

**COURT OF COMMON PLEAS
OF PHILADELPHIA**

FAMILY COURT DIVISION

**1978
REPORT**



Honorable Edward J. Bradley
President Judge
Honorable Frank J. Montemuro, Jr.
Administrative Judge
Honorable David N. Savitt
Judge
Court Administrator

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ACQUISITIONS
SIXTY-THIRD ANNUAL REPORT
of the
/ **FAMILY COURT DIVISION**
of the
/ **COURT OF COMMON PLEAS**
of Philadelphia

For the Year 1978



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COURT OF COMMON PLEAS OF PHILADELPHIA

FAMILY COURT DIVISION

THE JUDICIARY

President Judge — HONORABLE EDWARD J. BRADLEY
City Hall, Room 386

Administrative Judge — HONORABLE FRANK J. MONTEMURO, Jr.
City Hall, Room 517

Court Administrator — HONORABLE DAVID N. SAVITT, Judge
City Hall, Room 370

HONORABLE ALEX BONAVIDACOLA City Hall, Room 591
HONORABLE HERBERT R. CAIN, JR. City Hall, Room 504
HONORABLE VITO F. CANUSO City Hall, Room 529
HONORABLE NICHOLAS A. CIPRIANI City Hall, Room 258
HONORABLE PAUL A. DANDRIDGE City Hall, Room 229-A
HONORABLE WILLIAM A. DWYER, Jr. City Hall, Room 244
HONORABLE ABRAHAM J. GAFNI One East Penn Square
Bldg., Room 1000
HONORABLE DORIS M. HARRIS City Hall, Room 258
HONORABLE GREGORY G. LAGAKOS City Hall, Room 508
HONORABLE WILLIAM J. LEDERER One East Penn Square
Bldg., Room 110
HONORABLE JEROME A. O'NEILL City Hall, Room 536
HONORABLE WILLIAM PORTER One East Penn Square
Bldg., Room 1003
HONORABLE EDWARD B. ROSENBERG One East Penn Square
Bldg., Room 1002A
HONORABLE SAMUEL H. ROSENBERG City Hall, Room 290
HONORABLE HARVEY N. SCHMIDT City Hall, Room 692
HONORABLE JAMES L. STERN City Hall, Room 510
HONORABLE PAUL A. TRANCHITELLA City Hall, Room 642
HONORABLE EVELYN M. TROMMER Five Penn Center
Plaza, Room 10-C
HONORABLE JEROME A. ZALESKI City Hall, Room 532

SENIOR JUDGES

HONORABLE JOHN R. MEADE City Hall, Room 530
HONORABLE BENJAMIN W. SCHWARTZ Five Penn Center
Plaza, Room 10-D

FAMILY COURT DIVISION DIRECTORY

Administrative Judge

Honorable Frank J. Montemuro, Jr., Room 517, City Hall.

Chief Deputy Court Administrator

Dr. Leonard Rosengarten, Room 159, 1801 Vine Street.

STAFF SERVICES

DEPUTY COURT ADMINISTRATOR-MANAGEMENT AND STAFF

Ervin L. Davis, Room 223, 1801 Vine Street.

DIRECTOR OF TRAINING AND STAFF EVALUATION

Clarence L. Watts, Room 146, 1801 Vine Street.

DIRECTOR OF RESEARCH, PLANNING AND STATIS- TICS

Arno Cassel, Room 223, 1801 Vine Street.

JUVENILE BRANCH

**DEPUTY COURT ADMINISTRATOR, CHIEF,
JUVENILE BRANCH, Rocco J. Donatelli, Room 208, 1801
Vine Street.**

**ASSISTANT CHIEF, JUVENILE BRANCH, Lois T.
Brown, Room 213, 1801 Vine Street.**

Has jurisdiction over delinquent and dependent children, and adults corrupting or endangering the welfare of children. Investigates informal complaints made by any person or organization.

Petitions. Petitions for delinquent children received at Youth Study Center; petitions for dependent children received at 1801 Vine Street.

Probation and Investigation. Makes social investigations and arranges for physical and mental examinations of children. Supervises children on probation or under protective supervision, and gives aftercare supervision to children released from institutions.

Youth Study Center. 2020 Pennsylvania Avenue.

Kenneth E. Hale, Supervisor of Intake.

Provides detention care for juveniles pending court hearing. Intake control and case study are the responsibility of the juvenile branch of the court.

Counseling and Referral Services. 2133 Arch Street.

Grace R. Nash, Director.

DOMESTIC RELATIONS BRANCH

DEPUTY COURT ADMINISTRATOR, CHIEF,
DOMESTIC RELATIONS BRANCH, Gloria P. Thomas,
Room 129, 1801 Vine Street.

Has jurisdiction in cases of non-support of spouses, or children, and the custody of children. Makes and enforces orders for support.

WOMEN'S BRANCH

SUPERVISOR, Mrs. Normagene G. Russell, Room 354,
1801 Vine Street.

Establishes paternity and the responsibility for support of children born out of wedlock.

DIVORCE PROCEEDINGS

SUPERVISOR, APPOINTMENT UNIT, Benjamin Coco,
Room 287, City Hall.

The Family Court has jurisdiction in divorce and annulment proceedings. Administrative Judge, Honorable Frank J. Montemuro, Jr., presides over hearings relating to motions and rules in divorce and annulment matters. These hearings are held every Friday in Room 708, City Hall.

ADOPTION BRANCH

CHIEF, ADOPTION BRANCH, Evelyn M. Cunningham, Room 343A, 1801 Vine Street.

Has exclusive jurisdiction in adoption proceedings. Social investigations are conducted by the staff of adoptions branch. Petitions for adoption are filed in the Prothonotary's office, Room 264, City Hall.

MEDICAL BRANCH

CHIEF, MEDICAL BRANCH, John J. Fitzgerald, Jr., Room 315, 1801 Vine Street.

Dr. Carlton W. Orchinik, Ph.D., Chief Psychologist, Room 327, 1801 Vine Street.

Physical and mental diagnoses of adults and children referred by all branches of the court. Studies and evaluations are performed and become part of the records of the court.

SUPPORT ACCOUNTS BUREAU

Room 141, 1801 Vine Street. Under the direction of Edgar C. Campbell, Sr., Clerk of Quarter Sessions, Room 673, City Hall.

Receives payments on support orders made by the Family Court in domestic relations, juvenile, and unmarried mothers' cases and disburses payments to beneficiaries.

BUILDING AND GROUNDS

SUPERINTENDENT, Joseph Fiorilli, Room B15-A, 1801 Vine Street.

Building and grounds maintenance; watchmen, engineers, mechanics, janitors, cleaners, messengers, etc.

COURTROOM PERSONNEL

**CHIEF COURT CRIER, William McNulty, Room B20,
1801 Vine Street.**

**Supervises activities of all court officers, court criers,
tipstaves and security guards.**

THE JUVENILE BRANCH

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THE JUVENILE BRANCH

INTRODUCTORY

The welfare of the child is the guiding principle of the Juvenile Branch of the Family Court.

The Juvenile Branch has jurisdiction in all proceedings concerning allegations of dependency and delinquency, as well as over all dependent¹ and delinquent² children³. Within this jurisdiction are all adults charged with any act which corrupts or tends to corrupt children, or endangers their welfare, or charged with any act of omission or commission, with respect to children, in violation of any state law or local ordinance.

The purpose of juvenile law has been defined by the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania as the "salvation of children" rather than the punishment of offenders. (*Commonwealth v. Fisher*, 213 Pa. 48). Accordingly, the child's total situation, rather than the specific delinquent conduct, is given primary consideration in determining dispositions. The *Gault* Decision of the United States Supreme Court, which states that most constitutional safeguards of the Fourteenth Amendment must be accorded to children as well as to adults, has not undermined the basic child-centered philosophy of the juvenile court.

¹A "dependent child" is a child who is without proper parental care or control, subsistence, education as required by law, or other care or control necessary for physical, mental or emotional health or morals; has been placed for care or adoption in violation of law; has been abandoned by parent(s), guardian, or other custodian; is without a parent, guardian, or legal custodian; while subject to compulsory school attendance, is habitually and without justification truant from school; has committed a specific act or acts of habitual disobedience of the reasonable and lawful commands of his parent, guardian, or other custodian and is ungovernable and found to be in need of care, treatment or supervision; or is under the age of ten years and has committed a delinquent act.

²A "delinquent child" is a child ten years of age or older whom the court has found to have committed a delinquent act and is in need of treatment, supervision or rehabilitation. A "delinquent act" is an act designated a crime under the law of this State or of another State if the act occurred in that State, or under Federal law, or under local ordinances; "delinquent act" shall not include the crime of murder nor shall it include summary offenses unless the child fails to pay a fine levied thereunder.

³"Child" is an individual who is under the age of 18 years, or under the age of 21 years who committed an act of delinquency before reaching age of eighteen years.

Neglect of a child's essential needs—physical, emotional, and social—frequently causes irreparable harm. To prevent such harm, to guard against the establishment of anti-social tendencies, to help the child in his development, and to lead him into paths of acceptable behavior are the essential aims of the juvenile court. Since the court perceives its role as that of promoting the child's welfare, the attitude and procedure of the court are relatively informal. The needs of the child, and the determination of a plan to help him, take precedence over other considerations. Therefore, juveniles involved with the court:

- (1) are treated in an informal, non-criminal proceeding;
- (2) are segregated from adult cases during detention, court hearings, and commitment or treatment;
- (3) are given a thorough social investigation, physical examination, and mental study;
- (4) receive special probation service, treatment, and commitment; and,
- (5) are protected from embarrassment in later years by keeping their records in strict confidence.

JUVENILE COURT PROCEDURE

Juvenile cases are brought to the attention of the court in one of three ways; informal complaints, petitions by individuals or agencies, and arrests. Previously closed cases may be reopened by petitions or motions for amendment of the court decree.

Informal Complaints.—By stating the circumstances in an informal complaint, any person may report a condition of alleged delinquency or dependency which, in his opinion, needs investigation. If the complaint is not within the jurisdiction of the court, it is directed to the proper agency. Many of these complaints are presently handled by Counseling and Referral Service, an auxiliary unit of the juvenile court.

Petitions by Individuals or Agencies.—A complainant may cause a petition to be filed, directly invoking the formal dispo-

sition of the court, by submitting an affidavit or formal complaint. For example, each year a number of petitions alleging truancy are initiated by the Board of Education.

Arrests.—A special division of the police force, the Juvenile Aid Division, is charged with the responsibility of enforcing criminal laws against juveniles. Although any regular police officer may apprehend and hold a juvenile, only a member of the Juvenile Aid Division can make an arrest. A juvenile who is apprehended by a regular police officer is turned over to a Juvenile Aid Division officer who determines whether or not the child should be “arrested.” If not, the child is released and a “non-arrest” is recorded. If the youth is arrested, he is brought to the court’s intake unit which is located in the Youth Study Center, a detention facility maintained by the county for juvenile offenders.

PRE-HEARING PROCESSING OF JUVENILE CASES

The intake unit at the Youth Study Center is authorized by the president judge to screen all delinquency cases in order to determine whether or not the court has jurisdiction and, if so, how that jurisdiction should be exercised.

On the basis of an arrest or an affidavit, and in the presence of the juvenile and his parents, the intake interviewer presides at a conference to hear the facts of the case. At this time the case is either adjusted or a petition is filed which refers the juvenile to the court for disposition. Pending the court hearing, the child is either released to his parents or it is recommended that he be detained.

Since the law requires that detention have judicial authorization within seventy-two hours, hearings are held in the juvenile court five days a week, at which time a judge determines whether or not the juvenile shall be detained. Additionally, judges are regularly assigned to preside at such hearings on all Mondays and Fridays which are legal holidays.

Several other safeguards are provided. Each day several court lists are devoted to hearing the cases of juveniles who are in custody. An automatic detention review hearing is held for all juveniles who have been in detention for thirty days.

Additionally, a Pre-Hearing Intensive Supervision Unit has been established which provides intensive supervision to a limited number of youthful offenders who would otherwise be held in custody, further reducing the number of juveniles in detention.

PRE-TRIAL HEARINGS

The pre-trial hearing is in essence a judicial "clearing house" for delinquency cases, which follows the Youth Study Center intake "interview" or conference. This hearing is conducted by a judge, and consists of a relatively informal presentation and evaluation of all available information, to determine whether the juvenile should be discharged, or continued for an adjudicatory hearing. Present at the pre-trial hearing are the child and his parents or guardian, counsel for the juvenile, and the District Attorney or his assistant.

At the conclusion of the pre-trial hearing the court may:

- (1) Order that the juvenile be discharged as to the offense;
- (2) Grant a motion, made by the District Attorney or by the complainant, to withdraw the petition;
- (3) Order a Consent Decree;
- (4) Make an adjudication of delinquency on the basis of the juvenile's admission of the facts recited in the petition;
or
- (5) Continue the case for an adjudicatory hearing.

Consent Decree—The Juvenile Act of 1972 provides that, at any time after the filing of a petition, and before entry of an adjudication order, the court may suspend the proceedings and place the child under supervision, under terms and conditions negotiated with the probation department and agreed to by the affected parties. This order, placing the child under supervision, with neither an adjudication of delinquency nor an admission of guilt, is known as a Consent Decree.

A Consent Decree automatically remains in force for six months. However, under certain specified conditions, the following alternatives are provided by law.

- (1) The decree may be terminated and the child discharged from supervision sooner than six months;
- (2) Prior to the date of expiration, the decree may be extended for an additional six months; or
- (3) Prior to expiration or termination of the decree, the petition may be reinstated as if the Consent Decree had never been entered.

Although there is no adjudication of delinquency when a Consent Decree is entered, a court record is created nevertheless.

ADJUDICATORY HEARINGS

Delinquency cases which are not disposed of at the pre-trial are continued to an adjudicatory hearing. Present at the adjudicatory hearing are all the individuals present at the pre-trial, as well as the arresting officer or complainant and any witnesses. At the adjudicatory hearing evidence is presented, and witnesses and complainants are cross-examined.

Dependent petitions are heard only at adjudicatory hearings. There is no complement to the pre-trial hearing for allegations of dependency.

After hearing the evidence on the petition, the court determines whether the child is a dependent child, or, if the petition alleges that the child is delinquent, whether the acts ascribed to the child were committed by him. If the court finds that the child is not a dependent child, or that the allegations of delinquency have not been established, it dismisses the petition. If the court finds that a child is, in fact, either dependent or delinquent, the court proceeds immediately, or at a postponed hearing, to make a proper disposition of the case.

ORDERS OF THE COURT

Following adjudication, and after an inquiry into the facts, the judge determines whether the best interests and welfare of the child, and the community, require the court to intervene in the care, guidance, and control of the child, and makes an order accordingly.

If the child is found to be a dependent child, the court may make any of the following orders of disposition.

- (1) Permit the child to remain with his parents or guardian, subject to such conditions and limitations as the court may prescribe, including supervision as directed by the court for the protection of the child.
- (2) Subject to conditions and limitations as the court prescribes, transfer legal custody to any of the following;
 - (a) any individual in Pennsylvania or elsewhere who is found by the court to be qualified to receive and care for the child;
 - (b) any agency or other private organization which is authorized by law to receive the child and provide for his care;
 - (c) a public agency authorized by law to receive and provide for the child.
- (3) Transfer custody of the child to the juvenile court of another state.

Unless a child found to be dependent is also found to be delinquent, he may not be committed or confined in any facility designed or operated for delinquent children.

If the child is found to be a delinquent child, the court may make any of the following orders of disposition.

- (1) Any order authorized for the disposition of a dependent child.
- (2) Place the child on probation under supervision of the probation department of the court, or of the court of another State, under conditions and limitations the court prescribes.

- (3) Commit the child to an institution, youth development center, camp, or other facility for delinquent children, operated under the direction or supervision of any public authority which is approved by the Department of Public Welfare.
- (4) If the child is twelve years of age or older, commit the child to an institution operated by the Department of Public Welfare.
- (5) Order payment of fines, costs, or restitution.

There are certain additional provisions of law which affect the disposition of delinquent children.

- (1) No child shall initially be committed to an institution for a period of longer than three years, or a period longer than he could have been sentenced by the court had he been convicted of the same offense as an adult, whichever is less.
- (2) No child shall be committed or transferred to a penal institution or other facility, used primarily for the execution of sentences of adults convicted of a crime.
- (3) Since a finding of delinquency is not a conviction of a crime, it does not impose any civil disability ordinarily resulting from a conviction. The disposition of a child, or any evidence given in the juvenile court may only be used at subsequent juvenile hearings for preparation of pre-sentence investigations and reports in adult court, or in a civil hearing where the child's reputation or character is an issue.

Disposition of Mentally Ill or Mentally Retarded Child—If at any hearing involving an allegedly dependent or delinquent child, the evidence indicates that the child may be subject to commitment or detention under the provisions of the Mental Health and Mental Retardation Act of 1966 or Mental Health Procedures Act of 1976, the court shall proceed under the provisions of these acts.

Amendment, Change, or Extension of Court Orders—All orders with respect to delinquent or dependent children, until

they attain the age of 21 years, are subject to amendment, change, or extension by the court, upon motion by the district attorney, probation officer, defense counsel, or any other person in interest.

Cases are reopened for the following reasons:

- (1) For delinquent commitments, the law provides that the committing court shall review each commitment every six months, and hold a disposition review hearing at least every nine months.
- (2) Rehearings or appeals where errors of law or of fact are alleged.
- (3) Rehearings to amend or revoke orders when circumstances have changed.

SUPERVISION OF CHILDREN

Placement on probation, or under protective supervision as in the case of dependent children, means that the child is permitted to remain in the home of his parents or guardian but under the supervision of a probation officer.

Probation in juvenile work entails more than is usually understood by the term. Court social worker would be a more accurate label than the title of probation officer. The probation officer's supervision of the child includes home and school visits, and interviews with the child, his parents, his teachers, and the school counselor or principal. The probation officer, having established personal contact with the child and his parents, attempts to discover the cause of the child's difficulties and to ascertain his needs and desires. By providing support and encouragement, the officer helps to strengthen the child's self-confidence, which may have been shaken for example, by failure in school, or the apparent lack of understanding and acceptance at home. In numerous ways the probation officer assists in bringing about a wholesome adjustment in the community.

In addition to pre-hearing investigations and the supervision of delinquent and dependent children, the probation department of the juvenile branch is responsible for carrying out all medical recommendations except those which are placed under the direct supervision of the medical department. Additionally, when any child is committed to an institution, or child-placing agency, a summary of the court's findings is provided by the probation officer.

In the more serious cases for which the court does not consider probation an adequate remedy, or for which it has been tried and proven unsatisfactory, commitment to an institution is indicated. The institutions to which children are committed are founded on the principle that the training and education provided to children should enable the child to find a place in the community. In order to increase the probability of institutional rehabilitation and effective return to the community, the court has established the community related institutional probation unit. Children who are committed to institutions are assigned a probation officer from this unit who maintains a continuous relationship with the child and his parents during commitment, and after his discharge from the institution.

SUPPORT FOR CHILDREN IN PLACEMENT

The juvenile court has the power to order the parent to contribute such sum as it may determine for the support of a child committed to a child-placing agency, an institution, or an individual.

In cases where children are placed in private homes or institutions, the court may place a support order on the parent, or it may place an order on the City Department of Public Welfare with the proviso that the parent or parents reimburse the City all or part of the amount.

When an order is made by the court, a certificate of this action is transmitted to the bureau of accounts, the City Department of Public Welfare, the child-care accounts of the Department of Collections, and the agency or institution to which the child is committed. The agencies and institutions bill the City Department of Public Welfare for the amounts

due and the bills and accounts are checked by the agents of the child-care accounts of the city Department of Collections.

The accounting of these orders is first in the hands of the aforementioned bureau of accounts in the office of the Clerk of Quarter Sessions, payments being made by the persons against whom orders are made by the juvenile court. The money thus received is disbursed to the beneficiaries and the receipts on orders to reimburse the City are turned over to the City Treasurer.

The bureau of accounts receives money brought to it but does not concern itself if payments on the courts' orders fall into arrears. Payments in arrears on reimburse orders are followed up by agents of the child-care accounts of the city Department of Collections, who may request the juvenile branch enforcement unit to file affidavits for attachments for non-payment. Cases referred to the court on attachments are disposed of by the judge through court hearing. Parents who become delinquent in their payments on juvenile branch support orders, which are payable to the Pennsylvania Department of Revenue, are investigated by the enforcement unit of the juvenile branch. This unit, by correspondence and personal contacts, seeks to have the payments made.

TOTAL ACTIVITY

The statistics presented do not constitute an exact measure of the nature and extent of juvenile delinquency or dependency in this city, but rather a statement of the workload handled by the juvenile branch of this court.

The extent of this work is indicated by the fact that during 1978 there were 23,497 dispositions in cases of delinquency, dependency, and adults charged with corrupting or endangering the welfare of children.

The number of cases listed, rather than the number of dispositions, more fully reflects the total workload of the court. A considerable number of cases involve continuances; for further investigations; for studies or plans; for appearance of witnesses; etc.; also, if one of the parties fails to appear a bench warrant is issued. All such actions require more than one court hearing and an additional amount of staff work.

TOTAL LISTINGS-JUVENILE BRANCH

	1978	1977	1976	1975	1974
Cases listed for disposition	58,015	52,931	63,138	71,876	68,213
Listed for court hearing	39,455	35,397	40,387	45,432	41,581
Continuances	22,546	20,493	23,384	27,271	25,439
Dispositions	16,909	14,904	17,003	18,161	16,142
Listed for intake interviews . .	14,203	13,625	17,266	21,488	21,205
Continuances	1,814	1,515	1,962	2,897	3,351
Referred to juvenile court for hearing	10,158	9,343	10,277	12,404	10,846
Adjustments	2,231	2,767	5,027	6,187	7,008
Listed for official judicial approval without court hearing and disposed of	4,357	3,909	5,485	4,956	5,427

Continuances also include those cases which are not disposed of at the pre-trial court hearing, but are referred by the judge for an adjudicatory court hearing. Since pre-trial hearings were initiated as an intermediate step between Youth Study Center interviews and the formal court (adjudicatory) hearing, those cases which are sent from a pre-trial to an adjudicatory hearing could more accurately be called referrals than continuances. However, in this report they are included in the figure indicated as "continuances". Forty-two percent of the total listings in 1978 involved continuances.

In addition to cases disposed of through court hearing and without court hearing there are many other activities, such as field investigations, preparation of cases for hearing, supervision by the probation staff and nurses of children and adults on probation and parole, as well as after-care supervision for children and adults released from certain institutions. There are also thousands of medical, dental, psychiatric, and psychologic examinations; referrals of cases to public and private health and welfare agencies and institutions; and the serving of warrants and subpoenas.

Cases and Children. — In counting "cases" each child is counted separately and as many times as he was dealt with by the court on a new charge of delinquency disposed of during the year. In counting "children", each child is counted only once — the first time he was dealt with by the court on a new delinquency charge disposed of during the year. The case "disposed of" rather than the case "received" is used as the statistical unit in this report because it is at the final stage of procedure that we have the nearest approach to complete information about the case. From an administrative standpoint, statistics of *dispositions* or *cases disposed of* are significant because each case represents a certain amount of administrative machinery set in motion each time the child is referred to the court. Statistics of *individual children* dealt with by the court are useful: (1) in showing facts which can be compared with the total juvenile population of this City; (2) in relating the reports of the court to those of other agencies serving children; and (3) in indicating from year to year whether the juvenile court is called upon to handle more children.

During 1978, 12,568 new cases of delinquency, involving 8,810 individual children, were disposed of by the court. Included are children who had more than one new offense disposed of. In essence, the number of cases was 43 percent higher than the number of children involved, as compared to 39 percent in 1977.

TOTAL CASES DISPOSED OF — JUVENILE BRANCH

	1978	1977	1976	1975	1974
Total cases disposed of	23,497	21,580	27,515	29,304	28,577
Through court hearing . . .	16,909	14,904	17,003	18,161	16,142
New charges	13,096	11,796	13,710	15,112	13,069
Delinquency	10,337	9,548	11,034	12,063	10,698
Adults corrupting or endangering the welfare of children	1,176	1,033	1,281	1,479	1,254
Non-delinquency cases	1,583	1,215	1,395	1,570	1,117
Rehearing cases	3,813	3,108	3,293	3,049	3,073
Delinquency	2,283	1,883	2,010	1,885	2,205
Non-delinquency	1,485	1,104	1,128	969	698
Adults	45	121	155	195	170
Without court hearing . . .	6,588	6,676	10,512	11,143	12,435
Youth Study Center	2,231	2,767	5,027	6,187	7,008
Rehearing cases (total)	4,357	3,909	5,485	4,956	5,427
Delinquency	4,196	3,763	5,345	4,734	5,072
Non-delinquency	161	146	102	193	253
Adults	—	—	38	29	102

Juvenile delinquency cases are the major concern of the juvenile branch of the court as compared with non-delinquent cases which comprise fourteen percent of the workload.

The 23,497 dispositions consisted of 15,327 new charges and 8,170 rehearing cases.

A "new charge" is defined as a case brought to court on a specific charge for which no previous disposition has been made.

“Rehearing cases” are those already under court supervision, including children committed to agencies and institutions, and are returned to court at the initiation of the person, agency, or institution supervising the child. Upon motion, petition, writ of attachment, or by order of the court they are referred for additional study, review, amendment, or discharge, and possible change in the original disposition. It may be assumed that the social investigations in these cases, when needed, require about one-half the staff time required for the investigation of a new case. Statistics on rehearings show the nature and extent of the modifications of previous decrees of the court, and further actions taken regarding cases under the supervision of the court.

DELINQUENCY CASES

Juvenile-court statistics alone cannot be used as an index of the gravity of juvenile delinquency in a community, but only as an indication of the manner and extent to which the court is called upon to deal with children in the community.

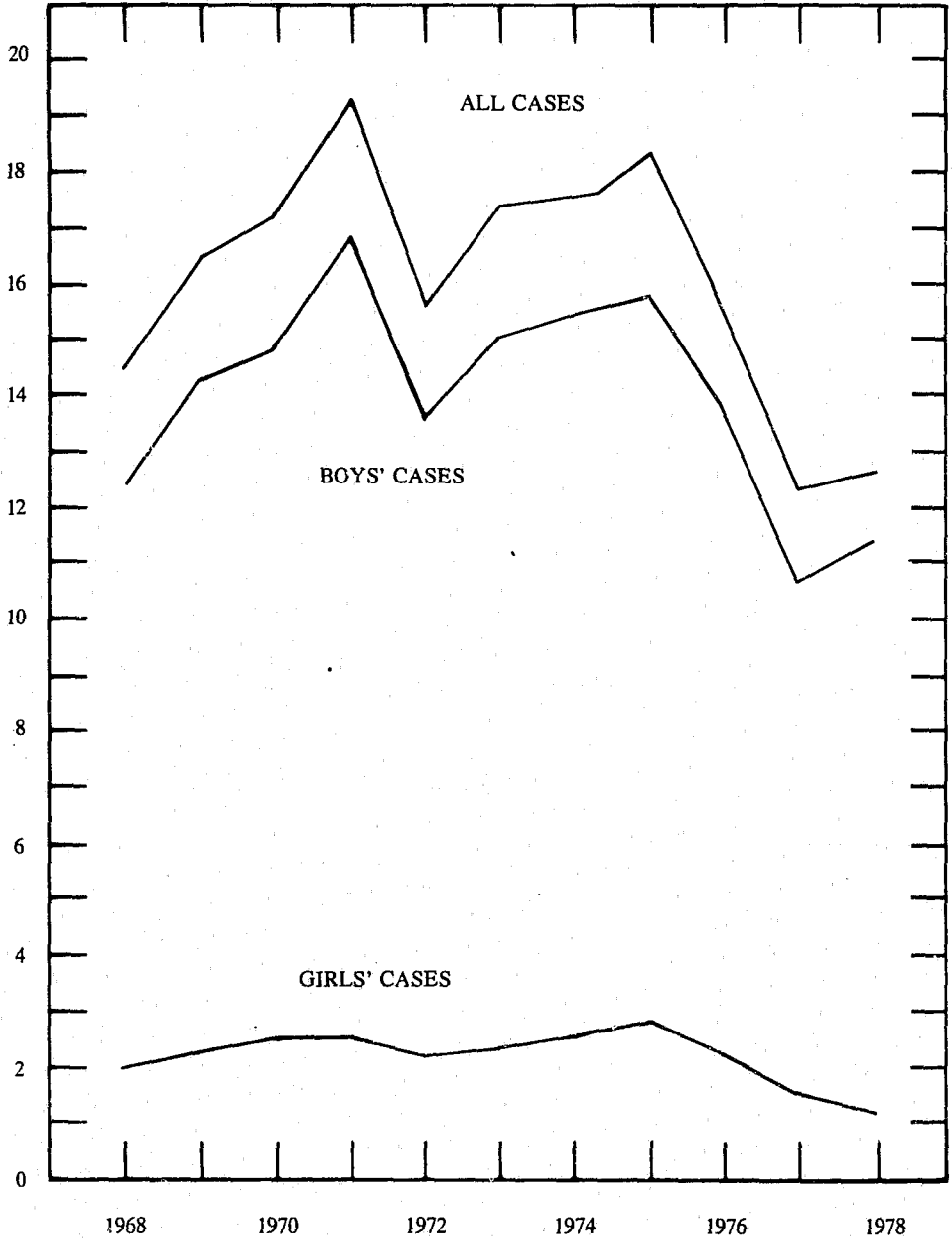
It must be borne in mind that the figures presented in this report are juvenile-court statistics. They show the number of allegedly delinquent children whose cases were referred to the juvenile court *and were disposed of during the calendar year* and should not be confused with statistics of arrests by the police. Cases disposed of by the court include those arrested by city police officers, cases referred by private police (railroad police and store detectives), and cases referred to court by agencies or individuals. After arrest, or referral by other method, delinquency cases are either adjusted at the Youth Study Center by intake interviewers or are referred to court. The children are investigated by probation officers, examined physically and mentally by court physicians and psychiatrists, given a hearing, and their cases disposed of by the judge. These investigations and examinations take time, and many days may elapse between the date of arrest, or referral to court, and the date of final disposition by the judge. Consequently, arrests during a specified period of time are not comparable with court dispositions during the same period.¹

Obviously, it is impossible to estimate how many delinquent children escaped the attention of the law. A large number of complaints to police concerning children under 18 years of age, are handled as non-arrests or remedial cases because the offenses are trivial. In 1978 there were 10,216 remedial cases recorded by the police, 7,124 boys and 3,092 girls. Conduct which may cause one parent or neighborhood trouble enough to justify a complaint to the authorities may cause no trouble at all to another parent or neighborhood.

