

## Meeting Summary

Following is a summary of issues discussed at the DJS Stat on May 6, 2011. Analysis is provided by StateStat and the Governor's Delivery Unit (GDU).

### Follow-Up

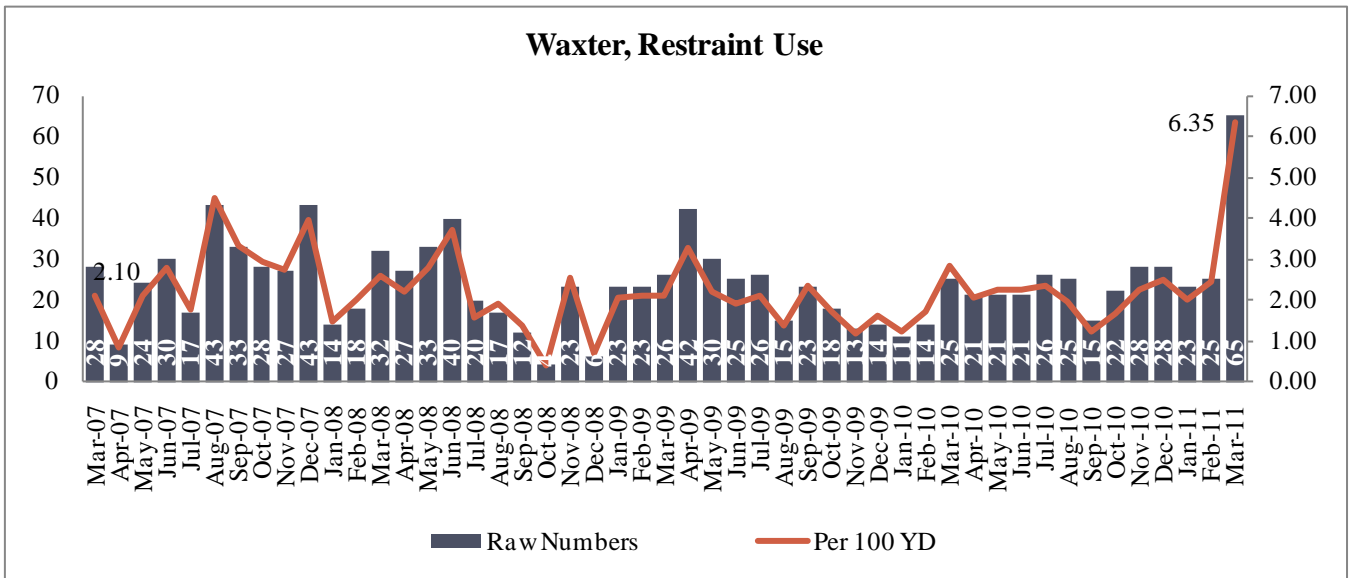
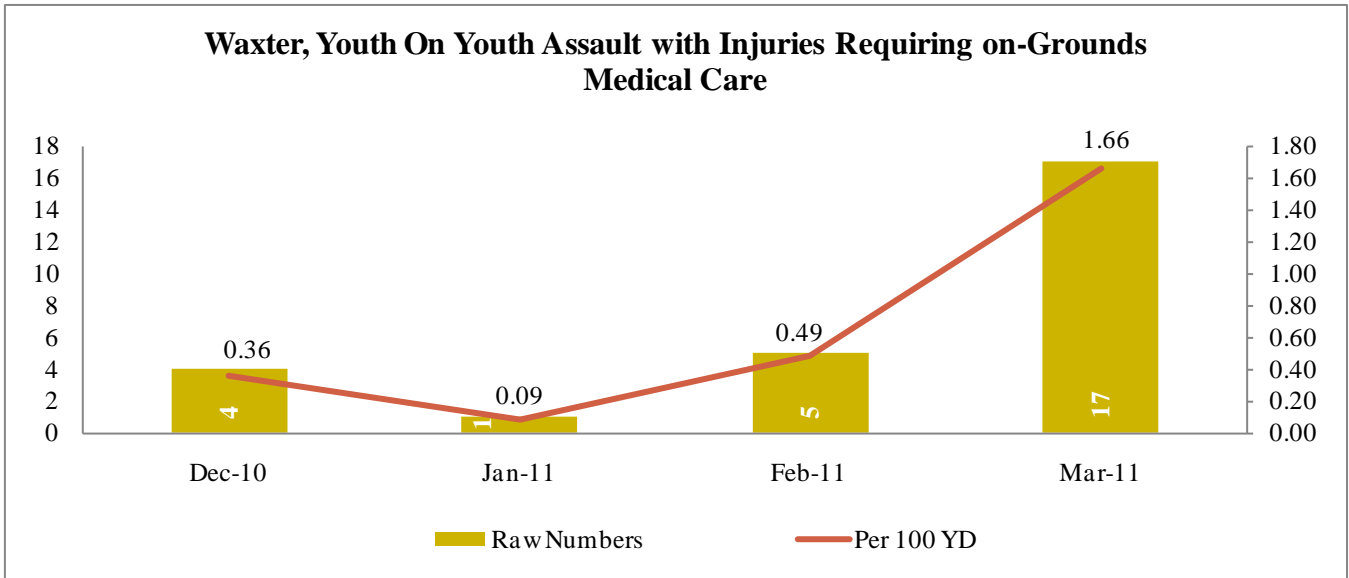
- **Dr. Berk.** Dr. Richard Berk from the University of Pennsylvania called and participated in a conference call during the last StateStat session and he discussed his analysis of DJS cases. DJS was asked to follow-up and provide Dr. Berk's actual methodology. The table below shows what Dr. Berk has been doing and where his analysis will aid DJS in their case management process.

