

QUALITY OF LIFE INDICATOR 86

Fire Response

Fire Totals by Agency and Type

Fire District	Fire Related		Medical Related	
	2001	2002	2001	2002
Aptos/La Selva	852	867	855	923
Ben Lomond	153	135	176	197
Boulder Creek	270	278	431	357
Branciforte	38	27	93	111
Central	2,435	2,344	1,518	1,538
Felton	232	217	270	282
Santa Cruz	3,085	3,121	1,868	1,798
Scotts Valley	700	712	680	651
Watsonville	2,018	1,976	1,405	1,420
Zayante	89	91	134	140
Total	9,872	9,768	7,430	7,417

Source: Santa Cruz Consolidated Emergency Communications Center, 2003.

Code 3 Average Fire Response Time by District

Fire District	2001	2002
Aptos/La Selva	5:29	4:48
Ben Lomond	7:54	5:26
Boulder Creek	7:16	5:58
Branciforte	6:27	7:06
Central	4:47	4:25
Felton	5:51	5:45
Santa Cruz	4:28	4:31
Scotts Valley	5:42	5:05
Watsonville	4:06	4:05
Zayante	8:17	7:13
Ambulance Code 3 Response for Urban Areas	4:59	5:07
Ambulance Code 3 Response for Rural Areas	8:53	8:40

Code 3 is red lights and siren emergency, while Code 2 observes all traffic signals.

Family Violence - Households Reporting Domestic Violence

This indicator measures the number of calls placed to local law enforcement for assistance in domestic violence disputes.



Number of Calls, Santa Cruz County

Agency	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	% Change
Capitola Police Department	42	42	55	44	36	30	27	25	26	4.0
Santa Cruz Police Department	198	207	269	167	193	190	160	204	191	-6.4
Santa Cruz County Sheriff's Office ¹	262	244	217	247	206	541	918	948	456 ³	N/a
Scotts Valley Police Department	29	44	34	13	19	35	40	47	43	-8.5
Watsonville Police Department	180	183	238	268	274	244	204	246	242	-1.6
County Total²	729	735	834	760	758	1,058	1,374	1,487	968³	N/a
Population	237,800	240,000	242,500	245,400	249,000	252,100	255,000	257,500	258,400	0.3
Domestic Violence Call Rate	3.1	3.1	3.4	3.1	3.0	4.2	5.4	5.8	3.7 ³	N/a

Number of Calls, California

	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	% Change
Number of Calls	250,439	246,315	227,899	220,156	196,832	186,406	196,880	198,031	196,569	-0.7
Population (in thousands)	31,661	31,910	32,223	32,670	33,226	33,766	34,336	34,385	35,000	1.8
Rate of Domestic Violence Calls	7.9	7.7	7.1	6.7	5.9	5.5	5.7	5.8	5.6	-3.4

Source: State of California Department of Justice, California Criminal Justice Profile, 2003; State of California, Department of Finance, E-4 Population Estimates for Cities, Counties and the State, 2001-2003, with 2000 DRU Benchmark. Sacramento, California, May 2003.

¹ In 1999, the Sheriff's Department changed the method of categorizing domestic violence cases to comply with California Penal Code definitions. Cases that would have been classified as assault before 1999 are now being appropriately classified as domestic violence cases.

² The total of all jurisdictions will not equal County total. The County total includes the California Highway Patrol, U.C. Santa Cruz, Santa Cruz Mountains Department of Parks and Recreation and the Union Pacific Railroad.

³ In 2002, the Sheriff's Department discovered an error in the reporting system that tracks domestic violence calls for assistance. Therefore, the sharp decline between the 2001 and 2002 data does not reflect a decrease in calls for assistance. Instead, it reflects a correction in the reporting system.

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Family Violence - Households Reporting Domestic Violence

Number of Cases with Weapons, Santa Cruz County

Agency	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	% Change
Capitola Police Department	37	26	43	31	26	22	24	21	15	-28.6
Santa Cruz Police Department	184	189	251	156	177	178	149	187	176	-5.9
Santa Cruz County Sheriff's Office ¹	262	244	217	247	206	411	814	864	116 ³	N/a
Scotts Valley Police Department	23	40	19	11	17	25	28	32	11	-65.6
Watsonville Police Department	158	137	159	175	180	108	187	228	133	-41.7
County Total²	678	647	699	629	621	755	1,213	1,343	457³	N/a
Population	237,800	240,000	242,500	245,400	249,000	252,100	255,000	257,500	258,400	0.3
Domestic Violence Cases with Weapons Rate	2.9	2.7	2.9	2.6	2.5	3.0	4.8	5.2	1.8³	N/a

