

**CRIME &
DELINQUENCY
IN CALIFORNIA**

1997



CRIMES

PART 2

Burglary

Burglary - The unlawful entry of a structure to commit a felony or a theft. Attempted burglary is included.

Comparing 1992 to 1997:

- The rate of reported burglaries decreased 33.6 percent.

From 1996 to 1997:

- The burglary rate decreased 5.8 percent.

In 1997,

Of 298,882 burglaries and attempted burglaries reported:

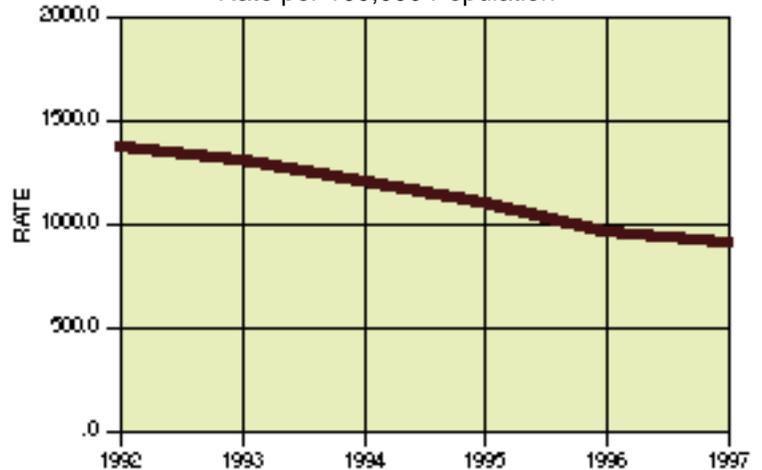
- Burglary accounted for 93.5 percent (279,368).
- Attempted burglary accounted for 6.5 percent (19,514).

Of the 279,368 burglaries that occurred:

- Structures entered by force accounted for 63.2 percent (176,636).
- Structures entered without force accounted for 36.8 percent (102,732).

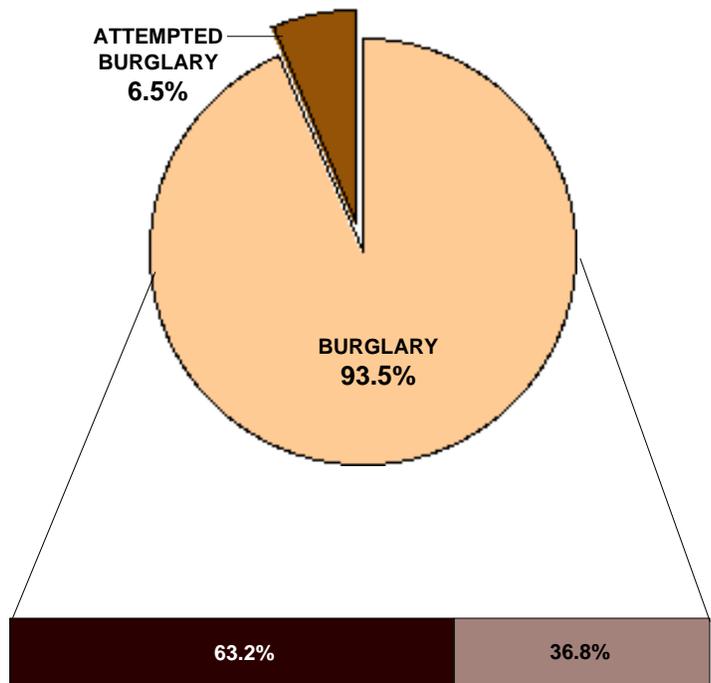
The burglary crime rate decreased for the sixth consecutive year.

BURGLARY CRIMES, 1992-1997
Rate per 100,000 Population



Source: Table 2.

BURGLARY CRIMES, 1997
By Type of Burglary and Type of Entry

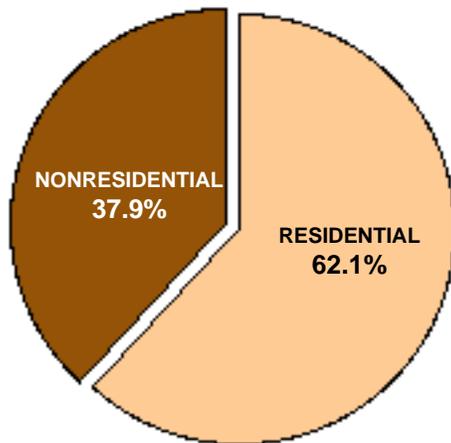


- FORCE
- NO FORCE

Source: Table 8.

