ANALYSIS OF

AVAILABLE STATISTICAL DATA

RELATED TO THE JUVENILE COURT SYSTEM

Prepared for:

The Maine Commission to
Revise Statutes Relating
to Juveniles

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INTRODUCTION

Analysis of data relating to the Juvenile Court system in Maine cannot answer questions about the appropriateness, legality and/or constitutionality of various practices or the efficiency of the organizational structure. These issues are treated separately in other research materials prepared by staff.[1] There are, however, several types of information that help describe the flow of arrested and detained juveniles among the elements of the system. These data may also provide insights into the decisions that direct the flow.

The following data appear to reflect some important decisions that occur after a juvenile has been arrested, through the final disposition of his or her case:

1. Decisions Made Primarily by Law Enforcement Agencies
   - percent arrests handled within the department
   - holdings for court at BTC (and, formerly, at Stevens School)
   - detentions in county jails

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[1] See: Staff Report, "Goals of Maine's Juvenile Justice System - Report on Task 1," Feb. 1976, pp. 104-109; Staff Report, "Statutes of Maine's Juvenile Justice System," March, 1976, pp. 81-99; Staff Report, "Juvenile Courts," September, 1976.

2. Decisions Made by Law Enforcement Agencies and Courts

- referrals to mental health centers
- juvenile court appearances

3. Decisions Made by Courts

- evaluations performed at BTC (and, formerly, at Stevens School)
- commitments to BTC (and,formerly, to Stevens School)
- probations

While there are other possible decisions (for example, referrals to adult court), the eight variables listed above were used because (a) data were available, and (b) there were a sufficient number of cases to analyze.

The following sections are primarily descriptive, in that rates and figures are presented, comparisons discussed, and alternative hypotheses offered to explain the observed patterns. Relationships among the court system variables are analyzed statistically, and demographic, socio-economic, and geographic data are used in several instances to help explain variances in court system descriptors.

As noted throughout this text, it was not possible to arrive at many useful conclusions about the juvenile court system because of the limited data available for analysis.

PERCENT ARRESTS HANDLED WITHIN THE DEPARTMENT

The percent of juvenile arrests handled "within the department," i.e., the percent of juveniles arrested who are released without prosecution, varies from a low of 27.7% in Washington to a high of 79.6% in Sagadahoc. We cannot, apparently, attribute these differences among counties to the variation in the seriousness of juvenile offenses committed in each county as measured by percent arrests for part I crimes. The correlation between percent arrests handled within the department and percent arrests for part I crimes (-.4852) is negative, as we would expect, but not large enough to be significant.

Nor is percent arrests handled within the department statistically related to the level of youth and family services offered in the community--percent arrests is not significantly correlated with the child welfare caseload per 1000 population under 18, the number of licensed foster homes per 1000 population under 18, per capita dollars spent on child and youth services, dollars spent on family services per family, or the number of juveniles admitted to mental health centers per 1000 population under 18.

Percent arrests handled within the department is significantly correlated with the following variables:

- Juvenile arrests per thousand under eighteen (.8069)
- Percent urban population (.7848)
- Percent owner occupied housing (-.7121)
- Divorces as a percent of marriages (.6982)
- Median family incomes (.6658)
- Percent children in single parent families (.6472)
- Median value of owner occupied housing (.6115)
- Residential mobility, i.e., percent housing units moved into during 1965-75 (.6019)
- Police per thousand population (.5722)
- Percent single person households (.4984)

While a causal model for explaining arrests "handled within" departments has not yet been attempted, the following findings should be taken into account:

The correlation between percent arrests handled in the department and the number of juvenile arrests per thousand under eighteen is quite large. However, percent arrests handled within the department is also highly correlated with most of the correlates of the juvenile arrest rate. Two possibilities exist. It may be that more juvenile arrests cause more juveniles to be handled within the department simply because more arrests mean more paperwork and hence, a tendency to release juveniles without prosecution. Alternatively, more arrests may imply a greater proportion of arrests made without sufficient cause.

If the juvenile arrest rate is a determinant of percent arrests handled within the department, single person households or police per thousand population cannot be direct determinants, since the partial correlations between these two variables and percent arrests handled within the department, holding constant the juvenile arrest rate, are -.0049 and -.0032 respectively.

