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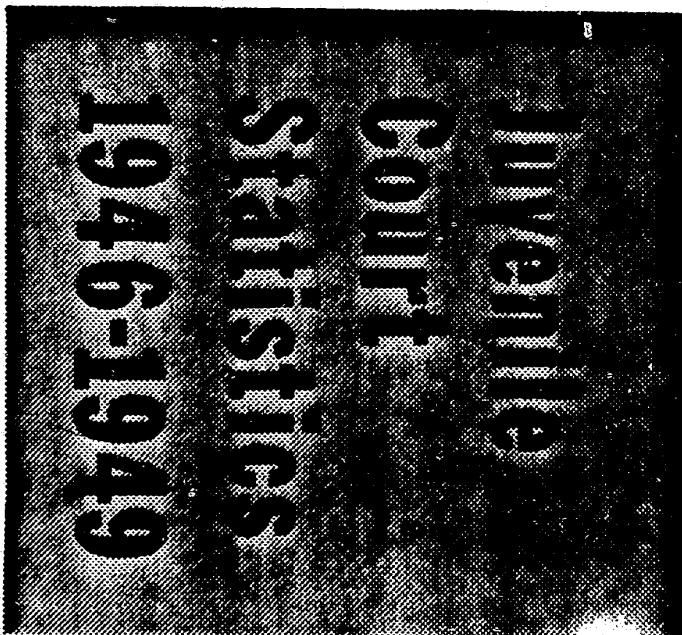
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JUVENILE COURT STATISTICS, 1946-1949 1/

In 1949, the number of juvenile court delinquency cases reported to the Children's Bureau showed an increase over 1948, reversing a downward trend noted each year since the end of World War II. On the other hand, the number of dependency and neglect cases handled by the same courts during 1949 was less than in 1948.

The number of courts for which data are transmitted to the Children's Bureau varies each year. In 1949, reports were received for 413 courts in 22 States, covering about 20 percent of the child population of the United States. These 413 courts provide the data for the detailed analysis of age and sex of the children involved, place of care pending disposition of their cases, and type of disposition. Of the 413 courts reporting in 1949, 218 reported for each of the years since 1946. 2/ This comparable group of courts provides the data for the trend analysis for the years 1946-1949.

Juvenile Delinquency Cases

Juvenile delinquency may be defined as violation of the law by persons of juvenile court age, or conduct on the part of such persons so seriously antisocial as to interfere with the rights of others or menace the welfare of the delinquent himself or of the community. This broad definition of delinquency includes conduct other than violation of laws. Whether a child comes to the attention of the court is determined to a large extent by parental or community attitudes towards a child's behavior. Consequently, the acts which result in bringing a child before the court may be either trivial or serious misbehavior. Not included in the statistics of juvenile delinquency cases are the many children who presented similar conduct problems but who were either not apprehended or were dealt with by the police, social agencies, schools, or youth-serving agencies without referral to court.

Trends in delinquency cases, 1946-1949

From a peak at the end of World War II (1945), juvenile court delinquency cases dropped each year from 1946 through 1948 (table 1 and chart). The decrease in 1948 was much less marked

1/ Report prepared by Mary E. Wheeler and I. Richard Perlman, Program Research Branch, Division of Research.

2/ Data for all the courts reporting during the years 1946, 1947 and 1948 are available in the "Preliminary Statement, Juvenile Court Statistics" issued by the Children's Bureau for each of those years.

than in the preceding 2 years. This trend was indicated by the 218 courts that reported each year since 1946. In this group of courts, 30 served large urban areas with 100,000 or more population and 188 served smaller areas with population of less than 100,000. The overall decrease in delinquency cases of 13 percent between 1946 and 1948 was accounted for mostly by the decrease in cases handled by the large courts, especially official cases. ^{3/} Boys' cases decreased more than girls' cases for all courts combined.

The downward trend in delinquency cases from 1946 to 1948 seems to be related to the improvement of conditions associated with war.

In 1949, for the first time since the end of the war, juvenile court delinquency cases reversed their downward trend and increased by 4 percent over the previous year. As indicated below, the increase was greater for unofficial cases than for official cases and greater in the smaller courts than in the larger courts:

<u>Juvenile delinquency cases</u>			
<u>Percent change, 1948 to 1949</u>			
	<u>Total</u>	<u>Boys' cases</u>	<u>Girls' cases</u>
218 courts.....	+ 4	+ 4	+ 3
Official cases.....	+ 1	+ 1	^{a/}
Unofficial cases.....	+ 6	+ 6	+ 5
30 large courts serving areas with population of 100,000 or more....	+ 2	+ 2	+ 1
Official cases.....	- 2	- 2	- 1
Unofficial cases.....	+ 4	+ 5	+ 2
188 small courts serving areas with population of less than 100,000..	+ 18	+ 17	+ 20
Official cases.....	+ 17	+ 18	+ 10
Unofficial cases.....	+ 18	+ 17	+ 27

^{a/} Less than 1%

^{3/} Official cases are those placed on the official court's calendar for adjudication by the judge or referee through the filing of a petition, affidavit or other legal paper. Unofficial cases are those where no petition or legal paper is filed and where the case is adjusted by the judge, referee, probation officer or other officer of the court without formal hearing.

