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# Index Crime Rates For Wisconsin - 1992

## An Inter-State Comparison

Wisconsin  
Office of Justice  
Assistance  
Statistical Analysis  
Center

### 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 residents. 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. Note that the offense rates for Wisconsin were obtained from the State UCR report. While these figures are slightly different from the rates reported in the national UCR report, they are more accurate.

### The Crime Index

The Crime Index is made up of eight crime categories which are intended to reflect general crime trends. The Crime Index includes 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 they are not included in the Property Crime Index in this publication.

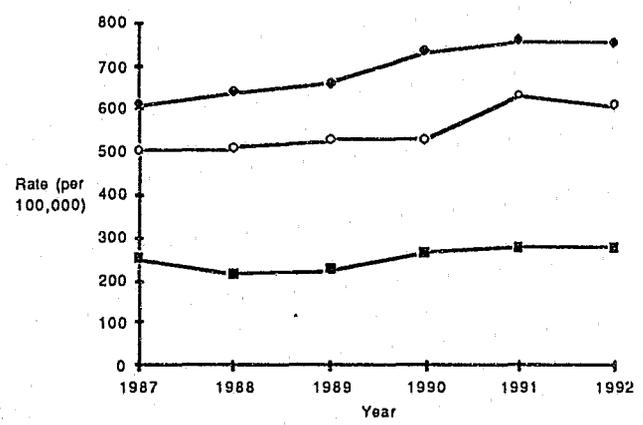
Rankings for the total Crime Index are not provided in this publication because the total Index is heavily dominated by property crime. While property crime made up over 87 percent of the Index in the United States in 1992, it accounted for 94 percent of the Wisconsin total. Wisconsin ranked thirty-seventh in total index crimes in 1992, identical to its thirty-seventh rank for reported property crimes.

### Crime Trend Comparisons

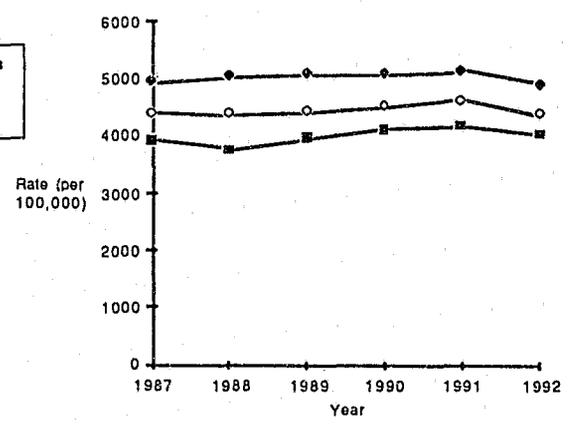
Regional crime rate trends for the United States, the Midwest, and the State of Wisconsin for the past six years for both the Violent and the Property Crime Index are shown in the charts below. The Midwest includes the states of Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota and Wisconsin. Violent crime rates for Wisconsin were substantially lower than the rates for both the Midwest and the Nation. Over the past six years the rates for the United States and the Midwest have increased more than the rate for Wisconsin. Property Index Crime rates decreased slightly for Wisconsin, the Midwest, and the United States. However, Wisconsin property crime rates remained nearly ten percent less than those of the Midwest and twenty percent less than those of the Nation.

