

## Q22 Reasons for Juvenile Crime Trends: Describe factors that have influenced trends in juvenile crime.

Answered: 128    Skipped: 73

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Lack of adult supervision, gang membership, problems in school, substance abuse	6/24/2025 2:08 PM
2	Self-mediating for young children especially the mentally challenged is growing	6/24/2025 12:02 PM
3	Untreated Trauma with kids and families. Lack of jobs that a traumatized person can do - which is pretty limited. Needing drugs to feel better	6/24/2025 10:49 AM
4	Lack of services Fewer adults with time for kids Abuse and substance abuse	6/24/2025 10:19 AM
5	These trends are shaped by a combination of social, economic, psychological, familial, and environmental factors. 1. Family Structure and Stability Parental supervision: Lack of consistent parental involvement or supervision is linked to increased juvenile delinquency. Single-parent households or families experiencing divorce, abuse, or neglect can create unstable environments where youth are more likely to engage in risky behavior. Exposure to domestic violence or family substance abuse also increases the likelihood of juvenile crime. 2. Socioeconomic Conditions Poverty and economic hardship: Youth from low-income families may turn to crime out of economic necessity or as a result of limited resources and opportunities. Lack of access to quality education, jobs, and extracurricular activities reduces protective factors that help prevent delinquent behavior. 3. Peer Influence and Gang Involvement Adolescents are highly influenced by peers. Associating with delinquent peers increases the risk of engaging in criminal activity. Gang membership offers a sense of identity and belonging, particularly in underserved communities, but significantly increases violent behavior and criminal acts. 4. Substance Use and Abuse Alcohol and drug use among teens is strongly associated with criminal behavior, including theft, assault, and vandalism. Substance abuse often co-occurs with mental health issues, compounding the risk of delinquency. 5. Mental Health and Trauma Undiagnosed or untreated mental health disorders, such as conduct disorder, depression, or PTSD, can contribute to aggressive or impulsive behaviors. Exposure to trauma (e.g., abuse, neglect, community violence) affects brain development and decision-making, increasing the risk of involvement in crime. 6. School Engagement and Performance Youth who struggle academically, are frequently suspended, or feel disconnected from school are more likely to commit crimes. School-to-prison pipeline: Harsh disciplinary policies can push youth out of schools and into the juvenile justice system. 7. Community and Environmental Factors Living in high-crime neighborhoods with limited access to positive role models or safe recreational spaces can lead to normalization of violence and crime. Lack of community resources (mentorship programs, after-school activities, youth employment) reduces protective factors. 8. Technology and Media Influence Social media can both encourage and document criminal behavior (e.g., fights, thefts, or cyberbullying). Exposure to violent media and online peer pressure can influence aggressive behavior in youth.	6/24/2025 10:10 AM
6	Lack of home discipline. Social media. Unsupervised time.	6/23/2025 8:12 PM
7	My guess is lack of positive parental involvement	6/23/2025 3:36 PM
8	Poverty, lack of supervision, little parental support	6/23/2025 2:31 PM
9	Gun violence, internet influence and no activities for teens	6/23/2025 10:25 AM
10	N/A	6/23/2025 9:33 AM
11	Poverty Mental Health Lack of education	6/23/2025 9:29 AM
12	Do not know	6/23/2025 9:20 AM
13	Complex trauma, abuse, culture	6/23/2025 9:11 AM
14	I don't know	6/18/2025 9:55 AM

