

Garner Police Department



2015 Crime Statistics Addendum to Annual Department Report

April 2015



When thinking about crime, most people, even police officers, think of violent crimes. In this report, we will look at the crime rate as a whole, but will also examine violent crime and property crime separately.

Violent crime includes the reported offenses of murder, forcible rape, robbery and aggravated assault. These can be defined as:

Murder: The willful (non-negligent) killing of one human being by another.

Forcible Rape: The carnal knowledge of a female forcibly and against her will. Assaults or attempts to commit rape by force are also included.

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

Aggravated Assault: An unlawful attack by one person upon another for the purpose of inflicting severe bodily injury. This type of assault is usually accompanied by the use of a weapon or other means likely to produce death or serious bodily harm. This includes attempted aggravated assaults.

Property crime includes the offenses of burglary, larceny, and motor vehicle theft. These can be defined as:

Burglary (also commonly referred to as Breaking and Entering): The unlawful entry of a structure to commit a felony or theft. This includes attempted forcible entry.

Larceny: The unlawful taking, carrying, leading, or riding away of property from the possession or constructive possession of another. This includes the offense of shoplifting.

Motor Vehicle Theft: The theft or attempted theft of a motor vehicle. This includes passenger vehicles, motorcycles, mopeds, and large trucks.

Garner Crime Rate

The total number of Crime Index Offenses reported to the Garner Police Department decreased by 5.9% in 2015 compared with 2014. This is the third consecutive year with a decrease.

**Table 1- Town of Garner Offenses Reported to Police
Percent Change from 2014 to 2015**

*The populations used to calculate these rates were obtained from the Town of Garner Planning Department.

Total Reported	2014	2015	Percent Change
Murder	0	1	100%
Rape	1	10	900%
Robbery	27	17	-37%
Aggravated Assault	23	16	-30.4%
Violent Crime	51	44	-13.7%
Burglary	175	191	9.1%
Larceny	989	903	-8.7%
MV Theft	40	43	7.5%
Property Crime	1,204	1,137	-5.6%
Index Crime	1,255	1,181	-5.9%

The table below shows Part 1 crime types as a rate per 10,000 in population for ease in comparing to other jurisdictions.

Rate per 10,000 Population	2014	2015	Percent Change
Population	26,595	27,286	2.6%
Murder	0.00	0.4	100%
Rape	0.4	3.7	864%
Robbery	10.2	6.1	-38.6%
Aggravated Assault	8.7	5.9	-32.2%
All Violent Crime	19.2	16.1	-13.6%
Burglary	65.8	69.6	5.8%
Larceny	371.9	331.3	-10.9%
MV Theft	15.0	15.8	4.8%
All Property Crime	452.7	416.7	-8%
All Index Crimes	467.9	437.4	-6.5%

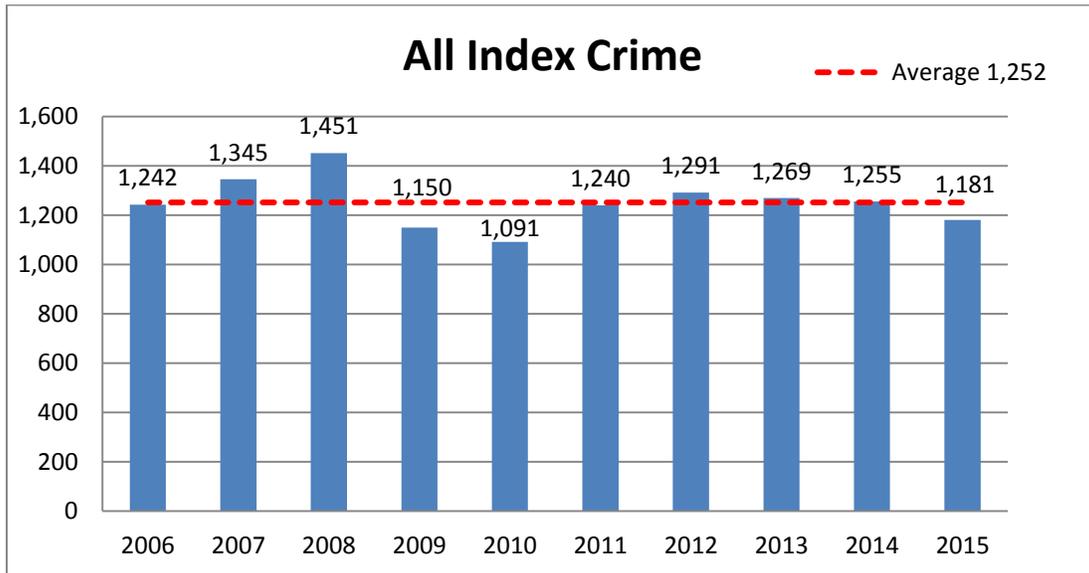
**Table 2- Town of Garner Offenses Reported to Police
Ten Year Trend 2006-2015**

