

**Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative:  
Massachusetts Detention Utilization Study  
Suffolk and Worcester Counties**

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**Commissioner**

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## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

In 2006, Massachusetts was selected as a replication site for the Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative (JDAI), a project of the Annie E. Casey Foundation. One of the first steps to data-driven decision making in detention reform is to develop a “snapshot” of the detention eligible population: both those youth who enter secure detention and those who are arraigned or surrendered, but do not go to detention. This study utilized a retrospective design, and the sample was selected from the cases disposed of in the Boston and Worcester Juvenile Courts in 2006 and 2007.

### **Key Findings**

#### **Suffolk County Sample**

- Relatively few youths (13%) were being arraigned on a violation of probation.
- Roughly half of the sample (48%) were arraigned on felony charges.
- Of the detained group, 24% were charged with a misdemeanor.
- The average length of time from arraignment to disposition was 126 days, with Caucasian clients having the longest average processing time (144 days).
- Probation violators had an average processing time of 97 days.
- Youths arraigned on felonies had a considerably longer average processing time (146 days) than those arraigned on misdemeanors (113 days).
- The average length of detention stay was 29 days, with Hispanic youths having the longest average length of stay (35 days).
- Probation violators had a 43 day average length of detention stay.
- Youths arraigned on felonies had roughly twice the average length of detention stay (30 days) than those arraigned on misdemeanors (14 days).
- The detained group had fewer Caucasian males (11% vs. 18%); more African Americans charged with crimes against a person (44% vs. 30%); fewer African American property offenders (11% vs. 27%), and fewer African American drug offenders (9% vs. 16%), than did the non-detained group.
- The likelihood of being arraigned on a violation of probation only was greater for males (15%) than for females (6%); and greater for African Americans (16%) than for Hispanics (8%) and Caucasians (7%).

- Hispanics (14%) and African Americans (10%) were more likely than Caucasians (2%) to be held without bail.
- The detention rates for whites and non-whites were 27.3% and 33.6% respectively. Non-whites were detained at 1.23 times the rate of whites.

## **Worcester County Sample**

- Youths arraigned on a violation of probation comprised 21% of the sample.
- Only 22% of the sample were arraigned on felony charges.
- Of the detained group, 47% were charged with a misdemeanor.
- The average length of time from arraignment to disposition was 102 days, with Caucasian clients (111 days) having the longest average processing time.
- Probation violators had an average processing time of 85 days.
- Surprisingly, youths arraigned on misdemeanors had a considerably longer average processing time than those arraigned on felonies (108 days and 91 days respectively).
- The average length of detention stay was 20 days, with Caucasian youths having the longest average length of stay (23 days).
- Youths arraigned on violations of probation only, had a 21 day average length of detention stay.
- Youths arraigned on felonies had the same average length of detention stay as those arraigned on misdemeanors (20 days).
- The detained group had more Hispanic youths (23%) than the non-detained group (19%).
- The detained group had a much higher proportion of probation violators (32%) than the non-detained group (9%).
- The detained group had fewer Caucasian males (42% vs. 55%); more Hispanic males (35% vs. 25%); more Hispanics charged with crimes against a person (26% vs. 18%); fewer Hispanic property offenders (4% vs. 11%); and fewer Caucasian property offenders (16% vs. 23%) than did the non-detained group.

- The likelihood of being arraigned on a violation of probation only, was greater for females (26%) than for males (19%); and greater for Hispanics (27%) and Caucasians (22%) than for African Americans (13%).
- The detention rates for whites and non-whites were 29.5% and 34.1% respectively. Non-whites were detained at 1.16 times the rate of whites.

## **Introduction**

In 2006, Massachusetts was selected as a replication site for the Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative (JDAI), a project of the Annie E. Casey Foundation. Begun in 1993, JDAI has been replicated throughout the country and has helped to create more effective, efficient juvenile justice systems by streamlining case processing, offering community-based alternatives to detention, and improving policies regarding the use of secure detention. One of the principles fundamental to the success of the initiative is data-driven decision making (the eight core strategies of JDAI are outlined in Appendix A). In order for key stakeholders to make the best decisions regarding youth in the system, objective data must be available to guide discretionary decision-making.

One of the first steps to data-driven decision making in detention reform is to develop a “snapshot” of the detention eligible population: both those youth who enter secure detention and those who are arraigned or surrendered, but do not go to detention. This snapshot can be used to answer questions such as:

- What are the current patterns of detention utilization? What kinds of youth are being detained in terms of age, gender and race? What is the offense and offense history profile of youth admitted to detention? How do these profiles differ from the characteristics of youth who are *not* detained?
- How long are detained youth remaining in the detention facility? How does this vary by race, gender, offense type and offense history?

The answers to these questions can be used to inform discussions among stakeholders in different parts of the system. They can also be used to identify priority areas for the development of a detention reform work plan.

The goal of the detention utilization study is to collect data for the detention snapshot. This report is meant to be a working document for the Massachusetts JDAI stakeholders, and will likely serve as a jumping off point for both additional research and action on refining programs and policy at the two Massachusetts JDAI pilot sites. Ideally, the results of this report will provide further support to the work of the JDAI collaborative in Suffolk and Worcester counties that began in early 2007.

## **Methods and Procedures**

This study utilized a retrospective design, and the sample was selected from the cases disposed in the Boston and Worcester Juvenile Courts in 2006 and 2007. Because the study sample included only closed cases, the same sample can be used for analysis of the detention-eligible and detention admission groups. The courts provided sequential dockets for each court, of complaints filed in 2006 and 2007 that have reached disposition. (This is not truly a sample, but a census of disposed cases within a certain time parameter). This study utilized the first 500 cases from each court that met the criteria of detention eligibility (an arraignment, warrant, or violation hearing). For the purposes of this study, each potential detention admission was counted. This means that multiple complaints could be counted only once because there is only one arraignment on the multiple charges (in this case, the most serious violation or offense was coded). A complaint could be counted more than once if there are multiple detention eligibilities; for example, first at arraignment and then later on a warrant apprehension. Each case was identified initially with the juvenile defendant's name, DOB, DYS ID number, and docket number, followed by a six-digit identification number assigned after the data were collected. These data were entered into the master data collection form.

Data collected from the court files included demographic information, arrest date, court appearance date, reason for court appearance (offense, violation, warrant, or combination), most serious offense, whether or not the youth was detained, number of offenses and prior offense history. If there was a bail decision, the amount of bail and reasons for bail were collected. Court records were provided in hard copy from the JURIS system, and were returned to the court subsequent to data collection.

Information was collected from the DYS database as to whether the youth was detained, the date of admission to detention, where they were detained, and at what point of the process they were detained. These data from the DYS database were entered into the master data collection form.

Individual cases (youths) retained the same unique identifier. In addition, information was collected as to the length of stay, point in the case in which release occurred, and demographic information for each case.

The youth's offense for which he or she was detained and his or her offense history was obtained from court records and Criminal Offenders Record Information (CORI) reports using the identifying information (name, DOB, ID number). Additional information about confidentiality and data security can be found in Appendix B.

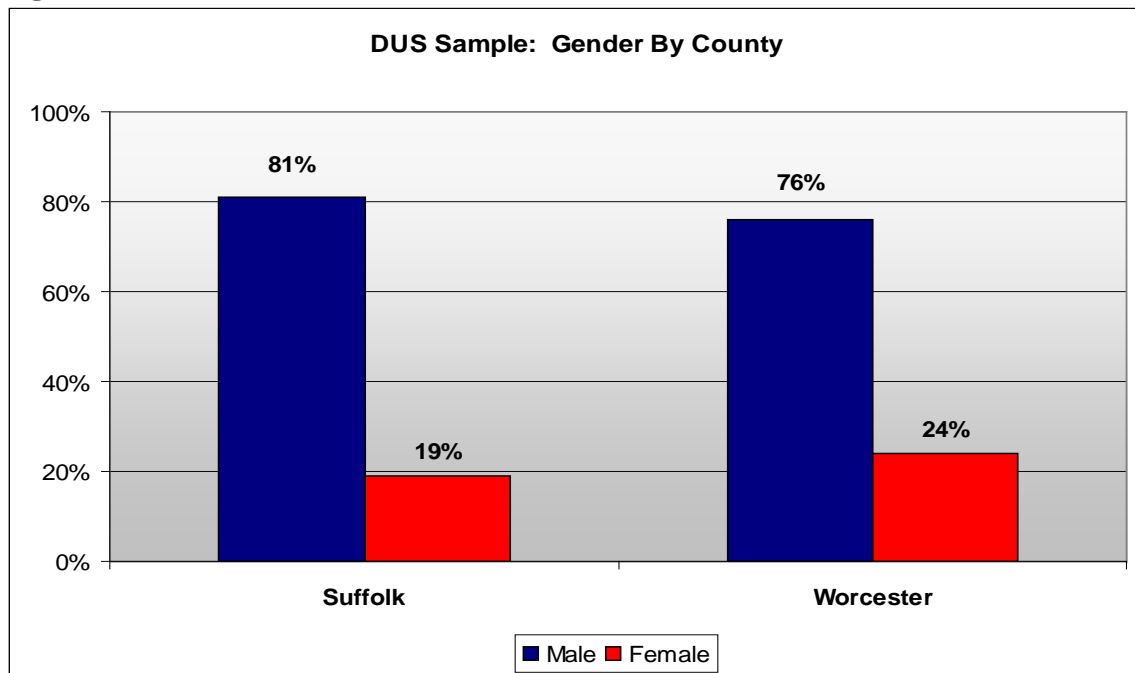
## **Results**

*All results which are statistically-significant ( $p < .05$ ) are indicated with an asterisk (\*).*

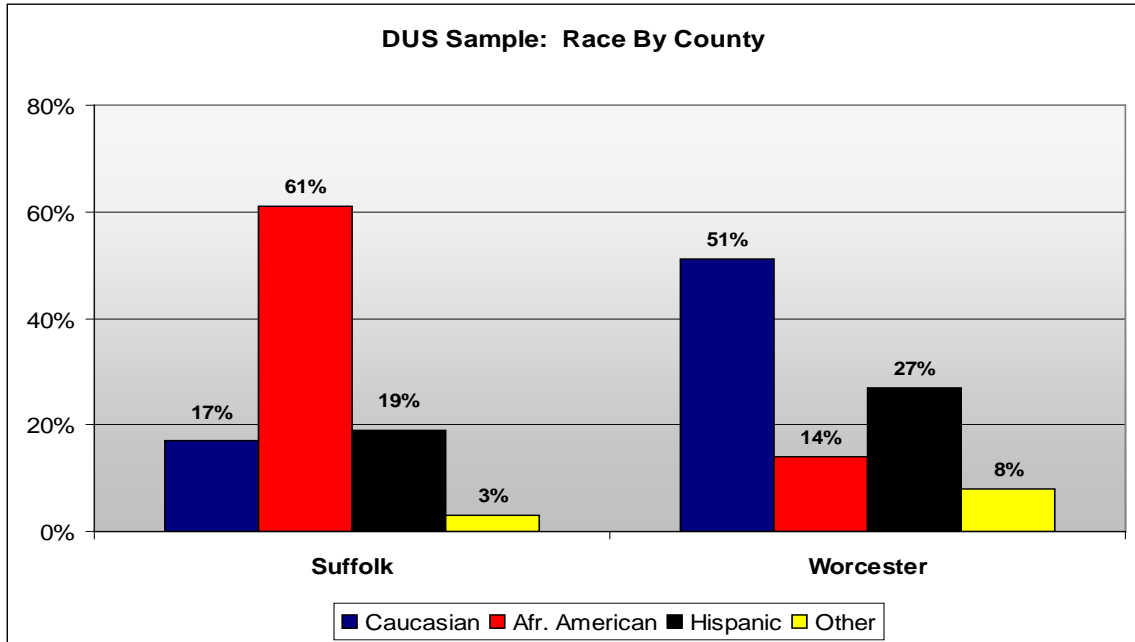
The demographics for the entire Suffolk County and Worcester County samples were similar to those of the respective DYS detention populations from those two counties. The gender breakdown was 81% male, 19% female for Suffolk County and 76% male, 24% female for Worcester County. The race breakdown for Suffolk County was 17% Caucasian; 61% African American; 19% Hispanic; and 3% other. The race breakdown for Worcester County was 51% Caucasian; 14% African American; 27% Hispanic; and 8% other. 72% of the Suffolk County sample were in the 15-16 year age range, compared to 58% for Worcester county. Worcester County had more youths 14 years old

and younger than did Suffolk County (16% and 8% respectively). The breakdown by offense type saw Suffolk County with 36% person offenders; 22% property offenders; 12% drug offenders; 8% probation violators; and 22% other. By comparison, Worcester County had 23% person offenders; 16% property offenders; 7% drug offenders; 16% probation violators; and 38% other. The Suffolk County sample contained more offenders arraigned on felonies than did the Worcester County sample (48% and 22% respectively). See figures 1-5.

