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**Correctional Institutional Recidivism  
Among Youth Released From DYS  
Institutions 1986 to 1990**

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Office of Policy and Budget

Wisconsin Department of Health and Social Services

Madison, Wisconsin

**Correctional Institutional Recidivism  
Among Youth Released From DYS  
Institutions 1986 to 1990**

**Evaluation Section**  
Office of Policy and Budget  
Department of Health and Social Services  
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November, 1993

## Executive Summary

Follow-up was done on all youth released from Wisconsin's two juvenile correctional institutions from 1986 through 1990 to determine if they were subsequently returned to a juvenile correctional institution. In addition, follow-up was done to determine how many of these youth continued to engage in criminal activity which resulted in their incarceration in the Wisconsin adult prison system.

Wisconsin's two juvenile correctional institutions released 2,757 youth during 1986 through 1990. Of these, 1,021 (37 percent) were reinstitutionalized within two years. Among the entire study population, 759 (27.5 percent) were returned to a DYS institution only, 203 (7.4 percent) were committed to adult prison only, and 59 (2.1 percent) were "chronic recidivists" who were returned to a DYS institution and also subsequently committed to adult prison within two years. Youth were in the community for an average of 7.7 months between institutionalizations.

The incidence of institutional recidivism within two years increased between 1986 and 1990. Statewide, 28.9 percent of the youth released during 1986 recidivated within two years. In comparison, 43.6 percent of the youth released during 1990 recidivated within two years. An additional trend which was noted was a marked increase in recidivism among violent and assaultive youth from Milwaukee. The recidivism rate among violent and assaultive youth from Milwaukee increased from 23.6 percent among such youth released in 1986 to 54.1 percent among such youth released in 1990.

Certain types of youth were significantly more likely to recidivate. Males were more likely to recidivate, younger persons (i.e. under 16 at release) were more likely to be reinstitutionalized, youth with a more extensive record of juvenile adjudications were more likely to recidivate, youth released from Ethan Allen School were more likely to recidivate than youth released from Lincoln Hills School, youth with less education were more likely to recidivate, youth released to a special living arrangement such as a child care institution were more likely to recidivate than youth released to their family and youth placed on state aftercare were more likely to recidivate than youth released to county aftercare.

The study also used a four-year follow-up period to track entries into adult prison among youth released from 1986 to 1988. This was done because adult prison entries tend to take considerably longer than returns to juvenile institutions. It was found that 26.3 percent of the youth released from 1986 to 1988 entered adult prison within four years. An average of just over 2.5 years passed between the youth's first release from a juvenile institution and the admission to adult prison. Among youth who were released between 1986 and 1988, the overall recidivism rate, including both juvenile and adult institutional recidivism, was 46.9 percent within four years. The incidence of institutional recidivism within four years increased between 1986 and 1988. Among the 1986 releases, 41 percent were reinstitutionalized within four years, and among the 1988 releases, 53.6 percent were reinstitutionalized within four years.

In evaluating the findings of this study, one should consider several recent juvenile justice trends which may have had an impact on recidivism outcomes. These trends began to emerge in the 1980s and they have continued to escalate. Juvenile crime has increased, commitments to DYS institutions have increased, the institutional Average Daily Population has increased and the average length of stay in the institutions has decreased. Another trend is a tendency in the legal system to deal with juvenile offenders more severely. Several enacted and proposed changes in state law acknowledge the trend of increases in the seriousness of juvenile crime through the imposition of tougher penalties on juvenile offenders. It was also noted that the courts are increasingly committing "first offenders" to DYS institutional supervision, rather than referring them to community juvenile delinquency programs or less restrictive treatment and rehabilitation facilities. In conclusion, it appears that the DYS institutions may be getting more difficult juvenile offenders who have been exposed to less rehabilitative and treatment programming in the communities. These offenders are being committed to an institutional environment which is more densely populated and which has less time to work with youth prior to their release back to the community.

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## Introduction

### Purpose of This Report

The Division of Youth Services (DYS) requested the Office of Policy and Budget (OPB) to conduct a follow-up study of Wisconsin juvenile institution releases to determine whether they were reinstitutionalized in a Wisconsin correctional institution. In 1990, OPB conducted a study of correctional institutional recidivism among youth who had been released from the two Wisconsin juvenile institutions from 1983 through April, 1990. DYS requested the current study to obtain additional data on trends relative to the incidence of recidivism among youth released from DYS institutions, and more detailed data on the youth who are returned to juvenile correctional institutions or who continue to engage in criminal activity which results in their being committed to the adult prison system.

### Sources of Information Used to Prepare This Report

**Information Sources.** This report uses two sources of information to assess the incidence of recidivism among youth released from Wisconsin's juvenile correctional institutions. First of all, we accessed the Department's juvenile institution information system which contains placement and demographic records on all youth committed to Wisconsin's two juvenile correctional institutions i.e., the Ethan Allen School in Delafield and the Lincoln Hills School in Irma. Secondly, we accessed the Department of Corrections' Prison information system to obtain follow-up data on entries into the adult prison system.

**Time Period Covered by this Report.** Youth who were released from the two juvenile correctional institutions from 1986 through 1990 were identified and followed to determine their incidence of correctional institutional recidivism.

## Review of Previous Findings

The 1990 OPB juvenile recidivism study concluded that 42.4% of the youth who were released from DYS institutions were subsequently placed in a Wisconsin correctional institution. Among the youth studied, 17.2 percent were returned to a juvenile correctional institution only, 17.8 percent were committed to the adult prison system only, and 7.4 percent were classified as chronic offenders, in that they were returned to a juvenile institution and subsequently also entered the adult prison system. It should be noted that the 1990 study methodology was considerably less rigorous than the current study in that it did not use a standardized follow-up period; the youth who were tracked had a follow-up period that ranged from a few months to seven years.

Data from other states indicate considerable variation in the incidence of institutional recidivism. A problem inherent in making comparisons between the results of these recidivism studies is the inconsistency in recidivism definitions among studies. A

standardized follow-up period is not always used within an individual study, follow-up periods vary in length between studies, and the types of behaviors and institutional placements which are tracked and classified as an instance of recidivism vary. An additional problem relates to systematic differences in how each state's correctional system responds to continued criminal behavior by a juvenile. For example, in Illinois and Michigan, if a 17 year old has any prior juvenile correctional institutional experience and commits a new offense, s/he is immediately waived to adult court, whereas, in Wisconsin, adult court waivers are much less frequent, and continued illegal behavior by a juvenile is generally handled within the juvenile correctional system.

An Illinois study of juvenile institutional recidivism among youth released from juvenile correctional institutions during Fiscal Year 1991 used a standardized two year follow-up period and found a 26.6 percent recidivism rate. It should be reiterated that Illinois treats 17 year old recidivists as adults and automatically sentences them to adult correctional supervision. The Illinois study did not track youth who were waived to adult court, so it is not possible to report this statistic. Among the youth from the Wisconsin study population who were classified as juvenile institutional recidivists, over half (57.7 percent) were at least age 17 when they were returned to a DYS institution.

An Ohio study of juvenile institutional recidivism among youth released from juvenile correctional institutions during Fiscal Year 1992 used a variable follow-up period of six to twelve months and found a 38.6 percent recidivism rate. Other recent (i.e 1989 to 1992) Ohio studies of juvenile institutional recidivism among various types of youth and youth with various institutional program experience found recidivism rates that ranged from 38 to 41 percent.

A Michigan study of recidivism among males released from juvenile correctional institutions during 1986 used a standardized four year follow-up period and found that 32 percent entered adult prison. As previously noted, Michigan treats 17 year old recidivists as adults and automatically sentences them to adult correctional supervision rather than returning them to a juvenile institution.

An Indiana study of recidivism among a sample of males released from juvenile correctional institutions during Fiscal Years 1984 through 1989 used a variable follow-up period of eight months to six years and found a 41 percent overall recidivism rate and a 25 percent rate of entry into adult prison. In this study, recidivism was defined as a return to a juvenile correctional institution, or a commitment to adult prison or one of Indiana's three largest jails.

A Missouri study of youth discharged from custody (i.e., institutional and/or community aftercare supervision) during Fiscal Years 1984 through 1989 used a variable follow-up period of a few months to six years and found that 15 percent had entered adult prison. In addition, it was found that one-third of the youth in the study population had been placed on adult correctional supervision, including prison and/or probation.

## Methodology

### Selection of Study Population

All youth who were released from the two juvenile correctional institutions from 1986 through 1990 were identified. During this time period, 2,757 youth were released from DYS juvenile correctional institutions. Each youth's subsequent correctional institutional placement experience was reviewed to determine if s/he was reinstitutionalized following his/her first release from the DYS juvenile correctional institution. All data are unduplicated in that each youth was tracked following the first commitment to a DYS institution. All recidivism outcome data was analyzed relative to this first DYS correctional institutional experience.

### Follow-up Period

In all cases, youth were followed for two years to determine if they required a subsequent placement in a juvenile or an adult correctional institution. Only permanent subsequent institutional placements were considered to constitute institutional recidivism. If the youth was returned to DYS as a temporary admission pending revocation proceedings, and was held for a short time period, but was not revoked or committed on a new offense, s/he was not classified as an institutional recidivist.

Additional longer term analysis was done to assess the incidence of commitments to the adult prison system. Those youth who were released from 1986 to 1988 were also tracked for four years to determine if they entered the adult prison system. This was done for several reasons, including the age of the study population and typical adult correctional supervision patterns. The youth in the study population ranged from age 12.7 to 19.8 upon their first release from a DYS institution. It is highly unlikely that the younger members of the study population would have been committed to the adult prison system within two years. If a juvenile continues to engage in delinquent behavior and is deemed to require secure custody, s/he would generally be returned to a juvenile correctional institution or a child caring institution. While there are very limited circumstances which allow for the waiver of a youth under age 16 to adult court, this seldom results in a commitment to adult prison. The admission of juveniles to a Wisconsin adult prison is quite rare; 1.2 percent of the admissions to Wisconsin adult prisons from 1986 through 1992 were under 18, and only 35 of these youth were age 16 or younger. Those persons who are placed on adult correctional supervision are generally initially sentenced to community probation supervision and/or county jail. A commitment to adult prison generally follows these less restrictive forms of correctional supervision.

## Description of the Study Population

### Counties of Commitment

Just over half (1,446 or 52.4 percent) of the study population came from Milwaukee County. Eight urban counties also committed a relatively large number of youth (755 or 27.4 percent) to DYS institutions. These counties were: Racine (211 youth), Kenosha (119 youth), Dane (118 youth), Rock (99 youth), Outagamie (71 youth), Winnebago (48 youth), Marathon (47 youth), and Brown (42 youth). The remaining counties generally committed considerably fewer youth. About half (38 or 52.8%) of the counties committed 10 or fewer youth during the five year study period.

### Sex, Race and Ethnicity

The vast majority of the youth in the study population were male (92 percent). Most youth were African American (45.4 percent) or White (43.4 percent). The youth committed by Milwaukee County were predominantly African American (72.2 percent), whereas the youth committed by the other 71 Wisconsin counties were predominantly white (71.3 percent). The remaining youth in the study population were of the following racial/ethnic backgrounds: 6.2 percent were Hispanic, 4.5 percent were American Indian, .1 percent were Asian, and .4 percent were of another unspecified racial background.

### Age at Admission

The youth in the study population ranged from age 12 to 18 when they were first admitted to a DYS institution. Age 16 was the most common admission age, with 35.7 percent being age 16 at admission to the DYS institution. Youth from Milwaukee were on average slightly older than other Wisconsin youth (i.e., age 16.3 and 16.1 respectively). Nearly two-thirds (63.2 percent) of the Milwaukee youth were age 16 or older upon admission, as compared to 59.7 percent of the rest of the study population. Overall, one-third (38.4 percent) of the youth in the study population were age 15 or under and 61.6 percent were at least age 16 upon their admission to the DYS institution.

### Time Served and Age at Release

These youth spent an average of 290 days (9.7 months) in the DYS institution on their first stay. Youth were, on average, age 17 upon their first release from the DYS institution. Youth ranged from age 12 to 19 at their release from DYS. Nearly one-fifth (17.6 percent) of the study population were adults when they were released to the community.

### Offense History

The majority (55.8 percent) of the study population had been committed due to the commission of property offenses. The most common property offenses were unarmed

burglary (458 cases), auto theft (397 cases) and theft (375 cases). In addition, 16.4 percent were committed due to violent and assaultive offenses such as battery or endangering safety by conduct regardless of life (374 cases) and murder (34 cases); 15.7 percent were committed due to weapons offenses such as armed robbery (201 cases), reckless use of weapons (144 cases) and armed burglary (77 cases); 7 percent were committed due to sex offenses such as sexual assault (180 cases) and prostitution (9 cases); 1.9 percent were committed due to drug offenses such as drug sales (33 cases) and drug use or possession (20 cases); and the remaining 3.2 percent were committed due to other various offenses such as resisting/obstructing an officer (41 cases), and disorderly conduct (24 cases).