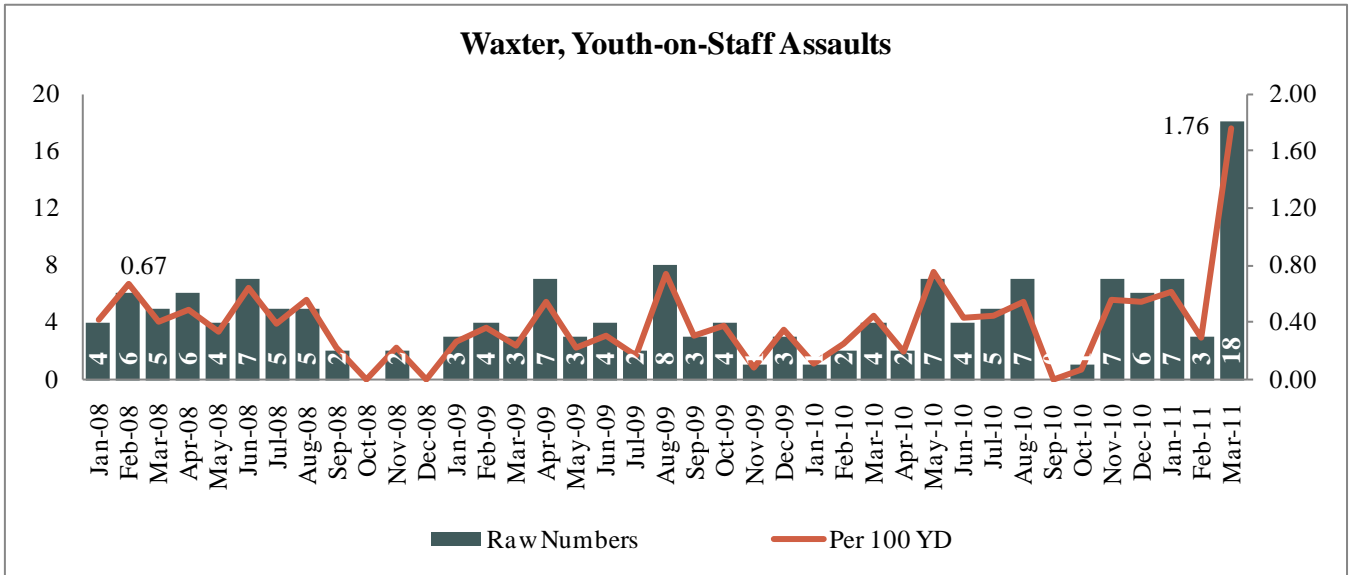
<b>Dr. Berk's Proposed DJS Project</b>	
<b>Step 1</b>	A pilot sample of 1000 cases will be assembled.
<b>Step 2</b>	The variables in that pilot sample will be examined for the meaning, completeness, and potential usefulness.
<b>Step 3</b>	An analysis sample will be assembled informed by the pilot results. This sample might be the 2007 intake cohort mentioned above. The data will include potential predictors and potential outcomes of interest.
<b>Step 4</b>	Machine/statistical learning procedures will be applied to the data to develop forecasting algorithms. A procedure called "random forests" (Breiman, 2001) has proved to be especially effective in past work. The data analysis process will be iterative in the sense that provisional results will be made available to key stakeholders and stakeholder feedback will be use to improve the approaches taken. The quality of the forecasts will be determined with out-of-sample data.
<b>Step 5</b>	Once there is a single (or very small number of) forecasting procedure(s) having acceptable forecasting accuracy, the model will be field tested to determine it is operationally practical. Past experience suggests that any operational problems should be minor and easily addressed.
<b>Step 6</b>	With Step 5 successfully completed, the forecasting procedures will be built into the software routinely used by the Department of Juvenile Service.