Total Reported	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Murder			3		2		1	2	0	1
Rape	9	5	11	1	3	4	4	2	1	10
Robbery	26	47	63	33	24	23	31	25	27	17
Aggravated Assault	38	47	30	28	22	30	30	21	23	16
Violent Crime	73	99	107	62	51	57	66	50	51	44
Burglary	220	204	195	204	164	216	164	179	175	191
Larceny	906	970	1,079	842	843	931	1,007	995	989	903
MV Theft	43	72	70	42	33	36	54	45	40	43
Property Crime	1,169	1,246	1,344	1,088	1,040	1,183	1,225	1,219	1,204	1,137
Index Crime	1,242	1,345	1,451	1,150	1,091	1,240	1,291	1,269	1,255	1,181

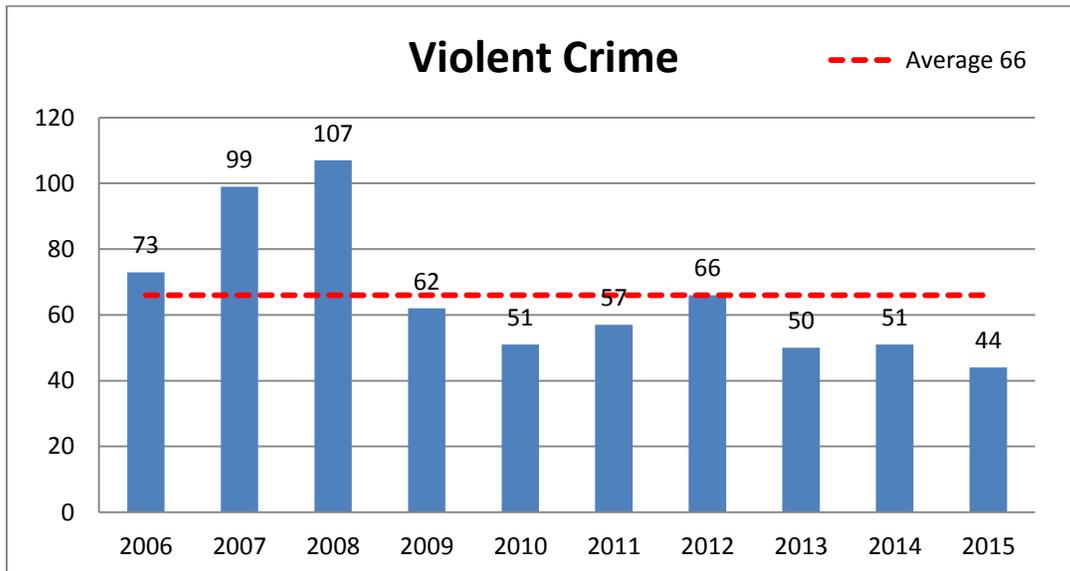
Rate Per 10,000	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Murder			1.2		0.7		0.4	0.7		0.4
Rape	4.0	2.1	4.4	0.4	1.1	1.5	1.5	0.8	0.4	3.7
Robbery	11.6	20.0	25.1	12.6	8.9	8.9	11.8	9.4	10.0	6.3
Aggravated Assault	17.0	20.0	12.0	10.7	8.1	11.6	11.4	7.9	8.5	5.9
Violent Crime	32.6	42.1	42.6	23.7	18.9	2.2	2.5	18.7	18.9	16.1
Burglary	98.2	86.7	77.7	78.1	60.7	83.3	62.3	67.0	65.8	70.7
Larceny	404.4	412.4	429.8	322.4	312.0	358.9	382.2	373.1	366.6	334.4
MV Theft	19.2	30.6	27.9	16.1	12.2	13.9	20.5	16.8	16.6	15.9
Property Crime	521.7	529.8	535.4	416.6	384.9	456.0	465.0	456.9	449.1	421.1
Index Crime	554.3	571.9	578.0	440.4	403.8	478.0	489.7	475.6	467.9	437.4

