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Minnesota 1990

# Minorities in the Juvenile Justice System *At-a-Glance*

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Minnesota Criminal Justice  
Statistical Analysis Center



October 1991

# **Minorities in the Juvenile Justice System**

## ***At-a-Glance***

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### **Minnesota Planning**

Minnesota Planning is the Office of Strategic and Long Range Planning. The Office of Strategic and Long Range Planning develops integrated long-range plans for the state. This office also coordinates activities among all levels of government and stimulates public interest and participation in the future of Minnesota.

### **Minnesota Criminal Justice Statistical Analysis Center**

The Minnesota Criminal Justice Statistical Analysis Center (CJSAC) conducts analysis on the entire criminal justice system to promote better policy development. The center has been operating for over ten years and is the only group to analyze all aspects of crime and criminal justice system.

### **Acknowledgements**

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## Study Summary

There is a federal mandate to provide information on minorities and non-minorities in juvenile justice systems around the nation. The federal mandate proposed by the federal government has two phases. The first phase is problem identification. In this stage, information is gathered on the juvenile justice system to see if and where any differences may be occurring. The second phase is state strategy. In this stage of the mandate, the findings in phase one are used to determine courses of action to correct for any differences found between minorities and non-minorities in the juvenile justice system.

The Juvenile Justice Advisory Committee (JJAC) in Minnesota has given a grant to the Criminal Justice Statistical Analysis Center, Minnesota Planning to collect information on minorities and non-minorities at different stages in the juvenile justice system.

The Juvenile Justice System is made up of many parts. The parts that this study focused on included juvenile population, arrests, adjudications, and disposition (probation, and incarceration). These parts were selected for study because of the process of the juvenile justice system and because statewide databases could be obtained for easier analysis. Parts we were unable to study because of limited time and limited data were actual offenses committed and juveniles referred to court.



### Limitations of Study

The information presented on the following pages is only an overview of the juvenile justice system. The authors would also like the readers to be aware of the following limitations:

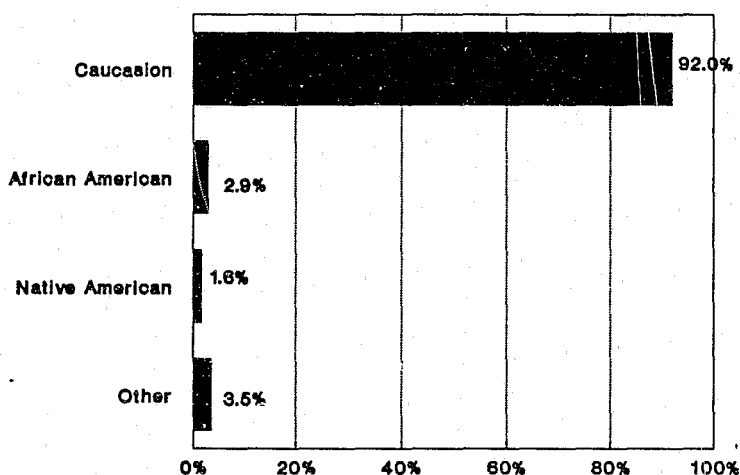
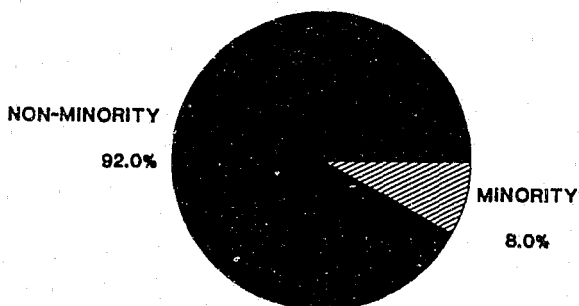
- All parts in the juvenile justice system presented in this report have limitations in the data source/explanation section and should be reviewed when using the information.
- 2) Analysis and reporting of the juvenile justice system are limited by the availability of statewide databases.
  - 3) Race information is reported differently across each part of the juvenile justice system. Race is obtained from self reporting, observation, origin of the name, and on information previously marked in individual files.
  - 4) The category of Hispanic is not considered a race category in many of the parts presented, but instead is considered an ethnic origin. For this reason a small part of any given race category may include some Hispanic cases.
  - 5) This study does not track individuals through the juvenile justice system, but instead analyzes the different parts of the juvenile justice system for 1990.

## Minorities in the Juvenile Justice System

### *At-a-Glance*

## 1990 Juvenile Population

100% Cases Included \*



\* Minority population are known to be under counted in 1990. Census adjustments were not made for this report.

