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CRIME IN CONNECTICUT

AND NEW ENGLAND



State of Connecticut
Office of Policy and Management
Justice Planning Division
Statistical Analysis Center



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

OFFICE OF POLICY AND MANAGEMENT
JUSTICE PLANNING DIVISION

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This is the first in a series of quarterly reports on crime and criminal justice system issues in Connecticut. This initial report deals with crime rates based on Uniform Crime Report data and is intended to present only a brief thumbnail sketch of crime in Connecticut compared to other New England states.

The intent of this report series is to provide very general information to members of the criminal justice system and the community rather than in-depth analysis of complex issues. Brief reports such as this cannot pretend to provide instant answers to difficult crime and criminal justice system problems faced in Connecticut. They can however serve to heighten awareness on specific issues and perhaps elicit questions that will lead to further analysis and eventual resolution of issues requiring attention.

Responses or suggestions from readers with regard to possible improvements in the format of this series, or topics of particular importance that could be covered in future reports would be welcome.

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CRIME RATES IN CONNECTICUT AND NEW ENGLAND - 1983

This issue compares crime rates for Connecticut with the five other New England states by the FBI's seven Part I crimes and by the classifications of property, violent and total crimes. We have analyzed and summarized the data that has been published by the FBI.* The statistics are presented in the form of rates of reported crimes (number of crimes reported to the FBI per 100,000 population) which allows for a general comparison among states of different populations. We have not accounted for other factors that can impact a comprehensive state—by—state comparison on crime. Some of these factors include: population density, economic conditions, cultural conditions and crime reporting practices.

CONNECTICUT, NEW ENGLAND AND UNITED STATES

Trends in the total crime rate for our state, region and nation have all been declining since 1980. This has been due to a significant decrease in the property crime rate while the violent crime rate has remained relatively constant during the same period. Over the past three years, the property crime rate in Connecticut has decreased by 16.2 percent. Although the violent crime rate for Connecticut has declined only slightly, it has remained below the rates for New England and the United States. This leaves a relatively improved outlook for our state with the 1983 rates for both property and violent crime below the national rates.

NEW ENGLAND STATES

For the 1983 statistics, Connecticut ranked second in population and third in total crime rate for the six New England states. Our state had the second highest property crime rate and the second highest violent crime rate for the region. The following table lists Connecticut's ranking in New England for the seven index crimes.

OFFENSE	RANK
Homicide	1st
Forcible Rape	3rd
Robbery	2nd
Aggravated Assault	3rd
Burglary	2nd
Larceny	1st
Motor Vehicle Theft	3rd

^{*} Uniform Crime Reports, Crime in the United States (1978 - 1983).

































