISP	5.7%	6.6%	5.4%	1.0%		4.0%	503
	Probation & detention	9.2%	14.6%	14.5%	8.1%	10.3%	8.0%	1,099
	Detention only	4.6%	3.1%	2.8%	3.0%		2.1%	266
	Commitment	6.9%	10.9%	7.6%	9.1%	15.4%	7.2%	867
	Other	6.9%	4.8%	3.1%	3.0%	5.1%	6.2%	624
	Total		100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
N		87	1,375	1,674	99	39	7,939	11,213

Source: Data were extracted from the Judicial Department's information management system (ICON) via the CICJIS/CJASS and analyzed by DCJ's Office of Research and Statistics.

Figure 4.22. Race of juvenile offenders by placement for 2006 Colorado delinquency adjudications (N=11,213)



Note: *American Indian and Asian juveniles are combined with 'Other' for this analysis.

Source: Data were extracted from the Judicial Department's information management system (ICON) via the CICJIS/CJASS and analyzed by DCJ's Office of Research and Statistics.

DYC placements: Average daily population

Detention

- FY 2006 was the second full year of operation under the new legislatively-mandated detention cap (see sidebar). This cap limits the maximum statewide average daily detention population (ADP) to 479. Since ADP is an *average* value, and the *maximum* possible value is 479, the detention ADP must always remain below the legislatively mandated limit.
- Between FY 1990 and FY 1999, the detention ADP grew by 61.7 percent. Beginning in FY 2000, this number began to decline each year through FY 2004, with the rate of decline increasing each year. However, the ADP has grown over the past two years, to 426.3 at the end of FY 2006.
- The growth in ADP is due to an increase in length of stay (LOS) as admissions have steadily declined every year since FY 2002. The detention LOS increased by 10.2 percent over the last two years to 14.1 days. These shifts were anticipated with the introduction of the cap on ADP.

The DYC detention average daily population has increased in recent years because the average length of stay has increased. Nevertheless, the cap has reduced the detention population from 602 in FY 1999 to 426 at the end of FY 2006.

- The highest ADP observed was 602.4 in FY 1999, prior to the implementation of the cap.
- New admissions to detention for FY 2006 were at the lowest observed over the past 10 years, at 10,698. This represents 22.5 percent of Colorado juvenile arrests.
- Unduplicated detention clients totaled 7,215. This represents 1.4 percent of the 10-17 year old Colorado population.

Commitment

- The Division of Youth Corrections embarked upon the Continuity of Care (CofC) Initiative during FY 2006. One of the expected outcomes of the initiative is the

The Division of Youth Corrections

The mission of the Division of Youth Corrections is to protect, restore, and improve public safety through a continuum of services and programs that accomplish the following:

- *Effectively supervise juvenile offenders,*
- *Promote offender accountability to victims and communities, and*
- *Build skills and competencies of youth to become responsible citizens.*

The Division of Youth Corrections is responsible for management of residential facilities and community alternative programs that serve and treat youth aged 10-21 years who have demonstrated delinquent behavior. Programs and services administered by or under contract with the Division serve over 8,000 youth per year throughout Colorado in intensive secure units, medium care units, secure detention, staff secure facilities and non-secure community residential programs.

DYC also provides assessment services for committed youth at four facilities, and non-residential services to youth in community settings, or on parole.

During FY 2006, 9,058 youth were served in DYC programs (this is an unduplicated count of individual youth) as follows:

- *7,215 youth were served in detention programs,*
- *2,404 youth were served in residential commitment programs, and*
- *1,863 youth were served in parole services.*

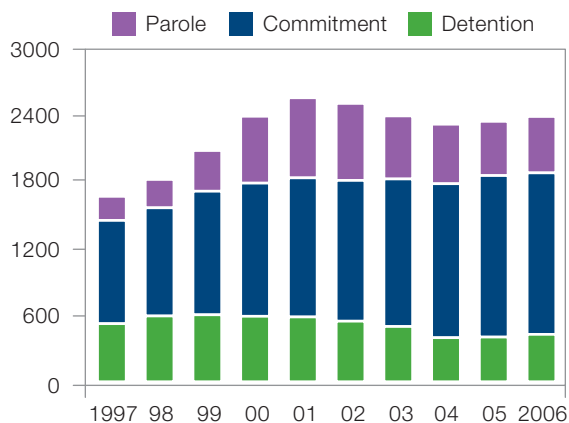
Source: Division of Youth Corrections available at <http://www.cdhs.state.co.us/dyc/index.htm>.

gradual reduction of commitment ADP as youth transition from residential placements into the community.

