Center for Crime and Justice Policy

CSEC Fast Facts 2014

Prepared by Dr. Alexis Kennedy. For more information please contact alexis.kennedy@unlv.edu

UNLV

Definitions:

- CSEC:
 Commercially
 Sexually
 Exploited
 Children. The
 sexual
 exploitation of
 children through
 commercial
 sexual activity
 (e.g.
 prostitution,
 stripping or
 pornography).
- Delinquency Children under the age of 18 who commit illegal acts.

Center for Crime

WEBSITE: www.unlv.edu/ccjp

E-MAIL: alexis.kennedy@unlv.edu

2014 Court Profile

The purpose of this brief is to present current information on the children being detained for their involvement in commercial sexual exploitation in *Clark County, Nevada*. The source of information is from the Specialty Juvenile Court, the Girls' Court Calendar, which weekly adjudicates all delinquency cases for sexually exploited children (CSEC).

Dual Involved Youth:

At least 30% of the youth had historical victim cases with Nevada Child Protective Services. The true dual involved number is probably closer to 60% as data was only available for half of the population and

did not include out of state CPS files. Linking Nevada CPS files to juvenile court files is discretionary and not always available.

Demographics:

The Girls' Court Calendar had 721 hearings in 2014 involving 202 youth.

Gender:

Female: 201 Male: 1 Ethnicity is presented below. The average age was 16.1 (one 12 year old, 8 were 13, 8 were 14, 33 were 15, 53 were 16, 67 were 17, and 11 were 18 year olds.

Charges:

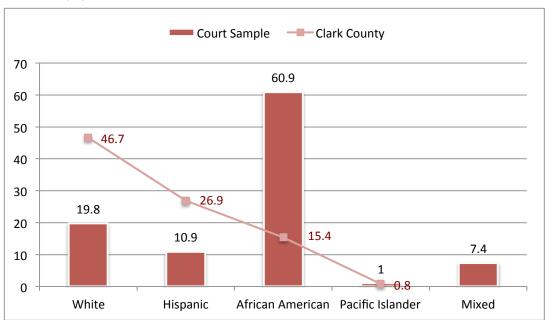
Newly charged in 2014: 128
116 were new to the calendar,
10 had charges in 2013 as
well and 2 had charges in

2012 or earlier in addition to 2014 charges.

Continuing Minors: 74
70 of the minors were
follow-ups from 2013,
without new charges in
2014. 4 were follow-ups
from 2012 or earlier.

Embracing Project & Pimp Estimates:

The majority of girls (89% or 180 girls) received advocacy services from the local non-profit *The Embracing Project*. This service provider was asked to calculate how many girls disclosed information about their **pimps**. 62 girls (34%) reported having a pimp and another 18 girls (10%) had more than one pimp.



Note: Hispanic represents White Hispanic. 7 of the 123 African American were Hispanic as well. 2 of the 15 mixed race were Hispanic.

Charges

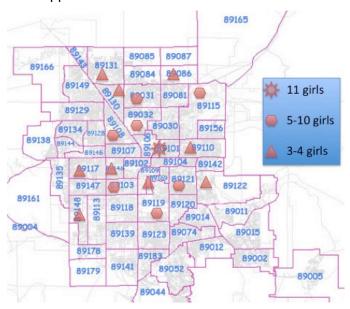
It is the practice of the Clark County Family Court Judge William Voy, who presides over the Girls' Court Calendar (CSEC Calendar), to dismiss or amend all prostitution related charges that youth have been arrested for. Despite a paradigm shift in the recognition of these children as victims, the vast majority are still being arrested under prostitution related charges.

Arrests for prostitution

Almost all of 134 charges laid in 2014 were originally prostitution related charges (e.g., loitering for purpose of prostitution, engaging in prostitution, solicitation for the purposes of prostitution, etc.). The next most common charges seen were Providing False Information to a Police Officer (often laid in addition to the prostitution charges), Being a Minor in a Gaming Institution, Curfew and Violation of Probation (concurrent with a new prostitution charge).

Jurisdiction

The majority of the youth (57% or 115) came from Clark County, representing 40 different zip codes. The 17 zips with 3 or more girls are mapped below.



Out of State

60 girls (30%) came from California, 3 (1.5%) from Utah, 2 (1%) from Washington, 2 from Colorado and one each from Arizona, Connecticut, Florida, Missouri, North Carolina, New Hampshire, Texas and Wisconsin.

The one male on the calendar in 2014 was an unaccompanied minor from Honduras. He was identified at a place of employment as being a minor and charged after he physically fought being placed in handcuffs. His charges were dropped. He was in the specialty court while international trafficking was being ruled out.

NRS 201.295 Definitions As used in NRS 201.295 to 201.44, inclusive, unless the

context otherwise requires:
1. "Adult" means a person 18

- years of age or older.
- 2. "Child" means a person less than 18 years of age.
- 3. "Induce" means to persuade, encourage, inveigle or entice.
- 4. "Prostitute" means a male or female *person* who for a fee, monetary consideration or other thing of value engages in sexual intercourse, oral-genital contact or any touching of the sexual organs or other intimate parts of a person for the purpose of arousing or gratifying the sexual desire of either person.

Possible Solutions:

One solution to bring Nevada closer to the federal designation of CSEC as victims would be to stop charging children with prostitution. This could be done by modifying the definition section of NRS 201.295.

Either the definition of "prostitute" could be changed to only include adults. Alternatively a minimum age for offenders could be added similar to the minimum age required in NRS 200.362 Statutory Sexual Seduction (statutory rape) "committed by a person 18 years of age or older".

Negative effects of being "arrested for prostitution"

- Children internalize this label of "prostitute"
- Children have to repeat this charge as they move through the system and are asked about arrest history
- This charge carries a specific stigma more harmful than violating curfew or being a minor in a gaming establishment
- Adults asked to disclose their juvenile arrest history (e.g. applying to join the legal bar) will have to state that they were arrested for prostitution (even if they were not adjudicated as such).
 Juvenile records are not sealed when applying for certain jobs.