

2006 Summary

Welcome to the *2006 Denver Neighborhood Statistical Crime Report*. This document provides data on a statistical neighborhood and citywide basis for 2006 and 2005, and it also includes charts showing the 10-year trends for major crime types. Detailed information about the data included in this report is contained in the section "Understanding Crime Data." Specifically, this document includes the following sections:

Table 1: Contents of the 2006 Report	
SECTION	DESCRIPTION
1. 2006 Summary	Change in Reported Offenses from 2005 to 2006 and a citywide and neighborhood analysis of the key changes.
2. Citywide Crime-type Tables	Tables for individual crime types and crime categories, listing each neighborhood's 2005 and 2006 reported offenses, change calculations, per capita numbers, and various rankings.
3. Neighborhood Detail	Tables for each neighborhood, depicting the numeric incidence of individual crime types for 2005 and 2006, as well as the change, and maps for each neighborhood showing the relative density of crime.
4. Citywide Crime Maps	Citywide maps showing the change in reported offenses from 2005 to 2006 by individual crime types and crime categories, and a point or density map showing where each crime type occurred in 2006.
5. National and Local Trends	Denver's 2005 crime compared to select U.S. cities, as well as charts of 10-year Denver trends for reported offenses and arrests.
6. Understanding Crime Data	Detailed description of the data included in this report, links to other sources of information, and definitions.

Citywide Summary

Crime in Denver declined steadily throughout 2006, ending the year down 10% as compared to all crimes reported in 2005. Index crimes – the serious crime categories tracked and reported nationally by the FBI – were down 14%. In all, there were 46,020 crimes reported in Denver in 2006, approximately 83 offenses per 1,000 Denver residents.¹

The following table summarizes the citywide change in crime from 2005 to 2006:

¹ Population figures in this report are based on 2000 U.S. Census Bureau estimates, which show Denver's population at 554,636. See "Understanding Crime Data" for an explanation of the source of Census data.

Table 2-A: Change in Reported Offenses, 2005 to 2006				
OFFENSE	2005	2006	CHANGE	PERCENT CHANGE
Part 1 Crimes against Persons				
Homicide	61	55	- 6	- 9.8%
Sexual Assault	348	373	+ 25	+ 7.2%
Robbery	1,439	1,285	- 154	- 10.7%
Aggravated Assault	2,221	2,244	+ 23	+ 1.0%
<i>Subtotal</i>	<i>4,069</i>	<i>3,957</i>	<i>- 112</i>	<i>- 2.8%</i>
Part 1 Crimes against Property				
Burglary	7,360	6,538	- 822	- 11.2%
Larceny				
Theft from Motor Vehicle	9,363	7,382	- 1,981	- 21.2%
Other Larceny	6,490	6,146	- 344	- 5.3%
Auto Theft	7,835	6,211	- 1,624	- 20.7%
Arson	244	191	- 53	- 21.7%
<i>Subtotal</i>	<i>31,292</i>	<i>26,468</i>	<i>- 4,824</i>	<i>- 15.4%</i>
Total Part 1 Crimes	35,361	30,425	- 4,936	- 14.0%
Total Part 2 Crimes	15,579	15,595	+ 16	+ 0.1%
GRAND TOTAL (Part 1 & 2)	50,940	46,020	- 4,920	- 9.7%

Violent Crime Counters National Trend

The FBI and the Police Executive Research Forum published reports in 2006 citing the marked increase in violent crime nationally in 2005 and 2006. Much attention has been paid to this issue, and Denver has certainly seen its share of violent crimes. Nonetheless, Denver's Part 1 violent crime declined by 3% in 2006 vs. 2005, a reduction of about 100 offenses that was led by a decrease in robberies. In particular:

- Homicide declined a further 10%, from 61 to 55, following a 33% reduction from 2004 to 2005 (from 91 homicides in 2004).
- Sexual assault, on the other hand, increased by 7% in 2006, from 348 to 373. This increase follows a 25% increase in 2005.

