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Statewide Juvenile Recidivism Report

Oregon 2002

Executive Summary

Oregon piloted the first report on juvenile recidivism in 1999. Data were gathered from 22 of Oregon's 36 counties using local data systems. Since that initial report, the Juvenile Justice Information System (JJIS) was implemented. JJIS is Oregon's statewide, integrated information system. With most counties converting their historical data to JJIS, the 2001 report was representative of data from 32 counties. With data conversion nearly complete, this 2002 report represents all 36 Oregon counties and covers the years 1996 through 2000.

Recidivism Measurement Then and Now

Recidivism measurement in the 1999 report was limited because the data came from independent systems and could not uniquely identify youth as they moved between counties. Therefore, recidivism could not be measured across jurisdictions. With JJIS as the primary data source for the 2001 and 2002 reports, recidivism measurements now recognize all new crimes even when they occur outside the county of the initial crime.

Prior to this year's report, recidivism (defined in Oregon as a new criminal referral) was measured at the "offense" level. Offenses represent the particular crimes of a single incident as documented in a law enforcement referral. Because a single crime incident often involves reporting multiple offenses, this method of counting can exaggerate the report reader's perception of the extent that youth are involved in subsequent criminal activity. The 2002 report measures recidivism at the "referral" level. Note that counting by referrals rather than offenses *does not* affect the basic recidivism statistic relating to the proportion of youth that re-offend.

Findings

The 2002 Juvenile Recidivism Report analyzes five years of youth referral data – 1996 through 2000. Each year of data chronicles the same themes:

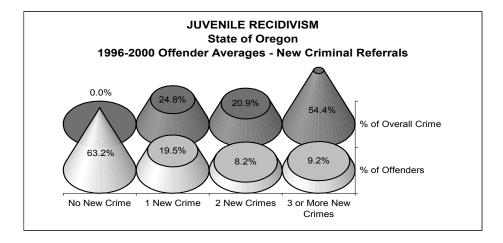
- A majority of offenders do not re-offend within twelve months.
- A small proportion of offenders commit the majority of new crimes.
- Offenders with multiple referrals are more likely to re-offend.

The study gathered data on more than 20,000 youth offenders in each of the survey years. Recidivism statistics were developed based on tracking an offender for twelve months after an initial referral. In each year of the five-year period, more than 60 percent of offenders did not reoffend. Beginning in 1997, when 61.7 percent of offenders did not re-offend, each of the next three years show improvement. By 2000, 65.2 percent of offenders did not recidivate.

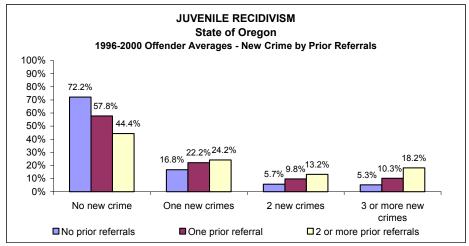
In contrast, "chronic re-offending" is closely associated with the recidivate population. Chronic juvenile offenders are defined as those offenders who have three or more law enforcement referrals to a juvenile department within twelve months. The data in each of the five years document the severity of the problem. While chronic offenders represent only 9.2 percent of offenders, this population is responsible for 54.4 percent of all new criminal incidents. The

variation year-to-year is minimal – 1999 is the lowest at 51.6 percent; 1996 is the highest at 57.0 percent.

The chart below illustrates the findings. It represents the five-year offender averages for new criminal referrals. Note that under "no new crime," 63.2 percent of offenders did not re-offend. However at the other extreme, the 9.2 percent of youth characterized as chronic offenders are involved in 54.4 percent of new crimes. For perspective, these chronically offending youth represent 0.4 percent of Oregon's youth in the 10-17 age group.



Reinforcing the chronic offender data are new statistics relating to the number of prior referrals. As was intuitively understood before, the data demonstrate a correlation between prior referrals and the probability that offenders will re-offend. The chart below shows that offenders with no new crimes tend to be youth that had no prior referrals. Conversely, offenders with multiple prior referrals are more likely to be involved in subsequent criminal activity.



The report contains additional statistical analyses with respect to age, gender and ethnicity. Readers are cautioned against making gross comparisons between local jurisdictions, however, since local charging practices and policies, law enforcement resources, and other factors can influence data. Further caution is advised with respect to comparing findings from the 2002 report with previous reports. The current report measures recidivism across jurisdictions based on law enforcement referrals.

Introduction

Purpose of this report

July 1, 1995, heralded the beginning of significant change for Oregon's juvenile justice system. With the passage of Senate Bill 1 (SB 1), Oregon reiterated its commitment to protecting the public by investing in an accountability-based juvenile system designed to reduce juvenile delinquency and prevent further criminal activity.

As a means to assess progress of juvenile crime reduction and prevention efforts, SB 1 required that the juvenile justice community adopt a recidivism definition and statewide reporting system applicable to juvenile delinquency issues. This report is published in response to that mandate.

Statutory basis

Senate Bill 1 (1995) was Oregon's catalyst for creating a statewide, standardized definition of juvenile recidivism. Section 128 of SB 1 (codified in ORS 420A.012) established the mandate that the Oregon Youth Authority (OYA), in consultation with the State Commission on Children and Families (CCF) and the Oregon Juvenile Department Directors' Association (OJDDA), adopt a recidivism definition, develop a statewide reporting system, and publish annual recidivism reports.

Challenges of this report

Oregon is one of the first states in the nation to develop a common definition for measuring repeat juvenile crime. This has been no small task, however. Historically, agreeing on a recidivism definition has been elusive for both researchers and practitioners in the criminal justice community. There has been little agreement on the definition, and there has been less agreement on ways to accurately measure it. Researchers and practitioners alike typically create definitions based on what they want to learn about juvenile crime (e.g., measurements of violations, etc.). While these are all valid methods, the lack of consensus on a single definition and, therefore, a lack of consistency in approach, has rendered it impossible to make comparisons across studies and jurisdictions.

Defining recidivism

In the first year following passage of SB1, the OYA convened a Recidivism Task Force comprised of representatives from the State CCF, OJDDA and OYA to develop Oregon's juvenile recidivism definition. Using SB 1 as the guiding protocol, the task force adopted a definition which considers measurements of both public safety (criminal arrests) and risk behaviors displayed by youth (status offenses). Oregon's definition of juvenile recidivism is as follows:

Definition

As a measure of public safety, recidivism is defined as a new criminal referral. A referral is a law enforcement report to a juvenile department alleging one or more felony and / or misdemeanor acts (offenses). Measurement of recidivism includes the rate and severity of new crimes and other relevant factors.

This recidivism report is based on the measurement of *criminal* activity as a gauge of community safety. The recidivism definition refers to new criminal *referrals* as the measurement criteria. Note that in the 1999 pilot report and the 2001 report, referrals were counted by their components – offenses. Offenses are the specific charges of a law enforcement referral (by definition, a referral contains at least one offense).

Analyzing the data

The 2002 Juvenile Recidivism Report is based on the population of youth with criminal referrals in the years 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, and 2000. All delinquent youth with a documented criminal referral during this period are included in the study. "Recidivism" is based on the occurrence of new referrals within twelve months of an initial referral.

Example: if a youth had criminal referrals on March 1, 1996, March 31, 1997, and June 1, 1997, s/he became part of this report. In this instance s/he is among the cohort of offenders represented in the 1996 and 1997 data. For the purposes of measuring recidivism in the 1996 cohort, the March 1, 1996 referral is identified as the initial (and only) 1996 referral. As no subsequent referrals are noted in the following twelve months, this youth is counted with the 1996 offender population that *did not* recidivate. In analyzing for the 1997 offender cohort, this youth shows two relevant referrals. The March 31, 1997, referral occurs first and is identified as the initial referral. Tracking for twelve months from the date of the initial referral reveals one additional referral on June 1, 1997. Therefore, this same youth is also counted with the 1997 offender population that recidivated (one new referral).

Basic research addressed

This juvenile recidivism report answers the following basic research question: of all juvenile offenders with a criminal referral during the years 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999 and 2000, how many had subsequent criminal referrals within twelve months, and how many referrals did they have?

Publication of this report in 2002 means that recidivism measurements for offenders after the year 2000 are not possible. Data for measuring 2001 offender recidivism must be complete through the end of 2002.

