

SP-03-13

**CLARK COUNTY
DEPARTMENT OF
JUVENILE JUSTICE SERVICES
INCARCERATED YOUTH
FACILITY COMPARISON REPORT**

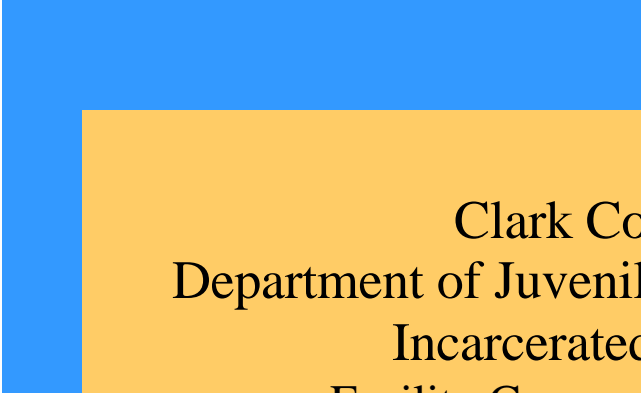

December 2003



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Juvenile Justice Services



**Clark County
Department of Juvenile Justice Services
Incarcerated Youth
Facility Comparison Report**

December 2003

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REPORT

Clark County Department of Juvenile Justice Services Incarcerated Youth Facility Comparison

Introduction

This study was conducted in collaboration with the Clark County Department of Juvenile Justice Services (CCDJJS) to understand youth perceptions of their detention experience and to aid in the development of in-facility and community re-entry programming. The data for this study were obtained from surveys of incarcerated youth in the Spring Mountain and Detention Facility administered in December 2002. This administration follows an initial survey that was conducted in the Spring of 2001. In both surveys, youth responded to questions designed to assess perceptions of the overall facilities, staff, and future programming. Many of the items included in the initial survey were developed as a result of youth focus group discussions. This survey remains very similar to the initial survey, with the addition of items focusing on gambling, involvement in sexual activities, and items designed to assess impulsivity levels. As with the initial survey, youth were informed that their participation in the survey was voluntary and that they could skip any item they wanted. To insure accurate and honest responses, the surveys were anonymous.

The sample consisted of 197 male and female detainees from the **Detention Facility** and 76 male detainees from the **Spring Mountain** facility. Table 1 shows the demographic composition of the survey participants. Eighty-five percent of the participants at both facilities were fifteen years of age or older. Eighty percent of the participants at the **Detention Facility** were male. The ethnicity of the participants at the **Detention Facility** was distributed as follows:

Almost half of the respondents (51% at Spring Mountain and 46% at Detention Facility) said they were current gang members.

Seventy percent of respondents at Detention Facility and 54% of respondents at Spring Mountain had been gang members for more than two years.



25% Hispanic-American, 31% African-American, 27% European-American, 6% Multi-ethnic, 2% Native American, and 1% Asian/Pacific Islander-American. The ethnicity of the participants at **Spring Mountain** was distributed as follows: 48% Hispanic-American, 21% African-American, 22% European-American, 7% Multi-ethnic, and 1% Asian/Pacific Islander-American.

Demographics

Detention Facility

Of the respondents at the Detention Facility, 14% reported living with both biological parents before their incarceration, 33% with only their mothers, 8% with only their fathers, 18% in stepfamilies, and 27% with grandparents, foster parents, or in other living arrangements. Twenty-two percent reported that their mother/stepmother/ guardian was unemployed, 34% said she worked the day shift, and 16% said she worked the evening or night shift. Thirteen percent said their father/stepfather/guardian was unemployed, 30% said he worked the day shift, and 23% said he worked the evening or night shift (see Table 1, page 3).

Seventy-eight percent said they had lived in Las Vegas for four or more years before being detained. Ninety-seven percent of the respondents said they had been incarcerated in the detention facilities for six months or less, with 72% reporting that they had been arrested three or more times. Eighty-four percent said they were 16 years old or younger when they were first arrested. The top five crimes that youth reported being detained for were robbery or burglary (24%), violation of parole or probation (24%), drugs (17%), stealing cars (11%), and assault and battery (11%). Approximately 46% of the youth said that they are currently members of a gang, with 70% reporting being members for more than 2 years (see Table 2, page 4).

Spring Mountain

Of the respondents at the Spring Mountain facility, 27% reported living with both biological parents before their incarceration, 27% only with their mothers, 7% only with their fathers, 20% in stepfamilies, and 19% with grandparents, or in other living arrangements. Seventeen percent reported that their mother/stepmother/guardian was unemployed, 43% said she works the day shift, and 22% said she works the evening or night shift. Six percent said their father/stepfather/guardian was unemployed, 42% said he worked the day shift, and 21% said he worked the evening or night shift (see Table 1, page 3).

Seventy-six percent said they had lived in Las Vegas for four or more years before being detained. Eighty-three percent of the respondents said they had been incarcerated for six months or less, with 88% reporting that they had been arrested three or more times. Sixty-three percent said they were 13 years old or younger when they were first arrested. The top five crimes that youth reported being detained for were stealing cars (29%), robbery or burglary (20%), violation of parole or probation (18%), assault and battery (12%), and drugs (11%). Approximately 51% of the youth said that they are currently members of a gang, with 54% reporting being members for more than two years (see Table 2, page 4).

