

Bartollas Schmallegger Chapter 2 *Measurement and Nature of Delinquency*

Multiple Choice: Choose the one alternative that best completes the statement or answers the question.

1. Juveniles are more likely to be held for adult trial if they are arrested for _____.
A) less serious offenses
B) violent Part I offenses
C) status offenses
D) Part II property offenses

Answer: B

Objective: Summarize the types of information provided by each major source of delinquency statistics.

Page number: 28

Level: Basic

2. Which of the following is an oft-cited problem associated with the *Uniform Crime Reports*?
A) The statistics reflect official police policy rather than the amount of youth crime.
B) The reports do not measure clearance by arrest.
C) The statistics overestimate the actual amount of crime.
D) The reports are classified and are not made public.

Answer: A

Objective: Summarize the types of information provided by each major source of delinquency statistics.

Page number: 29

Level: Intermediate

3. _____ indicates that a person was arrested because he or she confessed to an offense or was implicated by other criminal evidence.
A) Hidden delinquency
B) Reliability
C) Age of onset
D) Clearance by arrest

Answer: D

Objective: Summarize the types of information provided by each major source of delinquency statistics.

Page number: 28

Level: Basic

4. An exception to the general rule of juveniles being tried in juvenile courts includes those who _____.
A) are arrested for less serious offenses
B) are arrested for Part II offenses
C) are scheduled for trial after their sixteenth birthday
D) have a lengthy record of crime

Answer: D

Objective: Summarize the types of information provided by each major source of delinquency statistics.

Page number: 28

Level: Intermediate

5. Most information about the number of children appearing before the juvenile court each year comes from what publication of the U.S. Department of Justice?

- A) *Journal of Research in Crime and Delinquency*
- B) National Crime Victimization Survey
- C) *Uniform Crime Reports*
- D) *Juvenile Court Statistics*

Answer: D

Objective: Describe the purpose, procedures, and findings of juvenile court statistics.

Page number: 30

Level: Basic

6. The increase in homicides in the mid-1980s is commonly attributed to _____.

- A) lenient courts
- B) single parents
- C) urban life
- D) more guns in use

Answer: D

Objective: Explain the correlation between guns and youth violence and the efforts to curb gun use by juveniles.

Page number: 45

Level: Intermediate

7. *Juvenile Court Statistics* annuals are often criticized, much like UCRs, for only measuring crimes that _____.

- A) are brought to the attention of the court
- B) are typically referred back to juvenile authorities
- C) are committed by minorities
- D) are considered as status offenses

Answer: A

Objective: Compare official and unofficial statistics regarding the extent of juvenile delinquency.

Page number: 31

Level: Intermediate

8. Which of the following is a good example of a longitudinal method of research study?

- A) content analysis
- B) cohort group
- C) survey data
- D) experimental data

Answer: B

Objective: Explain how various social factors relate to delinquency.

Page number: 36–37

Level: Intermediate

9. A(n) _____ collects data from youths who report on their own delinquent acts.

- A) self-evaluation survey
- B) observational study
- C) self-report survey
- D) cohort study

Answer: C

Objective: Compare official and unofficial statistics regarding the extent of juvenile delinquency.

Page number: 31

Level: Basic

10. _____ studies suggest that a large amount of hidden delinquency occurs that is not reported in official statistics.

- A) Longitudinal
- B) Comparative
- C) Self-report
- D) Cohort

Answer: C

Objective: Compare official and unofficial statistics regarding the extent of juvenile delinquency.

Page number: 32

Level: Intermediate

11. The extent to which a research instrument measures what it says it measures is called _____.

- A) validity
- B) ecological fallacy
- C) spurious association
- D) reliability

Answer: A

Objective: Summarize the types of information provided by each major source of delinquency statistics.

Page number: 28

Level: Difficult

12. The extent to which a questionnaire or interview yields the same answers from the same subjects when they are questioned two or more times is called _____.

- A) validity
- B) reliability
- C) ecological fallacy
- D) spurious association

Answer: B

Objective: Summarize the types of information provided by each major source of delinquency statistics.

Page number: 28

Level: Basic

13. Which of the following results from measurements of crime conducted by the Bureau of Justice Statistics and administered by the Census Bureau?

- A) *Uniform Crime Reports*
- B) *Crime in the United States*
- C) *Juvenile Court Statistics*
- D) National Crime Victimization Survey

Answer: D

Objective: Describe the purpose, procedures, and findings of victimization studies.

