

# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY CRIME IN PENNSYLVANIA

## ANNUAL UNIFORM CRIME REPORT

# 2000



Mark Schweiker, *Governor*  
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

Colonel Paul J. Evanko, *Commissioner*  
Pennsylvania State Police



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Commonwealth of  
Pennsylvania**



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Commissioner  
Pennsylvania State Police**

## DEDICATION

This report is dedicated to all law enforcement officers, and in particular to the police officers who lost their lives in the performance of duty while endeavoring to uphold the laws of this Commonwealth. The following officers gave their lives to this cause in 2000 on the dates specified.

Trooper Matthew R. Bond  
Pennsylvania State Police  
Erie County  
January 14, 2000

Police Officer Jose M. Ortiz  
Philadelphia Police Department  
Philadelphia County  
September 21, 2000

# CONTENTS

<b>SUMMARY OF CRIME IN PENNSYLVANIA</b> .....	<b>4</b>
<b>FREQUENCY OF CRIME</b> .....	<b>6</b>
<b>CRIME INDEX OFFENSES</b> .....	<b>7</b>
<b>VIOLENT CRIME</b> .....	<b>8</b>
<b>PROPERTY CRIME</b> .....	<b>9</b>
<b>ETHNIC INTIMIDATION AND HATE CRIME</b> .....	<b>10</b>
<b>DEATHS OF AND ASSAULTS ON PENNSYLVANIA LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS</b> .....	<b>11</b>

## INTRODUCTION

**T**his Executive Summary of the 2000 Annual Uniform Crime Report, *Crime in Pennsylvania*, is intended to provide readers with a high-level overview of the nature of crime in Pennsylvania. This summary highlights statewide statistics and topics of interest. Detailed statistics and analysis are contained in the complete 2000 Annual Uniform Crime Report, *Crime in Pennsylvania*, which is available for review on-line through the Pennsylvania Uniform Crime Reporting System at <http://ucr.psp.state.pa.us>.

During 2000, 830 agencies submitted data to the Pennsylvania Uniform Crime Reporting Program. The extent of participation by agencies ranged from the submission of data for one month to the submission of data for the entire year. A complete listing of agencies that participated and their respective extent of participation is available in the complete report.

Pennsylvania law enforcement agencies are not required to participate in the Uniform Crime Reporting Program. Information contained in this summary and the complete report is based on actual data submitted as of the date of compilation. Analysis is based on data that may have been updated after release of proceeding years' reports.

## SUMMARY OF CRIME IN PENNSYLVANIA

There were 954,548 actual crimes of all types reported to the UCR Program by Pennsylvania law enforcement agencies. This represents a rate of 7,958.5 crimes per 100,000 estimated population, a decrease of .3 percent from last year's total of 957,660 actual crimes.

Crime Index offenses are considered to be both most serious and most likely to be reported, and are used nationally as the standard base for comparisons. They include: murder and nonnegligent manslaughter, forcible rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, larceny-theft, motor vehicle theft, and arson. Manslaughter by negligence is a Part I offense, but is not considered as part of the Crime Index.

This year 337,822 Crime Index offenses were reported and confirmed by Pennsylvania police after investigation. Actually, 345,721 Crime Index offenses were reported, but 2.3 percent or 7,899 were unfounded following investigation, ranging from 13.3 percent unfounded for burglary attempted forcible entry to 1.0 percent unfounded for assault knife or cutting instrument. Crime Index offenses decreased by 2.8 percent from last year's total of 347,567. The Crime Index rate this year was 2,816.6.

In addition, 616,699 Part II offenses were reported with a rate of 5,141.7 per 100,000 population. This is an increase of 1.1 percent from the 610,061 Part II offenses reported last year. Part II offenses include: other assaults, forgery and counterfeiting, fraud, embezzlement, stolen property, vandalism, weapons, prostitution, other sex offenses, drug abuse violations, gambling, offenses against the family, driving under the influence, liquor law violation, drunkenness, disorderly conduct, vagrancy, and all other offenses.

