

**Chapter
2**

**TEXAS CRIME
ANALYSIS**

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2

CRIME MEASUREMENTS

Crime affects every Texan in some fashion. To gain a measurement of crime trends, Texas participates in the Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) program. UCR makes possible the analysis of crime trends primarily through the Crime Index.

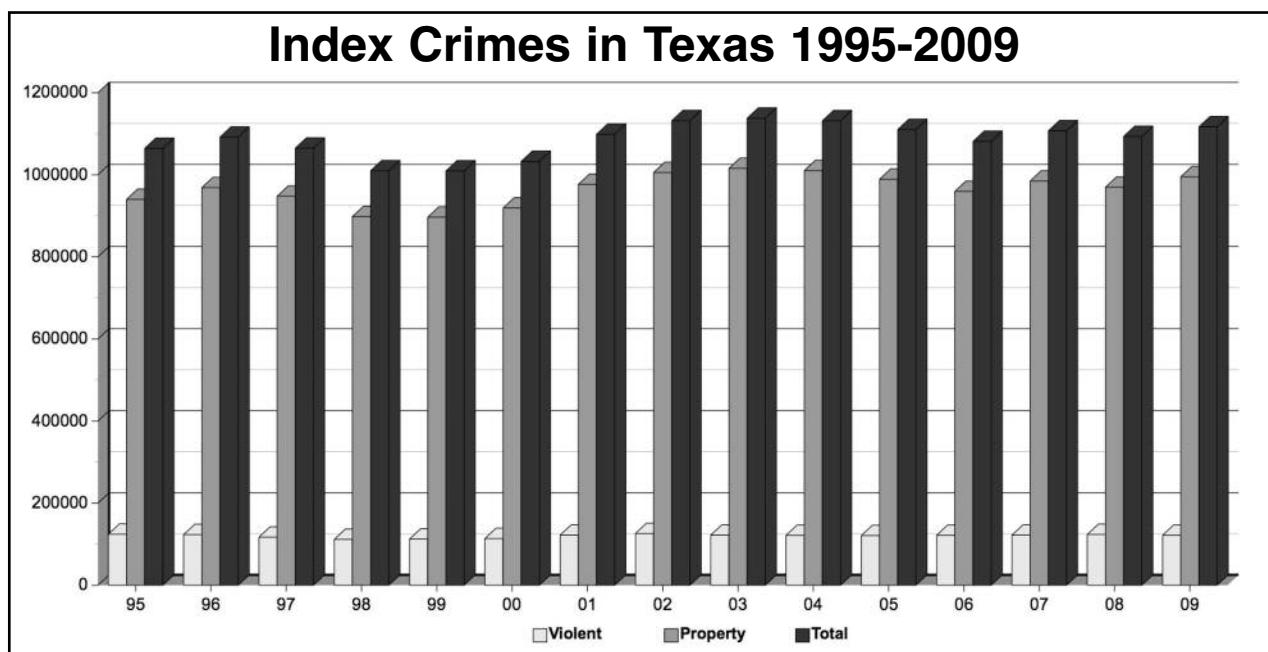
The Crime Index

To track the variations in crime, the UCR data collection program uses a statistical summary tool referred to as the Crime Index. Rather than collecting reports of all crimes that were committed in a particular year, UCR collects the reports of seven index crimes. The crimes in this group are all serious, either by their very nature or because of the frequency with which they occur, and present a common enforcement problem to police agencies. Crimes within this index can be further categorized as violent crimes, which include murder, forcible rape, robbery and aggravated assault, or as property crimes, which consist of burglary, larceny-theft, and motor vehicle theft. By reducing

the overall occurrence of crime to this Crime Index, the annual comparison of crime trends is simplified. Although arson is an index crime in that the number of reported offenses are collected, arson is not a part of the Crime Index.