Property Crime Leads Citywide Reduction

Part 1 property crimes were down over 15% in 2006 and declined in every category. Specifically:

- Thefts from motor vehicle – a type of larceny – dropped by 21%, nearly 2,000 fewer offenses than in 2005. Overall larceny was down 15%.
- There were 1,624 fewer auto thefts in 2006 than in 2005, a 21% reduction. Still, 17 cars are stolen on an average day in Denver. In 2004, 20 cars were stolen daily.
- Burglaries were reduced by 11% to 6,538 in 2006, after having remained at roughly the same level in 2004 and 2005.

Part 2 Crime Level

Overall, Part 2 offenses stayed the same in 2006 after rising by 11% from 2004 to 2005. Significant variation existed among individual crime categories, however, as summarized below:

Table 2-B: Change in Part 2 Offenses, 2005 to 2006				
OFFENSE	2005	2006	CHANGE	PERCENT CHANGE
Part 2 Other Crimes Against Persons				
Other Assaults	2,147	1,966	-181	-8.4%
Other Sex Offenses	695	654	-41	-5.9%
Offenses Against Family/Children	225	275	50	22.2%
<i>Subtotal</i>	<i>3,067</i>	<i>2,895</i>	<i>-172</i>	<i>-5.6%</i>
Part 2 Public Disorder Crimes				
Criminal Mischief	6,463	6,296	-167	-2.6%
Prostitution/Commercialized Vice	11	17	6	54.5%
Disorderly Conduct	834	734	-100	-12.0%
<i>Subtotal</i>	<i>7,308</i>	<i>7,047</i>	<i>-261</i>	<i>-3.6%</i>
Part 2 Drug/Alcohol Offenses				
Drug Abuse Violations	2,392	2,582	190	7.9%
Liquor Law Violations	2	0	-2	-100.0%
<i>Subtotal</i>	<i>2,394</i>	<i>2,582</i>	<i>188</i>	<i>7.9%</i>
Part 2 White Collar Crimes				
Forgery/Counterfeiting	381	287	-94	-24.7%
Fraud	937	1,138	201	21.5%
Embezzlement	16	107	91	568.8%
<i>Subtotal</i>	<i>1,334</i>	<i>1,532</i>	<i>198</i>	<i>14.8%</i>
Part 2 All Other Crimes				
Stolen Property	74	57	-17	-23.0%
Weapons	314	292	-22	-7.0%
All Other Offenses	1,088	1,190	102	9.4%
<i>Subtotal</i>	<i>1,476</i>	<i>1,539</i>	<i>63</i>	<i>4.3%</i>
GRAND TOTAL (Part 2)	15,579	15,595	16	0.1%

Neighborhood Perspective

Denver's reduction in crime affected most areas of the City. Just 14 of 78 neighborhoods experienced an increase in overall crime, while the remaining 64 saw a decrease in reported crime.

Change in Total Crime

The following neighborhoods had the greatest percent changes in the total number of crimes:

Table 3-A: Greatest Percent Increases in Total Crime			
NEIGHBORHOOD	FREQUENCY INCREASE	PERCENT INCREASE	RANK IN CRIMES PER 1,000 PERSONS
1. Gateway/Green Valley Ranch	+ 232	+ 29.8%	14
2. Southmoor Park	+ 35	+ 29.2%	57
3. Denver International Airport	+ 62	+ 14.3%	N/A ²
4. Union Station	+ 115	+ 13.5%	N/A ²
5. Clayton	+ 41	+ 11.4%	26

Table 3-B: Greatest Percent Decreases in Total Crime			
NEIGHBORHOOD	FREQUENCY DECREASE	PERCENT DECREASE	RANK IN CRIMES PER 1,000 PERSONS
1. Bear Valley	- 170	- 32.7%	66
2. Kennedy	- 82	- 31.5%	60
3. Washington Park	- 160	- 30.7%	55
4. Cory-Merrill	- 86	- 28.2%	42
5. Cole	- 148	- 27.8%	32

