

## Chapter 2 Measurement and Nature of Delinquency

**MULTIPLE CHOICE.** Choose the one alternative that best completes the statement or answers the question.

1)

Juveniles are more likely to be held for adult trial if they are arrested for \_\_\_\_\_.

1)

\_\_\_\_\_

A)

Part II property offenses

B)

status offenses

C)

violent Part I offenses

D)

less serious offenses

2)

Which of the following is an oft-cited problem associated with the *Uniform Crime Reports*?

2)

\_\_\_\_\_

A)

The statistics overestimate the actual amount of crime.

B)

The reports do not measure clearance by arrest.

C)

The reports are classified and are not made public.

D)

The statistics reflect official police policy rather than the amount of youth crime.

3)

\_\_\_\_\_ indicates that a person was arrested because he or she confessed to an offense or was implicated by other criminal evidence.

3)

\_\_\_\_\_

A)

Age of onset

B)

Hidden delinquency

C)

Reliability

D)

Clearance by arrest

4)

An exception to the general rule of juveniles being tried in juvenile courts includes those who \_\_\_\_\_.

4)

\_\_\_\_\_

A)

are scheduled for trial after their sixteenth birthday

B)

are arrested for less serious offenses

C)

are arrested for Part II offenses

D)

have a lengthy record of crime

5)

Most information about the number of children appearing before the juvenile court each year comes from what publication of the U.S. Department of Justice?

5)

\_\_\_\_\_

A)

*Journal of Research in Crime and Delinquency*

B)

National Crime Victimization Survey

C)

*Juvenile Court Statistics*

D)

*Uniform Crime Reports*

6)

The increase in homicides in the mid-1980s is commonly attributed to \_\_\_\_\_.

6)

\_\_\_\_\_

A)

single parents

B)

lenient courts

C)

urban life

D)

more guns in use

7)

*Juvenile Court Statistics* annuals are often criticized, much like UCRs, for only measuring crimes that \_\_\_\_\_.

7)

\_\_\_\_\_

A)

are typically referred back to juvenile authorities

B)

are considered as status offenses

C)

are brought to the attention of the court

D)

are committed by minorities

8)

Which of the following is a good example of a longitudinal method of research study?

8)

\_\_\_\_\_

A)

experimental data

B)

content analysis

C)

survey data

D)

cohort group

9)

A(n) \_\_\_\_\_ collects data from youths who report on their own delinquent acts.

9)

\_\_\_\_\_

A)

self-report survey

B)

observational study

C)

cohort study

D)

self-evaluation survey

10)

\_\_\_\_\_ studies suggest that a large amount of hidden delinquency occurs that is not reported in official statistics.

10)

\_\_\_\_\_ A)  
Longitudinal

B)

Cohort

C)

Self-report

D)

Comparative

11)

The extent to which a research instrument measures what it says it measures is called \_\_\_\_\_.

11)

\_\_\_\_\_ A)  
spurious association

B)

reliability

C)  
validity

D)

ecological fallacy

12)

The extent to which a questionnaire or interview yields the same answers from the same subjects when they are questioned two or more times is called \_\_\_\_\_.

12)

\_\_\_\_\_ A)  
ecological fallacy

B)

reliability

C)

validity

D)

spurious association

13)

Which of the following results from measurements of crime conducted by the Bureau of Justice Statistics and administered by the Census Bureau?

13)

\_\_\_\_\_

A)

National Crime Victimization Survey

B)

*Crime in the United States*

C)

*Juvenile Court Statistics*

D)

*Uniform Crime Reports*

14)

According to principal findings of victimization studies, juveniles are more likely to commit \_\_\_\_\_ than any other age group.

14)

\_\_\_\_\_

A)

property crimes

B)

Type II offenses

C)

aggravated assault

D)

Type I offenses

15)

The number of children appearing before the juvenile courts significantly increased from 1960 until the early \_\_\_\_\_, when it began to level off.

15)

\_\_\_\_\_

1980s

A)

2000s

B)

1990s

C)

1970s

D)

16)

According to studies based on official statistics, who is more likely to be overrepresented in arrest, conviction, and incarceration relative to their population base?

16)

\_\_\_\_\_

A)

Asian females

B)

Asian males

C)

African American males

D)

Caucasian females

17)

Offending rates \_\_\_\_\_ in the teenage years, \_\_\_\_\_ in the late teens and early twenties, and \_\_\_\_\_ thereafter.

