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Index Crime Rates For Wisconsin 1985 An Inter-State Comparison

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Introduction

This publication compares Wisconsin crime rates with those of other states. The crime rate is the number of reported crimes for every 100,000 population. The crime categories examined are seven of the eight crimes which make up the Crime Index, as defined by the national Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) program. This report shows state rankings of Index Crime rates. The rankings also show the rates for the United States and the Midwest.

Most of the state data for this publication were obtained from **Crime in the United States**, published by the Federal Bureau of Investigation. State data were available for only seven of the eight index crimes. Data on arson, the eighth index crime, were not uniformly available for all states.

The Crime Index

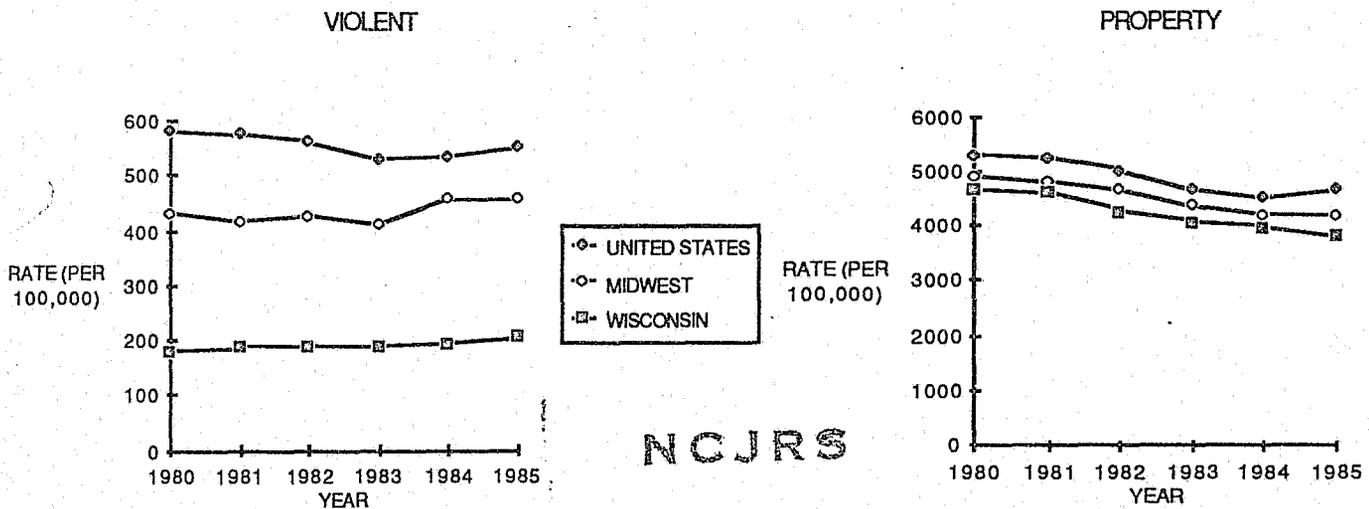
The Crime Index is made up of eight crime categories which are intended to reflect general crime trends. It consists of two sub-indices, the Violent Crime Index, consisting of the crimes of murder, forcible rape, robbery, and aggravated assault, and the Property Crime Index, consisting of the crimes of burglary, theft, motor vehicle theft, and arson. Sufficient data were not available to estimate state totals for arson, so it is not included in the Property Crime Index in this publication.

Rankings for the total Crime Index are not provided in this publication because the total Index is heavily dominated by property crime, which makes up 95 percent of the Index. Wisconsin ranked thirty-third in total index crimes in 1985, very close to its thirtieth rank for reported property crimes.

Crime Trend Comparisons

Regional crime rate trends for the United States, the Midwest, and the State of Wisconsin for the past six years for both Violent and the Property Crime Index are shown in the charts below. The Midwest includes the states of Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio, Wisconsin, Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, North Dakota, and South Dakota. Violent crime rates for Wisconsin were substantially lower than the rates for the Midwest and the Nation. Over the past six years the rates for both Wisconsin and the Midwest have increased slightly, while the rates for the United States have decreased slightly. Property Index Crime rates for all three regions have been steadily declining.

