CITY OF MILWAUKEE 2005 PUBLIC SAFETY REPORT

INTRODUCTION

The Milwaukee Fire and Police Commission began publishing a yearly report on crime in the City of Milwaukee in 1983. We have since added data on cities of comparable size and on Public Safety responses other than responses to crime. We cannot, however, report all the prevention, community assistance, informational, and other functions performed by our Fire and Police Departments. This report is also available on-line, at **http://milwaukee.gov/fpc**.

The main focus of this report is the eight categories of crime that are referred to in the Federal Bureau of Investigation's (FBI) annual *Uniform Crime Report* (UCR) as Index, or Part I Crimes. These crimes were chosen because of their seriousness, frequency of occurrence, likelihood of being reported to the police, and because they can be uniformly defined. The categories are four violent crimes against persons: homicide, forcible rape, robbery and aggravated assault; and four property crimes: burglary, theft, motor vehicle theft, and arson. Each criminal event is recorded only once, according to a hierarchy of seriousness. That is, in a robbery where the victim is killed, only the homicide is recorded. However, all arsons are recorded. Each discussion of a specific index crime begins with the UCR definition.

The Milwaukee Police Department (MPD) is now converting to the Wisconsin Incident-Based Reporting System (WIBRS), part of the National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS). The incident-based systems count all components of a crime, so that a robbery in which the victim is killed counts as both a homicide and a robbery. Therefore, when the conversion to WIBRS is completed, the numbers of crimes and arrests will not be comparable with past UCR numbers.

The discussion of each category includes comparisons to cities of similar size. Appendix A provides a summary for the comparison cities. We previously reported data by Aldermanic Districts and Census tracts. Due to computer conversions, plus the April 2004 change from 17 to 15 Aldermanic Districts, we are able at this time to provide data only for the entire City. More detailed data are available at the COMPASS (Community Mapping and Analysis for Safety Strategies) section of the City of Milwaukee web site, at **http://www.city.milwaukee.gov/display/router.asp?docid=13174**

Milwaukee crime data are provided by the Milwaukee Police Department. Crimes are counted in the month they become known to the MPD, which may not be the month, or even the year, they were committed. Data on comparison cities are from the UCR 2005 *Preliminary Annual Uniform Crime Report*, dated June 12, 2006. Final UCR reports, to be published later in the year, may show small differences in some counts.

Data for fire and emergency medical services are provided by the Milwaukee Fire Department. Appendix B shows fires and rate per 1,000 population for each Milwaukee Aldermanic District.

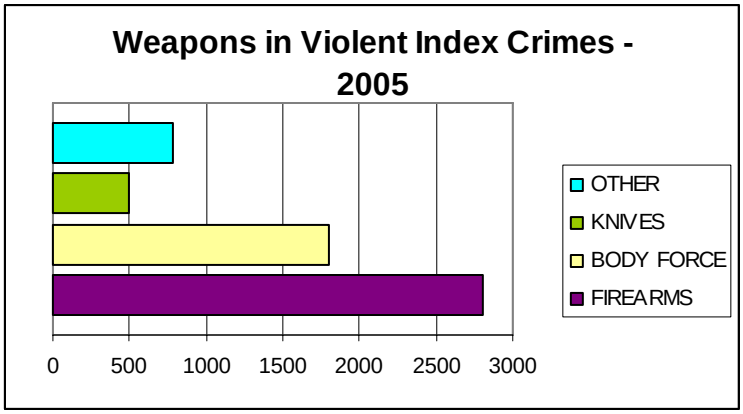
In comparisons across time or between geographic areas, a rate rather than a count is used. A rate is a means of equalizing data. For cities, the rate is the number of crimes per 100,000 population. For fires, the rate is per 1,000 population, as this is how national figures are expressed. All rates in this publication are based on the 2000 Census, with Milwaukee's population at 596,974. Comparison cities are those within 10% of Milwaukee's population in the 2000 Census.

MILWAUKEE CRIME TRENDS 2005

In 2005, the Milwaukee Police Department counted 39,981 Uniform Crime Report Index crimes (Table I) and 38,948 other crimes.

All Index categories except homicide include attempts in the number of reports; attempted homicides are counted as aggravated assaults. Compared to 2004, there were increases of 12% in robbery, 13% in motor vehicle theft, 57% in aggravated assault, and 40% in homicides, with 122. 2004 had 87 homicides, the fewest since 1988. Other categories had very small changes – 2% or less. The non-violent crime of theft (other than motor vehicles) accounts for more than half of the total Index.

Property crimes (burglary, theft, auto theft, and arson) were 85% of the Index. Violent crimes against persons (homicide, forcible rape, robbery, and aggravated assault) were 15% of the Index, with robbery and aggravated assault accounting for 95% of violent Index crimes.

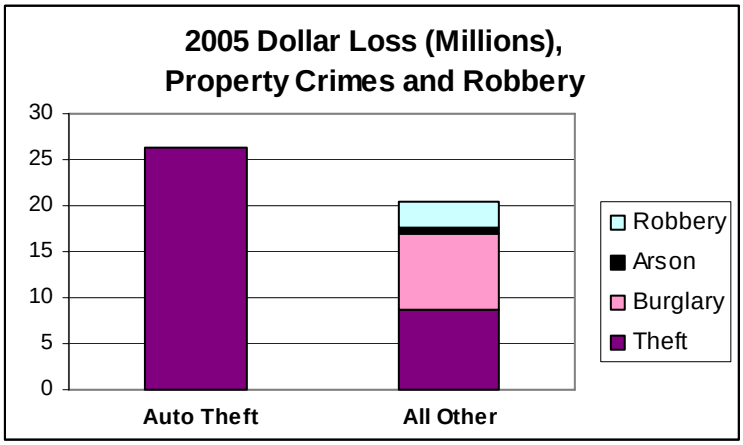


Firearms were used in three-quarters of homicides and almost half of all violent Index crimes. Body force was the weapon used in one third of forcible rapes, robberies, and aggravated assaults. Knives and other weapons were reported in one-fifth of violent Index crimes in 2005.

For UCR purposes, law enforcement agencies clear or solve an offense when at least one person is arrested, charged, and turned over to the court for prosecution. Several crimes may be cleared by the arrest of one person, while the arrest of several persons may clear only one offense. Clearances and arrests are presented in the discussion of each crime.

3,304 Index crimes were cleared by arrest or exceptional means in 2005, including twenty-five percent of violent Index crimes and five percent of property Index crimes. A clearance most commonly results from an arrest. A clearance by “exceptional means” is recorded when something beyond the control of the law enforcement agency (such as death of the alleged offender) precludes filing formal charges. 3,847 arrests had Index crimes as primary charges. Because clearances are counted when they occur, 2005 includes clearances and arrests for some crimes committed in previous years, and future years will include some clearances and arrests for crimes committed in 2005.

The largest categories of non-index crime reports are Simple Assault (or Battery) and Criminal Damage (Vandalism). Other non-Index crimes include weapons offenses, narcotics and drug offenses, prostitution, disorderly conduct, driving while intoxicated and other liquor law violations, and juvenile curfew violations. Reports and arrests in many of these categories result from police working with neighborhood groups to eliminate drug and vice activity. Data are provided in the sections of this report titled "Non-Index Crimes" (page 20) and "Crime Clearances" (page 22).



Estimated dollar loss from property crimes and the violent crime of robbery was $46 million, almost 20% more than 2004. Motor vehicle theft accounted for more than half of total dollar loss.

Losses to motor vehicle theft averaged almost $4,000, and losses to arson averaged $6,615. The average burglary loss was $1,790. Larceny theft had an average loss of $385. Robbery, a crime of violence, averaged $930.

The MPD also responds to many non-criminal matters such as traffic accidents and noise complaints. In addition, the MPD provides traffic control and other services at special events, including summer festivals, and the MPD Harbor Patrol conducts search and rescue missions to aid boaters in difficulty on Lake Michigan, as well as patrols during fireworks displays and festivals, to ensure safe boating.

TABLE I ADJUSTED INDEX CRIMES*
(After excluding reports determined to be unfounded)

VIOLENT INDEX CRIMES				AGGRAV.	TOTAL	
YEAR	HOMICIDE	RAPE	ROBBERY	ASSAULT	VIOLENT	CHANGE
1995	138	370	3,650	2,579	6,737	2.7%
1996	127	293	3,363	2,210	5,993	-11.0%
1997	122	307	3,553	2,636	6,618	10.4%
1998	111	286	2,970	2,528	5,895	-10.9%
1999	124	272	3,134	2,531	6,061	2.8%
2000	121	300	3,021	2,265	5,707	-5.8%
2001	127	295	2,913	2,128	5,463	-4.3%
2002	108	326	3,197	2,148	5,779	+5.8%
2003	107	231	2,868	2,067	5,273	-8.8%
2004	87	176	2,656	1,823	4,742	-10.7%
2005	122	175	2,983	2,862	6,142	+29.5%
CHANGE (2004 to 2005)	+40%	--	+12.3%	+57%	+29.5%	

PROPERTY INDEX CRIMES					TOTAL	
YEAR	BURGLARY	THEFT	MV THEFT	ARSON	PROPERTY	CHANGE
1995	8,366	26,231	11,345	555	46,497	2.6%
1996	7,622	25,948	10,079	597	44,246	-4.8%
1997	6,818	25,954	8,295	457	41,524	-6.2%
1998	7,055	25,846	7,348	585	40,834	-1.7%
1999	6,462	26,124	7,414	498	40,498	-0.8%
2000	6,363	23,949	8,069	524	38,905	-3.9%
2001	6,680	25,712	7,893	453	40,738	+4.7%
2002	6,922	26,424	7,187	381	40,914	+0.4%
2003	6,041	25,524	6,229	341	38,135	-6.8%
2004	4,705	22,444	5,850	263	33,262	-12.8%
2005	4,713	22,269	6,600	257	33,839	+1.7%
CHANGE	+0.1%	-0.8%	+12.8%	-2.2%	+1.7%	

*Final numbers in annual FBI publication *Crime in the United States* may differ slightly from MPD releases and this report.

