



**Ingham County**  
Health Department

# Violence & Abuse

# Introduction

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**T**he information presented in this section describes injury and violence statistics for Ingham County. The topics covered in this section include: violence and assaultive crimes, child victimization and abuse, and firearms in the home. The primary sources of information for this section include: U.S. Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention —Statistical Briefing Book, Ingham County 30th Judicial Circuit Court, and the Michigan League for Human Services.

## Injury and Violence

- Violence & Assaultive Crimes

- Child Victimization & Abuse

# Violent & Assaultive Crimes

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**A**ccording to FBI standards, violent crimes are strictly defined as those aggressive acts causing serious harm to individuals and include aggravated assault, rape, robbery, and homicide. Murder, or non-negligent homicide, is the unlawful premeditated killing of a human being. Forcible rape is the carnal knowledge of a person, forcibly and/or against that person's will. Robbery, armed or unarmed, is the crime of seizing property through violence or intimidation. Aggravated assault involves attack with a weapon, though no injury is required. It also involves attack without a weapon resulting either in serious injury or in any injury requiring two or more days of hospitalization. In Michigan, juvenile crimes are offenses committed by youths aged 16 and under.

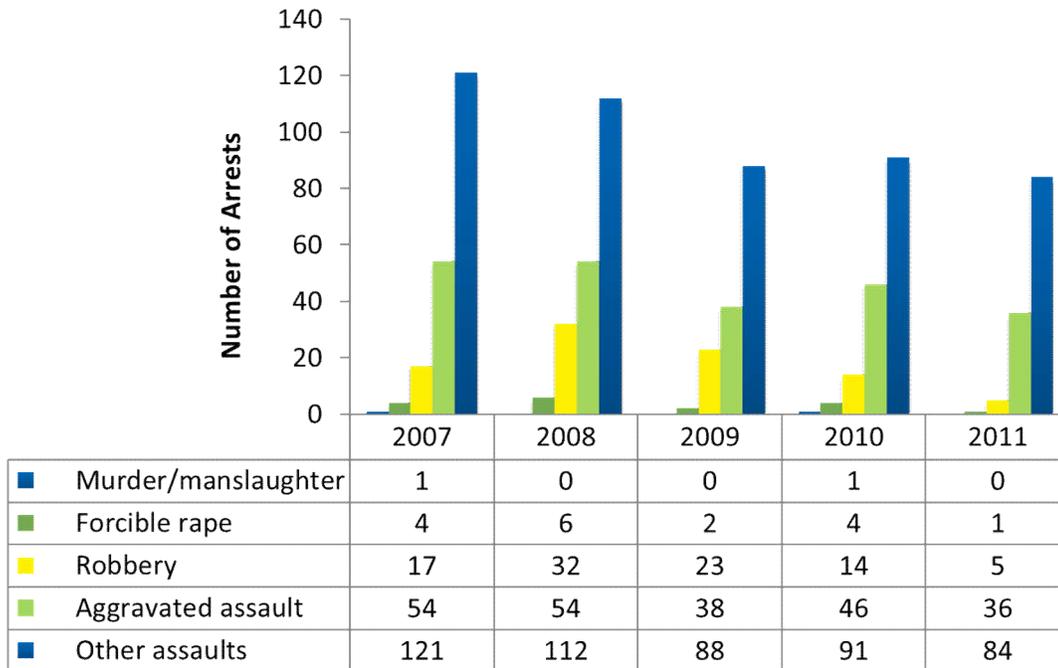
Delinquent offenses are those juvenile crimes for which an adult would be tried (e.g. homicide, robbery, arson). Status offenses, on the other hand, are only considered infractions by virtue of one's juvenile status (e.g. breaking curfew laws, truancy, underage drinking). Violent and assaultive crimes committed by juveniles are delinquent offenses.

