

2015

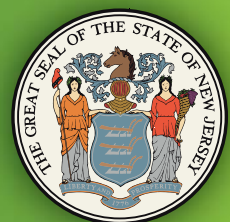
CARJACKING

in New Jersey

FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2015



NEW JERSEY STATE POLICE
UNIFORM CRIME REPORTING UNIT



TWENTY-THIRD ANNUAL CARJACKING OFFENSE REPORT 2015

Honorable Christopher S. Porrino

Attorney General
State of New Jersey

Colonel Joseph R. Fuentes

Superintendent
New Jersey State Police

Major Brandon Gray

Commanding Officer
Identification & Information Technology Section
New Jersey State Police

Chief William Parenti

North Plainfield Police Department
President
New Jersey Association of Chiefs of Police

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

CHRIS CHRISTIE
Governor

CHRISTOPHER S. PORRINO
Attorney General

KIM GUADAGNO
Lt. Governor

The Honorable Chris Christie
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 2015 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 2015.

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 "Christopher S. Porrino".

Christopher S. Porrino
Attorney General of New Jersey





State of New Jersey

OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
DEPARTMENT OF LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY
DIVISION OF STATE POLICE
POST OFFICE BOX 7068
WEST TRENTON NJ 08628-0068
(609) 882-2000

CHRIS CHRISTIE
Governor

KIM GUADAGNO
Lt. Governor

CHRISTOPHER S. PORRINO
Attorney General

COLONEL JOSEPH R. FUENTES
Superintendent

The Honorable Christopher S. Porrino
Attorney General
State of New Jersey
Hughes Justice Complex
Trenton, New Jersey

Dear Attorney General Porrino:

As a result of the carjacking data collection programs mandated by Attorney General Executive Directive 1993-1, the twenty-third 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 2015. The report contains comparisons and analyses between 2014 and 2015.

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



"An Internationally Accredited Agency"

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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 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 HIGHLIGHTS

Highlights of carjacking offense statistics for 2015 are listed below:

- There were 186 carjacking offenses reported to the police; which involved 197 victims, including passengers.
- Carjackings decreased 7% when comparing 2015 to 2014 reported offenses.
- Eighteen of the 565 municipalities in New Jersey reported carjackings.
- Firearms were involved in 69% (128) of all carjackings. Less than one-half of one percent (1) of the firearms used were assault firearms. Shootings were involved in 2 percent (5) of all carjackings.
- New Jersey registered vehicles represented 85% (158) of all carjackings. Nissan represented the most frequently carjacked vehicle at 11%. The most frequently targeted vehicle year was 2014 with 10% (19).
- Seventy-two percent (133) of all carjacked vehicles were recovered. The average value of a carjacked motor vehicle was \$11,844.
- Carjackings occurred in a residential area 82% (152) of the time. The hours of darkness (6:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m.) accounted for 68% (126) of all carjackings.
- Ten percent (19) of all carjackings were witnessed.
- The most frequent victim age group was 30-34, which accounted for 25% (49) of the victim total (197). Seventy-two percent (141) of all victims were male. Sixty-three percent (125) of all victims were black.
- The total number of offenders was 314. Insufficient analysis information was supplied on 69% (216) of the offenders. Of all known offenders (98), 20-24 was the most frequent offender age group and accounted for 46% (45). Ninety-four percent (92) of all known offenders were male. Ninety-four percent (92) of all known offenders were black.
- Of the total arrests for carjacking (11), adults accounted for 100% (11).
- August had the highest number of offenses with 24, accounting for 13% of all carjacking offenses.
- Saturday recorded the highest number of offenses with (36), accounting for 19% of all carjackings.
- Region I, which consists of Essex, Hudson, and Union counties, accounted for 83% (154) of all carjackings.
- No murders were reported in 2015 as a result of carjacking.
- Four percent (8) of all carjackings (186) were cleared by arrest.

