

CRIME IN MAINE 2005 — HIGHLIGHTS



During 2005 the crime clock average in Maine reflected the following:

VIOLENT CRIMES: 1 every 5 hours, 53 minutes1 Murder every 19 days, 5 hours, 3 minutes
 1 Rape every 27 hours, 12 minutes
 1 Robbery every 27 hours, 7 minutes
 1 Aggravated Assault every 10 hours, 36 minutes

PROPERTY CRIMES: 1 every 16 minutes, 27 seconds1 Burglary every 83 minutes, 44 seconds
 1 Larceny every 21 minutes, 46 seconds
 1 Motor Vehicle Theft every 6 hours, 31 minutes
 1 Arson every 49 hours, 29 minutes

CRIME RATEThe 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 2005 was 25.36 per 1,000. The comparable rate for 2004 was 25.26. The 2005 state population is estimated at 1,318,814 persons.

INDEX OFFENSESThere were 33,441 Index Offenses reported by police during 2005 — an increase of 165 offenses (0.5%) from the 33,276 similar offenses reported in 2004.

VIOLENT CRIMESMurder, Rape, Robbery and Aggravated Assault make up the Violent Crimes category. Violent crimes as a group increased by 142 offenses from 2004 for a 10.5% increase. During 2005 violent crimes totaled 1,490, compared to a 2004 total of 1,348. Violent crimes accounted for 4.5% of all reported index crimes (4.1% in 2004) and represent a crime rate of 1.13 per 1,000 population.

PROPERTY CRIMESProperty Crimes, consisting of Burglary, Larceny, Motor Vehicle Theft and Arson, rose in 2005 by 23 offenses (0.1%) from 2004. There were 31,951 offenses reported in 2005 with 31,928 being shown for 2004. Property crimes account for 95.5% of all index crimes with a crime rate of 24.23 offenses per 1,000 population.

MURDERThere were 19 murders committed in Maine during 2005 — the same number as the 19 murders reported in 2004. Law enforcement cleared 18 murders this year. Maine’s 10-year average is 20 homicides annually.

RAPE	Forcible Rapes increased by 9 reported offenses during 2005. There were 313 offenses reported to police in 2004, compared to 322 in 2005. Of the total, 311 were actual rapes, while 11 were classified as attempts to commit forcible rape.
ROBBERY	Robberies increased by 12.2% (35 offenses) during 2005, from 288 in 2004 to 323 in 2005.
AGGRAVATED ASSAULT	Law enforcement reported 826 Aggravated Assaults during 2005, an increase of 13.5% from the 2004 figure of 728. Simple assaults (a non-index crime) increased by 6.7% during 2005 with 11,017 offenses reported.
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE	All offenses of assault between family or household members are reported as Domestic Assault and account for 46.1% of all assaults. During 2005 police reported 5,459 offenses, an increase of 271 (5.2%) from the 5,188 offenses reported in 2004.
BURGLARY	The number of Burglaries during 2005 fell by 1.1% compared with those in 2004. There was a decrease of 67 from the 2004 total of 6,344. The 6,277 burglaries reported statewide resulted in property loss totaling \$7,920,807. Burglaries represent 18.8% of all reported index offenses.
LARCENY-THEFT	The crime of Larceny increased during 2005 by 0.3% from the 24,087 larceny offenses reported in 2004. Police reported 24,153 larceny crimes during 2005. Shoplifting decreased 1.4% and thefts from motor vehicles increased 3.8% for 33.1% of all larceny crimes reported.
MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT	Motor Vehicle Theft registered an increase of 39 offenses during 2005, from 1,305 in 2004 to 1,344. A high of 2,764 motor vehicles were reported stolen during 1978.
ARSON	The crime of Arson was added to the list of reportable index crimes in 1980. During 2005 there were 177 arsons reported, down 15 (7.8%) from the 192 arsons reported for 2004. Estimated property loss caused by arson totaled over \$3.2 million during 2005 — up 85.5%.
HATE CRIME	Beginning in 1992, Hate Crime was added as a new reporting requirement. During 2005, police reported 61 incidents involving 56 victims and resulting in a total of 56 offenses.
STOLEN/RECOVERED PROPERTY	During 2005 law enforcement agencies recorded \$28,333,806 worth of property stolen during the commission of index crimes — an increase of 18.8% from the \$23,857,543 stolen during 2004. Police were able to recover 26.0% (\$7,354,577) of stolen property during 2005.

CLEARANCE RATE	Law enforcement agencies cleared 28.1% of all index crimes in 2005 — lower than the 28.3% rate in 2004.
ARRESTS	The total number of persons arrested, summoned or cited by police, including juveniles and adults, was 54,500 — a decrease of 1.9% from the 55,554 persons recorded in 2004. Drug arrests decreased 6.6% with 4,627 adults and 625 juveniles charged with drug offenses.
OFFICER ASSAULTS	There were 286 assaults on law enforcement officers in 2005, a decrease from the 2004 figure of 315.
POLICE EMPLOYMENT DATA	Statewide there were 2,271 full-time sworn law enforcement officers representing a ratio of 1.72 officers per 1,000 population. Nationally the average rate per 1,000 was 2.4.
TRENDS	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.