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FAMILY COURT DIVISION

**1983
REPORT**

Honorable Edward J. Bradley
President Judge

Honorable Harry A. Takiff
Judge
Court Administrator

Honorable Nicholas A. Cipriani
Administrative Judge
Family Court Division

107877

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SIXTY-EIGHTH ANNUAL REPORT

of the

FAMILY COURT DIVISION

of the

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS

of Philadelphia

For the Year 1983

Honorable Edward J. Bradley
President Judge

Honorable Harry A. Takiff
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Court Administrator

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NCJRS

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THE JUDICIARY

President Judge - HONORABLE EDWARD J. BRADLEY
City Hall, Room 386

Court Administrator - HONORABLE HARRY A. TAKIFF, Judge
City Hall, Room 370

Administrative Judge - HONORABLE NICHOLAS A. CAPRIANI
Family Court Division - City Hall, Room 517

HONORABLE ALEX BONAVICTACOLA City Hall, Room 686
HONORABLE HERBERT R. CAIN, JR. City Hall, Room 504
HONORABLE JOHN J. CHIOVERO One East Penn Square Bldg.
Room 105
HONORABLE NICHOLAS M. D'ALESSANDRO City Hall, Room 258
HONORABLE PAUL A. DANDRIDGE¹ City Hall, Room 229
HONORABLE DORIS M. HARRIS City Hall, Room 229
HONORABLE LEONARD A. IVANOSKI One East Penn Square Bldg.
Room 1906
HONORABLE WILLIAM J. LEDERER One East Penn Square Bldg.
Room 110
HONORABLE EDWARD B. ROSENBERG City Hall, Room 516
HONORABLE HARVEY N. SCHMIDT City Hall, Room 692
HONORABLE PAUL A. TRANCHITELLA City Hall, Room 642
HONORABLE EVELYN M. TROMMER Five Penn Center Plaza,
Room 10-C
HONORABLE JEROME A. ZALESKI City Hall, Room 530

SENIOR JUDGES

HONORABLE VITO F. CANUSO One East Penn Square Bldg.
Room 1015
HONORABLE JOHN R. MEADE One East Penn Square Bldg.
Room 1514
HONORABLE JEROME A. O'NEILL One East Penn Square Bldg.
Room 1000
HONORABLE SAMUEL H. ROSENBERG One East Penn Square Bldg.
Room 1015
HONORABLE EDWARD ROSENWALD Five Penn Center Plaza,
Room 8-A
HONORABLE JAMES L. STERN One East Penn Square Bldg.
Room 1000

¹Resigned August, 1983

DIRECTORY

Administrative Judge

Honorable Nicholas A. Cipriani, Room 517, City Hall.

Chief Deputy Court Administrator

Dr. Leonard Rosengarten, Room 159, 1801 Vine Street.

STAFF SERVICES

DEPUTY COURT ADMINISTRATOR—MANAGEMENT AND STAFF

Ervin L. Davis, Room 346, 1801 Vine Street.

DIRECTOR OF TRAINING AND STAFF EVALUATION

William Joyner, Room 146, 1801 Vine Street.

DIRECTOR OF RESEARCH, PLANNING AND STATISTICS

Arno Cassel, Room 352, 1801 Vine Street.

JUVENILE BRANCH

DEPUTY COURT ADMINISTRATOR, CHIEF, JUVENILE BRANCH

Rocco J. Donatelli, Room 214, 1801 Vine Street.

ASSISTANT CHIEF, JUVENILE BRANCH

Clarence L. Watts, Room 213, 1801 Vine Street.

Has jurisdiction over delinquent and dependent children, and adults corrupting or endangering the welfare of children. Investigates informal complaints made by any person or organization.

Petitions. Petitions for delinquent children received at Youth Study Center; petitions for dependent children received at 1801 Vine Street.

Probation and Investigation. Makes social investigations and arranges for physical and mental examinations of children. Supervises children on probation or under protective supervision, and gives aftercare supervision to children released from institutions.

Youth Study Center Intake Unit, 2020 Pennsylvania Avenue.

Kenneth E. Hale, Supervisor.

Screens all delinquency cases to ascertain if the court has jurisdiction. If so, an intake interview is held to determine if the case can be disposed of at this time, or if it must be referred to court. Pending the court hearing, the child is either released to the parents or detained at the Youth Study Center.

Counseling and Referral Services, Room 332, 1801 Vine Street.

Anola Vance, Director.

Diverts cases from formal court hearing by providing counseling and referral services to minor offenders and mediates cases involving complaints about children from parents and neighbors.

DOMESTIC RELATIONS BRANCH

DEPUTY COURT ADMINISTRATOR, CHIEF, DOMESTIC RELATIONS BRANCH

Gloria P. Thomas, Room 231A, 1801 Vine Street.

PROJECT DIRECTOR, CHILD SUPPORT PROGRAM

Joseph J. DiPrimio, Room 1010, 1600 Walnut, Street.

Has jurisdiction in cases involving paternity, non-support of spouses or children, and the custody of children. Makes and enforces orders for support. Receives payments on support orders made by Family Court and disburses same to beneficiaries.

DIVORCE PROCEEDINGS

SUPERVISOR, APPOINTMENT UNIT

Benjamin Coco, Room 287, City Hall.

The Family Court has jurisdiction in divorce and annulment proceedings. Hearings relating to motions and rules in divorce and annulment matters are held every Friday in Court Room J, 1801 Vine Street.

ADOPTION BRANCH

CHIEF, ADOPTION BRANCH

Dolores Reiff, Room 343A, 1801 Vine Street.

ASSISTANT CHIEF

Andrea Rasner, Room 343A, 1801 Vine Street.

Has jurisdiction in all matters involving adoption, including voluntary relinquishment and involuntary termination, Petitions for adoption are filed in the Prothonotary's Office, Room 264, City Hall.

MEDICAL BRANCH

CHIEF, MEDICAL BRANCH

John J. Fitzgerald, Jr., Room 315, 1801 Vine Street.

Dr. Carlton W. Orchinik, Ph.D., Chief Psychologist. Room 327, 1801 Vine Street.

Physical and mental diagnoses of adults and children referred by all branches of the court. Studies and evaluations are performed and become part of the records of the court.

BUILDING AND GROUNDS

SUPERINTENDENT

Paul Verdi, Room B15-A, 1801 Vine Street.

Buildings and grounds maintenance; watchman, engineers, mechanics, janitors, cleaners, messengers, etc.

COURTROOM PERSONNEL

ASSISTANT CHIEF COURT CRIER

Hubert F. Pressly, Room B20, 1801 Vine Street.

Supervises activities of all court officers and court criers.

INTRODUCTION

INTRODUCTION

Nicholas A. Cipriani, Administrative Judge

As Administrative Judge of the Family Court Division, I am pleased to present our annual report for 1983. I believe the detailed data will give the reader an accurate view of the scope of activities performed by the staff of Family Court.

Because our division deals with the most vital part of our society, the family, many of the issues brought before the judiciary for disposition are very complex and require extraordinary patience and skill in arriving at a fair and impartial adjudication. To make these determinations, Family Court is staffed by twenty judges and six major branches or units. They are concerned daily with issues involving delinquent and dependent children; abuse within the family; financial support of families; custody of minor children; adults involved in crimes against children; as well as all adoption and divorce proceedings. The branches and units also provide support services for the judiciary, in addition to professional, social and related services mandated by the court.

Our division continues to seek out and develop comprehensive approaches to improve current procedures and systems, making them more efficient and thereby expediting the disposition of cases. To accomplish this goal, we have established new programs and expanded or improved current procedures. The following projects are typical of this effort.

A *Clinical Intake Unit* established by the Medical Branch late in 1982 became fully operational in 1983. Prior to scheduling evaluations, staff psychologists screen all client records to ensure that pertinent information is completed and to determine the type of study to be performed.

In the Domestic Relations Branch, the *Master's Program* was expanded with the appointment of two additional masters, making a complement of three full time masters hearing actions in support. The masters, combined with the hearing officers who hold pre-trial conferences, divert many support cases from court hearings.

The automated data processing system was revised, enabling the Domestic Relations Branch to expedite its flow of work. These revisions allowed for conversion from a manual index card system to a computerized system in the Registration Unit. In addition, cases are now submitted

to the Federal Income Tax Refund Intercept and the Unemployment Compensation programs by magnetic tape. Likewise, all payments due the Pennsylvania Department of Public Welfare are now transmitted by magnetic tape.

As a result of strong enforcement practices and the utilization of federal and state government terminals in locating absent parents, the Domestic Relations Branch has collected in excess of forty-four million dollars in support payments in 1983.

The Juvenile Branch received a grant from the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency to establish a *Juvenile Restitution and Community Services Program*. This program will be fully implemented in the early part of 1984 and will provide Family Court with a disposition alternative for those juveniles who have been adjudged delinquent for a non-violent offense.

The court will have two options available – restitution or community service projects. The objective of this program is to hold juveniles more accountable for their behavior by:

- a. working to reimburse their victims for incurred losses.
- b. providing community service, where appropriate, in lieu of restitution.

The Family Court Division provides varied training for its staff throughout the year. This training enables the staff to keep abreast of current changes in the law and to improve their skills. Seminars scheduled in 1983 examined the following topics: Family Life Theory; Educational Law and Central School Behavior; Dealing with Problem Employees; Management Theory; and The Adolescent Sexual Offender.

Throughout the years, many programs and projects were developed and implemented by Family Court. These programs, which are described in previous annual reports, are listed below:

- Overall Projections
- Counseling and Referral Services
- Teen-Aid Incorporated
- CORA (Counseling Referral Assistance)
- Correctional Group Counseling
- Juvenile Drug Identification and Referral Service
- Community Related Institutional Probation
- Research and Planning Unit

Automation
The Special Services Office
Office of the Training Director
Youth Assistance Fund
Detention Area Improvement
Group Residences
Remedial Reading Programs
Wednesday's Women
Cultural Counseling
Parental Visitation
Basic Education Project
Child Advocacy Unit
Detention Alternative Network
Family Counseling
Child Support Program - Public Law 93-647
Office of Management and Staff
Intensive Probation Unit
Pre-Hearing Intensive Supervision Unit

Being mindful of community concerns, Family Court is actively involved with the community. Annually, an open house is held at Family Court during Juvenile Justice Week. Local groups are invited to become acquainted with the functions, goals and programs of the court. In 1983, among the groups invited were attorneys newly appointed by the court to represent juveniles. After hearing addresses by the judiciary and other well known experts within the juvenile justice system, the groups toured the facilities at Family Court.

Additionally, members of the judiciary participate in an ongoing program which provides speakers for community, religious and professional groups. This program ensures an open and positive communication within the community.

Our Special Services Office continues to solicit volunteer participation of adult citizens to work with young people referred by the court. The volunteers offer supportive services, often on a one to one basis such as tutoring, learning skills and preparing youths with job hunting skills. Many community businesses offer facilities and provide resources for recreational and cultural activities.

Once again, I was most happy to preside over our Family Court awards ceremony, a program I initiated in 1982. This ceremony provided recognition to numerous employees for outstanding achievement in their work and for many years of loyal service to the court. Needless to say, the

success of our programs is determined by the sustained dedication of the personnel at Family Court.

The statistical data immediately following this introduction summarizes the overall workload of the Family Court Division for the past five years. Due to a change in the tabular format, data shown in earlier reports required some adjustment.

Although we have accomplished much in the past year, we have severe problems facing us. Meeting greater needs with a decreasing budget and expediting the disposition of larger caseloads with fewer personnel are challenges we must meet and overcome. I can assure you that the personnel at Family Court will expend every effort in meeting these added responsibilities.

TABLE 1

TOTAL FILINGS, CASES DISPOSED AND
SESSIONS: 1979 TO 1983

	1983	1982	1981	1980	1979
TOTAL PETITIONS FILED	53,667	53,856	58,775	48,083	48,733
TOTAL CASES DISPOSED OF IN ALL BRANCHES	62,362	59,797	52,836	47,212	50,718
Through court hearing	42,863	39,191	35,976	31,022	31,912
Without court hearing	12,712	13,529	9,641	9,296	10,464
Intake interviews at Youth Study Center	1,153	1,322	1,327	1,393	1,558
Divorces and annulments granted . .	5,634	5,755	5,892	5,501	6,784
TOTAL COURT SESSIONS	2,904	3,037	3,148	3,206	2,938

TABLE 2

TOTAL FILINGS, CASES DISPOSED AND
SESSIONS: 1979 TO 1983

YEAR	ALL BRANCHES	JUVENILE	DOMESTIC RELATIONS	ADOPTION	DIVORCE
PETITIONS FILED					
1979	48,733	14,341	26,075	867	7,450
1980	48,083	15,497	24,793	838	6,955
1981	58,775	15,817	34,760	916	7,282
1982	53,856	14,815	31,479	989	6,573
1983	53,667	14,092	32,087	883	6,605
CASES DISPOSED OF					
1979	50,718	24,346	18,735	853	6,784 ¹
1980	47,212	27,127	13,776	808	5,501 ¹
1981	52,836	31,373	14,736	835	5,892 ¹
1982	59,797	31,456	21,550	1,036	5,755 ¹
1983	62,362	35,289	20,491	948	5,634 ¹
COURT SESSIONS					
1979	2,938	1,358	1,424	104	52
1980	3,206	1,504	1,561	89	52
1981	3,148	1,692	1,301	103	52
1982	3,037	1,703	1,153	129	52
1983	2,904	1,702	1,033	117	52

¹Numbers do not include motions and rules disposed.

TOTAL CASES DISPOSED BY TYPE OF HEARING: 1979 TO 1983

THOUSANDS

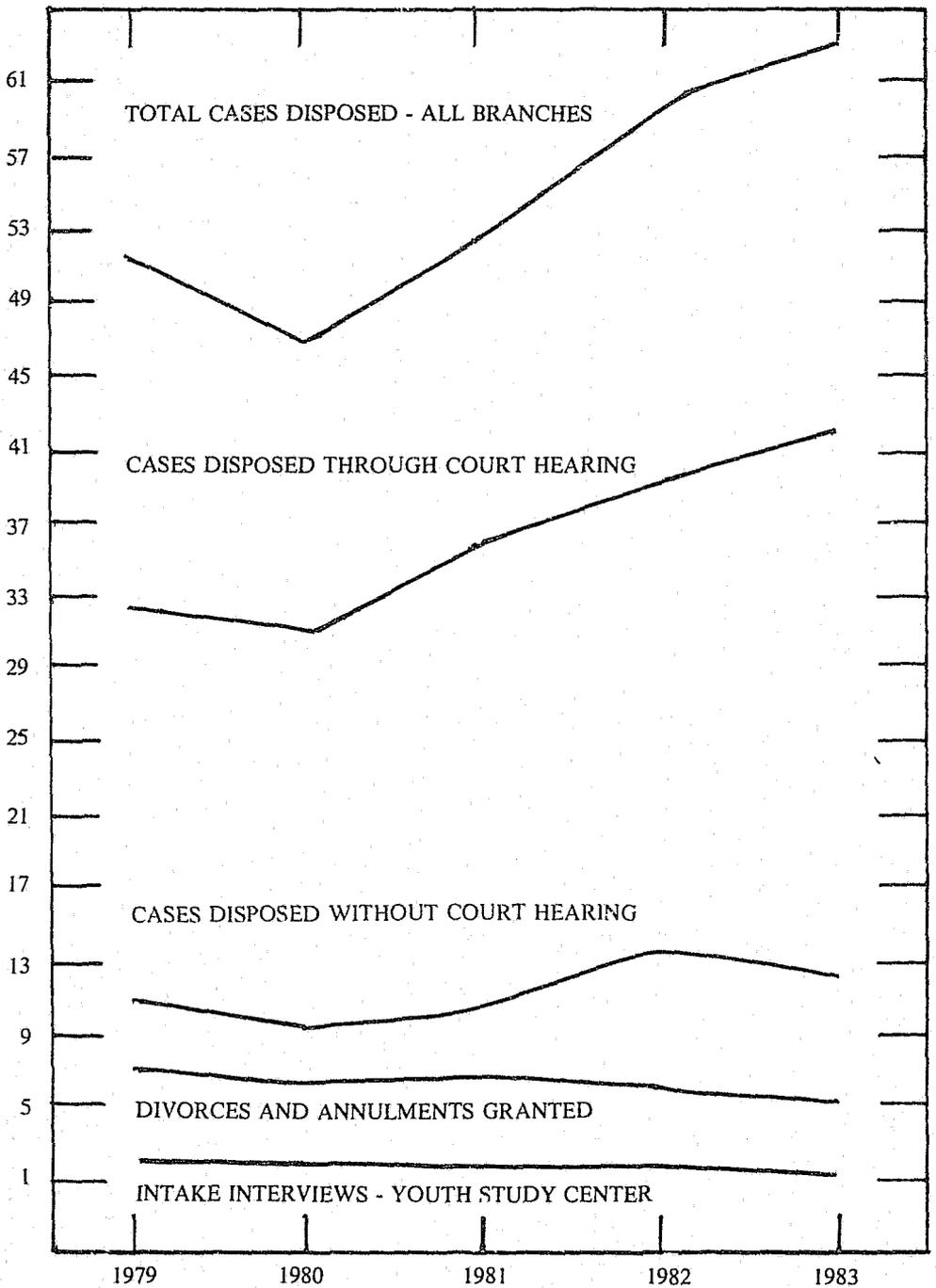


TABLE 3

CASES DISPOSED OF THROUGH COURT HEARING: 1979 TO 1983

	1983	1982	1981	1980	1979
TOTAL CASES	42,863	39,191	35,976	31,022	31,912
JUVENILE BRANCH	31,761	27,034	26,529	21,668	18,272
Delinquency	11,860	12,267	14,081	12,746	13,069
Non-delinquency	18,356	13,598	10,967	7,418	3,865
Adults corrupting or endangering the welfare of children	1,400	1,062	1,198	1,281	934
Enforcement	145	107	283	223	404
DOMESTIC RELATIONS BRANCH	10,154	11,121	8,612	8,546	12,787
ADOPTION BRANCH	948	1,036	835	808	853
Petitions for adoption	481	551	416	452	430
Petitions for voluntary relinquishment	231	214	181	138	193
Petitions for involuntary termination	236	271	238	218	230

TABLE 4

CASES DISPOSED WITHOUT COURT HEARING: 1979 TO 1983

	1983	1982	1981	1980	1979
TOTAL CASES	19,499	20,606	16,860	16,190	18,806
WITHOUT COURT HEARING....	12,712	13,529	9,641	9,296	10,464
Juvenile Branch	2,375	3,100	3,517	4,066	4,516
Domestic Relations Branch	10,337	10,429	6,124	5,230	5,948
YSC INTAKE INTERVIEWS	1,153	1,322	1,327	1,393	1,558
DIVORCES AND ANNULMENTS GRANTED	5,634	5,755	5,892	5,501	6,784

CASES DISPOSED - DISTRIBUTION BY
BRANCH: 1979 TO 1983

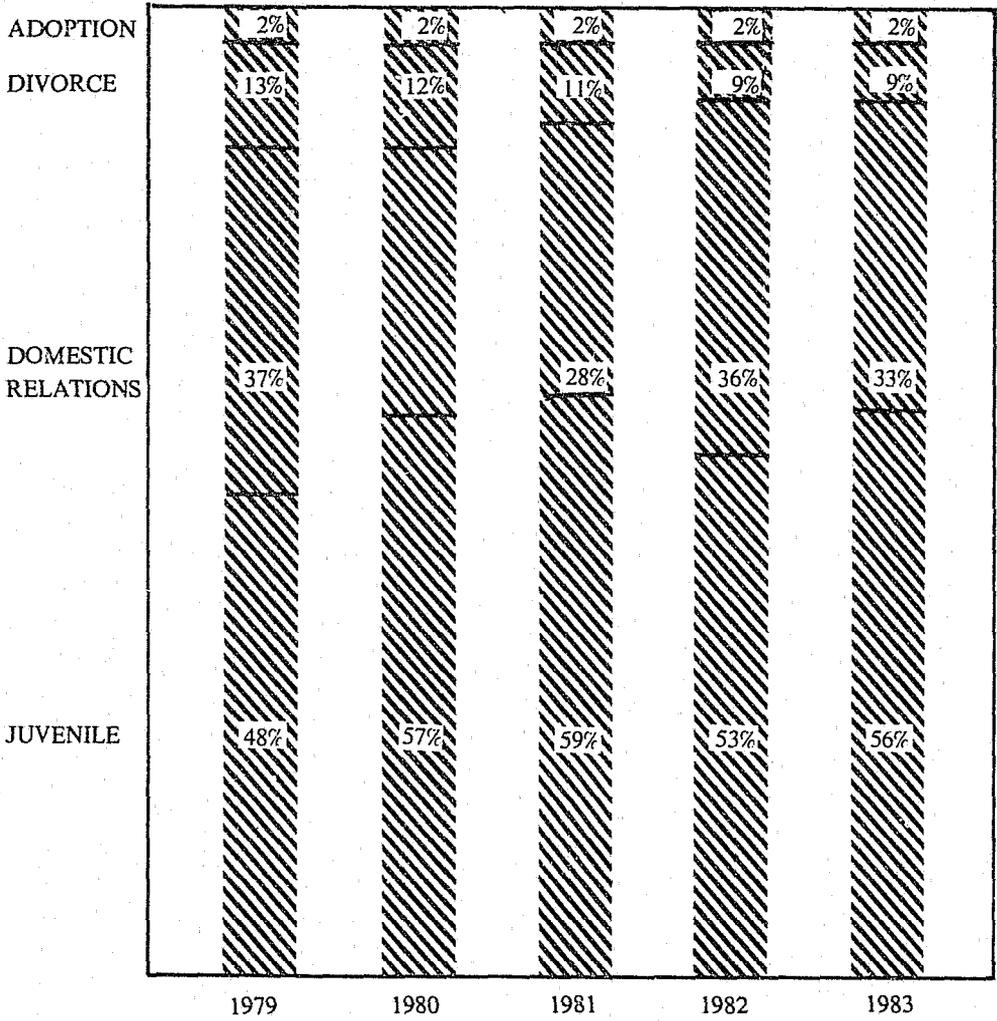


TABLE 5

SUPPORT ORDER PAYMENTS, AND RESTITUTION: 1979 TO 1983

	1983	1982	1981	1980	1979
RECEIPTS IN PAYMENT OF SUPPORT ORDERS	\$44,059,135	\$41,700,457	\$35,403,594	\$32,174,755	\$30,512,544
JUVENILE BRANCH:					
Direct orders	4,186	4,699	6,283	6,535	7,278
Reimburse orders- Dept. of Public Welfare	24,338	26,224	25,808	30,051	36,956
DOMESTIC RELA- TIONS BRANCH..	44,030,611	41,669,534	35,371,503	32,138,169	30,468,310
AFDC ¹	11,857,606	11,488,015	8,976,002	7,441,562	7,273,736
Non-AFDC	32,173,004	30,181,519	26,395,501	24,696,607	23,194,574
RESTITUTION	60,699	48,287	35,411	32,918	23,574

¹Aid for Dependent Children.

THE JUVENILE BRANCH

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Total cases disposed: 1983	3	54
Type of case disposed: 1979-1983	4	55
Type of hearing disposed: 1979-1983	5	55
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Juvenile delinquency cases: 1979-1983	6	57
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Type of hearing disposed: 1979-1983	8	59
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1979-1983	10	62
Cases processed at Youth Study Center		
By age: 1983	11	63
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Through court hearing and intake interview-		
1979-1983	12	64
By sex and age group - 1979-1983	13	64
Individual children - sex and age group -		
1979-1983	14	66
Number of children involved in delinquency cases		
by age, sex and race: 1983	15	68
Juvenile population of Philadelphia - 10-17 years:		
1979-1983	16	70
Resident children, and percent of child		
population: 1983	17	71
Delinquency ratios: resident children by age		
group: 1979-1983	18	72
Reason for referral:		
By place of disposition: 1983	19	74
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STATISTICAL TABLES

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Review hearings: 1979-1983	38	101
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Total cases disposed: 1979-1983	39	102
Reason for referral: 1983	40	104
Source of referral: 1983	41	104
Reason for referral and percent distribution: 1979-1983	42	105
Source of referral and percent distribution: 1979-1983	43	106
Age of children: 1983	44	106
Child's residence and marital status of natural parents: 1983	45	107
Type of disposition: 1983	46	108
Dispositions and percent distribution: 1979-1983	47	109
Review hearings: 1979-1983	48	110
ADULT CASES		
Total cases disposed: 1979-1983	49	111
Type of case by sex and race: 1983	50	112
Offenses and age of adults: 1983	51	114

STATISTICAL TABLES

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ENFORCEMENT UNIT		
Total cases disposed: 1979-1983	54	117
Reason for referral and dispositions: 1983	55	118

THE JUVENILE BRANCH

INTRODUCTORY

The welfare of the child is the guiding principle of the Juvenile Branch of the Family Court.

The Juvenile Branch has jurisdiction in all proceedings concerning allegations of dependency and delinquency, as well as over all dependent¹ and delinquent² children³. Within this jurisdiction are all adults charged with any act which corrupts or tends to corrupt children, or endangers their welfare, or charged with any act of omission or commission, with respect to children, in violation of any state law or local ordinance.

The purpose of juvenile law has been defined by the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania as the "salvation of children" rather than the punishment of offenders (*Commonwealth v. Fisher*, 213 Pa. 48). Accordingly, the child's total situation, rather than the specific delinquent conduct, is given primary consideration in determining dispositions. The Gault Decision of the United States Supreme Court, which states that most constitutional safeguards of the Fourteenth Amendment must be accorded to children as well as to adults, has not undermined the basic child-centered philosophy of the juvenile court.

¹A "dependent child" is a child who is without proper parental care of control, subsistence, education as required by law, or other care or control necessary for physical, mental or emotional health or morals; has been placed for care or adoption in violation of law; has been abandoned by parent(s), guardian, or other custodian; is without a parent, guardian, or legal custodian; while subject to compulsory school attendance, is habitually and without justification truant from school; has committed a specific act or acts of habitual disobedience of the reasonable and lawful commands of his parent, guardian, or other custodian and is ungovernable and found to be in need of care, treatment or supervision; or is under the age of ten years and has committed a delinquent act.

²A "delinquent child" is a child ten years of age or older whom the court has found to have committed a delinquent act and is in need of treatment, supervision or rehabilitation. A "delinquent act" is an act designated a crime under the law of this State or of another State if the act occurred in that State, or under Federal law, or under local ordinances; "delinquent act" shall not include the crime of murder nor shall it include summary offenses unless the child fails to pay a fine levied thereunder.

³"Child" is an individual who is under the age of 18 years, or under the age of 21 years who committed an act of delinquency before reaching the age of 18 years.

Neglect of a child's essential needs – physical, emotional, and social – may cause irreparable harm. The essential aims of the juvenile court are: to prevent such harm; to discourage the establishment of anti-social tendencies; and to help the child develop acceptable behavior. Since the court perceives its role as that of promoting the child's welfare, the attitude and procedure of the court are relatively informal. The needs of the child, and the determination of a plan to help him, take precedence over other considerations. Therefore, juveniles involved with the court:

- (1) are treated in an informal, non-criminal proceeding;
- (2) are represented by counsel at court hearings;
- (3) are segregated from adult cases during detention, court hearings, and commitment or treatment;
- (4) are given a thorough social investigation, physical examination, and mental study;
- (5) receive special probation services, treatment, and commitment;
- (6) are protected from embarrassment in later years by keeping their records in strict confidence.

JUVENILE COURT PROCEDURE

Juvenile cases are brought to the attention of the court in one of three ways: informal complaints, petitions by individuals or agencies, and arrests. Previously closed cases may be reopened by petitions or motions for amendment of the court decree.

Informal Complaints. – By stating the circumstances in an informal complaint, any person may report a condition of alleged delinquency or dependency which, in his opinion, needs investigation. If the complaint is not within the jurisdiction of the court, it is directed to the proper agency. Many of these complaints are presently handled by Counseling and Referral Services, an auxiliary unit of the juvenile court.

Petitions by Individuals or Agencies. – A complainant may cause a petition to be filed, directly invoking the formal disposition of the court, by submitting an affidavit or formal complaint. For example, each year a number of petitions alleging truancy are initiated by the Board of Education.

Arrests. – A special division of the police force, the Juvenile Aid Division, is charged with the responsibility of enforcing criminal laws against juveniles. Although any regular police officer may apprehend and hold a juvenile, only a member of the Juvenile Aid Division can make an arrest. A juvenile who is apprehended by a regular police officer is turned over to a Juvenile Aid Division officer who determines whether or not the child should be “arrested.” If not, the child is released and a “non-arrest” is recorded. If the youth is arrested, he is either brought to the Youth Study Center or released to his parents or guardian pending an intake interview.

PRE-HEARING PROCESSING OF JUVENILE DELINQUENCY CASES

The Intake Unit at the Youth Study Center is authorized by the President Judge to screen all delinquency cases and determine whether or not the court has jurisdiction and, if so, how that jurisdiction should be exercised.

On the basis of an arrest or an affidavit, and in the presence of the juvenile and his parents, the intake interviewer presides at a conference to hear the facts of the case. At this time, the case is either disposed of or referred to court. Pending the court hearing, the child is either released to his parents or detained.

Since the law requires that detention have judicial authorization within seventy-two hours, hearings are held in the juvenile court five days a week, at which time a judge determines whether or not the juvenile shall remain in detention. Additionally, judges are regularly assigned to preside at such hearings on all Mondays and Fridays which are legal holidays.

Several other safeguards are provided. In accordance with the Juvenile Act of 1972, an adjudicatory hearing is scheduled within 10 days if a juvenile is in detention. These cases are relisted at specified intervals until the juvenile is released from custody or the matter is disposed. An automatic detention review hearing is held for all juveniles who have been committed to an institution or agency but have not been transferred within 30 days after their commitment. Each day several court lists are devoted to hearing cases of juveniles who are in custody.

Additionally, a Pre-Hearing Intensive Supervision Unit provides intensive supervision to a limited number of youthful offenders who would otherwise be held in custody, further reducing the number of juveniles in detention.

