

Section VI

Safety

- **Crime Index Summary**
- **Total Snohomish County Crime Index Offenses Reported – 1995-2000**
- **Violent Crime Index Offenses Reported – (Unincorporated and Incorporated) 1995-2000**
- **Property Crime Index Offenses Reported – (Unincorporated and Incorporated) 1995-2000**
- **Domestic Violence Offenses Reported – 1997-2000**
- **Hate/Bias Crimes**

Snohomish County Crime Index Offenses¹

The crime index is a basic measure of crime, which can be used for comparing the extent of crime among cities, counties and states of similar size. The index is simply the total number of certain offenses that occur in a given area in a given calendar period (usually quarterly and annually). The offenses in the following graph are murder, non-negligent manslaughter, forcible rape, arson, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, larceny (theft), and motor vehicle theft – all of the Part I offenses except simple assault and manslaughter by negligence.

The offenses were selected as indicators of the total amount of criminal activity because they are serious offenses that are the focus of widespread concern. They occur with sufficient frequency to reflect fluctuations in the overall level of criminal activity. They are most likely to be reported and reported accurately, to law enforcement due to their seriousness. They are offenses that can clearly and specifically be defined. Notwithstanding its usefulness, the index does have limitations.

The relationship between the index offenses and total criminal activity, both reported and unreported, has never been firmly established. The varying severity of offenses is not taken into account, resulting in equal weight being given to a shoplifting and a forcible rape. However, in order to address that situation, we have broken Total Crime Index Offenses into two categories, violent crimes and property crimes. Violent crimes include murder, non-negligent manslaughter, rape, robbery, and aggravated assault while property crimes include arson, burglary, larceny (theft), and motor vehicle theft. Furthermore, the actual incidence of crime in a city may not be accurately depicted by the index if the majority of the city's crime involves non-index offenses such as gambling and narcotics.

In the following charts, you will notice that Unincorporated Snohomish County (reported by Snohomish County Sheriff's Office) has had a steady decline in total crime index offenses since 1997. The incorporated part of the county (reported by local police departments) had a steady decline in the index rates from 1997 through 1999. However there was a slight increase in

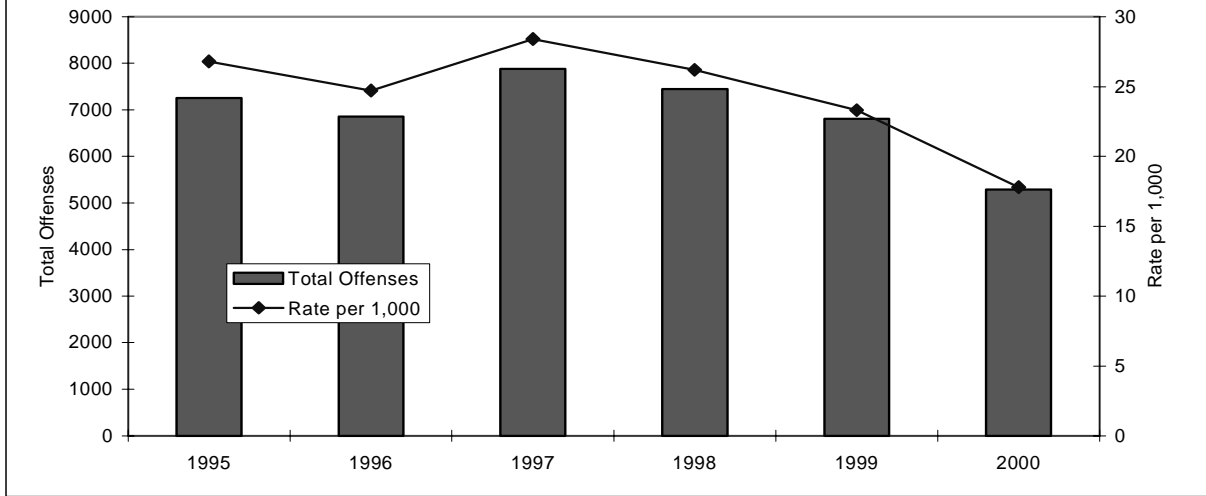
¹ Data collected from Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs (WASPC) Uniform Crime Reporting Section Annual Reports. Input for this data is not required by law to be reported to WASPC and some jurisdictions elected for various reasons, not to consistently report data. Where this occurred crime statistics for that jurisdiction were averaged from the time reported by the agencies.

offenses per 1,000 population for the year 2000 from 51.9 offenses per 1,000 population to 55.2 per 1,000.

