



STATE OF NEW JERSEY Carjacking Offense Report

For the year ending December 31, 2007.



FIFTEENTH ANNUAL CARJACKING OFFENSE REPORT 2007

Honorable Anne Milgram

Attorney General
State of New Jersey

Colonel Joseph R. Fuentes

Superintendent
New Jersey State Police

Major James S. Beshada

Commanding Officer
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New Jersey State Police

Chief Michael Hayden

Berlin Township Police Department
President
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Prepared by:

State of New Jersey
Department of Law and Public Safety
Division of State Police
Uniform Crime Reporting Unit



State of New Jersey

OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
DEPARTMENT OF LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY
P.O. Box 080
TRENTON, NJ 08625-0080

JON S. CORZINE
Governor

ANNE MILGRAM
Attorney General

*The Honorable Jon S. Corzine
Governor of the State of New Jersey*

*Honorable Members of the Senate and
Assembly of the State of New Jersey*

Dear Governor and Members of the Legislature:

I hereby submit the 2007 statewide report on carjacking offenses in New Jersey. The report is based on carjackings reported by state, county, and municipal law enforcement agencies to the New Jersey State Police, Uniform Crime Reporting Unit, for the year 2007.

It would have been impossible to complete this report without the cooperation of New Jersey's law enforcement family. It is with appreciation to these dedicated public servants, and in the interest of the victims of these heinous acts, that this report is submitted.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Anne Milgram".

*Anne Milgram
Attorney General of New Jersey*





State of New Jersey

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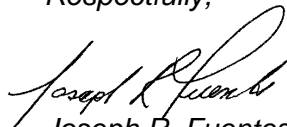
*The Honorable Anne Milgram
Attorney General
State of New Jersey
Hughes Justice Complex
Trenton, New Jersey*

Dear Attorney General Milgram:

As a result of the carjacking data collection programs mandated by Attorney General Executive Directive 1993-1, the fifteenth annual report on carjacking in New Jersey is submitted. This report outlines the extent, type, and geographic location of carjacking activity collected from state, county, and municipal law enforcement agencies. The report contains comparisons and analyses between 2006 and 2007.

It is through the cooperation of all New Jersey's law enforcement agencies that this report is being forwarded for your information and presentation to the Governor and members of the Legislature.

Respectfully,


Joseph R. Fuentes
Colonel
Superintendent



INTRODUCTION

In response to the growing number of reported carjacking incidents, four regional task forces, each composed of personnel from municipal police departments, county prosecutors' offices, county sheriffs' offices, the Division of State Police and the Federal Bureau of Investigation, were formed throughout New Jersey to assist law enforcement agencies with CARIACKING investigations.

With the assistance of these four task forces, the New Jersey State Police developed a mandatory statewide carjacking data collection program. Accessibility to this program is provided through the New Jersey Law Enforcement Telecommunications System (NJLETS). The database for this program is located at the State Police Division Headquarters, Identification and Information Technology Section, Uniform Crime Reporting Unit, West Trenton, New Jersey.

This carjacking data collection program identifies: geographic problem areas; profiles of carjacking locations; descriptions of vehicles being carjacked; age, sex, and race of victims and offenders; types of weapons used; additional crimes committed; and estimates regarding the value of vehicles stolen.

The Attorney General has mandated, through Executive Directive 1993-1, that every law enforcement agency notify the Uniform Crime Reporting Unit of all reported carjacking incidents, whether actual or attempted. Notification must be done through NJLETS, as soon as possible, not to exceed more than twenty-four hours from the time the incident is reported.

CARJACKING

Definition

Carjacking, a specific type of robbery, is defined under 2C:15-2(a) as the unlawful taking of a motor vehicle in the course of which the perpetrator:

- (1) inflicts bodily injury or uses force upon an occupant or person in possession or control of a motor vehicle;
- (2) threatens an occupant or person in control with, or purposely or knowingly puts an occupant or person in control of the motor vehicle in fear of, immediate bodily injury;
- (3) commits or threatens immediately to commit any crime of the first or second degree; or
- (4) operates or causes said vehicle to be operated with the person who was in possession or control or was an occupant of the motor vehicle at the time of the taking remaining in the vehicle.

