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# Delaware Female Juvenile Recidivism

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1994 – 2004 Level III, IV and V  
Female Juvenile Recidivism Profile



State of Delaware  
Office of Management and Budget  
Statistical Analysis Center

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Delaware Female Juvenile Recidivism: 1994 – 2004 Level III, IV, and V Female Juvenile Recidivism Profile.

Prepared by the Statistical Analysis Center, Office of Management and Budget, State of Delaware.

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## Introduction

This study provides comprehensive recidivism rates for female juvenile offenders released from out-of-home residential placements in the Department of Services for Children, Youth and Their Families (DSCYF) Division of Youth Rehabilitative Services (DYRS) between 1994 and 2004.<sup>1</sup> There are two major levels of security related to out-of-home residential placements: secure and non-secure. Under Delaware's Dispositional Guidelines for Juveniles, females can be sentenced to these different program levels as well as probation. The program levels reflect a graduated approach that requires increasingly intensive programming according to risk and need assessments of each juvenile. The more intensive programming corresponds to secure placements, the less intensive to non-secure placements:

- Level V, the most intensive programming available, is comprised of locked secure institutional settings.
- Level IV staff secure programs provide 24 hour supervision and general diagnostic, substance abuse and sex offender treatment.
- Level IIIIR programs, although providing residential programs, operate in non-secure settings.

Many of the placements are provided via contracted private organizations both in Delaware and out-of-state. Recidivism rates and detailed juvenile offender profiles are provided for 63 separate institutions and public and private residential programs.

The main measure of recidivism used in this study is a felony re-arrest – not a re-conviction or a re-admission – following release from a placement. Recidivism rates are reported for four different at-risk intervals: 6, 12, 18, and 24 months. Many juvenile recidivism studies report truncated results because they stop following the juveniles once they reach the age of majority. This study does not truncate results because Delaware arrests can be tracked through an offender's adult years.

Juvenile justice policymakers established the use of the felony re-arrest rate as the main measure of recidivism for this study in October of 1998. It was determined that the felony re-arrest rate tapped some of our most reliable data and that, furthermore, it provides the possibility for a *fairer* cross-jurisdictional comparison of recidivism rates. While the felony re-arrest rate is a viable measure of recidivism, it is preferable to measure recidivism using multiple measures. Where re-arrest highlights public safety risks to the community, re-detention underscores the court's willingness to remove a female juvenile arrestee from the community, at least temporarily, and re-incarceration would highlight the Family Court's affirmation of guilt for a new crime.

As a means of providing a fuller understanding of female juvenile criminal behavior and recidivism an additional view of recidivism is provided in the introductory part this study. In

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<sup>1</sup> Due to the use of the latest available placement data information for each edition of this report, the release counts, felony recidivism rates, and historical profiles presented in this document may not comparable to information presented in previous reports. See page 29 for a detailed explanation of how the dataset was constructed for this study.

addition to the *main* felony re-arrest measure, the full view of all female re-arrests (by type of arrest) is examined for FY03.

## FY03 Female Recidivism Summary

Female juvenile recidivism was tracked for at least 12 months after their release from 388 Level V placement episodes that occurred between FY95 and FY03<sup>2</sup>. Between FY96 (the State's fiscal year runs from July to June) and FY03 (the last year that a full cohort of releases could be studied for being at-risk for 12 months) the recidivism rate has decreased from 23 percent for females released during FY96 to 14 percent for those released in FY03. The average length of stay in a Level V secure setting increased between FY95 and FY02 from 1.6 to 2.0 months. Since then, the Level V average length of stay decreased to 1.4 months. See page 11 for more details on Level V recidivism rates.

Female juveniles were tracked for at least 12 months after their release from 479 Level IV placement episodes. Excluding an increase in the recidivism rate between FY95 and FY98, the recidivism rate decreased from 26 percent in FY98 to ten percent in FY03 – a 16 percentage point decrease in felony re-arrest recidivism. The average length of stay in a Level IV secure setting decreased during this time period from 6.7 to 3.1 months. See page 15 for more details on Level IV recidivism rates.

Female juveniles were tracked for at least 12 months after their release from 217 Level III placement episodes. The FY03 LIII felony recidivism rate is five percent. The average length of stay in a Level III non-secure setting decreased from 15.7 months during FY95 to about two weeks during FY03. See page 25 for more details on Level III recidivism rates.

The tables below – Tables 1, 2, 3 – provide the FY03 female felony re-arrest and summary by individual program within each level of sanction. Recidivism is reported at one year at risk after release from the secure placement episode. These recidivism results are the most recent available because a full year must pass before recidivism statistics can be calculated for a cohort.

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<sup>2</sup> See the explanations of placement episodes on pages 7 and 28 of this document.



## FY03 12 Month Female Recidivism Rates

The Level V FY03 female recidivism rate at 12 months at-risk for a felony arrest is 14 percent. The following table shows the FY03 12 month recidivism rate for Level V programs.

Table 1, Females Arrested for a Felony within  
12 Months of Release from a Level V Episode, FY03 Releases

Program	No. Released	No. Arrested	Recidivism Rate
New Castle County Detention Center, DE	34	3	9%
Stevenson House Detention Center, DE	28	5	18%
Level V Episodes <sup>3</sup>	59	8	14%

The Level IV FY03 female recidivism rate for a felony arrest is 10 percent. The following table shows the FY03 12 month recidivism rate for Level IV programs.

Table 2, Females Arrested for a Felony within  
12 Months of Release from a Level IV Episode, FY03 Releases

Program	No. Released	No. Arrested	Recidivism Rate
F.C.C., Grace Cottage, Long Term, DE	24	1	4%
VisionQuest, Boot Camp, PA	16	2	13%
VisionQuest, Madalyn Program, PA	5	0	0%
Chamberlain Academy, High Impact, SD	3	0	0%
Excelsior, General, CO	3	0	0%
Today Inc., General, PA	3	1	33%
Mountain Manor, MD	2	0	0%
Today Inc., New Dawn, PA	2	1	50%
Vision Quest, Lady of the Lakes	2	0	50%
F.C.C., Grace Cottage, Shelter, DE	1	0	0%
F.C.C., Grace Cottage, Short Term, DE	1	0	0%
KidsPeace, General, PA	1	0	0%
KidsPeace, Intensive, PA	1	0	0%
New Hope, Palmetto Point, SC	1	0	0%
Riverside Treatment Services, Inc., D.C.	1	0	0%
The Pines, General, VA	1	0	0%
The Pines, Young Men/Women's Center, VA	1	1	100%
VisionQuest, Quest, PA	1	0	0%
Level IV Episodes	60	6	10%

<sup>3</sup> Please note that secure placement episode statistics within a level are not additive because a Level V episode may include admissions to more than one Level V program, and double counting would occur if an attempt was made to sum to a Level V total.

The Level III FY03 release cohort female recidivism rate at 12 months at-risk for a felony arrest is 5 percent. The following table shows the FY03 12 month recidivism rate for Level III programs.

Table 3, Females Arrested for a Felony within  
12 Months of Release from a Level III Episode, FY03 Releases

Program	No. Released	No. Arrested	Recidivism Rate
People's Place II, DE	42	2	5%
Level III Episodes	42	2	5%

### Interpreting Recidivism Results: A Caution

Interpretations of the recidivism results in this study can be made for general types of programs like Level V or Level IV and for a specific program over time. Caution, however, should be exercised when comparing a specific program with another. It might be assumed that all Level IV programs are similar and therefore comparable in terms of recidivism. Whereas this may be true for some programs, it may not be for others. For instance, a Level IV shelter where female juveniles are held for two or three weeks awaiting placement is not the same as a one year, or even a three month Level IV program that provides extensive counseling. Juvenile programs also differ significantly in the type of offender they are willing to serve: not all programs are geared toward providing services to female juveniles with multiple unsuccessful prior placements, some prefer instead to service female offenders without prior placements.

It is also important to realize that females with more extensive criminal histories are more likely to have higher recidivism rates. Prior criminal history patterns differ significantly from program to program and even from year to year within a program. Fortunately, this study provides length of stay and prior criminal history summaries for each program. The historical profiles provided in this report should be helpful in framing discussions regarding female juvenile recidivism.

## Different Measures of Recidivism

Measuring recidivism as a re-arrest or a re-admission is an important research and policy issue. It is preferable to measure recidivism using multiple measures where re-arrest highlights public safety risks to the community, re-detention underscores the court's willingness to remove a juvenile arrestee from the community, at least temporarily, and re-incarceration would highlight the Family Court's affirmation of guilt for a new crime.

This study, at the request of policy makers in October 1998, assesses DYRS recidivism in terms of felony re-arrest. This, it is believed, provides the possibility for a *fairer* cross jurisdictional comparison of recidivism rates. Re-detention information, although not used as an explicit recidivism measure, is reported as a part of the *offender profile* in this study. That is, the reader can compare the relationship between the average number of prior detention episodes for a specific release cohort and that cohort's felony re-arrest rate. No information is provided in this report regarding re-conviction because the data systems are not systematically capable of providing this information. While the major purpose of this report is to provide felony re-arrest recidivism rates for the 1,350 release events between July 1994 and June 2004 for all DYRS Level III residential (IIR), Level IV and Level V programs and institutions, re-arrest information is also collected for misdemeanors and technical or administrative measures. This more extensive arrest information provides valuable background information regarding juvenile crime patterns after release from DYRS programs and institutions.