### Waxter

- **Waxter.** At the previous Stat, DJS was asked about spikes in Injuries, Restraint Use, and Physical Assaults at many of their detention facilities. The main concern that rose from the discussion of these incidents was the fact that the Waxter facility had the highest rate per 100 YD in all of the aforementioned categories. When asked at the previous Stat why DJS believed that March was such a bad month in terms of incidents, DJS stated that there were a handful of girls, with severe mental health needs, who were contributing to the high incident rates. Due to the fact that the incident rates at Waxter were so alarming, this worker visited the facility recently.

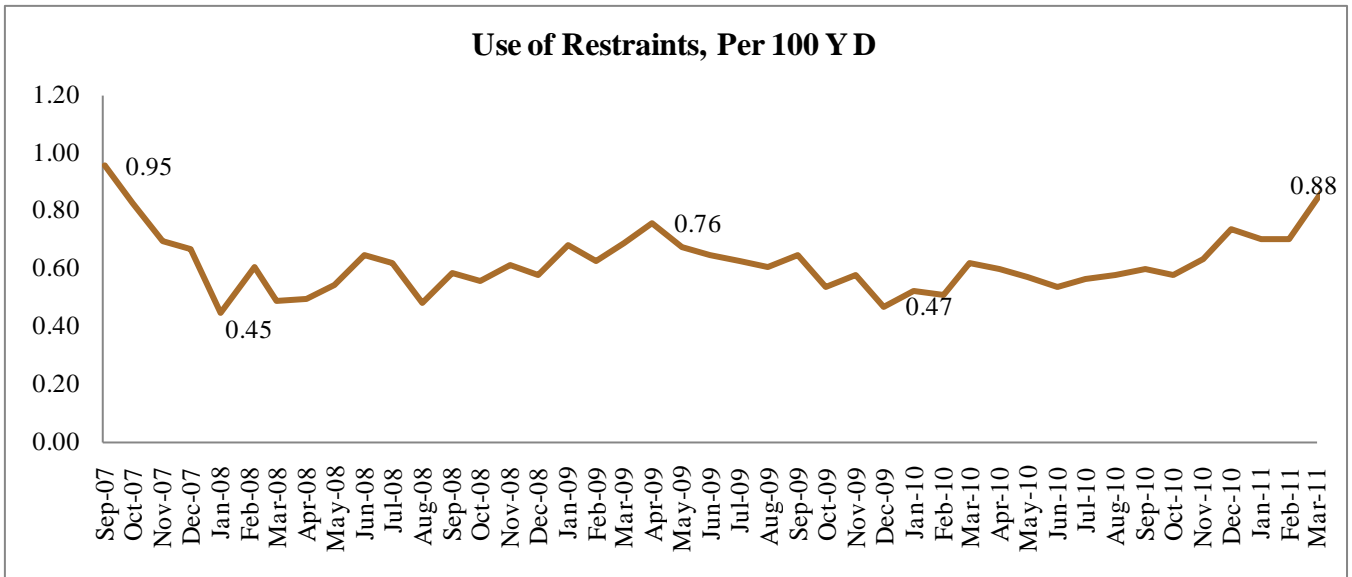
The charts below show the increase in Youth-on-Youth Injury rates/Assaults, Restraint Use, and Youth-on-Staff Assaults at the facility (It should be noted that DJS now reports Youth-on-Youth Assaults with Injuries differently in the template). This worker spoke with a staff member from the facility and she stated that the rise in incidents in March mainly involved three youths who had severe mental health issues. All three youths were still at Waxter at the time of this worker’s visit; however one of the youths may have been in the process of being placed into a committed program that same day. The staff member also indicated that March was when new staff arrived at the facility and she believed that these new employees were targeted by the youths, therefore contributing to the high incident rates.



