

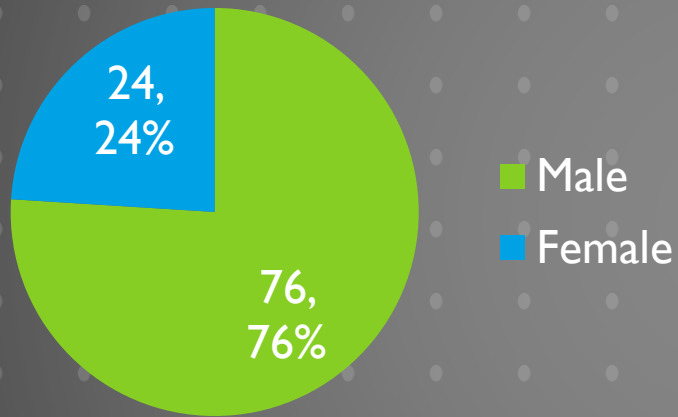
PULASKI COUNTY CASE PROCESSING RESULTS

Prepared by Chastity Scifres, Chief
Deputy County Attorney and JDAI
Coordinator

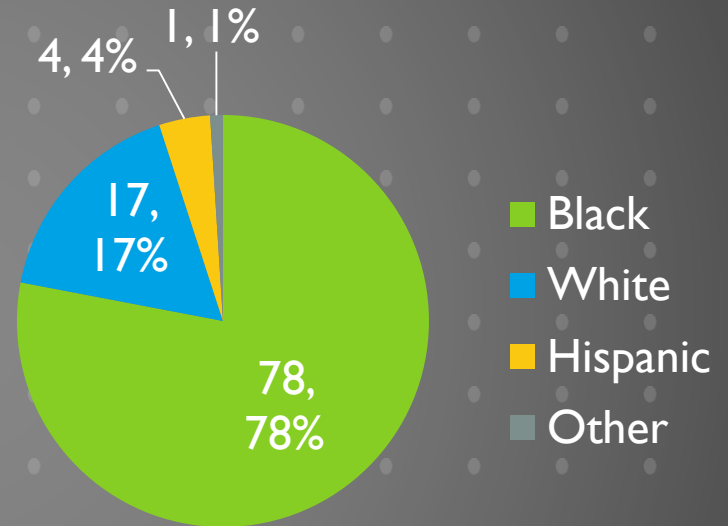
CASE STUDY

- ▶ Case study composed of 50 (100 total) randomly selected cases from 2017 for 8th and 10th divisions.

