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National Juvenile Custody Trends 1978-1989

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National Juvenile Custody Trends 1978-1989

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Juveniles Taken Into Custody Research Program

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Foreword

As a Nation, we must know what happens to our youth, especially those most troubled. We need to know about trends in their behavior and how public policy affects them and their families. Data from the National Census of Juvenile Detention, Correctional, and Shelter Facilities, commonly called the Children in Custody census, monitors trends on juveniles in custody.

In this report, *National Juvenile Custody Trends: 1978-1989*, we see that although the youth population has declined throughout the 1980's, youth custody rates have increased. While the private sector's custodial role is expanding, many juvenile facilities are above capacity. The racial and ethnic composition of the general youth population is changing, yet the custody rates for minority youth are far exceeding their proportion in the community. These trends raise questions that need to be answered: Are today's youth more involved in misbehavior and delinquency? Are the youth in custody today more violent or more seriously troubled than those of a decade ago? Is the juvenile justice system simply confining more youth for less serious offenses than in years past?

Why are minorities more likely to be confined in public juvenile facilities than nonminorities?

While this report, prepared by the National Council on Crime and Delinquency as part of the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) Research Program on Juveniles Taken Into Custody, does not answer these questions directly, it provides a valuable frame of reference from which to address these and related issues.

OJJDP has supported the work of the Children in Custody series since 1979 and we welcome your observations, particularly on how it might be made more useful for researchers and practitioners.

I look forward to your comments on this publication and on the corrections issues that you consider important.

Robert W. Sweet, Jr.
Administrator
*Office of Juvenile Justice and
Delinquency Prevention*

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Introduction

Under a cooperative agreement with the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention and in cooperation with the U.S. Census Bureau, the National Council on Crime and Delinquency (NCCD) is conducting a research program on Juveniles Taken Into Custody (JTIC). Its primary objectives are (1) to provide annual reports to Congress on the number and characteristics of youth taken into custody and (2) to improve the comprehensiveness and precision of that data.

An important component of the program entails collecting and examining all current Federal data on juveniles taken into custody. Our review of existing data revealed significant limitations that prevented answers to basic questions, such as the youths' identities, why they were taken into custody, and how long they have been confined.

In light of these limitations, a second program component was established to create a national reporting system to enhance the breadth and depth of our knowledge about juveniles taken into custody. This reporting system is being tested in a number of State and local jurisdictions. The results of the testing and a final design for the system should be completed in 1991.

While this report originates from the most up-to-date and accurate sources, certain limitations exist.

First, most of the youth data are based on 1-day counts and do not represent the number of juveniles taken into custody throughout a given year. The population in custody on the census date also may not represent the population taken into custody during that year. One-day census counts tend to comprise those juveniles confined for longer terms, such as those held in training schools, whereas the vast majority of juveniles taken into custody are held in shorter-term facilities such as detention centers.

Second, the admissions data reported to the Children in Custody census are counts of facility transactions and not of individual youths entering custody in a given year. Therefore, admissions may count a single youth repeatedly if (1) that youth entered several facilities as part of one legal proceeding or (2) he or she was taken into custody more than once in a given year. Accordingly, these admissions figures may be considerably higher than the actual number of juveniles taken into custody annually.

Third, the admissions and 1-day counts do not provide information on juveniles confined in certain types of facilities, such as some private or Federal facilities or jails or State correctional facilities.

Finally, facility-based surveys such as the Children in Custody census do not permit individual analysis of various data because the facility, not the juvenile, is the unit of count. As a result, the data reported here, however valuable for descriptive purposes, cannot be used to explain observed trends in juvenile incarceration or the demographic characteristics of juveniles taken into custody.

Despite these limitations, the information contained in this report developed for the JTIC research program will assist national, State, and local officials in evaluating juvenile correctional practices and improving the juvenile justice system.

The authors express their appreciation for those who assisted in the development of this report. We are especially indebted to Barbara Allen-Hagen, who provided overall direction for the research program and editorial advice for the report. At the Census Bureau, Diane Cull, Art Ciampa, and Betty Ford were helpful in obtaining and interpreting survey data. At NCCD, we are grateful to Laura Chin for her handling of the word processing responsibilities.

Major National Trends 1978–1989

- The youth population declined by 11 percent between 1979 and 1989.
- The number of juveniles in custody (based on a 1-day count) increased 31 percent, from 71,922 to 93,945. The increase was slightly greater in private juvenile facilities (32 percent) than in public juvenile facilities (30 percent).
- The overall custody rates for juveniles in public and private juvenile facilities increased 46 percent, from 251 per 100,000 in 1979 to 367 per 100,000 in 1989. The rate of custody for private facilities increased 48 percent, while the custody rate for public facilities increased 45 percent.
- Juvenile corrections has become increasingly privatized. While admissions to both public and private juvenile facilities increased 19 percent, admissions to private facilities increased by 104 percent, compared with 9 percent for public facilities.
- Admission rates for juveniles in public and private facilities increased 34 percent, from 2,220 per 100,000 in 1978 to 2,974 per 100,000 in 1988. The rate of admissions for private facilities increased 129 percent, compared with 22 percent for public facilities.
- Admissions of females to juvenile facilities increased by 18 percent overall; however, female admissions to private facilities rose much faster, increasing 96 percent, compared with a 2-percent decline in admissions to public facilities.
- Admissions of males to juvenile facilities increased 20 percent overall; however, male admissions to private facilities increased more than 109 percent, compared with a 12-percent increase in admissions to public facilities.
- In 1989, males constituted the majority of both admissions (78 percent) and 1-day counts (81 percent) for all juvenile facilities. Males constituted an even greater proportion of admissions (82 percent) and juveniles held in custody (88 percent) for public juvenile facilities. In comparison, the proportions of female admissions (40 percent) and juveniles held in custody (30 percent) were greatest in private facilities.
- In 1989, the vast majority (82 percent) of youth held in public facilities were in training schools (50 percent) and detention centers (32 percent), whereas the majority of youth held in private juvenile facilities were in halfway houses (58 percent).
- Based on 1-day counts in 1989, 60 percent (56,123) of all juveniles were confined in public facilities, whereas 40 percent (37,822) were confined in private juvenile facilities.
- The juvenile population confined in public and private facilities increased by 13 percent from 1985 to 1989; however, this increase was not shared equally by racial and ethnic groups. During this period the proportion of black and Hispanic youths in custody increased by 9 percent and 4 percent, respectively, while the proportion of white youth held declined 13 percent.
- A juvenile held in a public facility in 1989 was most likely to be black, male, between 14 and 17 years of age, and held for a delinquent offense such as a property crime or a crime against a person. On the other hand, a

juvenile held in custody in a private facility in 1989 was most likely to be white, male, 14 to 17 years of age, and held for a nondelinquent offense such as running away, truancy, or incorrigibility.

- There was a 22-percent increase in committed juveniles in public juvenile facilities from 1979 to 1989. The number of detained juveniles grew even faster (53 percent), while the number of voluntary admissions remained essentially unchanged in these facilities.
- The average length of stay in private juvenile facilities is somewhat longer than in public juvenile facilities.

Sources of Data

This report summarizes statistical data from the U.S. Census Bureau relating to juvenile justice at a national level.

These data can be divided into two categories:

1. Juvenile population.
2. Juveniles in custody.

Juvenile Population

These statistics are based on U.S. Census Bureau population estimates by age groups and sex, which are consistent with current population reports (series P-25, No. 1058).

To compute rates per 100,000 youth, we have used population figures for the age groups from age 10 to the upper age of juvenile court jurisdiction in each State.

Juveniles in Custody

These figures are based on the biennial censuses conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau for the Department of Justice since 1971. These surveys are popularly known as Children in Custody (CIC) and are funded by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP).

The CIC census represents the only national data base on youth in juvenile correctional facilities. The survey covers a wide range of areas, including:

- Number of admissions.
- One-day counts.

- Characteristics of youth in custody.
- Average daily population.
- Average length of stay.

Because much of the data in this report deal with the concepts of admissions, daily populations, and average length of stay, it is important to briefly describe what these terms represent. Admissions to correctional facilities may occur for many reasons throughout the juvenile justice process, including:

- Court-ordered detentions or commitments.
- Probation or parole violations.
- Diagnostic studies.
- Returned AWOL's (escapees).
- Interfacility transfers.

Daily population figures (1-day counts) reflect the size of a facility's custody population on a given census date. The average daily population is based on the average 1-day counts throughout the year prior to the census dates. For example, the average daily population reported in the 1989 census is for calendar year 1988. The admission figures reflect the number of times juveniles entered each of the individual facilities during a calendar year. Admission totals represent admission transactions rather than individual youth.

Public and Private Juvenile Facilities

Table 1
Juveniles in Public and Private
Correctional Facilities, 1979-1989

	1979	1983	1985	1987	1989	% Change 1979-1989
A. Private facilities						
Total admissions	69,507	88,806	101,007	125,954	141,463	103.5
Male	40,251	54,439	59,928	74,701	84,251	109.3
Female	29,256	34,367	41,079	51,253	57,212	95.5
1-Day counts	28,688	31,390	34,080	38,143	37,822	31.8
Male	20,512	22,242	23,844	26,339	26,602	29.7
Female	8,176	9,148	10,236	11,804	11,220	37.2
B. Public facilities						
Total admissions	568,802	530,200	527,759	590,654	619,181	8.9
Male	453,342	423,844	423,135	472,893	506,309	11.7
Female	115,460	106,356	104,624	117,761	112,872	-2.2
1-Day counts	43,234	48,701	49,322	53,503	56,123	29.8
Male	37,167	42,182	42,549	46,272	49,443	33.0
Female	6,067	6,519	6,773	7,231	6,680	10.1
C. Public and private facilities						
Total admissions	638,309	619,006	628,766	716,608	760,644	19.2
Male	493,593	478,283	483,063	547,594	590,560	19.6
Female	144,716	140,723	145,703	169,014	170,084	17.5
1-Day counts	71,922	80,091	83,402	91,646	93,945	30.6
Male	57,679	64,424	66,393	72,611	76,045	31.8
Female	14,243	15,667	17,009	19,035	17,900	25.7

Sources:

The 1979-1989 Census of Public and Private Juvenile Detention, Correctional and Shelter Facilities: Admissions for Calendar Years 1978, 1982, 1984, 1986, 1988; and 1-Day Counts for December 31, 1978; February 1, 1983, and 1985; February 2, 1987; February 15, 1989.

Table 2
Juveniles Confined in Public and Private
Correctional Facilities: 1-Day Counts and Rates, 1989

	Total	Percent	Rate per 100,000 ¹
Juveniles in Facilities:			
Public Detention Centers	18,014	32%	70.0
Public Training Schools	27,823	50	108.8
Public Ranches and Camps	4,617	8	18.1
Public Shelters	646	1	2.5
Public Diagnostic Centers	1,424	3	5.6
Public Halfway Houses	3,599	6	14.1
Total Public Facilities	56,123 (59%)	100	219.1
Private Detention Centers	396	1	1.5
Private Training Schools	7,352	19	28.8
Private Ranches and Camps	4,826	13	18.9
Private Shelters	2,821	8	11.0
Private Diagnostic Centers	477	1	1.9
Private Halfway Houses	21,950	58	85.8
Total Private Facilities	37,822 (39%)	100	147.9
Total	93,945		367

¹Rate is calculated on youth aged 10 years to upper age of juvenile court jurisdiction in each State.

Source:
1989 Census of Public and Private Juvenile Detention, Correctional and Shelter Facilities; and 1-Day Counts for
February 15, 1989.

Table 3
Characteristics of Public and Private
Juvenile Facilities, 1989

A. Facility Characteristics

Total Number of Facilities	3,267
Secure	30%
Nonsecure	70%

Type of Custody	
Strict	11%
Medium	16%
Minimum	49%
None	24%

Operational Factors

Operating Expenditures	\$2,860,818,263
Average Daily Population	92,240
Design Capacity	102,278
Staff/Youth Ratio	0.87
% Allowing Community Access	66%
% Chronically Overcrowded	10%

B. Youth Characteristics

Total Admissions	760,644
Male	78%
Female	22%

Total 1-Day Count	93,945
Male	81%
Female	19%

Committed	77%
Detained	23%

Race

White/Non-Hispanic	48%
Black	37%
Hispanic	13%
American Indian	1%
American Asian	1%