Both large and small courts seem to be making increased use of unofficial procedures in handling delinquency cases. This is indicated by the increase in the proportion of unofficial cases from 53 percent in 1946 to 57 percent in 1949 in the 30 large courts, and from 51 percent to 55 percent in the 188 small courts.

The overall trend noted in juvenile court delinquency cases was observed also in an independent series of data based on police arrests of children under 18 years of age whose fingerprint records were transmitted to the Federal Bureau of Investigation (see chart). Although neither of these series represents a completely accurate measurement of juvenile delinquency, their remarkable similarity does indicate that they are affected by common determining factors. They are useful, therefore, in reflecting directional changes even if they do not indicate the magnitude of the problem. The reversal in 1949 of the downward trend in both series, even before the beginning of the Korean situation, gives us cause for concern.

Throughout the trend period, when there were both increases and decreases in delinquency cases and police arrests of children, the number of children in the general population between the ages of 7-17 (the predominant age group of juvenile delinquents), remained relatively constant (see chart). The large increases in births in recent years have not yet affected the numbers of children in the 7-17 year old group.

Number of delinquency cases, 1949

A total of 70,616 juvenile delinquency cases disposed of during 1949 were reported by the 413 courts located in 22 States (table 2). Forty courts were large courts--serving areas with populations of 100,000 or more--and 373 were small courts--serving areas with less than 100,000 population. The large courts disposed of almost three-fourths of the total delinquency cases. Therefore, any analysis of the data is heavily influenced by these large courts.

Since a child may appear before the court two or more times during the year, the number of cases reported for the year is larger than the number of different children involved. Most of the 413 courts reported these data, and it was found that the number of delinquency cases was 16 percent higher than the number of children involved.

From these data, it is estimated that almost 300,000 children or about 12 in every 1,000 children between the ages of 7-17 came to the attention of juvenile courts in 1949 because of delinquency.

Over half (58 percent) of the delinquency cases reported by the 413 courts were handled unofficially. These unofficial cases were disposed of after conference at the point of intake or after more intensive social investigation and study.

Wide differences in the methods of handling cases were found among courts in various States and even among courts in the same State. For example, in Ohio, all reporting courts combined disposed of 25 percent of their delinquency cases officially; in Missouri, 50 percent; and in Pennsylvania, 78 percent. Within Ohio, one court (Hamilton County) disposed of 4 percent of its delinquency cases officially while another court (Trumbull County) disposed of 90 percent of its delinquency cases officially. There seems to be no consistent pattern regarding the methods of handling cases, either by region or by size of court. Rather the procedure for handling cases rests heavily on individual court practices, the philosophy of the judge and the size of staff.

Age and sex of children in delinquency cases, 1949

The median age of the children involved in delinquency cases in the 413 courts was about 15½ years. About the same median age was found for girls as for boys and for unofficial as well as official cases. Almost three-fourths of the children involved in delinquency cases were 14 years of age or over (table 3). One of the important factors to be taken into consideration in interpreting the age distribution of the cases is the age under which the juvenile court has jurisdiction. The age jurisdiction is established by State law and in most instances is uniform throughout a State, though it varies from State to State as shown in table 2.

Boys' cases outnumbered girls' cases in the ratio of 4 to 1. This ratio varied in courts in different States. It was lowest in Oklahoma where only twice as many boys' cases as girls' cases were disposed of in 1949 and highest in Puerto Rico where boys' cases outnumbered girls' cases 19 to 1. In general, one reason for the greater number of boys' cases may be our cultural patterns permitting more freedom to boys so that they are more likely to be picked up by police for infractions of the law. Boys are more outwardly aggressive than girls and this aggressiveness sometimes results in overt delinquent acts. Also, boys tend more to associate in gangs and delinquent behavior often stems from misdirected gang activities.

Place of detention care of children in delinquency cases, 1949

Detention has been defined as "temporary care of children who require secure custody prior to court action or return to another jurisdiction. This means children who have committed delinquent acts or present a dangerous likelihood of running away or committing further offenses if allowed to remain in their own homes pending court hearing." ^{4/} Since the behavior of many

^{4/} Norman, Sherwood, "New Goals for Detention," Federal Probation, Vol. 13, December 1949, p. 30.

delinquent children is not serious enough to require removal from their own homes, every effort should be made to avoid the use of detention with its possible damaging effects on impressionable youngsters. Also, detention should not be used as a disciplinary measure or for extended care of children after they have been committed to another institution for treatment.