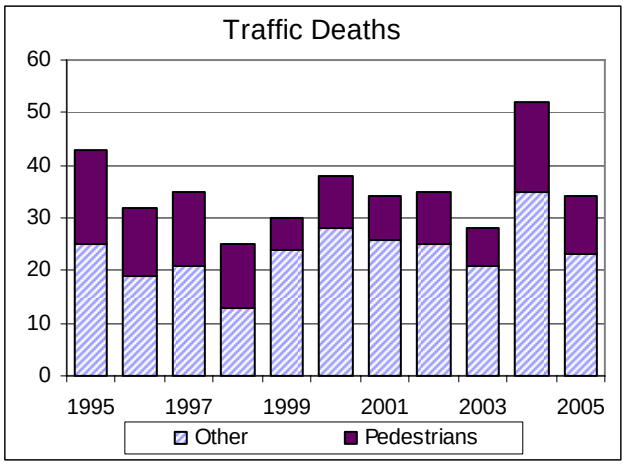
Total Index increased 5.2%, from 38,004 in 2004 to 39,981 in 2005...

Note: In past years, we also reported data by Aldermanic Districts and Census tracts. Due to the on-going computer conversion in the Milwaukee Police Department, plus the April 2004 change from 17 to 15 Aldermanic Districts, we are able to provide 2005 data on reported crimes for the entire City, but not for individual Census Tracts or Aldermanic Districts. More detailed data are available at the COMPASS (Community Mapping and Analysis for Safety Strategies) section of the City of Milwaukee web site, at **http://www.city.milwaukee.gov/display/router.asp?docid=13174**

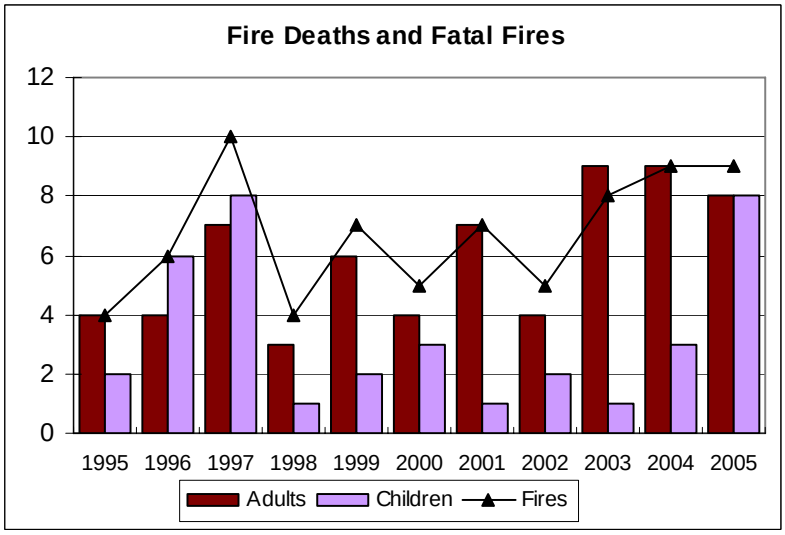
Deaths Related to Public Safety

Deaths related to public safety in 2005 included 34 traffic deaths, 16 fire deaths, 122 homicides, 13 justifiable homicides, and one negligent homicide.

The 34 traffic deaths in 2005 were 35% fewer than the 52 in 2004. They occurred in 30 crashes, and included 11 pedestrians, 13 automobile and three motorcycle drivers, and 7 automobile passengers. Many crashes involve an alcohol-impaired driver. Pedestrians are at risk crossing busy roads, in parking lots, and from turning traffic at intersections. Turning traffic is also a danger to bicyclists.



More than 6,200 people were injured in more than 14,000 non-fatal crashes. The MPD's Safety Division notes that failure to yield the right of way caused 25% of traffic accidents, and disregard of traffic signals caused 13%.



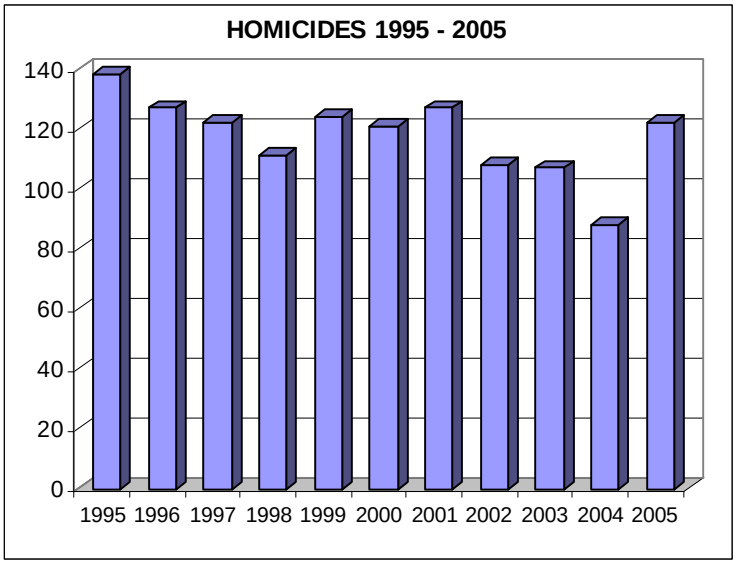
The 16 fire deaths, in nine fires, include eight children aged one to eight, and eight adults aged 26 to 76. Three children died in one fire, and two in another. There were three fires in which a child and an adult died, and one with two adult deaths. Three adults died in three separate fires.

Twelve of the deaths were in six homes without working smoke detectors. Fires may also result in non-fatal injuries or leave residents homeless. Milwaukee's fire death rate in 2005 was 2.7 deaths per 100,000 people.

The Survive Alive House teaches children how to escape from a fire, and has been a major factor in reducing the number of child deaths. In 2005, firefighters conducted Survive Alive programs for 14,000 schoolchildren, as well as Sesame Street programs for 2,352 pre-schoolers. A variety of adult programs were also presented.

Homicide

Most deaths in the public safety domain result from the Index crime of homicide. The UCR defines homicide as the willful (non-negligent) killing of one human being by another. The classification of an offense as a homicide is based on police investigation. Deaths caused by negligence or accident are not included. Attempts or assaults to kill are classified as aggravated assaults.



Milwaukee had 122 homicides in 2005, plus thirteen classified as justifiable, and one as negligent, not included in national statistics. Justifiable homicides included six men shot by citizens in self-defense, one man and one woman killed with knives by citizens in self-defense, and five men shot by MPD officers. Homicide accounts for much less than 1% of the Index total.

Homicides most often arise from arguments or fights, and alcohol is often a factor. Robberies are the second most common cause of homicides. Many victims know their assailants, in some cases as family members.

A firearm, most often a handgun, was used in 77% (94) of non-justifiable homicides (table next page). Knives or cutting instruments were the weapons in 11% (13) of homicides, and the remainder involved body force or other weapons.

Almost three-quarters of firearm victims (73 of 94) were teens and young adults aged 15 to 34. The youngest firearm victims were an infant and an eight-year-old. An infant and a three-year-old died as a result of child abuse.

The homicide rate differs considerably by sex, by race, and by age. The rate for all men and boys in Milwaukee was 37.5 homicides per 100,000 population. For African-American men and boys, the rate was 79.8 homicides per 100,000; it was 34.2 for Hispanic men and boys (13 victims), and 8.3 for white men and boys. The rate for all women and girls in Milwaukee was 4.8 homicides per 100,000 population.