Page number: 34

Level: Basic

14. According to principal findings of victimization studies, juveniles are more likely to commit _____ than any other age group.

- A) aggravated assault
- B) Type II offenses
- C) Type I offenses
- D) property crimes

Answer: D

Objective: Describe the purpose, procedures, and findings of victimization studies.

Page number: 35

Level: Intermediate

15. The number of children appearing before the juvenile courts significantly increased from 1960 until the early _____, when it began to level off.

- A) 2000s
- B) 1990s
- C) 1970s
- D) 1980s

Answer: D

Objective: Describe the purpose, procedures, and findings of juvenile court statistics.

Page number: 30

Level: Basic

16. According to studies based on official statistics, who is more likely to be overrepresented in arrest, conviction, and incarceration relative to their population base?

- A) Caucasian females
- B) Asian females
- C) Asian males
- D) African American males

Answer: D

Objective: Explain how various social factors relate to delinquency.

Page number: 37

Level: Intermediate

17. What is the term for the repeated involvement of a juvenile in one type of delinquency during the course of his or her offending?

- A) specialization
- B) modeling
- C) imitation
- D) copying

Answer: A

Objective: Summarize the measurements used to explain individual changes in offending across the life course.

Page number: 42

Level: Basic

18. According to research on chronic offenders, official records make it very difficult to _____.

- A) measure violent crimes
- B) investigate sociopathic attitudes
- C) document chronic offenders' social class
- D) predict chronic offenders' criminal career outcomes

Answer: D

Objective: Summarize the measurements used to explain individual changes in offending across the life course.

Page number: 43

Level: Intermediate

19. Which of the following is NOT one of the three population groups Alfred Blumstein identified in his classic study?

- A) persisters
- B) anti-socials
- C) amateurs
- D) innocents

Answer: B

Objective: Summarize the measurements used to explain individual changes in offending across the life course.

Page number: 43

Level: Intermediate

20. According to Michael Gottfredson and Travis Hirschi in their classic *A General Theory of Crime*, what is the best predictor of crime?

- A) poverty
- B) prior criminal behavior
- C) poor education
- D) peer relations

Answer: B

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21. What does the term *incidence of delinquency* refer to?

- A) the frequency of offending or the number of delinquent events
- B) the person who committed the crime
- C) the place where the crime occurred
- D) the time of the crime

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22. What does the term *prevalence of delinquency* refer to?

- A) the time of the crime
- B) the place where the crime occurred
- C) the person who committed the crime
- D) the number of young people involved in delinquent behavior

Answer: D

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Page number: 27

Level: Intermediate

23. What is the termination of a delinquent career or behavior called?

- A) de-escalation
- B) desistance
- C) rehabilitation
- D) age of onset

Answer: B

Objective: Summarize the measurements used to explain individual changes in offending across the life course.

Page number: 41

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24. The nonfatal firearm-related victimization rate went from approximately _____ per 1,000 persons ages 12 and older in 1993 to _____ per thousand in 2005.

- A) 2, 6
- B) 8, 7
- C) 3, 5
- D) 6, 2

Answer: D

Objective: Explain the correlation between guns and youth violence and the efforts to curb gun use by juveniles.

Page number: 46

Level: Intermediate

25. Most victims of violent crime are between the ages of _____.

- A) 40–44
- B) 16–19
- C) 30–34
- D) 55–70

Answer: B

Objective: Describe the purpose, procedures, and findings of victimization studies.

Page number: 34

Level: Basic

True/False: Write 'T' if the statement is true and 'F' if the statement is false.

1. The Federal Bureau of Investigation serves as the clearinghouse for the Uniform Crime Reporting Program.

Answer: True

Objective: Summarize the types of information provided by each major source of delinquency statistics.

Page number: 27

Level: Basic

2. The Uniform Crime Reporting Program no longer publishes a printed copy of annual crime data.

Answer: True

Objective: Summarize the types of information provided by each major source of delinquency statistics.

Page number: 27

Level: Intermediate

3. According to the UCR Program, juvenile murder rates increased greatly between 1993 and 2003.

Answer: False

Objective: Summarize the types of information provided by each major source of delinquency statistics.

Page number: 29

Level: Difficult

4. According to Blumstein, one of the factors that distinguish chronic offenders is having a convicted sibling.

Answer: True

Objective: Summarize the measurements used to explain individual changes in offending across the life course.