More than two-thirds of the delinquency cases reported by the 413 courts were given no detention care overnight or longer (table 4). Detention was ordered in 21,697 of the 64,772 delinquency cases for which information on detention care was reported.

There was a noticeable difference in the detention of boys as compared with girls, especially in official court cases. Of the boys' official cases, 63 percent were permitted to remain with their parents or usual place of care pending the decision of the court. This was permitted in only 43 percent of the girls' cases brought before the judge. This difference is related to the reasons for which girls are brought to court, such as sexual promiscuity with its attendant dangers of venereal disease, pregnancy, etc. Such misconduct is considered serious enough to require detention in order to protect both the community and the girl.

The most frequently used place of detention care was the detention home. Of the children detained overnight or longer, 7 out of every 10 were cared for in a detention home.

One of the fundamental objectives of juvenile court legislation is to keep children out of jails where they are frequently detained along with adult criminals. In line with this objective many States now have laws to prohibit jail detention of children and youth. However, because of the lack of suitable detention facilities, particularly in some small towns and rural areas, detention in jails or police stations is still a frequent practice. Jail detention was used in 25 percent of the delinquency cases of children reported as being detained overnight or longer.

The use of the boarding home is another method for detaining children when they are unable to remain in their own homes. In this type of care, the child is placed in a private foster family home during the period of detention. Boarding home care, however, is used negligibly for delinquency cases. Less than one percent of the children detained were cared for in boarding homes pending disposition of the court.

Disposition of delinquency cases, 1949

It is the duty of the court to determine the disposition or treatment of cases of alleged delinquency referred to it. In a juvenile court, the disposition is focused primarily on helping and

guiding the child rather than on punishing him. The methods of disposition of official cases differed markedly from those of unofficial cases (table 5). Unofficial cases were more frequently "dismissed, adjusted or held open without further action" than official cases. This lends belief to the assumption that in many courts minor offenses are usually handled by unofficial action. Another factor that accounts for the difference is that certain types of disposition, for example, commitment to institutions require official court action. Thus, commitment of delinquent children to training schools occurs under "official" dispositions.

The disposition of boys' and girls' cases differed considerably also. Cases "dismissed, adjusted or held open without further action" were proportionately higher for boys than girls in both official and unofficial handling. Commitments or referrals to institutions or agencies were more frequent in girls' cases.

Differences in dispositions between boys' and girls' delinquency cases, as in detention care, are attributable in part to the different reasons for which boys and girls are brought to court.

Boys are most frequently referred to court for such reasons as stealing, destroying property, and other types of malicious mischief. Such offenses can frequently be understood or excused as the expression of mischievousness or an adventuresome spirit where continuing court care is not considered necessary. Their cases are often dismissed.

Girls, on the other hand, usually come before the court because of sexual misconduct or offenses of a related nature. As indicated previously, this type of misconduct is viewed more seriously than that of boys. Consequently, the probation and commitment rate for girls is much higher than for boys.

Dependency and Neglect Cases

Most juvenile courts by statute have jurisdiction over actions involving dependent and neglected children as well as those involving delinquent children. Such jurisdiction is based on the principle that a child is a ward of the State, subject to its discipline and entitled to its protection.

Unlike the delinquent child who is brought to the attention of the court because of his anti-social behavior, the dependent or neglected child is usually referred because of some form of neglect or inadequate care on the part of his parents or guardian (i.e., lack of adequate care or support resulting from the death, absence, or physical or mental incapacity of the parents, abandonment or desertion, abuse or cruel treatment, improper or inadequate conditions in the home). However, in many cases brought to the

juvenile court, dependency or neglect and unsatisfactory behavior of the child are closely allied. In dealing with these cases, the court tries to work out a social plan to encourage the healthy development of the child.

Trends in dependency and neglect cases, 1946-1949

Of the 413 courts reporting on dependency and neglect cases in 1949, 218 courts reported throughout the period 1946-1949. In each of these years, except 1947, the number of these cases disposed of was less than in the preceding year (table 6). There was an overall decrease of 8 percent in the dependency and neglect cases between 1946 and 1949. Since official cases in large urban courts account for about half of all the dependency and neglect cases reported, the overall decrease was heavily affected by the decrease of 14 percent noted below in the official cases in the large urban courts:

	<u>Dependency and neglect cases</u>		
	<u>Percent change, 1946 to 1949</u>		
	<u>Total</u>	<u>Official cases</u>	<u>Unofficial cases</u>
218 courts.....	-8	-12	-2
30 courts serving areas with population of 100,000 or more...	-8	-14	<u>a/</u>
188 courts serving areas with population of less than 100,000.	-4	+3	-23

a/ Less than 1%

General economic and social conditions affect the number of dependency and neglect cases coming to the attention of courts. The decrease since 1946 may be associated with the high level of employment and general prosperity during the post-war years. The decrease may also be related to the elimination or improvement of many war-associated conditions. Family living has become more stabilized with fathers returning from service; the need for mothers to go to work has become somewhat lessened. Also the trained staff of child and family agencies drained off by the war have returned to strengthen and improve casework services to families whose children are in danger of becoming neglected.