Offense Estimation

Because a few Texas law enforcement agencies experienced difficulty in finalizing their 2009 crime reports prior to state and national deadlines, it was necessary to estimate the number of offenses for these agencies. In 2009, 1,043 law enforcement agencies participated in the UCR program representing 99.9 percent of the population. The methodology for this estimation process has remained the same throughout the Texas UCR program, making it possible to compare crime trends from year to year without the results being skewed by changes in the number of reporting agencies. No attempt, however, is made to estimate for unreported or under-reported crimes. A full discussion of reporting practices and other factors affecting crime trends can be found in the Crime Factors section of Chapter One.



CRIME TRENDS

Texas crime trends are analyzed using two separate methods: crime volume and crime rates. Crime volume is merely the aggregate sum of the Crime Index. By comparing the crime volume from year to year, trends in the number of crimes committed can be studied. Crime rates, however, are compiled to compensate for changes in the size of Texas' population and to show the number of people affected by crime in a given population. Texas crime rates are generally expressed as the number of crimes per 100,000 residents.

Crime Volume

During calendar year 2009, there was an estimated total of 1,116,939 index offenses in Texas. The crime volume increased 2.2 percent when compared to 2008.

In addition to the above offenses, there were 6,027 cases of arson reported which represented a decrease of 5.3 percent from 2008.

Offense	2009	2008	% Change
Murder	1,327	1,373	- 3.4 %
Rape	8,286	8,004	+ 3.5 %
Robbery	38,041	37,757	+ 0.8 %
Aggravated Assault	74,135	76,487	- 3.1 %
VIOLENT CRIME TOTAL	121,789	123,621	- 1.5 %
Burglary	240,193	230,263	+ 4.3 %
Larceny-Theft	678,340	654,133	+ 3.7 %
Motor Vehicle Theft	76,617	85,411	- 10.3 %
PROPERTY CRIME TOTAL	995,150	969,807	+ 2.6 %
INDEX CRIME GRAND TOTAL	1,116,939	1,093,428	+ 2.2 %

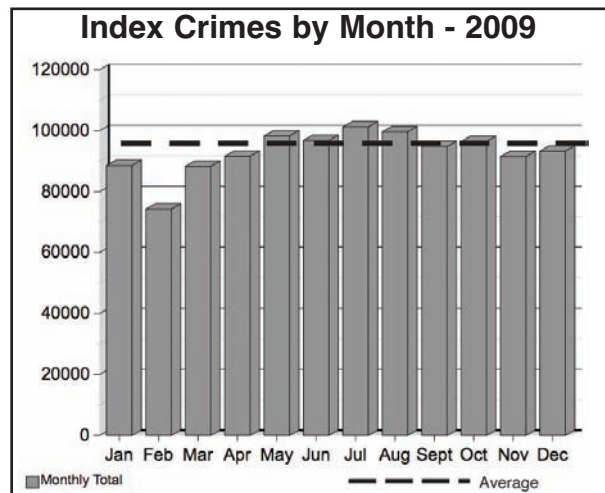
Crime Rates

During calendar year 2009, Texas' crime rate was 4507.0 crimes per 100,000 persons. This is an increase of 0.3 percent from the previous year. The crime rate is based on the 2009 Texas population of 24,782,302.

Offense	2009	2008	% Change
Murder	5.4	5.6	- 3.6 %
Rape	33.4	32.9	+ 1.5 %
Robbery	153.5	155.2	- 1.1 %
Aggravated Assault	299.1	314.4	- 4.9 %
VIOLENT CRIME TOTAL	491.4	508.2	- 3.3 %
Burglary	969.2	946.5	+ 2.4 %
Larceny-Theft	2,737.2	2,688.9	+ 1.8 %
Motor Vehicle Theft	309.2	351.1	- 11.9 %
PROPERTY CRIME TOTAL	4015.6	3986.6	+ 0.8 %
INDEX CRIME GRAND TOTAL	4,507.0	4,494.7	+ 0.3 %

