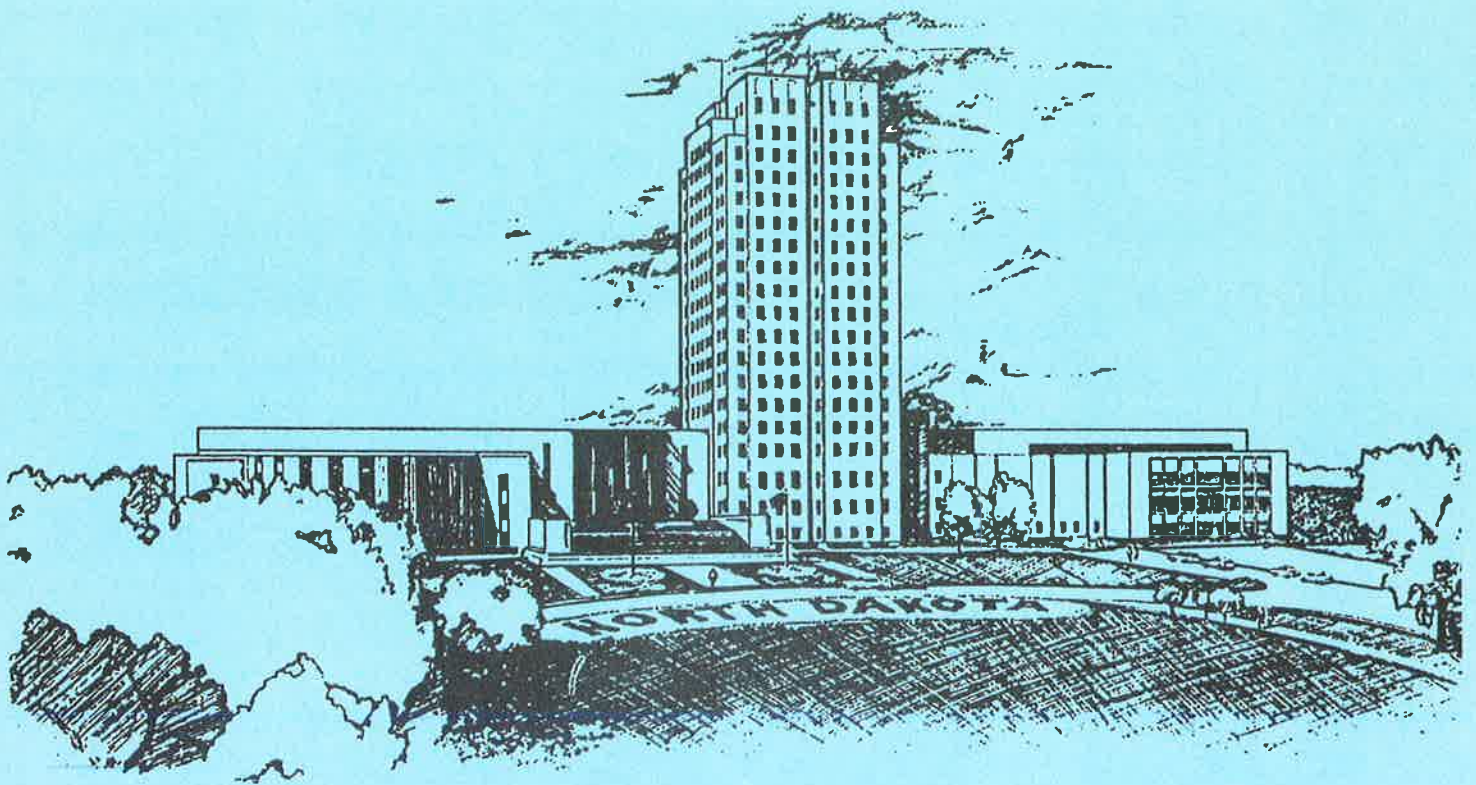


ANNUAL REPORT OF THE
**NORTH DAKOTA
JUDICIAL SYSTEM**

Calendar Year 1990



William G. Bohn
Executive Secretary

JUVENILE CASELOAD

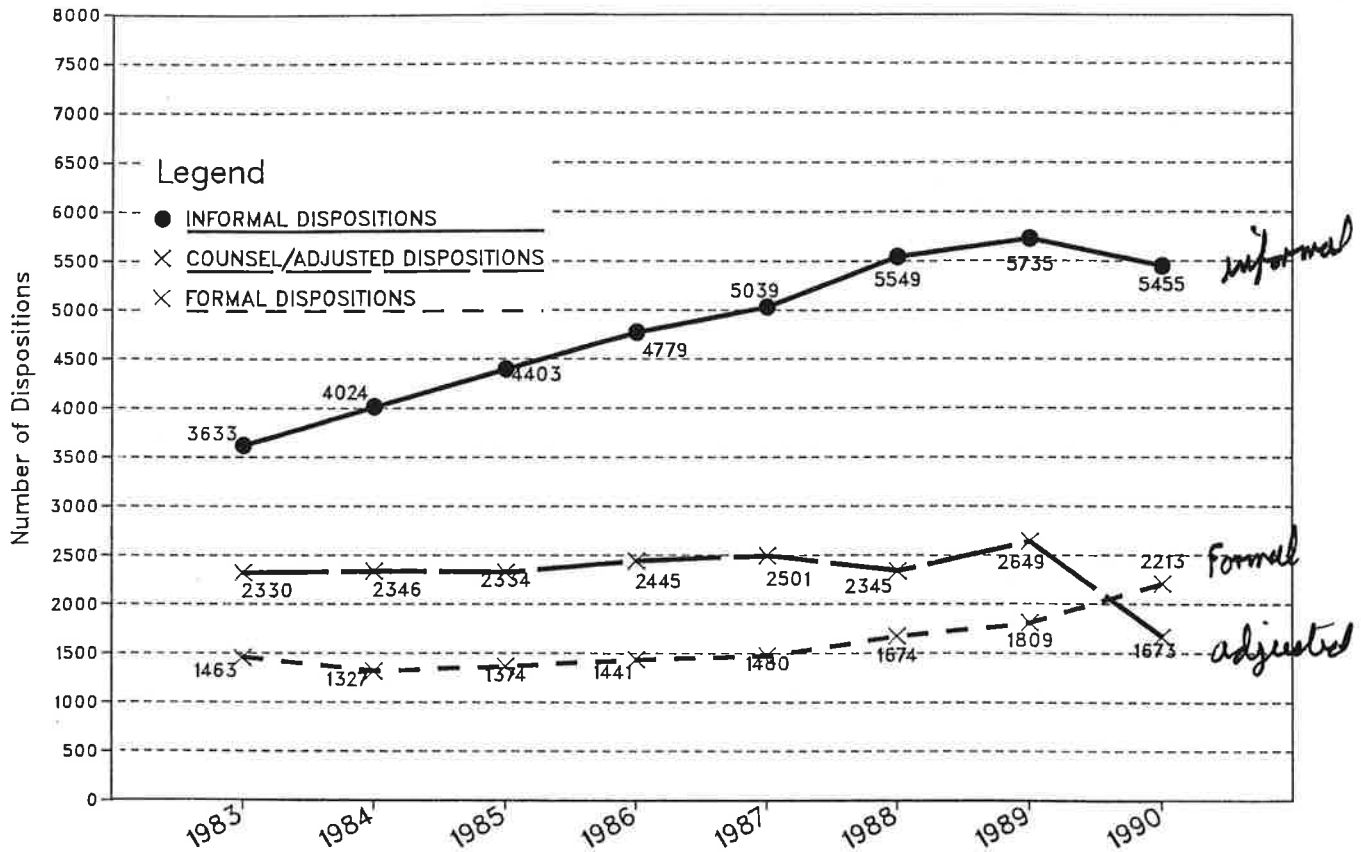
As with the criminal caseload, the low violent crime rate in North Dakota is reflected in its juvenile court statistics. Offenses against persons made up 3% of the juvenile court caseload. Meanwhile, status offenses (offenses which only a child can commit) made up 16% of the caseload. Offenses against property 27%, traffic offenses 5%, deprivation 25%, and other filings 24%.

