

**ADVANCE
RELEASE**

CRIME IN CALIFORNIA, 2003

Bill Lockyer, Attorney General

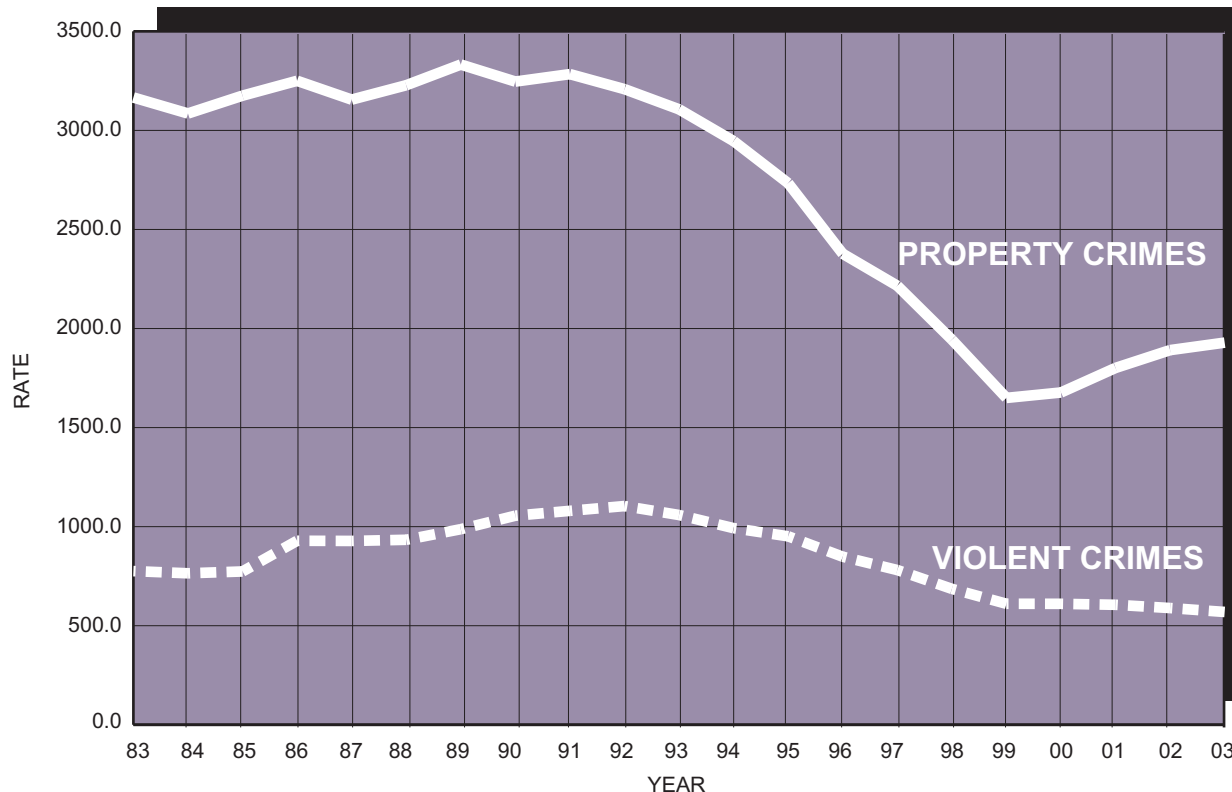
California Department of Justice ■ Division of California Justice Information Services
Bureau of Criminal Information and Analysis ■ CRIMINAL JUSTICE STATISTICS CENTER



CRIME IN CALIFORNIA, 1983-2003

By Category

Rate per 100,000 Population



From 2002 to 2003:

- The violent crime rate decreased 3.4 percent.
- The property crime rate increased 2.0 percent.

Crime in California, 2003, Advance Release is published by the Department of Justice to provide annual 2003 criminal justice data as soon as possible. Information about crimes, arrests, and adult felony arrest dispositions is included. This report compares crime and arrest rates from 2002 to 2003, and from 1998 to 2003.

Violent crime rates for 1992 and 2003 are also compared since 1992 marked a high point during the last two decades. Property

crime rates for 1989 and 2003 are compared since 1989 marked a peak during the last two decades. Note that larceny-theft over \$400 is included in the property crime category to give a more representative depiction of crime in California.

The more extensive report, Crime in California, 2003, will be published later this year. This report has been published continuously for 51 years.

Use of the California Crime Index (CCI) has been temporarily suspended until a new national crime index is established by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI).



