Census of Juveniles in Residential Placement Databook

by Melissa Sickmund

The online CJRP Databook provides information on juvenile offenders in residential facilities

The Census of Juveniles in Residential Placement Databook (CJRP Databook) is an online interactive data dissemination tool developed for the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) by the National Center for Juvenile Justice (NCJJ). A component of OJJDP’s Statistical Briefing Book found on the OJJDP Web site (www.ojjdp.ncjrs.org), the CJRP Databook enables users to access CJRP data quickly and easily without using statistical analysis software. The initial release of the CJRP Databook contains more than 1,700 State and national CJRP tables. Users can study the demographic, offense, placement status, and facility characteristics of juveniles in residential placement as recorded for the CJRP 1997 census date, which was October 29. Data displays will be added to the Databook periodically. When 1999 CJRP data become available, trend tables will be added.

The CJRP Databook provides better access to better data

OJJDP designed CJRP to be a comprehensive, manageable, and reliable statistical series providing information about juvenile offenders in residential placement. In October 1997, CJRP replaced the earlier Children in Custody (CIC) biennial facility census. The new census meets a pressing need for information that can address a wide variety of questions about juvenile detention, corrections, and placement.

For each juvenile held in a residential facility, CJRP collects an individual record with information such as date of birth, race, sex, and most serious offense. CJRP also captures information about the juvenile’s legal status, including court of jurisdiction (criminal court or juvenile court), placement status (detained pre- or postadjudication or committed), security arrangements, and the jurisdiction where the offense occurred.

With a few clicks of a mouse, users can view their choice of tables in the CJRP Databook. Profile tables display data for a

How To Access the CJRP Databook

The Census of Juveniles in Residential Placement Databook can be found at the Statistical Briefing Book of OJJDP’s Web site: www.ojjdp.ncjrs.org/ojstatbb/openpage.asp.
particular State or for the United States as a whole. A dropdown menu allows the user to select a jurisdiction of interest. The initial release of the Databook contains profiles of juveniles in placement by age, sex, race, offense, and placement status, and other variables will be added in the future. State comparison tables show a row for each State and a row for the United States as a whole. Users can compare States in terms of their juvenile placement population demographics, offense, placement status, and facility type. For each profile or comparison table, users can choose cell count or percentage displays. Data displays can be printed directly from the browser or downloaded and saved as files that can easily be imported into spreadsheet software. The CJRP Databook also includes information about CJRP data collection methods and a copy of the data collection form.

CJRP will continue gathering data as a biennial census

As with CIC, CJRP is conducted biennially in odd-numbered years, and the Bureau of the Census will continue to be the data collection agent. The census day for CJRP is the last Wednesday in October; to date, CJRP has been conducted on October 29, 1997, and October 27, 1999.

A note on confidentiality

By statute and regulation, OJJDP must protect the privacy of individuals included in its surveys. In the case of CJRP, OJJDP must ensure that no juvenile can be identified from publicly available data (tabular or electronic). To comply with this requirement, OJJDP requires all published table cells to be rounded to the nearest multiple of three. The table cells are rounded after the table has been produced from the underlying data. Each cell is rounded independently, without consideration as to row or column totals. As a result, in many tables the internal cells do not add to the marginal totals. Rates and percentages presented from CJRP are also based on rounded totals. More information on this rounding rule is available on the CJRP Databook Web site.

For further information

OJJDP will publish CJRP statistics through a series of Fact Sheets and Bulletins that address juvenile justice issues. Reference tables and general analyses will be published separately. Special analyses covering such issues as gender, race, and offense types will be published in compendium publications that use several data sources. Information from CJRP can be found in the following publications that are available from the Juvenile Justice Clearinghouse, 800–638–8736, or online at www.ojjdp.ncjrs.org:

- **Juvenile Offenders in Residential Placement, 1997** (Fact Sheet #96, 1999).

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The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention is a component of the Office of Justice Programs, which also includes the Bureau of Justice Assistance, the Bureau of Justice Statistics, the National Institute of Justice, and the Office for Victims of Crime.