PRE-TRIAL HEARINGS

The pre-trial hearing is in essence a judicial "clearing house" for delinquency cases, which follows the Youth Study Center intake "interview" or conference. This hearing is conducted by a judge, and consists of a relatively informal presentation and evaluation of all available information, to determine whether the juvenile should be discharged, or the case continued for an adjudicatory hearing. Present at the pre-trial hearing are the child and his parents or guardian, counsel for the juvenile, and the District Attorney or his assistant.

At the conclusion of the pre-trial hearing the court may:

- (1) Order that the juvenile be discharged as to the offense;
- (2) Grant a motion, made by the District Attorney or by the complainant, to withdraw the petition;
- (3) Order a Consent Decree;
- (4) Make an adjudication of delinquency on the basis of the juvenile's admission of the facts recited in the petition; or
- (5) Schedule the case for an adjudicatory hearing.

Consent Decree. — The Juvenile Act of 1972 provides that, at any time after the filing of a petition, and before entry of an adjudication order, the court may suspend the proceedings and place the child under supervision, under terms and conditions negotiated with the probation department and agreed to by the affected parties. This order, placing the child under supervision, with neither an adjudication of delinquency nor an admission of guilt, is known as a Consent Decree.

A Consent Decree automatically remains in force for six months. However, under certain specified conditions, the following alternatives are provided by law.

- (1) The decree may be terminated and the child discharged from supervision sooner than six months;
- (2) Prior to the date of expiration, the decree may be extended for an additional six months; or

- (3) Prior to expiration or termination of the decree, the petition may be reinstated as if the Consent Decree had never been entered.

Although there is no adjudication of delinquency when a Consent Decree is entered, a court record is created nevertheless.

ADJUDICATORY HEARINGS

Delinquency cases which are not disposed of at the pre-trial hearing are scheduled for an adjudicatory hearing. Present at the adjudicatory hearing are all the individuals present at the pre-trial, as well as the arresting officer or complainant and any witnesses. At the adjudicatory hearing evidence is presented, and witnesses and complainants are cross-examined.

Dependent petitions are heard only at adjudicatory hearings. There is no complement to the pre-trial hearing for allegations of dependency.

After hearing the evidence on the petition, the court determines whether the child is a dependent child, or, if the petition alleges that the child is delinquent, whether the acts ascribed to the child were committed by him. If the court finds that the child is not a dependent child, or that the allegations of delinquency have not been established, it dismisses the petition. If the court finds that a child is, in fact, either dependent or delinquent, the court proceeds immediately, or at a postponed hearing, to make a proper disposition of the case.

CERTIFICATION HEARINGS

After a petition has been filed alleging delinquent conduct and the child is 14 years of age or more, the District Attorney's office, or the juvenile, may request the court to transfer the case to criminal court for prosecution. A certification hearing is held to determine if criteria required for certification are met and if transfer to criminal court for prosecution should be made.

ORDERS OF THE COURT

Following adjudication, and after an inquiry into the facts, the judge determines whether the best interests and welfare of the child, and the community, require the court to intervene in the care, guidance, and control of the child, and makes an order accordingly.

If the child is found to be a dependent child, the court may make any of the following orders of disposition.

- (1) Permit the child to remain with his parents or guardian, subject to such conditions and limitations as the court may prescribe, including supervision as directed by the court for the protection of the child.
- (2) Subject to conditions and limitations as the court prescribes, transfer legal custody to any of the following:
 - (a) any individual in Pennsylvania or elsewhere who is found by the court to be qualified to receive and care for the child;
 - (b) any agency or other private organization which is authorized by law to receive the child and provide for his care;
 - (c) a public agency authorized by law to receive and provide for the child.
- (3) Transfer custody of the child to the juvenile court of another state.

A dependent child may not be committed or confined in any facility designed or operated for delinquent children, unless the child is also found to be a delinquent child.

If the child is found to be a delinquent child, the court may make any of the following orders of disposition.

- (1) Any order authorized for the disposition of a dependent child.
- (2) Place the child on probation under supervision of the probation department of the court, or of the court of another state, under conditions and limitations the court prescribes.
- (3) Commit the child to an institution, youth development center, camp, or other facility for delinquent children, operated under the direction or supervision of any public authority which is approved by the Department of Public Welfare.
- (4) If the child is twelve years of age or older, commit the child to an institution operated by the Department of Public Welfare.
- (5) Order payment of fines, costs, or restitution.

There are certain additional provisions of law which affect the disposition of delinquent children.

- (1) No child shall initially be committed to an institution for a period of longer than three years, or a period longer than he could have been sentenced by the court had he been convicted of the same offense as an adult, whichever is less.
- (2) No child shall be committed or transferred to a penal institution or other facility, used primarily for the execution of sentences of adults convicted of a crime.
- (3) Since a finding of delinquency is not a conviction of a crime, it does not impose any civil disability ordinarily resulting from a conviction. The disposition of a child, or any evidence given in the juvenile court may only be used at subsequent juvenile hearings, for preparation of pre-sentence investigations and reports in adult court, or in a civil hearing where the child's reputation or character is an issue.

Disposition of Mentally Ill or Mentally Retarded Child. — If at any hearing involving an allegedly dependent or delinquent child, the evidence indicates that the child may be subject to commitment or detention under the provisions of the Mental Health and Mental Retardation Act of 1966 or Mental Health Procedures Act of 1976, the court shall proceed under the provisions of these acts.

Amendment, Change, or Extension of Court Orders. — All orders with respect to delinquent or dependent children, until they attain the age of 21 years, are subject to amendment, change or extension by the court, upon motion by the district attorney, probation officer, defense counsel, or any other interested person.

Cases are reopened for the following reasons:

- (1) Case review — State law and court policy provide that the committing court shall review each delinquent commitment or dependent placement every six months from the date of commitment or placement.
- (2) Rehearings or appeals where errors of law or of fact are alleged.
- (3) Rehearings to amend or revoke orders when circumstances have changed.

SUPERVISION OF CHILDREN

Children placed on probation, or under protective supervision as in the case of dependent children, are permitted to remain at home but under the supervision of a probation officer.

This supervision entails periodic visits to the child's home and school. The probation officer interviews the child and the parents in an attempt to discover the cause of the child's difficulties. Additional insight is gained through visits to the child's teachers, school counselor or principal. The probation officer seeks remedies for the child's difficulties while offering support and encouragement to the child, so that a healthy adjustment to the community is achieved.

In addition to conducting investigations and supervising delinquent and dependent children, the probation officers work with the Medical Branch in scheduling appointments for mental or physical examinations and in carrying out medical recommendations. Additionally, when any child is committed to an institution, or child-placing agency, a summary of the court's findings is provided by the probation department.

In the more serious cases for which the court does not consider probation an adequate remedy, or for which it has been tried and proven unsatisfactory, commitment to an institution is indicated. The institutions to which children are committed are founded on the principle that the training and education provided to children should enable the child to find a place in the community. In order to increase the probability of institutional rehabilitation and effective return to the community, the court established the Community Related Institutional Probation Unit. Children who are committed to institutions are assigned a probation officer from this unit who maintains a continuous relationship with the child and his parents during commitment as well as after discharge from the institution.

SUPPORT FOR CHILDREN IN PLACEMENT

The juvenile court has the power to order the parent to contribute such sum as it may determine for the support of a child committed to a child-placing agency, an institution, or an individual.

In cases where children are placed in private homes or institutions, the court may place a support order on the parent, or it may place an order on the City Department of Public Welfare with the proviso that the parent or parents reimburse the city all or part of the amount.

When an order is made by the court, a certificate of this action is transmitted to the Bureau of Accounts, the City Department of Public Welfare, the child-care accounts of the Department of Collections, and the agency or institution to which the child is committed. The agencies and institutions bill the City Department of Public Welfare for the amounts due and the bills and accounts are checked by the agents of the child-care accounts of the City Department of Collections.

The accounting of these orders is the responsibility of the Bureau of Accounts. Payments received from persons ordered to contribute support are disbursed to the beneficiaries, and the City Treasurer receives payment on orders to reimburse the city.

Although the Bureau of Accounts is responsible for the receipt of money from orders made by the court, it does not follow up on orders which fall into arrears. The City Department of Collections is responsible for orders in arrears that deal with reimbursement to the city. They may request the Enforcement Unit to file affidavits on non-payment orders. Cases referred to the court on attachments are disposed of through a court hearing.

In cases where parents have become delinquent in payments for juvenile support orders, the Enforcement Unit initiates action to have payments made.

SUMMARY

The statistics presented are not an exact measure of the nature and extent of juvenile delinquency or dependency in this city, but rather a statement of the types of cases dealt with and disposed of by the Juvenile Branch of this court.

TOTAL CASES DISPOSED OF - JUVENILE BRANCH 1979 TO 1983

	1983	1982	1981	1980	1979
Total cases disposed of	35,289	31,456	31,373	27,127	24,346
Through court hearing	31,761	27,034	26,529	21,668	18,272
New charges	13,055	14,114	15,771	13,949	13,519
Delinquency	9,032	10,043	11,856	10,372	10,966
Adults corrupting or endangering the welfare of children ...	1,400	1,062	1,198	1,281	934
Non-delinquency cases	2,623	3,009	2,717	2,296	1,619
Review hearings	18,706	12,920	10,758	7,719	4,753
Delinquency	2,833	2,234	2,318	2,420	2,163
Non-delinquency	15,873	10,686	8,440	5,299	2,590
Without court hearing —					
Review hearings	2,375	3,100	3,517	4,066	4,516
Delinquency	2,314	3,048	3,435	3,983	4,345
Non-delinquency	61	52	82	83	171
Youth Study Center intake interviews	1,153	1,322	1,327	1,393	1,558

During 1983, 35,289 cases consisting of 14,208 new charges and 21,081 review hearings were disposed of by the court. A total of 14,986 cases involving new charges were received by the Juvenile Branch in 1983 for disposition. A "new charge" is a specific charge for which no previous disposition has been made. "Review hearings" are those cases already under court supervision which are returned to court for review or amendment of the original disposition.

In 1983, juvenile non-delinquency cases comprised the major portion of the Juvenile Branch workload (57 percent) as compared with delinquent cases (43 percent). This is a reversal of previous years and is attributable to significant increases in non-delinquent review hearings. Although the total number of delinquency cases disposed has been decreasing, new charges of delinquency still account for 72 percent of all new charges disposed of by the Juvenile Branch.

Cases and Children. — In counting “*cases*” each child is counted separately and as many times as he was dealt with by the court on a new charge disposed of during the year. In counting “*children*”, each child is counted only once — the first time he was dealt with by the court on a new charge disposed of during the year. The case “disposed of” rather than the case “received” is used as the statistical unit in this report because it is at the final stage of procedure that we have the nearest approach to complete information about the case. From an administrative standpoint, statistics of *disposition* or *cases disposed of* are significant because each case represents a certain amount of administrative machinery set in motion each time the child is referred to the court. Statistics of *individual children* dealt with by the court are useful: (1) in showing facts which can be compared with the total juvenile population of this city; (2) in relating the reports of the court to those of other agencies serving children; and (3) in indicating from year to year whether the juvenile court is called upon to handle more children.

DELINQUENCY CASES

Juvenile court statistics alone cannot be used as an index of the gravity of juvenile delinquency in a community, but only as an indication of the manner and extent to which the court is called upon to deal with children in the community. They show the number of allegedly delinquent children whose cases were referred to the juvenile court *and were disposed of during the calendar year* and should not be confused with statistics of arrests by the police. Cases disposed of by the court include those arrested by city police officers, cases referred by private police (railroad police and store detectives), and cases referred to court by agencies or individuals. After arrest or referral, delinquency cases are either disposed of at the Youth Study Center by intake interviewers or are referred to court. The children are investigated by probation officers, examined physically and mentally by court physicians, psychologists and psychiatrists, given a hearing, and their cases disposed of by the judge. These investigations and examinations take time, and many days may elapse between the date of arrest, or referral to court, and the date of final disposition by the judge. Consequently, arrests during a specified period of time are not comparable with court dispositions during the same period¹.

Obviously, it is impossible to estimate how many delinquent children escaped the attention of the law. A large number of complaints to police concerning children under 18 years of age, are handled as non-arrests or remedial cases because the offenses are trivial. In 1983, there were 14,100 remedial cases recorded by the police, 9,656 boys and 4,444 girls. Conduct which may cause one parent or neighborhood trouble enough to justify a complaint to the authorities may cause no trouble at all to another parent or neighborhood.

However, the more serious forms of youthful misconduct cannot be tolerated or dealt with informally to any great extent. The police and the court are both most likely to intercede formally in the public's behalf in such cases. The court is also a place of last resort to which children are referred after other agencies have failed to effect a proper adjustment. Court cases, therefore, serve as an index of the amount of misbehavior currently defined as serious by the community through its schools, law enforcement agencies, and parents. Detailed statistics showing the nature of offenses, types of dispositions, and the like, can shed important light on the changing severity of the problems.

¹See statistics of arrests and court dispositions - Table 9.

During 1983, 1,147 new delinquent cases were processed by the Juvenile Branch. A total of 10,185 new cases involving 7,323 individual children, were disposed of by the court. Included are children who had one or more new offenses disposed of. In essence, the number of cases was 39 percent higher than the number of children involved as compared to 41 percent in 1982. New cases of delinquency decreased by 10 percent in 1983, while the number of separate children involved decreased by 9 percent.

There appears to be a downward trend in delinquency cases, as evidenced by a decline in disposed cases, in four of the last five years. It should be noted however, that summary¹ and status² cases are not included in new delinquency cases processed by the Juvenile Branch.

All things considered, only a small number of Philadelphia children of juvenile-court ages were referred to the juvenile court as alleged delinquents (3 percent) in 1983. However, this ratio varies with age and sex. Ten percent of the boys, 15 to 17 years of age were delinquent as compared with 1 percent of the girls. For boys 16 years of age, the ratio was 13 percent.

	<i>Cases</i>	<i>Individual children</i>	<i>Ratio: Cases per 100 children</i>
1979	12,524	8,694	144
1980	11,765	8,071	146
1981	13,183	8,847	149
1982	11,365	8,045	141
1983	10,185	7,323	139
Boys	9,074	6,419	142
Girls	1,111	904	123

Boys' cases decreased 10 percent from 1982 as compared to a 15 percent decrease for girls' cases. White boys' cases show a decrease of 16 percent while white girls' cases decreased 28 percent. Non-white boys' cases decreased 7 percent while cases involving non-white girls decreased 11 percent.

¹Unless fines levied are not paid.

²Classified as dependent cases.

SUMMARY

Of the 10,185 cases of delinquency disposed of in 1983:

- 9,074 or 89 percent were boys
- 1,111 or 11 percent were girls
- 2,621 or 26 percent were white
- 7,564 or 74 percent were non-white

These cases of delinquency were referred to court for the following reasons:

- 6,083 or 60 percent, for various types of theft
 - 170 or 2 percent, for sex offenses
- 1,839 or 18 percent, for injury to person (including homicide)
 - 470 or 5 percent, for carrying deadly weapons or other weapons offenses
- 401 or 4 percent, for acts of malicious mischief
- 457 or 4 percent, for drug law violations
- 300 or 3 percent, for runaway from institutions
- 465 or 4 percent, for other offenses

These cases were disposed of as follows:

- 3,677 or 36 percent, were withdrawn, discharged, or adjusted
- 4,725 or 47 percent, were placed on probation
- 1,339 or 13 percent, were committed to institutions or agencies
- 444 or 4 percent, were disposed of in various other ways

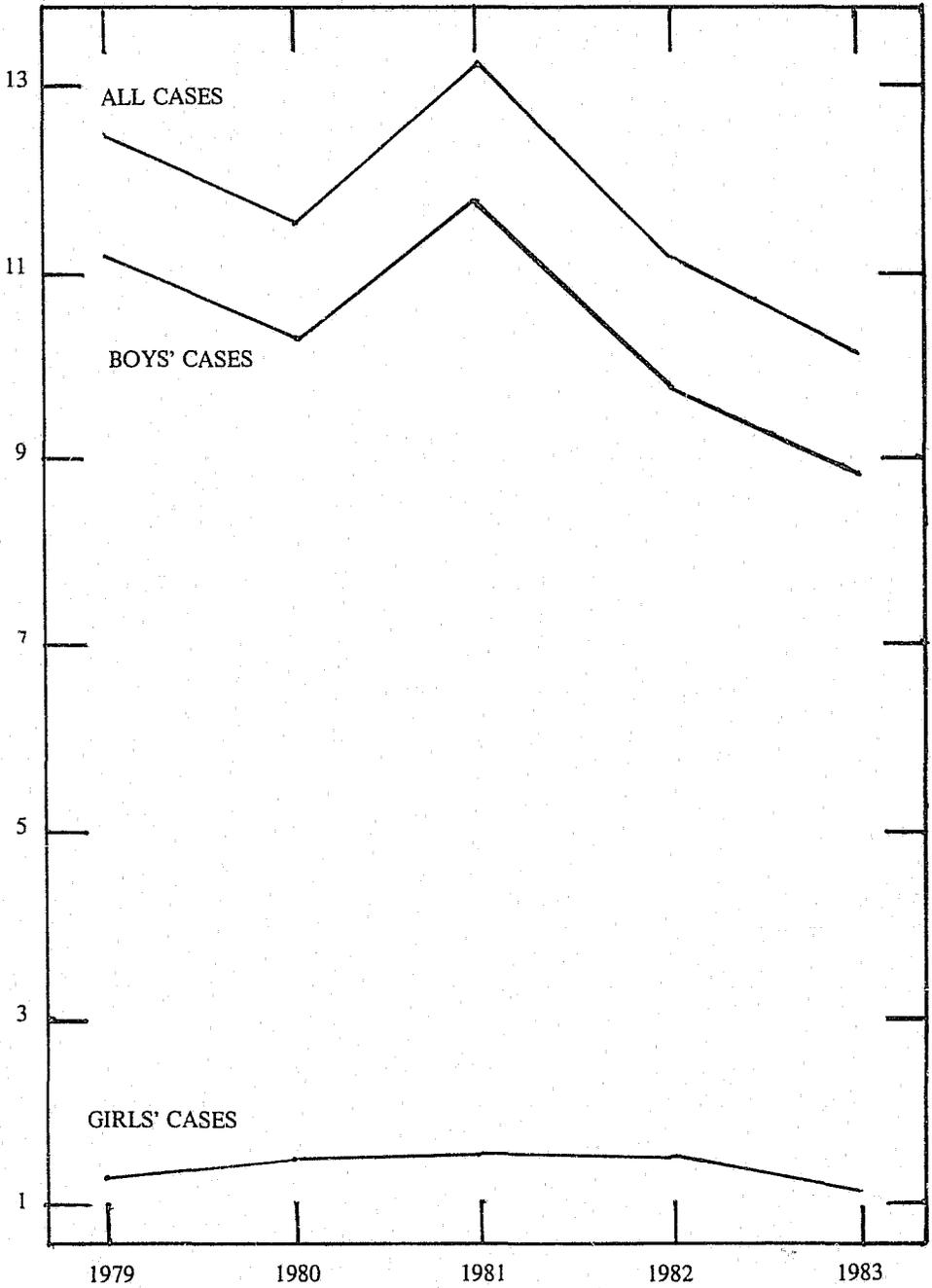
Eighty-nine percent of the new cases disposed of during 1983 were disposed of through court hearing, 90 percent of the boys' cases, and 78 percent of the girls' cases.

METHOD OF DISPOSITION - JUVENILE DELINQUENCY 1982 AND 1983

Method of disposition	Delinquency cases disposed of					
	Number			Percent distribution		
	Total	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls
Total: 1983	10,185	9,074	1,111	100	100	100
Through court hearing	9,032	8,164	868	89	90	78
Disposed of at intake interviews	1,153	910	243	11	10	22
Total: 1982	11,365	10,058	1,307	100	100	100
Through court hearing	10,043	8,984	1,059	88	89	81
Disposed of at intake interviews	1,322	1,074	248	12	11	19

JUVENILE DELINQUENCY - NEW CHARGES
DISPOSED OF: 1979 TO 1983

THOUSANDS



SEX AND AGE

Boys outnumbered girls among the cases of alleged delinquency disposed of during 1983, 9,074 boys and 1,111 girls. Although the total number of girls' cases is much smaller than the number of boys' cases, the seriousness of the offenses committed by girls has escalated in recent years. In the early and mid-seventies, 12 to 20 percent of the girls were referred to court for offenses involving injury to a person; however, since 1978 these offenses have accounted for approximately one-third of girls' cases.

Offenses involving theft continue to be the most common offense committed by juveniles accounting for 38 percent of girls' cases and 62 percent of boys' cases.

Forty-nine percent of the delinquency cases in 1983 concerned children under 16 years of age.

Age of child	Delinquency cases disposed of					
	Number			Percent distribution		
	Total	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls
Total	10,185	9,074	1,111	100	100	100
Under 16 years	5,015	4,396	619	49	48	56
10 years	109	99	10	1	1	1
11 years	217	200	17	2	2	2
12 years	469	418	51	5	4	5
13 years	809	698	111	8	8	10
14 years	1,451	1,260	191	14	14	17
15 years	1,960	1,721	239	19	19	21
16 years and over	5,170	4,678	492	51	52	44
16 years	2,592	2,323	269	26	26	24
17 years	2,578	2,355	223	25	26	20

In 1983, 17-year old boys and 16-year old girls comprised the largest category of offenders. Fifty-two percent of the boys' cases and 44 percent of the girls' cases involved children 16 and 17 years of age. Fifteen percent of the boys and 18 percent of the girls were under 14 years of age.

REASON FOR REFERENCE TO COURT

Due to changes in processing summary and status cases,¹ the cases referred to court tend to be more serious. However, as in past years, theft was the most prevalent form of delinquency referred to this court and accounted for 6,083 cases, or 60 percent of all delinquency cases disposed of during 1983. Within this category, burglary, robbery and larceny were the most frequently committed offenses.

Offenses	Delinquency cases disposed of					
	Number			Percent distribution		
	Total	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls
Total cases	10,185	9,074	1,111	100	100	100
Theft (all types)	6,083	5,660	423	60	62	38
Aggravated assaults and homicide	1,628	1,312	316	16	14	28
Other injury to person	211	146	65	2	2	6
Drug law violations	457	412	45	4	5	4
Weapons offenses	470	396	74	5	4	7
Sex offenses	170	154	16	2	2	1
Vandalism and arson	164	151	13	1	2	1
Other malicious mischief	237	200	37	2	2	3
Runaway from institution ...	300	252	48	3	3	4
All other offenses	465	391	74	5	4	7

Injury to person was the next largest category of offenses accounting for 18 percent of delinquent cases in 1983.

Weapons offenses accounted for 5 percent of the total cases, as in the previous year. Sex offenses, as in past years, accounted for 2 percent of the cases.

Drug law violations comprised 4 percent of delinquent offenses in 1983.

¹See page 31.

SOURCE OF REFERENCE TO COURT

The term "source of reference to court" as used in this report refers to the person or agency formally bringing the case to the attention of the Juvenile Branch of this court.

Ninety-two percent of the boys were referred to court by police officers, as compared with 73 percent of the girls. Twenty-five percent of the girls were referred to court by parents, relatives, or other individuals as compared with 6 percent of the boys. The 35th Police District had the highest number of referrals, 765, followed by the 25th District with 703.

Cases are referred to the Juvenile Branch from other sources such as school authorities (including attendance officers), social agencies, and other authorities outside Philadelphia.

Juvenile Aid Division officers have broad discretion in determining whether the complaint shall be treated as an "arrest" or as a "non-arrest." There were 14,100 police complaints handled as non-arrests or remedial cases that did not reach the juvenile court.

FAMILY SITUATION OF CHILDREN

The family provides a climate for the physical, emotional and social development of the child. It is a system of rules and expectations. These have to do with what is permitted within the family for each of its members and what expectations there are outside the home. Attitudes, beliefs and approaches to solving problems are learned within the family. Family cohesiveness and a sense of mutual regard are able to strengthen desirable development of the child.

It is obvious that economics and fate have important parts in determining the family's behavior. When there is disruption of the family through physical abuse and ill health, and when parents separate, readjustments among all members are required to restore stability. When families are disrupted, appropriate models for the child to emulate may be absent. Conflict-habituated families, single parents and families with stepparents pose conditions that may affect the child's character and other personal qualities. One-parent families are more likely to have economic hardships and be dependent on the welfare system. Such factors have an impact on the child's personal and social growth.

In dealing with the problem of delinquent children, the court seeks to involve the entire family and takes into consideration the social factors mentioned previously.

The majority of children charged with delinquent offenses lived at home. In 1983, 88 percent of these children lived with their own families. Of this number, 65 percent lived with one parent and 35 percent lived with the natural parents or a parent and stepparent.

Residence of child and parents' marital relationship	Children involved in delinquency cases				
	Total	Boys		Girls	
		White	Non-white	White	Non-white
Residence of child	7,323	1,800	4,619	192	712
Child living at home with:	6,463	1,674	4,026	164	599
Both parents	1,912	783	935	74	120
Parent and stepparent	353	111	209	10	23
Mother	3,892	684	2,706	68	434
Father	306	96	176	12	22
Child not living at home:	676	84	495	14	83
In other family home	598	70	443	9	76
In institution or agency	70	10	51	3	6
Independent	8	4	1	2	1
Residence of child not reported ...	184	42	98	14	30
Marital status of natural parents	7,323	1,800	4,619	192	712
Married	1,885	775	919	75	116
Parent(s) deceased	834	159	574	24	77
Divorced	255	99	122	13	21
Separated	2,109	499	1,346	50	214
Not married	779	55	602	4	118
Not reported	1,461	213	1,056	26	166

As to the marital status of the natural parents, 26 percent were married and living together, 29 percent were separated, in 11 percent of the relationships a spouse was deceased, 11 percent were not married and 3 percent were divorced. Twenty percent of the relationships were not reported.

TYPE OF DISPOSITION

The disposition in children's cases varies with the individual. The child's particular needs, home situation, age, and the character and nature of any previous delinquencies, if any, as well as the type of facilities available for care, guidance and control are factors taken into consideration by the judge in deciding the type of treatment to be given.

During 1983, as in previous years, the dispositions most frequently made were withdrawn, discharged, adjusted, or probation. Of the 10,185 new cases disposed of, 1,153 were disposed of by intake interviewers at the Youth Study Center and required no further court action. The remaining 9,032 new cases required a court hearing and were disposed of as follows: 29 percent were withdrawn or discharged; 52 percent were probationed; 15 percent were committed to institutions or agencies; and 4 percent were otherwise disposed of.

Type of disposition	Delinquency cases disposed of					
	Number			Percent distribution		
	Total	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls
Total cases	10,185	9,074	1,111	100	100	100
Referred elsewhere	57	54	3	1	1	-.1
Withdrawn, discharged or adjusted	3,677	3,196	481	36	35	43
Probation	4,725	4,169	556	46	46	50
Committed to institution for delinquents	1,211	1,178	33	12	13	3
Committed to other institutions or agencies	128	118	10	1	1	1
Certified to criminal court ...	215	211	4	2	2	-.1
Restitution or fines	79	73	6	1	1	1
Other	93	75	18	1	1	2

¹Less than 0.5 percent

CASES CERTIFIED TO CRIMINAL COURT

Two hundred and eleven boys and 4 girls were certified to the criminal court for prosecution, charged with the following offenses: Assaults, 45; robbery, 102; burglary, 40; other stealing, 7; rape, 10; weapons offenses, 1; other offenses, 10.

PROBATION

Probation is intended for the treatment of delinquent children who do not habitually offend and who are likely to respond to supervision. Under the Juvenile Act, a Consent Decree¹ allows probation for six months, unless the child is discharged sooner by the court.

Fifty-two percent of the cases disposed of at court hearing were placed under supervision of probation officers; 51 percent of the boys' cases and 64 percent of the girls' cases.

The following table shows the type of dispositions classified under "Probation":

Types of dispositions classified as "probation"	Delinquency cases disposed of			
	Total		Boys	Girls
	Number	Percent distribution		
All types of probation	4,725	100	4,169	556
Probation only.....	2,048	43	1,858	190
Clinical services probation ²	53	1	45	8
Intensive probation	50	1	47	3
Probation and restitution	373	8	340	33
Medical probation	1	-	1	-
Consent decree	1,927	41	1,641	286
Consent decree and restitution	273	6	237	36

¹See page 22.

²Mental health services

COMMITMENT

The term commitment as used in this report includes children placed in care of the Department of Public Welfare, private agencies, or institutions, by order of the court. During 1983, commitments were ordered in 15 percent of the new charges disposed of at court hearing.

REVIEW HEARINGS

Changing circumstances or new facts brought to the attention of the court often require modification of previous dispositions. All orders of the court with respect to delinquent children, up to the attainment of age 21, are subject to amendment, change, or extension by the judge, upon motion of the District Attorney or a probation officer, or upon petition of counsel, or any other interested person.

Dispositions such as probation and commitment to child-placing agencies, institutions, and individuals usually are made for indefinite periods. In order to change the disposition it is necessary to reopen the case by motion or petition. These cases are investigated by the probation department and a report with recommendations as to the best disposition is made to the court. In dispositions for commitment the judge frequently makes a proviso that a report of the child's adjustment to his new environment, or the ability of the parent to pay for the child's maintenance, be made at a specified time. In any event, the law and court policy require that any commitment or placement be reviewed every six months.

NON-DELINQUENCY CASES

This court has exclusive jurisdiction in all proceedings affecting "dependent children",¹ as defined in the Juvenile Act of December, 1972, amended in August, 1977. In this report, dependent child cases are referred to as non-delinquency cases.

Non-delinquency cases are conducted in an informal manner - in the presence of only those involved in the proceedings. The presiding judge reviews the facts at hand, and recommendations made by the probation and medical departments, and disposes of the case in accordance with the best interests and welfare of the child. Representatives of the Department of Public Welfare and the Child Advocate are present in the room.

In 1983, 18,356 non-delinquency cases were disposed of at a court hearing. An additional 61 cases were disposed of without a court hearing. These are usually cases discharged from supervision or commitment which require judicial approval but not a court hearing.

