

An Analysis of
Youth Level of Service Inventory (YLSI)
“Risks and Needs” Data for Juvenile
Offenders Assessed by Hawaii’s
Second & Third Circuit Family Courts
and at the Hawaii Youth Correctional
Facility, 2001–2006



Prepared by

Paul Perrone, Chief
Research and Statistics Branch
Crime Prevention and Justice Assistance Division
Department of the Attorney General

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hawaii.gov/ag/cpja

Introduction

The Youth Level of Service Inventory (YLSI) is an assessment instrument used by juvenile justice professionals to measure juvenile offenders' "risks and needs" with regard to various criminogenic factors, such as offense history, family circumstances, educational/vocational skills or deficiencies, substance abuse, etc. YLSI data provide objective, valid information that is useful for determining the appropriate types and levels of case supervision and treatment/intervention procedures to use with individual juvenile offenders. The YLSI is also useful for identifying the risk of re-offending, so that limited resources can be directed to the offenders who are most in need of services and close supervision. In the State of Hawaii, the version of the YLSI used by the Family Courts of the Second and Third Circuits and at the Hawaii Youth Correctional Facility is officially known as the Youth Level of Service/Case Management Inventory (YLS/CMI) and was created by Multi-Health Systems, Inc., located in the State of New York. The instrument is unofficially referred to as the "YLSI" in Hawaii.

At the time the data were compiled for this study, the YLSI was used by the Second Circuit Family Court (serving the islands of Maui, Molokai, and Lanai), the Third Circuit Family Court (serving the island of Hawaii), and the Hawaii Youth Correctional Facility (HYCF). YLSI assessments are conducted by the Second Circuit Family Court following all adjudications of juvenile offenders that result in placement on probation or protective supervision; by the Third Circuit Family Court following all adjudications save those for juvenile sex offenders; and, under a previous policy (apparently ending in early-2002), by the HCYF, upon intake for minority commitments.

The data set is comprised of basic demographics and YLSI assessment scores for 521 unduplicated juvenile offenders who were assessed between August, 2001 and December, 2006 (although the earliest Second Circuit cases are from August, 2002). Third Circuit Family Court provided 352 (67.6%) of the cases; Second Circuit Family Court provided 70 (13.4%) of the cases, not including seven cases that contained demographic data but no YLSI scores; and the HYCF provided 99 (19.0%) of the cases.¹

Although the YLSI is intended to be used for reassessing offenders at regular intervals, reassessment data were only available from the Second Circuit (28 "second assessment" cases) and the HYCF (one "second assessment" case and one "third assessment" case). The lack of reassessment data limited the study to an examination of initial assessments only.

The following statistical report is divided into three sections. The first section presents demographic and other descriptive statistics for the YLSI-assessed subpopulations* from each of the three individual agencies. The second section examines data for a variety of YLSI Risk

¹ The State of Hawaii's Juvenile Justice Information System shows a total of 2,262 juvenile adjudications in the Second Circuit and 3,445 adjudications in the Third Circuit during each circuit's respective study time period (see page 6). Although the preceding paragraph notes some exceptions to YLSI administration policies (e.g., the instrument is only administered following adjudications that result in placement on probation or protective supervision in the Second Circuit, and is not administered to juvenile sex offenders in the Third Circuit), the seemingly very small number of YLSIs that were available for this study in comparison to the much larger total numbers of adjudications draws into question the generalizability of the study results to the overall juvenile offender populations handled by the respective agencies. Unfortunately, the number of adjudications that do not result in probation/protective supervision (Second Circuit) or involve sex offenders (Third Circuit) could not be readily determined, thus preventing a definitive statement on this issue from being made. Readers are thus cautioned to not use the study results to draw sweeping, comparative conclusions about the differences between the juvenile offenders from different circuits/agencies.

Scores and Risk Levels, by agency. The third section focuses on probationers' and HYCF wards' average Risk Scores, by Circuit, gender, and age.

Included at the end of the report is an Appendix that outlines the factors/measures that comprise each YLSI subscale.

The data and analyses in this report will hopefully be of interest to juvenile justice administrators and their specialists who are trained to utilize the YLSI and interpret the assessment results. Working together, these groups are best suited to determine the implications of this report in relation to their agencies' policies, procedures, and resource allocations.

Summary of Findings

- The study population is comprised of all juvenile offenders who received a YLSI assessment statewide from mid-2001 through late-2006. Demographically, the population is comprised of offenders who are/were: mostly males; aged 8 to 19 years old at the time of their YLSI assessments, with average and median ages of roughly 15 to 17 years-old; and overwhelmingly probationers, with the balance largely accounted for by offenders incarcerated at the HYCF, plus a small number of protective supervision cases and a single “counseled and released” case.
- While the average YLSI Total Risk Score is significantly higher for offenders assessed by the Second Circuit Family Court than for those assessed by the Third Circuit Family Court, and is higher still for offenders assessed at the HYCF, all three of these scores are within the Moderate Risk Level.
- By agency, the proportions of offenders assessed within the High Risk Level for Total Risk include 12.2% for Third Circuit cases; 21.4% for Second Circuit cases, and 45.5% for HYCF cases, yielding statistically significant differences between agencies. No offenders were assessed at the Very High Risk Level.
- For all three agencies, average Risk Scores are within the Moderate Risk Level for six of the eight YLSI subscales, including *Education/Employment*, *Peer Relations*, *Substance Abuse*, *Leisure/Recreation*, *Personality/Behavior*, and *Attitudes/Orientation*.
- Average scores for the remaining two YLSI subscales (*Prior and Current Offenses/Dispositions* and *Family Circumstances/Parenting*) are within the Low Risk Level for all three agencies, except the HYCF, whose cases are on average within the High Risk Level for *Prior and Current Offenses/Dispositions*.
- HYCF cases have the highest average Risk Scores for Total Risk and six of the eight subscales (*Prior and Current Offenses*, *Peer Relations*, *Substance Abuse*, *Leisure/Recreation*, *Personality/Behavior*, and *Attitudes/Orientation*).
- Second Circuit cases have the highest average Risk Scores for two subscales (*Family Circumstances/Parenting* and *Education/Employment*), and the lowest average Risk Scores for two subscales (*Peer Relations* and *Attitudes/Orientation*).
- Third Circuit cases have the lowest average Risk Scores for Total Risk and six of the eight subscales (*Prior and Current Offenses*, *Family Circumstances/Parenting*, *Education/Employment*, *Substance Abuse*, *Leisure/Recreation*, and *Personality/Behavior*).
- Sufficient numbers of probation cases exist in the Second and Third Circuit Family Court subpopulations to allow for a separate examination of probationers’ YLSI scores. Probationers from the Second Circuit, as compared to their counterparts from the Third Circuit, on average have significantly higher Total Risk Scores, as well as significantly higher scores for five of the eight YLSI subscales (*Prior and Current Offenses/Dispositions*, *Family Circumstances/Parenting*, *Education/Employment*, *Peer Relations*, and *Personality/Behavior*).

