

CRIME IN NEBRASKA (2019)

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NEBRASKA

Good Life. Great Service.

**COMMISSION ON LAW ENFORCEMENT
AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE**

CRIME IN NEBRASKA (2019)

Issued by:

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STATEWIDE CRIME SUMMARY

The number of crimes reported to Nebraska law enforcement agencies in 2019 decreased 1.4%. There were 44,365 crimes reported in 2019, compared to 44,986 crimes reported during the same period in 2018, resulting in a decrease of 621 crimes. These numbers include only the crimes of Murder-Manslaughter, Forcible Rape, Robbery, Aggravated Assault, Burglary, Larceny-Theft, Motor Vehicle Theft, and Arson, which serve as the *Crime Index* used to measure crime statewide.

Violent crimes (Murder-Manslaughter, Forcible Rape, Robbery, and Aggravated Assault) increased 4.4% in 2019. There were 5,638 violent crimes reported in 2019, compared to 5,401 reported in 2018, resulting in an increase of 237 violent crimes.

Property crimes (Burglary, Larceny-Theft, Motor Vehicle Theft, and Arson) decreased 2.2% in 2019. There were 38,692 property crimes reported in 2019, compared to 39,585 reported in 2018, resulting in a decrease of 858 property crimes.

Crime Index Offenses, 2018 – 2019

	2018	2019	CHANGE
VIOLENT CRIMES	5,401	5638	+4.4%
Criminal Homicide	46	50	+8.7%
Forcible Rape	1,244	1203	-3.3%
Robbery	735	791	+7.6%
Aggravated Assault	3,376	3594	+6.5%
PROPERTY CRIMES	39,585	38,727	-2.2%
Burglary	5,152	4,595	-10.8%
Larceny-Theft	29,379	29,072	-1.0%
Motor Vehicle Theft	4,825	4,891	+1.4%
Arson	229	169	-26.2%
COMBINED TOTAL	44,986	44,365	-1.4%

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POPULATION GROUPS

The following population groups saw changes in their 2019 crime rates:

- Populations of 400,000 and over increased 5.3% overall (violent +9.8% / property +4.6%)
- Populations of 399,999 to 100,000 decreased 2.5% overall (violent +6.6% / property -3.7%)
- Populations of 99,999 to 5,000 decreased 8.7% overall (violent -5.3% / property -9.1%)
- Populations of 4,999 and under decreased 24.4% overall (violent -21.6% / property -24.7%)
- County areas decreased 5.2% overall (violent -1.7% / property -5.7%)
- State properties decreased 10.8% overall (violent -5.9% / property -11.4%)

