

**CRIME IN MAINE 2000 — HIGHLIGHTS**



During 2000 the crime clock average in Maine reflected the following:

**VIOLENT CRIMES: 1 every 6 hours, 19 minutes** ..... 1 Murder every 26 days, 3 hours, 26 minutes  
 1 Rape every 27 hours, 37 minutes  
 1 Robbery every 35 hours, 42 minutes  
 1 Aggravated Assault every 10 hours, 49 minutes

**PROPERTY CRIMES: 1 every 16 minutes, 26 seconds** ..... 1 Burglary every 77 minutes, 59 seconds  
 1 Larceny every 22 minutes, 8 seconds  
 1 Motor Vehicle Theft every 6 hours, 40 minutes  
 1 Arson every 44 hours, 49 minutes

**CRIME RATE** ..... The Crime Rate is based on the occurrence of an Index Offense per 1,000 residents of the state. Local and county rates are based on their individual populations. The State Crime Rate for 2000 was 26.25 per 1,000. The comparable rate for 1999 was 29.10. The 2000 state population is estimated at 1,274,923 persons.

**INDEX OFFENSES** ..... There were 33,470 Index Offenses reported by police during 2000 — a decrease of 2,471 offenses (6.9%) from the 35,941 similar offenses reported in 1999.

**VIOLENT CRIMES** ..... Murder, Rape, Robbery and Aggravated Assault make up the Violent Crimes category. Violent crimes as a group increased by 107 offenses from 1999 for an 8.3% increase. During 2000 violent crimes totaled 1,390, compared to a 1999 total of 1,283. Violent crimes accounted for 4.2% of all reported index crimes (3.6% in 1999) and represent a crime rate of 1.09 per 1,000 population.

**PROPERTY CRIMES** ..... Property Crimes, consisting of Burglary, Larceny, Motor Vehicle Theft and Arson, fell in 2000 by 2,578 offenses (7.4%) from 1999. There were 32,080 offenses reported in 2000 with 34,658 being shown for 1999. Property crimes account for 95.8% of all index crimes with a crime rate of 25.16 offenses per 1,000 population.

**MURDER** ..... There were 14 murders committed in Maine during 2000 — down by 11 (44.0%) from the 25 murders reported in 1999. Law enforcement cleared 13 murders this year. Maine’s 10-year average is 22 homicides annually.

<b>RAPE</b> .....	Forcible Rapes increased by 45 reported offenses during 2000. There were 273 offenses reported to police in 1999, compared to 318 in 2000. Of the total, 291 were actual rapes, while 27 were classified as attempts to commit forcible rape.
<b>ROBBERY</b> .....	Robberies increased by 25.5% (50 offenses) during 2000, from 196 in 1999 to 246 in 2000.
<b>AGGRAVATED ASSAULT</b> .....	Law enforcement reported 812 Aggravated Assaults during 2000, an increase of 2.9% from the 1999 figure of 789. Simple assaults (a non-index crime) increased by 1.3% during 2000 with 10,673 offenses reported.
<b>DOMESTIC VIOLENCE</b> .....	All offenses of assault between family or household members are reported as Domestic Assault and account for 39.1% of all assaults. During 2000 police reported 4,486 offenses, an increase of 500 (12.5%) from the 3,986 offenses reported in 1999.
<b>BURGLARY</b> .....	The number of Burglaries during 2000 fell by 11.3% compared with those in 1999. There was a decrease of 863 from the 1999 total of 7,622. The 6,759 burglaries reported statewide resulted in property loss totaling \$5,237,998. Burglaries represent 20.2% of all reported index offenses.
<b>LARCENY-THEFT</b> .....	The crime of Larceny decreased during 2000 by 6.2% from the 25,381 larceny offenses reported in 1999. Police reported 23,808 larceny crimes during 2000. Shoplifting decreased 24.4% and thefts from motor vehicles decreased 13.7% for 32.4% of all larceny crimes reported.
<b>MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT</b> .....	Motor Vehicle Theft registered a decrease of 140 offenses during 2000, from 1,457 in 1999 to 1,317. A high of 2,764 motor vehicles were reported stolen during 1978.
<b>ARSON</b> .....	The crime of Arson was added to the list of reportable index crimes in 1980. During 2000 there were 196 arsons reported, down 2 (1.0%) from the 198 arsons reported for 1999. Estimated property loss caused by arson totaled nearly \$2.7 million during 2000 — up 122.6%.
<b>HATE CRIME</b> .....	Beginning in 1992, Hate Crime was added as a new reporting requirement. During 2000, police reported 28 incidents involving 30 victims and resulting in a total of 30 offenses.
<b>STOLEN/RECOVERED PROPERTY</b> .....	During 2000 law enforcement agencies recorded \$23,108,264 worth of property stolen during the commission of index crimes — a decrease of 6.2% from the \$24,635,862 stolen during 1999. Police were able to recover 33.9% (\$7,832,377) of stolen property during 2000.

<b>CLEARANCE RATE</b> .....	Law enforcement agencies cleared 28.7% of all index crimes in 2000 — compared to 29.1% in 1999.
<b>ARRESTS</b> .....	The total number of persons arrested, summoned or cited by police, including juveniles and adults, was 56,331 — an increase of 0.1% from the 56,247 persons recorded in 1999. Drug arrests increased 13.3% with 4,195 adults and 895 juveniles charged with drug offenses.
<b>OFFICER ASSAULTS</b> .....	There were 232 assaults on law enforcement officers in 2000, a 32.6% increase from the 1999 figure of 175.
<b>POLICE EMPLOYMENT DATA</b> .....	Statewide there were 2,220 full-time sworn law enforcement officers representing a ratio of 1.74 officers per 1,000 population. Nationally the average rate per 1,000 is 2.4.
<b>TRENDS</b> .....	The chart on the following pages shows the 10-year trend data for the index crimes recorded by Uniform Crime Reporting. Shown are the number of offenses, the crime rate per 1,000 residents of Maine, the percent cleared in Maine, the national crime rate per 1,000, and the percent change in the number of reported offenses in Maine.