INDEX CRIME RATES BY YEAR AND REGION

VIOLENT



PROPERTY



**Tommy G. Thompson**  
Governor

**Office of Justice Assistance**  
Jerome D. Lacke, Executive Director

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

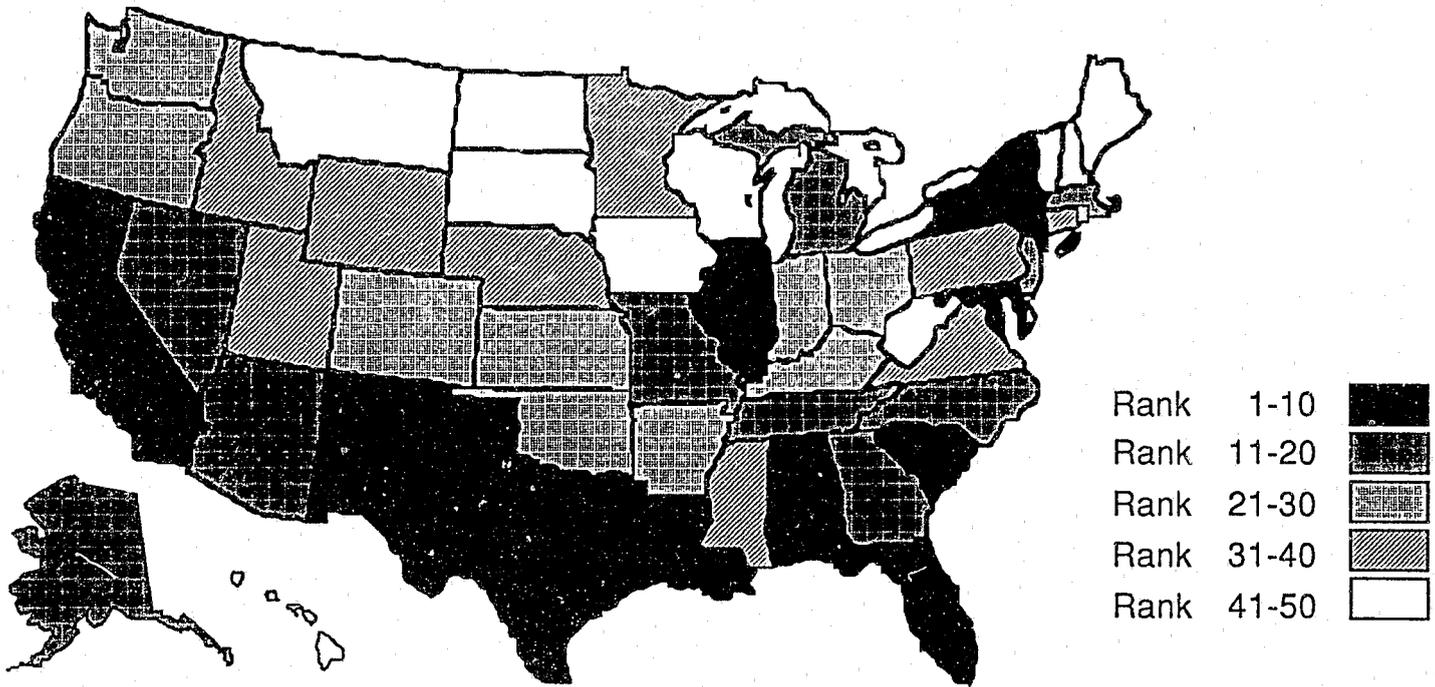
In 1992, Wisconsin ranked forty-first in reported violent crimes with a crime rate of 279 offenses per 100,000 residents. This ranking is slightly higher than the forty-third position of Wisconsin in 1990. The state rankings for violent crimes are shown in the table at right.

Wisconsin's rate is considerably lower than both the United States rate of 757 and the Midwest rate of 607. It is less than one-fourth the rate of Florida, 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	1,207	25.	Kentucky	535
2.	New York	1,122	26.	Washington	534
3.	California	1,119	27.	Ohio	525
4.	Maryland	1,000	28.	Kansas	511
5.	Louisiana	984	29.	Oregon	510
6.	Illinois	977	30.	Indiana	508
7.	South Carolina	944	31.	Connecticut	495
8.	New Mexico	934	32.	Pennsylvania	427
9.	Alabama	871	33.	Mississippi	411
10.	Texas	806	34.	Rhode Island	394
11.	Massachusetts	779	35.	Virginia	374
12.	Michigan	770	36.	Nebraska	348
	<i>United States</i>	757	37.	Minnesota	338
13.	Tennessee	746	38.	Wyoming	319
14.	Missouri	740	39.	Utah	290
15.	Georgia	733	40.	Idaho	281
16.	Nevada	696	41.	<b>Wisconsin</b>	279
17.	North Carolina	681	42.	Iowa	278
18.	Arizona	670	43.	Hawaii	258
19.	Alaska	660	44.	West Virginia	211
20.	New Jersey	625	45.	South Dakota	194
21.	Oklahoma	622	46.	Montana	169
22.	Delaware	621	47.	Maine	130
	<i>Midwest</i>	607	48.	New Hampshire	125
23.	Colorado	578	49.	Vermont	109
24.	Arkansas	576	50.	North Dakota	83

Violent Crime Rate Rankings of States - 1992



**PROPERTY CRIMES: BURGLARY, LARCENY-THEFT, MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT, ARSON**

The State of Wisconsin ranked thirty-seventh in reported property crimes with a rate of 4,081 offenses per 100,000 residents. Although the ranking of Wisconsin is identical to the thirty-seventh position of Wisconsin in 1990, the actual rate of property crimes decreased. The state rankings for property crimes are shown in the table at the right.

