

# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY CRIME IN PENNSYLVANIA

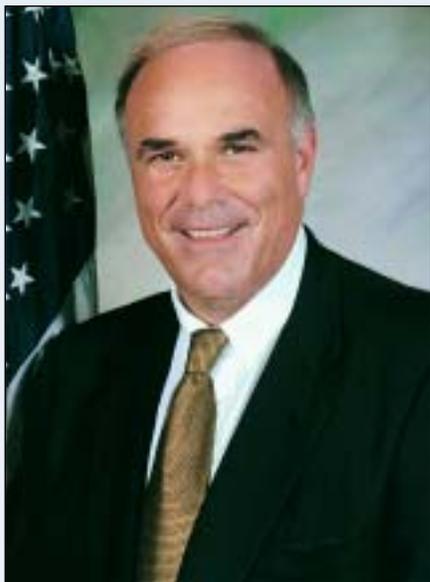
## ANNUAL UNIFORM CRIME REPORT

# 2003



Edward G. Rendell, *Governor*  
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

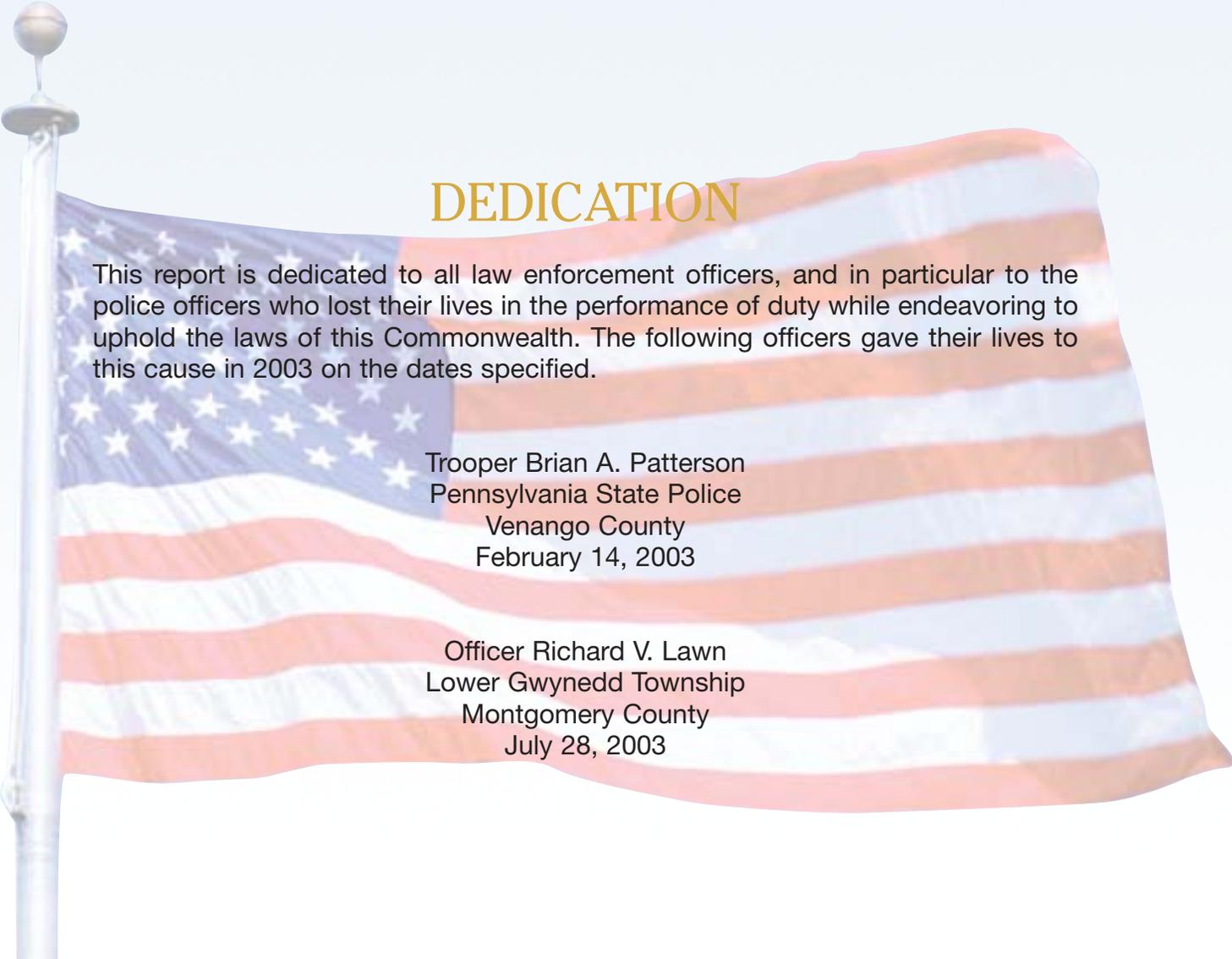
Colonel Jeffrey B. Miller, *Commissioner*  
Pennsylvania State Police



