PORTLAND POLICE DEPARTMENT
ANNUAL REPORT
2016
The Mission of the Portland Police Department

is to maintain a safe city

by working in partnership

with the community to prevent and reduce crime,

protect life and property, help resolve neighborhood problems

and protect the rights of all.

Portland Maine Police Department 2016 Annual Report
As I look back on the events of 2016, I can not be prouder to serve as the Chief of Police in Portland. In a year marked by anti-police protests and violence across the country, the Portland community stepped up and expressed their gratitude and appreciation of our officers in every way imaginable. From tasty meals to cakes and donuts, floral displays, prayers, thank you notes and even a cheerful sunflower left on a police cruiser, our spirits were buoyed by the overwhelming support we received.

And when a group of protestors took to the Old Port to express displeasure with police actions in other parts of the country, our officers acted with restraint, professionalism, and compassion—as they do every day.

Crime continued to trend down or hold steady in 2016. Overall violent crime increased slightly while total property crime decreased by more than 10%. A detailed picture of crime in Portland is available in the crime analysis section of this report.

Unfortunately, 2016 also brought bad news as too many community members continue to suffer the ravages of the ongoing heroin epidemic. Although we made some progress bringing to bear the resources of law enforcement, public health, hospitals, and other stakeholders, opioid overdoses continue to occur at an intolerable rate.

In August, the Department was the target of a series of explicit online threats of violence. Coming in the wake of attacks on police around the country, we took these threats seriously and immediately established a heightened security posture. With the help of the FBI, our officers quickly identified the source of the threats and arrested him at a local hotel a short time later.

In closing, I want to assure the community that the officers and civilian employees of the Portland Police Department are talented and caring individuals who put their sweat and tears into keeping the community safe. I thank each of them for their dedicated service and I thank you, the citizens of Portland, for your continued support.

Mike

On the cover: In late July, PPD employees were greeted by this “Thank You” sign posted on the plaza just outside the entrance to the Department. This simple, anonymous gesture, which came at a particularly low point following attacks on police officers and anti-police protests, buoyed our spirits and was greatly appreciated.
PORTLAND AT A GLANCE

CITY OF PORTLAND
Incorporated: 1876
Municipal Budget: $236,181,592
Population: 66,194
Land Area: 21.23 sq miles

PORTLAND POLICE DEPARTMENT
Chief: Michael J. Sauschuck
Headquarters: 109 Middle St
Sworn Officers: 163
Civilian Employees: 59
Budget: $15,697,557

2016 Statistics
Calls for Service: 82,807
Arrests: 3235
Motor Vehicle Stops: 9615
Citations: 4120
Aptly called “the Jewel by the Sea” by native son Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, Portland, Maine has evolved from a bustling, working seaport to a vibrant small city complete with nationally recognized “foodie” and craft beer scenes, a thriving arts community, and rich cultural offerings. It is a charming locale where narrow, cobblestone streets dotted with 19th century brick buildings are reflected in the glass fronts of 21st century hotels and condominiums. It is also a friendly, inclusive place where Mainers welcome newcomers from across the country and around the globe.

The Portland Police Department has also evolved since a handful of constables took to the streets in the mid 1800’s. Today, PPD is a forward-thinking, professional agency with over 160 sworn officers and nearly 60 civilians committed to serving a diverse city of more than 66,000 residents. The Department fully embraced the concept of community policing in the mid 1990’s and continues to model daily operations and functions on that philosophy.
The Uniform Operations Group is the largest and most visible component of the Portland Police Department and includes the Patrol and Community Policing Divisions.

PATROL

Nearly 90 officers are assigned to the Patrol Division where they work one of three shifts (days, evenings, and nights). Each shift is broken down into two sections, each of which is commanded by a lieutenant, and further broken down into teams which are supervised by sergeants.

