

# Juvenile Court Statistics 1999



For more than a century, the juvenile court has played a leading role in our nation's fight against juvenile crime and violence, protecting society and reforming young offenders by holding them accountable for their delinquent acts. In carrying out its role, the court must be informed about the offenders that come before it.

*Juvenile Court Statistics 1999* presents data on delinquency and status offense cases handled by courts with juvenile jurisdiction in 1999. National estimates are presented on nearly 1.7 million delinquency cases handled in 1999 and trends over the last ten years are displayed. Delinquency data include the volume and rate of cases, demographic characteristics of the juveniles involved (age, gender, and race), and offenses charged. Delinquency case processing is traced as it flows through the courts and is examined at each decision point (i.e., detention, intake decision, judicial decision, and judicial disposition) for various demographic groups and offenses. Status offense information is presented as sample-based profiles of cases formally handled by the juvenile courts between 1990 and 1999. These profiles include demographic, offense, and case processing characteristics. The report also presents state and county counts of delinquency, status, and dependency cases handled by juvenile courts in 1999.

This report, the latest in a 73-year-old series, provides a detailed portrait of the juvenile court in 1999—it's 100th birthday—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.

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