Index Crime

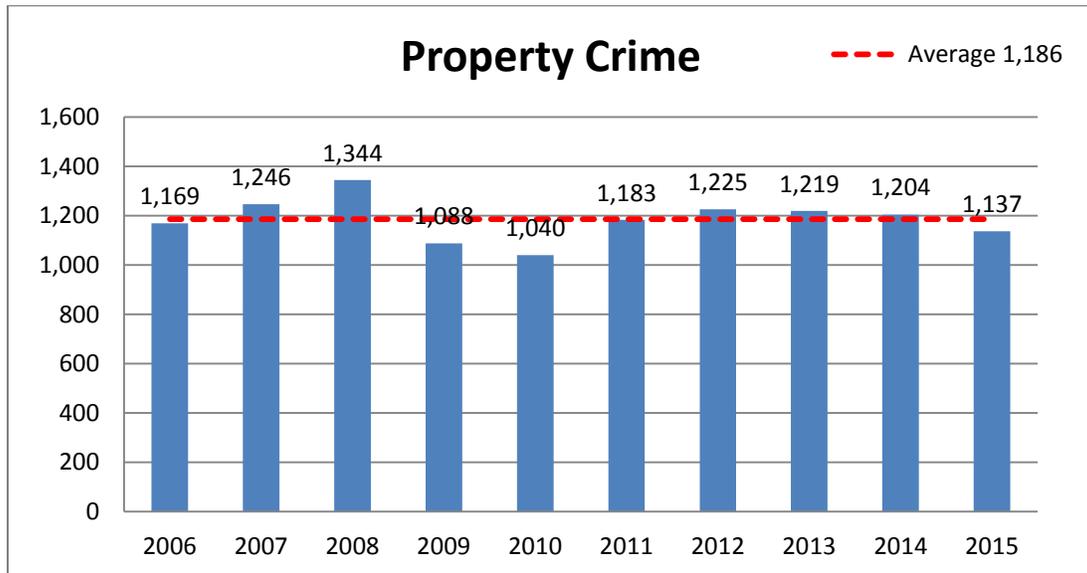
Examining index crime over the ten year period, total crime has fallen for the fourth consecutive year. It is 5.9% below the total for 2014 and 18.6% below the ten year high of 1,451 in 2008.



