

OVERVIEW OF JUVENILE CRIME IN MINNESOTA

February 26, 1993

Presentation To:

Minnesota Supreme Court's
Advisory Task Force On
The Juvenile Justice System
Chair: Justice Sandra S. Gardebring

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DEFINITIONS OF TERMS

Apprehension occurs when an individual under the age of 18 is taken into custody by a law enforcement officer on the basis that the individual has committed a crime.

Arrest occurs when an individual over the age of 17 is taken into custody by a law enforcement officer on the basis that the individual has committed a crime.

Apprehension/Arrest Rate is the number of apprehensions/arrests made for an offense or group of offenses per 100,000 population.

Property Crime includes the serious offenses of burglary, larceny, auto theft and arson.

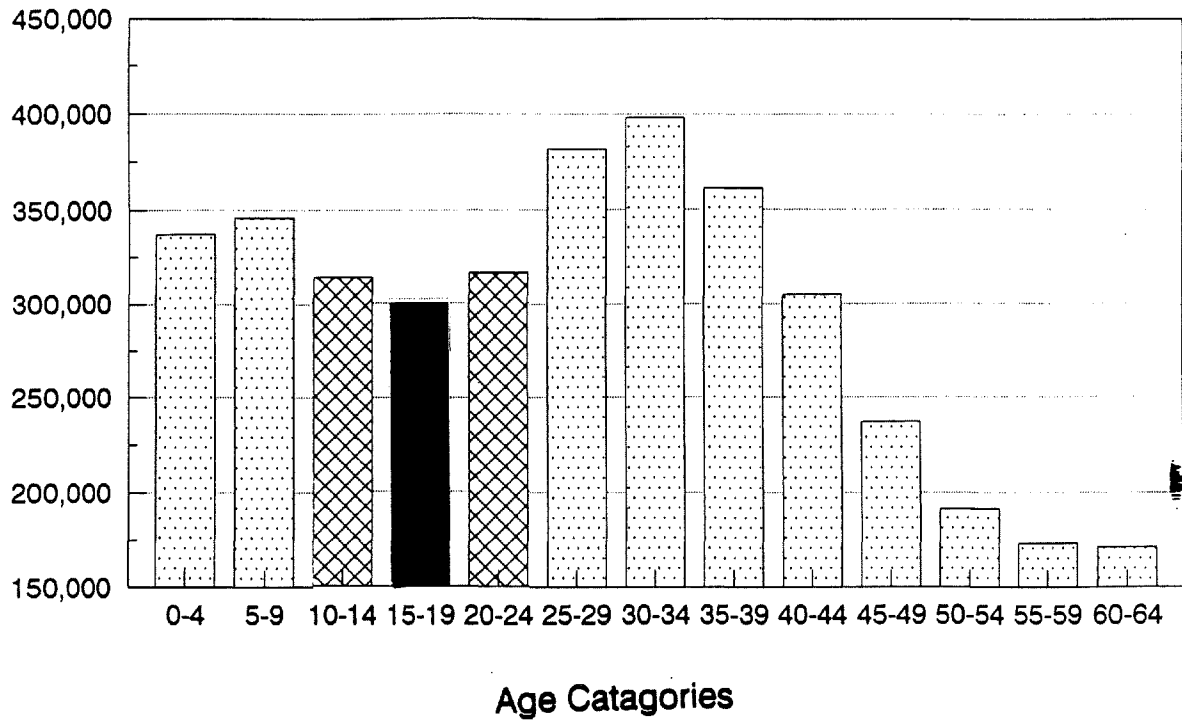
Serious Crime includes the offenses of murder, rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, larceny, auto theft and arson.

Serious Crime Rate is the number of serious crimes known or reported to law enforcement agencies per 100,000 population.

Violent Crime includes the serious offenses of murder, rape, robbery and aggravated assault.

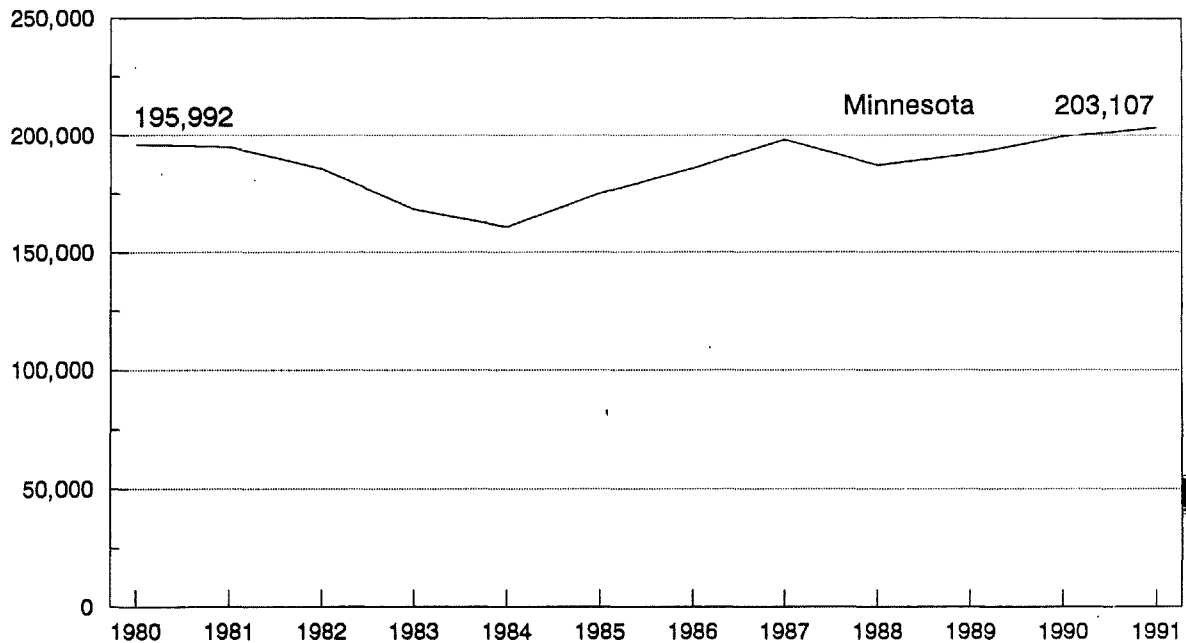
Note: These definitions are similar to the official FBI definitions.