Number of dependency and neglect cases, 1949

Of the total children's cases handled by the 413 courts reporting in 1949, almost 24,000, or about 24 percent, were dependency and neglect cases. Of these, about three-fifths were handled by official action and the remainder unofficially (table 2). The large proportion of dependency and neglect cases handled officially results from the fact that frequently these cases require court action involving a child's legal status.

Ages of children in dependency and neglect cases, 1949

As might be expected from the nature of dependency and neglect cases, children dealt with in such cases in 1949 were younger (median age of 6½ years) than those involved in delinquency cases (median age of 15½ years). Seventy percent of the children in dependency and neglect cases were under 10 years of age at the time of their referral (table 7).

Place of shelter care in dependency and neglect cases, 1949

In cases involving dependency and neglect, shelter care is provided because, pending court hearing, the child is found in need of protection and care which cannot be given him by his parents or guardian. In such cases, in contrast to delinquency cases, the child is not in danger of harming himself or others. He therefore does not need secure detention. Rather he needs a substitute for parental care--perhaps a foster family home or care in a small separate institution.

However, the actual type of care which a dependent and neglected child receives often is not related to his needs but rather is determined by the type of facilities available. Consequently, many dependent and neglected children, young in age, are indiscriminately thrown together in detention homes with older delinquents.

Through the work of the National Probation and Parole Association and the Children's Bureau there has been a growing awareness of the need for separate facilities for the temporary care of dependent and neglected children. The need is more acute in small communities and rural areas than in larger cities which frequently have some resources for shelter care.

No shelter care overnight or longer was given to over three-fourths of the children involved in dependency and neglect cases in 1949 (table 8). When shelter care was used, courts for the most part placed children in boarding homes, in the homes of relatives or friends, or in institutions other than detention homes. However, a significant percentage (33 percent) of those for whom shelter care was provided were placed in detention homes, often

with delinquent children. Only a negligible number of dependent and neglected children (49) were cared for overnight in jails or police stations.

Disposition of dependency and neglect cases, 1949

Between the time of the filing of a petition or complaint alleging a child's dependency or neglected status and the disposition of the case, much work may be done by the court's social work and probation staff in helping parents to correct home deficiencies.

Of the 22,265 dependency and neglect cases for which disposition was reported by the 413 courts, 8,602 or almost two-fifths were dismissed or held open without further court action (table 9). Almost an equal number (8,420) were committed or referred to other agencies and institutions. The largest proportion of the latter were committed or referred to the custody or guardianship of the public welfare agency, usually for supervision in their own homes or for placement in foster boarding homes or institutions.

Through supervision by a probation officer many parents can be helped to meet community standards in relation to child care and to give their children a better chance for a normal life. This disposition of supervision by a probation officer was used in 12 percent of the dependency and neglect cases for which disposition was reported.

Special Proceedings

In addition to delinquency and dependency or neglect, children are referred to juvenile courts for other reasons which are generally termed "special proceedings." Special proceedings include such cases as adoption, commitment of mentally defective children, material witnesses, application for consent to marry or to enlist in the armed forces, determination of custody or guardianship of a child and permission to hospitals for the performance of an operation on children.

Of all the children's cases reported by the 413 courts in 1949, 6,159 or 6 percent were special proceedings (table 2).

In contrast to the decrease in dependency and neglect cases, special proceedings cases increased by 13 percent from 1946 to 1949. Since adoption proceedings account for a large part of special proceedings cases, the larger number of special proceedings cases probably reflects the increases taking place in the last several years in the number of children being adopted.

Limitations of Juvenile Court Statistics

Reports on juvenile court statistics are designed to show the volume of children's cases disposed of by the juvenile court and the importance of the court in a community's program for services to children. Courts are included in these tabulations primarily because they voluntarily supplied all necessary data in accordance with the criteria established by the 1946 revision of the reporting plan; ^{5/} they, therefore, should not be interpreted to represent all courts in the country.

The number of children's cases handled by juvenile courts is affected by several factors. The age group of children and the types of cases over which courts have jurisdiction are established by State law and often are different for courts in different States. This affects the number of cases reported, and consequently the comparability of the reports for the various courts.