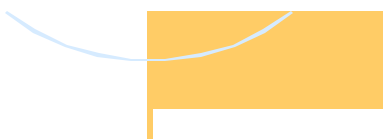


Table 1. Demographic characteristics of survey participants

| Demographic Characteristics | Survey Participants | | | |
|---|---------------------|-------|-----------------|-------|
| | Detention Facility | | Spring Mountain | |
| | n | % | n | % |
| Age | | | | |
| <i>12 years of age or younger</i> | 4 | 2.2% | -- | -- |
| <i>13 years of age</i> | 5 | 2.8% | 2 | 2.8% |
| <i>14 years of age</i> | 18 | 10.1% | 9 | 12.5% |
| <i>15 years of age</i> | 33 | 18.4% | 19 | 26.4% |
| <i>16 years of age or older</i> | 119 | 66.5% | 42 | 58.3% |
| Gender | | | | |
| <i>Female</i> | 35 | 19.6% | -- | -- |
| <i>Male</i> | 144 | 80.4% | 71 | 100% |
| Ethnicity | | | | |
| <i>Hispanic-American</i> | 43 | 24.9% | 35 | 47.9% |
| <i>African-American</i> | 53 | 30.6% | 15 | 20.5% |
| <i>European-American</i> | 46 | 26.6% | 16 | 21.9% |
| <i>Multi-ethnic</i> | 10 | 5.8% | 5 | 6.8% |
| <i>Native American</i> | 4 | 2.3% | -- | -- |
| <i>Asian/Pacific Islander-American</i> | 2 | 1.2% | 1 | 1.4% |
| <i>Other</i> | 15 | 8.7% | 1 | 1.4% |
| Family Makeup | | | | |
| <i>Both biological parents</i> | 25 | 13.7% | 20 | 27.0% |
| <i>Only mother</i> | 60 | 33.0% | 20 | 27.0% |
| <i>Only father</i> | 14 | 7.7% | 5 | 6.8% |
| <i>Mother and stepfather</i> | 28 | 15.4% | 12 | 16.2% |
| <i>Father and stepmother</i> | 5 | 2.7% | 3 | 4.1% |
| <i>Foster parents/Guardians</i> | 10 | 5.5% | -- | -- |
| <i>Grandparents</i> | 11 | 6.0% | 10 | 13.5% |
| <i>None of the above</i> | 29 | 15.9% | 4 | 5.4% |
| Mother/Stepmother/Guardian Work Schedule | | | | |
| Unemployed | 39 | 22.4% | 12 | 16.7% |
| Day Shift (8am – 5pm) | 59 | 33.9% | 31 | 43.1% |
| Evening Shift (3pm – 11pm) | 22 | 12.6% | 7 | 9.7% |
| Night Shift (midnight – 6am) | 18 | 10.3% | 9 | 12.5% |
| Don't know | 36 | 20.7% | 13 | 18.1% |
| Father/Stepfather/Guardian Work Schedule | | | | |
| Unemployed | 20 | 13.1% | 3 | 5.7% |
| Day Shift (8am – 5pm) | 48 | 30.1% | 22 | 41.5% |
| Evening Shift (3pm – 11pm) | 14 | 9.2% | 2 | 3.8% |
| Night Shift (midnight – 6am) | 11 | 7.2% | 9 | 17.0% |
| Don't know | 62 | 40.5% | 17 | 32.1% |

Table 2. Criminal background and time in Las Vegas

| Characteristic | Survey Participants | | | |
|---|---------------------|-------|-----------------|-------|
| | Detention Facility | | Spring Mountain | |
| | n | % | n | % |
| Age when First Arrested | | | | |
| 8 – 10 years old | 12 | 6.9% | 8 | 11.1% |
| 11 – 13 years old | 72 | 41.4% | 37 | 51.4% |
| 14 – 16 years old | 74 | 42.5% | 27 | 37.5% |
| 17 years old or older | 16 | 9.2% | — | — |
| Time Detained | | | | |
| Less than one month | 90 | 51.4% | 4 | 5.6% |
| 1 – 2 months | 64 | 36.6% | 23 | 31.9% |
| 3 – 6 months | 16 | 9.1% | 33 | 45.8% |
| 7 – 12 months | 4 | 2.3% | 11 | 15.3% |
| 1 – 2 years | 1 | .6% | 1 | 1.4% |
| Number of Arrests | | | | |
| Once | 22 | 13.0% | 2 | 3.1% |
| Twice | 25 | 14.8% | 6 | 9.2% |
| 3 – 5 times | 61 | 36.1% | 19 | 29.2% |
| 6 or more times | 61 | 36.1% | 38 | 58.5% |
| Crime | | | | |
| Robbery/burglary | 43 | 24.4% | 15 | 20.5% |
| Violation of probation/parole | 43 | 24.4% | 13 | 17.8% |
| Stealing cars | 20 | 11.4% | 21 | 28.8% |
| Drugs | 29 | 16.5% | 8 | 11.0% |
| Assault/battery | 20 | 11.4% | 9 | 12.3% |
| Other jurisdiction | 8 | 4.5% | 6 | 8.2% |
| Sexual offense | 7 | 4.0% | 1 | 1.4% |
| Fighting | 2 | 1.1% | — | — |
| Truancy | 2 | 1.1% | — | — |
| Vandalism | 2 | 1.1% | — | — |
| Gang Involvement | | | | |
| Not currently an active member of a gang | 93 | 54.1% | 34 | 48.6% |
| Currently an active member of a gang | 79 | 45.9% | 36 | 51.4% |
| Length of membership: | | | | |
| Less than 1 year | 8 | 10.1% | 3 | 8.6% |
| 1 – 2 years | 16 | 20.3% | 13 | 37.1% |
| More than 2 years | 55 | 69.6% | 19 | 54.3% |
| Length of time in Las Vegas before detention | | | | |
| Less than 6 months | 14 | 8.0% | 1 | 1.4% |
| 7 months to 1 year | 12 | 6.9% | 6 | 8.3% |
| 1 – 3 years | 13 | 7.5% | 10 | 13.9% |
| 4 – 10 years | 50 | 28.7% | 21 | 29.2% |
| More than 10 years | 85 | 48.9% | 34 | 47.2% |



Physical Abuse

Participants were asked if they had ever been physically abused (Table 3). Of the 45% who said they had been physically abused, 55% said they told their parents and 69% told their friends. Seventy-two percent said they did not tell authorities and 89% said that no charges were pressed. Sixty-four percent said an adult family member physically abused them.