CARJACKING OFFENSES

COUNTY AND STATE TOTALS — 2014/2015

County	Year	Number of Offenses	Estimated Vehicle Value	Actual Number of Vehicles Recovered	Offenses Cleared by Arrest	Number of Persons Arrested
Atlantic	2014	2	\$15,000	-	-	-
	2015	-	-	-	-	-
Bergen	2014	-	-	-	-	-
	2015	1	\$15,000	-	-	-
Burlington	2014	1	\$20,000	1	1	1
	2015	-	-	-	-	-
Camden	2014	10	\$88,595	1	-	-
	2015	6	\$57,000	-	-	-
Cape May	2014	1	\$4,474	1	1	1
	2015	-	-	-	-	-
Cumberland	2014	-	-	-	-	-
	2015	1	\$2,000	1	1	1
Essex	2014	147	\$1,249,000	113	2	3
	2015	138	\$1,533,022	113	3	5
Gloucester	2014	-	-	-	-	-
	2015	-	-	-	-	-
Hudson	2014	5	\$117,000	4	-	-
	2015	4	\$70,000	2	-	-
Hunterdon	2014	-	-	-	-	-
	2015	-	-	-	-	-
Mercer	2014	16	\$99,600	10	2	2
	2015	20	\$175,050	14	3	4

CARJACKING OFFENSES

COUNTY AND STATE TOTALS — 2014/2015

County	Year	Number of Offenses	Estimated Vehicle Value	Actual Number of Vehicles Recovered	Offenses Cleared by Arrest	Number of Persons Arrested
Middlesex	2014	3	\$9,000	2	-	-
	2015	2	\$3,500	1	-	-
Monmouth	2014	1	\$18,000	1	-	-
	2015	1	\$1,000	1	1	1
Morris	2014	-	-	-	-	-
	2015	-	-	-	-	-
Ocean	2014	-	-	-	-	-
	2015	1	\$20,000	-	-	-
Passaic	2014	3	\$49,000	1	-	-
	2015	-	-	-	-	-
Salem	2014	-	-	-	-	-
	2015	-	-	-	-	-
Somerset	2014	-	-	-	-	-
	2015	-	-	-	-	-
Sussex	2014	-	-	-	-	-
	2015	-	-	-	-	-
Union	2014	10	\$221,926	1	-	-
	2015	12	\$326,439	1	-	-
Warren	2014	-	-	-	-	-
	2015	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	2014	199	\$1,891,595	135	6	7
	2015	186	\$2,203,011	133	8	11

CARJACKING VICTIMS BY AGE, SEX AND RACE 2015

Age	Number	Percent Distribution	Sex		Race			
			Male	Female	White	Black	American Indian or Alaskan Native	Asian or Pacific Islander
0-9	1	*	1	-	-	1	-	-
10-14	1	*	1	-	-	1	-	-
15-19	6	3	6	-	1	5	-	-
20-24	26	13	21	5	10	16	-	-
25-29	26	13	14	12	8	18	-	-
30-34	49	25	34	15	11	37	-	1
35-39	21	11	14	7	10	11	-	-
40-44	21	11	13	8	9	12	-	-
45-49	15	8	14	1	7	8	-	-
50-54	10	5	9	1	4	6	-	-
55-59	9	5	5	4	5	4	-	-
60-64	2	1	2	-	1	-	-	1
65-69	7	4	4	3	3	4	-	-
70-74	3	2	3	-	1	2	-	-
75 and over	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL FOR NEW JERSEY	197	-	141	56	70	125	0	2
PERCENT DISTRIBUTION	-	-	72	28	36	63	0	1

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 2015

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	6	6	6	-	-	6	-	-
20-24	45	46	42	3	1	44	-	-
25-29	21	21	19	2	2	19	-	-
30-34	15	15	14	1	1	14	-	-
35-39	4	4	4	-	-	4	-	-
40-44	3	3	3	-	1	2	-	-
45-49	1	1	1	-	1	-	-	-
50-54	2	2	2	-	-	2	-	-
55-99	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Unknown	‡	‡	‡	‡	‡	‡	‡	‡
TOTAL FOR NEW JERSEY	98	-	92	6	6	92	0	0
PERCENT DISTRIBUTION			94	6	6	94	0	0

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

Suspect and arrested offenders are combined.