INDEX CRIME RATES BY YEAR AND REGION



NCJRS

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Wisconsin Council on Criminal Justice
Theodore Meekma, Executive Director

Tommy G. Thompson
Governor

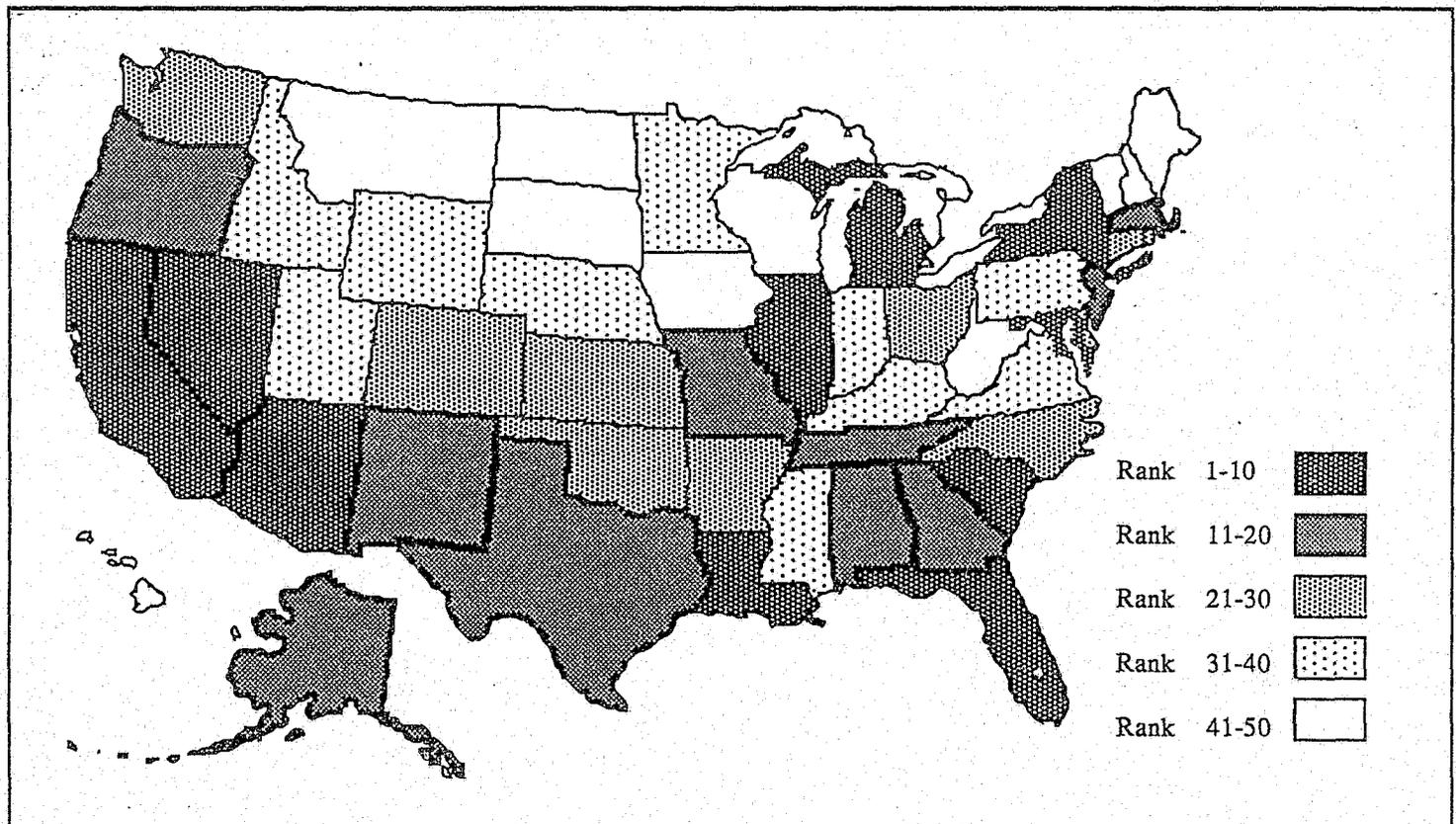
VIOLENT CRIMES: MURDER, FORCIBLE RAPE, ROBBERY, AGGRAVATED ASSAULT

In 1985 Wisconsin ranked forty-fourth in reported violent crimes with a crime rate of 206.9 offenses per 100,000 population. The state rankings for violent crimes are shown in the table at right.