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CRIMES

CRIMES, 1989, 1992, AND 1998-2003 Number, Rate per 100,000 Population, and Percent Change

Year(s)	Violent crimes					Property crimes				Larceny-theft			Arson
	Total	Homicide	Forcible rape	Robbery	Aggra- vated assault	Total ¹	Burglary	Motor vehicle theft	Larceny- theft over \$400 ¹	Total	Over \$400	\$400 and under	
Number													
2003.....	204,591	2,402	9,918	63,597	128,674	693,137	240,705	240,798	211,634	727,527	211,634	515,893	13,677
2002.....	207,988	2,392	10,176	64,805	130,615	667,592	237,445	221,780	208,367	712,419	208,367	504,052	14,007
2001.....	210,510	2,201	9,882	63,299	135,128	626,033	229,922	201,074	195,037	689,491	195,037	494,454	15,060
2000.....	210,492	2,074	9,785	60,243	138,390	578,309	222,247	181,049	175,013	651,564	175,013	476,551	14,406
1999.....	207,874	2,006	9,443	60,027	136,398	561,542	223,828	168,465	169,249	661,643	169,249	492,394	14,454
1998.....	229,766	2,170	9,777	68,752	149,067	651,090	268,847	195,402	186,841	723,733	186,841	536,892	14,314
1992 ^a	345,508	3,920	12,751	130,867	197,970	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1989 ^b	-	-	-	-	-	958,765	410,148	298,392	250,225	972,093	250,225	721,868	-
Percent change in number													
2002 to 2003.....	-1.6	0.4	-2.5	-1.9	-1.5	3.8	1.4	8.6	1.6	2.1	1.6	2.3	-2.4
2001 to 2002.....	-1.2	8.7	3.0	2.4	-3.3	6.6	3.3	10.3	6.8	3.3	6.8	1.9	-7.0
2000 to 2001.....	0.0	6.1	1.0	5.1	-2.4	8.3	3.5	11.1	11.4	5.8	11.4	3.8	4.5
1999 to 2000.....	1.3	3.4	3.6	0.4	1.5	3.0	-0.7	7.5	3.4	-1.5	3.4	-3.2	-0.3
1998 to 1999.....	-9.5	-7.6	-3.4	-12.7	-8.5	-13.8	-16.7	-13.8	-9.4	-8.6	-9.4	-8.3	1.0
1998 to 2003.....	-11.0	10.7	1.4	-7.5	-13.7	6.5	-10.5	23.2	13.3	0.5	13.3	-3.9	-4.5
1992 to 2003.....	-40.8	-38.7	-22.2	-51.4	-35.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1989 to 2003.....	-	-	-	-	-	-27.7	-41.3	-19.3	-15.4	-25.2	-15.4	-28.5	-
Rate per 100,000 population ²													
2003.....	569.4	6.7	27.6	177.0	358.1	1,928.9	669.9	670.1	589.0	2,024.6	589.0	1,435.7	38.1
2002.....	589.2	6.8	28.8	183.6	370.0	1,891.1	672.6	628.3	590.3	2,018.1	590.3	1,427.9	39.7
2001.....	605.6	6.3	28.4	182.1	388.8	1,801.1	661.5	578.5	561.1	1,983.7	561.1	1,422.6	43.3
2000.....	610.5	6.0	28.4	174.7	401.4	1,677.2	644.6	525.1	507.6	1,889.7	507.6	1,382.1	41.8
1999.....	610.7	5.9	27.7	176.4	400.7	1,649.8	657.6	495.0	497.3	1,944.0	497.3	1,446.7	42.5
1998.....	686.0	6.5	29.2	205.3	445.1	1,943.9	802.7	583.4	557.8	2,160.8	557.8	1,602.9	42.7
1992 ^a	1,103.9	12.5	40.7	418.1	632.5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1989 ^b	-	-	-	-	-	3,332.4	1,425.6	1,037.1	869.7	3,378.7	869.7	2,509.0	-
Percent change in rate													
2002 to 2003.....	-3.4	-1.5	-4.2	-3.6	-3.2	2.0	-0.4	6.7	-0.2	0.3	-0.2	0.5	-4.0
2001 to 2002.....	-2.7	7.9	1.4	0.8	-4.8	5.0	1.7	8.6	5.2	1.7	5.2	0.4	-8.3
2000 to 2001.....	-0.8	5.0	0.0	4.2	-3.1	7.4	2.6	10.2	10.5	5.0	10.5	2.9	3.6
1999 to 2000.....	0.0	1.7	2.5	-1.0	0.2	1.7	-2.0	6.1	2.1	-2.8	2.1	-4.5	-1.6
1998 to 1999.....	-11.0	-9.2	-5.1	-14.1	-10.0	-15.1	-18.1	-15.2	-10.8	-10.0	-10.8	-9.7	-0.5
1998 to 2003.....	-17.0	3.1	-5.5	-13.8	-19.5	-0.8	-16.5	14.9	5.6	-6.3	5.6	-10.4	-10.8
1992 to 2003.....	-48.4	-46.4	-32.2	-57.7	-43.4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1989 to 2003.....	-	-	-	-	-	-42.1	-53.0	-35.4	-32.3	-40.1	-32.3	-42.8	-

