



ARRESTS

PART 1

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WHAT IS AN ARREST?

Arrests occur when persons are taken into custody because they are believed to have violated the law. Not all arrests result in persons being placed in jail. Arrestees may be released by the arresting agency, may post bail, or may be released on their own recognizance to appear in court at a later date. Some are issued citations, much like traffic tickets, which direct them to appear in court.

Arrests are divided into two major groups: felony arrests and misdemeanor arrests. An arrest for a felony-level offense can result in a sentence to state prison if the offender is convicted as an adult. An arrest for a misdemeanor-level offense can result in a sentence of up to one year in a county jail, a fine, probation, restitution, or any combination of the four.

Juveniles may also be arrested for truancy, incorrigibility, running away, and curfew violations. These are commonly referred to as status offenses because agency intervention is based solely on the juvenile's status as a minor. Status offenses are acts that would not be "crimes" if committed by adults.

HOW ARE ARRESTS REPORTED?

Unlike crimes, which are classified by nationwide Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) standards, arrests are reported by

California statute definition of the offense. This may cause some differences in the definitions of certain crimes and the reporting of the arrests for those crimes. For instance, theft from a locked automobile is a burglary by California Penal Code definition. The crime would be classified and reported as a theft under the UCR definition. The arrest offenses in this section are defined by California statute for which specific code sections are listed in the Appendix.

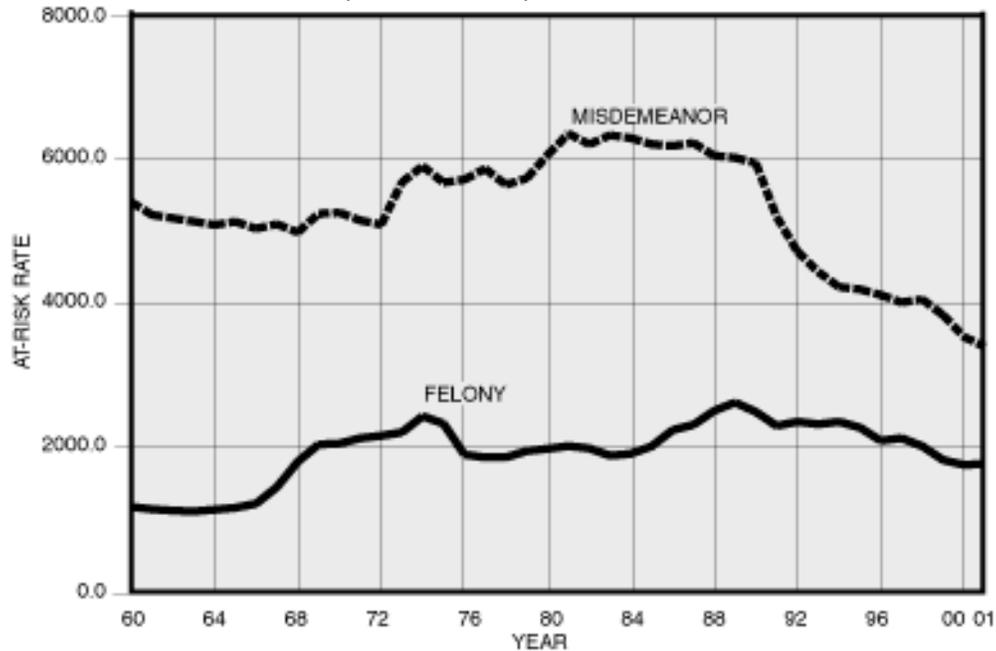
All California law enforcement agencies report arrest and citation information to the Department of Justice on the "Monthly Arrest and Citation Register," which lists each arrestee; includes information on age, gender, and race/ethnic group; and specifies the "most serious" arrest offense and law enforcement disposition.

WHAT IS AN ARREST RATE?

An arrest rate describes the number of arrests made by law enforcement agencies per 100,000 total population or per 100,000 population considered to be at risk for arrest. The following section includes three at-risk comparison populations: total (10-69 years of age), adult (18-69 years of age), and juvenile (10-17 years of age). The formula used to calculate at-risk rates can be found in the Appendix.

ARREST TRENDS, 1960-2001

FELONY AND MISDEMEANOR ARRESTS, 1960-2001
Rate per 100,000 Population at Risk



Source: Table 16.

