

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 773 in 1942.

20.—Convictions of Persons 7-21 Years of Age for Major or Indictable Offences, Years Ended Sept. 30, 1911, 1921, 1931 and 1939-42

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
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
1939.....	5,018	10,480	15,498	264	950	516
1940.....	5,298	9,471	14,769 ¹	289	850	485
1941.....	6,204	8,580	14,784	321	783	488
1942.....	6,920	8,468	15,388	358	773	508

¹ Revised since the publication of the 1942 Year Book.

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 1942, 94.1 p.c. of the major offences were in these classes.

War-Time Trends.—Major offences for juveniles, which had increased only 1.0 p.c. during the three latest pre-war years increased by 37.9 p.c. during the first three war years, 1939-42. The increase was chiefly in convictions for theft, burglary and common assault. Convictions for theft, which had decreased 9.1 p.c. from 1936 to 1939, have shown an increase of 30.6 p.c. from 1939 to 1942. Thefts of bicycles and automobiles have also shown a much faster rate of increase in the same comparison. The rate of increase for burglary, which had been 17.0 p.c. in the period 1936-39, advanced to 25.9 p.c. during 1939-42. Convictions for common assault, which had declined 35.3 p.c. from 1936 to 1939 have shown a 62.1 p.c. increase for the first three years of war.

21.—Juvenile Delinquents Convicted of Major Offences, by Type of Offence, Years Ended Sept. 30, 1935-42

Offence	1935	1936	1937	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942
Murder.....	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Manslaughter.....	"	1	"	"	"	2	"	1
Rape, carnal knowledge and incest.....	8	10	8	5	17	12	9	5
Indecent assault.....	29	31	32	41	54	32	43	30
Aggravated assault and wounding.....	60	24	31	32	26	24	59	23
Common assault.....	98	102	83	68	66	99	93	107
Endangering life on railway.....	48	30	27	30	21	28	54	38
Other offences against the person.....	5	5	5	8	6	11	5	2
Breaking, entering and theft.....	1,022	1,015	1,204	1,110	1,189	1,245	1,396	1,497
Robbery.....	9	4	18	12	18	16	11	39
Theft and receiving stolen goods.....	3,548	3,094	3,128	3,043	2,916	3,037	3,439	4,023
False pretences and fraud.....	14	12	14	19	10	17 ¹	28	16
Arson.....	13	15	10	10	11	5	34	21
Other wilful damage to property.....	599	539	565	602	578	657	913	994
Forgery and offences against the currency.....	12	11	10	9	13	8	14	11
Immorality.....	35	52	48	45	36	47	61	49
Various other offences.....	14	25	41	21	57	58 ¹	45	64
Totals.....	5,514	4,970	5,224	5,055	5,018	5,298	6,204	6,920

¹ Revised since the publication of the 1942 Year Book.