

CARJACKING
in New Jersey

2016

TWENTY-FOURTH ANNUAL CARJACKING OFFENSE REPORT 2016

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State of New Jersey

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PHILIP D. MURPHY
Governor

SHEILA Y. OLIVER
Lt. Governor

GURBIR S. GREWAL
Attorney General

The Honorable Philip D. Murphy
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 2016 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 2016.

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 "Gurbir S. Grewal".

Gurbir S. Grewal
Attorney General of New Jersey





State of New Jersey

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The Honorable Gurbir S. Grewal
Attorney General
State of New Jersey
Hughes Justice Complex
Trenton, New Jersey

Dear Attorney General Grewal:

As a result of the carjacking data collection programs mandated by Attorney General Executive Directive 1993-1, the twenty-fourth 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 for the year 2016. The report contains comparisons and analyses between 2015 and 2016.

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,

Patrick J. Callahan
Colonel



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INTRODUCTION

In response to the growing number of reported carjacking incidents, four regional task forces, each comprised 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 CARJACKING 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 STATISTICAL SUMMARY

Highlights of carjacking offense statistics for 2016 are listed below:

- There were 184 carjacking offenses reported to the police; which involved 190 victims, including passengers.
- Carjackings decreased 1% when comparing 2016 to 2015 reported offenses.
- Seventeen of the 565 municipalities in New Jersey reported carjackings.
- Firearms were involved in 71% (130) of all carjackings. Shootings were involved in 4 percent (7) of all carjackings.
- New Jersey registered vehicles represented 83% (153) of all carjackings. Toyota represented the most frequently carjacked vehicle at 13%. The most frequently targeted vehicle year was 2015 with 12% (22).
- Seventy percent (129) of all carjacked vehicles were recovered. The average value of a carjacked motor vehicle was \$8,011.
- Carjackings occurred in a residential area 89% (163) of the time. The hours of darkness (6:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m.) accounted for 79% (146) of all carjackings.
- Eight percent (15) of all carjackings were witnessed.
- The most frequent victim age group was 30-34, which accounted for 19% (36) of the victim total (190). Sixty-eight percent (129) of all victims were male. Fifty-five percent (104) of all victims were black.
- The total number of offenders was 355. Complete offender information was supplied for 22% (78) of the offenders. Of all known offenders, 20-24 was the most frequent offender age group and accounted for 63% (49). Ninety-seven percent (76) of all known offenders were male. Ninety-five percent (74) of all known offenders were black.
- Of the total arrests for carjacking (5), adults accounted for 100% (5).
- October had the highest number of offenses with 32, accounting for 17% of all carjacking offenses.
- Sunday recorded the highest number of offenses with (41), accounting for 22% of all carjackings.
- Region I, which consists of Essex, Hudson, and Union counties, accounted for 76% (139) of all carjackings, with the vast majority occurring in Essex County.
- No murders were reported in 2016 as a result of carjacking.
- Three percent (5) of all carjackings (184) were cleared by arrest.

CARJACKING OFFENSES

COUNTY & STATE TOTALS – 2015/2016

County	Year	Number of Offenses	Estimated Vehicle Value	Actual Number of Vehicles Recovered	Offenses Cleared by Arrest	Number of Persons Arrested
Atlantic	2015	-	-	-	-	-
	2016	-	-	-	-	-
Bergen	2015	1	\$15,000	-	-	-
	2016	-	-	-	-	-
Burlington	2015	-	-	-	-	-
	2016	2	\$11,500	1	1	1
Camden	2015	6	\$57,000	-	-	-
	2016	7	\$35,950	3	-	-
Cape May	2015	-	-	-	-	-
	2016	-	-	-	-	-
Cumberland	2015	1	\$2,000	1	1	1
	2016	-	-	-	-	-
Essex	2015	138	\$1,533,022	113	3	5
	2016	132	\$942,000	107	-	2
Gloucester	2015	-	-	-	-	-
	2016	-	-	-	-	-
Hudson	2015	4	\$70,000	2	-	-
	2016	5	\$52,547	5	-	-
Hunterdon	2015	-	-	-	-	-
	2016	-	-	-	-	-
Mercer	2015	20	\$175,050	14	3	4
	2016	19	\$112,601	8	2	2