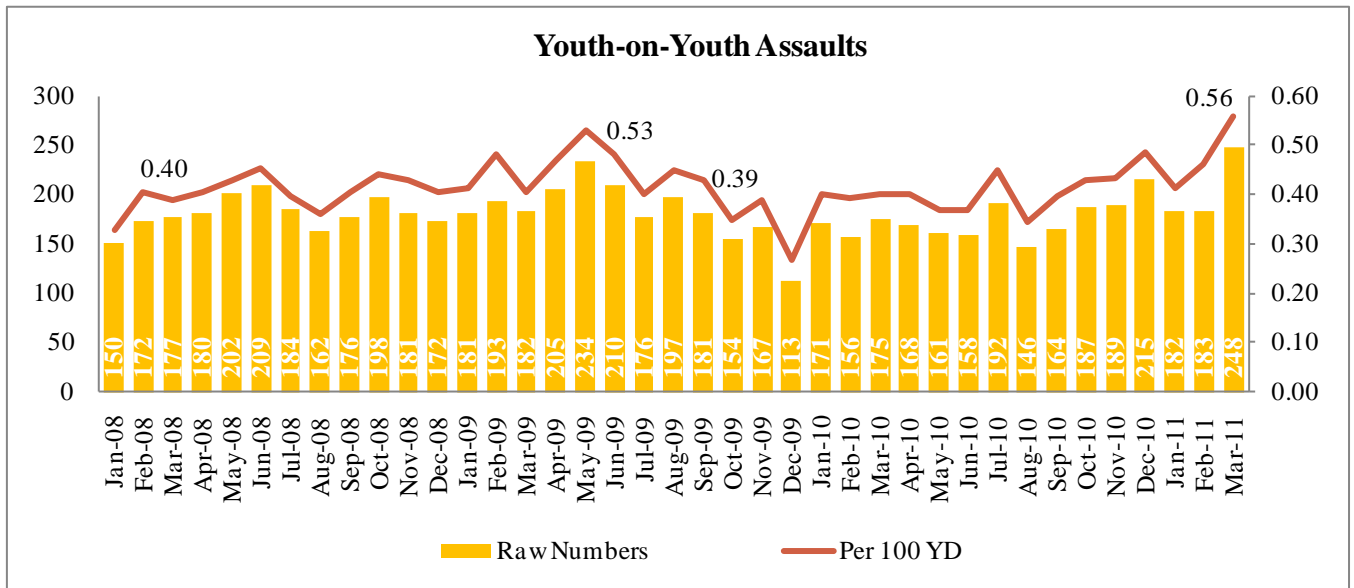


**Placements**

- Restraint Use in Facilities.** At the previous Stat, DJS was asked to explain the rising Use of Restraints at their facilities and the significant jumps in use that took place in March (as indicated below). DJS stated that the restraint use was due to the fact that a small group of youths were causing several incidents at three to four of their facilities.



- Youth-on-Youth Assaults.** As discussed in the previous Stat, Youth-on-Youth Assaults is at its highest point since tracking began in January of 2008 (indicated below). DJS was asked in their follow-up, of the 248 youth-on-youth assaults in placements in March, how many were serious incidents? How many resulted in hospital visits? Also, a breakdown was to be provided of assaults by boys and assaults by girls. The template now shows Assaults by Youth-On-Youth Assaults with Injuries requiring off-Grounds Medical Care and Injuries requiring on-Grounds Medical Care.



