



# Department of Justice



## Office of Justice Programs

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\*\*\*\*\*PUBLICATION ADVISORY\*\*\*\*\*

### **STUDY: FUNCTIONAL IMPAIRMENT COMMON AMONG YOUTH IN DETENTION**

WASHINGTON – Approximately one in five youth in detention had markedly impaired social and emotional functioning, according to a new bulletin from the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention.

In *Functional Impairment in Delinquent Youth*, researchers examined the day-to-day social, psychiatric and academic difficulties, including moods and emotions, patterns of substance use and self-harmful behavior or intent of youth participating in a long-term study of 1,829 juvenile detainees in Cook County, Ill. The authors found that a significant portion of the youth in their study had long-term functional impairment in several areas requiring comprehensive services delivered over an extended period of time.

This bulletin is the third in a series on the findings of the Northwestern Juvenile Project, a longitudinal study of the mental health needs and outcomes of juvenile detainees.

**TITLE:** *Functional Impairment in Delinquent Youth*

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