

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.

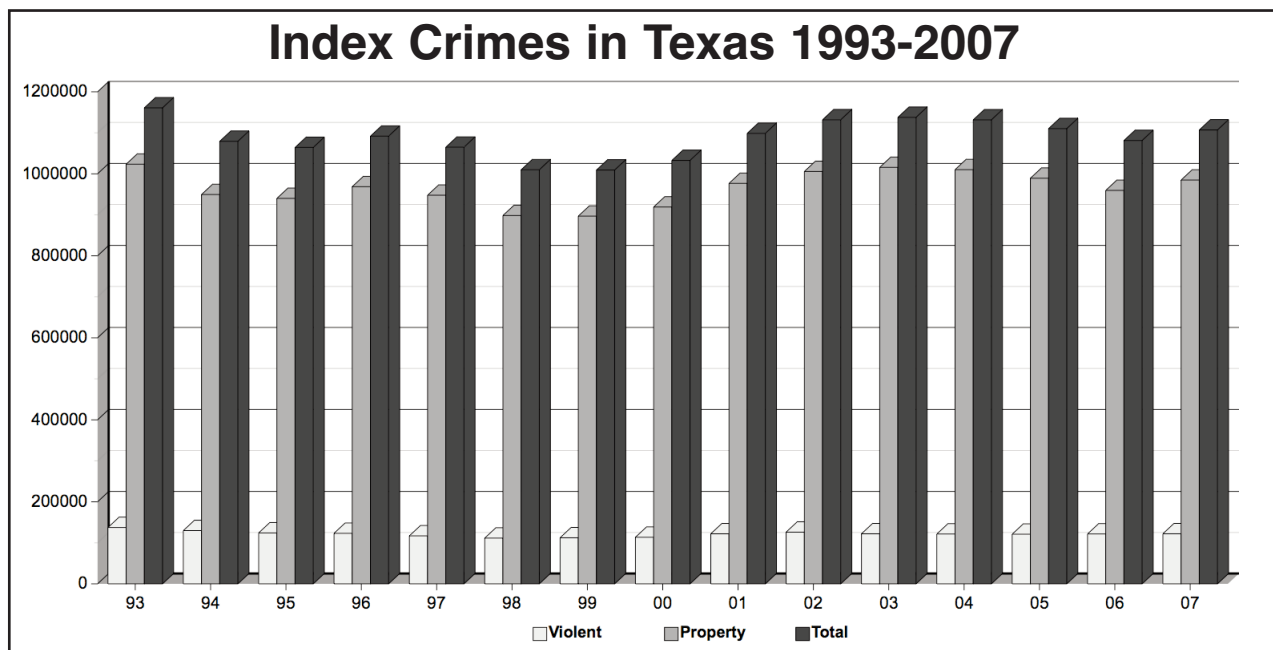
The Crime Index

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 2007 crime reports prior to state and national deadlines, it was necessary to estimate the number of offenses for these agencies. In 2007, 1,025 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 2007, there was an estimated total of 1,107,024 index offenses in Texas. The crime volume increased 2.3 percent when compared to 2006.

In addition to the above offenses, there were 6,003 cases of arson reported which represented a decrease of 8.3 percent from 2006.

Texas Crime Volume by Offense			
Offense	2007	2006	% Change
Murder	1,415	1,384	+ 2.2 %
Rape	8,430	8,406	+ 0.3 %
Robbery	38,777	37,271	+ 4.0 %
Aggravated Assault	73,570	74,622	- 1.4 %
VIOLENT CRIME TOTAL	122,192	121,683	+ 0.4 %
Burglary	228,325	215,754	+ 5.8 %
Larceny-Theft	662,481	648,083	+ 2.2 %
Motor Vehicle Theft	94,026	95,750	- 1.8 %
PROPERTY CRIME TOTAL	984,832	959,587	+ 2.6 %
INDEX CRIME GRAND TOTAL	1,107,024	1,081,270	+ 2.3 %

