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# CRIME IN MONTANA

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## 1994 ANNUAL REPORT

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Montana Board of Crime Control

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# **CRIME IN MONTANA**

**1994**

## **ANNUAL REPORT**

**Compiled by the  
Statistical Analysis Center**

**Montana Board of Crime Control**

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**Ellis E. Kiser, Executive Director**

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December 18, 1995

Dear Reader:

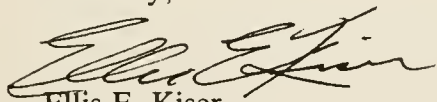
CRIME IN MONTANA - 1994 ANNUAL REPORT is prepared by the Statistical Analysis Center for the Montana Board of Crime Control. Crime Statistics are important bench marks revealing trends, patterns and clues to the future of crime in Montana. The Montana Uniform Crime Reporting (MUCR) system, the National Incident Reporting System (NIBRS), and the Juvenile Probation Information System (JPIS) are the vehicles which afford the state and the nation information on crime.

This year additional time was spent working with law enforcement agencies to ensure their data was complete and accurate. Time was also spent gathering data from some agencies which have not participated in the past or which did not submit data for 1993. The 1994 crime data included in this publication is the most complete, up-to-data, and accurate information available on crime in Montana.

All reporting is voluntary; therefore, we must recognize and thank all those people in the field who contribute to making this publication possible. It should be noted that the 1993 data may not have been as complete as the data for 1994. This may account for some of the offense counts appearing low in 1993. For the most part, the totals for 1994 continued the trend of previous years.

Again, we thank all those people who gathered and reported data throughout the year, but also those who worked so closely with us in the past few months to enhance the quality of this report.

Sincerely,

  
Ellis E. Kiser,  
Executive Director



Data used in the preparation of this publication  
was compiled by the  
staff of the  
Statistical Analysis Center  
of the  
Montana Board of Crime Control.

The Board of Crime Control thanks all the  
local law enforcement contributors for  
the thousands of hours they  
give to data entry.

Without the local contributor, this document  
would not be possible.

Thank you!





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# **GENERAL CRIME STATISTICS FROM THE MONTANA UNIFORM CRIME REPORTING PROGRAM**

## **Overview and Introduction**

This report contains the most complete, up-to-date, and accurate information currently available about crime in the State of Montana. It is intended to address the informational needs of law enforcement administrators, planners, legislators, and local government officials.

The data and statistics presented below are initiated primarily by the police departments and sheriff offices throughout the state. These agencies provide basic information about each crime which is reported to them and about each arrest they make to the Montana Uniform Crime Reporting (MUCR) system. In turn, the MUCR program feeds data into the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) national Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) program.

**The number of reporting agencies can fluctuate from year to year. This accounts for some of the fluctuation in the number of offenses reported. A better measure of the trend would be a comparison of the crime rate rather than the number of offenses. A considerable amount of additional time was spent this year in compiling the 1994 data. Overall, more agencies are reporting with more accuracy.**

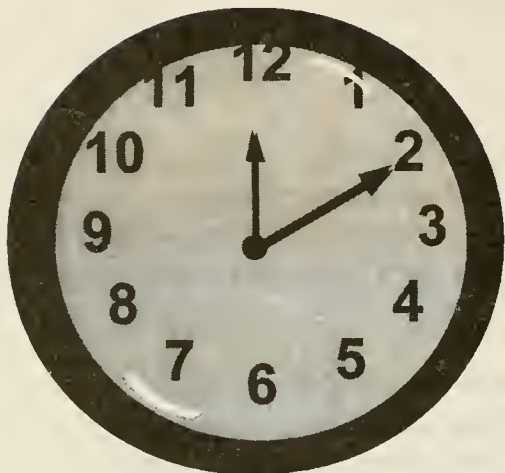
It is emphasized that the amount and type of crime reported in this document is based upon the number of reported offenses and does not measure those offenses unknown to the law enforcement community. Many crimes, for example, may go unreported because the victims are unaware they have been victimized or have themselves been participants in illegal activity.

At the same time, many sociological and environmental factors influence the type and volume of criminal activity in a particular geographical area. These include the density and size of the community, demographic characteristics of the populations, the economic status of the population, educational, recreational, and religious characteristics of the population, effective strength of local law enforcement agencies, policies of prosecuting officials and the courts and public attitudes toward laws and law enforcement. Many of these are beyond the ability of local law enforcement agencies to control.

Nearly 80% of Montana's law enforcement agencies reported to the MUCR program in 1994. This covers about 95% of Montana's population.



# 1994 MONTANA CRIME CLOCK



ONE HOMICIDE  
EVERY  
12 DAYS, 10 HOURS

ONE RAPE  
EVERY  
32 HOURS, 26 MINUTES

ONE ROBBERY  
EVERY  
43 HOURS, 22 MINUTES

ONE INDEX CRIME  
EVERY  
13 MINUTES 33 SECONDS

ONE AGGRAVATED  
ASSAULT EV  
ERY  
8 HOURS, 53 MINUTES

ONE VIOLENT CRIME  
EVERY  
5 HOURS, 53 MINUTES

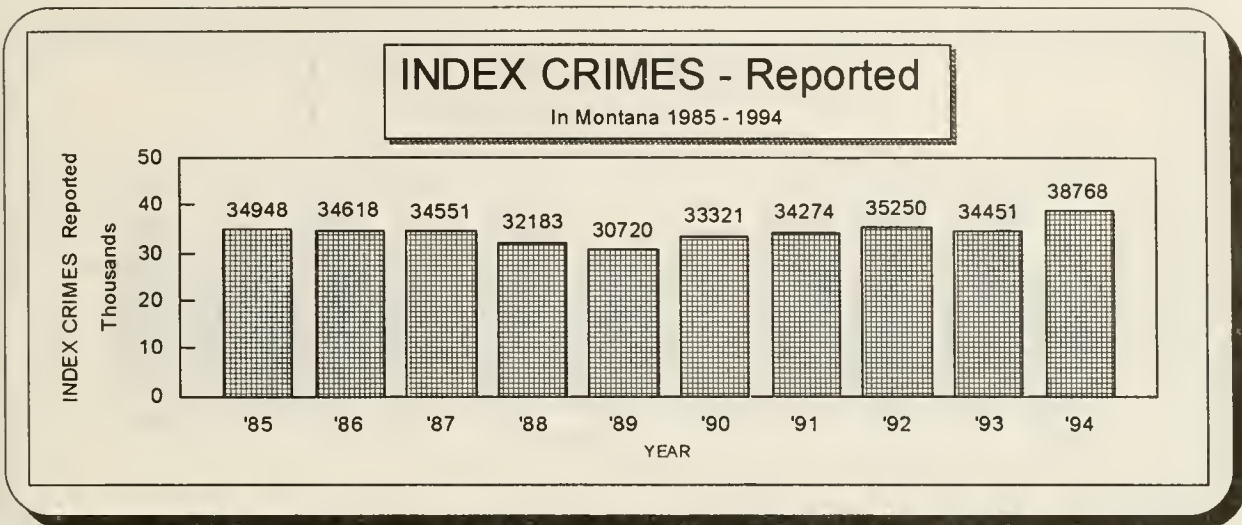
ONE BURGLARY  
EVERY  
1 HOUR 43 MINUTES

ONE PROPERTY CRIME  
EVERY  
14 MINUTES, 6 SECONDS

ONE LARCENY  
EVERY  
17 MINUTES, 25 SECONDS

ONE MOTOR VEHICLE  
THEFT EVERY  
4 HOURS, 22 MINUTES

Source: UCR Data, MT Board of Crime Control



## INCIDENCE OF MAJOR CRIMES IN MONTANA 1985-1994

### State Crime Index

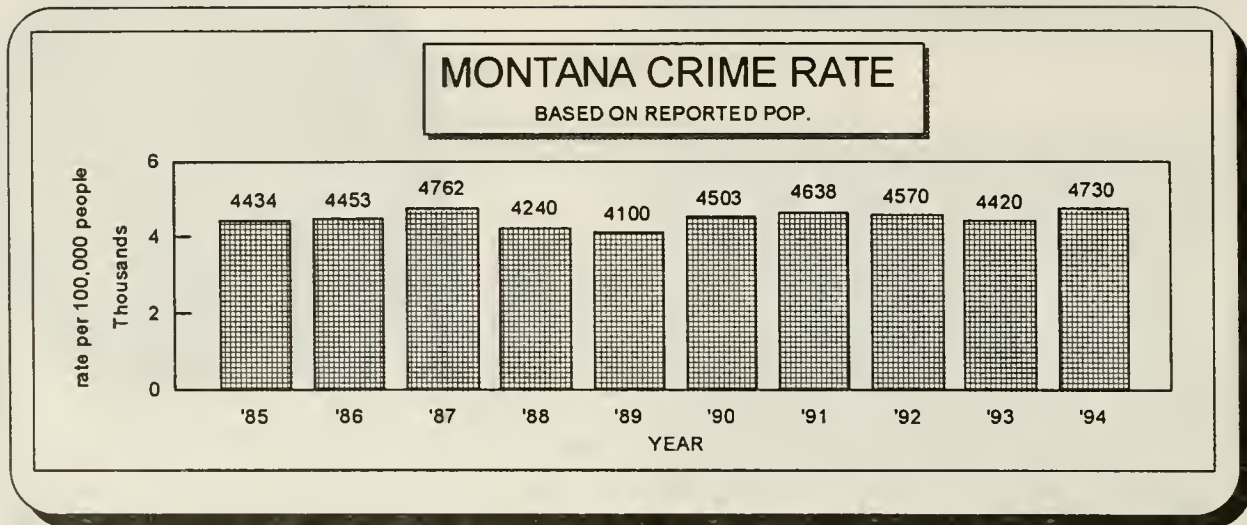
Because of their serious nature, their frequency of occurrence and the reliability of their reporting, the crimes of willful homicide, forcible rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, larceny/theft, and motor vehicle theft are used as a gauge with which to measure the amount of crime and how much it increases or decreases over time. The **crime index** is the total number of these offenses that come to the attention of law enforcement agencies.

