

## Public Safety

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Property crime, violent crime, alcohol and drug abuse, gangs, and domestic and child violence are all issues of great concern to the general community. Within the past three years Stanislaus County has made strides to further strengthen its community. Through better community access to child safety resources, such as the Differential Response Program and Family Resource Centers, improvements to child welfare have been made. The arrest rates in Stanislaus County for drug and alcohol related crimes have increased over the past five years, indicating successful intervention of local law enforcement and greater public safety.

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# Crime Rates

## Why It Is Important

Crime can largely be classified into two categories: violent crime and property crime. In any county, the number of property crimes that occur each year are usually much greater than the number of violent crimes. Still, both are undesirable and disrupt a community’s quality of life. Below are the definitions of different types of crime.

Homicide: the willful (non-negligent) killing of one human being by another. Murder and non-negligent manslaughter are included in this definition.

Rape: the crime of forcing another person to submit to sex acts, especially sexual intercourse.

Robbery: the taking or attempting to take anything of value from the custody, care, or control of a person or persons by force or threat of force or violence and/or by creating fear in the victim.

Aggravated Assault: an unlawful attack or attempted attack by one person upon another for the purpose of inflicting severe or aggravated bodily injury. This type of assault is usually accompanied by the use of a weapon or by means likely to produce death or great bodily harm.

Burglary: the unlawful entry of a structure to commit a felony or theft.

Motor Vehicle Theft: the theft or attempted theft of a motor vehicle.

Larceny: the unlawful taking, carrying, leading, or riding away of property from the possession of another (except embezzlement, fraud, forgery, and worthless checks.)

Arson: any willful or malicious burning or attempt to burn, with or without intent to defraud, a dwelling house, public building, motor vehicle or aircraft, personal property of another, etc.

**Figure 236: Violent Crime in Stanislaus County**

Violent Crimes	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	01-07 % Change
Homicide	34	15	27	42	30	29	27	-20.6
Rape	215	174	170	159	129	151	139	-35.3
Robbery	644	638	724	719	663	767	826	28.3
Aggravated Assault	2,058	1,666	2,189	1,955	2,258	2,109	2,215	7.6
<b>Total Violent Crimes</b>	<b>2,951</b>	<b>2,493</b>	<b>3,110</b>	<b>2,875</b>	<b>3,080</b>	<b>3,056</b>	<b>3,207</b>	<b>8.7</b>
<b>Violent Crime Rate per 1,000</b>	<b>6.4</b>	<b>5.3</b>	<b>6.4</b>	<b>5.8</b>	<b>6.1</b>	<b>6.0</b>	<b>6.1</b>	<b>-</b>

Source: State of California Department of Justice, California Criminal Justice Profile, 2007. State of California, Department of Finance, E-4 Population Estimates for Cities, Counties and the State, 2001-2007, with 2000 DRU Benchmark, Sacramento, California, 2008.

**Figure 237: Property Crime in Stanislaus County**

Property Crimes	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	01-07 % Change
Burglary	4,288	4,837	4,872	5,304	4,836	5,002	5,971	39.2
Larceny	14,509	16,358	16,641	18,548	15,988	15,586	14,712	1.4
Motor Vehicle Theft	3,224	4,244	5,451	6,348	6,356	4,642	4,738	47.0
Arson	597	473	503	530	450	400	449	-24.8
<b>Total Property Crimes</b>	<b>22,618</b>	<b>25,912</b>	<b>27,467</b>	<b>30,730</b>	<b>27,630</b>	<b>25,630</b>	<b>25,870</b>	<b>14.4</b>
<b>Property Crime Rate per 1,000</b>	<b>49.3</b>	<b>54.8</b>	<b>56.7</b>	<b>62.1</b>	<b>54.8</b>	<b>49.9</b>	<b>49.6</b>	<b>-</b>

Source: State of California Department of Justice, California Criminal Justice Profile, 2007. State of California, Department of Finance, E-4 Population Estimates for Cities, Counties and the State, 2001-2007, with 2000 DRU Benchmark, Sacramento, California, 2008.

