

DETENTION INFORMATION 2000

After receiving an offense-related referral, one of the immediate decisions the court must make is whether or not to detain the child. When the court believes that a child, referred for offense-related reasons, is in need of protection or may be a threat to the community, the court may elect to detain the child. The 2000 data revealed that in 76.8% of reported cases, children were not considered for detention. In 13.16% of reported cases, however, children were considered for and detained in a juvenile detention facility. Remember that the definition of case (from page 7) is “all referral reasons/charges reported to the court (via complaint, petition, motion, etc.) on a given day for a given child.” Please refer to the table below and the chart on page 40 for more information.

Not Considered For Detention	91,315	76.80%
NonSecure Place	2,116	1.78%
Juvenile Detention	15,651	13.16%
Jail Complete Separation	108	0.09%
Jail Partial Separation	20	0.02%
Jail No Separation	11	0.01%
Psychiatric Hospital	129	0.11%
Unknown/Not Reported	7,835	6.59%
Other	1,722	1.45%
Total	118,907	100.00%

Non-secure placements provide children with shelter and supervision in a setting that enables them to continue as many normal activities as possible. Temporary Holding Resources (THRs), emergency foster homes, and shelters constitute most of the non-secure placements used by juvenile courts. The 2000 data showed 2,116 or 1.78% of the juvenile court cases resulted in placement in one of these non-secure settings.

Conversely, the 2000 data revealed 108 or 0.09% of cases resulted in children being placed in adult jails completely separated by sight and sound from all adult prisoners, and 31 or 0.03% were placed in adult jails with partial or no separation.

If the child's behavior and mental health status so warrant, he/she may be placed in a secure psychiatric hospital setting. The 2000 data indicated that children were placed in a psychiatric hospital in lieu of juvenile detention in 129 or 0.11% of cases.