

Juvenile Arrests in New Jersey 2007

**Juvenile Justice Commission
Office of Local Programs and Services
Research & Evaluation Unit**

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May 2009

Acknowledgement

The Administration of the Juvenile Justice Commission would like to thank Dr. Michael Aloisi and John VanLoan, of its Research & Evaluation Unit, for their excellent work in authoring this *Juvenile Arrests in New Jersey, 2007* report. We hope, and anticipate, that both our juvenile justice system colleagues and the report's broader audience will find this year's report to be informative.

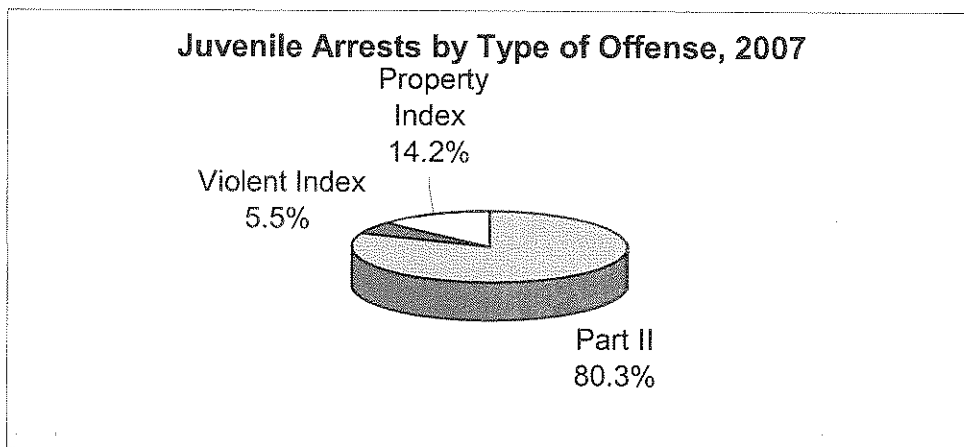
Table of Contents

Juvenile Arrests in New Jersey.....	1
The Juvenile Share of the Crime Problem.....	2
Most Prevalent Arrest Categories.....	2
The Demographics of Arrest.....	2
Where Do Juvenile Arrests Occur?.....	5
Arrest Trends Over Time.....	5
Changing Arrest Patterns in the Counties.....	7
A Focus on Juvenile Crime in the Cities.....	8
Tables 1 through XIII.....	Appendix

Juvenile Arrests in New Jersey 2007

Juvenile arrests presented in New Jersey's Uniform Crime Report (UCR), published yearly by the State Police, provide the best available estimation of the nature and extent of delinquency within the State.¹ The current and previous UCRs, and related data made available by the Uniform Crime Reporting Unit are the basis for analyses provided in the present report.²

According to the 2007 UCR, there were 57,480 juvenile arrests statewide. Index offenses (generally the more serious offenses) accounted for 19.7% of all juvenile arrests. This included 8,138 arrests (14.2% of all juvenile arrests) for the property Index offenses of burglary, larceny-theft, and motor vehicle theft, along with 3,180 arrests (5.5%) for the violent Index offenses of murder, rape, robbery and aggravated assault. Part II offenses comprise the remainder of the offenses leading to arrest. These range from relatively minor offenses, such as disorderly conduct or malicious mischief to weapons offenses, drug abuse violations and sex offenses other than rape.³ Table I, appended, shows the breakdown of juvenile arrests for particular types and categories of offenses.



It is useful to examine juvenile arrests within the context of overall juvenile population. The figures below reflect the number of juvenile arrests per 1,000 juveniles, ages 10 to 17 in New Jersey. The estimated statewide number of juveniles in this age range in 2007, according to population estimates provided by the New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Division of Labor Market and Demographic Research, was 952,969.

The 2007 statewide juvenile arrest rate is estimated at 60.3 arrests per one thousand youth ages 10 to 17. Note that a particular juvenile can be arrested more than once in a year and counted multiple times in the arrest rate statistics. For specific offense types, the arrest

¹ That said, it is worth noting that arrests are widely recognized as an imperfect measure of lawbreaking activity, and trends over time.

² See *Crime in New Jersey: Uniform Crime Report, 2007*, New Jersey State Police, Office of the Attorney General, Department of Law & Public Safety.

³ They also include two federally delineated UCR categories, curfew & loitering law violations, and runaways that (as with other UCR categories) do not necessarily match with a specific state's statutes/municipal ordinances. Situations recorded in these two categories in NJ are specific to juveniles. The curfew & loitering figures concern violations of local curfew and loitering ordinances. For purposes of UCR reporting, the runaways category records juveniles taken into protective custody under provisions of local statutes regarding runaways.

rates were as follows: Part II offenses, 48.4; total Index offenses, 11.9; property Index offenses, 8.5; and violent Index offenses, 3.3. Note that county arrest rates can be affected by temporary and seasonal population shifts. For example, increased population in beach and entertainment areas during the summer months often are tied to corresponding increases in juvenile arrest rates which are based on year round population.

The Juvenile Share of the Crime Problem

Juvenile arrests have historically accounted for a large share of all arrests in New Jersey and across the country. In 2007, juveniles accounted for 13.9% of all arrests, and an even greater share (24.1%) of arrests for Index offenses (see Table II, appended). More specifically, juveniles accounted for 24.8% of arrests for property Index offenses and 22.6% for violent Index offenses.

Juveniles' contribution to the crime problem, measured solely in terms of arrests, varies greatly from offense to offense. For certain offenses, juveniles account for either a majority or a large minority of arrests. For example, in 2007, they accounted for 55.9% of all arson arrests, and 45.8% of arrests for criminal/malicious mischief. In addition, they accounted for 35.6% of arrests for robbery, 32.4% for liquor law violations, and 30.5% for weapons offenses. In contrast, juveniles contributed a relatively small share of arrests for other offenses, for example, embezzlement (10.3%), drug abuse violations (11.9%), and murder and rape (each at 13.8%), along with fairly trivial shares of some others. In addition, juveniles account for 100% of what are categorized by the UCR as arrests for curfew and loitering law violations, and runaways, described briefly above (in footnote three).⁴

Note that arrest figures may exaggerate somewhat the role of juveniles (vs. adults) in the overall crime problem, due to reporting and data collection processes. Juveniles are more likely than adults to commit crimes in groups (e.g., three juveniles involved in an aggravated assault equals one crime but three arrests).