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5. One of the most important objectives of compiling juvenile court statistics is to furnish an index of the general nature and extent of the problems brought before the juvenile court.

Answer: True

Objective: Describe the purpose, procedures, and findings of juvenile court statistics.

Page number: 31

Level: Difficult

6. The number of children appearing before the juvenile court significantly decreased from the late 1950s until the mid 1970s.

Answer: False

Objective: Describe the purpose, procedures, and findings of juvenile court statistics.

Page number: 30

Level: Intermediate

7. Self-report studies are good for determining hidden delinquency.

Answer: True

Objective: Compare official and unofficial statistics regarding the extent of juvenile delinquency.

Page number: 31–32

Level: Intermediate

8. Self-report studies are often challenged with regard to questionable validity and reliability.

Answer: True

Objective: Compare official and unofficial statistics regarding the extent of juvenile delinquency.

Page number: 32

Level: Basic

9. According to NCVS data, whites are more likely to be victims of violent crime than African Americans.

Answer: False

Objective: Describe the purpose, procedures, and findings of victimization studies.

Page number: 34

Level: Intermediate

10. Victimization surveys do not add much significance to what is known about crime in the United States.

Answer: False

Objective: Describe the purpose, procedures, and findings of victimization studies.

Page number: 34

Level: Difficult

11. The racial threat hypothesis holds that a larger racial minority population causes the majority to feel threatened and thus to use stronger social control measures.

Answer: True

Objective: Explain how various social factors relate to delinquency.

Page number: 38

Level: Basic

12. Gun assaults were not a primary contributing factor in homicide death rates of males thirteen to seventeen years old in the 1990s.

Answer: False

Objective: Explain the correlation between guns and youth violence and the efforts to curb gun use by juveniles.

Page number: 45

Level: Intermediate

Fill in the Blank: Write the word or phrase that best completes each statement or answers the question.

1. A generation group as defined in demographics, in statistics, or for the purpose of social research is called a _____.

Answer: cohort

Objective: Summarize the types of information provided by each major source of delinquency statistics.

Page number: 27

Level: Intermediate

2. _____ indicates that a person is arrested because he or she confesses to an offense or is implicated by other criminal evidence.

Answer: Clearance by arrest

Objective: Summarize the types of information provided by each major source of delinquency statistics.

Page number: 28

Level: Basic

3. According to self-report surveys, a large amount of _____ is not contained in official arrest statistics.

Answer: hidden delinquency

Objective: Compare official and unofficial statistics regarding the extent of juvenile delinquency.

Page number: 32

Level: Basic

4. The _____ refers to the age when delinquent behavior starts in a child.

Answer: age of onset

Objective: Summarize the measurements used to explain individual changes in offending across the life course.

Page number: 41

Level: Basic

5. _____ offenders constitute a small number of all offenders and are identified by most cohort studies as coming from the ever-growing minority underclass.

Answer: Chronic youthful

Objective: Summarize the measurements used to explain individual changes in offending across the life course.

Page number: 43

Level: Basic

6. _____ is the termination of delinquency.

Answer: Desistance

Objective: Summarize the measurements used to explain individual changes in offending across the life course.

Page number: 41

Level: Intermediate

7. The extent to which a questionnaire or interview yields the same answers from the same juveniles when they are questioned two or more times is called _____.

Answer: reliability

Objective: Summarize the types of information provided by each major source of delinquency statistics.

Page number: 28

Level: Basic

8. In 2009, the largest percentage of person offenses consisted of _____, followed by aggravated assaults and then robberies.

Answer: simple assaults

Objective: Describe the purpose, procedures, and findings of juvenile court statistics.

Page number: 30

Level: Intermediate

9. A problem with the validity of NCVS data is that victimizations of people under age _____ are not included.

Answer: twelve

Objective: Describe the purpose, procedures, and findings of victimization studies.

Page number: 35

Level: Basic

10. A 2011 study found that _____ children are more often cited for disciplinary infractions in schools than are children from other racial groups.

Answer: African American

Objective: Explain how various social factors relate to delinquency.

Page number: 37

Level: Basic

11. _____ ownership, possession, and carrying have led to violence in drug transactions, schools, and gangs.

Answer: Gun

Objective: Explain the correlation between guns and youth violence and the efforts to curb gun use by juveniles.

Page number: 46
Level: Intermediate

Essay: Write your answer in the space provided or on a separate sheet of paper.

