

Juvenile Arrests and Delinquency

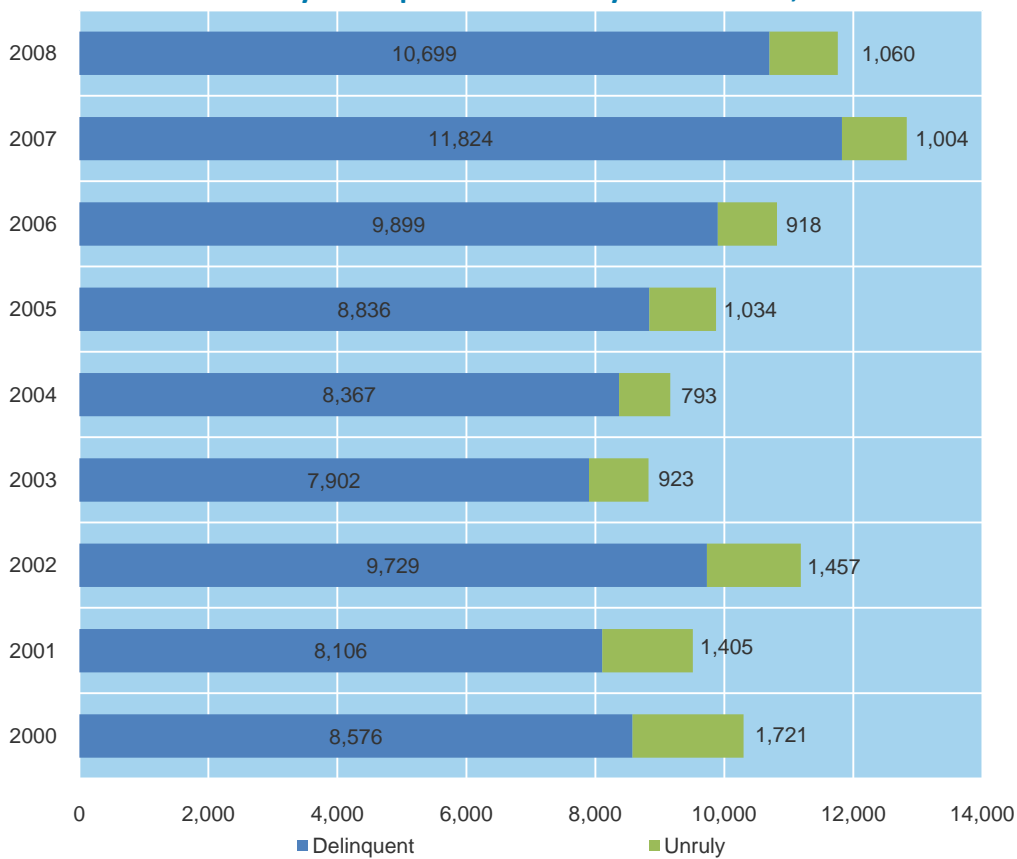
Table 1. Columbus Division of Police - Juvenile Arrests, 1995-2004

Year	Total Arrests	Annual Percent Change	Columbus Population Under Age 18 (ACS)
1995	3,751	9.4%	
1996	3,849	2.6%	
1997	3,478	-9.6%	
1998	2,914	-16.2%	
1999	3,179	9.1%	147,733 ⁽¹⁾
2000	2,444	-23.1%	167,773 ⁽¹⁾
2001	2,531	3.6%	161,784 ⁽¹⁾
2002	1,659	-34.5%	177,939
2003	2,538	53.0%	175,010
2004	1,913	-24.6%	176,182

⁽¹⁾From 1999-2001 the American Community Survey surveyed only the area of Columbus within Franklin County.

- The 1,913 juvenile arrests in 2004 gave Columbus a juvenile crime rate of 10.9 arrests per 1,000 persons under age 18.

Chart 1. Franklin County Delinquent and Unruly Youth Cases, 2000-2008



- The Franklin County Juvenile Court reported 10,297 delinquent and unruly youth in 2000 and 11,759 in 2008, an increase of 14.2% during this period.
- From 2000 to 2008, the number of unruly youth cases decreased by 38.4% in Franklin County, while delinquent cases increased by 24.8%.

About the Data

Data Sources:

- Columbus Division of Police, Annual Reports, 1995-2004 (juvenile arrests)
- U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 1999-2004 (population under age 18)
- Franklin County Court of Common Pleas, Division of Domestic Relations and Juvenile Branch, 2000-2008 Annual Reports (delinquent and unruly cases)
- Am. Sub. S. B. 181, 123rd General Assembly (definitions of delinquent and unruly child)

Definitions:

- **Juvenile Arrests:** Arrests of individuals under 18 years of age for felonies and misdemeanors
- **Delinquent Child:** The Ohio Revised Code defines a “delinquent child” as any child who (1) violates any law that would be a crime if committed by an adult, except if the child is a juvenile traffic offender; (2) violates any lawful order of a court; (3) purchases or attempts to purchase a firearm illegally; (4) illegally obtains or attempts to obtain a tattooing service, body piercing service, or ear piercing service under certain prohibited conditions; or (5) is an “habitual truant” and who previously has been adjudicated an unruly child for being an habitual truant, and any child who is a “chronic truant.”
- **Unruly Child:** The Ohio Revised Code defines an “unruly child” as any child who (1) does not subject the child's self to the reasonable control of the child's parents, teachers, guardian, or custodian, by reason of being wayward or habitually disobedient; (2) is persistently truant from home or school; (3) so deprives the child's self as to injure or endanger the child's own health or morals or the health or morals of others; (4) attempts to enter the marriage relation without legal authority; (5) is found in a disreputable place, visits or patronizes a place prohibited by law, or associates with vagrant, vicious, criminal, notorious, or immoral persons; (6) engages in an occupation prohibited by law or is in a situation dangerous to life or limb or injurious to the child's own health or morals or to the health or morals of others; (7) violates a law, other than the law against the purchase or attempt to purchase a firearm that is applicable only to a child; or (8) is an “habitual truant” from school and who previously has not been adjudicated an unruly child for being an habitual truant.

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