## Total Female Re-arrest Patterns

The pie charts below show FY03 re-arrest recidivism rates for released female juveniles at-risk at least 12 months. Three different types of recidivism are displayed in each of these graphs: (1) Recidivism where a felony arrest constitutes the most serious criminal activity after release, and (2) where a misdemeanor arrest constitutes the most serious criminal event, and (3) violation of probation (VOP) arrests.

Figure 1, FY03 Female Re-arrest Recidivism 1 Year Following Level V Release

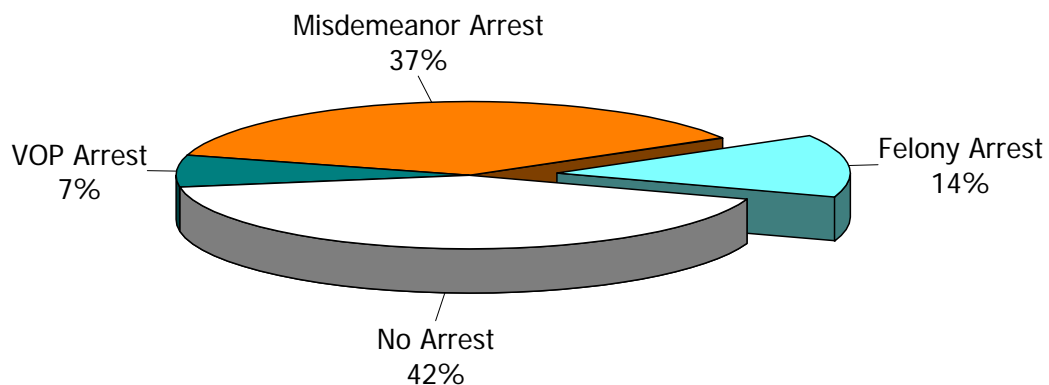


Figure 1 shows the recidivism patterns for the 59 FY03 female releases from Level V placement episodes after one year at-risk. Fifty-eight percent of the Level V female releasees were re-arrested within one year. Fourteen percent had felony re-arrests, 37 percent had re-arrests where a misdemeanor was the most serious charge, and another seven percent were re-arrested only for violations of probation.

Figure 2 shows the recidivism patterns for the 60 FY03 female releases from a Level IV placement episode. Fifty-eight percent of the Level IV female releasees were re-arrested within one year. Ten percent had felony re-arrests, 38 percent had re-arrests where a misdemeanor was the most serious charge, and another ten percent were re-arrested only for violations of probation. When the full range of re-arrest recidivism is considered, there is very little difference associated whether a female juvenile was released from a Level IV or V program.

Figure 3 shows the recidivism patterns for the 42 FY03 female releases from a Level III placement episode. Seventy-two percent of the Level III female releasees were re-arrested within one year. Five percent had felony re-arrests, 67 percent had re-arrests where a misdemeanor was the most serious charge. Level IIIIR female releasees were more likely to be re-arrested in the year following release from a program. However, the female felony LIII recidivism rate is lower than the rate for female Level IV and V releases.

Figure 2, FY03 Female Re-arrest Recidivism 1 Year Following Level IV Release

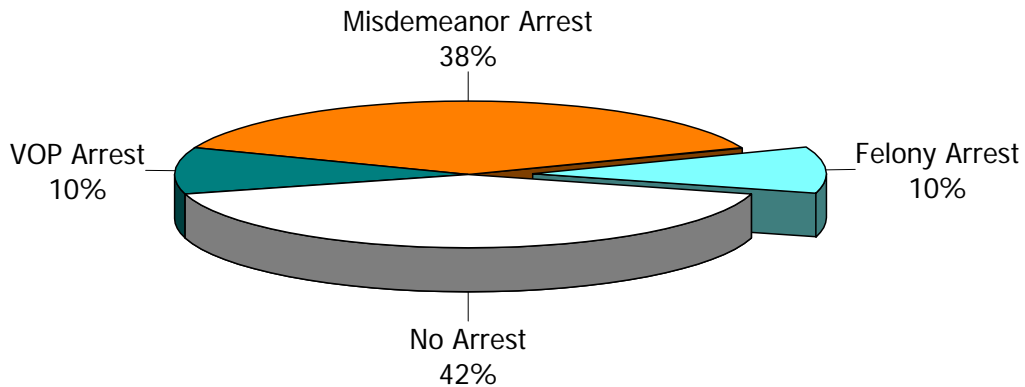
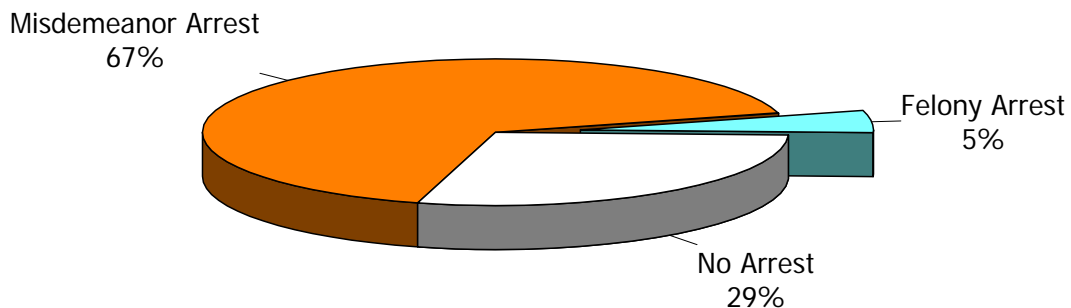


Figure 3, FY03 Female Re-arrest Recidivism 1 Year Following Level III Release



## Technical Note: Measuring Recidivism

The FY05 Budget Act, 74 Del. Laws c. 307 § 63, authorizes the Delaware Statistical Analysis Center (SAC) to prepare recidivism reports. Juvenile justice policy makers requested in October 1998 that SAC assess DYRS recidivism in terms of felony re-arrests. Thus, in this study recidivism is defined as a new felony arrest in Delaware. Recidivism is measured when a female is arrested for a felony in Delaware after being released from a DYRS Level III, IV or V placement episode. Recidivism is reported as the percentage of persons released who are re-arrested following release. Arrests for technical violations or traffic offenses not related to driving under the influence or motor vehicle theft, and misdemeanors are not included in the remainder of this study.

Traditionally, recidivism is measured from the date of release from an institution or a residential placement. This measure is valid for systems that take female juveniles from the street, incarcerate them, and then release them back to the street. Delaware's juvenile system is much more likely to place the female juvenile offender in a series of secure placements before a female is released to the community. The methodology in this report captures the contiguous and serial institutionalization of a female juvenile as a *secure placement episode*.

Secure placement episodes comprise an uninterrupted period of time when a youth is not in the community and may include multiple releases from secure residential placements. For example, the typical Grace Cottage placement episode includes two contiguous placements: (1) admission to the Detention Center, and (2) transfer to Grace Cottage before release to the community. The at-risk period for the juvenile who had a typical Grace Cottage placement episode does not start until the female juvenile has been released from Grace Cottage and is no longer in secure supervision. In this study, the post-release *at-risk* period starts when a female juvenile is released to the community.

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## Residential Level V, IV, and III Female Felony Recidivism Tables

The following pages show female felony recidivism rates for residential Level V, IV, and III total and selected programs in the study.

Recidivism rate tables and graphs are shown for programs that released more than 9 female juveniles during fiscal years 2002, 2003 or 2004. Only recidivism rate tables are shown for small programs – programs that released less than 10 juveniles in FY02, FY03, and FY04.

Female felony recidivism rates are presented in the following pages for four release thresholds: six, 12, 18, and 24 months since release. As the last releases for FY02 occurred during June, 2003, all youth in the FY02 cohort had been released at least 24 months. All females in the FY03 cohort had been released for at least 18 months. All youth in the FY04 cohort had been released for at least 6 months on January 1, 2005.

The table below provides an explanation of how to read the remaining female recidivism tables in this document. The table shows that it has been at least 18 months since all 59 female juveniles in the FY03 Level V cohort were released. The table also shows, through the use of shading, that not all females in that cohort had been through the 24 month threshold.

