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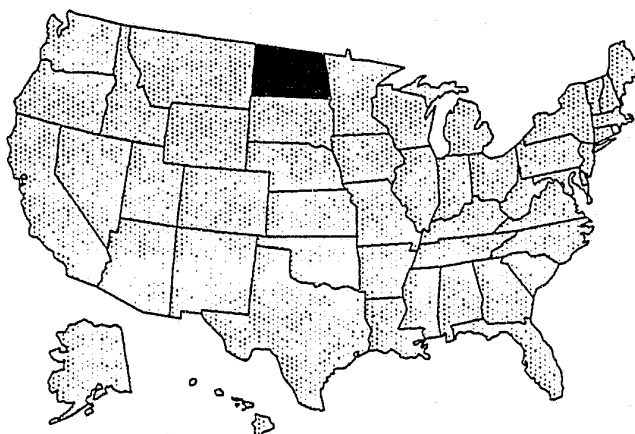
STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA

OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

Crime in North Dakota, 1991

Volume II

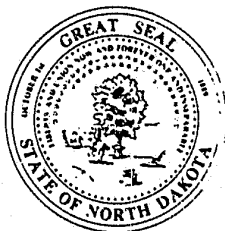
Analysis of Clearances and Arrests



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Crime in North Dakota: 1991

Volume II Analysis of Clearances and Arrests

A Summary of Uniform Crime Report Data

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1993**

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INTRODUCTION

The North Dakota Uniform Crime Report (UCR) Program was established in response to the need for timely, accurate, and reliable reporting of the number and nature of crimes. The data obtained through the UCR Program serve as a set of uniformly defined criminal statistics for inter-agency, interstate, or national comparisons.

Crime in North Dakota, 1991 is the result of a comprehensive analysis of the Uniform Crime Reports. It is intended to serve as a summary of statistics on crime in the counties and state of North Dakota and to provide legislators, government administrators (state, county, and city), law enforcement officials, the judiciary, and the general public with the most complete, reliable information available on reported criminal activity in North Dakota.

North Dakota law enforcement agencies may report UCR data in two ways.

Summary Reporting is a tally system of reporting the number of crime index offenses and arrests for each month. The summary system has been in place for many years.

Incident Based Reporting uses a standard incident form to collect data on each incident reported to the agency. This system collects more detailed information than is collected using summary reporting. Some examples of data collected are: type of incident; where and when the incident took place; victim characteristics; suspect/arrestee characteristics; and property involved in the incident.

In order to continue the statistical time series begun with summary reporting, computer programs were written to extract summary data from the incident data reported. Crime in North Dakota, 1991 is a report on summary data. In the future, reports utilizing the more-detailed incident data will be published.

Crime in North Dakota was published in two Volumes for 1991. Volume I included various analyses of index crimes reported, property loss to crime, and the number of law enforcement employees. Volume II provides analysis of clearances and arrests. When initial analysis of arrest data was undertaken, several problems with that data were discovered. Given the amount of time it would take to correct the data problems, a decision was made to publish the arrest data separately.

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CLEARANCES

The UCR program defines an offense as "cleared" by law enforcement when "at least one person is arrested, charged with the commission of the offense, and turned over to the court for prosecution. Several crimes may be cleared by the arrest of one person, while the arrest of many persons may clear only one offense. Law enforcement agencies may clear a crime by exceptional means when some element beyond law enforcement control precludes the placing of formal charges against the offender. Examples of circumstances allowing such clearances are the death of the offender (suicide, justifiably killed by police or private citizen, etc); the victim's refusal to cooperate with prosecution after the offender has been identified; or the denial of extradition."

Approximately 26 percent of the reported index offenses were reported cleared in North Dakota in 1991. The only two years in which higher clearance rates were reported were 1986 and 1990.

In North Dakota, approximately 56 percent of total violent index crimes reported to the UCR program were reported cleared in 1991. Clearance rates for violent crimes ranged from 40 percent for robbery to 82 percent for murder/non-negligent manslaughter. See Table II for further information.