Adult family members were most often reported as the physical abuser.

Almost two-thirds (65%) of the females surveyed said they had been physically abused, with 77% of those female respondents saying that no charges were pressed. An adult family member was reported to be responsible for the abuse by 77% of the female respondents.

The majority of incidences of physical abuse went unreported.

Forty-two percent of the males surveyed reported being physically abused, with 62% saying an adult family member abused them. Ninety-two percent of males who said they were abused said that no abuse charges were pressed.

Table 3. Physical Abuse

| | Detention Facility | Spring Mountain |
|--|--------------------|-----------------|
| Experienced Physical Abuse | | |
| Yes | 48.8% | 38.6% |
| No | 51.2% | 61.4% |
| Told Parents | | |
| Yes | 55.0% | 55.6% |
| No | 45.0% | 44.4% |
| Told Friends | | |
| Yes | 69.1% | 70.4% |
| No | 30.9% | 29.6% |
| Told Authorities | | |
| Yes | 30.9% | 18.5% |
| No | 69.1% | 81.5% |
| Pressed Charges | | |
| Yes | 12.5% | 7.4% |
| No | 87.5% | 92.6% |
| Abused by Adult Family Member | | |
| Yes | 68.8% | 48.1% |
| No | 31.3% | 51.9% |
| Abused by Adult Non-Family Member | | |
| Yes | 45.0% | 50.0% |
| No | 55.0% | 50.0% |
| Abused by Another Youth | | |
| Yes | 38.8% | 26.9% |
| No | 61.3% | 73.1% |



Sexual Abuse



Participants also were asked if they had ever been sexually abused (Table 4). Of the 14% who said they had been sexually abused, only 39% said they told their parents and 42% told their friends. Eighty percent said they did not tell authorities and 94% said that no charges were pressed. Fifty-four percent said an adult non-family member sexually abused them.

Sixty-nine percent of female respondents reported being sexually abused.

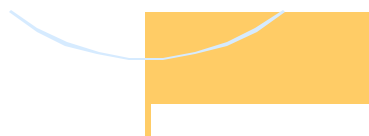
Approximately two-thirds (67%) of the females surveyed said they had been sexually abused, with 75% of those female respondents saying that they did not report it to authorities and 92% saying that no charges were pressed. An adult non-family member was said to be the abuser by 65% of the female respondents.

Only 8% of female respondents who reported being sexually abused reported pressing charges.

Only 9% of the male respondents who said they had been sexually abused said they told authorities, and none reported filing charges.

Table 4. Sexual Abuse

| | Detention Facility | Spring Mountain |
|--|--------------------|-----------------|
| Experienced Sexual Abuse | | |
| Yes | 18.2% | 5.4% |
| No | 81.8% | 94.6% |
| Told Parents | | |
| Yes | 43.8% | — |
| No | 56.3% | 100.0% |
| Told Friends | | |
| Yes | 43.8% | 25.0% |
| No | 56.3% | 75.0% |
| Told Authorities | | |
| Yes | 21.9% | — |
| No | 78.1% | 100.0% |
| Pressed Charges | | |
| Yes | 6.3% | — |
| No | 93.8% | 100.0% |
| Abused by Adult Family Member | | |
| Yes | 34.4% | — |
| No | 65.6% | 100.0% |
| Abused by Adult Non-Family Member | | |
| Yes | 61.3% | — |
| No | 38.7% | 100.0% |
| Abused by Another Youth | | |
| Yes | 35.5% | 75.0% |
| No | 64.5% | 25.0% |





Rating of facility

Participants were asked to rate the facility they were in during detention (Tables 5a and 5b).

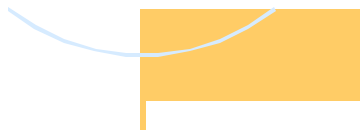
Most of the respondents rated treatment by staff as “good” or “very good”.

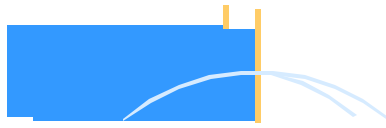
Detention Facility

Approximately 67% of respondents at the Detention Facility (Table 5a) said that the food was *bad* or *very bad*. Nearly half (47%) said that the general facilities, which included their rooms, common areas, etc., were *good* or *very good*. Seventy percent rated treatment by staff as *good* or *very good*, and 67% said treatment by other youth was *good* or *very good*. Entertainment and recreation was rated as *good* or *very good* by 74% of respondents, and 75% said that the clothing was *bad* or *very bad*. School was rated as *good* or *very good* by 72% of respondents.