It was noted that Milwaukee youth tended to be committed for more serious offenses than youth from the balance of the state. Among Milwaukee youth, 39.3 percent were committed for violent and assaultive or weapons offenses, whereas 24.3 percent of the youth from outside Milwaukee were committed for these types of offenses.

Based on data from the DYS information system, most of the youth had an extensive offense and juvenile court adjudication history upon their first admission to the DYS juvenile correctional institution. Only one-sixth (16.7 percent) of the youth were committed as a result of their first court adjudication. Nearly one-third (30.4 percent) of the youth had been adjudicated delinquent at least five times prior to their first commitment to a DYS institution, 12.8 percent had four juvenile adjudications, 19.5 percent had three juvenile adjudications, and 20.6 percent had two juvenile adjudications. In all cases, the number of prior juvenile adjudications refers to the number of court adjudications of delinquency which could have resulted in commitment to a juvenile correctional institution. It should be noted that all juvenile offenses do not go to court. In certain cases, offenses can be handled informally by the county worker instead of referring them to court for an adjudication hearing.

### **Education Level**

On average, youth had completed 8.6 years of education upon admission to the DYS institution. The number of years of education completed by these youth ranged from three to twelve years. Many youth (41.9 percent) were at the middle school level (i.e., had completed grades six, seven or eight). Just over half (51.5 percent) of the youth had completed ninth or tenth grade when they were admitted to DYS. An additional 5 percent had completed eleventh grade, and a very small percentage had already completed their secondary education (.8 percent) by graduating from high school or obtaining a GED/HED.

The functional educational level of youth was on average somewhat lower than would be expected based on their educational experience. Statewide, youth were assessed to have an average tested grade level of 8.2. Milwaukee youth exhibited a slightly lower average tested grade level than other youth; Milwaukee youth had an average tested grade level of 8.0 as compared with 8.4 among the youth from the other 71 counties. While 95.6 percent of the Milwaukee youth were beyond the sixth grade, nearly one-fourth (24.3 percent) of them had a functional grade level of no more than sixth grade.

## **Living Arrangement**

Most youth had been living with one (46.6 percent) or both (22.6 percent) of their parents just prior to their admission to the DYS institution. Considerably more of the Milwaukee youth (79.1 percent) were living with their parent(s) than were the youth from the rest of the state (58.2 percent). Among the Milwaukee youth, the single parent household was the predominant living arrangement, with 57.5 percent of them coming from this type of home environment. In comparison, 34.5 percent of the youth from the balance of the state had been in a single parent household just prior to admission. Youth from outside Milwaukee were more likely to have been residing in a special living arrangement, i.e., a foster home, group home or a child caring institution. Over one-third of the youth from counties other than Milwaukee had been in a special living arrangement, as compared to only 14.4 percent of the Milwaukee youth.

## **Releasing Institution**

Ethan Allen School (EAS) has a slightly higher rated bed capacity (i.e. by 9.5 percent in Fiscal Year 1993) than Lincoln Hills School (LHS). Historically, EAS has released considerably more youth (i.e., 35.2 percent more), and these youth have been institutionalized for a somewhat shorter time period. During the study period, 57.5 percent of the youth were released from EAS, and these youth were institutionalized for an average of 279 days (9.3 months). Youth released from LHS were institutionalized for an average of 305 days (10.2 months).

## **Type of Supervision and Living Arrangement Upon Release from DYS**

Upon their first release from the DYS institution, most youth (79.6 percent) were placed on aftercare supervision. Only 16.3 percent of the study population were retained in the institution for the duration of their sentence and were directly discharged to the community without aftercare supervision. The remaining 4.1 percent were released to one of the two state mental health institutions for specialized treatment.

Counties have the option of directly providing aftercare supervision or of purchasing aftercare supervision services from the Department. State Aftercare was the predominant type of supervision used with the youth who were released to aftercare supervision. Of the 2,194 youth who were released to aftercare supervision, 73.2 percent were placed on state aftercare. The high proportion of youth placed on state aftercare is primarily driven by Milwaukee County which purchases state aftercare for virtually all of their clients who require supervision. The other 71 counties were slightly more likely to directly provide their own aftercare supervision services (56.1 percent of the cases) than to purchase state aftercare (43.9 percent of the cases) for those youth who were released to community aftercare supervision.

Upon release from the DYS institution, about half (51 percent) of the youth were placed in a special living arrangement, and one-third were returned to the direct supervision of their parent(s). There was little difference between the Milwaukee youth and the other youth in terms of the proportion who were placed in their home as compared to in a special living arrangement. It was noted that the Milwaukee youth who were returned to parental supervision were more likely to be placed in a single parent household than were the other youth (i.e., 24.9 percent and 16.5 percent, respectively).

Appendix I presents detailed information regarding the characteristics of the study population.

### **Recent Juvenile Justice Trends**

During recent years, there have been many changes in the juvenile justice system which should be considered in assessing the findings of this study. This study focused on recidivism outcomes among youth released from DYS institutions between 1986 and 1990. Since 1990, many of the problems which began to emerge in the late 1980s have been exacerbated. Some of the juvenile justice trends that merit consideration include: changes in the incidence and nature of juvenile crime; changes in the types of youth committed to state institutional custody; increases in the population in the juvenile correctional institutions; decreases in the length of stay among youth committed to the two state institutions; and finally, the enactment of laws which acknowledge the increasing seriousness of juvenile crime.

**Juvenile Arrests.** There has been a trend of increases in total juvenile arrests. Total arrests among juveniles increased by 8.4% between 1986 and 1990. Arrests of juveniles for violent index offenses (i.e., murder, forcible rape, robbery and aggravated assault) during these five years increased at an even greater rate (i.e., 19%). Since 1990, both total arrests and arrests for violent index offenses have continued to increase. In comparing 1992 and 1990 arrest statistics, it was found that there has been a 12.9% increase in total juvenile arrests, and a 31.9% increase in arrests for violent index offenses.

**Commitments to DYS Correctional Institutions.** There has been a dramatic increase in the number of youth committed to DYS institutions over the past few years, resulting in increases in the institutional Average Daily Population (ADP). Annual commitments to DYS increased by 23.6 percent between 1986 and 1990, and by an additional 23.3 percent between 1990 and 1992. During the study period, the ADP increased by 7.3 percent, from 534 in Fiscal Year 1986 to 573 in Fiscal Year 1990, but was still within the total institutional capacity (including security beds) of 621. In 1991, the institutional ADP finally exceeded capacity, increasing to 624, and the institutions have remained overcrowded. In 1992, the ADP was 660, or 106 percent of capacity. Recently, on October 25, 1993, the institutional population was at 787, which is 127 percent of capacity. These high population levels may impact the adequacy of institutional staffing and security.

**Types of Youth Committed to DYS Institutions.** Based on data from the DYS information system, the nature of offenses which led to commitment have changed. Between 1986 and 1990, there was a trend of increases in the proportion of youth who were property offenders (i.e., a 22.2 percent increase), drug offenders (i.e., a 560 percent increase) and violent offenders (i.e., a 3 percent increase), and a decrease in the proportion who were weapons offenders (i.e. a 36.4 percent decrease).

Another trend which emerged during the study period, was the commitment of youth to DYS institutional supervision at an earlier point in their involvement with the law enforcement system. The courts are increasingly committing youth to DYS rather than referring them to community juvenile delinquency programs or less restrictive treatment and rehabilitative facilities. Data on the prior juvenile adjudication history of the study population show that from 1986 to 1990, there was a 66.2 percent increase in the percent of youth who were committed to DYS institutional supervision upon their first adjudication of delinquency. This practice of ordering secure custody for "first offenders" suggests that many youth may be more dangerous and/or that their offenses may be more serious than in earlier years, and has implications for their programming requirements and potential rehabilitatability.

**Length of Stay.** There were slight decreases in the average length of stay in the institutions during the study period. From 1986 to 1990, the average length of stay among the study population decreased from 299 days to 290 days, a 3 percent decrease. In late 1990, the institutions implemented "Short Term Intensive Programs" in an attempt to more quickly prepare selected youth for release back to the community and to manage the effects of the growing institutional populations. Among the youth released from DYS in 1992, the average length of stay has been reduced to 237 days.

**Legal System Changes.** Several changes in state laws have been implemented or are being considered which acknowledge the trend of increases in the seriousness of juvenile crime and which impose tougher penalties on juvenile offenders. For example, there has been a reduction in the age at which a juvenile can be waived to adult court and an expansion in the list of crimes that can result in a waiver to adult court, and laws have been implemented which can extend state juvenile institutional supervision into adulthood. Currently, the Omnibus Crime Bill (i.e., Senate Bill 548) proposes several additional pieces of anti-crime legislation which would create a DYS boot camp for juvenile delinquents, create a Gang Violence Prevention Council, impose more severe penalties on gang related crimes and further expand conditions under which juveniles may be waived to adult court.

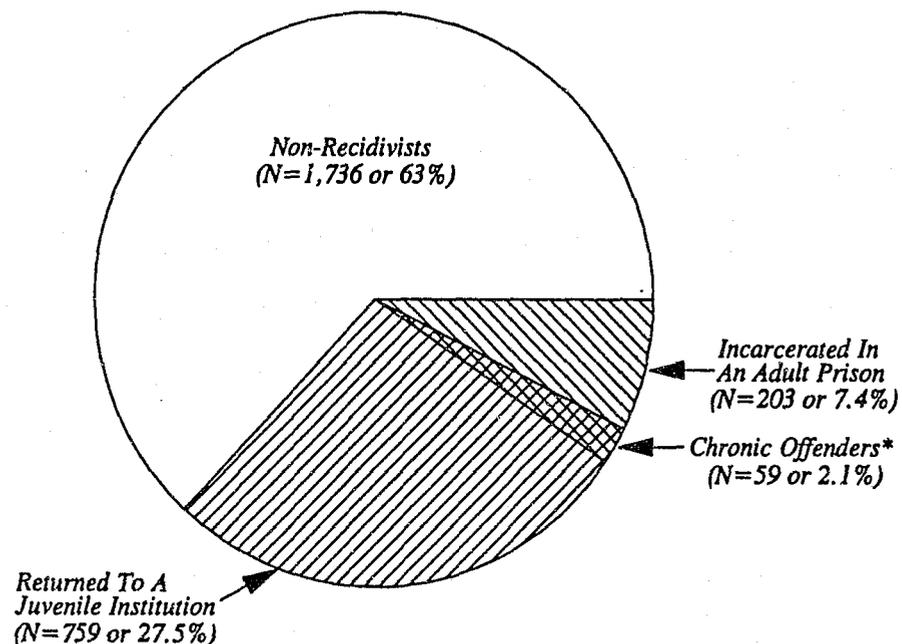
These juvenile justice trends indicate that the DYS institutions may be getting more difficult juvenile offenders who have been exposed to less rehabilitative and treatment programming in the communities. These offenders are being committed to a correctional institutional environment which is more densely populated and which has less time to work with youth prior to their release back to the community.

## Recidivism Outcomes Using a Two Year Follow-up Period

**Recidivism Rates.** Statewide, 1,021 (37 percent) of the youth in the study population of youth released between 1986 and 1990 were reinstitutionalized in a juvenile and/or an adult correctional institution within two years. Among the study population, 759 (27.5 percent) were returned to a DYS institution only, 203 (7.4 percent) were committed to adult prison only, and 59 (2.1 percent) were "chronic recidivists" who were returned to a DYS institution and also subsequently committed to adult prison.

*Figure 1*

### RECIDIVISM WITHIN TWO YEARS AMONG YOUTH RELEASED FROM WISCONSIN JUVENILE INSTITUTIONS 1986 THRU 1990



\*A "Chronic Offender" is a youth who was returned to a juvenile institution and also incarcerated in adult prison.

Youth from Milwaukee exhibited a slightly higher institutional recidivism rate than did youth from the balance of the state. Among the Milwaukee youth, 39.5 percent were reinstitutionalized in a juvenile and/or an adult correctional institution within two years. In comparison, 34.3 percent of the youth from the balance of the state were reinstitutionalized in a juvenile and/or an adult correctional institution within two years.

