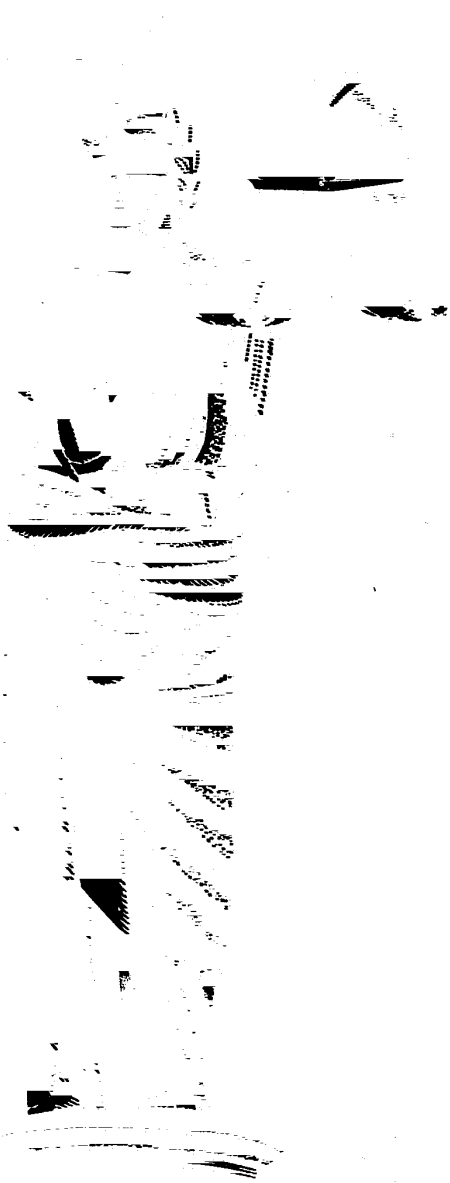


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CHRISTOPHER S. BOND

Governor

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## ACQUISITIONS

DIVISION OF FAMILY SERVICES

Ewing B. Gourley

Director

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MISSOURI

JUVENILE COURT STATISTICS

1976

Research Report No. 32

DIVISION OF FAMILY SERVICES

Broadway State Office Building  
Jefferson City, Missouri

Prepared by  
Research and Statistics

## INTRODUCTION

This report is the thirty-second in a series of research reports published by the Division of Family Services in accordance with Missouri Statutes.\* The information presented in this report was taken from data provided by the 43 juvenile courts of Missouri. There are no statutory requirements that juvenile courts report the number of cases referred each year, nevertheless, all but 20 counties reported on juvenile court cases and all but 15 counties reported on adoption cases.

The juvenile court statistics for delinquency, traffic offenses, dependency and neglect, and special proceedings are reported on a prescribed federal form. Major advantages of the form are greater detail in reasons for referral and disposition and the inclusion of some additional social data about the child and his family. St. Louis City, St. Louis County, and Jackson County did not use this form; however they did provide their annual report. The data on this report is not as extensive as that provided on the federal form. Therefore, some of the tables will not include referral figures from these counties. These tables have footnotes pointing out this exclusion.

In evaluating the statistics given in this report, one must consider the differences among counties in availability of social services, in community attitudes toward delinquency, and in the statistical reporting practices of the court. In some communities all children committing offenses are referred to the juvenile courts for disposition. In other counties only children committing more serious acts are referred to the juvenile courts. For this and other reasons noted above, comparative county trends should be used with qualification.

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\* R. S. Mo., 1949, Sec. 207.020

Missouri Juvenile Court Statistics 1937-1976

Year	Total Juvenile Court Cases	Delinquency (includes traffic)	Dependency and Neglect	Adoptions	Other Special Proceedings
1937	7,400	4,374	2,072	954	
1938	5,889	3,650	1,491	748	
1939	8,891	6,161	1,871	859	
1940	6,639	5,308	1,331	*	
1941	8,478	5,666	1,921	891	
1942	9,414	6,336	2,223	855	
1943	11,323	7,351	2,625	1,347	
1944	10,016	5,957	2,614	1,445	
1945	10,790	6,243	2,924	1,623	
1946	9,672	5,341	2,203	1,702	426
1947	9,377	4,589	2,504	1,875	409
1948	9,435	4,786	2,669	1,575	405
1949	9,236	4,905	2,351	1,533	447
1950	9,583	5,040	2,270	1,732	541
1951	9,740	5,175	2,232	1,766	567
1952	9,926	5,389	2,296	1,785	456
1953	10,555	6,089	2,038	1,838	590
1954	11,230	6,555	2,333	1,846	496
1955	11,204	6,675	2,341	1,690	498
1956	13,268	8,512	2,478	1,813	465
1957	14,479	9,953	2,084	1,903	539
1958	17,047	12,248	2,430	1,798	571
1959	17,646	12,947	2,107	1,910	682
1960	19,053	13,584	2,694	2,027	748
1961	20,171	14,614	2,698	2,052	807
1962	23,520	18,011	2,498	2,167	844
1963	23,877	18,302	2,455	2,450	670
1964	29,053	22,214	3,415	2,608	816
1965	30,139	23,012	3,553	2,701	873
1966	33,483	26,025	3,605	2,859	994
1967	38,184	30,419	3,829	2,861	1,075
1968	38,091	31,264	3,092	2,769	966
1969	41,227	34,254	2,946	2,722	1,305
1970	47,666	38,753	4,492	2,524	1,897
1971	44,249	37,605	3,105	2,572**	967
1972	43,801	38,804	2,647	1,675**	675
1973	51,778	44,576	3,965	2,702	535
1974	55,511	46,971	4,648	2,557	1,335
1975	59,144	48,528	5,744	2,495	2,377
1976	60,131	48,107	6,677	2,466	2,881

\*Figure not available

\*\*Does not include Jackson County.

The Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area (SMSA) designation has been used to describe metropolitan counties, or counties which have a population "spill over" from the metropolitan counties. Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area counties are Boone,\* Buchanan, Cass,\* Clay, Franklin,\* Greene, Jackson, Jefferson, Platte, St. Charles, St. Louis, and St. Louis City.

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\* Boone, Cass, and Franklin counties are not included in this report. Only adoption statistics are available for these counties.

## DELINQUENCY

Juvenile delinquency cases in this report are those which are referred to the juvenile courts for acts defined in the statutes of the state as violations of state laws or municipal ordinances by children or youths of juvenile age. Under Missouri Law, Juvenile Court age includes children up to the age of 17 years. This includes offenses so seriously anti-social as to interfere with the rights of others or to menace the welfare of the youth himself or of the community. This broad definition includes conduct which is a violation of law only when committed by a child as well as conduct which is considered a law violation when committed by a person of any age. Also included, but separately reported, are traffic violations over which the juvenile court has jurisdiction. The cases reported are those cases which were disposed of by the courts during the calendar year 1976.

The number of reported juvenile delinquency referrals including traffic referrals in 1976 totaled 48,107, a decrease of 0.9 per cent over the past year. Until 1971, delinquency referrals had increased every year since 1948. In 1948, the juvenile courts handled 4,786 delinquency referrals. By 1970, this had increased by 710 per cent to 38,753 referrals.