In 1994, a total of 38,768 major crimes was reported to law enforcement officials in Montana. This number represents a 13% increase from 1993 to 1994; however the increase is partly due to an increase in the number of agencies reporting to the Montana Uniform Crime Reporting (MUCR) system. From 1990 through 1994, the average growth in major crime was nearly 4% per year. This is a reversal in the trend compared to the 1980s when major crimes decreased an average of 1.6% per year.

Increases were reported in all seven of the major crimes; homicide, rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, larceny and motor vehicle theft.



## STATE CRIME RATE 1985-1994



The **crime rate** of a given area is defined as the number of index crimes per 100,000 population. By using rates per population, comparisons can be made between jurisdictions of unequal populations. It should be noted that the rate only takes into consideration the population factor and does not incorporate any of the many other elements which may contribute to the amount of crime reported in a given community.

The 1994 population figures used to calculate the state's **crime rate** have been provided to the MUCR program by the U. S. Bureau of Census through the FBI. In 1994, Montana's population was estimated to be 856,000. The population of reporting jurisdictions was 819,653 which is about 96% of the state total.

In 1994, Montana's **crime rate** was 4,730 major crimes per 100,000 population, based on reporting jurisdictions. This reflects an average increase in the **crime rate** of 1.3% per year over the past five years. For the most part the number of offenses has been increasing as the population of Montana increases. This reflects the slight increase over the past five years. When comparing Montana's crime rate to national statistics, the state's **crime rate** is about 14% lower.

In 1994, twenty-two percent of the total offenses reported were solved, being cleared by arrest. Of the \$19.5 million of property lost, \$4.5 million were recovered for an overall recovery rate of 23%.

## HOMICIDE

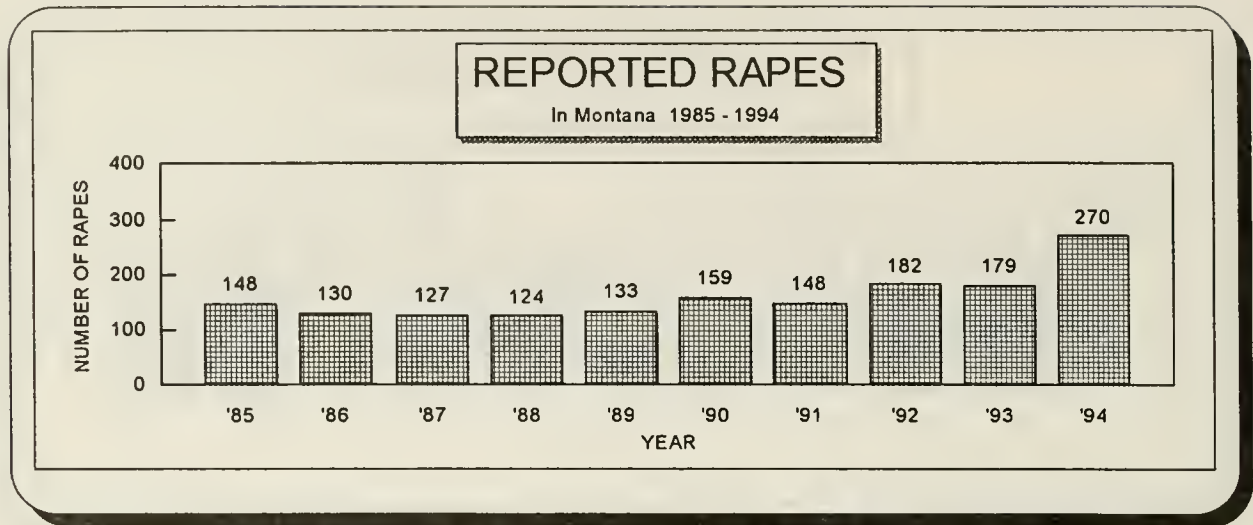


**Homicide** is the willful, non-negligent killing of one human being by another. It includes murder and non-negligent manslaughter, but does not include justifiable homicide where an offender is killed by a police officer in the line of duty or a felon killed during the commission of a crime by a private citizen.

In 1994, a total of 30 homicides were reported in the state compared to a revised total of 29 reported in 1993, and only 17 reported in 1992. Since 1980 there were only two years where homicides were as high as in 1994. In 1981 and 1984 there were 40 and 36 homicides respectively. In 1990 the total equaled the 1994 count of 30 homicides.

Of the 30 homicides reported in 1994, 17 were reported as cleared by arrest. There may be many more cleared by arrest by the time of this printing. Montana's homicide rate for 1994 was 3.7 homicides per 100,000 population. The nation's comparable rate for 1994 was 9.0.

## FORCIBLE RAPE



**Rape** is the carnal knowledge of a female forcibly and against her will. Both assaults and attempts to commit rape by force are included in this definition. Statutory rape (without force) and sexual assaults against males are classified as sexual offenses and are not counted under this classification.

A total of 270 cases of rape and attempted rape was reported to Montana law enforcement officials in 1994. This was a 50% increase over the 1993 count of 179. From 1990 through 1994, Montana has experienced an average increase of 18% per year in reported rapes.

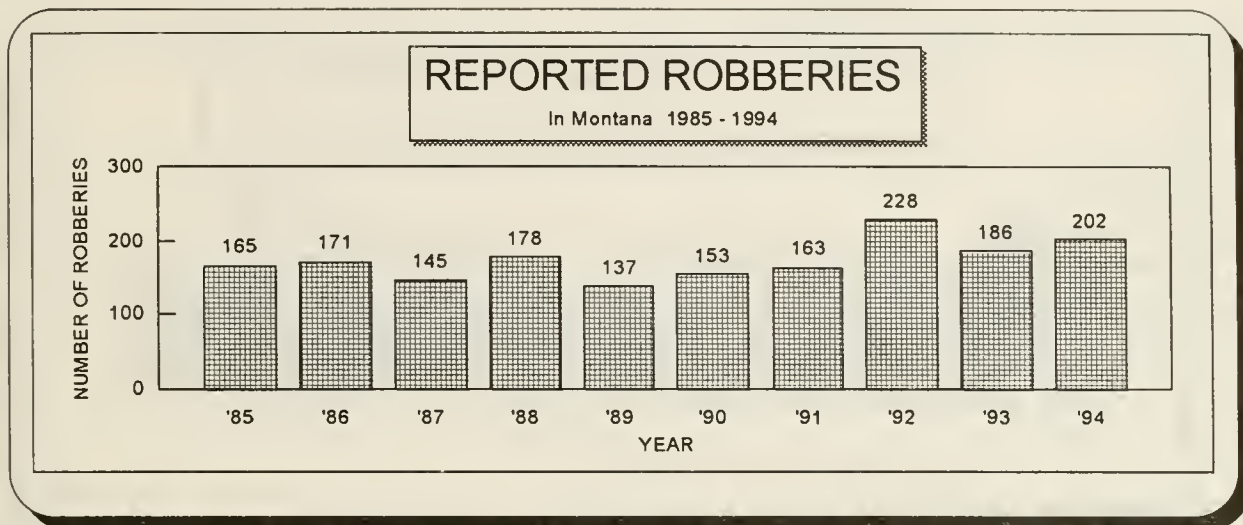
Much of the increase is due to better reporting between the rape crisis centers and law enforcement, and more agencies participating in the Montana Uniform Crime reporting program. There are many variables involved that make it difficult to try to attribute the increase to any one factor.

Nearly twelve percent (12%) of the rapes were reported as cleared by arrest in 1994. This compares to a rate of thirteen percent (13%) for the previous year.

The 1994 incidence of rape in Montana was 33 forcible rapes or attempts per 100,000 persons compared to 23 in 1993, and about 15% lower than the national (1994) rate of 39.



## ROBBERY



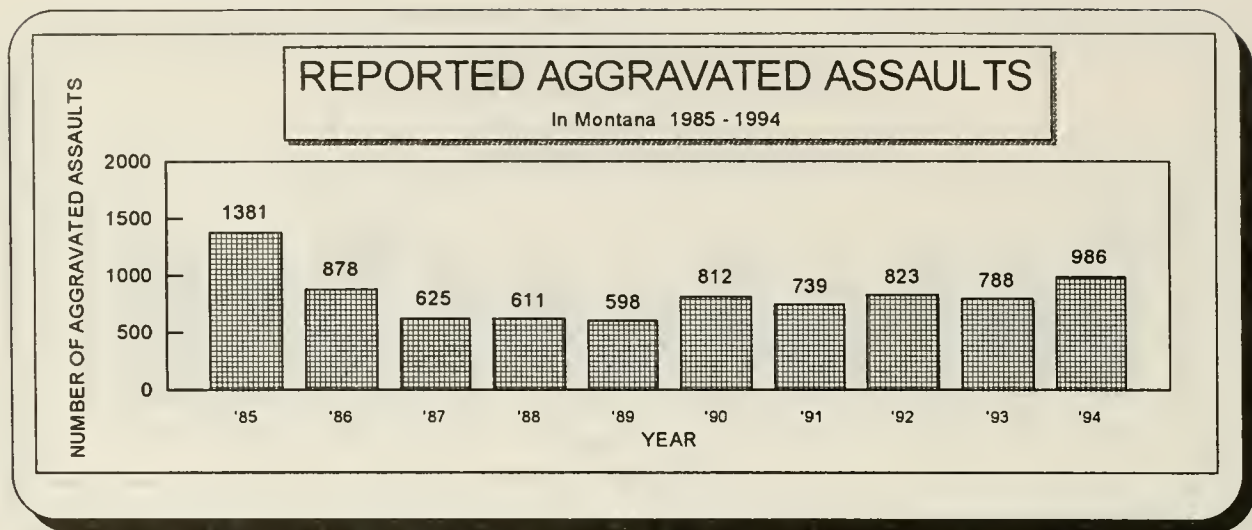
**Robbery** is the taking or attempting to take anything of value from the care, custody, or control of a person or persons by force or the threat of force or violence and/or putting the victim in fear. Robbery is a crime in which the element of personal confrontation between the victim and offender is present. Attempts to rob are included in the robbery count.

