

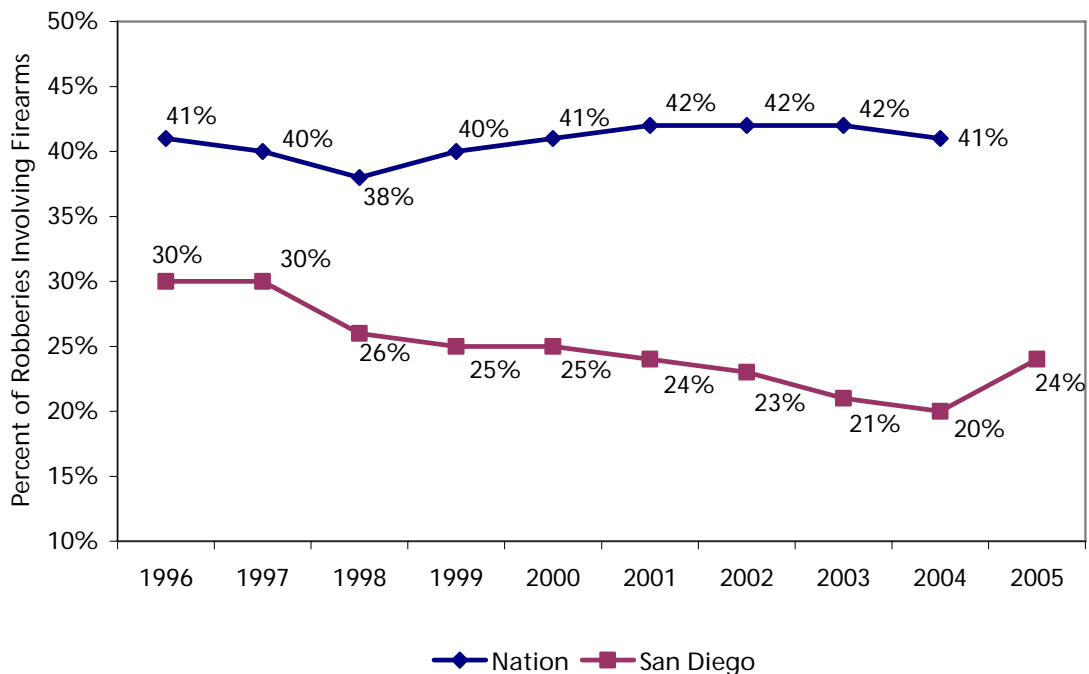
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### Robberies With Firearms Increased in 2005, But Still Well Below the National Average

Although the overall crime rate was down slightly in the San Diego region for 2005 compared to 2004, the number of reported robberies was up 10 percent over that same period (3,937 in 2005 compared to 3,588 in 2004). An examination of the type of weapon involved in the commission of this offense is one possible indicator of the level of violence involved in robberies. Between 2004 and 2005, offenders' use of firearms was the only weapon category to increase, with firearms present in 20 percent of robberies in 2004 and 24 percent in 2005. Use of knives and other cutting objects or "other" weapons remained constant (11% and 10%, respectively for each year) and strong-arm tactics (use of bodily force) decreased (from 59% to 55%) (not shown). However, compared to the nation, San Diego County consistently had a lower percentage of robberies involving firearms (Figure 1). While San Diego saw a decrease in the percent of robberies with use of firearms between 1996 and 2004<sup>1</sup>, the nation remained fairly constant during the same time period. Overall, in recent years a firearm was used nearly twice as often during a robbery nationally compared to our region.

**Figure 1**  
**THE USE OF FIREARMS DURING A ROBBERY LOWER IN THE SAN DIEGO REGION**  
**COMPARED TO THE NATION (1996-2004)**



SOURCE: *Twenty-Five Years of Crime in the San Diego Region: 1981 through 2005; a SANDAG Bulletin*

More detailed information about crime in the San Diego region is available in the recently released 2005 Crime Bulletin available on SANDAG's Web site at [www.sandag.org/cjc](http://www.sandag.org/cjc).

<sup>1</sup> At the time of this fax national data were only available through 2004. A cooperative agreement with the local jurisdictions allows SANDAG to release annual crime data nearly one year before national data are published.