
An Examination of Juvenile Complaints, Arrests and Reported Offenses

Introduction

The perception of juvenile crime is often based on news reports and typically does not become a topic of concern to the public until a serious juvenile crime makes headline news. Yanich noted that the vast majority of juvenile crime reporting occurs locally on local television news and in local newspapers (2005). While juvenile delinquency is a constant concern to the public and to correctional officials, to obtain an accurate picture of juvenile offenses and where offenses occur, it is necessary to look at the range of offenses as reported by all agencies involved in the reporting of juvenile crime.

A wide variety of factors should be included in any evaluation of juvenile offenses. In an effort to gain more insight into the type of offenses committed by juveniles and where offenses take place, data was requested from the N.C. Department of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, the State Bureau of Investigation and the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction. This report initially began as an examination of complaints issued against juveniles and the time and location of the complaints. To obtain more insight, additional information was collected on potential factors that may or may not impact juveniles, including school suspension rates, dropout rates, age, race, gender and types of offenses committed. Information was studied to obtain a better perspective of juvenile offenses and to gain a more accurate perception of the problem of juvenile delinquency.

By standard definition — and in most states — a person under the age of 18 is treated as a juvenile, unless the offense committed merits transfer to adult court. In North Carolina an individual between the ages of six and 15 is treated as a juvenile. Juvenile offenders come under the jurisdiction of the N.C. Department of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency



Prevention and the juvenile court system while individuals age 16 and older are treated as adults in the criminal justice system. Youth under the age of 16 who commit serious offenses may be waived or transferred out of the juvenile system to be treated or tried as an adult. North Carolina and New York are currently the only states that consider youth aged 16 and 17 as adults in the criminal justice system. The Vera Institute of Justice has conducted a cost-benefit analysis of the feasibility and impact of raising the age of juvenile jurisdiction to 18 in North Carolina. Their research indicates that the overall benefits of raising the juvenile age outweigh the costs (Henrichson & Levshin, 2011).

Information for this report was obtained from the Department of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention's N.C. Juvenile Offender Information Network (NC JOIN) and the State Bureau of Investigation's Uniform Crime Reporting program (UCR). The NC JOIN program collects information on complaints filed against juveniles while the UCR program gathers data on arrests. It should be noted that NC JOIN data provides the total number of complaints filed against an individual, not the total

number of juveniles offending, while UCR data represents the number of arrests, not the number of individual juveniles arrested. Juveniles may have more than one complaint filed against them in the NC JOIN system based on a single incident. For example, a single traffic stop can result in multiple complaints for driving with an expired tag, assault on a government employee, driving while impaired, possession of a controlled substance and resisting a public officer. If an individual is arrested for armed robbery, this individual may have also committed an aggravated assault, breaking and entering or trespassing; however, in the UCR system, only the most serious offense would be reported on the arrest report. Because of the differences in the data collected and the reporting methodology used, NC JOIN data and UCR data are not comparable.

Uniform Crime Report: UCR

The Uniform Crime Reporting program is a voluntary effort to collect nationwide data on crime based on information submitted to the Federal Bureau of Investigation by law enforcement agencies across the country. Information is collected on known offenses and persons arrested by law enforcement agencies. The UCR program includes only crimes reported to participating law enforcement agencies. The data obtained are based on the count, or score, of reported offenses or arrests. A ‘hierarchy rule’ is used in UCR reporting to indicate and report only the most serious offense in the crime reporting process. There are some exceptions to this rule, such as homicide, forcible rape or aggravated assault, when each victim is counted as an offense. Also,



in motor vehicle theft each vehicle stolen is scored as a separate offense. Arson may also be counted more than once if more than one individual or multiple buildings are involved. Aside from these exceptions, when an offender commits multiple offenses in a single incident, only the most serious of those offenses will be reported. The UCR report categorizes offenses according to violent and serious property crime and all other crimes (Part I and Part II offenses). Information on the offense is collected for murder and non-negligent manslaughter, forcible rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, larceny-theft, motor vehicle theft, and arson — offenses that are serious crimes by nature and/or volume. Arrest information is collected on all offenses.¹

North Carolina Juvenile Online Information Network: NC JOIN

The N.C. Juvenile Online Information Network, or NC JOIN, is a Web-based system that allows DJJDP staff at various points in the state’s juvenile justice system to track the progress and placement of youth being served by various programs and facilities. The greater part of the information in the NC JOIN system is entered by court counselors as complaints against juveniles. Staff at youth development centers and detention centers may also enter information while juveniles are under their supervision. While UCR data counts only one arrest per offender, except in those cases indicated previously, NC-JOIN information may include multiple offenses for a single offender. Another significant difference is that complaints are listed as offenses according to N.C. General Statutes and are not classified in the same manner as UCR offenses.

NC JOIN places crucial information at the fingertips of court counselors, detention and youth development center staff throughout the state. Future plans include expanding appropriate access to community

prevention and intervention programs funded through local Juvenile Crime Prevention Councils in each of the 100 counties. NC JOIN is also an asset to those who plan and evaluate programs and services. It has become an essential tool in providing the data necessary in making decisions on the appropriate use of limited resources to help fund and direct services for youth involved in crime and in both prevention and intervention efforts at the state and local levels.²



Population Trends

Between 2000 and 2009, the total population of North Carolina increased by 16 percent, from 8,079,152 to 9,397,548. The juvenile population under the age of 18 has grown from 1,972,789 to 2,243,403, an increase of 14 percent from 2000 to 2009. Juveniles under the age of 18 accounted for 24 percent of the total population of North Carolina in 2009 according to State Office of Budget and Management projections, while juveniles aged 6 to 15, the ages covered in this report, make up 12 percent of the total state population. This proportion has remained steady since the 2000 census. The portion of the population aged five to 17 years account for 1,610,024 of the total population in 2009. This segment has increased by