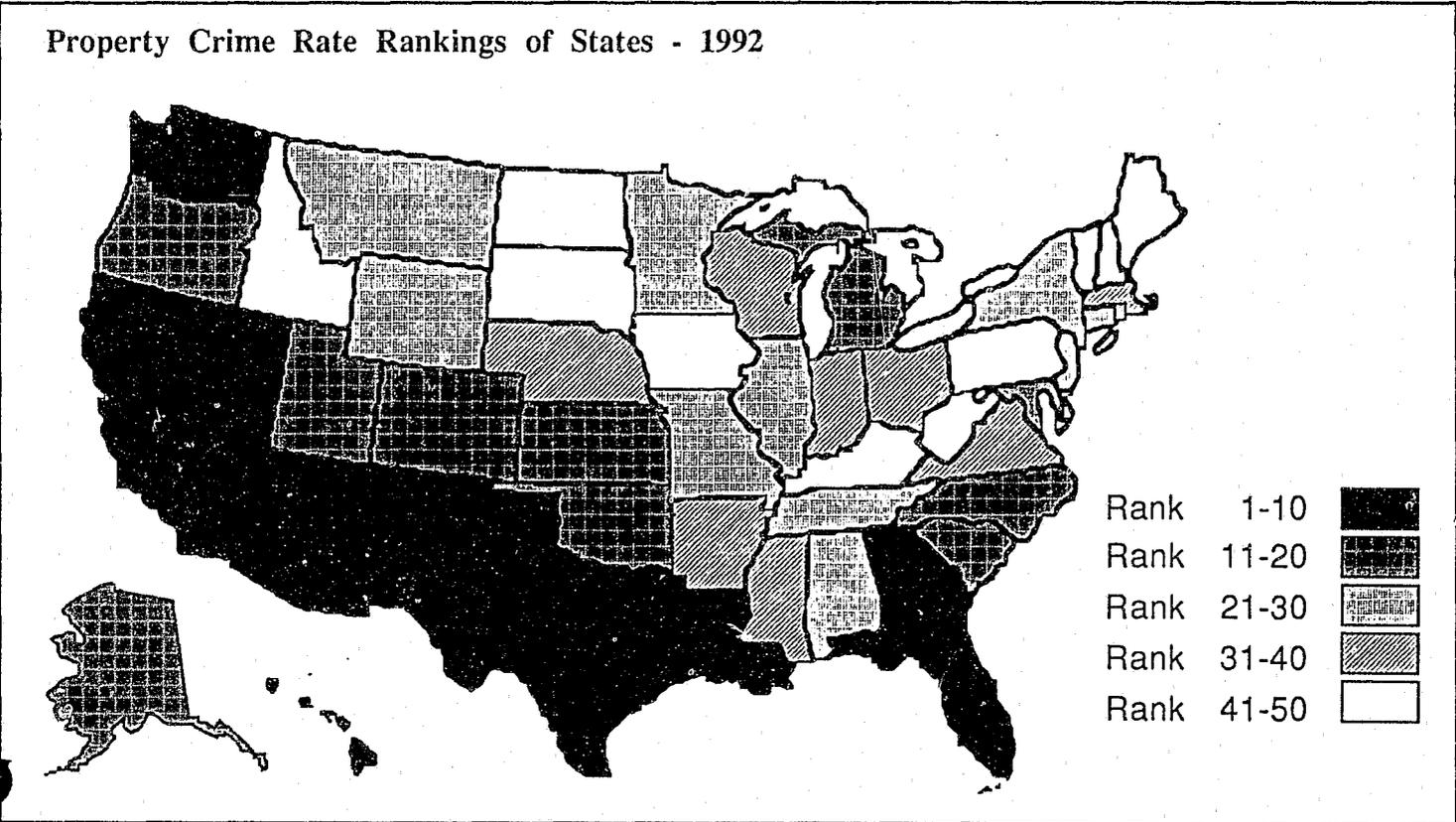
Wisconsin's rate is substantially less than the United States' rate of 4,903 and somewhat less than the Midwest rate of 4,368