Patrol officers are assigned to beats where they conduct proactive patrol, respond to calls for service, and provide general police services. Assigning officers to a consistent, familiar patrol area strengthens police effectiveness as officers are better able to recognize potential problems and crime patterns. It also encourages community relationships and increases accountability.

Portland is currently divided into 11 police beats. Beat boundaries were drawn to equally distribute call volume, facilitate response time, and take advantage of natural (bodies of water) and man-made (major roads) features.

The current beat map is shown at left. Additional cadres of officers provide a police presence at the Jetport and on Peaks Island. The Island Officers, who are joined by a firefighter/EMT, provide comprehensive public safety services to include police, fire and emergency medical.

Two officers and a sergeant are assigned to the Traffic Unit. They investigate hit and run crashes, reconstruct fatal accidents and conduct targeted enforcement in response to community complaints.

Patrol is also augmented by two co-responder programs: a nationally recognized mental health program and a recently introduced substance use disorder program. Both programs utilize civilian specialists to conduct outreach, facilitate treatment, and divert clients from the criminal justice system.
COMMUNITY POLICING

The officers and civilian coordinators assigned to Community Policing work in partnership with the community to identify and eliminate chronic problems that impact safety and quality of life. By working cooperatively with police, community members can prioritize problems and influence solutions.

Six civilian community policing coordinators form the backbone of the PPD Community Policing effort. Each Coordinator develops programs specific to the needs of their assigned neighborhood. They also manage the disorderly house programs in their neighborhoods by identifying addresses with an inordinate number of public disorder complaints and meeting with representatives of other City departments to focus their collective resources on those properties. Additionally, all coordinators participate in the Community Partnership for Protecting Children, a collaborative effort to help at-risk kids in the City’s poorest neighborhoods.

Community Policing Officers are assigned to six sectors where they assist with problem-solving, develop and implement enforcement programs and attend community meetings.

In 2010, the Portland Police Department became the first law enforcement agency in Maine to employ a Neighborhood Prosecutor, a licensed attorney who uses non-traditional (mediation, problem-solving, social service intervention) and traditional (lawsuits and prosecution) methods to tackle quality of life issues which negatively impact the livability of the City. Because the Neighborhood Prosecutor interacts directly with community members, he is able to focus resources and effort on meeting the needs of the community in contrast with a traditional prosecutor who often assesses cases based upon the strength of evidence or the seriousness of the crime.

For more information on our community policing program, please go to our website.
CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS DIVISION

The Criminal Investigations Division (CID) is primarily responsible for conducting follow-up investigations of serious or complex crimes against people or property. Four evidence technicians collect and process physical evidence while a highly trained computer crimes specialist identifies, seizes and analyzes digital evidence.

The Detective Bureau is divided into two distinct areas: Crimes Against People and Property Crimes. Personnel assigned to these areas investigate some of the most challenging crimes in the state of Maine to include homicides and complex financial cases. Detectives examine crime scenes, identify and interview witnesses, and prepare cases for prosecution. They prepare paperwork to secure warrants and present completed cases to the District Attorney’s Office. Detectives are selected through a competitive process and receive specialized training upon assignment to the unit.

A small group of officers is assigned to the Crime Reduction Unit—a team designed to apprehend wanted persons, provide rapid response to crime tips, and target emerging crime trends. These officers routinely collaborate with other local, state and federal law enforcement officers to investigate drug-related crimes, human trafficking operations and other multi-jurisdictional activities.

EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS

The Portland Regional Communications Center (PRCC), housed at Portland Police Headquarters, is the busiest Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP) in the state of Maine. The PRCC received an average of 166 calls to 911 per day in 2016 which adds up to nearly 61,000 911 calls for the year. The next busiest PSAP in the state, the State Police Communications Center in Gray received just under 43,000 911 calls in 2016.

Not surprisingly, a significant portion of 911 calls now come in via cell phone. In 2016, two thirds of the 911 calls received by the PRCC originated on a cell phone. Approximately 18% originated from a landline.

