

CRIME IN MAINE 2015 — HIGHLIGHTS



During 2015 the crime clock average in Maine reflected the following:

VIOLENT CRIMES: 1 every 5 hours, 24 minutes 1 Murder every 15 days, 20 hours, 52 minutes
 1 Rape every 23 hours, 29 minutes
 1 Robbery every 28 hours, 10 minutes
 1 Aggravated Assault every 9 hours, 34 minutes

PROPERTY CRIMES: 1 every 21 minutes, 34 seconds 1 Burglary every 112 minutes, 28 seconds
 1 Larceny every 27 minutes, 57 seconds
 1 Motor Vehicle Theft every 10 hours, 49 minutes
 1 Arson every 4 days, 16 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 2015 was 19.56 per 1,000. The comparable rate for 2014 was 21.04. The 2015 state population is estimated at 1,329,328 persons.

INDEX OFFENSES There were 26,000 Index Offenses reported by police during 2015 — a decrease of 1,987 offenses (7.1%) from the 27,987 similar offenses reported in 2014.

VIOLENT CRIMES Murder, Rape, Robbery and Aggravated Assault make up the Violent Crimes category. Violent crimes as a group increased by 41 offenses from 2014 for a 2.6% increase. During 2015 violent crimes totaled 1,623, compared to a 2014 total of 1,582. Violent crimes accounted for 6.2% of all reported index crimes (5.7% in 2014) and represent a crime rate of 1.22 per 1,000 population.

PROPERTY CRIMES Property Crimes, consisting of Burglary, Larceny, Motor Vehicle Theft and Arson, fell in 2015 by 2,028 offenses (7.7%) from 2014. There were 24,377 offenses reported in 2015 with 26,405 being shown for 2014. Property crimes account for 93.8% of all index crimes with a crime rate of 18.34 offenses per 1,000 population.

MURDER There were 23 murders committed in Maine during 2015 — an increase of 1 (4.5%) from the 22 murders reported in 2014. Law enforcement cleared 22 murders this year. Maine’s 10-year average is 24 homicides annually.

RAPE	Forcible Rapes increased by 17 reported offenses during 2015. There were 356 offenses reported to police in 2014, compared to 373 in 2015. Of the total, 365 were actual rapes, while 8 were classified as attempts to commit forcible rape.
ROBBERY	Robberies increased by 2.3% (7 offenses) during 2015, from 304 in 2014 to 311 in 2015.
AGGRAVATED ASSAULT	Law enforcement reported 916 Aggravated Assaults during 2015, an increase of 1.8% from the 2014 figure of 900. Simple assaults (a non-index crime) decreased by 3.2% during 2015 with 9,722 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 2015 police reported 4,907 offenses, a decrease of 160 (3.2%) from the 5,067 offenses reported in 2014.
BURGLARY	The number of Burglaries during 2015 fell by 6.7% compared with those in 2014. There was a decrease of 334 from the 2014 total of 5,009. The 4,675 burglaries reported statewide resulted in property loss totaling \$5,216,575. Burglaries represent 18.0% of all reported index offenses.
LARCENY-THEFT	The crime of Larceny decreased during 2015 by 8.3% from the 20,501 larceny offenses reported in 2014. Police reported 18,801 larceny crimes during 2015. Shoplifting decreased 12.9% and thefts from motor vehicles decreased 4.3% for 35.4% of all larceny crimes reported.
MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT	Motor Vehicle Theft registered an increase of 14 offenses during 2015, from 796 in 2014 to 810. 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 2015 there were 91 arsons reported, down 8 (8.1%) from the 99 arsons reported for 2014. Estimated property loss caused by arson totaled over \$1.5 million during 2015 — up 43.0%.
HATE CRIME	Beginning in 1992, Hate Crime was added as a new reporting requirement. During 2015, police reported 38 incidents involving 58 victims and resulting in a total of 40 offenses. This figure represented a 37.9% increase from the 2014 total of 29 offenses (29 incidents involving 31 victims).
STOLEN/RECOVERED PROPERTY	During 2014 law enforcement agencies recorded \$20,346,695 worth of property stolen during the commission of index crimes — a decrease of 4.2% from the \$21,239,896 stolen during 2014. Police were able to recover 28.0% (\$5,691,929) of stolen property during 2015.
CLEARANCE RATE	Law enforcement agencies cleared 35.3% of all index crimes in 2015 — higher than the 34.8% rate in 2014.

ARRESTS The total number of persons arrested, summoned or cited by police, including juveniles and adults, was 45,196 — a decrease of 5.6% from the 47,883 persons recorded in 2014. Drug arrests increased 2.4% with 5,499 adults and 444 juveniles charged with drug offenses.

OFFICER ASSAULTS There were 185 assaults on law enforcement officers in 2015, an increase from the 2014 figure of 174.

POLICE EMPLOYMENT DATA Statewide there were 2,278 full-time sworn law enforcement officers representing a ratio of 1.71 officers per 1,000 population. Nationally (in 2014) the average rate per 1,000 was 2.3.

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.