JUVENILES AT RISK:
A COHORT ANALYSIS OF JUVENILES RELEASED FROM THE SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF JUVENILE JUSTICE

July 2003

A Collaboration of the
South Carolina Department of Juvenile Justice
&
South Carolina State Law Enforcement Division
&
South Carolina Department of Public Safety
Office of Justice Programs, Statistical Analysis Center
&
South Carolina Budget and Control Board
Office of Research and Statistics

Primary author – Charles Bradberry
Foreword

By Rob McManus

This report represents the collaborative effort of the State Law Enforcement Division, the Department of Juvenile Justice, the Budget and Control Board Office of Research and Statistics and the Department of Public Safety Office of Justice Programs Statistical Analysis Center. It also represents the first attempt to link the state’s computerized criminal history records, often referred to as rap sheets, to the data files of another agency. This report links the data files of former clients of the Department of Juvenile Justice to their adult criminal history files and measures their subsequent adult criminal activity. This same linking procedure allows us to measure the subsequent adult criminal activity of sub-populations of interest such as violent offenders, sex offenders and other groups.

Further linking and analysis of criminal history data holds great potential importance for policy makers. The ability to access criminal history records for statistical purposes allows for a much better understanding of exactly who is committing crime. The ability to link criminal history records to the data files of other criminal justice agencies provides a previously unavailable outcome measure for the overall efforts of those agencies as well as for specific programs and initiatives. Extending the data linking effort to the record files of social service, public health and other agencies will further provide an additional important outcome measure for programs promoting social welfare, mental health, educational achievement and other areas not strictly related to criminal justice.

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THE ADULT CRIMINAL HISTORIES OF DELINQUENT JUVENILES: A SURVIVAL ANALYSIS OF A COHORT OF JUVENILE “GRADUATES”

This study examined the adult criminal histories of a group of juveniles who were released from the South Carolina Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ). Specifically, the study examined juveniles who were born in 1981 and had at least one referral to DJJ. The 1981 birth cohort was chosen because this cohort would have “aged-out” of DJJ jurisdiction (at age 17) and would have afforded a minimum follow-up period of three years in the community. The purpose of this study is to determine if this 1981 birth cohort had any adult arrests, convictions or incarcerations subsequent to their release from DJJ. The study also examined various types (i.e., cohort subgroups) of juvenile offenders that were referred to DJJ and their subsequent involvement with the adult criminal justice system.

The 1981 birth cohort consisted of 12,704 juveniles who were referred to DJJ. Of these, ninety-four (94) juveniles were found to have had sentences that mandated that they be transferred directly to the South Carolina Department of Corrections upon release from DJJ. These offenders were removed from the analysis since they never had the opportunity (i.e., they were never “at risk”) in the community to be arrested for subsequent adult criminal activity. Therefore, 12,610 juveniles were included in this study. This cohort consisted of 6,112 (48.47%) whites, 6,332 (50.21%) blacks, and 166 (1.3%) other ethnic groups (Asian, Hispanic, American Indian, etc.). Nearly two-thirds (65.85%) of the juveniles in the study were males; nearly thirty-four percent (34.15%) were females.

The study may be described as a survival analysis. Survival analysis is concerned with studying the time between entry to a study and a subsequent event. In this study, entry occurred when the juvenile was released from DJJ and the subsequent events included in this study are adult arrests, convictions and incarcerations. Subsequent adult arrest information was obtained from the State Law Enforcement Division’s (SLED) criminal history information database. This database contains arrest and disposition information of adults (age 17 and older) that occurred in the State of South Carolina; arrests that may have occurred in other states are not included in this database and are, therefore, not included in this analysis. The study examines whether or not adult arrests, convictions, and incarcerations occurred among the juveniles in the cohort; it does not examine the specific offenses for which they were arrested, convicted and/or incarcerated, although this information is available for a more thorough analysis at a later date.

Juvenile records were matched or linked to the SLED criminal history database using a combination of name, race, sex, date of birth, and, if available, social security number. Of the 12,610 juveniles in the study cohort, 5,812 (46.1%) were found to have an adult arrest record. However, it should be noted that of the 6,798 juveniles that this study indicates does not have an adult arrest record, it is not known how many of them had no South Carolina arrest record because they had moved out of state, died, or the matching methodology produced imperfect results.