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	7,151	26.	Alabama	4,396
2.	Arizona	6,358	27.	Tennessee	4,390
3.	Texas	6,252		<i>Midwest</i>	4,368
4.	Hawaii	5,854	28.	Missouri	4,357
5.	Georgia	5,672	29.	Wyoming	4,256
6.	Washington	5,638	30.	Minnesota	4,253
7.	Louisiana	5,562	31.	Delaware	4,227
8.	California	5,560	32.	Massachusetts	4,224
9.	Nevada	5,507	33.	Arkansas	4,185
10.	New Mexico	5,499	34.	Rhode Island	4,184
11.	Colorado	5,380	35.	Indiana	4,178
12.	Utah	5,368	36.	Ohio	4,140
13.	Oregon	5,311	37.	<b>Wisconsin</b>	<b>4,081</b>
14.	Maryland	5,224	38.	Nebraska	3,976
15.	North Carolina	5,121	39.	Virginia	3,924
16.	South Carolina	4,949	40.	Mississippi	3,871
17.	Alaska	4,909	41.	Idaho	3,715
	<i>United States</i>	4,903	42.	Iowa	3,679
18.	Michigan	4,840	43.	Maine	3,393
19.	Kansas	4,809	44.	Vermont	3,300
20.	Oklahoma	4,809	45.	Pennsylvania	2,966
21.	Illinois	4,788	46.	New Hampshire	2,950
22.	New York	4,736	47.	North Dakota	2,820
23.	Connecticut	4,558	48.	South Dakota	2,804
24.	New Jersey	4,438	49.	Kentucky	2,788
25.	Montana	4,426	50.	West Virginia	2,398

**Property Crime Rate Rankings of States - 1992**



## Individual Violent Crimes

### Murder

During 1992 Wisconsin ranked thirty-fifth in murder and non-negligent manslaughter with a rate of 4.4 murders per 100,000 residents. Although this ranking is identical to Wisconsin's position in 1990, the actual rate of murder has slightly decreased. The state rankings for the crimes of murder and non-negligent manslaughter are shown in the table at the right. The UCR definition of murder is the willful killing of one human being by another.

Wisconsin's rate is considerably lower than both the United States' rate of 9.3 and the Midwest's rate of 7.6. It is also less than one-third the rate of Louisiana, the highest ranked state.

### Forcible Rape

During 1992 Wisconsin ranked forty-fourth in forcible rape with a rate of 26.6 per 100,000 residents. This is a moderate rise from the forty-seventh position in 1990. The state rankings for the crime of forcible rape are shown in the table at the far right. The UCR definition of rape is the carnal knowledge of a female forcibly and against her will.

Wisconsin's rate is considerably less than both the United States' rate of 42.8 and the Midwest's rate of 45.5. It is close to one-fourth the rate of Alaska, the highest ranked state.

## Murder

Rank	State	Rate (per 100,000)
1.	Louisiana	17.4
2.	New York	13.2
3.	California	12.7
4.	Texas	12.7
5.	Mississippi	12.2
6.	Maryland	12.1
7.	Illinois	11.4
8.	Alabama	11.0
9.	Georgia	11.0
10.	Nevada	10.9
11.	Arkansas	10.8
12.	North Carolina	10.6
13.	Missouri	10.5
14.	South Carolina	10.4
15.	Tennessee	10.3
16.	Michigan	9.9
	<i>United States</i>	9.3
17.	Florida	9.0
18.	New Mexico	8.9
19.	Virginia	8.8
20.	Indiana	8.2
21.	Arizona	8.1
	<i>Midwest</i>	7.6
22.	Alaska	7.5
23.	Ohio	6.6
24.	Oklahoma	6.5
25.	West Virginia	6.3
26.	Colorado	6.2
27.	Pennsylvania	6.2
28.	Kansas	6.0
29.	Kentucky	5.8
30.	Connecticut	5.1
31.	New Jersey	5.1
32.	Washington	5.0
33.	Oregon	4.7
34.	Delaware	4.6
35.	<b>Wisconsin</b>	<b>4.4</b>
36.	Nebraska	4.2
37.	Hawaii	3.6
38.	Massachusetts	3.6
39.	Rhode Island	3.6
40.	Wyoming	3.6
41.	Idaho	3.5
42.	Minnesota	3.3
43.	Utah	3.0
44.	Montana	2.9
45.	Vermont	2.1
46.	North Dakota	1.9
47.	Maine	1.7
48.	Iowa	1.6
49.	New Hampshire	1.6
50.	South Dakota	0.6

