

Juvenile Correctional Population Projections

Legislative Budget Board
Criminal Justice Data Analysis Team
December 2011

Criminal Justice Data Analysis Team Structure and Staff Members

- Michele Connolly – Manager
- Jamie Gardner – Juvenile Analysis
- Adriana Marin – Adult Analysis
- Laurie Molina – Adult Analysis
- Ed Sinclair – Field and Qualitative Research

Criminal Justice Forum Logistics: Forum Parameters

- Diverse group of participants
- A learning opportunity for all
- Limited to the subject area
- Format:
 - 5 minutes for overview and orientation
 - 45 minutes for presentation of policy questions, methodologies, and key findings
 - 30 minutes for questions and answers

Criminal Justice Forum Ground Rules: Presenter Information

- Legislative Budget Board (LBB) staff
- LBB staff members are non-partisan
- Staff are not in a position to provide personal opinions
- Criminal Justice Data Analysis Team focus on policy-oriented analysis

Agenda

- Overview
- Methodology
- Assumptions and Data Limitations
- Compare Actual and Projected Populations
- Next Steps

Purpose of Projections

- Factor in developing recommended appropriation amounts for agencies
- Criminal Justice Impact Statement
 - Written estimate of the increase or decrease in juvenile correctional populations that may result from implementation of a bill or joint resolution
- Fiscal note
 - Written estimate of the costs, savings, revenue gain, or revenue loss that may result from implementation of a bill or joint resolution that increases or decreases juvenile correctional populations
- Resource for staff (LBB, legislative, and state agency)

Background

- Agency-Produced Projections
 - Texas Juvenile Probation Commission projects referrals
 - Texas Youth Commission (TYC) calculated population projections until 2000
- Criminal Justice Policy Council calculated and reported TYC population projections from 2000 to 2003
- Legislative Budget Board (LBB) began calculating and reporting TYC and JPD population projections in 2004

Report Release Schedule

- **Every other June (even years)**
 - Coincides with Legislative Appropriation Requests
 - Used in developing juvenile justice agencies' legislative appropriation requests and budget bill as introduced

