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Arrests Of Juveniles In Wisconsin 1978-1987 With Correctional Institution Admissions

INTRODUCTION

This publication summarizes data on juvenile arrests in Wisconsin over the past ten years, and also includes data on admissions to correctional institutions.

During the past ten years there has been an average of 86,516 juvenile arrests each year in Wisconsin. In 1987, juvenile arrests accounted for over 25 percent of all arrests made in the state.

The information presented in this publication has been obtained from Crime and Arrests in Wisconsin, published annually by the Wisconsin Office of Justice

Assistance, and from Admissions to Juvenile Institutions, published by the Wisconsin Division of Corrections.

This flyer consists of six major sections. In addition, two tables are also presented for reference purposes. One contains juvenile arrest data for Milwaukee County and the other for the entire state.

It should be noted that the arrest figures presented are estimates based on approximately 98 percent of the actual number of reported arrests.

GENERAL ARREST TRENDS

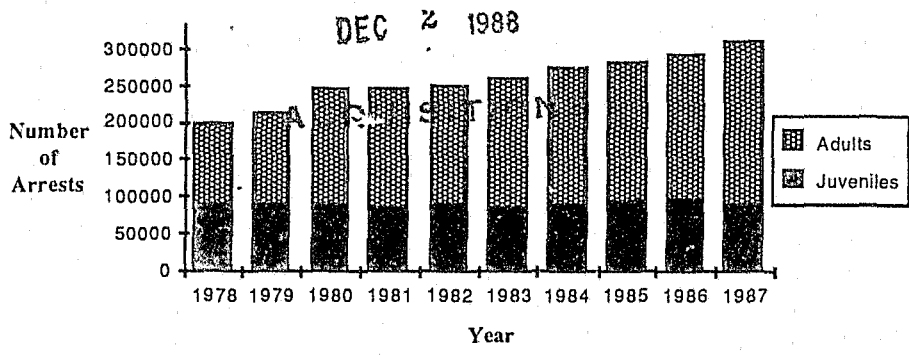
Total Arrests

Graph 1 shows the total number of juveniles arrested in Wisconsin over the past ten years. Adult arrests are included for purposes of comparison. While the number of adult arrests has steadily risen during the last ten years, the number of juvenile arrests has remained relatively stable. The total number of juvenile arrests increased less than four percent from 85,070 in 1978 to 88,103 in 1987. In contrast, adult arrests nearly doubled from 114,350 in 1978 to 221,788 in 1987.

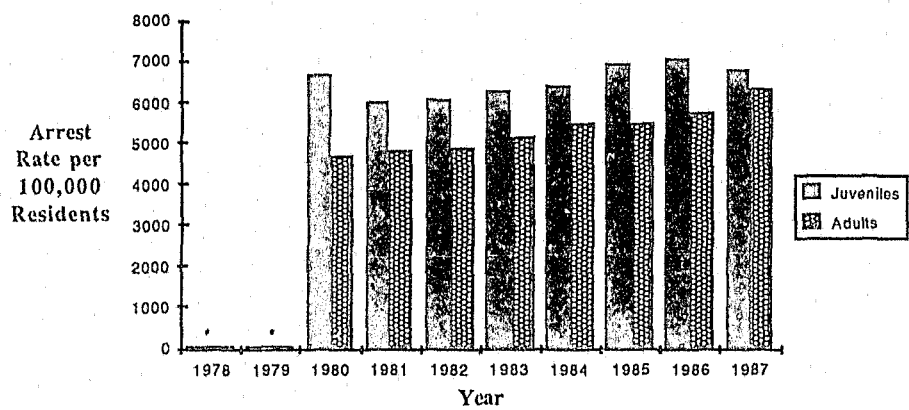
Arrest Rates

Graph 2 shows the arrest rates for both juveniles and adults in Wisconsin during the ten year period. The arrest rate is the number of arrests per 100,000 residents. Arrest rates are used to control the effect of varying populations from year to year, permitting the examination of arrests on equal population bases. The juvenile arrest rate increased steadily from 1982 through 1986, and decreased in 1987. The adult arrest rate, although lower than juveniles, followed a similar pattern through 1986, but continued to increase in 1987.

NCJRS
Graph 1: Total Wisconsin Arrests by Year



Graph 2: Juvenile and Adult Arrest Rates by Year



*Omitted because arrests rates were based on population estimates from the 1970 census, consequently making the rates less meaningful.