- No statistically significant gender-based differences exist amongst probationers or HYCF wards, for either the average Total Risk Score or the average Risk Scores for any of the eight subscales.
- For both probationers and HYCF wards, statistically significant differences exist between juvenile and young adult (18- to 19-year-olds) Risk Scores for Total Risk and five of the subscales. On each of these measures, the juvenile probationers scored significantly higher than did their young adult counterparts.
- As compared to probationers, offenders assessed while incarcerated at the HYCF on average have significantly higher Total Risk Scores, as well as significantly higher Risk Scores for seven of the eight subscales.

Section 1: YLSI Population Descriptors, by Agency

Analysis: The study population is comprised of all juvenile offenders who received a YLSI assessment from mid-2001 through late-2006 (with starting and ending points varying by agency); the majority of whom are males (with over 90% males among the HYCF cases, although roughly half of the HYCF gender data were missing); with ages ranging from 8 to 19 years old at the time of their YLSI assessments, and average and median ages of roughly 15 to 17 years-old; and are overwhelmingly probationers, with the balance mostly accounted for by offenders incarcerated at the HYCF, plus a small number of protective supervision cases and a single “counseled and released” case.

Measurements		2 nd Circuit n = 70	3 rd Circuit n = 352	HYCF n = 99
Gender	Male	68.6% (48)	71.1% (243)	92.6% (50)
	Female	31.4% (22)	28.9% (99)	7.4% (4)
	<i>Missing Cases</i>		2.8% (10)	45.5% (45)
Age at Assessment	Average Age	15.0 yrs.	16.2 yrs.	16.9 yrs.
	Median Age	15.0 yrs.	16.0 yrs.	17.0 yrs.
	Youngest Age	11 yrs.	8 yrs.	14 yrs.
	Oldest Age	18 yrs.	19 yrs.	19 yrs.
	<i>Missing Cases</i>		0.3% (1)	
Status	Probation	90.0% (63)	95.2% (335)	n/a
	HYCF Incarceration	0.0% (0)	0.6% (2)*	100% (99)
	Protective Supervision	10.0% (7)	4.0% (14)	n/a
	Counseled & Released	0.0% (0)	0.3% (1)	n/a
Assessment Date	Earliest Date	08/28/2002	08/29/2001	08/21/2001
	Latest Date	09/25/2006	12/18/2006	03/28/2002
	Median Date	02/28/2005	06/22/2004	09/28/2001

* The status of both cases was identified as “HYCF,” although the YLSI assessments were made by the Third Circuit Family Court, presumably prior to the offenders being incarcerated at the HYCF. These cases are not duplicated in the HYCF subpopulation.

Section 2: YLSI Risk Scores and Risk Levels, by Agency

Total Risk Scores and Total Risk Levels

Risk Level Score Ranges: 0-8 = Low; 9-22 = Moderate; 23-34 = High; 35-42 = Very High

Analysis: Total Risk Scores are on average significantly higher for offenders assessed in the Second Circuit than for those assessed in the Third Circuit, and are higher still for offenders assessed at the HYCF, although all three of these scores are within the Moderate Risk Level. None of the offenders scored at the Very High Risk Level. (The Total Risk Score is the only YLSI measurement with an accompanying “Very High” Risk Level.)

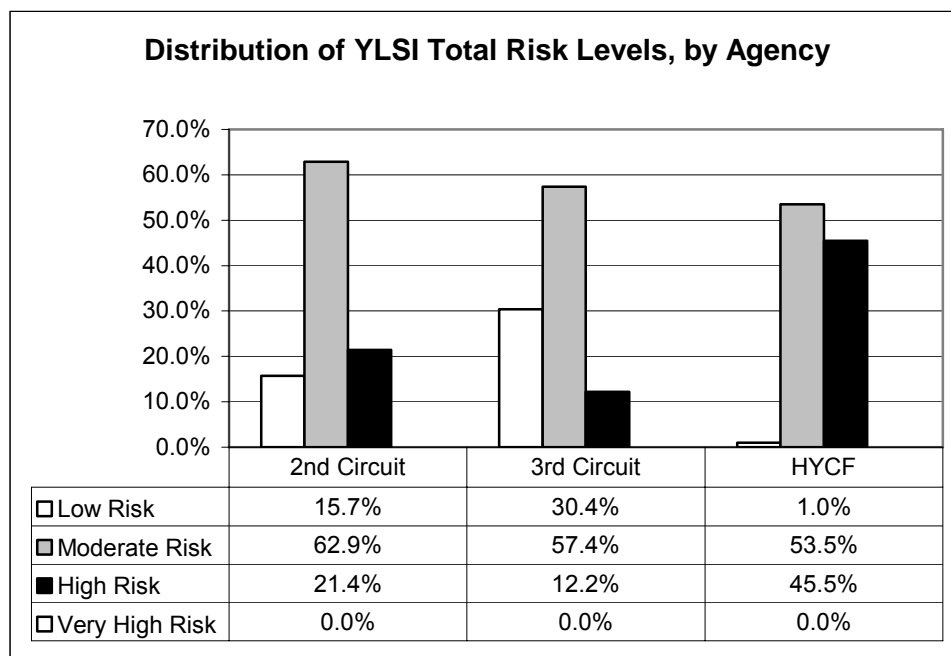
Compared to the other two agencies, a substantially larger proportion of the Third Circuit’s offenders was assessed at the Low Risk Level, and a substantially smaller proportion was assessed at the High Risk Level.

The interagency differences in Total Risk Levels and average Total Risk Scores are statistically significant at a very high level ($p < .001$, meaning that the probability of the differences having occurred merely by chance is “less than one-in-one-thousand”).

