

Office of the  
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**Criminal Justice Training  
& Statistics Division**

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MONOGRAPH #1

CRIME IN NORTH DAKOTA  
RELATIVE TO OTHER STATES  
IN THE U.S.

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## INTRODUCTION

For over fifty years, law enforcement agencies have voluntarily provided statistics on known offenses and on arrests to be aggregated at the national level through the Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program under the direction of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). Recently the FBI released the 1981 edition of Crime in the United States. This publication includes statewide summaries of reported index crimes for each of the 50 states, and for Puerto Rico and the District of Columbia.

In this monograph, a secondary analysis of the above-named data and previous years' data has been performed to allow creation of a rank-ordering by crime rate of the fifty states for each year from 1970 through 1981. Together with additional data about North Dakota, gathered and analyzed under the auspices of the North Dakota Uniform Crime Reporting Program, these data represent the statistical background for the following discussion.

Nationally, UCR Program contributors compile and submit this crime data by one of two means: either directly to the FBI or through their state UCR Programs. In 1981, there were 40 such state programs with North Dakota maintaining one of them.

Both a brief preliminary report and a detailed analytical report discussing crime in North Dakota in 1981 were issued earlier this year. The purpose of this monograph is to provide

information about crime in other states and areas of the United States which will allow the reader to place the amount and types of crime found in North Dakota into perspective nationally and regionally.

In the accompanying tables, data on known crime in the United States as a whole, and in individual states is presented. It is important for the reader to remember that statistics provided through the Uniform Crime Reporting Programs reflect crime only indirectly as they are based on reported crime. Some fluctuation may occur as a result of changes in the reporting habits of citizens or of law enforcement officers. Some statewide reporting networks are more complete than others. Other factors can also cause the volume and type of crime to vary from place to place. One of these factors, population, is used in computing crime rates.

The index crime rate is calculated based on the number of index crimes (murder, rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, larceny, and motor vehicle theft) committed per 100,000 population in any political, geographic, or other subdivision. The formula is as follows:

$$\text{Crime Rate} = \frac{\# \text{ of index crimes}}{\text{Population}} \times 100,000$$

Crime rates, then, are used to negate differences in population when attempting to compare two or more areas with differing population sizes by setting a population standard.

CRIME IN NORTH DAKOTA  
RELATIVE TO OTHER STATES

In attempting to assess the relative severity of the crime problem in North Dakota, it is useful to compare North Dakota with other units of similar political, geographic, or population size. All or some of the 50 states (plus Puerto Rico and the District of Columbia) are appropriate units of comparison for each of these factors.

Table I shows a rank ordering by crime rate for each of the fifty states. The data are provided by calendar year for the years 1970 through 1981 so that the relative positions of each state over the 12 year period can be studied. The table gives the actual crime rate as well as the relative rankings because, since the rankings are dependent upon one another, any state's crime rate may have remained within the customary pattern for that state while its rank was shifted due to increases or decreases reported in other states.

The ranking is arranged so that #1 represents the highest index crime rate in each year and #50 the lowest. As can be seen in the table, North Dakota has maintained a position as one of the three states reporting the lowest crime rates annually throughout the twelve year period. West Virginia also occupies one of these slots annually while the other has been filled by Mississippi in some years and South Dakota in others. Only West Virginia has consistently reported a lower crime rate than has North Dakota.

