

STATE OF NEBRASKA

NEBRASKA COMMISSION ON LAW ENFORCEMENT AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE

(Nebraska Crime Commission)

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FOR MORE INFORMATION:

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2% INCREASE IN CRIMES REPORTED IN NEBRASKA

LINCOLN - Mike Behm, Executive Director of the Nebraska Crime Commission, announced today that Nebraska experienced a 2% increase in the number of crimes reported to law enforcement agencies during 2011 compared to 2010. Behm indicated there were 53,285 crimes reported during 2011 compared to 51,992 reported in 2010. 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.

In the violent crime category, Nebraska experienced an 8% decrease with 4,420 violent crimes reported during 2011 compared to 4,817 reported in 2010. Murder, Manslaughter increased 20% (from 54 to 65 offenses). Forcible Rape increased 6% (from 627 to 663). Robbery decreased 3% (from 1,018 to 989) and Aggravated Assault decreased 13% (from 3,118 reported in 2010 to 2,703 reported in 2011).

“The violent crimes of Murder, Manslaughter and Forcible Rape both differed from the national trend which the FBI recently reported had decreased for both of these crimes” said Behm.

In terms of property crime, a 4% increase occurred with 48,865 offenses reported in 2011 compared to 47,175 reported in 2010. Burglary had an increase of 4% (from 7,866 reported in 2010 to 8,218 in 2011). Larceny-Theft increased 3% (from 35,539 to 36,459). Motor Vehicle Theft increased 13% (from 3,508 to 3,972) and Arson decreased 18% (from 262 in 2010 to 216 in 2011).

“Nebraska’s increase in property crimes differed from the national trend which showed a 0.8 percent decrease. Nebraska saw increases in Larceny-Theft and Motor Vehicle Theft while the FBI reported the nation overall had decreases in these crimes ” said Behm.

Crime in Omaha increased 7% (from 19,718 offenses reported in 2010 to 21,161 offenses in 2011). Lincoln experienced a 3% decrease (from 11,494 to 11,180). Cities of 5,000 to 99,999 in population saw a very slight decrease (from 13,679 to 13,668). Cities under 5,000 population had an 8% decrease (from 1,113 to 1,019 in 2011). County areas reported a 5% increase (from 5,630 to 5,900). Crime occurring on State Property remained virtually the same (from 358 to 357).

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The number of persons arrested in Nebraska during 2011 decreased 1% from 2010. In 2011 there were 83,290 arrests compared to 84,087, a decrease of 797 arrests.

The top five categories in terms of number of arrests made during 2011 include: Driving under the Influence (12,207 arrests); Drug Abuse Violations (10,491 arrests); Liquor Law Violations (10,368 arrests); Larceny-Theft (9,756 arrests); and Simple Assault (8,477 arrests).

Adult arrests (involving persons age 18 and over) had a less than 1% change, from 70,008 arrests in 2010 to 70,147 arrests in 2011. Adult arrests accounted for 84% of the total arrests made statewide.

Juvenile arrests decreased 7%, from 14,079 in 2010 to 13,143 in 2011. Decreases were seen in 15 of the 28 arrest categories.

Behm said “Both adult and juvenile arrests for Driving Under the Influence had the lowest number recorded in the last 5 years. Adult arrests for Drug Abuse Violations had the first increase since 2008. While juvenile arrests showed a decrease in 2011 for Drug Abuse Violations, they were still the second highest recorded in the last 5 years. Juvenile arrests for Liquor Law Violations had a very slight increase over 2010 but still below the number recorded in 2009.”

Hate crime statistics were also released. During 2011 there were 39 incidents reported involving crimes motivated by hate. This is a 40% decrease from the 65 reported in 2010. Racial bias accounted for 66.7% of the total hate crimes. Ethnic bias accounted for 12.8%, Religious Bias accounted for 5.1% and Sexual bias accounted for 15.4%. Of the hate crimes reported, 43.6% involved simple assault and 30.8% involved destruction of property.

**The complete *2011 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**