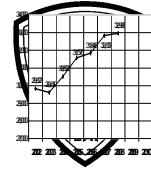




Police Department

Houma, LA 70360



MICHEL H. CLAUDET
Parish President

TODD M. DUPLANTIS
Chief of Police

January 1, 2009

To: Chief Todd M. Duplantis

From: POFC Jason C. Fanguy

CC: All Employees

RE: Departmental Data and Crime Trend Statistics
CALEA Standard 15.1.1

The causes of crime seem to be indefinite and ever changing. In the 19th century, slum poverty was blamed. In the 20th century, a childhood without love was blamed. In the era going into the new millennium, most experts and theorists have given up all hope in trying to pinpoint one single aspect that causes crime. Many experts believe some people are natural born criminals who are born with criminal mindsets, and this is unchangeable. However, criminals are not a product of heredity. They are a product of their environment and how they react to it. This may seem like a bogus assumption, but it is undoubtedly true.

By the twenty-first century, criminologists looked to a wide range of factors to explain why a person would commit crimes. These included biological, psychological, social, and economic factors. Usually, a combination of these factors is behind a person who commits a crime.

Reasons for committing a crime include greed, anger, jealousy, revenge, or pride. Some people decide to commit a crime and carefully plan everything in advance, to increase gain and decrease risk. These people are making choices about their behavior; some even consider a life of crime better than a regular job—believing crime brings in greater rewards, admiration, and excitement—at least until they are caught. Others get an adrenaline rush when successfully carrying out a dangerous crime. Others commit crimes on impulse, out of rage or fear.

The desire for material gain (money or expensive belongings) leads to property crimes such as robberies, burglaries, white-collar crimes, and auto thefts. The desire for control, revenge, or power leads to violent crimes such as murders, assaults, and rapes. These violent crimes usually occur on impulse or the spur of the moment when emotions run high. Property crimes are usually planned in advance.

There is a study devoted to finding the causes of crime and what makes people criminals. This study is appropriately called criminology. There are two main theories which criminologists categorize causes of crime, and sometimes an individual would be subject



MICHEL H. CLAUDET
Parish President

Police Department

Houma, LA 70360



TODD M. DUPLANTIS
Chief of Police

to both their influences. Theories in the first group locate the causes of crime inside the individual, which focus on stress and other psychological/social factors, such as:

- **Parental Relations**
- **Heredity and Brain Activity**
- **Hormones**
- **Education**
- **Peer Influence**
- **Drugs and Alcohol**
- **Easy Access/Opportunity**

Conversely, theories categorized in the second group focus the causes of crime on factors that are out of the control of the certain individual. These influences are sociological/environmental. That said, there are numerous variables that mold crime in a particular town, city, county, state, or region, such as:

- **Age of the population**

Young men between the ages of 15 and 24 account for a significantly higher percentage of crime than any other age group.

- **Crime Reporting by the public**

When you witness a crime, it is your responsibility to report it to the Police Department. This is one of the ways we keep our community safe. Often people assume that if the crime seems minor or the damage can be repaired by insurance, they shouldn't bother the police. Vandalism is an example of a crime that is probably under-reported. Under-reporting can affect crime statistics. Not reporting a crime always gives the impression that it is acceptable to break the law. To report a crime or suspected crime in Houma, call 911 or 873-6371.

- **Weather**

In warm weather, people tend to leave their doors and windows open, their bicycles sitting out, and car windows down. All of these situations leave more opportunities for criminals. Even when the weather is warm, it is important to secure your home and possessions before leaving them unattended.

Studies have also suggested that warmer temperatures boost aggression hormones such as epinephrine and testosterone. It has long been known by police officers that cold, winter nights keep criminals off the streets and crime levels down.



