

**AN INITIAL REVIEW OF MARICOPA COUNTY  
JUVENILE PROBATION DETENTION LENGTH OF STAY**

Prepared for the Maricopa County Juvenile Probation Department

**Final Technical Report**

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VIOLENCE PREVENTION  
*and* COMMUNITY SAFETY  
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Table of Contents

	<u>PAGE</u>
1. <u>EXECUTIVE SUMMARY</u>	1
2. <u>PURPOSE OF STUDY, GOALS, AND OBJECTIVES</u>	4
3. <u>SECTION ONE: PROFILE OF GENERAL POPULATION</u>	5
4. <u>SECTION TWO: POPULATION DETAINED 24 HOURS OR LESS</u>	10
5. <u>SECTION THREE: POPULATION DETAINED 48 HOURS OR LESS</u>	12
6. <u>SECTION FOUR: DETENTION SCORE ANALYSES</u>	14
7. <u>SECTION FIVE: VIOLATION OF PROBATION ANALYSES</u>	15
8. <u>SECTION SIX: DETENTION STAYS</u>	17
9. <u>SECTION SEVEN: DURANGO DETENTION FACILITY</u>	20
a. Referrals	20
b. Warrants	22
c. Court Holds	23
10. <u>SECTION EIGHT: SOUTHEAST DETENTION FACILITY</u>	28
a. Referrals	28
b. Warrants	30
c. Court Holds	30

**An Initial Review of Maricopa County  
Juvenile Probation Detention Length of Stay**

Table of Contents (cont.)

	<u>PAGE</u>
11. <u>SECTION NINE: PREDICTORS OF DETENTION LENGTH OF STAY</u>	36
a. Referrals	36
b. Warrants	37
c. Court Holds	38
12. <u>SECTION TEN: DRUG TESTS RESULTS</u>	43
13. <u>SECTION ELEVEN: RECIDIVISM RESULTS</u>	45
14. <u>DISCUSSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS</u>	46

Appendixes

Located in Supplemental Report

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This technical report is based on a four month study of the Maricopa County juvenile detention population. Data from the Arizona's Juvenile On-Line Tracking System (JOLTS) database were used to examine detention length of stay in the Durango and Southeast detention centers from 2000 – 2005. The research goals of the study included providing a description of cases subject to detention over the 6 year period and the identification of significant predictors of detention length of stay.

### **Summary of Major Findings:**

1. A total of 37% of juveniles were detained for 24 hours or less.
2. The overwhelming majority of juveniles were released to a home post detention. Based on the number of juveniles in detention who were on probation, it is likely that the majority of juveniles released to a home were under some form of supervision.
3. Although the overall number of detentions has dropped over the years, average length of stay has steadily increased over the past six years.
4. Almost a third of cases (27%) that were detained involved an open VOP. The average time spent in detention for cases with an open VOP was 25.9 days. Further, VOP cases lead to a significant increase in detention length net all controls. This applied to referral, warrant, and court hold cases.
5. Although mandatory detentions increased the rate of detention length of stay more so than discretionary detentions, discretionary detentions still continue to make-up a sizeable group of detention cases (49% of all detentions).
6. Each detention facility deals with different types of juveniles/cases, leading to different outcomes across facilities. The basis of these differences centers on discretionary detention decisions. Over the six year period, discretionary detentions have decreased at the Durango facility while increasing at the Southeast facility.
7. On average, juveniles detained for a warrant served the longest time in detention (23 days), followed by court holds (19 days), and referrals (13 days).
8. Juveniles detained once were more likely to have an open complaint for a Property-Felony offense. Juveniles who were detained for the second, third, or fourth time were more likely to have an open complaint for an Obstruction of Justice offense.
9. While boys served longer stays in detention in court hold cases, girls averaged longer stays in warrant, investigative status cases. There were no gender differences in referral cases.

10. Race/ethnicity had a relatively small influence in detention length of stay. In fact, disproportionate minority contact (DMC) is not apparent in detention length of stay. When race significantly influenced length of stay, Blacks and Native Americans averaged shorter lengths of stay than Whites. Although in some instances Hispanics did serve longer stays in detention than Whites (i.e., Adult supervision and ADCJ cases), the effects should be interpreted with caution given the small number of cases in those particular analyses.
11. Based on the number of juveniles suspected of drug use and tested, more than half tested positive for marijuana during their detention stay. Also, 9% of juveniles tested positive for cocaine and 17% tested positive for amphetamines. Drug test results for juveniles 30 days post release show continued drug use.
12. Sixty-four percent of juveniles released from detention had at least one subsequent complaint filed.

### **Recommendations:**

Based on findings from this study, it is believed that the following steps can be taken to analyze and address detention length of stay.

- Any subsequent analyses of detention length of stay should focus not only on the average length of stay but also the median length of stay. With an overall median length of stay of 3 days, focus should be placed on identifying the juveniles that significantly influence the detention mean length of stay (e.g., juveniles detained 30 days or more).
- It is recommended that the juvenile probation department identify the circumstances in referrals cases that lead to short detention stays, especially in discretionary detentions. A review of the most serious open complaint for juveniles who spent 24 hours or less and were discretionary detentions showed that 25% were domestic violence related. While discretionary detention may be justified in these cases, the probation department should identify the specific familial and case circumstances that lead to short detention stays. This information will allow the department to make reasonable policy decisions where needed (e.g., DV cases) but also for the majority of cases that are detained for 24 hours or less.
- Based on the number of juveniles that are released to the home, it is recommended that the juvenile probation department identify the type of population that is suitable for detention alternatives. This will require a comprehensive review of the reasons that prevented the release to a parent/guardian *prior* to detention as well as the identification of juveniles that may have been better suited for some alternative to detention. The department should also monitor the impact of release to the home across various lengths of times in detention. It is likely that release to the home after a certain time in detention is related to case outcome. In some instances the time in detention may serve to benefit the juveniles while in others, it may only create further disruption in the household. The

benefits as well as the disruption caused by detention have been well established in prior research.

- It is recommended that the juvenile probation department closely examine the link between violations of probation, detention, and other court processes. This will require in-depth review of supervision practices and the extent to which detention is relied upon as a means to address juvenile non-compliance. Because the most frequent open complaint at the time of detention was an Obstruction of Justice offense, focus should be placed on identifying the exact relationship between non-compliance (VOP), filing of a referral (Obstruction of Justice), and other case processes.
- It is recommended that the juvenile probation department monitor discretionary detentions decisions, especially in cases where juveniles were detained for 24 hours or less. A review of discretionary detentions must be facility specific given the variation in discretionary detention cases across detention centers. Not only are there differences in discretionary detention decisions but also in detention length of stay. These findings highlight the importance of examining practices in light of context (i.e., facility). It is important to note that a reduction in discretionary detention cases would severely reduce the detention population in both detention facilities.
- Although drug tests results reported in this study were not based on a random sample of juveniles, data on drug use should be closely monitored. It is recommended that the juvenile probation department identify the role detention centers will play in substance abuse reduction. Currently, the detention facilities serve a sizable population of juveniles who have violated their terms of probation by using drugs (e.g., drug court participants). However, data show that drug use is a problem not only for juveniles on supervision but also for those on investigative status and not under court supervision. The department should consider the implementation of a random monitoring system that would capture more systematic and representative data on drug use. Further, attention should be given to the degree that detention can assess and refer treatment options for juveniles in need of services. A special focus may wish to be given to the relationship that exists between drug use and VOPs. Lastly, the department should consider capturing specific data on alcohol use and methamphetamine use.
- It is highly recommended that the juvenile probation department monitor levels of recidivism among juveniles who have been detained. Further, it should compare the levels of recidivism among detained juveniles with juveniles who have not been detained. This type of information will place the detention practices in context with other juvenile court processes, prevention, and intervention efforts.

## **PURPOSE OF STUDY, GOALS, AND OBJECTIVES**

Unlike other juvenile court processes, detention is subject to a wide continuum of delinquent referrals. Referrals to the juvenile court come from “outside forces” including schools, police, and parents (Bortner, 1982), making it necessary for the court to utilize any readily available information to determine which delinquent behavior warrants further court action (Emerson, 1969). The detention decision is particularly important given that prior studies have found detained juveniles are subject to more severe treatment at the adjudication and disposition stages (Bortner & Reed, 1985; Frazier & Bishop, 1985; Secret & Johnson, 1997; Wu, 1997). Juveniles detained are also more likely to return to the juvenile court system.

National statistics indicate that the number of delinquency cases that result in detention has increased over the years (Harms, 2003). This has led to crowded detention centers where it is estimated that approximately 39% of all juvenile detention centers have more residents than beds (Sickmund, 2002). Unfortunately, the juvenile detention centers in Maricopa County are no different. In the third quarter of fiscal year 2005, the Durango and the Southeast detention facilities were over capacity 73% of the time. In addition, the average length of stay in the county has increased 29% since September 2003. In order to obtain a comprehensive review of detention length of stays in Maricopa County, the current study focused on analyzing detention data from 2000 - 2005. Official JOLTS data were analyzed to identify and examine the factors associated with detention length of stay decisions.

The purpose of this project was to examine detention data from 2000 - 2005 in order to obtain descriptive analyses of detention cases in the county. The goals of the project were to present a comprehensive description of cases subject to detention over the past 6 years and to identify significant predictors of detention length of stay. As such, the following nine research objectives were proposed: 1) description of detained population; 2) description of juveniles detained across different time periods; 3) analyses of mandatory and discretionary detentions; 4) description of violation of probation cases; 5) identify the impact of multiple detention stays; 6) examine detentions in the Durango and Southeast facilities; 7) identify the significant predictors of detention length of stay ; 8) identify the relationship between drug use and detention; and 9) identify the number of detainees that recidivated post release from detention.