After the first two charts, which show the total (violent and property crimes) there are a series of four charts that represent unincorporated and incorporated areas of the counties with violent and property crimes broken out separately.²

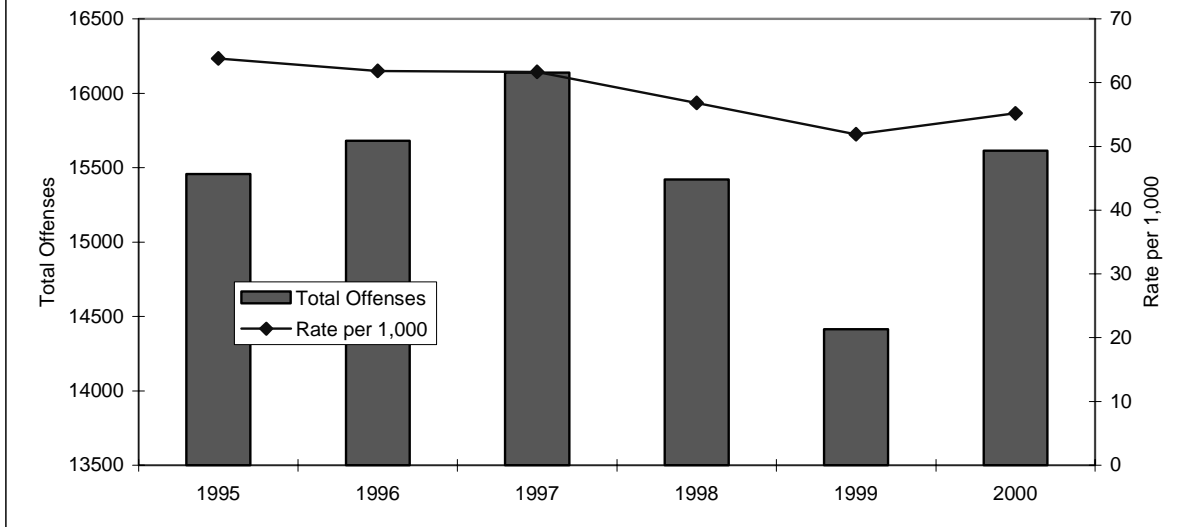
² **Violent Crime** statistics include Murder, Non-Negligent Manslaughter, Forcible Rape, Robbery, and Aggravated Assault. **Property Crime** statistics include Arson, Burglary, Larceny (theft), and Motor Vehicle Theft.

Unincorporated Snohomish County Total Crime Index Offenses

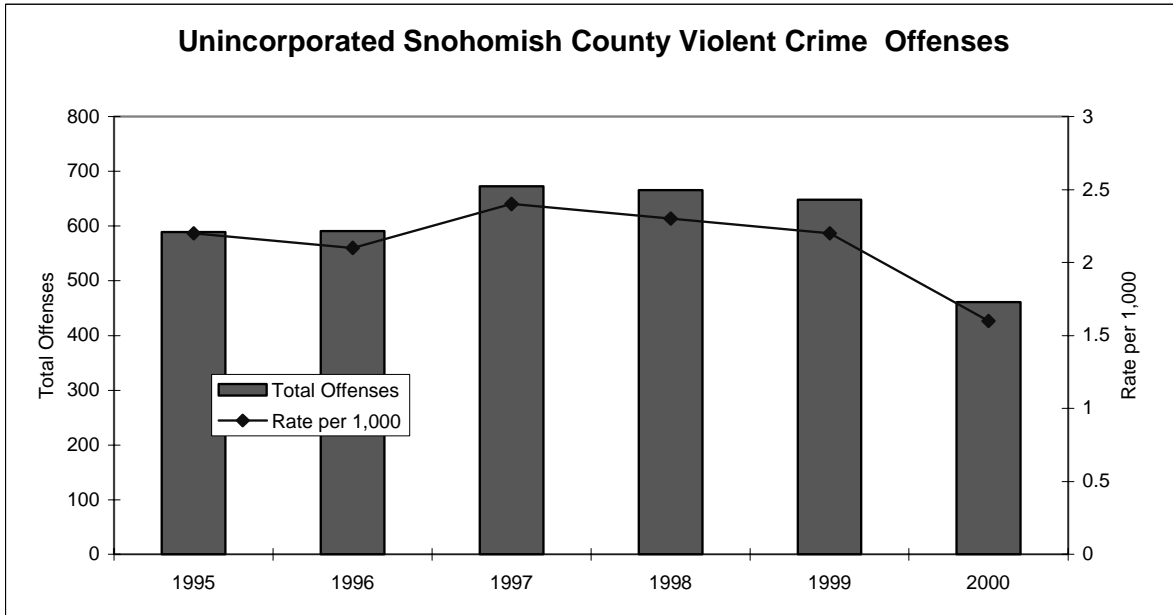


	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Total Offenses	7250	6854	7875	7445	6803	5293
Rate per 1,000	26.8	24.7	28.4	26.2	23.3	17.8