**Edward G. Rendell, Governor  
Commonwealth of  
Pennsylvania**



**Colonel Jeffrey B. Miller,  
Commissioner  
Pennsylvania State Police**

A large American flag is shown waving on a silver flagpole. The flag is the primary background for the 'DEDICATION' section. The stars and stripes are clearly visible, and the flagpole has a decorative finial at the top.

## DEDICATION

This report is dedicated to all law enforcement officers, and in particular to the police officers who lost their lives in the performance of duty while endeavoring to uphold the laws of this Commonwealth. The following officers gave their lives to this cause in 2003 on the dates specified.

Trooper Brian A. Patterson  
Pennsylvania State Police  
Venango County  
February 14, 2003

Officer Richard V. Lawn  
Lower Gwynedd Township  
Montgomery County  
July 28, 2003

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## INTRODUCTION

**T**his Executive Summary of the 2003 Annual Uniform Crime Report (UCR), Crime in Pennsylvania, is intended to provide readers with a high-level overview of the nature of crime in Pennsylvania. This summary highlights statewide statistics and topics of interest. Detailed statistics and analysis are contained in the complete 2003 Annual Uniform Crime Report, Crime in Pennsylvania, which is available for review on-line through the Pennsylvania Uniform Crime Reporting System at <http://ucr.psp.state.pa.us>.

During 2003, the Pennsylvania Uniform Crime Reporting Program received data for 1,046 jurisdictions. Contributions to the Program may range from the submission of data for one month to the submission of data for the entire year. Contributing jurisdictions and the corresponding number of submissions are identified in the complete report.

Pennsylvania law enforcement agencies are not required to submit data to the Uniform Crime Reporting Program. Individual agencies may have submitted data for multiple jurisdictions. Information contained in this summary and the complete report is based on actual data submitted as of the date of compilation. Analysis is based on data that may have been updated after release of preceding years' reports.

## SUMMARY OF CRIME IN PENNSYLVANIA

There were 927,099 actual crimes of all types reported to the UCR Program by Pennsylvania law enforcement agencies. This represents a rate of 7,515.9 crimes per 100,000 population, a decrease of .7 percent from last year's total of 933,958 actual crimes.

\*\*Crime Index offenses are considered to be both most serious and most likely to be reported, and are used nationally as the standard base for comparisons. They include: murder and nonnegligent manslaughter, forcible rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, larceny-theft, motor vehicle theft, and arson. Manslaughter by negligence is a Part I offense, but is not considered as part of the Crime Index.

This year 321,077 Crime Index offenses were reported and confirmed by Pennsylvania police after investigation. Actually, 327,914 Crime Index offenses were reported, but 2.1 percent or 6,837 were unfounded following investigation, ranging from 10.5 percent unfounded for rape by force to 1.0 percent unfounded for robbery firearm. Crime Index offenses decreased by .7 percent from last year's total of 323,482. The Crime Index rate this year was 2,603.0.

