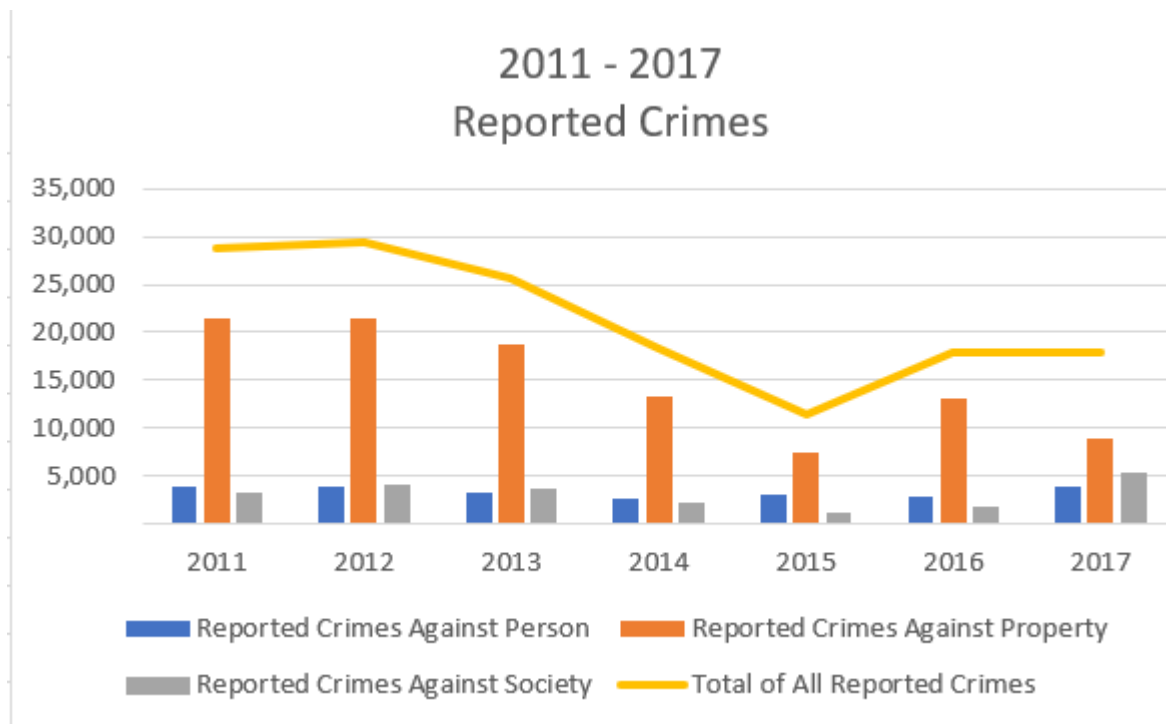


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Vermont Crime Information Center
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2017 VERMONT CRIME REPORT SUMMARY

The 2017 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 2017. Crimes reported to state police, municipal police, sheriff departments, and other state law enforcement agencies are summarized in the report.

Please note, with improvements to the record management systems and with the start of concentrated trainings at the supervisory level there is a more accurate accounting of the crimes reported in 2017.



Total Crime

The Crime Report indicates that the total number of reported Group 'A' and Group 'B' crimes in 2017 decreased by (37.6%) from 2016.

In 2017, reported Group 'A' crimes increased by .06% when compared to 2016. Reported crimes against property were 37.3% lower than 2016. Group 'B' crimes decreased by (94.5%). There was a (97.8%) decrease in reported DUI arrests compared to 2016.

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 eleven less serious crimes, which are only reported when an arrest is made. Of the Group 'B' crimes there was noted decreases in Bad checks by 92% and Trespass of Real Property by 87.5%. Two other notable decreases were in reporting of Drunkenness 100% and Peeping Tom arrest 83.3%. These two Group 'B' crimes are now being reported more as a Disorderly Conduct offense for the Drunkenness and a Stalking offense for the Peeping Tom. Arrests for Runaways and Curfew are no longer being collected by the FBI.

Crimes Against Persons

Reported crimes committed against persons increased by 30.7% from 2016. Reported Forcible Rape crimes decreased (50.7%) from 136 to 67 and reported Aggravated Assault increased by 103.3% from 553 to 1124 while Simple Assaults decreased by (2.9%) from 2223 to 2158. This is a direct result of additional training at agencies supervisory level on assault definitions. Additionally, reported Kidnapping/Unlawful Restraint crimes increased significantly 128.1% from 96 to 219, this is also a direct result of additional training at agencies supervisory level on definitions. Of crimes against persons, there was a notable increase in Sex Assault with an Object of 200%.