Office of Justice Assistance Ted Meekma, Executive Director	Tommy G. Thompson Governor
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INDEX CRIME ARREST TRENDS

Index Offense Arrests

Graph 3 shows the number of arrests for Index Offenses. Again, adults are shown for comparison. Index Offenses are considered to be an "index" of crime, that is, representative of the overall crime picture. Index Offenses are murder, forcible rape, robbery, aggravated assault, theft, burglary, motor vehicle theft, and arson.

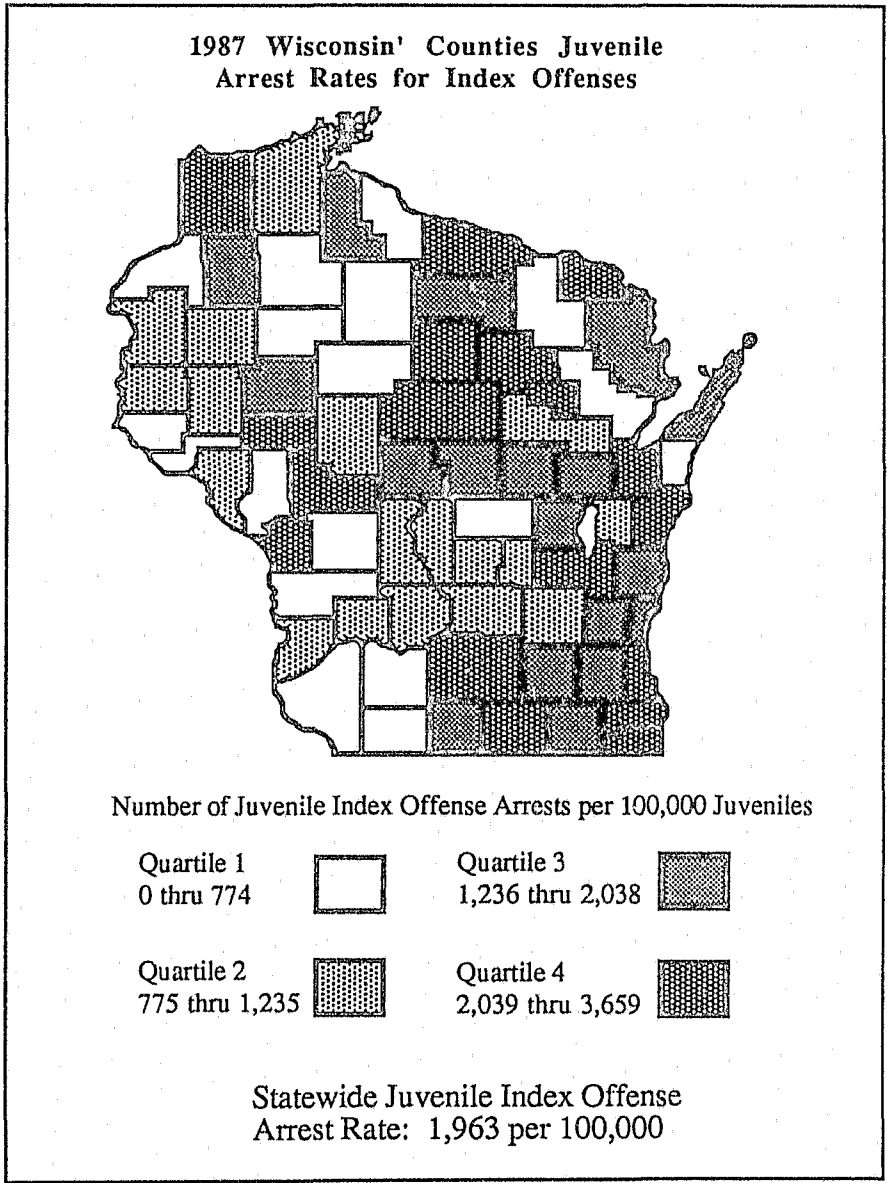
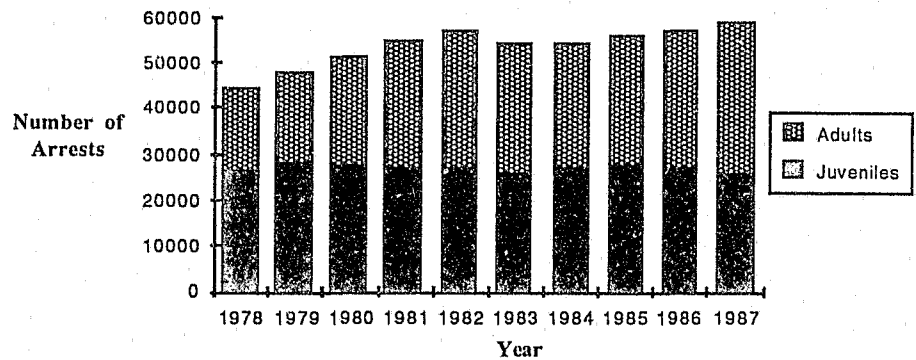
While juvenile arrests for Index Offenses remained relatively stable, adult arrests increased during the ten year period. Specifically, juvenile Index Offense arrests decreased by about two percent from 25,849 in 1978 to 25,412 in 1987, while adult Index Offense arrests increased by over 80 percent from 18,522 in 1978 to 33,421 in 1987.

