

PROFILE OF JUVENILES ON INTENSIVE SUPERVISION PROBATION, FISCAL YEAR 2011

AN ISSUE BRIEF FROM LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD STAFF

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OBJECTIVE

Intensive Supervision (ISP) provides home and office visits, rehabilitative programs, and other services for juveniles on probation. Usually the visits occur more frequently and the services are more intense than for juveniles on regular probation.

Juveniles on ISP are supervised by local juvenile probation departments. In fiscal year 2011, the Texas Juvenile Probation Commission (TJPC) monitored standards and collected data from those departments. TJPC also provided funding, training, and technical assistance to those departments. TJPC was abolished and merged into the newly established Texas Juvenile Justice Department (TJJD) by Senate Bill 653, Eighty-Second Legislature, Regular Session, 2011. TJJD was established on December 1, 2011.

KEY FACTS

- ◆ There were 2,284 juveniles on ISP as of August 31, 2011.
- ◆ The most common offenses were assault and burglary.
- ◆ 47.1 percent of juveniles had one or two referrals at the start of ISP, while 52.9 percent had three or more referrals at the start of ISP.

STATUTORY REFERENCES

Local juvenile probation departments are authorized by the Human Resources Code, Chapter 152. TJPC was authorized by Human Resources Code, Chapter 141.

Each year thousands of juveniles are placed on Intensive Supervision Probation (ISP) in the juvenile justice system. This supervision is similar to regular probation except that it is usually longer, involves more intensive services and is typically reserved for juveniles with more referrals and more severe offenses. Local juvenile probation departments provide services while the Texas Juvenile Justice Department (TJJD) provides technical assistance and funding to those departments. The information below provides a description of the offenses, total referrals, and demographics of juveniles on ISP as of August 31, 2011.

OFFENSES

Fig. 1 shows that the most common offenses for juveniles on ISP were assault and burglary. These offenses accounted for 33.8 percent of all juveniles on ISP on August 31, 2011.

**FIG. 1
OFFENSES OF JUVENILES ON INTENSIVE SUPERVISION PROBATION
AS OF AUGUST 31, 2011**

OFFENSE	NUMBER	PERCENTAGE
Homicide	5	0.2%
Robbery	78	3.4
Criminal Mischief, Graffiti, Trespassing	137	6.0
Sex Offense	197	8.6
Theft	223	9.8
Drug Offenses	264	11.5
Violations, Contempt, CINS*	356	15.6
Burglary	360	15.8
Assault	411	18.0
All Other Offenses	253	11.1
Total	2,284	100.0%

* Includes Violation of Probation, Contempt of Court, and Conduct In Need of Supervision (CINS).

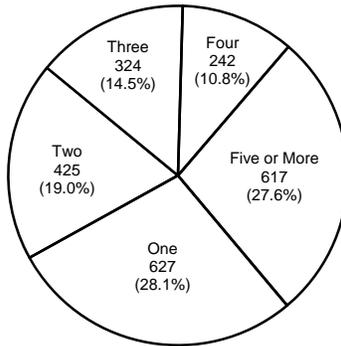
SOURCE: Texas Juvenile Justice Department.

- 50.9 percent (1,163 juveniles) were on ISP for a felony.
- 33.5 percent (765 juveniles) were on ISP for a class A or B misdemeanor.
- 15.6 percent (356 juveniles) were on ISP for a violation of probation, contempt, a class C misdemeanor, or conduct in need of supervision.

TOTAL REFERRALS

Fig. 2 shows the total number of referrals that juveniles had when they started ISP. A referral occurs when a juvenile's case is processed within the juvenile justice system. A total of 28.1 percent (627) of those on ISP on August 31, 2011, had one referral at the start of ISP, while 38.4 percent (859) had four or more referrals at the start of ISP.

**FIG. 2
TOTAL REFERRALS AT THE START OF ISP FOR JUVENILES ON
INTENSIVE SUPERVISION PROGRAM
AS OF AUGUST, 2011**

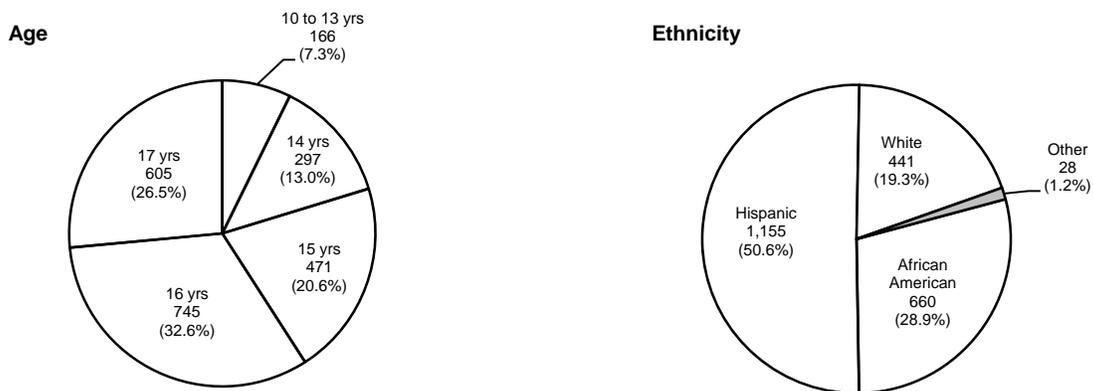


NOTE: Total referrals for 49 juveniles (2.1 percent) were not available because their supervision was transferred from another county or state.
SOURCE: Texas Juvenile Justice Department.

DEMOGRAPHICS

Fig. 3 shows the age and ethnicity of juveniles on ISP. A total of 59.1 percent (1,350) of those on ISP on August 31, 2011, were 16 or 17 years old, while 79.5 percent (1,815) were either African American or Hispanic. A total of 13.6 percent (310) were female while 86.4 percent (1,974) were male.

**FIG. 3
AGE AND ETHNICITY OF JUVENILES ON INTENSIVE SUPERVISION PROBATION
AS OF AUGUST 31, 2011**



SOURCE: Texas Juvenile Justice Department.

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