

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.

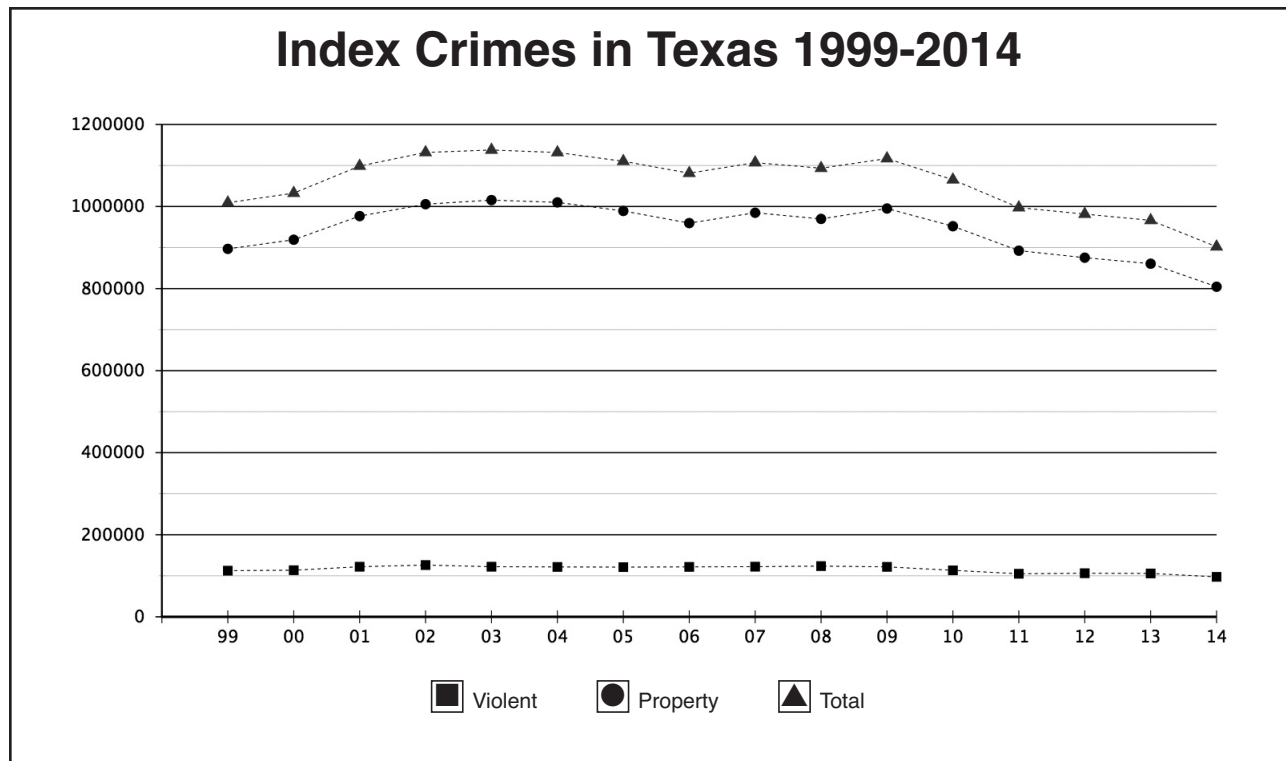
The Crime Index

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, 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.

2014 Rape Data

Due to the FBI's rape definition change, we are currently unable to produce final rape numbers (including clearance and arrest information) for 2014 by the time of this publication. We are working to produce an addendum with all rape data in a future amendment to the 2014 Crime in Texas.



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 2014, there was a reported total of 901,937 index offenses (minus rape) in Texas. The crime volume decreased 5.9 percent when compared to 2013.

In addition to the above offenses, there were 3,811 cases of arson reported which represented a decrease of 8.4 percent from 2013.