Questions have been raised whether an infant, alone in a motor vehicle, can actually be the victim of a carjacking, since no personal confrontation exists. While most carjackings do involve personal confrontation between perpetrator and victim, personal confrontation is not a necessary element of the crime. Under N.J.S.A. 2C:15-2(a)(4), an infant or sleeping child who is an occupant of the motor vehicle at the time of the unlawful taking is a victim of carjacking.

CARJACKING HIGHLIGHTS

Highlights of carjacking offense statistics for 2007 are listed below:

- There were 211 carjacking offenses reported to the police; 3 were determined to be unfounded, leaving a total of 208 carjackings, involving 239 victims, including passengers.
- Carjackings decreased 16% when comparing 2007 to 2006.
- Thirty-three of the 566 municipalities in New Jersey reported carjackings.
- Firearms were involved in 59% (122) of all carjackings. Five percent (10) of the firearms used were assault firearms. Shootings were involved in 3 percent (6) of all carjackings.
- New Jersey registered vehicles represented 87% (180) of all carjackings. Ford, with 13% (27), was the most frequently carjacked vehicle make, while the most frequently targeted vehicle years were 2004 & 2007 with 10% (20) reported in each vehicle year.
- Fifty-eight percent (121) of all carjacked vehicles were recovered. The average value of a carjacked motor vehicle was \$11,596.
- Carjackings occurred in a residential area 73% (151) of the time. The hours of darkness (6:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m.) accounted for 69% (144) of all carjackings.
- Twenty percent (41) of all carjackings were witnessed.
- The most frequent victim age group was 20-24, which accounted for 18% (44) of the victim total (239). Seventy-seven percent (185) of all victims were male. Forty-four percent (104) of all victims were black.
- The total number of offenders was 382. Insufficient analysis information was supplied on 32% (123) of the offenders. Of all known offenders (259), 20-24 was the most frequent offender age group and accounted for 62% (161). Ninety-six percent (249) of all known offenders were male. Eighty-six percent (223) of all known offenders were black.
- Juveniles accounted for 8% (2) of the total arrests for carjacking (25), while adults accounted for 92% (23).
- June had the highest number of offenses with 29, accounting for 14% of all carjacking offenses.
- Saturday recorded the highest number of offenses, accounting for 18% (37) of all carjackings.
- Region I, which consists of Essex, Hudson, and Union counties, accounted for 73% (151) of all carjackings.
- No murders were reported in 2007 as the result of carjacking.
- Seven percent (15) of all carjackings (208) were cleared by arrest.

CARJACKING OFFENSES

COUNTY AND STATE TOTALS—2006/2007

County	Year	Number of Offenses	Estimated Vehicle Value	Actual Number of Vehicles Recovered	Offenses Cleared by Arrest	Number of Persons Arrested
Atlantic	2006	1	\$6,000	-	-	-
	2007	-	-	-	-	-
Bergen	2006	-	-	-	-	-
	2007	-	-	-	-	-
Burlington	2006	1	\$800	1	1	1
	2007	2	\$47,077	2	1	1
Camden	2006	8	\$67,900	3	-	-
	2007	25	\$190,501	2	1	1
Cape May	2006	-	-	-	-	-
	2007	-	-	-	-	-
Cumberland	2006	4	\$21,150	2	-	3
	2007	5	\$42,000	3	1	1
Essex	2006	150	\$1,838,000	102	8	16
	2007	118	\$1,582,200	95	9	17
Gloucester	2006	-	-	-	-	-
	2007	-	-	-	-	-
Hudson	2006	26	\$180,112	24	5	5
	2007	11	\$35,001	8	1	1
Hunterdon	2006	-	-	-	-	-
	2007	-	-	-	-	-
Mercer	2006	8	\$58,500	5	2	4
	2007	8	\$79,601	4	2	2