Number of Cases with Weapons, California

	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	% Change
Cases with Weapons	182,240	174,299	159,075	155,650	136,658	127,795	135,156	136,366	119,859	-12.1
Population (in thousands)	31,661	31,910	32,223	32,670	33,226	33,766	34,336	34,385	35,000	1.8
Rate of Domestic Violence Cases with Weapons	5.8	5.5	4.9	4.8	4.1	3.8	3.9	4.0	3.4	-15.0

Source: State of California Department of Justice, California Criminal Justice Profile, 2003; State of California, Department of Finance, E-4 Population Estimates for Cities, Counties and the State, 2001-2003, with 2000 DRU Benchmark. Sacramento, California, May 2003.

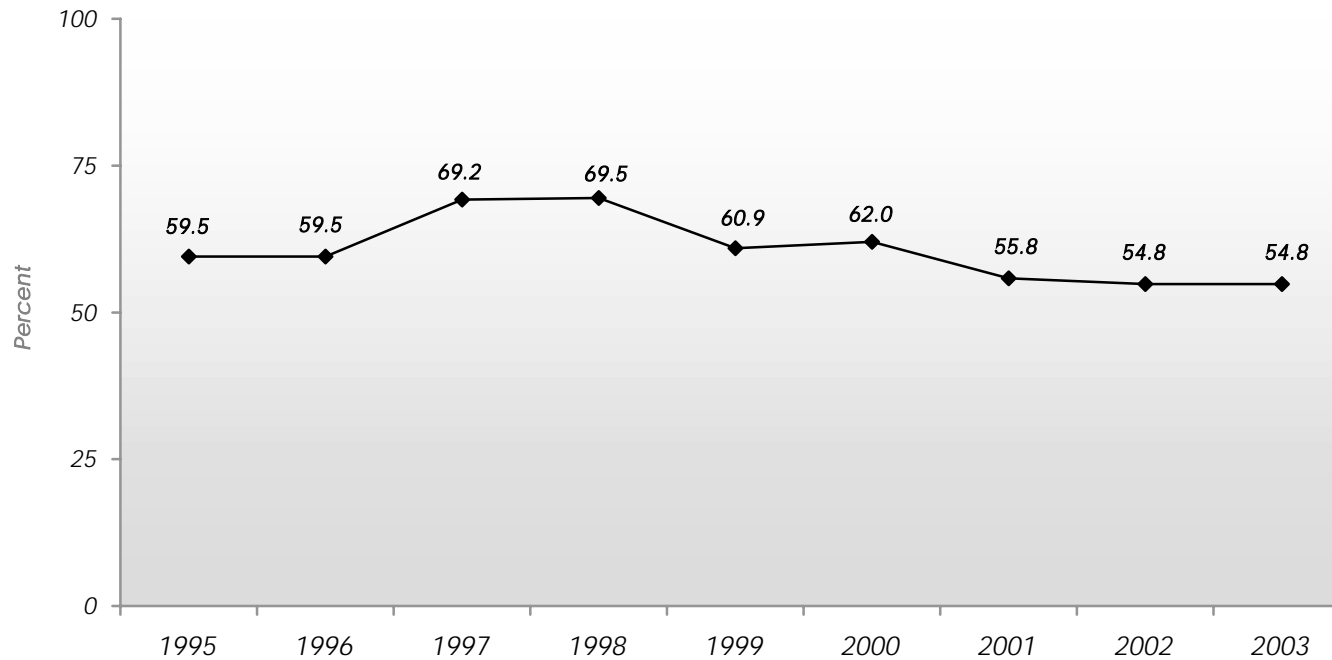
¹ In 1999, the Sheriff's Department changed the method of categorizing domestic violence cases to comply with California Penal Code definitions. Cases that would have been classified as assault before 1999 are now being appropriately classified as domestic violence cases.

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Family Violence

*How concerned are you about family violence (includes domestic violence, child abuse, and senior abuse)?
(Respondents answering “very concerned”)*



Total respondents	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
Overall	343	479	490	508	558	658	698	679	699

Source: Santa Cruz County Community Assessment Project, Telephone Survey.

See appendix for results of statistical testing for this question.