Table 5a. Respondents’ rating of Detention Facility

| Category | Very Good | Good | Bad | Very Bad |
|--------------------------|-----------|-------|-------|----------|
| Food | 4.2% | 29.1% | 40.2% | 26.5% |
| Facilities (room, etc.) | 3.7% | 43.3% | 28.9% | 24.1% |
| Treatment by staff | 17.0% | 52.7% | 19.1% | 11.2% |
| Treatment by other youth | 6.5% | 60.8% | 23.1% | 9.7% |
| Entertainment/Recreation | 24.7% | 49.5% | 16.1% | 9.7% |
| Clothes | 4.3% | 20.7% | 38.6% | 36.4% |
| School | 18.3% | 53.8% | 15.6% | 12.4% |





Spring Mountain

Approximately 65% of respondents at the Spring Mountain facility (Table 5b) said that the food was *bad* or *very bad*. Over half (55%) said that the general facilities, which included their rooms, common areas, etc., were *good* or *very good*. Sixty-nine percent rated treatment by staff as *good* or *very good*, and 67% said treatment by other youth was *good* or *very good*. Entertainment and recreation was rated as *good* or *very good* by 79% of respondents. Fifty-one percent said that the clothing was *good* or *very good*, while 49% said they were *bad* or *very bad*. School was rated as *good* or *very good* by 76% of respondents.

Table 5b. Respondents' rating of Spring Mountain facility

| Category | Very Good | Good | Bad | Very Bad |
|--------------------------|-----------|-------|-------|----------|
| Food | 8.0% | 26.7% | 40.0% | 25.3% |
| Facilities (room, etc.) | 8.1% | 47.3% | 25.7% | 18.9% |
| Treatment by staff | 13.3% | 56.0% | 21.3% | 9.3% |
| Treatment by other youth | 4.1% | 63.0% | 21.9% | 11.0% |
| Entertainment/Recreation | 34.7% | 44.0% | 13.3% | 8.0% |
| Clothes | 16.0% | 34.7% | 18.7% | 30.7% |
| School | 17.1% | 59.2% | 18.4% | 5.3% |





Programs that would be helpful inside the facility

Participants were asked their opinion about activities that could be provided inside the facility that would help them succeed when they are released from detention. Most respondents at both facilities rated all items as being very helpful or helpful, with the exception of family counseling.

Detention Facility

The six highest rated activities by Detention Facility participants (Table 6a) were recreational activities (80%), arts and crafts activities (80%), job placement services (78%), books and reading materials (76%), computer training (69%), and classes on how to fill out a job application (69%).

Spring Mountain

The six highest rated activities by Spring Mountain participants (Table 6b) were job placement services (89%), recreational activities (83%), classes on how to fill out a job application (83%), arts and crafts activities (75%), computer training (72%), and classes on how to act at work (70%).

Table 6a. Detention Facility youths' ratings of how helpful particular programs are inside the facility

| Category | Very Helpful | Helpful | Kind of Helpful | Not Helpful |
|---|--------------|---------|-----------------|-------------|
| Personal time with staff | 25.3% | 34.4% | 26.9% | 13.4% |
| Group counseling | 18.9% | 24.9% | 31.9% | 24.3% |
| Individual counseling | 32.3% | 26.9% | 24.7% | 16.1% |
| Family counseling | 38.7% | 22.6% | 19.4% | 19.4% |
| Classroom instruction | 16.8% | 37.0% | 35.9% | 10.3% |
| Computer training | 40.2% | 26.6% | 15.2% | 17.9% |
| Job placement services | 55.7% | 22.7% | 11.9% | 9.7% |
| Classes on filling out job applications | 45.4% | 23.8% | 17.3% | 13.5% |
| Classes on how to act at work | 34.1% | 30.2% | 18.7% | 17.0% |
| Recreational activities | 48.6% | 30.9% | 14.9% | 5.5% |
| Art & craft activities | 48.9% | 31.3% | 9.3% | 10.4% |
| Books/reading materials | 49.7% | 26.2% | 15.3% | 8.7% |





Table 6b. Spring Mountain youths’ ratings of how helpful particular programs are inside the facility

| Category | Very Helpful | Helpful | Kind of Helpful | Not Helpful |
|---|--------------|---------|-----------------|-------------|
| Personal time with staff | 25.0% | 36.8% | 31.6% | 6.6% |
| Group counseling | 18.4% | 28.9% | 35.5% | 17.1% |
| Individual counseling | 23.7% | 35.5% | 28.9% | 11.8% |
| Family counseling | 32.9% | 27.6% | 17.1% | 22.4% |
| Classroom instruction | 10.7% | 40.0% | 30.7% | 18.7% |
| Computer training | 38.7% | 33.3% | 18.7% | 9.3% |
| Job placement services | 58.7% | 30.7% | 6.7% | 4.0% |
| Classes on filling out job applications | 44.0% | 38.7% | 16.0% | 1.3% |
| Classes on how to act at work | 27.4% | 42.5% | 26.0% | 4.1% |
| Recreational activities | 44.0% | 38.7% | 16.0% | 1.3% |
| Art & craft activities | 36.0% | 38.7% | 20.0% | 5.3% |
| Books/reading materials | 34.7% | 32.0% | 22.7% | 10.7% |

Programs that would be helpful outside the facility

Participants were asked their opinion about activities that could be provided outside the facility that would help them succeed when they are released from detention. Most respondents at both facilities rated all items as being very helpful or helpful.

Most respondents stated that job placement services would be “helpful” or “very helpful”.

Detention Facility

The five highest rated activities by Detention Facility participants (Table 7a) were job placement services (89%), having a safe place from family (82%), classes on filling out job applications (78%), individual counseling (70%), and drug and alcohol programs (69%).

Spring Mountain

The five highest rated activities by Spring Mountain participants (Table 7b) were job placement services (87%), classes on filling out job applications (77%), classes on how to act at work (71%), having a safe place from family (69%), and conflict management classes (67%).

