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Arrests of Juveniles in Wisconsin 1983 - 1992

INTRODUCTION

This publication summarizes data on juvenile arrests in Wisconsin over the past ten years.

During the past ten years there has been an average of 93,980 juvenile arrests each year in Wisconsin. In 1992, juvenile arrests accounted for over 29 percent of all arrests made in the state.

The information presented in this publication has been summarized from <u>Crime and Arrests in Wisconsin</u>, published annually by the Wisconsin Office of Justice Assistance.

This flyer also contains three tables for reference purposes. The first contains ten year trends in juvenile arrest data for the entire State, the second ten year arrest trends for Milwaukee County, and the last one shows five years of basic juvenile arrest data for seven other Wisconsin counties.

It should be noted that the arrest figures presented are estimates based on approximately 99 percent of the actual number of reported arrests.

GENERAL ARREST TRENDS

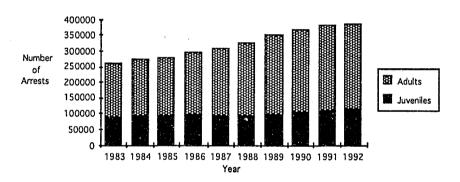
Total Arrests

Graph 1 shows the total number of juvenile arrests in Wisconsin over the past ten years. Adult arrests are included for comparison. While the number of adult arrests has risen in each of the last ten years except 1992, the number of juvenile arrests has increased only since 1987. The total number of juvenile arrests increased by 34.8 percent from 83,403 in 1983 to 112,432 during 1992. In contrast, adult arrests rose 54.9 percent from 177,409 in 1983 to 274,742 in 1992.

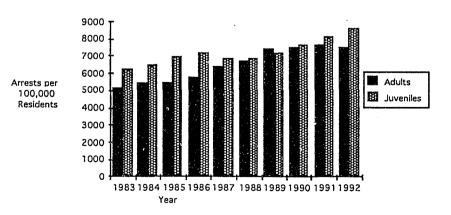
Arrest Rates

Graph 2 shows the arrest rates for juveniles and adults in Wisconsin during the decade. The arrest rate is the number of arrests per 100,000 residents. Arrest rates are used to control the effect of varying populations from year to year, allowing the comparison of arrests on an equalized population basis. The juvenile arrest rate increased from 1983 through 1986, declined in 1987, and increased through 1992. The adult arrest rate, however, after continually increasing through 1991, declined in 1992. Only in 1989 did it surpass the juvenile arrest rate.

Graph 1: Total Wisconsin Arrests by Year



Graph 2: Juvenile and Adult Arrest Rates by Year



Wisconsin Office of Justice Assistance Jerome D. Lacke, Executive Director Tommy G. Thompson
Governor

INDEX CRIME ARREST TRENDS

Index Offense Arrests

Graph 3 shows the number of arrests for Index Offenses. Again, adult figures are shown for comparison. Index Offenses are considered to be an "index" of crime, that is, representative of the overall crime picture. Index Offenses are divided into two categories, violent Index Offenses and property Index Offenses. Violent Index Offenses are murder, forcible rape, robbery and aggravated assault. Property Index Offenses are burglary, theft, motor vehicle theft and arson.

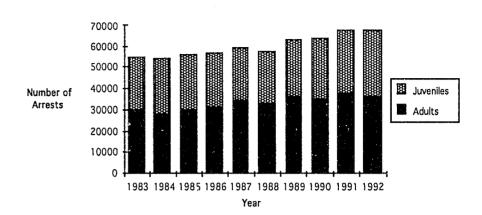
Both juvenile and adult arrests for Index Offenses increased during the ten year period. While juvenile Index Offense arrests increased by over 25 percent from 25,499 in 1983 to 31,716 during 1992, adult Index Offense arrests increased by over 22 percent from 29,020 during 1983 to 35,592 in 1992.