Minnesota Population 1990



The solid bar in the above graph reflects the age category with the highest arrest rates in 1991. The age categories with the hatched bars in the above graph reflects the second and third highest arrest rates in 1991 (see page 11).

Number of Serious Crimes in Minnesota

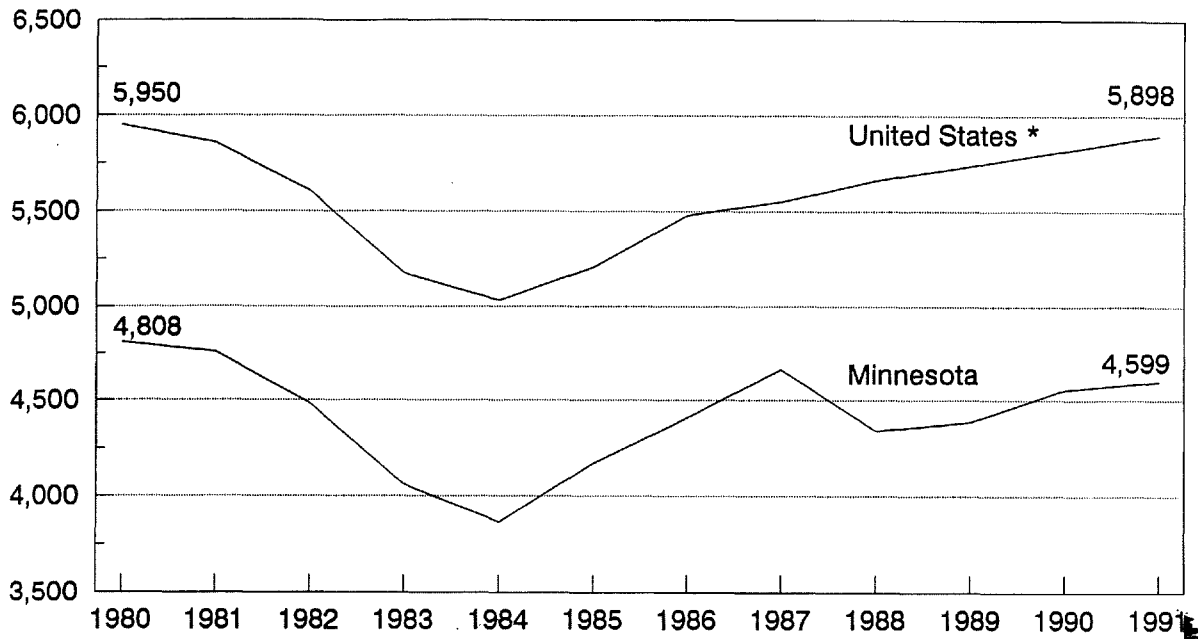


Note: Includes murder, rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, larceny, auto theft and arson.

The total number of serious crimes known or reported to law enforcement agencies has fluctuated from 1980 to 1991 but has increased 4 percent.

Note: The number of serious crimes known or reported to law enforcement cannot be separated by age.

**Serious Crime Rates
Trends in Minnesota and the Nation
Per 100,000 Population**



Note: Includes murder, rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, larceny, auto theft and arson.

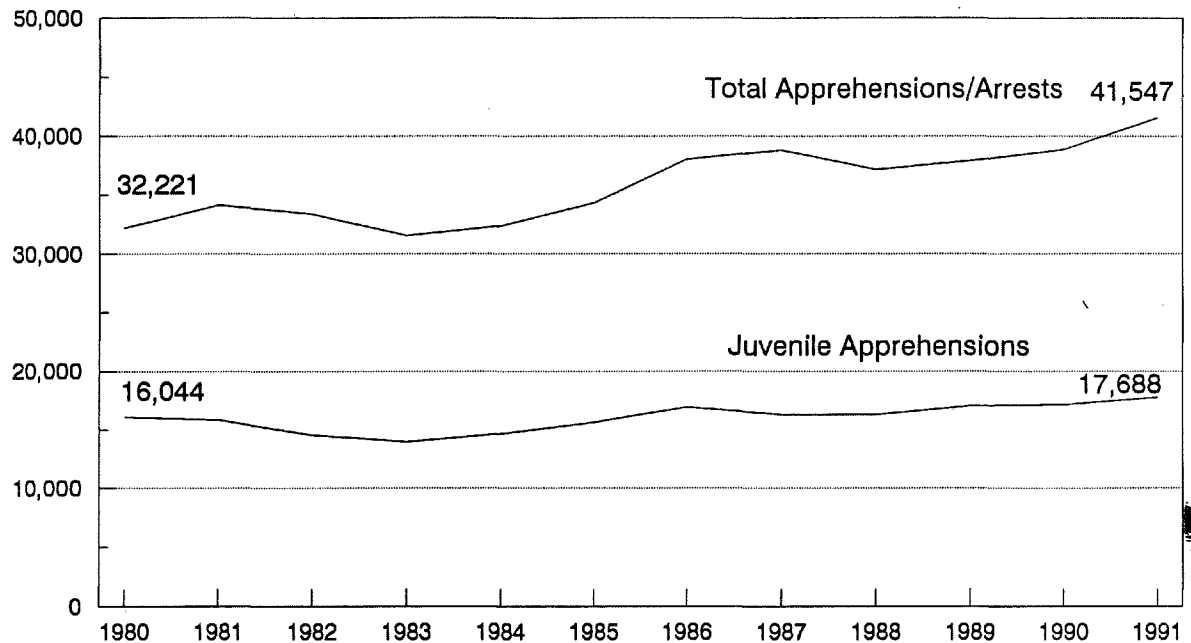
Compared to the Nation, Minnesota has followed a similar trend but has a lower crime rate. Minnesota's crime rate has decreased 4 percent from 1980 to 1991.

1991 Serious Crime Rates *

Location	Serious Crime Rate per 100,000	Location	Serious Crime Rate per 100,000
Washington DC	10,768	Minnesota	4,496
Texas	7,819	Wisconsin	4,466
California	6,773	South Dakota	3,079
UNITED STATES	5,899	North Dakota	2,794

* The rates in the bottom table and for the U.S. in the line graph are from the Office of Justice Programs (OJP), which does not include arson and are calculated on the prior year's population for the given year's crime.