A total of 202 cases of robbery and attempted robbery was reported to Montana law enforcement officials in 1994. This reflects an increase of 9% from 1993's count of 186.

Twenty-five percent (25%) of the reported robberies were reported as cleared by arrest in 1993. The clearance rate for 1993 was 28%. The national clearance rate in 1994 was 24%.

The 1994 incidence of robbery in Montana was 25 robberies per 100,000 persons. This is considerably less than the national (1994) rate of 238.

## AGGRAVATED ASSAULT



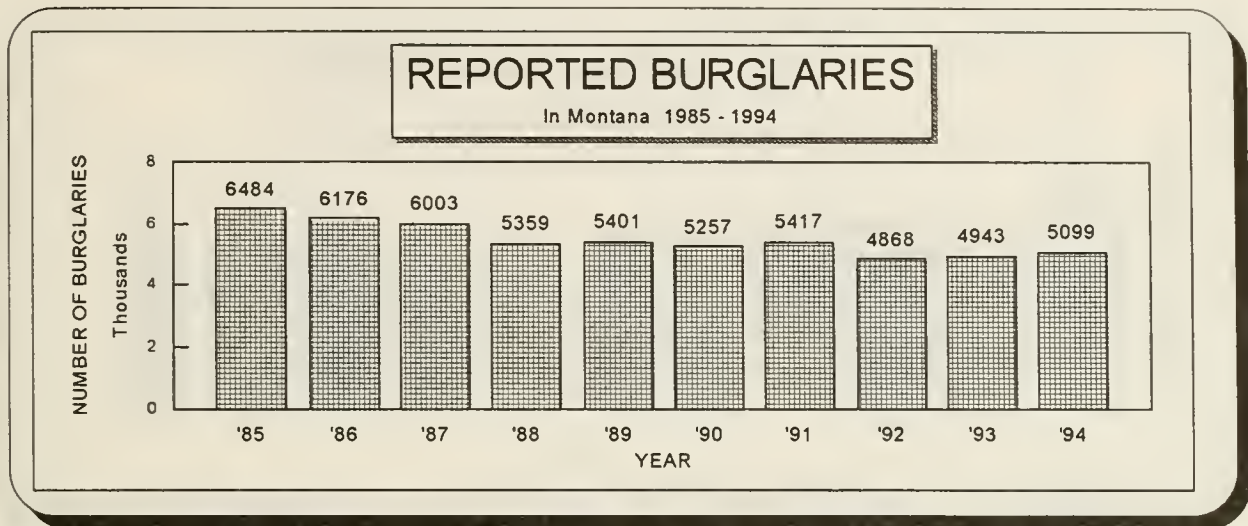
**Aggravated assault** is the unlawful attack by one person upon another for the purpose of inflicting severe or aggravated bodily injury. This type of assault is usually accompanied by the use of a weapon, or by means likely to produce death or great bodily harm. Any assault which does not involve the use of a weapon and does not result in serious injury is classified as a simple assault and is reported under a separate crime category.

A total of 986 cases of aggravated assault and attempted aggravated assault was reported to Montana law enforcement officials in 1994. This is considerably higher than the total reported in 1993 of 788. In part, the increase is due to more law enforcement agencies reporting to the Montana Uniform Crime Reporting (MUCR) program.

About forty-five percent (45%) of the reported aggravated assaults were cleared by arrest or by exception in 1994. The national clearance rate in 1994 was 56%.

The 1994 incidence of aggravated assault or attempts in Montana was 120 per 100,000 persons, which is only 28% of the national (1994) rate of 430.

## BURGLARY



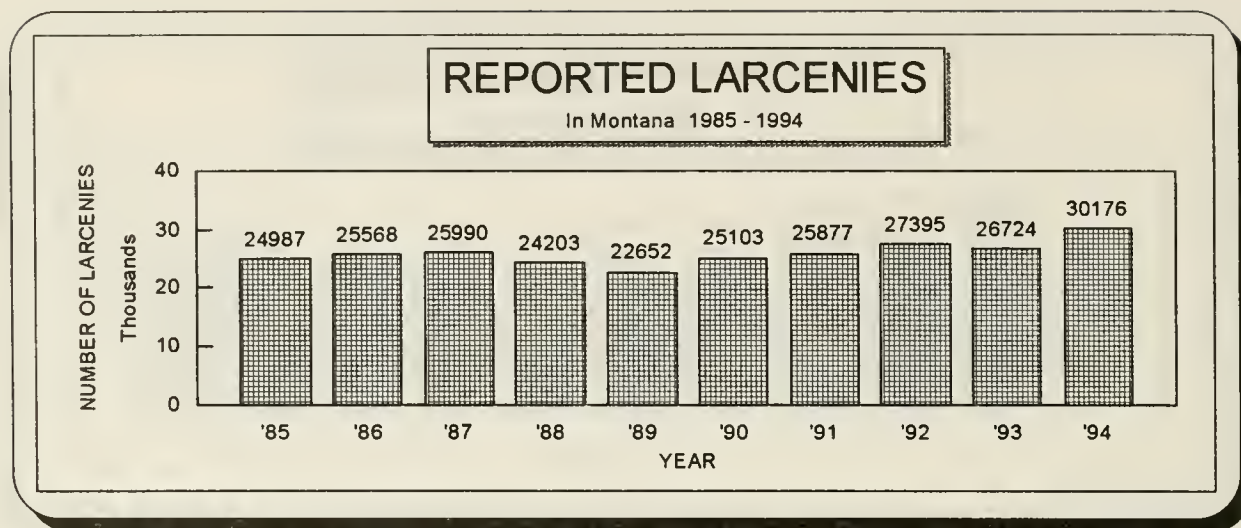
**Burglary** is the unlawful entry of a structure to commit a felony or theft. The theft of items from a building is classified as burglary if it is accompanied by a breaking or unlawful entry (trespass) without breaking. If the building is open to the general public and the offender has legal access, it is considered a larceny.

A total of 5,099 cases of burglary and attempted burglary was reported to Montana law enforcement officials in 1994. This was a 3% increase over the previous year's count of 4,943. As can be seen in the graph above, burglaries have remained somewhat stable over the past three years.

Nearly ten percent (10%) of the reported burglaries were cleared by arrest in 1994, while 13% were reported as cleared by arrest in 1993. The national clearance rate in 1994 was also 13%.

The 1993 incidence of burglary in Montana was 622 forcible burglaries or attempts per 100,000 persons, which is only slightly lower than the 1993 rate of 634. This is only sixty percent (60%) of the national (1994) rate of 1,042.

## LARCENY/THEFT



***Larceny** is the unlawful taking, carrying, leading or riding away of property from the possession or constructive possession of another. Larceny includes such crimes as pickpocket, purse snatching, shoplifting, theft from motor vehicles, and theft from buildings where forced entry is not involved. It does not include embezzlement, "con" games, forgery, or bad checks. Similarly motor vehicle theft is not included in this category since it is considered a major crime by itself.*

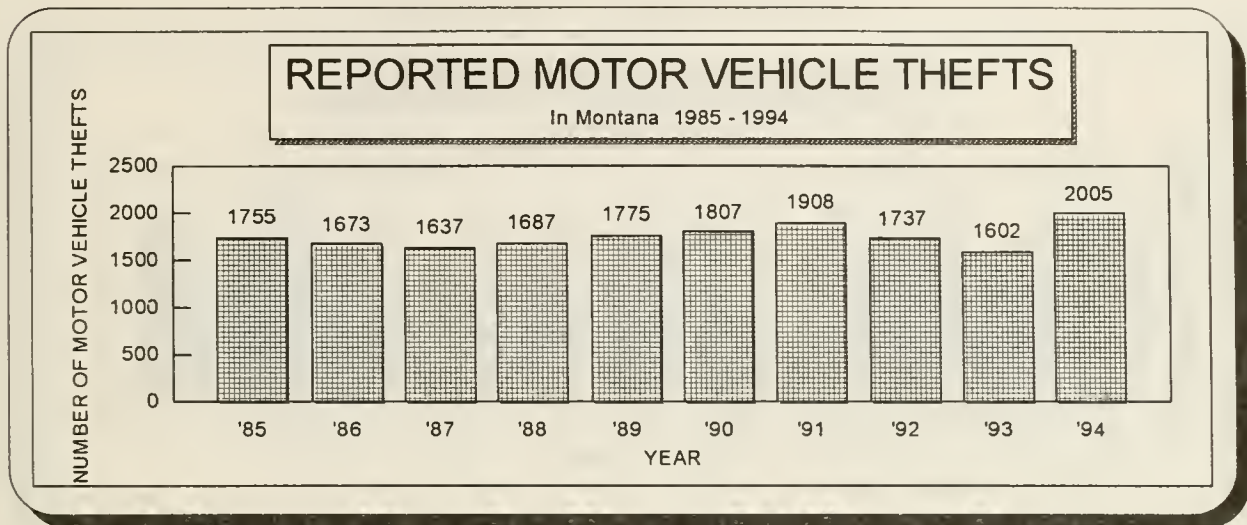
A total of 30,176 cases of larceny and attempted larceny was reported to Montana law enforcement officials in 1994. From 1990 through 1994, an average annual increase of five percent (5%) in reported larcenies is reflected in the chart above.

Just under nineteen percent (18.5%) of the reported larcenies were cleared by arrest in 1994. This is similar to the proportion cleared in 1993 when it was 20%. Montana's 1994 clearance rate is 1.5% lower than the national clearance rate in 1994 of 20%.

The 1994 incidence of larceny in Montana was 3,682 larcenies per 100,000 persons, compared to 3429 in 1993. This is about 20% higher than the national (1994) rate of 3,025.



## MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT



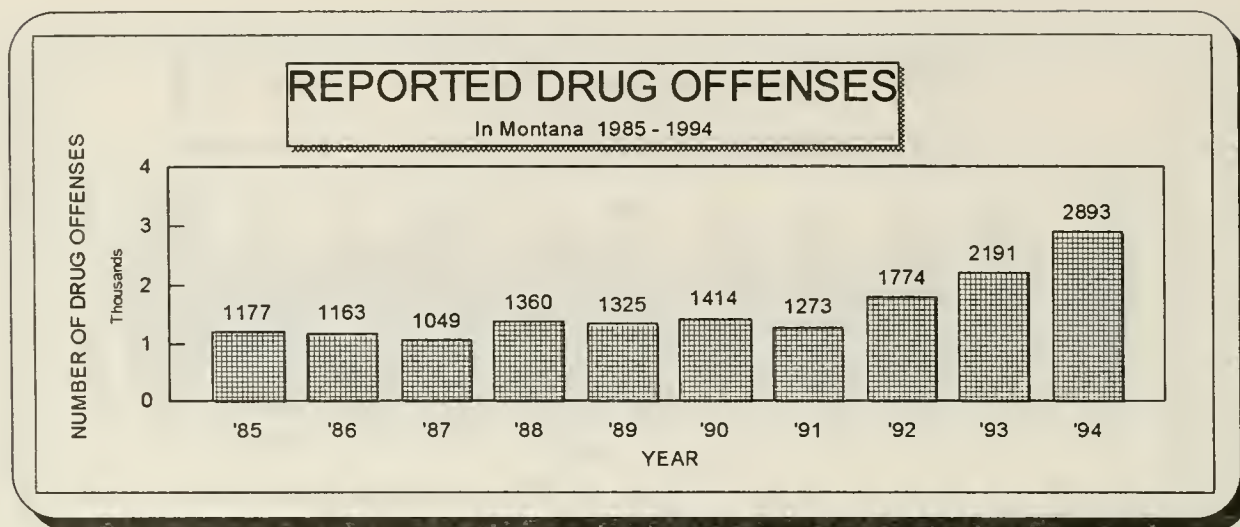
**Motor vehicle theft** is defined as the theft of or attempted theft of a vehicle which is self-propelled and runs on the surface and not on rails. It includes automobiles, trucks, buses, vans, motorcycles, and snowmobiles. It does not include motorboats, construction equipment, airplanes and farming equipment.

A total of 2,005 cases of motor vehicle theft and attempted motor vehicle theft was reported to Montana law enforcement officials in 1994. This reflects a considerable increase over the 1993 count of 1602, and reverses the downward trend since 1991.

Twenty-five percent (25%) of the reported motor vehicle thefts were cleared by arrest in 1994. This is slightly lower than the 29% rate cleared in 1993. The national clearance rate in 1994 was 14%.

The 1994 incidence of motor vehicle theft in Montana was 245 motor vehicle thefts or attempts per 100,000 persons. The national (1994) rate is more than twice the Montana rate at where it totals 591.

## DRUG ABUSE VIOLATIONS



***Drug abuse** involves the unlawful possession, sale, use, cultivation, and manufacturing of controlled substances and narcotic drugs.*

A total of 2,893 cases of drug abuse and attempted drug abuse was reported to Montana law enforcement officials in 1994. The 1993 count was about 30% lower at 2191. From 1990 through 1994, there has been an average annual increase of about 20%.

Of the 2,893 drug abuse violations in 1994, nearly 75% were reportedly cleared by arrest.

The 1994 incidence of drug abuse in Montana was 353 drug abuse cases or attempts per 100,000 persons as compared to 281 per 100,000 in 1993.

The major increases in drug offenses over the past five years could more than likely be attributed to the efforts of the drug task forces.

## SEX OFFENSES



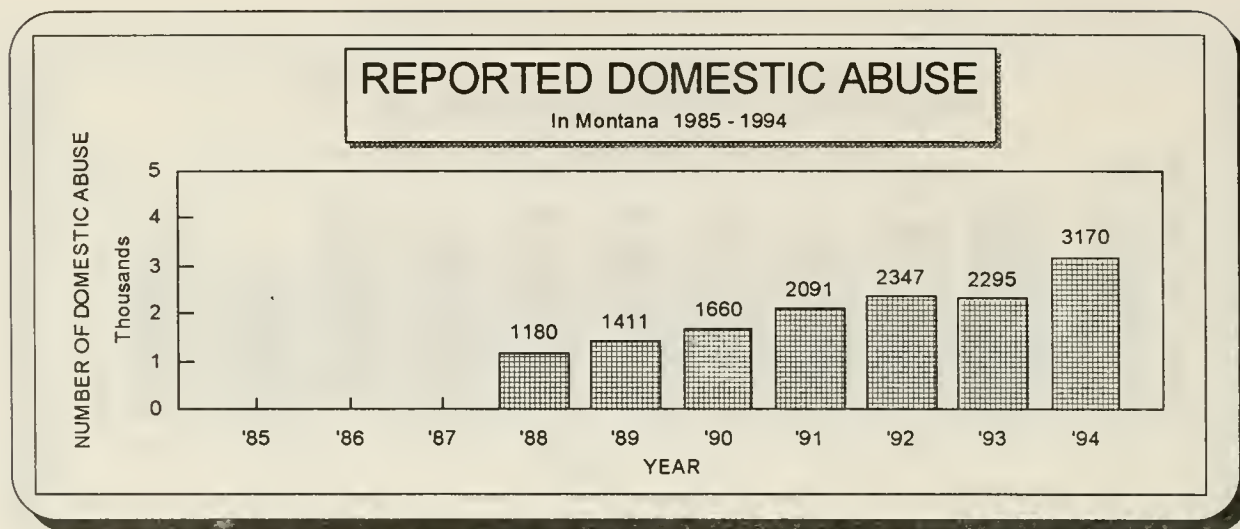
***Sex crimes** include offenses against chastity, common decency, morals, and the like. Montana law lists four specific crimes: sexual assault, deviate sexual conduct, indecent exposure and incest. Excluded under this category are forcible rape, prostitution and commercial vice.*

Sex offenses have remained somewhat stable over the past ten years. A total of 1,450 cases of sex offense and attempted sex offense was reported to Montana law enforcement officials in 1994. The 1994 total is only 34 lower than the previous nine-year average of 1484.

Of the 1450 sex offenses reported to law enforcement, only 213 or 15% were reported as being cleared by arrest. This compares to twenty-two percent (22%) reported in 1993.

The 1994 incidence of sex offenses in Montana was 177 sex offenses or attempts per 100,000 persons which is about 10% lower than the previous nine-year average rate of 196 per 100,000 persons.

## DOMESTIC ABUSE



A person commits the offense of **domestic abuse** if he/she: (a) purposely or knowingly causes bodily injury to a family member or household member; or (b) purposely or knowingly causes reasonable apprehension of bodily injury in a family member or household member.

A total of 3,170 cases of domestic abuse and attempted domestic abuse was reported to Montana law enforcement officials in 1994. As can be seen in the chart above the trend continues to climb upward since 1988. The chart reflects an annual average increase of about 18% from 1988 to 1994.

Sixty-seven percent (67%) of the reported domestic abuse cases were cleared by arrest or by exception in 1994, compared to a similar rate of 66% in 1993.

The 1994 incidence of domestic abuse in Montana was 387 domestic abuse cases or attempts per 100,000 persons as compared to 294 per 100,000 in 1993.



**TABLE 1**  
**1994 SUMMARY OF OFFENSES**  
**KNOWN TO LAW ENFORCEMENT**  
**IN MONTANA**

	Offenses Reported 1994	Cleared By Arrest 1994	Percent Cleared By Arrest
<b>CRIME</b>			
Homicide	30	17	55.0%
Rape	270	31	11.6%
Robbery	202	50	24.9%
Aggravated Assault	986	445	45.1%
<b>Total Violent</b>	<b>1,488</b>	<b>543</b>	<b>36.5%</b>
Burglary	5,099	490	9.6%
Larceny	30,176	5577	18.5%
Motor Vehicle Theft	2,005	377	18.8%
<b>Total Property</b>	<b>37,280</b>	<b>6,443</b>	<b>17.3%</b>
<b>TOTAL PART I</b>	<b>38,768</b>	<b>6,986</b>	<b>18.0%</b>
Other Assaults *	8,423	4126	49.0%
Domestic Abuse **	3,170	2107	66.5%
Arson	314	29	9.3%
Forgery	1,742	310	17.8%
Fraud	2,738	524	19.1%
Embezzlement	47	23	48.0%
Stolen Property	228	63	27.7%
Vandalism	15,813	1301	8.2%
Weapons	487	218	44.8%
Prostitution	33	30	90.0%
Sex Offenses	1,450	213	14.7%
Narcotics	2,893	2151	74.4%
Gambling	1	1	100.0%
Offenses Against Family	677	185	27.4%
DUI	6,328	5669	89.6%
Liquor Laws	4,065	3010	74.1%
Disorderly Conduct	5,677	2879	50.7%
All Other	15,004	3403	22.7%
<b>TOTAL PART II</b> ***	<b>34,846</b>	<b>9,174</b>	<b>26.3%</b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b> ***	<b>73,614</b>	<b>16,161</b>	<b>22.0%</b>

\* Other Assaults consist of assaults other than those considered aggravated. If a domestic abuse is considered aggravated it will be counted as an aggravated assault and also as a domestic abuse.

\*\* Other Assaults include Domestic Abuse.

\*\*\* Totals do not include DUI, Liquor Laws, Disorderly Conduct, and All Other.