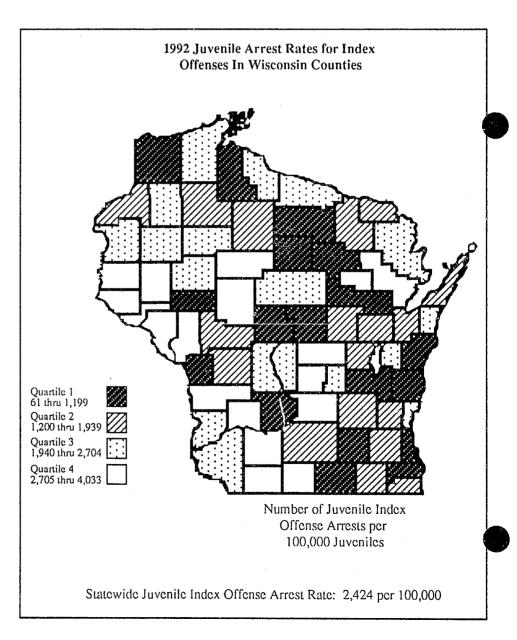
Tables 1 and 2 in this flyer consist of two reference tables containing data on the number of juvenile arrests and arrest rates in Wisconsin and Milwaukee County respectively. Milwaukee County data are presented separately due to the high population density in the county and also because arrest rates in Milwaukee County differ considerably from the rest of the state. However, note that the arrest figures from Milwaukee County are also included in Table 1 which shows statewide data.

Geographic Distribution of Index Offense Arrest Rates

The map of Wisconsin at right categorizes counties according to their 1992 juvenile arrest rates for Index Offenses. In general, higher arrest rates were in urban counties, although some rural counties had fairly high rates. This characteristic of arrest rates, rates rising with increasing populations, is similar to patterns found in various reported offenses such as aggravated assault and robbery.

Graph 3: Wisconsin Arrests for Index Offenses





Index Crime Arrests Versus All Other Arrests

Graph 4 shows the total number juvenile arrests in Wisconsin for index Offenses and for all other offenses during the past ten years. In 1992, Index Offense arrests accounted for approximately 28 percent of all juvenile arrests. As previously indicated, the total number of juvenile arrests for Index Offenses has increased about 25 percent since 1983. However, juvenile arrests for all other offenses increased by about 39 percent during the same period.

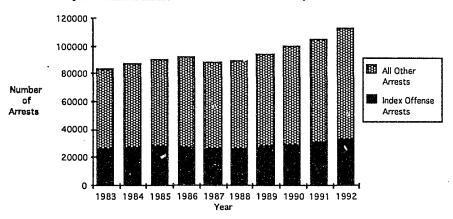
Index Crime Arrest Rates Versus All Other Arrest Rates

Graph 5 shows the juvenile arrest rates in Wisconsin for Index Offenses and for all other offenses during the past ten years. Graphs 6 and 7 illustrate how Milwaukee County differs from the rest of the state.

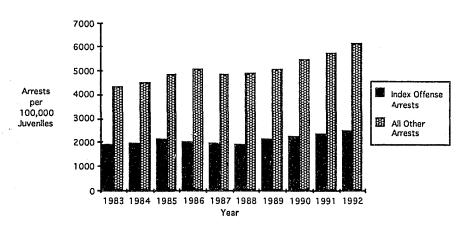
For the entire state, juvenile arrest rates for Index Offenses have increased by nearly 27 percent from 1,914 arrests per 100,000 juveniles 1983 to 2,424 in 1992. The arrest for all other offenses increased about 42 percent during the same period, from 4,345 arrests per 100,000 juveniles in 1983 to 6,168 in 1992.

The arrest rates in Milwaukee County, while much higher than the arrest rates for the entire State, (note the different scale on the graphs) had

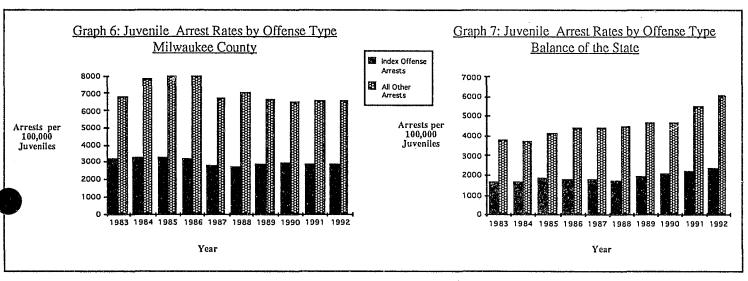
Graph 4: Wisconsin Juvenile Arrests by Offense



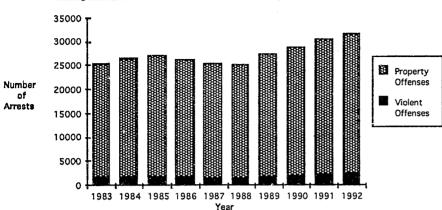
Graph 5: Juvenile Arrest Rates by Offense Type Wisconsin



a different pattern in the decade. Index Offense arrest rates in Milwaukee County decreased almost eleven percent from 3,194 arrests per 100,000 juveniles in 1983 to 2,844 in 1992. While the Property crime arrest rate declined by 15 percent, the Violent crime arrest rate increased by 24 percent. Also, arrest rates for all other offenses decreased 4 percent from 6,776 arrests per 100,000 juveniles in 1983 to 6,519 in 1992. In the rest of the State, arrests for Index Offenses increased by 44 percent and arrests for all other offenses increased 60 percent.