Delinquency Offenses

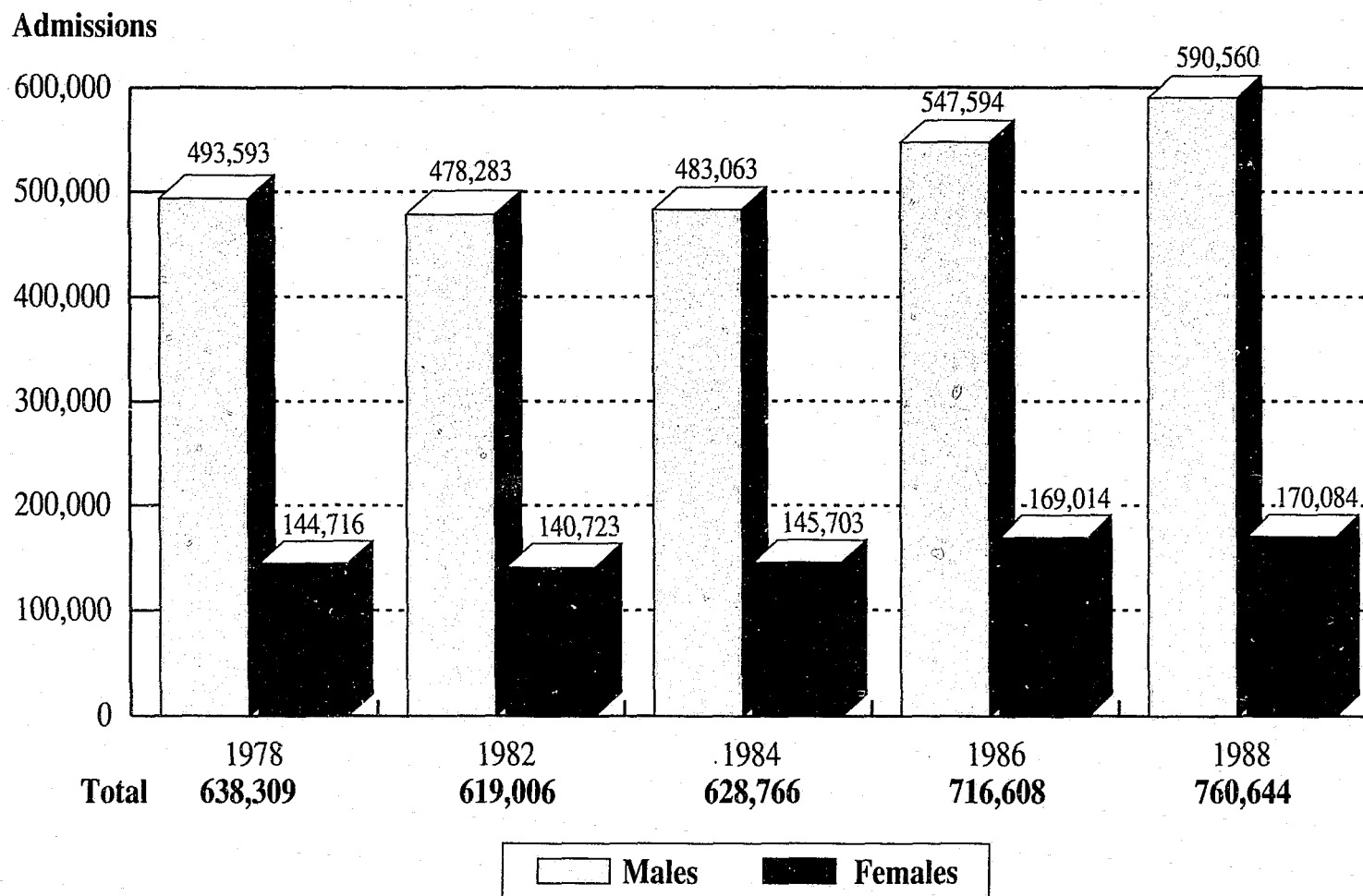
Person Crimes	25%
Serious Property Crimes	28%
Other Property Crimes	17%
Alcohol- and Drug-Related Crimes	13%
Public Order Offenses	5%
Technical Violations	8%
Other	4%

Sources:

1989 Census of Public and Private Juvenile Detention, Correctional and Shelter Facilities: Admissions for CY 1988; and 1-Day Counts for February 15, 1989.

Juvenile admissions to both public and private facilities increased by 19 percent. Admissions of females to juvenile facilities increased by 18 percent, while admissions of males increased by 20 percent.

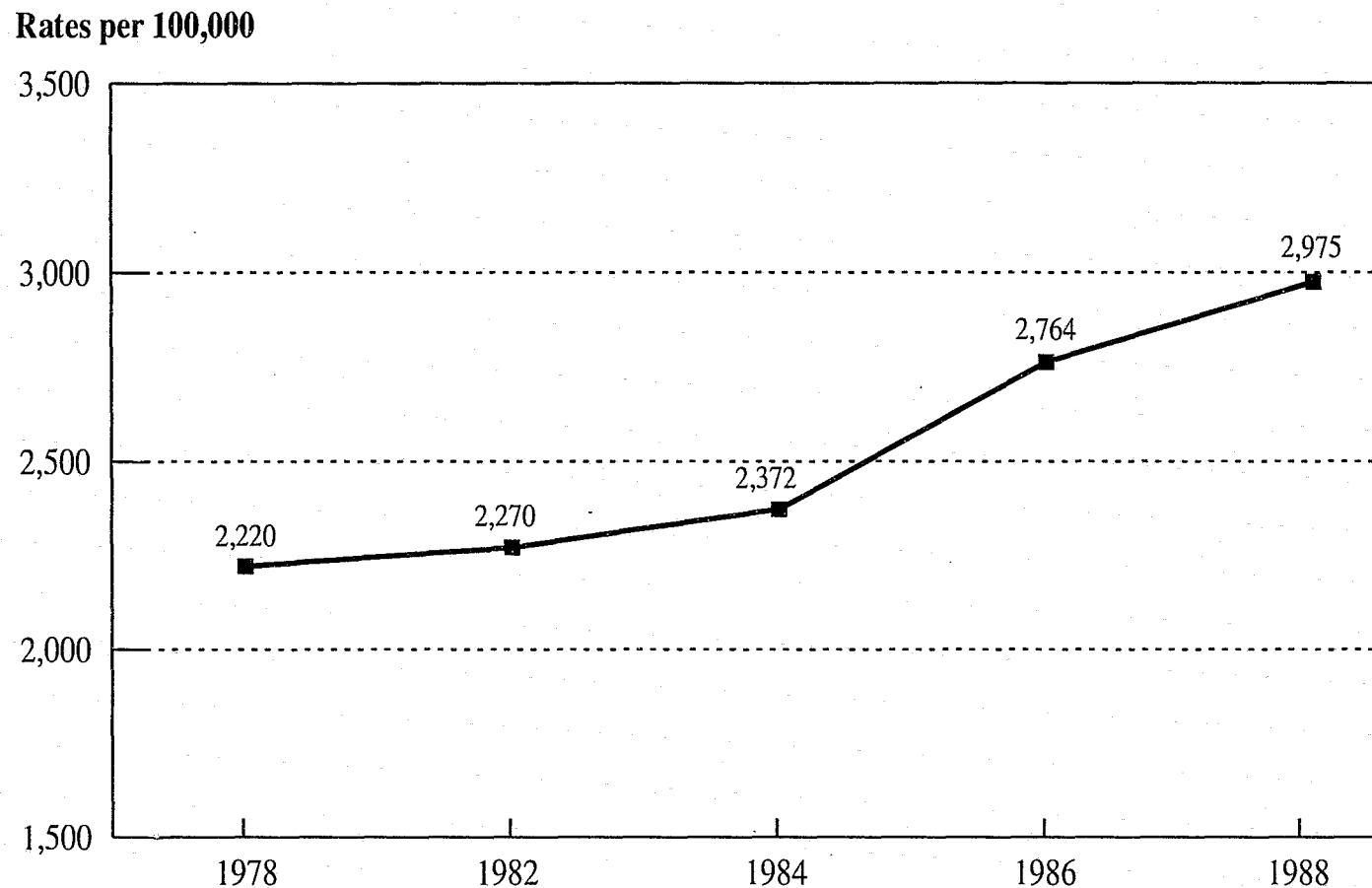
Figure 1
Public and Private Juvenile Admissions, 1978–1988



Source: 1979–1989 Census of Public and Private Juvenile Detention, Correctional and Shelter Facilities.

Admissions rates for juveniles in public and private facilities increased by 34 percent from 2,220 per 100,000 in 1978 to 2,974 per 100,000 in 1988.

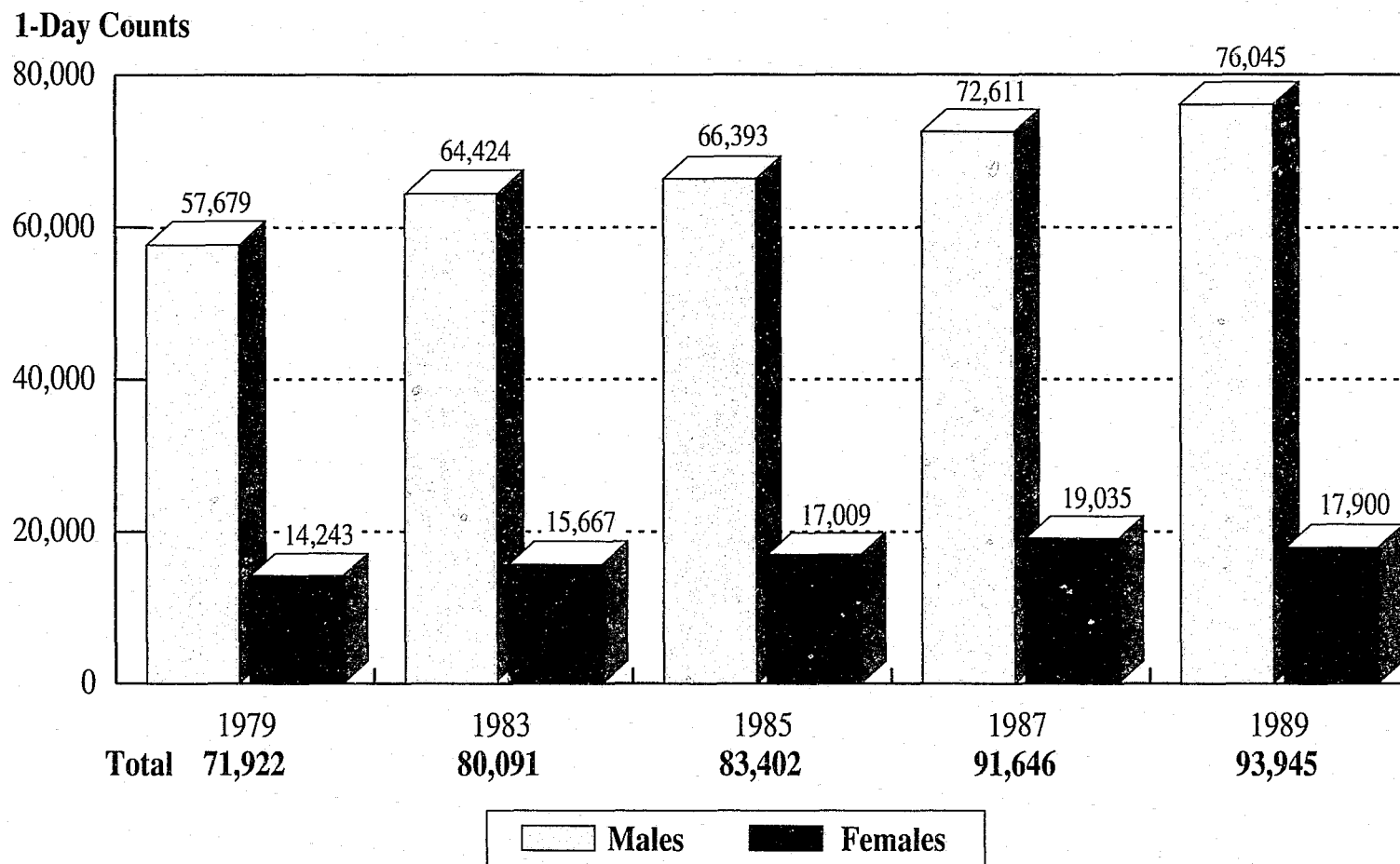
Figure 2
Public and Private Juvenile Admissions Rates, 1978–1988



Sources: 1979–1989 Census of Public and Private Juvenile Detention, Correctional and Shelter Facilities; and the U.S. Bureau of the Census Population Estimates.

The number of juveniles in custody based on 1-day counts increased by 31 percent from 71,922 to 93,945. The number of females in custody increased by 26 percent, and the number of males in custody increased by 32 percent.

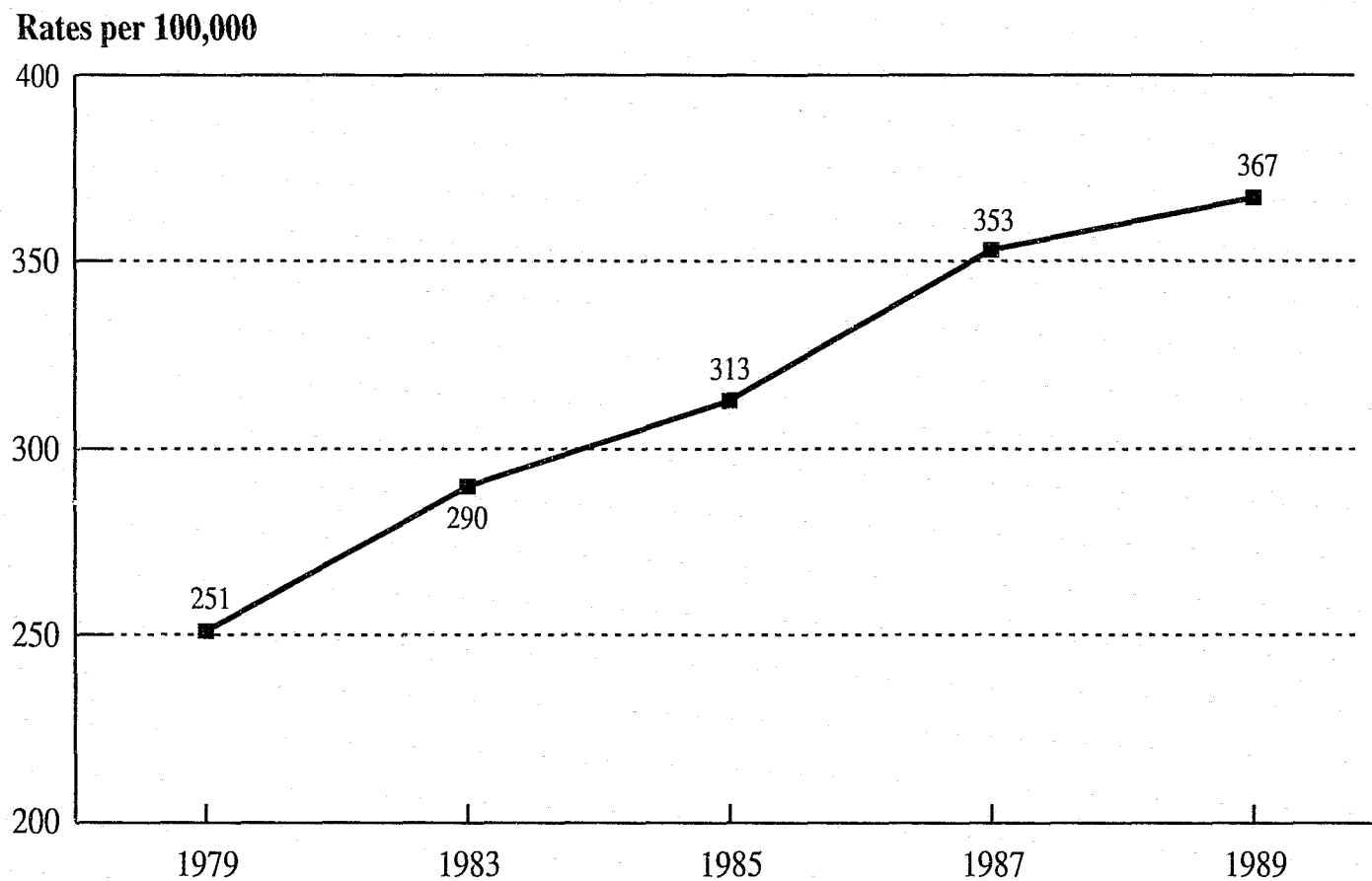
Figure 3
Public and Private Juvenile 1-Day Counts, 1979–1989



Sources: 1979–1989 Census of Public and Private Juvenile Detention, Correctional and Shelter Facilities; and the U.S. Bureau of the Census Population Estimates.