VICTIMS OF CRIMINAL HOMICIDE BY AGE, RACE, AND SEX

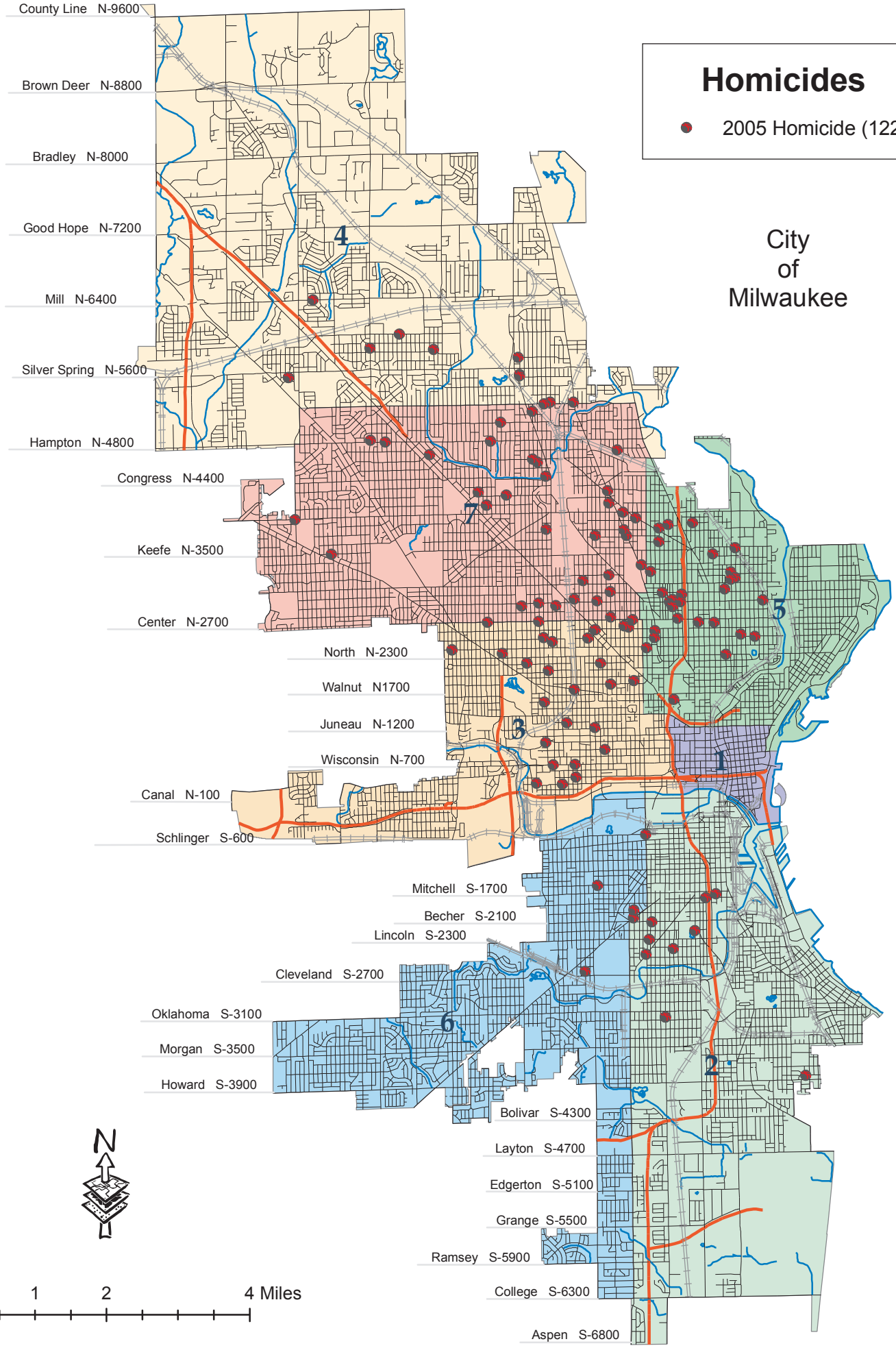
AGE:	0-14	15-17	18-34	35+	TOTAL
Black Male	2	7	45	27	81
Black Female	1	0	3	6	10
White/Other Male	0	(Hisp)1	#16	*9	26
White/Other Female	(Hisp)1	0	(Asian)1	3	5
TOTAL	4	8	65	45	122
#12 Hispanic, two Asian, two white			*One John Doe, age unknown		
Killed by firearms:	2	7	59	26	94

Homicides were largely concentrated in the central city and near south side. (Map, courtesy of Milwaukee Police Department, next page.) In the 2000 Census, central city Aldermanic Districts included one-third of the City's juvenile population, and three-fifths of Milwaukee's African-American population.

The MPD cleared 87 homicides, a clearance rate of 71%. Clearances are counted when they occur, even when they clear cases from previous years. The MPD arrested 102 adults and 11 juveniles on primary charges of homicide in 2005. Many arrestees are released without being charged.

While public attention often focuses on homicide because loss of life is so serious, all violent crimes have this potential consequence. Drive-by shootings are an example of violence that is classified as homicide or aggravated assault according to the outcome, rather than the behavior. Some aggravated assaults are attempted murders, and some homicides began as attempts to hurt or frighten the victim. The Milwaukee Police Department counted 2,862 aggravated assaults in 2005, and more than 4,500 reports of simple assault (a physical attack that is not an Index crime). The Index crime of forcible rape is also a physical assault, and robbery may involve physical violence as well.

In comparing Milwaukee's homicide count to other cities, justifiable and negligent homicides are excluded, and a rate per 100,000 population is used (2000 Census). Rates in comparison cities are shown in Appendix A. Memphis had a homicide rate not significantly different from Milwaukee ($p>.01$). Washington had a significantly higher rate; Austin, Boston, Denver, El Paso, and Seattle had significantly lower rates.

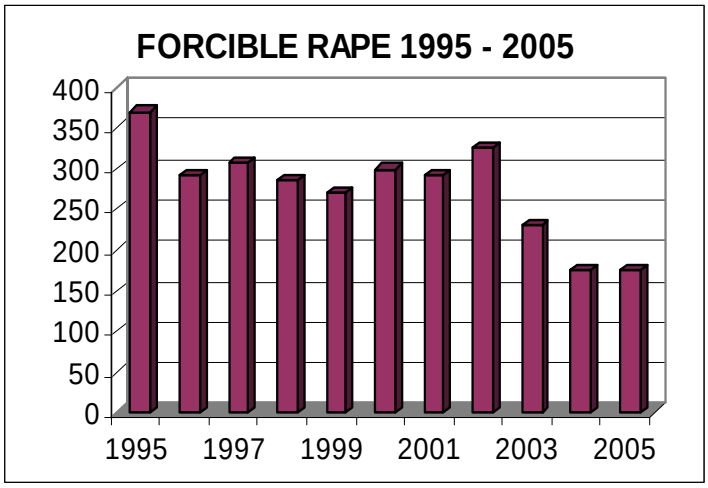

Homicides
2005 Homicide (122)
City of Milwaukee
County Line N-9600
Brown Deer N-8800
Bradley N-8000
Good Hope N-7200
Mill N-6400
Silver Spring N-5600
Hampton N-4800
Congress N-4400
Keefe N-3500
Center N-2700
North N-2300
Walnut N1700
Juneau N-1200
Wisconsin N-700
Canal N-100
Schlinger S-600
Mitchell S-1700
Becher S-2100
Lincoln S-2300
Cleveland S-2700
Oklahoma S-3100
Morgan S-3500
Howard S-3900
Bolivar S-4300
Layton S-4700
Edgerton S-5100
Grange S-5500
Ramsey S-5900
College S-6300
Aspen S-6800
1
2
3
4
5
6
7
N
0 1 2 4 Miles

Other Index Crimes Against Persons

Forcible Rape and Sexual Assault

The Uniform Crime Report definition of forcible rape is carnal knowledge of a female forcibly and against her will. This definition does not correspond to the Wisconsin State Statutes' definition of sexual assault, but is similar to first and second degree sexual assault under Wisconsin Statutes, where force is an element. Attempts to commit rape by force or threat of force are included, but not sexual assaults where a weapon or threat of bodily injury is not involved. A rape that results in the victim's death is classified and counted as a homicide.

The Milwaukee Police Department counted 176 forcible rapes or attempted rapes, and about 800 other sexual assault reports, in 2005. Criminal justice authorities believe that many rapes are not reported, and that changes in numbers may reflect media coverage of prominent cases and other factors, rather than actual change in the number committed. Forcible rape is also a crime where delays between occurrence and reporting are common.



Forcible rape accounted for less than 1% of adjusted Index crimes in 2005. Body force was the most common weapon in forcible rapes or attempted rapes. Firearms were reported in 16 cases, and knives were reported in four. The incidence of firearm use is lower in forcible rape than in other crimes of violence. Almost three-quarters of rape and other sexual assault victims knew their assailants.

In sexual assaults that do not meet the UCR definition of forcible rape, victims may be female or male. Depending on the specific details, these reports may be counted as Aggravated Assault (an Index crime), or as non-Index crimes, such as third or fourth degree sexual assaults under Wisconsin Statutes. When victims are younger than 17, any such assault is considered first or second degree sexual assault under Wisconsin law.

One in three rape or other sexual assault victims were younger than 13; four out of five were younger than 20. About three-quarters of rape or other sexual assault victims knew their assailants.

Although the UCR definition of rape includes only female victims, the rate calculation uses the entire (female and male) population. For comparison with other cities, a rate per 100,000 population is used. The UCR count of 175 gives a rate of 31 rapes per 100,000 population, or 56 per 100,000 in the female population. Rates in comparison cities are shown in Appendix A. Seattle and Washington had rates not significantly different from Milwaukee ($p>.01$); the other comparison cities had significantly higher rates of rape.

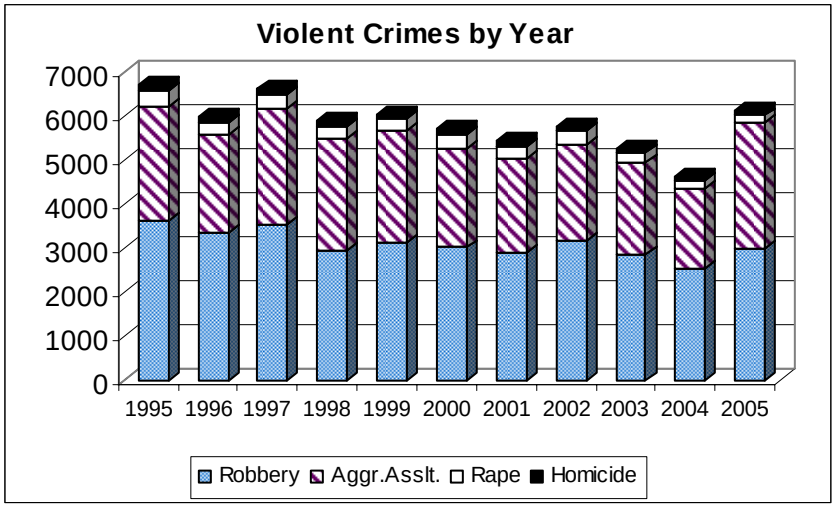
The Milwaukee Police Department cleared 78 rapes and attempted rapes in 2005, a clearance rate of 45%. The MPD has established a computer database of sexual assault suspects, which correlates cases based on suspect description, modus operandi, and other factors. High risk sexual assault parolees are included in the database.

Arrests of 152 adults and 101 juveniles had primary charges that meet the UCR definition of rape. There were 188 arrests for other sex offenses (83 of them juveniles), including sexual assaults that do not meet the UCR definition of rape.

Robbery

Robbery and theft both refer to unlawful taking or stealing, but robbery is a crime of violence: the taking or attempting to take anything of value from a person by force or threat of force. A mugging is an example of robbery. The definition includes both armed robbery and strong arm robbery, where no weapon other than personal force is employed. Assaults to rob and attempts to rob are included. When a robbery results in death, it is counted as a homicide.