Of the 48,107 delinquency referrals, 14,327 or 29.8 per cent were for traffic violations. There were 11,215 traffic referrals from SMSA counties as compared with 3,112 from other counties. Of the 14,327 traffic referrals, 909 or 6.3 per cent were disposed of officially, 4,641 or 32.4 per cent were disposed of unofficially, and the disposition of the remaining 8,777 was not reported.

Referrals for delinquent behavior excluding traffic, decreased from 35,620 in 1975 to 33,780, or a decrease of 5.2 per cent. Since some children are referred more than once during a year, the actual number of referrals (33,780), involves only an estimated

27,350 juveniles. Also, a referral is made each time a juvenile is apprehended for a delinquent act, but if the child commits several delinquent acts at the same time, only one offense is recorded.

Table 1. Changes in Delinquency and Traffic Referrals  
1948-1976

Year	Delinquency Referrals	Change From Prior Year	Traffic Referrals	Change From Prior Year
1948	4,515		271	
1949	4,745	5.1	160	-41.0
1950	4,823	1.6	217	35.6
1951	4,735	-1.8	440	102.7
1952	5,038	6.4	351	-20.2
1953	5,642	12.0	447	27.4
1954	5,891	4.4	664	48.5
1955	5,759	-2.2	916	38.0
1956	7,347	25.8	1,165	27.2
1957	8,302	13.0	1,651	41.7
1958	10,332	26.0	1,916	16.1
1959	10,386	0.5	2,249	17.3
1960	10,826	4.2	2,758	22.6
1961	11,307	4.4	3,307	19.9
1962	14,009	23.9	4,002	21.0
1963	13,305	-5.0	4,997	24.9
1964	16,508	24.1	5,706	14.2
1965	17,908	8.4	5,104	-10.6
1966	17,691	-1.2	8,334	63.3
1967	20,697	17.0	9,722	16.7
1968	21,389	3.2	9,875	1.6
1969	23,725	10.9	10,529	6.6
1970	28,017	18.0	10,736	1.9
1971	26,131	-5.8	11,474	6.9
1972	28,278	8.2	10,526	-8.3
1973	31,587	11.7	12,989	23.4
1974	33,508	6.1	13,463	3.6
1975	35,620	6.3	12,908	-4.1
1976	33,780	-5.2	14,327	11.0

Juvenile delinquency continues to be more prevalent in metropolitan areas than in more rural areas. Counties designated by the U.S. Census Bureau as being in Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas, consisting of twelve counties in Missouri, contain 64.8 per cent of the child population ages 10-17 according to the



1970 Census figures. These same counties report 25,901 non-traffic delinquency referrals or 76.7 per cent of total non-traffic referrals.

These differences between metropolitan areas and rural areas are due to actual higher delinquency rates and to difference in numbers of juvenile court staff available. In a majority of rural counties, the juvenile officer either serves part time or covers several counties in the judicial circuit.

Table 2. Reason for Referral by Population Area  
(excludes traffic)

Reason Referred	State Total		SMSA**		Other	
	Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent
TOTAL	33,780	100.0	26,286	100.0	7,494	100.0
Offenses applicable to both juveniles and adults:						
Murder and non-negligent manslaughter	17	0.1	14	0.1	3	*
Manslaughter by negligence	8	*	8	*		
Forcible Rape	73	0.2	58	0.2	15	0.2
Robbery	598	1.8	500	1.9	98	1.3
Assault	1,615	4.8	1,436	5.5	179	2.4
Burglary: breaking or entering	3,132	9.3	2,527	9.6	605	8.1
Auto theft	1,161	3.4	914	3.5	247	3.3
Larceny	5,829	17.3	4,695	17.8	1,134	15.1
Weapons: carrying, possessing, etc.	452	1.3	418	1.6	34	0.5
Sex offenses (except forcible rape)	253	0.7	205	0.8	48	0.6
Violation of drug laws	1,934	5.7	1,537	5.8	397	5.3
Drunkenness	276	0.8	215	0.8	61	0.8
Disorderly conduct	1,360	4.0	1,046	4.0	314	4.2
Vandalism	2,229	6.6	1,563	5.9	666	8.9
Other	2,756	8.2	2,198	8.4	558	7.4
Offenses applicable to juveniles only:						
Running Away	4,259	12.6	3,159	12.0	1,100	14.7
Truancy	1,991	5.9	1,390	5.3	601	8.0
Violation of curfew	1,115	3.3	975	3.7	140	1.9
Ungovernable behavior	2,463	7.3	1,914	7.3	549	7.3
Possessing or drinking of liquor	1,549	4.6	947	3.6	602	8.0
Other	710	2.1	567	2.2	143	1.9

\*Less than one-tenth of one per cent.

\*\*Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas include the counties of Boone, Buchanan, Cass, Clay, Franklin, Greene, Jackson, Jefferson, Platte, St. Louis, and the City of St. Louis.

The seriousness of particular delinquent juvenile acts is difficult to determine but the reasons for referral may be divided into adult type offenses and juvenile type offenses. Adult type offenses include murder and non-negligent manslaughter, manslaughter by negligence, sex offenses, purse snatching, other robbery, assault, burglary, auto theft, larceny, possession of weapons, violation of drug laws, drunkenness, disorderly conduct, and vandalism. Juvenile offenses include running away, truancy, violation of curfew, ungovernable behavior and possession or drinking of liquor. When this kind of classification is used, 64.2 per cent of the referrals are for adult type offenses (Table 2).

By taking Appendix Tables II and III, we can group several similar offenses and rank them in accordance with age and sex. This group includes both those offenses which are applicable to adults and juveniles, such as larceny and burglary, and those offenses applicable only to juveniles, such as running away and truancy.

Rank	Male	Female
1	Larceny*	Running Away
2	Burglary	Larceny*
3	Vandalism	Ungovernable behavior
4	Running Away	Truancy
5	Violation of drug laws	Violation of drug laws
6	Possessing or drinking liquor	Possessing or drinking liquor

\*Larceny includes shoplifting.

In each of these two tables, certain characteristics are seen. In the age grouping, larceny is the leading or second highest offense in all age brackets. Running away is fifth for 12 years and under but increases to first or second position for each of the other age groups. Vandalism decreases in older boys' offenses and does not appear at all in 15 or 16 year olds as one of the top six. Violation of drug laws appears as a major offense in fourth place in the 15 year old group and for the 16 year olds. It is interesting to note that at least one-half of the ranking offenses for all four groups are applicable to juveniles only.

Rank	12 Years and Under	13-14 Years	15 Years	16 Years
1	Larceny*	Larceny*	Running Away	Larceny*
2	Vandalism	Running Away	Larceny*	Running Away
3	Burglary	Truancy	Burglary	Possessing or drinking liquor
4	Truancy	Ungovernable behavior	Violation of drug laws	Violation of drug laws
5	Running Away	Burglary	Ungovernable behavior	Burglary
6	Ungovernable behavior	Vandalism	Truancy	Ungovernable behavior

\*Larceny includes shoplifting.

There are some differences in the table showing sex groups. Larceny again is a high ranking offense for both groups. Burglary ranks second for males but it does not appear at all for females.