¹See statistics of arrests and court dispositions — Table 46

JUVENILE DELINQUENCY CASES
DISPOSED OF: 1968-1978

THOUSANDS



However, the more serious forms of youthful misconduct or those which pose a threat to the community's welfare cannot be tolerated or dealt with informally to any great extent. The police and the court are both most likely to intercede formally in the public's behalf in such cases. The court is also a place of last resort to which children are referred after other agencies have failed to effect a proper adjustment. Court cases, therefore, serve as an index of the amount of misbehavior currently defined as serious by the community through its schools and law enforcement agencies, and by parents themselves. Detailed statistics showing the nature of offenses, types of dispositions, and the like, can shed important light on the changing severity of the problems.

During the year 1978, 12,568 new cases of alleged delinquency were disposed of by the juvenile branch of this court. Involved in the cases were 8,810 separate children. Compared with 1977 this was an increase of 2 percent in the number of cases and a decrease of 1 percent in the number of children.

The number of new cases of delinquency disposed of by the court has gone from an all time high of 19,310 cases in 1971 to a low of 12,568 cases in 1978. However, it should be noted, since the summer of 1976, juveniles arrested for summary offenses are no longer referred to the Juvenile Branch unless fines levied are not paid, but instead are processed in Municipal Court. Additionally, runaway and incorrigibility cases are being treated as dependent cases under provisions of Act 41, August, 1977, which amended the Juvenile Court Act of 1972.

All things considered, only a small number of Philadelphia children of juvenile-court ages were referred to the juvenile court as alleged delinquents (3 percent) in 1978. However, this ratio varies with age and sex. Eleven percent of the boys, 15 to 17 years of age were delinquent as compared with 1 percent of the girls. For boys 16 years of age, the ratio was 12 percent.

	<i>Cases</i>	<i>Individual children</i>	<i>Ratio: Cases per 100 children</i>
1974	17,706	12,227	145
1975	18,250	12,019	152
1976	16,061	11,090	145
1977	12,315	8,887	138
1978	12,568	8,810	143
Boys	11,377	7,831	146
Girls	1,191	979	119

Boys' cases increased 5 percent from 1977, as compared to 21 percent decrease for girls' cases. White boys' cases show an increase of 3 percent, with an increase of 6 percent in non-white boys' cases.

SUMMARY

Of the 12,568 alleged cases of delinquency in 1978:

- 11,377 or 91 percent were boys
- 1,191 or 9 percent were girls
- 4,395 or 35 percent were white
- 8,173 or 65 percent were non-white

These cases of delinquency were referred to court for following reasons:

- 7,661 or 61 percent, for various types of stealing
- 256 or 2 percent, for sex offenses
- 2,005 or 16 percent, for injury to person
(including homicide)
- 382 or 3 percent, for ungovernable behavior
- 190 or 1 percent, for vandalism and arson
- 150 or 1 percent, for disorderly conduct
- 443 or 4 percent, for carrying, etc., deadly weapons
- 262 or 2 percent, for miscellaneous acts of malicious mischief
- 1,105 or 9 percent, for drug law violation
- 114 or 1 percent, for other offenses

These cases were disposed of as follows:

- 6,081 or 49 percent, were dismissed, discharged, or adjusted
- 5,144 or 41 percent, were placed, or continued, on probation
- 816 or 6 percent, were committed to institutions or agencies
- 527 or 4 percent, were disposed of in various other ways

Eighty-two percent of the new cases disposed of during 1978 were disposed of through court hearing, 83 percent of the boys' cases, and 76 percent of the girls' cases.

METHOD OF DISPOSITION — JUVENILE DELINQUENCY

Method of disposition	Delinquency cases disposed of					
	Number			Percent distribution		
	Total	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls
Total: 1978	12,568	11,377	1,191	100	100	100
Through court hearing	10,337	9,431	906	82	83	76
Adjusted through intake interviews	2,231	1,946	285	18	17	24
Total: 1977	12,315	10,797	1,518	100	100	100
Through court hearing	9,548	8,453	1,095	78	78	72
Adjusted through intake interviews	2,767	2,344	423	22	22	28

SEX AND AGE

Boys outnumbered girls among the cases of alleged delinquency disposed of during 1978, 11,377 boys and 1,191 girls. The proportion of girls' cases, which had remained around 13 percent since 1972, dropped to 9 percent in 1978. However, in recent years the offenses committed by girls are of a more serious nature. From 1972 through 1976, 12 to 15 percent of the girls' were referred to Court for offenses involving injury to a person. In 1977, these offenses accounted for 20 percent of girls' cases, and in 1978, the percentage rose to 32 percent.

Stealing offenses continue to be the most common offense committed by girls, accounting for 38 percent of girls' cases in 1978.

Forty-nine percent of the delinquency cases in 1978 concerned children under 16 years of age.

Age of child	Delinquency cases disposed of: 1978				
	Number			Percent distribution ¹	
	Total	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
Total	12,568	11,377	1,191	100	100
Under 16 years	6,121	5,497	624	48	52
Under 10 years	10	8	2	†	†
10 years	124	109	15	1	1
11 years	238	221	17	2	2
12 years	567	507	60	4	5
13 years	1,075	968	107	9	9
14 years	1,648	1,455	193	13	16
15 years	2,459	2,229	230	19	19
Over 16 years	6,447	5,880	567	52	48
16 years	3,211	2,918	293	26	25
17 years	3,236	2,962	274	26	23

¹Distributive percentages are not adjusted to total 100.

†Less than 0.5 percent.

In 1978, 16 and 17 year old boys and girls present the largest category of offenders. Fifty-two percent of the boys' delinquency cases in 1978 involved children 16 and 17 years of age. Sixteen percent of the boys and 17 percent of the girls were under 14 years of age.

REASON FOR REFERENCE TO COURT

Due to changes in processing summary and status cases,¹ a different mix of cases is referred to this court. Thus no direct comparison with prior years is possible. However, as in past years, stealing (including breaking and entering, auto theft,

¹see page ____.

larceny, robbery, etc.) is the most common form of delinquency referred to this court and accounted for 7,661 cases, or 61 percent of all delinquency cases disposed of during 1978. Within this category, burglary, robbery and larceny were the most frequently committed offenses.

Offenses	Delinquency cases disposed of				
	Number			Percent distribution*	
	Total	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
Total cases	12,568	11,377	1,191	100	100
Stealing (all types)	7,661	7,206	455	63	38
Aggravated assaults and homicide	1,018	860	158	7	13
Other injury to person	987	761	226	7	19
Disorderly conduct	150	118	32	1	3
Vandalism and arson	190	166	24	1	2
Drug law violations	1,105	998	107	9	9
Weapons	443	417	26	4	2
Ungovernable behavior	382	305	77	3	6
Miscellaneous malicious mischief	262	224	38	2	3
Sex offenses	256	227	29	2	3
All other offenses	114	95	19	1	2

*Distributive percentages are not adjusted to total 100.

The offenses classified under "injury to person," although numerically higher for boys, account for 32 percent of the girls' cases, compared with 14 percent of the boys' cases.

Weapons offenses account for 4 percent of the total cases, slightly lower than the previous year.

There has been a decrease in recent years in the number of sex offenses referred to the juvenile branch. This decrease is the result of a change in procedure in the handling of juveniles charged with neglect to support a child born out of wedlock. These cases are now being referred directly to the women's branch of the court for disposition. Sex offenses account for approximately 2 percent of the total cases in 1978.

Drug laws violations increased from 746 cases in 1971 to 1,105 in 1978. The proportion of drug violations to the total number of cases has shown a small, but steady increase each year from 1973 (5 percent) through 1977 (9 percent). The percentage of drug law violations remained at 9 percent for 1978.

SOURCE OF REFERENCE TO COURT

The term "source of reference to court" as used in this report refers to the person or agency formally bringing the case to the attention of the juvenile branch of this court.

Ninety-three percent of the boys were referred to court by police officers, as compared with 79 percent of the girls. Nineteen percent of the girls were referred to court by parents, relatives, or other individuals as compared with 5 percent of the boys. The sixth police district had the highest number of referrals, 928 followed by the 25th district with 915.

Cases are referred to the juvenile branch from sources other than arrests by city police, such as parents or relatives, school authorities (including attendance officers), individuals, social agencies, and others.

The Juvenile Aid Bureau officers have broad discretion in determining whether the juvenile detention shall be recorded as an "arrest" or as a "non-arrest." There were 10,216 police complaints handled as non-arrests or remedial cases that did not reach the juvenile court.

FAMILY SITUATION OF CHILDREN

The home is the matrix of the child's development, and a child from a broken home might be expected to have greater difficulty in adjusting to the social norm. This is because a full guidance of the child may be wanting when one or both parents are not in the home, whether because of death, divorce, desertion, institutionalization, military service, or employment out of town. In addition, certain of the foregoing may create psychological strains upon the child's personality and lead to negative social responses.

Many unbroken homes are equally unsatisfactory, it is true, since parents themselves may be incompetent, delinquent in their behavior, or neglectful of the child's proper upbringing; and some neighborhoods may have an unsavory effect upon impressionable youth. Nevertheless, as is frequently observed, a broken home¹ is one of the conditions associated with delinquency.

¹ A broken home is one in which one or both (natural) parents are absent owing to death, desertion, separation, divorce or commitment to an institution.

Although 90 percent of the delinquent children were living with their own families in 1978, only 40 percent of these children had both natural parents present in the home. Fifty-one percent were living with their mothers only. As to the marital status of the parents, 6 percent were divorced, 34 percent were separated, 5 percent were not married, and 37 percent were married and living together.

Residence of child and parents' marital relationship	Children involved in delinquency cases				
	Total	Boys		Girls	
		White	Non-white	White	Non-white
RESIDENCE OF CHILD	8,810	2,942	4,889	310	669
Child living in own home (total)	7,911	2,778	4,309	277	547
With both parents	3,157	1,563	1,303	147	144
With parent and stepparent	421	173	199	23	26
With mother only	4,011	916	2,639	96	360
With father only	322	126	168	11	17
Child not living in own home (total)	777	138	518	26	95
In other family home	667	116	465	15	71
In institution	86	15	48	5	18
Separate domicile	24	7	5	6	6
Residence of child not reported	122	26	62	7	27
PARENTS' MARITAL RELATIONSHIP					
Parents living together	3,266	1,582	1,345	149	150
Not living together	3,946	975	2,508	108	355
Divorced	520	214	249	21	36
Separated	2,971	735	1,874	84	278
Not married	455	26	385	3	41
Deceased (one or both parents)	1,211	330	748	37	96
Not reported	427	55	288	16	68

TYPE OF DISPOSITION

The disposition in children's cases varies with the individual. The child's particular needs, home situation, age, and the character and nature of any previous delinquencies, if any, as well as the type of facilities available for care, guidance and control are factors taken into consideration by the judge in deciding the type of treatment to be given.

During 1978, as in previous years, the dispositions most frequently made were dismissed or discharged, and adjusted. There were 12,568 cases disposed of; 2,231 were adjusted by court interviewers at the Youth Study Center and required no further court action. Of the 10,337 cases disposed of through court hearing, 39 percent were discharged; 50 percent were probationed; 8 percent were committed to institutions or agencies; and 3 percent were otherwise disposed of.

Type of disposition	Delinquency cases disposed of				
	Number			Percent distribution	
	Total	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
Total cases	12,568	11,377	1,191	100	100
Referred elsewhere	248	225	23	2	2
Discharged or adjusted ..	6,081	5,475	606	48	51
Probation	5,144	4,642	502	41	42
Committed to institution for delinquents	675	655	20	6	2
Committed to other institutions or agencies	141	125	16	1	1
Restitution or fines	49	46	3	†—	†—
Referred to criminal court	76	76	—	1	—
Others	154	133	21	1	2

† Less than 0.5 percent.

CASES REFERRED TO CRIMINAL COURT

Seventy-six boys were referred to the criminal court for prosecution, charged with the following offenses: Assaults,¹ 16; robbery, 28; burglary, 15; other stealing, 4; rape, 8; weapons offenses, 2; coercion/threats, 1; other offenses, 2.

PROBATION

Probation is intended for the treatment of delinquent children who do not habitually offend and who are likely to respond to supervision. Also, under the Juvenile Act, a Consent Decree* allows probation for six months, unless the child is discharged sooner by the court.

Fifty percent of the cases disposed of (excluding adjusted cases at the Youth Study Center) were placed under the supervision of probation officers; 49 percent of the boys' cases and 55 percent of the girls' cases.

The following table shows the type of dispositions classified under "Probation":

Types of dispositions classified as "probation"	Delinquency cases disposed of through court hearing			
	Total		Boys	Girls
	Number	Percent distribution		
All types of probation	5,144	100	4,642	502
Probation only	1,811	35	1,681	130
Clinical services probation†	104	2	90	14
Intensive probation	165	3	159	6
Probation and restitution	96	2	95	1
Consent decree	2,859	56	2,524	335
Consent decree and restitution	109	2	93	16

*See page 10.

†Mental health services

¹Includes 4 homicides.

COMMITMENT — The term commitment as used in this report includes children placed in care of the Department of Public Welfare, private agencies, or institutions, by order of the court. During 1978, commitments were ordered in 8 per cent of the new charges disposed of at court hearing.

REHEARINGS

Changes in the life situations of a child or its family and new facts brought to the attention of the court frequently necessitate the modification of previous dispositions. All orders of the court with respect to delinquent children, up to the attainment of age 21, are subject to amendment, change, or extension by the judge, upon motion of the district attorney or a probation officer, or upon petition of counsel, or of any other person in interest.

Dispositions such as probation and commitment to child-placing agencies, institutions, and individuals usually are made for indefinite periods. In order to change the disposition it is necessary to reopen the case by motion or petition. These cases are investigated by the probation department and a report with recommendations as to the best disposition is made to the court. In dispositions for commitment the judge frequently makes a proviso that a report as to the child's conduct, the effect of his new environment, or the ability of the parent to pay for the child's maintenance, be made at a specified time. At such time the case would be listed as a rehearing.

NON-DELINQUENCY CASES

This court has exclusive jurisdiction in all proceedings affecting "dependent children", as defined in the Juvenile Act of December, 1972, amended in August, 1977. In this report, dependent child cases are referred to as non-delinquency cases.

A dependent child is one who is without proper parental care or control, subsistence, education as required by law, or other care or control necessary for his physical, mental, or emotional health, or morals; a child who has been placed for care or adoption in violation of law; a child who has been abandoned by his parents or guardians; a child who, while subject to compulsory school attendance, is habitually and without justification truant from school; a child who has committed a specific act or acts of disobedience of the reasonable and lawful commands of his parent(s), guardian, or other custodian, and who is ungovernable and found to be in need of care, treatment or supervision; or a child who is under the age of ten years and has committed a delinquent act.

Non-delinquency cases are conducted in an informal manner — in the presence of only those involved in the proceedings. The presiding judge reviews the facts at hand, and recommendations made by the probation and medical departments, and disposes of the case in accordance with the best interests and welfare of the child. Representatives of the Department of Public Welfare and the Child Advocate are present in the conference room.

In 1978, 5,143 non-delinquency cases were listed for court hearing. Of these, 2,622 or 51 percent were disposed of. The remaining listings, 2,521, resulted in continuances. In addition to the cases listed for court hearing, 161 cases were disposed of without a court hearing. These are usually cases discharged from supervision or commitment which require judicial approval but not a court hearing.

An additional 405 hearings were held for emergency protective custody or treatment in cases involving mental health or suspected child abuse. These hearings are not included in the statistics because they occur before the filing of a dependent petition.

In all, 1,583 new non-delinquency cases involving 1,036 families were disposed of in 1978. Compared with 1977, the number of new cases and families involved increased 30 percent. Some of the cases were listed more than once before being disposed of. Continuances were granted for further investigation, for placement plans, for appearance of parents, or because attorneys were busy in other courts.

In addition to the new cases, 1,200 cases previously disposed, were reheard due to changing circumstances of the children or their families, or because new facts were brought to the attention of the court which required reconsideration of the previous dispositions.

The ages of children in non-delinquency cases ranged from a few months to over 17 years.

Thirty-seven percent of the new non-delinquency cases were referred to court by the Department of Public Welfare; 16 percent by relatives or individuals; 25 percent by the court; and 22 percent by the school authorities. More than half of the cases referred by the Department of Public Welfare (580) indicate some form of neglect or abuse of children.

Only 13 percent of the non-delinquent children were living with both their own parents; 47 percent were living with their mothers only, and 19 percent were living in other family homes with foster parents, relatives or non-relatives.

Thirty-four percent of the non-delinquent children were committed to the Department of Public Welfare; 12 percent were placed in custody of their parents, a relative or guardian; 23 percent were placed under protective supervision. Twenty-six percent of the petitions were dismissed or withdrawn.

REHEARINGS

During 1978, 1,200 non-delinquency cases already under court jurisdiction were reopened; 1,039 were disposed of through court hearing and 161 were motions for amendment confirmed by a judge without court hearing, or administratively disposed of.

The most frequent reasons for reopening non-delinquency cases were for discharge from commitment, 75; discharge from supervision, 167; case review, 189; and report by order of the court, 751.

Of the 1,200 cases reheard in 1978, 47 percent remained in placement; 24 percent were discharged from supervision; 9 percent were placed under protective supervision; and 7 percent were committed to the Department of Public Welfare.

ADULT CASES

CRIMES AGAINST CHILDREN

The Family Court has jurisdiction over all proceedings involving crimes against children, which jurisdiction has been delegated to the juvenile branch. Therefore, the following classes of adult criminals are within the jurisdiction of the juvenile court:

- (1) Any adult charged with corrupting, or tending to corrupt the morals of any child under the age of 18 years, or who aids or encourages any such child in the commission of any crime, or in violating any order of the court.
- (2) Any parent, guardian, or other person supervising the welfare of a child under 18 years who is charged with knowingly endangering the welfare of the child by violating a duty of care, protection or support.
- (3) Any adult charged with a crime against a child under 18 years such as simple or aggravated assault, indecent assault, rape, etc.

In such cases the judge of the juvenile court sits as a Municipal Court judge. As a Municipal Court judge, he may make final disposition of any case concerning a crime for which the maximum sentence is five years or less. In cases concerning crimes having a maximum sentence of more than 5 years, he presides over a preliminary hearing. In these cases, the judge determines whether or not the evidence warrants holding the accused for trial. If it does not, the accused is released. If it does, the accused is referred for action and subsequent trial in the criminal court.

The judges had 3,028 listings in adult cases in 132 sessions in 1978 and there was a disposition in 1,176 or 39 percent of the cases listed. The other 1,852 listings resulted in continuances.

Some of these cases were listed more than once before being disposed of. Continuances were granted for various reasons, such as further investigation, appearance of prosecutors and witnesses, etc.

An analysis of the cases of adults charged with corrupting or endangering the welfare of children in 1978, excluding truancy cases, shows 131 female offenders and 861 male offenders. Only 11 of the women's cases were sex offenses, while 45 percent of the male offenders were charged with sex offenses. Rape accounted for 42 percent of all sex offenses. Of those charged with non-sex offenses, 59 percent were young persons, under 25 years of age. Of those charged with sex offenses, 45 percent were under 25 years; 46 percent were between 25 and 50 years; and 9 percent were 50 or more years of age. The dispositions of these cases, sex and non-sex offenses, show that 37 percent were held for trial court, and 33 percent were discharged.

There were 184 cases alleging parental neglect, as indicated by their children's failure to attend school. These cases, known as truancy cases, are referred to court by the Board of Education. Seventy-three percent of these cases were discharged; 6 percent were referred to other units of the court or to the Department of Public Welfare; and 21 percent were ordered to pay fines and costs.

ENFORCEMENT UNIT

This unit of the juvenile branch of the court is concerned with processing petitions for non-payment of reimburse orders for child-care, payable to the Department of Public Welfare as requested by the Department of Collections of the city; processing petitions submitted by the Department of Public Welfare, the Department of Collections, and the Pennsylvania Department of Revenue requesting orders of support be entered against parents for their children's care upon commitment or acceptance to a child-placing agency or institution; discharging children from commitment; and for vacating orders against the Department of Welfare or parents.

During 1978, this unit listed 570 cases for disposition. Of these listings, 555 cases were disposed of; 494 through court hearing and 61 were disposed of administratively.

Attachments filed by Department of Collections	5
Petitions filed by Department of Public Welfare	36
Motions filed by Department of Public Welfare and others	468
Miscellaneous motions	61

Due to the nature of its functions, the enforcement unit is a salient point of contact for the Juvenile Branch with numerous outside agencies who request information. During 1978 the enforcement unit handled nearly 12,000 such requests from public and private agencies and institutions.

TABLE 1

TOTAL ACTIVITY: 1974 TO 1978

COURT HEARINGS	1978	1977	1976	1975	1974
Cases listed	39,455	35,397	40,387	45,432	41,581
Disposed of	16,909	14,904	17,003	18,161	16,142
Continuances	22,546	20,493	23,384	27,271	25,439
INTAKE INTERVIEWS AT YOUTH STUDY CENTER					
Cases listed	14,203	13,625	17,266	21,488	21,205
Adjusted	2,231	2,767	5,027	6,187	7,008
Referred to juvenile court for hearing	10,158	9,343	10,277	12,404	10,846
Continuances	1,814	1,515	1,962	2,897	3,351
SPECIAL LISTS ¹					
Motions for amendment of decrees of the court disposed of without court hearing ...	4,357	3,909	5,485	4,956	5,427
SESSIONS					
Delinquency (total)	1,077	1,194	1,369	1,177	1,167
Adjudicatory hearings	1,077	1,194	1,369	849	827
Pre-trial hearings				328	340
Non-delinquency	204	169	169	149	112
Enforcement unit	20	19	19	23	19
Adults corrupting or endangering the welfare of children	132	172	158	151	127
Youth Study Center	309	309	306	307	308
DEPARTMENTAL ACTIVITIES					
Families referred to this branch for the first time	3,972	3,560	4,464	4,633	4,970
Informal complaints received	271	286	150	151	203
Delinquency petitions filed	10,158	9,344	10,278	12,404	10,851
Non-delinquency petitions filed	1,852	1,504	1,499	1,624	1,268
Cases under investigation during year	11,038	9,969	9,849	10,083	9,610
Children under supervision at end of year ...	4,479	4,372	4,441	4,825	3,564

¹ Includes cases previously disposed of by the court, listed for review or amendment by judicial or administrative action, without court hearing.

TABLE 2
TOTAL CASES DISPOSED OF WITH AND WITHOUT
COURT HEARING: 1978

Type of case	Total cases	Through court hearing	Without court hearing	
			Intake interviews	Special lists*
Total cases disposed of	23,497	16,909	2,231	4,357
NEW CHARGES ¹ (total)	15,327	13,096	2,231	—
Delinquency (total)	12,568	10,337	2,231	—
Boys	11,377	9,431	1,946	—
Girls	1,191	906	285	—
Adults corrupting or endangering welfare of children	1,176	1,176	—	—
Sex offenses	401	401	—	—
Non-sex offenses	591	591	—	—
Truancy cases	184	184	—	—
Non-delinquency (total)	1,583	1,583	—	—
Inadequate care	507	507	—	—
Neglect	606	606	—	—
Delinquent case referral	137	137	—	—
Others	333	333	—	—
REHEARINGS ² (total)	8,170	3,813	—	4,357
Delinquency cases	6,476	2,280	—	4,196
Non-delinquency cases	1,694	1,533	—	161

*Includes cases disposed of by administrative or judicial action without court hearing.

¹A "new charge" is defined as a case brought to court on a specific charge for which no previous disposition has been made.

²A "rehearing" is a case previously disposed of and returned to court for review or amendment of the original disposition.

TABLE 3
TYPE OF CASE DISPOSED OF IN THE
JUVENILE BRANCH: 1974 TO 1978

Type of case	Cases disposed of				
	1978	1977	1976	1975	1974
Total dispositions	23,497	21,580	27,515	29,304	28,577
New charges (total)	15,327	14,563	18,737	21,299	20,077
Delinquency (total)	12,568	12,315	16,061	18,250	17,706
Boys	11,377	10,797	13,908	15,767	15,387
Girls	1,191	1,518	2,153	2,483	2,319
Adults corrupting or endangering welfare of children	1,176	1,033	1,281	1,479	1,254
Non-delinquency (total)	1,583	1,215	1,395	1,570	1,117
Inadequate care	507	375	479	588	362
Neglect	606	474	524	653	427
Others	470	366	392	329	328
Rehearings (total)	8,170	7,017	8,778	8,005	8,500
Child cases	8,125	6,896	8,585	7,781	8,228
Adult cases	45	121	193	224	272

JUVENILE DELINQUENCY

TABLE 4

JUVENILE DELINQUENCY CASES: 1974 TO 1978

Listings, dispositions, and continuances	1978	1977	1976	1975	1974
Total delinquency cases listed for disposition	49,174	45,488	56,123	63,985	61,398
Cases listed for adjudicatory hearing	19,393	17,968	20,954	22,009	20,787
Continuances	11,833	10,379	12,382	12,684	12,189
Disposed of ¹	7,560	7,589	8,572	9,325	8,598
Cases listed for pre-trial hearing	11,382	10,200	12,574	15,958	14,334
Continuances	6,325	6,362	8,115	11,349	10,061
Disposed of	5,057	3,838	4,459	4,609	4,273
Cases listed for intake interviews at Youth Study Center	14,203	13,625	17,266	21,488	21,205
Continuances	1,814	1,515	1,962	2,897	3,351
Disposed of	12,389	12,110	15,304	18,591	17,854
Adjusted	2,231	2,767	5,027	6,187	7,008
Referred to court	10,158	9,343	10,277	12,404	10,846
Cases listed for judicial or administrative action, without court hearing	4,196	3,695	5,329	4,530	5,072

¹ Includes new charges and rehearings.

TABLE 5

NEW CHARGES OF DELINQUENCY DISPOSED OF THROUGH COURT HEARING AND INTAKE INTERVIEWS: 1969 TO 1978

Year	Delinquency cases disposed of								
	Total			Boy's cases			Girl's cases		
	Total	Through court hearing	Through intake interviews	Total	Through court hearing	Through intake interviews	Total	Through court hearing	Through intake interviews
1969	16,468	11,002	5,466	14,246	9,744	4,502	2,222	1,258	964
1970	17,327	11,496	5,831	14,973	10,281	4,692	2,354	1,215	1,139
1971	19,310	10,739	8,571	16,916	9,623	7,293	2,394	1,116	1,278
1972	15,667	8,776	6,891	13,564	7,778	5,786	2,103	998	1,105
1973	17,230	10,793	6,437	15,015	9,630	5,385	2,215	1,163	1,052
1974	17,706	10,698	7,008	15,387	9,532	5,855	2,319	1,166	1,153
1975	18,250	12,063	6,187	15,767	10,703	5,064	2,483	1,360	1,123
1976	16,061	11,034	5,027	13,908	9,689	4,219	2,153	1,345	808
1977	12,315	9,548	2,767	10,797	8,453	2,344	1,518	1,095	423
1978	12,568	10,337	2,231	11,377	9,431	1,946	1,191	906	285

TABLE 6

NEW CHARGES OF DELINQUENCY DISPOSED OF BY SEX AND AGE GROUP: 1969 TO 1978

Year	Juvenile delinquency cases disposed of						
	Total	Boy's cases			Girl's cases		
		Total	Under 16	16 and over	Total	Under 16	16 and over
1969	16,468	14,246	8,339	5,907	2,222	1,555	667
1970	17,327	14,973	8,348	6,625	2,354	1,592	762
1971	19,310	16,916	8,986	7,930 ¹	2,394	1,578	816 ²
1972	15,667	13,564	7,159	6,405	2,103	1,375	728
1973	17,230	15,015	7,647	7,368	2,215	1,390	825
1974	17,706	15,387	7,450	7,937	2,319	1,419	900
1975	18,250	15,767	7,701	8,066	2,483	1,503	980
1976	16,061	13,908	6,611	7,297	2,153	1,324	829
1977	12,315	10,797	4,956	5,841	1,518	910	608
1978	12,568	11,377	5,497	5,880	1,191	624	567

¹Includes age not reported, 84 cases.²Includes age not reported, 4 cases.