## Forcible Rape

Rank	State	Rate (per 100,000)
1.	Alaska	98.6
2.	Delaware	85.8
3.	Michigan	80.0
4.	Washington	72.0
5.	Nevada	62.8
6.	New Mexico	62.6
7.	South Carolina	57.5
8.	Florida	54.2
9.	Texas	53.4
10.	Oregon	53.1
11.	Ohio	52.1
12.	South Dakota	51.8
13.	Oklahoma	48.4
14.	Colorado	47.3
15.	Tennessee	47.3
16.	Maryland	46.4
	<i>Midwest</i>	45.5
17.	Utah	45.4
18.	Georgia	45.3
19.	Mississippi	44.6
20.	Arizona	43.0
	<i>United States</i>	42.8
21.	Indiana	42.4
22.	Louisiana	42.3
23.	Arkansas	41.3
24.	California	41.3
25.	Kansas	41.3
26.	Alabama	41.2
27.	Minnesota	41.1
28.	New Hampshire	38.2
29.	Hawaii	37.9
30.	Illinois	37.1
31.	Missouri	36.5
32.	Massachusetts	36.1
33.	North Carolina	35.9
34.	Wyoming	35.0
35.	Kentucky	32.2
36.	Idaho	31.8
37.	Virginia	31.5
38.	Nebraska	31.4
39.	Rhode Island	30.9
40.	New Jersey	30.7
41.	New York	28.4
42.	Pennsylvania	27.7
43.	Connecticut	26.9
44.	<b>Wisconsin</b>	<b>26.6</b>
45.	Montana	25.5
46.	Vermont	24.9
47.	Maine	23.8
48.	North Dakota	23.3
49.	West Virginia	21.7
50.	Iowa	18.8

## Robbery

## Aggravated Assault

### Robbery

Wisconsin ranked thirty-second in reported robbery offenses in 1992 with a rate of 121 per 100,000 residents. However, its relative ranking has changed little since 1990 due to a rapid increase in rates of other states. The table at the right presents 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 both the United States rate of 263 and the Midwest rate of 207. It is about one-fifth the rate of New York, the highest ranked state.

### Aggravated Assault

In 1992 Wisconsin ranked forty-third in reported aggravated assaults with a rate of 127 per 100,000 residents. The ranking is identical to the forty-third position of Wisconsin in 1990. The table at 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 is considerably lower than both the United States rate of 441 and the Midwest rate of 346. It is less than one-sixth the rate of Florida, the highest ranked state.

Rank	State	Rate (per 100,000)
1.	New York	596
2.	Maryland	429
3.	California	424
4.	Illinois	412
5.	Florida	366
6.	Nevada	331
7.	New Jersey	285
8.	Louisiana	271
	<i>United States</i>	263
9.	Texas	252
10.	Georgia	249
11.	Missouri	226
12.	Michigan	221
13.	Tennessee	218
14.	Connecticut	210
	<i>Midwest</i>	207
15.	Ohio	199
16.	North Carolina	186
17.	Massachusetts	184
18.	Pennsylvania	180
19.	South Carolina	170
20.	Alabama	164
21.	Arizona	153
22.	Delaware	151
23.	Oregon	151
24.	Washington	140
25.	New Mexico	139
26.	Virginia	137
27.	Oklahoma	136
28.	Kansas	129
29.	Arkansas	125
30.	Mississippi	124
31.	Indiana	122
<b>32.</b>	<b>Wisconsin</b>	<b>121</b>
33.	Colorado	120
34.	Minnesota	110
35.	Alaska	109
36.	Hawaii	99
37.	Rhode Island	94
38.	Kentucky	87
39.	Nebraska	56
40.	Utah	55
41.	West Virginia	43
42.	Iowa	39
43.	New Hampshire	33
44.	Montana	26
45.	Maine	23
46.	Idaho	21
47.	Wyoming	18
48.	South Dakota	16
49.	Vermont	8
50.	North Dakota	7