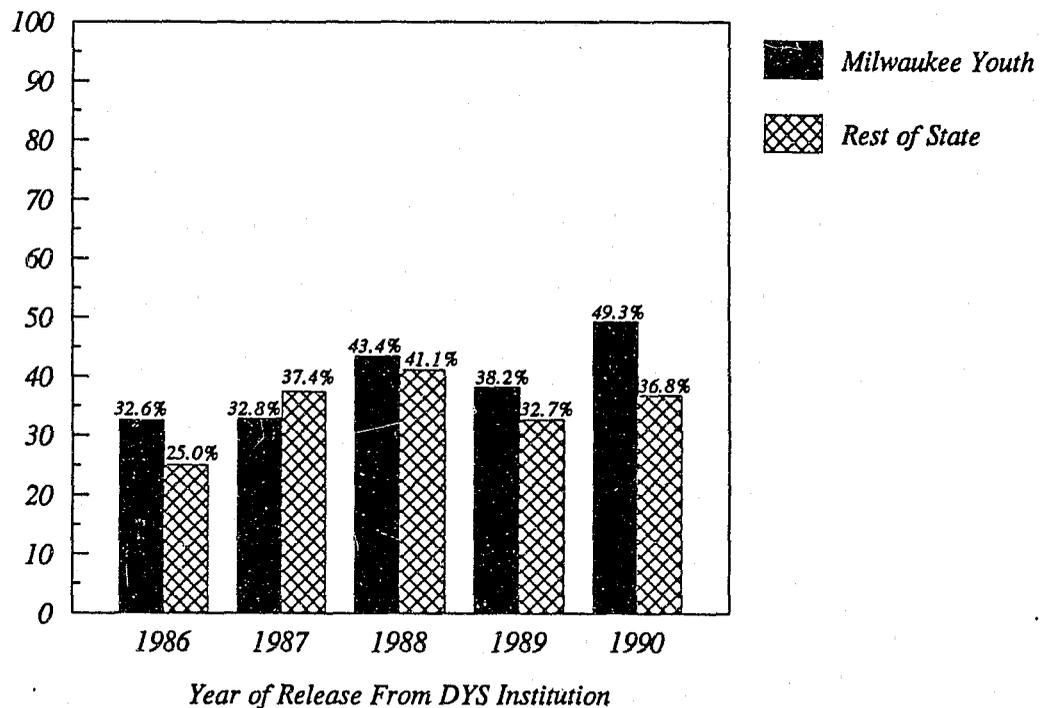
**Five Year Trend.** The incidence of institutional recidivism increased between 1986 and 1990. Statewide, 28.9 percent of the youth released from DYS institutions in 1986 were reinstitutionalized within two years. Recidivism increased throughout the late 1980s and the recidivism rate among youth released in 1990 had grown to the point where 43.6 percent required reinstitutionalization within two years.

Milwaukee youth experienced slightly higher increases in their rate of institutional recidivism over the five year study period. Nearly half (49.3 percent) of the Milwaukee youth who were released in 1990 were reinstitutionalized, as compared with 32.6 percent in 1986. Among other state youth who were released during 1990, 36.8 percent were reinstitutionalized, as compared with 25 percent in 1986.

*Figure 2*

**RECIDIVISM TRENDS AMONG MILWAUKEE AND OTHER YOUTH RELEASED FROM DYS INSTITUTIONS 1986-1990**

*Recidivism Rates Within Two Years*



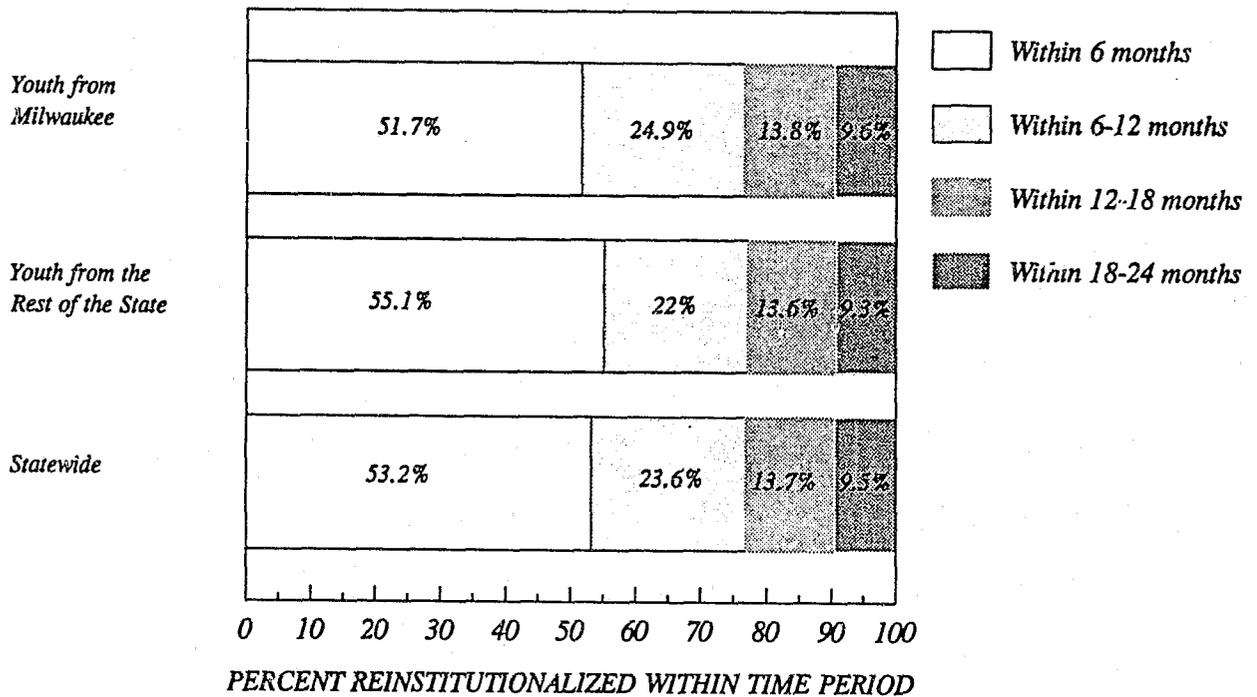
Appendix II presents data on recidivism rates for each year between 1986 and 1990, including a breakout for Milwaukee youth as compared with other Wisconsin youth.

**Time in the Community Prior to Recidivating.** Those youth who recidivated tended to do so rather quickly. Half of the youth were reinstitutionalized within 170 days (5.7 months). On average, youth were in the community for 232 days (7.7 months) prior to being reinstitutionalized. Milwaukee youth were in the community for a slightly longer time period than other youth. On average, among the Milwaukee youth, 7.9 months passed between institutionalizations and among the other youth, 7.5 months passed between institutionalizations.

The study analyzed the rate of reinstitutionalization in six month increments. It was found that 53.2 percent of the recidivists were reinstitutionalized within six months, an additional 23.6 percent were reinstitutionalized within six to twelve months, an additional 13.7 percent were reinstitutionalized within twelve to eighteen months and the remaining 9.5 percent were reinstitutionalized within eighteen to twenty-four months.

Figure 3

**TIME SERIES DATA REGARDING HOW QUICKLY YOUTH WERE REINSTITUTIONALIZED**



Appendix III presents this time series data for each year between 1986 and 1990, including a breakout of these reinstitutionalization time increments for Milwaukee youth as compared with other Wisconsin youth.

### **Recidivism Outcomes Within Two Years Broken Out by the Youth's Characteristics**

**Sex.** During the five year study period, males had a significantly higher recidivism rate than did females. Statewide, 37.7 percent of the males and 29.1 percent of the females were reinstitutionalized within two years.

While males experienced increases in their rate of reinstitutionalization between 1986 and 1990, females experienced a decrease. The males released in 1986 had a 28.9 percent recidivism rate, however, among males released in 1990, this rate had grown to 45 percent. In comparison, the females released in 1986 had a 29.3 percent recidivism rate, and among females released in 1990, the rate had declined to 26.5 percent. The highest recidivism rate was among males from Milwaukee; over half (50.3 percent) of the male Milwaukee youth who were released in 1990 were reinstitutionalized.

**Race and Ethnicity.** Statewide, there was relatively little variation in recidivism rates among various racial/ethnic groups during the five year study period. African American youth had a 39.3 percent recidivism rate, Hispanic youth had a 37.1 percent recidivism rate and both White and American Indian youth had a 34.7 percent recidivism rate. In analyzing recidivism data by both race/ethnicity and broad county groupings (i.e., Milwaukee vs. the rest of the state), it was noted that the highest recidivism rates exhibited by Milwaukee youth were among American Indians at 53.1 percent (N=32) and the highest recidivism rates exhibited by youth outside Milwaukee were among African Americans at 46.1 percent. The recidivism rates for other Milwaukee youth were: Hispanics - 43.4 percent; Whites - 41.8 percent; and African Americans - 37.9 percent. The recidivism rates for other youth outside Milwaukee were: Whites - 32.7 percent; American Indians - 28.3 percent and Hispanics - 28.2 percent.

We noted a trend of marked increases in recidivism among selected youth. African American youth and Hispanic youth had the greatest increases in recidivism between 1986 and 1990. The recidivism rate among African American youth from Milwaukee increased from 28.4 percent in 1986 to 50.6 percent in 1990, and the recidivism rate among African American youth outside Milwaukee, increased from 25.7 percent in 1986 to 57.8 percent in 1990. The recidivism rate among Hispanic youth from Milwaukee increased from 36.4 percent in 1986 to 54.2 percent in 1990, and the recidivism rate among Hispanic youth outside Milwaukee increased from 25 percent in 1986 to 41.2 percent in 1990. The only racial group which experienced a decrease in recidivism was American Indians, who had a 3.3 percent decrease in recidivism. Among American Indians, the recidivism rate decreased from 36 percent in 1986 to 34.8 percent in 1990.

**Age Group.** Statewide, those youth who were committed or released at a younger age were significantly more likely to recidivate. Those youth who were under age 16 at admission exhibited a 54.1 percent recidivism rate, as compared to a 26.4 percent recidivism rate among youth who were at least 16 upon their admission to the DYS institution. Those youth who were under age 16 at release exhibited a 59.3 percent recidivism rate, as compared to a 31.9 percent recidivism rate among youth who were at least 16 upon their release to the community. This difference was even greater among younger Milwaukee youth; 67.5 percent of the youth who were under 16 at release recidivated as compared with 33.8 percent of youth who were at least 16 at release.

**Releasing Institution.** Youth released from EAS had a significantly higher recidivism rate than did youth released from LHS. Among all youth released from 1986 to 1990, 40 percent of the EAS releases recidivated and 33 percent of the LHS releases recidivated. The males who were released from LHS had a recidivism rate which was somewhat higher than the females (i.e., 33.9 percent and 29.1 percent respectively), but lower than the males who were released from EAS. Part of the higher incidence of recidivism among EAS releases may be due to the impact of Milwaukee County youth. Milwaukee County youth had a higher recidivism rate than other youth, and 77.4 percent of the EAS releases were from Milwaukee.

There was a marked increase in recidivism among EAS releases over the five year study period. Between 1986 and 1990, the incidence of recidivism among EAS releases increased from 32.4 percent to 50.6 percent. Recidivism among males released from LHS increased at an even greater rate than among EAS releases. Between 1986 and 1990, the incidence of recidivism among male LHS releases increased from 22.8 percent to 36.9 percent. As previously noted, recidivism among females decreased during the study period.

Appendix IV presents detailed information on recidivism rates for Milwaukee youth as compared to other Wisconsin youth, broken out by sex, race/ethnicity, age and releasing institution for each year between 1986 and 1990.

**Offense.** The study analyzed recidivism outcomes relative to the nature of the youth's committing offense. Recidivism rates were generated by specific offense. Those offenses which had a higher incidence of recidivism than the statewide recidivism rate of 37 percent were: possession of burglary tools - 100 percent; threats - 66.7 percent; disorderly conduct - 62.5 percent; aggravated assault - 50 percent; unarmed robbery - 45.6 percent; causing injury by negligent use of a weapon or intoxicated use of a car - 45.4 percent; prostitution - 44.4 percent; drug sales - 42.4 percent; auto theft - 41.3 percent; armed burglary - 40.3 percent; drug use or possession - 40 percent; theft - 39.2 percent; negligent handling of burning materials - 38.5 percent; unarmed burglary - 38.4 percent; and criminal damage to property - 37.6 percent. Of the above noted crimes, only the following six had greater than 50 cases represented: unarmed burglary; auto theft; theft; unarmed robbery; criminal damage to property; and armed burglary.

Since in many cases, relatively few youth were committed for a specific offense, outcomes by crime could be exaggerated by a small increase in recidivism behavior. Therefore, we also analyzed recidivism rates by offense category. Committing offenses were grouped into the following categories for this analysis: violent/assaultive offenses; property offenses; weapons offenses; drug offenses; and sex offenses. It was found that drug offenders and property offenders exhibited the highest recidivism rates (i.e., 41.5 percent and 39.2 percent, respectively). Weapons offenders had a 35.6 percent recidivism rate, violent/assaultive offenders had a 34.2 percent recidivism rate and sex offenders had a 28.1 percent recidivism rate.

Between 1986 and 1990, there was a marked increase in recidivism among violent and assaultive offenders from Milwaukee, but a decrease in recidivism among such youth from the balance of the state. The recidivism rate among violent and assaultive offenders from Milwaukee increased from 23.6 percent in 1986 to 54.1 percent in 1990. In comparison, the recidivism rate among violent and assaultive offenders from the balance of the state decreased from 34.9 percent in 1986 to 27.7 percent in 1990.

Appendix V summarizes data on the recidivism rates associated with the youth's primary offense which led to his/her commitment to the DYS institution. Appendix VI presents five year trend data on recidivism rates broken out by offense category and release year.