The overall number of crimes against persons reported to the state program increased during 2017, the increase of these crimes could be due in large part to the continued trainings held to educate on definitions of offenses and the necessity of timely reporting.

Based on reported data 3,830 individuals were victims of crimes against persons in Vermont in 2017; 151 of the victims were law enforcement officers. This increase is a direct result of continued training on capturing assaults on Law Enforcement personnel via the RMS systems. Twenty-three percent of victims of crimes against persons were women; this is down 41% from 2016. Men and women in the age group 21- 29 were more frequently the victims of violent crime than any other age group. Victims under the age of 10 years old were the least likely to be victims of violent crime. In 74% 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 down 1% from 2016. In approximately 93% of the violent crime incidents, the victim received either no injuries or minor injuries. Dangerous weapons including firearms were used in 17.3% of crimes involving a victim; this number is up 8.48% from 2016. Approximately 58% of crimes against persons in Vermont occurred in residences, which makes the home the most frequent location for these types of incidents. Highways or roads and commercial locations continue to be the second most frequent locations for crimes against persons.

Domestic violence incidents involving intimate partners that were reported to the state program had a slight increase with 909 incidents during 2017 versus 905 in 2016. Most domestic violence crimes involve simple assaults 46.5% and aggravated assaults 27.4%.

Property Crime

Overall reported property crime in Vermont decreased by (42.1%) in 2017. Residences remain the top target at 46.1% and of the reported burglaries 56% reported forced entry, which requires the burglars to enter the target buildings by damaging a point of entry to gain access. Most of the reported residential burglaries are occurring between 8:00P.M. and Midnight.

Larceny/Theft saw a marked decrease of reported incidents during 2017. Within this category, decreases are most notable in Theft of Coin-Operated (100%) and Pickpocketing (93.8%). There was a notable increase in Stolen Property up 288.5%. Discount and Department Stores continue to be the most frequent targets for shoplifting incidents at 46.7%, which is an increase of 13.3% from 2016, followed by grocery stores at 23.5%, specialty stores at 7.9% and Convenience stores at 6.5%. The most common monetary assessments of shoplifting incidents involved values of \$25-\$99 attributing to 34.6%. The highest percentage of reported stolen property 36.1% was classified as Money. Some commonly stolen items included Bicycles 2.8%, Consumable goods at 9.5% and Firearms at 9.4%.

In Vermont the total reported property loss in 2017 due to criminal activity known to law enforcement agencies statewide was \$5,345,454.00 a \$4,358,361.00 decrease from 2016. Property values are determined in accordance with the FBI's 'Guidelines for Property Valuation' found in the NIBRS Manual, page 107. Reported Theft accounts for the largest single monetary loss at \$1,988,618.00 million, followed by burglary at \$1,369,293.00 million and destruction of property/vandalism \$1,148,824.00 million.

Drug Crime

Reported Drug offense crimes increased 10.4% from 1740 incidents in 2016 to 1921 incidents in 2017. In 2017, there was a notable increase in Morphine reported crimes; reported incidents went from 3 to 9, a 200% difference, and Meth/Amphetamines decrease from 35 to 23, a 34.3% decrease. The biggest increase was Barbiturates reported incidents up from 0 to 7.

Other major categories of drug crimes include a reported decrease in Opium (4.7%), Heroin reported a decrease of (6%) and Unknown Drug types reported a decrease of (86.8%) of drug cases.

Reported incidents involving over three drug types showed an increase of 30.0% during 2017, up from ten in 2016 to thirteen in 2017. There was also a 76.9% increase in the reported incidents involving Other Hallucinogens.

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 (0.2%) from 2016. The Violent Crime Index for the Northeast decreased by (3.6%). The Violent Crime Index in Vermont indicated an increase of 21.5% 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 decrease of (3%) from 2016. The Northeast reported a decrease of (3.6%) from 2016. The Property Crime Index in Vermont increased by 21.5% for the same time period.

Federal Bureau of Investigations Crime Data Explorer

Interested readers can access the complete 2017 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.