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 Family Violence

 Community Profile

Percent of respondents who are “very concerned” with family violence:

By Ethnicity	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2003 N
Caucasian	69.1	61.2	61.1	50.2	53.0	50.3	487
Latino	72.2	68.5	67.6	68.8	62.0	64.4	158

By Gender	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2003 N
Male	-	54.2	50.2	50.6	48.4	51.1	345
Female	-	64.4	70.4	60.9	61.2	58.4	355

By Region	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	*2003	2003 N
North County	72.2	63.1	61.0	52.2	54.3	54.9	235
South County	72.7	63.0	63.6	61.9	56.7	59.0	240
San Lorenzo Valley	56.0	52.5	63.7	50.0	50.8	43.2	225

By Income	1999	2000	2001	2002	*2003	2003 N
\$34,999 per year or less	74.6	66.4	66.2	58.5	62.7	308
\$35,000 - \$65,499	56.7	56.9	55.5	59.1	52.8	162
\$65,500 and greater	52.0	64.3	43.9	46.8	44.8	177

By Age	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2003 N
18-24	-	59.8	56.5	70.5	67.0	55.2	109
25-44	-	62.0	63.7	48.7	59.3	53.4	229
45-64	-	64.6	64.1	57.5	50.1	58.1	249
65 and older	-	52.5	58.5	56.4	50.4	50.3	112

Source: Santa Cruz Community Assessment Project, Telephone Survey.

* Indicates statistically significant survey responses when reporting differences between sub-groups for the 2003 data. Absence of this symbol indicates no statistical significance difference between sub-groups for the 2003 data. For comparisons involving more than 2 groups (region, age and income), footnotes at the bottom of the page indicate which specific comparisons are significant.

Significance Testing

Region: Residents of the *South County* were significantly more likely to respond that they were “Very Concerned” about family violence than were residents of the *San Lorenzo Valley*.

Income: Those earning *\$34,999 or less* were significantly more likely to respond “Very Concerned” than were those earning *\$65,500 or more*.

Child Witnesses to Domestic Violence

Exposure to domestic violence is linked to increased aggressiveness, emotional problems such as depression and anxiety, lower levels of social competence and poorer academic performance in children.¹ For these reasons, many therapists view exposure to domestic violence as a form of child abuse.

Prevalence of Child Witnesses of Domestic Violence Per 1,000 Children

	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
Domestic Violence Calls for Assistance	729	735	834	760	758	1,058	1,374	1,487	968 ²
Estimated calls with child witnesses	277	279	317	289	288	402	522	565	368
Estimated number of child witnesses	554	559	634	578	576	804	1,044	1,130	736
Population 0-17	60,202	61,152	61,965	62,984	63,948	64,855	65,771	66,511	67,250
Rate per 1,000 children 0-17	9.2	9.1	10.2	9.2	9.0	12.4	15.9	17.0	10.9

Source: Family Violence Response Team; Community Response Team, Applied Survey Research, 2000; State of California Department of Justice, Criminal Justice Profile, 2002; State of California, Department of Finance, Race/Ethnic Population with Age and Sex Detail, 1970-2040. Sacramento, CA, December 1998.

Note: The Family Violence Response Team (FVRT) in South County and the Community Response Team (CRT) in North County both record whether or not children are present in the home when law enforcement officials respond to domestic violence calls. Because FVRT and CRT data are not available for every year or every month over the last five years, it was necessary to use extrapolation methods to determine a general multiplier for estimating presence of children witnessing domestic violence. For instance, FVRT cases with children in 1998 (110) were presented as a percent of the total cases of calls for assistance (274 or 40%) in the same geographical area. Next, a similar process was used with CRT data to determine the percent of cases in which children were present in the home in the jurisdictions of the Santa Cruz County Sheriff's Office (37%) and the police departments of Capitola (32%), Santa Cruz (34%), and Scotts Valley (48%). On an average across the five jurisdictions, 38.2% of domestic violence calls for assistance had children in the home. Next, a conservative assumption was made that there were an average of two children per household throughout the County. The 2001 Number of cases estimated to have children in the home (using the multiplier of 38.2%) was then multiplied by two to produce an estimate of the number of children witnessing domestic violence.

¹ The David and Lucile Packard Foundation, The Future of Children— "Domestic Violence and Children," Volume 9, Number 3, Winter 1999.

² In 2002, the Sheriff's Department discovered an error in the reporting system that tracks domestic violence calls for assistance. Therefore, the sharp decline between the 2001 and 2002 data does not reflect a decrease in calls for assistance. Instead, it reflects a correction in the reporting system.

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Child Abuse

Definition of Relevant Terms:

Child: Individual 17 years or less.