AGE GROUPS OF JUVENILE DELINQUENTS: 1968 TO 1978

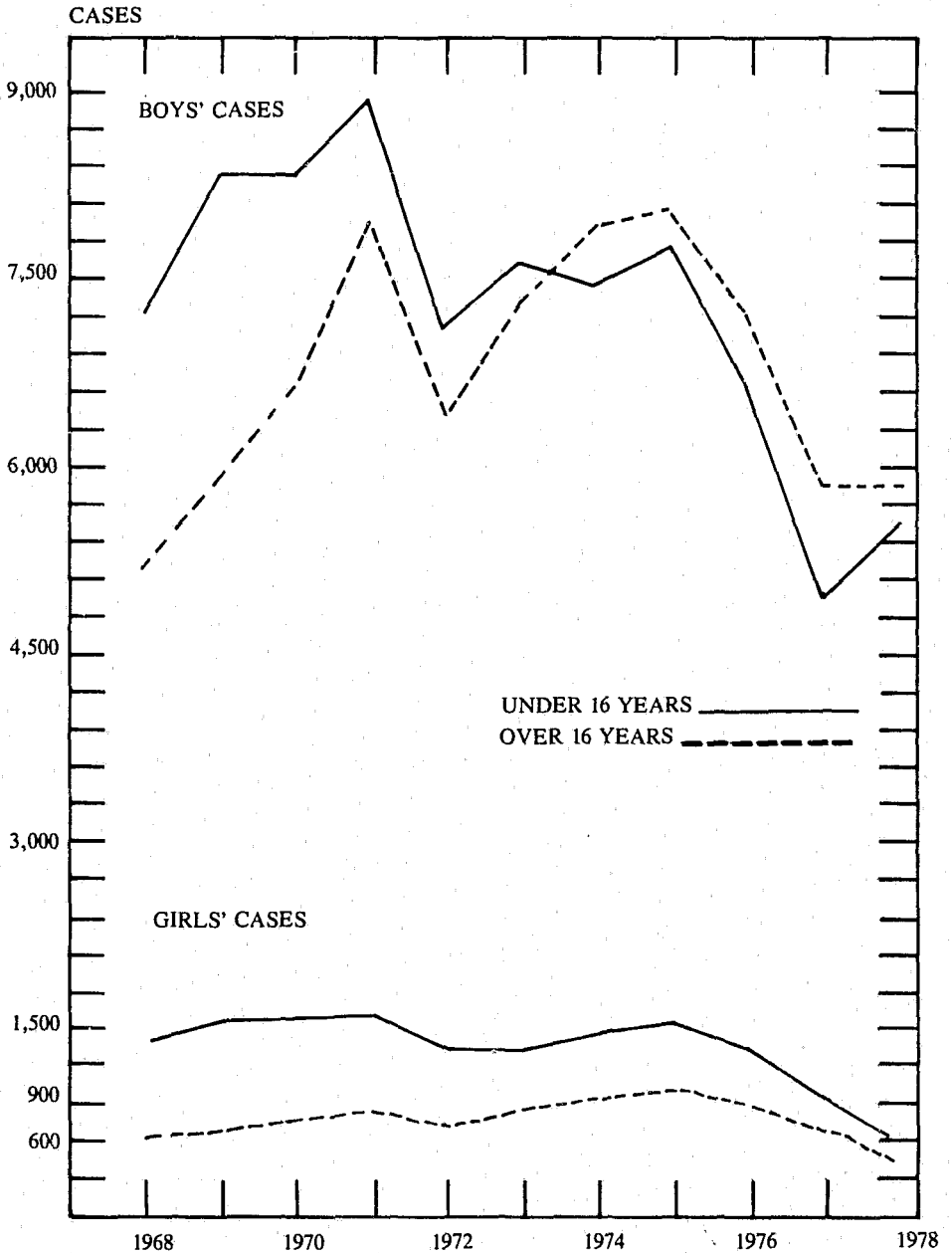


TABLE 7

NEW CHARGES DISPOSED OF, RELATIVE NUMBERS,
SEX AND AGE GROUP: 1960, 1968 TO 1978

Year	Delinquency cases disposed of									
	Absolute numbers					Relative numbers ¹				
	Total	White ² boys	Non- white ³ boys	White ² girls	Non- white ³ girls	Total	White ² boys	Non- white ³ boys	White ² girls	Non- white ³ girls
Under 16 years of age										
1960 ...	6,133	1,846	3,140	336	811	100	100	100	100	100
1968 ...	8,675	1,811	5,408	376	1,080	141	98	172	112	133
1969 ...	9,894	1,969	6,370	396	1,159	161	107	203	118	143
1970 ...	9,940	2,203	6,145	448	1,144	162	119	196	133	141
1971 ...	10,564	2,348	6,638	386	1,192	172	127	211	115	147
1972 ...	8,534	2,056	5,103	374	1,001	139	111	163	111	123
1973 ...	9,037	2,472	5,175	421	969	147	134	165	125	119
1974 ...	8,869	2,476	4,974	435	984	145	134	158	129	121
1975 ...	9,204	2,310	5,391	422	1,081	150	125	172	126	133
1976 ...	7,935	1,968	4,643	421	903	129	107	148	125	111
1977 ...	5,866	1,697	3,259	273	637	96	92	104	81	79
1978	6,121	1,837	3,660	192	432	100	100	117	57	53
Over 16 years of age										
1960 ...	3,635	1,159	1,902	227	347	100	100	100	100	100
1968 ...	5,835	1,603	3,616	209	407	160	138	190	92	117
1969 ...	6,574	1,595	4,312	229	438	181	138	227	101	126
1970 ...	7,387	1,999	4,626	284	478	203	172	243	125	138
1971 ...	8,746*	2,388	5,542	298	518	241	206	291	131	149
1972 ...	7,133	2,090	4,315	248	480	196	180	227	109	138
1973 ...	8,193	2,702	4,666	320	505	225	233	245	141	146
1974 ...	8,837	2,850	5,087	317	583	243	246	267	140	168
1975 ...	9,946	2,583	5,483	311	669	249	223	288	137	193
1976 ...	8,126	2,560	4,737	282	547	224	221	249	124	158
1977 ...	6,449	2,160	3,681	238	370	177	186	194	105	107
1978 ...	6,447	2,152	3,728	214	353	177	186	196	94	102

¹ Relative numbers are computed on data for 1960 as bases, indicated as 100, and data for subsequent years are computed as percentages.

² Includes Hispanics.

³ Includes Blacks and an insignificant number of children of other races.

* Includes age not reported, 88 cases.

TABLE 8
 NUMBER OF CHILDREN INVOLVED IN DELINQUENCY CASES
 BY AGE, SEX, AND RACE: 1978

Age and sex of children	Delinquency cases ¹ disposed of				Individual children ² involved in cases disposed of			
	Total	White		Non-white+	Total	White		Non-white+
		Total†	Hispanic			Total†	Hispanic	
Total cases	12,568	4,395	731	8,173	8,810	3,252	537	5,558
Boys (total)	11,377	3,989	696	7,388	7,831	2,942	508	4,889
Under 16 years (total)	5,497	1,837	375	3,660	3,945	1,426	288	2,519
Under 10 years	8	1	—	7	7	1	—	6
10 years	109	39	18	70	88	33	15	55
11 years	221	75	19	146	182	67	17	115
12 years	507	163	40	344	398	130	30	268
13 years	968	299	63	669	730	249	49	481
14 years	1,455	504	95	951	1,028	382	72	646
15 years	2,229	756	140	1,473	1,512	564	105	948
16 and 17 years (total)	5,880	2,152	321	3,728	3,886	1,516	220	2,370
16 years	2,918	1,034	158	1,884	1,940	751	118	1,189
17 years	2,962	1,118	163	1,844	1,946	765	102	1,181
Girls (total)	1,191	406	35	785	979	310	29	669
Under 16 years (total)	624	192	26	432	540	173	22	367
Under 10 years	2	—	—	2	2	—	—	2
10 years	15	3	1	12	15	3	1	12
11 years	17	7	—	10	17	7	—	10
12 years	60	12	4	48	57	12	4	45
13 years	107	30	9	77	96	27	6	69
14 years	193	62	4	131	162	54	4	108
15 years	230	78	8	152	191	70	7	121
16 and 17 years (total)	567	214	9	353	439	137	7	302
16 years	293	107	8	186	228	71	7	157
17 years	274	107	1	167	211	66	—	145

¹ In counting "cases" each child is counted separately and as many times as he was dealt with by the court on a new delinquency charge disposed of during the year.

² In counting "children" each child is counted only once—the first time he was dealt with by the court on a new delinquency charge disposed of during the year.

†Includes Hispanics.

+Includes Blacks and an insignificant number of children of other races.

INCIDENCE OF DELINQUENCY

Cases and children
1968-1978

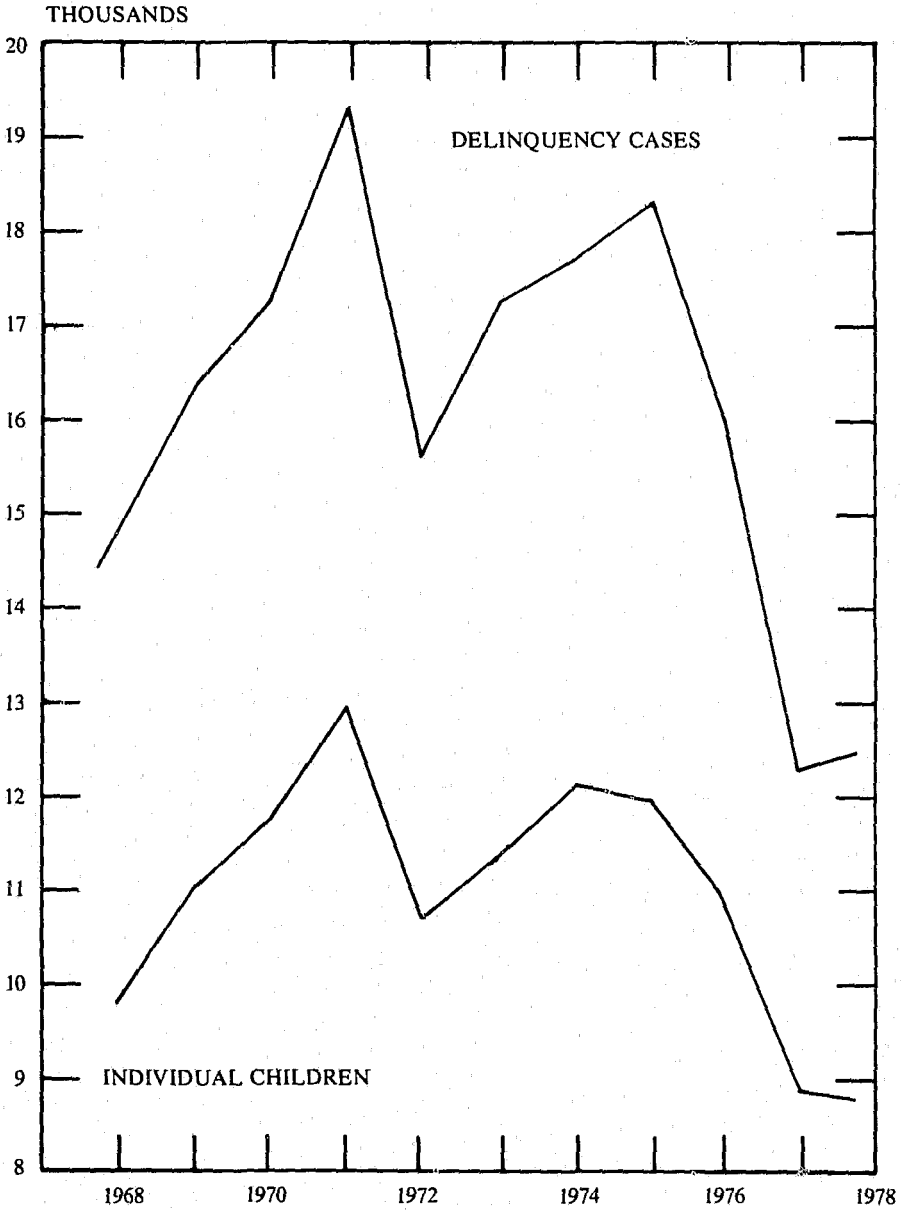


TABLE 9

DELINQUENCY CASES, INDIVIDUAL CHILDREN BY RESIDENCE, AND PERCENT OF CHILD POPULATION: 1978

Age and sex	Child population ¹	Delinquency cases	Individual children			
			Total	Non-residents	Residents	
					Number	Percent population
Total	323,785	12,568	8,810	247	8,563	2.6
7 to 15 years	259,464	6,121	4,485	70	4,415	1.7
16 and 17 years	64,321	6,447	4,325	177	4,148	6.4
Boys (total)	164,312	11,377	7,831	206	7,625	4.6
Under 10 years	41,835	8	9	—	9	*—
10 years	13,733	109	103	2	101	0.7
11 years	13,997	221	182	2	180	1.3
12 years	14,519	507	398	1	397	2.7
13 years	14,990	968	730	7	723	4.8
14 years	16,344	1,455	1,028	13	1,015	6.2
15 years	16,218	2,229	1,512	36	1,476	9.1
16 years	15,918	2,918	1,940	68	1,872	11.7
17 years	16,758	2,962	1,946	77	1,869	11.1
Girls (total)	159,473	1,191	979	41	938	0.6
Under 10 years	40,409	2	2	—	2	*—
10 years	13,415	15	15	—	15	0.1
11 years	13,865	17	17	—	17	0.1
12 years	14,070	60	57	1	56	0.4
13 years	14,886	107	96	—	96	0.6
14 years	15,389	193	162	3	159	1.0
15 years	15,794	230	191	5	186	1.2
16 years	15,524	293	228	12	216	1.4
17 years	16,121	274	211	20	191	1.2

* Less than 0.1 percent.

¹ Information supplied by the Board of Education, School District of Philadelphia.

TABLE 10

DELINQUENCY RATIOS: RESIDENT CHILDREN OF PHILADELPHIA BY
AGE GROUP: 1965, 1973 TO 1978

Year and age group	Delinquent children, 7 to 17 years of age, residents of Philadelphia					Ratio per 1,000 population		
	Total	White Boys	White Girls	Non- white Boys	Non- white Girls	Total	Boys	Girls
7 to 17 years:								
1965	7,980	2,089	392	4,403	1,096	21	33	8
1973	11,078	3,165	503	6,248	1,162	31	52	9
1974	11,821	3,522	550	6,511	1,238	33	55	10
1975	11,628	3,138	511	6,578	1,401	33	54	11
1976	10,694	2,994	513	6,028	1,159	32	53	10
1977	8,527	2,619	367	4,744	797	26	44	7
1978	8,563	2,785	286	4,840	652	26	46	6
7 to 15 years:								
1965	4,844	1,229	246	2,594	775	15	23	6
1973	6,072	1,567	302	3,439	764	21	34	7
1974	6,242	1,748	326	3,397	771	22	35	8
1975	6,140	1,520	291	3,480	849	21	34	8
1976	5,525	1,407	302	3,110	706	20	33	7
1977	4,300	1,226	206	2,363	505	16	27	5
1978	4,415	1,381	168	2,503	363	17	29	4
14 and 15 years:								
1965	2,828	721	183	1,441	483	44	66	21
1973	3,701	950	214	2,087	450	57	94	21
1974	3,952	1,077	217	2,154	504	59	96	22
1975	3,993	997	219	2,267	510	59	95	22
1976	3,625	952	229	1,980	464	56	90	21
1977	2,877	849	157	1,550	321	45	75	15
1978	2,836	908	119	1,583	226	44	75	11
16 and 17 years:								
1965	3,136	860	146	1,809	321	49	81	15
1973	5,006	1,598	201	2,809	398	74	128	18
1974	5,579	1,774	224	3,114	467	83	144	21
1975	5,488	1,618	220	3,098	552	83	143	23
1976	5,169	1,587	211	2,918	453	81	136	21
1977	4,227	1,393	161	2,381	292	65	114	15
1978	4,148	1,404	118	2,337	289	64	113	13

TABLE 11
REASON FOR REFERRAL OF DELINQUENCY CASES BY
PLACE OF DISPOSITION: 1978

Offenses	Delinquency cases disposed of						
	Total			Disposed of through court hearing		Adjusted through intake interviews	
	Both sexes	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
Total cases	12,568	11,377	1,191	9,431	906	1,946	285
Injury to person (total)	2,005	1,621	384	1,390	273	231	111
Homicide	27	25	2	25	2	—	—
Aggravated assault	911	772	139	719	118	53	21
Assault	640	482	158	346	93	136	65
Assault on police officer	214	165	49	153	40	12	9
Terroristic threats	188	154	34	124	18	30	16
Others	25	23	2	23	2	—	—
Stealing (total)	7,661	7,206	455	6,451	399	755	56
Burglary	2,849	2,768	81	2,518	71	250	10
Robbery	1,563	1,497	66	1,434	60	63	6
Larceny	1,922	1,812	110	1,474	97	338	13
Auto theft	690	660	30	627	26	33	4
Receiving stolen property	122	118	4	97	3	21	1
Retail theft	316	192	124	166	105	26	19
Fraud, forgery, etc.	199	159	40	135	37	24	3
Weapons offenses (total)	443	417	26	331	22	86	4
Possessing instruments of crime ..	418	392	26	321	22	71	4
Prohibited offensive weapons	16	16	—	4	—	12	—
Violation UFA ¹	4	4	—	2	—	2	—
Others	5	5	—	4	—	1	—
Sex offenses (total)	256	227	29	207	22	20	7
Rape	96	96	—	96	—	—	—
Indecent assault	50	48	2	34	1	14	1
Deviate sexual intercourse	68	64	4	61	4	3	—
Others	42	19	23	16	17	3	6
Drug law violations (total)	1,105	998	107	461	74	537	33
Possession and use of drugs	825	757	68	298	40	459	28
Sale and use of drugs	280	241	39	163	34	78	5

¹ Uniform Firearms Act.

TABLE 11—Concluded
 REASON FOR REFERRAL OF DELINQUENCY CASES BY
 PLACE OF DISPOSITION: 1978

Offenses	Delinquency cases disposed of						
	Total			Disposed of through court hearing		Adjusted through intake interviews	
	Both sexes	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
Ungovernable behavior (total)	382	305	77	265	70	40	7
Runaway from home	41	12	29	12	29	—	—
Runaway from institution	328	287	41	247	34	40	7
Incorrigible	13	6	7	6	7	—	—
Malicious mischief (total)	602	508	94	290	40	38	54
Vandalism	145	128	17	112	13	16	4
Arson	45	38	7	34	7	4	—
Disorderly conduct	150	118	32	35	8	83	24
Trespassing	110	96	14	66	4	30	10
Conspiracy	24	20	4	6	2	14	2
Resisting an officer	75	63	12	22	3	41	9
Harassment	14	8	6	2	2	6	4
Others	39	37	2	13	1	24	1
Liquor law violations	5	5	—	—	—	5	—
Motor-vehicle violations (total)	48	45	3	14	2	31	1
Driving under influence	45	42	3	11	2	31	1
Others	3	3	—	—	—	—	—
Miscellaneous offenses	61	45	16	22	4	23	12

TABLE 12

REASON FOR REFERRAL OF DELINQUENCY CASES BY SEX AND RACE: 1978

Offenses	Delinquency cases disposed of						
	Total	Boys			Girls		
		Total	White	Non-white	Total	White	Non-white
Total cases	12,568	11,377	3,989	7,388	1,191	406	785
Injury to person (total)	2,005	1,621	619	1,002	384	89	295
Homicide	27	25	6	19	2	1	1
Aggravated assault	911	772	283	489	139	38	101
Assault	640	482	186	296	158	27	131
Assault on police officer ..	214	165	86	79	49	19	30
Terroristic threats	188	154	55	99	34	4	30
Others	25	23	3	20	2	—	2
Stealing (total)	7,661	7,206	2,246	4,960	455	139	316
Burglary	2,849	2,768	1,141	1,627	81	43	38
Robbery	1,563	1,497	167	1,330	66	12	54
Auto theft	690	660	268	392	30	27	3
Larceny	1,922	1,812	583	1,229	110	41	69
Retail theft	316	192	10	182	124	11	113
Receiving stolen property ..	122	118	46	72	4	1	3
Fraud, forgery, etc.	199	159	31	128	40	4	36
Weapons offenses (total) ...	443	417	135	282	26	7	19
Possessing instruments of crime	418	392	124	268	26	7	19
Prohibited offensive weapons	16	16	6	10	—	—	—
Violation UFA ¹	4	4	3	1	—	—	—
Others	5	5	2	3	—	—	—
Sex offenses (total)	256	227	45	182	29	14	15
Rape	96	96	9	87	—	—	—
Indecent assault	50	48	11	37	2	—	2
Deviate sexual intercourse ..	68	64	18	46	4	2	2
Others	42	19	7	12	23	12	11
Drug law violations (total) ..	1,105	998	520	478	107	65	42
Possession and use of drugs	825	757	375	382	68	34	34
Sale and use of drugs	280	241	145	96	39	31	8

¹ Uniform Firearms Act.

TABLE 12—Concluded

REASON FOR REFERRAL OF DELINQUENCY CASES BY SEX AND RACE: 1978

Offenses	Delinquency cases disposed of						
	Total	Boys			Girls		
		Total	White	Non-white	Total	White	Non-white
Ungovernable behavior (total)	382	305	92	213	77	29	48
Runaway from home	41	12	6	6	29	10	19
Runaway from institution	328	287	84	203	41	18	23
Incorrigible	13	6	2	4	7	1	6
Malicious mischief (total) ...	602	508	266	242	94	51	43
Vandalism	145	128	68	60	17	6	11
Arson	45	38	24	14	7	6	1
Disorderly conduct	150	118	63	55	32	22	10
Trespassing	110	96	46	50	14	11	3
Conspiracy	24	20	10	10	4	1	3
Resisting an officer	75	63	35	28	12	5	7
False fire alarms	18	18	8	10	—	—	—
Harassment	14	8	2	6	6	—	6
Others	18	17	10	7	1	—	1
Liquor law violations	5	5	5	—	—	—	—
Motor-vehicle violations (total)	48	45	41	4	3	3	—
Driving under influence ..	45	42	40	2	3	3	—
Others	3	3	1	2	—	—	—
Miscellaneous offenses	61	45	20	25	16	9	7

PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF OFFENSES
DELINQUENT CASES DISPOSED OF IN 1978

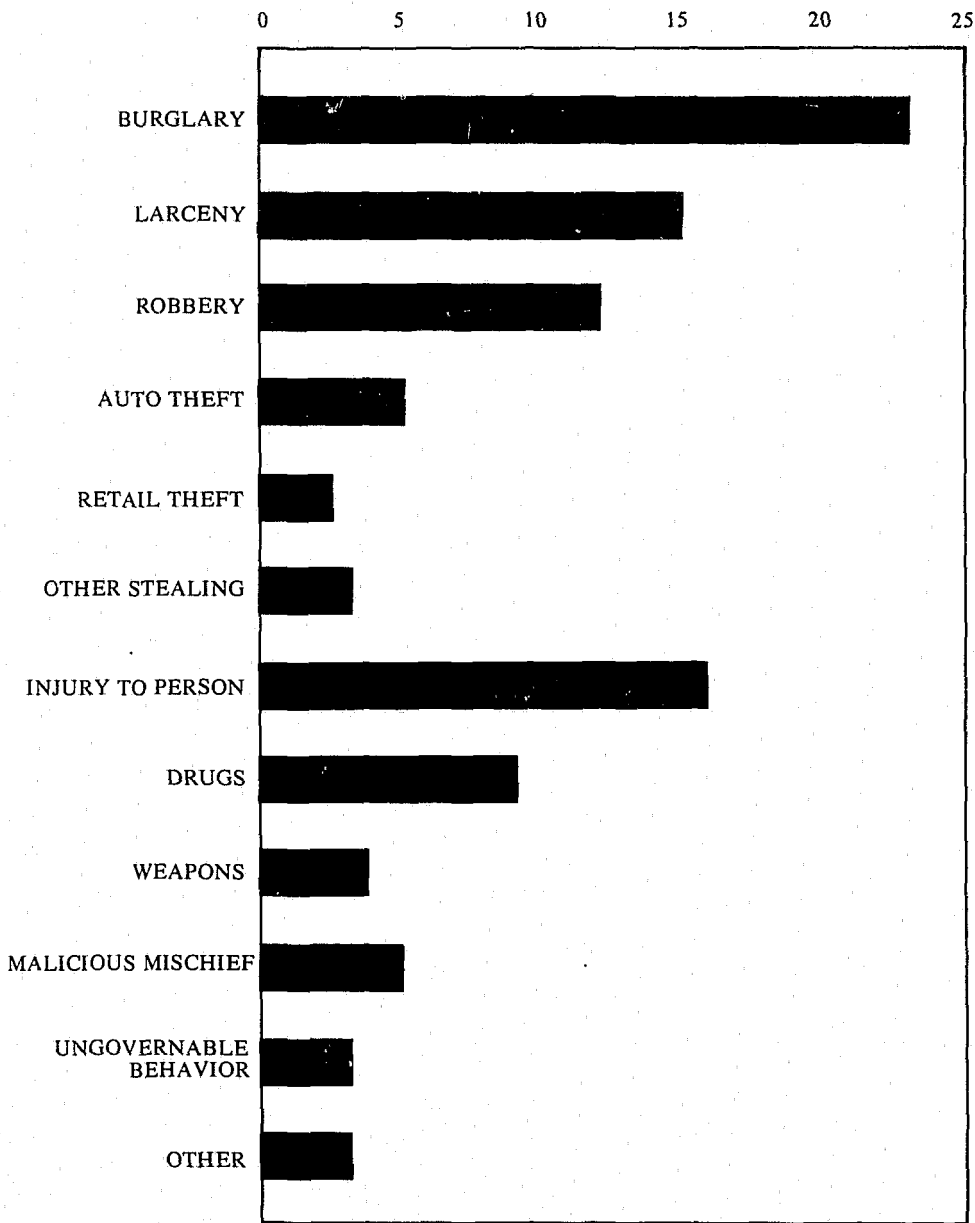


TABLE 13
REASON FOR REFERRAL BY AGE AND SEX: 1978

Line No.	Age and Sex	Delinquency cases disposed of						
		Total	Burglary	Robbery	Larceny	Other stealing	Injury to person	Weapons offenses
1	Boys' cases ...	11,377	2,768	1,497	1,812	1,129	1,621	417
2	Under 10 years	8	—	2	1	—	3	—
3	10 years	109	28	15	13	3	28	4
4	11 years	221	79	20	40	11	29	4
5	12 years	507	150	72	99	35	82	15
6	13 years	968	313	131	188	66	106	41
7	14 years	1,455	384	212	300	119	197	40
8	15 years	2,229	561	330	347	207	297	87
9	16 years	2,918	658	357	414	339	429	115
10	17 years	2,962	595	358	410	349	450	111
11	Girls' cases ...	1,191	81	66	110	198	384	26
12	Under 10 years	2	—	—	—	—	2	—
13	10 years	15	1	—	1	1	10	—
14	11 years	17	—	1	2	—	12	—
15	12 years	60	3	2	7	2	34	1
16	13 years	107	7	8	12	7	41	5
17	14 years	193	22	9	18	22	68	7
18	15 years	230	18	21	24	30	71	6
19	16 years	293	17	15	29	67	77	1
20	17 years	274	13	10	17	69	69	6

TABLE 13 — Concluded
 REASON FOR REFERRAL BY AGE AND SEX: 1978

Delinquency cases disposed of							
Line No.	Sex offenses	Ungovernable behavior	Drug law violation	Vandalism ¹	Disorderly conduct	Other malicious mischief	All other offenses
1	227	305	998	166	118	224	95
2	—	—	1	1	—	—	—
3	5	—	1	7	—	5	—
4	15	3	1	9	1	9	—
5	9	6	7	11	2	17	2
6	23	16	38	26	5	12	3
7	22	37	76	31	5	29	3
8	45	61	185	29	14	55	11
9	51	84	316	27	48	49	31
10	57	98	373	25	43	48	45
11	29	77	107	24	32	38	19
12	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
13	—	—	—	1	—	1	—
14	—	—	1	1	—	—	—
15	1	2	2	3	—	2	1
16	1	13	1	6	1	4	1
17	1	17	8	5	8	5	3
18	5	17	15	1	9	9	4
19	10	15	38	3	7	10	4
20	11	13	42	4	7	7	6

¹Includes arson.