Wisconsin's rate is considerably lower than the United States rate of 556.0 and the Midwest rate of 459.0. Its rate is less than one-fourth that of the highest ranked state.

The map below shows the distribution of state rankings. States are divided into five categories, according to their violent crime rate ranking.

Rank	State	Rate (per 100,000)	Rank	State	Rate (per 100,000)
1.	Florida	941.1	25.	North Carolina	420.9
2.	New York	929.9	26.	Connecticut	402.0
3.	Maryland	834.6	27.	Ohio	381.6
4.	California	765.3	28.	Kansas	355.8
5.	Michigan	734.1	29.	Arkansas	347.6
6.	New Mexico	703.9	30.	Rhode Island	346.6
7.	Illinois	703.2	31.	Pennsylvania	331.1
8.	Nevada	667.1	32.	Indiana	309.4
9.	Louisiana	649.2	33.	Kentucky	305.5
10.	South Carolina	631.0	34.	Virginia	294.7
11.	Arizona	602.5	35.	Mississippi	270.9
12.	Alaska	581.8	36.	Utah	267.4
-	<i>United States</i>	556.0	37.	Wyoming	256.8
13.	Oregon	551.1	38.	Minnesota	256.4
14.	Texas	550.0	39.	Nebraska	237.9
15.	New Jersey	544.5	40.	Idaho	234.8
16.	Massachusetts	538.2	41.	Hawaii	219.4
17.	Georgia	507.2	42.	Iowa	211.7
18.	Missouri	503.5	43.	Montana	208.5
19.	Alabama	475.5	44.	Wisconsin	206.9
20.	Tennessee	474.4	45.	Maine	167.5
21.	Colorado	471.0	46.	West Virginia	166.0
-	<i>Midwest</i>	459.0	47.	Vermont	147.7
22.	Delaware	433.3	48.	New Hampshire	140.8
23.	Washington	425.4	49.	South Dakota	136.6
24.	Oklahoma	422.0	50.	North Dakota	47.0