Graph 8: Wisconsin Juvenile Arrests by Offense Type



Violent and Property Arrests

Graph 8 shows the number of juvenile arrests in the state for violent Index Offenses (murder, forcible rape, robbery, and aggravated assault) and for property Index Offenses (burglary, theft, motor vehicle theft, and arson). While the number of juvenile arrests for violent offenses increased 51.4 percent from 1,472 in 1983 to 2,228 during 1992, the number of arrests for property offenses increased 22.7 percent from 24,027 during 1983 to 29,488 in 1992.

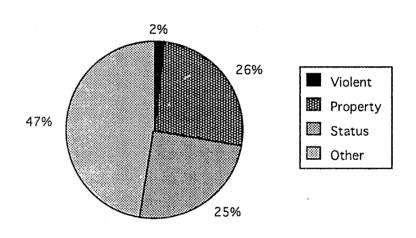
DISTRIBUTION OF ARRESTS

Distribution of 1992 Arrests

Graph 9 shows the distribution of arrests for Wisconsin juveniles in 1992 for four types of offenses: Violent Index Offenses; Property Index Offenses; status; that is, liquor law violations, curfew violations, and runaways; and all other offenses (negligent manslaughter and all Part II crimes except status). Two percent of arrests were for violent offenses. To better understand the distribution of arrests, two additional pie charts have been created, one showing the distribution of arrests for Milwaukee County and one showing the distribution for the rest of the state.

While a greater proportion of juvenile arrests in Milwaukee County were for violent offenses, Milwaukee County had fewer arrests for status violations but more arrests for "all other" offenses.

Graph 9: Distribution of 1992 Wisconsin Juvenile Arrests



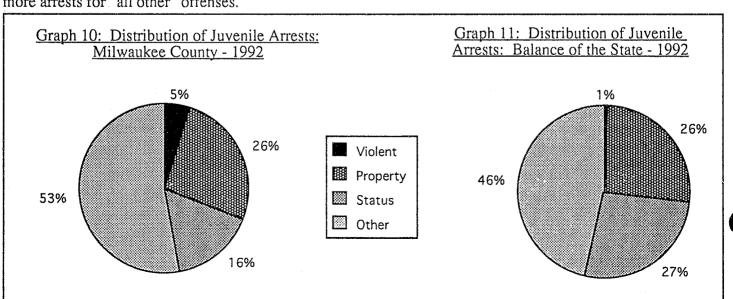


Table 1: State of Wisconsin Juvenile Arrests and Arrest Rates 1983 - 1992

JUVENILE ARRESTS		1 <u>983</u> Rate] No.	984 Rate	_	985 Rate	<u>1</u> 9 No.	9 <u>86</u> Rate	No.	1 <u>987</u> Rate	No.	<u>1988</u> Rate	_	989 Rate] No.	1990 Rate	No.	1991 Rate	<u>1</u> No.	992 Rate
Murder Forcible Rape Robbery Agg. Assault	14 62 774 622	1.1 4.7 58.1 46.7	21 93 715 603	1.5 6.8 52.6 44.4	20 135 667 671	1.5 10.4 51.6 51.9	21 106 538 754	1.6 8.1 41.5 58.3	30 127 401 747	2.3 9.8 31.0 57.7	14 121 407 609	9.3 31.3	44 137 434 816	3.3 10.4 33.0 62.1	68 133 622 866	5.2 10.2 47.7 66.4	66 167 883 887	5.1 12.9 68.1 68.4	94 126 889 1119	7.2 9.6 67.9 85.5
TOTAL-VIOLENT OFFENSES	1472	110.5	1432	105.4	1493	115.6	1419	109.7	1305	100.8	1151	88.5	1431	108.9	1689	129.6	2003	154.6	2228	170.3
Burglary Theft MV Theft Arson	4381 17949 1455 242	329 1347 109 18	3976 19109 1659 271	293 1407 122 20	4251 19413 1650 279	329 1503 128 22	3775 19104 1827 282	292 1477 141 22	3683 18235 1947 242	284 1408 150 18	3435 17996 2182 301	1382	3362 19256 3078 295	255 1465 234 22	3304 20303 3076 308	254 1558 236 24	3584 21162 3338 313	276 1633 258 24	3769 22014 3354 351	288 1682 256 27
TOTAL-PROPERTY OFFENSES	24027	1803	25015	1841	25931	1981	24988	1932	24107	1862	23914	1836	25991	1977	26991	2071	28397	2191	29488	2254
Status Arrests	25319	1900	26315	1937	27605	2137	29337	2268	28083	2169	27501	2111	27547	2095	29258	2245	28469	2197	27677	211
Other Arrests*	32585	2445	34588	2546	34987	2709	36188	2798	34608	2673	36392	2794	38547	2936	41689	3199	45922	3543	53039	4053
TOTAL JUVENILE	83403	6258	87350	6430	89687	6945	91940	7109	88103	6803	88959	6830	93516	7118	99627	7645	104791	8086	112432	8:192
Adult Arrests for Violent Offenses	3652	106.0	3958	115.8	3953	113.3	4767	136.3	5487	156.8	5163	147.0	6137	172.9	5903	164.5	5837	161.0	5892	161.0
TOTAL ADULT ARRESTS	177409	5149	186860	5470	190864	5472	201603	5766	221788	6337	235995	6717	261655	7371	267987	7468	277558	7658	274,742	7507
JUVENILE POP.	1,332	2,723	1,358,	519	1,291,	322	1,293,	307	1,294	,987	1,302	,385	1,313,	748	1,303	,149	1,295	,962	1,308,	492
ADULT POP.	3,445	5,178	3,415,	,864	3,487,	699	3,495,	815	3,499	,805	3,513	,117	3,549,	406	3,588	,620	3,624	,545	3,659,	732