## State of the Child in Jefferson County Survey 2025

15	Substance use/abuse, family violence, economic disadvantages	6/17/2025 7:39 PM
16	Community norms	6/16/2025 10:36 AM
17	Access to firearms is rampant	6/10/2025 1:51 PM
18	unknown	6/9/2025 2:21 PM
19	Being labeled and "written off" early, testing for learning differences are not widely performed, access to social media, and parents not attending to the needs of their children.	6/8/2025 4:43 PM
20	Lack of after school activities. The ease of connecting with the wrong people online. The need to encourage children to get outdoors and play. The ability to connect with the wrong crowd in schools.	6/7/2025 9:02 AM
21	Lack of parental guidance and supervision	6/6/2025 3:00 PM
22	Poverty, lack of alternate educational opportunities. Lack of mental health treatment and services. Lack of parental guidance. Substance Abuse.	6/6/2025 12:32 PM
23	Peer pressure	6/6/2025 11:53 AM
24	N/a	6/6/2025 12:43 AM
25	Access to positive childcare from preK to teen, access to mental health resources, and literacy rates.	6/5/2025 5:47 PM
26	TV AND FRIENDS	6/5/2025 5:11 PM
27	Lack of quality education, rise in drugs, criminalization of marijuana	6/5/2025 2:53 PM
28	unsure	6/5/2025 2:40 PM
29	Lack of parental supervision and involvement, illiteracy, poverty, domestic violence, food insecurity.	6/5/2025 2:30 PM
30	Parents not parenting and keeping an eye on their children. A lot of children are free to do as they please with no consequences and not curfew or rules at home.	6/5/2025 2:09 PM
31	Children dropping out of school No parental support Need for more school counselors	6/5/2025 1:22 PM
32	Mental health needs, gang violence, lack of financial resources	6/5/2025 10:15 AM
33	lack of free locations for teens to congregate with out loitering violations.	6/5/2025 9:58 AM
34	lack of mental health services	6/5/2025 9:50 AM
35	The kids get a slap on the hand and release back into the community with little to no impact. They should be harder consequences and receive mandatory counseling services for the kid and parent(s). In most cases the parents are at a loss on control of their kid.	6/5/2025 8:29 AM
36	Social media	6/5/2025 8:21 AM
37	Lack of Parental involvement or support.	6/4/2025 8:51 PM
38	IDK	6/4/2025 1:50 PM
39	Current polirical climate is incredibly divisive and adults are acting like bullies and their children are following suit.	6/4/2025 12:35 PM
40	Broken Homes, environmental	6/4/2025 11:30 AM
41	abuse can lead to juvenile crimes as well as being in poverty. Not having access to a lot of things that more wealthier families have access to	6/4/2025 9:29 AM
42	na	6/4/2025 8:43 AM
43	poverty, mental health, gang involvement and lack of parental supervision and consequences	6/3/2025 11:39 AM
44	Child abuse Substance abuse	6/3/2025 9:47 AM
45	Lack of parental oversight. Lack of consequences in the home. Poverty.	6/2/2025 4:13 PM
46	substance use, bullying, lack of parental involvement and support	6/2/2025 1:25 PM

## State of the Child in Jefferson County Survey 2025

47	No supervision No sense of community Lack of exposure	6/2/2025 1:19 PM
48	drugs, no parental boundaries etc	6/2/2025 1:15 PM
49	Location and truancy	6/2/2025 10:20 AM
50	Gun violence	6/2/2025 10:17 AM
51	Don't know	6/2/2025 9:32 AM
52	Lack of parenting education	6/2/2025 8:38 AM
53	no guidance, structure or extracurricular activities, poverty	6/1/2025 11:30 PM
54	Idk	5/30/2025 10:02 AM
55	Poverty Gangs Drugs	5/30/2025 4:59 AM
56	not sure	5/29/2025 9:23 PM
57	Mental health and lack of education	5/29/2025 12:49 PM
58	Vaping	5/29/2025 12:09 PM
59	social media communities	5/29/2025 11:53 AM
60	Parents involvement	5/28/2025 4:24 PM
61	Resources, poor community, survival	5/28/2025 3:59 PM
62	Drugs, lack of supervision/alternate activities	5/28/2025 3:54 PM
63	Poverty, unstable housing, and food insecurity increase the likelihood of youth engaging in risky behavior. Unaddressed mental health issues, including depression, anxiety, and behavioral disorders, are linked to increased delinquency.	5/28/2025 3:41 PM
64	nothing for kids to do	5/28/2025 2:56 PM
65	Drugs, gangs, and lack of structure in the home.	5/28/2025 2:53 PM
66	Not enough resources for single parents, parents and families living below poverty level, no programs for intervention when a kid at risk is identified.	5/28/2025 2:34 PM
67	Access to guns	5/28/2025 2:16 PM
68	NA	5/28/2025 1:39 PM
69	Lack of involvement and financial barriers preventing involvement	5/27/2025 8:34 PM
70	IDK	5/27/2025 3:48 PM
71	Parental involvement	5/27/2025 1:38 PM
72	N/A	5/27/2025 8:41 AM
73	Crime, family instability, adult Mental Health	5/24/2025 1:16 PM
74	Tv and videos	5/23/2025 6:18 PM
75	Lack of parents support	5/23/2025 1:53 PM
76	Unsafe schools/housing, substance/alcohol use, easy access to firearms, untreated mental illness, lack of supervision and guidance, hopelessness, toxic relationships, uncontrolled anger, lack of healthy coping, generational violence, chronic stress, etc.	5/23/2025 12:40 PM
77	poverty, substance abuse, mental health	5/23/2025 11:46 AM
78	Social media/lack of supervision	5/23/2025 10:48 AM
79	Firearms	5/23/2025 10:14 AM
80	Trying to fit in.	5/22/2025 6:50 PM
81	Inadequate Training for First Responders. Children with disabilities are being unjustly criminalized for behaviors stemming from their conditions.	5/22/2025 6:11 PM