PROPERTY CRIME: BURGLARY, LARCENY-THEFT, MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT, ARSON

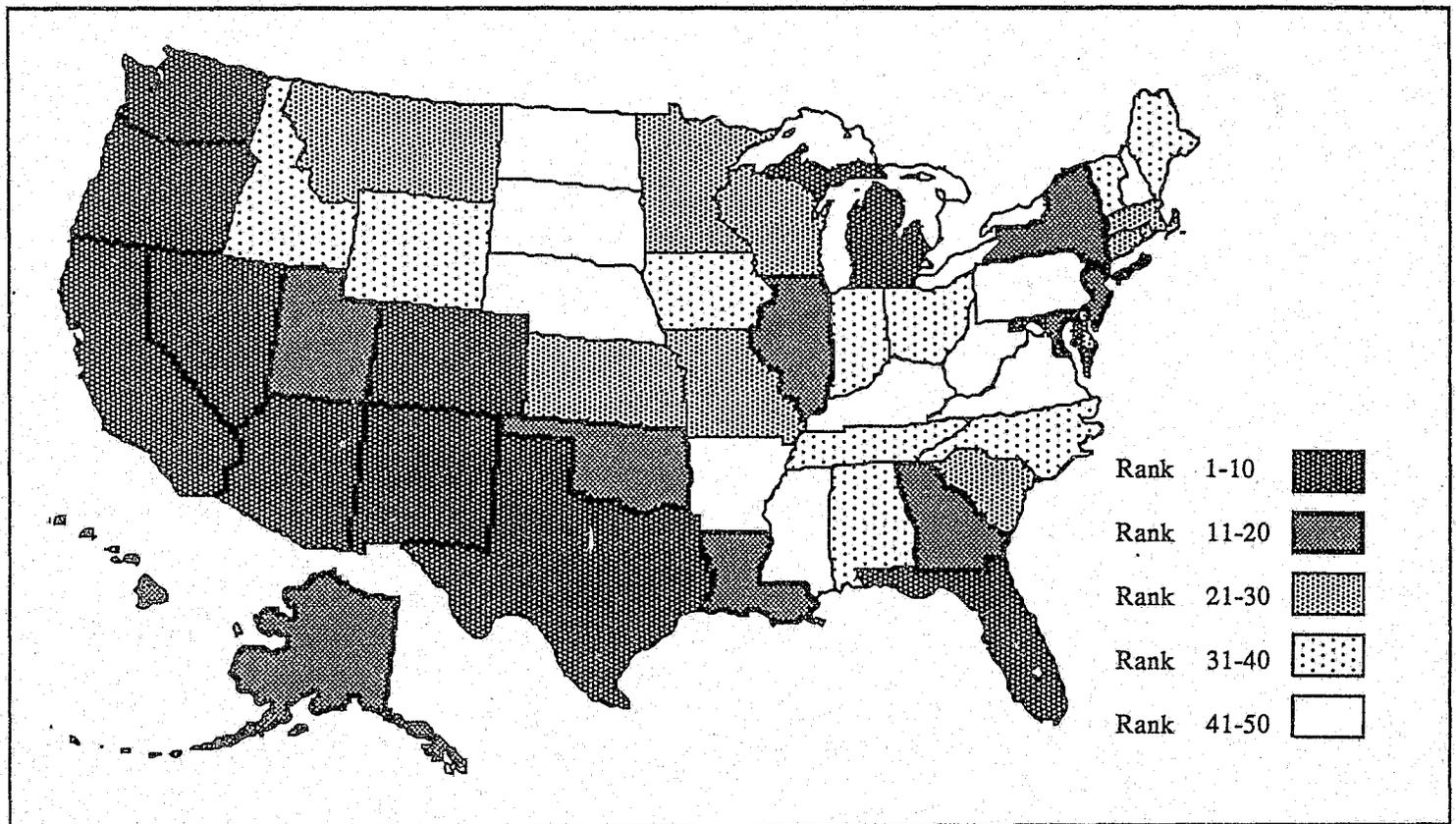
The State of Wisconsin ranked thirtieth in reported property crimes with a rate of 3809.8 offenses per 100,000 population. The state rankings are shown in the table at right.

Wisconsin's rate is slightly lower than the Midwest rate of 4198.3 and substantially lower than the United States rate of 4650.5.

The map below shows the distribution of state rankings. The states are divided into five categories, according to their property crime rate ranking.

Since 1979, a fourth crime, arson, has been part of the property crime index. However, sufficient data are not available to estimate state totals for arson. Therefore, arson is not included in the property crime index shown here.

Rank	State	Rate (per 100,000)	Rank	State	Rate (per 100,000)
1.	Florida	6633.1	26.	South Carolina	4209.5
2.	Arizona	6513.7	-	Midwest	4198.3
3.	Colorado	6448.0	27.	Kansas	4019.3
4.	Oregon	6178.1	28.	Minnesota	3877.8
5.	Washington	6103.4	29.	Missouri	3862.5
6.	Texas	6018.7	30.	Wisconsin	3809.8
7.	Nevada	5907.5	31.	Ohio	3805.7
8.	New Mexico	5782.3	32.	Wyoming	3758.3
9.	California	5752.7	33.	Vermont	3740.4
10.	Michigan	5632.2	34.	Iowa	3731.2
11.	Alaska	5295.2	35.	North Carolina	3700.5
12.	Utah	5050.0	36.	Tennessee	3692.3
13.	Oklahoma	5003.0	37.	Idaho	3673.2
14.	Hawaii	4981.1	38.	Indiana	3604.7
15.	Louisiana	4869.3	39.	Maine	3504.2
16.	New York	4658.6	40.	Alabama	3484.6
-	United States	4650.5	41.	Virginia	3484.4
17.	Georgia	4602.9	42.	Nebraska	3456.7
18.	Illinois	4596.5	43.	Arkansas	3237.5
19.	New Jersey	4549.9	44.	New Hampshire	3111.1
20.	Maryland	4538.2	45.	Mississippi	2994.8
21.	Delaware	4528.0	46.	Pennsylvania	2706.4
22.	Rhode Island	4376.9	47.	Kentucky	2641.7
23.	Montana	4340.8	48.	North Dakota	2632.4
24.	Connecticut	4302.8	49.	South Dakota	2504.2
25.	Massachusetts	4219.6	50.	West Virginia	2086.8