"Criminal referrals" defined

Prior to this year's report, recidivism was measured at the criminal "offense" level. Offenses represent the particular crimes of a single incident as documented in a law enforcement referral. Because a single crime incident often involves reporting multiple offenses, this method of counting can exaggerate the report reader's perception of the extent that youth are involved in subsequent criminal activity.

At the request of the OJDDA and OYA, the 2002 report calculates recidivism at the referral level. Every referral containing at least one criminal offense (criminal offenses do not include runaways, status offenses, or violations) is considered "criminal" and therefore is included in the recidivism database.

Note that counting by referrals rather than offenses *does not* affect the basic recidivism statistic relating to the proportion of youth that re-offend.

Recidivism measured

Oregon's juvenile recidivism is measured by the frequency of criminal behavior (new or subsequent referrals) and includes a referral rate.

Referral Rate

The referral rate represents the average number of new referrals per offender after an initial referral. Two rates are identified in the report. There is an overall rate for the entire group and a rate for a "chronic" group. The chronic group includes youth with three or more referrals subsequent to an initial referral.

Frequency

Because the simple referral rate is based on an average of re-referrals, it can be greatly influenced by extreme cases (e.g., youth with a high number of new referrals).

Frequency distributions are provided in this report to illustrate the number of subsequent referrals by offenders (e.g., youth who had no new referrals, one new referral, two new referrals...five new referrals, etc.). The distribution should be used in conjunction with the referral rate to obtain a more accurate description of juvenile recidivism.

"Chronic offender" defined

Chronic juvenile offenders are those offenders who have three or more subsequent referrals within twelve months of an initial referral. The data indicate that a small group of youth were involved in most of the new referrals.

As previously noted, the 2002 report measures recidivism at the referral level rather than by offense (see "criminal referrals defined"). The principal effect of this change from previous reports is that many of the youth who would have been reported as chronic offenders are now reflected in the counts for youth who have one or two referrals.

Data source information

The Juvenile Justice Information System (JJIS) is the primary data source for the report. JJIS was implemented in July 1999. Represented within its database are current and historical county offender referral records. At present, 35 of Oregon's 36 counties use JJIS. Data from the county not served by JJIS – Multnomah – were converted for inclusion in the recidivism database.

Target population

The 1999 pilot report measured recidivism in 22 counties. The 2001 report represented the universe of criminal offenders in 32 of Oregon's 36 counties. The 2002 Juvenile Recidivism Report represents all 36 counties.

Because each youth is uniquely identified within JJIS, recidivism measurement includes all referrals, even when they occur outside the county of the initial referral.

Data limitations

While this report includes an analysis of recidivism based on the statewide juvenile recidivism definitions, it does not include an analysis of environmental and historical factors which may influence those data.

Local charging practices and policies, law enforcement resources, and other factors can all influence the number of juveniles referred to juvenile departments for acts of delinquency. Because of these differences, readers are cautioned against making absolute inferences from the data.

Statewide results

Oregon's 2002 Statewide Report on Juvenile Recidivism documents recidivism of all offenders for the years 1996 through 2000. Data for each of the years are remarkably similar. On average, 22,417 offenders (less than 5 percent of youth in the 10-17 age group) committed a crime per year. A sizable majority of offenders from that population – 63.2 percent – *did not* commit a subsequent offense within twelve months.

Data in this report confirm what is intuitively understood about juvenile crime. A small proportion of offenders commit a majority of crimes. For the five-year period, 54.4 percent of new crime is attributed to 9.2 percent of offenders. The data also show a correlation between prior law enforcement referrals and ongoing criminality. Offenders with multiple prior referrals are more likely to be involved in subsequent criminal activity.

The analysis further indicates that the ratio of offenders who do not commit new crimes varies among subgroups. The reader is encouraged to review these differences as documented in the report detail by gender, age and ethnicity.

Statewide juvenile recidivism

Table 1 is the overview data on juvenile recidivism for the years 1996 through 2000. Recidivism is based on a new criminal referral within 12 months of the initial referral. The data exclude violations and status offenses.

Table 1: 1996 – 2000 Offenders New Criminal Referrals

Number of		Numb	er of Offe	enders		Percent of Offenders						
New Referrals	1996	1997	1998	1999	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000			
0	15,176	14,474	14,075	13,310	13,775	62.7	61.7	63.1	63.4	65.2		
1	4,631	4,532	4,384	4,148	4,102	19.1	19.3	19.6	19.7	19.4		
2	1,956	2,077	1,833	1,763	1,551	8.1	8.9	8.2	8.4	7.3		
3	1,050	1,019	880	787	725	4.3	4.3	3.9	3.7	3.4		
4	544	535	491	404	431	2.2	2.3	2.2	1.9	2.0		
5	306	320	248	242	222	1.3	1.4	1.1	1.2	1.1		
6 & Over	529	487	400	353	323	2.2	2.1	1.8	1.7	1.5		
TOTALS	24,192	23,444	22,311	21,007	21,129	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%		

Number of	Total Ne	ew Referr	als (offe	nders x r	Percent of Overall Crime						
New Referrals	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	
0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
1	4,631	4,532	4,384	4,148	4,102	23.3	22.8	25.1	26.2	27.3	
2	3,912	4,154	3,666	3,526	3,102	19.7	20.9	21.0	22.2	20.6	
3	3,150	3,057	2,640	2,361	2,175	15.9	15.4	15.1	14.9	14.5	
4	2,176	2,140	1,964	1,616	1,724	11.0	10.8	11.3	10.2	11.5	
5	1,530	1,600	1,240	1,210	1,110	7.7	8.1	7.1	7.6	7.4	
6 & Over	4472	4375	3549	3001	2831	22.5	22.0	20.4	18.9	18.8	
TOTALS	19,871	19,858	17,443	15,862	15,044	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	

- Number of new referrals: The number of new referrals youth were involved in over 12 months.
- <u>Number of offenders</u>: The number of offenders corresponds to the number of new referrals [e.g., in 2000, 431 offenders had 4 new referrals].
- <u>Percent of offenders</u>: This column shows the percentage of offenders based on the total number of all offenders.
- Total new referrals: The total number of subsequent referrals per row.
- <u>Percent of overall crime</u>: The percentage of overall crime per row. For example, in 2000, 431 offenders committed 11.5% of the total new referrals.

Statewide indications

During each of the five years surveyed, a majority of offenders did not re-offend.

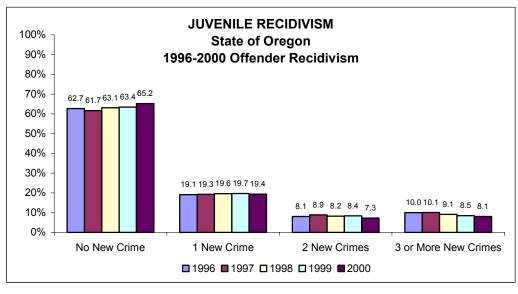


Chart 1: 1996 - 2000 Offender Recidivism

A minority of offenders committed a large proportion of new crimes.

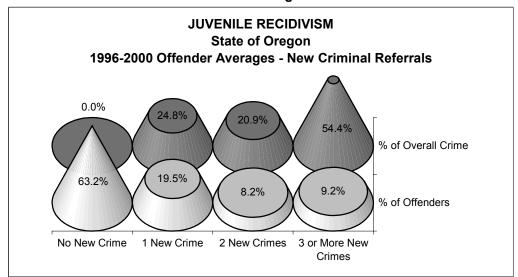


Chart 2: 1996 – 2000 Offender Averages – New Criminal Referrals

Summary of findings, averages for 1996 – 2000:

- 63.2% of offenders did not commit a new crime.
- 9.2% of offenders committed 54.4% of new crime.
- Referral Rate = 0.79 for all offenders.
- Referral Rate = 4.65 for offenders with three or more new crimes.

Statewide indications by year

The following charts illustrate by year what is intuitively understood about juvenile crime: a small proportion of all juvenile offenders commit a majority of new crimes. For the five year period shown here, an average of 9.2% of offenders committed 54.4% of new crime.