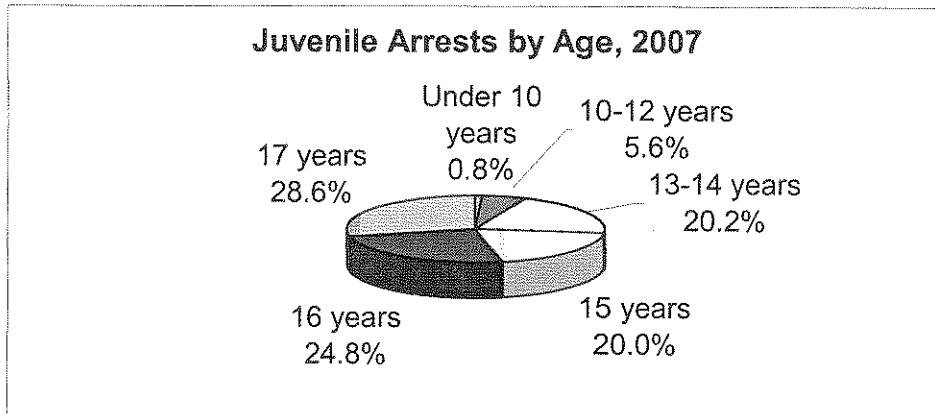
Most Prevalent Arrest Categories

As shown in Table I, appended, the categories of offense and related matters for which juveniles were most commonly arrested or taken into custody in 2007 were: drug abuse violations (11.6%), larceny-theft (10.8%), disorderly conduct, and curfew and loitering law violations (each at 8.5%), and runaways and simple assault (each at 8.1%). Together they accounted for over one-half (55.5%) of all juvenile arrests. An additional four, criminal/malicious mischief (6.3%), liquor law violations (5.1%), weapons offenses (3.1%), and burglary (2.9%), combined with the above to comprise the "top ten" most prevalent categories for juveniles, accounting for 72.9% of all juvenile arrests.

The Demographics of Arrest

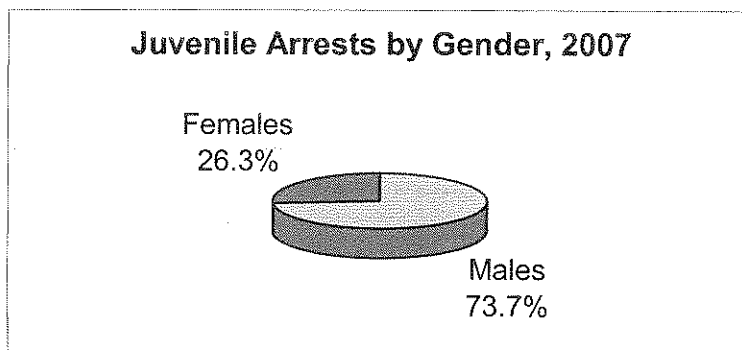
Age, gender, race/ethnicity, and location of arrest combine to provide some important background characteristics to consider when examining juvenile arrests.

⁴ In 2007, Camden County reported 2,574 juvenile arrests for curfew and loitering law violations, far in excess (as in recent years) of figures in this category for any other county. In addition, this category of arrests accounted for 34.6% of all juvenile arrests in Camden for the year.



Age. Older youth typically contribute a disproportionate share of juvenile arrests.

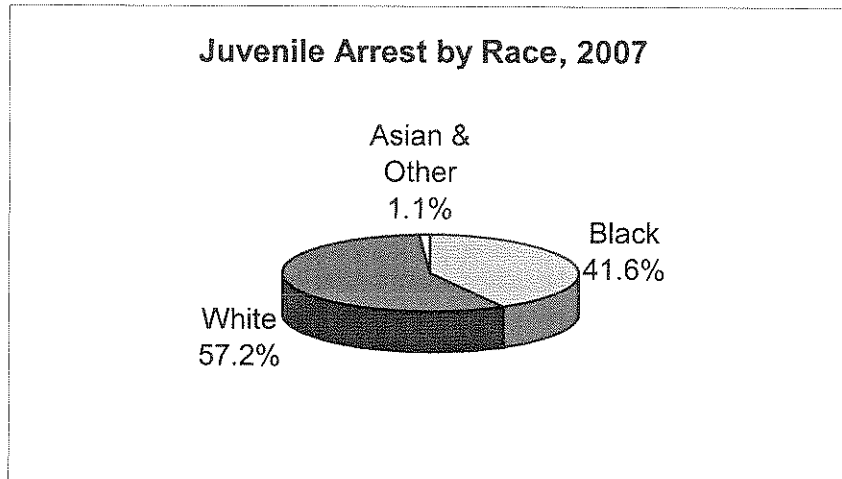
- In 2007, 17-year-olds accounted for 28.6% of all juvenile arrests. Fifteen to seventeen-year-olds combined accounted for nearly three-quarters (73.4%) of juvenile arrests.
- Focusing solely on violent Index offenses, 17-year-olds contributed a 26.9% share of all juvenile arrests for these offenses; the 15 to 17-year-old age group combined for 75.6% of these arrests.
- Juveniles 12 and younger accounted for 6.4% of all juvenile arrests and 4.6% of arrests for violent index offenses.



Gender. Males contribute a large majority share of all juvenile arrests, particularly for the more serious and violent crimes.

- In 2007, males accounted for nearly three-quarters (73.7%) of all juvenile arrests. This included 84.5% of all juvenile arrests for violent Index offenses. Consequently, females accounted for 26.3% of all juvenile arrests, and 15.5% of arrests for violent Index offenses. Males accounted for 86.9% of all juvenile drug abuse violations, while females accounted for the remaining 13.1%.

- The most common arrest categories for males were drug abuse violations (13.7%), larceny-theft (8.7%), disorderly conduct (8.5%), curfew and loitering law violations (8.3%), and criminal/malicious mischief (7.5%). These comprised 46.7% of all male juvenile arrests.
- The most common arrest categories for females were runaways (17.6%), larceny-theft (16.8%), simple assault (10.2%), curfew and loitering law violations (8.9%), and disorderly conduct (8.5%). These comprised 62.0% of all female juvenile arrests.



Race and Ethnicity. The race breakdown for the 10 to 17 population in 2007, according to population estimates provided by the New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development, was as follows. White youth (both Hispanic and non-Hispanic, as is the case for the following race categories) comprised 73.2% of the total youth population, followed by African-American/black youth (17.1%), Asian youth (7.1%), and the remaining racial categories (2.1%). Also, Hispanic youth (of all races) comprised 17.3% of the total youth population.

Note that the UCR reports arrest data separately by race and ethnicity (i.e., Hispanic origin). The 2007 arrest breakdowns for the major race categories and ethnicity are as follows:

- White youth (both Hispanic and non-Hispanic) accounted for 57.2% of all juvenile arrests. This included 62.0% of drug arrests, 52.8% of arrests for Index offenses, and 38.7% of arrests for violent Index offenses.
- African-American/black youth (also both Hispanic and non-Hispanic) accounted for 41.6% of all juvenile arrests. This included 60.8% of arrests for violent Index offenses, 45.4% of arrests for overall Index offenses, and 36.9% of drug arrests.
- Hispanic youth (of all races) accounted for 18.2% of all juvenile arrests. This included 21.6% of arrests for violent Index offenses, 17.2% of overall Index offense arrests, and 12.1% of drug arrests.