**Figure 238: Total Crime in Stanislaus County**

Total	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	01-07 % Change
Crimes	25,569	28,405	30,577	33,605	30,710	28,686	29,077	13.7
Population	458,612	472,654	484,496	494,747	504,478	513,441	521,497	13.7
<b>Stanislaus County Crime Rate per 1,000</b>	<b>55.8</b>	<b>60.1</b>	<b>63.1</b>	<b>67.9</b>	<b>60.9</b>	<b>55.9</b>	<b>55.8</b>	<b>-</b>
State Crime Rate per 1,000	39.1	39.7	40.0	39.6	38.1	36.7	35.0	-

Source: State of California Department of Justice, California Criminal Justice Profile, 2008. State of California, Department of Finance, E-4 Population Estimates for Cities, Counties and the State, 2001-2007, with 2000 DRU Benchmark, Sacramento, California, 2008. State Crime Rate: Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program, 2008.

**Figure 239: Violent Crime in Ceres**

Violent Crimes	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	01-07 % Change
Homicide	0	2	0	2	2	2	3	-
Rape	11	5	12	10	8	12	7	-36.4
Robbery	43	53	44	52	38	57	61	41.9
Aggravated Assault	155	129	144	107	122	109	121	-21.9
<b>Total Violent Crimes</b>	<b>209</b>	<b>189</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>171</b>	<b>170</b>	<b>180</b>	<b>192</b>	<b>-8.1</b>
<b>Violent Crime Rate per 1,000</b>	<b>6.0</b>	<b>5.3</b>	<b>5.5</b>	<b>4.6</b>	<b>4.4</b>	<b>4.4</b>	<b>4.6</b>	<b>-</b>

Source: State of California Department of Justice, California Criminal Justice Profile, 2007. State of California, Department of Finance, E-4 Population Estimates for Cities, Counties and the State, 2001-2007, with 2000 DRU Benchmark, Sacramento, California, 2008.

**Figure 240: Property Crime in Ceres**

Property Crimes	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	01-07 % Change
Burglary	311	435	380	314	280	333	374	20.3
Larceny	1,587	1,424	1,330	1,435	1,294	1,300	1,190	-25.0
Motor Vehicle Theft	345	422	524	571	655	461	491	42.3
Arson	9	9	11	11	21	19	13	44.4
<b>Total Property Crimes</b>	<b>2,252</b>	<b>2,290</b>	<b>2,245</b>	<b>2,331</b>	<b>2,250</b>	<b>2,113</b>	<b>2,068</b>	<b>-8.2</b>
<b>Property Crime Rate per 1,000</b>	<b>64.2</b>	<b>64.0</b>	<b>61.5</b>	<b>62.2</b>	<b>58.1</b>	<b>51.9</b>	<b>49.5</b>	<b>-</b>

Source: State of California Department of Justice, California Criminal Justice Profile, 2008. State of California, Department of Finance, E-4 Population Estimates for Cities, Counties and the State, 2001-2007, with 2000 DRU Benchmark, Sacramento, California, 2008.

**Figure 241: Total Crime in Ceres**

Total	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	01-07 % Change
Crimes	2,461	2,479	2,445	2,502	2,420	2,293	2,260	-8.2
Population	35,104	35,794	36,504	37,458	38,697	40,739	41,787	19.0
<b>Ceres Crime Rate per 1,000</b>	<b>70.1</b>	<b>69.3</b>	<b>67.0</b>	<b>66.8</b>	<b>62.5</b>	<b>56.3</b>	<b>54.1</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Stanislaus County Crime Rate per 1,000</b>	<b>55.8</b>	<b>60.1</b>	<b>63.1</b>	<b>67.9</b>	<b>60.9</b>	<b>55.9</b>	<b>55.8</b>	<b>-</b>
State Crime Rate per 1,000	39.1	39.7	40.0	39.6	38.1	36.7	35.0	-

Source: State of California Department of Justice, California Criminal Justice Profile, 2008. State of California, Department of Finance, E-4 Population Estimates for Cities, Counties and the State, 2001-2007, with 2000 DRU Benchmark, Sacramento, California, 2008. State Crime Rate: Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program, 2007.

**Figure 242: Violent Crime in Hughson**

Violent Crimes	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	01-07 % Change
Homicide	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-
Rape	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	-100.0
Robbery	0	2	1	1	2	1	1	-
Aggravated Assault	2	0	2	2	6	3	0	-100.0
<b>Total Violent Crimes</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>-66.7</b>
<b>Violent Crime Rate per 1,000</b>	<b>0.7</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>0.6</b>	<b>0.8</b>	<b>1.4</b>	<b>0.7</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>-</b>

Source: State of California Department of Justice, California Criminal Justice Profile, 2008. State of California, Department of Finance, E-4 Population Estimates for Cities, Counties and the State, 2001-2007, with 2000 DRU Benchmark, Sacramento, California, 2008.

