

CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM		
ADULT		
REPORT CARD		
2006	2008	2009
CRIME AND SAFETY		
B-	B-	C
RESOURCE AND CAPACITY		
F	F	F
EFFICIENCY AND EFFECTIVENESS		
A	B	B
JUSTICE AND ACCOUNTABILITY		
F	D	C-



Criminal Justice System in Lane County, Oregon
JANUARY 2009

CRIME AND SAFETY

GRADE C

- The reported serious, violent crime rate dropped between 1997 and 2002. In 2003, the reported serious, violent crime rate began to increase and now exceeds Oregon's.
- The reported property crime rate is continuing a downward trend but still exceeds Oregon and US rates.
- The drug abuse arrest rate is decreasing but is still higher than Oregon and the US.
- Child abuse victimization rates have been declining since 2000 and are now lower than Oregon and the US.
- The rate of traffic injury accidents (excluding fatalities), lower than Oregon and the US for over a decade, increased between 2005 and 2007.

RESOURCE AND CAPACITY

GRADE F

- Our capacity to address crime continues to decrease while the population increases.
- The number of law enforcement officers per 1,000 population remains below Oregon and far below the US average.
- 405 jail beds (54% of total beds) are closed due to lack of funding for operations.
- Releases due to jail overcrowding have decreased.
- DA felony intakes per prosecutor continue to go down.

EFFICIENCY AND EFFECTIVENESS

GRADE B

- The rate of arrests per officer continues to drop for violent crimes and stays low for property crimes.
- The rate of arrests to reports for both property and violent crimes, although higher than Oregon and the US, continues a downward trend.
- The percent of both felony and misdemeanor cases successfully prosecuted in a timely fashion continues to exceed Oregon's average.

JUSTICE AND ACCOUNTABILITY

GRADE C-

- The grade improved from a D to a C- because failures to appear for court events are decreasing.
- The failure rate for felony offenders on parole/post prison supervision dropped while that same rate for offenders on probation supervision increased considerably.

Report Card Highlights

- The violent crime rate increased. Drug and property crime rates remain higher than Oregon and the US.
- Funded jail beds dropped from 631 in 2002 to 593 in 2007 to 349 in 2008 with only 127 available for local offenders.
- The number of criminal prosecutors in the DA's Office, already insufficient according to the American Prosecutors Research Institute, dropped from 26 in 2001 to 22 in 2004 where it has remained.
- Positively, the percent of inmates released from the jail due to overcrowding continues to go down.
- An increasing number of inmates are released on signed agreements with conditions including reminders of court appearances, day reporting, random drug tests, and following victim protection orders.
- Failures to appear (FTA) for court events are decreasing.

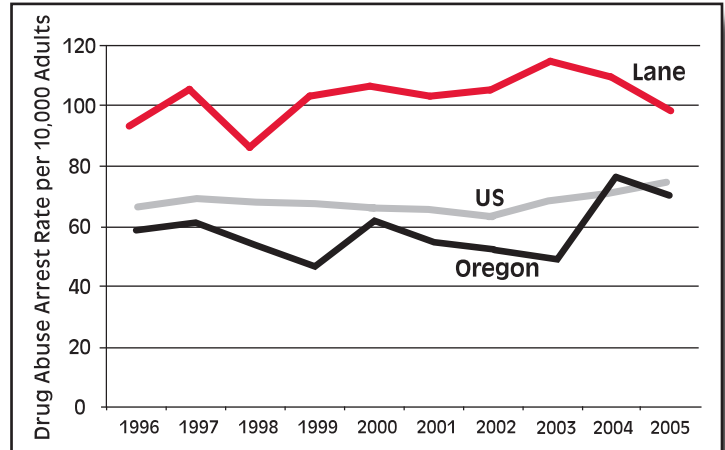
ADULT CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM INDICATORS