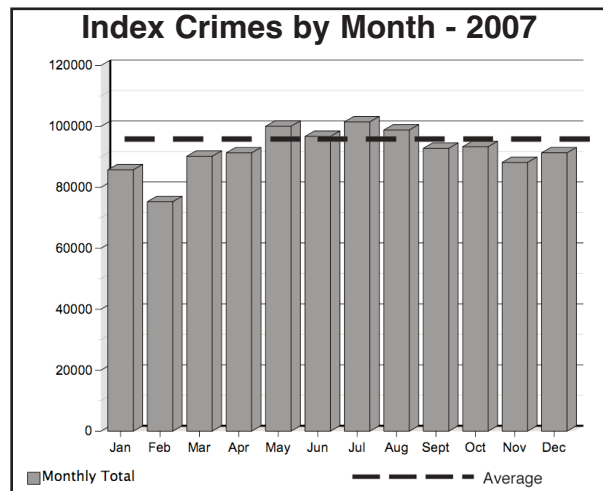
Crime Rates

During calendar year 2007, Texas' crime rate was 4631.1 crimes per 100,000 persons. This is an increase of 0.7 percent from the previous year. The crime rate is based on the 2007 Texas population of 23,904,380.

Texas Crime Rate by Offense			
Offense	2007	2006	% Change
Murder	5.9	5.9	0.0 %
Rape	35.3	35.8	- 1.4 %
Robbery	162.2	158.5	+ 2.3 %
Aggravated Assault	307.8	317.4	- 3.0 %
VIOLENT CRIME TOTAL	511.2	517.6	- 1.2 %
Burglary	955.2	917.8	+ 4.1 %
Larceny-Theft	2,771.4	2,756.9	+ 0.5 %
Motor Vehicle Theft	393.3	407.3	- 3.4 %
PROPERTY CRIME TOTAL	4,119.9	4,082.0	+ 0.9 %
INDEX CRIME GRAND TOTAL	4,631.1	4,599.6	+ 0.7 %

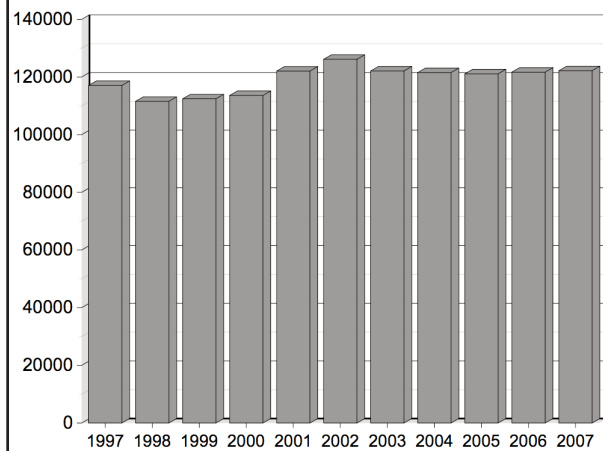
Annual Crime Trends

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.

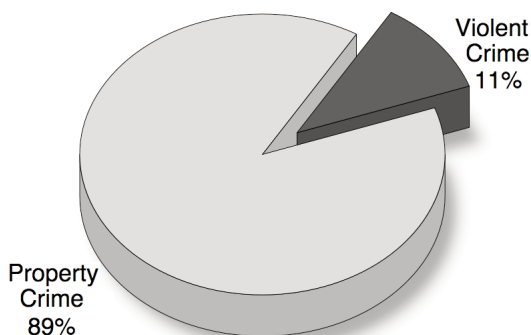
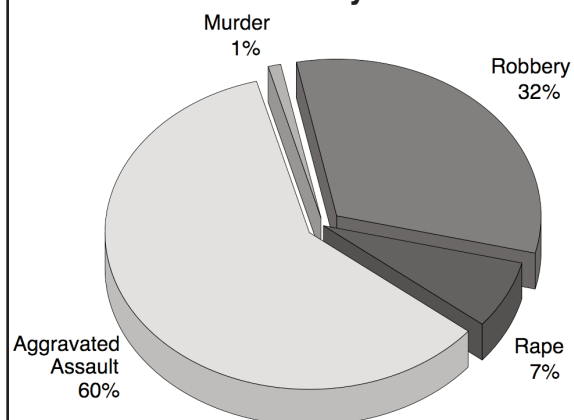