Approximately 25 percent of the total property index crimes were reported cleared in 1991. Clearance rates for the individual property crimes range from 18 percent for burglary to 42 percent for motor vehicle theft.

TABLE I

Index Offenses Cleared North Dakota, 1977-1991

Year	Number of Index Offenses Reported	Number of Index Offenses Reported Cleared	Percent Cleared
1977	16,205	4,066	25.0 %
1978	15,595	3,969	25.4
1979	17,931	4,139	23.1
1980	19,324	4,085	21.2
1981	19,681	4,600	23.4
1982	17,601	4,084	23.2
1983	18,007	4,147	23.0
1984	17,479	4,138	23.7
1985	18,159	4,602	25.4
1986	17,458	4,797	27.5
1987	18,884	4,813	25.5
1988	18,077	4,465	24.7
1989	16,704	4,188	25.1
1990	17,021	5,014	29.5
1991	17,021	4,455	26.2

TABLE II

Clearance Rates by Index Offense 1990-1991

<u>VIOLENT CRIME</u>	<u>1990</u>	<u>1991</u>	<u>U.S.</u>
Murder	88%	82%	67%
Forcible Rape	59%	43%	52%
Robbery	44%	40%	24%
Aggravated Assault	65%	65%	57%
<u>PROPERTY CRIME</u>			
Burglary	22%	18%	14%
Larceny/Theft	29%	26%	20%
Motor Vehicle Theft	46%	42%	14%

ARRESTS

Although primarily an indication of law enforcement activity, the number of arrests reported does provide a limited profile of the perpetrators of crime, especially for those crimes which have high clearance rates. Differing arrest practices, policies and enforcement emphases among agencies influence the volume of arrests for various offenses, particularly those against public order such as vagrancy, disorderly conduct, and related violations. However, arrests for serious crimes, e.g., robbery or burglary, are more likely to be consistent and uniform throughout all jurisdictions across the state.

The UCR program requires that an arrest be counted on each separate occasion an individual is taken into custody. Although several charges may be lodged against a person at the time of the arrest, only one arrest is counted for each separate time the individual is taken into custody.

Local law enforcement agencies report all arrests, whether for crime index offenses or other offenses, except misdemeanor traffic offenses. Therefore, considerable arrest data are available for which there are no corresponding offense data. All available arrest data are included here to allow a more complete review of the total numbers and types of persons arrested in North Dakota and to allow a potentially representative review of other (non-index) offenses occurring within the state.

North Dakota law enforcement agencies reported 25,532 arrests in 1991. A total of 25,508 arrests were reported in 1990.

In 1991, approximately 26 percent of total arrests were arrests of juveniles. Tables III and IV break down arrest totals by age group and gender for the period 1977-1991. See Table V on page 3 for a breakdown of juvenile arrests by age, gender, and offense. The offense category with the most arrests of juveniles was larceny/theft.

TABLE III

Adults and Juveniles Arrested North Dakota, 1977-1991

Year	Adults		Juveniles		Total
	Number	%	Number	%	
1977	16,915	74	5,887	26	22,802
1978	17,500	74	6,050	26	23,550
1979	18,981	74	6,707	26	25,688
1980	22,126	78	6,203	22	28,329
1981	22,203	78	6,158	22	28,361
1982	23,908	81	5,563	19	29,471
1983	24,015	82	5,318	18	29,333
1984	22,051	79	5,758	21	27,809
1985	21,320	78	6,138	22	27,458
1986	20,333	75	6,938	25	27,271
1987	19,839	74	6,843	26	26,682
1988	19,327	74	6,843	26	26,170
1989	17,914	74	6,427	26	24,341
1990*	19,008	74	6,500	26	25,508
1991**	18,514	73	6,625	26	25,532