Total Risk Score Statistics

Agency	# of Cases	Average Score	Median Score	Min. Score	Max. Score
2 nd Circuit	70	16.10	15.50	1	31
3 rd Circuit	352	12.89	12.00	0	34
HYCF	99	21.53	21.00	3	34

($p < .001$)



($p < .001$)

Prior and Current Offenses/Dispositions Subscale

Risk Level Score Ranges: 0 = Low; 1-2 = Moderate; 3-5 = High

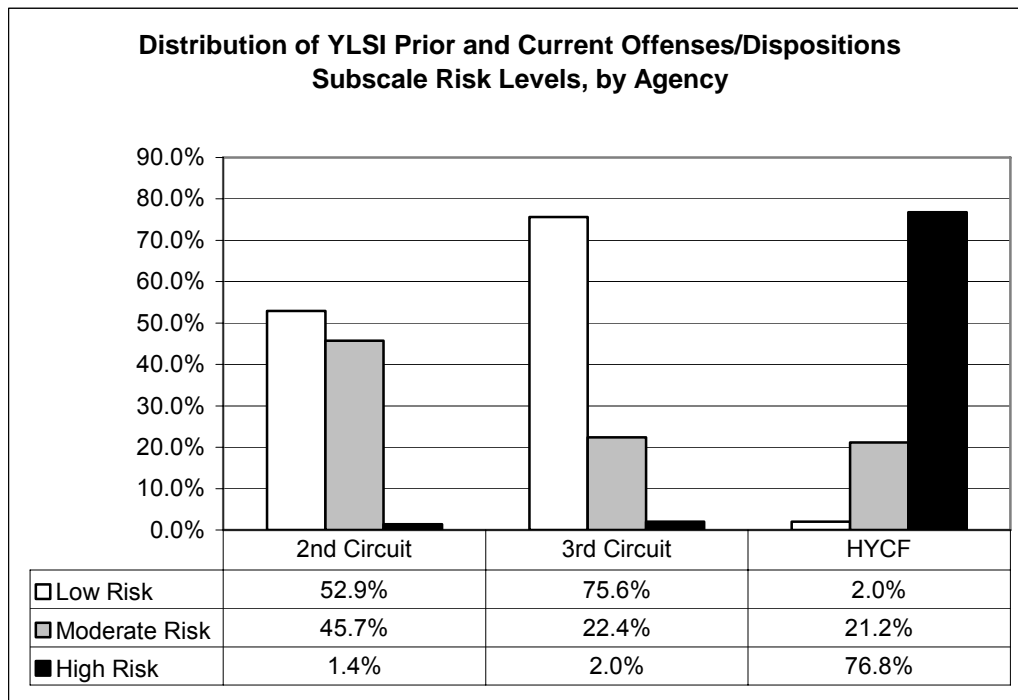
Analysis: The majority of offenders assessed by both the Second and Third Circuit Family Courts scored at the Low Risk Level for the YLSI's *Prior and Current Offenses/Dispositions* subscale, while the majority of offenders assessed at the HYCF scored at the High Risk Level. Average Risk Scores reflect the same pattern. A greater proportion of Second Circuit offenders scored at the Moderate Risk Level than did Third Circuit offenders, with correspondingly higher average Risk Scores for the Second Circuit offenders.

The interagency differences in Risk Levels and average Risk Scores for the *Prior and Current Offenses/Dispositions* subscale are statistically significant at a very high level.

Prior and Current Offenses/Dispositions Subscale Statistics

Agency	# of Cases	Average Score	Median Score	Min. Score	Max. Score
2 nd Circuit	70	0.59	0	0	3
3 rd Circuit	352	0.34	0	0	5
HYCF	99	3.02	3	0	5

(p<.001)



(p<.001)

Family Circumstances/Parenting Subscale

Risk Level Score Ranges: 0-2 = Low; 3-4 = Moderate; 5-6 = High

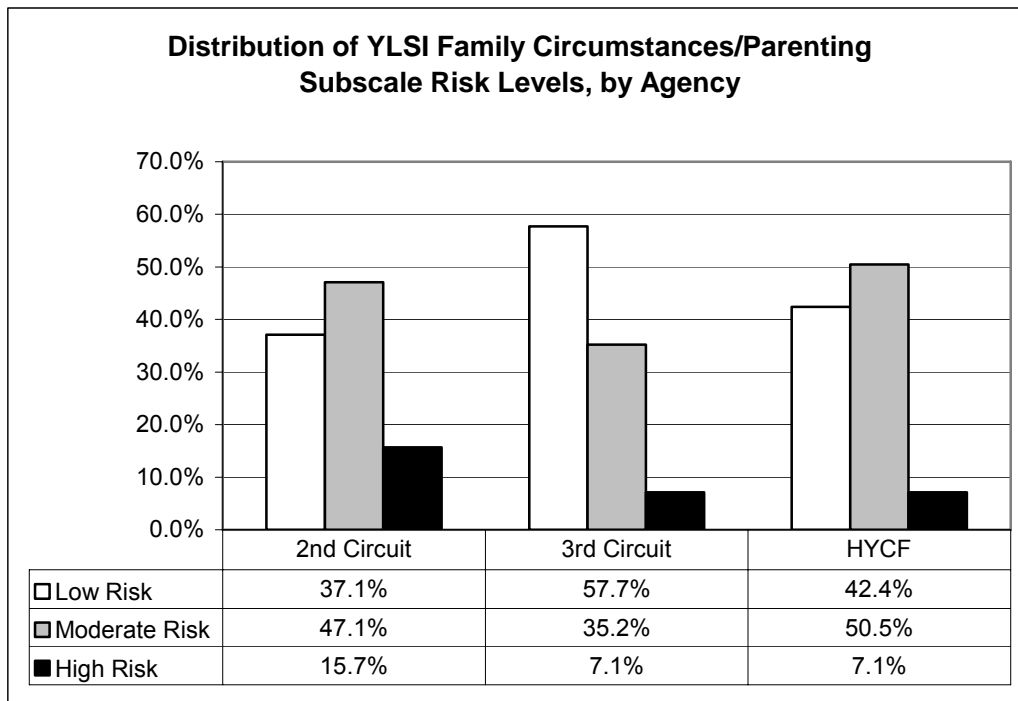
Analysis: Average Risk Scores for the YLSI's *Family Circumstances/Parenting* subscale are significantly lower for offenders assessed by the Third Circuit Family Court than for those assessed by either the Second Circuit Family Court or at the HYCF. Average Risk Scores for the latter two agencies are roughly equivalent. Despite the interagency differences in average Risk Scores, all three agencies' scores are within the Low Risk Level.

The interagency differences in Risk Levels and average Risk Scores for the *Family Circumstances/Parenting* subscale are statistically significant at a very high level.