MICHEL H. CLAUDET
Parish President

Police Department

Houma, LA 70360



TODD M. DUPLANTIS
Chief of Police

- **Neighborhood Watch and other Crime Prevention Programs**

The Neighborhood Watch program and other crime prevention efforts have an impact on crime. If citizens are kept informed about crime trends and prevention measures, and if they are comfortable calling the police when they see something suspicious, crimes are prevented.

- **The Economy and Education**

Poverty creates desperate situations. Basically good people will do things, such as stealing, that they wouldn't do under better circumstances. In poverty, people believe that they don't have many options. Likewise, undereducated people don't have a lot of legitimate career choices. Both of these factors contribute to the crime rate in a community.

- **Drug Activity**

Drugs and alcohol have obvious impacts on crime due to the overpowering addiction to narcotics. Some people go to extreme means--such as burglary, theft, and forgery--to fulfill their addiction.

- **Who's in or out of jail and how active they are**

National statistics show that the average burglar commits about 30 burglaries before ever getting caught. This is an example of how one criminal can have a tremendous impact.

How do some people decide to commit a crime? Do they think about the benefits and the risks? Why do some people commit crimes regardless of the consequences? Why do others never commit a crime, no matter how desperate their circumstances? Until we learn the answers to the above questions, it's important we understand the basic principles listed/out-lined above.

Once we learn the fundamentals of crime and it's causal factors, we can better control those factors which influence it and work to lower crime levels. We truly believe that, with your help, we can drastically reduce our crime levels and improve the quality of life for all our citizens.



Police Department

Houma, LA 70360



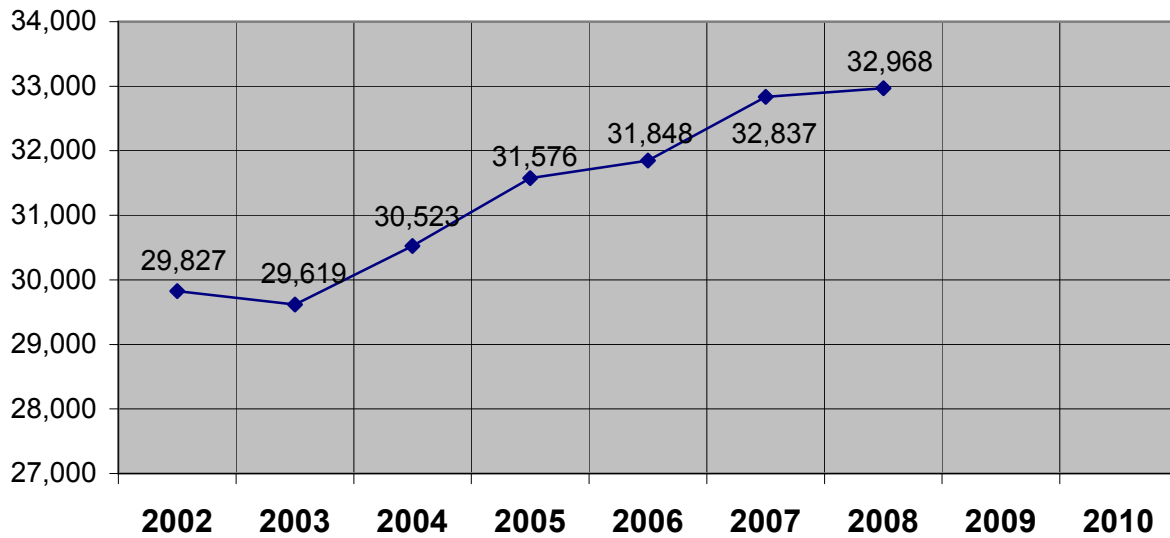
MICHEL H. CLAUDET
Parish President

TODD M. DUPLANTIS
Chief of Police

GENERAL DATA

Calls for Service

• 2002:	29,827				
• 2003:	29,619	<i>Trend:</i>	Decreased	<u>.69</u>	percent from 2002.
• 2004:	30,523	<i>Trend:</i>	Increased	<u>3.1</u>	percent from 2003.
• 2005:	31,576	<i>Trend:</i>	Increased	<u>3.4</u>	percent from 2004.
• 2006:	31,848	<i>Trend:</i>	Increased	<u>.86</u>	percent from 2005.
• 2007:	32,837	<i>Trend:</i>	Increased	<u>3.0</u>	percent from 2006.
• 2008:	32,968	<i>Trend:</i>	Increased	<u>.39</u>	percent from 2007.