Individual Violent Crimes

Murder

Wisconsin ranked forty-third in murder and non-negligent manslaughter in 1985 with a rate of 2.8 murders per 100,000 population. The table on the right shows the state rankings for murder and nonnegligent manslaughter. The UCR definition of murder is the willful killing of one human being by another.

Wisconsin's rate is considerably lower than the United States rate of 7.9 and the Midwest rate of 6.2. It is less than one-fourth the rate of Texas, the highest ranked state.

Forcible Rape

In 1985 Wisconsin ranked forty-seventh in forcible rapes with a rate of 18.3 per 100,000 population. The table on the far right shows the state rankings for the crime of forcible rape. The UCR definition of rape is the carnal knowledge of a female forcibly and against her will.

Wisconsin's rate is one-half the United States rate of 36.6 and is also well below the Midwest rate of 33.6. It is less than one-fourth the rate of Alaska, the highest ranked state.

Murder

Rank	State	Rate (per 100,000)
1.	Texas	13.0
2.	Florida	11.4
3.	Michigan	11.2
4.	Louisiana	10.9
5.	New Mexico	10.9
6.	Mississippi	10.6
7.	California	10.5
8.	Georgia	10.4
9.	Nevada	10.3
10.	Alabama	9.8
11.	Alaska	9.8
12.	New York	9.5
13.	South Carolina	9.1
14.	Tennessee	9.0
15.	North Carolina	8.3
16.	Missouri	8.1
17.	Arizona	8.0
18.	Illinois	8.0
19.	Arkansas	7.9
20.	Maryland	7.9
-	United States	7.9
21.	Oklahoma	7.7
22.	Virginia	7.1
23.	Kentucky	6.9
-	Midwest	6.2
24.	Colorado	5.8
25.	Indiana	5.8
26.	Montana	5.8
27.	New Jersey	5.4
28.	Ohio	5.2
29.	Washington	5.2
30.	Kansas	4.9
31.	Delaware	4.8
32.	Oregon	4.7
33.	Pennsylvania	4.6
34.	Wyoming	4.3
35.	Hawaii	4.1
36.	Connecticut	3.8
37.	West Virginia	3.8
38.	Rhode Island	3.6
39.	Massachusetts	3.5
40.	Vermont	3.4
41.	Utah	3.0
42.	Nebraska	2.9
43.	Wisconsin	2.8
44.	Maine	2.4
45.	Idaho	2.2
46.	Minnesota	2.1
47.	New Hampshire	2.1
48.	Iowa	1.9
49.	South Dakota	1.8
50.	North Dakota	1.0

Forcible Rape

Rank	State	Rate (per 100,000)
1.	Alaska	77.2
2.	Michigan	67.6
3.	Nevada	60.3
4.	Washington	54.9
5.	Florida	52.8
6.	Texas	51.1
7.	Oregon	50.7
8.	New Mexico	49.8
9.	Delaware	47.6
10.	Arizona	45.7
11.	California	43.3
12.	Georgia	43.3
13.	Tennessee	42.6
14.	South Carolina	41.4
15.	Colorado	40.9
16.	Louisiana	39.8
17.	Maryland	38.7
18.	Oklahoma	37.9
19.	Ohio	36.9
-	United States	36.6
-	Midwest	33.6
20.	New Jersey	32.1
21.	New York	32.1
22.	Massachusetts	29.8
23.	Minnesota	29.6
24.	Hawaii	29.4
25.	Kansas	29.3
26.	Missouri	29.2
27.	Arkansas	29.1
28.	Illinois	27.7
29.	Virginia	27.2
30.	Alabama	26.8
31.	Mississippi	26.7
32.	Rhode Island	26.1
33.	Pennsylvania	24.3
34.	Connecticut	24.0
35.	Indiana	24.0
36.	North Carolina	23.8
37.	South Dakota	23.7
38.	Nebraska	23.4
39.	Utah	23.2
40.	Wyoming	22.4
41.	Kentucky	21.6
42.	Vermont	19.3
43.	Montana	19.2
44.	Idaho	19.1
45.	New Hampshire	19.1
46.	West Virginia	18.5
47.	Wisconsin	18.3
48.	Maine	14.3
49.	Iowa	12.6
50.	North Dakota	7.3

