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# Evaluation of Florida's Juvenile Probation and Aftercare Services



DEPARTMENT  
OF  
HEALTH  
AND  
REHABILITATIVE  
SERVICES

## Youth Services Program

PLANNING  
COORDINATION  
UNIT

NCJRS

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ACQUISITIONS

PROBATION AND AFTERCARE

EVALUATION

State of Florida  
Department of Health and  
Rehabilitative Services  
Youth Services Program Office  
Planning Coordination Unit  
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The following evaluation of the Probation and Aftercare functions represents an effort on the part of the Youth Services Program Office to develop an evaluation paradigm in which both descriptive and evaluative data on program operation results from routine reporting requirements.

The Caseload Management Review Form was developed during 1975 as a monitoring tool for the Probation and Aftercare programs. The document was designed both to collect data and to provide structure to the required monthly review of each case by the counselor and supervisor. The form was to insure that all important elements of the case review were addressed and recorded. A form would, therefore, be completed by a counselor on each child for each month of his supervision. The system was implemented in September, 1975. Much of the data for this study comes from those forms which have been received and analyzed since January, 1976. The forms for January through October numbered 129,202. Compared with the exact figures from the Probation and Aftercare Recapitulation Reports, this is a sixty-five percent sample of total cases for those months.

It should be noted that the delinquency Probation caseloads seem to be increasing gradually, having now exceeded 11,500. This is occurring in spite of the fact that prior to July 1, 1975, one-third of probationers were status offenders or children in need of supervision. At that time the legislative reorganization act mandated that these children be transferred to Social and Economic Services of the Department of Health and Rehabilitative Services to be treated as dependent children. Despite over a six percent drop in delinquency referrals since that time, Probation caseloads are well above the levels experienced when they included over 3500 status offenders. Aftercare caseloads are also on the increase due to a reduction in commitment population resulting in more children becoming eligible for furlough.

Of the 96,000<sup>1</sup> delinquency dispositions handled by Youth Services during 1975-76, 70.5 percent were handled unofficially, while 29.5 percent were handled through juvenile courts<sup>2</sup>. Eleven hundred (1.6 percent) of the unofficial cases were placed on consent supervision, and almost thirteen thousand (44.8 percent) of the judicial cases were added to Probation caseloads<sup>3</sup>. For these children in trouble it was determined they could be best served through supervision and counseling within their own communities.

Consent supervision is provided by YS counselors and is voluntarily agreed to by the child and his/her parents as an alternative to having the case processed through the courts. Probation is

actually a suspended court commitment of a juvenile. Rather than being placed in an institution, the child agrees to abide by certain rules of conduct specified by the court. When children who have been committed to Youth Services are released, their supervision continues in the community in the form of Aftercare. During FY 1975-76, 4361<sup>4</sup> children were furloughed to Aftercare. These children receive the same services as probationers with the exception that they can be revoked to a residential commitment program without returning to juvenile court. When necessary, this is accomplished through a revocation hearing. In contrast, a probationer can be committed only through another court disposition.

Interstate compact cases represent those children who have been placed on Probation or Aftercare in another state and have subsequently moved to Florida. The supervision of the children is then transferred to Florida through the administration of the Interstate Compact agreement.

Table 1 presents the caseload counts of the different categories of supervision during the last six months for which data is available (July-December, 1976). Delinquency probationers made up 71.7 percent of the total caseload, while ungovernable probation cases have diminished to 0.3 percent. Consent supervision cases accounted for 2.1 percent of the total, and 24.6 percent were on Aftercare. Interstate cases made up 1.2 percent of the total Probation and Aftercare caseload.