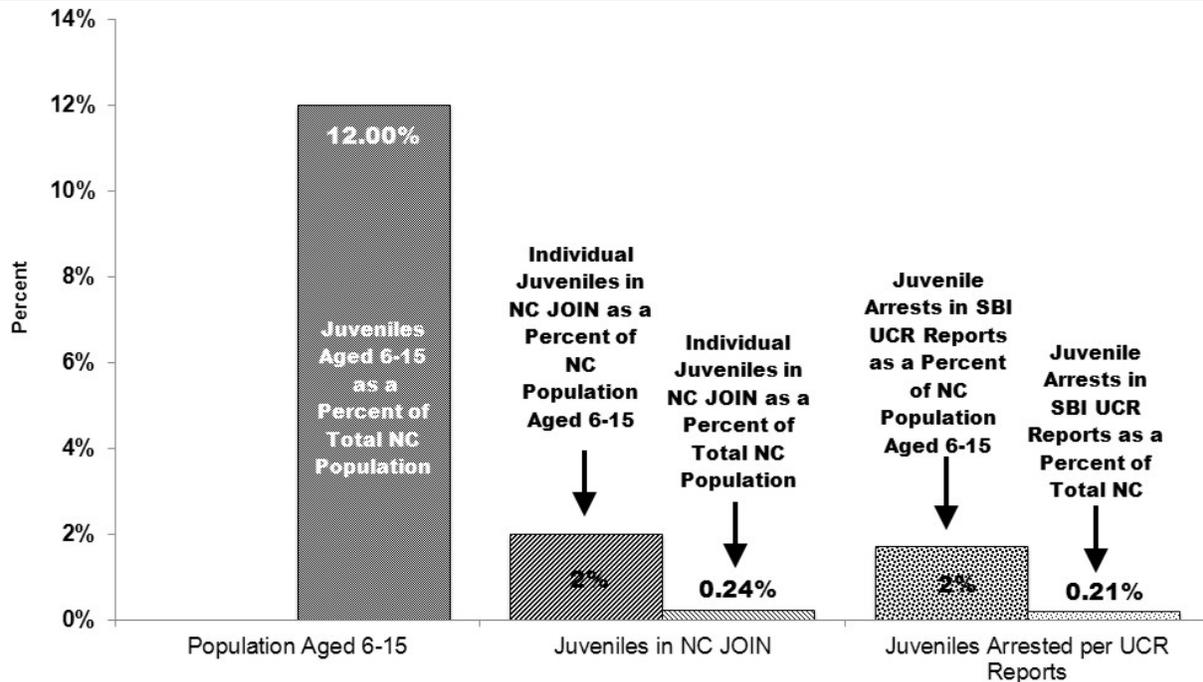
13 percent from 2000, but the growth of this group has slowed since that time.³

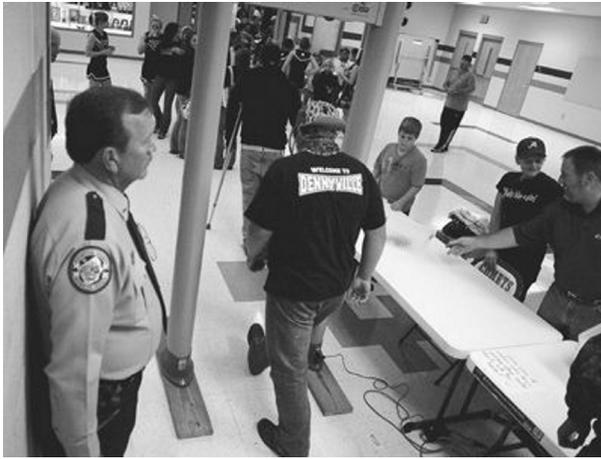
Dropout Events, Suspensions and Expulsions from School

According to information in the Department of Public Instruction’s annual Report to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee Consolidated Data Report for 2007-2008, high schools in North Carolina reported a drop out rate of 4.97%, a decrease from the 2006-2007 school year’s rate of 5.24%. During the 2007-2008 academic year 22,434 students in grades 9-12 dropped out of school. The predominant reasons given included attendance (which accounted

Figure 1: 2008 Comparison of North Carolina Population Aged 6-15

Total Population, Complaints in NC JOIN and UCR Arrests





for almost half of all dropouts), enrollment in a community college program, moved – school status unknown, academic problems, long term suspension and discipline problems.⁴

There were 308,107 short-term (10 days or less) suspensions and 5,225 long term suspensions (11 days or more) reported statewide in 2007-2008. For high school students, the short-term suspension rate was 3.46 suspensions for every 10 students. Black students received the most short-term suspensions, followed by white students. Male students also received more suspensions than female students. Ninth graders received the largest number of short-term suspensions out of those enrolled in grades 9-12. Complete demographic data are not available for students who received long-term suspensions. Long term suspensions averaged 41.4 school days per suspension, a significant decrease from previous years. It was noted in the report that the decrease in long-term suspensions may be attributable to the increased use of alternative learning programs for those suspensions.

Note: the numbers presented are a count of suspensions and not a count of individual students.

One-hundred sixteen students were expelled from schools across the state in 2007-2008. The majority of those expelled were male. Ninth grade students accounted for 43 (37 percent) of the 116 expulsions and students receiving special education services made up 11 percent (13 students) of all students expelled. Among ethnic groups, black students

made up the larger group of expelled students, followed by white students. Students expelled from a school are not allowed to return to the district, but may be served in alternative learning programs, apply for admission to another district or apply for readmission to the district.

General Summary of Offenses Reported Through NC JOIN

Misdemeanors make up the greatest proportion of offenses committed by juveniles. They account for 69 percent of offenses reported. Felony offenses account for 19 percent and status offenses (offenses related specifically to juveniles) make up the remaining 12 percent of complaints.

A preliminary look at complaints filed on juveniles indicated the predominant offense reported was simple assault which accounted for 10 percent of all offenses reported. Simple assault is defined as an assault in which there is no intention to do any other injury or bodily harm⁵, as opposed to aggravated assault where there is a specific intent to do bodily harm. The average age at the time the simple assault complaint was filed was 13.5 years while the age range of offenders varied from 6 to 16. Juveniles aged 15 and 16 years of age accounted for 60 percent (2,629) of all simple assault complaints filed and 13 and 14 year olds accounted for an additional 30 percent (1,321) of the remaining complaints. The remaining 10 percent (429) were committed by juveniles aged 6 to 11.