Sexual Abuse: The victimization of a child through sexual activities. These activities include, but are not limited to: molestation, indecent exposure, fondling, rape, and incest.

Physical Abuse: A bodily injury which has been or is being inflicted by other than accidental means on a child by the child's caretaker. Physical abuse includes, but is not limited to: willful cruelty, unjustifiable punishment, or corporal punishment / injury to a child.

Severe Neglect: The negligent failure of a caretaker to protect a child from severe malnutrition, or medically diagnosed non-organic failure to thrive. Severe neglect also includes situations where a caretaker willingly causes or allows the child to be placed in a situation where his / her health is endangered. This includes, but is not limited to: intentional failure to provide necessary medical care, adequate food, clothing, or shelter.

General Neglect: The negligent failure of a caretaker to provide adequate food, clothing, shelter, or supervision where no physical injury to the child has occurred.

Emotional Abuse: Non-physical mistreatment, the results of which may be characterized by disturbed behavior on the part of the child such as severe withdrawal, regression, bizarre behavior, hyperactivity, or dangerous behavior. Such behavior, in and of itself, is not deemed to be evidence of emotional abuse. Emotional abuse includes, but is not limited to: willfully causing or permitting any child to suffer, inflicting mental suffering, or endangering a child's emotional well being.

Exploitation: The act of forcing or coercing a child into performing activities for the benefit of the caretaker which are beyond the child's capabilities or which are illegal or degrading. This term also includes sexual exploitation.

Caretaker Absence or Incapacity: The absence of the caretaker due to hospitalization, incarceration or death; incapacity of the caretaker to provide adequate care for the child due to physical or emotional illness, disabling condition, or compulsive use of alcohol or narcotics.

Source: Health and Welfare Agency Annual Statistical Report, 2002.

Child Abuse

Substantiated Cases of Child Abuse by Type of Abuse, Santa Cruz County

Type of Abuse	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	% Change
Sexual Abuse	52	43	48	46	52	13.0
Physical Abuse	108	132	112	107	94	-12.1
Severe Neglect	65	28	35	9	14	55.6
General Neglect	236	267	233	244	199	-18.4
Exploitation	-	0	-	-	0	N/a
Emotional Abuse	260	313	318	320	368	15.0
Caretaker Absence or Incapacity	91	95	71	56	56	0.0
At Risk – Sibling Abused	29	26	48	27	18	-33.3
Substantial Risk	0	0	5	17	-	N/a
County Total	842	904	872	828	804	-2.9

Note: Types of abuse with less than 5 substantiated cases have been masked to protect confidentiality.

Rate of Substantiated Cases of Child Abuse

	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	% Change
Rate of Substantiated Cases of Child Abuse – Santa Cruz County	13.2	14.0	14.4	13.4	12.9	-3.7
Rate of Substantiated Cases of Child Abuse – California	11.7	12.0	12.3	12.3	12.1	-1.6

Source: Needell, B. et al, (2003). Child Welfare Services Reports for California. Retrieved May 14, and June 20, 2003, from University of California at Berkeley Center for Social Services Research website. URL: <<http://cssr.berkeley.edu/CWSCMSreports/>> Child Welfare Services Reports for California. Retrieved from University of California at Berkeley Center for Social Services Research.

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Elder Abuse

Reported cases of Abuse

Reported Cases	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	% Change
Cases of elders abused by another	136	164	157	170	200	211	167	170	183	7.6
Cases of elder self-neglect	60	96	94	67	76	121	124	163	132	-19.0
County Total	196	260	251	237	276	332	291	333	315	-5.4
Population 65 or older	26,551	26,785	27,081	27,281	27,529	27,762	28,109	28,423	28,720	1.0
Elder abuse reported case rate per 1,000	7.4	9.7	9.3	8.7	10.0	12.0	10.4	11.7	11.0	-6.0

Source: Santa Cruz County Human Resources Agency, Adult and Long Term Care Division, Health and Welfare Agency Annual Statistical Report, 2003; State of California, Department of Finance, Race/Ethnic Population with Age and Sex Detail, 1970-2040. Sacramento, CA, December 1998.

Note: Figures prior to September 1999 include the number of cases investigated in that particular year, in addition to the number of cases reported and not investigated after an evaluation by a supervisor. In September 1999, the state report form and methodology changed. This new system only tracks reports investigated which are either confirmed or inconclusive. Therefore, the decreased elder abuse report rate above is not necessarily reflective of a decrease in elder abuse. In fact, if a change in reporting had not occurred, the rate would have increased.

