

Sex and Age.—Juvenile delinquents are predominantly boys. The proportion for all offences in 1958 was approximately one girl to eight boys, a ratio that has remained much the same over a long period. Juveniles of 13 to 15 years of age comprised the majority of delinquents in 1958—76.7 p.c. of the boys and 88.1 p.c. of the girls. However, 312 boys and 15 girls (2.9 p.c. of the children) were under 10 years of age.

27.—Percentages of Delinquent Boys and Girls, by Age Group, 1957 and 1958

Age Group	1957			1958		
	Boys	Girls	Both Sexes	Boys	Girls	Both Sexes
	p.c.	p.c.	p.c.	p.c.	p.c.	p.c.
7 - 12 years.....	24.0	12.0	22.6	23.0	11.6	21.7
13 - 15 years.....	75.8	88.0	77.3	76.7	88.1	78.0
Not given.....	0.2	—	0.1	0.3	0.3	0.3
Totals.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Education and Employment.—Many causes contribute to backwardness in school work. The retarding influence may be illness, over-crowding in the home, disturbed family situations or dull mentality. Presuming that six years is the usual age for entering the first grade, 47.2 p.c. of the boys and girls in 1958 were reported to be two or more years below the normal grade for their age and 3.1 p.c. of the boys and girls were a year or more above it.

Nearly three-fifths (57.5 p.c.) of the boys and 47.6 p.c. of the girls had attained grade 7 at the time of delinquency. The majority of boys who had left school had reached grades 6 to 8 and the girls, grades 7 to 9. Some high school education had been achieved by 22.6 p.c. of the boys and girls.

28.—Age, Sex and School Grade of Delinquent Boys and Girls, 1958

(B=Boys; G=Girls)

Age	School Grades														Total Delinquents							
	Elementary										Secondary		Auxiliary				Not Given					
	1-4		5		6		7		8		B		G		B		G		B		G	
	No.	G	No.	G	No.	G	No.	G	No.	G	No.	G	No.	G	No.	G	No.	G	No.	G		
7 years.....	17	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	19	—	
8 ".....	74	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	—	82	2	
9 ".....	185	10	10	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	15	2	211	13	
10 ".....	255	6	96	6	17	3	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	21	1	
11 ".....	214	9	200	14	145	7	31	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	27	5	
12 ".....	163	12	218	19	293	21	217	28	31	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	—	46	4	
13 ".....	95	12	173	18	304	20	446	64	315	65	51	9	15	7	68	9	118	20	20	2,437	417	
14 ".....	85	10	133	14	269	44	592	87	662	133	541	104	37	5	118	20	253	31	3,809	554		
15 ".....	98	11	149	18	308	53	591	95	897	117	1,471	216	42	13	253	31	3,809	554	33	4		
Not given.....	1	—	—	—	3	—	3	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	24	4	
Totals.....	1,187	72	980	90	1,339	148	1,883	277	1,912	317	2,067	329	103	25	581	76	10,057	1,334				

In 1958, 11.0 p.c. of the delinquent boys and 14.1 p.c. of the delinquent girls were not attending school. At the time of leaving school their ages ranged from 8 to 15 years, the majority being 14 to 15 years. Of the delinquent boys who had left school, 43.1 p.c. were unemployed. The largest group of wage earners (103) were in occupations concerned