The second most commonly reported complaint was Misdemeanor Larceny. Misdemeanor Larceny is

Figure 2: Complaints by Broad Offense Class, 2008 NC JOIN Data

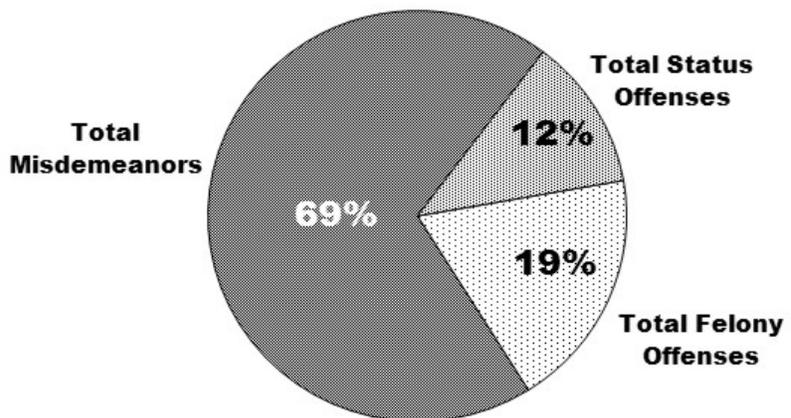
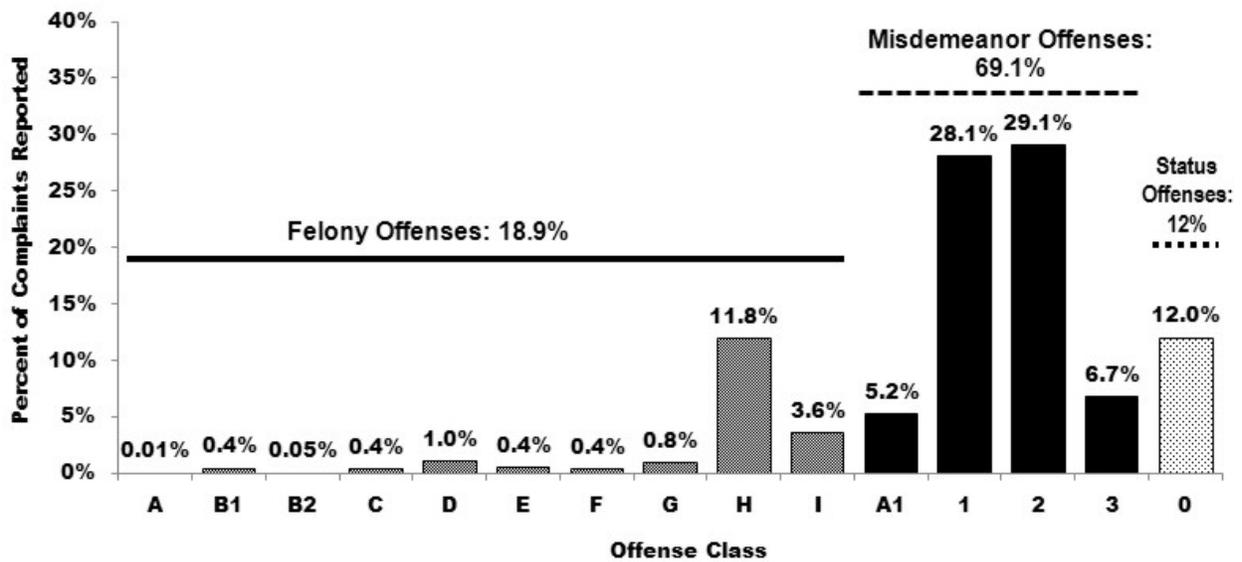


Figure 3: 2008 NC JOIN Complaints by Offense Class and Category



generally defined as larceny of goods with a value less than \$1,000. Shoplifting and other various larceny offenses are not included in this category. Again, the most common juvenile offenders were aged 15 and 16. Fifteen year olds accounted for 40 percent and 14 year olds accounted for 29 percent of complaints filed, a total of 69 percent (2,277) for both ages combined. Thirteen and 14 year olds made up 24 percent (795) of complaints filed, while youth aged 6 to 11 accounted for 6 percent (184). A total of 829 complaints were filed for shoplifting. Fifteen year olds committed 42 percent (348) of those offenses reported, while 14 year olds were responsible for 29 percent (238) and 13 year olds 16 percent (130) of complaints. Only 14 youth were charged with a second and third offense within five years of the first charge. Shoplifting ranked 16th on the list of all complaints filed.

Simple affray, defined as “a fight between two or more persons in a public place so as to cause terror to the people”⁶ is the third most common complaint filed in the NC JOIN system. A total of 1,825 complaints were filed for youth aged 6 to 15 in 2008. Only four complaints were reported for students aged 6 to 9. Following the same pattern, 15 year olds again accounted for the largest portion of complaints filed, 44 percent (809) and 14 year olds accounted for 32 percent (585) of all complaints. Complaints filed on 13 year olds made up 256, or 14 percent, of simple affray complaints.

Other significant complaints included felonious breaking and entering, injury to real property, disorderly conduct at school, communicating threats, ungovernable under the age of 16, larceny after breaking or entering and truant under the age of 16.

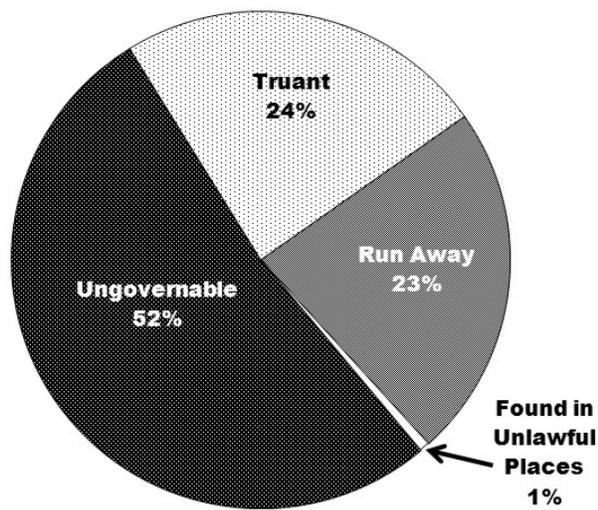
Assault Related Complaints

Simple assault, simple affray and disorderly conduct at school complaints, which are classified as Class 2 Misdemeanors, account for 18 percent of all offenses reported in the NC JOIN system in 2008. Under the UCR reporting system, which reports actual arrests, Other Assaults – Not Aggravated made up 21 percent of total arrests. Aggravated Assaults accounted for only two percent of all arrests. Violent crime, which includes Murder and Non-Negligent Manslaughter, Forcible Rape, Robbery and Assault-Aggravated,



An Examination of Juvenile Complaints, Arrests and Reported Offenses

Figure 4: 2008 NC JOIN Breakout of Status Complaints by Type



made up four percent (121 arrests during 2008) of all arrests for juveniles aged 15 and under.

