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National Juvenile Court Data Archive
National Center for Juvenile Justice
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User's Guide to
Nebraska
Juvenile Court Case Records
1975-1988

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NEBRASKA
JUVENILE COURT CASE RECORDS
1975-1988
USER'S GUIDE

Data collected by:

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National Juvenile Court Data Archive
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INTRODUCTION

History of Nebraska's Juvenile Court Reporting System

The Juvenile Court Reporting System was instituted in 1971 by the Nebraska Commission on Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice (the Commission). The authority for the Commission to collect data from juvenile justice agencies is currently stated in the State Administrative Department's Code, sections 81-1415 through 81-1426. The data collection system was modeled after one established by the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare. The data are used by the Commission for juvenile justice planning, and by county and juvenile courts, juvenile probation offices, private and public agencies, and individuals interested in juvenile involvement in the state's juvenile courts.

Data Collection Methods

The three separate juvenile courts of Douglas, Lancaster, and Sarpy Counties and the county courts in the other 90 counties have exclusive original jurisdiction over dependency/neglect, status offense, and nonfelony delinquency cases involving juveniles under age 16. These courts also have concurrent original jurisdiction with the district (criminal) court in delinquency cases involving individuals age 16 or older and all felony delinquency cases. In addition the courts with juvenile jurisdiction have concurrent jurisdiction with the municipal courts over juvenile traffic cases. Where concurrent jurisdiction applies, the county attorney decides in which court to file the case. Cases involving individuals under age 18 that are filed in the district courts are filed under the criminal code and, therefore, are technically not juvenile cases. The Commission does not collect data on cases involving individuals under age 18 which are filed directly in district courts or juvenile traffic offenses or citations.

The county courts and the 3 separate juvenile courts of Douglas, Lancaster, and Sarpy counties report to the Commission monthly. When a case is disposed a Juvenile Court Statistical (JCS) Form is completed (see Appendix I). Upon receipt the JCS forms are reviewed for internal validity. When errors are discovered, the court which completed the form is contacted and corrections are made.

The Juvenile Court Reporting System has established procedures for handling specific situations. If a juvenile is referred to court on a new offense while awaiting disposition for a previous offense, a new JCS form is submitted on the case. For example, if a juvenile was referred to court for burglary while awaiting disposition on a theft referral, two JCS forms would eventually be submitted; one when the referral for theft is disposed and one when the burglary referral is disposed.

Reporting instructions require that cases returned to court for rehearing are only be counted as new cases if the reason for rehearing would have brought the case to the attention of the court regardless of whether the juvenile had previously appeared in court. If a juvenile is referred to court for a probation violation, it would not be counted as a new case unless the reason for referral to court was the commission of a new offense or other conduct that could have resulted in referral to court even if the juvenile was not on probation. For example, if a term of the probation was weekly contact with a probation officer, and the juvenile was referred back to court for violation of this term, a new JCS form would not be submitted. On the other hand, if the juvenile was truant from school (and this constituted a violation of probation) a new JCS form would be submitted because the truancy could have resulted in referral to court even if the juvenile was not on probation. Similarly, a new JCS form would not be submitted when a hearing takes place to renew a temporary commitment or to terminate probation. And since JCS forms are submitted on cases which were held open without (anticipated) further action by the court at the time that decision is made, forms are not submitted when a new action is taken on such a case.

Publications

Each year the Commission has published a report summarizing juvenile court activity based on data collected by the Juvenile Court Reporting System. [Juvenile Court Report, Nebraska Commission on Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice, Nebraska Publication Clearinghouse #L2500S002.]

Archived Data Files

Each year the National Juvenile Court Data Archive asks the Commission to create a data file containing a record for each case disposed during the previous calendar year and reported to the Commission. The data files contain an individual record on each delinquency, status offense, neglect, and dependency case disposed. Cases processed formally (with a petition) and those handled informally (without a petition) are included for most courts. Records contain a county code, the youth's date of birth, age at referral, sex, date of referral, source of referral, number of prior referrals, care pending disposition, reason for referral, manner of handling, date of disposition, and case disposition. A case may have included more than one offense, but only the "most serious" offense (in the opinion of court personnel) is recorded. The majority of records also include information on diagnostic services needed, school attainment, employment and school status, length of residence of child in county, child's living arrangements at referral, marital status of natural parents, combined family annual income, whether or not the youth was represented by counsel, and the occupation of the primary parent or guardian. The National Juvenile Court Data Archive staff has checked the data for invalid or inconsistent code values. When found, such codes were replaced with missing data code values.

Each case record is 69 characters in length and contains 40 variables. The data are stored in single year files. The number of case records on each calendar year data file is as follows:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Records</u>
1975	5,377
1976	5,324
1977	5,033
1978	4,454
1979	4,458
1980	4,693
1981	5,682
1982	5,104
1983	5,686
1984	6,091
1985	5,974
1986	6,525
1987	6,856
1988	6,670

Terms of Availability

Each request to use these data should be directed to the Archive. The Archive will contact the Nebraska Commission on Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice regarding their release. Upon the Commission's authorization to release and disseminate the data, the data files will be supplied to the requestor by the Archive with any necessary cautions or restrictions.

The Archive provides the data on magnetic tapes AS IS and shall not be held responsible for any liability incurred as a result of any error or omission in the data as it appears on the magnetic tapes. However, should any inconsistencies be found, the Archive asks to be notified so that corrections can be made to the data.

All questions and requests should be addressed to:

National Juvenile Court Data Archive
National Center for Juvenile Justice
701 Forbes Avenue
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15219
412/227-6950

Summary tabulations on selected variables (manner of handling and sex breakdowns for delinquency/status offense cases and dependency/neglect cases for each county in Nebraska) are publicly available beginning with 1982 data through the Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research at the University of Michigan, P.O. Box 1248, Ann Arbor, Michigan, 48106.

