

Juvenile Crime

Nevada

Nevada experienced a drop in its juvenile violent crime arrest rate during a comparative three-year period. The juvenile violent crime arrest rate in Nevada from 2000 to 2002 was 242.4 arrests per 100,000 youth ages 10 to 17. During this period, there were 1,692 juvenile violent crime arrests. The 1999 to 2001 rate was 258.9.¹

Of the 23,551 juvenile referrals (ages 10-17) in 2002, 574 were for violent crimes (see page 91). The large majority of arrests were for nonviolent crimes.

About 25,000 juveniles ages 8 to 17 were referred into the juvenile-justice system during fiscal year 2002. Males were about twice as likely to be referred as were females (66.6 versus 33.4 percent). See page 90.

Counties

Two counties had an age-specific population of 10,000 or more which allowed for calculation of the juvenile violent crime arrest rate. The juvenile violent crime arrest rates for Clark and Washoe counties were 244.0 and 336.2, respectively. The rate of the combined 15 counties, each with a population of under 10,000, was 92.2.

Significant Factors

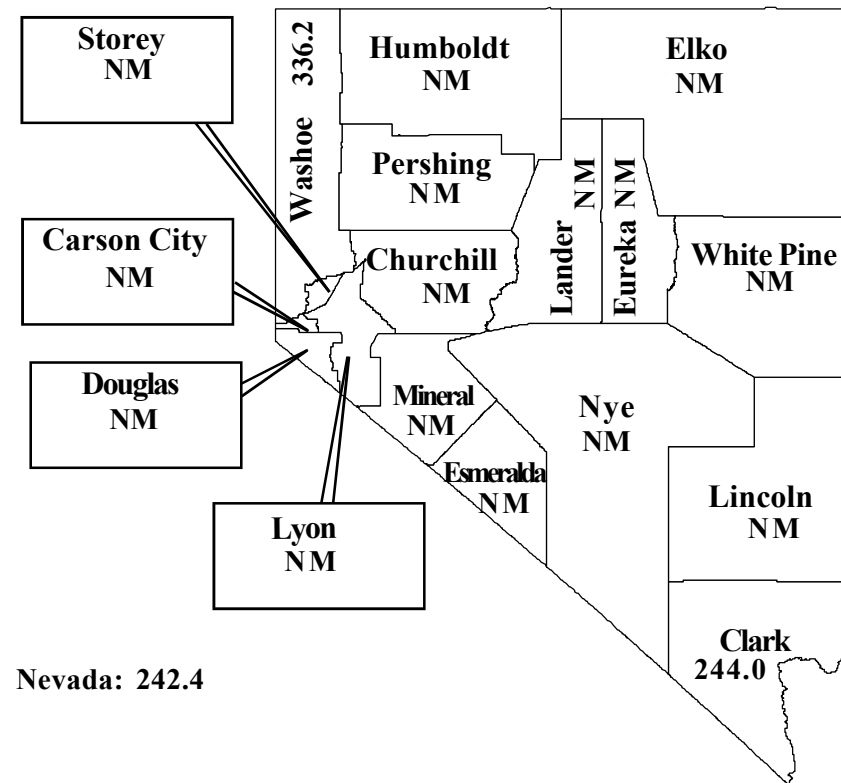
Findings from the FBI's Uniform Crime Program, to which local law enforcement agencies submit data, include the following for 2001:²

- ❖ The juvenile Violent Crime Index arrest rate was 320, the lowest since 1983.
- ❖ Juveniles accounted for 15 percent of all violent crime arrests.

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.

Nevada Average Juvenile Violent Crime Arrest Rate: 2000-2002 (Arrests per 100,000 youths ages 10-17)



Nevada: 242.4

Note: NM = Not Meaningful. Only rates for counties with an age-specific population of 10,000 or more are shown. See County Data: 2002 for numbers.

Source: CBER calculations from Nevada Department of Motor Vehicles and Public Safety data, Nevada Highway Patrol Records and Identification Services, 2000-2002.

Juvenile Crime Continued

- ❖ Juveniles were involved in 10 percent of murder arrests, 14 percent of aggravated assault arrests, 31 percent of burglary arrests, 24 percent of robbery arrests, and 23 percent of weapon arrests.
- ❖ Although the disparity in the juvenile arrest rate for violent crime declined from 1980 to 2001 among the racial groups, black youth were still overrepresented in the arrests. Of the 2001 violent crime arrests, 55 percent were white youth, 43 were blacks (African Americans), 1 percent were Asians/Pacific Islanders, and 1 percent were American Indians.

The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention reports that children arrested at an early age are more likely to become violent offenders (commit murder, kidnapping, violent sexual assault, robbery, and aggravated assault) than those arrested at an older age. “Of those referred to juvenile court for the first time at age 9, 16 percent had at least one referral for a violent offense before they turned 19.”³

Number of Nevadans Ages 17 and under Referred by Age Category: 1999-2002

Age Category	Number of Persons Referred			
	1999	2000	2001	2002
0-9	341	305	280	236
10-12	2,005	2,042	2,079	1,888
13-14	6,341	6,163	6,092	5,696
15	5,095	4,941	5,118	4,450
16	6,186	5,682	5,556	5,142
17	5,730	6,597	6,113	6,375
TOTAL	25,698	25,730	25,238	23,787

Note: Nevada Division of Investigations (NDI) Drug, Nevada Highway Patrol (NHP) Drug, and Driving under the Influence (DUI) arrest totals are not included.