In the hierarchy of the Uniform Crime Reports, taking a vehicle from its owner by force or threat of force is considered the violent crime of robbery, rather than motor vehicle theft. Although the term "car jacking" is often used by the public, any vehicle taken by force is counted as a robbery.

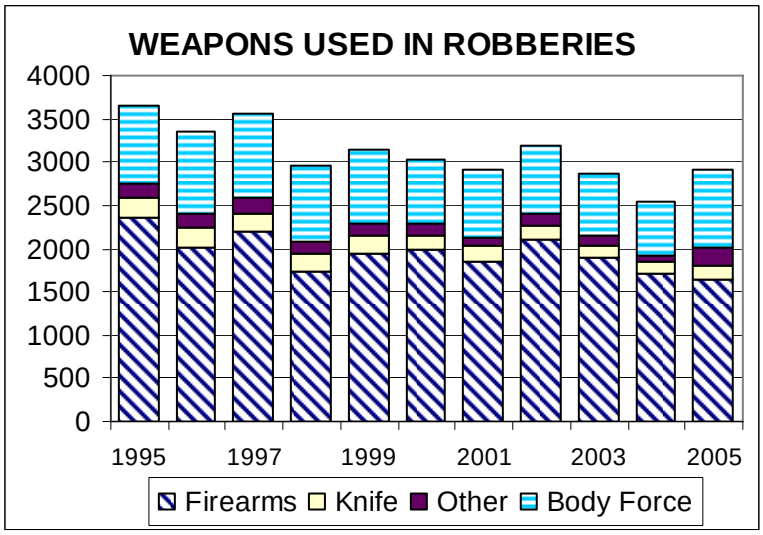


Robbery accounts for just under half of violent Index Crimes. In 2005, after excluding reports which on investigation were determined to be unfounded, 2,983 robberies were included in the Uniform Crime report, a 12% increase from the previous year, following a general decrease in the past decade.

Almost $2.8 million was reported lost to all types of robbery. Additional costs of crime are victim medical expenses due to injuries sustained in the incident, and time lost from work.

More than 1,500 robberies occurred on city streets, with $1.4 million lost. There were 398 residential robberies, 341 business robberies, 158 gas stations or convenience stores, 47 bank robberies, and 491 other robberies.

Strong-arm robbery - the use or threat of body force - accounted for almost one-third of robberies and attempts in 2005. Firearms, including those used solely as threats, were reported in more than half, with knives and other weapons reported in the remainder.

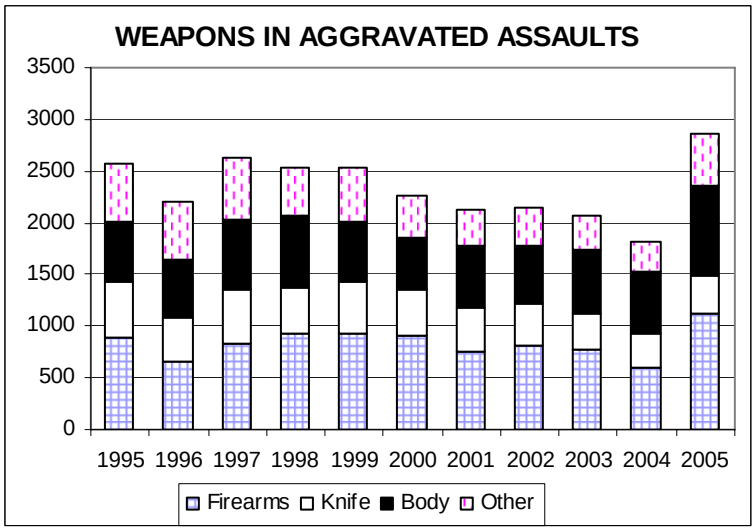


The Milwaukee Police Department cleared 467 robberies in 2005, a clearance rate of 16%. Victims can seldom identify their assailants, and there may be little physical evidence. The MPD arrested 415 adults and 283 juveniles on primary charges of robbery.

The 2,983 UCR robberies counted in 2005 give a rate of 500 per 100,000 population. Data for comparison cities are shown in Appendix A. Milwaukee's robbery rate was significantly lower than Memphis and Washington, but significantly higher than Austin, Boston, Denver, El Paso, or Seattle.

Aggravated Assault

Aggravated assault is an unlawful attack by one person upon another with intent to inflict great bodily injury. Attempts are included, since it is not necessary that an injury result when a gun, knife, or other non-personal weapon is used which could and probably would result in serious injury if the crime were completed. Attacks with personal weapons (body force) that do not result in serious or substantial personal injury are classified as simple assault and discussed under Non-Index Crimes. Attempted murders are classified as aggravated assault. Assaults to commit robbery are classified as robbery in the Uniform Crime Reporting hierarchy. The term "battery" is synonymous with "assault".



The Milwaukee Police Department and the Wisconsin Office of Justice Assistance jointly review whether reports are counted as aggravated assault, or as sexual assault or simple assault, which are not Index crimes. In 1994, a change in state statutes made any assault causing "substantial bodily harm" a felony, rather than a misdemeanor simple assault (see the *Non-Index Crimes* section of this report). Substantial bodily harm includes any laceration requiring stitches, any bone fracture or burn, loss or fracture of a tooth, or temporary loss of consciousness.

After excluding reports determined to be unfounded, and making other adjustments, 2,862 aggravated assaults were counted in 2005, an increase of 57%. More than one-third involved a firearm, sometimes used solely as a threat. Almost one-third involved body force, with the remainder being knives or other weapons.

The National Center for Injury Prevention and Control has estimated that in the United States about 100,000 people a year are treated in hospital emergency rooms for non-fatal firearm injuries resulting from robberies and assaults.

The Uniform Crime Report count of 2,862 aggravated assaults gives a rate of 479 per 100,000 population. Data for other cities are shown in Appendix A. Boston, Memphis, and Washington had higher aggravated assault rates than Milwaukee. Denver's rate was not significantly different from Milwaukee. The other comparison cities had significantly lower rates.

The Milwaukee Police Department cleared 897 aggravated assaults, a clearance rate of 31%. 124 juveniles and 620 adults were arrested with aggravated assault as the primary charge.

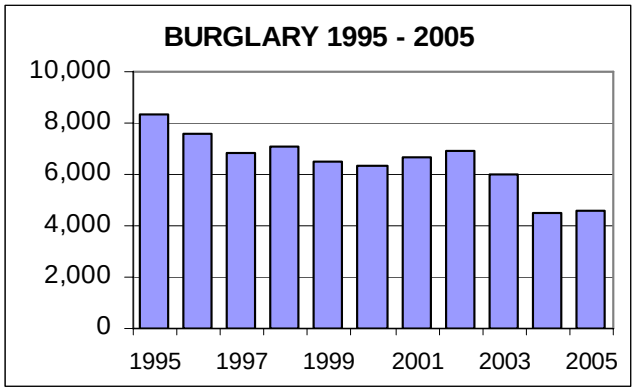
The State Department of Corrections, Division of Probation and Parole has a High Risk Unit in Milwaukee to supervise offenders who have reached mandatory release dates and who have a history of habitual serious assaults. In addition, the Wisconsin Department of Community Corrections Absconder Unit locates and arrests subjects wanted for violation of Probation or Parole; in 2005, the Absconder Unit arrested 129 violators.

Index Crimes Against Property

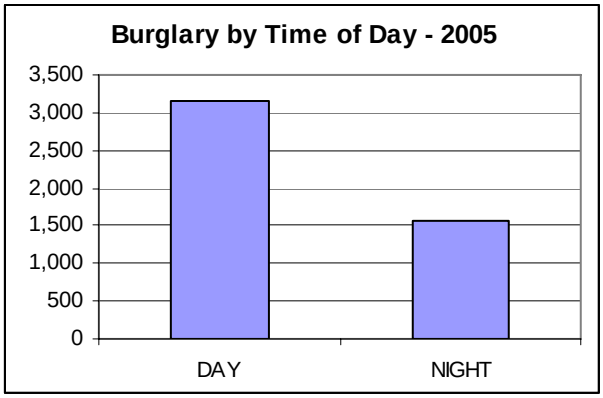
Burglary

Burglary is the unlawful entry of a structure to commit a felony or theft. The use of force to gain or attempt to gain entrance is not required to classify an offense as burglary. More than one-quarter of Milwaukee burglaries in 2005 did not involve forcible entry. A loss does not have to result from the illegal entry for it to be counted. Attempted burglaries are included.

After eliminating reports determined to be unfounded, the MPD counted 4,713 burglaries in 2005, essentially the same as the previous year. In areas with high rates, the MPD responds to burglary with intensive patrol and by targeting career criminals and juvenile involvement.



Half of all burglaries were residential. The 2,770 residential burglaries were equivalent to about one for every 84 households (based on the 2000 Census count of 232,188 households in Milwaukee).



Losses to residential burglary came to $5.4 million, with an average loss of $1,950. Almost two-thirds of residential burglaries occurred during the day, when residents are likely to be at work or school. It is believed that juveniles who are truant from school are responsible for many daytime burglaries.

There were 1,950 non-residential burglaries, with an average loss of $1,555 and a total loss of $3.0 million. Periods of extended absence, such as vacations, are particularly vulnerable times for both residential and business burglaries.