**Juvenile Adjudication Experience.** Youth who had a more extensive history of juvenile adjudications prior to their commitment to DYS were significantly more likely to recidivate. For example, youth who were committed to DYS as a result of their first juvenile adjudication had a 33.6 percent recidivism rate, youth who had three prior juvenile adjudications had a 37.7 percent recidivism rate and youth who had six or more prior juvenile adjudications had a 45.4 percent recidivism rate.

**Education Level.** There was a significant relationship between the youth's education level and recidivism. Youth who completed more years of education were less likely to recidivate. For example, among youth who had completed up to six years of education, the recidivism rate was 66 percent, among youth who had completed eight years of education, the recidivism rate was 40.6 percent, among youth who had completed ten years of education, the recidivism rate was 26.1 percent, and among youth who had completed twelve years of education, the recidivism rate was 11.1 percent. As previously noted, there also was a relationship between age and recidivism. It is likely that education and age are correlated.

**Living Arrangement.** There was a significant relationship between the youth's living arrangement upon release from DYS and recidivism. The type of living arrangement that a youth is placed in upon release from DYS is based on a number of factors including an assessment of risk, treatment needs and available placement alternatives. Youth who were placed with their parent(s) or relatives were less likely to recidivate than youth who were

placed in a special living arrangement. Among the youth who were placed in a special living arrangement, 41.3 percent recidivated, as compared to 29.4 percent of the youth who were returned to their family. Youth who were placed in a child care institution had the highest recidivism rate, i.e., 49.1 percent. The youth's living arrangement prior to institutionalization was not a predictor of recidivism. There were only slight differences in the recidivism rates of youth who had been living with parents or relatives as compared to youth who had been in a special living arrangement.

**Type of Supervision.** There was a significant relationship between the youth's type of supervision upon release from DYS and recidivism. Youth who were placed on state aftercare or transferred to a state mental health institution were more likely to recidivate than youth who were placed on county aftercare or discharged to the community without aftercare supervision. About one-fourth of the youth who were placed on county aftercare or discharged without supervision recidivated (i.e., 23.5 percent and 25.3 percent, respectively). In comparison, 43.3 percent of the youth who were placed on state aftercare and 64.6 percent of the youth who were placed in a mental health institution recidivated.

Several factors may contribute to these differences. Those youth who were released from DYS as a transfer to a mental health institution were specifically released due to their need to receive specialized mental health treatment. The return to DYS may not necessarily be an indication of continued delinquent behavior, but rather, of a continued need for institutionalization following mental health treatment.

Part of the higher incidence of recidivism among youth on state aftercare as compared to county aftercare may be due to the impact of Milwaukee County youth. Milwaukee youth had a slightly higher recidivism rate than other youth. Milwaukee County purchases state aftercare for their youth, and 71.7 percent of the youth who were placed on state aftercare were from Milwaukee. Therefore, part of the higher recidivism rate among youth on state aftercare could be a reflection of Milwaukee's overrepresentation in the group who were on state aftercare. An additional factor which could increase the recidivism rate among youth on state aftercare as compared to county aftercare is the difference in revocation procedures which are used for these youth. Administrative Rules included in HSS 343 enable the state aftercare worker to use an administrative process to expeditiously revoke a youth for a rules violation or continued delinquent behavior. In comparison, if the youth is on county aftercare, the county must file a delinquency petition with the court to revoke a youth for a rules violation or continued delinquent behavior.

Appendix VII presents data on recidivism rates for Milwaukee youth as compared to other Wisconsin youth, broken out by the youth's prior adjudication experience level, education level, living arrangement and type of supervision upon release. In all cases where this study reported a significant relationship between a client characteristic and recidivism, a Chi Square test had been applied to the data and a minimum probability of .05 was used to conclude a significant relationship between the characteristic and recidivism.

**County of Commitment.** There was considerable variation in the volume of youth released to various counties over the five year study period and in the recidivism rates among these youth. Recidivism rates by individual county ranged from 0 to 100 percent. The number of youth released to each county ranged from 1 in Bayfield, Burnett, Grant and Green Lake counties to 1,446 in Milwaukee County. It should be noted that in those cases where relatively few youth were represented from a county, a slight change in individual recidivism outcomes could have had a profound effect on the county's recidivism rate. Therefore, it is important to be cautious in interpreting recidivism results by county, particularly if the county placed a small number of youth in DYS institutions.

Twelve counties (i.e., Bayfield, Burnett, Clark, Forest, Grant, Green Lake, Jackson, Pepin, Pierce, Price, Rusk and Washburn) had no incidence of recidivism among their youth within two years. Milwaukee County had a 39.5 percent recidivism rate. The highest recidivism rate of 100 percent was among the two youth released to Richland County. Twenty-three counties had recidivism rates which exceeded the statewide average of 37 percent. Thirteen of these counties had recidivism rates of at least 50 percent. These were: Crawford - 50 percent; Dodge - 50 percent; Door - 57.1 percent; Langlade - 75 percent; Manitowoc - 57.1 percent; Ozaukee - 62.5 percent; Richland - 100 percent; Rock - 53.5 percent; Trempealeau - 66.7 percent; Vernon - 66.7 percent; Vilas - 50 percent; Washington - 54.6 percent; and Wood - 50 percent. All but two of these high recidivism counties (i.e., Rock and Manitowoc) had fewer than 15 releases during the study period.

Appendix VIII summarizes data on the number of releases and the recidivism rates of each Wisconsin county over the five year study period.

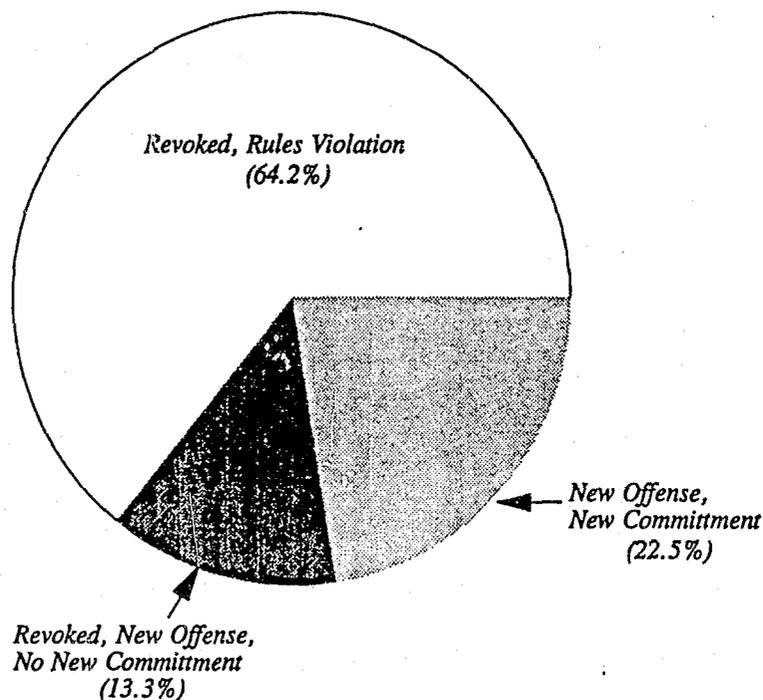
## Juvenile Institutional Recidivism Within a Two Year Follow-up Period

**Recidivism Rates.** In most (80.1 percent) cases where the youth recidivated within two years, s/he was returned to a DYS juvenile institution, rather than entering adult prison. The statewide two year juvenile institutional recidivism rate was 29.7 percent among all youth who were released from DYS institutions between 1986 and 1990. Milwaukee County youth had a slightly higher rate of juvenile institutional recidivism than did youth from the balance of the state (i.e., 32.8 percent and 26.2 percent, respectively).

Most (78.8 percent) of the youth who were returned to a DYS juvenile correctional institution, were on aftercare supervision. Of the youth who were returned to DYS: 64.2 percent were revoked and returned due to a rules violation; 13.3 percent were revoked and returned due to a new offense, but with no new commitment; 1.3 percent were revoked and returned due to a new offense and with a new commitment; and the remaining 21.2 percent were not on supervision and were reinstitutionalized with a new commitment. There are cases where a youth was technically revoked for a rules violation, but where the youth had been arrested but not formally adjudicated.

*Figure 4*

### REASONS FOR RETURNS TO DYS INSTITUTIONS AMONG YOUTH RELEASED FROM DYS INSTITUTIONS 1986-1990



**Time in the Community Prior to Recidivating.** Those youth who were returned to a DYS institution tended to do so rather quickly. On average youth were in the community for 178 days (5.9 months) prior to being reinstitutionalized. Milwaukee youth were in the community for a slightly longer time period than other youth. On average, among the Milwaukee youth, 6.4 months passed between DYS institutionalizations and among the other youth, 5.3 months passed between DYS institutionalizations.

**Five Year Trend.** The statewide incidence of juvenile institutional recidivism increased from 25.5 percent in 1986 to 34.2 percent in 1990. Milwaukee youth experienced a greater increase in their incidence of juvenile institutional recidivism than did youth from the balance of the state. Among the Milwaukee youth, the incidence of juvenile institutional recidivism increased from 28.9 percent in 1986 to 39.6 percent in 1990. Among youth from the rest of the state, the incidence of juvenile institutional recidivism increased from 21.8 percent in 1986 to 27.8 percent in 1990.

Appendix IX summarizes trend data on the incidence of juvenile institutional recidivism within two years.

## Recidivism Outcomes Using a Four Year Follow-up Period

**Follow-up Period.** A two year follow-up period was used as the basis for most of this study primarily because it allowed an analysis of recidivism outcomes among fairly recently released youth. While a two year follow-up period identified the vast majority of juvenile institutional recidivism (i.e., 99.2 percent), only a fraction of adult prison entries occurred within two years. Entries into the adult prison system tend to take considerably longer than returns to juvenile institutions for several reasons. These reasons include the young age of the offender and the tendency of the adult court system to initially place both juveniles who have been waived to adult court and young adult offenders on probation and/or in county jail, rather than immediately sentencing them to the overcrowded adult prison system. If the offender continues to engage in criminal behavior and/or violates the rules of probation, s/he may then be placed in adult prison.

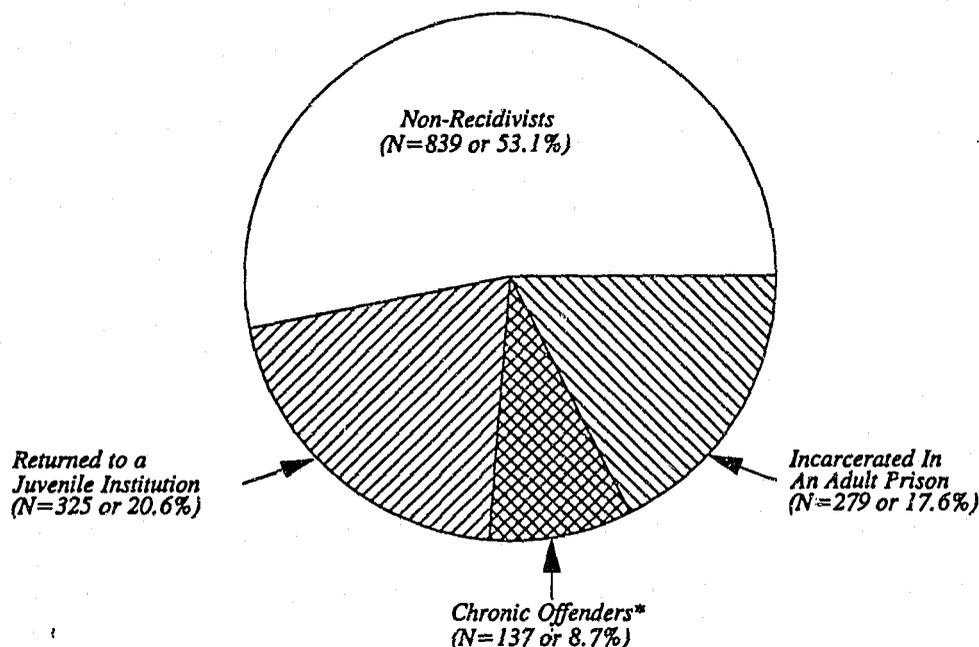
We analyzed the rate of entry into adult prison for those youth who were released from DYS institutions from 1986 to 1988 using longer follow-up periods. It was found that on average, adult prison entries occurred within 31 months, and that a four year follow-up period captured all adult prison entries through 1992, whereas a two year follow-up period only identified 29.3 percent of the adult prison entries and a three year follow-up period only identified 61.8 percent of the adult prison entries. Extending follow-up for an additional year or two in those cases where it was possible did not yield additional recidivists among this population. Therefore, it is believed that the use of a four year follow-up period is an appropriate standard that yields relatively accurate results regarding the incidence of entries into the adult prison system and does a much more complete job of identifying both the extent and nature of correctional institutional recidivism.

Appendix X presents the adult prison entry rates of relevant members of the study population using two, three, four, five and six year follow-up periods.

**Recidivism Rates.** Statewide, 46.9 percent of the youth released from DYS institutions from 1986 through 1988 were returned to a DYS institution or entered the adult prison system within four years of their release. Milwaukee County youth had a slightly higher incidence of recidivism within four years than did youth from the balance of the state. Milwaukee County youth had a 47.2 percent recidivism rate within four years, as compared with a 46.5 percent recidivism rate among youth from the balance of the state.