Status Offenses

Status offenses are classified as offenses related specifically to juveniles — offenses that would not be considered an offense if committed by an adult, such as truancy or running away. The majority of status offenses committed fell under the classification of Ungovernable. Ungovernable refers to youth or children that do not submit to the control or authority of parents or other authority figures. In 2008, 1,325 youth were reported as just ungovernable and under the age of 16, covering youth from a minimum age of 7 to a maximum age of 17 (no criteria were submitted to explain this outlier). A total of 2,629 youth were reported as ungovernable in combination with other status offenses such as run away or truant. Table 1, below, provides totals for the number of complaints reported as Status Offenses. According to UCR

Table 1: Juvenile Complaints by Reported Status Offense

Reported Status Offense	Number of Complaints
Ungovernable, Found in places unlawful for Juvenile, Run Away and Truant < 16	11
Ungovernable, Run Away and Truant < 16	39
Ungovernable, Found in places unlawful for Juvenile and Truant < 16	8
Ungovernable, Found in places unlawful for Juvenile and Run Away >= 16	10
Ungovernable, Found in places unlawful for Juvenile and Run Away < 16	10
Ungovernable and Truant < 16	253
Ungovernable and Run Away >= 16	215
Ungovernable and Run Away < 16	266
Ungovernable and Found in places unlawful for Juvenile >= 16	4
Ungovernable and Found in places unlawful for Juvenile < 16	9
Ungovernable >= 16	479
Ungovernable < 16	1,325
Truant < 16	1,210
Run Away from within North Carolina >= 16	463
Run Away from within North Carolina < 16	548
Run Away from outside North Carolina >= 16	59
Run Away from outside North Carolina < 16	49
Run Away and Truant < 16	39
Found in places unlawful for Juvenile and Truant < 16	1
Found in places unlawful for Juvenile and Run Away >= 16	18
Found in places unlawful for Juvenile and Run Away < 16	11
Found in places unlawful for Juvenile < 16	2

records, 841 juveniles (4%) under the age of 15 were arrested as runaways in 2008.

Other Offense Categories

Motor vehicle related complaints, ranging from ‘exceeding the posted speed limit’ to ‘failure to burn head lamps,’ accounted for only 3 percent of offenses reported in NC JOIN. The primary offenses reported were driving without a license and unauthorized use of a motor vehicle. Drug related offenses accounted for 7 percent of offenses. These included simple possession (2%), possession of drug paraphernalia (1%) and possession of marijuana up to one-half ounce (1%). All other drug-related offenses, ranging from possession of fortified wine or liquor to loitering for drug sales averaged below one percent of total offenses. During 2008, UCR reports indicate that 14% (2,723) of arrests of juveniles aged 15 were for Drunk and Disorderly Conduct. An additional 49 juveniles in the age category were arrested for Driving under the Influence and 240 were arrested for violating liquor laws.

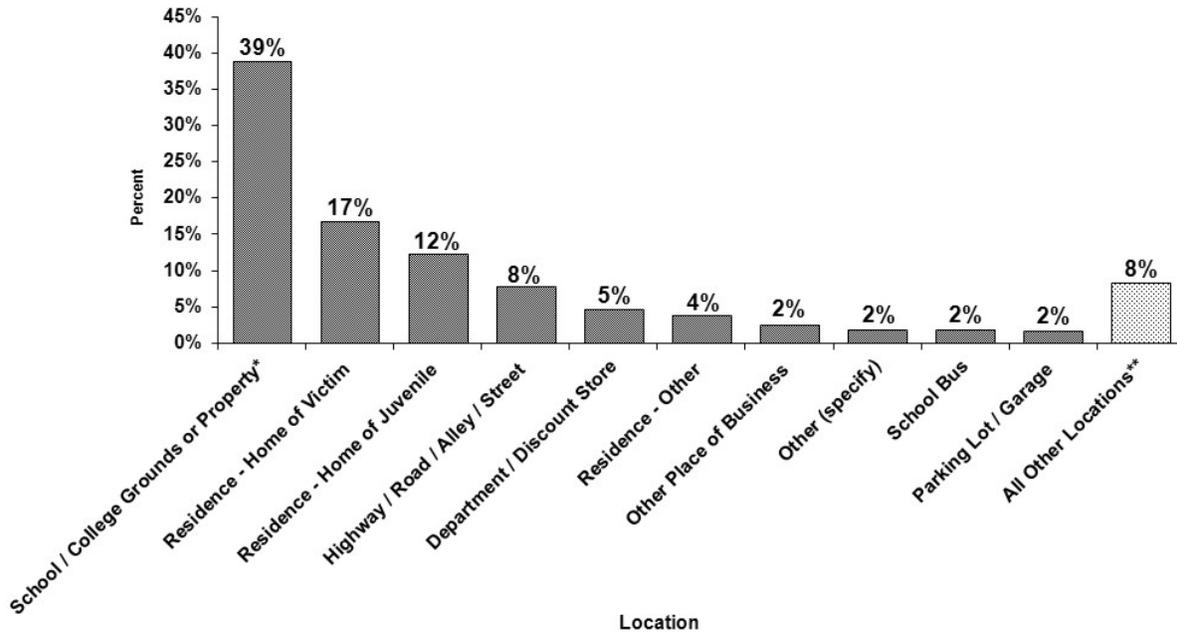


Location where offenses are committed

School-related complaints accounted for 41 percent of complaints reported, while 59 percent were

listed as not school related. Data indicate that 38.7 percent of offenses took place on school grounds or property. Two percent of complaints were related to school buses or school bus stops. Offenses occurring in residences made up a significant portion

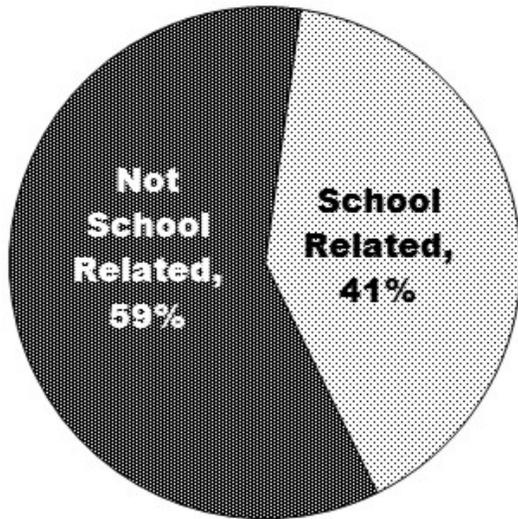
Figure 5: 2008 NC JOIN Complaints by Location



* Other than home school, preschool, daycare of YDC.