2014 Texas Index Crime by Volume			
	2014	2013	% Change
Murder	1,187	1,151	+3.1
Rape	n/a	n/a	n/a
Robbery	30,857	31,852	-3.1
Aggravated Assault	65,338	65,267	+0.1
Violent Crime Total	97,382	98,270	-0.9
Burglary	166,429	190,567	-12.6
Larceny-Theft	570,385	604,389	-5.6
Motor Vehicle Theft	67,741	65,671	+3.2
Property Crime Total	804,555	860,627	-6.5
GRAND TOTAL	901,937	958,897	-5.9

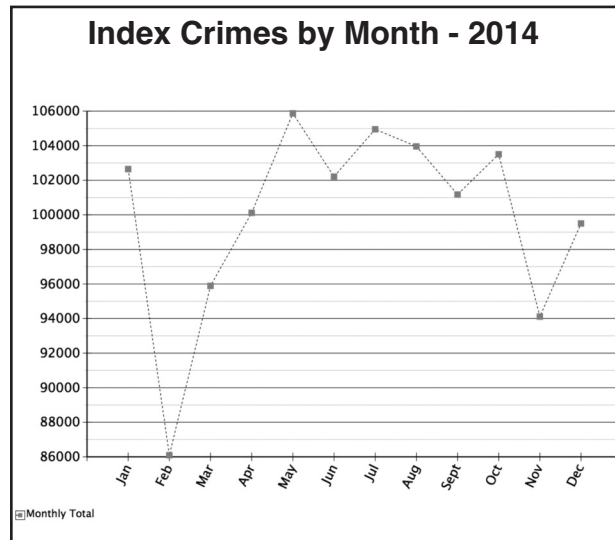
Crime Rates

During calendar year 2014, Texas' crime rate was 3,349.6 crimes (minus rape) per 100,000 persons. This is a decrease of 7.8 percent from the previous year. The crime rate is based on the 2014 Texas population of 26,926,906.

2014 Texas Crime Rate by Offense			
	2014	2013	% Change
Murder	4.4	4.4	0.0
Rape	n/a	n/a	n/a
Robbery	114.6	120.4	-4.8
Aggravated Assault	242.6	246.8	-1.7
Violent Crime Total	361.6	371.6	-2.7
Burglary	618.1	720.5	-14.2
Larceny-Theft	2,118.3	2,285.2	-7.3
Motor Vehicle Theft	251.6	248.3	+1.3
Property Crime Total	2,988.0	3,254.0	-8.2
GRAND TOTAL	3,349.6	3,625.6	-7.6

Annual Crime Trends

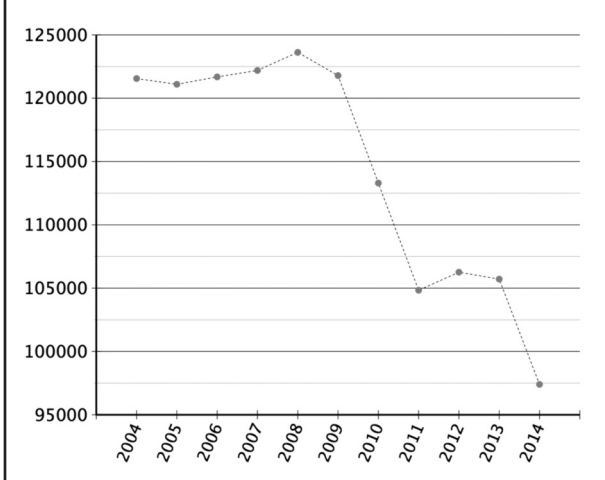
Monthly crime variations show that, in general, crime occurrences peaked in the month of May. Individual index crime trend graphs are located in Chapter 3.



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 2014, 10.8 percent of the Crime Index were violent crimes (minus rape) and 89.2 percent were property crimes.

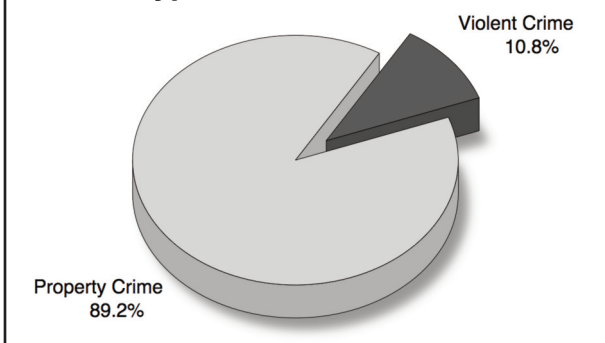
Violent Crime Offenses 2004-2014



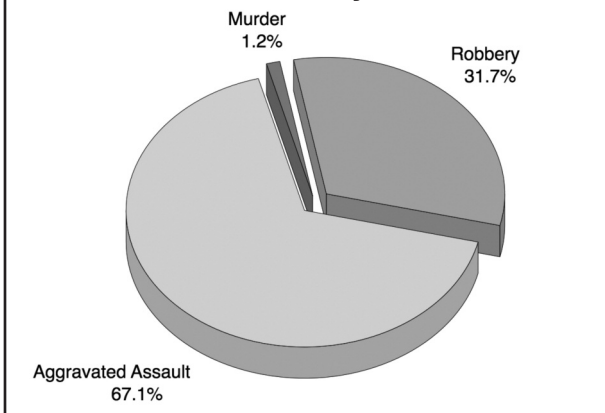
Violent Crimes

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. A reported 97,382 violent crimes (minus rape) occurred during 2014, a 0.9 percent decrease from 2013. The violent crime rate was 361.6 crimes per 100,000 Texans, a 2.76 percent decrease from the rate posted in 2013.

