

It will be observed that the age group 16 to under 21 years shows a much higher crime rate than the juvenile group (7 to under 16 years) or the total young persons group (7 to under 21 years). After increasing steadily in recent years, the rate for this group dropped from 950 per 100,000 population in 1939 to 850 in 1940. However, notwithstanding this decrease, it stood 579 convictions per 100,000 over the juvenile rate, and 365 over the young persons rate in 1940.

20.—Convictions of Juveniles for Major Offences and of Adults for Indictable Offences, Years Ended Sept. 30, 1911, 1921, 1931 and 1937-40

Year	Convictions of Persons—			Rates per 100,000 Population		
	7 to Under 16 Years (Juveniles)	16 to Under 21 Years	7 to Under 21 Years	7 to Under 16 Years (Juveniles)	16 to Under 21 Years	7 to Under 21 Years
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
1911.....	1,439	1,640	3,079	111	238	155
1921.....	3,247	3,288	6,535	192	419	264
1931.....	5,311	6,453	11,764	271	630	394
1937.....	5,224	7,503	12,727	265	708	419
1938.....	5,055	8,492	13,547	263	786	452
1939.....	5,018	10,480	15,498	264	950	516
1940.....	5,298	9,471	14,583	289	850	485

Major Offences.—From Table 21 it will be observed that theft and receiving stolen goods; breaking, entering and theft; and other wilful damage to property account for the great bulk of the offences. In 1940, 93 p.c. of the major offences were in these classes.

21.—Juvenile Delinquents Convicted of Major Offences, by Type of Offence, Years Ended Sept. 30, 1933-40

Offence	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938	1939	1940
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
Murder.....	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Manslaughter.....	1	"	"	1	"	"	"	2
Rape, carnal knowledge and incest.....	8	15	8	10	8	5	17	12
Indecent assault.....	28	24	29	31	32	41	54	32
Aggravated assault and wounding.....	16	36	60	24	31	32	26	24
Common assault.....	139	115	98	102	83	68	66	99
Endangering life on railway.....	50	31	48	30	27	30	21	28
Other offences against the person.....	5	6	5	5	5	8	6	11
Breaking, entering and theft.....	957	1,071	1,022	1,015	1,204	1,110	1,189	1,245
Robbery.....	15	1	9	4	18	12	18	16
Theft and receiving stolen goods.....	3,155	3,094	3,548	3,094	3,128	3,043	2,916	3,037
False pretences and fraud.....	9	20	14	12	14	19	10	21
Arson.....	24	28	13	15	10	10	11	5
Other wilful damage to property.....	637	776	599	539	565	602	578	657
Forgery and offences against the currency.....	4	11	12	11	10	9	13	8
Immorality.....	72	73	35	52	48	45	36	47
Various other offences.....	24	52	14	25	41	21	57	54
Totals.....	5,144	5,353	5,514	4,970	5,224	5,055	5,018	5,298

Recidivism.—The number of juvenile delinquents who have previously appeared before a court has generally increased although the fluctuations between individual years are rather wide over the period for which figures are available. As shown in Table 22, approximately three in every ten (29.95 p.c.) of the juveniles convicted of major offences in 1940 had previously been found guilty, as compared with less than one-fourth of those convicted of similar offences in 1929 (23.27 p.c.).