CARJACKING OFFENSES

COUNTY AND STATE TOTALS—2006/2007

County	Year	Number of Offenses	Estimated Vehicle Value	Actual Number of Vehicles Recovered	Offenses Cleared by Arrest	Number of Persons Arrested
Middlesex	2006	4	\$65,000	1	1	1
	2007	5	\$75,000	-	-	-
Monmouth	2006	5	\$70,000	4	1	5
	2007	3	\$52,000	3	-	-
Morris	2006	1	\$1,000	-	-	-
	2007	-	-	-	-	-
Ocean	2006	1	\$5,500	-	-	-
	2007	1	\$15,000	-	-	-
Passaic	2006	16	\$131,200	6	1	1
	2007	7	\$38,000	2	-	-
Salem	2006	-	-	-	-	-
	2007	-	-	-	-	-
Somerset	2006	2	\$33,000	2	-	-
	2007	1	\$10,000	-	-	-
Sussex	2006	-	-	-	-	-
	2007	-	-	-	-	-
Union	2006	21	\$344,102	5	-	-
	2007	22	\$245,502	2	-	2
Warren	2006	-	-	-	-	-
	2007	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	2006	248	\$2,822,264	155	19	36
	2007	208	\$2,411,882	121	15	25

CARJACKING VICTIMS BY AGE, SEX AND RACE 2007

Age	Number	Percent Distribution	Sex		Race			
			Male	Female	White	Black	American Indian or Alaskan Native	Asian or Pacific Islander
0-9	3	1	-	3	2	1	-	-
10-14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15-19	21	9	17	4	12	9	-	-
20-24	44	18	37	7	21	23	-	-
25-29	42	18	31	11	16	25	-	1
30-34	37	15	31	6	19	16	-	2
35-39	25	11	19	6	16	8	-	1
40-44	17	7	11	6	10	7	-	-
45-49	16	7	12	4	9	5	-	2
50-54	13	5	11	2	9	3	-	1
55-59	8	3	5	3	6	2	-	-
60-64	6	3	4	2	5	1	-	-
65-69	2	1	2	-	1	1	-	-
70-74	3	1	3	-	1	2	-	-
75 and over	2	1	2	-	1	1	-	-
TOTAL FOR NEW JERSEY	239	-	185	54	128	104	-	7
PERCENT DISTRIBUTION	-	-	77	23	54	44	-	3

Percent distribution may not add to 100 due to rounding.

*Percent distribution less than one-half of one percent.

CARJACKING OFFENDERS BY AGE, SEX AND RACE 2007

Age	Number	Percent Distribution	Sex		Race			
			Male	Female	White	Black	American Indian or Alaskan Native	Asian or Pacific Islander
0-9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10-14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15-19	30	12	27	3	4	25	-	1
20-24	161	62	157	4	22	139	-	-
25-29	46	18	43	3	7	39	-	-
30-34	14	5	14	-	1	13	-	-
35-39	6	2	6	-	1	5	-	-
40-44	2	1	2	-	-	2	-	-
45-49	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
50-54	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
55-99	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Unknown	‡	‡	‡	‡	‡	‡	‡	‡
TOTAL FOR NEW JERSEY	259	-	249	10	35	223	-	1
PERCENT DISTRIBUTION	-	-	96	4	14	86	-	*

Information noted above is based on victim's account of incident and investigation.

Suspect and arrested offenders are combined.

