



Criminal Justice System in Lane County, Oregon
JANUARY 2008

CRIME AND SAFETY

GRADE D+

- Unlike the adult system grade, the grade for the juvenile system is influenced by drop out rates and self reported drug use by youth in the general community – not just those in the criminal justice system. Since data on youth in the general community relate more to “prevention”, the PSCC will reevaluate whether or not to include these data in the future.
- The juvenile arrest rate for drug abuse increased while the rate for serious property crime slightly decreased
- The juvenile arrest rates for drug and property crime remain higher in Lane County than Oregon or the U.S.
- More than 70% of juveniles on probation have alcohol or other drug problems
- Over 25% of juvenile offenders are using methamphetamine

RESOURCES AND CAPACITY

GRADE F

- Capacity of the juvenile justice system experienced a persistent erosion of corrections and treatment options
- 58 beds to hold juvenile offenders accountable remain unfunded
- State closed-custody beds available for Lane County youth were reduced by 56% since 2001-02
- Juvenile offenders who are mentally ill and those at a high risk to re-offend are remaining in the community

EFFICIENCY AND EFFECTIVENESS

GRADE C-

- In Lane County, 66% of juveniles do not re-offend after they come into contact with the juvenile justice system but this rate is decreasing
- Only a small percent of juvenile offenders become chronic offenders but this percent is increasing

JUSTICE AND ACCOUNTABILITY

GRADE F

- The ability to hold juveniles accountable is inadequate
- The system’s ability to hold juvenile offenders in secure custody is fading due to reductions in services, and unfunded detention and treatment beds
- 943 were in need of detention for violations but space was not available due to overcrowding
- Treatment options, including mental health services, for juvenile offenders have been significantly reduced



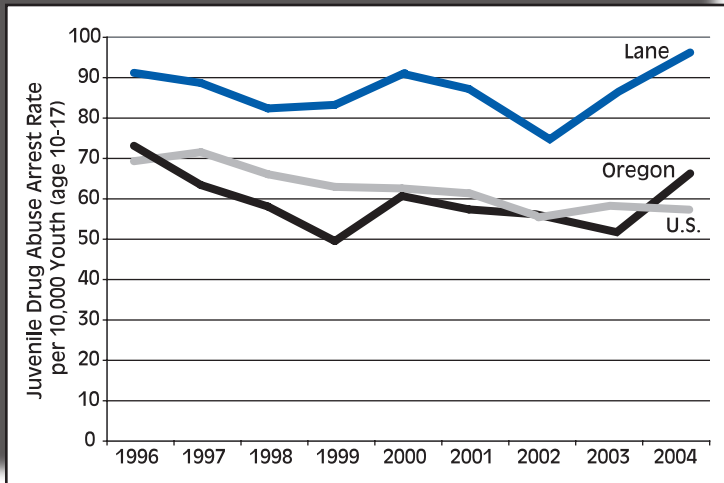
JUVENILE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM INDICATORS