Family Circumstances/Parenting Subscale Statistics

Agency	# of Cases	Average Score	Median Score	Min. Score	Max. Score
2 nd Circuit	70	2.77	3	0	6
3 rd Circuit	352	2.16	2	0	6
HYCF	99	2.72	3	0	6

(*p*<.001)



(*p*<.001)

Education/Employment Subscale

Risk Level Score Ranges: 0 = Low; 1-3 = Moderate; 4-7 = High

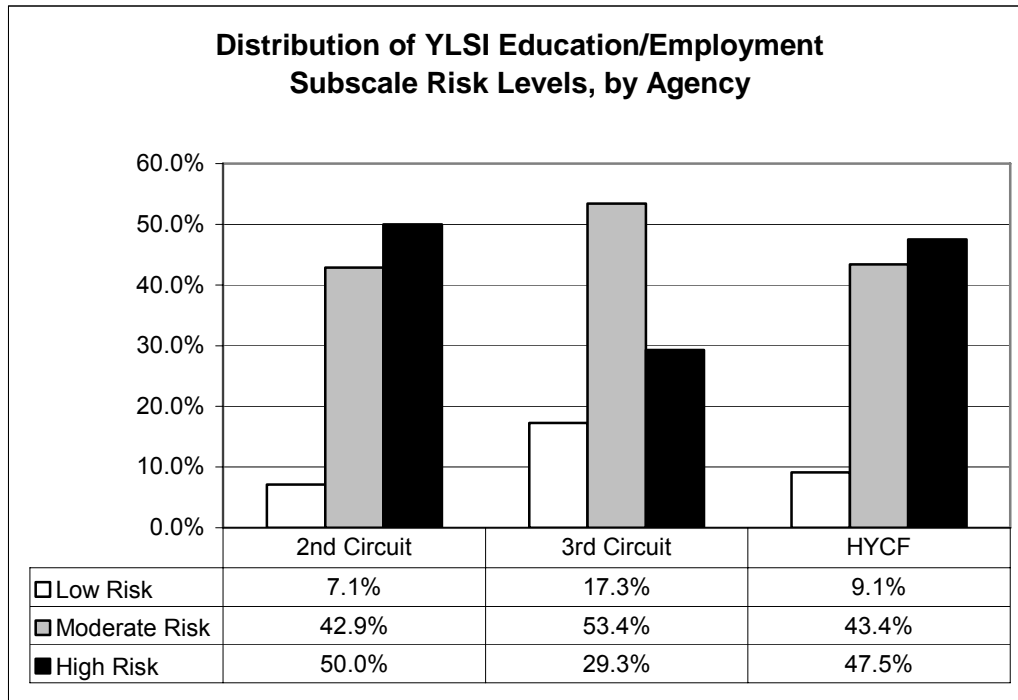
Analysis: Risk Levels and average Risk Scores for the YLSI's *Education/Employment* subscale are higher for offenders assessed by either the Second Circuit Family Court or at the HYCF than for offenders assessed by the Third Circuit Family Court. Average Risk Scores for the former two agencies are near the high end of the Moderate Risk Level, and comparatively larger proportions of Second Circuit and HYCF offenders were assessed at the High Risk Level than was the case for Third Circuit offenders.

The interagency differences in Risk Levels and average Risk Scores for the *Educa-tion/Employment* subscale are statistically significant at a very high level.

Education/Employment Subscale Statistics

Agency	# of Cases	Average Score	Median Score	Min. Score	Max. Score
2 nd Circuit	70	3.46	3.5	0	7
3 rd Circuit	352	2.56	2	0	7
HYCF	99	3.31	3	0	6

(*p*<.001)



(*p*<.001)

Peer Relations Subscale

Risk Level Score Ranges: 0-1 = Low; 2-3 = Moderate; 4 = High

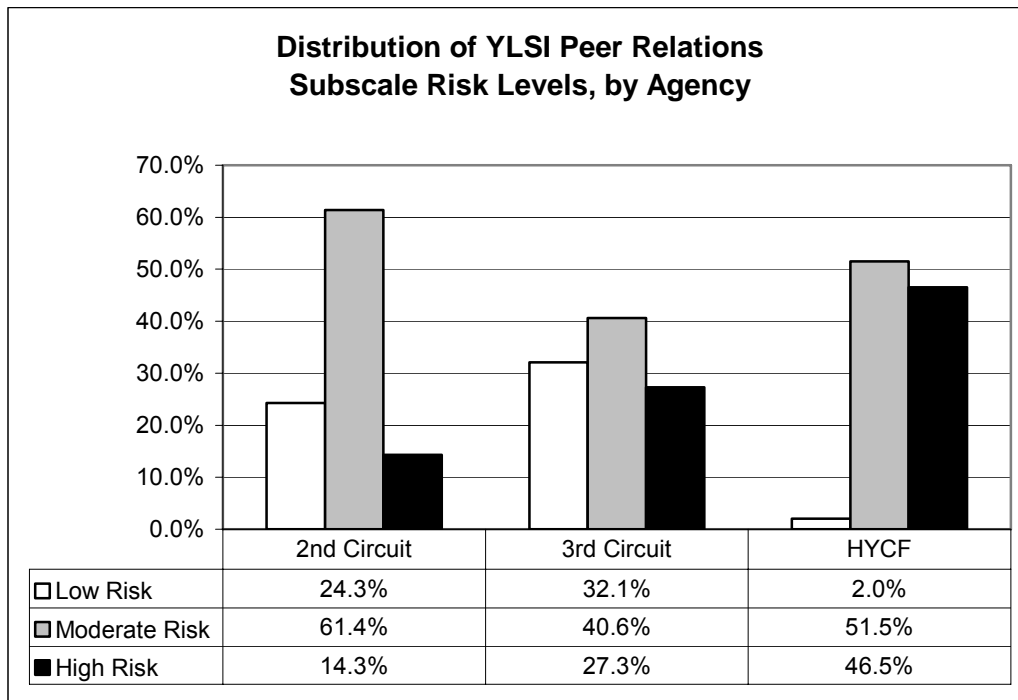
Analysis: Average Risk Scores for the YLSI's *Peer Relations* subscale are near the low end of the Moderate Risk Level for Second and Third Circuit cases, while the average score is very close to the midpoint of the Moderate Risk Level for offenders assessed at the HYCF. The proportions of cases in the Low, Moderate, and High Risk Levels are more equally distributed for the Third Circuit cases than they are for the other two agencies.

