



Department of Public Safety
Vermont Crime Information Center
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2018 VERMONT CRIME REPORT

The 2018 Vermont Crime Report is made available by the Vermont Crime Information Center at the Department of Public Safety. The report contains an analysis of crime reported by law enforcement agencies throughout the State of Vermont during calendar year 2018. Crimes reported to state police, municipal police, sheriff departments, and other state law enforcement agencies are summarized in the report.

Changes to the annual crime report summary effective in 2018:

- Domestic violence incidents, as defined by the FBI, within violent crimes against persons, was made available on the Uniform Crime Reporting Dashboard in the Law Enforcement Enterprise Portal; therefore, the data available was added to the report.
- Motor vehicle theft and stolen property offenses were added to the property crimes section.
- The dollar amount difference for stolen property, from current year to previous year, was added for purposes of making comparisons annually.

Please note, with continued improvements to the record management systems and the ongoing concentrated training at the supervisory level, there is a more accurate accounting of the crimes reported in 2018.

Total Crime

The Crime Report indicates that the total number of reported Group 'A' and Group 'B' crimes in 2018 decreased by 6.55% from 2017.

Group 'A' crimes are considered crimes that are more serious and are counted whenever a complaint is received by law enforcement. Group 'B' crimes are a group of less serious crimes, which are only reported when an arrest is reported.

In 2018, reported Group 'A' crimes decreased by 8.67%; the most notable decrease is of reported Robbery offenses, by 28.4%, down to 73 from the 102 reported in 2017, and reported Burglary/Breaking & Entering offenses decreased, by 24.6%, to 1,490 offenses from 1,962 in 2017.

Reported Group 'B' crimes decreased by 0.08%. The most significant increase was seen in more arrests in Peeping Tom offenses, up to 12 reported in 2018 from the 2 reported in 2017. Of the Group 'B' crimes there was also noted increases in Bad Checks by 39.02% and Trespass of Real Property by 7.57%. Another notable increase was the reporting of Family Offenses, Nonviolent up 5.35% and a decrease in reported DUI offenses of 2.33%.

Crimes Against Persons

Reported crimes committed against persons increased by 2.72% from 2017. Reported Robbery offenses decreased by 28.43% from 102 to 73. Forcible Rape crimes increased 16.87% from 249 to 291. Reported Aggravated Assaults decreased by 0.63% from 638 to 634, while reported Simple Assaults did not change from 2017 to 2018. Additionally, reported Intimidation offenses increased 20.37% from 324 to 390: a direct result of supervisory level trainings on NIBRS definitions of offenses. Of crimes against persons, there was a notable increase, of 300%, in reported Sexual Assault With an Object offenses: from 1 to 4.

The overall number of crimes against persons reported to the state program increased slightly during 2018.

Based on reported data 3,627 individuals were victims of crimes against persons in Vermont in 2018; 1,010 of those were victims of violent crime as per the FBI's definition (Murder, Manslaughter, Robbery, Forcible Rape, and Aggravated Assault). Of those 1,010 victims, 22.7% were acquaintances and 22.3% were boyfriend/girlfriend. 65.8% of victims of crimes were women; this is up 3.8% from 2017. Men and women in the age group 20- 29 were more frequently the victims of violent crime than any other age group. Victims over the age of 60 were the least likely to be victims of violent crime. In 68.3% of crimes against persons where defendant/victim relationship information was known the defendant was an acquaintance, intimate partner, or family member of the victim. This number is up approximately 5% from 2017. In approximately 92% of the crimes against persons offenses, the victim received either no injuries or minor injuries. Dangerous weapons including firearms were used in 23.9% of crimes involving a victim; this number is down 4.25% from 2017. Approximately 64.3% of violent crimes in Vermont occurred in residences, which makes the home the most frequent location for these types of incidents. Highways, alleys, streets, & sidewalks are the second most frequent locations for crimes against persons at approximately 15.3%.