TABLE 14

REASON FOR REFERRAL BY AREA OF OCCURRENCE: 1978

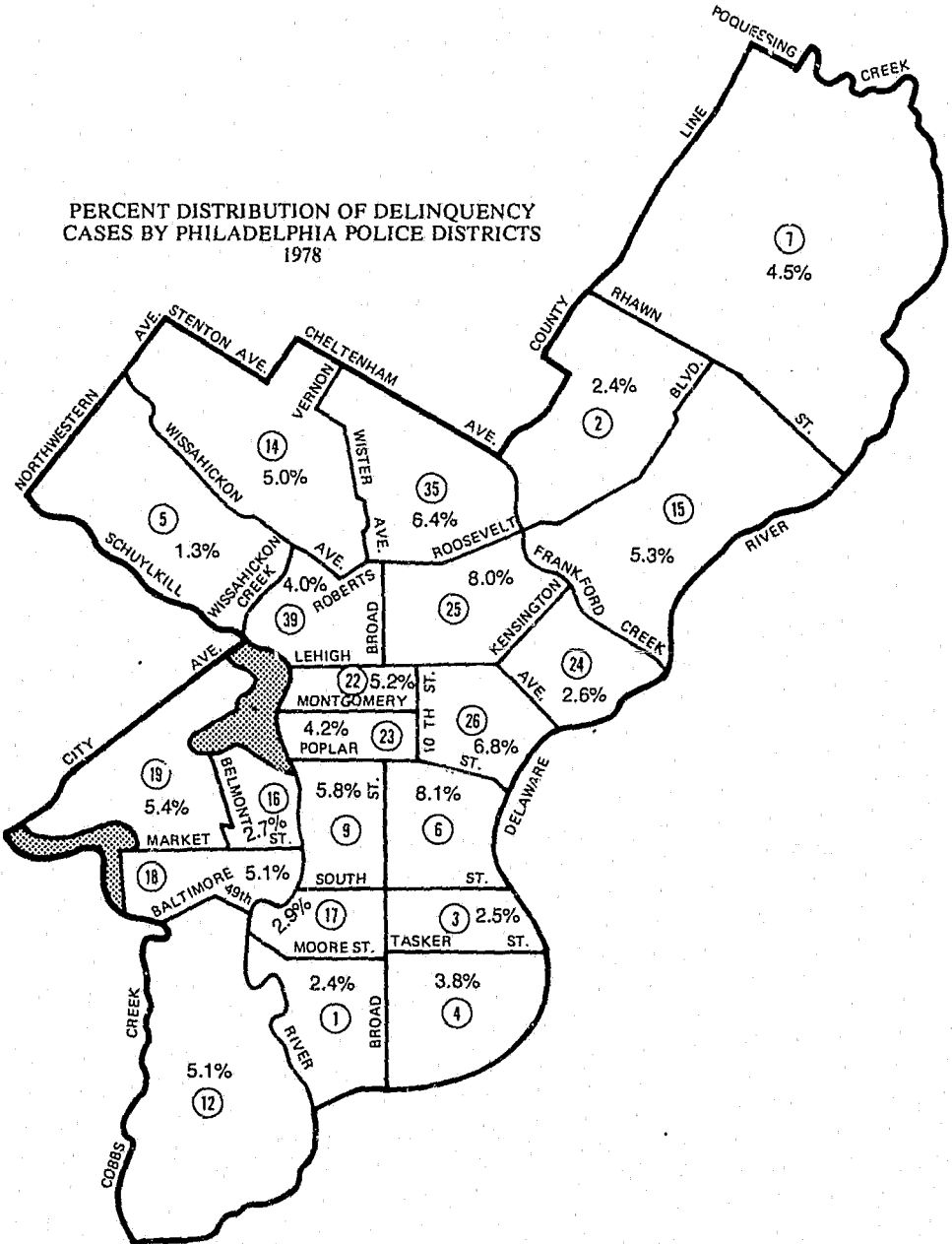
Line No.	Philadelphia Police Districts	Total	Delinquency cases disposed of				
			Injury to person	Stealing			Other stealing
				Burglary	Robbery	Larceny	
1	Total cases	12,568	2,005	2,849	1,563	1,922	1,327
2	Police arrests (totals) ..	11,521	1,400	2,816	1,548	1,821	1,223
3	1st District	276	41	74	26	48	23
4	2nd District	279	19	68	6	47	41
5	3rd District	291	43	67	53	40	17
6	4th District	428	52	70	46	87	17
7	5th District	151	18	43	4	32	10
8	6th District	928	62	91	159	182	304
9	7th District	513	76	161	26	60	59
10	9th District	666	66	61	124	133	87
11	12th District	580	115	140	79	61	45
12	14th District	569	67	176	92	91	43
13	15th District	604	71	124	46	88	73
14	16th District	308	50	59	52	45	22
15	17th District	336	65	67	54	34	25
16	18th District	583	66	147	103	98	52
17	19th District	619	86	137	137	83	49
18	22nd District	594	77	163	93	104	39
19	23rd District	487	62	106	91	93	30
20	24th District	292	26	79	8	64	38
21	25th District	915	85	335	60	126	91
22	26th District	781	86	333	62	105	44
23	35th District	729	80	198	130	101	64
24	39th District	463	62	100	74	72	39
25	Others	129	25	17	23	27	11
26	Other referrals	1,047	605	33	15	101	104

TABLE 14—Concluded

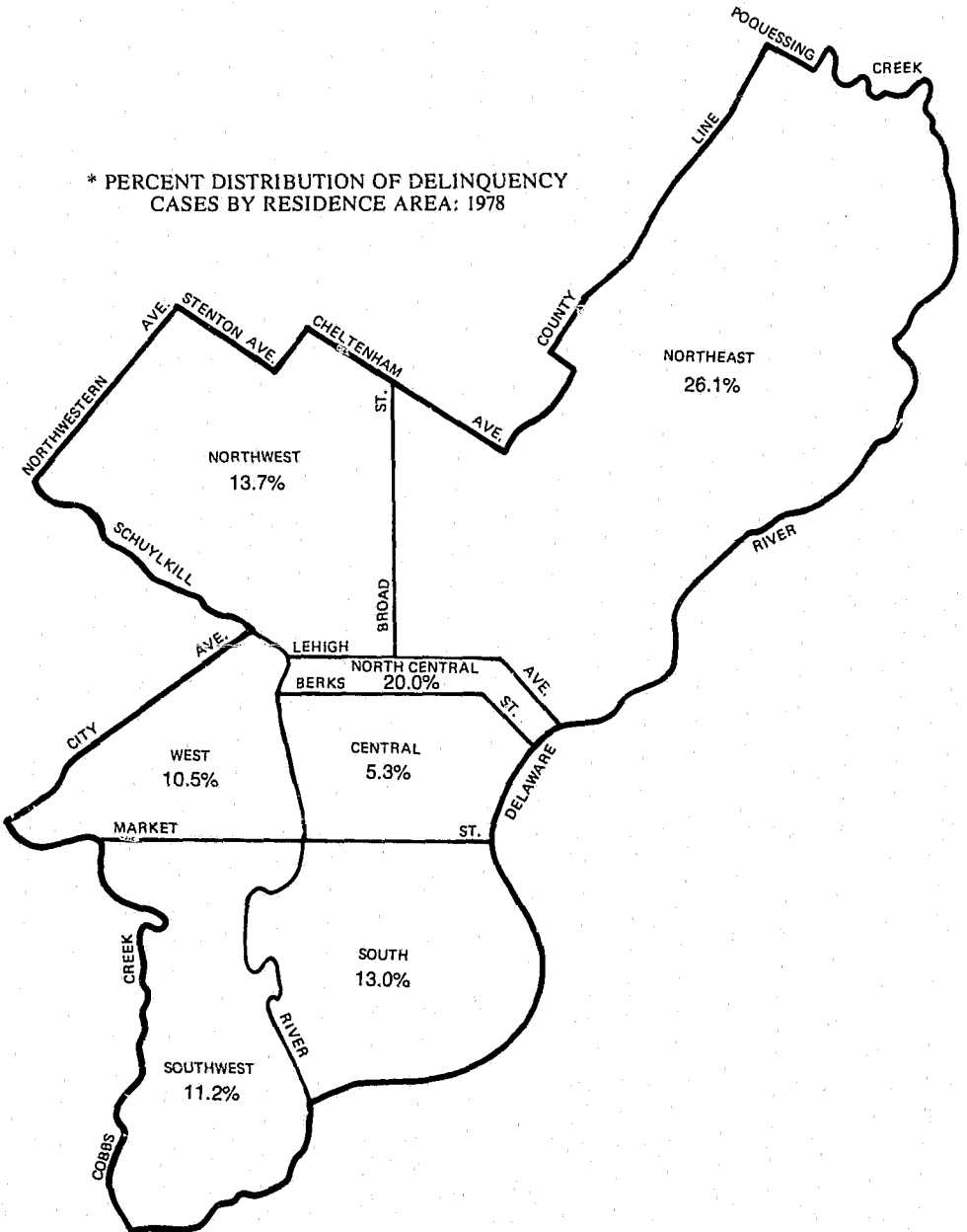
REASON FOR REFERRAL BY AREA OF OCCURRENCE: 1978

Line no.	Delinquency cases disposed of					
	Weapons offenses	Ungovernable behavior	Sex offenses	Drug law violation	Malicious mischief	All other offenses
1	443	382	256	1,105	602	114
2	409	367	222	1,101	519	95
3	14	11	3	25	9	2
4	12	4	2	58	20	2
5	11	9	7	30	14	—
6	14	3	3	105	26	5
7	—	3	3	21	16	1
8	26	8	19	44	27	6
9	19	7	5	52	28	20
10	19	60	31	47	34	4
11	32	11	10	57	23	7
12	20	19	9	35	15	2
13	20	16	4	111	41	10
14	10	9	4	47	10	—
15	19	15	8	46	2	1
16	27	18	11	47	12	2
17	21	19	12	50	22	3
18	26	37	16	19	15	5
19	16	13	22	25	26	3
20	9	5	2	38	23	—
21	22	34	8	104	38	12
22	15	21	10	64	37	4
23	30	14	21	44	46	1
24	25	28	10	23	29	1
25	2	3	2	9	6	4
26	34	15	34	4	83	19

PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF DELINQUENCY CASES BY PHILADELPHIA POLICE DISTRICTS 1978



* PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF DELINQUENCY CASES BY RESIDENCE AREA: 1978



* Percentages were computed for first six months of 1978. Districts were then realigned.

TABLE 15
REASON FOR REFERRAL: 1968 TO 1978

Year and sex	Total	Stealing				Injury to person	Weapons offenses
		Auto theft	Burglary	Robbery	Other stealing		
Boys' cases							
1968	12,438	1,501	2,303	873	1,519	1,746	503
1969	14,246	1,758	2,679	1,243	1,571	1,952	676
1970	14,973	1,675	2,842	1,431	1,360	2,187	715
1971	16,916	1,545	3,205	1,643	1,701	2,306	805
1972	13,564	1,000	2,477	1,553	1,170	1,735	655
1973	15,015	1,274	2,751	1,807	1,534	1,861	778
1974	15,387	1,006	2,953	1,788	2,142	1,823	651
1975	15,767	730	3,090	2,268	2,565	1,776	677
1976	13,908	774	2,641	1,389	2,619	1,926	659
1977	10,797	716	2,302	1,098	1,797	1,606	631
1978	11,377	660	2,768	1,497	2,281	1,621	417
Girls' cases							
1968	2,072	41	49	47	282	235	39
1969	2,222	23	54	79	284	282	27
1970	2,354	39	79	44	319	336	15
1971	2,394	32	76	81	542	318	34
1972	2,103	13	44	82	437	313	28
1973	2,215	35	54	93	488	322	28
1974	2,319	24	73	86	579	340	36
1975	2,483	18	97	76	707	322	43
1976	2,153	25	64	49	506	323	33
1977	1,518	21	65	51	188	307	46
1978	1,191	30	81	66	278	384	26

TABLE 15 — Concluded
 REASON FOR REFERRAL: 1968 TO 1978

Year and sex	Sex offenses	Ungovernable behavior	Drug law violation	Malicious mischief			All other offenses
				Disorderly conduct	Vandalism	Other acts	
Boys' cases							
1968	382	818	199	798	623	791	581
1969	412	1,135	357	692	784	461	883
1970	300	1,013	647	926	772	694	1,058
1971	409	681	656	1,492	802	1,337	990
1972	355	781	407	1,166	626	1,311	735
1973	433	625	739	1,209	446	1,171	387
1974	480	602	1,040	1,333	376	940	253
1975	352	644	1,117	899	527	822	300
1976	274	704	1,161	442	405	697	217
1977	198	637	998	127	225	317	145
1978	227	305	998	118	128	262	95
Girls' cases							
1968	283	847	32	82	36	63	68
1969	124	1,017	46	88	69	48	127
1970	99	1,018	77	127	77	39	162
1971	45	784	90	139	58	110	175
1972	36	721	59	131	69	116	113
1973	23	710	88	162	37	121	54
1974	21	718	101	174	29	95	43
1975	14	757	11	149	53	107	29
1976	9	745	127	87	31	122	32
1977	7	609	114	21	20	39	30
1978	29	77	107	32	17	45	19

TABLE 16

OFFENSES, RELATIVE NUMBERS, PERCENT DISTRIBUTION: 1970, 1975 TO 1978

Offenses	Delinquency cases				
	1970	1975	1976	1977	1978
Total cases	17,327	18,250	16,061	12,315	12,568
Burglary	2,921	3,187	2,705	2,367	2,849
Robbery	1,475	2,344	1,438	1,149	1,563
Auto theft	1,714	748	799	737	690
Other stealing	1,679	3,272	3,125	1,985	2,559
Injury to person	2,523	2,098	2,249	1,913	2,005
Weapons offenses	730	720	692	677	443
Ungovernable behavior	2,031	1,401	1,449	1,246	382
Sex offenses	399	366	283	205	256
Liquor law violation	143	176	80	3	5
Drug law violation	724	1,228	1,288	1,112	1,105
Malicious mischief	2,653	2,557	1,784	749	602
All other offenses	335	153	169	172	109
RELATIVE NUMBERS ¹					
All offenses	100	105	93	71	73
Burglary	100	109	93	81	97
Robbery	100	159	97	78	106
Auto theft	100	44	47	43	40
Other stealing	100	195	186	118	152
Injury to person	100	83	89	76	79
Weapons offenses	100	99	95	93	61
Ungovernable behavior	100	69	71	61	19
Sex offenses	100	92	71	51	64
Liquor law violation	100	123	56	2	3
Drug law violation	100	170	178	154	153
Malicious mischief	100	96	67	28	23
All other offenses	100	46	50	51	33
PERCENT DISTRIBUTION ²					
All offenses	100	100	100	100	100
Burglary	17	17	17	19	23
Robbery	9	13	9	9	12
Auto theft	10	4	5	6	5
Other stealing	10	18	19	16	20
Injury to person	15	11	14	16	16
Weapons offenses	4	4	4	5	4
Ungovernable behavior	12	8	9	10	3
Sex offenses	2	2	2	2	2
Liquor law violation	1	1	0.5	— ³	— ³
Drug law violation	4	7	8	9	9
Malicious mischief	15	14	11	6	5
All other offenses	2	1	1	1	1

¹ Relative numbers are computed on data for 1970 as bases, indicated by 100, and data for subsequent years are computed as percentages.

² Distributive percentages are not adjusted to make them total 100.

³ Less than 0.5%

TABLE 17
SOURCE OF REFERRAL BY SEX AND RACE: 1978

Source of reference	Delinquency cases disposed of						
	Total	Boys			Girls		
		Total	White	Non-white	Total	White	Non-white
Total cases	12,568	11,377	3,989	7,388	1,191	406	785
Police arrests	11,521	10,585	3,652	6,933	936	346	590
<i>Percent</i>	92	93	92	94	79	85	75
Other referrals (total)	1,047	792	337	455	255	60	195
Authorities outside Phila.	189	162	67	95	27	6	21
Individual	796	586	259	327	210	50	160
Parent or relative	43	29	8	21	14	4	10
School authorities	9	5	1	4	4	—	4
Institution or agency	4	4	—	4	—	—	—
Family Court	5	5	2	3	—	—	—
Counseling and Referral Unit ..	1	1	—	1	—	—	—

TABLE 18

RESIDENCE OF CHILD AND MARITAL STATUS OF NATURAL PARENTS: 1978

Residence of child and marital status of parents	Children* in delinquency cases disposed of						
	Total	Boys			Girls		
		Total	White	Non-white	Total	White	Non-white
Total children	8,810	7,831	2,942	4,889	979	310	669
Children living at home (total)	7,911	7,087	2,778	4,309	824	277	547
With both parents	3,157	2,866	1,563	1,303	291	147	144
Parents married to each other	3,100	2,816	1,560	1,256	284	146	138
Parents not married ¹	57	50	3	47	7	1	6
With parent and stepparent	421	372	173	199	49	23	26
Mother dead	8	7	4	3	1	—	1
Father dead	62	56	16	40	6	4	2
Parents divorced	309	274	148	126	35	16	19
Parents not married ¹	30	27	4	23	3	3	—
Marital status not reported	12	8	1	7	4	—	4
With mother only	4,011	3,555	916	2,639	456	96	360
Father dead	783	706	224	482	77	21	56
Parents divorced	162	146	41	105	16	3	13
Parents separated	2,529	2,226	609	1,617	303	66	237
Parents not married ¹	357	319	16	303	38	3	35
Marital status not reported	180	158	26	132	22	3	19
With father only	322	294	126	168	28	11	17
Mother dead	72	67	42	25	5	2	3
Parents divorced	18	17	12	5	1	1	—
Parents separated	216	194	69	125	22	8	14
Parents not married ¹	9	9	—	9	—	—	—
Marital status not reported	7	7	3	4	—	—	—

* In counting "children" each child is counted only once — the first time he was dealt with by the court on a new delinquency charge disposed of during the year.

¹ Child's natural parents not married to each other.

TABLE 18—Concluded

RESIDENCE OF CHILD AND MARITAL STATUS OF NATURAL PARENTS: 1978

Residence of child and marital status of parents	Children* in delinquency cases disposed of						
	Total	Boys			Girls		
		Total	White	Non-white	Total	White	Non-white
Children not living at home (total)	777	656	138	518	121	26	95
Other family home ²	667	581	116	465	86	15	71
Parents married and living together	41	37	13	24	4	1	3
Mother dead	110	93	13	80	17	5	12
Father dead	79	71	10	61	8	2	6
Both parents dead	55	49	11	38	6	—	6
Parents divorced	23	20	8	12	3	1	2
Parents separated	174	153	44	109	21	3	18
Parents not married ¹	51	48	5	43	3	—	3
Married status not reported	134	110	12	98	24	3	21
In institution	86	63	15	48	23	5	18
Parents married and living together	11	9	3	6	2	—	2
Mother dead	5	5	2	3	—	—	—
Father dead	10	7	1	6	3	—	3
Both parents dead	4	2	1	1	2	2	—
Parents divorced	2	1	1	—	1	—	1
Parents separated	30	22	6	16	8	2	6
Parents not married ¹	5	3	—	3	2	—	2
Marital status not reported	19	14	1	13	5	1	4
Independent arrangement	24	12	7	5	12	6	6
Parents married and living together	4	2	1	1	2	1	1
Mother dead	1	—	—	—	1	—	1
Father dead	3	2	2	—	1	—	1
Parents divorced	1	—	—	—	1	—	1
Parents separated	6	3	2	1	3	1	2
Parents not married ¹	3	3	1	2	—	—	—
Marital status not reported	6	2	1	1	4	4	—
Residence of child not reported	122	88	26	62	34	7	27

*In counting "children" each child is counted only once—the first time he was dealt with by the court on a new delinquency charge disposed of during the year.

¹Child's natural parents not married to each other.

²With foster parents, relatives, guardians, etc.

TABLE 19

PARENTAL MARITAL RELATIONSHIP¹: 1974 to 1978
 CHILDREN,² COUNTED AS OF FIRST OFFENSE IN YEAR

Sex, race, and year	Children in delinquency cases disposed of				
	Total	Parental marital relationship			Parent/s deceased
		Living together			
		Total	Parents married to each other	Parents not married to each other	
White boys					
1974	3,719	2,174	2,168	6	395
1975	3,338	1,901	1,891	10	343
1976	3,217	1,864	1,860	4	345
1977	2,839	1,563	1,562	1	291
1978	2,942	1,582	1,579	3	330
Non-white boys					
1974	6,587	2,222	2,187	35	930
1975	6,654	2,138	2,076	62	951
1976	6,108	1,888	1,845	43	875
1977	4,809	1,381	1,352	29	726
1978	4,889	1,345	1,298	47	748
White girls					
1974	643	337	336	1	72
1975	605	280	277	3	60
1976	579	267	266	1	79
1977	425	197	197	—	48
1978	310	149	148	1	37
Non-white girls					
1974	1,278	345	334	11	192
1975	1,422	402	389	13	224
1976	1,186	313	304	9	170
1977	814	209	199	10	103
1978	669	150	144	6	96

¹Parental marital relationship refers only to the child's natural parents at time child was referred to court in present case.

²In counting "children" each child is counted only once — the first time he was dealt with on a new delinquency charge disposed of during the year.

TABLE 19—Concluded

PARENTAL MARITAL RELATIONSHIP¹: 1974 TO 1978
CHILDREN,² COUNTED AS OF FIRST OFFENSE IN YEAR

Sex, race, and year	Children in delinquency cases disposed of				
	Parental marital relationship				
	Not living together				Not reported
	Total	Divorced	Separated	Not married	
White boys					
1974	1,038	203	751	84	112
1975	1,010	203	768	39	84
1976	953	196	708	49	55
1977	909	187	690	32	76
1978	975	214	735	26	55
Non-white boys					
1974	3,089	224	2,151	714	346
1975	3,257	370	2,308	579	308
1976	3,136	362	2,295	479	209
1977	2,527	241	1,976	310	175
1978	2,508	249	1,874	385	288
White girls					
1974	204	48	134	22	30
1975	239	61	150	28	26
1976	218	61	145	12	15
1977	168	41	120	7	12
1978	108	21	84	3	16
Non-white girls					
1974	666	65	394	207	75
1975	713	103	471	139	83
1976	637	84	428	125	66
1977	453	52	343	58	49
1978	355	36	278	41	68

¹Parental marital relationship refers only to the child's natural parents at time child was referred to court in present case.

²In counting "children" each child is counted only once — the first time he was dealt with on a new delinquency charge disposed of during the year.

TABLE 20
RESIDENCE OF CHILD: 1974 TO 1978

Race, sex and year	Children in delinquency cases disposed of							
	Total	Residence of child						
		Own home with both own parents ¹	With parent and step- parent	With mother only	With father only	In other family home ²	In insti- tution	Not reported
White boys								
1974	3,719	2,145	258	946	161	153	28	28
1975	3,338	1,872	227	914	144	132	22	27
1976	3,217	1,844	181	879	144	127	17	25
1977	2,839	1,549	179	817	121	113	23	37
1978	2,942	1,563	173	916	126	123	15	26
Non-white boys								
1974	6,587	2,169	359	3,059	258	626	78	38
1975	6,654	2,097	345	3,198	275	616	75	48
1976	6,108	1,844	298	3,061	223	538	71	73
1977	4,809	1,355	227	2,515	180	429	58	45
1978	4,889	1,303	199	2,639	168	470	48	62
White girls								
1974	643	330	53	179	26	35	13	7
1975	605	271	77	175	18	29	27	8
1976	579	263	58	166	25	35	25	7
1977	425	187	43	134	15	30	11	5
1978	310	147	23	96	11	21	5	7
Non-white girls								
1974	1,278	331	94	611	31	167	32	12
1975	1,422	390	83	687	42	161	43	16
1976	1,186	305	72	593	35	120	33	28
1977	814	201	52	412	20	95	20	14
1978	669	144	26	360	17	77	18	27

¹ Includes adoptive home.

² Includes: Living in foster home, living with relatives or friends, living with one parent and para-
mour, or living alone.

TABLE 21
TYPE OF DISPOSITION: 1974 TO 1978

Type of disposition	Delinquency cases disposed of				
	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978
Total cases	17,706	18,250	16,061	12,315	12,568
Referred elsewhere for disposition	322	392	463	221	248
Dismissed, discharged, adjusted	11,382	11,544	9,514	6,580	6,081
Probation or supervision	5,033	5,028	4,856	4,398	5,144
Restitution	20	60	100	74	49
Committed to:					
Institution for delinquents	665	765	708	593	675
Other institutions, agencies, or individuals	86	155	131	135	141
Referred to criminal court	34	82	59	122	76
Others	164	224	230	192	154
PERCENT DISTRIBUTION¹	100	100	100	100	100
Referred elsewhere for disposition	2	2	3	2	2
Dismissed, discharged, adjusted	64	63	59	53	48
Probation or supervision	28	28	30	36	41
Restitution	— ²	— ²	1	1	— ²
Committed to:					
Institution for delinquents	4	4	4	5	5
Other institutions, agencies, or individuals	1	1	1	1	1
Referred to criminal court	— ²	— ²	— ²	1	1
Others	1	1	1	1	1

¹ Distributive percentages are not adjusted to make them total 100.

² Less than 0.5 percent.

TABLE 22

DELINQUENCY CASES DISPOSED OF THROUGH COURT HEARING AND INTAKE INTERVIEWS — TYPE OF DISPOSITION BY SEX AND RACE: 1978

Type of disposition	Delinquency cases disposed of						
	Total	Boys			Girls		
		Total	White	Non-white	Total	White	Non-white
Total cases	12,568	11,377	3,989	7,388	1,191	406	785
Referred elsewhere (total)	248	225	96	129	23	7	16
Authorities outside the city	74	70	41	29	4	3	1
Counseling and Referral ...	166	147	53	94	19	4	15
Municipal Court	8	8	2	6	—	—	—
Discharged or adjusted (total)	6,081	5,475	1,888	3,587	606	227	379
Discharged at court hearing	888	818	214	604	70	30	40
Adjusted at Youth Study Center	2,044	1,779	823	956	265	106	159
Determined	686	579	183	396	107	32	75
Petition withdrawn	1,922	1,781	526	1,255	141	51	90
Discharged from supervision	2	2	—	2	—	—	—
Defendant deceased	9	9	1	8	—	—	—
Sentence suspended	25	21	5	16	4	3	1
Adjudged delinquent	505	486	136	350	19	5	14
Probation (total)	5,144	4,642	1,781	2,861	502	155	347
Probation	1,811	1,681	527	1,154	130	51	79
Psychiatric probation	104	90	39	51	14	5	9
Intensive probation	165	159	46	113	6	1	5
Probation and restitution ...	96	95	39	56	1	—	1
Consent Decree	2,859	2,524	1,090	1,434	335	91	244
Consent Decree with restitution	109	93	40	53	16	7	9
Commitments (total)	816	780	167	613	36	10	26
Institution for delinquents ..	675	655	133	522	20	5	15
Public/private agencies	108	95	22	73	13	5	8
Mental health facility	33	30	12	18	3	—	3
Referred to criminal court ...	76	76	6	70	—	—	—
Restitution or fines	49	46	20	26	3	—	3
Adjudged dependent	141	120	29	91	21	7	14
Others	13	13	2	11	—	—	—

TABLE 23

DELINQUENCY CASES DISPOSED OF AT PRE-TRIAL HEARINGS —
TYPE OF DISPOSITION BY SEX AND RACE: 1978

Type of disposition	Delinquency cases disposed of						
	Total	Boys			Girls		
		Total	White	Non-white	Total	White	Non-white
Total cases	5,057	4,556	1,805	2,751	501	160	341
Referred elsewhere (total)	25	24	16	18	1	1	—
Authorities outside the city	22	21	15	6	1	1	—
Municipal Court	3	3	1	2	—	—	—
Dismissed or discharged (total)	1,263	1,139	408	731	124	41	83
Discharged	179	151	55	96	28	13	15
Determined	386	345	124	221	41	12	29
Petition withdrawn	449	404	163	241	45	13	32
Adjudged delinquent	249	239	66	173	10	3	7
Probation (total)	3,681	3,309	1,353	1,956	372	117	255
Probation	1,105	1,024	337	687	81	35	46
Psychiatric probation	27	22	13	9	5	—	5
Intensive probation	44	42	14	28	2	—	2
Probation and restitution ...	10	9	3	6	1	—	1
Consent Decree	2,442	2,167	967	1,200	275	75	200
Consent Decree with restitution	53	45	19	26	8	7	1
Commitments (total)	61	58	24	34	3	1	2
Institution for delinquents ..	46	45	22	23	1	—	1
Mental health facility	1	1	—	1	—	—	—
Agencies	14	12	2	10	2	1	1
Referred to criminal court ...	2	2	—	2	—	—	—
Restitution or fines	10	10	4	6	—	—	—
Adjudged dependent	15	14	—	14	1	—	1

TABLE 24

DELINQUENCY CASES DISPOSED OF AT ADJUDICATORY HEARINGS —
TYPE OF DISPOSITION BY SEX AND RACE: 1978

Type of disposition	Delinquency cases disposed of						
	Total	Boys			Girls		
		Total	White	Non-white	Total	White	Non-white
Total cases	5,280	4,875	1,291	3,584	405	135	270
Referred elsewhere (total)	37	35	11	24	2	1	1
Authorities outside the city	32	30	10	20	2	1	1
Municipal Court	5	5	1	4	—	—	—
Dismissed or discharged (total)	2,774	2,557	657	1,900	217	80	137
Discharged	713	671	159	512	42	17	25
Determined	300	234	59	175	66	20	46
Petition withdrawn	1,473	1,377	363	1,014	96	38	58
Discharged from supervision .	2	2	—	2	—	—	—
Defendant deceased	8	8	1	7	—	—	—
Sentence suspended	22	18	5	13	4	3	1
Adjudged delinquent	256	247	70	177	9	2	7
Probation (total)	1,463	1,333	428	905	130	38	92
Probation	706	657	190	467	49	16	33
Neuropsychiatric probation	77	68	26	42	9	5	4
Intensive probation	121	117	32	85	4	1	3
Probation and restitution ...	86	86	36	50	—	—	—
Consent Decree	417	357	123	234	60	16	44
Consent Decree with restitution	56	48	21	27	8	—	8
Commitments (total)	755	722	143	579	33	9	24
Institution for delinquents ..	629	610	111	499	19	5	14
Agencies	94	83	20	63	11	4	7
Mental health facility	32	29	12	17	3	—	3
Referred to criminal court ...	74	74	6	68	—	—	—
Restitution or fines	39	36	16	20	3	—	3
Adjudged dependent	126	106	29	77	20	7	13
Others	12	12	1	11	—	—	—

TABLE 25

REASON FOR REFERRAL AND TYPE OF DISPOSITION —
BOYS' DELINQUENCY CASES: 1978

Offense	Delinquency cases disposed of						
	Total	Referred elsewhere	Discharged or adjusted	Probation	Commitments	Referred to criminal court	Others
Boys' cases	11,377	225	5,475	4,642	780	76	179
Homicide	25	—	9	6	6	4	—
Assaults	1,596	27	726	683	122	13	25
Burglary	2,768	29	1,101	1,377	198	15	48
Robbery	1,497	30	607	632	170	28	30
Auto theft	660	19	281	278	66	4	12
Retail theft	192	4	109	57	14	—	8
Receiving stolen property	118	2	68	42	4	—	2
Stealing-larceny, n.e.s. ¹	1,971	48	922	882	95	—	24
Rape	96	—	47	23	16	8	2
Sex offenses (except rape)	131	6	60	53	12	—	—
Weapons offenses	417	8	218	161	23	2	5
Ungovernable behavior	305	1	283	3	11	—	7
Drug law violation	998	39	644	287	23	2	3
Disorderly conduct	118	—	96	18	4	—	—
Conspiracy	20	—	17	—	2	—	1
Vandalism	128	1	74	46	4	—	3
Arson	38	—	10	25	1	—	2
Resisting an officer	63	1	49	10	2	—	1
Trespassing	96	4	51	33	5	—	3
Motor-vehicle violation	45	2	31	12	—	—	—
All other offenses	95	4	72	14	2	—	3

¹ Not elsewhere specified.

TABLE 26

REASON FOR REFERRAL AND TYPE OF DISPOSITION —
GIRLS' DELINQUENCY CASES: 1978

Offenses	Delinquency cases disposed of					
	Total	Re-ferred else-where	Dis-charged or adjusted	Pro-bation	Comm-it-ments	Others
Girls' cases	1,191	23	606	502	36	24
Assaults ¹	384	6	197	163	13	5
Burglary	81	—	37	36	7	1
Robbery	66	3	24	33	4	2
Receiving stolen property	4	1	1	2	—	—
Retail theft	124	1	48	69	5	1
Auto theft	30	—	21	8	—	1
Stealing-larceny, n.e.s. ²	150	3	42	96	2	7
Weapons offenses	26	3	5	15	2	1
Sex offenses	29	—	24	5	—	—
Ungovernable behavior	77	—	69	1	1	6
Vandalism, arson	24	—	12	12	—	—
Disorderly conduct	32	1	29	2	—	—
Trespassing	14	1	12	1	—	—
Drug law violations	107	2	51	52	2	—
All other offenses	43	2	34	7	—	—

¹ Includes two homicides.² Not elsewhere specified.

