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THOMAS COMEY
CHIEF OF POLICE

MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF AND THE DIRECTOR:

Recently, the Jersey Journal presented a six part series relevant to crime and our efforts, as an organization, to reduce crime while continually striving to improve the quality of life for the City of Jersey City. The Jersey Journal presentation was generated from data they had requested under the Open Public Records Act (OPRA). We additionally granted numerous interviews and ready access to various commanders and units from which the Jersey Journal sought information. We granted this unprecedented access in the hope that raw data they requested would be accurately reported. Unfortunately we must now clarify some of the information that was printed and left open for interpretation. An interpretation that we believe presents our Department in a negative light, something we strongly object to.

As administrators, we are in the unenviable position to answer to two separate authorities. In New Jersey, we operate under the New Jersey Criminal Code (NJCC) in reporting crime. At times, state laws come into conflict with reporting requirements under the United States Department of Justice Uniform Crime Report (UCR). While NJCC defines the offenses in one way, the UCR establishes a national standard. In the instances where the NJCC and UCR come into conflict, we default to the national standard, as required under federal guidelines.

A prime example of such a conflict would be the burglary statute, NJ2C:18-2. Under NJCC guidelines burglary extends to motor vehicles (trucks, buses, vans, cars, etc.). However, under the UCR standard the unlawful entry of a motor vehicle falls under the category of theft/larceny. While we understand this distinction does not lessen the impact suffered by the victim, we still must report them in the proper venue.

On Monday October 15, 2007, page 11 of the Jersey Journal the article indicated that under the category of burglary there were four thousand nine hundred sixty-eight (4,968) incidents, a rate of 8.87 per day during the time period referenced. The classification of these burglaries, as the Jersey Journal reported, was “the unlawful entry of a building to commit a felony or theft.” When the raw numbers were compiled, the NJCC guidelines were applied to them. However, when the numbers were reported, the UCR standard definition was reported. To accurately report the statistics, all of the data would need to be further broken down by the UCR standard. Under the UCR standards, there were two thousand four hundred sixty-two (2,462) structures (commercial or residential) entered in the same time referenced, which equates to 4.33 incidents per day. Although this is a large difference between the NJCC guideline and the UCR standard, the other offenses would be recorded in their assigned UCR category.

Under UCR, we reported a total of nineteen thousand, five hundred thirty-eight (19,538) crimes cleared by arrest- a rate of thirty-four (34) arrests per day during the period covered in the report. Now this does not mean that we arrested an equal number of individuals, it refers to the total number of offenses that were charged in the processing of the arrests. We believed then, as we do now, that this statistic should have been included in the report as it depicts the true effort put forth daily by the men and women of this Department to make Jersey City safer.

We take crime analysis and Comstat very seriously in our department. We endeavor to ensure that crime statistics are being accurately reported and we are proud of our efforts. We are audited by the state annually and have been found in compliance with UCR guidelines. In addition, we were audited by the Federal Bureau of Investigation in September of this year. The audit determined that we are properly classifying and reporting incidents at a rate of 99.80%, a mark of which we are very proud.

We have a combined sixty (60) plus years with the Jersey City Police Department. We know Jersey City is safer now than it has been in recent years, mainly through the efforts of the men and women of this great Department and the support we receive from our elected officials. We have posted the UCR statistics reported for the period of 1990 through the first three quarters of 2007 on our website. Judge for yourself the strides the organization has made in reducing crime; we believe the numbers speak for themselves.

We have a solid working relationship and share one common goal – “Reducing crime and increasing the quality of life for all in this great city.” We feel that the men and women of this Department remain the backbone of our organization and we are extremely grateful for their professionalism, dedication and the hard work they perform daily.



Jersey City Police Department

UCR Reported Crime from 1990 thru 2006

UCR

Crimes by Year	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Murder	26	22	25	20	37	25	26	27	19	15	17	25	21	24	23	38	24
Rape	114	97	93	100	74	92	91	109	59	87	74	26	101	92	77	43	60
Robbery	2400	2576	2582	2500	2240	2306	1859	1640	1517	1531	1237	1301	1381	1410	1418	1643	1553
Assault	4087	4242	4519	4686	4924	4915	4711	5000	4461	4660	4267	4143	4098	4153	3900	4258	4055
Burglary	4632	4550	4550	4190	4285	3810	3425	3145	2850	2552	2465	2350	2285	2009	2044	2216	1670
Larceny	7018	6494	6583	6331	6477	6397	5994	5654	4975	5206	4682	4911	4694	4443	4445	4569	4425
MV Theft	5091	5392	4779	3655	3687	3515	3494	3061	2139	2362	1847	2413	2296	1861	1728	1855	1495
Arson	63	68	51	59	84	104	135	147	90	101	64	48	26	50	53	73	96
Total UCR Part 1	23431	23441	23182	21541	21808	21164	19735	18783	16110	16514	14653	15217	14902	14042	13688	14695	13378



Jersey City Police Department

UCR Reported Crime from 1990 thru 2006

Crimes by Year	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Murder	26	22	25	20	37	25	26	27	19	15	17	25	21	24	23	38	24

Crimes by Year	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Robbery	2400	2576	2582	2500	2240	2306	1859	1640	1517	1531	1237	1301	1381	1410	1418	1643	1553

Crimes by Year	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Burglary	4632	4550	4550	4190	4285	3810	3425	3145	2850	2552	2465	2350	2285	2009	2044	2216	1670

Crimes by Year	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
MV Theft	5091	5392	4779	3655	3687	3515	3494	3061	2139	2362	1847	2413	2296	1861	1728	1855	1495