The type of care used by the courts for juveniles pending disposition varies greatly, due mainly to the type of facility available. Since a large number of referrals for traffic violations are not detained

overnight, they are excluded from the data concerning type of care. Of the 12,250 delinquency referrals for which we have these statistics, 2,262 or 18.5 per cent resulted in detention of the juvenile.

The place of detention varies widely between the SMSA counties and the rural counties. In the SMSA counties, for which data is available, juveniles detained were placed in specialized detention facilities for 71.8 per cent of the detained referrals, in jail for 24.0 per cent, and in foster homes and other facilities for 4.1 per cent of the referred cases which were detained. In the rural counties, juveniles detained were placed in jail in 79.6 per cent of the referrals, in specialized detention facilities for 13.9 per cent of the referrals, and in foster homes and other facilities for 6.5 per cent of the detained cases.

Table 3. Care Pending Disposition by Population Area, Race and Sex\*  
(excludes traffic)

Care Pending Disposition	State Total				SMSA**				Other			
	White		Non-White		White		Non-White		White		Non-White	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
TOTAL	8,248	3,453	388	161	3,229	1,377	95	55	5,019	2,076	293	106
No detention or shelter care overnight	6,855	2,728	276	129	2,777	1,105	79	46	4,078	1,623	197	83
Detention or shelter care overnight or longer in:												
Jail or police station	895	369	100	20	108	59	11	2	787	310	89	18
Detention home	434	292	12	11	328	198	5	7	106	94	7	4
Foster family home	28	39		1	3	10			25	29		1
Other	36	25			13	5			23	20		

\*Excludes 21,530 referrals from St. Louis City, St. Louis County, and Jackson County; only 36.3 per cent of reported referrals are represented.

\*\*Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas include the counties of Boone, Buchanan, Cass, Clay, Franklin, Greene, Jackson, Jefferson, Platte, St. Louis, and the City of St. Louis.

When classified by sex, 20.9 per cent of the girls referred were detained compared with 17.4 per cent of the boys. Of the total number of juveniles detained, 33.5 per cent were girls, and 66.5 per cent were boys.

The two types of delinquency dispositions are official and unofficial or, in legal terminology, with or without a petition. These cases for which a petition is filed are placed on the court calendar for adjudication by the juvenile court judge. The unofficial cases are those that have no petition filed and are handled informally by the juvenile judge or some other official of the court.

Official and unofficial handling is determined by the type of offense committed. In the following table the offenses with the highest percentages for official and unofficial dispositions are given. Approximately 20.6 per cent of the total cases were disposed of officially during the calendar year.

Rank	Official	Unofficial
1	Burglary	Larceny*
2	Running Away	Running Away
3	Larceny*	Vandalism
4	Ungovernable Behavior	Truancy
5	Violation of drug laws	Possessing or drinking of liquor
6	Auto Theft	Ungovernable Behavior

\*Larceny includes shoplifting.

Types of disposition may be defined as the action taken by the juvenile courts with respect to the individual concerned and the reason for referral. Of the delinquency cases referred, for which we have this statistic, 622 or 5.1 per cent were dismissed because the charge was not proved or individual was not found to be involved. In 813 cases (6.6 per cent) the court transferred legal custody of the juvenile. Of the remaining cases, the most common types of disposition are as follows:

Rank	Type of Disposition	Per Cent
1	Dismissed; Warned, Adjusted, Counseled	40.5
2	Probation Officer to supervise	21.1
3	Held Open without further action	9.2
4	Referred to another agency or individual for supervision or service	7.4
5	Runaway Returned	6.2

When type of disposition is compared between SMSA counties and other counties, both use warning, adjustment, counselling more than any other type (44.7 per cent for SMSA counties and 37.8 per cent for other counties). Probation officer supervision is the next most used type of disposition for both with SMSA counties using this in 23.0 per cent of the cases and other counties in 19.9 per cent.

Type of disposition was unknown for 21,350 (81.2 per cent) of the SMSA counties' 26,286 reported referrals. The SMSA breakdown did not include the counties of Jackson, St. Louis, or St. Louis City.

Table 4. Type of Disposition by Population Grouping\*  
(excludes traffic)

Disposition	Total		SMSA**		Other	
	Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent
TOTAL	12,250	100.0	4,756	100.0	7,494	100.0
Waived to criminal court	41	0.3	4	0.1	37	0.5
Complaint not substantiated: Dismissed: Not proved or found not involved	622	5.1	220	4.6	402	5.4
Complaint substantiated - No transfer of legal custody: Dismissed: Warned, adjusted, counselled	4,958	40.5	2,127	44.7	2,831	37.8
Held open without further action	1,129	9.2	376	7.9	753	10.0
Probation officer to supervise	2,586	21.1	1,093	23.0	1,493	19.9
Referred to another agency or individual for supervision or service	906	7.4	297	6.2	609	8.1
Runaway returned	761	6.2	244	5.1	517	6.9
Other	434	3.5	90	1.9	344	4.6
Transfer of legal custody to:						
Public institution for delinquents	307	2.5	116	2.4	191	2.5
Other public institution	38	0.3	9	0.2	29	0.4
Public agency or department	297	2.4	141	3.0	156	2.1
Private agency or institution	54	0.4	18	0.4	36	0.5
Individual	74	0.6	9	0.2	65	0.9
Other	43	0.4	12	0.3	31	0.4

\*Excludes 21,530 referrals from St. Louis City, St. Louis County, and Jackson County. Only 36.3 per cent of reporting counties are represented.

\*\*Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas include the counties of Boone, Buchanan, Cass, Clay, Franklin, Greene, Jackson, Jefferson, Platte, St. Louis, and the City of St. Louis.

The seven most frequent reasons for referral were cross classified by the type of disposition, as shown in Table 5. Among the reasons for referral, there are differences in their disposition. There are differences between drinking and drug violations and between burglary and larceny with respect to cases dismissed, referred to a probation officer, or transfer of custody to a public institution for delinquents.

Table 5. Reason for Referral by Type of Disposition\*

Disposition	Reason for Referral						
	Larceny	Running Away	Burglary	Ungovernable Behavior	Truancy	Vandalism	Possessing Liquor
TOTAL	1,958	1,820	1,071	927	896	984	843
Waived to criminal court	2	1	13	1		1	2
Complaint not substantiated Dismissed: Not proved or found not involved	97	32	71	29	24	74	39
Complaint substantiated - No transfer of legal custody: Dismissed: Warned, adjusted, counselled	973	407	224	379	481	487	439
Held open without further action	135	96	84	106	148	109	93
Probation officer to supervise	480	211	428	144	115	186	175
Referred to another agency or individual for super- vision or service	132	198	56	102	53	29	43
Runaway returned	3	713	1	7	2		
Other	72	25	37	23	35	69	42
Transfer of legal custody to:							
Public institution for delinquents	21	42	89	37	11	4	2
Other public institution	2	8	8	7	2		
Public agency or department	27	53	48	58	18	18	5
Private agency or institution	7	9	4	18	2	1	1
Individual	6	21	7	12	1	2	1
Other	1	4	1	4	4	4	1

\*Excludes 20 counties, primarily Boone, Franklin, Jackson, St. Louis, and the City of St. Louis.