The number of children's cases reported by different courts is greatly influenced also by variations in the administrative practices of the courts and by the organization for child welfare services in the different communities. Some courts, for example, handle a substantial number of cases of neglect as adult cases rather than as children's cases (that is, an affidavit is filed against or in the name of the parent neglecting the child); these are not reflected in the reports on children's cases disposed of. In some communities the juvenile court is the only agency available to provide services to children; in others, there are well established programs of services for children and the juvenile court is only one of the many agencies dealing with children, and is frequently used only when its authority as a judicial agency is needed. Many communities have established "screening agencies" (such as a juvenile division in the police department) that adjust many cases or refer them to other community agencies rather than to juvenile courts.

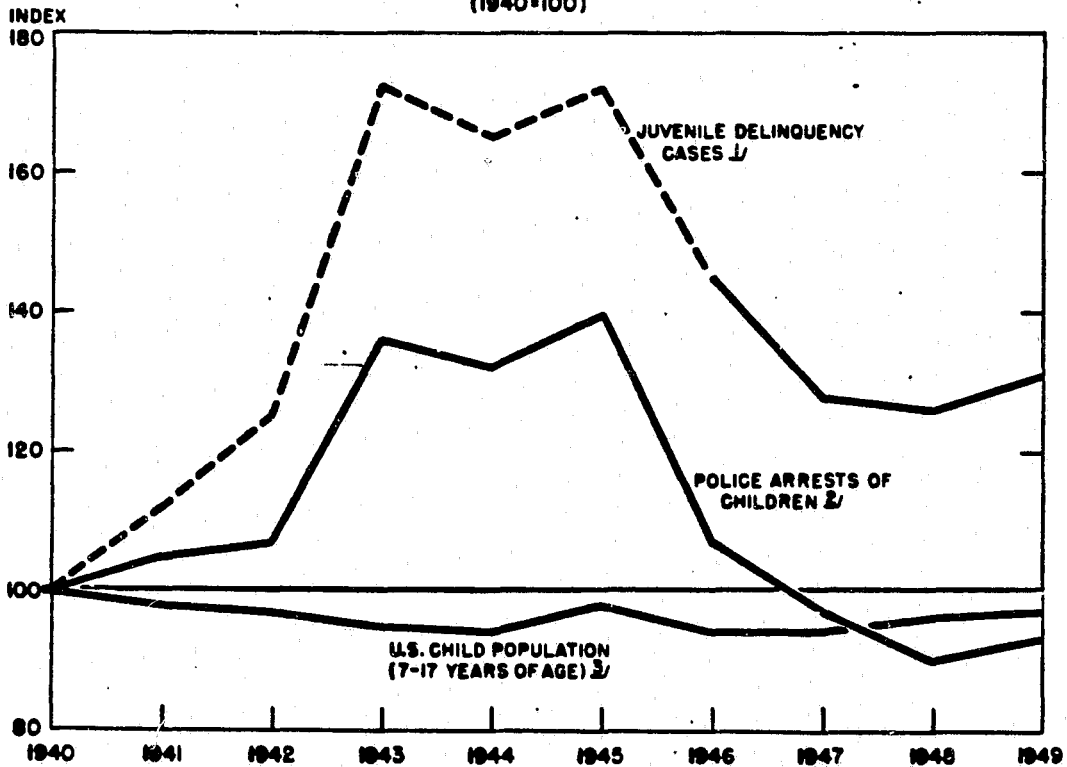
Because of their limitations, juvenile court statistics alone do not provide a reliable index of the extent of delinquency problems or dependency and neglect situations. In regard to the extent of such problems, they may be particularly misleading when used to make comparisons between one community and another.

^{5/} The revision in 1946 discontinued the direct collection of statistical reports from individual courts. The data are now obtained in summary form from State agencies concerned with juvenile court or probation work. Reports from States need not be State-wide in coverage. A State may be included if one or more courts within the State report. The courts reporting, however, must include data on all types of cases--dependency, neglect and special proceedings as well as delinquency cases--disposed of both officially and unofficially.

Table 1.—Juvenile delinquency cases, 1946-1949: Number of cases disposed of by 218 courts, according to the manner of handling.

Year	Juvenile delinquency cases								
	Total, 218 courts			30 large courts			188 small courts		
	Total	Official	Unofficial	Total	Official	Unofficial	Total	Official	Unofficial
1946.....	99,944	28,457	31,487	52,043	24,554	27,489	7,901	3,903	3,998
1947.....	93,041	24,126	28,915	45,179	20,622	24,557	7,862	3,904	4,958
1948.....	51,994	23,051	28,943	44,415	19,652	24,763	7,579	3,999	4,180
1949.....	54,028	23,313	30,715	45,106	19,342	25,764	8,922	3,971	4,951

JUVENILE DELINQUENCY COURT CASES, POLICE ARRESTS OF CHILDREN, AND U.S. CHILD POPULATION, 1940-49
(1940=100)



1/ Data for 1940-48 estimated by Children's Bureau; data for 1946-48 based on official and unofficial cases disposed of by 218 courts.

