

U.S. Department of Justice
Bureau of Justice Statistics



Children in Custody

1982/83 Census of Juvenile Detention and Correctional Facilities

NCJ-101686, September 1986

U.S. Department of Justice
National Institute of Justice

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Preface

The Children in Custody series began in 1971. It was initially designed by the predecessor agency of the Bureau of Justice Statistics (the Statistics Division of the National Criminal Justice Information and Statistics Service, Law Enforcement Assistance Administration) and the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare. In 1977 the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) began sponsoring the series. In 1985 the Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS) assumed data analysis and report preparation responsibilities as part of an interagency agreement with OJJDP. Data for the series are collected by the U.S. Bureau of the Census.

BJS is currently analyzing the 1984/85 public juvenile facility census data for a forthcoming publication.

The Children in Custody series is made possible through the cooperation of juvenile facility administrators and statistics specialists across the country. BJS and OJJDP hope that this and future Children in Custody reports will prove useful to juvenile justice practitioners and policymakers.

The Children in Custody (CIC) series is designed to provide biennial information on public and private residential facilities holding juveniles in custody across the country, and on the juveniles they hold.

The reference date for the 1982/83 CIC census was February 1, 1983. Annual data are for the calendar year 1982.

The major findings of the 1982/83 CIC census include:

- Of all 82,272 residents housed in the 2,900 public and private juvenile detention and correctional facilities in the United States, 97% were juveniles (table 1).

- From 1979 to 1983 there was a 13% net increase in the total number of juvenile facilities.

- Public facilities held 62% of the total number of residents on the census date in 1983.

- The average daily population in juvenile facilities increased 7% between 1979 and 1982.

- During 1982 there were 624,928 admissions to juvenile facilities. Of these admissions, more than 500,000 were to public facilities and just under 90,000 to private facilities.

- Males constituted 80% of all juveniles in custody in 1983 (table 2). Whites were 64%, blacks 33%, and other races 3%; Hispanics were 10%.

- Committed (postadjudication) juveniles made up 74% of the juveniles in custody in 1983. Detained (pre-adjudication) juveniles were nearly 18%, and those voluntarily admitted

(without adjudication) were the remaining 8% of juveniles.

- The rate of confinement per 100,000 of the age-eligible U.S. population in 1982 was 175 for public facilities and 115 for private facilities, for an overall rate of 290 (table 3).

- Delinquents accounted for 75% of the juveniles in custody (table 4). Public facilities held 81% of the delinquents; private facilities held 83% of the non-delinquents.

- Violent offenders were 24% of the delinquents in custody, property offenders 49%.

- The average length of stay for juveniles discharged from public facilities in 1982 was 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ months and for juveniles discharged from private facilities 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ months (table 5).

- Juveniles discharged from private long-term facilities with institutional environments had the longest average stay, more than 8 months. Juveniles discharged from public short-term institutional facilities had the shortest average stay, 13 days.*

- Among public facilities 55% were long-term, and among private facilities 91% were long-term (table 6). The number of juveniles held in public long-term facilities in 1983 was more than twice the number held in public short-term facilities. In the private sector the number of juveniles in long-term facilities was almost 18 times higher than the number in short-term facilities.

* For an explanation of facility classifications see Methodology, page 3.

● In 1983 public facilities were more likely to have institutional (61%) than open environments. The reverse was true for private facilities—90% had open environments. Juveniles held in public facilities were more likely to be in institutional (79%) than open facilities. In the private sector most juveniles were held in facilities with open environments (82%).

● Although 72% of all facilities had open environments, just over half of all juveniles in custody in 1983 were held in facilities with institutional environments.

● Of all facilities, 80% were small—that is, designed to hold 40 or fewer residents (table 7). Seventy-one percent of all small facilities were in the private sector; 60% of all larger facilities were in the public sector.

● About 6% of all facilities were occupied above their design capacity. An additional 19% were occupied at 100% of their design capacity.

● For every 11 residents in the public sector there were 10 full-time staff members (table 8). In the private sector the ratio was 12 residents to every 10 full-time staff members.

● During 1982 the average daily number of juvenile program enrollments in public facilities was more than twice the number in private facilities (table 9). In public facilities education programs had the highest percentage of enrollments, 37%. In private facilities counseling programs had the largest proportion of enrollments, 43%.