CARJACKING OFFENSES

COUNTY & STATE TOTALS – 2015/2016

County	Year	Number of Offenses	Estimated Vehicle Value	Actual Number of Vehicles Recovered	Offenses Cleared by Arrest	Number of Persons Arrested
Middlesex	2015	2	\$3,500	1	-	-
	2016	4	\$71,000	3	-	-
Monmouth	2015	1	\$1,000	1	1	1
	2016	-	-	-	-	-
Morris	2015	-	-	-	-	-
	2016	-	-	-	-	-
Ocean	2015	1	\$20,000	-	-	-
	2016	-	-	-	-	-
Passaic	2015	-	-	-	-	-
	2016	4	\$103,500	-	-	-
Salem	2015	-	-	-	-	-
	2016	-	-	-	-	-
Somerset	2015	-	-	-	-	-
	2016	-	-	-	-	-
Sussex	2015	-	-	-	-	-
	2016	-	-	-	-	-
Union	2015	12	\$326,439	1	-	-
	2016	11	\$145,101	2	-	-
Warren	2015	-	-	-	-	-
	2016	-	-	-	-	-
Total	2015	186	\$2,203,011	133	8	11
	2016	184	\$1,474,199	129	3	5

CARJACKING VICTIMS BY AGE, SEX & RACE

2016

Age	Number	Percent Distribution	Sex		Race			
			Male	Female	White	Black	American Indian or Alaskan Native	Asian or Pacific Islander
0-9	2	1	-	2	2	-	-	-
10-14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15-19	6	3	4	2	4	2	-	-
20-24	20	11	17	3	9	10	-	1
25-29	34	18	20	14	13	21	-	-
30-34	36	19	27	9	15	20	-	1
35-39	22	12	10	12	11	11	-	-
40-44	17	9	14	3	5	11	-	1
45-49	19	10	13	6	8	11	-	-
50-54	12	6	9	3	5	7	-	-
55-59	7	4	5	2	5	2	-	-
60-64	6	3	2	4	2	4	-	-
65-69	5	3	5	-	2	3	-	-
70-74	3	2	2	1	2	1	-	-
75 & over	1	*	1	-	-	1	-	-
TOTAL FOR NEW JERSEY	190	-	129	61	83	104	0	3
PERCENT DISTRIBUTION	-	-	68	32	44	55	0	2

Percent distribution may not add to 100 due to rounding.

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

CARJACKING OFFENDERS BY AGE, SEX & RACE

2016

Age	Number	Percent Distribution	Sex		Race			
			Male	Female	White	Black	American Indian or Alaskan Native	Asian or Pacific Islander
0-9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10-14	1	1	1	-	-	1	-	-
15-19	10	13	10	-	1	9	-	-
20-24	49	63	48	1	3	46	-	-
25-29	14	18	14	-	-	14	-	-
30-34	3	4	2	1	-	3	-	-
35-39	1	1	1	-	-	1	-	-
40-44	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45-49	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
50-54	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
55-99	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Unknown	‡	‡	‡	‡	‡	‡	‡	‡
TOTAL FOR NEW JERSEY	78	-	76	2	4	74	0	0
PERCENT DISTRIBUTION			97	3	5	95	0	0

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

Suspect and arrested offenders are combined.