1. Discuss the various weaknesses attributed to the Uniform Crime Reporting Program as a measure of crime.

The answer should include the following points:

- Most crimes go unreported.
- Only serious property and personal crimes of juveniles are acted upon.
- UCR statistics may tell more about police policy than about crime.
- Data may not be entirely reliable.

Objective: Summarize the types of information provided by each major source of delinquency statistics.

Page number: 29
Level: Difficult

2. Discuss the relationship between guns and youth violence.

The answer should include the following points:

- Homicide death rates of males thirteen to seventeen years old often reflect gun use.
- Youths with guns tend to live in communities with high prevalence of gun ownership.
- Youths with guns are more likely to engage in serious assaults and robberies than others.
- Youths involved in drugs are more likely to carry guns than others and to believe that guns are necessary for their protection.
- Youths from gangs are more probable to carry guns.

Objective: Explain the correlation between guns and youth violence and the efforts to curb gun use by juveniles.

Page number: 45–46
Level: Difficult

3. List some of the principal findings of victimization surveys.

The answer should include the following points:

- More crime is committed than is recorded; the discrepancy is the number of victims.
- The rank order of serious offenses reported, except for vehicle theft, is identical to that of UCR.
- The probability of being victimized varies with the type of crime and where people live.
- Juveniles are more likely to not only commit crimes but also to be victimized than others.
- African Americans are overrepresented both as perpetrators and as victims of serious personal crimes.

Objective: Describe the purpose, procedures, and findings of victimization studies.

Page number: 35
Level: Intermediate

4. Discuss the findings of various studies on racial/ethnic background and delinquent behavior.

The answer should include the following points:

Findings of various studies:

- African Americans are overrepresented in arrest, conviction, and incarceration relative to their population base.
- African American, Hispanic, and Native American adolescents were involved in significantly higher levels of serious violence than were Caucasians.
- African American adolescents experience and are involved in higher rates of violence, especially armed violence. However, they do not have higher rates of property or drug crime.
- A combination of neighborhood context, socioeconomic status, and social psychological processes can explain most of the relationship between race and violence as well as ethnicity and violence.
- School-level characteristics were related to overall discipline levels, which is consistent with a racial threat hypothesis.
- Ethno-racial inequality in neighborhood crime rates is an outgrowth of racial residential segregation.

Objective: Explain how various social factors relate to delinquency.

Page number: 37–38

Level: Difficult

5. Discuss the various factors that may lead to juvenile offenders continuing on into adult criminal behavior.

The answer should include the following points:

- age of onset
- continuation or persistence
- escalation of offenses
- specialization of offenses
- tendency toward chronic offending
- length of criminal career
- desistance or termination of offending

Objective: Summarize the measurements used to explain individual changes in offending across the life course.

Page number: 40–45

Level: Basic

Bartollas Schmallegger Chapter 2 *Measurement and Nature of Delinquency*

Multiple Choice: Choose the one alternative that best completes the statement or answers the question.

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A) The statistics reflect official police policy rather than the amount of youth crime.
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Page number: 29

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5. Most information about the number of children appearing before the juvenile court each year comes from what publication of the U.S. Department of Justice?

- A) *Journal of Research in Crime and Delinquency*
- B) National Crime Victimization Survey
- C) *Uniform Crime Reports*
- D) *Juvenile Court Statistics*

Answer: D

Objective: Describe the purpose, procedures, and findings of juvenile court statistics.

Page number: 30

Level: Basic

6. The increase in homicides in the mid-1980s is commonly attributed to _____.

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Objective: Compare official and unofficial statistics regarding the extent of juvenile delinquency.

Page number: 31

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Objective: Describe the purpose, procedures, and findings of victimization studies.

Page number: 34

Level: Basic

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- A) aggravated assault
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- D) the time of the crime

Answer: A

Objective: Summarize the types of information provided by each major source of delinquency statistics.

Page number: 27

Level: Intermediate

22. What does the term *prevalence of delinquency* refer to?

- A) the time of the crime
- B) the place where the crime occurred
- C) the person who committed the crime
- D) the number of young people involved in delinquent behavior

Answer: D

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Level: Basic

3. According to self-report surveys, a large amount of _____ is not contained in official arrest statistics.

Answer: hidden delinquency

Objective: Compare official and unofficial statistics regarding the extent of juvenile delinquency.

Page number: 32

Level: Basic

4. The _____ refers to the age when delinquent behavior starts in a child.

Answer: age of onset

Objective: Summarize the measurements used to explain individual changes in offending across the life course.

