CRIME IN MAINE 2019 — HIGHLIGHTS

Crime Clock

1 Index
Crime every
28 minutes,
28 seconds

During 2019 the crime clock average in Maine reflected the following:

VIOLENT CRIMES: 1 every 5 hours, 40 minutes..........................1 Murder every 16 days, 14 hours, 11 minutes
1 Rape every 17 hours, 3 minutes
1 Robbery every 45 hours, 23 minutes
1 Aggravated Assault every 10 hours, 45 minutes

PROPERTY CRIMES: 1 every 31 minutes, 4 seconds...................1 Burglary every 3 hours, 44 minutes, 37 seconds
1 Larceny every 38 minutes, 20 seconds
1 Motor Vehicle Theft every 12 hours, 6 minutes
1 Arson every 2 days, 12 hours, 25 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 2019 was 13.74 per 1,000. The comparable rate for 2018 was 14.77. The 2019 state population is estimated at 1,344,212 persons.

INDEX OFFENSES..There were 18,464 Index Offenses reported by police during 2019 — a decrease of 1,309 offenses (6.6%) from the 19,773 similar offenses reported in 2018.

VIOLENT CRIMES..Murder, Rape, Robbery and Aggravated Assault make up the Violent Crimes category. Violent crimes as a group increased by 46 offenses from 2018 for a 3.1% increase. During 2019 violent crimes totaled 1,544, compared to a 2018 total of 1,498. Violent crimes accounted for 8.4% of all reported index crimes (7.6% in 2018) and represent a crime rate of 1.15 per 1,000 population.

PROPERTY CRIMES...Property Crimes, consisting of Burglary, Larceny, Motor Vehicle Theft and Arson, fell in 2019 by 1,355 offenses (7.4%) from 2018. There were 16,920 offenses reported in 2019 with 18,275 being shown for 2018. Property crimes account for 91.6% of all index crimes with a crime rate of 12.59 per 1,000 population.

MURDER..There were 22 murders committed in Maine during 2019 — a decrease of 1 (4.3%) from the 23 murders reported in 2018. Law enforcement cleared 19 murders this year. Maine's 10-year average is 23 homicides annually.

RAPE..Rapes increased by 67 reported offenses during 2019. There were 447 offenses reported to police in 2018, compared to 514 in 2019. Of the total, 495 were actual rapes, while 19 were classified as attempts to commit rape.

ROBBERY..Robberies decreased by 15.0% (34 offenses) during 2019, from 227 in 2018 to 193 in 2019.

AGGRAVATED ASSAULT..................................Law enforcement reported 815 Aggravated Assaults during 2019, an increase of 1.7% from the 2018 figure of 801. Simple assaults (a non-index crime) increased by 0.9% during 2019 with 10,064 offenses reported.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE......................................All offenses of assault between family or household members are reported as Domestic Assault and account for 33.9% of all assaults. During 2019 police reported 3,689 offenses, a decrease of 10 (0.3%) from the 3,699 offenses reported in 2018.

BURGLARY..The number of Burglaries during 2019 fell by 13.6% compared with those in 2018. There was a decrease of 367 from the 2018 total of 2,707. The 2,340 burglaries reported statewide resulted in property loss totaling $2,861,108. Burglaries represent 12.7% of all reported index offenses.

LARCENY-THEFT...The crime of Larceny decreased during 2019 by 6.7% from the 14,688 larceny offenses reported in 2018. Police reported 13,711 larceny crimes during 2019. Shoplifting increased 3.6% and thefts from motor vehicles decreased 6.7% for 38.1% of all larceny crimes reported.

MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT..................................Motor Vehicle Theft registered a decrease of 52 offenses during 2019, from 776 in 2018 to 724. 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 2019 there were 145 arsons reported, up 41 (39.4%) from the 104 arsons reported for 2018. Estimated property loss caused by arson totaled nearly $3.5 million during 2019 — up 61.7%.

HATE CRIME..Beginning in 1992, Hate Crime was added as a new reporting requirement. During 2019, police reported 19 incidents involving 21 victims and resulting in a total of 19 offenses. This figure represented a 5.0% decrease from the 2018 total of 20 offenses (20 incidents involving 22 victims).

STOLEN/RECOVERED PROPERTY..During 2019 law enforcement agencies recorded $18,697,782 worth of property stolen during the commission of index crimes — an increase of 6.9% from the $17,487,762 stolen during 2018. Police were able to recover 30.0% ($5,615,882) of stolen property during 2019.

CLEARANCE RATE...Law enforcement agencies cleared 39.6% of all index crimes in 2019 — higher than the 38.2% rate in 2018.

ARRESTS...The total number of persons arrested, summoned or cited by police, including juveniles and adults, was 38,893 — a decrease of 4.3% from the 40,661 persons recorded in 2018. Drug arrests decreased 1.6% with 3,334 adults and 280 juveniles charged with drug offenses.

OFFICER ASSAULTS..There were 182 assaults on law enforcement officers in 2019, a decrease from the 2018 figure of 188.

POLICE EMPLOYMENT DATA...................................Statewide there were 2,379 full-time sworn law enforcement officers representing a ratio of 1.77 officers per 1,000 population. Nationally (in 2018) 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.