

Michigan Council on Crime & Delinquency

Serving Michigan's Citizens Since 1956

Trends in Violence, Juvenile Crime & Prevention

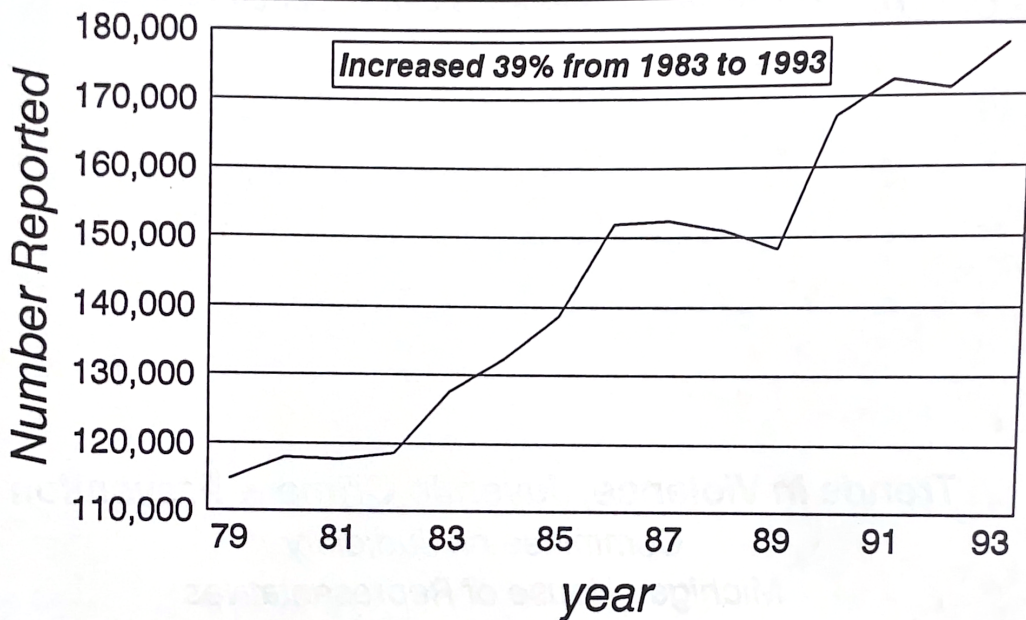
*Committee on Judiciary
Michigan House of Representatives*

Materials for testimony by Dr. Patrick M. Clark

February 28, 1996

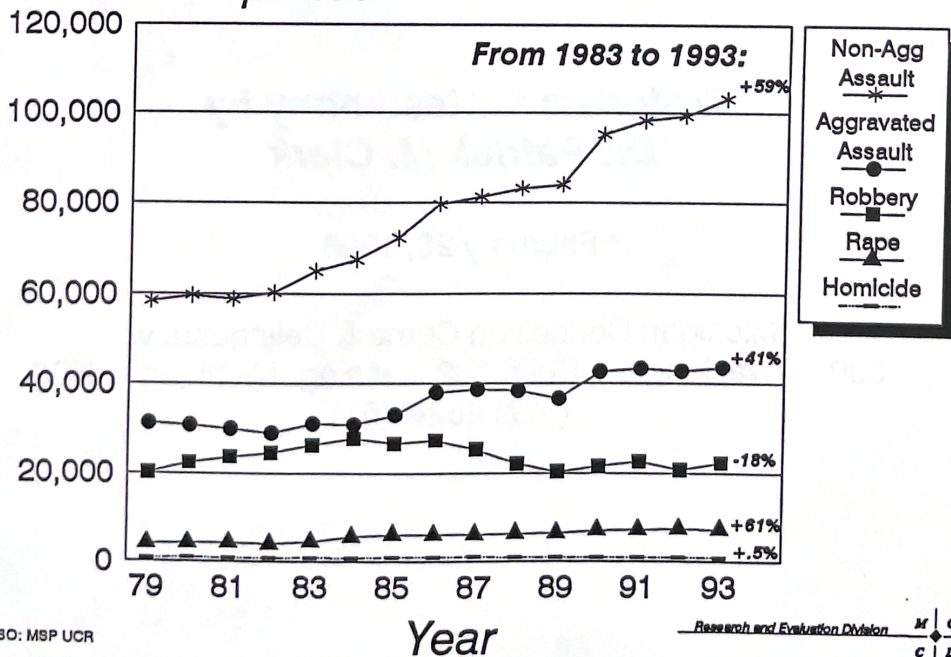
Michigan Council on Crime & Delinquency
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Violent Crime Reported in Michigan