* Estimated

** Age data not reported for 1% of arrests in 1991.

TABLE IV

Males and Females Arrested North Dakota, 1977-1991

Year	Males		Females		Total
	Number	%	Number	%	
1977	18,876	83	3,926	17	22,802
1978	19,014	81	4,536	19	23,550
1979	20,958	82	4,730	18	25,688
1980	23,455	83	4,874	17	28,329
1981	23,597	83	4,764	17	28,361
1982	24,148	82	5,323	18	29,471
1983	24,016	82	5,317	18	29,333
1984	22,177	80	5,623	20	27,809
1985	21,447	78	6,011	22	27,458
1986	20,992	77	6,279	23	27,271
1987	20,556	77	6,126	23	26,682
1988	19,972	76	6,198	24	26,170
1989	18,336	75	6,005	25	24,341
1990*	19,219	75	6,289	25	25,508
1991	18,919	74	6,613	26	25,532

* Estimated

TABLE V
Juvenile Arrests
by Age, Sex, And Offense
North Dakota, 1991

Offense	Sex	Under 10	10-12	13-14	15	16	17	Total	Offense Total
Negligent Manslaughter	M					1		1	2
	F						1	1	
Forcible Rape	M			3	1		2	6	8
	F								
Robbery	M			1				1	1
	F								
Aggravated Assault	M	1	3	6	4	4	7	25	34
	F		2	4	2		1	9	
Burglary	M	9	15	38	25	30	29	146	168
	F	1	1	3	4	4	7	20	
Larceny/Theft	M	76	254	462	268	204	228	1492	1947
	F	26	89	136	83	62	59	455	
Motor Vehicle Theft	M	1	14	45	36	34	17	147	178
	F		4	8	7	5	7	31	
Simple Assault	M	9	19	47	43	39	33	190	247
	F	1	5	25	9	8	9	57	
Arson	M	3	8	17	9	4	4	45	47
	F			1		1		2	
Forgery & Counterfeiting	M		2	2	9	7	8	28	49
	F		3	8	3	4	5	21	
Fraud	M				2	3	1	6	11
	F					1	4	5	
Stolen Property Offenses	M	2	4	21	25	31	35	118	132
	F	1	2	3		2	6	14	
Vandalism	M	45	80	107	68	88	37	421	455
	F		12	14	2	5	1	34	
Weapons Offenses	M	3	5	9	11	5	7	40	40
	F								
Sex Offenses	M		6	9	5	5	1	26	28
	F			1	1			2	
Drug Abuse Violations	M			1		9	9	19	28
	F			1	2	3	1	7	
Offenses Against Family & Children	M	1	3	5	4	2	9	24	41
	F		3	5	2	4	3	17	
Driving Under the Influence	M			4	6	17	41	68	83
	F					4	11	15	
Liquor Law Violations	M	1	5	43	99	217	357	722	1143
	F	1		51	87	123	159	421	
Disorderly Conduct	M	15	34	67	53	51	59	279	346
	F	2	8	22	11	11	15	67	
All Other Offenses	M	9	36	111	67	95	102	420	571
	F	1	19	44	22	32	33	151	
Suspicion	M	4	5	9	5	3	2	28	30
	F			2				2	
Curfew & Loitering	M	2	18	62	54	38	37	211	337
	F		8	48	38	12	22	128	
Runaways	M	2	28	93	61	91	44	319	705
	F	1	22	141	97	83	42	388	
TOTAL	M	183	539	1162	853	976	1069	4782	6625
	F	34	174	515	370	384	386	1843	
GRAND TOTAL		217	713	1677	1223	1340	1455	6625	