We must also consider the possibility that the very high correlation between percent arrests handled within the department and the juvenile arrest rate is spurious, i.e., the result of a common set of determinants; not the result of a "direct" relationship between these two variables. This apparent relationship could be explained by a set of variables correlated with percent arrests handled within the department, which, when held constant, will cause the correlation between percent arrests handled within the department and the juvenile arrest rate to approach zero. However, such a result must be interpreted carefully. We cannot generalize from the characteristics of a county's population to the characteristics of juvenile offenders.

For example, if a model includes the divorce rate or median family income as determinants, it would be incorrect to conclude that juvenile offenders from broken homes or higher income families are more likely to be released without prosecution. (Only a study of

juvenile offenders could establish this.) All we will be able to conclude is that in counties with these characteristics, a greater proportion of juveniles are released without prosecution.

Setting aside the question of causal determinants, is there any relationship between the tendency to release juveniles without prosecution and the tendency to send them along other routes in the juvenile justice system?

There is no significant relationship between percent arrests handled within the department and percent arrests held for court at BTC or Stevens School or detained in county jails. There is, however, a significant negative correlation between percent arrests handled within the department and juvenile court appearances per thousand population under eighteen. (-.5594) There is also a significant negative correlation between percent arrests handled within the department and percent arrests referred to mental health centers by police and courts, but this correlation may be spurious for the following reasons:

> Percent arrests referred to mental health centers is also (negatively) correlated with juvenile arrests (-.5448) and percent children in single parent families (-.5651). When we hold constant the juvenile arrest rate and percent children in single parent

families, the correlation between percent arrests handled within the department and percent arrests referred to mental health centers is reduced to -.0097.

Percent arrests handled within the department is not significantly correlated with the number of juveniles sent to BTC or Stevens School for evaluation (calculated per 100 court appearances) or with the number of commitments to BTC or Stevens School (per 100 court appearances) but it is significantly correlated with the number of probations per 100 court appearances. Again, however, this correlation may be spurious, as the probation rate is also correlated with the juvenile arrest rate, home ownership, and the ratio of police to population. There is, finally, no significant correlation between percent juvenile arrests handled within the department and the ratio of probations to commitments to BTC or Stevens School.

HOLDS FOR COURT AND COUNTY JAIL DETENTIONS

It is often suggested that there is a relationship between a county's distance from BTC or Stevens School and the number of juveniles from that county held for court at these two institutions.[2] The evidence for such a relationship is weakest in the case of Stevens School. All of the counties with holds-for-court at Stevens School are within a hundred mile radius of that institution, but within that radius, distance does not seem to be a factor. Of the two counties with the highest incidence of holds-for-court, Cumberland lies at the edge of a fifty mile radius from Stevens School and York lies outside that radius. On the other hand, two counties well within the fifty mile radius, as well as Oxford, which straddles that fifty mile radius, have no holds for court at Stevens School.

The case for a relationship between distance from BTC and holds-for-court at that institution is stronger. Cumberland, York, and Androscoggin, the counties with the highest incidence of holds-for-court at BTC, are all within a fifty mile radius of that institution. But there are anomalies. Sagadahoc, which lies within a fifty mile radius of BTC, has only one case of a hold-for-court at that institution; Lincoln, which lies halfway within that

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[2] Data available to this project included time during which Stevens School was still a separate receiving facility.

fifty mile radius has only two cases. Could these anomalies be explained by a lower or higher juvenile population in these counties or by a lower or higher number of juvenile arrests? Alternatively, could the concentration in southeastern Maine of holds-for-court at BTC and Stevens School be due, not to the location of these institutions in the area, but to the existence there of a larger juvenile population or more juvenile arrests?