CRIME AND SAFETY

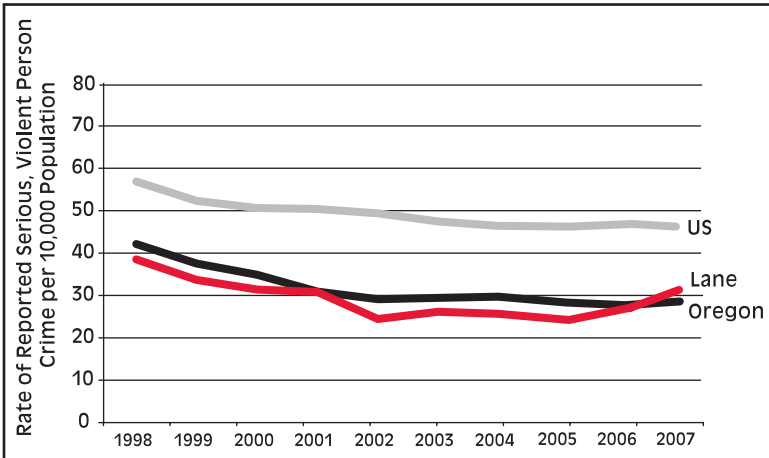
GRADE: C

The system improved in the area of crime and safety with the exception of serious, violent crime. The county's drug abuse arrest rate and rate of reported property crimes continues to exceed that of Oregon and the US.

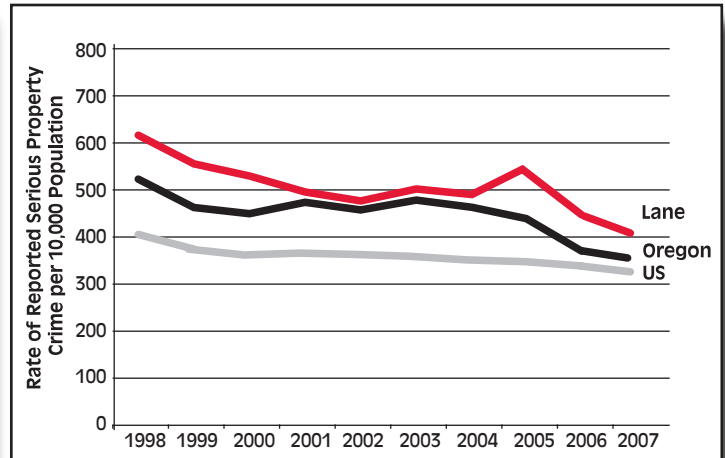
Drug Abuse Arrest Rate per 10,000 Adults



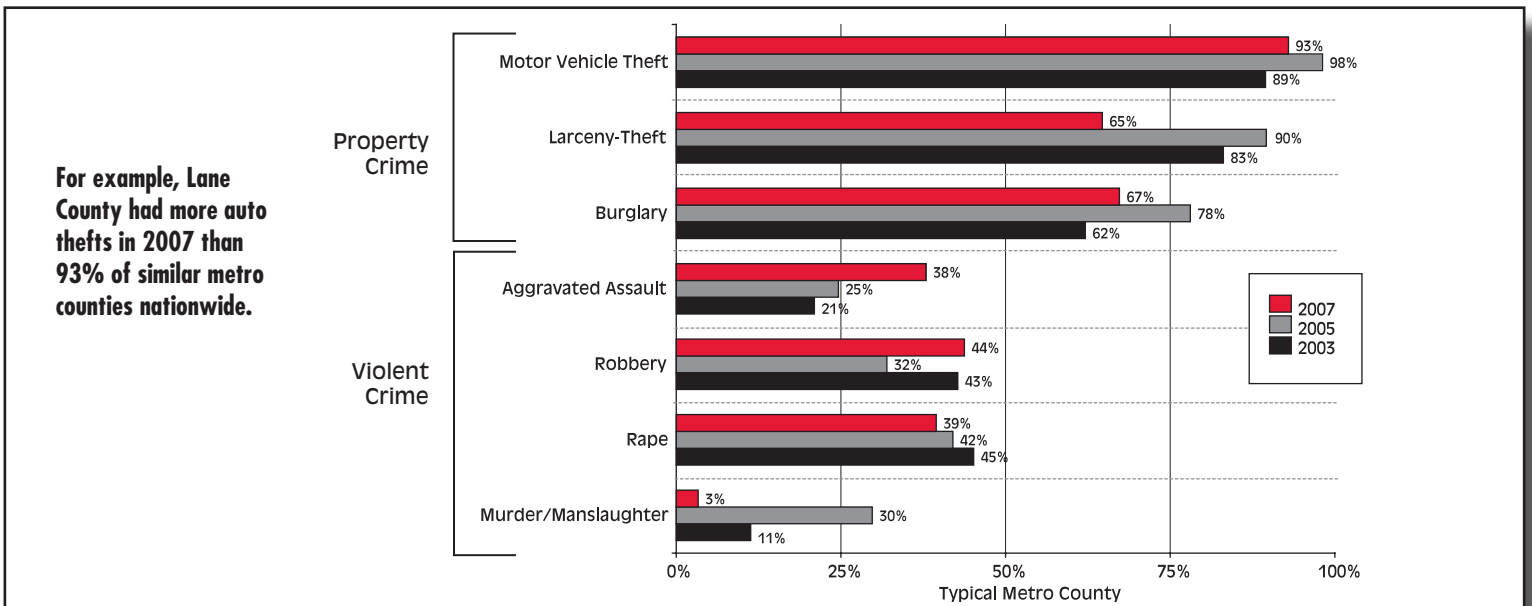
Rate of Reported Serious, Violent Crime per 10,000 Population