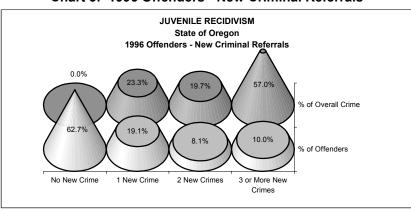


Chart 3: 1996 Offenders - New Criminal Referrals

Summary of 1996 findings:

- 62.7% of offenders did not commit a new crime.
- 10.0% of offenders committed 57.0% of new crime.
- Referral Rate = 0.82 for all offenders.
- Referral Rate = 4.66 for offenders with three or more new crimes.

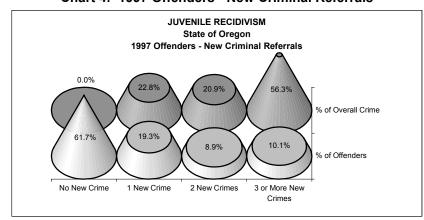


Chart 4: 1997 Offenders - New Criminal Referrals

Summary of 1997 findings:

- 61.7% of offenders did not commit a new crime.
- 10.1% of offenders committed 56.3% of new crime.
- Referral Rate = 0.85 for all offenders.
- Referral Rate = 4.73 for offenders with three or more new crimes.

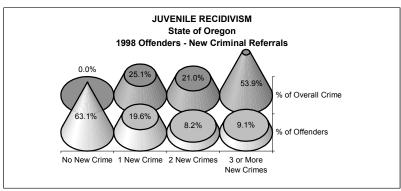
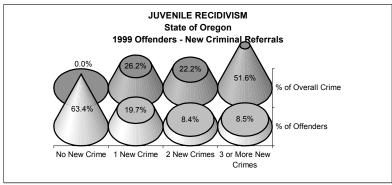


Chart 5: 1998 Offenders - New Criminal Referrals

Summary of 1998 findings:

- 63.1% of offenders did not commit a new crime.
- 9.1% of offenders committed 53.9% of new crime.
- Referral Rate = 0.78 for all offenders.
- Referral Rate = 4.65 for offenders with three or more new crimes.

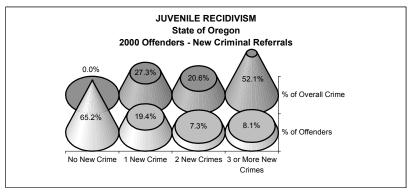
Chart 6: 1999 Offenders - New Criminal Referrals



Summary of 1999 findings:

- 63.4% of offenders did not commit a new crime.
- 8.5% of offenders committed 51.6% of new crime.
- Referral Rate = 0.76 for all offenders.
- Referral Rate = 4.58 for offenders with three or more new crimes.

Chart 7: 2000 Offenders - New Criminal Referrals



Summary of 2000 findings:

- 65.2% of offenders did not commit a new crime.
- 8.1% of offenders committed 52.1% of new crime.
- Referral Rate = 0.71 for all offenders.
- Referral Rate = 4.61 for offenders with three or more new crimes.

Prior referrals

The recidivism measures in this report consider referrals received within twelve months after an initial referral during the calendar year in question. Crimes committed prior to that year are not assessed. To address the full history of juveniles in this report, Tables 2 and 3 categorize juvenile recidivism according to the number of prior referrals.

Table 2: 1996-2000 Offenders - Prior Criminal Referrals

Number of		Numl	ber of Offe	nders		Percent of Offenders						
Prior Referrals	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000		
0	15,406	14,103	12,735	12,010	12,581	63.7	60.2	57.1	57.2	59.5		
1	3,823	3,907	3,817	3,562	3,343	15.8	16.7	17.1	17.0	15.8		
2 & over	4,963	5,434	5,759	5,435	5,205	20.5	23.2	25.8	25.9	24.6		
TOTALS	24,192	23,444	22,311	21,007	21,129	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%		

Table 3: 1996-2000 Offenders - New Criminal Referrals as a Function of Prior Criminal Referrals

	Number of Offenders														
Number or		1996			1997			1998			1999			2000	
New Referrals	0 priors	1 prior	>1 prior	0 priors	1 prior	>1 prior	0 priors	1 prior	>1 prior	0 priors	1 prior	>1 prior	0 priors	1 prior	>1 prior
0	10,978	2,120	2,078	10,064	2,213	2,197	9,212	2,255	2,608	8,746	2,073	2,491	9,259	2,001	2,515
1	2,638	865	1,128	2,380	836	1,316	2,132	838	1,414	2,003	795	1,350	2,060	757	1,285
2	905	381	670	857	412	808	726	361	746	690	363	710	664	284	603
3 & over	885	457	1,087	802	446	1,113	665	363	991	571	331	884	598	301	802
TOTALS	15,406	3,823	4,963	14,103	3,907	5,434	12,735	3,817	5,759	12,010	3,562	5,435	12,581	3,343	5,205

		Percent of Offenders													
Number or		1996			1997		1998				1999			2000	
New Referrals	0 priors	1 prior	>1 prior	0 priors	1 prior	>1 prior	0 priors	1 prior	>1 prior	0 priors	1 prior	>1 prior	0 priors	1 prior	>1 prior
0	71.3	55.5	41.9	71.4	56.6	40.4	72.3	59.1	45.3	72.8	58.2	45.8	73.6	59.9	48.3
1	17.1	22.6	22.7	16.9	21.4	24.2	16.7	22.0	24.6	16.7	22.3	24.8	16.4	22.6	24.7
2	5.9	10.0	13.5	6.1	10.5	14.9	5.7	9.5	13.0	5.7	10.2	13.1	5.3	8.5	11.6
3 & over	5.7	12.0	21.9	5.7	11.4	20.5	5.2	9.5	17.2	4.8	9.3	16.3	4.8	9.0	15.4
TOTALS	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

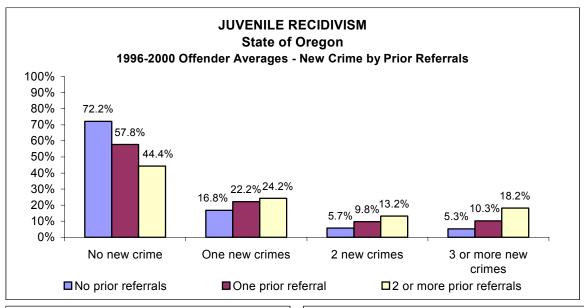
	l	Total New Referrals													
Number or		1996		1	1997		I	1998	citais	1	1999		I	2000	
New Referrals	0 priors	1 prior	>1 prior	0 priors	1 prior	>1 prior	0 priors	1 prior	>1 prior	0 priors	1 prior	>1 prior	0 priors	1 prior	>1 prior
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1	2,638	865	1,128	2,380	836	1,316	2,132	838	1,414	2,003	795	1,350	2,060	757	1,285
2	1,810	762	1,340	1,714	824	1,616	1,452	722	1,492	1,380	726	1,420	1,328	568	1,206
3 & over	3,949	2,062	5,317	3,814	1,982	5,376	3,070	1,619	4,704	2,504	1,523	4,161	2,731	1,310	3,799
TOTALS	8.397	3.689	7.785	7.908	3.642	8.308	6.654	3.179	7.610	5.887	3.044	6.931	6.119	2.635	6.290

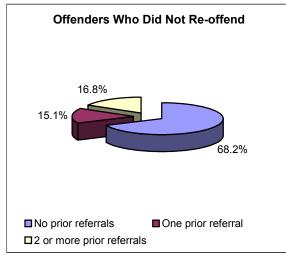
		Percent of Overall Crime													
Number or		1996 1997					1998				1999		2000		
New Referrals	0 priors	1 prior	>1 prior	0 priors	1 prior	>1 prior	0 priors	1 prior	>1 prior	0 priors	1 prior	>1 prior	0 priors	1 prior	>1 prior
0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
1	31.4	23.4	14.5	30.1	23.0	15.8	32.0	26.4	18.6	34.0	26.1	19.5	33.7	28.7	20.4
2	21.6	20.7	17.2	21.7	22.6	19.5	21.8	22.7	19.6	23.4	23.9	20.5	21.7	21.6	19.2
3 & over	47.0	55.9	68.3	48.2	54.4	64.7	46.1	50.9	61.8	42.5	50.0	60.0	44.6	49.7	60.4
TOTALS	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

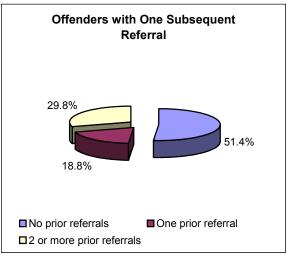
- Number of new referrals: The number of new referrals youth received over 12 months.
- Number of prior referrals: The number of referrals youth received prior to the year's initial referral.
- Number of offenders: The number of offenders corresponds to the number of referrals [e.g., in 1998 12,735 offenders had no (0) prior referrals].
- Percent of offenders: The percentage of offenders based on the total number of all offenders.
- Total new referrals: The total number of subsequent referrals per row.
- <u>Percent of overall crime:</u> The percentage of overall crime per row [e.g., in 1998 9,212 offenders committed 0% of the new crime perpetrated by offenders with no prior referrals].