CRIME AND SAFETY

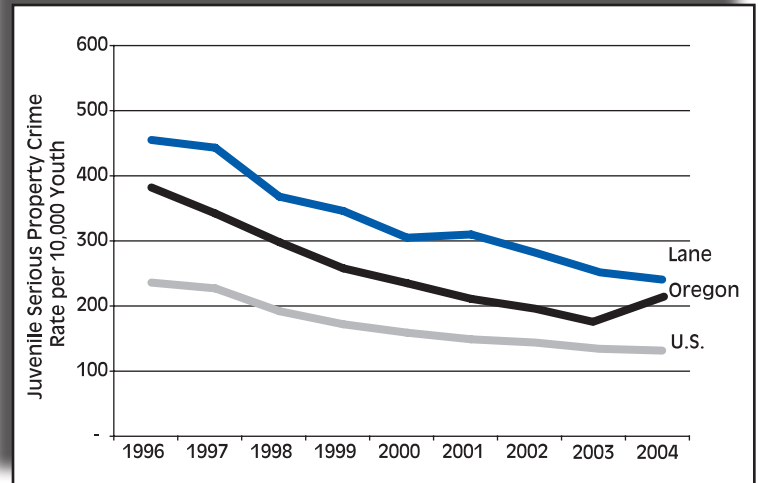
GRADE: D+

Serious juvenile property crime continues its downward slope in Lane County while in Oregon it has begun to increase. Drug abuse arrests in Lane County have reversed their downward trend, however, and have reached the highest rate since 1996. Lane County remains higher than Oregon or the U.S. on both these measures of crime and safety.

Drug Abuse Arrests per 10,000 Youth



Serious Property Crime Arrests per 10,000 Youth

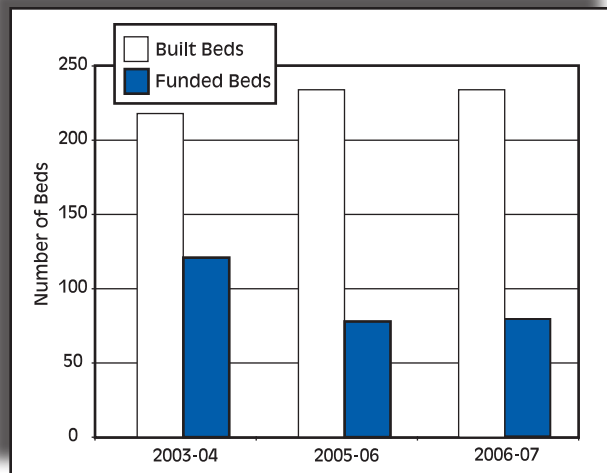


RESOURCES AND CAPACITY

GRADE: F

Resources and capacity continue to deteriorate. The local ratio of juvenile offenders to probation staff to supervise them is inadequate. State bed resources for Lane County's serious youth offenders have been reduced drastically, further increasing the responsibility of the local juvenile justice system for these high risk offenders.

Built vs. Funded Beds



Built vs. Funded Beds

	2001-2002			2006-2007		
	Built Beds	Funded Beds	% Funded	Built Beds	Funded Beds	% Funded
Lane County Resources						
Detention	96	32	33%	80	16	17%
Shelter (boys)	19	14	74%	19	7	37%
Shelter (girls)	7	7	100%	7	0	0%
Alcohol and Other Drug Residential Treatment	21	14	67%	21	8	38%
Lane Closed Custody Treatment	0	0		16	16	100%
State Resources Available to Lane County						
Oregon Youth Authority Closed Custody	75	75	100%	75	33	44%

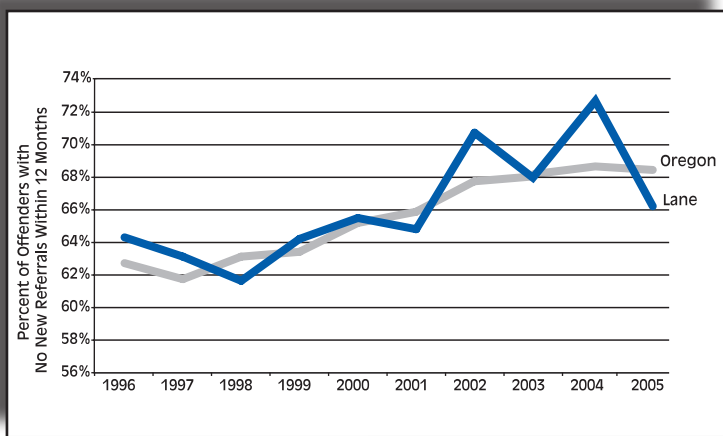
JUVENILE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM INDICATORS