TYPE OF CRIME

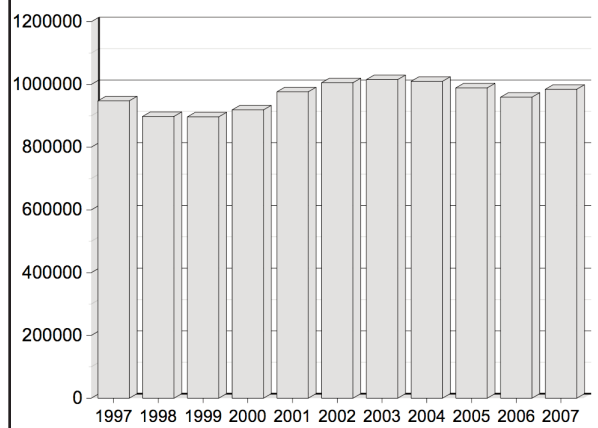
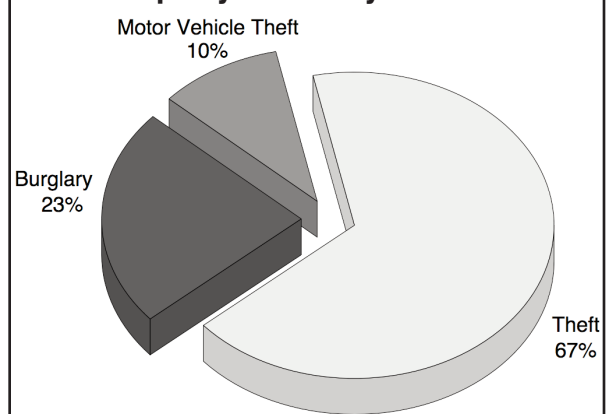
Crime analysis generally looks at the two categories of crime discussed above: violent crimes (or crimes against persons) and property crimes. In 2007, 11 percent of the Crime Index were violent crimes and 89 percent were property crimes.

Violent Crime Offenses 1997-2007**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 122,192 violent crimes occurred during 2007, a 0.4 percent increase from 2006. The 2007 violent crime rate was 511.2 crimes per 100,000 Texans, a 1.2 percent decrease from the rate posted in 2006.

Type of Crime in Texas**Violent Crime by Offense****Property Crimes**

The number of property crimes occurring during 2007 was estimated at 984,832. Property crimes increased 2.6 percent from 2006. Burglary accounted for 23 percent of all property offenses, larceny-theft accounted for 67 percent, and motor vehicle theft accounted for 10 percent. The 2007 property crime rate was 4,119.9 crimes per 100,000 Texans, an increase of 0.9 percent when compared to the rate for 2006.

Property Crime Offenses 1997-2007**Property Crime by Offense**

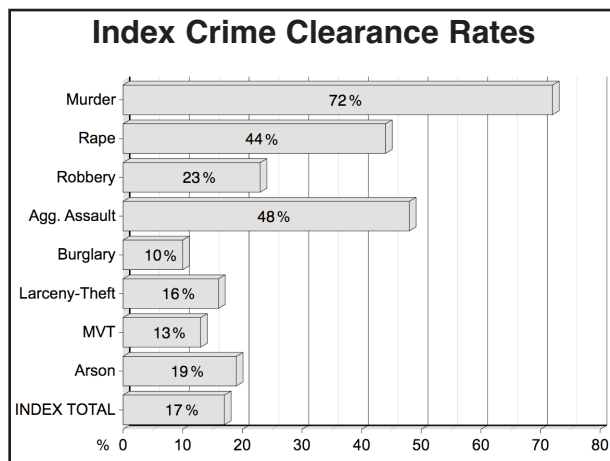
CLEARANCES

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 17 percent of all index offenses reported to them in 2007, by arrest or exceptional means. Of the violent crimes reported, 40 percent were cleared, while 14 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 2007, persons arrested under the age of 18 represented 14 percent of all cases solved, accounting for 10 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, 10 percent for robbery, and 10 percent for aggravated assault. In the non-violent crime categories, this age group accounted for 15 percent of the solved burglaries, 17 percent of the thefts, and 11 percent of the motor vehicle thefts.