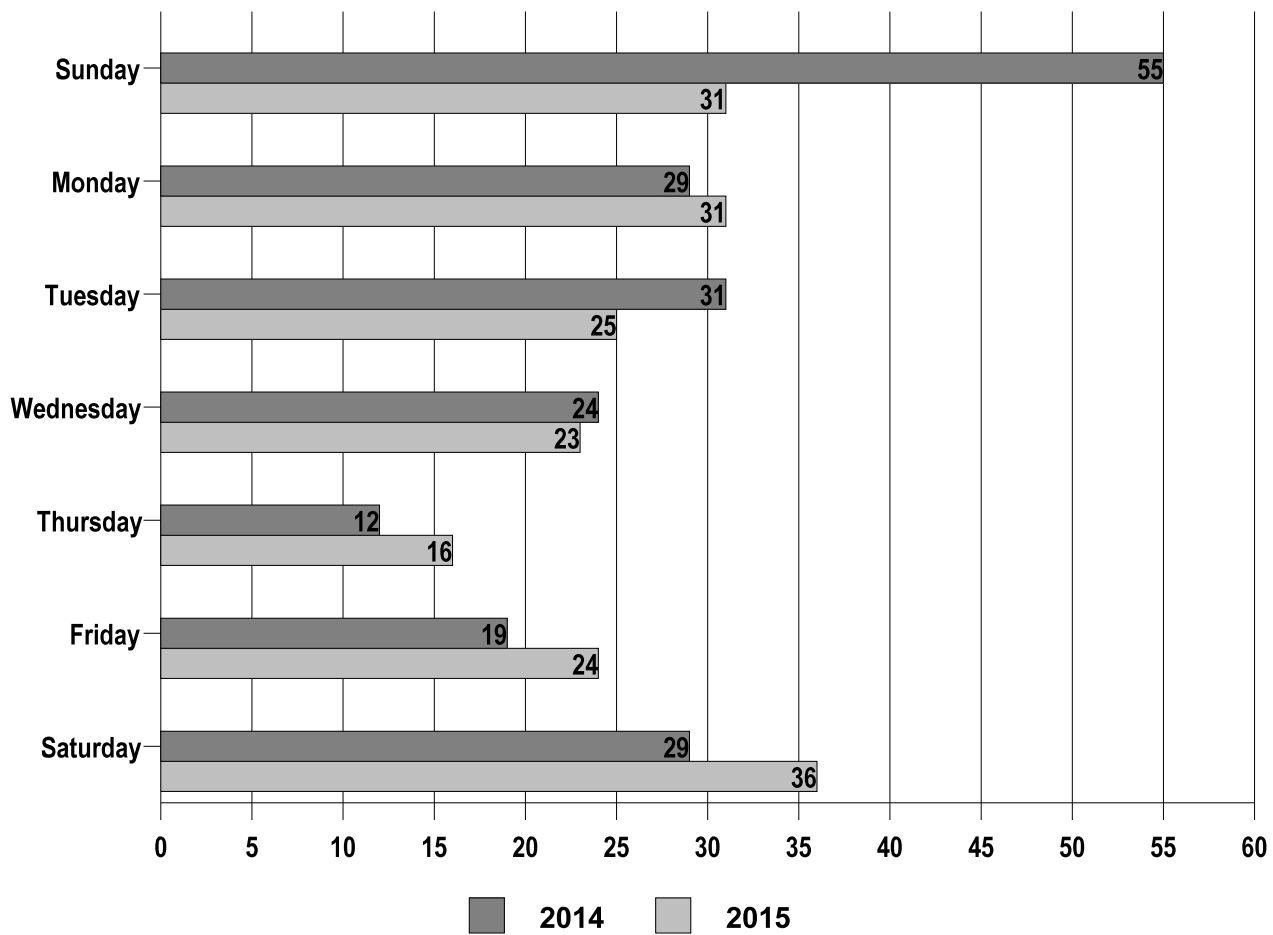
Percent distribution may not add to 100 due to rounding.