TABLE 27

DELINQUENCY CASES DISPOSED OF THROUGH INTAKE INTERVIEWS AT YOUTH STUDY CENTER: 1978

	Total	Boys			Girls		
		Total	White	Non-white	Total	White	Non-white
Total adjusted cases ...	2,231	1,946	893	1,053	285	111	174
Adjusted	2,044	1,779	823	956	265	106	159
Referred to Counseling and Referral Service	166	147	53	94	19	4	15
Referred to other authorities	21	20	17	3	1	1	—
Cases referred to court ...	10,158	9,271	—	—	887	—	—

TABLE 28

**INSTITUTIONS AND AGENCIES TO WHICH
DELINQUENT CHILDREN WERE COMMITTED: 1978**

Institution or agency	New charges			Rehearings		
	Total	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls
Total commitments	816	774	42	585	531	54
State-operated institutions for delinquents	264	258	6	147	141	6
Youth Development Centers:						
Loysville	2	2	—	1	1	—
Philadelphia	45	39	6	20	15	5
Cornwells Heights	199	199	—	108	108	—
New Castle	3	3	—	3	3	—
Waynesburg	—	—	—	1	—	1
Forestry Camp #2	12	12	—	9	9	—
Forestry Camp #3	3	3	—	5	5	—
Other institutions:	411	397	14	257	240	17
Glen Mills	145	144	1	59	58	1
New Life Boy's Ranch	7	7	—	8	8	—
St. Gabriel's Hall	129	129	—	71	71	—
St. Gabriel's Day Center	35	35	—	47	47	—
Sleighton School	70	58	12	56	41	15
Sisters of Good Shepherd	1	—	1	1	—	1
Pa. Jr. Republic	6	6	—	6	6	—
St. Michael's	18	18	—	9	9	—
Mental Health facilities:	33	24	9	17	15	2
Eastern State School and Hospital ...	11	8	3	10	8	2
Phila. Child Guidance Clinic	2	2	—	—	—	—
State Hospital-Byberry	2	2	—	—	—	—
Norristown State Hospital	2	2	—	1	1	—
Hahnemann Community Center	2	2	—	—	—	—
Phila. Psychiatric Center	6	—	6	1	1	—
Woodhaven Center	2	2	—	—	—	—
Einstein Community M/H Center	—	—	—	2	2	—
Other	6	6	—	3	3	—
Dept. of Public Welfare	1	—	1	4	4	—

TABLE 28 — Concluded

INSTITUTIONS AND AGENCIES TO WHICH
DELINQUENT CHILDREN WERE COMMITTED: 1978

Institution or agency	New charges			Rehearings		
	Total	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls
Private agencies	107	95	12	160	131	29
Southern Home	18	17	1	17	13	4
Youth Services, Inc.	2	2	—	7	5	2
Today Incorporated	2	2	—	2	2	—
East Phila. Environmental Center	12	7	5	10	8	2
Abraxis Foundation	6	6	—	10	10	—
The Bridge	5	4	1	5	5	—
Gaundenzia	2	1	1	1	—	1
Penna. Youth Advancement	7	5	2	8	3	5
Professional Resource	3	3	—	8	8	—
House of Umoja	6	6	—	14	14	—
Childrens Service, Inc.	—	—	—	19	13	6
O.I.C. Group Home	7	7	—	27	27	—
Allied Services	17	17	—	2	2	—
Some Other Place	8	8	—	3	3	—
Harriet Tubman	1	—	1	7	—	7
Other	11	10	1	20	18	2

TABLE 29
REHEARINGS* IN DELINQUENCY CASES: 1978

Reason for referral and dispositions	Total	Through court hearing	Without court hearing
REASON FOR REFERRAL			
Rehearings (total)	6,476	2,280	4,196
Violation of probation or aftercare	33	30	3
For discharge from institution or agency	528	323	205
For discharge from probation or parole	3,766	206	3,560
Transfer custody	70	70	—
Consent Decree case relisted	174	151	23
Report by order of the court	1,024	1,017	7
Case review	360	359	1
Motion for amendment	236	44	192
Escape from custody	212	68	144
Failure to pay restitution	19	7	12
Other	54	5	49
DISPOSITIONS			
Rehearings (total)	6,476	2,280	4,196
Motion dismissed or withdrawn	218	199	19
Discharge from probation or aftercare	1,442	56	1,386
Discharge from commitment	269	121	148
Discharge from commitment with after-care	432	325	107
Probation or parole	136	128	8
Runaway returned	51	8	43
Commit to institution for delinquents	404	385	19
Other commitments	183	176	7
Remain as placed	715	679	36
Discharged from Consent Decree	2,305	141	2,164
Record expunged	207	18	189
All other dispositions	114	44	70

* Rehearings are held for those cases already under court supervision, returned to court for review, amendment, or discharge; or disposed of by judicial approval or administrative action, without a formal court hearing.

JUVENILE NON-DELINQUENCY*

TABLE 30

JUVENILE NON-DELINQUENCY CASES: 1974 TO 1978

Listings, dispositions, and continuances	1978	1977	1976	1975	1974
Total non-delinquency cases listed ¹	5,304	4,044	3,517	3,751	3,218
Cases listed for court hearing	5,143	3,898	3,415	3,558	2,965
Continuances	2,521	1,989	1,308	1,437	1,593
Disposed of	2,622	1,909	2,107	2,121	1,372
New charges	1,583	1,215	1,395	1,570	1,117
Rehearings	1,039	694	712	551	255
Cases listed for administrative action without court hearing	161	146	102	193	253

*These are "dependent child" cases, children who are without parental care or control, subsistence, or education as required by law, or other care or control necessary for their physical, mental or emotional health, or morals; have been placed for care or adoption in violation of law; have been abandoned by parent(s), guardian or other custodian; are without a parent, guardian or legal custodian; while subject to compulsory school attendance are habitually and without justification, truant from school; have committed a specific act or acts of disobedience of the reasonable and lawful commands of their parent(s), guardian or other custodian and who are ungovernable and found to be in need of care, treatment or supervision; or are under the age of ten years and have committed a delinquent act.

¹ Does not include 405 detention hearings held for emergency protective custody.

TABLE 31
REASON FOR REFERRAL OF NON-DELINQUENCY CASES: 1978

Type of case	New Charges disposed of			Families
	Total	Boys	Girls	
Total cases	1,583	873	710	1,036
Inadequate care	467	246	221	275
No parent	40	19	21	27
Neglect	336	191	145	156
Abuse	235	115	120	149
Abandonment	35	25	10	21
Mental/physical health	80	37	43	70
Delinquent case referral	137	104	33	128
Truancy	89	60	29	69
Incorrigibility	112	54	58	105
Others	52	22	30	36

TABLE 32
AGE OF CHILDREN IN NON-DELINQUENCY CASES: 1978

Reasons for reference to court	New charges disposed of						
	Total	Age of children					
		Under 1 year	1 to 5 years	6 to 11 years	12 to 15 years	16 years and over	Not reported
Total cases	1,583	92	314	368	583	213	13
Inadequate care	467	31	90	136	159	30	1
No parent	40	3	8	9	14	6	—
Neglect	336	26	121	103	60	23	3
Abuse	235	26	66	68	62	9	4
Abandonment	35	2	9	14	9	1	—
Mental/physical health	80	3	10	10	32	25	—
Delinquer' case referral ..	137	—	—	5	98	33	1
Truancy	89	—	—	1	59	26	3
Incorrigibility	112	—	—	5	74	32	1
Others	52	1	10	17	16	8	—

TABLE 33
SOURCE OF REFERRAL IN NON-DELINQUENCY CASES: 1978

Reason for reference to court	New charges disposed of							
	Total	Source of referral						
		Parent	Relative	Other indi- vidual	Dept. of Public Welfare	School author- ities	Court	Others
Total cases	1,583	129	88	37	580	351	393	5
Inadequate care	467	6	40	5	161	208	46	1
No parent	40	—	—	—	32	2	6	—
Neglect	336	6	31	5	182	59	53	—
Abuse	235	7	4	1	145	—	77	1
Abandonment	35	—	4	2	20	—	7	2
Mental/physical health	80	—	—	5	25	1	49	—
Delinquent case referral ...	137	—	—	—	—	2	135	—
Truancy	99	2	—	2	4	79	2	—
Incorrigibility	112	103	8	1	—	—	—	—
Others	52	5	1	16	11	—	18	1

TABLE 34

CHILD'S RESIDENCE AND MARITAL STATUS OF NATURAL PARENTS
IN NON-DELINQUENCY CASES: 1978

Child's residence and marital status of parents	Children				Families
	Total	White	Non-white	Not reported	
Total cases	1,583	420	1,076	87	1,036
Child living with:					
Both parents	201	91	104	6	135
Parent and stepparent	15	8	7	—	12
Mother only	750	185	513	52	462
Father only	64	22	42	—	31
Other family home	191	32	148	11	132
Foster home	28	1	25	2	18
Institution	313	77	220	16	234
Not reported	21	4	17	—	12
Marital status of parents:					
Married and living together	233	103	122	8	159
Parent/s deceased	151	43	100	8	113
Divorced	28	11	14	3	20
Separated	471	151	309	11	291
Never married	261	28	221	12	169
Not reported	439	84	310	45	284

TABLE 35
TYPE OF DISPOSITION AND REASON FOR REFERRAL IN
NON-DELINQUENCY CASES: 1978

Type of disposition	New charges disposed of				
	Total	Inade- quate care ¹	Neglect ²	Delin- quent case referral	Others ³
Total cases	1,583	507	606	137	333
Dismissed or discharged	221	79	71	3	68
Petition withdrawn	187	69	59	6	53
Protective supervision	366	116	151	14	85
Placed in custody of:					
Parent	34	11	14	2	7
Relative	131	35	87	1	8
Other individual	29	12	7	3	7
Commit to:					
Dept. of Public Welfare	544	179	204	97	64
Private agency	16	1	2	5	8
Mental health facility	26	1	1	—	24
Others	29	4	10	6	9

¹ Includes: No parent.

² Includes: Abuse and abandonment.

³ Includes: Mental/physical health, truancy and incorrigibility.

CONTINUED

1 OF 2

TABLE 36
REHEARINGS¹ IN NON-DELINQUENCY CASES: 1974 TO 1978

Reason for rehearing and type of disposition	Rehearings disposed of through court hearing and without court hearing				
	1978	1977	1976	1975	1974
Reason for rehearing (total)	1,200	840	814	744	508
For unsatisfactory probation	—	2	2	6	31
For transfer of custody	2	19	23	29	22
For discharge from custody or commitment ...	75	63	112	54	55
For discharge from supervision	167	158	125	243	256
Motion for amendment	1	4	—	3	5
Report by order for court	751	456	418	320	74
Case review	189	129	122	81	65
Escape from custody	15	9	12	8	—
Disposition (total)	1,200	840	814	744	508
Protective supervision	106	61	67	73	65
Committed to:					
Dept. of Public Welfare	89	58	42	82	35
Mental health facility	14	2	3	3	4
Relative	58	49	31	49	38
Parent	33	34	40	36	25
Individual	11	5	13	7	7
Agency or institution	9	1	1	—	—
Remain as placed	558	332	347	189	28
Discharge from:					
Supervision	196	174	156	245	264
Commitment	86	86	82	29	23
Motion dismissed or withdrawn	34	38	29	28	15
Others	6	—	3	3	4

¹Rehearings are held for those cases already under court or supervision, returned to court for review, amendment, or discharge; or disposed of by judicial or administrative action without a formal court hearing.

ADULT CASES

TABLE 37

ADULTS CORRUPTING OR ENDANGERING WELFARE
OF MINORS: 1974 TO 1978

Court hearings	1978	1977	1976	1975	1974
Listings	3,028	2,717	2,781	3,192	2,753
Continuances	1,852	1,684	1,500	1,709	1,494
Cases disposed of	1,176	1,033	1,281	1,483	1,259
New charges	992	947	1,080	1,330	1,100
Rehearings	—	—	—	4	5
Truancy cases	184	86	201	149	154

TABLE 38

TYPE OF CASE BY SEX AND RACE — ADULT CASES DISPOSED OF
THROUGH COURT HEARING: 1978

Type of case	Cases disposed of						
	Total	Males			Females		
		Total	White	Non-white	Total	White	Non-white
Total cases*	992	861	251	610	131	33	98
New charges	992	861	251	610	131	33	98
Sex offenses	401	390	110	280	11	1	10
Non-sex offenses ..	591	471	141	330	120	32	88
Truancy	184	—	—	—	—	—	—

*Excluding truancy cases.

TABLE 39
OFFENSE AND AGE OF ADULTS IN NEW CHARGES
DISPOSED OF: 1978

Type of offense	Age			
	Total	Under 25 years	25-50 years	Over 50 years
Total cases*	992	531	403	58
Sex offenses (total)	401	180	183	38
Rape	167	90	71	6
Statutory rape	1	—	1	—
Assault and attempted rape	30	19	11	—
Indecent assault	120	49	54	17
Commercialized vice	17	9	7	1
Other sex offenses	66	13	39	14
Non-sex offenses (total)	591	351	220	20
Aggravated assault	284	145	126	13
Assault	38	24	13	1
Robbery	133	116	17	—
Burglary	7	5	1	1
Drug law violation	21	17	3	1
Cruelty or neglect of child	30	12	18	—
Other non-sex offenses	78	32	42	4

*Excluding truancy cases.

TABLE 40
OFFENSE AND DISPOSITION OF ADULTS IN NEW CHARGES
DISPOSED OF: 1978

Offenses	Dispositions						
	Total	Dis- charged or withdrawn	Held for trial	Pre-in- dictment probation	Probation or Commit- ment	Referred else- where ¹	Others ²
Total cases	1,176	458	366	158	125	28	41
Sex offenses (total)	401	104	186	63	47	1	—
Rape	167	47	118	2	—	—	—
Statutory rape	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Assault and attempted rape	30	10	17	3	—	—	—
Indecent assault	120	38	34	19	29	—	—
Commercialized vice	17	2	8	5	1	1	—
Other sex offenses	66	6	9	34	17	—	—
Non-sex offenses (total)	591	220	180	95	78	15	3
Aggravated assault	284	98	102	42	38	1	3
Assault	38	21	4	9	4	—	—
Robbery	133	48	65	9	—	11	—
Burglary	7	5	1	1	—	—	—
Drug law violation	21	9	2	7	3	—	—
Cruelty or neglect of child	30	20	—	8	2	—	—
Other non-sex offenses	78	19	6	19	31	3	—
Truancy cases	184	134	—	—	—	12	38

¹ Includes: referrals to other units of the court, or DPW.

² Includes: sentence suspended, fines and costs.

JUVENILE BRANCH
TOTAL ACTIVITY

TABLE 41

SESSIONS, LISTINGS, DISPOSITIONS, AND CONTINUANCES: 1969 TO 1978

Year	Court hearings				Intake Interviews				Special lists ²
	Sessions	Cases listed for hearing			Days inter-views were held	Cases listed for interview			
		Total	Dis-posed of	Contin-uances ¹		Adjusted	Referred to court	Contin-uances	
1969 ..	1,214	32,574	14,148	18,426	316	5,466	10,826	3,244	2,639
1970 ..	1,208	34,675	15,110	19,565	302	5,831	11,549	4,451	3,702
1971 ..	1,264	34,804	14,658	20,146	309	8,571	10,316	*4,000	3,895
1972 ..	1,312	32,262	12,956	19,306	312	6,891	10,388	3,374	3,454
1973 ..	1,327	38,532	15,347	23,185	307	6,437	10,808	3,247	4,128
1974 ..	1,425	41,581	16,142	25,439	308	7,008	10,846	3,351	5,427
1975 ..	1,500	45,432	18,161	27,271	307	6,187	12,404	2,897	4,956
1976 ..	1,715	40,387	17,003	23,384	306	5,027	10,277	1,962	5,485
1977 ..	1,554	35,397	14,904	20,493	309	2,767	9,343	1,515	3,909
1978 ..	1,433	39,455	16,909	22,546	309	2,231	10,158	1,814	4,357

¹ Includes continuances for further hearing, for adjudicatory hearing, and failure to appear at hearing and bench warrant issued.

² Special lists include cases concerning amendments of previous decrees of court listed for judicial or administrative action, without court hearing.

* Estimated figure.

TABLE 42

CASES DISPOSED OF THROUGH COURT HEARING AND WITHOUT COURT HEARING: 1969 TO 1978

Year	Cases disposed of					Cases interviewed and referred to court for hearing
	Total	Through court hearing	Without court hearing			
			Total	Youth Study Center	Special list cases ¹	
1969	22,253	14,148	8,105	5,466	2,639	10,826
1970	24,643	15,110	9,533	5,831	3,702	11,549
1971	27,124	14,658	12,466	8,571	3,895	10,316
1972	23,301	12,956	10,345	6,891	3,454	10,388
1973	25,912	15,347	10,565	6,437	4,128	10,808
1974	28,577	16,142	12,435	7,008	5,427	10,846
1975	29,304	18,161	11,143	6,187	4,956	12,404
1976	27,515	17,003	10,512	5,027	5,485	10,277
1977	21,580	14,904	6,676	2,767	3,909	9,343
1978	23,497	16,909	6,588	2,231	4,357	10,158

¹ See footnote² above.

TABLE 43

CASES DISPOSED OF THROUGH COURT HEARING: 1969 TO 1978

Year	Total	New charges				Rehearings ¹		
		Total	Delinquency	Adults	Non-delinquency	Total	Delinquency	Non-delinquency
1969	14,148	12,449	11,002	633	814	1,699	1,125	574
1970	15,110	13,177	11,496	765	916	1,933	1,489	444
1971	14,658	12,550	10,739	869	942	2,108	2,108	
1972	12,956	10,447	8,776	817	854	2,509	1,382	1,127
1973	15,347	12,582	10,793	780	1,009	2,765	1,565	1,200
1974	16,142	13,069	10,698	1,254	1,117	3,073	2,248	825
1975	18,161	15,112	12,063	1,479	1,570	3,049	1,908	1,141
1976	17,003	13,710	11,034	1,281	1,395	3,293	2,024	1,269
1977	14,904	11,796	9,548	1,033	1,215	3,108	1,879	1,229
1978	16,909	13,096	10,337	1,176	1,583	3,813	2,280	1,533

¹ Rehearings are cases previously disposed of by the court and returned to court for review, amendment, or discharge.

TABLE 44

MOTIONS AND PETITIONS FOR AMENDMENT OF DECREES OF THE COURT WITHOUT COURT HEARING: 1969 TO 1978

Year	Special lists cases						
	Total	Delinquency			Non-delinquency		
		Total	Boys	Girls	Adults	Children's cases	Adult cases
1969	2,639	2,275	1,798	477	—	364	—
1970	3,702	3,307	2,837	470	—	395	—
1971	3,895	3,586	3,540		46	309	—
1972	3,454	2,997	2,564	403	30	381	76
1973	4,128	3,841	3,485		356	287	—
1974	5,427	5,174	5,072		102	253	—
1975	4,956	4,734	4,734		—	193	29
1976	5,485	5,345	5,345		—	102	38
1977	3,909	3,695	3,695		—	146	68
1978	4,357	4,196	4,196		—	161	—

¹ Enforcement unit cases were not tabulated for 1969, 1970.

TABLE 45
 DELINQUENCY CASES PROCESSED AT YOUTH
 STUDY CENTER: 1974 TO 1978

	1978	1977	1976	1975	1974
Total listings for interviews	14,203	13,625	17,266	21,488	21,205
Continuances and bench warrants issued for failure to appear	1,814	1,515	1,962	2,897	3,351
Dispositions	12,389	12,110	15,304	18,591	17,854
Total dispositions	12,389	12,110	15,304	18,591	17,854
Adjusted by interviewer	2,231	2,767	5,027	6,187	7,008
Boys	1,946	2,344	4,219	5,064	5,855
Girls	285	423	808	1,123	1,153
Referred to juvenile court by interviewer	10,158	9,343	10,277	12,404	10,846
Detained in Youth Study Center pending court hearing	2,136	2,429	2,971	3,847	3,366
Boys	1,939	1,952	2,409	3,267	2,824
Girls	197	477	562	580	542
Released to parents or guardians pending court hearing	8,022	6,914	7,306	8,557	7,480
Boys	7,332	6,330	6,619	7,716	6,762
Girls	690	584	687	841	718
Number of days interviews were held during year	309	309	306	307	308

TABLE 46

COMPARISON OF ARRESTS AND NON-ARREST OR REMEDIAL CASES BY
POLICE OFFICERS, OF BOYS AND GIRLS UNDER
18 YEARS OF AGE: 1973 TO 1978

Year	Arrests by police officers ¹						
	Total	Boys			Girls		
		Total	Resi- dents	Non- residents	Total	Resi- dents	Non- residents
1973	14,520	12,710	12,453	257	1,810	1,708	102
1974	15,564	13,557	13,291	266	2,007	1,895	112
1975	16,951	14,558	14,528	30	2,393	2,386	7
1976	14,775	12,837	12,828	9	1,938	1,938	—
1977	13,409	11,655	11,497	158	1,754	1,716	38
1978	16,047	14,067	13,813	254	1,980	1,923	57

Non-arrests, or remedial cases by police officers
not referred to court¹

1973	13,212	9,345	9,184	161	3,867	3,766	101
1974	13,862	10,155	10,303	148	3,707	3,628	79
1975	11,582	8,039	7,907	132	3,543	3,462	81
1976	11,582	8,446	8,332	114	3,136	3,080	56
1977	17,206	12,307	12,215	92	4,899	4,843	56
1978	10,216	7,124	7,025	99	3,092	3,046	46

Total delinquency cases disposed of by Family Court Division

1973	17,230	15,015	14,717	298	2,215	2,067	148
1974	17,706	15,387	15,081	306	2,319	2,180	139
1975	18,250	15,767	15,442	325	2,483	2,365	118
1976	16,061	13,908	13,572	336	2,153	2,053	100
1977	12,315	10,797	10,493	304	1,518	1,434	84
1978	12,568	11,377	11,155	222	1,191	1,138	53

Delinquency cases disposed of which were referred to Family Court
Division by police officers of Philadelphia

1975	16,899	14,746	14,431	315	2,153	2,036	117
1976	14,666	12,861	12,536	325	1,805	1,708	97
1977	11,072	9,871	9,579	292	1,201	1,121	80
1978	11,521	10,585	10,372	213	936	885	51

¹Information furnished by the computer statistics unit of the Police Department of Philadelphia.

TABLE 47

JUVENILE POPULATION OF PHILADELPHIA 7 TO 17 YEARS: 1973 TO 1978

Age	Population: School Census ¹								
	1973			1974			1975		
	Total	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls
7 to 17 years	360,788	182,511	178,277	357,390	180,981	176,409	351,503	178,322	173,181
7 to 15 years	292,816	148,015	144,801	290,128	147,047	143,081	285,533	145,342	140,191
7 years	31,541	15,954	15,587	30,921	15,621	15,300	29,705	14,984	14,721
8 years	31,560	15,920	15,640	30,132	15,216	14,886	29,425	14,854	14,571
9 years	32,740	16,792	15,948	31,579	15,920	15,659	30,086	15,348	14,738
10 years	33,435	16,890	16,545	32,386	16,573	15,813	31,398	15,886	15,512
11 years	32,395	16,381	16,014	32,822	16,568	16,254	32,506	16,675	15,831
12 years	33,685	17,205	16,480	32,161	16,316	15,845	32,776	16,630	16,146
13 years	32,830	16,642	16,188	33,434	17,109	16,325	32,413	16,553	15,860
14 years	33,700	17,008	16,692	33,074	17,042	16,032	34,390	17,743	16,647
15 years	30,930	15,223	15,707	33,649	16,682	16,967	32,834	16,669	16,165
16 and 17 years	67,972	34,496	33,476	67,262	33,934	33,328	65,970	32,980	32,990
16 years	34,389	17,370	17,019	33,455	16,593	16,862	33,029	16,549	16,480
17 years	33,583	17,126	16,457	33,807	17,341	16,466	32,941	16,431	16,510

Age	Population: School Census ¹								
	1976			1977			1978		
	Total	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls
7 to 17 years	336,872	170,684	166,188	332,034	168,261	163,773	323,785	164,312	159,473
7 to 15 years	272,658	137,575	135,083	267,045	134,594	132,451	259,464	131,636	127,828
7 years	28,121	14,191	13,930	29,192	14,721	14,471	27,744	14,236	13,508
8 years	27,851	14,104	13,747	27,115	13,665	13,450	27,652	13,962	13,690
9 years	28,501	14,366	14,135	27,567	13,962	13,605	26,848	13,637	13,211
10 years	29,144	14,733	14,411	28,335	14,295	14,040	27,148	13,733	13,415
11 years	30,380	15,307	15,073	28,956	14,669	14,287	27,862	13,997	13,865
12 years	31,504	16,178	15,326	30,222	15,160	15,062	28,589	14,519	14,070
13 years	32,283	16,151	16,132	31,486	16,015	15,471	29,876	14,990	14,886
14 years	32,321	15,993	16,328	32,784	16,366	16,418	31,733	16,344	15,389
15 years	32,553	16,552	16,001	31,388	15,741	15,647	32,012	16,218	15,794
16 and 17 years	64,214	33,109	31,105	64,989	33,667	31,322	64,321	32,676	31,645
16 years	31,596	16,248	15,348	32,874	17,105	15,769	31,442	15,918	15,524
17 years	32,618	16,861	15,757	32,115	16,562	15,553	32,879	16,758	16,121

¹Information supplied by the Board of Public Education, School District of Philadelphia.

TABLE 48
DEPARTMENTAL ACTIVITIES: 1974 TO 1978

	1978	1977	1976	1975	1974
New intake-families referred to this branch for the first time	3,972	3,560	4,464	4,633	4,970
Informal complaints and applications received	271	286	150	151	203
Delinquency petitions filed	10,158	9,344	10,278	12,404	10,851
Non-delinquency petitions filed ...	1,852	1,504	1,499	1,624	1,268
Cases under investigation during the year	11,038	9,969	9,849	10,083	9,610
Children under supervision at end of year	4,479	4,372	4,441	4,825	4,630
Delinquents	4,069	4,050	4,115	4,479	4,260
Non-delinquents	410	322	326	346	370
Receipts ¹					
Direct orders on parents ²	\$ 6,110	\$10,057	\$11,532	\$13,971	\$26,767
Reimburse order on Department of Public Welfare	47,267	67,150	70,451	70,040	72,949
Restitution ³	18,981	18,446	19,225	15,503	10,906

¹Cents omitted.

²Information supplied by Clerk of Quarter Sessions.

³Information supplied by Enforcement Unit, Juvenile Branch.

TABLE 49

JUVENILE BRANCH-ENFORCEMENT UNIT SUMMARY: 1974 TO 1978

	1978	1977	1976	1975	1974
Sessions	20	20	19	23	19
Listings	570	682	717	948	844
Continuances	15	79	79	92	102
Cases disposed of	555	603	638	856	742
Court hearing	494	535	584	623	640
Without court hearing	61	68	54	233	102

TABLE 50

CASES DISPOSED OF THROUGH THE ENFORCEMENT UNIT: 1978

Petitioners	Total	Child cases		Adult cases	
		Delin- quency	Non- delin- quency	Delin- quency	Non- delin- quency
Cases disposed of	555	64	446	4	41
Attachments filed by Dept. of Collections	4	—	—	4	—
Petitions filed by Dept. of Public Welfare	22	—	—	—	22
Supplementary list of motions filed by various agencies	468	3	446	—	19
Miscellaneous petitions disposed of without court hearing	61	61	—	—	—

TABLE 51
REASON FOR REFERRAL AND DISPOSITIONS OF
ENFORCEMENT UNIT CASES: 1978

Reason for referral and dispositions	Total	Court hearing	Without court hearing
Cases disposed of (total)	555	495	61
Reason for referral:			
For discharge from institution	5	5	—
For discharge from DPW	412	412	—
Placement of support order	12	12	—
Vacate/suspend support order	6	6	—
Transfer support order	21	21	—
Non-payment of arrears	4	4	—
Withdraw or dismiss petition	1	1	—
Remit restitution	12	—	12
DPW supervision be terminated	33	33	—
Transfer unclaimed funds	49	—	49
Dispositions:			
Discharge from institution	5	5	—
Discharge from DPW	440	440	—
Support order: Placed	5	5	—
Vacated	5	5	—
Transferred	20	20	—
Dismissed or withdrawn	19	19	—
Remit restitution	12	—	12
Transferred unclaimed funds	49	—	49

**THE
DOMESTIC RELATIONS
BRANCH**

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THE DOMESTIC RELATIONS BRANCH

THE COURT'S JURISDICTION

The domestic relations branch deals with all types of family conflict. It seeks to give friendly service through its staff and to resolve personal differences and quarrels within the family, including assault involving husband and wife. It attempts to reconcile separated couples or to arrange support agreements between them. Divorced or separated couples have access to the court to resolve child custody issues.

The court also adjudicates actions taken for support by parties living outside of Philadelphia, against spouses and parents who live and work in Philadelphia. Similar court action is available to Philadelphians with respect to spouses or parents who live in areas outside of Philadelphia. These Reciprocal (interstate) and Procedural (intrastate) petitions tend to put a check upon spouses who attempt to flee their responsibility by moving to another State or locality. Pennsylvania law also provides for the legal attachment of any property or wages of a defendant in a non-support action, and for the regular payment by the employer of the amount of support which the court declares the defendant shall pay.

Although the responsibility for the support of a spouse ceases when a divorce is granted, the obligation to maintain the children continues. In many cases following divorce, the domestic relations branch is called upon to decide the issues of support and child custody.

All States do not have the same provisions respecting the right of a childless spouse to support, but in those States which have such provisions, interstate action may be taken under the provisions of the Reciprocal Act.