Criminal history information on this cohort was obtained in December 2002; therefore, the juvenile cohort was followed for a maximum of nearly 5 years and a minimum of 4 years, depending on when, in 1981, the juvenile was born. The maximum age of the juveniles in the cohort when the criminal history information was extracted was still only 21 years of age – an age which is generally believed to be in the beginning stages of the adult “crime-prone” age group. A follow-up analysis may want to re-visit this cohort as they proceed through this period of their lives.

The following table shows the results of this analysis. Specific subgroups of the 1981 birth cohort were identified and chosen based upon their perceived importance and significance among juvenile justice administrators.
## A SURVIVAL ANALYSIS: ADULT ARRESTS, CONVICTIONS AND INCARCERATIONS OF A 1981 BIRTH COHORT OF JUVENILES REFERRED TO DJJ

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COHORT SUBGROUPS</th>
<th>NUMBER OF OFFENDERS IN COHORT</th>
<th># (% ) OF OFFENDERS NOT ARRESTED</th>
<th># (% ) OF OFFENDERS ARRESTED</th>
<th># (% ) OF OFFENDERS CONVICTED</th>
<th># AND % OF OFFENDERS WITH NON-INCARCERATION SANCTIONS</th>
<th># (% ) OF OFFENDERS INCARCERATED</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ALL 1981 BIRTH REFERRALS TO DJJ</td>
<td>12,610</td>
<td>6,798 (53.91)</td>
<td>5,812 (46.09)</td>
<td>3,996 (31.69)</td>
<td>2,802 (22.22)</td>
<td>1,196 (9.48)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WHITE</td>
<td>6,112</td>
<td>3,619 (59.21)</td>
<td>2,493 (40.79)</td>
<td>1,571 (25.70)</td>
<td>1,238 (20.25)</td>
<td>333 (5.45)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BLACK</td>
<td>6,332</td>
<td>3,059 (48.13)</td>
<td>3,273 (51.69)</td>
<td>2,396 (37.84)</td>
<td>1,541 (24.34)</td>
<td>855 (13.50)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OTHER</td>
<td>166</td>
<td>120 (72.29)</td>
<td>46 (27.71)</td>
<td>29 (17.47)</td>
<td>21 (12.65)</td>
<td>8 (4.82)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MALE</td>
<td>8,304</td>
<td>3,847 (46.33)</td>
<td>4,457 (53.67)</td>
<td>3,239 (39.00)</td>
<td>2,102 (25.31)</td>
<td>1,137 (13.69)</td>
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<tr>
<td>FEMALE</td>
<td>4,306</td>
<td>2,951 (68.53)</td>
<td>1,355 (31.47)</td>
<td>757 (17.58)</td>
<td>698 (16.21)</td>
<td>59 (1.37)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VIOLENT*</td>
<td>1,552</td>
<td>587 (37.82)</td>
<td>965 (62.18)</td>
<td>768 (51.42)</td>
<td>415 (26.74)</td>
<td>353 (22.74)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NONVIOLENT</td>
<td>11,058</td>
<td>6,211 (56.17)</td>
<td>4,847 (43.83)</td>
<td>3,232 (29.23)</td>
<td>2,389 (21.60)</td>
<td>843 (7.62)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SEX OFFENDERS¹</td>
<td>298</td>
<td>135 (45.30)</td>
<td>163 (54.70)</td>
<td>129 (43.29)</td>
<td>76 (25.50)</td>
<td>53 (17.78)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NON-SEX OFFENDERS</td>
<td>12,312</td>
<td>6,663 (54.12)</td>
<td>5,649 (45.88)</td>
<td>3,867 (31.41)</td>
<td>2,724 (22.12)</td>
<td>1,143 (9.28)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DRUG OFFENDERS⁸</td>
<td>1,011</td>
<td>378 (37.39)</td>
<td>633 (62.61)</td>
<td>472 (46.69)</td>
<td>286 (28.29)</td>
<td>186 (18.40)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NON-DRUG OFFENDERS</td>
<td>11,599</td>
<td>6,420 (55.35)</td>
<td>5,179 (44.65)</td>
<td>3,527 (30.41)</td>
<td>2,517 (21.70)</td>
<td>1,010 (8.71)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OFFENDERS WHO USED WEAPONS</td>
<td>763</td>
<td>284 (37.22)</td>
<td>479 (62.78)</td>
<td>369 (48.36)</td>
<td>203 (26.60)</td>
<td>166 (21.76)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OFFENDERS WHO DID NOT USE WEAPONS</td>
<td>11,847</td>
<td>6,514 (54.98)</td>
<td>5,333 (45.02)</td>
<td>3,629 (30.63)</td>
<td>2,599 (21.94)</td>
<td>1,030 (8.69)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ADJUDICATED OFFENDERS</td>
<td>5,578³</td>
<td>2,352 (42.17)</td>
<td>3,226 (57.83)</td>