Figure 5

**RECIDIVISM WITHIN FOUR YEARS AMONG YOUTH RELEASED FROM WISCONSIN JUVENILE INSTITUTIONS 1986 THRU 1988**



\*A "chronic Offender" is a youth who was returned to a juvenile institution and also incarcerated in adult prison.

**Trends.** The incidence of institutional recidivism increased between 1986 and 1988. Among the youth released from DYS institutions in 1986, 41 percent were reinstitutionalized within four years. In comparison, over half (53.6 percent) of the youth released from DYS institutions in 1988 were reinstitutionalized within four years; 11.7 percent were returned to a DYS institution and also entered adult prison.

Appendix XI presents trend data on the incidence and nature of institutional recidivism within four years.

**Entries Into Adult Prison Using a Four Year Follow-up Period**

**Adult Prison Entry Rates.** Statewide, 26.3 percent of the youth released from DYS institutions from 1986 through 1988 entered the Wisconsin adult prison system within four years of their first release from a DYS juvenile correctional institution. On average, just over 2.5 years (i.e., 31 months) passed between the youth's first release from a DYS institution and adult prison entry. Milwaukee County youth had a somewhat lower incidence of adult recidivism within four years than did youth from the balance of the state.

Milwaukee County youth had a 25.1 percent recidivism rate within four years, as compared with a 27.6 percent recidivism rate among youth from the balance of the state.

**Trends.** Over time, it was noted that the adult prison entry rate increased, and that subjects entered adult prison more quickly. The four year adult prison entry rates were: 1986 releases - 22.8 percent; 1987 releases - 26.6 percent; and 1988 releases - 30.3 percent. Among the youth released in 1986, an average of 33.7 months passed between the first DYS release and entry into adult prison, whereas, among 1988 DYS releases, an average of 29.8 months passed prior to adult prison entry.

Appendix XII presents trend data regarding adult prison entry rates within four years among Milwaukee youth as compared with other youth.

### **Profile of the DYS Releases Who Entered Adult Prison**

The vast majority of the DYS releases who entered adult prison were male (97.8 percent). Only 6.6 percent of the females went on to adult prison, whereas 28.2 percent of the males entered adult prison. African Americans had the highest adult prison entry rate (27.8 percent), although the adult prison entry rates among Whites, American Indians and Hispanics were only slightly lower (i.e., 25.6 percent, 24.3 percent, and 21.6 percent, respectively).

Youth who were released from DYS at an older age (i.e., age 16 or older) were somewhat more likely to have entered adult prison within four years. The adult prison entry rate among older youth was 27.1 percent, compared with 22.5 percent among the younger releases. Youth who were released to county aftercare or without aftercare supervision were somewhat more likely to go on to adult prison than youth who were placed on state aftercare. The adult prison entry rates broken out by type of supervision were: county aftercare - 29 percent; no aftercare - 28.1 percent; and state aftercare - 25.1 percent.

About half (51.4 percent) of the youth who went on to adult prison had been placed in a special living arrangement such as a child care institution, foster home or group home when they were released from DYS. Only 13.3 percent of the DYS releases who entered adult prison had been placed with both parents and an additional 18.1 percent had been placed with one parent when they were released from DYS. It should be noted that youth who are placed in a special living arrangement are likely to have greater treatment needs and/or lack an appropriate family resource.

Youth who were released from EAS were somewhat more likely to enter adult prison. Nearly two-thirds (63.7 percent) of the youth from the study population who entered adult prison began their correctional institution experience at EAS. This is due to a greater volume of youth being released from EAS, to EAS youth having higher recidivism rates, and to EAS serving only males. Among the EAS releases, 29.3 percent entered adult prison, and

among the LHS releases, 22.4 percent entered adult prison. If sex is controlled for, among the LHS releases, 26.3 percent of the males entered adult prison.

There was a direct relationship between the youth's prior adjudication experience and recidivism. Those youth who had more juvenile adjudication experience prior to their first DYS commitment were more likely to enter adult prison. For example, among youth who were committed to DYS upon their first delinquency adjudication, 18.5 percent entered adult prison, whereas, among youth who were committed to DYS after at least six delinquency adjudications, 31.4 percent entered adult prison.

In analyzing adult recidivism by the nature of the first offense which led to a DYS commitment, it was found that over half (58.9 percent) of the youth who entered adult prison had been originally committed to DYS due to a property offense, 17.3 percent had been committed due to a weapons offense, 13.5 percent had been committed due to a violent and assaultive offense, 6.2 percent had been committed due to a sex offense, 1.2 percent had been committed due to a drug offense, and 2.9 percent had been committed for other offenses.

The nature of the offense which led to the adult prison commitment was reviewed and it was found that the majority commit property offenses (56.2 percent) as adults. Many of the adult recidivists went to adult prison due to the commission of violent and assaultive offenses (19.8 percent) or weapons offenses (11.8 percent); 7.3 percent were sentenced due to drug offenses, and the remaining 4.9 percent had committed other offenses such as escape and bail jumping.

Appendix XIII presents data on the characteristics of youth who entered adult prison within four years.

Appendix I

Characteristics of the Study Population

	<u>Milwaukee County Youth</u>		<u>All Other Wisconsin Youth</u>		<u>Statewide</u>	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
<b>A) Sex</b>						
Male	1363	94.3%	1174	89.6%	2537	92.0%
Female	83	5.7%	137	10.4%	220	8.0%
<b>B) Race/Ethnicity</b>						
White	263	18.2%	935	71.3%	1198	43.4%
African American	1044	72.2%	208	15.9%	1252	45.4%
Hispanic	99	6.9%	71	5.4%	170	6.2%
American Indian	32	2.2%	92	7.0%	124	4.5%
Asian	2	.1%	1	.1%	3	.1%
Other	6	.4%	4	.3%	10	.4%
<b>C) Age Upon First Admission to a DYS Institution</b>						
12	8	.5%	7	.5%	15	.6%
13	43	3.0%	39	3.0%	82	3.0%
14	149	10.3%	177	13.5%	326	11.8%
15	332	23.0%	305	23.3%	637	23.1%
16	490	33.9%	495	37.8%	985	35.7%
17	412	28.5%	286	21.8%	698	25.3%
18	12	.8%	2	.1%	14	.5%
Average Age		16.3		16.1		16.2

	<u>Milwaukee County Youth</u>		<u>All Other Wisconsin Youth</u>		<u>Statewide</u>	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
<b>D) Age Upon First Release From a DYS Institution</b>						
12	1	.1%	1	.1%	2	.1%
13	9	.6%	11	.9%	20	.7%
14	58	4.0%	58	4.4%	116	4.2%
15	176	12.2%	199	15.2%	375	13.6%
16	414	28.6%	346	26.4%	760	27.6%
17	472	32.6%	526	40.0%	998	36.2%
18	311	21.6%	168	12.8%	479	17.4%
19	5	.3%	2	.2%	7	.2%
Average Age		17.1		16.9		17.0

**E) Type of Committing Offense**

Property Offenses <sup>1</sup>	693	47.9%	846	64.5%	1539	55.8%
Violent & Assaultive Offenses <sup>2</sup>	266	18.4%	187	14.3%	453	16.4%
Weapons Offenses <sup>3</sup>	302	20.9%	131	10.0%	433	15.7%
Sex Offenses <sup>4</sup>	100	6.9%	92	7.0%	192	7.0%
Drug Offenses <sup>5</sup>	37	2.6%	16	1.2%	53	1.9%
Other Offenses <sup>6</sup>	48	3.3%	39	3.0%	87	3.2%

**F) Number of Prior Juvenile Adjudications<sup>7</sup>**

1	236	18.4%	189	15.1%	425	16.7%
2	207	16.1%	315	25.1%	522	20.6%
3	224	17.5%	272	21.7%	496	19.5%
4	163	12.7%	162	12.9%	325	12.8%
5	131	10.2%	78	6.2%	209	8.3%
6 or more	322	25.1%	239	19.0%	561	22.1%
Missing	163		56		219	

	<u>Milwaukee County Youth</u>		<u>All Other Wisconsin Youth</u>		<u>Statewide</u>	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
<b>G) Education Level at Admission to DYS<sup>8</sup></b>						
Up to sixth grade	64	4.6%	42	3.4%	106	4.0%
Seventh grade	154	11.0%	139	11.4%	293	11.2%
Eighth grade	386	27.6%	334	27.3%	720	27.5%
Ninth grade	487	34.8%	416	34.0%	903	34.4%
Tenth grade	226	16.1%	223	18.3%	449	17.1%
Eleventh grade	68	4.9%	61	5.0%	129	5.0%
Twelfth grade	6	.4%	3	.3%	9	.3%
GED/HED	9	.6%	4	.3%	13	.5%
Missing	46		89		135	
Average		8.6		8.7		8.6

<b>H) Tested Grade Level at Admission to DYS<sup>9</sup></b>						
Up to sixth grade	302	24.3%	188	18.6%	490	21.8%
Seventh grade	129	10.4%	124	12.3%	253	11.2%
Eighth grade	163	13.1%	176	17.4%	339	15.1%
Ninth grade	290	23.4%	184	18.2%	474	21.0%
Tenth grade	248	20.0%	191	18.9%	439	19.5%
Eleventh grade	85	6.8%	89	8.8%	174	7.7%
Twelfth grade	25	2.0%	58	5.8%	83	3.7%
Missing	204		301		505	
Average		8.0		8.4		8.2

	<u>Milwaukee County Youth</u>		<u>All Other Wisconsin Youth</u>		<u>Statewide</u>	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
<b>D) Living Arrangement Prior to DYS Admission<sup>10</sup></b>						
With both parents	310	21.6%	306	23.7%	616	22.6%
With one parent	824	57.5%	445	34.5%	1269	46.6%
With relative(s)	69	4.8%	52	4.0%	121	4.5%
Foster home	21	1.5%	72	5.6%	93	3.4%
Group Home	61	4.3%	202	15.7%	263	9.7%
Child caring institution	123	8.6%	165	12.8%	288	10.6%
Independent Living	7	.5%	10	.8%	17	.6%
Other living arrangement	18	1.2%	37	2.9%	55	2.0%
Missing	13		22		35	
<b>J) Living Arrangement Upon Release from DYS<sup>11</sup></b>						
With both parents	155	11.2%	175	13.6%	330	12.4%
With one parent	345	24.9%	212	16.5%	557	20.9%
With relative(s)	53	3.9%	44	3.4%	97	3.6%
Foster home	15	1.1%	60	4.7%	75	2.8%
Group Home	328	23.7%	321	25.0%	649	24.3%
Child caring institution	363	26.2%	273	21.2%	636	23.8%
Independent Living	24	1.7%	22	1.7%	46	1.7%
Other living arrangement	101	7.3%	178	13.9%	279	10.5%
Missing	62		26		88	
<b>K) Releasing Institution</b>						
Ethan Allen School	1133	78.4%	452	34.5%	1585	57.5%
Lincoln Hills School	313	21.6%	859	65.5%	1172	42.5%
Average # of Days Institutionalized	284		297		290	

L) Type of Supervision Upon Release from DYS	<u>Milwaukee County Youth</u>		<u>All Other Wisconsin Youth</u>		<u>Statewide</u>	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
To state aftercare	1151	79.6%	455	34.7%	1606	58.3%
To county aftercare	7	.5%	581	44.3%	588	21.3%
To mental health institution	39	2.7%	74	5.7%	113	4.1%
No aftercare supervision	249	17.2%	201	15.3%	450	16.3%

<sup>1</sup> Property offenses include: unarmed robbery, unarmed burglary, entry into a locked vehicle or coinbox, criminal trespass to land, possession of burglary tools, theft, shoplifting, receiving stolen property, auto theft, fraud, embezzlement, forgery, arson, attempted arson, negligent handling of burning materials, unsafe burning of buildings, making molotov cocktails or firebombs, highway obstruction, criminal damage to property, false bomb threats, and issuing worthless checks.

<sup>2</sup> Violent and assaultive offenses include: murder, manslaughter, negligent homicide, battery, endangering safety by conduct regardless of life, administering dangerous/stupefying drug, aggravated assault, injury by conduct regardless of life, threats, kidnapping, abduction, taking hostages, false imprisonment, and cruelty to animals resulting in death.

<sup>3</sup> Weapons offenses include: armed robbery, injury by negligent use of weapon, injury by intoxicated use of vehicle, armed burglary, reckless use of weapons, carrying concealed weapons, and possession of a pistol, switchblade, rifle, shortbarreled shotgun or explosives.

<sup>4</sup> Sex offenses include: sexual assault, (first through fourth degree), rape, incest, sexual perversion, fornication, pandering, prostitution, soliciting prostitution, and keeping a place of prostitution.

<sup>5</sup> Drug offenses include: drug use, possession, manufacturing, distribution, or possession with intent to sell, and keeping a place to be used for storing, manufacturing, and delivering or using drugs.