Apprehensions/Arrests for Serious Crime Trends in Minnesota



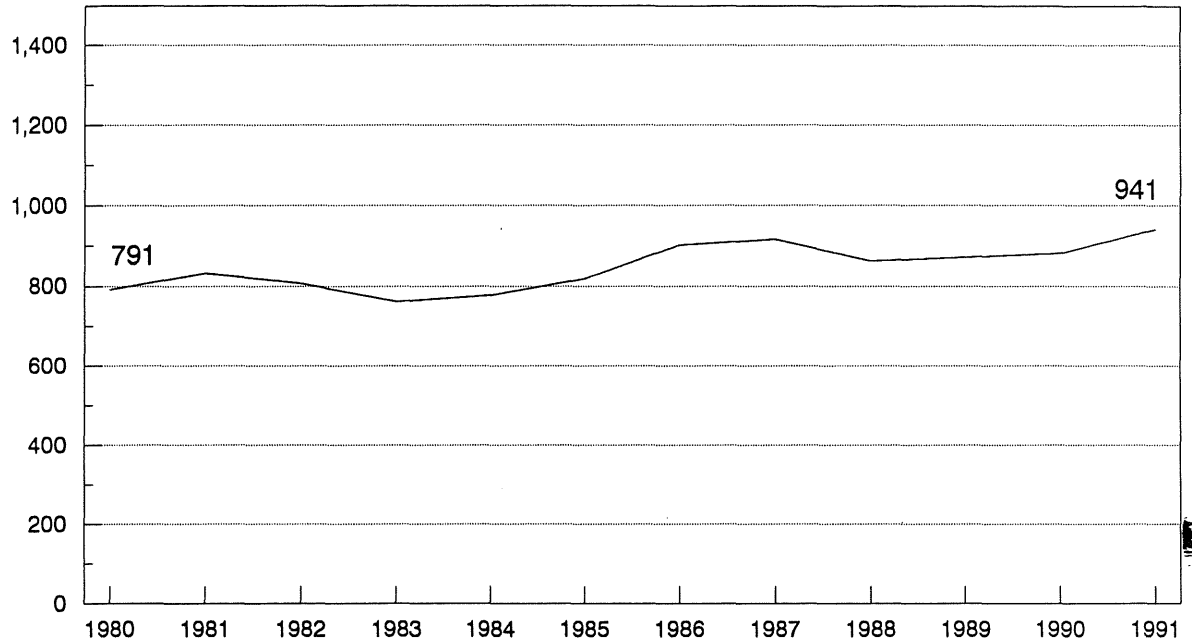
Note: Includes murder, rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, larceny, auto theft and arson.

The total number of apprehensions/arrests for serious crimes has increased 29 percent from 32,221 in 1980 to 41,547 in 1991.

The number of juveniles apprehended for serious crimes has increased 10 percent from 16,044 in 1980 to 17,688 in 1991.

The number of adults arrested for serious crime has increased 47 percent from 16,177 in 1980 to 23,859 in 1991. The number of adult arrests is not graphed above but reflects the difference between the total apprehension/arrests and the juvenile apprehensions.

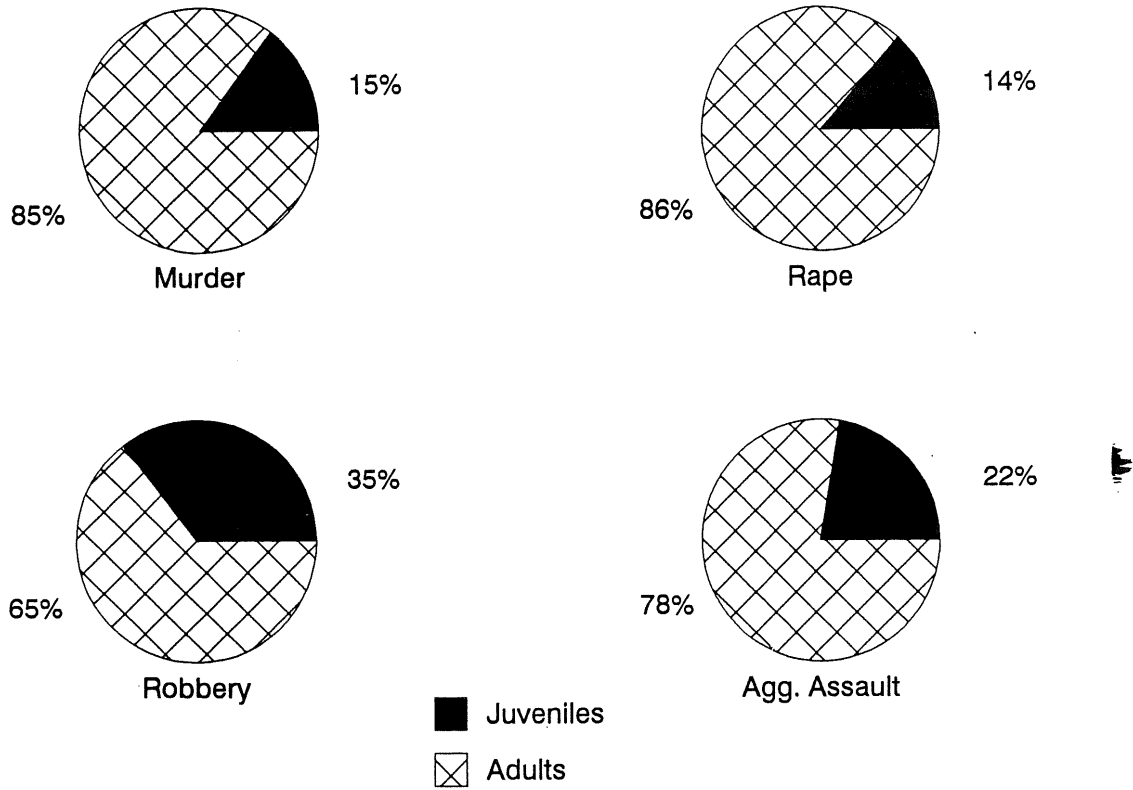
Apprehensions/Arrests Rates for Serious Crime Trends in Minnesota



Note: Includes murder, rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, larceny, auto theft and arson.