Rank	State	Rate (per 100,000)
1.	Florida	777
2.	New Mexico	724
3.	South Carolina	706
4.	Alabama	654
5.	Louisiana	653
6.	California	641
7.	Massachusetts	555
8.	Illinois	516
9.	Maryland	512
10.	Texas	487
11.	New York	483
12.	Tennessee	470
13.	Arizona	467
14.	Missouri	466
15.	Michigan	458
16.	North Carolina	447
17.	Alaska	445
	<i>United States</i>	441
18.	Oklahoma	431
19.	Georgia	427
20.	Kentucky	410
21.	Colorado	404
22.	Arkansas	399
23.	Delaware	379
	<i>Midwest</i>	346
24.	Indiana	335
25.	Kansas	333
26.	Washington	317
27.	New Jersey	304
28.	Oregon	301
29.	Nevada	291
30.	Ohio	268
31.	Rhode Island	265
32.	Wyoming	262
33.	Nebraska	256
34.	Connecticut	252
35.	Mississippi	230
36.	Idaho	224
37.	Pennsylvania	212
38.	Iowa	218
39.	Virginia	196
40.	Utah	186
41.	Minnesota	184
42.	West Virginia	140
<b>43.</b>	<b>Wisconsin</b>	<b>127</b>
44.	South Dakota	125
45.	Hawaii	117
46.	Montana	114
47.	Maine	82
48.	Vermont	73
49.	New Hampshire	52
50.	North Dakota	50

## Individual Property Crimes

### Burglary

In 1992 Wisconsin ranked forty-third in reported burglaries, with a rate of 699 per 100,000 residents. This ranking is slightly lower than the forty-first position of Wisconsin in 1990. The state rankings are shown in the table at the right. The UCR program defines burglary as the unlawful entry of a structure to commit a felony or a theft.

Wisconsin's rate is considerably below both the United States rate of 1,168 and the Midwest rate of 964. In addition, Wisconsin's rate is about one-third that of Florida, the highest ranked state.

### Theft

Wisconsin ranked twenty-sixth in theft offenses in 1992, with a rate of 2,946 per 100,000 residents. This ranking is slightly higher than the twenty-eighth position of Wisconsin in 1990, although the actual rate of theft slightly decreased. The state rankings for theft are shown in the table at 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 is somewhat less than the United States rate of 3,103 but slightly higher than the Midwest rate of 2,928. Also, Wisconsin's rate is about 35 percent less than the rate of Florida, the highest ranked state.

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 moderate rate of reported thefts accounts for its relatively moderate ranking in the rate of reported property crimes.

## Burglary

Rank	State	Rate (per 100,000)
1.	Florida	1,889
2.	North Carolina	1,653
3.	Texas	1,532
4.	New Mexico	1,511
5.	Georgia	1,443
6.	Arizona	1,412
7.	California	1,385
8.	South Carolina	1,378
9.	Louisiana	1,366
10.	Oklahoma	1,360
11.	Kansas	1,294
12.	Nevada	1,289
13.	Mississippi	1,283
14.	Tennessee	1,267
15.	Alabama	1,186
	<i>United States</i>	1,168
16.	Maryland	1,131
17.	Washington	1,122
18.	Hawaii	1,121
19.	Connecticut	1,109
20.	Oregon	1,107
21.	Missouri	1,100
22.	Arkansas	1,093
23.	Colorado	1,091
24.	Illinois	1,077
25.	Massachusetts	1,072
26.	New York	1,068
27.	Michigan	1,041
28.	Rhode Island	1,048
29.	New Jersey	969
	<i>Midwest</i>	964
30.	Delaware	958
31.	Indiana	952
32.	Ohio	947
33.	Minnesota	890
34.	Utah	885
35.	Alaska	881
36.	Vermont	826
37.	Maine	822
38.	Iowa	754
39.	Idaho	744
40.	Kentucky	729
41.	Nebraska	715
42.	Virginia	709
43.	<b>Wisconsin</b>	<b>699</b>
44.	Wyoming	671
45.	Montana	644
46.	Pennsylvania	634
47.	West Virginia	623
48.	New Hampshire	622
49.	South Dakota	541
50.	North Dakota	391