## SECTION ONE: PROFILE OF GENERAL POPULATION\*

### **Summary Findings**

1. 37% percent of juveniles spent 24 hours or less in detention.
2. The average number of days spent in detention was 15.8 days (Median = 3.125 days).
3. 45% of juveniles were detained once during 2000 - 2005.
4. Referrals (36%), warrants (38%), and court holds (16.3%) represent the primary reasons for detention.
5. 70% of juveniles were released to a home.
6. Just over half of detentions (51.2%) were mandatory detentions.
7. 27% of juveniles had an open violation of probation at the time of detention.
8. Boys and racial/ethnic minorities represent the majority of detainees.
9. Detained juveniles averaged 4.5 prior complaints and 3 prior petitions.
10. On average, juveniles detained for a warrant served the longest time in detention (23 days), followed by court holds (19 days), and referrals (13 days).
11. Based on release data, the longest average time in detention was spent by juveniles awaiting placement (37 days) while the shortest time was spent by those released to the police (7 days).
12. Mandatory detention cases averaged 20.8 days (Median = 12.25) in detention while discretionary detentions averaged 10.5 days (Median = 2).
13. Based on supervision data, juveniles under JIPS supervision served the longest period in detention while juveniles not under court supervision served the shortest stays in detention.
14. Although the overall number of detentions has dropped over the years, average length of stay has steadily increased over the past six years.

During 2000 - 2005, 37% of juveniles were detained 24 hours or less in one of the County's detention centers. Among these detainees, 22.2% spent less than 6 hours in detention, 19.4% spent between 7 - 12 hours, 26.1% spent between 13 - 18 hours, and 32.2% spent between 19 - 24 hours in detention.

The proportion juveniles that spent more than 24 hours in detention is presented below.

- 8.8% of juveniles were detained between 25 hours and 48 hours
- 3.6% of juveniles were detained between 49 hours and 72 hours
- 9% of juveniles were detained between 3 to 10 days
- 9% of juveniles were detained between 11 to 20 days
- 14% of juveniles were detained between 21 to 30 days
- 17.7% of juveniles were detained longer than 30 days

The average number of days spent in detention was 15.8 days (Median = 3.13 days).

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\* See Appendix A for a review of all tables.

Less than half (45%) of juveniles were detained only once during 2000 - 2005. A total of two-thirds of juveniles were detained once or twice. Nine percent of juveniles in the population were detained more than five times during the six year period.

Referrals (36%), warrants (38%), and court holds (16.3%) overwhelmingly represent the primary reasons for detention. The following includes the prevalence of other reasons for detention.

- 3% of juveniles were detained for ADJC
- 3.5% of juveniles were detained for the weekend
- 2.5% of juveniles were detained for the HIP program
- 1.7% of juveniles were detained for drug court
- 2.3% of juveniles were detained from another jurisdiction

Seventy percent of juveniles were released to a home<sup>1</sup>, 9.2% to DES, 9.1% to ADJC, 3.6% to a placement, and 3.3% to the police.

Sixty-three percent of juveniles were detained at the Durango facility while 37% were detained at the Southeast facility.

Almost two-thirds (63%) of all referrals to the detention centers were brought by the Phoenix Police Department. The following represents the proportion of referrals by other law enforcement agencies.

- 12.5% of juveniles were brought to detention by the Glendale Police Department
- 8.8% of juveniles were brought to detention by the Mesa Police Department
- 5.2% of juveniles were brought to detention by the Chandler Police Department
- 4.2% of juveniles were brought to detention by the Peoria Police Department
- 4% of juveniles were brought to detention by the Tempe Police Department
- 2.9% of juveniles were brought to detention by the Scottsdale Police Department

Fifty-one percent of detentions were mandatory detentions (i.e., score equal or greater than 12).

Over half (51.3%) of juveniles who were detained were on some form of juvenile probation supervision. The following represents the status of juveniles at the time of detention.

- 21% of juveniles were not under court supervision
- 38.9% of juveniles were on standard probation
- 21.3% of juveniles were on investigative status
- 12.4% of juveniles were on JIPS
- 5.6% of juveniles were under ADJC supervision
- .8% of juveniles were under adult supervision

Fourteen percent of juveniles did not have an open complaint at the time of detention. The following represents the most serious open complaint at the time of detention for juveniles that did have an open complaint.

- Person-Felony = 9.7%

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<sup>1</sup> Release to a home does not imply release without supervision from the juvenile probation department.

- Person-Misdemeanor = 9.2%
- Property-Felony = 18.4%
- Property-Misdemeanor = 6.7%
- Drugs = 7.6%
- Public Peace = 10.6%
- Status = 3%
- Citation/Admin. = .7%
- Obstruction of Justice = 20%

Twenty-seven percent of juveniles had an open violation of probation at the time of detention.

Boys and racial/ethnic minorities represented the majority of detainees (see below).

- 77% of detained juveniles were boys
- 42% of detained juveniles were White
- 42% of detained juveniles were Hispanic
- 12% of detained juveniles were Black
- 3.6% of detained juveniles were Native American

On average, juveniles were detained 2.55 times during the six year span. At the time of detention juveniles had an average of 4.5 prior complaints and 3 prior petitions. Juveniles who were on probation supervision had spent an average of 5.7 months on probation.

The overall proportion of detentions has dropped over the six years.

- 2000 = 17.9%
- 2001 = 17.7%
- 2002 = 17.3%
- 2003 = 16.5%
- 2004 = 15.5%
- 2005 = 15.2%

On average, juveniles detained for warrants served the longest time in detention (23 days), followed by court holds (19 days), and referrals (13 days).

- Court Holds: Mean = 18.9 days ; Median = 14.04
- Warrants: Mean = 23.37 days ; Median = 17.86
- Referrals: Mean = 12.76 days ; Median = .875
- ADJC: Mean = 1.40 days ; Median = .67
- Weekend: Mean = 2.5 days; Median = 2
- HIP program: Mean = 3.72 days; Median = 3.04
- Drug Court: Mean = 6.10 days; Median = 2.04
- From Another Jurisdiction: Mean = 5.23; Median = 1.083

Juveniles awaiting placement averaged the longest time in detention (37 days) while juveniles released to the police averaged the shortest time in detention (7 days).

- Home: Mean = 14.23 days; Median = 3.87
- DES: Mean = 16.16 days; Median = 1.08

- ADJC: Mean = 21.24 days; Median = 1.92
- Placement: Mean = 36.99 days; Median = 26.12
- Police: Mean = 6.85 days; Median = .83

The average length of stay for juveniles detained at the Durango facility was 14.7 days and 17.6 days for juveniles detained at the Southeast facility.

Mandatory detention cases averaged 20.8 days (Median = 12.25) in detention while discretionary detentions averaged 10.5 days (Median = 2).

Juveniles on JIPS supervision averaged the longest period in detention (29 days) while juveniles not under court supervision served the shortest period (7 days) in detention.

- Not Under Court Supervision: Mean = 6.63 days; Median = .75
- Standard Probation: Mean = 17.14 days; Median = 7.96
- Investigative Status: Mean = 18.57 days; Median = 8.33
- JIPS: Mean = 28.99 days; Median = 25.92
- ADJC supervision: Mean = 3.5 days; Median = .833
- Adult supervision: Mean = 1.97 days; Median = .54

While boys averaged longer periods in detention than girls (16.18 vs. 14.48 days), there were minimal differences in detention stays by racial/ethnic groups. Juveniles who were 9 years old at the time of detention served the shortest length of stays in detention (6.2 days) while 14 years olds averaged the longest stays in detention (18.21 days) (see below).

- White: Mean = 15.54 days; Median = 3.83
- Hispanic: Mean = 16.37 days; Median = 3.29
- Black: Mean = 15.96 days; Median = 2.88
- Native American: Mean = 12.39 days; Median = 1.19
- 8 years old: Mean = 6.7 days; Median = .70
- 9 years old: Mean = 6.21 days; Median = .77
- 10 years old: Mean = 8.48 days; Median = .79
- 11 years old: Mean = 13.98 days; Median = .92
- 12 years old: Mean = 15.83 days; Median = 1.12
- 13 years old: Mean = 17.32 days; Median = 3.25
- 14 years old: Mean = 18.22 days; Median = 6.67
- 15 years old: Mean = 17.04 days; Median = 5
- 16 years old: Mean = 16.31 days; Median = 4
- 17 years old: Mean = 13 days; Median = 1.95

Juveniles who had an open complaint at the time of detention for an Obstruction of Justice offense averaged the longest length in detention (23 days) while juveniles with Citations served the shortest time in detention (4 days).

- No Open Complaint = Mean = 4.57 days; Median = 1.96
- Person-Felony = Mean = 19.01 days; Median = 1.21
- Property-Felony = Mean = 21 days; Median = 10.38
- Obstruction of Justice = Mean = 22.54 days; Median = 18.42

- Person-Misdemeanor = Mean = 12.33 days; Median = 1
- Drugs = Mean = 17.2 days; Median = 6.33
- Public Peace = Mean = 14.38 days; Median = 2.13
- Property-Misdemeanor = Mean = 11.64 days; Median = 1
- Status = Mean = 5.84 days; Median = 1.04
- Citation/Admin. = Mean = 4 days; Median = 1.79

Juveniles with more prior complaints and petitions averaged a longer period in detention than juveniles with fewer prior complaints and petitions. In fact, as the number of prior complaints and petitions increased, so did the detention length of stay.

#### Complaints:

- 0: Mean = 6.3 days; Median = .71
- 1: Mean = 10.43 days; Median = .96
- 2: Mean = 13.33 days; Median = 2.04
- 3: Mean = 15.26 days; Median = 4.13
- 4: Mean = 17.21 days; Median = 7.13
- 5: Mean = 18.77 days; Median = 11.19

#### Petitions:

- 0: Mean = 7.3 days; Median = .75
- 1: Mean = 13.62 days; Median = 2.79
- 2: Mean = 15.55 days; Median = 4.96
- 3: Mean = 17.91 days; Median = 9.75
- 4: Mean = 19.92 days; Median = 13.33
- 5: Mean = 21.1 days; Median = 14.25

Average length of stay steadily increased over the six year period.