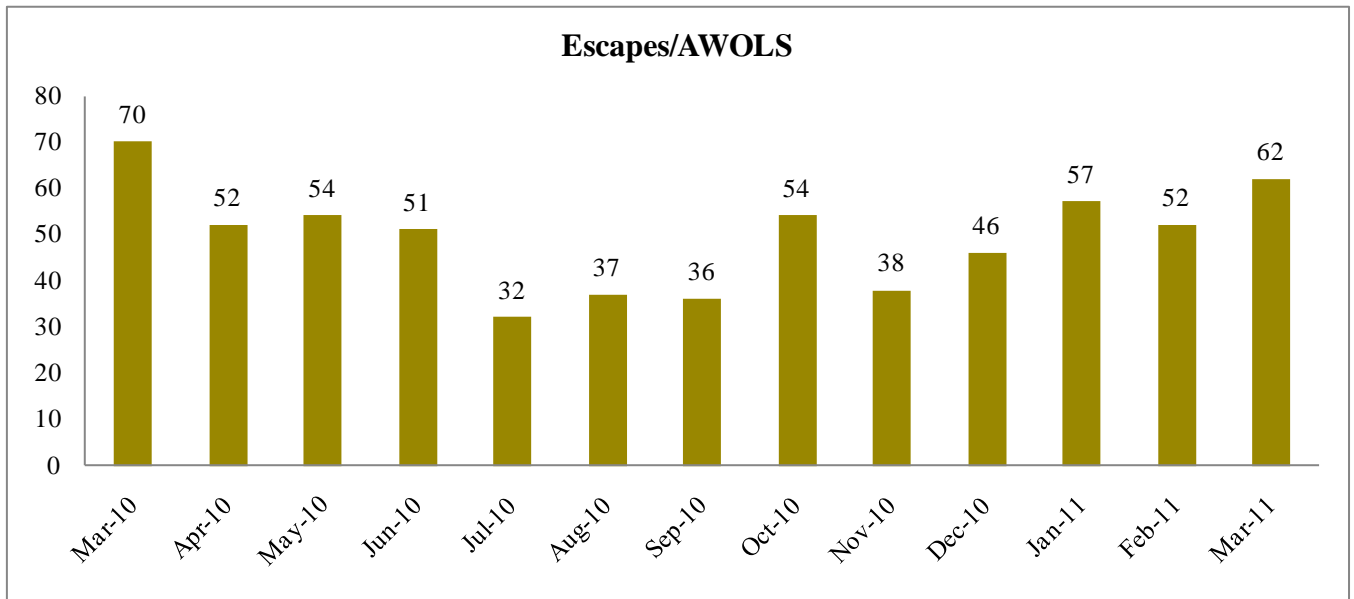
- Escapes/AWOLS.** As indicated below, and discussed at the previous Stat, Escapes/AWOLS are at their highest point since March of 2010. According to the template, the AWOLS have taken place at Privately Operated facilities. DJS was asked to follow-up and provide an update on how long AWOLS listed in the template are outstanding (length of time). The following data was provided.

AWOL Youth	VPI AWOL Youth	Length of Time Missing
28	7	10 Missing Under 50 Days
		10 Missing Under 200 Days
		8 Missing over 200 Days

As of May 3, 2011

DJS was also asked to explain the follow-up steps taken with providers once youth are AWOL. DJS reports that follow-up is conducted with the provider by the DJS Office of the Inspector General. If the program fails to meet notification policy, the Executive Director of the Program Evaluation Unit also contacts the program and sends a letter asking for corrective action. The licensing agency is also notified.