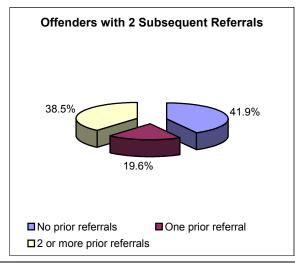
Prior referrals (continued)

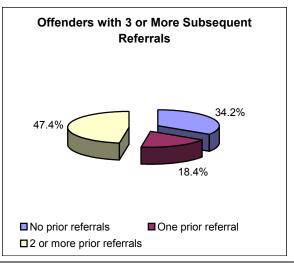
Charts 8-12: 1996-2000 New Criminal Referrals - Prior History











Offender's age

Chart 13 shows the proportion of offenders by age, who did not re-offend twelve months subsequent to their initial referral.

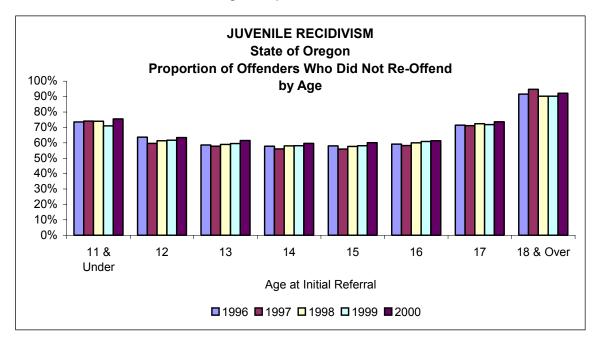


Chart 13: 1996-2000 age comparison of offenders who did not re-offend

The chart indicates a stable recidivism by age trend across the five years. Offenders age 13,14,15, and 16 were the most likely to re-offend. Conversely, very young offenders (age 11 and under) and older youth (ages 17 and older) were the least likely to recidivate. Recidivism data on older youth in the juvenile system may be distorted, however, since further criminal activity may result in a charge as an adult. In an effort to eliminate any distortion based on age, the data have been further refined by controlling for age (see Charts 14 and 15).

Control for offenders age 16 and under

Recidivism measurements in this report represent all juvenile offenders. However, it is recognized that subsequent re-offending committed by older youth may result in adult court charges. These charges are not captured by the juvenile recidivism database. In an attempt to address the issue of older youth distorting the overall recidivism statistics, data are presented below that exclude this population. Charts 14 and 15 document that controlling for age causes a slight increase in the recidivism rate. However, this does not alter the trend of a smaller group of offenders committing the majority of new crime.

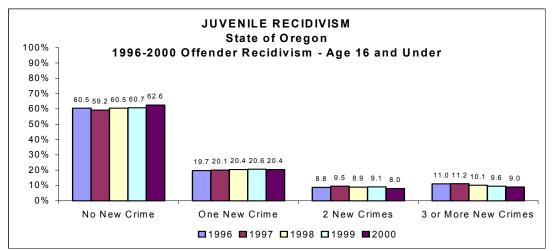
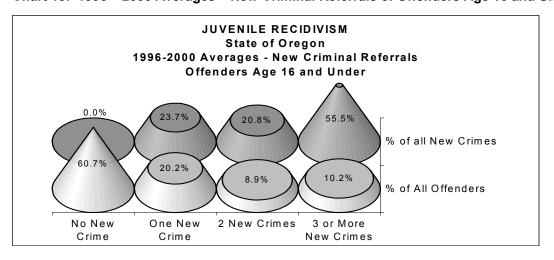


Chart 14: 1996 - 2000 Recidivism of Offenders Age 16 and Under





Summary of findings, 1996-2000 averages for offenders age 16 and under:

- 60.7% of offenders did not commit a new crime.
- 10.2% of offenders committed 55.5% of new crimes.
- Referral Rate = 0.85 for all offenders.
- Referral Rate = 4.63 for offenders with three or more new crimes.

Issues by gender

Females represent approximately 27.4% of the offender population. Their referral rate is much lower than the rate for males. For the five-year period, 70.9% of females had no referrals in the 12 months subsequent to an initial referral. Males compare at 60.2%. With a high proportion of females not re-offending, only 5.2% were chronic offenders. For males, 10.7% were chronic offenders.

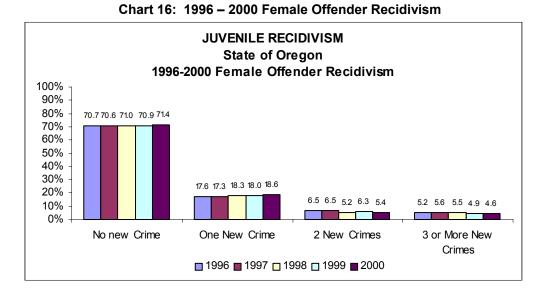
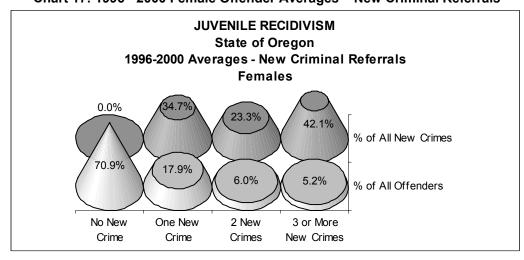


Chart 17: 1996 - 2000 Female Offender Averages - New Criminal Referrals



Summary of findings, 1996 - 2000 averages for female offenders:

- 70.9% of offenders did not commit a new crime.
- 5.2% of offenders committed 42.1% of new crimes.
- Referral Rate = 0.52 for all offenders.
- Referral Rate = 4.21 for offenders with three or more new crimes.

Issues by gender (continued)

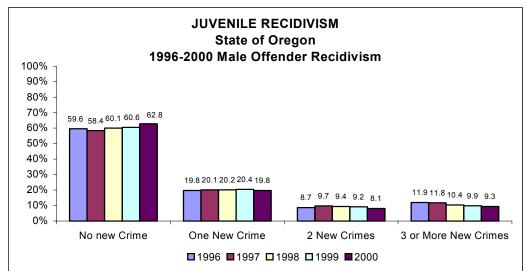
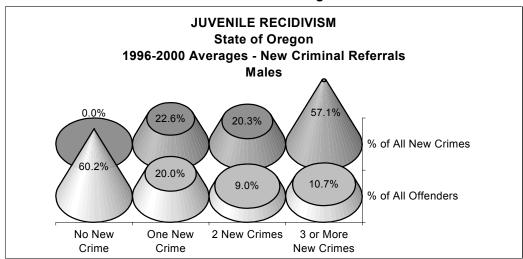


Chart 18: 1996 - 2000 Male Offender Recidivism





Summary of findings, 1996 - 2000 averages for male offenders:

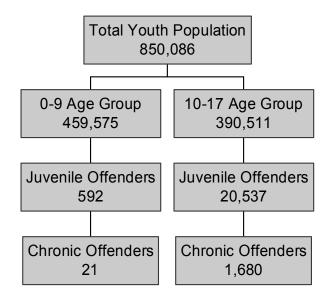
- 60.2% of offenders did not commit a new crime.
- 10.7% of offenders committed 57.1% of new crimes.
- Referral Rate = 0.89 for all offenders.
- Referral Rate = 4.74 for offenders with three or more new crimes.

Oregon's at-risk youth

Chart 20 is a comparison of 2000 offenders and Oregon's youth population (2000 data are used, but should be considered representative of the 1996 through 2000 period). It includes the proportion of chronic offenders as compared to the number of youth in Oregon and the number of juvenile offenders.