<td>2,354 (42.20)</td>
<td>1,498 (26.86)</td>
<td>856 (15.35)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OFFENDERS NEVER ADJUDICATED</td>
<td>7,032</td>
<td>4,446 (63.22)</td>
<td>2,586 (36.77)</td>
<td>1,650 (23.46)</td>
<td>1,311 (18.64)</td>
<td>340 (4.84)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OFFENDERS WITH AT LEAST ONE INSTITUTIONALIZATION</td>
<td>883</td>
<td>240 (27.18)</td>
<td>643 (72.82)</td>
<td>529 (59.91)</td>
<td>259 (29.33)</td>
<td>270 (30.58)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OFFENDERS WITH NO INSTITUTIONALIZATIONS</td>
<td>11,727</td>
<td>6,558 (55.92)</td>
<td>5,169 (44.08)</td>
<td>3,471 (29.60)</td>
<td>2,545 (21.70)</td>
<td>926 (7.90)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
A SURVIVAL ANALYSIS:
ADULT ARRESTS, CONVICTIONS AND INCARCERATIONS
OF A 1981 BIRTH COHORT OF JUVENILES REFERRED TO DJJ
(CONT.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COHORT SUBGROUPS</th>
<th>NUMBER OF OFFENDERS IN COHORT</th>
<th># AND % OF OFFENDERS NOT ARRESTED</th>
<th># AND % OF OFFENDERS ARRESTED</th>
<th># AND % OF OFFENDERS CONVICTED</th>
<th># AND % OF OFFENDERS WITH NON-INCARCERATION SANCTIONS</th>
<th># AND % OF OFFENDERS INCARCERATED</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>OFFENDERS WHO RECEIVED AT LEAST ONE INDETERMINATE SENTENCE</td>
<td>440</td>
<td>93 (21.14)</td>
<td>347 (78.86)</td>
<td>308 (70.00)</td>
<td>124 (28.18)</td>
<td>184 (41.82)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OFFENDERS WHO RECEIVED A DETERMINATE SENTENCE</td>
<td>443</td>
<td>147 (33.18)</td>
<td>296 (66.82)</td>
<td>221 (49.89)</td>
<td>135 (30.47)</td>
<td>86 (19.41)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STATUS OFFENDERS ONLY&lt;sup&gt;3&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>2,650</td>
<td>1613 (60.87)</td>
<td>1037 (39.13)</td>
<td>658 (24.83)</td>
<td>519 (19.58)</td>
<td>139 (5.24)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NON-STATUS OFFENDERS</td>
<td>9,960</td>
<td>5,185 (52.06)</td>
<td>4,775 (47.94)</td>
<td>3,342 (33.55)</td>
<td>2,285 (22.94)</td>
<td>1,057 (10.61)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MOST SEVERE SANCTION WAS PROBATION</td>
<td>4,696</td>
<td>2,113 (45.00)</td>
<td>2,583 (55.00)</td>
<td>1,827 (38.90)</td>
<td>1,241 (26.43)</td>
<td>586 (12.48)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OFFENDERS WITH SCHOOL OFFENSES OTHER THAN TRUANCY&lt;sup&gt;4&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>1,594</td>
<td>690 (43.29)</td>
<td>904 (56.71)</td>
<td>657 (41.22)</td>
<td>421 (26.41)</td>
<td>236 (14.80)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ONLY ONE REFERRAL TO DJJ</td>
<td>7,030</td>
<td>4,653 (66.19)</td>
<td>2,377 (33.81)</td>
<td>1,437 (20.44)</td>
<td>1,167 (16.60)</td>
<td>270 (3.84)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MORE THAN ONE REFERRAL TO DJJ</td>
<td>5,580</td>
<td>2,145 (38.44)</td>
<td>3,435 (61.56)</td>
<td>2,572 (46.09)</td>
<td>1,646 (29.50)</td>
<td>926 (16.59)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FIRST REFERRAL UNDER AGE 13</td>
<td>2,107</td>
<td>1,033 (49.03)</td>
<td>1,074 (50.97)</td>
<td>834 (39.58)</td>
<td>478 (22.69)</td>
<td>356 (16.90)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FIRST REFERRAL AGE 13 AND OVER</td>
<td>10,503</td>
<td>5,765 (54.89)</td>
<td>4,738 (45.11)</td>
<td>3,170 (30.18)</td>
<td>2,330 (22.18)</td>
<td>840 (8.00)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
A SURVIVAL ANALYSIS:
ADULT ARRESTS, CONVICTIONS AND INCARCERATIONS
OF A 1981 BIRTH COHORT OF JUVENILES REFERRED TO DJJ
(CONT.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CHRONIC OFFENDERS^5</th>
<th>2,065</th>
<th>574 (27.80)</th>
<th>1,491 (72.20)</th>
<th>1,199 (58.06)</th>
<th>649 (31.43)</th>
<th>550 (26.63)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NON-CHRONIC OFFENDERS</td>
<td>10,545</td>
<td>6,224 (59.02)</td>
<td>4,321 (40.98)</td>
<td>2,803 (26.58)</td>
<td>2,157 (20.45)</td>
<td>646 (6.13)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

