

Youth on Probation: Year 2000-02

Demographic profile. Approximately there were 1000 youth involved in probation during a calendar year between 2000 and 2002. It was noticed that the number of new cases assigned to supervision/probation decreased by 23% over the three-year period. Of all probationers, the percentages of female increased slightly from 2000 to 2002. The same was true for the African-American youth. The average age of youth at the beginning of probation was 15.5 years old.

Youth on probation: 2000-02

	2000	2001	2002
Caseload			
# of new cases	492	448	379
# of carry-over cases*	616	587	557
# of total cases worked	1108	1035	936
Gender(%)**			
Male	373 (75.8)	328 (73.2)	271 (71.5)
Female	119 (24.2)	120 (26.8)	108 (28.5)
Race/ethnicity(%)**			
Asian	22 (4.5)	16 (3.6)	12 (3.2)
Black	136 (27.6)	130 (29.0)	124 (32.7)
Hispanic	45 (9.1)	43 (9.6)	38 (10.0)
Native American	10 (2.0)	6 (1.3)	12 (3.2)
White	276 (56.1)	245 (54.7)	184 (48.5)
Other/unknown	3 (0.6)	8 (1.7)	9 (2.3)
Age probation started(%)**			
13 or younger	60 (12.2)	38 (8.5)	52 (13.7)
14	80 (16.3)	76 (17.0)	52 (13.7)
15	95 (19.3)	84 (18.8)	87 (23.0)
16	114 (23.2)	122 (27.2)	78 (20.6)
17 or older	143 (29.1)	128 (28.5)	110 (29.0)

*Cases that were active on the last day of previous year.

** Calculations based on the new cases opened during that year.

Length of probation. The length of stay was calculated for the new probation cases started between 2000 and 2003. On average, youth spent 431 days on probation. The data show that the average number of days a youth stays on probation substantially decreased over the three-year period, from 453 days in 2000 to 389 in 2002.

Days on Probation: 2000-02

	2000	2001	2002
Total new cases	492	448	379
1-180 days	18 (3.7)	20 (4.5)	14 (3.7)
181-365	274 (55.7)	266 (59.4)	277 (73.1)
366-730	133 (27.1)	107 (13.2)	62 (16.4)
731 or above	65 (13.2)	53 (11.8)	25 (6.6)
Average	453	444	389

**For new cases opened in that year. Case with missing data excluded.

The most serious conviction. 'Assault', 'Drug offense', and 'Theft' were the top three most serious crimes committed by youth on probation. The number of probationers convicted for 'Burglary' decreased in 2002, while convicted for 'Unauthorized Use/entry of Motor Vehicle' increased. The average number of delinquency referrals for this population was 4.5. Many of them had prior dependency referral.

Most serious crime convicted: 2000-02

	2000	2001	2002
Type of crime(%)*			
Assault	79 (16.3)	61 (13.8)	67 (18.2)
Burglary	49 (10.1)	47 (10.6)	21 (5.7)
Drug	75 (15.5)	75 (16.9)	53 (14.4)
Criminal mischief	29 (6.0)	26 (5.9)	21(5.7)
Criminal trespass	12 (2.5)	6 (1.4)	6 (1.6)
Fraud/forgery	5 (1.0)	5 (1.1)	1 (0.3)
Harassment	22 (4.5)	27 (6.1)	28 (7.6)
Robbery	10 (2.1)	15 (3.4)	13 (3.5)
Sex offense	24 (4.9)	31(7.0)	20 (5.4)
Theft	71 (14.6)	51 (11.5)	46 (12.5)
UUMV/UEMV	43 (8.9)	41 (9.3)	45 (12.2)
Weapon/destr device	33 (6.8)	20 (4.5)	14 (3.8)
Other	33 (6.8)	38(8.6)	34(9.2)
Prior dependency referral(%)			
Yes	161 (32.7)	128 (28.6)	125 (33.0)
No	331 (67.3)	320 (71.4)	254 (67)
Delinquency referral			
Average	4.74	4.54	4.55

*Cases with missing data excluded.