In addition to 911 calls, PRCC personnel field hundreds of non emergency calls each day. These range from simple requests for information to non-life threatening situations that require a police, fire or EMS response.

When not fielding calls for service and dispatching units, PRCC staff monitor alarms and security cameras at City Buildings, maintain required certifications and respond to requests for information from the public and emergency personnel.
2016 Commendations and Awards

Commendation for Merit

For coordinating the response to a suicide threat originating in Holland
Telecommunicator Jonathan Cosenza
Telecommunications Supervisor Brian Cole

For providing life-saving aid to a shooting victim.
Officer Michael Bennis

For the identification and arrest of a burglary suspect
Officer Jonathan Lackee

For successfully subduing an armed suspect
Officer Christian Stickney and K9 Blaze

For the response to and investigation of a complicated homicide case ultimately leading to a conviction.
Officer Jeffrey Druan
Detective Christopher Giesecke
Detective Richard Vogel
Evidence Technician Victor Cote
Evidence Technician Christopher Stearns

For providing life-saving medical assistance to a heart attack victim.
Officer David Cote
Officer Thien Duong

For administering critical first aid to a stabbing victim.
Officer Christopher Gervais
Officer Joseph Jaynes

For the identification and arrest of a suspect in a Deering crime spree.
Detective Christopher Giesecke
Detective Kelly Gorham

For their response to an in-progress suicide attempt.
Officer Christopher Kelley
Officer Vincent Rozzi
Sergeant Jacob Titcomb

For safely deescalating a situation involving a threatening individual
Officer Thien Duong
Officer Christopher Coyne

For locating and arresting a suspect in a rash of armed robberies.
Officer Morgan MacLean

For a complex sexual assault investigation.
Detective Scott Dunham (Retired)

Civilian of the Year
Oliver Bradeen

Officer of the Year
Thien Duong
COMMENDATIONS AND AWARDS

DISTINGUISHED UNIT COMMENDATION

For the response, investigation and arrest of three suspects in a robbery
Sergeant Timothy Farris
Officer Heather Brake
Officer Kyle Brake
Officer Zachary Finley
Officer Jonathan Roberts
Officer Andrew Castonguay
Officer Jamie Beals
Officer Vincent Rozzi
Officer Morgan MacLean
Officer Jason Nadeau
Detective Richard Vogel
E.T. Frank Pellerin
Telecommunicator Jessica Ramsay
T/C Supervisor Brian Cole

For identifying and arresting an arson suspect.
Officer Jeffrey Druan
Officer Kevin Murphy
Officer Christian Stickney

For assisting in the investigation and prosecution of a complex sexual assault case.
Detective Richard Beaumont
Detective Christopher Giesecke
Detective Eli Chase
Victim/Witness Advocate Janice Hackett

For identifying and arresting the suspect in a series of electronic threats against the police department.
Special Agent Daniel Townsend
Officer Andrew Hagerty
Officer Mark Keller

For the response to and arrest of a suspect in an armed robbery
Lieutenant Heath Gorham
Sergeant Christopher Mitchell
Sergeant Joseph Ezepek
Officer Jessica Brown
Officer John Cunniff
Officer David Schertz
Officer Matthew Pavlis
Officer Henry Johnson
Officer Mark Keller
E.T. Frank Pellerin
Special Agent Daniel Townsend
Special Agent Joshua McDonald
Telecommunicator Jessie Lemieux
Telecommunicator Gennette Cardullo-Branco

For their response to a shooting in the Old Port.
Sergeant Daniel Hayden
Sergeant Timothy Farris
Officer Jeffrey Druan
Officer Jessica Brown
Officer Eric McCusker
Officer Eric Johnson
Officer Ayaovi Alognon
Officer Christopher Gervais
Officer Kimberly Donnell
Officer Robert Miller
Officer Ryan Gagnon
Officer Mark Keller
Officer Blake Cunningham
Officer Nicholas Gowen
Officer Andrew Hagerty
Officer Kyle Knutson
Evidence Technician Jonathan Reeder
Telecommunicator Gennette Cardullo-Branco
COMMENDATIONS AND AWARDS

DISTINGUISHED UNIT COMMENDATION

For professionalism demonstrated during a high-visibility, contentious protest in the Old Port.