This year 46.2 percent of all offenses were cleared; 26.7 percent of the Crime Index offenses and 56.9 percent of all Part II offenses.

<b>Crime Reported to Police</b>						
<b>Offense Category</b>	<b>Offenses</b>	<b>Percent Distribution</b>	<b>Rate per 100,000 Population</b>	<b>Percent Change From 1999</b>	<b>Clearances</b>	<b>Percent Cleared</b>
Part I Offenses	337,849	35.4	2,816.8	-2.8	90,080	26.7
Part II Offenses	616,699	64.6	5,141.7	1.1	350,871	56.9
Statewide Total	954,548	100.0	7,958.5	-.3	440,951	46.2
**Crime Index Offenses	337,822	35.4	2,816.6	-2.8	90,051	26.7

### Crimes Reported by Population Grouping

Estimated Population Group	Crime Population 2000	Crime Index Offenses	Rate per 100,000 Population	Percent Distribution	Part II Offenses	Rate per 100,000 Population	Percent Distribution
MSA Core Cities	2,587,307	150,772	5,827.4	44.6	215,246	8,319.3	34.9
MSA Suburban	7,550,278	153,467	2,032.6	45.4	323,342	4,282.5	52.4
MSA Total	10,137,585	304,239	3,001.1	90.1	538,588	5,312.8	87.3
Non-MSA	711,635	16,021	2,251.3	4.7	40,061	5,629.4	6.5
Rural/State Police	1,144,780	17,562	1,534.1	5.2	38,050	3,323.8	6.2
Non-MSA and Rural Total	1,856,415	33,583	1,809.0	9.9	78,111	4,207.6	12.7
Statewide Total	11,994,000	337,822	2,816.6	100.0	616,699	5,141.7	100.0

**A** Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) is composed of an entire county or group of counties with at least one core city, with the whole area meeting criteria of certain metropolitan characteristics established by the United States Bureau of the Census. It should be noted that the crime rate of core city jurisdictions in MSAs continued to be much higher than the suburban jurisdictions. The volume of offenses was higher in suburban jurisdictions than the core jurisdictions and was also the highest among all population groups. No attempt is made throughout this report to correct for the influx of seasonal, temporary residents, and tourists during the year. Crime rates are based upon the permanent population.

### Arrests

Arrests are primarily a measure of success in police investigation in relation to the criminal offenses taking place within a community. Arrest practices, policies, and enforcement emphasis will vary from place to place and from time to time within a community. Arrests do, however, provide a useful indicator as to the age, sex, and race of persons involved in criminal acts, especially for crimes that have high solution rates.

A total of 445,818 arrests were made in Pennsylvania, a 1.6 percent decrease from last year. As indicated in the table below, Part II offense arrests totaled 361,876 or 81.2 percent of all arrests, a 2.0 percent decrease from last year. Part I offense arrests numbered 83,942 or 18.8 percent of all arrests, increasing by .4 percent.