USING THE CODEBOOK

The information that follows is based on a study of available documentation from the data supplier (e.g., Instruction Manual: Juvenile Court Statistical Form, Nebraska Commission on Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice, 1985), interviews with the data supplier and court personnel, and diagnostic analyses performed by the Archive staff. The example below is a reproduction of information appearing in the codebook for a typical variable. The numbers in brackets do not appear in the codebook, but are references to the descriptions which follow this example.

<u>Column/ Width</u>	<u>Variable Number</u>	<u>Code Value and Description</u>
[1] 39/1	[2]NE020	[3] MANNER OF HANDLING
		[4] [Required field] Indicates whether the juvenile was referred to court with or without a petition. A petition is a document filed in a juvenile court alleging that a juvenile is delinquent, a status offender, or neglected/dependent, and asking the court to assume jurisdiction over the juvenile.
		[5] [6]
		(1) Without petition - Cases without a petition are handled informally.
		(2) With petition - Cases handled with a petition are placed on the official court calendar for adjudication by a judge.
		() No entry
	[7] (9)	Missing
	[8]	NOTE: In Douglas and Sarpy Counties only petitioned cases are reported.

- [1] The starting location and width of the variable in the machine-readable data file. This is the format information needed to read the data into other systems.
- [2] The variable number. The variable number is used as a variable name when the file is processed by systems which use alphabetic variable names (e.g. SPSS).
- [3] The variable label used by statistical systems to identify the variable on program output.
- [4] A description of the variable contents.
- [5] The code values occurring in the data for the variable.
- [6] The textual definitions of the codes. The first 20 characters form a short value label which some systems use to document the output of analysis programs. A longer description follows the short label when necessary. These longer descriptions are taken from the Commission's 1985 Instruction Manual. According to the Commission these code descriptions may be applied to 1979 data and forward, but due to changes in the codes used, should probably not be applied to data collected before 1979.

- [7] The Archive has replaced out-of-bounds codes with missing data codes. Many analysis packages require that certain types of data which are usually excluded from analysis be designated as "missing data". Fields with no entry were left blank and "() No entry" is listed as a code value. Some variables also have response options representing "unknown" which are also listed as code values.
- [8] An explanatory/cautionary note.

VARIABLE LIST

Identification Variables

NE001	Record type
NE002	Court
NE003	Filler
NE004	Local child I.D.
NE005	Census tract
NE006	Month of birth
NE007	Day of birth
NE008	Year of birth
NE009	Age
NE010	Sex
NE011	Ethnic group

Case Variables

NE012	Month of referral
NE013	Day of referral
NE014	Year of referral
NE015	Referred by
NE016	Prior court referrals, this calendar year
NE017	Prior court referrals, previous years
NE018	Care pending disposition
NE019	Reason referred
NE020	Manner of handling
NE021	Month of disposition
NE022	Day of disposition
NE023	Year of disposition
NE024	Disposition
NE025	Filler

Background Variables

NE026	Diagnostic services, psychological
NE027	Diagnostic services, psychiatric
NE028	Diagnostic services, medical
NE029	Diagnostic services, social
NE030	Filler
NE031	School attainment/grade completed
NE032	Filler
NE033	Employment and school status
NE034	Length of residence of child in county
NE035	Living arrangements of child
NE036	Marital status of natural parents
NE037	Combined family annual income
NE038	Filler
NE039	Counsel
NE040	Occupation of primary parent or guardian

CODEBOOK: VARIABLE DESCRIPTIONS

Column/ Width	Variable Number	Code Value and Description
1/3	NE001	RECORD TYPE (alpha field)

(JCS) Juvenile Court Statistics
(JCU) Juvenile Court Update

NOTE: Since 1982, JCU records become JCS records once the updated information is verified.

4/2	NE002	COURT
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[Required field] A two-digit code which identifies the court in which the case was processed. Courts within the state were ordered alphabetically and assigned a unique number beginning with (01). There are separate juvenile courts in Douglas (28), Lancaster (55), and Sarpy (77) counties; the remaining 90 are county courts.

(01) Adams	(32) Frontier	(63) Nance
(02) Antelope	(33) Furnas	(64) Nemaha
(03) Arthur	(34) Gage	(65) Nuckolls
(04) Banner	(35) Garden	(66) Otoe
(05) Blaine	(36) Garfield	(67) Pawnee
(06) Boone	(37) Gosper	(68) Perkins
(07) Box Butte	(38) Grant	(69) Phelps
(08) Boyd	(39) Greeley	(70) Pierce
(09) Brown	(40) Hall	(71) Platte
(10) Buffalo	(41) Hamilton	(72) Polk
(11) Burt	(42) Harlan	(73) Red Willow
(12) Butler	(43) Hayes	(74) Richardson
(13) Cass	(44) Hitchcock	(75) Rock
(14) Cedar	(45) Holt	(76) Saline
(15) Chase	(46) Hooker	(77) Sarpy
(16) Cherry	(47) Howard	(78) Saunders
(17) Cheyenne	(48) Jefferson	(79) Scotts Bluff
(18) Clay	(49) Johnson	(80) Seward
(19) Colfax	((50) Kearney	(81) Sheridan
(20) Cuming	(51) Keith	(82) Sherman
(21) Custer	(52) Keya Paha	(83) Sioux
(22) Dakota	(53) Kimball	(84) Stanton
(23) Dawes	(54) Knox	(85) Thayer
(24) Dawson	(55) Lancaster	(86) Thomas
(25) Deuel	(56) Lincoln	(87) Thurston
(26) Dixon	(57) Logan	(88) Valley
(27) Dodge	(58) Loup	(89) Washington
(28) Douglas	(59) Madison	(90) Wayne
(29) Dundy	(60) McPherson	(91) Webster
(30) Fillmore	(61) Merrick	(92) Wheeler
(31) Franklin	(62) Morrill	(93) York

<u>Column/ Width</u>	<u>Variable Number</u>	<u>Code Value and Description</u>
6/1	NE003	FILLER Blank for all cases
7/6	NE004	LOCAL CHILD ID (alpha/numeric field) [Required field] NOTE: This is not a unique identifier across the state. IDs are for local use only.
13/3	NE005	CENSUS TRACT [Required field] Census tract within which the juvenile resided at the time of referral. The code is the last three digits of the zip code of residence. (000) : : (999) () No entry NOTE: Beginning in 1979 census tract codes were required only for Douglas County. Valid codes for Douglas County are (002)-(071) and (073)-(075).

