

Third Edition

2013/2014



ARRESTING JUSTICE: JUVENILE ARRESTS IN CHICAGO



In June 2011, we published *Arresting Justice: A Report about Juvenile Arrests in Chicago, 2009 & 2010* (<http://arrestjustice.wordpress.com/>) along with our partners at First Defense Legal Aid. Since then, we have continued to analyze and publish data about juvenile arrests in Chicago.

As you read through the report, please be aware of a few important things. Arrest statistics report the number of arrests that the police made in a given year. They do not describe the number of individuals arrested or the number of crimes committed. As Puzzanchera and Adams point out:

“The number of arrests is not the same as the number of people arrested because an unknown number of individuals are arrested more than once during the year. Nor do arrest statistics represent the number of crimes that arrested individuals commit because a series of crimes that one person commits may culminate in a single arrest, and a single crime may result in the arrest of more than one person. This latter situation, where many arrests result from one crime, is relatively common in juvenile law-violating behavior because juveniles are more likely than adults to commit crimes in groups.”¹

This third edition of *Arresting Justice* was written by Mariame Kaba.

Thanks to Peter Frase for his contributions to the report and to Sarah Jane Rhee for her master excel skills.

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The report is part of the Chicago Youth Justice Data Project (<http://chicagoyouthjustice.com/>), an initiative of Project NIA (<http://project-nia.org/>).

*By Mariame Kaba (Project NIA)
with contributions from Peter Frase*

*Image by Mauricio Pineda
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ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Mariame Kaba is the founding director of Project NIA. She is an educator, organizer, and writer who lives in Chicago. Her work focuses on ending violence, dismantling the prison industrial complex and supporting youth leadership development.

¹ Puzzanchera, Charles and Adams, Benjamin (2011, Dec). “Juvenile Arrests 2009”. U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention. <http://www.ojjdp.gov/pubs/236477.pdf>

QUICK REPORT SUMMARY

21,496

Total Number of Juvenile Arrests in 2013

17,783

Total Number of Juvenile Arrests in 2014

The number of juvenile arrests decreased by over



17%

from 2013 to 2014.



OVER
80%

of juvenile arrests in 2013 & 2014 were **15 to 17-year-olds**.



OVER
83%

of juvenile arrests in 2013 & 2014 were **males**.

79%

of juvenile arrests in Chicago in 2013 and 2014 were **Black children and youth**.

OVER 18%

of juvenile arrests in Chicago in 2013 were **Latin@ children and youth**.

OVER 17%

of juvenile arrests in Chicago in 2014 were **Latin@ children and youth**.

Most juvenile arrests were for **misdemeanor offenses** in 2013 & 2014.

STATISTIC SNAPSHOT

Nearly **70%** of juvenile arrests happened in **10 out of the 22** districts.

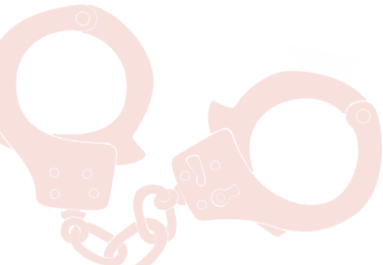
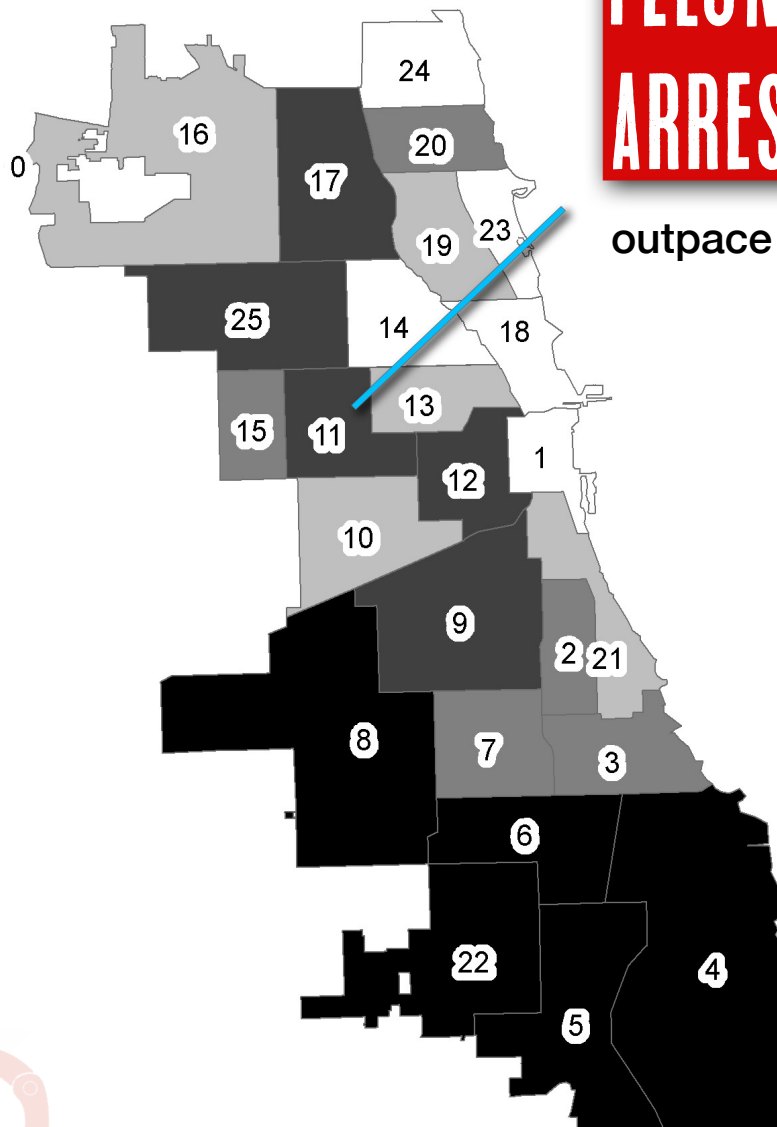
In order of most to least, these districts are