Table 4, Level V Female Felony Recidivism Rates

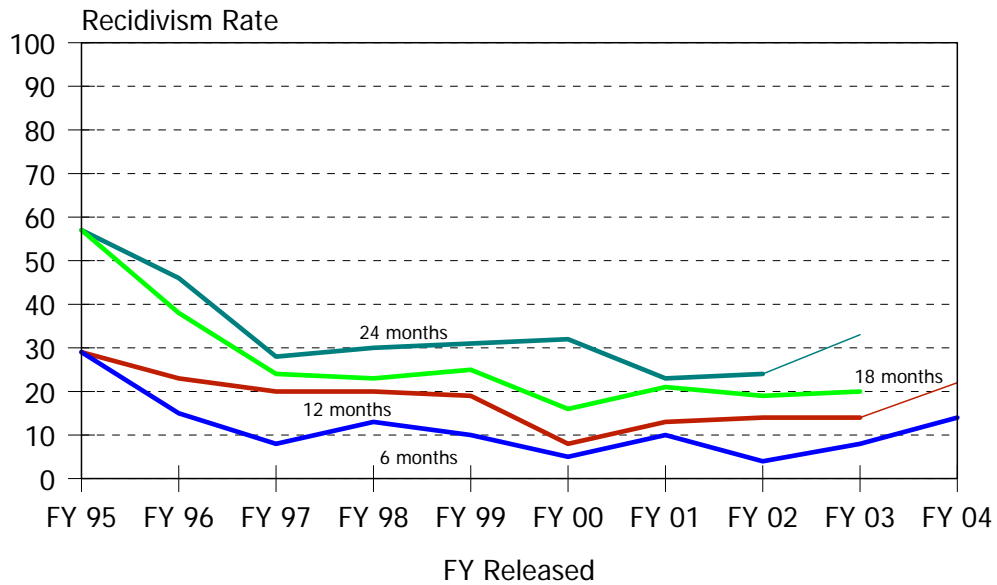
Time Period	N. Released	Months Since Release			
		6 Months	12 Months	18 Months	24 Months
FY 95	7	29%	29%	57%	57%
FY 96	13	15%	23%	38%	46%
FY 97	25	8%	20%	24%	28%
FY 98	40	13%	20%	23%	30%
FY 99 <sup>4</sup>	49	10%	19%	25%	31%
FY 00	62	5%	8%	16%	32%
FY 01	61	10%	13%	21%	23%
FY 02	72	4%	14%	19%	24%
FY 03	59	8%	14%	20%	33%
FY 04	78	14%	22%	.	.

<sup>4</sup> A total of 49 releases occurred during FY99 from Level V episodes. However, one female juvenile died within six months of her release from Level V episodes. The recidivism rates presented in this analysis are based on the number of female juveniles alive at the end of each at-risk period.

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Display 1, Level V Female Felony Recidivism Rates



Level V Female Felony Recidivism Rates

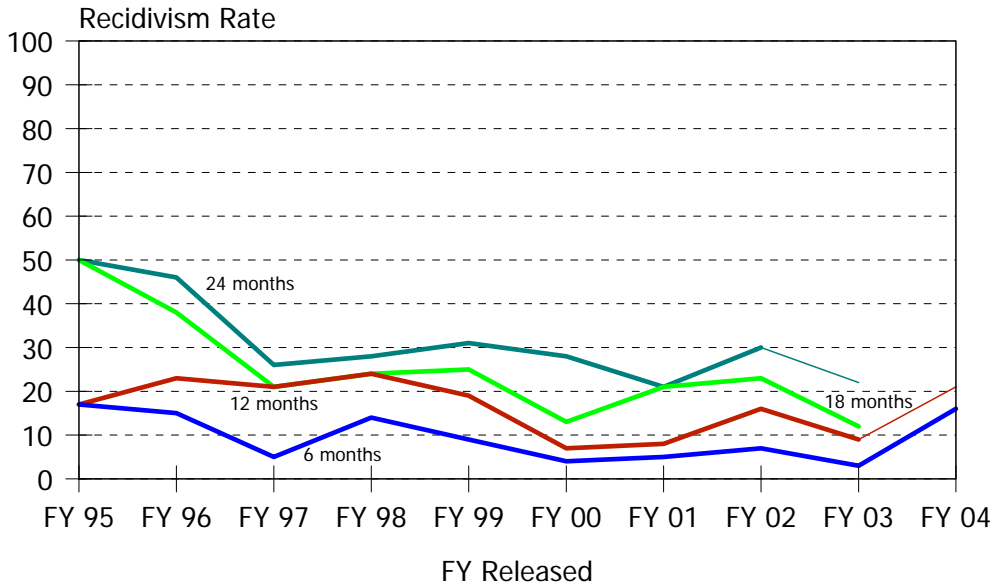
Time Period	N. Released	Months Since Release			
		6 Months	12 Months	18 Months	24 Months
FY 95	7	29%	29%	57%	57%
FY 96	13	15%	23%	38%	46%
FY 97	25	8%	20%	24%	28%
FY 98	40	13%	20%	23%	30%
FY 99	49	10%	19%	25%	31%
FY 00	62	5%	8%	16%	32%
FY 01	61	10%	13%	21%	23%
FY 02	72	4%	14%	19%	24%
FY 03	59	8%	14%	20%	33%
FY 04	78	14%	22%	.	.

Note: Shading indicates that a complete cohort has not been at-risk for the full threshold time period.

Historical Profile of Females Released by Fiscal Year

Average	Total	Fiscal Year Released										
		95	96	97	98	99	00	01	02	03	04	
Level V LOS in months	1.8	1.6	3.9	2.3	1.5	2.1	1.8	1.8	2.0	1.6	1.4	
Placement episode LOS in months	5.7	2.5	6.4	5.6	5.5	6.3	5.4	7.1	7.9	4.6	3.9	
No. of prior detention admissions	3.1	2.7	2.8	2.6	3.1	3.3	2.8	2.9	3.3	3.1	3.4	
No. of prior incarceration admissions	1.7	0.4	1.2	1.0	1.6	1.9	1.4	1.8	2.3	1.8	1.6	
Number of prior felony arrests	1.0	1.6	1.4	1.5	0.9	1.0	1.1	0.9	0.8	0.8	0.9	
Number of prior arrests	6.3	7.9	7.4	5.7	6.0	5.9	5.9	6.4	6.3	6.8	6.3	

Display 2, New Castle County  
Detention Center Adjudicated Female Felony Recidivism Rates



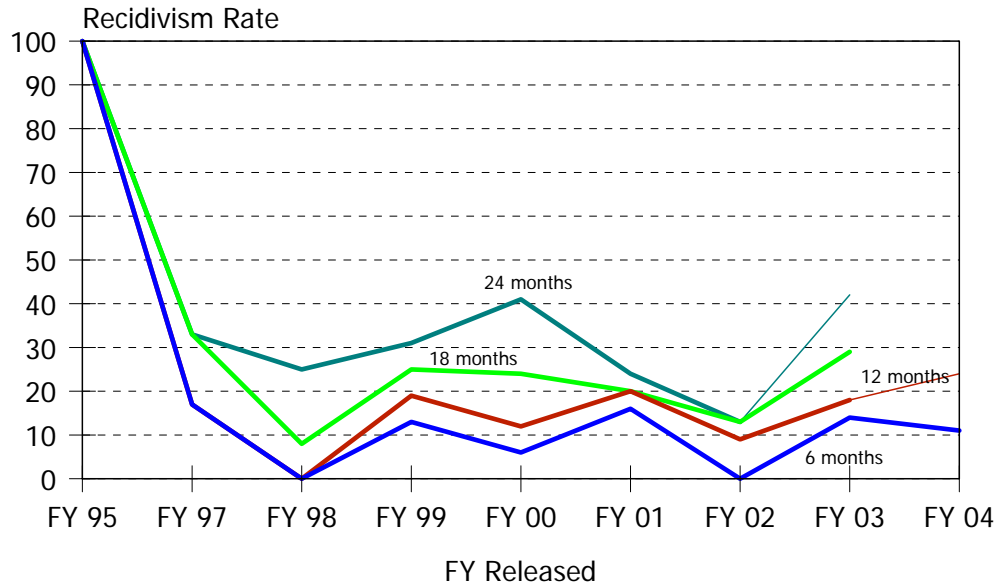
Time Period	N. Released	Months Since Release			
		6 Months	12 Months	18 Months	24 Months
FY 95	6	17%	17%	50%	50%
FY 96	13	15%	23%	38%	46%
FY 97	19	5%	21%	21%	26%
FY 98	29	14%	24%	24%	28%
FY 99	32	9%	19%	25%	31%
FY 00	46	4%	7%	13%	28%
FY 01	39	5%	8%	21%	21%
FY 02	43	7%	16%	23%	30%
FY 03	34	3%	9%	12%	22%
FY 04	51	16%	21%	.	.

Historical Profile of Females Released by Fiscal Year

Average	Total	Fiscal Year Released										
		95	96	97	98	99	00	01	02	03	04	
NCCDC LOS in months	1.7	1.8	2.6	2.4	1.7	2.2	1.6	1.4	1.5	1.6	1.6	
Placement episode LOS in months	5.6	2.8	6.4	6.9	5.6	6.8	4.8	6.5	7.3	4.3	4.1	
No. prior detention admissions	3.6	2.7	2.8	3.0	3.8	4.2	3.2	3.6	3.5	3.9	4.2	
No. of prior incarceration admissions	1.8	0.5	1.2	1.3	1.8	2.1	1.5	2.0	2.1	2.0	1.7	
Number of prior felony arrests	0.9	1.7	1.4	1.7	1.0	1.2	1.0	0.8	0.7	0.6	0.7	
Number of prior arrests	6.2	8.2	7.4	5.4	5.8	6.1	5.7	6.3	6.0	6.8	6.6	

The New Castle County Detention Center, a DYRS facility, provides health, professional care, professional counseling and educational programming for all juveniles. Information presented in this document for this facility relates solely to the adjudicated female juveniles held there.