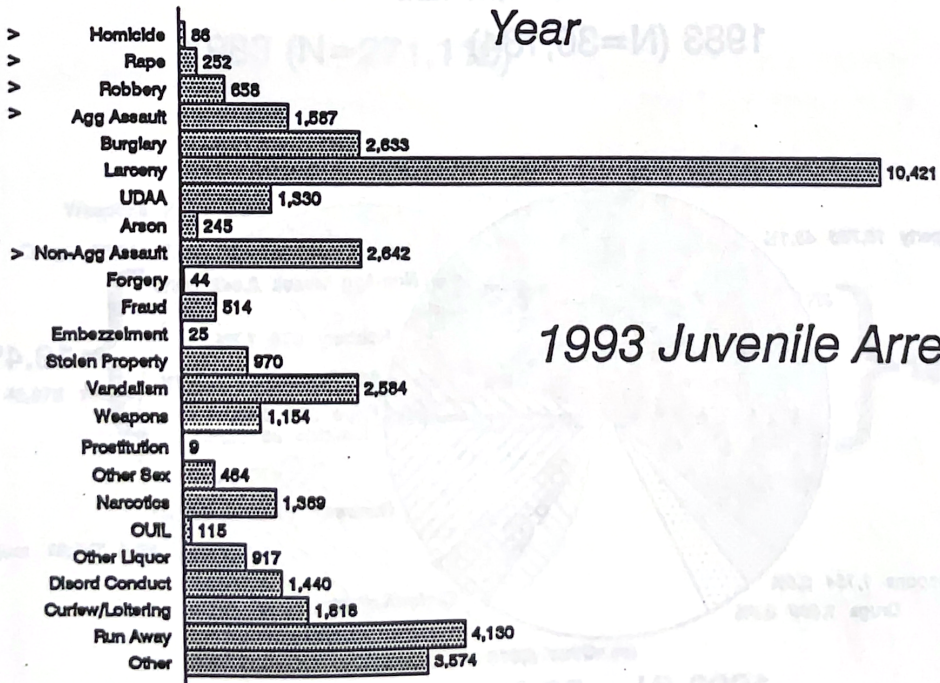
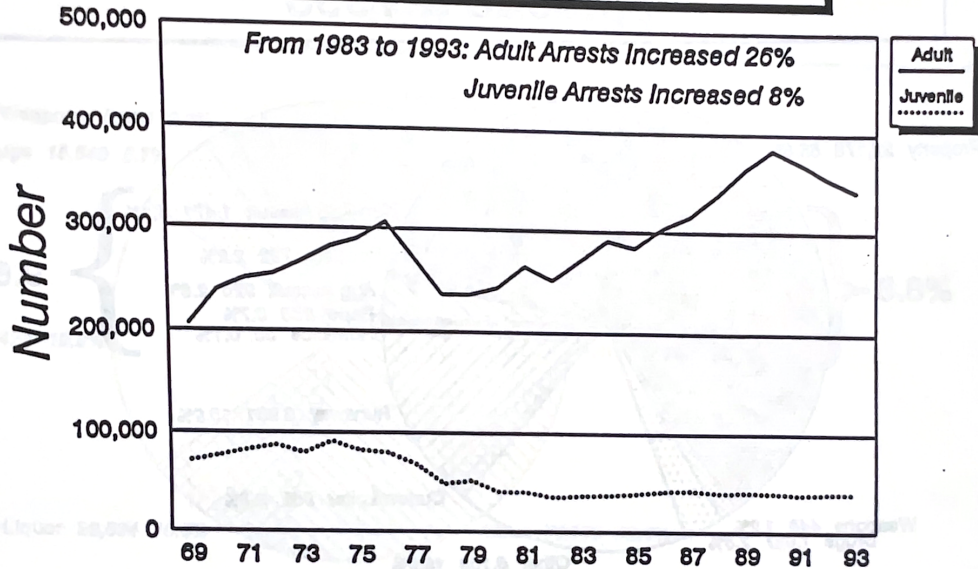
SO: MSP, UCR.