Page number: 41

Level: Basic

5. _____ offenders constitute a small number of all offenders and are identified by most cohort studies as coming from the ever-growing minority underclass.

Answer: Chronic youthful

Objective: Summarize the measurements used to explain individual changes in offending across the life course.

Page number: 43

Level: Basic

6. _____ is the termination of delinquency.

Answer: Desistance

Objective: Summarize the measurements used to explain individual changes in offending across the life course.

Page number: 41

Level: Intermediate

7. The extent to which a questionnaire or interview yields the same answers from the same juveniles when they are questioned two or more times is called _____.

Answer: reliability

Objective: Summarize the types of information provided by each major source of delinquency statistics.

Page number: 28

Level: Basic

8. In 2009, the largest percentage of person offenses consisted of _____, followed by aggravated assaults and then robberies.

Answer: simple assaults

Objective: Describe the purpose, procedures, and findings of juvenile court statistics.

Page number: 30

Level: Intermediate

9. A problem with the validity of NCVS data is that victimizations of people under age _____ are not included.

Answer: twelve

Objective: Describe the purpose, procedures, and findings of victimization studies.

Page number: 35

Level: Basic

10. A 2011 study found that _____ children are more often cited for disciplinary infractions in schools than are children from other racial groups.

Answer: African American

Objective: Explain how various social factors relate to delinquency.

Page number: 37

Level: Basic

11. _____ ownership, possession, and carrying have led to violence in drug transactions, schools, and gangs.

Answer: Gun

Objective: Explain the correlation between guns and youth violence and the efforts to curb gun use by juveniles.

Page number: 46
Level: Intermediate

Essay: Write your answer in the space provided or on a separate sheet of paper.

1. Discuss the various weaknesses attributed to the Uniform Crime Reporting Program as a measure of crime.

The answer should include the following points:

- Most crimes go unreported.
- Only serious property and personal crimes of juveniles are acted upon.
- UCR statistics may tell more about police policy than about crime.
- Data may not be entirely reliable.

Objective: Summarize the types of information provided by each major source of delinquency statistics.

Page number: 29
Level: Difficult

2. Discuss the relationship between guns and youth violence.

The answer should include the following points:

- Homicide death rates of males thirteen to seventeen years old often reflect gun use.
- Youths with guns tend to live in communities with high prevalence of gun ownership.
- Youths with guns are more likely to engage in serious assaults and robberies than others.
- Youths involved in drugs are more likely to carry guns than others and to believe that guns are necessary for their protection.
- Youths from gangs are more probable to carry guns.

Objective: Explain the correlation between guns and youth violence and the efforts to curb gun use by juveniles.

Page number: 45–46
Level: Difficult

3. List some of the principal findings of victimization surveys.

The answer should include the following points:

- More crime is committed than is recorded; the discrepancy is the number of victims.
- The rank order of serious offenses reported, except for vehicle theft, is identical to that of UCR.
- The probability of being victimized varies with the type of crime and where people live.
- Juveniles are more likely to not only commit crimes but also to be victimized than others.
- African Americans are overrepresented both as perpetrators and as victims of serious personal crimes.

Objective: Describe the purpose, procedures, and findings of victimization studies.

Page number: 35
Level: Intermediate

4. Discuss the findings of various studies on racial/ethnic background and delinquent behavior.

The answer should include the following points:

Findings of various studies:

- African Americans are overrepresented in arrest, conviction, and incarceration relative to their population base.
- African American, Hispanic, and Native American adolescents were involved in significantly higher levels of serious violence than were Caucasians.
- African American adolescents experience and are involved in higher rates of violence, especially armed violence. However, they do not have higher rates of property or drug crime.
- A combination of neighborhood context, socioeconomic status, and social psychological processes can explain most of the relationship between race and violence as well as ethnicity and violence.
- School-level characteristics were related to overall discipline levels, which is consistent with a racial threat hypothesis.
- Ethno-racial inequality in neighborhood crime rates is an outgrowth of racial residential segregation.

Objective: Explain how various social factors relate to delinquency.

Page number: 37–38

Level: Difficult

5. Discuss the various factors that may lead to juvenile offenders continuing on into adult criminal behavior.

The answer should include the following points:

- age of onset
- continuation or persistence
- escalation of offenses
- specialization of offenses
- tendency toward chronic offending
- length of criminal career
- desistance or termination of offending

Objective: Summarize the measurements used to explain individual changes in offending across the life course.

Page number: 40–45