TABLE I  
Rank of States by Crime Index Rates\*  
1970-1981

	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981
Alabama	34 (1865)	36 (1893)	41 (2327)	42 (2512)	44 (3000)	43 (3473)	40 (3808)	42 (3713)	37 (3939)	40 (4244)	32 (4934)	31 (4899)
Alaska	19 (2690)	17 (2880)	14 (4478)	10 (4943)	13 (5240)	9 (6197)	11 (6221)	10 (5898)	10 (6046)	12 (6204)	14 (6210)	11 (6595)
Arizona	7 (3445)	9 (3510)	2 (5933)	1 (6704)	1 (8222)	1 (8342)	2 (7886)	2 (7747)	2 (7604)	2 (7857)	3 (8171)	3 (7614)
Arkansas	39 (1604)	42 (1572)	45 (2167)	41 (2540)	41 (3301)	41 (3540)	43 (3407)	44 (3341)	43 (3462)	44 (3620)	44 (3811)	44 (3796)
California	1 (4307)	1 (4661)	1 (6413)	3 (6305)	4 (6847)	4 (7205)	3 (7234)	3 (7009)	4 (7116)	4 (7469)	4 (7833)	4 (7590)
Colorado	5 (3662)	6 (3813)	4 (5594)	5 (5496)	7 (6166)	7 (6676)	5 (6782)	4 (6827)	6 (6832)	6 (7051)	6 (7334)	5 (7353)
Connecticut	20 (2575)	20 (2651)	26 (3403)	22 (3664)	22 (4407)	22 (4957)	21 (5005)	20 (4842)	21 (4930)	18 (5779)	19 (5882)	18 (5837)
Delaware	13 (2974)	8 (3522)	13 (4524)	14 (4583)	10 (5950)	8 (6668)	9 (6264)	7 (6210)	7 (6354)	8 (6526)	9 (6777)	10 (6689)
Florida	6 (3600)	2 (4039)	5 (5377)	4 (5960)	3 (7387)	3 (7721)	4 (7017)	5 (6739)	5 (7070)	3 (7688)	2 (8402)	2 (8032)
Georgia	26 (2207)	25 (2382)	33 (3052)	29 (3430)	31 (3912)	27 (4626)	25 (4809)	28 (4259)	24 (4771)	21 (5417)	21 (5604)	21 (5628)
Hawaii	8 (3396)	7 (3570)	11 (4612)	9 (4959)	8 (6072)	12 (6027)	8 (6322)	6 (6546)	3 (7136)	5 (7248)	5 (7482)	13 (6543)
Idaho	36 (1785)	33 (2014)	24 (3420)	28 (3458)	29 (4083)	34 (4144)	31 (4271)	31 (4125)	35 (4015)	41 (4241)	36 (4799)	38 (4531)
Illinois	24 (2347)	24 (2450)	21 (3791)	16 (4325)	15 (5184)	19 (5382)	19 (5055)	19 (4894)	19 (5018)	24 (5169)	27 (5275)	30 (4950)
Indiana	25 (2270)	26 (2307)	29 (3232)	24 (3534)	23 (4337)	24 (4911)	27 (4673)	27 (4273)	29 (4339)	31 (4601)	33 (4930)	37 (4540)
Iowa	43 (1435)	43 (1477)	39 (2532)	37 (2832)	39 (3414)	38 (3909)	36 (4051)	37 (3861)	36 (3980)	39 (4301)	37 (4747)	35 (4716)
Kansas	28 (2144)	29 (2124)	25 (3405)	25 (3514)	24 (4300)	25 (4747)	26 (4778)	25 (4564)	26 (4544)	28 (4896)	26 (5379)	23 (5404)
Kentucky	32 (1925)	35 (1936)	43 (2234)	46 (2265)	46 (2760)	46 (3264)	45 (3297)	46 (3013)	46 (3023)	46 (3184)	46 (3434)	47 (3532)
Louisiana	21 (2405)	22 (2516)	27 (3382)	31 (3403)	32 (3816)	35 (4123)	29 (4361)	26 (4498)	23 (4792)	22 (5359)	22 (5454)	26 (5268)
Maine	47 (1142)	46 (1348)	42 (2321)	40 (2544)	37 (3600)	37 (3960)	35 (4084)	34 (4075)	31 (4139)	38 (4307)	42 (4368)	42 (4243)
Maryland	9 (3347)	12 (3391)	10 (4629)	11 (4791)	11 (5650)	13 (5908)	15 (5664)	13 (5700)	11 (5814)	10 (6295)	12 (6630)	12 (6558)
Massachusetts	11 (3004)	10 (3487)	17 (4107)	15 (4521)	12 (5383)	11 (6078)	13 (5821)	15 (5409)	15 (5350)	15 (5918)	16 (6079)	19 (5835)
Michigan	4 (3790)	4 (4006)	6 (5364)	6 (5489)	5 (6520)	5 (6800)	6 (6478)	11 (5812)	13 (5594)	13 (6147)	11 (6676)	8 (6854)
Minnesota	29 (2103)	27 (2291)	22 (3554)	23 (3536)	30 (3931)	30 (4299)	30 (4331)	29 (4231)	30 (4144)	34 (4393)	34 (4800)	34 (4737)
Mississippi	49 (863)	48 (1115)	49 (1805)	49 (1926)	48 (2249)	48 (2411)	49 (2468)	48 (2587)	48 (2555)	47 (2961)	47 (3417)	46 (3537)
Missouri	16 (2765)	18 (2739)	18 (3933)	19 (4141)	19 (4788)	18 (5398)	20 (5034)	24 (4581)	27 (4527)	27 (4940)	24 (5433)	24 (5351)