Crimes by Year	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Murder	26	22	25	20	37	25	26	27	19	15	17	25	21	24	23	38	24
Rape	114	97	93	100	74	92	91	109	59	87	74	26	101	92	77	43	60
Robbery	2400	2576	2582	2500	2240	2306	1859	1640	1517	1531	1237	1301	1381	1410	1418	1643	1553
Assault	4087	4242	4519	4686	4924	4915	4711	5000	4461	4660	4267	4143	4098	4153	3900	4258	4055
Total Violent	6627	6937	7219	7306	7275	7338	6687	6776	6056	6293	5595	5495	5601	5679	5418	5982	5692

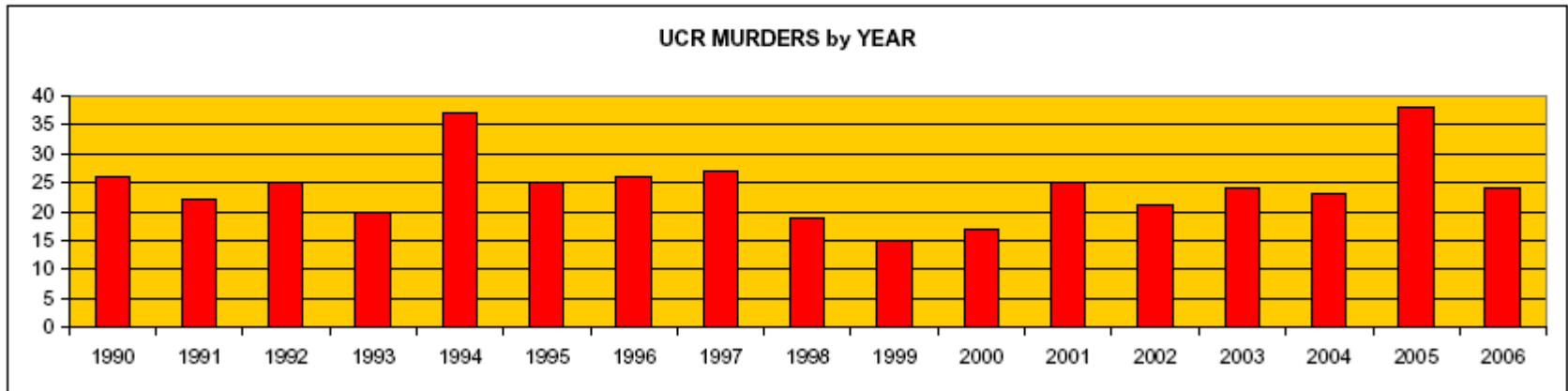
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Larceny	7018	6494	6583	6331	6477	6397	5994	5654	4975	5206	4682	4911	4694	4443	4445	4569	4425
MV Theft	5091	5392	4779	3655	3687	3515	3494	3061	2139	2362	1847	2413	2296	1861	1728	1855	1495
Total NonViolent	16741	16436	15912	14176	14449	13722	12913	11860	9964	10120	8994	9674	9275	8313	8217	8640	7590

Crimes by Year

1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
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Murder

26	22	25	20	37	25	26	27	19	15	17	25	21	24	23	38	24
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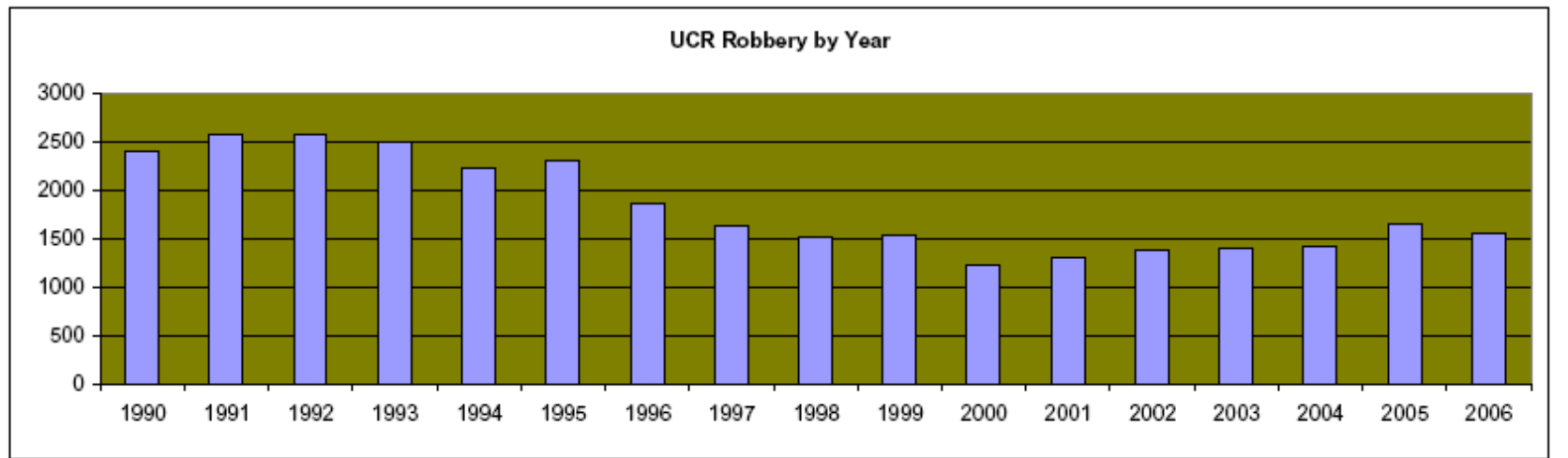