Other hearings were held which are not included in the statistics because they occurred before the filing of a non-delinquency petition. There were 384 hearings held for emergency protective custody or treatment in cases involving mental health or suspected child abuse.

During 1983, 2,457 new non-delinquency cases were received by the Juvenile Branch. A total of 2,623 new cases involving 1,916 families were disposed of by the court. Compared with 1982, the number of new cases disposed of decreased 13 percent, while the number of families involved decreased 12 percent.

In addition to the new cases, there were 15,794 review hearings. Cases previously disposed are reviewed for several reasons e.g. re-examine placements or commitments; changing circumstances of the children or their families; new facts brought to the court's attention which required reconsideration of the previous disposition.

In 1983, dispositions of non-delinquency cases, both new cases and review hearings, increased 35 percent. This increase was due in part to mandatory hearings when children are placed in shelter care. When a child is placed for more than 30 days, a petition must be filed and a court hearing held.

¹See page 19.

The ages of children in non-delinquency cases ranged from a few months to over 17 years.

Sixty percent of the new non-delinquency cases disposed of were referred to court by the Department of Public Welfare; 15 percent by relatives or individuals; 6 percent by the court; and 18 percent by the school authorities.

Only 10 percent of the non-delinquent children were living with both their own parents; 42 percent were living with one parent; 11 percent were living in other family homes with a parent and stepparent, foster parents, relatives or a guardian; while 37 percent were living in institutions or agencies.

Forty-eight percent of the non-delinquent children were committed to the Department of Public Welfare; 4 percent were placed in custody of their parents, a relative or guardian; 24 percent were placed under protective supervision; 21 percent of the petitions were dismissed or withdrawn.

REVIEW HEARINGS

During 1983, 15,794 non-delinquency cases already under court jurisdiction were reviewed; 15,733 were disposed of through court hearing and 61 were motions for amendment confirmed by a judge without court hearing, or administratively disposed of.

The most frequent reasons for reviewing non-delinquency cases were: discharge from commitment, 1,268, discharge from supervision, 576, case review, 562 and report by order of the court, 13,322.

Of the 15,794 cases reviewed in 1983, 83 percent remained in placement; 12 percent were discharged from supervision or commitment; 3 percent were placed under protective supervision; and 1 percent were committed to the Department of Public Welfare.

ADULT CASES

The Adult Unit, Juvenile Branch is concerned with cases involving adult crimes against children and exercises authority in the following types of adult cases:

- (1) Any adult charged with corrupting, or tending to corrupt the morals of any child under the age of 18 years, or who aids or encourages any such child in the commission of any crime, or in violating any order of the court.
- (2) Any parent, guardian, or other person supervising the welfare of a child under 18 years who is charged with knowingly endangering the welfare of the child by violating a duty of care, protection or support.
- (3) Any adult charged with a crime against a child under 18 years such as simple or aggravated assault, indecent assault, rape, etc.

In adult cases the judge sits as a Municipal Court Judge. In this capacity, he may make final disposition of any case concerning a crime for which the maximum sentence is five years or less. In cases concerning crimes having a maximum sentence of more than 5 years, he presides over a preliminary hearing and determines whether or not the evidence warrants holding the accused for trial. If it does, the accused is referred for action and subsequent trial in the criminal court.

In 1983, 1,382 cases involving adults charged with corrupting or endangering the welfare of children were received by the Adult Unit of the court for disposition. A total of 1,400 cases consisting of 1,319 new charges and 81 truancy cases were disposed of in 1983.

Adult cases (excluding truancy cases) disposed of involved 128 female and 1,191 male offenders. An analysis of the cases show 7 percent of womens' cases involved a sex offense while 37 percent of the male offenders were charged with sex offenses. Rape accounted for 36 percent of all sex offenses. Of those charged with sex offenses, 27 percent were under 25 years; 64 percent were between 25 and 50 years; and 9 percent were 50 or more years of age. The disposition of these cases, sex and non-sex offenses, show that 46 percent were held for trial, and 32 percent were discharged.

ENFORCEMENT UNIT

The Enforcement Unit is responsible for following up reimbursement and restitution orders and handles the following types of cases:

- (1) attachments for non-payment of orders for reimbursement of child care.
- (2) petitions requesting orders of support against parents for care of a child committed or accepted into an agency or institution.
- (3) petitions for non-payment of restitution orders.
- (4) motions to discharge children from commitment or vacate orders against the Department of Public Welfare or parents.

Enforcement cases are review hearings rather than new cases since they involve changes to previous court orders.

During 1983, 67 petitions and 191 motions were filed or received by the Enforcement Unit. One hundred and seventy-five cases were disposed of; 145 through court hearing and 30 without a court hearing.

Petitions filed by Department of Public Welfare	14
Motions filed by Department of Public Welfare and others	131
Miscellaneous	30

The Enforcement Unit is an important point of contact for the Juvenile Branch and outside agencies who request information. In 1983, this unit responded to 10,695 such requests.

COUNSELING AND REFERRAL SERVICES

Counseling and Referral Services (CRS) was established as a diversion operation in 1957. Its basic functions are to intercept, service and divert juvenile first time and minor offenders from the formal court process.

CRS is supported and financed by the court. In 1983, approximately 1,400 cases were received at CRS. Ninety-eight percent of CRS caseload was disposed of in 1983, 77 percent without court involvement.

CRS accepts cases involving short term counseling. If the initial interview uncovers more serious problems, the family is referred to the agency in the community best suited to meet their particular needs. All counseling involves the child and his/her family. CRS does not become involved in cases which are already under the supervision of the court.

The Philadelphia Board of Education refers all truancy cases to CRS. The counselor works with the child and parent(s) to resolve the problem while maintaining contact with the school regarding the child's progress. After a thirty day period, a recommendation may be made to withdraw the request to file a truancy petition, continue to work with the child or refer the case to court. In cases where there is no cooperation from the child and the family, it is usually recommended that the case go to court. Truancy cases represented 8 percent of CRS total case load in 1983.

CRS also accepts cases in which the parties are related i.e. juveniles, their parent(s) or guardians. Either party may be complainant; however, in most cases it is the adult. After the initial intake interview, families are usually referred to other community based services for indepth counseling/therapy. If however, there is no progress or cooperation and court involvement is required, CRS assists and supports the client through the initial stages. Related cases accounted for 92 percent of CRS caseload in 1983.

CRS also offers "mediation" services in complaints about children by neighbors or others not related to the child. This provides a non-court resolution process for a variety of minor complaints and community conflicts. Non-related cases represented less than 1 percent of the 1983 total caseload.

CRS clients come from all geographical sections of the city. Many are self referrals while others are referred by the Police Department, Family Court units, the Board of Education, community groups, other organizations and churches.

CRS has acted as a consultant to: agencies planning in the areas of juvenile justice; groups in the process of creating a new service; and national organizations concerned about juveniles and their needs.

Additionally, CRS has served as a field placement experience for undergraduate and graduate students from several colleges and universities.

THE SPECIAL SERVICES OFFICE

In December, 1983, the Special Services Office marked its tenth year of service to Family Court and its clients. The primary purpose of this office is to involve citizen participation in the juvenile justice system through a volunteer program. To accomplish this goal, the Special Services Office recruits, screens and trains volunteers to provide varied services throughout the court.

During 1983, 168 citizens contributed 21,452 hours of service to Family Court and its juvenile clients. In addition, the Special Services Office provides the court with current social service information.

The Special Services Office is comprised of three major components: the Information Center, the Youth Employment Unit and the STEPS program. Additionally, a variety of other projects are undertaken throughout the year.

- (1) **Information Center** - The Information Center provides court staff with up-to-date, comprehensive, community resource information. Local grassroot programs are given as much emphasis as more traditional larger agencies. The information resource file contained over 3,000 entries by the end of 1983, ranging from church-basement tutoring programs to hospital clinics. The Information Center also offers updated listings of human services through the computerized Community Resource Information Service (CRIS). The purpose of this service is to assist the court in making inter-agency referrals.

An additional project of the Information Center is the preparation and distribution of a monthly newsletter, the *Insider*. This periodical highlights court activities, describes community organizations and projects, and provides other information of interest to court personnel.

- (2) **Youth Employment Unit** - The Youth Employment Unit of the Special Services Office concentrates volunteer time and energy on the problem of finding full and part time jobs for court referred teenagers. In 1983, 159 clients found employment through this program.

The real challenge for the Youth Employment Unit however, lies in preparing the youth to approach job opportunities properly and to hold jobs once found. Therefore, the volunteers have developed a personalized approach to world-of-work counseling, assisting the teenager with fundamental job-hunting skills. Trips are an important part of this program because they permit clients to observe people at work in a variety of settings. Approximately 650 clients experienced world-of-work sessions during 1983.

- (3) *STEPS* - "Start Toward Eliminating Past Setbacks" - This program provides individualized support for male clients by emphasizing a one-to-one relationship with adult male volunteers. Matching participants is done not only on the basis of common ground but geographic location as well, which is especially important because of Philadelphia's strong neighborhood ties. The parties agree to work toward a goal set by the juvenile. The emphasis is always on skills learning, using a broad definition of "skills" to include anything from carpentry through remedial reading, to social relationships and cultural awareness.

Other Projects - The Special Services Office is also responsible for:

- (1) Assigning practicum students as interns to probation districts permitting them to gain direct client experience while assisting the staff. Additional volunteers are placed as office aides to assist with all the clerical work generated by court actions.
- (2) Matching volunteer tutors with juvenile clients who are functionally illiterate. The tutors work with the individual juvenile at least once a week for a minimum period of six months. In 1983, nearly 1,700 hours were expended in the tutoring of juvenile clients. Volunteers who are accredited teachers, teach remedial reading once a week to a group of male youths who are referred by the court.
- (3) Through the generosity of numerous local businesses and community organizations, the Special Services Office was able to provide many recreational and cultural experiences for juveniles referred by the court. Trips to museums, movies and recreational activities, such as basketball, softball and miniature golfing were some of the activities in which court clients participated.

- (4) The Special Services Office, through contributions from charitable agencies, community organizations and individuals, was able to provide 50 baskets of food during the 1983 holiday season. Additionally, several agencies contacted by this office contributed food baskets directly to referred families. In all, 163 probation family members benefited from this program.

JUVENILE BRANCH

TABLE 1

TOTAL ACTIVITY: 1979 TO 1983

	1983	1982	1981	1980	1979
Petitions filed or received	14,092	14,815	15,817	15,497	14,341
Delinquency	9,995	10,383	11,269	11,532	11,176
Non-delinquency	2,457	3,066	2,904	2,384	1,727
Adult	1,382	1,121	1,222	1,219	961
Enforcement	258	245	422	362	477
Informal complaints and applications received	243	298	276	245	266
Total cases disposed of	35,289	31,456	31,373	27,127	24,346
Through court hearing	31,761	27,034	26,529	21,668	18,272
Without court hearing	2,375	3,100	3,517	4,066	4,516
Through intake interview at Youth Study Center	1,153	1,322	1,327	1,393	1,558
Total court sessions	1,702	1,703	1,692	1,504	1,358
Delinquency	1,027	1,047	1,034	1,012	939
Non-delinquency	386	357	342	274	224
Adult Unit	279	287	289	199	174
Enforcement Unit	10	12	27	19	21
Cases processed at Youth Study Center	11,147	11,701	12,591	12,922	12,735
Disposed of at intake interview ...	1,153	1,322	1,327	1,393	1,558
Referred to court	9,994	10,379	11,264	11,529	11,177

TABLE 1 - Concluded

TOTAL ACTIVITY: 1979 TO 1983

	1983	1982	1981	1980	1979
New referrals ¹ :	5,482	5,745	5,465	5,166	4,711
Juvenile (families)	4,186	4,738	4,345	4,172	3,867
Adult	1,296	1,007	1,120	994	844
Cases under investigation during year	8,055	8,513	10,985	10,630	10,582
Children under supervision at end of year	5,319	5,282	5,127	4,175	4,591
Delinquent	5,054	5,130	4,986	3,990	4,265
Non-delinquent	265	152	141	185	326
Payments received:					
Direct order on parents	\$ 4,186	\$ 4,699	\$ 6,283	\$ 6,535	\$ 7,278
Reimburse order on DPW	24,338	26,224	25,808	30,051	36,956
Restitution	60,699	48,287	35,411	32,918	23,574

¹Family or individual's first-time contact with Family Court.

TABLE 2

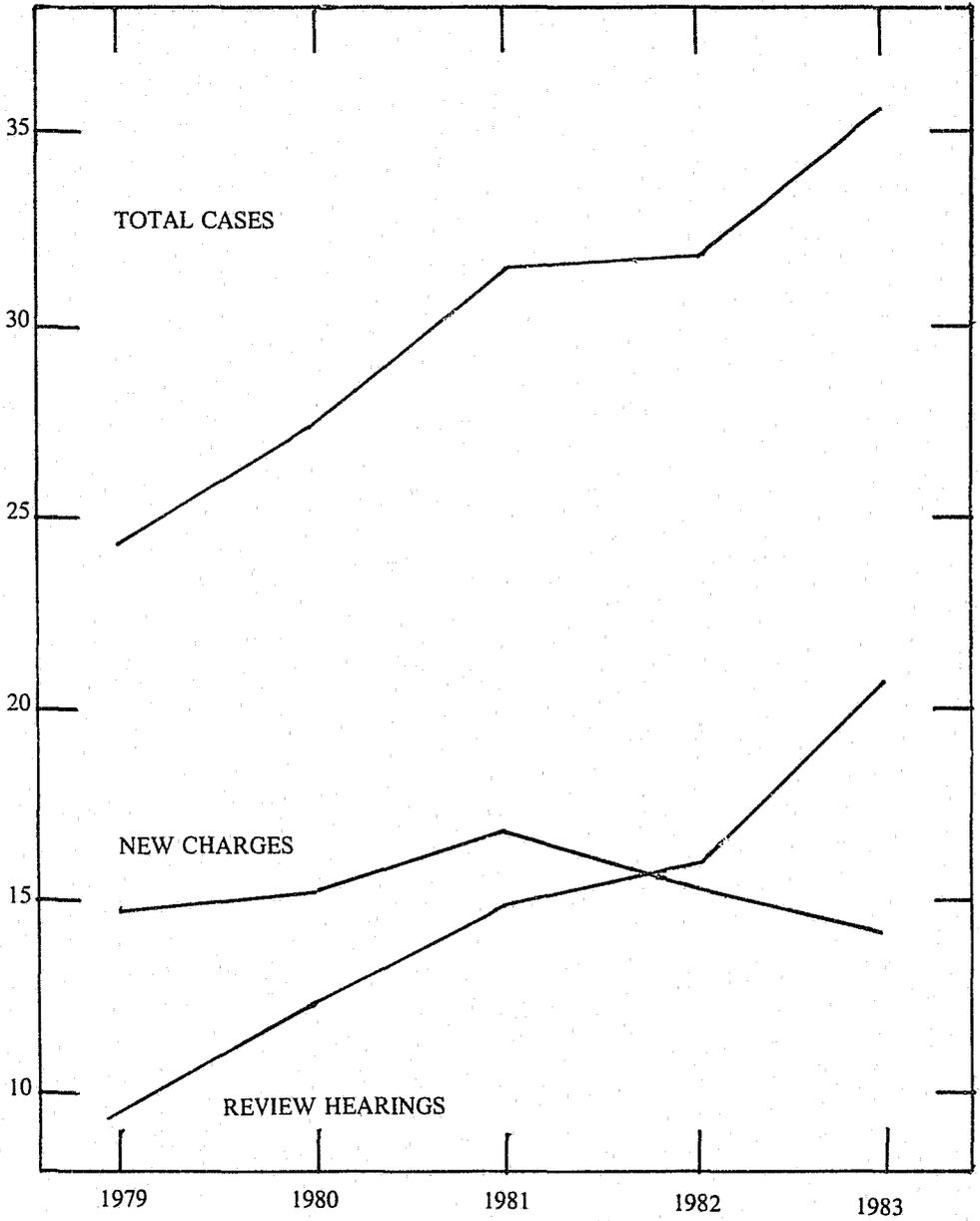
TYPE OF CASE DISPOSED OF IN THE
JUVENILE BRANCH: 1979 TO 1983

Type of case	Cases disposed of				
	1983	1982	1981	1980	1979
Total cases	35,289	31,456	31,373	27,127	24,346
New charges ¹	14,208	15,436	17,098	15,342	15,077
Delinquency	10,185	11,365	13,183	11,765	12,524
Boys	9,074	10,058	11,816	10,458	11,262
Girls	1,111	1,307	1,367	1,307	1,262
Non-delinquency	2,623	3,009	2,717	2,296	1,619
Boys	1,356	1,551	1,437	1,181	831
Girls	1,267	1,458	1,280	1,115	788
Adults corrupting or endangering welfare of children.....	1,400	1,062	1,198	1,281	934
Review hearings ¹	21,081	16,020	14,275	11,785	9,269
Delinquency	5,147	5,282	5,753	6,403	6,508
Non-delinquency	15,934	10,738	8,522	5,382	2,761

¹See page 28.

JUVENILE BRANCH
DISPOSED CASES: 1979 TO 1983

THOUSANDS



JUVENILE BRANCH - TOTAL CASES DISPOSED
1979 TO 1983

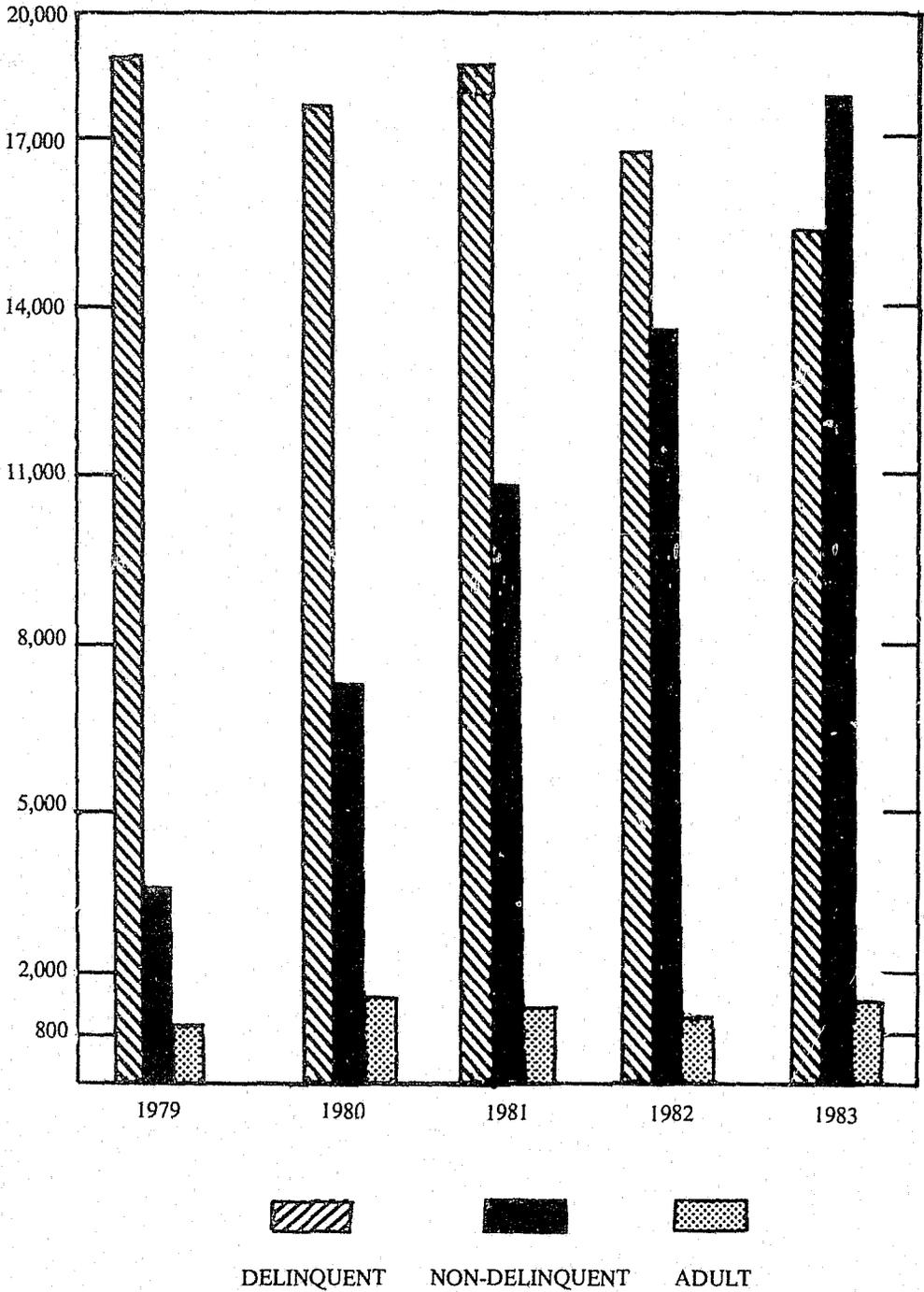


TABLE 3

TOTAL CASES DISPOSED OF WITH AND WITHOUT
COURT HEARING: 1983

Type of case	Total cases	Through court hearing	Without court hearing	Intake interviews YSC
Total cases	35,289	31,761	2,375	1,153
New charges	14,208	13,055	-	1,153
Delinquency	10,185	9,032	-	1,153
Injury to person	1,839	1,528	-	311
Theft	6,083	5,938	-	145
Weapons offenses	470	415	-	55
Drug law violation	457	297	-	160
Non-payment of fines	257	55	-	202
Other	1,079	799	-	280
Non-delinquency	2,623	2,623	-	-
Inadequate care	1,439	1,439	-	-
Neglect and abuse	608	608	-	-
Incorrigibility	5	5	-	-
Others	571	571	-	-
Adults corrupting or endangering welfare of children	1,400	1,400	-	-
Sex offenses	453	453	-	-
Non-sex offenses	866	866	-	-
Truancy cases	81	81	-	-
Review hearings	21,081	18,706	2,375	-
Delinquency	5,147	2,833	2,314	-
Non-delinquency	15,934	15,873	61	-

TABLE 4
 CASES DISPOSED OF BY TYPE OF
 CASE: 1979 TO 1983

Type of case	Cases disposed of				
	1983	1982	1981	1980	1979
Total cases	35,289	31,456	31,373	27,127	24,346
New charges.....	14,208	15,436	17,098	15,342	15,077
Through court hearing.....	13,055	14,114	15,771	13,949	13,519
Through intake interviews -YSC.....	1,153	1,322	1,327	1,393	1,558
Review hearings.....	21,081	16,020	14,275	11,785	9,269
Through court hearing.....	18,706	12,920	10,758	7,719	4,753
Without court hearing.....	2,375	3,100	3,517	4,066	4,516

TABLE 5
 CASES DISPOSED OF BY TYPE OF HEARING:
 1979 TO 1983

Type of hearing	Cases disposed of				
	1983	1982	1981	1980	1979
Total cases	35,289	31,456	31,373	27,127	24,346
Through court hearing.....	31,761	27,034	26,529	21,668	18,272
New charges.....	13,055	14,114	15,771	13,949	13,519
Delinquency	9,032	10,043	11,856	10,372	10,966
Non-delinquency	2,623	3,009	2,717	2,296	1,619
Adults corrupting or endangering the welfare of children	1,400	1,062	1,198	1,281	934
Review hearings.....	18,706	12,920	10,758	7,719	4,753
Delinquency	2,833	2,234	2,318	2,420	2,163
Non-delinquency	15,873	10,686	8,440	5,299	2,590
Without court hearing.....	2,375	3,100	3,517	4,066	4,516
Delinquency	2,314	3,048	3,435	3,983	4,345
Non-delinquency	61	52	82	83	171
Youth Study Center intake interviews.....	1,153	1,322	1,327	1,393	1,558

TABLE 6

JUVENILE DELINQUENCY CASES: 1979 TO 1983

	1983	1982	1981	1980	1979
Petitions filed	9,995	10,383	11,269	11,532	11,176
Total cases disposed	15,297	16,608	18,808	18,108	18,962
Through court hearing	11,860	12,267	14,081	12,746	13,069
Without court hearing	2,284	3,019	3,400	3,969	4,335
Youth Study Center intake interviews	1,153	1,322	1,327	1,393	1,558
Total dispositions	15,297	16,608	18,808	18,101	18,962
New charges	10,185	11,365	13,183	11,765	12,524
Review hearings	5,112	5,243	5,625	6,343	6,438
Court sessions	1,027	1,047	1,034	1,012	939
New referrals ¹	3,000	3,160	3,080	2,963	3,074

¹See Table 1, footnote 1.

DELINQUENCY CASES DISPOSED
1979 TO 1983

THOUSANDS

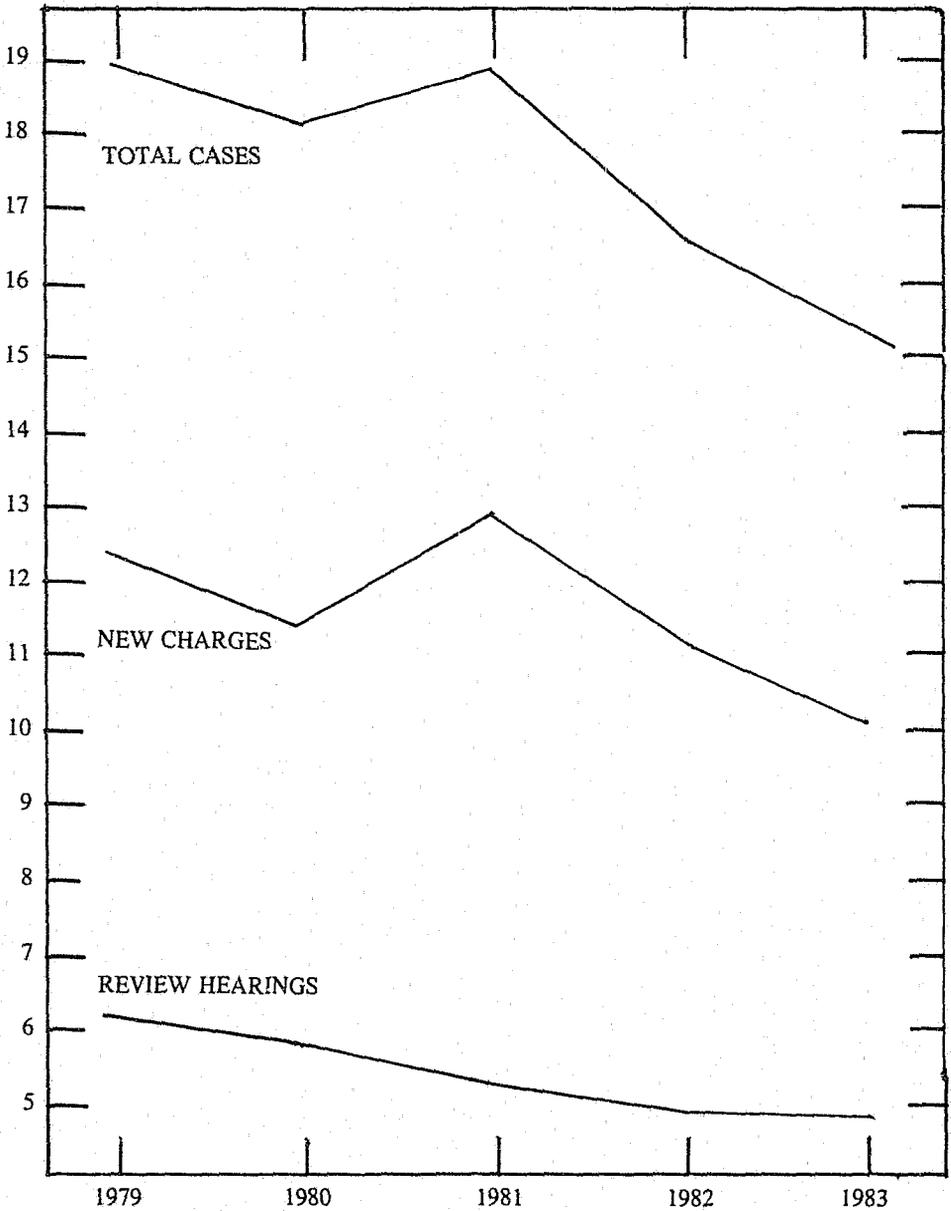


TABLE 7

DELINQUENCY CASES DISPOSED OF BY TYPE OF CASE:
1979 TO 1983

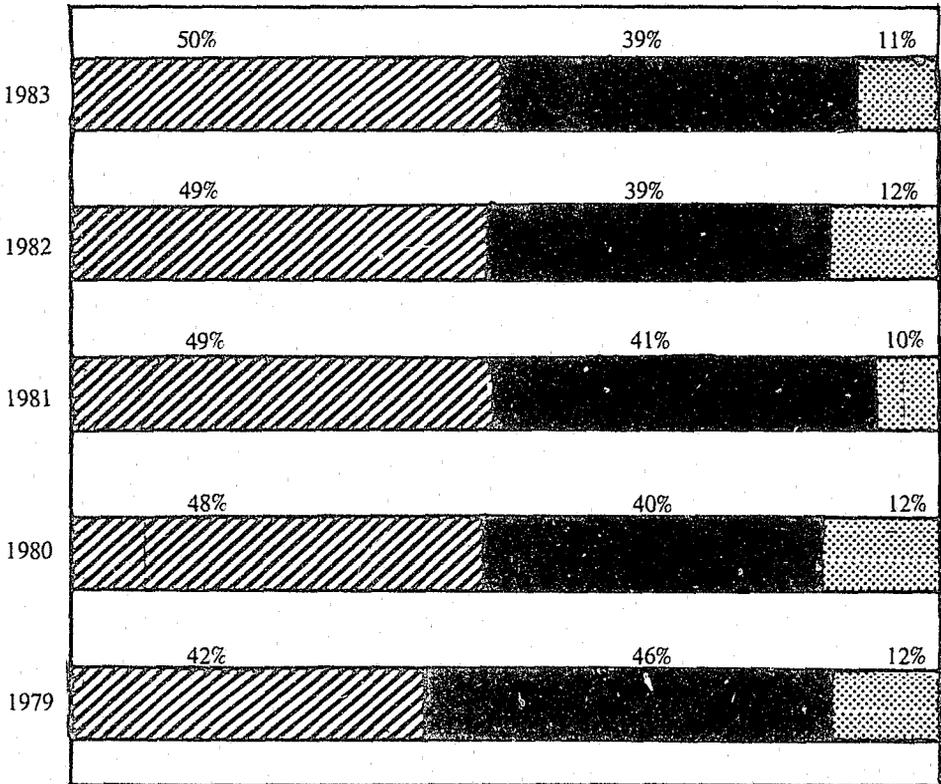
Type of case	Delinquency cases disposed of				
	1983	1982	1981	1980	1979
Total cases	15,297	16,608	18,808	18,108	18,962
New charges.....	10,185	11,365	13,183	11,765	12,524
Through court hearing.....	9,032	10,043	11,856	10,372	10,966
Youth Study Center intake interviews	1,153	1,322	1,327	1,393	1,558
Review hearings.....	5,112	5,243	5,625	6,343	6,438
Through court hearing.....	2,828	2,224	2,225	2,374	2,103
Without court hearing.....	2,284	3,019	3,400	3,969	4,335

TABLE 8

DELINQUENCY CASES DISPOSED OF
WITH AND WITHOUT COURT HEARING: 1979 TO 1983

Type of hearing	Delinquency cases disposed of				
	1983	1982	1981	1980	1979
Total cases	15,297	16,608	18,808	18,108	18,962
Through court hearing.....	11,860	12,267	14,081	12,746	13,069
New charges.....	9,032	10,043	11,856	10,372	10,966
Pre-trial.....	4,005	4,430	5,403	4,705	5,766
Adjudicatory.....	5,027	5,613	6,453	5,667	5,200
Review hearings.....	2,828	2,224	2,225	2,374	2,103
Without court hearing.....	2,284	3,019	3,400	3,969	4,335
Youth Study Center intake interviews.....	1,153	1,322	1,327	1,393	1,558

NEW CHARGES DISPOSED OF BY TYPE
OF HEARING: 1979 TO 1983



 ADJUDICATORY
  PRE-TRIAL
  YOUTH STUDY CENTER

TABLE 9

COMPARISON OF ARRESTS AND NON-ARREST OR REMEDIAL CASES BY
POLICE OFFICERS, OF BOYS AND GIRLS UNDER
18 YEARS OF AGE: 1979 TO 1983

Year	Arrests by police officers ^{1,2}						
	Total	Boys			Girls		
		Total	Residents	Non-residents	Total	Residents	Non-residents
1979.....	15,168	13,335	13,042	293	1,833	1,796	37
1980.....	14,724	12,828	12,611	217	1,896	1,847	49
1981.....	15,048	13,187	12,974	213	1,861	1,823	38
1982.....	16,657	14,396	14,150	246	2,261	2,182	79
1983.....	15,380	13,297	13,071	226	2,083	2,029	54

Non-arrests, or remedial cases by police officers
not referred to court¹

1979.....	11,399	7,437	7,284	153	3,962	3,844	118
1980.....	10,177	6,849	6,729	120	3,328	3,237	91
1981.....	11,348	7,133	7,032	101	4,215	4,157	58
1982.....	13,572	9,346	9,209	137	4,226	4,132	94
1983.....	14,100	9,656	9,514	142	4,444	4,345	99

New delinquent charges disposed of which were referred to Family Court
Division by police officers of Philadelphia²

1979.....	11,280	10,339	10,112	227	941	909	32
1980.....	10,621	9,627	9,449	178	994	957	37
1981.....	12,135	11,069	10,890	179	1,066	1,031	35
1982.....	10,442	9,412	9,264	148	1,030	998	32
1983.....	9,191	8,375	8,265	110	816	791	25

Total new delinquent charges disposed of by Family Court Division

1979.....	12,524	11,262	11,035	227	1,262	1,227	35
1980.....	11,765	10,458	10,270	188	1,307	1,269	38
1981.....	13,183	11,816	11,627	189	1,367	1,331	36
1982.....	11,365	10,058	9,905	153	1,307	1,271	36
1983.....	10,185	9,074	8,957	117	1,111	1,086	25

¹Information furnished by the computer statistics unit of the Philadelphia Police Department.