The Most Common Arrest Categories by Race/Ethnicity

- White youth were most commonly arrested for drug abuse violations (12.6%), larceny-theft (11.0%), liquor laws (8.5%), disorderly conduct and criminal/malicious mischief (both at 8.4%). These five categories comprised 48.9% of all arrests for white juveniles.
- African-American/black youth were most commonly arrested for runaway (11.0%), drug abuse violations (10.3%), larceny-theft (10.2%), curfew and loitering (9.8%), and simple assault (9.1%). These five categories comprised 50.4% of all arrests for African-American/black juveniles.
- Hispanic youth were most commonly arrested for curfew and loitering law violations (13.7%), runaway (11.8%), larceny-theft (8.3%), and simple assault, drug abuse violations and disorderly conduct (all three at 7.7%). These six categories comprised 56.9% of all arrests for Hispanic juveniles.

Where Do Juvenile Arrests Occur?

While juvenile arrests occur throughout New Jersey, a disproportionate share of juvenile arrests are concentrated in select counties and urban areas (as will be discussed further below). See Tables III through VII, appended, for county arrest/arrest rate data for 2007, including county rankings for various offense types.

- Five counties (in order of number of arrests), Camden, Essex, Monmouth, Mercer, and Bergen, accounted for 43.5% of all juvenile arrests in 2007, while comprising an estimated 37.1% of the youth population in 2007. In contrast, five other counties, Hunterdon, Warren, Salem, Sussex, and Cape May, accounted for 6.2% of the total; these latter five counties comprised an estimated 6.4% of the youth population.
- The concentration of arrests is most evident for violent Index offenses. In 2007, the five counties of Essex, Hudson, Camden, Passaic, and Bergen accounted for 54.2% of all juvenile arrests for violent Index offenses while comprising an estimated 37.0% of the youth population. Essex, Hudson, and Camden alone accounted for 40.1% of the juvenile arrests (and 21.3% of the youth population). In contrast, only 3.8% of these arrests were from the five counties of Warren, Hunterdon, Somerset, Sussex, and Salem, comprising 9.2% of the youth population.

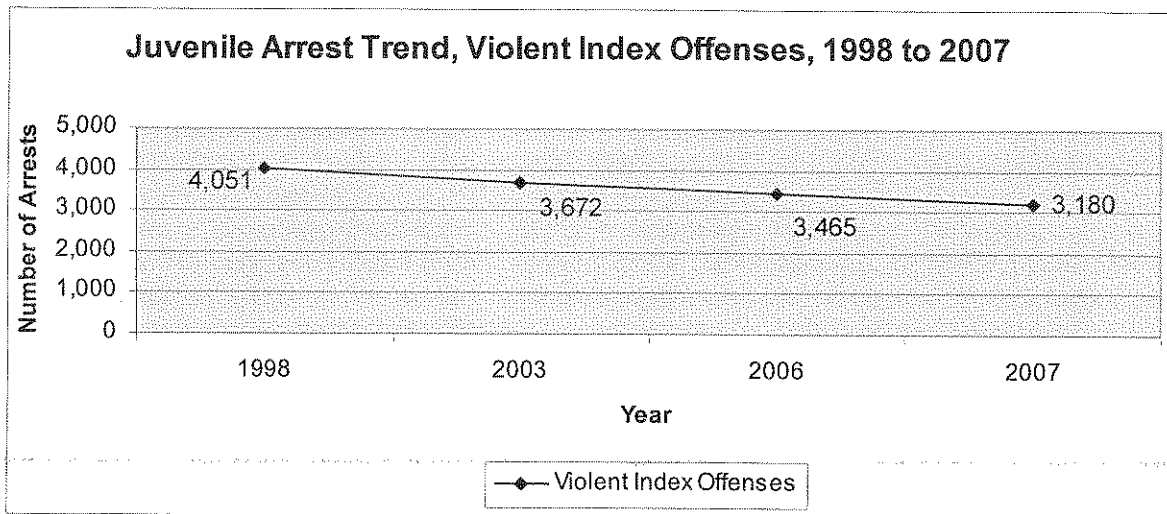
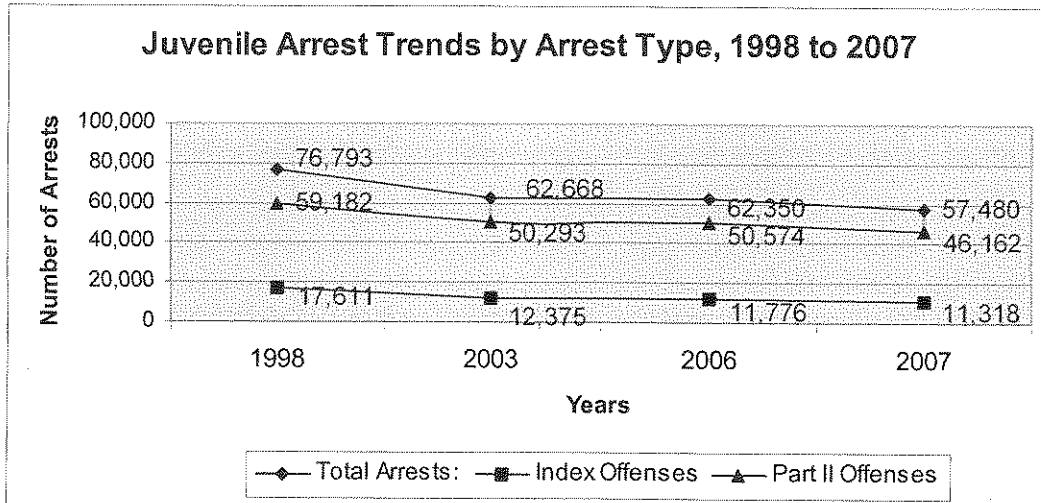
Arrest Trends Over Time

Juvenile arrest trends tend to vary greatly over time, and have done so in recent decades in New Jersey. A noteworthy example is the well-publicized dramatic upturn in violent crime (and arrests) among youth that was experienced nationally beginning in the mid-1980s and continuing for about a decade. That rise was followed by a striking decline in juvenile violent crime, accompanied by a broad downturn in various other types of juvenile offending. While the spike in youth violence has been widely attributed to the rise of the crack cocaine trade and related growth in gun prevalence, the more recent declines are less well understood.

These national trends have been largely mirrored in New Jersey, with juvenile arrests for violent Index offenses experiencing a large upturn beginning in the late 1980s and continuing

through 1994. This has been followed by a protracted and steep decline for these offenses, along with other major types of offenses. This downward trend continued, with few exceptions, until 2006 when a small rise was experienced across the major types of offenses. Declining juvenile arrests returned in 2007. See charts below, and Tables VIII through XIII, appended, for specific statewide and county-level trend data, over a ten-year period.