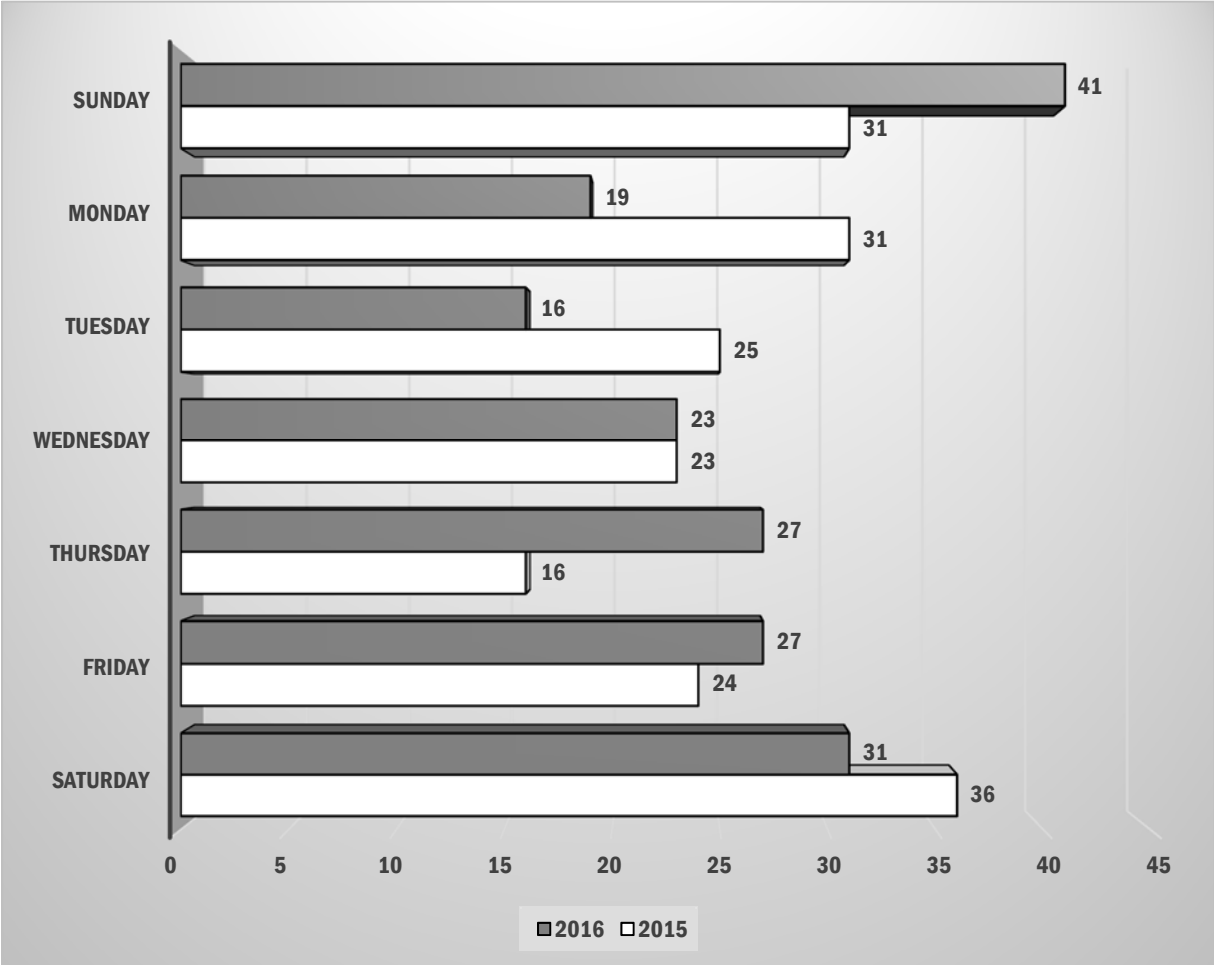
Percent distribution may not add to 100 due to rounding.