Rate of Reported Serious Property Crime per 10,000 Population



Serious Reported Crime in 2007 per 100,000 Population

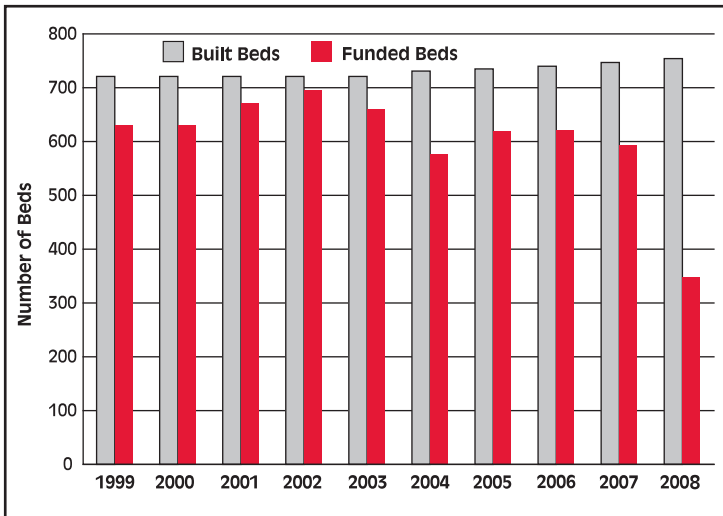


RESOURCE AND CAPACITY

GRADE: F

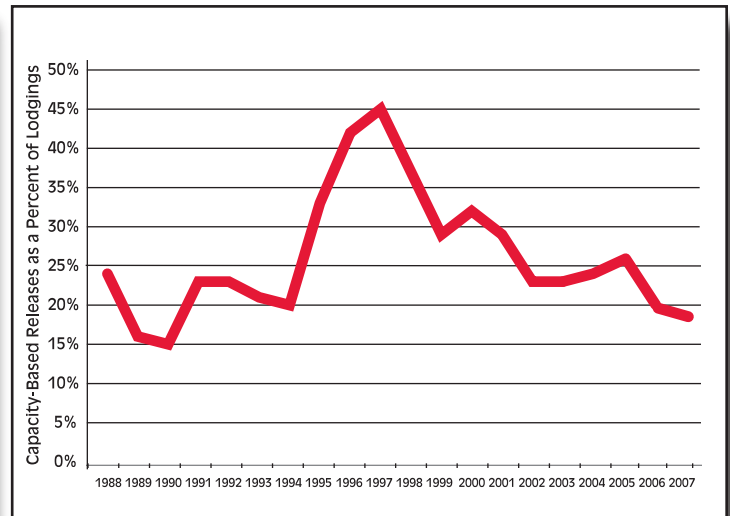
The criminal justice system in Lane County has too few law enforcement officers and funded jail beds. The District Attorney is prosecuting fewer crimes due to the loss of prosecutors. The number of capacity-based releases from jail are continuing to decrease.