Note: These 1995 data include estimates. See "Data Characteristics and Known Limitations" in the Appendix.

The above chart displays arrest rates beginning with 1960, the first year complete data were available. Felony and misdemeanor arrest rates are based on populations at risk, 10-69 years of age.

Comparing 1960 to 2001:

- There was a 51.1 percent increase in the rate of felony arrests (from 1,170.0 to 1,767.3).
- There was a 37.2 percent decrease in the rate of misdemeanor arrests (from 5,404.0 to 3,395.0).

Felony arrests as a proportion of total arrests increased from 15.4 percent in 1960 to 33.3 percent in 2001.

The 2001 misdemeanor arrest rate of 3,395.0 per 100,000 population at risk was the lowest for the years shown. Misdemeanor arrests as a proportion of total arrests decreased from 71.4 percent in 1960 to 63.9 percent in 2001.

Total Arrests

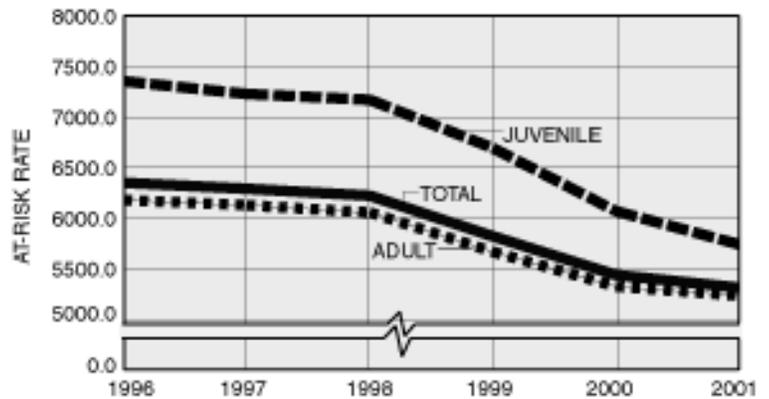
Comparing 1996 to 2001:

- There was a 16.3 percent decrease in the rate of total arrests.
- There was a 15.3 percent decrease in the rate of adult arrests and a 21.9 percent decrease in the rate of juvenile arrests.

From 2000 to 2001:

- There was a 2.3 percent rate decrease in total arrests.
- There was a 1.7 percent rate decrease in adult arrests and a 5.4 percent rate decrease in juvenile arrests.

TOTAL ARRESTS, 1996-2001
Rate per 100,000 Population at Risk

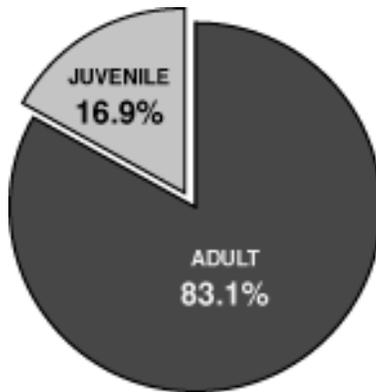


Source: Table 17.

From 2000 to 2001, the arrest rate decreased 2.3 percent. This was the twelfth consecutive year of decline (see Tables 16 and 17).

Total Arrests (continued)

TOTAL ARRESTS, 2001
By Adult and Juvenile



Source: Table 18.

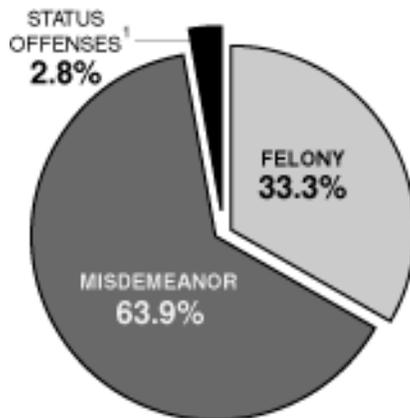
In 2001, of 1,420,680 arrests reported:

- Adult arrests accounted for 83.1 percent (1,180,194).
- Juvenile arrests accounted for 16.9 percent (240,486).

And,

- Felony arrests accounted for 33.3 percent (472,677).
- Misdemeanor arrests accounted for 63.9 percent (907,990).
- Status offense arrests accounted for 2.8 percent (40,013).