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

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

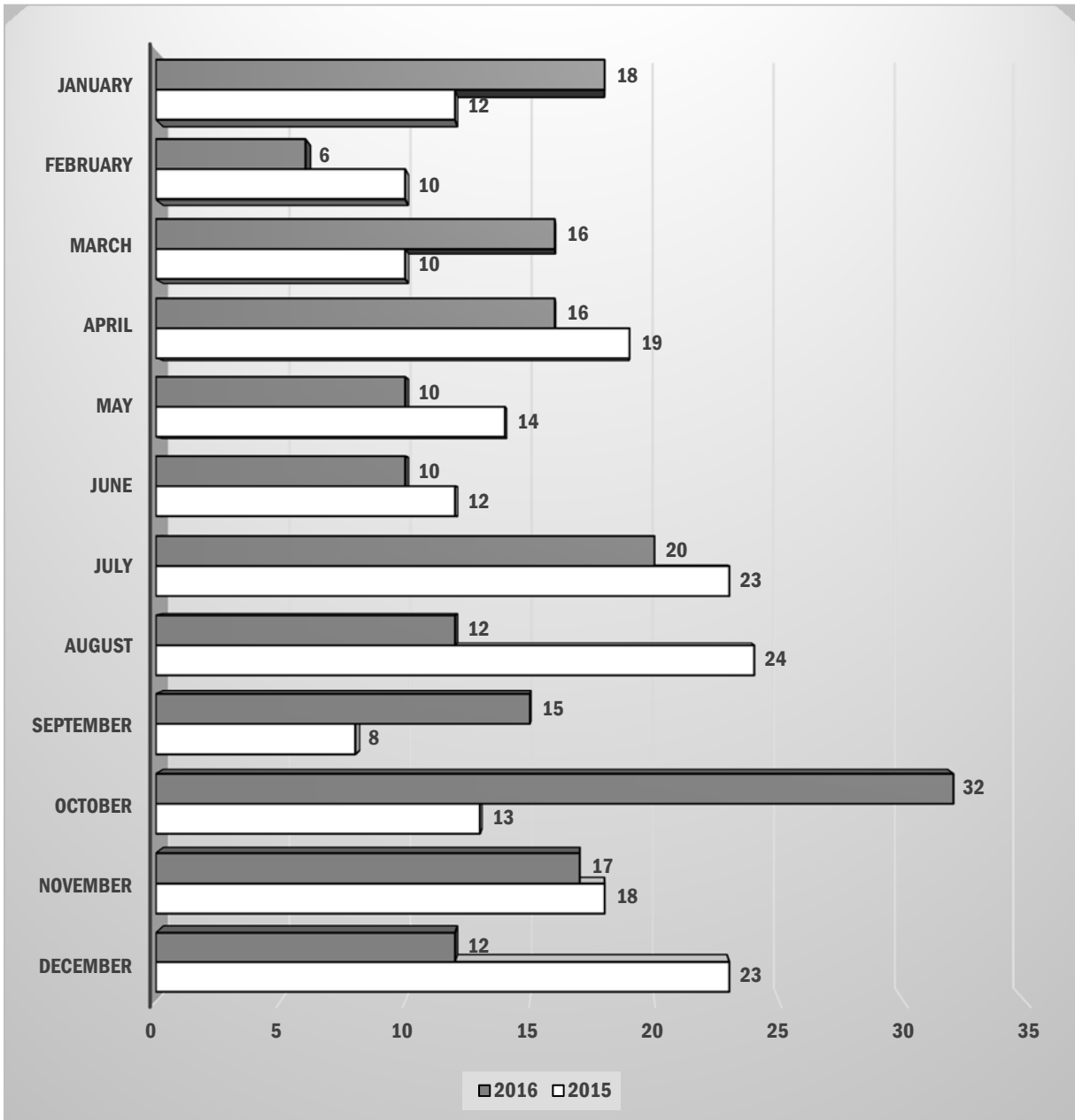
CARJACKING BY DAY OF WEEK

2015/2016



CARJACKING BY MONTH

2015/2016



CARJACKING OFFENSES BY TIME & LOCATION

2016

Time	Total	LOCATIONS						
		Residential Area	Highway	Intersection	Business Strip	Shopping Center‡	Parking Lot	Other
Midnight to 2 am	34	28	1	2	2	-	1	-
2:00 am to 4:00 am	22	18	-	1	1	-	1	1
4:00 am to 6:00 am	15	14	-	-	-	-	1	-
6:00 am to 8:00 am	7	6	-	1	-	-	-	-
8:00 am to 10:00 am	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
10:00 am to Noon	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-
Noon to 2:00 pm	9	8	-	-	-	1	-	-
2:00 pm to 4:00 pm	11	11	-	-	-	-	-	-
4:00 pm to 6:00 pm	5	4	-	1	-	-	-	-
6:00 pm to 8:00 pm	19	17	-	2	-	-	-	-