● Nationwide juvenile facility expenditures totaled over \$1.8 billion for 1982 (table 10).

● The average cost to house one resident for one year was almost the same for public and private facilities (table 11). However, costs varied substantially by State, ranging from slightly over \$10,000 in South Carolina to nearly \$46,000 in Alaska for private facilities, and from about \$12,000 in Florida to nearly \$60,000 in Rhode Island for public facilities.

● The average cost to house one resident for 1 day was nearly the same for public and private facilities, around \$60 (table 12).

Methodology

Data were obtained through mailed questionnaires. Repeated mailouts and follow-up phone calls were used to encourage reporting. The response rate in 1983 was virtually 100% (100% for public facilities and only slightly lower for private facilities).

Residential programs and group homes in operation on February 1, 1983, were included in the census if they housed more than three residents, 50% of whom were juveniles, and if offenders were at least 1% of their average daily population. Juvenile detention centers operated as part of an adult jail were excluded, as were nonresidential facilities, facilities exclusively for drug/alcohol abusers or nonoffenders, and Federal juvenile correctional facilities.

Each facility included in the census was classified as either short-term or long-term. Short-term facilities were

typically preadjudication detention institutions, and long-term facilities were generally post-adjudication correctional institutions. Facilities were also categorized according to whether they had an open or an institutional environment based on existing security arrangements and the degree of resident access to community resources. Most detention or diagnostic centers, training schools, or ranches were classified as having institutional environments. The group of facilities with open environments consisted mainly of shelters, halfway houses or group homes and a few ranches.

Further information

Public-use tapes of the public facility censuses for the years 1971 through 1982/3 are available with documentation from the Criminal Justice Data Archive and Information Network, P.O. Box 1248, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48106; telephone: (313) 764-5199.

The following reports are available through the Juvenile Justice Clearinghouse/NCJRS, P.O. Box 6000, Rockville, Maryland 20850; telephone toll-free (800) 638-8736 (local calls 251-5500).

Children in Custody: Juvenile Detention and Correctional Facility Census

Advance reports:

- 1982/83 public facilities,
NCJ-93805
- 1979 public facilities,
NCJ-75319
- 1979 private facilities,
NCJ-76215
- 1977 public facilities,
NCJ-60967

- *1977 private facilities,
NCJ-60968
- *1975 public and private facilities,
NCJ-43528
- *1974 public and private facilities,
NCJ-38820
- *1972/73 public facilities,
NCJ-19226

Final reports:

- **1977 and 1979 public and private facilities, NCJ-99544
- 1975 public and private facilities,
NCJ-58139
- *1974 public and private facilities,
NCJ-57946
- 1973 public facilities,
NCJ-44777
- **1971 public facilities,
NCJ-13403

* Available on microfiche or through interlibrary loan from NCJRS.

** Available on microfiche only from NCJRS.

Table 1. Average daily population, population movement, and one-day counts for public and private juvenile custody facilities, 1979 and 1983

	1979			1983		
	Public and private facilities	Public facilities	Private facilities	Public and private facilities	Public facilities	Private facilities
Annual period^a						
Average daily population	76,369	47,803	28,566	81,893	50,208	31,685
Population movement^b						
Admissions	638,309	568,802	69,507	624,928	536,122	88,806
Discharges	625,325	560,751	64,574	612,951	528,552	84,399
One-day population counts^c						
Total residents	74,113	45,396	28,717	82,272	50,799	31,473
Juveniles ^d	71,922	43,234	28,688	80,091	48,701	31,390
Adults ^e	2,191	2,162	29	2,181	2,098	83
Number of facilities	2,576	1,015	1,561	2,900	1,023	1,877
<p>^aAnnual period data are for the calendar years 1979 and 1982 and include both juvenile and adult residents and movements.</p> <p>^bAdmissions include new entries, re-entries, and transfer entries. Discharges include final exits, exits to supervision, transfer exits, and unauthorized exits if the person was removed from facility rolls.</p> <p>^cOne-day counts are for December 31, 1979 and February 1, 1983.</p> <p>^dJuveniles are persons of an age (usually under 18) specified by State statute, subject to juvenile court authority at the time of admission, regardless of current age.</p> <p>^eAdults are persons not of juvenile age who are subject to the authority of criminal court rather than juvenile court. Most of these adults are "youthful offenders" in those States with youthful offender statutes.</p>						