Chart 20: Comparison of 2000 offender categories to total youth population

JUVENILE RECIDIVISM State of Oregon Comparison of 2000 Offender Categories to Total Youth Population



- Only 2.5% of the total 2000 youth population in Oregon (850,086) had a criminal referral in that year. Juvenile offenders make up 5.3% of the 10-17 age group and 0.1% of the 0-9 age group.
- Chronic offenders the small group of juveniles who receive the majority of new referrals constitute 0.2% of the 2000 youth population and 0.4% of the 10-17 age group.

Race / Ethnicity

Table 4 gives and overview of the race / ethnicity of offenders for the years 1996 through 2000.

Number of Offenders Percent of Offenders 1998 1998 1996 1997 1999 2000 1996 1997 1999 2000 Race 1,190 African Am. 1,273 1,206 1,110 1,187 5.1 5.3 5.3 5.6 5.3 341 Asian 482 420 380 339 2.0 1.8 1.6 1.7 1.6 Caucasian 19,319 18,771 17,830 16,626 16,055 79.9 80.1 79.9 79.1 76.0 Hispanic 2,302 2,221 2,165 2,068 2,249 9.5 9.5 9.7 9.8 10.6 Native Am. 469 481 475 2.0 2.3 451 476 1.9 2.2 2.3 Unknown 365 357 265 387 823 1.5 1.5 1.2 1.8 3.9 TOTALS 100% 24,192 | 23,444 | 22,311 | 21,007 | 21,129 | 100% | 100% 100% 100%

Table 4: 1996-2000 Offenders - Race / Ethnicity

During each of the five years surveyed, a majority of offenders of all races / ethnicities did not re-offend.

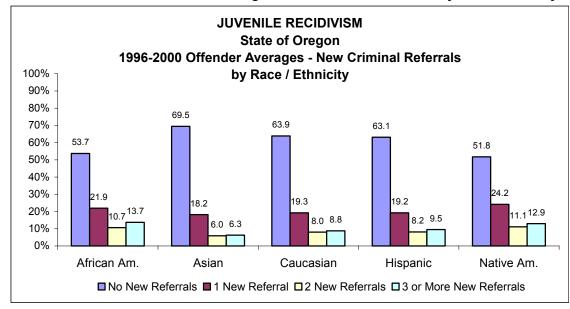


Chart 21: 1996-2000 Offender Averages - New Criminal Referrals by Race / Ethnicity

Summary of findings, averages for 1996-2000:

- African American 53.7% did not commit a new crime.
- Asian 69.5% did not commit a new crime.
- Caucasian 63.9% did not commit a new crime.
- Hispanic 63.1% did not commit a new crime.
- Native American 51.8% did not commit a new crime.

Race / Ethnicity - African American Offenders

Table 5: 1996-2000 Offenders -- African American Offenders
New Criminal Referrals

Number of		Numb	er of Offe	enders		Percent of Offenders						
New Referrals	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000		
0	677	651	631	580	663	53.2	54.0	53.0	52.3	55.9		
1	282	247	279	251	250	22.2	20.5	23.4	22.6	21.1		
2	141	143	129	121	102	11.1	11.9	10.8	10.9	8.6		
3	80	72	59	65	55	6.3	6.0	5.0	5.9	4.6		
4	46	40	40	34	49	3.6	3.3	3.4	3.1	4.1		
5	22	23	22	18	26	1.7	1.9	1.8	1.6	2.2		
6 & Over	25	30	30	41	42	2.0	2.5	2.5	3.7	3.5		
TOTALS	1,273	1,206	1,190	1,110	1,187	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%		
	ı				Ī	1	_					
Number of		Total	New Ref	errals			Percent	of Overa	II Crime	-		
New Referrals	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000		
0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
1	282	247	279	251	250	22.2	20.0	23.1	20.5	19.3		
2	282	286	258	242	204	22.2	23.2	21.3	19.8	15.8		

Summary of findings:

3

4

5

6 & Over

TOTALS

240

184

110

171

1,269

• In each of the five years, a majority of offenders did not re-offend.

216

160

115

208

1,232

177

160

110

226

1,210

• Each year, between 20.5% and 23.4% of offenders committed one new crime (19.3% to 23.1% of referrals).

195

136

90

311

1,225

165

196

130

349

18.9

14.5

8.7

13.5

1,294 100% 100%

17.5

13.0

9.3

16.9

14.6

13.2

9.1

18.7

100%

15.9

11.1

7.3

25.4

12.8

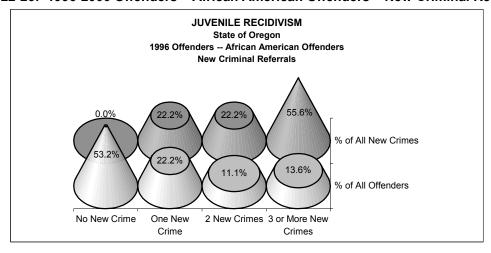
15.1

10.0

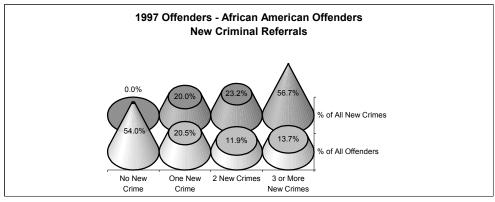
27.0

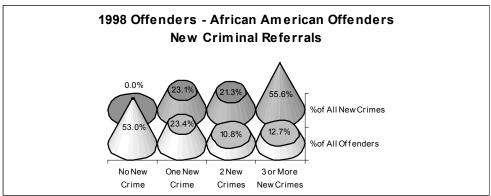
- 8.6% 11.9% committed 15.8% 23.2% of new crimes (youth with two new referrals).
- 12.7% 14.5% committed 55.6% 64.9% of new crimes (three or more new referrals).
- Referral Rate = 1.04 for all offenders (averaged across all years).
- Referral Rate = 4.46 for offenders with three or more new crimes (averaged across all years).

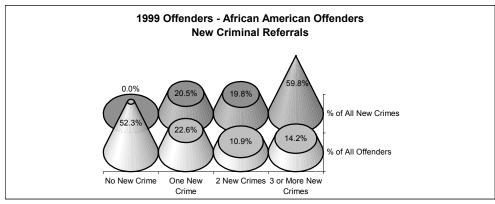
Chart 22-26: 1996-2000 Offenders - African American Offenders - New Criminal Referrals

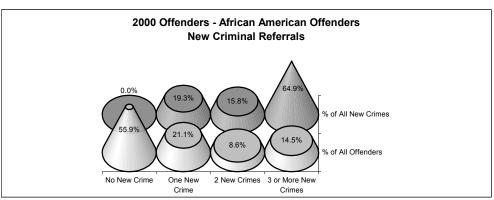


Race / Ethnicity - African American Offenders









Race / Ethnicity - Asian Offenders

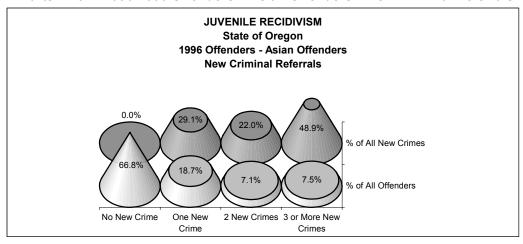
Table 6: 1996-2000 Offenders -- Asian Offenders New Criminal Referrals

Number of	Number of Offenders					Percent of Offenders				
New Referrals	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
0	322	286	264	243	248	66.8	68.1	69.5	71.3	73.2
1	90	85	69	59	55	18.7	20.2	18.2	17.3	16.2
2	34	23	22	26	12	7.1	5.5	5.8	7.6	3.5
3	21	14	16	9	10	4.4	3.3	4.2	2.6	2.9
4	6	4	1	2	7	1.2	1.0	0.3	0.6	2.1
5	2	3	3	1	5	0.4	0.7	0.8	0.3	1.5
6 & Over	7	5	5	1	2	1.5	1.2	1.3	0.3	0.6
TOTALS	482	420	380	341	339	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
-										
Number of		Total	New Ref	errals		Percent of Overall Crime				
New Referrals	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
1	90	85	69	59	55	29.1	36.0	31.1	37.6	31.1
2	68	46	44	52	24	22.0	19.5	19.8	33.1	13.6
3	63	42	48	27	30	20.4	17.8	21.6	17.2	16.9
4	24	16	4	8	28	7.8	6.8	1.8	5.1	15.8
5	10	15	15	5	25	3.2	6.4	6.8	3.2	14.1
6 & Over	54	32	42	6	15	17.5	13.6	18.9	3.8	8.5
TOTALS	309	236	222	157	177	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