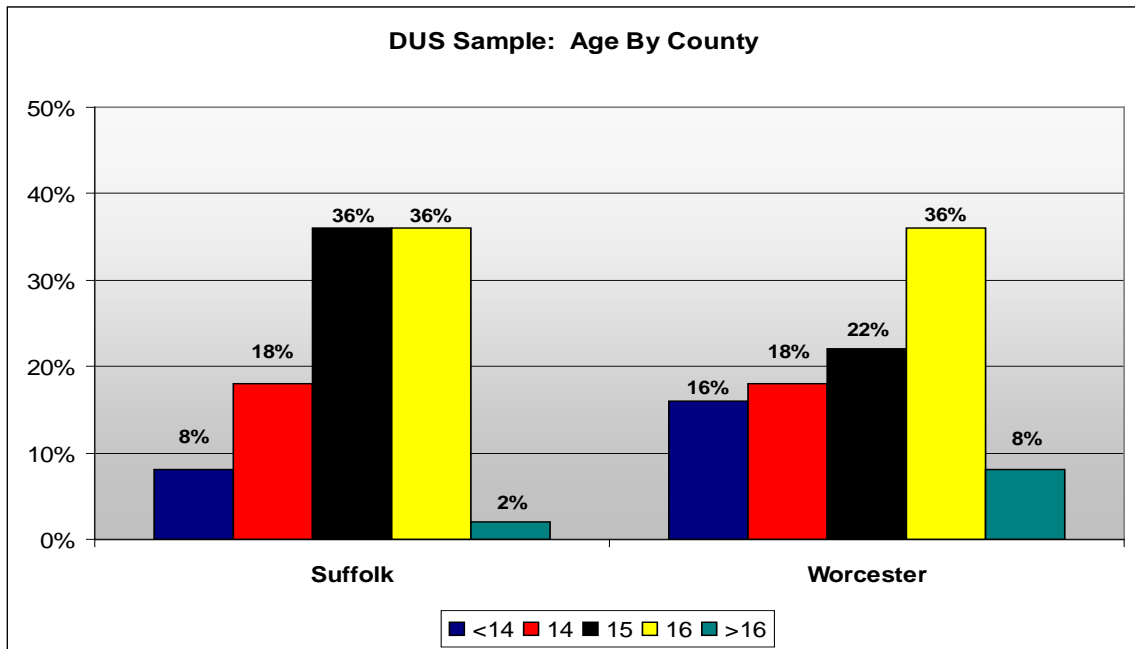
**Figure 1**



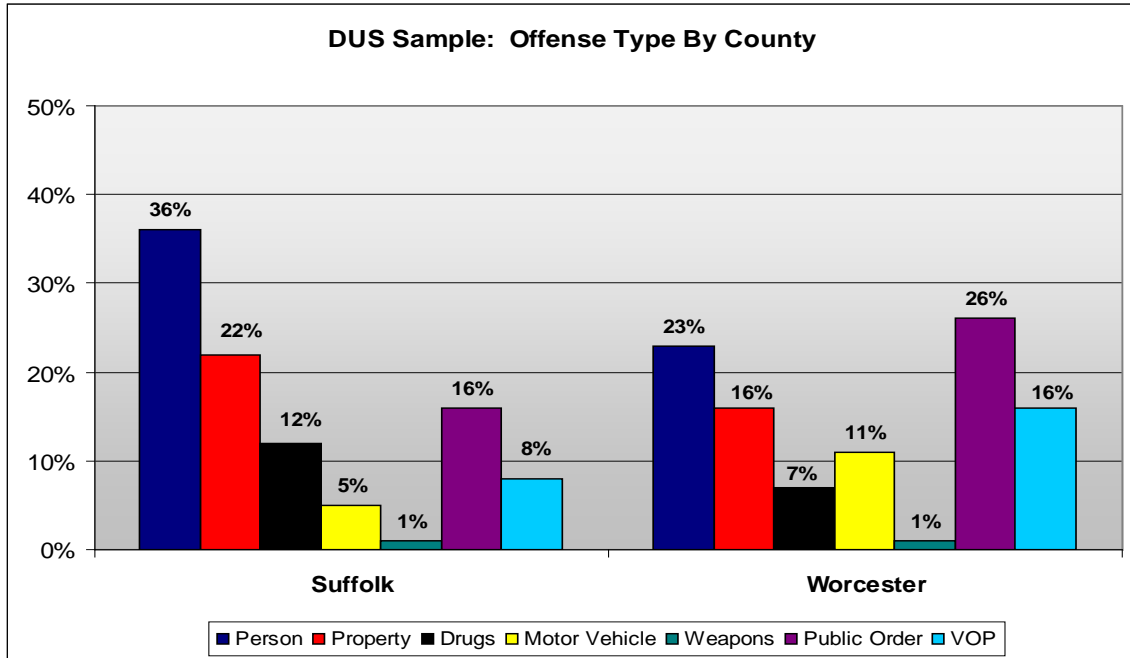
**Figure 2**



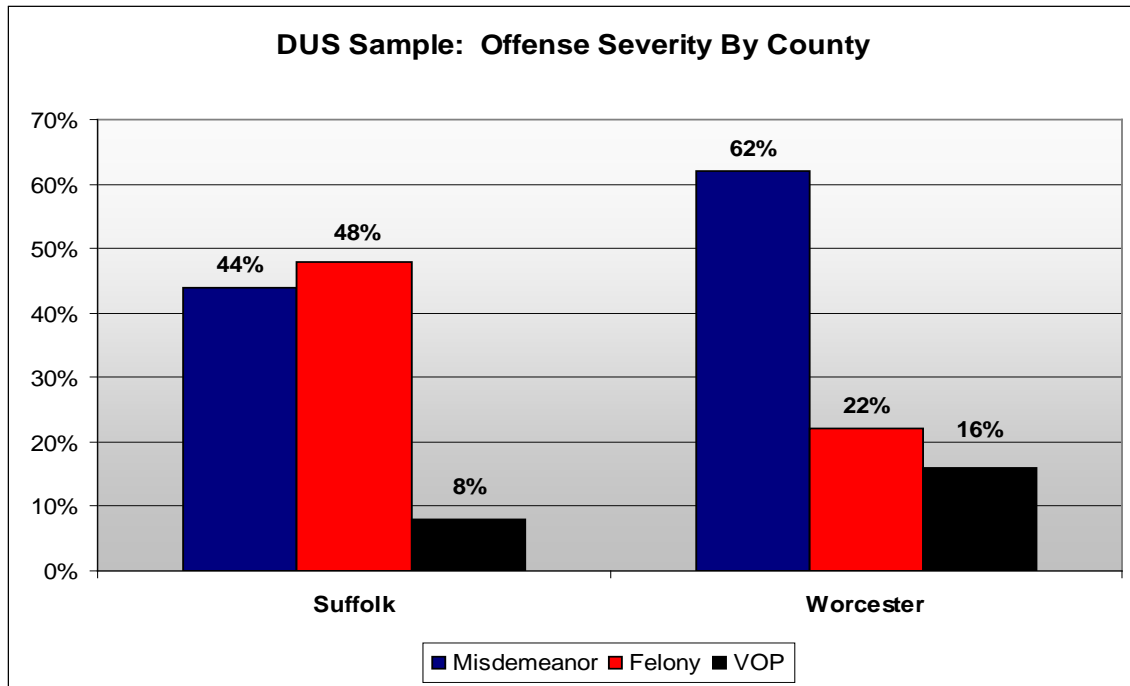
**Figure 3**



**Figure 4**

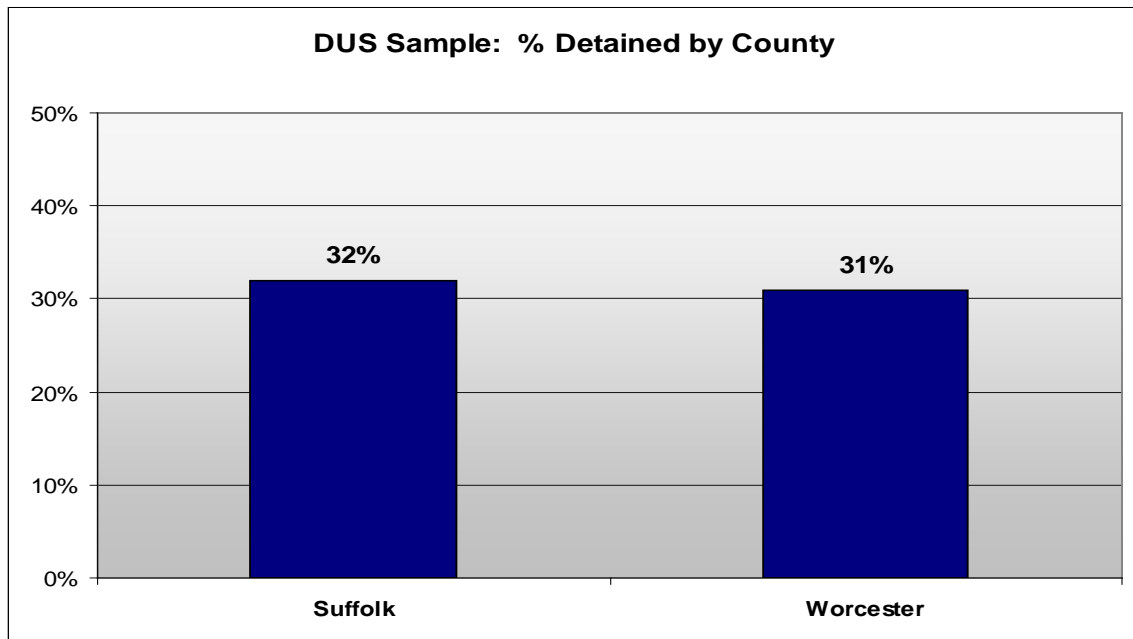


**Figure 5**

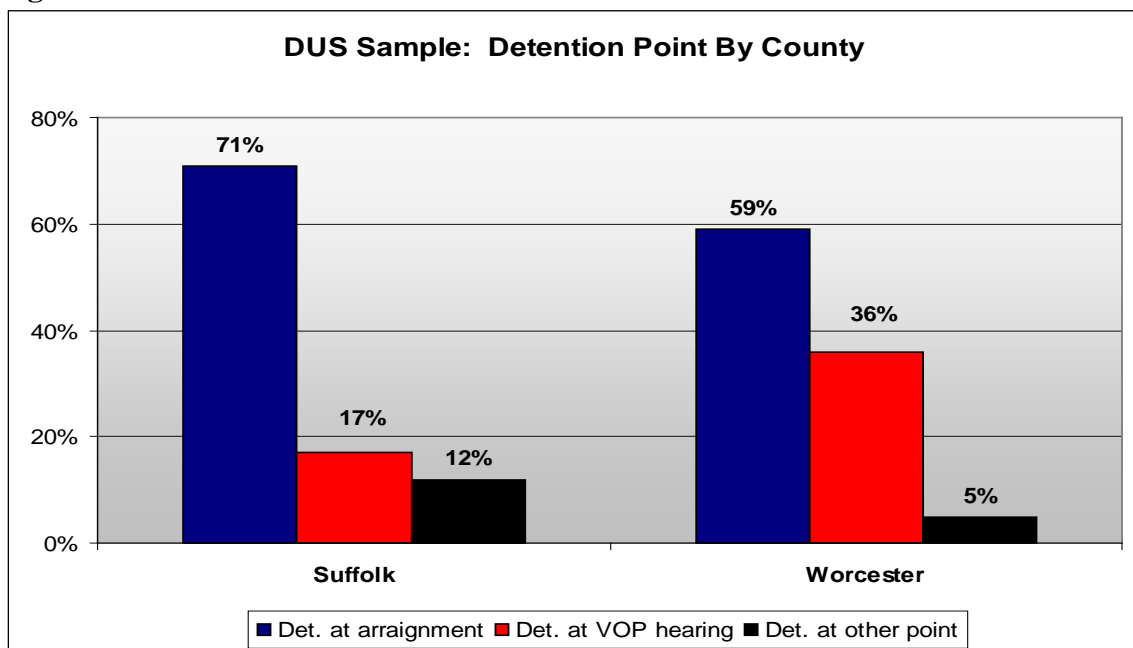


The two samples had roughly the same overall rate of detentions (32% for Suffolk; 31% for Worcester). Of the clients who were detained, Suffolk County had 71% detained at arraignment and 17% detained at a VOP hearing. The respective percentages for Worcester County were 59% and 36%. See figures 6-7.

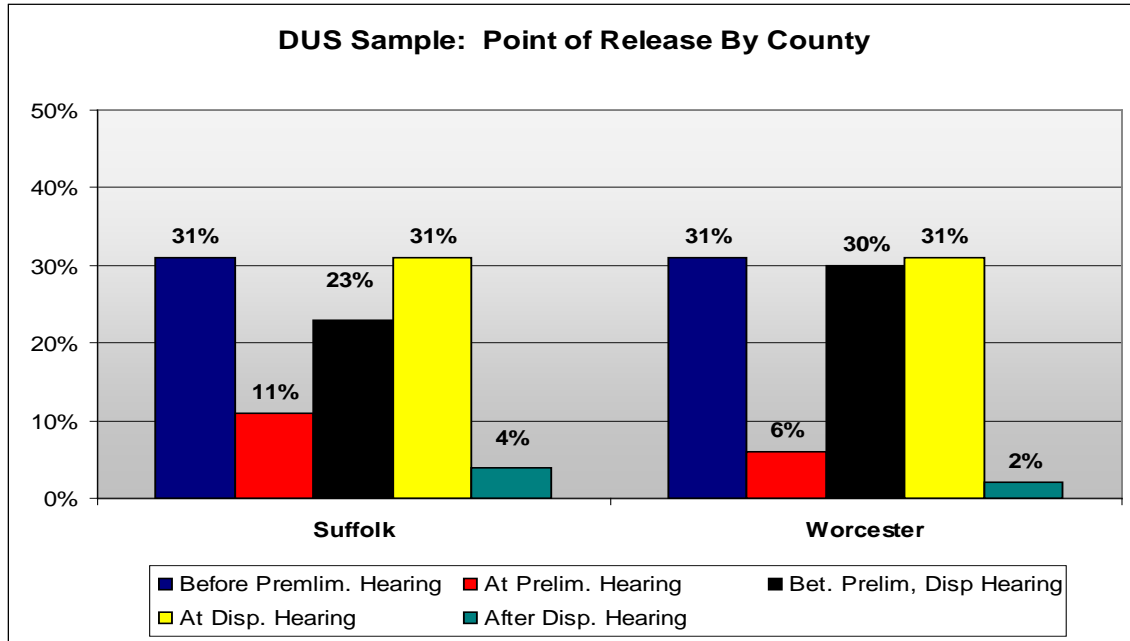
**Figure 6**



**Figure 7**



**Figure 8**



### **Processing Time**

For the Suffolk County sample, the average length of time from arraignment to disposition was 126 days. *Note: Misdemeanor cases may have had longer case processing times because case disposal didn't occur until their probation period was terminated. Those with felony charges may have been more likely to be committed, thereby shortening their case processing time.* Caucasian clients tended to have the longest average processing time (144 days), while African American and Hispanic clients followed with averages of 125 and 113 days respectively. Person offenders (162 days) had longer average processing times than property\* and drug offenders (105 and 123 days respectively). Probation violators had an average processing time of 97 days. Those arraigned on felonies (146 days) had longer average processing times than those arraigned on misdemeanors (113 days)\*. See Figures 9-11.

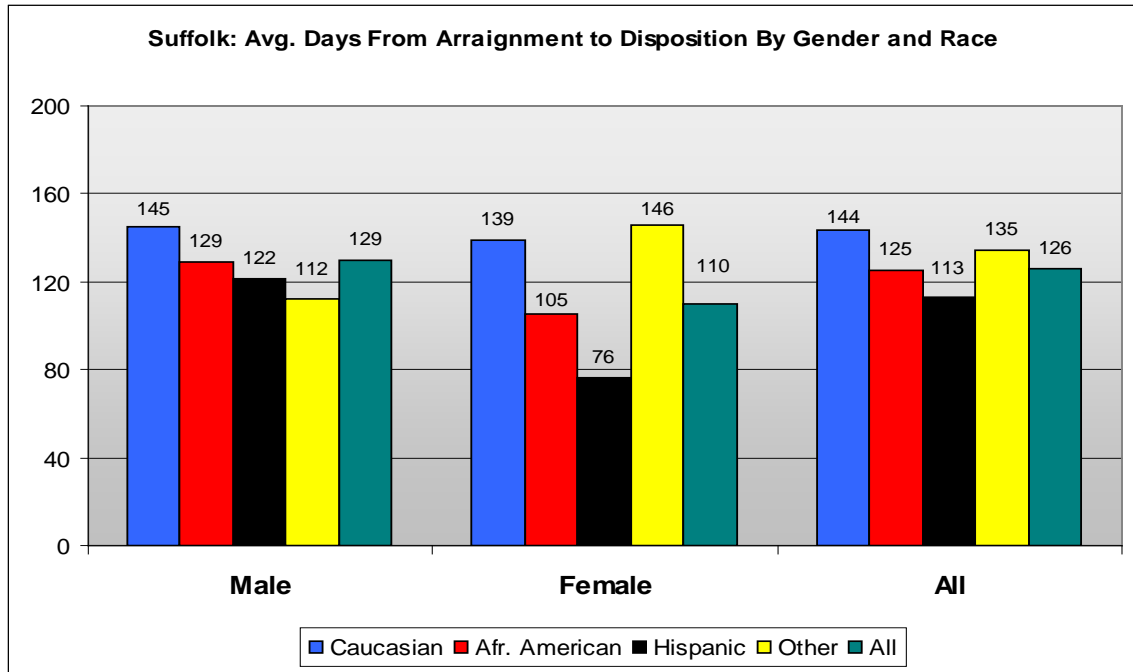
For the Worcester County sample, the average length of time from arraignment to disposition was 102 days. Caucasian clients tended to have the longest average processing time (111 days), while Hispanic and African American clients followed with averages of 93 and 88 days respectively. Property offenders (173 days) had longer average processing times than person and drug offenders (111\* and 96\* days respectively). Probation violators had an average processing time of 85 days. Those arraigned on misdemeanors (108 days) had longer average processing times than those arraigned on felonies (91 days). See Figures 15-17.

### **Length of Detention Stay**

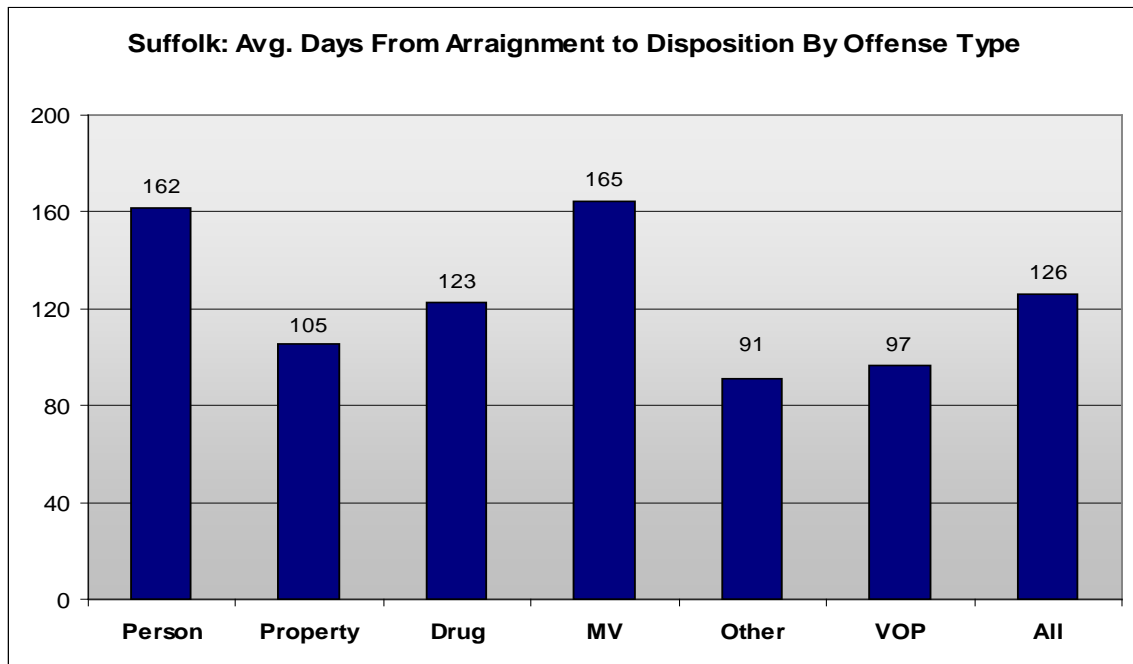
For the Suffolk County sample, the average length of detention stay was 29 days. Hispanic clients tended to have the longest average lengths of stay (38 days), while African American and Caucasian clients followed with averages of 29 and 22 days respectively. Person offenders (30 days) had longer average lengths of stay than property and drug offenders (21 and 19 days respectively). Probation violators had an average length of stay of 43 days. Those arraigned on felonies (30 days) had longer average lengths of stay than those arraigned on misdemeanors (14 days). See Figures 12-14.

For the Worcester County sample, the average length of detention stay was 20 days. Caucasian clients tended to have the longest average lengths of stay (23 days), while Hispanic and African American clients followed with averages of 18 days each. Person offenders (22 days) had longer average lengths of stay than drug and property offenders (21 and 18 days respectively). Probation violators had an average length of stay of 21 days. Those arraigned on misdemeanors had the same average lengths of stay as those arraigned on felonies (20 days). See Figures 18-20.