Crimes by Year

1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
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Robbery

2400	2576	2582	2500	2240	2306	1859	1640	1517	1531	1237	1301	1381	1410	1418	1643	1553
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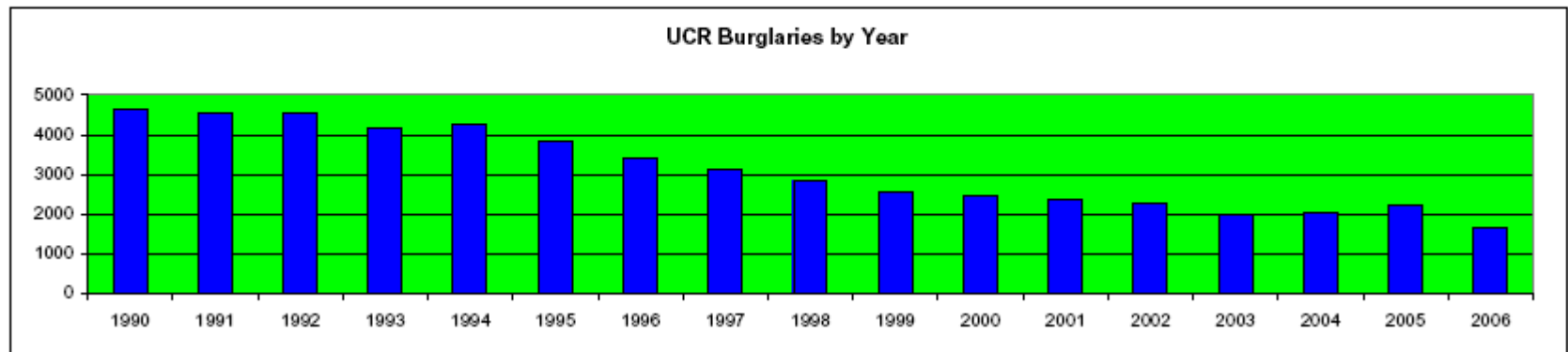


Crimes by Year

1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
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Burglary

4632	4550	4550	4190	4285	3810	3425	3145	2850	2552	2465	2350	2285	2009	2044	2216	1670
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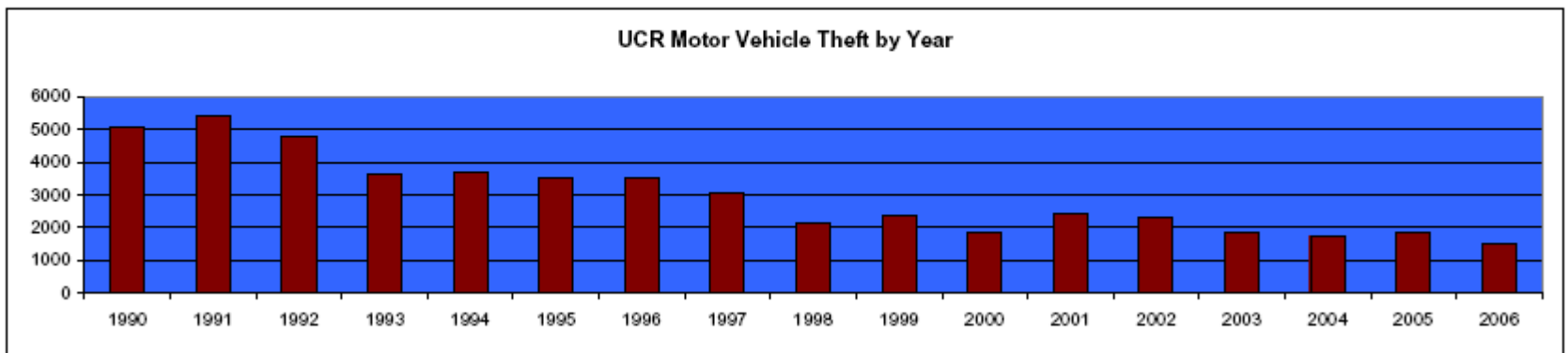