DATE OF BIRTH: The date of the juvenile's birth -- coded in standard month/day/year format.

16/2	NE006	MONTH OF BIRTH [Required field] (01) January : : (12) December () No entry (99) Missing
18/2	NE007	DAY OF BIRTH [Required field] (01) First : : (31) Thirty-first () No entry (99) Missing

<u>Column/ Width</u>	<u>Variable Number</u>	<u>Code Value and Description</u>
20/2	NE008	<p>YEAR OF BIRTH</p> <p>[Required field]</p> <p>(53) 1953 : : (88) 1988 () No entry (99) Missing</p>
22/2	NE009	<p>AGE</p> <p>[Required field] The age of the juvenile on the day the case was referred to court.</p> <p>(00) Less than one year : : (20) Twenty () No entry (99) Missing</p> <p>NOTE: Beginning in 1979, forms were submitted only for juveniles under age 18 on the date of referral to court. In the 1975-1978 data files there are cases involving youth 18 and older.</p>
24/1	NE010	<p>SEX</p> <p>[Required field] The sex of the juvenile.</p> <p>(1) Male (2) Female () No entry (9) Missing</p>
25/1	NE011	<p>ETHNIC GROUP</p> <p>[Required field] The race/ethnic group of the juvenile. Only one code which best represented the juvenile's racial/ethnic group (in the opinion of court personnel) was to be entered.</p> <p><u>Codes used from 1979 thorough the latest reporting year</u></p> <p>(1) White - A person having origins in any of the original peoples of Europe, North Africa, or the Middle East.</p>

<u>Column/ Width</u>	<u>Variable Number</u>	<u>Code Value and Description</u>
		(2) Black - A person having origins in any of the black racial groups of Africa.
		(3) Indian (American or Alaskan native) - A person having origins in any of the original peoples of North America, and who maintains cultural identification through tribal affiliation or community recognition.
		(4) Mexican American (Hispanic) - A person of Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, Central or South American or other Spanish culture or origin.
		(5) Oriental (Asian or Pacific islander) - A person having origins in any of the original peoples of the Far East, Southeast Asia, the Indian subcontinent, or the Pacific Islands. This area includes, for example, China, India, Japan, Korea, the Philippine Islands, and Samoa.
		(6) Other - A person of other than the above racial groups.
		() No entry
		(9) Missing

Codes used from 1975 through 1978

- (1) White
- (2) Black
- (3) Indian
- (4) Mexican American
- (5) Other
- () No entry
- (9) Missing

DATE OF REFERRAL: The date on which the case was first referred to the court or intake office, coded in standard month/day/year format.

26/2 NE012 MONTH OF REFERRAL

[Required field]

- (01) January
- :
- :
- (12) December
- () No entry
- (99) Missing

28/2 NE013 DAY OF REFERRAL

[Required field]

- (01) First
- :

Column/ Width	Variable Number	Code Value and Description
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:
(31) Thirty-first
() No entry
(99) Missing

.30/2	NE014	YEAR OF REFERRAL
-------	-------	------------------

[Required field]

(73) 1973
:
:
(88) 1988
() No entry
(99) Missing

32/1	NE015	REFERRED BY
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[Required field] Individual or agency first bringing the case to the attention of the court, juvenile intake or probation office (may not be the same as on the petition, if one was filed).

Codes used from 1979 through the latest reporting year

- (1) Law enforcement agency - A federal, state, or local criminal justice agency or identifiable subunit of which the principal functions are the prevention, detection, and investigation of crime, and the apprehension of alleged offenders.
- (2) School - This includes school counselors, attendance officers, teachers, principals, superintendent of schools, members of the board of education, and any other persons acting in their capacity as school employees or officials where the juvenile is attending school.
- (3) Social agency - An established agency which functions on the idea of preserving the welfare of people and society. This includes the Department of Social Services.
- (4) Probation officer - An officer of a correctional agency of which the principal functions are juvenile intake, the supervision of adults and juveniles placed on probation status, and the investigation of adults and juveniles and preparation of presentence reports or predisposition reports to assist the court in determining the proper sentence or juvenile court disposition.
- (5) Parent or relative - The immediate parents or relatives of the juvenile in question.
- (6) Other court - A court other than the jurisdictional court of the juvenile. This may include transfers from criminal court, a juvenile court in another county or another state.

Column/ Width	Variable Number	Code Value and Description
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- (7) County attorney - The prosecutor of the juvenile cases.
- (8) Other - Any other than the before mentioned categories of referral.
- () No entry
- (9) Missing

Codes used from 1975 through 1978

- (1) Law enforcement agency
- (2) School
- (3) Social agency
- (4) Probation officer
- (5) Parent or relative
- (6) Other court
- (7) Other
- () No entry
- (9) Missing

NOTE: Since the code (7) "county attorney" was added in 1979 it has accounted for 20%-35% of referrals, with corresponding declines in referrals attributed to "law enforcement" and "other."

33/1	NE016	PRIOR COURT REFERRALS, THIS CALENDAR YEAR
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[Required field] The number of times in the calendar year in which the juvenile was referred to juvenile court for delinquency, status offenses, or neglect/dependency.

- (0) None
- (1) One
- (2) Two
- (3) Three
- (4) Four
- (5) Five or more
- () No entry
- (9) Missing

NOTE: For 1975 through 1978 data the prior referral items were worded "prior delinquency referrals (excluding traffic)." Since 1979 the wording has been "prior court referrals." There have been no significant changes in the frequency distribution of responses despite the change in wording. The Commission believes courts have always coded all prior referrals.