## State of the Child in Jefferson County Survey 2025

82	Sustained poverty and all the "isms."	5/22/2025 4:43 PM
83	not sure	5/22/2025 3:47 PM
84	Lack of supervision, exposure to violence/unhealthy behavior.	5/22/2025 3:41 PM
85	Not enough family involvement and peer relationships	5/22/2025 1:41 PM
86	Parental neglect or abuse Lack of supervision Criminal family member Peer influence Truancy and academic failure Undiagnosed or untreated disorders (Mental Health Issues) Lack of mentorship Weapon availability Substance abuse	5/22/2025 11:31 AM
87	Idk	5/22/2025 11:26 AM
88	Several factors have contributed to the rise in juvenile crime, including but not limited too family issues, socioeconomic conditions, peer pressure, a lack of supervision, poor school performance, violence in the neighborhood and at home, and trauma.	5/22/2025 11:26 AM
89	Social media; increased drop out rates	5/22/2025 11:10 AM
90	The lack of money finances for the children's needs so they commit crimes the lack of love because it's not given in a household maybe the parents I work too much and not focus on a child often time my kids go hungry so crimes are committed just for survival purposes.	5/22/2025 10:25 AM
91	Lack of school readiness	5/22/2025 10:24 AM
92	Drugs, Absenteeism (holding the parent and the child accountable for attendance at school) When a child is not in school they are more apt to be involved in criminal activity.	5/22/2025 10:09 AM
93	Idk	5/22/2025 10:07 AM
94	IDK	5/22/2025 9:40 AM
95	Drugs, alcohol and vapes have influenced trends in juvenile crime.	5/22/2025 9:38 AM
96	Living in poverty Learned behavior	5/22/2025 9:30 AM
97	Bullying	5/22/2025 9:26 AM
98	N/A	5/22/2025 9:22 AM
99	poverty	5/22/2025 8:54 AM
100	gang relates activities and lack of parental involvement in juvenile's life.	5/22/2025 8:46 AM
101	Lack of parent involvement.	5/22/2025 8:23 AM
102	Social media and lack of guidance	5/22/2025 8:21 AM
103	Crime	5/22/2025 8:18 AM
104	Limited parent involvement or parents who are able to set boundaries and have positive influence over their children	5/21/2025 10:38 AM
105	Availability of Drugs in the Home environment. Social Media. Gun Availability	5/20/2025 1:51 PM
106	Drugs are the driving factor in most juvenile crime.	5/20/2025 10:04 AM
107	I don't know	5/20/2025 10:02 AM
108	I don't have enough knowledge in this area to answer	5/20/2025 9:02 AM
109	N/A	5/20/2025 4:20 AM
110	Lack of gang prevention and gang intervention programs	5/19/2025 4:52 PM
111	IDK	5/19/2025 3:57 PM
112	I don't know	5/19/2025 1:30 PM
113	Systemic racism; access to violent videos and "bro" culture	5/19/2025 12:52 PM
114	Lack of positive role models	5/19/2025 11:52 AM

## State of the Child in Jefferson County Survey 2025

115	Marijuana use and truancy are counted as status offenses that impact incarceration.	5/19/2025 10:50 AM
116	Poverty, Lack of support,	5/19/2025 10:40 AM
117	Lack of parental involvement in schools.	5/19/2025 10:34 AM
118	na	5/19/2025 10:13 AM
119	gangs; lack of parental supports; culture	5/19/2025 10:11 AM
120	Lack of parental supervision Substance abuse Mental health needs	5/19/2025 10:11 AM
121	substance use, poverty	5/19/2025 9:57 AM
122	Not having enough to do. Alternative places for children during out of school time.	5/19/2025 9:20 AM
123	lack of parental involvement; fatherlessness	5/19/2025 9:15 AM
124	Gun violence	5/19/2025 9:07 AM
125	loss of hope, depression, crime in neighborhood,	5/19/2025 9:01 AM
126	I don't know.	5/19/2025 8:57 AM
127	Glock switch availability; increased THC use and vaping; POVERTY leading children to crime to make money; community violence (domestic violence and gun crimes) creating a cycle of crime	5/19/2025 8:49 AM
128	Gun possession, drug use, crime in the community, gangs, poverty, truancy, mental health issues, family criminality	5/19/2025 8:49 AM