

**LIVING ARRANGEMENT OF THE CHILD AT THE TIME OF REFERRAL TO
JUVENILE COURT
2000**

Consistent with the data gathered in previous years, the chart on page 18 shows the largest numbers (34,198 or 42%) 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" (18%) and "Living With Relatives" (11%).

When examining the 2000 juvenile court population by race and gender categories, different living arrangement patterns can be seen (see charts on pages 19 - 20). White female data continued to mirror the general juvenile court population figures. This data revealed a higher percentage of "Living With Mothers Only" (37%) over "Living With Both Natural Parents" (22%) and "Unknown" (9%), followed closely by "Living With Relatives" (9%). These figures are consistent with the 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, and 1999 percentages.

Data regarding African American females continued to be reflective of a different living arrangement picture when compared to that of their white counterparts. Fifty-seven percent (57%) of African American females were reported to be "Living With Mothers Only," followed by 17% "Living With Relatives". "Living With Both Natural Parents" (5%) was slightly above "Unknown" (5%).

Once again, the 2000 data reflected a change from the historical trend of white males living more often with both natural parents. As in 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, and 1999, the 2000 data showed that the largest category for white males was "Living With Mother Only" with 34%. "Living With Both Natural Parents" continued to be the second most reported living arrangement for white males (26%), followed by "Unknown" (10%).

Data associated with African American males revealed that over half (56%) of African American males were reported as "Living With Mother Only" at the time of referral. This is the first time that more than half of the African American males referred to juvenile court lived with their mother only. For 15% of African American males the reported living arrangement was "Living With Relatives", followed by 5% "Living With Both Natural Parents."

In summary, the 2000 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 have higher percentages of "Living With Both Natural Parents" than did African Americans, while their African American counterparts continued to have higher percentages of "Living With Relatives."