

2007 SUMMARY

Welcome to the *2007 Denver Neighborhood Statistical Crime Report*. This document provides data on a statistical neighborhood and citywide basis for 2007 and 2006, 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 2007 Report	
SECTION	DESCRIPTION
1. 2007 Summary	Change in Reported Offenses from 2006 to 2007 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 2006 and 2007 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 2006 and 2007, 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 2006 to 2007 by individual crime types and crime categories and a point or density map showing where each crime type occurred in 2007.
5. National and Local Trends	Denver's 2006 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 2007, ending the year down 11.5% as compared to all crimes reported in 2006. Index crimes – the serious crime categories tracked and reported nationally by the FBI – were down 11.7%. In all, there were 40,625 crimes reported in Denver in 2007, approximately 69 offenses per 1,000 Denver residents.¹

The following table summarizes the citywide change in crime from 2006 to 2007:

¹ Population figures in this report are based on 2007 Denver Council of Regional Governments (DRCOG) estimates, which show Denver's population at 592,052.

Table 2-A: Change in Reported Offenses, 2006 to 2007				
OFFENSE	2006	2007	CHANGE	PERCENT CHANGE
Part 1 Crimes against Persons				
Homicide	55	50	-5	-9.1%
Sexual Assault	370	350	-20	-5.4%
Robbery	1,282	1,106	-176	-13.7%
Aggravated Assault	2,235	1,855	-380	-17.0%
<i>Subtotal</i>	3,942	3,361	-581	-14.7%
Part 1 Crimes against Property				
Burglary	6,529	5,825	-704	-10.8%
Larceny				
Larceny (except Theft from Motor Vehicle)	6,120	5,182	-938	-15.3%
Theft from Motor Vehicle	7,379	6,879	-500	-6.8%
Auto Theft	6,192	5,401	-791	-12.8%
Arson	191	168	-23	-12.0%
<i>Subtotal</i>	26,411	23,455	-2,956	-11.2%
Total Part 1 Crimes	30,353	26,816	- 3,537	-11.7%
Total Part 2 Crimes	15,556	13,809	-1,747	-11.2%
GRAND TOTAL (Part 1 & 2)	45,909	40,625	-5,284	-11.5%

Denver's Violent Crime Compared to the National Crime Trend

According to the FBI's *Preliminary Semiannual Uniform Crime Report* released on January 7, 2008, the nation experienced a 1.8% decrease in violent crime during the first six months of 2007 compared to the same period in 2006. In contrast, Denver's Part 1 violent crime declined by 14.6% during the first half of 2007 compared to 2006. Denver closed out the year with a 14.7% decrease in violent crime from 2006 to 2007, a reduction of 581 offenses. There was a decrease in each category of violent crime. In particular:

- Homicide declined 9.1%, from 55 in 2006 to 50 in 2007. This decrease follows a 9.8% reduction in 2006 compared to 2005.
- There were 380 fewer aggravated assaults and 176 fewer robberies reported in 2007 compared to 2006.
- Sexual assault decreased 5.4% in 2007, abating a 7.2% increase in 2006 and a 21.1% increase in 2005.

Property Crime Continues to Decline

Part 1 property crimes were down 11.2% in 2007, following a decrease of over 15% in 2006. There was a reduction in every individual type of property crime. Specifically:

- Thefts from motor vehicle – a type of larceny – dropped by 6.8%, 500 fewer offenses than in 2006. Overall larceny was down 10.7%.
- There were 791 fewer auto thefts in 2007 than in 2006, a 12.8% reduction. There were 15 cars stolen in Denver on an average day in 2007 compared to 17 in 2006.
- Burglaries declined by 10.8% in 2007, almost matching an 11.2% reduction in 2006.

Part 2 Crime Level

Overall, Part 2 offenses decreased by 11.2% in 2007 following a modest increase of 0.1% in 2006 and a significant increase of 11% in 2005. As detailed in the following table, there was a decrease in every single type of offense with the exception of disorderly conduct, liquor law violations and fraud.

Table 2-B: Change in Part 2 Offenses, 2006 to 2007				
OFFENSE	2006	2007	CHANGE	PERCENT CHANGE
Part 2 Other Crimes Against Persons				
Other Assaults	1,963	1,802	-161	-8.2%
Other Sex Offenses	657	548	-109	-16.6%
Offenses Against Family/Children	275	211	-64	-23.3%
<i>Subtotal</i>	<i>2,895</i>	<i>2,561</i>	<i>-344</i>	<i>-11.5%</i>
Part 2 Public Disorder Crimes				
Criminal Mischief	6,284	5,562	-722	-11.5%
Prostitution/Commercialized Vice	17	14	-3	-17.6%
Disorderly Conduct	738	821	83	11.2%
<i>Subtotal</i>	<i>7,039</i>	<i>6,397</i>	<i>-642</i>	<i>-9.1%</i>
Part 2 Drug/Alcohol Offenses				
Drug Abuse Violations	2,583	2,189	-394	-15.3%
Liquor Law Violations	0	3	3	N/A
<i>Subtotal</i>	<i>2,583</i>	<i>2,192</i>	<i>-391</i>	<i>-15.1%</i>
Part 2 White Collar Crimes				
Forgery/Counterfeiting	291	216	-75	-25.8%
Fraud	1,120	1,158	38	3.4%
Embezzlement	106	82	-24	-22.6%
<i>Subtotal</i>	<i>1,517</i>	<i>1,456</i>	<i>-61</i>	<i>-4.0%</i>
Part 2 All Other Crimes				
Stolen Property	56	31	-25	-44.6%
Weapons	291	265	-26	-8.9%
All Other Offenses	1,175	907	-268	-22.8%
<i>Subtotal</i>	<i>1,522</i>	<i>1,203</i>	<i>-319</i>	<i>-21.0%</i>
GRAND TOTAL (Part 2)	1,556	13,809	-1,747	-11.2%