Pages five and six of this flyer consist of two reference tables containing data regarding the number of juvenile arrests and arrest rates in Wisconsin and Milwaukee County, respectively. Milwaukee County data are presented separately due to the high population density in the county and also because arrest rates in Milwaukee County differ considerably from the rest of the state. Note, however, that Milwaukee County data are also included in the table of statewide data.

Geographic Distribution of Index Offenses Arrest Rates

The map of Wisconsin at right categorizes counties according to their 1987 juvenile arrest rates for Index Offenses. In general, the highest arrest rates were found in urban counties, although some rural counties had fairly high rates. This characteristic of arrest rates, that is, rates rising with increasing populations, is similar to that of other many reported offenses, for example, aggravated assault and robbery.

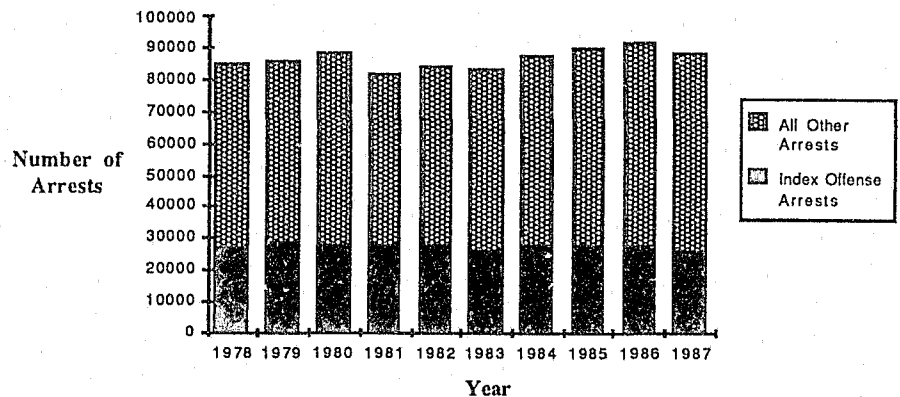
Graph 3: Wisconsin Arrests for Index Offenses



Index Crime Arrests versus All Other Arrests

Graph 4 shows the total number of juvenile arrests in Wisconsin for Index Offenses and for all other offenses during the past ten years. In 1987, Index Offenses arrests accounted for approximately 29 percent of all juvenile arrests. Remaining relatively stable, the total number of juvenile arrests for Index Offenses decreased about two percent, as previously indicated. However, juvenile arrests for all other offenses increased nearly six percent during the same period.

Graph 4: Wisconsin Juvenile Arrests by Offense Type



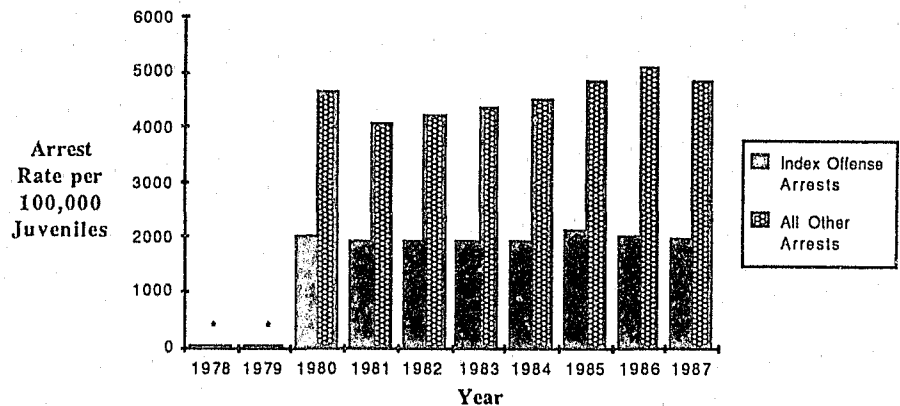
Index Crime Arrest Rates versus All Other Arrest Rates

Graph 5 shows the juvenile arrest rates in Wisconsin for Index Offenses and for all other offenses during the past ten years. Graphs 6 and 7 were created to illustrate how Milwaukee County differs from the rest of the state.