In addition, 606,006 Part II offenses were reported with a rate of 4,912.9 per 100,000 population. This is a decrease of .7 percent from the 610,463 Part II offenses reported last year. Part II offenses include: other assaults, forgery and counterfeiting, fraud, embezzlement, stolen property, vandalism, weapons, prostitution, other sex offenses, drug abuse violations, gambling, offenses against the family, driving under the influence, liquor law violation, drunkenness, disorderly conduct, vagrancy, and all other offenses.

This year 47.4 percent of all offenses were cleared; 27.2 percent of the Crime Index offenses and 58.1 percent of all Part II offenses.

<b>Crime Reported to Police</b>						
<b>Offense Category</b>	<b>Offenses</b>	<b>Percent Distribution</b>	<b>Rate per 100,000 Population</b>	<b>Percent Change From 2002</b>	<b>Clearances</b>	<b>Percent Cleared</b>
Part I Offenses	321,093	34.6	2,603.1	-.7	87,200	27.2
Part II Offenses	606,006	65.4	4,912.9	-.7	352,390	58.1
Statewide Total	927,099	100.0	7,515.9	-.7	439,590	47.4
**Crime Index Offenses	321,077	34.6	2,603.0	-.7	87,179	27.2

### Crimes Reported by Population Grouping

Population Group	Estimated Population 2003	Crime Index Offenses	Rate per 100,000 Population	Percent Distribution	Part II Offenses	Rate per 100,000 Population	Percent Distribution
MSA Core Cities	2,650,016	140,267	5,293.1	43.7	209,280	7,897.3	34.5
MSA Suburban	7,742,905	147,363	1,903.2	45.9	318,500	4,113.4	52.6
MSA Total	10,392,921	287,630	2,767.6	89.6	527,780	5,078.3	87.1
Non-MSA	920,963	16,239	1,763.3	5.1	42,994	4,668.4	7.1
Rural/State Police	1,021,207	17,208	1,685.1	5.4	35,232	3,450.0	5.8
Non-MSA and Rural Total	1,942,170	33,447	1,722.1	10.4	78,226	4,027.8	12.9
Statewide Total	12,335,091	321,077	2,603.0	100.0	606,006	4,912.9	100.0

**A** Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) is composed of an entire county or group of counties with at least one core city, with the whole area meeting criteria of certain metropolitan characteristics established by the United States Bureau of the Census. It should be noted that the crime rate of core city jurisdictions in MSAs continued to be much higher than the suburban jurisdictions. The volume of offenses was higher in suburban jurisdictions than the core jurisdictions and was also the highest among all population groups. No attempt is made throughout this report to correct for the influx of seasonal, temporary residents, and tourists during the year. Crime rates are based upon the permanent population.

### Arrests

Arrests are primarily a measure of success in police investigation in relation to the criminal offenses taking place within a community. Arrest practices, policies, and enforcement emphasis will vary from place to place and from time to time within a community. Arrests do, however, provide a useful indicator as to the age, sex, and race of persons involved in criminal acts, especially for crimes that have high solution rates.

A total of 446,770 arrests were made in Pennsylvania, a .8 percent decrease from last year. As indicated in the following table, Part II offense arrests totaled 369,555 or 82.7 percent of all arrests, a .5 percent decrease from last year. Part I offense arrests numbered 77,215 or 17.3 percent of all arrests, decreasing by 2.1 percent.

