

Navigating Concerns on Youth Crime, Violence, and Behavioral Health: Three Steps to Take Series

Communication Strategies

November 7, 2024



Justice Center

THE COUNCIL OF STATE GOVERNMENTS

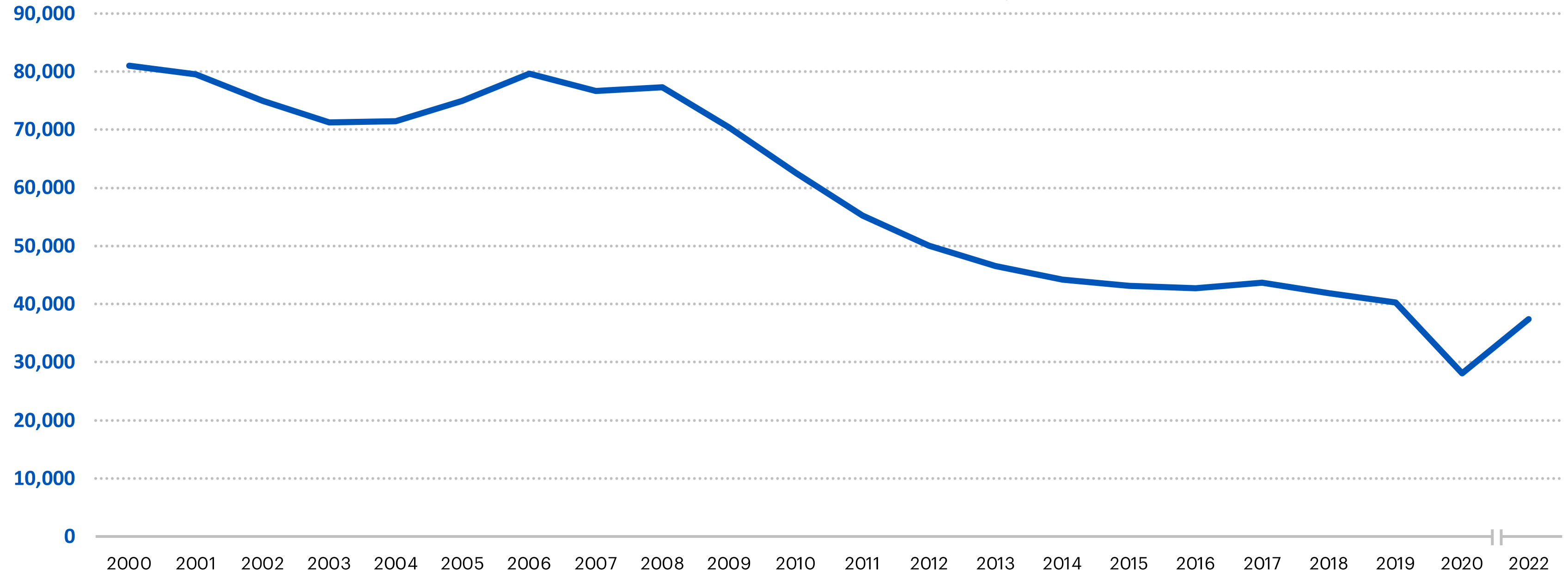
The Challenge:

Youth arrests for violent offenses overall remain historically low. However, post-pandemic, youth arrests for homicide and weapons surged.



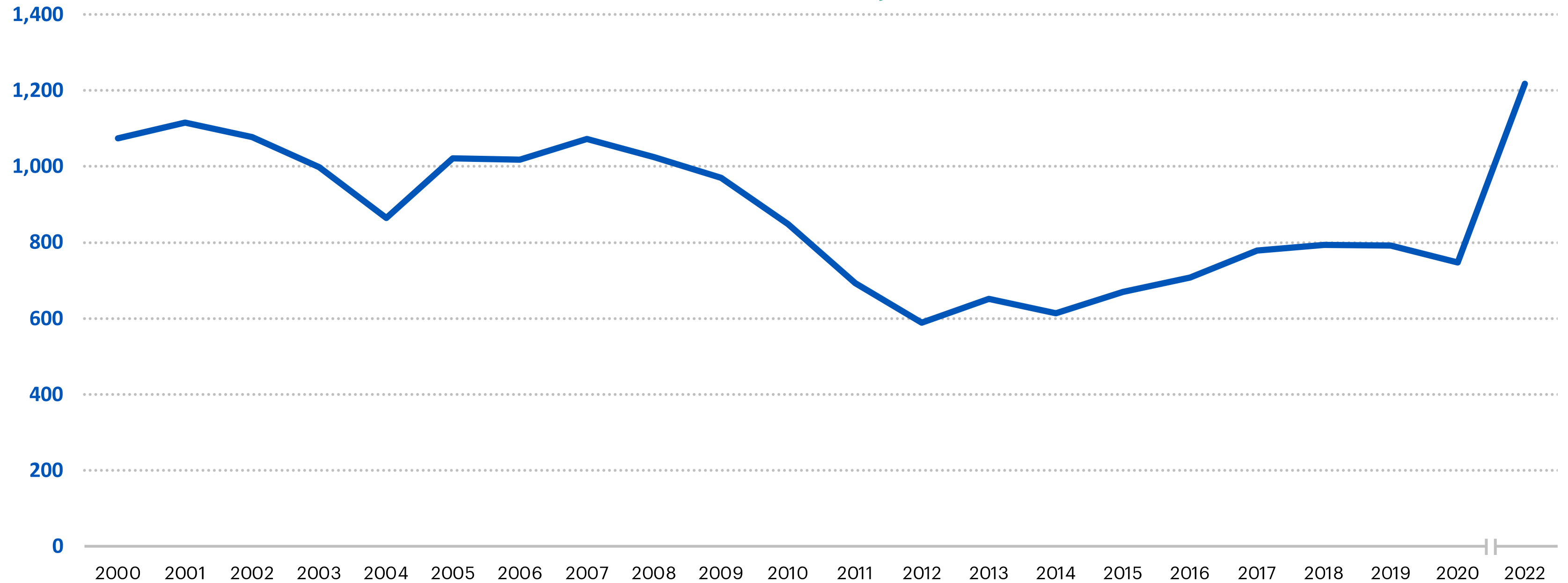
Overall, arrests for youth violence declined 54 percent from 2000 to 2022, and in 2022, remained near historical lows.