²Comparison of police arrests with court disposition cannot be made due to different procedures in collecting data.

TABLE 10

DELINQUENCY CASES PROCESSED AT YOUTH
STUDY CENTER: 1979 TO 1983

Cases	1983	1982	1981	1980	1979
Total cases processed	11,147	11,701	12,591	12,922	12,735
Disposed of at intake interview	1,153	1,322	1,327	1,393	1,558
Boys	910	1,074	1,060	1,135	1,292
Girls	243	248	267	258	266
Referred to juvenile court by interviewer	9,994	10,379	11,264	11,529	11,177
Detained in Youth Study Center pending court hearing	2,770	2,751	2,555	2,429	2,334
Boys	2,543	2,499	2,354	2,187	2,124
Girls	227	252	201	242	210
Released to parents or guardians pending court hearing	7,224	7,628	8,709	9,100	8,843
Boys	6,451	6,793	7,808	8,210	8,011
Girls	773	835	901	890	832

TABLE 11

DELINQUENCY CASES PROCESSED AT
YOUTH STUDY CENTER BY AGE: 1983

Cases	Total	Under age 16			Age 16 and over		
		Total	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls
Total cases processed	11,147	5,362	4,648	714	5,785	5,256	529
Disposed of at intake interview	1,153	589	436	153	564	474	90
Referred to court	9,994	4,773	4,212	561	5,221	4,782	439
Detained at Youth Study Center pending court hearing	2,770	1,107	998	109	1,663	1,545	118
Released to parents or guardians pending court hearing	7,224	3,666	3,214	452	3,558	3,237	321

TABLE 12

NEW CHARGES OF DELINQUENCY DISPOSED OF THROUGH COURT
HEARING AND INTAKE INTERVIEWS: 1979 TO 1983

Year	Delinquency cases disposed of								
	Total			Boys' cases			Girls' cases		
	Total	Through court hearing	Through intake interviews	Total	Through court hearing	Through intake interviews	Total	Through court hearing	Through intake interviews
1979	12,524	10,966	1,558	11,262	9,970	1,292	1,262	996	266
1980	11,765	10,372	1,393	10,458	9,323	1,135	1,307	1,049	258
1981	13,183	11,856	1,327	11,816	10,756	1,060	1,367	1,100	267
1982	11,365	10,043	1,322	10,058	8,984	1,074	1,307	1,059	248
1983	10,185	9,032	1,153	9,074	8,164	910	1,111	868	243

TABLE 13

NEW CHARGES OF DELINQUENCY DISPOSED OF BY SEX AND
AGE GROUP: 1979 TO 1983

Year	Delinquency cases disposed of						
	Total	Boys' cases			Girls' cases		
		Total	Under 16	16 and over	Total	Under 16	16 and over
1979	12,524	11,262	5,529	5,733	1,262	689	573
1980	11,765	10,458	4,800	5,658	1,307	672	635
1981	13,183	11,816	5,239	6,577	1,367	728	639
1982	11,365	10,058	4,598	5,460	1,307	697	610
1983	10,185	9,074	4,396	4,678	1,111	619	492

AGE GROUPS OF JUVENILE DELINQUENTS
1979 TO 1983

CASES

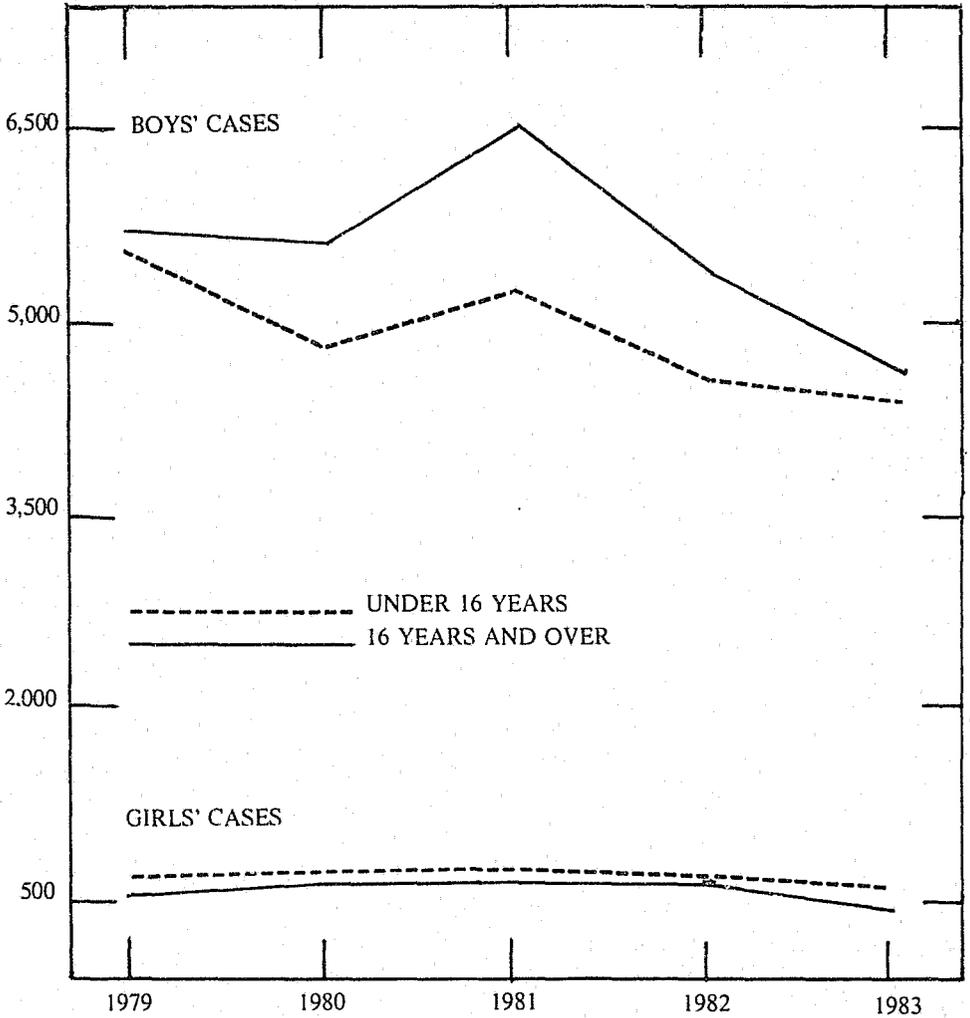


TABLE 14

NEW CHARGES DISPOSED OF - INDIVIDUAL
CHILDREN - BY SEX AND AGE GROUP: 1979 TO 1983

Year	Cases					Individual children ¹				
	Total	White ² boys	Non- white boys	White ² girls	Non- white girls	Total	Non- White ² boys	White boys	Non- White ² girls	White girls
1979	12,524	3,564	7,698	396	866	8,694	2,658	4,995	325	716
1980	11,765	2,984	7,474	419	888	8,071	2,212	4,821	343	695
1981	13,183	3,051	8,765	417	950	8,847	2,180	5,537	348	782
1982	11,365	2,862	7,196	300	1,007	8,045	2,126	4,849	267	803
1983	10,185	2,404	6,670	217	894	7,323	1,800	4,619	192	712
	Under 16 years									
1979	6,218	1,619	3,910	209	480	4,500	1,252	2,668	173	407
1980	5,472	1,291	3,509	218	454	3,942	999	2,385	184	374
1981	5,967	1,302	3,937	201	527	4,248	969	2,669	171	439
1982	5,295	1,263	3,335	159	538	3,888	982	2,320	142	444
1983	5,015	1,198	3,198	128	491	3,693	888	2,288	119	398
	16 years and over									
1979	6,306	1,945	3,788	187	386	4,194	1,406	2,327	152	309
1980	6,293	1,693	3,965	201	434	4,129	1,213	2,436	159	321
1981	7,216	1,749	4,828	216	423	4,599	1,211	2,868	177	343
1982	6,070	1,599	3,861	141	469	4,157	1,144	2,529	125	359
1983	5,170	1,206	3,472	89	403	3,630	912	2,331	73	314

¹See footnote 2, Table 15.

²Includes Hispanics.

INCIDENCE OF DELINQUENCY
NEW CHARGES
Cases and Children
1979 TO 1983

THOUSANDS

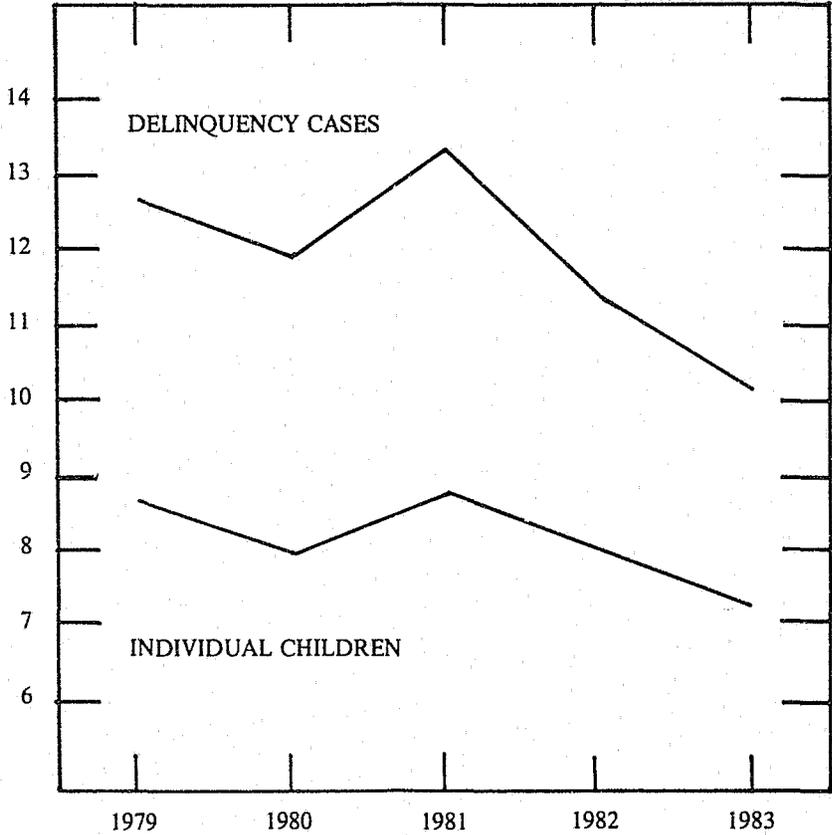


TABLE 15

NUMBER OF CHILDREN INVOLVED IN DELINQUENCY CASES
BY AGE, SEX, AND RACE: 1983

Age and sex of children	Delinquency cases ¹ disposed of				Individual children ² involved in cases disposed of			
	Total	White		Non- white ⁴	Total	White		Non- white ⁴
		Total ³	Hispanic			Total ³	Hispanic	
Total cases	10,185	2,621	633	7,564	7,323	1,992	464	5,331
Boys	9,074	2,404	608	6,670	6,419	1,800	441	4,619
Under 16 years	4,396	1,198	320	3,198	3,176	888	229	2,288
10 years	99	42	10	57	82	35	9	47
11 years	200	43	12	157	146	34	5	112
12 years	418	124	40	294	311	82	18	229
13 years	698	198	60	500	546	155	48	391
14 years	1,260	355	93	905	883	264	71	619
15 years	1,721	436	105	1,285	1,208	318	78	890
16 and 17 years	4,678	1,206	288	3,472	3,243	912	212	2,331
16 years	2,323	608	148	1,715	1,627	474	104	1,153
17 years	2,355	598	140	1,757	1,616	438	108	1,178
Girls	1,111	217	25	894	904	192	23	712
Under 16 years	619	128	16	491	517	119	15	398
10 years	10	5	-	5	10	5	-	5
11 years	17	2	-	15	15	2	-	13
12 years	51	14	-	37	42	10	-	32
13 years	111	25	6	86	100	24	6	76
14 years	191	29	6	162	155	26	5	129
15 years	239	53	4	186	195	52	4	143
16 and 17 years	492	89	9	403	387	73	8	314
16 years	269	43	5	226	212	33	4	179
17 years	223	46	4	177	175	40	4	135

¹In counting "cases" each child is counted separately and as many times as he was dealt with by the court on a new delinquency charge disposed of during the year.

²In counting "children" each child is counted only once, the first time he was dealt with by the court on a new delinquency charge disposed of during the year.

³Includes Hispanics.

⁴Includes Blacks and an insignificant number of children of other races.

PERCENT DISTRIBUTION BY SEX
AND AGE OF CHILDREN INVOLVED
IN DELINQUENT CASES DISPOSED
OF IN 1983

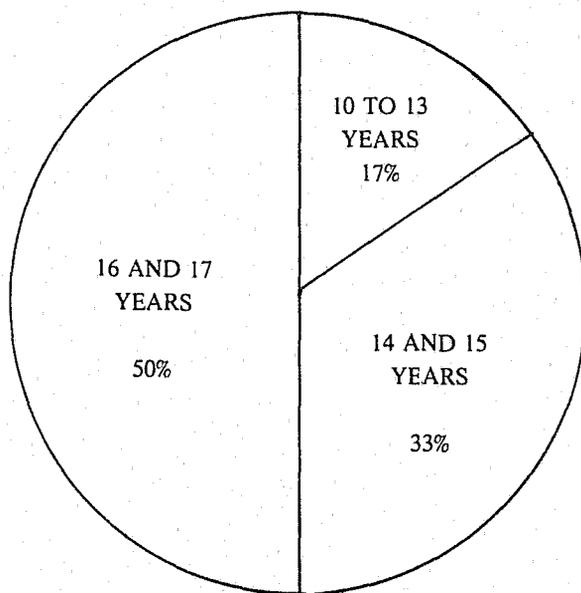
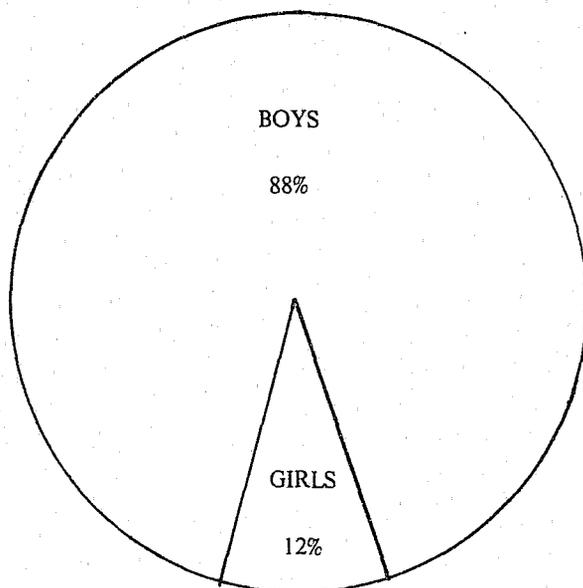


TABLE 16

JUVENILE POPULATION OF PHILADELPHIA - 10 TO 17 YEARS

Age	Population: School Census ¹					
	1980			1981		
	Total	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls
10 to 17 years	225,131	113,982	111,149	222,738	113,090	109,648
10 to 13 years	105,823	53,295	52,528	105,694	53,718	51,976
10 years	26,732	13,424	13,308	26,166	13,492	12,674
11 years	25,817	13,038	12,779	26,799	13,548	13,251
12 years	26,093	13,205	12,888	26,219	13,280	12,939
13 years	27,181	13,628	13,553	26,510	13,398	13,112
14 and 15 years	57,575	29,320	28,255	56,135	28,698	27,437
14 years	28,258	14,478	13,780	27,553	14,030	13,623
15 years	29,317	14,842	14,475	28,482	14,668	13,814
16 and 17 years	61,733	31,367	30,366	60,909	30,674	30,235
16 years	30,490	15,498	14,992	29,429	14,820	14,609
17 years	31,243	15,869	15,374	31,480	15,854	15,626
Age	Population: School Census ¹					
	1982			1983		
	Total	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls
10 to 17 years	215,370	109,451	105,919	211,943	107,748	104,195
10 to 13 years	103,296	52,535	50,761	98,639	50,574	48,065
10 years	24,112	12,215	11,897	22,247	11,399	10,848
11 years	26,166	13,492	12,674	23,893	12,157	11,736
12 years	26,799	13,548	13,251	26,229	13,700	12,529
13 years	26,219	13,280	12,939	26,270	13,318	12,952
14 and 15 years	54,163	27,428	26,735	50,922	25,586	25,336
14 years	26,510	13,398	13,112	25,608	13,008	12,600
15 years	27,653	14,030	13,623	25,314	12,578	12,736
16 and 17 years	57,911	29,488	28,423	62,382	31,588	30,794
16 years	28,482	14,668	13,814	25,880	12,785	13,095
17 years	29,429	14,820	14,609	36,502	18,803	17,699

¹Information supplied by the School District of Philadelphia.

TABLE 17

INDIVIDUAL CHILDREN BY RESIDENCE, AND
PERCENT OF CHILD POPULATION: 1983

Age and sex	Child population ¹	Individual children			
		Total	Non-residents	Residents	
				Number	Percent population
Total	211,943	7,323	120	7,203	3.4
10 to 13 years	98,639	1,252	11	1,241	1.3
14 and 15 years	50,922	2,441	41	2,400	4.7
16 and 17 years	62,382	3,630	68	3,562	5.7
Boys	107,748	6,419	99	6,320	5.9
10 years	11,399	82	1	81	0.7
11 years	12,157	146	1	145	1.1
12 years	13,700	311	3	308	2.2
13 years	13,318	546	5	541	4.0
14 years	13,008	883	12	871	6.6
15 years	12,578	1,208	20	1,188	9.4
16 years	12,785	1,627	28	1,599	12.5
17 years	18,803	1,616	29	1,587	8.4
Girls	104,195	904	21	883	0.8
10 years	10,848	10	--	10	-. ²
11 years	11,736	15	-	15	0.1
12 years ²	12,529	42	1	41	0.3
13 years	12,952	100	-	100	0.7
14 years	12,600	155	3	152	1.2
15 years	12,736	195	6	189	1.4
16 years	13,095	212	8	204	1.5
17 years	17,699	175	3	172	0.9

¹Information supplied by the School District of Philadelphia.

²Less than 0.1 percent.

TABLE 18

DELINQUENCY RATIOS: RESIDENT CHILDREN OF PHILADELPHIA BY
AGE GROUP: 1979 TO 1983

Year and age group	Delinquent children 10 to 17 years of age, residents of Philadelphia			Ratio per 1,000 population		
	Total	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls
10 to 17 years:						
1979.....	8,451	7,445	1,006	36	63	9
1980.....	7,880	6,879	1,001	35	60	9
1981.....	8,663	7,560	1,103	39	67	10
1982.....	7,869	6,833	1,036	37	62	10
1983.....	7,203	6,320	883	34	59	8
10 to 13 years:						
1979.....	1,409	1,236	173	13	22	3
1980.....	1,124	944	180	11	18	3
1981.....	1,223	1,047	176	11	18	3
1982.....	1,219	1,041	178	12	20	4
1983.....	1,241	1,075	166	13	21	3
14 and 15 years:						
1979.....	3,017	2,619	398	50	86	13
1980.....	2,758	2,395	363	48	82	13
1981.....	2,964	2,540	424	52	89	15
1982.....	2,622	2,229	393	48	81	15
1983.....	2,400	2,059	341	47	81	13
16 and 17 years:						
1979.....	4,025	3,590	435	63	112	14
1980.....	3,998	3,540	458	65	113	15
1981.....	4,476	3,973	503	73	130	17
1982.....	4,028	3,563	465	70	121	16
1983.....	3,562	3,186	376	57	101	12

AGE DISTRIBUTION - RESIDENT DELINQUENT CHILDREN OF PHILADELPHIA: 1979 TO 1983

CHILDREN

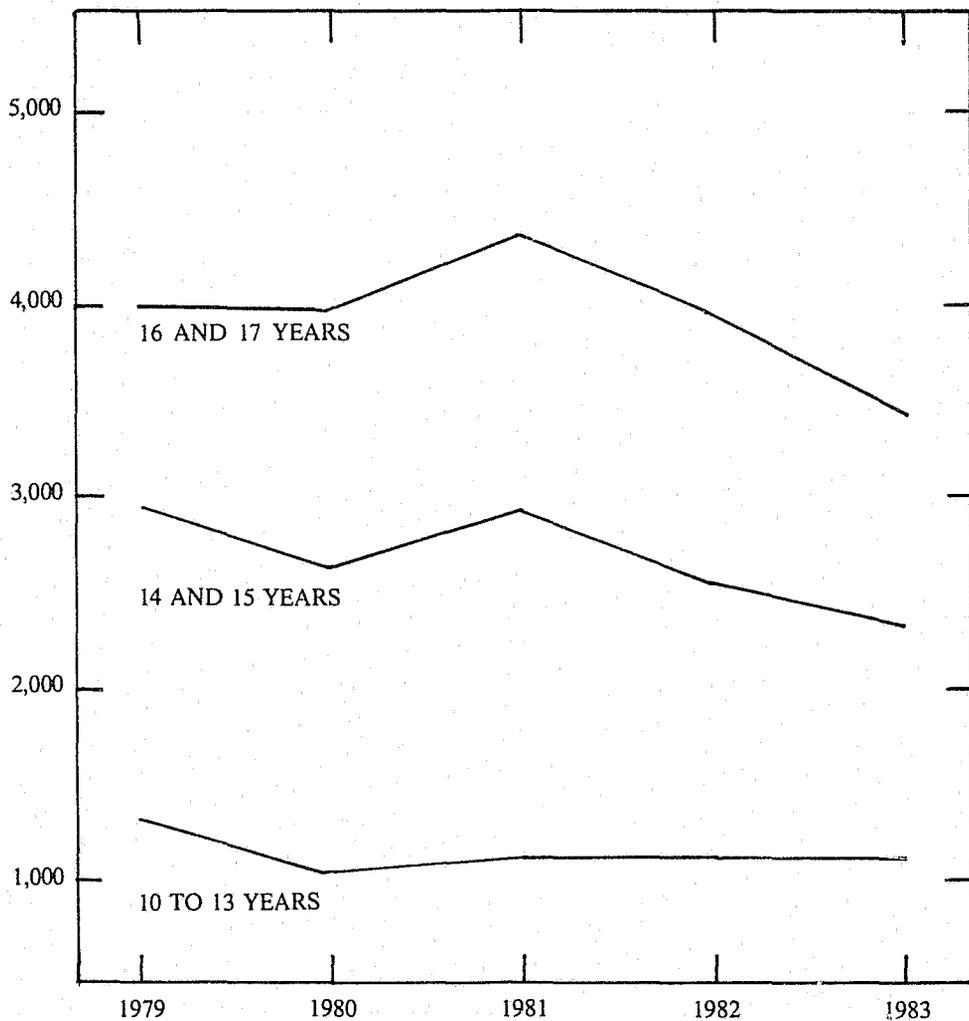


TABLE 19

REASON FOR REFERRAL OF DELINQUENCY CASES BY
PLACE OF DISPOSITION: 1983

Offenses	Delinquency cases disposed of						
	Total			Disposed of through court hearing		Disposed of at intake	
	Total	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
Total cases	10,185	9,074	1,111	8,164	868	910	243
Injury to person	1,839	1,458	381	1,250	278	208	103
Homicide	4	3	1	3	1	-	-
Aggravated assault	1,174	975	199	900	151	75	48
Assault	336	241	95	138	49	103	46
Assault on police officer	114	93	21	88	21	5	-
Coercion/threats	210	146	64	121	55	25	9
Others	1	-	1	-	1	-	-
Theft	6,083	5,660	423	5,530	408	130	15
Burglary	1,898	1,842	56	1,827	53	15	3
Robbery	1,764	1,670	94	1,663	93	7	1
Larceny	1,382	1,280	102	1,202	98	78	4
Auto theft	491	476	15	471	14	5	1
Receiving stolen property	113	97	16	87	15	10	1
Retail theft	292	186	106	180	103	6	3
Fraud, forgery, etc.	143	109	34	100	32	9	2
Weapons offenses	470	396	74	357	58	39	16
Possessing instruments of crime	440	375	65	349	57	26	8
Prohibited offensive weapons	30	21	9	8	1	13	8
Sex offenses	170	154	16	153	14	1	2
Rape	61	61	-	61	-	-	-
Indecent assault	23	23	-	23	-	-	-
Deviate sexual intercourse	56	52	4	52	4	-	-
Prostitution	19	8	11	8	9	-	2
Other	11	10	1	9	1	1	-
Drug law violations	457	412	45	268	29	144	16
Possession of drugs	274	249	25	132	10	117	15
Sale of drugs	183	163	20	136	19	27	1

TABLE 19 - Concluded

REASON FOR REFERRAL OF DELINQUENCY CASES BY
PLACE OF DISPOSITION: 1983

Offenses	Delinquency cases disposed of						
	Total			Disposed of through court hearing		Disposed of at intake interviews	
	Total	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
Malicious mischief	401	351	50	255	28	96	22
Vandalism	107	101	6	85	5	16	1
Arson	57	50	7	50	7	-	-
Disorderly conduct	40	34	6	18	4	16	2
Trespassing	74	67	7	58	4	9	3
Conspiracy	22	21	1	8	1	13	-
Resisting an officer	21	19	2	11	-	8	2
Harassment	58	37	21	10	7	27	14
Other	22	22	-	15	-	7	-
Runaway from institution or agency	300	252	48	248	46	4	2
Miscellaneous offenses	465	391	74	103	7	288	67
Failure to pay fines and costs	257	217	40	52	3	165	37
Other	208	174	34	51	4	123	30

