

CRIME IN NEBRASKA

PRELIMINARY 2006 REPORT - For Release July 11, 2007

2% DECREASE IN CRIME IN 2006

The number of crimes reported to Nebraska law enforcement agencies decreased 2 percent in 2006 compared to 2005. There were 62,420 crimes reported during January through December of 2006, compared to 63,809 reported during the same period of 2005, a decrease of 1,389 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 less than one percent. There were 4,921 violent crimes reported in 2006 compared to 4,932 reported in 2005, a decrease of 11 crimes. Property crimes (Burglary, Larceny-Theft, Motor Vehicle Theft, and Arson) decreased 2 percent. There were 57,499 property crimes reported in 2006 compared to 58,877 reported in 2005, a decrease of 1,378 crimes.

Crime decreased 0.4 percent in Omaha and 4 percent in Lincoln. Cities of 5,000 to 99,999 population had a 5 percent decrease; cities under 5,000 population had a 3 percent decrease; and county areas reported a 3 percent increase. Crimes occurring on State property increased 1 percent from 2005.

Crime Index Offenses, 2005 - 2006

<i>Crime Index Offenses</i>	<i>Number of Crime Index Offenses</i>		
	2005	2006	% Change
Violent Crimes	4,932	4,921	0
Murder - Manslaughter	43	53	+23
Forcible Rape	576	540	- 6
Robbery	1,031	1,124	+ 9
Aggravated Assault	3,282	3,204	- 2
Property Crimes	58,877	57,499	- 2
Burglary	9,103	9,034	- 1
Larceny-Theft	44,114	43,334	- 2
Motor Vehicle Theft	5,516	4,973	-10
Arson	144	158	+10
Total	63,809	62,420	- 2

NEBRASKA COMMISSION ON LAW ENFORCEMENT AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE

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**Percent Change - Crime Index Offenses
January thru December, 2005 - 2006 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	2005	31	199	682	1,415	3,164	15,079	3,813	*138	24,383
	2006	33	187	848	1,437	3,172	15,172	3,443	NA	24,292
	% Change	+1	-6	+24	+2	0	+1	-10	-	0
100,000 to 249,999	2005	4	112	225	1,023	1,893	10,388	423	20	14,088
	2006	5	112	162	989	1,922	9,884	431	7	13,512
	% Change	+25	0	-28	-3	+2	-5	+2	-65	-4
5,000 to 99,999	2005	5	151	78	497	2,335	12,727	700	81	16,574
	2006	5	179	87	471	2,192	12,010	660	107	15,711
	% Change	0	+19	+12	-5	-6	-6	-6	+32	-5
Under 5,000	2005	0	17	1	35	144	987	62	5	1,251
	2006	0	10	2	41	162	936	51	9	1,211
	% Change	0	-74	+100	+17	+13	-5	-18	+80	-3
Counties	2005	3	91	42	306	1,480	4,579	512	37	7,050
	2006	10	51	24	257	1,514	4,956	381	35	7,228
	% Change	+233	-44	-43	-16	+2	+8	-26	-5	+3
State Property	2005	0	6	3	6	87	354	6	1	463
	2006	0	1	1	9	72	376	7	0	469
	% Change	0	-83	-67	+50	-17	+6	+17	-100	+1
TOTAL	2005	43	576	1,031	3,282	9,103	44,114	5,516	144	63,809
	2006	53	540	1,124	3,204	9,034	43,334	4,973	158	62,420
	% Change	+23	-6	+9	-2	-1	-2	-10	+10	-2

* Not included in totals

Total Arrests Decrease 3%

The total number of persons arrested in Nebraska during 2006 decreased from 96,229 in 2005 to 92,970 in 2006, a decrease of 3,259 arrests. The top five categories in terms of the number of arrests made for specific crimes were: Driving under the Influence (13,380 arrests), Liquor Law Violations (12,691), Drug Abuse Violations (10,520), Simple Assault (9,213), and Larceny-Theft (7,878). The total number of adult arrests (age 18 and over) decreased 5% from 80,991 in 2005 to 77,046 in 2006. Adult arrests accounted for 83% of the total arrests made statewide. The total number of juvenile arrests increased 5%, from 15,238 in 2005 to 15,924 in 2006.