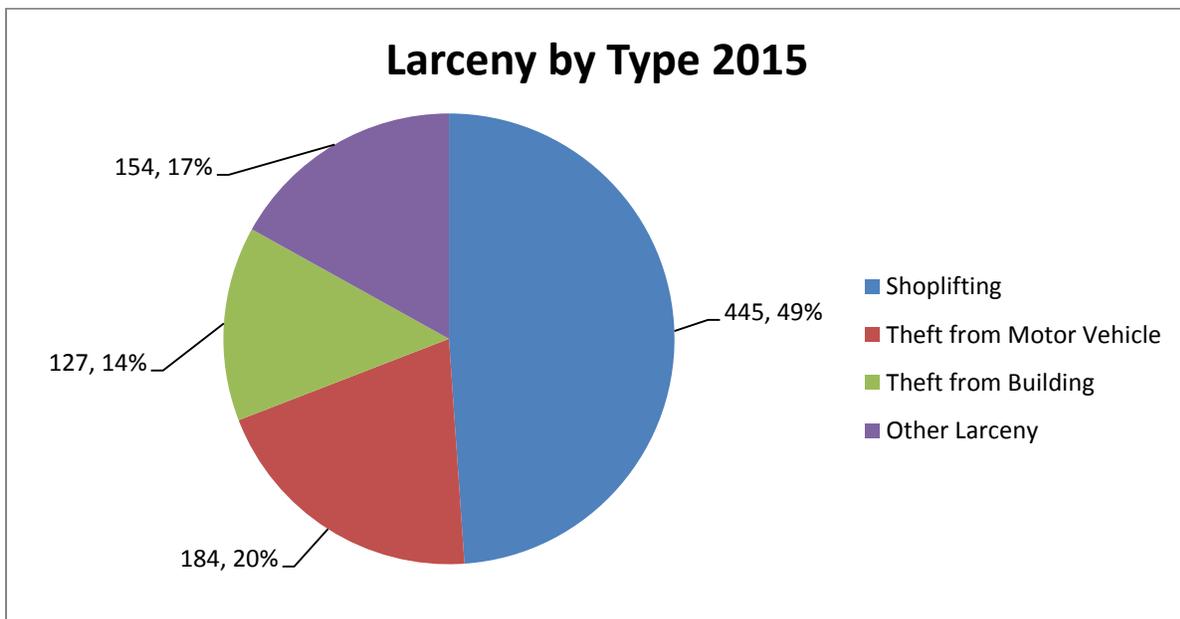
The average number of violent crimes reported over the ten year period has been 66. In 2015, 44 violent crimes were reported, which is 33% below average and 59% below the high in 2008.



Property crime was 4% below the average of 1,186 and contributed heavily to the overall drop in index crime.



Larceny is, by far, the largest component of Part 1 crime in Garner. Due to the number of retail outlets in our area, shoplifting contributes greatly to the overall larceny rate. Larcenies by type are illustrated in the following chart.



Clearance Rates

The clearance rate is the percentage of reported crimes that resulted in an arrest or an exceptional clearance. A crime is considered cleared when at least one individual is arrested or if the case is turned over to the court system for prosecution. A crime is considered exceptionally cleared if circumstances beyond police control prevent an arrest. For example, if an offender passes away before being arrested, this case would be exceptionally cleared.

The number of crimes cleared is counted, not the number of individuals arrested. It is important to understand that the arrest of one individual may clear several crimes while the arrest of several individuals may only clear only one case. Crimes reported in 2014, but cleared in 2015 count toward the clearance rate of 2015, not 2014. Therefore, it's possible to clear more crimes in a given year than were reported.

The table below provides information on the clearance rate for index crimes. The lowest rate for clearance is in burglary, while the highest is for the single murder in 2015. Most aggravated assaults are cleared because the offender is known to the victim and police are called to the scene quickly. Larceny also has a high clearance rate because shoplifters are apprehended at the scene of the crime and charged by the police when the crime is reported.

**Table 3- Town of Garner Index Offenses Cleared
2014-2015**

	Offenses		Cleared		Percent Cleared	
	2014	2015	2014	2015	2014	2015
Violent Crime						
Murder	0	1	0	1	N/A	100%
Rape	1	10	2	4	100%	40%
Robbery	27	17	15	7	55%	41%
Aggravated Assault	23	16	21	13	91%	81%
Property Crime						
Burglary	175	191	38	37	22%	19%
Larceny	989	903	574	389	58%	43%
MV Theft	40	43	7	11	18%	26%

Arrest Rate

The arrest rate is based on the actual number of individuals arrested, not the number of crimes cleared by an arrest. For example, a total of two arrests may represent the arrest of two separate individuals for the same crime or the arrest of a single person at two different times. Also, these totals do not indicate the number of charges placed against an individual during one single arrest.