For the entire state, juvenile arrest rates for Index Offenses have decreased about four percent from 2,042 arrests per 100,000 juveniles in 1980 to 1,962 in 1987. The arrest rate for all other offenses increased about five percent during the same period, from 4,615 arrests per 100,000 juveniles in 1980 to 4,841 in 1987.

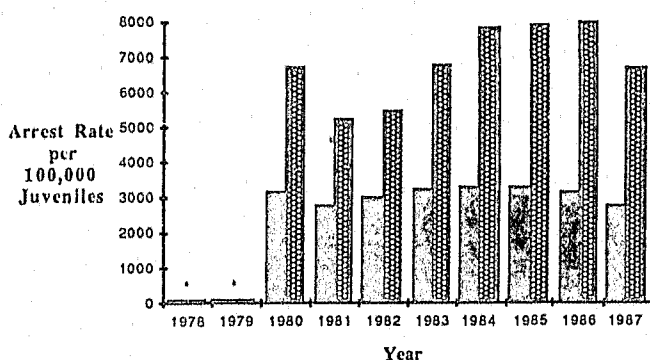
The arrest rates in Milwaukee County, while considerably higher than the arrest rates for the state as a whole, showed a similar pattern during the eight year period. Index Offense arrest rates in Milwaukee County decreased nearly 11 percent from 3,112 arrests per 100,000 juveniles in 1980 to 2,781 in 1987. In addition, arrest rates for all other offenses increased about one percent from 6,660 arrests per 100,000 juveniles in 1980 to 6,719 in 1987. For the balance of the state, arrests for Index Offense also decreased and arrests for all other offenses increased during the eight year period.

Graph 5: Juvenile Arrest Rates by Offense Type Wisconsin

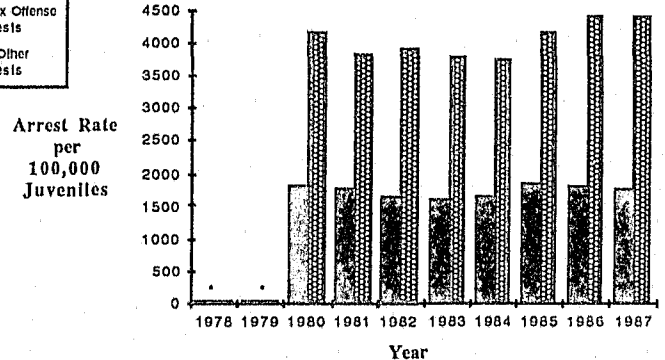


*Omitted because arrests rates were based on population estimates from the 1970 census, consequently making the rates less meaningful.

Graph 6: Juvenile Arrest Rates by Offense Type Milwaukee County

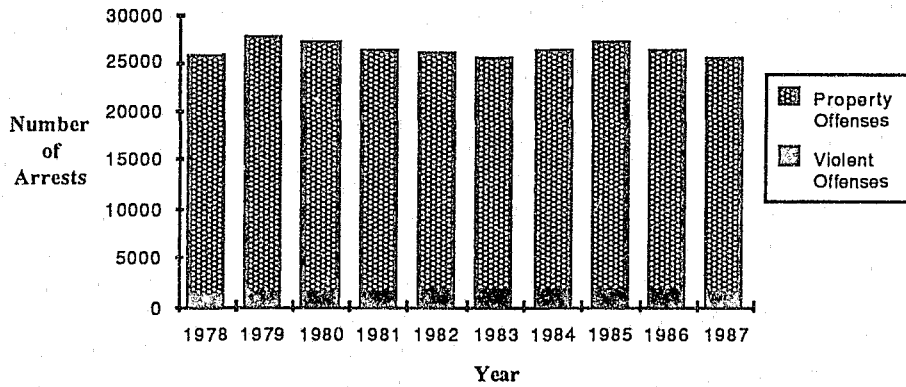


Graph 7: Juvenile Arrest Rates by Offense Type Balance of the State



*Omitted because arrests rates were based on population estimates from the 1970 census, consequently making the rates less meaningful.

