



Sentencing Guidelines Commission

Briefing Paper

Historical Juvenile Dispositions

As of July 1, 1996, the Sentencing Guidelines Commission (SGC) assumed the responsibility for tracking juvenile dispositions (RCW 9.94A.850). Over several years' time, the system, the collection process and the data were refined leaving Fiscal Year 2002 as the first year SGC is confident in the juvenile disposition data. SGC does not track juvenile deferrals and diversions.

Table 1 shows the number of juvenile dispositions for each fiscal year. The data are categorized by Gross Misdemeanors, Misdemeanors and Felony dispositions by offense type. The total number of dispositions decreases by 3,144 (21%) between FY02 to FY07.

The most frequent offenses over the years have been Gross Misdemeanors, Misdemeanors and Property offenses.

Although the total number of dispositions has decreased during the six-year time period, the offense categories maintained a consistent proportion in relation to the offenses committed each year, meaning that there was not any one particular offense type that was responsible for the decrease in dispositions.

Table 1

OFFENSES	FY02	FY03	FY04	FY05	FY06	FY07
Gross Misdemeanor	6,886	6,912	6,734	6,084	5,416	5,233
Misdemeanor	3,236	3,357	3,043	2,869	2,656	2,758
Manslaughter	5	4	6	8	8	6
Murder 1	4	2	-	2	1	1
Murder 2	1	-	-	1	-	-
Assault	595	813	574	550	527	568
Robbery	161	145	180	128	166	167
Sex	292	306	349	289	251	248
Drug	357	363	322	299	328	292
Other Felony	411	455	363	403	326	232
Property	2,775	2,957	2,766	2,488	2,355	2,074
Grand Total	14,723	15,314	14,337	13,121	12,034	11,579

Chart 1

Juvenile Dispositions FY02-FY07
Gross Misdemeanors and Misdemeanors

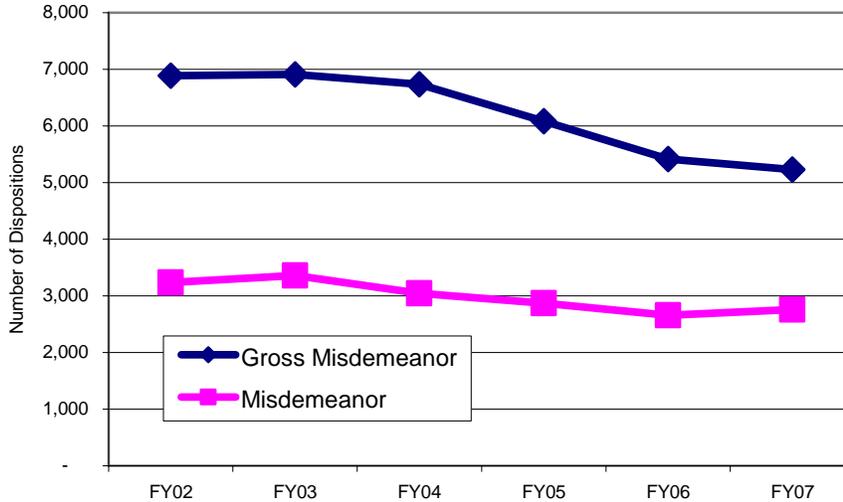
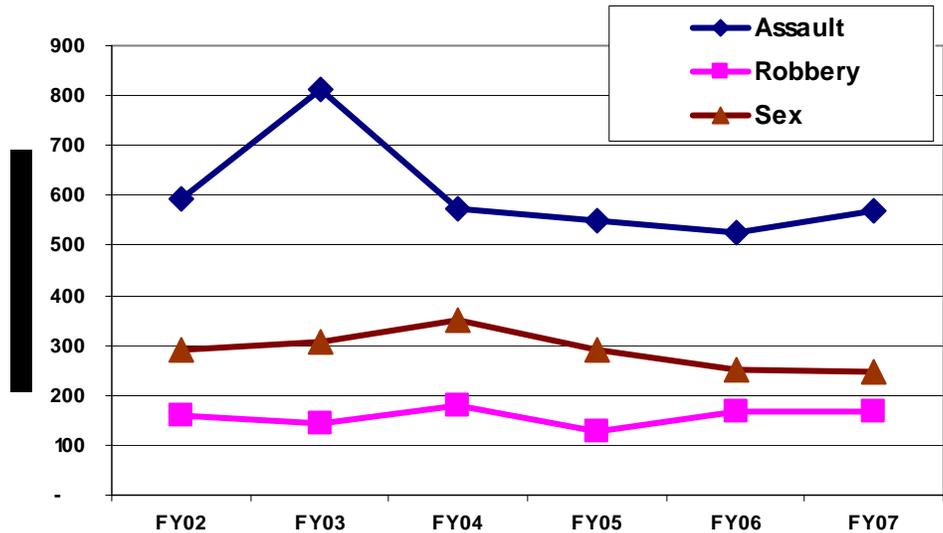


