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Summary and Interpretation of the Preliminary Annual Uniform Crime Report, 2006 Federal Bureau of Investigation

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Preliminary Annual Uniform Crime Report, 2006
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The Federal Bureau of Investigation released its preliminary report regarding crime in the United States in 2006 on June 4, 2007.

Violent Crime

For the second year in a row, violent crime increased across the country. Overall, violent crime increased 1.3%, but robbery was up 6.0%. Murder rose slightly, with an increase of 0.3%, and both rape and aggravated assault were down, at 1.9% and 0.7% respectively.

TABLE 1: PERCENT CHANGE 2005-2006

Crime	Percent Change
Violent crime total	+1.3%
Murder	+0.3%
Rape	-1.9%
Robbery	+6.0%
Aggravated Assault	-0.7%

When examining violent crime by city size, every single population grouping experienced an increase. However, when looking at the individual violent crimes, there was much fluctuation. The largest increases compared to 2005 data were as follows:

TABLE 2: LARGEST INCREASES BY POPULATION GROUP 2005-2006

Crime	Percent Change	Population Group
Murder	+6.7%	1,000,000 and over
Rape	+2.2%	50,000 to 99,999
Robbery	+9.2% [†]	25,000 to 49,999
Aggravated Assault	+1.7%	25,000 to 49,999

[†]Large increases were also seen in the population groups 250,000 to 499,999 and 100,000 to 249,999, both at 8.6%.

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The largest decreases compared to 2005 data were as follows:

TABLE 3: LARGEST DECREASES BY POPULATION GROUP 2005-2006

Crime	Percent Change	Population Group
Murder	-6.9%	50,000 to 99,999
Rape	-5.0%	1,000,000 and over
Robbery	NA	All groups increased
Aggravated Assault	-2.3%	500,000 to 999,999

By region of the country, the West saw the greatest increase in violent crime, up 2.8% from 2005. The Midwest saw an increase of 2.1%, followed by the South at 0.6%. The Northeast experienced a 0.1% decrease. By geographical region, the Northeast saw the largest increase in murder (2.5%). Every geographical region experienced an increase in robbery, but it increased the most in the West, jumping 11.6% from 2005. The Midwest had an increase of 5.1%, the South increased 4.6%, and the Northeast increased 2.2%.

Property Crime

Property crime decreased 2.9% overall in 2006 compared to 2005. Burglary was up 0.2%, Larceny/theft decreased 3.5%, motor vehicle theft decreased 4.7%, and arson increased 1.8%. Comparing regions, the Midwest was the only geographic area to experience an increase in property crime, up 0.1% over the previous year.



Selected Cities

In our summary and analysis of the FBI's preliminary report last year, we looked at selected cities across the country. Continuing that selected examination, below are those same cities with both the 2005 and 2006 percentage change in volume.

TABLE 4: PERCENT CHANGE 2005-2006 IN SELECTED CITIES

CITY	VIOLENT CRIME		MURDER		ROBBERY	
	2005	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006
Albuquerque, NM	-1.1%	-2.6%	+29.3%	-35.8	-7.1%	+1.8
Arlington, TX	+25.1%	+15.2%	+71.4%	-41.7	+16%	+15.9
Atlanta, GA	-8.9%	+4.6%	-18.9%	+22.2	-8.2%	+3.4
Baltimore, MD	-3.6%	-3.8%	-2.5%	+2.6	-3.5%	+8.2
Birmingham, AL	+5.8%	-7.9%	+76.3%	Unchanged	+4.4%	Unchanged
Boston, MA	+8.1%	+0.7%	+19.7%	+2.7	+9.1%	+1.8
Cincinnati, OH	+1.4%	+0.7%	+23.4%	+12.7	-3.7%	+0.8
Dallas, TX	-4.6%	-2.4%	-18.5%	-7.4	-7.8%	+0.5
Denver, CO	Unchanged	-2.7%	-32.2%	-13.6	-0.7%	-10.4
Detroit, MI	+31.6%	+0.7%	-6.8%	+11.8	+23.4%	+6.0
Houston, TX	+2.4%	+1.1%	+22.8%	+12.9	+9.3%	+2.2
Jersey City, NJ	+8.4%	-7.8%	+65.2%	-42.1	+15.8%	-5.4
Kansas City, MO	+1.3%	-1.0%	+41.6%	-11.1	+4%	+2.2
Las Vegas, NV	-2.6%	+35.7%	+9.9%	+4.8	-6.3%	+54.0
Memphis, TN	+25.1%	+7.1%	+27.1%	+6.5	+18.3%	+18.9
Miami, FL	-5.8%	-3.3%	-21.7%	+42.6	-14.7%	+4.6

Milwaukee, WI	+32.5%	+27.7%	+40.2%	-14.9	+16.9%	+22.8
Minneapolis, MN	+35.5%	Unavailable	-11.3%	+21.3	+40.8%	+17.2
New York, NY	-1.9%	-4.6%	-5.4%	+10.6	+1.4%	-4.9
Oakland, CA	+10.5	+32.9%	+12%	+55.9	+22%	+32.1
Oklahoma City, OK	+5%	-5.2%	+38.5%	+1.9	+1.7%	-1.2
Orlando, FL	+4.3%	+13.1%	+29.4%	+122.7	+25.2%	+26.9
Philadelphia, PA	+3.4%	+5.9%	+14.2%	+7.7	+3.2%	+9.0
Portsmouth, VA	+0.9%	-3.9%	+175%	-18.2	+6.4%	-7.9
Rochester, NY	+10.8%	+21.8%	+47.2%	-7.5	+9.9%	+29.8
Sacramento, CA	+11.3%	+5.5%	+4%	+9.6	+5.4%	+8.4
San Diego, CA	-2.5%	-3.2%	-17.7%	+33.3	+12.8%	+16.2
San Francisco, CA	+4%	+9.2%	+9.1%	-10.4	+1.2%	+25.3
Spokane, WA	-7.2%	+6.9%	+62.5%	-23.1	-7.7%	+37.1
St. Louis, MO	+19.6%	+3.4%	+15.9%	-1.5	+12.7%	+6.1
Washington, DC	+5.2%	+9.1%	-1.5%	-13.3	+14.6%	+2.9



Authors' Conclusion

Violent crime increased for the second year in a row. The volatility experienced in 2005 continued in 2006. Although the numbers fluctuate from year to year, the data reveal an unmistakable upward trend. The trends vary by city size (large versus small cities) and by geographical region i.e., West, South. Some cities, for example, experienced increases, while others experienced decreases, and some cities experienced increases only in certain violent crime. The Midwest is experiencing increases in violent crime at higher rates than other areas. Taken together, the data are a continued wake-up call for focusing on reinforcement of crime prevention.