Built vs. Funded Beds



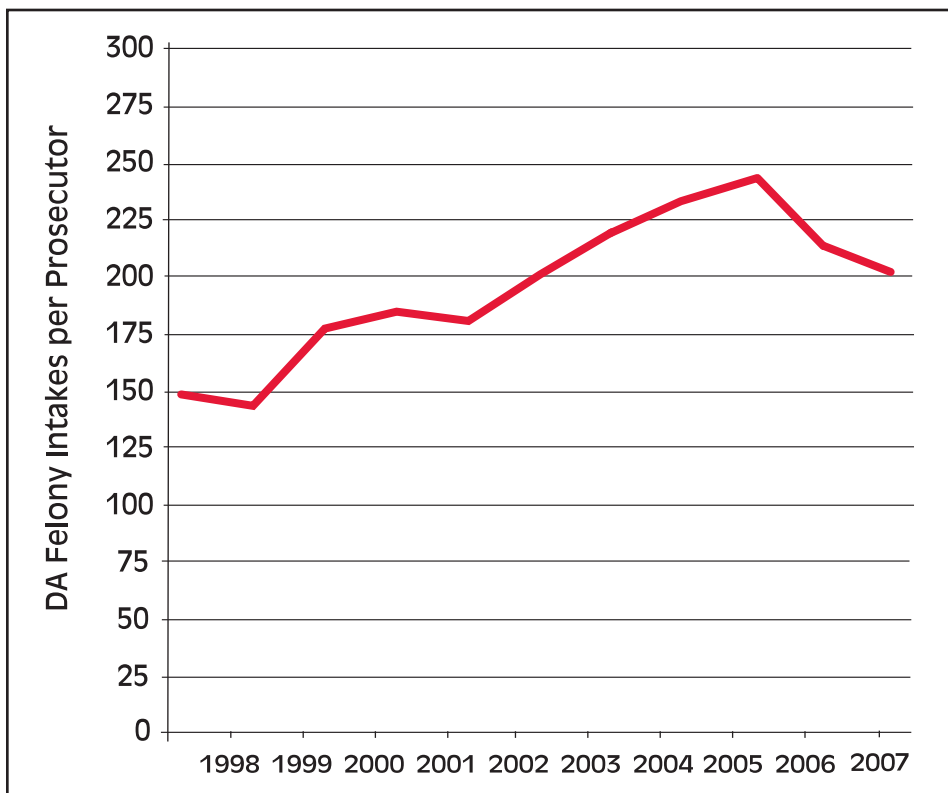
The number of built beds increased because the Sheriff instituted a policy of double-bunking for some of the jail cells. The number of "funded" beds refers to the number of beds which are able to be used given the lack of funding for full operations.

Releases Triggered By Overcrowding as Percent of Lodgings



"Percent of Lodgings" in the chart above is the number of jail inmates released due to lack of jail capacity as a percent of all inmates housed that year in the Lane County Jail.

District Attorney Felony Intakes per Prosecutor



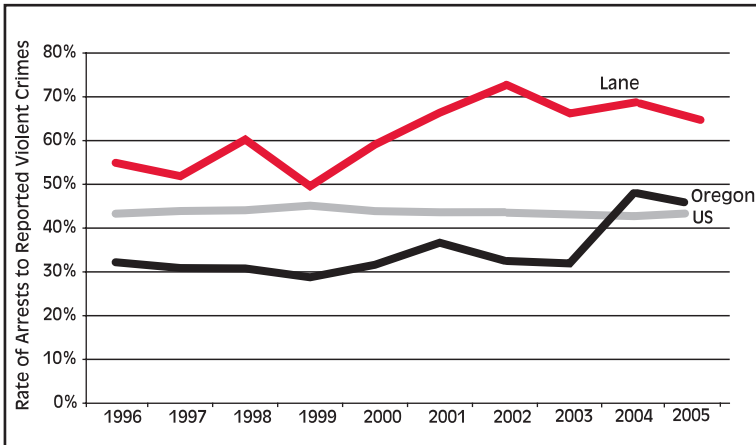
Because of budget constraints, the District Attorney's Office stopped prosecuting most non-violent misdemeanors in April 2005. In August 2007, they started filing these cases again and offering offenders a speedy resolution if they successfully completed a correspondence course. The case load per criminal prosecutor continues to be very large with the office still 5 or 6 attorneys short of what it needs according to the American Prosecutors Association.