Robbery

Wisconsin ranked thirty-sixth in reported robbery offenses in 1985 with a rate of 70.2 per 100,000 population. The table at right shows the state rankings for robbery. The UCR program defines robbery as taking or attempting to take anything of value from the care, custody, or control of a person or persons by force or threat of force or violence.

Wisconsin's rate is well below the United States rate of 208.5 and the Midwest rate of 164.7. It was less than one-seventh the rate of New York, the highest ranked state.

Aggravated Assault

In 1985 Wisconsin ranked forty-fourth in reported aggravated assaults with a rate of 115.6 per 100,000 population. The table on the far right shows the state rankings for aggravated assault. According to the UCR program definition, aggravated assault is the unlawful attack by one person upon another for the purpose of inflicting severe or aggravated bodily injury.

Wisconsin's rate was well below the United States rate of 302.9 and the Midwest rate of 254.5. It was less than one-fourth the rate of Florida, the highest ranked state.

Robbery

Rank	State	Rate (per 100,000)
1.	New York	504.4
2.	California	327.7
3.	Florida	312.4
4.	Maryland	302.2
5.	Michigan	292.4
6.	Illinois	287.1
7.	Nevada	274.9
8.	New Jersey	255.0
-	<i>United States</i>	208.5
9.	Texas	193.5
10.	Louisiana	190.3
11.	Connecticut	190.0
12.	Massachusetts	188.5
13.	Oregon	185.6
14.	Tennessee	180.9
-	<i>Midwest</i>	164.7
15.	Georgia	164.2
16.	Missouri	147.6
17.	Pennsylvania	147.0
18.	Arizona	146.5
19.	New Mexico	138.1
20.	Ohio	133.1
21.	Washington	132.0
22.	Delaware	124.3
23.	Colorado	124.2
24.	Rhode Island	115.9
25.	Oklahoma	106.8
26.	Alabama	105.4
27.	Virginia	100.2
28.	Hawaii	99.4
29.	South Carolina	93.9
30.	Alaska	92.9
31.	Indiana	92.1
32.	Minnesota	85.8
33.	Kansas	78.7
34.	North Carolina	78.2
35.	Kentucky	75.7
36.	Wisconsin	70.2
37.	Arkansas	68.5
38.	Mississippi	62.6
39.	Utah	55.2
40.	Nebraska	48.5
41.	Iowa	41.2
42.	West Virginia	37.6
43.	Idaho	26.8
44.	New Hampshire	26.7
45.	Maine	24.4
46.	Montana	20.9
47.	Vermont	20.9
48.	Wyoming	20.0
49.	South Dakota	17.1
50.	North Dakota	6.4