Police Department

Houma, LA 70360

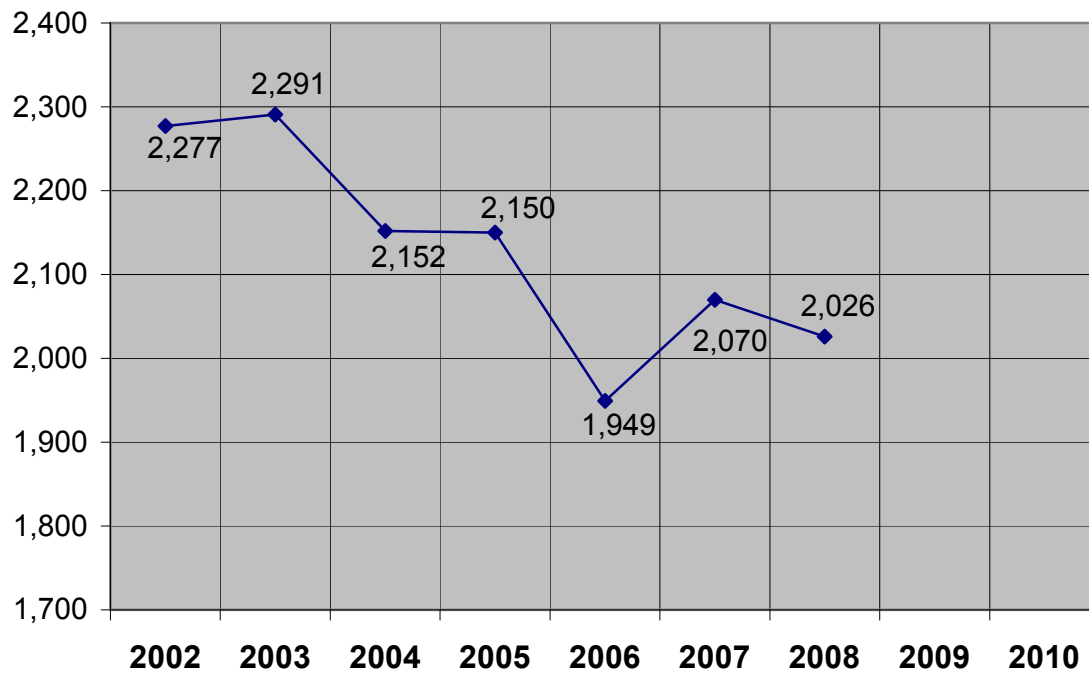


MICHEL H. CLAUDET
Parish President

TODD M. DUPLANTIS
Chief of Police

Vehicle Accidents

• 2002:	2277				
• 2003:	2291	<i>Trend:</i>	Increased	<u>.61</u>	percent from 2002.
• 2004:	2152	<i>Trend:</i>	Decreased	<u>6.1</u>	percent from 2003.
• 2005:	2150	<i>Trend:</i>	Decreased	<u>.09</u>	percent from 2004.
• 2006:	1949	<i>Trend:</i>	Decreased	<u>9.3</u>	percent from 2005.
• 2007:	2070	<i>Trend:</i>	Increased	<u>5.8</u>	percent from 2006.
• 2008:	2026	<i>Trend:</i>	Decreased	<u>2.1</u>	percent from 2007.