TOTAL ARRESTS, 2001
By Level of Offense



Source: Table 18.

¹ Status offenses include truancy, incorrigibility, running away, and curfew violations.

Total Arrests (continued)

Comparing 1996 to 2001:

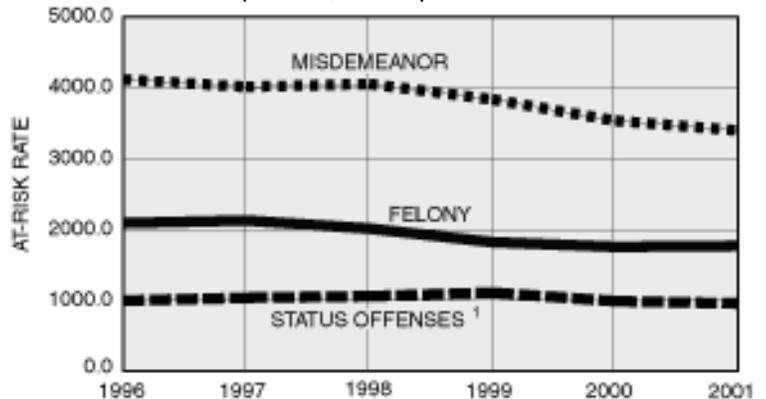
- There was a 15.4 percent decrease in the rate of felony arrests.
- There was a 17.5 percent decrease in the rate of misdemeanor arrests.
- There was a 4.0 percent decrease in the rate of status offense arrests.

From 2000 to 2001:

- There was a 0.8 percent rate increase in felony arrests.
- There was a 3.9 percent rate decrease in misdemeanor arrests.
- There was a 3.2 percent rate decrease in arrests for status offenses.

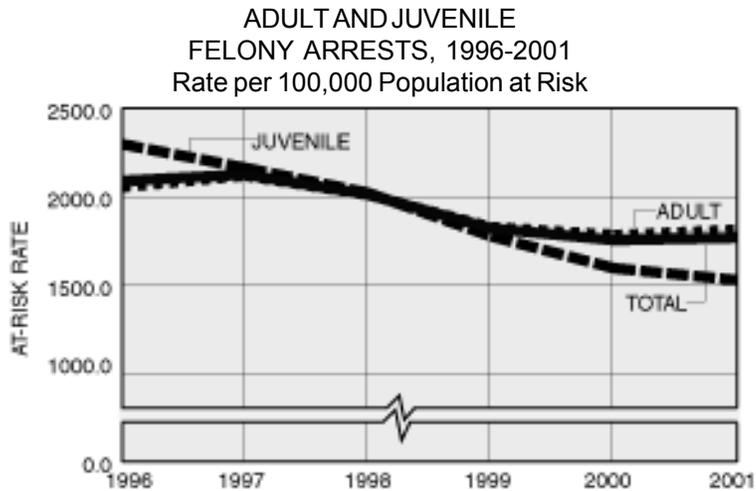
From 2000 to 2001, felony arrest rates increased 0.8 percent. For the five-year period 1996-2001, a 15.4 percent decrease occurred.

TOTAL ARRESTS, 1996-2001
By Level of Offense
Rate per 100,000 Population at Risk



Source: Table 17.

¹ Status offenses include truancy, incorrigibility, running away, and curfew violations.



Source: Table 17.

Felony Arrests

Comparing 1996 to 2001:

- There was an 11.8 percent decrease in the rate of adult arrests and a 33.5 percent decrease in the rate of juvenile arrests.

From 2000 to 2001:

- There was a 1.6 percent rate increase in adult arrests and a 4.2 percent rate decrease in juvenile arrests.

In 2001, the juvenile arrest rate for felony offenses remained below that of the adult rate for the third consecutive year.

Felony Arrests (continued)

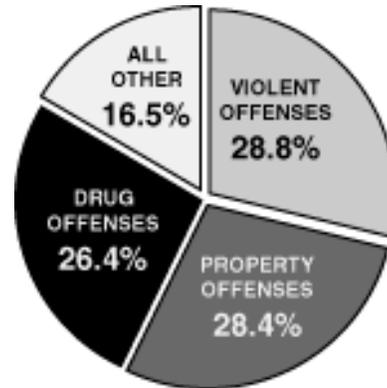
In 2001, of 472,677 felony arrests reported:

- Violent offenses accounted for 28.8 percent (136,023).
- Property offenses accounted for 28.4 percent (134,126).
- Drug offenses accounted for 26.4 percent (124,726).
- All other offenses accounted for 16.5 percent (77,802).