**Figure 243: Property Crime in Hughson**

Property Crimes	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	01-07 % Change
Burglary	28	44	53	85	84	33	40	42.9
Larceny	75	58	48	124	96	86	106	41.3
Motor Vehicle Theft	12	16	33	25	28	19	26	116.7
Arson	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	-
<b>Total Property Crimes</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>118</b>	<b>135</b>	<b>235</b>	<b>208</b>	<b>138</b>	<b>172</b>	<b>49.6</b>
<b>Property Crime Rate per 1,000</b>	<b>27.9</b>	<b>27.8</b>	<b>27.4</b>	<b>44.8</b>	<b>35.1</b>	<b>22.6</b>	<b>28.4</b>	<b>-</b>

Source: State of California Department of Justice, California Criminal Justice Profile, 2008. State of California, Department of Finance, E-4 Population Estimates for Cities, Counties and the State, 2001-2007, with 2000 DRU Benchmark, Sacramento, California, 2008.

**Figure 244: Total Crime in Hughson**

Total	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	01-07 % Change
Crimes	118	120	138	239	216	142	173	46.6
Population	4,123	4,248	4,932	5,248	5,925	6,095	6,054	46.8
<b>Hughson Crime Rate per 1,000</b>	<b>28.6</b>	<b>28.2</b>	<b>28.0</b>	<b>45.5</b>	<b>36.5</b>	<b>23.3</b>	<b>28.6</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Stanislaus County Crime Rate per 1,000</b>	<b>55.8</b>	<b>60.1</b>	<b>63.1</b>	<b>67.9</b>	<b>60.9</b>	<b>55.9</b>	<b>55.8</b>	<b>-</b>
State Crime Rate per 1,000	39.1	39.7	40.0	39.6	38.1	36.7	35.0	-

Source: State of California Department of Justice, California Criminal Justice Profile, 2008. State of California, Department of Finance, E-4 Population Estimates for Cities, Counties and the State, 2001-2007, with 2000 DRU Benchmark, Sacramento, California, 2008. State Crime Rate: Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program, 2007.

**Figure 245: Violent Crime in Modesto**

Violent Crimes	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	01-07 % Change
Homicide	17	5	17	19	8	11	11	-35.3
Rape	104	71	73	67	65	73	65	-37.5
Robbery	381	344	380	395	388	462	452	18.6
Aggravated Assault	659	593	939	810	855	872	962	46.0
<b>Total Violent Crimes</b>	<b>1,161</b>	<b>1,013</b>	<b>1,409</b>	<b>1,291</b>	<b>1,316</b>	<b>1,418</b>	<b>1,490</b>	<b>28.3</b>
<b>Violent Crime Rate per 1,000</b>	<b>6.0</b>	<b>5.1</b>	<b>6.9</b>	<b>6.2</b>	<b>6.4</b>	<b>6.8</b>	<b>7.2</b>	<b>-</b>

Source: State of California Department of Justice, California Criminal Justice Profile, 2008. State of California, Department of Finance, E-4 Population Estimates for Cities, Counties and the State, 2001-2007, with 2000 DRU Benchmark, Sacramento, California, 2008.

**Figure 246: Property Crime in Modesto**

Property Crimes	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	01-07 % Change
Burglary	1,829	1,819	1,743	1,857	1,742	1,762	2,216	21.2
Larceny	7,580	8,426	8,463	9,623	8,290	8,018	7,850	3.6
Motor Vehicle Theft	1,406	1,723	2,394	2,892	3,014	2,024	1,964	39.7
Arson	120	46	112	100	95	110	129	7.5
<b>Total Property Crimes</b>	<b>10,935</b>	<b>12,014</b>	<b>12,712</b>	<b>14,472</b>	<b>13,141</b>	<b>11,914</b>	<b>12,159</b>	<b>11.2</b>
<b>Property Crime Rate per 1,000</b>	<b>56.5</b>	<b>60.3</b>	<b>62.4</b>	<b>70.0</b>	<b>63.5</b>	<b>57.5</b>	<b>58.4</b>	<b>-</b>

Source: State of California Department of Justice, California Criminal Justice Profile, 2008. State of California, Department of Finance, E-4 Population Estimates for Cities, Counties and the State, 2001-2007, with 2000 DRU Benchmark, Sacramento, California, 2008.