If we look at holds-for-court at Stevens School per thousand females under eighteen (Table 1), we see that the three counties with the highest rates, Sagadahoc, Waldo, and Cumberland, are all within a fifty mile radius of Stevens School. York, which ranks fourth, lies just outside that fifty mile radius, and Franklin, which ranks fifty, lies halfway out. However, Kennebec, the county in which Stevens School is located, ranks sixth along with Hancock, which lies just outside the fifty mile radius. And, of course, we are still faced with the problem of no holds-for-court in Lincoln, Knox and Oxford. Within a seventy-five to hundred mile radius of Stevens School, distance from that institution is not a very good predictor of the number of holds-for-court there per thousand females under 18.

Table 1[3]

Holds for court at Stevens School per thousand females under 18 and at BTC per thousand males under 18

	And	Ar	Cu	Fr	Ha	Ke	Kn	Li	Ox	Pe	Pi	Sa	So	Wal	Was	Y
Stevens School	.12	0	.41	.26	.19	.19	0	0	0	.14	0	.74	.14	.50	0	.33
BTC	.63	.11	5.67	.49	.35	.54	.84	.59	.12	.28	0	.24	.27	1.16	.61	3.26

How well does distance from BTC explain the number of holds-for-court in that institution per thousand males under 18? Cumberland, the county in which BTC is located still ranks first, and neighboring York county second. However, the other three counties lying within a fifty mile radius of BTC--Androscoggin, Lincoln, and Sagadahoc--rank fifth, seventh and thirteenth, respectively while Waldo and Knox, which rank third and fourth, lie outside that fifty mile radius. Oxford County has a much lower rate than one would predict on the basis of its distance from BTC, while Washington county has a much higher rate. In northern Maine, to be sure, holds-for-court rates are low, but can we attribute these low rates to distance from BTC, when distance is not a consistent predictor of hold-for-court rates elsewhere?

What happens when he look at holds-for-court at BTC or Stevens School as per 100 juvenile arrests? If we are interested in official behavior (differences in the

[3] For a key to the county name abbreviations used in the tables see Attachment 1.

way authorities handle juveniles who get caught up in the system), this rate makes more sense than a holds-for-court rate per juvenile population. As Table 2 shows, within a seventy-five to hundred mile radius of Stevens School, distance is not a consistent predictor of the percent of female juvenile arrests held for court at Stevens School. Waldo, Franklin and Sagadahoc, counties contiguous with Kennebec, ranks first, second, and third. Cumberland, which lies at the edge of a fifty mile radius of Stevens School, ranks fifth. But Kennebec itself ranks eighth; Androscoggin, its neighbor to the west ranks tenth, and again, we have the problem of no holds-for-court in Lincoln, Knox and Oxford. Hancock, on the other hand, though it lies outside a fifty mile radius of Stevens School, ranks fourth.

Nor does distance from BTC adequately explain the variations in the percent of male juvenile arrests held for court at BTC. Cumberland and York again rank first and second. Lincoln, which straddles a fifty mile radius of BTC ranks fourth. However, all of the other counties with above median percentages of juveniles held for court at BTC lie outside a fifty mile radius of the institution, and one of those counties, Washington, lies outside a hundred and fifty mile radius of BTC.

Table 2

Holdings for court at Stevens School and BTC as a percent of male and female juvenile arrests

	And	Ar	Cu	Fr	Ha	Ke	Kn	Li	Ox	Pe	Pi	Sa	So	Wal	Was	Y
Stevens School	.50	0	2.45	4.55	2.70	1.30	0	0	0	1.	0	2.97	1.96	8.70	0	2.35
BTC	.83	.46	8.34	2.44	1.21	1.36	2.55	2.63	.38	.69	0	.99	.66	4.39	1.89	5.16

Just as it seemed likely that the number of holds-for-court at Stevens School and BTC would vary inversely with distance from those institutions, so we might suspect that the number of juvenile county jail detentions would vary directly with distance from Stevens School and BTC or perhaps inversely with holds-for-court at Stevens School or BTC. But as we see from Tables 3 and 4, distance has no bearing on variations in juvenile county jail detentions, either as a rate per thousand males and females under eighteen, or as a percent of male and female juvenile arrests. To be sure, Kennebec, the county in which Stevens School is located, has no female juvenile county jail detentions. But neighboring Androscoggin ranks first in detentions per thousand females under eighteen, and neighboring Franklin ranks first in detentions as a percent of female juvenile arrests. Altogether, five of the counties with above median female detention rates lie wholly or partly within a fifty mile radius of Stevens School. The counties with above median male county jail detention

rates are not so concentrated, but neither do rates vary directly with distance from BTC. Finally, male and female juvenile county jail detentions, per population or per arrests are not significantly correlated with the corresponding holds-for-court rates at Stevens School or BTC. (Male detentions and BTC holds per 1000= .1516; male detentions and BTC holds per arrests= -.0432; female detentions and Stevens School holds per 1000= .0544; female detentions and Stevens School holds per arrests= .1879.)