### Arrests by Offense Category

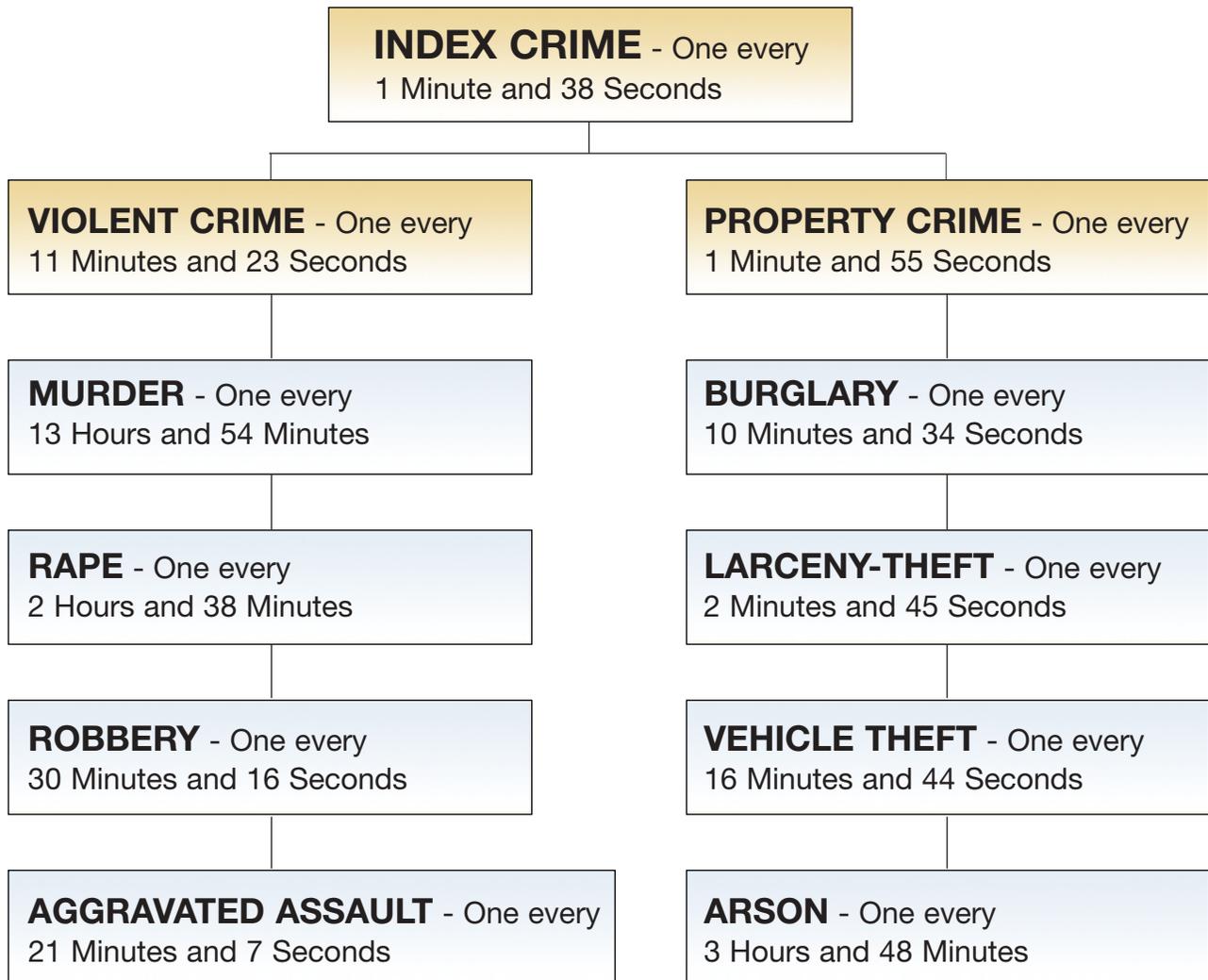
Offense Category	Arrests	Percent Distribution	Rate per 100,000 Population	Percent Change From 2002
Part I Offenses	77,215	17.3	626.0	-2.1
Part II Offenses	369,555	82.7	2,996.0	-.5
Statewide Total	446,770	100.0	3,621.9	-.8
**Crime Index Offenses	77,176	17.3	625.7	-2.1

**A**nalysis revealed that 76.8 percent or 343,259 arrestees were male; 23.2 percent or 103,511 were female; 71.8 percent or 320,754 were White; 27.6 percent or 123,088 were Black; and .7 percent or 2,928 were Other Races; 24.4 percent or 108,795 of the arrestees were under 18 years old; and 55.0 percent or 245,891 of the arrestees were under 25 years old. Arrests of males decreased by 1.3 percent and arrests of Whites decreased by 1.2 percent, while arrests of juveniles increased by 3.1 percent.