17)

\_\_\_\_\_

A)

increase, decrease, remain stable

B)

increase, peak, decline

C)

peak, increase, decline

D)

decrease, increase, decrease

18)

Which of the following would NOT be considered a Part I offense?

18)

\_\_\_\_\_

A)

rape

B)

fraud

C)

murder

D)

robbery

19)

According to self-report studies, those who \_\_\_\_\_ later become chronic violent offenders.

19)

\_\_\_\_\_

A)

have a later age of onset

B)

never had an arrest record

C)

have an early age of onset

D)

use drugs

20)

Travis Hirschi believed that most delinquents have relationships with each other that can be described as \_\_\_\_\_.

20)

\_\_\_\_\_

A)

similar to that of family

B)

warm and nurturing

C)

strong

D)

cold and brittle

21)

What does the term *incidence of delinquency* refer to?

21)

\_\_\_\_\_

A)

the person who committed the crime

B)

the place where the crime occurred

C)

the time of the crime

D)

the frequency of offending or the number of delinquent events

22)

What does the term *prevalence of delinquency* refer to?

22)

\_\_\_\_\_

A)

the number of young people involved in delinquent behavior

B)

the place where the crime occurred

C)

the person who committed the crime

D)

the time of the crime

23)

All of the following are listed as strategies to reduce juvenile gun violence EXCEPT \_\_\_\_\_.

23)

\_\_\_\_\_

A)

community mobilization

B)

neighborhood "sweeps" of firearms



C)  
special law enforcement units

D)

alternative sanctions and interventions

24)  
Which of the following is NOT true concerning youths who carry guns?

24)

- \_\_\_\_\_
- A)  
more likely to engage in serious assaults and robberies
  - B)  
heavy drug users more likely to carry guns
  - C)  
gang members less likely to carry guns
  - D)  
more likely to live in communities with high prevalence of gun ownership

25)  
Female victimization is generally influenced by all of the following EXCEPT \_\_\_\_\_.

25)

- \_\_\_\_\_
- A)  
their gender

B)

history of violence

- C)  
their SES

D)

their race

**TRUE/FALSE. Write 'T' if the statement is true and 'F' if the statement is false.**

26)  
The Federal Bureau of Investigation serves as the clearinghouse for the Uniform Crime Reporting Program.

26)

\_\_\_\_\_

27)  
The Uniform Crime Reporting Program no longer publishes a printed copy of annual crime data.

27)

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28)

According to the UCR Program, juvenile murder rates increased greatly between 1993 and 2003.

28)

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29)

Juveniles in both the middle and lower classes are involved in considerable illegal behavior.

29)

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30)

Official arrest statistics show that adolescent males are involved in more frequent and more serious delinquent acts than adolescent females.

30)

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31)

The number of children appearing before the juvenile court significantly decreased from the late 1950s until the mid-1970s.

31)

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32)

Self-report studies are good for determining hidden delinquency.

32)

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33)

Self-report studies are often challenged with regard to questionable validity and reliability.

33)

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34)

According to NCVS data, whites are more likely to be victims of violent crime than African Americans.

34)

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35)

Victimization surveys do not add much significance to what is known about crime in the United States.

35)

\_\_\_\_\_

36)

The racial threat hypothesis holds that a larger racial minority population causes the majority to feel threatened and thus to use stronger social control measures.

36)

\_\_\_\_\_

37)

Gun assaults were not a primary contributing factor in homicide death rates of males thirteen to seventeen years old in the 1990s.

37)

\_\_\_\_\_

**SHORT ANSWER. Write the word or phrase that best completes each statement or answers the question.**

38)

A generation group as defined in demographics, in statistics, or for the purpose of social research is called a \_\_\_\_\_.

38)

\_\_\_\_\_

39)

\_\_\_\_\_ indicates that a person is arrested because he or she confesses to an offense or is implicated by other criminal evidence.

39)

\_\_\_\_\_

40)

According to self-report surveys, a large amount of \_\_\_\_\_ is not contained in official arrest statistics.

40)

\_\_\_\_\_

41)

The \_\_\_\_\_ refers to the age when delinquent behavior starts in a child.