Additional supplementary data concerning the juvenile's parents, school attendance, and achievement are on the report forms. However, this reporting has been optional with the counties. Information on the juvenile's parents' present marital status was supplied for 22.0 per cent of all the referrals, and reports on the juvenile's living arrangement was supplied for 22.4 per cent of the referrals.



The additional supplementary data that was reported on indicated that over half (56.0 per cent) of the children referred live with both parents, 11.5 per cent live with a parent and stepparent, 24.2 per cent live with one parent only, and 8.3 per cent live outside their parents' home. Of those reporting on the natural parents' marital status, the report indicated that 58.4 per cent were married and living together, in 7.1 per cent one or both parents were dead, 30.9 per cent were divorced, separated, or deserted, 2.1 per cent were not married and 1.5 per cent had other marital status.

Data concerning employment and school status of those reporting indicated that 7.2 per cent were both out of school and unemployed, 2.7 per cent were out of school and employed either full time or part time, 76.5 per cent were in school and unemployed, and 9.2 per cent were in school and also employed either full or part time. For 4.4 per cent this status was inapplicable (pre-schoolers in adoption referrals).

## DEPENDENCY AND NEGLECT

Children are referred for dependency and neglect when they are abandoned, deserted, abused; when they fail to receive adequate care and support; or when they are subjected to conditions injurious to morals. After receiving such reports about the care of children, the juvenile court either conducts a study of the situation or refers the case to a social agency for consideration.

During 1976, there were 6,677 referrals for dependency and neglect. Unlike delinquency, where only one child of a family may be referred, usually all the children within the family will be referred for dependency and neglect. Therefore, in describing referrals, each child is considered a separate referral, although several children from the same family may have been called to the attention of the court by a single complaint. As in delinquency, some children may be referred more than one time for neglect during the year.

Of the total child referrals, 5,067 or 75.9 per cent came from the Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area counties of Buchanan, Cass, Clay, Greene, Jackson, Jefferson, Platte, St. Louis, and St. Louis City; and 1,610 or 24.1 per cent came from the other counties. (See Appendix Table I for other details.)

Reason for Referral. - The category of dependency and neglect includes lack of adequate care or support, abandonment or desertion, abuse or cruel treatment, conditions injurious to morals, and physical handicaps necessitating institutional placement. Lack of adequate care or support can be described as the failure of parents to provide the minimum standard of care for the child. Although no statistics are available, it may be assumed that the failure to give adequate care usually does not depend on family income but on parental abilities and adjustment. Referral for lack of

adequate care or support is the most common reason for referral.

Source of Referral. - Unlike delinquency, dependency and neglect referrals come from many sources. Such referrals are often made on the appearance of a child rather than on an action of the child. Therefore, schools, social agencies, and relatives, as well as the police, are responsible for bringing dependent and neglected children to the attention of the court. Sources reported for dependency and neglect are shown in Appendix Table VI. Law enforcement agencies made 370 or 16.1 per cent of the referrals, social agencies made 1,175 or 51.2 per cent, parents or relatives made 401 or 17.5 per cent, schools made 73 or 3.2 per cent, and 276 or 12.0 per cent were made by all other sources.

Care of Pending Disposition. - Some referrals for dependency and neglect are so urgent that care outside the home is required prior to the time of disposition. Of these referrals reported (Appendix Table VII), 1,640 or 71.5 per cent required no care outside the home prior to the disposition of the case. Of the 655 children requiring care outside the home prior to disposition, 483 or 73.7 per cent were given care in foster homes, 63 or 9.6 per cent were provided care in detention facilities, 11 or 1.7 per cent were placed in jail, and the remaining 98 or 15.0 per cent were provided other kinds of care outside the home.

Disposition. - As in delinquency, the two methods of handling are official and unofficial. Cases handled officially are those on which petitions are filed and thus placed on the court calendar for adjudication by the juvenile judge. Unofficial cases are those on which no petition is filed, but on which adjustments or warnings are made by the court. Of the reported referrals for the state, excluding the counties of Jackson, St. Louis, and St. Louis City, 50.9 per cent of the referrals were disposed of officially and 49.1 per cent were disposed of unofficially.

Types of disposition for dependency and neglect referrals are based on the court's decision, after a detailed study of what will best meet the needs of the child or children. Of the 2,295 referrals for which we have statistics for neglect, 134 or 5.8 per cent of the referrals were found not to be neglected. Although there is no breakdown for reason referred, it may be assumed that a large number of referrals are made because the children are alleged to be receiving inadequate care. "Adequate" care is difficult to determine and, therefore, differences of opinion of what constitutes adequate care results in the findings of no neglect in some cases. (See Table 6 for other details.)

Table 6. Type of Disposition by Population Grouping\*

Disposition	Total		SMSA***		Other	
	Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent
TOTAL	2,295	100.0	685	100.0	1,610	100.0
Waived to criminal court	6	0.3			6	0.4
Complaint not substantiated Dismissed: Not proved or found not involved	134	5.8	37	6.5	97	6.0
Complaint substantiated - No transfer of legal custody: Dismissed: Warned, adjusted, counselled	237	10.3	47	6.9	190	11.8
Held open without further action	245	10.7	67	9.8	178	11.1
Probation officer to supervise	49	2.1	11	1.6	38	2.4
Referred to another agency or individual for supervision or service	681	29.7	195	28.5	486	30.2
Runaway returned	1	**			1	0.1
Other	78	3.4	16	2.3	62	3.9
Transfer of legal custody to:						
Public institution for delinquents	9	0.4	1	0.1	8	0.5
Other public institution	6	0.3	4	0.6	2	0.1
Public agency or department	645	28.1	251	36.6	394	24.5
Private agency or institution	14	0.6	5	0.7	9	0.6
Individual	165	7.2	46	6.7	119	7.4
Other	25	1.1	5	0.7	20	1.2

\*Excludes 4,382 referrals from St. Louis City, St. Louis County, and Jackson County, Based on only 34.4 per cent of dependency and neglect referrals.

\*\*Less than one-tenth of one per cent.

\*\*\*Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas include the counties of Boone, Buchanan, Cass, Clay, Franklin, Greene, Jackson, Jefferson, Platte, St. Louis, and the City of St. Louis.

Of the 2,161 referrals where neglect was found, 482 or 22.3 per cent were dismissed by warning or held open without any further action. Where the court feels some action is necessary, the most common type of disposition is referral or commitment to a public agency.

In 1976, of the 2,161 referrals where neglect was found, 681 or 31.5 per cent were referred to another agency or individual for supervision or service. Referrals to social agencies indicate the court has requested service to be given in an effort to improve conditions causing the neglect situation. Sometimes home conditions indicate the court should remove the child or children from the parents' or relatives' home. In 864 or 40.0 per cent of the neglect referrals, the court transferred the legal custody of the child to a public or private agency or institution or another individual. Some of these children may be removed from their own homes and some may remain in their own homes under supervision. Many of the children removed from their homes are placed in foster homes.

## SPECIAL PROCEEDINGS

Special proceedings cases are those concerning adoptions, commitment of mentally defective children, material witnesses, application for consent to marry, and determination of the custody or guardianship of children.

There were 5,347 special proceedings cases reported during 1976. Of the total cases, 2,466 were adoption cases, which will be examined further in the next section, and the remaining 2,881 grouped under "other". Of the 5,347 special proceedings cases 4,280 or 80.0 per cent were from SMSA counties and 1,067 or 20.0 per cent were from other counties.