Juvenile arrestees were disposed of as follows: 30.2 percent or 32,833 were handled within the police department and released; 36.6 percent or 39,857 were referred to juvenile court or juvenile probation department; .3 percent or 376 were referred to welfare agencies; .3 percent or 307 were referred to other police agencies; and 32.6 percent or 35,422 were referred to criminal or adult court, usually the district magistrate for specified petty crimes such as underage drinking, shoplifting, etc.

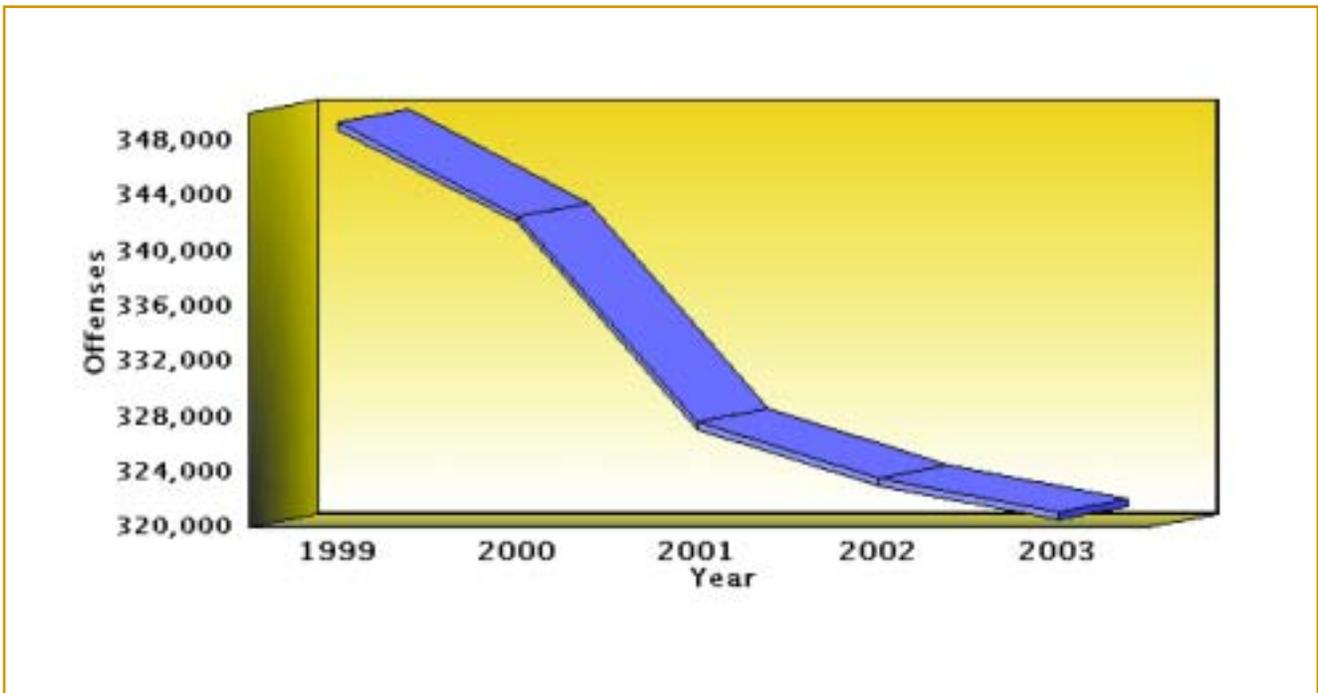
Adults arrested and counted for UCR purposes in Pennsylvania are those who are formally charged with a crime. Crime suspects who are questioned and released are not counted as arrested. Juveniles are counted as arrested when circumstances are such that if they were adults an arrest would be tallied.

## FREQUENCY OF CRIME



**NOTE:** This information is not intended to suggest Crime Index offenses occur at regular intervals, but represents an average rate of occurrence.

## CRIME INDEX OFFENSES



**Definition:** Crime Index offenses are crimes that are considered by law enforcement to be the most serious crimes that readily come to the attention of police and occur with a frequency great enough to be reported as a separate classification. Crime Index offenses are used nationally as a basis for comparison of criminal activity.