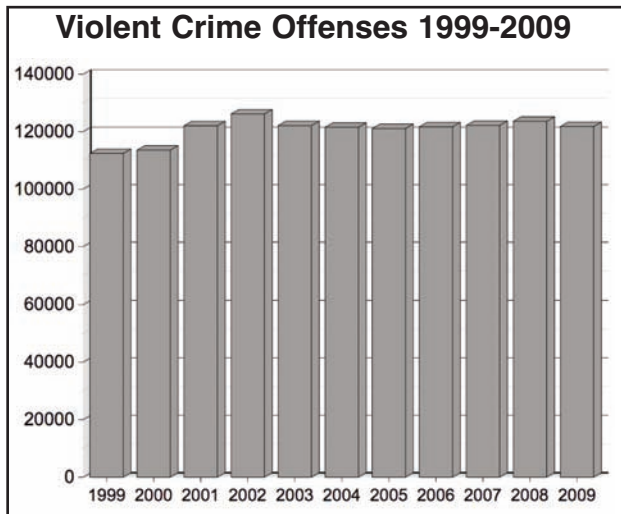
Annual Crime Trends

Monthly crime variations show that, in general, crime occurrences peaked in the month of July. Individual index crime trend graphs are located in Chapter 3.



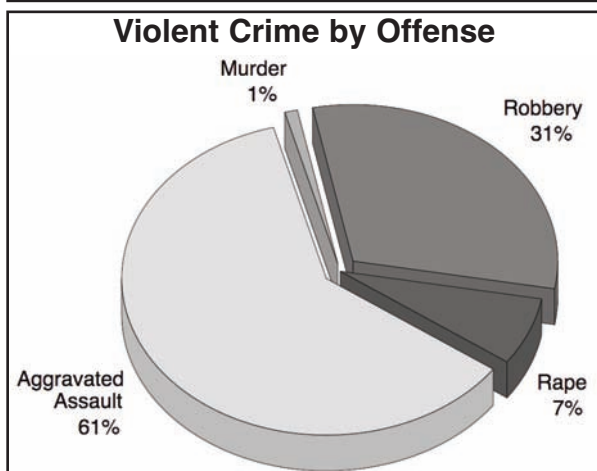
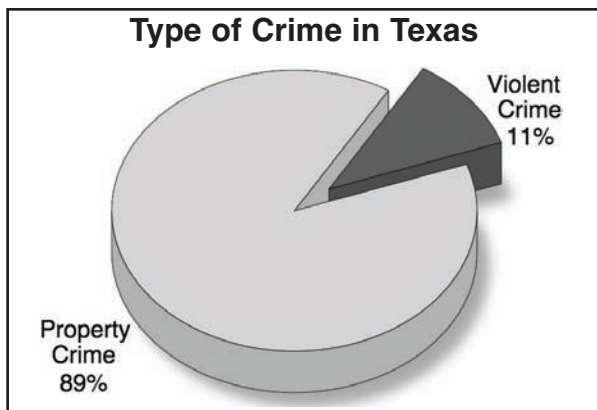
TYPE OF CRIME

Crime analysis generally looks at the two categories of crime discussed above: violent crimes (or crimes against persons) and property crimes. In 2009, 11 percent of the Crime Index were violent crimes and 89 percent were property crimes.



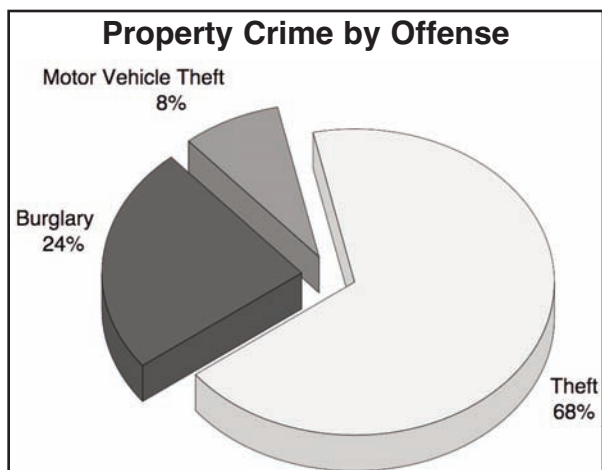
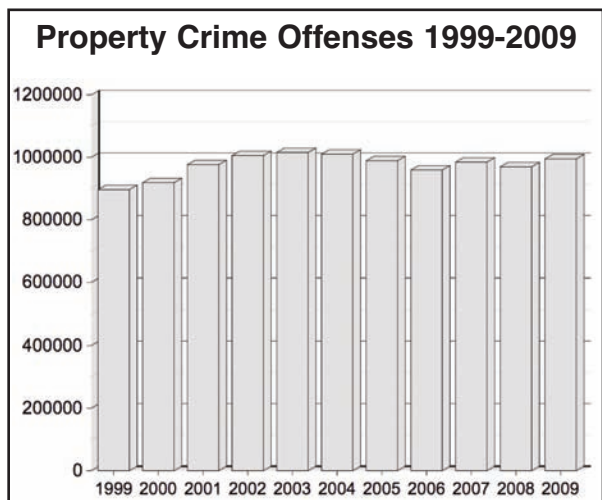
Violent Crimes