The confinement rates for juveniles in both public and private facilities increased by 46 percent, from 251 per 100,000 in 1979 to 367 per 100,000 in 1989.

Figure 4
Public and Private Juvenile 1-Day Rates, 1979–1989



Sources: 1979–1989 Census of Public and Private Juvenile Detention, Correctional and Shelter Facilities; and the U.S. Bureau of the Census Population Estimates.

Table 4
Number of Juveniles in Custody (1-Day Counts)
by Reason for Custody by Region and State, 1989

	All Juvenile Facilities			Public Juvenile Facilities			Private Juvenile Facilities*		
	Delinquent offenses	Status offenses	Non-offenders	Delinquent offenses	Status offenses	Non-offenders	Delinquent offenses	Status offenses	Non-offenders
U.S. Total	66,132	9,098	18,715	53,037	2,245	841	13,095	6,853	17,874
Northeast	10,344	2,299	4,046	6,235	156	113	4,109	2,143	3,933
Connecticut	440	96	359	276	21	0	164	75	359
Maine	290	0	56	262	0	0	28	0	56
Massachusetts	680	81	272	225	0	2	455	81	270
New Hampshire	162	43	34	136	0	0	26	43	34
New Jersey	1,823	125	219	1,794	81	82	29	44	137
New York	3,027	1,232	1,742	2,342	5	1	685	1,227	1,741
Pennsylvania	3,701	654	1,126	1,061	36	28	2,640	618	1,098
Rhode Island	170	65	140	115	13	0	55	52	140
Vermont	51	3	98	24	0	0	27	3	98
Midwest	14,620	3,876	6,016	11,119	1,204	291	3,501	2,672	5,725
Illinois	1,901	102	305	1,800	3	0	101	99	305
Indiana	1,340	595	648	1,035	226	79	305	369	569
Iowa	670	465	494	327	81	39	343	384	455
Kansas	898	158	544	665	28	27	233	130	517
Michigan	2,614	366	800	1,786	120	51	828	246	749
Minnesota	1,042	229	413	624	16	1	418	213	412
Missouri	718	421	588	700	286	22	18	135	566
Nebraska	394	189	412	287	8	4	107	181	408
North Dakota	128	57	75	73	20	0	55	37	75
Ohio	3,379	955	1,059	2,945	376	66	434	579	993
South Dakota	289	101	61	187	31	0	102	70	61
Wisconsin	1,247	238	617	690	9	2	557	229	615
South	16,620	1,700	5,441	14,683	592	327	1,937	1,108	5,114
Alabama	867	176	67	808	83	4	59	93	63
Arkansas	290	16	157	259	3	4	31	13	153
Delaware	161	0	10	146	0	0	15	0	10
D.C.	460	29	13	379	14	3	81	15	10
Florida	2,525	49	747	2,234	16	34	291	33	713
Georgia	1,621	132	444	1,509	73	13	112	59	431
Kentucky	542	196	322	500	97	17	42	99	305
Louisiana	1,112	135	140	1,032	27	15	80	108	125
Maryland	942	80	323	775	7	10	167	73	313
Mississippi	415	39	8	410	35	8	5	4	0
North Carolina	934	154	347	839	25	22	95	129	325
Oklahoma	431	105	372	280	12	30	151	93	342
South Carolina	738	65	87	724	38	5	14	27	82
Tennessee	972	84	268	892	46	34	80	38	234
Texas	2,826	212	1,358	2,290	38	22	536	174	1,336
Virginia	1,525	173	710	1,435	78	106	90	95	604
West Virginia	259	55	68	171	0	0	88	55	68
West	24,548	1,223	3,212	21,000	293	110	3,548	930	3,102
Alaska	267	32	138	191	0	0	76	32	138
Arizona	1,334	46	214	1,064	20	5	270	26	209
California	17,855	442	1,667	15,774	73	22	2,081	369	1,645
Colorado	850	134	305	546	20	0	304	114	305
Hawaii	85	18	14	80	8	1	5	10	13
Idaho	160	23	34	113	2	0	47	21	34
Montana	205	37	103	177	4	26	28	33	77
Nevada	659	74	43	496	54	16	163	20	27
New Mexico	574	45	91	512	7	5	62	38	86
Oregon	969	80	213	627	1	0	342	79	213
Utah	264	93	81	190	28	6	74	65	75
Washington	1,206	43	221	1,168	1	29	38	42	192
Wyoming	120	156	88	62	75	0	58	81	88

*May include out-of-State placements in some jurisdictions.

Source:

1989 Census of Public and Private Juvenile Detention, Correctional and Shelter Facilities: Census Day 2/15/89.

Table 5
Rate* of Juveniles in Custody (1-Day Counts)
by Reason for Custody by Region and State, 1989

	All Juvenile Facilities			Public Juvenile Facilities			Private Juvenile Facilities†		
	Delinquent offenses	Status offenses	Non-offenders	Delinquent offenses	Status offenses	Non-offenders	Delinquent offenses	Status offenses	Non-offenders
U.S. Total	259	36	73	207	9	3	51	27	70
Northeast	228	51	89	137	3	3	91	47	87
Connecticut	184	40	150	98	7	0	69	31	150
Maine	215	0	41	169	0	0	21	0	41
Massachusetts	142	17	57	40	0	0	95	17	56
New Hampshire	136	36	29	100	0	0	22	36	29
New Jersey	230	16	28	198	9	9	4	6	17
New York	221	90	127	146	0	0	50	89	127
Pennsylvania	297	52	90	74	3	2	212	50	88
Rhode Island	173	66	143	102	12	0	56	53	143
Vermont	84	6	161	34	0	0	44	5	161
Midwest	225	60	93	171	19	5	54	41	88
Illinois	174	9	28	143	0	0	9	9	28
Indiana	204	90	98	138	30	11	46	56	86
Iowa	214	149	158	92	23	11	110	123	145
Kansas	329	58	199	214	9	9	85	48	189
Michigan	241	34	74	145	10	4	76	23	69
Minnesota	221	49	87	116	3	0	89	45	87
Missouri	148	87	121	125	51	4	4	28	116
Nebraska	219	105	229	140	4	2	59	101	227
North Dakota	171	76	100	86	24	0	73	49	100
Ohio	272	77	85	209	27	5	35	47	80
South Dakota	357	125	75	203	34	0	126	86	75
Wisconsin	232	44	115	113	1	0	104	43	114
South	185	19	61	164	7	4	22	12	57
Alabama	173	35	13	142	15	1	12	19	13
Arkansas	99	5	54	78	1	1	11	4	52
Delaware	227	0	14	180	0	0	21	0	14
D.C.	939	59	27	665	25	5	165	31	20
Florida	214	4	63	165	1	3	25	3	60
Georgia	237	19	65	192	9	2	16	9	63
Kentucky	122	44	72	99	19	3	9	22	69
Louisiana	239	29	30	194	5	3	17	23	27
Maryland	197	17	68	142	1	2	35	15	65
Mississippi	121	11	2	105	9	2	1	1	0
North Carolina	173	29	64	132	4	3	18	24	60
Oklahoma	119	29	102	68	3	7	42	26	94
South Carolina	201	18	24	172	9	1	4	7	22
Tennessee	171	15	47	138	7	5	14	7	41
Texas	160	12	77	113	2	1	30	10	76
Virginia	243	28	113	198	11	15	14	15	96
West Virginia	115	24	30	67	0	0	39	24	30
West	441	22	58	377	5	2	64	17	56
Alaska	453	54	234	285	0	0	129	54	234
Arizona	342	12	55	240	5	1	69	7	54
California	595	15	56	463	2	1	69	12	55
Colorado	246	39	88	138	5	0	88	33	88
Hawaii	75	16	12	62	6	1	4	9	12
Idaho	119	17	25	74	1	0	35	16	25
Montana	220	40	111	169	4	25	30	35	83
Nevada	594	67	39	397	43	13	147	18	24
New Mexico	310	24	49	245	3	2	34	21	46
Oregon	321	26	71	183	0	0	113	26	71
Utah	100	35	31	65	10	2	28	25	29
Washington	238	8	44	202	0	5	7	8	38
Wyoming	190	248	140	87	106	0	92	129	140

* Rates are calculated per 100,000 youth age 10 to the upper age of original court jurisdiction in each State for 1989 and are rounded to the nearest whole number.

† May include out-of-State placements in some jurisdictions.

Sources:

1989 Census of Public and Private Juvenile Detention, Correctional and Shelter Facilities; and the U.S. Bureau of the Census Population Estimates (unpublished).

Table 6
Number of Juvenile Admissions to Public and Private Facilities by Facility Type, 1978-1988

Public Facilities

	1978		1982		1984		1986		1988		% Change 1978-1988
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	
Admissions	568,802	100	530,200	100	527,759	100	590,654	100	619,181	100	8.9
Detention centers	451,859	79	411,201	78	404,178	77	467,668	79	499,621	81	10.6
Shelters	12,472	2	14,008	2	17,212	3	22,126	4	14,949	3	19.9
Reception/ diagnostic center	13,037	2	15,751	3	16,493	3	13,313	2	13,924	2	6.8
Training schools	65,513	12	59,732	11	61,706	12	61,399	11	62,824	10	-4.1
Ranches/camps or farms	16,753	3	18,962	4	17,062	3	13,248	2	14,146	2	-15.6
Halfway houses/ group homes	9,168	2	10,546	2	11,108	2	12,900	2	13,717	2	49.6

While the proportion of juvenile admissions to most types of public facilities was relatively stable, there was a significant increase in the number of juvenile admissions to public detention centers—an increase of more than 47,000 from 1978 to 1988.

Private Facilities

	1978		1982		1984		1986		1988		% Change 1978-1988
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	
Admissions	69,507	100	88,806	100	101,007	100	125,954	100	141,463	100	103.5
Detention centers	1,923	3	3,189	4	5,813	6	7,873	6	9,106	7	373.5
Shelters	20,209	29	40,160	45	47,817	47	66,387	53	75,459	53	273.4
Reception/ diagnostic center	1,218	2	2,045	2	2,192	2	2,881	2	3,126	2	156.6
Training schools	5,210	8	5,712	6	7,225	7	7,952	6	9,161	7	75.8
Ranches/camps or farms	12,076	17	8,636	10	8,924	9	6,858	6	6,030	4	-50.1
Halfway houses/ group homes	28,871	41	29,064	33	29,036	29	34,003	27	38,581	27	33.6

There were substantial increases in the numbers of admissions to the various types of private facilities over the 10-year period. The largest growth in admissions was in private shelters: from 20,209 to 75,459 admissions, growing from 29 percent to 53 percent of the private facilities admissions.

Source:

1979-1989 Census of Public and Private Juvenile Detention, Correctional and Shelter Facilities: Admissions for Calendar Years 1978, 1982, 1984, 1986, and 1988.

Inflation-controlled expenditures for juvenile correctional facilities grew from \$1.8 billion in 1978 to more than \$2.4 billion in 1988—an increase of 33 percent. The greatest growth was for private facilities with an inflation-adjusted increase of nearly 57 percent, compared with 22 percent for public facilities.

Table 7
Public and Private Detention and Correctional Facilities: Actual
and Inflation-Controlled Expenditures
(in Thousands), Total and Per Facility Type, 1978–1988

Public and Private Facilities

	1978	1982	1984	1986	1988
Total expenditures	\$1,307,684	\$1,866,072	\$2,052,232	\$2,503,203	\$2,860,818
Total inflation-controlled expenses	\$1,801,218	\$1,933,753	\$1,975,199	\$2,283,944	\$2,418,274

Public Facilities

	1978	1982	1984	1986	1988
Total expenditures	\$ 842,470	\$1,147,078	\$1,246,707	\$1,445,116	\$1,674,011
Total inflation-controlled expenses	\$1,160,427	\$1,188,682	\$1,199,910	\$1,318,536	\$1,415,056

Private Facilities

	1978	1982	1984	1986	1988
Total expenditures	\$ 465,214	\$ 718,994	\$ 805,525	\$1,058,087	\$1,186,807
Total inflation-controlled expenses	\$ 640,791	\$ 745,072	\$ 775,289	\$ 965,408	\$1,003,218

Note:

Inflation-controlled expenditures are expenditures presented in constant dollars using the Consumer Price Index, employing a methodology provided by the Center of Budget and Policy Priorities. Items may not add to total due to rounding.