## ADOPTIONS

Adoption is the process by which a child legally acquires a new parent or parents and through which he is given, by law, the protection, rights, and obligations of a natural child. Adoptive parents are selected in a number of ways but the preferred method involves detailed study and discussion with prospective parents prior to the placement of a child.

Adoptions are classified by the relationship of the adoptive child to the petitioner. Of the 2,094\* adoptions in 1976, 698 children were adopted by persons unrelated to the child, 1,107 were adopted by stepparents, 78 were adopted by natural parents; relatives other than parents adopted 149 children, and

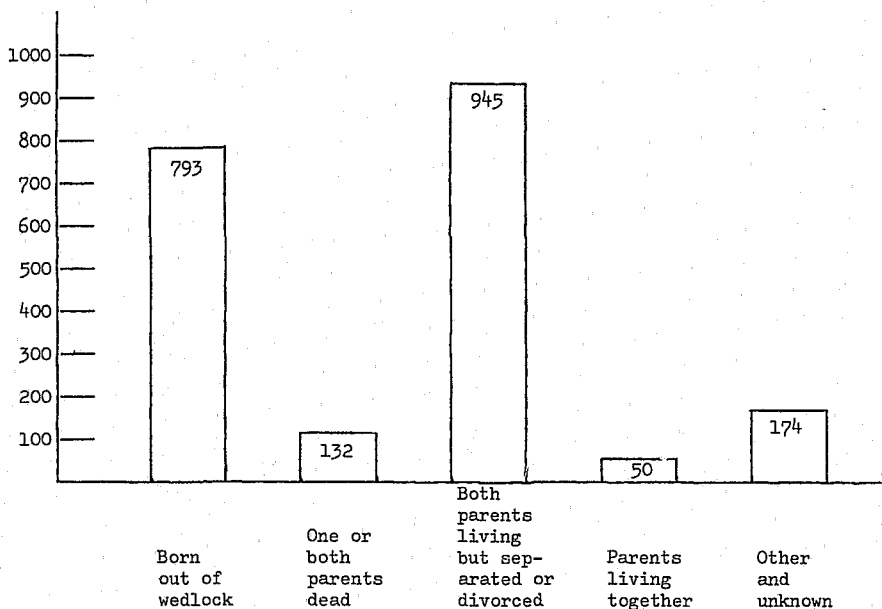
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\* Jackson County reported 372 adoption cases, but no other information about these children or their adoptive parents was given. Therefore, all the charts, tables, or analyses in this section will exclude these 372 adoptions.

in 62 adoptions the relationship of the petitioner to the child was not reported. Well over half, 63.7 per cent, of the adopted children joined families of natural parents, stepparents or relatives. This represents the continuation of an established family relationship which is the most desirable situation for an adoptive child.

Of the 1,334 children adopted by their natural parents, stepparents, or relatives, 311 (23.3 per cent) were born out of wedlock, 863 (64.7 per cent) had both natural parents living at the time of their adoption, and 112 children were orphans. Status was unknown for 48 of these children.

STATUS OF CHILD AT TIME OF ADOPTION



Unrelated petitioners adopted 698 children. Of these, 474 or 67.9 per cent were born out of wedlock, 129 or 18.5 per cent were born to married couples, and 18 or 2.6 per cent had one or both parents dead. The status of the remaining 77 was classified "other" or "unknown".

The success of an adoption depends to a great extent on the age of the child, and therefore, efforts are made to place the child at the earliest age possible. Although data are not collected on the reasons children are available for adoption, it may be assumed that a large majority of the younger children are relinquished for adoption having been born out of wedlock, and the other children adopted have become available because of environmental situations which have resulted in the removal and eventual termination of parental rights. Many of the adopted children, 55.2 per cent, needed no placement as they were already in the families of the petitioners. Of the children requiring placement, 58.5 per cent were less than one year old, and 23.1 per cent were between one and six years of age. The adoptions included 1,244 or 59.4 per cent white children and 850 or 40.6 per cent non-white children, or children for whom race was not reported. (See Table 7.)

Table 7. Age of Adoptive Child at Time of Placement by Placing Agency\*

Age	Total	Public Child Placing Agency or Institution	Private Child Placing Agency or Institution	Own Parent	Other Relatives	Guardian	Other	No Placement, Child Always in Home	No Placement, Child Not in Home	Not Specified
TOTAL	2,466	471	181	153	12	11	44	1,154	40	428
0-5 months	418	216	135	51	2		13			1
6-11 months	76	43	9	17		1	6			
1-2 years	64	34	12	13	1	2	2			
3-4 years	72	39	5	15	1	4	7	1		
5-6 years	59	42	4	10	3					
7-8 years	46	36	3	5		1	1			
9-10 years	32	13	4	10	3		2			
11-14 years	41	23	2	10	2	3		1		
15 and over	13	6	3	3			1			
Not specified	1,645	19	4	19			12	1,152	40	427

\*Not Specified includes 372 adoptions from Jackson County.



Placement is classified in three groups: agency, independent, and no placement. Agency placements are further subdivided into public and private. A total of 653 agency adoptions were completed during the year of which 471 or 72.1 per cent were made by public agencies.

Independent placements are those made by parents, other relatives, or other individuals and organizations without referral to an adoptive agency. During 1976 a total of 219 independent adoptive placements were made. Of these placements, 164 or 74.9 per cent were made by the child's parent, or other relative, and 55 or 25.1 per cent were made by other individuals or organizations.

"No placement" adoptions are predominantly step-parent adoptions following remarriage by the child's parent. During 1976 there were 1,195 such adoptions, representing 57.1 per cent of all the adoptions during the year.

Before the adoption is final and prior to placement of the child, the juvenile court requests a study of the child to be adopted and the suitability of the

Table 8. Agency Making Adoptive Study by Population Area\*

Investigating Agency	State Total		SMSA**		Other	
	Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent
TOTAL	2,094	100.0	1,258	100.0	836	100.0
Court Staff	335	16.0	204	16.2	131	15.7
State Division of Family Services	934	44.6	493	39.2	441	52.8
Local public agency	137	6.5	55	4.4	82	9.8
Private agency	159	7.6	155	12.3	4	0.5
Combinations	529	25.3	351	27.9	178	21.3

\*Not included are 372 adoptions from Jackson County.

\*\*Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas include the counties of Boone, Buchanan, Cass, Clay, Franklin, Greene, Jefferson, Platte, St. Louis, and the City of St. Louis.

adoptive home. Social agencies also conduct similar studies prior to adoption but when an adoptive placement is made by a parent, relative, or other individual, a study of the child's new environment is not made until after placement.

The juvenile court staff made 35 or 5.4 per cent of the studies for agency placements, social agencies made 598 or 91.6 per cent, and other individuals or agencies made 20 studies or 3.1 per cent. The juvenile court studies were made by the adoption unit of the juvenile court. Of the 219 independent placements requiring adoptive studies, the juvenile court made 59 (26.9 per cent), social agencies made 124 studies (56.6 per cent), 23 studies (10.5 per cent), were made by individuals or other agencies, and in 7 cases (3.2 per cent) no studies were made. Juvenile courts made 234 (19.6 per cent) of the "no placement" adoptions, 509 (42.6 per cent) were made by social agencies, and 360 (30.1 per cent) were made by individuals or other agencies. No study was made in 91 of the "no placement" adoptions. For further data see Appendix Table X.