8:00 pm to 10:00 pm	26	24	1	1	-	-	-	-
10:00 pm to Midnight	30	27	-	2	1	-	-	-
TOTAL	184	163	2	10	4	1	3	1

‡ Includes major malls

COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF COUNTY & STATE PERCENTAGES – 2015/2016

County	2015		2016	
	Number of Offenses	Percent of State Total	Number of Offenses	Percent of State Total
Atlantic	-	0	-	0
Bergen	1	*	-	0
Burlington	-	0	2	1
Camden	6	3	7	4
Cape May	-	0	-	0
Cumberland	1	*	-	0
Essex	138	74	132	72
Gloucester	-	0	-	0
Hudson	4	2	5	3
Hunterdon	-	0	-	0
Mercer	20	11	19	10
Middlesex	2	1	4	2
Monmouth	1	*	-	0
Morris	-	0	-	0
Ocean	1	*	-	0
Passaic	-	0	4	2
Salem	-	0	-	0
Somerset	-	0	-	0
Sussex	-	0	-	0
Union	12	6	11	6
Warren	-	0	-	0
STATE TOTAL	186	100	184	100

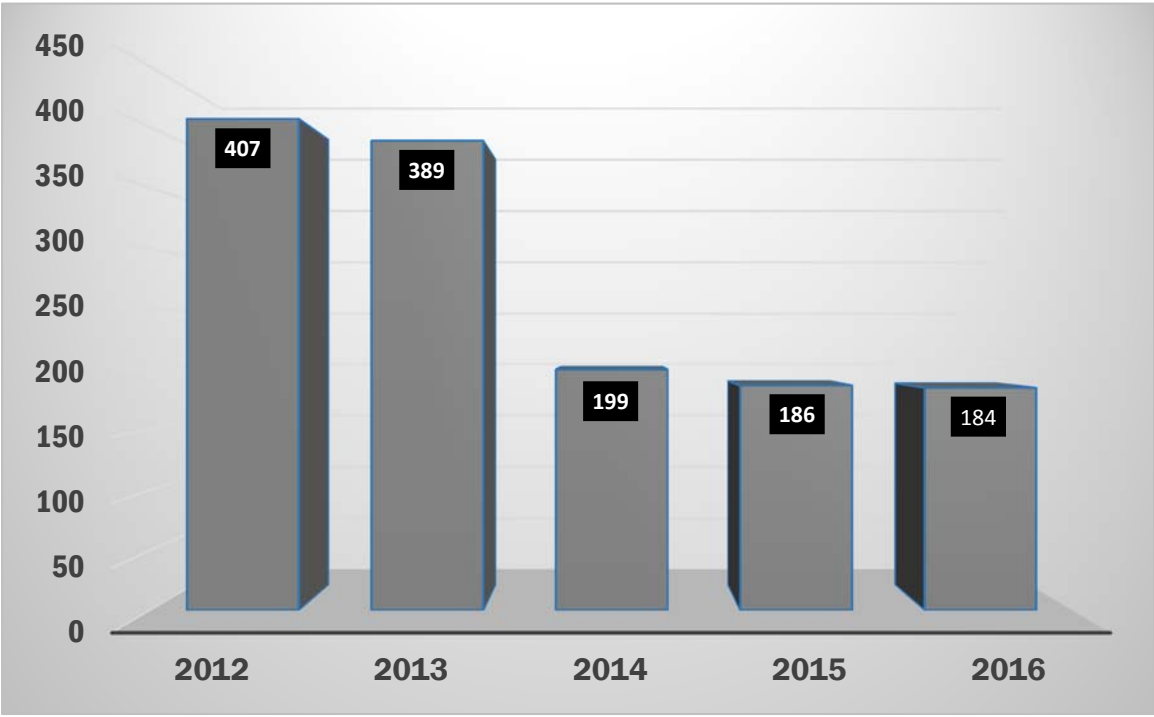
*Less than one-half of one percent.