^1There were 27,215 referrals among these 12,610 juvenile offenders.
^2There were 11,556 adjudications among these 5,578 adjudicated juvenile offenders.
^3Status offenders are defined as juveniles, who were referred to DJJ with a status offense and may or may not have been adjudicated for that status offense, but who have had no previous or subsequent adjudications for a criminal offense. They may, however, have had a prior or subsequent referral for a criminal offense, but no adjudication for that offense.
^4Includes “weapon on school grounds” offense, which is also included in “Weapon Offenses”.
^5Chronic offenders are defined as offenders who have been referred to DJJ four or more times.
^6Offenders who had at least one referral for a violent offense. See Appendix I for a listing of offenses considered to be violent.
^7Offenders who had at least one referral for a sex offense. See Appendix I for a listing of sex offenses.
^8Offenders who had at least one referral for a drug offense. See Appendix I for a listing of drug offenses.
Summary of Findings

All Juveniles:

Among all juveniles in the cohort, over forty-six percent (46.09%) had been arrested as adults as of December 2002 – over eighty-five percent (85.50%) of these offenders were convicted. Of those convicted, thirty percent (29.93%) were incarcerated. Of the 12,610 juveniles in the cohort, a total of 1,196 (9.48%) were later incarcerated as an adult.

Of the 6,112 white juveniles in the study, 333 (5.45%) were later incarcerated; 855 (13.5%) of the 6,332 black juveniles in the study were later incarcerated.

Males were significantly more likely than females to be incarcerated. Of the 8,304 males in this study, 1,137 (13.69%) were later incarcerated; among the 4,306 females, only 59 (1.37%) were later incarcerated.

Violent Offenders:

Appendix I contains a listing of offenses that were determined to be of a violent nature. Juveniles who were referred to the Department of Justice with one or more of these offenses were included in this cohort subgroup. Of the 12,610 juveniles in this study, 1,552 (12.31%) had referrals for violent offenses; 11,058 (87.69%) were considered to be nonviolent offenders. A significantly higher percentage of the violent offenders (22.74%) were subsequently incarcerated than the nonviolent offenders (7.62%).

Sex Offenders:

Of the 12,610 offenders in the cohort, only 298 (2.4%) were determined to be sex offenders. (See Appendix I for a listing of sex offenses.) Fifty-three (17.78%) of these sex offenders were later incarcerated.

Drug Offenders:

This cohort contained 1,011 (8.02%) juveniles who were referred to DJJ with drug offenses. (See Appendix I for a listing of drug offenses.) Six hundred thirty three (62.61%) of these drug offenders were arrested as adults; 186 (18.40%) were later incarcerated.

Offenders Who Used Weapons:

There were 763 (6%) juveniles who used weapons in the commission of their offenses referred to DJJ in this study. (See Appendix I for a listing of weapons offenses.) Of those juveniles who were referred to DJJ with weapons offenses, 479 (62.78%) were later arrested as adults; 166 (21.76%) were subsequently incarcerated. It should be noted that several of these weapons offenses were also classified as violent offenses.

Adjudicated Offenders:

Of the 12,610 juveniles who were referred to DJJ, 5,578 (44.23%) were adjudicated; 7,032 (55.77%) were never adjudicated. Of those who were adjudicated, 3,226 (57.83%) were subsequently arrested as adults and 856 (15.35%) were later incarcerated.
**Offenders With At Least One Institutionalization:**

Of the 12,610 juveniles in this study, 883 (7%) had been institutionalized at DJJ at least once. Of these offenders, 643 (72.82%) were arrested as adults and 270 (30.58%) were subsequently incarcerated.