TABLE I--Rank of State by Crime Index Rates (Con't.)

	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981
Montana	38 (1637)	38 (1769)	30 (3205)	32 (3395)	28 (4084)	32 (4189)	32 (4262)	33 (4105)	38 (3916)	33 (4461)	29 (5024)	29 (5019)
Nebraska	41 (1517)	41 (1593)	38 (2628)	39 (2811)	40 (3344)	40 (3614)	42 (3562)	43 (3525)	44 (3441)	43 (3993)	43 (4305)	44 (4178)
Nevada	2 (3996)	5 (3843)	3 (5850)	2 (6632)	2 (7827)	2 (8153)	1 (8306)	1 (7968)	1 (8287)	1 (8832)	1 (8854)	1 (8592)
New Hampshire	45 (1183)	44 (1426)	17 (1991)	45 (2329)	42 (3144)	45 (3347)	41 (3611)	39 (3792)	34 (4068)	32 (4579)	38 (4680)	40 (4322)
New Jersey	17 (2744)	16 (3078)	19 (3840)	20 (4082)	20 (4772)	20 (5144)	18 (5401)	18 (5114)	17 (5207)	16 (5821)	13 (6401)	15 (6180)
New Mexico	15 (2866)	11 (3471)	8 (4724)	12 (4708)	14 (5213)	14 (5839)	12 (6215)	17 (5188)	18 (5180)	17 (5788)	17 (5979)	14 (6201)
New York	3 (3922)	3 (4007)	15 (4232)	17 (4307)	18 (4857)	16 (5636)	10 (6225)	8 (6088)	12 (5792)	11 (6205)	8 (6912)	7 (6805)
North Carolina	35 (1861)	34 (1940)	36 (2659)	38 (2812)	38 (3511)	39 (3817)	39 (3881)	40 (3791)	39 (3882)	36 (4373)	39 (4641)	39 (4520)
NORTH DAKOTA	50 (846)	50 (1006)	48 (1988)	48 (2078)	49 (2160)	49 (2337)	48 (2514)	49 (2482)	49 (2387)	49 (2756)	49 (2964)	48 (3017)
Ohio	22 (2377)	23 (2480)	23 (3439)	26 (3496)	25 (4223)	23 (4914)	23 (4948)	23 (4720)	25 (4659)	25 (5130)	25 (5431)	23 (5447)
Oklahoma	31 (1951)	30 (2100)	31 (3106)	27 (3466)	27 (4096)	28 (4578)	28 (4481)	30 (4160)	32 (4130)	30 (4703)	28 (5053)	32 (4837)
Oregon	12 (2987)	14 (3185)	7 (5048)	7 (3297)	6 (6345)	6 (6752)	7 (6359)	9 (5987)	9 (6075)	9 (6373)	10 (6687)	7 (7037)
Pennsylvania	40 (1541)	37 (1826)	40 (2369)	44 (2459)	43 (3054)	44 (3349)	44 (3340)	45 (3118)	45 (3185)	45 (3495)	45 (3716)	45 (3683)
Rhode Island	14 (2926)	13 (3277)	12 (4553)	13 (4678)	16 (5114)	15 (5644)	16 (5650)	14 (5427)	16 (5262)	19 (5770)	18 (5933)	17 (5852)
South Carolina	30 (2067)	31 (2080)	28 (3265)	33 (3327)	26 (4165)	26 (4642)	24 (4907)	21 (4837)	22 (4896)	26 (5066)	23 (5439)	25 (5319)
South Dakota	46 (1152)	47 (1159)	46 (2128)	47 (2176)	47 (2671)	47 (2739)	47 (2640)	47 (2612)	47 (2689)	48 (2960)	48 (3243)	49 (3013)
Tennessee	33 (1888)	32 (2060)	37 (2646)	36 (3060)	34 (3657)	31 (4271)	33 (4258)	41 (3740)	42 (3690)	42 (4013)	41 (4498)	41 (4311)
Texas	18 (2706)	19 (2697)	20 (3839)	21 (4046)	21 (4695)	17 (5407)	17 (5464)	16 (5397)	14 (5557)	14 (5925)	15 (6143)	16 (6050)
Utah	23 (2373)	21 (2529)	16 (4206)	18 (4247)	17 (4950)	21 (5113)	22 (4978)	22 (4751)	20 (4979)	20 (5492)	20 (5881)	20 (5750)
Vermont	44 (1269)	45 (1420)	44 (2204)	43 (2498)	45 (2875)	42 (3481)	46 (3192)	36 (3964)	41 (3807)	23 (5299)	30 (4988)	28 (5061)
Virginia	27 (2149)	28 (2125)	32 (3081)	34 (3239)	33 (3815)	29 (4546)	34 (4203)	35 (4024)	33 (4073)	37 (4361)	40 (4620)	36 (4671)
Washington	10 (3157)	15 (3125)	9 (4703)	8 (5090)	9 (6009)	10 (6141)	14 (5794)	12 (5727)	8 (6116)	7 (6530)	7 (6915)	9 (6742)
West Virginia	48 (859)	49 (1009)	50 (1437)	50 (1472)	50 (1469)	50 (2109)	50 (2320)	50 (2255)	50 (2270)	50 (2325)	50 (2552)	50 (2619)
Wisconsin	42 (1514)	39 (1752)	35 (2951)	35 (3177)	36 (3641)	36 (3976)	38 (3901)	38 (3813)	40 (3880)	35 (4388)	35 (4799)	33 (4767)
Wyoming	37 (1745)	40 (1705)	34 (3032)	30 (3413)	35 (3650)	33 (4156)	37 (3975)	32 (4113)	28 (4495)	29 (4824)	31 (4986)	27 (5132)

