



## PART ONE CRIME STATISTICS SUMMARY

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Anne Arundel County citizens experienced an overall 0.3% *decrease* in the number of Part One crimes committed in 2005 as compared to 2004 figures. A total of 17,289 Part One Crimes were reported to the Anne Arundel County Police Department during the calendar year 2005, down from 17,341 in 2004. Leading the increases were burglary, up by 115, followed by an increase of 73 robberies. The balance of Part One crimes decreased with aggravated assaults down by 129. Other decreases included, theft down by 39, arson down by 34, auto theft down by 23, and rape down by 14. Overall in 2005, Violent Part One Crime *decreased* by 3.3%, while Property Part One Crime *increased* by 0.1%.

The CID Homicide Unit investigated twelve homicide cases in 2005. Five cases were successfully closed by arrest and three cases were closed by exception. Four cases remain open. The case clearance rate was 88%, compared to the 2004 nationwide average clearance rate of 62.6%.

The CID Sexual Offense Unit investigated a total of 134 reported rape cases in 2005, of which 66 were first and second-degree rapes. Of these 134 cases, 121 were closed: 26 by arrest, 61 by exception, 2 cases were suspended, and 32 cases were determined to be unfounded. Thirteen cases remain open for investigation. The Sex Offense Unit realized an 89% clearance rate (including unfounded) compared to a 41.8% 2004 nationwide average clearance rate. Continued educational efforts, including self protection lectures and demonstrations conducted by the Department's Training Academy and the Crime Prevention Unit, have helped in promoting awareness among women to reduce their susceptibility to rape through avoidance of potentially threatening or dangerous situations. The Criminal Investigation Division Sex Offense Unit continues its partnerships with the Rape Crisis Unit, and the Sexual Assault Forensic Examination (S.A.F.E) Units at Baltimore Washington Medical Center and Anne Arundel Medical Center.

In 2005, there was an increase in the number of robberies committed. Commercial robberies and highway robbery topped the list. Other robberies committed may be attributed to bank robberies, chain store robberies, and pizza delivery robberies. Included in this category are "strong arm" robberies, or those where use of force without a weapon was being used. Contributing factors to these robberies include the ease with which these types of robberies are committed, the proximity of patrol districts to major urban areas where a number of suspects travel into the county to commit such robberies, and the desire for finding ways to obtain money to purchase illegal drugs. Utilizing such solvability factors as the extent of suspect descriptions, available vehicle information, and modus operandi of similar robbery cases, the Robbery Unit investigated 166 robbery cases. Sixty-three cases were closed by arrest, 33 were suspended, 27 cases were cleared by exception, 1 was unfounded, and 42 cases remain open. The Robbery Unit was successful in closing 55% of cases investigated. That ranks well above the 2004 national average of 26.2%.



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There were a total of 3,854 combined assaults (simple and aggravated) reported in 2005, down 4.2% from 2004. Aggravated assaults (use of a weapon, or use of hands, feet or fists to inflict serious injury sufficient to require medical attention) *decreased* 8.8% over 2004 figures. Of the 3,854 combined assaults reported, there were 873 *domestic assaults*, representing a 4.2% *increase* over the previous year's 838 reported domestic assaults. The installation of Domestic Violence Officers (DVO) in each district, coupled with the continued education of patrol personnel on the appropriate processing of domestic violence calls for service, has enabled the department to become more effective and efficient in handling domestic assaults. While we will continue to do everything we can to reduce the incidents of all forms of assault, they remain a difficult crime to impact because they can occur at any time and at any place for a myriad of reasons. It should be noted, however, that domestic assaults are not usually random acts of violence, but rather, they occur between individuals who are involved in some type of dating, sibling, parental, or marital relationship.

Incidents of burglary have *increased* in 2005 by 4.3% compared to 2004 figures. There were 2,780 incidents reported in 2005, up from 2,665 the previous year. There were 322 adult arrests and 302 juvenile arrests for burglary in 2005. Juvenile arrests decreased by 5.7% in 2005, while adult arrests increased by 1.9%.

Thefts, in general, are typically the most widespread property crime reported in the county. There were 10,992 total theft incidents reported in 2005, representing a *decrease* of 0.4% or 39 fewer than the prior year. The clearance of theft offenses by arrest is directly affected by the nature of the crime. As with other property crimes, opportunity and stealth work in favor of the perpetrator and against detection by the police. Similarly, the existence or lack of suspects, the nature and ability to trace the property stolen, and the probability of arrest through investigation, represents a few of the considerations which impact the clearance of thefts by arrest. Subsequently, there were 2,311 adult arrests and 1,046 juvenile arrests for theft in 2005. Adult arrests increased by 38 or 1.7%, while juvenile arrests decreased by 72, or 6.4% less than the previous year.

There were 23 less vehicle thefts reported in 2005 compared to 2004, representing a 1.7% *decrease* in reported vehicle thefts. The Auto Theft Unit investigated 140 complaints. Of these 140 cases, 55 were closed by arrest, 15 by exception, 44 cases were suspended, and 26 cases were determined to be unfounded. This resulted in a clearance rate of 69%. The most prominent reason includes vehicles stolen to provide transportation to and within the county to commit other crimes. Often, vehicles stolen outside of the county are driven to business parking lots and apartment complexes where they are often abandoned and subsequently replaced by the theft of another vehicle. This provides the thief transportation back to an out-of-county location to avoid arrest and detection. Other serious contributing factors giving rise to vehicle thefts include vehicle owners leaving the motor running, failing to remove keys from the ignition, and leaving keys in plain sight on car seats or dashboards while leaving vehicles unattended. There were 58 adult arrests for vehicle theft in 2005 and 20 juvenile arrests, a 20% *decrease* compared to 2004. The Department entered into its tenth year in a row for implementing the Vehicle Investigation Prevention Education and Recovery (VIPER) Program, a vehicle theft prevention grant program funded by the Vehicle Theft Prevention Council (VTPC) of Maryland.

SOURCE: Anne Arundel County Police 2005 Uniform Crime Statistics, Productivity Report, prepared jointly by the Central Records Section, and the 2004 Crime in Maryland Uniform Crime Reports (National and State 10-Year Averages).