There is also some question as to whether the item refers to prior referrals to any court or only referrals to the reporting court. Annual reports after 1979 comment that "because referrals to courts outside the reporting courts jurisdiction are not included, the data probably represent a conservative estimate of actual prior court referrals." The 1979 annual report states that "for some cases accuracy of the [prior referral] data may be questionable due to erroneous information supplied by the offender," implying that referrals to courts other than the currently reporting court may be included.

<u>Column/ Width</u>	<u>Variable Number</u>	<u>Code Value and Description</u>
34/1	NE017	<p>PRIOR COURT REFERRALS, PRIOR YEARS</p> <p>[Required field] The number of all prior referrals of the juvenile to juvenile court for delinquency, status offenses, or neglect/dependency.</p> <p>(0) None (1) One (2) Two (3) Three (4) Four (5) Five or more () No entry (9) Missing</p> <p>NOTE: See above notes (NE016).</p>
35/2	NE018	<p>CARE PENDING DISPOSITION</p> <p>[Required field] The care of the juvenile between referral and disposition. Detention is the legally authorized confinement of a person subject to criminal or juvenile court proceedings, until the point of commitment to a correctional facility or release.</p> <p><u>Codes used from 1979 through the latest reporting year</u></p> <p>(0) No detention or shelter care overnight</p> <p>Detention or shelter care overnight in: (1) Jail/police station with separate facilities (2) Jail/police station with no separate facilities (3) Detention home (4) Foster or group home (5) Other () No entry (9) Missing</p> <p><u>Codes used from 1975 through 1978</u></p> <p>(0) No detention or shelter care overnight</p> <p>Detention or shelter care overnight in: (1) Jail/police station (2) Detention home (3) Foster or group home (4) Other () No entry (9) Missing</p> <p>NOTE: The 1981 instruction manual reads, "the care of the juvenile prior to disposition." "Separate facilities" means sight and sound separation of juveniles from adults.</p>

Column/ Width	Variable Number	Code Value and Description
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37/2	NE019	REASON REFERRED
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[Required field] The reason the juvenile was referred to juvenile court. In cases in which more than one charge was brought against the juvenile only the most serious offense "in the opinion of court personnel" was to be entered.

Codes used from 1979 through the latest reporting year

Offenses applicable to both juveniles and adults (excluding traffic): These offense categories refer to any acts designated by statute or ordinance as felony or misdemeanor offenses, and for which both juveniles and adults may be charged. The following definitions are based on recommended statistical terminology and definitions or Nebraska statutes.

- (01) Murder - Intentionally causing the death of another person without legal justification or causing the death of another while committing or attempting to commit another crime.
- (02) Manslaughter - Causing the death of another person, without intent to cause death, with recklessness or gross negligence, including reckless or grossly negligent operation of a motor vehicle.
- (03) Assault, 1st or 2nd degree - A person commits the offense of assault in the first degree if he intentionally or knowingly causes serious bodily injury to another person. A person commits the offense of assault in the second degree if he or she: a) intentionally or knowingly causes bodily injury to another person with a dangerous instrument, b) recklessly causes serious bodily injury to another person with a dangerous instrument, or c) while during confinement or in legal custody of the Department of Correctional Services or in any county jail, unlawfully strikes or wounds another.
- (04) Assault, 3rd degree - A person commits the offense of assault in the third degree if he: a) intentionally, knowingly, or recklessly causes bodily injury to another person; or b) threatens another in a menacing manner.
- (05) Sexual assault, 1st degree - Any person who subjects another person to sexual penetration and a) overcomes the victim by force, threat of force, express or implied, coercion, or deception, b) knows or should know that the victim is mentally or physically incapable of resisting or appraising the nature of his or her conduct, or c) the actor is nineteen years of age or older and the victim is less than sixteen years of age is guilty of sexual assault in the first degree.
- (06) Sexual assault, 2nd degree - Any person who subjects another person to sexual contact and a) overcomes the victim by force, threat of force, expressed or implied, coercion, or deception, or b) knows or should know that the victim is physically or mentally incapable of resisting or appraising the nature of his or her conduct is guilty of

<u>Column/ Width</u>	<u>Variable Number</u>	<u>Code Value and Description</u>
		sexual assault in the second degree if and only if the actor shall have caused serious personal injury to the victim.
	(07)	Robbery - The unlawful taking or attempted taking of property that is in the immediate possession of another by force or the threat of force. This category includes both armed robbery and unarmed (or strong-arm) robbery. It also includes forcible purse-snatching.
	(08)	Violation of drug laws, felony - Any person who is in violation of any felony drug laws. Felony statutes will distinguish the severity of the offense and the code to be used.
	(09)	Violation of drug laws, misdemeanor - Any person who is in violation of any misdemeanor drug laws. Misdemeanor statutes will distinguish the severity of the offense and the code to be used.
	(10)	Arson, felony - A person commits arson in the first degree if he or she intentionally damages a building by starting a fire or causing the explosion when another person is present in the building at the time and either a) the actor knows that fact, or b) the circumstances are such as to render the presence of a person therein a reasonable probability. A person also commits arson in the first degree if a fire is started or an explosion is caused in the perpetration of any robbery, burglary, or felony criminal mischief when another person is present in the building at the time and either a) the actor knows that fact, or b) the circumstances are such as to render the presence of a person therein a reasonable probability. A person commits arson in the second degree if he or she intentionally damages a building by starting a fire or causing an explosion or if a fire is started or an explosion is caused in the perpetration of any robbery, burglary, or felony criminal mischief.
	(11)	Arson, misdemeanor - A person commits arson in the third degree if he intentionally sets fire to, burns, causes to be burned, or by the use of any explosive, damages or destroys, or causes to be damaged or destroyed, any property of another without his consent, other than a building or occupied structure.
	(12)	Burglary - Unlawful entry of any fixed structure, vehicle or vessel used for regular residence, industry or business, with or without force, with intent to commit a felony or larceny or attempting to commit such an act.
	(13)	Unauthorized use of a propelled vehicle - A person commits the offense of unauthorized operation of a propelled vehicle if he intentionally exerts unauthorized control over another's propelled vehicle by operating the same without the owner's consent. A propelled vehicle includes but is not limited to an automobile, airplane, motorcycle, motorboat, or other motor-propelled vehicle.
	(14-17)	Theft-Larceny - The unlawful taking or attempted taking of property, other than a motor vehicle, from the possession of another by stealth, without force and without deceit, with intent to permanently deprive the owner of the property, including purse-