Source: Montana Board of Crime Control, Uniform Crime Report Data

**TABLE 2**  
**1993 AND 1994 COMPARISON**  
**OF OFFENSES REPORTED**  
**IN MONTANA**

	Offenses Reported 1993	Offenses Reported 1994	Percent Change
<b>OFFENSE</b>			
Homicide	29	30	3.4%
Rape	179	270	50.8%
Robbery	186	202	8.6%
Aggravated Assault	788	986	25.1%
<b>Total Violent</b>	<b>1,182</b>	<b>1,488</b>	<b>25.9%</b>
Burglary	4,943	5,099	3.2%
Larceny	26,724	30,176	12.9%
Motor Vehicle Theft	1,602	2,005	25.2%
<b>Total Property</b>	<b>33,269</b>	<b>37,280</b>	<b>12.1%</b>
<b>TOTAL PART I</b>	<b>34,451</b>	<b>38,768</b>	<b>12.5%</b>
Other Assaults *	6,269	8,423	34.4%
Domestic Abuse	2,295	3,170	38.1%
Arson	154	314	103.9%
Forgery	1,232	1,742	41.4%
Fraud	2,703	2,738	1.3%
Embezzlement	26	47	80.8%
Stolen Property	169	228	34.9%
Vandalism	13,570	15,813	16.5%
Weapons	327	487	48.9%
Prostitution	32	33	3.1%
Sex Offenses	1,183	1,450	22.6%
Narcotics	2,191	2,893	32.0%
Gambling	10	1	-90.0%
Offenses Against Family	400	677	69.3%
DUI	5,464	6,328	15.8%
<b>TOTAL PART II</b> **	<b>28,266</b>	<b>34,846</b>	<b>23.3%</b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b> **	<b>62,717</b>	<b>73,614</b>	<b>17.4%</b>

\* Other Assaults consist of assaults other than those considered aggravated.  
If a domestic abuse is considered aggravated it will be counted as aggravated  
and also as a domestic abuse. Other Assaults include Domestic Abuse.

\*\* Totals do not include DUIs.

Source: Montana Board of Crime Control, Uniform Crime Report Data

**TABLE 3**

**REPORTED PROPERTY LOSS INCURRED  
IN CRIMES AGAINST PROPERTY  
1994**

<b>TYPE OF CRIME</b>	<b>AVERAGE LOSS</b>	<b>TOTAL LOSS</b>	<b>TOTAL RECOVERED</b>	<b>% OF TOTAL RECOVERED</b>
Robbery	\$396	\$84,023	\$5,848	7%
Burglary	\$548	\$3,002,455	\$548,595	18%
Larceny	\$281	\$7,720,277	\$1,224,870	16%
Motor Vehicle Theft	\$3,165	\$4,460,055	\$2,252,336	51%
Vandalism	\$296	\$2,124,834	\$107,184	5%
Other *	\$629	\$2,122,008	\$406,395	19%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$432</b>	<b>\$19,513,652</b>	<b>\$4,545,228</b>	<b>23%</b>

\* Other includes arson, forgery, fraud, embezzlement, stolen property and other crimes against property.

Source: Montana Board of Crime Control, Uniform Crime Report

**TABLE 4  
COUNTY RANKING  
WITH RESPECT TO  
THEIR 1994 CRIME RATE \*\***

COUNTY		RATE PER 100,000
1	Yellowstone Cnty Total	7041
2	Hill Cnty Total	6912
3	Cascade Cnty Total	6829
4	Missoula Cnty Total	5919
5	Mineral Cnty Total	5822
6	Flathead Cnty Total	5470
7	Lincoln Cnty Total	5446
8	Lewis & Clark Cnty Total	5345
9	Silver Bow Cnty Total	5040
10	Custer Cnty Total	4809
11	<b>State Average</b>	<b>4730</b>
12	Meagher Cnty Total	4452
13	Deer Lodge Cnty Total	4057
14	Park County Total	4027
15	Granite Cnty Total	4023
16	Broadwater Cnty Total	3794
17	Gallatin Cnty Total	3728
18	Valley Cnty Total	3364
19	Lake County Total	3337
20	Wheatland Cnty Total	3183
21	Fergus Cnty Total	3159
22	Sweet Grass Cnty Total	2771
23	Richmond Cnty Total	2696
24	Dawson Cnty Total	2565
25	Musselshell Cnty Total	2529
26	Big Horn Cnty Total	2446
27	Carbon Cnty Total	2415
28	Toole Cnty Total	2255
29	Phillips Cnty Total	2208
30	Sheridan Cnty Total	2182
31	Beaverhead Cnty Total	2166
32	Roosevelt Cnty Total	2076
33	Sanders Cnty Total	2031
34	Chouteau Cnty Total	1900
35	Rosebud Cnty Total	1850
36	Ravalli Cnty Total	1823
37	Powell Cnty Total	1684
38	Liberty Cnty Total	1406
39	Powder River Cnty Total	1359
40	Jefferson Cnty Total	1258
41	Pondera Cnty Total	960
42	Fallon Cnty Total	955
43	Blaine Cnty Total	892
44	Stillwater Cnty Total	884
45	Madison Cnty Total	617
46	Teton Cnty Total	426
47	Daniels Cnty Total	226
48	McCone Cnty Total	137
49	Treasure Cnty Total	109

\*\* This ranking, based on a population of 100,000, includes only those counties that participate in reporting to the Board of Crime Control.

Refer to table 7 for information on counties which included agencies where data was not available or was incomplete. Also, some counties included agencies for which data was estimated based on previous years or on a partial year of data.

Source: MT Board of Crime Control



**TABLE 5**  
**SHERIFFS OFFICES**  
**RANKED BY THEIR 1994 CRIME RATE \*\***

	AGENCY	RATE PER 100,000
1	Mineral Cnty S.O.	5822
2	Libby/Lincoln Cnty S.O.	5446
3	Butte/Silver Bow	5040
4	Meagher Cnty S.O.	4452
5	Anaconda / D.L. Cnty	4057
6	Custer Cnty S.O.	4024
7	Granite Cnty S.O.	4023
8	Flathead Cnty S.O.	3919
9	Broadwater Cnty S.O.	3794
10	Lewis & Clark Cnty S.O.	3703
11	Wheatland Cnty S.O.	3183
12	Hill Cnty S.O.	3166
13	Sweet Grass Cnty S.O.	2771
14	Missoula Cnty S.O.	2701
15	Yellowstone Cnty S.O.	2691
16	Musselshell Cnty S.O.	2529
17	Big Horn Cnty S.O.	2446
18	Lake Cnty S.O.	2330
19	Shelby/Toole Cnty S.O.	2255
20	Gallatin Cnty S.O.	2248
21	Phillips Cnty S.O.	2208
22	Sanders Cnty S.O.	2181
23	Carbon Cnty S.O.	2178
24	Beaverhead Cnty S.O.	2166
25	Richland Cnty S.O.	2094
26	Roosevelt Cnty S.O.	2076
27	Valley Cnty S.O.	2071
28	Cascade Cnty S.O.	2036
29	Fergus Cnty S.O.	1879
30	Rosebud Cnty S.O.	1850
31	Jefferson Cnty S.O.	1771
32	Deer Lodge / Powell Cnty	1684
33	Park Cnty S.O.	1624
34	Chouteau Cnty S.O.	1526
35	Liberty Cnty S.O.	1406
36	Powder River Cnty S.O.	1359
37	Sheridan Cnty S.O.	1244
38	Ravalli Cnty S.O.	1136
39	Blaine Cnty S.O.	892
40	Stillwater Cnty S.O.	884
41	Dawson Cnty S.O.	735
42	Pondera Cnty S.O.	620
43	Madison Cnty S.O.	617
44	Teton Cnty S.O.	426
45	Scoby/Daniels Cnty S.O.	226
46	McCone Cnty S.O.	137
47	Treasure Cnty S.O.	109
48	Fallon Cnty S.O.	79

\*\* This ranking, based on a population of 100,000, includes only those agencies that participate in reporting to the Board of Crime Control. Also, refer to Table 7 for information on agencies which include estimates based on previous years or on a partial year of data.

Source: Montana Board of Crime Control

**TABLE 6**  
**POLICE DEPARTMENTS**  
**RANKED BY THEIR 1994 CRIME RATE \*\***

	<b>AGENCY</b>	<b>RATE PER 100,000</b>
1	Kalispell P.D.	10100
2	West Yellowstone P.D.	9654
3	Havre P.D.	9635
4	Whitefish P.D.	9264
5	Great Falls P.D.	8743
6	Missoula P.D.	8658
7	Billings P.D.	8506
8	Polson P.D.	7774
9	Hamilton P.D.	7372
10	Laurel P.D.	6963
11	Helena P.D.	6770
12	Livingston P.D.	6717
13	Bozeman P.D.	5159
14	Miles City P.D.	5108
15	Butte/Silver Bow	5040
16	Glasgow P.D.	5013
17	Fairview P.D.	4941
18	Lewistown P.D.	4432
19	Glendive P.D.	4323
20	Anaconda / D.L. Cnty	4057
21	Manhattan P.D.	3375
22	Plentywood P.D.	3332
23	Belgrade P.D.	3239
24	Dillon P.D.	3197
25	Red Lodge P.D.	3049
26	Sidney P.D.	2864
27	Fort Benton P.D.	2743
28	Columbia Falls P.D.	2652
29	Deer Lodge / Powell Cnty	1684
30	Baker P.D.	1553
31	Conrad P.D.	1376
32	Thompson Falls P.D.	1170
33	Three Forks P.D.	1076

\*\* This ranking, based on a population of 100,000, includes only those agencies that participate in reporting to the Board of Crime Control. Also, refer to Table 7 for information on agencies which include estimates based on previous years or on a partial year of data.