TABLE 20

REASON FOR REFERRAL OF DELINQUENCY CASES BY SEX AND RACE: 1983

Offenses	Delinquency cases disposed of						
	Total	Boys			Girls		
		Total	White	Non-white	Total	White	Non-white
Total cases	10,185	9,074	2,404	6,670	1,111	217	894
Injury to person	1,839	1,458	437	1,021	381	85	296
Homicide	4	3	1	2	1	-	1
Aggravated assault	1,174	975	232	743	199	39	160
Assault	336	241	109	132	95	26	69
Assault on police officer	114	93	43	50	21	6	15
Coercion/threats	210	146	52	94	64	14	50
Others	1	-	-	-	1	-	-
Theft	5,083	5,660	1,332	4,328	423	49	374
Burglary	1,898	1,842	618	1,224	56	8	48
Robbery	1,764	1,670	163	1,507	94	9	85
Larceny	1,382	1,280	356	924	102	18	84
Auto theft	491	476	123	353	15	1	14
Receiving stolen property	113	97	26	71	16	3	13
Retail theft	292	186	18	168	106	6	100
Fraud, forgery, etc.	143	109	28	81	34	4	30
Weapons offenses	470	396	90	306	74	4	70
Possessing instruments of crime	440	375	86	289	65	2	63
Prohibited offensive weapons	30	21	4	17	9	2	7
Sex offenses	170	154	34	120	16	3	13
Rape	61	61	10	51	-	-	-
Indecent assault	23	23	7	16	-	-	-
Deviate sexual intercourse	56	52	6	46	4	-	4
Prostitution	19	8	5	3	11	2	9
Other	11	10	6	4	1	1	-
Drug law violations	457	412	161	251	45	24	21
Possession of drugs	274	249	89	160	25	17	8
Sale of drugs	183	163	72	91	20	7	13

TABLE 20 - Concluded

REASON FOR REFERRAL OF DELINQUENCY CASES BY SEX AND RACE: 1983

Offenses	Delinquency cases disposed of						
	Total	Boys		Girls			
		Total	White	Non-white	Total	White	Non-white
Malicious mischief	401	351	147	204	50	19	31
Vandalism	107	101	42	59	6	1	5
Arson	57	50	31	19	7	2	5
Disorderly conduct	40	34	18	16	6	2	4
Trespassing	74	67	15	52	7	-	7
Conspiracy	22	21	5	16	1	-	1
Resisting an officer	21	19	10	9	2	2	-
Harassment	58	37	20	17	21	12	9
Other	22	22	6	16	-	-	-
Ranaway from institution or agency	300	252	60	192	48	10	38
Miscellaneous offenses	465	391	143	248	74	23	51
Failure to pay fines and costs ...	257	217	74	143	40	14	26
Other	208	174	69	105	34	9	25

TABLE 21

REASON FOR REFERRAL BY AGE AND SEX: 1983

Age and Sex	Delinquency cases disposed of							
	Total	Injury to person	Theft					Weapons offenses
			Burglary	Robbery	Larceny	Auto theft	Other theft	
Total cases	10,185	1,839	1,898	1,764	1,382	491	548	470
10 years	109	21	23	14	21	-	9	7
11 years	217	39	75	26	37	-	10	6
12 years	469	105	120	74	62	3	19	33
13 years	809	177	180	121	121	14	30	50
14 years	1,451	282	285	241	189	54	71	75
15 years	1,960	342	379	384	272	91	109	78
16 years	2,592	419	419	468	337	148	153	110
17 years	2,578	454	417	436	343	181	147	111
Boys' cases	9,074	1,458	1,842	1,670	1,280	476	392	396
10 years	99	17	23	13	20	-	6	7
11 years	200	34	72	25	34	-	6	6
12 years	418	87	115	72	55	2	16	24
13 years	698	125	167	110	115	14	25	43
14 years	1,260	200	275	222	174	54	52	63
15 years	1,721	255	371	358	250	90	82	64
16 years	2,323	343	410	448	319	141	101	92
17 years	2,355	397	409	422	313	175	104	97
Girls' cases	1,111	381	56	94	102	15	156	74
10 years	10	4	-	1	1	-	3	-
11 years	17	5	3	1	3	-	4	-
12 years	51	18	5	2	7	1	3	9
13 years	111	52	13	11	6	-	5	7
14 years	191	82	10	19	15	-	19	12
15 years	239	87	8	26	22	1	27	14
16 years	269	76	9	20	18	7	52	18
17 years	223	57	8	14	30	6	43	14

TABLE 21 - Concluded

REASON FOR REFERRAL BY AGE AND SEX: 1983

Age and Sex	Delinquency cases disposed of						
	Sex offenses	Drug law violations	Malicious mischief			Runaway from institution	All other offenses
			Disorderly conduct	Vandalism ¹	Other acts		
Total cases.....	170	457	40	164	197	300	465
10 years.....	-	-	-	7	6	-	1
11 years.....	4	-	-	7	9	1	3
12 years.....	10	1	1	15	12	8	6
13 years.....	17	5	3	30	18	18	25
14 years.....	43	29	5	31	42	43	61
15 years.....	25	69	6	30	29	58	88
16 years.....	34	162	11	17	45	76	193
17 years.....	37	191	14	27	36	96	88
Boys' cases.....	154	412	34	151	166	252	391
10 years.....	-	-	-	7	5	-	1
11 years.....	4	-	-	7	8	1	3
12 years.....	9	1	1	14	12	6	4
13 years.....	16	4	3	27	15	16	18
14 years.....	42	27	5	30	35	33	48
15 years.....	20	58	5	27	24	46	71
16 years.....	28	147	7	14	35	67	171
17 years.....	35	175	13	25	32	83	75
Girls' cases.....	16	45	6	13	31	48	74
10 years.....	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
11 years.....	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
12 years.....	1	-	-	1	-	2	2
13 years.....	1	1	-	3	3	2	7
14 years.....	1	2	-	1	7	10	13
15 years.....	5	11	1	3	5	12	17
16 years.....	6	15	4	3	10	9	22
17 years.....	2	16	1	2	4	13	13

¹Includes arson.

TABLE 22

REASON FOR REFERRAL BY AREA OF OCCURRENCE: 1983

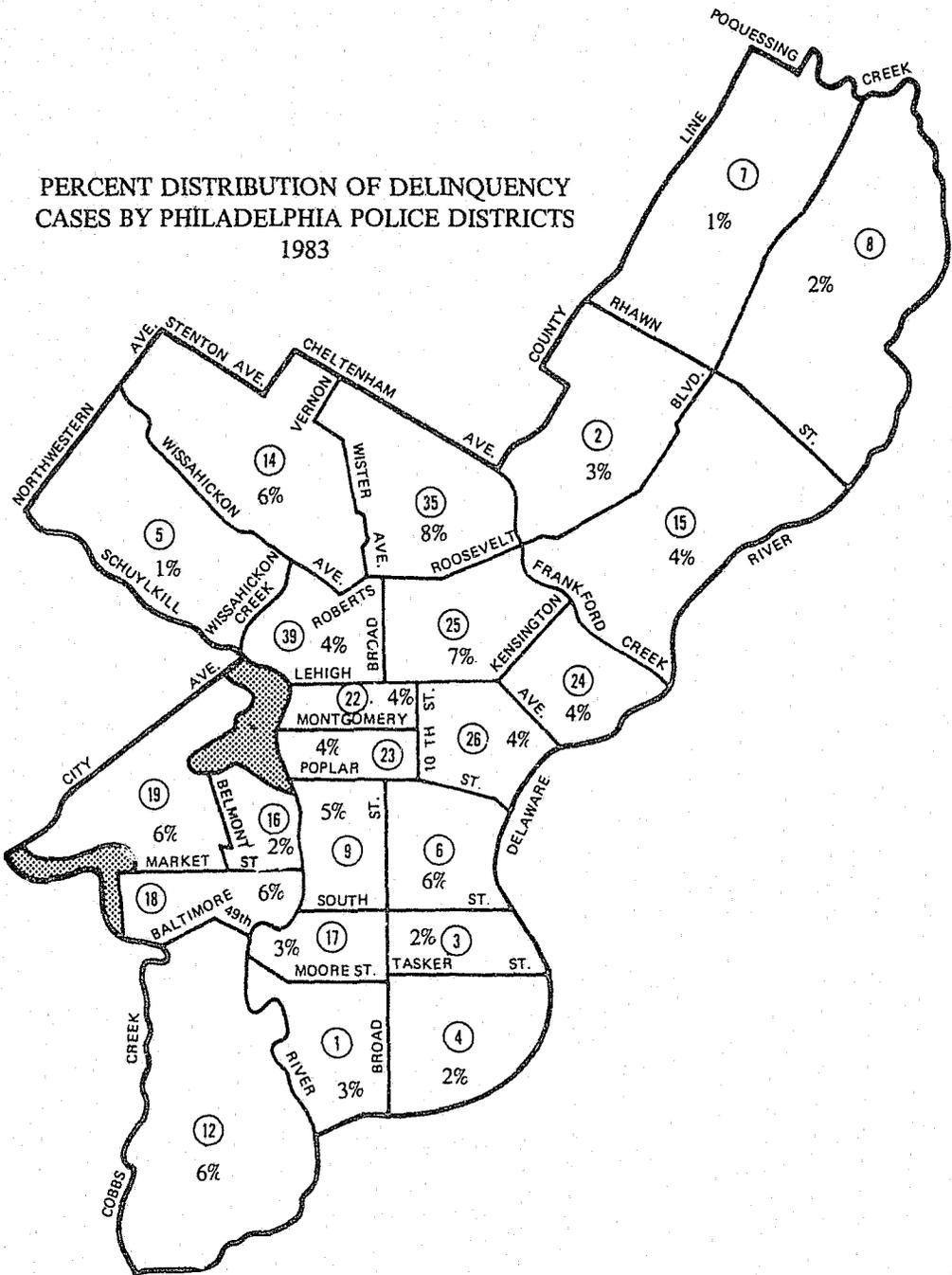
Philadelphia Police Districts	Delinquency cases disposed of						
	Total	Injury to person	Theft				
			Burglary	Robbery	Larceny	Auto theft	Other
Total cases	10,185	1,839	1,898	1,764	1,382	481	558
Police arrests	9,191	1,207	1,866	1,756	1,285	466	502
1st District	264	42	30	69	29	14	15
2nd District	266	21	49	14	46	17	54
3rd District	206	24	39	37	33	7	9
4th District	254	38	38	24	38	11	18
5th District	99	11	16	10	17	3	6
6th District	626	42	63	136	130	25	135
7th District	113	15	15	16	18	3	8
8th District	222	32	51	9	40	13	24
9th District	508	49	91	79	104	22	24
12th District	648	118	164	135	61	33	15
14th District	595	79	159	103	74	40	8
15th District	381	36	82	44	55	20	24
16th District	220	30	46	47	35	15	12
17th District	263	52	52	52	23	12	9
18th District	592	71	78	145	90	40	28
19th District	574	79	155	137	34	27	18
22nd District	450	91	76	115	59	18	5
23rd District	370	46	71	82	54	21	9
24th District	174	18	22	20	32	6	20
25th District	703	106	168	134	93	20	13
26th District	402	68	105	61	48	9	12
35th District	765	102	181	175	100	63	26
39th District	401	34	105	88	48	14	10
Other	95	3	10	24	24	13	-
Other referrals	994	632	32	8	97	15	56

TABLE 22 - Concluded

REASON FOR REFERRAL BY AREA OF OCCURRENCE: 1983

Philadelphia Police Districts	Delinquency cases disposed of					
	Weapons offenses	Sex offenses	Drug law violations	Malicious mischief	Runaway from institution	All other offenses
Total cases	470	170	457	401	300	465
Police arrests	438	161	449	303	300	458
1st District	18	4	9	18	6	10
2nd District	14	4	15	5	3	24
3rd District	5	7	13	6	9	17
4th District	21	1	41	9	4	11
5th District	2	-	20	5	3	6
6th District	12	12	10	7	18	36
7th District	8	-	18	4	1	7
8th District	5	3	19	7	3	16
9th District	11	5	34	10	48	31
12th District	29	12	18	15	18	30
14th District	27	14	31	22	14	24
15th District	35	8	18	20	8	31
16th District	12	1	8	3	7	4
17th District	16	7	6	9	14	11
18th District	25	11	25	23	25	31
19th District	30	12	23	26	13	20
22nd District	16	18	14	5	18	15
23rd District	27	6	10	9	18	17
24th District	11	1	18	7	5	14
25th District	26	6	30	34	27	46
26th District	23	5	20	12	13	26
35th District	36	15	24	15	14	14
39th District	26	9	23	23	9	12
Other	3	-	2	9	2	5
Other referrals	32	9	8	98	-	7

PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF DELINQUENCY CASES BY PHILADELPHIA POLICE DISTRICTS
1983



PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF DELINQUENCY
 CASES BY RESIDENCE AREA: 1983

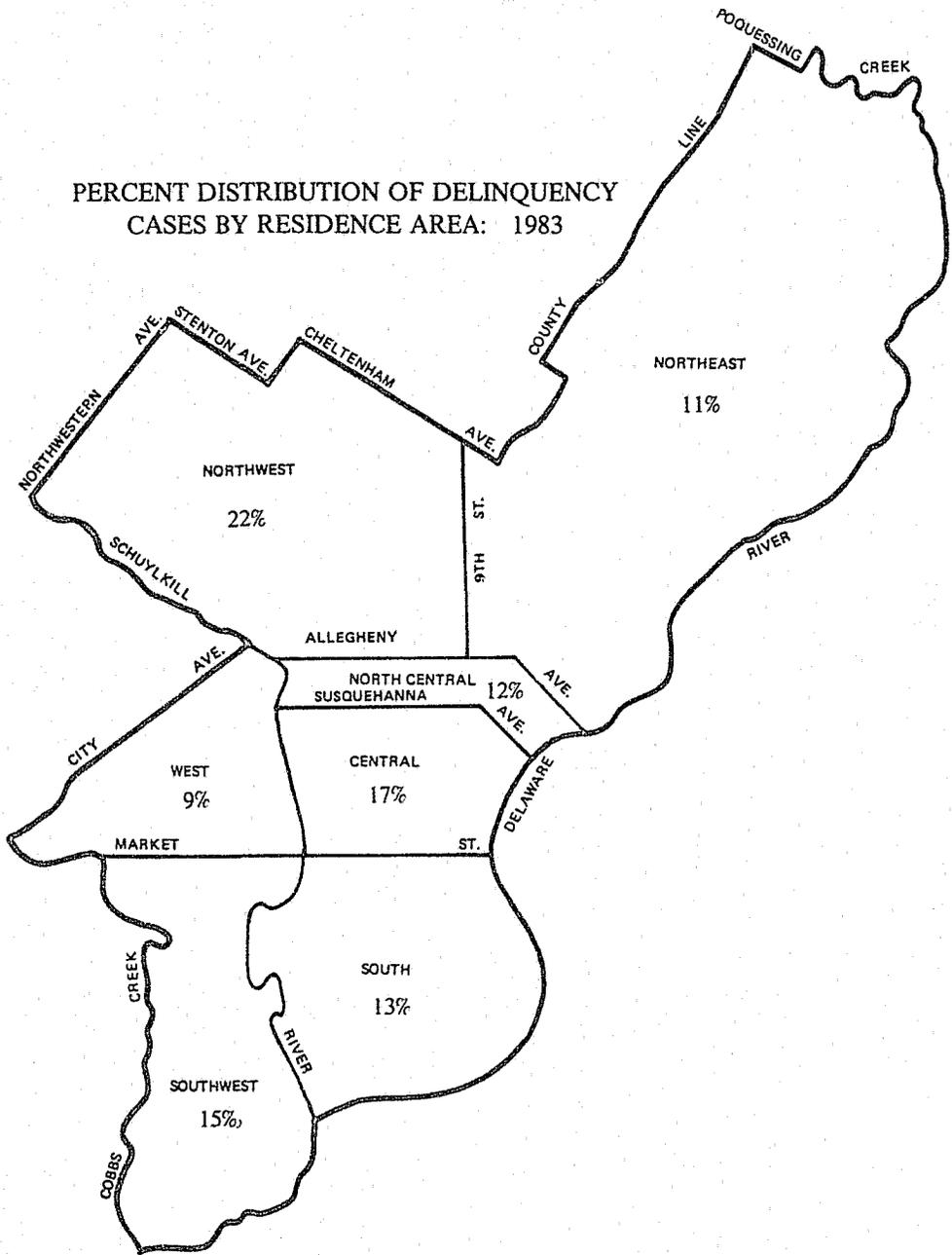


TABLE 23

REASON FOR REFERRAL BY PHILADELPHIA RESIDENCE AREA: 1983

Residence area	Delinquency cases disposed of						
	Total	Injury to person	Theft				
			Burglary	Robbery	Larceny	Auto theft	Other
Total cases	10,185	1,839	1,898	1,764	1,382	481	558
Residents	10,043	1,826	1,881	1,746	1,369	461	551
Northwest	2,235	384	452	411	288	142	105
<i>Percent</i>	100	17	20	18	13	6	5
Northeast	1,093	239	234	69	139	40	52
<i>Percent</i>	100	21	21	6	13	4	5
North Central	1,238	215	263	219	176	28	43
<i>Percent</i>	100	17	21	18	14	2	4
Central	1,693	256	273	309	273	92	148
<i>Percent</i>	100	15	16	18	16	5	9
West	904	164	159	179	115	25	57
<i>Percent</i>	100	18	18	20	13	3	6
Southwest	1,552	309	304	322	183	81	58
<i>Percent</i>	100	19	19	21	12	5	4
South	1,328	259	196	237	195	53	88
<i>Percent</i>	100	19	15	18	15	4	6
Non-residents	142	13	17	18	13	20	7

TABLE 23 - Concluded

REASON FOR REFERRAL BY PHILADELPHIA RESIDENCE AREA: 1983

Residence area	Delinquency cases disposed of					
	Weapons offenses	Sex offenses	Drug law violations	Malicious mischief	Runaway from institution	All other offenses
Total cases	470	170	457	401	300	465
Residents	465	165	445	391	285	458
Northwest	101	44	112	75	48	73
<i>Percent</i>	5	2	5	3	2	3
Northeast	53	19	61	82	21	84
<i>Percent</i>	5	2	5	7	2	8
North Central	61	19	54	53	40	67
<i>Percent</i>	5	2	4	4	3	5
Central	70	22	69	44	57	80
<i>Percent</i>	4	1	4	3	3	5
West	47	10	37	41	28	42
<i>Percent</i>	5	1	4	4	3	5
Southwest	67	26	49	41	55	57
<i>Percent</i>	4	1	3	3	4	4
South	66	25	63	55	36	55
<i>Percent</i>	5	2	5	4	3	4
Non-residents	5	5	12	10	15	7

TABLE 24

REASON FOR REFERRAL: 1979 TO 1983

Year and sex	Total	Injury to person	Theft					Weapons offenses
			Burglary	Robbery	Larceny	Auto theft	Other theft	
Total cases								
1979	12,524	2,011	2,494	1,684	2,322	648	629	438
1980	11,765	1,819	1,985	1,972	1,828	950	551	370
1981	13,183	2,116	2,680	2,282	1,723	1,177	451	441
1982	11,365	1,804	2,132	2,091	1,564	619	457	528
1983	10,185	1,839	1,898	1,764	1,382	491	548	470
Boys' cases								
1979	11,262	1,558	2,410	1,601	2,192	633	458	403
1980	10,458	1,426	1,886	1,846	1,675	927	385	335
1981	11,816	1,660	2,586	2,138	1,576	1,142	349	382
1982	10,058	1,383	2,031	1,940	1,447	586	337	442
1983	9,074	1,458	1,842	1,670	1,280	476	392	396
Girls' cases								
1979	1,262	453	84	83	130	15	171	35
1980	1,307	393	99	126	153	23	166	35
1981	1,367	456	94	144	147	35	102	59
1982	1,307	421	101	151	117	33	120	86
1983	1,111	381	56	94	102	15	156	74

TABLE 24 - Concluded

REASON FOR REFERRAL: 1979 TO 1983

Year and sex	Sex offenses	Drug law violations	Malicious mischief			Runaway from institution	All other offenses
			Disorderly conduct	Vandalism ¹	Other acts		
Total cases							
1979	219	830	117	214	232	276	410
1980	225	759	100	176	210	322	498
1981	227	726	53	169	148	337	653
1982	184	751	61	181	182	294	517
1983	170	457	40	164	197	300	465
Boys' cases							
1979	209	727	93	198	198	256	326
1980	208	630	82	157	188	289	424
1981	192	631	46	156	130	305	523
1982	167	652	50	172	154	257	440
1983	154	412	34	151	166	252	391
Girls' cases							
1979	10	103	24	16	34	20	84
1980	17	129	18	19	22	33	74
1981	35	95	7	13	18	32	130
1982	17	99	11	9	28	37	77
1983	16	45	6	13	31	48	74

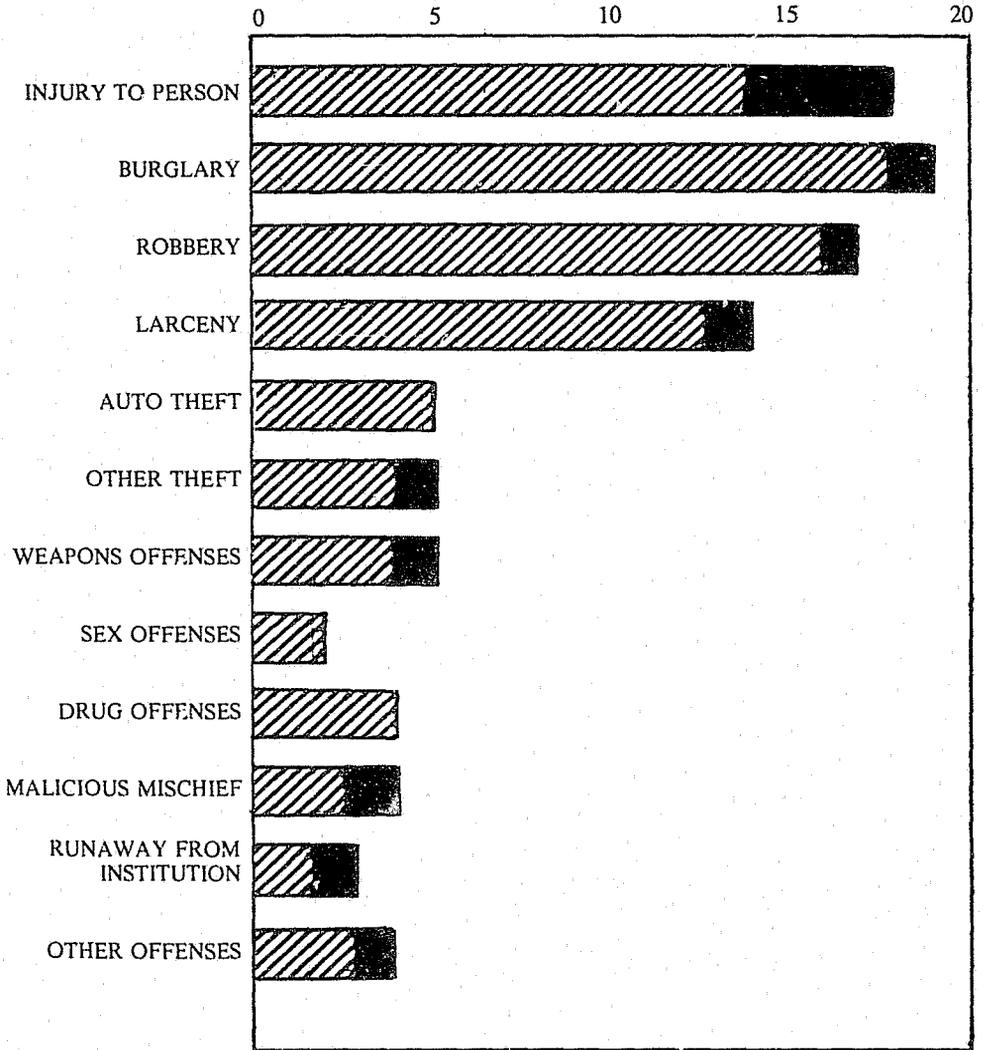
¹Includes arson.

TABLE 25

OFFENSES AND PERCENT DISTRIBUTION: 1979 TO 1983

Offenses	Delinquency cases disposed of				
	1983	1982	1981	1980	1979
Total cases	10,185	11,365	13,183	11,765	12,524
Injury to person	1,839	1,804	2,116	1,819	2,011
Burglary	1,898	2,132	2,680	1,985	2,494
Robbery	1,764	2,091	2,282	1,972	1,684
Larceny	1,382	1,564	1,723	1,828	2,322
Auto theft	491	619	1,083	950	648
Other theft	548	457	545	551	629
Weapons offenses	470	528	441	370	438
Sex offenses	170	184	227	225	219
Drug law violations	457	751	726	759	830
Malicious mischief	401	424	370	486	563
Runaway from institution	300	294	337	322	276
All other offenses	465	517	653	498	410
Percent distribution	100	100	100	100	100
Injury to person	18	16	16	15	16
Burglary	19	19	20	17	20
Robbery	17	18	17	17	13
Larceny	14	14	13	16	19
Auto theft	5	5	8	8	5
Other theft	5	4	4	5	5
Weapons offenses	5	5	3	3	3
Sex offenses	2	2	2	2	2
Drug law violations	4	7	6	6	7
Malicious mischief	4	4	3	4	4
Runaway from institution	3	2	3	3	2
All other offenses	4	4	5	4	3

PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF OFFENSES
NEW CHARGES DISPOSED OF IN 1983



¹Girls' cases less than 0.5 percent.

BOYS



GIRLS



TABLE 26

SOURCE OF REFERRAL BY SEX AND RACE: 1983

Source of reference	Delinquency cases disposed of						
	Total	Boys			Girls		
		Total	White	Non-white	Total	White	Non-white
Total cases	10,185	9,074	2,404	6,670	1,111	217	894
Police arrests	9,191	8,375	2,164	6,211	816	134	682
<i>Percent</i>	90	92	90	93	73	62	76
Other referrals	994	699	240	459	295	83	212
Authorities outside Phila.	145	129	26	103	16	1	15
Individual	783	522	199	323	261	74	187
Parent or relative	65	47	15	32	18	8	10
School authorities	1	1	-	1	-	-	-

TABLE 27

RESIDENCE OF CHILD AND MARITAL STATUS OF NATURAL PARENTS: 1983

Residence of child and marital status of parents	Children ¹ in delinquency cases disposed of						
	Total	Boys		Girls			
		Total	White	Non-white	Total	White	Non-white
Total children	7,323	6,419	1,800	4,619	904	192	712
Child living with:							
Both parents	1,912	1,718	783	935	194	74	120
Parent and step-parent	353	320	111	209	33	10	23
Mother	3,892	3,390	684	2,706	502	68	434
Father	306	272	96	176	34	12	22
Other family home ²	598	513	70	443	85	9	76
Institution or agency	70	61	10	51	9	3	6
Independent residence	8	5	4	1	3	2	1
Not reported	184	140	42	98	44	14	30
Marital status of parents	7,323	6,419	1,800	4,619	904	192	712
Married	1,885	1,694	775	919	191	75	116
Parent(s) deceased	834	733	159	574	101	24	77
Divorced	255	221	99	122	34	13	21
Separated	2,109	1,845	499	1,346	264	50	214
Not married	779	657	55	602	122	4	118
Not reported	1,461	1,269	213	1,056	192	26	166

¹See footnote 2, Table 15.²With relatives, foster parents, guardian, etc.

TABLE 28

MARITAL STATUS OF NATURAL PARENTS AND
NUMBER OF INDIVIDUAL CHILDREN¹ -
1979 TO 1983

Sex and year	Children in delinquency cases disposed of						
	Total	Parental marital relationship					
		Married	Parent(s) deceased	Divorced	Separated	Not married	Not reported
Total children							
1979.....	8,694	2,904	1,108	505	2,371	680	1,126
1980.....	8,071	2,426	1,049	467	2,182	552	1,395
1981.....	8,847	2,519	1,079	464	2,383	616	1,786
1982.....	8,045	2,239	990	371	2,171	715	1,559
1983.....	7,323	1,885	834	255	2,109	779	1,461
Boys							
1979.....	7,653	2,628	955	460	2,075	603	932
1980.....	7,033	2,115	937	416	1,884	487	1,194
1981.....	7,717	2,237	948	411	2,050	548	1,523
1982.....	6,975	1,958	846	339	1,898	598	1,336
1983.....	6,419	1,694	733	221	1,845	657	1,269
Girls							
1979.....	1,041	276	153	45	296	77	194
1980.....	1,038	311	112	51	298	65	201
1981.....	1,130	282	131	53	333	68	263
1982.....	1,070	281	144	32	273	117	223
1983.....	904	191	101	34	264	233	192

¹See footnote 2, Table 15.

TABLE 29

RESIDENCE OF CHILD: 1979 TO 1983

Race, sex and year	Children in delinquency cases disposed of							
	Total	Residence of child						Not reported
		With both parents	With parent and step- parent	With mother	With father	In other family home ¹	Other ²	
Total children								
1979	8,694	2,912	413	4,082	326	661	135	165
1980	8,071	2,402	377	4,065	309	651	129	138
1981	8,847	2,508	402	4,508	363	692	132	242
1982	8,045	2,249	398	4,117	371	639	86	185
1983	7,323	1,912	353	3,892	306	598	78	184
Boys								
1979	7,653	2,637	372	3,573	297	567	97	110
1980	7,033	2,097	333	3,547	274	587	94	101
1981	7,717	2,232	348	3,917	319	610	109	182
1982	6,975	1,969	360	3,566	324	551	67	138
1983	6,419	1,718	320	3,390	272	513	66	140
Girls								
1979	1,041	275	41	509	29	94	38	55
1980	1,038	305	44	518	35	64	35	37
1981	1,130	276	54	591	44	82	23	60
1982	1,070	280	38	551	47	88	19	47
1983	904	194	33	502	34	85	12	44

¹With foster parents, relatives, guardians, etc.

²In institution or independent residence.

