THE NUMBER OF JUVENILES WHO WERE ARRESTED IN 2003-2005 AND THEN WERE INCARCERATED AT ADULTS IN THE PINELLAS COUNTY JAIL BY 2006

This memorandum is a brief report of the findings when asking the question of how many juveniles who interacted with the Criminal Justice Information System (CJIS) system during 2003 through 2005 were eventually found in the adult CJIS system in Pinellas County Florida. First the number of individuals, arrests while juveniles, types of crimes will be discussed as well as demographic information. Then the findings of the number of juveniles who eventually are arrested and incarcerated as adults in the Pinellas County Jail will be talked about.

Findings: There were a total of 26,314 arrests of juveniles (12,203 juveniles) over the 3 year period (2003-2005). Each year there were 8,683 to 8,936 arrests. It was found that some juveniles had multiple interactions across multiple years between. In fact 410 (3%) were found in all 3 of the years. Over 50% of the juveniles were 17 years of age, 73% were male, and while the majority was White (62%), the next largest group by race was Black (37%). It is important to note here that ethnicity was not available, thus it is unknown what proportion of the juveniles have a Hispanic heritage.
AGE of Juvenile:

- 17 YOA: 50.64%
- 16 YOA: 21.23%
- 15 YOA: 19.80%
- 14 YOA: 15.20%
- 13 YOA: 11.43%
- 12 YOA: 5.61%
- 11 YOA: 3.24%
- 10 YOA: 1.71%
- 9 YOA: 1.12%

Gender Breakdown:

- Male: 73%
- Female: 27%

Race:

- White: 62%
- Black: 37%
- Other: 1%

Reason for custody:

The reason for the juvenile being taken into custody varied. There were three broadly different reasons for this to happen: 1 – arrested for a criminal behavior; 2 – identified as reported by another county, state, etc. as missing, wanted, etc.; and 3 – taken into custody due to runaway and/or a child/youth at risk of abuse or harm due to the environment.

Some of the arrest descriptions for each of the board groups are as follows:

*Criminal Behavior*: Disorderly Conduct; Disruption of School Function; False 911 reports; Inciting a riot; Giving False information; Criminal Mischief; Possession/consumption of Alcohol; Driving with no Drivers License; Driving Under the Influence; Exposure of sexual organs; Lewd and Lascivious conduct; Domestic Abuse; Battery; Assault; Tampering with evidence/witness; Fleeing and Eluding; Forgery; Loitering or prowling, Burglary; Petit Theft; Grand Theft Auto; Making/Selling/Distributing Marijuana, Cocaine, Prescription and other drugs; Bomb threat; Possession of Firearm; Discharging firearm in public; Murder (Attempted, 1st and 2nd degree)

*Missing/Wanted*: Escape from secure detention facility; Failure to Appear; Runaway; Child whereabouts unknown; Detention revoked; violation of parole; Detention review;

*Risk of Abuse/Harm*: Child in need of services, Dangerous environment (domestic violence); Dependency Petition; Mental Health Needs; Protective Services; Fail to protect; Hazardous conditions; Baker Acted; Dangerous environment (Alcohol, excessive corporal punishment); Abuse (Father fail to comply with CPI); Abuse/Neglect/Abandonment; Placement broke down

Adult CJIS System:

In 2006, there were 55,151 arrests for 38,658 individuals who were incarcerated in the Pinellas County Jail. Of those, 15.71% are under the age of 21 (6,073 individuals). On the average day there are 3,969 inmates and 623 of whom are 21 years of age or younger, 76% are males, 73% are White and 26% are Black.

It was found that 4,754 (38%) of those juveniles were eventually arrested as adults sometime between 2003 and 2006. These juveniles that go on to the adult CJIS system make up 78% of the adult CJIS population who are 21 years of age or younger. This is the majority of the younger population in the adult CJIS system.

Conclusion:

This is a population worth focusing on to prevent them from going into the adult CJIS system, becoming repeat offenders, high jail bed users (long periods of incarceration), and being sent to the state prison. It would be useful to examine these youths closer to identify how many of those entering the adult system are dealing also with mental health illness and/or substance abuse.
Method: Three years of arrests for juveniles in the CJIS system and adults in the CJIS system were examined to estimate how many juveniles eventually were arrested as adults in the CJIS system. The juvenile data was examined and it was decided that only those arrests where the age at arrest was between 9 and 17 years of age were be used (12,203 individuals). There were 8,615 individuals from the CJIS adult system that were 21 years of age or younger and arrested by 2006. The statistical method used to estimate the number of juveniles arrested in 2003 to 2005 who eventually arrested as an adult by 2006 was Probabilistic Population Estimation (PPE). This method used the gender and date of birth to estimate the population overlap between the juvenile and adult CJIS systems.

This report was generated in response to specific questions posed by member of the Pinellas Data Collaborative. It was created to inform administrative policy and program decisions that benefit the citizens of Pinellas County. Before reusing or citing findings in this report, please contact the Data Collaborative to ensure accurate understanding of the analyses and interpretation of results. Questions should be directed to Diane Haynes at dhaynes@fmhi.usf.edu or 813-974-2056.