Neighborhood Perspective

Denver's reduction in crime affected most areas of the City. Just 8 of 78 neighborhoods experienced an increase in overall crime, while 69 saw a decrease and one neighborhood had no change 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	+ 84	+ 8.3%	47
2. Kennedy	+ 16	+ 7.3%	31
3. Sunnyside	+ 40	+ 5.2%	25
4. Stapleton	+ 44	+ 4.7%	3
5. University Hills	+11	+ 3.5%	36

Table 3-B: Greatest Percent Decreases in Total Crime			
NEIGHBORHOOD	FREQUENCY DECREASE	PERCENT DECREASE	RANK IN CRIMES PER 1,000 PERSONS
1. Wellshire	-27	- 34.6%	73
2. Overland	- 105	- 33.7%	12
3. Skyland	- 104	- 33.0%	33
4. Belcaro	- 71	- 32.0%	67
5. Jefferson Park	- 120	- 29.3%	19

Only 3 of the 8 neighborhoods that experienced an increase in crime had more than a 5% increase. Of the 69 neighborhoods that reported reductions, 63 had at least a 5% decrease. Looking at the neighborhoods that experienced the greatest increases, the following observations were made:

- **Gateway/Green Valley Ranch:** Part 1 violent crime decreased 30.8% (-28) following an increase of 71.7%, or 38 offenses, in 2006. Major increases occurred in theft from motor vehicle (78), criminal mischief (24) and disorderly conduct (23).
- **Kennedy:** Part 1 violent crime decreased by 26, or 72.2%. The increase in reported offenses was driven by theft from motor vehicle which grew 151.6%, from 31 to 78.
- **Sunnyside:** Sunnyside's rise in crime primarily stemmed from increases in auto related crimes. Specifically, theft from motor vehicle grew from 79 to 138 and auto theft increased 18.2%, from 88 to 104. Burglaries also contributed to the increase, experiencing a growth from 89 to 104. The increase was partially offset by decreases in criminal mischief (-53) and aggravated assault (-23).

- **Stapleton:** The growth in property crimes was responsible for the 4.7% increase in Stapleton – 90 more thefts from motor vehicle, 48 more burglaries and 25 more auto thefts. It is worth noting that despite an overall 4.7% increase in offenses, part 1 person crimes decreased 46.8% and part 2 other crimes against persons decreased 34.0%.
- **University Hills:** Part 1 crime drove the increase in University Hills. In particular, there was an increase of 9 robberies, 20 burglaries and 25 thefts from motor vehicle. The net change of 44 part 1 crimes was offset by a decrease of 33 part 2 crimes, resulting in an overall 3.5% increase, or 11 more offenses reported in 2007 compared to 2006.

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

- **Wellshire:** There were only 2 violent crimes reported in 2007, 1 robbery and 1 aggravated assault. The only crime in this neighborhood that increased by more than 1 offense was disorderly conduct, with none reported in 2006 and 2 reported in 2007.
- **Overland:** Property crime led the decrease in Overland, including a 46.8% drop in larceny (except theft from motor vehicle) and a 34% drop in burglary. The only crime that experienced an increase was drug abuse, 6 reported in 2006 and 10 in 2007.
- **Skyland:** The only major crime categories that increased in Skyland were in part 2 offenses: white collar crimes (3) and Drug/Alcohol violations (1).
- **Belcaro:** Among property crimes, larceny dropped 48.4% to 32, theft from motor vehicle fell 44.7% to 21 and burglary dropped 37.5% to 35. Although violent crime decreased by 10%, it is worthwhile to note that there were 3 sex assaults in 2007 compared to none in 2006 and aggravated assault increased from 2 to 3.
- **Jefferson Park:** There was a decrease of 3 violent and 131 property crimes reported in 2007 compared to 2006. Part 2 crimes increased by 14, with criminal mischief accounting for most of the increase (12).

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. The 2007 estimated population data were provided by the Denver Council of Regional Governments (DRCOG).

The following table lists the top 10 neighborhoods² in terms of crime per 1,000 residents:

² Five neighborhoods are excluded from the rankings due to a low resident and/or high daytime non-resident population. This is the first report published by SOPA that includes Stapleton in the crime rankings.

Table 4: Crimes per 1,000 Residents				
NEIGHBORHOOD	POPULATION	2007 CRIMES	RATE PER 1,000 POPULATION	2006 RANK³
1. Sun Valley	1,417	361	254.8	1
2. North Capitol Hill	2,893	615	212.6	5
3. Stapleton	6,446	977	151.6	Not Rated ⁴
4. Five Points	12,730	1,863	146.3	2
5. City Park	2,094	285	136.1	3
6. Lincoln Park	6,196	788	127.2	4
7. Capitol Hill	12,667	1,449	114.4	15
8. Baker	5,714	641	112.2	9
9. Globeville	3,819	419	109.7	7
10. City Park West	4,120	449	109.0	8

³The 2006 crime rankings were based on the 2000 Census. The 2007 crime rankings are based on DRCOG's 2007 population estimates.

⁴ Prior to 2007, Stapleton was excluded from the crime rankings due to a low resident and/or high daytime non-resident population. This is the first report published by SOPA that includes Stapleton in the crime rankings.