**Offenders Who Received Determinate And Indeterminate Sentences:**

Juveniles who receive an indeterminate sentence generally have more serious offenses and serve longer periods of incarceration than those who receive determinate sentences. Of the juveniles in this cohort, 440 (3.49%) received an indeterminate sentence; about the same number who received a determinate sentence (443). However, the adult criminal histories of these offenders indicate that those who received indeterminate sentences as juveniles subsequently were incarcerated as adults at over twice the rate as those who had received determinate sentences as juveniles (41.82% and 19.41%, respectively).

**Status Offenders:**

For the purposes of this study, a status offender is defined by S.C. Code Ann. § 20-7-30 (2002) as follows: "Child" means a person under the age of eighteen. "Status offense" means any offense which would not be a misdemeanor or felony if committed by an adult, such as, but not limited to, incorrigibility (beyond the control of parents), truancy, running away, playing or loitering in a billiard room, playing a pinball machine or gaining admission to a theater by false identification. For the purposes of this study, status offenders have been defined further as: juveniles who were referred to DJJ with a status offense and may or may not have been adjudicated for that offense, but who have had no previous or subsequent adjudications for a criminal offense. Of the 12,610 juveniles in this study who were referred to DJJ, 2,650 (21%) were status offenders; 9,960 (79%) were not. Among the status offenders, only 139 (5.24%) had been incarcerated as adults – 1,057 (10.61%) of the non-status offenders had been incarcerated as adults.

**Most Severe Sanction Was Probation:**

Over one-third (37.24%) of the juveniles in this study never received a sentence harsher than probation. Of these 4,696 offenders, 2,583 (55%) were arrested as adults; 1,827 (38.9%) were convicted, and 586 (12.48%) were incarcerated as adults.

**Offenders With School Offenses Other Than Truancy:**

Of the 12,610 juveniles in this study, 1,594 (12.64%) were referred to DJJ for school-related offenses other than truancy. (See Appendix I for a listing of these offenses.) Over half (56.71%) of these offenders were arrested as adults and 236 (14.8%) were subsequently incarcerated.

**Only One Referral versus Multiple Referrals:**

Over fifty-five percent (55.75%) of the juveniles in this study cohort had only one referral to DJJ. Of those juveniles with only one referral to DJJ, one-third (33.81%) were arrested as adults. Over sixty percent (61.56%) of the juveniles who had more than one referral to DJJ were arrested as adults. Juveniles with more than one referral to DJJ were four times more likely than juveniles with only one referral to DJJ to be incarcerated as adults (16.59% and 3.84%, respectively).
First Referral Under Age 13 versus First Referral At Age 13 and Older:

Juveniles who were under the age of 13 at the time of their first referral to DJJ were more than twice as likely as other juveniles to be incarcerated as adults (16.9% and 8%, respectively).

Chronic and Non-Chronic Offenders:

Chronic offenders are defined as offenders who have been referred to DJJ four or more times. Chronic offenders represent 16.4% of the study cohort. Chronic offenders were over four times as likely to be incarcerated as adults as were non-chronic offenders (26.63% and 6.13%, respectively).

Summary:

This study has identified groups of juveniles who are at risk to re-offend as they enter young adulthood. It should be noted; however, that this study examined follow-up criminal justice information on these juveniles only through age 21 – an age many criminologists believe is only the beginning stage of adult criminal activity. The following table ranks the cohort subgroups according to their likelihood to receive an incarcerative sentence as adults:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RANK</th>
<th>COHORT SUBGROUP</th>
<th>PERCENTAGE INCARCERATED</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Offenders Who Received An Indeterminate Sentence</td>
<td>41.82%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Offenders With At Least One Institutionalization</td>
<td>30.58%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Violent Offenders</td>
<td>22.74%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Offenders Who Used Weapons</td>
<td>21.76%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Offenders Who Received a Determinate Sentence</td>
<td>19.41%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Drug Offenders</td>
<td>18.40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Sex Offenders</td>
<td>17.78%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Offenders Whose First Referral Under Age 13</td>
<td>16.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Offenders With More Than One Referral to DJ</td>
<td>16.59%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Adjudicated Offenders</td>
<td>15.35%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Offenders With School Offenses Other Than Truancy</td>
<td>14.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Offenders Whose Most Severe Sanction Was Probation</td>
<td>12.48%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Non-Status Offenders Only</td>
<td>10.61%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Non-Sex Offenders</td>
<td>9.28%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Non-Drug Offenders</td>
<td>8.71%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Offenders Who Did Not Use Weapons</td>
<td>8.69%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Offenders Whose First Referral Age13 and Over</td>
<td>8.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Offenders With No Institutionalizations</td>
<td>7.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Nonviolent Offenders</td>
<td>7.62%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Status Offenders Only</td>
<td>5.24%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>Offenders Never Adjudicated</td>
<td>4.84%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>Offenders With Only One Referral to DJ</td>
<td>3.84%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This table helps identify cohort subgroups that may need further analysis. Those subgroups that show significantly greater likelihood for adult incarceration than other subgroups should be of considerable concern to DJJ administrators and juvenile justice policymakers.
Data Limitations and Challenges

