

CRIME RATES

The computation of crime rates as they appear in this report is based on 1997 population estimates received from the Uniform Crime Reporting division of the FBI, using provisional estimates of the Bureau of Census. Rural populations are arrived at by deleting the population figures for each direct reporting municipal department from their respective county totals.

Monthly and annual Uniform Crime Reports currently received from approximately 150 municipal, county and state law enforcement agencies in Maine represent 100 percent of the estimated Maine population.

The crime rate involves the number of Index Crimes

per unit of population, usually per 100,000 persons. Because Maine has such a low population total, a rate per 1,000 persons has been used to reflect a more realistic volume. No attempt has been made to incorporate either transient population or other factors which contribute to the ratio and type of crime in a given area. Any effort to make comparisons of crime rates between one area and another should recognize these population changes and varying environmental factors.

The crime index rate for Maine for the year 1997 was 31.62 offenses per 1,000 persons. Violent crimes occurred at a rate of 1.21 offenses per 1,000 persons, property crimes at a rate of 30.41.

Offense	Number of Offenses	Percent of Total	Rate/1,000 Population
Murder	19	.05%	.02
Rape	254	.65%	.21
Robbery	258	.66%	.21
Aggravated Assault	961	2.46%	.78
Burglary	8,218	21.04%	6.65
Larceny-Theft	27,449	70.28%	22.23
M/V Theft	1,642	4.20%	1.33
Arson	253	.65%	.20
Totals	39,054	100.00%	31.62
Total Violent Crime	1,492	3.82%	1.21
Total Property Crime	37,562	96.18%	30.41