Type of Crime in Texas



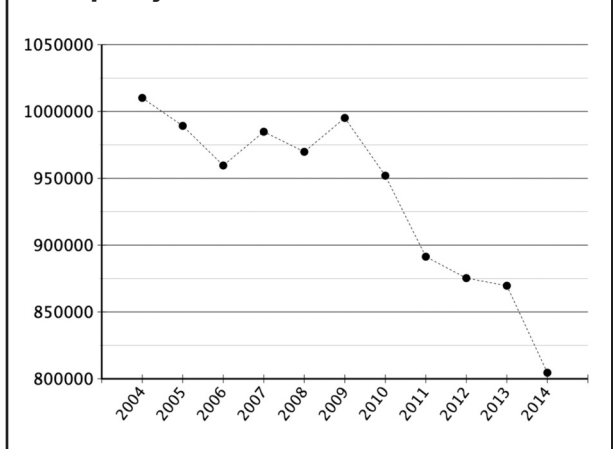
Violent Crime by Offense



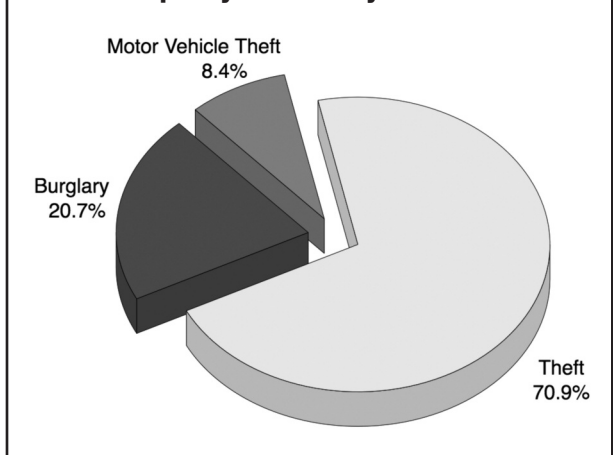
Property Crimes

The number of property crimes reported in 2014 was 804,555. Property crimes decreased 6.5 percent from 2013. Burglary accounted for 20.7 percent of all property offenses, larceny-theft accounted for 70.9 percent, and motor vehicle theft accounted for 8.4 percent. The 2014 property crime rate was 2,988 crimes per 100,000 Texans, a decrease of 8.2 percent when compared to the rate for 2013.

Property Crime Offenses 2004-2014



Property Crime by Offense



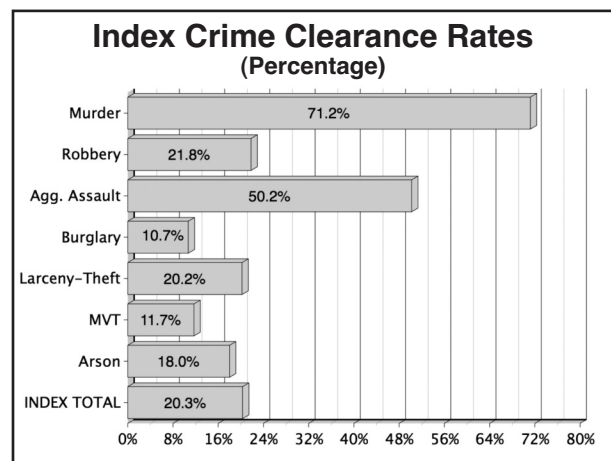
CLEARANCES

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 20.1 percent of all index offenses (minus rape) reported to them in 2014, by arrest or exceptional means. Of the violent crimes reported (minus rape), 41.5 percent were cleared, while 17.5 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.