- Overall, in 2007, there was a decrease of 7.8% in the number of juvenile arrests, compared with the prior year (see Table VIII, appended). Over the ten-year period of 1998 to 2007, the number of total arrests fluctuated somewhat, declining 25.1%. The decrease slowed over the most recent five-year period of 2003 to 2007, with arrests down 8.3%.
- Total Index arrests decreased in 2007 by 3.9% compared with the previous year. Over the ten-year period, arrests for total Index offenses dropped 35.7%, with a much smaller decline (-8.5%) over the most recent five years.
- Arrests for property Index offenses decreased in 2007 by 2.1% compared with 2006. This included decreases for motor vehicle theft (-31.1%) and burglary (-12.6%), alongside a 2.9% *increase* for larceny-theft. Arrests for property Index offenses declined substantially over the ten-year period, by 40.0%, with a much smaller decline of 6.5% over the most recent five years.
- Arrests for violent Index offenses decreased in 2007 by 8.2% compared with the prior year. The greatest decline was for robbery arrests (-12.0%), followed by aggravated assault (-5.3%) and rape (-5.1%). In contrast, arrests for murder rose markedly, by 26.7%. The number of violent Index arrests fluctuated over the ten-year period of 1998 to 2007, declining over that time by 21.5%, including a 13.4% drop over the most recent five-year period. Extending the analysis back to 1997, violent Index arrests dropped by nearly one-third (-33.2%) between 1997 and 2007. Finally, over ten years, there were major declines for rape (-48.6%), and aggravated assault (-35.3%), alongside a significant rise for murder (+40.7%), and a small one for robbery (+4.0%). It is worth noting that, despite the substantial recent rise in juvenile arrests for murder, the number of murders arrests for juveniles in 1997 (just prior to the ten-year period analyzed here) was 46 (vs. 38 in 2007).
- There were 6,672 juvenile drug arrests in 2007, virtually unchanged from 2006. Over the ten-year period, drug arrests declined 28.2%, with a small *increase* (+1.1%) over the most recent five years.
- Finally, estimated statewide juvenile arrest *rates* were somewhat lower in 2007 than in 2006. The total arrest rate decreased from 64.3 to 60.3 arrests per 1,000 youth, ages 10 to 17. For specific offense types, the changes in arrest rates were as follows: Part II offenses (from 52.1 to 48.4); total Index offenses (from 12.1 to 11.9); property Index offenses (from 8.6 to 8.5); and violent Index offenses (from 3.6 to 3.3).



Changing Arrest Patterns in the Counties

Statewide data and trends typically mask substantial differences at the county level. The following provides a county-level analysis of select trends for offense types.

Total Juvenile Arrests

Juvenile arrests decreased in 15 of the 21 counties for 2007 compared with the previous year. Those with the greatest declines were Passaic (-19.8%), Cumberland (-18.3%), Morris (-14.2%), Monmouth (-13.1%), Camden (-12.7%), Mercer and Essex (each down 9.7%), and Bergen (-9.0%). Those with the greatest increases were Hunterdon (+21.1%), Warren (+14.1%), Atlantic (+6.0%), and Hudson (+5.8%).

Between 1998 and 2007, all but two counties experienced a decrease in juvenile arrests. The counties with the greatest declines were Cape May (-51.9%), Union (-50.7%), Essex (-44.3%), Atlantic (-42.2%), Cumberland (-38.5%), Gloucester (-36.6%), Morris (-35.1%), and Ocean (-32.7%). Increases were found in Camden (+40.4%), and Sussex (+1.7%).

Arrests for Violent Index Offenses

A total of 13 of the 21 counties experienced decreases in juvenile arrests for violent Index offenses in 2007 compared with the previous year. The counties with the greatest decreases were Cumberland (-39.4%), Somerset (-33.3%), Morris (-28.4%), Warren (-22.2%) and Passaic (-20.4%). The counties with the greatest increases were Hunterdon (+66.7%), Sussex (+63.2%), Gloucester (+19.6%), and Salem (+19.4%).

Between 1998 and 2007, 17 of the 21 counties showed a decline in arrests for violent Index offenses. The decreases were greatest in Essex (-39.5%), Cumberland (-36.0%), Morris (-34.6%), Warren (-33.3%), Gloucester (-33.0%), Burlington (-31.7%), and Ocean (-31.3%). The greatest increases were in Hunterdon (+36.4%), and Salem (+15.6%).

Arrests for Drug Offenses

A total of 11 of 21 counties experienced a rise in juvenile arrests for drug offenses in 2007 compared with the previous year. The counties with the greatest increases in drug arrests were Warren (+74.1%), Somerset (+37.5%), Atlantic (+26.0%), Hunterdon (+19.8%), and Gloucester (+19.0%). The greatest declines were in Union (-24.9%), Monmouth (-19.3%), Burlington (-17.1%), and Salem (-13.8%).

Between 1998 and 2007, 15 of the 21 counties showed a drop in arrests for drug offenses. The counties with the greatest decreases were in Union (-54.3%), Essex (-50.3%), Hudson (-42.0%), Cumberland (-38.4%), Cape May (-37.3%), Passaic (-31.5%), Middlesex (-30.2%), and Camden (-30.1%). Those with the greatest rise were Warren (+88.0%), Hunterdon (+36.6%), Sussex (+26.2%), and Somerset (+16.6%).

A Focus on Juvenile Crime in the Cities

The number of juvenile arrests in large urban areas is disproportionate to their share of the statewide population. This tends to be the case particularly for violent offenses. This point is highlighted in an analysis of groups of cities designated in the UCR as the "Major Urban" (the six largest urban centers, with total populations of 80,000 or over), and the larger grouping of the "Urban 15" (those with populations of 50,000 or more). The six "Major Urban" cities are: Camden, Elizabeth, Jersey City, Newark, Paterson, and Trenton.⁵ In addition, analysis was extended to 20 municipalities highlighted as part of Governor Corzine's anti-crime Strategy for Safe Streets and Neighborhoods.⁶

For the purposes of the present report, U.S. Census (2000) population, ages 0 to 17 was utilized, and compared with various categories of juvenile arrests in 2007. In 2000, the total under 18 population in the six largest cities comprised 12.6% of the statewide total for this age group; the figure for the "Urban 15" was 20.4%. The figure for the "20 Cities" was 21.6%.

⁵ The nine remaining cities comprising the "Urban 15" in 2007 were: Bayonne, Clifton, East Orange, Irvington, Passaic, Toms River Township, Union City, Vineland, and Woodbridge.

⁶ The "20 Cities" are: Asbury Park, Atlantic City, Bridgeton, Camden, East Orange, Elizabeth, Irvington, Jersey City, Lakewood, Newark, New Brunswick, North Bergen, Orange, Passaic, Paterson, Perth Amboy, Plainfield, Trenton, Union City and Vineland.

As shown in the table below, for the “Major Urban,” the “Urban 15,” and the “20 Cities” their share of statewide juvenile arrests was greater than their share of the population. The urban concentration was particularly great for the violent Index offenses, (i.e., murder, rape, robbery and aggravated assault) and, to a lesser extent, for drug offenses. For the six “Major Urban” municipalities, their share of juvenile arrests for violent Index offenses was more than double their share of the statewide under 18 population (29.4% vs. 12.6%); their share of juvenile arrests for drug offenses was well above their share of the population. For the “Urban 15,” relative to their share of the statewide under 18 population, their share of juvenile arrests for violent Index offenses was more than double (43.2% vs. 20.4%), and their share of juvenile arrests for drug offenses was well above their share of the population (28.9% vs. 20.4%). A similar pattern was found for the “20 Cities”. These cities, with 21.6% of the under 18 population, accounted for nearly half (47.6%) of all juvenile arrests for violent Index offenses, and close to one-third (30.5%) of all juvenile drug arrests.