Number Reported



SO: MSP UCR

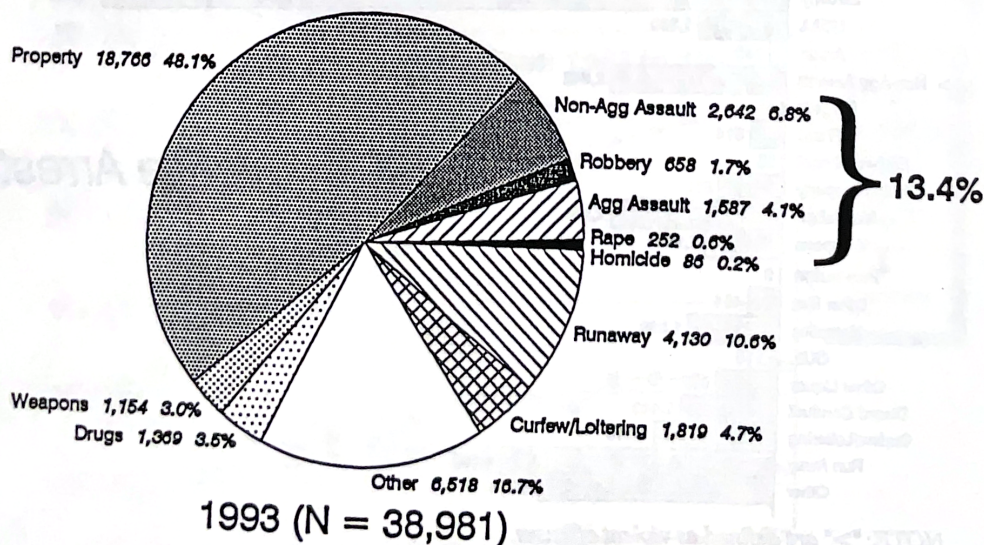
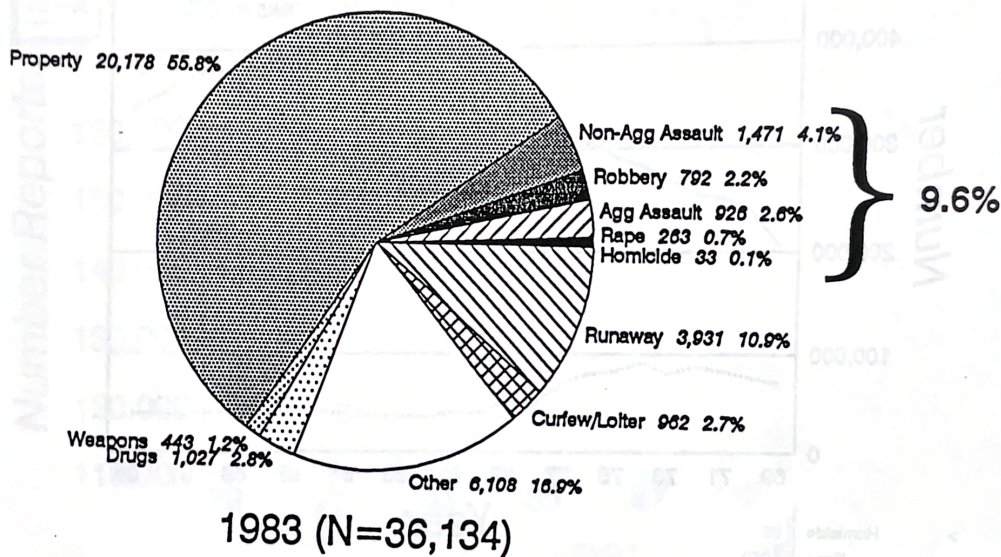
Arrests Reported in Michigan



NOTE: ">" are defined as violent offenses.