- The impact of the CofC Initiative is reflected in the growth rate of last year's commitment ADP. The average daily residential population (ADP) experienced a diminutive decrease from 1453.5 youth in FY 2005 to 1,453.4 youth in FY 2006. Prior to last year, it had not been since FY 1987 that a negative growth rate was observed in commitment ADP.

- During FY 2006, new commitments decreased by 1.8 percent to 933. For the past 10 years, the number of new commitments has varied widely between 750 and 950 each year.
- In FY 2006, the ADP of youth receiving assessments increased 28.1 percent to 92.2. Likewise, the ADP of youth in secure placement increased by 48.9 percent to 523.1, while youth in staff-supervised placement decreased 0.5 percent to 647.2 ADP.
- The population of youth in community placement decreased by 18.5 percent in FY 2006 to a five-year low of 165.5.
- The 933 new commitments represent 0.2 percent of the 10-17 year old Colorado population, and 6.3 percent of Colorado's almost 15,000 juvenile court filings in FY 2006.
- Clients served increased by 8.7 percent in FY 2006, the largest increase since FY 2000. The 3,233 clients served in FY 2006 represent 0.6 percent of the 10-17 year old Colorado population, and 21.7 percent of the FY 2006 juvenile court filings.
- The average length of stay in residential commitment has slowly declined over the past four fiscal years, from 19.5 in FY 2004 to 18.2 months in FY 2006. This decline followed an increase of 25.8 percent (from 15.5 to 19.5 months) over the prior three fiscal years.

Figure 4.23. Division of Youth Corrections:
Average daily population by placement



Source: Division of Youth Corrections' *Management Reference Manuals* available at http://www.cdhs.state.co.us/dyc/dyc_research.htm.

Detention Capitation

Senate Bill 03-286 was signed into law on May 1, 2003. This legislation established a 'cap' or limit of 479 on the number of State funded detention beds. This legislation was implemented on October 1, 2003, mandating that the detention ADP can never exceed 479. Each of the State's 22 judicial districts has been allocated a portion of the 479 beds. Statutory language provides that districts may borrow beds within an established 'catchment' area. Statutes also mandate that districts have procedures in place for emergency release of detained youth in the event that a district is unable to borrow a bed. FY 2006 was the second full year of operation under the new cap.

Prior to the capacity limit, local jurisdictions were given substantial discretion as to which youth could be admitted into detention. Currently, local jurisdictions still have this level of discretion, but now it must be balanced by the reality of a finite number of allocated beds. As a result, detention is now experiencing a marked reduction in usage particularly in the admission of truants, status offenders, and other less serious offenders.

Source: Division of Youth Corrections' January 2007 *Management Reference Manual* available at http://www.cdhs.state.co.us/dyc/PDFs/MRM0506_FINAL.pdf.

Parole

- The average parole daily caseload (ADC) increased 4.0 percent from 490.3 at the end of FY 2005 to 508.7 for FY 2006. This is the first increase observed in the past 5 years.
- FY 2006 was the second full year following the implementation of Senate Bill 03-284, which shortened the mandatory parole length from nine to six months. This legislation was effective May 1, 2003. Since that time, the average length of stay (LOS) on parole declined steadily from 8.0 months in FY 2004 to 7.1 months in FY 2005 to 6.4 months in FY 2006. This decline may have stabilized, as year-to date parole LOS rose slightly to 6.8 months as of March 2007.
- Eighty-two percent of youth were discharged from parole into their homes (including foster homes, step parents,

Since the passage of SB 03-284, shortening the mandatory parole period to 6 months, the average parole LOS has consistently exceeded 6 months. For many high-risk youth, the Parole Board has the statutory authority to extend parole for 90 days if determined to be “within the best interest of the juvenile and the public to do so” or for an additional 15 months if there is a “finding of special circumstances” for youth adjudicated for certain offenses such as violent and sexual offenses (19-2-1002 (5)(a)(I), (II) C.R.S.).

spouses, single parents, etc.) during FY 2006. Thirteen percent discharged directly into adult jail or prison.