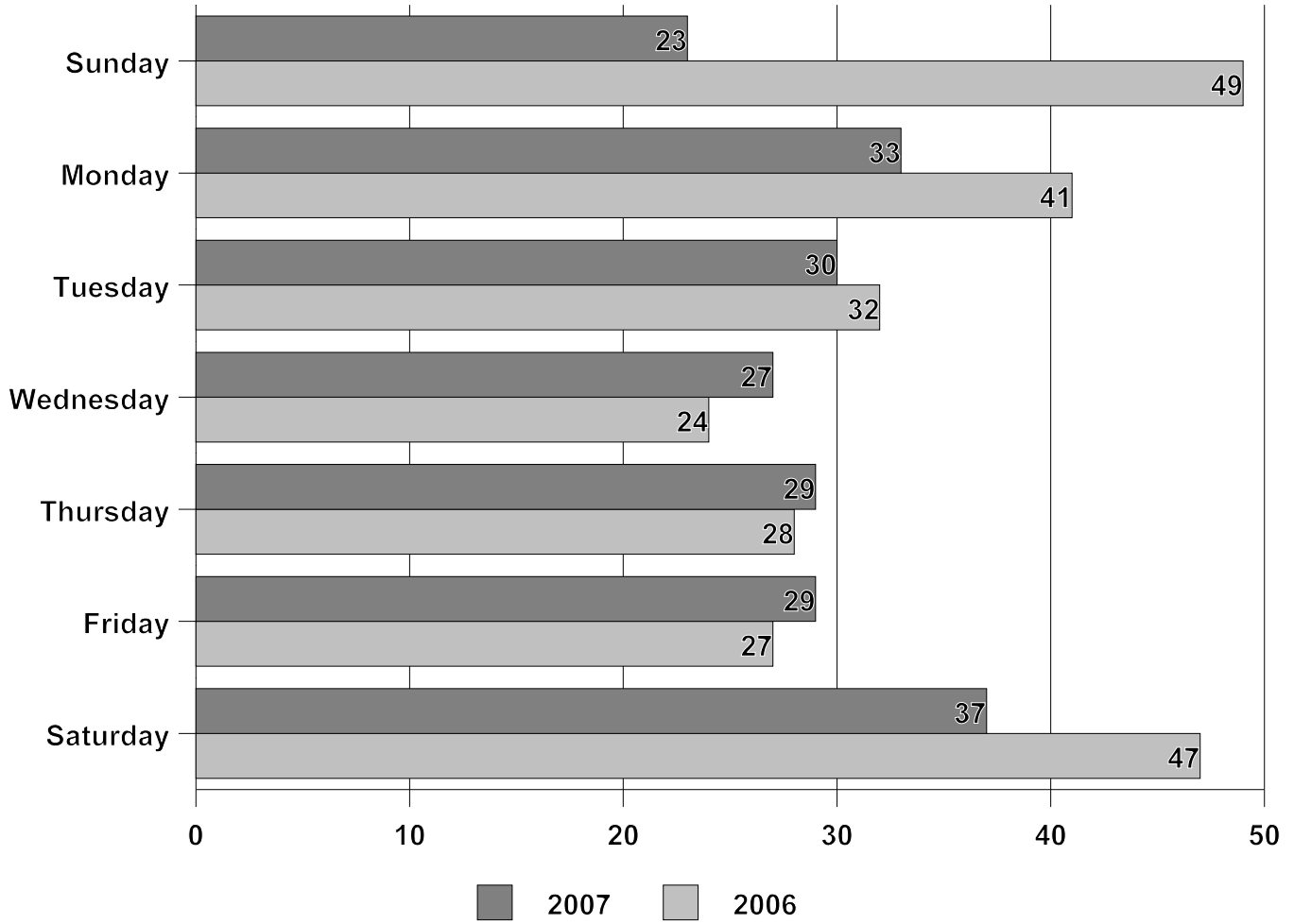
Percent distribution may not add to 100 due to rounding.

‡ Information supplied on 123 unknown suspects was inconsistent; therefore, accurate data breakdowns are not available.

* Percent distribution less than one-half of one percent.