Source:

1979–1989 Census of Public and Private Juvenile Detention, Correctional and Shelter Facilities.

Public Juvenile Facilities

More than 90 percent of youth in public facilities were confined for some delinquent offense, while less than 5 percent were confined for status offenses and less than 1 percent were confined voluntarily on any given day. These proportions have changed very little since 1979.

Table 8
Juvenile 1-Day Counts in Public Facilities
by Reason for Custody, 1979-1989

Public Facilities	1979		1983		1985		1987		1989	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Total 1-Day Counts	43,234	100	48,701	100	49,322	100	53,503	100	56,123	100
Violent ¹			8,901	18	8,656	17	7,943	15	8,566	15
Other Personal ²			3,263	7	3,589	7	5,357	10	5,761	10
Serious Property ³			16,644	34	16,129	33	15,746	30	15,181	27
Other Property ⁴			5,980	12	5,891	12	7,685	14	7,599	14
Part II ⁵			10,563	22	11,821	24	13,538	25	15,930	28
Total Number of Delinquents	39,519	91	45,351	93	46,086	93	50,269	94	53,037	94
Status Offenders ⁶	2,789	7	2,390	5	2,293	5	2,523	4	2,245	4
Nonoffenders ⁷	625	1	593	1	644	1	458	1	539	1
Voluntary Admissions	301	1	367	1	299	1	253	1	302	1
Total Number of Nondelinquents	3,715	9	3,350	7	3,236	7	3,234	6	3,086	6

¹Violent: murder, nonnegligent manslaughter, forcible rape, robbery, aggravated assault.

²Other Personal: negligent manslaughter, assault, sexual assault.

³Serious Property: burglary, arson, larceny-theft, motor vehicle theft.

⁴Other Property: vandalism, forgery, counterfeiting, fraud, stolen property, unauthorized vehicle use.

⁵Part II: alcohol offense, drug-related offenses, public order offenses, and other delinquent offenses.

⁶Status Offenders: offenses not considered crimes if committed by adults.

⁷Nonoffenders: dependency, neglect, abuse, emotional disturbance, retardation, other.

Source:

1979-1989 Census of Public and Private Juvenile Detention, Correctional and Shelter Facilities.

Table 9
Characteristics of Public Juvenile Facilities, 1989

A. Facility Characteristics

Total Number of Facilities	1,100
Secure	62%
Nonsecure	38%

Type of Custody	
Strict	28%
Medium	25%
Minimum	37%
None	10%

Operational Factors	
Operating Expenditures	\$1,674,010,899
Average Daily Population	54,351
Design Capacity	57,767
Staff/Youth Ratio	0.95
% Allowing Community Access	61%
% Chronically Overcrowded	25%

B. Youth Characteristics

Total Admissions	619,181
Male	82%
Female	18%

Total 1-Day Count	56,123
Male	88%
Female	12%

Committed	69%
Detained	31%

Race	
White/Non-Hispanic	40%
Black	42%
Hispanic	16%
American Indian	1%
American Asian	1%

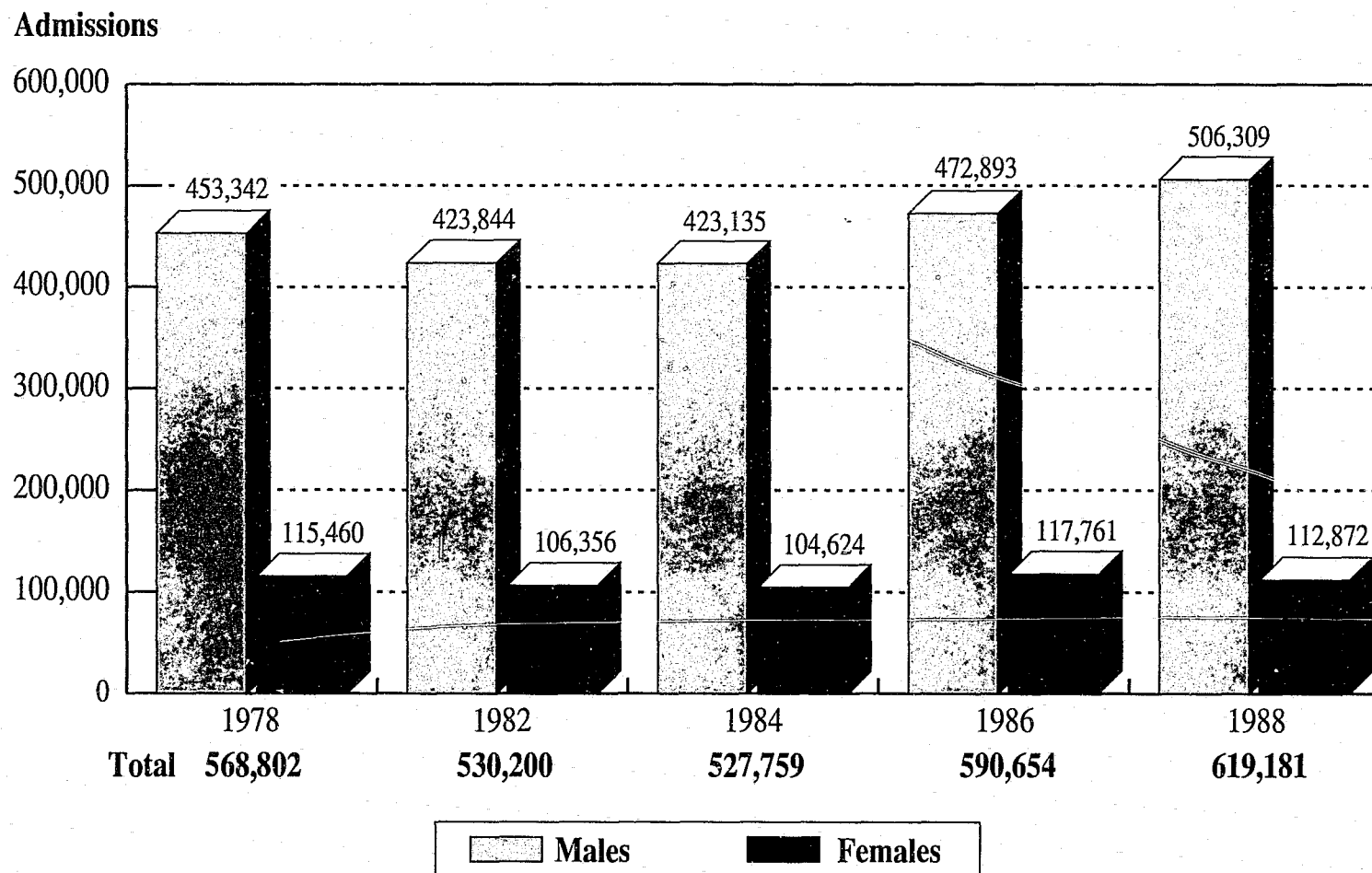
Delinquency Offenses	
Person Crimes	27%
Serious Property Crimes	29%
Other Property Crimes	14%
Alcohol- and Drug-Related Crimes	12%
Public Order Offenses	5%
Technical Violations	9%
Other	3%

Sources:

1989 Census of Public and Private Juvenile Detention, Correctional and Shelter Facilities: Admissions for CY 1988; and 1-Day Counts for February 15, 1989.

Admissions to public facilities increased by 9 percent. Female admissions to public facilities declined by 2 percent, while male admissions increased by 12 percent.

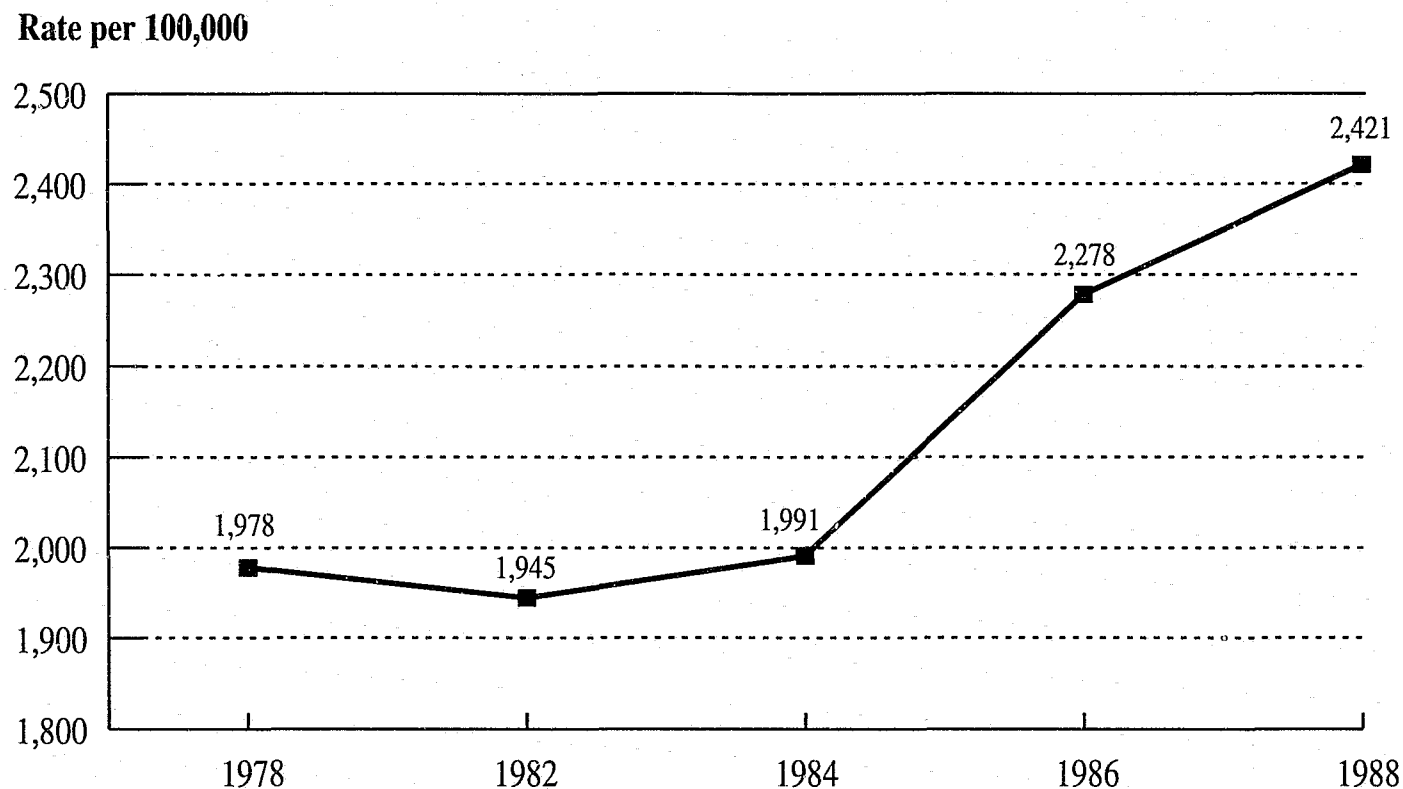
Figure 5
Public Juvenile Facilities Admissions, 1978–1988



Source: 1979–1989 Census of Public and Private Juvenile Detention, Correctional and Shelter Facilities.

The rate of admissions for public facilities increased by 22 percent.

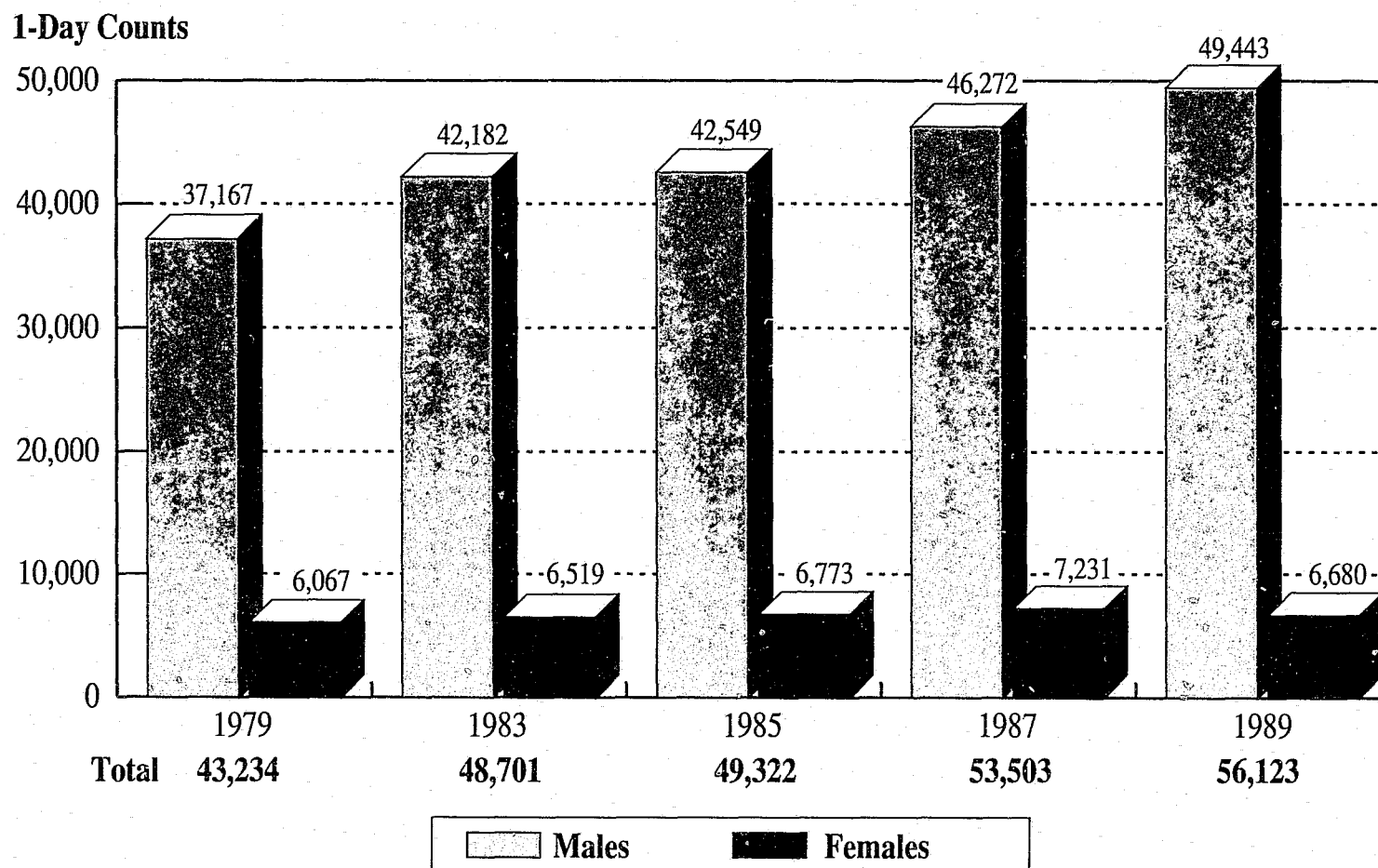
Figure 6
Public Juvenile Facilities Admissions Rates, 1978–1988



Sources: 1979–1989 Census of Public and Private Juvenile Detention, Correctional and Shelter Facilities; and the U.S. Bureau of the Census Population Estimates.