Crime Index Offenses by Population Group, 2018 – 2019

POPULATION GROUP		YEAR	Murder-Manslaughter	Forcible Rape	Robbery	Agg. Assault	Violent (Total)	Burglary	Larceny - Theft	Motor Vehicle Theft	Arson	Property (Total)	Grand Total
POLICE DEPARTMENTS	400,000 AND OVER	2018	22	403	456	1,747	2,628	1,848	11,343	3,123	83	16,397	19,025
		2019	25	379	519	1,962	2,885	1,684	12,307	3,153	0	17,144	20,029
		CHANGE	+13.6%	-6.0%	+13.8%	+12.3%	+9.8%	-8.9%	+8.5%	+1.0%	-100%	+4.6%	+5.3%
	399,999 TO 100,000	2018	6	284	162	594	1,046	1,182	6,694	431	44	8,351	9,397
		2019	5	323	166	621	1,115	988	6,566	454	43	8,051	9,166
		CHANGE	-16.7%	+13.7%	+2.5%	+4.5%	+6.6%	-16.4%	-1.9%	+5.3%	-2.3%	-3.7%	-2.5%
	99,999 TO 5,000	2018	8	360	93	638	1,099	1,323	8,086	793	42	10,244	11,343
		2019	9	332	87	613	1,041	1,200	7,244	800	68	9,312	10,353
		CHANGE	+12.5%	-7.8%	-6.5%	-3.9%	-5.3%	-9.3%	-10.4%	+0.9%	+61.9%	-9.1%	-8.7%
	4,999 AND UNDER	2018	1	38	7	79	125	87	546	62	4	699	824
		2019	1	29	0	67	97	49	440	36	1	526	623
		CHANGE	0%	-23.7%	-100%	-13.9%	-21.6%	-43.7%	-19.4%	-41.9%	-75%	-24.7%	-24.4%
OTHER	COUNTY AREAS	2018	8	142	16	305	471	699	2,528	408	13	3,648	4,119
		2019	8	132	17	308	465	670	2,330	426	13	3,439	3,904
		CHANGE	0%	-7%	+6.3%	+1%	-1.7%	-4.1%	-7.8%	+4.4%	0%	-5.7%	-5.2%
	STATE AREAS	2018	1	17	1	15	34	15	188	8	43	254	288
		2019	2	9	2	19	32	6	189	21	9	225	257
CHANGE	+100%	-47.1%	+100%	+26.7%	-5.9%	-60%	+0.5%	+162.5%	-79.1%	-11.4%	-10.8%		
TOTAL	2018	46	1,244	735	3,378	5,403	5,154	29,385	4,825	229	39,593	44,996	
	2019	50	1,204	791	3,590	5,635	4,597	29,076	4,890	134	38,697	44,332	
	CHANGE	+8.7%	-3.2%	+7.6%	+6.3%	+4.3%	-10.8%	-1.1%	+1.3%	-41.5%	-2.3%	-1.5%	

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ARRESTS

There were 66,355 arrests made in 2019, compared to 71,477 in 2018, resulting in an overall decrease of 7.2%. The five categories with the highest number of arrests in 2019 were: Drug Abuse Violations (12,200); Simple Assault (8,786); Larceny (7,454); Driving Under the Influence (6,410); and Liquor Law Violations (3,256).

The number of adult arrests (age 18 and over) in 2019 was 57,716, compared to 62,831 in 2018, resulting in a decrease of 8.1%. The number of juvenile arrests (age 17 and under) in 2019 was 8,639, compared to 8,646 in 2018, a decrease of 0.1%.

Total Arrests in Nebraska, 2018 – 2019

	ADULT ARRESTS			JUVENILE ARRESTS			ALL ARRESTS		
	2018	2019	CHANGE	2018	2019	CHANGE	2018	2019	CHANGE
Murder-Manslaughter	34	32	-5.8%	8	2	-75.0%	42	34	-19.0%
Forcible Rape	189	212	+12.2%	50	52	+4.0%	239	264	+10.5%
Robbery	192	236	+22.9%	140	130	-7.1%	332	366	+10.2%
Aggravated Assault	1,503	1,576	+4.9%	66	63	-4.5%	1,569	1,639	+4.5%
Burglary	415	416	+0.2%	102	97	-4.9%	517	513	-0.8%
Larceny	6,166	5,857	-5.0%	1,568	1,597	+1.8%	7,734	7,454	-3.6%
Motor Vehicle Theft	311	288	-7.4%	160	183	+14.4%	471	471	0.0%
Simple Assault	7,365	7,126	-3.2%	1,538	1,660	+7.9%	8,903	8,786	-1.3%
Arson	49	45	-8.2%	37	25	-32.4%	86	70	-18.6%
Forgery and Counterfeiting	320	287	-10.3%	5	2	-60.0%	325	289	-11.1%
Fraud	1,305	1,174	-10.0%	80	75	-6.3%	1,385	1,249	-9.8%
Embezzlement	58	62	+6.9%	10	8	-20.0%	68	70	+2.9%
Stolen Property Offenses	725	595	-17.9%	111	131	+18.0%	836	726	-13.2%
Vandalism	1,716	1,604	-6.5%	535	643	+20.2%	2,251	2,247	-0.2%
Weapons	1,014	1,021	+0.7%	100	120	+20.0%	1,114	1,141	+2.4%
Prostitution	128	98	-23.4%	0	0	N/A	128	98	-23.4%
Sex Offenses	368	336	-8.7%	82	71	-13.4%	450	407	-9.6%
Drug Abuse Violations	12,569	11,027	-12.3%	1,335	1,173	-12.1%	13,904	12,200	-12.3%
Offense Against Family and Children	1,224	1,209	-1.2%	200	189	-5.5%	1,424	1,398	-1.8%
Driving Under the Influence	6,759	6,347	-6.1%	81	63	-22.2%	6,840	6,410	-6.3%
Liquor Law Violations	3,638	2,688	-26.1%	651	568	-12.7%	4,289	3,256	-24.1%
Disorderly Conduct	2,116	2,090	-1.2%	439	420	-4.3%	2,555	2,510	-1.8%
Vagrancy	26	12	-53.8%	0	0	N/A	26	12	-53.8%
All Other Offenses (except traffic)	14,641	13,378	-8.6%	1,348	1,367	+1.4%	15,989	14,745	-7.8%
TOTAL	62,831	57,716	-8.1%	8,646	8,639	-0.1%	71,477	66,355	-7.2%