** The remaining 29 locations included in ‘All Other Locations’ each accounted for less than 1% of total complaints filed.

Figure 6: 2008 NC JOIN School Related Complaints



of complaints. Residences were broken out as the home of the victim (16.7% or 7,265), the home of the juvenile (12.2% or 5,315) and other residences (3.9% or 1,682). Highways/Roads/Alleys/Streets made up 7.6 percent and department or discount stores made up an additional 4.7 percent of locations reported.

School Related

Simple Assault, Simple Affray and Disorderly Conduct at School complaints made up 32 percent of school related offenses reported through NC

JOIN in 2008. Fifty-five percent of all Simple Assault complaints and 89 percent of Simple Affray complaints are school related. Of 1,530 complaints filed for Disorderly Conduct at School, only three were reported as not school related. Other offenses that were reported at significant levels included Truant and Under Age 16 (7%), Misdemeanor Weapons on Educational Property (6%), Misdemeanor Larceny (6%), Communicating Threats (5%), Assault on a Government Official or Employee (4%) and Simple Possession of a Schedule VI Controlled Substance (3%). Misdemeanor Larceny was the most predominant offense reported as not related to school, totaling 9 percent of all complaints that were not related to school. Simple Assault made up 8 percent of complaints, followed by Felonious Breaking and Entering (6%), Injury to Real Property (5%), Ungovernable Under the Age of 16 (5%) and Larceny After Breaking or Entering (4%). A total of 17,388 (41%) complaints covering 222 separate offenses were school-related, compared to 25,836 (59%) complaints for 390 separate offenses that were not school-related.

Day of Week/Time of Day of Offenses

2008 NC JOIN data shows that 82 percent of complaints are filed Monday through Friday, while 18 percent are filed on Saturday and Sunday. School-related complaints account for 38 percent of all complaints filed. During the week 41 percent of all offenses are school related, 15 percent occur at the

Figure 7: 2008 NC JOIN Complaints Day of Week and Time of Day

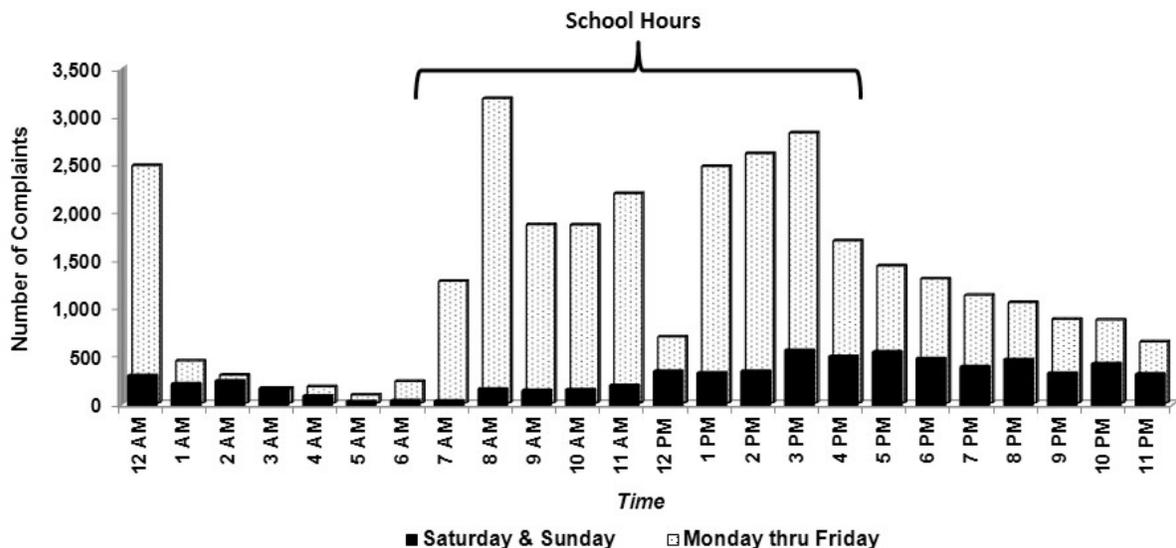
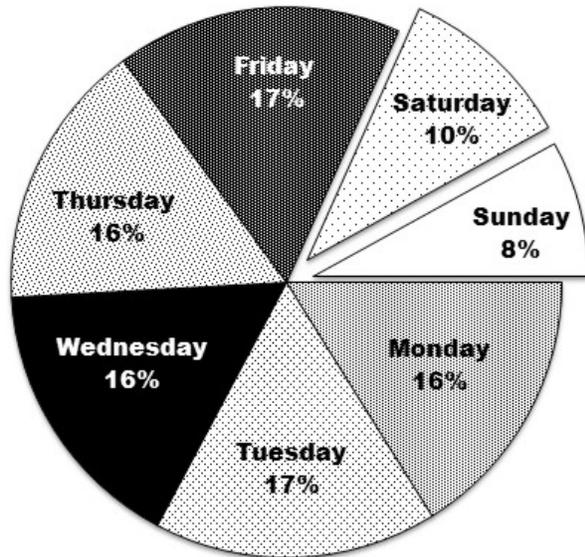


Figure 8: 2008 NC JOIN Complaints by Day of Week



82% of Complaints filed Monday-Friday

18% of Complaints filed Saturday-Sunday

residence of the victim and 12 percent occur at the residence of the juvenile. On weekends, activity shifts from the school to homes. Forty-seven percent of complaints occur in residences: 26 percent occur at the home of the victim, 14 percent at the home of the juvenile and 7 percent at other residences. Eleven

percent of complaints occur on highways or streets and 10 percent in department/discount stores.

According to the complaints reported in the NC JOIN system, the majority of complaints are filed between Monday and Friday. Overall, the greatest number of complaints are filed on Tuesdays and Fridays and take place on School/College Grounds or Property. On weekends, more complaints were reported on Saturday than Sunday. The majority of weekend complaints shift from school-related to residences, and are reported as occurring either in the home of the victim or the home of the juvenile. Additional weekend complaints also occur on highways/road/alleys or streets. Department and discount stores report the highest number of complaints occurring on Saturdays.