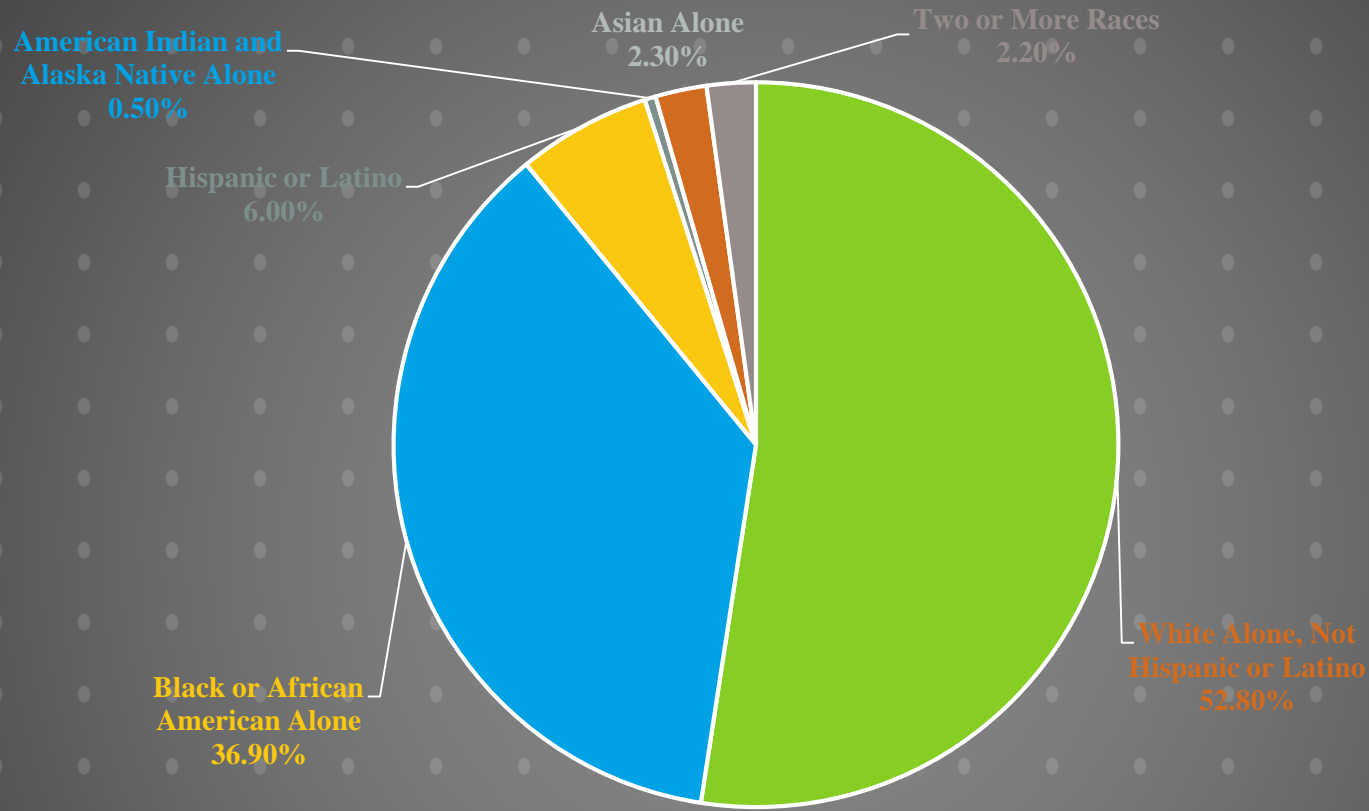
GENDER



RACE/ETHNICITY



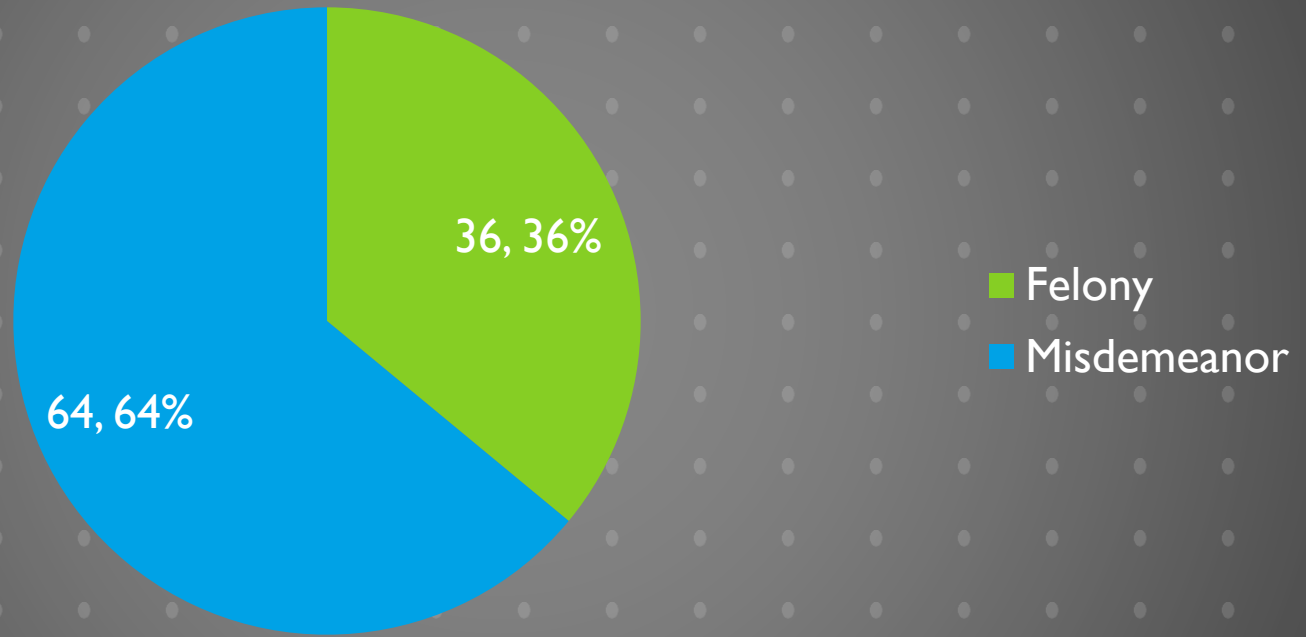
PULASKI COUNTY POPULATION DEMOGRAPHICS



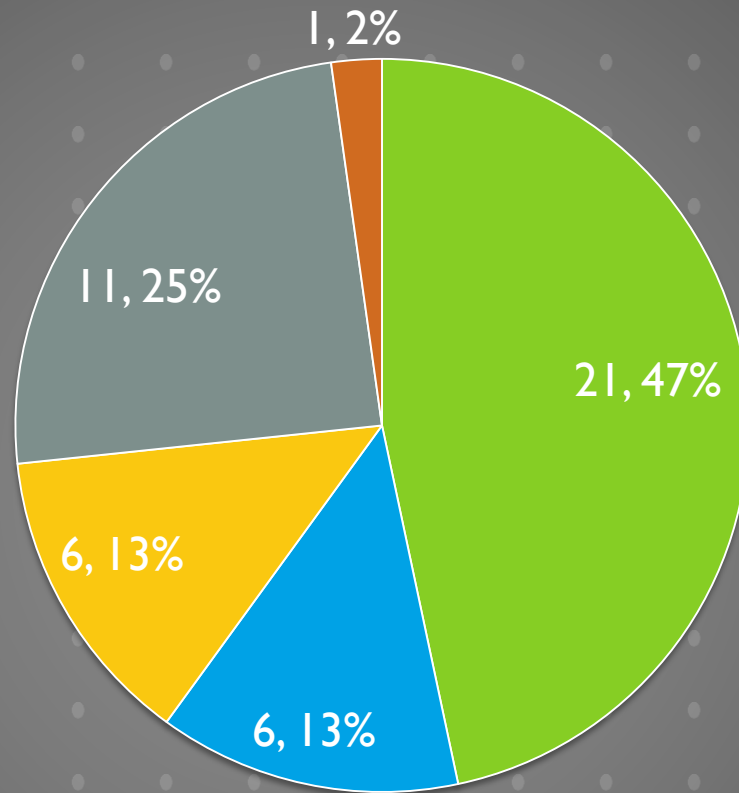
■ Caucasian ■ African American ■ Latin American ■ Native American ■ Asian ■ Multiple Races

<https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/pulaskicountyarkansas/PST045217> - based on 2016 census

MOST SERIOUS CHARGE



45/100 DETAINED AT ARREST



■ Held 0-3 days ■ Held 4-7 days ■ Held 8-21 days ■ Held >21 days ■ Unknown

DAYS BETWEEN DATE OF ARREST/CONTACT WITH LAW ENFORCEMENT AND DATE OF INTAKE MEETING

Average Number
of Days

50.43

Median Number
of Days

33.5

* Only 30 cases had useable intake meeting dates. The remainder of the dates were entered incorrectly creating a negative number, left blank, forwarded directly to PA because youth was detained at arrest or the charge was the result of a citizen's complaint, charge was a transfer from another jurisdiction or the PA filed the case direct.

DAYS BETWEEN DATE OF ARREST/CONTACT WITH LAW ENFORCEMENT AND DATE PETITION IS FILED

Youth Who Were Detained

Average
Number of
Days

10.64

Median Number
of Days

4

Youth Who Were Not Detained

Average
Number of
Days

46.14

Median
Number of
Days

38

DAYS BETWEEN DATE OF ARREST/CONTACT WITH LAW ENFORCEMENT AND DATE PETITION IS FILED

Youth Who Were Detained

Average
Number of
Days

10.64

Median Number
of Days

4

Youth Who Were Not Detained

Average
Number of
Days

46.14

Median
Number of
Days

38

DAYS BETWEEN DATE PETITION IS FILED AND SERVICE OF PETITION ON JUVENILE

Average Number
of Days

56.55

Median Number
of Days

41

* 20 cases reflected no date of service for the juvenile

DAYS BETWEEN DATE PETITION IS FILED AND SERVICE OF PETITION ON PARENT(S)