Foster Care Placements

Children that are reported to be in at-risk environments often are placed in foster care. When possible, children are kept in the home but placed under supervision. Children experiencing serious cases of abuse and neglect are placed in out-of-home foster care, until the family can be reunified or other actions are taken.

Rate of First Entries into Foster Care

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	% Change
Number of Children Placed in Foster Care	262	212	211	177	226	186	149	-19.9
Rate per 1,000 — Santa Cruz County	4.2	3.4	3.3	2.7	3.7	3.0	2.4	-20.0
Rate per 1,000 — California	3.8	4.0	3.8	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.4	-2.9

Source: Needell, B. et al, (2003). Child Welfare Services Reports for California. Retrieved May 14, and June 20, 2003, from University of California at Berkeley Center for Social Services Research website. URL: <<http://cssr.berkeley.edu/CWSCMSreports/>> Child Welfare Services Reports for California. Retrieved from University of California at Berkeley Center for Social Services Research.

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Driving Under the Influence – Felony

Driving under the influence arrest data is a gauge of law enforcement's effectiveness in stopping DUI crimes and preventing possible injury or fatalities.

Adult and Juvenile Felony DUI Arrests, Santa Cruz County

Ethnicity	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	% Change
Caucasian	26	19	21	26	22	38	35	23	30	30.4
Hispanic	17	13	19	17	12	13	15	24	14	-41.7
African American	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	N/a
Other	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	2	N/a
County Total	43	32	40	45	34	53	52	47	46	-2.1
Population 16 and older	184,105	185,903	187,513	190,451	193,833	197,508	201,232	205,002	208,607	1.8
Felony DUI Rate per 10,000	2.3	1.7	2.1	2.4	1.8	2.7	2.6	2.3	2.2	-4.3

Adult Felony DUI Arrests, California

Ethnicity	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	% Change
Caucasian	3,061	2,832	2,636	2,256	2,222	2,196	2,243	2,365	2,338	-1.1
Hispanic	3,470	2,917	2,834	2,436	2,259	2,127	2,343	2,492	2,612	4.8
African American	589	462	438	407	390	445	450	426	522	22.5
Other	357	342	348	408	420	420	398	337	360	6.8
County Total	7,477	6,553	6,256	5,507	5,291	5,188	5,434	5,620	5,832	3.8
Population 18 and older	23,027,636	23,158,473	23,340,409	23,701,148	24,075,776	24,480,601	24,882,708	25,300,422	25,706,335	1.6
Felony DUI Rate per 10,000	3.2	2.8	2.7	2.3	2.2	2.1	2.2	2.2	2.3	4.5

Source: State of California Department of Justice, California Criminal Justice Profile, 2002; State of California, Department of Finance, Race/Ethnic Population with Age and Sex Detail, 1970-2040, Sacramento, CA, December 1998.

In 1994, there were no juvenile felony DUI arrests in Santa Cruz County. In 1995, there were two Caucasian juvenile felony arrests. In 1996, there was one Hispanic juvenile DUI arrest, while in 1997 there were two Caucasian juvenile felony DUI arrests. There were no juvenile felony DUI arrests in 1998 or 1999. In 2000, there was one juvenile felony arrest with the ethnicity identified as "other." In 2001, there were two felony DUI arrests of Hispanic youth. In 2002, there were no juvenile felony DUI arrests in Santa Cruz County.

Driving Under the Influence – Misdemeanor

Adult Misdemeanor DUI Arrests, Santa Cruz County

Ethnicity	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	% Change
Caucasian	1,413	1,309	1,553	1,463	1,379	1,390	1,142	1,015	1,125	10.8
Hispanic	1,067	995	929	856	648	530	565	563	576	2.3
African American	32	33	28	42	24	31	36	41	49	19.5
Other	57	40	31	50	39	28	53	50	47	-6.0
County Total	2,569	2,377	2,541	2,411	2,090	1,979	1,796	1,669	1,797	7.7
Adult Population (18+)	178,617	180,358	181,692	184,268	187,527	190,970	194,477	198,014	201,487	1.8
Adult Misdemeanor DUI Rate per 10,000	143.8	131.8	139.9	130.8	111.5	103.6	92.4	84.3	89.2	5.8