Police Department

Houma, LA 70360

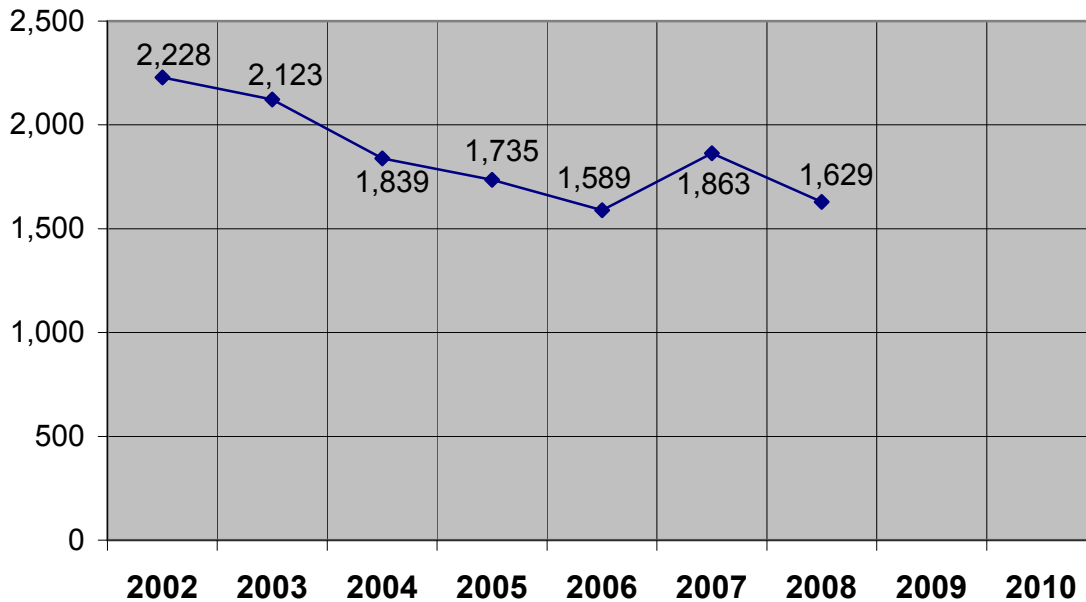


MICHEL H. CLAUDET
Parish President

TODD M. DUPLANTIS
Chief of Police

Arrests

• 2002:	2228				
• 2003:	2123	<i>Trend:</i>	Decreased	<u>4.7</u>	percent from 2002.
• 2004:	1839	<i>Trend:</i>	Decreased	<u>13.4</u>	percent from 2003.
• 2005:	1735	<i>Trend:</i>	Decreased	<u>5.7</u>	percent from 2004.
• 2006:	1589	<i>Trend:</i>	Decreased	<u>8.4</u>	percent from 2005.
• 2007:	1863	<i>Trend:</i>	Increased	<u>14.7</u>	percent from 2006.
• 2008:	1629	<i>Trend:</i>	Decreased	<u>14.3</u>	percent from 2007.





