

TEXAS CRIME ANALYSIS

2

CRIME MEASUREMENTS

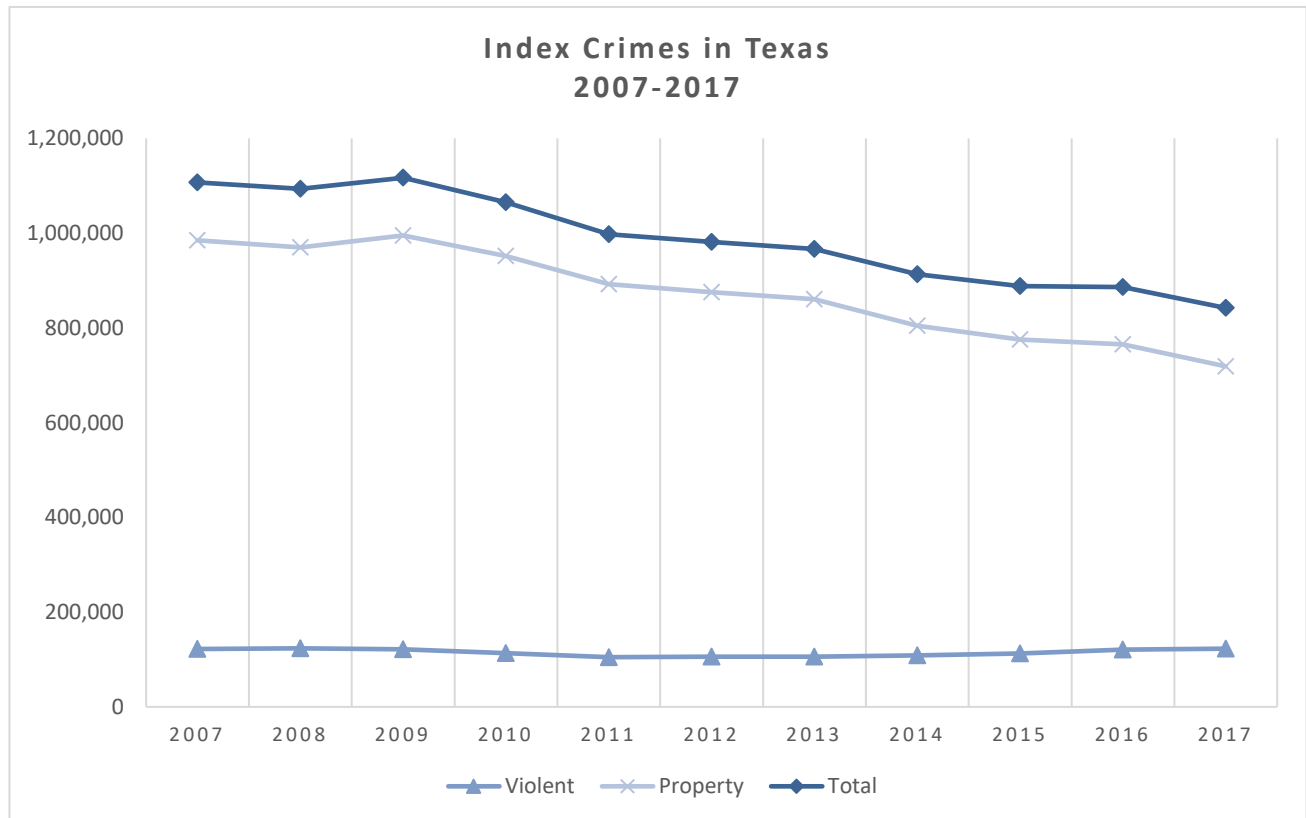
Crime affects every Texan in some fashion. To gain a measurement of crime trends, Texas participates in the Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) program. UCR makes possible the analysis of crime trends primarily through the Crime Index.

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. Although arson and human trafficking are index crimes in that the number of reported offenses is collected, neither is a part of the Crime Index.