Violent crimes involve the element of personal confrontation between the perpetrator and the victim. Because of their nature, violent crimes are considered to be more serious than property crimes. An estimated 121,789 violent crimes occurred during 2009, a 1.5 percent decrease from 2008. The 2009 violent crime rate was 491.4 crimes per 100,000 Texans, a 3.3 percent decrease from the rate posted in 2008.



Property Crimes

The number of property crimes occurring during 2009 was estimated at 995,150. Property crimes increased 2.6 percent from 2008. Burglary accounted for 24 percent of all property offenses, larceny-theft accounted for 68 percent, and motor vehicle theft accounted for 8 percent. The 2009 property crime rate was 4015.6 crimes per 100,000 Texans, an increase of .8 percent when compared to the rate for 2008.



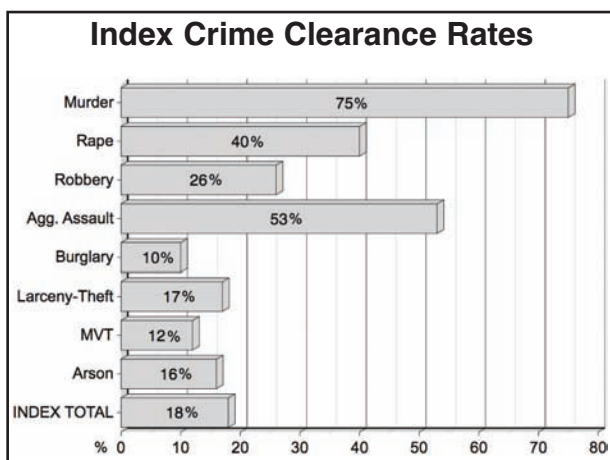
CLEARANCES

For Uniform Crime Reporting purposes, an offense is cleared only when a law enforcement agency has identified the offender, enough evidence exists to press charges, and the subject is actually taken into custody. The arrest of one person can clear several crimes or several persons may be arrested in the process of clearing one offense. Law enforcement agencies may also clear a crime by exceptional means when some element beyond law enforcement control precludes the placing of formal charges against the offender.

Law enforcement officers cleared 18 percent of all index offenses reported to them in 2009, by arrest or exceptional means. Of the violent crimes reported, 44 percent were cleared, while 15 percent of all property crimes were cleared.

The relatively high clearance rate for violent crimes compared to the non-violent property crimes is, in part, attributable to the element of confrontation between the victim and the perpetrator, which contributes to identification of the offender.