- Parole populations are expected to grow as a result of NYC’s Continuity of Care Initiative. The NYC intends to identify appropriate youth in residential placement who can be served in less restrictive environments, and to establish community-based services that address criminogenic needs. This plan is will likely to generate an increase in Parole Board referrals and ultimately and increase in the parole ADC.

Source for detention, commitment and parole ADP discussions: Division of Youth Corrections’ annual *Management Reference Manuals* and *Monthly Population Reports* prepared by the NYC Research and Evaluation Unit, available at http://www.cdhs.state.co.us/dyc/dyc_research.htm.

The average daily NYC population as of April 2007 was 2,374.4 youth. This figure includes all youth served in detention, commitment, and parole. This is slightly less than the population at this time last year, at 2,383.5.

Source: March 2006 and 2007 *Monthly Population Reports* prepared by the NYC Research and Evaluation Unit.

Blueprints for Violence Prevention

The Center for the Study and Prevention of Violence (CSPV) at the University of Colorado at Boulder designed and launched the Blueprints for Violence Prevention Initiative in 1996 to identify and replicate effective youth violence prevention programs across the Nation. The Initiative, which was at first funded by the Colorado Division of Criminal Justice, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency, identified 11 prevention and intervention programs that meet a strict scientific standard of program effectiveness. Program effectiveness is based on an initial review by CSPV and a final review by and recommendations from an advisory board comprising six experts in the field of violence prevention.

The 11 model programs, or Blueprints, have been proven to be effective in reducing adolescent violent crime, aggression, delinquency, and substance abuse and predelinquent childhood aggression and conduct disorders. Another 18 programs have been identified as promising. To date, more than 600 programs have been reviewed, and CSPV continues to look for additional programs that meet the rigorous selection criteria.

For further information, go to <http://www.colorado.edu/cspv/blueprints/model/overview.html>.

DYC's Continuum of Care Initiative³

The Division of Youth Corrections was authorized in 2006 by the General Assembly to deploy funds in ways that would optimize the availability of the most effective services in the most appropriate settings to meet the rehabilitation needs of juvenile offenders in the Division's custody. This allows DYC enhanced flexibility in providing community-based wrap-around services after transitioning youth from residential to non-residential settings. The legislative footnote authorizing the flexible use of funding states the following:

"It is the intent of the General Assembly that up to 10 percent of the General Fund appropriation to this line may be used to provide treatment, transition, and wrap-around services to youths in the Division of Youth Correction's system in residential and non-residential settings."

The Continuum of Care Initiative is organized around the following empirically-based principles of effective practice:

- **Risk Principle:** Target intensive services on higher risk youth.
- **Need Principle:** Treat risk factors associated with offending behavior.
- **Treatment Principle:** Employ evidence-based treatment approaches as available.
- **Responsivity Principle:** Use individualized case management to tailor treatments to meet special needs.
- **Quality Assurance Principle:** Monitor implementation quality and treatment fidelity.

Central to the Continuum of Care Initiative is the implementation of a state-of-the-art, evidence-based risk assessment instrument. To ensure accurate and targeted information to support individualized case planning,

the Division identified an empirically-based risk assessment instrument, the Washington State Juvenile Risk Assessment. This assessment tool was modified and renamed the Colorado Juvenile Risk Assessment (CJRA) for use in Colorado. The recently implemented CJRA will provide case managers with individualized assessment information regarding the specific criminogenic risks and needs relating to each youth's offending behavior. This information will be used to match youth, through individualized case management, to programs that most directly target the specific risk and need areas that are leading the youth to criminal behavior. Training for the case managers emphasizes individualized case management that prioritizes matching youth to appropriate supervision and treatment services.

The CJRA provides an overall score related to risk for re-offending and also provides a detailed analysis of the specific risk and protective factors that may contribute to a youth's success or failure while under supervision. Versions of this instrument are in use in over a dozen states.

The CJRA was piloted and all case managers were trained in 2006. Full scale implementation took place July 1, 2006.

The CJRA provides an overall score related to risk for re-offending and also provides a detailed analysis of the specific risk and protective factors that may contribute to a youth's success or failure while under supervision. Versions of this instrument are in use in over a dozen states.

³ TriWest Group. (2006). *Continuum of Care Initiative Baseline Report Fiscal Year 2005-06 and July-August 2006*. Colorado Department of Human Services Office of Youth and Family Services Division of Youth Corrections. TriWest Group, Boulder, CO.