And,

- Adult arrests accounted for 86.5 percent (408,684).
- Juvenile arrests accounted for 13.5 percent (63,993).

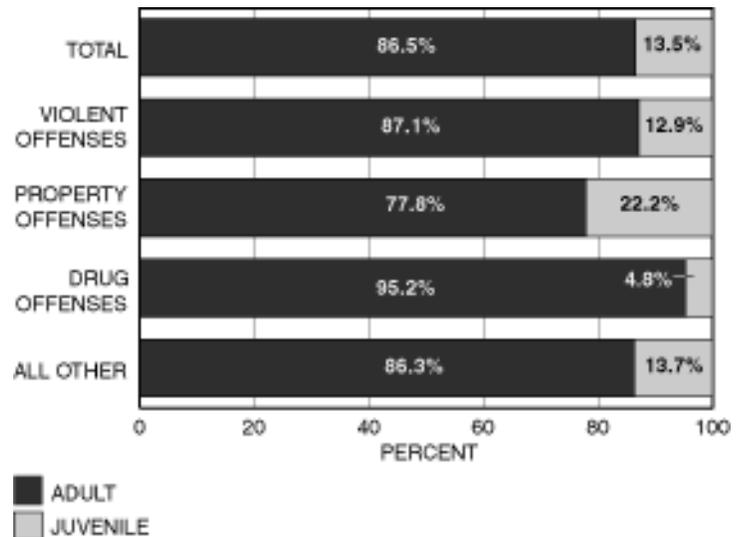
FELONY ARRESTS, 2001
By Category



Source: Table 19.

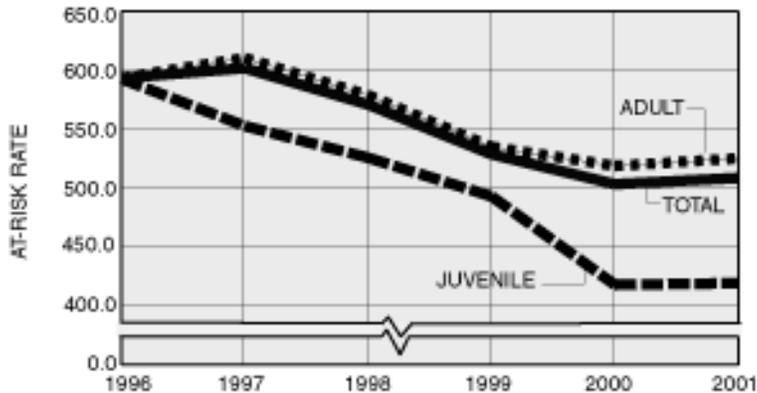
Note: Percentages may not add to 100.0 because of rounding.

FELONY ARRESTS, 2001
Category by Adult and Juvenile Arrests



Source: Table 21.

FELONY ARRESTS FOR
VIOLENT OFFENSES, 1996-2001
Rate per 100,000 Population at Risk



Source: Table 22.

Arrests for Violent Offenses

Violent Offense Arrests - felony arrests for homicide, forcible rape, robbery, assault, and kidnapping.

Comparing 1996 to 2001:

- There was a 14.3 percent decrease in the rate of total arrests for violent offenses.
- There was an 11.5 percent decrease in the rate of adult arrests and a 29.3 percent decrease in the rate of juvenile arrests.

From 2000 to 2001:

- There was a 1.1 percent rate increase in total arrests for violent offenses.
- There was a 1.2 percent rate increase in adult arrests and a 0.3 percent rate increase in juvenile arrests.

The juvenile arrest rate for violent offenses increased for the first time since 1996.