TABLE 1  
Caseloads<sup>5</sup>

	<u>Probation(del)</u>	<u>Probation (ungov)</u>	<u>Consent</u>	<u>Aftercare</u>	<u>Interstat</u>
1976-July	11314	61	351	3668	185
August	11259	50	316	3746	193
September	11348	48	322	3855	192
October	11389	53	349	3947	202
November	11479	56	344	4007	210
December	11544	62	345	4194	218
$\bar{x}$	11388.8	55.0	337.8	3902.8	200.0

The services provided to children supervised under each of the following categories are essentially the same, consisting primarily of counseling, supervision and general assistance to the child in overcoming the problems which led to involvement with the juvenile justice system. The amount of services a child is expected to need determines the classification or level of supervision assigned to the child. The requirements prescribed for cases at each level of supervision are presented below<sup>6</sup>.

Intensive Counseling:

- a) Participation in a group counseling session twice a week, or
- b) Personal contact with the youngster at least three times a week, and
- c) One contact each week with the parents, either individually or in parent group counseling.

Maximum Supervision:

- a) Participation in a group counseling session at least once per week, or
- b) Personal contact with the child at least twice a week, and
- c) Contact with the parents at least every two weeks by telephone, in person, or in group.

Medium Supervision:

- a) One personal contact per week with the child. This personal contact may be by either the counselor or a volunteer. Where a volunteer is used the counselor must make one contact per month with the volunteer, and
- b) Contact with the parents at least once every month by telephone, in person, or in group

Minimum Supervision:

- a) Personal contact with the child at least once a month
- b) Personal contact with the child's parents at least once a month

The intensive supervision category is designed for new Probation or Aftercare cases which the counselor and supervisor feel need a very high level of supervision and counselor contact. The Maximum classification is assigned to all new cases which do not require as comprehensive a level of supervision as those cases placed in Intensive. Medium supervision is for all children who have progressed through one of the previous categories to the extent that the counselor and supervisor feel the child can function adequately with less counselor contact. The Minimum classification

is employed for those children who have reached the point where very little supervision is required. Children should progress through this category before a recommendation for honorable termination or discharge is made. Table 2 gives the percent of cases in each supervision classification for the ten months listed. The percent of children in Intensive and Maximum categories appears to be dropping slightly. Out-of-state cases are those placed under supervision in Florida who have moved to other states, where they are supervised under Interstate Compact agreement. Suspense cases have absconded from supervision.

TABLE 2

Percent of Cases in Each Supervision Classification<sup>7</sup>

		<u>Intensive</u>	<u>Maximum</u>	<u>Medium</u>	<u>Minimum</u>	<u>Out of State</u>	<u>Suspense</u>	
1976	January	8.1	6.8	27.7	46.7	5.0	5.7	100
	February	7.7	7.1	27.1	47.7	5.2	5.1	
	March	8.1	7.8	26.5	47.7	4.9	4.9	
	April	9.2	6.9	25.5	48.5	4.5	5.4	
	May	9.3	6.2	26.9	47.4	4.6	5.7	
	June	10.1	5.7	24.8	48.1	5.6	5.7	
	July	9.0	5.5	24.9	48.5	6.0	6.1	
	August	7.6	5.6	27.1	47.8	6.3	5.6	
	September	6.7	6.4	29.0	45.8	6.2	5.9	
	October	5.4	5.5	26.0	51.2	6.1	5.7	



Table 3 presents the percentage of those children in each of the four classifications who actually received the minimum supervision specified by the standards for their category, as listed earlier. This data is based on supervisor's evaluations of each case in consideration of the supervision requirements specified by the child's classification. While no consistent trends are evident within categories, chi-square determinations for each month show a highly significant relationship between classification and likelihood of receiving minimum specified supervision. Significance for each month was well beyond the .01 level of confidence. Children in the Intensive category were most likely to receive the prescribed level of supervision, followed closely by those classified Minimum. Maximum and Medium cases were less likely to meet minimum requirements. Overall averages, however, consistently were well above eighty percent. Although this does not address the quality of the supervision, it does indicate that the increased caseloads generated by both the number of children being placed on Probation and the increased caseload size generated by the 1976 legislative action, may be hindering counselors from carrying out the minimum standards.