<sup>6</sup> Other offenses include: escape, assisting escape, harbor or aid a felon, resist/obstruct an officer, solicitation or conspiracy to commit a crime, assisting suicide, bribery of witnesses, obstructing justice, perjury, false swearing, compounding a crime, disorderly conduct, and vagrancy.

<sup>7</sup> Indicates the number of prior court juvenile adjudications that could have resulted in commitment to a juvenile correctional institution upon the youth's first admission to a DYS institution.

<sup>8</sup> Indicates the highest grade completed by the youth upon admission to a DYS institution.

<sup>9</sup> Indicates the youth's grade level based upon academic testing upon admission to a DYS institution.

<sup>10</sup> Indicates the type of home environment in which the youth was living immediately prior to admission to a DYS institution.

<sup>11</sup> Indicates the type of home environment to which the juvenile went immediately following release from a DYS institution.

Appendix II

Incidence of Recidivism Within Two Years Among Youth  
Released From DYS Institutions 1986 to 1990

	<u>Release Year</u>					<u>Total</u>	
	<u>1986</u> Recidivism Rate <sup>1</sup>	<u>1987</u> Recidivism Rate <sup>1</sup>	<u>1988</u> Recidivism Rate <sup>1</sup>	<u>1989</u> Recidivism Rate <sup>1</sup>	<u>1990</u> Recidivism Rate <sup>1</sup>	<u>Total</u> # <sup>2</sup>	<u>Recidivism</u> Rate <sup>1</sup>
Milwaukee County Youth	32.6%	32.8%	43.4%	38.2%	49.3%	1446	39.5%
All Other Wisconsin Youth	25.0%	37.4%	41.1%	32.7%	36.8%	1311	34.3%
Statewide	28.9%	35.0%	42.3%	35.6%	43.6%	2757	37.0%

<sup>1</sup>This reflects the percentage of youth who were reinstitutionalized in a juvenile or an adult correctional facility within two years.

<sup>2</sup>Data is unduplicated and indicates the total number of youth with this characteristic who were released from DYS institutions from 1986 through 1990.

Appendix III

Time Series Data on Recidivism:  
Incidence of Correctional Institutional Recidivism<sup>1</sup> Presented in Six Month Increments  
Among Youth Released From DYS Institutions 1986 to 1990

	<u>Release Year</u>					<u>Total 1986 to 1990</u>
	<u>1986</u>	<u>1987</u>	<u>1988</u>	<u>1989</u>	<u>1990</u>	
<u>Milwaukee County Youth</u>						
Reinstitutionalized within:						
6 months	51.5%	55.1%	59.1%	48.2%	47.6%	51.7%
6-12 months	25.3%	16.8%	23.8%	28.2%	27.4%	24.9%
12-18 months	12.1%	19.1%	11.4%	13.6%	13.7%	13.8%
18-24 months	11.1%	9.0%	5.7%	10.0%	11.3%	9.6%
<u>All Other Wisconsin Youth</u>						
Reinstitutionalized within:						
6 months	56.3%	60.4%	51.5%	54.1%	53.8%	55.1%
6-12 months	22.5%	18.7%	18.6%	25.9%	24.5%	22.0%
12-18 months	12.7%	14.3%	16.5%	5.9%	17.0%	13.6%
18-24 months	8.5%	6.6%	13.4%	14.1%	4.7%	9.3%
<u>Statewide</u>						
Reinstitutionalized within:						
6 months	53.5%	57.8%	55.4%	50.8%	50.0%	53.2%
6-12 months	24.1%	17.8%	21.3%	27.2%	26.3%	23.6%
12-18 months	12.4%	16.6%	13.9%	10.2%	15.0%	13.7%
18-24 months	10.0%	7.8%	9.4%	11.8%	8.7%	9.5%

<sup>1</sup>Any person who was reinstitutionalized in a DYS or Department of Corrections institution within two years of their release from DYS is classified as a correctional institutional recidivist.

Appendix IV

Recidivism Rates Broken Out by  
Sex, Race, Age Group and Institution of Release  
Among Youth Released From DYS Institutions 1986 to 1990

A) Recidivism Rates by Sex	<u>Release Year</u>					<u>Total</u> <u>1986 to 1990</u>	
	<u>1986</u> Recidivism Rate <sup>1</sup>	<u>1987</u> Recidivism Rate <sup>1</sup>	<u>1988</u> Recidivism Rate <sup>1</sup>	<u>1989</u> Recidivism Rate <sup>1</sup>	<u>1990</u> Recidivism Rate <sup>1</sup>	Total # <sup>2</sup>	Recidivism Rate <sup>1</sup>
<u>Milwaukee County Youth</u>							
Males	32.3%	32.4%	45.3%	38.4%	50.3%	1363	40.0%
Females	36.4%	40.0%	17.6%	33.3%	29.4%	83	31.3%
<u>All Other Wisconsin Youth</u>							
Males	25.0%	38.6%	42.2%	32.5%	38.3%	1174	35.1%
Females	25.0%	26.1%	30.4%	34.8%	25.0%	137	27.7%
<u>Statewide</u>							
Males	28.9%	35.3%	43.8%	35.7%	45.0%	2537	37.7%
Females	29.3%	31.6%	25.0%	34.3%	26.5%	220	29.1%
<b>B) Recidivism Rates by Race/Ethnicity</b>							
<u>Milwaukee County Youth</u>							
White	40.3%	37.0%	57.4%	31.1%	43.1%	263	41.8%
African American	28.4%	30.1%	39.8%	37.7%	50.6%	1044	37.9%
American Indian	66.7%	50.0%	57.1%	50.0%	44.4%	32	53.1%
Hispanic	36.4%	43.7%	27.3%	46.1%	54.2%	99	43.4%
Other	100.0%	0.0%	100.0%	75.0%	0.0%	8	62.5%

	<u>Release Year</u>					<u>Total</u>	
	<u>1986</u> Recidivism Rate <sup>1</sup>	<u>1987</u> Recidivism Rate <sup>1</sup>	<u>1988</u> Recidivism Rate <sup>1</sup>	<u>1989</u> Recidivism Rate <sup>1</sup>	<u>1990</u> Recidivism Rate <sup>1</sup>	<u>1986 to 1990</u> Total # <sup>2</sup>	<u>Recidivism</u> Rate <sup>1</sup>
<u>All Other</u>							
<u>Wisconsin Youth</u>							
White	24.9%	37.9%	40.3%	29.9%	32.7%	935	32.7%
African American	25.7%	39.5%	47.2%	55.1%	57.8%	208	46.1%
American Indian	26.3%	36.4%	31.2%	19.0%	28.6%	92	28.3%
Hispanic	25.0%	27.3%	41.7%	6.7%	41.2%	71	28.2%
Other <sup>3</sup>	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%	100.0%	0.0%	5	40.0%
<u>Statewide</u>							
White	28.6%	37.7%	44.0%	30.1%	34.9%	1198	34.7%
African American	28.0%	32.4%	41.0%	41.0%	51.7%	1252	39.3%
American Indian	36.0%	38.5%	39.1%	25.9%	34.8%	124	34.7%
Hispanic	31.6%	37.0%	34.8%	31.7%	48.8%	170	37.1%
Other <sup>3</sup>	50.0%	0.0%	100.0%	80.0%	0.0%	13	53.8%

### C) Recidivism Rates by Admission Age

<u>Milwaukee County Youth</u>							
Under age 16	57.6%	54.9%	65.9%	56.0%	71.3%	532	61.7%
Age 16 and over	19.2%	19.5%	30.5%	28.7%	34.6%	914	26.6%
<u>All Other</u>							
<u>Wisconsin Youth</u>							
Under age 16	37.4%	49.5%	53.2%	43.0%	49.6%	528	46.4%
Age 16 and over	17.5%	29.2%	33.1%	25.5%	27.5%	783	26.2%
<u>Statewide</u>							
Under age 16	47.4%	52.2%	59.3%	49.3%	61.1%	1060	54.1%
Age 16 and over	18.4%	24.0%	31.7%	27.3%	31.4%	1697	26.4%

	<u>Release Year</u>					<u>Total</u>	
	<u>1986</u> Recidivism Rate <sup>1</sup>	<u>1987</u> Recidivism Rate <sup>1</sup>	<u>1988</u> Recidivism Rate <sup>1</sup>	<u>1989</u> Recidivism Rate <sup>1</sup>	<u>1990</u> Recidivism Rate <sup>1</sup>	<u>Total</u> # <sup>2</sup>	<u>Recidivism</u> Rate <sup>1</sup>
<b>D) Recidivism Rates by Release Age</b>							
<u>Milwaukee County Youth</u>							
Under age 16	69.8%	57.1%	69.7%	55.8%	75.9%	243	67.5%
Age 16 and over	24.7%	29.2%	39.2%	35.1%	41.2%	1203	33.8%
All Other							
<u>Wisconsin Youth</u>							
Under age 16	38.6%	56.9%	65.2%	45.3%	56.2%	271	52.0%
Age 16 and over	21.6%	32.3%	35.3%	29.5%	31.2%	1040	29.7%
<u>Statewide</u>							
Under age 16	53.6%	57.0%	67.1%	50.0%	67.1%	514	59.3%
Age 16 and over	23.2%	30.6%	37.3%	32.5%	36.6%	2243	31.9%
<b>E) Recidivism Rates by Institution of Release</b>							
<u>Milwaukee County Youth</u>							
Ethan Allen School	31.8%	34.0%	42.6%	35.5%	50.4%	1133	39.0%
Lincoln Hills School	35.5%	28.8%	46.1%	49.1%	45.8%	313	41.2%
Males Only	35.0%	25.0%	60.0%	53.3%	50.0%	230	44.8%
Females Only	36.4%	40.0%	17.6%	33.3%	29.4%	83	31.3%
All Other							
<u>Wisconsin Youth</u>							
Ethan Allen School	34.1%	46.4%	48.8%	34.3%	51.2%	452	42.5%
Lincoln Hills School	20.7%	32.7%	36.7%	31.6%	30.7%	859	30.0%
Males Only	19.7%	33.8%	37.8%	31.1%	31.8%	722	30.5%
Females Only	25.0%	26.1%	30.4%	34.8%	25.0%	137	27.7%

	<u>Release Year</u>					<u>Total</u>	
	<u>1986</u> Recidivism Rate <sup>1</sup>	<u>1987</u> Recidivism Rate <sup>1</sup>	<u>1988</u> Recidivism Rate <sup>1</sup>	<u>1989</u> Recidivism Rate <sup>1</sup>	<u>1990</u> Recidivism Rate <sup>1</sup>	<u>Total</u> # <sup>2</sup>	<u>Recidivism</u> Rate <sup>1</sup>
<u>Statewide</u>							
Ethan Allen School	32.4%	37.5%	44.6%	35.1%	50.6%	1585	40.0%
Lincoln Hills School	24.3%	31.6%	39.1%	36.3%	35.1%	1172	33.0%
Males Only	22.8%	31.7%	42.6%	36.7%	36.9%	952	33.9%
Females Only	29.3%	31.6%	25.0%	34.3%	26.5%	220	29.1%

<sup>1</sup>This reflects the percentage of youth who were reinstitutionalized in a juvenile or an adult correctional facility within two years.

<sup>2</sup>Data is unduplicated and indicates the total number of youth with this characteristic who were released from DYS institutions from 1986 through 1990.

<sup>3</sup>Includes three Asian youth and ten youth whose race was recorded as "other."

Appendix V

Recidivism Rates by Committing Offense<sup>1</sup> Among Youth  
Released From DYS Institutions 1986 Through 1990

<u>Offense</u>	<u>Total # of Cases Committed</u>	<u>Recidivism Rate<sup>2</sup></u>
Murder	21	23.8%
Attempted Murder	2	0.0%
Manslaughter	1	0.0%
Negligent Homicide	10	20.0%
Robbery, unarmed	103	45.6%
Robbery, armed	201	33.3%
Battery or Endangering Safety by Conduct Regardless of Life	374	35.6%
Aggravated Assault	12	50.0%
Injury by Conduct Regardless of Life	18	27.8%
Injury by Negligent Use of Weapon or Intoxicated Use of Vehicle	11	45.4%
Burglary, armed	77	40.3%
Burglary, unarmed	458	38.4%
Entry in Locked Vehicle or Coinbox or Criminal Trespassing to Land	17	35.3%
Possession of Burglary Tools	1	100.0%
Theft or Shoplifting	375	39.2%
Receiving Stolen Property	23	34.8%

<u>Offense</u>	<u>Total # of Cases Committed</u>	<u>Recidivism Rate<sup>2</sup></u>
Auto Theft	397	41.3%
Fraud	10	20.0%
Forgery	28	21.4%
Sexual Assault	180	27.8%
Sexual Perversion & Fornication	3	0.0%
Drug Use and/or Possession	20	40.0%
Drug Sales, Manufacturing, Distribution or Possession With Intent to Sell	33	42.4%
Reckless Use of Weapons	144	35.4%
Escape	7	28.6%
Resist or Obstruct an Officer	41	26.8%
Arson	19	36.8%
Negligent Handling of Burning Materials	13	38.5%
Obstructing Justice or Solicitation/Conspiracy to Commit a Crime	14	28.6%
Threats	6	66.7%
Kidnapping, Abduction or Taking Hostages	4	0.0%
Criminal Damage to Property	93	37.6%
Perjury	1	0.0%
Prostitution	9	44.4%

<u>Offense</u>	<u>Total # of Cases Committed</u>	<u>Recidivism Rate<sup>2</sup></u>
Disorderly Conduct	24	62.5%
Other (code 998)	<u>7</u>	<u>0.0%</u>
Overall	2757	37.0%

<sup>1</sup>Data is unduplicated. The most serious committing offense from the youth's first DYS institutionalization was used to classify the youth.