The data below was pulled from website for the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP). The site gives public access to FBI records for arrest counts for the entire United States, which can be filtered by state and county. The data given below is for crimes committed by persons under the age of 18, although the age of distinction of juvenile crime in Michigan is 16. The data gives an estimate of the number of juvenile arrests for violent and assaultive crimes that have occurred between 2007 and 2011 in Ingham County. It is important to note that these data do not indicate the outcome or disposition (detention, probation, diversion or dismissal) of each case by crime category. It is important to note that these data do not indicate the outcome or disposition (detention, probation, diversion or dismissal) of each case by crime category. In addition, there is another figure from the Ingham County 30<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit Court Dashboard that shows the number of petitions filed alleging that juveniles are committing crimes in Ingham County.

From 2007 to 2011, non-aggravated assaults comprised most of the arrests of juvenile violent crimes. However, these assaults, as well as crimes in other categories, have decreased over that time span. While there has been some fluctuation, it is still clear that when comparing 2007 to 2011, not only has the number of crimes decreased but, more importantly, the rate of these crimes with respect to the juvenile population has also significantly decreased. The arrest statistics, along with the reduced number of petitions, show that juvenile violent crimes and juvenile crime as a whole are decreasing, which is a positive development for the people of Ingham County.

# Violent & Assaultive Crimes

Figure 1. Number of Juvenile Arrests for Major Categories of Violent and Assaultive Crime in Ingham County, 2007-2011



Source: Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention. Statistical Briefing Book, Easy Access to FBI Arrest Statistics, Ingham County, Michigan, 2007-2011.

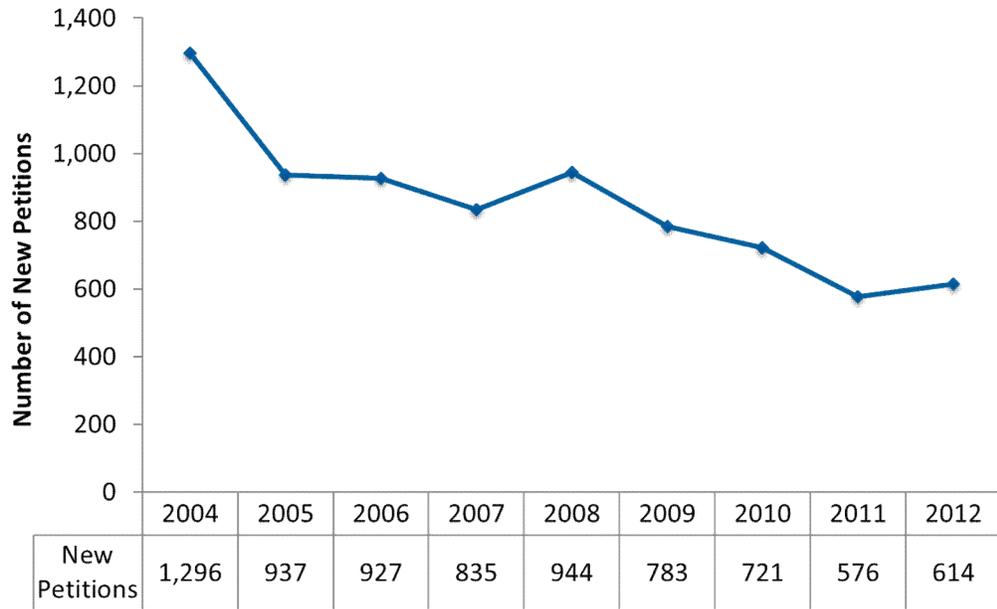
Table 1. Number of Juvenile Arrests for Major Categories of Violent and Assaultive Crime in Ingham County, 2007-2011

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
<b>Population Ages 10 to 17</b>	27,517	27,437	26,920	26,919	26,476
<b>Total Juvenile Arrests</b>	1,253	1,090	763	662	532
<b>Total Violent Crime Arrests</b>	197	204	151	156	126
<b>Juvenile Violent Crime Rate (per 1,000 population)</b>	7.2	7.4	5.6	5.8	4.8
<b>Violent Crimes</b>					
■ Murder/manslaughter	1	0	0	1	0
■ Forcible rape	4	6	2	4	1
■ Robbery	17	32	23	14	5
■ Aggravated assault	54	54	38	46	36
■ Other assaults	121	112	88	91	84

Source: Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, Statistical Briefing Book, Easy Access to FBI Arrest Statistics, Ingham County, Michigan, 2007-2011.