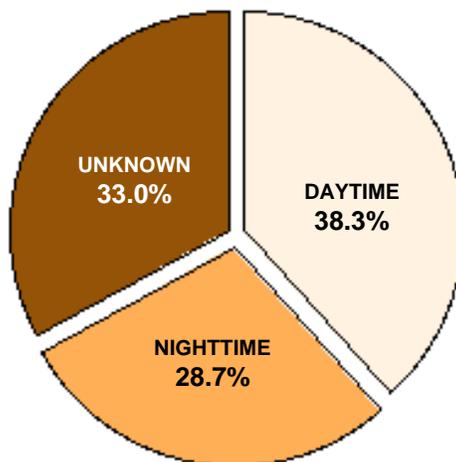
Burglary (continued)

BURGLARY CRIMES, 1997
By Location



Source: Table 8.

BURGLARY CRIMES, 1997
By Time of Day



Source: Table 8.

In 1997,

Of all burglaries reported:

- Residential burglary accounted for 62.1 percent (185,720).
- Nonresidential burglary accounted for 37.9 percent (113,162). Included in this category are commercial establishments, public buildings, etc.

And,

- Daytime burglary accounted for 38.3 percent (114,415).
- Nighttime burglary accounted for 28.7 percent (85,796).
- Burglaries that occurred during an unknown hour accounted for 33.0 percent (98,671).



Motor Vehicle Theft

Motor Vehicle Theft - *The theft or attempted theft of a motor vehicle.*

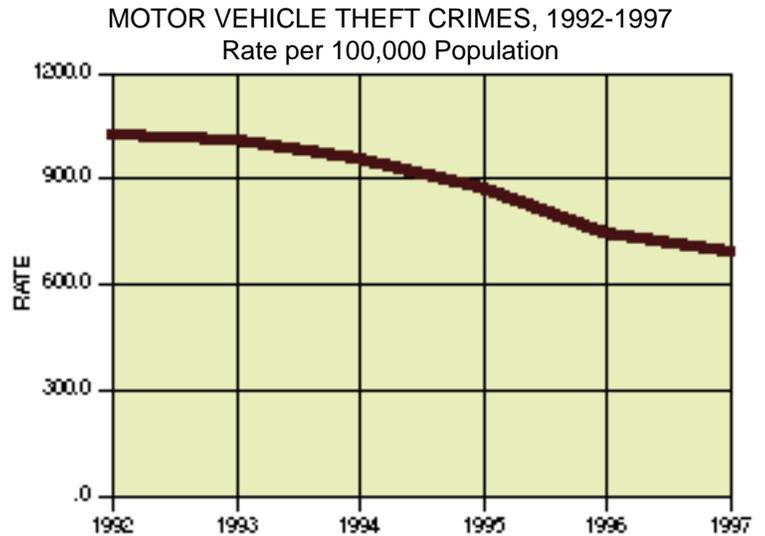
Comparing 1992 to 1997:

- The rate of reported motor vehicle thefts decreased 32.2 percent.

From 1996 to 1997:

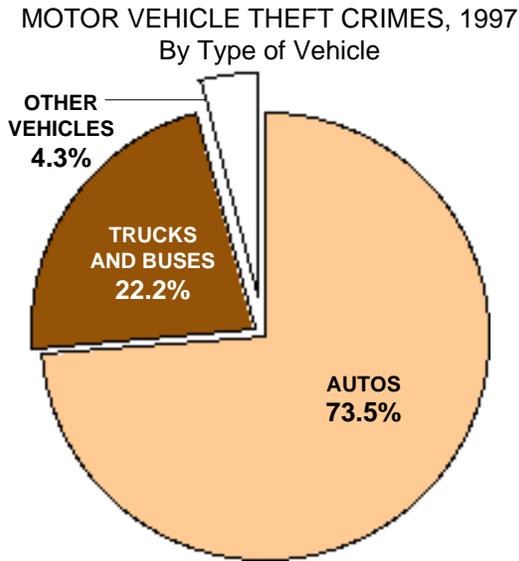
- The motor vehicle theft rate decreased 7.3 percent.