### Arrests by Offense Category

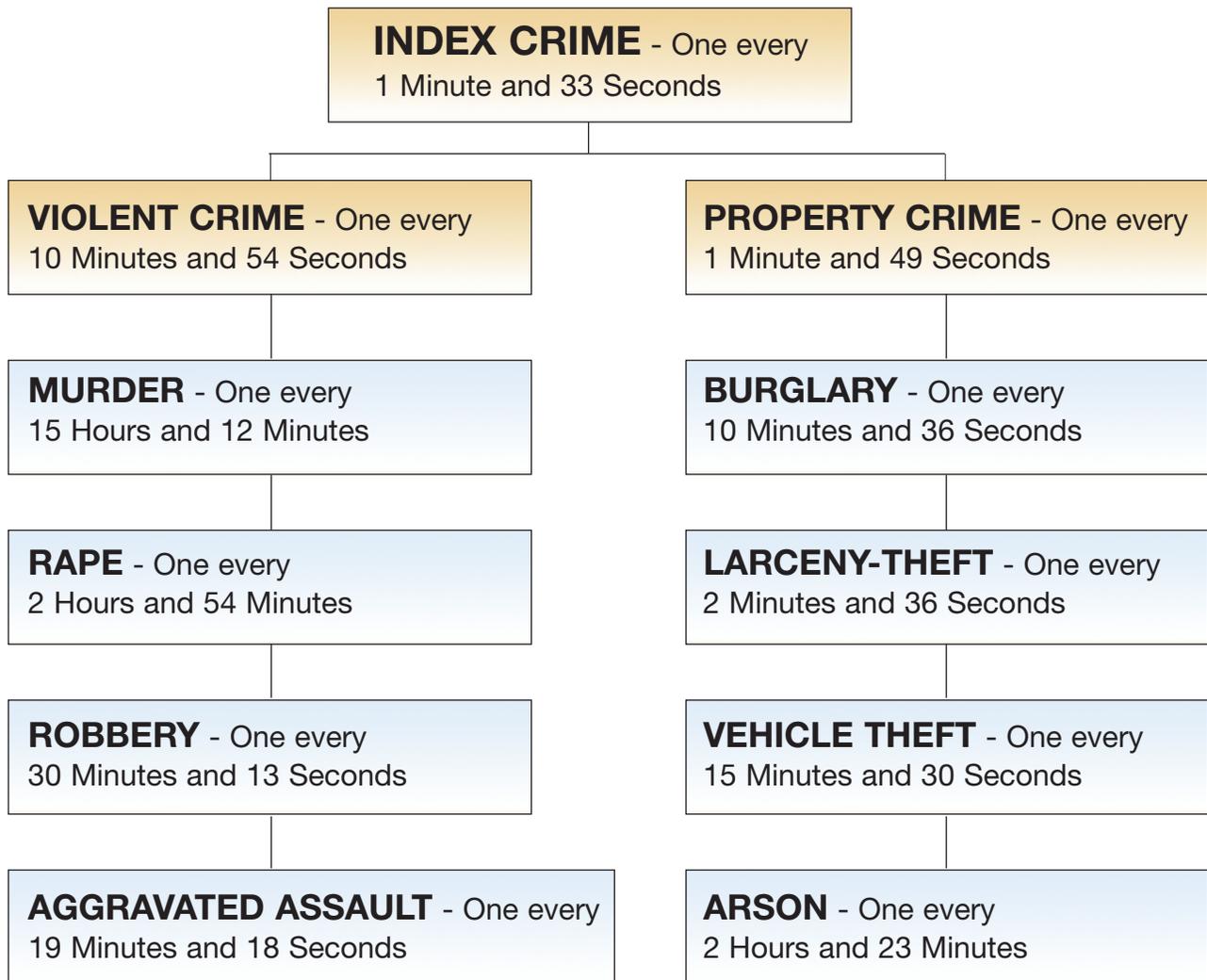
Offense Category	Arrests	Percent Distribution	Rate per 100,000 Population	Percent Change From 1999
Part I Offenses	83,942	18.8	699.9	.4
Part II Offenses	361,876	81.2	3,017.1	-2.0
Statewide Total	445,818	100.0	3,717.0	-1.6
**Crime Index Offenses	83,882	18.8	699.4	.4

**A**nalysis revealed that 78.1 percent or 348,121 arrestees were male; 21.9 percent or 97,697 were female; 72.8 percent or 324,481 were White; 26.7 percent or 118,920 were Black; .5 percent or 2,417 were Other Races; 23.7 percent or 105,740 were under 18 years old; and 54.7 percent or 243,731 were under 25 years old. Arrests of males decreased by 1.9 percent and arrests of Whites decreased by 1.0 percent, while arrests of juveniles decreased by 1.7 percent.

Juvenile arrestees were disposed of as follows: 25.7 percent or 54,051 were handled within the police department and released; 34.7 percent or 73,024 were sent to juvenile court or juvenile probation department; .5 percent or 1,049 were referred to welfare agencies; .2 percent or 411 were referred to other police agencies; and 38.9 percent or 81,871 were referred to criminal or adult court, usually the district magistrate for specified petty crimes such as underage drinking, shoplifting, etc.