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TABLE 3  
Percent of Cases Receiving Minimum Supervision  
Specified by Caseload Classification<sup>8</sup>

	<u>Intensive</u>	<u>Maximum</u>	<u>Medium</u>	<u>Minimum</u>	<u>Total</u>
January	95.5	80.7	80.3	90.1	86.8
February	95.6	79.9	80.5	90.2	86.9
March	95.5	85.0	84.8	90.7	88.9
April	95.2	79.1	81.5	91.1	87.8
May	95.7	82.8	82.4	91.5	88.6
June	95.5	69.7	78.9	89.1	85.6
July	93.4	82.1	73.6	87.1	83.5
August	94.4	74.7	74.1	87.3	83.0
September	94.9	77.2	76.4	89.9	84.9
October	96.0	80.3	78.6	90.5	86.7

The prescribed supervision components available to Probation and Aftercare cases consist of personal individual contact with the child, counselor groups to be attended by the child, individual contacts with the parents, group sessions for the child's parents and volunteer involvement. Each of these areas will be examined separately.

Table 4 presents the breakdowns of caseloads which indicate group assignment of the children. The first three columns show the percent of children assigned to attend Youth Services counselor groups once per week, twice per week, and three or more times per week. The fourth column gives the percent of cases who have previously attended counselor groups but are no longer required to do so. The next column shows those cases who were then attending group counseling sessions conducted by someone other than a Youth Services counselor. The sixth column gives the percent of cases who had previously attended such groups. The last column gives the percentage of caseloads who were not currently and had not previously been assigned to attend group therapy sessions. The sum across each row accounts for 100% of the caseload reported for each month.

TABLE 4

Group Assignment<sup>9</sup>  
Percent of Caseload in Each Category

	<u>Once per week coun- selor groups</u>	<u>Twice per week</u>	<u>Three or more per week</u>	<u>Previous Counselor Groups</u>	<u>Current non-couns. Groups</u>	<u>Previous non-couns. Groups</u>	<u>None</u>
<u>1976</u>							
Jan.	20.9	5.3	3.4	13.3	7.5	2.8	46.8
Feb.	23.4	5.6	3.1	14.6	5.9	2.7	44.8
March	21.4	5.8	2.0	13.3	8.4	2.7	46.4
April	19.2	4.4	3.0	15.0	8.7	4.0	45.6
May	18.1	4.2	3.3	15.3	9.3	4.4	45.4
June	15.3	3.0	3.4	17.9	9.3	4.5	46.5
July	15.5	2.9	3.1	18.9	9.4	3.9	46.3
Aug.	15.8	2.5	3.0	20.7	7.4	3.8	46.7
Sept.	16.8	2.8	2.6	18.2	7.9	4.4	47.2
Oct.	17.9	2.7	2.1	17.9	6.5	4.3	48.6

The proportion of children assigned to two or more group sessions per week (columns 2 and 3) appears to be declining. The percent of children on caseloads who are no longer required to attend groups (column 4) is increasing, as is the proportion of children having no group experience at all.

Table 5 presents the average number of counselor groups attended per month by children in each of the first three categories above. A total average of counselor groups attended for all children assigned to Youth Services counselor groups is also given for each month. Children assigned to once per week groups attend about half the assigned number of sessions during each month, as do children in the twice per week classification. Children assigned to twelve or more groups per month average between five and six sessions. Overall, children assigned to counselor groups average attendance at about three group meetings per month.

TABLE 5  
Counselor Group Attendance<sup>10</sup>

Average Number Counselor Groups Attended Per Month, by Group Assignment

	<u>Once per week Counselor Groups</u>	<u>Twice per week Counselor Groups</u>	<u>Three or more Counselor Groups</u>	<u>All Children Assigned to Counselor Groups</u>
1976				
Jan..	2.2	3.9	6.3	3.0
Feb.	2.3	4.1	6.6	3.0
March	2.6	4.4	6.2	3.2
April	2.5	4.7	5.4	3.2
May	2.5	5.0	5.4	3.3
June	2.1	3.5	5.2	2.8
July	2.0	3.7	4.9	2.6
August	2.1	3.3	5.2	2.7
September	2.1	3.3	5.5	2.6
October	2.2	3.9	6.3	2.8

Presented in Table 6 are the average number of personal contacts the counselors had each month with children in the various supervision classifications. Contacts at group meetings were not included. Contacts with Intensive cases average only about three per month, which is below the average for those classified as Maximum. This is most likely due to the higher number of group meetings they are required to attend. Children in the Maximum category are contacted about four times per month, while contacts with those in Medium and Minimum average about three and one and a half, respectively. The average number of personal, individual contacts with children by their counselors appears to have fallen off in every category over the last six months. Overall average contacts have gone down to approximately two per month.