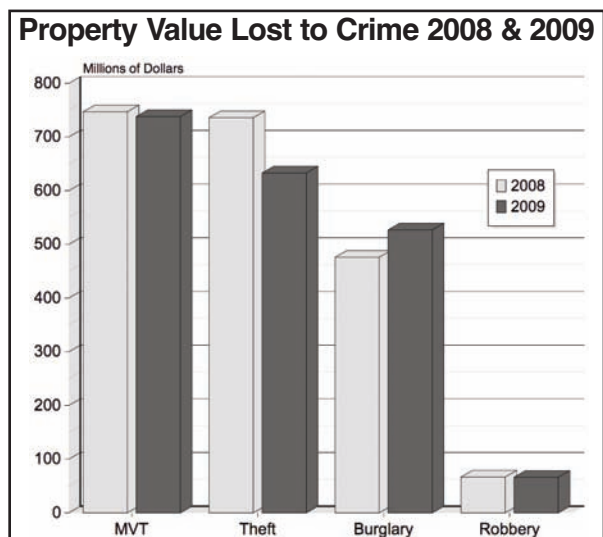
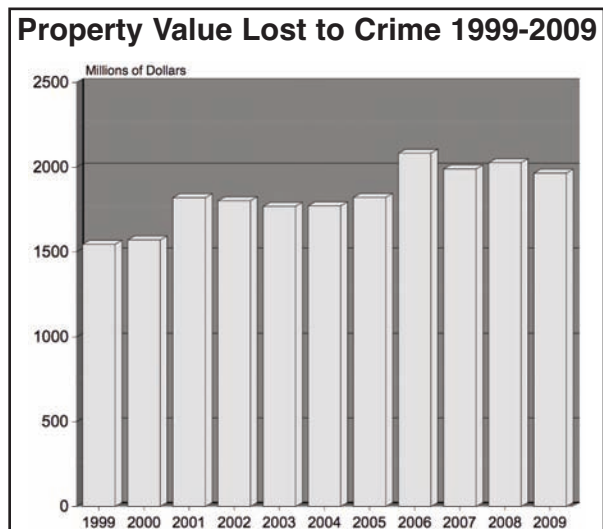
In 2009, persons arrested under the age of 18 represented 14 percent of all cases solved, accounting for 9 percent of all violent crime clearances and 16 percent of property crimes. The involvement rate of persons under 18 years of age was 5 percent for murders, 11 percent for forcible rape, 11 percent for robbery, and 9 percent for aggravated assault. In the non-violent crime categories, this age group accounted for 13 percent of the solved burglaries, 16 percent of the thefts, and 11 percent of the motor vehicle thefts.