Major Don Krier (Retired)  Officer Jonathan Lackee
Lieutenant Robert Martin  Officer Kathryn Phelan
Lieutenant Aaron Pepin  Officer Christopher Sibley
Lieutenant Frank Gorham  Officer Jeffery Ruth
Sergeant Timothy Farris  Officer Zahra Abu
Sergeant Jeffrey Calloway  Officer Benjamin Savage
Sergeant Benjamin Noyes  Officer Joseph Jaynes
Sergeant Jeffrey Viola (Retired)  Officer Christopher Dyer
Sergeant Christopher Mitchell  Officer Jonathan Roberts
  Officer Brent Ross  Officer Zachary Theriault
  Officer Jessica Brown  Officer Morgan MacLean
  Officer David Schertz  Officer Andrew Castonguay
  Officer David Moore  Officer Thomas Kwok
  Officer Kevin Murphy  Evidence Technician Victor Cote
  Officer Nicholas Gowen  Special Agent Daniel Townsend
  Officer Eric McCusker  Telecommunicator Katherine Nowicki
  Officer Jacob Demchak  Telecommunicator Kylie Ireland
  Officer Christopher Mitchell  Telecommunicator Jessica Ramsay
  Officer Brent Ross  Telecommunicator Cass Newell
  Officer Jessica Brown  Telecommunicator Allyson Hildreth
  Officer David Schertz  Telecommunicator Stephanie Nowicki
  Officer David Moore  Telecommunicator Jonathan Cosenza
  Officer Kevin Murphy

For the investigation and resulting conviction of a suspect in a complicated homicide case.

Officer Jeffrey Druan  Evidence Technician Victor Cote
Detective Christopher Giesecke  Evidence Technician Christopher Stearns
Detective Richard Vogel
Evidence Technician Victor Cote
Evidence Technician Christopher Stearns
COMMENDATIONS AND AWARDS

DISTINGUISHED CITIZEN AWARD

For rescuing an autistic boy from Back Cove.
Muna Disso
Lauren Ashwell

For intervening in a brazen daytime robbery/assault.
David Day
Bruce Herbert

For assisting and obtaining aid for a young boy in distress.
Connor Eide

For reporting and assisting officers during a suicide threat call for service.
Bert Stain

For assisting detectives with a robbery investigation.
Robert Ruminski

For administering critical first aid to a stabbing victim.
Billie Jo Burgess
Pamela Cyr

For providing assistance to a heart attack victim.
Michael Madison

For successfully operating on K9 Atros.
Dr. Ezra Steinburg

LAW ENFORCEMENT AWARD

For identifying and arresting the suspect in a series of electronic threats against the police department.
F.B.I. Special Agent Christopher Peavey
F.B.I. Special Agent Patrick Clancy

For the response to and arrest of a suspect in an armed robbery.
South Portland Police Officer Kevin Theriault and K9 Trigger

For more than 20 years of providing guidance and training to cadets attending the Maine Criminal Justice Academy.
Jack Murphy
BATTING AN EPIDEMIC

Heroin usage has been on the rise in Portland for several years and it clearly hit epidemic proportions in 2015:

- 46 Overdose Deaths were recorded in the City in 2015
- PPD responded to approximately 400 overdose calls in 2015
- Portland Fire Department administered Narcan 161 time in 2015

In response to these alarming statistics, the Portland Police Department launched the Law Enforcement Addiction Advocacy Program (LEAAP) in February of 2016. Based upon the Department’s nationally recognized mental health co-responder program, LEAAP is led by a civilian Substance Use Disorder Liaison (SUDL) who responds to overdose calls alongside officers. He assists first responders and helps the person who overdosed navigate through the system. He engages and supports the person through hospital care and attempts to assist with discharge planning in order to best position the person for recovery. Recognizing that many people who suffer from a substance use disorder are not ready to engage in treatment, the SUDL emphasizes harm reduction: techniques which can keep a user safer until he or she can obtain treatment.

