

**CRIME IN MAINE 2017 — HIGHLIGHTS**



During 2017 the crime clock average in Maine reflected the following:

**VIOLENT CRIMES: 1 every 5 hours, 30 minutes**.....1 Murder every 17 days, 9 hours, 9 minutes  
1 Rape every 19 hours, 33 minutes  
1 Robbery every 35 hours, 28 minutes  
1 Aggravated Assault every 10 hours, 1 minute

**PROPERTY CRIMES: 1 every 26 minutes**.....1 Burglary every 2 hours, 38 minutes, 30 seconds  
1 Larceny every 32 minutes, 55 seconds  
1 Motor Vehicle Theft every 11 hours, 4 minutes  
1 Arson every 2 days, 16 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 2017 was 16.32 per 1,000. The comparable rate for 2016 was 17.84. The 2017 state population is estimated at 1,335,907 persons.

**INDEX OFFENSES**.....There were 21,803 Index Offenses reported by police during 2017 — a decrease of 1,945 offenses (8.2%) from the 23,748 similar offenses reported in 2016.

**VIOLENT CRIMES**.....Murder, Rape, Robbery and Aggravated Assault make up the Violent Crimes category. Violent crimes as a group decreased by 78 offenses from 2016 for a 4.7% decrease. During 2017 violent crimes totaled 1,591, compared to a 2016 total of 1,669. Violent crimes accounted for 7.3% of all reported index crimes (7.0% in 2016) and represent a crime rate of 1.19 per 1,000 population.

**PROPERTY CRIMES**.....Property Crimes, consisting of Burglary, Larceny, Motor Vehicle Theft and Arson, fell in 2017 by 1,867 offenses (8.5%) from 2016. There were 20,212 offenses reported in 2017 with 22,079 being shown for 2016. Property crimes account for 92.7% of all index crimes with a crime rate of 15.13 per 1,000 population.

**MURDER**.....There were 21 murders committed in Maine during 2017 — an increase of 3 (16.7%) from the 18 murders reported in 2016. Law enforcement cleared 15 murders this year. Maine’s 10-year average is 24 homicides annually.

<b>RAPE</b> .....	Rapes increased by 65 reported offenses during 2017. There were 383 offenses reported to police in 2016, compared to 448 in 2017. Of the total, 439 were actual rapes, while 9 were classified as attempts to commit rape.
<b>ROBBERY</b> .....	Robberies decreased by 7.1% (19 offenses) during 2017, from 266 in 2016 to 247 in 2017.
<b>AGGRAVATED ASSAULT</b> .....	Law enforcement reported 875 Aggravated Assaults during 2017, a decrease of 12.7% from the 2016 figure of 1,002. Simple assaults (a non-index crime) increased by 2.2% during 2017 with 9,527 offenses reported.
<b>DOMESTIC VIOLENCE</b> .....	All offenses of assault between family or household members are reported as Domestic Assault and account for 40.2% of all assaults. During 2017 police reported 4,178 offenses, a decrease of 497 (10.6%) from the 4,675 offenses reported in 2016.
<b>BURGLARY</b> .....	The number of Burglaries during 2017 fell by 16.9% compared with those in 2016. There was a decrease of 675 from the 2016 total of 3,991. The 3,316 burglaries reported statewide resulted in property loss totaling \$3,194,490. Burglaries represent 15.2% of all reported index offenses.
<b>LARCENY-THEFT</b> .....	The crime of Larceny decreased during 2017 by 6.6% from the 17,104 larceny offenses reported in 2016. Police reported 15,968 larceny crimes during 2017. Shoplifting decreased 8.4% and thefts from motor vehicles decreased 10.1% for 35.0% of all larceny crimes reported.
<b>MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT</b> .....	Motor Vehicle Theft registered an increase of 17 offenses during 2017, from 775 in 2016 to 792. 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 2017 there were 136 arsons reported, down 73 (34.9%) from the 209 arsons reported for 2016. Estimated property loss caused by arson totaled over \$5.1 million during 2017 — up 47.0%.
<b>HATE CRIME</b> .....	Beginning in 1992, Hate Crime was added as a new reporting requirement. During 2017, police reported 33 incidents involving 43 victims and resulting in a total of 33 offenses. This figure represented a 21.4% decrease from the 2016 total of 42 offenses (40 incidents involving 40 victims).

<b>STOLEN/RECOVERED PROPERTY</b> .....	During 2017 law enforcement agencies recorded \$17,384,220 worth of property stolen during the commission of index crimes — a decrease of 2.9% from the \$17,906,593 stolen during 2016. Police were able to recover 27.7% (\$4,819,306) of stolen property during 2017.
<b>CLEARANCE RATE</b> .....	Law enforcement agencies cleared 36.1% of all index crimes in 2017 — higher than the 34.7% rate in 2016.
<b>ARRESTS</b> .....	The total number of persons arrested, summoned or cited by police, including juveniles and adults, was 40,392— a decrease of 7.0% from the 43,449 persons recorded in 2016. Drug arrests decreased 37.4% with 3,036 adults and 351 juveniles charged with drug offenses.
<b>OFFICER ASSAULTS</b> .....	There were 170 assaults on law enforcement officers in 2017, an increase from the 2016 figure of 149.
<b>POLICE EMPLOYMENT DATA</b> .....	Statewide there were 2,321 full-time sworn law enforcement officers representing a ratio of 1.74 officers per 1,000 population. Nationally (in 2016) the average rate per 1,000 was 2.4.
<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.