EFFICIENT AND EFFECTIVE USE OF RESOURCES

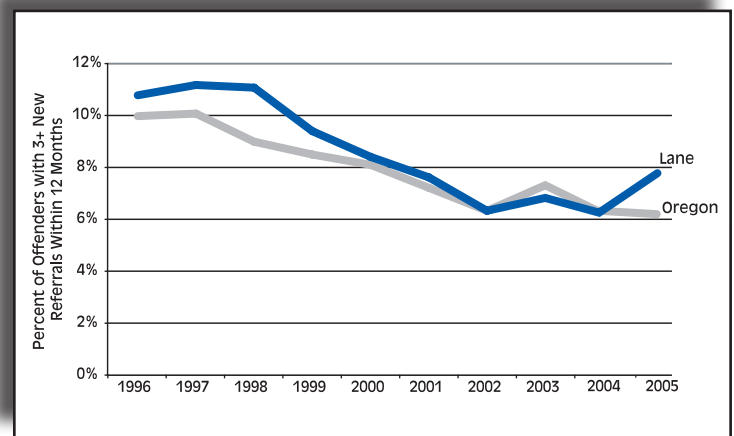
GRADE: C-

The percent of juvenile offenders who did not commit new crimes over a 12 month period is creeping back down. A small group of juvenile offenders become chronic delinquents. With fewer resources to dedicate to high risk youth, the rate of chronic offenders is beginning to creep back up. Chronic offenders comprised approximately 70% of all new referrals over three years. A reduction of just 3.8% of chronic offenders creates an estimated reduction of 772 juvenile crimes per year.

Percent of Offenders Not Re-offending within 12 Months



Chronic Offenders (3 or More Referrals within 12 Months)