41)

\_\_\_\_\_

42)

The relationship between \_\_\_\_\_ and crime is one of the most stable findings in the criminological literature.

42)

\_\_\_\_\_

43)

A 2010 report found that gender differences in rates of court referral are unlikely to be attributable to \_\_\_\_\_ in juvenile justice processing or law enforcement activities.

43)

\_\_\_\_\_

44)

The extent to which a questionnaire or interview yields the same answers from the same juveniles when they are questioned two or more times is called \_\_\_\_\_.

44)

\_\_\_\_\_

45)

In 2017, the largest percentage of person offenses consisted of \_\_\_\_\_, followed by aggravated assaults and then robberies.

45)

\_\_\_\_\_

46)

A problem with the validity of NCVS data is that victimizations of people under age \_\_\_\_\_ are not included.

46)

\_\_\_\_\_

47)

A 2011 study found that \_\_\_\_\_ children are more often cited for disciplinary infractions in schools than are children from other racial groups.

47)

\_\_\_\_\_

48)

\_\_\_\_\_ ownership, possession, and carrying have led to violence in drug transactions, schools, and gangs.

48)

\_\_\_\_\_

**ESSAY. Write your answer in the space provided or on a separate sheet of paper.**

49)

Discuss the various weaknesses attributed to the Uniform Crime Reporting Program as a measure of crime.

50)

Discuss the relationship between guns and youth violence.

51)

List some of the principal findings of victimization surveys.

52)

Discuss the findings of various studies on racial/ethnic background and delinquent behavior.

53)

Discuss the limitations of cohort studies.

1)

C

2)

D

3)

D

4)

D

5)

C

6)

D

7)

C

8)

D

9)

A

10)

C

11)

C

12)

B

13)

A

14)

A

15)

A

16)

C

17)

B

18)  
B  
19)  
C  
20)  
D  
21)  
D  
22)  
A  
23)  
B  
24)  
C  
25)  
B  
26)  
TRUE  
27)  
TRUE  
28)  
FALSE  
29)  
TRUE  
30)  
TRUE  
31)  
FALSE  
32)  
TRUE  
33)  
TRUE  
34)  
FALSE  
35)  
FALSE  
36)  
TRUE  
37)  
FALSE  
38)  
cohort  
39)  
Clearance by arrest  
40)  
hidden delinquency  
41)  
age of onset  
42)  
age  
43)  
gender biases

44)  
reliability

45)  
simple assaults

46)  
twelve

47)  
African American

48)  
Gun

49)  
The answer should include the following points

- Most crimes go unreported.
- Only serious property and personal crimes of juveniles are acted upon.
- UCR statistics may tell more about police policy than about crime.
- Data may not be entirely reliable.

50)  
The answer should include the following points

- Homicide death rates of males thirteen to seventeen years old often reflect gun use.
- Youths with guns tend to live in communities with high prevalence of gun ownership.
- Youths with guns are more likely to engage in serious assaults and robberies than others.
- Youths involved in drugs are more likely to carry guns than others and to believe that guns are necessary for their protection.
- Youths from gangs are more probable to carry guns.

51)  
The answer should include the following points

- More crime is committed than is recorded; the discrepancy is the number of victims.
- The rank order of serious offenses reported, except for vehicle theft, is identical to that of UCR.
- The probability of being victimized varies with the type of crime and where people live.
- Juveniles are more likely to not only commit crimes but also to be victimized than others.
- African Americans are overrepresented both as perpetrators and as victims of serious personal crimes.

52)  
The answer should include the following points  
Findings of various studies

- African Americans are overrepresented in arrest, conviction, and incarceration relative to their population base.
- African American, Hispanic, and Native American adolescents were involved in significantly higher levels of serious violence than were Caucasians.
- African American adolescents experience and are involved in higher rates of violence, especially armed violence. However, they do not have higher rates of property or drug crime.
- A combination of neighborhood context, socioeconomic status, and social psychological processes can explain most of the relationship between race and violence as well as ethnicity and violence.
- School-level characteristics were related to overall discipline levels, which is consistent with a racial threat hypothesis.
- Ethno-racial inequality in neighborhood crime rates is an outgrowth of racial residential segregation.

53)  
The answer should include the following points

- cannot confidently be generalized beyond the cohort
- expensive
- time-consuming
- hard to keep track of the sample