Display 3, Stevenson House  
Detention Center Adjudicated Female Felony Recidivism Rates



Time Period	N. Released	Months Since Release			
		6 Months	12 Months	18 Months	24 Months
FY 95	1	100%	100%	100%	100%
FY 97	6	17%	17%	33%	33%
FY 98	12	0%	0%	8%	25%
FY 99	17	13%	19%	25%	31%
FY 00	17	6%	12%	24%	41%
FY 01	25	16%	20%	20%	24%
FY 02	32	0%	9%	13%	13%
FY 03	28	14%	18%	29%	42%
FY 04	27	11%	24%	.	.

Historical Profile of Females Released by Fiscal Year

Average	Total	Fiscal Year Released									
		95	97	98	99	00	01	02	03	04	
Stevenson House LOS in months	1.5	0.2	0.7	1.0	1.4	1.8	1.9	2.1	1.4	1.0	
Placement episode LOS in months	6.2	0.2	1.7	6.3	5.3	7.1	8.1	9.5	5.0	3.4	
No. prior detention admissions	2.1	3.0	1.5	1.7	1.7	1.8	1.9	3.0	2.3	1.8	
No. of prior incarceration admissions	1.7	0.0	0.2	1.2	1.6	1.4	1.5	2.7	1.9	1.5	
Number of prior felony arrests	1.0	1.0	1.0	0.6	0.6	1.2	1.0	1.0	1.4	1.2	
Number of prior arrests	6.5	6.0	6.7	7.2	5.6	6.5	6.5	6.5	7.4	5.9	

The Stevenson House Detention Center, a DYRS facility, provides health, professional care, professional counseling and educational programming for all juveniles. Information presented in this document for this facility relates solely to the adjudicated females juveniles held there.

Level V Recidivism Rates

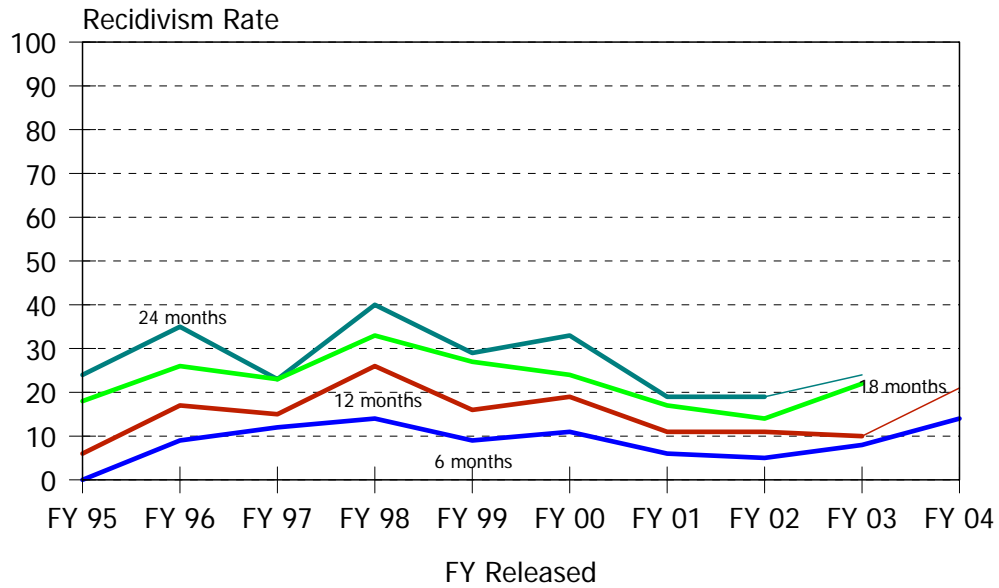
Display 4, Level V Small Program Female Felony Recidivism Rates

C.C.A., South West Indiana Youth Village, Secure Female Felony Recidivism Rates

Time Period	N. Released	Months Since Release			
		6 Months	12 Months	18 Months	24 Months
FY 02	2	50%	50%	50%	50%

South West Indiana Youth Village provides secure care and substance abuse treatment program for offenders 12 to 18 years of age.

Display 5, Level IV Female Felony Recidivism Rates



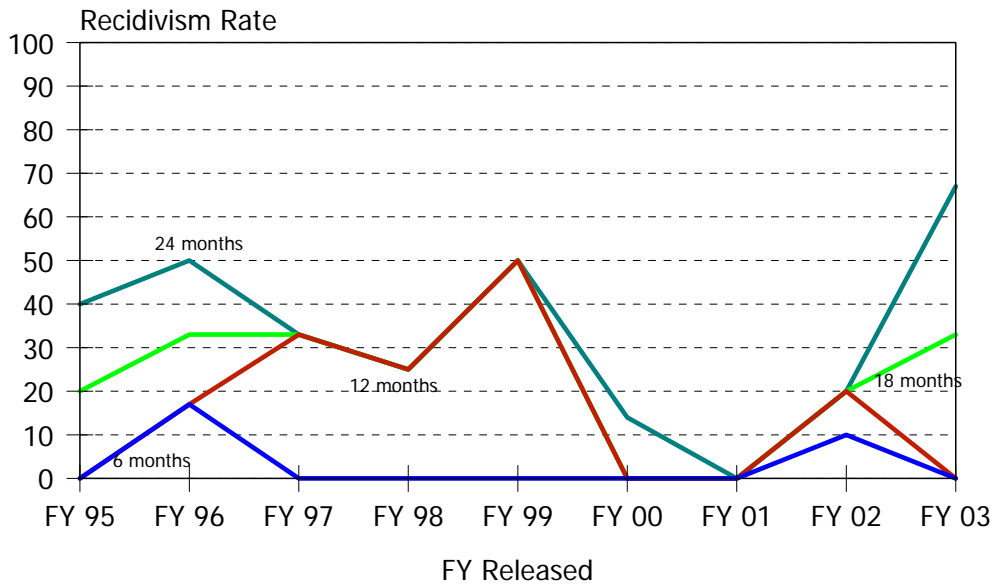
Level IV Female Felony Recidivism Rates

Time Period	N. Released	Months Since Release			
		6 Months	12 Months	18 Months	24 Months
FY 95	17	0%	6%	18%	24%
FY 96	23	9%	17%	26%	35%
FY 97	26	12%	15%	23%	23%
FY 98	42	14%	26%	33%	40%
FY 99	56	9%	16%	27%	29%
FY 00	63	11%	19%	24%	33%
FY 01	81	6%	11%	17%	19%
FY 02	111	5%	11%	14%	19%
FY 03	60	8%	10%	22%	24%
FY 04	63	14%	21%	.	.

Historical Profile of Females Released by Fiscal Year

Average	Total	Fiscal Year Released										
		95	96	97	98	99	00	01	02	03	04	
Level IV LOS in months	4.3	5.6	9.2	7.5	6.7	4.1	4.2	4.1	3.9	3.1	2.2	
Placement episode LOS in months	6.0	6.8	12.0	9.6	8.3	6.1	5.8	6.1	5.4	4.8	3.2	
No. prior detention admissions	3.1	3.0	2.9	3.5	3.3	3.8	3.5	2.7	3.0	3.0	3.0	
No. of prior incarceration admissions	1.7	0.4	0.7	1.3	1.5	1.9	2.0	2.0	1.7	2.1	1.6	
Number of prior felony arrests	1.1	2.1	2.0	1.8	1.4	1.0	1.2	0.9	0.9	0.9	1.2	
Number of prior arrests	6.3	8.4	7.0	6.5	7.0	5.9	6.0	5.8	5.8	6.9	6.7	

