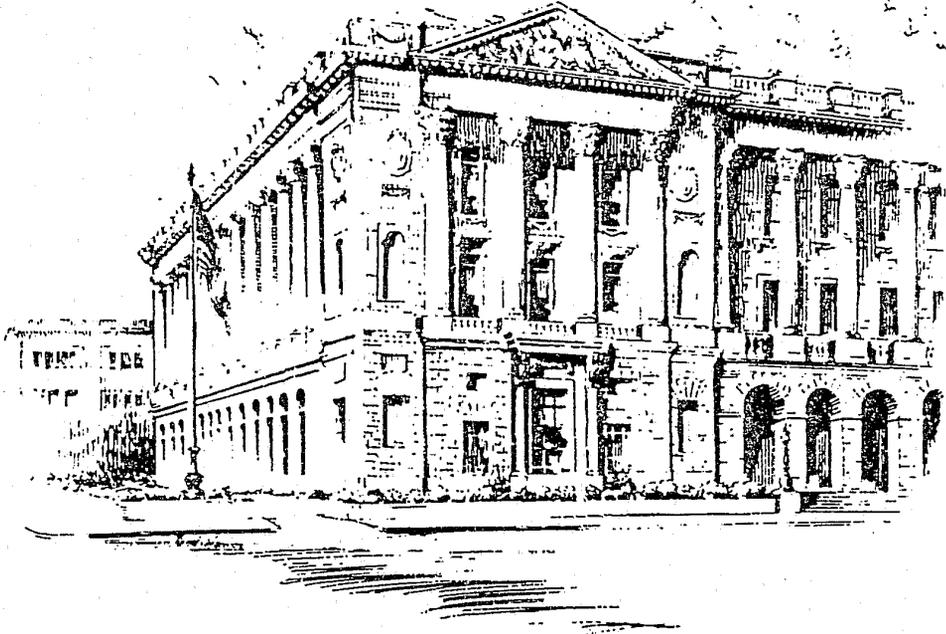


PHILADELPHIA
COURT OF COMMON PLEAS



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FAMILY COURT DIVISION
1991 ANNUAL REPORT

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS OF PHILADELPHIA



FAMILY COURT DIVISION

SEVENTY-SIXTH ANNUAL REPORT

*Honorable Edward J. Blake
President Judge*

*Honorable Jerome A. Zaleski
Administrative Judge
Family Court Division*

*Matthew M. Tierney
Court Administrator
Family Court Division*

139056

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Philadelphia Family Court

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This report was prepared by the Research and Planning Unit, Family Court Division. Pictures were provided by Lynn Roman, staff member of Family Court. All requests for information should be directed to: E. L. Davis, Deputy Court Administrator, Management and Staff, Family Court Division, 1801 Vine Street, Philadelphia, PA 19103.

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THE JUDICIARY



*Edward J. Blake
President Judge*



*Jerome A. Zaleski
Administrative Judge
Family Court Division*

JUDGES SITTING IN THE FAMILY COURT DIVISION DURING 1991



John L. Braxton



Ida K. Chen



Tama Myers Clark



Leonard A. Ivanoski



Frank M. Jackson



Sheldon C. Jelin

JUDGES SITTING IN THE FAMILY COURT DIVISION DURING 1991



Nicholas Kozay, Jr.



Stephen E. Levin



Kathryn S. Lewis



Joseph Patrick McCabe



Frank X. O'Brien



Paul P. Panepinto



Abram Frank Reynolds



Edward R. Summers



Esther R. Sylvester

JUDGES SITTING IN THE FAMILY COURT DIVISION DURING 1991



Allan L. Tereshko



Petrese B. Tucker

SENIOR JUDGES



Vito F. Canuso



Nicholas A. Cipriani



Jerome A. O'Neill

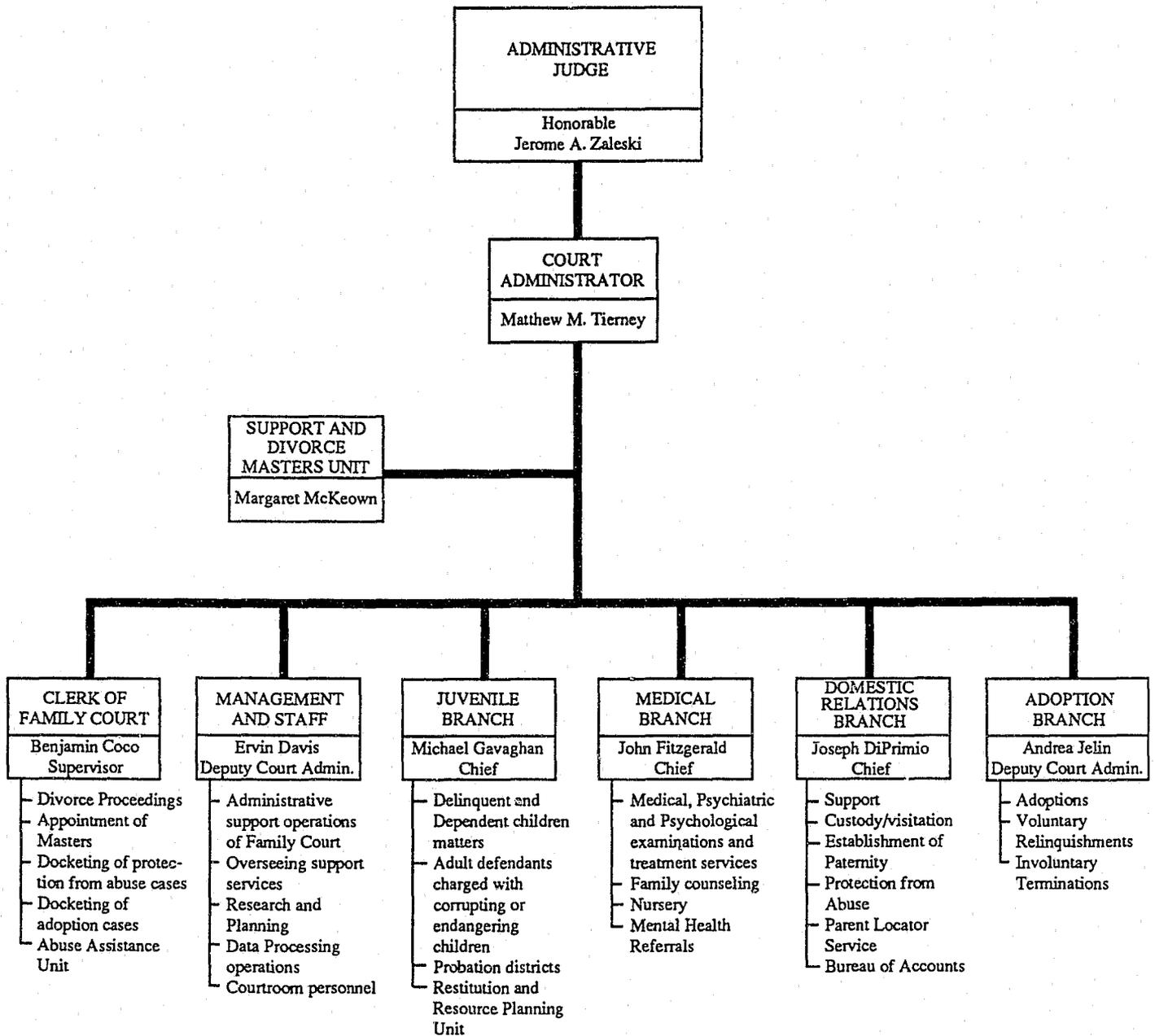


Edward B. Rosenberg



Evelyn M. Trommer

FAMILY COURT DIVISION ORGANIZATION



INTRODUCTION AND HIGHLIGHTS

Administrative Judge Jerome A. Zaleski

The Family Court is constantly striving to attain various goals in its pursuit of excellence. In 1991, a certain number of these goals were achieved despite reductions in staff resources.

A long-term goal was achieved when the Domestic Relations Branch moved into a new location. For the first time in many years the entire Branch is under one roof. Joining the Domestic Relations Branch are the Clerk of Family Court (processing of divorces), Abuse Assistance Unit and Permanent Hearing Officers/Permanent Divorce Masters Unit. Having the Domestic Relations Branch and other units serving the family combined in one facility provides significant advantages in terms of services, efficiency and effectiveness. The new facilities provide a convenient and comfortable setting for the public and for our employees.

A major component of the new Domestic Relations operation at 34 S. 11th Street was the installation of a new mainframe computer dedicated exclusively to Domestic Relations applications. This computer has provided the opportunity for enhanced automation of the entire Domestic Relations process and will assist the Branch in its ongoing effort to meet the challenges of Domestic Relations in the 1990's.

A reorganization of the administration of the Domestic Relations Branch is expected to be implemented in the early months of 1992. These plans will allow for the consolidation of Domestic Relations case filings at one location, as well as, a central location for clients and attorneys to review their files.



Judge Jerome A. Zaleski, Administrative Judge, Family Court Division welcomes employees and guests to the annual Family Court Employees Awards Ceremony.

In addition, a comprehensive analysis of all units will be initiated and will be ongoing throughout 1992.

New computer programs are being developed for increased automation in the scheduling of all support and custody matters, and in generating all court lists and notices to clients and counsel.



In attendance for the opening of the Court's new facility were: (starting at left) Helen Lafferty, Deborah Willig, Philadelphia Bar Association; Allie Page Matthews, Office of Child Support Enforcement; Administrative Judge Jerome A. Zaleski, Supreme Court Justice James T. McDermott, President Judge Edward Blake, Gloria Thomas, Chief, Domestic Relations Branch and Rachel Munafa, Philadelphia Bar Association.



Darlene Gaines (left) is ready to begin operating one of the computers installed in the court rooms hearing delinquent cases. Also shown (starting left) are: Family Court Administrative Judge, Jerome A. Zaleski, Judges Abram Frank Reynolds and Esther R. Sylvester and Matthew M. Tierney, Court Administrator, Family Division.

With the relocation of the Domestic Relations Branch, additional space was made available at our Family Court Building. Space planning was initiated to attain the most effective work locations for the Juvenile Bench and staff and other personnel remaining in this building.

Computer terminals/printers were installed in courtrooms hearing juvenile delinquency cases. It is anticipated that terminals/printers will be placed in non-delinquent courtrooms early in 1992. A Family Court Committee has worked diligently to achieve courtroom computerization. With a Juvenile Court Management System already in place, it became the committee's duty to extend the available data to the courtrooms. Benefits include increased efficiency, timeliness, access to prior juvenile histories including prior adjudications and dispositions. In addition there is less need for juvenile files in the courtrooms. The cooperation of the staff of the Clerk of Quarter Sessions was outstanding and extremely helpful. The Data Processing Unit of the Court of Common Pleas played a very significant role in implementing the project.

Two new projects were initiated to complement and further improve our Juvenile Program:

1. An electronic monitoring project to provide in-home detention alternative services to youths who would otherwise be held at the Youth Study Center and/or at Commonwealth operated delinquent residential institutions. The program will be available to approximately 150 youths each year.
2. A State Intensive Aftercare Project to provide intensive aftercare probation services to juveniles returning to Philadelphia after a period of residential placement in public facilities. The Unit primarily targets juveniles whose charges involve drug trafficking, although juveniles with other charges are also considered. A maximum of 25 clients per probation officer is maintained.



Family Court Administrative Judge Jerome A. Zaleski welcomes Philadelphia District Attorney Lynne Abraham who gave the keynote address at the annual Juvenile Court Day ceremony.



Judge Joseph P. McCabe was presented a certificate of recognition for his work in presiding over delinquent matters.

Mention is made here of the recently established Dispositional Planning Unit located in the Juvenile Branch because of its vital functions and its unique organizational structure. The Unit is responsible for identifying service needs and gaps and working closely with the City's Department of Human Services to obtain needed services on a contractual basis. This Unit is unique in that it is composed of both Court and Department of Human Services employees under the supervision of a court manager. The cooperation of all concerned is splendid and the beneficiaries are children with special needs.



Judge Jerome A. Zaleski, Administrative Judge Family Court Division, congratulates Judge Sheldon C. Jelin on being awarded a certificate acknowledging his work involving delinquent issues.



Judge Thomas Dempsey (left) presented an Employee of the Year award to Jaime Hughes of the Management and Staff Office. Also shown on the right is Ervin L. Davis, Deputy Court Administrator, Management and Staff.

Two other achievements are worthy of comment. First, for the second consecutive year there was no backlog of juvenile cases. Secondly, \$101,835,480 was collected by the Child Support Program. Both of these items are indicative of a series of outstanding achievements in the juvenile program and the Child Support Program.

As always, these successes are the result of the extraordinary efforts and dedication of the judiciary and staff of the Family Court. I take this opportunity to express my thanks and appreciation to them.

Statistics

The data appearing in this report has been collected from original documents, capturing information at the time of filing and at disposition, as well as from internal reports.

The reader is cautioned not to compare numbers of filings with numbers of cases disposed. These terms are not synonymous in that multi-petitions may be filed within a case. For example, both parents may file an individual petition for custody of a child. This would be counted as two petitions, but one case, if both petitions are disposed of at the same time.

The statistical unit used in this report regarding cases is the case disposed of because it is at the final stage that we have the most complete information about the case. The statistical data immediately following this section summarizes the overall workload of the Family Court Division for the past five years. I believe the data is fairly accurate due to the development and adoption of better procedures in recent years.



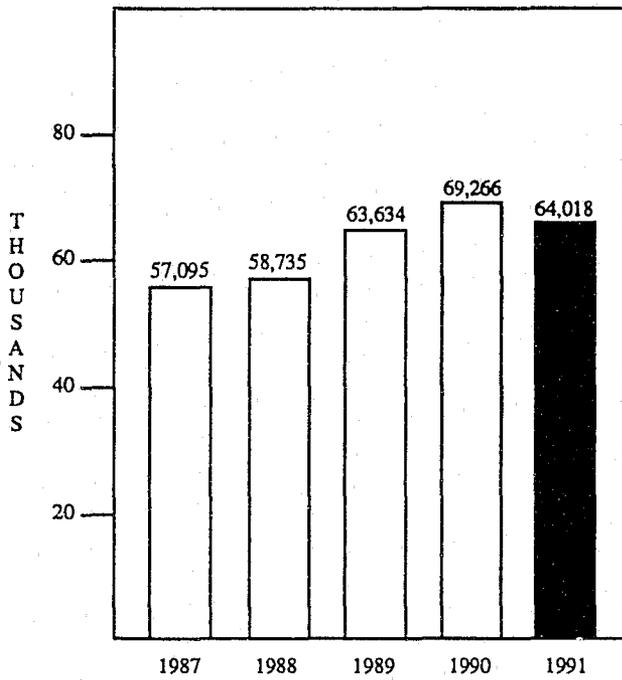
Robert Higgins (left) was presented with an Employee of the Year award for the Management and Staff Office by Judge Thomas Dempsey. Also shown on the right is Ervin L. Davis, Deputy Court Administrator, Management and Staff.

STATISTICAL SUMMARY: 1987 TO 1991

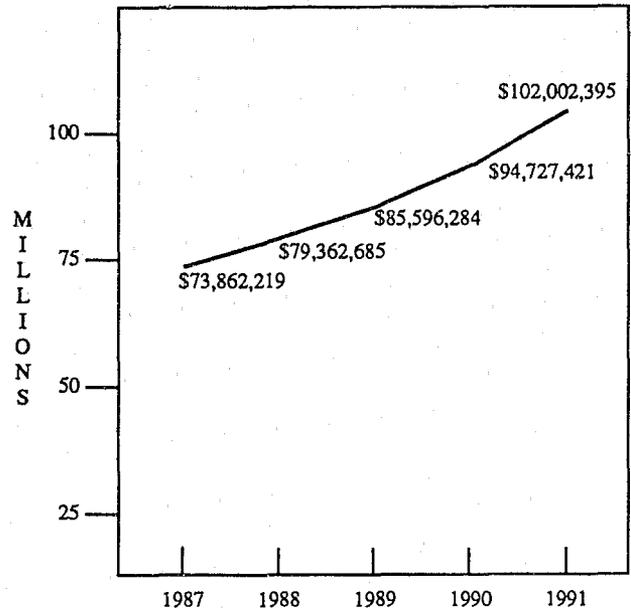
	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991
FILINGS:					
Juvenile Branch					
Petitions Filed	13,837	16,133	15,472	14,862	13,281
Adjusted at Youth Study Center	518	297	154	194	225
Total	14,355	16,430	15,626	15,056	13,506
Domestic Relations Branch Petitions	36,794	35,123	41,409	47,158	44,104
Adoption Branch Petitions	997	813	866	1,021	949
Divorce Proceedings Initiated	4,949	6,369	5,733	6,031	5,459
Total	57,095	58,735	63,634	69,266	64,018
CASES DISPOSED:					
Juvenile Branch					
New Cases	13,095	15,817	15,636	15,027	14,216
Review Hearings	33,346	39,714	49,908	56,994	62,870
Total	46,441	55,531	65,544	72,021	77,086
Domestic Relations Branch	26,370	31,426	30,160	37,692	36,308
Adoption Branch	1,119	887	988	1,005	1,093
Divorces Granted	4,303	4,708	4,760	4,721	4,767
Total	78,233	92,552	101,452	115,439	119,254
SUPPORT ORDER AND RESTITUTION PAYMENTS RECEIVED:					
Support Payments	\$73,761,914	\$79,260,102	\$85,448,375	\$94,565,667	\$101,835,480
Restitution ¹	\$ 100,305	\$ 102,583	\$ 147,909	\$ 161,754	\$ 166,915
Total	\$73,862,219	\$79,362,685	\$85,596,284	\$94,727,421	\$102,002,395

¹Includes payments received through the Restitution and Community Services Program, except for 1988.

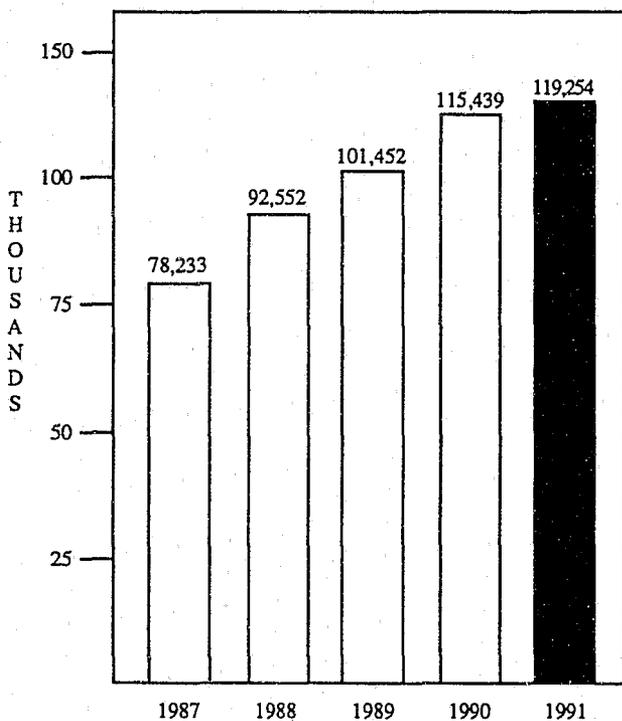
TOTAL FILINGS: 1987 TO 1991



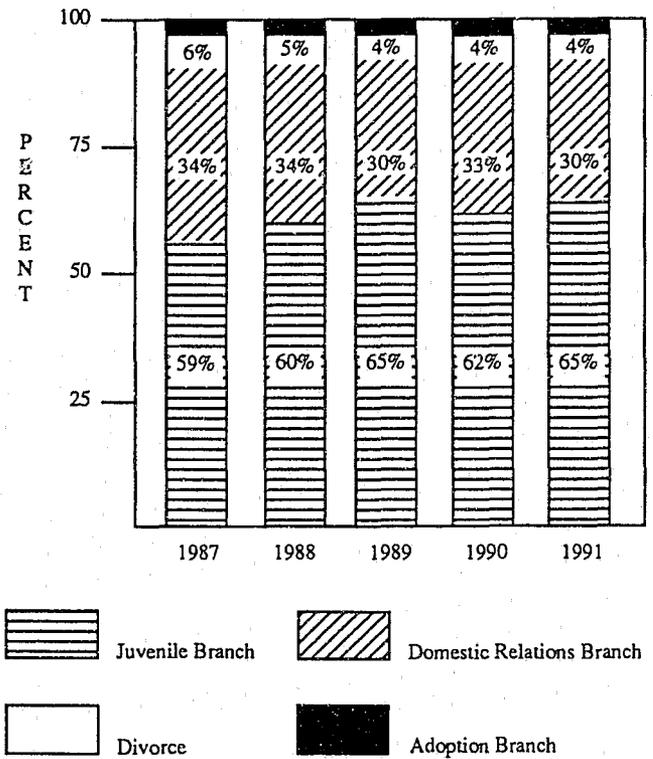
SUPPORT ORDER AND RESTITUTION PAYMENTS RECEIVED: 1987 TO 1991



TOTAL NUMBER OF CASES DISPOSED: 1987 TO 1991



PERCENT DISTRIBUTION — CASES DISPOSED: 1987 TO 1991



Juvenile Branch



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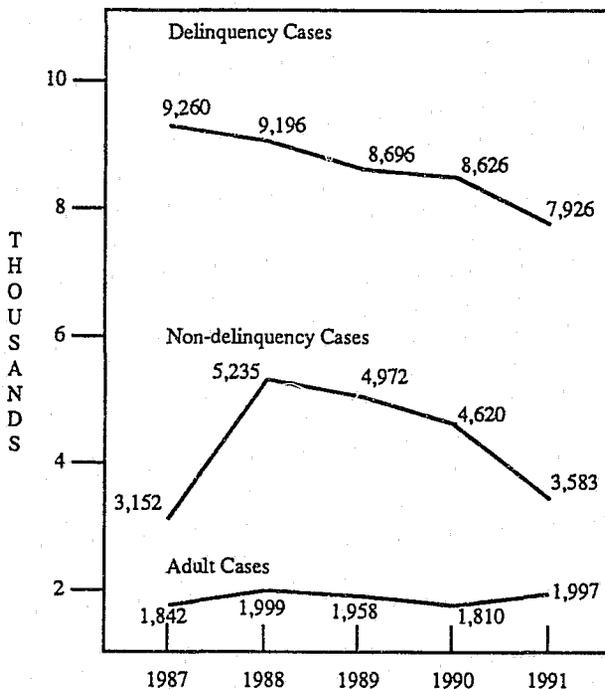
JUVENILE BRANCH

The Juvenile Branch is responsible for processing all juvenile cases coming under the Court's jurisdiction.

This jurisdiction includes all juvenile proceedings involving delinquent and dependent children, as well as adults charged with crimes against children or endangering their welfare. In order to ensure that the best interests of the children are served and their legal rights safeguarded, specific procedures are used in disposing of juvenile cases. The flow charts on pages 23 and 37 show the major steps involved in processing delinquent and dependent (non-delinquency) cases.

As in previous years, the majority of new cases received by the Juvenile Branch in 1991 were delinquency cases. Although these cases constitute the largest part of the juvenile caseload, they have been declining in recent years (14 percent since 1987). However new dependent cases were 14 percent higher than in 1987.

NEW CASES RECEIVED: 1987 TO 1991



As with new cases received, the majority of new cases disposed in 1991 were delinquency cases.

New delinquency cases disposed of decreased by 7 percent in 1991, while the number of new non-delinquency cases disposed of decreased by 12 percent. New adult cases disposed of in 1991 increased by 19 percent.

NEW CASES DISPOSED: 1991

Type of Case	Number	Percent Distribution
Delinquency	8,073	57
Non-delinquency	4,176	29
Adult	1,967	14
Total	14,216	100

In addition to new cases, the Juvenile Branch processes thousands of cases involving review hearings. These are cases which must be reviewed due to a legal requirement or because new facts brought to the Court's attention require modification of a previous disposition. Review hearings in 1991 accounted for 82 percent of all cases disposed of in the Juvenile Branch. Most review hearings concerned non-delinquent matters (60 percent). However, review hearings in delinquency cases have also increased in recent years and in 1991 they accounted for 70 percent of all delinquency cases disposed.