Aftercare and reentry of juvenile offenders

Aftercare programs are intended to prepare juvenile offenders to successfully return to their communities after serving a period of secure confinement in a training school, juvenile correctional facility, or other secure institution. Rand Corporation researchers demonstrated that any gains made by juvenile offenders in correctional facilities quickly evaporate following release because youth are often released back to disorganized communities where it is easy to slip back into the old habits that resulted in arrest in the first place (Deschenes and Greenwood, 1998).

Successful interventions focus on individual-level change. A comprehensive aftercare model integrates two distinct fields of criminological research - intervention research and community restraint research - to better prepare youths for their return to the community. Intervention strategies in an aftercare model **focus on changing individual behavior** and thereby preventing further delinquency. Community restraint, on the other hand, refers to the amount of surveillance and control over offenders while they are enrolled in the community. Specific examples of community restraint are activities such as contact with parole officers or other correctional personnel, urine testing for use of illegal substances, electronic monitoring, employment verification, intensive supervision, house arrest and residence halfway houses.

The Center for the Study and Prevention of Violence at the University of Colorado, Boulder, has identified the following types of programs as evidence-based for individual behavior change:

- Self Control/Social Competency*
- Individual counseling**
- Behavioral Modeling/Modification
- Multiple Services

- Restitution with Probation/Parole
- Wilderness/Adventure
- Methadone Maintenance

The combination of cognitive therapy and behavioral therapy has proven highly beneficial and it can be applied in many aftercare settings.

The distinctive features of Cognitive-Behavioral Therapy are as follows:

- It is the most evidence-based form of psychotherapy.
- It is active, problem focused, and goal directed. In contrast to many "talk therapies," CBT emphasizes the present, concentrating on what the problem is and what steps are needed to alleviate it.
- It is easy to measure. Since the effects of the therapy are concrete (i.e., changing behaviors) the outcomes tend to be quite measurable.
- It provides quick results. If the person is motivated to change, relief can occur rapidly.

Notes: The studies reviewed provide consistent empirical evidence that CBT is associated with significant and clinically meaningful positive changes, particularly when therapy is provided by experienced practitioners (Waldron and Kaminer, 2004). CBT has been successfully applied across settings (e.g., schools, support groups, prisons, treatment agencies, community-based organizations, churches) and across ages and roles (e.g., students, parents, teachers). It has been shown to be relevant to people with differing abilities and from a diverse range of backgrounds.

*Only with cognitive-behavioral methods (Wilson et al., 2001).

**Only with non-institutionalized juvenile offenders (Lipsey and Wilson, 1998).

Sources: Deschenes, E.P., and Greenwood, P.W. (1998). Alternative placements for juvenile offenders: Results from the evaluation of the Nokomis Challenge Program. *Journal of Research in Crime and Delinquency* 35(3):267-294;

University of Colorado at Boulder. (1998). *Blueprints for Violence Prevention*. Institute of Behavioral Science, Boulder, CO.

Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, Model Program website available at: http://www.dsgonline.com/mpg2.5/references.htm#vocational_references;

Waldron, H.B. and Kaminer, Y.. (2004). On the Learning Curve: The Emerging Evidence Supporting Cognitive-Behavioral Therapies for Adolescent Substance Abuse. *Society for the Study of Addiction* 99:93-105.

Juvenile commitment population and parole caseload forecasts

The Office of Research and Statistics, Division of Criminal Justice, is mandated to provide projections of the NYC commitment and parole populations every year.⁴ These projections are published each December.

The Continuum of Care (CofC) Initiative, approved by the General Assembly and implemented in FY 2006, allows the Division of Youth Corrections to apply a portion of funds appropriated for residential placements to provide non-residential treatment, transition and wraparound services to committed youth and youth on parole.⁵ Due to the expected impact of this initiative, the current projections predict very slow or negative growth in the commitment average daily population (ADP) between fiscal years 2007 and 2010, ranging from -0.55 percent in the current year to a maximum of 2.08 percent in FY 2009. The growth rate of the commitment population is expected to increase after FY 2010, to 2.97 percent in FY 2011, 3.70 percent in FY 2012, and 2.97 in FY 2013.

