



## Overview

**Table 4**

**Crime in the United States, by Region, Geographic Division, and State,  
2007–2008**

- Compared with 2007 data, the estimated number of violent crimes in the United States decreased 1.9 percent in 2008.
- The estimated number of violent crimes decreased in three of the four regions, with the largest decrease (2.9 percent) occurring in the West. In the Northeast, the estimated number of violent crimes remained relatively unchanged in 2008 when compared with the estimate from 2007.
- In 2008, the estimated number of murders decreased in three of the four regions, with the largest decrease, 6.8 percent, occurring in the West. Murder increased 1.4 percent in the Northeast.
- The estimated number of forcible rapes declined in three regions; the largest decrease of 3.1 percent was reported in the South. Estimated forcible rapes increased 1.5 percent in the Northeast.
- The estimated number of robberies decreased in three of the four regions. The only increase, 1.0 percent, was in the Northeast.
- All four regions experienced declines in the estimated number of aggravated assaults. The greatest decrease, 3.8 percent, was in the Midwest.
- In 2008, the estimated number of property crimes nationwide decreased 0.8 percent when compared with the 2007 data.
- Among the Nation's regions, both the Northeast and the South had increases in the estimated number of property crimes, 2.5 percent and 0.6 percent,

respectively. The estimated number of property crimes decreased 3.2 percent in the West and 2.6 percent in the Midwest.

- The estimated number of burglaries increased in three of the four regions; the largest increase (3.3 percent) was reported in the South. In the West, burglaries decreased 0.5 percent.
- Larceny-theft decreased in the Midwest and the West, 2.5 percent and 0.5 percent, respectively.
- Larceny-theft offenses increased 4.0 percent in the Northeast and 1.0 percent in the South.
- All four regions experienced declines in the estimated number of motor vehicle thefts in 2008 when compared to the 2007 estimates. The West had the largest decrease, 16.9 percent.