Total Arrest Trends, 2005 - 2006

Offense	Under 18 Years of Age			18 Years of Age and Over			Total All Ages		
	2005	2006	Percent Change	2005	2006	Percent Change	2005	2006	Percent Change
Murder - Manslaughter	1	3	+200	40	42	+ 5	41	45	+10
Death by Negligence	2	0	-100	19	16	-16	21	16	-24
Forcible Rape	9	18	+100	155	139	-10	164	157	- 4
Robbery	59	59	0	262	266	+ 2	321	325	+ 1
Aggravated Assault	117	112	- 4	1,146	1,031	-10	1,263	1,143	-10
Burglary	303	383	+26	649	648	0	952	1,031	+ 8
Larceny-Theft	2,907	2,848	- 2	5,514	5,030	- 9	8,421	7,878	- 6
Motor Vehicle Theft	132	138	+ 5	231	245	+ 6	363	383	+ 6
Arson	82	74	-10	43	41	- 5	125	115	- 8
Simple Assault	1,998	1,983	- 1	7,728	7,230	- 6	9,726	9,213	- 5
Forgery and Counterfeiting	24	27	+13	779	560	-28	803	587	-27
Fraud	57	77	+35	1,751	1,710	- 2	1,808	1,787	- 1
Embezzlement	3	6	+100	74	73	- 1	77	79	+ 3
Stolen Property Offenses	171	191	+12	949	887	- 7	1,120	1,078	- 4
Vandalism	1,087	1,178	+ 8	1,816	1,962	+ 8	2,903	3,140	+ 8
Weapons Violations	167	159	- 5	992	979	- 1	1,159	1,138	- 2
Prostitution/Commercial. Vice	4	1	-75	144	234	+63	148	235	+59
Sex Offenses	126	109	-13	461	526	+14	587	635	+ 8
Drug Abuse Violations	1,169	1,138	- 3	10,086	9,382	- 7	11,255	10,520	- 7
Gambling	2	0	-100	24	18	-25	26	18	-31
Offenses Ag. Family/Children	24	43	+79	1,627	1,647	+ 1	1,651	1,690	+ 2
Driving Under the Influence	295	341	+16	14,071	13,039	- 7	14,366	13,380	- 7
Liquor Law Violations	2,402	2,684	+12	10,250	10,007	- 2	12,652	12,691	0
Disorderly Conduct	862	959	+11	3,357	3,406	+ 1	4,219	4,365	+ 3
All Other Offenses	2,381	2,526	+ 6	18,823	17,928	- 5	21,204	20,454	- 4
Curfew / Loitering	506	451	-11				506	451	-11
Runaways	348	416	+20				348	416	+20
Total	15,238	15,924	+ 5	80,991	77,046	- 5	96,229	92,970	- 3

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, 100 agencies submitted at least one quarterly report during 2006 with 86 of those agencies reporting all four quarters.

During 2006, there were a total of 49 incidents reported involving crimes motivated by hate. This is an 11% increase above the 44 reported in 2005. The types of bias motivation are provided below.

Type of Bias	Number	Percent
Racial	28	57.1
White	11	
Black	17	
Ethnicity / National Origin	12	24.5
Hispanic	11	
Other Ethnicity	1	
Religious	4	8.2
Jewish	2	
Islamic	1	
Other Religion	1	
Sexual	4	8.2
Male Homosexual	3	
Female Homosexual	1	
Gender	1	2.0
Total	49	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 in a public area or school/college. The majority of hate crimes (76%) are carried out through a direct confrontation with the victim while 25% are directed towards the property of the victim.

Location	Number	Percent
Commercial	5	10.2
Public Area (Street, Park, etc.)	12	24.5
Residence	9	18.4
School/College	14	28.6
Jail	2	4.1
Other	7	14.3
Total	49	100.0

Type of Crime	Number	Percent
Aggravated Assault	4	8.2
Simple Assault	24	49.0
Intimidation	7	14.3
Robbery	2	4.1
Destruction of Property	12	24.5
Total	49	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.