<u>Column/ Width</u>	<u>Variable Number</u>	<u>Code Value and Description</u>
		snatching without force and shoplifting. The various monetary values distinguish each respective code.
		(14) Theft, value over \$1,000
		(15) Theft, value over \$300 but less than \$1,000
		(16) Theft, value less than \$300
		(17) Theft, value less than \$100
(18)		Criminal mischief, felony - A person commits criminal mischief if he or she: a) Damages property of another intentionally or recklessly; or b) intentionally tampers with property of another so as to endanger person or property; or c) intentionally or maliciously causes another to suffer pecuniary loss by deception or threat. Criminal mischief is a felony if the actor intentionally causes pecuniary loss in excess of \$300, or a substantial interruption or impairment of public communication, transportation, supply of water, gas or power, or other public services.
(19)		Criminal mischief, misdemeanor - A person commits criminal mischief if he or she: a) Damages property of another intentionally or recklessly; or b) intentionally tampers with property of another so as to endanger person or property; or c) intentionally or maliciously causes another to suffer pecuniary loss by deception or threat. Criminal mischief is a misdemeanor if the actor intentionally causes pecuniary loss less than \$300.
(20)		Criminal trespassing - Unlawful entry or attempted entry of the property of another with intent to commit a misdemeanor, other than larceny, or without intent to commit a crime.
(21)		Forgery, felony - A person commits felony forgery if, with intent to deceive or harm, he falsely makes, completes, endorses, alters, or utters a written instrument which is calculated to become or to represent if completed: a) a part of an issue of money, stamps, securities, or other valuable instruments issued by a government or governmental agency; or b) part of an issue of stock, bonds, bank notes, or other instruments representing interest in or claims against a corporate or other organization or its property.
(22)		Forgery, misdemeanor - Whoever, with intent to deceive or harm, falsely makes, completes, endorses, alters, or utters any written instrument which is or purports to be, a written instrument which does or may evidence, create, transfer, terminate, or otherwise affect a legal right, interest, obligation, or status, commits misdemeanor forgery.
(23)		Weapons offense, felony - Unlawful sale, distribution, manufacture, alteration, transportation, possession or use of a deadly or dangerous weapon or accessory, or attempting the above acts. Felony statutes will distinguish the severity of the offense and code to be used.
(24)		Weapons offense, misdemeanor - Unlawful sale, distribution, manufacture, alteration, transportation, possession or use of a deadly or dangerous weapon or accessory, or attempting the above

Column/ Width	Variable Number	Code Value and Description
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acts. Misdemeanor statutes will distinguish the severity of the offense and code to be used.

- (25) Driving while intoxicated, 3rd offense - Unlawful operation of a motor vehicle while under the influence of alcohol or a controlled substance or drug. Only the 3rd offense should be reported on the JCS form.
- (26) Disturbing the peace - Unlawful interruption of the peace, quiet or order of a community, including offenses called disorderly conduct, vagrancy, loitering, unlawful assembly, and riot.
- (27) Other felony - Any criminal offenses besides those mentioned previously.
- (28) Other misdemeanor - Any criminal offenses besides those mentioned previously.

Offenses applicable to juveniles only (excluding traffic): Offenses in this section are often referred to as "status" offenses, because the person's action is unlawful due to the youthful status of the offender. Code values in this section were to be used only if the act was punishable because of the juvenile status of the person, and if the act would not be punishable if it were committed by an adult.

- (31) Running away
- (32) Truancy
- (33) Violation of curfew
- (34) Ungovernable behavior
- (35) Possessing or drinking liquor
- (39) Other status offenses

Nonoffenses: Nonoffenses are cases of neglect, dependency, or abuse involving a juvenile.

- (51) Neglect - Cases in the following categories: a) abandonment by parent, guardian, or custodian; b) lack of proper parental care by reason of the fault or habits of parent, guardian, or custodian; c) neglect or refusal to provide proper or necessary subsistence, education, or other care necessary for the health, morals, or well-being of the juvenile; d) neglect or refusal to provide special care made necessary by the mental condition of the child; or e) a juvenile who is in a situation dangerous to his/her health or morals.
- (52) Dependent - Cases in which the juvenile is homeless or destitute, or without proper support through no fault of parent, guardian, or custodian.
- () No entry
- (99) Missing

<u>Column/ Width</u>	<u>Variable Number</u>	<u>Code Value and Description</u>
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Codes used from 1975 through 1978

Offenses applicable to both juveniles and adults (excluding traffic):

- (01) Murder and non-negligent manslaughter
- (02) Manslaughter by negligence
- (03) Sex offense, forcible rape
- (04) Robbery, purse snatching by force
- (05) Robbery, all except purse snatching
- (06) Assault, aggravated
- (07) Assault, all except aggravated
- (08) Burglary, breaking or entering
- (09) Auto theft, unauthorized use
- (10) Auto theft, all except unauthorized use
- (11) Larceny, shoplifting
- (12) Larceny, all except shoplifting
- (13) Weapons, carrying, possessing, etc.
- (14) Sex offenses, all except forcible rape
- (15) Violation of drug laws, narcotic
- (16) Violation of drug laws, all except narcotic
- (17) Drunkenness
- (18) Disorderly conduct
- (19) Vandalism
- (20) Forgery
- (21) Buying, receiving, or possessing stolen property
- (22) Arson
- (29) Other delinquency

Offenses applicable to juveniles only (excluding traffic):

- (31) Running away
- (32) Truancy
- (33) Violation of curfew
- (34) Ungovernable behavior
- (35) Possessing or drinking liquor
- (39) Other status offenses

Nonoffenses:

- (51) Neglect
- (52) Dependent
- (61) Special proceedings
- () No entry
- (99) Missing

NOTE: Traffic offenses are generally excluded, however as of 1979, traffic felonies may be included under code (27) "other felony." Traffic offense are defined as any nonfelonious act in violation of a law or ordinance regulating vehicular or pedestrian travel, whether designated a misdemeanor or a traffic infraction. Code (51) "neglect" includes abuse cases.