The interagency differences in Risk Levels and average Risk Scores for the *Peer Relations* subscale are statistically significant at a very high level.

Peer Relations Subscale Statistics

Agency	# of Cases	Average Score	Median Score	Min. Score	Max. Score
2 nd Circuit	70	2.04	2	0	4
3 rd Circuit	352	2.10	2	0	4
HYCF	99	3.06	3	0	4

(p<.001)



(p<.001)

Substance Abuse Subscale

Risk Level Score Ranges: 0 = Low; 1-2 = Moderate; 3-5 = High

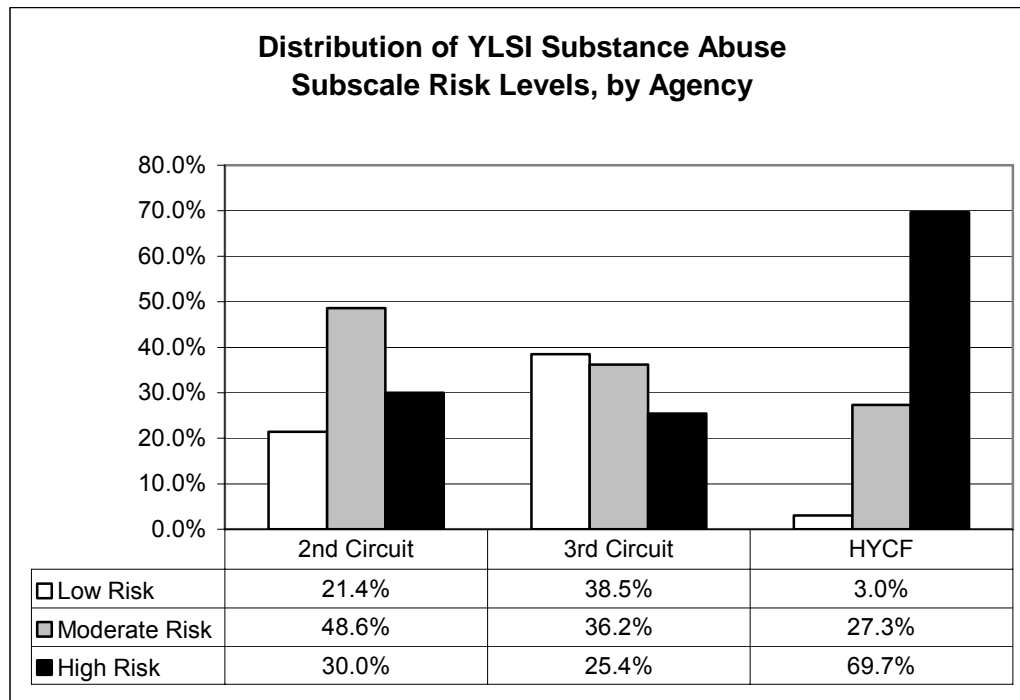
Analysis: Average Risk Scores for the YLSI's *Substance Abuse* subscale are in the lower half of the Moderate Risk Level for Second and Third Circuit Cases, and in the higher end of the Moderate Risk Level for HYCF cases. Moreover, a considerable majority of the HYCF offenders scored within the High Risk Level, as compared to much smaller proportions of the Second Circuit and Third Circuit offenders.

The interagency differences in Risk Levels and average Risk Scores for the *Substance Abuse* subscale are statistically significant at a very high level.

Substance Abuse Subscale Statistics

Agency	# of Cases	Average Score	Median Score	Min. Score	Max. Score
2 nd Circuit	70	1.64	1	0	5
3 rd Circuit	351	1.45	1	0	5
HYCF	99	2.82	3	0	5

($p < .001$)



($p < .001$)

Leisure/Recreation Subscale

Risk Level Score Ranges: 0 = Low; 1 = Moderate; 2-3 = High

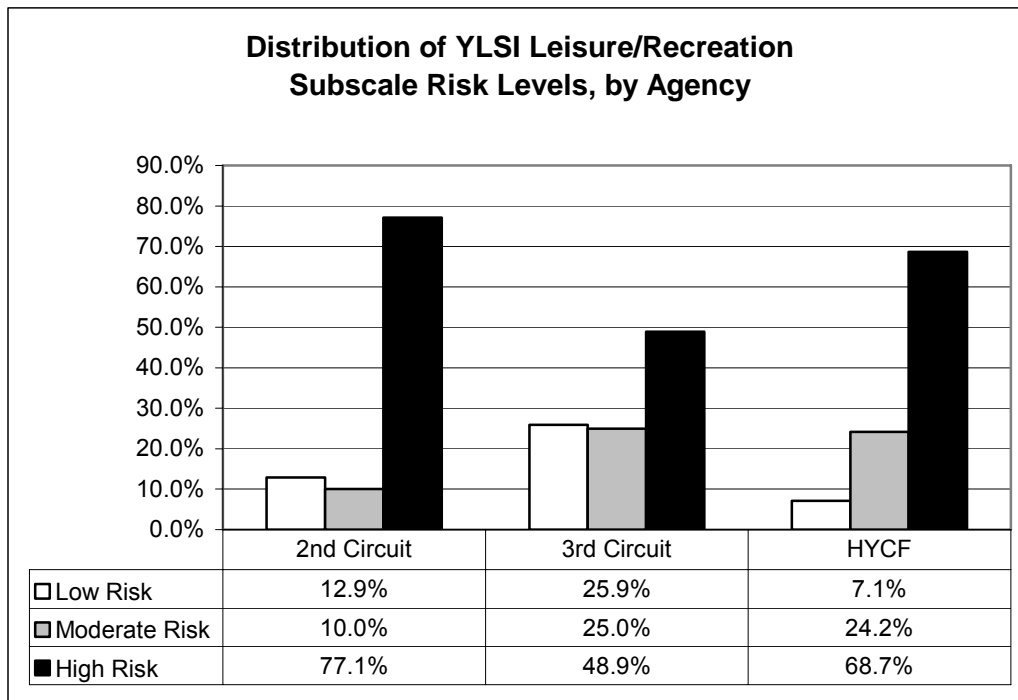
Analysis: The average Risk Score for the YLSI's *Leisure/Recreation* subscale is just over the midway point of the Moderate Risk Level for the Third Circuit cases, while the scores are close to the High Risk Level for the Second Circuit and HYCF cases. Over three-quarters of the Second Circuit offenders scored at the High Risk Level.

The interagency differences in Risk Levels and average Risk Scores for the *Leisure/Recreation* subscale are statistically significant at a very high level.

