



# CRIMINAL JUSTICE FAX



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## San Diego's Violent Crime Decreased More Than Other Metropolitan Counties

The recent release of FBI mid-year crime data for incidents reported to law enforcement during the first six months of 2005 indicates that San Diego County experienced a greater decrease in violent crime, but a slightly larger increase in property crime compared to the first part of 2004, than other metropolitan counties in the nation<sup>1</sup>. Table 1 shows the percent change in reported crime incidents between January and June of 2004 compared to the same time period in 2005 for metropolitan counties in the nation and the San Diego region. The most notable difference among violent crimes was the percent decrease in the number of homicides experienced in San Diego (39%, from 71 to 43) compared to the other counties (possibly attributed to the strategic response by law enforcement to focus on reducing gang violence). Conversely, robbery, the only violent crime to increase in San Diego County, rose more than other metropolitan counties.

**Table 1**  
**CHANGES IN REPORTED CRIMES, JANUARY- JUNE 2004 AND 2005**  
**SAN DIEGO AND OTHER METROPOLITAN COUNTIES**

<u>Offense</u>	<u>Metropolitan Counties</u> (1,242 agencies)	<u>San Diego Region</u>
Homicide	2%	-39%
Rape	-8%	-3%
Robbery	7%	8%
Aggravated Assault	-7%	-12%
<b>Total Violent Crime</b>	<b>-4%</b>	<b>-6%</b>
Burglary	-2%	-6%
Larceny	-4%	-2%
Motor Vehicle Theft	<-1%	12%
<b>Total Property Crime</b>	<b>-3%</b>	<b>&lt;1%</b>

*SOURCES: FBI, DOJ 2005 Mid-Year Crime; SANDAG; Crime in the San Diego Region Mid-Year 2005 Statistics.*  
*NOTE: Percentages are based on rounded numbers.*

San Diego's continued upward trend of motor vehicle thefts (12% increase) greatly exceeded the average for other counties in the nation. Overall, San Diego had a slight increase in property crime (due to the rise in motor vehicle thefts) in comparison to an overall decrease in the nation. San Diego County crime data for the entire year will be available in March 2006 with the release of the Criminal Justice Annual 2005 Crime Bulletin. The region's 2005 mid-year crime report is currently available on the SANDAG Web site at [www.sandag.org/cj/cj](http://www.sandag.org/cj/cj).

<sup>1</sup>As part of a cooperative agreement with local jurisdictions, the Criminal Justice Research Division compiles the region's crime data and is able to report on the region's crime significantly earlier than when the FBI releases their data.