Since peaking in 1989, the motor vehicle theft crime rate decreased 33.1 percent (see Table 1).



Source: Table 2.

Motor Vehicle Theft (continued)



Source: Table 9.

In 1997,

Of 228,540 motor vehicle thefts reported:

- Autos accounted for 73.5 percent (168,004).
- Trucks and buses accounted for 22.2 percent (50,799). Included in this category are pickup trucks, vans and motor homes.
- Other vehicles accounted for 4.3 percent (9,737). Included in this category are motorcycles, snowmobiles, motor scooters, and trail bikes.

Larceny-theft

Larceny-theft - *The unlawful taking, carrying, leading, or riding away of property from the possession or constructive possession of another (except embezzlement, fraud, forgery, and worthless checks).*

Comparing 1992 to 1997:

- The rate of total reported larceny-thefts decreased 23.1 percent.

From 1996 to 1997:

- The total larceny-theft rate decreased 7.1 percent.

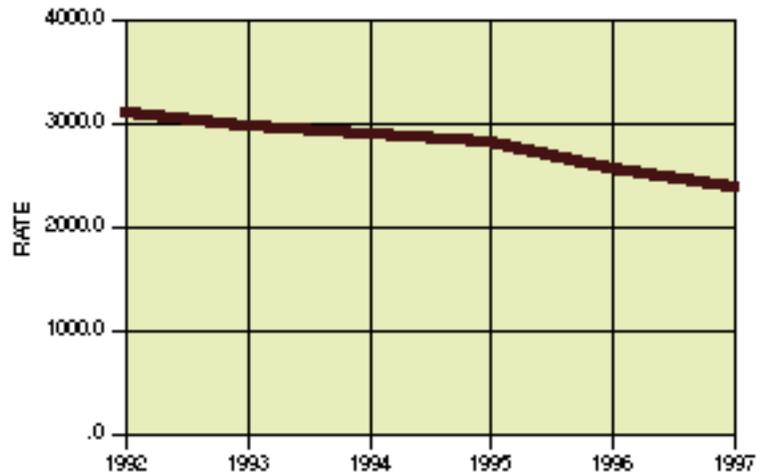
In 1997,

Of 783,735 larceny-thefts reported:

- Theft under \$50 in value accounted for 36.1 percent (283,029).
- Theft \$50 to \$199 in value accounted for 21.7 percent (169,833).
- Theft \$200 to \$400 in value accounted for 16.3 percent (127,954).
- Theft over \$400 in value accounted for 25.9 percent (202,919).

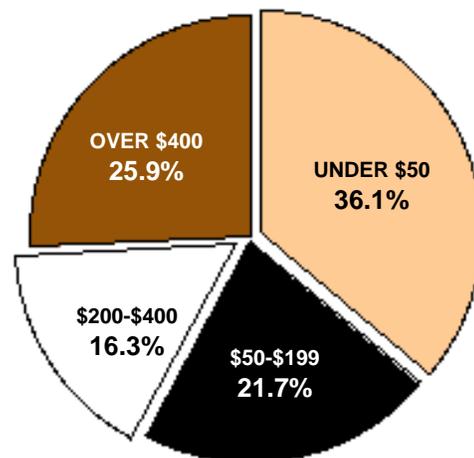
The rate of reported larceny-theft crimes decreased for each of the years shown.

LARCENY-THEFT CRIMES, 1992-1997
Rate per 100,000 Population



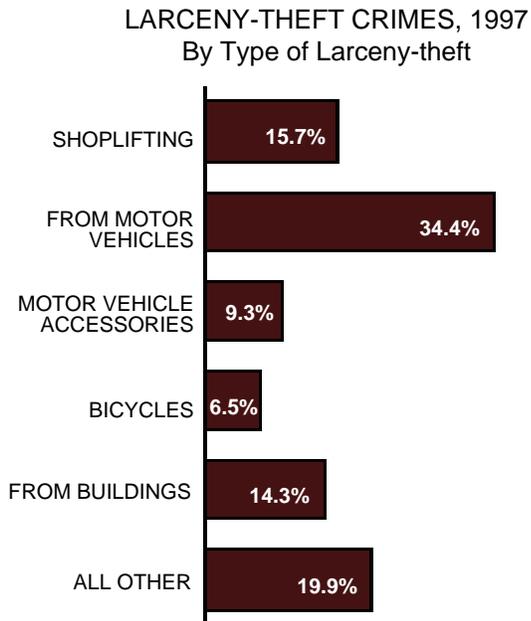
Source: Table 2.