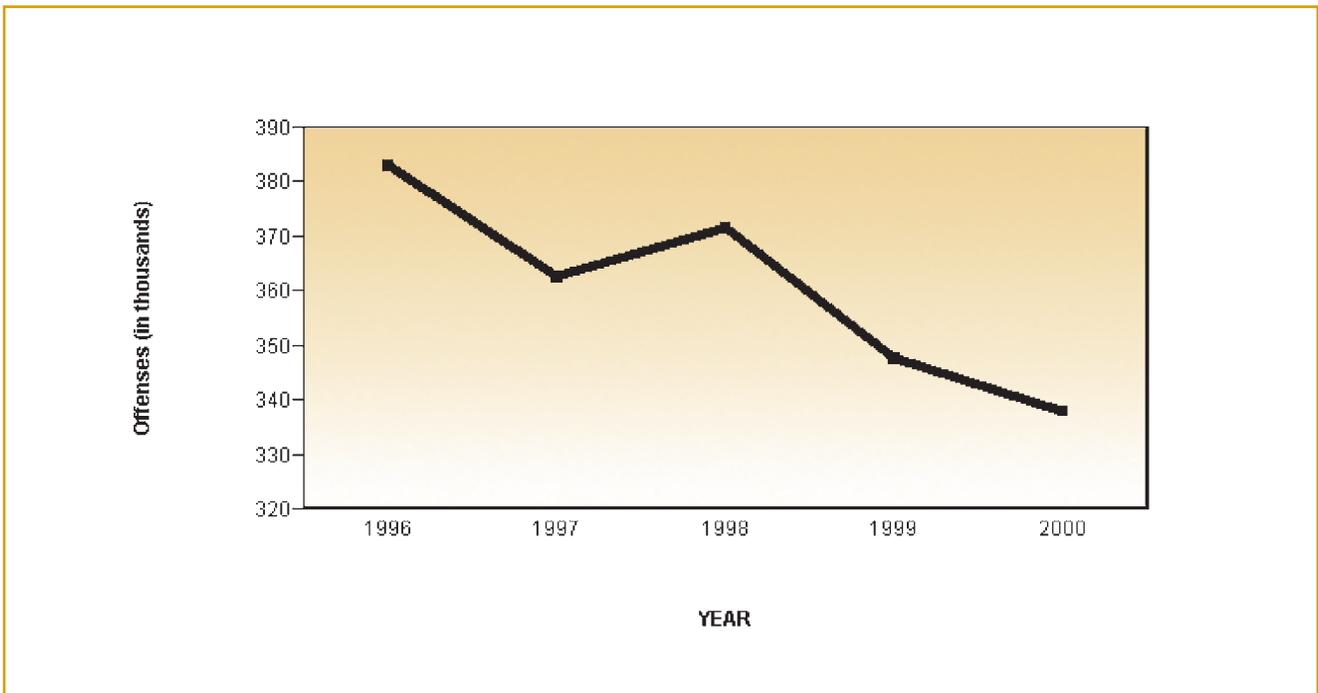
Adults arrested and counted for UCR purposes in Pennsylvania are those who are formally charged with a crime. Crime suspects who are questioned and released are not counted as arrested. Juveniles are counted as arrested when circumstances are such that if they were adults an arrest would be tallied.

## FREQUENCY OF CRIME



**NOTE:** This information is not intended to suggest Crime Index offenses occur at regular intervals, but represents an average rate of occurrence.

## CRIME INDEX OFFENSES



**Definition:** Crime Index offenses are crimes that are considered by law enforcement to be the most serious crimes that readily come to the attention of police and occur with a frequency great enough to be reported as a separate classification. Crime Index offenses are used nationally as a basis for comparison of criminal activity.