<i>Urban Municipality Groupings as a Share of Statewide Under 18 Population (2000), and of Statewide Juvenile Arrests by Type (2007)</i>			
	“Major Urban” % Share	“Urban 15” % Share	“20 Cities” % Share
Population, Ages 0 to 17	12.6%	20.4%	21.6%
Total Juvenile Arrests	18.8%	28.6%	30.0%
Index Offenses	12.8%	23.7%	24.3%
Violent Index Offenses	29.4%	43.2%	47.6%
Property Index Offenses	6.3%	16.0%	15.2%
Drug Offenses	21.9%	28.9%	30.5%

The disproportionate concentration of serious juvenile crime in urban areas is, in large part, linked to indicators of community disadvantage. Children and families from disadvantaged, typically urban, communities are frequently beset by a multitude of personal and environmental *risk factors* that are known to be conducive to lawbreaking. At the same time, disadvantaged communities are less likely to generate the *protective factors* that can diminish delinquency involvement by increasing individuals’ resilience in the face of adversity and risk.

A profile of the “20 Cities” illustrates the relevance of community context. As noted earlier, the “20 Cities” identified in Governor Corzine’s anti-crime plan comprised 21.6% of the under 18 population according to the 2000 U.S. Census. They also accounted for the following⁷:

- 74.7% of all births to children ages 10 to 14 (in 2004);
- 43.7% of infant deaths (in 2003);
- 35.5% of all referrals for child abuse and neglect (in 2004); and
- 31.3% of low birth weight babies (in 2004).

In addition, according to the 2000 U.S. Census, 27% of the children in these 20 cities lived in poverty, compared with a statewide figure of 11%; median income in families with children was less than half the statewide figure (\$31,688 vs. \$65,282). Finally, recent levels of performance on academic achievement exams were substantially below statewide performance

⁷ The data are from the Association for Children of New Jersey’s *City Kids Count 2006 Report*, utilizing NJ Department of Health and Senior Services, and Department of Human Services figures.

levels, for 4th, 8th, and 11th grade students. For example, in 2005/2006 the percent of 4th grade students passing the language arts exam was 61% (vs. 80% statewide); similarly, for the math exam (67% vs. 83%), and the science exam (60% vs. 83%).⁸

As might be expected, not only is the prevalence of juvenile arrests for serious offenses linked to various measures of community disadvantage, both appear to be intertwined with youth involvement with New Jersey's juvenile correctional system, i.e., the Juvenile Justice Commission. A focus on the "20 Cities" is once again useful. These cities accounted for close to two-thirds (63%) of admissions to the Juvenile Justice Commission in 2008. The convergence of factors illustrated above demonstrates the likely value of an appropriately targeted approach to crime prevention and control, both in terms of incorporating an urban focus, and attempting to impact recognized risk and protective factors for children and families.

revised May 13, 2009

⁸ The data are from the Association for Children of New Jersey's *City Kids Count 2006 Report*, utilizing NJ Department of Education figures.

Table I
Offenses as a Percent of Total Juvenile Arrests
2007

OFFENSES	2007	% of Total Arrests
Murder	38	0.1%
Rape	56	0.1%
Robbery	1,465	2.5%
Aggravated Assault	1,621	2.8%
Burglary	1,651	2.9%
Larceny-Theft	6,234	10.8%
Motor Vehicle Theft	253	0.4%
Subtotal Index Offenses	11,318	19.7%
Manslaughter	2	0.0%
Simple Assault	4,637	8.1%
Arson	222	0.4%
Forgery & Counterfeiting	80	0.1%
Fraud	121	0.2%
Embezzlement	14	0.0%
Stolen Property; Buying, Receiving, Possessing, etc.	1,391	2.4%
Criminal/Malicious Mischief	3,605	6.3%
Weapons; Carrying, Possessing, etc.	1,765	3.1%
Prostitution and Commercialized Vice	22	0.0%
Sex Offenses (Except Forcible Rape and Prostitution)	311	0.5%
Drug Abuse Violations	6,672	11.6%
Gambling	132	0.2%
Offenses Against Family and Children	50	0.1%
Driving Under the Influence	413	0.7%
Liquor Laws	2,960	5.1%
Disorderly Conduct	4,871	8.5%
Vagrancy	24	0.0%
All Other Offenses (Except Traffic)	9,362	16.3%
Curfew and Loitering Law Violations	4,861	8.5%
Runaways	4,647	8.1%
Grand Total	57,480	100.0%

Table II
Juvenile Arrests vs. Adult Arrests
2007

OFFENSES	Juveniles	Adults	Total	Juvenile Percent Share of Arrests
Murder	38	238	276	13.8%
Rape	56	351	407	13.8%
Robbery	1,465	2,647	4,112	35.6%
Aggravated Assault	1,621	7,651	9,272	17.5%
Burglary	1,651	4,479	6,130	26.9%
Larceny-Theft	6,234	19,502	25,736	24.2%
Motor Vehicle Theft	253	746	999	25.3%
Manslaughter	2	33	35	5.7%
Simple Assault	4,637	23,316	27,953	16.6%
Arson	222	175	397	55.9%
Forgery & Counterfeiting	80	2,060	2,140	3.7%
Fraud	121	4,950	5,071	2.4%
Embezzlement	14	122	136	10.3%
Stolen Property; Buying, Receiving, Possessing, etc.	1,391	3,494	4,885	28.5%
Criminal/Malicious Mischief	3,605	4,265	7,870	45.8%
Weapons; Carrying, Possessing, etc.	1,765	4,029	5,794	30.5%
Prostitution and Commercialized Vice	22	1,941	1,963	1.1%
Sex Offenses (Except Forcible Rape and Prostitution)	311	1,437	1,748	17.8%
Drug Abuse Violations	6,672	49,589	56,261	11.9%
Gambling	132	561	693	19.0%
Offenses Against Family and Children	50	14,929	14,979	0.3%
Driving Under the Influence	413	30,035	30,448	1.4%
Liquor Laws	2,960	6,183	9,143	32.4%
Disorderly Conduct	4,871	18,501	23,372	20.8%
Vagrancy	24	1,344	1,368	1.8%
All Other Offenses (Except Traffic)	9,362	154,281	163,643	5.7%
Curfew and Loitering				
Law Violations	4,861	0	4,861	100.0%
Runaways	4,647	0	4,647	100.0%
Total Offenses	57,480	356,859	414,339	13.9%
Index Offenses	11,318	35,614	46,932	24.1%
Violent Index Offenses	3,180	10,887	14,067	22.6%
Property Index Offenses	8,138	24,727	32,865	24.8%
Part II Offenses	46,162	321,245	367,407	12.6%