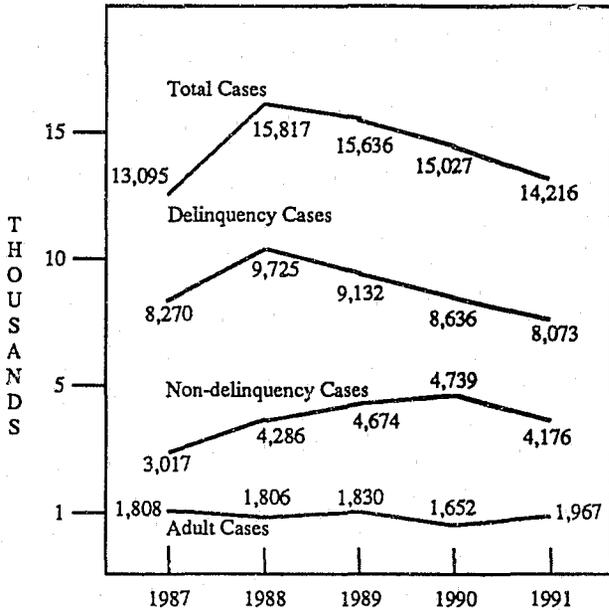
Overall, the Juvenile Branch received and disposed of a substantial portion of the cases processed by the Family Court Division. In 1991, this branch accounted for 21 percent of all filings and 65 percent of the total cases disposed of by the Family Court Division.

Statistical data with graphic illustrations summarizing the workload of the Juvenile Branch for the past five years can be found immediately following this section.



Judge Paul P. Panepinto (left), received a certificate of recognition, for his work concerning juvenile delinquency matters, from Family Court Administrative Judge Jerome A. Zaleski.

NEW CASES DISPOSED: 1987 TO 1991



Throughout the year, the Juvenile Branch staff received a wide variety of training in order to improve their skills and keep abreast of current legal developments. An on-going program designed for the Court's juvenile probation staff allows the staff, through on-site visits, to examine the physical environment of juvenile facilities while learning of the specialized programs offered by these institutions or agencies.

A specialized training program was instituted for probation officers to obtain a minimum of twenty training hours. Subjects such as: Managing Cultural Diversity, Child Sex Abuse:



Lynne Abraham, District Attorney of Philadelphia, addressed attendees at the Juvenile Court Day observance.

Adolescent Victim-Adolescent Offender, Computerized Psychological Testing, were typical of the courses presented. The juvenile staff received other training through a staff development program. These sessions are held monthly and provide the staff with information about other agencies with which they will be coming in contact, as well as, discussions on varied topics of interest to the staff.

In addition to in-house training, many employees continue to upgrade their skills by attending courses at local colleges and universities on their own time.



Family Court Administrative Judge Jerome A. Zaleski (left) presented a certificate of recognition to Judge Kathryn S. Lewis citing her work in juvenile delinquency matters. John Irvine, Acting Deputy Chief, Juvenile Branch is shown in the background.



Shown are some Family Court employees who have completed the Shippensburg University Masters Degree Program. They are as follows: Starting left front row—Andrea Jelin, Tina Marie Coley, Diana Williams and Elizabeth Jackson; back row (left to right) Jerry Hopkins, John Irvine, and Colbert Partridge.

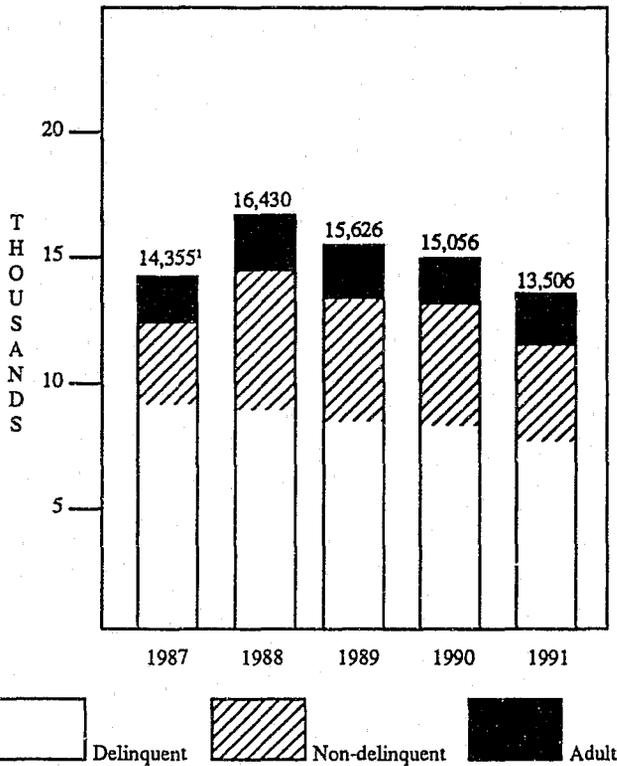
JUVENILE BRANCH STATISTICAL SUMMARY: 1987 TO 1991

	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991
FILINGS:					
Delinquency	9,260	9,196	8,696	8,626	7,926
<i>Petitions filed</i>	8,742	8,899	8,542	8,432	7,701
<i>Adjusted at Youth Study Center</i>	518	297	154	194	225
Non-delinquency petitions	3,152	5,235	4,972	4,620	3,583
Adult petitions	1,842	1,999	1,958	1,810	1,997
Enforcement petitions and motions	101	—	—	—	—
Total	14,355	16,430	15,626	15,056	13,506
CASES DISPOSED:					
Delinquency	21,626	24,291	28,201	30,577	33,057
Non-delinquency	22,767	28,951	35,121	39,664	41,934
Adult	1,808	1,806	1,830	1,652	1,967
Enforcement	240	483	392	128	128
Total	46,441	55,531	65,544	72,021	77,086
<i>New cases</i>	13,095	15,817	15,636	15,027	14,216
<i>Review hearings</i>	33,346	39,714	49,908	56,994	62,870
NEW REFERRALS¹	6,157	6,274	6,927	6,011	5,547
JUVENILE CASES UNDER INVESTIGATION DURING YEAR	7,105	6,494	5,951	7,190	6,157
CHILDREN UNDER SUPERVISION AT END OF YEAR:					
Delinquent	4,539	4,856	4,703	4,611	4,212
Non-delinquent	69	139	243	141	181
Total	4,608	4,995	4,946	4,752	4,393
RESTITUTION PAYMENTS RECEIVED²	\$100,305	\$102,583	\$147,909	\$161,754	\$166,915
COURT SESSIONS:					
Delinquency	1,144	1,409	1,445	1,222	1,382
Non-delinquency	482	648	739	717	814
Adult	250	226	223	214	260
Enforcement	1	—	—	—	—
Total	1,877	2,283	2,407	2,153	2,456

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

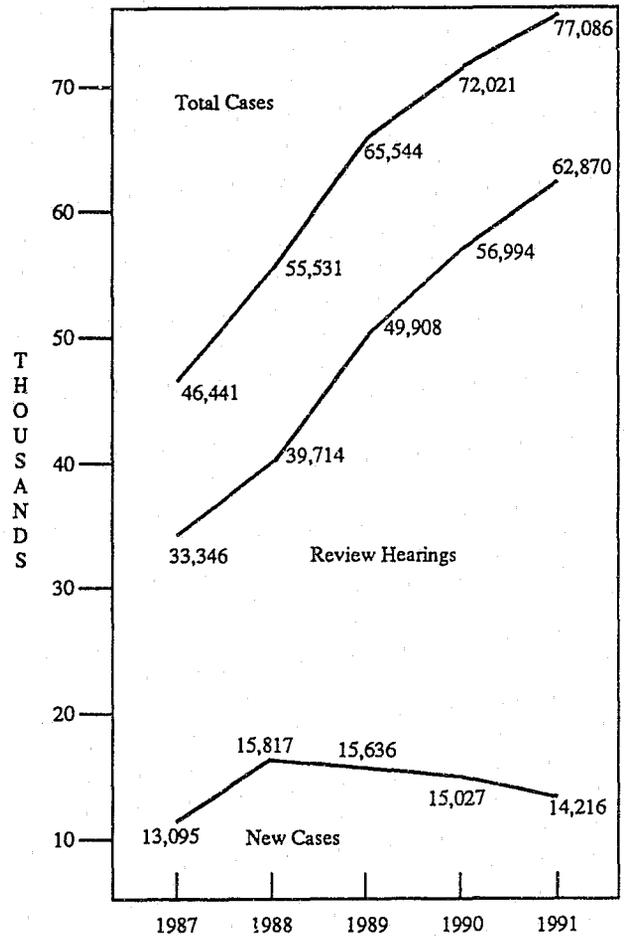
²Includes payments received through the Restitution and Community Services Program except for 1988.

JUVENILE BRANCH FILINGS: 1987 TO 1991

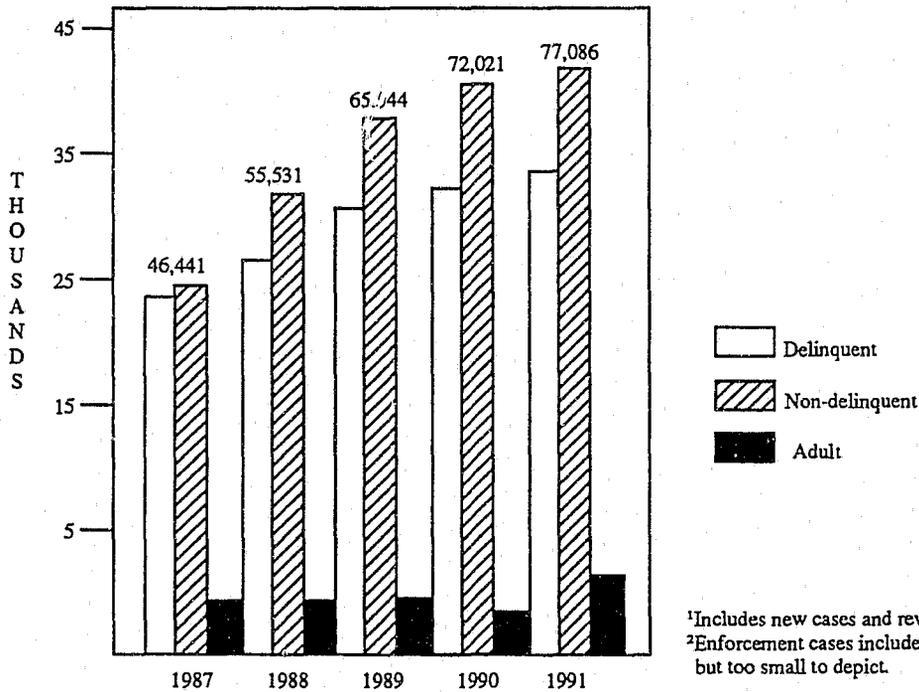


¹Enforcement filings included in total but too small to depict.

JUVENILE BRANCH DISPOSED CASES: 1987 TO 1991



JUVENILE BRANCH DISPOSED CASES^{1,2}: 1987 TO 1991



¹Includes new cases and review hearings.

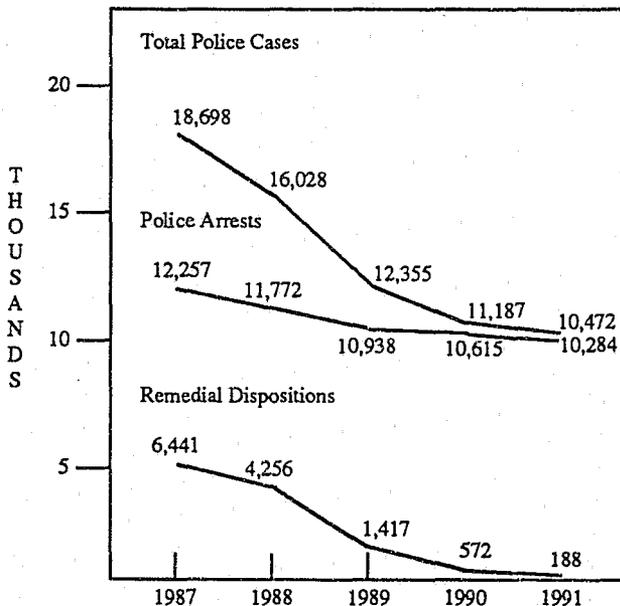
²Enforcement cases included in total but too small to depict.

DELINQUENCY CASES¹

Delinquency cases constitute the largest part of the workload in the Juvenile Branch. In 1991, these cases accounted for 59 percent of all new cases received by the Juvenile Branch. Delinquency cases involve juveniles between the ages of 10 and 17 who have been charged with delinquent acts.² These cases are brought to the Court's attention primarily through police arrests³ although other authorities, individuals or parents may refer cases to Court.

When a juvenile is apprehended, the Police and the District Attorney determine if the child should be charged. If charged, the child is brought or referred to the Youth Study Center for further processing of the case. If the child is not charged, the Police treat the case as a remedial disposition or a non-arrest. In some cases, the District Attorney may refer a first time offender charged with a minor offense to a Youth Aid Panel. Juvenile arrests have been declining in recent years and in 1991, the number of juveniles arrested (10,284) decreased by 3 percent from 1990.

POLICE ARRESTS AND REMEDIAL DISPOSITIONS: 1987 TO 1991



¹See flow chart on page 23.

²Excluding the crime of murder or summary offenses.

³Comparison of police arrests with court dispositions cannot be made due to use of different data collection procedures.

⁴Required by law to be heard within 72 hours. Hearings are held Monday through Friday and on holidays.

⁵This program is administered and monitored by Community Based Services who have contracted with the Philadelphia Youth Advocate Program and the Lower Kensington Environmental Center for supervision of youths.

All new delinquency cases are screened at the Youth Study Center Intake Unit to determine appropriate action to take regarding detention and the further processing of the petition. An Intake Interviewer conducts a hearing and either disposes of the case or refers it to the Court. Pending the court hearing, the juvenile may be released to the parent(s) or detained at the Youth Study Center or a Community Based Shelter site. When the juvenile is detained, the Judge, at the detention hearing⁴, may order the youth assigned to the Pre-Hearing Intensive Supervision Unit (PHIS), the House Arrest Program or the Electronic Monitoring Program. The Judge may also order the youth placed in a Community Based Shelter or in an In-Home Detention program⁵. These programs provide an alternative to detention during the time prior to or following the adjudicatory hearing.

In 1991, approximately 3 percent of new delinquency cases were adjusted at the YSC and 97 percent were referred to Court for disposition.



Judge Thomas Dempsey (left) presented an Employee of the Year award to Nancy Magowan of the Juvenile Branch. Shown on the right is Michael Gavaghan, Chief Juvenile Branch.

While the delinquency statistics presented in this report cannot define the total amount of delinquency in Philadelphia, they can indicate trends. In addition, they alert the community to the amount of serious crime attributed to youthful citizens. Actually, a small number of Philadelphia's children are involved in delinquent behavior. In 1991, approximately 3

NEW DELINQUENCY CASES DISPOSED: 1991

	Total	Male	Female
Intake interview YSC	225	132	93
Court hearing	7,848	7,033	815
Total	8,073	7,165	908



Joseph Razzano (middle) was presented with an Employee of the Year award for the Juvenile Branch by Judge Thomas Dempsey (left). Also shown is Michael Gavaghan, Chief, Juvenile Branch.



Judge Abram Frank Reynolds was a recipient of a certificate of recognition for his work in presiding over delinquent matters.

percent of juvenile residents between the ages of 10 and 17 were charged with delinquent acts. The typical delinquent case involved a 17 year old male who was charged with a theft offense. Males as a whole were responsible for 89 percent of all new delinquent cases disposed of in 1991.

Delinquency cases involving female offenders comprised 11 percent of the total new cases disposed in 1991. Unlike male offenders, the majority of female offenders were charged with injury to person offenses. These offenses constituted a much larger percentage for female offenders (55 percent) than for male offenders (20 percent).

When disposing of a delinquent case, the facts and circumstances of the case determine the type of disposition. In 1991, 37 percent of the cases were adjusted, withdrawn or dismissed while 31 percent resulted in the offender being placed on probation.

NEW DELINQUENCY CASES DISPOSED BY AGE AND SEX: 1991

Age	Total	Male	Female
10	69	66	3
11	157	139	18
12	347	292	55
13	610	493	117
14	1,101	932	169
15	1,569	1,393	176
16	1,892	1,724	168
17	2,289	2,109	180
Not reported	39	17	22
Total	8,073	7,165	908

OFFENSES DISPOSED: 1991

	Total	Male	Female
Injury to person	1,940	1,443	497
Theft	3,529	3,264	265
Weapon offenses	416	390	26
Sex offenses	220	216	4
Drug law violations	1,325	1,261	64
Malicious mischief	438	399	39
Runaway from institution	155	150	5
Other offenses ¹	50	42	8
Total	8,073	7,165	908

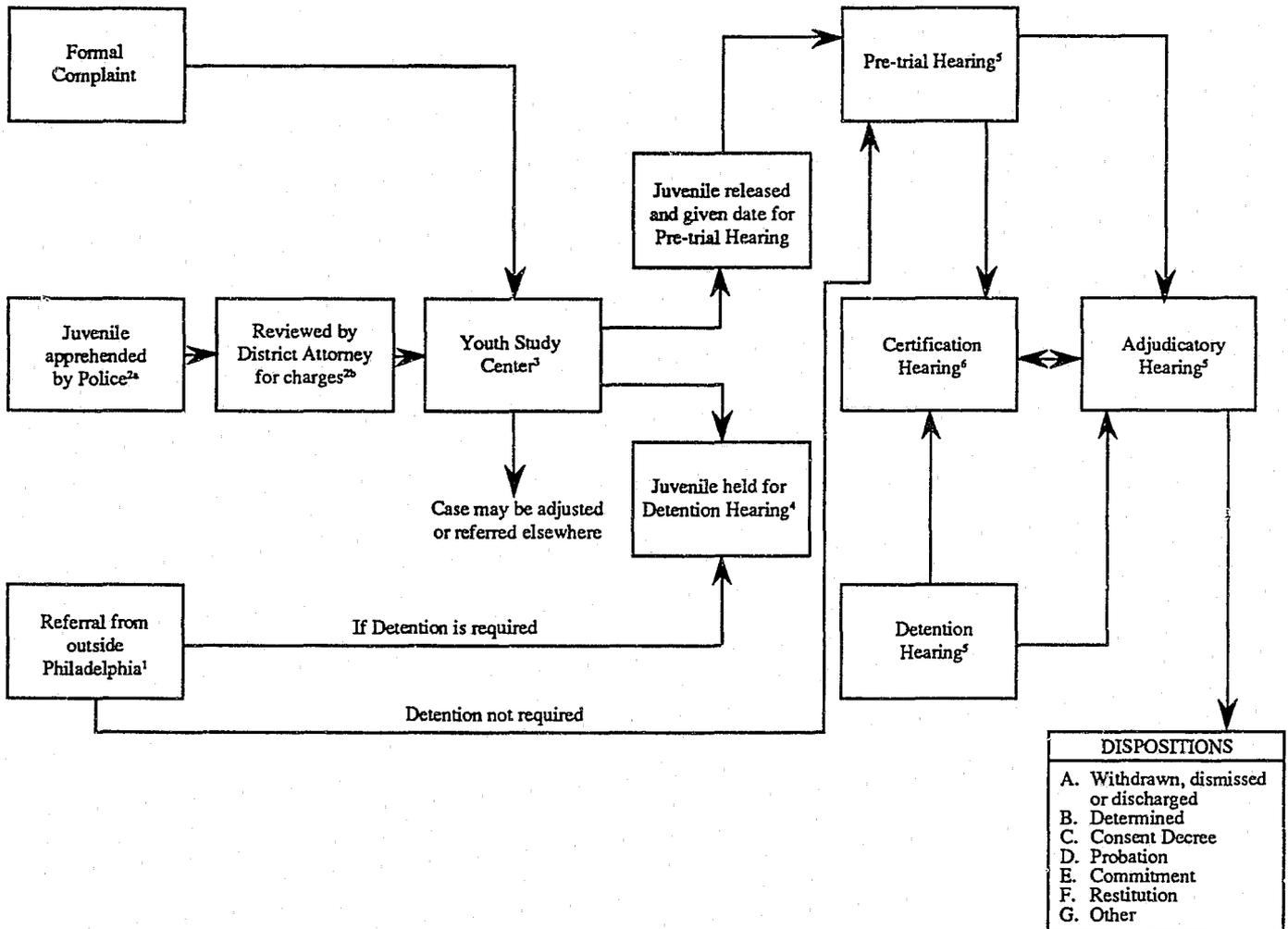
¹Includes non-payment of fines, liquor law violations.

An additional 26 percent of new delinquency cases resulted in the juvenile offender being committed. Most commitments were to delinquent institutions (73 percent), the balance of commitments were to community based or mental health facilities.

In certain delinquency cases in which the offenses are serious, the juvenile is 14 or more years of age and is found not to be amenable to rehabilitation, the Court may order the juvenile be tried as an adult in criminal court. In 1991, Family Court certified 230 delinquency cases to the Trial Division of the Court of Common Pleas.

In order to serve juveniles who are to be supervised because of detention, commitment or probation, Family Court has eight geographic probation districts and a number of specialized units. Most of the probationed youths are assigned to geographic district offices. Smaller numbers of juveniles who are in need of more stringent supervision are assigned to one of the

JUVENILE BRANCH — NEW DELINQUENCY CASES — FLOW GUIDE



¹Other Court for disposition.

^{2a} Police Officers have broad discretion in determining whether a juvenile offense is treated as an arrest or a non-arrest (remedial disposition).

b) In some cases, first offenders charged with a minor offense may be referred to a Youth Aid Panel.

³Petition prepared if case is referred to Court.

⁴Pennsylvania law requires a Detention Hearing within 72 hours. Juvenile may be detained at Youth Study Center or a Community Based Service Shelter.

^{5a} District Attorney may request certification of Juvenile at this hearing.

b) Judge may dispose of case at this hearing.

⁶If certification is granted, case is transferred to criminal court. If denied, case is scheduled for an adjudicatory hearing.

specialized units: Pre-Hearing Intensive Supervision (PHIS), House Arrest Program (HAP), Habitual Offender Unit, Correctional Group Counseling (CGC), Intensive Probation Unit (IPU), Intensive Aftercare Unit, Community Related Institutional Probation, (CRIP), Intensive Drug and Alcohol Unit, and the Electronic Monitoring Unit which started operations in December, 1991. In addition, through a state grant awarded in October, 1991, a State Intensive Aftercare Program will become effective in the early months of 1992.

Probation officers are required to perform social investigations; prepare plans and reports pertaining to the probationed youths; meet periodically with the juveniles and their families and present recommendations to the Court regarding rehabilitative services for the probationers. At the end of 1991, the probation officers had completed 6,157 investigations and had 4,393 juveniles under their supervision excluding cases assigned to PHIS or HAP.

The Pre-Hearing Intensive Supervision Unit provides an alternative to detention during the time prior to the adjudicatory hearing. Probation Officers give intensive supervision to a very limited caseload of juveniles who would otherwise be detained.

The Correctional Group Counseling Unit provides group therapy to a prescribed number of juvenile probationers on a twice weekly basis. The probation officers conduct these sessions under the guidance of the psychologist in the unit.

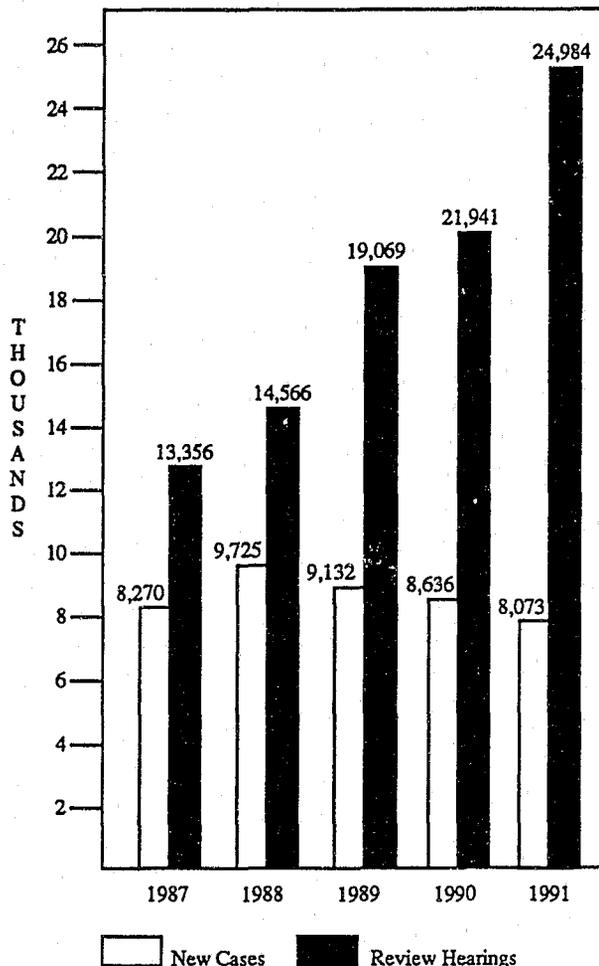
The Intensive Probation Unit services very small caseloads involving probationed juveniles who have committed more serious offenses and who are in need of more intensive supervision.