Source: Montana Board of Crime Control

**TABLE 7**  
**1994 MAJOR OFFENSES REPORTED**  
**BY INDIVIDUAL AGENCIES**

AGENCY	1994 Population	Crime Index	Crime Rate	Homicide	Rape	Robbery	Assault	Burglary	Larceny	MVT
<b>Beaverhead Cnty</b>										
Beaverhead Cnty S.O.	4703	58	1233	0	0	0	7	21	20	10
Dillon P.D.	4254	136	3197	0	0	0	2	8	123	3
<b>Beaverhead Cnty Total</b>	<b>8957</b>	<b>194</b>	<b>2166</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>143</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>Big Horn Cnty</b>										
Big Horn Cnty S.O.	12143	297	2446	0	2	1	39	33	206	16
<b>Big Horn Cnty Total</b>	<b>12143</b>	<b>297</b>	<b>2446</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>206</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>Blaine Cnty</b>										
Blaine Cnty S.O.	5493	49	892	0	0	0	3	15	24	7
Chinook P.D.	1564									
<b>Blaine Cnty Total</b>	<b>** 5493</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>892</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Broadwater Cnty</b>										
Broadwater Cnty S.O.	est 3664	139	3794	0	0	0	4	32	98	5
<b>Broadwater Cnty Total</b>	<b>3664</b>	<b>139</b>	<b>3794</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Carbon Cnty</b>										
Carbon Cnty S.O.	5694	124	2178	0	0	0	2	43	73	6
Red Lodge P.D.	2132	65	3049	0	0	0	1	5	55	4
Bridger P.D.	* 767									
<b>Carbon Cnty Total</b>	<b>** 7826</b>	<b>189</b>	<b>2415</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>128</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Carter Cnty</b>										
Carter Cnty S.O.	* 1549									
<b>Carter Cnty Total</b>	<b>** 1549</b>									
<b>Cascade Cnty</b>										
Cascade Cnty S.O.	23576	480	2036	0	3	0	25	42	382	28
Great Falls P.D.	59017	5160	8743	2	30	40	30	559	4300	199
<b>Cascade Cnty Total</b>	<b>82593</b>	<b>5640</b>	<b>6829</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>601</b>	<b>4682</b>	<b>227</b>
<b>Chouteau Cnty</b>										
Chouteau Cnty S.O.	3933	60	1526	0	1	0	1	12	40	6
Fort Benton P.D.	1750	48	2743	0	0	0	2	4	40	2
<b>Chouteau Cnty Total</b>	<b>5683</b>	<b>108</b>	<b>1900</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Custer Cnty</b>										
Custer Cnty S.O.	3380	136	4024	0	0	0	4	28	100	4
Miles City P.D.	8869	453	5108	0	0	3	13	54	368	15
<b>Custer Cnty Total</b>	<b>12249</b>	<b>589</b>	<b>4809</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>468</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>Daniels Cnty</b>										
Scoby/Daniels Cnty S.O.	2214	5	226	0	0	0	1	0	1	3
<b>Daniels Cnty Total</b>	<b>2214</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>226</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Dawson Cnty</b>										
Dawson Cnty S.O.	est 4625	34	735	0	0	0	5	7	21	1
Glendive P.D.	4811	208	4323	0	0	0	4	12	191	1
<b>Dawson Cnty Total</b>	<b>9436</b>	<b>242</b>	<b>2565</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>212</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Deer Lodge Cnty</b>										
Anaconda / D.L. Cnty	10451	424	4057	0	0	0	12	47	341	24
<b>Deer Lodge Cnty Total</b>	<b>10451</b>	<b>424</b>	<b>4057</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>341</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>Fallon Cnty</b>										
Fallon Cnty S.O.	1273	1	79	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Baker P.D.	1867	29	1553	0	0	0	0	9	18	2
<b>Fallon Cnty Total</b>	<b>3140</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>955</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Fergus Cnty</b>										
Fergus Cnty S.O.	6441	121	1879	0	0	0	3	25	83	10
Lewistown P.D.	6476	287	4432	0	4	0	10	29	237	7
<b>Fergus Cnty Total</b>	<b>12917</b>	<b>408</b>	<b>3159</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>320</b>	<b>17</b>

Source:

MT Board of Crime Control

\* Agency did not report or data is incomplete.

\*\* Data is not available or incomplete for one or more agencies.

Crime rate will be calculated using the population total for reporting agencies only.

est = estimated based on prev. years



**TABLE 7 cont.**  
**1994 MAJOR OFFENSES REPORTED**  
**BY INDIVIDUAL AGENCIES**

AGENCY	1994 Population	Crime Index	Crime Rate	Homicide	Rape	Robbery	Assault	Burglary	Larceny	MVT
<b>Flathead Cnty</b>										
Flathead Cnty S.O.	44576	1747	3919	1	36	2	57	361	1170	120
Columbia Falls P.D.	3168	84	2652	0	1	1	3	6	67	6
Kalispell P.D.	12970	1310	10100	0	6	1	23	155	1063	62
Whitefish P.D.	4739	439	9264	0	0	0	7	32	384	16
<b>Flathead Cnty Total</b>	<b>65453</b>	<b>3580</b>	<b>5470</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>554</b>	<b>2684</b>	<b>204</b>
<b>Gallatin Cnty</b>										
Gallatin Cnty S.O.	24107	542	2248	1	3	1	30	111	368	28
Belgrade P.D.	3767	122	3239	0	0	0	9	12	93	8
Bozeman P.D.	24810	1280	5159	0	1	16	16	97	1089	61
Manhattan P.D.	1126	38	3375	0	0	0	0	4	31	3
Three Forks P.D.	1301	14	1076	0	0	0	1	7	4	2
West Yellowstone P.D.	984	95	9654	0	0	0	3	11	78	3
MSU Police	unv	273		0	1	1	3	5	258	5
<b>Gallatin Cnty Total</b>	<b>56095</b>	<b>2091</b>	<b>3728</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>242</b>	<b>1663</b>	<b>105</b>
<b>Garfield Cnty</b>										
Garfield Cnty S.O.	*	1486								
<b>Garfield Cnty Total</b>	<b>**</b>	<b>1486</b>								
<b>Glacier Cnty</b>										
Glacier Cnty S.O.	*	9295								
Cut Bank P.D.	*	3396								
<b>Glacier Cnty Total</b>	<b>**</b>	<b>12691</b>								
<b>Golden Valley Cnty</b>										
Golden Valley Cnty S.O.	*	933								
<b>Golden Valley Cnty Total</b>	<b>**</b>	<b>933</b>								
<b>Granite Cnty</b>										
Granite Cnty S.O.	est	2635	106	4023	0	1	1	4	37	12
<b>Granite Cnty Total</b>		<b>2635</b>	<b>106</b>	<b>4023</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>Hill Cnty</b>										
Hill Cnty S.O.		7801	247	3166	0	4	0	5	42	24
Havre P.D.		10732	1034	9635	0	6	1	15	73	62
<b>Hill Cnty Total</b>		<b>18533</b>	<b>1281</b>	<b>6912</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>86</b>
<b>Jefferson Cnty</b>										
Jefferson Cnty S.O.		6097	108	1771	2	3	0	38	21	39
Boulder P.D.		1370		Boulder counts are included in the Jefferson County numbers.						
Whitehall P.D.		1121		Whitehall counts are included in the Jefferson County numbers.						
<b>Jefferson Cnty Total</b>		<b>8588</b>	<b>108</b>	<b>1258</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>39</b>
<b>Judith Basin Cnty</b>										
Judith Basin Cnty S.O.	*	2343								
<b>Judith Basin Cnty Total</b>	<b>**</b>	<b>2343</b>								
<b>Lake Cnty</b>										
Lake Cnty S.O.		16609	387	2330	0	10	1	22	73	30
Polson P.D.		3769	293	7774	0	1	0	12	35	11
Ronan P.D.	*	1696								
St. Ignatius P.D.	*	883								
<b>Lake County Total</b>	<b>**</b>	<b>20378</b>	<b>680</b>	<b>3337</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>108</b>	<b>41</b>
<b>Lewis &amp; Clark Cnty</b>										
Lewis & Clark Cnty S.O.		23226	860	3703	2	15	1	30	137	30
Helena P.D.		26781	1813	6770	2	20	8	95	183	85
East Helena P.D.	*	1704								
<b>Lewis &amp; Clark Cnty Total</b>	<b>**</b>	<b>50007</b>	<b>2673</b>	<b>5345</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>320</b>	<b>115</b>
<b>Liberty Cnty</b>										
Liberty Cnty S.O.		2347	33	1406	0	0	0	3	5	3
<b>Liberty Cnty Total</b>		<b>2347</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>1406</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>3</b>

Source: MT Board of Crime Control

\* Agency did not report or data is incomplete.

\*\* Data is not available or incomplete for one or more agency

est = estimated based on prev. years

unv = university pop. is unknown, not used in rate calc.

Crime rate will be calculated using the population total for reporting agencies only.