Arrests for Violent Offenses (continued)

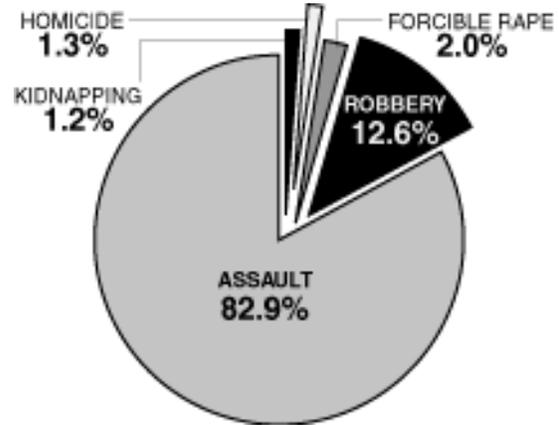
In 2001, of 136,023 felony arrests for violent offenses:

- Homicide accounted for 1.3 percent (1,754).
- Forcible rape accounted for 2.0 percent (2,730).
- Robbery accounted for 12.6 percent (17,167).
- Assault accounted for 82.9 percent (112,747).
- Kidnapping accounted for 1.2 percent (1,625).

And,

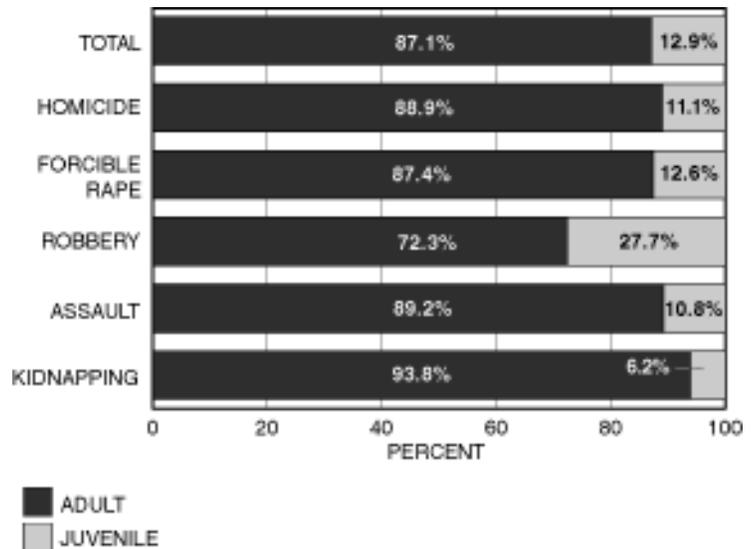
- Adult arrests accounted for 87.1 percent (118,456).
- Juvenile arrests accounted for 12.9 percent (17,567).

FELONY ARRESTS FOR
VIOLENT OFFENSES, 2001
By Offense



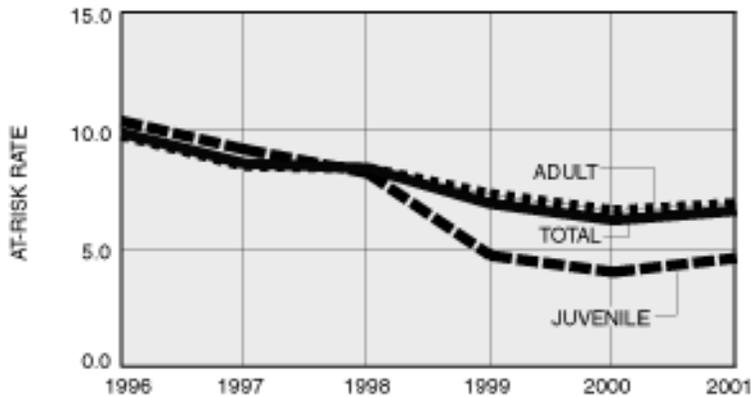
Source: Table 20.

FELONY ARRESTS FOR
VIOLENT OFFENSES, 2001
Offense by Adult and Juvenile Arrests



Source: Table 21.

FELONY ARRESTS FOR
HOMICIDE, 1996-2001
Rate per 100,000 Population at Risk



Source: Table 22.

Homicide Arrests

Comparing 1996 to 2001:

- There was a 33.3 percent decrease in the rate of total homicide arrests.
- There was a 29.6 percent decrease in the rate of adult arrests and a 55.8 percent decrease in the rate of juvenile arrests.

From 2000 to 2001:

- There was a 6.5 percent increase in the rate of total homicide arrests.
- There was a 4.5 percent rate increase in adult arrests and a 15.0 percent rate increase in juvenile arrests.