Of the 1,258 adoptive placements requiring studies in SMSA counties, 204 or 16.2 per cent of the studies were made by juvenile courts. The majority of the studies (55.4 per cent) were made by other individuals or agencies and the remaining studies (39.2 per cent) were made by social agencies. In the non-urban areas the trend was reversed. The majority of studies, 441 (52.8 per cent) were made by social agencies and the remaining studies were divided between the juvenile courts, 131 (15.7 per cent), and other individuals or agencies, 264 (31.6 per cent). Table 8 contains additional data.

APPENDIX - SUPPLEMENTARY STATISTICAL TABLES-----

Table I. Juvenile Delinquency, Dependency and Neglect

County	Delinquency Cases						Traf- fic Vio- la- tions
	Total Juve- nile Court Cases*	Court Disposition					
		Total**	Warned, Dis- missed, Adjusted or Held Open	Super- vision or Probation	Com- mitted to Public Insti- tution	Other and Not Spec- ified	
STATE TOTAL	60,131	33,780	***	***	***	***	14,327
Adair	276	181	103	43	1	34	59
Andrew	4						
Atchison	65	30	14	10		6	27
Audrain	388	244	126	86	4	28	103
Barry	85	42	26	6	3	7	28
Barton	18	2		1		1	
Bates	11						
Benton	56	31	21	6		4	18
Bollinger							
Boone	59						
Buchanan	1,006	801	572	136	8	85	94
Butler	745	386	275	56		55	65
Caldwell	20	12	2	6	2	2	
Callaway							
Camden	163	97	37	42	2	16	30
Cape Girardeau	11						
Carroll	151	89	42	30		17	33
Carter	10	3	1	1		1	
Cass	47						
Cedar	11						
Chariton	94	44	21	17		6	36
Christian	87	84	39	23	4	18	55
Clark	5	1			1		
Clay	2,503	1,401	641	533	50	177	785
Clinton	3						
Cole	699	403	137	200	12	54	215
Cooper	28	13	1	7	2	3	1
Crawford							
Dade	21	15		10		5	1
Dallas	82	42	32	2		8	38
Daviess	22	12	2	9		1	1
DeKalb	2						
Dent	29	4	1	1	1	1	
Douglas	60	26	8	17		1	26
Dunklin	494	252	158	46	4	44	73
Franklin							
Gasconade	2						
Gentry	43	22	11	10		1	12
Greene	1,701	687	439	98	26	124	694
Grundy	80	33	9	9		15	31
Harrison	70	37	10	12		15	27
Henry	24						
Hickory	51	36	25	8		3	14
Holt	40	21	6	12		3	15
Howard	77	42	24	15		3	29
Howell	69	23	12	6	5		
Iron	114	64	51	4	1	8	14
Jackson	11,116	5,918	106	75	4	46	2,676
Jasper	548	231	106	75	4	46	99
Jefferson	1,386	872	445	357	32	38	238
Johnson	55	11		8	1	2	
Knox	46	25	14	5		6	15
Laclede	380	192	110	43	2	37	153
Lafayette	14						
Lawrence	94	55	28	9	2	16	21
Lewis	145	79	49	13	1	16	48
Lincoln	110	63	39	18		6	41

\* For counties where no entries are made the county failed to report or reported they had no cases of the specified type.

\*\* Traffic violations not included.

\*\*\* State Totals are not available.

and Special Proceedings Cases, by Counties, 1976

County	Dependency and Neglect Cases					Special Proceedings	
	Total	Court Disposition				Adoptions	Other
		Warned, Dis-missed, Adjusted or Held Open	Super-vision or Proba-tion	Com-mitted to Public Insti-tution	Other and Not Spec-ified		
STATE TOTAL	6,677	***	***	***	***	2,466	2,881
Adair	21	4	7		10	10	5
Andrew						4	
Atchison	1				1	7	
Audrain	32	11	5	1	15	6	3
Barry	10	3	3		4	5	
Barton	11				11	5	
Bates						11	
Benton	2	1			1	5	
Bollinger							
Boone						59	
Buchanan	29	2	5		22	55	27
Butler	249	151	85		13	29	16
Caldwell	5	3			2	3	
Callaway							
Camden	23	3	14		6	13	
Cape Girardeau						11	
Carroll	17	6	8		3	8	4
Carter	6				6	1	
Cass						47	
Cedar	11				11		
Chariton	6	2	3	1		8	
Christian	21	1			20	11	
Clark						4	
Clay	224	101	93	2	28	58	93
Clinton						3	
Cole	40	9	5		26	18	23
Cooper	2				2	9	3
Crawford							
Dade	1				1	4	
Dallas	2		2				
Daviess	4		1		3	5	
DeKalb						2	
Dent	16				16	9	
Douglas	5	1		1	3	3	
Dunklin	145	12	108		25	23	1
Franklin							
Gasconade						2	
Gentry	3	2	1			6	
Greene	198	7	7		184	122	
Grundy	4	1	1		2	6	6
Harrison	5	2			3	1	
Henry						24	
Hickory						1	
Holt	1				1	3	
Howard	6	1	2		3		
Howell	18	11	2		5	27	1
Iron	30	10		1	19		6
Jackson	2,150					372	
Jasper	141	46	48		47	70	7
Jefferson	129	35	12	2	80	99	48
Johnson	43		14		29		1
Knox						2	4
Laclede	27	5	17		5	7	1
Lafayette						14	
Lawrence	6	4	2			12	
Lewis	8		1		7	3	7
Lincoln						6	

Table I. Juvenile Delinquency, Dependency and Neglect

County	Total juvenile Court Cases*	Delinquency Cases					Traf- fic Vic- la- tions
		Court Disposition					
		Total**	Warned, Dis- missed, Adjusted or Held Open	Super- vision or Proba- tion	Com- mitted to Public Insti- tution	Other and Not Spec- ified	
Linn	309	200	88	79	15	18	79
Livingston	76	36	2	22	9	3	5
McDonald	63	44	34	1		9	10
Macon	140	65	22	35	5	3	62
Madison	84	49	27	9	2	11	20
Maries	50	39	13	23		3	7
Marion	562	375	242	96	8	29	132
Mercer	30	15	4	3		8	13
Miller	144	90	68	15		7	43
Mississippi	235	174	129	13	16	16	53
Moniteau	109	55	36	13		6	34
Monroe	112	47	31	12		4	39
Montgomery	201	113	63	34	5	11	73
Morgan	105	51	35	15		1	34
New Madrid	93	70	8	22	3	37	22
Newton	367	216	116	29	11	60	85
Nodaway	142	81	42	23	1	15	49
Oregon	29	8		7		1	
Osage	7						5
Ozark	33	16	14	1		1	5
Pemiscot							
Perry							
Pettis	48	19	2	5	6	6	
Phelps	344	211	51	91	21	48	105
Pike	167	79	40	28		11	73
Platte	952	610	344	178	6	82	217
Polk	168	100	88	1		11	47
Pulaski	554	356	170	82	5	99	70
Putnam	28	12	3	7		2	4
Ralls	88	56	20	32		4	16
Randolph	220	127	86	31	7	7	77
Ray	169	101	35	55	1	10	33
Reynolds	52	25	24			1	5
Ripley	61	37	21	4		12	19
St. Charles	864	385	282	88	3	12	410
St. Clair	40	24	12	2	2	8	5
St. Francois	624	445	298	73	10	64	65
Ste. Genevieve	7	1	1				
St. Louis	18,029	11,645					4,624
St. Louis City	9,196	3,967					1,477
Saline	226	142	100	22	7	13	72
Schuyler	2						
Scotland	1						
Scott	449	298	196	46	15	41	95
Shannon	29	8	1			7	
Shelby	66	24	6	15		3	34
Stoddard	235	139	46	79	11	3	64
Stone	16	7	6	1			4
Sullivan	73	31	20	5	1	5	28
Taney	101	51	28	14		9	30
Texas	230	139	24	86	5	24	26
Vernon	70	27		15		12	3
Warren	79	51	24	26		1	23
Washington	117	87	40	37	3	7	8
Wayne	87	47	38	1	1	7	13
Webster	126	65	50	6		9	52
Worth	13	10	5	2		3	
Wright	147	84	37	18	2	27	43