DISPOSITIONS IN NEW DELINQUENCY CASES: 1991

Referred to other authorities	74
Dismissed/withdrawn	3,001
Adjusted at YSC	295
Withdrawn	1,391
Other dismissal	1,386
Probation ¹	2,524
Consent decree	427
Probation	2,097
Commitment	2,133
Certified to criminal court	230
Other	111
Restitution/fines	23
Other	88
Total	8,073

¹Includes cases in which restitution was ordered.

DELINQUENCY CASES DISPOSED: 1987 TO 1991



The Habitual Offender Unit provides intensive supervision to those juveniles who have been identified as serious habitual delinquents. These juveniles may be in residential placement or on aftercare probation. One of the objectives of this unit is to reduce recidivism among these juveniles.

In most cases in which a commitment to an institution is ordered by the Court, the juvenile is assigned a probation officer from CRIP, who maintains contact with the juvenile and the family. This relationship helps the juvenile adjust to the commitment and allows the probation officer to develop an aftercare plan for the child's anticipated return to the community. Upon discharge from the institution, the Court may order continued supervision by the probation officer through the Court's aftercare program.

Through a renewed grant from the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission, the Intensive Aftercare Unit provides intensive services to serious offenders during placement at the Youth Development Center, Bensalem, Pennsylvania and after they are discharged.



Michael Gavaghan, Joseph Wulko and Michelle Nogowski were recognized with an award by the United States Marines for the significant increase and efficiency in record checks for all the military services.

A juvenile assigned to the House Arrest program may be restricted to his home by the Court, or the Court may permit the youth's participation in activities that can be monitored by a probation officer. The degree of threat to the community and the Court's discretion in the case are the deciding factors. This program is mutually beneficial to both the community and the detainee. The community is protected due to the monitoring of the juvenile and savings in housing and personal costs of the detainee are realized because the juvenile remains at home instead of being placed in a detention facility. While the youth does not have the option of leaving home, he benefits by having the familiarity and comforts of home.

The Intensive Drug and Alcohol Unit is designed to provide intensive supervision to juveniles discharged from drug and alcohol residential facilities and first time drug and alcohol

offenders. The probation staff provides intensive contact with clients and their families, drug testing, counseling, and educational groups. Caseload sizes are greatly reduced to facilitate maximum service.

It is the goal of this program to keep first time offenders from becoming more seriously involved with drug and alcohol abuse and drug sales; and to provide ongoing support to individuals released from residential drug and alcohol programs.

The Electronic Monitoring Program implemented in December, 1991, provides an alternative to pre-trial detention and state residential placement. Intensive supervision by probation officers with a limited caseload is in effect 24 hours a day. In addition, random drug testing is conducted on site while this supervision remains in force. Electronic monitoring for pre-trial detention cases will usually continue until disposition of the case is made.

After the successful completion of electronic monitoring services for early release clients, probation services continue to be provided by either CRIP or the Intensive Drug and Alcohol Unit depending upon the necessity of continuing such services.

The Restitution and Resource Planning Unit, while technically not a probation unit, offers several services to juveniles who are required to pay fines, restitution to victims or who are required to perform community service hours. This unit is discussed elsewhere in this report.

In addition to new cases, the Court also reviews cases in which new facts or changing circumstances are brought to its attention. Furthermore, the law and court policy require a court hearing every six months for those juveniles who have been committed to delinquent institutions or placed elsewhere during the year. In 1991, 24,984 review hearings were heard in Family Court.

TABLE 1

JUVENILE DELINQUENCY CASES: 1991

New cases filed:	
Petitions	7,701
Adjusted at Youth Study Center	225
Total	7,926
New cases disposed:	
Pre-trial	867
Adjudicatory	6,981
Youth Study Center intake interviews	225
Total	8,073
Review hearings	24,984
Total cases disposed	33,057
New referrals	2,648
Court sessions	1,382

NEW CASES FILED: 1987 TO 1991

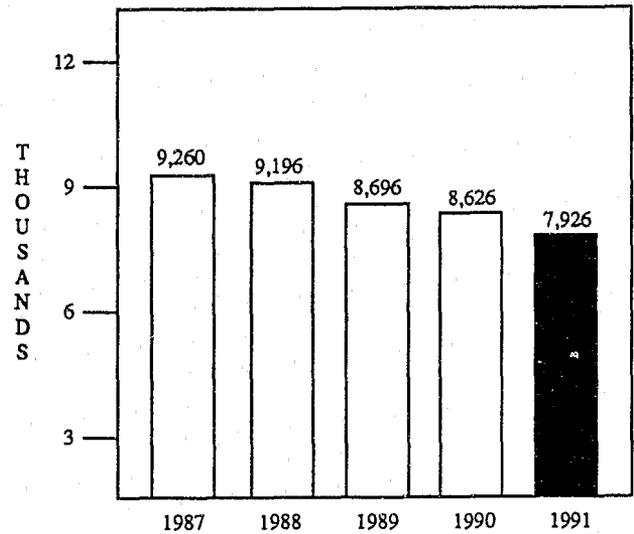


TABLE 2

CASES PROCESSED AT YOUTH STUDY CENTER: 1987 TO 1991

	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991
Disposed of at intake interview	518	297	154	194	225
Referred to juvenile court	8,742	8,899	8,542	8,432	7,701
<i>Detained at YSC/CBS¹ pending court hearing</i>	3,642	5,343	4,800	4,028	3,806
<i>Released to parents pending court hearing</i>	5,100	3,556	3,742	4,404	3,895
Total	9,260	9,196	8,696	8,626	7,926

¹Youth Study Center or Community Based Shelter.

DELINQUENCY CASES DISPOSED: 1987 TO 1991

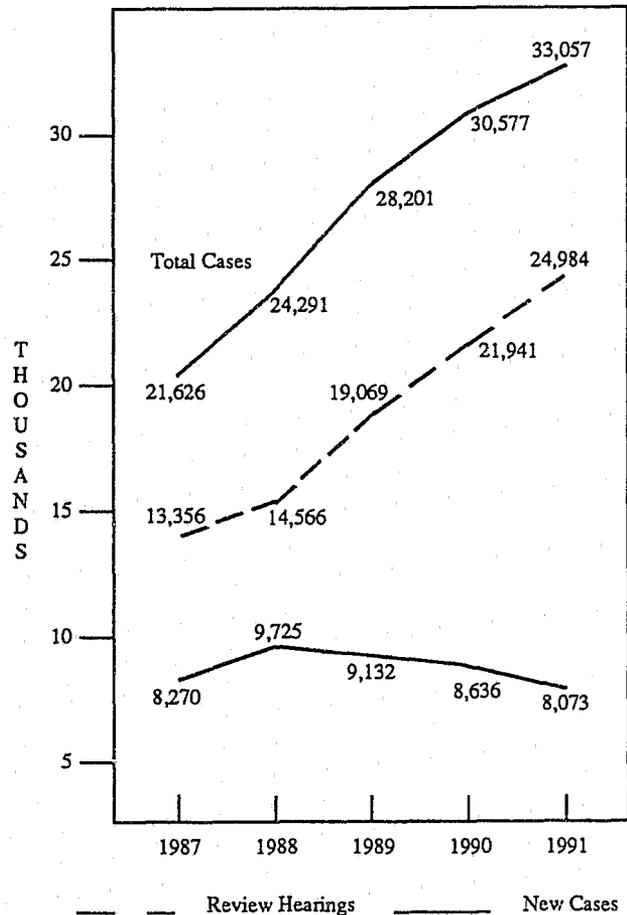


TABLE 3

SOURCE OF REFERRAL — NEW CASES DISPOSED: 1991

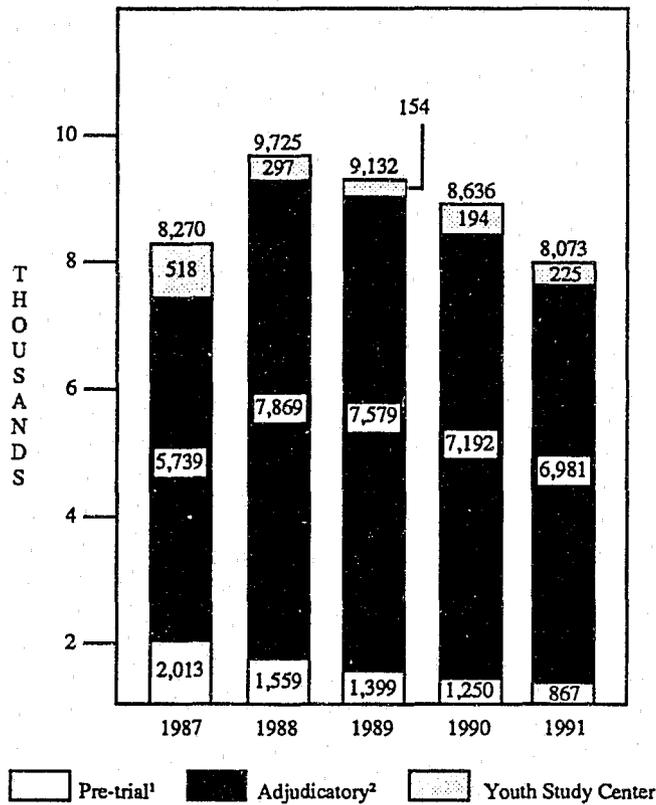
Police arrests	7,135
Authorities outside of Philadelphia	198
Individual	546
Parent or relative	183
School authorities	2
Other	9
Total	8,073

TABLE 4

NEW CASES DISPOSED: 1987 TO 1991

	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991
Injury to person	1,725	2,127	1,814	1,968	1,940
Burglary	767	728	409	369	327
Robbery	1,364	1,277	1,030	1,070	1,245
Receiving stolen property	212	324	598	683	579
Auto theft/Unauthorized use of auto	714	797	694	440	341
Other theft	1,273	1,688	1,604	1,525	1,037
Weapons offenses	311	219	375	358	416
Sex offenses	252	251	202	141	220
Drug law violations	771	1,571	1,710	1,414	1,325
Malicious mischief	456	424	465	453	438
Runaway from institution	229	271	182	181	155
Miscellaneous offenses	196	48	49	34	50
Total	8,270	9,725	9,132	8,636	8,073

NEW CASES DISPOSED BY TYPE OF HEARING: 1987 TO 1991



¹Includes detention hearings.
²Includes certification hearings.

TABLE 5

TYPE OF OFFENSES DISPOSED: 1991

Offenses	Total	Male	Female
Injury to person:			
Homicide	3	3	—
Aggravated assault	839	671	168
Assault	854	610	244
Coercion/Threats	220	137	83
Other	24	22	2
	1,940	1,443	497
Theft:			
Burglary	327	317	10
Robbery	1,245	1,143	102
Retail theft	84	36	48
Auto theft	18	18	—
Unauthorized use of auto	323	307	16
Receiving stolen property	579	549	30
Other theft	953	894	59
	3,529	3,264	265
Weapons offenses:			
Possessing instruments of crime	102	89	13
Prohibited offensive weapons	14	13	1
Violation of UFA ¹	300	288	12
	416	390	26
Sex offenses:			
Rape	83	83	—
Indecent assault	93	92	1
Prostitution	2	—	2
Deviate sexual intercourse	23	22	1
Indecent exposure	19	19	—
	220	216	4
Drug law violations:			
Possession of drugs	452	426	26
Sale of drugs	873	835	38
	1,325	1,261	64
Malicious mischief:			
Vandalism	64	59	5
Arson	23	22	1
Disorderly conduct	15	13	2
Trespassing	116	111	5
Conspiracy	176	150	26
Harrassment	22	22	—
Other	22	22	—
	438	399	39
Runaway from institution	155	150	5
Miscellaneous offenses:			
Failure to pay fines and costs	1	—	1
Other offenses	49	42	7
	50	42	8
Total	8,073	7,165	908

¹Uniform Firearms Act

PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF OFFENSES: 1991

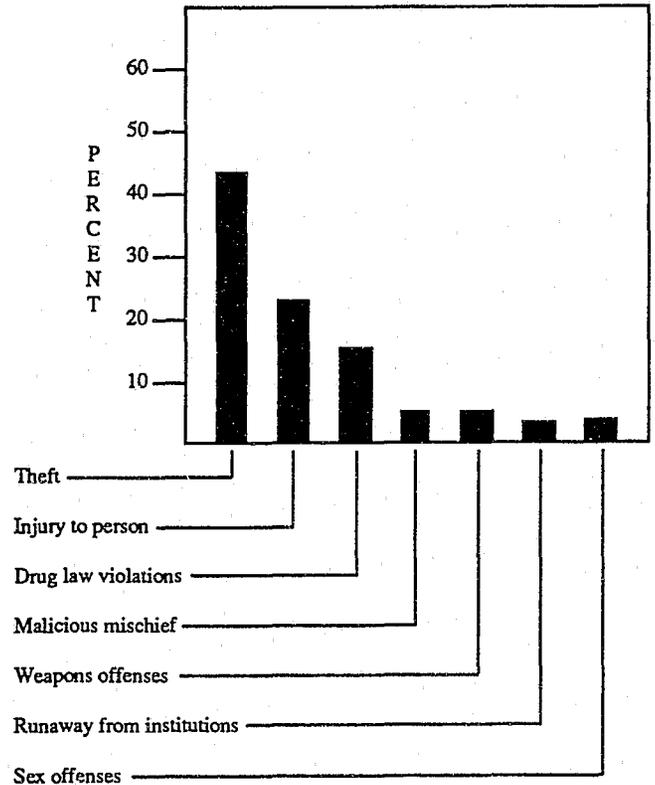


TABLE 6

TYPE OF OFFENSES DISPOSED BY AGES: 1991

Offenses	Total	Age								
		10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	N/R ²
Injury to person	1,940	31	57	104	192	308	324	407	484	33
Theft	3,529	26	54	151	248	491	731	832	993	3
Weapons offenses	416	1	8	20	36	50	69	106	124	2
Sex offenses	220	5	12	17	36	39	38	43	29	1
Drug law violations	1,325	—	1	15	37	123	280	369	500	—
Malicious mischief	438	6	20	35	55	68	74	85	95	—
Runaway from institution	155	—	5	3	4	17	38	47	41	—
Miscellaneous offenses	50	1	—	2	2	5	14	4	22	—
Total	8,073	70	157	347	610	1,101	1,568	1,893	2,288	39

²Not reported.

TABLE 7

INDIVIDUAL CHILDREN INVOLVED IN DELINQUENT CASES BY AGE GROUP AND SEX: 1991

Age group and sex	Cases	Children
Male		
10-13	991	748
14-15	2,324	1,577
16-17	3,833	2,471
Not reported	17	16
Female		
10-13	193	158
14-15	345	266
16-17	348	270
Not reported	22	20
Total	8,073	5,526

PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF NEW DELINQUENCY CASES: 1991

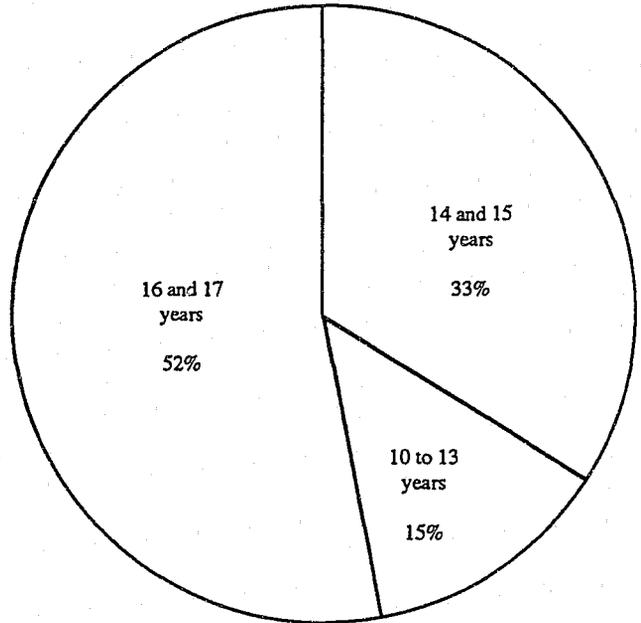


TABLE 8

CHARACTERISTICS OF INDIVIDUAL CHILDREN: 1991

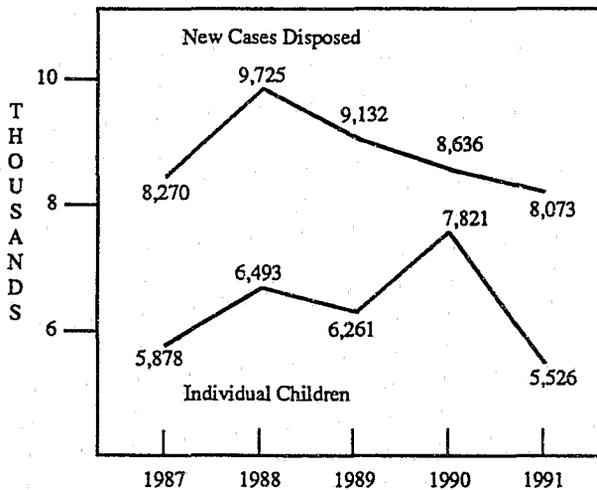
Age:		Sex:	
10 years	60	Male	4,812
11 years	128	Female	714
12 years	263	Total	5,526
13 years	455		
14 years	785		
15 years	1,058		
16 years	1,273		
17 years	1,468		
Not reported	36		
Total	5,526	Residence of individual children:	
Race:		Both parents	989
White	982	Parent and stepparent	247
Hispanic	634	Mother	3,042
Black	3,848	Father	241
Oriental	39	Other	804
Other	17	Not reported	203
Not reported	6	Total	5,526
Total	5,526	Total	5,526

TABLE 9

PERCENT OF DELINQUENT RESIDENT CHILDREN: 1991

Age	Resident child population ¹	Individual children		
		Non-residents	Residents	
			Number	Percent of population
10 years	21,386	—	60	0.3
11 years	22,032	—	128	0.6
12 years	20,564	1	262	1.3
13 years	20,512	2	453	2.2
14 years	19,692	13	772	3.9
15 years	18,703	27	1,031	5.5
16 years	18,223	48	1,225	6.7
17 years	19,580	63	1,405	7.2
Not reported	—	1	35	—
Total	160,692	155	5,371	3.3
Male	80,885	135	4,677	5.8
Female	79,807	20	694	0.9
10-13	84,494	3	903	1.1
14-15	38,395	40	1,803	4.7
16-17	37,803	111	2,630	6.9
Not reported	—	1	35	—

INCIDENCE OF DELINQUENCY: 1987 TO 1991



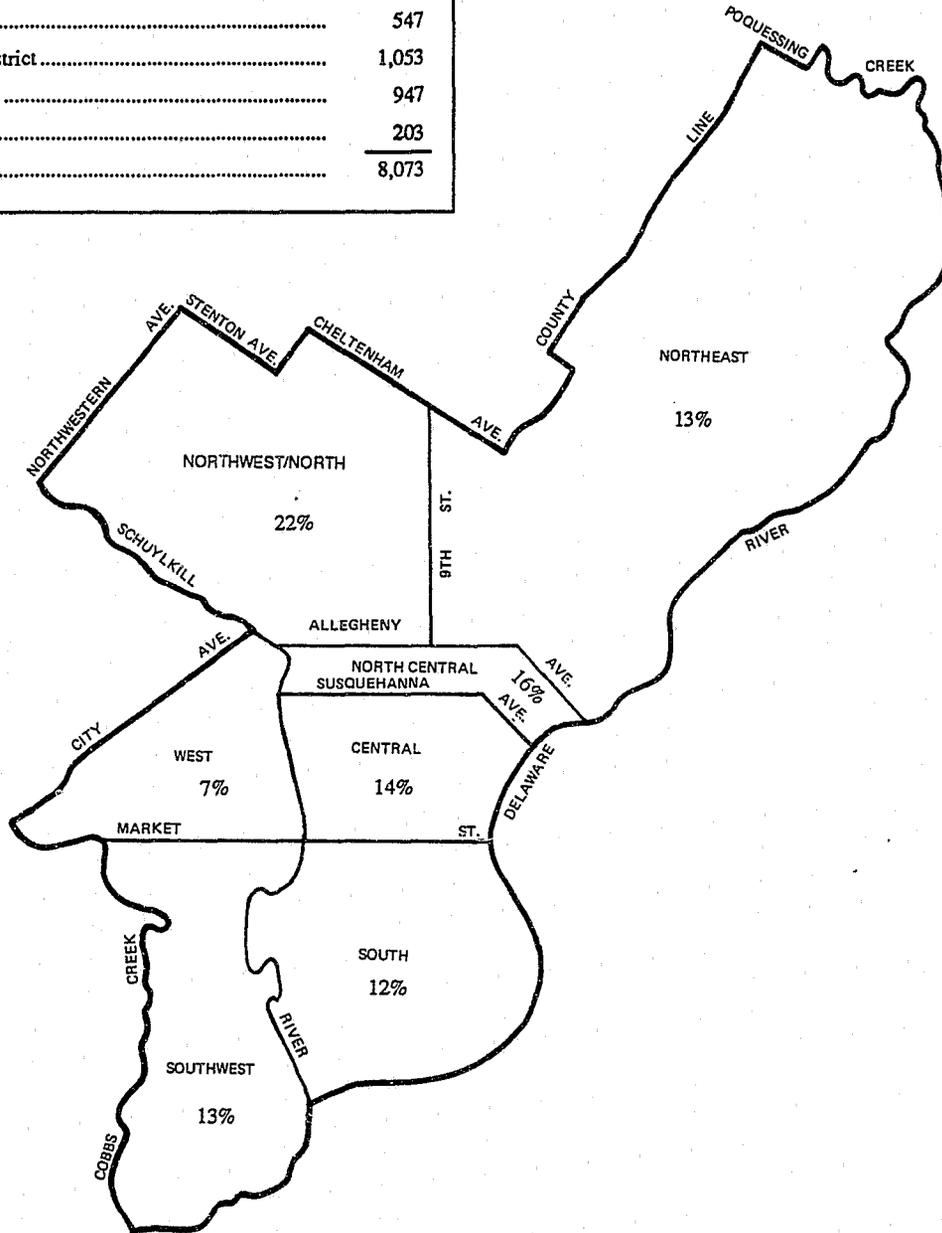
¹Information supplied by School District of Philadelphia for 1990.

TABLE 10

NEW DELINQUENCY CASES DISPOSED BY
RESIDENCE AREA OF
JUVENILE OFFENDERS: 1991

Residents of:	
Northwest/North districts ²	1,806
Northeast district	1,073
Northcentral district	1,295
Central district	1,149
West district	547
Southwest district	1,053
South district	947
Non-residents	203
Total cases	8,073

PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF DELINQUENCY
CASES BY RESIDENCE AREA OF
JUVENILE OFFENDERS¹: 1991



¹Non-residents accounted for 3% of cases.

²Breakdown by district not available.

TABLE 11
TYPE OF OFFENSE BY AREA OF OCCURRENCE: 1991

Police District	Injury To Person	Burglary	Robbery	Auto Theft ¹	Other Theft	Weapons Offenses	Sex Offenses	Drug Law Violations	Malicious Mischief	Runaway From Institution	All Other Offenses	Total
1st	50	3	32	6	34	14	9	15	10	7	3	183
2nd	45	21	34	15	87	13	12	5	20	2	2	256
3rd	28	1	40	1	21	8	4	30	17	3	1	154
4th	40	11	42	4	54	6	3	25	10	5	—	200
5th	15	3	27	2	11	2	4	2	5	1	—	72
6th	39	9	53	13	78	7	4	23	9	3	1	239
7th	26	4	14	2	25	2	2	1	6	2	—	84
8th	39	13	17	10	108	3	9	6	14	5	1	225
9th	50	2	49	21	69	8	5	19	21	20	6	270
12th	79	15	42	12	56	21	20	72	19	5	1	342
14th	75	8	59	27	79	29	12	67	9	7	1	373
15th	81	45	91	14	82	13	9	22	25	4	5	391
16th	44	4	28	14	34	14	7	62	5	2	1	215
17th	45	16	20	5	34	25	4	85	9	6	—	249
18th	55	11	78	14	76	36	11	85	14	12	3	395
19th	75	17	56	23	71	29	17	104	11	7	1	411
22nd	78	14	60	13	51	17	5	91	16	7	2	354
23rd	69	7	37	14	41	19	12	89	12	4	2	306
24th	49	14	30	6	44	7	2	9	27	5	—	193
25th	143	46	111	30	115	55	21	248	43	14	3	829
26th	43	15	53	17	48	15	15	62	18	14	3	303
35th	123	13	145	37	134	36	17	111	27	9	2	654
39th	53	13	95	14	61	17	3	61	25	6	3	351
Other	4	1	16	7	27	3	1	13	10	—	4	86
Total Police Arrests	1,348	306	1,229	321	1,440	399	208	1,307	382	150	45	7,135
Other Referrals	592	21	16	20	176	17	12	18	56	5	5	938
Total Cases	1,940	327	1,245	341	1,616	416	220	1,325	438	155	50	8,073

¹Includes unauthorized use of auto.

PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF DELINQUENCY
 CASES BY PHILADELPHIA POLICE DISTRICTS:
 1991

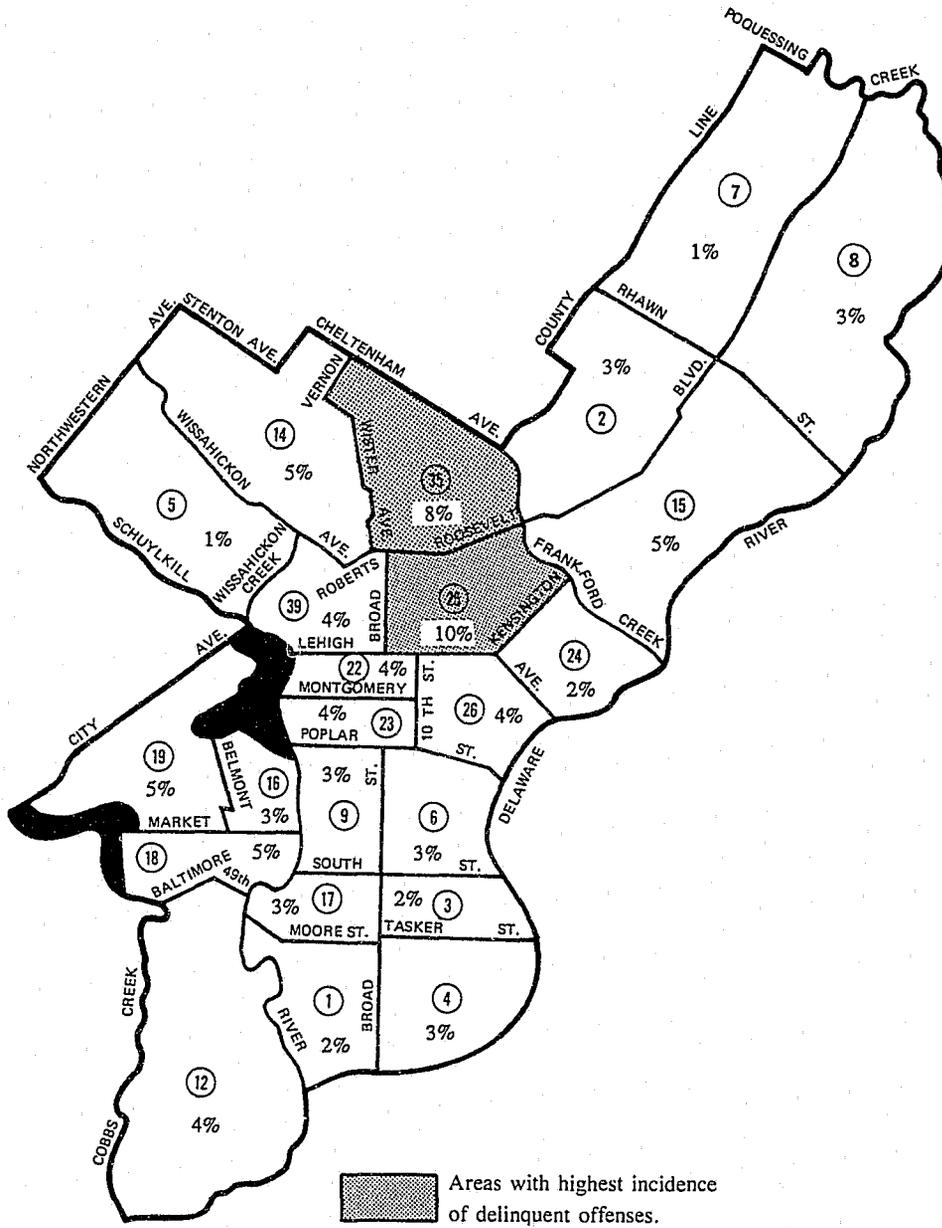


TABLE 12

OFFENSES DISPOSED BY SEX AND TYPE OF DISPOSITION: 1991

Offenses	Total		Referred elsewhere		Withdrawn, discharged or adjusted		Probation		Commitment		Certified to criminal court		Other	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Assaults ¹	1,306	414	9	1	609	234	379	139	250	38	45	2	14	—
Coercion/Threats	137	83	—	—	85	58	35	24	17	1	—	—	—	—
Burglary	317	10	2	—	169	9	64	—	61	1	12	—	9	—
Robbery	1,143	102	16	1	560	49	199	35	307	17	52	—	9	—
Auto theft/Unauthorized use of auto	325	16	4	—	22	2	214	6	79	8	1	—	5	—
Retail theft	36	48	—	—	12	11	17	33	6	4	—	—	1	—
Receiving stolen property	549	30	10	—	91	9	163	9	269	8	10	—	6	4
Other theft	894	59	5	—	322	26	260	24	249	9	42	—	16	—
Weapons offenses	390	26	3	—	102	8	168	15	107	3	—	—	10	—
Rape	83	—	2	—	46	—	12	—	18	—	4	—	1	—
Other sex offenses	133	4	—	—	55	3	45	—	31	1	—	—	2	—
Drug law violations	1,261	64	13	1	264	11	440	33	466	18	57	1	21	—
Disorderly conduct	13	2	—	—	2	1	8	1	3	—	—	—	—	—
Vandalism	59	5	—	—	19	2	36	3	4	—	—	—	—	—
Arson	22	1	—	—	8	—	1	1	11	—	—	—	2	—
Resisting an officer	22	—	—	—	4	—	7	—	10	—	—	—	1	—
Trespassing	111	5	3	—	9	2	61	1	35	1	1	—	2	1
Conspiracy	150	26	—	—	62	7	56	17	28	1	3	—	1	1
Harrassment	22	—	—	—	14	—	6	—	2	—	—	—	—	—
Runaway from institution	150	5	—	—	81	3	5	—	60	2	—	—	4	—
Motor vehicle violations	14	1	3	—	7	—	3	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Other	28	7	1	—	19	4	2	1	5	2	—	—	1	—
Total	7,165	908	71	3	2,562	439	2,181	343	2,019	114	227	3	105	6
	8,073		74		3,001		2,524		2,133		230		111	

¹Includes ten homicides.

PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF DISPOSITIONS: 1991

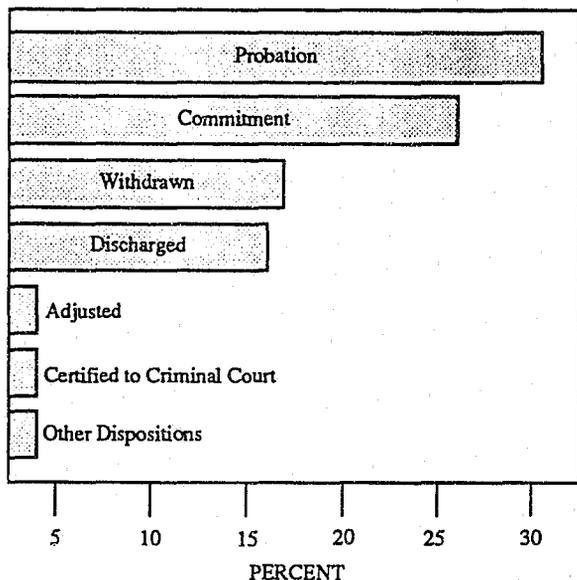


TABLE 13

DISPOSITION OF NEW CASES: 1991

Disposition	Total	Male	Female
Referred elsewhere	74	71	3
Withdrawn discharged or adjusted:			
Petition withdrawn	1,391	1,248	142
Adjusted at YSC	225	132	93
Discharged at court	1,274	1,091	183
Determined	5	4	1
Sentence suspended	83	68	15
Other	24	19	5
Total	3,001	2,562	439
Probation: ¹			
Probation	1,628	1,443	185
Intensive probation	469	428	41
Consent decree	427	310	117
Total	2,524	2,181	343
Commitments: ¹			
Institution for delinquents	1,554	1,476	78
Other institutions and agencies	259	232	27
Remain as placed on other petition ²	320	311	9
Total	2,133	2,019	114
Certified to criminal court	230	227	3
Restitution and fines	23	21	2
Other	88	84	4
Total	341	332	9
Total	8,073	7,165	908

¹Includes restitution.

²Prior to August, 1989 these cases were included in commitments to institutions or agencies.

TABLE 14

DISPOSITIONS: 1987 TO 1991

Type of Disposition	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991
Referred elsewhere	46	145	95	83	74
Withdrawn, discharged or adjusted	3,118	3,913	3,343	3,235	3,001
Probation or supervision	3,283	3,306	3,134	2,662	2,524
Committed to:					
Institution for delinquents	1,307	1,793	1,763	1,644	1,554
Other institutions or agencies	242	348	260	206	259
Remain as placed on other petition ²	—	—	204	471	320
Certified to criminal court	195	146	257	283	230
Restitution or fines	53	61	63	30	23
Other	26	13	13	22	88
Total	8,270	9,725	9,132	8,636	8,073

TABLE 15

REVIEW HEARINGS: 1991

Reason for review:	
Unsatisfactory probation	25
Discharge from supervision	3,391
Consent decree relisted	92
Discharge from commitment	3,115
Case review	5,049
Review of placement	10,782
Runaway from institution or agency	163
Failure to pay restitution	413
Transfer of custody	1,614
Other	340
Total	24,984
Disposition:	
Motions dismissed or withdrawn	408
Discharged from probation or aftercare	2,440
Discharged from commitment	2,626
Probation or aftercare	340
Committed to institutions for delinquents	2,595
Other commitments	1,652
Remain as placed	10,076
Discharged from consent decree	357
Record expunged	43
Previous decision to stand	4,147
Other	300
Total	24,984

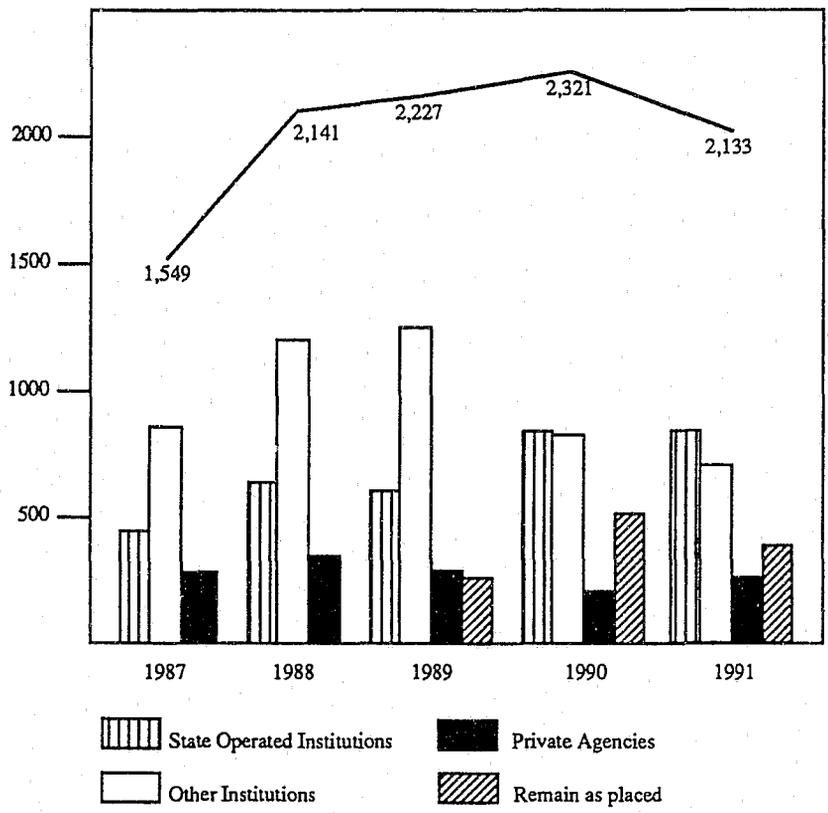
TABLE 16

INSTITUTIONS AND AGENCIES TO WHICH DELINQUENT CHILDREN WERE COMMITTED — NEW CASES: 1991

INSTITUTIONS	MENTAL HEALTH FACILITIES	PRIVATE AGENCIES, COMMUNITY BASED SETTINGS, DAY TREATMENT PROGRAMS
STATE OPERATED:	Eastern State School and Hospital 10	Vision Quest..... 84
Youth Development Centers 33	Other 13	House of UMOJA 8
Forestry Camps 3		St. Gabriel's De La Salle In Towne 24
Pennsylvania Department of Public Welfare ¹ 823		St. Gabriel's Vocational Program 28
Total 859		Mordy Program 12
		St. Gabriel's Group Home 4
		Some Other Place 9
		Other 67
OTHER INSTITUTIONS:	Total 23	Total 236

Abraxas	75
George Jr. Republic	13
Glen Mills	143
Sleighton School	277
St. Gabriel's Hall	141
St. Michael's School	3
The Bridge	22
Other	21
Total	695
Remain as placed on other petition ²	320

TOTAL COMMITMENTS — NEW CASES: 1987 TO 1991



TOTAL NEW COMMITMENTS: 2,133

¹Prior to August, 1989, these cases were included in other institutions.
²Prior to August, 1989, these cases were included in commitments to institutions or agencies.

NON-DELINQUENCY CASES

Non-delinquency (dependent) cases concern children who were found to be dependent due to neglect, abuse or inadequate care. The Non-Delinquent Unit was established in December of 1989 to consolidate all non-delinquent functions of the Juvenile Branch and to improve services previously performed by the eight geographical probation districts.

Petitions from the Department of Human Services, the School District, the Court and other agencies are processed by the Supervisor and are given immediate court dates.

Referrals from private parties such as parents, grandparents, guardians and other interested individuals are processed by the Assistant Supervisor, the majority being custody requests and incorrigibility complaints. A social worker or probation officer investigates the allegations and submits his/her findings to the Assistant Supervisor for assessment. Subsequently, the Assistant Supervisor makes a determination as to whether the referral should be closed or a petition should be filed. If a petition is filed, it is immediately listed for Court.

Once the petitions are heard by the Court, any of the following dispositions can be made: dismissed or discharged, commitment to shelter care, custody to legal guardian, Department of Human Services supervision or protective supervision. If a child is placed under protective supervision, a Non-Delinquent Unit probation officer is assigned to evaluate, plan, refer and monitor the family for a specified period of time.

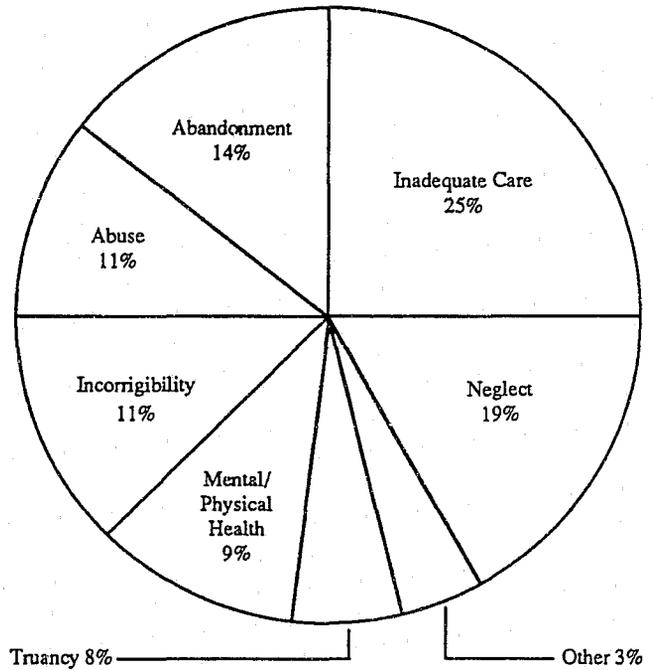
In 1991, a total of 41,934 cases consisting of 4,176 new cases and 37,758 review hearings were disposed of by Family Court. In addition, 790 hearings were held regarding emergency protective custody or treatment in cases involving mental health or suspected child abuse. These hearings are not included in the statistics because they occurred before the filing of a non-delinquency petition.

Most new cases come to the attention of the Court through the Department of Human Services. This agency referred 75 percent of the new cases disposed of in 1991. Ten percent of the cases were referred by parents. Almost all of these cases involved incorrigibility. The Court referred 3 percent while 8 percent of the cases were referred by school authorities.

In general, the most frequent reason given for referral in non-delinquency cases was "inadequate care". These cases accounted for 25 percent of the new cases disposed of in 1991. There has been a downward trend in these cases in recent years. In 1988 they accounted for 65 percent of new cases disposed, in 1989, 48 percent, and in 1990, 40 percent.

The children involved in non-delinquency cases were almost evenly divided between the sexes, 2,161 males and 2,015 females.

PERCENT DISTRIBUTION — REASON FOR REFERRAL: 1991



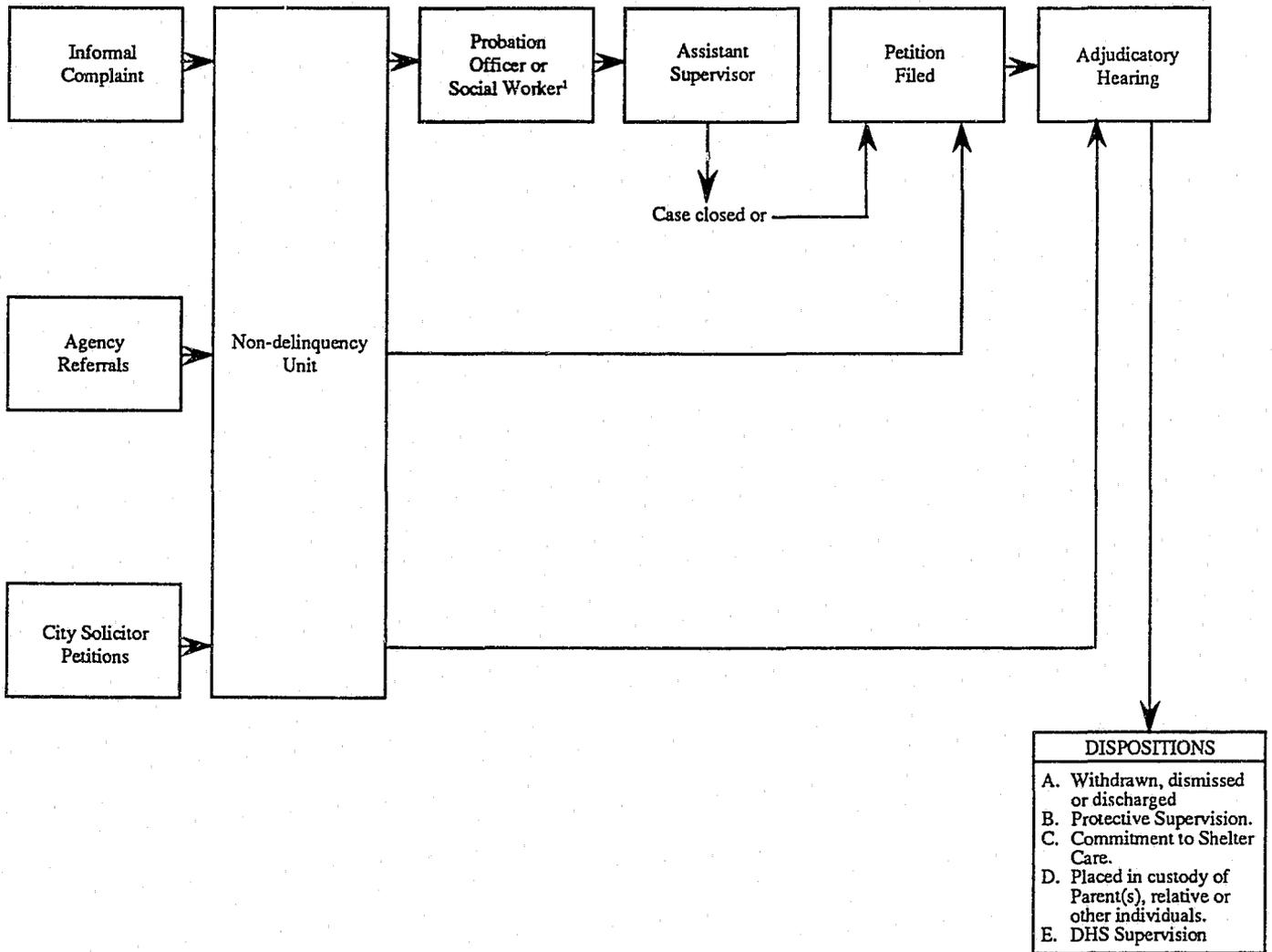
While both sexes were referred to Court primarily due to neglect or inadequate care, females more often than males were referred because of abuse or incorrigibility. Since 1987, there has been a small but steady increase in the number of abuse cases and a significant increase in truancy cases. However, cases involving abandonment have increased from 15 in 1987 to 566 in 1991. Abuse and abandonment cases accounted for 25 percent of the cases in 1991 as compared to 12 percent in 1990.

The ages of children in non-delinquency cases ranged from a few months to over 17 years. In 1991, children in the 12-15 age group accounted for the largest number of new cases disposed followed by children in the 1-5 age group.

Considering the economic hardships often found in single parent families, it is not surprising to find a large number of dependent children lived with one parent (40 percent). An additional 52 percent resided in agencies, foster homes or institutions.

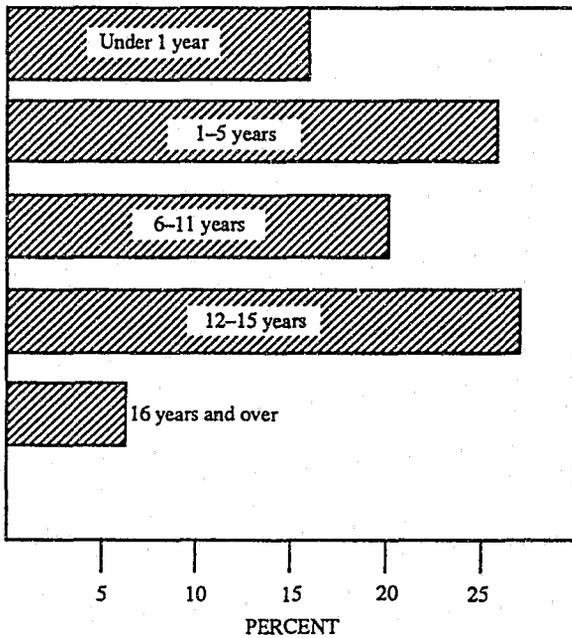
In 37 percent of new non-delinquency cases disposed of in 1990, the child was committed to the Department of Human Services. An additional 31 percent of the dispositions allowed the child to remain at home but under the supervision of the Department of Human Services or the Court. Twenty-six percent of the cases were dismissed or withdrawn.

JUVENILE BRANCH — NEW NON-DELINQUENCY CASES — FLOW GUIDE



¹For investigation.

AGE DISTRIBUTION: 1991

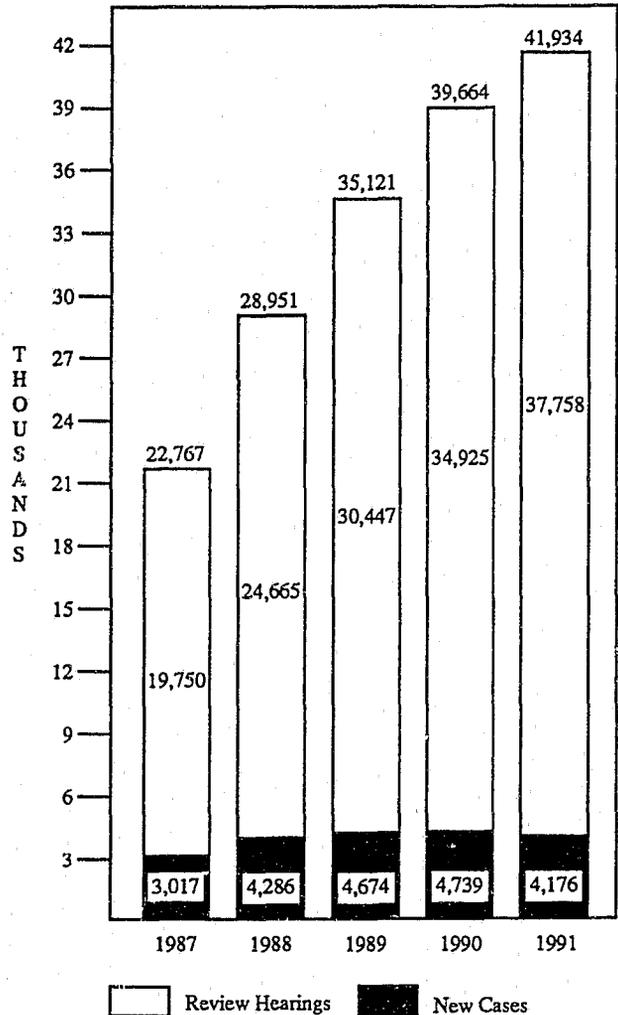


In 1991, there was a 22 percent decrease in petitions filed and a 12 percent decrease in new cases disposed.