<sup>2</sup>This reflects the percentage of these youth who were reinstitutionalized in a juvenile or adult correctional facility within 2 years.

Appendix VI

Recidivism Data Broken Out by Type of Offense

Type of Offense <sup>1</sup>	<u>Release Year</u>					<u>Total</u>	
	<u>1986</u> Recidivism Rate <sup>2</sup>	<u>1987</u> Recidivism Rate <sup>2</sup>	<u>1988</u> Recidivism Rate <sup>2</sup>	<u>1989</u> Recidivism Rate <sup>2</sup>	<u>1990</u> Recidivism Rate <sup>2</sup>	<u>1986 to 1990</u> Total #	<u>Recidivism</u> Rate <sup>2</sup>
<u>Milwaukee County Youth</u>							
Violent & Assaultive Offenses <sup>3</sup>	23.6%	40.4%	28.9%	28.3%	54.1%	266	35.7%
Property Offenses <sup>4</sup>	33.3%	33.6%	49.6%	41.8%	52.4%	693	43.0%
Weapons Offenses <sup>5</sup>	33.7%	22.4%	44.4%	38.0%	41.0%	302	35.4%
Drug Offenses <sup>6</sup>	50.0%	0.0%	25.0%	35.7%	53.3%	37	40.5%
Sex Offenses <sup>7</sup>	41.4%	35.0%	27.8%	35.0%	30.8%	100	35.0%
Other Offenses <sup>8</sup>	33.3%	36.4%	60.0%	50.0%	50.0%	48	43.7%
<u>All Other Wisconsin Youth</u>							
Violent & Assaultive Offenses <sup>3</sup>	34.9%	34.3%	36.0%	29.7%	27.7%	187	32.1%
Property Offenses <sup>4</sup>	22.0%	40.5%	44.0%	35.7%	37.8%	846	36.2%
Weapons Offenses <sup>5</sup>	23.4%	25.0%	56.5%	30.0%	57.1%	131	35.9%
Drug Offenses <sup>6</sup>	100.0%	0.0%	0.0%	57.1%	33.3%	16	43.7%
Sex Offenses <sup>7</sup>	23.1%	18.2%	7.7%	15.0%	31.8%	92	20.6%
Other Offenses <sup>8</sup>	37.5%	50.0%	12.5%	12.5%	28.6%	39	28.2%
<u>Statewide</u>							
Violent & Assaultive Offenses <sup>3</sup>	28.6%	37.9%	31.4%	28.9%	42.6%	453	34.2%
Property Offenses <sup>4</sup>	26.6%	37.4%	46.6%	38.5%	44.7%	1539	39.2%
Weapons Offenses <sup>5</sup>	30.3%	23.2%	50.0%	35.7%	44.4%	433	35.6%
Drug Offenses <sup>6</sup>	66.7%	0.0%	20.0%	42.9%	47.6%	53	41.5%
Sex Offenses <sup>7</sup>	32.7%	29.0%	19.3%	25.0%	31.4%	192	28.1%
Other Offenses <sup>8</sup>	35.0%	42.1%	30.8%	33.3%	41.2%	87	36.8%

<sup>1</sup>Type of Offense reflects the committing offense which led to the youth's first DYS institutionalization.

<sup>2</sup>Reflects the percentage of these youth who were reinstitutionalized in a juvenile or an adult correctional facility within two years.

<sup>3</sup>Violent and assaultive offenses include: murder, manslaughter, negligent homicide, battery, endangering safety by conduct regardless of life, administering dangerous/stupefying drug, aggravated assault, injury by conduct regardless of life, threats, kidnapping, abduction, taking hostages, false imprisonment, and cruelty to animals resulting in death.

<sup>4</sup>Property offenses include: unarmed robbery, unarmed burglary, entry into a locked vehicle or coinbox, criminal trespass to land, possession of burglary tools, theft, shoplifting, receiving stolen property, auto theft, fraud, embezzlement, forgery, arson, attempted arson, negligent handling of burning materials, unsafe burning of buildings, making molotov cocktails or firebombs, highway obstruction, criminal damage to property, false bomb threats, and issuing worthless checks.

<sup>5</sup>Weapons offenses include: armed robbery, injury by negligent use of weapon, injury by intoxicated use of vehicle, armed burglary, reckless use of weapons, carrying concealed weapons, and possession of a pistol, switchblade, rifle, shortbarreled shotgun or explosives.

<sup>6</sup>Drug offenses include: drug use, possession, manufacturing, distribution, or possession with intent to sell and keeping a place to be used for storing, manufacturing, delivering or using drugs.

<sup>7</sup>Sex offenses include: sexual assault, (first through fourth degree), rape, incest, sexual perversion, fornication, pandering, prostitution, soliciting prostitution, and keeping a place of prostitution.

<sup>8</sup>Other offenses include: escape, assisting escape, harbor or aid a felon, resist/obstruct an officer, solicitation or conspiracy to commit a crime, assisting suicide, bribery of witnesses, obstructing justice, perjury, false swearing, compounding a crime, disorderly conduct, and vagrancy.

Appendix VII

Recidivism Rates Broken Out By Prior Juvenile Adjudications,  
Education Level, Living Arrangement, and Type of Supervision Upon  
Release Among Youth Released From DYS Institutions 1986 to 1990

	<u>Milwaukee County Youth</u>		<u>All Other Wisconsin Youth</u>		<u>Statewide</u>	
	<u># of Youth</u>	<u>Recidivism Rate<sup>1</sup></u>	<u># of Youth</u>	<u>Recidivism Rate<sup>1</sup></u>	<u># of Youth</u>	<u>Recidivism Rate<sup>1</sup></u>
<b>A) Recidivism Rates by Juvenile Adjudication Experience<sup>2</sup></b>						
One	236	37.3%	189	29.1%	425	33.6%
Two	207	39.6%	315	28.2%	522	32.8%
Three	224	42.4%	272	33.8%	496	37.7%
Four	163	36.2%	162	37.6%	325	36.9%
Five	131	35.9%	78	37.2%	209	36.4%
Six or more	322	46.0%	239	44.8%	561	45.4%
Missing	163		56		219	
<b>B) Recidivism Rates by Education Level<sup>3</sup> at Admission to DYS</b>						
Up to sixth grade	64	71.9%	42	57.1%	106	66.0%
Seventh grade	154	55.2%	139	54.0%	293	54.6%
Eighth grade	386	45.1%	334	35.3%	720	40.6%
Ninth grade	487	35.7%	416	30.0%	903	33.1%
Tenth grade	226	25.7%	223	26.5%	449	26.1%
Eleventh grade	68	23.5%	61	24.6%	129	24.0%
Twelfth grade	6	16.7%	3	0.0%	9	11.1%
GED or HED	9	11.1%	4	0.0%	13	7.7%
Missing	46		89		135	

Milwaukee County YouthAll Other Wisconsin YouthStatewide

	<u># of Youth</u>	<u>Recidivism Rate<sup>1</sup></u>	<u># of Youth</u>	<u>Recidivism Rate<sup>1</sup></u>	<u># of Youth</u>	<u>Recidivism Rate<sup>1</sup></u>
<b>C) Recidivism Rates by Tested Grade Level<sup>4</sup> at Admission to DYS</b>						
Up to sixth grade	302	45.0%	188	39.4%	490	42.9%
Seventh grade	129	51.2%	124	35.5%	253	43.5%
Eighth grade	163	44.2%	176	34.1%	339	38.9%
Ninth grade	290	41.7%	184	38.0%	474	40.3%
Tenth grade	248	34.7%	191	26.7%	439	31.2%
Eleventh grade	85	23.5%	89	28.1%	174	25.9%
Twelfth grade	25	12.0%	58	20.7%	83	18.1%
Missing	204		301		505	

**D) Recidivism Rates by Living Arrangement Prior to DYS Admission<sup>5</sup>**

With two parents	310	37.1%	306	31.0%	616	34.1%
With one parent	824	39.2%	445	35.5%	1269	37.9%
With relative(s)	69	31.9%	52	48.1%	121	38.8%
Foster home	21	38.1%	72	40.3%	93	39.8%
Group home	61	49.2%	202	30.7%	263	35.0%
Child caring institution	123	48.0%	165	37.6%	288	42.0%
Independent living	7	14.3%	10	0.0%	17	5.9%
Other living arrangement	18	55.6%	37	32.4%	55	40.0%
Missing	13		22		35	

Milwaukee County YouthAll Other Wisconsin YouthStatewide# of  
YouthRecidivism  
Rate<sup>1</sup># of  
YouthRecidivism  
Rate<sup>1</sup># of  
YouthRecidivism  
Rate<sup>1</sup>**E) Recidivism Rates by Living Arrangement at Release From DYS<sup>6</sup>**

With two parents	155	23.9%	175	28.0%	330	26.1%
With one parent	345	30.4%	212	32.1%	557	31.1%
With relative(s)	53	34.0%	44	27.3%	97	30.9%
Foster home	15	40.0%	60	28.3%	75	30.7%
Group home	328	41.8%	321	27.7%	649	34.8%
Child caring institution	363	51.5%	273	45.8%	636	49.1%
Independent living	24	29.2%	22	18.2%	46	23.9%
Other living arrangement	101	44.6%	178	42.1%	279	43.0%
Missing	62		26		88	

**F) Recidivism Rates by Type of Supervision Upon Release From the DYS Institution**

To state aftercare	1151	42.0%	455	46.6%	1606	43.3%
To county aftercare	7	14.3%	581	23.6%	588	23.5%
To mental health institution	39	64.1%	74	64.9%	113	64.6%
No aftercare supervision	249	24.5%	201	26.4%	450	25.3%

<sup>1</sup>This reflects the percentage of youth who were reinstitutionalized in a juvenile or an adult correctional facility within two years.

<sup>2</sup>Indicates the number of prior court juvenile adjudications that could have resulted in commitment to a juvenile correctional institution upon the youth's first admission to a DYS institution.

<sup>3</sup>Indicates the highest grade completed by the youth upon admission to a DYS institution.

<sup>4</sup>Indicates the youth's grade level based upon academic testing upon admission to a DYS institution.

<sup>5</sup>Indicates the type of home environment in which the youth was living immediately prior to admission to a DYS institution.

<sup>6</sup>Indicates the type of home environment to which the juvenile went immediately following release from a DYS institution.

## Appendix VIII

## Incidence of Recidivism by County of Commitment

<u>County<sup>1</sup></u>	<u>Total # Released</u>	<u>Recidivism Rate<sup>2</sup></u>
Adams	5	20.0%
Ashland	5	40.0%
Barron	8	37.5%
Bayfield	1	0.0%
Brown	42	28.6%
Burnett	1	0.0%
Calumet	8	37.5%
Chippewa	13	30.8%
Clark	14	0.0%
Columbia	11	27.3%
Crawford	6	50.0%
Dane	118	47.5%
Dodge	10	50.0%
Door	7	57.1%
Douglas	15	33.3%
Eau Claire	21	38.1%
Fond du Lac	28	25.0%
Forest	2	0.0%
Grant	1	0.0%
Green	3	33.3%
Green Lake	1	0.0%
Iowa	6	33.3%
Iron	4	25.0%
Jackson	4	0.0%
Jefferson	7	14.3%
Juneau	9	44.4%
Kenosha	119	31.9%
Kewaunee	6	16.7%
LaCrosse	33	27.3%
Langlade	4	75.0%
Lincoln	6	33.3%
Manitowoc	21	57.1%
Marathon	47	19.1%
Marinette	4	25.0%
Menominee	12	25.0%
Milwaukee	1446	39.5%
Monroe	5	40.0%
Oconto	17	17.6%

<u>County</u> <sup>1</sup>	<u>Total # Released</u>	<u>Recidivism Rate</u> <sup>2</sup>
Oneida	19	21.1%
Outagamie	71	39.4%
Ozaukee	8	62.5%
Pepin	2	0.0%
Pierce	5	0.0%
Polk	7	28.6%
Portage	10	40.0%
Price	2	0.0%
Racine	211	35.6%
Richland	2	100.0%
Rock	99	53.5%
Rusk	3	0.0%
St. Croix	7	14.3%
Sauk	15	20.0%
Sawyer	14	14.3%
Shawano	20	20.0%
Sheboygan	27	25.9%
Taylor	4	25.0%
Trempealeau	3	66.7%
Vernon	3	66.7%
Vilas	8	50.0%
Walworth	12	33.3%
Washburn	7	0.0%
Washington	11	54.6%
Waukesha	36	27.8%
Waupaca	12	33.3%
Waushara	7	28.6%
Winnebago	48	20.8%
Wood	<u>14</u>	<u>50.0%</u>
Total	2757	37.0%

<sup>1</sup>County refers to the county which made the youth's first commitment to a DYS juvenile correctional institution.

