

Police

The total of all crimes reported in Minneapolis decreased by 8% from 2002 to 2003, an improvement over the 2001 to 2002 decline of 4%. Part I Crimes were generally more serious offenses and were followed closely as an indicator of crime trends. Overall, Part I offenses decreased 7% from 2002 to 2003. Again, this showed an improvement over the period 2001 to 2002, which exhibited only a 3.4% decrease. Part II offenses (generally less serious crimes) decreased by 8% from 2002 to 2003. This was an improvement over the rate of 2001 to 2002, which displayed a 7% decline.

These crime data were organized using Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) criteria, where only the most serious offense in a multiple offense incident was tabulated. The Uniform Crime Report was governed by national standards established by the U.S. Department of Justice, and is the official statement and reporting method of the Minneapolis Police Department and all other police departments and law enforcement agencies across the country.

Homicides - Minneapolis recorded 46 homicides during 2003, down substantially from 1995 when the number was at 97. These numbers have continuously tapered off, but at a slower rate in recent years.

Criminal Sexual Conduct - There were 399 reports of forcible rape during 2003. This is a 4% increase over the number of cases in 2002, but a substantial improvement from the 489 reported cases in 1998.

Prostitution - Reports of prostitution declined from 2002 to 714 cases in 2003, a 24% decrease. The 2003 figure was down dramatically from the 1,293 cases reported in 2000.

Robbery - 2003 saw 2,220 reports of robbery, up 22% from the 1,824 reported in 2002. For the period 1998 to 2002, the reports of robbery showed a steady decline each year.

Assault - Aggravated assault reports decreased very slightly from 2002 to 2003, from 1,945 to 1,925. Simple assaults were reported in 2003 at a level of 8,226 – down from 8,963 in 2002. The incidents of simple assault have continued to decline from 1998, when 12,679 were reported.

Burglary - Burglary offenses continued to show an increasing trend, from 4,464 in 2002 to 4,512 in 2003. While this is an increase over the past year, the 2003 offenses were measurably lower than the 6,560 reported in 1998.

Motor Vehicle Theft - 2003 saw 3,598 motor vehicle thefts, up from 3,513 in 2002.

Vandalism - The number of vandalism offenses totaled 10,469 in 2002, falling to 9,608 in 2003.

The following tables show 1998-2002 data and compare the number of reported UCR offenses and arrests for 2000 and 2001.

Offenses Reported to the Police, 1998-2003

Uniform Crime Reports Basis

Major Offenses (UCR Part I)

Offense Classification	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	% Change 2002-03
Criminal Homicide	58	47	50	43	46	46	-2
Forcible Rape	489	479	444	407	385	399	4
Robbery	2,400	2,122	1,982	1,957	1,824	2,220	22
Aggravated Assault	2,691	2,387	2,015	1,732	1,945	1,925	-1
Burglary	6,560	5,634	4,566	4,111	4,465	4,512	1
Larceny-Theft	18,322	16,552	14,915	14,581	14,754	12,477	-15
Motor Vehicle Theft	4,540	3,941	3,898	4,111	3,515	3,598	2
Arson	427	298	268	260	266	250	-6
Total Major Offenses Reported	35,487	31,460	28,138	27,202	27,200	25,427	-7

Other Offenses

UCR (Part II)

Simple Assault	12,679	11,945	11,279	9,693	8,963	8,226	-8
Vandalism	7,864	7,596	9,593	11,247	10,443	9,608	-8
Weapons Violation	850	780	680	595	646	626	-8
Prostitution	1,276	1,039	1,293	1,149	935	714	-24
Sex Offenses	678	692	621	599	629	535	-15
Narcotic Drug Laws	4,204	4,032	3,825	3,785	3,545	3,395	-4
Driving Under Influence	1,435	1,344	1,096	1,023	1,004	869	-13
All Other Part II	16,556	17,509	17,110	17,290	16,198	14,949	-8
Total Part II	45,542	44,937	45,497	45,329	42,363	38,922	-8
Total All Crimes	81,029	76,397	73,635	72,583	69,563	64,349	-8

