

2000 VERMONT CRIME REPORT

The *2000 Vermont Crime Report* was released today by the Vermont Crime Information Center at the Department of Public Safety.

The Report contains an analysis of crime reported to law enforcement agencies throughout the state of Vermont during calendar year 2000. Crimes reported to state police, game wardens, municipal police, sheriff departments, and other state law enforcement agencies are analyzed in the report. Crime statistics are arranged statewide, by county, and by town. Sections dealing with the specific details on crime definitions and how the data were collected and organized are also included in the Crime Report.

The Report indicates that the Vermont Crime Index was up 5 percent from 1999 as compared to the national Crime Index reported by the FBI which was relatively unchanged.

Vermont violent index crimes were up by 9 percent from 1999 as compared to the national violent index crimes which remained relatively unchanged. Though homicides in Vermont declined 29 percent, rape increased by 17 percent, robbery increased by 34 percent and aggravated assault increased by 2 percent.

Vermont property index crimes increased 5 percent from 1999 as compared to national property index crimes which remained relatively unchanged. Though Vermont burglaries were down by 1 percent, motor vehicle thefts were down by 12 percent and arson was down by 8 percent, a significant increase in larcenies by more than 8 percent is responsible for driving up the overall number of property index crimes.

In other crimes, Vermont forgeries were up by 40 percent and fraud cases increased by 14 percent. Drug cases increased by 7 percent.