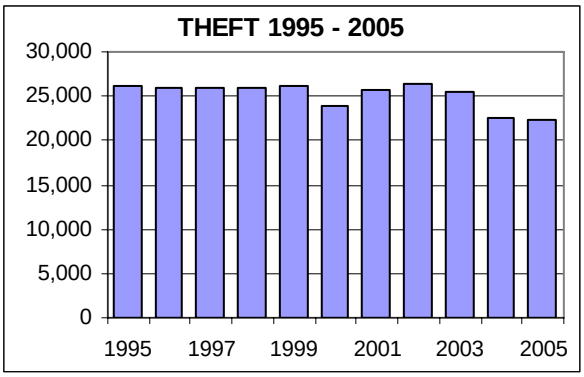
Excluding reports which after investigation were determined to be unfounded, the 4,713 burglaries in 2005 give a rate of 789 per 100,000 population. Data for comparison cities are shown in Appendix A. Milwaukee's burglary rate was significantly lower than Austin, Denver, Memphis and Seattle, but significantly higher than El Paso and Washington. Boston’s burglary rate was not significantly different from Milwaukee ($p>.01$)

The Milwaukee Police Department cleared 370 burglaries in 2005, a clearance rate of 8%. About two-fifths of those arrested with primary charges of burglary were juveniles (195); there were 281 adult arrests.

The MPD, with Milwaukee County Sheriff's Department, Milwaukee Public Schools (MPS), and Boys and Girls Clubs, initiated the Truancy Abatement/Burglary Suppression (TABS) program in November 1993. This is an intensive effort to locate truants, convey them to MPS centers, and notify their parents of the truancy. Reducing truancy reduces the number of daytime burglaries committed by juveniles, and reduces the number of juveniles who become victims of crime. TABS officers also make arrests and locate missing children as a result of stopping and questioning juveniles during school hours. TABS officers made almost 8,700 investigative stops in 2005, and took more than 3,800 truant juveniles to TABS centers. They issued more than 1,000 truancy and 200 other municipal violations, and made almost 1,350 arrests. In the summer months, the MPD operates the Curfew And Burglary Suppression program (CABS), enforcing curfew to reduce nighttime burglaries and to prevent crimes against children.

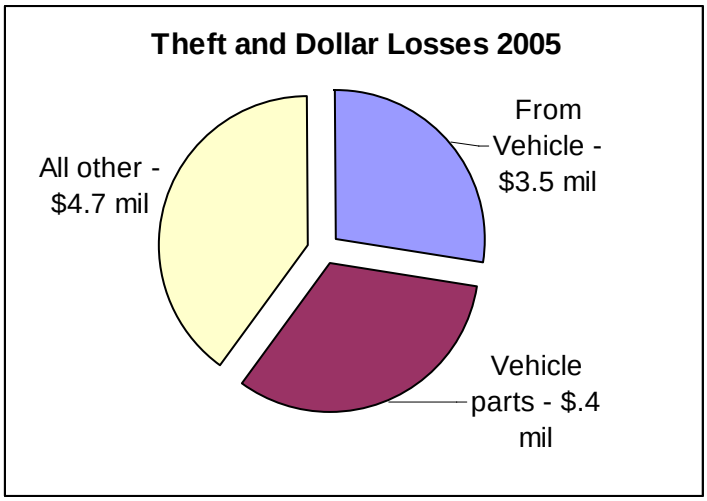
Theft

Larceny or theft is the unlawful taking away of property from the possession of another without the use of force, violence or fraud. It includes crimes such as shoplifting, pocket picking, purse snatching, thefts of motor vehicle parts and accessories, bicycle thefts, and so forth. Motor vehicle theft is a separate category, but thefts *from* automobiles, temporary residences and recreational dwellings (such as camping tents, trailers, houseboats and recreational vehicles) are included here. Embezzlement, con games, forgery, and worthless checks are not included.



After excluding reports which were determined on investigation to be unfounded, the MPD counted 22,269 thefts in 2005, a small decrease from the previous year. Theft is the most frequent Index crime, accounting for more than half of the adjusted Index total.

Thefts of property from motor vehicles, and thefts of motor vehicle parts and accessories, together were more than half of all thefts, with losses of $3.9 million. Thefts from vehicles are often avoidable by not leaving objects of value visible, and by locking vehicles. Losses to all other types of theft, including purse-snatching, shoplifting, theft from buildings, and all other types amounted to $4.7 million.



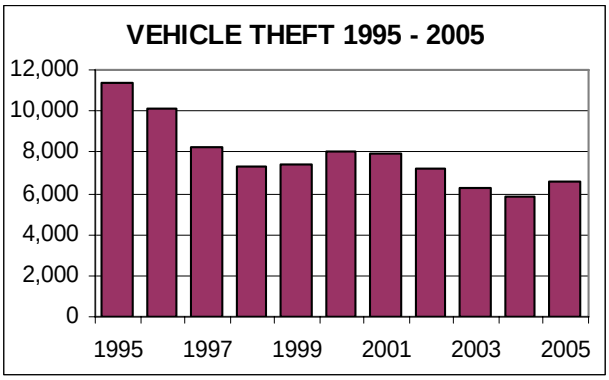
For comparison with other cities, Milwaukee's 22,269 thefts give a rate of 3,730 per 100,000 population. (See Appendix A) Austin, Memphis, and Seattle had significantly higher rates of theft than Milwaukee. Boston, Denver, El Paso and Washington had significantly lower rates.

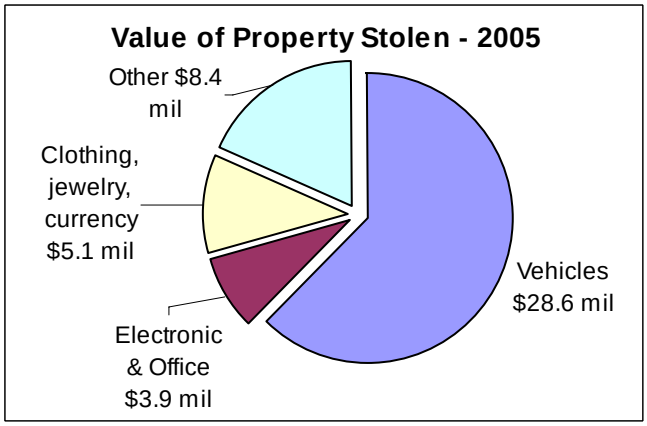
The Milwaukee Police Department cleared 776 thefts in 2005, a clearance rate of 3%. Of 787 persons arrested on primary charges of theft, 129 were juveniles.

Motor Vehicle Theft

Defined as the theft or attempted theft of a motor vehicle, this offense category includes the stealing of automobiles, trucks, buses, motorcycles, motor scooters, snowmobiles, etc. "Joy rides" are included. When a vehicle is taken from its owner by force or at weapon point, popularly called "car jacking", it is counted as a robbery, a crime of violence.

The MPD counted 6,600 motor vehicles stolen in 2005, an increase of 13% from the previous year. Average dollar loss from motor vehicle theft was $4,000 in 2005. The value of motor vehicles stolen was more than the value of all other property reported taken in Index crimes.





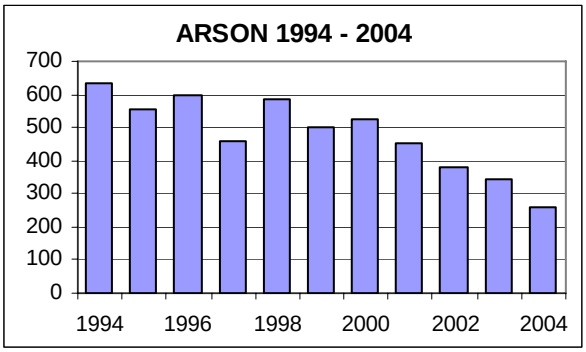
Although most stolen vehicles were recovered, the Milwaukee Police Department cleared just 9% of vehicle thefts, 604 clearances, in 2005. Clearances are difficult because there are generally no witnesses and no identifying evidence when the vehicle is found. While some popular automobile models are stolen for parts, others are stolen by juveniles for "showing off" to their peers. Motorcycle thefts often occur during garage burglaries.

Of 731 persons arrested on primary charges of motor vehicle theft, more than half (433) were juveniles. When a person is found in possession of a stolen vehicle, it is often difficult to prove responsibility for the theft, so the more common charge is receiving stolen property.

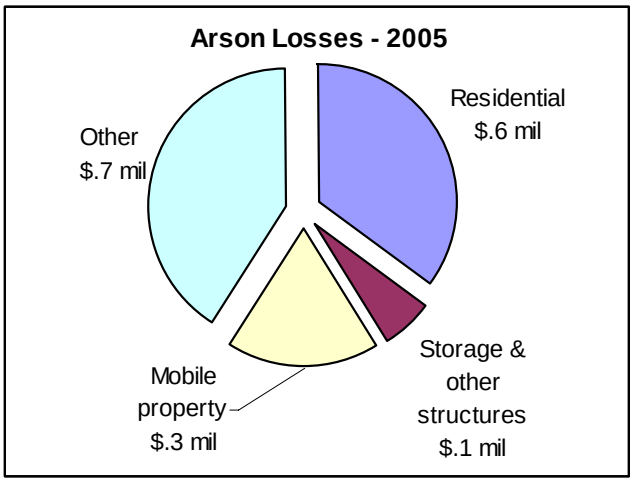
For UCR purposes, Milwaukee's 6,600 motor vehicle thefts in 2005 give a rate of 1,105 per 100,000 population. Austin, Boston, and El Paso had significantly lower rates of motor vehicle theft than Milwaukee. (Appendix A) The other four comparison cities had significantly higher rates.

Arson

Arson is defined by the Uniform Crime Reporting Program as any willful or malicious burning or attempt to burn, with or without intent to defraud, a dwelling, public building, motor vehicle, or other property. Only fires determined through investigation to have been willfully or maliciously set are classified as arson. Fires of suspicious or unknown origins are excluded.



Arson is the only Index crime excluded from the UCR hierarchy: all arsons are counted. That is, if a death occurs as a result of the arson, both the homicide and the arson are recorded. Arson is the least frequent of the Index property crimes, with 257 in 2005. The number of arsons rose in the 1990's, as new techniques and equipment increased the identification of arson as the cause of suspicious fires. Milwaukee's investigative techniques leave few fires of "unexplained origin".



