

CRIME IN MAINE 2020 — HIGHLIGHTS



During 2020 the crime clock average in Maine reflected the following:

VIOLENT CRIMES: 1 every 5 hours, 58 minutes.....1 Murder every 16 days, 15 hours, 16 minutes
 1 Rape every 17 hours, 58 minutes
 1 Robbery every 51 hours, 22 minutes
 1 Aggravated Assault every 11 hours, 7 minutes

PROPERTY CRIMES: 1 every 33 minutes, 12 seconds.....1 Burglary every 4 hours, 21 minutes, 2 seconds
 1 Larceny every 41 minutes, 7 seconds
 1 Motor Vehicle Theft every 10 hours, 15 minutes
 1 Arson every 2 days, 1 hour, 4 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 2020 was 12.85 per 1,000. The comparable rate for 2019 was 13.74. The 2020 state population is estimated at 1,350,141 persons.

INDEX OFFENSES.....There were 17,347 Index Offenses reported by police during 2020 — a decrease of 1,117 offenses (6.0%) from the 18,464 similar offenses reported in 2019.

VIOLENT CRIMES.....Murder, Rape, Robbery and Aggravated Assault make up the Violent Crimes category. Violent crimes as a group decreased by 72 offenses from 2019 for a 4.7% decrease. During 2020 violent crimes totaled 1,472, compared to a 2019 total of 1,544. Violent crimes accounted for 8.5% of all reported index crimes (8.4% in 2019) 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 2020 by 1,045 offenses (6.2%) from 2019. There were 15,875 offenses reported in 2020 with 16,920 being shown for 2019. Property crimes account for 91.5% of all index crimes with a crime rate of 11.76 per 1,000 population.

MURDER.....There were 22 murders committed in Maine during 2020 — the same number as the 22 murders reported in 2019. Law enforcement cleared 17 murders this year. Maine’s 10-year average is 22 homicides annually.

RAPE	Rapes decreased by 25 reported offenses during 2020. There were 489 offenses reported to police in 2020, compared to 514 in 2019. Of the total, 475 were actual rapes, while 14 were classified as attempts to commit rape.
ROBBERY	Robberies decreased by 11.4% (22 offenses) during 2020, from 193 in 2019 to 171 in 2020.
AGGRAVATED ASSAULT	Law enforcement reported 790 Aggravated Assaults during 2020, a decrease of 3.1% from the 2019 figure of 815. Simple assaults (a non-index crime) increased by 12.1% during 2020 with 11,281 offenses reported.
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE	All offenses of assault between family or household members are reported as Domestic Assault and account for 28.7% of all assaults. During 2020 police reported 3,468 offenses, a decrease of 221 (6.0%) from the 3,689 offenses reported in 2019.
BURGLARY	The number of Burglaries during 2020 fell by 13.7% compared with those in 2019. There was a decrease of 321 from the 2019 total of 2,340. The 2,019 burglaries reported statewide resulted in property loss totaling \$3,198,923. Burglaries represent 11.6% of all reported index offenses.
LARCENY-THEFT	The crime of Larceny decreased during 2020 by 6.5% from the 13,711 larceny offenses reported in 2019. Police reported 12,820 larceny crimes during 2020. Shoplifting decreased 23.9% and thefts from motor vehicles decreased 16.0% for 32.3% of all larceny crimes reported.
MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT	Motor Vehicle Theft registered an increase of 133 offenses during 2020, from 724 in 2019 to 857. 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 2020 there were 179 arsons reported, up 34 (23.4%) from the 145 arsons reported for 2019. Estimated property loss caused by arson totaled nearly \$3 million during 2020 — down 14.5%.
HATE CRIME	Beginning in 1992, Hate Crime was added as a new reporting requirement. During 2020, police reported 83 incidents involving 84 victims and resulting in a total of 83 offenses. This figure represented a 436.8% increase from the 2019 total of 19 offenses (19 incidents involving 21 victims).

STOLEN/RECOVERED PROPERTY	During 2019 law enforcement agencies recorded \$18,426,296 worth of property stolen during the commission of index crimes — a decrease of 1.5% from the \$18,697,782 stolen during 2019. Police were able to recover 31.7% (\$5,839,052) of stolen property during 2020.
CLEARANCE RATE	Law enforcement agencies cleared 36.0% of all index crimes in 2020 — lower than the 39.6% rate in 2019.
ARRESTS	The total number of persons arrested, summoned or cited by police, including juveniles and adults, was 32,304 — a decrease of 16.9% from the 38,893 persons recorded in 2019. Drug arrests decreased 12.0% with 3,063 adults and 118 juveniles charged with drug offenses.
OFFICER ASSAULTS	There were 165 assaults on law enforcement officers in 2020, a decrease from the 2019 figure of 182.
POLICE EMPLOYMENT DATA	Statewide there were 2,347 full-time sworn law enforcement officers representing a ratio of 1.74 officers per 1,000 population. Nationally (in 2019) 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.