

Overview of Trends in Reported Crime

State of Iowa

2007

Source:

Iowa Incident-based Uniform Crime Report, 2007 Release

http://www.dps.state.ia.us/commis/ucr/2007/2007_UCR_Publication.pdf

HISTORY

- ◆ In 1974, the 65th Iowa General Assembly enacted a provision of Chapter 749B of the *Code of Iowa* stating that law enforcement agencies shall submit reports of crime and arrests to the Bureau of Criminal Investigation.
- ◆ During December 1974, the Bureau of Criminal Investigation conducted training schools throughout the state on the proper completion of Uniform Crime Reports.
- ◆ On January 1, 1975 the Iowa Uniform Crime Reporting program was implemented.
- ◆ Iowa used the Summary-Based Reporting System until 1991 after which National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS) was implemented (conversion was completed January, 1 1991). This change was implemented because it was recognized that there was an increasing need for more in-depth statistical information.
- ◆ Iowa was the fifth state in the nation to be accepted as a certified “reporting state” of incident based crime data to the national system. Iowa is currently one of thirteen certified states with 100% of the agencies using the Incident Based System.

SUMMARY-BASED METHOD

- ◆ Under the *Summary-Based Method* only the most serious offense is counted as determined by the Hierarchy Rule. Under the Summary-Based Method a multiple-offense situation requires classifying each of the offenses occurring and determining which of them are Part I crimes. The *Hierarchy Rule* requires that when more than one Part I offense is classified, the law enforcement agency must locate the offense that is highest on the hierarchy list and score that offense involved and not the other offense(s) in the multiple-offense situation. The offenses of justifiable homicide, motor vehicle theft and arson are exceptions to the Hierarchy Rule.
- ◆ *Part I Offenses* (also called Serious Crime) consists of eight offenses in which data is collected: Criminal Homicide, Forcible Rape, Robbery, Aggravated Assault, Burglary, Larceny-theft (except motor vehicle theft), Motor Vehicle Theft, and Arson.
- ◆ Part I Offenses are separated into Violent Crime Offenses (Criminal Homicide, Forcible Rape, Robbery, and Aggravated Assault) and Property Crime Offenses (Burglary, Larceny, Motor Vehicle Theft, and Arson).
- ◆ *Part II Offenses* encompass all other reportable classifications outside those defined as Part I, which includes 21 additional offense categories.

INCIDENT-BASED METHOD

- ◆ *National Incident-Based Reporting System* (NIBRS) collects data on each incident and arrest within 22 offense categories made up of 46 specific crimes called *Group A offenses*.

- For each incident known to police within these categories, law enforcement collects administrative, offense, victim, property, offender, and arrestee information.
- ◆ In addition to the Group A offenses, there are 11 *Group B offenses* for which only arrest data are collected.
- ◆ All Group A offenses occurring within a single incident are counted when using the Incident-Based Method.
- ◆ Group A offenses are separated into three categories: Crimes Against Persons, Crimes Against Property, and Crimes Against Society.
 - ***Crimes against Persons*** include: Murder, Negligent Manslaughter, Justifiable Homicide, Kidnapping, Forcible Rape, Forcible Sodomy, Sexual Assault with an Object, Forcible Fondling, Aggravated Assault, Simple Assault, Intimidation, Incest, and Statutory Rape.
 - ***Crimes against Property*** include: Robbery, Arson, Extortion/Blackmail, Burglary, Larceny, Motor Vehicle Theft, Counterfeiting/Forgery, Fraud, Embezzlement, Stolen Property Offenses, Bribery, and Vandalism.
 - ***Crimes against Society*** include: Drug/Narcotics Violations, Drug Equipment Violations, Obscene Material, Gambling Offenses, Prostitution, and Weapons Law Violations.