Crime Index Offenses	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Number Of Offenses	382,955	362,787	371,452	347,567	337,822
Percent Change from Previous	.0	-5.3	2.4	-6.4	-2.8
Percent Change from Base	.0	-5.3	-3.0	-9.2	-11.8

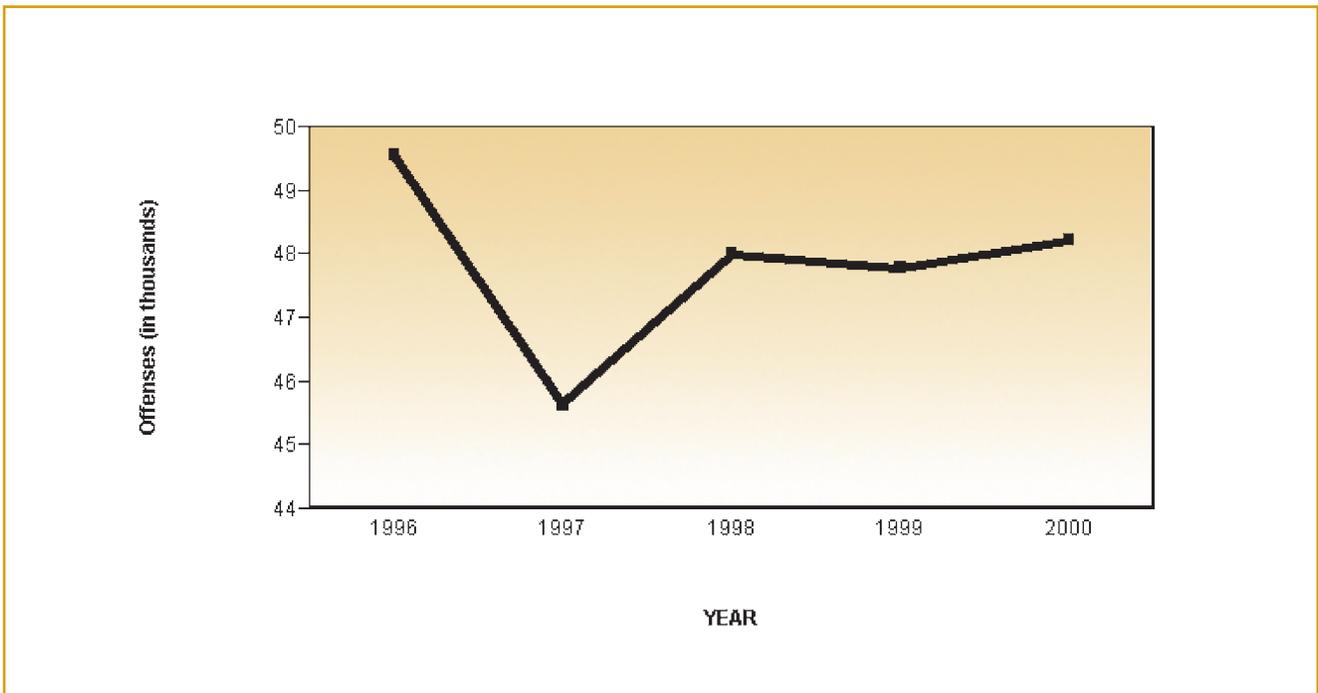
### Summary

There were 337,822 Crime Index offenses reported to Pennsylvania police departments this year, an average of 926 each day, or one every 1 minute and 33 seconds. This is a 2.8 percent decrease from the 347,567 Crime Index offenses reported last year. The Crime Index rate was 2,816.6.

### Arrests

There were 83,882 arrests this year for Crime Index offenses. This is a .4 percent increase from the 83,533 arrests last year. Persons arrested for Crime Index offenses were predominantly male (76.6 percent), White (60.4 percent), and under 25 years of age (57.6 percent).

## VIOLENT CRIME



**Definition:** The Crime Index offenses of murder and nonnegligent manslaughter, forcible rape, robbery, and aggravated assault comprise the general category of Violent Crime.