Crime Index Offenses	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
Number Of Offenses	349,269	342,504	327,621	323,482	321,077
Percent Change from Previous	.0	-1.9	-4.3	-1.3	-.7
Percent Change from Base	.0	-1.9	-6.2	-7.4	-8.1

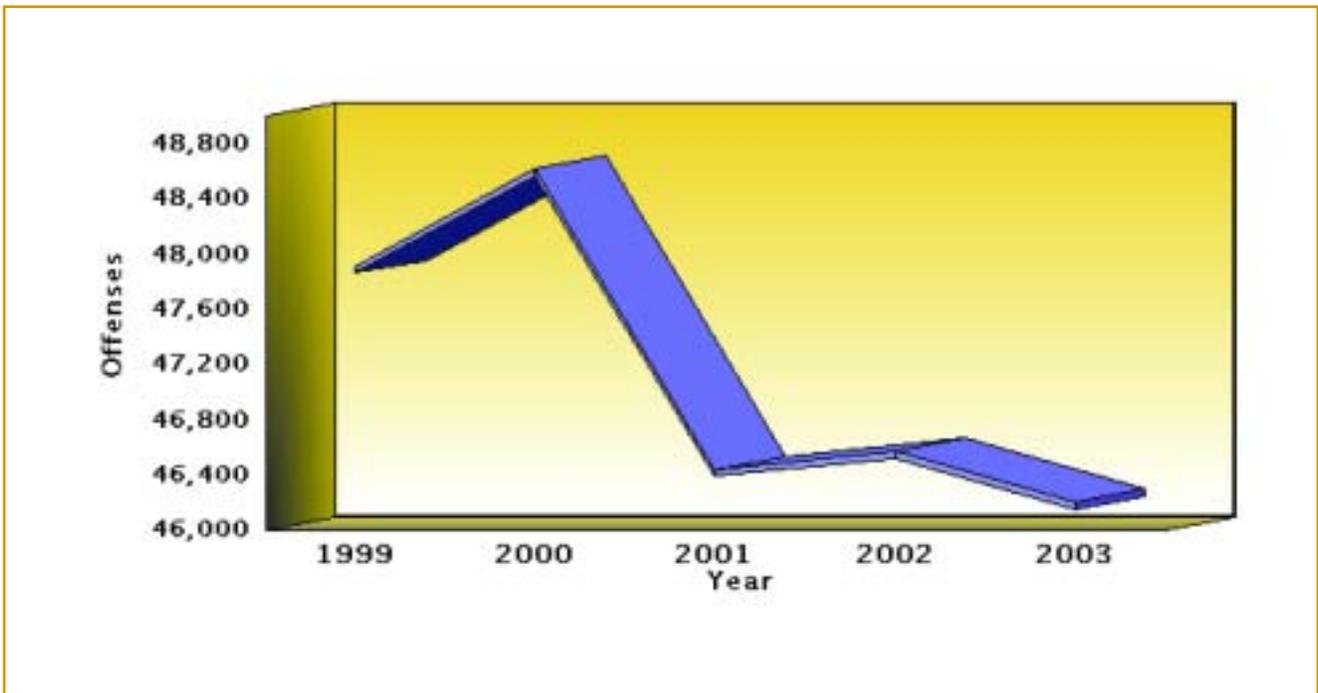
### Summary

There were 321,077 Crime Index offenses reported to Pennsylvania police departments this year, an average of 880 each day, or one every 1 minute and 38 seconds. This is a .7 percent decrease from the 323,482 Crime Index offenses reported last year. The Crime Index rate was 2,603.0.

### Arrests

There were 77,176 arrests this year for Crime Index offenses. This is a 2.1 percent decrease from the 78,847 arrests last year. Persons arrested for Crime Index offenses were predominantly male (75.7 percent), White (63.0 percent), and under 25 years of age (56.3 percent).