2007 UNIFORM CRIME REPORT HIGHLIGHTS

- ◆ **TOTAL GROUP A CRIMES:** The adjusted rate ***decreased 8.0 percent*** per 100,000 population from the 2006 adjusted rate of 6585.2 to the 2007 adjusted rate of 6059.3. The number of crimes decreased 6.7 percent from 190,552 reported in 2006 to 177,708 in 2007.
- ◆ **CRIMES AGAINST PERSONS:** the number decreased 0.7 percent from 35,342 victims reported in 2006 to 35,082 victims reported in 2007. The adjusted rate ***decreased 2.1 percent*** between 2006 (1221.4) and 2007 (1196.1). Individual offenses that decreased were Murder, Forcible Fondling, Simple Assault, Incest, and Statutory Rape. Offenses that increased were Kidnapping, Forcible Rape, Forcible Sodomy, Sexual Assault with an Object, Aggravated Assault, and Intimidation.
- ◆ **MURDER:** ***decreased thirty-five percent*** from 59 victims reported in 2006 to 38 victims in 2007, the lowest victim count since the Department became the repository of crime data in 1974.
- ◆ **SEXUAL ASSAULT:** rate ***decreased 12.1 percent*** from 87.8 victims in 2006 to 77.2 victims per 100,000 adjusted population in 2007. Specifically, forcible sexual assault offense rates ***decreased 11.4 percent*** while nonforcible offenses ***decreased 18.8 percent***.
 - Forcible Sex Offenses (-11.4%)
 - Forcible Rape ***increased 6.4%***
 - Forcible Sodomy ***increased 2.2%***
 - Sexual Assault with an Object ***increased 3.2%***
 - Forcible Fondling ***decreased 27.9%*** and was the influencing

- factor for the overall decrease in forcible sex offenses.
- Nonforcible Sex Offenses (-18.8%)
 - Incest **decreased 30.0%**
 - Statutory Rape **decreased 15.4%**
 - ◆ **AGGRAVATED ASSAULT:** victims of aggravated assault increased 5.0 percent from 6,232 victims in 2006 to 6,544 victims reported in 2007. The adjusted rate **increased 3.6 percent** between 2006 (215.4) and 2007 (223.1).
 - ◆ **SIMPLE ASSAULT:** accounting for 59% of the crimes against persons, victims of simple assault decreased 4.2 percent in 2007 (20,514) from 2006 (21,416). The adjusted rate **decreased 5.5 percent** between 2006 (740.1) and 2007 (699.5).
 - ◆ **KIDNAPPING:** The number of victims increased 9.1 percent from 208 reported in 2006 to 227 reported in 2007. The adjusted rate **increased 6.9 percent** between 2006 (7.2) and 2007 (7.7).

 - ◆ **CRIMES AGAINST PROPERTY:** driven by larceny and vandalism, adjusted rate **decreased 10.2 percent** from 4700.2 in 2006 to 4220.9 per 100,000 population in 2007. Individual offenses that decreased were Robbery, Arson, Extortion/Blackmail, Burglary, Larceny, Motor Vehicle Theft, Counterfeiting Forgery, Embezzlement, and Vandalism. Offenses that increased were Fraud and Stolen Property Offenses.
 - ◆ **ROBBERY:** **decreased 1.7 percent** from an adjusted rate of 45.8 crimes per 100,000 population in 2006 to 45.0 crimes per 100,000 population in 2007. Firearms accounted for 31.5% of the weapons used recording the highest number in the decade.
 - ◆ **BURGLARY:** number of offenses decreased 6.2 percent from 17,648 in 2006 to 16,550 in 2007. The adjusted rate **decreased 7.5 percent** between 2006 (609.9) and 2007 (564.3).
 - ◆ **LARCENY:** adjusted rate **decreased 8.5 percent** from 61,094 in 2006 to 56,626 in 2007. Larceny offenses account for 46 percent of property crime. With the exception of a slight increase in 2006, larceny offenses have decreased since 2002.
 - ◆ **MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT:** number of offenses decreased 3.7 percent from 5,189 offenses in 2006 to 4,998 in 2007 while adjusted rates **decreased 5.0 percent**. The dollar value of motor vehicle thefts increased to \$29,032,711 with a 68% recovery rate.
 - ◆ **FRAUD:** rates **increased 13.0 percent** from 153.5 in 2006 to 173.4 per 100,000 population in 2007. The adjusted rate has more than tripled over the decade.
 - ◆ **VANDALISM:** decreased 16.3 percent from 40,837 crimes in 2006 to 34,164 crimes in 2007. The adjusted rate **decreased 17.5 percent** from 1411.2 in 2006 to 1164.9 per 100,000 population in 2007.