Column/ Width	Variable Number	Code Value and Description
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39/1	NE020	MANNER OF HANDLING
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[Required field] Indicates whether the juvenile was referred to court with or without a petition. A petition is a document filed in juvenile court alleging that a juvenile is delinquent, a status offender, or neglected/dependent, and asking the court to assume jurisdiction over the juvenile.

- (1) Without petition - Cases without a petition are handled informally.
- (2) With petition - Cases handled with a petition are placed on the official court calendar for adjudication by a judge.
- () No entry
- (9) Missing

NOTE: In Douglas and Sarpy Counties only petitioned cases are reported.

DATE OF DISPOSITION: Date on which the final disposition decision was handed down by the court, coded in standard month/day/year format.

40/2	NE021	MONTH OF DISPOSITION
------	-------	----------------------

[Required field]

- (01) January
- :
- :
- (12) December
- () No entry
- (99) Missing

42/2	NE022	DAY OF DISPOSITION
------	-------	--------------------

[Required field]

- (01) First
- :
- :
- (31) Thirty-first
- () No entry
- (99) Missing

44/2	NE023	YEAR OF DISPOSITION
------	-------	---------------------

[Required field]

- (75) 1975
- :
- :
- (88) 1988
- () No entry
- (99) Missing

Column/ Width	Variable Number	Code Value and Description
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NOTE: Only cases disposed during each reporting year are included in that year's data set. This date is not the date of a pre-sentence hearing or investigation, but rather the date on which the final disposition was determined, whether the case was dismissed or otherwise disposed.

46/2	NE024	DISPOSITION
------	-------	-------------

[Required field] The decision of a juvenile court that a juvenile be committed to a juvenile correctional facility; placed in a juvenile residence, shelter, or care/treatment program; required to meet certain standards of conduct; or released. If the disposition of the case involved more than one outcome, only the most serious disposition "in the opinion of court personnel" was to be entered.

Codes used from 1979 through the latest reporting year

(00) Waived to criminal court

Complaint not substantiated:

(01) Dismissed, not proved or found not involved

Complaint substantiated, no transfer of legal custody:

(11) Dismissed, warned, counselled

(12) Held open without further action

(13) Formal probation

(14) Referred to another agency/individual for service or supervision - includes those "home on counselling"

(15) Runaway returned - out of state runaways returned to "home" state

(16) Fine or restitution

(17) Other (without transfer of legal custody) - community service, restitution, court costs

Complaint substantiated, transfer of legal custody to:

(21) Youth development center (Kearny or Geneva) - Reform schools for juvenile offenders. Kearny houses males. Geneva houses delinquent females and detained males and females.

(22) Public agency or department - includes court or jail

(23) Private agency or institution

(24) Individual

(29) Other (with transfer of legal custody)

() No entry

(99) Missing

Codes used from 1975 through 1978

(00) Waived to criminal court

Complaint not substantiated:

(01) Dismissed, not proved or found not involved

Complaint substantiated, no transfer of legal custody:

(11) Dismissed, warned, counselled

Column/ Width	Variable Number	Code Value and Description
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- (12) Held open without further action
- (13) Formal probation
- (14) Referred to another agency/individual for service or supervision
- (15) Runaway returned
- (16) Other (without transfer of legal custody)
- (17) Fine or restitution

Complaint substantiated, transfer of legal custody to:

- (21) Youth development center (Kearny or Geneva)
- (22) Other public institution
- (23) Public agency or department
- (24) Private agency or institution
- (25) Individual
- (26) Other (with transfer of legal custody)
- (99) Inapplicable-special proceedings
- () No entry

NOTES: It is unclear what types of cases fall into the (00) "waived to criminal court" category since Nebraska has concurrent jurisdiction rather than waiver statutes.

48/2	NE025	FILLER
------	-------	--------

Blank for all records

DIAGNOSTIC SERVICES: The special services which were indicated (needed) and/or provided.

NOTE: Diagnostic services fields may represent "treatment" services in some cases.

50/1	NE026	DIAGNOSTIC SERVICES, PSYCHOLOGICAL
------	-------	------------------------------------

Refers to services provided by a clinical, counselling, or educational psychologist.

- (1) Indicated and provided
- (2) Indicated, but not provided
- (3) Not indicated
- () No entry
- (9) Missing

51/1	NE027	DIAGNOSTIC SERVICES, PSYCHIATRIC
------	-------	----------------------------------

Refers to services provided by a medical doctor with psychiatric specialization.

