

CRIME IN NEBRASKA

PRELIMINARY 2005 REPORT - For Release August 21, 2006

3% DECREASE IN CRIME IN 2005

The number of crimes reported to Nebraska law enforcement agencies decreased 3 percent in 2005 compared to 2004. There were 63,669 crimes reported during January through December of 2005, compared to 65,579 reported during the same period of 2004, a decrease of 1,910 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) decreased 6 percent. There were 4,951 violent crimes reported in 2005 compared to 5,271 reported in 2004, a decrease of 320 crimes. Property crimes (Burglary, Larceny-Theft, Motor Vehicle Theft, and Arson) decreased 3 percent. There were 58,717 property crimes reported in 2005 compared to 60,305 reported in 2004, a decrease of 1,588 crimes.

Crime decreased 3 percent in Omaha and 2 percent in Lincoln. Cities of 5,000 to 99,999 population had a 2 percent decrease; cities under 5,000 population had a 4 percent decrease; and county areas reported a 5 percent decrease. Crimes occurring on State property decreased 7 percent from 2004.

Crime Index Offenses, 2004 - 2005

<i>Crime Index Offenses</i>	<i>Number of Crime Index Offenses</i>		
	2004	2005	% Change
Violent Crimes	5,271	4,951	- 6
Murder - Manslaughter	41	43	+5
Forcible Rape	597	566	- 5
Robbery	1,128	1,031	- 9
Aggravated Assault	3,505	3,311	- 6
Property Crimes	60,305	58,717	- 3
Burglary	9,518	9,032	- 5
Larceny-Theft	45,276	43,918	- 3
Motor Vehicle Theft	5,186	5,486	+6
Arson	325	281	-14
Total	65,579	63,669	- 3

NEBRASKA COMMISSION ON LAW ENFORCEMENT AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE

DAVE HEINEMAN
GOVERNOR

(402) 471-2194

MICHAEL E. BEHM
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

**Percent Change - Crime Index Offenses
January thru December, 2004 - 2005 by Population Groups**

<i>Population Group</i>		<i>Murder, Man-slaughter</i>	<i>Forcible Rape</i>	<i>Robbery</i>	<i>Aggravated Assault</i>	<i>Burglary</i>	<i>Larceny Theft</i>	<i>Motor Vehicle Theft</i>	<i>Arson</i>	<i>Total</i>
250,000 & Over	2004	20	187	824	1,577	3,641	15,490	3,405	150	25,294
	2005	31	199	682	1,415	3,164	15,079	3,813	138	24,521
	% Change	+55	+6	-17	-10	-13	-3	+12	-8	-3
100,000 to 249,999	2004	6	128	192	905	1,895	10,814	424	20	14,384
	2005	4	112	225	1,023	1,893	10,388	423	20	14,088
	% Change	-33	-13	+17	+13	0	-4	0	0	-2
5,000 to 99,999	2004	7	167	79	523	2,142	12,862	758	103	16,641
	2005	5	152	78	494	2,287	12,466	695	80	16,258
	% Change	-29	-9	-1	-6	+7	-3	-8	-22	-2
Under 5,000	2004	0	20	3	54	178	1,183	84	9	1,534
	2005	0	17	1	39	159	1,195	65	6	1,475
	% Change	0	-15	-67	-39	-11	+1	-23	-33	-4
Counties	2004	8	91	27	444	1,551	4,556	509	42	7,228
	2005	3	80	42	340	1,442	4,436	484	36	6,864
	% Change	-63	-12	+56	-23	-7	-3	-5	-14	-5
State Property	2004	0	4	3	2	111	371	6	1	498
	2005	0	6	3	6	87	354	6	1	463
	% Change	0	+50	0	+200	-22	-5	0	0	-7
TOTAL	2004	41	597	1,128	3,505	9,518	45,276	5,186	325	65,579
	2005	43	566	1,031	3,311	9,032	43,918	5,486	281	63,669
	% Change	+5	-5	-9	-6	-5	-3	+9	-14	-3

Total Arrests Increase 2%

The total number of persons arrested in Nebraska during 2005 increased from 94,572 in 2004 to 96,814 in 2005, an increase of 2,242 arrests. The top five categories in terms of the number of arrests made for specific crimes were: Driving under the Influence (14,528 arrests), Liquor Law Violations (12,782), Drug Abuse Violations (11,297), Simple Assault (9,520), and Larceny-Theft (8,394). The total number of adult arrests (age 18 and over) increased 2% from 79,703 in 2004 to 81,512 in 2005. Adult arrests accounted for 84% of the total arrests made statewide. The total number of juvenile arrests increased 3%, from 14,869 in 2004 to 15,302 in 2005.