ADULT CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM INDICATORS

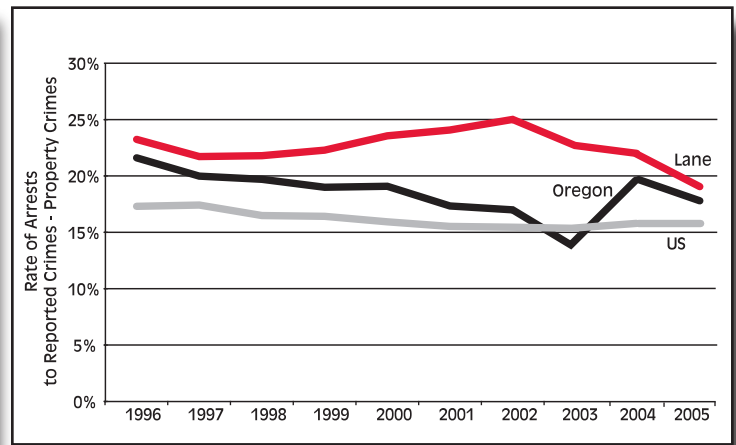
EFFICIENT AND EFFECTIVE USE OF RESOURCES

GRADE: B The system continues to do a good job with the available resources. Law enforcement rate of arrests per reported crime remains higher than Oregon and the US, although this rate is consistently getting worse. The number of law enforcement officers per 1,000 population remains lower than the Oregon rate and substantially below the US rate. In a county that is the size of the state of Connecticut, Lane County no longer has a SWAT nor resident deputies in rural communities.

Rate of Arrests to Reports for VIOLENT Crimes



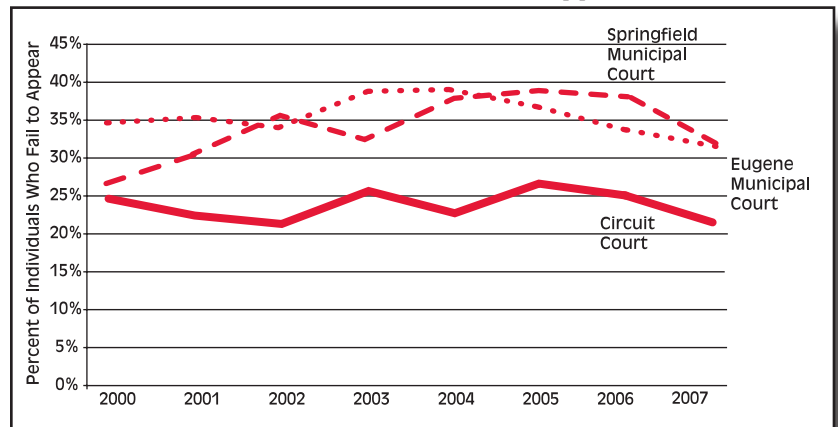
Rate of Arrests to Reports for PROPERTY Crimes



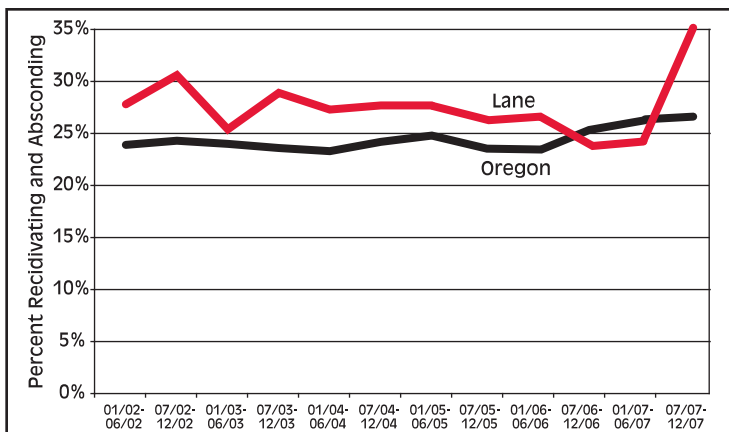
JUSTICE AND ACCOUNTABILITY

GRADE: C- A very high rate of individuals fail to appear for court events, though this number is improving. The re-offense rate for offenders on probation supervision has taken a sudden upswing and is considerably higher than the Oregon rate.