LARCENY-THEFT CRIMES, 1997
By Value Category of Loss



Source: Table 11.

Larceny-theft (continued)



Source: Table 11.

Note: Percents may not add to 100.0 because of independent rounding.

In 1997,

Of 783,735 larceny-thefts reported:

- Shoplifting accounted for 15.7 percent (123,024).
- Theft from motor vehicles accounted for 34.4 percent (269,264).
- Theft of motor vehicle accessories accounted for 9.3 percent (72,567).
- Bicycles accounted for 6.5 percent (50,556).
- Theft from buildings accounted for 14.3 percent (112,184).
- All other types of larceny-theft accounted for 19.9 percent (156,140).

In 1997, more than four out of ten (43.6 percent) larceny-theft crimes involved theft from motor vehicles and theft of motor vehicle accessories.



Value of Stolen and Recovered Property

As part of the UCR Program, law enforcement agencies submit monthly reports showing the estimated dollar value of property stolen and property recovered. In these reports, the type of property is categorized in a uniform manner. However, agencies do not report these data consistently and frequently vary in their methods of estimating the dollar value of stolen property. Furthermore, property stolen and property recovered in any given time period are not necessarily the same property. For these reasons, dollar values of such property must be viewed as rough estimates.

From 1996 to 1997:

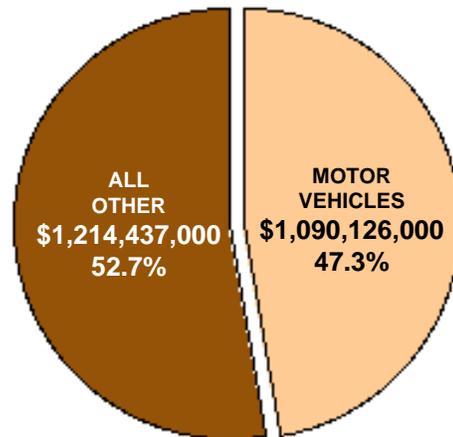
- There was a 1.3 percent decrease in the dollar value of all stolen property.
- There was a 2.2 percent decrease in the dollar value of motor vehicles stolen.
- There was a .4 percent decrease in the dollar value of all other stolen property.

In 1997,

Of the total dollar value (\$2,304,562,000) of all property reported stolen:

- Motor vehicles accounted for \$1,090,126,000 (47.3 percent).
- All other property accounted for \$1,214,437,000 (52.7 percent).

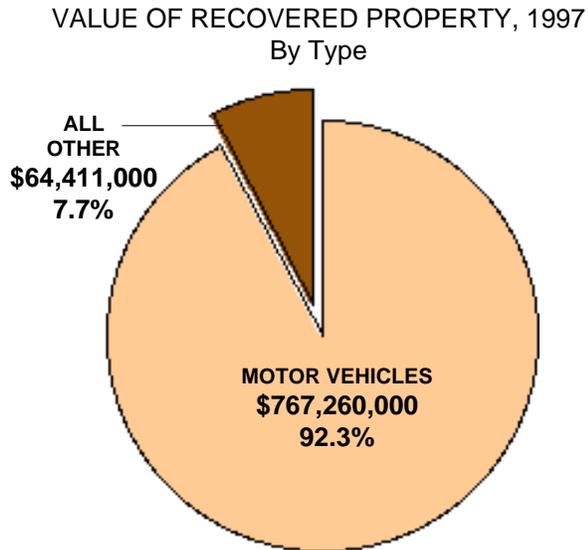
VALUE OF STOLEN PROPERTY, 1997
By Type



Source: Table 12.

Note: Dollar values are rounded to the nearest thousandth.