Source: City of Minneapolis Police Department

Total Persons Arrested

1998 - 2003

Major Offenses

(UCR Part I)	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	% Change 2002- 2003
Criminal Homicide	60	40	39	34	38	20	-47
Forcible Rape	166	168	131	125	120	129	6
Robbery	453	426	453	489	436	393	-10
Aggravated Assault	1,133	1,041	944	871	837	763	-9
Burglary	488	474	411	327	322	336	3
Larceny	2,137	2,023	1,850	1,724	1,684	1,463	-14
Motor Vehicle Theft	700	709	711	618	605	581	-4
Arson	55	25	23	20	23	17	-26
Total Part I Arrests	5,192	4,906	4,562	4,208	4,065	3,702	-9

**Other Offenses
(UCR Part II)**

Simple Assault	4,608	4,100	3,673	3,422	3,194	2,955	-8
Vandalism	1,204	1,203	1,219	1,194	1,011	985	-3
Weapons Violations	847	800	690	571	696	692	-1
Prostitution	2,032	1,458	1,826	1,567	1,183	886	-25
Other Sex Offenses	99	105	102	107	136	88	-35
Narcotic/Drug Laws	4,526	4,282	4,144	3,982	3,733	3,572	-4
Driving Under Influence	1,438	1,384	1,124	1,048	1,024	879	-14
Other Part II Offenses	19,738	20,379	18,954	19,388	17,115	15,946	-7
Total Part II Arrests	34,510	33,711	31,732	31,267	28,092	26,003	-8
Total Arrests	39,702	38,617	36,294	35,487	32,157	29,705	-8

Source: City of Minneapolis Police Department

Profile of Police Service Demand

City policing entailed much more than law enforcement and control of crime. Police were called upon to resolve family problems, deal with various other citizen conflicts, and to respond to miscellaneous non-criminal emergencies, many of which posed a serious threat to persons and property. Police were primarily reactive in their tactics. The vast majority of criminal incidents that the police handled came to the attention of the police through information provided by citizens. Consequently, citizen cooperation with the police was the vital link for effective order maintenance and crime control. Information on citizen calls for assistance revealed a great deal about the nature of urban policing.

Over the past few years, the department embarked on efforts to better serve the public by more efficient utilization of resources. In 1990, the department instituted a telephone report line called Tele-Serve, which reduces the need to send a squad to every call a more costly resource.

Call Breakdown: Service vs. Crime

	2001	2002
Service	73%	71%
Crime	27%	29%

Source: Minneapolis Police Department

Summary of Crime Calls

	2001	2002
Property Crimes	39.0%	42.4%
Domestics	21.7%	19.8%
Assaults	18.0%	17.6%
Miscellaneous	16.9%	16.9%
Robbery	3.0%	2.7%
Sex Crimes	1.3%	1.3%

Source: Minneapolis Police Department

Summary of Service Calls

	2001	2002
Disturbances	46.6%	42.1%
Traffic	31.3%	35.8%
Alarms	8.2%	7.6%
Medic/Welfare	6.8%	6.9%
Assisting People	6.4%	6.9%
Hazards	0.6%	0.7%

Source: Minneapolis Police Department

Summary of Part I & Part II Crime Calls

	2001	2002
Part I Crimes	38%	39%
Part II Crimes	62%	61%

Source: Minneapolis Police Department

Police Calls for Service Dispatched by Precinct

	2001	2002	2003
Downtown Command (First Precinct)	14%	13%	15%
Second Precinct	12%	13%	13%
Third Precinct	29%	30%	29%
Fourth Precinct	24%	24%	23%
Fifth Precinct	21%	20%	19%

Source: Minneapolis Police Department

Police Calls for Service Dispatched by Time of Day

	2001	2002	2003
'0001-0400'	17%	16%	16%
'0401-0800'	7%	7%	7%
'0801-1200'	16%	15%	15%
'1201-1600'	19%	19%	18%
'1601-2000'	23%	22%	21%
'2001-0000'	18%	21%	24%