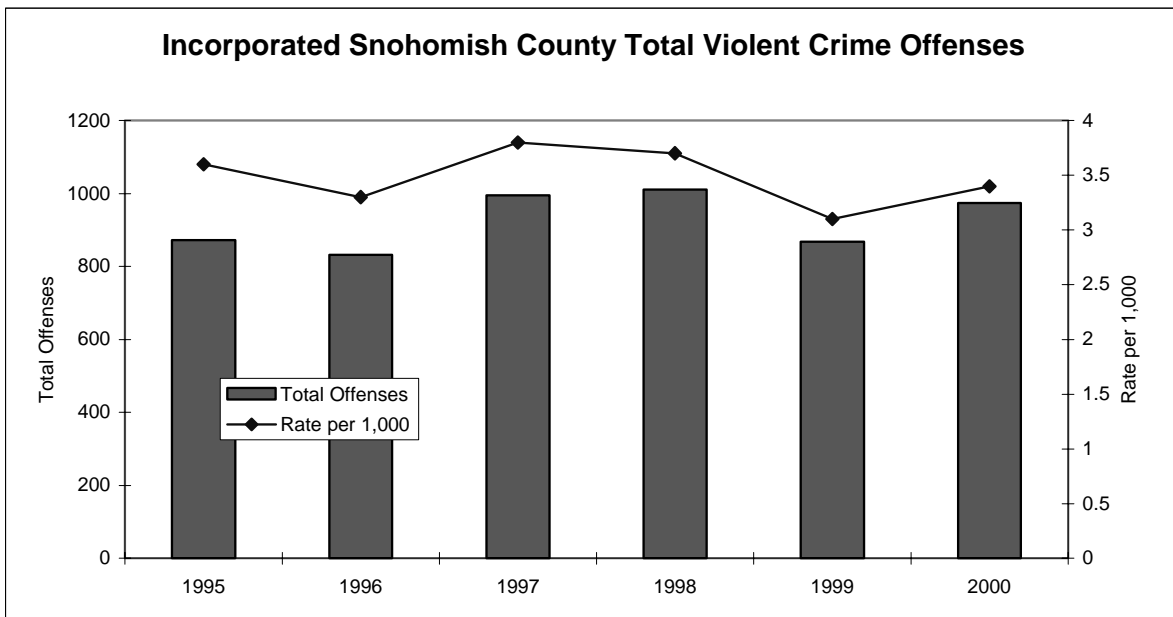
Incorporated Snohomish County Total Crime Index Offenses



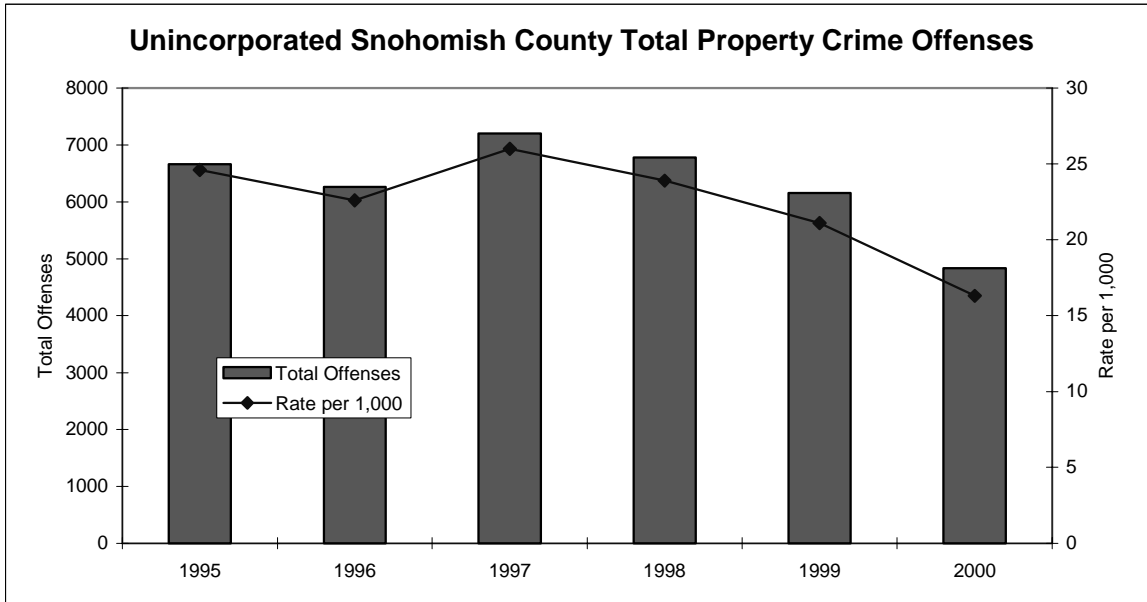
	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Total Offenses	15457	15681	16140	15420	14413	15614
Rate per 1,000	63.8	61.8	61.7	56.8	51.9	55.2