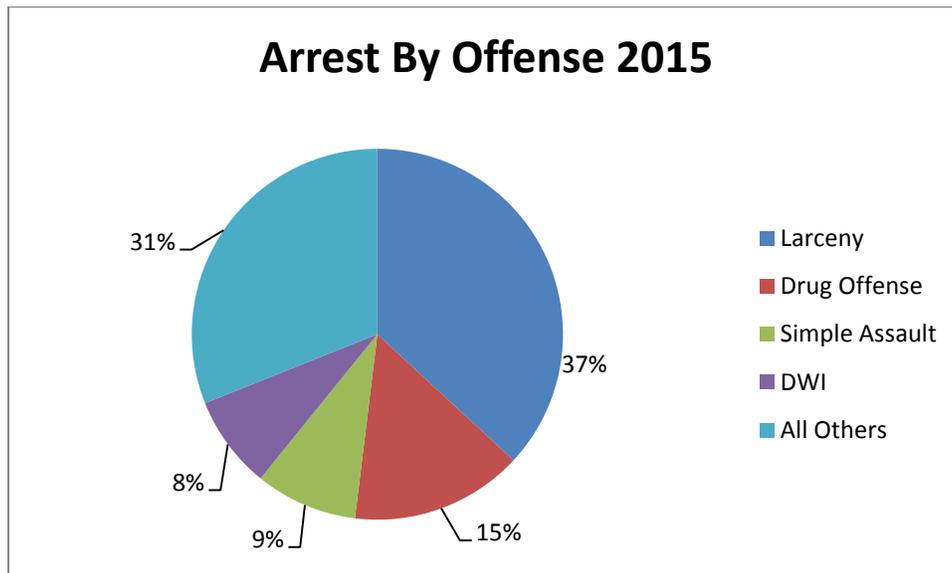
Table 4- Town of Garner Arrest Rate per 1,000 Population

Arrest Totals	2014	2015	Percent Change
Index Arrests	632	411	-34%
Other Arrests	815	600	-16%

Rate Per Thousand	2014	2015	Percent Change
Index Arrests	23.4	15.2	-35%
Other Arrests	30	22	-26%

Additional arrest data is provided below and is broken down by the primary (or most serious) charge for each arrest. Offenders may be charged with any number of crimes, but the arrests are recorded per person, per arrest for the most serious charge. Traffic-related arrests other than DWI are not included.

As stated earlier, shoplifting is one of the most prevalent crimes in Garner. As such, the number of arrests for larceny is higher than any single category of crime. This is followed closely by drug offenses, simple assaults, and Driving While Impaired (DWI). All other charges are grouped for simplicity. The chart below summarizes the top arrest offenses in 2015:



Current Garner Initiatives

One of the hallmarks of an effective law enforcement agency is the ability to prevent crime before it occurs. The Garner Police Department utilizes efforts focused on crime analysis, deterrence (including enforcement), and education to decrease crime and increase the quality of life in our community.

Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED)

The Garner Police Department trains personnel in Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design and uses that expertise to examine new development and redevelopment plans in Garner. Using knowledge of how the environment can prevent crime, personnel provide feedback to developers and the planning department on improvements to site plans.

Organized Retail Theft

Our department participates in a regional network of investigators that are knowledgeable in Organized Retail Theft. Using that knowledge and networking, we are able to apprehend and prosecute criminals responsible for high volume shoplifting in our area.

Neighborhood Watch

Our Community Services Sergeant and town staff actively support recruiting new neighborhood watch site and supporting existing sites to be successful. Limited funding is available from the town for neighborhood improvements and neighborhood watch signs.

Business or Home Security Assessments

We offer a site assessment for business or residential property to provide tips on improving security and preventing crime. Using these recommendations lessens the likelihood of a criminal targeting that location for burglary, larceny, or similar crimes.