- 2000: Mean = 14.52 days; Median = 2.96
- 2001: Mean = 14.5 days; Median = 2.54
- 2002: Mean = 14.64 days; Median = 2.48
- 2003: Mean = 16.29 days; Median = 3.5
- 2004: Mean = 18.22 days; Median = 4
- 2005: Mean = 17.09 days; Median = 4.25

## **SECTION TWO: POPULATION DETAINED 24 HOURS OR LESS\***

### **Summary Findings**

1. 62.3% of juveniles were detained only once during the six year period.
2. The majority of juveniles (65%) were detained for a referral to the court.
3. 51.4% of juveniles detained were discretionary detentions.
4. The majority of juveniles (70%) were released to a home.
5. 39% of juveniles were not under court supervision.
6. 12.3% of cases had an open probation violation.

This section highlights some descriptive information on the population of juveniles who were detained for 24 hours or less. As previously shown, 37% of juveniles during the study period were detained for 24 hours or less. Data show that 62.3% of juveniles detained for 24 hours or less were detained only once during the six year period.

Sixty-five percent of juveniles detained for 24 hours or less were detained for a referral, 28.5% for a warrant, and 6.1% were detained for a court hold.

Seventy-one percent of juveniles detained for 24 hours or less were detained at the Durango facility. Also, 51.4% of detention stays were discretionary detentions.

The majority of juveniles (70%) were released to a home<sup>2</sup> (see below).

- 70% of juveniles were released to a home
- 12.1% of juveniles were released to DES
- 10.6% of juveniles were released to ADJC
- 1.4% of juveniles were released to a placement
- 5.9% of juveniles were released to the police

Over a third of juveniles detained for 24 hours or less were not under court supervision (see below).

- 39% were Not Under Court Supervision
- 24% were on Standard Probation
- 21% were on Investigative Status
- 4% were on JIPS
- 10.7% were on ADJC supervision
- 1.9% were on Adult supervision

Twelve percent of detention cases involved an open violation of probation.

Boys and racial/ethnic minorities represented the majority of juveniles detained for 24 hours or less (see below).

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\* See Appendix B for a review of all tables.

<sup>2</sup> See footnote 1.

- 75% of detained juveniles were boys
- 39% of detained juveniles were White
- 43% of detained juveniles were Hispanic
- 12.5% of detained juveniles were Black
- 4.5% of detained juveniles were Native American

Property-Felony offenders comprised 17% of juveniles who were detained 24 hours or less. Fifteen percent of juveniles did not have an open complaint at the time of detention (see below).

- No Open Complaint = 14.5%
- Person-Felony = 11.5%
- Property-Felony 17.3%
- Obstruction of Justice = 10.6%
- Person-Misdemeanor = 12.7%
- Drugs = 7.6%
- Public Peace = 11.9%
- Property-Misdemeanor = 9.2%
- Status = 3.9%
- Citation/Admin. = .7%

The average age of juveniles detained was 15.2 years old.

Juveniles who were detained averaged 3.4 prior complaints and 2.2 prior petitions.

### **SECTION THREE: POPULATION DETAINED 48 HOURS OR LESS\***

#### **Summary Findings**

1. 57% of juveniles were detained only once during the six year period.
2. The majority of juveniles (62.4%) were detained for a referral to the court.
3. 54% of juveniles detained were discretionary detentions.
4. The majority of juveniles (70%) were released to a home.
5. 35.3% of juveniles were not under court supervision.
6. 13% of cases had an open probation violation.

This section highlights some descriptive information on the population of juveniles who were detained for 48 hours or less. As previously shown, 46% of all juveniles were detained for 48 hours or less. Data reveal that 57% of juveniles detained for 48 hours or less were detained only once during the six year period.

Among the juveniles that were detained during this 48 hour period, 62.4% were detained for a referral, 29.4% were detained for a warrant, and 8.1% were detained for a court hold.

The majority of juveniles detained for 48 hours or less were detained at the Durango facility (69%). Also, 54% of detention stays were discretionary detentions.

The majority of juveniles (70%) were released to a home<sup>3</sup> (see below).

- 70% of juveniles were released to a home
- 12.5% of juveniles were released to DES
- 10.5% of juveniles were released to ADJC
- 1.3% of juveniles were released to a placement
- 5.9% of juveniles were released to the police

Over a third of juveniles detained for 48 hours or less were not under court supervision (see below).

- 35.3% were Not Under Court Supervision
- 28% were on Standard Probation
- 19.4% were on Investigative Status
- 5.3% were on JIPS
- 10.5% were on ADJC supervision
- 1.7% were Adult supervision

Thirteen percent of detention cases involved an open violation of probation.

Boys and racial/ethnic minorities represent the majority of juvenile detained for 48 hours or less (see below).

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\* See Appendix C for a review of all tables.

<sup>3</sup> See footnote 1.

- 75% of detained juveniles were boys
- 40% of detained juveniles were White
- 42% of detained juveniles were Hispanic
- 12.3% of detained juveniles were Black
- 4.4% of detained juveniles were Native American

Eighteen percent of juveniles detained 48 hours or less did not have an open complaint at the time of detention (see below). Seventeen percent of juveniles had an open complaint for a Property-Felony offense.

- No Open Complaint = 18%
- Person-Felony = 11.1%
- Property-Felony = 16.5%
- Obstruction of Justice = 10.9%
- Person-Misdemeanor = 11.5%
- Drugs = 7.2%
- Public Peace = 11.3%
- Property-Misdemeanor = 8.4%
- Status = 4.2%
- Citation/Admin. = .9%

The average age for detainees was 15 years old.

Juveniles had an average of 3.7 prior complaints and 2.4 prior petitions at the time of detention.

## **SECTION FOUR: DETENTION SCORE ANALYSES\***

### **Summary Findings**

1. 65% of discretionary detentions took place at the Durango facility.
2. From 2000 - 2005, discretionary detentions at the Durango facility decreased from 68% to 60% and increased at the Southeast facility from 32% to 40%.
3. 20% of the “0” detention scores were for referrals.
4. 66% of juveniles with a “0” detention score were detained for 24 hours or less.
5. 68% of juveniles with a “0” detention score were released to a home.
6. 60.4% of juveniles with a “0” detention score were not under court supervision and 21% were on investigative status.

Although subsequent sections of this report provide more detailed analyses of mandatory and discretionary detentions, this section presents general trend information and analyses of cases with detention scores of “0”.

Data show that 65% of discretionary detentions took place at the Durango facility. During the time period under examination (2000 - 2005), discretionary detentions at the Durango facility decreased from 68% to 60% and increased at the Southeast facility from 32% to 40%.

A review of discretionary detentions revealed that 17% of the cases were scores of “0”. While 39% of these “0” scores involved court holds, 41% involved warrants and 20% involved referrals.

The following characteristics apply to referrals with a detention score of “0”.

- 66% of juveniles were detained for 24 hours or less
- 77.2% of juveniles were detained once
- The average time in detention was 9.8 days
- 68% of juveniles were released to a home<sup>4</sup>
- 70% of juveniles were detained at the Durango facility
- 60.4% of juveniles were not under court supervision and 21% were on investigative status
- 70% of detained juveniles were boys
- 40% of detained juveniles were White
- 42% of detained juveniles were Hispanic
- 12.7% of detained juveniles were Black
- Average age of juveniles was 15 years old
- Nearly a quarter of detained juveniles (23.6%) had an open complaint for a Property-Felony offense
- Juveniles had an average of 2.1 prior complaints and 1.1 prior petitions

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\* See Appendix D for a review of all tables.

<sup>4</sup> See footnote 1.

## **SECTION FIVE: VIOLATION OF PROBATION ANALYSES\***

### **Summary Findings**

1. The average time spent in detention for cases with an open VOP was 25.9 days (Median = 20.8).
2. Open VOP cases were most prevalent in warrant cases (60.2%), followed by court holds (33%), and referrals (5%).
3. The majority of juveniles with open VOPs were released to a home.

This section focuses on juveniles who had an open violation of probation (VOP) case at the time of detention. Data show that twenty-seven percent of detention cases involved an open VOP. The average time spent in detention was 25.9 days (Median = 20.8). The majority (58%) of all open VOP cases were detained at the Durango facility.

Open VOP cases were most prevalent in warrant cases (60.2%), followed by court holds (33%), and referrals (5%).

The majority of juveniles with an open VOP were released to a home<sup>5</sup> (see below).

- Home = 73%
- DES = 9.5%
- ADJC = 10.5%
- Placement = 5.7%
- Police = 1.3%

Over two-thirds of juveniles with an open VOP (69.7%) had an open complaint for an Obstruction of Justice offense (see below).

- No Open Complaint = 0%
- Person-Felony = 3%
- Property-Felony = 8.9%
- Obstruction of Justice = 69.7%
- Person-Misdemeanor = 2.4%
- Drugs = 4.4%
- Public Peace = 8.1%
- Property-Misdemeanor = 3.5%
- Status = 0%
- Citation/Admin. = 0%

Juveniles with an open VOP had an average of 4.45 prior complaints and 3 prior petitions.

There were some differences in open VOP cases across detention facilities. For example, a higher proportion of juveniles detained at the Southeast facility were released to a home (75.4%) than juveniles detained at the Durango facility (70%). Also, juveniles detained at the Southeast

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\* See Appendix E for a review of all tables.

<sup>5</sup> See footnote 1.

facility had a higher number of prior complaints and petitions than juveniles detained at the Durango facility.

## SECTION SIX: DETENTION STAYS\*

### **Summary Findings**

1. Juveniles detained once during the study period were more likely than juveniles detained for the second or third time to spend 24 hours or less in detention.
2. Juveniles detained once were more likely to be detained for a referral.
3. Juveniles detained for the second or third time were more likely to be detained for a warrant.
4. Juveniles detained once were more likely to be discretionary detentions than mandatory detentions (56% vs. 44%).
5. 40% of juveniles detained once were not under court supervision.
6. Juveniles detained once were more likely to have an open complaint for a Property-Felony offense.
7. Juveniles who were detained for the second, third, or fourth time were more likely to have an open complaint for an Obstruction of Justice offense.
8. Juveniles detained once averaged fewer days in detention than juveniles who were detained for the second, third, or fourth time.