A more thorough analysis of these data may answer some of the questions that this initial study has generated. Some of the issues that may warrant further study are:

- How accurate was the matching process – how many juveniles were missed because of differences in name, race, date of birth, and social security number between the DJJ database and the SLED database?

- How many juveniles in the DJJ cohort had died and, therefore, did not have a SLED record, or whose SLED record may have been more extensive had the juvenile survived for a longer period of time? This issue could be addressed, to some extent, by matching the DJJ database with the Department of Health and Environmental Control’s (DHEC) Division of Vital Records containing death certificates. However, this process would miss those juveniles who moved out of state and then died.

- How many juveniles in the DJJ cohort moved out of state or committed crimes in another state? In order to obtain an offender’s entire nationwide criminal history, it would be necessary to access the FBI’s national criminal history database (NCIC). This database contains arrest information from all states in the U. S. Some juveniles in this cohort may have a South Carolina criminal history and they were successfully matched; however, their South Carolina criminal histories would not indicate that they moved out of state during the follow-up period and continued their criminal activity and their involvement with the criminal justice system in other states. That is, the South Carolina criminal history database would not provide a complete picture of these juveniles’ involvement with the criminal justice system nationwide.

- Offenders who have had some involvement with the criminal justice system, either as juveniles or as adults, may also have had some involvement with the mental health system, the alcohol and drug abuse system, the foster care system, the welfare system or any number of other social service systems in this state. In order to fully understand the issues concerning these juveniles, it would be necessary to link this study cohort to these other systems, which is now possible in South Carolina. Hopefully, a more complete analysis of this cohort will be given the consideration that it needs.
Implications for Future Research

As is so often the case with research, the results of this analysis raise at least as many questions as they answer. Among the questions raised, there are several related to key findings that suggest additional research would be particularly worthwhile:

- Violent offenders and offenders who use weapons – Violent offenders and offenders with weapons ranked high among the categories in terms of subsequent arrest, conviction and incarceration rates. Additional research to identify factors associated with positive outcomes would enable correctional agencies to provide more effective programs and make more informed release decisions about such a potentially dangerous population.

- Sex offenders - Concern over recidivism among sex offenders, as evidenced in recent years by legislative initiatives and the development of sex offender registries, is high. Bolstering the findings of this analysis by including out-of-state records and identifying more specific outcomes, i.e., subsequent arrests, convictions and incarcerations specifically for sex/non-sex offenses would yield results with important policy implications.

- Status offenders – Status offenders constitute a unique population since the reason for their involvement in the criminal/juvenile justice system is by definition, non-criminal. Identification of factors that discriminate between negative and positive outcomes would be of great value for juvenile correctional policy.

Additional research not specifically implied by the findings, but rather by the newly developed ability to link criminal history records to other data files include:

- Evaluation of classification instruments – Correctional and community corrections agencies often use actuarial-like devices to assess the level of risk a client presents. That assessment is often the basis for a variety of decisions that affect how agency resources are applied to the client. Consequently, the accuracy of such instruments is very important. Ready access to subsequent arrest, conviction and incarceration data would allow agencies to continually assess and improve the accuracy of client classification instruments.

- Evaluation of specific programs – Both juvenile and adult correctional and community correctional agencies operate programs designed to help their populations become law abiding citizens. Data concerning the subsequent arrests, convictions and incarcerations of their former clients would allow agencies to measure the effectiveness of those programs.