Leisure/Recreation Subscale Statistics

Agency	# of Cases	Average Score	Median Score	Min. Score	Max. Score
2 nd Circuit	70	1.84	2	0	3
3 rd Circuit	351	1.41	1	0	3
HYCF	99	1.91	2	0	3

(*p*<.001)



(*p*<.001)

Personality/Behavior Subscale

Risk Level Score Ranges: 0 = Low; 1-4 = Moderate; 5-7 = High

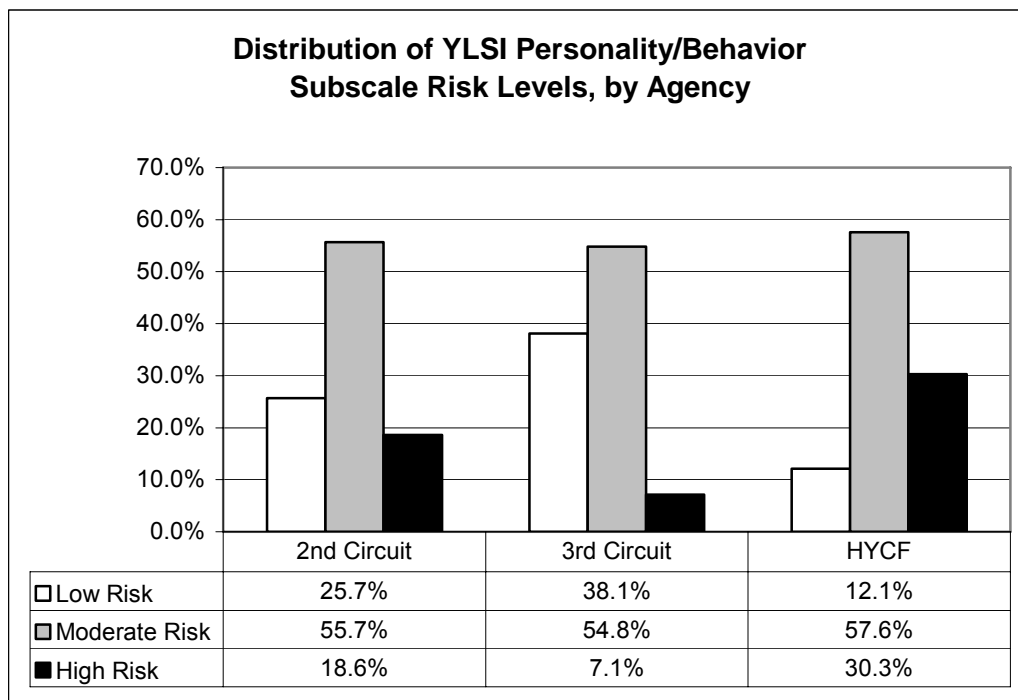
Analysis: Average Risk Scores for the YLSI's *Personality/Behavior* subscale fall near the low end of the Moderate Risk Level for the Third Circuit offenders, close to the midpoint for the Second Circuit offenders, and near the high end for the HYCF offenders. There is significant inter-agency variance in the proportions of offenders in the Low and High Risk Levels, with comparatively larger proportions of Third Circuit offenders assessed at the Low Risk Level, and larger proportions of Second Circuit and, in particular, HYCF offenders assessed at the High Risk Level.

The interagency differences in Risk Levels and average Risk Scores for the *Personality/Behavior* subscale are statistically significant at a very high level.

Personality/Behavior Subscale Statistics

Agency	# of Cases	Average Score	Median Score	Min. Score	Max. Score
2 nd Circuit	70	2.39	2	0	7
3 rd Circuit	352	1.47	1	0	7
HYCF	99	3.15	3	0	7

($p < .001$)



($p < .001$)

Attitudes/Orientation Subscale

Risk Level Score Ranges: 0 = Low; 1-3 = Moderate; 4-5 = High

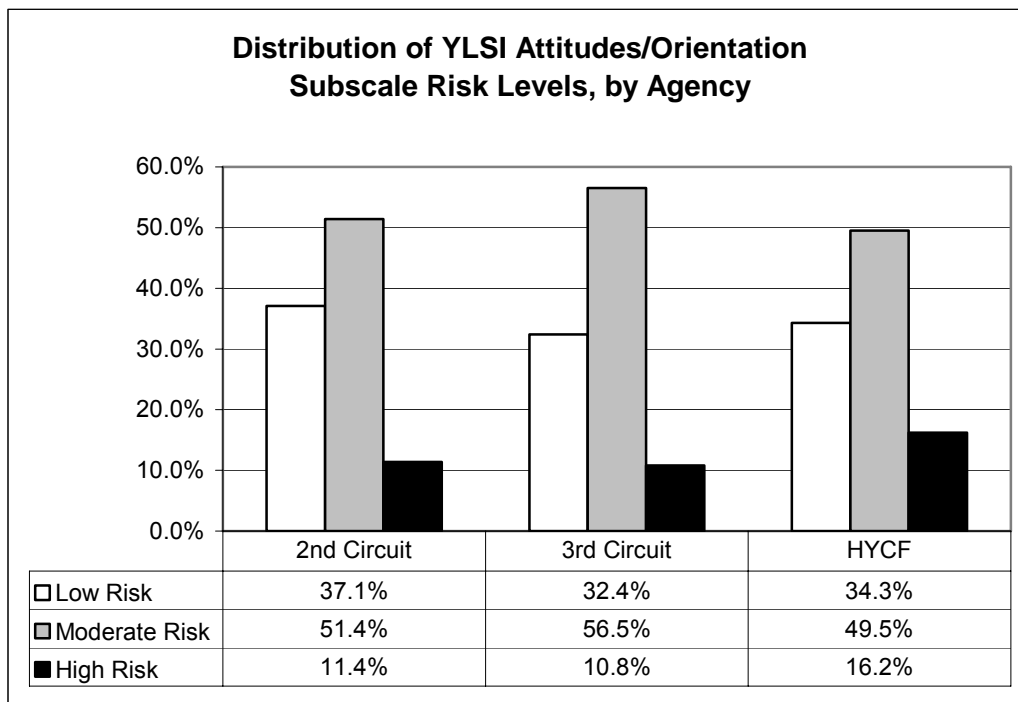
Analysis: Average Risk Scores for the YLSI's *Attitudes/Orientation* subscale are near the low end of the Moderate Risk Level for all three agencies. In addition, there is not much interagency variation in terms of the proportions of offenders who scored at the Low, Moderate, and High Risk Levels.