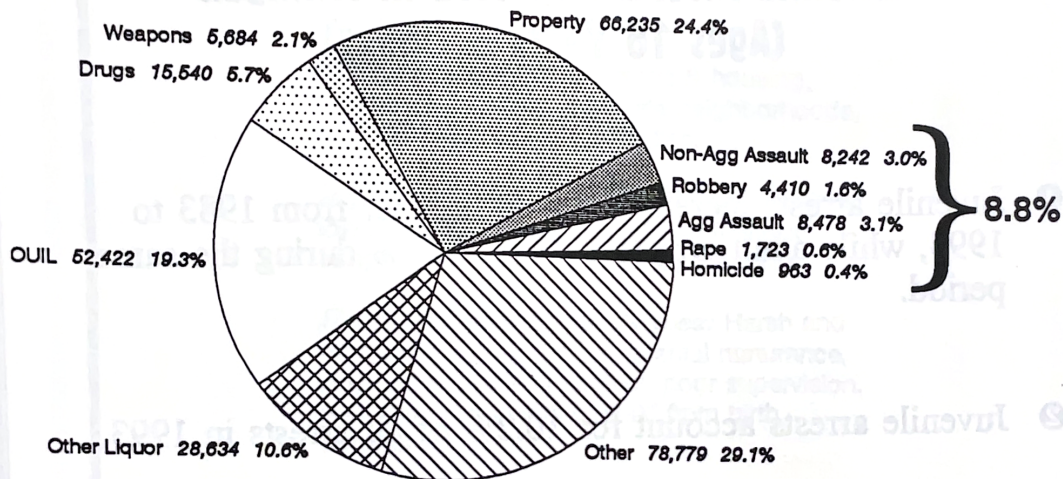
Violent Offenses Account for 13.4% of Total in 1993

Juvenile Arrests in Michigan 1983 & 1993

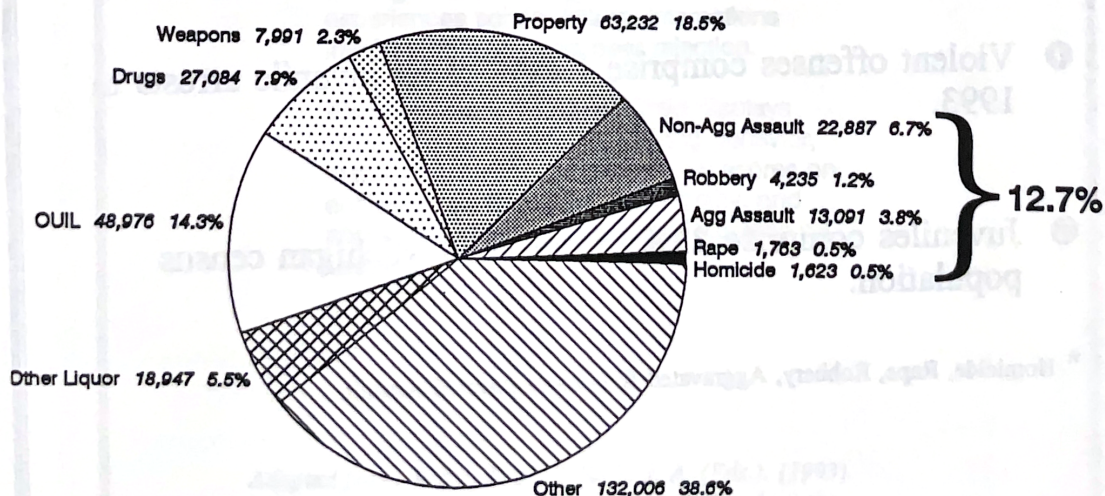


SO: UCR, MSP.
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Adult Arrests in Michigan 1983 & 1993



1983 (N=271,110)



1993 (N = 341,835)

Juvenile Arrests Reported in Michigan (Ages 16 Years & Under)

- ① Juvenile arrests increased 8% in number from 1983 to 1993, while adult arrests increased 26% during the same period.
- ② Juvenile arrests account for 10.2% of all arrests in 1993.
- ③ Juvenile arrests account for 10.7% of all arrests for violent offenses* in 1993.
- ④ Violent offenses comprise 13.4% of all juvenile arrests in 1993.
- ⑤ Juveniles comprise 23% of the 1990 Michigan census population.