During calendar year 2017, there was a reported total of 842,055 index offenses in Texas. The crime volume decreased 5.0% when compared to 2016. In addition to the above offenses, there were 3,294 cases of arson. There were also 345 human trafficking offenses reported in 2017.



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 offenses within the Crime Index. By comparing the crime volume from year to year, trends in the number of crimes committed can be studied and analyzed. 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 expressed as the number of crimes per 100,000 residents.

Crime Volume

2017 Texas Index Crime by Volume			
	2017	2016	% Change
Murder	1,412	1,473	-4.1%
Rape	14,332	13,320	7.6%
Robbery	32,120	33,250	-3.4%
Aggravated Assault	75,347	72,609	3.8%
Violent Crime Total	123,211	120,652	2.1%
Burglary	133,145	148,073	-10.1%
Larceny-Theft	518,414	548,941	-5.6%
Motor Vehicle Theft	67,285	68,523	-1.8%
Property Crime Total	718,844	765,537	-6.1%
GRAND TOTAL	842,055	886,189	-5.0%

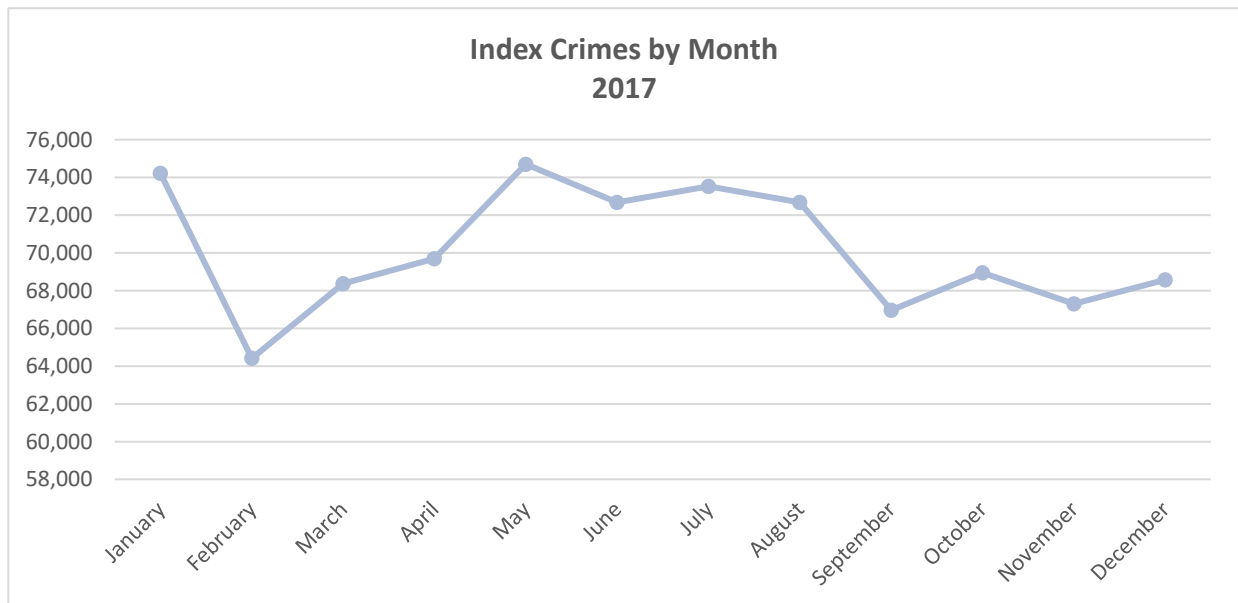
Crime Rates

During calendar year 2017, Texas' crime rate was 2,975 crimes per 100,000 persons. This is a decrease of 6.6% from 2016. The crime rate is based on the 2017 Texas population of 28,304,596.