TABLE 6

Average Number of Personal Contacts per Month with Child by Counselor<sup>11</sup>  
(Excluding Group Meetings)

1976	<u>Intensive</u>	<u>Maximum</u>	<u>Medium</u>	<u>Minimum</u>	<u>Total Average</u>
Jan.	3.3	4.4	3.0	1.5	2.3
Feb.	3.6	4.1	3.2	1.4	2.3
March	3.2	4.1	3.5	1.6	2.5
April	2.8	3.9	3.2	1.6	2.3
May	3.0	3.9	3.2	1.5	2.3
June	2.7	3.5	2.8	1.4	2.1
July	2.7	3.6	2.5	1.3	1.9
August	2.6	3.6	2.7	1.3	2.0
September	2.5	3.4	2.5	1.3	1.9
October	3.0	3.8	2.8	1.4	2.0

A program which has been emphasized within Youth Services for some time is parent groups. It is felt that a great deal of benefit can be accomplished for a child by working with the parents. Effective July 1, 1976, Florida Statutes 39.11(7) permit judges to require the parents or guardians of a delinquent child to attend group counseling sessions. Table 7 gives the percent of the caseload each month whose parents attended group meetings. The average number of sessions attended by those parents during the months is given in the column to the right. The percent of parents attending groups, while not large to begin with, appears to have fallen off somewhat over the last several months. Those attending continue to average about two parent group meetings per month.

TABLE 7

Parent Group Meetings<sup>12</sup>

1976	<u>Percent of Total Caseload Attending</u>	<u>Average Number of Group Meetings These Parents Attended</u>
Jan.	5.0	2.0
Feb.	5.6	2.1
March	5.6	2.3
April	4.4	2.1
May	4.0	2.3
June	3.0	2.3
July	3.1	2.0
August	3.0	2.0
September	3.0	2.0
October	3.4	2.2

Data available for August, September, and October of 1976 indicates that 61.9 percent of parents with children under supervision are contacted personally by the counselors each month.<sup>13</sup> Table 8 shows the average number of times the counselors contacted in person those parents they saw during the months listed.

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TABLE 8

Counselors' Individual Contacts with Parents<sup>14</sup>

	<u>Month</u>	<u>Average Number of Contacts with Parents</u>
1976	January	1.40
	February	1.43
	March	1.54
	April	1.44
	May	1.43
	June	1.40
	July	1.28
	August	1.30
	September	1.24
	October	1.30

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Over the past few years it has been the policy of Youth Services to encourage involvement of volunteers with children under supervision in the Juvenile Justice System. This has been done through the utilization of Volunteer Probation Friends, who work with the children on a one-to-one basis. Table 9 gives the

percent of each month's caseload reported as having a volunteer working with the child. The proportion of children with volunteer friends appears to have diminished over the last few months, as has the Volunteer Program as a whole.

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TABLE 9

Percent of Caseload with Volunteer Probation Friend<sup>15</sup>

	<u>Month</u>	<u>Percent of Caseload</u>
1976	January	6.1
	February	6.0
	March	5.6
	April	6.1
	May	6.3
	June	6.1
	July	4.6
	August	3.5
	September	4.9
	October	4.7

---

Restitution to the victims of delinquent offenses is considered by Youth Services to present an excellent opportunity for allowing children to accept responsibility for their own behavior. Such restitution may take the form of monetary payment to the victim or work done as a service to the community. Restitution as a condition of supervision may be either voluntarily agreed to by the child or ordered by the court.