Graph 8: Wisconsin Juvenile Arrests by Offense Type



Violent and Property Arrests

Graph 8 shows the number of juvenile arrests in the state during 1987 for violent Index Offenses (murder, forcible rape, robbery, and aggravated assault) and for property Index Offenses (burglary, theft, motor vehicle theft, and arson). While the number of juvenile arrests for violent offenses increased 32 percent from 990 in 1978 to 1,305 in 1987, the number of arrests for property offenses decreased three percent from 24,859 in 1978 to 24,107 in 1987.

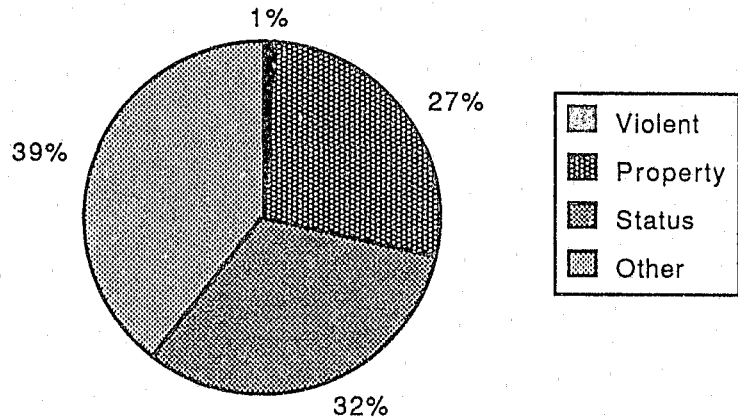
DISTRIBUTION OF ARRESTS

Distribution of 1987 Arrests

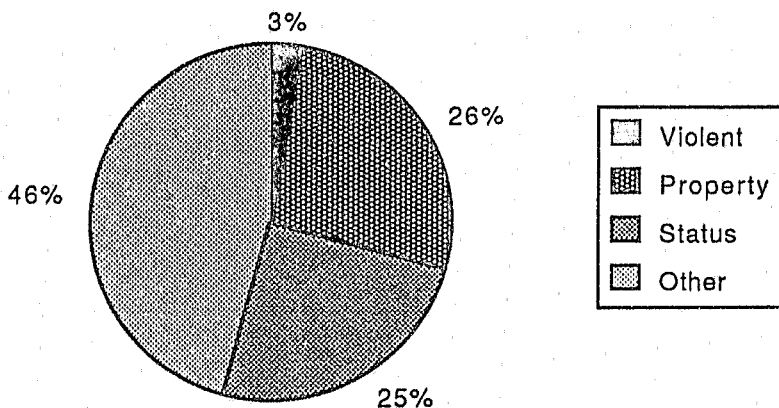
Graph 9 shows the distribution of arrests for Wisconsin juveniles in 1987 for four types of offenses: Violent Index Offenses; Property Index Offenses; status; that is, liquor law violations, curfew violations, and runaways; and all other offenses. One percent of arrests were for violent offenses. To better understand the distribution of arrests, two additional pie charts have been created, one showing the distribution of arrests for Milwaukee County and one showing the distribution for the balance of the state.

While a greater proportion of juvenile arrests in Milwaukee County were for violent offenses, Milwaukee County had proportionately fewer arrests for status violations and more arrests for "all other" offenses.

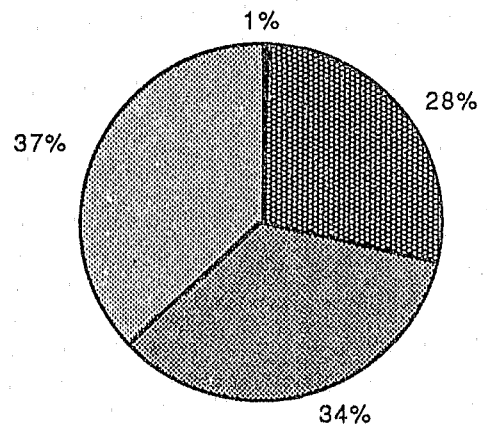
Graph 9: Distribution of 1987 Wisconsin Juvenile Arrests



