

# UNDERSTANDING JUVENILE DELINQUENCY CASES OF INDIA (2010-2015) THROUGH STATISTICAL MEASURES

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**Abstract:** According to provision of the Juvenile Justice Act, 1986, in Section 2(e) defines a delinquent juvenile as “a juvenile who has been found to have committed an offence” Section 2(h) defines as “a boy who has not attained the age of 16 years or a girl who has not attained the age of 18 years ”.According to the Juvenile Justice ( care and protection of children ) Act 2000 , some changes have been done by the government in place of juvenile delinquent the new word ‘juvenile in conflict with law’ is added which means a person below 18 years of age and is alleged to have committed an offence. Children constitute about 40% of India’s population and India has a National Policy for Children declaring children to be a national asset. Even so majority of India’s children continue to be in difficult circumstances. India has witnessed an increase in crimes committed by children and those committed against them. There has been 97.9% increase in crimes committed by children between 2003 and 2004. Indian legal system and judiciary has responded to these trends and has brought some amendments in the laws pertaining to juvenile justice in India. Over 33,000 juveniles, mostly between the age group of 16 to 18, have been arrested for crimes like rape and murder across Indian states in 2011. Rape: Delhi recorded from 231.25% in 2010 to 793.33% in 2015 out of the total cognizable crime cases reported. Bihar reported an increase of 2.2% in 2010 to 19.07% in 2015 out of total cognizable crime cases. Robbery: Pondicherry reported an increase from 12.98% in 2010 to 19.59% in 2015. Burglary: Andhra Pradesh reported an increase from 11% in 2010 to 16% in 2015. Theft: Jharkhand recorded an increase from 15% in 2010 to 17.93% in 2015.

This paper aims at looking at the causes and the real scenario of juvenile delinquency from various fields to explain the problem. The analysis of statistical data available at official sites indicates increasing involvement of the juveniles in different crimes.

**Key words:** Juvenile Delinquency, Juvenile Justice Act, Cognizable Crimes.

## I. Introduction:

The word juvenile has been derived from the Latin term '*juvenis*', which means young. The word delinquency has been derived from the Latin word '*delinquer*' which Means to omit.

According to provision of the *Juvenile Justice Act, 1986*, in Section 2(e) defines a delinquent juvenile as “a juvenile who has been found to have committed an offence” Section 2(h) defines as “a boy who has not attained the age of 16 years or a girl who has not attained the age of 18 years ”.According to the *Juvenile Justice ( care and protection of children ) Act 2000* , some changes have been done by the government in place of juvenile delinquent the new word ‘juvenile in conflict with law’ is added which means a person below 18 years of age and is alleged to have committed an offence. Children constitute about 40% of India’s population and India has a National Policy for Children declaring children to be a national asset. Even so majority of India’s children continue to be in difficult circumstances.

India has witnessed an increase in crimes committed by children and those committed against them. There has been 97.9% increase in crimes committed by children between 2003 and 2004. Over 33,000 juveniles, mostly between the age group of 16 to 18, have been arrested for crimes like rape and murder across Indian states in 2011.

In the circumstances our major objectives are as follows:

- To find out the trend and pattern of juvenile delinquency rates from 2010-2015.
- To study the relationship between education and juvenile delinquency.
- To rank the first four states having high juvenile delinquency cases based on their share to the total registered cases of juvenile delinquency.
- To find out the shares of increase/decrease percentage of different types of juvenile crime in different states from 2010-2015.

## II. Data Base and Methodology:

The major source for the project is of secondary nature. The dataset has been collected from collected from the National Crime Records Bureau Year book 2016, under Ministry Of Home affairs.

The methodology has been divided into four parts:

Simple statistical technique percentage have been performed to find out the increase/decrease in the each of the type of crime broadly categorized under Juvenile delinquency.

1. Compound annual growth rate has been computed to find out the trend and pattern of juvenile delinquency cases for India.

The compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of different heads of receipt of juvenile crimes has been calculated for the relevant variables with the help of log linear equation as follows:

$$\ln Y = \alpha + \beta t$$

where  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  are the regression coefficients. The slope coefficient  $\beta$  of “t” in the above growth model gives the instantaneous rate of growth and not the compound rate of growth.

But the latter can be easily found by taking the antilog of  $\beta$ , subtracting 1 from it and multiplying the difference by 100.

2. Correlation Coefficient was calculated. Two variables were taken. Total number of Juvenile crimes in the year 2015 and education level of the juveniles convicted for the same year.

$$r = \frac{n\sum xy - (\sum x)(\sum y)}{\sqrt{n(\sum x^2) - (\sum x)^2} \sqrt{n(\sum y^2) - (\sum y)^2}}$$

Where x = Total cognizable juvenile crime cases for the year 2015 and y = Educational level of the juveniles convicted for crime in 2015.

3. Regression has been performed to show the relation between cases of juvenile delinquency and education level. It has been performed to show the change in the value of dependent variable corresponding to the unit change in the independent variable.

Independent variable: State wise total number of juvenile cognizable crimes for 2015

Dependent variable: State wise total number of drop-outs having education higher than primary, but less than secondary level for 2015.