Percent distribution may not equal 100 due to rounding.

CARJACKING

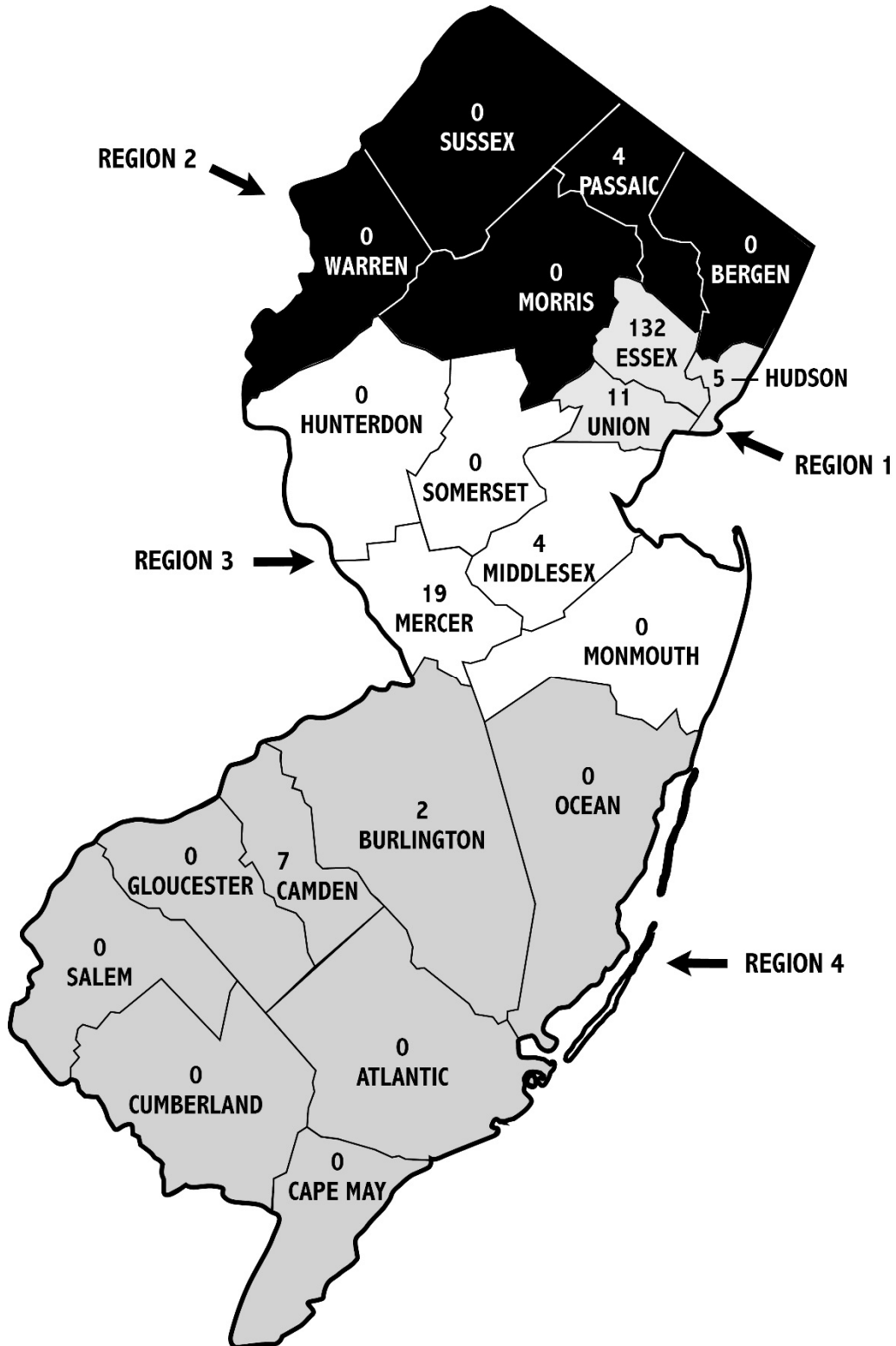
FIVE YEAR COMPARISON

2012 - 2016



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 2016

	Total	Residential Area	Highway	Intersection	Business Strip	Shopping Center◊	Parking Lot	Other
State of New Jersey	184	163	2	10	4	1	3	1
Region I	149	139	-	4	3	1	1	1
Percent of State Total	81	85	0	40	75	100	33	100
Region II	6	6	-	-	-	-	-	-
Percent of State Total	3	4	0	0	0	0	0	0
Region III	20	12	2	5	1	-	-	-
Percent of State Total	11	7	100	50	25	0	0	0
Region IV	9	6	-	1	-	-	2	-
Percent of State Total	5	4	0	10	0	0	67	0

Percentages may not add to 100 due to rounding.

◊ Includes major malls.

CARJACKING OFFENSES PERCENT OF STATE TOTAL BY REGION AND WEAPON TYPE 2016

	Total	Handgun	Rifle	Shotgun	Knife	Other Dangerous Weapon	Physical Force
State of New Jersey	184	129	0	1	6	2	46
Region I	149	102	-	1	5	1	40
Percent of State Total	81	79	0	100	83	50	87
Region II	6	5	-	-	-	-	1
Percent of State Total	3	4	0	0	0	0	2
Region III	20	16	-	-	-	1	3
Percent of State Total	11	12	0	0	0	50	7
Region IV	9	6	-	-	1	-	2
Percent of State Total	5	5	0	0	17	0	4