Chart 1 shows the decrease in Gross Misdemeanor and Misdemeanor dispositions over the fiscal years.

Misdemeanors decreased by about 15% while Gross Misdemeanors decreased by 25% between FY02 and FY07.

Chart 2

Juvenile Dispositions FY02-FY07
Felonies
Assault - Robbery - Sex

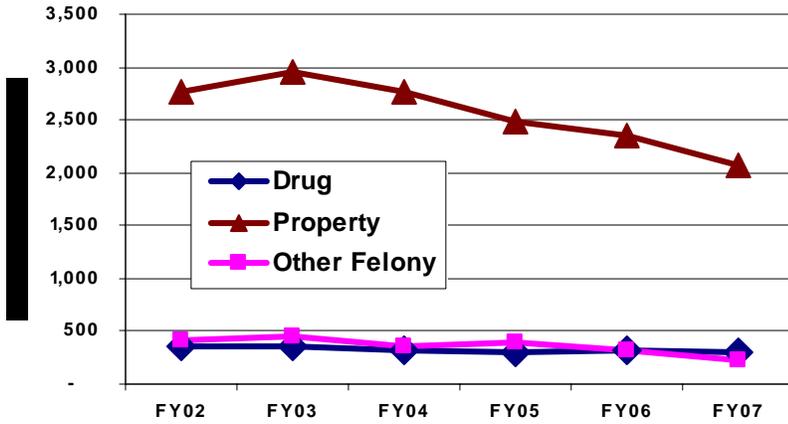


Assault peaked in FY03 but, like Robbery, has remained relatively consistent over the six year period.

Sex offenses have decreased by 15% from FY02 to FY07.

Chart 3

**Juvenile Dispositions FY02-FY07
Felonies
Drug - Property - Other Felony**



Despite a decrease of 25% from FY02 – FY07, Property offenses were the most frequent felony disposition during the six-year time period.

Drug offenses dropped by 18% while Other Felony offenses dropped by 44%.

Chart 4

**Juvenile Dispositions FY02 - FY07
Gender**

The distribution of males and females receiving juvenile dispositions has remained steady over the six years with females averaging 22% and males averaging 78% of dispositions.

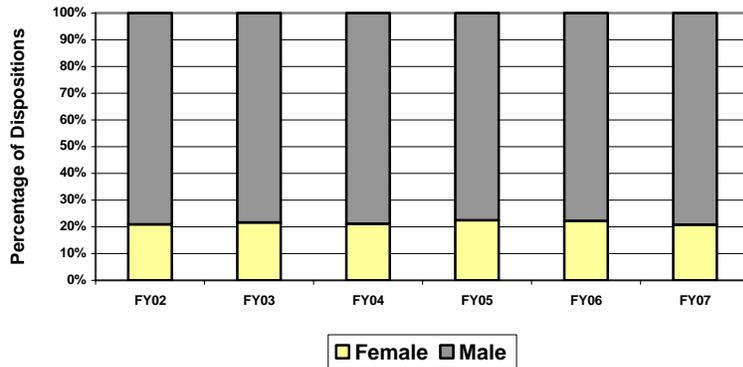


Chart 5

**Juvenile Dispositions FY02 - FY07
Age**

The age distribution of juveniles receiving dispositions has changed very little with the majority being ages 15-17 and the minority being ages 9-11. From FY02 to FY07, the percentage of 13-year-olds dropped by 2%, while the percentage of 16-year-olds and 17-year-olds increased by 2% and 3%, respectively.