In order to gain further understanding of juveniles who were detained in the county, data were analyzed by the number of times juveniles appeared in detention. Although 45% of juveniles were detained only once during the six year period, this section compares outcomes for juveniles detained once, twice, three times, and four times.

Data show that juveniles who were detained once during the study period were more likely than juveniles detained for the second or third time to spend 24 hours or less in detention. Also, juveniles detained once were more likely to be detained for a referral. Juveniles detained for the second or third time were more likely to be detained for a warrant. Juveniles detained once were more likely to be released to a home while juveniles detained for the second or third time were less likely to be released a home.<sup>6</sup> Juveniles detained once were more likely to be discretionary detentions than mandatory detentions (56% vs. 44%).

Forty percent of juveniles who were detained once were not under court supervision. For juveniles with multiple detention stays, a much smaller proportion were not under court supervision.

- Detention Spell 1 = 40%
- Detention Spell 2 = 9%
- Detention Spell 3 = 4%
- Detention Spell 4 = 3%

Only a quarter of juveniles who were detained once were on standard probation while more than half of juveniles detained more than once were on standard probation.

- Detention Spell 1 = 25%

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\* See Appendix F for a review of all tables.

<sup>6</sup> See footnote 1.

- Detention Spell 2 = 50%
- Detention Spell 3 = 57%
- Detention Spell 4 = 52%

Nearly thirty percent of juveniles detained once or twice were on investigative status at the time of detention.

- Detention Spell 1 = 29%
- Detention Spell 2 = 27%
- Detention Spell 3 = 14%
- Detention Spell 4 = 7.6%

Juveniles detained multiple times were more likely to be on JIPS than juveniles detained once.

- Detention Spell 1 = 3%
- Detention Spell 2 = 10.4%
- Detention Spell 3 = 20%
- Detention Spell 4 = 28.4%

Open VOPs were far more common in cases where juveniles had been detained multiple times.

- Detention Spell 1 = 13.2%
- Detention Spell 2 = 33%
- Detention Spell 3 = 43%
- Detention Spell 4 = 47%

Juveniles detained once were more likely to have an open complaint for a Property-Felony offense.

- No Open Complaint = 10%
- Person-Felony = 11.9%
- Property-Felony = 19.7%
- Obstruction of Justice = 10.7%
- Person-Misdemeanor = 12.2%
- Drugs = 9.1%
- Public Peace = 11.8%
- Property-Misdemeanor = 8.7%
- Status = 4.8%
- Citation/Admin. = 1.3%

Juveniles who were detained for the second time were more likely to have an open complaint for an Obstruction of Justice offense followed by a Property-Felony offense.

- No Open Complaint = 11.5%
- Person-Felony = 9.4%
- Property-Felony = 20%
- Obstruction of Justice = 24.1%
- Person-Misdemeanor = 8.9%
- Drugs = 7.3%

- Public Peace = 10.2%
- Property-Misdemeanor = 6.1%
- Status = 2%
- Citation/Admin. = .5%

Juveniles detained for a third time were more likely to have an open complaint for an Obstruction of Justice offense.

- No Open Complaint = 14.2%
- Person-Felony = 7.4%
- Property-Felony = 17.6%
- Obstruction of Justice = 30.5%
- Person-Misdemeanor = 6.8%
- Drugs = 6.8%
- Public Peace = 9.8%
- Property-Misdemeanor = 5.1%
- Status = 1.4%
- Citation/Admin. = .4%

Juveniles who were detained for a fourth time were also more likely to have an open complaint for an Obstruction of Justice offense.

- No Open Complaint = 16.8%
- Person-Felony = 7%
- Property-Felony = 16.5%
- Obstruction of Justice = 32.4%
- Person-Misdemeanor = 5.7%
- Drugs = 5.8%
- Public Peace = 10%
- Property-Misdemeanor = 4.4%
- Status = 1.2%
- Citation/Admin. = .2%

Juveniles detained once averaged fewer prior complaints than juveniles who were detained for the second, third, or fourth time.

- Detention Spell 1 = 2.4 prior complaints
- Detention Spell 2 = 4.4 prior complaints
- Detention Spell 3 = 5.7 prior complaints
- Detention Spell 4 = 6.7 prior complaints

Juveniles detained once averaged fewer days in detention than juveniles who were detained for the second, third, or fourth time.

- Detention Spell 1 = 10.4 days
- Detention Spell 2 = 18.1 days
- Detention Spell 3 = 21.9 days
- Detention Spell 4 = 22.7 days

## SECTION SEVEN: DURANGO DETENTION FACILITY

### **Summary Findings**

1. In referral cases that were discretionary detentions and on standard probation, 62% were detained for 24 hours or less and 79% were released to a home.
2. In referral cases that were discretionary detentions and on JIPS, the average time in detention was 18.8 days and 71% were released to a home.
3. In referral cases that were discretionary detentions and not under court supervision, 82% were detained for 24 hours or less.
4. In referral cases that were mandatory detentions, the most frequent open complaint was a Property - Felony offense.
5. In referral cases that were mandatory detentions and on JIPS, the average time in detention was 29.2 days.
6. Warrant and court hold cases were characterized by lengthy stays, open VOPs, and Obstruction of Justice offenses.

This section focuses exclusively on juveniles detained at the Durango facility. In order to present the effect of several variables across juveniles' status (e.g., standard probation, investigative status), Table 1 includes a condensed presentation of summary statistics (see page 24). These data focus on referrals that were discretionary detentions. The full presentation of these data can be found in Appendix G. Below are some highlighted findings.

### Referrals - Discretionary Detentions: Standard Probation

- Mean Detention Time = 10.64 days

Nearly two-thirds of juveniles (62%) were detained for 24 hours or less. Over three-fourths of juveniles (79%) were released to the home. The most frequent open complaint for juveniles was for a Person-Misdemeanor offense (24%). Thirteen percent of juveniles had an open VOP and averaged 3.8 prior complaints.

### Referrals - Discretionary Detentions: Investigative Status

- Mean Detention Time = 14.32 days

Over half of juveniles (53%) were detained for 24 hours or less and 71% were detained once during the study period. Three-fourths of juveniles (76%) were released to the home. The most frequent open complaint for juveniles was for a Property-Felony offense (28%).

### Referrals - Discretionary Detentions: JIPS

- Mean Detention Time = 18.8 days

More than half of juveniles (54%) were detained for 24 hours or less and 15% were detained once. Over two-thirds of juveniles (71%) were released to the home. The most frequent open complaint for juveniles was for a Property-Felony offense (25%). Nineteen percent of juveniles had an open VOP and averaged 6.4 prior complaints.

Referrals - Discretionary Detentions: Not Under Court Supervision

- Mean Detention Time = 4 days

Over eighty percent of juveniles (82%) not under court supervision were detained for 24 hours or less. Almost ninety percent (89%) of juveniles were detained once during the six year period. The overwhelming majority of juveniles (81%) were released to the home. The most frequent open complaint for juveniles was for a Person-Misdemeanor offense (27%).

Table 2 includes a condensed presentation of some summary statistics for referrals that were mandatory detentions (see page 25). The full presentation of these data can be found in Appendix G. Below are some highlighted findings.

Referrals - Mandatory Detentions: Standard Probation

- Mean Detention Time = 19.9 days

Forty-three percent of juveniles were detained for 24 hours or less. Over a quarter of juveniles (27%) were detained once during the study period and the majority of juveniles (72%) were released to the home. The most frequent open complaint for juveniles was for a Property - Felony offense (38.6%). Eighteen percent of juveniles had an open VOP.

Referrals - Mandatory Detentions: Investigative Status

- Mean Detention Time = 20.3 days

Forty-two percent of juveniles were detained for 24 hours or less. Over two-thirds of juveniles were detained once (66%) and released to a home (77%). The most frequent open complaint for juveniles was for a Property-Felony offense (47.2%).

Referrals - Mandatory Detentions: JIPS

- Mean Detention Time = 29.2 days

A third of juveniles were detained for 24 hours or less and 11% were detained once during the six year period. Less than 60% percent of juveniles were released to the home. The most frequent open complaint for juveniles was for a Property-Felony offense (39.4%) with 25% that had an open VOP.

Referrals - Mandatory Detentions: ADJC

- Mean Detention Time = 9.3 days

The majority of juveniles (59%) were detained for 24 hours or less. Less than a quarter of juveniles (22%) were detained once. The most frequent open complaint for juveniles was for a Property-Felony offense (43.4%).

Referrals - Mandatory Detentions: Adult Supervision

- Mean Detention Time = 1.8 days

Over eighty percent (83%) of juveniles were detained for 24 hours or less. Fifty-nine percent of juveniles were detained once and had an open complaint for a Person-Felony offense.

Referrals - Mandatory Detentions: Not Under Court Supervision

- Mean Detention Time = 11.93 days

Over half of juveniles (58%) were detained for 24 hours or less and 86% were detained once. The majority of juveniles (71%) were released to the home. The most frequent open complaint for juveniles was for a Person-Felony offense (42.9%).

Table 3 includes a condensed presentation of some summary statistics for warrant cases (see page 26). The full presentation of these data can be found in Appendix G. Below are some highlighted findings.

Warrants - Standard Probation

- Mean Detention Time = 21.8 days

Almost a third of juveniles (29%) were detained for 24 hours or less and 26% were detained once. A majority of juveniles were released to a home (73%), had an open complaint for an Obstruction of Justice offense (63.7%), and had an open VOP (85%).

Warrants - Investigative Status

- Mean Detention Time = 16.5 days

Less than half of juveniles (48%) were detained for 24 hours or less and more than half (57%) were detained once. Over three-fourths of juveniles (79%) were released to a home. The most frequent open complaint for juveniles was for a Property-Felony offense (28.9%).

Warrants - JIPS

- Mean Detention Time = 37.5 days

Eleven percent of juveniles were detained for 24 hours or less and 9% were detained once. Nearly two-thirds of juveniles (62%) were released to a home and had an open complaint for an Obstruction of Justice offense (61.7%). Over 90% of juveniles had an open VOP.