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

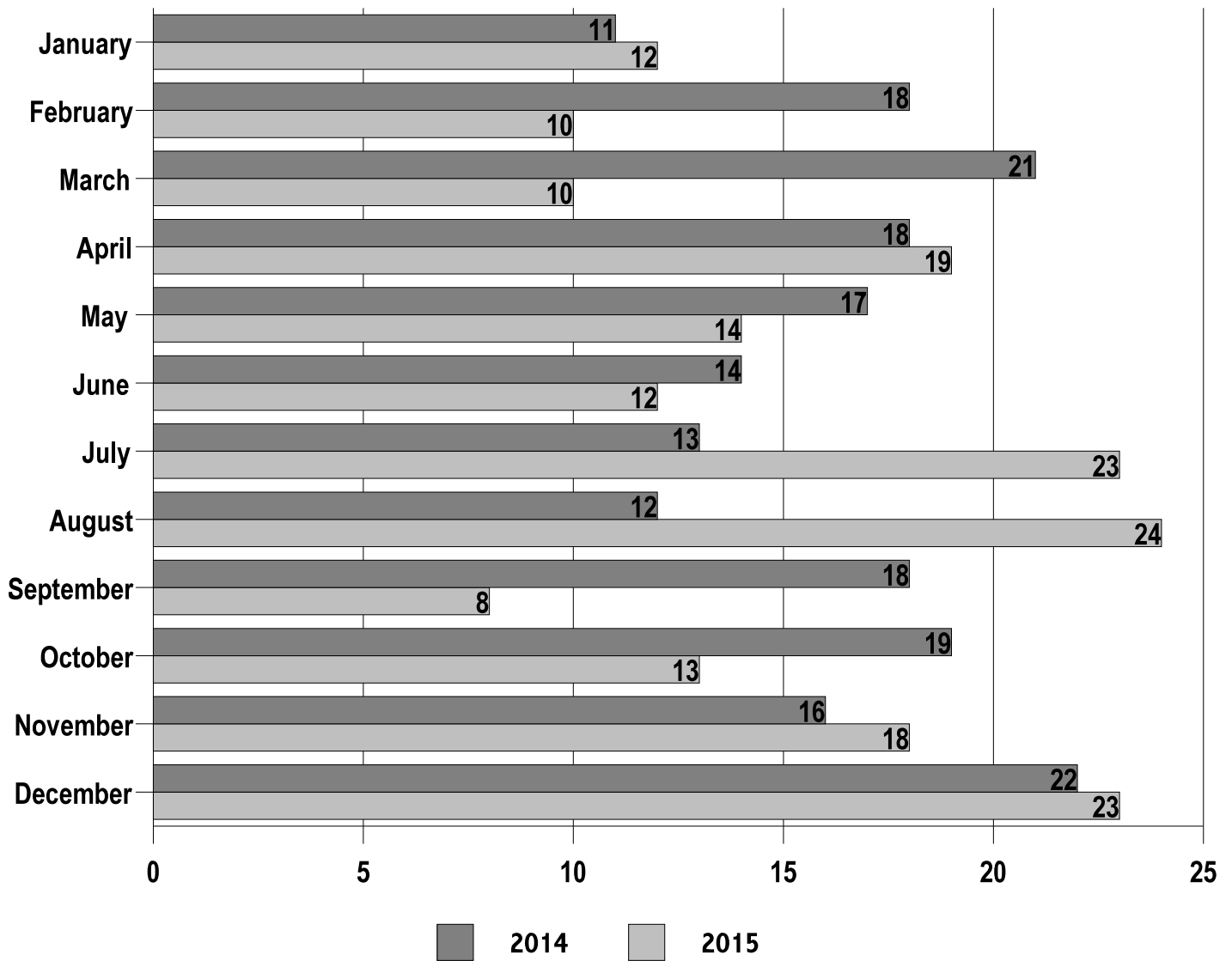
* Percent distribution less than one-half of one percent.

