

STATE OF NEBRASKA

NEBRASKA COMMISSION ON LAW ENFORCEMENT AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE

(Nebraska Crime Commission)

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FOR RELEASE:

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FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Mike Behm

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2% DECREASE IN CRIMES REPORTED IN NEBRASKA

LINCOLN - Mike Behm, Executive Director of the Nebraska Crime Commission, announced today that Nebraska experienced a 2% decrease in the number of crimes reported to law enforcement agencies during 2010 compared to 2009. Behm indicated there were 52,152 crimes reported during 2010 compared to 53,098 reported in 2009. 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 the Crime Index used to measure crime statewide.

In the violent crime category, Nebraska experienced a 1% decrease with 4,837 violent crimes reported during 2010 compared to 4,892 reported in 2009. Murder, Manslaughter increased 29% (from 41 to 53 offenses). Forcible Rape increased 8% (from 580 to 628). Robbery decreased 16% (from 1,213 to 1,017) and Aggravated Assault increased 3% (from 3,058 reported in 2009 to 3,139 reported in 2010).

“The violent crimes of Murder, Forcible Rape and Aggravated Assault all increased in Nebraska. This is in contrast to the national trend which had decreases for these crimes, as reported by the FBI” said Behm. “The number of Forcible Rapes reported in 2010 was the highest in the last 5 years,” added Behm.

In terms of property crime, a 2% decrease occurred with 47,315 offenses reported in 2010 compared to 48,203 reported in 2009. Burglary had a decrease of 5% (from 8,313 reported in 2009 to 7,905 in 2010). Larceny-Theft decreased 2% (from 36,205 to 35,648). Motor Vehicle Theft increased 3% (from 3,406 to 3,513) and Arson decreased 11% (from 279 in 2009 to 249 in 2010).

“Nebraska followed the national trend of decreases in all the property crimes except in Motor Vehicle theft. Nebraska had a 3% increase compared to a 7% decrease nationally,” said Behm.

Crime in Omaha decreased 5% (from 20,784 offenses reported in 2009 to 19,718 offenses in 2010). Lincoln experienced a 3% increase (from 11,176 to 11,480). Cities of 5,000 to 99,999 in population saw a 1% decrease (from 13,837 to 13,765). Cities under 5,000 population had a 7% decrease (from 1,196 to 1,113 in 2010). County areas reported a 2% decrease (from 5,828 to 5,718). Crime occurring on State Property increased 29% (from 277 to 358).

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The number of persons arrested in Nebraska during 2010 decreased 6% from 2009. In 2010 there were 83,860 arrests compared to 88,673, a decrease of 4,813 arrests.

The top five categories in terms of number of arrests made during 2010 include: Driving under the Influence (12,614 arrests); Liquor Law Violations (10,636 arrests); Drug Abuse Violations (10,201 arrests); Simple Assault (8,924 arrests), and Larceny-Theft (8,703 arrests).

Adult arrests (involving persons age 18 and over) had a 5% decrease, from 73,506 arrests in 2009 to 69,829 arrests in 2010. Adult arrests accounted for 83% of the total arrests made statewide.

Juvenile arrests decreased 7%, from 15,167 in 2009 to 14,031 in 2010. Decreases were seen in 23 of the 28 arrest categories.

Behm said “Juvenile arrests for Driving under the Influence and Liquor Law Violations both had the lowest number reported in the last 5 years. Unfortunately the number of juvenile arrests for Drug Abuse Violations had the highest number recorded in the last 5 years.”

Hate crime statistics were also released. During 2010 there were 65 incidents reported involving crimes motivated by hate. This is an 18% decrease from the 79 reported in 2009. Racial bias accounted for 60% of the total hate crimes. Ethnic bias accounted for 15.4%, Religious Bias accounted for 13.8% and Sexual bias accounted for 10.8%. Of the hate crimes reported, 40% involved simple assault and 29.2% involved destruction of property.

**The complete 2010 Report is available at the Crime Commission's Internet site at www.ncc.state.ne.us
Offense and arrest queries are also available at http://www.ncc.ne.gov/statistics/data_search/arrest.htm**

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