Average Number
of Days

58.07

Median Number
of Days

40

* 19 cases reflected no date of service for the parent(s)

CONTINUANCES

Cases with 1
Continuance

18

Cases with 2
Continuances

2

Cases with 3
Continuances

1

DAYS BETWEEN DATE PETITION IS FILED AND DATE OF ADJUDICATION HEARING (WHETHER OR NOT ACTUALLY ADJUDICATED AT THAT HEARING)

Youth Who Were
Detained

Average
Number of
Days

108.37

Median Number
of Days

77

Youth Who Were
Not Detained

Average
Number of
Days

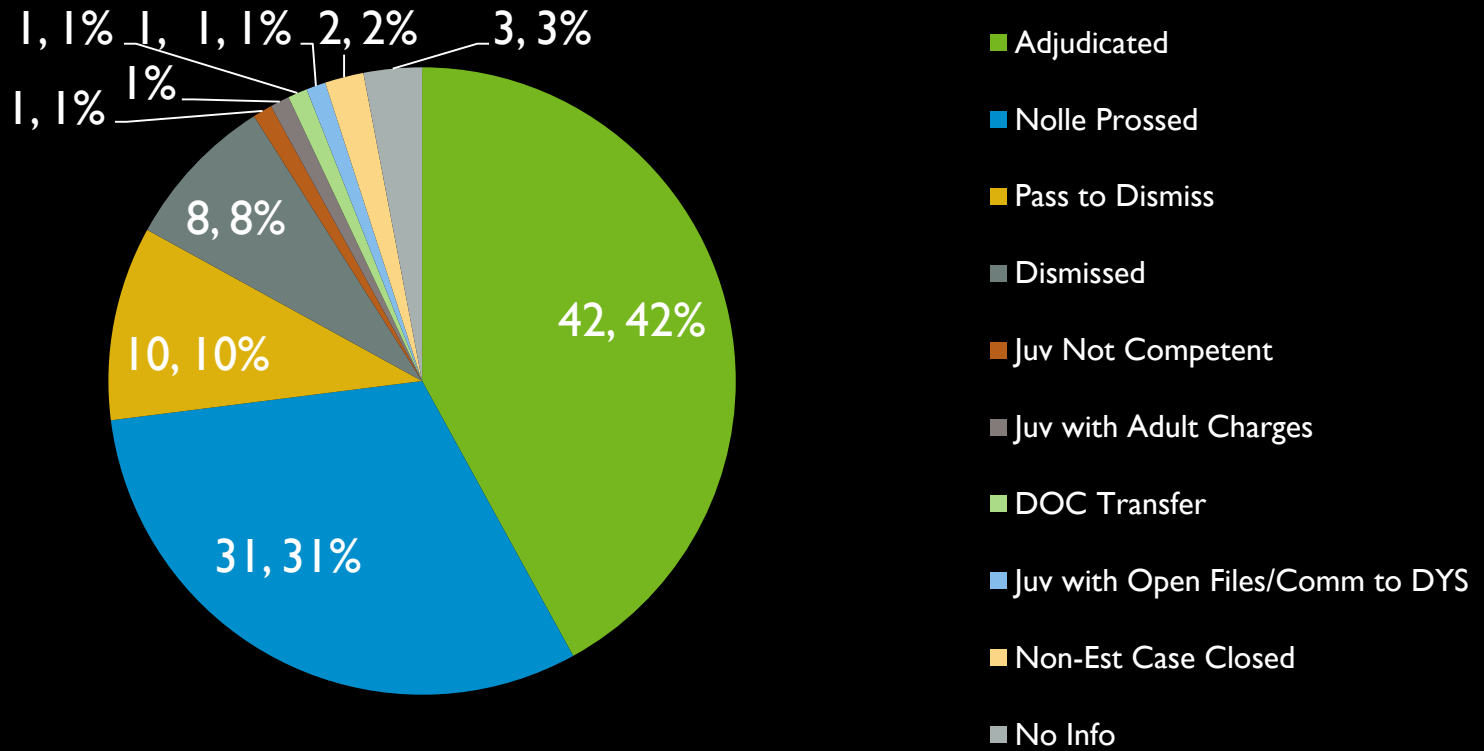
141.4

Median
Number of
Days

123

*38 cases had no date of adjudication reported

CASE OUTCOME



TIMELINE FOR YOUTH NOT IN CUSTODY

*Median Number of
Days Between
Arrest and Filing
Petition*

38

*Median Number of
Day Between Filing of
Petition and
Date of Adjudication
Hearing*