CARJACKING BY DAY OF WEEK

2014/2015



CARJACKING BY MONTH 2014/2015



CARJACKING OFFENSES BY TIME AND LOCATION 2015

Time	Total	LOCATIONS						
		Residential Area	Highway	Intersection	Business Strip	Shopping Center ◇	Parking Lot	Other
Midnight to 2 a.m.	19	17	1	-	1	-	-	-
2:00 a.m. to 4:00 a.m.	21	17	2	1	1	-	-	-
4:00 a.m. to 6:00 a.m.	23	22	-	1	-	-	-	-
6:00 a.m. to 8:00 a.m.	16	15	1	-	-	-	-	-
8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.	7	4	1	-	1	-	1	-
10:00 a.m. to Noon	7	5	-	-	-	-	1	1
Noon to 2:00 p.m.	11	11	-	-	-	-	-	-
2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.	6	3	1	1	1	-	-	-
4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.	13	9	-	2	-	-	1	1
6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.	20	14	-	5	-	-	-	1
8:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.	9	8	-	-	1	-	-	-
10:00 p.m. to Midnight	34	27	1	3	-	-	1	2
TOTAL	186	152	7	13	5	0	4	5

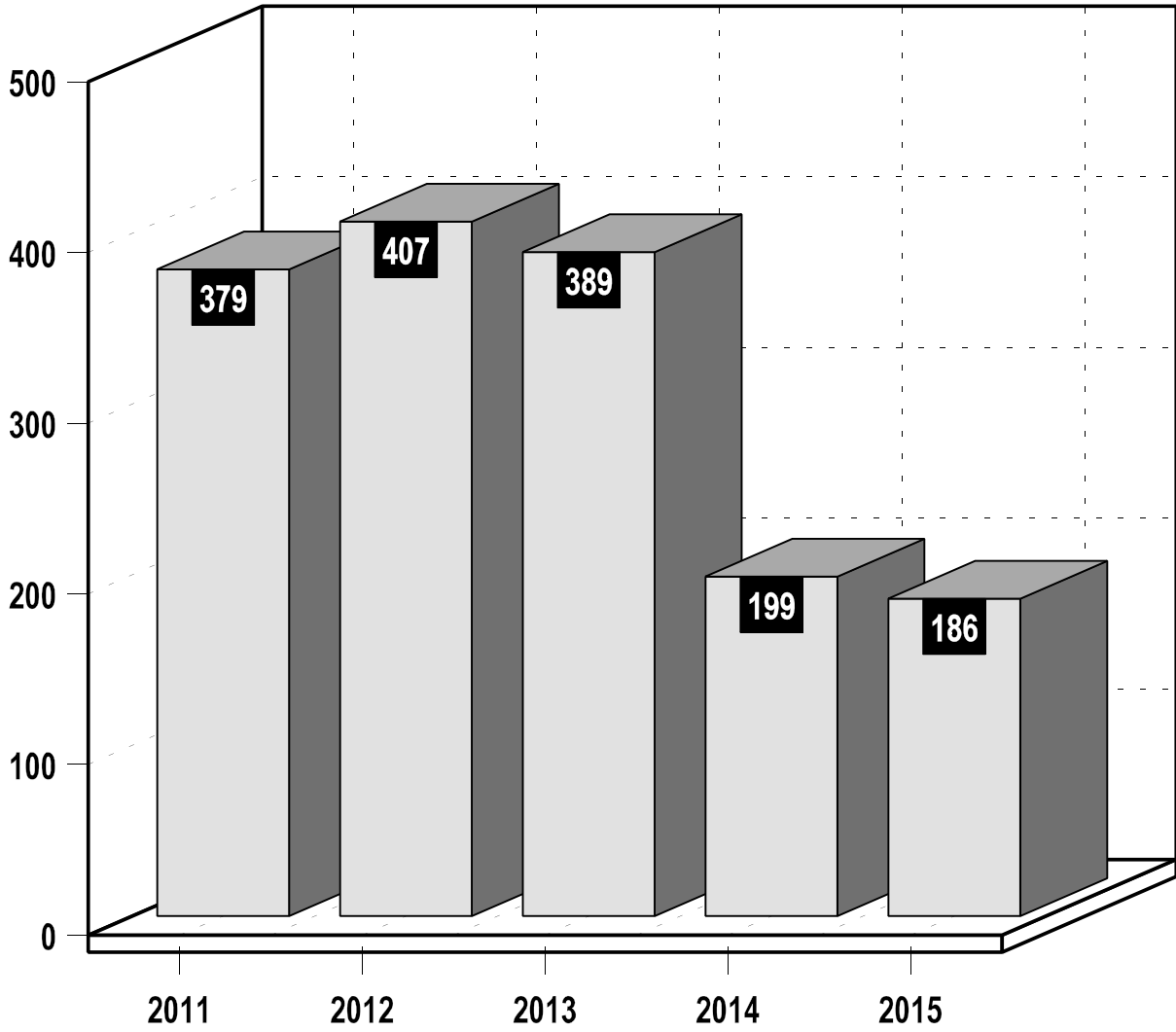
◇Includes major malls.

COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF COUNTY & STATE PERCENTAGES 2014/2015

County	2014		2015	
	Number of Offenses	Percent of State Total	Number of Offenses	Percent of State Total
Atlantic	2	1	-	0
Bergen	-	0	1	*
Burlington	1	*	-	0
Camden	10	5	6	3
Cape May	1	*	-	0
Cumberland	-	0	1	*
Essex	147	74	138	74
Gloucester	-	0	-	0
Hudson	5	3	4	2
Hunterdon	-	0	-	0
Mercer	16	8	20	11
Middlesex	3	2	2	1
Monmouth	1	1	1	*
Morris	-	0	-	0
Ocean	-	0	1	*
Passaic	3	2	-	0
Salem	-	0	-	0
Somerset	-	0	-	0
Sussex	-	0	-	0
Union	10	5	12	6
Warren	-	0	-	0
STATE TOTAL	199	100	186	100

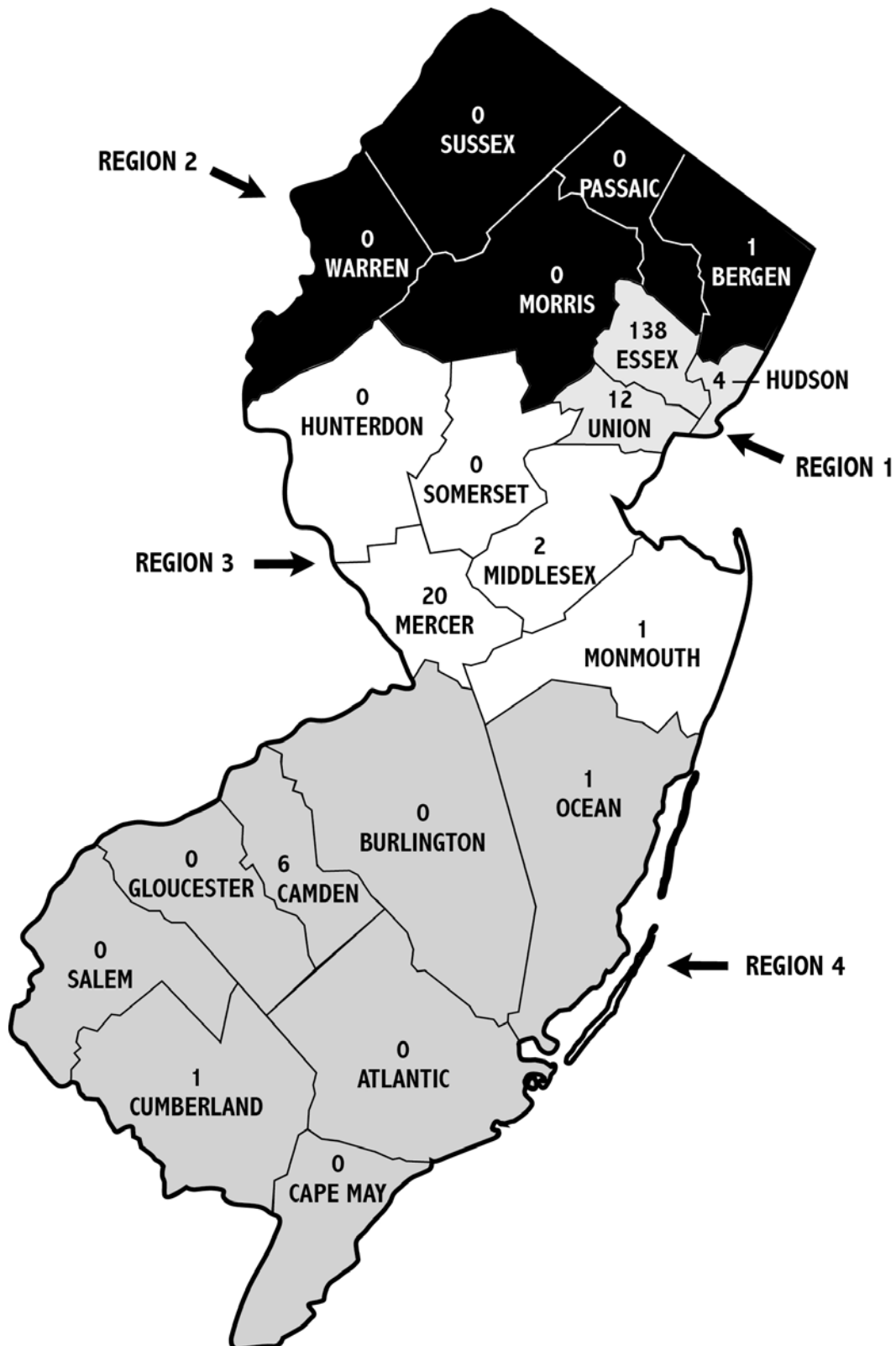
* Less than one-half of one percent.
Percent distribution may not equal 100 due to rounding.