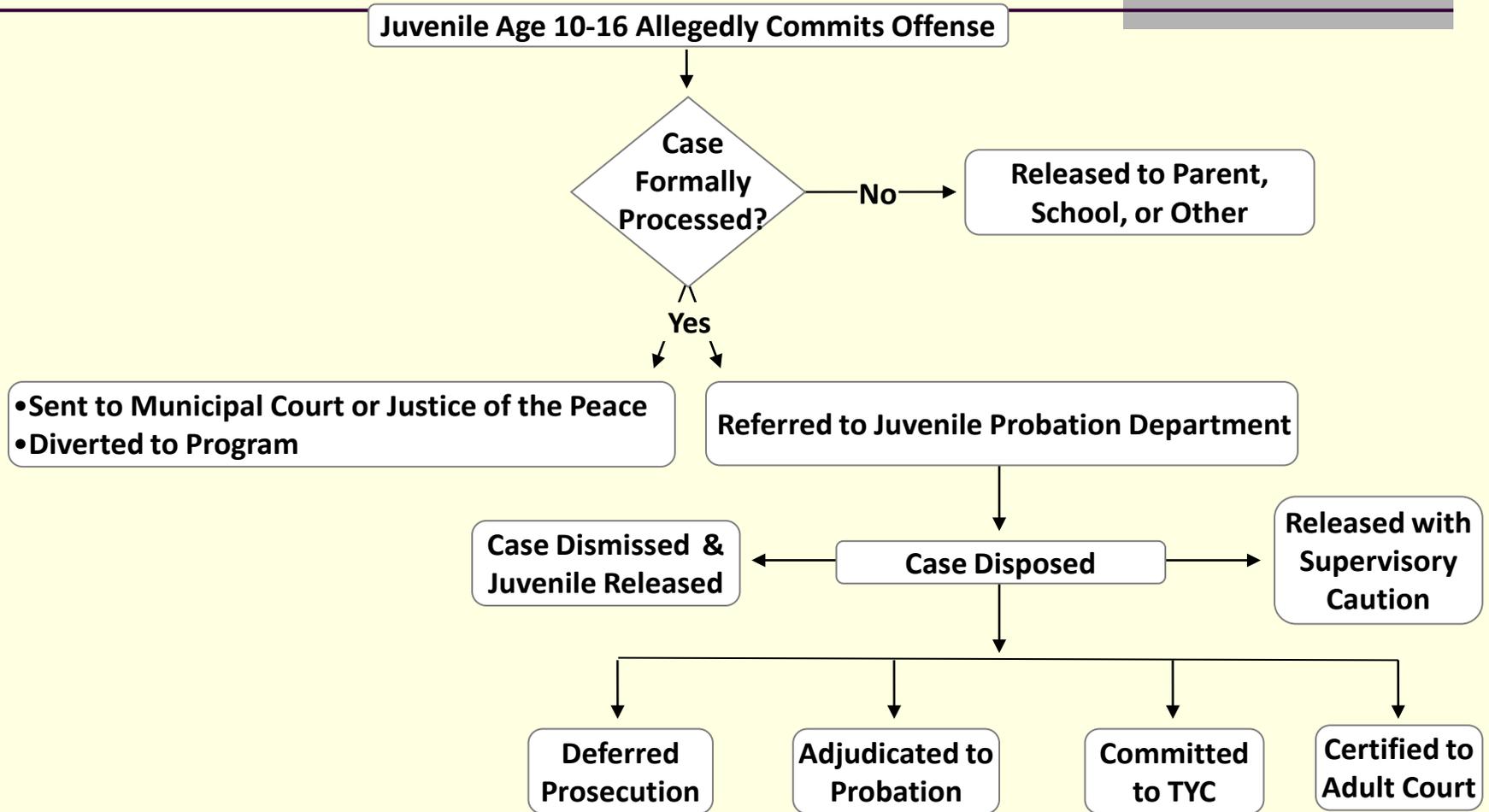
- **Every other January (odd years)**
 - Coincides with legislative session
 - Informs legislative budgeting process during session

- **Populations are projected for the current and following five fiscal years**

Most Recent Projections Report

- *Adult and Juvenile Correctional Population Projections, January 2011*
 - Includes figures for FY 2011 through FY 2016
 - http://www.lbb.state.tx.us/PubSafety_CrimJustice/3_Reports/Projections_Reports_2011.pdf

Highlights of the Juvenile Justice System



Projected Juvenile Populations

- Texas Youth Commission (TYC) Residential Facilities
- Juvenile Probation Department (JPD) Supervision
 - Supervision Prior to Disposition
 - Supervision that occurs while the youth awaits disposition of his/her case
 - Conditions are generally limited to ensuring the juvenile will return to court and attend school

Projected Juvenile Populations

- Juvenile Probation Department (JPD) Supervision
 - Deferred Prosecution Supervision
 - A voluntary supervision program agreed upon by the youth, guardian, prosecutor, and JPD
 - The youth has not been found true of committing the offense but probable cause has been found
 - Upon successful completion, the case can be dismissed
 - Adjudicated Probation Supervision
 - Juveniles found true of committing the offense
 - Ordered to serve a specified period of time on supervision

How the LBB Projects Juvenile Justice Populations

Apply predicted LOS* to each juvenile
↓

On-Hand
Population

Future
Admissions

↑
Apply predicted LOS to each juvenile

Update Simul8**
Projection Model
with these
Populations &
Enter Total
Number of
Expected
Admissions

Final
Projected
Population

* Length of Stay/Supervision

** Simul8 is a software package that moves and ages people through a system according to rules (e.g., rules of movement) set by the user

Key Questions to be Answered when Calculating Projections

How many youth will come into the justice system?

How long will youth stay in the justice system?

