

Class Activities

Chapter 3: The Measurement of Juvenile Crime

Activity 1: Analyzing Data on Arrests by Age

Crime in the United States is the annual publication that contains a compilation of the volume and rate of violent and property crime offenses for the nation and by state. Ask your students to read through [Arrests by Age in 2016](#) in advance of class, or pull up this webpage on the classroom projector. Note the various offense types, total offenses committed by all ages, and the percent distribution across age ranges. Ask students to identify which offenses tend to have larger juvenile involvement and discuss why juveniles may be more likely to participate in these offenses as opposed to other offenses.

Link: <https://ucr.fbi.gov/crime-in-the-u.s/2016/crime-in-the-u.s.-2016/topic-pages/tables/table-20>

Activity 2: Analyzing Data on Girls in the Juvenile Justice System

Review the [Data Snapshot: Spotlight on Girls in the Juvenile Justice System](#), published by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention. After reading the report, answer the following questions:

1. Is the arrests of girls growing or declining?
2. Are delinquency cases involving girls more or less likely to be diverted or receive probation than cases involving boys?
3. What percentage of female delinquency cases (2014) involve drugs?
4. True or False? In 2015, status offenses and technical violations were more common for females in placement.

Link: https://www.ojjdp.gov/ojstatbb/snapshots/DataSnapshot_GIRLS2015.pdf