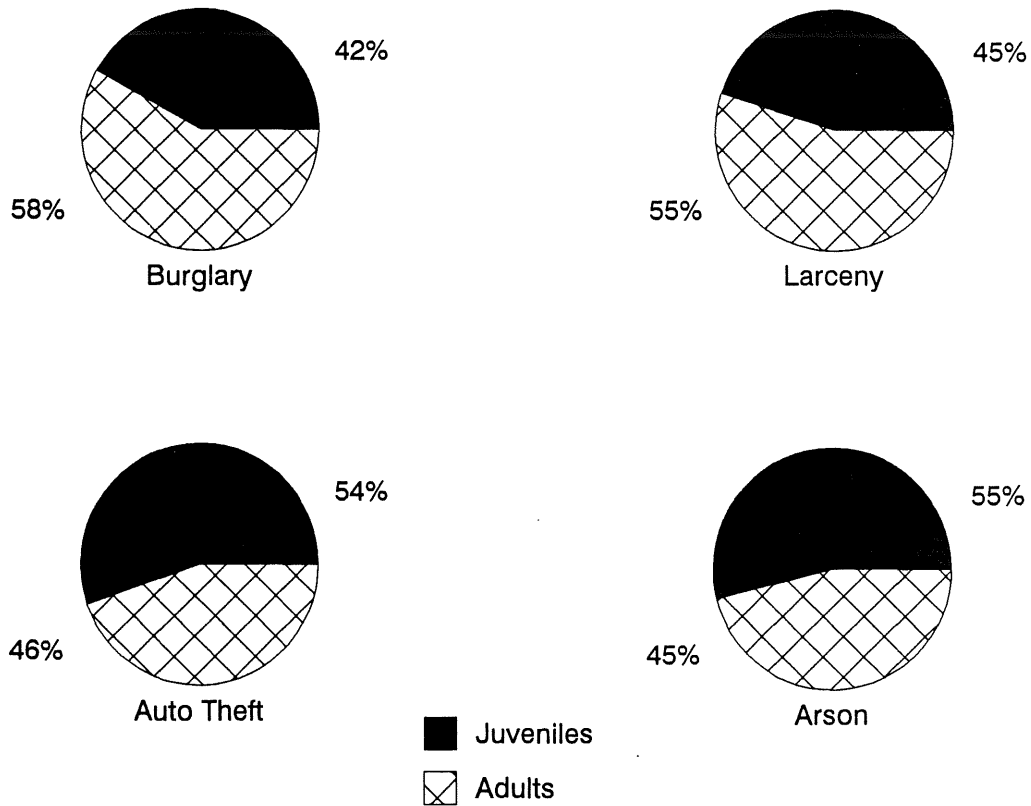
The apprehension/arrest rate for serious crime has increased 19 percent from 791 per 100,000 population in 1980 to 941 per 100,000 population in 1991.

Juvenile Apprehension vs Adult Arrests
Violent Crimes
Minnesota 1991



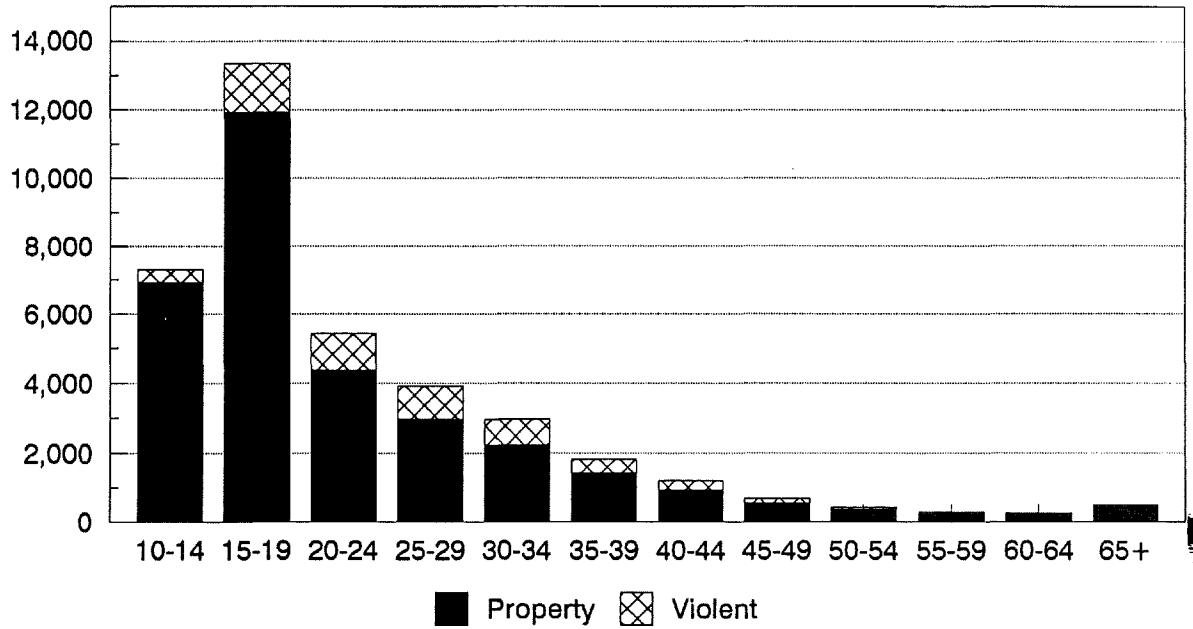
In 1991, juveniles accounted for 15 percent of the 134 murder apprehensions/arrests, 14 percent of the 656 rape apprehensions/arrests, 35 percent of the 1,075 robbery apprehensions/arrests and 22 percent of the 3,990 aggravated assault apprehensions/arrests.

Juvenile Apprehension vs Adult Arrests Property Crimes Minnesota 1991



In 1991, juveniles accounted for 42 percent of the 4,703 burglary apprehensions/arrests, 45 percent of the 27,142 larceny apprehensions/arrests, 54 percent of the 3,551 auto theft apprehensions/arrests and 55 percent of the 293 arson apprehensions/arrests.