Attitudes/Orientation is the only YLSI subscale for which statistically significant, interagency differences in Risk Levels and average Risk Scores were not observed.

Attitudes/Orientation Subscale Statistics

Agency	# of Cases	Average Score	Median Score	Min. Score	Max. Score
2 nd Circuit	70	1.37	1	0	5
3 rd Circuit	351	1.41	1	0	5
HYCF	99	1.54	1	0	5

(No sig. differences at p<.05)



(No sig. differences at p<.05)

Summary of Average Risk Levels and Average Risk Scores, by Agency

	Prior and Current Offenses/Dispositions	Family Circumstances/Parenting	Education/Employment	Peer Relations	Substance Abuse	Leisure/Recreation	Personality/Behavior	Attitudes/Orientation	Total Risk Level
2 nd Circuit n=70	Low 0.59	Low 2.77	Mod. 3.46	Mod. 2.04	Mod. 1.64	Mod. 1.84	Mod. 2.39	Mod. 1.37	Mod. 16.10
3 rd Circuit n=352	Low 0.34	Low 2.16	Mod. 2.56	Mod. 2.10	Mod. 1.45	Mod.* 1.41	Mod. 1.47	Mod.* 1.41*	Mod. 12.89
HYCF n=99	High 3.02	Low 2.72	Mod. 3.31	Mod. 3.06	Mod. 2.82	Mod. 1.91	Mod. 3.15	Mod. 1.54	Mod. 21.53
<i>Statistical Significance</i>	<i>p<.001</i>	<i>p<.001</i>	<i>p<.001</i>	<i>p<.001</i>	<i>p<.001</i>	<i>p<.001</i>	<i>p<.001</i>	<i>Not signif. at p<.05</i>	<i>p<.001</i>

* n = 351 due to missing data for these subscales.

Analysis: This table reveals that of 27 measured Risk Levels (Total Risk plus eight subscales, across three agencies), 18 (66.7%) are at the Moderate Risk Level; five (18.5%) are at the Low Risk Level; and only one (3.7%) is at the High Risk Level (i.e., *Prior and Current Offenses/Dispositions* for the offenders assessed at the HYCF). While statistically significant differences between agencies exist with regard to precise Risk Scores (see below), the “big picture” is that two-thirds of the average Risk Scores for Hawaii’s juvenile offenders who have been assessed with the YLSI to date and across three agencies have been within Moderate Risk Levels, with most of the remainder within Low Risk Levels.

As might be expected, the most distinguishing feature between offenders incarcerated at the HYCF versus those who are supervised in the community is the former group’s overall High Risk Level for the *Prior and Current Offenses/Dispositions* subscale. However, there is otherwise relatively little distinction between the two groups’ Risk Levels; while the HYCF cases in general have significantly higher Risk Scores, their scores are not high enough to place the offenders into higher Risk Levels (with the exception of *Prior and Current Offenses/Dispositions*).

Statistically significant differences in average Risk Scores between agencies do exist for Total Risk and for all subscales except *Attitudes/Orientation*. Of particular note:

- HYCF cases have the highest average Risk Scores for Total Risk and six of the eight subscales (*Prior and Current Offenses/Dispositions*, *Peer Relations*, *Substance Abuse*, *Leisure/Recreation*, *Personality/Behavior*, and *Attitudes/Orientation*).
- Second Circuit cases have the highest average Risk Scores for two subscales (*Family Circumstances/Parenting* and *Education/Employment*), and the lowest average Risk Scores for two subscales (*Peer Relations* and *Attitudes/Orientation*).
- For six of the eight subscales, Second Circuit cases have higher average Risk Scores than do their Third Circuit counterparts. The two subscales for which the Third Circuit's cases have higher average Risk Scores include *Peer Relations* and *Attitudes/Orientation*.
- Third Circuit cases have the lowest average Risk Scores for Total Risk and six of the eight subscales (*Prior and Current Offenses/Dispositions*, *Family Circumstances/Parenting*, *Education/Employment*, *Substance Abuse*, *Leisure/Recreation*, and *Personality/Behavior*).

Section 3: Average YLSI Scores for Probationers and HYCF Wards, by Circuit, Age Group, and Gender

Many of the following tables and analyses are focused on probationers, who account for the majority of YLSI assessments provided by the Second and Third Circuit Family Courts. (Both courts also provided a very small number of YLSI assessments for offenders who were either placed on protective supervision, or were counseled and released; these cases are not included in this section.)

Average YLSI Risk Scores for Probationers, by Circuit

	2 nd Circuit n=63	3 rd Circuit n=335	Significance
Prior and Current Offenses/Dispositions	0.59	0.32	**
Family Circumstances/Parenting	2.75	2.19	**
Education/Employment	3.43	2.59	***
Peer Relations	2.08	2.10	--
Substance Abuse	1.59	1.47	--
Leisure/Recreation	1.79	1.36	**
Personality/Behavior	2.35	1.48	***
Attitudes/Orientation	1.38	1.40	--
Total Risk Score	15.95	12.91	**

* p<.05; ** p<.01; *** p<.001

Analysis: Average Total Risk Scores fall in the Moderate Risk Level for probationers assessed by both the Second and Third Circuit Family Courts, although the score is significantly higher for the Second Circuit probationers. Statistically significant differences also exist between the two agencies for five of the eight subscales, with the Second Circuit offenders scoring higher on all five measures. (Note: See the tables in the previous section for information on the classification of precise Risk Scores into broad Risk Levels, and the third paragraph on page 6 for a simple explanation of “statistical significance.”)

