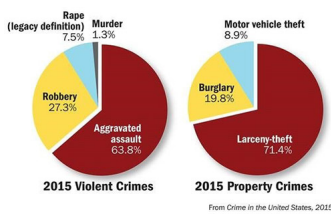


FBI releases latest crime statistics

Written by Staff Reports

Friday, 30 September 2016 07:15



Violent crime increased as property crime decreased

On Sept. 26, the FBI released its annual compilation of crimes reported to its Uniform Crime Reporting Program by law enforcement agencies from around the nation. *Crime in the United States, 2015* reveals a 3.9 percent increase in the estimated number of violent crimes and a 2.6 percent decrease in the estimated number of property crimes last year when compared to 2014 data.

According to the report, there were an estimated 1,197,704 violent crimes committed around the nation. While that was an increase from 2014 figures, the 2015 violent crime total was 0.7 percent lower than the 2011 level and 16.5 percent below the 2006 level.

Among some of the other statistics contained in *Crime in the United States, 2015*:

The estimated number of murders in the nation was 15,696.

During the year, there were an estimated 90,185 rapes. (This figure currently reflects UCR's legacy definition. Learn more about the revised rape definition.)

There were an estimated 327,374 robberies nationwide, which accounted for an estimated \$390 million in losses (average dollar value of stolen property per reported robbery was \$1,190).

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Firearms were used in 71.5 percent of the nation's murders, 40.8 percent of robberies, and 24.2 percent of aggravated assaults.

Property crimes resulted in losses estimated at \$14.3 billion. The total value of reported stolen property (i.e., currency, jewelry, motor vehicles, electronics, firearms) was \$12,420,364,454.

In addition to national crime data, the publication also contains agency-level data, regional data, state totals, data from cities and counties grouped by populations, and statistics from certain metropolitan areas.

Crime in the United States, 2015 features several smaller reports:

Federal Crime Data, the second report from UCR looking at crime reporting from federal agencies, includes 2015 data from FBI and ATF cases as well as traditional offense information from other federal agencies.

Human Trafficking, the third report from UCR's Human Trafficking data collection, includes general content about human trafficking as well as data provided by agencies that reported human trafficking offenses in 2015.

Cargo Theft, the third report from UCR's Cargo Theft data collection, contains general information about cargo theft and data provided by agencies that reported cargo theft violations during 2015.

Also included in *Crime in the United States, 2015* is a message from FBI Director James Comey on the bureau's efforts to improve the collection, analysis, and uses of crime statistics and data about law enforcement's use of force, primarily through its ongoing shift to the more detailed National Incident-Based Reporting System and a use-of-force database.

Both, he said, will "give us a more complete, richer picture of crime in our communities, and a

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national and detailed picture of the ways we in law enforcement are using force.”

According to Comey, who cited the need for more transparency and accountability in law enforcement, “Information that is accurate, reliable, complete, and timely will help all of us learn where we have problems and how to get better.”

Local stats:

According to neighborhoodscout.com, a search engine that collects and shares statistics, New Mexico, which has a population of over 2 million, sees 12,459 violent crimes and 73,877 property crimes annually.

Gallup, the site says, is “safer than 0% of the cities in the U.S.” The city of Gallup sees 490 violent crimes and 2,365 property crimes annually; that’s 127.06 crimes per year, per 1,000 residents. On average, Gallup sees 151 crimes per square mile, compared to New Mexico as a whole, which sees 24. The national median is 32.8.

According to 2013 FBI crime data, that year, New Mexico had the second-highest violent crime rate in the country. The 2013 violent crime rate for the state was 597 per 100,000 residents, according to 24/7 Wall St., which compiled FBI data. With 2,086 per 100,000, Gallup had the highest violent crime rate in the state.