2/ Based on fingerprint records for children under 18 years of age reported in Uniform Crime Reports (annual bulletins), Federal Bureau of Investigation.

3/ Current Population Reports, Bureau of the Census, Series P-28, No. 41.

Table 2.— Children's cases, 1949: Number of delinquency, dependency and neglect, and special proceedings cases disposed of by 413 courts.

Areas served by court ^{a/}	Age under which court has original jurisdiction	Total all cases	Delinquency cases			Dependency and neglect cases			Special proceedings cases		
			Total	Official	Un-official	Total	Official	Un-official	Total	Official	Un-official
Total cases.....	-	102,481	70,616	29,484	41,132	23,710	13,729	9,981	6,139	4,127	1,012
ARKANSAS:											
Fulton Co. (Little Rock).....	21	1,377	996	131	465	787	98	789	14	13	1
12 small courts.....	21	896	247	211	36	29	29	-	20	17	3
CONNECTICUT:											
First District (Bridgeport).....	16	1,690	1,395	380	1,015	295	295	-	-	-	-
Second District (New Haven).....	16	1,768	1,383	439	944	385	385	-	-	-	-
Third District (Hartford).....	16	1,461	1,116	342	774	345	345	-	-	-	-
INDIANA:											
Allen Co. (Fort Wayne).....	18	477	477	179	298	-	-	-	-	-	-
Elkhart Co. (Gary).....	18	1,030	965	253	712	46	14	32	39	7	32
Marion Co. (Indianapolis).....	18	1,389	899	459	380	437	412	25	313	286	27
St. Joseph Co. (South Bend).....	18	1,044	877	65	614	53	47	6	114	111	3
Vanderburgh Co. (Swansville).....	18	320	320	28	462	-	-	-	-	-	-
45 small courts.....	18	3,017	2,604	969	1,635	288	134	154	125	96	69
IOWA:											
Polk Co. (Des Moines).....	18	993	726	134	392	267	196	111	-	-	-
Woodbury Co. (Sioux City).....	18	960	538	130	388	388	172	196	94	69	25
LOUISIANA:											
1 small court.....	17	362	238	43	195	84	43	41	40	2	38
MAINE:											
1 small court.....	17	378	336	160	176	75	31	4	7	4	3
MISSISSIPPI:											
Windsor Co. (Jackson).....	18	87	86	86	-	1	1	-	-	-	-
67 small courts.....	18	796	575	292	283	269	60	109	12	3	9
MISSOURI:											
Jackson Co. (Kansas City).....	17	3,199	1,744	886	858	714	304	410	701	700	1
St. Louis (City).....	17	2,957	1,402	472	930	853	325	528	702	686	16
St. Louis Co. (University City).....	17	650	392	200	192	172	89	83	86	86	-
112 small courts.....	17	2,470	1,367	884	483	612	537	75	481	483	8
MONTANA:											
1 small court.....	18	794	791	49	742	-	-	-	3	-	3
NORTH DAKOTA:											
First District (Fargo).....	18	327	316	232	164	199	182	17	12	12	-
OHIO:											
Butler Co. (Hamilton City).....	18	1,218	705	260	645	118	66	52	175	51	124
Cuyahoga Co. (Cleveland).....	18	7,231	3,549	1,313	2,236	3,421	1,676	1,745	261	260	1
Franklin Co. (Columbus).....	18	1,098	672	244	428	373	269	104	53	31	22
Hamilton Co. (Cincinnati).....	18	3,818	3,271	130	3,141	362	362	-	185	53	132
Lorain Co. (Elyria).....	18	406	404	182	222	2	2	-	-	-	-
Lucas Co. (Toledo).....	18	2,369	1,806	205	1,601	408	323	85	355	224	131
Madison Co. (Youngstown).....	18	1,217	1,033	126	877	165	138	27	49	48	1
Montgomery Co. (Dayton).....	18	1,631	1,331	289	1,042	201	167	34	99	99	-
Summit Co. (Akron).....	18	1,400	1,200	75	1,125	163	158	5	37	36	1
Franklin Co. (Warren).....	18	330	319	197	22	111	108	3	-	-	-
44 small courts.....	18	6,761	4,747	1,704	3,043	1,495	1,291	204	519	400	119
OKLAHOMA:											
Tulsa Co. (Tulsa).....	18	1,530	1,051	194	857	489	123	366	10	5	5
4 small courts.....	18	488	180	72	48	263	184	79	45	45	2
OREGON:											
Multnomah Co. (Portland).....	18	2,807	1,987	367	1,220	1,284	499	785	36	36	-
10 small courts.....	18	3,730	2,609	675	2,014	899	243	656	142	36	106
PENNSYLVANIA:											
Allegheny Co. (Pittsburgh).....	18	6,420	3,610	2,201	1,409	2,731	945	1,786	79	79	-
Berks Co. (Reading).....	18	651	546	80	466	105	38	67	-	-	-
Montgomery Co. (Harrisburg).....	18	846	387	79	308	229	20	209	30	30	-
Philadelphia (City and Co.).....	18	9,878	7,121	6,712	409	2,603	2,088	515	154	107	47
Puerto Rico:											
Ponce District (Ponce).....	16	93	92	-	92	1	-	1	-	-	-
San Juan District (San Juan).....	16	291	280	87	193	11	6	5	-	-	-
1 small court.....	16	25	24	5	19	1	1	-	-	-	-
Rhode Island:											
State (Providence).....	18	1,631	1,036	269	267	287	287	-	408	408	-
SOUTH CAROLINA:											
Greenville Co. (Greenville).....	16	370	355	183	172	209	96	253	6	6	-
Spartanburg Co. (Spartanburg).....	16	393	145	99	46	44	34	10	204	118	86
SOUTH DAKOTA:											
2 small courts.....	18	344	437	81	376	84	65	19	3	2	1
UTAH:											
First District (Ogden).....	18	1,434	1,313	876	437	141	99	42	-	-	-
Second District (Salt Lake City).....	18	2,113	1,938	1,571	367	155	114	41	-	-	-
3 small courts.....	18	2,193	2,103	1,447	656	90	31	39	-	-	-
VERMONT:											
14 small courts.....	16	276	100	95	5	176	172	4	-	-	-
WEST VIRGINIA:											
14 small courts.....	18	2,474	1,857	1,332	525	395	429	246	222	212	10
WISCONSIN:											
Milwaukee Co. (Milwaukee).....	18	6,007	4,098	712	4,386	375	296	379	314	328	6