Research has shown that juvenile crime varies according to the time of day and the day of the week. Gottfredson and Soule's analysis confirmed that juvenile serious violent crime peaked between 2 p.m. and 6 p.m. on school days, the hours just after schools is dismissed, whereas adult serious violent crime peaked at 11 p.m. (2005). However, there is a difference in the types of offenses that occur. Jacob and Lefgren (2003) determined that the level of property crime committed by juveniles decreases by roughly 14 percent on days when school is in session. In contrast, they found that the level of

Figure 9: Average Age at Time of Offense, by Broad Offense Class

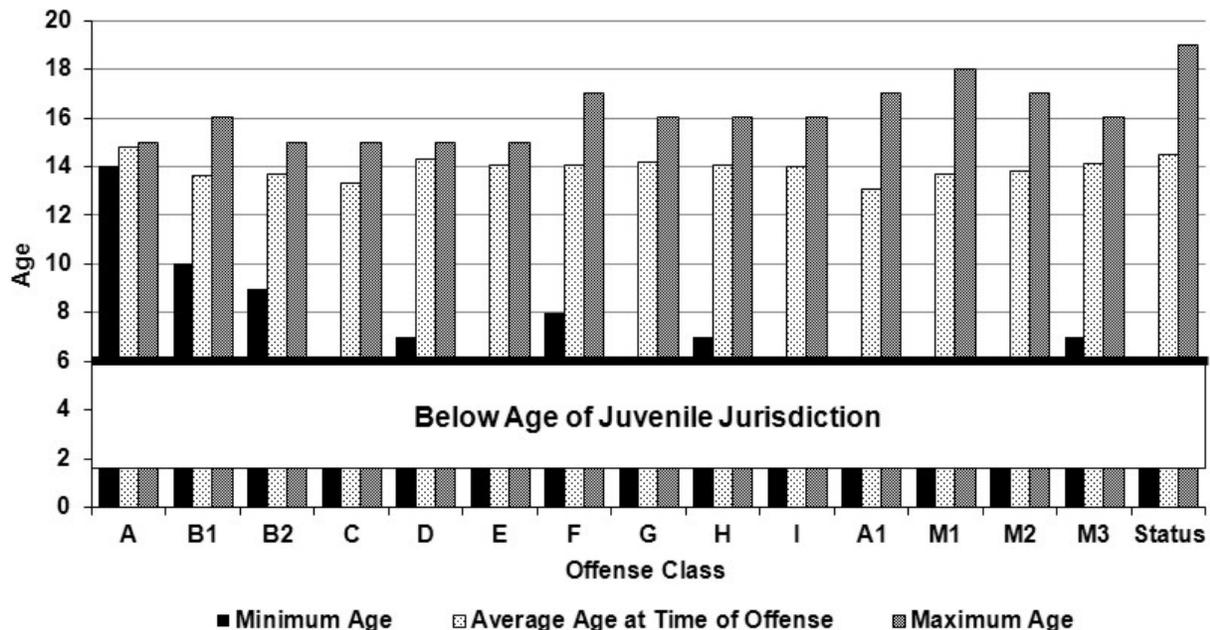
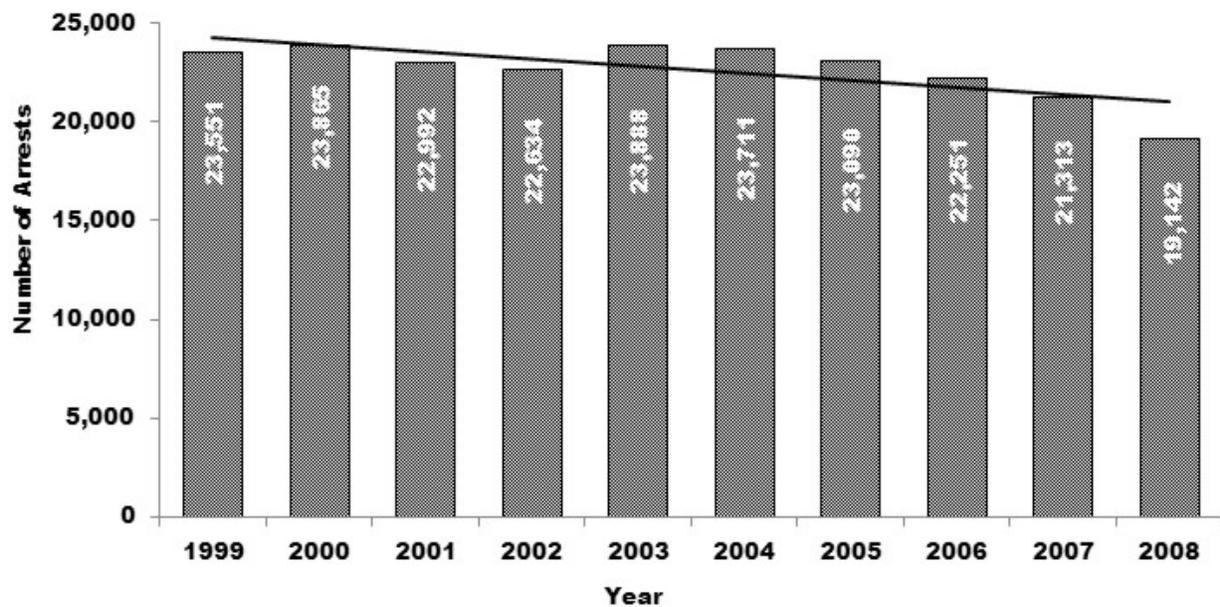


Table 2: Average Age at Time of Offense, by Broad Offense Class

Charged Offense Class	Minimum Age Reported	Average Age at Time of Offense	Maximum Age Reported	Standard Deviation from Mean
A	14	14.8	15	0.45
B1	10	13.6	16	1.18
B2	9	13.7	15	1.95
C	6	13.3	15	1.83
D	7	14.3	15	1.07
E	6	14.1	15	1.50
F	8	14.1	17	1.42
G	6	14.2	16	1.22
H	7	14.1	16	1.23
I	6	14.0	16	1.37
A1	5	13.0	17	2.12
M1	6	13.7	18	1.53
M2	6	13.8	17	1.44
M3	7	14.1	16	1.14
Status	6	14.5	19	1.53

Figure 10: Arrest of Juveniles Aged 15 and Under, 1999-2008



Note: The trendline in Figure 10, above, indicates the gradual decline in the number of juvenile arrests between 1999 and 2008.

violent offenses increased by roughly 28 percent on school days.