Review hearings continued to rise and in 1991 comprised 90 percent of the non-delinquency workload.

Review hearings concern cases previously disposed of but for varied reasons are brought to the Court's attention for modification of the previous dispositions. Dispositions involving commitments to child placing agencies usually are made for indefinite periods. By law, as well as court policy, cases involving commitment are reviewed every six months as long as the child remains in placement. In 1991, 37,758 review hearings were heard by Family Court, more than double the number heard in 1986. The Judiciary and Masters review the cases of dependent children placed in shelter care or other out of home facilities, as well as those children placed under the supervision of the Department of Human Services or the Court.

TOTAL CASES DISPOSED: 1987 TO 1991



Sixty-two percent of review hearings resulted in the children remaining in placement, 5 percent were discharged from commitment or supervision, 1 percent were committed to a child placement or mental health facility, while 3 percent remained at home under supervision of the Department of Human Services or the Court. In 27 percent of the review hearings, the Court allowed the previous decision to stand.

TABLE 1

JUVENILE NON-DELINQUENCY CASES: 1991

Petitions filed	3,583
Cases disposed:	
New cases	4,176
Review hearings	37,758
Total	41,934
New referrals	1,479
Court sessions	814

PETITIONS FILED: 1987 TO 1991

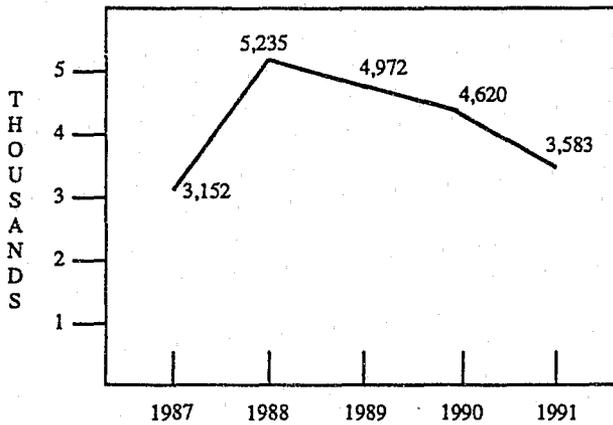


TABLE 2

REASON FOR REFERRAL BY SEX: 1991

	Total	Male	Female	Families Involved
Inadequate care	1,046	522	524	659
Neglect	805	419	386	366
Abuse	446	214	232	297
Mental/physical health	375	209	166	258
Truancy	352	195	157	254
Incorrigibility	440	205	235	389
Abandonment	566	308	258	345
Other	146	89	57	112
Total	4,176	2,161	2,015	2,680

NON-DELINQUENCY CASES DISPOSED: 1987 TO 1991

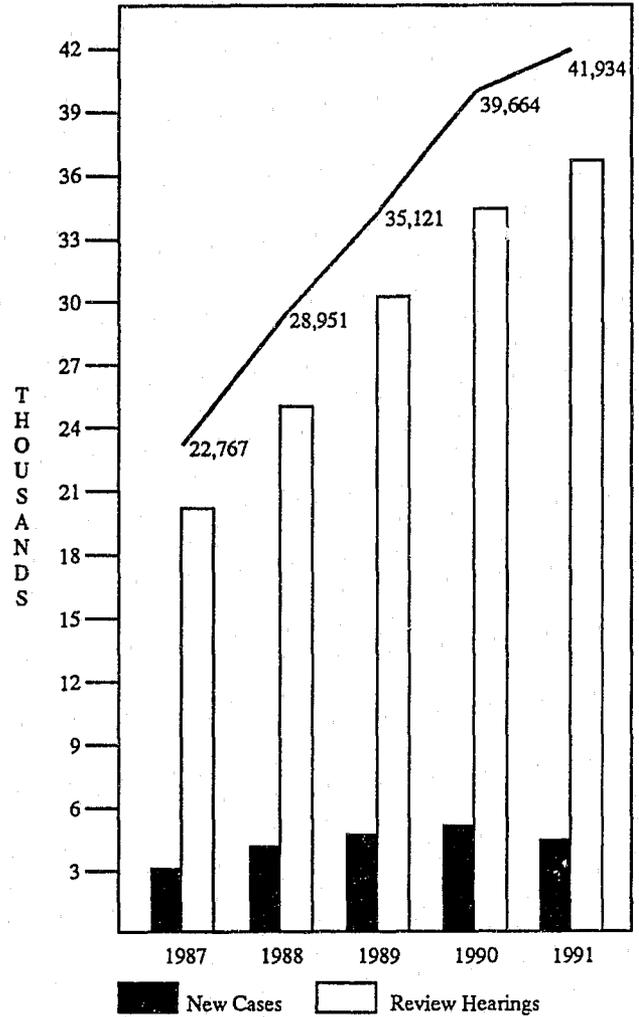


TABLE 3

REASON FOR REFERRAL: 1987 TO 1991

New Cases	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991
Inadequate care	1,609	2,780	2,232	1,874	1,046
Neglect	492	706	873	1,011	805
Abuse	216	255	276	307	446
Mental/physical health	100	113	139	210	375
Truancy	43	142	325	411	352
Incorrigibility	417	199	675	557	440
Abandonment	15	12	87	284	566
Other	125	79	67	85	146
Total	3,017	4,286	4,674	4,739	4,176

TABLE 4

SOURCE OF REFERRAL: 1987 TO 1991

	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991
Parent	448	267	663	512	410
Relative	96	129	159	193	137
Other individual	23	7	16	29	14
School authorities	82	189	394	461	352
Dept. of Human Services	2,244	3,534	3,307	3,430	3,130
Court	124	160	135	114	133
Total	3,017	4,286	4,674	4,739	4,176

TABLE 5

NEW CASES DISPOSED BY AGE GROUP: 1991

	Total	Under 1 year	1-5 years	6-11 years	12-15 years	16 and over	Not reported
Inadequate care	1,046	255	302	209	225	52	3
Neglect	805	161	328	201	94	15	6
Abuse	446	50	132	146	97	20	1
Mental/physical health	375	66	75	73	102	58	1
Truancy	352	—	—	85	239	28	—
Incorrigibility	440	—	—	22	314	104	—
Abandonment	566	200	230	79	44	12	1
Other	146	14	29	28	53	22	—
Total	4,176	746	1,096	843	1,168	311	12

TABLE 6

CHARACTERISTICS OF CHILDREN IN NON-DELINQUENCY CASES: 1991

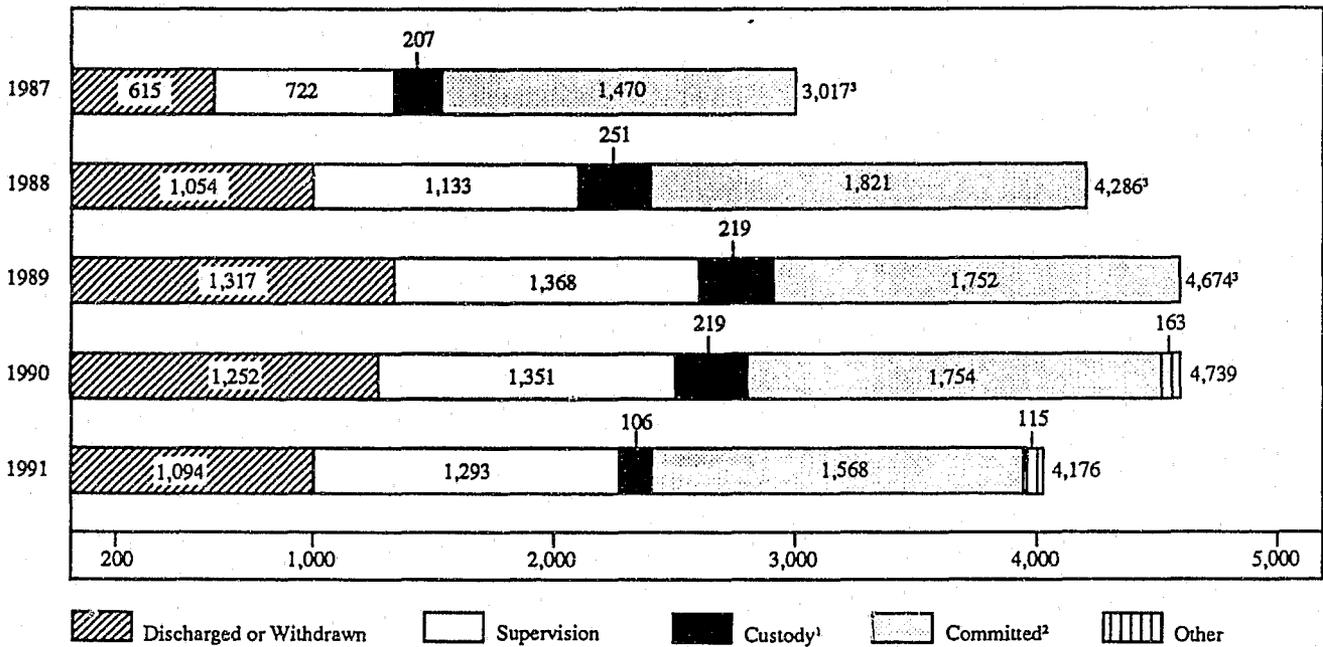
Age:		Sex:	
Under 1 year	747	Male	2,161
1-5 years	1,099	Female	2,015
6-11 years	839		
12-15 years	1,168	Residence of child:	
16 years and over	311	Both parents	284
Not reported	12	Parent and stepparent	21
Total	4,176	Mother	1,569
		Father	111
Race:		Other family home	451
White	606	Foster home	5
Hispanic	291	Institution	1,705
Oriental	21	Other/not reported	30
Black	3,093		
Other/not reported	165		
Total	4,176	Total	4,176

TABLE 7

DISPOSITIONS — NEW CASES: 1991

Dismissed or discharged	492
Petition withdrawn	602
Supervision:	
Department of Human Services	1,002
Protective supervision	291
Placed in custody of:	
Parent	12
Relative	85
Other individual	9
Committed to:	
Department of Human Services	1,528
Mental Health facility	40
Other	115
Total	4,176

DISPOSITIONS — NEW CASES: 1987 TO 1991



¹Parent, relative or other individual.
²Department of Human Services, Mental Health facility.
³Other dispositions too small to depict.

TABLE 8

REVIEW HEARINGS: 1987 TO 1991

	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991
Reason for review:					
Discharge from supervision	1,321	1,383	1,739	1,872	2,210
Discharge from commitment	1,626	1,748	1,574	1,709	1,600
Case review	4,682	6,290	9,253	10,260	10,508
Report/Placement review	12,104	15,228	17,865	21,054	23,402
Other	17	16	16	30	38
Total	19,750	24,665	30,447	34,925	37,758
Disposition:					
Discharged from supervision	956	1,118	1,324	1,083	1,230
Discharged from commitment	868	912	718	513	475
Remain as placed	12,051	15,197	17,805	20,915	23,348
Supervision	734	781	815	1,144	1,057
Committed:					
Department of Human Services	334	259	340	375	438
Mental health facility	10	9	10	33	15
Placed in custody of:					
Parent	48	37	17	34	36
Relative	80	64	82	159	72
Individual	27	24	13	31	12
Dismissed or withdrawn	83	76	132	695	884
Decision to stand	4,557	6,184	9,186	9,935	10,186
Other	2	4	5	8	5
Total	19,750	24,665	30,447	34,925	37,758

ADULT CASES

The Adult Unit of the Juvenile Branch processes cases involving adults charged with crimes against children and exercises authority in the following types of 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/she 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, the judge 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.

Summary

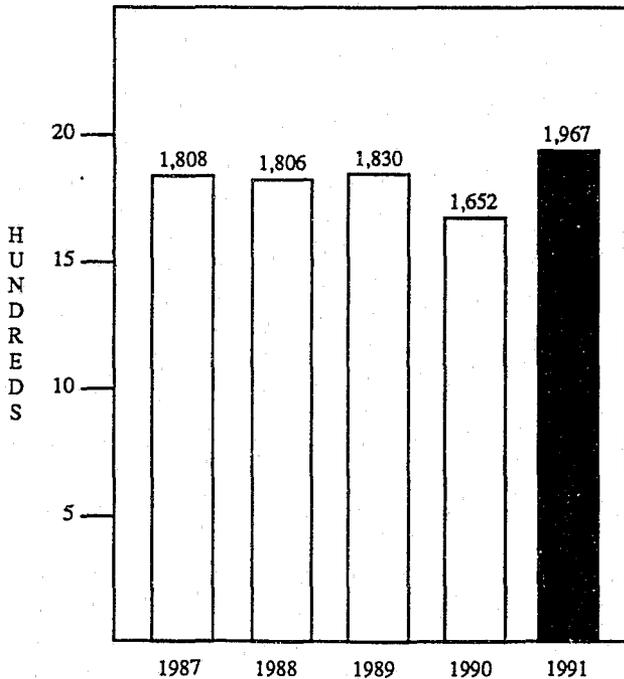
In 1991, 1,997 cases were received by the Adult Unit for disposition. A total of 1,967 cases consisting of 1,550 new cases and 417 truancy cases were disposed of in 1991.

Adult cases (excluding truancy cases) disposed of involved 143 female and 1,407 male offenders. Sex offenses accounted for 29 percent of the new charges disposed. Eight percent of women and 31 percent of male offenders were charged with a sex offense. Aggravated Assault was the most frequently committed offense (37 percent), followed by robbery offenses (28 percent). Fourteen percent of the offenses concerned rape and 11 percent involved charges of indecent assault.

The age groups of adult offenders were as follows: 52 percent were under age 25; 45 percent were between the ages of 25-50; 3 percent were over 50 years of age.

In the majority of new cases disposed of in 1991 (excluding truancy cases), the adult offenders were held for trial (59 percent). The remaining cases were disposed of as follows: 26 percent were dismissed or discharged; in 8 percent of the cases, the offenders were placed on some form of probation; 5 percent were imprisoned and the balance were disposed of by other actions.

CASES DISPOSED: 1987 TO 1991



Carol Finney (middle) of the Adult Unit, Juvenile Branch, is shown with Judge Thomas Dempsey (left) and Michael Gavaghan (right) Chief Juvenile Branch, after receiving one of the Employee of the Year awards for the Juvenile Branch.

ADULT PETITIONS FILED: 1987 TO 1991

TABLE 1

ADULT CASES INVOLVING JUVENILES: 1991

Petitions filed	1,997
New cases disposed:	
Sex offenses	445
Non-sex offenses	1,105
Truancy	417
Total	1,967
New referrals	1,420
Court sessions	260

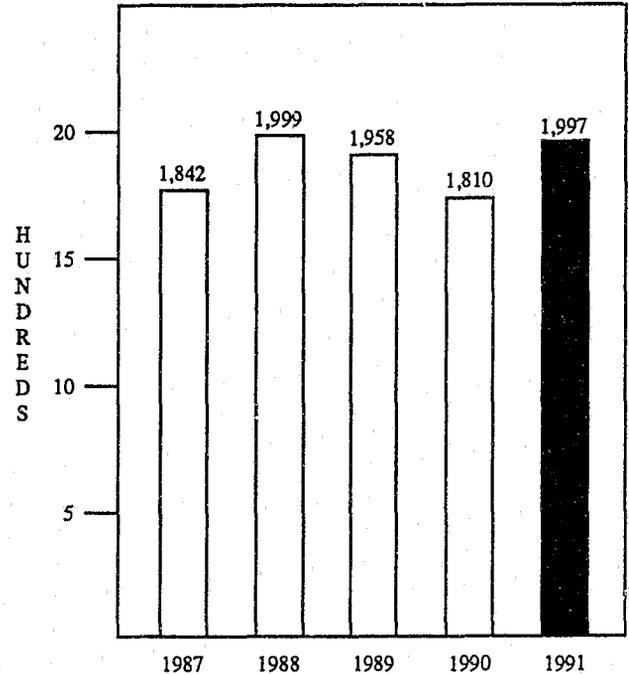


TABLE 2

NEW CASES¹ DISPOSED BY AGE GROUP: 1991

	Total	Under 25 years	25-50 years	Over 50 years
Sex offenses:				
Rape	182	50	124	8
Assault and attempted rape	36	12	21	3
Indecent assault	171	28	122	21
Commercialized vice	7	—	7	—
Other	49	15	31	3
Non-sex offenses:				
Aggravated assault	566	310	246	10
Assault	19	4	14	1
Robbery	441	358	83	—
Other thefts	34	16	18	—
Cruelty or neglect of child	4	—	4	—
Corrupting morals of child	16	4	8	4
Other	25	11	12	2
Total	1,550	808	690	52

¹Truancy cases not included.

ADULT CASES DISPOSED: 1987 TO 1991

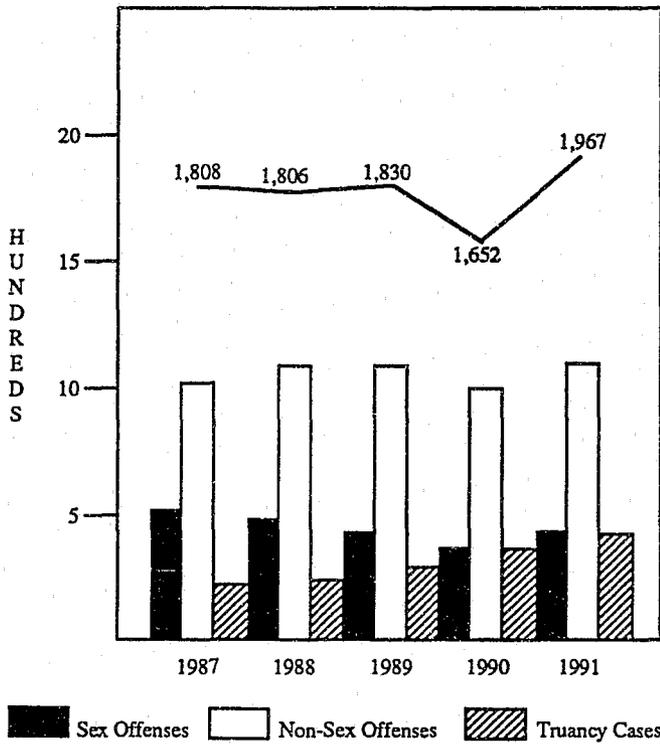


TABLE 3

CHARACTERISTICS OF ADULT OFFENDERS: 1991

Age:	
Under 25 years	808
25-50 years	690
Over 50 years	52
Sex:	
Male	1,407
Female	143

Does not include adults involved in truancy cases.

TABLE 4

DISPOSITIONS IN ADULT CASES: 1987 TO 1991

	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991
Dismissed, discharged or withdrawn	643	538	622	728	824
Held for trial	822	845	904	676	914
Pre-indictment probation	58	76	60	50	—
Probation	176	175	143	98	123
Committed	75	94	82	75	83
Fines and costs	23	29	1	—	8
Suspended sentence	2	4	—	5	6
Other	9	45	18	20	9
Total	1,808	1,806	1,830	1,652	1,967

RESTITUTION AND RESOURCE PLANNING UNIT

The Restitution and Resource Planning Unit was created by the merger of three smaller units — the Restitution and Community Services Program, Juvenile Enforcement Unit and the Special Services Office. The merger has allowed staff to pool resources and share their expertise in serving court involved youth. In 1990, the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission presented its annual statewide award to this Unit in recognition of its effective and innovative services for juveniles.

In February, 1991, the Unit again expanded with the creation of the Dispositional Planning Unit, which is jointly staffed by Probation and the Department of Human Services.

Restitution

The unit offers several services to juveniles who are required to pay fines, restitution to victims or who are required to perform community service hours.

One primary function is the collection and disbursement of restitution payments or fines. In 1991, restitution and fines totaling \$166,915 dollars were collected. The unit is also an important contact for juvenile probation officers and other authorized agencies requesting information. This unit also processed 128 blanket petitions for remitted restitution and unclaimed funds during 1991.

In addition to providing the above services, several juveniles ordered to pay restitution, fines, or who are required to

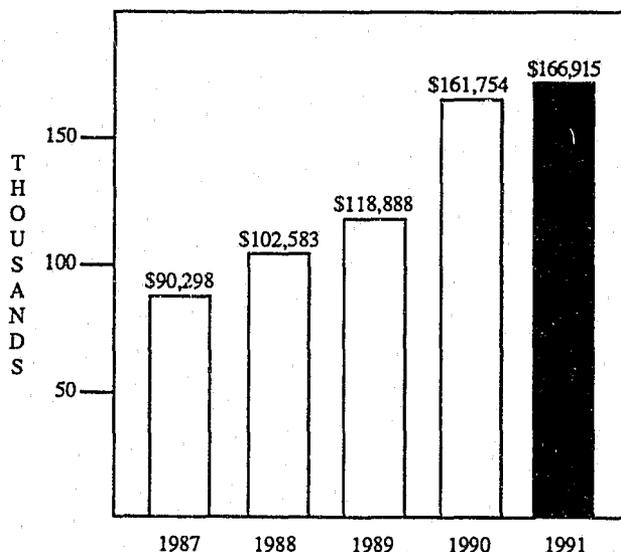
perform community service hours, receive more intensive case management.

In reference to these juveniles, program staff are responsible for interviewing family members and screening the juvenile to ascertain his individual needs. Juveniles who do not possess employment experience are required to participate in comprehensive job readiness courses offered by the Court or by local agencies. When a juvenile has successfully completed job training, he is in a position to either be encouraged to secure employment on his own, or if he needs assistance, program staff will assist him in securing employment.

The unit employs a job developer whose primary responsibility is to locate employment in the public and private sector. Program staff then screen juveniles participating in the program and assign them to positions designed to provide a positive work experience while enabling them to earn enough money to compensate their victims. In cases in which a juvenile is assessed community service hours, the juvenile is assigned to one of several non-profit agencies which have agreed to supervise the juvenile and provide a challenging volunteer experience.

Program staff work closely with the juvenile's probation officer in monitoring the juvenile's progress and identifying areas of concern. It is firmly believed that an integral part of the rehabilitation process involves emphasizing the importance of compensating victims for the harm caused, or repaying a debt by performing a service. It should be noted that recent studies indicate that the rate of recidivism for juveniles successfully completing restitution and community service requirements is substantially lower than juveniles not required to participate in this kind of program.

RESTITUTION PAYMENTS: 1987 TO 1991



Employment Assistance

The unit provides employment assistance for all juveniles on probation. Two staff members assume responsibility for operating the Youth Employment Project.

While the primary goal of this project is to assist youthful offenders in securing employment, job training is offered as a component for those who have not previously been employed. Juveniles are taught basic skills such as reading employment sections of newspapers, filling out applications and successful preparation for interviews. Staff members screen the juveniles and match them with appropriate positions in the private sector.

The project also offers 95 summer employment positions through a special cooperative effort with the Private Industry Council (PIC) funded School District program, and several others by placing juveniles with various non-profit programs

offering summer employment. Younger juveniles are involved in a program which provides remedial education and various trips to cultural institutions. The unit also offers a summer camp program for juveniles on probation, a project operated in conjunction with Teen Haven. Older juveniles, not attending school, are offered GED programs and full-time employment opportunities.

Student Intern Program

The unit operates a special intern program, the focus of which is to recruit area college students to perform field placements within the court system. The students receive training from the Director of Training, after which they are placed in various probation districts, units in the Medical Branch, or within the Restitution and Resource Planning Unit. This system allows students first hand experience with clients and the court system, while utilizing a volunteer model to enhance client services.

Dispositional Planning Unit

The Dispositional Planning Unit (DPU) is the first and only jointly staffed court program. As such, it demonstrates the tremendous impact that collaboration with the Department of Human Services (DHS) has on the juvenile system.

On an administrative level, the unit is responsible for working closely with DHS to ensure that contracts are secured which provide adequate services to the juvenile population. The unit works closely with court administrators and probation to identify service needs, and gaps in services. It then communicates and coordinates with DHS and all providers to secure appropriate residential, group home, foster care, and community based services.