Crimes by Year

1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
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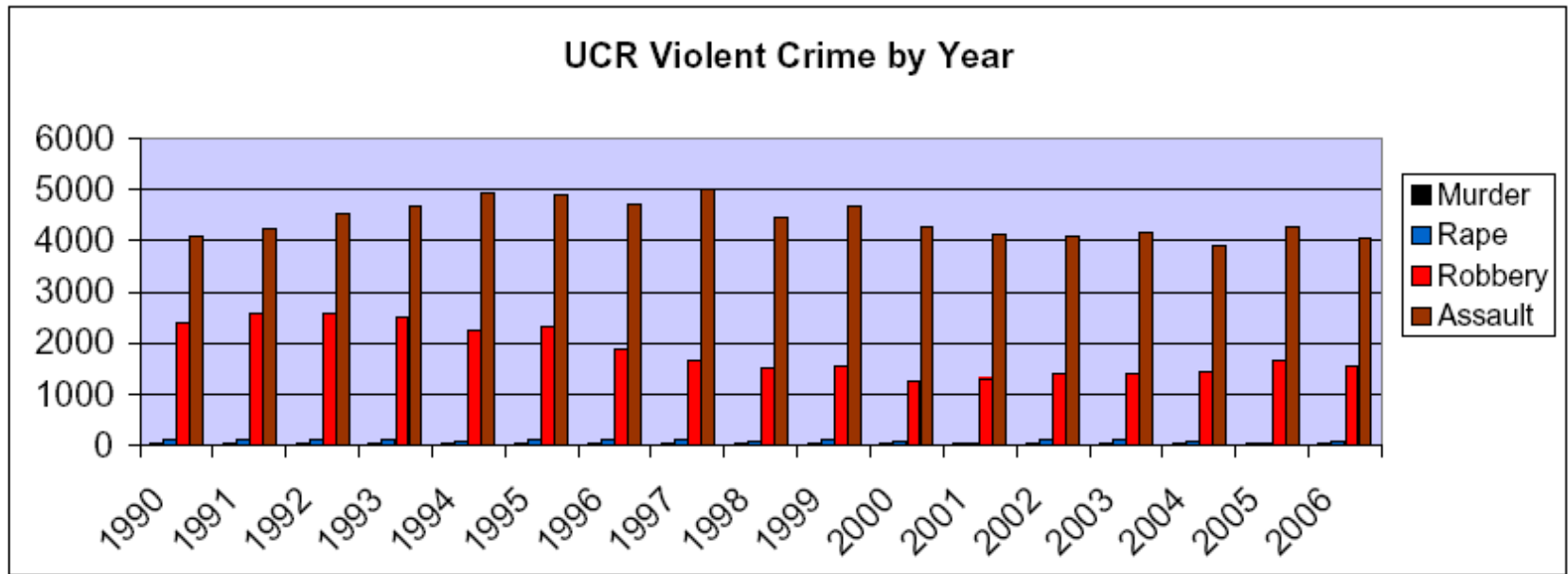
MV Theft

5091	5392	4779	3655	3687	3515	3494	3061	2139	2362	1847	2413	2296	1861	1728	1855	1495
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Violent Crimes by Year

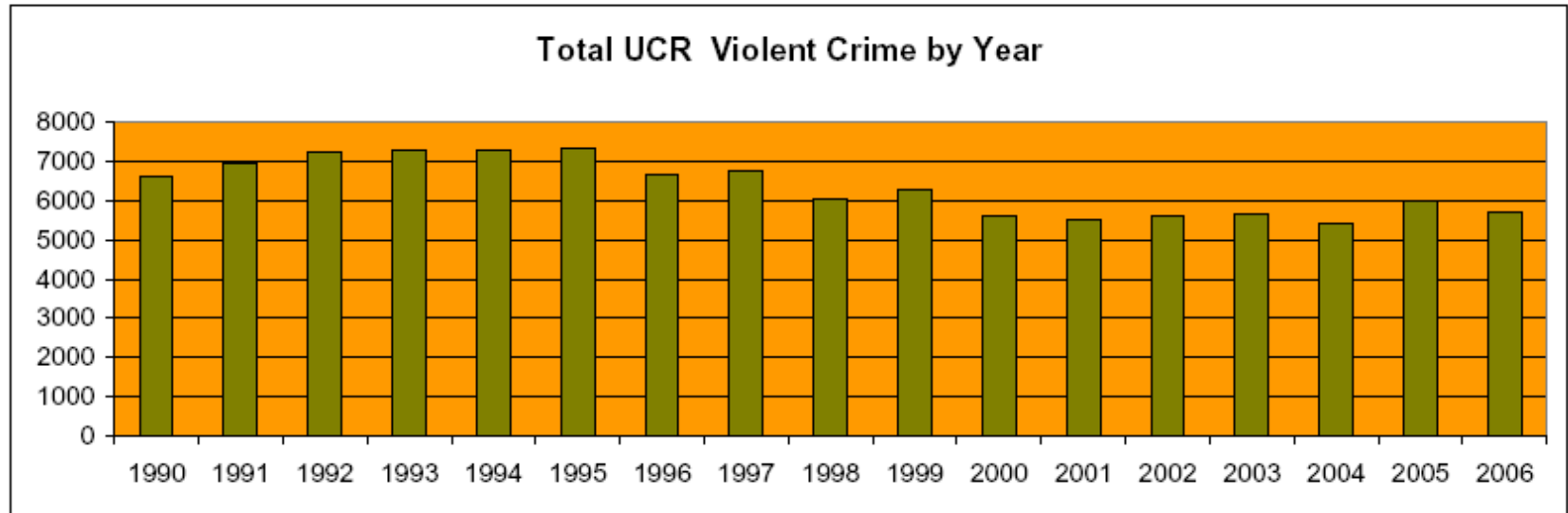
	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Murder	26	22	25	20	37	25	26	27	19	15	17	25	21	24	23	38	24
Rape	114	97	93	100	74	92	91	109	59	87	74	26	101	92	77	43	60
Robbery	2400	2576	2582	2500	2240	2306	1859	1640	1517	1531	1237	1301	1381	1410	1418	1643	1553
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	6627	6937	7219	7306	7275	7338	6687	6776	6056	6293	5595	5495	5601	5679	5418	5982	5692