123

*Total Number of
Days from Arrest
and Adjudication
Hearing*

161

► Totals 5.4 months from Arrest to an Adjudication Hearing

MODEL TIME STANDARDS FOR STATE TRIAL COURTS (MODEL STDS)

JUVENILE DELINQUENCY AND STATUS OFFENSE

Model Standard

For youth in detention:

75% within 30 days

90% within 45 days

98% within 90 days

For youth not in detention:

75% within 60 days

90% with 90 days

98% within 150 days

The Model Standards were approved in August of 2011 by: Conference of State Court Administrators, Conference of Chief Justices, American Bar Association House of Delegates, and The National Association for Court Management.

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF JUVENILE AND FAMILY COURT JUDGES

ENHANCED JUVENILE JUSTICE GUIDELINES (NCJFCJ STDS)

▶ Legal sufficiency determination made no later than one business day after filing of affidavit (e.g., police report) (pg. 76)

▶ Decision to handle formally vs. informally (divert) by intake within two business days of filing of affidavit (pg. 79)

▶ If decision to handle formally by intake and youth is detained, petition should be filed immediately with initial hearing set for four business days after filing of affidavit (pg. 79)

▶ If decision to handle formally by intake and youth is not detained, petition should be filed within five business days of intake decision (pg. 79)

▶ If decision to handle informally by intake (divert), intake meeting should occur no later than ten business days after filing of affidavit (pg. 80)

▶ Initial hearings should occur within two weeks of filing for youth not in detention, and no later than 3 weeks after filing (pg. 109)

▶ An adjudication for youth in detention should occur within 10 business days of the initial hearing and 20 business days for youth not in detention (pg. 163)

▶ https://www.ncjfcj.org/sites/default/files/NCJFCJ_Enhanced_Juvenile_Justice_Guidelines_Final.pdf

CONCLUSIONS:

- ▶ 78% of the youth were black; however, only 36.90% of the County's population is black. This is more than double local demographics and evidences a significant racial disparity within the criminal justice system.
- ▶ 45% of the youth in the study were detained at arrest and 48% of those detained were released within 3 days. This begs the question of whether they should have been detained in the first place.
- ▶ For those who have an initial Intake meeting, it takes 33 days after arrest/contact with law enforcement. NCJFCI Stds. recommend that an intake decision to handle formally or informally should be made within 2 business days of the filing of the police report. The current process would preclude this as it takes 25 times as long. With this rate, it would also be unlikely to resolve 75% of cases within 60 days pursuant to the Model Stds.
- ▶ For those not in custody, the filing of a petition takes 38 days after arrest/contact with law enforcement. Pursuant to NCJFCI Stds., petitions should be filed within 5 business days of intake decision. The current filing rate is more than 5 times as long as recommended by the NCJFCI Stds. With this rate, it would also be unlikely to resolve 75% of cases within 60 days pursuant to the Model Stds.
- ▶ On average for those not in custody, service of a petition occurs within 41 days after the filing of the petition. This is roughly the same length of time that NCJFCI Stds. recommend to adjudicate a case. With this rate, it would also be unlikely to resolve 75% of cases within 60 days pursuant to the Model Stds.
- ▶ On average for those not in custody, it takes 123 days after the petition is filed for an adjudication hearing to occur. This is more than 3 months longer than the NCJFCI Stds and more than twice as long as recommended by the Model Stds.
- ▶ A large number of cases, 1 out of every 3, are nolle prossed on or before the adjudication hearing date. This is a high number and suggests that various issues such as filing decisions and failure of witness(es) fail to appear, along with other issues are likely inflating this percentage.