Table 4 includes a condensed presentation of some summary statistics for court holds (see page 27). The full presentation of these data can be found in Appendix G. Below are some highlighted findings.

#### Court Holds - Standard Probation

- Mean Detention Time = 18.8 days

Less than 10% of juveniles were detained for 24 hours or less and 28% were detained once. Eighty-five percent of juveniles were released to a home. The most frequent open complaint for juveniles was for an Obstruction of Justice offense (41.2%). More than half (52%) of juveniles had an open VOP.

#### Court Holds - Investigative Status

- Mean Detention Time = 25.63 days

Less than 10% of juveniles were detained for 24 hours or less. Half of the juveniles were detained once during the study period. Over three-fourths of juveniles were released to a home (77%). The most frequent open complaint for juveniles was for a Property-Felony offense (32.2%).

#### Court Holds - JIPS

- Mean Detention Time = 27.2 days

Only two percent of juveniles were detained for 24 hours or less and 12.3% were detained once. Over three-fourths of juveniles were released to a home (79%). The most frequent open complaint for juveniles was for an Obstruction of Justice offense (42.5%). The majority of juveniles (55%) had an open VOP.

#### Court Holds - ADJC

- Mean Detention Time = 2.6 days

Nearly half of juveniles (48%) were detained for 24 hours or less. Only seven percent of juveniles were detained once. The most frequent open complaint for juveniles was for a Property-Felony offense (25.2%).

**Table 1. Durango Facility Referrals – Discretionary Detentions**

	<u>Standard Probation</u>	<u>Investigative Status</u>	<u>JIPS</u>	<u>Not Under Supervision</u>
Detained 24 hours or less	62%	53%	54%	82%
Detained Once	34%	71%	15%	89%
Released to a Home	79%	76%	71%	81%
Open VOP	13%	--	19%	--
Type of Open Complaint				
No Open Complaint	4.2%	.4%	4.6%	8.2%
Person - Felony	4.4%	13%	4.6%	5.4%
Property - Felony	17.1%	28.1%	25%	15.3%
Obstruction of Justice	2%	1.5%	.9%	1.5%
Person – Misd.	23.9%	26.8%	10.2%	26.8%
Drugs	11.9%	8.8%	19.4%	9.1%
Public Peace	19.8%	12.7%	12%	15.4%
Property - Misd.	16.1%	8.2%	22.2%	16.5%
Status	.6%	.5%	.9%	1.8%
Average Prior Complaints	3.8	2	6.4	1.1
Average Detention Time (days)	10.64	14.32	18.8	4
Year:				
2000	16.2%	16.9%	20%	19%
2001	18.2%	17.1%	10%	22%
2002	21.6%	16.3%	33%	21%
2003	17%	14%	10%	16%
2004	14%	15%	16%	14%
2005	12.9%	22%	10%	9%

*Note:* Statistics for juveniles detained as ADJC holds and under adult supervision are not reported in this table given the small number of cases. Please see Appendix G for a presentation of these statistics.

**Table 2. Durango Facility Referrals – Mandatory Detentions**

	<u>Standard Probation</u>	<u>Investigative Status</u>	<u>JIPS</u>	<u>ADJC</u>	<u>Adult Supervision</u>	<u>Not Under Supervision</u>
Detained 24 hours or less	43%	42%	33%	59%	83%	58%
Detained Once	27%	66%	11%	22%	59%	86%
Released to a Home	72%	77%	58%	0%	0%	71%
Open VOP	18%	--	25%	--	--	0%
Type of Open Complaint						
No Open Complaint	.7%	.3%	.3%	1.3%	2.6%	1.3%
Person - Felony	24.3%	33%	22.6%	22.2%	59.5%	42.9%
Property - Felony	38.6%	47.2%	39.4%	43.4%	22.7%	37.6%
Obstruction of Justice	1.9%	.8%	2.6%	3.4%	.7%	.9%
Person - Misd.	12.4%	5.1%	11.5%	5.7%	2%	1.3%
Drugs	7.9%	8.3%	8.4%	10.9%	8.2%	12.4%
Public Peace	10.9%	4.4%	9.4%	10.1%	4.3%	3.1%
Property - Misd.	3.0%	.7%	5.7%	3.1%	0%	.3%
Status	.1%	.1%	0%	0%	0%	.2%
Average Prior Complaints	5.2	2.6	7	9.7	4.6	1.4
Average Detention Time (days)	20	20.3	29.2	9.3	1.8	11.9
Year:						
2000	21%	19%	22%	22%	21%	18%
2001	20%	18%	19%	17%	185	27%
2002	16.4%	16%	20%	17%	17%	15%
2003	15%	14%	16%	19%	16%	16%
2004	13.6%	14%	12%	16%	10%	16%
2005	15%	19.4%	12%	10%	17%	18%

*Note:* Please see Appendix G for a presentation of these statistics.

**Table 3. Durango Facility Warrants**

	<u>Standard Probation</u>	<u>Investigative Status</u>	<u>JIPS</u>
Detained 24 hours or less	29%	48%	11%
Detained Once	26%	57%	9%
Released to a Home	73%	79%	62%
Open VOP	85%	--	91%
Type of Open Complaint			
No Open Complaint	2.5%	0%	2.1%
Person - Felony	2.8%	7.7%	3.9%
Property - Felony	9.2%	28.9%	13.2%
Obstruction of Justice	63.7%	1.7%	61.7%
Person – Misd.	3%	9.5%	1.9%
Drugs	4.8%	12%	5.1%
Public Peace	8.1%	13.2%	7.7%
Property - Misd.	5.2%	16.2%	3.9%
Status	.6%	10.8%	.3%
Average Prior Complaints	5.5	3.1	7.6
Average Detention Time (days)	21.8	16.5	37.5
Year:			
2000	16%	18%	17%
2001	18%	17%	17%
2002	18%	17%	21%
2003	19%	15%	17%
2004	15%	16%	14%
2005	14%	16%	14%

*Note:* Statistics for juveniles detained as ADJC holds, under adult supervision, and not under court supervision are not reported in this table given the small number of cases. Please see Appendix G for a presentation of these statistics.

**Table 4. Durango Facility Court Holds**

	<u>Standard Probation</u>	<u>Investigative Status</u>	<u>JIPS</u>	<u>ADJC</u>
Detained 24 hours or less	6%	9%	2%	48%
Detained Once	28%	50%	12.3%	7.3%
Released to a Home	85%	77%	79%	0%
Open VOP	52%	--	55%	--
Type of Open Complaint				
No Open Complaint	14.9%	0%	15.2%	21.1%
Person - Felony	3.6%	17.1%	5%	14%
Property - Felony	11.2%	32.2%	13.7%	25.2%
Obstruction of Justice	41.2%	1.1%	42.5%	7.1%
Person - Misd.	4.5%	11.6%	3.9%	4.8%
Drugs	6%	12.4%	5.2%	6.6%
Public Peace	10.8%	10.3%	8.3%	16.5%
Property - Misd.	6.3%	10.4%	4.7%	3.4%
Status	1.5%	4.8%	1.3%	.5%
Average Prior Complaints	4.9	3.1	7.1	9.6
Average Detention Time (days)	18.8	25.6	27.2	2.6
Year:				
2000	16%	19%	21%	33%
2001	17%	18%	18%	23%
2002	16%	15%	18%	16%
2003	18%	16%	15%	15%
2004	18%	17%	15%	11%
2005	15%	16%	14%	3%

*Note:* Statistics for juveniles detained under adult supervision and not under court supervision are not reported in this table given the small number of cases. Please see Appendix G for a presentation of these statistics.

## SECTION EIGHT: SOUTHEAST DETENTION FACILITY

### **Summary Findings**

1. In referral cases that were discretionary detentions, the most frequent open complaint was a Person-Misdemeanor offense.
2. In referral cases that were discretionary detentions, over 70% of juveniles were released to a home.
3. In referral cases that were mandatory discretionary detentions, the most frequent open complaint was a Property-Felony offense.
4. Warrant and court hold cases were characterized by lengthy stays, open VOPs, and Obstruction of Justice offenses.

This section focuses exclusively on juveniles detained in the Southeast facility. Table 5 includes a condensed presentation of summary statistics (see page 32). These data focus on referrals that were discretionary detentions. The full presentation of these data can be found in Appendix H. Below are some highlighted findings.

#### Referrals - Discretionary Detentions: Standard Probation

- Mean Detention Time = 19.12 days

Over a third of juveniles (35%) were detained for 24 hours or less. Three-fourths of juveniles (75%) were released to a home. The most frequent open complaint for juveniles was for a Person-Misdemeanor offense (24.9%). Fourteen percent of juveniles had an open VOP and averaged 4.5 prior complaints.

#### Referrals - Discretionary Detentions: Investigative Status

- Mean Detention Time = 16.36 days

Over a third of juveniles (36%) were detained for 24 hours or less. Seventy-seven percent of juveniles were detained once during the study period and were released to a home. The most frequent open complaint for juveniles was for a Person-Misdemeanor offense (29.6%).

#### Referrals - Discretionary Detentions: Not Under Court Supervision

- Mean Detention Time = 9.23 days

Over sixty percent of juveniles (62%) not under court supervision were detained for 24 hours or less. Almost ninety percent of juveniles (88%) were detained once during the six year period. The overwhelming majority of juveniles (73%) were released to a home. The most frequent open complaint for juveniles was for a Person-Misdemeanor offense (35.7%).

Table 6 includes a condensed presentation of some summary statistics for referrals that were mandatory detentions (see page 33). The full presentation of these data can be found in Appendix H. Below are some highlighted findings.

Referrals - Mandatory Detentions: Standard Probation

- Mean Detention Time = 21.6 days

Less than a third of juveniles (28%) were detained for 24 hours or less and were detained once during the study period (31%). The majority of juveniles (76%) were released to a home. The most frequent open complaint for juveniles was for a Property-Felony offense (37.6%). Twenty-one percent of juveniles had an open VOP.