Table 2. Demographic characteristics and adjudication status of juveniles held in public and private juvenile facilities, 1979 and 1983

	1979			1983		
	Public and private facilities	Public facilities	Private facilities	Public and private facilities	Public facilities	Private facilities
Total	71,922	43,234	28,688	80,091	48,701	31,390
Sex						
Male	57,679	37,167	20,512	64,424	42,182	22,242
Female	14,243	6,067	8,176	15,667	6,519	9,148
Race						
White	47,707	26,053	21,654	50,182	27,805	22,377
Black	19,595	13,752	5,843	25,842	18,020	7,822
Other*	2,141	950	1,191	2,020	1,104	916
Not reported	2,479	2,479	0	2,047	1,772	275
Ethnicity						
Hispanic	6,301	4,395	1,906	7,844	5,727	2,117
Non-Hispanic	65,621	38,839	26,782	72,247	42,974	29,273
Age						
9 years and under	...	...	...	661	42	619
10-13 years	...	...	...	8,523	3,104	5,419
14-17 years	...	...	...	63,808	39,571	24,237
18-20 years	...	...	...	5,890	4,804	1,086
21 years and over	...	...	...	115	86	29
Not reported	...	...	...	1,094	1,094	0
Average age	15.1 yrs.	15.3 yrs.	14.9 yrs.	15.2 yrs.	15.4 yrs.	14.9 yrs.
Adjudication status						
Committed	53,128	31,381	21,747	59,590	35,178	24,412
Detained	12,289	11,552	737	14,376	13,156	1,220
Voluntarily admitted	6,505	301	6,204	6,125	367	5,758

Note: Data are for December 31, 1979 and February 1, 1983.
 ...Not available
 *American Indians, Aleuts, Asians and Pacific Islanders.

Table 3. Average daily juvenile population and confinement rate by State, 1982

	Number of juveniles in custody ^a		Number of juveniles in custody per 100,000 of the age eligible population ^b	
	Public facilities	Private facilities	Public facilities	Private facilities
United States, total	48,245	31,685	175	115
Alabama	714	291	134	54
Alaska	165	213	275	355
Arizona	587	676	158	184
Arkansas	290	590	96	194
California	11,393	3,821	384	130
Colorado	543	524	144	140
Connecticut	130	734	45	262
Delaware	240	0	312	0
District of Columbia	338	153	520	235
Florida	2,199	808	187	70
Georgia	1,316	290	198	44
Hawaii	135	67	110	54
Idaho	185	158	139	116
Illinois	1,689	595	133	47
Indiana	1,129	891	156	123
Iowa	360	452	97	123
Kansas	600	714	209	246
Kentucky	614	447	125	92
Louisiana	1,396	349	260	66
Maine	220	236	145	157
Maryland	1,099	552	196	101
Massachusetts	143	794	23	131
Michigan	1,760	1,628	164	153
Minnesota	656	972	123	184
Mississippi	459	—	124	—
Missouri	906	425	171	80
Montana	154	62	147	60
Nebraska	233	574	118	287
Nevada	449	96	424	90
New Hampshire	130	80	105	65
New Jersey	1,742	334	180	35
New Mexico	421	279	220	146
New York	1,489	3,640	91	229
North Carolina	754	621	130	108
North Dakota	93	133	108	155
Ohio	3,084	1,513	220	108
Oklahoma	519	621	130	156
Oregon	857	402	263	124
Pennsylvania	1,177	2,009	79	138
Rhode Island	94	182	80	157
South Carolina	803	120	212	32
South Dakota	169	278	190	312
Tennessee	1,055	363	176	60
Texas	1,980	1,857	112	104
Utah	163	119	74	52
Vermont	0	170	0	354
Virginia	1,519	237	218	34
Washington	1,238	427	234	82
West Virginia	124	100	48	39
Wisconsin	559	978	89	157
Wyoming	173	—	234	—

—Data withheld to preserve confidentiality guarantees.

^aAverage daily juvenile population.

^bPersons age 10 to the upper age limit of

juvenile court authority in each State. Population data used were updates of the 1980 Census of Population.