Table 3

County jail juvenile detentions, male and female, per 1000 males and females

	An	Ar	Cu	Fr	Ha	Ke	Kn	Li	Ox	Pe	Pi	Sa	So	Wal	Was	Y
Males	19.06	3.63	4.20	9.80	4.0	1.62	6.12	0	3.62	1.47	13.75	0	6.91	13.02	6.46	0
Fem.	5.13	1.88	3.22	2.86	1.11	0	.67	0	2.07	.10	.37	0	.56	1.49	1.65	0

Table 4

County jail juvenile detentions, male and female, as a percent of male and female juvenile arrests

	An	Ar	Cu	Fr	Ha	Ke	Kn	Li	Ox	Pe	Pi	Sa	So	Wal	Was	Y
Males	24.83	15.78	6.18	48.78	13.94	4.08	18.47	0	11.03	3.67	31.36	0	17.33	49.12	20.12	0
Fem.	20.30	30.09	19.21	50.	16.22	0	10.	0	30.19	.67	33.33	0	7.84	26.09	22.22	0

Can we find any other explanations for county-by-county differences in the number of juveniles held for court at BTC and Stevens School or detained in county jails? On the premise that we are interested in

differences in the way authorities handle juveniles who are arrested, let us concentrate on hold-for-court rates per hundred arrests. Let us also combine male and female juveniles. In the case of juvenile county jail detentions, a high correlation between male and female rates (.7895) justifies this aggregation. County jail detentions are also not significantly correlated with the clearance rate. However, there is a significant negative correlation between holds for court and the clearance rate (-.5802). If this correlation is spurious, the common determinant or determinants that would account for it have not yet been found. It is possible then that the proportion of unsolved crimes a police or sheriff's department has influences the decision to hold juveniles for court at BTC-Stevens School.

Hold for court and county jail detention rates are not significantly correlated with any of our measures of youth or family services. The only socio-economic variable with which holds for court per 100 arrests is correlated is percent single person households (.5274). At the moment no explanation for this correlation suggests itself. County jail detentions per 100 arrests is significantly and negatively correlated with the median value of owner-occupied housing (-.5657) and percent white collar workers (-.5964). Since we

cannot generalize from the socio-economic characteristics of counties to the characteristics of juvenile offenders in those counties, we cannot say whether this means juvenile offenders with low socio-economic status are more likely to be detained in county jails. It is equally possible that the socio-economic make-up of a county determines law enforcement policies concerning juvenile jail detentions, via public opinion. The correlation between BTC and Stevens School hold rates (.4166) is not large enough to be significant. However, since the incidence of Stevens School holds was so small and the variation over most counties so little, it seems advisable to aggregate here too. Table 5 presents the aggregated rates.

Table 5

Holds for court at BTC or Stevens School, and juvenile county jail detentions, per 100 juvenile arrests

County	An	Ar	Cu	Fr	Ha	Ke	Kn	Li
Holds	.74	.37	7.22	2.88	1.49	1.34	2.14	2.53
Detentions	23.71	18.75	8.65	49.04	14.36	3.02	17.11	0
County	Ox	Pe	Pi	Sa	So	Wal	Was	Y
Holds	.32	.77	0	1.07	.85	5.11	1.54	4.67
Detentions	14.24	2.90	31.40	0	15.95	45.26	20.51	0

What relationship, if any, exists between hold and detention rates and the level or nature of juvenile crime? Neither of our rates are significantly correlated with the number of juvenile arrests per population. Nor are they significantly correlated with the percent of juvenile arrests for part I crimes. This is surprising, as we might expect higher hold and detention rates in counties with a greater proportion of serious juvenile offenses.

