November 5, 2012

Delaware Major Crimes, Unofficial Reporting, 2012 Quarter 3 Update

This report presents a summary of unofficial major crime reporting from January, 2005, through September, 2012. While this analysis might be useful as a preliminary indicator, it is not intended to supplant, nor should it be directly compared to, the state’s official crime reporting. Official data are derived from the State Bureau of Identification’s implementation of the National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS), which naturally takes more time to yield results due to its comprehensive scope. This unofficial report was designed to focus on a limited set of crimes and provide emerging trends with a relatively quick turnaround. The major crimes listed below were selected for this analysis because of their significant risk to public safety and their potential impact on criminal justice system resources.

**Types of Reported Crimes Included in the Report**

*With the exception of Homicide, counts in the listed groups include attempts.*

**Homicide:** Title 11, §§ 631 thru 636 (Criminally negligent homicide, Manslaughter, Murder by abuse or neglect 2nd and 1st, and Murder 2nd and 1st, res.), excluding unintentional vehicular homicide (Attempted murder is included in Felony Assault)

**Felony Sex Crimes:** Title 11, §§ 768 thru 773, 776 and 778 (Unlawful Sexual Contact 2nd and 1st, Rape 4th thru 1st, Sexual Extortion, and Continuous Sexual Abuse of a Child, res.)

**Robbery:** Title 11, §§ 831, 832, 835 and 836 (Robbery 2nd and 1st, and Carjacking 2nd and 1st, res.)

**Felony Assault:** Title 11, §§ 612 and 613 (Assault 2nd and 1st, res.), and Attempted Murder

**Burglary:** Title 11, §§ 824 thru 826, and 826A (Burglary 3rd thru 1st, and Home Invasion, res.)

**Drug Dealing:** *(Prior to 9/1/11)* Title 16, §§ 4751, 4752, and 4752A (Possession with intent to deliver controlled and non-controlled substances) and 4753A (Drug trafficking) *(9/1/11 and later)* Similar Title 16, Chapter 47 offenses of felony classes E thru B
Statewide Unofficial Reported Major Crime Quarterly Update

The following figures and tables provide third quarter 2012 updates as a supplement to the year-end 2011 report. For each major crime group, tabular data show monthly counts, and quarterly counts are shown graphically to smooth monthly fluctuations. A separate series marker is used to highlight the third quarter of each year. Simple linear regression was used for quarterly trend lines, but caution is urged in using those trends for extrapolation as some series are quite unstable.

Homicide

Figure 1. Quarterly statewide homicides, unofficial

Table 1. Monthly statewide homicides, unofficial

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Felony Sex Crimes

Figure 2. Quarterly statewide felony sex crimes, unofficial

![Statewide Reported Felony Sex Crimes (Unofficial)](chart.png)

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Figure 3. Quarterly statewide robbery reports, unofficial

Table 3. Monthly statewide robbery reports, unofficial

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Felony Assault

Figure 4. Quarterly statewide felony assault reports, unofficial

Statewide Reported Felony Assaults (Unofficial)

- Felony assaults per quarter
- Quarter 3
- Linear (Felony assaults per quarter)

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**Burglary**

**Figure 5.** Quarterly statewide burglary reports, unofficial

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**Drug Dealing**

**Figure 6.** Quarterly statewide drug dealing reports, unofficial

**Table 6.** Monthly statewide drug dealing reports, unofficial

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<tr>
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<td>151</td>
<td></td>
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</table>
Reported Major Crimes, Major Arrests, and Incarcerated Populations

Quarterly crime, arrest, and incarceration data are plotted together in Figure 7. Average daily populations of Bureau of Prisons facilities, represented as “BOP ADP” in the graph, were calculated from DOC daily population counts. Quarterly statewide totals of major crimes counted for this report are represented as “Quarterly Major Crimes.” Arrests for crimes in the same categories as reported major crimes are also shown, but it should be noted that arrests are not necessarily for crimes that occurred in the same reporting periods.

Figure 7. Incarcerated population, major crime, and major arrest trends

Special Homicide Update

Given the recent surge in violence in some areas of the state, it may be worth giving special attention to homicide statistics over the last several years. The chart and table on the following page show statewide and regional homicide counts from 2006 through November 4, 2012 (the day before compilation of this update). Counts are shown for year-to-date (through 11/4) and for full year totals. As can be seen, 2012 homicides are trending considerably higher than most other years in the series. Wilmington and the rest of New Castle County are heading toward record numbers of homicides in 2012.
## Year-to-date and Yearly Total Homicides

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Statewide</th>
<th>Wilmington</th>
<th>NCC (excl. Wilmington)</th>
<th>Kent</th>
<th>Sussex</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Thru 11/4</td>
<td>Full Year</td>
<td>Thru 11/4</td>
<td>Full Year</td>
<td>Thru 11/4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>18</td>
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<tr>
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<td>35</td>
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<td>51</td>
<td>25</td>
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</table>
Crime Measures and Caveats

With the exception of homicide, crimes are counted as single events based on one or more occurrence within a complaint number. Homicide complaint counts are increased to the number of victims in complaints with multiple victims. This is a simpler method and is markedly different from official NIBRS reporting where all crimes against persons are counted by the number of victims. Multiple crimes in a single complaint may be counted in more than one of the selected crime groups (that is, there is no hierarchical filtering of crime counts). Statutes referenced in the most recent crime supplement for each incident report identifies the crimes. All groups include attempted crimes except for homicide; attempted homicide is included in the felony assault group.

This information is extracted from complaint data housed in the Delaware Criminal Justice Information System. The counting methodology for this report was developed for the Attorney General’s Office. It is important to know that this is unofficial crime information based on the most recent and accurate interpretation of active files that are frequently updated. The official Delaware crime data is provided annually through SBI’s implementation of the National Incident-Based Reporting System, which includes a process that meets national standards of measurement using scores of edits, verifications and corrections.