The spike in complaints illustrated in Figure 8 (on page 8) at midnight results from the time field being left blank when specific time of offense is not known or not entered.

Average Age at Time of Offense

The offenders reported through NC JOIN were between the ages of six and sixteen. While there were a few instances where juveniles as young as 5 and as old as 17 were reported, these instances were rare; however, they do cover individuals outside the range of juvenile age as defined by North Carolina General Statutes.

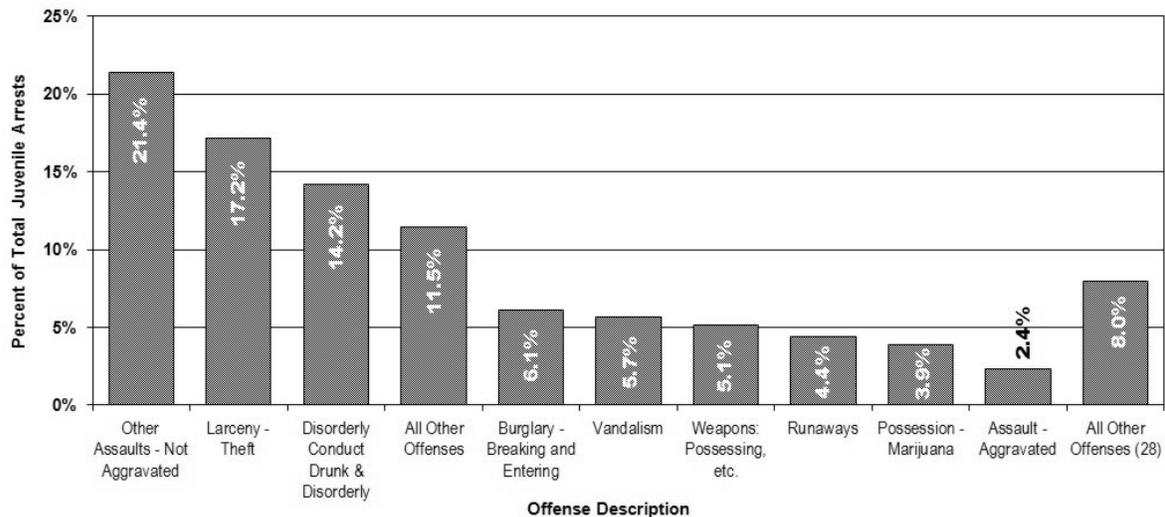
Table 2 at the top of page 10 shows the average age at the time the offense was committed by offense class. The most serious offense, first degree murder is the only Class A offense. There were five reported incidents of murder reported in 2008, committed by youth aged 14 and 15 years. The low standard deviation score reflects the lack of dispersion in the data. (The lower the standard deviation score, the less the data is spread out.) Class A1 offenses (serious misdemeanors) had the broadest dispersion of ages reported, ranging from 5 to 17 years. Class A1 misdemeanors include Assault on a Government Official or Employee, Assault with a Deadly Weapon, Assault on a School Employee or Volunteer and Assault Inflicting Serious Bodily Injury.



UCR Trends

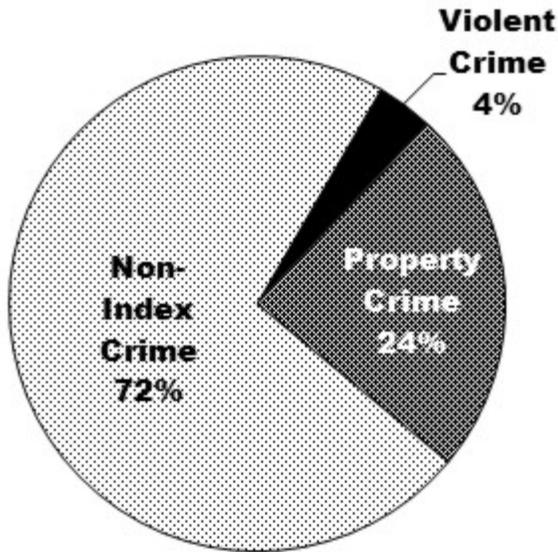
Overall, there has been a downward trend in juvenile arrests between 1999 and 2008. In 2008, a total of 19,142 arrests were reported, down from a high in 2003 of 23,888.⁷ Of those arrests, index crimes accounted for 27.7 percent of all juvenile arrests. Twenty-four percent of index crimes were property crimes and 3.7 percent were violent index crimes. The majority of arrests, 72.3 percent, were for non-index crimes. Four offense categories accounted for 64 percent of all juvenile arrests. They included: Other Assaults – Not Aggravated, 21.4 percent; Larceny – Theft, 17.2 percent; Disorderly Conduct/ Drunk and Disorderly, 14.2 percent; and All Other Offenses, 11.5 percent. The only index offense

Figure 11: Juvenile Arrests by Offense



Note: The category 'All Other Offenses' includes a total of 28 separate offenses.

Figure 12: Index and Non-index Crime Arrests for Juveniles Aged 15 and Under



listed in the top ten was Aggravated Assault, with 456 arrests (2.4%).

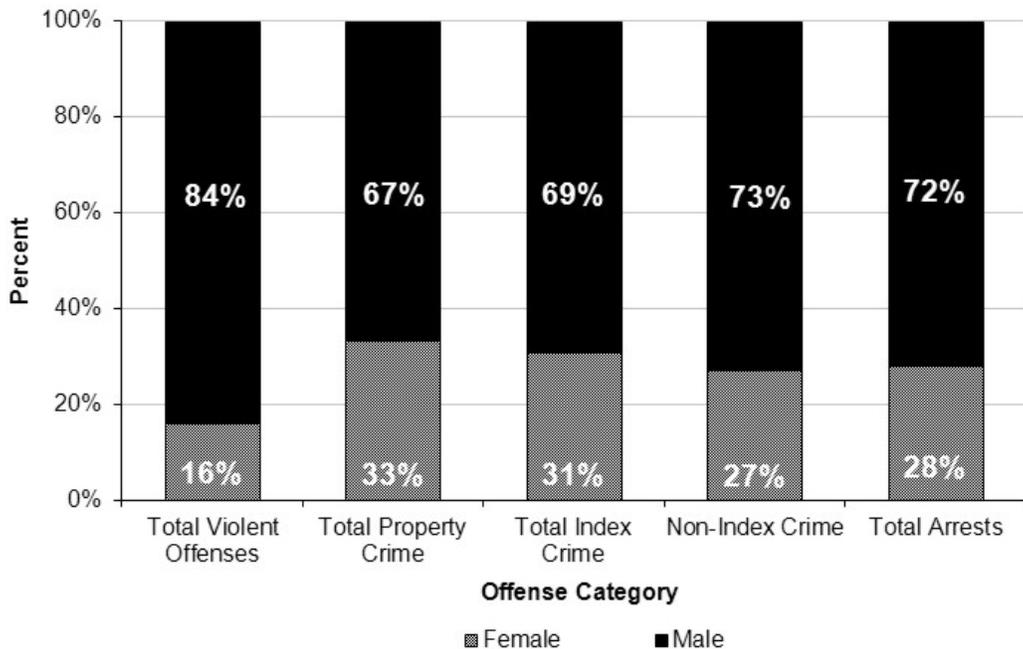
In all offense categories, as illustrated in Figure 13 below, male offenders were arrested more frequently than females in all categories and constituted a significantly larger percentage of those arrested for Violent Index Offenses such as Murder or Aggravated Assault.