TABLE 30

TYPE OF DISPOSITION: 1979 TO 1983

Type of disposition	Delinquency cases disposed of				
	1983	1982	1981	1980	1979
Total cases	10,185	11,365	13,183	11,765	12,524
Referred elsewhere for disposition	57	71	119	110	122
Withdrawn, discharged, adjusted	3,677	4,554	5,333	4,850	4,755
Probation or supervision	4,725	4,579	5,145	4,700	5,708
Committed to:					
Institution for delinquents	1,211	982	1,162	878	704
Other institutions or agencies	128	164	162	163	218
Certified to criminal court	215	237	235	156	94
Restitution or fines	79	62	55	61	68
Adjudged delinquent ¹	-	606	724	607	733
Others	93	110	248	240	122
Percent distribution	100	100	100	100	100
Referred elsewhere for disposition	1	1	1	1	1
Withdrawn, discharged, adjusted	36	40	40	41	38
Probation or supervision	46	40	39	40	45
Committed to:					
Institution for delinquents	12	9	9	7	5
Other institutions or agencies	1	1	1	1	2
Certified to criminal court	2	2	2	1	1
Restitution or fines	1	1	²	1	1
Adjudged delinquent	-	5	5	5	6
Others	1	1	2	2	1

¹ Cases in which a child already committed or placed on probation is adjudged delinquent on a new charge and remains on probation or in commitment. In 1983, these cases were categorized as probation or commitment dispositions.

² Less than 0.5 percent.

TABLE 31

DELINQUENCY CASES DISPOSED OF THROUGH COURT HEARING AND
INTAKE INTERVIEWS - TYPE OF DISPOSITION BY SEX AND RACE: 1983

Type of disposition	Delinquency cases disposed of						
	Total	Boys			Girls		
		Total	White	Non-white	Total	White	Non-white
Total cases	10,185	9,074	2,404	6,670	1,111	217	894
Referred elsewhere	57	54	20	34	3	1	2
Authorities outside the city	47	45	18	27	2	1	1
Counseling and referral	10	9	2	7	1	-	1
Withdrawn, discharged or adjusted	3,677	3,196	860	2,336	481	128	353
Discharged at court hearing	559	515	114	401	44	7	37
Adjusted at Youth Study Center	1,063	836	327	509	227	67	160
Determined	353	286	71	215	67	19	48
Petition withdrawn	1,644	1,503	334	1,169	141	34	107
Other	58	56	14	42	2	1	1
Probation	4,725	4,169	1,185	2,984	556	74	482
Probation	2,048	1,858	401	1,457	190	14	176
Clinical services probation	53	45	21	24	8	3	5
Intensive probation	50	47	6	41	3	1	2
Probation and restitution	373	340	96	244	33	1	32
Medical probation	1	1	-	1	-	-	-
Consent Decree	1,927	1,641	570	1,071	286	49	237
Consent Decree with restitution	273	237	91	146	36	6	30
Commitments	1,339	1,296	278	1,018	43	2	41
Institution for delinquents	1,211	1,178	243	935	33	-	33
Public/private agencies	103	95	26	69	8	-	8
Mental health facility	25	23	9	14	2	2	-
Certified to criminal court	215	211	13	198	4	1	3
Restitution or fines	79	73	14	59	6	-	6
Fines paid	80	65	30	35	15	8	7
Other	13	10	4	6	3	3	-

TABLE 32

DELINQUENCY CASES DISPOSED OF AT COURT HEARINGS—
TYPE OF DISPOSITION BY SEX AND RACE: 1983

Type of disposition	Delinquency cases disposed of						
	Total	Boys			Girls		
		Total	White	Non-white	Total	White	Non-white
Total cases	9,032	8,164	2,045	6,119	868	142	726
Referred to authorities outside the city	47	45	18	27	2	1	1
Withdrawn or discharged	2,614	2,360	533	1,827	254	61	193
Discharged	559	515	114	401	44	7	37
Determined	353	286	71	215	67	19	48
Petition withdrawn	1,644	1,503	334	1,169	141	34	107
Other	58	56	14	42	2	1	1
Probation	4,725	4,169	1,185	2,984	556	74	482
Probation	2,048	1,858	401	1,457	190	14	176
Clinical services	53	45	21	24	8	3	5
Intensive probation	50	47	6	41	3	1	2
Medical probation	1	1	—	1	—	—	—
Probation and restitution	373	340	96	244	33	1	32
Consent Decree	1,927	1,641	570	1,071	286	49	237
Consent Decree with restitution	273	237	91	146	36	6	30
Commitments	1,339	1,296	278	1,018	43	2	41
Institution for delinquents	1,211	1,178	243	935	33	—	33
Mental health facility	25	23	9	14	2	2	—
Agencies	103	95	26	69	8	—	8
Certified to criminal court	215	211	13	198	4	1	3
Restitution or fines	79	73	14	59	6	—	6
Other	13	10	4	6	3	3	—

TABLE 33

DELINQUENCY CASES DISPOSED OF THROUGH INTAKE
INTERVIEWS AT YOUTH STUDY CENTER: 1983

Type of disposition	Total	Boys			Girls		
		Total	White	Non-white	Total	White	Non-white
Total cases	1,153	910	359	551	243	75	168
Adjusted	1,063	836	327	509	227	67	160
Referred to Counseling and Referral Service	10	9	2	7	1	-	1
Fines paid	80	65	30	35	15	8	7

TABLE 34

REASON FOR REFERRAL AND TYPE OF DISPOSITION
BOYS' DELINQUENCY CASES: 1983

Offenses	Delinquency cases disposed of						
	Total	Referred elsewhere	With-drawn, discharged or adjusted	Pro-bation	Commitments	Certified to criminal court	Others
Boys' cases	9,074	54	3,196	4,169	1,296	211	148
Homicide	3	-	-	2	1	-	-
Assaults	1,309	3	523	559	171	43	10
Coercion/threats	146	1	69	59	12	-	5
Burglary	1,842	18	444	987	339	39	15
Robbery	1,670	6	514	691	339	101	19
Larceny	1,280	5	404	696	155	3	17
Auto Theft	476	9	110	233	112	4	8
Retail theft	186	1	47	97	40	-	1
Receiving stolen property	97	-	40	49	8	-	-
Other theft	109	1	33	59	15	-	1
Weapons offenses	396	-	100	268	25	1	2
Rape	61	-	9	21	21	10	-
Other sex offenses	93	1	19	53	15	4	1
Drug law violations	412	2	198	199	12	-	1
Disorderly conduct	34	1	19	14	-	-	-
Vandalism	101	-	30	64	6	-	1
Arson	50	-	15	28	5	2	-
Resisting an officer	19	-	13	4	2	-	-
Trespassing	67	-	20	38	6	2	1
Other malicious mischief	80	-	56	22	-	2	-
Runaway from institution	252	2	239	3	8	-	-
Motor-vehicle violation	24	-	13	10	1	-	-
Non-payment fines/costs	217	-	151	-	-	-	66
Other	150	4	130	13	3	-	-

TABLE 35

REASON FOR REFERRAL AND TYPE OF DISPOSITION
GIRLS' DELINQUENCY CASES: 1983

Offenses	Delinquency cases disposed of					
	Total	Re-ferred else-where	With-drawn, discharged or adjusted	Pro-bation	Comm-it-ments	Other ¹
Girls' cases	1,111	3	481	556	43	28
Homicide	1	-	1	-	-	-
Assaults	316	-	162	143	6	4
Coercion/threats	64	-	32	28	2	3
Burglary	56	-	13	38	4	1
Robbery	94	-	25	61	7	1
Larceny	102	1	34	60	6	1
Auto theft	15	-	5	10	-	-
Retail theft	106	-	16	84	6	-
Other theft	50	1	10	37	1	1
Weapons offenses	74	-	23	49	1	1
Sex offenses	16	-	7	4	5	-
Drug law violations	45	1	20	24	-	-
Disorderly conduct	6	-	4	2	-	-
Vandalism/arson	13	-	5	6	2	-
Other malicious mischief	31	-	23	8	-	-
Runaway from institution	48	-	44	-	3	1
Non-payment fines/costs	40	-	25	-	-	15
Other	34	-	32	2	-	-

¹Includes 4 cases certified to criminal court.

TABLE 36

INSTITUTIONS AND AGENCIES TO WHICH
DELINQUENT CHILDREN WERE COMMITTED: 1983

Institution or agency	New charges			Review hearings ¹		
	Total	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls
Total cases	1,339	1,297	42	811	759	52
State-operated institutions for delinquents	400	384	16	232	219	13
Youth Development Centers:						
Loysville	89	89	-	24	24	-
Cornwells Heights	198	197	1	138	138	-
Waynesburg	18	3	15	14	1	13
New Castle	47	47	-	20	20	-
Forestry Camp No.1	14	14	-	7	7	-
Forestry Camp No.2	20	20	-	21	21	-
Forestry Camp No.3	10	10	-	5	5	-
North Central Secure Treatment Unit (Danville)	4	4	-	3	3	-
Other institutions	810	794	16	403	383	20
Glen Mills	274	274	-	71	71	-
St. Gabriel's Hall	244	244	-	107	107	-
St. Gabriel's Day Center	54	54	-	107	107	-
Sleighton School	139	128	11	57	44	13
Sisters of Good Shepherd	5	-	5	7	-	7
George Jr. Republic	27	27	-	15	15	-
St. Michael's	32	32	-	24	24	-
New Life Youth and Family Services	1	1	-	2	2	-
Other	34	34	-	13	13	-
Mental health facilities	25	23	2	37	34	3
Eastern State School and Hospital	17	15	2	12	10	2
Phila. Child Guidance Clinic	2	2	-	2	2	-
Norristown State Hospital	4	4	-	15	15	-
Hahnemann Community M/H Center	-	-	-	1	1	-
Other	2	2	-	7	6	1
Private agencies	104	95	8	139	123	16
Southern Home	12	9	3	30	22	8
Abraxis Foundation	25	25	-	25	25	4
The Bridge	15	15	-	11	10	1
Gaudenzia House	1	1	-	3	3	-
Penna. Youth Advocate Program	-	-	-	2	1	1
House of Umoja	4	4	-	11	11	-
Childrens Services, Inc.	1	-	1	17	16	1
Some Other Place	20	20	-	22	22	-
Other	26	22	4	14	13	1

¹Does not include 908 cases in which children committed at previous hearings remain as placed.

TABLE 37

REVIEW HEARINGS¹ IN DELINQUENCY CASES: 1983

Reason for referral and dispositions	Total	Through court hearing	Without court hearing
Reason for referral	5,112	2,828	2,284
Violation of probation or aftercare	1	1	-
Discharge from institution or agency	688	619	69
Discharge from probation or aftercare	2,123	153	1,970
Consent Decree case relisted	58	58	-
Report by order of the court:	1,851	1,846	5
Case review	98	97	1
Motion for amendment	94	11	83
Runaway from institution or agency	199	43	156
Dispositions	5,112	2,828	2,284
Motions dismissed or withdrawn	99	95	4
Discharged from probation or aftercare	846	81	765
Discharged from commitment	439	356	83
Discharged from commitment with aftercare	476	441	35
Probation or aftercare	115	113	2
Runaway returned	35	6	29
Committed to institution for delinquents	635	602	33
Other commitments	176	168	8
Remain as placed	908	877	31
Discharged from Consent Decree	1,252	46	1,206
Record expunged	91	3	88
All other dispositions	40	40	-

¹See page 40.

TABLE 38

REVIEW HEARINGS IN DELINQUENCY CASES: 1979 TO 1983

Reason for referral and dispositions	Review cases disposed of through court hearing and without court hearing				
	1983	1982	1981	1980	1979
Reason for referral	5,112	5,243	5,625	6,343	6,448
Violation of probation or aftercare	1	1	1	2	13
Discharge from institution or agency	688	473	1,342	572	568
Discharge from probation or aftercare	2,123	2,664	1,977	3,493	3,723
Transfer custody	-	1	35	12	9
Consent Decree case relisted	58	9	34	62	108
Report by order of the court	1,851	1,596	1,235	1,360	1,202
Case review	98	144	587	433	378
Motion for amendment	94	102	185	94	150
Runaway from institution or agency	199	248	228	313	282
Other	-	5	1	2	15
Dispositions	5,112	5,243	5,625	6,343	6,448
Motion dismissed or withdrawn	99	96	137	182	203
Discharged from probation or aftercare	846	1,107	1,203	1,481	1,562
Discharged from commitment	439	326	340	325	295
Discharged from commitment with aftercare	476	299	333	397	335
Probation or aftercare	115	86	176	174	124
Runaway returned	35	48	50	62	73
Committed to institution for delinquents	635	710	585	586	349
Other commitments	176	165	177	142	159
Remain as placed	908	777	799	949	880
Discharged from Consent Decree	1,252	1,520	1,717	1,928	2,289
Record expunged	91	72	62	78	139
All other dispositions	40	3	46	39	40

JUVENILE NON-DELINQUENCY

TABLE 39

JUVENILE NON-DELINQUENCY CASES: 1979 TO 1983

	1983	1982	1981	1980	1979
Petitions filed	2,457	3,066	2,904	2,384	1,727
Total cases disposed ¹	18,417	13,650	11,049	7,489	4,036
Through court hearing	18,356	13,598	10,967	7,418	3,865
Without court hearing	61	52	82	71	171
Total dispositions	18,417	13,650	11,049	7,489	4,036
New charges	2,623	3,009	2,717	2,296	1,619
Review hearings	15,794	10,641	8,332	5,193	2,417
Court sessions	386	357	342	274	224
New referrals ²	1,186	1,578	1,265	1,209	793

¹Does not include 384 detention hearings held for emergency protective custody. See page 41.

²Family's first time contact with Family Court.

DISPOSED CASES - NON-DELINQUENCY
1979 TO 1983

THOUSANDS

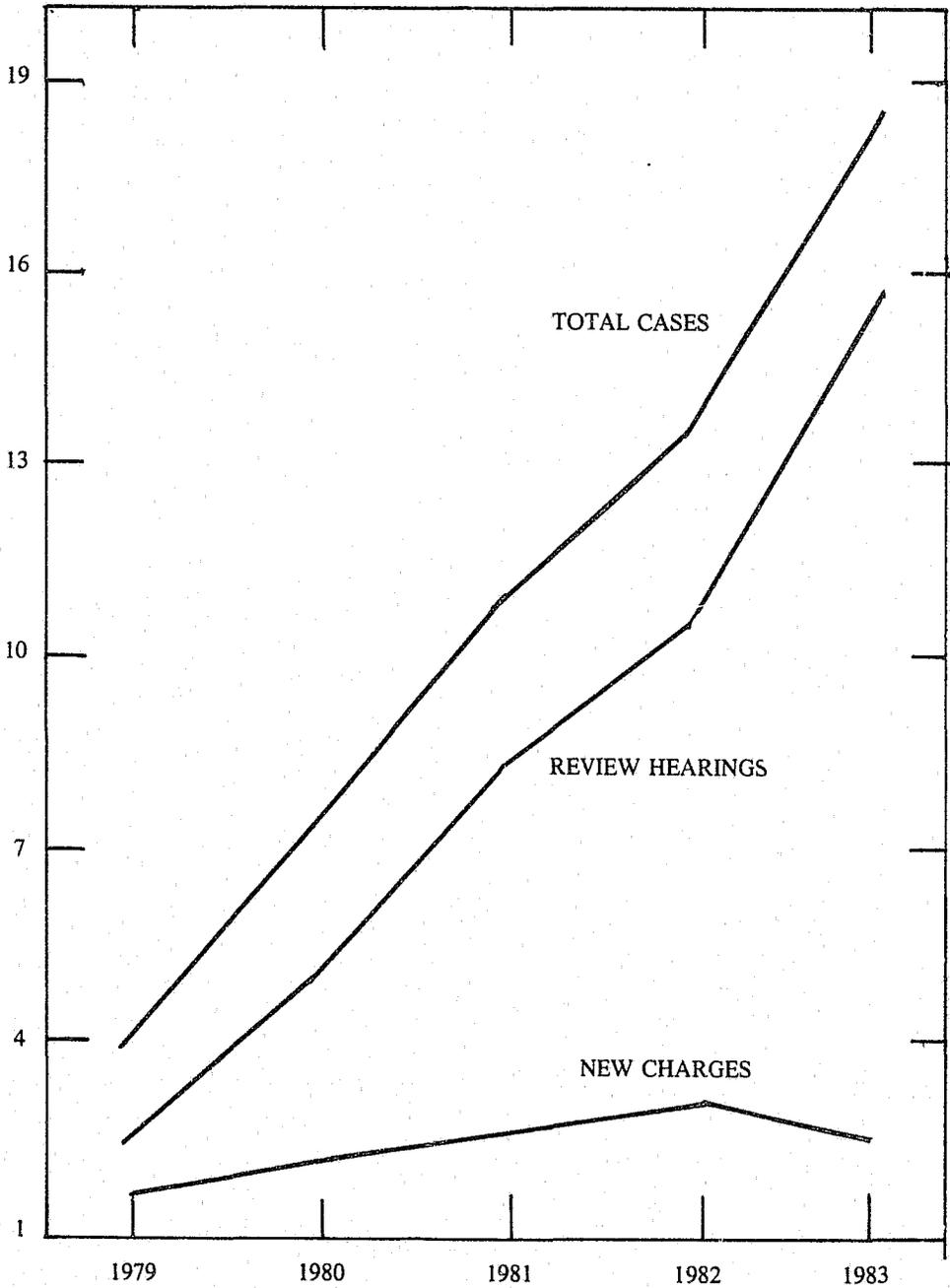


TABLE 40

REASON FOR REFERRAL OF NON-DELINQUENCY CASES: 1983

Type of case	New charges disposed of			Families
	Total	Boys	Girls	
Total cases	2,623	1,356	1,267	1,916
Inadequate care	1,433	750	683	1,030
No parent	6	2	4	4
Neglect	380	190	190	228
Abuse	209	99	110	142
Abandonment	19	14	5	15
Mental/physical health	100	62	38	88
Delinquent case referral	5	2	3	5
Truancy	71	42	29	62
Incorrigibility	279	122	157	262
Others	121	73	48	80

TABLE 41

SOURCE OF REFERRAL IN NON-DELINQUENCY CASES: 1983

Reason for referral to court	New charges disposed of						
	Total	Source of referral					
		Parent	Relative	Court	Dept. of Public Welfare	School authorities	Other
Total cases	2,623	285	97	165	1,591	469	16
Inadequate care	1,433	8	38	11	1,084	291	1
No parent	6	-	-	2	4	-	-
Neglect	380	11	41	8	209	107	4
Abuse	209	-	5	31	173	-	-
Abandonment	19	-	1	-	17	-	1
Mental/physical health ..	100	-	-	93	4	-	3
Delinquent case referral ..	5	-	-	4	1	-	-
Truancy	71	-	-	-	-	71	-
Incorrigibility	279	266	12	-	-	-	1
Others	121	-	-	16	99	-	6

TABLE 42

REASON FOR REFERRAL AND PERCENT
DISTRIBUTION - NON-DELINQUENCY: 1979 TO 1983

Reason for referral	1983	1982	1981	1980	1979
Total cases	2,623	3,009	2,717	2,296	1,619
Inadequate care	1,433	1,807	1,620	1,019	506
No parent	6	67	18	31	52
Neglect	380	415	408	454	337
Abuse	209	237	250	337	239
Abandonment	19	25	42	77	77
Mental/physical health	100	52	42	58	67
Delinquent case referral	5	25	86	112	86
Truancy	71	33	33	39	94
Incorrigibility	279	244	131	120	102
Other	121	104	87	49	59
Percent distribution	100	100	100	100	100
Inadequate care	54	60	60	44	31
No parent	-	2	1	1	3
Neglect	14	14	15	20	21
Abuse	8	8	9	15	15
Abandonment	1	1	1	3	5
Mental/physical health	4	2	1	3	4
Delinquent case referral	-	1	3	5	5
Truancy	3	1	1	2	6
Incorrigibility	11	8	5	5	6
Other	5	3	3	2	4

TABLE 43

SOURCE OF REFERRAL AND PERCENT
DISTRIBUTION -NON-DELINQUENCY: 1979 TO 1983

Source of referral	1983	1982	1981	1980	1979
Total cases	2,623	3,009	2,717	2,296	1,619
Parent	285	246	142	134	115
Relative	97	115	112	88	80
Dept. of Public Welfare	1,591	2,157	1,963	1,613	753
School authorities	469	304	248	199	361
Court	165	159	221	242	276
Other	16	28	31	20	34
Percent distribution	100	100	100	100	100
Parent	11	8	5	6	7
Relative	4	4	4	4	5
Dept. of Public Welfare	60	72	72	70	47
School authorities	18	10	9	9	22
Court	6	5	8	10	17
Other	1	1	1	1	2

TABLE 44

AGE OF CHILDREN IN NON-DELINQUENCY CASES: 1983

Reasons for reference to court	New charges disposed of						
	Total	Age of children					
		Under 1 year	1 to 5 years	6 to 11 years	12 to 15 years	16 years and over	Not reported
Total cases	2,623	312	421	479	1,032	377	2
Inadequate care	1,433	215	225	268	521	204	-
No parent	6	1	2	-	1	2	-
Neglect	380	38	99	105	109	29	-
Abuse	209	20	54	57	56	20	2
Abandonment	19	6	4	6	1	2	-
Mental/physical health ...	100	1	2	3	48	46	-
Delinquent case referral ...	5	-	-	1	3	1	-
Truancy	71	-	-	5	64	2	-
Incorrigibility	279	-	-	6	206	67	-
Other	121	31	35	28	23	4	-

TABLE 45

CHILD'S RESIDENCE AND MARITAL STATUS OF NATURAL PARENTS
IN NON-DELINQUENCY CASES: 1983

Child's residence and marital status of parents	Children				Families
	Total	White	Non-white	Not reported	
Total cases	2,623	689	1,824	110	1,916
Child living with:					
Both parents	254	118	114	22	175
Parent and stepparent	38	16	22	-	32
Mother	1,028	248	755	25	728
Father	69	16	52	1	52
Other family home	241	43	194	4	178
Foster home	4	2	2	-	4
Institution or agency	978	244	677	57	740
Other	1	-	1	-	1
Not reported	10	2	7	1	6
Marital status of parents:					
Married	307	147	129	31	226
Parent(s) deceased	154	45	104	5	128
Divorced	34	16	18	-	30
Separated	524	199	314	11	378
Not married	420	52	363	5	304
Not reported	1,184	230	896	58	850

TABLE 46

TYPE OF DISPOSITION AND REASON FOR REFERRAL IN
NON-DELINQUENCY CASES: 1983

Type of disposition	New charges disposed of						
	Total	In-adequate ¹ care	Neglect ²	Abuse	Delinquent case referral	In- corrigi- bility	Other ³
Total cases.....	2,623	1,439	399	209	5	279	292
Dismissed or discharged ...	307	89	54	19	3	49	93
Petition withdrawn	256	119	51	11	-	46	29
Protective supervision	619	272	115	62	-	115	55
Placed in custody of:							
Parent	13	5	5	-	-	-	3
Relative	71	36	32	2	-	-	1
Other individual	19	7	6	2	-	2	2
Commit to:							
Dept. of Public Welfare .	1,268	904	136	113	1	63	51
Mental health facility ...	64	2	-	-	-	4	58
Private agency.....	1	-	-	-	1	-	-
Others	5	5	-	-	-	-	-

¹Includes: No parent.

²Includes: Abandonment.

³Includes: Mental/physical health and truancy.

TABLE 47

NON-DELINQUENCY DISPOSITIONS AND PERCENT DISTRIBUTION:
1979 TO 1983

Type of disposition	1983	1982	1981	1980	1979
Total cases	2,623	3,009	2,717	2,296	1,619
Dismissed or discharged	307	244	213	168	163
Petition withdrawn	256	295	185	195	129
Protective supervision	619	331	257	275	429
Placed in custody of:					
Parent	13	32	30	37	39
Relative	71	104	129	143	139
Other individual	19	37	26	30	32
Committed to:					
Dept. of Public Welfare	1,268	1,941	1,837	1,394	612
Private agency	1	-	2	14	19
Mental health facility	64	23	13	20	22
Other	5	2	25	20	35
Percent distribution	100	100	100	100	100
Dismissed or discharged	12	8	8	7	10
Petition withdrawn	10	10	7	8	8
Protective supervision	24	11	9	12	26
Placed in custody of:					
Parent	- ¹	1	1	2	2
Relative	3	3	5	6	9
Other individual	1	1	1	1	2
Committed to:					
Dept. of Public Welfare	48	65	68	61	38
Private agency	- ¹	-	- ¹	1	1
Mental health facility	2	1	- ¹	1	1
Other	- ¹	- ¹	1	1	2

¹Less than 0.5 percent.

TABLE 48

REVIEW HEARINGS¹ IN NON-DELINQUENCY CASES: 1979 TO 1983

Reason for referral and disposition	Review hearings disposed of through court hearing and without court hearing				
	1983	1982	1981	1980	1979
Reason for referral	15,794	10,641	8,332	5,193	2,417
Transfer of custody	-	-	-	3	1
Discharge from custody or commitment	1,268	824	512	363	160
Discharge from supervision	576	393	265	287	254
Motion for amendment	1	-	1	-	-
Report by order of court	13,322	7,780	6,108	4,087	1,665
Case review	562	1,600	1,430	429	314
Runaway from custody	65	44	16	24	23
Dispositions	15,794	10,641	8,332	5,193	2,417
Protective supervision	493	319	270	248	139
Committed to:					
Dept. of Public Welfare	151	168	269	248	221
Mental health facility	16	19	9	17	14
Relative	63	60	72	104	44
Parent	38	78	83	66	51
Individual	36	45	26	44	22
Agency or institution	-	2	2	18	20
Remain as placed	13,086	8,716	6,752	3,677	1,383
Discharged from:					
Supervision	639	365	301	351	332
Commitment	1,207	808	478	322	114
Motion dismissed or withdrawn	65	61	66	98	77
Others	-	-	4	-	-

¹See page 41.

ADULT CASES

TABLE 49

ADULTS CORRUPTING OR ENDANGERING THE WELFARE OF CHILDREN: 1979 TO 1983

	1983	1982	1981	1980	1979
Petitions received	1,382	1,121	1,222	1,219	961
Total cases disposed	1,400	1,062	1,198	1,281	934
New charges	1,319	1,062	1,139	1,174	847
Sex offenses	453	360	459	462	369
Non-sex offenses	866	702	680	712	478
Truancy	81	-	59	107	87
Court sessions	279	287	289	199	174
New referrals ¹	1,296	1,007	1,120	994	844

¹Individual's first time contact with Family Court.

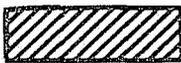
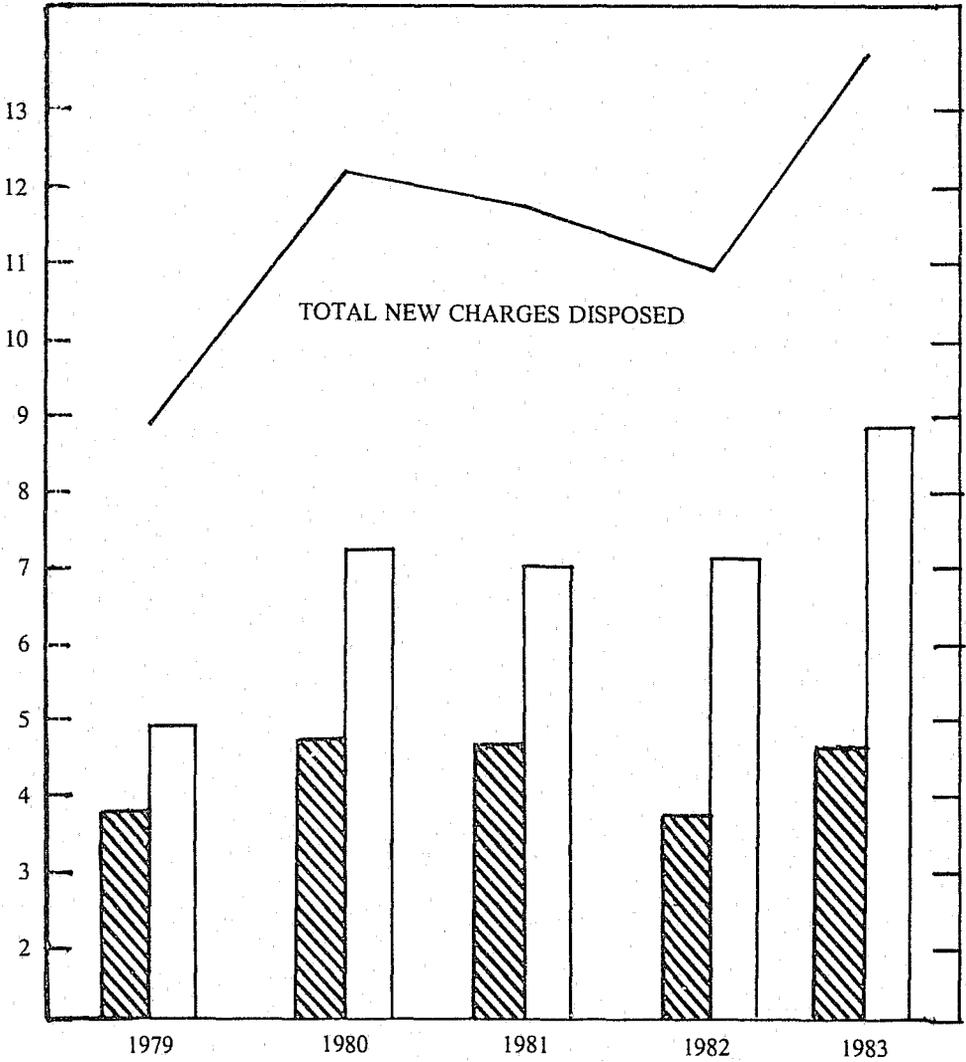
TABLE 50

NEW CHARGES DISPOSED OF - BY OFFENSE,
SEX AND RACE: 1983

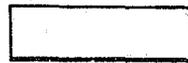
Type of offense	Delinquency cases disposed of						
	Total	Males			Females		
		Total	White	Non-white	Total	White	Non-white
Total cases	1,319	1,191	319	872	128	39	89
Sex offenses	453	444	171	273	9	6	3
Rape	163	161	32	129	2	-	2
Assault and attempted rape	35	35	9	26	-	-	-
Indecent assault	176	171	83	88	5	4	1
Commercialized vice	19	17	15	2	2	2	-
Other sex offenses	60	60	32	28	-	-	-
Non-sex offenses	866	747	148	599	119	33	86
Aggravated assault	348	300	71	229	48	11	37
Assault	96	75	2	73	21	6	15
Robbery	260	248	27	221	12	4	8
Other thefts	31	31	7	24	-	-	-
Drug law violation	10	8	5	3	2	1	1
Cruelty or neglect of child	30	1	-	1	29	4	25
Corrupting morals of a child	48	41	22	19	7	7	-
Other non-sex offenses	43	43	14	29	-	-	-

ADULT CASES
1979 TO 1983

HUNDREDS



SEX OFFENSES



NON-SEX OFFENSES

TABLE 51

OFFENSES AND AGES OF ADULTS IN NEW CHARGES
DISPOSED OF: 1983

Type of offense	Age			
	Total	Under 25 years	25-50 years	Over 50 years
Total cases	1,319	635	613	71
Sex offenses	453	121	289	43
Rape	163	60	93	10
Assault and attempted rape	35	16	16	3
Indecent assault	176	30	124	22
Commercialized vice	19	3	16	-
Other sex offenses	60	12	40	8
Non-sex offenses	866	514	324	28
Aggravated assault	348	153	177	18
Assault	96	73	22	1
Robbery	260	233	26	1
Other thefts	31	20	11	-
Drug law violation	10	5	5	-
Cruelty or neglect of child	30	11	19	-
Corrupting morals of child	48	11	33	4
Other non-sex offenses	43	8	31	4

TABLE 52

OFFENSES AND DISPOSITIONS OF ADULTS: 1983

Offenses	Dispositions						
	Total	Dis- charged or with- drawn	Held for trial	Pre- indictment probation	Pro- bation	Committ- ment	Others ¹
Total cases.....	1,400	449	638	114	114	35	50
Sex offenses.....	453	99	258	29	51	14	2
Rape.....	163	23	138	2	-	-	-
Assaults and attempted rape.....	35	6	29	-	-	-	-
Indecent assault.....	176	49	65	14	36	11	1
Commercialized vice.....	19	8	10	-	-	-	1
Other sex offenses.....	60	13	16	13	15	3	-
Non-sex offenses.....	866	306	380	85	63	21	11
Aggravated assault....	348	115	166	32	26	5	4
Assault.....	96	59	9	20	8	-	-
Robbery.....	260	75	180	1	2	-	2
Other thefts.....	31	11	6	4	3	3	4
Drug law violation....	10	6	4	-	-	-	-
Cruelty or neglect of child.....	30	3	-	19	7	-	1
Corrupting morals of a child.....	48	14	13	6	10	5	-
Other non-sex offenses.....	43	23	2	3	7	8	-
Truancy cases.....	81	44	-	-	-	-	37

¹Includes sentence suspended, fines and costs, and referrals to other units of the court, or DPW.