2017 Texas Crime Rate by Offense			
	2017	2016	% Change
Murder	5.0	5.3	-5.8%
Rape	50.6	47.9	5.8%
Robbery	113.5	119.5	-5.0%
Aggravated Assault	266.2	261.0	2.0%
Violent Crime Total	435.3	433.7	0.4%
Burglary	470.4	532.2	-11.6%
Larceny-Theft	1,831.6	1,973.1	-7.2%
Motor Vehicle Theft	237.7	246.3	-3.5%
Property Crime Total	2,539.7	2,751.6	-7.7%
GRAND TOTAL	2,975.0	3,185.2	-6.6%

Annual Crime Trends

Monthly crime variations show that, in general, crime occurrences peaked in the month of May, with a total of 74,703 index crimes. The second highest month was January, with a total of 74,223. Individual index crime trend graphs are located in Chapter 3 of this publication.



TYPE OF CRIME

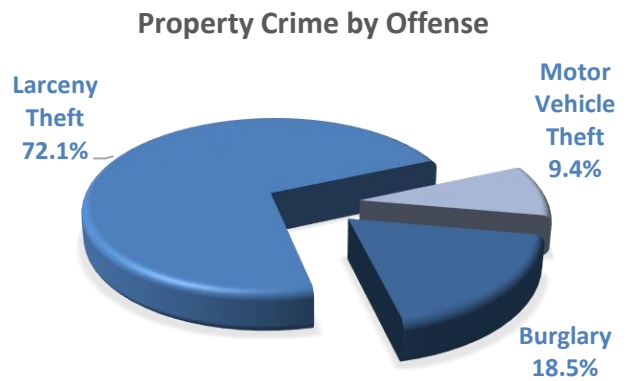
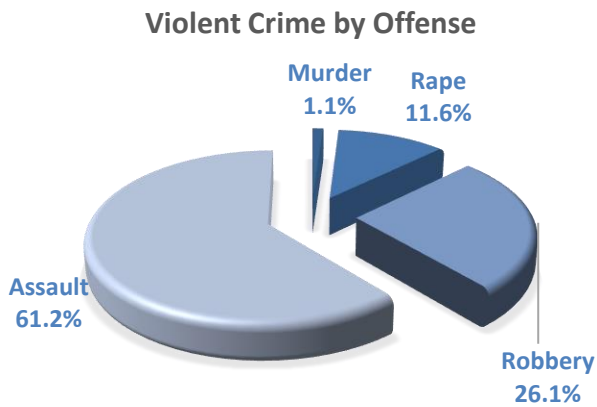
Crime analysis generally looks at the two categories of crime discussed above: violent crimes (or crimes against persons) and property crimes. In 2017, 14.6% of the Crime Index were violent crimes and 85.4% were property crimes.