Aggravated Assault

Rank	State	Rate (per 100,000)
1.	Florida	564.5
2.	New Mexico	505.1
3.	South Carolina	486.7
4.	Maryland	485.8
5.	Louisiana	453.3
6.	Arizona	402.3
7.	Alaska	401.9
8.	New York	383.9
9.	California	383.8
10.	Illinois	380.3
11.	Michigan	362.9
12.	Nevada	321.7
13.	Missouri	318.5
14.	Massachusetts	316.5
15.	Alabama	315.5
16.	North Carolina	310.6
17.	Oregon	310.1
-	<i>United States</i>	302.9
18.	Colorado	300.1
19.	Texas	292.3
20.	Georgia	289.4
21.	Oklahoma	269.6
22.	Delaware	256.6
-	<i>Midwest</i>	254.5
23.	New Jersey	252.0
24.	Kansas	242.7
25.	Arkansas	242.0
26.	Tennessee	242.0
27.	Washington	233.3
28.	Wyoming	210.0
29.	Ohio	206.4
30.	Kentucky	201.3
31.	Rhode Island	200.9
32.	Indiana	187.5
33.	Idaho	186.8
34.	Utah	186.0
35.	Connecticut	184.1
36.	Mississippi	171.1
37.	Nebraska	163.1
38.	Montana	162.5
39.	Virginia	160.1
40.	Iowa	156.1
41.	Pennsylvania	155.0
42.	Minnesota	138.9
43.	Maine	126.4
44.	Wisconsin	115.6
45.	West Virginia	106.1
46.	Vermont	104.1
47.	South Dakota	93.9
48.	New Hampshire	92.9
49.	Hawaii	86.5
50.	North Dakota	32.3

Individual Property Crimes

Burglary

In 1985 Wisconsin ranked forty-first in reported burglaries, with a rate of 795.5 per 100,000 population. The state rankings are shown in the table at right. The UCR program defines burglary as the unlawful entry of a structure to commit a felony or a theft.

Wisconsin's rate was considerably below both the Midwest rate of 1066.8 and the United States rate of 1287.3. Wisconsin's rate was less than one-half that of Florida, the highest ranking state.

Theft

Wisconsin ranked twenty-fourth in burglary offenses in 1985, with a rate of 2792.6 per 100,000 population. The state rankings for theft are shown in the table on the far right. The UCR program defines theft as the unlawful taking, carrying, leading, or riding away of property from the possession or constructive possession of another.

Wisconsin's rate was below the United States rate of 2901.2, but slightly above the Midwest rate of 2704.1.

Theft is the only offense for which Wisconsin's 1985 crime rate was higher than the Midwest rate. Wisconsin's offense rates were consistently below the United States rate. Because the volume of reported thefts is high, relative to the other index offenses, theft dominates the property crime index and, in turn, the total index. Wisconsin's high rate of reported thefts accounts for its relatively high ranking in the rate of reported property crimes.

Burglary

Rank	State	Rate (per 100,000)
1.	Florida	2009.5
2.	Oregon	1886.5
3.	Arizona	1869.6
4.	Nevada	1849.6
5.	Washington	1811.3
6.	Texas	1770.5
7.	New Mexico	1753.9
8.	Colorado	1748.1
9.	California	1701.1
10.	Oklahoma	1612.1
11.	Michigan	1527.2
12.	Georgia	1356.6
13.	Louisiana	1323.9
-	<i>United States</i>	1287.3
14.	South Carolina	1253.5
15.	New York	1235.1
16.	Rhode Island	1232.3
17.	Maryland	1206.6
18.	Alaska	1191.7
19.	Tennessee	1166.8
20.	Hawaii	1154.1
21.	North Carolina	1150.8
22.	Illinois	1135.8
23.	Connecticut	1135.5
24.	Massachusetts	1120.4
25.	Missouri	1098.7
26.	Delaware	1097.4
-	<i>Midwest</i>	1066.8
27.	New Jersey	1056.9
28.	Kansas	1050.6
29.	Alabama	1034.9
30.	Mississippi	1021.9
31.	Minnesota	1017.5
32.	Ohio	976.5
33.	Vermont	973.8
34.	Utah	942.9
35.	Arkansas	941.4
36.	Indiana	914.6
37.	Iowa	913.6
38.	Maine	911.3
39.	Idaho	887.3
40.	Montana	827.5
41.	Wisconsin	795.5
42.	Virginia	785.1
43.	Kentucky	771.3
44.	New Hampshire	762.3
45.	Pennsylvania	737.5
46.	Nebraska	730.4
47.	Wyoming	690.6
48.	West Virginia	618.4
49.	South Dakota	546.2
50.	North Dakota	427.0