## VIOLENT CRIME



**Definition:** The Crime Index categories of murder and nonnegligent manslaughter, forcible rape, robbery, and aggravated assault comprise the general category of Violent Crime.

Violent Crime Offenses	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
Number Of Offenses	47,910	48,612	46,440	46,570	46,200
Percent Change from Previous	.0	1.5	-4.5	.3	-.8
Percent Change from Base	.0	1.5	-3.1	-2.8	-3.6

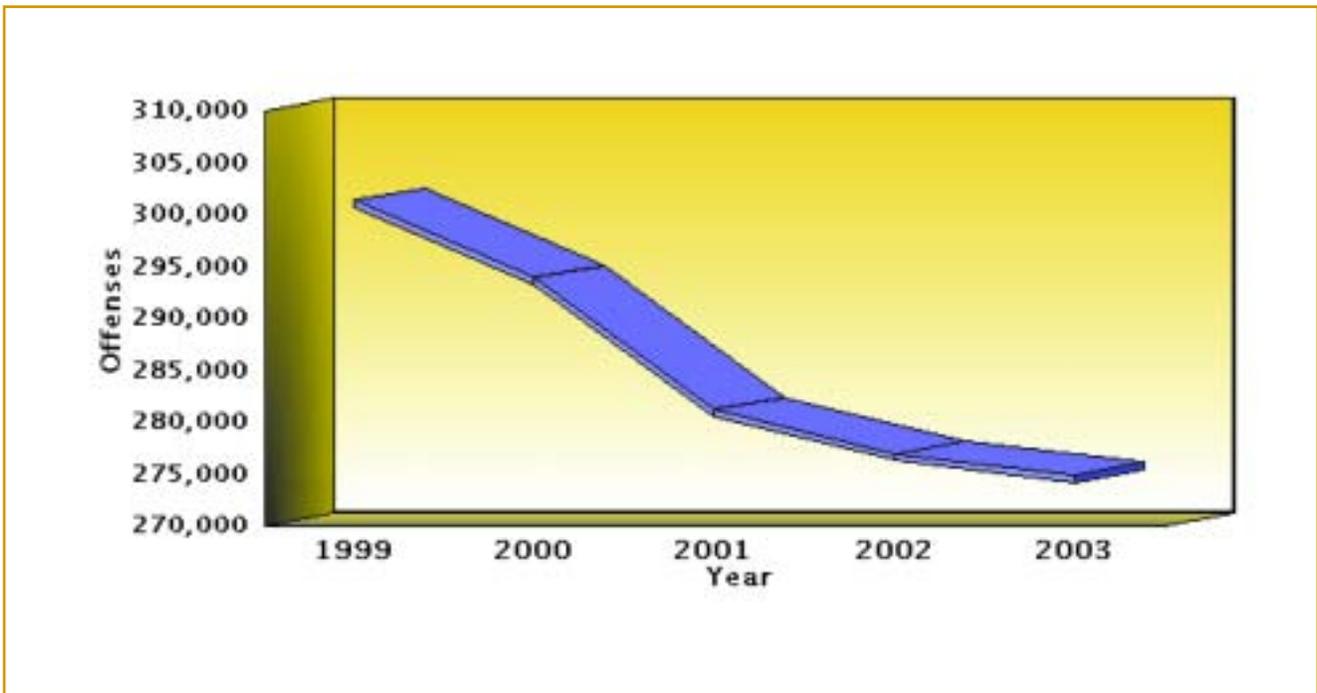
### Summary

There were 46,200 Violent Crime offenses reported to Pennsylvania police departments this year, an average of 127 each day, or one every 11 minutes and 23 seconds. This is a .8 percent decrease from the 46,570 Violent Crime offenses reported last year. The Violent Crime rate was 374.5.

### Arrests

There were 23,204 arrests this year for Violent Crime offenses. This is a 4.9 percent decrease from the 24,392 arrests last year. Persons arrested for Violent Crime offenses were predominantly male (82.5 percent), Black (51.3 percent), and under 25 years of age (51.3 percent).