Total UCR
Violent Crimes by Year

Murder
Rape
Robbery
Assault

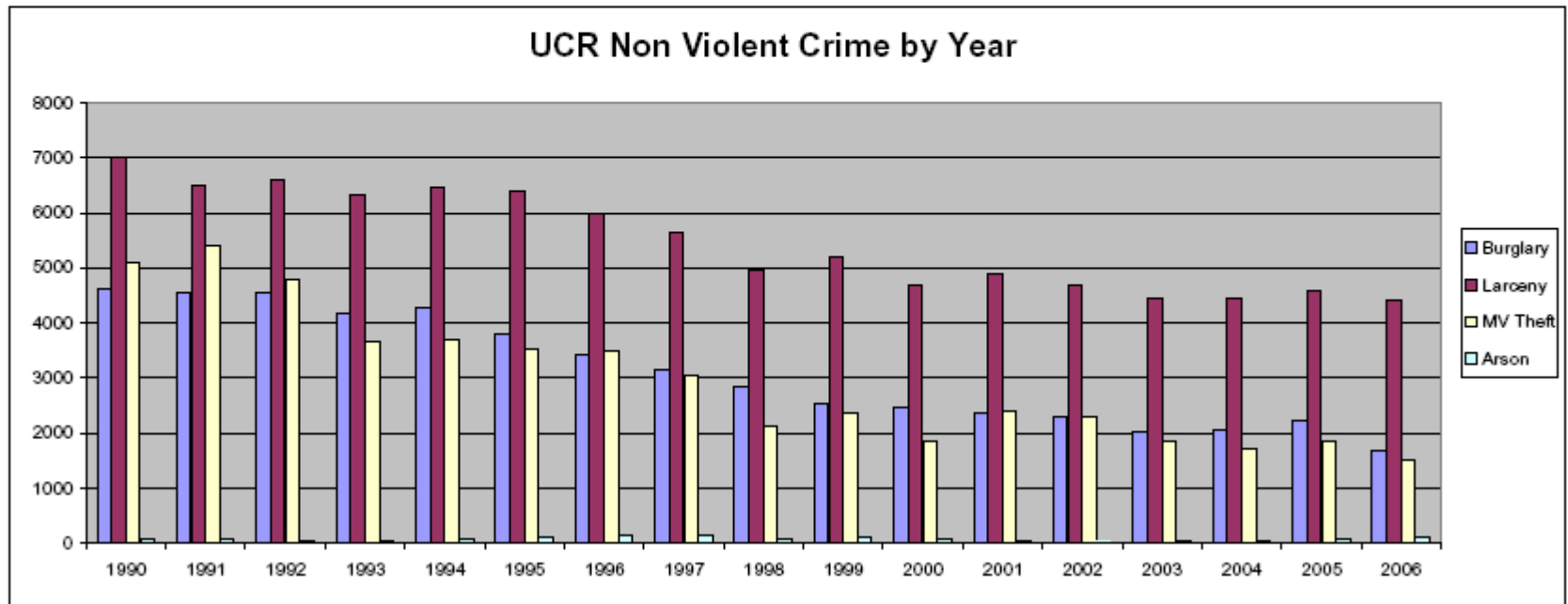
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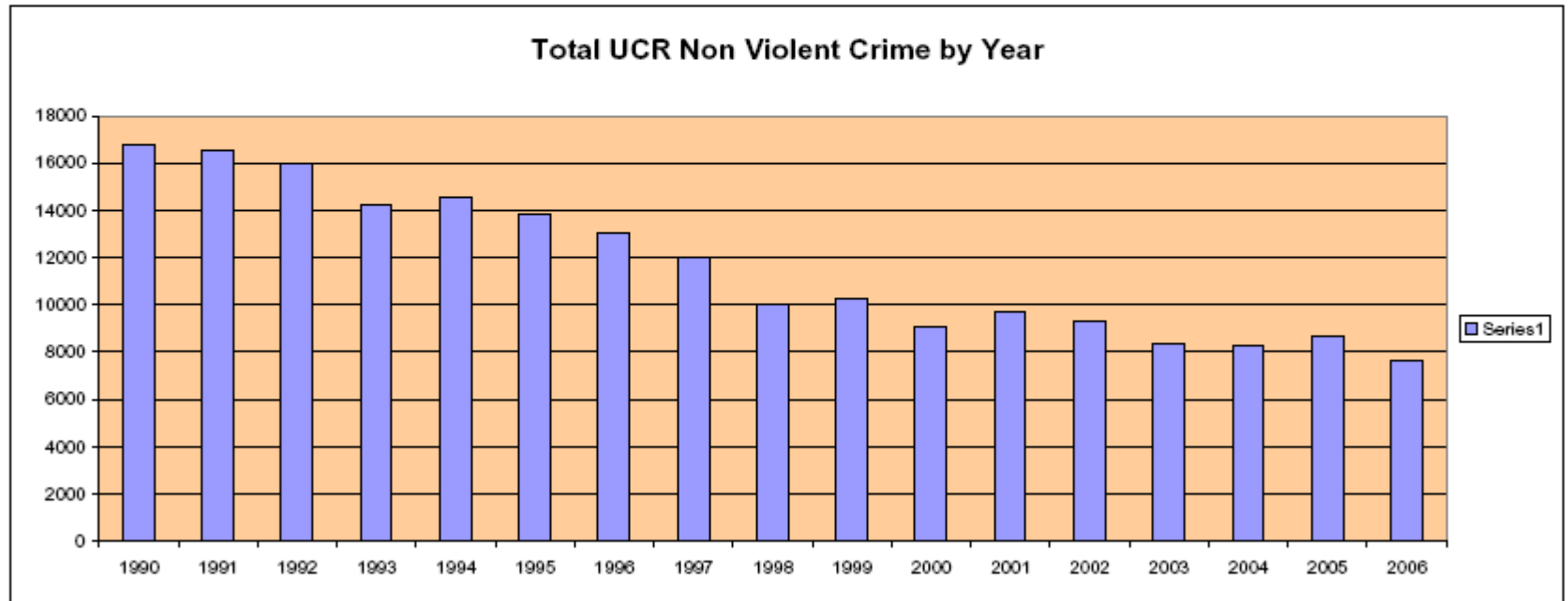
UCR