The SUDL also conducts outreach to known users, provides education and assistance to community members, families, and first responders, and facilitates collaboration with community partners to tap into disjointed resources. As of the end of 2016, the SUDL had engaged nearly 100 individuals.

To date, the LEAAP program has been funded through a variety of sources including state grants, donations, and drug forfeiture money.

In early November, a generous local business stepped up and donated more than 10,000 pocket sized copies of the resource and information card shown at right. These cards have been distributed throughout the City in hopes of getting life-saving information to those who need it.

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**Addiction Resources**

LEAAP
Law Enforcement Addiction Advocacy Program
100 Middle St  207.759.8231

Milestone Foundation
Harm Team  207.838.8904
Detox 66 India St  207.775.4760

Portland Recovery Community Center
Meetings, Peer Support, Resources, Community
488 Forest Ave  207.622.2675

Portand Overdose Prevention Project
Support, Advocacy, Education, Outreach
207.874.8796

The Portland Needle Exchange Program
11 Exchange, Naloxone, Education and Testing
103 India St  207.756.8024

Crisis Intervention Program
24/7 Hotline/Mobile Outreach
207.774.4057

Portland, Maine

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**Heroin/Opiate Overdoses**

**Signs and Symptoms**

- Slow/no heartbeat
- Limp
- Unresponsive
- Vomiting or Gurgling
- Blue Lips or Nails
- Unconscious
- Shallow breathing
- Pale and clammy

**What To Do**

- Try to wake them: Yell, rub chest hard with knuckles
- CALL 911
- Check for airway obstruction
- Perform Rescue Breathing: tilt head back, pinch nose, give 2 breaths, then 1 breath every 5 seconds
- Administer Naloxone
- Evaluate/Support: stay with them, wait for EMS
- Place the person on their side with legs bent and head resting on their arm
PROGRAMS AND INITIATIVES

POLICE CADETS
After several years of operating at a reduced level because of budget concerns, our popular cadet program was expanded in 2016 with the assistance of Portland Downtown. Cadets provide a visible presence in the downtown and Old Port areas where they assist visitors and community members, identify persons in need and enforce municipal ordinances.

NARCAN
In September 2016 all PPD patrol officers began carrying Narcan, a life-saving medication that blocks the effects of opioids and reverses an overdose. Provided by the Maine Attorney General’s Office and administered as a nasal spray, Narcan gives the Department another tool in the multifaceted fight against addiction.

ORDINANCE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER
Originally approved in 2014, but unfilled due to a hiring freeze, this position is primarily responsible for investigating quality of life complaints such as Dogs at Large, Smoking in City Parks, and Littering. He works closely with the Neighborhood Prosecutor to target specific problem areas.

FILL-A-BACKPACK CHALLENGE
Telecommunications Supervisor Cheryl Brewster led the effort to collect backpacks and school supplies for needy children in the Portland community. In just two weeks, we met the challenge collecting nearly 150 backpacks filled with supplies! Community Policing Officers helped distribute the backpacks to some very excited kids.
While police work is typically serious business, we don’t take ourselves too seriously. Here are a few lighter moments from 2016:
OUT AND ABOUT
THE MOST WONDERFUL DAY OF THE YEAR

Each year, our community policing coordinators select 8 deserving local children who are escorted to long-term sponsor Target where officers help them pick out gifts for family members. The groups return to the PD to enjoy pizza from Portland Pie, wrap gifts, and have an all round good time. This year the program was expanded by a donation from Maine Medical Partners Women’s Health enabling the kids to buy gifts for nearly 40 family members!
NEW HIRES