TABLE 53

ADULT DISPOSITIONS AND PERCENT DISTRIBUTION
1979 TO 1983

Types of distribution	Adult cases disposed of				
	1983	1982	1981	1980	1979
Total cases	1,400	1,062	1,139	1,281	934
Dismissed or discharged	449	334	477	505	333
Held for trial	638	467	382	560	389
Pre-indictment probation	114	70	94	100	92
Probation	114	140	124	61	86
Committed	35	29	47	15	8
Other	50	22	15	40	26
Percent distribution	100	100	100	100	100
Dismissed or discharged	32	31	42	39	36
Held for trial	46	44	34	44	42
Pre-indictment probation	8	7	8	8	10
Probation	8	13	11	5	9
Committed	2	3	4	1	1
Other	4	2	1	3	2

ENFORCEMENT CASES

TABLE 54

ENFORCEMENT UNIT SUMMARY: 1979 TO 1983

	1983	1982	1981	1980	1979
Petitions filed or received ¹	258	245	422	362	477
Total cases disposed	175	136	318	249	414
Through court hearing	145	107	283	223	404
Petitions	14	14	23	17	25
Delinquent	-	-	1	-	2
Non-delinquent	14	14	22	17	23
Motions	131	93	260	206	370
Delinquent	5	10	92	46	57
Non-delinquent	126	83	168	160	313
Attachments	-	-	-	-	9
Delinquent	-	-	-	-	1
Non-delinquent	-	-	-	-	8
Without court hearing -					
Miscellaneous petitions	30	29	35	26	10
Delinquent	30	29	35	14	10
Non-delinquent	-	-	-	12	-
Court sessions	10	12	27	19	21

¹Includes motions and attachments.

TABLE 55

REASON FOR REFERRAL AND DISPOSITIONS OF
ENFORCEMENT UNIT CASES: 1983

Reason for referral and dispositions	Total	Court hearing	Without court hearing
Cases disposed of	175	145	30
Delinquent	35	5	30
Non-delinquent	140	140	-
Reason for referral:			
Discharge from DPW	124	124	-
Support order:			
Place	10	10	-
Vacate	7	7	-
Transfer	4	4	-
Restitution:			
Transfer to unclaimed fund	30	-	30
Disposition:			
Discharged from DPW	123	123	-
Support order:			
Placed	6	6	-
Vacated	7	7	-
Transferred	3	3	-
Dismissed or withdrawn	6	6	-
Restitution:			
Transferred to unclaimed fund	30	-	30

**THE
DOMESTIC RELATIONS
BRANCH**

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THE DOMESTIC RELATIONS BRANCH

INTRODUCTORY

The Domestic Relations Branch has jurisdiction in all proceedings concerning family conflicts. However, the greater part of its work involves obtaining support for children from legally responsible parents and resolving custody disputes with respect to children.

This branch is comprised of numerous units which process cases involving: the establishment of paternity; support of children and spouses; custody or visitation matters concerning children and protection from abuse.

The enactment of P.L. 93-647 in 1975, commonly known as the Child Support Enforcement Act (IV-D Program), resulted in a significant increase in the workload of the Domestic Relations Branch. In addition, changes were implemented in procedures to ensure better service to the public and members of the bar. One such change involved relocating part of the Domestic Relations Branch staff to a center city building at 1600 Walnut Street. Personnel at this location process all cases involving: Aid to Families With Dependent Children (AFDC); the establishment of paternity; and protection from abuse. Along with the staff mentioned above, the following units are also housed at this location.

The Legal Unit which provides attorneys who appear in court in Aid to Families with Dependent Children cases to assist in both establishment and enforcement of support orders.

The Writ Server's Unit which personally serves parties with orders to appear at conferences or court hearings.

The Parent Locator Unit which processes requests for assistance in locating absent parents in child support and custody cases.

The balance of the Domestic Relations Branch staff is located at 1801 Vine Street where Non-AFDC cases and custody/visitation matters are processed. Other units located here are the Bureau of Accounts, which is responsible for receiving and disbursing support order payments and the Masters' Unit, with three full time masters hearing testimony in support cases referred to them by hearing officers.

Due to the nature and number of cases received by the Domestic Relations Branch and adhering to good management practices, the Domestic Relations Branch continually reviews its systems and procedures seeking new techniques and improved methods to be used in the disposition of cases.

In recent years, changes have been made in the organizational structure and many effective procedures have been implemented, permitting a smoother flow of work and better enforcement practices. Some examples of these efforts are listed below:

- (1) The installation of automated delinquency notices and automated processing of wage attachments. These systems have increased support collections significantly.
- (2) The utilization of Federal PLS and State Bureau of Motor Vehicles terminals and a 24 hours PLS Hotline to locate absent parents in child support, custody or child snatching cases.
- (3) The centralization of all protection from abuse cases allowing these cases to be listed and disposed of before one domestic relations judge.
- (4) A system to computerize registration of domestic relations cases became fully operational in 1983.
- (5) Annual renewal of a contract with Pre-Trial Services for service of bench warrants in support cases.
- (6) A centralized Intake Unit at 1600 Walnut Street to interview welfare clients referred by the Pennsylvania Department of Public Welfare and prepare complaints before referral to the Pre-Trial Units. In addition, if the case requires assistance in locating an absent parent, this unit prepares the necessary forms and refers the case to the Parent Locator Service.
- (7) Contracts have been entered into with laboratories for HLA tests in paternity cases. The lab sends technicians to 1600 Walnut Street to draw blood for these tests.

PROCEDURE FOR SUPPORT CASES

When cases are of local nature, i.e., where both of the parties involved reside in Philadelphia or the venue requirements of the Supreme Court Support Rules are met, the matter is first dealt with in the court by an intake officer who prepares the complaint for support and performs other duties related to the opening of a new file or retrieving an existing file. In addition, many complaints for support are filed by private counsel. All complaints for support are wholly civil in nature, and no reference is made in the caption to indicate in any manner that it is a criminal proceeding. No fee is charged for the filing of a complaint for support.

With the enactment of Act 1982-75, all applicants for welfare are referred to the Domestic Relations Branch (1600 Walnut Street) prior to the authorization of the welfare grant. Intake officers in the Domestic Relations Branch interview the client and prepare a complaint for support or refer the case to the Parent Locator Unit for assistance in locating an absent parent.

If the applicant for support is present, he or she is informed by the intake officer that a mandatory preliminary conference will be scheduled and held and that both parties in the case will be served with court orders requiring them to appear with proof of income and expenses.

Complaints are then referred to the Pre-Trial Units and cases are scheduled for conferences. A copy of the complaint filed, together with a court order to appear is served upon the defendant by mail; copies of orders to appear are sent to counsel of record. In cases where a defendant fails to respond to the service by mail, a copy of the order to appear and related documents are personally served upon him by writ servers who are employed by the Domestic Relations Branch for that purpose.

It is usually necessary for both parties to be present at the conference so that financial and social status of the parties can be obtained and so that agreements as to the amount of a support order, visitation and related matters can be discussed and completed.

When an agreement is reached by the parties, the agreement is reduced to writing and a court order is prepared containing the terms of the agreement. The order is then signed by a judge and becomes an enforceable court order.

If no agreement for support can be reached, the hearing officer prepares the case summarizing background, social information, verification of expenses and income and forwards to the Master in Support. After hearing the case, the master will make a proposed order for support which becomes final if exceptions are not filed within 10 days. If exceptions are filed, the court will hear argument on the exceptions and make final disposition of the case.

Petitions to modify or vacate court orders are filed in all appropriate instances either by the Domestic Relations Branch staff or by private counsel. Procedures similar to those discussed previously are utilized in holding mandatory preliminary conferences in an effort to amicably resolve the matter thereby diverting cases from court hearings.

RECIPROCAL CASES

In reciprocal cases where the defendant resides in another state or county, the intake officer prepares the complaint and the "testimony" of the plaintiff. Following the filing of a complaint for support, the intake officer prepares a certification and order to forward to the other jurisdiction which is known as the responding jurisdiction. The court continues to follow up on the plaintiff's interest in the case. The responding jurisdiction hears the case and enters and enforces the order for support.

When Philadelphia is the jurisdiction in which a defendant lives and an action for support against the defendant is instituted in another county or state, the documents initiated in the other jurisdiction are received and processed in the Domestic Relations Branch. Procedures when Philadelphia is a responding jurisdiction are similar to those used in local cases, with the exception of master's hearing; however, most conferences, hearings and court proceedings are unilateral with only the defendant being present.

ESTABLISHMENT OF PATERNITY

In cases which involve the establishment of paternity of a child, special procedures are in effect. Paternity may be established by a voluntary acknowledgement of the father, in which case, his acknowledgement is reduced to writing and made an order of the court. In such cases, after the establishment of paternity, the hearing officer proceeds in an effort to conclude an agreement for support. When no voluntary acknowledgement of paternity is obtained, orders for a HLA blood test are issued on the reputed father, the child and the mother. Special procedures are in

effect with respect to having blood studies performed. The court has contracted with Metpath to take blood samples for H.L.A. tests on premises at 1600 Walnut Street. Upon receipt of the test results, the case is listed for court so that the issue of paternity can be judicially determined. All paternity trials are civil trials and are usually non-jury trials unless either party demands a trial by jury. After paternity is established by voluntary acknowledgement or judicial hearing, the case is processed the same as all support cases.

ENFORCEMENT

Special Enforcement Units operate to insure compliance with court orders. Automated delinquent letters are generated regularly to defendants not complying with the support order. Also, in an effort to divert cases from court, hearing officers interview defendants in an attempt to work out a payment plan for delinquent accounts. If the abuses are flagrant or if no agreement can be reached, the cases are sent into court by means of petitions for contempt of court. Hearings are held by the court to determine if the defendant has the means to pay and whether the failure to pay was willful and intentional. If such is the case, the defendant can be imprisoned until there is compliance with the order of court so long as the order contains conditions under which the defendant may purge himself of the contempt; maximum sentence - 6 months. A more usual way of enforcing support orders is by means of a wage attachment. In many instances, an order for wage attachment is made part of the court order in a support case. Otherwise, wage attachments can be issued upon petition of the plaintiff or on motion of the court. The wage attachment process has been fully automated.

As a result of its participation in the Federal Income Tax Refund Intercept Program, the court is collecting arrearages in those cases in which the children of employed, delinquent obligors are collecting public assistance.

COLLECTION AND DISBURSEMENT

The Bureau of Accounts is responsible for receiving support order payments and disbursing same to proper payee. The Bureau of Accounts also inputs all information on new and modified orders to the data processing system, changes beneficiaries of court orders and maintains all financial records. The unit also processes all wage attachment orders for the computer system.

CUSTODY OF CHILDREN

When separated couples are in disagreement over who shall have custody of the children or visitation rights, either party may file a petition for custody, partial custody or visitation. Preliminary conferences are held in an effort to amicably solve the matter without a court hearing. If no agreement can be reached, the case is prepared for court.

When ordered by the court, a home investigation of the parties is made by the Domestic Relations Branch staff. The judge, in awarding custody of the child, decides the case in terms of the child's best interest. The court order often contains provisions for partial custody or visitation rights for the non-custodial parent. Actually, the matter of custody or visitation rights is often made a part of the order in many support cases, without a formal petition for custody or visitation.

SUMMARY

In 1983, approximately 33,000 petitions were filed in the Domestic Relations Branch. A total of 20,491 cases were disposed of by the court. Compared to 1982, the total cases disposed in 1983 decreased by 5 percent.

The number of petitions and cases are not directly comparable. A case may involve more than one petition, e.g., a petition for an increase in a support order and a petition for credit, which are heard and disposed of at the same hearing.

In addition, nearly 39,000 interviews and preliminary conferences were held by the staff with plaintiffs, defendants and other family members. New wage attachments issued totaled 11,200 an increase of 41 percent over 1982. Over 700 blood studies were scheduled in paternity cases. The Parent Locator Unit had 7,331 cases referred to them. Various units of the branch processed 2,398 changes in beneficiaries.

Court sessions are heard five days a week with six to eight judges sitting. Over 1,000 sessions were held in 1983. Due to the number of protracted cases, the complexity of these matters and the great amount of time required in dealing with them, most protracted cases are listed and heard separately from other cases.

PETITIONS FILED

Of the 32,989 petitions filed in the Domestic Relations Branch in 1983, nearly half of these (15,433) were new complaints for support. Another 6,510 petitions dealt with modifications of existing support orders; 4,835 were petitions concerning non-payment of support orders; 878 involved protection from abuse petitions and the balance of the petitions (5,333) involved child custody or visitation. Of this latter group, 56 percent were petitions for custody, partial custody or visitation rights; 28 percent requested custody confirmation; 7 percent were filed for contempt of orders granting visitation or custody and 9 percent dealt with modification of the custody/visitation order.

CASES DISPOSED

The largest number of cases disposed of in 1983 dealt with support for children and spouses, (6,250), followed by cases involving non-payment of support orders, 5,862. A total of 4,572 cases concerning modification of support orders were disposed of while cases involving child custody or visitation totaled 2,840. In addition, 967 protection from abuse cases were disposed.

As shown in the following table, support matters constitute the bulk of work in the Domestic Relations Branch. Actually 81 percent of all cases disposed of in 1983 involved some facet of support. The majority of new support cases, 64 percent, were disposed of at a preliminary conference through agreement by the parties while cases involving non-payment of order were generally disposed of at a court hearing (70 percent).

PATERNITY CASES

During 1983, paternity was established in 4,050 cases. This was an increase of 54 percent over 1982. In the majority of cases, (86 percent), paternity was acknowledged at the preliminary conference.

CASES DISPOSED BY TYPE OF CASE

Type of case	1983
Total cases disposed	20,491
Support:	
Number	6,250
Percent	30
Modification of support order:	
Number	4,572
Percent	22
Non-payment of support order:	
Number	5,862
Percent	29
Custody or visitation:	
Number	2,840
Percent	14
Protection from abuse:	
Number	967
Percent	5

SUPPORT ORDER COLLECTIONS

Through the court's enforcement of support orders, collections have increased steadily during the last five years. Total support collections in 1983 totaled over forty-four million dollars – a 6 percent increase over the 1982 collections.

Approximately 60 percent of all support collections are now received as a result of wage attachment orders, including attachment of unemployment compensation.

Collections in Aid for Dependent Children cases continue to increase. Approximately twelve million dollars was collected in 1983 under this program. Over 800 thousand dollars of this amount was collected as a result of the court's participation in the Federal Income Tax Refund Intercept Program.

Total Aid for Dependent Children collections in 1983 were 3 percent higher than the amount collected in 1982 and accounted for 27 percent of the court's total collections.

TABLE 1

TOTAL ACTIVITY: 1979 TO 1983

	1983	1982	1981	1980	1979
Petitions filed ¹	32,989	31,479	33,227	24,793	26,075
Total cases disposed ¹	20,491	21,550	14,736	13,776	18,735
Through court hearing	10,154	11,121	8,612	8,546	12,787
Without court hearing ²	10,337	10,429	6,124	5,230	5,948
Pre-trial Units	6,004	6,703	3,028	1,917	5,948
Custody Unit ³	876	658	-	-	-
Master's Unit ⁴	1,169	116	-	-	-
Enforcement Units ⁵	2,288	2,952	3,096	3,313	-
Court sessions	1,033	1,153	1,301	1,561	1,424
Paternity blood studies	747	375	131	105	140
New wage attachments issued	11,200	6,603	5,337	4,400	2,482
Interviews and preliminary conferences	38,863	34,578	31,094	34,870	35,339
Cases referred to Parent Locator Unit	7,331	6,780	5,746	5,026	11,409
Changes in beneficiary processed	2,398	4,784	1,560	2,860	3,408

¹Petitions filed-1981, and cases disposed-1980 are revised figures. Changes in beneficiary included for 1979.

²Includes agreements and orders at preliminary conferences.

³Unit operational in late 1981.

⁴Program implemented November, 1982.

⁵Data unavailable for 1979.

TABLE 2

PETITIONS FILED: 1979 TO 1983

Type of petition	1983	1982	1981	1980	1979
Total petitions filed ¹	32,989	31,479	33,227	24,793	26,075
Petitions for support	15,433	15,625	18,985	11,114	8,610
Local	12,056	11,954	15,248	8,427	6,567
Non-paternity	4,517	6,333	7,531	6,195	4,655
Paternity	7,539	5,621	7,717	2,232	1,912
Reciprocal ²	3,377	3,671	3,737	2,687	2,043
Non-paternity	1,866	2,918	3,097	2,258	1,425
Paternity	1,511	753	640	429	618
Philadelphia initiating	1,526	1,523	1,987	1,365	863
Philadelphia responding	1,851	2,148	1,750	1,322	1,180
Petitions for modification of support orders	6,510	6,812	4,823	4,074	7,486
Petitions for non-payment of support orders	4,835	3,569	5,528	6,169	7,020
Petitions for child custody/partial custody/visitation rights	5,333	4,519	3,891	3,436	2,959
Petitions for protection from abuse ³ ..	878	954	-	-	-

¹Petitions filed-1981 revised figure.²See page .³Data unavailable-1979-1981.

TABLE 3

PATERNITY ESTABLISHED: 1981 TO 1983

Type of hearing	1983	1982	1981
Total	4,050	2,630	1,935
Preliminary conference	3,493	2,055	1,617
Court hearing	557	575	318

TABLE 4

CASES DISPOSED OF WITH AND WITHOUT COURT HEARING: 1983

Type of case	Total cases	Through court hearing	Without court hearing
Total cases	20,491	10,154	10,337
Support	6,250	2,270	3,980
Modification of order	4,572	1,066	3,506
Non-payment of order	5,862	4,108	1,754
Child custody or visitation	2,840	1,743	1,097
Protection from abuse	967	967	-

TABLE 5

SUPPORT ORDERS: 1979 TO 1983

	1983	1982	1981	1980	1979
New orders made	5,410	4,978	4,081	4,101	5,326
Orders vacated	7,249	7,465	5,523	4,936	5,475
Orders changed	6,099	6,532	5,721	1,173	5,322
Orders reinstated	-	1,163	1,259	659	1,314
Orders suspended	-	501	717	848	636

TABLE 6

PAYMENTS RECEIVED ON SUPPORT ORDERS: 1979 TO 1983

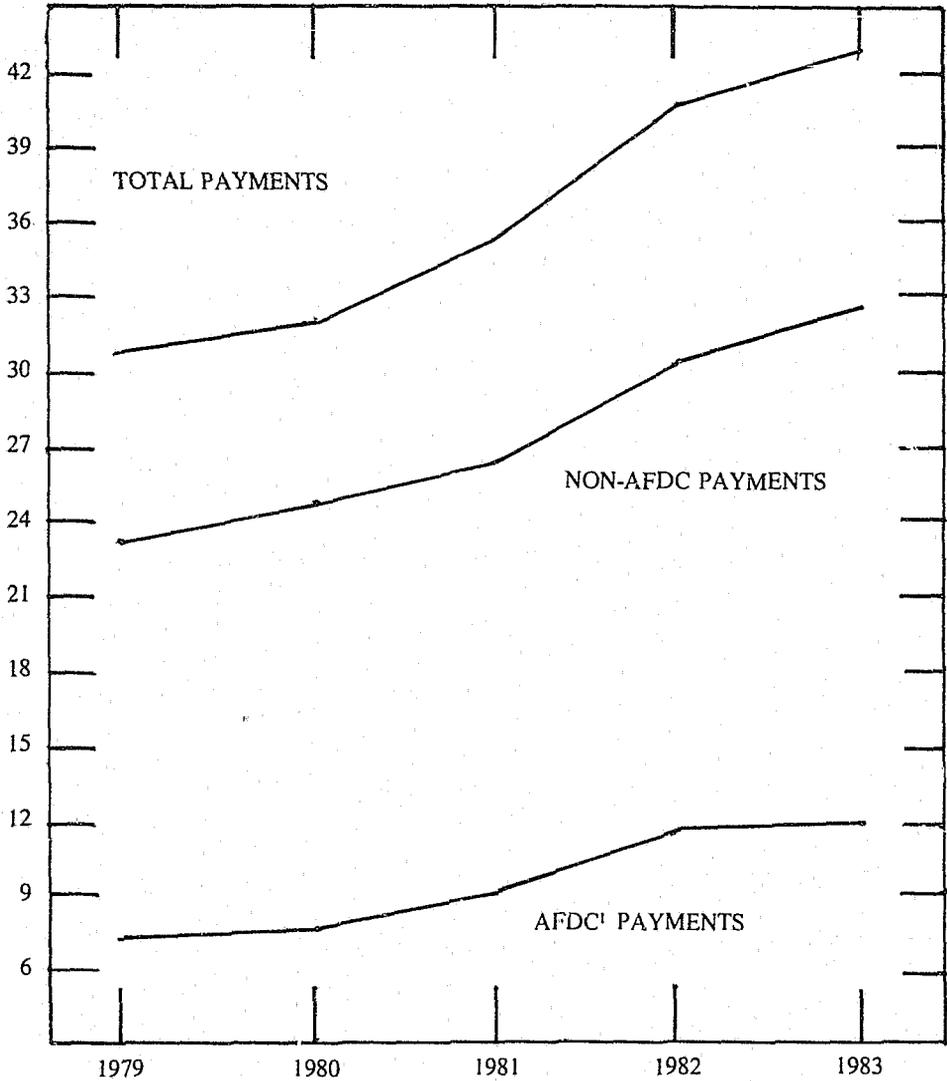
Year	Total	AFDC ¹	Non-AFDC
1979	30,468,310	7,273,736	23,194,574
1980	32,138,169	7,441,562	24,696,607
1981	35,371,503	-8,976,002	26,395,501
1982	41,669,534	11,488,015	30,181,519
1983	44,030,611 ²	11,857,606 ²	32,173,005

¹Aid for Dependent Children.

²Over \$800,000 of this amount was collected through the Federal Income Tax Refund Intercept Program.

PAYMENTS RECEIVED ON SUPPORT ORDERS
1979 TO 1983

MILLIONS



1Aid For Dependent Children

DIVORCES AND ANNULMENTS

DIVORCE PROCEEDINGS

Family Court Division has jurisdiction in all matters relating to divorce and annulment. In July, 1980, Act 26 (Divorce Code) was enacted in Pennsylvania. This law added new no fault grounds for divorce and allowed for alimony and the equitable distribution of marital property.

Procedure in divorce and annulment is governed by the Rules of Civil Procedure 1920.1 to 1920.92 inclusive. These are state-wide rules which have been implemented by local rules proposed by the judges of the Family Court Division, and ratified by the Board of Judges of the Court of Common Pleas of Philadelphia. The local rules are comprehensive in nature and encompass all matters previously governed by local rules, administrative regulations and general court regulations, thus providing the bench and bar with one integrated source for rules governing divorce and annulment.

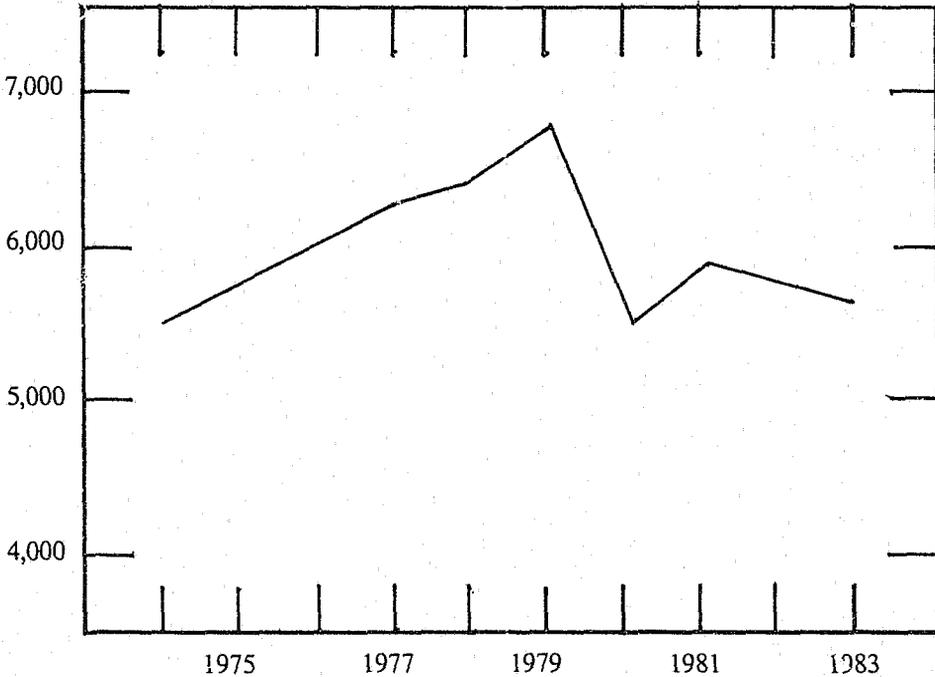
In keeping with the philosophy of reform that prompted passage of the Divorce Code, the Philadelphia rules permit a divorce under Section 201 (c) and 201 (d) of the Divorce Code to proceed to finality without the intervention of a master, thus providing an inexpensive and uncomplicated means of obtaining a divorce when both parties agree that their marriage is irretrievably broken. In divorce actions proceeding under Section 201 (d), no master is required, however, 201 (d) cases will be listed for court hearings.

As yet, all other actions in divorce require referral to a master for all or some of the issues involved therein. Pending appellate decision interpreting controversial provisions of the Divorce Code, the judges of the Family Court Division are determining each issue raised on a case by case basis, so that this revolutionary approach to the law of divorce may be administered equitably, effectively and economically.

The Divorce Code provides that the court may order payments through the Domestic Relations Branch and the branch is then mandated to monitor and enforce said orders by wage attachment, contempt actions, etc.

When the pleadings in a divorce action contain a claim for support or custody, copies of the divorce pleadings are forwarded to the Domestic Relations Branch of Family Court and registered. The Domestic Relations Branch proceeds as described previously in this Annual Report, attempting amicable resolution, or listing the case for a court hearing in order to obtain an appropriate order.

DIVORCES GRANTED IN PHILADELPHIA: 1974 TO 1983



SUMMARY

In 1983, 6,605 divorce proceedings were initiated, 50 exceptions were filed and 1,457 motions and rules in related divorce matters were filed.

A total of 5,634 divorces were granted in 1983, a decrease of 2 percent from 1982.

In 95 percent of the divorce cases, the charge of irretrievable breakdown was cited, while in 4 percent of the cases, the spouse was charged with indignities. As in the past, the plaintiff in divorce proceedings was usually the wife (59 percent).

The average marriage had lasted 13.4 years at the time the divorce was granted. More than half of the couples obtaining divorces in 1983, (52 percent) were married for 10 years or more. Twenty-three percent of the marriages lasted 20 years and up. In 13 cases, the marriage lasted only one year, while in 88 cases, the couple had been married for more than 39 years.

Twice the number of wives (39 percent) as husbands (19 percent) were married before age 21. The median age of husbands divorced in 1983 was 36.8 for wives, 34.2. Twelve percent of wives and 14 percent of husbands had previous marriages. During 1983, the highest number of divorces occurred in the 30-34 age group for both wives and husbands.

There were no children in 39 percent of the divorces in 1983, but a total of 6,982 children were involved in the balance of divorces granted. Of the total number of divorcing couples with children, 39 percent had 1 child; 36 percent, 2 children; 15 percent, 3 children; and 10 percent had 4 or more children. The majority of children (4,965) were under 18 years of age at the time the divorce was granted. Twenty-four percent of this latter group were the "only child", while 14 percent came from families with 4 or more children.