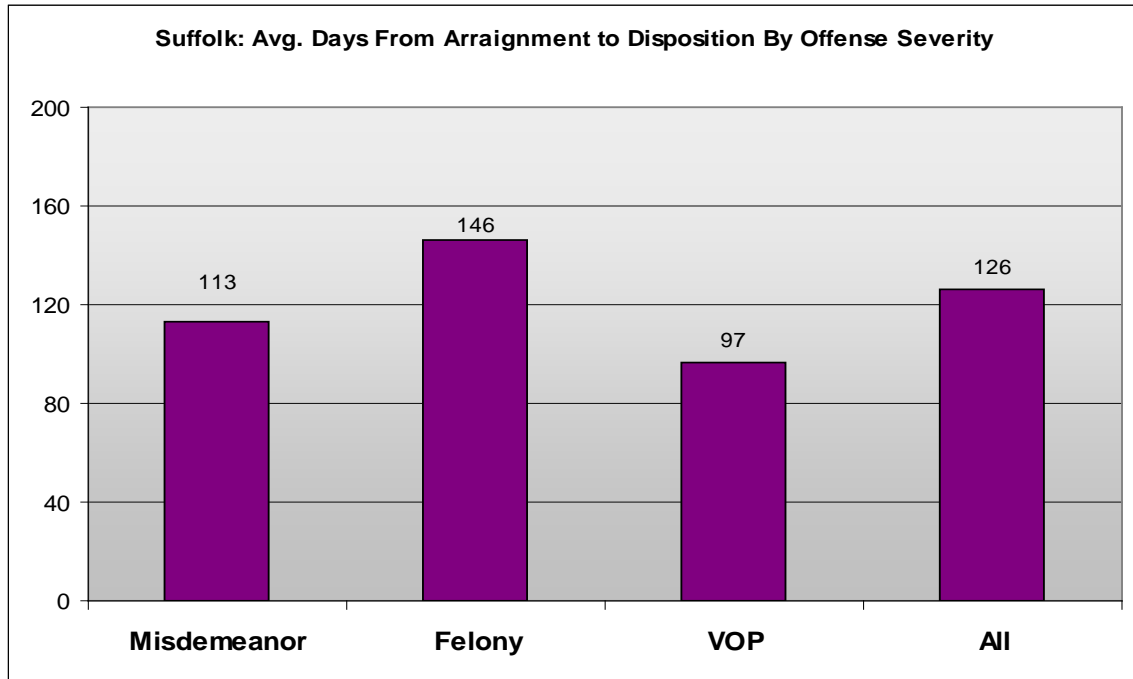
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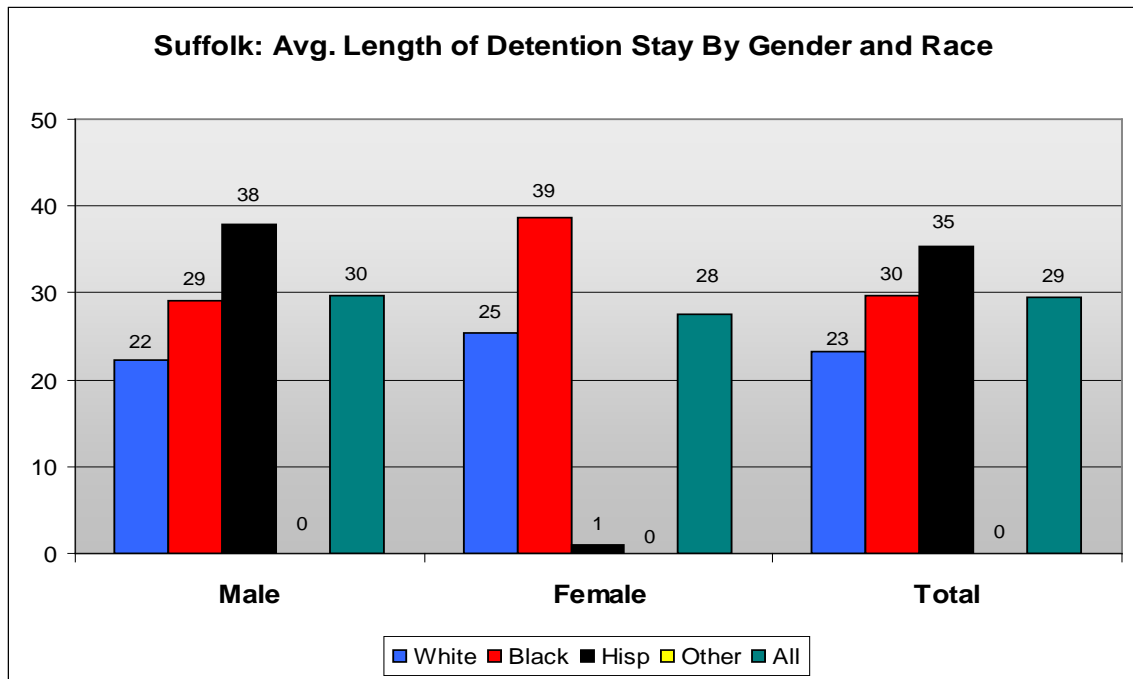
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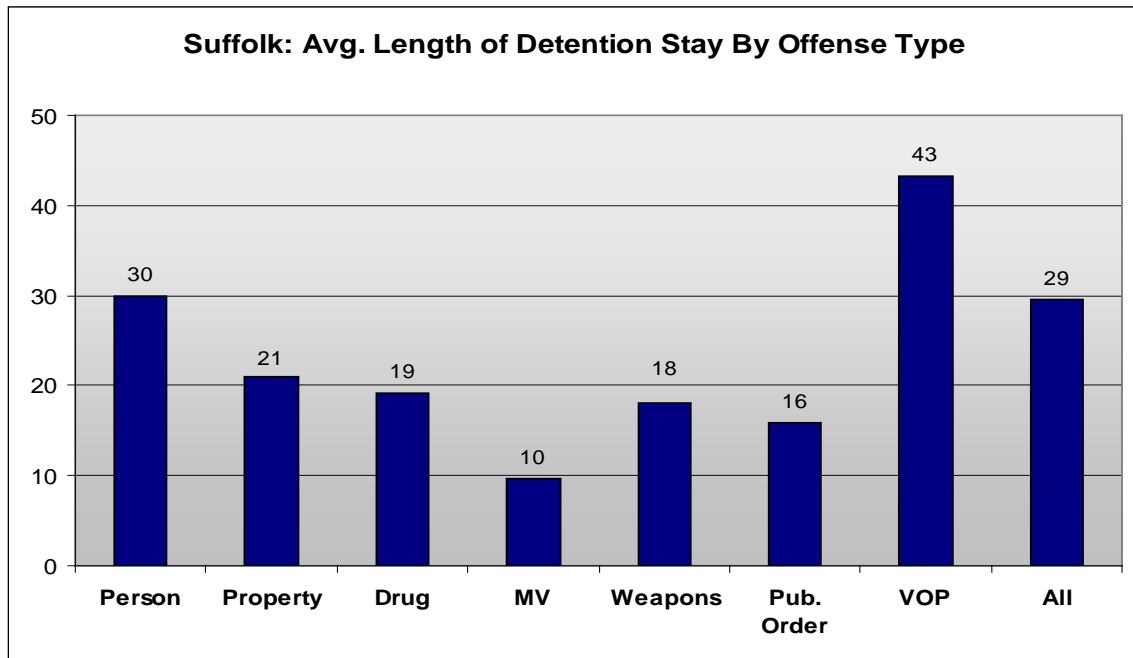
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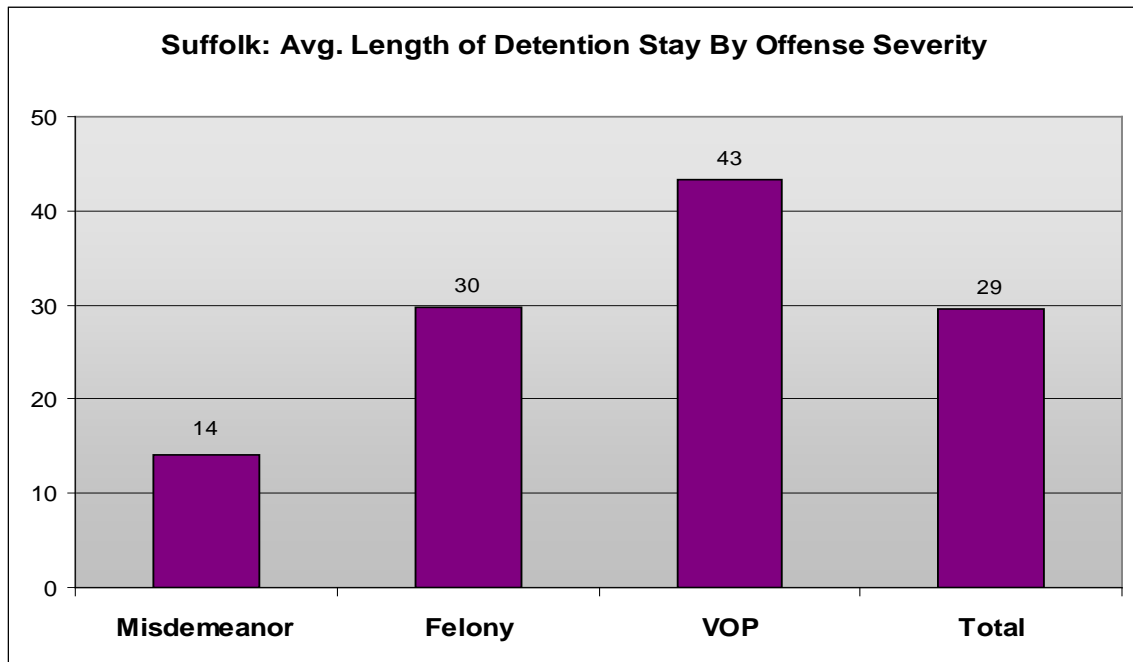
**Figure 12**



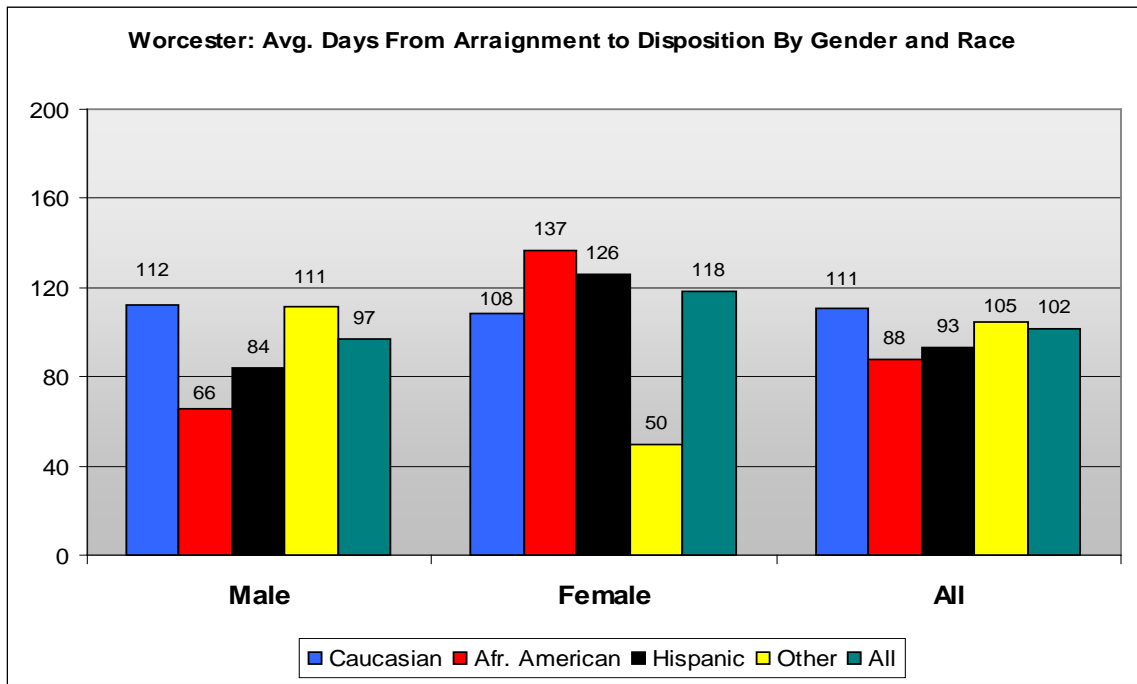
**Figure 13**



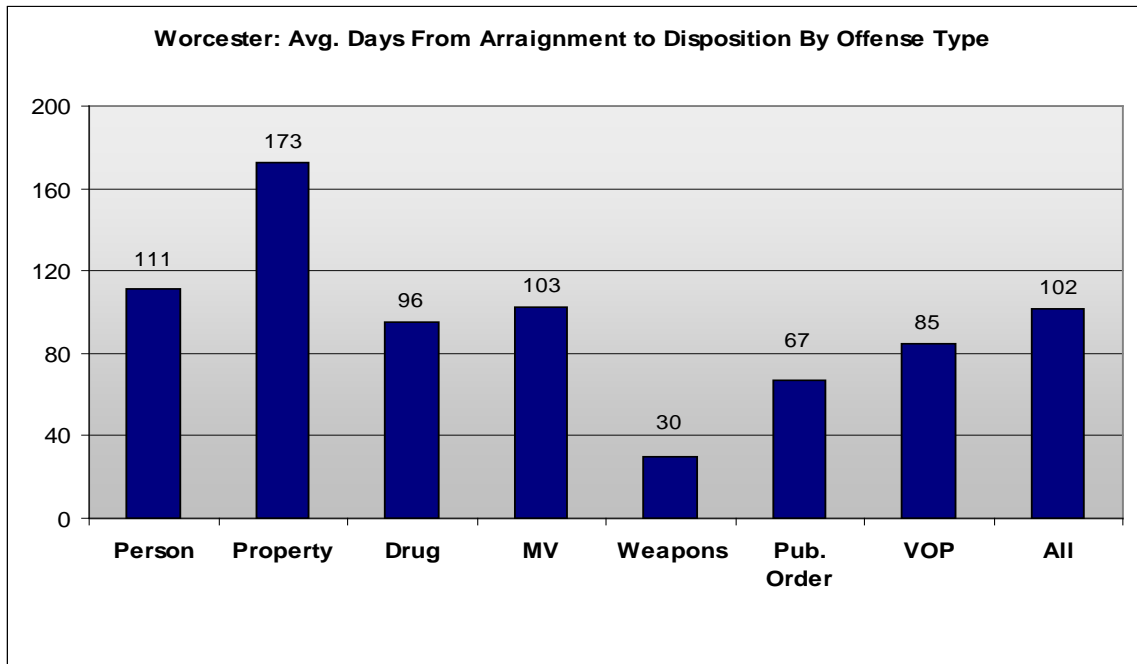
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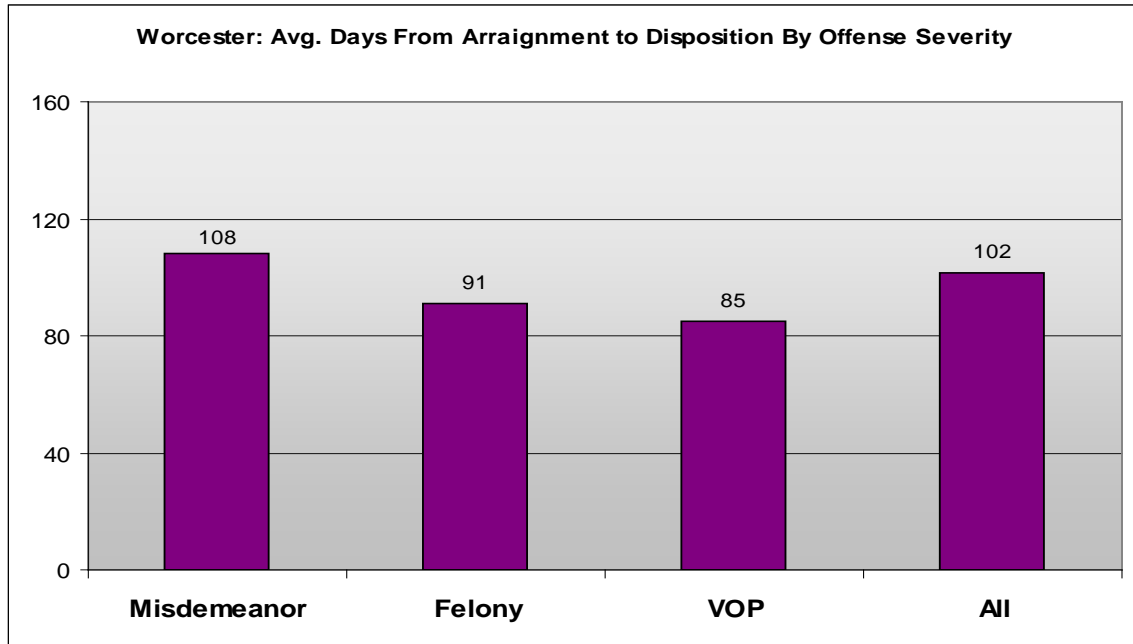
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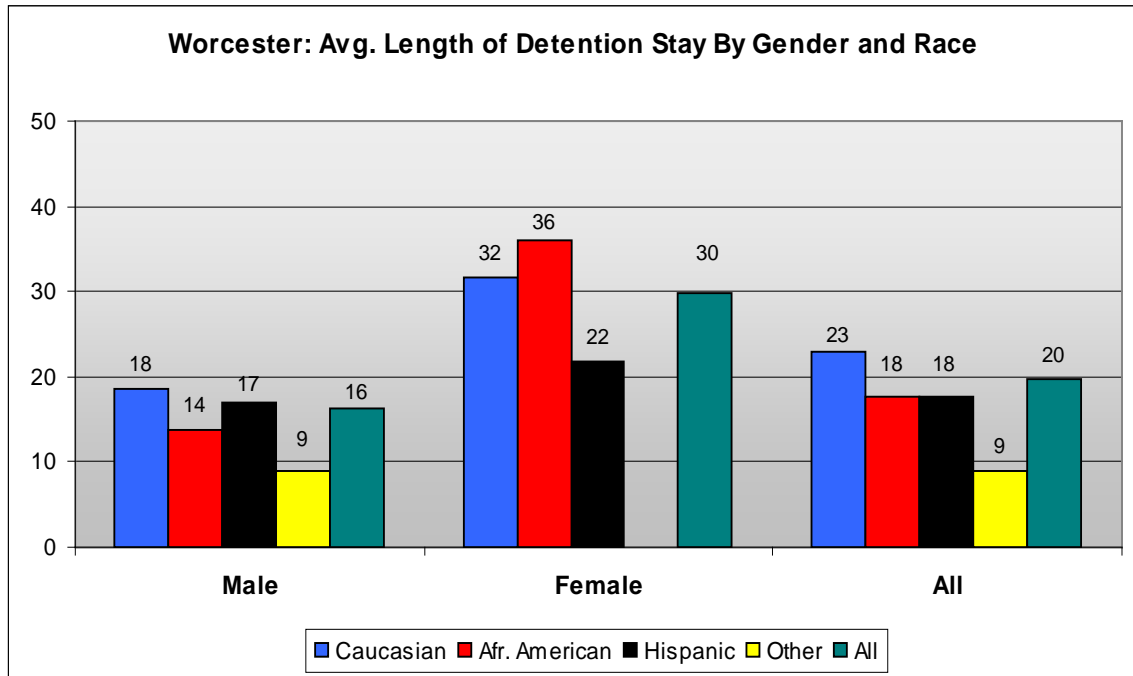
**Figure 16**