Graph 10: Distribution of 1987 Juvenile Arrests Milwaukee



Graph 11: Distribution of Juvenile Arrests Balance of the State



State of Wisconsin Juvenile Arrests and Arrest Rates: 1978 - 1987

JUVENILE ARRESTS	1978		1979		1980		1981		1982		1983		1984		1985		1986		1987	
	No.	Rate	No.	Rate	No.	Rate	No.	Rate	No.	Rate	No.	Rate	No.	Rate	No.	Rate	No.	Rate	No.	Rate
Murder	10	0.6	10	0.6	8	0.6	18	1.3	12	0.9	14	1.1	21	1.5	20	1.5	21	1.6	30	2.3
Rape	90	5.4	69	4.2	62	4.7	59	4.3	87	6.3	62	4.7	93	6.8	135	10.4	106	8.1	127	9.8
Robbery	486	29.4	629	37.9	614	46.4	540	39.8	712	51.9	774	58.1	715	52.6	667	51.6	538	41.5	401	31.0
Agg. Assault	404	24.4	562	33.8	513	38.7	560	41.2	656	47.8	622	46.7	603	44.4	671	51.9	754	58.3	747	57.7
TOTAL-VIOLENT OFFENSES	990	59.8	1270	76.5	1197	90.4	1177	86.7	1467	106.9	1472	110.5	1432	105.4	1493	115.6	1419	109.7	1305	100.8
Burglary	5660	342.0	5687	342.4	5586	421.7	5368	395.3	5004	364.6	4381	328.7	3976	292.7	4251	329.1	3775	291.8	3683	284.5
Theft	16340	987.3	17651	1062.9	17684	1335.0	17711	1304.4	17843	1300.0	17949	1346.8	19109	1406.6	19413	1503.3	19104	1477.1	18235	1408.7
MV Theft	2594	156.7	2696	162.3	2315	174.8	1858	136.8	1590	115.8	1455	109.2	1659	122.1	1650	127.7	1827	141.2	1947	150.4
Arson	265	16.0	299	18.0	270	20.4	288	21.2	225	16.4	242	18.2	271	19.9	279	21.6	282	21.8	242	18.7
TOTAL-PROPERTY OFFENSES	24859	1502.1	26333	1585.6	25855	1951.9	25225	1857.8	24662	1796.8	24027	1802.9	25015	1841.3	255931	981.9	24988	1932.1	24107	1862.3
Status Arrests	23079	1429.7	23661	1424.7	25291	1909.3	24774	1824.5	25658	1869.4	25319	1899.8	26315	1937.0	27605	2137.7	29337	2268.3	28083	2169.4
Other Arrests*	36142	2183.9	34705	2089.8	35832	2705.1	30559	2234.4	31939	2327.0	32585	2444.9	34588	2546.0	34987	2709.3	36188	2798.0	34608	2673.5
TOTAL JUVENILE ARRESTS	85070	5140.2	85969	5176.6	88175	6656.7	81735	6019.6	83726	6100.1	83403	6258.1	87350	6429.8	89687	6945.4	91940	7108.9	88103	6803.4
Adult Arrests for Violent Offenses	2678	88.5	3054	99.8	3216	95.1	3351	100.1	3712	109.7	3652	106.0	3958	115.8	3953	113.3	4767	136.3	5487	423.7 156.8
TOTAL ADULT ARRESTS	114530	3787.3	126327	4129.3	157726	4665.4	162291	4847.5	166430	4918.5	177409	5149.5	186860	5470.4	190864	5472.4	201603	5766.9	221788	6337.2
JUVENILE POP.	1,654,962		1,660,716		1,324,598		1,357,818		1,372,525		1,332,723		1,358,519		1,291,322		1,293,307		1,294,987	
ADULT POP.	3,024,038		3,059,284		3,380,737		3,347,958		3,383,754		3,445,178		3,415,864		3,487,699		3,495,815		3,499,805	

*Included in this category are negligent manslaughter and Part II Offenses excluding status offenses.