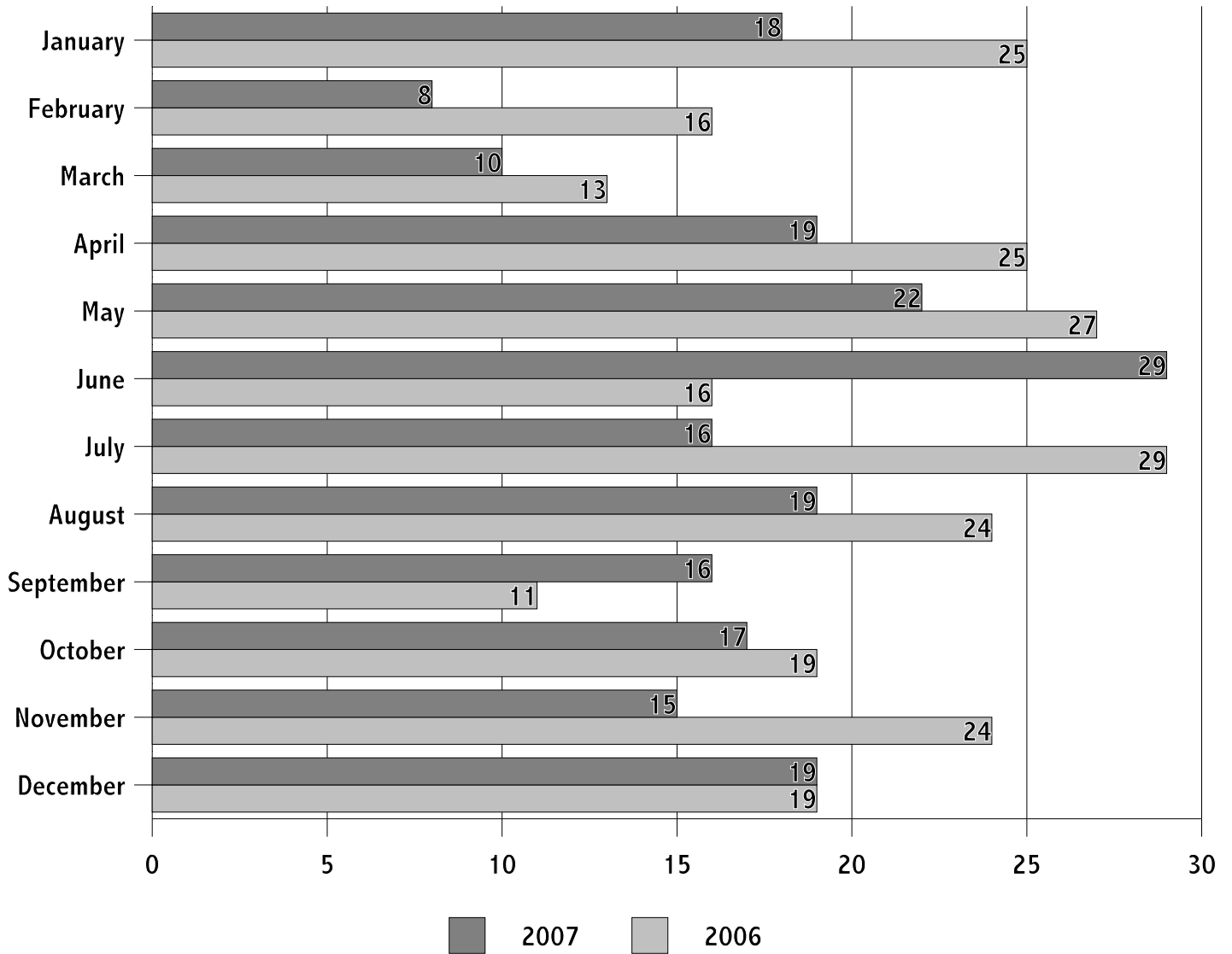
CARJACKING BY DAY OF WEEK

2006/2007



CARJACKING BY MONTH

2006/2007



CARJACKING OFFENSES BY TIME AND LOCATION 2007

Time	Total	LOCATIONS						
		Residential Area	Highway	Intersection	Business Strip	Shopping Center*	Parking Lot	Other
Midnight to 2 a.m.	27	22	2	2	1	-	-	-
2:00 a.m. to 4:00 a.m.	18	12	-	-	4	-	1	1
4:00 a.m. to 6:00 a.m.	12	8	1	3	-	-	-	-
6:00 a.m. to 8:00 a.m.	11	10	-	-	1	-	-	-
8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.	14	9	1	-	2	-	1	1
10:00 a.m. to Noon	8	5	-	1	1	-	1	-
Noon to 2:00 p.m.	9	5	-	2	1	-	1	-
2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.	14	11	-	1	-	1	1	-
4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.	8	3	-	-	3	1	1	-
6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.	16	10	1	3	1	-	1	-
8:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.	34	25	-	5	3	1	-	-
10:00 p.m. to Midnight	37	31	1	3	2	-	-	-
TOTAL	208	151	6	20	19	3	7	2

