

CRIME IN MAINE 2016 — HIGHLIGHTS



During 2016 the crime clock average in Maine reflected the following:

VIOLENT CRIMES: 1 every 5 hours, 16 minutes 1 Murder every 20 days, 8 hours
 1 Rape every 22 hours, 56 minutes
 1 Robbery every 33 hours, 1 minute
 1 Aggravated Assault every 8 hours, 46 minutes

PROPERTY CRIMES: 1 every 23 minutes, 52 seconds 1 Burglary every 132 minutes, 3 seconds
 1 Larceny every 30 minutes, 49 seconds
 1 Motor Vehicle Theft every 11 hours, 20 minutes
 1 Arson every 42 hours, 2 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 2016 was 17.84 per 1,000. The comparable rate for 2015 was 19.56. The 2016 state population is estimated at 1,331,479 persons.

INDEX OFFENSES There were 23,748 Index Offenses reported by police during 2016 — a decrease of 2,252 offenses (8.7%) from the 26,000 similar offenses reported in 2015.

VIOLENT CRIMES Murder, Rape, Robbery and Aggravated Assault make up the Violent Crimes category. Violent crimes as a group increased by 46 offenses from 2015 for a 2.8% increase. During 2016 violent crimes totaled 1,669, compared to a 2015 total of 1,623. Violent crimes accounted for 7.0% of all reported index crimes (6.2% in 2015) and represent a crime rate of 1.25 per 1,000 population.

PROPERTY CRIMES Property Crimes, consisting of Burglary, Larceny, Motor Vehicle Theft and Arson, fell in 2016 by 2,298 offenses (9.4%) from 2015. There were 22,079 offenses reported in 2016 with 24,377 being shown for 2015. Property crimes account for 93.0% of all index crimes with a crime rate of 16.58 offenses per 1,000 population.

MURDER There were 18 murders committed in Maine during 2016 — a decrease of 5 (21.7%) from the 23 murders reported in 2015. Law enforcement cleared 16 murders this year. Maine’s 10-year average is 24 homicides annually.

RAPE	Forcible Rapes increased by 10 reported offenses during 2016. There were 373 offenses reported to police in 2015, compared to 383 in 2016. Of the total, 370 were actual rapes, while 13 were classified as attempts to commit forcible rape.
ROBBERY	Robberies decreased by 14.5% (45 offenses) during 2016, from 311 in 2015 to 266 in 2016.
AGGRAVATED ASSAULT	Law enforcement reported 1,002 Aggravated Assaults during 2016, an increase of 9.4% from the 2015 figure of 916. Simple assaults (a non-index crime) decreased by 4.1% during 2016 with 9,320 offenses reported.
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE	All offenses of assault between family or household members are reported as Domestic Assault and account for 45.3% of all assaults. During 2016 police reported 4,675 offenses, a decrease of 232 (4.7%) from the 4,907 offenses reported in 2015.
BURGLARY	The number of Burglaries during 2016 fell by 14.6% compared with those in 2015. There was a decrease of 684 from the 2015 total of 4,675. The 3,991 burglaries reported statewide resulted in property loss totaling \$4,309,318. Burglaries represent 16.8% of all reported index offenses.
LARCENY-THEFT	The crime of Larceny decreased during 2016 by 9.0% from the 18,801 larceny offenses reported in 2015. Police reported 17,104 larceny crimes during 2016. Shoplifting decreased 9.4% and thefts from motor vehicles decreased 5.3% for 35.9% of all larceny crimes reported.
MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT	Motor Vehicle Theft registered a decrease of 35 offenses during 2016, from 810 in 2015 to 775. 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 2016 there were 209 arsons reported, up 118 (129.7%) from the 91 arsons reported for 2015. Estimated property loss caused by arson totaled nearly \$3.5 million during 2016 — up 123.1%.
HATE CRIME	Beginning in 1992, Hate Crime was added as a new reporting requirement. During 2016, police reported 40 incidents involving 40 victims and resulting in a total of 42 offenses. This figure represented a 5.0% increase from the 2015 total of 40 offenses (38 incidents involving 58 victims).
STOLEN/RECOVERED PROPERTY	During 2016 law enforcement agencies recorded \$17,906,593 worth of property stolen during the commission of index crimes — a decrease of 12.0% from the \$20,346,695 stolen during 2015. Police were able to recover 28.5% (\$5,106,200) of stolen property during 2016.

CLEARANCE RATE	Law enforcement agencies cleared 34.7% of all index crimes in 2016 — lower than the 35.3% rate in 2015.
ARRESTS	The total number of persons arrested, summoned or cited by police, including juveniles and adults, was 43,449 — a decrease of 3.9% from the 45,196 persons recorded in 2015. Drug arrests decreased 9.0% with 5,029 adults and 382 juveniles charged with drug offenses.
OFFICER ASSAULTS	There were 149 assaults on law enforcement officers in 2016, a decrease from the 2015 figure of 185.
POLICE EMPLOYMENT DATA	Statewide there were 2,310 full-time sworn law enforcement officers representing a ratio of 1.73 officers per 1,000 population. Nationally (in 2015) the average rate per 1,000 was 2.1.
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.