Average YLSI Risk Scores for All Probationers, by Gender

	Males n=284	Females n=105	Significance
Prior and Current Offenses/Dispositions	0.38	0.32	--
Family Circumstances/Parenting	2.28	2.32	--
Education/Employment	2.69	2.85	--
Peer Relations	2.09	2.15	--
Substance Abuse	1.52	1.41	--
Leisure/Recreation	1.45	1.45	--
Personality/Behavior	1.64	1.62	--
Attitudes/Orientation	1.36	1.49	--
Total Risk Score	13.40	13.59	--

Average YLSI Risk Scores for Third Circuit Probationers, by Gender

	Males n=237	Females n=89	Significance
Prior and Current Offenses/Dispositions	0.34	0.28	--
Family Circumstances/Parenting	2.19	2.25	--
Education/Employment	2.58	2.65	--
Peer Relations	2.07	2.21	--
Substance Abuse	1.51	1.35	--
Leisure/Recreation	1.38	1.42	--
Personality/Behavior	1.54	1.40	--
Attitudes/Orientation	1.37	1.47	--
Total Risk Score	12.95	13.01	--

Average YLSI Risk Scores for Second Circuit Probationers, by Gender

	Males n=47	Females n=16	Significance
Prior and Current Offenses/Dispositions	0.60	0.56	--
Family Circumstances/Parenting	2.74	2.75	--
Education/Employment	3.26	3.94	--
Peer Relations	2.17	1.81	--
Substance Abuse	1.53	1.75	--
Leisure/Recreation	1.85	1.63	--
Personality/Behavior	2.19	2.81	--
Attitudes/Orientation	1.32	1.56	--
Total Risk Score	15.66	16.81	--

Analysis: For probationers, by Circuit and as a single group, average Total Risk Scores and subscale Risk Scores are essentially equivalent for males and females; no statistically significant gender-based differences exist for any of the 27 measurement comparisons shown in the preceding three tables. For six of the nine various YLSI measurements, Second and Third Circuit female probationers have slightly higher (albeit statistically insignificant) scores as compared to their male counterparts. (The relatively small number of female probationers in the Second Circuit probationer subpopulation should also be noted.)

(Note: There is an insufficient number of females (4) in the HYCF's YLSI subpopulation to permit a meaningful comparison of Risk Scores by gender. In addition, 45.5% of the gender data were missing in the HYCF subpopulation's YLSI records.)

Average YLSI Risk Scores for All Probationers, by Age Group

	<17 Yrs. n=316	18-19 Yrs. n=81	Significance
Prior and Current Offenses/Dispositions	0.34	0.43	--
Family Circumstances/Parenting	2.38	1.86	**
Education/Employment	3.00	1.64	***
Peer Relations	2.19	1.72	**
Substance Abuse	1.53	1.34	--
Leisure/Recreation	1.50	1.27	--
Personality/Behavior	1.78	1.01	***
Attitudes/Orientation	1.45	1.19	--
Total Risk Score	14.15	10.42	***

* p<.05; ** p<.01; *** p<.001

Average YLSI Risk Scores for Third Circuit Probationers, by Age Group

	<17 Yrs. n=255	18-19 Yrs. n=79	Significance
Prior and Current Offenses/Dispositions	0.29	0.42	--
Family Circumstances/Parenting	2.31	1.81	*
Education/Employment	2.89	1.62	***
Peer Relations	2.22	1.71	**
Substance Abuse	1.52	1.31	--
Leisure/Recreation	1.43	1.27	--
Personality/Behavior	1.65	0.95	***
Attitudes/Orientation	1.46	1.19	--
Total Risk Score	13.73	10.23	***

* p<.05; ** p<.01; *** p<.001

Average YLSI Risk Scores for HYCF Wards, by Age Group

	<17 Yrs. n=69	18-19 Yrs. n=30	Significance
Prior and Current Offenses/Dispositions	3.07	2.90	--
Family Circumstances/Parenting	2.55	3.10	--
Education/Employment	3.38	3.17	--
Peer Relations	2.97	3.27	--
Substance Abuse	2.88	2.67	--
Leisure/Recreation	1.86	2.03	--
Personality/Behavior	3.30	2.80	--
Attitudes/Orientation	1.67	1.23	--
Total Risk Score	21.68	21.17	--

* p<.05; ** p<.01; *** p<.001

Analysis: Average Total Risk Scores for both juveniles and young adults, regardless of their placement on probation or at the HYCF, all fall in the Moderate Risk Level. However, statistically significant differences exist between juvenile and young adult probationers' Risk Scores,

for Total Risk and four of the subscales. On each of these measures, the juvenile probationers scored significantly higher than did their young adult counterparts.

No statistically significant differences exist between the average Risk Scores for juvenile versus young adult HYCF wards, for either the Total Risk Score or any of the eight subscale scores. Total Risk Scores for both groups fall near the high end of the Moderate Risk Level.

(Note: There is an insufficient number of young adults (2) in the Second Circuit's YLSI subpopulation to permit a meaningful comparison of Risk Scores by age group.)

Average YLSI Risk Scores, Probationers versus HYCF Wards

	Probationers n=398	HYCF Wards n=99	Significance
Prior and Current Offenses/Dispositions	0.36	3.02	***
Family Circumstances/Parenting	2.28	2.72	**
Education/Employment	2.72	3.31	**
Peer Relations	2.10	3.06	***
Substance Abuse	1.49	2.82	***
Leisure/Recreation	1.45	1.91	***
Personality/Behavior	1.62	3.15	***
Attitudes/Orientation	1.40	1.54	--
Total Risk Score	13.39	21.53	***

* p<.05; ** p<.01; *** p<.001

Analysis: As might be expected, the average Total Risk Score is significantly higher for HYCF wards than it is for probationers, with the score for the former group falling near the high end of the Moderate Risk Level, and the score for the latter group falling below the midway point of the same, Moderate Risk Level. In addition, HYCF wards' Risk Scores are significantly higher as compared to probationers' scores, for all subscales except *Attitudes/Orientation*.

Appendix: “YLSI” (YLS/CMI) Subscale Measurements

Subscales	Measures <i>(one point per affirmative item)</i>
Prior and Current Offenses/Dispositions	Three or more prior convictions Two or more failures to comply Prior probation Prior custody Three or more current convictions
Family Circumstances/Parenting	Inadequate supervision Difficulty in controlling behavior Inappropriate discipline Inconsistent parenting Poor relations (father/youth) Poor relations (mother/youth)
Education/Employment	Disruptive classroom behavior Disruptive behavior on school property Low achievement Problems with peers Problems with teachers Truancy Unemployed/not seeking employment
Peer Relations	Some delinquent acquaintances Some delinquent friends No/few positive acquaintances No/few positive friends
Substance Abuse	Occasional drug use Chronic drug use Chronic alcohol use Substance abuse interferes with life Substance abuse linked to offenses
Leisure/Recreation	Limited organized activities Could make better use of time No personal interests
Personality/Behavior	Inflated self-esteem Physically aggressive Tantrums Short attention span Poor frustration tolerance Inadequate guilt feelings Verbally aggressive, impudent
Attitudes/Orientation	Antisocial/procriminal attitudes Not seeking help Actively rejecting help Defies authority Callous, little concern for others

This report can be downloaded from the *Crime Prevention & Justice Assistance Division* web site:

hawaii.gov/ag/cpja