How the LBB Projects the Number of Youth Coming into the Justice System

- Recent Annual Admission Trends
- Legislative, Policy, and Practice Changes
- Texas Juvenile Population and Arrest Trends
- Qualitative Research Findings
 - Focus groups & interviews with juvenile justice practitioners
 - Help explain data & understand planned shifts in policy/practice
 - Performed in the fall before the legislative session

Key Questions to be Answered when Calculating Projections

How many youth will come into the justice system?

How long will youth stay in the justice system?

How the Justice System Determines Length of Supervision (LOS): JPD

- Juvenile Courts set LOS
- JPD Supervision must end by:
 - 18th birthday if under indeterminate sentence* probation
 - 19th birthday if under determinate sentence* probation
- Deferred Prosecution Supervision has additional limits:
 - Can last up to 6 months
 - Can be extended up to an additional 6 months

** Indeterminate Sentence Probation is a term of probation that can last until the youth's 18th birthday and is administered by the juvenile justice system. Determinate Sentence Probation is a term of probation that can last up to 10 years and can be transferred to adult community supervision.*

How the Justice System Determines Length of Residential Stay (LOS): TYC

■ Determinate Commitments

- Juvenile Courts set sentence (up to 10, 20, or 40 years)
- Texas law requires a minimum period of confinement in residential placement (1, 2, 3, or 10 years)
- TYC custody ends on or before the youth's 19th birthday
 - If youth has not completed the sentence, the youth is transferred to adult parole or prison by that date

How the Justice System Determines Length of Residential Stay (LOS): TYC

■ Indeterminate Commitments

- TYC assigns a minimum LOS for residential placement
- Upon completion of minimum LOS:
 - If the youth has made sufficient progress in treatment,* the youth is eligible for parole
 - Otherwise a TYC Review Panel examines the youth's case to determine if the youth should remain in a residential setting for additional rehabilitation
- TYC Custody ends by 19th birthday

** As determined by the Treatment Team with review from the executive director, facility administrator, or division director over youth services*

How the LBB Projects Length of Stay for Juveniles in the Justice System

- Select representative sample of recent releases
- Subdivide the populations into logical groupings
- Use multivariate regression analysis to determine which factors are the strongest predictors of each group's LOS
- Use the coefficients of these predictors to project LOS for future populations
- Adjust LOS to ensure no youth stays past date when custody ends (18th or 19th birthday)

Projecting Future Juvenile Justice Populations once Key Questions are Answered

How many youth will come into the justice system?

How long will youth stay in the justice system?

Project Populations

How the LBB Projects Future Juvenile Justice Populations

Apply predicted LOS to each juvenile

On-Hand Population

Future Admissions

Apply predicted LOS to each juvenile

Update Simul8 Projection Model with these Populations & Enter Total Number of Expected Admissions