Referrals - Mandatory Detentions: Investigative Status

- Mean Detention Time = 22.14 days

Less than a third of juveniles (31%) were detained for 24 hours or less. Over two-thirds of juveniles were detained once (65%) and released to a home (79%). The most frequent open complaint for juveniles was for a Property-Felony offense (44.1%).

Referrals - Mandatory Detentions: JIPS

- Mean Detention Time = 33.5 days

Twenty-two percent of juveniles were detained for 24 hours or less and 8% were detained once during the six year period. Less than two-thirds of juveniles (63%) were released to a home. The most frequent open complaint for juveniles was for a Property-Felony offense (39.3%). Less than a third of cases had an open VOP.

Referrals - Mandatory Detentions: ADJC

- Mean Detention Time = 9.1 days

Slightly more than half of juveniles (51%) were detained for 24 hours or less and more than a quarter of juveniles (26%) were detained once. The most frequent open complaint for juveniles was for a Property-Felony offense (43.2%).

Referrals - Mandatory Detention: Adult Supervision

- Mean Detention Time = 1.8 days

Over eighty-five percent of juveniles were detained for 24 hours or less. Sixty-two percent of juveniles were detained once and 65% had an open complaint for a Person-Felony offense.

Referrals - Mandatory Detentions: Not Under Court Supervision

- Mean Detention Time = 14.1 days

Over half of juveniles (53%) were detained for 24 hours or less and 85% were detained once. The majority of juveniles (77%) were released to a home. The most frequent open complaint for juveniles was for a Person-Felony offense (43%).

Table 7 includes a condensed presentation of some summary statistics for warrant cases (see page 34). The full presentation of these data can be found in Appendix H. Below are some highlighted findings.

#### Warrants - Standard Probation

- Mean Detention Time = 23.4 days

Twenty-one percent of juveniles were detained for 24 hours or less and 25% were detained once. A majority of juveniles were released to a home (77%), had an open complaint for an Obstruction of Justice offense (63.2%), and had an open VOP (84%).

#### Warrants - Investigative Status

- Mean Detention Time = 17.35 days

Less than half of juveniles (41%) were detained for 24 hours or less and more than half (57%) were detained once. Over three-fourths of juveniles (81%) were released to a home. The most frequent open complaint for juveniles was for a Property-Felony offense (27.3%).

#### Warrants - JIPS

- Mean Detention Time = 34.8 days

Ten percent of juveniles were detained for 24 hours or less and 9% were detained once. Slightly less than two-thirds of juveniles were released to a home (65%) and had an open complaint for an Obstruction of Justice offense (62%). The overwhelming majority of juveniles had an open VOP (88%).

Table 8 includes a condensed presentation of some summary statistics for court holds (see page 35). The full presentation of these data can be found in Appendix H. Below are some highlighted findings.

#### Court Holds - Standard Probation

- Mean Detention Time = 16.7 days

Seven percent of juveniles were detained for 24 hours or less and 30% were detained once. Eighty-eight percent of juveniles were released to a home. The most frequent open complaint for juveniles was for an Obstruction of Justice offense (39.1%). Half of juveniles had an open VOP.

Court Holds - Investigative Status

- Mean Detention Time = 20.7 days

Ten percent of juveniles were detained for 24 hours or less. Over half of the juveniles were detained once during the study period. Over three-fourths of juveniles were released to a home (81%). The most frequent open complaint for juveniles was for a Property-Felony offense (28.8%).

Court Holds – JIPS

- Mean Detention Time = 25.5 days

Only three percent of juveniles were detained for 24 hours or less and 10% were detained once. Over three-fourths of juveniles were released to a home (76%). The most frequent open complaint for juveniles was for an Obstruction of Justice offense (39.7%). The majority of juveniles (54%) had an open VOP.

Court Holds - ADJC

- Mean Detention Time = 1.5 days

Over two-thirds of juveniles (68%) were detained for 24 hours or less. Only five percent of juveniles were detained once. The most frequent open complaint for juveniles was for a Property-Felony offense (28.4%).

**Table 5. Southeast Facility Referrals - Discretionary Detentions**

	<u>Standard Probation</u>	<u>Investigative Status</u>	<u>Not Under Supervision</u>
Detained 24 hours or less	35%	36%	62%
Detained Once	38%	77%	88%
Released to a Home	75%	77%	73%
Open VOP	14%	--	--
Type of Open Complaint			
No Open Complaint	.7%	0%	1.7%
Person - Felony	5.7%	12.1%	8.1%
Property - Felony	16.5%	24.2%	14.4%
Obstruction of Justice	3.6%	2.2%	1.8%
Person - Misd.	24.9%	29.6%	35.7%
Drugs	16%	10.3%	9.3%
Public Peace	20.8%	16.1%	21.2%
Property - Misd.	11.7%	5.1%	7.5%
Status	0%	.4%	.4%
Average Prior Complaints	4.5	2.1	1.2
Average Detention Time (days)	19.12	16.4	9.23
Year:			
2000	17%	18%	17%
2001	23%	22%	19%
2002	19%	19%	17%
2003	16%	15%	19%
2004	14%	15%	16%
2005	12%	12%	12%

*Note:* Statistics for juveniles detained as JIPS, ADJC holds, and under adult supervision are not reported in this table given the small number of cases. Please see Appendix H for a presentation of these statistics.

**Table 6. Southeast Facility Referrals – Mandatory Detentions**

	<u>Standard Probation</u>	<u>Investigative Status</u>	<u>JIPS</u>	<u>ADJC</u>	<u>Adult Supervision</u>	<u>Not Under Supervision</u>
Detained less than 24 hours	28%	31%	22%	51%	87%	53%
Detained Once	31%	65%	8%	26%	62%	85%
Released to a Home	76%	79%	63%	0%	0%	77%
Open VOP	21%	--	31%	--	--	--
Type of Open Complaint						
No Open Complaint	.2%	0%	0%	0%	0%	.6%
Person - Felony	23.4%	33.1%	15.2%	19.1%	65.1%	49.2%
Property - Felony	37.6%	44.1%	39.3%	43.2%	17%	36.6%
Obstruction of Justice	2.7%	.7%	3.3%	2.5%	0%	.7%
Person - Misd.	13.2%	7%	11.9%	7.4%	5.7%	1%
Drugs	8.4%	9.5%	11.6%	11.7%	7.5%	8.4%
Public Peace	11.8%	5.1%	14.4%	14.8%	3.8%	3%
Property - Misd.	11.8%	.4%	4.25	1.2%	.9%	.6%
Status	2.7%	0%	0%	0%	0%	.6%
Average Prior Complaints	5.7	2.9	8.2	10	4.7	1.8
Average Detention Time (days)	21.6	22.14	33.5	9.1	1.8	14.1
Year:						
2000	19%	17%	23%	27%	16%	18%
2001	21%	18%	22%	23%	19%	15%
2002	114%	16%	16%	24%	20%	14%
2003	17%	16%	16%	7%	19%	17%
2004	15%	16%	14%	10%	11%	19%
2005	13%	16%	9%	10%	15%	17%

*Note:* Please see Appendix H for a presentation of these statistics.

**Table 7. Southeast Facility Warrants**

	<u>Standard Probation</u>	<u>Investigative Status</u>	<u>JIPS</u>
Detained 24 hours or less	21%	41%	10%
Detained Once	25%	57%	9%
Released to a Home	77%	81%	65%
Open VOP	84%	--	88%
Type of Open Complaint			
No Open Complaint	2.7%	.2%	3%
Person - Felony	2.1%	8.1%	2.6%
Property - Felony	9.3%	27.3%	12.3%
Obstruction of Justice	63.2%	2.2%	61.7%
Person - Misd.	2.7%	9.8%	2%
Drugs	5.2%	14.6%	6%
Public Peace	10%	14.7%	10.1%
Property - Misd.	4.2%	14.7%	2.1%
Status	.7%	8.2%	.2%
Average Prior Complaints	6.1	3.5	9.7
Average Detention Time (days)	23.4	17.4	34.8
Year:			
2000	16%	16%	18%
2001	18%	15%	21%
2002	18%	17%	21%
2003	17%	16%	15%
2004	16%	17%	13%
2005	15%	19%	12%

*Note:* Statistics for juveniles detained as ADJC holds, under adult supervision, and not under court supervision are not reported in this table given the small number of cases. Please see Appendix H for a presentation of these statistics.

**Table 8. Southeast Facility Court Holds**

	<u>Standard Probation</u>	<u>Investigative Status</u>	<u>JIPS</u>	<u>ADJC</u>
Detained 24 hours or less	7%	10%	3%	68%
Detained Once	30%	57%	10%	5.4%
Released to a Home	88%	81%	76%	0%
Open VOP	50%	--	54%	--
Type of Open Complaint				
No Open Complaint	20.7%	.2%	16.6%	14.4%
Person - Felony	2.4%	12.2%	3.9%	19.4%
Property - Felony	9.2%	28.8%	14.3%	28.4%
Obstruction of Justice	39.1%	1%	39.7%	6.3%
Person - Misd.	2.8%	12.9%	2.8%	5.6%
Drugs	6.1%	17.2%	6%	7.7%
Public Peace	13%	13.1%	12%	12.4%
Property - Misd.	4.7%	9.4%	3.9%	4.3%
Status	2%	5.1%	.7%	1.4%
Average Prior Complaints	5.4	3.5	8	10.2
Average Detention Time (days)	16.7	20.7	26	1.5%
Year:				
2000	17%	19%	22%	22%
2001	14%	13%	13%	25%
2002	16%	12%	21%	19%
2003	18%	13%	16%	9%
2004	20%	20%	16%	11%
2005	16%	23%	12%	13%

*Note:* Statistics for juveniles detained under adult supervision and not under court supervision are not reported in this table given the small number of cases. Please see Appendix H for a presentation of these statistics.