Milwaukee County Juvenile Arrests and Arrest Rates: 1978 - 1987

JUVENILE ARRESTS	1978		1979		1980		1981		1982		1983		1984		1985		1986		1987	
	No.	Rate	No.	Rate	No.	Rate	No.	Rate	No.	Rate	No.	Rate	No.	Rate	No.	Rate	No.	Rate	No.	Rate
Murder	4	1.3	2	0.7	6	2.5	8	3.1	9	3.5	6	2.4	9	3.6	11	4.7	18	7.6	26	11.1
Rape	58	18.9	33	10.9	22	9.1	19	7.5	32	12.6	19	7.6	23	9.3	62	26.2	40	17.0	93	39.6
Robbery	311	101.1	403	133.6	391	162.4	372	146.0	486	191.6	579	231.1	508	206.0	518	219.1	413	175.4	293	124.9
Agg. Assault	202	65.7	275	91.1	241	100.1	219	86.0	284	111.9	250	99.8	244	99.0	257	108.7	284	120.6	312	133.0
TOTAL-VIOLENT OFFENSES	575	186.3	713	236.3	660	274.2	618	242.6	811	319.8	854	340.8	784	318.0	848	358.7	755	320.7	724	308.6
Burglary	1809	588.2	1819	602.9	1752	727.8	1440	565.2	1344	529.9	1354	540.5	1165	472.5	1159	490.2	978	415.4	840	358.1
Thef	4061	1320.5	4378	1451.0	4427	1839.1	4362	1712.2	4851	1912.8	5232	2088.4	5357	2172.5	5082	2149.6	5019	2131.6	4196	1788.7
MV Theft	775	252.0	745	246.9	576	239.3	487	191.2	424	167.2	518	206.8	685	277.8	528	223.3	650	276.1	709	302.2
Arson	86	28.0	69	22.9	77	32.0	54	21.2	79	31.1	44	17.6	84	34.1	63	26.6	66	28.0	54	23.0
TOTAL-PROPERTY OFFENSES	6731	2188.7	7011	2323.7	6832	2838.2	6343	2489.8	6698	2641.0	7148	2853.2	7291	2956.9	6832	2889.8	6713	2851.1	5799	2472.0
Status Arrests	5067	1647.6	5102	1691.0	4866	2021.5	4833	1897.1	5386	2123.7	6794	2711.9	7410	3005.1	7019	2968.9	6911	2935.2	5640	2404.2
Other Arrests*	12382	4026.3	11119	3685.2	11166	4638.7	8431	3309.4	8331	3284.9	10182	4064.2	11957	4849.2	11726	4959.8	11891	5050.2	10123	4315.2
TOTAL JUVENILE ARRESTS	24755	8049.6	23945	7936.1	23524	9772.6	20225	7938.9	21226	8369.4	24978	9970.2	27443	11129.6	26426	11177.6	26270	11157.1	22286	9500.0
Adult Arrests for Violent Offenses	1540	233.7	1692	257.2	1779	245.6	1677	236.1	1858	262.8	1802	257.9	1741	253.2	1704	242.3	2291	327.1	2581	369.9
TOTAL ADULT ARRESTS	38988	5916.2	42246	6420.7	48675	6719.5	49722	7000.8	54723	7739.7	57603	8245.3	64624	9399.2	61337	8721.7	62226	8884.2	77791	11147.4
JUVENILE POP.	307,530		301,723		240,713		254,757		253,614		250,527		246,577		236,419		235,455		234,590	
ADULT POP.	659,004		657,963		724,389		710,231		707,045		698,620		687,545		703,270		700,415		697,842	

*Included in this category are negligent manslaughter and Part II Offenses excluding status offenses.

Arrest Information For Select Counties

Table 1 presents juvenile arrest data for other selected counties in Wisconsin from 1983 through 1987. Shown are the number of arrests for Index Offenses, other criminal offenses, and status offenses. While Brown County experienced a rather dramatic increase in total juvenile arrests during

the five year period, much of it due to an increase in status offense arrests, the other counties in Table 1 either increased only slightly or decreased somewhat. In addition, with the exception of Waukesha County, all counties shown in the table experienced an increase in the number of juvenile Index Offense arrests.