^{a/} Courts serving areas with population of 100,000 or more are listed separately, showing the chief city located in each area. Courts serving areas with less than 100,000 population are combined for each State and are presented as "small courts."

^{b/} Age shown is the one under which court has jurisdiction for delinquent children. Arkansas courts have jurisdiction for dependent and neglected boys under 17 years of age, and for dependent and neglected girls under 16. Montana courts have jurisdiction for dependent and neglected children under 17 years of age.

^{c/} The age under which court has original jurisdiction is different for boys and for girls. The age for boys appears first.

Table 3.—Juvenile delinquency cases, 1949: Ages of boys and girls when referred to court, in cases disposed of by 413 courts.

Age of child when referred to court	Juvenile delinquency cases									
	Number					Percent				
	Total	Official		Unofficial		Total	Official		Unofficial	
		Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls		Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
Total cases.....	70,616	24,068	5,416	32,986	8,146	—	—	—	—	—
Age reported.....	64,565	22,774	5,111	29,401	7,279	100	100	100	100	100
Under 10 years.....	2,644	790	64	1,575	215	4	3	1	5	3
10 years, under 12.....	4,478	1,623	146	2,418	291	7	7	3	8	4
12 years, under 14.....	9,723	3,320	782	4,966	1,055	15	15	15	16	14
14 years, under 16.....	21,935	7,569	2,273	9,194	2,899	34	33	45	31	40
16 years and over.....	25,785	9,472	1,846	11,648	2,819	40	42	36	40	39
Age not reported.....	6,051	1,294	305	3,585	867	—	—	—	—	—

Table 4.—Juvenile delinquency cases, 1949: Places of detention care of boys and girls, in cases disposed of by 413 courts.

Place of detention care	Juvenile delinquency cases									
	Number					Percent				
	Total	Official		Unofficial		Total	Official		Unofficial	
		Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls		Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
Total cases.....	70,616	24,068	5,416	32,986	8,146	—	—	—	—	—
Detention care reported.....	64,772	22,929	5,127	29,422	7,264	100	100	100	100	100
No detention care overnight.....	43,075	14,519	2,189	21,379	4,988	67	63	43	73	69
Detention care overnight or longer g/.....	21,697	8,440	2,938	8,043	2,276	33	37	57	27	31
Jail or police station.....	5,342	3,029	371	1,659	283	8	14	7	6	4
Detention home.....	14,946	4,865	2,302	9,914	1,865	23	21	45	20	26
Boarding home.....	184	43	59	90	32	1/2	1/2	1	1/2	1/2
Other place.....	1,225	503	206	420	96	2	2	4	1	1
Detention care not reported.....	5,844	1,109	289	3,564	882	—	—	—	—	—

g/ Where a child was detained overnight in more than one place, only one place is reported. The selection is made in accordance with the order in which the places are listed.

1/2 Less than 0.5 percent.

Table 5.—Juvenile delinquency cases, 1949: Disposition of boys' and girls' cases, disposed of by 413 courts.