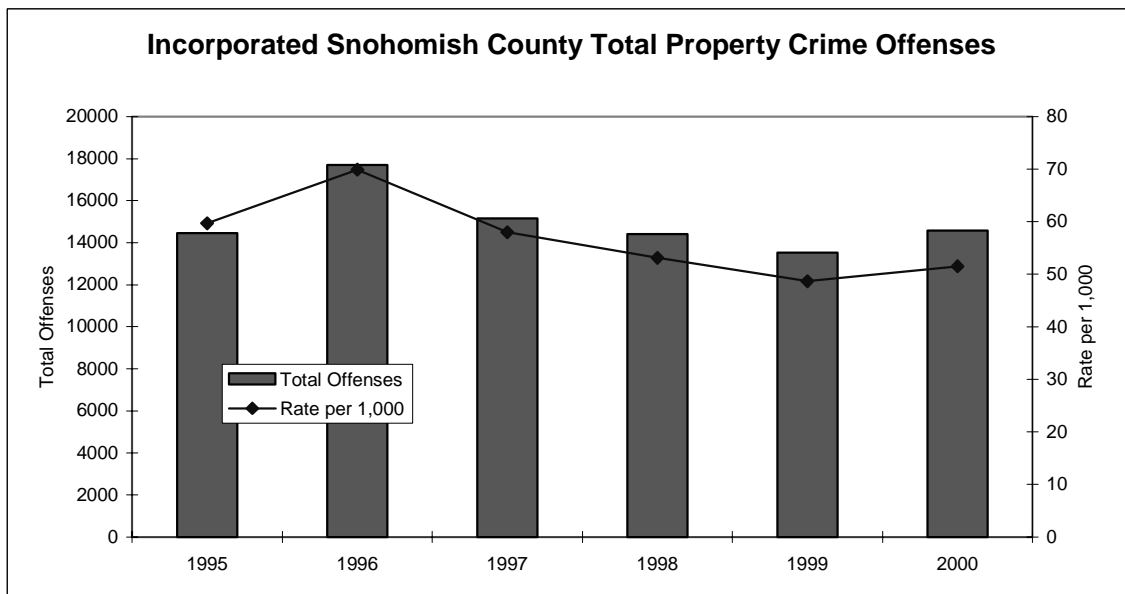
	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Total Offenses	589	591	673	666	648	461
Rate per 1,000	2.2	2.1	2.4	2.3	2.2	1.6



	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Total Offenses	872	832	995	1011	867	974
Rate per 1,000	3.6	3.3	3.8	3.7	3.1	3.4