**TABLE 7 cont.**  
**1994 MAJOR OFFENSES REPORTED**  
**BY INDIVIDUAL AGENCIES**

		1994	Crime	Crime							
AGENCY		Population	Index	Rate	Homicide	Rape	Robbery	Assault	Burglary	Larceny	MVT
Lincoln Cnty											
Libby/Lincoln Cnty S.O.		16233	884	5446	0	4	0	26	130	673	51
Eureka P.D.	*	1081									
Troy P.D.	*	1096									
Lincoln Cnty Total	**	16233	884	5446	0	4	0	26	130	673	51
McCone Cnty											
McCone Cnty S.O.		2185	3	137	0	0	0	0	1	0	2
McCone Cnty Total		2185	3	137	0	0	0	0	1	0	2
Madison Cnty											
Madison Cnty S.O.		6320	39	617	0	0	0	6	7	24	2
Madison Cnty Total		6320	39	617	0	0	0	6	7	24	2
Meagher Cnty											
Meagher Cnty S.O.		1887	84	4452	0	2	0	2	22	58	0
Meagher Cnty Total		1887	84	4452	0	2	0	2	22	58	0
Mineral Cnty											
Mineral Cnty S.O.		3607	210	5822	0	1	4	6	17	176	6
Mineral Cnty Total		3607	210	5822	0	1	4	6	17	176	6
Missoula Cnty											
Missoula Cnty S.O.		39460	1066	2701	2	21	6	50	200	724	63
Missoula P.D.		46362	4014	8658	0	20	15	53	338	3452	136
U of M Police	unv		339		0	1	0	3	20	313	2
Missoula Cnty Total		85822	5080	5919	2	41	21	103	538	4176	199
Musselshell Cnty											
Musselshell Cnty S.O.		4271	108	2529	0	0	0	21	29	49	9
Musselshell Cnty Total		4271	108	2529	0	0	0	21	29	49	9
Park Cnty											
Park Cnty S.O.		8130	132	1624	0	1	0	3	17	105	6
Livingston P.D.		7266	488	6716	0	0	2	8	48	408	22
Park County Total		15396	620	4027	0	1	2	11	65	513	28
Petroleum Cnty											
Petroleum Cnty S.O.	*	531									
Petroleum Cnty Total	**	531									
Phillips Cnty											
Phillips Cnty S.O.		5300	117	2208	0	0	1	8	15	79	14
Phillips Cnty Total		5300	117	2208	0	0	1	8	15	79	14
Pondera Cnty											
Pondera Cnty S.O.		3549	22	620	0	0	0	1	4	15	2
Conrad P.D.		2908	40	1376	0	0	0	1	2	36	1
Pondera Cnty Total		6457	62	960	0	0	0	2	6	51	3
Powder River Cnty											
Powder River Cnty S.O.		2134	29	1359	0	0	0	1	2	23	3
Powder River Cnty Total		2134	29	1359	0	0	0	1	2	23	3
Powell Cnty											
Deer Lodge / Powell Cnty		7065	119	1684	3	2	1	4	27	75	7
Powell Cnty Total		7065	119	1684	3	2	1	4	27	75	7
Prairie Cnty											
Prairie Cnty S.O.	*	1349									
Prairie Cnty Total	**	1349									
Ravalli Cnty											
Ravalli Cnty S.O.	est	25434	289	1136	2	11	1	23	46	195	11
Hamilton P.D.	est	3147	232	7372	0	0	0	3	15	205	9
Ravalli Cnty Total		28581	521	1823	2	11	1	26	61	400	20

Source: MT Board of Crime Control

\* Agency did not report or data is incomplete.

\*\* Data is not available or incomplete for one or more agencies

est = est = estimated based on prev. years

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Crime rate will be calculated using the population total for reporting agencies only.

**TABLE 7 cont.**  
**1994 MAJOR OFFENSES REPORTED**  
**BY INDIVIDUAL AGENCIES**

AGENCY	1994 Population	Crime Index	Crime Rate	Homicide	Rape	Robbery	Assault	Burglary	Larceny	MVT
<b>Richland Cnty</b>										
Richland Cnty S.O.	4680	98	2094	0	0	0	2	20	73	3
Sidney P.D.	5412	155	2864	0	5	0	5	22	118	5
Fairview P.D.	850	42	4941	0	0	0	0	13	28	1
<b>Richmond Cnty Total</b>	<b>10942</b>	<b>295</b>	<b>2696</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>219</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Roosevelt Cnty</b>										
Roosevelt Cnty S.O.	7562	157	2076	0	3	0	6	31	103	14
Wolf Point P.D.	* 2861									
Poplar P.D.	* 889									
<b>Roosevelt Cnty Total</b>	<b>** 7562</b>	<b>157</b>	<b>2076</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>Rosebud Cnty</b>										
Rosebud Cnty S.O.	11030	204	1850	0	0	4	5	30	152	13
<b>Rosebud Cnty Total</b>	<b>11030</b>	<b>204</b>	<b>1850</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>152</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>Sanders Cnty</b>										
Sanders Cnty S.O.	7841	171	2181	1	0	0	17	53	83	17
Thompson Falls P.D.	est 1367	16	1170	0	0	0	1	3	10	2
<b>Sanders Cnty Total</b>	<b>9208</b>	<b>187</b>	<b>2031</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>Sheridan Cnty</b>										
Sheridan Cnty S.O.	2573	32	1244	1	0	0	2	7	19	3
Plentywood P.D.	2101	70	3332	0	0	0	1	4	56	9
<b>Sheridan Cnty Total</b>	<b>4674</b>	<b>102</b>	<b>2182</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>Silver Bow Cnty</b>										
Butte/Silver Bow	35538	1791	5040	3	14	12	29	214	1435	84
<b>Silver Bow Cnty Total</b>	<b>35538</b>	<b>1791</b>	<b>5040</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>214</b>	<b>1435</b>	<b>84</b>
<b>Stillwater Cnty</b>										
Stillwater Cnty S.O.	7013	62	884	0	0	0	3	12	41	6
<b>Stillwater Cnty Total</b>	<b>7013</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>884</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Sweet Grass Cnty</b>										
Sweet Grass Cnty S.O.	est 3248	90	2771	0	0	0	6	17	62	5
<b>Sweet Grass Cnty Total</b>	<b>3248</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>2771</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Teton Cnty</b>										
Teton Cnty S.O.	4697	20	426	0	0	0	1	6	11	2
Choteau P.D.	* 1749									
<b>Teton Cnty Total</b>	<b>** 4697</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>426</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Toole Cnty</b>										
Shelby/Toole Cnty S.O.	5189	117	2255	0	1	0	4	12	87	13
<b>Toole Cnty Total</b>	<b>5189</b>	<b>117</b>	<b>2255</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>Treasure Cnty</b>										
Treasure Cnty S.O.	920	1	109	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
<b>Treasure Cnty Total</b>	<b>920</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>109</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Valley Cnty</b>										
Valley Cnty S.O.	4781	99	2071	0	0	0	3	16	70	10
Glasgow P.D.	3750	188	5013	1	1	0	3	21	145	17
<b>Valley Cnty Total</b>	<b>8531</b>	<b>287</b>	<b>3364</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>215</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>Wheatland Cnty</b>										
Wheatland Cnty S.O.	2356	75	3183	0	0	0	10	32	29	4
<b>Wheatland Cnty Total</b>	<b>2356</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>3183</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Wibaux Cnty</b>										
Wibaux Cnty S.O.	* 1175									
<b>Wibaux Cnty Total</b>	<b>** 1175</b>									
<b>Yellowstone Cnty</b>										
Yellowstone Cnty S.O.	29250	787	2691	2	1	6	24	90	603	61
Billings P.D.	87173	7415	8506	4	36	71	104	1143	5614	443
Laurel P.D.	6262	436	6963	1	0	2	2	46	360	25
<b>Yellowstone Cnty Total</b>	<b>122685</b>	<b>8638</b>	<b>7041</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>1279</b>	<b>6577</b>	<b>529</b>
<b>STATE TOTAL</b>	<b>856000</b>	<b>38768</b>	<b>4529</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>270</b>	<b>202</b>	<b>986</b>	<b>5099</b>	<b>30176</b>	<b>2005</b>
<b>ADJUSTED STATE TOTAL</b>	<b>*** 819653</b>	<b>38768</b>	<b>4730</b>							

Source:

MT Board of Crime Control

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\* Agency did not report or had incomplete data.

\*\* Data is not available or incomplete for one or more agencies.

\*\*\* Adjusted population total and rate based on actual reporting agencies.

est = estimated based on prev. years

# **JUVENILE STATISTICS**

## **Reported to the Juvenile Probation Information System**

### **Introduction**

The Juvenile Probation Information System (JPIS) was started by the Montana Board of Crime Control in the early 1970's. The primary purpose of the JPIS system was to serve as a central collection point for statistical data relating to juveniles in the criminal justice system. Prior to 1993 the MBCC was collecting data from 90% of the Juvenile Probation Offices around the state of Montana. Crime in Montana annual reports summarized and reported this data in as fair a manner as possible.

During 1993 a new case management/data collection program was provided to all Juvenile Probation offices throughout Montana. 1993 was a banner year in that 100% of the Juvenile Probation Offices were reporting statistical data to the MBCC.

A note of caution to all who use this document to report juvenile criminal activity in the state. Since the MBCC now has 100% reporting, comparative analysis with prior years may show major data discrepancies. As an example, in prior years there have been an average of about 4,500 juveniles appearing in Juvenile Probation offices. The figures for 1993 and 1994 show an average of 9,247 youth who have been processed through this same system. This increase is due to an improved reporting base and does not reflect an increase in the overall caseload of the system. Therefore, care needs to be taken when comparing data from one year to another.

Based on this improved reporting base the data analysis that follows will be directly aimed at 1993 and 1994 with limited prior year comparisons. When comparisons are made it will be done mostly on the basis of percentages and not whole numbers.

### **Montana's Juvenile Justice System**

Montana's Juvenile Justice System allows youth to be given consideration not available to adults and, at the same time, denies them some of the constitutional rights adults have. The Youth Court is part of each District Court, but operates as a civil rather than a criminal process. In Youth Court, for example, juveniles are "referred" rather than "arrested" or "charged". They are found to be "delinquent" or "in need of supervision", but are not "convicted" of specific crimes, and, they are "disposed" rather than "sentenced".



A youth may be found to be delinquent only if he/she has committed an act which is criminal for an adult. Burglary, assault, or shoplifting can all lead to a finding of delinquency. A Youth in Need of Supervision (YINS) is a youth who has committed non-criminal acts such as running away, being "ungovernable" or violating curfew. These are only "crimes" because of the youth's age. They are commonly referred to as "status" offenses.

### **General Activity**

The activities of Montana's Youth Courts and Juvenile Probation Offices is typically measured in four components:

1. *The Number of Cases* - the number of individual youth who become involved with the juvenile justice system for some reason, criminal or not. The number of cases processed by Youth Courts in Montana in 1993 reached 8,650, and in 1994 increased to 9,844. About two-thirds of the cases were males (68%).

