



Vermont Crime Information Center

Department of Public Safety - Division of Criminal Justice Services

2002 Vermont Crime Report

Introduction

The 2002 edition of the Vermont Crime Report contains an analysis of crime reported to law enforcement agencies throughout the State of Vermont during calendar year 2002. Crimes reported to state police, game wardens, municipal police, sheriff departments, and other state law enforcement agencies are contained in this report. Crime statistics are arranged statewide, by county, and by town. Specific details on crime definitions and how this data was collected and organized may be found in the Methodology Section below.

Methodology

The crime data provided in this report is an enumeration of crimes known to law enforcement agencies – it is not an enumeration of all crimes that were committed in Vermont during calendar year 2002. Crimes that are included in this report are based on reports received by law enforcement agencies from victims, officers who discover infractions, or other sources. Crimes that may have occurred but were not reported are not included in this report. All reports of crime have been validated by a law enforcement officer. That is, reports which are later shown to be unfounded (e.g., property reported as stolen but later discovered as misplaced) are not included in this report. The data in this report were provided by municipal, sheriff, state police, and other state law enforcement agencies who are solely responsible for the accuracy of their submissions. Municipal Police Departments generally submit crime data which is limited to their town/city. Sheriff Departments report crime data for towns for which they have law enforcement responsibilities. State Police barracks and the Department of Fish and Wildlife report crime data based on the location of the crime. It is not uncommon for towns to have different law enforcement agencies policing the jurisdiction depending on the time of day or day of the week. In these cases, the Vermont Crime Information Center (VCIC) collates crime reports from all involved law enforcement agencies to ensure the accuracy of the town's crime rate.

In some cases law enforcement agencies did not report a township or county location for a reported crime (<0.10%). These crime reports are included in the statewide totals but are excluded from all county and township tables. Therefore, the totals from county and township tables will differ from those in the statewide criminal statistics table.

In 2002, crime data was received from all law enforcement agencies required to report. Therefore, no estimation techniques were used to compensate for missing data. Population figures are based on 2000 estimates provided by the Vermont Department of Health.

In 2002, agencies reported their annual crime statistics to VCIC in one of two ways:

- 1) electronic submission through the Vermont Incident Based Reporting System Network; or
- 2) paper submission on a form specified by VCIC.

All agencies were required to submit crime data on Part I and Part II crimes as defined by the Federal Bureau of Investigation's Uniform Crime Reporting System. The definitions for Part I and Part II crimes are included in another section later in this report.