Violent Crimes

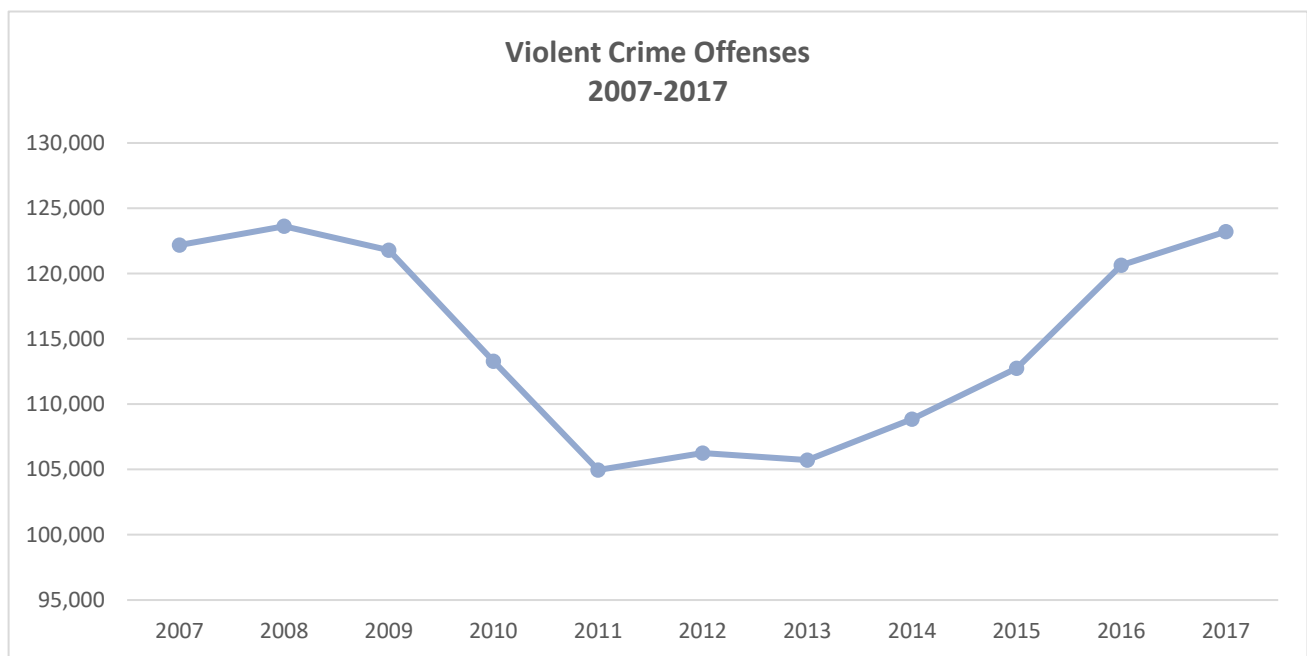
Violent crimes involve the element of personal confrontation between the perpetrator and the victim. Because of their nature, violent crimes are considered to be more serious than property crimes. A reported 123,211 violent crimes occurred during 2017, a 2.1% increase from 2016. The violent crime rate was 435.3 crimes per 100,000 Texans, a 0.4% increase from the rate posted in 2016.

Property Crimes

The number of property crimes reported in 2017 was 718,844. Property crimes decreased 6.1% from 2016. Burglary accounted for 18.5% of all property offenses, larceny-theft accounted for 72.1%, and motor vehicle theft accounted for 9.4%. The 2017 property crime rate was 2,539.7 crimes per 100,000 Texans, a decrease of 7.7% when compared to the rate for 2016.



A comparison of violent crime and property crime is found on page 5, however, a closer look at violent crime is shown below for a clearer view of trending over the past decade.



CLEARANCES

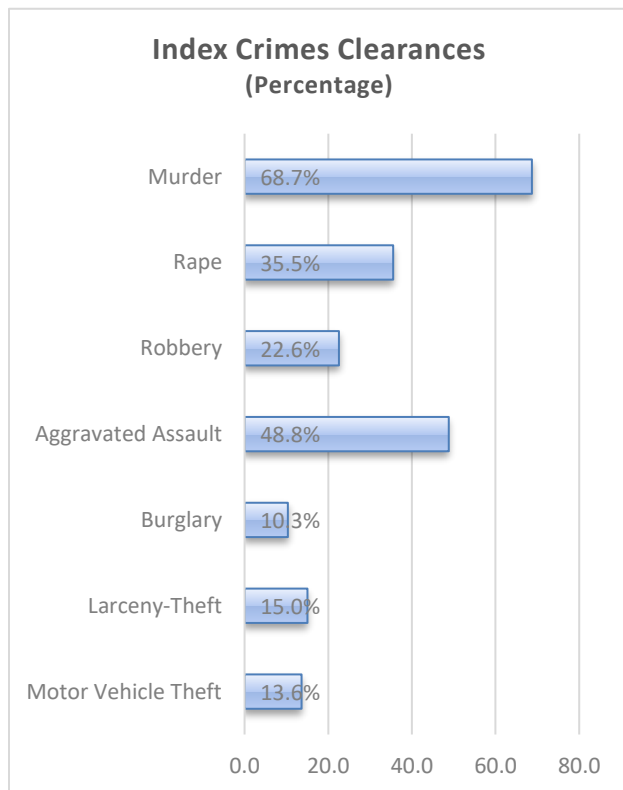
For Uniform Crime Reporting purposes, an offense is cleared only when a law enforcement agency has identified the offender, enough evidence exists to press charges, and the subject is actually taken into custody. The arrest of one person can clear several crimes or several persons may be arrested in 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 17.9% of all index offenses reported to them in 2017, by arrest or exceptional means. Of the violent crimes reported, 40.7% were cleared, while 14.0% of all property crimes were cleared.