Each year, we hire a contingent of new officers to replace those who have retired or moved on to other careers. All candidates must undergo a rigorous hiring process including a written test, physical fitness test, background investigation, job suitability, a polygraph and an oral interview. New hires who are not already certified law enforcement officers must attend the 18 week Basic Law Enforcement Training program at the Maine Criminal Justice Academy. All new hires also participate in a 14 week field training program at the PD. We welcome the following officers hired in 2016:

**January 2016 Academy**
From left to right with Chief Sauschuck:
Zahra Abu
Darrel Gibson
David Moore
Ben Savage

**August 2016 Academy**
From left to right:
Anthony Stewart
Mary Lukasiewicz
Jeremy Turner

Additionally, Officer Kim Donnell, a six year veteran of the Bangor Police Department joined PPD in October.
NEW HIRES

We also welcomed a number of civilian employees in 2016:

Telecommunicators: Carolyn Bouldry, Ryan Atherton, Liam Keating, Karyn Wogan, Kim Hatstat, Kerri Carbone, Melissa Napolitano, and Kylie Ireland

Crime Analyst Nancy Valenti

Animal Control Officer Ruthann Weist

Substance Use Disorder Liaison Oliver Bradeen

Ordinance Enforcement Officer Dylan Matthews

In March, Chief Sauschuck had the honor of swearing in 18 year old Zachary Johnson as an honorary Portland Police Officer joining his uncle, Kevin Haley, a 17 year veteran of the Department. Although Zach was only with us for a short time, we were all inspired by his courage, strength and perseverance. Zach succumbed to a long battle with cancer just three months after he was sworn in.
Calls for Service to the Portland Regional Communications Center (PRCC) fluctuate each year but the 10-year average is approximately 81,552 calls a year.

Approximately 82,807 calls for service were received by the PRCC in 2016. Calls for service can come into the department a number of ways, but primarily through 911, the police department non-emergency line, walk ins to the lobby, alarms, digital means, and via Text-a-Tip, the Department’s anonymous tip program.

Dispatchers staff the Communications Center 24 hours a day 7 days a week. Their duties include dispatching officers to calls, communicating with officers in the field, and keeping track of officer self-initiated activity. Self-initiated activity is any type of proactive enforcement activity when an officer is not actively responding to calls for service such as motor vehicle stops, pedestrian checks, special attention checks, follow ups, and suspicious activity calls.

Of the approximately 82,807 calls for service received by the PRCC in 2016, 911 Hang Up Calls topped the calls for service list in 2016. A 911 hang up call could be a dropped call, a wrong number, a technical issue with a telephone, a child playing with a phone, or it could be a viable emergency where a victim needs an emergency response. Despite the fact that there may be no emergency, department protocol requires an officer be dispatched to the location of the 911 call to verify there is no actual emergency.

Self-initiated officer activity consisting of Motor Vehicle Stops, Pedestrian Checks, Suspicious Activity, and Special Attention Checks round out the top five calls for service types.
CALLS FOR SERVICE

DRUG AND ALCOHOL RELATED CFS

The Portland Police Department continues to respond to a disproportionate number of drug and alcohol related calls for service. In order to better serve individuals suffering from addiction and to help reduce the burden on emergency services, the Department and other community stakeholders continue to seek out of the box solutions such as the highly successful Homeless Outreach and Mobile Engagement (HOME) Team program run by Milestones. The Home Team and the Department’s own Behavioral Health Team focus on addressing the root cause of these calls which tend to be mental health and substance use disorders.

Drinking in Public and Layout/Incapacitated Persons calls continue to trend upward year over year. Drinking in Public CFS increased more than 9% over last year and Layout/Incapacitated Persons CFS increased nearly 35% - a trend largely attributed to the consumption of a synthetic cannabinoid called spice. Intoxicated Person calls have continued to decline over the last three years, likely due to increased enforcement and HOME Team outreach.