Table 10 presents the percentage of each month's caseload who paid restitution, performed services for victims, or did both. The column to the right gives the total proportion of cases who made some sort of restitution during the month. No consistent trends are evident from the data. A very small proportion of cases appear to be involved in making restitution. About 4000 children per year have, however, made restitution through Intake, and these are not included in the figures below.

TABLE 10

Percent of Caseloads making Restitution<sup>16</sup>

	<u>Paid Restitution</u>	<u>Work Restitution</u>	<u>Both</u>	<u>Total</u>
Jan.	1.5	.6	.3	2.4
Feb.	1.4	.5	.5	2.4
March	2.1	.5	.3	3.0
April	1.3	.4	.5	2.2
May	1.4	.7	.4	2.5
June	1.5	.4	.5	2.4
July	1.7	.3	.4	2.4
August	1.5	.9	.4	2.8
September	1.7	.9	.4	2.9
October	1.8	.4	.3	2.5

As part of the caseload review process supervisors each month were asked to estimate the extent to which the services being provided were meeting the needs of children under supervision. Table 11 presents this data for each of the supervision classifications. Services to children in the Minimum classification are more likely to be rated as meeting the child's needs "very well" or "adequately." Those cases in the Maximum category are most likely to have their services rated as meeting their needs "marginally" and "poorly."



TABLE 11

Extent to which services being provided are meeting  
the needs of the child<sup>17</sup>

A) Intensive Supervision - Percent of Caseload in each category

	<u>Very Well</u>	<u>Adequately</u>	<u>Marginally</u>	<u>Poorly</u>
Jan.	25.5	55.2	9.7	9.7
Feb.	24.1	56.8	11.1	8.0
March	25.1	49.1	12.3	13.5
April	25.8	54.4	12.3	7.4
May	25.2	50.1	13.4	11.3
June	22.5	55.6	11.8	10.1
July	22.9	56.5	10.3	10.4
August	17.8	61.6	10.6	10.0
September	27.1	56.2	9.4	7.2
October	19.5	59.6	11.4	9.4

B) Maximum Supervision - Percent of Caseload in Each Category

	<u>Very Well</u>	<u>Adequately</u>	<u>Marginally</u>	<u>Poorly</u>
Jan.	18.9	51.5	19.5	10.1
Feb.	18.9	49.3	21.3	10.6
March	18.9	51.2	19.6	10.3
April	16.8	52.4	17.2	13.5
May	17.7	50.8	18.4	13.0
June	12.9	55.6	17.3	14.2
July	17.2	52.0	19.6	11.2
August	13.2	56.9	17.5	12.4
September	15.3	60.3	15.8	8.6
October	16.3	59.3	15.5	8.9

TABLE 11

Extent to which services being provided are meeting  
the needs of the child<sup>17</sup>

C) Medium Supervision - Percent of caseload in each Category

	<u>Very Well</u>	<u>Adequately</u>	<u>Marginally</u>	<u>Poorly</u>
January	23.8	55.9	15.8	4.6
February	23.4	56.3	15.6	4.6
March	23.9	54.4	16.4	5.3
April	22.7	56.2	16.8	4.3
May	23.4	57.2	14.8	4.7
June	21.0	59.3	15.4	4.4
July	20.8	57.0	16.2	5.9
August	17.3	60.7	17.3	4.7
September	17.4	63.1	15.6	4.0
October	18.6	63.6	14.3	3.6

D) Minimum Supervision - Percent of caseload in each Category

	<u>Very Well</u>	<u>Adequately</u>	<u>Marginally</u>	<u>Poorly</u>
January	29.9	57.7	8.8	3.6
February	29.9	56.5	9.5	4.1
March	29.8	57.7	8.3	4.2
April	29.0	57.7	9.8	3.5
May	30.6	55.6	9.8	4.1
June	31.4	55.0	9.7	3.8
July	31.9	53.2	10.0	4.8
August	23.8	62.1	9.9	4.1
September	25.0	63.6	8.0	3.4
October	21.5	68.4	6.9	3.2

Presented in Table 12 are the violation figures for Probation and Consent cases for the last ten months for which data is available. The column to the left gives the percent of cases without violations during each month. The other four columns give a breakdown of the violations during the month--delinquent violations detained and those not detained and non-delinquent violations detained and those not detained. Total violations for Probation and Consent cases range from 8.2 to 10.8 percent per month. Most of these are delinquency violations, with less than half of them being detained.

