



Overview

Table 4

**Crime in the United States, by Region, Geographic Division, and State,
2008–2009**

- The estimated number of violent crimes in the United States decreased 5.3 percent in 2009 when compared with 2008 data.
- In comparing the 2-year estimates, violent crimes decreased in all four regions, with the largest decrease (6.6 percent) occurring in the South, followed by a 5.3 percent drop in the West, a 4.3 percent decrease in the Midwest, and a 3.3 percent decline in the Northeast.
- The number of murders, forcible rapes, robberies, and aggravated assaults decreased in all four regions of the Nation.
- The Northeast reported the largest decrease in murder, 8.7 percent.
- The Midwest recorded the largest decrease in forcible rape, 5.1 percent.
- The South posted the largest declines in robbery (9.9 percent) and aggravated assault (5.4 percent).
- For 2009, the estimated number of property crimes nationwide decreased 4.6 percent when compared with the 2008 estimate.
- All four of the Nation's regions had decreases in the estimated number of property crimes, with declines of 6.1 percent in the West, 5.4 percent in the Midwest, 5.2 percent in the Northeast, and 3.4 percent in the South.
- The estimated number of burglaries decreased in all regions except for the South, where the number of estimated offenses increased slightly. The largest decline, 4.5 percent, occurred in the Northeast.

- Larceny-thefts declined in all four regions. The largest decrease, 5.3 percent, occurred in the Midwest.
- When compared with the 2008 estimates, the estimated number of motor vehicle thefts in 2009 declined in all four regions of the United States. The largest decline, 18.4 percent, occurred in the Midwest.