CARJACKING FIVE YEAR COMPARISON 2011 - 2015



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

2015

	Total	Residential Area	Highway	Intersection	Business Strip	Shopping Center ◇	Parking Lot	Other
State of New Jersey	186	152	7	13	5	0	4	5
Region I	154	136	3	6	4	-	3	2
Percent of State Total	83	89	43	46	80	0	75	40
Region II	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Percent of State Total	1	0	14	0	0	0	0	0
Region III	23	12	3	5	-	-	1	2
Percent of State Total	12	8	43	38	0	0	25	40
Region IV	8	4	-	2	1	-	-	1
Percent of State Total	4	3	0	15	20	0	0	20

Percentages may not add to 100 due to rounding.

◇ Includes major malls.

CARJACKING OFFENSES

PERCENT OF STATE TOTAL BY REGION & WEAPON TYPE

2015

	Total	Handgun	Rifle	Shotgun	Knife	Other Dangerous Weapon	Physical Force
State of New Jersey	186	126	0	2	5	2	51
Region I	154	109	-	2	4	1	38
Percent of State Total	83	87	0	100	80	50	75
Region II	1	1	-	-	-	-	-
Percent of State Total	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
Region III	23	12	-	-	1	1	9
Percent of State Total	12	10	0	0	20	50	18
Region IV	8	4	-	-	-	-	4
Percent of State Total	4	3	0	0	0	0	8

Percentages may not add up to 100 due to rounding.

CARJACKING OFFENSES

PERCENT DISTRIBUTION WITHIN REGION BY LOCATION

2015

	Total	Residential Area	Highway	Intersection	Business Strip	Shopping Center ◇	Parking Lot	Other
State of New Jersey	186	152	7	13	5	0	4	5
Percent Distribution		82	4	7	3	0	2	3
Region I	154	136	3	6	4	-	3	2
Percent Distribution		88	2	4	3	0	2	1
Region II	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Percent Distribution		0	100	0	0	0	0	0
Region III	23	12	3	5	-	-	1	2
Percent Distribution		52	13	22	0	0	4	9
Region IV	8	4	-	2	1	-	-	1
Percent Distribution		50	0	25	13	0	0	13

Percent distribution may not add to 100 due to rounding.

◇ Includes major malls.

CARJACKING OFFENSES

PERCENT DISTRIBUTION WITHIN REGION BY WEAPON TYPE

2015

	Total	Handgun	Rifle	Shotgun	Knife	Other Dangerous Weapon	Physical Force
State of New Jersey	186	126	0	2	5	2	51
Percent Distribution		68	0	1	3	1	27
Region I	154	109	-	2	4	1	38
Percent Distribution		71	0	1	3	1	25
Region II	1	1	-	-	-	-	-
Percent Distribution		100	0	0	0	0	0
Region III	23	12	-	-	1	1	9
Percent Distribution		52	0	0	4	4	39
Region IV	8	4	-	-	-	-	4
Percent Distribution		50	0	0	0	0	50

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.