<sup>2</sup>Any youth who was recommitted to a DYS juvenile correctional institution as a permanent admission or incarcerated in a Wisconsin adult prison within two years of his/her first release from a DYS institution was defined to be an institutional recidivist. Data is unduplicated.

Appendix IX

Incidence of Juvenile Institutional Recidivism Within Two Years  
Among Youth Released From DYS Institutions 1986 to 1990

	<u>Release Year</u>					<u>Total</u>	
	<u>1986</u> Recidivism Rate <sup>1</sup>	<u>1987</u> Recidivism Rate <sup>1</sup>	<u>1988</u> Recidivism Rate <sup>1</sup>	<u>1989</u> Recidivism Rate <sup>1</sup>	<u>1990</u> Recidivism Rate <sup>1</sup>	<u>1986 to 1990</u> Total # <sup>2</sup>	Recidivism Rate <sup>1</sup>
Milwaukee County Youth	28.9%	26.2%	39.3%	29.5%	39.6%	1446	32.8%
All Other Wisconsin Youth	21.8%	29.2%	30.1%	23.1%	27.8%	1311	26.2%
Statewide	25.5%	27.6%	34.7%	26.5%	34.2%	2757	29.7%

<sup>1</sup>This reflects the percentage of youth who were reinstitutionalized in a juvenile correctional facility within two years.

<sup>2</sup>Data is unduplicated and indicates the total number of youth with this characteristic who were released from DYS institutions from 1986 through 1990.

Appendix X

Adult Prison Entries Within Various Follow-up Periods Among  
Youth Released From DYS Institutions 1986 to 1988

<u>Year</u>	<u>2 Year Recidivism Rate</u>		<u>3 Year Recidivism Rate</u>		<u>4 Year Recidivism Rate</u>		<u>5 Year Recidivism Rate</u>		<u>6 Year Recidivism Rate</u>		<u>Average Time Out Prior to Prison Entry</u>
1986	26	4.4%	72	12.2%	134	22.8%	134	22.8%	134	22.8%	33.7 months
1987	47	9.1%	94	18.3%	137	26.6%	137	26.6%			29.6 months
1988	49	10.2%	91	19.0%	145	30.3%					29.8 months
All Available Years	122	7.7% <sup>1</sup>	257	16.3% <sup>1</sup>	416	26.3% <sup>1</sup>	271	24.6% <sup>2</sup>	134	22.8% <sup>3</sup>	31.0 months

<sup>1</sup>All youth released during 1986 to 1988 were included in the analysis.

<sup>2</sup>All youth released during 1986 to 1987 were included in the analysis.

<sup>3</sup>All youth released during 1986 were included in the analysis.

Appendix XI

Incidence and Nature of Recidivism Within Four Years Among  
Youth Released From DYS Institutions 1986 to 1988

	<u>1986 Releases</u>	<u>1987 Releases</u>	<u>1988 Releases</u>	<u>Total 1986 to 1988 Total #</u>	<u>Recidivism Rate</u>
<u>Milwaukee County Youth</u>					
Non-Recidivists <sup>1</sup>	55.3%	54.6%	47.5%	431	52.8%
Recidivists <sup>2</sup>	44.7%	45.4%	52.5%	386	47.2%
Juvenile Recidivism Only <sup>3</sup>	20.4%	19.9%	26.9%	181	22.1%
Adult Recidivism Only <sup>4</sup>	15.5%	18.8%	12.8%	129	15.8%
Chronic Recidivism <sup>5</sup>	8.8%	6.7%	12.8%	76	9.3%
<u>All Other Wisconsin Youth</u>					
Non-Recidivists <sup>1</sup>	63.0%	50.2%	45.3%	408	53.5%
Recidivists <sup>2</sup>	37.0%	49.8%	54.7%	355	46.5%
Juvenile Recidivism Only <sup>3</sup>	15.9%	21.8%	19.5%	144	18.9%
Adult Recidivism Only <sup>4</sup>	14.8%	20.6%	24.6%	150	19.6%
Chronic Recidivism <sup>5</sup>	6.3%	7.4%	10.6%	61	8.0%
<u>Statewide</u>					
Non-Recidivists <sup>1</sup>	59.0%	52.5%	46.4%	839	53.1%
Recidivists <sup>2</sup>	41.0%	47.5%	53.6%	741	46.9%
Juvenile Recidivism Only <sup>3</sup>	18.2%	20.8%	23.3%	325	20.6%
Adult Recidivism Only <sup>4</sup>	15.1%	19.7%	18.6%	279	17.6%
Chronic Recidivism <sup>5</sup>	7.7%	7.0%	11.7%	137	8.7%

<sup>1</sup>Any youth who was not reinstitutionalized in a juvenile or an adult correctional institution within four years was classified as a non-recidivist.

<sup>2</sup>Any youth who was reinstitutionalized in a juvenile and/or correctional institution within four years was classified as a recidivist.

<sup>3</sup>Includes youth whose only additional correctional institutional experience during the four years following release was in a juvenile institution.

<sup>4</sup>Includes youth who entered adult prison, but were not subsequently placed in a juvenile correctional institution during the four years following the first release from a DYS institution.

<sup>5</sup>Includes youth who were returned to a DYS institution and also entered adult prison during the four years following the first release from a DYS institution.

Appendix XII

Incidence of Adult Prison Admissions Within Four Years  
Among Youth Released From DYS Institutions 1986 to 1988

	1986 Adult Recidivism <u>Rate</u> <sup>1</sup>	1987 Adult Recidivism <u>Rate</u> <sup>1</sup>	1988 Adult Recidivism <u>Rate</u> <sup>1</sup>	Total 1986 to 1988 <u>Total #</u> <sup>2</sup>	Adult Recidivism <u>Rate</u> <sup>1</sup>
Milwaukee County Youth	24.3%	25.5%	25.6%	817	25.1%
All Other Wisconsin Youth	21.1%	28.0%	35.2%	763	27.6%
Statewide	22.8%	26.6%	30.3%	1580	26.3%

<sup>1</sup>This reflects the percentage of youth who entered a Wisconsin adult prison within four years of their first release from a DYS institution.

<sup>2</sup>Data is unduplicated and indicates the total number of youth released from DYS institutions during 1986 through 1988.

Appendix XIII

Characteristics of Youth Released From DYS  
From 1986 to 1988 Who Entered Adult Prison Within Four Years

	<u># of Adult Institutional Recidivists</u>	<u>Adult Recidivism Rate<sup>1</sup></u>	<u>% of Adult Institutional Recidivists<sup>2</sup></u>
<b>A) Sex</b>			
Male	407	28.2%	97.8%
Female	9	6.6%	2.2%
<b>B) Race/Ethnicity</b>			
White	182	25.6%	43.7%
African American	195	27.8%	46.9%
Hispanic	19	21.6%	4.6%
American Indian	18	24.3%	4.3%
Asian	0	0.0%	0.0%
Other	2	40.0%	0.5%
<b>C) Number of Prior Juvenile Adjudications Upon First DYS Admission</b>			
1	34	18.5%	8.9%
2	75	24.7%	19.5%
3	66	25.4%	17.2%
4	56	28.6%	14.6%
5	38	28.6%	9.9%
6 or more	115	31.4%	29.9%
Missing	32		
<b>D) Age at Admission to DYS</b>			
Under 16	160	26.8%	38.5%
16 or older	256	26.0%	61.5%
<b>E) Age at Release from DYS</b>			
Under 16	62	22.5%	14.9%
16 or older	354	27.1%	85.1%

	<u># of Adult Institutional Recidivists</u>	<u>Adult Recidivism Rate<sup>1</sup></u>	<u>% of Adult Institutional Recidivists<sup>2</sup></u>
<b>F) County of Juvenile Commitment</b>			
Barron	2	28.6	0.5
Brown	11	36.7	2.6
Calumet	2	66.7	0.5
Chippewa	3	50.0	0.7
Clark	2	18.2	0.5
Columbia	1	16.7	0.2
Crawford	1	33.3	0.2
Dane	24	32.9	5.8
Dodge	1	33.3	0.2
Door	1	16.7	0.2
Douglas	2	22.2	0.5
Eau Claire	3	21.4	0.7
Fond du Lac	2	14.3	0.5
Grant	1	100.0	0.2
Green	1	50.0	0.2
Jefferson	1	25.0	0.2
Juneau	1	20.0	0.2
Kenosha	26	40.6	6.3
Kewaunee	2	40.0	0.5
LaCrosse	8	34.8	1.9
Langlade	1	50.0	0.2
Lincoln	2	33.3	0.5
Manitowoc	3	25.0	0.7
Marathon	8	21.6	1.9
Marinette	1	25.0	0.2
Menominee	1	25.0	0.2
Milwaukee	205	25.1	49.3
Monroe	1	100.0	0.2
Oconto	3	33.3	0.7
Outagamie	9	22.0	2.2
Ozaukee	2	28.6	0.5
Pierce	1	25.0	0.2
Polk	2	28.6	0.5
Portage	1	14.3	0.2
Price	1	50.0	0.2
Racine	36	31.3	8.7
Richland	1	50.0	0.2
Rock	11	19.3	2.6
St. Croix	1	20.0	0.2
Sauk	1	11.1	0.2

	<u># of Adult Institutional Recidivists</u>	<u>Adult Recidivism Rate<sup>1</sup></u>	<u>% of Adult Institutional Recidivists<sup>2</sup></u>
Sawyer	1	20.0	0.2
Shawano	3	42.9	0.7
Sheboygan	2	14.3	0.5
Taylor	1	100.0	0.2
Trempealeau	1	50.0	0.2
Vilas	1	33.3	0.2
Walworth	3	42.9	0.7
Washburn	1	25.0	0.2
Washington	4	44.4	1.0
Waukesha	2	10.5	0.5
Winnebago	11	33.3	2.6

**G) Type of Juvenile  
Committing Offense**

Property Offenses	245	27.8%	58.9%
Violent & Assaultive Offenses	56	22.0%	13.5%
Weapons Offenses	72	27.8%	17.3%
Sex Offenses	26	22.2%	6.2%
Drug Offenses	5	45.5%	1.2%
Other Offenses	12	23.1%	2.9%

**H) Type of Offense  
Which Led to Adult  
Prison Commitment**

Property Offenses <sup>3</sup>	230	N/A	56.2%
Violent & Assaultive Offenses <sup>4</sup>	81	N/A	19.8%
Weapons Offenses <sup>5</sup>	48	N/A	11.8%
Drug Offenses <sup>6</sup>	30	N/A	7.3%
Other Offenses <sup>7</sup>	20	N/A	4.9%
Missing	7		

	<u># of Adult Institutional Recidivists</u>	<u>Adult Recidivism Rate<sup>1</sup></u>	<u>% of Adult Institutional Recidivists<sup>2</sup></u>
<b>D) Living Arrangement at Release from DYS</b>			
With both parents	53	28.2%	13.3%
With one parent	72	25.1%	18.1%
With relative(s)	17	30.9%	4.3%
Foster home	8	22.2%	2.0%
Group home	114	27.0%	28.6%
Child caring institution	83	24.3%	20.8%
Independent living	5	25.0%	1.3%
Other living arrangement	46	29.7%	11.6%
Missing	18		

**J) Releasing Institution**

Ethan Allen School	265	29.3%	63.7%
Lincoln Hills School	151	22.4%	36.3%
Males Only	142	26.3%	34.1%
Females Only	9	6.6%	2.2%

**K) Type of Supervision Upon  
Release from DYS**

To state aftercare	235	25.1%	56.5%
To county aftercare	99	29.0%	23.8%
To mental health institution	16	23.2%	3.8%
No aftercare supervision	66	28.1%	15.9%

<sup>1</sup>Indicates the percent of all DYS releases in the study population who had this characteristic and entered adult prison within four years.

<sup>2</sup>Indicates the percent of the adult institutional recidivists with this characteristic.

<sup>3</sup>Property offenses included: unarmed robbery, unarmed burglary, theft, auto theft, arson, forgery, fraud, receiving stolen property and criminal damage to property.

<sup>4</sup>Violent offenses included: murder, sex assault, aggravated battery, battery, injury by conduct regardless of life, abduction, endangering safety by conduct regardless of life, threats and intimidating a witness.

<sup>5</sup>Weapons offenses included: armed robbery, injury by negligent use of weapon, injury by intoxicated use of vehicle, armed burglary, illegal discharge of a firearm, weapons possession and reckless use of weapons.

<sup>6</sup>Drug offenses included: drug sales and possession of drugs with intent to sell.

<sup>7</sup>Other offenses included: escape, bail jumping, resisting/obstructing an officer and hit and run.