WASHINGTON – U.S. law enforcement agencies made an estimated 1.47 million arrests of persons younger than 18 years old in 2011, an 11 percent decrease since 2010, according to Juvenile Arrests 2011, a bulletin released today by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention.

In 2011, arrests of juveniles for Violent Crime Index offenses (murder, forcible rape, robbery and aggravated assault) were down ten percent from 2010, continuing a recent decline. Between 2007 and 2011, juvenile arrests for these violent offenses fell considerably: murder (down 37 percent), forcible rape (down 22 percent), robbery (down 31 percent) and aggravated assault (down 29 percent).

This annual bulletin analyzes data from the FBI’s Crime in the United States report to characterize the extent and nature of juvenile crime.

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The Office of Justice Programs (OJP), headed by Assistant Attorney General Karol V. Mason, provides federal leadership in developing the nation’s capacity to prevent and control crime, administer justice and assist victims. OJP has six components: the Bureau of Justice Assistance; the Bureau of Justice Statistics; the National Institute of Justice; the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention; the Office for Victims of Crime and the Office of Sex Offender Sentencing, Monitoring, Apprehending, Registering and Tracking. More information about OJP can be found at [www.ojp.gov](http://www.ojp.gov).