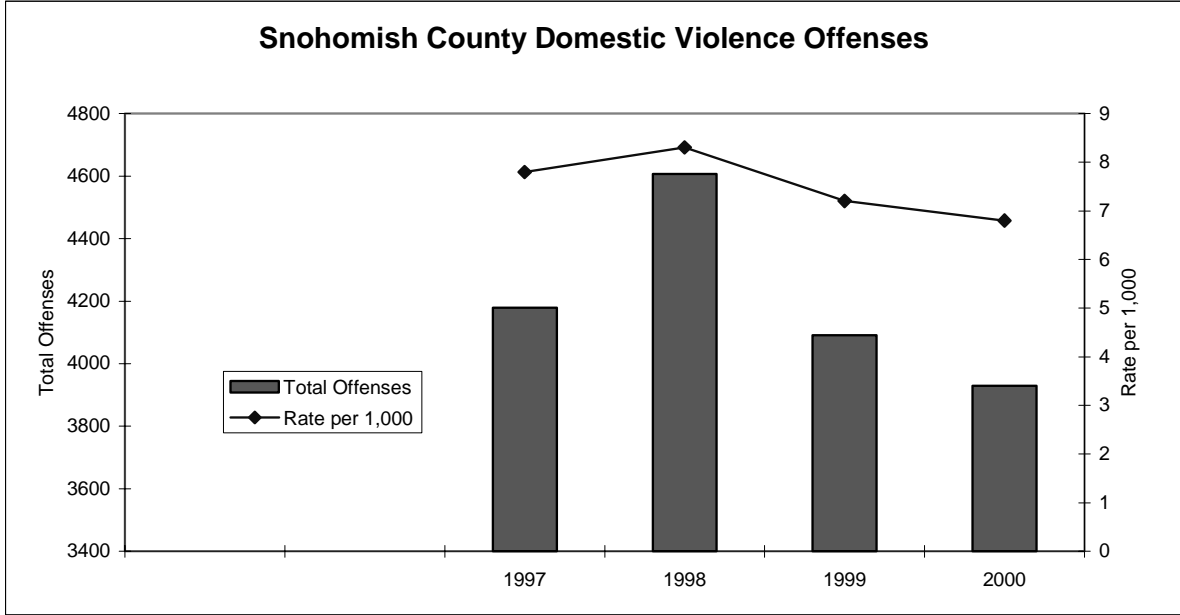
	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Total Offenses	6661	6263	7202	6779	6155	4832
Rate per 1,000	24.6	22.6	26	23.9	21.1	16.3



	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Total Offenses	14455	17703	15145	14409	13533	14570
Rate per 1,000	59.7	69.9	58	53.1	48.7	51.5

Domestic Violence

Data collection statewide began July 1, 1995. Data on violations of protection/no contact orders began June 6, 1996. Because of incomplete reporting prior to January 1997, the domestic violence information for this report will be from 1997-2000. The above data includes simple assault and violation of protection/no contact orders in addition to other crime index violations already reported (murder, non-negligent manslaughter, forcible rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, larceny-theft, motor vehicle theft and arson) that are tied to domestic violence.



	1997	1998	1999	2000
Total Offenses	4179	4606	4091	3929
Rate per 1,000	7.8	8.3	7.2	6.8

HATE/BIAS CRIMES

- The Washington Hate Crime Malicious Harassment Act defines hate crime as criminal offenses that manifest evidence motivated by the offender's bias against the victim's race, religion, ethnicity, sexual orientation, handicap or gender.
- It must be recognized that hate crimes are not separate, distinct offenses, but rather traditional crimes motivated by the offender's bias. Because of the difficulty of ascertaining the offender's subjective motivation, bias would be reported when the law enforcement investigation revealed sufficient objective facts to lead to a reasonable and prudent person to conclude that the offender's actions were motivated, in whole or in part, by bias.
- In 1995 there were **four** Hate/Bias Crimes in Snohomish County; all were simple assaults.
- In 1996 there was only **one** Hate/Bias Crime reported in the County and was intimidation.
- In 1997, there were **six** Hate/Bias Crimes reported in the County. There were two aggravated assaults, one simple assault, two intimidation crimes, and one burglary.
- In 1998, there was a big jump to **19** Hate/Bias Crimes reported in the County. This included 13 intimidations, three simple assaults and three vandalism crimes.
- In 1999 there were **14** Hate/Bias Crimes reported in the County. This consisted on seven crimes of intimidation, three simple assaults and four "Destruction/Damage/Vandalism" crimes.
- In 2000 there were **14** Hate/Bias Crimes reported in the County. They included six simple assaults, four intimidations, and four vandalisms.
- By quite a large margin, the crime of intimidation accounted for 48 percent of the Hate/Bias crimes, followed by 26 percent for simple assault, 14 percent for vandalism, seven percent for Destruction/Damage/Vandalism, three percent for aggravated assault and two percent for burglary.
- The **hate/bias** that was associated with these crimes was as follows:

Race/Ethnicity – 78%
Sexual Orientation – 12%
Religion – 10%

Overall, Hate/Bias crimes amounted to .0004 of all reported crimes committed in Snohomish between 1995 and 2000.