Display 6, Excelsior Youth Center Female Felony Recidivism Rates



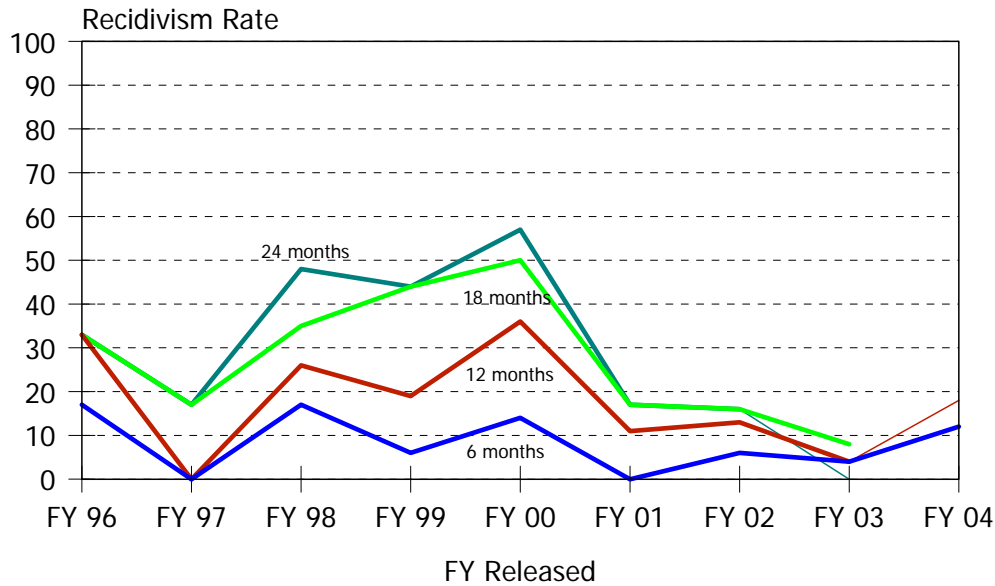
Time Period	N. Released	Months Since Release			
		6 Months	12 Months	18 Months	24 Months
FY 95	5	0%	0%	20%	40%
FY 96	6	17%	17%	33%	50%
FY 97	3	0%	33%	33%	33%
FY 98	4	0%	25%	25%	25%
FY 99	2	0%	50%	50%	50%
FY 00	7	0%	0%	0%	14%
FY 01	8	0%	0%	0%	0%
FY 02	10	10%	20%	20%	20%
FY 03	3	0%	0%	33%	67%

Historical Profile of Females Released by Fiscal Year

Average	Total	Fiscal Year Released									
		95	96	97	98	99	00	01	02	03	
Excelsior LOS in months	9.7	6.3	16.9	5.1	10.1	12.0	9.0	9.3	9.4	7.6	
Placement episode LOS in months	14.1	7.6	19.3	11.1	14.2	15.1	12.2	13.0	18.2	10.0	
Number of prior detention admissions	4.1	2.2	3.5	5.3	5.0	4.0	6.0	3.4	3.9	5.0	
No. of prior incarceration admissions	2.7	0.6	0.5	3.0	2.5	3.0	3.0	3.4	3.9	3.7	
Number of prior felony arrests	1.7	2.4	1.8	2.7	2.5	2.0	2.0	1.1	0.7	2.0	
Number of prior arrests	7.9	8.4	5.3	11.0	11.8	5.5	9.9	6.4	6.1	11.7	

Excelsior Youth Center provides programming for females ages 12 to 18 who are emotionally and behaviorally disturbed. The individualized treatment includes individual psychotherapy, group psychotherapy, family counseling, and peer group interaction.

Display 7, Grace Cottage, Long Term, Female Felony Recidivism Rates



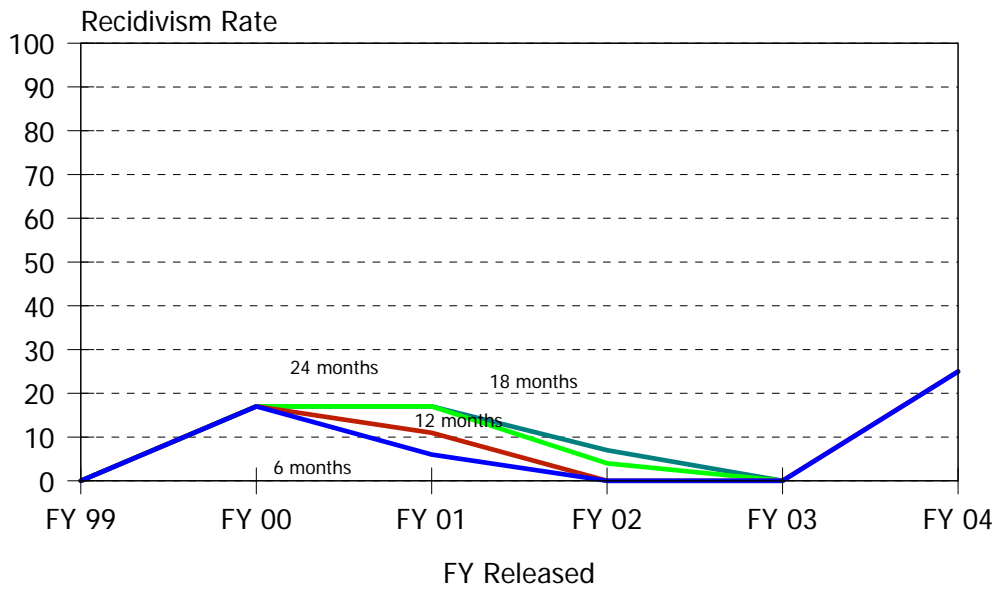
Time Period	N. Released	Months Since Release			
		6 Months	12 Months	18 Months	24 Months
FY 96	6	17%	33%	33%	33%
FY 97	12	0%	0%	17%	17%
FY 98	23	17%	26%	35%	48%
FY 99	16	6%	19%	44%	44%
FY 00	14	14%	36%	50%	57%
FY 01	18	0%	11%	17%	17%
FY 02	32	6%	13%	16%	16%
FY 03	24	4%	4%	8%	0%
FY 04	34	12%	18%	.	.

Historical Profile of Females Released by Fiscal Year

Average	Total	Fiscal Year Released									
		96	97	98	99	00	01	02	03	04	
Grace Cottage Long LOS in months	4.1	2.7	9.7	6.6	4.6	4.9	5.8	3.0	1.9	2.0	
Placement episode LOS in months	7.1	6.2	11.6	9.0	7.7	8.0	8.0	8.3	5.5	3.2	
Number of prior detention admissions	3.4	3.5	4.4	3.4	5.1	3.4	2.7	3.3	2.9	3.0	
No. of prior incarceration admissions	1.8	1.2	1.0	1.5	2.7	2.1	1.9	2.0	2.2	1.5	
Number of prior felony arrests	1.3	2.0	1.6	1.6	1.3	1.4	1.4	1.2	1.2	1.2	
Number of prior arrests	6.7	7.2	6.6	7.2	7.8	6.3	5.9	6.2	6.8	6.9	

Grace Cottage, Long Term, provided behavior management and educational programming for females between the ages of 13 and 18. Grace Cottage did not operate from December 24, 2003, through January 18, 2005.

Display 8, Grace Cottage, Shelter Services, Female Felony Recidivism Rates



Time Period	N. Released	Months Since Release			
		6 Months	12 Months	18 Months	24 Months
FY 99	8	0%	0%	0%	0%
FY 00	6	17%	17%	17%	17%
FY 01	18	6%	11%	17%	17%
FY 02	28	0%	0%	4%	7%
FY 03	1	0%	0%	0%	0%
FY 04	4	25%	25%	.	.

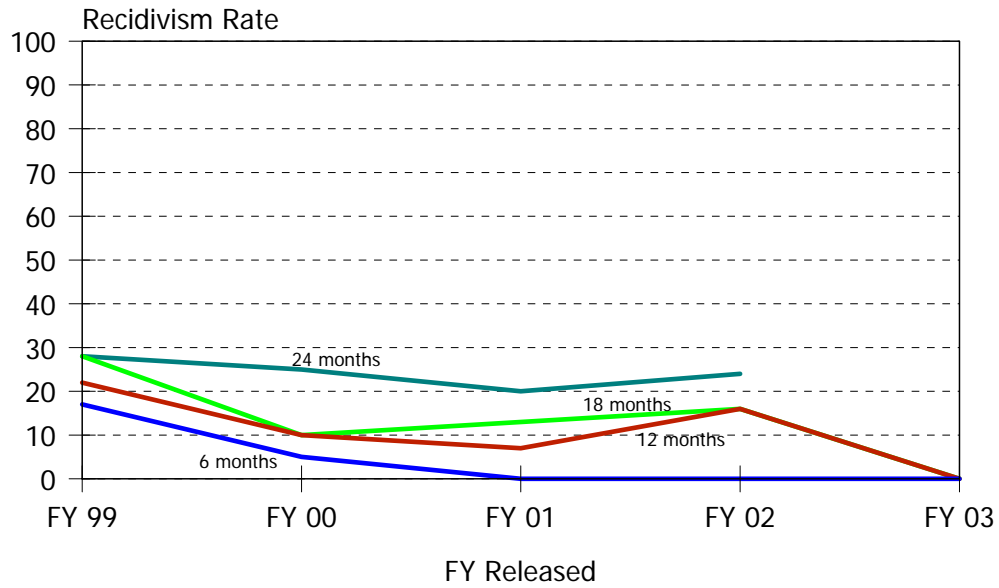
Historical Profile of Female Released by Fiscal Year

Average	Total	Fiscal Year Released					
		99	00	01	02	03	04
Grace Cottage Shelter LOS in months	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1
Placement episode LOS in months	0.6	0.2	0.2	1.6	0.2	1.2	0.1
Number of prior detention admissions	2.2	1.5	3.0	2.3	2.4	3.0	1.5
No. of prior incarceration admissions	1.3	0.9	2.3	1.7	1.1	1.0	0.5
Number of prior felony arrests	0.5	0.5	0.8	0.4	0.5	0.0	0.3
Number of prior arrests	4.7	3.0	4.3	4.5	4.6	15.0	7.5

Grace Cottage provided short-term shelter services for female offenders 13 to 18 years of age. Grace Cottage did not operate from December 24, 2003, through January 18, 2005.