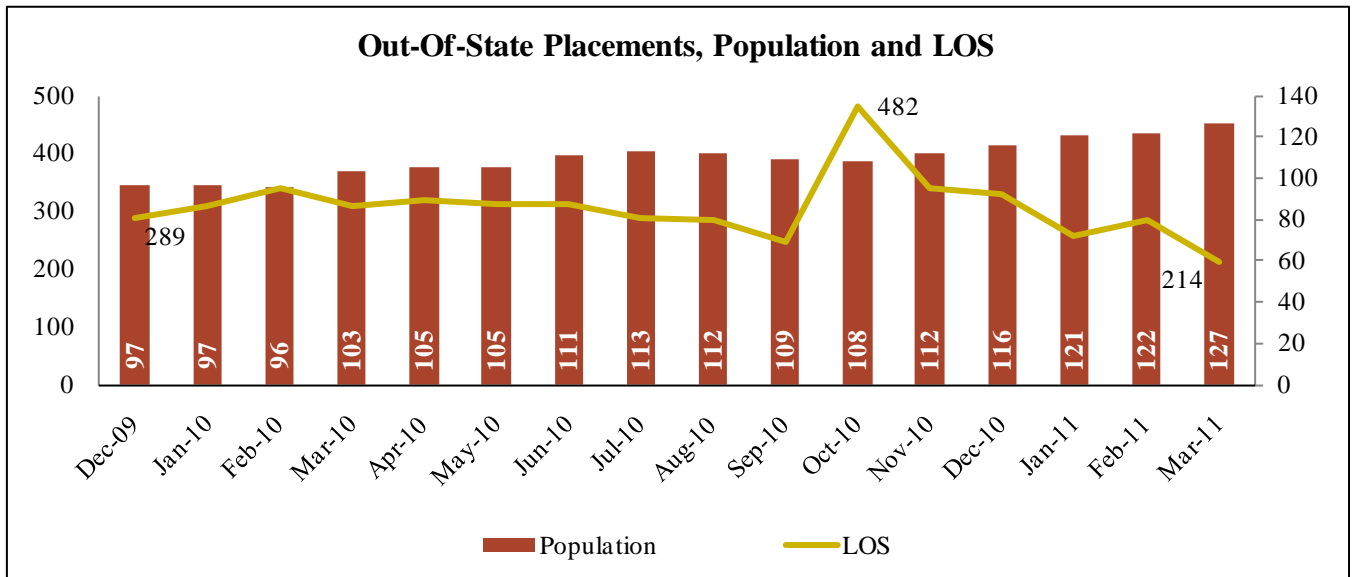
Of the thirty-five youth who were AWOL in April, all had Writs and all had been forwarded to MCAC with identifying information including a picture and known addresses. The majority of the notifications took place within the hour in compliance with DJS policy and two had two to three hour delays. Those providers have been notified by DJS' Director of Evaluation and received letters documenting the violation. One provider failed to notify for four days. The Secretary, Chief of Staff, and Director of the Program Evaluation Unit have been out to visit that program and had meet with the Director to emphasize DJS policy and the seriousness of this violation. That program will continue to be monitored more frequently.



- Out-of-State Placements and Length of Stay.** The chart below addresses the population in out-of-state placements and the length of stay for the youth. The data indicates that the number of youth out-of-state has been steadily rising; however, the length-of-stay is decreasing. In light of this data, DJS has been asked about pending placement youth and what is being done to shorten their pending time. DJS has repeatedly stated that they do not currently have sufficient in-state capacity to serve all youth pending placement to staff or hardware secure facilities or residential treatment programs.

The Department requires review of pending placement cases on a weekly basis at the regional level to ensure that admission is expedited to appropriate placements. These weekly review meetings are chaired by regional managers and held in all detention facilities. Pending placement cases in Baltimore City are also regularly reviewed at “Stuck Kids” meetings in conjunction with the court, SAO, public defenders, and DSS. Pending placement cases are also regularly reviewed at the central office level.