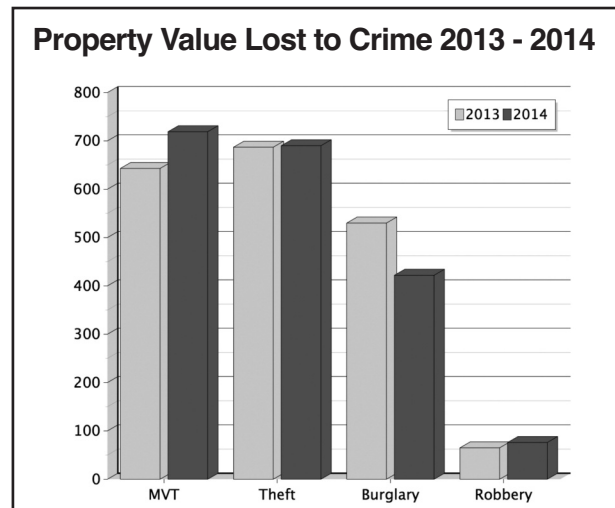
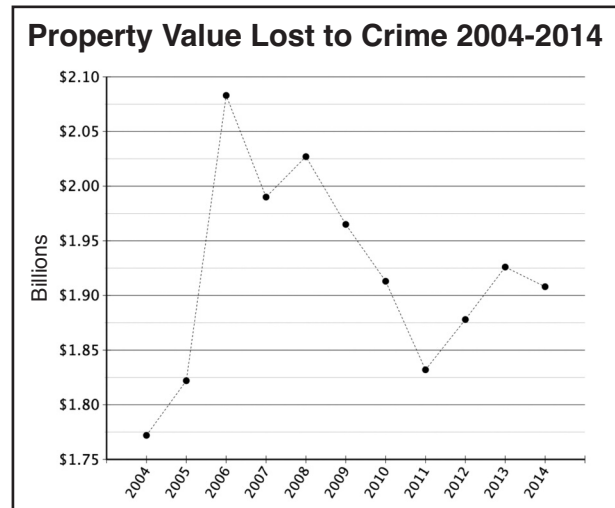
In 2014, arrests of persons under the age of 18 represented 10.3 percent of all index crimes solved, accounting for 7.4 percent of violent crimes cleared (minus rape) and 10.3 percent of property crimes cleared. Of the violent crimes solved, persons under the age of 18 were responsible for 3.7 percent of murder clearances, 10.5 percent of robbery clearances, and 6.8 percent of aggravated assault clearances. For non-violent crimes solved, this age group accounted for 10.1 percent of burglaries cleared, 10.3 percent of larceny-thefts cleared, and 10.9 percent of the motor vehicle thefts cleared.