Violent Crime Offenses	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Number Of Offenses	49,549	45,655	47,995	47,769	48,211
Percent Change from Previous	.0	-7.9	5.1	-.5	.9
Percent Change from Base	.0	-7.9	-3.1	-3.6	-2.7

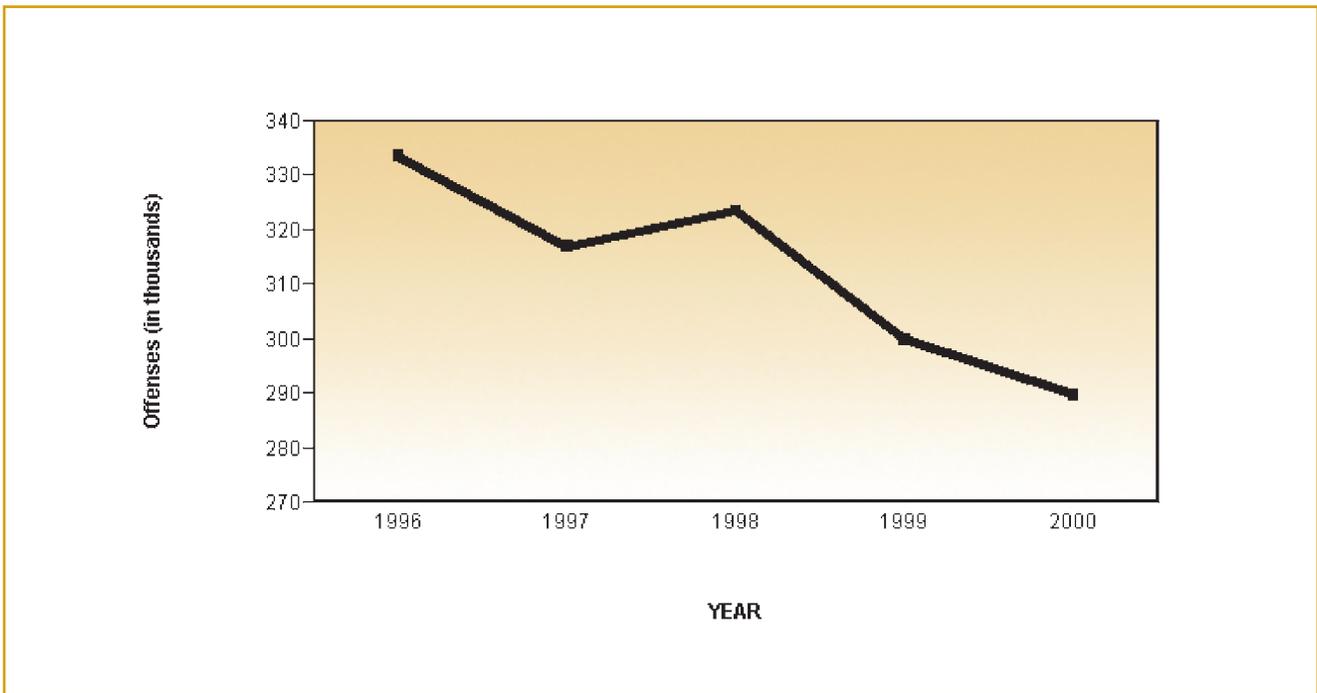
### Summary

There were 48,211 Violent Crime offenses reported to Pennsylvania police departments this year, an average of 132 each day, or one every 10 minutes and 54 seconds. This is a .9 percent increase from the 47,769 Violent Crime offenses reported last year. The Violent Crime rate was 402.0.

### Arrests

There were 26,341 arrests this year for Violent Crime offenses. This is a 4.3 percent increase from the 25,245 arrests last year. Persons arrested for Violent Crime offenses were predominantly male (82.2 percent), Black (52.5 percent), and under 25 years of age (50.7 percent).

## PROPERTY CRIME



**Definition:** The Crime Index offenses of burglary, larceny-theft, motor vehicle theft, and arson comprise the general category of Property Crime.