Theft

Rank	State	Rate (per 100,000)
1.	Colorado	4267.0
2.	Arizona	4258.6
3.	Florida	4098.1
4.	Washington	4003.2
5.	Oregon	3934.7
6.	Utah	3870.4
7.	New Mexico	3682.6
8.	Texas	3640.3
9.	Nevada	3561.5
10.	Hawaii	3544.3
11.	Alaska	3497.1
12.	California	3379.4
13.	Michigan	3277.1
14.	Montana	3238.0
15.	Louisiana	3163.1
16.	Delaware	3157.2
-	<i>United States</i>	2901.2
17.	Wyoming	2894.3
18.	Georgia	2877.3
19.	Maryland	2870.6
20.	Illinois	2869.8
21.	New Jersey	2828.7
22.	New York	2824.5
23.	Oklahoma	2824.4
24.	Wisconsin	2792.6
25.	Kansas	2752.4
26.	Connecticut	2726.0
-	<i>Midwest</i>	2704.1
27.	South Carolina	2696.7
28.	Iowa	2664.2
29.	Idaho	2604.0
30.	Vermont	2602.6
31.	Minnesota	2598.5
32.	Nebraska	2570.2
33.	Virginia	2502.6
34.	Rhode Island	2491.6
35.	Ohio	2476.4
36.	Maine	2427.8
37.	Missouri	2399.1
38.	Indiana	2361.5
39.	North Carolina	2358.6
40.	Massachusetts	2234.4
41.	Alabama	2191.2
42.	New Hampshire	2150.2
43.	Arkansas	2117.7
44.	North Dakota	2087.2
45.	Tennessee	2040.3
46.	South Dakota	1856.2
47.	Mississippi	1817.0
48.	Kentucky	1677.2
49.	Pennsylvania	1640.7
50.	West Virginia	1301.2

Motor Vehicle Theft

Motor Vehicle Theft

Wisconsin ranked thirty-fourth in reported motor vehicle thefts in 1985, with a rate of 221.6 per 100,000 population. The state rankings for motor vehicle theft are shown in the table at left. Motor vehicle theft is defined as the theft or attempted theft of a motor vehicle.

Wisconsin's rate was considerably below the Midwest rate of 427.4 and less than one-half of the United States rate of 462.0. The Wisconsin rate was less than one-third the rate of Massachusetts, the highest ranked state in the rate of motor vehicle thefts.

Arson

Data on arson, the fourth property crime in the Crime Index, were not sufficient to estimate state totals. Therefore, it was not possible to rank states on reported arson offenses.

Rank	State	Rate (per 100,000)
1.	Massachusetts	864.8
2.	Michigan	827.8
3.	California	672.2
4.	New Jersey	664.3
5.	Rhode Island	652.9
6.	Texas	608.0
7.	Alaska	606.3
8.	New York	599.1
9.	Illinois	590.9
10.	Oklahoma	566.5
11.	Florida	525.5
12.	Nevada	496.4
13.	Tennessee	485.2
-	<i>United States</i>	462.0
14.	Maryland	461.0
15.	Connecticut	441.3
16.	Colorado	432.9
-	<i>Midwest</i>	427.4
17.	Arizona	385.5
18.	Louisiana	382.3
19.	Georgia	369.0
20.	Missouri	364.8
21.	Oregon	357.6
22.	Ohio	352.7
23.	New Mexico	345.7
24.	Indiana	328.5
25.	Pennsylvania	328.2
26.	Washington	288.9
27.	Hawaii	282.7
28.	Montana	275.3
29.	Delaware	273.3
30.	Minnesota	261.9
31.	South Carolina	259.2
32.	Alabama	258.5
33.	Utah	236.7
34.	Wisconsin	221.6
35.	Kansas	216.4
36.	New Hampshire	198.6
37.	Virginia	196.7
38.	Kentucky	193.2
39.	North Carolina	191.0
40.	Idaho	182.0
41.	Arkansas	178.4
42.	Wyoming	173.5
43.	West Virginia	167.3
44.	Maine	165.1
45.	Vermont	163.9
46.	Mississippi	156.0
47.	Nebraska	156.0
48.	Iowa	153.4
49.	North Dakota	118.2
50.	South Dakota	101.8

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