Conclusion

As Yanich noted, juvenile crime is often reported in the media only when it reaches the level of tragedies similar to the shootings at Columbine High School in Littleton, Colorado, in April 1999 or at the Westside Middle School in Jonesboro, Arkansas, in March 1998 (2005). It is important to step away from the depiction of juvenile crime and delinquency as portrayed in the media and take an analytical look at the issue. This report has collected information on juvenile crime and offenses in order to present an overall view of juvenile behavior. Each data source provides a different perspective of the problem and no two sources provide directly comparable information.

Schools are impacted by and also have an impact on juvenile delinquency and crime. While crime patterns indicate an increase in criminal offenses before and after school and during school lunch hours, the total effect of school and school activities on juvenile crime is not clear. Circumstances vary by the time of day and may explain some of the variations that occur. (Gottfredson and Soule, 2005) While students spend much of the day separated into classroom groups, portions of the day, including lunch, breaks and moving between classes, a large number of students are crowded together in lunch

Figure 13: UCR Juvenile Arrests by Sex and Offense Category



rooms, hallways and on school grounds. This, along with the culture of the school, has a direct impact on the behavior of students. (Chen, 2008) Two of the most commonly occurring offenses — Simple Assault and Simple Affray — could simply result from a large number of youth being concentrated in one area at the same time: before school, at lunch breaks and after school. Research has indicated that one effect of grouping large numbers of juveniles together during and after school is an increase in crimes against persons. (Gottfredson and Soulé, 2005) This would explain the increase in complaints reported before and after school hours, as indicated in Figure 7 on page 8. While researchers noted that smaller schools are associated with a lower incidence of crime than larger schools (Chen, 2008), information on the size of schools and the specific number of incidents that were associated with individual schools was not available for this report. While NC JOIN could provide information at the school level, data available from other sources did not include information such as school location (urban, suburban or rural), size of school, number of students enrolled or the general location of the offense or arrest reported.

Additional research is needed to provide a clearer picture of juvenile offenses as they relate to school and after-school programs. A survey of school personnel and school resource officers that specifically address student activity, student behavior, after-school programs and activities and the incidence of offenses or complaints could contribute significant information to the assessment of this issue. Until comparable information is available or regular data sources are able to incorporate more comprehensive information in their reporting procedures, a complete understanding of the problem and incidence of juvenile crime and the means to address it cannot be achieved.

While juvenile offenses occur in or around schools, the majority — 59 percent — of reported offenses are committed outside the school environment. Despite the focus of the media on violent juvenile crime, these crimes, such as murder, assault with a deadly weapon, or rape, account for only 4 percent of the offenses reported. While most reported offenses are not violent, it is clear that the issue of juvenile crime needs to be addressed. Additional research focused on the circumstances of the offenses and the offenders



could provide more insight and result in concrete information to build a solution to the problem of juvenile crime and delinquency.

This report has attempted to provide information on the actual reported incidents of juvenile crime as reported through multiple systems. While each program reveals a new facet of the problem of juvenile crime, it is clear that there is no means of correlating the data between the different programs or systems. However, a more in-depth and comprehensive study of juvenile crime could provide integrated information that would allow for a time/space/offense analysis of juvenile crime.

Obtaining detailed information on individual offenses or complaints could allow local law enforcement agencies to conduct a geospatial analysis of crimes, including when and where they occur, the proximity to school or the home of the offender and other factors that contribute to the crime. Geospatial analysis would provide more detailed information on the pattern of juvenile crime and delinquency and help delineate where offenses and crimes occur during the critical hours just before and after school. The end result would be reliable data on juvenile crime and activities and knowledge that could contribute to the development of effective programs to address juvenile crime and delinquency.

Note: Since the writing of this paper, House Bill 632 and Senate Bill 506 have been introduced in the N.C. General Assembly to enact legislation that will raise the age of juvenile jurisdiction in North Carolina to 18 in six month increments over a four year period.

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Endnotes

- ¹ Uniform Crime Reporting, Federal Bureau of Investigation, U.S. Department of Justice, Revised 2004. <http://www.fbi.gov/ucr/handbook/ucrhandbook04.pdf>
- ² N.C. Department of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention.
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- ⁴ N.C. Department of Public Instruction
- ⁵ Simple Affray is generally defined as a fight between two or more people that does not involve weapons. Retrieved April 5, 2011 from <http://www.reference.com/motif/Reference/simple-affray>.
- ⁶ N.C. Court of Appeals, Case No. COA01-1544
- ⁷ N.C. State Bureau of Investigation, 2008 Crime Statistics in Detailed Reports, *Juvenile Arrests Under 16 by Offense, Ten-Year Trend*. Retrieved from <http://crimereporting.ncdoj.gov/Reports.aspx>.

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The Governor's Crime Commission was established in 1977 by the North Carolina General Assembly under G.S. 143B-479. Its primary duty is "to be the chief advisory body to the Governor and the Secretary of the Department of Crime Control and Public Safety for the development and implementation of criminal justice policy." The Crime Commission is always open to comments and suggestions from the public as well as criminal justice officials. Please contact us and let us know your thoughts and feelings on the information contained in this publication or on any other criminal justice issue of concern to you.

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Commission Members as of September 30, 2011

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