Property Crime Offenses	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Number Of Offenses	333,406	317,132	323,457	299,798	289,611
Percent Change from Previous	.0	-4.9	2.0	-7.3	-3.4
Percent Change from Base	.0	-4.9	-3.0	-10.1	-13.1

### Summary

There were 289,611 Property Crime offenses reported to Pennsylvania police departments this year, an average of 793 each day, or one every 1 minute and 49 seconds. This is a 3.4 percent decrease from the 299,798 Property Crime offenses reported last year. The Property Crime rate was 2,414.6.

### Arrests

There were 57,541 arrests this year for Property Crime offenses. This is a 1.3 percent decrease from the 58,288 arrests last year. Persons arrested for Property Crime offenses were predominantly male (74.0 percent), White (66.5 percent), and under 25 years of age (60.8 percent).

## ETHNIC INTIMIDATION AND HATE CRIME

**E**thnic intimidation is defined by Title 18 Pa. C.S. Subsection 2710, as any crime against the person or an arson, criminal mischief, and other property destruction (except institutional vandalism), criminal trespass or harassment by communication or address that is committed “. . . with malicious intent toward the race, color, religion, or national origin of another . . . .” Crimes of this type are required reporting for all law enforcement agencies in the Commonwealth. Additionally, the Federal Hate Crime Statistics Act of 1990 expands the data collection requirements beyond the parameters of the Ethnic Intimidation Act. Federal Hate Crime Statistics include sexual orientation as a bias motivation, which is not required by State law.

### Summary

This year a total of 143 persons were the victims of 142 hate crime incidents. Multiple victims and/or offenses may be reported within a single incident. The following tables depict hate crime data by victim and bias motivation.

<b>Victim Data</b>			
	Victims	Number of Victims	Percent
RACE	Asian/Pacific Islander	8	5.6
	Black	61	42.7
	American Indian/Alaskan Native	1	.7
	Unknown	2	1.4
	White	71	49.7
Total RACE		143	100.0
ETHNICITY	Hispanic	9	6.3
	Not of Hispanic Origin	116	81.1
	Unknown	18	12.6
Total ETHNICITY		143	100.0
SEX	Female	43	30.1
	Male	100	69.9
Total SEX		143	100.0

<b>Bias Motivation Data</b>				
Code	Bias Motivation	Number of Incidents	Percent	
11	Anti-White	19	13.4	
12	Anti-Black	67	47.2	
13	Anti-American Indian/Alaskan Native	2	1.4	
14	Anti-Asian/Pacific Islander	7	4.9	
15	Anti Multi-Racial Group	5	3.5	
21	Anti-Jewish	24	16.9	
22	Anti-Catholic	3	2.1	
25	Anti-Other Religion	2	1.4	
32	Anti-Hispanic	4	2.8	
33	Anti-Other Ethnicity/National Origin	3	2.1	
41	Anti-Male Homosexual (Gay)	3	2.1	
43	Anti-Homosexual (Gay and Lesbian)	1	.7	
99	Unknown	2	1.4	
TOTAL		142	100.0	

## DEATHS OF AND ASSAULTS ON PENNSYLVANIA LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS

Assaults on Officers	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Number Of Offenses	2,520	2,547	2,788	3,008	3,238
Percent Change from Previous	.0	1.1	8.6	7.3	7.1
Percent Change from Base	.0	1.1	9.6	16.2	22.2

### Summary

**T**his year 2 law enforcement officers were killed while performing their official duties. Over the 5-year period from 1996 to 2000, a total of 10 officers were killed while performing their official duties.

There were 3,238 assaults on police officers this year, representing a 7.1 percent increase from the 3,008 assaults reported last year. The assault rate per 100 officers increased to 13.4 from 12.6 last year.

Jurisdictions with populations of 1,000,000 and over experienced the highest assault rate (6.3). Statewide, 7 of the population groups had higher rates than last year.



The Pennsylvania Uniform Crime Reporting System (PAUCRS)  
is administered by the Pennsylvania State Police,  
Bureau of Research and Development

*AN INTERNATIONALLY ACCREDITED LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY*

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