The number of juveniles in custody in public facilities increased by 30 percent. The number of males in custody in public facilities increased by 33 percent, while the number of females in custody increased by 10 percent.

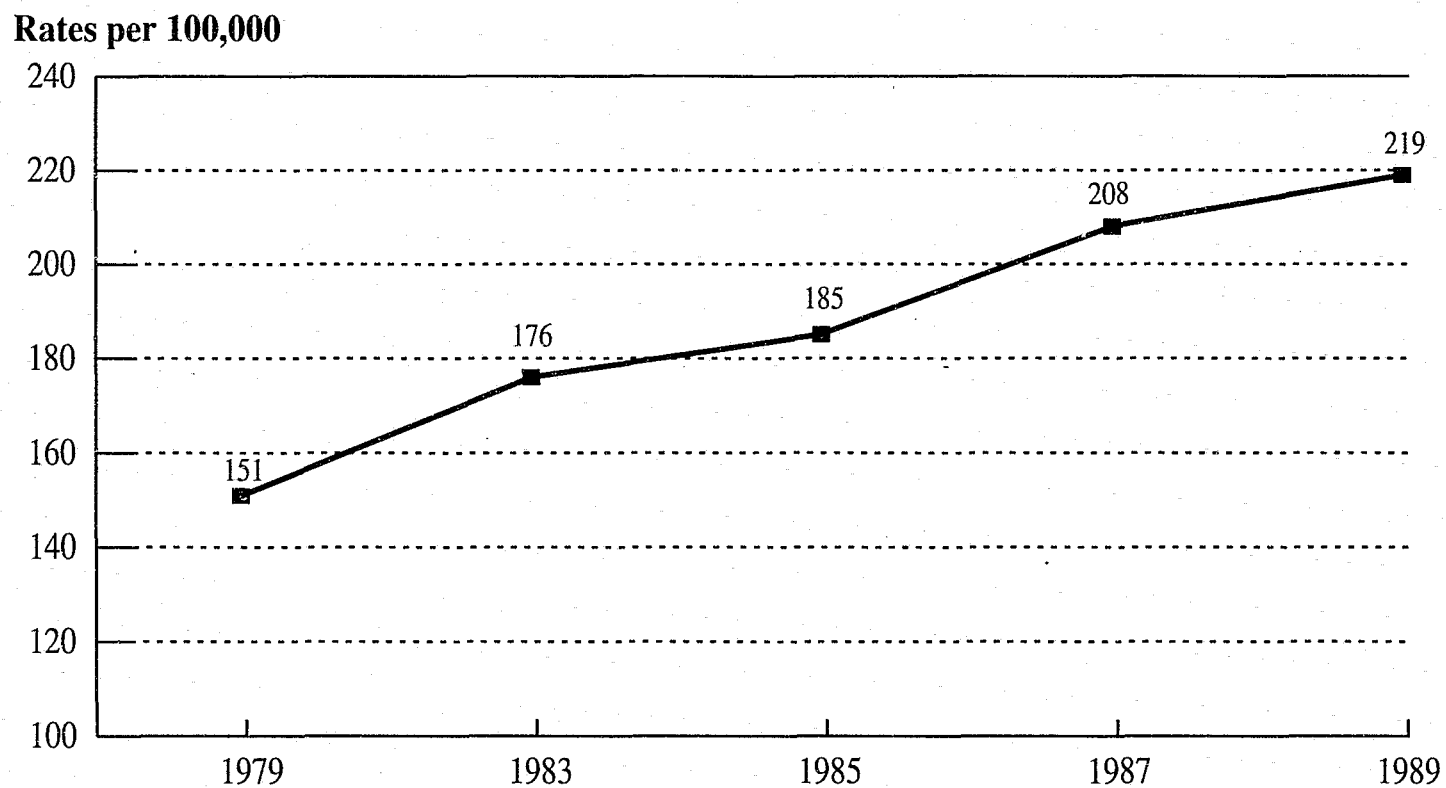
Figure 7
Public Juvenile Facilities 1-Day Counts, 1979–1989



Source: 1979–1989 Census of Public and Private Juvenile Detention, Correctional and Shelter Facilities.

The confinement rates for public facilities increased by 45 percent.

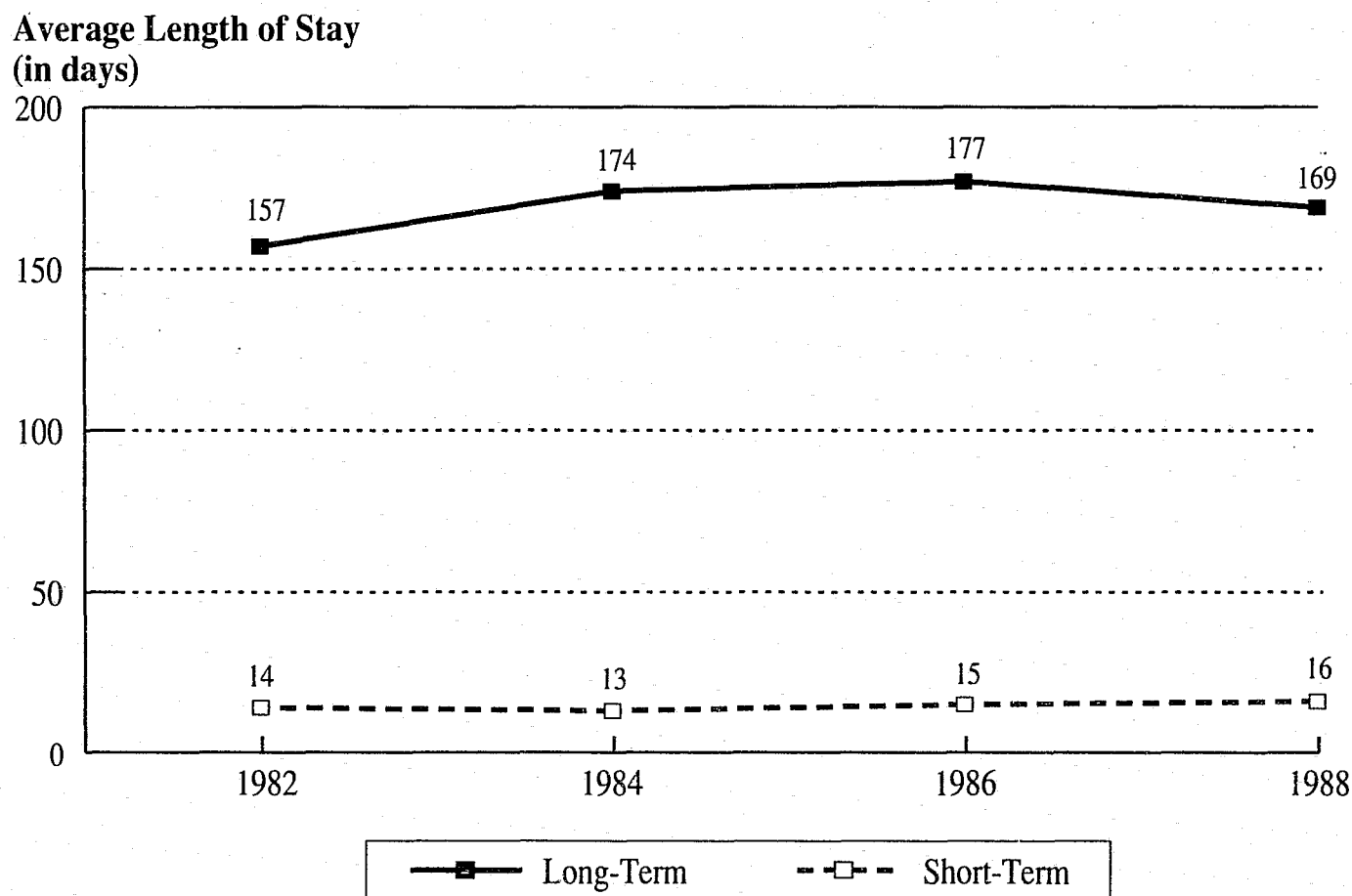
Figure 8
Public Juvenile Facilities 1-Day Rates, 1979–1989



Sources: 1979–1989 Census of Public and Private Juvenile Detention, Correctional and Shelter Facilities; and the U.S. Bureau of the Census Population Estimates.

Between 1982 and 1988, the average length of stay increased slightly for youth in public facilities. The average length of stay increased from 14 days to 16 days in short-term facilities, while the average length of stay increased from 157 days to 169 days in long-term facilities.

Figure 9
Public Juvenile Facilities Average Length of Stay, 1982–1988

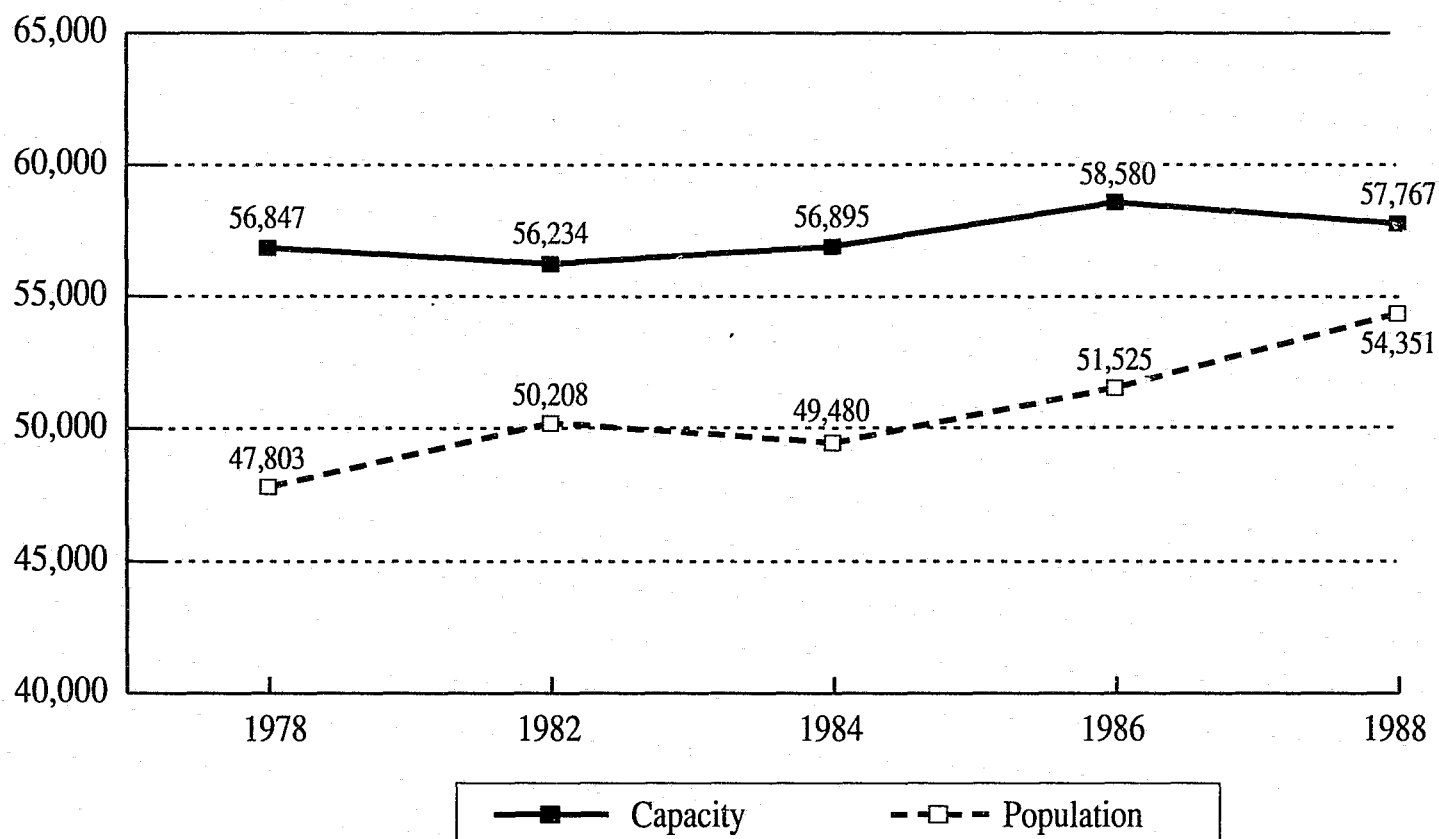


Source: 1983–1989 Census of Public and Private Juvenile Detention, Correctional and Shelter Facilities.