^{*}Included in this category are negligent manslaughter (a Part I offense) and all Part II offenses excluding status offenses.

Table 2: Milwaukee County Juvenile Arrests and Arrest Rates 1983 - 1992

JUVENILE ARRESTS	<u>1</u> No.	983 Rate	<u>1</u> No.	984 Rate	<u>19</u> No.	985 Rate	<u>1</u> No.	986 Rate	<u>19</u> No.	987 Rate	<u>19</u> No.	9 <u>88</u> Rate	<u>1</u> 9 No.	989 Rate	<u>1</u> No.	990 Rate	<u>19</u> No.	991 Rate	<u>19</u> No.	992 Rate
Murder Forcible Rape Robbery Agg. Assault	6 19 579 250	2.4 7.6 231.1 99.8	9 23 508 244	3.5 9.3 206.0 99.0	11 62 518 257	4.7 26.2 219.1 108.7	18 40 413 284	7.6 17.0 175.4 120.6	26 93 293 312	11.1 39.6 124.9 133.0	9 73 250 263	3.8 31.2 106.8 112.4	36 63 263 301	15.3 26.8 112.0 128.2	60 57 474 261	24.4 23.1 192.4 105.9	60 84 684 234	24.3 34.0 276.9 94.7	82 52 639 275	33.1 21.0 257.8 111.0
TOTAL-VIOLENT OFFENSES	854	340.8	784	318.0	848	358.7	755	320.7	724	308.6	595	254.2	663	282.4	852	345.8	1062	430.0	1048	422.8
Burglary Theft MV Theft Arson	1354 5232 518 44	540 2088 207 18	1165 5357 685 84	472 2172 278 34	1159 5082 528 63	490 2150 223 27	978 5019 650 66	415 2132 276 28	840 4196 709 54	358 1788 302 23	705 4058 964 61	301 1734 412 26	701 3863 1397 57	298 1646 595 24	560 4166 1519 63	227 1691 617 26	564 4137 1201 70	228 1675 486 28	524 3902 1501 73	211 1574 606 29
TOTAL-PROPERTY OFFENSES	7148	2853	7291	2957	6832	2890	6713	2851	5799	2472	5788	2474	6018	2564	6308	2560	5972	2418	6000	2421
Status Arrests	6794	2712	7410	3005	7019	2969	6911	2935	5640	2404	5838	2490	5154	2195	5532	2245	5720	2316	3764	1519
Other Arrests*	10182	4064	11957	4849	11726	4960	11891	5050	10123	4315	10606	4523	10352	4409	10383	4215	10453	4232	12385	4997
TOTAL JUVENILE ARRESTS	24978	9970	27443	11130	26426	11178	26270	11157	22286	9500	22827	9734	22187	9451	23075	9366	23207	9396	23197	9359
Adult Arrests for Violent Offenses	1802	257.9	1741	253.2	1704	242.3	2291	327.1	2581	369.9	3179	456.4	2659	380.8	2351	329.7	2331	326.0	2434	339.3
TOTAL ADULT ARRESTS	57603	8245	64624	9399	61337	8722	62226	8884	77791	11147	81952	11765	87126	12476	79483	11147	78457	10974	80937	11283
JUVENILE POP.	250,	527	246,	577	236,	419	235,	455·	234,	590	234,4	489	234	750	246	,360	247,0	021	247,8	349
ADULT POP.	698,	620	687,	545	703,	270	700,	415	697,8	342	696,0	619	698	,317	713	,023	714,9	930	717,3	330

^{*}Included in this category are negligent manslaughter (a Part I offense) and Part II offenses excluding status offenses.