- (1) Indicated and provided
- (2) Indicated, but not provided

<u>Column/ Width</u>	<u>Variable Number</u>	<u>Code Value and Description</u>
		(3) Not indicated () No entry (9) Missing
52/1	NE028	DIAGNOSTIC SERVICES, MEDICAL Refers to medical care provided by a physician. (1) Indicated and provided (2) Indicated, but not provided (3) Not indicated () No entry (9) Missing
53/1	NE029	DIAGNOSTIC SERVICES, SOCIAL Refers to services provided by a probation officer, social worker, welfare agency, etc. (1) Indicated and provided (2) Indicated, but not provided (3) Not indicated () No entry (9) Missing
54/1	NE030	FILLER Blank for all records
55/2	NE031	SCHOOL ATTAINMENT/GRADE COMPLETED The highest grade completed by the juvenile as of the date the case was referred to court. (00) None (01) First : : (12) Twelfth () No entry (99) Missing NOTE: Grade range (00-12) was added to the form in 1979, as was the phrase "grade completed." (The 1978 instruction manual says to code the last grade completed if the youth is no longer in school.)
57/2	NE032	FILLER Blank for all cases

<u>Column/ Width</u>	<u>Variable Number</u>	<u>Code Value and Description</u>
59/1	NE033	<p>EMPLOYMENT AND SCHOOL STATUS</p> <p>Indicates whether or not the juvenile was employed and/or in school at the time of referral.</p> <p>(1) Not employed and not in school (2) Employed full time and not in school (3) Employed part time and not in school (4) Preschool (5) Not employed and in school (6) Employed full time and in school (7) Employed part time and in school () No entry (9) Missing</p> <p>NOTE: The instructions in the manual changed in 1981 regarding youth on vacations from school. As of 1981, youth referred to court during school break were to be coded as not in school. Prior to 1981, youth who were on school break and planning to return to school were to be coded as in school. The frequency distribution of responses for this variable has not changed substantially over the years, thus it is unclear whether there has been any change in coding practices.</p>
60/1	NE034	<p>LENGTH OF RESIDENCE OF CHILD IN COUNTY</p> <p>The length of time the juvenile had lived in the county in which the case was referred to court.</p> <p>(0) Not currently a resident (1) Less than one year (2) One year or more () No entry (9) Missing</p>
61/2	NE035	<p>LIVING ARRANGEMENTS OF CHILD</p> <p>Refers to the person(s) with whom the child was living at the time of referral.</p> <p>In home with: (01) Both parents (02) Mother and stepfather (03) Father and stepmother (04) Mother only (05) Father only</p> <p>Outside own home with: (06) Relatives (07) Foster or group home (08) Institution (09) Independent arrangement</p>

Column/ Width	Variable Number	Code Value and Description
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- (10) Other
- (11) Unknown
- () No entry
- (99) Missing

NOTE: Code (11) "unknown" was added in 1979; therefore, as of 1979 those cases with no entry may be different in character from those with a code (11).

63/2	NE036	MARITAL STATUS OF NATURAL PARENTS
------	-------	-----------------------------------

The marital status of the juvenile's natural parents at the time of referral.

(01) Parents married and living together

One or both parents dead:

- (02) Both dead
- (03) Father dead
- (04) Mother dead

Parents separated:

- (05) Divorced or legally separated
- (06) Father deserted mother
- (07) Mother deserted father
- (08) Separated, other reason
- (09) Parents not married to each other
- (10) Other
- (11) Unknown
- () No entry
- (99) Missing

NOTE: Code (11) "unknown" was added in 1979; therefore, as of 1979 those cases with no entry may be different in character from those with a code (11).

65/1	NE037	COMBINED FAMILY ANNUAL INCOME
------	-------	-------------------------------

The annual income earned by the juvenile's family at the time of referral (if both parents were employed, their incomes were combined).

Codes used from 1979 through the latest reporting year

(1) Receiving public assistance

Not receiving public assistance:

- (2) Less than \$5,000
- (3) \$5,000 to \$9,999
- (4) \$10,000 to \$24,999
- (5) \$25,000 or more
- (6) Unknown
- () No entry
- (9) Missing

Column/ Width	Variable Number	Code Value and Description
------------------	--------------------	----------------------------

Codes used from 1975 through 1978

(1) Receiving public assistance

Not receiving public assistance:

(2) Less than \$3,000

(3) \$3,000 to \$4,999

(4) \$5,000 to \$10,000

(5) \$10,000 or more

(6) Unknown

() No entry

(9) Missing

NOTE: This item was worded "family annual income" prior to 1979 when it changed to "combined family annual income." Cases with no entry may be different in character from those with a code (6) "unknown."

66/2	NE038	FILLER
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Blank for all cases

68/1	NE039	COUNSEL
------	-------	---------

Indicates whether or not a juvenile was represented by an attorney at any stage of the proceedings from referral to disposition.

(1) Court appointed - in the smaller counties an office of the public defender is not maintained; therefore, if a defendant cannot afford his or her own attorney (guidelines set by statute) the court will appoint an attorney to represent the defendant at no cost to the defendant.

(2) Retained

(3) Public defender - in the larger counties public defenders are elected by the people to represent defendants who cannot afford to hire his or her own attorney.

(4) Not represented

(5) Other - includes, but is not limited to, "guardian ad litem," which indicates an attorney, who acts separately from prosecution and defense, was appointed by the court to represent the best interest of the juvenile.

() No entry

(9) Missing

NOTE: If a juvenile waived the right to counsel a code (4) "not represented" rather than a (5) "other" was to be entered.

<u>Column/ Width</u>	<u>Variable Number</u>	<u>Code Value and Description</u>
69/1	NE040	OCCUPATION OF PRIMARY PARENT OR GUARDIAN
		The occupation of the "primary" parent or guardian. If both parents were employed, only the occupation of the parent or guardian with the highest income was to be entered.