Police Department

Houma, LA 70360

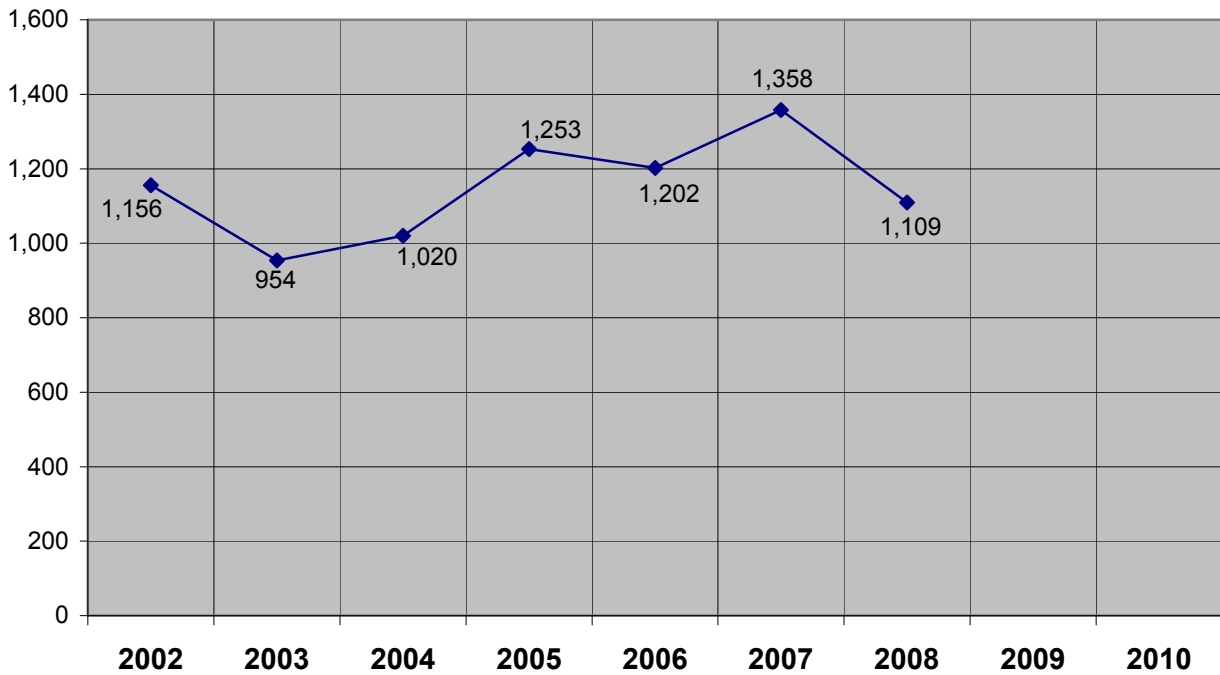


MICHEL H. CLAUDET
Parish President

TODD M. DUPLANTIS
Chief of Police

Summons

• 2002:	1156				
• 2003:	954	<i>Trend:</i>	Decreased	<u>17.5</u>	percent from 2002.
• 2004:	1020	<i>Trend:</i>	Increased	<u>6.9</u>	percent from 2003.
• 2005:	1253	<i>Trend:</i>	Increased	<u>22.8</u>	percent from 2004.
• 2006:	1202	<i>Trend:</i>	Decreased	<u>4.1</u>	percent from 2005.
• 2007:	1358	<i>Trend:</i>	Increased	<u>11.4</u>	percent from 2006.
• 2008:	1109	<i>Trend:</i>	Decreased	<u>22.4</u>	percent from 2007.





Police Department

Houma, LA 70360



MICHEL H. CLAUDET
Parish President

TODD M. DUPLANTIS
Chief of Police

UNIFORM CRIME REPORT DATA (UCR)

Homicides

• 2002:	0				
• 2003:	2	<i>Trend:</i>	Increased	<u>200</u>	percent from 2002.
• 2004:	4	<i>Trend:</i>	Increased	<u>100</u>	percent from 2003.
• 2005:	4	<i>Trend:</i>	No Change	<u>N/A</u>	no change from 2004.
• 2006:	5	<i>Trend:</i>	Increased	<u>25</u>	percent from 2005.
• 2007:	5	<i>Trend:</i>	No Change	<u>N/A</u>	no change from 2006.
• 2008:	0	<i>Trend:</i>	Decreased	<u>500</u>	percent from 2007.

Rape

• 2002:	28				
• 2003:	25	<i>Trend:</i>	Decreased	<u>10.7</u>	percent from 2002.
• 2004:	32	<i>Trend:</i>	Increased	<u>28</u>	percent from 2003.
• 2005:	14	<i>Trend:</i>	Decreased	<u>56</u>	percent from 2004.
• 2006:	19	<i>Trend:</i>	Increased	<u>35.7</u>	percent from 2005.
• 2007:	16	<i>Trend:</i>	Decreased	<u>18</u>	percent from 2006.
• 2008:	14	<i>Trend:</i>	Decreased	<u>14</u>	percent from 2007.