and Special Proceedings Cases, by Counties, 1976--Continued

County	Dependency and Neglect Cases					Special Proceedings	
	Total	Court Disposition				Adoptions	Other
		Warned, Dis- missed, Adjusted or Held Open	Super- vision or Proba- tion	Com- mitted to Public Insti- tution	Other and Not Spec- ified		
Linn	21	5	12		4	8	1
Livingston	29	5	5		19	6	
McDonald	9	1			8		
Macon	2		1		1	11	
Madison	6	1	1		4	5	4
Maries	4	1	3				
Marion	25	5	9		11	20	10
Mercer	1				1	1	
Miller	8	3	3		2	3	
Mississippi	2	1	1			6	
Moniteau	10	4	2		4	10	
Monroe	16	11	1		4	2	8
Montgomery	13	9			4	2	
Morgan	17	3	11		3	3	
New Madrid						1	
Newton	23	1	2		20	40	3
Nodaway	7	4			3	5	
Oregon	7		4		3	8	6
Osage						2	
Ozark	3	1	2			9	
Pemiscot							
Perry							
Pettis	20				20	8	1
PHELPS	14	2	2	1	9	13	1
Pike	6				6	9	
Platte	105	6	89	1	9	17	3
Polk	5	4			1	16	
Pulaski	89	38	32		19	39	
Putnam						11	1
Ralls	3	1	1		1	8	5
Randolph	6		1		5	10	
Ray	18	5	7		6	13	4
Reynolds	22	10			12		
Ripley	3				3	2	
St. Charles						69	
St. Clair	7				7	4	
St. Francois	82	7	52		23	21	11
Ste. Genevieve						6	
St. Louis	723					606	431
St. Louis City	1,509					130	2,113
Saline	10	1	1		8		2
Schuyler						2	
Scotland						1	
Scott	21	5	9		7	32	3
Shannon	15	3			12	5	1
Shelby	1		1			7	
Stodderd	15	4	2	3	6	15	2
Stone	2				2	3	
Sullivan	10		8		2	2	2
Taney	15		7		8	5	
Texas	33	17	9	1	6	23	9
Vernon	31		2		29	9	
Warren						5	
Washington	13	6			7	5	4
Wayne	24	9	1	1	13	3	
Webster	5	5				4	
Worth						3	
Wright	15	4	3		8	5	

Table II. Reason for Referral by Race and Sex  
(excludes traffic)

Reason Referred	Total	Male	Female	Not Specified
TOTAL	33,780	20,306	7,700	5,774
Offenses applicable to both juveniles and adults:				
Murder and non-negligent manslaughter	17	13		4
Manslaughter by negligence	8	4	1	3
Forcible rape	73	48	2	23
Robbery	598	411	29	158
Assault	1,615	992	270	353
Burglary: Breaking or entering	3,132	2,365	61	706
Auto theft	1,161	678	97	386
Larceny	5,829	3,332	1,579	918
Weapons: carrying, possessing, etc.	452	381	34	37
Sex offenses (except forcible rape)	1,253	159	54	40
Violation of drug laws	1,934	1,352	397	185
Drunkenness	276	208	40	28
Disorderly conduct	1,360	874	308	178
Vandalism	2,229	1,814	143	272
Other	2,756	1,976	398	382
Offenses applicable to juveniles only:				
Running away	4,259	1,509	2,127	623
Truancy	1,991	910	639	442
Violation of curfew	1,115	827	231	57
Ungovernable behavior	2,463	845	708	910
Possessing or drinking liquor	1,549	1,151	359	39
Other	710	457	223	30

Table III. Reason for Referral by Age at Time of Referral  
(excludes traffic)

Reason Referred	Total	12 and Under	13-14	15	16	17 and Over	Not Spec- ified
TOTAL	33,780	2,191	4,803	4,185	5,002	203	17,396
Offenses applicable to both juveniles and adults:							
Murder and non-negligent manslaughter	17		3	3	5	1	5
Manslaughter by negligence	8		1	1	1		5
Forcible rape	73	5	14	12	14		28
Robbery	598	25	80	77	128	4	284
Assault	1,615	111	196	191	219	14	884
Burglary: breaking or entering	3,132	224	402	377	453	30	1,646
Auto theft	1,161	42	143	171	197	12	596
Larceny	5,829	455	822	624	798	24	3,106
Weapons: carrying, possessing, etc.	452	14	40	56	68	6	268
Sex offenses (except forcible rape)	253	30	40	44	40	1	98
Violation of drug laws	1,934	33	237	322	467	11	864
Drunkenness	276	1	22	34	40	1	178
Disorderly conduct	1,360	124	205	182	271	3	575
Vandalism	2,229	380	342	192	244	9	1,062
Other	2,756	159	280	281	371	21	1,644
Offenses applicable to juveniles only:							
Running away	4,259	165	737	648	584	30	2,095
Truancy	1,991	218	512	289	59	2	911
Violation of curfew	1,115	7	59	66	104		879
Ungovernable behavior	2,463	148	447	299	289	10	1,270
Possessing or drinking of liquor	1,549	8	119	224	516	6	676
Other	710	42	102	92	134	18	322



Table IV. Reason for Referral by Manner of Handling\*  
(excludes traffic)