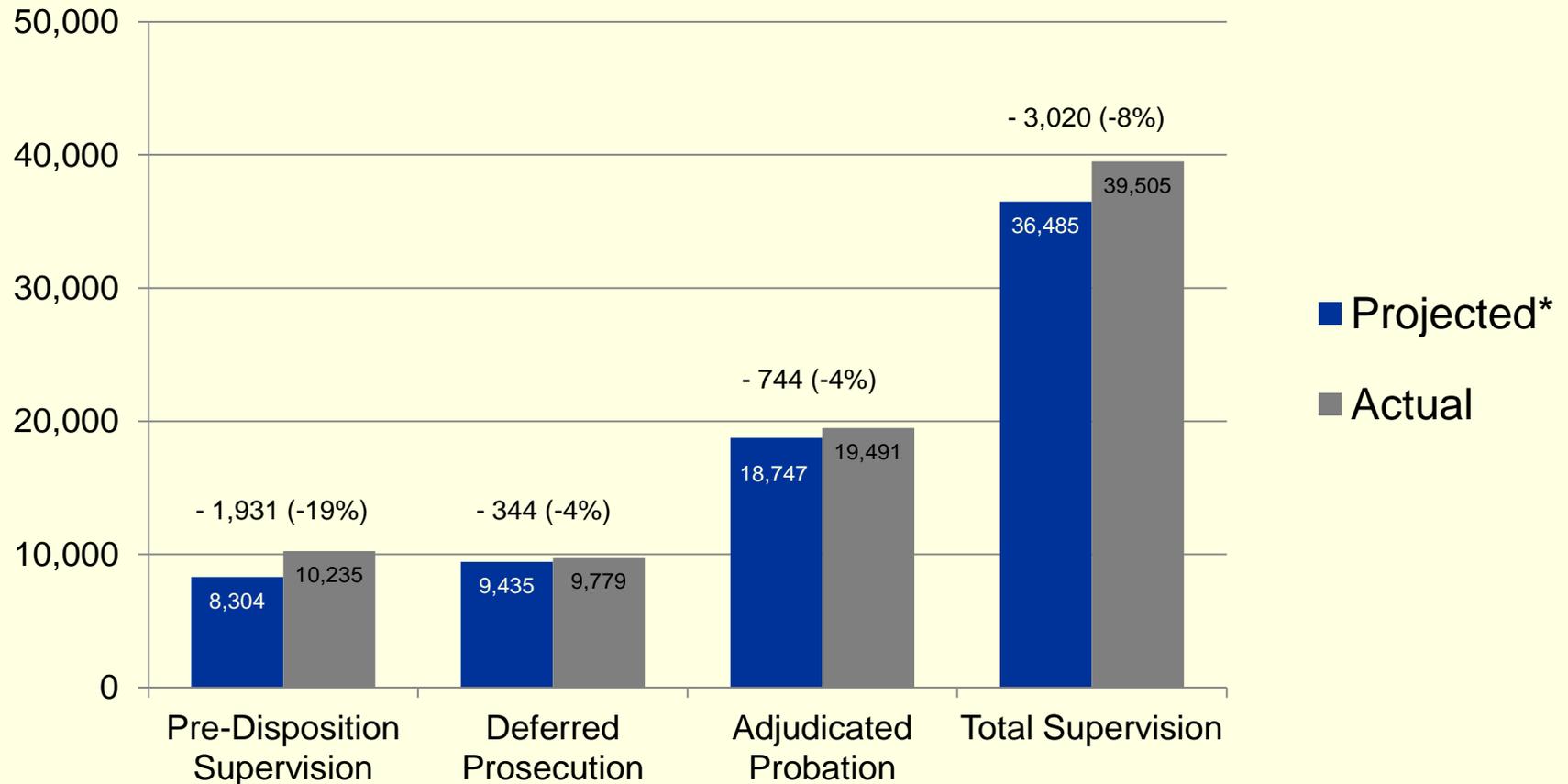
Final Projected Population

Assumptions and Data Limitations

- Assume that past populations, admissions, and LOS will be similar to those in the future
 - Projections are produced prior to the legislative session, so subsequent legislative changes are not considered
 - Significant, ongoing changes in juvenile justice system

- Assume that the independent variables in the regression model are sufficient to provide meaningful predictors for LOS (the dependent variable)