Percent of Individuals Who Fail to Appear for Court



3-Year Re-offense Rate for Felony Offenders on Probation Supervision

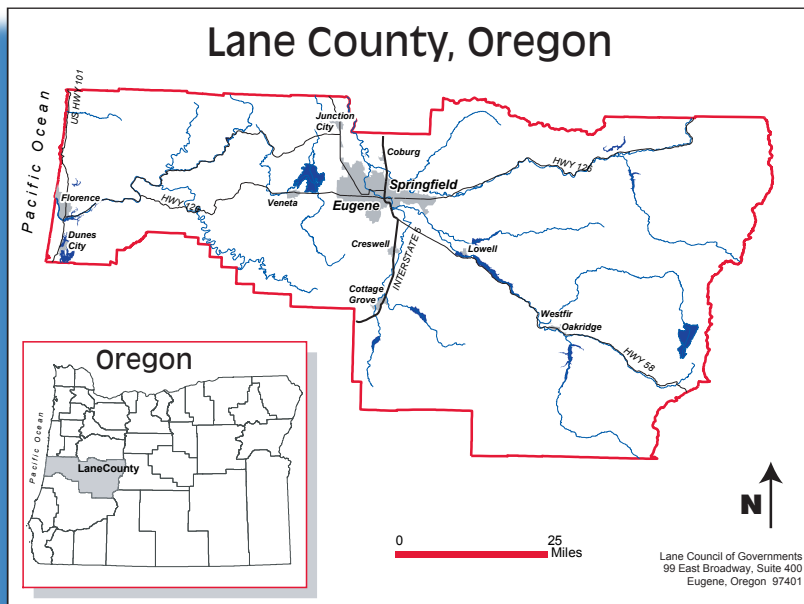


Average Jail Sentence in Months for All Felonies

	1998	2000	2002
Lane	1	3	1
Oregon	1	2	1
US	6	6	7

This Report Card was prepared by the **Public Safety Coordinating Council (PSCC)** to inform the citizens on the status of their public safety system. Local public safety coordinating councils are charged by the Oregon Legislature and the Governor with developing county-wide comprehensive plans for the safety and justice system, including use of local and state resources. The PSCC Public Information Task Force, staffed by Lane Council of Governments, prepared this Report Card. The Task Force determined measures and collected longitudinal and baseline data for comparison. The Report Card will be periodically updated so the community can track system progress.

The local **criminal justice system** in Lane County includes: nine law enforcement agencies; four primary public safety answering points (9-1-1 and dispatch centers); the county jail in Eugene; one small city jail and two short-term holding facilities; district attorney; public defender; probation and post-prison supervision; State Circuit Court and Eugene and Springfield municipal courts; treatment; juvenile services; juvenile court; juvenile educational and treatment services; and services to help offenders transition back into the community.



Grading System for the Report Card

The report card grades were calculated using an unbiased, consistent mathematical formula based solely on the data. Each category and the indicators included in each category were assigned grades. Grades were determined by comparing Lane County's trend and its current rate over the last seven years of available data to the trend and current rate of other geographic areas with comparable data.

- A Trend and current rate substantially better than comparison geographic areas
- B Trend and current rate better than comparison geographic areas
- C Trend and current rate roughly equal to comparison geographic areas
- D Trend and current rate worse than comparison geographic areas
- F Trend and current rates substantially worse than comparison geographic areas

A plus (+) is added to the grade if the trend and current rate have improved over the last three years of available data compared to the last seven years. A minus (-) is added to the grade if the trend and current rate have worsened over the last three years of available data compared to the last seven years. Grades of "F" are not eligible for either a plus or a minus. The trend for each category is also noted as Getting Better, Getting Worse, or Stable.

For more information on the Report Card, please contact Lane Council of Governments at (541) 682-4283 or visit www.lcog.org/safety.cfm

Lane County has a population of 345,880 people living in a geographic area of 4,618 square miles — roughly the size of the state of Connecticut. The county stretches from the summit of the 10,000 foot Cascade Mountains, through the tree-covered Willamette Valley prairie and wetlands, over the 6,000 foot Coast Range to the Pacific Ocean. Lane is an urban/rural county with more than half the residents (61%) living in Eugene and Springfield, the second largest urban area in the state. Approximately 12% live in small cities and the remaining 27% live in unincorporated areas scattered around the county. A total of 1,433 miles of county roads, 918 miles of city roads, and 484 miles of state maintained roads wind along rivers, lakes, and the two mountain ranges, connecting widely separated small cities and the urban core.