## 1990 Juvenile Population

- In 1990, non-minorities accounted for 92.0% of Minnesota's juvenile population ages 10 to 17. Minorities accounted for 8.0% of the juvenile population ages 10 to 17.
- Of the 484,115 juveniles between the ages of 10 and 17 in Minnesota for 1990, 92.0% (445,301) were Caucasian, 2.9% (13,963) were African American, 1.6% (7,914) were Native American, and 3.5% (16,937) were Other.
- The seven county metro area has 232,764 juveniles, 87.2% of which were Caucasian, 5.7% were African American, 1.5% were Native American, and 5.6% were Other.

### Data Source/Explanation

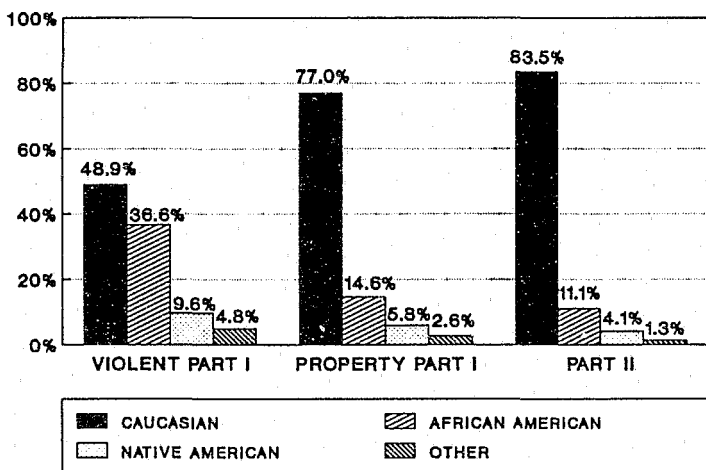
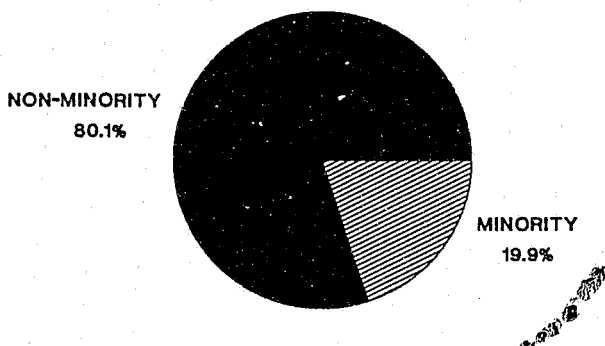
Population estimates are from the Minnesota State Demographer's Office. This report includes juveniles between the ages of 10 and 17 years old. Youth cannot become a "delinquent" until the age of 10 years old, and a youth becomes an adult at the age of 18 years old.

## Minorities in the Juvenile Justice System

### *At-a-Glance*

## 1990 Juvenile Arrest

100% Cases Included





### 1990 Juvenile Arrest

- In 1990, non-minorities accounted for 80.1% of all juvenile arrests in Minnesota. Minorities accounted for 19.9% of the arrests.
- Of the 1,367 juveniles arrested for Part I Violent crimes in Minnesota for 1990, 48.9% (669) were Caucasian, 36.6% (501) were African Americans, 9.6% (131) were Native Americans, 4.8% (65) were Other.
- Of the 16,411 juveniles arrested for Part I Property crimes in Minnesota for 1990, 77% (12,630) were Caucasian, 14.6% (2,399) were African Americans, 5.8% (959) were Native Americans, 2.6% (423) were Other.
- Of the 27,383 juveniles arrested for Part II Offenses in Minnesota for 1990, 83.5% (22,873) were Caucasian, 11.1% (3,043) were African Americans, 4.1% (1,116) were Native Americans, 1.3% (348) were Other.