Violent crime offenses, involving domestic violence (incidents involving intimate partners) that were reported to the state UCR program totaled 372 during 2021. Most domestic violence, as defined by the FBI, offenses reported involved Aggravated Assault.

Crimes Against Society

In 2018 the FBI started collecting data on Animal Cruelty; Vermont reported 44 cases of Animal Cruelty in 2018. Animal Cruelty is classified as a crime against society. Human Trafficking is also a crime against society and Vermont reported 4 of these offenses for 2018.

Property Crime

Overall reported property crime in Vermont decreased by 0.8% in 2018. Residences remain the top target at 40.7%. Most of the reported residential burglaries occurred during the daytime. Burglary/Breaking & Entering offenses decreased by 24%: down 472 reported incidents from 2017.

Fraud saw a marked increase of reported incidents during 2018 up 25.3%. There was a notable increase in Motor Vehicle Theft, up 13.1% from 236 to 267; also, Arson increased 12.8% to 44 up from 39 in 2017. The highest amount of reported stolen property \$2,840,396.00 was classified as Miscellaneous. Theft of Motor vehicle came in second at \$2,451,893.00 of which \$1,539,031.00 was recovered.

In Vermont the total property loss in 2018 due to criminal activity reported to law enforcement agencies statewide was \$8,778,859 a \$605,329 increase from 2017. Property values are determined in accordance with the FBI's 'Guidelines for Property Valuation' found in the NIBRS Manual, page 107.

Drug Crime

Reported drug offense crimes, in total, decreased by 11.1%: down from 1,921 reported offenses in 2017 to 1,708 reported offenses in 2018.

Reported drug offenses decreased 13.3% to 1,520 incidents from 1,754 incidents in 2017. In 2018, there was a notable increase in Drug Equipment offenses reported, up 12.6% from 167 to 188. This was a direct result of concentrated training on capturing seized drug equipment even if no charges are being filed. Meth/Amphetamines increase from 23 to 44, a 91.37% increase. The biggest increase was PCP reported incidents up from 0 to 2.

Other major categories of drug crimes include a reported decrease in LSD, down 40%, Opium reported an increase of 66.7%, and Other Drug types reported an increase of 18.4%.

Reported incidents involving Over 3 Drug Types showed a decrease of 46.2% during 2018, down from 13 in 2017 to 7 in 2018. There was also a 24.5% increase in the reported incidents involving Crack Cocaine.

National and Regional Comparisons

In order to gauge the level and types of violent crimes occurring across the nation, the FBI has developed the Violent Crime Index. The Index is based on a sample of the violent crimes in a state. The Index only includes the number of Murders, Robberies, Aggravated Assaults, and Rapes. Figures reported by the FBI indicate that the National Violent Crime Index showed a decrease of 3% from 2017. The Violent Crime Index for the Northeast decreased by 4.4%. The Violent Crime Index in Vermont indicated an increase of 0.60% based upon definitions utilized in this calculation.

The FBI has also developed a Property Crime Index, which is comprised of the number of Burglaries, Thefts, and Motor Vehicle Thefts reported in a jurisdiction. Figures from the FBI indicate that the National Property Crime Index decreased 6.3% from 2017. The Northeast reported a decrease of 7.6% from 2017. The Property Crime Index in Vermont decreased by 0.80% since 2017.

The differences in what the FBI publishes and what is seen in Vermont's report is due to the publication date of the FBI's data and the extraction of data date that was used for this report.

Federal Bureau of Investigations Crime Data Explorer

Interested readers can access the complete 2018 Vermont Crime Report by accessing the Crime Data Explorer website at <https://crime-data-explorer.fr.cloud.gov/> and selecting Vermont on the map or by using the drop-down menu. Over sixteen years of crime data are now available on the website.

Crime Data Explorer makes it easy for the public to view standard crime reports and maps. Crime Data Explorer reports contain information on the time and day when crimes occur, crime location type, the amount of property crime loss, victim injuries, bias motivation, statistical information on the age, gender, and race of both victims and defendants and other crime circumstance data of interest to the public, law enforcement, public administrators, legislators, and researchers.