- ◆ **CRIMES AGAINST SOCIETY:** the adjusted rate *decreased 3.2 percent* from 663.6 incidents per 100,000 population in 2006 to 642.3 incidents in 2005. Drug/narcotic violations accounted for 58.7 percent of the total crimes against society. Individual offenses that decreased were Drug/Narcotics Violations, Drug Equipment Violations, Prostitution, and Weapons Law Violations. Gambling offenses were the only offenses to increase.
- ◆ **DRUG OFFENSES:** rate *decreased 1.8 percent* from 384.1 in 2006 to 377.1 per 100,000 in 2007. Over the last decade reported drug/narcotic violations have increased 24 percent with a peak number of offenses occurring in 2005 (11,262). In 2007, reported manufacture/distribute of meth/amphetamines decreased 37.4%.
- ◆ **WEAPONS LAWS:** rate *decreased 12.0 percent* from 36.7 in 2006 to 32.3 per 100,000 population in 2007. Ninety percent of the arrests are for possessing or concealing.
- ◆ **HATE/BIAS CRIMES:** No change from 2006 as the number of reported incidents held steady at 30. Within these 30 incidents there were 33 offenses committed and 36 reported victims.
- ◆ **DOMESTIC ABUSE:** *increased 1.2 percent* from 7,007 victims in 2006 to 7,060 victims in 2007. Male victims accounted for 22 percent of the total victims recording a decade high. Boy/girl friend accounted for 51.3 percent of the victim/offender relationships.

2007 OFFENSES CONVERTED TO SUMMARY BASED REPORTING

- ◆ **SERIOUS CRIMES:** the rate *decreased 5.8 percent* from 3195.1 crimes per 100,000 population in 2006 to 3010.6 crimes per 100,000 population in 2007.
- ◆ **VIOLENT CRIMES:** *increased 5.7 percent* from 294.6 crimes per 100,000 population in 2006 to 311.4 crimes per 100,000 population in 2007 after decreasing in 2006 (5.2%).
- ◆ **PROPERTY CRIMES:** *decreased 6.9 percent* overall from an adjusted rate of 2900.5 crimes per 100,000 population in 2006 to 2699.2 crimes in 2007.

FIVE AND TEN YEAR TRENDS

- ◆ **TOTAL GROUP A CRIMES:** Rates peaked in 2002 and have steadily decreased since. Group A offense rates were at a decade low in 2007.
- ◆ **CRIMES AGAINST PERSONS:** Rates reached a decade low in 2003, but increased steadily until 2005 before declining again. The second lowest rate for the decade was recorded in 2007.
- ◆ **MURDER:** decade high number of victims was recorded in 1998 (66) with peaks in 2000 (58) and 2006 (59). 2007 (38) recorded the lowest victim count since the Department became the repository of crime data in 1974.
 - Male victims recorded decade high (68%).