4. Ranking of top four states based on Percentage State Share To All-India share of juvenile cases for the year 2015.

### III. Results and Findings

#### *The compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of various types of crimes under Juvenile Delinquency cases over the study period 2010- 2015:*

The compound annual growth rate of juvenile crimes has recorded 3.35% over the last five years which is highly alarming situation. Kidnapping and abduction by juveniles has the sharpest growth rate followed by robbery, rape, dacoity, theft and burglary from 2010-2015. Rape committed by juveniles has increased by 7.14% in the last five years shows the state of disturbed mentality of teenagers mainly juveniles of India. The reason for increase in rape cases committed by juveniles can be attributed to influence of movies, pornography, obscene videos in social networking sites, peer influence, lack of education etc (Table-1).

Table 1. CAGR of various types of crimes under Juvenile Delinquency cases over the study period 2010- 2015.

Year	Rape	Kidnapping & abduction	Dacoity	Robbery	Burglary	Theft	Total Cognizable Crimes
2010	858	524	97	551	2271	4930	22740
2011	1149	760	134	639	2609	5320	25125
2012	1175	789	174	767	2625	5528	27936
2013	1884	1121	160	904	2860	6386	31725
2014	1989	1455	182	1024	2546	6717	33526
2015	1688	1630	193	1358	2605	6046	31396
CAGR	7.14*	10.3**	5.44*	7.78**	0.90	2.32*	3.35**

Source: National Crime Records Bureau, Ministry of Home Affairs

#### *Relation between total cognizable Juvenile Crime(J.C) and Education Level Of The Juveniles(EDU):*

We have taken total cognizable juvenile crime(J.C) and education level of the juveniles(EDU) of nineteen major states and Union Territories in India to explain the relation between total cognizable juvenile crime(J.C) and education level of the juveniles(EDU) for the year of 2015 by using simple regression model (Table 2).

Here we have shown total cognizable juvenile crime as dependent variable and education level of the juveniles as independent variable.

The variation in total cognizable juvenile crime(J.C) is explained by education level of the juveniles(EDU) to the extent of 93 per cent.

The coefficient of the variable total cognizable juvenile crime is significant at 1 per cent level. Entire model is significant at 1% level (Table 3).

Table 2. Total Cognizable Juvenile Crime (J.C) and Education Level Of The Juveniles (EDU) in 2015

State/UT	Total cognizable crime	Education above primary, below secondary
Andhra Pradesh	1002	475
Assam	580	182
Bihar	1562	1216
Chhattisgarh	1788	1116
Goa	27	17

Gujarat	1356	677
Haryana	1012	676
Jharkhand	112	49
Karnataka	398	369
Kerala	1177	669
Madhya Pradesh	6320	3542
Maharashtra	5482	4129
Orissa	910	336
Punjab	102	82
Rajasthan	2126	1411
Tamil Nadu	1483	1607
Uttar Pradesh	958	624
West Bengal	473	534
Delhi	2332	1185

Table 3. Regressions Equations Concerning Total Cognizable Juvenile Crime (J.C) and Education Level Of The Juveniles (EDU)

Regressions Equations	R <sup>2</sup>	Adj R <sup>2</sup>	F
$JC = 80.1 + 1.5^{**}EDU$ (0.60) (15.5)	0.94	0.93	241.8**

\*\* Indicates significance at 1% level.

#### Ranking of States based on Juvenile Delinquency:

**Madhya Pradesh** accounts for highest percentage of increase in rape cases by juveniles over this five years. The drift between 'dalits' and higher castes can be attributed to its spurt. **Delhi** has a patriarchal mindset which may be the reason for the sharp increase in rape cases. **Bihar** literacy rate is extremely low with maximum number of drop outs. Thus criminal tendency among juveniles is noteworthy. There is a spurt of around 10% in Kidnapping and abduction cases in a very short span of time among juvenile youth. The reasons can be estranged love affairs. Robbery performed by youth also increased. The highest share is in Pondicherry. The reason may be attributed to tourists from foreign countries which lures the juveniles to carry out petty robbery (Table-4).

Table 4. Ranking of the states based on juvenile crime 2015

States	Percentage State Share To All-India (2015)	Rank
1. Madhya Pradesh	20.6	1
2. Maharashtra	18.4	2
3. Delhi	7	3
4. Bihar	6.5	4

#### IV. Conclusion:

The spurt in the number of juvenile cases in India in the last few years is giving India a warning towards a grave future.

Youths are the founding pillars of the nation.

If the juvenile crime rate goes on increasing like this, India soon would turn out to be land of crimes.

Few steps needs to be taken to address the problem. They are mainly

- Providing scholarships and other benefits like mid day meal scheme, free books, fees waiver for students.
- Abolition of pass-fail system till secondary level.
- Free transportation to and from home from schools.
- Counselling for drug and alcohol abuse.
- By identifying and treating the small percentage of juveniles who are at risk of becoming chronic offenders when they first come into contact with the juvenile justice system.
- Employment preparation and job placement services.
- At-home, intensive family counselling for families that can benefit from it.

#### Surge in juvenile delinquencies - An alarm for the society

**Rape:** Delhi recorded from 231.25% in 2010 to 793.33% in 2015 out of the total cognizable crime cases reported.

Bihar reported an increase of 2.2% in 2010 to 19.07% in 2015 out of total cognizable crime cases.

**Robbery:** Pondicherry reported an increase from 12.98% in 2010 to 19.59% in 2015.

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There will never be sufficient resources to deflect all juvenile delinquents from a pattern of offending.

It is essential, instead, to focus intervention efforts where the need and the potential benefits are the greatest.

Such a concentration of efforts may lead to a solution of the problem and have a meaningful impact on community safety and on the future of many youth who might otherwise persist in lives of crime and violence.

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