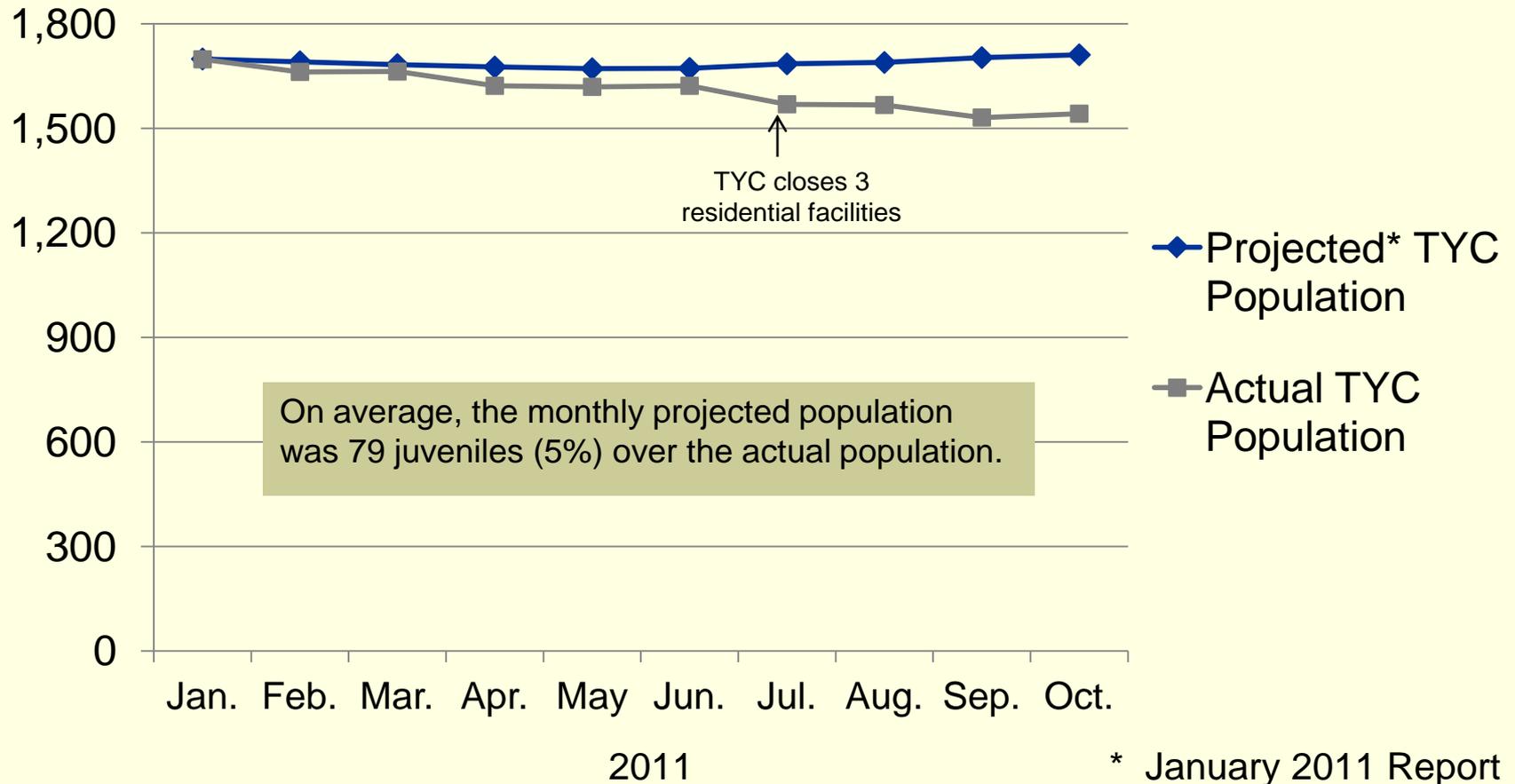
Comparison of Actual and Projected Populations: JPD Supervisions



FY11

*January 2011 Report

Comparison of Actual and Projected Populations: TYC



Next Steps

- Continue to monitor January 2011 projections
 - These projections indicated that the populations would remain relatively stable for the next several years with notable caveats:
 - Merger of TYC and TJPC could result in changes to policy and practice
 - Juvenile justice remains focus of legislators and could result in legislative shifts
 - Local governments and nonprofits are facing significant financial pressures which could affect the availability of alternatives to the juvenile justice system
- Next projections report will be released in June 2012

Questions?

Facilitated Discussion

The LBB is currently collecting data for the June 2012 Projections Report.

- Is there additional information that we should consider when producing this report?
- Are there other ways we can learn of planned policy and practices that impact populations?
- Are there any other ways to improve the methodology?

Facilitated Discussion

- Are you conducting or planning on conducting research related to population projections?
- Do you use projections in your current work/research or could you see projections being helpful in your work/research?

How can I be involved in the legislative process?

- Senate Finance Committee
- House Appropriations Committee
- Senate Criminal Justice Committee
- House Corrections Committee
- House Criminal Jurisprudence Committee

- www.legis.state.tx.us
(Texas Legislature Online)

Contact Information

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