In 2001, of 1,754 arrests for homicide:

- Adult arrests accounted for 88.9 percent (1,560).
- Juvenile arrests accounted for 11.1 percent (194).

In 2001, homicide arrest rates increased for juveniles and adults, the first increase in the past ten years.

Forcible Rape Arrests

Comparing 1996 to 2001:

- There was an 18.4 percent decrease in the rate of total forcible rape arrests.
- There was a 15.2 percent decrease in the rate of adult arrests and a 36.9 percent decrease in the rate of juvenile arrests.

From 2000 to 2001:

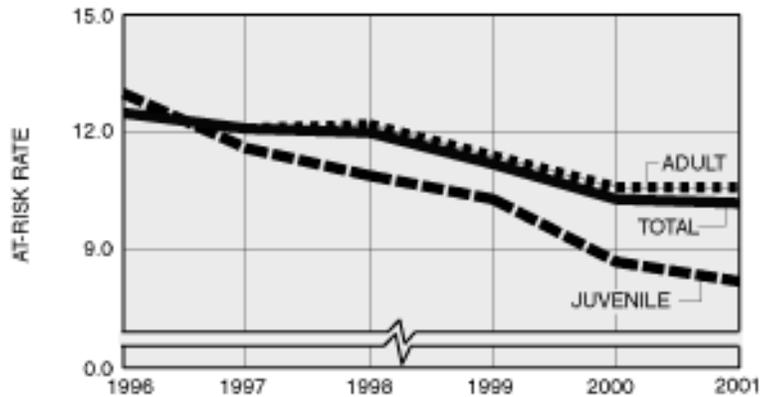
- There was a 1.0 percent rate decrease in total forcible rape arrests.
- There was no change in the rate of adult arrests and a 5.7 percent rate decrease in juvenile arrests.

In 2001, of 2,730 arrests for forcible rape:

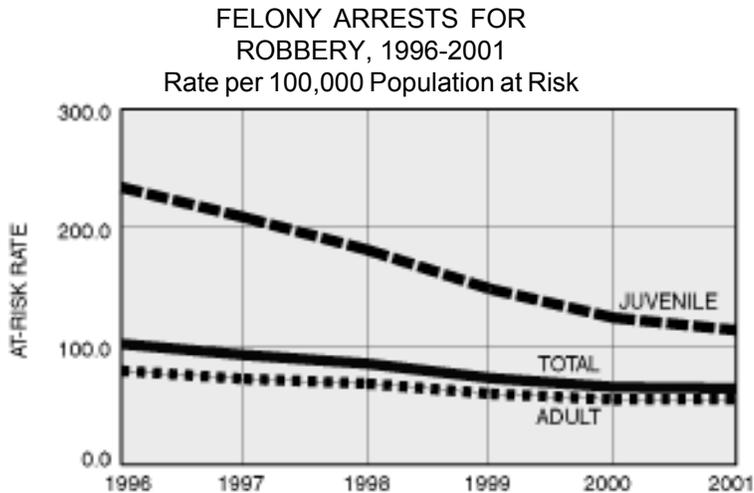
- Adult arrests accounted for 87.4 percent (2,386).
- Juvenile arrests accounted for 12.6 percent (344).

In 2001, forcible rape arrest rates for both juveniles and adults were the lowest for the years shown.

FELONY ARRESTS FOR
FORCIBLE RAPE, 1996-2001
Rate per 100,000 Population at Risk



Source: Table 22.



Source: Table 22.

Robbery Arrests

Comparing 1996 to 2001:

- There was a 36.9 percent decrease in the rate of total robbery arrests.
- There was a 30.4 percent decrease in the rate of adult arrests and a 51.6 percent decrease in the rate of juvenile arrests.

From 2000 to 2001:

- There was a 1.7 percent rate decrease in total robbery arrests.
- There was a 0.5 percent rate increase in adult arrests and an 8.6 percent rate decrease in juvenile arrests.

In 2001, of 17,167 arrests for robbery:

- Adult arrests accounted for 72.3 percent (12,420).
- Juvenile arrests accounted for 27.7 percent (4,747).

The adult arrest rate for robbery offenses increased slightly in the last year.

