Juvenile Court Statistics 2021

The nation's juvenile courts play a critical role in the response to juvenile crime and the problems of offenders, victims, and the community. To ensure informed decisionmaking and policy development, it is important that the court understands the changing nature of the youth who come before it as well as the nature, availability, and effects of the resources that are required to help these youth.

Juvenile Court Statistics 2021 presents data on delinquency and status offense cases handled by courts with juvenile jurisdiction in 2021. National estimates are presented on 437,300 delinquency cases and 51,500 petitioned status offense cases handled in 2021, and trends since 2005 are described. Data include the volume and rate of cases, demographic characteristics of the juveniles involved (age, gender, and race), and offenses charged. Case processing is traced as it flows through the courts and is examined at each decision point (i.e., detention, intake decision, adjudication decision, and judicial disposition) for various demographic groups and offenses.

This report, the latest in a 95-year-old series, provides a detailed portrait of the juvenile court in 2021 and offers a reference guide to policymakers, practitioners, researchers, and others concerned with the court's critical contributions to securing the future of our youth.

Juvenile Court Statistics 2021

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