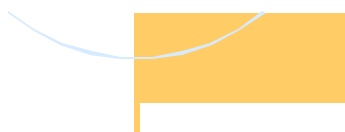




Table 7a. Detention Facility youths’ opinions on outside facility programming that would be helpful

| Category | Very Helpful | Helpful | Kind of Helpful | Not Helpful |
|---|--------------|---------|-----------------|-------------|
| Job placement services | 60.5% | 28.6% | 6.5% | 4.3% |
| Classes on filling out job applications | 44.0% | 34.2% | 14.1% | 7.6% |
| Classes on how to act at work | 35.6% | 31.1% | 20.6% | 12.8% |
| Conflict management classes | 34.8% | 30.4% | 27.1% | 7.7% |
| Drug & alcohol programs | 40.2% | 28.3% | 16.3% | 15.2% |
| Mentoring by caring adults | 32.4% | 26.9% | 28.6% | 12.1% |
| Individual counseling | 36.3% | 34.1% | 19.8% | 9.9% |
| Family counseling | 41.0% | 23.0% | 21.9% | 14.2% |
| Social skills classes | 38.5% | 28.6% | 22.5% | 10.4% |
| Safe place outside of the family | 53.5% | 28.1% | 10.8% | 7.6% |

Table 7b. Spring Mountain youths’ opinions on outside facility programming that would be helpful

| Category | Very Helpful | Helpful | Kind of Helpful | Not Helpful |
|---|--------------|---------|-----------------|-------------|
| Job placement services | 59.5% | 27.0% | 9.5% | 4.1% |
| Classes on filling out job applications | 41.9% | 35.1% | 20.3% | 2.7% |
| Classes on how to act at work | 37.0% | 34.2% | 21.9% | 6.8% |
| Conflict management classes | 27.4% | 39.7% | 21.9% | 11.0% |
| Drug & alcohol programs | 36.5% | 24.3% | 24.3% | 14.9% |
| Mentoring by caring adults | 28.8% | 35.6% | 27.4% | 8.2% |
| Individual counseling | 27.8% | 36.1% | 25.0% | 11.1% |
| Family counseling | 26.7% | 33.3% | 21.3% | 18.7% |
| Social skills classes | 29.2% | 30.6% | 31.9% | 8.3% |
| Safe place outside of the family | 44.6% | 24.3% | 24.3% | 6.8% |





Youth involvement in activities before detention

Participants were asked about the amount of time they spent in activities before they were detained. Most Detention Facility participants (Table 8a) reported being involved five hours or less in organized team sports (75%), school activities (91%), activities outside of school (91%), art activities (83%), and working at a job (63%).

Likewise, Spring Mountain participants (Table 8b) reported being involved five hours or less in organized team sports (85%), school activities (96%), activities outside of school (92%), art activities (94%), and working at a job (77%).

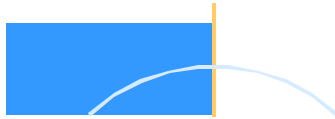
Table 8a. Amount of time Detention Facility youths spent in activities before detention

| Category | Not at all | 1 – 5 hours | 6 – 10 hours | More than 10 hours |
|---|------------|-------------|--------------|--------------------|
| Sports on organized teams | 41.1% | 33.5% | 12.4% | 13.0% |
| School activities | 73.5% | 17.3% | 5.4% | 3.8% |
| Activities outside of school | 68.6% | 22.2% | 5.9% | 3.2% |
| Band, dance, drama, music, other art activities | 62.0% | 20.7% | 8.7% | 8.7% |
| Working at a job | 54.1% | 8.6% | 15.1% | 22.2% |

Table 8b. Amount of time Spring Mountain youths spent in activities before detention

| Category | Not at all | 1 – 5 hours | 6 – 10 hours | More than 10 hours |
|---|------------|-------------|--------------|--------------------|
| Sports on organized teams | 37.8% | 47.3% | 9.5% | 5.4% |
| School activities | 74.3% | 21.6% | 1.4% | 2.7% |
| Activities outside of school | 72.6% | 19.2% | 6.8% | 1.4% |
| Band, dance, drama, music, other art activities | 73.6% | 20.8% | 2.8% | 2.8% |
| Working at a job | 58.1% | 18.9% | 10.8% | 12.2% |





Youth perception of activities after detention

Participants were asked what they thought they might do after detention.

Detention Facility

Eighty-nine percent of Detention Facility respondents (Table 9a) said they thought it was *very likely* or *likely* that they would finish high school and 87% said they would *very likely* or *likely* get job training. Seventy percent said they would *very likely* or *likely* hang out with friends who don't get into trouble, and 57% said it was *unlikely* or *very unlikely* that they would use drugs or alcohol. Most (70%) said it was *very likely* or *likely* that they would avoid problems that lead to committing a crime, spend more time with positive family members and adults (82%), work harder at not getting into fights (74%) and getting long with their parents (91%) and other adults (87%).

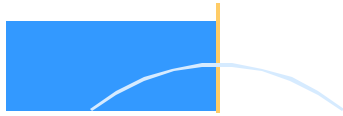
Most respondents at both facilities want to finish high school.

Most respondents also said they would "likely" or "very likely" avoid problems that lead to crime after getting out of detention.