11 8 15 4 10 5 6 3 7 & 9

The 11th District is the only one where

**FELONY
ARRESTS**

outpace misdemeanor ones.





TOP 10 FELONY OFFENSES

Drug Abuse Violations

2013: 1,263
2014: 1,065



Robbery

2013: 1,091
2014: 952



Burglary

2013: 590
2014: 590



Aggravated Battery

2013: 444
2014: 447



Weapons

2013: 392
2014: 470



Motor Vehicle Theft

2013: 338
2014: 387



Larceny- Theft

2013: 260
2014: 238



Vandalism

2013: 86
2014: 107



Misc. Non-Index Offenses

2013: 71
2014: 43



Aggravated Assault

2013: 53
2014: 34



Source: CPD Research & Development Division, Research & Analysis Section (CLEAR DW, 6/3/15)



TOP 10 MISDEMEANOR OFFENSES

Drug Abuse Violations

2013: 2,599

2014: 1,884



Gambling

2013: 339

2014: 182



Disorderly Conduct

2013: 2,114

2014: 1,720



Aggravated Assault

2013: 377

2014: 348



Weapons

2013: 163

2014: 122



Simple Battery

2013: 2,224

2014: 1,836



Larceny- Theft

2013: 1,814

2014: 1,430



Vandalism

2013: 586

2014: 441



Misc. Non-Index Offenses

2013: 2,740

2014: 2,111



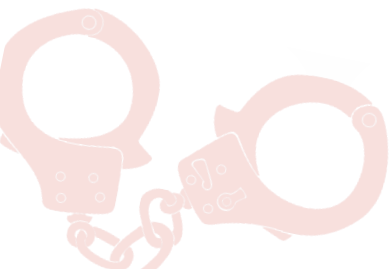
Simple Assault

2013: 459

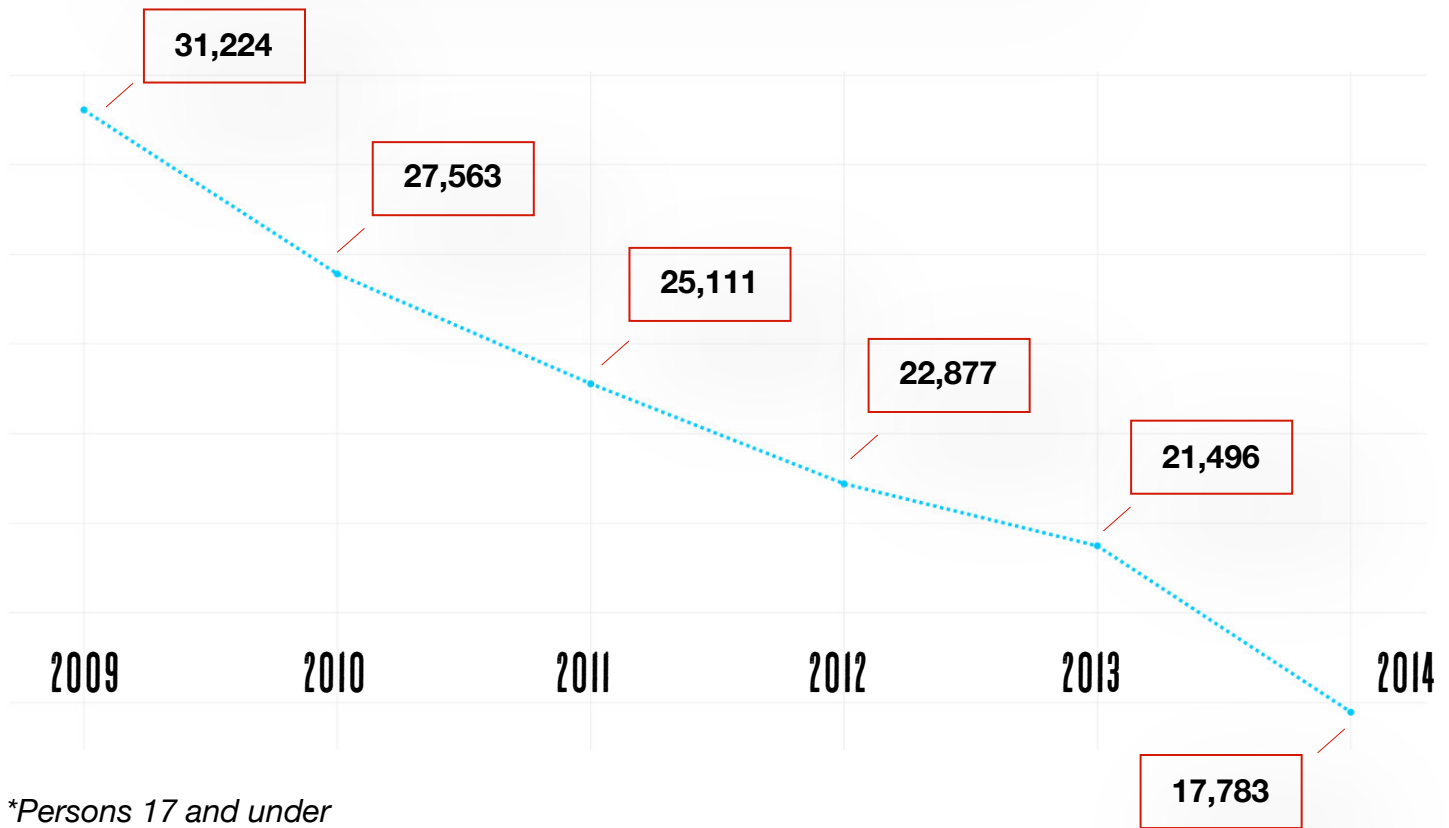
2014: 381



Source: CPD Research & Development Division, Research & Analysis Section (CLEAR DW, 6/3/15)

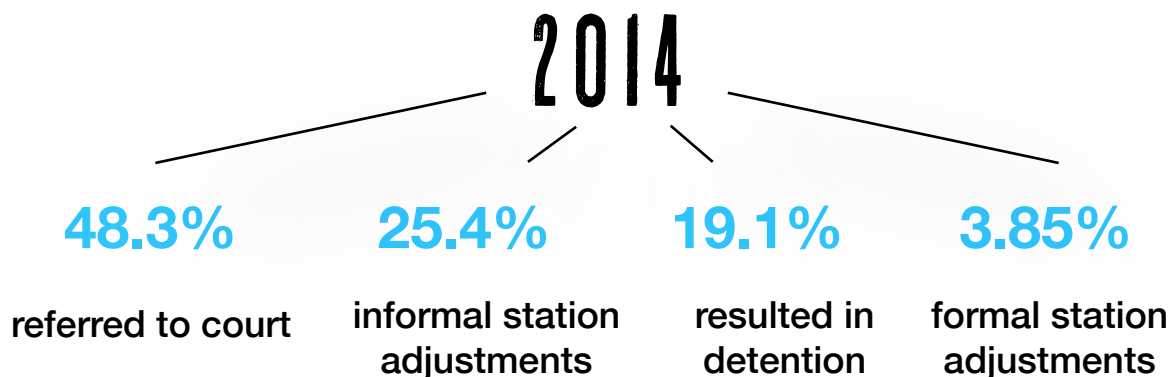


JUVENILE ARRESTS* OVER TIME



DISPOSITIONS- WHERE DO YOUTH GO AFTER ARREST?