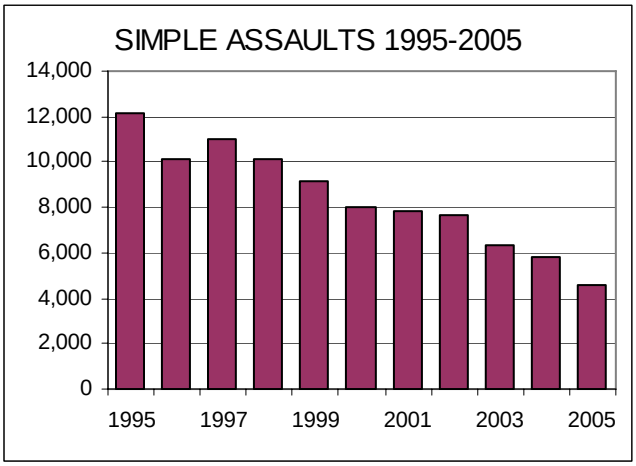
Arsons to mobile property, such as vehicles, trailers, and boats, resulted in losses valued at $300,000. Arson fires occurred in 31 single-family homes and 20 multi-family residences. Arson loss for single family homes averaged $14,000 per fire; multiple-family dwellings averaged $9,000 per fire. In total, arson was responsible for losses of $1.7 million.

Milwaukee's 257 arsons give a rate of 43 per 100,000 population for national comparison. Comparison data are not available for Boston. (Appendix A) Milwaukee's arson rate is not significantly different from the rates in Denver, Memphis, and Seattle ($p>.01$). Austin, El Paso, and Washington had significantly lower rates.

The Milwaukee Police Department cleared 38 arsons in 2005, a clearance rate of 15%. Twenty-four of the 44 arrests on primary charges of arson were juveniles. The Milwaukee Fire Department has a Juvenile Firesetters counseling program for children who have set fires or shown other fire-related behavior.

NON-INDEX CRIMES

Simple Assault



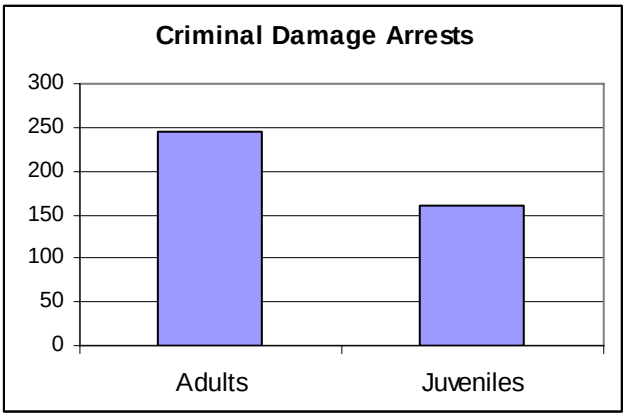
The terms "assault" and "battery" are equivalent. A distinction is made between *aggravated* assault, which includes an intent to inflict serious bodily injury, and simple assault. Simple assault is a physical attack in which a personal weapon, such as a fist, is used with the intent to cause bodily harm. Attacks with personal weapons that result in serious or substantial bodily injury are classified as aggravated assaults, an Index offense.

The Milwaukee Police Department received 4,548 reports of simple assault in 2005. In addition, some non-rape sexual assaults are added to this category each year.

Most simple assaults are cleared, because victims are often able to identify their assailants. The MPD arrested 261 juveniles and 2,152 adults for simple assault. Some offenses formerly counted in this category are now considered aggravated assault.

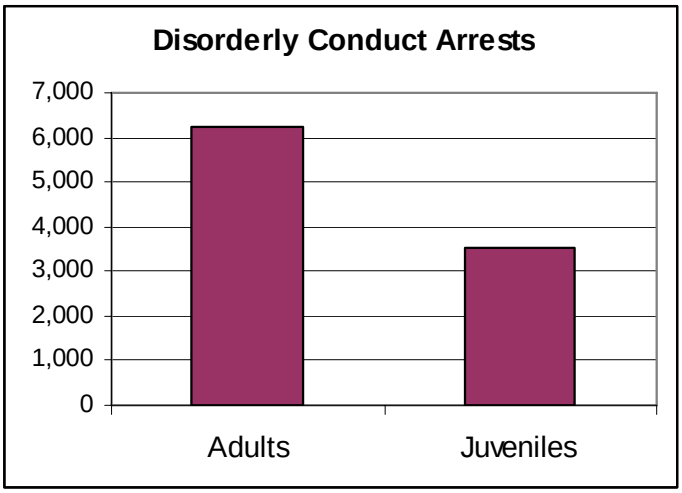
Criminal Damage and Other Quality of Life Offenses

Criminal Damage (vandalism) is intentional damage to the physical property of another person without that person's consent. It is one of the most commonly reported crimes, with more than 9,600 reports in 2005.



Few arrests are made for criminal damage, because it is most often discovered by the property owner some time after occurrence, with little evidence for police investigation. Arrests in 2005 included 161 juveniles and 246 adults. These and other quality of life numbers are lower than past years, because some arrests formerly reported in specific categories are now reported in a "miscellaneous" category.

The MPD, in coordination with other agencies and community groups, has a variety of neighborhood-based programs, addressing noise, graffiti, nuisance properties, tavern violations, and other quality of life offenses. Thousands of citations are issued for loud music, public drinking, and loitering. Attention to public order is believed to reduce serious crime.



Disorderly conduct, or "breach of the peace", accounted for one in six adult arrests and one in four juvenile arrests. There were 3,508 juvenile arrests and 6,254 adult arrests for disorderly conduct in 2005.

Vice activity includes drugs and prostitution. The MPD arrested 3,177 adults and 455 juveniles for drug offenses, and 513 adults and eleven juveniles for prostitution in 2005.

CRIME CLEARANCES AND ARRESTS

For UCR purposes, law enforcement agencies clear or solve an offense when at least one person is arrested, charged with 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 several persons may clear only one offense.

A crime is cleared by "exceptional means" when something beyond the control of the law enforcement agency precludes formal charges. This may be the death of the offender, the victim's refusal to cooperate after the identification of the offender, or the denial of extradition because the offender is being prosecuted for a different crime in another jurisdiction. To count a clearance in these cases, the law enforcement agency must have identified the offender, have enough evidence to support arrest, and know the offender's location.

Although expressed as a percentage of this year's crimes, clearances and arrests are counted in the year they occur, which may not be the same year the crime occurred. Therefore, there is always some rollover from year to year.

INDEX CRIMES CLEARED - 2005

Category	Offenses	Cleared	Percent
Homicide	122	87	71%
Forcible Rape	175	78	45%
Robbery	2,983	467	16%
Aggr.Assault	2,862	897	31%
Total Violent	6,142	1,529	25%
Burglary	4,713	370	8%
Larceny Theft	22,269	776	3%
Vehicle Theft	6,600	604	9%
Arson	257	38	15%
Total Property	33,839	1,788	5%
Grand Total	39,981	3,317	8%

Violent personal crimes were cleared more frequently than property crimes. Burglary, theft, and vehicle theft had the lowest clearance rates.

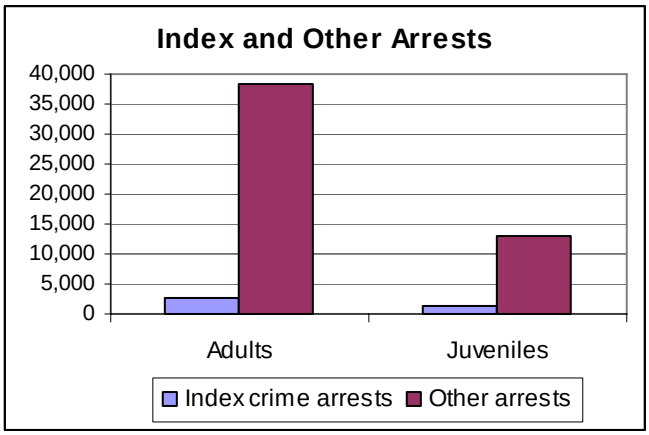
Juvenile involvement in crime is estimated from the number of crimes in which juveniles are identified as offenders. A clearance by arrest is recorded when an offender under the age of 18 is cited to appear in juvenile court or before other juvenile authorities.

Adult and Juvenile Arrests

Annual arrest statistics are a count of individuals arrested. In any year, one person may be arrested several times, and each is counted. The arrest of one individual may result in the clearance of many crimes, while the arrest of several individuals may clear only a single crime. Arrest statistics count only the most serious crime with which a person is charged at any time.

The Wisconsin Incident-Based Reporting System (WIBRS) counts only one clearance for each incident, even when multiple offenses are involved. Arrests are also counted only once for each incident, even when there are multiple offenses. WIBRS arrest numbers are not comparable to past arrest data.

There were 1,300 juvenile arrests for Index crimes in 2005. Index offenses were about one in eleven juvenile arrests, and juveniles were one-third of persons arrested for Index offenses this year.



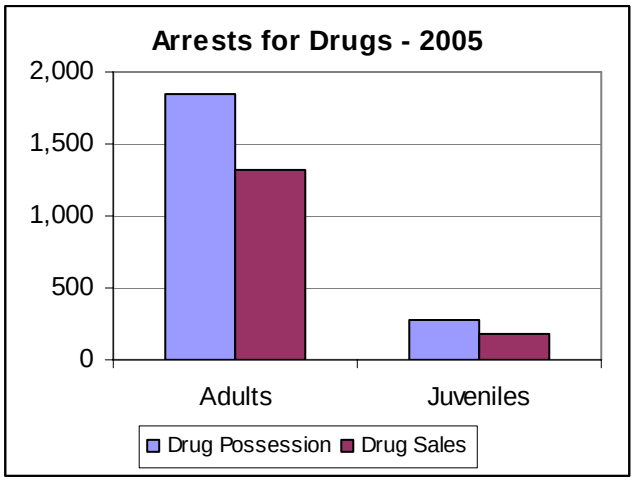
The number of juveniles arrested for ***all*** crimes, including Index crimes, was 14,291. Juveniles accounted for one-quarter of total arrests this year. Arrest rates (arrests per 1,000 population) are generally highest for 15 to 17 year-old boys.