The work of the domestic relations branch is concerned with the problem of integration of family life, rather than with the strictly legal issues as to whether the family ties should be severed (as in the divorce courts), or who has the duty to support the family members. If a husband and wife have separated, the court utilizes its experience and influence to re-establish the family unit. Spouses are brought together infor-

mally and given the opportunity to air their grievances and reconcile their differences whenever possible.

The services of the court are extended to all who are confronted with domestic problems. Cases of children who are ungovernable or neglected are referred to the juvenile branch, but where separated or divorced couples are in disagreement over who shall keep custody of children, the domestic relations branch acts upon the complaint. Unmarried mothers who seek support for their children are sent to the women's branch of the court. All cases of marital conflict or non-support, which constitute the bulk of the work in the domestic relations branch, are treated in an established manner.

The court process starts with the wife's or the husband's complaint. At this time, a simple fact sheet containing social and identifying data is prepared, and an appointment made with an interviewer for the same day. At the first interview the characteristics of the problem and other pertinent information are obtained and made a part of the record. At this point the court worker may offer simple guidance or counsel. If the question of non-support is serious or the grievance merits further attention, another visit is scheduled about 10 days in advance, and with the plaintiff's consent, a letter is sent to the spouse requesting attendance at a conference.

At the conference, the spouse may separately express another version of the difficulty. Every opportunity is afforded to the parties to express their grievances and to bring the issues into perspective. Each party is given an understanding of the legal rights involved as well as a reminder of their obligations to each other and to their children. The purpose of the conference is to try and eliminate personal irritations, and reconcile viewpoints of the parties, so that normal family relationships may be restored.

When the parties cannot reach an understanding at the joint conference, either as to the question of support or other issues, they may arrange for another conference at a later date. If, after one or more conferences, it becomes apparent that reconciliation is not possible, the couple is asked to agree on the amount of support. If an agreement is reached, a formal petition for support is filed and the court decrees an "order by agreement" which becomes legally binding. Sometimes the

defendant is required to file a bond guaranteeing obedience to the terms of the agreement.

In all cases where the reasons for the discord are so serious or irreconcilable as to warrant judicial action, the plaintiff may file a petition at once, after which the case is prepared for a court hearing. In cases of non-support, the wage verification unit of the court is called upon to verify the defendant's earnings and financial capacity. In all child custody actions, a complete social investigation is made before the case goes to court.

Both parties are notified by a summons to appear at court. If the summons is ignored, a bench warrant is issued and the defendant is held for the next court hearing or released on bail. At the court hearing, the parties, in many cases represented by counsel, are permitted to air their differences. Here too, the aim of the procedure is to effect a reconciliation rather than merely to arrive at a legal decision. The judge may call upon the services of other branches of the court to assist the couple, or he may defer his decision until a later court hearing in order to give the parties time to make an adjustment. Whenever a reconciliation occurs, the petition may be withdrawn or dismissed.

Many families, when they come to court, are either beyond readjustment, or the urgency of the situation makes the placement of a support order unavoidable. These court orders for support are paid through the Clerk of Quarter Sessions, who acts as the receiving and disbursing agent in the transaction, keeping an accurate record of all payments.

Parties who fail to pay the amount of support ordered are brought before the court upon complaint of their spouses. If there are no exceptional circumstances, or if no modification of the original order is needed, the defendant may be committed for non-payment, or required to post a bond which guarantees future compliance. It is possible for the court to issue an order requiring the defendant's employer to systematically deduct the specified amount from the employee's wages, to be paid directly to the Clerk of Quarter Sessions.

THE UNIFORM RECIPROCAL ENFORCEMENT OF SUPPORT ACT

This Act makes it possible to take action against deserting spouses and parents who have left Pennsylvania and taken up residence in any one of 50 States (and the District of Columbia), which have the same or a similar law on their statute books. In this type of case, the Family Court transmits the necessary legal papers and information to the appropriate court in the place where the spouse resides, which court has the responsibility for giving the spouse a hearing and imposing a court order. Conversely, the Family Court receives similar petitions filed by parties in other States against spouses and parents residing in Philadelphia. Payments on support orders are made through designated channels.

Even after a support order is decreed, additional remedies are available if circumstances change. Petitions are frequently filed to increase or decrease an existing support order; to suspend an order indefinitely, or for a period of time; to vacate an old order because of a plaintiff's death, the entry of a decree of divorce, reconciliation of the parties, or because a child has been emancipated.

CUSTODY OF CHILDREN

When separated couples are in disagreement over who shall have custody of the children, and an understanding cannot be reached in conference, the complaining party may file a petition for a writ of habeas corpus. A careful social investigation is made in preparing these cases for court, and the judge, in awarding custody of the child, decides the case in terms of the child's permanent welfare. The court decree often contains visitation privileges for the separated parent. Indeed, the matter of visitation rights is often made a part of the decree in many support cases, without a formal petitioning for custody.

SUMMARY

The growing workload of the domestic relations branch is indicated by the number of listings for court. In 1978, 21,200 cases were listed, an increase of 31 percent over 1977. The number of new families making application to the court, 9,414 in 1978, increased by 19 percent over 1977.

During 1978, the intake staff conducted over 9,000 interviews with plaintiffs and family members, and the staff handling the problem of non-payment or modification of support orders conducted nearly 15,000 additional interviews. Beside this, the staff prepared cases for court, corresponded with social agencies and clients, and completed over 3,500 investigations in connection with domestic cases.

Petitions — The court received 14,262 formal petitions of various kinds in 1978, of which 5,010 were petitions for support, 2,018 were petitions for non-payment of support orders, and 5,046 were petitions to modify existing orders, or, under a program for aid to dependent children, to change the beneficiary of the support order to or from the Department of Public Assistance. In addition, 2,188 petitions for custody or visitation of children were filed.

In those cases where the court orders a wage attachment, employers are held responsible under the law, for deducting the amount of the support order from the defendants' wages, and sending this money regularly to the court for payment to the plaintiffs. There are 23,085 wage attachments currently in effect through this court.

DISPOSITIONS THROUGH COURT HEARING

The judges had 21,200 cases listed for formal court hearing in the domestic relations branch in 1978, and there were dispositions in 7,992 or 38 percent. The other 13,208 listings, or 62 percent resulted in continuances. Continuances are granted for various reasons; attorneys are busy in other courts, witnesses fail to appear, or further investigation is necessary. In some cases, if one or both parties do not appear, a bench warrant is issued (1,829 in 1978).

Sessions are held five days a week, with five or six judges sitting each day.

When a case is disposed of, often there is more than one disposition in the case, e.g., a support order might be reinstated, the amount of the order increased, and the arrears in payment remitted. Thus there would be three dispositions in this one case. In the 7,992 cases disposed of in 1978, there were 13,915 dispositions, or an average of 1.7 dispositions for each case.

	1978	1977	1976	1975	1974
Cases listed	21,200	16,190	20,620	20,425	20,611
Continuances	13,208	9,067	11,367	10,631	11,216
Cases disposed of	7,992	7,123	9,253	9,794	9,395
<i>Dispositions</i>	<i>13,915</i>	<i>11,315</i>	<i>14,246</i>	<i>14,349</i>	<i>13,797</i>

Of the total number of dispositions, 20 percent involved changes in existing support orders; 17 percent pertained to new support orders; non-payment of orders accounted for 30 percent, and 10 percent related to custody/visitation rights.

	1978	1977	1976	1975	1974
Total dispositions	13,915	11,315	14,246	14,349	13,797
Withdrawn	727	380	450	478	428
Dismissed ¹	850	613	978	969	826
Order for support made	2,335	1,509	2,285	2,803	2,448
Order modified	2,042	1,929	2,286	2,205	2,207
Order vacated	714	590	679	586	624
Pay on order and/or arrears	1,234	1,011	1,668	1,555	1,759
Commit if fails to pay	258	427	503	400	416
Arrears modified or remitted	1,445	1,492	1,717	1,597	1,763
Wage attachment issued	1,181	1,027	1,112	1,112	1,106
Custody determined	521	324	306	275	151
Visitation rights granted	913	703	916	903	696
All other dispositions	1,695	1,310	1,346	1,456	1,373

¹ Includes parties reconciled.

The reasons for referral to court are shown in the table below. Modifications or other changes in support orders accounted for the largest percentage of cases (38 percent), followed by petitions for establishing support (29 percent).

	1978	1977	1976	1975	1974
Reason for reference to court:					
Total court dispositions	13,915	11,315	14,246	14,349	13,797
For support:					
Number	4,006	2,326	3,403	3,947	3,451
<i>Percent of total</i> ¹	29	21	24	28	25
Non-payment of support order:					
Number	2,882	3,368	4,037	4,115	5,162
<i>Percent of total</i>	21	30	28	29	37
Modification, vacation, suspension and reinstatement of support orders:					
Number	5,291	4,459	5,520	4,961	4,341
<i>Percent of total</i>	38	39	39	35	31
Custody of children:					
Number	951	586	581	562	348
<i>Percent of total</i>	7	5	4	4	3
Visitation:					
Number	785	576	705	764	495
<i>Percent of total</i>	5	5	5	5	4

¹ Distributive percentages are not adjusted to total 100.

PETITIONS FILED

The petition room of the domestic relations branch supervises the filing of petitions and writs of habeas corpus, lists petitions for court hearing, sends out subpoenas, enters juvenile court orders on domestic relations branch records, prepares warrants, and contacts Sheriff or State Police for service on persons inside or outside the city.

During 1978, 14,262 petitions were filed in the domestic relations branch. Thirty-five percent were petitions for support and 35 percent were petitions to modify an existing sup-

port order. The balance were petitions relating to child custody/visitation rights, 15 percent, and non-payment of a support order, 14 percent.

DISPOSITIONS WITHOUT COURT HEARING

Each year there are a number of petitions submitted for judicial confirmation or administrative action which do not require a formal court hearing. These petitions are filed to approve voluntary wage attachments or other actions agreed upon by the spouses, to change the name of a beneficiary, to credit support order accounts with monies paid directly to a beneficiary, or to change the beneficiary of an existing court order to or from the Department of Public Assistance.

A total of 3,602 petitions representing 3,830 dispositions were disposed of administratively or by judicial confirmation during 1978. The majority of these petitions, 70%, involved changing the beneficiary of a support order to or from the Department of Public Assistance, or made the Department of Public Assistance the beneficiary.

SUPPORT ORDERS

In 1978, through the court's enforcement of support orders, nearly twenty-five million dollars was collected and disbursed to dependents while over one million dollars was paid directly to dependents and officially credited in the court's records.

Orders made by the court for support of spouses and children during 1978 numbered 2,335. Of these, 1,441 or 62 percent were for the support of children only; 724 or 31 percent, were for the support of wives and children; 7 percent were for wives only. Of all the matters referred to court for disposition during 1978, 21 percent were for non-compliance with the court order of support.

ENFORCEMENT UNIT

A special staff of workers is engaged in handling cases of non-payment of orders. Cases involving welfare are automati-

cally reviewed for status, however, the load is too great to insure an automatic check on all delinquent accounts, although the court does try periodically to issue warnings regarding non-payment. For the most part the recipients themselves instigate further action by the court. If payment is not forthcoming after efforts by court workers to obtain compliance, a contempt of court proceeding called an *attachment* is held. Various remedies are at hand. If the spouse is unemployed without fault, or through illness, the order may be suspended temporarily. The services of the court's medical department and wage verification unit are available to assist in the evaluation of the case. If, on the other hand, it appears that the defendant is defiant, or willfully and consistently flouting the order of the court, the person may be held in contempt and remanded to prison. If the defendant has regular employment or property of value, two things are possible: (1) the court may require that a bond be posted to insure compliance with the order, or (2) an order may be issued upon the employer to deduct the weekly amount of the support order from wages, to be paid to the plaintiff through the court. It is not the custom of the court to impose severe or harsh penalties upon defendants, even though it is often necessary to issue bench warrants to get them to appear in court. Commitment to prison for a short period of time is a last resort.

Attachments *filed* for non-payment of support orders during 1978 numbered 2,018.

VERIFICATION UNIT

The verification unit of the domestic relations branch investigates by mail or personal visit the employment, earnings, income, bank accounts, real estate, mortgages, and stocks and bonds of plaintiffs and respondents in non-support cases. This function of the unit involves the auditing of books of persons self-employed; the examination of payroll of employers; bank records; and pension funds. This unit also verifies marriages, divorces, deaths, and births for all branches of the court.

During 1978, this unit received 6,183 requests for verification of employment, earnings, and other income; deaths; divorces; and real estate ownership, etc. To comply with these

requests, they contacted the appropriate parties through correspondence and personal investigation. Of the total investigations assigned, 3,785 were completed.

AGENCY RELATIONS UNIT

The agency relations unit acts as a liaison office for the confidential exchange of information by interview and correspondence between the domestic relations branch and public and private health and welfare agencies and institutions. This unit interprets court procedures to agencies, and the policies of agencies to probation officers. During 1978, this unit had over 2,500 contacts with these agencies and institutions.

MEDICAL AND MENTAL EXAMINATIONS

The first contact of a husband, wife, or other member of a family with the domestic relations branch is through the interviewer, who has the status of a probation officer, and who interviews, if possible, both parties to the domestic difficulty.

During these interviews, physical or mental conditions which may be contributory to the difficulty are frequently noted. It is therefore through the interviewers that referrals to the medical branch are usually made. The litigants may also be ordered by the judge to report to the medical branch for examination. Most of the cases sent to the medical branch are primarily referred there for diagnosis.

It is probable that many domestic relations cases have emotional and medical problems behind the domestic difficulties which bring them into court. Many of the records show alcoholism; temperamental traits such as quarreling, fighting, and physical abuse to one another; jealousy; illness complaints; and inability to find employment, a factor which may underlie the failure to support a family.

In the informal adjustment of domestic relations cases, the interviewer cannot compel the parties to seek the services of the medical branch. The number of cases receiving medical examination is dependent upon the ability of the interviewer to recognize physical and mental conditions which may con-

tribute to the domestic difficulty, and the willingness of both spouses to cooperate.

CUSTODY OF CHILDREN

There were 1,029 petitions for writs of habeas corpus *filed* for the custody of children during 1978. In addition, there were 268 petitions filed for contempt of orders granting visitation or custody, and 891 petitions requesting legal custody.

INTERVIEWS

Resolving family conflicts is the primary concern of the domestic relations branch. The court provides the services of a professional staff who attempt to solve family differences as they arise. Interviews are arranged and conducted in an impartial atmosphere. The interviewer strives for an amicable agreement between husband and wife, thereby eliminating the necessity for a court hearing.

In some cases, differences are reconciled and no action is needed. In other cases, a formal agreement is required. If an agreement is reached concerning support or custody/visitation, an order is entered which becomes legally binding. If the parties cannot reach an understanding, or resolve their grievances, a petition may be filed for judicial action.

Interviews are also conducted in cases where a spouse fails to pay the amount of support ordered by the court. If this matter cannot be resolved, an attachment may be filed for a court hearing. During 1978, 23,985 interviews were conducted, as shown in the following table.

Support cases	5,919
Custody/visitation cases	3,165
Modification of support order cases	5,592
Non-payment of support order cases	9,309

Of the total interviews, 5,093 cases were adjusted and in 1,098 cases, agreements were entered.

INTERSTATE AND INTRASTATE ACTIONS

Reciprocal petitions are filed in the domestic relations branch of this court by resident spouses (Philadelphia initiating) and non-resident spouses (Philadelphia responding).

Over a thousand interstate (reciprocal) petitions are filed yearly with this court. A large number of these are initiated in Philadelphia. The procedure for handling intercounty (Pennsylvania) petitions requires that the petitioner make application at the county court of the respondent.

TABLE 1
STATISTICAL SUMMARY: 1974 TO 1978

	1978	1977	1976	1975	1974
COURT SESSIONS	1,050	848	992	883	780
LISTINGS FOR COURT	21,200	16,190	20,620	20,425	20,611
Party failed to appear, bench warrant issued ..	1,829	1,628	1,960	1,960	1,898
Continuances	11,379	7,439	9,407	8,671	9,318
Cases disposed of ¹	7,992	7,123	9,253	9,794	9,395
DISPOSITIONS ¹	13,915	11,315	14,246	14,349	13,797
REASON FOR REFERENCE TO COURT:					
Petition and order for support	4,006	2,326	3,403	3,947	3,451
Modification, vacation, etc., of order	5,291	4,459	5,520	4,961	4,341
Non-payment of order	2,882	3,368	4,037	4,115	5,162
Custody of children	951	588	581	562	348
Visitation	785	574	705	764	495
TYPE OF DISPOSITION:					
Support order made	2,335	1,509	2,285	2,803	2,448
Support order modified or vacated	2,756	2,519	2,965	2,791	2,831
Dismissed or withdrawn ²	1,577	993	1,428	1,447	1,254
Wage attachment issued	1,181	1,027	1,112	1,122	1,106
Continue to pay order/arrears	1,234	1,011	1,668	1,555	1,759
Arrears remitted or modified	1,445	1,492	1,717	1,597	1,763
Commit if fails to pay	258	427	503	400	416
Custody or visitation determined	1,434	1,027	1,222	1,178	847
Other dispositions	1,695	1,310	1,346	1,456	1,373
PETITIONS DISPOSED OF WITHOUT COURT HEARING	3,602	4,195	4,819	123	*97
Dispositions ¹	3,830	4,591	4,819	123	*97
DEPARTMENTAL ACTIVITIES					
New intake (families)	9,414	7,922	4,315	4,763	4,134
Petitions filed (local)	12,838	12,007	14,594	10,705	9,490
Petitions filed (reciprocal)	1,424	1,545	1,208	1,243	1,342
Cases assigned for investigation by verification unit	6,183	6,565	5,381	4,989	5,849
Contacts by agency relations unit	2,577	6,686	7,509	10,054	12,615
Intake interviews	23,985	19,681	23,321	24,478	24,264

¹See page 106.²Includes parties reconciled.

*Five month figure only.

TABLE 2
PETITIONS FILED: 1974 TO 1978

Type of petitions	1978	1977	1976	1975	1974
Total petitions filed	14,262	13,552	15,802	11,948	10,832
Petitions for support	5,010	4,371	4,081	4,919	4,839
Petitions for non-payment of support order ..	2,018	1,323	1,671	1,957	2,330
Petitions for legal child custody or visitation rights	2,188	1,788	1,439	1,268	1,046
Petitions for modification of orders	5,046	6,070	8,611	3,804	2,617
To vacate order	816	780	809	663	726
To suspend order	107	120	116	101	109
To reinstate order	58	45	37	55	36
To increase order	618	540	639	546	634
To reduce order	922	740	721	642	645
To credit arrears	165	107	102	82	85
To change beneficiary ¹	2,247	3,647	6,090	1,595	294
To change name of beneficiary	113	91	97	120	88
Petitions for support initiated in and out of Philadelphia	5,010	4,371	4,081	4,919	4,839
Local	3,586	2,826	2,873	3,676	3,497
Interstate:					
Philadelphia initiating	507	503	404	536	601
Philadelphia responding	567	706	529	453	430
Intercounty:					
Philadelphia initiating	159	175	157	172	216
Philadelphia responding	191	161	118	82	95

¹Includes petitions filed to change beneficiary to or from DPA.

TABLE 3

TYPE OF DISPOSITION THROUGH COURT HEARING: 1974 TO 1978

	1978	1977	1976	1975	1974
Total dispositions	13,915	11,315	14,246	14,349	13,797
Withdrawn	727	380	450	478	428
Dismissed	699	445	737	742	589
Decision reserved	67	101	98	141	119
Continue to pay order and/or arrears ..	1,234	1,011	1,668	1,555	1,759
Commit if fails to pay	258	427	503	400	416
Issue bench warrant if fails to pay	21	30	20	58	71
Committed to prison	17	17	30	29	77
Attach wages if fails to pay	144	147	127	151	161
Order made for support:					
Wife and child	724	470	819	1,152	1,064
Child	1,441	930	1,238	1,380	1,149
Wife	166	102	197	247	228
Husband and child	1	1	—	1	—
Husband	3	—	—	—	—
Indigent parent	—	6	31	23	7
Temporary order made permanent	72	80	135	156	99
Order increased	339	337	468	496	394
Order reduced	268	269	369	343	319
Order vacated	714	590	679	586	624
Order suspended	151	212	235	199	203
Order reinstated	49	84	65	75	56
Conditions of order modified	1,163	947	1,014	1,092	1,235
Remit arrears	527	452	528	450	451
Arrears suspended/vacated	313	340	357	265	247
Arrears reinstated	48	43	36	34	18
Credit arrears	274	7	7	12	13
Payments on arrears modified	283	650	789	836	1,034
Reduce arrears to judgment	33	49	52	47	36
Beneficiary changed	250	153	242	189	173
Wage attachment issued	1,181	1,027	1,112	1,122	1,106
Wage attachment dissolved	288	291	293	237	266
Wage attachment amended	373	319	407	370	301
Custody of child awarded:					
To both parents	21	13	14	15	12
To mother	292	146	155	127	58
To father	128	85	72	79	51
To other person	80	80	65	54	30
Visitation rights granted	913	703	916	903	696
Parties reconciled	151	168	241	227	237
D.P.A. made beneficiary	302	154	45	—	—
Refer to initiating state	87	7	—	8	11
All other dispositions	113	42	32	70	59

TABLE 4
REASON FOR REFERRAL BY TYPE OF DISPOSITION: 1978

Type of disposition	Reason for reference to court				
	Total	Petition for support	Modification of order	Non-payment	Child custody ¹
Total dispositions	13,915	4,006	5,291	2,882	1,736
Petition withdrawn	727	354	125	40	208
Petition dismissed ²	850	332	271	120	127
Decision reserved	67	18	27	6	16
Refer to initiating state	87	71	7	9	—
Continue to pay	1,234	78	390	764	2
Commit if fails to pay	258	17	49	191	1
Attach wages if fails to pay	144	40	59	39	6
Bench warrant if fails to pay	21	1	7	13	—
Support ordered:					
For wife and child	724	712	5	6	1
For husband and child	1	1	—	—	—
For children	1,441	1,416	9	6	10
For wife	166	166	—	—	—
For husband	3	1	1	1	—
Support order modified	2,042	45	1,576	399	22
Support order vacated ¹	714	8	634	67	5
Arrears remitted	527	6	440	77	4
Payment on arrears modified	918	12	580	324	2
Wage attachment issued	1,181	306	245	626	4
Wage attachment dissolved	288	—	225	61	2
Wage attachment amended	373	1	335	33	4
Child custody determined	521	9	4	—	508
Visitation rights fixed	913	74	24	6	809
DPA made beneficiary	302	297	3	2	—
Beneficiary changed	250	19	185	43	3
Commit to prison	17	3	5	9	—
All other dispositions	146	19	85	40	2

¹ Includes visitation.

² Includes "parties reconciled."

TABLE 5
 TYPE OF DISPOSITION WITHOUT COURT HEARING: 1974 TO 1978

	1978	1977	1976	1975	1974
Total dispositions	3,830	4,591	4,819	123	*97
Withdrawn	—	12	—	—	—
Dismissed	339	153	—	—	—
Order made for support:					
Wife and child	333	222	—	—	—
Child	191	108	—	—	—
Husband and child	1	3	—	—	—
Arrears suspended	—	1	—	—	—
Wage attachment issued	178	73	—	—	—
Custody of child awarded	—	1	—	—	—
Visitation rights fixed	—	3	—	—	—
Beneficiary changed	79	83	101	121	84
Beneficiary changed to/from DPA	2,188	3,595	4,714	—	—
Parties reconciled	3	5	—	—	—
DPA made beneficiary	505	318	—	—	—
Credit account	7	14	4	2	13
Pay on order and/or arrears	1	—	—	—	—
Other dispositions	5	—	—	—	—

*Five month figure only.

TABLE 6

SUPPORT ORDERS MADE, PAYMENTS RECEIVED ON SUPPORT ORDERS, AND SUPPORT ORDER ACCOUNTS CREDITED: 1969 TO 1978

Year	New support orders made	Payments received on support orders ¹	Support order accounts credited ¹	
			Number	Amount
1969	3,232	17,272,879	1,851	2,949,351
1970	3,072	18,315,744	1,862	2,984,406
1971	2,890	19,378,009	1,533	2,559,919
1972	2,670	20,425,283	1,446	2,354,380
1973	2,973	*8,540,620	940	1,262,589
1974	3,064	19,792,477	483	632,917
1975	3,522	22,621,705	532	1,151,808
1976	3,346	24,037,805	524	999,297
1977	**3,388	23,648,783	437	**1,049,462
1978	3,855	24,938,684	515	1,419,622

¹Information furnished by Clerk of Quarter Sessions.

*Five month figure only. March to September not available.

**Eleven month figure only. June not available.

THE WOMEN'S BRANCH

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PROCEEDINGS DEALING WITH CHILDREN BORN OUT OF WEDLOCK

INTRODUCTORY

The women's branch is concerned with the establishment of paternity and determining the duty of support for children born out of wedlock. In addition, this branch is responsible for enforcing court ordered support for these children. The amount of the support order is determined by the court, taking into account the financial status and earning capacity of the father and the mother.

The women's branch has a further responsibility when custody or visitation rights of a parent are brought into question.

COURT PROCEDURE

Cases involving paternity, support, or enforcement of support orders, for children born out of wedlock, are determined under provisions of the Pennsylvania Civil Procedural Support Law. Although this law was repealed by the Judiciary Act Repealer Act (JARA), Act of April 28, 1978, P.L. 212, No. 53, Section 1, 42 Pa. C.S.A. 20001, it was substantially reenacted by the Judicial Code, 42 Pa. C.S.A. Section 6701, 6713. The Act as amended provides that any action commenced after June 26, 1978 be a civil procedure. If the paternity of a child born out of wedlock is in dispute, the court determines the paternity of the child without a jury, unless either party demands a jury trial, but in any event such trial shall be a civil action with no rights to a criminal trial. Prior to this amendment, both civil and criminal prosecutions were utilized in disposing of cases relating to paternity and support of children born out of wedlock.

The 1978 amendment further provides that all actions shall be brought within six years of the birth of the child, except where the reputed father has voluntarily contributed to the support of the child or has acknowledged his paternity in writing, in which case an action may be brought at any time within two years of any such contribution or acknowledgement.

The Revised Uniform Reciprocal Enforcement of Support Act (1968), (amended 1972), as reenacted July, 1978 (42 Pa. C.S. 6741 et seq.), may be used in establishing paternity in cases where the defendant lives in another state. If paternity is established, the father may be ordered to support his out of wedlock child living elsewhere.

CASE TREATMENT

When a complaint is filed in reference to support for a child born out of wedlock, the plaintiff is interviewed by an intake interviewer and information relating to the details and dates of her acquaintance with the reputed father, and the birth of the child, is obtained for the case record. This information is used, along with other pertinent information obtained from additional sources, to summarize the case for court review. The defendant is notified that action is being taken and the petition is listed for a court hearing.

At the hearing, if the putative father admits paternity, an order for support may be entered. If paternity is denied, the case is continued for a trial hearing which will be a civil action. This hearing will be without a jury unless either party demands a trial by jury. At this hearing, the paternity of the child is determined by the court, and if paternity is established, an order for support of the child may be issued. The order is usually payable until the child reaches the age of 18 years. If the father does not comply with the order and falls into arrears on his support payment, he may be brought before the court on an attachment proceeding. In order to insure payment, a wage attachment may be issued. Petitions for modifications of support orders are also listed for court hearing under attachment proceedings.

If the complaint involves custody or visitation rights of a parent, a probation officer interviews the plaintiff, and attempts to obtain an understanding between the parties at a conference. If no agreement is reached, the plaintiff may file a petition for a writ of habeas corpus. A complete and impartial investigation is made in preparing these cases for court. When awarding custody of the child, the court decree may contain visitation privileges for the separated parent. In some cases,

visitation rights are stipulated as part of the decree in support cases, without a formal petitioning for custody or visitation.

Cases involving children born out of wedlock require many other services. In addition to interviews where petitions may be filed, the women's branch also offers friendly service, whereby mothers are counseled, referred to other services or agencies, etc.

In cases where paternity is in dispute, the women's branch arranges appointments for blood studies at either of two local hospitals or the Red Cross, and collects fee from defendants, or if the defendant is indigent, from the City Department of Finance. A report of the blood studies is filed in the case record and is used as evidence or exclusion in the case. In 1978, 93 blood studies were processed.

The women's branch handles petitions modifying existing support orders. Due to changing circumstances, support orders may be increased, reduced, suspended, vacated or reinstated. These cases are disposed of through a court hearing.

In 1976, a program was initiated affecting mainly those cases where a mother or guardian is, or was, receiving public assistance. This program allows for a change in beneficiary of court ordered support payments to or from the Department of Public Assistance. The majority of these cases are disposed of administratively, without a court hearing.

PAYMENT OF ORDERS

The department of accounts in the office of the Clerk of the Court of Quarter Sessions receives money brought to it in payment of orders entered on charges of neglect to support a child born out of wedlock but does not concern itself if payments fall into arrears. Actions in default of payment of orders are handled by the women's branch. Receipts during 1978 amounted to \$2,514,377.

ANNUAL PAYMENT OF SUPPORT ORDERS

1967	.....	2,113,401
1968	.....	2,156,034
1969	.....	2,259,093
1970	.....	2,207,921
1971	.....	2,164,534
1972	.....	2,123,654
1973 (5 mos. only)	.....	840,372
1974	.....	1,834,104
1975	.....	2,016,229
1976	.....	2,133,229
1977	.....	2,446,643
1978	.....	2,514,376

SUMMARY

Cases listed for court in 1978 numbered 8,810. Hearings on petitions for paternity and support accounted for 45 percent of the total listings and resulted in 1,235 cases disposed of, 2,007 continued, and 732 bench warrants issued. In the 1,235 cases disposed of at these hearings, support was ordered for 1,292 children. In some cases, the unmarried mothers have had more than one child by the putative father.

Eighty-eight percent of the 1,235 defendants admitted paternity at these hearings, and support orders were placed. Of the 8 defendants who denied paternity, 5 were adjudged not guilty. This does not include cases in which the defendant denied paternity and requested a trial. Dispositions of these cases are shown in the section on Trial Court. In 139 cases, paternity was not determined and the petition was usually withdrawn or dismissed, in accordance with the wishes of the petitioner.