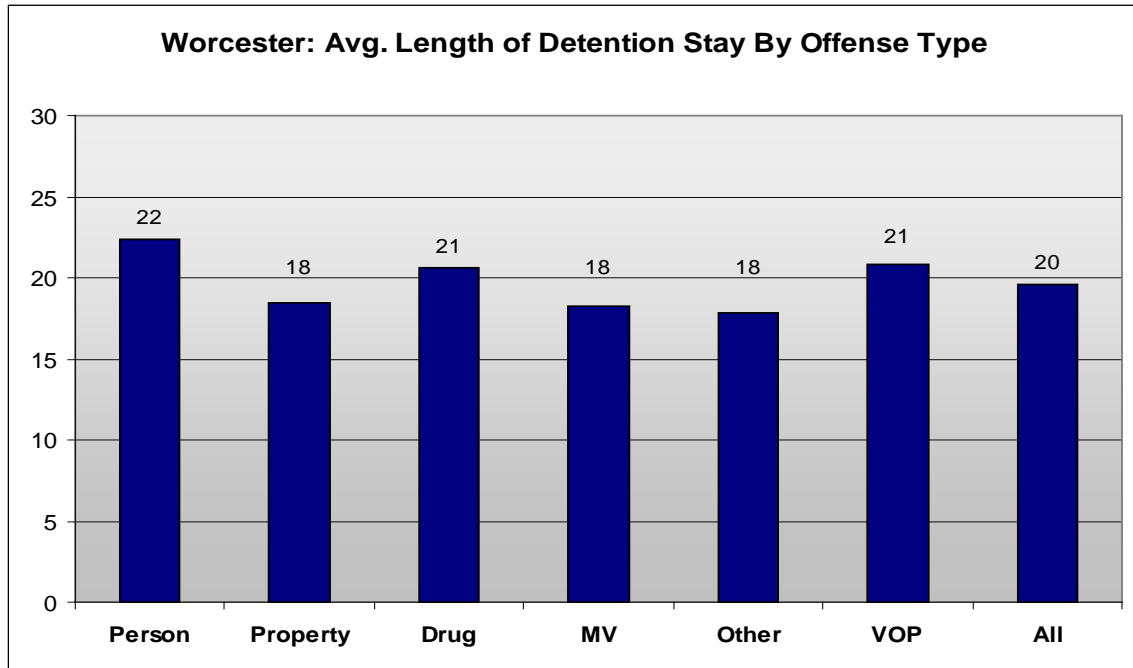
**Figure 17**



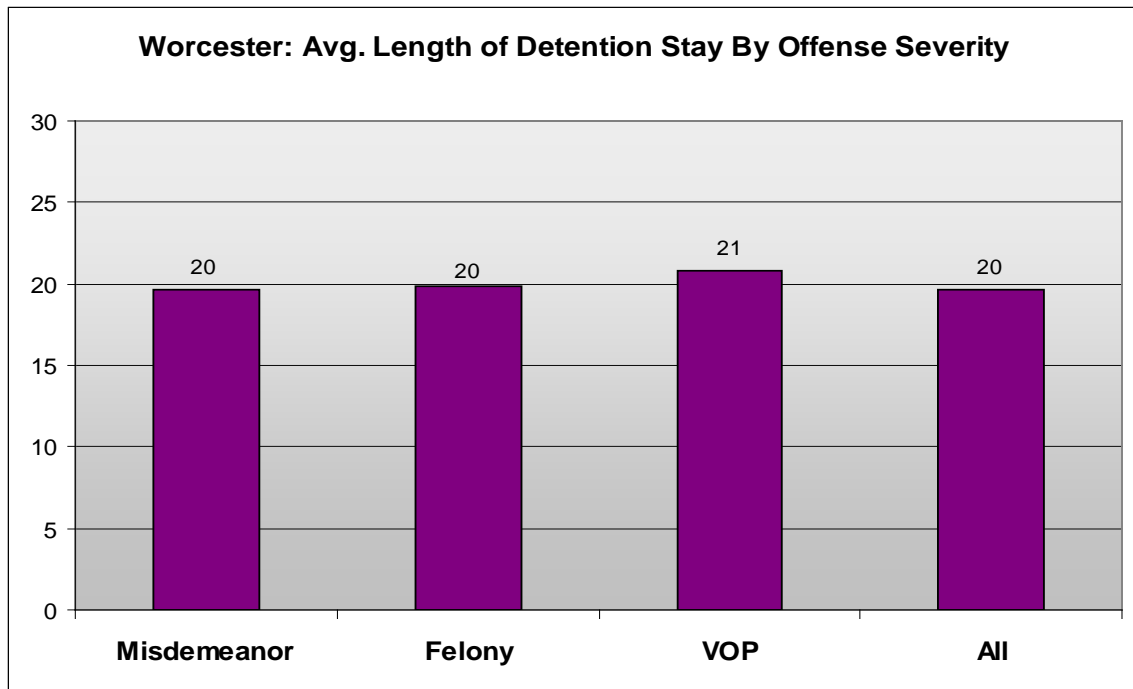
**Figure 18**



**Figure 19**



**Figure 20**



## **Comparisons of Detained vs. Non-detained Groups**

(Refer to Figures 21-38)

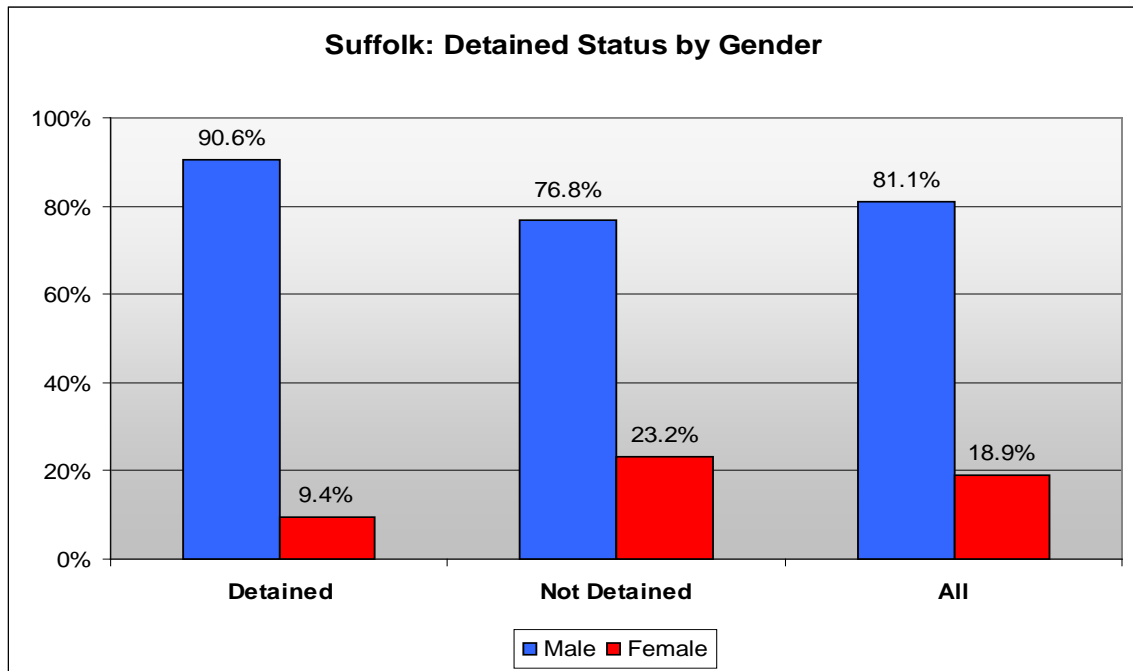
In the Suffolk sample, the detained group had the following characteristics: 91% male\*; 14% Caucasian; 62% African American; 20% Hispanic; 40% person offenders; 15% property offenders; 8% drug offenders; 23% probation violators\*; 67% arraigned on new offenses only\*; 53% arraigned on felonies\*; 38% had 4 or more previous referrals\*; 19% had at least one failure to appear (FTA); 18% had 4 or more previous detentions\*; and 49% were on probation.

In the Suffolk sample, the non-detained group had the following characteristics: 77% male\*; 18% Caucasian; 62% African American; 18% Hispanic; 34% person offenders; 24% property offenders; 14% drug offenders; 2% probation violators\*; 96% arraigned on new offenses only\*; 45% arraigned on felonies\*; 13% had 4 or more previous referrals\*; 11% had at least one FTA; none had 4 or more previous detentions\*; and 27% were on probation.

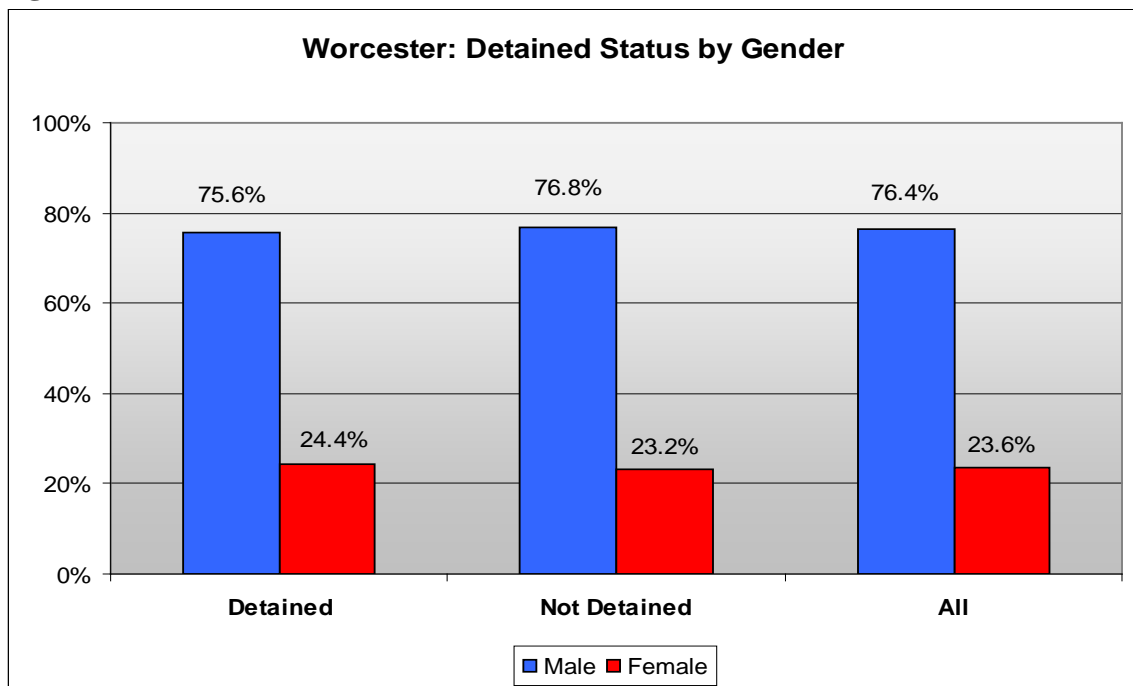
In the Worcester sample, the detained group had the following characteristics: 76% male; 48% Caucasian; 8% African American; 23% Hispanic; 27% person offenders; 9% property offenders; 6% drug offenders; 32% probation violators\*; 57% arraigned on new offenses only\*; 21% arraigned on felonies\*; 26% had 4 or more previous referrals\*; 20% had at least one FTA; 24% had 4 or more previous detentions\*; and 39% were on probation.

In the Worcester sample, the non-detained group had the following characteristics: 77% male; 53% Caucasian; 10% African American; 19% Hispanic; 20% person offenders; 19% property offenders; 8% drug offenders; 9% probation violators\*; 88% arraigned on new offenses only\*; 22% arraigned on felonies\*; 11% had 4 or more previous referrals\*; 17% had at least one FTA; and 3% had 4 or more previous detentions\*, and 36% were on probation.