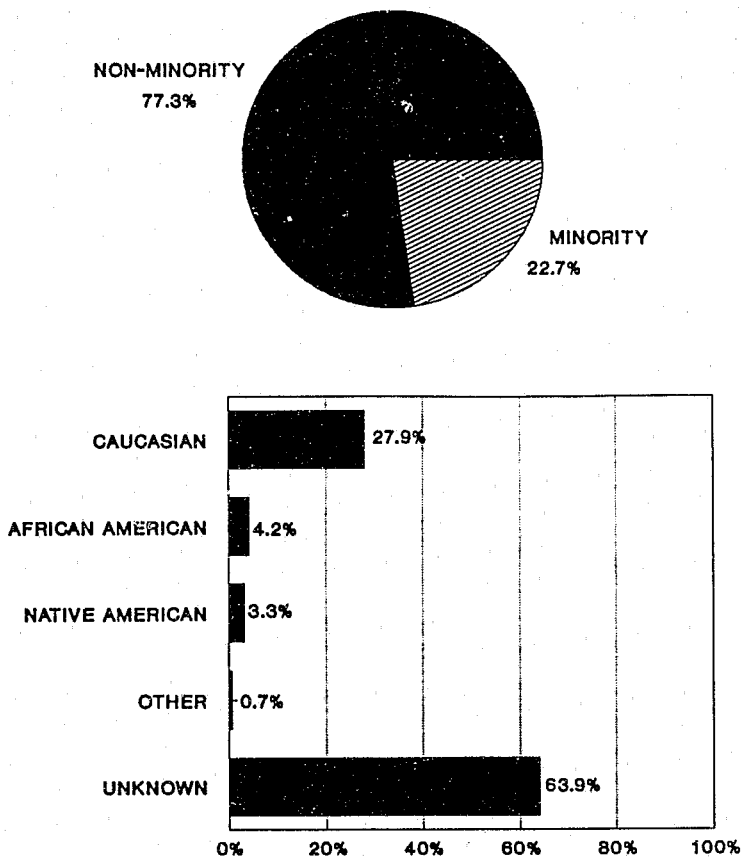
### Data Source/Explanation

Arrest data is collected by the Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension, Department of Public Safety, and as reported in **Minnesota Crime Information**. The report contains juvenile summary information for Part I Violent, Part I Property, and Part II offenses. The following definitions were taken from the Bureau of Criminal Apprehension's (BCA) 1989 **Minnesota Crime Information**.

Part I Offenses - are classified as more serious by nature. **Part I Violent Crimes** consist of the Index Offenses of Murder, Rape, Robbery, and Aggravated Assault. **Part I Property Crimes** consist of the Index Offenses of Burglary, Larceny, Motor Vehicle Theft, and Arson. Part II Offenses - are classified as less serious by nature and include DUI, Narcotic Drug Laws, Sex Offenses, less serious assaults, and others.

## 1990 Juvenile Adjudication

### 36% Cases Included\*



\* Two of every three juvenile adjudications reported to the supreme court did not contain race information. Missing race information varied between counties and ranged between 0 and 100 percent.

## 1990 Juvenile Adjudication

- In 1990, 63.9% of all juvenile adjudications reported to the Supreme Court did not include race information and are not included in this analysis.
- In 1990, of those cases where race information was known, non-minorities accounted for 77.3% of juvenile adjudications in Minnesota. Minorities accounted for 22.3% of known cases.
- Of the 8,432 juveniles filed and adjudicated with race information in Minnesota for 1990, 77.3% (6,521) were Caucasian, 11.6% (974) were African American, 9.1% (766) were Native American, 2.0% (171) were Other.

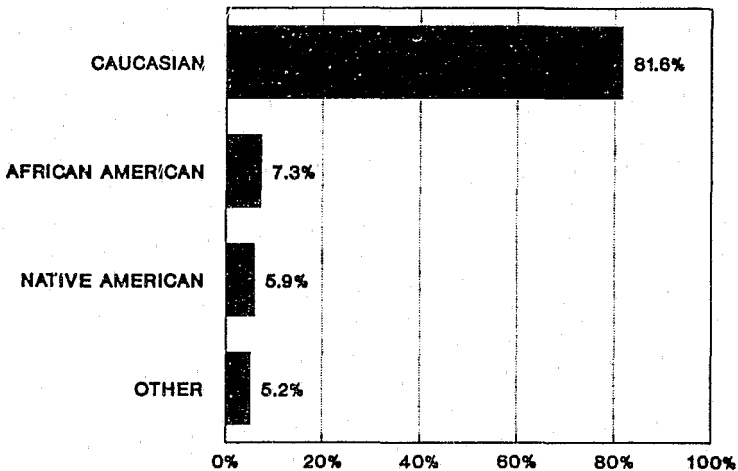
### Data Source/Explanation

All adjudication data was obtained from the Minnesota Supreme Court records. Each county court administrator in Minnesota reports juvenile filing to the Minnesota Supreme Court. Counties are not mandated to report on race, and consequently, 63.9% (14,951) of the total cases were reported as unknown in 2010.