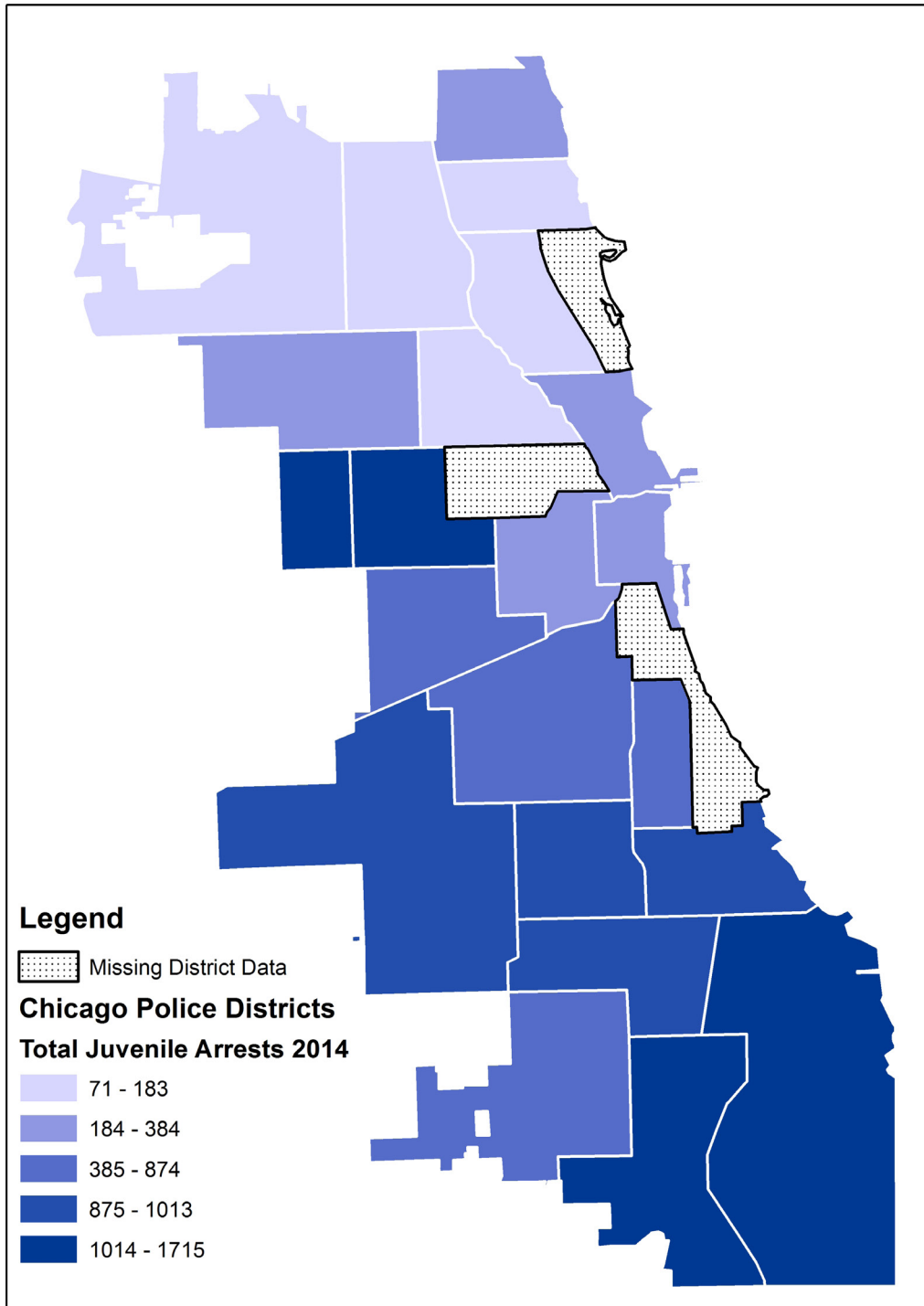
For the first time, we are able to report details of dispositions beyond formal and informal station adjustments at the district level. This information allows us to better understand how children and youth who are arrested move through the juvenile justice system.



*See page 16 for police decision points during an arrest.

Source: Dan Cooper, Ph.D., Adler University, Co-Executive Director, Institute on Social Exclusion.

Total Juvenile Arrests 2014 by District



Percent of 2014 Arrestees That Were Hispanic