Crimes by Year

	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
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Arson	63	68	51	59	84	104	135	147	90	101	64	48	26	50	53	73	96
	16804	16504	15963	14235	14533	13826	13048	12007	10054	10221	9058	9722	9301	8363	8270	8713	7686

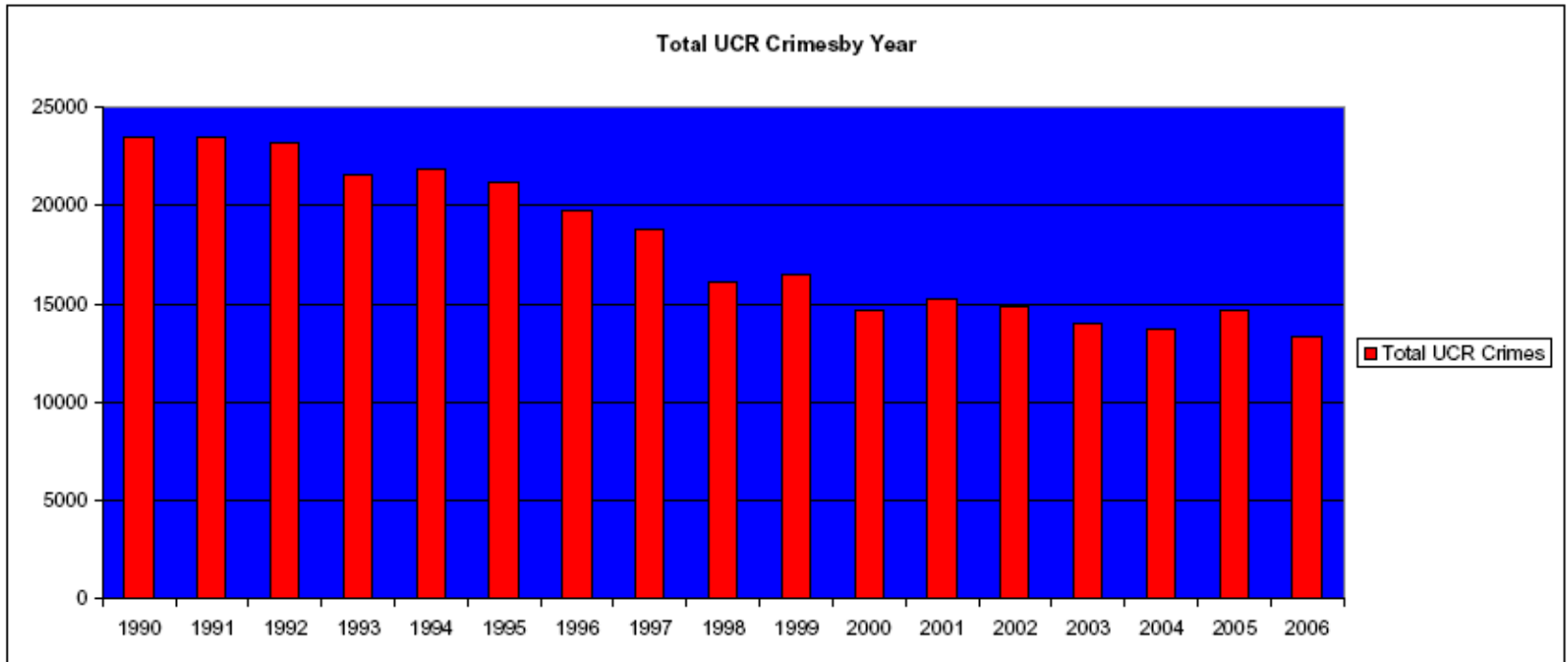


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	16804	16504	15963	14235	14533	13826	13048	12007	10054	10221	9058	9722	9301	8363	8270	8713	7686