## **SECTION NINE: PREDICTORS OF DETENTION LENGTH OF STAY\***

### **Summary Findings**

1. Race/ethnicity played a minimal role in detention length of stay.
2. Gender significantly influenced detention length of stay in court hold and warrant cases.
3. In referral cases, juveniles detained at the Southeast Facility served longer stays in detention than juveniles detained at the Durango facility.
4. In referral cases, mandatory detention cases served longer stays in detention than discretionary detentions.
5. In referral cases, Person-Felony offenders served longer stays than other offenders when on standard probation, investigative status, and not under court supervision.
6. In referral cases, the number of detention stays had a positive effect in cases where juveniles were on standard probation, investigative status, adult supervision, and when they were not under court supervision.
7. In warrant cases, detention facility plays a significant yet different role in probation supervision cases.
8. In warrant cases, Person-Felony offenders were detained for longer periods than all other types of offenders.
9. In court hold cases, juveniles detained at the Durango facility served longer stays in detention than juveniles detained at the Southeast facility. This effect applies to juveniles on standard probation, investigative status, and ADJC supervision.
10. In court hold cases, Person-Felony offenders were detained for longer periods than all other types of offenders when on standard probation, JIPS, and investigative status.
11. In referral, warrant, and court hold cases, juveniles on standard probation and JIPS served longer stays in detention when they had an open VOP.
12. In referral, warrant, and court hold cases, number of prior complaints and prior detention stays increased detention length of stay.

In order to identify the significant predictors of detention length of stay, negative binomial models were estimated for referral, warrant, and court hold cases. This section highlights the findings from these analyses.

### *Referrals*

For referral cases, separate models were estimated for juveniles that were on standard probation, investigative status, JIPS, ADJC supervision, adult supervision, and not under court supervision. Table 9 presents the summary effects for predictors of detention length of stay by status (see page 40). Findings indicate the following:

- Juveniles detained at the Southeast Facility served longer stays in detention than juveniles detained at the Durango facility. This applies to juveniles not under court supervision, on standard probation, and on investigative status.

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\* See Appendix I for full presentation of estimated models.

- Mandatory detention cases served longer stays in detention than discretionary detentions. This effect applies to cases not under court supervision, on standard probation, JIPS, and investigative status.
- In standard probation and investigative status cases, Black juveniles served shorter detention stays than White juveniles.
- In adult supervision cases, Hispanic juveniles served longer stays in detention than White juveniles.
- There were no gender differences in detention length of stay among referral cases.
- In cases where juveniles were on standard probation, JIPS, investigative status, and not under court supervision, younger juveniles served longer stays in detention than older juveniles. Also, older juveniles served longer stays in detention when under ADJC and adult supervision.
- Person-Felony offenders served longer stays than most other offenders when on standard probation, investigative status, and not under court supervision.
- Juveniles under adult supervision who had an open complaint for a Property-Felony and Drug offense served longer stays in detention than Person-Felony offenders.
- Juveniles on JIPS who had an open complaint for a Property-Felony offense served longer stays in detention than Person-Felony offenders.
- Juveniles on ADCJ supervision who had an open complaint for Drugs served longer stays in detention than Person-Felony.
- Juveniles on standard probation and JIPS served longer stay in detention when they had an open VOP.
- In cases where juveniles were on investigative status and not under court supervision, the number of prior complaints had a positive effect on detention length of stay.
- The number of detention stays had a positive effect in cases where juveniles were on standard probation, investigative status, adult supervision, and when they were not under court supervision.

### *Warrants*

Table 10 presents the summary effects for predictors of detention length of stay for warrant cases (see page 41). Findings indicate the following:

- Detention facility plays a significant yet different role in probation supervision cases. Juveniles detained at the Durango facility served longer stays in detention when on JIPS while juveniles detained at the Southeast facility served longer stays in detention when on standard probation.
- Hispanic juveniles were detained for shorter periods than White juveniles in standard probation cases.
- Boys and Native American juveniles served shorter stays in detention than girls and White juveniles in investigative status cases.
- Younger juveniles were detained for longer periods than older juveniles.
- Juveniles who had an open complaint for Person-Felony offenders were detained for longer periods than all other types of offenders.
- Juveniles on standard probation and JIPS served longer stay in detention when they had an open VOP.
- A higher number of prior complaints and detention stays increased the time juveniles spent in detention.

*Court Holds:*

Table 11 presents the summary effects for predictors of detention length of stay for court hold cases (see page 42). Findings indicate the following:

- Juveniles detained at the Durango facility served longer stays in detention than juveniles detained at the Southeast facility. This effect applies for juveniles on standard probation, investigative status, and ADJC supervision.
- Boys averaged longer stays in detention than girls when on standard probation, investigative status, and ADJC supervision.
- Hispanic juveniles served longer stays in detention than White juveniles when under ADJC supervision.
- Native American juveniles served shorter stays in detention than White juveniles when on investigative status.
- Younger juveniles served longer stays in detention than older juveniles.
- Juveniles who had an open complaint for Person-Felony offenders were detained for longer periods than all other types of offenders.

- Juveniles on standard probation and JIPS served longer stays in detention when they had an open VOP.
- Juveniles on standard probation were detained for longer periods when they had prior detention stays.
- A higher number of prior complaints and detention stays increased the time juveniles spent in detention.

**Table 9. Summary of Significant Effects in Referral Cases**

	<u>Not Under Supervision</u>	<u>Standard Probation</u>	<u>Investigative Status</u>	<u>JIPS</u>	<u>ADJC</u>	<u>Adult Supervision</u>
Detention Center (Durango)	-	-	-			
Detention Score (Mandatory)	+	+	+	+		
Gender (Boys)						
Hispanic						+
Black		-	-			
Native American						
Age	-	-	-	-	+	+
Type of Open Complaint:						
Property - Felony				+		+
Obstruction of Justice	-					
Person - Misd.	-		-			
Drugs	-	-	-		+	+
Public Peace	-	-	-			
Property - Misd.	-	-	-			
Status	-	-	-		a	a
Open VOP	a	+	a	+	a	a
Prior Complaints	+		+			
Detention Spell	+	+	+			+

*Note:* “a” represents not applicable, “+” symbol represents a positive effect, and “-” represents a negative effect.  
Reference Category: Whites, Person-Felony offenses

**Table 10. Summary of Significant Effects in Warrant Cases**

	<u>Standard Probation</u>	<u>Investigative Status</u>	<u>JIPS</u>
Detention Center (Durango)	-		+
Gender (Boys)		-	
Hispanic	-		
Black			
Native American		-	
Age	-	-	-
Type of Open Complaint			
Property - Felony			
Obstruction of Justice	-		-
Person - Misd.		-	
Drugs		-	
Public Peace	-	-	
Property - Misd.	-	-	
Status	-	-	
Open VOP	+	a	+
Prior Complaints	+	+	
Detention Spell	+	+	+

*Note:* “a” represents not applicable, “+” symbol represents a positive effect, and “-” represents a negative effect.  
Reference Category: Whites, Person-Felony offenses

**Table 11. Summary of Significant Effects in Court Hold Cases**

	<u>Standard Probation</u>	<u>Investigative Status</u>	<u>JIPS</u>	<u>ADJC</u>
Detention Center (Durango)	+	+		+
Gender (Boys)	+	+		+
Hispanic				+
Black				
Native American		-		
Age	-	-		-
Type of Open Complaint				
Property - Felony		-	-	
Obstruction of Justice	-		-	
Person - Misd.		-	-	
Drugs	-	-	-	
Public Peace	-	-	-	+
Property - Misd.	-	-	-	+
Status	-	-	-	
Open VOP	+	a	+	a
Prior Complaints	+	+	+	
Detention Spell	+			

*Note:* “a” represent not applicable, “+” symbol represents a positive effect, and “-” represents a negative effect.  
Reference Category: Whites, Person-Felony offenses

## **SECTION TEN: DRUG TESTS RESULTS\***

### **Summary Findings**

1. Over half of juveniles detained tested positive for marijuana pre, during, and post detention.
2. Cocaine use is higher among juveniles detained at the Southeast facility while amphetamine use is higher among juveniles detained at the Durango facility.

In order to examine the extent of substance abuse among detained juveniles, drug tests results were analyzed. It is important to note that these data are *not* a representative account of drug use among detained juveniles. Rather, these data capture drug use among juveniles who were suspected of drug use and were subsequently drug tested.

Drug tests results were analyzed pre detention, during the detention stay, and after release from detention.<sup>7</sup> The data represent the percentage of juveniles who tested positive at least once for marijuana, cocaine, amphetamines, or opiates. Data reveal that more than half of juveniles tested positive for marijuana pre, during, and post detention. Also, cocaine use was slightly higher at the Southeast facility than the Durango facility pre, during and post detention. Lastly, amphetamine use was slightly higher at the Durango facility than the Southeast facility pre, during, and post detention (see below).

#### Pre Detention Results:

- Marijuana = 72%
- Cocaine = 23.2%
- Amphetamines = 28.4%
- Opiates = 5%

#### During Detention Results:

- Marijuana = 55.7%
- Cocaine = 8.9%
- Amphetamines = 15.7%
- Opiates = .3%

#### Post Detention Results:

- Marijuana = 60%
- Cocaine = 18.4%
- Amphetamines = 27.6%
- Opiates = 5%

### *Juveniles Detained at the Durango Facility*

#### Pre Detention Results:

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\* See Appendix J for a review of all tables.

<sup>7</sup> Drug test results post detention were analyzed 30 days after release.

- Marijuana = 71.5%
- Cocaine = 22%
- Amphetamines = 28.6%
- Opiates = 5%

During Detention Results:

- Marijuana = 56%
- Cocaine = 8.3%
- Amphetamines = 16.9%
- Opiates = .3%

Post Detention Results:

- Marijuana = 60.1%
- Cocaine = 17.2%
- Amphetamines = 28.1%
- Opiates = 4.5%

Juveniles Detained at the Southeast Facility

Pre Detention Results:

- Marijuana = 71.9%
- Cocaine = 25.1%
- Amphetamines = 28.1%
- Opiates = 5%

During Detention Results:

- Marijuana = 55.4%
- Cocaine = 9.7%
- Amphetamines = 13.9%
- Opiates = .4%

Post Detention Results:

- Marijuana = 59.7%
- Cocaine = 20.2%
- Amphetamines = 26.9%
- Opiates = 5.8%

## **SECTION ELEVEN: RECIDIVISM RESULTS\***

### **Summary Findings**

1. 64% of juveniles had at least one complaint filed post release from detention and 61% of juveniles had at least one petition filed post release from detention.
2. Juveniles detained at the Southeast facility had a slightly higher proportion of complaints and petitions filed post release from detention.