Source: Nevada Department of Public Safety, 2003, *2002 Crime and Justice in Nevada*.

Juvenile Violent Crime Referrals in Nevada by Sex and Race: 2002

Offense	Sex		Race			
	M	F	White	Black*	AI/AN**	A/PI***
Murder	10	1	7	4	0	0
Manslaughter by negligence	0	1	1	0	0	0
Forcible rape	28	0	20	6	1	1
Robbery	253	16	127	128	0	14
Aggravated assault	203	62	NA	NA	NA	NA
TOTAL	494	80				
PERCENT	86	14				

Note: NA = Data were not available at time of publication.

*African American.

**American Indian or Alaskan Native.

***Asian or Pacific Islander.

Source: Nevada Department of Public Safety, 2003, *2002 Crime and Justice in Nevada*; and Tenna Herman, Uniform Crime Reporting, Records and Identification Bureau.

Juvenile Crime Continued

County and Municipal Drug and Liquor Juvenile Referrals in Nevada by Age: 2002

Age	Drug Referrals		Liquor Referrals		Total Drug & Liquor Referrals
	Sales & Manufacturing	Possession	DUI	Liquor Laws	
Under 10	0	6	1	2	9
10-12	7	37	0	11	55
13-14	42	238	3	161	444
15	29	252	7	219	507
16	60	326	22	347	755
17	61	397	48	635	1,141
TOTAL	199	1,256	81	1,375	2,911

Source: Nevada Department of Public Safety, 2003, *2002 Crime and Justice in Nevada*.

Number of Referrals* of Children and Youth Ages 8-17 into the Nevada Juvenile Justice System by Racial/Ethnic Group: Fiscal Year 2002

Race/Ethnicity	Number of Referrals					
	Male			Female		
	Clark	Washoe	Rural	Clark	Washoe	Rural
White	4,223	2,843	2,260	2,266	1,605	1,195
Black**	2,047	261	46	862	172	19
American Indian	27	83	112	11	26	73
Hispanic	2,576	1,089	381	1,076	473	165
Asian	42	109	23	24	62	18
Other	331	7	4	192	9	12
TOTAL	9,246	4,392	2,826	4,431	2,347	1,482

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

**African American.

Source: Division of Child & Family Services, Juvenile Justice Programs Office, 2002.

Number of Referrals* of Children and Youth Ages 8-17 into the Nevada Juvenile Justice System by County: Fiscal Years 2001 and 2002

Region	Number of Referrals			
	2001		2002	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
Clark County	9,742	4,199	9,246	4,431
Washoe County	4,796	2,662	4,392	2,347
Rest of State	3,079	1,562	2,826	1,482
NEVADA	17,617	8,423	16,464	8,260

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

Source: Division of Child & Family Services, Juvenile Justice Programs Office, 2001, 2002.

Nevada KIDS COUNT
Center for Business and Economic Research, University of Nevada Las Vegas
<http://kidscount.unlv.edu>

Juvenile Crime Continued

Statewide Arrests in Nevada by Offense and Age: 2002

<i>Offense</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>	<i>Percent of All Arrests*</i>
Murder	0	0	1	4	6	11	0.05
Manslaughter by negligence	1	0	0	0	0	1	0.004
Forcible rape	3	12	4	3	6	28	0.1
Robbery	9	51	44	74	91	269	1.1
Aggravated assault	23	57	39	61	85	265	1.1
Other assaults	313	668	468	501	602	2,552	10.8
Burglary	69	192	160	153	157	731	3.1
Larceny-theft	393	978	619	643	800	3,433	14.6
Motor-vehicle theft	8	73	129	144	173	527	2.2
Arson	29	40	7	3	6	85	0.4
Forgery and counterfeiting	0	1	3	10	5	19	0.1
Fraud	5	12	6	16	32	71	0.3
Embezzlement	0	0	0	7	12	19	0.1
Stolen property-buy, possess, receive	9	55	43	38	64	209	0.9
Vandalism	116	248	156	148	122	790	3.4
Weapons-carrying, possession	33	74	65	70	85	327	1.4
Prostitution and commercialized vice	0	5	9	13	50	77	0.3
Other sex offenses	26	56	20	22	24	148	0.6
Drug-abuse violations	44	280	281	386	458	1,449	6.2
Gambling	1	0	1	0	1	3	0.01
Offenses against family and children	0	13	8	5	8	34	0.1
Driving under the influence	0	3	7	22	48	80	0.3
Liquor laws	11	161	219	347	635	1,373	5.8
Drunkenness	1	3	8	12	13	37	0.2
Disorderly conduct	115	237	137	158	135	782	3.3
Vagrancy	0	10	2	8	12	32	0.1
All other offenses (except traffic)	537	1,518	1,123	1,070	1,049	5,297	22.5
Suspicion	13	57	73	75	155	373	1.6
Curfew and loitering law violations	78	543	581	859	1,338	3,399	14.4
Runaway	51	349	237	290	203	1,130	4.8
TOTAL	1,888	5,696	4,450	5,142	6,375	23,551	

*CBER calculations.

Source: Nevada Department of Public Safety, 2003, *Crime and Justice in Nevada*.