\* The Rate per 100,000 population as reported in "Crime in the United States" an annual publication of the F.B.I., is shown in parentheses immediately below each rank.

Table II provides a rank-ordered listing of the fifty states, Puerto Rico, and the District of Columbia by 1981 index crime rates. The District of Columbia and 19 states reported rates larger than the rate calculated for the United States as a whole. Puerto Rico and 31 states (including North Dakota and 5 surrounding Midwestern states) reported statewide crime rates lower than the national crime rate. North Dakota has maintained a crime rate which has been only slightly greater than one-half of the national crime rate throughout the past twelve years.

TABLE II  
United States Political Subdivisions  
Rank Ordering by Crime Rate, 1981

Rank*	Area	Crime Rate**
1	District of Columbia	10,934.0
2	Nevada	8,592.0
3	Florida	8,032.5
4	Arizona	7,613.5
5	California	7,590.5
6	Colorado	7,351.2
7	Oregon	7,036.9
8	New York	6,905.4
9	Washington	6,854.0
10	Michigan	6,742.0
11	Texas	6,689.3
12	Delaware	6,594.9
13	Alaska	6,557.7
14	Maryland	6,543.4
15	Hawaii	6,200.6
16	New Mexico	6,179.8
17	New Jersey	6,050.3
18	Rhode Island	5,851.8
19	Connecticut	5,837.3
20	Massachusetts	5,835.4
	UNITED STATES (National Average)	5,799.9
21	Utah	5,750.0
22	Georgia	5,628.5
23	Ohio	5,447.4
24	Kansas	5,404.3
25	Missouri	5,351.4
26	South Carolina	5,319.1
27	Louisiana	5,267.7
28	Wyoming	5,131.9
29	Vermont	5,060.8
30	Montana	5,018.9
31	Illinois	4,950.2
32	Alabama	4,898.7
33	Oklahoma	4,837.3
34	Wisconsin	4,766.8
35	Minnesota	4,736.7
36	Iowa	4,716.5
37	Virginia	4,670.8
38	Indiana	4,539.8
39	Idaho	4,530.8
40	North Carolina	4,520.2
41	New Hampshire	4,321.8
42	Tennessee	4,311.4
43	Maine	4,243.3
44	Nebraska	4,177.5
45	Arkansas	3,796.5
46	Pennsylvania	3,683.2
47	Mississippi	3,537.4
48	Kentucky	3,531.5
49	Puerto Rico	3,042.8
50	NORTH DAKOTA	3,017.6
51	South Dakota	3,013.1
52	West Virginia	2,618.7

\*From high to low--Note: The rank numbers differ from the 1981 column in Table I due to the addition of District of Columbia and Puerto Rico in this table.

\*\*Crime rate per 100,000 population.

In reviewing North Dakota's position relative to other states, it is helpful to look particularly at states comparable in some way. Alaska, Delaware, Montana, South Dakota, Vermont, and Wyoming all have similar or lesser populations than does North Dakota; while Mississippi, South Dakota, and West Virginia have traditionally shared the lowest spots with North Dakota on the ranking by index crime rate. Of the six states having similar populations only South Dakota reported a crime rate lower than North Dakota in 1981 while the others were all considerably higher. Figure I presents another way to examine North Dakota's position relative to other states by comparing North Dakota's crime rate to that of five of the state's closest geographic neighbors. Again, only South Dakota had a crime rate as low as North Dakota's.