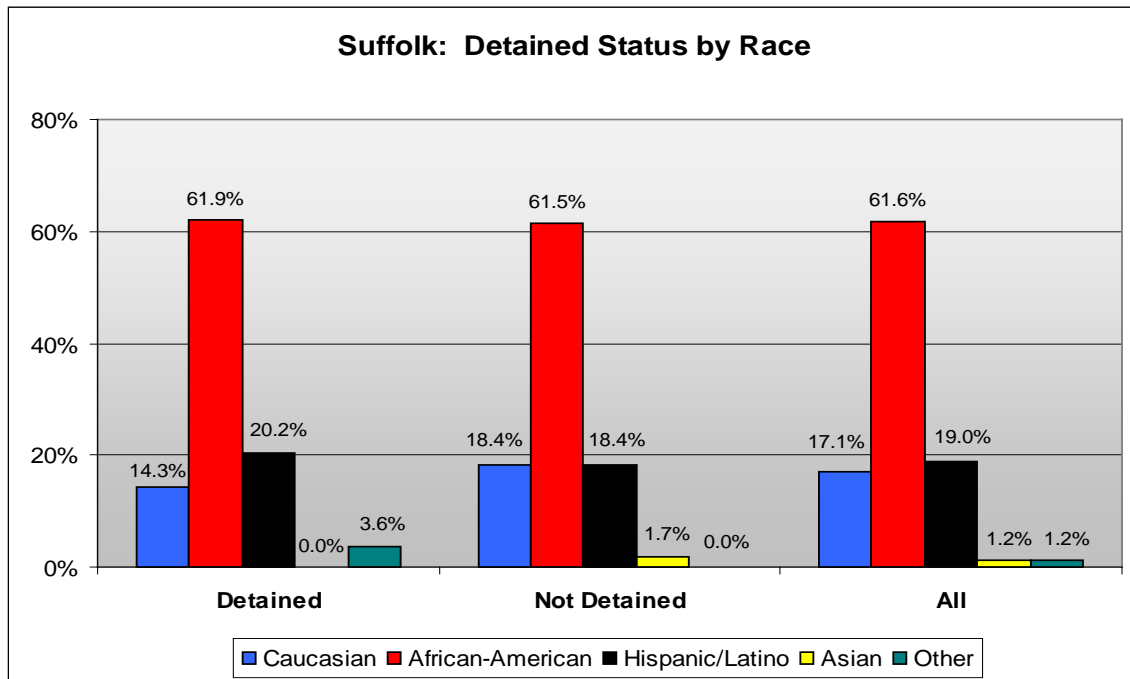
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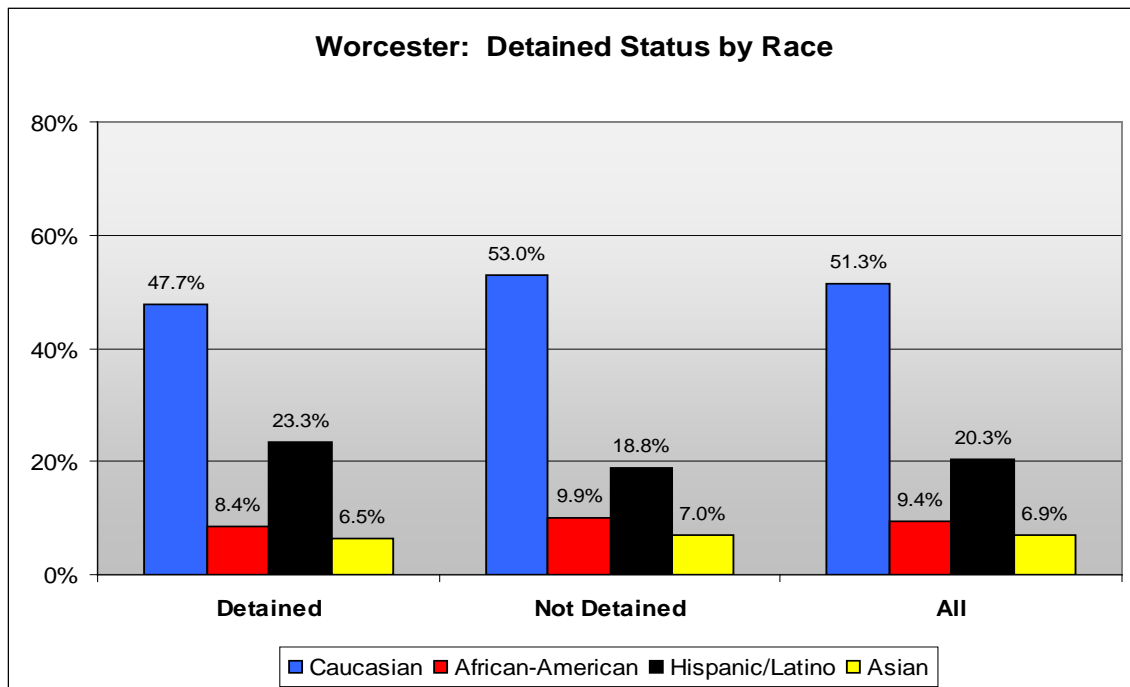
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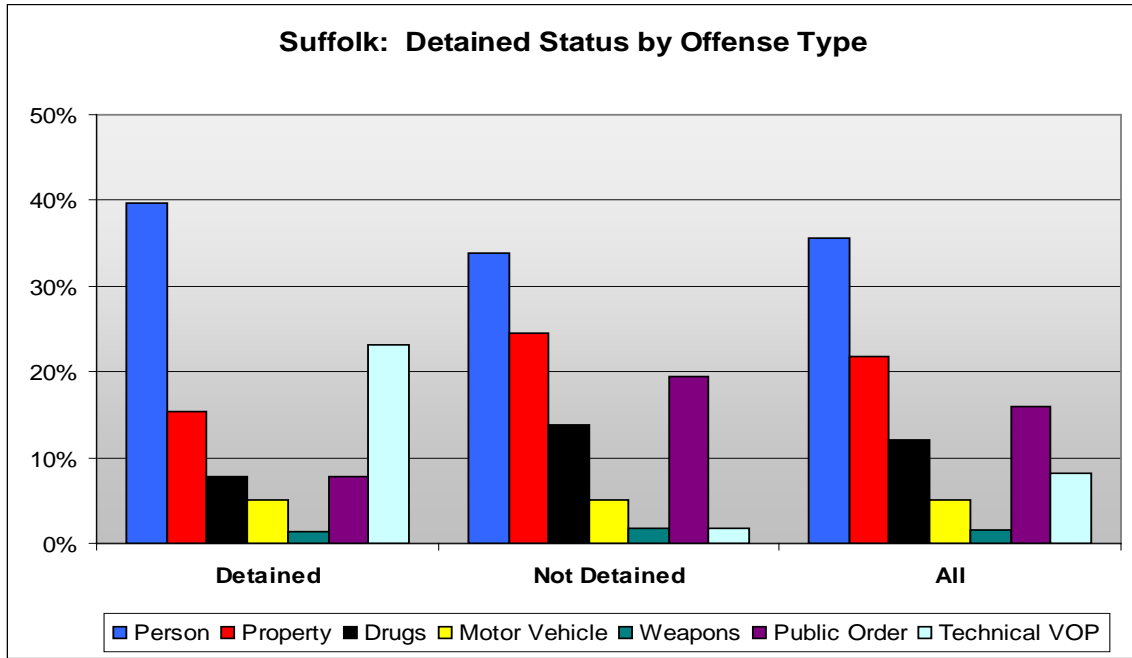
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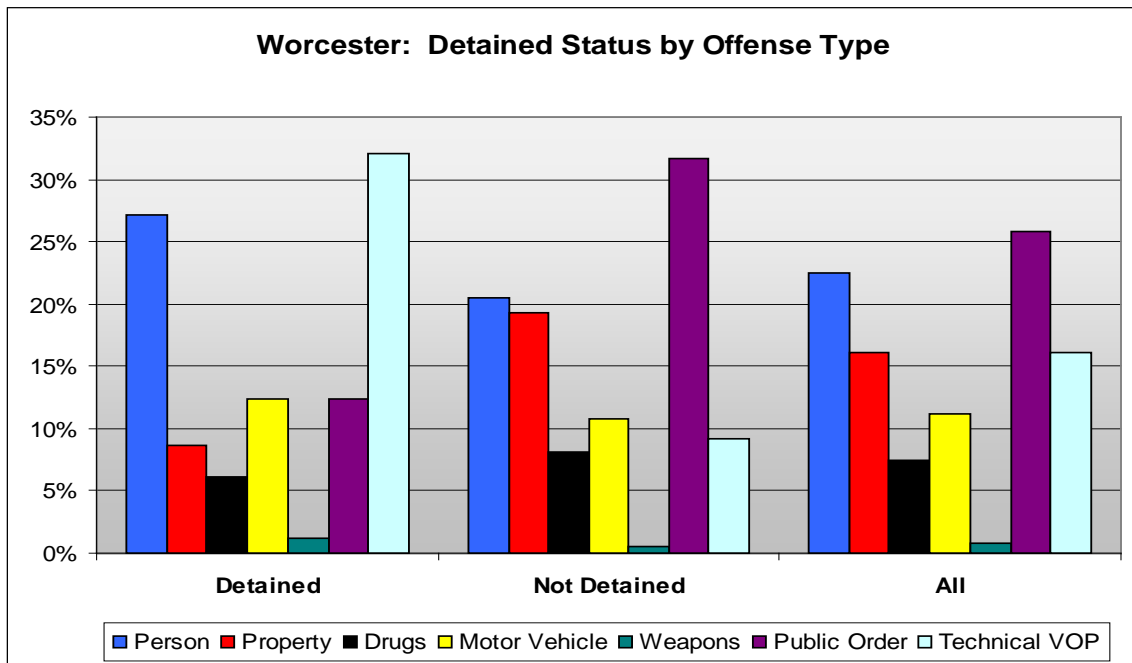
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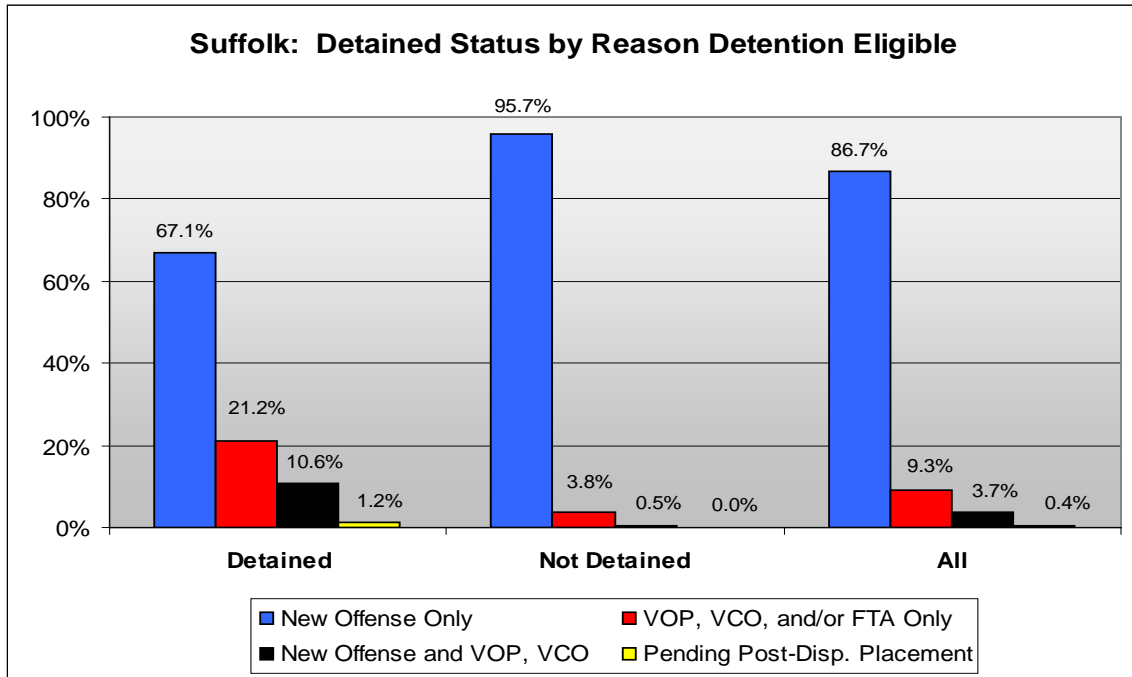
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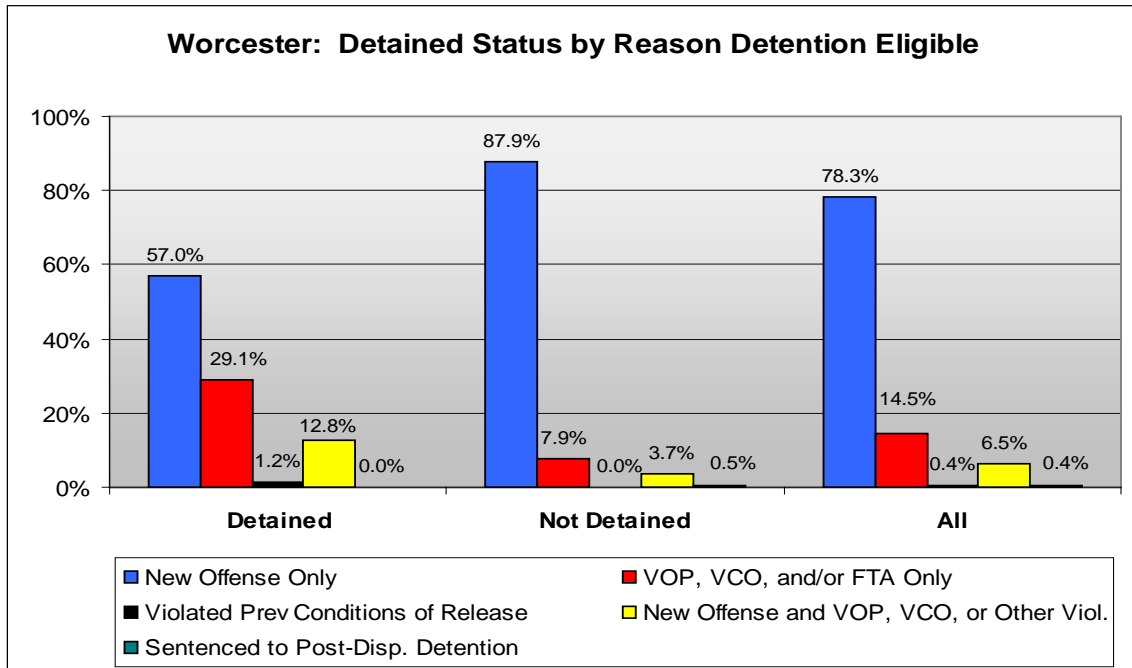
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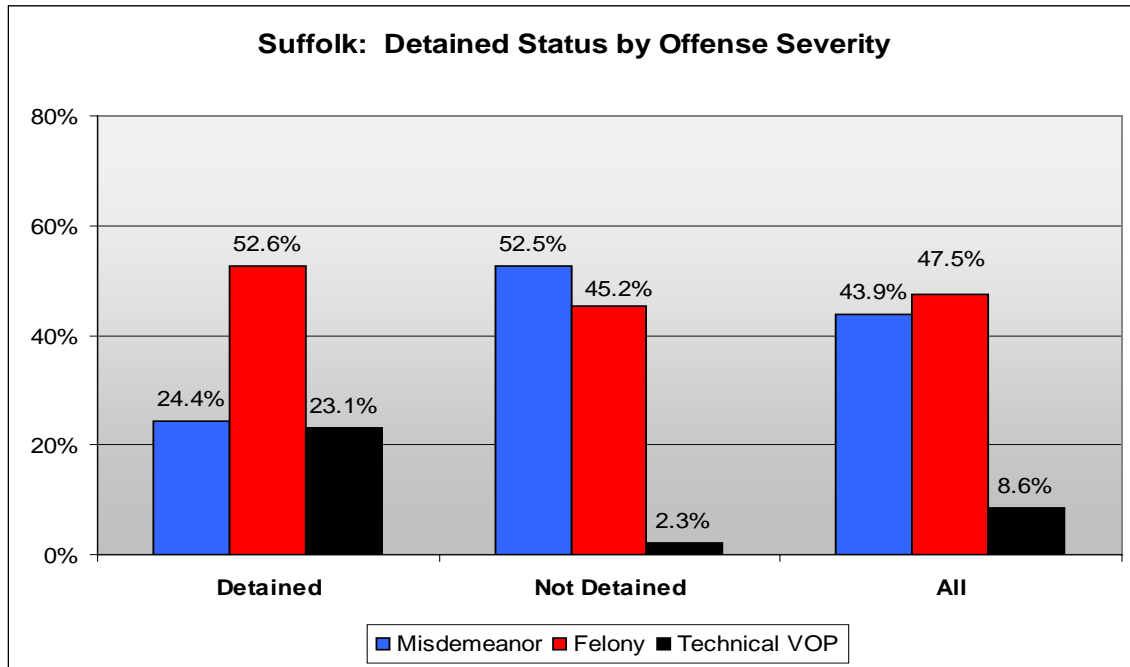
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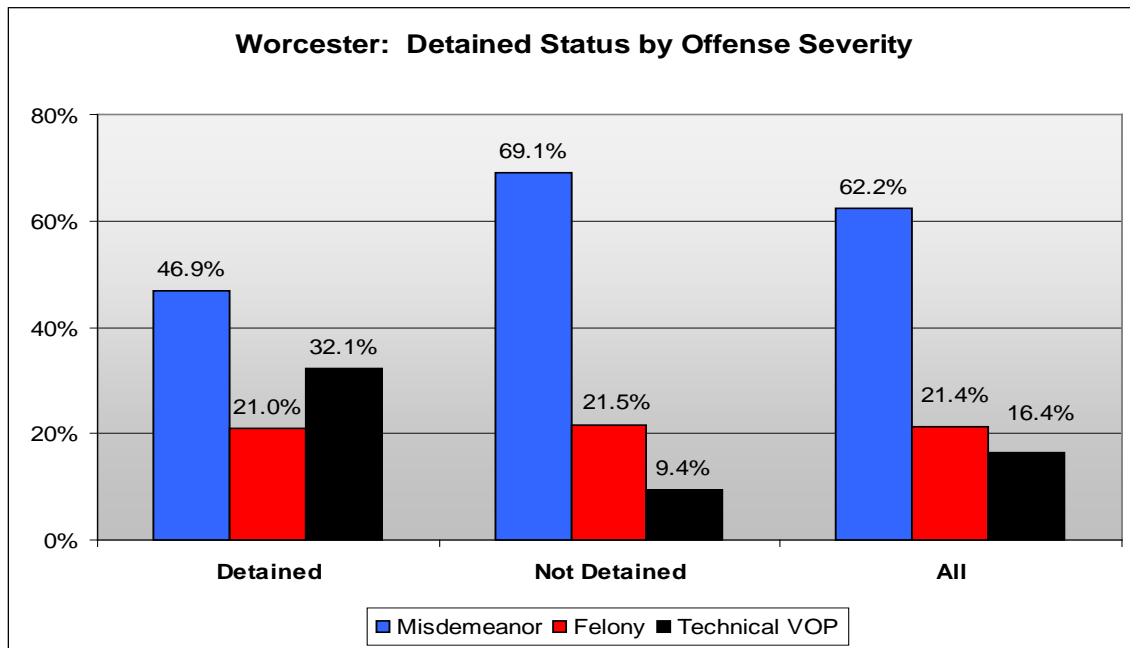
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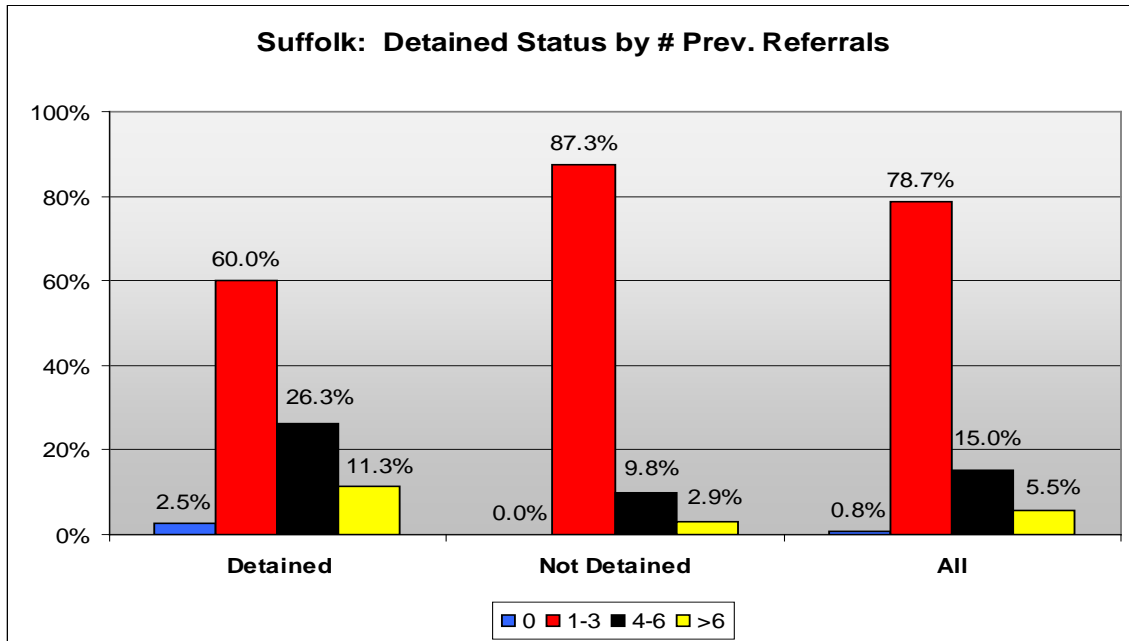
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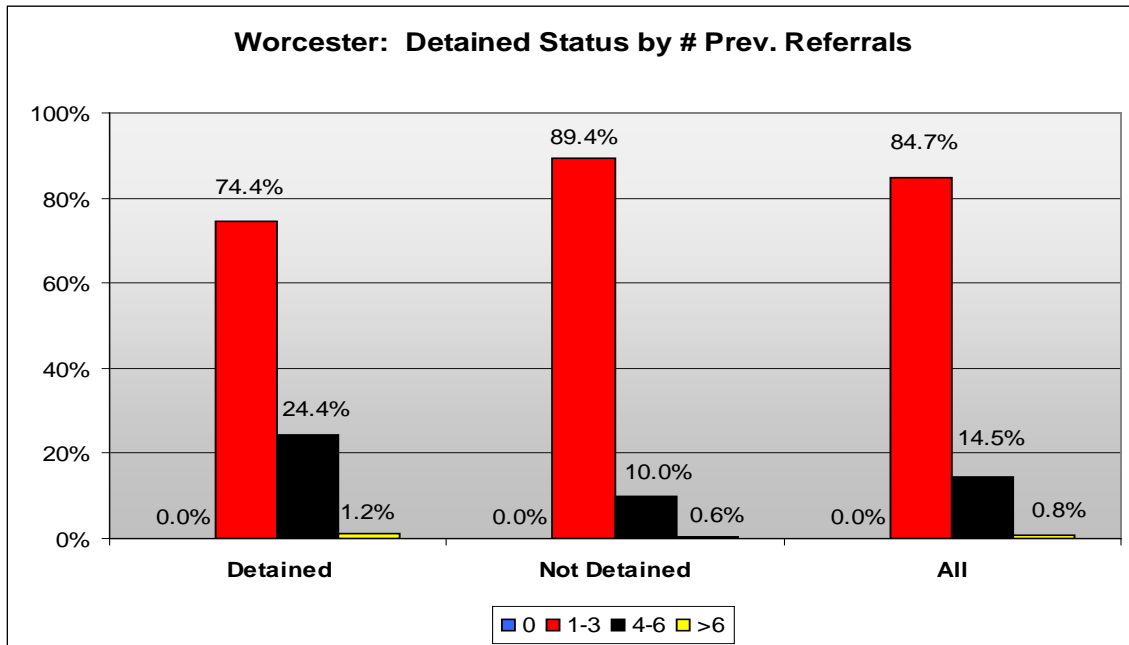
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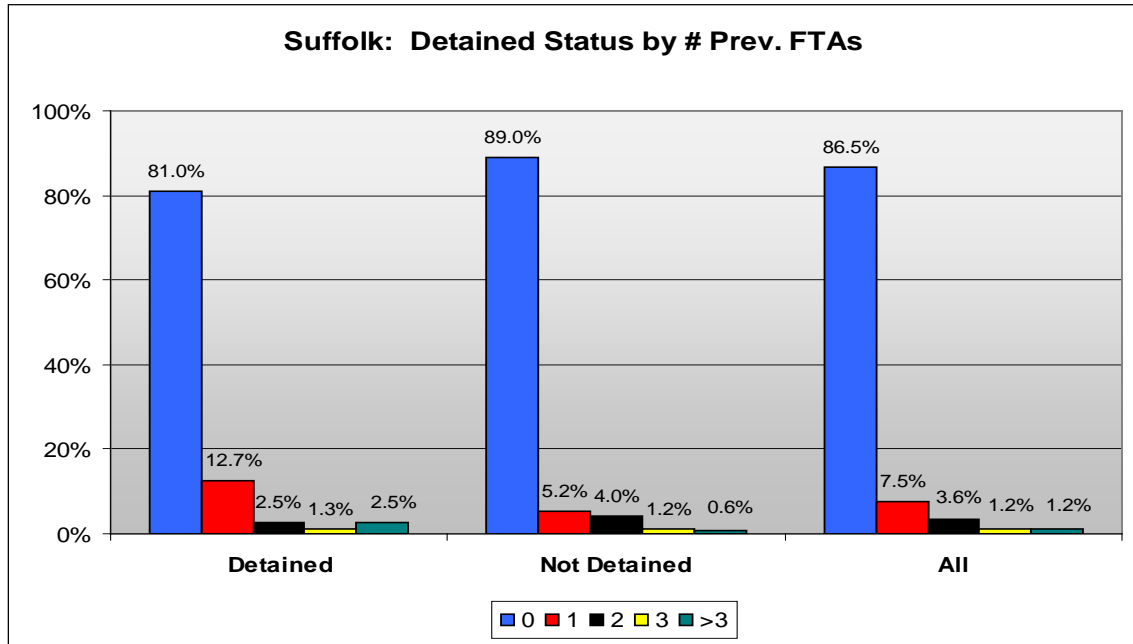
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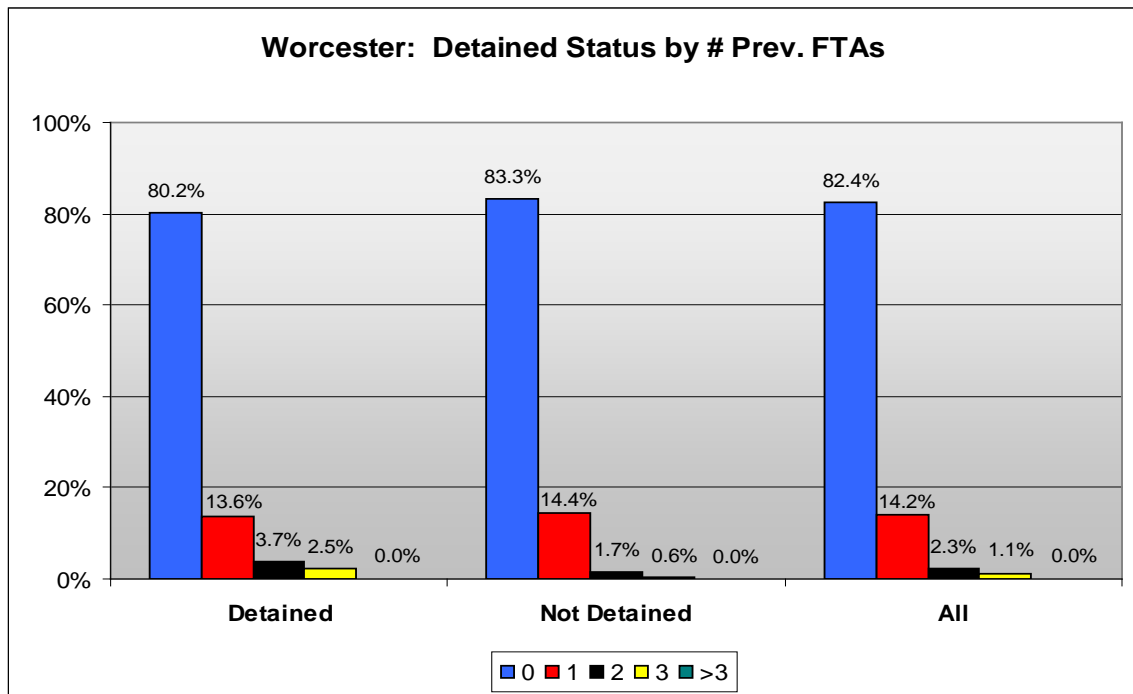
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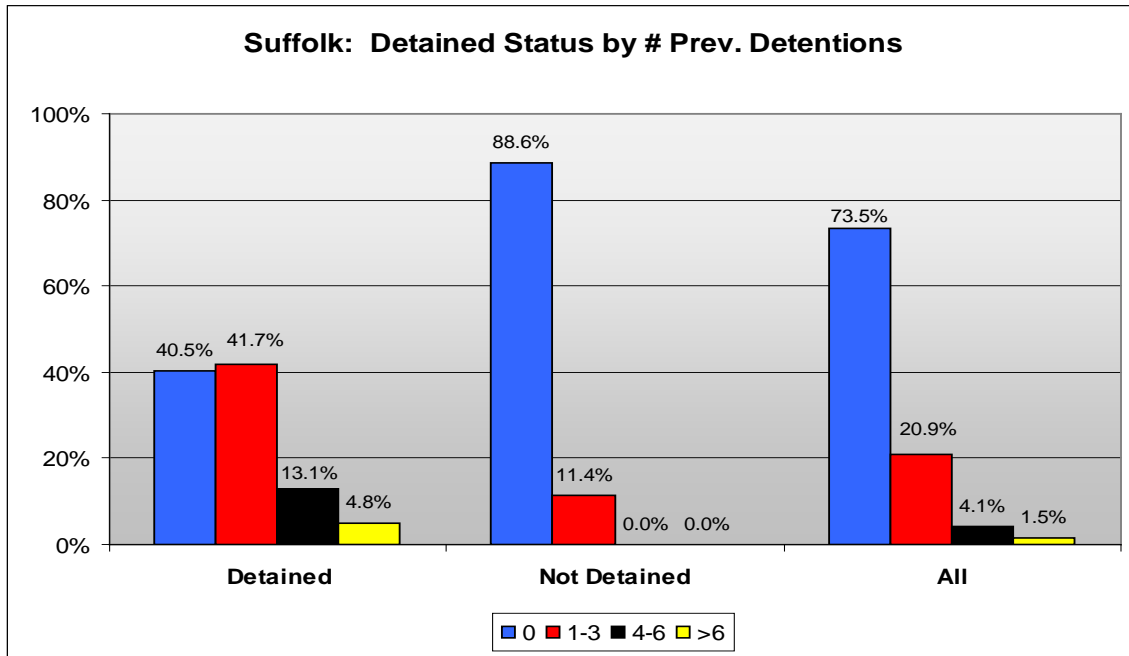
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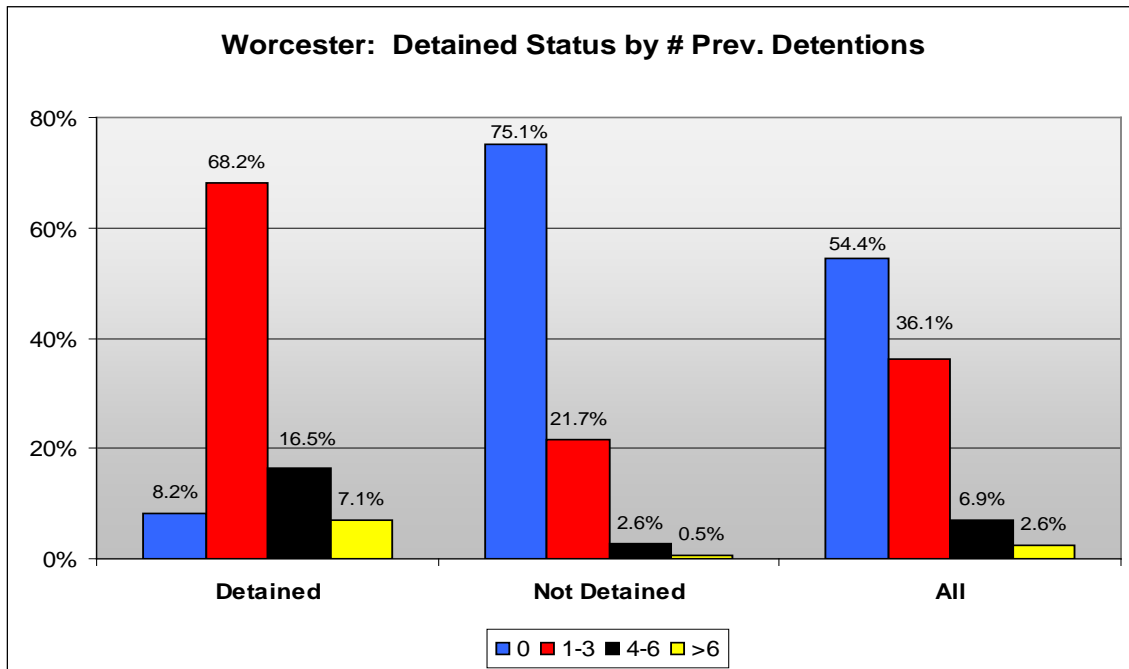
**Figure 34**