Petitions for the support of children born out of wedlock have shown a marked increase in 1978. Two thousand, five hundred and fifty such petitions were filed as compared to 1,626 in 1977. Petitions filed for custody or visitation of these children also rose in 1978 totaling 329, a slight increase over the custody petitions filed in 1977.

Attachment Hearings: When court ordered support is not paid, a petition for attachment may be filed and the case is listed for a hearing. Also listed under attachment hearings are those petitions for modification of a support order. In 1978, 3,775 attachment hearings were listed for court and 1,504 cases were disposed of involving 2,379 dispositions. The other listings resulted in 1,108 continuances and 1,163 bench warrants issued. Seventy percent of the dispositions were in proceedings dealing with non-payment of a support order and 30 percent dealt with modifications of existing orders for support.

Custody/Visitation Hearings: In cases involving the custody of children born out of wedlock, 681 petitions for writs of habeas corpus were listed for hearing. Of these cases, 389 were disposed of involving 454 dispositions.

Trial Court: During 1978, the trial court was in session 29 days with 380 cases listed for court hearing. Of the cases listed, 64 were disposed of and 33 defendants were ordered to pay support.

Defendants disposed of at trial court64

Prosecution withdrawn31

Adjudged the father 7

Admits paternity26

Dispositions Without Court Hearing: Some cases are handled administratively, without a court hearing. In 1978, 2,000 petitions were disposed of in this manner. The bulk of these cases (1,913) involved changing the beneficiary of a support order to or from the Department of Public Assistance.

TABLE 1
WOMEN'S BRANCH: 1974 TO 1978

	1978	1977	1976	1975	1974
COURT SESSIONS	221	196	138	142	138
LISTINGS FOR COURT	8,810	6,224	3,961	4,425	3,572
Petition hearings	3,974	2,991	1,624	1,795	1,579
Cases disposed of	1,235	961	654	798	779
Continuances	2,007	1,650	746	695	526
Bench warrants issued	732	380	224	302	274
Attachment hearings ¹	3,775	2,606	1,821	1,998	1,598
Cases disposed of	1,504	1,283	1,035	1,197	962
Dispositions ²	2,379	1,960	1,596	1,871	1,617
Continuances	1,108	794	483	429	374
Bench warrants issued	1,163	529	303	372	262
Custody/visitation hearings	681	447	343	315	107
Cases disposed of	389	267	205	200	52
Dispositions ²	454	289	226	219	57
Continuances	265	174	133	102	39
Bench warrants issued	27	6	5	13	16
Trials	380	180	173	317	288
Disposed of	64	43	43	87	85
Continuances	293	124	121	209	188
Bench warrants issued	23	13	9	21	15
Petitions disposed of without court hearing ...	2,000	2,351	2,959	846	911

¹ Includes: Attachments for non-payment of support orders, petitions for modification of support orders, and change of beneficiary in "Aid to Dependent Children" cases.

² When this type of case is disposed of, it frequently happens that there is more than one disposition, e.g. a wage attachment may be issued, the amount of the order increased, and the payment of arrears suspended, thus there would be three dispositions in this one case.

TABLE 2

DISPOSITIONS IN CASES DEALING WITH SUPPORT AND PATERNITY:
1974 TO 1978

Petitions for support	1978	1977	1976	1975	1974
Cases disposed of	1,235	961	654	798	779
Defendant admits paternity (total)	1,088	877	540	667	659
Support order made	884	760	493	617	601
Support order and hospital expenses	—	1	1	—	2
Support order and attach wages	182	87	42	39	51
Support order made and suspended or deferred for direct payment	22	29	4	11	5
Defendant denies paternity (total)	8	6	76	77	76
Adjudged not the father	5	5	1	2	11
Support order made	3	1	2	1	4
Support order and hospital expenses	—	—	—	2	—
Held under bond for trial ¹	—	—	73	71	54
Held for Grand Jury ¹	—	—	—	1	7
Decision of paternity not reached	139	78	38	54	44
Referred elsewhere	5	—	—	—	1
Petition withdrawn	50	39	24	25	18
Petition dismissed	84	39	14	29	25

¹See page 121.

TABLE 3

TYPE OF DISPOSITION IN ATTACHMENT AND CUSTODY CASES: 1978

Type of Disposition	Reason for referral			
	Total	Non-payment of order	Modification of order	Custody or visitation
Total dispositions	2,833	1,662	717	454
Petition dismissed or withdrawn	148	39	26	83
Support Order:				
Increased	69	16	53	—
Reduced	51	29	22	—
Vacated	201	60	141	—
Suspended	96	55	40	1
Reinstated	9	3	6	—
Amended	54	20	34	—
Continue to pay order	387	335	50	2
Commit if fails to pay	20	19	1	—
Bench warrant if fails to pay	42	40	2	—
Attach wages if fails to pay	50	41	8	1
Wage Attachment:				
Issued	576	533	42	1
Amended	61	12	49	—
Dissolved	49	11	38	—
Pay on arrears	343	276	67	—
Remit or vacate arrears	79	29	50	—
Suspend arrears	61	40	20	1
Reinstate arrears	7	4	3	—
Credit arrears	87	58	29	—
Beneficiary changed	28	9	19	—
Beneficiary changed to DPA	18	10	8	—
Visitation rights fixed	161	—	—	161
Custody of child awarded:				
To mother	38	—	—	38
To father	34	—	—	34
To other person	109	—	—	109
Sentence suspended	3	3	—	—
Other dispositions	52	20	9	23

TABLE 4
DEPARTMENTAL ACTIVITIES: 1974 TO 1978

	1978	1977	1976	1975	1974
Total petitions filed	6,861	7,132	6,612	3,108	2,829
For support of children ...	2,550	1,626	1,109	1,147	1,226
For custody/visitation of children	329	272	219	244	113
For modification or vacation of order	2,555	2,934	3,464	799	492
For non-payment of support order	1,427	2,300	1,820	918	998
SUPPORT ORDERS¹					
New orders	1,531	1,776+	1,268	865	690
Orders vacated	2,160	2,195+	1,522	509	324
Orders suspended	132	62+	46	57	68
Orders reinstated	191	127+	33	22	24
Orders changed	1,220	858+	451	282	247
Received in payment of orders	\$2,514,376	\$2,446,643	\$2,133,229	\$2,016,229	\$1,834,104
Accounts credited	106	104+	125	179	116
Amounts credited	\$ 178,972	\$ 110,234+	\$ 134,444	\$ 140,689	\$ 71,889
Amount awarded to Dept. of Public Assistance ..	\$ 21,109	\$ 13,914+	\$ 8,365	\$ 40,305	\$ 55,792

¹Information furnished by Clerk of Quarter Sessions.

+ Eleven months only.

DIVORCES AND ANNULMENTS

DIVORCE PROCEEDINGS

The Constitutional Amendment to the Judiciary Article of the Constitution of Pennsylvania, Article V, effective January 1, 1969, vested jurisdiction in divorce and annulment and all property matters relating thereto in the Family Court Division of the Court of Common Pleas of Philadelphia.

Divorce in Pennsylvania is basically governed by the Act of May 2, 1929, P.L. 1237, 23 P.S. sec. 1, et seq. *Procedure* in divorce and annulment is governed by Pennsylvania Rules of Civil Procedure 1121-1150, inclusive. These are State-wide rules which may be implemented by local rules which are not in conflict therewith.

The Philadelphia rule providing for appointment of masters, procedure thereafter and compensation to be paid to masters was amended by a rule first proposed by the Judges of the Family Court Division and thereafter ratified by the Board of Judges of the Court of Common Pleas of Philadelphia to take effect November 1, 1971. The amended rule simplifies the procedure in non-contested cases and reduces the compensation of masters. Stenographic notes of testimony are no longer taken in non-contested cases. This has resulted in savings of time and money to litigants and has made the services of authorized court stenographers available for depositions and other areas where their services are required.

Even prior to the case of *Boddie v. Connecticut*, 401 U.S. 371 (1971), in which the Supreme Court of the United States held that an indigent person must be permitted to proceed in an action in divorce without payment of costs, the Family Court Division entertained petitions for leave to proceed in forma pauperis and granted leave to proceed in proper cases. Subsequent to the *Boddie* case, there has been an enormous increase in such petitions. These petitions are first processed to determine whether an order can be entered requiring the petitioner's spouse to pay the costs, pursuant to section 46 of the Divorce Code, 23 P.S. sec. 46. Because of the cooperation of the Young Lawyers' Section of the Bar Association, it has been possible to assign the cases to masters who volunteer their services, thus avoiding imposing the burden upon the judges of the Family Court Division.

The adoption of the Equal Rights Amendment has posed problems in the area of divorce and its collateral proceedings. An opinion has been written by Judge Brosky of Allegheny County, holding that the section of the Divorce Code permitting a wife to obtain permanent alimony in an action for divorce from bed and board is unconstitutional because a similar right is unavailable to a husband. It appears that the Divorce Code of 1929 may prove to be inadequate to cope with the problems raised by the Equal Rights Amendment, as well as the social problems created by changes in the family structure. Until the legislature addresses itself to the problems, courts—including the Family Court Division—will have to deal with them on a case to case basis.

RATE OF CHANGE OF DIVORCES GRANTED
IN PHILADELPHIA: 1968 TO 1978

Year	Number of divorces	Rate of change
1968	3,533	+248
1969	3,562	+ 29
1970	3,780	+218
1971	3,988	+208
1972	4,842	+854
1973	5,192	+350
1974	5,419	+227
1975	5,736	+317
1976	5,982	+246
1977	6,294	+312
1978	6,329	+ 35

SUMMARY

There were 8,011 divorce proceedings started during the year and 6,329 divorces granted, an increase of 1 percent over 1977. This increase reflects the upward trend in divorces, noted every year since 1965. In addition there were 1,250 motions and rules in divorce related matters heard by the court, and 43 exceptions filed.

Indignities were the leading grounds for divorce in Philadelphia accounting for 4,908 or 78 percent of all divorces. Desertion was cited in 1,136 cases, or 18 percent. Included in the 6,329 divorces are 12 annulments.

The wife is most frequently the plaintiff in divorce and annulment proceedings (61 percent).

The average duration of marriage at the time the divorce was granted was 12.6 years. Eighty-seven percent of couples who obtained divorces were married for 5 years or more, and 28 percent were married for more than 15 years. On the other hand, in 16 cases the marriage lasted only 1 year; and 7 percent of the marriages lasted 3 years or less.

The median age of husbands who were divorced in 1978 was 34 years, while for the wives it was 32.3 years. Forty-eight percent of the wives were married before reaching age 21, compared to 24 percent of the husbands. Eleven percent of the wives and 12 percent of the husbands had been married before. In 1978, the highest number of divorces occurred in the 30-34 age group for husbands and the 25-29 age group for wives.

The total number of children involved in divorces and annulments numbered 8,467. In 36 percent of the cases there were no children involved. Forty-one percent of the divorcing couples, where children were involved, had 1 child; 31 percent, 2 children; 16 percent, 3 children; and 12 percent, had 4 or more children. Of the total number of children, 7,184 were under 18 years of age at the time the divorce was granted. Twenty-one percent of those under 18 were the "only child" of the divorcing couple, while 27 percent came from families having 4 or more children.

TABLE 1
DIVORCES AND ANNULMENTS BY LEGAL GROUNDS
FOR DECREE: 1978

Legal grounds for decree	Total	Divorces and annulments granted			
		Divorces	Annulments	Plaintiff	
				Husband	Wife
Total	6,329	6,317	12	2,497	3,832
Indignities	4,908	4,908	—	1,853	3,055
Desertion	1,136	1,136	—	568	568
Indignities and desertion	138	138	—	54	84
Indignities and cruelty	69	69	—	7	62
Others*	78	66	12	15	63

*Include: bigamy, cruelty, adultery, conviction of crime, fraud and impotence.

TABLE 2
NUMBER OF CHILDREN INVOLVED IN DIVORCES AND
ANNULMENTS GRANTED: 1978

Children of this marriage	Families		Total children	Children under 18
	Number	Percent distribution		
Total	6,329	100	8,467	7,184
No children of this marriage	2,278	36	—	—
Families with children (total)	4,051	64	8,467	7,184
One child	1,657	26	1,657	1,500
Two children	1,262	20	2,524	2,144
Three children	633	10	1,899	1,590
Four children	273	4	1,092	900
Five children	132	2	660	540
Six children	51	1	306	264
Seven children	24	*—	168	147
Eight children	10	*—	80	72
Nine or more children	9	*—	81	27

*Less than 0.5 percent.

TABLE 3

LEGAL GROUNDS FOR DIVORCE OR ANNULMENT BY DURATION OF MARRIAGE: 1978

Duration of marriage	Total	Legal grounds for decree				
		Indignities	Desertion	Indignities and desertion	Indignities and cruelty	Others*
Total	6,329	4,908	1,136	138	69	78
1 year	16	12	1	—	3	—
2 years	150	143	—	1	1	5
3 years	281	269	4	—	4	4
4 years	384	343	26	3	6	6
5 years	402	355	26	7	4	10
6 years	457	389	51	6	6	5
7 years	424	354	57	3	5	5
8 years	416	337	62	9	2	6
9 years	395	320	55	12	2	6
10 years	340	263	64	6	3	4
11 years	332	258	56	11	5	2
12 years	281	217	51	4	3	6
13 years	249	172	64	9	3	1
14 years	219	167	44	4	1	3
15 years	198	140	47	8	3	—
16 years	163	124	34	3	1	1
17 years	111	70	35	2	4	—
18 years	132	92	36	2	—	2
19 years	130	94	32	—	1	3
20-24 years	516	365	123	19	3	6
25-29 years	350	219	111	13	5	2
30-34 years	224	136	79	5	3	1
35-39 years	92	40	47	5	—	—
Over 39 years	67	29	31	6	1	—

*Include: bigamy, cruelty, adultery, conviction of crime, fraud and impotence.

TABLE 4

AGE OF HUSBAND AT TIME OF MARRIAGE BY RACE AND
NUMBER OF TIMES MARRIED: 1978

Age of husband	Total	Husbands		Never married before	Previous marriages		
		White	Non- white		One	Two	Three or more
All ages	6,329	3,549	2,780	5,574	694	57	4
Under 18 years	139	68	71	138	1	—	—
18-20 years	1,382	688	694	1,378	4	—	—
21-24 years	2,441	1,419	1,022	2,368	73	—	—
25-29 years	1,319	785	534	1,130	181	8	—
30-34 years	464	255	209	317	137	10	—
35-39 years	216	120	96	112	97	7	—
40-44 years	146	76	70	64	71	10	1
45-49 years	85	52	33	29	48	8	—
50-54 years	62	31	31	19	38	5	—
55-59 years	27	17	10	6	15	4	2
60 years and over	48	38	10	13	29	5	1

TABLE 4A

AGE OF WIFE AT TIME OF MARRIAGE BY RACE AND
NUMBER OF TIMES MARRIED: 1978

Age of wife	Total	Wives		Never married before	Previous marriages		
		White	Non-white		One	Two	Three or more
All ages	6,329	3,571	2,758	5,661	612	52	4
Under 18 years	787	330	457	784	3	—	—
18-20 years	2,239	1,244	995	2,217	22	—	—
21-24 years	1,885	1,202	683	1,792	89	4	—
25-29 years	790	456	334	588	194	7	1
30-34 years	279	143	136	160	113	6	—
35-39 years	143	68	75	62	68	12	1
40-44 years	73	39	34	27	40	5	1
45-49 years	61	40	21	17	38	5	1
50-54 years	30	18	12	6	19	5	—
55-59 years	16	10	6	—	11	5	—
60 years and over	26	21	5	8	15	3	—

TABLE 5

AGE OF HUSBAND AT TIME OF DIVORCE OR ANNULMENT BY DURATION OF MARRIAGE: 1978

Duration of marriage	Age of husband												
	Total	Under 18 years	18-20 years	21-24 years	25-29 years	30-34 years	35-39 years	40-44 years	45-49 years	50-54 years	55-59 years	60 years and over	Not reported
Total divorces and annulments	6,329	1	5	247	1,210	1,591	1,023	733	501	432	280	272	34
1 year	16	—	—	2	5	5	—	—	1	1	—	2	—
2 years	150	1	3	38	35	21	16	9	8	5	5	9	—
3 years	281	—	2	60	103	56	14	15	10	11	6	4	—
4 years	384	—	—	61	164	81	27	18	11	11	5	6	—
5 years	402	—	—	52	201	73	29	11	13	6	7	9	1
6 years	457	—	—	23	215	119	42	17	11	11	7	7	5
7 years	424	—	—	9	165	151	47	20	10	11	2	8	1
8 years	416	—	—	2	147	180	52	6	11	9	3	6	—
9 years	395	—	—	—	96	198	55	18	13	5	4	4	2
10-14 years	1,421	—	—	—	79	661	397	143	56	35	26	23	1
15-19 years	734	—	—	—	—	46	317	233	70	38	14	15	1
20-24 years	516	—	—	—	—	—	27	223	154	66	28	13	5
25-29 years	350	—	—	—	—	—	—	20	127	137	34	27	5
Over 29 years	383	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	86	139	139	13

TABLE 5A

AGE OF WIFE AT TIME OF DIVORCE OR ANNULMENT BY DURATION OF MARRIAGE: 1978

Duration of marriage	Total	Age of Wife											
		Under 18 years	18-20 years	21-24 years	25-29 years	30-34 years	35-39 years	40-44 years	45-49 years	50-54 years	55-59 years	60 years and over	Not reported
Total divorces and annulments	6,329	4	41	541	1,594	1,443	963	618	405	328	171	168	53
1 year	16	—	—	5	6	1	2	—	—	—	1	1	—
2 years	150	4	12	46	33	22	8	3	6	4	4	8	—
3 years	281	—	15	103	87	35	15	8	5	10	1	2	—
4 years	384	—	8	124	153	48	21	14	6	4	4	2	—
5 years	402	—	6	123	174	44	24	10	11	6	—	4	—
6 years	457	—	—	83	236	67	29	15	12	4	4	2	5
7 years	424	—	—	35	245	74	29	20	5	8	3	4	1
8 years	416	—	—	22	221	121	27	10	4	4	1	4	2
9 years	395	—	—	—	195	138	35	8	7	2	4	2	4
10-14 years	1,421	—	—	—	244	727	294	72	31	23	16	8	6
15-19 years	734	—	—	—	—	166	368	127	36	20	5	9	3
20-24 years	516	—	—	—	—	—	111	257	96	27	13	7	5
25-29 years	350	—	—	—	—	—	—	74	162	66	22	16	10
Over 29 years	383	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	24	150	93	99	17

TABLE 6

MATTERS RELATIVE TO DIVORCE PROCEEDINGS DISPOSED OF AT COURT HEARING: 1974 TO 1978

Motions and rules	1978	1977	1976	1975	1974
Total	1,250	1,160	1,540	1,290	1,180
Rule for alimony pendente lite, counsel fees and costs	83	69	395	432	296
Rule for attachment	14	3	9	13	22
Rule to file master's report	—	—	4	3	11
Rule to amend complaint in divorce	23	23	27	25	47
Rule for additional master's fee and stenographic costs	17	11	18	6	24
Rule for appointment of guardian ad litem	3	2	2	—	3
Rule to dismiss complaint in divorce	8	7	1	6	3
Rule for more specific bill of particulars	17	12	10	4	13
Motion for protective order	7	20	9	4	—
Rule for contempt	19	11	12	15	8
Rule to discontinue and end	6	3	15	13	8
Rule to withdraw appearance of counsel	13	16	17	15	14
Preliminary objections to complaint in divorce	57	53	70	50	35
Rule for discontinuance and return of master's fee ...	6	4	2	—	—
Rule for preliminary injunction	29	61	77	55	28
Rule to strike bill of particulars	—	—	6	3	6
Preliminary conference and/or order directing partition	94	31	62	36	27
Rule for final decree in divorce	3	—	—	5	9
Rule to proceed in forma pauperis	618	647	677	422	441
Attachment to act as a summons	43	33	9	7	12
Rule to keep residence confidential	—	—	—	21	13
Rule to open judgement	22	10	—	—	—
Rule to amend birth record	17	16	—	—	—
Rule to reinstate	5	3	—	—	—
Miscellaneous rules and motions	146	125	118	153	160
Exceptions to master's report filed	43	47	53	35	29
Exceptions heard	24	40	46	16	26

**THE ADOPTION
BRANCH**

ADOPTION PROCEEDINGS

The Family Court exercises original jurisdiction over all legal actions in adoption proceedings. The adoptions branch of the court is responsible for the processing and investigation of all matters relevant to adoption, including voluntary relinquishment and involuntary termination. Social investigations, home and office interviews, and consultations with attorneys, agencies, etc., are necessary in order to determine the fitness of all persons petitioning for adoption, and to assure full compliance with statutory requirements.

In July, 1970, the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania approved an Act providing for "the adoption of minors and adults and for the termination of certain parent-child relationships; providing for jurisdiction of courts; providing for recording of foreign decrees of adoption; and containing provisions for procedures, decrees and records in all matters relating thereto." This Act, which repeals the Adoption Law of 1925, applies to all proceedings begun on or after January 1, 1971.

Under the law, any individual may be adopted, and any individual may become an adopting parent. Proceedings prior to adoption fall into three general categories:

(a) Voluntary Relinquishment — When any child (under eighteen years) has been in the care of an agency¹ or individual, the natural parents of the child may petition the court for permission to relinquish forever all parental rights and duties with respect to their child. Where the child is in the care of an agency, the petition must contain the consent of the agency to accept custody until such time as the child is adopted; where the child is in the care of an individual (and not related) the individual must first file a report of intention to adopt.

(b) Involuntary Termination — A petition to terminate parental rights with respect to a child may be filed by; either parent when termination is sought with respect to the other parent; an agency; or an individual who has custody of a child and who has filed a report of intention to adopt. Parental rights may be terminated on the following grounds:

1. The parent, by conduct continuing for a period of at least six months either has evidenced a settled purpose of

¹ "Agency" means any organization, society, or institution which provides for the care of children, supervised by the Pa. Dept. of Public Welfare, and which provides adoption services in accordance with standards established by the department.

- relinquishing parental claim to a child, or has refused or failed to perform parental duties;
- 2. The repeated and continued incapacity, abuse, neglect, or refusal of the parent has caused the child to be without essential parental care, control, or subsistence necessary for his physical or mental well-being;
- 3. The parent is the presumptive but not the natural father of the child.

(c) Report of Intention to Adopt — Every person having custody or control of a child for the purpose of adopting the child shall report such intent to the court in which the petition for adoption will be filed. No report is required when the child is related, by blood or marriage, to the person having custody or control.

Adoption is a proceeding which results in the severance of a person from his or her natural parents and binds that person to an adopting parent or parents. Because adoption is exclusively a statutory proceeding, it necessarily follows that strict compliance with legislative enactment is required.

Court hearings for all proceedings are conducted in private, and in the presence only of the parties involved. Since the taking of a person into the family of another is a most personal relationship, the proceedings are kept in strict confidence. They are not subject to inspection as are other court records, in fact, the records are impounded and only upon a court order may they be inspected. When it is realized that an adoption decree makes the adoptee for all purposes — including right of inheritance — a member of a new family, the soundness of this practice is readily understood.

The practice of the court is closely concerned with the welfare of the proposed adoptee, and various safeguards are used to prevent irreparable harm to the parties involved through disclosures or improper handling of the case.

PETITIONS FOR ADOPTION FILED

1969	.....	985	1974	.....	692
1970	.....	1,072	1975	.....	672
1971	.....	1,001	1976	.....	581
1972	.....	892	1977	.....	540
1973	.....	758	1978	.....	514

SUMMARY

During 1978, 442 adoption petitions were granted, involving 492 adoptees, 466 children and 26 adults.

In addition there were 514 petitions for adoption filed during 1978, 171 petitions filed for voluntary relinquishment, 180 petitions filed for involuntary termination, and 267 reports of intention to adopt.

THE ADOPTEES

During 1978, the adoption of 492 individuals was approved by the court. The majority (62 percent) of the adoptees were white. The adoptees were fairly evenly divided between the sexes, 250 males and 242 females. The number of adoptees who were born out of wedlock increased from 52 percent in 1977, to 62 percent in 1978.

It is held that very young children make an easier adjustment to new families, and their acceptance is usually more complete if they become members of the adopting family at an early age. Couples who adopt children also prefer infants so that they can share more intimately in their development. Of the total adoptees, 27 percent born during wedlock were adopted by persons to whom they were not related, whereas 66 percent of the adoptees born out of wedlock bore no relationship to their adopting parents. The median age for adoptees born in wedlock was 8.2 years, while for adoptees born out of wedlock, it was only 2.6 years. Thirty-eight percent of the adoptees born out of wedlock, were one year of age or younger at the time of granting the petition. Five percent of all adopted individuals were 18 years of age or older.

Children born out of wedlock were predominantly the offspring of single (never married) women (96 percent). The parents of children born during wedlock were most often divorced (66 percent); separated (9 percent); or deceased (14 percent). Three percent of the parents were living together when they placed their children for adoption, and in 5 percent of the adoptions of children born during wedlock, the marital status of the parents was unknown.

A decree of adoption is not granted until the adoptee has been in the custody of the petitioner for at least six months. This residency requirement is not necessary where the adoptee is over eighteen or related to the petitioner. Sixty-six percent of the adoptees born out of wedlock were in custody for less than two years; 34 percent for less than one year.

Spouses who adopt children of a mate's former marriage accounted for 69 percent of the adoptions of children born during wedlock, while children born out of wedlock were placed for adoption primarily by an agency or institution (46 percent). An additional 15 percent of children born out of wedlock were placed for adoption through an intermediary.

The wage or salary income of the adopting parents presents a favorable picture for the adoptees: Sixty-five percent were in the \$15,000 and over class, with 46 percent earning \$18,000 or more.

The majority of adopting parents were between the ages of 25 and 39. The median age for the women was 31.8 years; for the men, 34.5 years.

PETITIONS RELATIVE TO ADOPTION

During 1978, a total of 171 petitions were filed for permission to relinquish all parental rights over children to approved agencies or individuals. There were 146 decrees entered, authorizing the agencies or individuals to give consent to the adoption of these children.

There were 180 petitions for involuntary termination filed during 1978. These petitions indicate abandonment, desertion, or neglect on the part of the natural parents of a child. The court granted 136 petitions during the year, giving custody to the petitioning agency or individual. Under the Adoption Law mentioned previously, the name of these petitions was changed from "abandonment" to "involuntary termination."

When a report of intention to adopt is filed, the court must make a complete investigation regarding the health, antecedents, and eligibility of the child for adoption, and the health,

social, and economic status of the adopting parents. During the year 1978, 267 reports of intention to adopt were filed with the adoption branch for investigation by the staff.

By order of the court, petitions for voluntary relinquishment and involuntary termination, as well as reports of intention to adopt, must be used in all legal actions in adoption proceedings. These forms are available to attorneys in the Prothonotary's Office, Room 264, City Hall.