TABLE VI
Arrests of Adults
By Age, Sex and Offense
North Dakota, 1991

Offense	Sex	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-54	55-59	60-64	65+	Total Adult	Total Juv	Age Not Reported	Offense Total
Murder/Non-neg. Manslaughter	M							1	1				1					3			5
	F								1		1							2			
Negligent Manslaughter	M				1													1	1		3
	F																		1		
Forcible Rape	M	2	2		1	2	3		2	4	3	2		2				23	6	1	30
	F																				
Robbery	M	1	1	1	3				2	1	1	1						11	1		18
	F								1		3		1					5		1	
Aggravated Assault	M	1	3	6	4	5	3	3	16	7	8	9		2	1		2	70	25	3	114
	F							1	2		3				1			7	9		
Burglary	M	47	39	23	28	13	4	8	38	14	10	1	1		2			228	146	2	409
	F	4	3	1	2				1					1				12	20	1	
Larceny/Theft	M	146	111	116	52	27	37	24	120	88	81	56	40	23	12	7	45	985	1492	18	3524
	F	54	49	49	28	25	16	14	79	71	47	39	19	20	14	5	41	570	455	4	
Motor Vehicle Theft	M	21	11	6	6	3	3	6	13	3	2	2	2					78	147	3	272
	F	1		2	2				1	2			5					13	31		
Simple Assault	M	31	19	28	25	30	34	21	135	92	71	50	18	9	7	5	3	578	190	9	931
	F	5	5	5	8	8	1	2	22	17	12	6	1	2	1	1	1	97	57		
Arson	M	2							3	2								7	45		55
	F				1													1	2		
Forgery and Counterfeiting	M	12	8	9	13		2	4	16	7	5	10		2			2	90	28	1	204
	F	9	11	6	6	1	4	1	11	3	6	4						62	21	2	
Fraud	M	69	130	152	181	204	132	164	513	293	218	145	80	53	41	19	25	2419	6	119	4252
	F	77	95	123	112	111	98	87	359	210	158	87	50	35	17	7	13	1639	5	64	
Embezzlement	M											1						1			4
	F									1	1							2		1	
Stolen Property Offenses	M	21	5	2	5	3	1	1	4	3	4	2	1	1				53	118	1	196
	F	3	1	1			1		1	1		1		1				10	14		
Vandalism	M	32	18	15	12	8	8	7	30	21	7	7	4	5	1		4	177	421	12	678
	F	3	8	5	3	3			6	2			2		1			33	34	1	
Weapons Offenses	M	4	3	3	3	2		2	11	6	3	2	1	1				41	40	1	85
	F					1			1	1								3			
Prostitution	M																				2
	F						1				1							2			
Sex Offenses	M	2	1	3	3	1	3	1	11	11	17	5	3	3		2	1	67	26		95
	F																		2		
Drug Abuse Violations	M	19	14	22	15	13	13	21	96	81	38	12	7	3	1	4		359	19	2	481
	F	6	8	5	2	4	1	5	18	16	3	5	1					74	7		
Gambling	M		1		1	1			1	1	1							6		2	9
	F										1							1			
Offenses Against Family & Children	M	1	3	2	6	5	7	4	22	29	16	9	2		3	1	1	111	24	3	167
	F	1	1	1	3	1	1	1	1	2								12	17		
Driving Under The Influence	M	129	139	156	196	148	164	126	708	618	441	326	224	141	89	58	69	3732	68	30	4607
	F	31	31	35	35	39	28	30	167	154	101	46	26	13	12	6	8	762	15		
Liquor Law Violations	M	701	678	561	93	61	56	45	115	62	34	20	9	10	4	5	3	2455	722	46	4448
	F	235	211	194	27	20	6	11	28	28	14	6	3	1	1		1	786	421	18	
Disorderly Conduct	M	55	41	40	61	42	33	24	102	79	82	50	21	8	9	2	8	657	279	7	1132
	F	8	8	9	3	4	4	2	30	15	19	7	6	1	3	2		121	67	1	
All Other Offenses	M	133	160	159	112	93	92	71	312	214	143	79	41	32	20	5	19	1685	420	31	2750
	F	40	60	37	27	25	12	15	102	55	31	22	10	10	3	3	3	455	151	8	
Suspicion	M		2		1	1		1	2		1							8	28		38
	F																		2		
Curfew & Loitering	M																		211		337
	F																		126		
Runaways	M																		319	1	706
	F																		386		
TOTAL	M	1429	1387	1304	822	660	595	534	2273	1636	1186	789	455	295	190	108	182	13845	4782	292	25532
	F	477	491	473	259	242	173	169	831	578	401	223	124	84	53	24	67	4669	1843	101	
GRAND TOTAL		1906	1878	1777	1081	902	768	703	3104	2214	1587	1012	579	379	243	132	249	18514	6625	393	25532