Source: Minneapolis Police Department

Calls for Service Dispatched by Month

	2001		2002		2003	
	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number
January	7.8%	25,086	7.7%	25,807	7.5%	23,728
February	6.6%	21,356	7.3%	24,539	6.3%	20,162
March	7.9%	25,317	7.5%	25,213	7.9%	24,966
April	8.6%	27,656	8.1%	27,127	8.3%	26,524
May	9.2%	29,676	8.9%	29,896	9.3%	29,407
June	8.6%	27,749	9.4%	31,340	9.6%	30,539
July	8.5%	27,495	9.6%	32,184	9.8%	31,178
August	9.2%	29,500	9.7%	32,495	9.9%	31,611
September	8.6%	27,622	8.7%	29,124	8.9%	28,239
October	9.0%	29,099	8.0%	26,884	8.4%	26,700
November	8.2%	26,328	7.4%	24,827	7.1%	22,508
December	7.8%	25,002	7.4%	24,762	7.0%	22,235

Source: Minneapolis Police Department

Total Calls for Police Service Processed by the Minneapolis Emergency Communications Center

YEAR	TOTAL CALLS	TELE-SERVE CALLS
2003	343,367	5,344
2002	334,198	9,465
2001	321,886	9,617
2000	362,645	9,270
1999	392,403	10,791
1998	414,548	16,769
1997	393,514	17,142
1996	396,139	24,123
1995	388,057	23,649
1994	379,594	23,210
1993	362,512	23,664
1992	349,029	24,966
1991	338,871	30,176
1990	342,126	25,936

Source: Minneapolis Police Department

Crime Prevention and Problem Solving Programs

The Police Department offered people who lived or worked in Minneapolis a variety of crime prevention programs through the Community Crime Prevention/SAFE (CCP/SAFE) Unit. CCP/SAFE paired specially trained police officers with civilian crime prevention specialists. Together, they worked in partnership with the community to reduce crime, resolve livability problems, build community and reduce fear. Several programs were administered through this partnership:

Block/Apartment Club Organizing (Neighborhood Watch) - Block and apartment clubs were made up of neighbors working together to be alert and to watch out for each other. They took responsibility for the quality of life in their area and worked to build a sense of community through various group activities. They also distributed crime prevention material, educated residents, and took action to deter crime. Each club was coordinated by one or

more trained volunteer leaders. Training for new block leaders was offered frequently throughout the City.

Neighborhood Problem Solving (SAFE program) - Staff assisted residents in addressing issues that affected the quality of life in the city such as drug dealing, loud parties, prostitution or unsupervised youth. In more complex situations, resources from other City departments, County services, and other agencies were drawn into the problem-solving process. These problems were often based in residences. Staff also dealt with many other livability problems that were not formally tracked.

National Night Out (NNO) - National Night Out highlighted the strength of citizen involvement in crime prevention. Residents gathered with their neighbors on the first Tuesday in August at block events throughout the city. Participation in NNO helped maintain Minneapolis' extensive network of block and apartment clubs.

McGruff Houses - McGruff Houses were homes where children could get temporary assistance in emergency situations (lost, hurt, locked out, crime victim, etc.). McGruff signs identified these homes where screened and trained volunteers lived. People who were regularly home during the day and who could occasionally help children were encouraged to volunteer.

Personal Safety Information - Staff educated residents and people who worked in Minneapolis about personal safety in a variety of venues, from large company employee presentations to informal talks with residents. More in-depth personal safety workshops were also offered in partnership with self-defense experts.

Home Security Information - Staff offered information to interested groups on low cost ways to improve home security and reduce the risk of being burglarized. Specially trained staff also assessed the security strengths and weaknesses of individual homes.

Information about Crimes and Crime Patterns - Crime Alerts were produced by staff and distributed by residents when certain crime patterns arose. These alerts outlined the facts, gave available suspect information, and provided prevention information. An "Attention Residents" flyer was used to inform people in a small area of a particularly serious crime or people in a larger area of a general increase in crime. Both types of documents were available on the city's web page.

Crime Prevention for Businesses - Staff regularly met with business representatives to discuss their unique crime concerns, such as robbery, shoplifting, and employee theft.

Rental Property Owner Education - Owners and managers of rental property learned management techniques, how to deal with illegal activities, and how to organize for crime prevention. Staff offered individual meetings with property owners, managers and owner associations as well as eight-hour workshops that were the first phase of the Crime Free Multi-Housing Program.