TABLE 12

Percent of Violations for Probation and Consent Caseload

	<u>None</u>	<u>Del,detained</u>	<u>Del,not det.</u>	<u>non-del,det.</u>	<u>non-del,not det.</u>
Jan.	90.3	3.1	3.7	.6	2.3
Feb.	90.9	3.3	3.1	.6	2.1
March	89.2	2.9	4.3	.9	2.7
April	90.2	2.8	4.0	.7	2.2
May	90.2	2.7	3.8	.6	2.6
June	90.7	<u>3.1</u>	3.8	.5	1.9
July	91.8	2.6	3.3	.5	1.8
August	91.8	2.5	3.5	.5	1.7
Sept.	90.9	2.8	3.5	.8	2.0
Oct.	90.1	3.5	3.9	.6	1.9

Table 13 gives the same figures for Aftercare caseloads. The violation rates for Aftercare are somewhat higher, ranging from 11.8 to 14.4 percent per month. A much larger proportion are delinquency violations, and most of those are detained.

TABLE 13

Percent of Violations for Aftercare Caseload<sup>19</sup>

	<u>None</u>	<u>Delinquent Detained</u>	<u>Not Detained</u>	<u>Non-delin. detained</u>	<u>Non-delin. not detained</u>
Jan.	85.6	6.9	3.5	1.0	3.0
Feb.	86.4	6.9	3.1	.8	2.9
March	86.0	6.9	3.8	.8	2.6
April	85.9	6.8	3.9	.6	2.8
May	86.0	6.2	4.2	.9	2.8
June	87.6	5.7	4.0	.7	2.0
July	87.7	5.3	3.9	.9	2.1
Aug.	88.2	5.5	3.5	.5	2.4
Sept.	87.1	6.2	3.7	.6	2.4
Oct.	86.6	6.8	3.6	.7	2.3

Table 14 presents the monthly violation rates for cases in each supervision classification. There is a highly significant relationship between categories of supervision and violations. Children in Intensive and Maximum classifications are much more

likely to be charged with violations than those in less closely supervised categories. This is not surprising since there are the newer cases or those cases which have not adjusted well enough to have been placed in a less restrictive category. As would be expected, children who have progressed to the Minimum classification are least likely to be charged with violations.

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TABLE 14

Violations, by Caseload Classification<sup>20</sup>

Percent of Caseload in each category charged with a violation during month

	<u>Intensive</u>	<u>Maximum</u>	<u>Medium</u>	<u>Minimum</u>
January	19.1	24.8	12.7	6.4
February	17.2	21.8	12.9	5.8
March	21.7	21.4	13.9	7.4
April	17.9	23.0	13.8	6.1
May	16.8	19.9	14.3	5.9
June	18.1	21.1	12.8	6.0
July	17.8	19.4	11.6	5.1
August	21.5	19.5	10.6	4.7
September	20.5	19.3	12.1	5.6
October	22.9	19.9	14.1	7.1

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Presented in Table 15 is the breakdown of losses from state-wide delinquency Probation caseloads during the last half of 1976. Honorable terminations represented three-fourths of all discharges. Twenty-four percent of the losses were either committed, revoked, placed on probation by adult court, or absconded from supervision.