## Theft

Rank	State	Rate (per 100,000)
1.	Florida	4,434
2.	Hawaii	4,357
3.	Utah	4,245
4.	Arizona	4,125
5.	Washington	4,045
6.	Texas	3,907
7.	Colorado	3,780
8.	Oregon	3,671
9.	Georgia	3,653
10.	New Mexico	3,610
11.	Louisiana	3,568
12.	Montana	3,549
13.	Alaska	3,531
14.	Nevada	3,520
15.	Wyoming	3,434
16.	Maryland	3,367
17.	South Carolina	3,225
18.	Kansas	3,192
19.	North Carolina	3,182
20.	Michigan	3,174
21.	California	3,138
	<i>United States</i>	3,103
22.	Illinois	3,092
23.	Nebraska	3,060
24.	Minnesota	3,008
25.	Delaware	2,964
26.	<b>Wisconsin</b>	<b>2,946</b>
27.	Oklahoma	2,932
	<i>Midwest</i>	2,928
28.	Virginia	2,909
29.	Alabama	2,848
30.	Idaho	2,814
31.	Indiana	2,776
32.	Iowa	2,766
33.	Arkansas	2,763
34.	Missouri	2,759
35.	New York	2,736
36.	Connecticut	2,727
37.	Ohio	2,721
38.	New Jersey	2,654
39.	Tennessee	2,546
40.	Maine	2,426
41.	Rhode Island	2,393
42.	Vermont	2,370
43.	Massachusetts	2,361
44.	North Dakota	2,280
45.	Mississippi	2,251
46.	South Dakota	2,162
47.	New Hampshire	2,138
48.	Pennsylvania	1,866
49.	Kentucky	1,842
50.	West Virginia	1,612

## Motor Vehicle Theft

### Motor Vehicle Theft

Wisconsin ranked twenty-sixth in reported motor vehicle theft in 1992 with a rate of 436 per 100,000 residents. This ranking is higher than the twenty-seventh position of Wisconsin in 1990. The state rankings for motor vehicle theft are shown in the table at the right. Motor vehicle theft is defined as the theft or attempted theft of a motor vehicle.

While Wisconsin's rate is somewhat less than the Midwest rate of 476, it is about one-third less than the United States rate of 632. Also, the Wisconsin rate is less than one-half the rate of California the highest ranked state in the rate of motor vehicle thefts.

### Arson

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

<u>Rank</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>Rate (per 100,000)</u>	<u>Rank</u>		
1.	California	1,037	25.	Indiana	450
2.	New York	932	26.	<b>Wisconsin</b>	<b>436</b>
3.	Florida	828	27.	New Mexico	378
4.	Arizona	822	28.	Hawaii	375
5.	Texas	822	29.	Alabama	362
6.	New Jersey	816	30.	Minnesota	355
7.	Massachusetts	790	31.	South Carolina	345
8.	Rhode Island	743	32.	Mississippi	336
9.	Maryland	726	33.	Arkansas	329
10.	Connecticut	722	34.	Kansas	324
11.	Nevada	697	35.	Delaware	306
	<i>United States</i>	632	36.	Virginia	306
12.	Louisiana	628	37.	North Carolina	287
13.	Michigan	626	38.	Utah	238
14.	Illinois	618	39.	Montana	233
15.	Georgia	576	40.	Kentucky	216
16.	Tennessee	576	41.	Nebraska	201
17.	Oregon	534	42.	New Hampshire	195
18.	Oklahoma	517	43.	West Virginia	164
19.	Colorado	509	44.	Iowa	159
20.	Alaska	497	45.	Idaho	157
21.	Missouri	497	46.	Wyoming	150
	<i>Midwest</i>	476	47.	Maine	144
22.	Washington	472	48.	North Dakota	149
23.	Ohio	471	49.	Vermont	105
24.	Pennsylvania	468	50.	South Dakota	101

### Trends in State Rankings

This document has been published every other year since 1988, and it is intended that it will continue to be published every two years. Comparing the figures in this publication with the 1990 figures reveals that Wisconsin's position in the state ranking of violent crime rates increased from forty-third in 1990 to forty-first in 1992. However, Wisconsin's position in the state ranking of property crimes remained at thirty-seventh, with a slight decrease in actual property crime rates. The greatest change in Wisconsin's ranking for individual crimes was forcible rape (forty-seventh in 1990 and forty-fourth in 1992). There were only slight variations between the other rankings of individual crimes in comparison to 1990. Nonetheless, an overall conclusion to be drawn from the data is that Wisconsin continues to be a relatively safe place to live, work, and do business, compared to many other states.

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