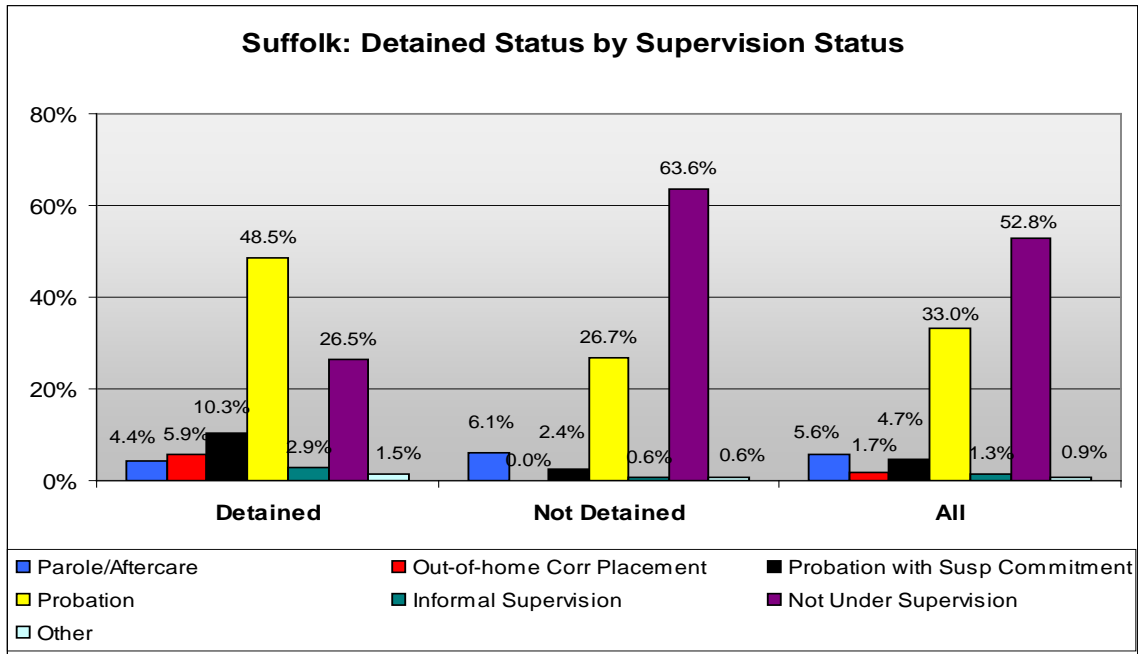
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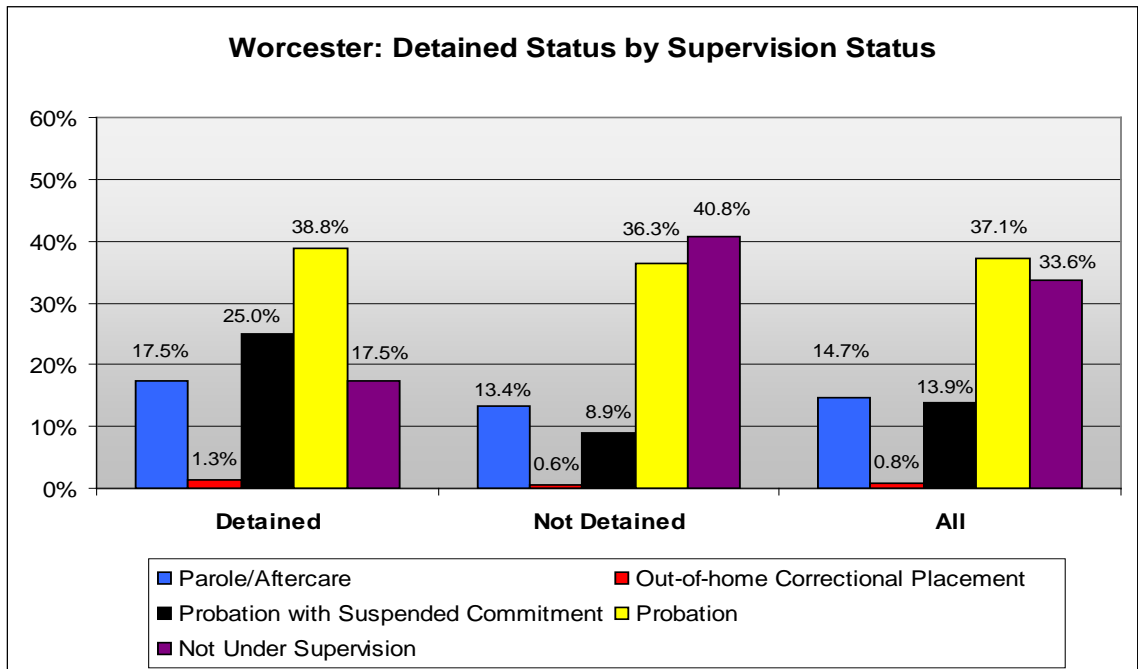
**Figure 36**



**Figure 37**



**Figure 38**



**Suffolk County:**

Characteristics of the **detained** (vs. non-detained) group

There were fewer Caucasian males (Tables 1 and 2); more African American person offenders, fewer African American property and drug offenders (Tables 3 and 4).

