



NSCB Fact Sheet

NATIONAL STATISTICAL COORDINATION BOARD

July 15, 2004

FS-200407-R01-02

In Region I, about one-fourth of the detained children in 2003 were in jail for more than seven months

Based from the UN Standard Rules for Administration of Juvenile Justice (Beijing Rules), detention should be the last resort for a child in conflict with the law (CICL) and should be done at the shortest possible time. CICLs refer to children who are alleged as, accused of, or adjudged as, having committed an offense under Philippine laws and who are above 9 years old but below 18 years old at the time of commission of offense. However, based on the data of the Bureau of Jail Management and Penology (BJMP) Regional Office I, there were 78 CICLs who were detained in BJMP jails in 2003, 25.6 percent of whom were in jail for seven months to more than one year. Nevertheless, this was an improvement from the 35.3 percent recorded in 2002. In addition, the number of CICLs decreased by 8.2 percent from 2002 to 2003. Majority of CICLs (74.3 percent) were detained at most six months in 2003. Meanwhile, as the percentage of carry over cases increased from 29.4 percent in 2002 to 33.3 percent in 2003, the percentage of carry over cases with detention of more than seven months improved from 84.0 percent in 2002 to 61.5 percent in 2003.

All of the provinces except La Union recorded lesser or the same number of detained CICLs in 2003. Majority of the CICLs in the provinces were also detained for at most six months. The province of Pangasinan, the most populous province in the region, posted the biggest decrease of detained CICLs at 15.6 percent, decreasing its share to the regional total from 52.9 percent in 2002 to 48.7 percent in 2003. It also had the biggest share of carry over cases to the regional total which increased from 60.0 percent in 2002 to 73.1 percent in 2003. Likewise, carry over cases in Pangasinan increased by 16.7 percentage points during the same period.

Table 1. Number of CICLs Detained in BJMP Jails by Length of Detention and Province, 2002-2003

Year/Length of Detention	Ilocos Norte		Ilocos Sur		La Union		Pangasinan		Region		TOTAL
	New	Carry-over	New	Carry-over	New	Carry-over	New	Carry-over	New	Carry-over	
CY 2002											
less than 1 month	2	-	1	-	1	-	1	-	5	-	5
1 to 6 months	9	1	4	1	9	-	24	2	46	4	50
7 months to 1 year	1	2	-	1	3	-	5	5	9	8	17
more than 1 year	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	8	-	13	13
TOTAL	12	3	5	2	13	5	30	15	60	25	85
CY 2003											
less than 1 month	3	-	3	-	3	-	1	-	10	-	10
1 to 6 months	8	3	3	-	13	2	14	5	38	10	48
7 months to 1 year	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	4	4	4	8
more than 1 year	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	10	-	12	12
TOTAL	11	4	6	-	16	3	19	19	52	26	78

Source: Bureau of Jail Management and Penology Regional Office I

Table 2. Number of Children in Conflict with Law Detained in BJMP Jails by Sex, Accused Crime and Length of Detention, 2002-2003

Year/Accused Crime	less than 1 month		1 to 6 months		7 months to 1 year		more than 1 year		TOTAL	TOTAL	
	New	Carry-over	New	Carry-over	New	Carry-over	New	Carry-over		Girl	Boy
CY 2002											
Theft	1	-	17	1	-	2	-	6	27	4	23
Drug-related	1	-	7	-	-	1	-	3	12	1	11
Robbery/Carnapping	-	-	7	1	4	2	-	2	16	1	15
Homicide/Murder/ Parricide1/	2	-	3	-	2	1	-	-	8	-	8
Rape 2/ Kidnapping	-	-	1	2	1	-	-	2	6	-	6
Others 3/	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
TOTAL	1	-	10	-	2	2	-	-	15	1	14
TOTAL	5	-	46	4	9	8	-	13	85	7	78
CY 2003											
Theft	2	-	8	3	2	2	-	3	20	2	18
Drug-related	2	-	9	3	1	-	-	1	16	5	11
Robbery/Carnapping	2	-	12	1	1	1	-	3	20	-	20
Homicide/Murder/ Parricide1/	1	-	5	3	-	1	-	2	12	-	12
Rape 2/ Kidnapping	2	-	2	-	-	-	-	1	5	1 a/	4
Others 3/	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	1
TOTAL	1	-	2	-	-	-	-	1	4	-	4
TOTAL	10	0	38	10	4	4	-	12	78	8	70

1/ Includes attempted homicide and attempted murder

2/ Includes attempted rape

3/ Includes trespassing, malicious mischief, illegal possession of firearms, estafa, grave threats and direct assault.

a/ CICL was allegedly charged with rape though she is only an accessory to the said crime.

Source: Bureau of Jail Management and Penology Regional Office I

Most of the CICLs were accused of theft and robbery in 2003, at 25.6 percent each, majority of whom were detained from one to six months. On the other hand, 62.5 percent of the carry over CICLs accused of theft stayed in jail for more than seven months. The boys remained to be the majority of detained CICLs from 91.8 percent in 2002 to 89.7 percent in 2003, indicating an increased implication of girls in crimes. In 2003, the common offense among boy CICLs was robbery/carnapping, accounting for 25.6 percent of the region's total. For girl CICLs, it was drug related offenses, representing 6.4 percent of the regional total.

Based from the Revised Penal Code, detention for a minor offense, such as theft, shall not exceed three months. The long detention period could be due to slow processing of CICL cases. The creation of family courts could fast track the resolution of children cases. Also, the immediate intervention of the CICL's parents for the possible amicable settlement of their child's case or posting of bail and constant follow-ups could shorten the period of detention. The conduct of rehabilitation programs to detained CICLs is also recommended to prevent them in committing the same or other offenses and help them become socially functioning individuals after release.

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