Adult Misdemeanor DUI Arrests, California

Ethnicity	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	% Change
Caucasian	82,975	82,212	82,969	77,566	77,553	78,354	74,179	72,852	72,319	-0.7
Hispanic	92,562	87,639	88,722	82,075	79,440	77,639	78,900	75,813	76,613	1.1
African American	13,702	12,293	12,887	12,451	12,275	12,588	11,930	12,137	12,494	2.9
Other	10,346	10,398	11,138	13,938	13,768	14,762	11,965	10,877	10,840	-0.3
State Total	199,585	192,542	195,716	186,028	183,036	183,343	176,974	171,679	172,266	0.3
Adult Population (18+)	23,027,636	23,158,473	23,340,409	23,701,148	24,075,776	24,480,601	24,882,708	25,300,422	25,706,335	1.6
Adult Misdemeanor DUI Rate per 10,000	86.7	83.1	83.9	78.5	76.0	74.9	71.1	67.9	67.0	-1.3

Source: State of California Department of Justice, California Criminal Justice Profile, 2002; State of California, Department of Finance, Race/Ethnic Population with Age and Sex Detail, 1970-2040, Sacramento, CA, December 1998.

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Driving Under the Influence – Misdemeanor

Juvenile Misdemeanor DUI Arrests, Santa Cruz County

Ethnicity	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	% Change
Caucasian	18	19	16	21	23	35	16	21	12	-42.9
Hispanic	15	13	9	13	14	6	11	10	6	-40.0
Other	1	2	1	0	3	1	1	0	0	N/a
African American	0	1	1	0	2	1	0	0	0	N/a
County Total	34	35	27	34	42	43	28	31	18	-41.9
Juvenile Population 16-17	5,488	5,545	5,821	6,183	6,306	6,538	6,755	6,988	7,120	1.9
Juvenile Misdemeanor DUI Rate per 10,000	62.0	63.1	46.4	55.0	66.6	65.8	41.5	44.4	25.3	-43.0

Juvenile Misdemeanor DUI Arrests, California

Ethnicity	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	% Change
Caucasian	750	832	960	818	875	892	778	850	775	-8.8
Hispanic	793	619	629	639	615	621	556	589	572	-2.9
Other	65	53	69	101	136	121	81	80	86	7.5
African American	82	66	56	51	57	40	42	41	49	19.5
State Total	1,690	1,570	1,714	1,609	1,683	1,674	1,457	1,560	1,482	-5.0
Juvenile Population 16-17	789,082	801,976	839,198	894,117	899,563	912,654	942,224	958,094	991,332	3.5
Juvenile Misdemeanor DUI Rate per 10,000	21.4	19.6	20.4	18.0	18.7	18.3	15.5	16.3	14.9	-8.6

Source: State of California Department of Justice, California Criminal Justice Profile, 2002; State of California, Department of Finance, Race/Ethnic Population with Age and Sex Detail, 1970-2040, Sacramento, CA, December 1998.

Juvenile Drug Arrests

Drug arrest data is a useful tool in the analysis of social conditions in a region and a resource for developing strategies to address issues involving drug-related crime and other social problems.

Juvenile Felony Drug Arrests, Santa Cruz County

Drug	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	% Change
Narcotics	44	42	36	48	31	26	37	32	-13.5
Marijuana	17	25	25	30	26	23	23	21	-8.7
Dangerous Drugs	23	18	15	11	19	16	6	14	133.3
Other Drug Violations	3	2	1	1	0	0	0	1	N/a
County Total	87	87	77	90	76	65	66	68	3.0

Juvenile Misdemeanor Drug Arrests, Santa Cruz County

Drug	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	% Change
Marijuana	126	109	103	142	123	116	163	184	12.9
Other Drug Violations	46	52	96	90	81	52	56	56	0.0
County Total	172	161	199	232	204	168	219	240	9.6

Source: State of California Department of Justice, California Criminal Justice Profile, 2002.

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Adult Drug Arrests

Adult Felony Drug Arrests, Santa Cruz County

Drug	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	% Change
Narcotics	652	664	712	612	537	504	441	412	-6.6
Marijuana	128	152	154	155	137	109	73	127	74.0
Dangerous Drugs	176	174	325	274	258	225	227	227	0.0
Other Drug Violations	21	21	22	30	18	24	21	18	-14.3
County Total	977	1,011	1,213	1,071	950	862	762	784	2.9

Adult Misdemeanor Drug Arrests, Santa Cruz County

Drug	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	% Change
Marijuana	198	295	284	319	390	367	351	354	0.9
Other Drug Violations	506	668	760	759	798	787	740	681	-8.0
Total Arrests	704	963	1,044	1,078	1,188	1,154	1,091	1,035	-5.1

Source: State of California Department of Justice, California Criminal Justice Profile, 2002.