Value of Stolen and Recovered Property (continued)



Source: Table 12.

Note: Dollar values are rounded to the nearest thousandth.

From 1996 to 1997:

- There was a 2.2 percent decrease in the dollar value of all recovered property.
- There was a 2.1 percent decrease in the dollar value of motor vehicles recovered.
- There was a 3.5 percent decrease in the dollar value of all other recovered property.

In 1997,

Of the total dollar value (\$831,670,000) of property reported recovered:

- Motor vehicles accounted for \$767,260,000 (92.3 percent).
- All other property accounted for \$64,411,000 (7.7 percent).



Arson

Arson - Any willful or malicious burning or attempt to burn, with or without intent to defraud, a dwelling house, public building, motor vehicle or aircraft, personal property of another, etc.

Comparing 1992 to 1997:

- The rate of reported arsons decreased 31.3 percent.

From 1996 to 1997:

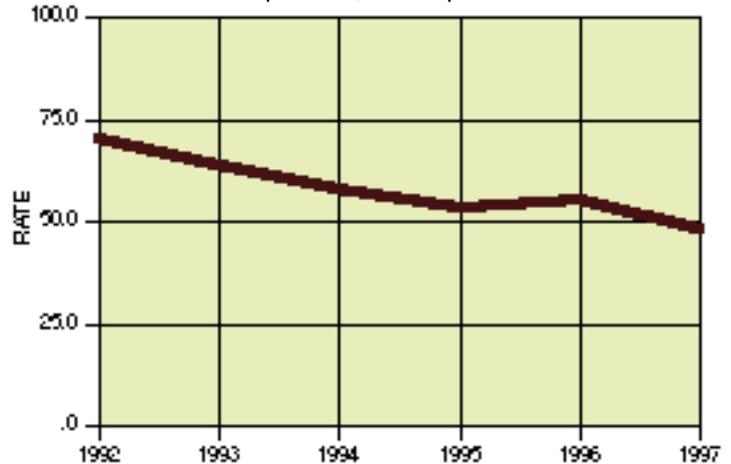
- The arson rate decreased 13.0 percent.

In 1997,

Of 15,875 arsons reported:

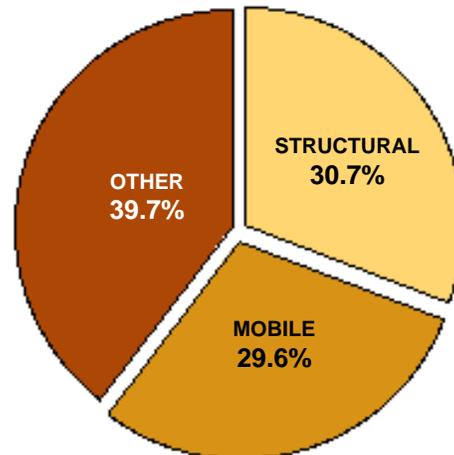
- Structural properties were targeted in 30.7 percent (4,870) of the offenses.
- Mobile properties were targeted in 29.6 percent (4,696) of the offenses.
- Other properties were targeted in 39.7 percent (6,309) of the offenses. Included in this category are crops, timber, fences, signs, etc.

ARSON CRIMES, 1992-1997
Rate per 100,000 Population



Source: Table 2.

ARSON CRIMES, 1997
By Type of Property Targeted

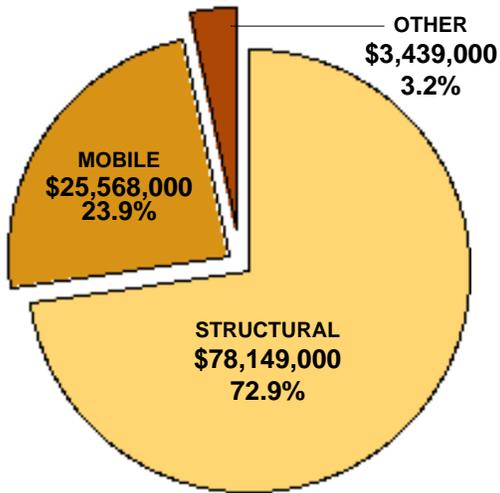


Source: Table 14.

Note: Property type is determined by the point of origin of a fire.