Display 9, Grace Cottage, Short Term, Female Felony Recidivism Rates



Time Period	N. Released	Months Since Release			
		6 Months	12 Months	18 Months	24 Months
FY 99	18	17%	22%	28%	28%
FY 00	20	5%	10%	10%	25%
FY 01	15	0%	7%	13%	20%
FY 02	25	0%	16%	16%	24%
FY 03	1	0%	0%	0%	.

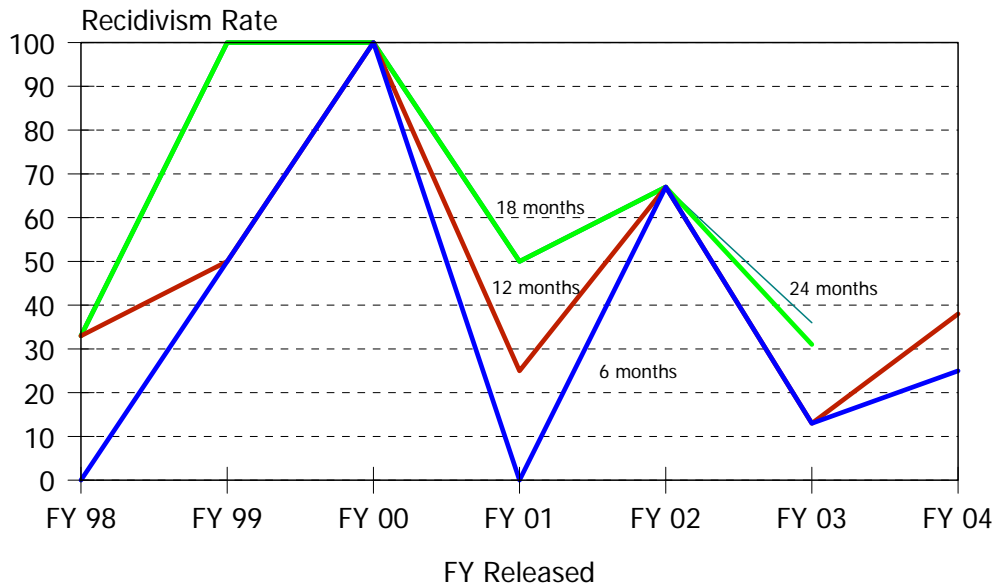
Historical Profile of Females Released by Fiscal Year

Average	Total	Fiscal Year Released				
		99	00	01	02	03
Grace Cottage Short Term LOS in months	2.3	2.7	2.6	2.0	2.1	1.5
Placement episode LOS in months	4.3	4.2	4.3	4.0	4.4	7.4
Number of prior detention admissions	3.1	3.4	3.1	2.3	3.4	3.0
No. of prior incarceration admissions	1.6	1.5	1.6	1.8	1.6	1.0
Number of prior felony arrests	0.8	0.8	1.1	0.5	0.6	2.0
Number of prior arrests	5.4	5.1	4.9	4.9	6.4	4.0

Grace Cottage provided short-term residential treatment programming for females between the ages of 13 and 18 with supplemental community based services. Grace Cottage did not operate from December 24, 2003, through January 18, 2005.

Level IV Recidivism Rates

Display 10, VisionQuest, Boot Camp, Female Felony Recidivism Rates



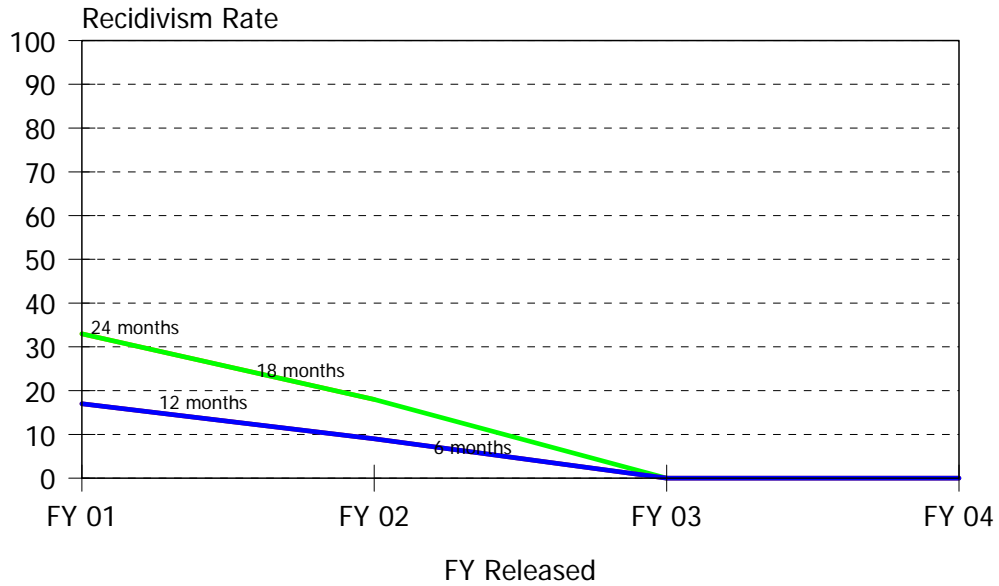
Time Period	N. Released	Months Since Release			
		6 Months	12 Months	18 Months	24 Months
FY 98	3	0%	33%	33%	33%
FY 99	2	50%	50%	100%	100%
FY 00	1	100%	100%	100%	100%
FY 01	4	0%	25%	50%	50%
FY 02	4	67%	67%	67%	67%
FY 03	16	13%	13%	31%	36%
FY 04	16	25%	38%	.	.

Historical Profile of Females Released by Fiscal Year

Average	Total	Fiscal Year Released							
		98	99	00	01	02	03	04	
VisionQuest Boot Camp LOS in months	1.6	3.0	2.9	2.9	2.2	1.6	1.6	1.2	
Placement episode LOS in months	2.9	4.4	4.4	4.5	5.5	3.2	2.6	2.1	
Number of prior detention admissions	3.1	3.0	1.5	4.0	3.8	2.0	3.3	3.3	
No. of prior incarceration admissions	1.6	1.7	1.5	1.0	4.0	1.3	1.8	1.1	
Number of prior felony arrests	0.7	0.0	0.5	1.0	0.3	1.3	0.5	1.0	
Number of prior arrests	6.2	6.3	5.5	5.0	7.0	5.7	6.8	5.7	

VisionQuest Boot Camp provides a focus on discipline in addition to education, counseling and community services in a highly structured 30 and 90 day programs for juveniles between the ages of 13 and 18.

Display 11, VisionQuest, Madalyn Program, Female Felony Recidivism Rates



Time Period	N. Released	Months Since Release			
		6 Months	12 Months	18 Months	24 Months
FY 01	12	17%	17%	33%	33%
FY 02	11	9%	9%	18%	18%
FY 03	5	0%	0%	0%	0%
FY 04	3	0%	0%	.	.

Historical Profile of Females Released by Fiscal Year

Average	Fiscal Year Released				
	Total	01	02	03	04
VisionQuest Madalyn Program LOS in months	3.4	3.3	4.0	3.1	2.0
Placement episode LOS in months	5.8	5.7	6.4	6.0	3.3
Number of prior detention admissions	3.3	3.3	4.1	2.2	2.0
Number of prior incarceration admissions	2.3	1.9	3.0	2.0	2.0
Number of prior felony arrests	1.1	0.7	1.6	0.6	1.7
Number of prior arrests	6.3	5.9	6.7	5.8	7.0

VisionQuest’s Madalyn Program is a residential program designed to address the specific needs of troubled female teenagers.

Level IV Recidivism Rates

Display 12, Level IV Small Program Female Felony Recidivism Rates

Chamberlain Academy, High Impact, Female Felony Recidivism Rates

Time Period	N. Released	Months Since Release			
		6 Months	12 Months	18 Months	24 Months
FY 96	1	0%	0%	0%	0%
FY 98	1	0%	0%	0%	0%
FY 00	1	0%	0%	0%	0%
FY 01	1	0%	0%	0%	0%
FY 02	3	0%	0%	0%	33%
FY 03	3	0%	0%	33%	.
FY 04	7	0%	0%	.	.

Chamberlain Academy, General, provides longer term coed programming for habitual juvenile offenders.

KidsPeace, General, Female Felony Recidivism Rates

Time Period	N. Released	Months Since Release			
		6 Months	12 Months	18 Months	24 Months
FY 96	2	0%	0%	0%	0%
FY 97	1	0%	0%	0%	0%
FY 98	2	0%	0%	50%	50%
FY 03	1	0%	0%	0%	.