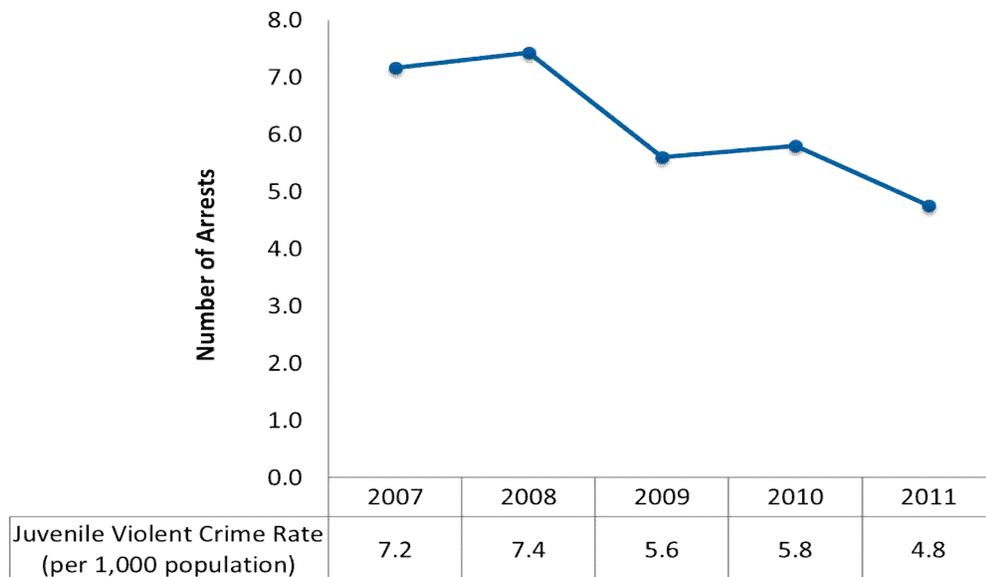
# Violent & Assaultive Crimes

Figure 2. Number of New Petitions Filed Alleging that Juveniles Are Committing Crimes in Ingham County, 2004-2012



Source: Ingham County 30<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit Court Dashboard (2014).

Figure 3 . Juvenile Violent Crime Rate in Ingham County per 1,000 Population, 2007-2011



Source: Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, Statistical Briefing Book, Easy Access to FBI Arrest Statistics, Ingham County, Michigan, 2007-2011.