Table III
Juvenile Arrests, by County
2007

County	Total Arrests	Index Arrests	Violent Index Arrests	Property Index Arrests	Part II Arrests	Drug Arrests
Atlantic	2,591	701	157	544	1,890	349
Bergen	4,256	776	181	595	3,480	543
Burlington	2,945	477	97	380	2,468	272
Camden	7,439	953	282	671	6,486	586
Cape May	1,041	317	54	263	724	133
Cumberland	1,847	526	126	400	1,321	125
Essex	4,756	926	502	424	3,830	914
Gloucester	1,820	486	67	419	1,334	251
Hudson	3,636	886	492	394	2,750	428
Hunterdon	556	87	15	72	469	97
Mercer	4,268	665	175	490	3,603	440
Middlesex	2,912	749	171	578	2,163	314
Monmouth	4,284	931	149	782	3,353	499
Morris	1,767	303	53	250	1,464	311
Ocean	2,861	600	114	486	2,261	365
Passaic	3,925	682	266	416	3,243	332
Salem	618	139	37	102	479	50
Somerset	1,684	292	24	268	1,392	176
Sussex	778	138	31	107	640	106
Union	2,915	559	173	386	2,356	284
Warren	560	125	14	111	435	94
Other*	21	0	0	0	21	3
Statewide Total	57,480	11,318	3,180	8,138	46,162	6,672

* A small number of New Jersey juvenile arrests are not assigned to a particular county, and are listed here as "other"

Table IV
Juvenile Arrest Rates Per 1,000 Youth, by Type and County
2007

County	2007 Population Age 10-17**	Total Arrests	Total Arrest Rate	Index Arrests	Index Rate	Violent Index Arrests	Violent Index Rate	Drug Arrests	Drug Arrest Rate
Atlantic	29,910	2,591	86.6	701	23.4	157	5.2	349	11.7
Bergen	93,386	4,256	45.6	776	8.3	181	1.9	543	5.8
Burlington	47,769	2,945	61.7	477	10.0	97	2.0	272	5.7
Camden	58,369	7,439	127.4	953	16.3	282	4.8	586	10.0
Cape May	9,521	1,041	109.3	317	33.3	54	5.7	133	14.0
Cumberland	16,366	1,847	112.9	526	32.1	126	7.7	125	7.6
Essex	87,464	4,756	54.4	926	10.6	502	5.7	914	10.5
Gloucester	31,955	1,820	57.0	486	15.2	67	2.1	251	7.9
Hudson	56,823	3,636	64.0	886	15.6	492	8.7	428	7.5
Hunterdon	14,510	556	38.3	87	6.0	15	1.0	97	6.7
Mercer	40,528	4,268	105.3	665	16.4	175	4.3	440	10.9
Middlesex	82,650	2,912	35.2	749	9.1	171	2.1	314	3.8
Monmouth	73,727	4,284	58.1	931	12.6	149	2.0	499	6.8
Morris	53,905	1,767	32.8	303	5.6	53	1.0	311	5.8
Ocean	55,740	2,861	51.3	600	10.8	114	2.0	365	6.5
Passaic	56,200	3,925	69.8	682	12.1	266	4.7	332	5.9
Salem	7,073	618	87.4	139	19.7	37	5.2	50	7.1
Somerset	35,753	1,684	47.1	292	8.2	24	0.7	176	4.9
Sussex	18,047	778	43.1	138	7.6	31	1.7	106	5.9
Union	58,234	2,915	50.1	559	9.6	173	3.0	284	4.9
Warren	12,304	560	45.5	125	10.2	14	1.1	94	7.6
Other*	NA	21	NA	-	NA	-	NA	3	NA
Statewide Total	952,969	57,480	60.3	11,318	11.9	3,180	3.3	6,672	7.0

* A small number of New Jersey juvenile arrest are not assigned to a particular county, and are listed here as "other"

** County population: based on Department of Labor and Workforce Development (DLWD) estimated population for counties, as of July 1, 2007 (by age group). A further calculation was required to estimate 10 to 17 population, adjusting the preset category of 15 to 19 (i.e., adding three-fifths of that category to the 10 to 14 figures).
Statewide population: based on DLWD estimated statewide population, as of July 1, 2007 (single-year of age).

Table V
County Ranking of Juvenile Arrests, by Type
2007

Total Arrests

Camden	7,439	12.9%
Essex	4,756	8.3%
Monmouth	4,284	7.5%
Mercer	4,268	7.4%
Bergen	4,256	7.4%
Passaic	3,925	6.8%
Hudson	3,636	6.3%
Burlington	2,945	5.1%
Union	2,915	5.1%
Middlesex	2,912	5.1%
Ocean	2,861	5.0%
Atlantic	2,591	4.5%
Cumberland	1,847	3.2%
Gloucester	1,820	3.2%
Morris	1,767	3.1%
Somerset	1,684	2.9%
Cape May	1,041	1.8%
Sussex	778	1.4%
Salem	618	1.1%
Warren	560	1.0%
Hunterdon	556	1.0%
Other*	21	0.0%
State	57,480	100.0%

% of State (Top 7 Counties)	56.7%
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Index Arrests

Camden	953	8.4%
Monmouth	931	8.2%
Essex	926	8.2%
Hudson	886	7.8%
Bergen	776	6.9%
Middlesex	749	6.6%
Atlantic	701	6.2%
Passaic	682	6.0%
Mercer	665	5.9%
Ocean	600	5.3%
Union	559	4.9%
Cumberland	526	4.6%
Gloucester	486	4.3%
Burlington	477	4.2%
Cape May	317	2.8%
Morris	303	2.7%
Somerset	292	2.6%
Salem	139	1.2%
Sussex	138	1.2%
Warren	125	1.1%
Hunterdon	87	0.8%
Other*	0	0.0%
State	11,318	100.0%

% of State (Top 7 Counties)	52.3%
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Violent Index Arrests

Essex	502	15.8%
Hudson	492	15.5%
Camden	282	8.9%
Passaic	266	8.4%
Bergen	181	5.7%
Mercer	175	5.5%
Union	173	5.4%
Middlesex	171	5.4%
Atlantic	157	4.9%
Monmouth	149	4.7%
Cumberland	126	4.0%
Ocean	114	3.6%
Burlington	97	3.1%
Gloucester	67	2.1%
Cape May	54	1.7%
Morris	53	1.7%
Salem	37	1.2%
Sussex	31	1.0%
Somerset	24	0.8%
Hunterdon	15	0.5%
Warren	14	0.4%
Other*	0	0.0%
State	3,180	100.0%

% of State (Top 7 Counties)	65.1%
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* A small number of New Jersey juvenile arrests are not assigned to a particular county, and are listed here as "other"

Table VI
County Ranking of Juvenile Arrest Rates per 1,000 Youth
10 to 17, by Type
2007*

<u>Total Arrest Rate</u>		<u>Index Arrest Rate</u>		<u>Violent Index Arrest Rate</u>	
Camden	127.4	Cape May	33.3	Hudson	8.7
Cumberland	112.9	Cumberland	32.1	Cumberland	7.7
Cape May	109.3	Atlantic	23.4	Essex	5.7
Mercer	105.3	Salem	19.7	Cape May	5.7
Salem	87.4	Mercer	16.4	Atlantic	5.2
Atlantic	86.6	Camden	16.3	Salem	5.2
Passaic	69.8	Hudson	15.6	Camden	4.8
Hudson	64.0	Gloucester	15.2	Passaic	4.7
Burlington	61.7	Monmouth	12.6	Mercer	4.3
State	60.3	Passaic	12.1	State	3.3
Monmouth	58.1	State	11.9	Union	3.0
Gloucester	57.0	Ocean	10.8	Middlesex	2.1
Essex	54.4	Essex	10.6	Gloucester	2.1
Ocean	51.3	Warren	10.2	Monmouth	2.0
Union	50.1	Burlington	10.0	Ocean	2.0
Somerset	47.1	Union	9.6	Burlington	2.0
Bergen	45.6	Middlesex	9.1	Bergen	1.9
Warren	45.5	Bergen	8.3	Sussex	1.7
Sussex	43.1	Somerset	8.2	Warren	1.1
Hunterdon	38.3	Sussex	7.6	Morris	1.0
Middlesex	35.2	Hunterdon	6.0	Hunterdon	1.0
Morris	32.8	Morris	5.6	Somerset	0.7

* Based on Department of Labor estimated population for counties. A further calculation was required to estimate 10 to 17 population, adjusting the preset category of 15 to 19 (i.e., adding three-fifths of that category to the 10 to 14 figures).