Source: Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program.

Notes: Rates calculated from the total population may not add to subtotals because of rounding.

The FBI and California Crime Indexes are temporarily suspended as efforts continue to redefine those measurements.

Dash indicates that data are not being compared for the years shown.

^a 1992 marked the peak year for the violent crime rate during the last two decades (1983-2003).

^b 1989 marked the peak year for the property crime rate during the last two decades (1983-2003).

¹ In 2003, larceny-theft over \$400 was included in the property crime category to give a more representative depiction of crime in California.

Therefore, property crime data presented in this report will differ from data published previously, and the reader is cautioned against making comparisons with previous publications.

² Rates are based on annual population estimates provided by the Demographic Research Unit, California Department of Finance.

- From 2002 to 2003, the violent crime rate decreased 3.4 percent. The violent crime rate has decreased 48.4 percent since its peak in 1992.
- From 2002 to 2003, the property crime rate increased 2.0 percent. The property crime rate has decreased 42.1 percent since its peak in 1989.

More 

ARRESTS

ARRESTS, 1989, 1998-2003
Number, Rate per 100,000 Population, and Percent Change

Year(s)	Total			Law violations									Status offenses ¹
	Total			Total			Felony			Misdemeanor			Juvenile
	Total	Adult	Juvenile	Total	Adult	Juvenile	Total	Adult	Juvenile	Total	Adult	Juvenile	
Number													
2003.....	1,471,083	1,247,763	223,320	1,438,863	1,247,763	191,100	507,081	446,203	60,878	931,782	801,560	130,222	32,220
2002.....	1,426,233	1,196,599	229,634	1,390,613	1,196,599	194,014	487,364	425,825	61,539	903,249	770,774	132,475	35,620
2001.....	1,420,680	1,180,194	240,486	1,380,667	1,180,194	200,473	472,677	408,684	63,993	907,990	771,510	136,480	40,013
2000.....	1,424,893	1,181,803	243,090	1,385,361	1,181,803	203,558	459,632	395,743	63,889	925,729	786,060	139,669	39,532
1999.....	1,496,459	1,238,334	258,125	1,453,720	1,238,334	215,386	467,936	399,433	68,503	985,784	838,901	146,883	42,739
1998.....	1,571,724	1,301,765	269,959	1,531,917	1,301,765	230,152	508,257	432,153	76,104	1,023,660	869,612	154,048	39,807
1989 ^a	1,969,168	1,730,927	238,241	1,946,265	1,730,927	215,338	590,285	501,259	89,026	1,355,980	1,229,668	126,312	22,903
Percent change in number													
2002 to 2003.....	3.1	4.3	-2.7	3.5	4.3	-1.5	4.0	4.8	-1.1	3.2	4.0	-1.7	-9.5
2001 to 2002.....	0.4	1.4	-4.5	0.7	1.4	-3.2	3.1	4.2	-3.8	-0.5	-0.1	-2.9	-11.0
2000 to 2001.....	-0.3	-0.1	-1.1	-0.3	-0.1	-1.5	2.8	3.3	0.2	-1.9	-1.9	-2.3	1.2
1999 to 2000.....	-4.8	-4.6	-5.8	-4.7	-4.6	-5.5	-1.8	-0.9	-6.7	-6.1	-6.3	-4.9	-7.5
1998 to 1999.....	-4.8	-4.9	-4.4	-5.1	-4.9	-6.4	-7.9	-7.6	-10.0	-3.7	-3.5	-4.7	7.4
