

Situation of Juvenile Delinquency in Japan in 2006

1. Penal Code Offenses by Juveniles

The number of juveniles who committed penal code offenses decreased by 8.8% compared to the previous year to 112,817. This is a decrease for three consecutive years. The number of juvenile penal code offenders per 1,000 decreased by 1.1 to 14.8, about 5.7 times as many as the number per 1,000 adults.

Trend in Numbers of Juvenile Penal Code Offenders

Year	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Number of offenders	141,775	144,404	134,847	123,715	112,817
Number per 1,000	16.7	17.5	16.8	15.9	14.8

2. Juvenile Delinquents Who Received Police Guidance

The number of juvenile delinquents who received police guidance increased by 4.4% compared to the previous year to 1,427,928.

Trend in Numbers of Juvenile Delinquents Who Received Police Guidance

Year	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Total	1,122,233	1,298,568	1,419,085	1,367,351	1,427,928
Smoking	480,598	542,214	575,749	545,601	557,079
Late Night Loaming	475,594	577,082	669,214	671,175	719,732

3. Juveniles Who Committed Felonious or Violent Crimes

The number of juveniles who committed felonious crimes decreased by 18.8% compared to the previous year to 1,170. The number of juveniles who committed violent crimes decreased by 6.1% to 9,817.

Trend in Numbers of Juvenile Who Committed Felonious Crimes (Murder and Robbery)

Year	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Total	1,986	2,212	1,584	1,441	1,170
Murder	80	93	57	67	69
Robbery	1,586	1,771	1,273	1,146	892

Trend in Numbers of Juvenile Who Committed Violent Crimes
(Bodily injury and Threat of violence)

Year	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Total	15,954	14,356	11,439	10,458	9,817
Bodily injury	9,140	8,110	6,408	6,103	5,919
Threat of violence	4,616	4,065	3,073	2,616	2,117

4. Situation of Street Crimes

- * The number of juvenile offenders of Street Crimes decreased by 7.0% compared to the previous year to 26,797.
- * Juveniles accounted for about 60% of the total number of offenders of street crimes.
- * The number of juvenile offenders of street robbery decreased by 21.8% compared to the previous year to 553.
- * The number of juvenile offenders of purse snatching decreased by 18.6% compared to the previous year to 834.

Trend in Numbers of Juvenile Offenders of Street Crimes

Year	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	%*
Street robbery	1,027	1,227	763	707	553	52.5
Purse snatching	2,166	1,957	1,352	1,025	834	50.5
Theft from a car	816	776	681	527	547	19.8
Theft of car parts	1,574	1,468	1,255	1,204	1,132	58.6
Theft from a vending machine	2,163	2,453	1,933	1,479	912	66.6
Car theft	1,680	1,542	1,216	938	852	27.9
Motorcycle theft	12,650	10,669	8,735	8,188	7,311	94.1
Bicycle theft	14,710	16,316	15,342	14,732	14,656	57.6

5. Juveniles Using Stimulants

The number of juveniles who used stimulants fell by 32.3% compared to the previous year to 289.

Trend in Numbers of Juveniles Using Stimulants

Year	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006**
Total	745	524	388	427	289
Junior High School Students	44	16	7	23	11
High School Students	65	36	38	55	44

(These data include the numbers of juveniles who violated the Narcotics and Special Procedure Law.)

6. Juvenile Victims

The case of penal code offenses whose victims were juveniles fell by 5.2% compared to the previous year to 309,078.

Trend in Cases of Juvenile Victims

Year	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006**
Penal Code Offenses	406,519	385,762	356,426	326,042	309,078
Felony Crimes	2,138	2,204	1,935	1,668	1,463
Violent Crimes	24,007	22,833	20,488	18,039	16,785
Larceny Crimes	354,927	328,869	302,233	275,732	261,709
Sexual Crimes	6,903	7,376	6,491	5,845	5,342

7. Offences of the Anti-Child Prostitution and Pornography Law

The number of offences of the Anti-Child Prostitution and Pornography Law increased by 8.8% compared to the previous year to 2,229, and the number of offenders increased by 11.5% to 1,490. Both numbers of offences and offenders went up for three consecutive years.

Specifically, the number of offences of child pornography rose by 31.1% to 616, and the number of offenders rose by 12.2% to 350.

Numbers of Offences and Offenders of the Anti-Child Prostitution and Pornography Law

Year	Total number of offences	Offences of child prostitution	Offences of child pornography	Total number of offenders	Offenders of child prostitution	Offenders of child pornography
2006**	2,229	1,613	616	1,490	1,140	350
2005	2,049	1,579	470	1,336	1,024	312
2004	1,845	1,668	177	1,232	1,095	137
2003	1,945	1,731	214	1,374	1,182	192
2002	2,091	1,902	189	1,366	1,201	165

8. Child Abuse by Guardians

The number of child abuse cases by guardians increased by 33.8% compared to the previous year to 297, and the number of offenders increased 36.0% to 329. The number of deaths due to child abuse by guardians increased by 55.3% to 59.

Numbers of Offences for Child Abuse by Guardians

Year	Total	Physical abuse	Sexual abuse	Negligence or rejection
2006	297	199	75	23
2005	222	156	55	11
2004	229	176	39	14
2003	157	109	29	19
2002	172	119	33	20

Numbers of Victims for Child Abuse by Guardians

Year	Total	Physical abuse	Sexual abuse	Negligence or rejection
2006	316	215	77	24
2005	229	162	56	11
2004	239	186	39	14
2003	166	115	32	19
2002	179	121	36	22

Note: Numbers marked * are juvenile crimes as a percentage of the total (2006).

: Numbers marked ** are provisional.