Table 1

	Male	%	Female	%	Total	%
<b>Suffolk: Detained</b>						
Caucasian	8	10.5%	4	50.0%	12	14.3%
African-American	49	64.5%	3	37.5%	52	61.9%
Hispanic/Latino	16	21.1%	1	12.5%	17	20.2%
Other	3	3.9%	0	0.0%	3	3.6%
Total	76	100.0%	8	100.0%	84	100.0%

Table 2

	Male	%	Female	%	Total	%
<b>Suffolk: Not Detained</b>						
Caucasian	24	18.0%	8	19.5%	32	18.4%
African-American	83	62.4%	24	58.5%	107	61.5%
Hispanic/Latino	25	18.8%	7	17.1%	32	18.4%
Asian	1	0.8%	2	4.9%	3	1.7%
Total	133	100.0%	41	100.0%	174	100.0%

Table 3

	Caucasian	%	Afr-American	%	Hispanic	%	Other	%	Total	%
<b>Suffolk: Detained</b>										
Person	5	41.7%	20	43.5%	5	31.3%	0	0.0%	30	39.0%
Property	3	25.0%	5	10.9%	4	25.0%	0	0.0%	12	15.6%
Drugs	0	0.0%	4	8.7%	2	12.5%	0	0.0%	6	7.8%
Motor Vehicle	1	8.3%	2	4.3%	1	6.3%	0	0.0%	4	5.2%
Weapons	0	0.0%	1	2.2%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	1.3%
Public Order	1	8.3%	3	6.5%	0	0.0%	2	66.7%	6	7.8%
Technical VOP	2	16.7%	11	23.9%	4	25.0%	1	33.3%	18	23.4%
Total	12	100.0%	46	100.0%	16	100.0%	3	100.0%	77	100.0%

Table 4

Suffolk: Not Detained	Caucasian		Afr-American		Hispanic		Other		Total	
		%		%		%		%		%
Person	13	41.9%	31	30.1%	10	31.3%	2	66.7%	56	33.1%
Property	5	16.1%	28	27.2%	9	28.1%	0	0.0%	42	24.9%
Drugs	3	9.7%	16	15.5%	5	15.6%	1	33.3%	25	14.8%
Motor Vehicle	2	6.5%	4	3.9%	2	6.3%	0	0.0%	8	4.7%
Weapons	2	6.5%	1	1.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	3	1.8%
Public Order	6	19.4%	22	21.4%	6	18.8%	0	0.0%	34	20.1%
Technical VOP	0	0.0%	1	1.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	0.6%
Total	31	100.0%	103	100.0%	32	100.0%	3	100.0%	169	100.0%

### Worcester County:

Characteristics of the **detained** (vs. non-detained) group

There were fewer Caucasian males, more Hispanic males (Tables 5 and 6); more Hispanic person offenders, fewer Hispanic property and drug offenders, and fewer Caucasian property offenders (Tables 7 and 8).

Table 5

Worcester: Detained	Male		Female		Total	
		%		%		%
Caucasian	27	41.5%	14	66.7%	41	47.7%
African-American	9	13.8%	2	9.5%	11	12.8%
Hispanic/Latino	23	35.4%	5	23.8%	28	32.6%
Asian	6	9.2%	0	0.0%	6	7.0%
Total	65	100.0%	21	100.0%	86	100.0%

Table 6

	Male	%	Female	%	Total	%
<b>Worcester: Not Detained</b>						
Caucasian	78	54.9%	20	46.5%	98	53.0%
African-American	17	12.0%	10	23.3%	27	14.6%
Hispanic/Latino	35	24.6%	11	25.6%	46	24.9%
Asian	12	8.5%	2	4.7%	14	7.6%
Total	142	100.0%	43	100.0%	185	100.0%

Table 7

	Caucasian	%	Afr-American	%	Hispanic	%	Other	%	Total	%
<b>Worcester: Detained</b>										
Person	7	18.4%	6	54.5%	7	25.9%	2	40.0%	22	27.2%
Property	6	15.8%	0	0.0%	1	3.7%	0	0.0%	7	8.6%
Drugs	1	2.6%	1	9.1%	3	11.1%	0	0.0%	5	6.2%
Motor Vehicle	2	5.3%	2	18.2%	5	18.5%	1	20.0%	10	12.3%
Weapons	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	20.0%	1	1.2%
Public Order	6	15.8%	0	0.0%	3	11.1%	1	20.0%	10	12.3%
Technical VOP	16	42.1%	2	18.2%	8	29.6%	0	0.0%	26	32.1%
Total	38	100.0%	11	100.0%	27	100.0%	5	100.0%	81	100.0%

Table 8

	Caucasian	%	Afr-American	%	Hispanic	%	Other	%	Total	%
<b>Worcester: Not Detained</b>										
Person	18	18.9%	7	25.9%	8	17.8%	4	28.6%	37	20.4%
Property	22	23.2%	6	22.2%	5	11.1%	3	21.4%	36	19.9%
Drugs	11	11.6%	2	7.4%	1	2.2%	0	0.0%	14	7.7%
Motor Vehicle	13	13.7%	0	0.0%	4	8.9%	0	0.0%	17	9.4%
Weapons	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	7.1%	1	0.6%
Public Order	24	25.3%	8	29.6%	21	46.7%	6	42.9%	59	32.6%
Technical VOP	7	7.4%	4	14.8%	6	13.3%	0	0.0%	17	9.4%
Total	95	100.0%	27	100.0%	45	100.0%	14	100.0%	181	100.0%

**Suffolk County:**

The likelihood of being arraigned on a violation of probation only, was greater for males than for females; and greater for African Americans and Hispanics than for Caucasians (Tables 9 and 10). The likelihood of being released to parent was greater for Caucasians than for African Americans and Hispanics. The likelihood of having bail denied or being released with conditions was greater for African Americans and Hispanics than for Caucasians (Tables 13 and 14).

Table 9

<b>Suffolk: Reason Detention Eligible</b>	<b>Male</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>Female</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>%</b>
New Offense Only	186	84.9%	49	94.2%	235	86.7%
VOP Only	22	10.0%	3	5.8%	25	9.2%
New Offense & VOP	10	4.6%	0	0.0%	10	3.7%
Pending Placement	1	0.5%	0	0.0%	1	0.4%
<b>Total</b>	<b>219</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>271</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Table 10

<b>Suffolk: Reason Detention Eligible</b>	<b>Caucasian</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>Afr-American</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>Hispanic</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>%</b>
New Offense Only	42	93.3%	13	84.3%	44	89.8%	5	83.3%	22	86.9%
VOP Only	3	6.7%	15	9.4%	4	8.2%	1	16.7%	23	8.9%
New Offense & VOP	0	0.0%	10	6.3%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	10	3.9%
Pending Placement	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	2.0%	0	0.0%	1	0.4%
<b>Total</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Table 11

<b>Suffolk: Detention Point</b>	<b>Male</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>Female</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>%</b>
At Arraignment	56	25.6%	5	9.8%	61	22.6%
At Preliminary Hearing	1	0.5%	1	2.0%	2	0.7%
Transferred From Other Placement	6	2.7%	0	0.0%	6	2.2%
At VOP Hearing	14	6.4%	1	2.0%	15	5.6%
At Other Point	1	0.5%	1	2.0%	2	0.7%
NA, Not Detained	141	64.4%	43	84.3%	184	68.1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>219</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>270</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Table 12

<b>Suffolk: Detention Point</b>	<b>Caucasian</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>Afr-American</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>Hispanic</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>%</b>
At Arraignment	10	22.7%	38	23.9%	10	20.4%	2	33.3%	60	23.3%
At Preliminary Hearing	0	0.0%	1	0.6%	1	2.0%	0	0.0%	2	0.8%
Transferred From Other Placement	0	0.0%	4	2.5%	2	4.1%	0	0.0%	2	0.8%
At VOP Hearing	1	2.3%	9	5.7%	4	8.2%	0	0.0%	6	2.3%
At Other Point	1	2.3%	1	0.6%	0	0.0%	1	16.7%	15	5.8%
NA, Not Detained	32	72.7%	106	66.7%	32	65.3%	3	50.0%	173	67.1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>159</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>258</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Table 13

<b>Suffolk: Bail Decision at Arraignment</b>	<b>Male</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>Female</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>%</b>
Released to DSS	0	0.0%	4	7.7%	4	1.5%
Released to Parent	42	19.4%	10	19.2%	52	19.3%
Released with Conditions	92	42.4%	29	55.8%	121	45.0%
Bail Denied	22	10.1%	1	1.9%	23	8.6%
Bail Set	53	24.4%	6	11.5%	59	21.9%
Other	8	3.7%	2	3.8%	10	3.7%
<b>Total</b>	<b>217</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>269</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Table 14

Suffolk: Bail Decision at Arraignment	Caucasian		Afr-American		Hispanic		Other		Total	
		%		%		%		%		%
Released to DSS	1	2.2%	1	0.6%	2	4.1%	0	0.0%	4	1.6%
Released to Parent	14	31.1%	26	16.6%	8	16.3%	2	28.6%	50	19.5%
Released w/ Conditions	16	35.6%	74	47.1%	21	42.9%	2	28.6%	112	43.6%
Bail Denied	0	0.0%	15	9.6%	7	14.3%	1	14.3%	23	8.9%
Bail Set	11	24.4%	36	22.9%	9	18.4%	2	28.6%	58	22.6%
Other	3	6.7%	5	3.2%	2	4.1%	0	0.0%	10	3.9%
Total	45	100.0%	157	100.0%	49	100.0%	7	100.0%	257	100.0%

**Suffolk County:**

The likelihood of being held without bail or being held on a bail amount of \$100 or less was greater for males than for females. Females were more likely to have no bail set. Caucasians were more likely than African American and Hispanics to have no bail set. African Americans and Hispanics were more likely than Caucasians to be held without bail. African Americans were less likely to be held on a bail amount of \$100 or less than were Caucasians and Hispanics (Tables 15 and 16).

Table 15

Suffolk: Bail Amount	Male		Female		Total	
		%		%		%
Bail Not Set	143	65.9%	44	84.6%	187	69.5%
<= \$100	34	15.7%	5	9.6%	39	14.5%
> \$100	18	8.3%	1	1.9%	19	7.1%
Held Without Bail	22	10.1%	2	3.8%	24	8.9%
Total	217	100.0%	52	100.0%	269	100.0%

Table 16

Suffolk: Bail Amount	Caucasian		Afr-American		Hispanic		Asian		Other		Total	
		%		%		%		%		%		%
Bail Not Set	33	73.3%	107	68.2%	33	67.3%	3	100.0%	0	0.0%	176	68.5%
<= \$100	8	17.8%	21	13.4%	9	18.4%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	38	14.8%
> \$100	3	6.7%	14	8.9%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	2	66.7%	19	7.4%
Held Without Bail	1	2.2%	15	9.6%	7	14.3%	0	0.0%	1	33.3%	24	9.3%
Total	45	100.0%	157	100.0%	49	100.0%	3	100.0%	3	100.0%	257	100.0%

### Worcester County:

The likelihood of being arraigned on a violation of probation only was greater for females than for males; and greater for Hispanics and Caucasians than for African Americans (Tables 17 and 18). The likelihood of being released to parent or having bail denied was greater for Caucasians than for African Americans and Hispanics. The likelihood of being released with conditions was greater for African Americans than for Caucasians and Hispanics (Tables 21 and 22).

Table 17

Worcester: Reason Detention Eligible	Male		Female		Total	
		%		%		%
New Offense Only	168	79.6%	48	73.8%	216	78.3%
VOP Only	25	11.8%	15	23.1%	40	14.5%
Violated Prev Cond.	1	0.5%	0	0.0%	1	0.4%
New Offense & VOP	16	7.6%	2	3.1%	18	6.5%
Post-Disp. Det.	1	0.5%	0	0.0%	1	0.4%
Total	211	100.0%	65	100.0%	276	100.0%

Table 18

<b>Worcester: Reason Detention Eligible</b>	<b>Caucasian</b>		<b>Afr-American</b>		<b>Hispanic</b>		<b>Other</b>		<b>Total</b>	
		%		%		%		%		%
New Offense Only	109	78.4%	32	84.2%	53	71.6%	17	85.0%	211	77.9%
VOP Only	22	15.8%	5	13.2%	13	17.6%	0	0.0%	40	14.8%
Violated Prev Cond.	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	1.4%	0	0.0%	1	0.4%
New Offense & VOP	8	5.8%	0	0.0%	7	9.5%	3	15.0%	18	6.6%
Post-Disp. Det.	0	0.0%	1	2.6%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	0.4%
<b>Total</b>	<b>139</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>271</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Table 19

<b>Worcester: Detention Point</b>	<b>Male</b>		<b>Female</b>		<b>Total</b>	
		%		%		%
At Arraignment	41	19.4%	10	15.4%	51	18.5%
At Preliminary Hearing	3	1.4%	0	0.0%	3	1.1%
At Adjudication Hearing	0	0.0%	1	1.5%	1	0.4%
At VOP Hearing	21	10.0%	10	15.4%	31	11.2%
NA, Not Detained	146	69.2%	44	67.7%	190	68.8%
<b>Total</b>	<b>211</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>276</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Table 20

<b>Worcester: Detention Point</b>	<b>Caucasian</b>		<b>Afr-American</b>		<b>Hispanic</b>		<b>Other</b>		<b>Total</b>	
		%		%		%		%		%
At Arraignment	20	14.4%	9	23.7%	17	23.0%	5	25.0%	51	18.8%
At Preliminary Hearing	2	1.4%	0	0.0%	1	1.4%	0	0.0%	3	1.1%
At Adjudication Hearing	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	1.4%	0	0.0%	1	0.4%
At VOP Hearing	19	13.7%	2	5.3%	9	12.2%	1	5.0%	31	11.4%
NA, Not Detained	98	70.5%	27	71.1%	46	62.2%	14	70.0%	185	68.3%
<b>Total</b>	<b>139</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>271</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Table 21

<b>Worcester: Bail Decision at Arraignment</b>	<b>Male</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>Female</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>%</b>
Released to DSS	2	1.0%	3	5.2%	5	1.9%
Released to Parent	22	10.7%	13	22.4%	35	13.3%
Released with Conditions	104	50.7%	24	41.4%	128	48.7%
Bail Denied	26	12.7%	6	10.3%	32	12.2%
Bail Set	27	13.2%	5	8.6%	32	12.2%
Other	24	11.7%	7	12.1%	31	11.8%
<b>Total</b>	<b>205</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>263</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Table 22

<b>Worcester: Bail Decision at Arraignment</b>	<b>Caucasian</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>Afr-American</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>Hispanic</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>Asian</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>%</b>
Released to DSS	3	2.3%	1	2.8%	1	1.4%	0	0.0%	5	1.9%
Released to Parent	19	14.4%	3	8.3%	8	11.4%	3	15.0%	33	12.8%
Released w/ Conditions	67	50.8%	20	55.6%	29	41.4%	9	45.0%	125	48.4%
Bail Denied	21	15.9%	2	5.6%	6	8.6%	3	15.0%	32	12.4%
Bail Set	10	7.6%	6	16.7%	13	18.6%	3	15.0%	32	12.4%
Other	12	9.1%	4	11.1%	13	18.6%	2	10.0%	31	12.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>132</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>258</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

**Worcester County:**

The likelihood of being held without bail was greater for Caucasians than for Hispanics or African Americans. Caucasians were less likely than Hispanics and African Americans to be held on a bail amount of \$100 or less (Tables 23 and 24).

Table 23

<b>Worcester: Bail Amount</b>	<b>Male</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>Female</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>%</b>
Bail Not Set	152	74.1%	46	78.0%	198	75.0%
<= \$100	20	9.8%	5	8.5%	25	9.5%
> \$100	6	2.9%	1	1.7%	7	2.7%
Held Without Bail	27	13.2%	7	11.9%	34	12.9%
Total	205	100.0%	59	100.0%	264	100.0%

Table 24

<b>Worcester: Bail Amount</b>	<b>Caucasian</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>Afr-American</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>Hispanic</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>Asian</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>%</b>
Bail Not Set	101	75.4%	28	77.8%	50	72.5%	14	70.0%	0	0.0%	193	74.5%
<= \$100	7	5.2%	4	11.1%	11	15.9%	3	15.0%	0	0.0%	25	9.7%
> \$100	3	2.2%	2	5.6%	2	2.9%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	7	2.7%
Held Without Bail	23	17.2%	2	5.6%	6	8.7%	3	15.0%	0	0.0%	34	13.1%
Total	134	100.0%	36	100.0%	69	100.0%	20	100.0%	0	0.0%	259	100.0%

## **Relative Rate Index**

The Relative Rate Index (RRI) is a way to measure differences in populations in regard to the specific occurrence of an event. In the Juvenile Justice system, RRIs are useful to investigate the occurrence of Disproportionate Minority Contact (DMC). The RRI is an estimator which allows for comparisons across time and racial groups. A weakness of the RRI is that it may be subject to error if there are differences in the severity of the arrests between racial groups.

For the purposes of this study, Relative Rate Indexes were calculated by dividing the detention rate of non-white youths by the detention rate of white youths.

### **Suffolk County:**

Detention rate for whites: 27.3%

Detention rate for non-whites: 33.6%

Relative Rate Index = **1.23** (Non-whites were detained at 1.23 times the rate of whites, however the difference in the rates was not statistically-significant).

### **Worcester County:**

Detention rate for whites: 29.5%

Detention rate for non-whites: 34.1%

Relative Rate Index = **1.16** (Non-whites were detained at 1.16 times the rate of whites, however the difference in the rates was not statistically-significant).

## **Limitations of the Study**

There are two limitations that need to be acknowledged in regard to the present study. The first involves sampling. Five hundred dockets were supplied by each court and the study sample was confined to the court cases associated with those dockets. Therefore, techniques such as random sampling and proportionate allocation were not possible. The second limitation involves the jurisdiction of the Boston Juvenile Court (BJC) from which the Suffolk County sample was taken. The BJC excludes areas of Boston such as Dorchester, Roxbury, and Mattapan. Since a large proportion of DYS youth reside in these areas, the study sample may not have contained a representative group of detention-eligible youths from Suffolk County.

## **Conclusions**

The differences in the racial compositions of the two samples underscored the demographic disparities between Suffolk and Worcester Counties. The Suffolk County sample was 17% Caucasian; 61% African American; 19% Hispanic; and 3% other; while the Worcester County sample was 51% Caucasian; 14% African American; 27% Hispanic; and 8% other. The gender breakdown was 81% male, 19% female for Suffolk County and 76% male, 24% female for Worcester County. The Suffolk County sample had a greater proportion of youths in the 15-16 year range, while the Worcester County sample had twice the rate of youths aged 14 and under. The following is a summary of the conclusions drawn, by County:

### **Suffolk County Sample**

- Relatively few youths (13%) were being arraigned on a violation of probation.
- Roughly half of the sample (48%) were arraigned on felony charges.
- Of the detained group, 24% were charged with a misdemeanor.