Arrest Information For Select Counties

Table 3 presents juvenile arrest data for other selected counties in Wisconsin from 1988 through 1992. Shown are the number of arrests for Index Offenses, other criminal offenses, and status offenses. Only Kenosha County showed a decrease in total juvenile arrests during the five

years. However, total arrests in all the other counties in Table 3 increased. In addition, all counties shown in the table showed an increase in the number of juvenile arrests for Index Offenses. These increases in Index Offense arrests ranged from a low of 1.1 percent in Kenosha County to a high of 39.6 percent in Dane County.

Table 3: Juvenile Arrests in Select Counties: 1988 - 1992

County	<u>1988</u>	<u>1989</u>	1990	<u>1991</u>	<u>1992</u>	% Change 1988-1992
Brown County Index Other Criminal Status Total Arrests	1,262	1,229	1,176	1,414	1,369	+ 8.5%
	1,026	886	964	1,472	1,791	+ 74.6%
	1,917	1,149	1,490	1,557	1,575	- 7.4%
	4,205	3,264	3,630	4,443	4,735	+ 12.6%
Dane County Index Other Criminal Status Total Arrests	1,658	1,804	2,030	2,215	2,314	+ 39.6%
	1,240	1,338	1,661	1,936	2,867	+ 131.2%
	1,027	966	1,470	1,491	1,900	+ 85.0%
	3,925	4,108	5,161	5,642	7,081	+ 80.4%
Kenosha County Index Other Criminal Status Total Arrests	732	823	917	825	740	+ 1.1%
	1,742	1,484	2,305	1,743	1,404	- 19.4%
	789	823	427	703	767	- 2.8%
	3,263	3,130	3,649	3,271	2,911	- 10.8%
Outagamie County Index Other Criminal Status Total Arrests	918	851	945	952	945	+ 2.9%
	893	809	865	1,039	1,419	+ 58.9%
	1,036	936	898	896	951	- 8.2%
	2,847	2,596	2,708	2,887	3,315	+ 16.4%
Racine County Index Other Criminal Status Total Arrests	1,201	1,427	1,489	1,753	1,520	+ 26.6%
	1,905	2,158	2,568	2,723	2,542	+ 33.4%
	601	636	579	706	848	+ 41.1%
	3,707	4,221	4,636	5,182	4,910	+ 32.4%
Rock County Index Other Criminal Status Total Arrests	1,158	1,065	1,149	1,303	1,543	+ 33.2%
	1,738	2,113	2,402	2,905	3,306	+ 90.2%
	731	884	1,005	1,169	1,319	+ 76.3%
	3,627	4,062	4,556	5,377	6,168	+ 70.0%
Waukesha County Index Other Criminal Status Total Arrests	1,373	1,239	1,515	1,579	1,740	+ 26.7%
	2,174	2,284	2,336	2,554	2,635	+ 21.2%
	2,556	2,846	3,174	2,901	2,965	+ 16.0%
	6,103	6,369	7,025	7,034	7,340	+ 20.3%

SUMMARY

- While relatively stable from 1983 through 1988, the number of juvenile arrests has increased in each of the last four years.
- The juvenile arrest rate has increased steadily except for a decrease in 1987.
- During the ten year period, the number of juvenile arrests for Index Offenses increased by twenty-five percent.
- The Index Offense arrest rate for Wisconsin juveniles increased by twenty-seven percent from 1983 to 1992.
- While Milwaukee County experienced decreases in both total Index Offense arrests and arrest rates during the decade, the arrest rates were much higher in Milwaukee County than in the rest of the state.
- Ninety-one percent of the juvenile arrests for Index Offenses made in Wisconsin during 1992 were for property crimes.
- While arrests for property offenses increased by twenty-three percent during the ten year period, the number of juvenile arrests made for violent offenses increased by fifty-one percent.
- Milwaukee County had a higher proportion of juvenile arrests for violent offenses than did the rest of Wisconsin.

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