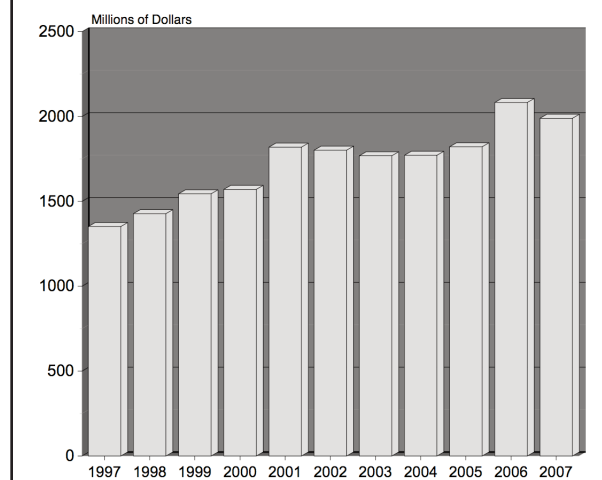


STOLEN PROPERTY VALUE

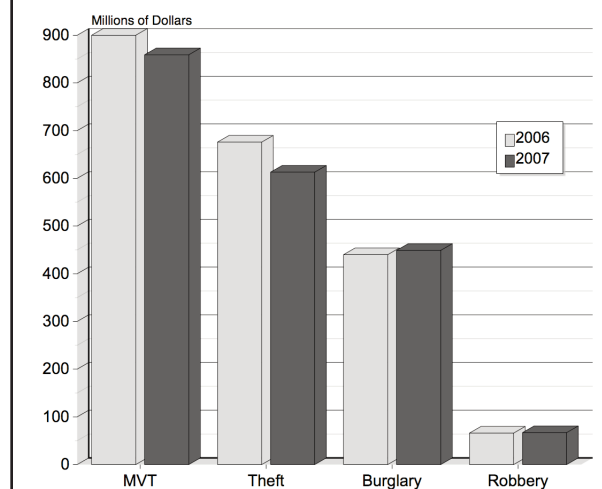
The total value of reported property stolen during 2007 in Texas was \$1,990,851,950.

Stolen Property by Type, Value and Percent Recovered		
Property Type	Stolen Value	% Recovered
Currency, Notes, Etc.	99,275,848	3
Jewelry & Precious Metals	139,561,058	5
Clothing & Furs	41,292,345	9
Locally Stolen Motor Vehicles	874,360,147	63
Office Equipment	98,792,756	4
Televisions, Radios, Stereos, Etc.	137,498,067	4
Firearms	15,763,701	9
Household Goods	49,173,782	10
Consumable Goods	16,419,707	10
Livestock	2,536,706	10
Miscellaneous	516,177,833	9
TOTAL	1,990,851,950	32

