

## VIOLENT CRIMES

Crimes of violence involve the element of personal confrontation between the perpetrator and victim and entail the use or threat of violence. By their very nature, violent crimes — murder, rape, robbery and aggravated assault — are considered more serious than property crimes. The total number indicates only the number of incidents reported to police and does not reflect the number of criminals who committed them or the number of injuries inflicted.

During the year 1998, violent crimes showed an increase from the previous year. There were 1,570 reported offenses during 1998 — compared with 1,492 for 1997. This increase of 78 crimes reported represents an increase of 5.2%.

The 1998 crime rate for violent crime is 1.27 offenses per 1,000 population. Violent crimes represent 4.1% of all reported index crimes. Police cleared 953 violent crimes for a 60.7 clearance rate.

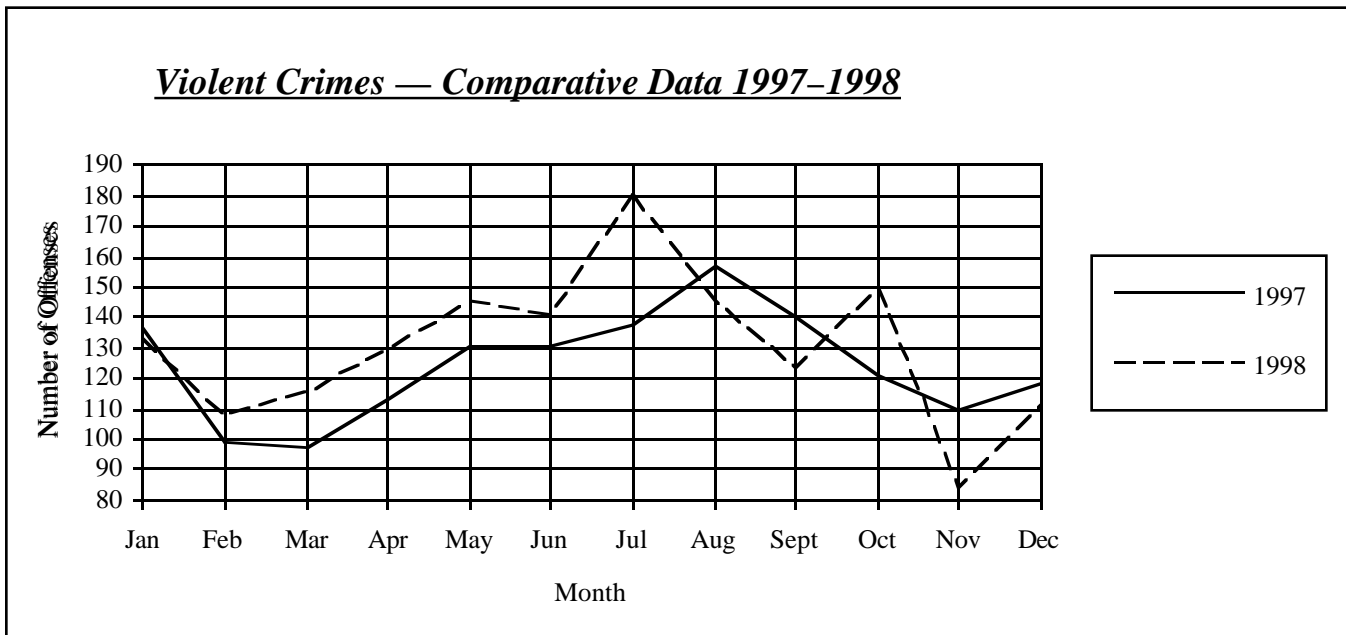
### Crime Clock



*Number of Offenses — Comparative Data 1997–1998*

	Murder	Rape	Robbery	Aggravated Assault	Totals
<b>1997</b>	19	254	258	961	1,492
<b>1998</b>	26	229	263	1,052	1,570
<b>Number Change</b>	7	-25	5	91	78
<b>Percent Change</b>	36.8%	-9.8%	1.9%	9.5%	5.2%

*Violent Crimes — Comparative Data 1997–1998*



### Violent Crime by County

(State Violent Crime Rate: 1.27)