Table 9a. Detention Facility youths' perception of what they will do after detention

| Category | Very Likely | Likely | Unlikely | Very Unlikely |
|--|-------------|--------|----------|---------------|
| Finish high school | 58.9% | 30.8% | 9.2% | 1.1% |
| Attend college | 28.3% | 34.2% | 27.7% | 9.8% |
| Get job training | 45.2% | 41.4% | 9.7% | 3.8% |
| Hang out with old friends | 35.1% | 32.4% | 17.8% | 14.6% |
| Hang out with friends from detention | 5.9% | 25.7% | 31.0% | 37.4% |
| Hang out with friends who don't get into trouble | 29.0% | 41.4% | 22.0% | 7.5% |
| Use drugs and alcohol | 20.0% | 25.4% | 24.9% | 29.7% |
| Avoid problems that lead to committing a crime | 45.2% | 25.0% | 17.0% | 12.8% |
| Work harder to get along with parents | 66.5% | 24.3% | 4.3% | 4.9% |
| Work harder to get along with other adults | 42.7% | 43.8% | 9.2% | 4.3% |
| Work harder at not getting into fights | 35.5% | 38.7% | 16.1% | 9.7% |
| Spend more time with positive family members or adults | 49.7% | 32.6% | 13.9% | 3.7% |



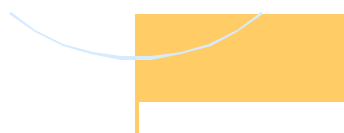


Spring Mountain

Eighty-three percent of Spring Mountain respondents (Table 9b) said they thought it was *very likely* or *likely* that they would finish high school and 88% said they would *very likely* or *likely* get job training. Seventy-three percent said they would *very likely* or *likely* hang out with friends who don't get into trouble, and 66% said it was *unlikely* or *very unlikely* that they would use drugs or alcohol. Most (70%) said it was *very likely* or *likely* that they would avoid problems that lead to committing a crime, spend more time with positive family members and adults (85%), work harder at not getting into fights (71%) and getting long with their parents (96%) and other adults (86%).

Table 9b. Spring Mountain youths' perception of what they will do after detention

| Category | Very Likely | Likely | Unlikely | Very Unlikely |
|--|-------------|--------|----------|---------------|
| Finish high school | 56.0% | 26.7% | 8.0% | 9.3% |
| Attend college | 20.3% | 32.4% | 20.3% | 27.0% |
| Get job training | 55.4% | 32.4% | 9.5% | 2.7% |
| Hang out with old friends | 29.7% | 29.7% | 28.4% | 12.2% |
| Hang out with friends from detention | 9.5% | 27.0% | 32.4% | 31.1% |
| Hang out with friends who don't get into trouble | 32.0% | 41.3% | 21.3% | 5.3% |
| Use drugs and alcohol | 22.4% | 13.2% | 32.9% | 31.6% |
| Avoid problems that lead to committing a crime | 36.8% | 32.9% | 21.1% | 9.2% |
| Work harder to get along with parents | 78.9% | 17.1% | 2.6% | 1.3% |
| Work harder to get along with other adults | 46.1% | 39.5% | 7.9% | 6.6% |
| Work harder at not getting into fights | 28.0% | 42.7% | 20.0% | 9.3% |
| Spend more time with positive family members or adults | 53.3% | 32.0% | 10.7% | 4.0% |





Youth perception of their behavior after detention

Participants also were asked to what extent they agreed or disagreed with statements about themselves. Participants at the **Detention Facility** (Table 10a) said they *strongly agreed* or *agreed* with the statement that they felt good about their chances to succeed in life after detention (85%), and that school could help them reach their goals (88%). Most (74%) said they *strongly agreed* or *agreed* with the statement that they would not commit any more crimes, and would get involved in more positive activities (75%). Eighty percent said they *disagreed* or *strongly disagreed* that they would get arrested again.

Most participants “agreed” or “strongly agreed” that their chances of succeeding in life are good.

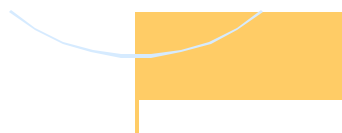
Table 10a. Detention Facility youths’ perception of their behavior after detention

| Behaviors | Strongly Agree | Agree | Disagree | Strongly Disagree |
|--|----------------|-------|----------|-------------------|
| Won’t commit any crimes | 40.3% | 33.9% | 18.3% | 7.5% |
| Get involved in more positive activities | 40.5% | 34.6% | 17.3% | 7.6% |
| Feel good about chances to succeed in life | 51.4% | 33.5% | 9.7% | 5.4% |
| Will get arrested again | 5.4% | 14.5% | 36.6% | 43.5% |
| School can help reach personal goals | 63.8% | 24.3% | 7.6% | 4.3% |

Participants at the **Spring Mountain** facility (Table 10b) said they *strongly agreed* or *agreed* with the statement that they felt good about their chances to succeed in life after detention (82%), and that school could help them reach their goals (86%). Most (74%) said they *strongly agreed* or *agreed* with the statement that they would not commit any more crimes, and would get involved in more positive activities (73%). Sixty-four percent said they *disagreed* or *strongly disagreed* that they would get arrested again.

Table 10b. Spring Mountain youths’ perception of their behavior after detention

| Behaviors | Strongly Agree | Agree | Disagree | Strongly Disagree |
|--|----------------|-------|----------|-------------------|
| Won’t commit any crimes | 41.9% | 32.4% | 21.6% | 4.1% |
| Get involved in more positive activities | 40.5% | 32.4% | 24.3% | 2.7% |
| Feel good about chances to succeed in life | 55.4% | 27.0% | 16.2% | 1.4% |
| Will get arrested again | 8.2% | 27.4% | 32.9% | 31.5% |
| School can help reach personal goals | 57.5% | 28.8% | 5.5% | 8.2% |





Risk Behaviors

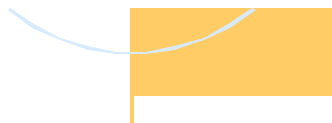
Tables 11a and 11b show the types of activities that survey participants said they were involved in during the year prior to being detained. The four leading activities that most participants at the **Detention Facility** (Table 11a) reported being involved in three or more times during the year prior to being detained were smoking marijuana (66%), drinking alcohol (60%), shoplifting (45%), and gambling (44%). Approximately 47% ran away from home at least once. Eighteen percent of youth attempted suicide at least once. Participants reported viewing pornography three or more times on the Internet (12%), in magazines (22%), and in movies (29%).