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A REVIEW OF HATE CRIMES

With the passage of Legislative Bill 90 in 1997, commonly referred to as the Hate Crime Bill, the Nebraska Crime Commission (NCC) developed a system to report hate crimes. The FBI has defined a hate crime as a “criminal offense against a person or property motivated in whole or in part by an offender’s bias against a race, religion, disability, sexual orientation, ethnicity, gender, or gender identity.” Nebraska law enforcement agencies voluntarily submit quarterly reports to the NCC which document the details of hate crimes that have been committed within the jurisdictions of those reporting agencies. Some of the details documented include: the type of crime committed, a general description of the location in which it occurred, and the type of bias or motivation of the offender.

In 2019, 138 law enforcement agencies participated in submitting hate crime data to the Crime Commission (128 all 12 months, 10 partial months). In total, there were 51 incidents reported by 21 agencies statewide that involved crimes motivated by hate or bias. In comparison, 2018 had 128 agencies participate in submitting hate crime data, reporting a total of 30 incidents from 11 agencies statewide, resulting in an overall increase of 70%.

Types of Bias/Motivations in Hate Crimes, 2018 – 2019

	2018	2019
RACIAL	16	36
Anti-White	4	22
Anti-Black or African American	12	10
Anti-American Indian	0	3
Anti-Multiple Races / Groups	0	1
ETHNICITY / NATIONAL ORIGIN	2	6
Anti-Hispanic or Latino	1	5
Anti-Arab	1	0
Anti-Other Race / Ethnicity / Ancestry	0	1
RELIGIOUS	2	3
Anti-Jewish	2	0
Anti-Catholic	0	1
Anti-Islamic (Muslim)	0	2
Anti-Protestant	0	0
Anti-Other Religion	0	0
SEX/GENDER	6	4
Anti-Gay (Male)	2	1
Anti-Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual or Transgender (Mixed Group)	4	2
Anti-Bisexual	0	1
DISABILITY	4	2
Anti-Physical Disability	0	0
Anti-Mental Disability	4	2
TOTAL	30	51

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A REVIEW OF HATE CRIMES

The general locations where hate crimes occurred in 2018-2019 are provided in the table below:

Location of Hate Crimes in Nebraska, 2018 – 2019

	2018	2019
Government/Public Building	0	2
Commercial (bar, restaurant, store, etc.)	7	11
Public Area (street, park, etc.)	6	13
Residence	16	15
School / College	0	6
Other	1	4
TOTAL	30	51

The types of offenses used in hate crimes in 2018-2019 are provided in the table below:

Types of Offenses Used in Hate Crimes in Nebraska, 2018 – 2019

	2018	2019
CRIMES AGAINST PEOPLE	12	27
Kidnapping	0	1
Aggravated Assault	2	3
Simple Assault	6	14
Intimidation	4	9
CRIMES AGAINST PROPERTY	18	24
Burglary	2	2
Larceny-Theft	2	6
Motor Vehicle Theft	1	0
Fraud Offenses	1	0
Destruction / Damage / Vandalism of Property	12	8
Shoplifting	0	4
Other	0	4
TOTAL	30	51

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