## PROPERTY CRIME



**Definition:** The Crime Index categories of burglary, larceny-theft, motor vehicle theft, and arson comprise the general category of Property Crime

Property Crime Offenses	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
Number Of Offenses	301,359	293,892	281,181	276,912	274,877
Percent Change from Previous	.0	-2.5	-4.3	-1.5	-.7
Percent Change from Base	.0	-2.5	-6.7	-8.1	-8.8

### Summary

There were 274,877 Property Crime offenses reported to Pennsylvania police departments this year, an average of 753 each day, or one every 1 minute and 55 seconds. This is a .7 percent decrease from the 276,912 Property Crime offenses reported last year. The Property Crime rate was 2,228.4.

### Arrests

There were 53,972 arrests this year for Property Crime offenses. This is a .9 percent decrease from the 54,455 arrests last year. Persons arrested for Property Crime offenses were predominantly male (72.9 percent), White (69.5 percent), and under 25 years of age (58.5 percent).

## ETHNIC INTIMIDATION AND HATE CRIME

**E**thnic intimidation is defined by Title 18 Pa. C.S. Subsection 2710, as any crime against the person or an arson, criminal mischief, and other property destruction (except institutional vandalism), criminal trespass or harassment by communication or address that is committed “. . . with malicious intent toward the actual or perceived race, color, religion, national origin, ancestry, mental or physical disability, sexual orientation, gender or gender identity of another individual or group of individuals. . . .”

### Summary

This year a total of 143 persons were the victims of 139 hate crime incidents. Multiple victims and/or offenses may be reported within a single incident. The following tables depict hate crime data by victim and bias motivation.

<b>Victim Data</b>			
	<b>Victims</b>	<b>Number of Victims</b>	<b>Percent</b>
RACE	Asian/Pacific Islander	5	3.5
	Black	67	46.9
	American Indian/Alaskan Native	2	1.4
	Unknown	4	2.8
	White	65	45.5
Total RACE		143	100.0
ETHNICITY	Hispanic	5	3.5
	Not of Hispanic Origin	130	90.9
	Unknown	8	5.6
Total ETHNICITY		143	100.0
SEX	Female	53	37.1
	Male	85	59.4
	Unknown	5	3.5
Total SEX		143	100.0

<b>Bias Motivation Data</b>			
<b>Code</b>	<b>Bias Motivation</b>	<b>Number of Incidents</b>	<b>Percent</b>
11	Anti-White	14	10.1
12	Anti-Black	67	48.2
13	Anti-American Indian/Alaskan Native	1	.7
14	Anti-Asian/Pacific Islander	3	2.2
15	Anti-Multiple Races, Group	5	3.6
21	Anti-Jewish	18	12.9
24	Anti-Islamic (Muslim)	3	2.2
32	Anti-Hispanic	3	2.2
41	Anti-Male Homosexual (Gay)	15	10.8
42	Anti-Female Homosexual (Lesbian)	4	2.9
43	Anti-Homosexual (Gay and Lesbian)	5	3.6
99	Unknown	1	.7
TOTAL		139	100.0

## DEATHS OF AND ASSAULTS ON PENNSYLVANIA LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS

Assaults on Officers	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
Number Of Offenses	3,006	3,252	2,926	2,604	2,555
Percent Change from Previous	.0	8.2	-10.0	-11.0	-1.9
Percent Change from Base	.0	8.2	-2.7	-13.4	-15.0

### Summary

**T**his year 2 law enforcement officers were killed while performing their official duties. Over the 5-year period from 1999 to 2003, a total of 12 officers were killed while performing their official duties.

There were 2,555 assaults on police officers this year, representing a 1.9 percent decrease from the 2,604 assaults reported last year. The assault rate per 100 officers decreased to 10.2 from 10.9 last year.

Pittsburgh experienced the highest assault rate (30.9). Statewide, 4 of the population groups had higher rates than last year.



The Pennsylvania Uniform Crime Reporting System (PAUCRS)  
is administered by the Pennsylvania State Police,  
Bureau of Research and Development

*AN INTERNATIONALLY ACCREDITED LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY*

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