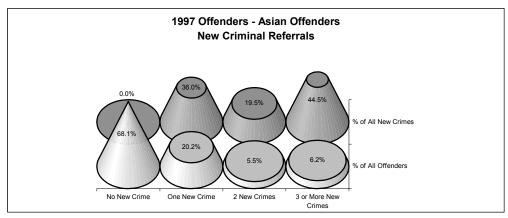
Summary of findings:

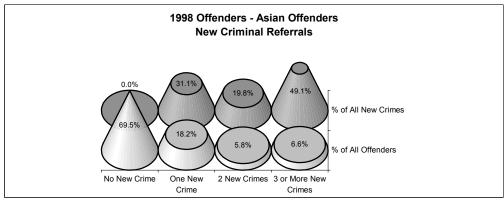
- In each of the five years, more than two-thirds of offenders did not re-offend.
- Each year, between 16.2% and 20.2% of offenders committed one new crime (29.1% to 37.6% of referrals).
- 3.5% 7.6% committed 13.6% 33.1% of new crimes (youth with two new referrals).
- 3.8% 7.5% committed 29.3% 55.4% of new crimes (youth with three or more new referrals).
- Referral Rate = 0.56 for all offenders (averaged across all years).
- Referral Rate = 4.10 for offenders with three or more new crimes (averaged across all years).

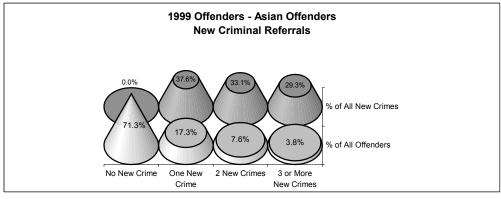
Charts 27-31: 1996-2000 Offenders - Asian Offenders - New Criminal Referrals

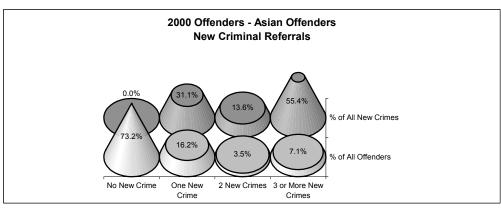


Race / Ethnicity - Asian Offenders









Race / Ethnicity - Caucasian Offenders

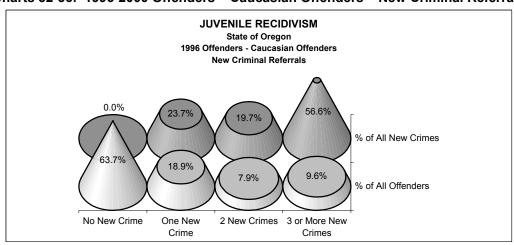
Table 7: 1996-2000 Offenders -- Caucasian Offenders New Criminal Referrals

Number of	Number of Offenders					Percent of Offenders				
New Referrals	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
0	12,309	11,782	11,408	10,599	10,488	63.7	62.8	64.0	63.7	65.3
1	3,644	3,578	3,452	3,277	3,140	18.9	19.1	19.4	19.7	19.6
2	1,519	1,598	1,414	1,388	1,199	7.9	8.5	7.9	8.3	7.5
3	790	791	689	600	557	4.1	4.2	3.9	3.6	3.5
4	408	403	375	321	303	2.1	2.1	2.1	1.9	1.9
5	236	233	187	183	143	1.2	1.2	1.0	1.1	0.9
6 & Over	413	386	305	258	225	2.1	2.1	1.7	1.6	1.4
TOTALS	19,319	18,771	17,830	16,626	16,055	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
	•	<u>-</u> '					•			
Number of		Total	New Ref	errals		Percent of Overall Crime				
New Referrals	1996						. 0.00	OI OVOIG	III CIIIII C	
	1990	1997	1998	1999	2000	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
0	0	1997 0	1998 0	1999 0	2000	1996 0.0				2000
0 1							1997	1998	1999	
_	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	1997 0.0	1998 0.0	1999 0.0	0.0
1	0 3,644	0 3,578	0 3,452	0 3,277	0 3,140	0.0 23.7	1997 0.0 23.1	1998 0.0 25.7	1999 0.0 26.9	0.0 28.3
1 2	0 3,644 3,038	0 3,578 3,196	0 3,452 2,828	0 3,277 2,776	0 3,140 2,398	0.0 23.7 19.7	1997 0.0 23.1 20.6	1998 0.0 25.7 21.0	1999 0.0 26.9 22.8	0.0 28.3 21.6
1 2 3	0 3,644 3,038 2,370	0 3,578 3,196 2,373	0 3,452 2,828 2,067	0 3,277 2,776 1,800	0 3,140 2,398 1,671	0.0 23.7 19.7 15.4	1997 0.0 23.1 20.6 15.3	1998 0.0 25.7 21.0 15.4	1999 0.0 26.9 22.8 14.8	0.0 28.3 21.6 15.1
1 2 3 4	0 3,644 3,038 2,370 1,632	0 3,578 3,196 2,373 1,612	0 3,452 2,828 2,067 1,500	0 3,277 2,776 1,800 1,284	0 3,140 2,398 1,671 1,212	0.0 23.7 19.7 15.4 10.6	1997 0.0 23.1 20.6 15.3 10.4	1998 0.0 25.7 21.0 15.4 11.2	1999 0.0 26.9 22.8 14.8 10.5	0.0 28.3 21.6 15.1 10.9

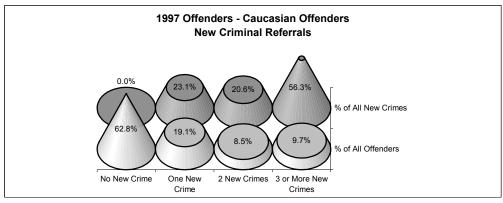
Summary of findings:

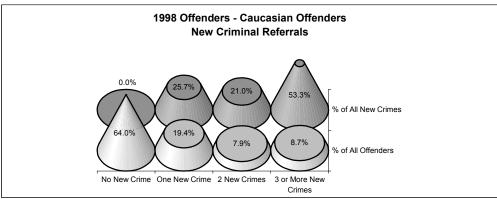
- In each of the five years, nearly two-thirds of offenders did not re-offend.
- Each year, between 18.9% and 19.7% committed one new crime (23.1% to 28.3% of referrals).
- 7.5% 8.5% committed 19.7% 22.8% of new crimes (youth with two new referrals).
- 7.7% 9.7% committed 50.1% 56.6% of new crimes (youth with three or more new referrals).
- Referral Rate = 0.76 for all offenders (averaged across all years).
- Referral Rate = 4.65 for offenders with three or more new crimes (averaged across all years).

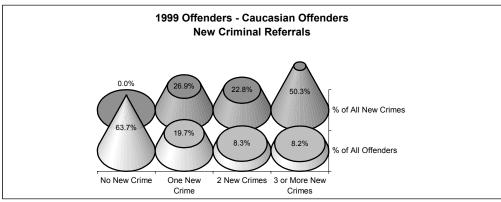
Charts 32-36: 1996-2000 Offenders - Caucasian Offenders - New Criminal Referrals

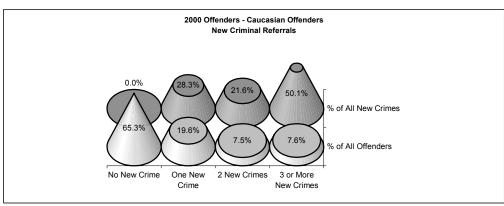


Race / Ethnicity - Caucasian Offenders









Race / Ethnicity - Hispanic Offenders

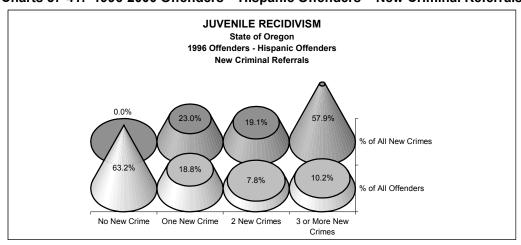
Table 8: 1996-2000 Offenders -- Hispanic Offenders New Criminal Referrals