We might also expect differences among law enforcement agencies to be important. Does any of the information we have about law enforcement agencies help us to predict hold and detention rates? We know the ratio of police to population, and we have a measure of police effectiveness--a clearance rate for index crimes. Neither holds for court or county jail detentions per 100 arrests are significantly correlated with the ratio of police to population.

Is there, finally, any relationship between hold and detention rates and other aspects of the juvenile justice system? It has already been pointed out that neither holds for court or county jail detentions per 100 arrests is significantly correlated with percent arrests handled within the department, though we might have expected a negative correlation. Holds and detentions are also not significantly correlated with juvenile court appearances per 1,000 under 18, commitments to

BTC-Stevens School or probations per 100 juvenile court appearances, or the ratio of probations to BTC-Stevens School commitments.

There is a significant positive correlation between hold rates at BTC-Stevens School and evaluations at BTC-Stevens School per 100 juvenile court appearances (.5009), but no significant correlation between hold rates at BTC-Stevens School and referrals to mental health centers per 100 arrests. Holds and evaluations at BTC-Stevens School have no other correlates in common. This apparent relationship may be due to some characteristics of juvenile offenders or to a tendency in some counties to make more use of BTC-Stevens School. We cannot say which.

County jail detentions per 100 arrests show a different pattern. There is a negative correlation between county jail detentions and BTC-Stevens School evaluations (-.5915), and a positive correlation between county jail detentions and referrals to mental health centers (.5290). This does not appear to be due to any general tendency to refer juveniles to mental health centers as an alternative to sending them to BTC or Stevens School for evaluation. The correlation between referrals and evaluations (-.2290) is negative, but not large enough to be significant. Detentions and referrals to mental health centers have no other correlates in common. With the data

available, we can only speculate whether it is the characteristics of juvenile offenders, the reactions of police and courts, or some other factor which is responsible for this association. On the other hand, detentions and evaluations do have a common correlate: the median value of owner-occupied housing. (Detentions and median value -.5657; evaluations and median value .5662) However, the partial correlation between detentions and evaluations, holding constant median value of owner-occupied housing (-.3990) does not approach zero. We cannot show that the correlation is spurious, and we are left with the same problem of interpretation. Is the association between detentions and evaluations due to some characteristic of juvenile offenders, some tendency on the part of police and courts, or some other factor?

JUVENILE COURT APPEARANCES

We might have expected juvenile court appearances (per 1000 population under 18) to vary from county to county in much the same way as juvenile arrests (per 1000 population under 18) and to have many of the same correlates. In fact, juvenile court appearances are not significantly correlated with juvenile arrests. Nor are they correlated with the ratio of police to population or any of our socio-economic variables, except for median value of owner-occupied housing.

And the correlation between juvenile court appearances and median value of owner-occupied housing is negative (-.6298). Thus, though we cannot say much at this point about the socio-economic conditions associated with a higher or lower rate of juvenile court appearances, we can say they are not the conditions associated with a higher or lower juvenile arrest rate.

We might also have expected the number of juvenile court appearances per 1000 under 18 to be a function of the seriousness of juvenile offenses. However, the correlation between court appearances and percent arrests for part I crimes (-.0868) is close to zero. Finally, there is no significant correlation between juvenile court appearances and any of our measures of youth and family services.

As expected, juvenile court appearances per 1000 under 18 is negatively related to percent arrests handled in the department. This correlation does not approach zero when we hold constant median value of owner-occupied housing, with which both court appearances and percent arrests handled in the department are also correlated. Juvenile court appearances is not isgnificantly correlated with holds for court or detentions per 100 arrests, with referrals to mental health centers per 100 arrests, with evaluations at BTC-Stevens School per 100 court appearances, or with probations per 100 court appearances.

However, there is a significant negative correlation between juvenile court appearances and commitments to BTC-Stevens School per 100 juvenile court appearances (-.5145). There is also a significant postive correlation between juvenile court appearances and the ratio of probations to BTC-Stevens School commitments (.5971). It appears, then, that in counties with a high rate of juvenile court appearances, there is a greater tendency to put juveniles on probation than to commit them to BTC, and fewer juveniles are committed to BTC-Stevens School.