Table 4. Juveniles held in public and private facilities by reason held, 1983

Reason held	Number and percent of juveniles in:					
	Public and private facilities		Public facilities		Private facilities	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	80,091	100.0%	48,701	100.0%	31,390	100.0%
Delinquents^a	56,063	70.0	45,351	93.1	10,712	34.1
Violent offenders	13,687	17.1	12,164	25.0	1,523	4.9
More serious ^b	9,617	12.0	8,901	18.3	716	2.3
Less serious	4,070	5.1	3,263	6.7	807	2.6
Property offenders	27,720	34.6	22,624	46.5	5,096	16.2
More serious ^c	19,516	24.4	16,644	34.2	2,872	9.1
Less serious	8,204	10.2	5,980	12.3	2,224	7.1
Alcohol/drug offenders	2,850	3.6	2,239	4.6	611	1.9
Public order offenders	2,981	3.7	2,582	5.3	399	1.3
Other offenders	8,825	11.0	5,742	11.8	3,083	9.8
Nondelinquents^d	17,903	22.4	2,983	6.1	14,920	47.5
Status offenders	9,042	11.3	2,390	4.9	6,652	21.2
Nonoffenders	8,861	11.1	593	1.2	8,268	26.3
Voluntary admissions^e	6,125	7.6	367	0.8	5,758	18.3

Note: Data are for February 1, 1983.
^aDelinquents are those whose offense would be a criminal offense for adults.
^bIncludes those held for murder, forcible rape, robbery and aggravated assault.
^cIncludes those held for burglary, arson, larceny-theft and motor vehicle theft.
^dStatus offenders are those whose offense would not be a criminal offense for adults (runaways, truants, incorrigibles, etc.). Nonoffenders are those held for dependency, neglect, abuse, emotional disturbance and mental retardation.
^eVoluntary admissions are those who are admitted without adjudication.

Table 5. Average lengths of stay in public and private facilities, 1982

	Average length of stay in:		
	All facility types	Short-term facilities	Long-term facilities
Public facilities			
All facility environments	38 days	14 days	157 days
Institutional	34	13	172
Open	83	26	122
Private facilities			
All facility environments	134 days	23 days	188 days
Institutional	116	21	250
Open	138	12	180

Note: Average length of stay data were calculated by multiplying each facility's reported average length of stay for juveniles discharged during the year by the number of juveniles discharged from that facility during the year, then summing over all facilities in each category and dividing by the total number of juveniles discharged from each category of facilities.

Table 6. Juveniles and facilities by facility type and facility environment, 1983

	Public facilities			Private facilities		
	All facility types	Short-term facilities	Long-term facilities	All facility types	Short-term facilities	Long-term facilities
Number of facilities						
All facility environments	1,023	459	564	1,877	164	1,713
Institutional	621	389	232	187	38	149
Open	402	70	332	1,690	126	1,564
Number of juveniles						
All facility environments	48,701	15,203	33,498	31,390	1,667	29,723
Institutional	38,431	13,904	24,527	5,535	476	5,059
Open	10,270	1,299	8,971	25,855	1,191	24,664

Note: Data are for February 1, 1983.

Table 7. Design capacity and occupancy of juvenile facilities, 1982

	Number of facilities		
	Public and private	Public	Private
Total	2,900	1,023	1,877
Design capacity^a			
Less than 10 residents	996	139	857
10-20	923	326	597
21-40	403	210	193
41-99	362	172	190
100-199	147	120	27
200 and over	69	56	13
Percent of design capacity occupied^b			
Less than 50%	199	119	80
50-69%	524	185	339
70-89%	1,082	340	742
90-99%	379	143	236
100%	537	94	443
Over 100%	179	142	37

^aThe number of residents a facility is constructed to hold without double bunking in single rooms or using areas not designed as sleeping quarters to house residents.

^bBased on 1982 average daily resident population.

Table 8. Resident to staff ratios for public and private facilities by employment status and by staff function, 1979 and 1983

	Number of residents per 10 staff members			
	Public facilities		Private facilities	
	1979	1983	1979	1983
All staff	7	9	9	8
Part-time	27	38	12	30
Full-time	10	11	31	12
Staff function				
Treatment/education	39	49	43	40
Youth supervision	22	22	29	24
Other	37	43	42	41

Note: Data are for December 31, 1979 and February 1, 1983. Data include only paid staff; community volunteers are excluded.