Table VII
County Ranking for Drug Arrests and Rates
2007

Number of Drug Arrests

Essex	914	13.7%
Camden	586	8.8%
Bergen	543	8.1%
Monmouth	499	7.5%
Mercer	440	6.6%
Hudson	428	6.4%
Ocean	365	5.5%
Atlantic	349	5.2%
Passaic	332	5.0%
Middlesex	314	4.7%
Morris	311	4.7%
Union	284	4.3%
Burlington	272	4.1%
Gloucester	251	3.8%
Somerset	176	2.6%
Cape May	133	2.0%
Cumberland	125	1.9%
Sussex	106	1.6%
Hunterdon	97	1.5%
Warren	94	1.4%
Salem	50	0.7%
Other *	3	0.0%
State	6,672	100%

Drug Arrest Rates

Cape May	14.0
Atlantic	11.7
Mercer	10.9
Essex	10.5
Camden	10.0
Gloucester	7.9
Cumberland	7.6
Warren	7.6
Hudson	7.5
Salem	7.1
State	7.0
Monmouth	6.8
Hunterdon	6.7
Ocean	6.5
Passaic	5.9
Sussex	5.9
Bergen	5.8
Morris	5.8
Burlington	5.7
Union	4.9
Somerset	4.9
Middlesex	3.8

* A small number of New Jersey juvenile arrests are not assigned to a particular county, and are listed here as "other"

Table VIII
Statewide Juvenile Arrests, by Type and Percent Change
1998 - 2007

Juvenile Arrests	1998	2003	2006	2007	% Change 98-07	% Change 03-07	% Change 06-07
Total Arrests (All Offenses)	76,793	62,668	62,350	57,480	-25.1%	-8.3%	-7.8%
Index Offenses	17,611	12,375	11,776	11,318	-35.7%	-8.5%	-3.9%
Violent Index Offenses	4,051	3,672	3,465	3,180	-21.5%	-13.4%	-8.2%
Murder	27	26	30	38	40.7%	46.2%	26.7%
Rape	109	71	59	56	-48.6%	-21.1%	-5.1%
Robbery	1,408	1,362	1,664	1,465	4.0%	7.6%	-12.0%
Aggravated Assault	2,507	2,213	1,712	1,621	-35.3%	-26.8%	-5.3%
Property Index Offenses	13,560	8,703	8,311	8,138	-40.0%	-6.5%	-2.1%
Burglary	2,639	1,852	1,888	1,651	-37.4%	-10.9%	-12.6%
Larceny-Theft	10,261	6,379	6,056	6,234	-39.2%	-2.3%	2.9%
Motor Vehicle Theft	660	472	367	253	-61.7%	-46.4%	-31.1%
Part II Offenses	59,182	50,293	50,574	46,162	-22.0%	-8.2%	-8.7%
Drug Offenses	9,296	6,599	6,678	6,672	-28.2%	1.1%	-0.1%

Table IX
Juvenile Arrests, by Offense and Percent Change
2006 - 2007

OFFENSES	2006	2007	% Change 06-07
Murder	30	38	26.7%
Rape	59	56	-5.1%
Robbery	1,664	1,465	-12.0%
Aggravated Assault	1,712	1,621	-5.3%
Burglary	1,888	1,651	-12.6%
Larceny-Theft	6,056	6,234	2.9%
Motor Vehicle Theft	367	253	-31.1%
Subtotal Index Offenses	11,776	11,318	-3.9%
Manslaughter	5	2	-60.0%
Simple Assault	5,283	4,637	-12.2%
Arson	306	222	-27.5%
Forgery & Counterfeiting	55	80	45.5%
Fraud	111	121	9.0%
Embezzlement	7	14	100.0%
Stolen Property; Buying, Receiving, Possessing, etc.	1,504	1,391	-7.5%
Criminal/Malicious Mischief	3,902	3,605	-7.6%
Weapons; Carrying, Possessing, etc.	2,077	1,765	-15.0%
Prostitution and Commercialized Vice	22	22	0.0%
Sex Offenses (Except Forcible Rape and Prostitution)	361	311	-13.9%
Drug Abuse Violations	6,678	6,672	-0.1%
Gambling	46	132	187.0%
Offenses Against Family and Children	38	50	31.6%
Driving Under the Influence	377	413	9.5%
Liquor Laws	2,990	2,960	-1.0%
Disorderly Conduct	5,431	4,871	-10.3%
Vagrancy	48	24	-50.0%
All Other Offenses (Except Traffic)	9,985	9,362	-6.2%
Curfew and Loitering Law Violations	6,322	4,861	-23.1%
Runaways	5,026	4,647	-7.5%
Grand Total	62,350	57,480	-7.8%

Table X
Total Arrests by County, 1998 - 2007

County	Total Arrests 1998	Total Arrests 2003	Total Arrests 2006	Total Arrests 2007	% Change 1998 - 2007	% Change 2003 - 2007	% Change 2006 - 2007
Atlantic	4,479	2,809	2,445	2,591	-42.2%	-7.8%	6.0%
Bergen	5,724	4,711	4,675	4,256	-25.6%	-9.7%	-9.0%
Burlington	3,148	2,532	2,899	2,945	-6.4%	16.3%	1.6%
Camden	5,297	8,511	8,526	7,439	40.4%	-12.6%	-12.7%
Cape May	2,166	1,437	1,116	1,041	-51.9%	-27.6%	-6.7%
Cumberland	3,001	2,048	2,261	1,847	-38.5%	-9.8%	-18.3%
Essex	8,535	6,208	5,266	4,756	-44.3%	-23.4%	-9.7%
Gloucester	2,869	1,687	1,792	1,820	-36.6%	7.9%	1.6%
Hudson	4,976	3,612	3,437	3,636	-26.9%	0.7%	5.8%
Hunterdon	586	391	459	556	-5.1%	42.2%	21.1%
Mercer	5,115	4,918	4,726	4,268	-16.6%	-13.2%	-9.7%
Middlesex	4,052	3,172	3,054	2,912	-28.1%	-8.2%	-4.6%
Monmouth	5,183	3,931	4,932	4,284	-17.3%	9.0%	-13.1%
Morris	2,724	1,981	2,060	1,767	-35.1%	-10.8%	-14.2%
Ocean	4,250	3,648	3,062	2,861	-32.7%	-21.6%	-6.6%
Passaic	4,258	4,241	4,891	3,925	-7.8%	-7.5%	-19.8%
Salem	665	562	625	618	-7.1%	10.0%	-1.1%
Somerset	2,317	1,615	1,709	1,684	-27.3%	4.3%	-1.5%
Sussex	765	665	790	778	1.7%	17.0%	-1.5%
Union	5,908	3,350	3,047	2,915	-50.7%	-13.0%	-4.3%
Warren	642	534	491	560	-12.8%	4.9%	14.1%
Other*	133	105	87	21	-84.2%	-80.0%	-75.9%
Statewide Total	76,793	62,668	62,350	57,480	-25.1%	-8.3%	-7.8%