The method by which cases were disposed showed a slight decrease in the use of informal supervision. Of the cases heard, 58% were disposed of through informal adjustments in 1990 up from 56% in 1989. Additionally, 18% of the cases were counsel

adjusted, and 23% were handled formally. This compares with 26% counsel adjusted in 1989 and 19% handled formally.

Overall, the juvenile court caseload decreased by 8% reversing an upward trend that has been present for the last several years. The table on the adjacent page compares the reason for referral for the juvenile court in 1989 and 1990. As in previous years, the illegal possession or purchase of alcoholic beverages continues to be the most common single reason for referral to the juvenile court. Deprivation ranks second while misdemeanor theft ranks third.

COMPARISON OF JUVENILE DISPOSITIONS FOR 1983-1990



TYPES OF JUVENILE COURT DISPOSITIONS FOR 1989 AND 1990

Judicial District	Formal		Informal		Counsel/Adjusted		Total Dispositions		Percent Difference For Total Dispositions
	1990	1989	1990	1989	1990	1989	1990	1989	
Northwest	169	165	1,037	830	169	145	1,375	1,140	+21.0
Northeast	246	194	453	372	500	847	1,199	1,413	-15.1
Northeast Central	286	235	730	1,135	138	119	1,154	1,489	-22.5
East Central	734	546	807	559	132	714	1,673	1,819	-8.0
Southeast	182	189	608	690	252	268	1,042	1,147	-9.2
South Central	500	396	1,606	1,935	271	340	2,377	2,671	-11.0
Southwest	96	84	214	214	211	216	521	514	+1.4
TOTAL	2,213	1,809	5,455	5,735	1,673	2,649	9,341	10,193	-8.4

REASONS FOR REFERRAL TO JUVENILE COURT SERVICES*
IN 1989 AND 1990

	1990	1989	Percent Difference
UNRULY	1,808	1,649	+9.6
Runaway-Instate	600	563	+6.6
Runaway-out-of-state	39	40	-2.5
Truancy	184	196	-6.1
Ungovernable Behavior	532	431	+23.4
Conduct/Control Violation	54	53	+1.9
Curfew Violation	314	294	+6.8
Other	85	72	+18.1
DELINQUENCY	6,604	5,989	+10.3
Offense Against Person	353	298	+18.5
Assault	228	170	+34.1
Homicide	2	0	0
Kidnapping	0	0	0
Sex Offense	58	62	-6.5
Other	65	66	-1.5
Offense Against Property	3,128	2,742	+14.1
Arson	24	14	+71.4
Burglary	174	156	+11.5
Criminal Mischief	603	449	+34.3
Criminal Trespass	174	147	+18.4
Forgery	58	82	-29.3
Robbery	16	2	+700.0
Theft-Misdemeanor	1,027	1,037	-1.0
Theft-Felony	741	615	+20.5
Unauthorized Use of Vehicle	138	104	+32.7
Other	173	136	+27.2
Traffic Offenses	539	559	-3.6
Driving w/o License	307	327	-6.1
Negligent Homicide	3	0	0
Other	229	232	-1.3
Other Offenses	2,584	2,390	+8.1
Disorderly Conduct	237	238	-0.4
Firearms	31	29	+6.9
Game & Fish Violation	52	47	+10.6
Obstruction of Law	37	20	+85.0
Possession or Purchase of			
Alcoholic Beverage	2,046	1,830	+11.8
Controlled Substance Violation	47	71	-33.8
Other	134	155	-13.5
DEPRIVATION	2,261	2,168	+4.0
Abandoned	2	4	-50.0
Abuse/Neglect	1,541	1,486	+4.0
Deprived	592	586	+1.0
Other	128	92	+39
SPECIAL PROCEEDINGS	96	78	+23.1
Involuntary Termination of			
Parental Rights	15	5	+200.0
Voluntary Termination of			
Parental Rights	81	72	+12.5
Other	0	1	-100.0
TOTAL	10,139	9,884	+3.0

*The reason the referral total differs from the dispositions chart is because some cases may have more than one reason for referral.