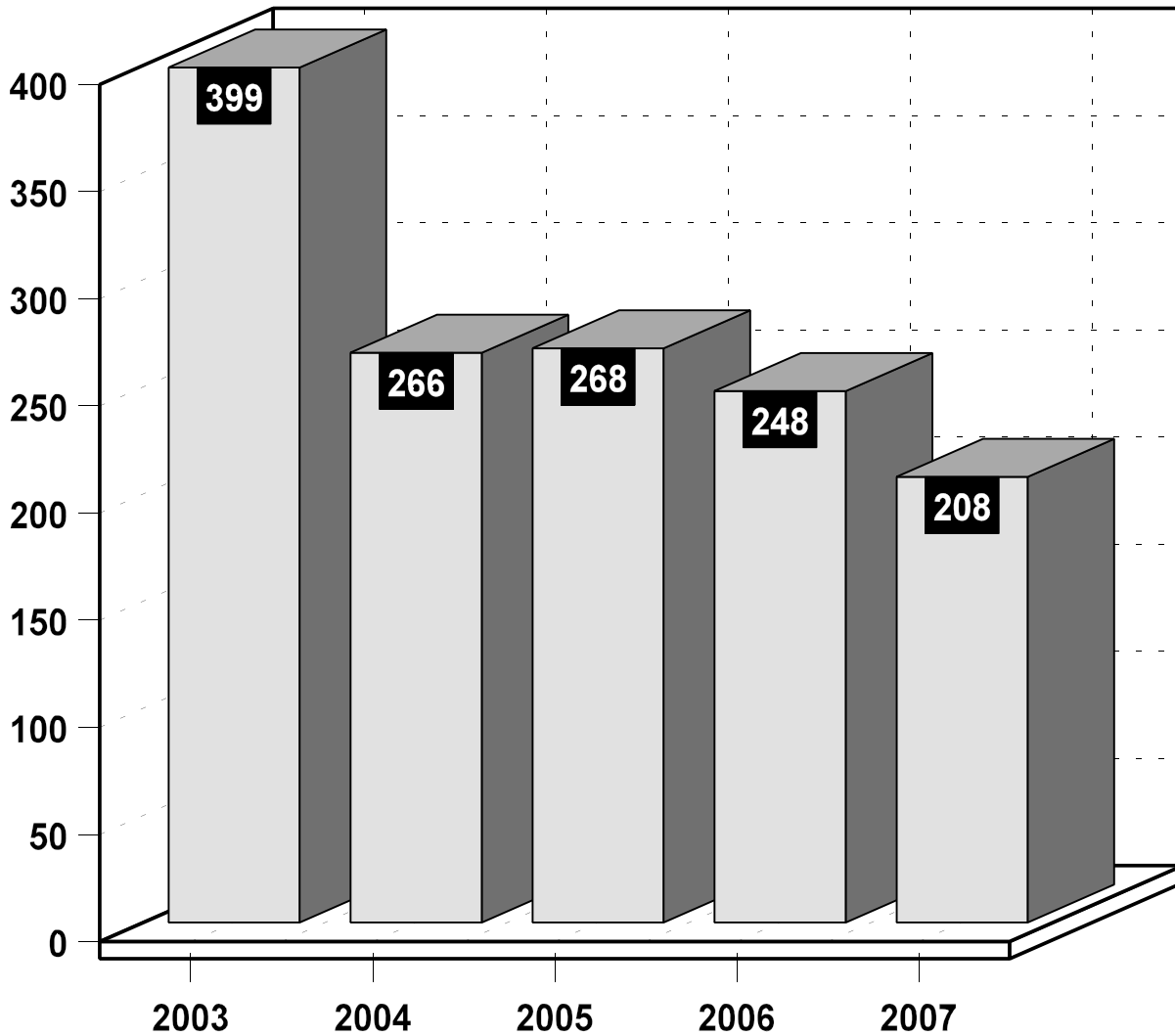
* Includes major malls.

COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF COUNTY & STATE PERCENTAGES 2006/2007

County	2006		2007	
	Number of Offenses	Percent of State Total	Number of Offenses	Percent of State Total
Atlantic	1	*	-	0
Bergen	-	0	-	0
Burlington	1	*	2	1
Camden	8	3	25	12
Cape May	-	0	-	0
Cumberland	4	2	5	2
Essex	150	60	118	57
Gloucester	-	0	-	0
Hudson	26	10	11	5
Hunterdon	-	0	-	0
Mercer	8	3	8	4
Middlesex	4	2	5	2
Monmouth	5	2	3	1
Morris	1	*	-	0
Ocean	1	*	1	*
Passaic	16	6	7	3
Salem	-	0	-	0
Somerset	2	1	1	*
Sussex	-	0	-	0
Union	21	8	22	11
Warren	-	0	-	0
STATE TOTAL	248	100	208	100

