

Juvenile Violent Crime

Nevada

The Juvenile Violent Crime Arrest Rate in Nevada from 1999 to 2001 was 258.9 arrests per 100,000 youth ages 10 to 17. During this period, there were 1,705 juvenile violent crime arrests. The 1998 to 2000 rate was 273.8.

Of the 25,238 juvenile arrests in 2001, 588 were for violent crimes. The large majority of arrests were for nonviolent crimes. For example, 16.4 percent were curfew and loitering violations and 13.4 percent were larceny-theft. See table on page 71. In 2001, 67.8 percent of all state-wide juvenile arrests were males.¹

Over 26,000 juveniles ages 8 to 17 were referred into the juvenile justice system during fiscal year 2001. Males were more than twice as likely to be referred as were females. See table on page 72.

Counties

Carson City and Washoe County had the highest Average Violent Crime Arrest Rate. Esmeralda, Eureka, Lincoln and Storey counties reported no juvenile crime arrests.

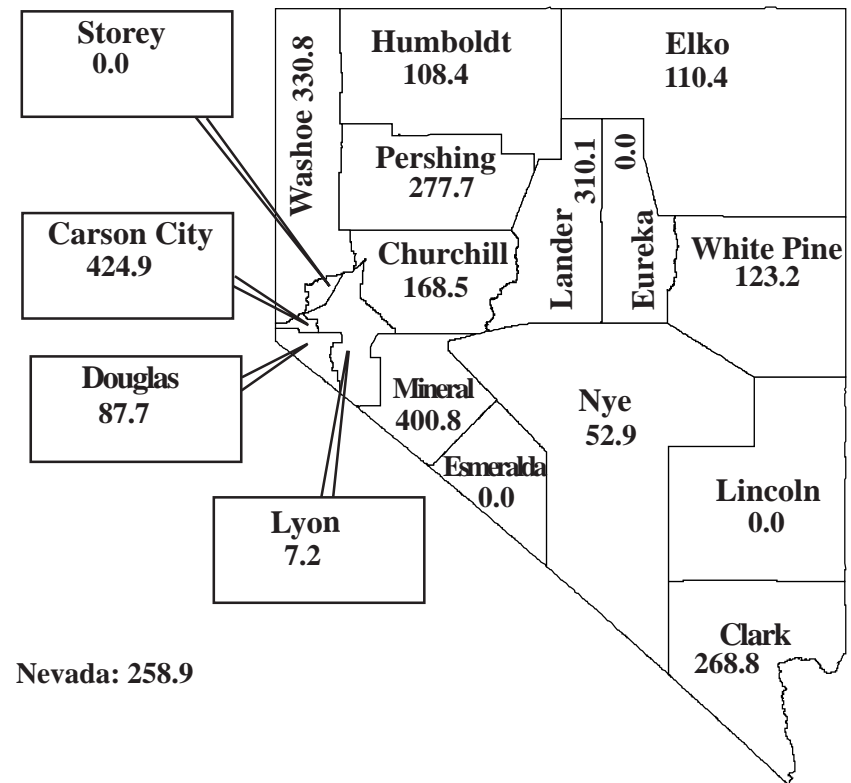
Significant Factors

Most violent behavior is learned. Some key risk factors for violence include peer pressure; need for attention or respect; feelings of low self-worth; feelings of isolation or rejection; early childhood neglect or abuse; and witnessing violence at home, in the community, or in the media.²

Definition

The Juvenile Violent Crime Arrest Rate measures the rate at which youths (per 100,000) between the ages of 10 and 17 are arrested for violent crimes. In Nevada, juvenile violent crime includes murder, nonnegligent manslaughter, rape, robbery, and aggravated assault.

Average Juvenile Violent Crime Arrest Rate: 1999-2001 (Arrests per 100,000 youths ages 10-17)



Source: CBER calculations from Nevada Department of Motor Vehicles and Public Safety data, Nevada Highway Patrol Records and Identification Services, 1999-2001.

Juvenile Violent Crime Continued

Gathered from previous work, The National Center for Injury Prevention and Control identified the following individual risk factors for youth violence:³

- ❖ history of early aggression
- ❖ beliefs supportive of violence
- ❖ engaging in antisocial behavior such as setting fires and animal cruelty
- ❖ use of alcohol and other drugs
- ❖ being male
- ❖ involvement in serious but not necessarily violent criminal behavior
- ❖ bullying other children or being the target of bullies.

Juvenile violent crime peaks between 3 p.m. and 4 p.m., unlike adult violent crime which peaks at 11 p.m. However, when nonschool days are considered, the pattern of juvenile crime is similar to that of adult crime. Juveniles are more likely to commit crime later in the evening on a nonschool day.⁴

Aggravated assault and even homicide, involving juveniles as victims and/or offenders, often result from interactions over apparently trivial matters, and occur between individuals who know each other.⁵

Number of Referrals of Children and Youth Ages 8-17 into the Nevada Juvenile Justice System:* Fiscal Years 2000-2001

County	2000		2001	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
Clark County	9,950	4,216	9,742	4,199
Washoe County	4,362	2,478	4,796	2,662
Rest of State	2,726	1,377	3,079	1,562
NEVADA	17,038	8,071	17,617	8,423

*Includes all juveniles that came in contact with the juvenile justice system and does not just constitute arrests.

Source: Division of Child and Family Services, Juvenile Justice Programs Office, 2000-2001.

Juvenile Violent Crime Continued

Statewide Arrests by Offense and Age: 2001

<i>Offense</i>	<i>9 Years of Age and Less</i>	<i>10-12 Years of Age</i>	<i>13-14 Years of Age</i>	<i>15 Years of Age</i>	<i>16 Years of Age</i>	<i>17 Years of Age</i>	<i>Total</i>
Murder	0	0	0	0	4	7	11
Manslaughter by negligence	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Forcible rape	0	3	16	6	9	11	45
Robbery	1	9	27	43	63	66	209
Aggravated assault	9	33	85	66	62	77	332
Other assaults	67	318	711	528	469	537	2,630
Burglary	11	100	297	174	200	187	969
Larceny-theft	63	517	977	606	568	651	3,382
Motor-vehicle theft	1	9	97	132	143	124	506
Arson	13	29	57	19	20	5	143
Forgery and counterfeiting	0	0	3	6	3	7	19
Fraud	0	1	13	25	31	37	107
Embezzlement	0	1	1	2	11	41	56
Stolen property-buy, possess, receive	4	23	54	54	56	58	249
Vandalism	28	120	226	163	124	115	776
Weapons-carrying, possession	5	40	103	66	68	71	353
Prostitution and commercialized vice	0	0	9	11	18	37	75
Other sex offenses	8	33	51	24	17	30	163
Drug-abuse violations	3	63	340	301	327	433	1,467
Gambling	0	0	0	1	2	2	5
Offenses against family and children	5	3	9	14	7	11	49
Driving under the influence	2	1	4	3	17	46	73
Liquor laws	1	15	157	277	405	658	1,513
Drunkenness	1	0	12	13	21	31	78
Disorderly conduct	23	128	292	195	168	134	940
Vagrancy	0	4	5	7	4	10	30
All other offenses (except traffic)	28	480	1,520	1,239	1,222	1,034	5,523
Suspicion	0	0	2	4	1	5	12
Curfew and loitering law violations	3	90	626	768	1,160	1,482	4,129
Runaway	4	59	398	371	356	205	1,393
TOTAL	280	2,079	6,092	5,118	5,556	6,113	25,238

Source: Nevada Department of Motor Vehicles and Public Safety, 2001 *Crime and Justice in Nevada*.