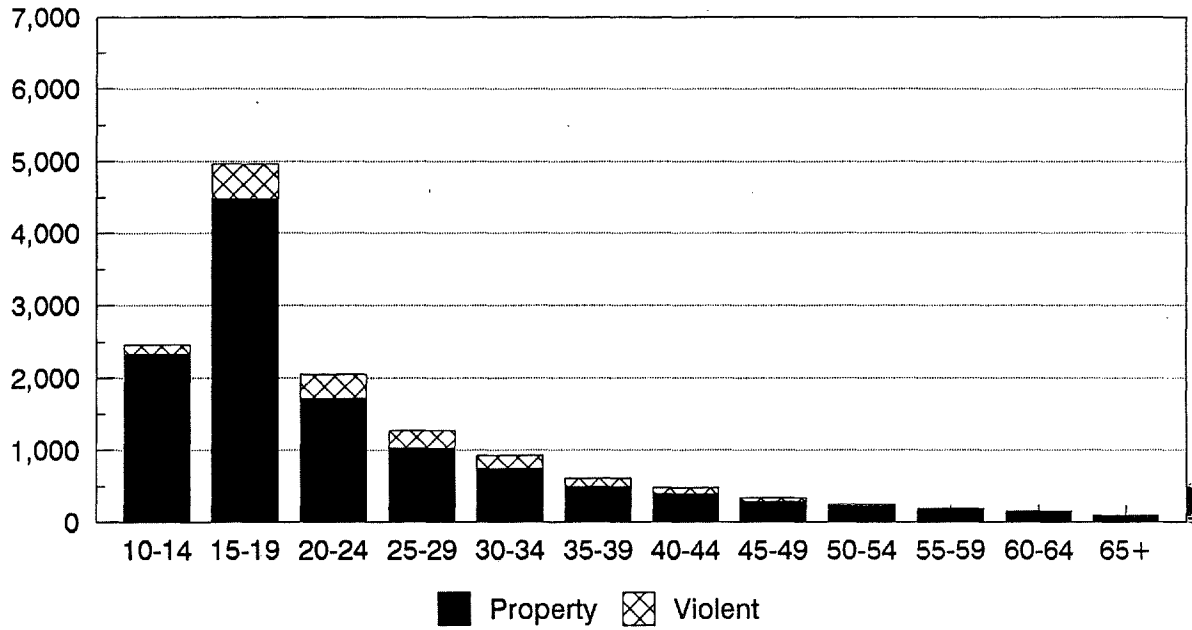
Apprehensions/Arrests for Serious Crimes Minnesota 1990



Individuals between 15 and 19 years old accounted for the highest numbers of apprehensions/arrests for serious crimes.

Note: The 1990 apprehension/arrest data was used in these charts to be comparable with 1990 population census data.

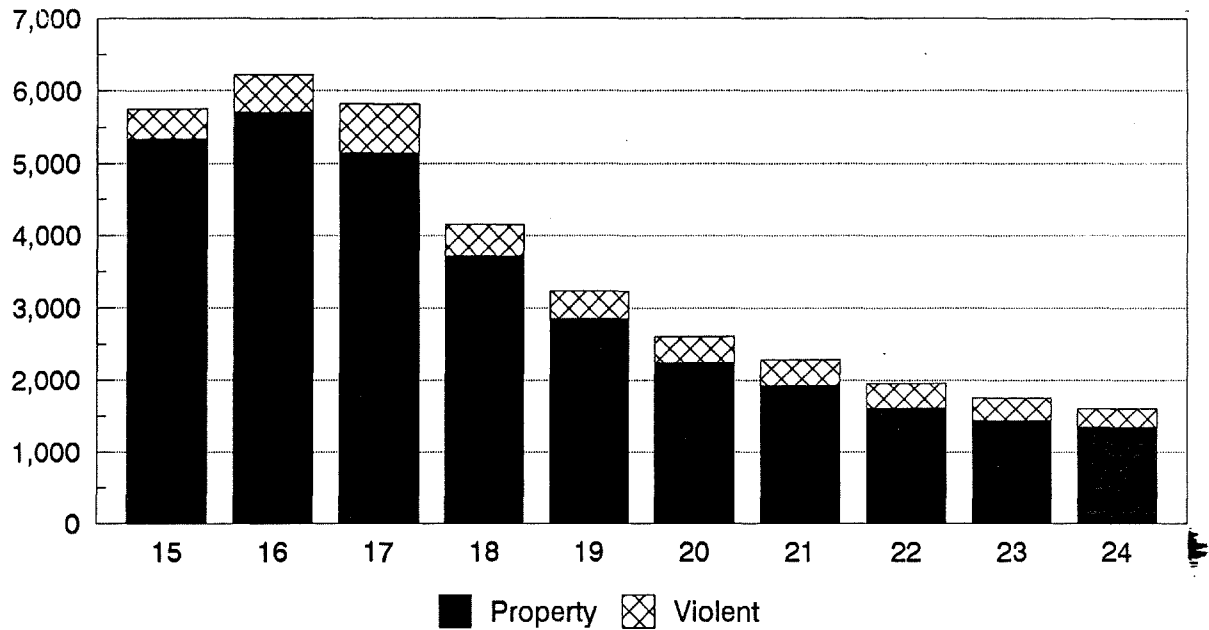
**Apprehensions/Arrests Rates for Serious Crimes
Minnesota 1990
(per 100,000 population)**



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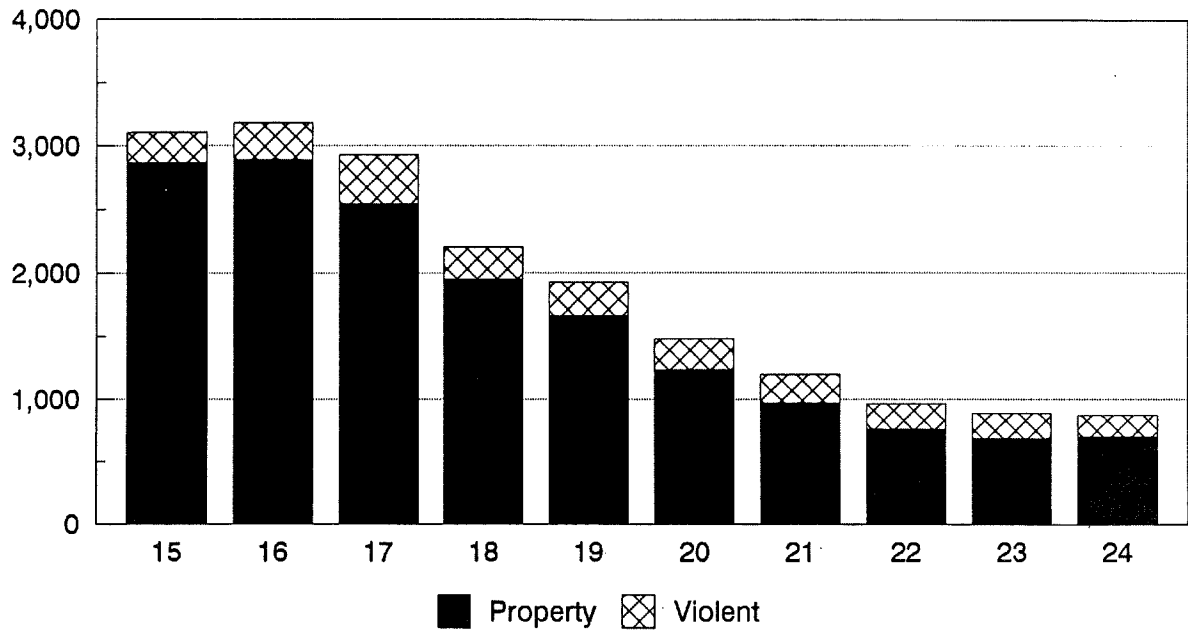
Apprehensions/Arrests for Serious Crimes Minnesota 1990



Individuals 15, 16 and 17 years old accounted for the highest numbers of apprehensions/arrests for serious crimes.