FIGURE I  
Index Crime Rates of Six Midwestern States, 1981

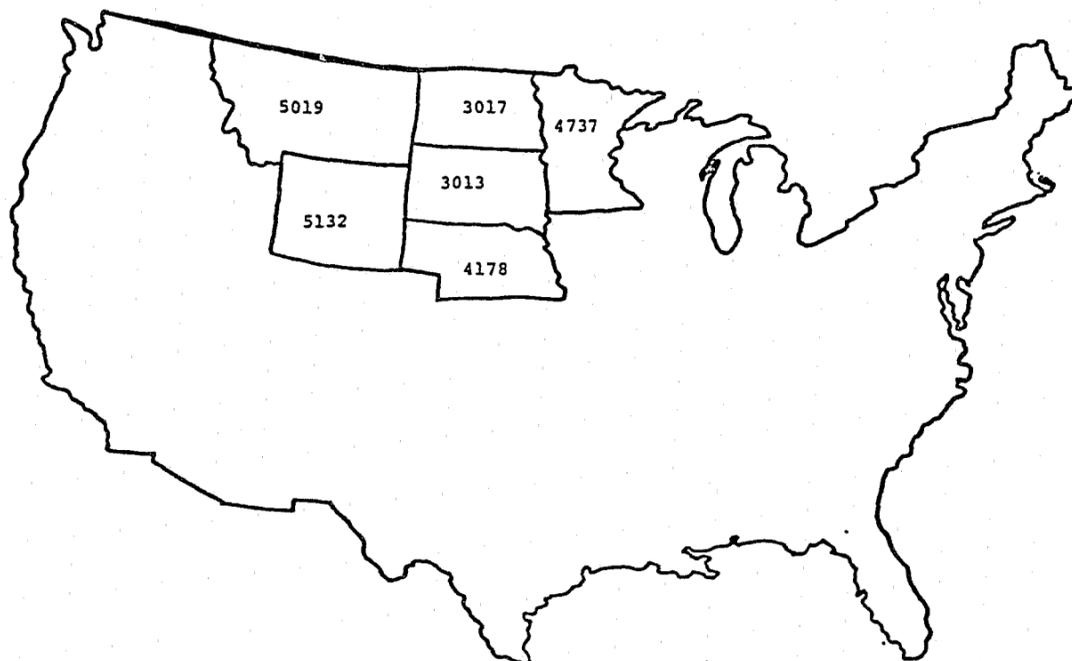


Table III lists the total number of index offenses reported by each state in 1981. The percent of the total 13,386,887 national index crimes reported by each state is also shown. California, New York and Texas reported approximately 30 percent of the total index crimes reported nationally. North Dakota reported only one-tenth of one percent of the total national index crimes.

TABLE III  
Total Number of Crime Index Offenses  
Reported by State, 1981

Area	Total Number of Known Index Offenses	Percent of National Total of Index Offenses	Cumulative Percent
California	1,833,787	13.69%	13.69%
New York	1,214,935	9.07	22.76
Texas	892,723	6.67	29.43
Florida	816,579	6.10	35.53
Michigan	630,640	4.71	40.24
Ohio	587,007	4.38	44.62
Illinois	567,049	4.24	48.86
New Jersey	457,367	3.42	52.28
Pennsylvania	436,967	3.26	55.54
Massachusetts	336,701	2.53	58.07
Georgia	313,453	2.34	60.41
Washington	283,974	2.12	62.53
Maryland	279,425	2.10	64.63
North Carolina	268,998	2.02	66.65
Missouri	264,250	1.98	68.63
Virginia	253,440	1.89	70.52
Indiana	248,144	1.85	72.37
Louisiana	226,773	1.69	74.06
Wisconsin	225,901	1.68	75.74
Colorado	217,874	1.63	77.37
Arizona	212,657	1.59	78.96
Tennessee	198,756	1.48	80.44
Minnesota	193,731	1.46	81.90
Alabama	191,834	1.43	83.33
Oregon	186,267	1.39	84.72
Connecticut	182,823	1.36	86.08
South Carolina	168,402	1.26	87.34
Oklahoma	149,860	1.13	88.47
