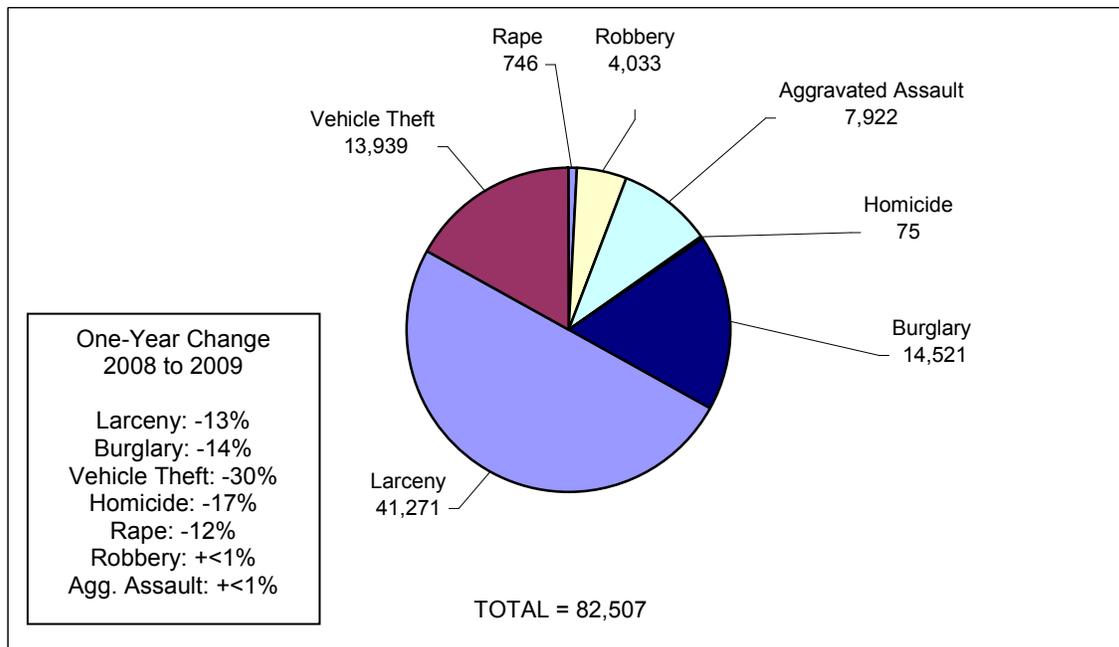


## Regional Crime Preview: Violent and Property Crime at a New 25 Year Low

Since 1980, SANDAG has been reporting regional crime statistics for the San Diego region through a cooperative agreement with local law enforcement agencies. Updated crime numbers and rates for the region, as well as individual departments, are currently being finalized. The first CJ Bulletin in the 2010 series, *Twenty-Five Years of Crime in the San Diego Region: 1985 through 2009*, will be released early next month. As a preview to the bulletin, this CJ Fax highlights how many Part I<sup>1</sup> crimes were reported to local law enforcement in 2009 across the region, as well as how these numbers changed compared to 2008. This year, more so than years past, the question has been raised as to what impact the recession has had on crime. As Figure 1 shows, crime continues its downward trend, with 82,507 crimes reported to local law enforcement in 2009, reflecting a 15 percent decrease from 2008 (when 97,167 crimes were reported). The most frequent crimes were property-related, with larceny, burglary, and motor vehicle theft all decreasing by more than 10 percent. Among violent crimes, homicides fell 17 percent and rape declined 12 percent over the past year, while the number of robberies and aggravated assaults increased less than one percent each.

**Figure 1  
REGIONAL 2009 PART I CRIMES AND ONE-YEAR PERCENT CHANGES**



SOURCE: SANDAG

To learn more about the Criminal Justice Clearinghouse or to access the full report when it is available, please visit [www.sandag.org/cj](http://www.sandag.org/cj).

<sup>1</sup> Part I crimes include four violent offenses and three property offenses that are tracked nationwide in a standardized manner by the FBI. Other crimes, such as drug-related offenses and vandalism, are also documented as Part II crimes, but consistent categorization schemes are not utilized, limiting the ability to compare these numbers across jurisdictions.