Although the focus of this study centered on detention length of stay, data were used to identify levels of recidivism post release from detention. The following includes some findings from these analyses.

A review of the data show that 63.7% of juveniles had at least one complaint filed post release from detention and 61% of juveniles had at least one petition filed post detention.

Juveniles detained at the Southeast facility had a slightly higher proportion of complaints and petitions. While 62.7% of juveniles detained at the Durango facility had at least one complaint filed post release from detention, 65.4% of juveniles detained at the Southeast facility had at least one complaint filed. At the same time, 60.3% of juveniles detained at the Durango facility had at least one petition filed while 62% of juveniles at the Southeast facility had at least one petition filed.

At the Durango facility, 43% of juveniles who had at least one complaint filed post release had been detained once. This figure was lower for juveniles detained at the Southeast facility (38.9%). Twenty-two percent of juveniles who had at least one complaint filed post release had been detained twice. Thirteen percent of juveniles detained at the Durango facility who had at least one complaint filed post release had been detained three times. This figure was higher for juveniles detained at the Southeast facility (14%). Lastly, 8% of juveniles who had at least one complaint filed post release had been detained four times.

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\* See Appendix K for a review of all tables.

## DISCUSSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

This report presents a number of findings from an initial review of juvenile detention length of stay in Maricopa County. In order to describe the detention population and to identify the significant predictors of detention length of stay, JOLTS data from 2000 - 2005 were examined.

Findings reveal several important factors related to detention length of stay. This includes the following: 1) the number of juveniles detained for relatively short periods (i.e., 24 hours or less); 2) the number of juveniles released to a home post detention; 3) prevalence of VOPs and their impact on detention length of stay; 4) discretionary detentions and “0” detention scores; 5) different detention length outcomes across facilities; 6) drug use among detained juveniles; 7) levels of recidivism among detained juveniles, and 8) examination suggestion.

### Short Detention Periods

A total of 37% of juveniles were detained for 24 hours or less. This population is particularly important because the short period in detention affords juveniles a limited time to receive treatment/services and primarily provides some supervision until a parent/guardian can assume custody. Since the overwhelming majority of these juveniles were released to a home, the time they spent in detention may have been avoided.

It is recommended that the juvenile probation department identify the circumstances in referrals cases that lead to short detention stays, especially in discretionary detentions. A review of the most serious open complaint for juveniles who spent 24 hours or less and were discretionary detentions showed that 25% were domestic violence related. While discretionary detention may be justified in these cases, the probation department should identify the specific familial and case circumstances that lead to short detention stays. This information will allow the department to make reasonable policy decisions where needed (e.g., DV cases) but also for the majority of cases that are detained for 24 hours or less.

The focus on this population will require working with law enforcement agencies in order to identify the bridge between referrals and detention practices. To assume that these processes are independent only leaves the probation department with a sizable population of juveniles who may be ill-fit for detention. Although not the focus of this study, analyses of referrals to the detention facilities by law enforcement agencies revealed that the types of juveniles brought to detention by law enforcement agencies vary significantly. This stresses the importance of examining practices of various law enforcement agencies and to *not* assume that practices are similar across law enforcement agencies.

### Release to a Home Post Detention

The overwhelming majority of juveniles were released to a home post detention. This applied to juveniles who were detained due to a referral, warrant, or court hold (except juveniles who were under ADJC or adult supervision). This means that the majority of juveniles were released to a

home *after* having been provided with some short-term transitional care (24 hours or less) or more intensive, long-term care (14 days or more). It is important to note that the release of juveniles to a home does not imply they were released without supervision from the probation department. In fact, it is likely that the majority of juveniles were under some form of supervision upon release.

Based upon the number of juveniles that are released to the home, it is recommended that the juvenile probation department identify the type of population that is suitable for detention alternatives. This will require a comprehensive review of the reasons that prevented the release to a parent/guardian *prior* to detention as well as the identification of juveniles that may have been better suited for some alternative to detention. The department should also monitor the impact of release to the home across various lengths of times in detention. It is likely that release to the home after a certain time in detention is related to case outcome. In some instances the time in detention may serve to benefit the juveniles while in others, it may only create further disruption in the household. The benefits as well as the disruption caused by detention have been well established in prior research.

#### Prevalence of VOPs and Impact on Detention Length

Almost a third of cases (27%) that were detained involved an open VOP. More importantly, VOP cases lead to a significant increase in detention length net all controls. This applied in referral, warrant, and court hold cases.

It is recommended that the probation department closely examine the link between violations of probation, detention, and other case processes. This will require in-depth review of supervision practices and the extent to which detention is relied upon as a means to address juvenile non-compliance. Because the most frequent open complaint at the time of detention was an Obstruction of Justice offense, focus should be placed on identifying the exact relationship between non-compliance (VOP), filing of a referral (Obstruction of Justice), and other court processes. Attention should also be placed on the differences in case outcomes across juveniles who were detained and had VOPs and those juveniles who had VOPs and were not detained. Ultimately, the probation department must identify the threshold for detentions that are VOP related.

#### Discretionary Detentions and “0” Detention Score

Although mandatory detentions increased the rate of detention length of stay more so than discretionary detentions, discretionary detentions still continue to make-up a sizeable group of detention cases. It is important to note that a reduction in discretionary detention cases would severely reduce the detention population in both detention facilities.

It is recommended that the probation department monitor discretionary detentions decisions especially in cases where juveniles were detained for 24 hours or less. A review of discretionary detentions must be facility specific given the variation in discretionary detention cases across detention centers. For example, at the Southeast facility discretionary detentions averaged longer stays than cases at the Durango facility. Also, analyses of the impact that discretionary

detentions have on case outcomes would provide guidance on the aspects of discretionary detention that serve to negatively and positively affect juveniles. Further, the extent to which discretionary detention decisions influence other juvenile court processes remains unknown. Given the sheer volume of these cases, their influence in case processing is likely very significant.

A review of referral cases with a detention score of “0” should be very closely monitored by the probation department. More information on these cases is needed before making any specific recommendations. However, the detention of juveniles in these cases does not appear to be warranted.

### Differences Across Detention Facilities

The data show that the detention facilities deal with different types of juveniles/cases, leading to different outcomes across facilities. The basis of these differences centers on discretionary detention decisions. Over the six year period, discretionary detentions have decreased at the Durango facility while increasing at the Southeast facility.

It is recommended that the probation department monitor detention length of stay decisions across facilities with special attention to the differences that exists across facilities. Not only are there differences in discretionary detention decisions but also in length of stay. While time served was higher at the Southeast facility than at the Durango facility for referral cases, juveniles served longer stays in court hold cases at the Durango facility than at the Southeast facility. Further, investigative cases in warrant and court holds have increased since 2003 at the Southeast facility while investigative cases in referrals have increased at the Durango facility. These findings highlight the importance of examining practices in light of context (i.e., facility).

### Levels of Drug Use Among Detained Juveniles

Detention continues to play a significant role in efforts to combat substance abuse. Data reported here is restricted to cases where juveniles were suspected of drug use and were subsequently tested. These data reveal that more than half of juveniles detained at one of the facilities tested positive for marijuana during their detention stay. Also, 9% of juveniles tested positive for cocaine and 17% tested positive for amphetamines. Drug test results for juveniles 30 days post release show continued drug use.

It is recommended that the probation department identify the role it wishes detention centers play in substance abuse reduction. Currently, the detention facilities serve a sizable population of juveniles who have violated their terms of probation by using drugs (e.g., drug court participants). However, data show that drug use is a problem not only for juveniles on supervision but also for those on investigative status and not under supervision. The department should consider the implementation of a random monitoring system that would capture more systematic and representative data on drug use. Further, attention should be given to the extent that detention can assess and refer treatment options for juveniles in need of services. A special focus may wish to be given to the relationship that exists between drug use and VOPs. For example, at the Durango facility warrant cases exhibited the highest drug use. Could drug use be

a contributing factor in warrant issues? Also, efforts aimed at addressing drug use in one facility may not necessarily be effective at the other facility. Data show that cocaine use is more prevalent among juveniles detained at the Southeast facility while amphetamine use is more prevalent among juveniles detained at the Durango facility. Lastly, the department should consider capturing specific data on alcohol use and methamphetamine use. Given the pattern of illicit drug use, it is highly likely that alcohol use preceded illicit drug use. Data on alcohol use would not only enable more effective targeting of services but also reduce the prevalence of drug use among juveniles. With regard to methamphetamines, the department should make an effort to classify and record when amphetamine use is in fact methamphetamines. Pre and post detention results indicate that 28% of juveniles tested positive for amphetamines. Arrestee Drug Abuse Monitoring (ADAM) program data collected in 2002 at the detention facilities indicated that 16% of boys and 28% of girls tested positive for methamphetamines. Data reported here would appear to be consistent with these figures.

#### Level of Recidivism Among Detained Juveniles

Prior research has documented that between 50 - 70% of juveniles who are detained/confined return to the juvenile court system. Data from this study show consistent findings. Sixty-four percent of juveniles released from detention between 2000 - 2005 had a subsequent complaint filed.

Not only should the probation department monitor levels of recidivism among juveniles who have been detained but also compare levels of recidivism with those juveniles not detained. This type of information will place the detention practices in context with other juvenile court processes, prevention, and intervention efforts.

#### Examination Suggestion

It is highly recommended that any subsequent analyses of detention length of stay focus not only on the average length of stay but also the median length of stay. Unlike the mean, the median is not influenced by outliers. With an overall median length of stay of 3 days, focus should be placed on identifying the juveniles that significantly influence the mean rate of detention (e.g., juveniles detained 30 days or more).