1998 to 2003.....	-6.4	-4.1	-17.3	-6.1	-4.1	-17.0	-0.2	3.3	-20.0	-9.0	-7.8	-15.5	-19.1
1989 to 2003.....	-25.3	-27.9	-6.3	-26.1	-27.9	-11.3	-14.1	-11.0	-31.6	-31.3	-34.8	3.1	40.7
Rate per 100,000 total population ²													
2003.....	4,093.8	3,472.4	621.5	4,004.2	3,472.4	531.8	1,411.1	1,241.7	169.4	2,593.0	2,230.6	362.4	89.7
2002.....	4,040.2	3,389.7	650.5	3,939.3	3,389.7	549.6	1,380.6	1,206.3	174.3	2,558.7	2,183.4	375.3	100.9
2001.....	4,087.3	3,395.5	691.9	3,972.2	3,395.5	576.8	1,359.9	1,175.8	184.1	2,612.3	2,219.7	392.7	115.1
2000.....	4,132.5	3,427.5	705.0	4,017.9	3,427.5	590.4	1,333.0	1,147.7	185.3	2,684.8	2,279.8	405.1	114.7
1999.....	4,396.7	3,638.3	758.4	4,271.1	3,638.3	632.8	1,374.8	1,173.6	201.3	2,896.3	2,464.7	431.6	125.6
1998.....	4,692.6	3,886.6	806.0	4,573.7	3,886.6	687.1	1,517.5	1,290.2	227.2	3,056.2	2,596.3	459.9	118.8
1989 ^a	6,844.2	6,016.2	828.1	6,764.6	6,016.2	748.4	2,051.7	1,742.2	309.4	4,713.0	4,274.0	439.0	79.6
Rate per 100,000 population at risk ^{2,3}													
2003.....	5,288.7	5,356.2	4,940.9	5,172.9	5,356.2	4,228.0	1,823.0	1,915.4	1,346.9	3,349.9	3,440.8	2,881.1	712.9
2002.....	5,223.8	5,219.1	5,248.7	5,093.4	5,219.1	4,434.6	1,785.1	1,857.3	1,406.6	3,308.3	3,361.8	3,028.0	814.2
2001.....	5,311.9	5,232.3	5,740.3	5,162.3	5,232.3	4,785.2	1,767.3	1,811.9	1,527.5	3,395.0	3,420.5	3,257.7	955.1
2000.....	5,437.7	5,323.8	6,068.7	5,286.8	5,323.8	5,081.8	1,754.1	1,782.8	1,595.0	3,532.8	3,541.1	3,486.8	986.9
1999.....	5,820.1	5,666.1	6,692.9	5,653.9	5,666.1	5,584.7	1,819.9	1,827.6	1,776.2	3,834.0	3,838.5	3,808.5	1,108.2
1998.....	6,221.4	6,055.2	7,170.4	6,063.9	6,055.2	6,113.1	2,011.9	2,010.2	2,021.4	4,052.0	4,045.1	4,091.7	1,057.3
1989 ^a	8,742.4	8,898.6	7,753.7	8,640.7	8,898.6	7,008.3	2,620.6	2,576.9	2,897.4	6,020.1	6,321.6	4,110.9	745.4
Percent change in rate per 100,000 population at risk													
2002 to 2003.....	1.2	2.6	-5.9	1.6	2.6	-4.7	2.1	3.1	-4.2	1.3	2.3	-4.9	-12.4
2001 to 2002.....	-1.7	-0.3	-8.6	-1.3	-0.3	-7.3	1.0	2.5	-7.9	-2.6	-1.7	-7.1	-14.8
2000 to 2001.....	-2.3	-1.7	-5.4	-2.4	-1.7	-5.8	0.8	1.6	-4.2	-3.9	-3.4	-6.6	-3.2
1999 to 2000.....	-6.6	-6.0	-9.3	-6.5	-6.0	-9.0	-3.6	-2.5	-10.2	-7.9	-7.7	-8.4	-10.9
1998 to 1999.....	-6.5	-6.4	-6.7	-6.8	-6.4	-8.6	-9.5	-9.1	-12.1	-5.4	-5.1	-6.9	4.8
1998 to 2003.....	-15.0	-11.5	-31.1	-14.7	-11.5	-30.8	-9.4	-4.7	-33.4	-17.3	-14.9	-29.6	-32.6
1989 to 2003.....	-39.5	-39.8	-36.3	-40.1	-39.8	-39.7	-30.4	-25.7	-53.5	-44.4	-45.6	-29.9	-4.4

Note: Rates calculated from the total or at-risk populations may not add to subtotals or total because of rounding.

^a 1989 marked the peak year for the total arrest rate during the last two decades (1983-2003).

¹ Status offenses include truancy, incorrigibility, running away, and curfew violations. These offenses can only be committed or engaged in by a juvenile.