TABLE 3

NUMBER OF CHILDREN INVOLVED IN DIVORCES AND
ANNULMENTS GRANTED: 1983

Children of this marriage	Families		Total children	Children under 18
	Number	Percent distribution		
Total	5,634	100	6,982	4,965
No children of this marriage	2,202	39	-	-
Families with children	3,432	61	6,982	4,965
One child	1,323	24	1,323	1,213
Two children	1,238	22	2,476	2,007
Three children	524	9	1,572	1,032
Four children	217	4	868	457
Five children	70	1	350	131
Six children	40	1	240	91
Seven children	12	-.1	84	7
Eight children	3	-.1	24	3
Nine or more children	5	-.1	45	24

¹Less than 0.5 percent.

TABLE 4

LEGAL GROUNDS FOR DIVORCE OR ANNULMENT BY DURATION
OF MARRIAGE: 1983

Duration of marriage	Total	Legal grounds for decree			
		Irretrievable breakdown	Indignities	Desertion	Other
Total	5,634	5,345	212	68	9
1 year	13	13	-	-	-
2 years	132	126	5	-	1
3 years	249	237	10	-	2
4 years	339	316	19	4	-
5 years	355	333	18	3	1
6 years	352	326	22	3	1
7 years	300	284	13	3	-
8 years	352	332	15	4	1
9 years	277	262	10	5	-
10 years	261	252	8	1	-
11 years	248	234	11	3	-
12 years	248	241	4	3	-
13 years	216	205	6	4	1
14 years	206	198	6	2	-
15 years	213	207	5	1	-
16 years	166	150	12	4	-
17 years	157	150	5	2	-
18 years	144	138	5	1	-
19 years	111	103	5	3	-
20-24 years	533	512	16	5	-
25-29 years	345	331	9	5	-
30-34 years	181	171	4	5	1
35-39 years	115	110	3	2	-
Over 39 years	88	82	1	5	-
Not reported	33	32	-	-	1

TABLE 5

AGE OF HUSBAND AT TIME OF MARRIAGE BY RACE AND
NUMBER OF TIMES MARRIED: 1983

Age of husband	Total	Husbands			Never married before	Previous marriages		
		White	Non- white	Not reported		One	Two	Three or more
All ages	5,634	3,136	2,368	130	4,835	714	70	15
Under 18 years	110	54	53	3	106	4	-	-
18-20 years	971	495	454	22	966	5	-	-
21-24 years	2,135	1,227	853	55	2,074	60	-	1
25-29 years	1,220	711	483	26	1,043	168	8	1
30-34 years	578	322	247	9	376	191	7	4
35-39 years	222	121	96	5	102	97	1	2
40-44 years	137	72	61	4	65	62	5	5
45-49 years	89	49	38	2	40	38	11	-
50-54 years	57	27	29	1	16	33	7	1
55-59 years	40	23	17	-	3	29	7	1
60 years and over	42	24	18	-	14	24	4	-
Not reported	33	11	19	3	30	3	-	-

TABLE 5A

AGE OF WIFE AT TIME OF MARRIAGE BY RACE AND
NUMBER OF TIMES MARRIED: 1983

Age of wife	Total	Wives			Never married before	Previous marriages		
		White	Non- white	Not reported		One	Two	Three or more
All ages	5,634	3,161	2,345	128	4,949	624	54	7
Under 18 years	532	235	283	14	525	7	-	-
18-20 years	1,677	937	701	39	1,651	26	-	-
21-24 years	1,837	1,128	667	42	1,749	85	2	1
25-29 years	828	463	348	17	663	156	9	-
30-34 years	342	186	149	7	177	156	8	1
35-39 years	160	82	77	1	77	71	11	1
40-44 years	110	54	54	2	45	56	6	3
45-49 years	49	26	21	2	14	27	8	-
50-54 years	31	17	14	-	13	16	2	-
55-59 years	15	9	5	1	2	10	3	-
60 years and over	20	11	9	-	3	11	5	1
Not reported	33	13	17	3	30	3	-	-

TABLE 6

AGE OF HUSBAND AT TIME OF DIVORCE OR ANNULMENT BY DURATION OF MARRIAGE: 1983

Duration of marriage	Total	Age of husband									
		18-20 years	21-24 years	25-29 years	30-34 years	35-39 years	40-44 years	45-49 years	50-54 years	55-59 years	60 years and over
Total divorces and annulments	5,634	4	127	837	1,223	1,151	812	506	403	241	330
1 year	13	-	1	2	5	2	1	-	2	-	-
2 years	132	-	20	42	29	13	7	3	7	4	7
3 years	249	4	31	85	53	28	16	14	7	5	6
4 years	339	-	36	125	84	39	22	10	12	6	5
5 years	355	-	27	142	87	53	17	7	7	8	7
6 years	352	-	6	133	103	55	20	10	10	5	10
7 years	300	-	3	93	95	54	26	12	5	2	10
8 years	352	-	1	110	120	55	25	15	9	7	10
9 years	277	-	1	44	124	51	29	10	8	5	5
10-14 years	1,179	-	-	58	466	413	126	48	27	19	22
15-19 years	791	-	-	-	46	354	239	77	38	19	18
20-24 years	533	-	-	-	-	29	258	142	60	18	26
25-29 years	345	-	-	-	-	-	21	138	124	40	22
Over 29 years	384	-	-	-	-	-	-	17	84	102	181
Not reported	33	-	1	3	11	5	5	3	3	1	1

TABLE 6A

AGE OF WIFE AT TIME OF DIVORCE OR ANNULMENT BY DURATION OF MARRIAGE: 1983

Duration of marriage	Total	Age of wife										
		Under 18 years	18-20 years	21-24 years	25-29 years	30-34 years	35-39 years	40-44 years	45-49 years	50-54 years	55-59 years	60 years and over
Total divorces and annulments	5,634	3	16	303	1,145	1,309	1,030	707	430	286	189	216
1 year	13	-	1	2	1	4	-	3	-	2	-	-
2 years	132	1	5	31	36	26	8	12	5	2	2	4
3 years	249	2	7	62	83	43	19	18	8	2	2	3
4 years	339	-	2	69	135	60	38	18	8	4	3	2
5 years	355	-	-	68	164	56	35	11	8	5	4	4
6 years	352	-	1	37	159	92	29	9	8	5	6	6
7 years	300	-	-	17	137	77	38	16	2	8	2	3
8 years	352	-	-	11	166	95	37	15	9	7	6	6
9 years	277	-	-	2	94	111	35	16	10	4	3	2
10-14 years	1,179	-	-	3	158	592	270	88	27	19	14	8
15-19 years	791	-	-	-	2	133	408	165	36	23	11	13
20-24 years	533	-	-	-	-	4	108	273	92	26	20	10
25-29 years	345	-	-	-	4	-	-	59	177	71	19	15
Over 29 years	384	-	-	-	-	5	-	2	36	105	97	139
Not reported	33	-	-	1	6	11	5	2	4	3	-	1

THE ADOPTION BRANCH

ADOPTION PROCEEDINGS

The Family Court exercises original jurisdiction over all legal actions in adoption proceedings. The Adoption Branch of the court is responsible for the processing and investigation of all matters relevant to adoption, including voluntary relinquishment and involuntary termination. Social investigations, home and office interviews, and consultations with attorneys, agencies, etc., are all necessary to determine the child's eligibility for adoption, the suitability of the placement and finally to insure that the legal requirements dictated by the court have been met.

On October 15, 1980, the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania approved an Act providing for "the adoption of minors and adults and for the termination of certain parent-child relationships; providing for jurisdiction of courts; providing for recording of foreign decrees of adoption; and containing provisions for procedures, decrees and records in all matters relating thereto." This Act, which repeals the Adoption Act of 1970, applies to all proceedings begun on or after January 1, 1981.

Under the law, any individual may be adopted, and any individual may become an adopting parent. Proceedings to adoption fall into three categories: voluntary relinquishment, involuntary termination and adoption.

(a) Voluntary Relinquishment - When any child (under eighteen years) has been in the care of an agency¹ or an adult, the natural parents of the child may petition the court for permission to relinquish forever all parental rights and duties with respect to their child. Where the child is in the care of an agency, the petition must contain the consent of the agency to accept custody until such time as the child is adopted; where the child is in the care of an adult (and not related) a consent to accept custody of the child must be signed by the adopting parents and is an exhibit which is attached to the petition for voluntary relinquishment.

In accordance with changes made in the adoption law, effective August, 1982, an alternative procedure for relinquishment was established. This procedure provides for a hearing if the parent(s) consenting to the adoption fail to file or proceed with the petition for voluntary relinquishment within 40 days after executing the consent.

¹"Agency" means an organization, society, or institution which provides for the care of children, supervised by the Pa. Dept. of Public Welfare, and which provides adoption services in accordance with standards established by the department.

(b) Involuntary Termination - A petition to terminate parental rights with respect to a child may be filed by either parent when termination is sought with respect to the other parent; an agency; or an individual who has custody of a child and who has filed a report of intention to adopt. Parental rights may be terminated on the following grounds:

1. The parent, by conduct continuing for a period of at least six months, either has evidenced a settled purpose of relinquishing parental claim to a child, or has refused or failed to perform parental duties;
2. The repeated and continued incapacity, abuse, neglect, or refusal of the parent has caused the child to be without essential parental care, control, or subsistence necessary for his physical or mental well-being;
3. The parent is the presumptive but not the natural father of the child.
4. The child is in custody of an agency, having been found under such circumstances that the identity or whereabouts of the parent is unknown and cannot be ascertained and the parent does not claim the child within three months after the child is found.
5. The child has been removed from the care of the parent by the court or under a voluntary agreement with an agency for a period of at least six months, the parent cannot or will not remedy the conditions which led to the removal or placement of the child, the services or assistance available to the parent are not likely to change these conditions within a reasonable period of time and the welfare and needs of the child would be best served by termination of the parental rights.

Other considerations -

1. The court shall appoint counsel or a guardian ad litem for a child who has not reached the age of 18 years whenever it is in the best interests of the child. No attorney or law firm shall represent both the child and adopting parent or parents.
2. The court in terminating the rights of a parent shall give primary consideration to the needs and welfare of the child. The rights of a parent shall not be terminated solely on the basis of environmental factors such as inadequate housing, furnishings, income, clothing and medical care if found to be beyond the control of the parent.

(c) Adoption -

1. Every person having custody or control of a child for the purpose of adopting the child shall report such intent to the courts. The court must make a complete investigation regarding the health, social and economic status of the adopting parents. No report is required when the child is related, by blood or marriage, to the person having custody or control.
2. Once all procedural requirements have been met and pertinent legal papers filed, the court fixes a time and place for the final hearing. Those persons as directed by the court, are given appropriate notice. Court hearings are conducted in private.

All records relating to an adoption proceeding are kept in strict confidence and may be inspected only through a court order.

A decree of adoption is not granted until the adoptee has been in custody of the petitioners for at least six months. This requirement is not necessary when the adoptee is over 18 years or related by blood or marriage to the petitioner.

PETITIONS RELATIVE TO ADOPTION

By order of the court, petitions for voluntary relinquishment, involuntary termination and adoption, as well as reports of intention to adopt and of intermediary, must be used in all legal actions in adoption proceedings when needed. Printed forms for report of intention to adopt, report of intermediary and petitions for adoption are available to attorneys in the Prothonotary's Office, Room 264, City Hall. Petitions for voluntary relinquishment and involuntary termination are prepared by the attorney of record.

Once an adoption is granted, the attorney of record must apply for certificate of adoption in the Prothonotary's Office, Room 266, City Hall.

Amended birth certificates can be obtained through the Bureau of Vital Statistics, New Castle, Pa. for Pennsylvania born adoptees and through the Bureau of Vital Statistics of the state in which they were born for out-of-state adoptees.

SUMMARY

The number of adoption petitions filed during the last ten years is shown in the table below:

PETITIONS FOR ADOPTION FILED

1974	692	1979	444
1975	672	1980	438
1976	581	1981	464
1977	540	1982	484
1978	514	1983	465

In 1983, 456 adoption petitions were granted involving 523 adoptees - 491 children and 32 adults.

During 1983, 244 reports of intention to adopt were filed with the Adoption Branch for investigation by the staff. In addition, 203 petitions were filed relating to the voluntary relinquishment of parental rights and 192 were granted by the court.

There were 215 petitions for involuntary termination filed during 1983. These petitions indicate abandonment, desertion, or neglect on the part of the natural parents of a child. The court granted 209 petitions during the year, giving custody to the petitioning agency or individual.

THE ADOPTEES

During 1983, the adoption of 523 individuals was approved by the court. The majority (61 percent) of the adoptees were white. The adoptees were evenly divided between the sexes, 263 males and 260 females. The number of adoptees born out of wedlock increased from 65 percent in 1982 to 66 percent in 1983.

It is held that very young children make an easier adjustment to new families, and their acceptance is usually more complete if they become members of the adopting family at an early age. Couples who adopt children also prefer infants so that they can share more intimately in their development. Of the total adoptees, nearly half (47 percent) were 5 years of age or younger when the petition was granted; 34 percent of the adoptees being 2 years of age or under; 6 percent of all adoptees were 18 years of age or older. The median age for adoptees born in wedlock was 9 years, while for adoptees born out of wedlock, it was 1.9 years.

The marital status of the natural parents was as follows: 64 percent were not married; 32 percent were divorced or separated, 2 percent of the adoptees had one or both parents deceased; and in 2 percent of the adoptions, the marital status was unknown.

The majority of adoptees (62 percent), were in custody of the petitioners for two years or less. Fifty-eight percent of the adoptees born out of wedlock were in custody for one year or less.

In 50 percent of the adoptions, the petitioners and the adoptee were not related; 43 percent of the adoptees were adopted by a stepparent.

Children born out of wedlock were placed for adoption by an agency or institution (39 percent), or an intermediary (24 percent).

The majority of adopting parents were between the ages of 25 and 39. The median age for the women was 33.2 years; for the men, 35.6 years.

The wage or salary income of the adopting parents presents a favorable picture for the adoptee. Of the total petitioners, 69 percent were in the \$20,000 and over bracket with 18 percent of the petitioners having incomes of \$40,000 and over.

TABLE 1

ADOPTION PROCEEDINGS: 1979 TO 1983

	1983	1982	1981	1980	1979
Petitions filed	883	989	916	838	867
For adoption	465	484	464	438	444
For voluntary relinquishment	203	214	190	162	172
For involuntary termination	215	291	262	238	251
Reports of intention to adopt filed	244	270	262	238	262
Court sessions	117	129	103	89	104
Petitions granted	857	980	776	759	794
Adoption petitions granted	456	533	397	436	410
Adoptees per petition:					
One	404	479	368	402	368
Two	39	42	26	26	33
Three	11	10	2	4	8
Four or more	2	2	1	4	1
<i>Total adoptees</i>	523	601	431	482	463
Voluntary relinquishment granted	192 ¹	189 ¹	162	122	169
Involuntary termination granted	209	258	217	201	215
Petitions filed—no further action	—	3	—	2	17

¹Includes petitions to confirm consent for adoption.

TABLE 2

SOURCE OF PETITIONS FILED: 1979 TO 1983

Source of petitions	Petitions filed				
	1983	1982	1981	1980	1979
Adoption	465	484	464	438	444
Agency	157	143	194	171	175
Independent	109	97	77	70	84
Kinship	199	244	193	197	185
Voluntary Relinquishment	203	214	190	162	172
Agency	110	117	116	106	119
Independent	83	89	63	45	46
Kinship	10	8	11	11	7
Involuntary Termination	215	291	262	238	251
Agency	73	76	122	114	90
Independent	29	59	30	30	39
Kinship	113	156	110	94	122

TABLE 3

ADOPTION, VOLUNTARY RELINQUISHMENT
AND INVOLUNTARY TERMINATION: 1979 TO 1983

	1983	1982	1981	1980	1979
Petitions disposed of	948	1,036	835	808	853
Adoption	481	551	416	452	430
Granted	456	533	397	436	410
Withdrawn	25	18	19	16	18
Dismissed/denied	-	-	-	-	2
Voluntary Relinquishment	231	214	181	138	193
Granted	192 ¹	189 ¹	162	122	169
Withdrawn	39	25	19	16	24
Involuntary Termination	236	271	238	218	230
Granted	209	258	217	201	215
Withdrawn	27	13	21	17	15

¹See footnote Table 1.

TABLE 4

PETITIONS FOR ADOPTION GRANTED: 1979 TO 1983

	1983	1982	1981	1980	1979
Petitions granted	456	533	397	436	410
Total adoptees	523	601	431	482	463
Males	263	280	200	256	216
Females	260	321	231	226	247
<i>Percent males</i>	50	47	46	53	47
White	319	329	250	267	274
Non-White	204	272	181	215	189
<i>Percent white</i>	61	55	58	55	59
Catholic	226	264	178	192	209
Protestant	179	196	153	212	187
Jewish	22	12	8	16	20
Unknown or none	96	129	92	62	47
Born during wedlock	179	208	145	153	177
Born out of wedlock	344	393	286	329	286
<i>Percent born out of wedlock</i>	66	65	66	68	62

TABLE 5

ADOPTees IN PETITIONS GRANTED, BY RACE AND BIRTH STATUS: 1983

	Adoptees						
	Total	White			Non-white		
		Total	Born during wedlock	Born out of wedlock	Total	Born during wedlock	Born out of wedlock
Total adoptees	523	319	137	182	204	42	162
Age at time of granting petition							
Under 1 year	36	32	4	28	4	1	3
1 to 5 years	212	143	23	120	69	8	61
6 to 9 years	107	65	45	20	42	9	33
10 to 17 years	136	57	43	14	79	21	58
18 years and over	32	22	22	-	10	3	7
Adoptee placed by:							
Own parent	255	161	111	50	94	25	69
Private agency or institution .	158	66	9	57	92	14	78
Intermediary	92	84	10	74	8	1	7
Other	18	8	7	1	10	2	8
Relationship of petitioner to adoptee:							
Not related	262	160	22	138	102	16	86
Stepparent	225	146	108	38	79	21	58
Other	36	13	7	6	23	5	18
Consent given by:							
One parent	213	142	62	80	71	13	58
Both parents	83	62	36	26	21	11	10
Adoptee	51	32	27	5	19	4	15
Private agency or institution .	154	64	9	55	90	14	76
Intermediary	20	17	2	15	3	-	3
Other	2	2	1	1	-	-	-

Continued next page

Table 5 - Continued

ADOPTees IN PETITIONS GRANTED, BY RACE AND BIRTH STATUS: 1983

	Adoptees						
	Total	White			Non-white		
		Total	Born during wedlock	Born out of wedlock	Total	Born during wedlock	Born out of wedlock
Total adoptees	523	319	137	182	204	42	162
Duration of custody:							
Under 1 year	77	63	11	52	14	3	11
1 to 4 years	346	206	89	117	140	31	109
5 to 9 years	63	33	21	12	30	5	25
10 to 15 years	26	9	8	1	17	2	15
16 years and over	11	8	8	-	3	1	2
Marital status of adoptees' parents ¹ :							
Not married	333	175	-	175	158	-	158
Separated or divorced	165	130	127	3	35	34	1
One or both deceased	15	7	7	-	8	6	2
Unknown	10	7	3	4	3	2	1
Income of petitioners:							
Under \$5,000	8	5	3	2	3	-	3
\$5,000 to \$9,999	11	6	2	4	5	1	4
\$10,000 to \$14,999	40	17	8	9	23	6	17
\$15,000 to \$19,999	70	36	17	19	34	6	28
\$20,000 to \$24,999	85	64	28	36	21	2	19
\$25,000 to \$29,999	83	50	24	26	33	12	21
\$30,000 to 39,999	102	56	17	39	46	7	39
\$40,000 to \$49,999	35	24	15	9	11	1	10
\$50,000 and over	58	48	13	35	10	2	8
Not reported	31	13	10	3	18	5	13

¹Natural parents.

TABLE 5 - Concluded

ADOPTees IN PETITIONS GRANTED, BY RACE AND BIRTH STATUS: 1983

	Adoptees						
	Total	White			Non-white		
		Total	Born during wedlock	Born out of wedlock	Total	Born during wedlock	Born out of wedlock
Total adoptees	523	319	137	182	204	42	162
Marital status of petitioners:							
Married	489	310	131	179	179	36	143
Single	34	9	6	3	25	6	19
Mother	31	6	4	2	25	6	19
Father	3	3	2	1	-	-	-
Age of adopting father:							
Under 25 years	9	7	3	4	2	1	1
25 to 34 years	188	134	55	79	54	8	46
35 to 44 years	191	128	44	84	63	12	51
45 to 54 years	61	28	17	11	33	9	24
55 years and over	43	16	14	2	27	6	21
Age of adopting mother:							
Under 25 years	15	12	4	8	3	-	3
25 to 34 years	254	177	77	100	77	15	62
35 to 44 years	174	98	33	65	76	15	61
45 to 54 years	41	15	10	5	26	3	23
55 years and over	36	14	11	3	22	9	13
Religion of petitioners:							
Married petitioners:							
Protestant	183	47	22	25	136	28	108
Catholic	183	162	64	98	21	4	17
Jewish	43	42	18	24	1	-	1
Mixed	66	56	27	29	10	1	9
None/unknown	14	3	-	3	11	3	8
Single petitioner:							
Protestant	17	2	1	1	15	5	10
Catholic	13	5	3	2	8	1	7
Jewish	1	1	1	-	-	-	-
None/unknown	3	1	1	-	2	-	2

THE MEDICAL BRANCH

THE MEDICAL BRANCH

For nearly seventy years numerous medical services have been provided to the court. Although the services varied throughout the years, the basic purpose of the Medical Branch remains the same.

The primary functions of the Medical Branch are to examine, diagnose and recommend treatment for clients, when ordered by the court. To perform these functions, the Medical Branch has a regular staff of physicians, psychologists and psychiatrists, social workers to counsel individuals and interview families; a Mental Health Unit to process involuntary commitments of juveniles for short and long term evaluations and treatment; and nurses for courtroom duty, office interviews, and emergency treatments of clients and court employees.

Among its varied functions the Medical Branch performs physical screening, psychiatric and psychological evaluations and treatment services. It makes referrals to hospitals, clinics, and mental health facilities and maintains follow-up on progress. In addition, the court's professional staff provides screening and recommendations to community health centers concerning future evaluation and treatment of court clients.

An unusual service of the court is the nursery. The nursery staff cares for infants and children while their parents appear in court. In 1983, a nursery was established at 1600 Walnut Street to service parents who must appear in court at that location. The nursery at 1801 Vine Street also serves as a neutral place for parents who do not have custody to visit with their children.

The Clinical Intake Unit established in 1982 became fully operational in 1983. Staff psychologists screen client records to determine the type of study to be performed and to insure all required information is complete before evaluations are scheduled.

As in the past, the judiciary of Family Court continues to rely heavily on the reports of its medical professionals, when making decisions in the cases coming before them.

SUMMARY

In 1983, 1,706 psychiatric examinations and 1,398 psychological examinations were performed at Family Court, as well as 1,855 physical examinations.

The nurseries cared for more than 11,000 children while the parents transacted business in the court. The Clinical Services Unit interviewed, treated or referred over 700 cases. The nurses handled nearly 900 emergency treatments. A total of 295 juveniles were referred to the Correctional Group Counseling Program for group therapy during 1983. There were 447 mental health commitments for evaluation or long term treatment, as well as 795 additional mental health/mental retardation hearings dealing with requests for commitments or reviews of commitments.

TABLE 1
MEDICAL BRANCH: 1979 TO 1983

	1983	1982	1981	1980	1979
Total examinations	4,959	5,580	6,152	6,607	7,475
Mental examinations	3,104	2,974	3,491	3,787	3,961
Psychiatric examinations	1,706	1,477	1,725	1,970	2,186
Psychological examinations	1,398	1,497	1,766	1,817	1,775
Physical examinations	1,855	2,493	2,379	2,410	3,035
Dental examinations ¹	—	113	282	410	479
Clinical laboratory tests ¹	—	5,783	4,791	4,884	5,896
New cases under supervision	483	1,237	936	1,002	1,232
Physical ²	30	797	557	808	1,015
Clinical services	453	440	379	194	217
Children cared for in nursery	11,299 ³	8,636	5,244	3,723	4,039
Commitments under Mental Health Act	447	408	296	287	296
New cases enrolled in Correctional Group Counseling	295	369	382	354	541

¹Dental Unit and Lab phased out in 1982.

²Supervisory function was curtailed in 1983 due to a temporary loss of personnel.

³Increase in number of children due to the establishment of a second nursery at 1600 Walnut Street. Approximately 22 percent of this number were brought to 1801 Vine Street for Sunday visitation.

TABLE 2
MENTAL AND PHYSICAL EXAMINATIONS: 1983

Branch referring cases	Total		Psychiatric		Psychological		Physical	
	Number	Percent distribution	Number	Percent distribution	Number	Percent distribution	Number	Percent distribution
Total examinations	4,976	100	1,706	100	1,398	100	1,872	100
Juvenile Branch	2,818	57	1,351	79	1,295	93	172	9
Delinquent	2,645	53	1,304	76	1,236	88	105	6
Non-delinquent	153	3	31	2	55	4	67	3
Adults	20	— ¹	16	1	4	— ¹	—	—
Domestic Relations Branch	880	18	351	21	103	7	426	23
Adoption Branch	4	— ¹	4	—	—	—	—	—
Employees	155	3	—	—	—	—	155	8
Emergency and first aid treatments	1,119	22	—	—	—	—	1,119	60

¹Less than 0.5 percent.

TABLE 3

PRIMARY AND SECONDARY DIAGNOSES IN PSYCHIATRIC
EXAMINATIONS: 1983

Nature of diagnoses	Primary diagnoses				Total secondary diagnoses
	Total primary diagnoses	Delinquent children	Non- delinquent children	Adults	
Total examinations	1,706	1,304	95	307	74
Intelligence level	87	52	6	29	12
Sub-normal intelligence	23	21	-	2	12
Normal intelligence	64	31	6	27	-
Behavior disorders of childhood and adolescence	290	284	5	1	6
Group delinquent reaction	140	139	1	-	2
Unsocialized aggressive reaction ...	132	132	-	-	1
Other reaction	18	13	4	1	3
Transient situational disturbances	679	643	24	12	10
Adjustment reaction of adolescence	640	622	18	-	2
Adjustment reaction of childhood .	26	20	6	-	3
Adjustment reaction of adult life ..	12	1	-	11	5
Other adjustment	1	-	-	1	-
Conditions without manifest psychiatric disorder	432	173	52	207	2
No mental disorder	382	169	52	161	-
Social maladjustment	46	-	-	46	2
Non-specific conditions	4	4	-	-	-

TABLE 3 - Concluded

PRIMARY AND SECONDARY DIAGNOSES IN PSYCHIATRIC
EXAMINATIONS: 1983

Nature of diagnoses	Primary diagnoses				Total secondary diagnoses
	Total primary diagnoses	Delinquent children	Non- delinquent children	Adults	
Personality and other non-psychotic mental disorders	141	117	2	22	40
Personality disorders	110	94	2	14	24
Passive-aggressive	46	38	2	6	14
Anti-social	48	45	-	3	3
Explosive	8	8	-	-	1
Other types	8	3	-	5	6
Sexual deviations	4	2	-	2	-
Alcoholism	6	5	-	1	7
Drug dependency	21	16	-	5	9
Psychoses not attributed to physical condition	30	6	4	20	1
Schizophrenia	25	6	4	15	1
Other psychoses	5	-	-	5	-
Neuroses	24	11	2	11	-
Ment ^{al} retardation	19	17	-	2	3
Non-diagnostic terms	4	1	-	3	-

TABLE 4

PSYCHOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS: 1983

Diagnoses	Branch referring cases				Domestic Relations
	Total	Juvenile			
		Delinquent	Non-delinquent	Adults	
Total examinations	1,398	1,236	55	4	103
Superior	70	34	2	2	32
Bright normal	62	47	3	-	12
Normal	433	369	25	2	37
Dull normal	422	396	12	-	14
Borderline	348	330	11	-	7
Mild retardation	63	60	2	-	1

TABLE 5

CLINICAL SERVICES UNIT ACTIVITIES: 1979 TO 1983

	1983	1982	1981	1980	1979
Total cases	721	697	519	383	452
Clinical services probation	642	614	476	356	404
New cases	374	357	336	194	217
Carried over from previous year ...	268	257	140	162	187
Domestic Relations Branch cases	79	83	43	27	48
Cases requiring individual follow-up	365	334	286	108	126
Group therapy	-	-	-	14	9
Cases referred to outside agencies	5	23	50	86	93
Correctional group counseling	623	668	635	684	870
New cases	295	369	382	354	541
Carried over from previous year ...	328	299	253	330	329

TABLE 6

COMMITMENTS MADE UNDER MENTAL HEALTH ACT: 1983

Admitting centers and institutions	Total	For evaluation	For treatment
Total cases	447	114	333
Benjamin Rush Center for Mental Health	6	5	1
CATCH (Formerly Jefferson Hospital)	6	1	5
Catchment Area 4 CMHC	13	10	3
Charles R. Drew CHMH (Formerly Einstein)	16	9	7
COMHAR (Episcopal Hospital)	13	10	3
Comprehensive MH/MR (Formerly Temple)	37	15	22
Eastern State School and Hospital	160	-	160
Eugenia Hospital	4	-	4
Fairmont Institute	1	-	1
Hahnemann Hospital	24	21	3
Hahnemann CHMC	5	-	5
Institute of Pa. Hospital	14	3	11
Interac	3	1	2
Jefferson Hospital	5	5	-
Norristown State Hospital	13	-	13
Northeast CMHC	12	5	7
Northwest CMHC	8	5	3
Northwestern Institute of Psychiatry	15	-	15
PATH	6	4	2
Pennsylvania Hospital (Hall-Mercer)	4	3	1
Philadelphia Child Guidance Clinic	13	-	13
Philadelphia Psychiatric Center	12	2	10
Philadelphia State Hospital	32	-	32
St. Christopher's Hospital	3	-	3
West Philadelphia Consortium	15	15	-
Woodhaven Center	7	-	7