Assault Arrests

Comparing 1996 to 2001:

- There was an 8.7 percent decrease in the rate of total assault arrests.
- There was a 7.9 percent decrease in the rate of adult arrests and a 12.3 percent decrease in the rate of juvenile arrests.

From 2000 to 2001:

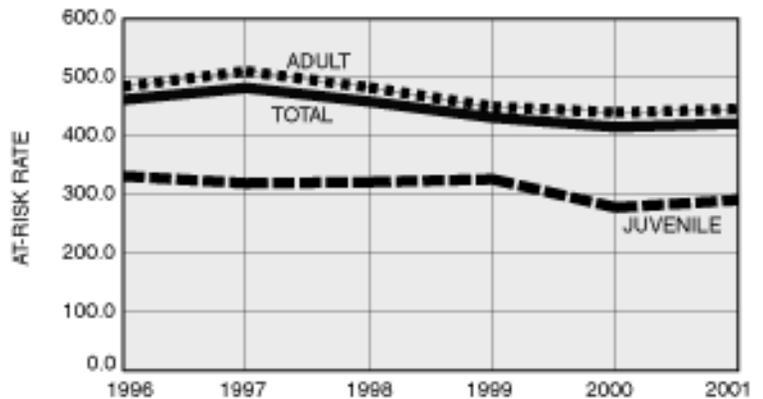
- There was a 1.5 percent rate increase in total assault arrests.
- There was a 1.3 percent rate increase in adult arrests and a 4.6 percent increase in the rate of juvenile arrests.

In 2001, of 112,747 arrests for assault:

- Adult arrests accounted for 89.2 percent (100,565).
- Juvenile arrests accounted for 10.8 percent (12,182).

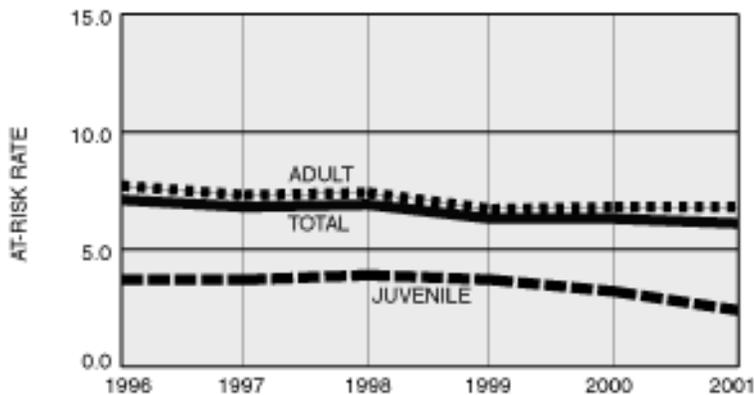
From 2000 to 2001, arrest rates for assault offenses increased for juveniles and adults.

FELONY ARRESTS FOR
ASSAULT, 1996-2001
Rate per 100,000 Population at Risk



Source: Table 22.

FELONY ARRESTS FOR
KIDNAPPING, 1996-2001
Rate per 100,000 Population at Risk



Source: Table 22.

Kidnapping Arrests

Comparing 1996 to 2001:

- There was a 14.1 percent decrease in the rate of total kidnapping arrests.
- There was an 11.7 percent decrease in the rate of adult arrests and a 35.1 percent decrease in the rate of juvenile arrests.

From 2000 to 2001:

- There was a 3.2 percent decrease in the rate of total kidnapping arrests.
- There was no change in the rate of adult arrests and a 25.0 percent decrease in the rate of juvenile arrests.

In 2001, of 1,625 arrests for kidnapping:

- Adult arrests accounted for 93.8 percent (1,525).
- Juvenile arrests accounted for 6.2 percent (100).

The juvenile arrest rate for kidnapping decreased 38.5 percent from 1998 to 2001, while the adult arrest rate decreased by 8.1 percent during the same period.

Arrests for Property Offenses

Property Offense Arrests - felony arrests for burglary; theft; motor vehicle theft; forgery, checks, and access card offenses; and arson.