Table 4.17. Juvenile commitment average daily population (ADP) forecast, June 30, 2006-June 30, 2013

Fiscal year (FY)	YTD ADP forecast	Percent annual growth
2006*	1453.43	-0.00%
2007	1445.44	-0.55%
2008	1470.76	1.75%
2009	1501.36	2.08%
2010	1521.45	1.34%
2011	1566.68	2.97%
2012	1624.70	3.70%
2013	1672.89	2.97%

Note: *Actual population.

Source: Harrison, L. and English, K. (2006). *Colorado Division Of Criminal Justice Adult Prison And Parole Population Projections, Community Corrections Projections, and Juvenile Commitment and Parole Population Projections*. Colorado Division of Criminal Justice, Office of Research and Statistics, Denver, CO. Report available at <http://dcj.state.co.us/ors/ppp.htm>.

The juvenile parole population has experienced widely varied growth over the past ten years due to multiple factors. Prior to 1997, the parole average daily caseload (ADC) was relatively stable with a slight decline. In 1997 mandatory one-year parole terms were implemented. Subsequently, ADC grew at a rapid rate from July 1994 to July 2001. In 2001, the mandatory parole term was lowered to nine months,⁶ after which ADC declined rapidly through August 2002. In 2003 the mandatory parole term was further lowered to six months,⁷ resulting in a continuing decline. The ADC dropped significantly until May 2004, then began growing again at a very moderate rate. In contrast to the commitment population, the Continuum of Care Initiative is expected to result in an increase of the juvenile parole ADC. DCJ's 2006 forecast estimates growth between two and nine percent over the next seven fiscal years. The monthly ADC is expected to increase by 9.76 percent by the end of FY 2007. Growth is expected to drop to 6.12 percent in FY 2008, and to stabilize at 2.05 percent to 5.54 percent over the following five years. Table 4.18 displays the historical year-end ADC fluctuations from FY 1996 through FY 2006 and the projected growth through FY 2013.

Table 4.18. Juvenile parole average daily caseload (ADC) forecast, June 30, 2006-June 30, 2013

Fiscal year (FY)	YTD ADP forecast	Percent annual growth
2006*	507.4	4.00%
2007	556.95	9.76%
2008	591.03	6.12%
2009	610.05	3.22%
2010	622.53	2.05%
2011	650.64	4.52%
2012	686.69	5.54%
2013	716.64	4.36%

Note: *Actual data.

Source: Harrison, L. and English, K. (2006). *Colorado Division of Criminal Justice Adult Prison And Parole Population Projections, Community Corrections Projections, and Juvenile Commitment and Parole Population Projections*. Colorado Division of Criminal Justice, Office of Research and Statistics, Denver, CO. Report available at <http://dcj.state.co.us/ors/ppp.htm>.

For more information regarding juvenile commitment and parole population projections, please visit the Colorado Division of Criminal Justice, Office of Research and Statistics, website at <http://dcj.state.co.us/ors/ppp.htm> for a full copy of this report.

⁴ Pursuant to 24-33.5-503 Cm, C.R.S.

⁵ For more information concerning the Continuum of Care Initiative, contact the Colorado Division of Youth Corrections at (303) 866-5700.

⁶ Senate Bill 2001-77, effective July 1, 2001.

⁷ Senate Bill 2003-284, effective May 1, 2003.

Daily cost of juvenile placements

Probation costs

Table 4.19. Daily cost of juvenile probation, FY 2006

Type of supervision	Cost*	Caseload as of June 30, 2006
Regular juvenile probation	\$4.94	7,187
Juvenile intensive supervision probation (JISP)	\$12.15	495

Note: *The cost figures were based on the standing caseload for each probation program as of March 30, 2006.

Source: Colorado Judicial Branch, Division of Probation Services. *Colorado Judicial Branch Annual Statistical Reports FY2006* Tables 34 and 92.

- On June 30, 2006, there were 7,682 juvenile offenders on probation regular or intensive supervision probation (JISP) in Colorado.
- Regular juvenile probation and JISP costs include expenses for administrative and supervisory personnel, treatment, dollars and electronic home monitoring (EHM).

Division of Youth Corrections (DYC) costs

Table 4.20. Daily cost of the Division Youth Corrections placements, FY 2006

Type of supervision	Cost	Average daily population
Detention	\$143.36	426.3
Commitment	\$178.78	1,453.4
Juvenile parole	\$12.98	508.7

Source: Division of Youth Corrections. *Division of Youth Corrections Fiscal Year 2005-2006 Management Reference Manual*. Denver, CO.