TABLE 1
 PETITIONS FILED, LISTED AND GRANTED: 1974 TO 1978

	1978	1977	1976	1975	1974
Petitions filed	865	866	899	1,002	1,077
For adoption	514	540	581	672	692
For voluntary relinquishment	171	183	156	156	201
For involuntary termination	180	143	162	174	184
Reports of intention to adopt filed	267	215	324	283	356
Court sessions (days)	107	136	156	124	154
Petitions listed	1,176	1,328	1,424	1,448	1,546
For adoption	603	786	851	857	956
For voluntary relinquishment	304	265	272	292	322
For involuntary termination	269	277	301	299	268
Petitions granted (total)	724	843	868	853	1,038
Adoption petitions granted	442	561	573	574	705
Adoptees per petition:					
One	402	503	513	529	627
Two	32	35	43	40	60
Three	7	20	12	2	13
Four or more	1	3	5	3	5
<i>Total adoptees</i>	492	646	657	627	809
Voluntary relinquishment granted	146	153	147	130	177
Involuntary termination granted	136	129	148	149	156
Petitions filed — no further action	6	2	12	19	60

TABLE 2
SOURCE OF PETITIONS FILED: 1974 TO 1978

Source of petitions	Petitions filed				
	1978	1977	1976	1975	1974
Adoption	514	540	581	672	692
Agency	171	175	191	168	210
Independent	79	93	111	139	140
Kinship	264	272	279	365	342
Voluntary Relinquishment	171	183	156	156	201
Agency	118	132	125	120	170
Independent	49	46	28	33	27
Kinship	4	5	3	3	4
Involuntary Termination	180	143	162	174	184
Agency	59	37	51	50	78
Independent	24	22	31	28	27
Kinship	97	84	80	96	90

TABLE 3
ADOPTION, VOLUNTARY RELINQUISHMENT
AND INVOLUNTARY TERMINATION: 1974 TO 1978

	1978	1977	1976	1975	1974
Petitions listed (total)	1,176	1,328	1,424	1,448	1,546
For adoption	603	786	851	857	956
Granted	442	561	573	574	705
Withdrawn	17	12	26	26	20
Dismissed/denied	6	4	5	4	7
Decision reserved	72	128	139	108	91
Continuances	66	81	108	145	133
For voluntary relinquishment	304	265	272	292	322
Granted	146	153	147	130	177
Withdrawn	22	11	9	13	14
Dismissed/denied	—	2	—	—	—
Decision reserved	58	54	73	93	68
Continuances	78	45	43	56	63
For involuntary termination	269	277	301	299	268
Granted	136	129	148	149	156
Withdrawn/denied	15	19	28	12	19
Decision reserved	56	64	62	37	37
Continuances	62	65	63	101	56

TABLE 4
 PETITIONS FOR ADOPTION GRANTED: 1974 TO 1978

	1978	1977	1976	1975	1974
Petitions granted (total)	442	561	573	574	705
Total adoptees	492	646	657	627	809
Males	250	331	320	322	425
Females	242	315	337	305	384
<i>Percent males</i>	51	51	49	51	53
White	307	401	430	420	507
Non-white	185	245	227	207	302
<i>Percent white</i>	62	62	65	67	63
Catholic	182	283	293	285	341
Protestant	164	260	281	263	393
Jewish	16	26	27	23	41
Unknown or none	130	77	56	56	34
Born during wedlock	188	308	287	273	347
Born out of wedlock	304	338	370	354	462
<i>Percent born out of wedlock</i> ..	62	52	56	56	57

TABLE 5

ADOPTEES IN PETITIONS GRANTED, BY RACE AND BIRTH STATUS: 1978

	Adoptees						
	Total	White			Non-white		
		Total	Born during wedlock	Born out of wedlock	Total	Born during wedlock	Born out of wedlock
TOTAL ADOPTEES	492	307	141	166	185	47	138
AGE AT TIME OF GRANTING PETITION							
Under 1 year	33	31	3	28	2	—	2
1 to 5 years	195	131	30	101	64	15	49
6 to 9 years	112	64	47	17	48	11	37
10 to 17 years	126	61	45	16	65	17	48
18 years and over	26	20	16	4	6	4	2
ADOPTEE PLACED BY:							
Own parent	257	156	113	43	101	27	74
Private agency or institution	171	99	16	83	72	16	56
Intermediary	57	47	7	40	10	3	7
Other	7	5	5	—	2	1	1
RELATIONSHIP OF PETITIONER TO ADOPTEE:							
Not related	252	158	27	131	94	23	71
Stepparent	221	140	109	31	81	21	60
Other	19	9	5	4	10	3	7
CONSENT GIVEN BY:							
One parent	210	118	66	52	92	19	73
Both parents	63	49	45	4	14	7	7
Adoptee	21	17	13	4	4	3	1
Private agency or institution	148	91	13	78	57	14	43
Public agency (DPW)	18	8	3	5	10	3	7
Intermediary	25	18	1	17	7	1	6
Other	7	6	—	6	1	—	1

TABLE 5—Continued

ADOPTEES IN PETITIONS GRANTED, BY RACE AND BIRTH STATUS: 1978

	Adoptees						
	Total	White			Non-white		
		Total	Born during wedlock	Born out of wedlock	Total	Born during wedlock	Born out of wedlock
TOTAL ADOPTEES	492	307	141	166	185	47	138
DURATION OF CUSTODY:							
Under 1 year	141	99	27	72	42	12	30
1 to 4 years	245	157	77	80	88	19	69
5 to 9 years	62	25	18	7	37	12	25
10 to 15 years	27	14	11	3	13	2	11
16 years and over	17	12	8	4	5	2	3
MARITAL STATUS OF ADOPTEES' PARENTS:							
Not married	298	163	2	161	135	3	132
Separated or divorced	146	117	114	3	29	26	3
One or both deceased	32	23	21	2	9	6	3
Living together	6	3	3	—	3	3	—
Unknown	10	1	1	—	9	9	—
INCOME OF PETITIONERS:							
Under \$5,000	14	4	2	2	10	2	8
\$5,000 to \$10,999	65	26	12	14	39	9	30
\$11,000 to \$14,999	91	61	31	30	30	10	20
\$15,000 to \$17,999	94	62	28	34	32	2	30
\$18,000 and over	226	154	68	86	72	24	48
Not reported	2	—	—	—	2	—	2

TABLE 5—Concluded

ADOPTees IN PETITIONS GRANTED, BY RACE AND BIRTH STATUS: 1978

	Adoptees						
	Total	White			Non-white		
		Total	Born during wedlock	Born out of wedlock	Total	Born during wedlock	Born out of wedlock
TOTAL ADOPTees	492	307	141	166	185	47	138
AGE OF ADOPTING FATHER							
Under 25 years	22	13	7	6	9	—	9
25 to 34 years	207	149	69	80	58	13	45
35 to 44 years	149	102	43	59	47	18	29
45 to 54 years	52	30	13	17	22	5	17
55 years and over	30	9	6	3	21	6	15
One petitioner	32	4	3	1	28	5	23
AGE OF ADOPTING MOTHER							
Under 25 years	31	16	8	8	15	—	15
25 to 34 years	283	197	88	109	86	24	62
35 to 44 years	103	67	28	39	36	12	24
45 to 54 years	44	15	9	6	29	6	23
55 years and over	27	10	7	3	17	4	13
One petitioner	4	2	1	1	2	1	1
RELIGION OF PETITIONERS							
Married petitioners							
Protestant	168	54	26	28	114	28	86
Catholic	176	163	67	96	13	6	7
Jewish	37	35	13	22	2	1	1
Mixed	75	51	33	18	24	6	18
None/unknown	3	1	—	1	2	—	2
One Petitioner							
Protestant	27	2	1	1	25	4	21
Catholic	5	—	—	—	5	2	3
Jewish	1	1	1	—	—	—	—

THE MEDICAL BRANCH

THE MEDICAL BRANCH

Throughout its history of more than a half century, the medical branch has provided a unique service to the court through the evaluations conducted by the psychiatrists and psychologists on its staff. With the advent of comprehensive mental health and mental retardation programs, this court's professional staff provides important screening and makes recommendations to the various community mental health centers regarding needs for future evaluation and treatment of court clients. In an overwhelming number of instances, the preliminary evaluations made at the court have been corroborated by further studies that reflect the quality and court appraisal. The judiciary of the Family Court rely heavily on reports of its mental health professionals in the court, which further attests to the strength of these services.

Among its varied functions, the medical branch provides psychiatric and psychological evaluation and treatment services, dental care, and physical screening. It makes referrals to hospitals, clinics, and mental facilities, and maintains follow-up on progress.

The medical branch has a regular staff of physicians, psychologists, and psychiatrists to diagnose and recommend treatment of the physical and mental condition of those brought before the court; a laboratory for making bacteriological and serologic studies; a staff of full-time nurses for courtroom duty and office interviews, as well as for visiting homes and doing follow-up work with those under the court's care; and a well-equipped dental clinic which provides dental examinations and necessary treatments to clients of the court. A nursery, located on the first floor of the Family Court, provides care and amusement for babies and children while their parents are transacting business in the court.

In 1978, 2,168 psychiatric examinations and 1,822 psychological examinations were performed at Family Court, as well as 3,302 physical examinations, and 545 dental examinations requiring 2,226 dental treatments. The clinical laboratory tested more than 5,000 specimens. The nursery cared for more than 4,000 children while the parents transacted business in the court. The clinical services unit interviewed, treated or referred more than 400 cases. The nurses conducted over

4,000 visits and interviews to assure follow-up on medical problems and handled more than 600 emergency treatments and investigations. A total of 340 juveniles were referred to the correctional group counseling program for group therapy during 1978. There were 321 mental health commitments for studies or long term treatment.

TABLE I
 MEDICAL BRANCH: 1974 TO 1978

	1978	1977	1976	1975	1974
Total examinations	7,837	7,858	7,752	6,970	8,194
Mental examinations (total)	3,990	4,023	4,068	4,121	4,277
Psychiatric examinations	2,168	2,228	2,325	2,447	2,385
Psychological examinations	1,822	1,795	1,743	1,674	1,892
Physical examinations	3,302	3,288	3,063	2,259	3,237
Dental examinations	545	547	621	590	680
Clinical laboratory tests	5,382	6,160	6,308	7,760	5,613
New cases under supervision (total)	1,599	1,670	1,713	1,802	1,950
Physical	1,367	1,427	1,455	1,504	1,394
Clinical services	232	243	258	298	556
Children cared for in nursery	4,367	3,886	4,724	5,434	6,023
Visitors to nursery	4,217	3,551	4,576	5,310	5,080
Commitments under Mental Health Act	321	276	320	340	223
Cases enrolled in Correctional Group Counseling	340	464	415	565	394

TABLE 2
 MENTAL AND PHYSICAL EXAMINATIONS: 1978

Branch referring cases	Total		Psychiatric		Psychological		Physical	
	Number	Per cent distribution ¹	Number	Per cent distribution ¹	Number	Per cent distribution ¹	Number	Per cent distribution ¹
Total examinations	7,292	100	2,168	100	1,822	100	3,302	100
Juvenile branch (total)	4,670	64	1,759	81	1,714	94	1,197	36
Delinquent	3,722	51	1,374	63	1,473	81	875	26
Non-delinquent	756	10	213	10	221	12	322	10
Adults	180	2	163	8	17	1	—	—
Counseling and referral ..	12	†—	9	†—	3	†—	—	—
Domestic relations branch ..	1,242	17	364	17	104	6	774	23
Women's branch	249	3	45	2	4	†—	200	6
Employees	189	3	—	—	—	—	189	6
Emergency treatments	942	13	—	—	—	—	942	29

¹Distributive percentages are not adjusted to total 100.

†Less than 0.5 percent.

TABLE 3
 CLINICAL LABORATORY TESTS: 1974 TO 1978

	1978	1977	1976	1975	1974
Total tests	5,382	6,160	6,308	7,760	5,613
Serologic tests for syphilis ...	2,361	3,125	3,355	4,324	3,396
Smears for gonococcus	441	47	43	35	125
Cultures for gonococcus	448	890	824	1,109	832
Urinalyses	908	1,060	1,191	1,026	1,059
Trichomonas	410	872	804	1,065	195
Monilia	—	—	—	103	—
Hemoglobin (sickle cell)	754	—	—	—	—
Miscellaneous	60	166	91	98	6

TABLE 4

PRIMARY AND SECONDARY DIAGNOSES IN PSYCHIATRIC EXAMINATIONS: 1978

Nature of diagnoses	Primary diagnoses				Total secondary diagnoses
	Total primary diagnoses	Delinquent children	Non-delinquent children	Adults	
Total Psychiatric examinations	2,168	1,383	313	472	901
Sub-normal intelligence	205	145	40	20	373
Normal intelligence	206	79	50	77	258
Above normal intelligence	21	5	15	1	23
Behavior disorders of childhood and adolescence (total)	529	497	21	11	67
Group delinquent reaction	432	417	9	6	51
Runaway reaction	18	11	7	—	2
Unsocialized aggressive reaction	68	61	3	4	9
Hyperkinetic reaction	2	1	1	—	4
Withdrawing reaction	4	2	1	1	—
Other reaction	5	5	—	—	1
Transient situational disturbances (total)	651	492	126	33	36
Adjustment reaction of adolescence	570	471	90	9	34
Adjustment reaction of childhood	58	20	36	2	—
Adjustment reaction of adult life	22	—	—	22	2
Adjustment reaction of infancy	1	1	—	—	—
Conditions without manifest psychiatric disorder (total)	241	10	24	207	14
No mental disorder	136	9	20	107	10
Social maladjustment	96	—	3	93	2
Non-specific conditions	9	1	1	7	2

TABLE 4—Concluded

PRIMARY AND SECONDARY DIAGNOSES IN PSYCHIATRIC EXAMINATIONS: 1978

Nature of diagnoses	Primary diagnoses				Total secondary diagnoses
	Total primary diagnoses	Delinquent children	Non-delinquent children	Adults	
Personality and other non-psychotic mental disorders (total)	153	91	17	45	80
Personality disorders (total)	105	71	12	22	33
Passive-aggressive	65	45	10	10	21
Other types	24	13	2	9	4
Explosive	16	13	—	3	8
Sexual deviations	2	1	—	1	1
Alcoholism	15	2	—	13	16
Drug dependency	31	17	5	9	30
Psychoses not attributed to physical condition (total)	36	5	2	29	3
Schizophrenia	27	5	2	20	1
Other psychoses	9	—	—	9	2
Neuroses	31	13	4	14	8
Mental retardation	50	34	9	7	31
Non-diagnostic terms	28	9	4	15	2
Other diagnoses	17	3	1	13	6

TABLE 5
PSYCHOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS: 1978

Diagnoses	Branch referring cases					
	Total	Juvenile			Domestic Relations	Women's
		Delinquent	Non-delinquent	Adults		
Total examinations ..	1,822	1,473	224	17	104	4
Superior	23	14	1	—	8	—
Bright normal	95	52	16	—	27	—
Normal	670	539	86	5	40	—
Dull normal	331	282	39	3	6	1
Borderline	607	505	71	7	21	3
Mild retardation	89	74	11	2	2	—
Moderate retardation ..	3	3	—	—	—	—
Unspecified intelligence	4	4	—	—	—	—

TABLE 6
CLINICAL SERVICES UNIT ACTIVITIES: 1975-1978

	1978	1977	1976	1975
Clinical services probation	434	453	497	506
New cases	232	243	258	298
Carried over from previous year	202	210	239	208
Group therapy	11	4	24	24
Correctional group counseling	635	674	673	792
New cases	340	464	415	565
Carried over from previous year	295	210	258	227
Cases referred to outside agencies	81	112	76	146
Appointments scheduled	1,962	1,822	1,548	1,236
Appointments kept	1,298	1,296	1,148	922

TABLE 7

COMMITMENTS MADE UNDER MENTAL HEALTH ACT: 1978

Admitting centers and institutions	Total	For studies	For treatment
Total cases	321	150	171
Albert Einstein Medical Center	17	9	8
Benjamin Rush Center for Mental Health	5	3	2
Child Guidance Clinic	25	11	14
Episcopal Hospital	11	8	3
Eastern State School and Hospital	79	—	79
Eastern Pa. Psychiatric Institute	2	—	2
Eugenia Hospital	4	—	4
Fairmount Farms	1	—	1
Hahnemann Hospital	26	24	2
Interac	7	7	—
Jefferson Hospital	8	8	—
Nazareth (PATH)	6	6	—
North Central Unit (Temple Hospital)	23	21	2
Northeast Unit (Friends' Hospital)	13	10	3
Northwestern Unit	15	15	—
Northwestern Institute of Psychiatry	9	—	9
Norristown State Hospital	8	—	8
Pennhurst State School and Hospital	3	—	3
Pennsylvania Hospital	7	4	3
Pennsylvania Institute	1	1	—
Philadelphia State Hospital	10	—	10
Philadelphia Psychiatric Center	35	23	12
Southern Homes	1	—	1
Woodhaven Center	5	—	5

TABLE 8

CASES UNDER SUPERVISION OF THE NURSES: 1978

Total cases supervised during the year	1,722
New cases this year	1,367
Carried over from previous year	355
Total visits and interviews	4,238
Home visits	2,559
Office interviews	1,679
Diagnosis on cases under supervision:	
Dental care	690
Digestive disorders	78
Ears, nose and throat	79
Eyes	315
Heart	96
Hypertension	40
Monilia	49
Pre/post natal	56
Respiratory	118
Skin disorder	50
Trichomonas	66
Urinary	46
Venereal	112
Others	26

STATISTICAL SUMMARY

TOTAL ACTIVITY

The workload performed by this court is large and diversified. The total activity during 1978 includes not only the 71,891 listings for formal court hearing or trial by the 20 judges in the various branches of the court, but also 14,203 listings for interviews at the Youth Study Center, and 16,516 other cases listed for adjustment or disposition without court hearing — a grand total of 102,610 listings.

This is exclusive of a vast number of departmental activities such as investigation and preparation of cases for court hearing; supervision by the probation staff and visiting nurses of children and adults on probation or parole, as well as aftercare supervision for children and adults released from certain institutions; thousands of medical, dental, psychiatric, and psychologic examinations; laboratory tests; referral of cases to public and private health and welfare agencies and institutions; the service of writs, warrants, and subpoenas; the collection of fines, costs, and restitution; and numerous other activities.

TOTAL ACTIVITY — LISTINGS, DISPOSITIONS, AND SESSIONS: 1974 TO 1978

	1978	1977	1976	1975	1974
TOTAL CASES LISTED¹ FOR DISPOSITION IN ALL BRANCHES	102,610	91,069	104,443	106,169	101,442
For formal court hearing or trial	71,891	60,299	67,932	73,020	68,383
For disposition without court hearing (total) .	30,719	30,770	36,511	33,149	33,059
For official judicial approval of amendments to previously disposed cases	10,187	10,851	13,263	5,925	6,435
For intake interviews at Youth Study Center	14,203	13,625	17,266	21,488	21,205
Master's hearings-divorce and annulments	6,329	6,294	5,982	5,736	5,419
TOTAL DISPOSITIONS IN ALL BRANCHES	55,737	51,435	60,521	55,631	53,617
Through formal court hearing	36,990	31,523	36,249	37,783	34,755
Without court hearing (total)	18,747	19,912	24,272	17,848	18,862
Official judicial approval of amendments to previously disposed cases	10,187	10,851	13,263	5,925	6,435
Intake interviews at Youth Study Center . .	2,231	2,767	5,027	6,187	7,008
Divorce and annulments granted	6,329	6,294	5,982	5,736	5,419
SESSIONS	3,172	3,095	3,359	3,008	2,857
Formal court hearing	2,863	2,786	3,053	2,701	2,549
Intake interviews at Youth Study Center ² . .	309	309	306	307	308

¹ Listings include cases disposed of and continuances.

² Sessions are held 6 days a week. The intake process consists of two separate interviews. Children under arrest have a first intake interview soon after they arrive at the Center to determine whether they should be detained. The second interview usually takes place the following day to determine whether the case is to be adjusted or referred for court hearing.

FAMILY COURT DIVISION—1978

TOTAL ACTIVITY—CASES LISTED: 1973 TO 1978

Year	All branches	Juvenile	Domestic relations	Women's branch	Adoption	Divorce
Cases listed for court hearing						
1973	62,744	38,532	17,488	3,756	1,587	1,381
1974	63,383	41,581	20,611	3,465	1,546	1,180
1975	73,020	45,432	20,425	4,425	1,448	1,290
1976	67,932	40,387	20,620	3,961	1,424	1,540
1977	60,299	35,397	16,190	6,224	1,328	1,160
1978	71,891	39,455	21,200	8,810	1,176	1,250
Cases disposed of through court hearing						
1973	27,714	15,347	7,761	1,947	1,278	1,381
1974	29,641	16,142	9,395	1,826	1,098	1,180
1975	32,535	18,161	9,794	2,282	1,008	1,290
1976	34,669	17,003	9,253	1,937	936	1,540
1977	26,632	14,904	7,123	2,554	891	1,160
1978	30,127	16,909	7,992	3,192	784	1,250
Dispositions without court hearing						
1973	16,347	10,565	157	433	—	5,192
1974	18,862	12,435	* 97	911	—	5,419
1975	17,848	11,143	123	846	—	5,736
1976	24,272	10,512	4,819	2,959	—	5,982
1977	19,912	6,676	4,591	2,351	—	6,294
1978	18,747	6,588	3,830	2,000	—	6,329
Sessions—Court hearings ¹						
1973	2,363	1,327	693	147	144	52
1974	2,549	1,425	780	138	154	52
1975	2,701	1,500	883	142	124	52
1976	3,053	1,715	992	138	156	52
1977	2,786	1,554	848	196	136	52
1978	2,863	1,433	1,050	221	107	52

¹ Does not include sessions at Youth Study Center.

*Five month figure only.

DISPOSITIONS THROUGH COURT HEARING: 1974 TO 1978

Method of disposition and branch of the court	1978	1977	1976	1975	1974
Dispositions through court hearing ¹	36,990	31,523	36,249	37,783	34,755
Juvenile branch ²	16,909	14,904	17,003	18,161	16,142
Domestic relations branch (dispositions) ¹ ...	13,915	11,315	14,246	14,349	13,797
<i>Cases</i>	7,992	7,123	9,253	9,794	9,395
Women's branch (dispositions) ¹	4,132	3,253	2,524	2,975	2,538
Attachments for non-payment; custody/ visitation (dispositions) ¹	2,833	2,249	1,827	2,090	1,674
<i>Cases</i>	1,893	1,550	1,240	1,397	962
Petition and order	1,235	961	654	798	779
Trial court	64	43	43	87	85
Adoption branch	784	891	936	1,008	1,098
Petitions for adoption	465	577	604	604	732
Petitions for voluntary relinquishment	168	166	156	143	191
Petitions for involuntary termination	151	148	176	261	175
Divorce (motions and rules)	1,250	1,160	1,540	1,290	1,180

¹ This table shows the number of dispositions, not the number of cases disposed of, and hence the figures differ from those on page 170. When a case is disposed of through court hearings, often there is more than one disposition in the case, e.g., a support order might be reinstated, the amount of the order increased, and arrears in payment remitted. Thus there would be three dispositions in this one case. The number of cases disposed of does not fully reflect the total workload of the court. A considerable number of cases involve continuances which require more than one court hearing and an additional amount of staff work.

² Includes delinquency, non-delinquency and adult cases.

DISPOSITIONS WITHOUT COURT HEARING: 1974 TO 1978

	1978	1977	1976	1975	1974
Dispositions Without Court Hearing	18,747	19,912	24,272	17,848	18,862
Adjustments through intake interviews at Youth Study Center	2,231	2,767	5,027	6,187	7,008
Dispositions in special list cases ¹	10,187	10,851	13,263	5,925	6,435
Juvenile branch	4,357	3,909	5,485	4,956	5,427
Domestic relations branch ²	3,830	4,591	4,819	123	*97
Womens branch ²	2,000	2,351	2,959	846	911
Divorces granted	6,329	6,294	5,982	5,736	5,419

¹ These are dispositions which carry judicial or administrative approval but require no formal court hearing.

² Increase is due to child support program initiated in 1976.

* Five month figure only.

JUVENILE BRANCH: 1974 TO 1978

	1978	1977	1976	1975	1974
Total cases listed for disposition	58,015	52,931	63,138	71,876	68,213
Cases listed for court hearing ¹	39,455	35,397	40,387	45,432	41,581
Dispositions	16,909	14,904	17,003	18,161	16,142
Continuances	22,546	20,493	23,384	27,271	25,439
Cases listed for intake interviews at Youth Study Center	14,203	13,625	17,266	21,488	21,205
Adjusted	2,231	2,767	5,027	6,187	7,008
Continuances	1,814	1,515	1,962	2,897	3,351
Referred to juvenile court for hearing	10,158	9,343	10,277	12,404	10,846
Cases listed for official judicial approval of amendment to previous decrees of court without court hearing	4,357	3,909	5,485	4,956	5,427
Informal complaints received	271	286	150	151	203
Cases disposed of	23,497	21,580	27,515	29,304	28,577
Cases disposed of through court hearing	16,909	14,904	17,003	18,161	16,142
Cases adjusted through intake interviews at Youth Study Center	2,231	2,767	5,027	6,187	7,008
Cases listed for official judicial approval and disposed of without court hearing	4,357	3,909	5,485	4,956	5,427
Total dispositions	23,497	21,580	27,515	29,304	28,577
Delinquency cases	19,044	17,889	23,416	24,869	24,983
New charges	12,568	12,315	16,061	18,250	17,706
Rehearings	6,476	5,574	7,355	6,619	7,277
Adults corrupting or endangering welfare of children	1,176	1,033	1,281	1,483	1,259
Non-delinquency	3,232	2,537	2,625	2,732	2,068
New charges	1,583	1,215	1,395	1,570	1,117
Rehearings	1,649	1,322	1,230	1,162	951
Other adult cases	45	121	193	220	267

¹ Includes pre-trial and adjudicatory court listings.

DOMESTIC RELATIONS BRANCH: 1974 TO 1978

	1978	1977	1976	1975	1974
Cases listed for disposition through court hearing	21,200	16,190	20,620	20,425	20,611
Party failed to appear, bench warrant issued	1,829	1,628	1,960	1,960	1,898
Continuances	11,379	7,439	9,407	8,671	9,318
Cases disposed of	7,992	7,123	9,253	9,794	9,395
Dispositions ¹	13,915	11,315	14,246	14,349	13,797
SESSIONS	1,050	848	992	883	780
Reason for reference to court	13,915	11,315	14,246	14,349	13,797
Petition and order for support	4,006	2,326	3,403	3,947	3,451
Modification or vacation of order	5,291	4,459	5,520	4,961	4,341
Non-payment of order	2,882	3,368	4,037	4,115	5,162
Visitation rights or child custody	1,736	1,162	1,286	1,326	843
TYPE OF DISPOSITION	13,915	11,315	14,246	14,349	13,797
Support order made (total)	2,335	1,509	2,285	2,803	2,448
For spouse and/or child ²	2,335	1,503	2,254	2,780	2,441
For parent	—	6	31	23	7
Support order vacated	714	590	679	586	624
Support order modified, suspended or reinstated	2,042	1,929	2,286	2,205	2,207
Continue to pay order	1,234	1,011	1,668	1,555	1,759
Commit if failure to pay	258	427	503	400	416
Dismissed ³	850	613	978	969	826
Withdrawn	727	380	450	478	428
Custody of child awarded	521	324	306	275	151
Visitation rights fixed	913	703	916	903	696
Arrears remitted or modified	1,445	1,492	1,717	1,597	1,763
Wage attachment issued	1,181	1,027	1,112	1,122	1,106
All other dispositions	1,695	1,310	1,346	1,456	1,373
Petitions disposed of without court hearing ⁴	3,602	4,195	4,819	123	*97
Dispositions	3,830	4,591	4,819	123	*97
DEPARTMENTAL ACTIVITIES					
New intake-families referred to this branch for the first time ..	9,414	7,922	4,315	4,763	4,134
Petitions filed	14,262	13,552	15,802	11,948	10,832
Receipts (support orders) ⁵	\$24,938,684	\$23,648,783	\$24,037,805	\$22,621,705	\$19,792,477

¹ See p. 106 for distinction between cases and dispositions.² Includes an insignificant number of orders for the support of husbands.³ Includes parties reconciled.⁴ Increase is due to child support program initiated in 1976.⁵ Information supplied by Clerk of Quarter Sessions.

* Five month figure only.

WOMEN'S BRANCH—UNMARRIED MOTHERS: 1974 TO 1978

	1978	1977	1976	1975	1974
COURT SESSIONS	221	196	138	142	138
Cases listed for court hearing	8,810	6,224	3,961	4,425	3,465
Party failed to appear, bench warrant issued	1,945	928	541	708	551
Continuances	3,673	2,742	1,483	1,435	1,088
Cases disposed of ¹	3,192	2,554	1,937	2,282	1,826
Dispositions ¹	4,132	3,253	2,524	2,975	2,538
Petitions for support	1,235	961	654	798	779
Defendant admits paternity	1,088	877	540	667	659
Defendant denies paternity	8	6	76	77	76
Dismissed or withdrawn	139	78	38	54	44
Attachments for non-payment; child custody, and other petitions	2,833	2,249	1,827	2,090	1,674
Wage attachment issued	576	396	336	387	200
Continue to pay order	387	287	321	352	403
Commit if fails to pay	20	18	22	82	97
Pay on arrears	343	151	170	215	260
Credit arrears	87	109	118	186	116
Pay order or arrears to D.P.A.	10	6	30	149	64
Other dispositions	1,410	1,300	830	719	534
Trial court	64	43	43	87	85
Petitions disposed of without court hearing ²	2,000	2,351	2,959	846	911
Petitions filed For support of children born out of wedlock	2,550	1,626	1,109	1,147	1,226
For custody/visitation of children born out of wedlock	329	272	219	244	113
Receipts (support order)	\$2,514,376	\$2,446,643	\$2,133,229	\$2,016,229	\$1,834,104
Amount awarded to D.P.A.	\$ 21,109	\$ +13,914	\$ 8,365	\$ 40,305	\$ 55,792

¹See page 127 fn. 2.

²Increase is due to child support program initiated in 1976.

*Five month figure only.

+Eleven month figure only.

ADOPTION BRANCH: 1974 TO 1978

	1978	1977	1976	1975	1974
PETITIONS FILED	865	866	899	1,002	1,077
For adoption	514	540	581	672	692
For voluntary relinquishment	171	183	156	156	201
For involuntary termination	180	143	162	174	184
REPORTS OF INTENTION TO ADOPT FILED	267	215	324	283	356
SESSIONS	107	136	156	124	154
PETITIONS DISPOSED OF	784	891	936	1,008	1,098
Adoption	465	577	604	604	732
Granted	442	561	573	574	705
<i>Individual adoptees</i>	492	646	657	627	890
Dismissed or withdrawn	23	16	31	30	27
Voluntary relinquishment	168	166	156	143	191
Decree entered	146	153	147	130	177
Dismissed or withdrawn	22	13	9	13	14
Involuntary termination	151	148	176	261	175
Decree entered	136	129	148	149	156
Dismissed or withdrawn	15	19	28	12	19
PETITIONS FOR ADOPTION GRANTED .	442	561	573	574	705
Adoptees in each petition:					
One	402	503	513	529	627
Two	32	35	43	40	60
Three	7	20	12	2	13
Four or more	1	3	5	3	5
Total adoptees	492	646	657	627	809
Males	250	331	320	322	425
Females	242	315	337	305	384
White	307	401	430	420	507
Non-White	185	245	227	207	302
Born during wedlock	188	308	287	273	347
Born out of wedlock	304	338	370	354	462

SUPPORT ORDERS, RECEIPTS, AND COLLECTIONS¹: 1974 TO 1978

	1978	1977	1976	1975	1974
Receipts in payment of support orders ²	\$27,506,437	\$26,172,635	\$26,253,020	\$24,721,946	\$21,726,297
Juvenile branch:					
Direct orders	\$ 6,110	\$ 10,057	\$ 11,532	\$ 13,971	\$ 26,767
Reimburse orders Dept. of Public Welfare	47,267	67,150	70,451	70,040	72,949
Domestic relations branch ..	24,938,684	23,648,783	24,037,805	22,621,705	19,792,477
Women's branch	2,514,376	2,446,643	2,133,229	2,016,229	1,834,104
New orders made	5,396 +	5,183	4,647	4,417	3,789
Orders vacated	5,447 +	6,321	5,527	2,108	1,376
Orders suspended	386 +	297	353	325	272
Orders reinstated	870 +	640	300	126	88
Orders changed	4,552 +	3,816	3,875	3,585	3,446
Accounts credited	621 +	543	658	721	600
Amounts credited	\$ 1,598,594	+\$1,160,097	\$ 1,164,979	\$ 1,333,010	\$ 709,327
Amount awarded to Dept. of Public Assistance:					
Domestic relations branch	\$ 71,824	+\$ 257,493	\$ 180,280	\$ 154,789	\$ 214,426
Women's branch	21,109	+ 13,914	8,365	40,305	55,792

¹Information supplied by Clerk of Quarter Sessions.

²Cents omitted.

+ Eleven months figure only.