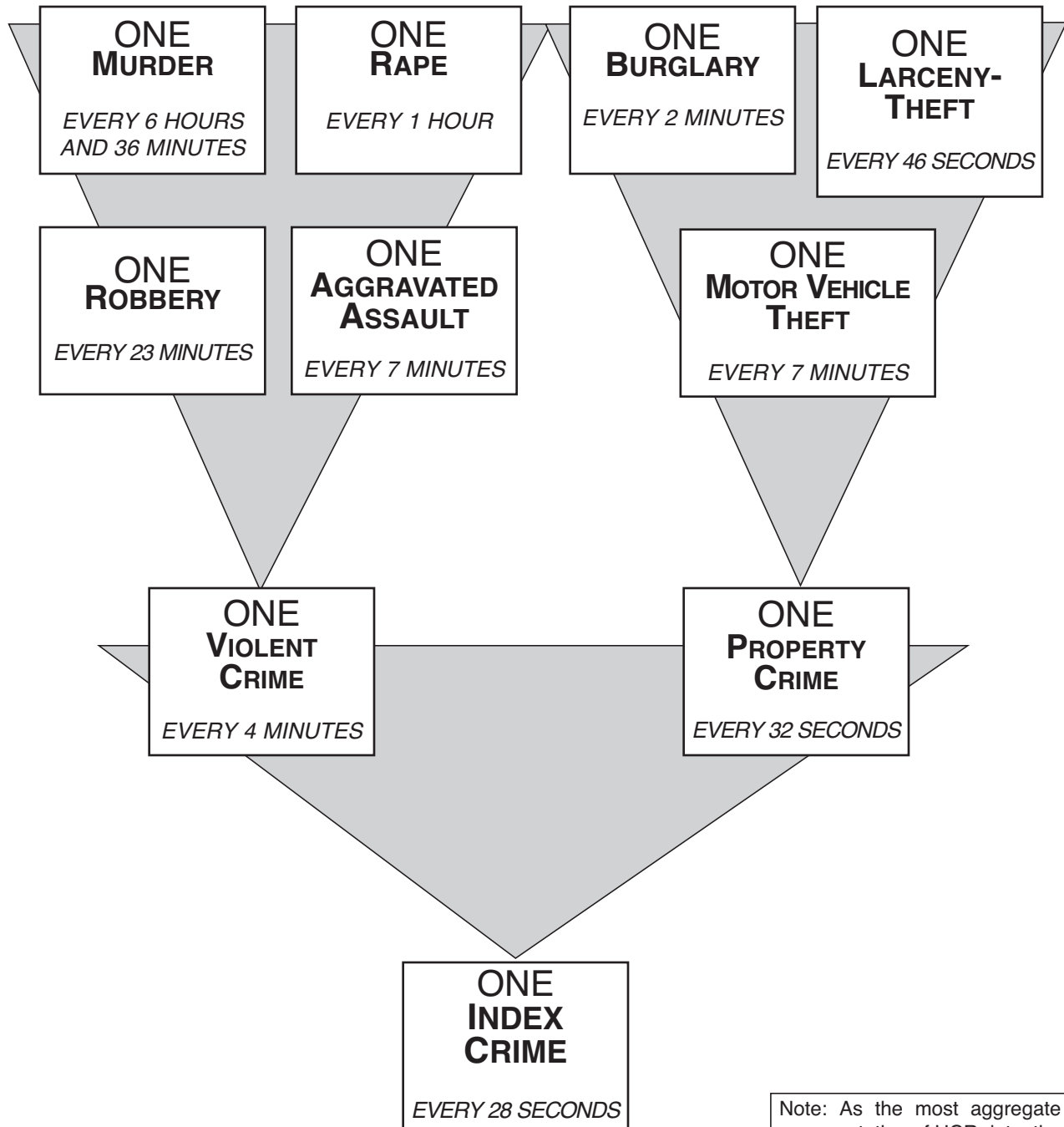
STOLEN PROPERTY VALUE

The total value of reported property stolen during 2009 in Texas was \$1,964,927,132.

Property Type	Stolen Value	% Recovered
Currency, Notes, Etc.	114,030,185	3
Jewelry & Precious Metals	170,475,002	4
Clothing & Furs	48,307,478	8
Locally Stolen Motor Vehicles	756,669,429	64
Office Equipment	106,280,729	4
Televisions, Radios, Stereos, Etc.	181,187,884	5
Firearms	20,098,846	8
Household Goods	41,293,400	4
Consumable Goods	14,964,473	11
Livestock	2,716,407	14
Miscellaneous	508,903,299	9
TOTAL	1,964,927,132	29



TEXAS CRIME CLOCK, 2009



Note: As the most aggregate representation of UCR data, the Crime Clock should be viewed with care. The Crime Clock conveys the relative frequency of Index Crimes. This display does not imply any regularity in the commission of crimes, but rather, the clock represents the annual ratio of crimes to fixed time intervals.

ESTIMATED CRIME IN TEXAS

The offenses in this chart were compiled from reports submitted to the UCR program by Texas law enforcement agencies. Because reporting compliance has varied, it has been necessary to estimate offenses for non-reporting jurisdictions. The term "Rate" refers to the number of crimes per 100,000 population.

