Delaware Sex Offenders Profiles and CJ System Outcomes

For the Sex Offender Management Board
June 29, 2009
By the Delaware Statistical Analysis Center
70 to 80 Percent of Sexual Assaults Are Not Reported

Tjaden & Thoennes (NIJ 2006)
Sex Offender Arrest History

- The average sex offender has 15 prior arrests.
- 52% were arrested more than 10 times.
- 51% have non-sexual violent felony arrests.
- 35% have prior sex offense arrests.
- 25% have deadly weapon arrests.
Sex Offenders' Arrests Frequency and Use of Deadly Weapons

![Graph showing the distribution of sex offenders with and without a history of using deadly weapons. The x-axis represents the number of arrests, ranging from 1 to 100, and the y-axis represents the number of persons. The graph is divided into categories such as 'First', '2-5', '6-10', '11-15', '16-20', '21-30', '31-40', '41-50', and '51+'. The legend indicates two distributions: 'Distribution of Sex Offenders' and 'With Deadly Weapon History'.]
Sex Offenders’ Victims

- 77% are juveniles (less than 18 years old)
- 46% are between 12 and 15 years old
- 89% are females
- 56% are known non-family members
- 13% are not known by the victim
Age of Victims of Sex Offenses

- Birth to 5
- 6-11
- 12-15
- 16-17
- 18-21
- 22-30
- 31-40
- 41+
Types of Sex Offenses

- Sexual Contact: 27%
- Statutory Rape: 16%
- No Contact: 11%
- Penetration: 46%
Offender-Victim Relationships

- Family: 26%
- Authority Figure: 6%
- Stranger: 13%
- Known Non-Family: 55%
89% of the offenders are older than their victims.
The average age of the offender is 33.
The average age of the victim is 16.
When the victim is between 12 and 15 years old the average age of the offender is 31.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Offender Age</th>
<th>&lt;6</th>
<th>6-11</th>
<th>12-15</th>
<th>16-17</th>
<th>18-21</th>
<th>22-30</th>
<th>31-40</th>
<th>41+</th>
<th>Row Totals</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11-14</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15-17</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18-21</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22-25</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26-30</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31-35</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36-40</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>41-45</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>46-50</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>51-55</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>56-60</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>61+</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Column Totals</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>136</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>299</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Sex Offender Conviction Rates

- 84% of Superior Court sex offender cases result in a conviction
- 53% of the convictions retain the most serious charge from arrest to conviction
- 47% of these convictions are for reduced charges
- Cases with juvenile victims have a 85% conviction rate
- Cases with adult victims have a 43% conviction rate
### Sex Offender Conviction Rates by Age Group

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Victim Age</th>
<th>Number Arrested</th>
<th>Number Convicted</th>
<th>Conviction Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Juvenile</td>
<td>231</td>
<td>197</td>
<td>85.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adult</td>
<td>69</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>43.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No Victim</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>78.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>385</strong></td>
<td><strong>294</strong></td>
<td><strong>76.4%</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Plea Process for Cases Involving Only Sex Offense Charges

### Most Serious Charge at Conviction

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Most Serious Charge at Arrest</th>
<th>Num Of Cases</th>
<th>Fel A</th>
<th>Fel B</th>
<th>Fel C</th>
<th>Fel D</th>
<th>Fel E</th>
<th>Fel G</th>
<th>Misd.</th>
<th>Trial Not Guilty</th>
<th>Dismissed (NP)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Felony A</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Felony B</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Felony C</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Felony D</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Felony E</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Felony G</td>
<td>115</td>
<td>69</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Misd.</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Of the Sex Offenders Convicted in Superior Court ….

- 24% receive a Prison term of greater than one year
- 20% receive a Jail term of less than one year.
- 55% receive a Level IV (WR EHC) or Probation term.

- 49% of those convicted of sexual penetration (rape) go to prison
- 13% of those convicted of sexual contact go to prison
Type of Sentence and Prior Sex Crime Arrests

![Graph showing the relationship between Type of Sentence and Prior Sex Crime Arrests. The x-axis represents different types of sentences such as Life, Prison, Jail, Time Served, L IV, and Probation. The y-axis represents the number of prior sex crime arrests. The bars show the number of arrests for each type of sentence.]
Sex Offender Tier Designation

- Tier III is high risk \( \ldots \) 23%
- Tier II is moderate risk \( \ldots \) 40%
- Tier I is low risk \( \ldots \) 22%

15\% of the sex offenders do not register because they plead to an offense not requiring registration.
Sex Offender Recidivism

- For those “at risk” (in the community for 2 years), 86% of the sex offenders have been rearrested
- 61% have been rearrested 2 or more times
- 31% have been rearrested for a felony
- 3% have been rearrested for a new sex crime

But, from a different point of view, of all persons arrested for a sex offense, 35% have a prior sex offense in their history
70 to 80 Percent of Sexual Assaults Are Not Reported

Tjaden & Thoennes (NIJ 2006)