As a result of these efforts, DHS has secured several new contracts for services previously not available for juveniles. In

the past year, group homes for pregnant girls and teenage mothers have become available. Group homes for mentally retarded juveniles have been secured as have group homes for younger juveniles. Long term foster care has been secured through two new contracts. Day treatment programs have been expanded and are now available to juveniles on regular probation. Day treatment, along with day care services and parenting skills programs, is now available to teen parents through three providers. Services to Children in their Own Homes, (SCOH), is now available to delinquent youth. Alternative educational and counseling programs are now available to juveniles whose IQs are too low for acceptance to DeLaSalle in Towne or DeLaSalle Vocational.

The new services have been secured primarily because of DPU's involvement in needs assessment and contract negotiations. In addition, DPU acts as a liaison between the Probation Department and private providers when there are issues relating to services. The unit also coordinates with DHS and the State Department of Public Welfare for inspection of facilities and reports on compliance.

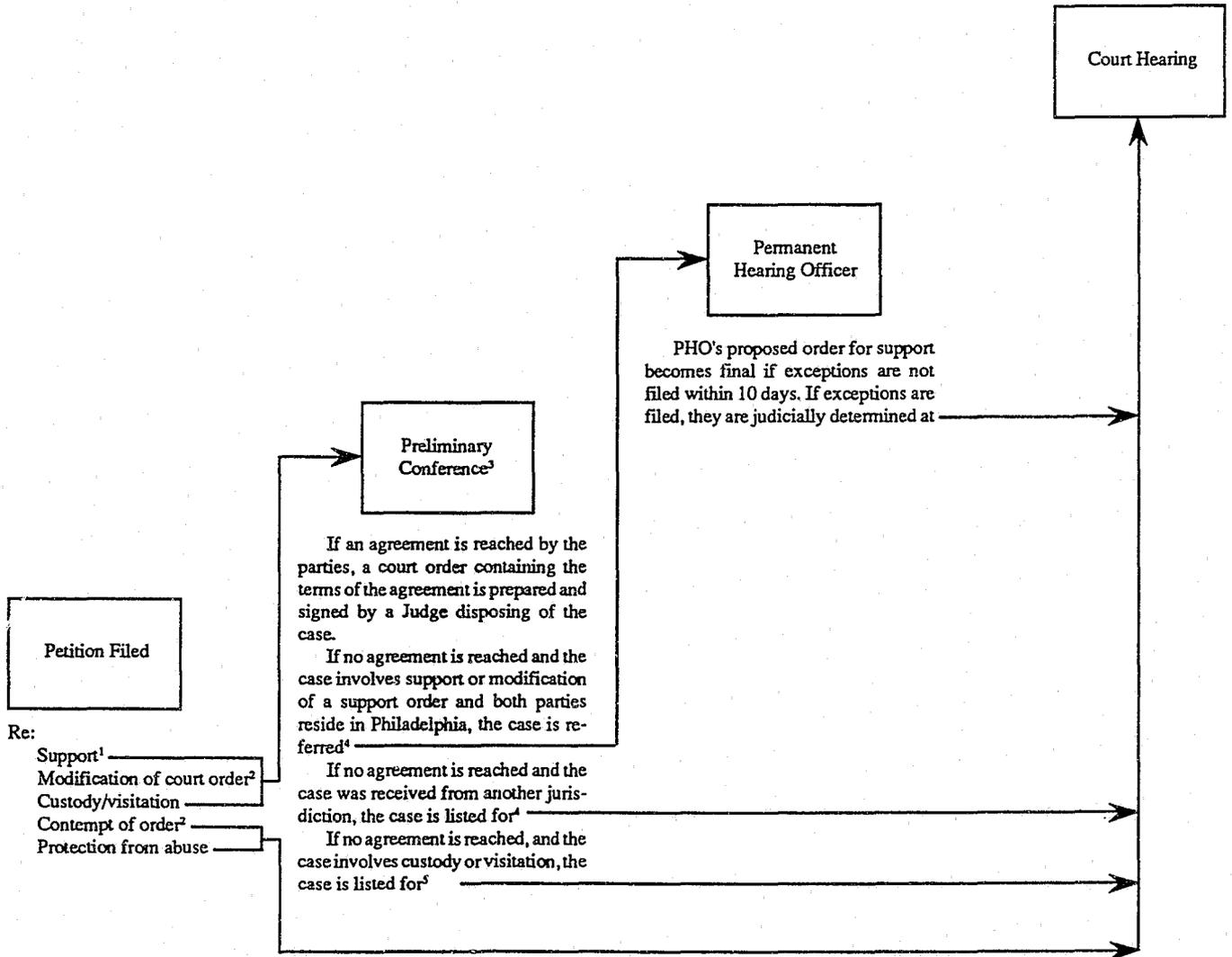
On a case by case basis, the unit plans for difficult to place, or difficult to plan for juveniles. Emphasis is placed on maintaining the juvenile in the community with appropriate services. In cases in which out-of-home placement is the only alternative, the DPU worker completes a thorough assessment and matches the juvenile with the most appropriate placement. The unit has the capability of securing community based or out of home services through DHS contracts, or negotiating individual contracts to meet the unique needs of its clients. The unit has serviced over 450 clients and approximately 70 "special" contracts have been secured for dually diagnosed or special needs clients.

Although in existence for slightly less than a year, DPU has had a tremendous impact on the individual clients it serves and overall programs available to juveniles.

Domestic Relations Branch



DOMESTIC RELATIONS BRANCH FLOW GUIDE



Re:
 Support¹
 Modification of court order²
 Custody/visitation
 Contempt of order²
 Protection from abuse

¹Local cases and petitions received from outside Philadelphia have a preliminary conference; petitions filed in Philadelphia involving a party living outside of Philadelphia are forwarded to the other jurisdiction for disposition.
²Includes cases involving support, custody, partial custody or visitation
³Where Philadelphia is the respondent in cases received from other jurisdictions only the defendant is present.
⁴A temporary child support order may be obtained pending hearing before PHO or the Court.
⁵Home investigations and neuropsychiatric evaluations may be scheduled and temporary custody/visitation orders may be obtained pending the court hearing.

DOMESTIC RELATIONS BRANCH

The Domestic Relations Branch is responsible for processing cases which involve the issues of establishment of paternity, financial support of children and spouses, child custody and visitation and domestic violence. The majority of domestic relations cases, however, involves obtaining support for children from legally responsible parents.

The Child Support Enforcement Program, administered by the Domestic Relations Branch, provides the legal mechanism for ensuring that families receive adequate financial support. Aside from helping to provide for the basic necessities, the collection of support reduces the number of families which must rely on public assistance. For families which do receive public assistance, the program collects support which is used to reimburse the Pennsylvania Department of Public Welfare for monies expended for these families. This helps to reduce the cost of public assistance to the taxpayers of the Commonwealth.

In 1975, Federal legislation established Title IV-D of the Social Security Act, which created the Federal Child Support Enforcement Program. This program has provided funding which has permitted a great expansion of child support activities at the local, county level, and has led to a substantial enhancement of the activities and workload of the Domestic Relations Branch. Since 1975, new support cases have tripled. In 1991 a total of 44,104 petitions involving all aspects of domestic issues, were filed in the Domestic Relations Branch.

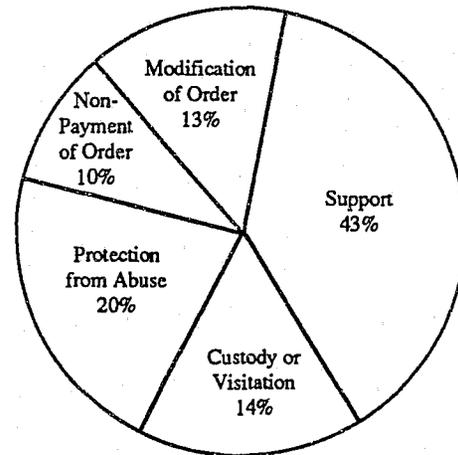
Additional Federal and State legislation has authorized interception of income tax refunds to satisfy past due support obligations, mandated the immediate attachment of income of support obligors and has provided that support arrears become automatic enforceable judgments by operation of law.

Administration of the many Federally and State mandated programs in the area of support enforcement while managing a growing caseload has presented many challenges which are met effectively by the Domestic Relations Branch.

Establishment of Support Orders

Because of the volume of cases coming into the Domestic Relations Branch each year, it is imperative that good management practices be effected so that cases may be disposed promptly and efficiently. The Domestic Relations Branch through its use of preliminary (pre-trial) conferences and Permanent Hearing Officers, was able to negotiate 17,803 agreements and orders thereby disposing of 49 percent of the 1991 workload without court hearings. These procedures, known as expedited processes, enabled the judiciary to concentrate on the more complex protracted cases, contempt matters, issues involving other jurisdictions, and exceptions to proposed orders in support and paternity cases. (A guide showing the flow of domestic relations cases is shown on page 48).

PETITIONS FILED: 1991



A typical pre-trial conference involves discussion and negotiation of the issues of the case by both parties, who may be represented by counsel, before a Hearing Officer. The Hearing Officer reviews the income and expenses of the parties, and any other issues pertinent to the payment of support. Through the application of support guidelines and other applicable laws and regulations, the Hearing Officer recommends an amount of support to the parties. If the parties agree to this recommendation, they sign an agreement which becomes a fully enforceable court order (please see the flow guide on page 48 for a description of the process in the event the parties do not agree).

Paternity Matters

Many petitions for support concern children of unmarried parents. Before a support order may be entered, paternity must be determined. This may be accomplished through a voluntary acknowledgement of the father. If the putative father denies paternity, an order for blood tests is issued. Blood samples are taken from the putative father, the child and the mother, on the premises at 34 S. 11th Street. The studies performed on these samples are very sophisticated and are highly accurate in determining the probability of paternity. After test results are received and sent to the putative father, a number of them acknowledge paternity. Those who do not, have their cases listed for Court, where the issue of paternity is finally decided. After paternity has been established, the case is then processed as any other support case. In 1991, paternity was established in 5,732 cases. Of this number, 88 percent were established through voluntary acknowledgement of the father.

Enforcement of Support Orders

As soon as a support order is entered, the process of enforcement of that order begins.

Although the immediate attachment of wages or other income for support orders was only recently mandated by law, Domestic Relations has been involved in the attachment of income for many years.

Approximately 67 percent of all support collections in 1991 were received as a result of income attachment orders.

Processing of these income attachments is a combined effort of Enforcement Hearing Officers, Wage Attachment Clerks, personnel in the Bureau of Accounts and Data Processing staff.

In 1991, nearly 40,000 income attachment documents were processed, including more than 28,000 new income attachments and thousands of modified income attachments.

Additionally, delinquent payors are scheduled by computer for interviews with Enforcement Hearing Officers. More than 26,000 of such interviews were scheduled in 1991.

Another important enforcement tool is the interception of Federal Income Tax Refunds. Collections through this method totalled more than \$6.4 million in 1991.

Custody

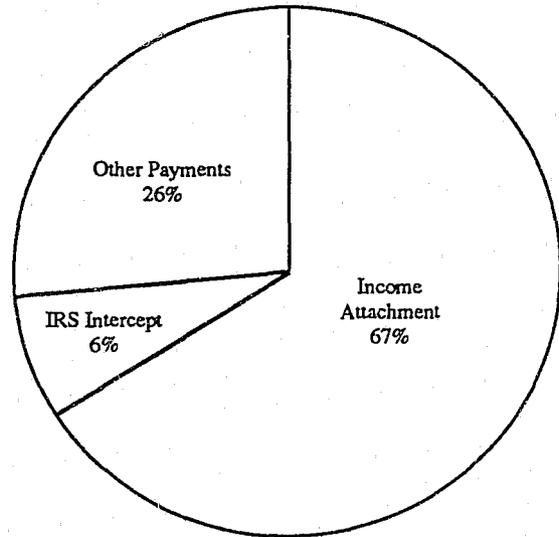
Petitions filed concerning custody, partial custody or visitation of children have been increasing in recent years but in 1991, these petitions decreased by 20 percent. Six thousand two hundred and ninety-one custody petitions were filed in 1991 as compared to 7,822 in 1990. In order to process these cases expeditiously, Custody Hearing Officers conduct pre-trial conferences which are mandatory in all cases. The unit also has two Probation Officers who perform all home investigations, which assist the Judges in their determination of the best interest of the children.

The resolution of custody disputes is a sensitive and often emotionally charged process. However, the Domestic Relations Judges and Custody Unit staff possess and exercise the skill, compassion and judgement necessary to ensure that the interests of children and their families are served.

Specialized Units

The Domestic Relations Branch has several specialized units which provide support services for the branch. For example, the Writ Servers Unit personally serves parties with orders to appear at conferences or court hearings. The Parent Locator Unit processes requests for assistance in locating absent parents in child support and custody cases. The Bench Warrant Unit apprehends individuals against whom judicial warrants have been issued for failure to appear in support matters. Through a cooperative agreement with the Philadelphia District Attorney's Office, the Child Support Enforcement Unit of that office provides legal representation in interstate support cases in which the obligor resides in

METHOD USED — SUPPORT ORDER: 1991



another jurisdiction, cases involving the establishment of paternity and in the establishment and enforcement of support orders in local AFDC cases.

Program Performance

Overall, the Domestic Relations Branch disposed of 36,308 cases in 1991. Of this number:

1. 15,487 or 43% involved new cases of support or modifications of a current support order.
2. 5,870 or 16% concerned non-payment of a support order.
3. 5,773 or 16% pertained to custody or visitation matters.
4. 9,178 or 25% involved protection from abuse cases.

The reader is cautioned not to compare numbers of filings with numbers of cases disposed. These terms are not synonymous in that multi-petitions may be filed within a case. For example, both parents may file an individual petition for custody of a child. This would be counted as two petitions but one case, if both petitions are disposed at same time.

Support Collections

In 1991, the Domestic Relations Branch collected a total of \$101,835,480 in support payments. This represented an 8 percent increase over 1990 collections.

It should be noted that between 1975 and 1990, support collections increased from \$24.6 million to \$101.8 million, an increase of 314 percent.

During that same time period however, the share of Domestic Relations total operating expenses paid by the General Fund of the City of Philadelphia remained frozen at the 1975 figure of \$3.3 million.

Of the 1991 collection total, \$26.2 million was collected and returned to the Pennsylvania Department of Public Welfare in cases where support was paid for individuals receiving public assistance. Since 1986, almost \$139 million has been collected in this effort and has been reimbursed to the Department of Public Welfare. These funds represent a significant savings to the taxpayers of this Commonwealth.

The Bureau of Accounts in the Domestic Relations Branch is responsible for all payment processing as well as statistical reporting and accounting for the Branch.

In 1991, the Bureau of Accounts received and processed more than 566,000 support checks representing 1.1 million account postings. The Bureau also processed 42,000 changes to support accounts ranging from a complete change in the court order to a change of address of one of the parties.

In addition to processing of support payments in 1991, the Bureau of Accounts receives a large volume of account inquiries from clients. More than 175,000 telephone calls were answered by Bureau staff in 1991.

To improve service to clients and avoid having to employ additional client service representatives, accounts and order information is available through the Philadelphia Support Line, a 24 hour automated voice information system. This system handled almost 800,000 telephone calls in 1991.

New Developments in 1991

Prior to 1991, the Domestic Relations Branch operated at two locations, in the Family Court Building at 1801 Vine Street and at ten floors of office space at 1600 Walnut Street. In May, 1991, the branch was consolidated and moved to newly renovated modern quarters at 34 S. 11th Street. A division of the Prothonotary's Office, the Clerk of Family Court and the Abuse Assistance Unit were relocated to this new facility to expedite the processing of protection from abuse petitions and divorce proceedings.



Attending the opening of the new Family Court facility at 34 S. 11th Street were (starting left) Judge Allan L. Tereshko, Jerome A. Zaleski, Administrative Judge, Family Court Division, Allie Page Matthews, Deputy Director, Office of Child Support Enforcement, Supreme Court Justice James T. McDermott and Edward J. Blake, President Judge, Court of Common Pleas of Philadelphia.



Alice Dunham (middle) is shown with Judge Myrna P. Field (left) and Joseph D. Primio, Chief, Domestic Relations Branch, after receiving one of the Employee of the Year awards for the Domestic Relations Branch.

The consolidation and move of Domestic Relations was a significant undertaking which involved years of planning and the diligent efforts of Judges, Court Administration, other key Family Court staff, the Family Law Section of the Philadelphia Bar Association, and all employees of the Domestic Relations Branch.

Under the leadership of Administrative Judge Jerome A. Zaleski, the consolidation of Domestic Relations was accomplished efficiently and has led to more effective client services and a significantly enhanced environment for the work of Judges, staff, clients and members of the Bar.

Finally, The Administrative Judge has formed a committee composed of members of the fine arts community to oversee, plan and implement the beautification of the lobby and common areas of the courthouse. This effort dovetails with the Court's initiative to aesthetically improve the area surrounding the entrance to the courthouse which is intended to beautify and dignify the immediate vicinity of the Family Court building at 34 South 11th Street.



Judge Myrna P. Field (left) presented an Employee of the Year award to Dorothy Mulherrin for the Domestic Relations Branch. Joseph DiPrimio, Chief, Domestic Relations Branch is shown on the right.

TABLE 1

DOMESTIC RELATIONS CASES: 1991

Petitions filed ¹	44,104
Cases disposed ¹ :	
Through court hearing	18,505
Without court hearing	17,803
Pre-trial units	9,747
Custody unit	2,676
Master's unit	3,626
Enforcement units	1,754
Total	36,308
Other activities:	
Paternity blood studies completed	1,418
Wage attachments processed	39,760
Interviews and pretrial conferences	42,475
Cases completed by the Parent Locator unit	3,942
Court sessions	1,271

¹See page 11 statistics.

TYPE OF PETITION FILED: 1987 TO 1991

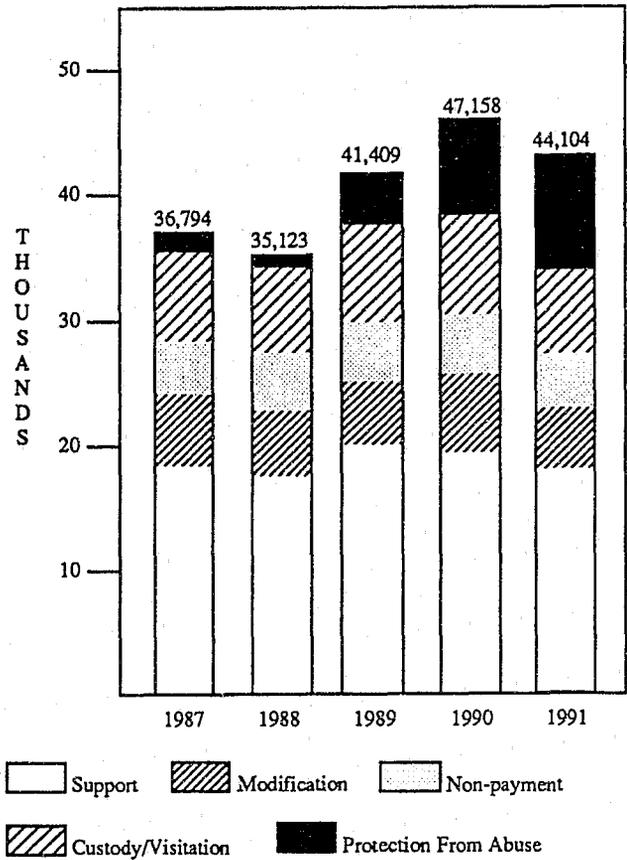


TABLE 2

TYPE OF PETITION FILED: 1991

Support	18,985 ²
Non-paternity cases	5,469
Paternity cases	13,516
Modification of support orders	5,558
Non-payment of support orders	4,522
Child custody, partial custody, visitation rights	6,291
Protection from abuse	8,748 ³
Total	44,104

²Of this number, 16,414 were local petitions while 2,571 were petitions to/from other States or other Pennsylvania counties. Of the latter group, Philadelphia was the initiator in 623 petitions.

³Does not include violations of Protection from abuse orders.

TABLE 3

CASES DISPOSED BY TYPE OF HEARING: 1991

	Total	Court hearing	Without Court hearing
Support/Modifications	15,487	2,031	13,456
Non-payment of order	5,870	4,199	1,671
Child custody or visitation	5,773	3,097	2,676
Protection from abuse	9,178	9,178	—
Total	36,308	18,505	17,803

CASES DISPOSED: 1987 TO 1991

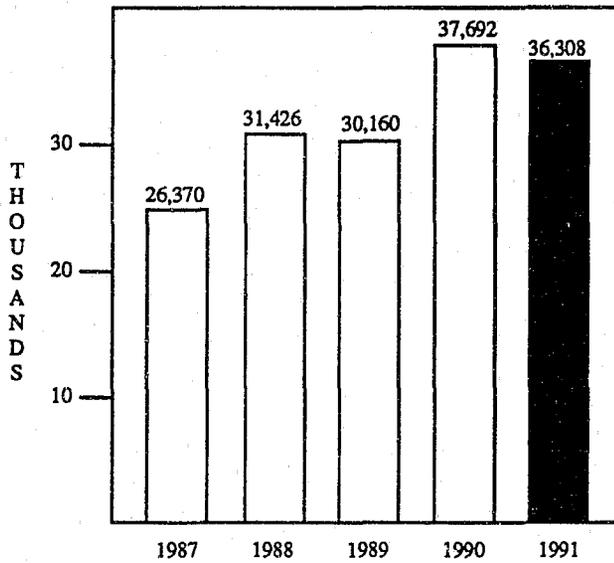


TABLE 4

PATERNITY ESTABLISHED: 1991

Pre-trial conference	5,029
Court hearing	703
Total	5,732

TABLE 5

SUPPORT ORDERS: 1991

New orders made	7,208
Orders vacated	13,477
Orders changed	8,267

PATERNITIES ESTABLISHED: 1987 TO 1991

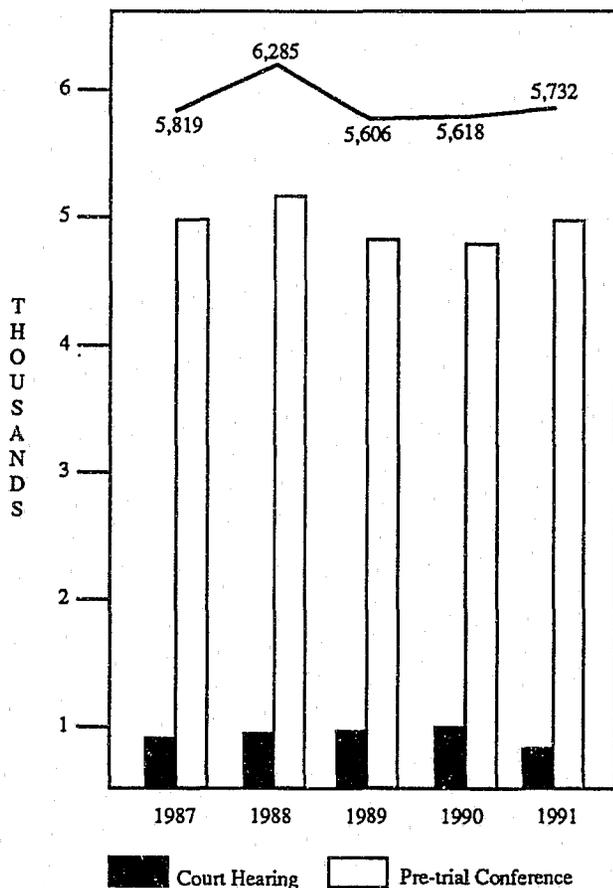


TABLE 6

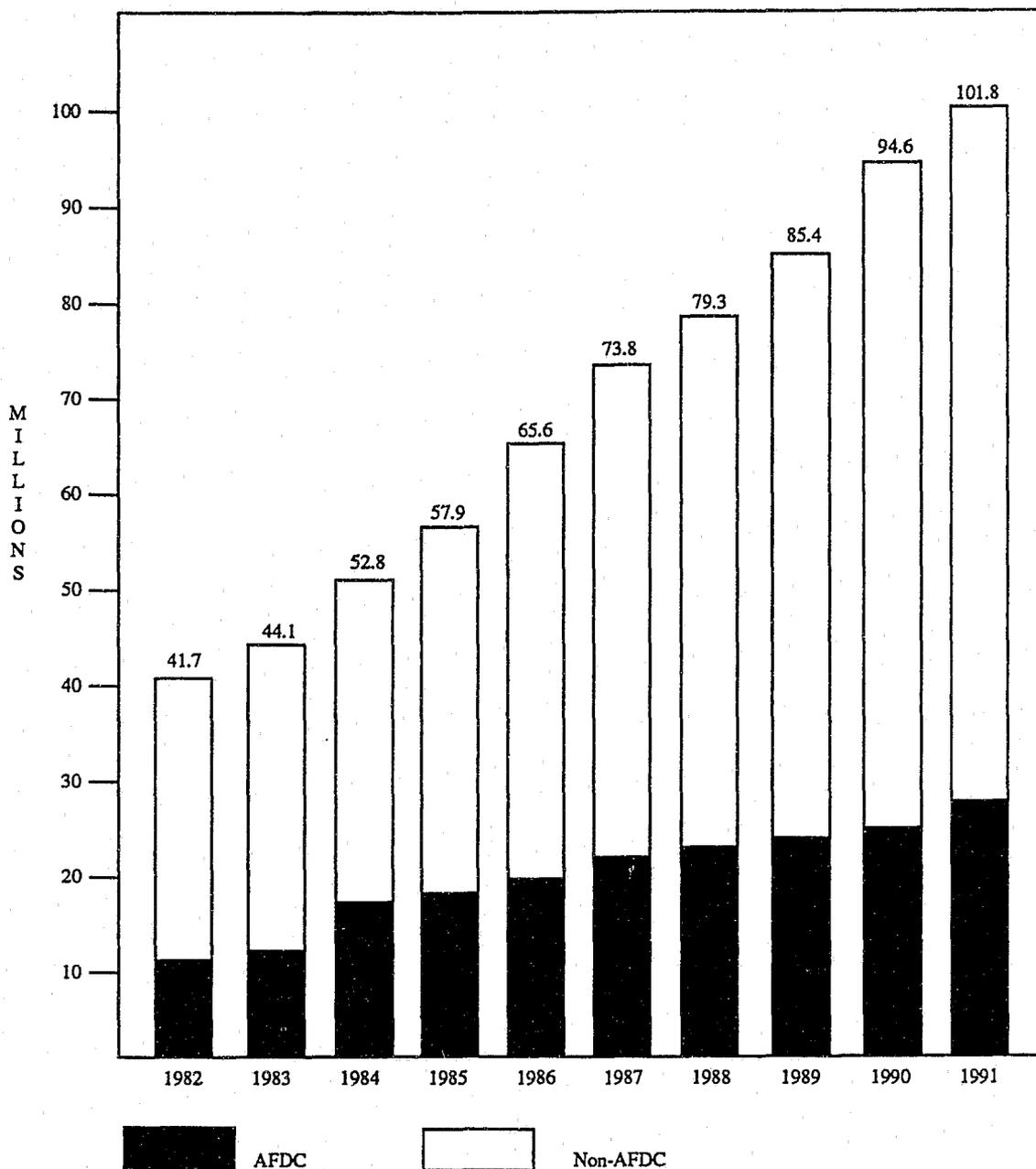
PAYMENTS RECEIVED ON SUPPORT ORDERS: 1987 TO 1991

	Total ²	AFDC ¹	Non-AFDC
1987	\$ 73,761,914	21,982,964	51,778,950
1988	\$ 79,260,102	22,620,179	56,639,923
1989	\$ 85,448,375	23,765,911	61,682,464
1990	\$ 94,565,667	24,445,720	70,119,947
1991	\$101,835,480	26,168,990	75,666,490

¹Aid for Dependent Children.