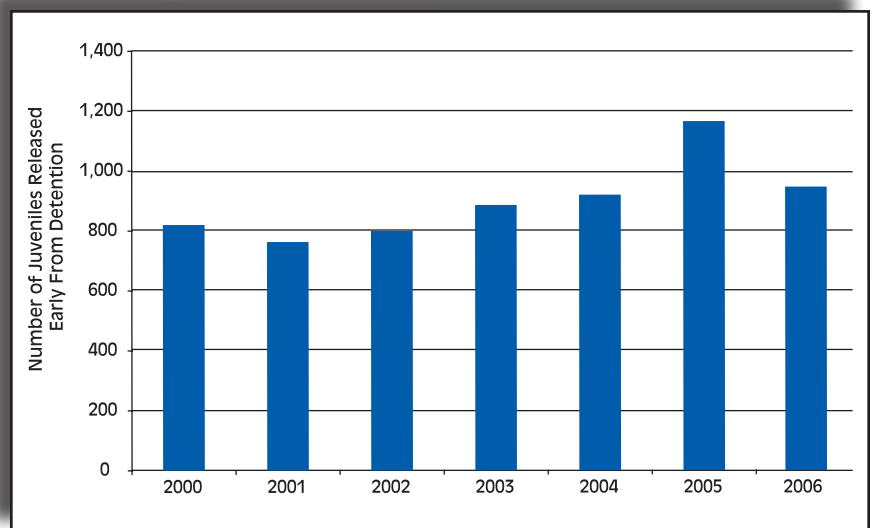


JUSTICE AND ACCOUNTABILITY

GRADE: F

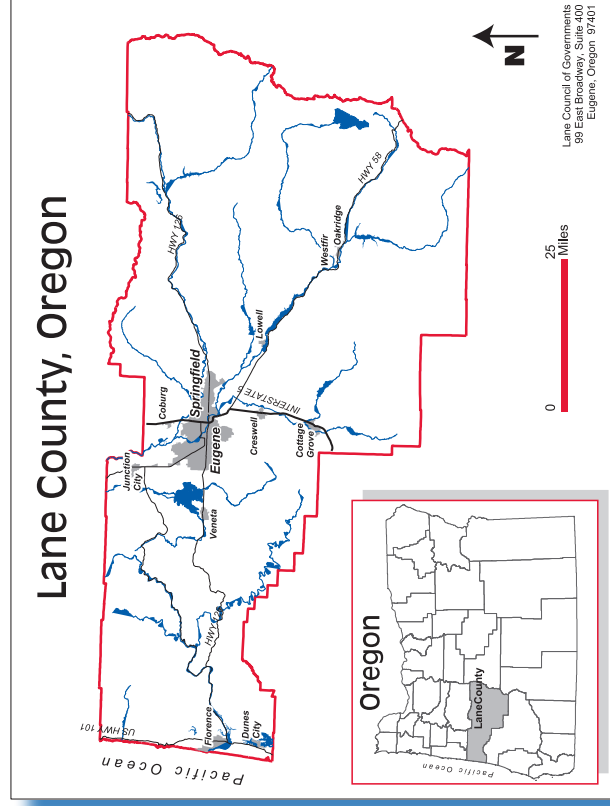
In 2006, 943 juveniles were released early from detention due to inadequate detention space. The system's ability to hold juvenile offenders in secure custody is fading due to reductions in services and unfunded detention and treatment beds. Treatment options, including mental health services, for juvenile offenders have been significantly reduced.

Lane County Offenders Released Early from Detention



This Report Card was prepared by the **Public Safety Coordinating Council (PSCC)** to inform the citizens on the status of their public safety system. Local public safety coordinating councils are charged by the Oregon Legislature with developing county-wide comprehensive plans for the safety and justice system, including use of local and state resources. The PSCC Public Information Task Force, staffed by Lane Council of Governments, prepared this Report Card. The Task Force determined measures and collected longitudinal and baseline data for comparison. The Report Card will be periodically updated so the community can track system progress.

The local **criminal justice system** in Lane County includes: nine law enforcement agencies; four primary public safety answering points (9-1-1 and dispatch centers); the county jail in Eugene; three small city jails; district attorney; public defender; probation and post-prison supervision; State Circuit Court and Eugene and Springfield municipal courts; treatment; juvenile services; juvenile court; shelter; juvenile educational and treatment services; and services to help offenders transition back into the community.



Grading System for the Report Card

The report card grades were calculated using an unbiased, consistent mathematical formula based solely on the data. Each category and the indicators included in each category were assigned grades. Grades were determined by comparing Lane County's trend and its current rate over the last seven years of available data to the trend and current rate of other geographic areas with comparable data.

- A** Trend and current rate substantially better than comparison geographic areas
- B** Trend and current rate better than comparison geographic areas
- C** Trend and current rate roughly equal to comparison geographic areas
- D** Trend and current rate worse than comparison geographic areas
- F** Trend and current rates substantially worse than comparison geographic areas

A plus (+) is added to the grade if the trend and current rate have improved over the last three years of available data compared to the last seven years. A minus (-) is added to the grade if the trend and current rate have worsened over the last three years of available data compared to the last seven years. Grades of "F" are not eligible for either a plus or a minus. The trend for each category is also noted as Getting Better, Getting Worse, or Stable.

For more information on the Report Card, please contact Lane Council of Governments at (541) 682-4283 or visit www.lcog.org/lgs/safety.html

Lane County has a population of 343,140 people living in a geographic area of 4,618 square miles — roughly the size of the state of Connecticut. The county stretches from the summit of the 10,000 foot Cascade Mountains, through the tree-covered Willamette Valley prairie and wetlands, over the 6,000 foot Coast Range to the Pacific Ocean. Lane is an urban/rural county with more than half the residents (60%) living in Eugene and Springfield, the second largest urban area in the state. Approximately 10% live in small cities and the remaining 30% live in unincorporated areas scattered around the county. A total of 1,433 miles of county roads, 918 miles of city roads, and 484 miles of state maintained roads wind along rivers, lakes, and the two mountain ranges connecting widely separated small cities and the urban core.