Table VI provides a breakdown of arrests of adults by age, gender, and offense. The offense committed most often by adult males was driving under the influence. Adult females were arrested most often for fraud. The age group with the largest total arrests was the 25-29 category. The category with the least amount of arrests was the 60-64 age group. In 1991, 393 arrests were reported without age information.

Only 4,372, or 17.1 percent of the reported arrests were arrests for crime index offenses. Approximately 53 percent, or 2,332, of these were arrests of juveniles. In 1990, 47 percent of arrests for crime index offenses were arrests of juveniles.

The 9,055 reported arrests for DUI and liquor law violations represents approximately 35 percent of the total arrests reported in the state of North Dakota in 1991. Arrests for DUI increased 6.6 percent from 4,322 in 1990 to 4,607 in 1991. Liquor law violations decreased 4.2 percent from 4,641 to 4,448.

Table VII reviews arrests reported in 1991 in terms of racial category. Approximately 89 percent of total arrests were white, about 10 percent were Native American. In 1991, 56 arrests were reported without information on the race of the arrestee.

These statistics are provided by local law enforcement agencies which contribute to the North Dakota UCR program. No arrest figures for reservations in the state are included in these totals. Tribal law enforcement agencies currently do not participate in the UCR program.

Table VIII presents total arrests by racial category for the period 1977-1991. Although, the total number of arrests has fluctuated during this time, the percentages for each category have remained relatively constant.

TABLE VII

**Race of Persons Arrested
North Dakota, 1991**

Race	Adults	Juv.	No Age Reported	Total	% of Total Arrests
White	16,545	5,690	359	22,594	88.5 %
Black	151	65	2	218	0.9
Nat. Amer.	1,711	835	21	2,567	10.1
Other	64	24	9	97	0.3
Unknown	43	11	2	56	0.2
Total	18,514	6,625	393	25,532	100.0

TABLE VIII

**Percentage of Arrests
By Race and Year
1977-1991**

	1977	1978	1989	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990*	1991**
White %	20780 (91.1)	21493 (91.3)	23636 (92.0)	26288 (92.8)	26109 (92.0)	27059 (91.8)	27138 (92.5)	25622 (92.1)	25138 (91.5)	24969 (91.5)	23933 (89.7)	23486 (89.7)	21802 (89.6)	22702 (89.0)	22594 (88.5)
Black %	101 (0.4)	101 (0.4)	111 (0.4)	129 (0.5)	158 (0.6)	147 (0.5)	146 (0.5)	111 (0.4)	153 (0.6)	140 (0.5)	176 (0.7)	179 (0.7)	167 (0.7)	255 (1.0)	218 (0.9)
Native American	1864 (8.2)	1768 (7.5)	1735 (6.8)	1876 (6.6)	2057 (7.3)	2221 (7.5)	2003 (6.8)	2021 (7.3)	2115 (7.7)	2091 (7.7)	2491 (9.3)	2413 (9.2)	1943 (8.0)	2321 (9.1)	2567 (10.1)
Other %	57 (0.3)	188 (0.8)	206 (0.8)	36 (0.1)	37 (0.1)	44 (0.2)	46 (0.2)	55 (0.2)	52 (0.2)	71 (0.3)	82 (0.3)	92 (0.4)	429 (1.7)	230 (0.9)	97 (0.3)
Total	22802	23550	25688	28329	28361	29471	29333	27809	27458	27271	26682	26170	24341	25508	25532

* Estimated

** In 1991, 56 arrests were reported without race information.