REFERRALS TO MENTAL HEALTH CENTERS AND EVALUATIONS AT BTC-STEVENS SCHOOL

We have noted elsewhere that the number of referrals by police and courts to mental health centers per 100 arrests is correlated with percent arrests handled within the department (-.5138), county jail detentions per 100 arrests (.5290), juvenile arrests per 1000 under 18 (-.5448) and percent children in single parent families (-.5651). We have also suggested that the correlation between referrals and percent arrests handled within the department is spurious, since it approaches zero (-.0097) when we hold constant juvenile arrests and percent children in single parent families. We must, for the moment, reject the alternatives--that the correlation of mental health referrals with percent children in

single parent families or with juvenile arrests is spurious. The partial correlation between mental health referrals and percent children in single parent families, holding constant juvenile arrests and percent arrests handled within the department, is -.3556; the partial correlation between mental health referrals and juvenile arrests, holding constant percent children in single parent families and percent arrests handled within the department, is -.2346. However, since no obvious explanation for a negative correlation of mental health referrals with juvenile arrests and percent children in single parent families suggests itself, we suspect that these correlations are in fact, spurious, though we have not found the variable or varibles that would account for them. This phenomenon might be a result of the number, locations and capacities of mental health centers serving the county. Information made available to us includes the number of admissions to these centers. However, mental health referrals are not significantly correlated with either the total number of admissions per 1000 or the number of juvenile admissions per 1000 under 18.

We have already observed that evaluations at BTC-Stevens School per 100 juvenile court appearances are not significantly correlated with referrals by police and courts to mental health centers per 100 arrests, but are significantly correlated with holds for court at BTC-Stevens School per 100 arrests (.5009) and county jail detentions per 100 arrests (-.5915).

BTC-Stevens School evaluations are also significantly correlated with the child welfare caseload (-.5165), and with the median value of owner-occupied housing (.5662), but with none of our other service or socio-economic variables. Since the child welfare caseload is not significantly correlated with any of our other juvenile justice disposition rates, as might have been expected, we hesitate to draw any conclusions about its negative correlation with evaluations.

Finally, it does not appear that the number of evaluations at BTC-Stevens School is a function of distance from those institutions. As we see from Table 5, Hancock, which ranks second, lies outside a fifty mile radius of Stevens School, and outside a hundred mile radius of BTC. Cumberland and Kennebec, where BTC and Stevens School are located, rank fourth and seventh, respectively. Androscoggin, which lies between them, ranks twelth, below the northernmost county of Aroostook.

Table 6

Evaluations at BTC-Stevens School
per 100 juvenile court appearances

An	Ar	Cu	Fr	Ha	Ke	Kn	Li	Ox	Pe	Pi	Sa	So	Wal	Was	Y
3.03	4.03	8.42	0	10.61	5.07	4.07	9.30	2.26	4.38	.66	8.00	.81	5.75	3.16	12.62

COMMITMENTS TO BTC-STEVENS SCHOOL AND PROBATIONS

Commitments to BTC-Stevens School per 100 juvenile court appearances is significantly correlated with only three variables: juvenile court appearances per 1000 population under 18 (-.5145), the ratio of probations to BTC-Stevens School commitments (-.7286) and dollars spent on family services per family (.5789). We suspect this last correlation to be spurious, though we have not found the variable or variables that account for it. The negative correlation of commitments with the probations to commitments ratio is what we would expect. As we have already observed, we can only speculate as to whether the negative correlation between BTC-Stevens School commitments and juvenile court appearances is due to the characteristics of juvenile offenders, the nature of their offenses, the tendencies of police and courts, or some other factor. Data on juvenile offenders would allow us to confirm or reject some of these possibilities.

The number of probations per 100 juvenile court appearances is correlated with the following variables:

- Percent arrests handled within the department (.5856);
- Juvenile arrests per 1000 population under 18 (.6597);
- Percent arrests for part I offenses (-.5688);
- Police per 1000 population (.5033); and
- Percent owner-occupied housing (-.5761).