Table 1: Juvenile Arrests in Select Counties: 1983 - 1987

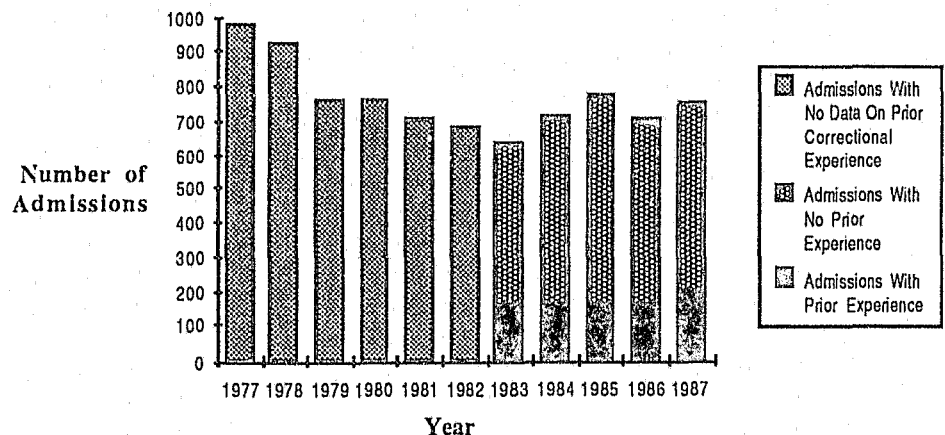
	<u>1983</u>	<u>1984</u>	<u>1985</u>	<u>1986</u>	<u>1987</u>	<u>Percent Change 1983-1987</u>
Brown County						
Index	1,374	1,406	1,375	1,428	1,394	+1.5%
Other Criminal	1,094	1,111	1,097	1,263	1,350	+23.4%
Status	1,264	1,293	1,657	2,032	2,004	+58.8%
Total Arrests	3,732	3,810	4,129	4,723	4,748	+27.2%
Dane County						
Index	1,592	1,902	1,907	1,735	1,782	+11.9%
Other Criminal	1,237	1,276	1,324	1,221	1,276	+3.2%
Status	1,333	1,404	1,204	1,187	1,108	-16.9%
Total Arrests	4,162	4,582	4,435	4,142	4,166	+0.1%
Racine County						
Index	1,238	1,451	1,294	1,205	1,327	+7.2%
Other Criminal	1,675	1,776	1,721	1,537	1,710	+2.1%
Status	882	801	698	771	672	-23.8%
Total Arrests	3,795	4,028	3,713	3,513	3,709	-2.3%
Waukesha County						
Index	1,337	1,369	1,429	1,397	1,181	-11.7%
Other Criminal	2,407	2,641	2,705	2,595	2,028	-15.7%
Status	1,793	2,336	2,469	2,335	2,205	+23.0%
Total Arrests	5,537	6,346	6,603	6,327	5,414	-2.2%

JUVENILE ADMISSIONS TO CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES

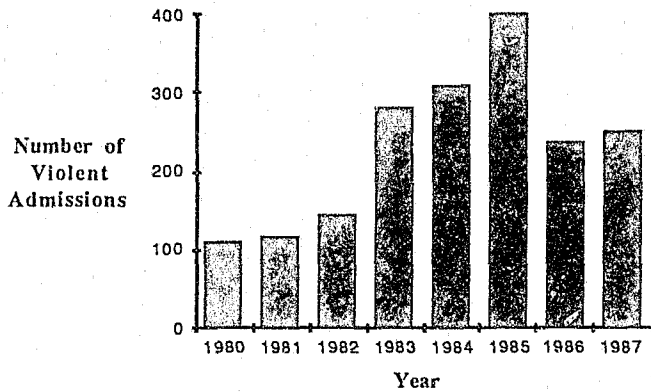
Total Admissions

Graph 12 shows the total number of admissions to Wisconsin Juvenile Correctional Institutions from 1978 through 1987. Total admissions decreased 19 percent during the ten year period. While there are no data available prior to 1983 on admissions regarding prior juvenile correctional institution experience, from 1983 through 1986 the number of juvenile admissions with prior correctional experience remained relatively stable. In 1987, however, the number increased 25 percent, from 159 in 1986 to 201 in 1987.

Graph 12: Juvenile Admissions into Correctional Facilities



Graph 13: Violent Juvenile Admissions into Correctional Facilities



Violent Admissions

Graph 13 shows the number of admissions into Wisconsin Juvenile Correctional Institutions for violent offenses from 1980 through 1986. For purposes of this graph, violent admissions are defined as all degrees of murder and sexual assault, aggravated assaults, all robberies, and armed burglaries. The number of violent admissions increased over 350 percent from 1980 to 1985, decreased sharply in 1986, and increased slightly in 1987.

SUMMARY

The total number of juvenile arrests in Wisconsin have remained relatively stable over the past ten years. However, the juvenile arrest *rate* increased steadily from 1982 through 1986, before decreasing in 1987. During the ten year period, the number of juvenile arrests for Index Offenses decreased by approximately two percent. Index Offense arrest rates for Wisconsin juveniles decreased nearly four percent from 1980 to 1987. Milwaukee County experienced trends similar to state trends, but the arrest rates were higher in Milwaukee County than the rest of the state. Ninety-five percent of the juvenile arrests for Index Offenses made in Wisconsin were for property crimes. Arrests for property offenses decreased during the ten year period while the number of arrests made for violent offenses increased substantially. Milwaukee County had a slightly larger proportion of total juvenile arrests for violent offenses than did the rest of Wisconsin.

The total number of juveniles admitted into Wisconsin correctional institutions decreased by approximately 19 percent from 1978 to 1987. However, the proportion of those admitted with previous experience in correctional institutions increased considerably in 1987. Admissions of juveniles for violent crimes increased steadily from 1980 through 1985, but then decreased dramatically in 1986.

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