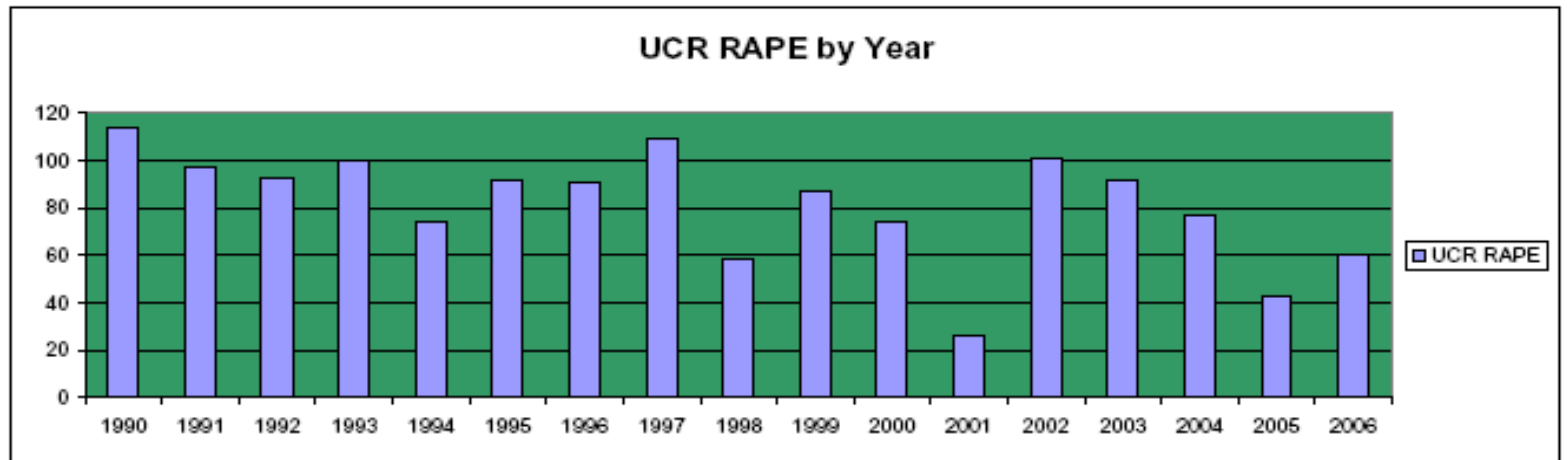
Crimes by Year

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MV Thef	5091	5392	4779	3655	3687	3515	3494	3061	2139	2362	1847	2413	2296	1861	1728	1855	1495
Arson	63	68	51	59	84	104	135	147	90	101	64	48	26	50	53	73	96
Total UCR Part 1	23431	23441	23182	21541	21808	21164	19735	18783	16110	16514	14653	15217	14902	14042	13688	14695	13378



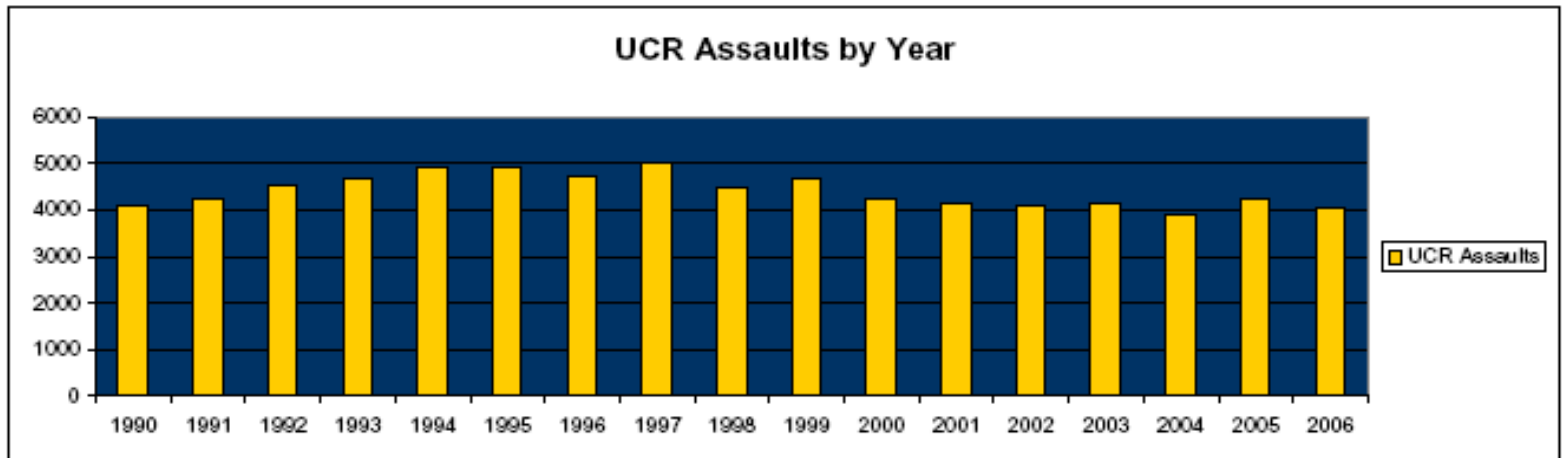
Crimes by Year	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
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Rape	114	97	93	100	74	92	91	109	59	87	74	26	101	92	77	43	60
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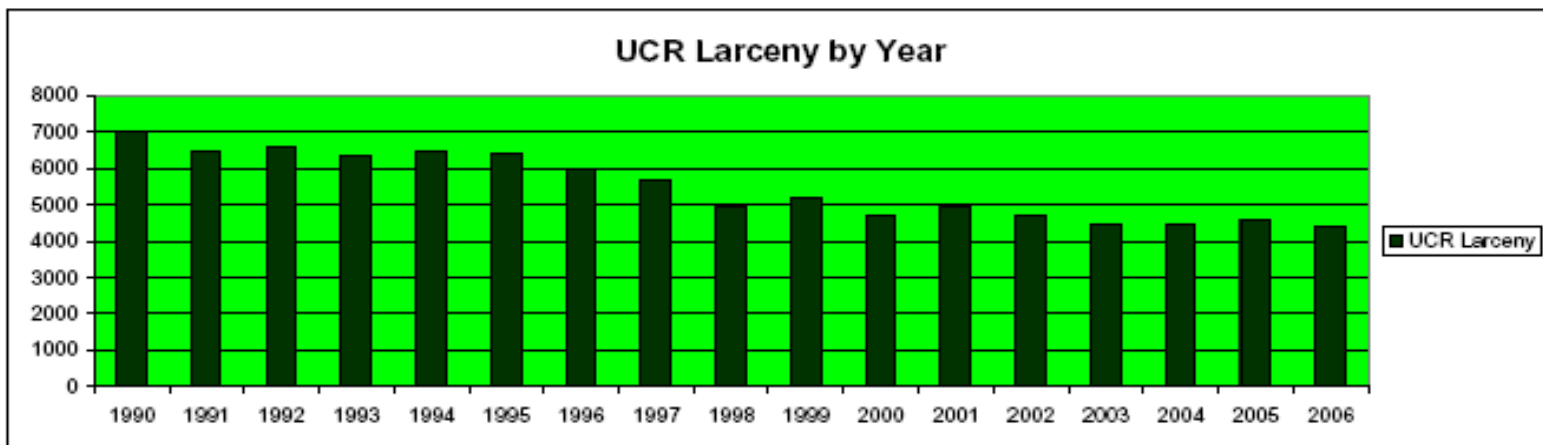
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Assault	4087	4242	4519	4686	4924	4915	4711	5000	4461	4660	4267	4143	4098	4153	3900	4258	4055
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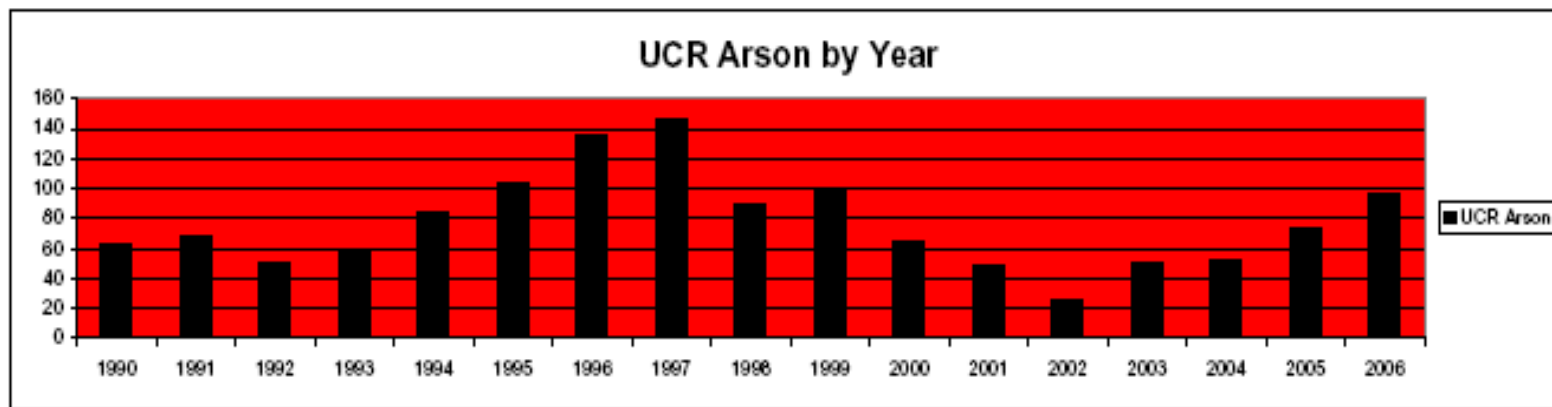
Crimes by Year	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
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Larceny	7018	6494	6583	6331	6477	6397	5994	5654	4975	5206	4682	4911	4694	4443	4445	4569	4425
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Crimes by Year	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
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Arson	63	68	51	59	84	104	135	147	90	101	64	48	26	50	53	73	96
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UCR BY YEAR 1990 thru 2006