KidsPeace's General program provides 24-hour psychiatric care for juveniles 6 to 18 years of age that require longer-term clinical, residential and educational services and supervision.

KidsPeace, Intensive, Female Felony Recidivism Rates

Time Period	N. Released	Months Since Release			
		6 Months	12 Months	18 Months	24 Months
FY 96	1	0%	0%	0%	0%
FY 97	1	0%	0%	0%	0%
FY 98	1	0%	0%	100%	100%
FY 03	1	0%	0%	0%	

KidsPeace's Intensive program provides highly individualized, staff-secure, 24-hour psychiatric care for juveniles 6 to 18 years of age requiring intensive clinical, recreational and educational services.

New Hope Treatment Centers,

New Horizon Program, Female Felony Recidivism Rates

Time Period	N. Released	Months Since Release			
		6 Months	12 Months	18 Months	24 Months
FY 00	1	0%	0%	0%	0%
FY 02	1	0%	0%	0%	0%

New Hope Treatment Center's New Horizon program (formerly the Synergy program) provides long-term daily psychiatric treatment to females 12 to 17.6 years of age.

New Hope Treatment Centers,  
Palmetto Point Program Female Felony Recidivism Rates

Time Period	N. Released	Months Since Release			
		6 Months	12 Months	18 Months	24 Months
FY 02	2	0%	0%	0%	0%
FY 03	1	0%	0%	0%	.

New Hope Treatment Center’s Palmetto Point program provides long-term daily psychiatric treatment to female sex offenders 12 to 17.6 years of age.

Mountain Manor Female Felony Recidivism Rates

Time Period	N. Released	Months Since Release			
		6 Months	12 Months	18 Months	24 Months
FY 95	2	0%	50%	50%	50%
FY 96	3	0%	33%	33%	33%
FY 97	2	50%	50%	50%	50%
FY 98	1	0%	100%	100%	100%
FY 00	2	0%	0%	0%	50%
FY 01	1	0%	0%	0%	0%
FY 03	2	0%	0%	50%	0%

Mountain Manor Treatment Center, Inc., provides drug and alcohol and family therapy programming for all juveniles between the ages of 12 and 19.

The Pines, General, Female Felony Recidivism Rates

Time Period	N. Released	Months Since Release			
		6 Months	12 Months	18 Months	24 Months
FY 97	1	0%	0%	0%	0%
FY 99	1	0%	0%	0%	0%
FY 01	1	0%	0%	0%	0%
FY 03	1	0%	0%	0%	.

The Pines provides special education in a therapeutic residential setting to offenders with a DSM-IV psychiatric diagnosis between the ages of 10 and 17 years upon admission.

The Pines, Young Men/Young  
Women’s Center Female Felony Recidivism Rates

Time Period	N. Released	Months Since Release			
		6 Months	12 Months	18 Months	24 Months
FY 01	1	0%	0%	0%	0%
FY 03	1	0%	100%	100%	100%

The Pines’ Young Men and Young Women’s Centers provide treatment for offenders who have been diagnosed with psychiatric and behavioral problems.

Riverside Treatment Services, Inc., Female Felony Recidivism Rates

Months Since Release

Level IV Recidivism Rates

Time Period	N. Released	6 Months	12 Months	18 Months	24 Months
FY 02	1	0%	0%	0%	100%
FY 03	1	0%	0%	0%	0%

Residential Treatment Services, Inc. provides residential mental health services and acute psychiatric hospital services for youth that are dually diagnosed and/or are resistant to treatment.

Today Inc., General, Female Felony Recidivism Rates

Time Period	N. Released	Months Since Release			
		6 Months	12 Months	18 Months	24 Months
FY 95	1	0%	0%	0%	0%
FY 98	2	50%	50%	50%	50%
FY 99	1	0%	0%	0%	0%
FY 01	2	0%	0%	0%	0%
FY 02	3	33%	67%	67%	67%
FY 03	3	33%	33%	33%	33%

Today, Inc., General, provides alcohol and substance abuse treatment for juveniles between the ages of 13 and 19.

Today Inc., New Dawn, Female Felony Recidivism Rates

Time Period	N. Released	Months Since Release			
		6 Months	12 Months	18 Months	24 Months
FY 03	2	50%	50%	50%	50%

Today Inc.'s New Dawn program provides adjudicated juveniles, between the ages of 13 to 18, with a short history of alcohol or marijuana dependence short-term (30 day) drug and alcohol treatment.

VisionQuest, Lady of The Lakes, Female Felony Recidivism Rates

Time Period	N. Released	Months Since Release			
		6 Months	12 Months	18 Months	24 Months
FY 03	2	50%	50%	50%	0%

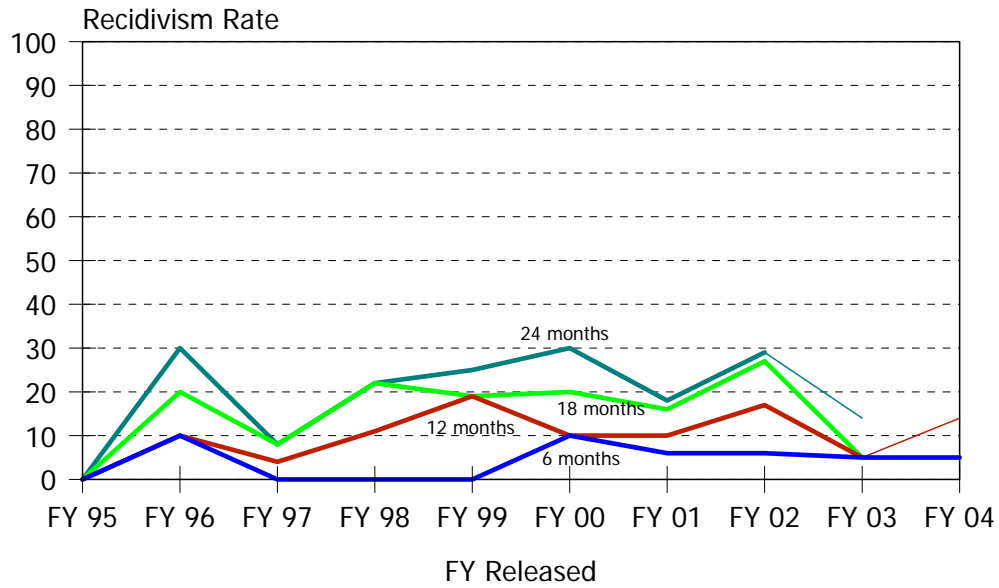
VisionQuest's Lady of the Lakes provides residential programming for pregnant girls and teen mothers with one child, up to 2 years of age.

VisionQuest, Quest, Female Felony Recidivism Rates

Time Period	N. Released	Months Since Release			
		6 Months	12 Months	18 Months	24 Months
FY 98	4	0%	0%	0%	0%
FY 99	5	20%	20%	20%	20%
FY 00	8	25%	25%	38%	38%
FY 01	1	0%	0%	0%	0%
FY 03	1	0%	0%	0%	0%

The VisionQuest's Quest provides an individualized wilderness program designed to meet the needs of delinquent youth ages 13 to 18 with histories of multiple unsuccessful out-of-home placements.

Display 13, Level III Residential Female Felony Recidivism Rates



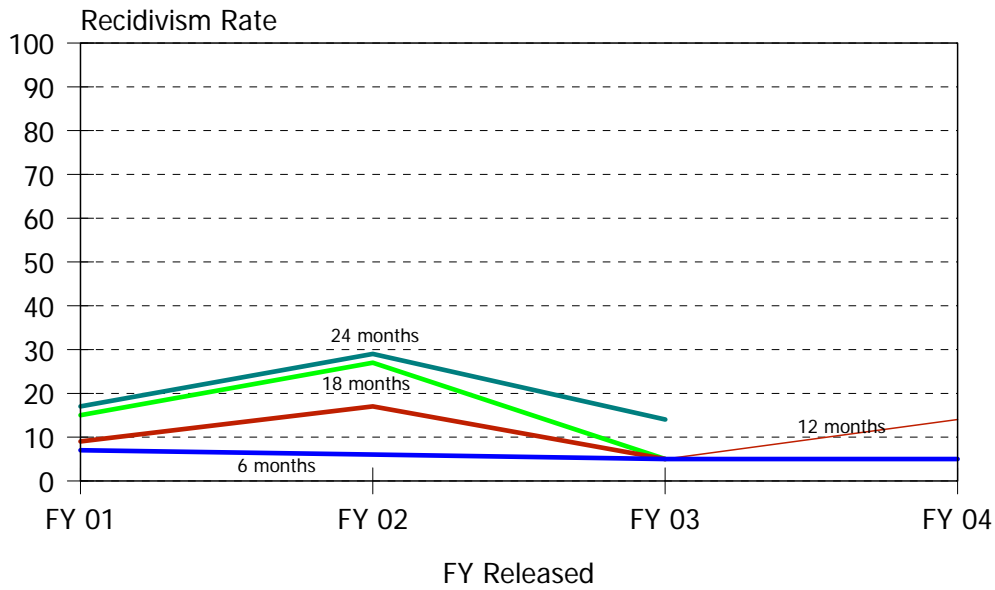
Time Period	N. Released	Months Since Release			
		6 Months	12 Months	18 Months	24 Months
FY 95	5	0%	0%	0%	0%
FY 96	10	10%	10%	20%	30%
FY 97	24	0%	4%	8%	8%
FY 98	9	0%	11%	22%	22%
FY 99	16	0%	19%	19%	25%
FY 00	10	10%	10%	20%	30%
FY 01	49	6%	10%	16%	18%
FY 02	52	6%	17%	27%	29%
FY 03	42	5%	5%	5%	14%
FY 04	41	5%	14%	.	.