* Homicide, Rape, Robbery, Aggravated & Non-Aggravated Assault.

Source: Michigan State Police, Uniform Crime Reports.

Antecedents of Violent Behavior Psychosocial Influences

(Reiss & Roth, 1993)

Poverty: Inadequate income & housing, large families, high crime rate neighborhoods, criminal behavior within families.

Infancy: Pregnancy and birth complications, low birth-weight, uninhibited and fearless temperament demonstrated by the child.

Early Family Experiences: Harsh and erratic discipline, lack of parental nurturance, physical abuse and neglect, poor supervision, and early separation of child from birth parents.

Preschool Years: Child demonstrates fearless behavior, hyperactivity-impulsivity, poor concentration-attention deficit and restless behavior.

Early School Experiences: Child experiences school failure, interactions involving bullying and peer rejection.

Early School Years: Child displays unusually daring and risk-taking behavior, inability to defer gratification, low scores on achievement tests, lack of empathy, and abnormally frequent viewing of violence on television.

*Adapted from: Reiss, A. J., & Roth, J. A. (Eds.). (1993).
Understanding and preventing violence: Panel on the
understanding and control of violent behavior. Washington,
D.C.: National Academy Press.*

Protective Factors in the Prevention of Violence

Individual Characteristics:

- Good Health & Healthy Behaviors
- Independence & Ability for Disengagement
- Social & Communication Skills
- Problem Solving & Learning Skills
- Achievement Motivation

Family:

- Care & Social Support
- Strong Bonds with Primary Care Givers
- Absence of Criticism and Punishment
- Lack of Conflict & Conflict Resolution Skills
- Warmth, Friendship, Affection
- Sense of Basic Trust & Security

Schools:

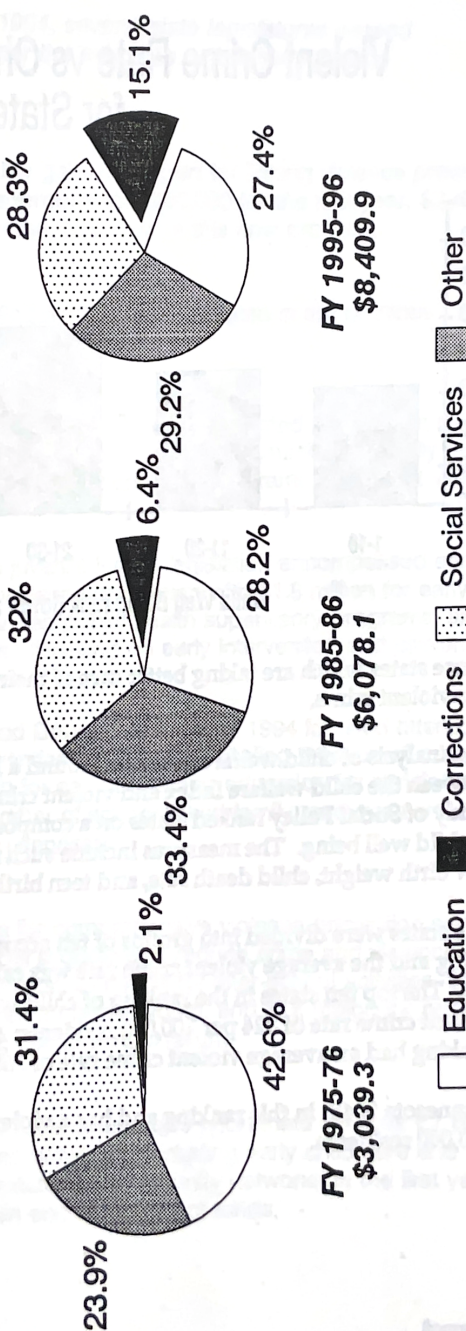
- Positive Role Models & Mentors
- Care & Social Support
- Expectations of Success & Achievement
- Productive Opportunities & Participation
- Cooperative Learning & Positive Peer Relationships

Community:

- Adequate & Readily Available Basic Resources
- Strategic Plans for Competency Building & Empowerment
- Comprehensive Social Support Network Structures
- Demonstrated Positive Youth Orientation
- Shared Power & Decision-Making Systems
- Opportunities for Productive Citizen Participation