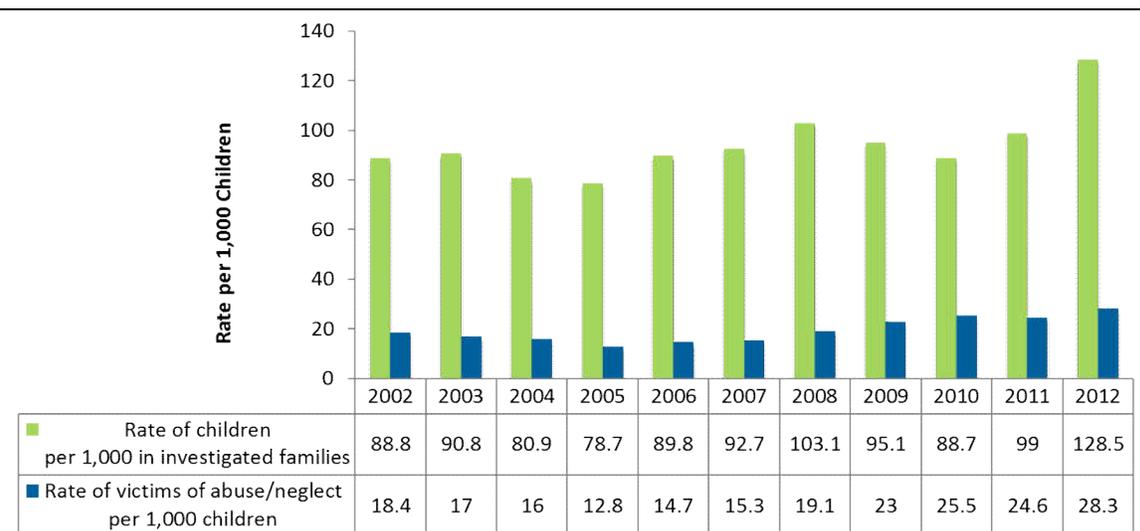
# Child Victimization & Abuse

The Centers for Disease Control (2016) defines child maltreatment as “all types of abuse and neglect of a child under the age of 18 by a parent, caregiver, or another person in a custodial role.” There are four types of abuse that include: physical, sexual, emotional, and neglect. The Federal Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (CAPTA) has set the minimum definition of child abuse as “Any recent act or failure to act on the part of a parent or caretaker which results in death, serious physical or emotional harm, sexual abuse or exploitation; or an act or failure to act which presents an imminent risk of serious harm” (Child Welfare Information Gateway, 2013). Child neglect is defined as the “failure of a parent, guardian, or other caregiver to provide for a child’s basic needs” and this includes physical, medical, educational, and emotional needs (Child Welfare Information Gateway, 2013).

In Michigan, the Department of Human Services has designated Children’s Protective Services (CPS) to investigate reports of a child at risk of being abused or neglected and a child who is being abused or neglected. The report process is started when someone makes a complaint about the safety of a child. Once a complaint has been made, CPS must begin an investigation within 24 hours. CPS has 30 days to complete an investigation unless there are extenuating circumstances that warrant an extension.

The rate of children per 1,000 in investigated families steadily increased from 1994-2001. For the next four years, from 2002-2005, the rate dropped from 88.8 to 78.7 children per 1,000 investigated families. Since 2006, the rate has been on an upward trajectory with a slight decrease occurring in 2009 and 2010. From 2011 to 2012, the rate jumped from 99 to 128.5 children per 1,000 investigated families.

Figure 4. Rate of Children (Ages 0-17) in Investigated Families and Confirmed Cases of Abuse and Neglect in Ingham County, 1994-2012



Sources: Center for Disease Control (2016). Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention. <http://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/childmaltreatment/index.html>.

Child Welfare Information Gateway (2013). What is Child Abuse and Neglect? Recognizing the Signs and Symptoms.

# Child Victimization & Abuse

The percent of investigations resulting in confirmed cases of abuse and neglect steadily increased from 2003 to 2004 and then held steady from 2005 to 2007 at a little over 16%. Since 2008, a slow increase in the percent of investigations resulting in confirmed cases of abuse and neglect occurred with the rate peaking in 2008 at 28.72% and slowly falling over the next two years.

An important point to keep in mind when examining data on child abuse and neglect is because of the nature of the crime, not all cases are reported to Child Protective Services (CPS). As a result, there are potential child abuse and neglect cases that go unreported to CPS every year.

Table 2 . Investigations and Confirmed Cases of Child Abuse and Neglect, Ingham County 2002 – 2012

Year	Number of children in investigated families	Rate of children per 1,000, in investigated families	Number of confirmed victims of abuse/ neglect	Rate of victims of abuse/ neglect per 1,000 children	Percent of investigations resulting in a confirmed case of abuse/ neglect
2002	5,833	88.8	1,210	18.4	20.7%
2003	5,900	90.8	1,107	17	18.8%
2004	5,255	80.9	1,037	16	19.7%
2005	5,394	78.7	877	12.8	16.3%
2006	5,656	89.8	927	14.7	16.4%
2007	5,797	92.7	959	15.3	16.5%
2008	6,395	103.1	1,183	19.1	18.5%
2009	5,792	95.1	1,403	23	24.2%
2010	5,195	88.7	1,492	25.5	28.7%
2011	5,799	99	1,442	24.6	24.9%
2012	7,317	128.5	1,612	28.3	22.0%

Source: Michigan League for Human Services (2014).