² Rates are based on annual population estimates provided by the Demographic Research Unit, California Department of Finance.

³ These rates are based on the population at risk for each year. The categories are total (10-69 years of age), adult (18-69 years of age), and juvenile (10-17 years of age).

- From 2002 to 2003, total arrests increased 1.2 percent in rate per 100,000 population at risk. Total arrests have decreased 39.5 percent in rate since 1989.
- From 2002 to 2003, felony arrests increased 2.1 percent in rate per 100,000 population at risk. Felony arrests have decreased 30.4 percent in rate since 1989.
- From 2002 to 2003, misdemeanor arrests increased 1.3 percent in rate. Misdemeanor arrests have decreased 44.4 percent in rate since 1989.

More 

ADULT FELONY ARREST DISPOSITIONS

ADULT FELONY ARREST DISPOSITIONS, 1997-2002

By Type of Disposition and Sentence

Type of disposition and sentence	1997		1998		1999		2000		2001		2002	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total.....	326,768	100.0	314,483	100.0	278,715	100.0	267,512	100.0	271,992	100.0	287,499	100.0
Law enforcement releases.....	14,289	4.4	13,880	4.4	9,616	3.5	7,698	2.9	11,248	4.1	11,195	3.9
Total complaints denied.....	47,829	14.6	42,763	13.6	40,217	14.4	37,152	13.9	39,414	14.5	39,833	13.9
Single complaints.....	44,671	13.7	39,948	12.7	38,193	13.7	34,654	13.0	37,027	13.6	37,855	13.2
Combined cases.....	459	0.1	274	0.1	260	0.1	231	0.1	182	0.1	194	0.1
Petitions to revoke probation.....	2,699	0.8	2,541	0.8	1,764	0.6	2,267	0.8	2,205	0.8	1,784	0.6
Complaints filed.....	264,650	81.0	257,840	82.0	228,882	82.1	222,662	83.2	221,330	81.4	236,471	82.3
Court dispositions.....	264,650	81.0	257,840	82.0	228,882	82.1	222,662	83.2	221,330	81.4	236,471	82.3
Dismissed.....	35,579	10.9	35,002	11.1	31,334	11.2	32,358	12.1	34,129	12.5	35,445	12.3
Diversions dismissed.....	6,480	2.0	4,117	1.3	3,961	1.4	3,436	1.3	2,799	1.0	4,809	1.7
Acquitted.....	783	0.2	747	0.2	709	0.3	782	0.3	775	0.3	766	0.3
Convicted.....	221,808	67.9	217,974	69.3	192,878	69.2	186,086	69.6	183,627	67.5	195,451	68.0
Sentence												
Death.....	40	0.0	32	0.0	42	0.0	33	0.0	25	0.0	17	0.0
Prison.....	46,850	14.3	46,284	14.7	42,464	15.2	36,529	13.7	33,020	12.1	32,412	11.3
California Rehabilitation Center.....	820	0.3	675	0.2	603	0.2	468	0.2	313	0.1	267	0.1
Youth Authority.....	20	0.0	8	0.0	10	0.0	10	0.0	4	0.0	7	0.0
Probation.....	19,003	5.8	18,885	6.0	15,788	5.7	16,874	6.3	21,503	7.9	31,499	11.0
Probation with jail.....	144,365	44.2	141,206	44.9	124,927	44.8	123,319	46.1	119,752	44.0	120,800	42.0
Jail.....	8,458	2.6	8,261	2.6	6,531	2.3	6,776	2.5	6,506	2.4	7,133	2.5
Fine.....	1,477	0.5	1,661	0.5	1,494	0.5	1,484	0.6	1,626	0.6	1,815	0.6
Other ¹	775	0.2	962	0.3	1,019	0.4	593	0.2	878	0.3	1,501	0.5

Source: Offender-Based Transaction Statistics (OBTS) System.

Notes: Percentages may not add to subtotals or 100.0 because of rounding.

Preliminary data for calendar year 2003 may be available July 2004.

¹The "other" category includes no sentence given, sentence suspended, and sentence stayed.

As a percentage of reported adult felony arrest dispositions:

- Law enforcement releases decreased from 4.1 percent in 2001 to 3.9 percent in 2002.
- Total complaints denied decreased from 14.5 percent in 2001 to 13.9 percent in 2002.
- Dismissals and acquittals increased from 13.8 percent in 2001 to 14.3 percent in 2002.
- Convictions increased from 67.5 percent in 2001 to 68.0 percent in 2002.



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