Out of the violent crimes reported, murders were cleared 68.7% of the time, rapes 35.5%, robberies 22.6%, and aggravated assaults 48.8%.

Of property crimes reported, burglaries were cleared 10.3% of the time, larceny-theft 15.0% and motor vehicle theft 13.6%.

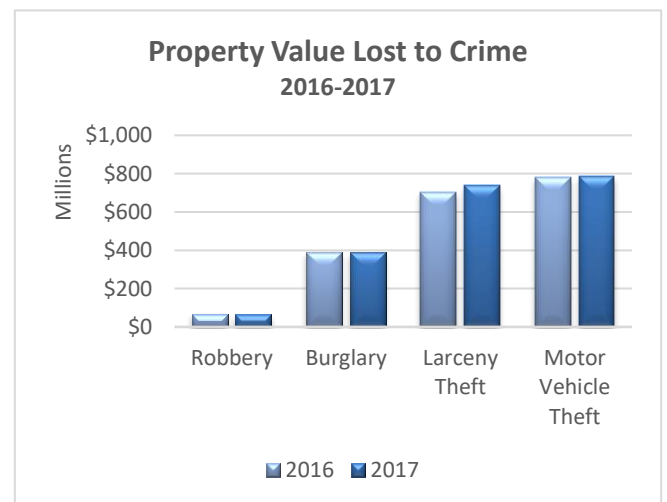
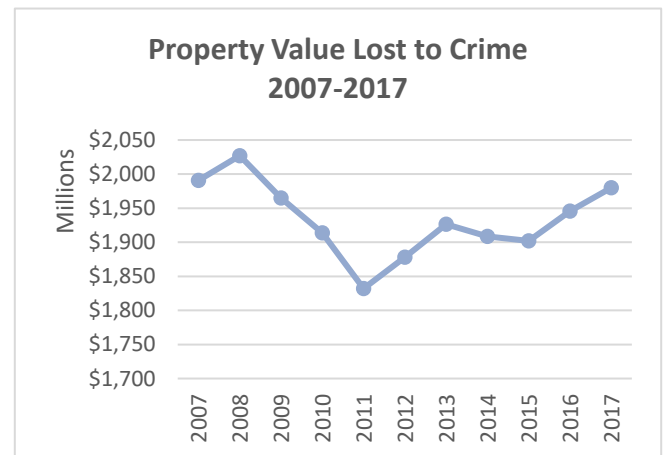
The relatively high clearance rate for violent crimes compared to the non-violent property crimes is, in part, attributable to the element of confrontation between the victim and the perpetrator, which contributes to identification of the offender.



STOLEN PROPERTY VALUE

The total value of reported property stolen during 2017 in Texas was \$1,980,079,125

Type of Property	Stolen	Recovered
Currency, Notes, Etc.	\$150,831,043	\$3,519,383
Jewelry & Precious Metals	\$136,379,859	\$4,202,011
Clothing & Furs	\$48,696,397	\$3,693,463
Locally Stolen Motor Vehicles	\$809,621,030	\$448,062,048
Office Equipment	\$75,877,679	\$3,344,320
Televisions, Radios, Stereos, Etc.	\$52,901,934	\$3,132,547
Firearms	\$22,079,814	\$2,112,901
Household Goods	\$50,927,366	\$1,160,773
Consumable Goods	\$16,994,610	\$1,465,099
Livestock	\$10,381,831	\$536,859
Miscellaneous	\$605,387,562	\$47,582,164
TOTAL	\$1,980,079,125	\$518,811,568



2017 TEXAS CRIME CLOCK

