

**CRIME IN MAINE 2002 — HIGHLIGHTS**



During 2002 the crime clock average in Maine reflected the following:

**VIOLENT CRIMES: 1 every 6 hours, 15 minutes** .....1 Murder every 26 days, 1 hour, 43 minutes  
 1 Rape every 22 hours, 24 minutes  
 1 Robbery every 32 hours, 34 minutes  
 1 Aggravated Assault every 12 hours, 2 minutes

**PROPERTY CRIMES: 1 every 15 minutes, 55 seconds** .....1 Burglary every 75 minutes, 41 seconds  
 1 Larceny every 21 minutes, 27 seconds  
 1 Motor Vehicle Theft every 6 hours, 11 minutes  
 1 Arson every 50 hours, 21 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 2002 was 26.60 per 1,000. The comparable rate for 2001 was 26.96. The 2002 state population is estimated at 1,294,464 persons.

**INDEX OFFENSES** .....There were 34,434 Index Offenses reported by police during 2002 — a decrease of 261 offenses (0.8%) from the 34,695 similar offenses reported in 2001.

**VIOLENT CRIMES** .....Murder, Rape, Robbery and Aggravated Assault make up the Violent Crimes category. Violent crimes as a group decreased by 21 offenses from 2001 for a 1.5% decrease. During 2002 violent crimes totaled 1,402, compared to a 2001 total of 1,423. Violent crimes accounted for 4.1% of all reported index crimes (4.1% in 2001) and represent a crime rate of 1.08 per 1,000 population.

**PROPERTY CRIMES** .....Property Crimes, consisting of Burglary, Larceny, Motor Vehicle Theft and Arson, fell in 2002 by 240 offenses (0.7%) from 2001. There were 33,032 offenses reported in 2002 with 33,272 being shown for 2001. Property crimes account for 95.9% of all index crimes with a crime rate of 25.52 offenses per 1,000 population.

**MURDER** .....There were 14 murders committed in Maine during 2002 — down by 5 (26.3%) from the 19 murders reported in 2001. Law enforcement cleared 14 murders this year. Maine’s 10-year average is 21 homicides annually.

<b>RAPE</b> .....	Forcible Rapes increased by 69 reported offenses during 2002. There were 322 offenses reported to police in 2001, compared to 391 in 2002. Of the total, 374 were actual rapes, while 17 were classified as attempts to commit forcible rape.
<b>ROBBERY</b> .....	Robberies increased by 2.3% (6 offenses) during 2002, from 263 in 2001 to 269 in 2002.
<b>AGGRAVATED ASSAULT</b> .....	Law enforcement reported 728 Aggravated Assaults during 2002, a decrease of 11.1% from the 2001 figure of 819. Simple assaults (a non-index crime) decreased by 1.3% during 2002 with 10,977 offenses reported.
<b>DOMESTIC VIOLENCE</b> .....	All offenses of assault between family or household members are reported as Domestic Assault and account for 41.1% of all assaults. During 2002 police reported 4,813 offenses, a decrease of 109 (2.2%) from the 4,922 offenses reported in 2001.
<b>BURGLARY</b> .....	The number of Burglaries during 2002 rose by 1.0% compared with those in 2001. There was an increase of 66 from the 2001 total of 6,878. The 6,944 burglaries reported statewide resulted in property loss totaling \$6,228,098. Burglaries represent 20.2% of all reported index offenses.
<b>LARCENY-THEFT</b> .....	The crime of Larceny decreased during 2002 by 0.1% from the 24,515 larceny offenses reported in 2001. Police reported 24,496 larceny crimes during 2002. Shoplifting increased 3.4% and thefts from motor vehicles decreased 1.3% for 34.3% of all larceny crimes reported.
<b>MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT</b> .....	Motor Vehicle Theft registered a decrease of 249 offenses during 2002, from 1,667 in 2001 to 1,418. 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 2002 there were 174 arsons reported, down 38 (17.9%) from the 212 arsons reported for 2001. Estimated property loss caused by arson totaled nearly \$2 million during 2002 — down 1.3%.
<b>HATE CRIME</b> .....	Beginning in 1992, Hate Crime was added as a new reporting requirement. During 2002, police reported 36 incidents involving 43 victims and resulting in a total of 46 offenses.
<b>STOLEN/RECOVERED PROPERTY</b> .....	During 2002 law enforcement agencies recorded \$24,464,621 worth of property stolen during the commission of index crimes — a decrease of 5.6% from the \$25,907,549 stolen during 2001. Police were able to recover 31.0% (\$7,583,085) of stolen property during 2002.

<b>CLEARANCE RATE</b> .....	Law enforcement agencies cleared 27.7% of all index crimes in 2002 — lower than the 28.7% rate in 2001.
<b>ARRESTS</b> .....	The total number of persons arrested, summoned or cited by police, including juveniles and adults, was 55,036 — a decrease of 3.5% from the 57,041 persons recorded in 2001. Drug arrests decreased 2.5% with 4,111 adults and 766 juveniles charged with drug offenses.
<b>OFFICER ASSAULTS</b> .....	There were 262 assaults on law enforcement officers in 2002, a 6.8% decrease from the 2001 figure of 281.
<b>POLICE EMPLOYMENT DATA</b> .....	Statewide there were 2,225 full-time sworn law enforcement officers representing a ratio of 1.72 officers per 1,000 population. Nationally the average rate per 1,000 is 2.3.
<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.