Over the past 10 years, the average daily population of public facilities has approached the capacity of those facilities. The average daily population of public facilities increased by 14 percent, while the capacity of those facilities increased by 2 percent.

Figure 10
Public Juvenile Facilities Capacity and Average Daily Population, 1978-1988

Population and Capacity

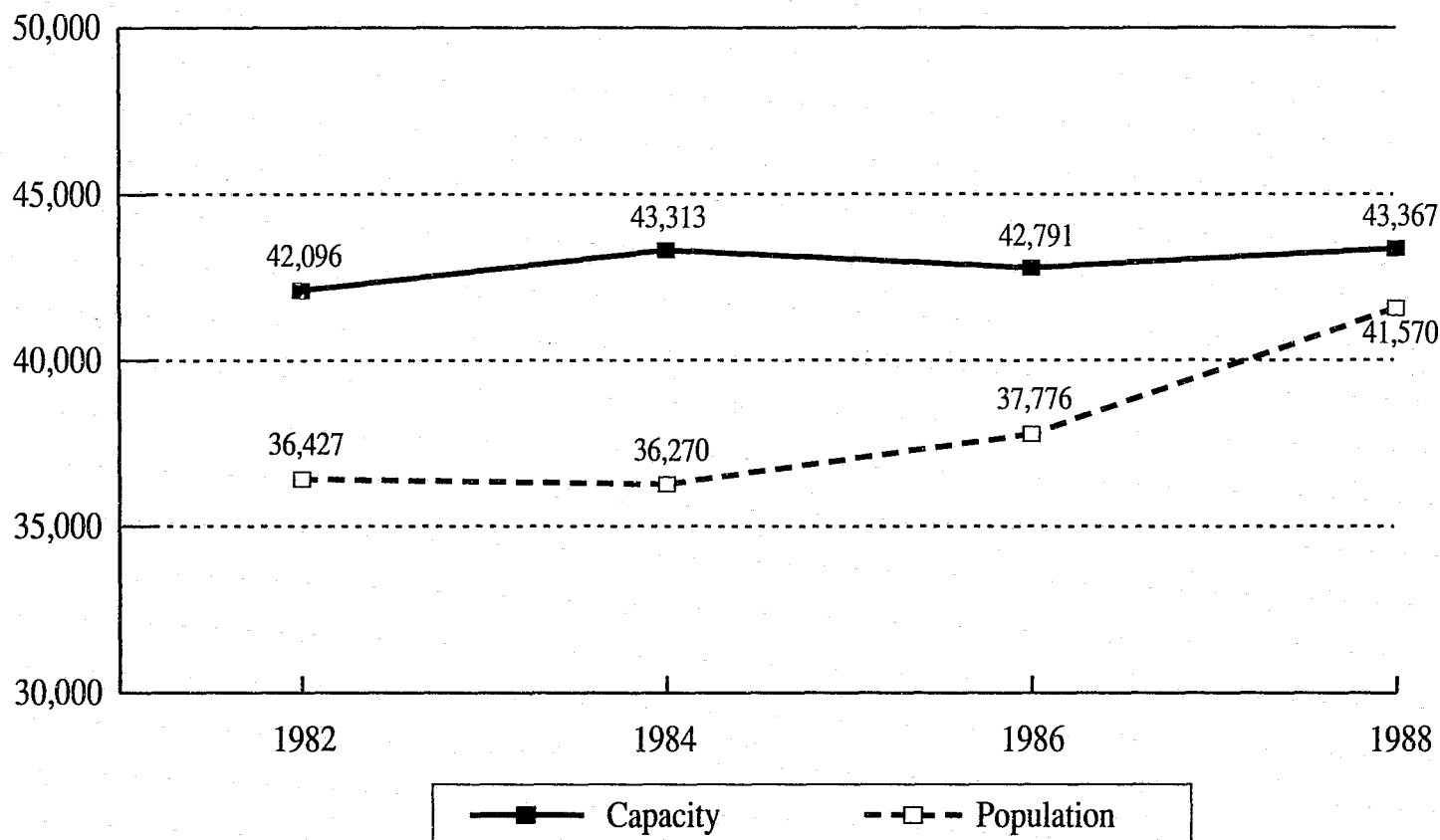


Source: 1979-1989 Census of Public and Private Juvenile Detention, Correctional and Shelter Facilities.

Over the past 10 years, the average daily population of secure public facilities has approached the capacity of those facilities. The average daily population increased by 14 percent, while the capacity of those facilities increased by 3 percent.

Figure 11
Public Juvenile Secure Facilities Capacity and
Average Daily Population, 1982-1988

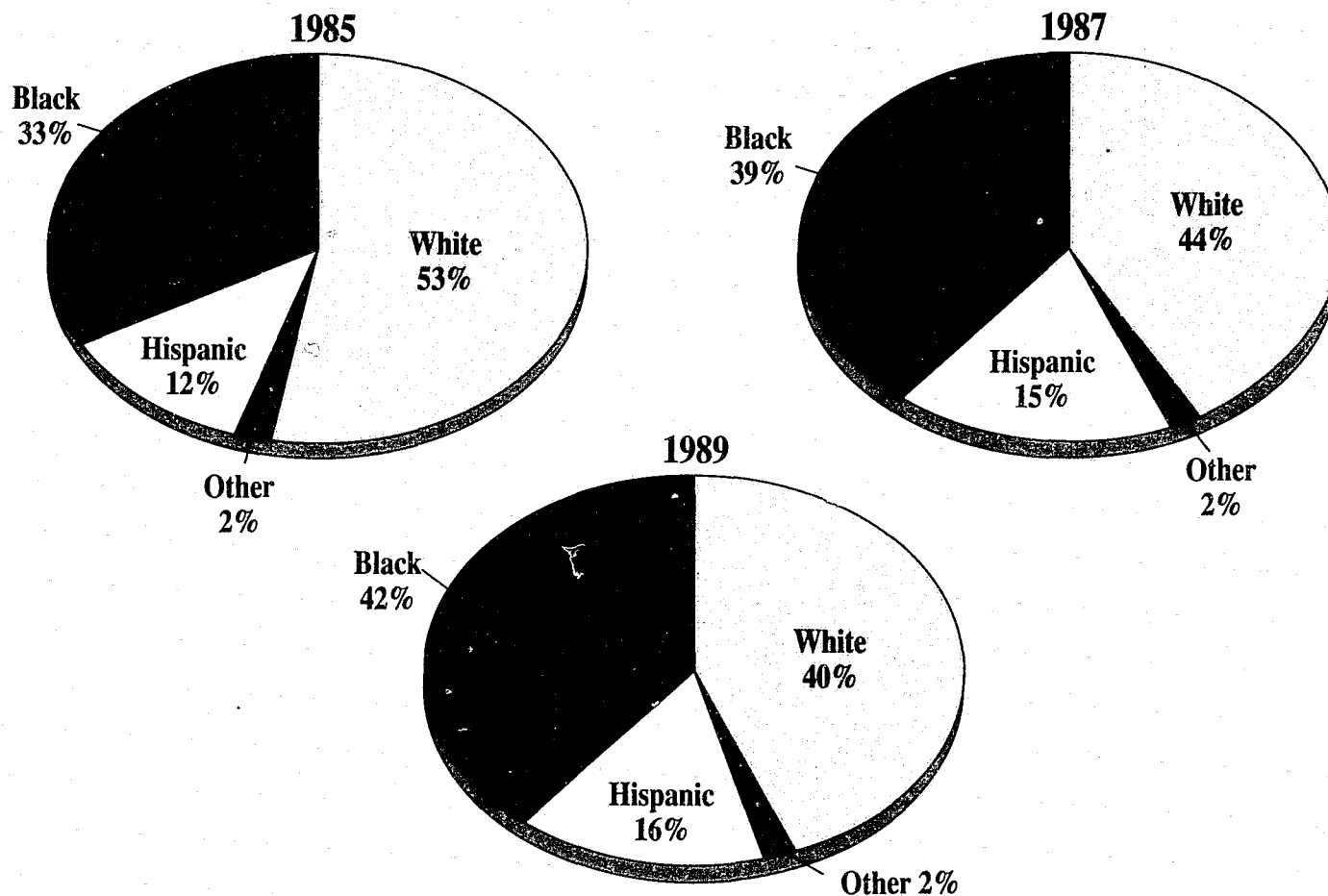
Population and Capacity



Source: 1983-1989 Census of Public and Private Juvenile Detention, Correctional and Shelter Facilities.

Between 1985 and 1989, the population of white youth held in confinement in public facilities decreased by 13 percent, while the proportion of black youth increased by 9 percent and the proportion of Hispanic youth increased by 4 percent.

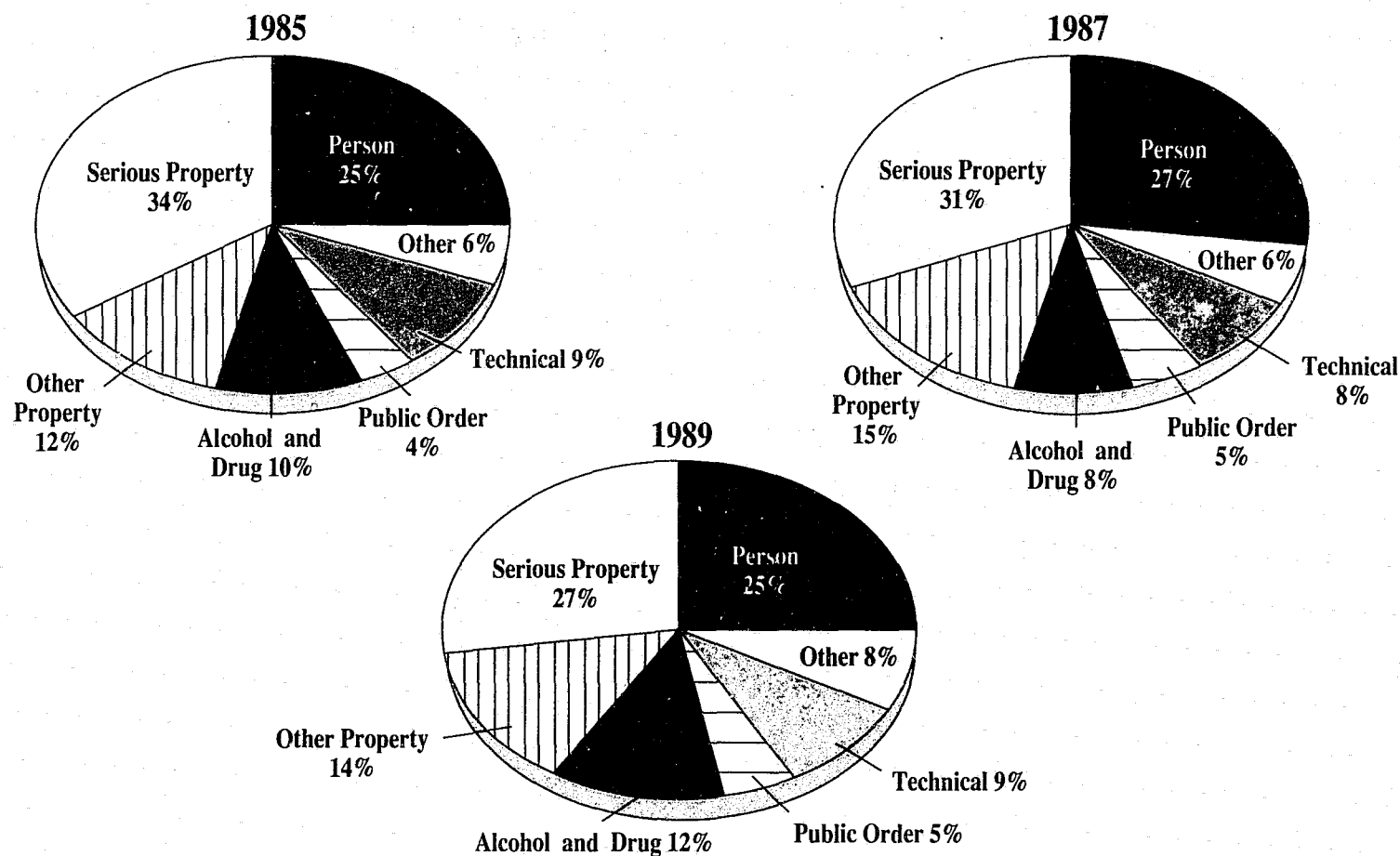
Figure 12
Public Juvenile Facilities 1-Day Counts by Race, 1985–1989



Source: 1985–1989 Census of Public and Private Juvenile Detention, Correctional and Shelter Facilities.

Between 1985 and 1989, the proportion of youth confined in public juvenile corrections facilities for serious property offenses declined from 34 percent to 27 percent. The proportion of youth confined for all other offenses during this period changed very little.

Figure 13
Public Juvenile Facilities 1-Day Counts by Offense Type, 1985–1989



Source: 1985–1989 Census of Public and Private Juvenile Detention, Correctional and Shelter Facilities.

Private Juvenile Facilities

In private facilities more than one-third of youth were confined for delinquent offenses, while nonoffenders and status offenders accounted for 47 percent of those confined, and voluntary admissions accounted for 18 percent of the 1-day count. These proportions have changed only slightly since 1979.

