

Table 3.97

Reported frequency of delinquent behavior^a

By offense, United States, 1979, 1980, 1983, 1986, 1989, and 1992

(Median number of offenses per person)

	1979	1980	1983	1986	1989	1992
	Ages 14 to 20	Ages 15 to 21	Ages 18 to 24	Ages 21 to 27	Ages 24 to 30	Ages 27 to 33
Felony assault						
Aggravated assault	2	2	1	1	1	1
Sexual assault	B	1	B	1	B	B
Gang fights	1	2	1	1	B	NA
Battery	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	1
Minor assault						
Hit teacher	2	NA	B	NA	NA	NA
Hit parent	2	NA	1	B	B	B
Hit student	2	NA	2	NA	NA	NA
Hit someone at work	NA	NA	1	1	1	1
Hit anyone else	NA	NA	NA	2	2	1
Robbery						
Strongarmed students	1	2	B	NA	NA	NA
Strongarmed others	1	3	B	NA	NA	NA
Strongarmed anyone	NA	NA	NA	B	B	B
Felony theft						
Stole motor vehicle	2	2	B	B	B	B
Stole something over \$50	1	2	2	1	1	2
Broke into building or vehicle	1	1	1	1	B	B
Bought stolen goods	2	1	2	1	1	2
Minor theft						
Stole something under \$5	2	2	2	2	2	2
Stole something \$5 to \$50	2	2	2	2	2	2
Joyriding	1	1	1	1	1	1
Damaged property						
Damaged family property	2	NA	2	1	1	NA
Damaged school property	2	NA	1	NA	NA	NA
Damaged employer's property	NA	NA	NA	2	1	NA
Damaged other property	2	NA	2	1	1	NA
Damaged property	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	1
Illegal services						
Sold marijuana	5	NA	6	10	10	5
Sold hard drugs	3	NA	6	6	22	12
White collar crime						
Credit card fraud	1	NA	1	B	B	B
Used checks illegally	2	NA	2	2	2	3
Fraud	2	NA	2	2	2	3
Forgery	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	2
Income tax evasion	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	1
Insurance fraud	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	1
Embezzlement	NA	NA	NA	B	3	4
Other delinquency						
Stole at school	1	1	1	NA	NA	NA
Stole from employer	NA	NA	2	2	2	2
Stole from family	2	2	3	1	1	NA
Carried hidden weapon	3	NA	5	5	12	11
Arson	NA	1	B	B	B	B
Drug use						
Marijuana	12	12	12	10	10	10
Hallucinogens	4	4	3	2	1	1
Amphetamines	NA	NA	NA	6	6	14
Barbiturates	NA	NA	NA	12	10	10
Tranquilizers	NA	NA	NA	2	10	4
Inhalants	1	1	2	4	8	20
Angel dust	1	2	4	1	B	12
Heroin	3	5	2	4	2	5
Crack	NA	NA	NA	2	10	12
Cocaine	3	3	4	4	3	3

Note: See Note, table 3.96. Frequency figures reflect the median number of offenses committed per person among those who engaged in the offense during the calendar year indicated. For survey methodology and descriptions of offenses, see Appendix 11.

Source: Table provided to SOURCEBOOK staff by the National Youth Survey Project, University of Colorado, Institute of Behavioral Science, David Huizinga and Delbert S. Elliott, Principal Investigators. Reprinted by permission.

^aEstimates have been adjusted to remove inappropriate and trivial responses and therefore will differ from previous presentations.