Drug related calls for service continued to climb steadily higher in 2016. Although specific calls for service pertaining to drug sales/manufacturing remained steady, drug overdose and drug possession calls increased. Most notably, drug overdose calls have increased more than 75% over the past five years. While much of that increase is attributable to the opioid epidemic, the overdose numbers in this report include intentional and accidental overdoses on all pharmaceutical and illicitly manufactured drugs. Supplementary reporting from the Maine Attorney General’s Office confirms that the vast majority of overdose deaths in Maine are caused by at least one opioid. Portland experienced a total of 42 overdose deaths in 2016, 38 of which involved at least one opioid.
Data derived from our CAD (Computer Aided Dispatch) system suggests that behavioral health related calls for service declined slightly in 2015. These numbers include calls originally classified as behavioral health related in addition to calls which were determined to be behavioral health related by the responding officer. We believe the number of actual calls with a behavioral health component is actually much higher and we continue to struggle with developing a methodology for tracking these calls.

Suicide Threats and Suicide Attempts remained steady in 2015.

The Department’s commitment to providing the high-quality specialized response to people with mental illness dates back to the mid-1990’s when PPD collaborated with what was then known as Ingraham to assign a licensed mental health co-responder to the Department. That relationship continues today with The Opportunity Alliance Behavioral Health Liaison. The Department also employs a full-time Behavioral Health Coordinator, a Substance Use Disorder Liaison, and master’s level interns who serve as co-responders along side police. Additionally, every sworn officer attends Crisis Intervention Training - a 40 hour course to prepare them to recognize and appropriately respond to people suffering from a wide array of mental illness.
FBI UNIFORM CRIME REPORTING PROGRAM

The Portland Police Department submits monthly Part I Crimes to the state as required by the FBI. Police agencies across the country voluntarily submit Uniform Crime Reporting data to the FBI which compiles that data and publishes an annual report called Crime in the United States. The UCR system divides criminal offenses into two major categories: Part I Offenses and Part II offenses. Part I crimes are divided into Violent and Property crimes.

Violent crimes are comprised of Murder, Robbery, Forcible Rape, and Aggravated Assault.

Property crimes are comprised of Arson, Burglary, Larceny-Theft, and Motor Vehicle thefts.

The Portland Police Department not only submits UCR data to the Maine State Police UCR division once a month but also tracks increases in Part I Crimes through weekly CompStat meetings. Part I Crimes are tracked on a 7 day, 28 day, and Year to Date basis. Any notable increase in Part I crimes is reviewed by command staff and an appropriate strategic and tactical response is instituted to reverse the trend.
HOMICIDE

Homicide is the most vicious and violent of all Part I crimes reported to the FBI. A city’s homicide rate is most often correlated with a resident’s perceived sense of safety.

Thankfully homicides rarely occur in Portland; in fact, the ten year average is just over two per year. The vast majority involved individuals who were familiar with each other and virtually all had a nexus to drugs or alcohol.

There were two homicides in Portland in 2016: in March, a 36 year old man was shot in his Gilman Street apartment and a 31 year old Veazie man was stabbed outside a Brighton Avenue restaurant in April. Both incidents remain under investigation.

**UNSOLVED CASES:** Despite the best efforts of detectives, some homicide cases are not immediately solved. In an effort to find killers who remain at large and obtain justice for victims, we have posted a list of unsolved homicides on our website: [http://me-portland.civicplus.com/DocumentCenter/View/2246](http://me-portland.civicplus.com/DocumentCenter/View/2246)

*If you have any information regarding these cases, please contact the Detective Bureau at (207) 874-8533 or submit an anonymous tip by going to the Online Services Section*
CRIME IN PORTLAND

RAPE

The Portland Police Department received 36 reports of Rape in 2016. The FBI UCR program revised the definition of rape in 2011 so that males are now counted as victims of rape for reporting purposes. Previous to that time, UCR only counted female rape victims.