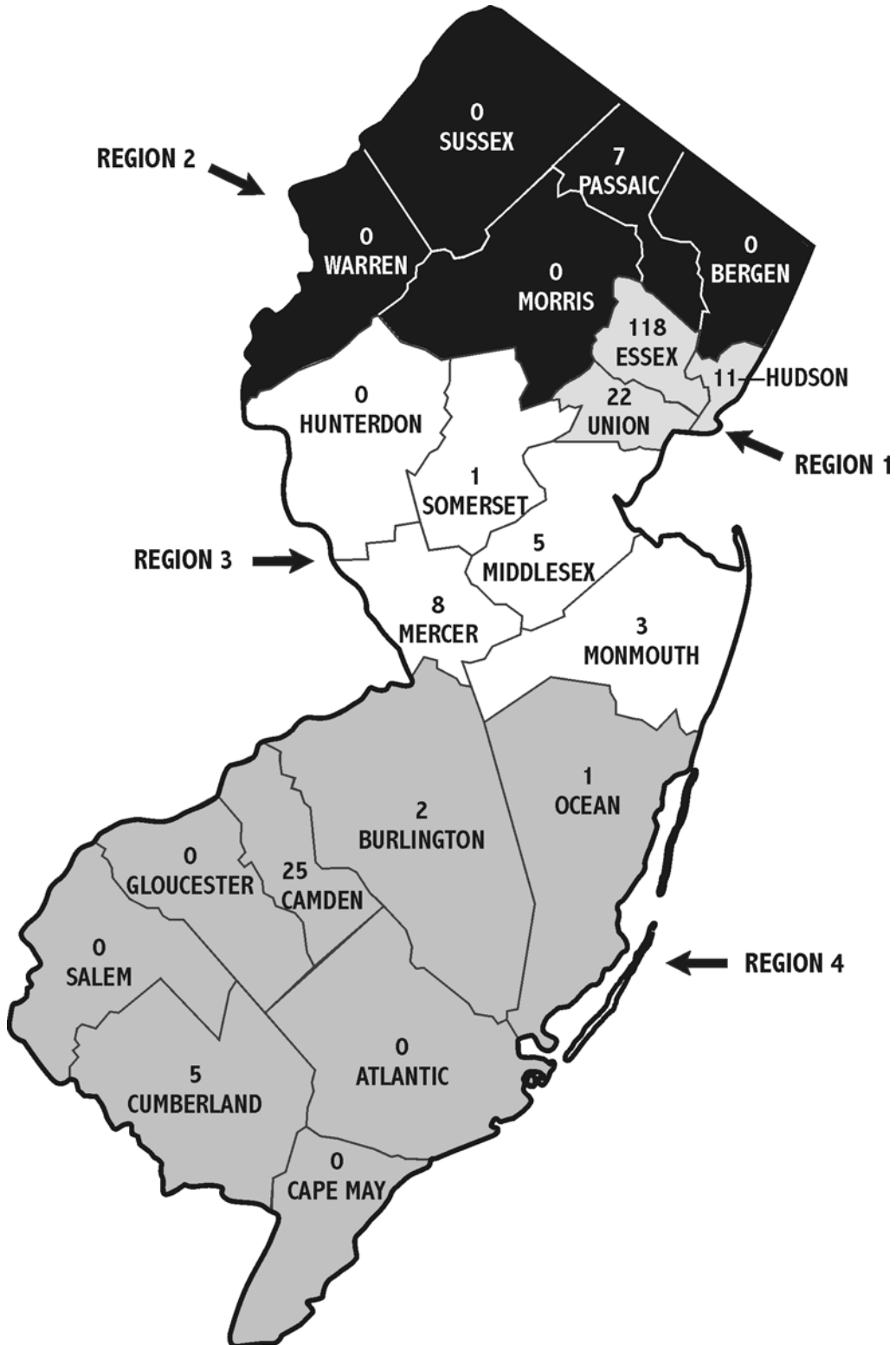
* Less than one-half of one percent.
Percent distribution may not equal 100 due to rounding.