Number of	Number of Offenders					Percent of Offenders				
New Referrals	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
0	1,456	1,348	1,356	1,351	1,437	63.2	60.7	62.6	65.3	63.9
1	432	445	416	380	442	18.8	20.0	19.2	18.4	19.7
2	180	197	191	164	165	7.8	8.9	8.8	7.9	7.3
3	113	92	88	79	79	4.9	4.1	4.1	3.8	3.5
4	48	59	51	30	48	2.1	2.7	2.4	1.5	2.1
5	24	46	21	28	35	1.0	2.1	1.0	1.4	1.6
6 & Over	49	34	42	36	43	2.1	1.5	1.9	1.7	1.9
TOTALS	2,302	2,221	2,165	2,068	2,249	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
-	_					_				
Number of		Total	New Ref	errals			Percent	of Overa	II Crime	_
Number of New Referrals	1996	Total 1997	New Ref 1998	errals 1999	2000	1996	Percent 1997	of Overa	II Crime 1999	2000
	1996				2000	1996				2000
New Referrals		1997	1998	1999			1997	1998	1999	
New Referrals	0	1997 0	1998 0	1999 0	0	0.0	1997 0.0	1998 0.0	1999 0.0	0.0
New Referrals 0 1	0 432	1997 0 445	1998 0 416	1999 0 380	0 442	0.0 23.0	1997 0.0 24.0	1998 0.0 24.5	1999 0.0 25.0	0.0 24.6
New Referrals 0 1 2	0 432 360	1997 0 445 394	1998 0 416 382	1999 0 380 328	0 442 330	0.0 23.0 19.1	1997 0.0 24.0 21.2	1998 0.0 24.5 22.5	1999 0.0 25.0 21.6	0.0 24.6 18.4
New Referrals 0 1 2 3	0 432 360 339	1997 0 445 394 276	1998 0 416 382 264	1999 0 380 328 237	0 442 330 237	0.0 23.0 19.1 18.0	1997 0.0 24.0 21.2 14.9	1998 0.0 24.5 22.5 15.5	1999 0.0 25.0 21.6 15.6	0.0 24.6 18.4 13.2
New Referrals 0 1 2 3 4	0 432 360 339 192	1997 0 445 394 276 236	1998 0 416 382 264 204	1999 0 380 328 237 120	0 442 330 237 192	0.0 23.0 19.1 18.0 10.2	1997 0.0 24.0 21.2 14.9 12.7	1998 0.0 24.5 22.5 15.5 12.0	1999 0.0 25.0 21.6 15.6 7.9	0.0 24.6 18.4 13.2 10.7

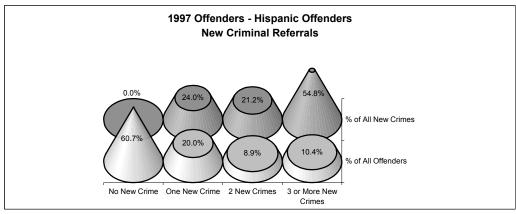
Summary of findings:

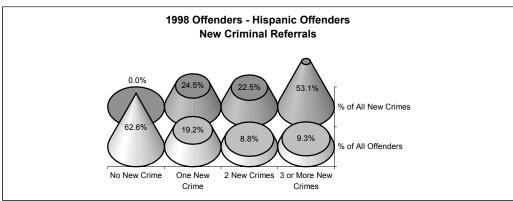
- In each of the five years, a majority of offenders did not re-offend.
- Each year, between 18.4% and 20.0% committed one new crime (23.0% to 25.0% of referrals).
- 7.3% 8.9% committed 18.4% 22.5% of new crimes (youth with two new referrals).
- 8.4% 10.4% committed 53.1% 57.9% of new crimes (youth with three or more new referrals).
- Referral Rate = 0.80 for all offenders (averaged across all years).
- Referral Rate = 4.64 for offenders with three or more new crimes (averaged across all years).

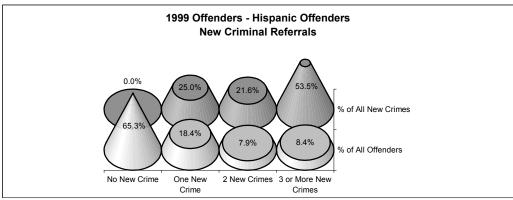
Charts 37-41: 1996-2000 Offenders - Hispanic Offenders - New Criminal Referrals

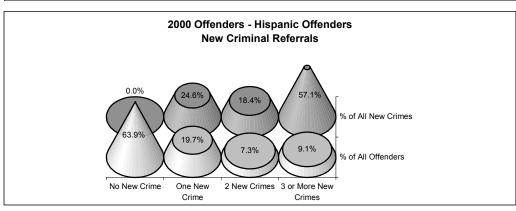


Race / Ethnicity - Hispanic Offenders









Race / Ethnicity - Native American Offenders

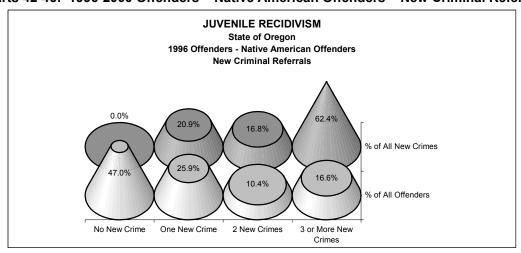
Table 9: 1996-2000 Offenders -- Native American Offenders New Criminal Referrals

Number of	Number of Offenders					Percent of Offenders				
New Referrals	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
0	212	233	248	251	274	47.0	49.7	51.6	52.8	57.6
1	117	112	123	113	104	25.9	23.9	25.6	23.8	21.8
2	47	60	56	49	49	10.4	12.8	11.6	10.3	10.3
3	21	29	17	22	17	4.7	6.2	3.5	4.6	3.6
4	23	14	16	16	14	5.1	3.0	3.3	3.4	2.9
5	11	7	10	10	9	2.4	1.5	2.1	2.1	1.9
6 & Over	20	14	11	14	9	4.4	3.0	2.3	2.9	1.9
TOTALS	451	469	481	475	476	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
-	-					-				
Number of		Total	New Ref	errals		Percent of Overall Crime				
New Referrals	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	1996	1997	1998	1999	0000
0	0	0	_		_000	1990	1331	1330	1999	2000
1		U	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
•	117	112	0 123	0 113						
2	117 94	-	-		0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
•		112	123	113	0 104	0.0 20.9	0.0 20.4	0.0 23.9	0.0 22.8	0.0 24.5
2	94	112 120	123 112	113 98	0 104 98	0.0 20.9 16.8	0.0 20.4 21.9	0.0 23.9 21.8	0.0 22.8 19.8	0.0 24.5 23.1
2 3	94 63	112 120 87	123 112 51	113 98 66	0 104 98 51	0.0 20.9 16.8 11.2	0.0 20.4 21.9 15.8	0.0 23.9 21.8 9.9	0.0 22.8 19.8 13.3	0.0 24.5 23.1 12.0
2 3 4	94 63 92	112 120 87 56	123 112 51 64	113 98 66 64	0 104 98 51 56	0.0 20.9 16.8 11.2 16.4	0.0 20.4 21.9 15.8 10.2	0.0 23.9 21.8 9.9 12.5	0.0 22.8 19.8 13.3 12.9	0.0 24.5 23.1 12.0 13.2

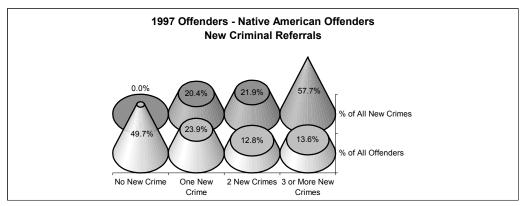
Summary of findings:

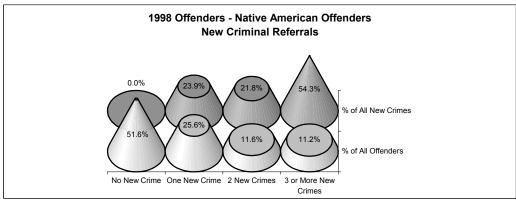
- The proportion of offenders not re-offending improved each year.
- Each year, between 21.8% and 25.9% committed one new crime (20.4% to 24.5% of referrals).
- 10.3% 12.8% committed 16.8% 23.1% of new crimes (youth with two new referrals).
- 10.3% 16.6% committed 52.5% 62.4% of new crimes (youth with three or more new referrals).
- Referral Rate = 1.08 for all offenders (averaged across all years).
- Referral Rate = 4.78 for offenders with three or more new crimes (averaged across all years).