²Over 5 million of this amount was collected through the Federal Income Tax Refund Intercept Program for years 1987 - 1989. In 1990 - 1991, more than 6 million was collected through this program.

PHILADELPHIA SUPPORT COLLECTIONS: 1982 TO 1991



Divorce Proceedings



DIVORCE PROCEEDINGS

Family Court has jurisdiction in all matters relating to divorce and annulment. Procedures in divorce and annulment actions are governed by the Pennsylvania Rules of Civil Procedure 1920.1 to 1920.92 inclusive. These Statewide rules have been implemented by local rules thereby providing the bench and bar with an integrated source for rules governing divorce and annulment.

The Clerk of Family Court receives and processes all matters pertaining to divorce and or annulment proceedings. The unit is also responsible for the appointment of Masters when required. In addition, it has the responsibility for docketing adoption and protection from abuse cases. In March, 1990, the Abuse Assistance Unit was established. This unit provides assistance to individuals, not represented by counsel, who need help in preparing and filing a petition asking the Court for a protective order.



Jennie DeLuca (left) was selected as Employee of the Year for the Abuse Assistance Unit. She is shown with Judge Myrna Field (middle) who presented the award and Benjamin Coco, Clerk of Family Court.

Until the enactment of the Divorce Code in July, 1980 (the first major reform in over 50 years), divorce proceedings required a plaintiff to bring a specific charge against the spouse, i.e., indignities, desertion, etc. In addition, other issues dealing with support, custody, etc. were usually considered as separate actions requiring additional input of time by the Court and the parties involved in the divorce action. This system was complicated and expensive for the parties adding additional pressures to an already tense situation.

¹Section:

201c — A divorce may be granted when each of the parties in the divorce give consent, and ninety days have elapsed from the filing of the complaint alleging irretrievable breakdown of marriage.

201d — In a non-consensual divorce action, a divorce may be granted after the parties in the divorce have been separated for a period of two years and the marriage is irretrievably broken.

DIVORCES STARTED AND GRANTED: 1987 TO 1991

Year	Started	Granted
1987	4,949	4,303
1988	6,369	4,708
1989	5,733	4,760
1990	6,031	4,721
1991	5,459	4,767

The Divorce Code of 1980 addressed some of these problems. It added no fault grounds, and allowed for alimony and the equitable distribution of marital property.

While the Divorce Code still permits the filing of a specific charge in a divorce action, it also allows the parties in a divorce action (under Section 201c and 201d)¹ to proceed to finality without the intervention of a Master when both parties agree the marriage is irretrievably broken. In addition, local court rules allow for a written agreement between the parties addressing matters related to the divorce to be incorporated into the final decree.

Amendments to the Pennsylvania Divorce Code in 1988 resulted in significant changes such as a more liberal basis for alimony, a reduction from three to two years to obtain a non-consensual, no-fault divorce (provided that the final separation began after February 12, 1988) and the inclusion of gifts between spouses in property subject to equitable distribution.

The second major development in local practice occurred in 1988, when a new system for disposing of economic issues in divorce cases was implemented. Prior to that time, when such issues as equitable distribution, alimony and counsel fees were raised in a case, the entire matter was referred to a Master upon special appointment by one of the Family Court Judges. Any attorney admitted to practice in Philadelphia could serve as a Master, and he or she was paid for his/her services on an hourly basis by the parties to the action. In complex divorce cases involving lengthy hearings, the fees for the Master's services could be substantial.

Under the new system, governed by Administrative Regulation 88-4, economic issues are referred to Permanent Masters, who are full-time court employees with established expertise in divorce law. Aside from a one-time certification fee of \$200.00, no charges are imposed for the Master's service regardless of the duration of the case.



Patricia Wilson (left) Employee of the Year for the Masters Unit is shown with Margaret McKeown Esq. Chief, Permanent Hearing Officers/Divorce Masters Unit.

To avoid the delays that often attended the old Master's system, no case can be certified for a hearing before the Permanent Master until grounds for the divorce have been established, and all discovery has been completed.

After a case is certified, a hearing will be held in approximately thirty days. Any party who is displeased by the recommendations of the Permanent Master can request a trial before a Judge, in which case the matter is heard on a de novo basis. Thus far, the great majority of cases listed before the Permanent Masters have resulted in settlements and the immediate entry of Decrees in Divorce. Cases that do not involve contested economic issues are handled in basically the same way as in past years; i.e., upon the filing of a Praecipe to Transmit Record and the expiration of ten days for filing objections thereto, the file is referred to a Judge for review of the documents in the file. If all papers are in order, including for example, proof of service and all required affidavits, a final decree is entered.

Where interim relief of any kind is sought in a divorce case, the petition or motion at issue is listed before the Family Court Motion Judge. Typical matters that come before the Motion Court are petitions for alimony pendente lite, injunctions

against the sale or transfer of marital assets, petitions for interim counsel fees and requests for exclusive possession of the marital home.

Summary

In 1991, 5,459 divorce proceedings were initiated in Family Court. In addition, 1,785 motions and rules were filed requesting a court order or direction on a specific matter relating to the divorce action. Exceptions to the Master's report were filed in 9 cases. These actions signify disagreement with the Master's findings by one or both parties in a divorce action. The total number of divorces granted in 1991 was 4,767.

Ninety-nine percent of the divorce cases in 1991 cited irretrievable breakdown as the reason for the divorce. As in previous years, the wife is most often the plaintiff (57 percent) in divorce actions.

The average marriage had lasted 12.9 years at the time the divorce was granted. More than half of the couples obtaining a divorce in 1991 (56 percent) were married for 10 years or more. Twenty-four percent of the marriages lasted 20 years or more. In 14 cases the marriage lasted one year or less while in 82 cases the couples had been married for more than 39 years.

Twice the number of wives (30 percent) as husbands (15 percent) were married before age 21. The median age of husbands divorced in 1991 was 38.6, for wives, 36.1. Seventeen percent of husbands and 14 percent of wives had previous marriages. During 1991, the highest number of divorces occurred in the 30-34 age group for wives and husbands.

There were no children in 39 percent of the divorces in 1991 but a total of 5,818 children were involved in the balance of the divorces granted. Of the total number of divorcing couples with children, 40 percent had 1 child; 36 percent, 2 children; 15 percent, 3 children; and 9 percent had 4 or more children. The majority of children (4,099) were under 18 years of age at the time the divorce was granted. Twenty-five percent of this latter group were in the "only child" category, while 15 percent came from families with 4 or more children.

TABLE 1

DIVORCE PROCEEDINGS¹: 1991

Divorce proceedings started	5,459
Divorces granted	4,767
Motions and rules filed	1,785
Motions and rules disposed	1,501
Exceptions to master's report filed	9
Exceptions to master's report disposed	3
Court sessions	146

¹Includes annulments.

DIVORCE PROCEEDINGS STARTED AND GRANTED: 1987 TO 1991

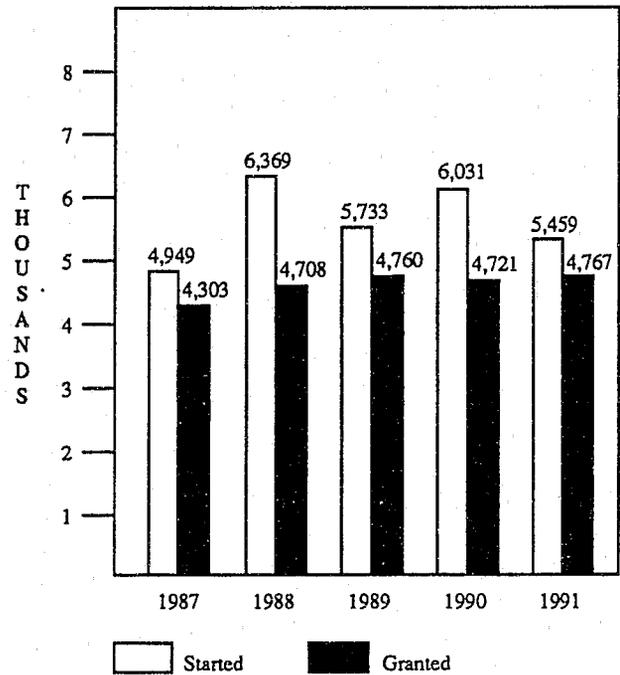


TABLE 2

DIVORCES GRANTED BY LEGAL GROUNDS: 1991

Legal grounds for decree	Divorces granted	Plaintiff	
		Husband	Wife
Irretrievable breakdown	4,744	2,046	2,698
201c ¹	2,917	1,214	1,703
201d ¹	1,827	832	995
Indignities	23	4	19
Total	4,767	2,050	2,717

¹See footnote 1, page 57.

CUSTODY OF CHILDREN UNDER 18 YEARS: 1991

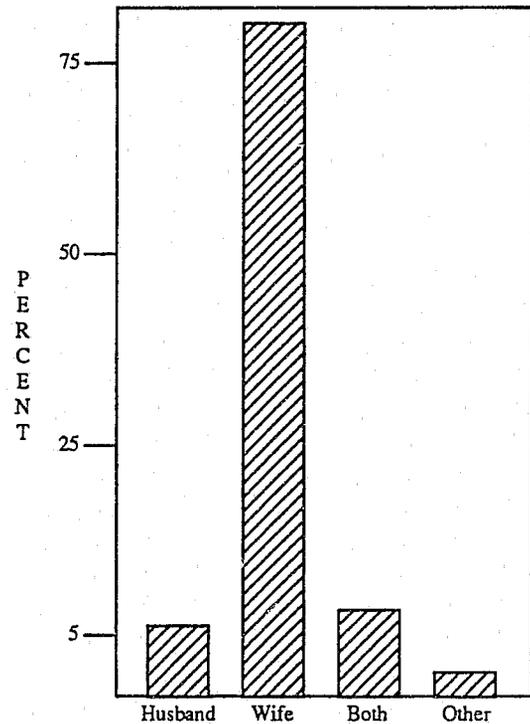


TABLE 3

CHILDREN INVOLVED IN DIVORCES GRANTED: 1991

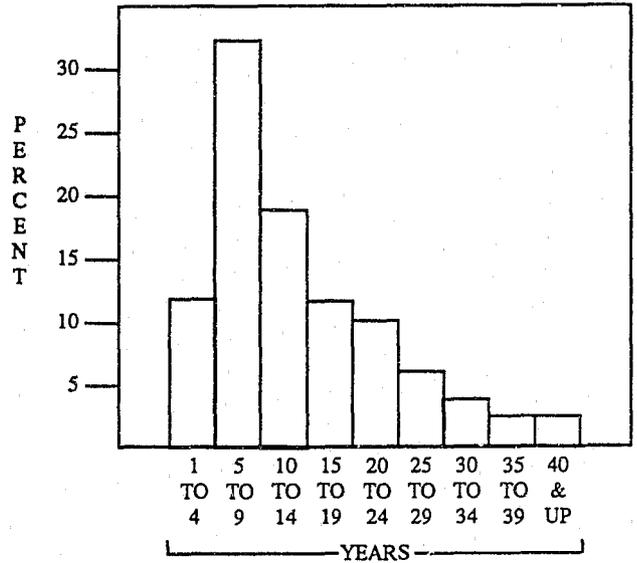
Divorces granted	Number of children in family	All children	Children under 18
1,853	0	-	-
1,159	1	1,159	1,010
1,050	2	2,100	1,605
434	3	1,302	884
174	4	696	361
97	5	561	239
4,767	or more	5,818	4,099

TABLE 4

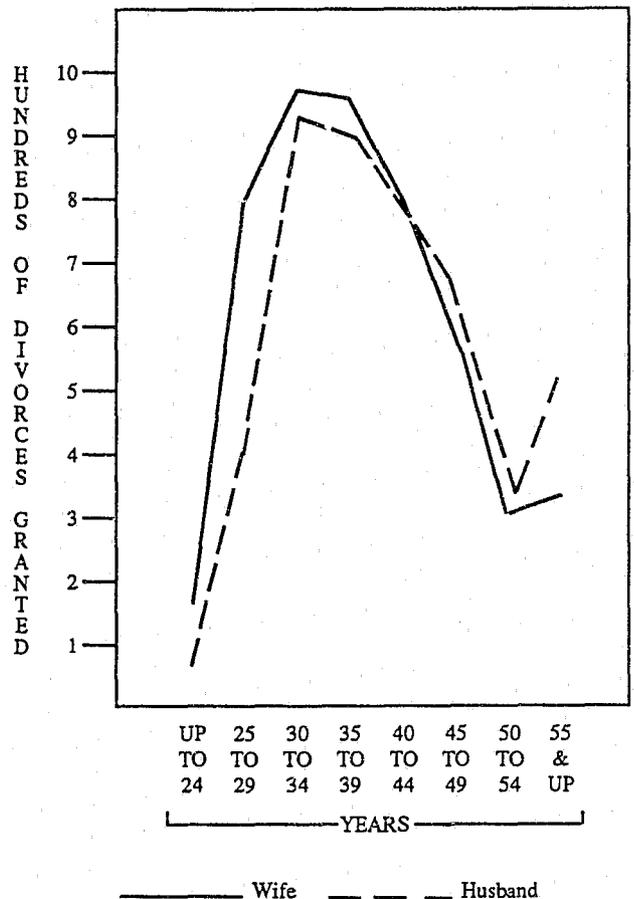
DIVORCES GRANTED BY DURATION OF MARRIAGE: 1991

Duration of marriage	Divorces granted
1 year	14
2 years	104
3 years	185
4 years	272
5 years	310
6 years	333
7 years	335
8 years	283
9 years	250
10 years	225
11 years	193
12 years	197
13 years	151
14 years	160
15 years	141
16 years	135
17 years	109
18 years	95
19 years	110
20 - 24 years	500
25 - 29 years	277
30 - 34 years	176
35 - 39 years	98
Over 39 years	82
Not reported	32
Total	4,767

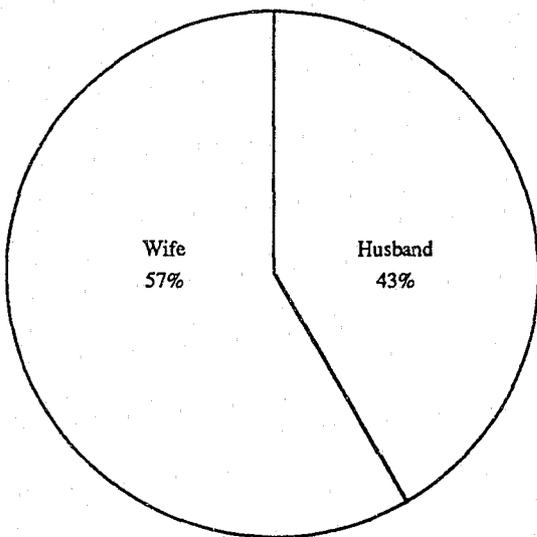
PERCENT DISTRIBUTION — DURATION OF MARRIAGE: 1991



AGES OF PARTIES AT TIME OF DIVORCE: 1991



PLAINTIFF IN DIVORCES GRANTED: 1991



Adoption Branch



ADOPTION BRANCH

The Adoption Act of January, 1981¹ provided for the following:

1. the adoption of individuals
2. the termination of certain parent-child relationships
3. the recording of foreign decrees of adoption
4. provisions for adoption procedures, decrees, records and related matters.

Under the law, any individual may be adopted and any person may become an adopting parent with the approval of the Court when in the best interest of the child.

The Adoption Branch is responsible for investigating and processing all matters relating to termination of parental rights and adoption.

There are two types of adoption cases:

1. Kinship cases involve petitioner(s) and adoptee(s) who are related.
2. No kinship cases concern parties with no familial relationship.

In no kinship cases, placements are made under the auspices of an agency or a private attorney.

Adoption proceedings vary somewhat depending on the type of case and the relationship of the adoptee to the petitioner(s).

Petitions for termination of parental rights require a court hearing before a Judge. These petitions are granted only when the statutory requirements have been met. See chart in next column for conditions and requirements which must be met.

A report of intention to adopt must be filed with the Court in all adoptions where the child is not related by blood or marriage to the person having custody or control. The Court must make a complete investigation regarding the health, social and economic status of the adopting parent(s). No report is required when the child is related by blood or marriage to the adopting parent(s).

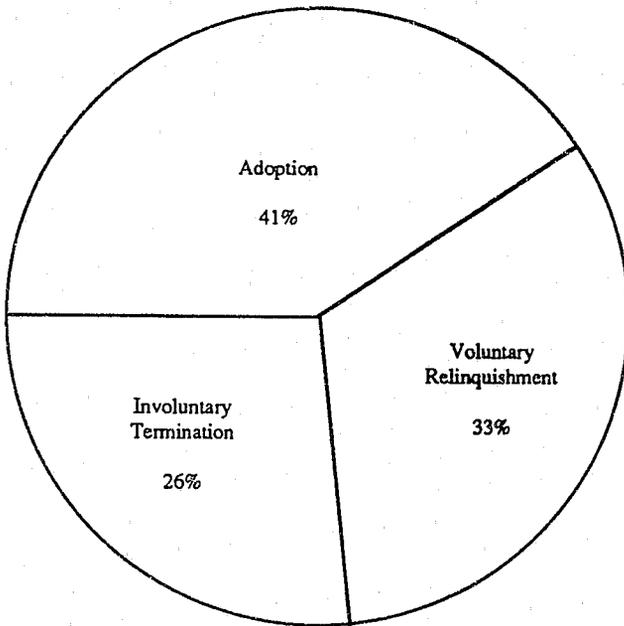
Since adoption is a statutory proceeding, the following are other mandates which are required by law:

1. The Court shall appoint counsel or a guardian ad litem for a child who has not reached 18 years whenever it is in the best interest of the child. No attorney or law firm shall represent both the child and the adopting parent(s).

¹Repealed the Adoption Act of July 1970.

Petition	Party Filing Petition	Conditions for Termination
Voluntary Relinquishment	Natural Parents	a. Consent of agency b. Consent of natural parent c. Court appearance by consenting parent
Involuntary Termination	a. Natural parent; When termination is sought with respect to other parent b. Agency; When custody of child has been given to agency c. Individual having custody of child	Parental rights may be terminated on any of the following grounds: a. Failure or refusal to perform parental duties for a period of six months. b. Parents whereabouts unknown and child is not claimed for a period of three months. c. Continued incapacity, abuse or neglect has caused the child to be without essential parental care, control or subsistence. d. The parent is the presumptive but not the natural father of the child. e. The child was removed from the parent by the Court or by a voluntary placement for a period of six months and the parent cannot or will not remedy the conditions which led to the removal or placement of the child.
Petition to Confirm Consent	a. Intermediary b. In cases where there is no intermediary, the adoptive parent(s) may file the Petition.	If parent or parents of the child have executed consents to an adoption but have failed for a period of 40 days after executing the consent to file or proceed with the Petition for Voluntary Relinquishment, the intermediary may petition the Court to hold a hearing for the purpose of confirming the intention of the parent(s) to voluntarily relinquish their rights and duties as evidenced by the consent(s) to the adoption.

TYPE OF PETITIONS: 1991



2. If the adoptee is over twelve years of age, his/her consent to the adoption must be obtained.
3. A decree of adoption is not granted until the adoptee has been in the custody of the petitioner(s) for at least six months. This is not required when the adoptee is over 18 years of age or related to the petitioner(s) by blood or marriage.
4. All court hearings are conducted in private.
5. All records relating to an adoption proceeding are kept in strict confidence and may be inspected only through a court order.

Summary

The total number of petitions filed in 1991 decreased 7 percent from 1990. Adoption petitions filed in 1991 decreased by 3 percent over the number filed in 1990. Petitions for voluntary relinquishment decreased by 16 percent while petitions for involuntary termination remained at the same level as 1990.

The adoption of 407 individuals was approved by the Court in 1991, 389 children and 18 adults. Most of the adoptees had been born out of wedlock (85 percent). Adoptees were placed for adoption by the natural parent(s) in 47 percent of the cases with an additional 46 percent placed by an agency or an intermediary. In the balance of cases (7 percent), the child was placed by other relatives or the Department of Human Services. Of the total adoptees, 56 percent were 5 years of age or under with 5 percent being under one year of age. The median age for adoptees born during wedlock was 10.1 years; for those born out of wedlock, 3.7 years. Forty-three percent of the adoptees were in custody of the petitioner(s) for one year or less. The adoptee and the petitioner(s) were not related in 54 percent of the cases while 36 percent of the adoptees were adopted by step-parents. The balance of adoptions (10 percent) involved other relatives such as grandparents.

Single petitioners accounted for 14 percent of all adoption in 1991, with women being the predominant petitioner in these cases.

The ages of adopting parents ranged from under 25 years to 60 years and over with the median age for women at 36.3 years, for men, 36.9 years.

The income of the adopting parents appears advantageous for the adoptee. Of the total petitioners, 72 percent had annual incomes of \$25,000 or more with 43 percent having incomes of \$40,000 or more.



Andrea Jelin, Deputy Court Administrator, (right) accepts an Employee of the Year award from Judge Myra P. Field, on behalf of the staff of the Adoption Branch.