Percentages may not add to 100 due to rounding.

CARJACKING OFFENSES PERCENT DISTRIBUTION WITHIN REGION BY LOCATION 2016

	Total	Residential Area	Highway	Intersection	Business Strip	Shopping Center◊	Parking Lot	Other
State of New Jersey	184	163	2	10	4	1	3	1
Percent Distribution		89	1	5	2	1	2	1
Region I	149	139	-	4	3	1	1	1
Percent of State Total		93	0	3	2	1	1	1
Region II	6	6	-	-	-	-	-	-
Percent of State Total		100	0	0	0	0	0	0
Region III	20	12	2	5	1	-	-	-
Percent of State Total		60	10	25	5	0	0	0
Region IV	9	6	-	1	-	-	2	-
Percent of State Total		67	0	11	0	0	22	0

Percentages may not add to 100 due to rounding.

◊ Includes major malls.

CARJACKING OFFENSES

PERCENT DISTRIBUTION WITHIN REGION

BY WEAPON TYPE

2016

	Total	Handgun	Rifle	Shotgun	Knife	Other Dangerous Weapon	Physical Force
State of New Jersey	184	129	-	1	6	2	46
Percent Distribution		70	0	1	3	1	25
Region I	149	102	-	1	5	1	40
Percent of State Total		68	0	1	3	1	27
Region II	6	5	-	-	-	-	1
Percent of State Total		83	0	0	0	0	17
Region III	20	16	-	-	-	1	3
Percent of State Total		80	0	0	0	5	15
Region IV	9	6	-	-	1	-	2
Percent of State Total		67	0	0	11	0	22

Percentages 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.