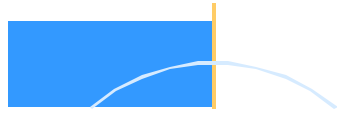
Eighteen percent of youth at Detention Facility and 24% of youth at Spring Mountain reported attempting suicide at least once.

Approximately half of all respondents reported running

Table 11a. Risk Behaviors reported by Detention Facility youth

| Risk Behaviors | Never | Once or Twice | 3 – 4 Times | 5 or more times |
|--|-------|---------------|-------------|-----------------|
| Paint graffiti | 61.8% | 17.7% | 3.8% | 16.7% |
| Deliberately damage someone’s property | 42.7% | 28.1% | 11.9% | 17.3% |
| Shoplifting | 25.3% | 30.1% | 10.2% | 34.4% |
| Run away from home | 52.7% | 23.4% | 8.7% | 15.2% |
| Stealing | 47.0% | 25.4% | 12.4% | 15.1% |
| Use a weapon to steal | 66.7% | 15.6% | 5.4% | 12.4% |
| Fight between groups | 39.8% | 24.2% | 11.3% | 24.7% |
| Attempt suicide | 82.3% | 11.3% | 3.2% | 3.2% |
| Fight with another youth | 32.8% | 27.4% | 12.9% | 26.9% |
| View pornography on the internet | 74.6% | 13.5% | 3.2% | 8.6% |
| View pornography in magazines | 50.8% | 27.3% | 8.0% | 13.9% |
| View pornographic movies | 47.0% | 24.3% | 9.7% | 18.9% |
| Drink alcohol | 24.7% | 15.6% | 15.6% | 44.1% |
| Smoke marijuana | 23.0% | 10.7% | 5.3% | 61.0% |
| Use other illegal drugs | 54.3% | 9.7% | 8.1% | 28.0% |
| Assaulted by other youth | 46.4% | 42.1% | 7.1% | 4.4% |
| Threatened by a weapon | 47.8% | 34.2% | 10.3% | 7.6% |
| Victim of theft | 32.8% | 43.2% | 12.0% | 12.0% |
| Have gambled | 37.9% | 18.3% | 15.4% | 28.4% |

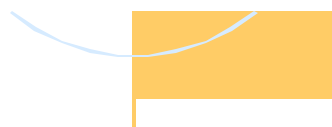


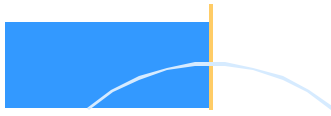


The four leading activities that most participants at **Spring Mountain** (Table 11b) reported being involved in three or more times during the year prior to being detained were drinking alcohol (73%), smoking marijuana (69%), fighting with other youth (57), and shoplifting (56%). Approximately 52% ran away from home at least once. Twenty-four percent of youth attempted suicide at least once. Participants reported viewing pornography three or more times on the Internet (23%), in magazines (36%), and in movies (44%).

Table 11b. Risk Behaviors reported by Spring Mountain youth

| Risk Behaviors | Never | Once or Twice | 3 – 4 Times | 5 or more times |
|--|-------|---------------|-------------|-----------------|
| Paint graffiti | 50.7% | 24.0% | 1.3% | 24.0% |
| Deliberately damage someone’s property | 28.0% | 29.3% | 6.7% | 36.0% |
| Shoplifting | 17.3% | 26.7% | 13.3% | 42.7% |
| Run away from home | 48.0% | 22.7% | 9.3% | 20.0% |
| Stealing | 38.7% | 24.0% | 12.0% | 25.3% |
| Use a weapon to steal | 48.6% | 20.3% | 9.5% | 21.6% |
| Fight between groups | 22.7% | 24.0% | 20.0% | 33.3% |
| Attempt suicide | 76.0% | 18.7% | 2.7% | 2.7% |
| Fight with another youth | 14.7% | 28.0% | 28.0% | 29.3% |
| View pornography on the internet | 50.7% | 26.7% | 8.0% | 14.7% |
| View pornography in magazines | 33.3% | 30.7% | 10.7% | 25.3% |
| View pornographic movies | 32.0% | 24.0% | 10.7% | 33.3% |
| Drink alcohol | 10.7% | 16.0% | 14.7% | 58.7% |
| Smoke marijuana | 18.9% | 12.2% | 4.1% | 64.9% |
| Use other illegal drugs | 50.0% | 5.4% | 8.1% | 36.5% |
| Assaulted by other youth | 50.7% | 37.0% | 6.8% | 5.5% |
| Threatened by a weapon | 38.4% | 34.2% | 15.1% | 12.3% |
| Victim of theft | 33.3% | 45.8% | 11.1% | 9.7% |
| Have gambled | 34.8% | 26.1% | 15.9% | 23.2% |





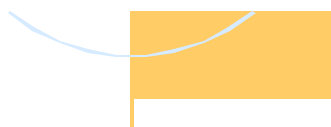
Youth gambling

Participants were asked about their involvement with gambling (Table 12). Fifty-three percent respondents from the **Detention Facility** said they had gambled for money, but that they had not stolen property (89%) or borrowed money (84%) to pay for gambling. Fifty-eight percent of the **Detention Facility** youth who have gambled said that no one helped them and 30% said that older friends helped them gamble. Likewise, 55% of respondents from **Spring Mountain** said they had gambled for money, but that they had not stolen property (88%) or borrowed money (93%) to pay for gambling. Sixty-seven percent of the **Spring Mountain** youth who have gambled said that no one helped them and 24% said that older friends helped them gamble.