Table 9. Enrollments in public and private facility-operated programs, 1982

	Percent of juvenile program enrollments	
	Public	Private
All enrollments	100%	100%
Sex of juveniles enrolled		
Male	88%	73%
Female	12	27
Facility type		
Short-term	17%	5%
Long-term	83	95
Facility environment		
Institutional	79%	20%
Open	21	80
Type of programs		
Counseling	34%	43%
Educational	37	32
Vocational	13	11
Other ^a	16	13
Average daily number of enrollments ^b	93,419	45,609

Note: Percentages may not add to total because of rounding.
^aIncludes alcohol/drug abuse, day care and after care programs.
^bThere are more enrollments than juveniles because a juvenile could be enrolled in more than one program.

Table 10. Expenditures in public and private facilities, 1982

	Expenditures in thousands of dollars		
	Total	Operating	Capital
Public and private facilities combined	\$1,867,287	\$1,778,547	\$88,740
Public facilities	1,148,294	1,105,038	43,256
Private facilities	718,993	673,509	45,484

Table 11. Facilities, staff and per resident operating costs in the public and private sectors, by State, 1983

	Number of:		Number of staff in:		Average cost to house one resident for one year:	
	Public facilities	Private facilities	Public facilities	Private facilities	Public facilities	Private facilities
U. S., total	1,023	1,877	58,654	37,411	\$22,009	\$21,256
Alabama	25	21	967	263	15,415	11,106
Alaska	4	21	199	345	47,118	45,893
Arizona	17	24	610	813	22,616	25,843
Arkansas	7	28	381	537	20,906	14,414
California*	111	260	11,269	4,358	20,251	21,887
Colorado	11	29	487	643	23,799	19,095
Connecticut	4	34	390	754	53,558	19,949
Delaware	4	0	233	0	20,559	0
District of Columbia	4	18	367	190	29,439	20,785
Florida	51	29	1,949	666	12,391	17,367
Georgia	26	13	1,411	341	18,246	13,614
Hawaii	3	5	153	73	23,137	25,600
Idaho	3	13	296	178	24,089	20,571
Illinois	22	20	1,733	653	20,397	21,745
Indiana	18	46	1,233	873	15,282	13,486
Iowa	13	42	560	667	26,716	27,000
Kansas	13	64	915	751	28,015	14,157
Kentucky	37	27	1,017	411	19,299	10,722
Louisiana	13	16	1,098	402	15,567	25,517
Maine	1	16	277	181	22,294	12,316
Maryland	16	42	935	785	15,283	17,175
Massachusetts	8	50	315	1,319	33,723	26,393
Michigan	57	78	2,225	2,114	30,404	31,643
Minnesota	22	93	920	1,239	28,712	19,813
Mississippi	8	—	443	—	13,102	—
Missouri	51	18	1,035	510	18,643	18,806
Montana	7	8	227	104	28,660	19,184
Nebraska	4	11	319	589	20,933	36,513
Nevada	8	7	363	92	23,464	15,664
New Hampshire	2	6	184	69	25,997	16,070
New Jersey	52	18	2,181	464	20,967	24,583
New Mexico	9	20	431	318	21,670	11,631
New York	41	184	3,302	5,389	47,192	27,865
North Carolina	23	53	1,327	534	21,015	15,540
North Dakota	3	8	98	151	19,968	20,871
Ohio*	70	109	3,443	1,923	17,811	18,882
Oklahoma	15	42	1,230	736	45,135	14,909
Oregon	14	33	783	510	20,089	21,314
Pennsylvania	34	56	1,898	2,217	37,662	21,602
Rhode Island	2	15	192	191	59,029	22,003
South Carolina*	12	9	566	128	26,239	10,342
South Dakota	5	18	159	264	14,995	16,698
Tennessee	25	23	1,017	328	16,989	14,203
Texas	34	71	2,447	1,509	17,758	14,017
Utah	9	12	607	117	31,030	11,522
Vermont	0	16	0	319		20,240
Virginia	58	9	3,550	310	22,113	16,027
Washington	29	36	1,991	477	23,322	17,911
West Virginia	6	13	180	138	17,220	20,406
Wisconsin	10	88	619	1,387	30,353	26,884
Wyoming	2	—	122	—	17,181	—

Note: Data are for February 1, 1983, except cost data which are for 1982.
—Data withheld to preserve

confidentiality guarantees.
*Public facility staff data exclude community volunteers.