UCR

Crimes by Year	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Murder	26	22	25	20	37	25	26	27	19	15	17	25	21	24	23	38	24
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Arson	63	68	51	59	84	104	135	147	90	101	64	48	26	50	53	73	96
Total UCR Part 1	23431	23441	23182	21541	21808	21164	19735	18783	16110	16514	14653	15217	14902	14042	13688	14695	13378

UCR 2006 by Month

UCR by Month 2006

2006	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	2006 Total
Murder	1	2	2	5	2	2	3	2	1	3	1	0	24
Rape	3	5	6	4	7	4	12	0	4	7	4	4	60
Robbery	183	102	126	132	143	110	106	120	127	140	131	133	1553
Assault	331	268	337	330	416	347	360	337	364	370	295	300	4055
Burglary	216	151	179	132	122	119	123	154	112	108	117	137	1670
Larceny	332	286	337	373	432	432	392	436	335	375	350	345	4425
MV Theft	127	98	129	112	139	99	129	189	138	92	110	133	1495
Arson	5	1	2	3	4	10	16	11	5	11	13	15	96
	1198	913	1118	1091	1265	1123	1141	1249	1086	1106	1021	1067	13378

First Three Quarter Comparison 2006/2007

UCR by Month 2006

2006	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	2006 Total
Murder	1	2	2	5	2	2	3	2	1	20
Rape	3	5	6	4	7	4	12	0	4	45
Robbery	183	102	126	132	143	110	106	120	127	1149
Assault	331	268	337	330	416	347	360	337	364	3090
Burglary	216	151	179	132	122	119	123	154	112	1308
Larceny	332	286	337	373	432	432	392	436	335	3355
MV Thef	127	98	129	112	139	99	129	189	138	1160
Arson	5	1	2	3	4	10	16	11	5	57
	1198	913	1118	1091	1265	1123	1141	1249	1086	10184

UCR by Month 2007

2007	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September**	2007 Total
Murder	4	1	1	1	2	0	2	1	1	13
Rape	4	5	5	6	2	3	4	6	3	38
Robbery	109	81	84	83	108	116	98	103	125	907
Assault	293	235	307	308	374	326	317	271	318	2749
Burglary	129	91	81	98	134	162	136	149	156	1136
Larceny	308	226	285	310	361	343	463	445	342	3083
MV Thef	115	70	82	75	92	122	120	128	110	914
Arson	8	6	8	7	14	7	5	11	7	73
	970	715	853	888	1087	1079	1145	1114	1062	8913

** September UCR is preliminary