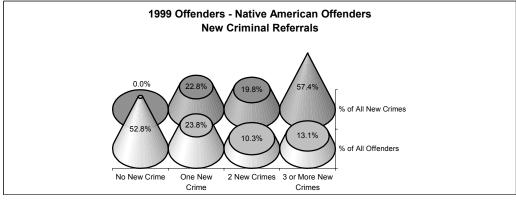
Charts 42-46: 1996-2000 Offenders - Native American Offenders - New Criminal Referrals

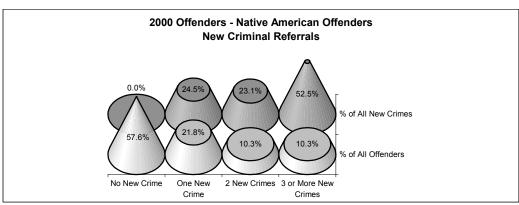


Race / Ethnicity - Native American Offenders









Severity

Table 10 provides a matrix of initial offense type and re-offense type by classification of crime. For example, it shows that there were an average of 1,370 person felony offenders each year. Of that total, 455 offenders acquired an additional 819 referrals over the subsequent twelve months. Of those 455 re-offenders:

- 143 committed another person felony
- 98 committed an other type of felony
- 59 committed a person misdemeanor
- 132 committed an other type of misdemeanor

(These numbers are averages across the five years – 1996 to 2000. Type of offense reflects the most severe committing offense.)

- 45.4% (3,700) of the re-offenders committed an offense equal in severity to the initial offense (shown in the shaded boxes).
- 37.2% (3,033) of the re-offenders committed an offense more severe than the initial offense (shown to the left of the shaded boxes).
- 17.5% (1,424) of the re-offenders committed an offense less severe than the initial offense (shown to the right of the shaded boxes).

Table 10: Severity by Crime Classification – 1996-2000 Averages

				MOST SEV	/ERE RE-OFI	FENSE (# of	Offenders)	RE-OFFENSES
Initial	Number of	Num	ber of	Person	Other	Person	Other	Number of
Offense	Initial Offenders	Repeat (Offenders	Felony	Felony	Misd.	Misd.	Referrals
Person Felony	1,370	455	(33%)	143	98	59	132	819
Other Felony	4,507	1,873	(42%)	170	936	157	594	4,140
Person Misd.	2,884	1,102	(38%)	137	263	314	384	2,333
Other Misd.	13,509	4,786	(35%)	407	1,430	626	2,307	10,241

Note: Some referrals whose main offense involved an attempted crime were excluded from this analysis because of data collection limitations. Overall, the excluded referrals accounted for less than 2% of all referrals.

Severity scale

A severity score is assigned to each offense. The score is based on criminal codes in the Oregon Revised Statutes (ORS). A "Murder" category was created which includes Aggravated Murder and Murder / Criminal Homicide.

CRIME CATEGORY	TYPE	SCORE
Person:	Murder A Felony B Felony C Felony U Felony	19 18 17 16 15
Property: Other: Property: Other: Property: Other: Property: Other:	A Felony A Felony B Felony C Felony C Felony U Felony U Felony	14 14 13 13 12 12 11
Person:	A Misdemeanor B Misdemeanor C Misdemeanor U Misdemeanor	10 9 8 7
Property: Other: Property: Other: Property: Other: Property: Other: Other:	A Misdemeanor A Misdemeanor B Misdemeanor B Misdemeanor C Misdemeanor C Misdemeanor U Misdemeanor U Misdemeanor	6 5 5 4 4 3 3
Non-Criminal:	Violation Status Offense	2 1

Statewide juvenile recidivism - Referrals and offenses compared

The current report calculates recidivism using "referrals" rather than "offenses" as the unit of measurement. A law enforcement referral can be comprised of multiple individual offenses detailing the alleged crimes.

Table 11: 1998 Offenders - New Criminal Referrals/Offenses

Number of New	Number of	Offenders	Percent of Offenders		
Referrals/Offenses	Referrals	Offenses	Referrals	Offenses	
0	14,075	14,075	63.1	63.1	
1	4,384	3,212	19.6	14.4	
2	1,833	1,688	8.2	7.6	
3	880	959	3.9	4.3	
4	491	654	2.2	2.9	
5	248	452	1.1	2.0	
6	130	317	0.6	1.4	
7	91	220	0.4	1.0	
8	50	155	0.2	0.7	
9	33	114	0.1	0.5	
10	37	93	0.2	0.4	
11&over	59	372	0.3	1.7	
TOTALS	22,311	22,311	100%	100%	

Number of New	Total New	Refs/Offs	Percent of Overall Crime		
Referrals/Offenses	Referrals	Offenses	Referrals	Offenses	
0	0	0	0.0	0.0	
1	4,384	3,212	25.1	11.6	
2	3,666	3,376	21.0	12.2	
3	2,640	2,877	15.1	10.4	
4	1,964	2,616	11.3	9.4	
5	1,240	2,260	7.1	8.2	
6	780	1,902	4.5	6.9	
7	637	1,540	3.7	5.6	
8	400	1,240	2.3	4.5	
9	297	1,026	1.7	3.7	
10	370	930	2.1	3.4	
11&over	1,065	6,728	6.1	24.3	
TOTALS	17,443	27,707	100%	100%	

- Number of new referrals/offenses: The number of new offenses youth committed over 12 months.
- <u>Number of offenders:</u> The number of offenders corresponds to the number of new offenses [e.g., in 1998, 14,075 offenders had no (0) new offenses].
- Percent of offenders: The percentage of offenders based on the total number of all offenders.
- Total new referrals/offenses: The total number of subsequent offenses or referrals per row.
- <u>Percent of overall crime:</u> The percentage of overall crime per row. For example, in 1998, 14,075 offenders committed 0% of the total new offenses.

Statewide juvenile recidivism - Referrals and offenses compared (continued)

Previous reports measured recidivism based on offenses. Offense based statistics tend to exaggerate the number of "chronic offenders" (offenders that recidivate three or more times) since a large number of these youth have multiple offenses from a *single* incident. The referral driven measurement for chronic offending only counts youth involved in three or more *separate* crime incidents.

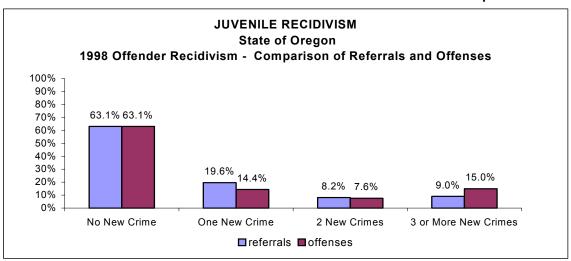
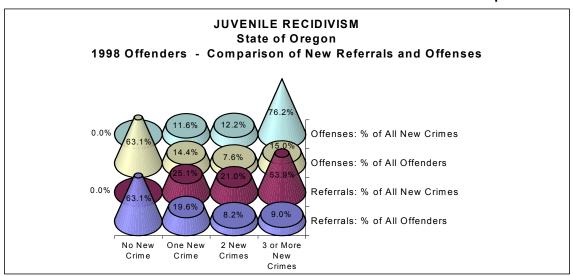


Chart 47: 1998 Offender Recidivism - Referrals and Offenses Compared





Summary of findings, 1998 comparison of referrals and offenses:

- By definition, an identical number of offenders do not re-offend.
- Use of referrals decreases the number of offenders categorized as chronic offenders.
- Use of referrals increases the number of offenders categorized as having one or two new crimes.
- 1998 All Offenders: Offense Rate = 1.24; Referral Rate = 0.78.
- 1998 Chronic Offenders: Offense Rate = 6.33; Referral Rate = 4.65.