Year	State Population	Index	Murder	Rape	Robbery	Aggravated Assault	Burglary	Larceny Theft	Motor Vehicle Theft	TOTAL
1995	18,724,000	Volume	1,694	8,526	33,666	80,377	202,637	632,523	104,939	1,064,362
		Rate	9.0	45.5	179.8	429.3	1,082.2	3,378.1	560.5	5,684.5
1996	19,128,000	Volume	1,476	8,374	32,796	80,572	204,335	659,397	104,928	1,091,878
		Rate	7.7	43.8	171.5	421.2	1,068.3	3,447.3	548.6	5,708.3
1997	19,439,000	Volume	1,328	8,007	30,513	77,239	200,966	645,174	101,687	1,064,914
		Rate	6.8	41.2	157.0	397.3	1,033.8	3,319.0	523.1	5,478.2
1998	19,760,000	Volume	1,343	7,914	28,672	73,648	194,872	606,805	96,614	1,009,868
		Rate	6.8	40.1	145.1	372.7	986.2	3,070.9	488.9	5,110.7
1999	20,044,000	Volume	1,218	7,629	29,424	74,165	190,347	614,478	91,992	1,009,253
		Rate	6.1	38.1	146.8	370.0	949.6	3,065.6	459.0	5,035.2
2000	20,851,820	Volume	1,236	7,851	30,230	74,288	189,012	636,942	93,111	1,032,670
		Rate	5.9	37.7	145.0	356.3	906.5	3,054.6	446.5	4,952.4
2001	21,325,018	Volume	1,331	8,191	35,330	77,221	204,240	669,587	102,838	1,098,738
		Rate	6.2	38.4	165.7	362.1	957.7	3,139.9	482.2	5,152.3
2002	21,779,893	Volume	1,305	8,541	37,599	78,713	212,702	690,028	102,943	1,131,831
		Rate	6.0	39.2	172.6	361.4	976.6	3,168.2	472.7	5,196.7
2003	22,118,509	Volume	1,417	7,986	37,000	75,706	219,733	697,790	98,174	1,137,806
		Rate	6.4	36.1	167.3	342.3	993.4	3,154.8	443.9	5,144.1
2004	22,490,022	Volume	1,359	8,401	35,811	75,983	220,079	696,220	93,844	1,131,697
		Rate	6.0	37.4	159.2	337.9	978.6	3,095.7	417.3	5,032.0
2005	22,859,968	Volume	1,405	8,505	35,781	75,409	219,733	676,022	93,471	1,110,326
		Rate	6.1	37.2	156.5	329.9	961.2	2,957.2	408.9	4,857.1
2006	23,507,783	Volume	1,384	8,406	37,271	74,622	215,754	648,083	95,750	1,081,270
		Rate	5.9	35.8	158.5	317.4	917.8	2,756.9	407.3	4599.6
2007	23,904,380	Volume	1,415	8,430	38,777	73,570	228,325	662,481	94,026	1,107,024
		Rate	5.9	35.3	162.2	307.8	955.2	2,771.4	393.3	4,631.1
2008	24,326,974	Volume	1,373	8,004	37,757	76,487	230,263	654,133	85,411	1,093,428
		Rate	5.6	32.9	155.2	314.4	946.5	2,688.9	351.1	4,494.7
2009	24,782,302	Volume	1,327	8,286	38,041	74,135	240,193	678,340	76,617	1,116,939
		Rate	5.4	33.4	153.5	299.1	969.2	2,737.2	309.2	4,507.0

CRIME FACTS AT A GLANCE

2009

- There were an estimated 1,116,939 index offenses reported with a 18 percent clearance rate for Texas in 2009.
- The crime rate for the State of Texas was 4,507.0 index offenses for every 100,000 inhabitants.
- During 2009, Texas law enforcement officers made 1,205,202 arrests. Of those arrested, 11 percent were 16 years of age and under.
- The value of stolen property totaled \$1,964,927,132.
- The offense of larceny-theft accounted for 61 percent of all index crimes and had a clearance rate of 17 percent.
- Firearms were used in 68 percent of all murders reported. All other weapons made up the remaining 32 percent.
- There were an estimated 74,135 aggravated assaults. Of these, 18 percent were committed by the use of hands, fists, and feet.
- Residential burglaries accounted for 71 percent of all burglaries reported.
- The estimated number of motor vehicle thefts was 76,617, for a total dollar loss of \$738,487,759.
- Six law enforcement officers were feloniously killed in the line of duty. Two were killed in duty-related accidents.
- There were 4,706 assaults on officers reported with 95 percent cleared.
- In 2009, there were 164 hate crime incidents reported with 173 victims, 188 offenders and 167 offenses.
- There were 196,713 Family Violence incidents during 2009. There were 212,106 victims and 207,315 offenders.