Iowa	136,638	1.02	89.49
Kentucky	129,289	.96	90.45
Kansas	128,676	.96	91.41
Puerto Rico	96,640	.73	92.14
Mississippi	89,495	.67	92.81
Utah	87,170	.65	93.46
Arkansas	87,091	.65	94.11
New Mexico	82,282	.61	94.72
Nevada	72,602	.54	95.26
District of Columbia	69,540	.52	95.78
Nebraska	65,838	.49	96.27
Hawaii	64,060	.48	96.75
Rhode Island	55,709	.42	97.17
West Virginia	51,091	.38	97.55
Maine	48,034	.36	97.91
Idaho	43,450	.32	98.23
New Hampshire	40,409	.30	98.53
Delaware	40,002	.30	98.83
Montana	39,756	.29	99.12
Alaska	27,171	.20	99.32
Vermont	26,063	.19	99.51
Wyoming	25,249	.19	99.70
South Dakota	20,640	.15	99.85
NORTH DAKOTA	19,681	.15	100.00

Type of Index Crime

North Dakota has traditionally maintained a 2:98 ratio of violent crime to property crime, meaning that only two percent of reported index crime is violent (murder/non-negligent manslaughter, rape, robbery, and aggravated assault) while 98 percent is property-related (burglary, larceny, and motor vehicle theft).

Nationally, the ratio is 10:90 (violent:property) and has remained at that level for the past 12 years. Eighteen states reported amounts of violent crime which reached 10 percent or more of their total reported index crime in 1981. (See Table IV). Twelve states reported amounts of violent crime which reached only five percent or less of their total index crime. Of these latter states, North Dakota showed the lowest percentage of violent crime with only two percent of total index crime reported as violent.