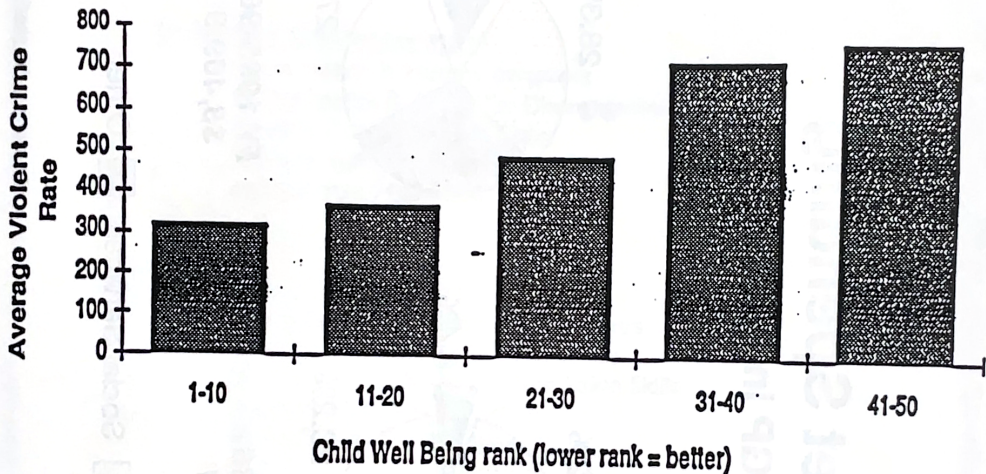
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Michigan Budget Spending by Department (GF/GP in Millions)



Source: Senate Fiscal Agency.

Violent Crime Rate vs Child Well Being Rank for States



Those states which are taking better care of their children are experiencing less violent crime.

An analysis of child welfare indicators found a high inverse correlation between the child welfare index and violent crime rates. The Center for the Study of Social Policy ranked states on a composite score of eight measures of child well being. The measures include such factors as infant mortality, low birth weight, child death rate, and teen births.

The states were divided into groups of ten according to rank in child well being and the average violent crime rate was calculated for each group of ten. The top ten states in the ranking of child well being had an average violent crime rate of 324 per 100,000 residents; the lowest ten states in the ranking had an average violent crime rate of 765 per 100,000 residents.

Minnesota is 4th in this ranking and has a violent crime rate of 306 per 100,000 residents.

State Legislative Initiatives Related to Juvenile Violence

During 1993 and 1994, several state legislatures passed new initiatives under the auspices of juvenile violence prevention.

Delaware - The General Assembly gained support for linking violence prevention with early childhood initiatives and appropriated \$900,000 for the first year, \$2 million for the second, and \$2.7 million for the third year of this new program.

Minnesota - Almost half of the \$13.9 million appropriated in the omnibus juvenile justice legislation was earmarked for prevention.

Colorado - To prevent violence, the legislature appropriated \$3.5 million to expand preschool programs by 64%, \$1.4 million to double the number of family resource programs, \$3.6 million for community-based grant programs to prevent violence.

Iowa - During the 1994 session juvenile justice legislation encompassed early intervention and school-based violence prevention with \$1.8 million for early intervention, \$4 million for expanded public health supervisory programs, and \$2 million to expand school services focusing on early intervention and prevention.

Tennessee - The Early Childhood Development Act of 1994 focused attention on early childhood intervention and prevention of violence including creation of a Healthy Start program, development of a plan for early childhood education for at-risk three and four year olds, doubling the number of school-linked family resource centers, expansion of family preservation services.

North Carolina - Allocated funds for comprehensive violence prevention services in early childhood, family and school programs to reduce crime and violence including \$2 million for family resource centers, \$5 million for after-school activities, \$12 million for enhanced educational services for at-risk youth, and \$18 million for additional school staff to assist students at-risk of school failure.

Washington - Established a new local structure to coordinate services for children by pooling state and federal streams of funding including early child care and intervention services with approximately \$6 million for community networks in the first year, and \$2.7 million in Family Preservation and Support Act funds.