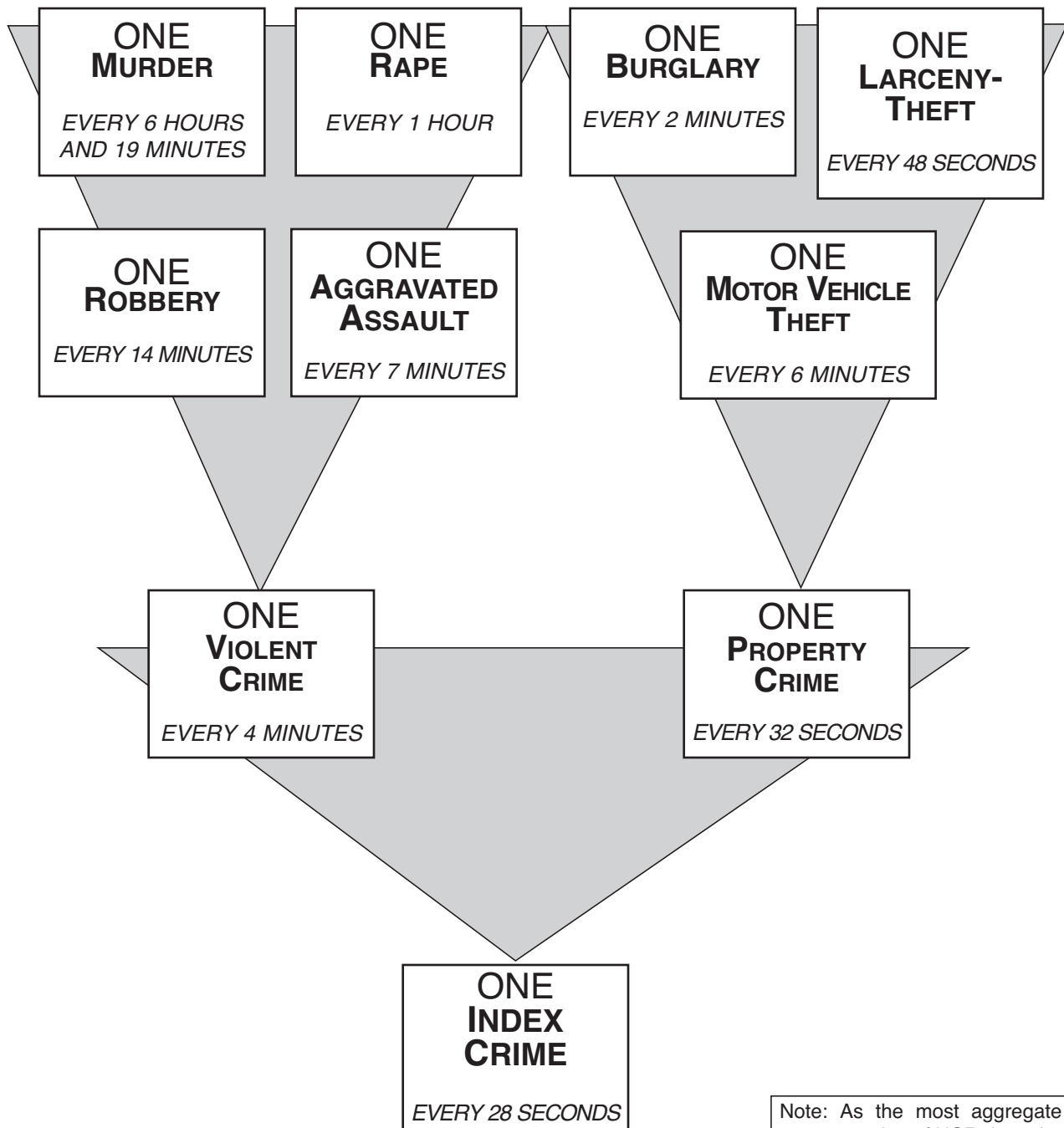
Property Value Lost to Crime 1997-2007



Property Value Lost to Crime 2006 & 2007



TEXAS CRIME CLOCK, 2007



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
1993	18,031,000	Volume	2,149	9,923	40,464	84,892	233,944	664,738	124,822	1,160,932
		Rate	11.9	55.0	224.4	470.8	1,297.5	3,686.6	692.3	6,438.5
1994	18,378,000	Volume	2,023	9,101	37,639	81,079	214,691	624,035	110,772	1,079,340
		Rate	11.0	49.5	204.8	441.2	1,168.2	3,395.6	602.7	5,873.0
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	4,599.6
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

CRIME FACTS AT A GLANCE

2007

- There were an estimated 1,107,024 index offenses reported with a 17 percent clearance rate for Texas in 2007.
- The crime rate for the State of Texas was 4,631.1 index offenses for every 100,000 inhabitants.
- During 2007, Texas law enforcement officers made 1,172,501 arrests. Of those arrested, 12 percent were 16 years of age and under.
- The value of stolen property totaled \$1,990,851,950.
- The offense of larceny-theft accounted for 60 percent of all index crimes and had a clearance rate of 16 percent.
- Firearms were used in 68 percent of all murders reported. All other weapons made up the remaining 32 percent.
- There were an estimated 73,570 aggravated assaults. Of these, 19 percent were committed by the use of hands, fists, and feet.
- Residential burglaries accounted for 67 percent of all burglaries reported.
- The estimated number of motor vehicle thefts was 94,026, for a total dollar loss of \$859,745,598.
- Nine law enforcement officers were feloniously killed in the line of duty. Eleven were killed in duty-related accidents.
- There were 4,450 assaults on officers reported with 93 percent cleared.
- In 2007, there were 243 hate crime incidents reported with 250 victims, 259 offenders and 255 offenses.
- There were 189,401 Family Violence incidents during 2007. There were 201,456 victims and 197,260 offenders.