Looking at the six midwestern states discussed previously (Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, and Wyoming); only Wyoming has a ratio greater than 5:95. As previously stated, North Dakota reported the lowest percentage of violent crimes. It was followed by South Dakota, Nebraska, Montana-Minnesota (tie), and Wyoming in that order. (Other states do fall between these--see Table IV).

TABLE IV  
Ratio of Violent to Property Crime, by State, 1981

	INDEX OFFENSES			RATIO VIOLENT: PROPERTY
	Total	Violent	Property	
Alabama	191,834	18,423	173,411	10:90
Alaska	27,171	2,537	24,634	9:91
Arizona	212,657	16,082	195,575	8:92
Arkansas	87,091	7,119	79,972	8:92
California	1,833,787	208,485	1,625,302	11:89

TABLE IV, Ratio of Violent to Property Crime, (Con't.)

	INDEX OFFENSES			RATIO VIOLENT:PROPERTY
	Total	Violent	Property	
Colorado	217,874	15,755	202,119	7:93
Connecticut	182,823	14,033	168,790	8:92
Delaware	40,002	3,044	36,958	8:92
D.C.	69,540	15,045	54,495	22:78
Florida	816,579	98,109	718,470	12:88
Georgia	313,453	30,527	282,926	10:90
Hawaii	64,060	2,424	61,636	4:96
Idaho	43,450	2,717	40,733	6:94
Illinois	567,049	50,871	516,178	9:91
Indiana	248,144	18,672	229,472	8:92
Iowa	136,638	5,915	130,723	4:96
Kansas	128,676	8,796	119,880	7:93
Kentucky	129,289	10,599	118,690	8:92
Louisiana	226,773	27,478	199,295	12:88
Maine	48,034	2,214	45,820	5:95
Maryland	279,425	37,800	241,625	14:86
Massachusetts	336,701	36,273	300,428	11:89
Michigan	630,640	59,058	571,582	9:91
Minnesota	193,731	9,344	184,387	5:95
Mississippi	89,495	7,706	81,789	9:91
Missouri	264,250	26,675	237,575	10:90
Montana	39,750	2,004	37,746	5:95
Nebraska	65,838	2,861	62,977	4:96
Nevada	72,602	7,575	65,027	10:90
New Hampshire	40,409	1,375	39,034	3:97
New Jersey	457,367	46,674	410,693	10:90
New Mexico	82,282	8,913	73,369	11:89
New York	1,214,935	188,178	1,026,757	15:85
North Carolina	268,998	25,986	243,012	10:90
NORTH DAKOTA	19,681	444	19,237	2:98
Ohio	587,007	53,509	533,498	9:91
Oklahoma	149,860	13,223	136,637	9:91
Oregon	186,267	12,671	173,596	7:93
Pennsylvania	436,976	44,104	392,872	10:90
Puerto Rico	96,640	16,321	80,319	17:83
Rhode Island	55,709	4,205	51,504	8:92
South Carolina	168,402	20,275	148,127	12:88
South Dakota	20,640	718	19,922	3:97
Tennessee	198,756	19,019	179,737	10:90
Texas	892,723	78,560	814,163	9:91
Utah	87,170	4,527	82,643	5:95
Vermont	26,063	659	25,404	3:97
Virginia	253,440	17,456	235,984	7:93
Washington	283,974	18,839	265,135	7:93
West Virginia	51,091	3,410	47,681	7:93
Wisconsin	225,901	8,904	216,997	4:96
Wyoming	25,249	2,116	23,133	8:92
United States*	13,290,256	1,321,906	11,968,350	10:90

\* excludes District of Columbia and Puerto Rico totals

#### CONCLUSION

While North Dakota has a crime problem, the state does not seem to suffer as severely proportionately as do most other states. Traditionally, North Dakota has reported one of the lowest index crime rates in the nation, at only approximately one-half of the national average.

Not only does North Dakota have one of the lowest crime rates of the states, the state also reports a lesser amount of violent crime within that low crime rate.

**END**