Over half of respondents said they have gambled for money.

Table 12. Youth Gambling

| | Detention Facility | Spring Mountain |
|---|--------------------|-----------------|
| Gambled for money | | |
| Yes | 53.3% | 54.7% |
| No | 46.7% | 45.3% |
| Have stolen property to pay for gambling | | |
| Yes | 11.2% | 12.7% |
| No | 88.8% | 87.3% |
| Have borrowed money to pay for gambling | | |
| Yes | 16.1% | 7.0% |
| No | 83.9% | 93.0% |
| Who helped youth gamble | | |
| No one | 58.1% | 66.7% |
| Older friends | 29.8% | 24.1% |
| Others | 9.7% | 7.4% |
| Family | 2.4% | 1.9% |





Where youth gamble

Participants were asked where they gambled (see Table 12a). Thirty-three percent of youth at the **Detention Facility** said that they gambled on the streets, 17% said they gambled at a friend's house, 16% said that they gambled at casinos, 11% said they gambled anywhere, 6% indicated that they gambled at school, and 6% said they gambled at home. Fifty percent of youth at **Spring Mountain** said that they gambled on the streets, 17% said they gambled at a friend's house, 3% said that they gambled at casinos, 8% said they gambled anywhere, 11% indicated that they gambled at school, and 3% said they gambled at home.

Table 12a. Youth Gambling

| | Detention Facility | Spring Mountain |
|----------------------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| Where youth gamble | | |
| Streets | 33.3% | 50.0% |
| Friend's house | 17.3% | 16.7% |
| Casino | 16.0% | 2.8% |
| Anywhere | 11.1% | 8.3% |
| School | 6.2% | 11.1% |
| Home | 6.2% | 2.8% |
| Little stores/gas stations | 3.7% | 5.6% |
| With the homies | 2.1% | 2.8% |





Youth in the sex industry

Participants were asked about their involvement with having sex or stripping (Table 13). Twenty-three percent of participants at the **Detention Facility** said they had stripped for money or in exchange for things and 25% had been paid or given things to have sex or perform sexual acts. Fifty-two percent of female respondents said they had been given money or things to strip, and 52% said they had been paid or given things to have sex or perform sexual acts. Sixteen percent of participants at **Spring Mountain** said they had stripped for money or in exchange for things and 18% had been paid or given things to have sex or perform sexual acts.

More than one-half of the females reported having been paid or given things in exchange for sex.

Table 13. Youth in the Sex Industry

| | Detention Facility | Spring Mountain |
|--|--------------------|-----------------|
| Paid money to strip | | |
| Yes | 14.3% | 6.6% |
| No | 85.7% | 93.4% |
| Given things in exchange for stripping | | |
| Yes | 8.5% | 9.7% |
| No | 91.5% | 90.3% |
| Paid money to have sex or perform sexual acts | | |
| Yes | 14.6% | 8.1% |
| No | 85.4% | 91.9% |
| Given things to have sex or perform sexual acts | | |
| Yes | 10.3% | 10.0% |
| No | 89.7% | 90.0% |
| Age of people youth had sex with | | |
| < 18 years old | 57.1% | 74.1% |
| 18 – 25 years old | 24.3% | 25.9% |
| 25 years old or older | 18.6% | -- |
| Amount paid to have sex with someone | | |
| < \$50 | 27.8% | 30.0% |
| \$50 - \$99 | 16.7% | 20.0% |
| \$100 - \$200 | 25.0% | 20.0% |
| \$201 - \$399 | 8.3% | -- |
| \$400 or more | 22.2% | 30.0% |



Discussion and Conclusions

As in the initial survey, the youth who participated in this survey were primarily:

- ◆ *16 years old or older,*
- ◆ *detained for 6 months or less,*
- ◆ *arrested 6 or more times,*
- ◆ *detained for robbery and probation/parole violations, and*
- ◆ *had experienced some degree of physical or sexual abuse.*

These demographics indicate a need for intervention programming aimed at assisting this high-risk population successfully break the cycle of criminal behavior. In particular, findings regarding the abuse history of female detainee are indeed alarming. Moreover, many of the females who reported being abused have not had the opportunity to discuss the issue with professionals. Clearly, there is a need to begin to work systematically to assist young women in coping with a history of abuse.

The high rate of gang involvement in respondents also suggest that a intervention program be developed for current gang members to learn how to cycle out of gang involvement once they are released.

Based on youth perceptions of what programs they thought would help them succeed, there are several areas that present opportunities for programming. Job training and computer training, both as inside and outside of facility programs, were rated highly as being important in helping youth succeed outside of detention. This indicates that youth are eager to receive training that will help them prepare for and obtain a job once they are released. Another programming option that was highly rated for outside the facility was having a safe place for youth to go when needed. This finding suggests that youth need additional positive options outside of their family environment.

The highly positive ratings of several items by the majority of youth in this study reflect their desire to participate in constructive programs. Although offering programs to incarcerated or recently released youth presents a unique set of challenges, it is evident that there is tremendous need and opportunity. Not preparing these youth to succeed means running the risk of having them repeat past mistakes, because, as studies have shown, youth who are incarcerated have a greater likelihood to become incarcerated adults.

Communities have a responsibility to try and help youth not travel this path. A collaborative effort between the juvenile justice system and programming professionals could help curb this trend, and help this high risk population succeed at reaching their fullest potential.