Reason Referred	Total		Official		Unofficial	
	Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent
TOTAL	12,250	100.0	2,521	100.0	9,729	100.0
Offenses applicable to both juveniles and adults:						
Murder and non-negligent manslaughter	6	**	2	0.1	4	**
Manslaughter by negligence	1	**			1	**
Forcible rape	21	0.2	10	0.4	11	0.1
Robbery	144	1.2	80	3.2	64	0.7
Assault	305	2.5	59	5.1	246	2.5
Burglary: breaking or entering	1,071	8.7	487	19.3	584	6.0
Auto theft	400	3.2	185	7.4	215	2.2
Larceny	1,958	16.0	317	12.6	1,641	16.9
Weapons: carrying, possessing, etc.	64	0.5	18	0.7	46	0.5
Sex offenses (except forcible rape)	97	0.8	18	0.7	79	0.8
Violation of drug laws	886	7.2	215	8.5	671	6.9
Drunkenness	97	0.8	10	0.4	87	0.9
Disorderly conduct	567	4.6	42	1.7	525	5.4
Vandalism	984	8.0	126	5.0	858	8.8
Other	765	6.2	126	5.0	639	6.6
Offenses applicable to juveniles only:						
Running away	1,821	14.9	326	12.9	1,495	15.4
Truancy	896	7.3	114	4.5	782	8.0
Violation of curfew	219	1.8	14	0.6	205	2.1
Ungovernable behavior	932	7.6	235	9.3	697	7.2
Possessing or drinking of liquor	843	6.9	113	4.5	730	7.5
Other	173	1.4	24	1.0	149	1.5

\* Only 36.3 per cent of reported referrals indicated whether the manner of handling was official or unofficial. There were 21,530 referrals primarily from the Counties of Jackson, St. Louis and the City of St. Louis where the manner of handling was not reported.

\*\* Less than one-tenth of one per cent.

Table V. Dependency and Neglect: Source of Referral by Population Area\*

Referred by	State Total		SMSA**		Other	
	Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent
TOTAL	2,295	100.0	685	100.0	1,610	100.0
Law enforcement agency	370	16.1	128	18.7	242	15.0
School department	73	3.2	30	4.4	43	2.7
Social agency	1,175	51.2	315	46.0	860	53.4
Probation officer	52	2.3	32	4.7	20	1.2
Parents or relatives	401	17.5	110	16.1	291	18.1
Other court	7	0.3	5	0.7	2	0.1
Other	217	9.5	65	9.5	152	9.4

\*Excludes 4,382 referrals from St. Louis City, St. Louis County, Jackson County. Only 34.4 per cent of dependency and neglect referrals represented.

\*\*Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas include the counties of Boone, Buchanan, Cass, Clay, Franklin, Greene, Jackson, Jefferson, Platte, St. Louis, and the City of St. Louis.

Table VI. Dependency and Neglect: Care Pending Disposition by Population Area\*

Care Pending Disposition	State Total		SMSA**		Other	
	Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent
TOTAL	2,295	100.0	685	100.0	1,610	100.0
No detention or shelter care overnight	1,640	71.5	550	80.3	1,090	67.7
Detention or shelter care overnight or longer in:						
Jail or police station	11	0.5			11	0.7
Detention home	63	2.7	30	4.4	33	2.0
Foster family home	483	21.0	96	14.0	387	24.0
Other place	98	4.3	9	1.3	89	5.5

\*Excludes 4,382 referrals from St. Louis City, St. Louis County, Jackson County.

\*\*Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas include the counties of Boone, Buchanan, Cass, Clay, Franklin, Greene, Jackson, Jefferson, Platte, St. Louis, and the City of St. Louis.

Table VII. Number of Delinquency Referrals per Individual by Age\*  
(excludes traffic)

Number of Referrals per Child	Total	12 and Under	13-14	15	16	17 and Over	Not Spec- ified
TOTAL	10,085	1,549	2,994	2,563	2,876	43	60
1	8,755	1,406	2,509	2,193	2,546	41	60
2	969	109	342	261	256	1	
3	246	21	101	68	55	1	
4	75	7	26	29	13		
5	27	4	11	7	5		
6	5		3	1	1		
7	3		1	2			
8 or more	5	2	1	2			

\*Excludes St. Louis City, St. Louis County, Jackson County. Only 29.9 per cent of reported referrals represented.

Table VIII. Age of Adoptive Child at Time of Placement by Race and Population Area\*

Age at Time of Placement	State Total			SMSA**			Other		
	White	Non- White	Unknown	White	Non- White	Unknown	White	Non- White	Unknown
TOTAL	1,244	83	767	510	64	684	734	19	83
0-5 months	217	25	192	113	16	178	104	9	14
6-11 months	37	7	32	16	6	28	21	1	4
1-2 years	31	5	28	9	5	22	22		6
3-4 years	39	7	27	15	7	20	24		7
5-6 years	39	5	15	17	5	9	22		6
7-8 years	25	4	18	9	3	18	16	1	
9-10 years	21	4	7	7	2	6	14	2	1
11-14 years	19	6	16	5	6	13	14		3
15 and over	8	1	4	6	1	2	2		2
Not specified	808	19	428	313	13	388	495	6	40

\*Not included are 372 adoptions from Jackson County.

\*\*Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas include the counties of Boone, Buchanan, Cass, Clay, Franklin, Greene, Jefferson, Platte, St. Louis, and the City of St. Louis.

Table IX. Adoptive Children by Placing Agency, Race and Relationship\*

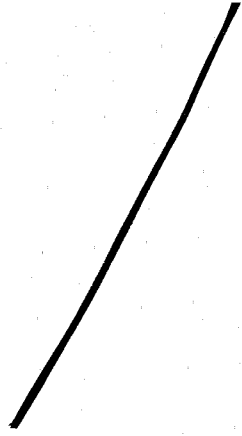
Race and Relationship	Total	Public Child Placing Agency or Institution	Private Child Placing Agency or Institution	Own Parent	Other Relatives	Guardian	Other	No Placement, Child Always in Home	No Placement, Child Not in Home	Not Specified
TOTAL	2,094	471	181	153	12	11	44	1,154	40	28
White	1,245	269	28	115	7	6	31	737	25	27
Non-White	81	25	7	23	5	2	1	18		
Unknown	768	177	146	15		3	12	399	15	1
Not Related	698	424	177	42		3	34	5	2	11
White	360	255	27	37		3	22	3	2	11
Non White	33	23	6	3			1			
Unknown	305	146	144	2			11	2		
Own Parent	78	1		41			1	25	10	
White	55	1		19			1	24	10	
Non-White	12			12						
Unknown	11			10				1		
Stepparent	1,107							1,090	16	1
White	704							690	13	1
Non-White	18							18		
Unknown	385							382	3	
Other Relative	149	26		69	12	8	4	29		1
White	105	13		59	7	3	4	19		
Non-White	16	2		7	5	2				
Unknown	28	11		3		3		10		1
Not Specified	62	20	4	1			5	5	12	15
White	21	1	1				4	1		15
Non-White	2		1	1						
Unknown	39	20	2				1	4	12	

\*Not included are 372 adoptions from Jackson County.

Table X. Agency Making Adoptive Study by Placing Agency\*

Agency Making Study	Total	Public Child Placing Agency or Institution	Private Child Placing Agency or Institution	Own Parent	Other Relatives	Guardian	Other	No Placement, Child Always in Home	No Placement, Child not in Home	Not Specified
TOTAL	2,094	471	182	152	12	11	44	1,155	40	27
Court Staff	336	33	2	43	6	3	7	230	4	8
State Division of Family Services	934	349	22	76	6	3	24	435	19	
Local public welfare agency	137	64	10	11			2	50		
Private agency	160	5	148				2	5		
Other person or agency	411	20		18		5	6	360		2
Study not made	103			4			3	74	17	5
Not specified	13							1		12

\*Not included are 372 adoptions from Jackson County.



**END**