There were 2,546 adult arrests for Index crimes, included in 40,732 adult arrests for ***all*** crimes. About one in sixteen adult arrests were for Index crimes.

Selected Non-Index Offense Arrests

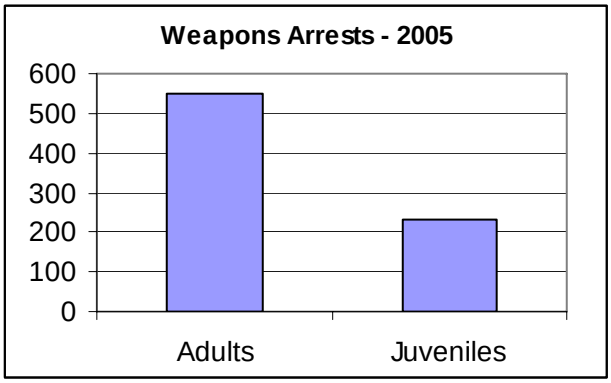
DRUG OFFENSES

Drug offenses are defined as the unlawful sale, manufacture, possession, or use of narcotics and other drugs. A drug arrest is counted only when this is the primary or sole reason for arrest. Many other arrests may include drug charges as a secondary element.



There were 1,845 adult arrests and 278 juvenile arrests for possession of drugs, and 1,314 adult and 174 juvenile arrests for selling drugs. One in seven people arrested for possession and one in eight arrested for selling drugs were juveniles.

WEAPONS OFFENSES

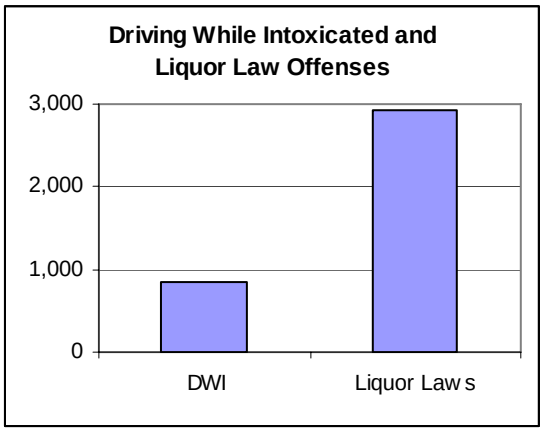


This category includes arrests for use, possession, furnishing, and manufacturing of deadly weapons or silencers. Arrests for crimes such as robbery, aggravated assault, and homicide in which a weapon was used are counted as that crime, not as weapons offenses. In 2005, there were 781 arrests primarily for weapons offenses, including 230 juvenile arrests. Milwaukee Police Department personnel confiscated 2,682 firearms in 2005.

DRIVING WHILE INTOXICATED AND LIQUOR LAW OFFENSES

Nationally, drunk drivers kill about 6,000 people annually and injure 500,000. Milwaukee had 842 DWI arrests in 2005, four of them juveniles.

Liquor law offenses are other violations of municipal and state liquor laws. There were 2,927 arrests in 2005, including 111 juveniles. This does not include persons arrested for other offenses who are legally intoxicated.



CURFEW, RUNAWAYS, AND MISSING PERSONS

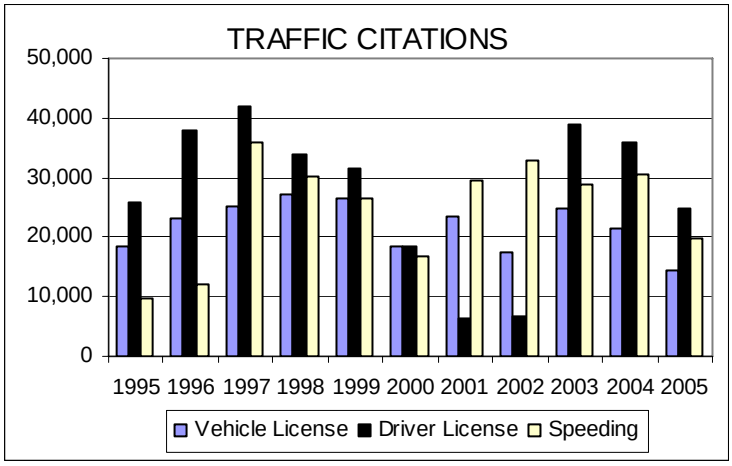
Juveniles may be taken into custody by the police for violation of local curfew ordinances. A juvenile arrested after curfew for a crime such as burglary is counted as an arrest for that crime. Curfew enforcement reduces juvenile involvement in crime, both as offenders and as victims. Parents may be cited for allowing juveniles to be out after curfew. In 2005, 1,346 juveniles and 135 parents were cited for curfew violations.

In 2005, 4,872 people were reported to the MPD as missing. Most were found or returned on their own. Many missing juveniles are runaways; some repeat runaways may have been reported missing more than once during the year. Missing persons considered “critical” include young children, suicidal persons, and others believed to be unable to care for themselves or needing regular medication.

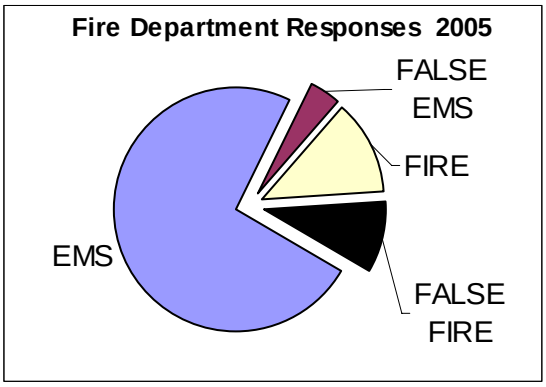
TRAFFIC OFFENSE CITATIONS

Parking enforcement is carried out by the City's Department of Public Works (DPW). While Police Officers still issue parking tickets when they observe a violation, most are issued by DPW parking checkers. Parking tickets are not included in this report.

Driver license citations decreased from 1997 to 2001, then rose to earlier levels, with just under 25,000 in 2005. There were about 20,000 speeding tickets, and more than 14,000 vehicle license citations. Other common traffic citations are for seat belt violations, disregarding traffic lights, signs, or officers' signals, operating after suspension or revocation of driver's license, and failure to yield right of way.



FIRE ALARMS AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES



In 2005, the Milwaukee Fire Department (MFD) dispatched 14,944 Fire Alarm responses, including 6,351 responses to false fire alarms. The MFD also responded to 53,303 Emergency Medical Service (EMS) calls, including 2,861 false EMS alarms. Some false fire alarms and many false emergency medical alarms are due to honest mistakes and misunderstandings. In more than 90% of all incidents, an MFD unit reached the scene within five minutes.

In addition to MFD responses, 26,852 EMS calls were transferred to private ambulance services, as specified by the City of Milwaukee EMS dispatching protocol.

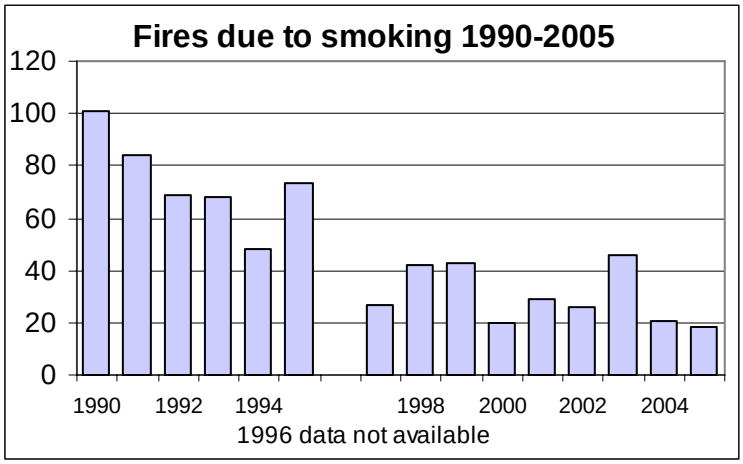
"Fire" alarms include any dangerous situation that is not classified as medical. These may be gas leaks, oil spills, water leaks, electrical problems or malfunctioning appliances, extrications from vehicles involved in accidents, and a wide variety of other situations in addition to fires.

The MFD has several specially trained units which perform extra duties in addition to traditional fire-fighting and EMS functions. The Dive Rescue Team responds to water incidents. The Hazardous Materials Team responds to incidents involving the unintentional release of hazardous materials. The Heavy Urban Rescue Team (HURT) responds to building collapses, construction site incidents, confined space emergencies, and similar situations, including rescue of trapped firefighters. Special team responses, while infrequent, may require extensive Fire Department time on scene, as well as advance readiness in the form of specialized training and equipment. In 2005, special teams responded to 20 hazardous material requests for service, 29 dive rescue requests for service, and 9 heavy urban rescue requests for service. A response that includes more than one special team is counted only once.

From 1987 through 1991, Milwaukee averaged 22 fire deaths per year, most in residences that did not have operating smoke detectors. The FOCUS program (Firefighters Out Creating Urban Safety) was created in 1991 to reduce fire deaths. Firefighters go door-to-door in targeted areas to install and check smoke detectors, replace batteries, provide fire safety tips, and answer questions. The average yearly number of fire deaths (city-wide) from 1992 through 2005 was ten, including sixteen in 2005. This number has increased in the last three years. (See "Deaths Related to Public Safety", page 5.)