Comparing 1996 to 2001:

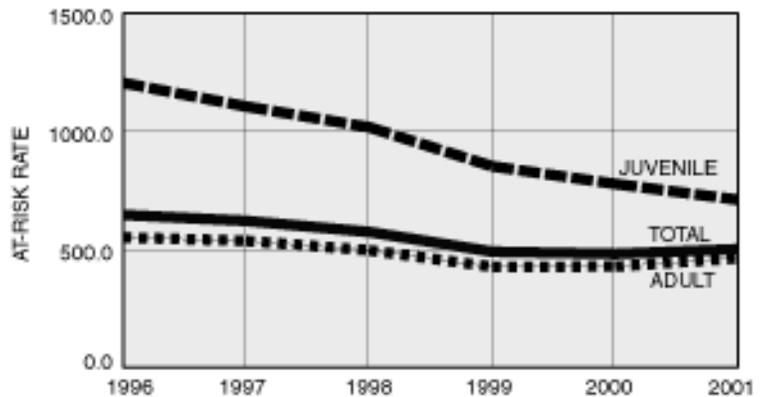
- There was a 22.4 percent decrease in the rate of total arrests for property offenses.
- There was a 16.0 percent decrease in the rate of adult arrests and a 41.1 percent decrease in the rate of juvenile arrests.

From 2000 to 2001:

- There was a 4.2 percent rate increase in total arrests for property offenses.
- There was an 8.1 percent rate increase in adult arrests and an 8.7 percent rate decrease in juvenile arrests.

Total property offense arrest rates increased for the first time since 1989.

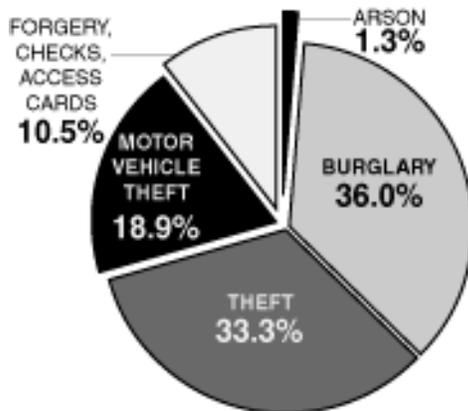
FELONY ARRESTS FOR
PROPERTY OFFENSES, 1996-2001
Rate per 100,000 Population at Risk



Source: Table 22.

Arrests for Property Offenses (continued)

FELONY ARRESTS FOR PROPERTY OFFENSES, 2001
By Offense



Source: Table 20.

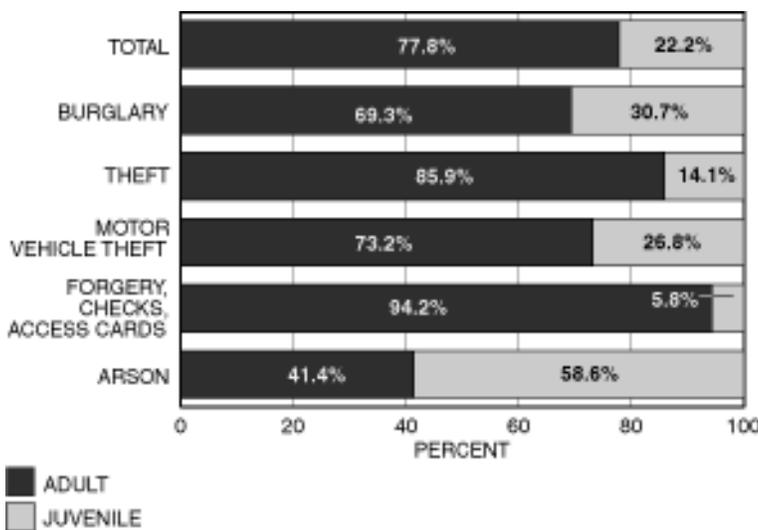
In 2001, of 134,126 felony arrests for property offenses:

- Burglary accounted for 36.0 percent (48,348).
- Theft accounted for 33.3 percent (44,689).
- Motor vehicle theft accounted for 18.9 percent (25,299).
- Forgery, checks, and access cards accounted for 10.5 percent (14,102).
- Arson accounted for 1.3 percent (1,688).

And,

- Adult arrests accounted for 77.8 percent (104,386).
- Juvenile arrests accounted for 22.2 percent (29,740).

FELONY ARRESTS FOR PROPERTY OFFENSES, 2001
Offense by Adult and Juvenile Arrests



Source: Table 21.