Arson (continued)

ARSON CRIMES, 1997
By Value of Property Damage



Source: Table 14.

Notes: Property type is determined by the point of origin of a fire.
Dollar values are rounded to the nearest thousandth.

In 1997,

The total estimated value of all property damaged was \$107,156,000. The value of damage resulting from arsons directed at:

- Structural properties accounted for \$78,149,000 (72.9 percent).
- Mobile properties accounted for \$25,568,000 (23.9 percent).
- Other properties accounted for \$3,439,000 (3.2 percent).



Clearances

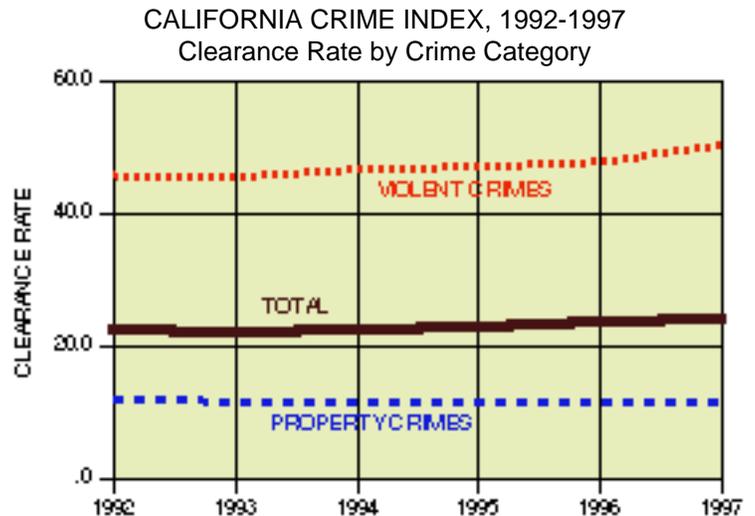
Crimes can be cleared by arrests or "exceptional means." An offense is cleared or "solved" for crime reporting purposes when at least one person is arrested, charged with the commission of the crime, and turned over to the court for prosecution or referred to juvenile authorities. In certain situations a clearance may be counted by "exceptional means" when the police definitely know the identity of the offender, have enough information to support an arrest, and know the location of the offender but for some reason cannot take the offender into custody. A clearance rate is the percentage obtained when the number of clearances reported are divided by the number of crimes reported.

Comparing 1992 to 1997:

- The clearance rate for the California Crime Index offenses increased from 22.5 to 24.1 percent.
- The violent crime clearance rate increased from 45.5 to 50.1 percent.
- The property crime clearance rate decreased from 11.8 to 11.4 percent.

From 1996 to 1997:

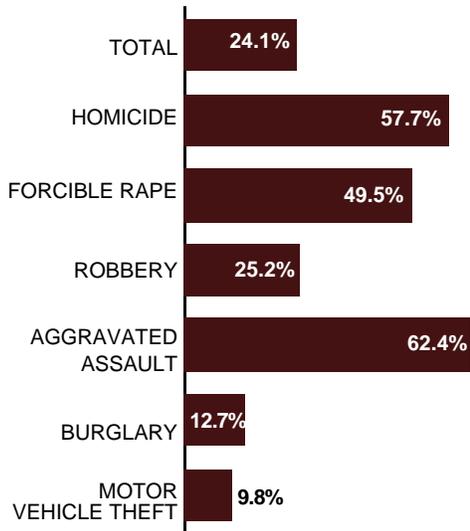
- The clearance rate for the California Crime Index offenses increased from 23.4 to 24.1 percent.
- The violent crime clearance rate increased from 47.6 to 50.1 percent.
- The property crime clearance rate remained constant at 11.4 percent.



Source: Table 15.

Clearances (continued)

CALIFORNIA CRIME INDEX, 1997
Clearance Rate by Crime



Source: Table 15.

In 1997,

- The clearance rate for total California Crime Index offenses was 24.1 percent.
- Aggravated assault had the highest clearance rate (62.4 percent).
- Motor vehicle theft had the lowest clearance rate (9.8 percent).

[Continue on to the Arrests Section Part 1](#)

[Back to Crimes Part 1](#)

[C&D Table of Contents](#)

[CJSC Home Page](#)

[Attorney General's Home Page](#)