TABLE 1

TOTAL ACTIVITY: 1991

Petitions filed	949
Reports of intention to adopt filed	219
Petitions disposed	1,093
Total adoptees	407
Court sessions	113

TABLE 2

TYPE OF PETITION BY SOURCE: 1991

Type of Petition	Total	Source		
		Agency	Independent	Kinship
Adoption	391	143	79	169
Voluntary relinquishment ¹	316	278	37	1
Involuntary termination	242	156	25	61
Total	949	577	141	231

SOURCE OF PETITIONS: 1991

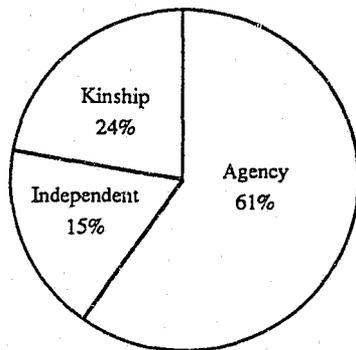


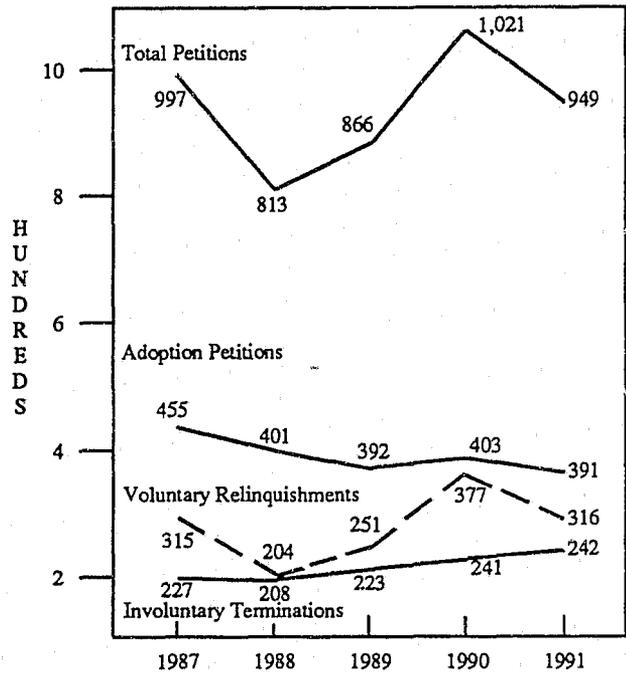
TABLE 3

PETITIONS DISPOSED: 1991

Adoption	405
Voluntary Relinquishment ¹	393
Involuntary Termination	295
Total	1,093

¹Includes petitions to confirm consent for adoption.

PETITIONS FILED: 1987 TO 1991



PETITIONS DISPOSED: 1987 TO 1991

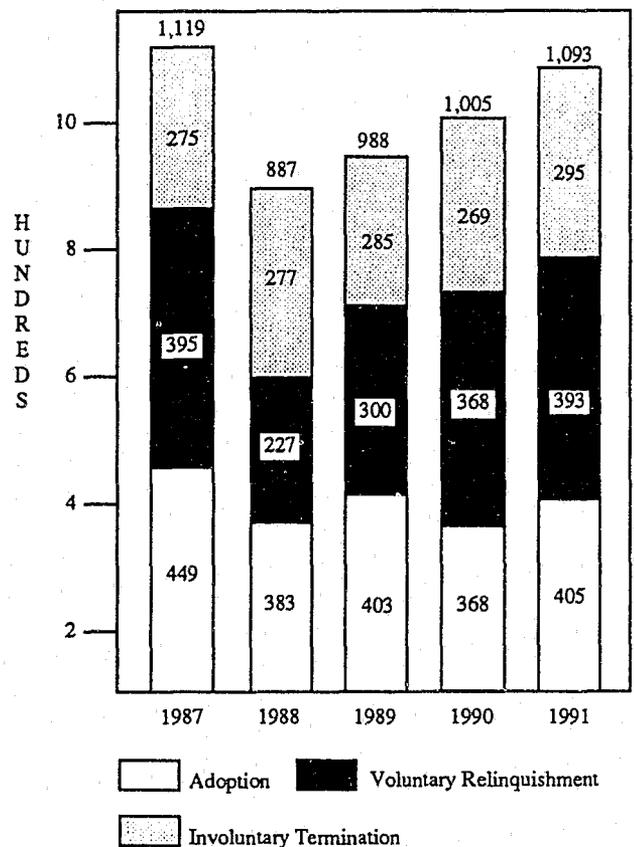
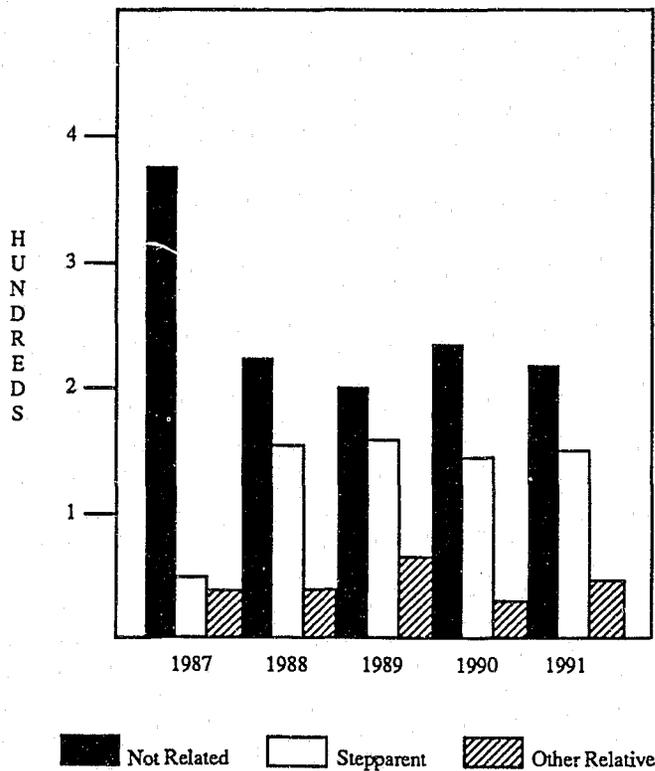


TABLE 4
CHARACTERISTICS OF ADOPTEES AND PETITIONERS: 1991

Adoptees: 407		Petitioners			
Age:		Birth status:	Marital status:		
Under 1 year	20	Born during wedlock	62	Married	350
1 - 5 years	206	Born out of wedlock	345	Single	57
6 - 9 years	89	Adoptee placed by:		Age:	
10 - 17 years	74	Natural parent(s)	190	Under 25	Mother: 13 Father: 5
18 and over	18	Agency	80	25 - 34	143 129
Sex:		Intermediary	107	35 - 44	174 130
Male	205	DHS ¹	9	45 - 54	48 48
Female	202	Other	21	55 and over	27 40
Duration of custody:		Relationship of petitioner to adoptee:		Income:	
Under 1 year	34	Not related	219	Under \$5,000	3
1 - 4 years	292	Stepparent	148	5,000 - 14,999	30
5 - 9 years	64	Other relative	40	15,000 - 24,999	57
10 years and over	17			25,000 - 39,000	115
				40,000 - 49,000	60
				50,000 and over	117
				Not reported	25

¹Department of Human Services.

RELATIONSHIP OF PETITIONER TO ADOPTEE: 1987 TO 1991



Medical Branch



MEDICAL BRANCH

The Medical Branch is an integral part of Family Court and has been in the forefront of activities since the Court's establishment in 1913.

Contributing more than seventy-five years of service, this branch has experienced tremendous changes as a result of medical advances and the growing awareness of good mental and physical health. Together with the increased availability of medical facilities, such as clinics and mental health centers in the community, as well as changes in court functions, laws and social mores, the types of cases referred to this branch and the services provided have varied over the years.

While there have been changes in the work of the branch throughout the years, the basic functions have remained the same. These functions are to examine, diagnose and recommend treatment for clients referred by other branches of the Court, or ordered by the judiciary.

The Medical Branch has a highly professional staff of physicians, psychologists, psychiatrists, social workers, mental health workers and registered nurses to perform these services.

Among the duties performed are: physical examinations; psychiatric and psychological evaluations and studies; counseling of individuals and families; processing of involuntary mental health commitments of juveniles for evaluation and treatment; emergency treatment of clients and employees; and notifying clients of medical problems requiring treatment or care. In addition, the branch makes referrals to hospitals, clinics and mental health facilities and maintains follow-up on the client's progress.

The importance of diagnosing and assuring treatment of physical, mental or emotional deficiencies of clients referred to the Medical Branch cannot be stressed enough. The professional findings are an important aid to the judiciary in making decisions on cases before them.

For years, the Court has provided a unique service for its clients—a facility for infants and children while their parents appear in court. Family Court has two such facilities—one at 1801 Vine Street and a second at 34 S. 11th Street to service parents who must appear there. In addition, the facility at 1801 Vine Street is open on Sunday for court ordered visitations.

A member of the supervisory staff is on hand to oversee the visits and to handle complaints and/or suggestions from clients utilizing this service.

The Medical Branch has indeed been an essential part of the Court. It has contributed much in the past and will continue in the future to provide a vital service to the Court.



Sarah D. Strong was presented with an Employee of the Year Award for the Medical Branch by Judge Thomas Dempsey. Shown on the right is John J. Fitzgerald, Chief, Medical Branch.

In October, 1991, the Adoption Unit, previously part of the Medical Branch, became a separate branch. It is discussed elsewhere in this report.

Summary

In 1991, 5,427 examinations were performed by the Medical Branch staff. These included: 1,110 physical, 538 psychiatric and 3,779 psychological examinations.

The two child care facilities cared for more than 11,000 children during 1991. Of this number, 4,467 were children brought to 1801 Vine Street for Sunday visitation.

In the Clinical Services Unit, 491 cases were processed through interviews or treatments while 3 cases were referred to outside agencies. Social workers conducted approximately 1,900 counseling sessions with individual clients.

The Medical Branch staff was called upon to handle over 600 emergency matters pertaining to clients and employees.

There were 234 mental health commitments for evaluation or long term treatment. An additional 37 requests for commitment were withdrawn at the bar of the court and 233 new and prior commitments were converted to voluntary status; 477 hearings were held for review or status of commitment.

There were 525 consultations for assist with plan and 183 referrals to the YSC/Philadelphia Child Guidance Treatment Team.

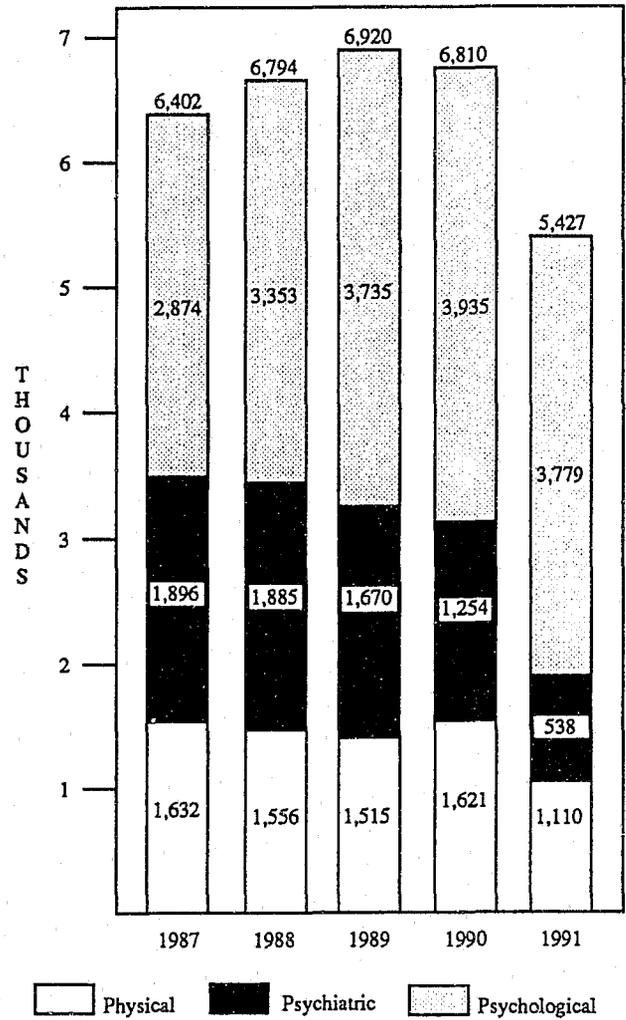
EXAMINATIONS COMPLETED: 1987 TO 1991

TABLE 1

TOTAL ACTIVITY: 1991

Physical examinations	1,110
Psychiatric examinations ¹	538
Psychological examinations	3,779
Total	5,427
Pre-commitment investigations	1,002
Commitments under Mental Health Act	234
New cases received:	
Physical ¹	13
Clinical services	491
Total	504
Children cared for in nursery	11,338

¹Discontinued July, 1991.



PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF ALL EXAMINATIONS BY SOURCE OF REFERRAL: 1991

TABLE 2

TYPE OF EXAMINATION BY BRANCH: 1991

	Total	Psychiatric	Psychological	Physical
Juvenile branch	3,794	392	3,309	93
Domestic relations branch	867	146	470	251
Employees	160	—	—	160
Emergency and first aid treatments	606	—	—	606
Total	5,427	538	3,779	1,110

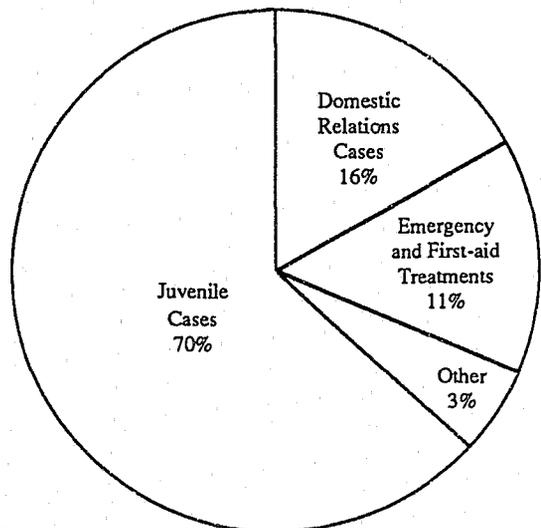


TABLE 3

PSYCHOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS: 1991

Diagnoses	Total	Juvenile		Adults
		Delinquent	Non-Delinquent	
Superior	43	39	2	2
Bright normal	178	163	10	5
Normal	893	856	29	8
Dull normal	671	654	13	4
Borderline retardation	579	570	5	4
Mild retardation	141	137	4	—
Unspecified	13	13	—	—
Other ¹	1,261	785	67	409
Total	3,779	3,217	130	432

¹Mental health assessment, no IQ required.

TABLE 5

CLINICAL SERVICES UNIT ACTIVITIES: 1991

Juvenile cases	368
Domestic relation cases	123
Total	491
Cases referred to outside agencies	3

TABLE 4

PSYCHIATRIC EXAMINATIONS: 1991

	Total	Juvenile		Adults
		Delinquent	Non-Delinquent	
Mental retardation	1	1	—	—
Neuroses	1	—	—	—
Personality disorders	9	9	—	—
Drug dependence	18	18	—	—
Adjustment reaction of adolescence	25	22	—	3
Adjustment reaction of childhood	18	11	6	1
Adjustment reaction of adult life	4	—	—	4
Unsocialized aggressive reaction	21	21	—	—
Group delinquent reaction	3	2	—	1
No mental disorder	435	302	3	130
Other diagnoses	3	2	—	1
Total	538	388	9	141

CHILDREN CARED FOR IN NURSERY: 1987 TO 1991

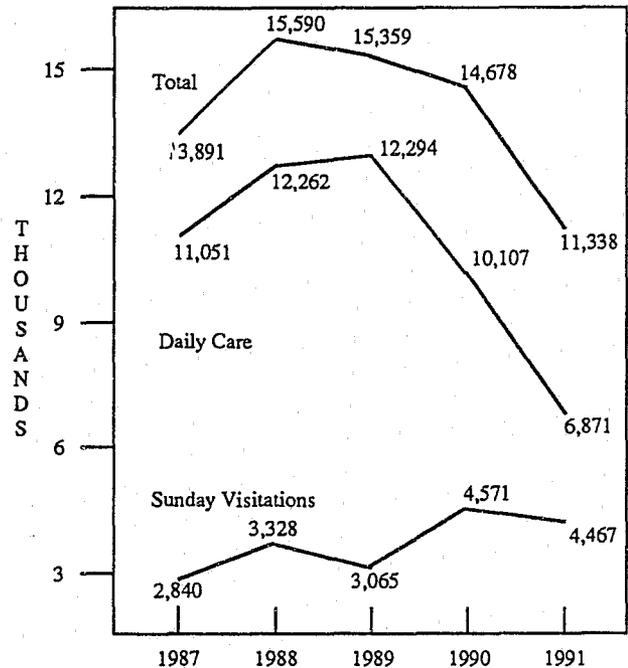
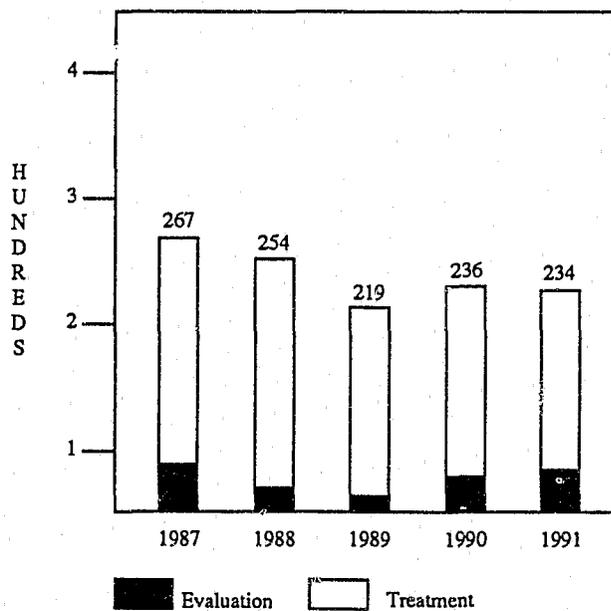


TABLE 6

COMMITMENTS UNDER MENTAL HEALTH ACT: 1991

Admitting Centers or Institutions	Evaluation	Treatment
Benjamin Rush	4	1
Catch (formerly Jefferson)	1	—
Charles R. Drew CMHC	16	3
COMHAR	5	2
Community Council (CA 4)	4	6
Eastern PA Psychiatric Institute	—	1
Eastern State School and Hospital	—	86
Hahnemann Hospital	2	1
INTERAC	1	2
John F. Kennedy CMHC	6	3
Juvenile Forensic Unit – ESSH	—	36
Northeast CMHC	5	2
Northwest Center	4	1
Path CMHC	1	1
Pennsylvania Hospital (Hall – Mercer)	3	—
Philadelphia Child Guidance Center	—	2
Philadelphia Psychiatric Center	3	21
West Philadelphia Consortium	5	—
Woodhaven Center	—	3
Other	1	2
Total	61	173

COMMITMENTS UNDER MENTAL HEALTH ACT: 1987 TO 1991



Glossary



GLOSSARY

AFDC — Aid to families with dependent children.

AFTERCARE — a supervised and or treatment program for delinquent juveniles released from commitment.

AGREEMENT — mutual consent by both parties with respect to support or custody/visitation matters. The agreement is put in writing and becomes an enforceable order when given judicial approval.

ARREST — taking physical custody of a juvenile, by a legal authority, to answer a complaint regarding a delinquent act.

CASE —

ADULT — includes cases involving adults charged with endangering the welfare of a child, corrupting the morals of a child, or committing a crime against a child.

DOMESTIC RELATIONS — case involving financial support of children and spouses; custody/visitation matters; establishment of paternity; and protection from abuse within the family.

JUVENILE — cases involving children alleged to be delinquent or dependent.

CHILD — an individual under the age of 18 years; or under the age of 21 years who committed a delinquent act before reaching the age of 18 years; or who was adjudicated dependent before reaching the age of 18 years and requests the Court to retain jurisdiction. In no event will this jurisdiction extend past the age of 21 years.

DELINQUENT CHILD — 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.

DEPENDENT CHILD — a child under the age of 18 years found to be:

1. without proper parental care, control, subsistence or education as required by law.
2. ungovernable and in need of care, treatment or supervision.
3. habitually truant from school.
4. under the age of ten who has committed a delinquent act.

COMMITMENT — a child placed in the care of: Department of Human Services, private agency, institution or an individual, by order of the Court.

CONSENT DECREE — a court order placing the child under supervision for a period of six months with neither an adjudication of delinquency nor an admission of guilt.

CUSTODIAN — a person other than a parent or legal guardian, who stands in loco parentis to the child, or a person to whom legal custody of the child has been given by order of the Court.

DELINQUENT ACT — an act designated a crime under the laws of this State or another State if the act occurred in that State or under Federal law or local ordinances.

DETENTION — legal authorized confinement of a juvenile, subject to juvenile court proceedings, until committed to a correctional facility or released.

DISPOSITION — a final determination of a case.

EXCEPTION — a formal objection to the action of the Court during a hearing in which the party excepting seeks to reverse the Court's decision at a later proceeding.

FORMAL COMPLAINT — An affidavit submitted by an individual alleging delinquent or dependent conditions.

HABITUAL OFFENDER — juvenile who meets the following criteria:

Three adjudications for any charge involving Rape, Involuntary Deviate Sexual Intercourse, Robbery, Aggravated Assault, Kidnapping, Arson, Burglary, or Drug Sales

and

Commitment to a residential placement facility.

HEARING OFFICER — a court employee assigned to preside at domestic relations preliminary conference.

HEARING —

ADJUDICATORY — juvenile hearing to determine if child is either dependent or delinquent based on evidence presented at hearing.

CERTIFICATION — a hearing to determine if a juvenile should be tried as an adult in criminal court.

DETENTION — held within 72 hours of juvenile's detention. At this hearing a judicial determination is made as to the release or continued detention of the juvenile pending a further court hearing.

PRE-TRIAL — hearing held after intake interview at Youth Study Center, before a Master or Judge, at which time it is determined if the case should be disposed of or scheduled for an adjudicatory hearing.

REVIEW — involves a case already under court supervision which is returned to Court for review or amendment of the original disposition.

HOUSE ARREST — Juvenile who, if at large, presents a threat to the community, is restricted to his/her home according to the dictates of the Court.

INTAKE INTERVIEW — an informal conference presided over by an intake interviewer authorized to screen all delinquent cases to determine if the Court has jurisdiction. If the case comes under the Court's jurisdiction, the interviewer hears the facts of the case and either disposes of the case or refers it to Court. Pending the court hearing, the child is either released to the parent(s)/guardian or detained.

INVOLUNTARY TERMINATION — the termination of parental rights with respect to a child.

IRRETRIEVABLE BREAKDOWN — estrangement due to marital difficulties with no reasonable prospect of reconciliation.

IV D PROGRAM — a federally funded program under the Social Security Act which provides incentives and reimbursement funds to local domestic relations offices for increased efforts in collecting AFDC and non-AFDC child support monies.

MASTER — (a) an attorney employed by the Court to hear cases involving financial support of families; (b) one who hears cases dealing only with the economic issues in divorce cases or (c) one who presides over delinquent and dependent cases and with the consent of all parties, may conduct hearings on all matters relating to delinquent (except transfers to the Trial Division) or dependent proceedings; (d) an attorney appointed by the Court to make recommendation with respect to non-economic issues in a divorce case.

MOTION — an oral or written request made to a court at any time before, during, or after court proceedings, asking the Court to make a specified finding, decision, or order.

PETITION — a written request made to the Court asking exercise of judicial powers of the Court in relation to a specific matter.

PERMANENT HEARING OFFICER — see Master (a).

PRELIMINARY CONFERENCE — a domestic relations proceeding, in which a hearing officer, acting as a mediator, attempts to effect an agreement between both parties concerning financial support of children and spouses and/or matters involving custody/visitation of mutual children.

PROBATION — the placing of a delinquent child under the supervision of the Court's probation staff.

PROBATION OFFICER — a court employee responsible for the supervision of juvenile offenders placed on probation.

PROTECTIVE CUSTODY — an emergency measure taking physical custody of a child where there is reasonable cause to believe that the health or safety of the child is in imminent danger, or that the child may abscond or be removed from the jurisdiction of the Court.

REFERRAL —

NEW — family or individual's first time contact with Family Court.

SOURCE — person or agency formally bringing the case to the attention of the Court.

REIMBURSEMENT ORDER — an order of the Court directing parents to reimburse the County for care of a child committed or accepted into an agency or institution.

RESTITUTION — a court order directing a juvenile to reimburse his/her victim for any loss due to the juvenile's action.

REVIEW HEARING — see hearing.

SUPERVISION —

PROTECTIVE — supervision of dependent children by the Court's probation staff.

D.H.S. — supervision of dependent children by the Department of Human Services.

SUPPORT ORDER — an order of the Court directing the defendant in a domestic relations case to pay a specified sum on a regular basis to a spouse and/or children.

VOLUNTARY RELINQUISHMENT — a procedure whereby the natural parents of a child (under eighteen years) petition the Court to relinquish forever all parental rights and duties with respect to their child.