Table 12. Average per day and per placement operating costs in public and private facilities, 1982

	Average cost:					
	To house one resident for one day in: ^a			Of the average placement in: ^b		
	All facility types	Short- term facil- ities	Long- term facil- ities	All facility types	Short- term facil- ities	Long- term facil- ities
Public facilities						
All facility environments	\$60	\$65	\$58	\$2,280	\$891	\$9,084
Institutional	62	64	61	2,104	843	10,442
Open	53	73	50	4,405	1,916	6,139
Private facilities	\$58	...	...	\$7,804	...	...
<p>...Not available</p> <p>^aPer day operating costs are calculated by dividing operating costs by the average daily resident population and</p> <p>then dividing that number by 365.</p> <p>^bPer placement operating costs were calculated by multiplying the per day cost by the estimated average length of stay (in days).</p>						

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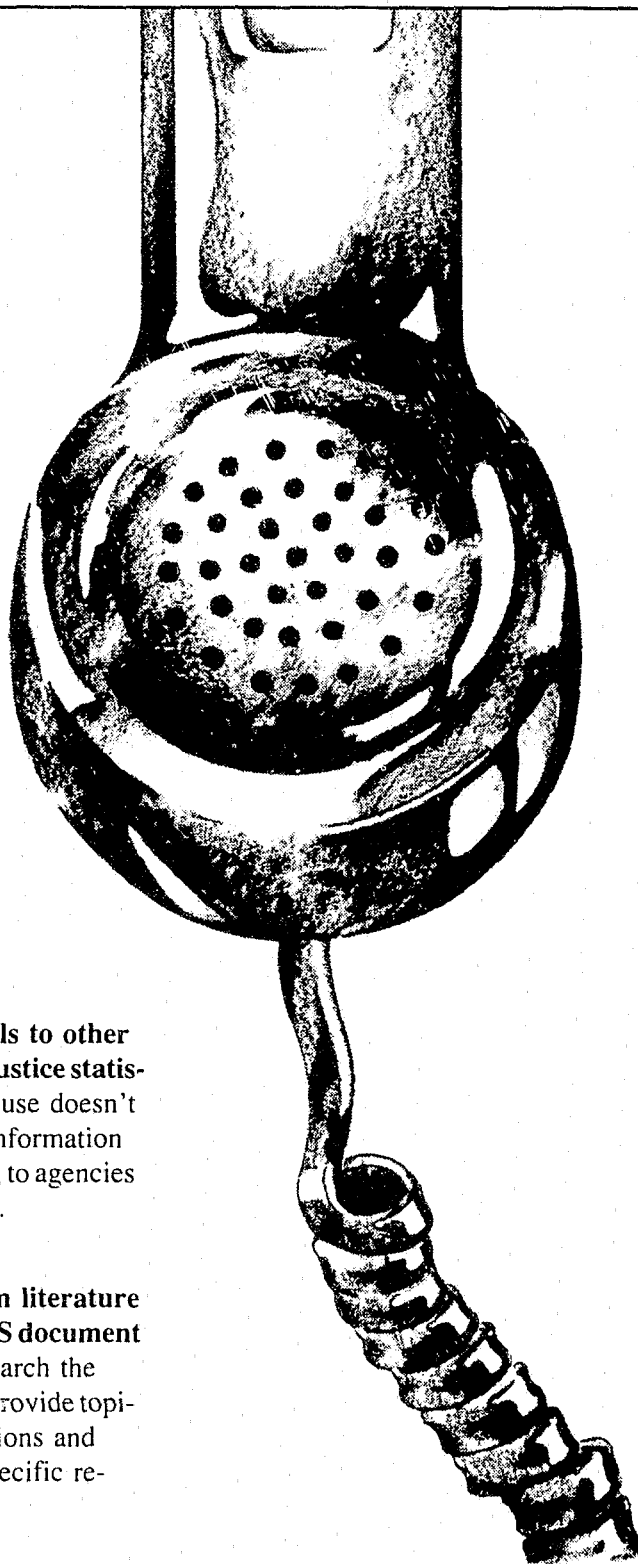
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