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TABLE 15

Delinquency Probation Caseload Losses<sup>21</sup>  
(July-December 1976)

<u>Percent</u>	<u>Number</u>	
74.8	4337	Honorable terminations
1.0	59	Probation or commitments by adult court
.1	3	Commitments to other agency
1.5	87	Absconded
.1	3	Revocations (no commitment)
9.0	522	Commitments to Training Schools
5.7	329	Commitments to Community Residential Programs
5.4	313	Commitments to Community Non-Residential Programs
1.2	72	Commitments to Intensive Counseling
.2	14	Death
1.0	61	Other
<hr/>	<hr/>	
100.0	5800	

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Table 16 presents the percentage breakdowns of losses from delinquency Probation caseloads for the last four six-month periods. It can be seen that the percent of cases honorably terminated has been increasing steadily over the last two years. This is mostly due to the decrease in commitments of probationers to Training Schools.

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TABLE 16

Delinquency Probation Caseload Losses<sup>22</sup>  
(Jan, 1975 - Dec, 1976)

<u>Jan-June 75</u>	<u>July-Dec 75</u>	<u>Jan-June 76</u>	<u>July-Dec 76</u>	
69.4	72.3	73.5	74.8	Honorable termination
.9	1.0	1.2	1.0	Probation or commitments/adult court
.1	.2	.1	.1	Commitments to other agency
1.8	2.1	2.0	1.5	Absconded
.1	.1	.0	.1	Revocation (no commitment)
15.9	11.0	11.6	9.0	Commitments to Training Schools
5.1	5.0	4.9	5.7	Commitments to Commun. Resid. Prog.
5.5	7.0	5.6	6.6	Commitments to Com. Non-Res. Prog.
.4	.4	2	.2	Death
.9	1.0	.8	1.0	Other
<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	
4,279	5,061	6,129	5,800	Total Number of Losses

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Table 17 presents the breakdown by type of discharge for all losses from Aftercare caseloads during July through December, 1976. Honorable discharges constituted 53.7 percent of the total losses. Thirty seven percent of the discharges were either committed, revoked, placed on adult probation, sent to prison, or absconded from supervision.

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TABLE 17

Aftercare Caseload Losses<sup>23</sup>  
(July-December 1976)

<u>Percent</u>	<u>Number</u>	
53.7	1093	Honorable discharge
8.3	169	Probation or commitment by adult court
.1	2	Commitment to other agency
1.9	39	Absconded
.5	11	Revocation to Intensive Counseling
9.3	190	Revocation to Training Schools
1.4	28	Revocation to Community Residential Programs
1.5	30	Revocation to Commun. Non-Resid. Programs
.7	14	Commitment to Intensive Counseling
14.6	297	Commitment to Training Schools
.9	18	Commitment to Community Residential Programs
2.8	57	Commitment to Commun. Non-Resid. Programs
.2	5	Death
4.1	84	Other
<hr/> 100.0	<hr/> 2037	

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Table 18 presents the percentage breakdowns of Aftercare caseload losses for each of the last four six-month periods. After a considerable increase in the proportion of honorable terminations during July-December 1975, the figure has dropped slightly for each of the two succeeding periods.

TABLE 18

Aftercare Caseload Losses<sup>24</sup>

<u>Jan-June 75</u>	<u>July-Dec 75</u>	<u>Jan-June 76</u>	<u>July-Dec 76</u>	
40.0	56.1	54.3	53.7	Honorable Discharges
8.5	9.8	9.9	8.3	Probation or Commitments by Adult Court
.3	.3	.1	.1	Commitments to other agency
3.2	3.6	1.8	1.9	Absconded
13.7	6.9	7.9	9.3	Revocations to Training Schools
1.3	.6	1.2	1.4	Revocations to Commun. Resid. Prog.
2.5	1.2	1.6	2.0	Revocations to Com. Non-Res. Prog.
22.5	13.0	15.4	14.6	Commitments to Training Schools
2.4	1.5	1.4	.9	Commitments to Com. Resid. Programs
2.6	2.6	2.1	3.5	Commitments to Com. Non-Res. Prog.
.3	.3	.5	.2	Death
2.7	4.0	3.6	4.1	Other
<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	
1,536	1,763	2,015	2,037	Total Number of Losses

An important measure of any treatment program is average amount of time spent in that program. Table 19 presents this data for all losses for each of the types of cases for the last six months for which data is available. Consent supervision, which deals with the least serious cases, shows an average of 191 days, or 6.4 months, until discharge. Delinquency probation has the next shortest length of stay at 10.4 months. Cases remain on Aftercare for an average of 12.4 months. The 16.2 month average for ungovernable probation cases is based on a very small number of children, as that program has almost been phased out.