The number of probations per commitments to BTC-Stevens School is correlated with:

- Juvenile court appearances per 1000 population under 18 (.5971);
- Commitments to BTC-Stevens School per 100 juvenile court appearances (-.7286); and

  Percent arrest for part I offenses (-6316).

The correlations of probations and probations per commitments with percent arrests for part I offenses makes sense. On the basis of these correlations we can predict: the greater the proportion of juvenile arrests for part I offenses, the fewer the probations per juvenile court appearances and the fewer the probations per BTC-Stevens School commitments. But is this because juveniles who commit part I offenses are less likely to be put on probation; or, is it because courts are more likely to put juveniles on

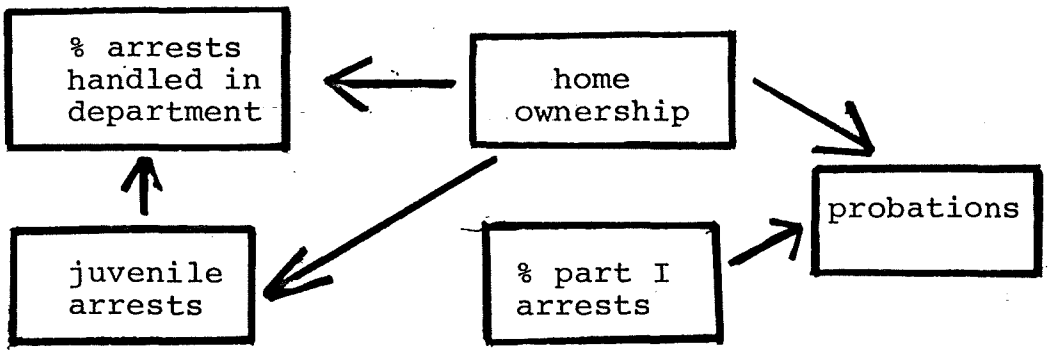
probation in counties with less serious juvenile crime? We would need primary data about the careers of juvenile offenders to explain this phenomenon.

We have already noted the strong positive correlation between juvenile arrests per 1000 population under 18 and percent arrests handled within the department. How are we to explain the correlation of probations per 100 court appearances with both juvenile arrests and percent arrests handled within the department? The correlation between probations and arrests handled within the department is probably spurious, the result of some other factor or factors associated with variations in the number of juvenile arrests.

What are the factors that would explain why a high juvenile arrest rate is associated with a greater percent of arrests handled within the department, on the one hand, and with a greater number of probations per court appearances on the other? Percent arrests for part I offenses is a likely factor; there is a significant negative correlation between percent arrests for part I offenses and all juvenile arrests (-.5953). We have already suggested that the more arrests are made for part I offenses, the fewer probations per juvenile court appearance there will be. In addition,

we can say that the greater the number of juvenile arrests per 1000 population under 18, the more arrests are made for less serious offenses.

Another factor influencing probations is home ownership. Percent owner-occupied housing is negatively correlated with juvenile arrests (-.7625) as well. If we hold constant these two variables--percent arrests for part I offenses and percent owner-occupied housing--the correlation between probations per 100 court appearances and juvenile arrests per 1000 under 18 is reduced to .0760. Holding constant percent arrests for part I offenses and percent owner-occupied housing, the correlation between probations per 100 court appearances and percent arrests handled within the department is reduced to .0603. Thus we might propose the following model.



This model does not satisfactorily account for the significant correlation between probations per 100 court appearances and the ratio of police to population. Nor does it tell us how home ownership affects the probation rate or whether indeed it is juvenile offenders arrested for part I offenses who are being put on probation. Again, specific data about the characteristics and careers of juvenile offenders would help determine this.

ATTACHMENT 1

Key for County Name
Abbreviations used in Tables 1-6

Abbreviation	County
And	Androscoggin
Ar	Aroostook
Cu	Cumberland
Fr	Franklin
Ha	Hancock
Ke	Kennebec
Kn	Knox
Li	Lincoln
Ox	Oxford
Pe	Penobscot
Pi	Piscataquis
Sa	Sagadahoc
So	Somerset
Wal	Waldo
Was	Washington
Y	York