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**Apprehensions/Arrests Rates for Serious Crimes
Minnesota 1990
(per 100,000 population)**



Individuals 15, 16 and 17 years old accounted for the highest rates of apprehensions/arrests for serious crimes.

Note: The 1990 apprehension/arrests data was used in these charts to be comparable with 1990 population census data.

Juvenile Adjudication Database

Background

The Minnesota Supreme Court collects juvenile adjudication data from each county through the Trial Court Information System (TCIS). This information does not contain the name of the juvenile, but does have a county identification number. Because there is no statewide juvenile database, each county's identification numbers are not comparable to other counties. For example, if a juvenile is convicted in Anoka, Ramsey and Hennepin counties in any given year, this juvenile will be in TCIS with three different identification numbers, one from each county.

County Reporting Methods

Each county uses different methods for tracking and reporting juvenile activity in their courts. The following are three ways different counties report a juvenile who gets one disposition containing three offenses.

- 1) In the first county this juvenile would show one petition (charge) for the one disposition with three offenses.
- 2) In the second county this juvenile would show three petitions (charges), one for each of the offenses, for the one disposition.
- 3) In the third county this juvenile would show one or three petitions (same as first and second counties), but would also add the current disposition to all other open cases. For example, if an earlier petition was open for review, the current disposition would be added to that petition.

Creating a New File

To compare apples to apples a new juvenile adjudication file needs to be created by creating an individual based file. Each petition will be combined by the juvenile's identification number unique to each county and the duplications will be eliminated.

Time Frame

Completion of this new individual file is expected to take three to six months to create the initial download and an additional one to three months to verify the data.

Prepared By: Criminal Justice Center, Minnesota Planning

Juvenile Adjudications Variables Available

Age

Race

Gender

County of Arrest

County of Residence

Certification Status of the Juvenile

Attorney Type at Disposition Hearing

Offense Type for Most Serious Charge

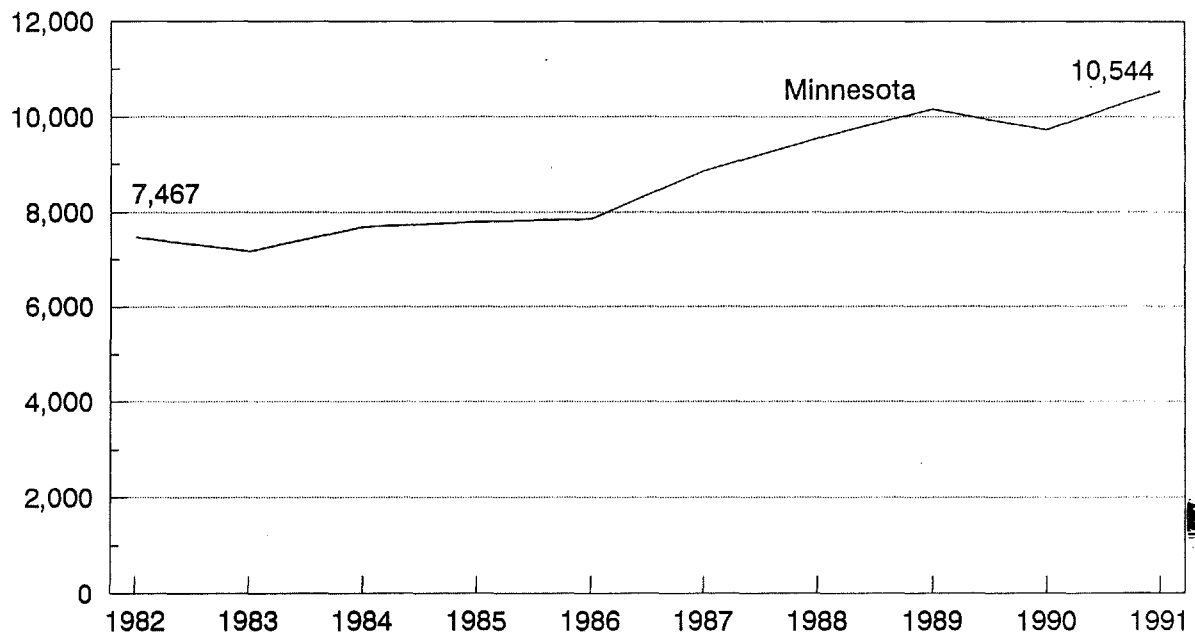
Attorney Type at Adjudication Hearing

Disposition Type for Most Serious Charge

Note: Race information is missing in approximately two-thirds of the petitions.