Total Arrest Trends, 2004 - 2005

Offense	Under 18 Years of Age			18 Years of Age and Over			Total All Ages		
	2004	2005	Percent Change	2004	2005	Percent Change	2004	2005	Percent Change
Murder - Manslaughter	4	1	-75	32	40	+25	36	41	+14
Death by Negligence	3	2	-33	12	19	+58	15	21	+40
Forcible Rape	16	9	-44	179	153	-15	195	162	-17
Robbery	69	59	-14	248	262	+6	317	321	+1
Aggravated Assault	132	118	-11	904	1,152	+27	1,036	1,270	+23
Burglary	342	303	-11	666	653	-2	1,008	956	-5
Larceny-Theft	3,044	2,906	-5	5,689	5,488	-4	8,733	8,394	-4
Motor Vehicle Theft	140	132	-6	260	231	-11	400	363	-9
Arson	73	82	+16	40	43	+8	113	125	+3
Simple Assault	1,692	1,961	+12	7,569	7,559	0	9,261	9,520	+11
Forgery and Counterfeiting	34	24	-29	696	776	+11	730	800	+10
Fraud	67	57	-15	1,750	1,786	+2	1,817	1,843	+1
Embezzlement	4	3	-25	84	74	-12	88	77	-13
Stolen Property Offenses	169	170	+1	882	949	+8	1,051	1,119	+6
Vandalism	1,117	1,093	-2	1,652	1,815	+10	2,769	2,908	+5
Weapons Violations	181	168	-7	917	994	+8	1,098	1,162	+6
Prostitution/Commercial. Vice	3	4	+33	313	142	-55	316	146	-54
Sex Offenses	111	128	+15	508	465	-8	619	593	-4
Drug Abuse Violations	1,150	1,163	+1	9,758	10,134	+4	10,908	11,297	+4
Gambling	2	2	0	20	21	+5	22	23	+5
Offenses Ag. Family/Children	28	24	-14	1,650	1,627	-1	1,678	1,651	-2
Driving Under the Influence	347	301	-13	13,829	14,227	+3	14,176	14,528	+2
Liquor Law Violations	2,178	2,426	+11	10,203	10,356	+1	12,381	12,782	+3
Disorderly Conduct	881	860	-2	3,581	3,368	-6	4,462	4,228	-5
All Other Offenses	2,368	2,451	+4	18,261	19,178	+5	20,629	21,629	+5
Curfew / Loitering	391	509	+30				391	509	+30
Runaways	323	346	+7				323	346	+7
Total	14,869	15,302	+3	79,703	81,512	+2	94,572	96,814	+2

A REVIEW OF HATE CRIMES IN NEBRASKA

With the passage of Legislative Bill 90 in 1997, commonly referred to as the Hate Crime Bill, the Crime Commission developed a system for reporting hate crimes. Law enforcement agencies voluntarily submit quarterly reports to the Commission on the number of hate crime incidents. If a hate crime has been committed, they report the type of crime committed, a general description of the location, and the type of bias motivation. Of the 170 law enforcement agencies asked to participate in hate crime reporting, 91 agencies submitted at least one quarterly report during 2005 with 82 of those agencies reporting all four quarters.

During 2005, there were a total of 44 incidents reported involving crimes motivated by hate. This is a 13% increase above the 39 reported in 2004. The types of bias motivation are provided below.

Type of Bias	Number	Percent
Racial	19	43.2
White	1	
Black	14	
Asian/Pacific Islander	2	
American Indian	1	
Multi-Racial	1	
Ethnicity / National Origin	7	15.9
Hispanic	3	
Other Ethnicity	4	
Religious	10	22.7
Jewish	7	
Anti-Islamic	3	
Sexual	6	13.6
Male Homosexual	6	
Physical Disability	2	4.5
Total	44	100.0

The general location where the hate crimes occurred and the type of crime committed are provided below. The majority of incidents occurred at a residence or in a public area. The majority of hate crimes (59%) are carried out through a direct confrontation with the victim while 41% are directed towards the property of the victim.

Location	Number	Percent
Commercial	4	9.1
Public Area (Street, Park, etc.)	17	38.6
Residence	12	27.3
School/College	6	13.6
Other	5	11.4
Total	44	100.0

Type of Crime	Number	Percent
Simple Assault	11	25.0
Intimidation	15	34.1
Vandalism	16	36.4
Burglary	1	2.3
Larceny-Theft	1	2.3
Total	44	100.0

PLEASE NOTE: Caution should be used when comparing the percent changes presented within this report. A slight shift in the volume of crimes or arrests may result in a large percent change for some offenses, arrests, and population groups. Final figures for 2005 will be published in the annual report "Crime in Nebraska - 2005."