Table 10
Juvenile 1-Day Counts in Private Facilities
by Reason for Custody, 1979-1989

Private Facilities

	1979		1983		1985		1987		1989	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Total 1-Day Counts	28,688	100	31,390	100	34,080	100	38,143	100	37,822	100
Violent ¹			716	2	810	2	699	2	770	2
Other Violent ²			807	3	1,038	3	1,539	4	1,749	5
Serious Property ³			2,872	9	3,183	9	2,992	8	3,407	9
Other Property ⁴			2,224	7	2,715	8	3,661	9	3,632	10
Part II ⁵			4,093	13	3,911	12	4,101	11	3,537	9
Total Number of Delinquents	9,607	33	10,712	34	11,657	34	12,992	34	13,095	35
Status Offenders ⁶	6,296	22	6,652	21	6,726	20	7,811	20	6,853	18
Nonoffenders ⁷	6,581	23	8,268	27	8,844	26	10,200	27	10,914	29
Voluntary Admissions	6,204	22	5,758	18	6,853	20	7,140	19	6,960	18
Total Number of Nondelinquents	19,081	67	20,678	66	22,423	66	25,151	66	24,727	65

¹ Violent: murder, nonnegligent manslaughter, forcible rape, robbery, aggravated assault.

² Other Personal: negligent manslaughter, assault, sexual assault.

³ Serious Property: burglary, arson, larceny-theft, motor vehicle theft.

⁴ Other Property: vandalism, forgery, counterfeiting, fraud, stolen property, unauthorized vehicle use.

⁵ Part II: alcohol offense, drug-related offenses, public order offenses, and other delinquent offenses.

⁶ Status Offenders: offenses not considered crimes if committed by adults.

⁷ Nonoffenders: dependency, neglect, abuse, emotional disturbance, retardation, other.

Source:

1979-1989 Census of Public and Private Juvenile Detention, Correctional and Shelter Facilities.

Table 11
Characteristics of Private Juvenile Facilities, 1989

A. Facility Characteristics

Total Number of Facilities	2,167
Secure	14%
Nonsecure	86%

Type of Custody	
Strict	2%
Medium	11%
Minimum	55%
None	32%

Operational Factors	
Operating Expenditures	\$1,186,807,364
Average Daily Population	37,889
Design Capacity	44,511
Staff/Youth Ratio	0.76
% Allowing Community Access	95%
% Chronically Overcrowded	2%

B. Youth Characteristics

Total Admissions	141,463
Male	60%
Female	40%

Total 1-Day Count	37,822
Male	70%
Female	30%

Committed	92%
Detained	8%

Race	
White/Non-Hispanic	60%
Black	29%
Hispanic	8%
American Indian	2%
American Asian	1%

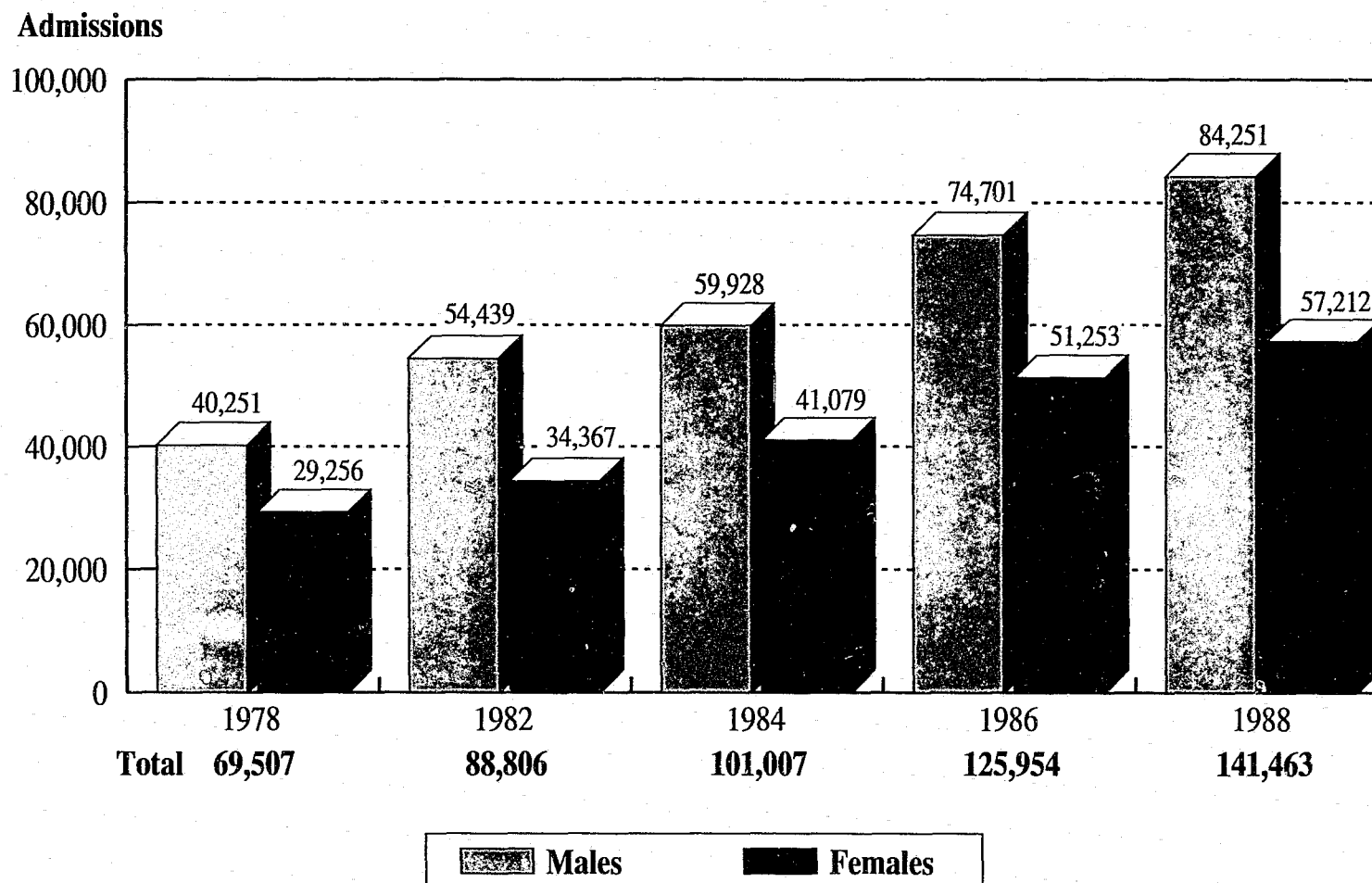
Delinquency Offenses	
Person Crimes	19%
Serious Property Crimes	26%
Other Property Crimes	28%
Alcohol- and Drug-Related Crimes	14%
Public Order Offenses	2%
Technical Violations	2%
Other	9%

Sources:

1989 Census of Public and Private Juvenile Detention, Correctional and Shelter Facilities: Admissions for CY 1988; and 1-Day Counts for February 15, 1989.

Admissions to private juvenile facilities increased by 104 percent. Admissions of males to private juvenile facilities increased by 109 percent, while female admissions increased by 96 percent.

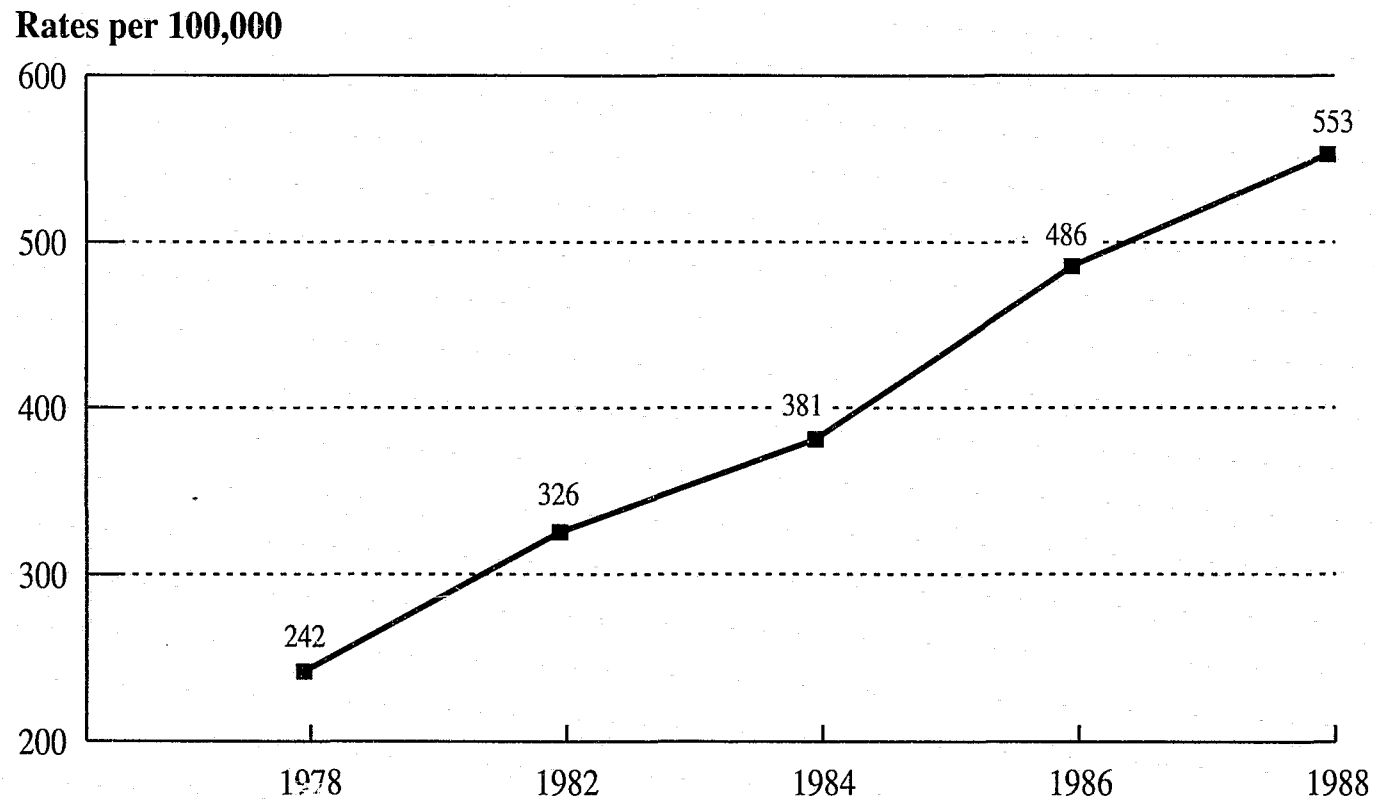
Figure 14
Private Juvenile Facilities Admissions, 1978–1988



Source: 1979–1989 Census of Public and Private Juvenile Detention, Correctional and Shelter Facilities.

The rate of admissions for private juvenile facilities increased by 129 percent.

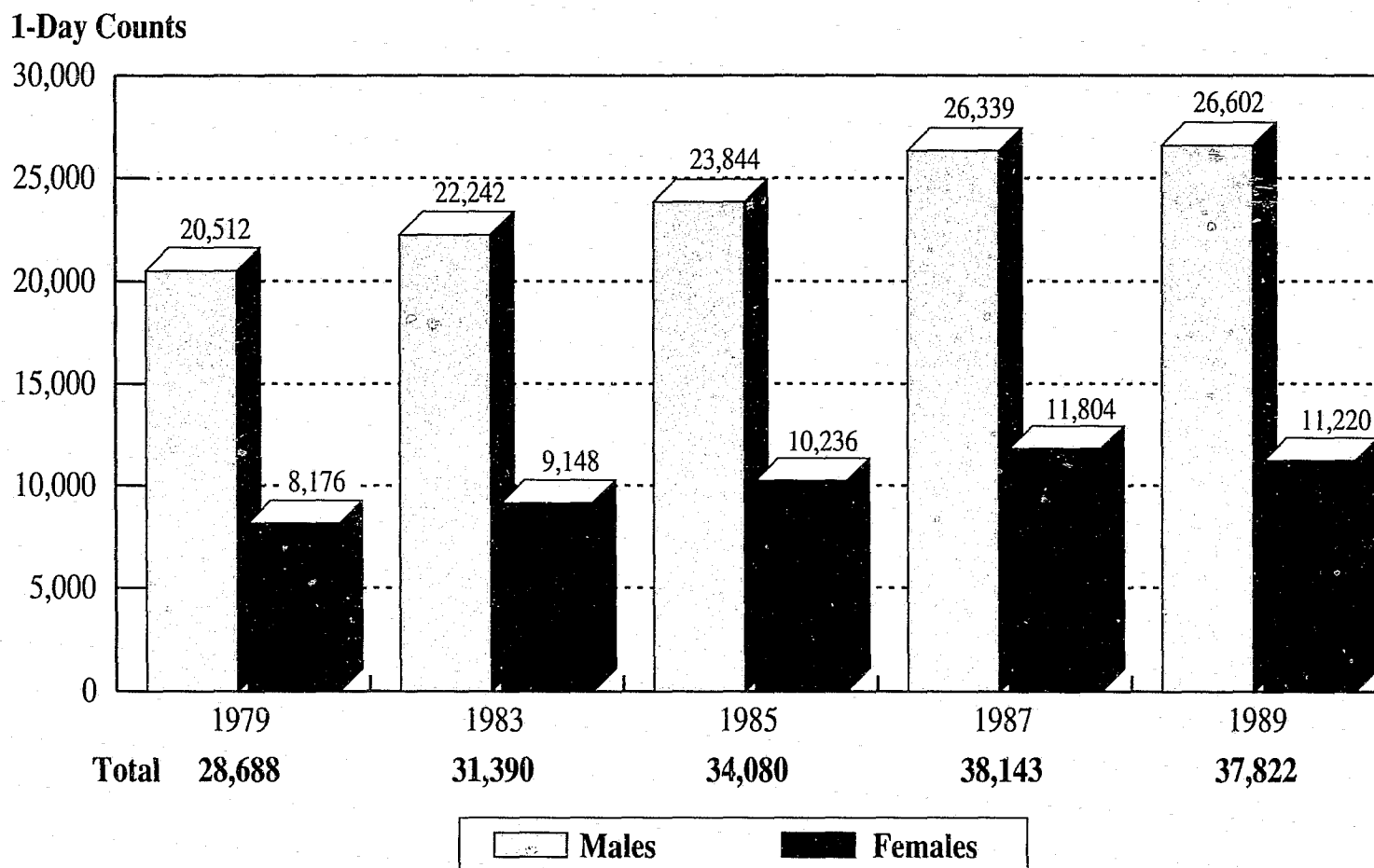
Figure 15
Private Juvenile Facilities Admissions Rates, 1978–1988



Sources: 1979–1989 Census of Public and Private Juvenile Detention, Correctional and Shelter Facilities; and the U.S. Bureau of the Census Population Estimates.