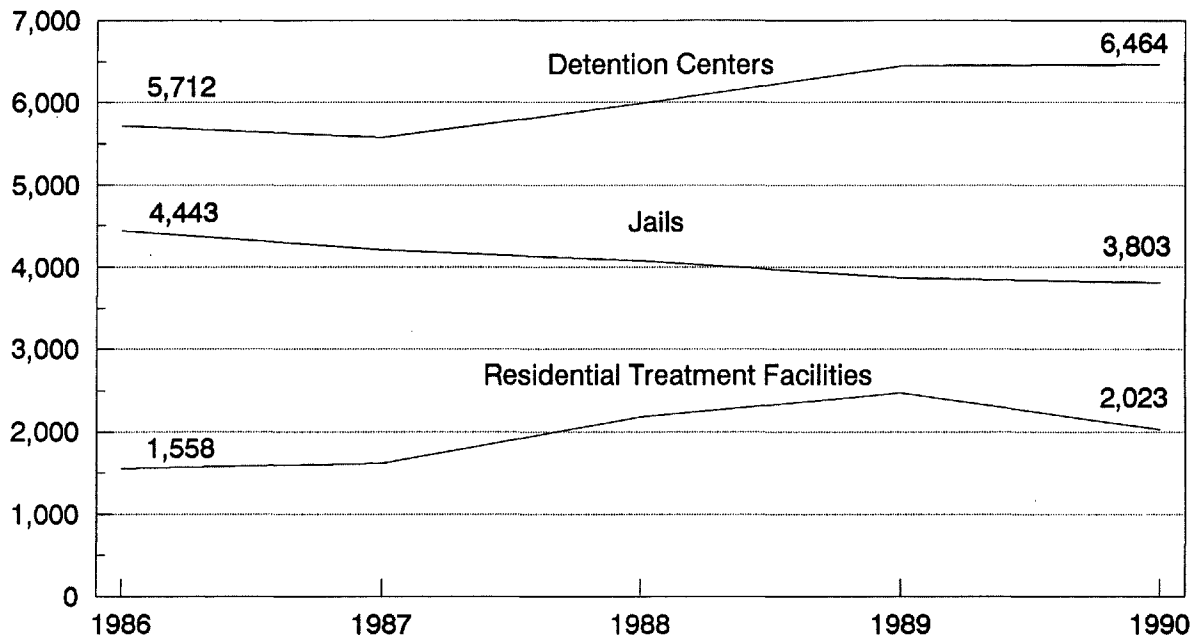
Prepared By: Criminal Justice Center, Minnesota Planning

Juveniles On Probation Minnesota (1983-1991)



The number of juveniles on probation increased 41 percent from 7,467 in 1982 to 10,544 in 1991.

Juveniles Incarcerated Minnesota (1986-1990)



The number of juveniles in residential treatment facilities increased 30 percent from 1,558 in 1986 to 2,023 in 1990.

The number of juveniles in detention centers increased 13 percent from 5,712 in 1986 to 6,464 in 1990.

The number of juveniles in jails decreased 14 percent from 4,443 in 1986 to 3,803 in 1990.

Note: As of August 1, 1991, Minnesota Statute 260.173 does not allow a juvenile to be detained more than 24 hours in a jail, lockup, etc.

Prepared By: Criminal Justice Center, Minnesota Planning
Data Source: Department of Corrections

Correction Students vs Regular Students Background

1989 Regular Students Survey

During the spring of 1989, the Minnesota Student Survey was administered to 91,175 students in grades 6, 9 and 12 from 390 of Minnesota's 433 public school districts. The survey was an anonymous, self-administered, paper-and-pencil questionnaire completed in classrooms in the presence of school personnel.

1991 Special Populations Student Survey

A slightly revised version of the 1989 survey was administered during the spring of 1991 to 3,573 students in Minnesota Alternative Schools, Area Learning Centers, Residential Treatment Centers and Corrections/Detention Centers.

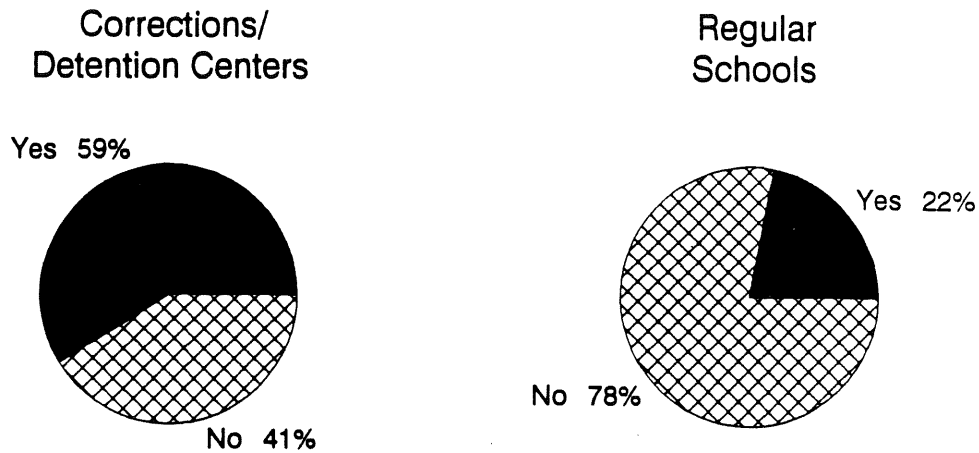
How Comparisons Are Made

The researcher's matched age and gender to compare the 1989 regular student survey results with the 1991 special population student survey results. This statistical methodology allows for appropriate comparisons between the two survey results.

Note: For further information about these surveys or future surveys contact Barb Yates at Minnesota Planning (296-9010).

Correction Students vs Regular Students Antisocial Behavior

Did the respondent report that they were involved in antisocial behavior three or more times in the last year?

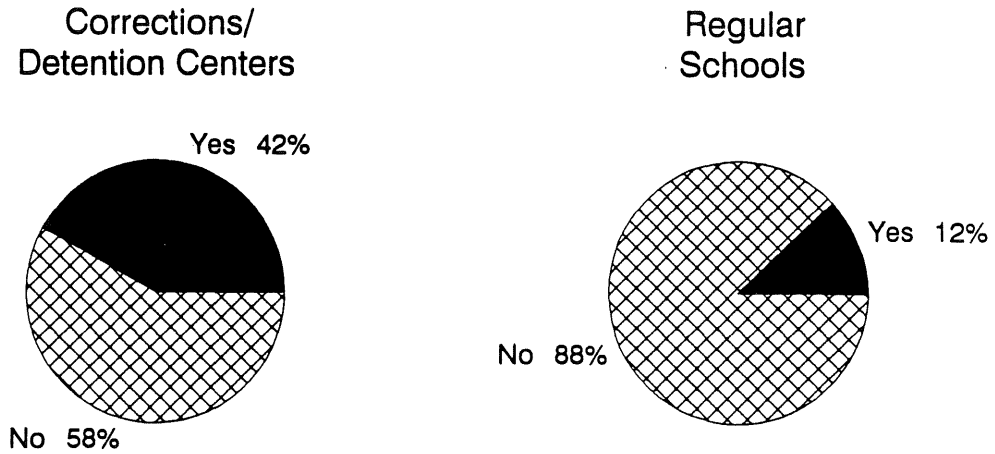


The survey found that antisocial behavior is nearly three times more common among Corrections/Detention Center adolescents than among students in regular schools.