- Social service provider outcome measures – A variety of agencies provide services concerning public health, mental health, educational achievement, substance abuse and other social concerns. Data concerning the subsequent arrests, convictions and incarcerations of participants would provide an important additional measure of the effectiveness of those services and specific programs related to the delivery of those services.
APPENDIX I
OFFENSE LISTING

VIOLENT OFFENSES:

GREAT BODILY INJ>CHILD
ACCESS BEF/AFT CAT XX
REV/DAM AIRPORT; DEATH
ARSON 1ST DEGREE
A&B ON SCHOOL EMPLOYEE
A&B W/INTENT TO KILL
ABHAN
ASSAULT HIGH/AGGRAVATED
ASSAULT W/INTENT TO KILL
ATTMPT/CONSPRCY--CAT.X
ATTMPT/CONSPRCY--CAT.XX
EXPLOSV/INCNDIARY,INJRY
BURGLARY 1ST DEGREE
CARJACKING, GREAT HARM
CARJACKING, W/O INJURY
CRIM.DOM.VIOL_HI & AGGR
CONSP.KIDNAP,SENT.MURDR
CONSPIRACY KIDNAPPING
KIDNAP,SENTENCE MURDER
KIDNAPPING
LYNCHING 2ND DEGREE
LYNCHING, 1ST DEGREE
MANSLAUGHTER VOLUNTARY
TRAFFIC RELATED VOLUNTAR
HOMICIDE-CHILD ABUSE I
HOMICIDE-CHILD ABUSE II
KILLING BY POISON
KILLING IN A DUEL
KILLING,STABBING/THRUST" MURDER
MURDER BY EXPLOSIVE/INC
ATTEMPT TO POISON W/INTE
TAKE HOSTAGES BY INMATE
ASLT OFFICER RESISTG ARR
RESIST ARREST W/WPN\1ST
RESIST ARREST W/WPN\2ND
COMMON LAW/STRONG ARM
ENTER BANK W/INT. STEAL
ROB OPER HIRED VEHICLES
ROB TRAIN AFTER ENTRY
ROBBERY WITH A DEADLY W
TRAIN ROBBERY BY STOPPN
ASLT W/INT,CSC,1ST DEGR
ASLT W/INT,CSC,2ND DEGR
ASLT W/INT,CSC,3RD DEGR
CRIM SEX CDT W/MINR, 1ST
CSC 1ST DEGREE
CSC 2ND DEGREE
CSC 3RD DEGREE
CSC W/MINR 11-14, 2ND DE"
CSC W/MINR,>16YOA,2ND DG"
SPOUSAL SEXUAL BATTERY
STALKING/AGGRAVATED
POINTING FIREARM
WEAPON DURING VIOLENT

SEX OFFENSES:

LEWD ACT ON CHILD UNDER VIOLENT
CSC W/MINR 11-14, 2ND DEGREE
CSC 2ND DEGREE VIOLENT
CSC W/MINR >16YOA,2ND DG VIOLENT
ASLT W/INT CSC 2ND DEGR VIOLENT
SPOUSAL SEXUAL BATTERY VIOLENT
ENGAGE >18YOA FOR SEX
SEX W/PATIENT OF DMH
EXPLOIT MINOR-1ST DEGREE
CSC 3RD DEGREE VIOLENT
ASLT W/INT CSC 3RD DEGR VIOLENT
PRO/DIR.SEX PERFORM >18
EXPLOIT MINOR--2ND DEGR
PARTICIPATE IN PROSTITU
INCEST
EXPLOIT MINOR--3RD DEGREE
BUGGERY
INDECENT EXPOSURE
PEEPING TOM
SEX OFFNDR REG.VIOL1ST
CRIM SEX CDT W/MINR, 1ST VIOLENT
CSC 1ST DEGREE VIOLENT
ASLT W/INT CSC 1ST DEGR VIOLENT

DRUG OFFENSES:

TRF.HEROIN,MORPH(4-13G)2
TRAFFIC COCAINE,10-27G,1
TRAFFIC COCAINE,28-99/1
TRAFFIC MJ,10-99LBS.1ST
TRAF.ILLEGAL,4-13G--1ST
TRF.METHAQUALONE,15-149G
UNLAW PRESCRIP/BLANK,2
POSS.1G ICE,CRANK,COC-1
POSS.1G ICE,CRANK,COC-2
POSS.1G ICE,CRANK,COC-3
MDP ICE,CRANK,CRACK-3RD
TRFFIC MJ(10-99LBS)-3RD
TRAFFIC COCAINE,10-27G
TRAFFIC COCAINE, 28-99G
TRF.HEROIN,MORPH,28G +
TRF.METHAQ,15-149G/2ND+
MDP ICE,CRANK,CRACK--1ST
MDP ICE,CRANK,CRACK--2ND
IMITATION CONTROL SUBST
POSS. NARC (I, II) -- 1ST
POSS. NARC. (I, II) -- 2ND
POSS. NARC. (I, II) -- 3RD &
POSS. OTHER, SCH. I-V, 1ST
POSS. OTHER, SCH I-V, 2 & SUB
SIMPLE POSSESS MJ/HH -- 2N
MDP NARCOTICS -- 1ST
MDP NARCOTICS -- 2ND
MDP NARCOTICS -- 3 & SUB
M. PWITD SCH. I, II, III -- 1
M. PWITD I, II, III -- 2ND OF
M. PWITD I, II, III -- 3 & SUBS
M. PWITD SCH. IV -- 1ST OFF
M. PWITD SCH. IV -- 2 & SUB
M. PWITD SCH. V -- 1ST OFFN
M. PWITD SCH. V -- 2 & SUBS
MFG, POSS, SELL, PARAPHERNAL
TRAFF COCAINE/100-199G
TRAFF COCAINE/400G & UP
TRF. MJ, 200-1999 POUNDS
TRF. MJ (2000-9999 LBS)
TRF. MJ (10,000 LBS/MORE)
TRF. HEROIN, MORP (14-27G)
TRAFF COCAINE/200-399G
TRF. METH (150-1499 G)
TRF. METH (1500G - 14KG)
TRF. METH (15KG OR MORE)
TRAFF ICE, CRANK, 28-99/3+
TRAFF ICE, CRANK, 100-199G
TRAFF ICE, CRANK, 200-399G
TRAFF ICE, CRANK, 400G UP
TRAFF COCAINE (10-27G)/2ND
TRAFF COCAINE (28-99G)/2ND
TRAFF ICE, CRANK, 28-99G/2
TRAFF ICE, CRANK, 28-99G/1
FINANCE PROP FROM DRUGS
TRANS MONEY FROM DRUGS
TRAF. MJ (10-99LBS)/2ND
CONCEAL PROP FROM DRUGS
HIRE UNDER 17 FOR DRUGS
TRAFF ICE, CRANK, 10-27G/1
TRAFF ICE, CRANK (10-27G)/2D
TRAFF ICE, CRANK (10-27G)/3+
TRAFF LSD, 1000+ DOSAGE
TRAFF LSD, 100-499 DOSE/1
TRAFF LSD, 100-499 DOSE/2
TRAFF LSD, 100-499 DOSE/3+
TRAFF LSD, 500-999 DOSE/1
TRAFF LSD, 500-999 DOSE/2
TRAFF LSD, 500-999 DOSE/3+
CULTIVATING MARIJUANA
ADULTERATED DRUGS -- 2ND
ADULTERATED TO DEFRAUD
UNLAWFUL/BLANK PRESCRIPT
GLUE SNIFF/AROMAT HYDRO
SIMPLE POSS. MARIJUANA -- 1
DIST OTH. CRACK, PWID, SCHL
DIST, ETC. CRACK, PWID, SCHL
WEAPONS OFFENSES:

KILLING, STABBING/THRUST
KILLING IN A DUEL
MURDER BY EXPLOSIVE/INC
ROBBERY WITH A DEADLY W EXPLOSV/INCNDIARY, INJRY
SALE, POSSESS PISTOL PERSON
INSTIGATE RIOT W/WEAPON
VIOL. EXPLOSV CNTRL--4TH
VIOL. EXPLOSV CNTRL--3RD
WEAPON ON SCHOOL GROUNDS
CARRY CONCEALED WEAPON
CARRYING PISTOL UNLAWFU
MFG/POSSESS FIREBOMB
DISCHARGING FIREARM INT
DICHARG FIREARM IN CITY
POINTING FIREARM
CARRYING FIREARM ON PRE
OTHER FIREARM VIOLATION
STINK BOMBS, CAUSE HARM"
DISPLAY FIREARM IN PUBLI
POSS SAWED-OFF SHOTGUN
TRANSPORT SAWED-OFF, ETC
SELL, RENT, ETC SAWED-OFF
VIOL. EXPLOSV CNTRL ACT/2
POSSESS WEAPON; PATIENT
USE, MFG, TEFLEX-COATED
VIOLATION OF SC GUN LAW
VIOL. EXPLOSV CNTRL--1ST
WEAPON DURING VIOLENT
EXPLOSV/INCNDIARY, NO INJ

SCHOOL OFFENSES (OTHER THAN TRUANCY):

A&B ON SCHOOL EMPLOYEE
DISTURBING SCHOOLS
ENTICE CHILD NOT ATTEND
INTERFER W/SCHOOL BUS
THREAT TO SCHOOL TEACHER
WEAPON ON SCHOOL GROUNDS