- The cost-per-day information in the table above is based on actual FY 2006 costs at facility capacity. The cost includes, among other things, safety and security, intervention, treatment, supervision, food and lodging, assessment, education and medical expenses, and overhead allocations for administration.
- The daily cost of the parolee population (\$12.98 per day) includes case management salary, allocated administrative costs, contracted treatment, and transition and parole services to monitor the youth's progress relevant to their individual case.

Risk factors for youth violence⁸

Risk factors increase the likelihood that a young person will become violent. Risk factors are not direct causes of youth violence. Instead, risk factors contribute to youth violence.

Individual risk factors

- History of violent victimization or involvement
- Attention deficits, hyperactivity, or learning disorders
- History of early aggressive behavior
- Involvement with drugs, alcohol, or tobacco
- Low IQ
- Poor behavior control
- Deficits in social cognitive or information-processing abilities
- High emotional distress
- History of treatment for emotional problems
- Antisocial beliefs and attitudes
- Exposure to violence and conflict in the family

Family risk factors

- Authoritarian childbearing attitudes
- Harsh, lax, or inconsistent disciplinary practices
- Low parental involvement
- Low emotional attachment to parents or caregivers
- Low parental education and income
- Parental substance abuse or criminality
- Poor family functioning
- Poor monitoring and supervision of children

Peer/school risk factors

- Association with delinquent peers
- Involvement in gangs
- Social rejection by peers
- Lack of involvement in conventional activities
- Poor academic performance
- Low commitment to school and school failure

Community risk factors

- Diminished economic opportunities
- High concentration of poor residents
- High level of transiency
- High level of family disruption
- Low levels of community participation
- Socially disorganized neighborhoods

Protective factors

Protective factors can act as buffers between young people and the risks of becoming violent. These factors exist at various levels. Protective factors have not been studied as extensively or rigorously as risk factors. Identifying and understanding protective factors are equally as important as researching risk factors.

Individual protective factors

- Intolerant attitude toward deviance
- High IQ or high grade point average
- Positive social orientation
- Religiosity

Family protective factors

- Connectedness to family or adults outside of the family
- Ability to discuss problems with parents
- Perceived parental expectations about school performance are high
- Frequent shared activities with parents
- Consistent presence of parent during at least one of the following: when awakening, when arriving home from school, at evening mealtime, and when going to bed
- Involvement in social activities

Peer/school protective factors

- Commitment to school
- Involvement in social activities

References

- Anderson MA, Kaufman J, Simon TR, Barrios L, Paulozzi L, Ryan G, et al. (2001). School-associated violent deaths in the United States, 1994–1999. *Journal of the American Medical Association* 286:2695–702.
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Injury Prevention and Control. (2006). *Web-based Injury Statistics Query and Reporting System (WISQARS)*. Available at www.cdc.gov/ncipc/wisqars.
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2004). *Youth risk behavior surveillance—United States*, 53, 1–96.
- Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS). (2001). *Youth violence: a report of the Surgeon General*. Available at www.surgeongeneral.gov/library/youthviolence/toc.html.
- Lipsey MW, Derzon JH. (1998). Predictors of violent and serious delinquency in adolescence and early adulthood: a synthesis of longitudinal research. In: Loeber R, Farrington DP, editors. *Serious and violent juvenile offenders: risk factors and successful interventions*. Sage Publications, Thousand Oaks, CA., 86–105.
- Mercy J, Butchart A, Farrington D, Cerdá M. (2002). Youth violence. In: Krug E, Dahlberg LL, Mercy JA, et al., editors. *The world report on violence and health*. World Health Organization, Geneva Switzerland, 25–56.
- Nansel TR, Overpeck M, Pilla RS, Ruan WJ, Simons-Morton B, Scheidt P. (2001). Bullying behaviors among US youth: prevalence and association with psychosocial adjustment. *Journal of the American Medical Association* 285(16), 2094–2100.
- Resnick MD, Ireland M, Borowsky I. (2004). Youth violence perpetration: what projects? What predicts? Findings from the National Longitudinal Study of Adolescent Health. *Journal of Adolescent Health* 35, 424, e1-e10.

⁸ Centers for Disease Control available at <http://www.cdc.gov/ncipc/factsheets/yvfacts.htm>.