In all, six neighborhoods showed an increase of 10% or more, while 44 neighborhoods reported reductions of at least 10%. Looking at the neighborhoods that experienced the greatest increases, the following observations are helpful in understanding the data:

- **Gateway/Green Valley Ranch:** Violent crime increased by 38 offenses, or 72%, representing a 92% increase in robberies (13 to 25) and a 74% increase in aggravated assaults (35 to 61). Property crime grew as well, but by a much smaller margin; there were 80 more property crimes in 2006 than in 2005, a 17% increase.
- **Southmoor Park:** The increase in reported offenses was driven by larceny, which grew 68% from 41 to 69; auto theft, moving from 14 to 19 for a 36% increase, and all other offenses, rising 54% from 28 to 43. There were only 5 violent crimes in Southmoor Park in 2006, down from 13 in 2005.

² Population is too low in this neighborhood to calculate crimes per 1,000 persons.

- **Denver International Airport:** DIA's rise in crime stemmed from increases in burglary, which grew from 6 to 23, and larceny (including thefts from motor vehicles), which grew 42% from 176 to 250.
- **Union Station:** There were 11 more robberies in Union Station in 2006, a 39% increase. Larceny grew 25% from 374 to 468, and all other offenses rose 26% to 235.
- **Clayton:** Violent crime did not drive the overall increase, but two significant changes are worth noting: homicide grew from 1 to 3 in 2006, and sexual assaults rose from 2 to 7. Meanwhile, burglary increased by 23%, and all other offenses grew by 16%.

Among neighborhoods that witnessed the greatest percentage crime decreases, some detailed information follows:

- **Bear Valley:** Violent crime dropped to just 11 offenses in 2006, but sexual assault doubled from 1 to 2. There was only a single robbery in Bear Valley in all of 2006. Larceny (including thefts from motor vehicles) dropped by nearly half, from 181 to 95.
- **Kennedy:** Property crime was greatly reduced in Kennedy in 2006, including a 53% drop in burglary and a 45% drop in larceny. Violent crime was relatively steady, although robberies increased from 9 to 15.
- **Washington Park:** Among property crimes, auto theft fell 55% to 45, burglary dropped 37% to 91, and larceny fell 20% to 139. Just 5 violent offenses occurred in Washington Park in 2006, compared to 6 in 2005.
- **Cory-Merrill:** Only 8 automobiles were reported stolen in 2006, a 78% reduction from 2005. Meanwhile, burglary dropped by 33% and violent crime fell by 4 offenses to just 6 in 2006.
- **Cole:** Violent crime went down 22%, from 69 to 54, falling in all categories except homicide – there were 4 in 2006, a rise from just 1 in 2005. Property crime reductions included a 39% reduction in burglary and 32% drop in larceny. All other offenses were down by 26%, to 166.

Change in Crime Rate

Another view of neighborhood crime rankings is one in which neighborhoods are compared based on the rate of crime per 1,000 residents. Population data were constant in 2005 and 2006, drawing from the 2000 U.S. Census Bureau estimates, despite changes in actual population during those years.

The following table lists the top 10 neighborhoods³ in terms of crime per 1,000 residents:

³ Six neighborhoods are excluded from the rankings due to having population so low that the crimes per 1,000 residents calculation does not produce meaningful results. Rankings for 2005 are revised based on data retrieved from the system in January 2007, resulting in different rankings than those published by SOPA in the *2005 Denver Neighborhood Statistical Report*.

Table 4: Crimes per 1,000 Residents				
NEIGHBORHOOD	POPULATION	2006 CRIMES	RATE PER 1,000 POP.	2005 RANK
1. Sun Valley	1,496	439	293.4	1
2. Five Points	8,775	2,021	230.3	2
3. City Park	2,123	365	171.9	4
4. Lincoln Park	6,431	988	153.6	6
5. North Capitol Hill	4,071	613	150.6	3
6. Overland	2,081	312	149.9	9
7. Globeville	3,454	512	148.2	7
8. City Park West	4,286	591	137.9	10
9. Baker	5,810	773	133.0	8
10. Jefferson Park	3,330	415	124.6	14