* A small number of New Jersey juvenile arrests are not assigned to a particular county, and are listed here as "other"

Table XI
Index Arrests by County, 1998 - 2007

County	Index Arrests 1998	Index Arrests 2003	Index Arrests 2006	Index Arrests 2007	% Change 1998 - 2007	% Change 2003 - 2007	% Change 2006 - 2007
Atlantic	1,130	845	650	701	-38.0%	-17.0%	7.8%
Bergen	1,316	788	813	776	-41.0%	-1.5%	-4.6%
Burlington	779	471	456	477	-38.8%	1.3%	4.6%
Camden	1,565	1,001	1,014	953	-39.1%	-4.8%	-6.0%
Cape May	565	371	298	317	-43.9%	-14.6%	6.4%
Cumberland	814	565	665	526	-35.4%	-6.9%	-20.9%
Essex	1,706	1,088	996	926	-45.7%	-14.9%	-7.0%
Gloucester	803	387	430	486	-39.5%	25.6%	13.0%
Hudson	1,089	1,096	869	886	-18.6%	-19.2%	2.0%
Hunterdon	146	58	63	87	-40.4%	50.0%	38.1%
Mercer	1,009	780	628	665	-34.1%	-14.7%	5.9%
Middlesex	1,128	872	803	749	-33.6%	-14.1%	-6.7%
Monmouth	1,249	834	978	931	-25.5%	11.6%	-4.8%
Morris	545	341	372	303	-44.4%	-11.1%	-18.5%
Ocean	972	761	668	600	-38.3%	-21.2%	-10.2%
Passaic	959	730	839	682	-28.9%	-6.6%	-18.7%
Salem	168	137	150	139	-17.3%	1.5%	-7.3%
Somerset	412	313	284	292	-29.1%	-6.7%	2.8%
Sussex	227	105	164	138	-39.2%	31.4%	-15.9%
Union	859	703	524	559	-34.9%	-20.5%	6.7%
Warren	170	128	112	125	-26.5%	-2.3%	11.6%
Statewide Total	17,611	12,375	11,776	11,318	-35.7%	-8.5%	-3.9%

Table XII
Violent Index Arrests by County, 1998 - 2007

County	Violent Index Arrests 1998	Violent Index Arrests 2003	Violent Index Arrests 2006	Violent Index Arrests 2007	% Change 1998 - 2007	% Change 2003 - 2007	% Change 2006 - 2007
Atlantic	217	189	144	157	-27.6%	-16.9%	9.0%
Bergen	219	178	169	181	-17.4%	1.7%	7.1%
Burlington	142	106	117	97	-31.7%	-8.5%	-17.1%
Camden	367	335	297	282	-23.2%	-15.8%	-5.1%
Cape May	63	54	62	54	-14.3%	0.0%	-12.9%
Cumberland	197	157	208	126	-36.0%	-19.7%	-39.4%
Essex	830	537	523	502	-39.5%	-6.5%	-4.0%
Gloucester	100	66	56	67	-33.0%	1.5%	19.6%
Hudson	499	764	538	492	-1.4%	-35.6%	-8.6%
Hunterdon	11	12	9	15	36.4%	25.0%	66.7%
Mercer	238	234	202	175	-26.5%	-25.2%	-13.4%
Middlesex	206	194	177	171	-17.0%	-11.9%	-3.4%
Monmouth	186	194	174	149	-19.9%	-23.2%	-14.4%
Morris	81	52	74	53	-34.6%	1.9%	-28.4%
Ocean	166	113	106	114	-31.3%	0.9%	7.5%
Passaic	250	260	334	266	6.4%	2.3%	-20.4%
Salem	32	17	31	37	15.6%	117.6%	19.4%
Somerset	26	41	36	24	-7.7%	-41.5%	-33.3%
Sussex	37	16	19	31	-16.2%	93.8%	63.2%
Union	163	132	171	173	6.1%	31.1%	1.2%
Warren	21	21	18	14	-33.3%	-33.3%	-22.2%
Statewide Total	4,051	3,672	3,465	3,180	-21.5%	-13.4%	-8.2%

Table XIII
Drug Arrests by County, 1998 - 2007

County	Drug Arrests 1998	Drug Arrests 2003	Drug Arrests 2006	Drug Arrests 2007	% Change 1998 - 2007	% Change 2003 - 2007	% Change 2006 - 2007
Atlantic	339	261	277	349	2.9%	33.7%	26.0%
Bergen	535	433	486	543	1.5%	25.4%	11.7%
Burlington	325	351	328	272	-16.3%	-22.5%	-17.1%
Camden	838	522	526	586	-30.1%	12.3%	11.4%
Cape May	212	207	115	133	-37.3%	-35.7%	15.7%
Cumberland	203	187	128	125	-38.4%	-33.2%	-2.3%
Essex	1,839	892	983	914	-50.3%	2.5%	-7.0%
Gloucester	291	201	211	251	-13.7%	24.9%	19.0%
Hudson	738	586	404	428	-42.0%	-27.0%	5.9%
Hunterdon	71	74	81	97	36.6%	31.1%	19.8%
Mercer	592	334	477	440	-25.7%	31.7%	-7.8%
Middlesex	450	269	324	314	-30.2%	16.7%	-3.1%
Monmouth	565	503	618	499	-11.7%	-0.8%	-19.3%
Morris	319	223	333	311	-2.5%	39.5%	-6.6%
Ocean	490	412	324	365	-25.5%	-11.4%	12.7%
Passaic	485	408	329	332	-31.5%	-18.6%	0.9%
Salem	66	35	58	50	-24.2%	42.9%	-13.8%
Somerset	151	132	128	176	16.6%	33.3%	37.5%
Sussex	84	92	109	106	26.2%	15.2%	-2.8%
Union	621	400	378	284	-54.3%	-29.0%	-24.9%
Warren	50	66	54	94	88.0%	42.4%	74.1%
Other*	32	11	7	3	-90.6%	-72.7%	-57.1%
Statewide Total	9,296	6,599	6,678	6,672	-28.2%	1.1%	-0.1%

* A small number of New Jersey juvenile arrests are not assigned to a particular county, and are listed here as "other"