The MFD has also created a First Responder Program; after responding to a fire alarm, firefighters install smoke detectors if none are present, and replace batteries in existing detectors.

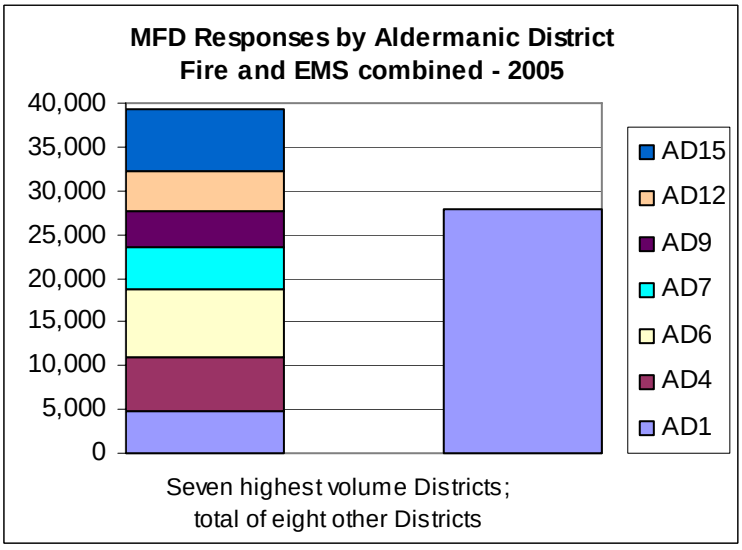
The MFD reports that in 2005, 18 non-fatal fires were due to careless smoking, one-fifth the number in 1990. These numbers have generally decreased since the inception of FOCUS.



Other Fire Department education and prevention efforts include the Fire Safety House, where 14,000 elementary school children learned "Survive Alive" techniques this year. The Sesame Street program was presented to 2,352 younger children. The mobile Fire Safety trailer is used to teach escape methods to children and adults. The Department presents residential, school, and workplace fire safety, extinguisher, and evacuation programs, and works with City Building Inspection and the Red Cross to identify homes without smoke detectors. Paramedics and Emergency Medical Technicians staff information booths and assist with stroke screening at community events.

Fires caused structural damage and loss of contents amounting to almost $16 million in 2005. Residential losses were the largest part, at $10.2 million. Many residences did not have operating smoke detectors. Losses to other fires, including vehicle and other non-building fires, amounted to $5 million.

Like crime, the incidence of fire and emergency medical services is not evenly distributed throughout the City. Fire responses ranged from 350 in Aldermanic District 11 to 1,400 in Districts Four and Six. Medical responses ranged from 1,800 in District 11 to more than 6,300 in District Six.



For a fire or other non-medical alarm, the minimum MFD response is a pumping engine and a ladder truck. More typically, the response would include three pumping engines, two ladder trucks, a fire squad, and two battalion chiefs.

If it is known that people are trapped, a paramedic vehicle would also be dispatched. There were 33 “greater alarms” in 2005, major incidents requiring additional equipment and personnel to respond.

EMS responses account for four-fifths of Fire Department “runs”. Like fire alarms, the number of emergency medical alarms is usually highest in the summer. The majority of EMS responses required Basic Life Support (BLS), which includes patient evaluation, monitoring of pulse, blood pressure, and breathing, bandaging wounds and splinting fractures, and the performance of Cardio-Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) and cardiac defibrillation.

All Fire Department vehicles are equipped with defibrillators, a life-saving device used to control irregular heart activity. The MFD implemented a Public Access Defibrillator (PAD) program in 2005, distributing 40 automatic defibrillators to the City Hall Complex and Milwaukee Public Libraries.

A Basic Life Support alarm usually results in dispatch of a single BLS unit, which may be an engine, ladder truck, or fire squad staffed by Firefighter-EMT’s. Almost all members of the Milwaukee Fire Department are trained as Emergency Medical Technicians (EMT), and many have received additional training to qualify them as Paramedics. Fourteen firefighters began this training in 2005.

Although CPR and defibrillation can be administered as part of Basic Life Support, any call to 911 which indicates a life-threatening condition, including a person who is not breathing or has no pulse, receives an Advanced Life Support response. More than 40% of EMS responses needed Advanced Life Support, requiring a higher degree of training and medical technology to administer drugs and use specialized equipment. The Fire Department's ten paramedic units respond to Advanced Life Support incidents requiring higher levels of intervention.

The MFD responded, on average, to 41 fire and other non-medical alarms each day this year, and to 146 medical alarms each day. Both numbers include false alarms. Thirty-six firehouses throughout the City allow rapid response to the scene of an incident. Fire Department personnel and equipment were on scene within five minutes in more than 90% of the incidents to which the MFD responded.

The MFD has a service contract with the village of West Milwaukee to provide full fire and EMS service, and all service statistics cited in this report include West Milwaukee. In addition, the MFD has an EMS backup agreement with Milwaukee County suburbs. This year, the Department made 470 suburban responses.

APPENDIX A SUMMARY OF 2005 INDEX CRIMES IN COMPARISON CITIES

CRIMES AGAINST PERSONS AND RATE PER 100,000 POPULATION

CITY	Homicide	Rate	Rape	Rate	Robbery	Rate	Ag.Aslt.	Rate
Milwaukee	**122**	**20.4**	**175**	**29.3**	**2,983**	**499.7**	**2,862**	**479.4**
Austin	26	4.0	312	47.5	1,182	180.0	1,873	285.3
Boston	73	12.4	268	45.5	2,649	449.6	4,489	762.0
Denver	59	10.6	328	59.1	1,432	258.2	2,673	481.9 *
El Paso	13	2.3	282	50.0	448	79.5	1,854	328.9
Memphis	136	20.9 *	406	62.5	4,464	686.7	7,624	1172.7
Seattle	25	4.4	138	24.5 *	1,607	285.2	2,339	415.2
Washington	195	34.1	165	28.8 *	3,502	612.2	3,854	673.7

CRIMES AGAINST PROPERTY AND RATE PER 100,000 POPULATION

CITY	Burglary	Rate	Theft	Rate	Vehicle	Rate	Arson	Rate
Milwaukee	**4,713**	**789.5**	**22,269**	**3730.3**	**6,600**	**1105.6**	**257**	**43.1**
Austin	7,285	1109.6	31,835	4848.7	2,548	388.1	115	17.5
Boston	4,531	769.1 *	15,957	2708.5	4,717	800.7		#
Denver	7,360	1327.0	18,518	3338.8	8,024	1446.7	256	46.2 *
El Paso	2,125	377.0	14,684	2605.1	2,572	456.3	161	28.6
Memphis	15,841	2436.7	32,596	5014.0	8,302	1277.0	225	34.6 *
Seattle	6,761	1200.1	27,147	4818.6	9,563	1697.5	217	38.5 *
Washington	3,571	624.2	14,162	2475.6	7,467	1305.3	61	10.7

CITY	2000 Population	Violent Index	Rate	Property Index	Rate	Total Index	Rate
Milwaukee	**596,974**	**6,142**	**1,028.9**	**33,839**	**5,668.4**	**39,981**	**6,697.3**
Austin	656,562	3,393	516.8	41,783	6,363.9	45,176	6,880.7
Boston	589,141	7,479	1,269.5	25,205	4,278.3 #	32,684	5,547.7 #
Denver	554,636	4,492	809.9	34,158	6,158.6	38,650	6,968.5
El Paso	563,662	2,597	460.7	19,542	3,467.0	22,139	3,927.7
Memphis	650,100	12,630	1,942.8	56,964	8,762.3	69,594	10,705.1
Seattle	563,374	4,109	729.4	43,688	7,754.7	47,797	8,484.1
Washington	572,059	7,716	1,348.8	25,261	4,415.8	32,977	5,764.6

#Arson not reported for Boston - significance not tested for Property total or Index total.
*Not significantly different from Milwaukee's rate (chi-square test, p>.01)

APPENDIX B - FIRE AND MEDICAL RESPONSES

showing fire deaths and fire rates per 1,000 population

ALDERMANIC DISTRICT	Population	2005 FIRES*	FIRE* RATE	FIRE DEATHS	2004-2005 DEATHS	2005 MEDICAL	TOTAL RESPONSES
1	38,537	1,053	27.3	3	3	3,680	4,733
2	40,304	807	20.0		1	3,223	4,030
3	41,663	801	19.2			2,179	2,980
4	37,859	1,403	37.1		1	4,897	6,300
5	41,687	608	14.6			2,121	2,729
6	41,552	1,401	33.7	3	4	6,366	7,767
7	41,260	972	23.6		2	3,856	4,828
8	38,067	678	17.8	1	1	2,778	3,456
9	40,214	1,009	25.1	2	3	3,004	4,013
10	40,949	618	15.1		1	2,376	2,994
11	38,807	350	9.0			1,796	2,146
12	40,315	906	22.5			3,685	4,591
13	38,191	566	14.8			2,376	2,942
14	38,206	561	14.7			1,990	2,551
15	39,363	1,322	33.6	7	12	5,752	7,074
West Milwaukee		301				1,062	1,363
	596,974	13,356	22.4	16	28	51,141	64,497

COMMENT: There were sixteen deaths in nine fires this year.

*Includes non-fire hazardous emergencies.

Rate is computed by dividing population by 1,000, then dividing the number of events (fires and other hazard emergencies) by that result. For example: District 1, 38,537/1,000=38.537 (number of thousands)
1,053 fires/38.537=27.3 , the rate of fires per thousand residents.

This report uses fifteen Aldermanic Districts, as re-districted in April 2004 based on the 2000 Census. The number of Districts and District boundaries differ from those used prior to 2004.

See text, "Deaths Related to Public Safety", for fire deaths and fatal fires each year.