The number of juveniles in custody in private facilities increased by 32 percent. The number of males confined in private facilities increased by 30 percent, while the number of females increased by 37 percent.

Figure 16
Private Juvenile Facilities 1-Day Counts, 1979–1989

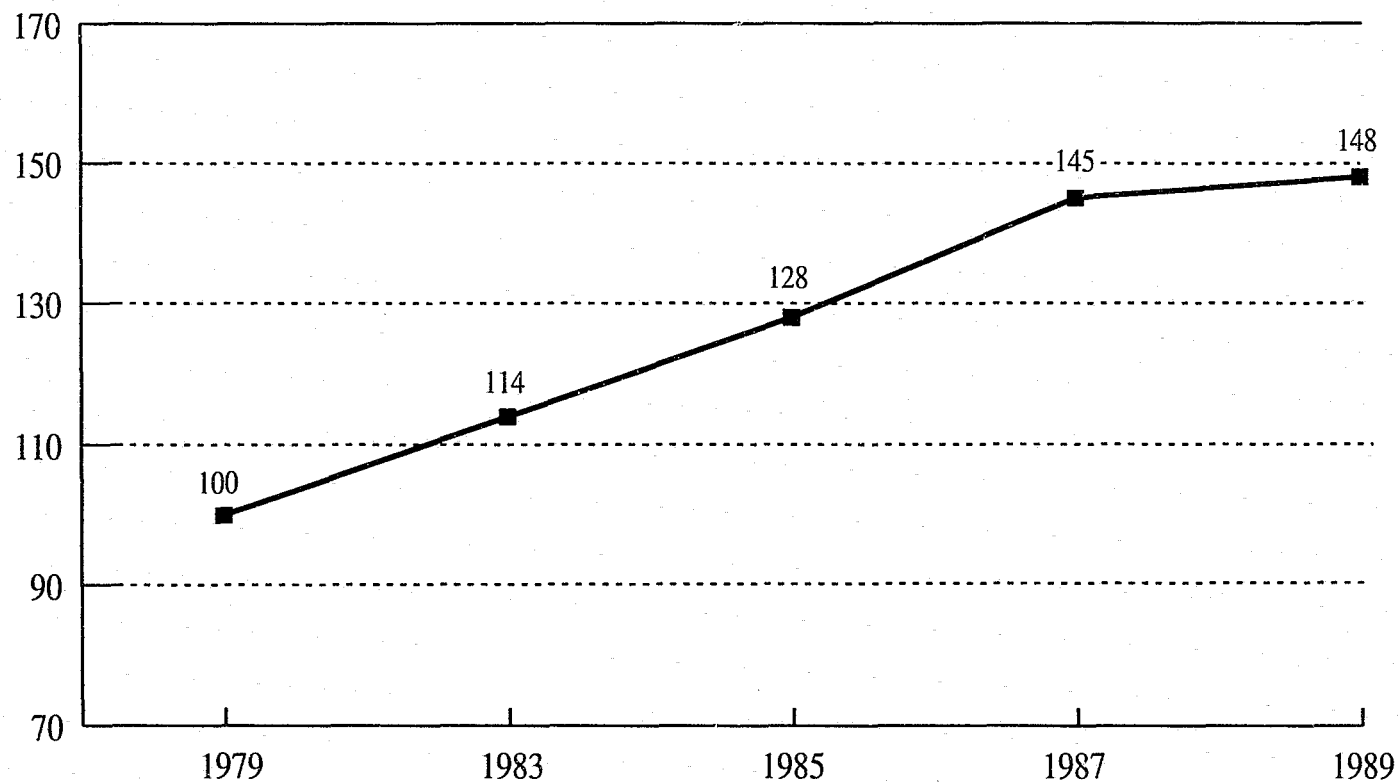


Source: 1979–1989 Census of Public and Private Juvenile Detention, Correctional and Shelter Facilities.

The rate of confinement in private juvenile facilities increased by 48 percent.

Figure 17
Private Juvenile Facilities 1-Day Rates, 1979–1989

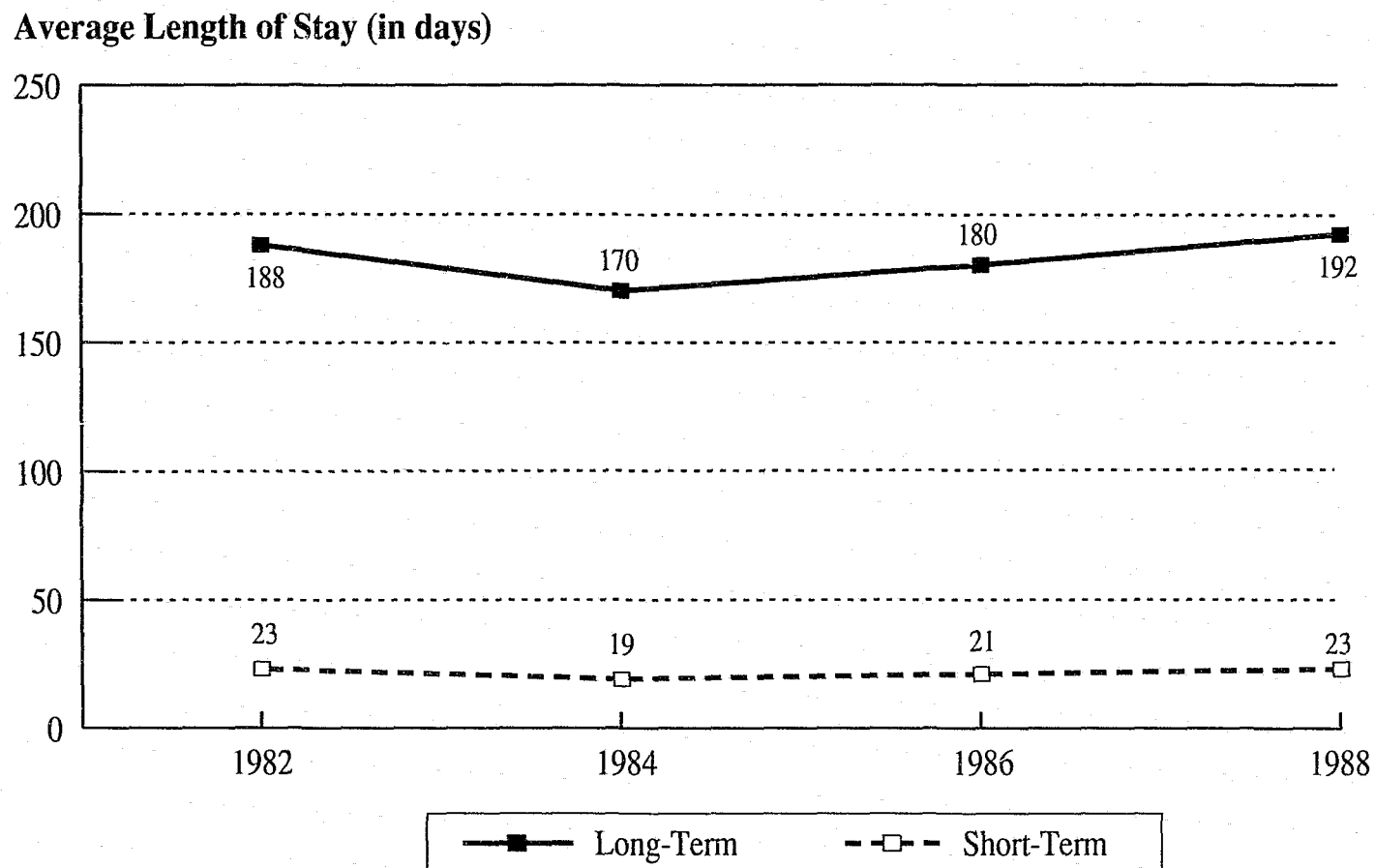
Rates per 100,000



Sources: 1979–1989 Census of Public and Private Juvenile Detention, Correctional and Shelter Facilities; and the U.S. Bureau of the Census Population Estimates.

Between 1982 and 1988, the average length of stay in private juvenile facilities remained essentially unchanged at 192 days in long-term facilities and at 23 days in short-term facilities.

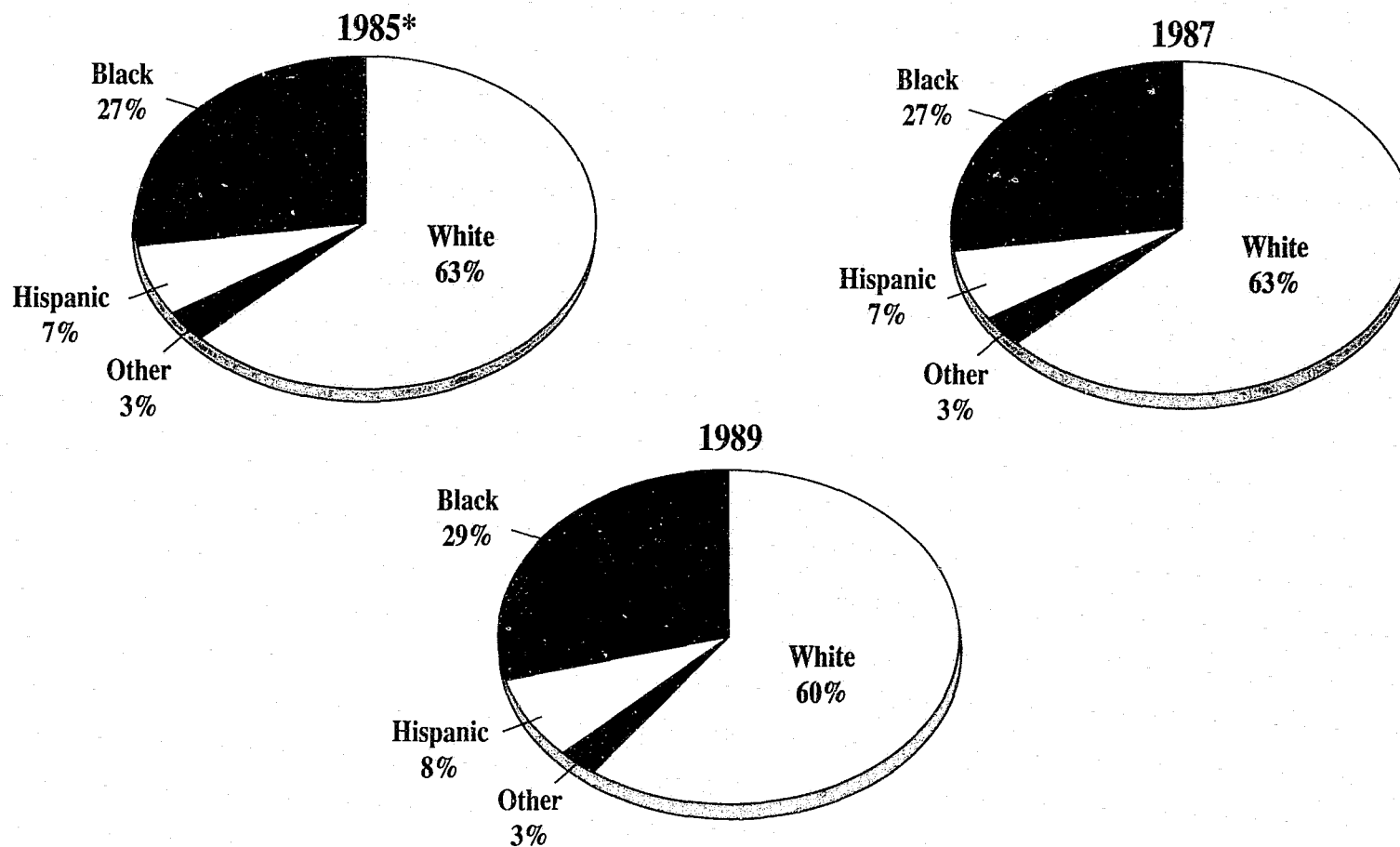
Figure 18
Private Juvenile Facilities Average Length of Stay, 1982–1988



Source: 1983–1989 Census of Public and Private Juvenile Detention, Correctional and Shelter Facilities.

White youth continue to constitute the majority of juveniles confined in private facilities.

Figure 19
Private Juvenile Facilities 1-Day Counts by Race, 1985–1989



*For 1985 the percentages for whites and blacks were estimated due to some overlapping in the categories. For that year, blacks and whites were included in the Hispanic category.

Source: 1985–1989 Census of Public and Private Juvenile Detention, Correctional and Shelter Facilities.

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