



State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

CHRISTINE TODD WHITMAN
Governor

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PETER VERNIERO
Attorney General

*The Honorable Christine Todd Whitman
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:

Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52:17B-5.5, I am submitting the thirty-first annual report of crime in New Jersey. The annual report is based on crime statistics submitted to the New Jersey Uniform Crime Reporting System by every New Jersey law enforcement agency for the year 1997.

Effective law enforcement requires accurate crime statistics in order to identify the extent, type, and location of criminal activity. Criminal Justice administrators and planners have long recognized the Uniform Crime Reporting Program as the vehicle to accomplish this objective.

The success of the Uniform Crime Reporting System during 1997 could not have been realized without the cooperation extended by each of the 556 law enforcement agencies of the state, the New Jersey Chiefs of Police Association, and the County Prosecutors Association.

It is in the interest of more effective law enforcement to the eight million residents of New Jersey that the thirty-first annual report is submitted.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Peter Verniero".

Peter Verniero
Attorney General of New Jersey