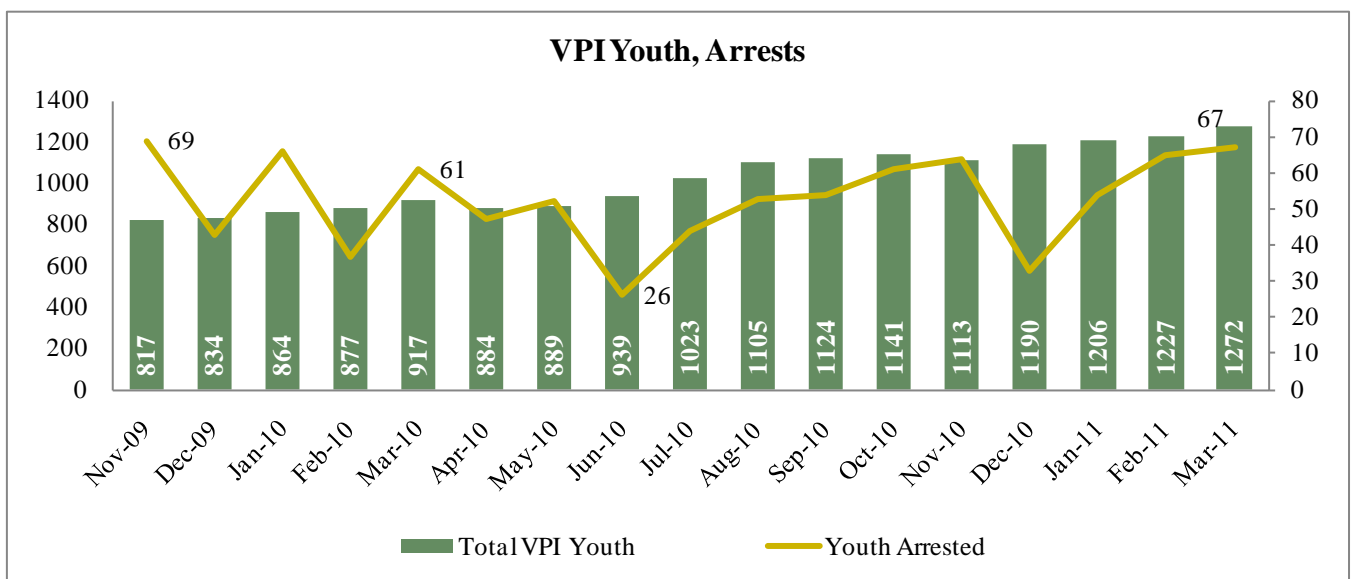
DJS youth, who are being rejected by in-state providers, are generally serious chronic violent offenders with significant need for mental health and/or substance abuse treatment. DJS continues to work with DHMH and private providers to expand residential mental health placement options for these youth. It should be noted that, generally, the courts concur with DJS’ recommendations based on MCASP. DJS is looking into and discussed a small number of court orders for placement that were inconsistent with the Department's recommendation.



### Community Supervision

- VPI Youth Arrests.** As discussed at the last Stat, according to the chart below, the amount of VPI youth arrested was at its highest point since November of 2009. The Arrest Rate jumped significantly from December of 2010 to February of this year. DJS reports that there was an increase overall in the arrests for the month of March by fifteen percent. Based on historical data, there is always an increase in the month of March. Accordingly, DJS also saw a slight increase in arrests for VPI youth, but it was only a slight increase and DJS is at six percent which is four percent lower than their ten percent goal.

Metro had the highest number of VPI re-arrests, with an increase of seven more youth arrests from February. The template shows charges/offenses so it appears more youth are being arrested but some youth can have more than one charge. However, of the VPI youth re-arrested there were a sufficient percentage of them with Robbery charges. Accordingly, DJS has scheduled a meeting with PG Police on May 12<sup>th</sup>.



## Evidence Based Services

- **Utilization.** (GDU Goal 5). The following chart details utilization of Evidence Based Services by DJS through April 11, 2011. The panel will note that utilization of active EBS slots is at **94.4%** (322 filled/341 total active slots). DJS was commended for their efforts to increase utilization.

<b>Description</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>MST</b>	<b>FFT</b>	<b>MTFC-A</b>
# of Contracted Slots	376	105	267	4
# of Slots Offline [staff vacancies or slots not online]	35	2	33	0
# of Active Slots	341	103	234	4
% of Contracted Slots Available	90.7%	98.1%	87.6%	100.0%
# of Active Cases/Families	322	101	218	3
% Filled of Active Slots	94.4%	98.1%	93.2%	75.0%
# of Vacancies	19	2	16	1
# of Youths Pending Admission	18	1	16	1
# of Active Cases (including Youths Pending Admission)	340	102	234	4
Projected Increase in Utilization (if the youths pending admissions are admitted)	99.7%	99.0%	100.0%	100.0%
% of Contracted Slots Active	85.6%	96.2%	81.6%	75.0%
Total is as of May 3, 2011				