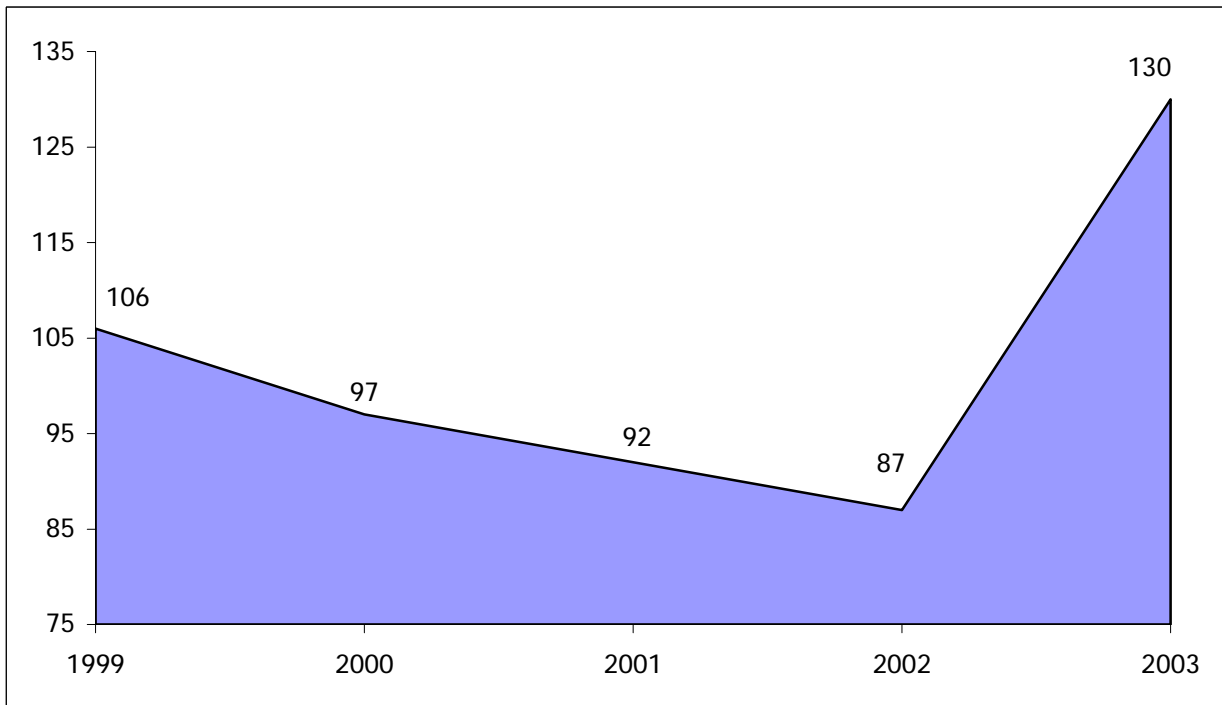




HOMICIDES IN SAN DIEGO COUNTY ON THE RISE

According to SANDAG's latest crime report, the violent crime rate in the San Diego region is down for the second year in a row (from 4.8 in 2002 to 4.7 in 2003). However, the number of homicides in the region is up more than any other violent crime over the past year, from 87 in 2002 to 130 in 2003, increasing 49 percent. Rapes have risen seven percent in the past year and robberies increased one percent. The decrease in aggravated assault incidents (down 2% since 2002), in conjunction with a two percent increase in the population, accounted for the slight drop in the overall violent crime rate.

**Number of Homicides
San Diego Region, 1999 - 2003**



SOURCE: SANDAG.

An estimated 27 percent of homicides in San Diego County in 2003 were motivated by an argument or fight (including family disputes, revenge, anger, and child abuse), 25 percent were gang-related, 17 percent were drug-related, 15 percent were committed during another crime (such as a robbery, burglary, carjacking, or vandalism), and 13 percent were domestic violence-related.

If you would like a copy of *Crime in the San Diego Region 2003*, please visit SANDAG's Web site at www.sandag.org.