2. *The Number of Referrals* - the number of youth encounters with the juvenile justice system. An individual can be referred more than once during the year. In 1993, Youth Courts and Probation Offices handled 12,847 referrals, and in 1994 there were 14,505 referrals. In any referral, a youth may be charged with more than one crime. However, most youth are referred because of a single crime.

3. *The number of Offenses* - the number of crimes attributed to youths who have been referred to the system. In 1993, Montana had 15,992 criminal and status offenses reported to probation offices which were attributed to juveniles, and in 1994 this figure rose to 16,813.

4. *The number of detentions* - the number of times youths are confined awaiting court action. Counties have established regional detention programs in response to state and federal requirements to not hold juveniles in adult facilities. Those programs provide both secure and non-secure detention. In some rural areas, juveniles are still detained in adult facilities (held separately from the adult inmates) for up to twenty-four hours. Any juvenile requiring detention beyond the twenty-four hour period are transferred to one of the regional detention centers. During the course of a year a single youth may be confined more than once.

Just over seventy percent, 72.7% in 1993 and 73.6% in 1994, of the youth involved with the probation system were involved a single time during the year. Fifteen percent (15%) had two referrals, and eleven percent (11%) had more than two referrals during 1993. The distribution is fairly static over the past several years. Nevertheless, the overwhelming majority of Montana's youth who have had an encounter with the system, have only one such encounter.

## Referrals by Age and Sex

The rate of referral for each age and sex can be used to identify critical age/sex groups and predict potential changes in Youth Court activities.

The age/sex pattern for delinquent crimes in Montana appears to follow national statistics. Comparing Montana's juvenile referrals to the national juvenile arrest statistics it is found that within each age bracket the percentage of youth committing crimes are comparable.

### PERCENTAGE OF CRIMES COMMITTED BY AGE

Female			
Age Bracket	93 Mt	94 Mt	94 UCR
Less than 10	1.39%	2.81%	1.11%
10-12	5.61%	6.28%	7.67%
13-14	27.83%	23.04%	31.47%
15	22.25%	23.56%	21.65%
16	22.93%	24.32%	20.55%
17	19.99%	20.00%	17.55%
Male			
Age Bracket	93 Mt	94 Mt	93 UCR
Less than 10	3.09%	2.63%	1.87%
10-12	10.78%	11.42%	8.08%
13-14	22.68%	23.77%	23.77%
15	17.74%	19.25%	18.67%
16	22.00%	20.51%	22.66%
17	23.70%	22.42%	24.95%

93 UCR statistics compiled from the 1993 "Crime in the United States"

## Ethnic Origin - Juveniles

Patterns for ethnic origin of juveniles referred to the Youth Court System have remained constant over the years. The following figures represent the total ethnic origin over the past two years.

Ethnic	1993		1994	
	Referrals	Percentage	Referrals	Percentage
Caucasian	10,565	82.2%	11,818	81.5%
Black	78	0.6%	109	0.8%
Indian	1921	14.9%	2186	15.1%
Spanish	182	1.4%	212	1.5%
Other	101	0.8%	180	1.2%

## Source of Referral

Law enforcement authorities are the primary referral source for delinquent youth in Montana. In 1994, police departments and sheriff's offices accounted for 95% of delinquent referrals. Over the years, local law enforcement has traditionally provided the bulk of referrals to the juvenile justice system. The remaining 5% is composed of a wide variety of referral sources including the State Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks, other courts, parents, and school officials.

Law enforcement was responsible for 87.8% of the status referrals. The Montana Highway Patrol and Courts appear to be responsible for a slightly larger percentage of status referrals over delinquent referrals.

## Offense Categories

Currently Offenses are divided into seven major categories.

1. *Crimes against persons* include criminal homicide, forcible rape, sex crimes, robbery, family crimes, and assault. In 1994, the juvenile justice system identified 2,141 crimes against persons.

2. *Property crimes* include burglary, larceny, motor vehicle theft, arson, vandalism, receiving and possessing stolen property, and trespassing. In 1994, Montana youth were charged with 6,774 property crimes.

3. *Offenses against the public order* include weapon offenses, sex offenses, driving under the influence of intoxicants, disorderly conduct, traffic crimes, and court and justice system offenses (escape, contempt, and probation violations). In 1994, 1,032 offenses against public order were processed.

4. *Offenses against public administration* include false reports to law enforcement, obstructing justice, resisting arrest, and others. In 1994, Montana youth were charged 822 times for public administration violations.

5. *Status offenses* include these offenses which strictly pertain to juveniles. They include runaways, curfew violations, ungovernable, and liquor violations. In 1994, there were 3,697 status offenses in Montana.

6. *Drug offenses.* In 1994, 826 offenses were listed for substance abuse in Montana.

As indicated above, most juvenile referrals in Montana are primarily for property crimes (40.3% in 1994) or for status offenses (21.9% in 1994). Referrals against public order accounted for 6.1%, public administration for 4.9%, and crimes against persons for 12.7%. Drug offenses were involved only 4.9% of the time.

### **Referral Offenses**

Nearly 80% of all delinquent referrals in 1994 are made up of only 10 different types of delinquent offenses.

Although many of the most frequently committed offenses are the same for either sex, the ranking is different. The most common reason for a juvenile to appear in youth court is misdemeanor theft. Misdemeanor theft accounted for 21.1% of the male offenses and 18.9% of the female offenses. The most common violent crime is simple assault. It accounts for 5.9% of the male referrals and 4.9% of the female referrals.

The 1994 statistics for drug offenses show that male misdemeanor possession is mid-range for the offense frequency accounting for 244 of the total offenses. Females charged with misdemeanor possession is lower in frequency with a total of 85 offenses.

### **The Number of Detentions and Their Trend**

The number of pre-trial youth detentions which occurred in Montana during the last eight years can be separated into the major types of offenders - status offenders and delinquents. In both cases, the number has dropped dramatically in recent years. The total number of youth detentions in 1993 was 479 compared to 587 in 1994.

Status offenders are legally detained for up to 24 hours (excluding holidays and weekends) in non-secure programs. These holds are normally necessary to allow time for investigation, notification of parents, or awaiting placement or transport to another program or locality. Less than 10% of the detentions involved status offenders. JPIS no longer identifies the specific status offense involved in juvenile detentions. However, in the past, slightly over half of these status offenders were runaways. Two



thirds of the status offenses involved the youth being detained 24 hours or less. Half of the youths detained more than 24 hours were referred on a Friday, Saturday or Sunday.

Twenty-eight percent (28%) of the youths detained for delinquent acts stayed less than 24 hours and 40% of the youths staying more than 24 hours were taken in on a Friday, Saturday, or Sunday.

For those staying more than 24 hours the average length of stay was 6.5 days.

### **Disposition of Juvenile Offenders**

Considering that 80% of the youths appearing before youth court are first offenders, the punishment meted out by the court seems appropriate. Overall, it seems there is a bias toward leniency. Almost half of the delinquent referrals are handled informally. Over 17% of these cases resulted in a warning, and 19.9% resulted in probation. In 5.3% of the cases the youth had to make restitution.



**TABLE 8**  
**1994 SUMMARY OF**  
**JUVENILE OFFENSES**

REASON FOR REFERRAL	NUMBER OF OFFENSES	PERCENT
<b><u>STATUS OFFENSES</u></b>		
Liquor violations	1,233	7.33
Ungovernable, truancy	1,499	8.92
Runaway	965	5.74
<b>Total Status</b>	<b>3,697</b>	<b>21.99</b>
<b><u>CRIMES AGAINST PERSONS</u></b>		
Homicide	9	0.05
Rape	33	0.20
Robbery	29	0.17
Aggravated Assault	107	0.64
Simple Assault	1,118	6.65
Other	845	5.08
<b>Total Offenses Against Persons</b>	<b>2,141</b>	<b>12.73</b>
<b><u>CRIMES AGAINST PROPERTY</u></b>		
Burglary	460	2.74
Larceny	4,330	25.75
Arson and Vandalism	1,339	7.96
Trespassing	645	3.84
<b>Total Property</b>	<b>6,774</b>	<b>40.29</b>
<b><u>OFFENSES AGAINST PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION</u></b>		
Bribery	1	0.01
Obstructing, Resisting	770	4.58
Other	51	.30
<b>Total Public Administration</b>	<b>822</b>	<b>4.89</b>
<b><u>OFFENSES AGAINST THE PUBLIC ORDER</u></b>		
Weapons	86	0.51
Disorderly Conduct	891	5.30
Other Offenses Against Public Order	55	.33
<b>Total Public Order</b>	<b>1,032</b>	<b>6.14</b>
<b><u>DRUG OFFENSES</u></b>		
Drug offenses	495	2.94
Drug Paraphernalia	331	1.97
<b>Total Drug Offenses</b>	<b>826</b>	<b>4.91</b>
<b><u>OTHER OFFENSES</u></b>		
Traffic, City, Conspiracy, etc.	1,521	9.05
<b>Total Other Offenses</b>	<b>1,521</b>	<b>9.05</b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>16,813</b>	<b>100.0</b>

**TABLE 9**  
**1994 SUMMARY OF**  
**JUVENILE OFFENSES**  
**(STATUS VS DELINQUENT OFFENSES)**

<b>REASON FOR REFERRAL</b>	<b>NUMBER OF OFFENSES</b>	<b>PERCENT</b>
STATUS OFFENSES	3,697	22.0%
DELINQUENT OFFENSES	13,116	78.0%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>16,813</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

**TABLE 10**  
**COMPARISON OF JUVENILE OFFENSES**  
**IN MONTANA**  
**(1993 vs 1994)**

<b>OFFENSE</b>	<b>% REPORTED 1993</b>	<b>% REPORTED 1994</b>
Crimes Against Persons	13.64%	12.73%
Crimes Against Property	41.00%	40.29%
Crimes Against Public Order	5.03%	6.14%
Crimes Against Public Admin	4.09%	4.89%
Drug Offenses	2.65%	4.91%
Status Offenses	24.72%	21.99%
Other	8.87%	9.05%



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