The majority of rapes in Portland are perpetrated by a person known to the victim, so although this crime can add to the perception of safety, the numbers of random rape in the City of Portland remain low. All reports of rape are taken seriously by the department and thoroughly investigated. Additionally, all victims of this crime are referred to Sexual Assault Response Services of Southern Maine (SARSSM) for support and advocacy.

ROBBERY

Robbery is defined as the taking or attempting to take anything of value from the care, custody, or control of a person by force or threat of force or violence and/or putting the victim in fear.

There were 59 reported robberies in 2016. This represents a substantial decrease from 2015 levels.
CRIME IN PORTLAND

AGGRAVATED ASSAULT

The FBI’s Uniform Crime Reporting Program defines aggravated assault as an unlawful attack by one person upon another for the purpose of inflicting severe or aggravated bodily injury. For purposes of UCR, Aggravated assaults include Aggravated Assault, Elevated Aggravated Assault, and Criminal Threatening with a Dangerous Weapon.

Ninety Nine Aggravated Assaults were reported in 2016 continuing an upward trend since bottoming out in 2012.

ARSON

Although the State of Maine Fire Marshal’s Office has continued direct UCR reporting of most arson incidents, the City of Portland often investigates cases where juveniles are involved or there is very little property damage.

There were 11 reported arsons in Portland in 2016. Although relatively high in number, the 2016 arsons are mostly attributable to three incidents: in January, a series of four dumpster arsons occurred on a single evening, two involving a dumpster and nearby newspaper stand occurred in March, and in August, another two consecutive arsons were set by juveniles in trash bins. Fortunately all of these fires were minor with very little property damage and no injuries.
**Crime in Portland**

**BURGLARY**

Burglary is defined as the unlawful entry of a structure to commit a felony or theft. The UCR program has three sub classifications for burglary: forcible entry, unlawful entry where no force is used, and attempted forcible entry. There were 236 burglaries in Portland in 2016, which is down 11.28% from the previous year.

![BURGLARY 2012 - 2016](image)

**LARCENY**

Larceny includes the crimes of Theft by Unauthorized Taking, Theft of Services, and Motor Vehicle Burglary. Since this is the most common type of Part I crime, the numbers are higher than all the other Part I categories. Larceny crimes are down 11.97% from 2015 levels, and have steadily trended downward over the past four years.

![LARCENY 2012 -2016](image)

It’s important to note that in many of the cases of Motor Vehicle Burglaries in Portland, vehicles were unlocked and belongings were clearly visible. This type of crime is most easily prevented by locking the vehicle at all times and keeping valuables out of view.
**Crime in Portland**

**Motor Vehicle Theft**

Motor vehicle thefts in Portland increased 7.24% in 2016 continuing an upward trend which started in 2015. In many cases, vehicles that were stolen were either left running or the keys were left in the vehicle. In a few cases, rental vehicles failed to be returned and were often utilized in the commission of a crime.

![Motor Vehicle Theft 2012-2016](image)

**Online Crime Reports**

The Portland Police Department implemented an online reporting system in 2012 for certain minor crimes. There were 414 Online Citizen Reports in 2016 of which slightly more than half (217) involved incidents of Theft by Unauthorized Taking.

We encourage the reporting of all crimes to help us identify patterns and problem areas and better deploy resources. For more information or to report a crime online, please go to the Online Services section of our website.

![Online Citizen Reports](image)
The Portland Police Department made 3235 arrests in 2016.

As in previous years, males accounted for the vast majority of arrests with 2565 males and 670 females arrested in 2016.

A significant portion of those arrested in Portland come from outside the community with only 60% reporting a Portland address.

Nearly thirty percent of those arrested in 2016 were between the ages of 22 and 29. Another 27% were between the ages of 30 and 39.

The most common arrest charges are listed at right.
PORTLAND POLICE DEPARTMENT

109 Middle Street, Portland, Maine 04101
207.874.8479
www.portland-police.com