- African-American victims recorded decade high (34%, Whites 66%).
- African-American offenders recorded decade high (46%, Whites 51%, and Native Americans 3%).
- ◆ **SEXUAL ASSAULT:** Rates peaked for the decade in 2006, but decreased 12.1% in 2007.
 - Forcible Sex Offenses
 - **Forcible Rape** rates have steadily increased since 2004 recording a decade high in 2007.
 - **Forcible Sodomy** rates recorded decade high in 2001, but decreased until 2004. Rates then increased again through 2007.
 - **Sexual Assault with an Object** rates recorded decade high in 2001, but decreased until 2003. Rates have increased the last three years.
 - **Forcible Fondling** rates recorded decade low in 2007.
 - Nonforcible Sex Offenses
 - **Incest** decade high number of victims recorded in 2006 with a lesser peak in 2002..
 - **Statutory Rape** decade high number of victims recorded in 2006 with a lesser peak in 2002.
- ◆ **AGGRAVATED ASSAULT:** After setting a decade low adjusted rate in 2006, an increase of 3.6% was seen in 2007.
- ◆ **SIMPLE ASSAULT:** The decade high adjusted rate was set in 2000. The rates then declined for four years before increasing slightly in 2005 and 2006, and then declining in 2007.
- ◆ **KIDNAPPING:** Over the last decade kidnapping rates have increased nearly 60% with the decade high recorded in 2007.
- ◆ **CRIMES AGAINST PROPERTY:** Rates reached a decade high was in 2002, but have slowly declined since with 2007 recording the lowest rate for the decade.
- ◆ **ROBBERY:** Robbery rates generally declined from 1998 through 2004 with a slight increase only in 2001. Rates then increased in 2005 and 2006 before decreasing in 2007. Firearms accounted for 31.5% of the weapons used in 2007 recording the highest number in the decade.
- ◆ **BURGLARY:** The number of offenses recorded the highest number for the decade in 2006, but the highest rate was recorded in 2002. In 2007, the offense rate decreased 7.5% from 2006 recording the lowest rate since 1999.
- ◆ **LARCENY:** Rates reached a decade high in 2002, but have decreased every year since recording a decade low in 2007.
- ◆ **MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT:** Rates reached a decade high in 2002, but have decreased every year since recording a decade low in 2007.
- ◆ **FRAUD:** The adjusted rate has more than tripled over the decade increasing every year with the decade high recorded in 2007.

- ◆ **VANDALISM:** Rates recorded a decade high in 2002, but decreased the next three consecutive years. Rates then increased slightly in 2006 before decreasing to a decade low in 2007.
- ◆ **CRIMES AGAINST SOCIETY:** Rates increased every year from 1999 to 2005, but decreased the last two years recording the lowest rate since 2001.
- ◆ **DRUG OFFENSES:** Over the last decade reported drug/narcotic violations have increased 24 percent with a peak number of offenses occurring in 2005. Over the five year period Meth/amphetamine arrests have decreased 63%. Cocaine arrests have increased 54%. Marijuana arrests have fluctuated over the five year period with 2003 recording the highest rate.
- ◆ **WEAPONS LAWS:** Rates recorded a decade high in 1998 and have generally declined since with the exception of a 17% increase from 1999 to 2001.
- ◆ **HATE/BIAS CRIMES:** The highest number of recorded hate crime incidents in Iowa occurred in 1992 with 96 incidents followed by 48 incidents in 2002. Over the last decade Vandalism has accounted for 35.8% of the hate crime offenses followed by Aggravated Assault (20.9%), Simple Assault (19.8%) and Intimidation (17.2%).
- ◆ **DOMESTIC ABUSE:** The number of Domestic Abuse victims steadily increased the first half of the decade, peaking in 2002. The number victims declined in 2003 and 2004 before increasing in 2005. There has been little change over the last three years (1.2% increase from 2006 to 2007).

2007 OFFENSES CONVERTED TO SUMMARY BASED REPORTING

- ◆ **SERIOUS CRIMES:** Rates peaked for the decade in 2002 and have declined since recording the decade low in 2007.
- ◆ **VIOLENT CRIMES:** Peaked in 1998 decreasing until 2001. Rates have fluctuated up and down since 2001 with an increase from 2006 to 2007.
- ◆ **PROPERTY CRIMES:** Rates peaked for the decade in 2002 and have declined since recording the decade low in 2007.