Robbery

• 2002:	70				
• 2003:	61	<i>Trend:</i>	Decreased	<u>12.9</u>	percent from 2002.
• 2004:	76	<i>Trend:</i>	Increased	<u>24.6</u>	percent from 2003.
• 2005:	65	<i>Trend:</i>	Decreased	<u>14</u>	percent from 2004.
• 2006:	70	<i>Trend:</i>	Increased	<u>7.7</u>	percent from 2005.
• 2007:	65	<i>Trend:</i>	Decreased	<u>7.6</u>	percent from 2006.
• 2008:	80	<i>Trend:</i>	Increased	<u>18.7</u>	percent from 2007.

Assault

• 2002:	1465				
• 2003:	1376	<i>Trend:</i>	Decreased	<u>6.1</u>	percent from 2002.
• 2004:	1366	<i>Trend:</i>	Decreased	<u>.73</u>	percent from 2003.
• 2005:	936	<i>Trend:</i>	Decreased	<u>31</u>	percent from 2004.
• 2006:	1012	<i>Trend:</i>	Increased	<u>8.1</u>	percent from 2005.
• 2007:	921	<i>Trend:</i>	Decreased	<u>9.8</u>	percent from 2006.
• 2008:	946	<i>Trend:</i>	Increased	<u>2.6</u>	percent from 2007.



Police Department

Houma, LA 70360



MICHEL H. CLAUDET
Parish President

TODD M. DUPLANTIS
Chief of Police

Burglary

• 2002:	335				
• 2003:	280	<i>Trend:</i>	Decreased	<u>16.4</u>	percent from 2002.
• 2004:	325	<i>Trend:</i>	Increased	<u>16</u>	percent from 2003.
• 2005:	275	<i>Trend:</i>	Decreased	<u>15</u>	percent from 2004.
• 2006:	283	<i>Trend:</i>	Increased	<u>2.9</u>	percent from 2005.
• 2007:	235	<i>Trend:</i>	Decreased	<u>20</u>	percent from 2006.
• 2008:	302	<i>Trend:</i>	Increased	<u>22</u>	percent from 2007.

Larceny (Theft)

• 2002:	1304				
• 2003:	1382	<i>Trend:</i>	Increased	<u>5.6</u>	percent from 2002.
• 2004:	1544	<i>Trend:</i>	Increased	<u>10.4</u>	percent from 2003.
• 2005:	1379	<i>Trend:</i>	Decreased	<u>11.9</u>	percent from 2004.
• 2006:	1311	<i>Trend:</i>	Decreased	<u>5.1</u>	percent from 2005.
• 2007:	1182	<i>Trend:</i>	Decreased	<u>10.9</u>	percent from 2006.
• 2008:	1083	<i>Trend:</i>	Decreased	<u>9.1</u>	percent from 2007.

Motor Vehicle Theft

• 2002:	100				
• 2003:	102	<i>Trend:</i>	Increased	<u>1.9</u>	percent from 2002.
• 2004:	109	<i>Trend:</i>	Increased	<u>6.4</u>	percent from 2003.
• 2005:	56	<i>Trend:</i>	Decreased	<u>48.6</u>	percent from 2004.
• 2006:	82	<i>Trend:</i>	Increased	<u>31.7</u>	percent from 2005.
• 2007:	72	<i>Trend:</i>	Decreased	<u>13.8</u>	percent from 2006.
• 2008:	74	<i>Trend:</i>	Increased	<u>2.7</u>	percent from 2007.



Police Department

Houma, LA 70360



MICHEL H. CLAUDET
Parish President

TODD M. DUPLANTIS
Chief of Police

UNIFORM CRIME REPORT DATA (UCR) CHARTS