TABLE 19

Average Lengths of Stay (Number of days)<sup>25</sup>

1976	<u>Probation (Delinquency)</u>	<u>Probation (Ungovernable)</u>	<u>Consent</u>	<u>Aftercare</u>
June	302	398	169	357
July	301	538	222	366
August	322	444	200	414
Sept.	325	417	173	343
Oct.	320	267	177	413
Nov.	304	1124	192	334
Total	312	486	191	371
Number of Losses	5907	69	437	2055

The average cost per child day in both Probation and Aftercare is 92 cents.<sup>26</sup> Using the average lengths of stay presented in Table 19, the average cost per delinquency Probation case is \$287.04 and the average cost per Aftercare case is \$341.32.

## Conclusions

Delinquency probationers currently make up 72 percent of the total caseload, while ungovernable cases are down to .3 percent. Consent cases make up two percent of caseloads, while Aftercare accounts for 24 percent. The number of Aftercare cases is increasing due to the very high recent rate of commitments.

The proportion of cases in the Intensive and Maximum classifications is dropping slightly, indicating a general decrease in the levels of supervision. This is borne out by the finding that the overall average number of personal contacts with children by their counselors has fallen off during the past several months, now averaging about two per month. Children in the Intensive category are most likely to be receiving the level of supervision prescribed for their classification, followed closely by those in the Minimum category. Maximum and Medium cases are less likely to be receiving the specified amount of supervision. Cases classified as Minimum are most likely to be receiving services which meet their needs "very well" or "adequately." Services provided to cases in the Maximum category are more likely to be rated as meeting the child's needs "marginally" or "poorly."

Certain programs considered important by Youth Services appear to be getting inadequate emphasis. The proportion of children with no counselor group experience is increasing. Children who are assigned to groups continue to attend about half of the meetings specified. The percent of parents attending parent groups is small and seems to be decreasing. The proportion of children reported having Volunteer Probation Friends is down to five percent and a decreasing trend appears to be in effect. Utilization of restitution is reported in less than three percent of each month's caseload, indicating that a valuable rehabilitative tool is not being utilized to the maximum.

The combined Probation and Consent caseload shows a violation rate ranging from 8.2 to 10.8 percent per month. Aftercare violation rates are higher, running from 11.8 to 14.4 percent per month. Intensive and Maximum cases have much higher violation rates than the remainder of the caseloads. Cases in the Minimum supervision classification exhibit the lowest violation rates.

Seventy-six percent of delinquency Probation cases and sixty-three percent of Aftercare cases could be counted as program successes at the point of discharge from the caseloads.

### Footnotes

1. Intake Recapitulation Reports, July 1975 - June 1976.
2. Intake Statistical Card data, July 1975 - June 1976.
3. Ibid.
4. Probation and Aftercare Recapitulation Reports. July 1975 - June 1976.
5. Probation and Aftercare Recapitulation Reports, July - December 1976.
6. Probation and Aftercare Manual, March 1977.
7. Caseload Management Review reports, January - October 1976.
8. Ibid.
9. Ibid.
10. Ibid.
11. Ibid.
12. Ibid.
13. Caseload Management Review reports, August - October 1976.
14. Caseload Management Review reports, January - October 1976.
15. Ibid.
16. Ibid.
17. Ibid.
18. Ibid.
19. Ibid.
20. Ibid.
21. Probation and Aftercare Recapitulation Reports, op. cit.
22. Population and Movement Reports: Jan-June 1975, July-Dec 1975, Jan-June 1976, July-Dec 1976.
23. Probation and Aftercare Recapitulation Reports, op. cit.
24. Population and Movement Reports. op. cit.
25. Probation and Aftercare Recapitulation Reports, June-November 1976.
26. Youth Services 1977-78 Budget Request.



**END**