

**LIVING ARRANGEMENT OF THE CHILD AT THE TIME OF REFERRAL TO
JUVENILE COURT
1998**

Consistent with the data gathered in previous years, the chart on page 18 shows the largest numbers (26,581 or 38%) of the children within the general juvenile court population were reported to be "Living With Their Mothers Only" at the time of referral to juvenile court. The second and third most reported living arrangements for the general juvenile court population were "Living With Both Natural Parents" (17%) and "Unknown" (15%).

When examining the 1998 juvenile court population by race and gender categories, different living arrangement patterns can be seen (see charts on pages 18 - 20). White female data continued to mirror the general juvenile court population figures. This data revealed a higher percentage of "Living With Mothers Only" (35%) over "Living With Both Natural Parents" (20%) and "Unknown" (10%). These figures are consistent with the 1995, 1996 and 1997 percentages.

Data regarding African American females continued to be reflective of a different living arrangement picture when compared to that of their white counterparts. Forty-five percent (45%) of African American females were reported to be "Living With Mothers Only," followed by 18% "Living With Relatives" and 18% "Unknown".

Once again, the 1998 data reflected a change from the historical trend of white males living more often with both natural parents. As in 1995, 1996 and 1997, the 1998 data showed that the largest category for white males was "Living With Mother Only" with 32%. "Living With Both Natural Parents" continued to be the second most reported living arrangement for white males (26%), followed by "Unknown" (13%).

Data associated with African American males continued to reveal that almost half (47%) of African American males were reported as "Living With Mother Only" at the time of referral. For 18% of African American males, the reported living arrangement was "Unknown," followed by 13% "Living With Relatives."

In summary, the 1998 data continued to show that most children were "Living With Their Mothers Only" at the time of referral to juvenile court. White children of both genders continued to appear to have higher percentages of "Living With Both Natural Parents", while their African American counterparts continued to have higher percentages of "Living With Relatives."