CARJACKING FIVE YEAR COMPARISON 2003 - 2007



STATE REGIONS DEFINED

For the purpose of coordinating and gathering carjacking information, the state has been divided into four regions. A visual breakdown of the regions is depicted below. In addition, each county's total carjackings for the year are presented.



CARJACKING OFFENSES

PERCENT OF STATE TOTAL BY REGION AND LOCATION

2007

	Total	Residential Area	Highway	Intersection	Business Strip	Shopping Center*	Parking Lot	Other
State of New Jersey	208	151	6	20	19	3	7	2
Region I	151	122	4	11	10	1	2	1
Percent of State Total	73	81	67	55	53	33	29	50
Region II	7	4	-	1	2	-	-	-
Percent of State Total	3	3	0	5	11	0	0	0
Region III	17	7	-	3	4	1	1	1
Percent of State Total	8	5	0	15	21	33	14	50
Region IV	33	18	2	5	3	1	4	-
Percent of State Total	16	12	33	25	16	33	57	0

Percentages may not add to 100 due to rounding.

* Includes major malls.

CARJACKING OFFENSES

PERCENT OF STATE TOTAL BY REGION AND WEAPON TYPE

2007

	Total	Handgun	Rifle	Shotgun	Knife	Other Dangerous Weapon	Physical Force
State of New Jersey	208	119	-	3	11	6	69
Region I	151	86	-	2	6	4	53
Percent of State Total	73	72	0	67	55	67	77
Region II	7	2	-	-	1	-	4
Percent of State Total	3	2	0	0	9	0	6
Region III	17	10	-	-	-	1	6
Percent of State Total	8	8	0	0	0	17	9
Region IV	33	21	-	1	4	1	6
Percent of State Total	16	18	0	33	36	17	9

Percentages may not add up to 100 due to rounding.

CARJACKING OFFENSES

PERCENT DISTRIBUTION WITHIN REGION BY LOCATION

2007

	Total	Residential Area	Highway	Intersection	Business Strip	Shopping Center [☆]	Parking Lot	Other
State of New Jersey	208	151	6	20	19	3	7	2
Percent Distribution		73	3	10	9	1	3	1
Region I	151	122	4	11	10	1	2	1
Percent Distribution		81	3	7	7	1	1	1
Region II	7	4	-	1	2	-	-	-
Percent Distribution		57	0	14	29	0	0	0
Region III	17	7	-	3	4	1	1	1
Percent Distribution		41	0	18	24	6	6	6
Region IV	33	18	2	5	3	1	4	-
Percent Distribution		55	6	15	9	3	12	0

Percent distribution may not add to 100 due to rounding.

☆ Includes major malls.

CARJACKING OFFENSES

PERCENT DISTRIBUTION WITHIN REGION BY WEAPON TYPE

2007

	Total	Handgun	Rifle	Shotgun	Knife	Other Dangerous Weapon	Physical Force
State of New Jersey	208	119	-	3	11	6	69
Percent Distribution		57	0	1	5	3	33
Region I	151	86	-	2	6	4	53
Percent Distribution		57	0	1	4	3	35
Region II	7	2	-	-	1	-	4
Percent Distribution		29	0	0	14	0	57
Region III	17	10	-	-	-	1	6
Percent Distribution		59	0	0	0	6	35
Region IV	33	21	-	1	4	1	6
Percent Distribution		64	0	3	12	3	18

Percent distribution may not add to 100 due to rounding.

* Less than one-half of one percent.

GLOSSARY OF CARJACKING LOCATION TYPES

BUSINESS STRIP	Any retail business area or driveway, other than a major mall or shopping center.
INTERSECTION	Location where two or more roadways connect.
MAJOR MALL	An enclosed self-contained retail shopping area that provides customer parking within its architectural design and contains at least one major chain store.
OTHER PARKING LOT	Any parking lot other than major mall, shopping center, or residential parking lots.
RESIDENTIAL AREA	Any residential area, including driveways or residential parking lots.
SHOPPING CENTER	A group of stores within a specific boundary that provides customer parking within its architectural design.
HIGHWAY	Locations not accounted for in the first six categories. Include areas such as public roads, streets, bridges, interstates, county roads, etc.
OTHER	All other locations if not listed above.