Historical Profile of Females Released by Fiscal Year

Average	Total	Fiscal Year Released									
		95	96	97	98	99	00	01	02	03	04
Level III LOS in months	2.7	15.7	7.4	8.6	4.5	6.9	6.5	0.7	0.5	0.6	0.6
Placement episode LOS in months	3.8	17.1	7.8	11.3	4.7	9.6	9.9	2.0	1.0	1.3	1.4
No. prior detention admissions	2.0	2.4	1.8	3.0	3.9	2.3	2.3	1.9	1.2	1.8	2.1
No. of prior incarceration admissions	0.4	0.0	0.2	0.5	0.4	1.2	0.6	0.4	0.2	0.7	0.4
Number of prior felony arrests	0.6	0.4	1.3	0.6	0.8	0.9	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.7	0.6
Number of prior arrests	4.1	7.0	6.9	5.3	6.2	4.0	4.3	3.3	2.9	4.7	3.7

Level III Recidivism Rates

Display 14, People's Place II Female Felony Recidivism Rates



Time Period	N. Released	Months Since Release			
		6 Months	12 Months	18 Months	24 Months
FY 01	46	7%	9%	15%	17%
FY 02	52	6%	17%	27%	29%
FY 03	42	5%	5%	5%	14%
FY 04	41	5%	14%	.	.

Historical Profile of Females Released by Fiscal Year

Average	Fiscal Year Released				
	Total	01	02	03	04
People's Place II LOS in months	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.5
Placement episode LOS in months	1.1	1.1	1.0	1.0	1.4
Number of prior detention admissions	1.7	1.7	1.2	1.8	2.1
Number of prior incarceration admissions	0.3	0.1	0.2	0.5	0.4
Number of prior felony arrests	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.6	0.6
Number of prior arrests	3.5	3.1	2.9	4.4	3.7

People's Place II operates a supervised group home as an alternative to secure detention.



## Data Sources

### Criminal Justice Information System Data

Arrest data was downloaded from the Criminal Justice Information System (CJIS) on January 9, 2005, for use in this study. Before the arrest data could be analyzed, extensive cleanup and charge selection was required according to the following protocol:

- a. Complete criminal history information was downloaded from CJIS at the charge level for all females released from a residential Level IV or V program from July 1, 1994 through December 31, 2004.
- b. Charges from arresting jurisdictions other than “DE” were excluded, thus deleting charges under municipal ordinances.
- c. Charges for Title 21 offenses not related to driving under the influence or the theft of a motor vehicle were excluded.
- d. Offense Title, Section, Class, and Type citations were verified against the SAC’s law file. Where CJIS statute citations did not match the law file, the citations were corrected. The SAC’s law file matches current state statutes. For example, an offender’s arrest for burglary in the third degree, a class F felony, appeared in CJIS as an unclassified misdemeanor.
- e. Attempted offenses charged under 11 Del.C. § 531 were corrected to the actual statute violated where an appropriate match could be made against the attempted offense’s literal description. For example, 11 Del.C. § 531, attempted theft over \$1,000, was recoded as an arrest for 11 Del.C. § 841, theft over \$1,000 – attempted.
- f. Attempted offenses charged under 11 Del.C. § 531 where the literal description did not reference an actual offense (Attempted attempt to commit a crime) and the NCIC code was not missing, were recoded to the actual statutes using the NCIC code.
- g. Attempted offenses charged under 11 Del.C. § 531 where the literal description did not reference an actual offense (Attempted attempt to commit a crime) and the NCIC code was missing, were recoded to actual statutes through the descriptive information contained in CJIS under the offense’s complaint number.
- h. Attempted offenses charged under 11 Del.C. § 531 where the literal description did not reference an actual offense, the NCIC code was missing and the complaint information did not yield any clues as to the crime committed were resolved within the context of the offender’s arrest patterns and criminal career.
- i. Criminal charges for individual offenders were aggregated at the arrest level, thus providing a collection of all relevant charges by offender and date of arrest, i.e., charges were aggregated into arrest events by date of arrest and SBI number.

## Female Juvenile Placement Data

Female release cohort data was extracted from the data maintained on the DSCYF's Family and Child Tracking System (FACTS), and the SAC's DYRS facility database, for females released from placements from July 1, 1994, through June 30, 2004. Release cohort data was conflated according to the following protocol:

- a. DFS, CMH, and alternative Level III, IV and V program data was extracted from FACTS on July 12, 2004. The alternative placement information (program name, admission and release dates) was verified against DSCYF fiscal records. If the fiscal records were not found, the placement information was verified through the program's records, when these were available.
- b. The program data were integrated with the SAC's juvenile facility database.
  - Excluded from the dataset were alternative placement records which coincided with a facility placement record, i.e., if a female was serving time in Grace Cottage but a bed was being saved in an alternative program, only the Grace Cottage record was included in the dataset.
  - For cases where an alternative programs placement spanned over an admission into a secure facility, i.e., a youth was sent to the Stevenson House for a 72 hour administrative hold, the alternative program's placement information was adjusted to reflect the exit from the program and the entry into secure care.
  - For cases where an alternative program placement spanned over another alternative program placement, i.e. a female's bed was being saved in a program while the youth was being held in a Level IV VisionQuest Madalyn slot, admission and release dates were adjusted to correspond to fiscal records.
  - For cases where fiscal records showed that a female was transferred, admitted, and/or released, but there was no corresponding record of the transfer in FACTS, a new record was created to reflect this movement.

A total of 786 placement records were found to be in error, an alternative residential program data error rate of 22.2 percent, due to discrepancies in admission and/or release dates when compared to fiscal records, missing records, duplication, and offender identification problems.

## Secure Placement Episodes

Secure placement episodes comprise a continuous period of time when a female is not in the community and may include multiple releases from secure residential placements. For example, the typical Grace Cottage placement episode includes two uninterrupted placements: (1) admission to the Detention Center, and (2) transition back to the community after a stay at Grace Cottage.

The cohort data in this study includes releases from secure or institutional out-of-home placement episodes, and non-secure Level III placements. Secure placements include DYRS

detention and Level IV and Level V programs which house adjudicated females in secure settings. Secure placements also include Division of Family Services (DFS) and Child Mental Health (CMH) programs that provide residential services which are classified by DSCYF as crisis bed, mental health; inpatient hospital; inpatient hospital, mental health; residential group care, treatment center; residential Interagency Collaborative Team; residential treatment, mental health; and residential treatment, substance abuse.

From time-to-time a secure DYRS placement will be preceded or followed by a DFS or CMH residential placement. Residential DFS and CMH placements are included in this study for females that had at least one active DYRS residential placement. Females without DYRS residential placements are not a part of this study. DFS and CMH placements are included in this study so that the time a female spends in the community after being released from a secure residential placement episode can be calculated accurately.

Females in Level III programs are in the community while they attend school, recreational activities, receive vocational training, or attend counseling sessions. Some Level III programs are classified by FACTS as being residential. FACTS' residential classification applies to Level III programs that provide group care, independent living, non-secure detention, and transitional services. These programs are not secure residential programs.

During the study period, 928 female juveniles were released from 5,909 placements. These 5,909 out-of-home placements can be grouped into 3,492 placement episodes. Fifteen percent (876) of the placement episodes during the study period were DYRS adjudicated secure placement episodes, the remainder were DFS, CMH, secure detention, or non-secure Level III placement episodes.

## Level III, IV and V Recidivism Study Dataset

The analysis file was produced by joining the latest available offender identification (SBI, and demographic information such as name, date of birth, race), arrest history (CJIS) and placement data (DYRS facility and contracted III, IV and V programs). Since the analysis file used for calculating all the statistics in this report was conflated from the latest available information, the statistics presented in this document supersede statistics presented in previous reports. In total, 25,273 arrest charges were identified, verified and matched against 5,909 out-of-home placements to produce the analysis file.

No felony recidivism statistics are presented in this document for pre-trial female juvenile detainees. The adjudicated Level V felony recidivism rates presented in this document for female juveniles held in detention centers apply to the female juvenile offenders who were adjudicated and subsequently admitted to a detention center or were held in a detention center for more than 10 days after their adjudication.

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