Codes used from 1979 through the latest reporting year

- (1) Professional
- (2) Managerial or administrative
- (3) Farmer or rancher
- (4) Sales worker
- (5) Craftsman or other skilled laborer
- (6) Clerical
- (7) Service worker or other unskilled laborer
- (8) Unemployed
- (9) Unknown
- () No entry
- (0) Missing

Codes used from 1975 through 1978

- (1) Professional
- (2) Managerial or administrative
- (3) Sales worker
- (4) Craftsman or other skilled laborer
- (5) Clerical
- (6) Service worker or other unskilled laborer
- () No entry
- (9) Missing

APPENDIX I

Nebraska Commission on Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice

Juvenile Court Statistical Form

Juvenile Court Statistical Form

A. County _____

Court Code _____

B. Child's Number _____

C. Census tract of residence
(Douglas County only) _____

D. Date of birth _____

mo	day	yr
----	-----	----

E. Age at time of referral _____

F. Sex 1 Male 2 Female _____

G. Ethnic Group

1 White
2 Black
3 Indian

4 Mexican-American
5 Oriental
6 Other _____

H. Date of
Referral _____

mo	day	yr
----	-----	----

I. Referred By

1 Law enforcement agency
2 School
3 Social agency
4 Probation officer
5 Parents or relatives
6 Other court
7 County Attorney
8 Other _____

J. Prior court referrals

0 This calendar year 1 2 3 4 5 or more _____

In prior years

0 1 2 3 4 5 or more _____

K. Care pending disposition

0. No detention or shelter care overnight

Detention or shelter care overnight or longer

1. Jail or police station with separate facilities
2. Jail or police station with no separate facilities
3. Detention home
4. Foster or group home
5. Other _____

L. Reason Referred
(Enter only one code)

Offenses applicable to both juveniles and adults (excluding traffic)

01 Murder	15 Theft, value over \$300 but less than \$1,000
02 Manslaughter	16 Theft, value less than \$300
03 Assault, 1st & 2nd degree	17 Theft, value less than \$100
04 Assault, 3rd degree	18 Criminal Mischief, Felony
05 Sexual Assault, 1st degree	19 Criminal Mischief, Misdemeanor
06 Sexual Assault, 2nd degree	20 Criminal Trespass
07 Robbery	21 Forgery, Felony
08 Violation of Drug Laws, Felony	22 Forgery, Misdemeanor
09 Violation of Drug Laws, Misdemeanor	23 Weapons Offenses, Felony
10 Arson, Felony	24 Weapons Offenses, Misdemeanor
11 Arson, Misdemeanor	25 Driving While Intoxicated, 3rd offense
12 Burglary	26 Disturbing the Peace
13 Unauthorized Use of a Propelled Vehicle	27 Other Felony _____
14 Theft, value over \$1,000	28 Other Misdemeanor _____

Offenses applicable only to juveniles (excluding traffic)

31. Running away	34. Ungovernable behavior
32. Truancy	35. Possessing or drinking liquor
33. Violation of curfew	39. Other _____
Nonoffenses	52. Dependent
51. Neglect	

M. Manner of handling
1 Without petition
2 With petition _____

N. Date of
disposition _____

mo	day	yr
----	-----	----

O. Disposition

(Enter only one code)

00 Waived to criminal court,

Complaint not substantiated
01 Dismissed: Not proved or found
not involved

Complaint substantiated

No transfer of legal custody

11 Dismissed: Warned, counseled

12 Hold open without further action

13 Formal probation

14 Referred to another agency or indi-

vidual for service or supervision

15 Runaway returned

16 Fine or restitution

17 Other _____

Transfer of legal custody to:

21 Youth Development Center -

Kearney or Geneva

22 Public agency or department

(including court or jail)

23 Private agency or institution

(Specify) _____

24 Individual (Specify relationship) _____

29 Other _____

The following questions refer to status at time of referral.

P. Diagnostic Services

NEED FOR DIAGNOSTIC SERVICES

	Indicated and provided	Indicated but not available	Not Indicated
Psychological	1	2	3
Psychiatric	1	2	3
Medical	1	2	3
Social	1	2	3

Q. School attainment

Grade completed (00-12) _____

R. Employment and school status

	Out of School	In School
Not employed	1	5
Employed		
Full time	2	6
Part time	3	7
Preschool	4	

S. Length of residence of child in county

0 Not currently a resident
1 Under one year
2 One year or more _____

T. Living arrangement of child

In home with
01 Both parents
02 Mother and stepfather
03 Father and stepmother
04 Mother only
05 Father only
Outside own home with
06 Relatives
07 Foster or group home
08 Institution
09 Independent arrangement
10 Other _____
11 Unknown

U. Marital status of natural parents

01 Parents married and living together

02 Both dead

03 Father dead

04 Mother dead

Parents separated

05 Divorced or legally separated

06 Father deserted mother

07 Mother deserted father

08 Other reason (Specify) _____

09 Parents not married to each other

10 Other _____

11 Unknown

V. Combined family annual income

1. Receiving public assistance

Not receiving public assistance

2. Under \$5,000

3. \$5,000 to \$9,999

4. \$10,000 to \$24,999

5. \$25,000 and over

6. Unknown

W. Counsel

1. Court appointed

2. Retained

3. Public defender

4. Not represented

5. Other _____

X. Occupation of primary parent or guardian

01 Professional or technical

02 Managerial or administrative

03 Farmer or rancher

04 Sales worker

05 Craftsman or other skilled laborer

06 Clerical

07 Service workers or other unskilled laborers

08 Unemployed

09 Unknown

ADDITIONAL SPACE FOR COURT USE

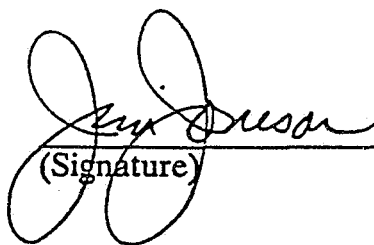
APPENDIX II

Original Data Collector's Statement of Acceptance

STATEMENT OF ACCEPTANCE

I, Jim Joneson, Executive Director, Nebraska Commission on Law Enforcement & Criminal Justice, have reviewed *Nebraska Juvenile Court Case Records: 1974 - 1985 User's Guide* and accept it as an accurate description of the delinquency and status offense, and dependency/abuse/neglect data stored at the National Juvenile Court Data Archive and of the methods used by the Nebraska Commission on Law Enforcement & Criminal Justice to collect these data. This user's guide may be revised to cover future years' data unless there are such major changes in the data collected as to warrant completely new documentation.

Comments to users:


(Signature)

4-16-87
(Date)