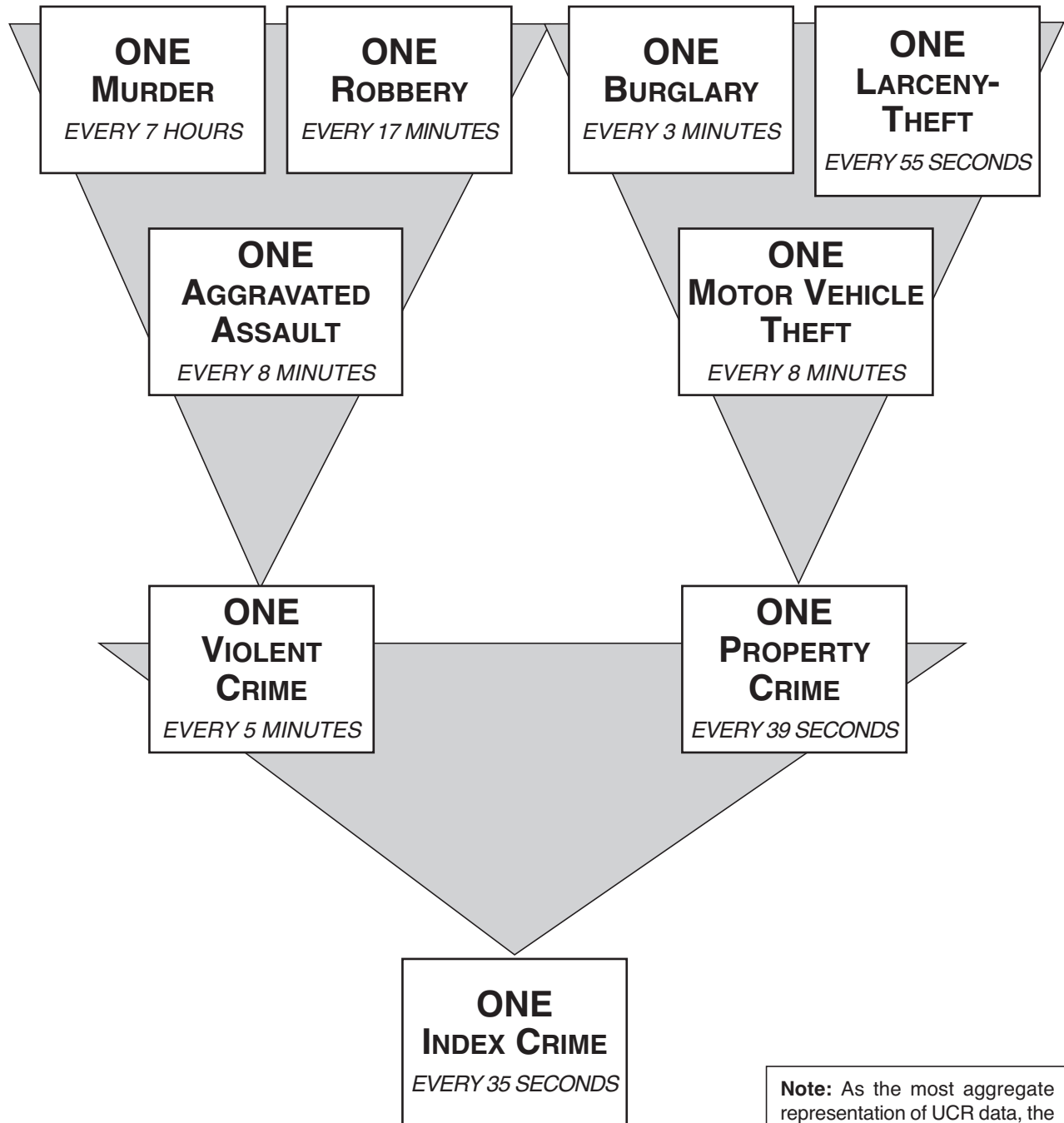
STOLEN PROPERTY VALUE

The total value of reported property stolen during 2014 in Texas was \$1,908,440,751.

Type of Property	Stolen	Recovered
Currency, Notes, Etc.	\$123,403,204	\$14,700,352
Jewelry and Precious Metals	\$161,190,650	\$7,656,717
Clothing & Furs	\$44,167,369	\$3,467,856
Locally Stolen Motor Vehicles	\$735,832,952	\$385,115,856
Office Equipment	\$80,488,523	\$4,513,651
Televisions, Radios, Stereos, Etc.	\$84,763,372	\$4,227,085
Firearms	\$20,427,821	\$1,886,070
Household Goods	\$35,538,818	\$1,435,643
Consumable Goods	\$15,894,555	\$1,546,073
Livestock	\$2,998,466	\$519,050
Miscellaneous	\$603,735,081	\$48,168,590
TOTAL	\$1,908,440,751	\$473,236,943



TEXAS CRIME CLOCK, 2014



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.

CRIME FACTS AT A GLANCE

2014

- There were 901,937 index crime offenses (minus rape) reported with a 20.1 percent clearance rate for Texas in 2014.
- The crime rate for the State of Texas was 3,349.6 index offenses (minus rape) for every 100,000 inhabitants.
- During 2014, Texas law enforcement officers made 876,601 arrests. Of those arrested, 6.6 percent were 16 years of age and under.
- The value of stolen property totaled \$1,908,440,751.
- The offense of larceny-theft accounted for 63.2 percent of all index crimes and had a clearance rate of 20.2 percent.
- Firearms were used in 63.3 percent of all murders reported.
- There were 65,338 aggravated assaults reported. Of these, 21.3 percent were committed by the use of hands, fists, and feet; 21.4 percent involved a knife or cutting instrument; and 24.2 percent involved a firearm.
- Residential burglaries accounted for 70.4 percent of all burglaries reported.
- The number of motor vehicle thefts reported was 67,741, for a total dollar loss of \$719,569,875.
- A total of five law enforcement officers were killed, three of whom were feloniously killed in the line of duty.
- There were 4,330 assaults on officers reported with 94.7 percent cleared.
- In 2014, there were 166 hate crime incidents reported with 190 victims, 198 offenders and 167 offenses.
- There were 185,817 family violence incidents during 2014. There were 201,051 victims and 195,511 offenders.
- There were 18,756 sexual assault incidents reported with 19,834 victims and 19,821 offenders.