

Table 5.61

Characteristics of juvenile offenders in cases disposed by juvenile courts

By type of offense, United States, 1994^a

	All offenses (N=1,555,200)	Type of offense			
		Person (N=336,100)	Property (N=803,400)	Drug (N=120,200)	Public-order (N=295,600)
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Sex					
Male	79.1	76.8	79.1	86.4	79.0
Female	20.9	23.2	20.9	13.6	21.0
Race					
White	64.3	56.6	68.2	60.6	63.8
Black	32.1	40.2	27.6	37.4	32.7
Other ^b	3.6	3.2	4.1	2.1	3.5
Age at referral to court					
13 years and younger	21.9	24.5	25.3	7.4	15.5
14 years	17.1	17.8	17.9	12.1	16.5
15 years	21.6	21.5	21.1	22.3	22.7
16 years	22.7	21.7	21.2	30.5	25.0
17 years and older	16.6	14.5	14.5	27.8	20.3

Note: These data were collected by the National Center for Juvenile Justice (NCJJ) for the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention. The data are gathered from courts with juvenile jurisdiction in participating States. Information reported is based on national estimates of delinquency cases disposed by juvenile courts in the United States during 1994 (N=1,555,200). These estimates were derived from a sample of 761,897 individual case records from 1,405 jurisdictions in 26 States with jurisdiction over 51% of the Nation's youth population at risk and a sample of compatible court-level aggregate statistics on an additional 191,789 delinquency cases from 411 jurisdictions in an additional 7 States. The final sample included data reported by 1,816 jurisdictions covering 67% of the Nation's youth population at risk. These data were derived from a nonprobability sample of courts; therefore statistical confidence in the estimates cannot be determined. A case disposed refers to a definite action having been taken as the result of a referral to juvenile court, i.e., a plan of treatment was selected or initiated. These data files were developed by NCJJ and originally analyzed for the Juvenile Court Statistics series. For methodology, definitions of terms, and offenses within categories, see Appendix 15.

^aSubcategories may not add to total because of rounding.

^bIncludes persons having origin in any of the original peoples of North America, the Far East, Southeast Asia, the Indian Subcontinent, or the Pacific Islands. Nearly all Hispanics were included in the "white" racial category.

Source: Jeffrey A. Butts et al., "Juvenile Court Statistics 1994," Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, 1996. (Machine-readable data file.) Table constructed by SOURCEBOOK staff.