## Disposition

## 1990 Juvenile Probation

### 100% Cases Included



## 1990 Juvenile Probation

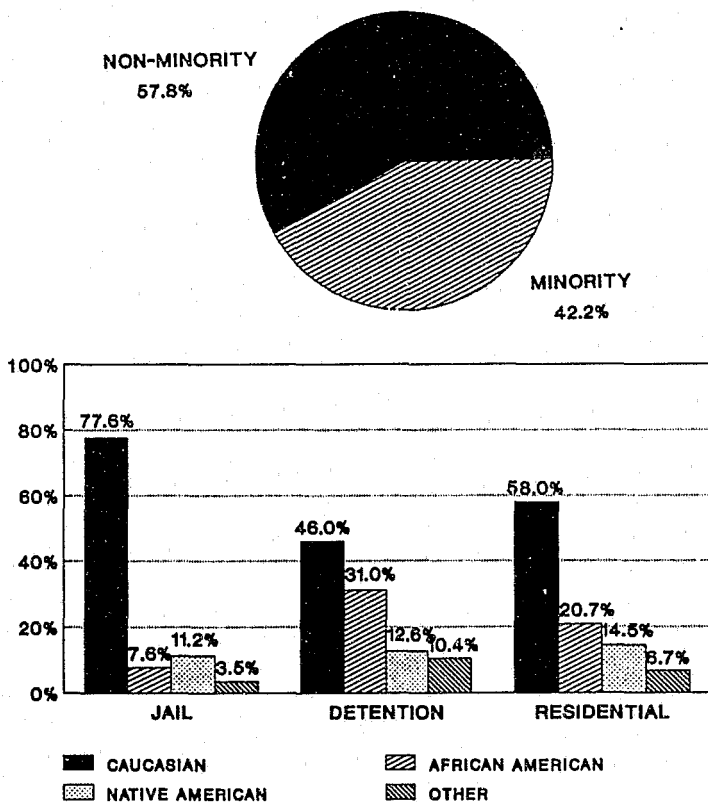
## Minorities in the Juvenile Justice System

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## Disposition

### 1990 Juvenile Incarceration

89.4% Cases Included\*



\*Note the above data does not include 1,454 unknown cases.

\* The above graphs do not include 1,456 cases from the Anoka residential/detention center and St. Croix camps I and II.

## Disposition

## 1990 Juvenile Incarceration

- In 1990, non-minorities accounted for 57.8% of all juveniles incarcerated in Minnesota. Minorities accounted for 42.2% of those juveniles incarcerated.
- Of the 3,803 juveniles Jailed in Minnesota for 1990, 77.6% (2,953) were Caucasian, 7.6% (291) were African American, 11.2% (425) were Native American, and 3.5% (134) were Other.
- Of the 6,464 juveniles placed in Juvenile Detention Centers in Minnesota for 1990, 46.0% (2,975) were Caucasian, 31.0% (2,006) were African American, 12.6% (812) were Native American, and 10.4% (671) were Other.
  - Of the 3,477 juveniles placed in Juvenile Residential Facilities in Minnesota for 1990, 58% (1,174) were Caucasian, 20.7% (419) were African American, 14.5% (294) were Native American, and 3.9% (136) were Other.

### Data Source/Explanation

Incarceration data was obtained from two sources. Jail data was received from the Department of Corrections. Juvenile residential and detention facility data was collected separately by facility by race for 1990. Of the 13,744 cases collected from the previous sources, 1,456 cases were missing race information. Anoka County Residential and Detention center and the St. Croix Camps I and II were unable to provide this data.

Jails are used primarily to hold juvenile offenders awaiting their initial detention hearing. Detention centers are used primarily to detain juvenile offenders up until their disposition hearing. Residential facilities are used primarily for post-dispositional purposes such as placement of juveniles into a variety of treatment programs. Juveniles may be on probation while incarcerated and also be counted in the probation section of this report.

1) The Juvenile Justice Advisory Committee should promote further studies to determine if any differences exist between minorities and non-minorities in the juvenile justice system. This current study is only an overview of different parts of the juvenile justice system - population, arrests, adjudications, and disposition (probation and incarceration). The following studies would provide more detail about minorities and non-minorities in the juvenile justice system:

- a) Analyze specific crime offenses for differences in the juvenile justice system.
- b) Analyze for gender differences in the juvenile justice system.
- c) Analyze on a county basis for differences in the juvenile justice system.
- d) Track individuals as they go through the juvenile justice system, instead of analyzing the separate parts of the juvenile justice system.



## Recommendations

- 2) The Juvenile Justice Advisory Committee should promote a requirement to collect race and ethnic information in all statewide juvenile justice databases. In this study, race information was not available from 63.9 percent of juvenile adjudications in 1990 and from 10.4 percent of the juveniles incarcerated in 1990.

The Juvenile Justice Advisory Committee should promote uniform reporting of race and ethnic information for all parts of the juvenile justice system.

- 4) The Juvenile Justice Advisory Committee should coordinate their efforts with the other groups and agencies interested in minority and non-minority differences in the juvenile justice system, such as the state minority councils.

- 5) The Juvenile Justice Advisory Committee should explore the possibility of a centralized location for juvenile records.