Note: Antisocial behavior was defined as multiple acts (3 or more) of engaging in vandalism, physical fights or shoplifting the past year.

Correction Students vs Regular Students Skipping School

Did the respondent report that they skipped school 3 or more times in the last month?

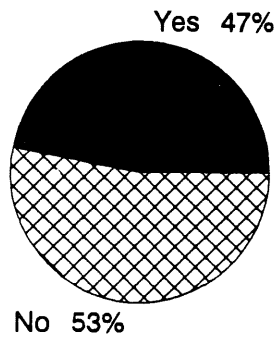


The surveys found that adolescents in Corrections/Detention Centers are much more likely to skip school than their regular school counterparts.

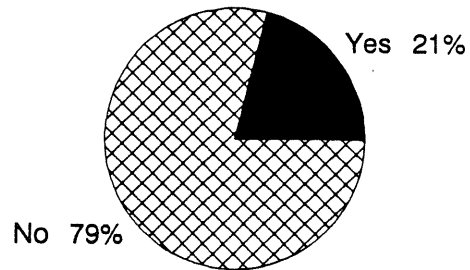
Correction Students vs Regular Students Family Alcohol or Other Drug Problem

Did the respondent report that there was an alcohol or other drug problem within their family?

Corrections/
Detention Centers



Regular
Schools

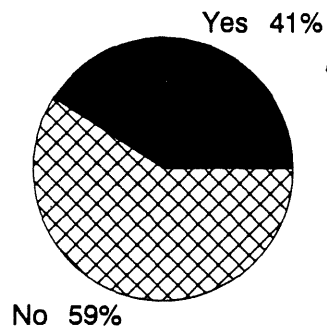


Almost half the respondents in the Correction/Detention Centers reported that there was an alcohol or other drug problem within their family compared to approximately one-fourth of the respondents in regular schools.

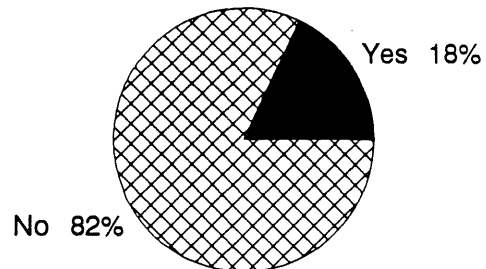
Correction Students vs Regular Students Family Violence

Did the respondent report that they have seen or have been hit by an adult in their household "so hard or so often that you had marks or were afraid of that person"?

Corrections/
Detention Centers



Regular
Schools

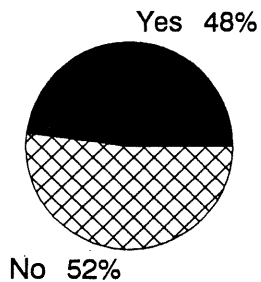


The surveys found that family violence is roughly two and a half times more prevalent in the homes of adolescents in Corrections/Detention centers than in the homes of students in regular schools.

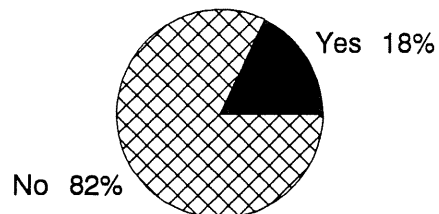
Correction Students vs Regular Students Sex Abuse

Did the respondent report that they were intrafamilial and/or extrafamilial sexually abused?

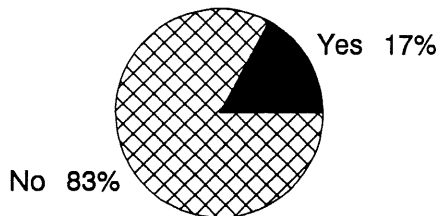
Corrections/
Detention Centers
Females



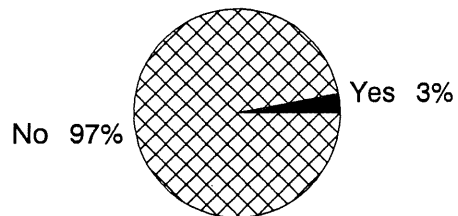
Regular
Schools
Females



Corrections/
Detention Centers
Males



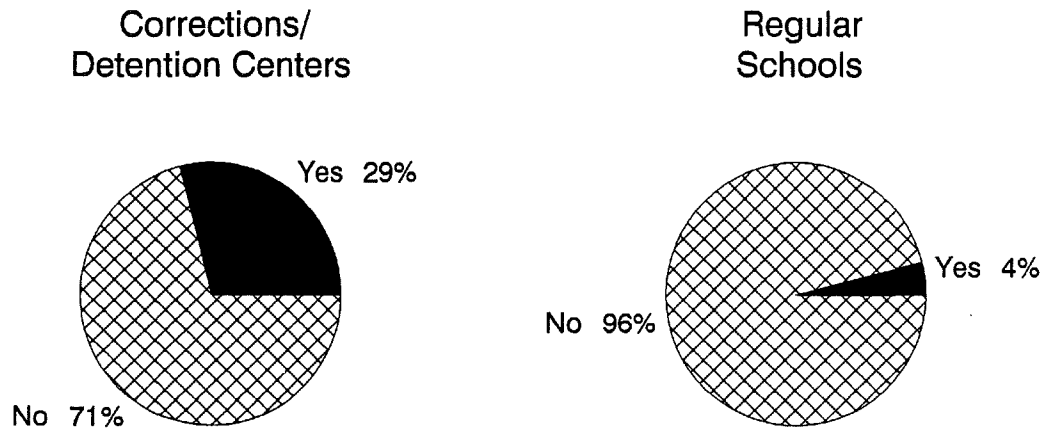
Regular
Schools
Males



The survey found that females in Corrections/Detention Centers are two and a half times more likely than females in regular schools to report a history of sexual abuse. Also, the rate for males is five times higher than that reported by their regular school counterparts.

Correction Students vs Regular Students Environmental Stressors

Did the respondent reported having three or more of the six major environmental stressors?



The survey found that Corrections/Detention Centers students were far more likely to report having three or more of the six major environmental factors than that reported by their regular school counterparts.

Note: The six major environmental factors are family alcohol problems, family drug problems, intrafamilial sexual abuse, extrafamilial sexual abuse, physical abuse, or witness family violence.