

# STATE OF NEBRASKA

## NEBRASKA COMMISSION ON LAW ENFORCEMENT AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE

(Nebraska Crime Commission)

**Darrell Fisher, Executive Director**

301 Centennial Mall South

P.O. Box 94946

Lincoln, Nebraska 68509-4946

Phone (402) 471-2194

### **FOR RELEASE:**

September 17, 2016

7:00 a.m. Central Time

### **FOR MORE INFORMATION:**

Darrell Fisher

(402) 471-2195

## **9.1% DECREASE IN CRIMES REPORTED IN NEBRASKA**

**LINCOLN** – Darrell Fisher, Executive Director of the Nebraska Crime Commission, announced today that Nebraska experienced a 9.1% decrease in the number of crimes reported to law enforcement agencies during 2015 compared to 2014. Fisher indicated there were 46,605 crimes reported during 2015 compared to 51,280 reported in 2014. These numbers include only the offenses of Murder-Manslaughter, Forcible Rape, Robbery, Aggravated Assault, Burglary, Larceny-Theft, Motor Vehicle Theft, and Arson which serve as the basis for measuring crime statewide.

“Over the past reported year, Nebraska crime fell in two categories,” Fisher said. “This includes a 5.0% decrease in Robbery and at 19.0% decrease in burglary. These numbers are parallel to FBI reports that show crimes are also decreasing nationwide.”

Nebraska experienced 4,807 violent crimes in 2015 for a 0.9% increase overall in this category. Forcible Rape increased by 8.1% (from 604 to 653), robbery decreased by 5.0% (from 1,043 to 991), and Aggravated Assault increased by 1.1% (from 3,062 to 3,097) in 2015.

Property crimes in Nebraska decreased by 10.1% overall with 41,798 offenses reported in 2015. Larceny-Theft decreased by 8.2% (from 34,170 to 31,384). Motor Vehicle Theft decreased by 12.2% (from 4,449 to 3,906) and Arson increased by 36.4% (from 206 in 2014 to 281 in 2015).

Crimes in Omaha decreased 13.5% and crimes in Lincoln increased 0.9% in 2015. Reports in Omaha fell to 13.5% in 2015, and Lincoln experienced a 0.9% increase (from 10,069 to 10,159). Crimes occurring on State Property decreased 25.7% (from 382 to 284).

Crimes in cities of 5,000 to 99,999 in population decreased by 11.6% (from 13,038 to 11,526). Crime in cities with under 5,000 occupants increased by 15.2% (from 915 to 1054 in 2015) and County areas reported a decrease of 7.1% (from 5,287 to 4,910).

**-MORE-**

## Page 2

The number of persons arrested in 2015 decreased by 3.5% from 2014. In 2015, there were 70,638 arrests compared to 73,197 in the previous year. During the same time period, juvenile arrests decreased by 1.5% and adult arrests decreased by 3.8%. Adult arrests accounted for 85% of the total arrests made statewide.

The top five categories in the number of arrests made for specific crimes were: Driving under the Influence (8,199 arrests), Drug Abuse Violations (12,110), Liquor Law Violations (5,725), Larceny-Theft (8,926), and Simple Assault (7,093).

Fisher said, “Changes were seen in several of the main arrest categories. Driving Under the Influence arrests decreased by 4.0% and Liquor Law Violations decreased by 16.9%. While Drug Abuse Violation showed very minor change, there was a 2.4% decrease in the number of arrests for Murder.”

Hate crime statistics were also released. During 2015, there were 19 incidents reported involving crimes motivated by hate, compared to 46 reported in 2014. Racial bias accounted for 47% of the total hate crimes. Ethnic bias accounted for .05%, Religious Bias accounted for .05% and Sexual bias accounted for 42%. Of the hate crimes reported, 10% involved intimidation and 37% involved destruction of property.

**The complete 2015 data is available at the Crime Commission's website at [www.ncc.ne.gov](http://www.ncc.ne.gov)  
Offense and arrest queries are also available at <https://ncc.nebraska.gov/arrest-and-offense-data>**

If you have any questions, please call Lydia Daniel, Program Manager for the State of Nebraska Crime Commission at 402-471-3982.