Disposition of case	Juvenile delinquency cases									
	Number					Percent				
	Total	Official		Unofficial		Total	Official		Unofficial	
		Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls		Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
Total cases.....	70,616	24,068	5,416	32,906	8,146	--	--	--	--	--
Disposition reported.....	68,976	24,019	5,381	31,881	7,695	100	100	100	100	100
Case dismissed with or without warning or adjustment.....	29,008	5,322	689	18,995	4,002	42	22	19	60	52
Case held open without further action.....	4,073	823	184	2,559	507	6	4	3	8	7
Child supervised by probation officer.....	18,463	8,931	1,926	6,001	1,605	27	37	36	19	21
Child committed or referred to:										
Public institution for delinquent children.....	4,194	3,087	892	158	57	6	13	17	g/	1
Other public institution.....	985	498	233	165	89	1	2	4	1	1
Other court.....	1,047	423	73	415	136	2	2	2	1	2
Public department.....	1,067	317	184	407	199	2	1	3	1	2
Private agency or institution.....	1,724	495	993	373	263	2	2	11	1	3
Other disposition of case.	8,415	4,123	607	2,808	877	12	17	11	9	11
Disposition not reported.....	1,640	49	35	1,105	451	--	--	--	--	--

g/ Less than 0.5 percent.

Table 6.—Dependency and neglect cases, 1946-1949: Number of cases disposed of by 218 courts, according to the manner of handling.

Year	Dependency and neglect cases								
	Total, 218 courts			30 large courts			188 small courts		
	Total	Official	Unofficial	Total	Official	Unofficial	Total	Official	Unofficial
1946.....	20,990	12,442	8,508	18,820	10,943	7,877	2,130	1,499	631
1947.....	21,352	12,569	8,783	19,257	10,986	8,271	2,095	1,983	512
1948.....	20,743	12,051	8,692	18,654	10,476	8,178	2,089	1,575	514
1949.....	19,303	10,925	8,378	17,268	9,378	7,890	2,035	1,547	488

Table 7.—Dependency and neglect cases, 1949: Ages of children when referred to court, in cases disposed of by 413 courts.

Age of child when referred to court	Dependency and neglect cases					
	Number			Percent		
	Total	Official	Unofficial	Total	Official	Unofficial
Total cases.....	23,710	13,729	9,981	—	—	—
Age reported.....	20,709	12,575	8,134	100	100	100
Under 2 years.....	3,892	2,901	1,391	19	20	17
2 years, less than 6.....	5,243	3,007	2,236	25	24	23
6 years, less than 10.....	3,368	3,365	2,009	26	27	25
10 years, less than 14.....	3,811	2,353	1,458	19	19	18
14 years, less than 18.....	2,329	1,315	1,014	11	10	12
18 years, and over.....	66	34	32	a/	a/	a/
Age not reported.....	3,001	1,154	1,847	—	—	—

a/ Less than 0.5 percent.

Table 8.—Dependency and neglect cases, 1949: Places of shelter care of children, in cases disposed of by 413 courts.

Place of shelter care	Dependency and neglect cases					
	Number			Percent		
	Total	Official	Unofficial	Total	Official	Unofficial
Total cases.....	23,710	13,729	9,981	—	—	—
Shelter care reported.....	20,290	12,242	8,048	100	100	100
No shelter care overnight.....	15,996	8,489	7,107	77	69	68
Shelter care overnight or longer a/.....	4,624	3,753	941	23	31	32
Jail or police station.....	49	23	26	b/	b/	b/
Detention home.....	1,547	1,187	360	8	10	3
Boarding home.....	1,076	679	397	5	7	2
Other place.....	2,022	1,664	358	10	14	5
Shelter care not reported.....	3,420	1,487	1,933	—	—	—

a/ Where a child was cared for overnight in more than one place, only one place is reported. The selection is made in accordance with the order in which the places are listed.

b/ Less than 0.5 percent.

Table 9.—Dependency and neglect cases, 1949: Disposition of children's cases disposed of by 413 courts.

Disposition of case	Dependency and neglect cases					
	Number			Percent		
	Total	Official	Unofficial	Total	Official	Unofficial
Total cases.....	23,710	13,729	9,981	—	—	—
Disposition reported.....	22,265	12,648	9,617	100	100	100
Case dismissed with or without warning or adjustment.....	7,218	2,318	4,900	32	18	51
Case held open without further action.....	1,384	427	957	6	3	10
Child supervised by probation officer.....	2,589	1,472	1,117	12	12	12
Child committed or referred to:						
Public institution for delinquent children.	41	39	2	2/	2/	2/
Other public institution.....	1,011	977	34	5	8	2/
Other court.....	298	80	218	1	1	2/
Public department.....	3,810	3,402	408	17	27	4
Private agency or institution.....	3,260	2,264	996	15	18	11
Other disposition of case.....	2,654	1,669	985	12	13	10
Disposition not reported.....	1,445	1,081	364	—	—	—

g/ Less than 0.5 percent.