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Table 1 INCIDENT-BASED REPORTING										
Offenses	Number Reported and Adjusted Rate				% Rate Change	Arrests Reported and Stated Rate				% Rate Change
	2006		2007			2006		2007		
CRIMES AGAINST PERSONS	2006		2007			2006		2007		
Murder	59	2.0	38	1.3	-35.0%	33	1.1	22	0.7	-36.4%
Negligent Manslaughter	7	0.2	6	0.2	0.0%	4	1.1	3	0.1	-90.9%
Justifiable Homicide	0	0.0	4	0.1	400.0%	*	*	*	*	*
Kidnapping	208	7.2	227	7.7	6.9%	74	2.5	122	4.1	64.0%
Forcible Rape	908	31.4	980	33.4	6.4%	127	4.3	150	5.1	18.6%
Forcible Sodomy	132	4.6	139	4.7	2.2%	14	0.5	20	0.7	40.0%
Sexual Assault with Object	90	3.1	95	3.2	3.2%	9	0.3	7	0.2	-33.3%
Forcible Fondling	1,164	40.2	850	29.0	-27.9%	169	5.8	105	3.6	-37.9%
Aggravated Assault	6,232	215.4	6,544	223.1	3.6%	3,820	130.0	3,934	133.4	2.6%
Simple Assault	21,416	740.1	20,514	699.5	-5.5%	9,814	334.1	10,403	352.6	5.5%
Intimidation	4,881	168.7	5,483	187.0	10.8%	775	26.4	843	28.6	8.3%
Incest	57	2.0	40	1.4	-30.0%	18	0.6	16	0.5	-16.7%
Statutory Rape	188	6.5	162	5.5	-15.4%	102	3.5	71	2.4	-31.4%
Person Total	35,342	1221.4	35,082	1196.1	-2.1%	14,959	510.2	15,696	532.0	4.3%
CRIMES AGAINST PROPERTY	2006		2007			2006		2007		
Robbery	1,324	45.8	1,319	45.0	-1.7%	354	12.1	419	14.2	17.4%
Arson	715	24.7	629	21.4	-13.4%	172	5.9	159	5.4	-8.5%
Extortion/Blackmail	31	1.1	28	1.0	-9.1%	9	0.3	12	0.4	33.3%
Burglary/Breaking & Entering	17,648	609.9	16,550	564.3	-7.5%	2,186	74.4	2,251	76.3	2.6%
Larceny	61,094	2111.3	56,626	1930.9	-8.5%	9,655	328.7	11,230	380.7	15.8%
Motor Vehicle Theft	5,189	179.3	4,998	170.4	-5.0%	576	19.6	664	21.9	11.7%
Counterfeiting/Forgery	3,813	131.8	3,484	118.8	-9.9%	812	28.1	729	25.7	-8.5%
Fraud	4,443	153.5	5,085	173.4	13.0%	413	13.3	459	16.2	1.3%
Embezzlement	366	12.6	331	11.3	-10.3%	82	2.8	100	3.5	2.5%
Stolen Property Offenses	546	18.9	570	19.4	2.6%	250	8.5	274	9.3	9.4%
Bribery	2	0.1	4	0.1	0.0%	1	0.0	2	0.1	50.0%
Vandalism	40,837	1411.2	34,164	1164.9	-17.5%	3,514	119.6	3,657	122.3	2.3%
Property Total	136,008	4700.2	123,788	4220.9	-10.2%	18,024	613.3	19,887	674.2	9.9%
CRIMES AGAINST SOCIETY	2006		2007			2006		2007		
Drug/Narcotics Violation	11,115	384.1	11,060	377.1	-1.8%	9,765	332.4	9,933	336.7	1.3%
Drug Equipment Violation	6,728	232.5	6,544	223.1	-4.0%	2,387	81.3	2,463	83.5	2.7%
Obscene Material	105	3.6	106	3.6	0.0%	23	0.8	24	0.8	0.0%
Gambling Offenses	18	0.6	19	0.7	16.7%	14	0.5	16	0.5	0.0%
Prostitution	175	6.1	162	5.5	-9.8%	96	3.3	148	5.0	51.5%
Weapons Law Violations	1,061	36.7	947	32.3	-12.0%	548	18.7	553	18.7	0.0%
Society Total	19,202	663.6	18,838	642.3	-3.2%	12,833	437.0	13,137	445.2	1.9%
Total	190,552	6585.2	177,708	6059.3	-8.0%	45,816	1560.5	48,720	1651.4	5.8%

* Value is unavailable or not applicable