Total Youth Arrests for Violent Index Offenses, 2000–2022



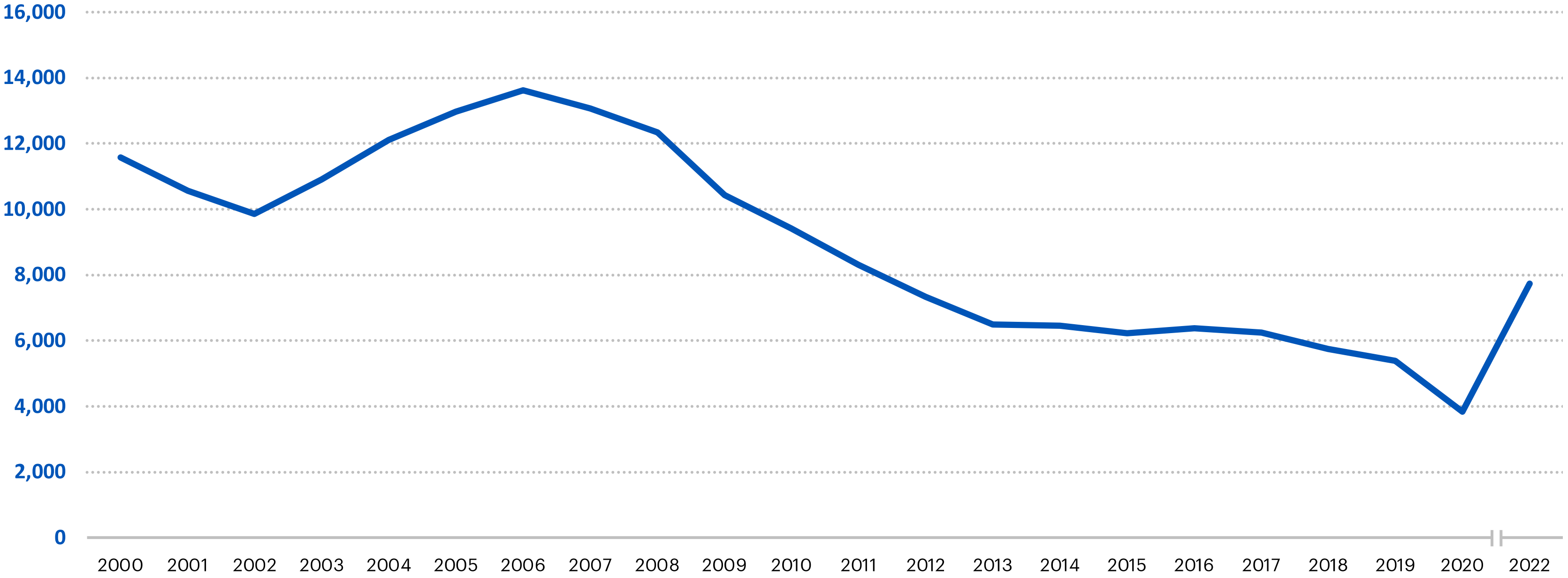
However, youth arrests for homicides have increased for a decade and surged in 2022 to never-before-seen levels.

Youth Arrests for Homicides, 2000–2022



Arrests for weapons offenses spiked in 2022 to levels not seen for a decade.

Youth Arrests for Weapons, 31 States, 2000-2022



Public concern, media coverage, and political divisiveness on youth crime and violence is currently at levels not seen since the mid-1990s.



HOMEPAGE SHOWCASE

'You can't keep letting them get away with it': Addressing juvenile crime



MOCO 360

Opinion

Opinion: To fix our juvenile justice system, we need accountability for offenders

Montgomery County has an obligation to fill the gaps to prevent recurring incidents

by Dawn Luedtke

November 18, 2023 11:00 am



By: Elizabeth

At our Oct. 30 County Council Public Safety Committee briefing on juvenile justice and crime, I discussed a

READER

NEWS & POLITICS

Politics of fear: Are youth really to blame for the car-jacking spike?

Cops say masked teens with a thirst for violence and

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reveals
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Dukmas
2021



Lawmakers looking to hold parents accountable for their children's crimes



THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

Juvenile Crime Surges, Reversing Long Decline. 'It's Just Kids Killing Kids.'

Violence among children has soared across the country since 2020. One consequence: a mounting toll of young victims.

By [Dan Frosch](#) and [Zusha Elinson](#) | Photographs by José A. Alvarado Jr. for The Wall Street Journal
Jan. 23, 2023 10:06 am ET



IN FOCUS

Governor wants juvenile justice bills to focus on accountability



Most youth involved in the juvenile justice system have not caused physical harm to another person.

Proportion of All Youth at Each Decision Point Whose Most Serious Offense Was a Non-Person Delinquent Offense

70%

**Arrest =
~250,000**

62%

**Probation =
~106,000**

62%

**Incarceration =
~24,000**

Thank you.

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The presentation was developed by members of The Council of State Governments Justice Center staff. The statements made reflect the views of the authors and should not be considered the official position of The Council of State Governments Justice Center, the members of The Council of State Governments, or the funding agency supporting the work.

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