- The average length of time from arraignment to disposition was 126 days, with Caucasian clients having the longest average processing time (144 days).
- Probation violators had an average processing time of 97 days.
- Youths arraigned on felonies had a considerably longer average processing time (146 days) than those arraigned on misdemeanors (113 days).
- The average length of detention stay was 29 days, with Hispanic youths having the longest average length of detention stay (35 days).
- Probation violators had a 43 day average length of detention stay.
- Youths arraigned on felonies had roughly twice the average length of stay (30 days) than those arraigned on misdemeanors (14 days).
- The detained group had considerably more males (91%) than the non-detained group (77%).
- The detained group had many more probation violators (32%) than the non-detained group (4%).
- The detained group had fewer Caucasian males (11% vs. 18%); more African Americans charged with crimes against a person (44% vs. 30%); fewer African American property offenders (11% vs. 27%), and fewer African American drug offenders (9% vs. 16%), than did the non-detained group.
- The likelihood of being arraigned on a violation of probation only was greater for males (15%) than for females (6%); and greater for African Americans (16%) than for Hispanics (8%) and Caucasians (7%).
- Hispanics (14%) and African Americans (10%) were more likely than Caucasians (2%) to be held without bail.
- The detention rates for whites and non-whites were 27.3% and 33.6% respectively. Non-whites were detained at 1.23 times the rate of whites.

## Worcester County Sample

- Roughly one out of five youths (21%) were arraigned on a violation of probation.
- Only 22% of the sample were arraigned on felony charges.
- Of the detained group, 47% were charged with a misdemeanor.
- The average length of time from arraignment to disposition was 102 days, with Caucasian clients having the longest average processing time (111 days).
- Probation violators had an average processing time of 85 days.
- Surprisingly, youths arraigned on misdemeanors had a considerably longer average processing time than those arraigned on felonies (108 days and 91 days respectively).
- The average length of detention stay was 20 days, with Caucasian youths having the longest average length of stay (23 days).
- Youth arraigned on violations of probation only, had a 21 day average length of detention stay.
- Youths arraigned on felonies had the same average length of detention stay as those arraigned on misdemeanors (20 days).
- The detained group had more Hispanic youths (23%) than the non-detained group (19%).
- The detained group had many more probation violators (42%) than the non-detained group (12%).
- The detained group had fewer Caucasian males (42% vs. 55%); more Hispanic males (35% vs. 25%); more Hispanics charged with crimes against a person (26% vs. 18%); fewer Hispanic property offenders (4% vs. 11%); and fewer Caucasian property offenders (16% vs. 23%) than did the non-detained group.
- The likelihood of being arraigned on a violation of probation only, was greater for females (26%) than for males (19%); and greater for Hispanics (27%) and Caucasians (22%) than for African Americans (13%).
- The detention rates for whites and non-whites were 29.5% and 34.1% respectively. Non-whites were detained at 1.16 times the rate of whites.

## **Appendix A**

### **JDAI – Eight Core Strategies**

#### **Collaboration**

Key juvenile justice stakeholders coordinate detention reform activities and conduct joint planning and policymaking under a formal governance structure. They work together to identify detention bottlenecks and problems; to develop common understandings and solutions; to generate support for proposed reforms and routinely monitor reform progress.

#### **Data Driven Decisions**

JDAI depends upon objective data analysis to guide detention reform planning and policy development. Data on detention population, utilization and operations are collected to provide a portrait of who is being detained and why, as well as suggesting what points in the process may need attention. As a results-based initiative, JDAI establishes and tracks performance measures. All data are disaggregated by race/ethnicity and gender to monitor disparities in the system.

#### **Objectives Admissions Criteria and Instruments**

Detention admissions policies and practices must distinguish between the youth who are likely to flee or commit new crimes and those who are not. JDAI sites develop Risk Assessment Instruments to screen for individual risk using reliable, standardized techniques. Absent an objective approach, high-risk offenders may be released and low-risk offenders detained.

#### **Non-Secure Alternatives to Detention**

New or enhanced non-secure alternatives to detention programs increase the options available for arrested youth. They ensure that juveniles are held accountable for their behavior and the community is protected. Pre-trial detention alternative programs target only the youth who would otherwise be detained.

#### **Case Processing Reforms**

Modifications of juvenile court procedures accelerate the movement of delinquency cases, streamline case processing and reduce unnecessary delay. Case processing reforms are introduced to expedite the flow of cases through the system. These changes reduce length of stay in custody, expand the availability of non-secure program slots and ensure that interventions with youth are timely and appropriate.

## **Special Detention Cases**

Special strategies are necessary for handling difficult populations of youth who are detained unnecessarily. The data analysis directs the site to the cases or cluster of cases in need of special attention. They may include youths detained on warrants, youths detained for probation violations, or youths detained pending dispositional placement. Addressing these cases can have immediate and significant impact on reducing detention populations.

## **Reducing Racial Disparities**

Reducing racial disparities requires specific strategies aimed at eliminating bias and ensuring a level playing field for youth of color. Ongoing objective data analysis is critical. Racial disparities are the most stubborn aspect of detention reform. Real lasting change in this arena requires determined leadership and targeted policies and programming.

## **Conditions of Confinement**

Reducing overcrowding in detention can immediately improve conditions. To monitor conditions of confinement in secure detention centers and to identify problems that need correction, JDAI sites establish “self-inspection” teams of local volunteers. These self-inspection teams are trained in a rigorous methodology and ambitious standards that carefully examine all aspects of facility policies, practices and programs. The teams then prepare comprehensive reports on their findings and monitor implementation of corrective action plans.

## Appendix B

### Confidentiality and Data Security

Maintaining the confidentiality of youth whose records are accessed as part of this study was a priority of the study team. This section details specific steps that were taken in order to ensure confidentiality and data security.

#### *Collecting Identifying Information*

It was necessary to collect identifying information on youth in order to match records across agencies. The following data elements were collected on each youth for the purposes of matching:

- First Name
- Last Name
- Date of Birth
- Social Security Identification Number

#### *Collection and Storage of Identifying Information*

Youth information was collected from a combination of paper and electronic data sources and was entered directly into an electronic data collection form in an SPSS file. The files were stored on the hard drives of computers with password-protected user profiles.

The majority of information was collected through records of the Massachusetts Juvenile Court, submitted in paper copy to the Department of Youth Services. Information from these paper copy documents was entered into the electronic data collection forms by DYS staff, interns, and subcontractors. Subsequent to data entry, paper copies were returned to the Court.

To safeguard against loss or damage of data, a backup copy of identifying data collected to date was maintained by the research analyst at DYS.

#### *Transferring Identifying Information*

It was necessary to transfer identifying information between computers within DYS for the purpose of merging data collected by different individuals or sharing data elements across agencies. This information was not transmitted via email or over the internet or stored on a public server.

#### *Reporting Identifying Information*

Under no circumstances was data containing identifying information, reported as part of this study.

#### *De-Identifying Information*

Once data collection was complete, all records were assigned a unique identifier and were stripped of identifying information. This process involved assigning sequential six-digit

numbers to each record, deleting the field containing name, date or birth, and social security information, and copying the remaining information to a new file to prevent recovery of deleted data. A separate file was created that links identifying information to the unique identifier. This was stored in a secure location, separate from the data file in the event that the same sample is needed for additional analysis. After two years the file will be destroyed.

*Storage and Transfer of De-Identified Information*

Because the data file contained no identifying information, it could be transferred via email or stored on a public server. However, the complete data file was used only for the purpose of analysis and was not made available in the final report. Results are reported in the aggregate only. The data file will be stored and maintained by DYS.

*Availability for Outside Research Purposes*

If another agency or collaborative would like to request the use of the de-identified data file for the purpose of other analysis, the request must be made in writing to DYS Commissioner Jane Tewksbury, chair of the Statewide Steering Committee. In addition to receiving approval from the Statewide Steering committee, the requesting agency must also receive approval and/or comply with any necessary procedures through the agencies which initially supplied the data.

## Appendix C

### Glossary of Terms

**Adjudication:** Judicial determination (judgment) that a juvenile is responsible for the delinquency or status offense that is charged in a petition or complaint.

**Age:** Age at the time of referral to juvenile court.

**Care and Protection case:** Those cases covering abuse, neglect or inadequate care on the part of parents or guardians, such as abandonment or desertion; abuse or cruel treatment; improper or inadequate conditions in the home; and insufficient care or support resulting from death, absence, or physical or mental incapacity of parents.

**Case rate:** Number of cases disposed per 1,000 juveniles in the population. The population base used to calculate the case rate varies. For example, the population base for the male case rate is the total number of male youth age 10 or older who are under the jurisdiction of the juvenile courts. (See "juvenile population.")

**Delinquency:** Acts or conduct in violation of criminal law. (See "reason for referral.")

**Delinquent act:** An act committed by a juvenile which, if committed by an adult, would be a criminal act. The juvenile court has jurisdiction over delinquent acts. Delinquent acts include crimes against persons, crimes against property, drug offenses, and crimes against public order.

**Detention:** The placement of a youth in a secure facility under court authority at some point between the time of referral to court intake and case disposition.

**Disposition:** Sanction ordered or treatment plan decided upon or initiated in a particular case. Case dispositions are coded into the following categories:

- Cases that were transferred to criminal court as the result of an indictment.
- Placement—Cases in which youth were placed in a residential facility for delinquents or status offenders, or cases in which youth were otherwise removed from their homes and placed elsewhere.
- Probation—Cases in which youth were placed on informal/voluntary or formal/court- ordered supervision.

- Dismissed/released—Cases dismissed or otherwise released (including those warned and counseled) with no further sanction or consequence anticipated. Among cases handled informally (see "manner of handling"), some cases may be dismissed by the juvenile court because the matter is being handled in another court or agency.
- Other—Miscellaneous dispositions not included above. These dispositions include fines, restitution, community service, referrals outside the court for services with minimal or no further court involvement anticipated, and dispositions coded as "other" in a jurisdiction's original data.

**Formal handling:** See "manner of handling."

**Informal handling:** See "manner of handling."

**Intake decision:** The decision made by juvenile court intake that results in the case either being handled informally at the intake level or being petitioned and scheduled for an adjudicatory hearing.

**Judicial decision:** The decision made in response to a petition that asks the court to adjudicate the youth. This decision is generally made by a juvenile court judge or referee.

**Judicial disposition:** The disposition rendered in a case after the judicial decision has been made.

**Juvenile:** Youth at or below the upper age of original juvenile court jurisdiction. (See "juvenile population" and "upper age of jurisdiction.")

**Juvenile court:** Any court that has jurisdiction over matters involving juveniles.

**Juvenile population:** For delinquency and status offense matters, the juvenile population is defined as the number of children between the age of seven and the upper age of jurisdiction. For care and protection matters, it is defined as the number of children at or below the upper age of jurisdiction. In all States, the upper age of jurisdiction is defined by statute. Thus, when the upper age of jurisdiction is 17, the delinquency and status offense juvenile population is equal to the number of children ages 10 through 17 living within the geographical area serviced by the court. (See "upper age of jurisdiction.")

**Manner of handling:** A general classification of case processing within the court system. Petitioned (formally handled) cases are those that appear on the official court calendar in response to the filing of a petition, complaint, or other legal instrument requesting the court to adjudicate a youth as a delinquent, status offender, or dependent child or to waive jurisdiction and transfer a youth to criminal court for processing as a criminal offender. In nonpetitioned (informally handled) cases, duly authorized court personnel, having screened the case, decide not to file a formal petition. Such personnel include judges, referees, probation officers, other officers of the court, and/or agencies statutorily designated to conduct petition screening for the juvenile court.

**Nonpetitioned case:** See "manner of handling."

**Petition:** A document filed in juvenile court alleging that a juvenile is a delinquent or a status offender and asking that the court assume jurisdiction over the juvenile.

**Petitioned case:** See "manner of handling."

**Reason for referral:** The most serious offense for which the youth was referred to court intake. Attempts to commit an offense were included under that offense, except attempted murder, which was included in the aggravated assault category.

- Crimes against persons—Includes criminal homicide, forcible rape, robbery, aggravated assault, simple assault, and other person offenses as defined below.
  - Criminal homicide—Causing the death of another person without legal justification or excuse. Criminal homicide is a summary category, not a single codified offense. In law, the term embraces all homicides in which the perpetrator intentionally kills someone without legal justification or accidentally kills someone as a consequence of reckless or grossly negligent conduct. It includes all conduct encompassed by the terms murder, nonnegligent (voluntary) manslaughter, negligent (involuntary) manslaughter, and vehicular manslaughter. The term is broader than the Crime Index category used in the Federal Bureau of Investigation's (FBI's) *Uniform Crime Reports (UCR)*, in which murder/nonnegligent manslaughter does not include negligent manslaughter or vehicular manslaughter.
  - Forcible rape—Sexual intercourse or attempted sexual intercourse with a female against her will by force or threat of force. The term is used in the same sense as in the *UCR* Crime Index. Some States have enacted gender-neutral rape or sexual assault statutes that prohibit forced sexual penetration of either sex. Data reported by such States do not distinguish between forcible rape of females as defined above and other sexual assaults. (Other violent sex offenses are classified as "other offenses against persons.")
  - Robbery—Unlawful taking or attempted taking of property that is in the immediate possession of another by force or threat of force. The term is used in the same sense as in the *UCR* Crime Index and includes forcible purse snatching.
  - Assault—Unlawful intentional infliction, or attempted or threatened infliction, of injury upon the person of another.
    - Aggravated assault—Unlawful intentional infliction of serious bodily injury or unlawful threat or attempt to inflict bodily injury or death by means of a deadly or dangerous weapon with or without actual infliction of any injury. The term is used in the same sense as

in the *UCR* Crime Index. It includes conduct encompassed under the statutory names aggravated assault and battery, aggravated battery, assault with intent to kill, assault with intent to commit murder or manslaughter, atrocious assault, attempted murder, felonious assault, and assault with a deadly weapon.

- Simple assault—Unlawful intentional infliction or attempted or threatened infliction of less than serious bodily injury without a deadly or dangerous weapon. The term is used in the same sense as in *UCR* reporting. Simple assault is not often distinctly named in statutes because it encompasses all assaults not explicitly named and defined as serious. Unspecified assaults are classified as "other offenses against persons."
- Other offenses against persons—Includes kidnaping, violent sex acts other than forcible rape (e.g., incest, sodomy), custody interference, unlawful restraint, false imprisonment, reckless endangerment, harassment, and attempts to commit any such acts.
- Crimes against property—Includes burglary, larceny, motor vehicle theft, arson, vandalism, stolen property offenses, trespassing, and other property offenses as defined below.
  - Burglary—Unlawful entry or attempted entry of any fixed structure, vehicle, or vessel used for regular residence, industry, or business, with or without force, with intent to commit a felony or larceny. The term is used in the same sense as in the *UCR* Crime Index.
  - Larceny—Unlawful taking or attempted taking of property (other than a motor vehicle) from the possession of another by stealth, without force and without deceit, with intent to permanently deprive the owner of the property. This term is used in the same sense as in the *UCR* Crime Index. It includes shoplifting and purse snatching without force.
  - Motor vehicle theft—Unlawful taking or attempted taking of a self-propelled road vehicle owned by another with the intent to deprive the owner of it permanently or temporarily. The term is used in the same sense as in the *UCR* Crime Index. It includes joyriding or unauthorized use of a motor vehicle as well as grand theft auto.
  - Arson—Intentional damage or destruction by means of fire or explosion of the property of another without the owner's consent or of any property with intent to defraud, or attempting the above acts. The term is used in the same sense as in the *UCR* Crime Index.
  - Vandalism—Destroying, damaging, or attempting to destroy or damage public property or the property of another without the owner's consent, except by burning.

- Stolen property offenses—Unlawfully and knowingly receiving, buying, or possessing stolen property or attempting any of the above. The term is used in the same sense as the *UCR* category "stolen property: buying, receiving, possessing."
- Trespassing—Unlawful entry or attempted entry of the property of another with the intent to commit a misdemeanor other than larceny or without intent to commit a crime.
- Other property offenses—Includes extortion and all fraud offenses, such as forgery, counterfeiting, embezzlement, check or credit card fraud, and attempts to commit any such offenses.
- Drug law violations—Includes unlawful sale, purchase, distribution, manufacture, cultivation, transport, possession, or use of a controlled or prohibited substance or drug or drug paraphernalia, or attempt to commit these acts. Sniffing of glue, paint, gasoline, and other inhalants is also included. Hence, the term is broader than the *UCR* category "drug abuse violations."
- Status offenses—Includes acts or types of conduct that are offenses only when committed or engaged in by a juvenile and that can be adjudicated only by a juvenile court. Although State statutes defining status offenses vary and some States may classify cases involving these offenses as dependency cases, for the purposes of this Report the following types of offenses were classified as status offenses.
  - Runaway—Leaving the custody and home of parents, guardians, or custodians without permission and failing to return within a reasonable length of time, in violation of a statute regulating the conduct of youth.
  - Truancy—Violation of a compulsory school attendance law.
  - Violation of home rules—Being beyond the control of parents, guardians, or custodians or being disobedient of parental authority. This classification is referred to in various juvenile codes as unruly, unmanageable, and incorrigible.
  - Violation of school rules.
  - Miscellaneous status offenses—Numerous status offenses not included above (e.g., tobacco violation, curfew violation, and violation of a court order in a status offense proceeding) and those offenses coded as "other" in a jurisdiction's original data.