**Figure 247: Total Crime in Modesto**

Total	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	01-07 % Change
Crimes	12,096	13,027	14,121	15,763	14,457	13,332	13,649	12.8
Population	193,640	199,398	203,813	206,861	207,029	207,096	208,150	7.5
<b>Modesto Crime Rate per 1,000</b>	<b>62.5</b>	<b>65.3</b>	<b>69.3</b>	<b>76.2</b>	<b>69.8</b>	<b>64.4</b>	<b>65.6</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Stanislaus County Crime Rate per 1,000</b>	<b>55.8</b>	<b>60.1</b>	<b>63.1</b>	<b>67.9</b>	<b>60.9</b>	<b>55.9</b>	<b>55.8</b>	<b>-</b>
State Crime Rate per 1,000	39.1	39.7	40.0	39.6	38.1	36.7	35.0	-

Source: State of California Department of Justice, California Criminal Justice Profile, 2008. State of California, Department of Finance, E-4 Population Estimates for Cities, Counties and the State, 2001-2007, with 2000 DRU Benchmark, Sacramento, California, 2008. State Crime Rate: Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program, 2007.

**Figure 248: Violent Crime in Newman**

Violent Crimes	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	01-07 % Change
Homicide	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	-
Rape	1	3	4	0	0	2	3	200.0
Robbery	5	1	2	2	3	1	5	0.0
Aggravated Assault	24	10	15	9	13	16	28	16.7
<b>Total Violent Crimes</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>20.0</b>
<b>Violent Crime Rate per 1,000</b>	<b>4.0</b>	<b>1.9</b>	<b>2.7</b>	<b>1.4</b>	<b>1.8</b>	<b>1.9</b>	<b>3.5</b>	<b>-</b>

Source: State of California Department of Justice, California Criminal Justice Profile, 2008. State of California, Department of Finance, E-4 Population Estimates for Cities, Counties and the State, 2001-2007, with 2000 DRU Benchmark, Sacramento, California, 2008.

**Figure 249: Property Crime in Newman**

Property Crimes	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	01-07 % Change
Burglary	37	43	79	49	50	63	80	116.2
Larceny	86	104	137	131	118	144	201	133.7
Motor Vehicle Theft	15	19	20	37	24	35	49	226.7
Arson	6	16	3	3	3	3	0	-100.0
<b>Total Property Crimes</b>	<b>144</b>	<b>182</b>	<b>239</b>	<b>220</b>	<b>195</b>	<b>245</b>	<b>330</b>	<b>129.2</b>
<b>Property Crime Rate per 1,000</b>	<b>19.2</b>	<b>24.1</b>	<b>30.7</b>	<b>26.4</b>	<b>21.4</b>	<b>24.3</b>	<b>32.2</b>	<b>-</b>

Source: State of California Department of Justice, California Criminal Justice Profile, 2008. State of California, Department of Finance, E-4 Population Estimates for Cities, Counties and the State, 2001-2007, with 2000 DRU Benchmark, Sacramento, California, 2008.

**Figure 250: Total Crime in Newman**

Total	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	01-07 % Change
Crimes	174	196	260	232	211	264	366	110.3
Population	7,503	7,567	7,783	8,339	9,108	10,091	10,254	36.7
<b>Newman Crime Rate per 1,000</b>	<b>23.2</b>	<b>25.9</b>	<b>33.4</b>	<b>27.8</b>	<b>23.2</b>	<b>26.2</b>	<b>35.7</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Stanislaus County Crime Rate per 1,000</b>	<b>55.8</b>	<b>60.1</b>	<b>63.1</b>	<b>67.9</b>	<b>60.9</b>	<b>55.9</b>	<b>55.8</b>	<b>-</b>
State Crime Rate per 1,000	39.1	39.7	40.0	39.6	38.1	36.7	35.0	-

Source: State of California Department of Justice, California Criminal Justice Profile, 2008. State of California, Department of Finance, E-4 Population Estimates for Cities, Counties and the State, 2001-2007, with 2000 DRU Benchmark, Sacramento, California, 2008. State Crime Rate: Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program, 2007.

**Figure 251: Violent Crime in Oakdale**

Violent Crimes	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	01-07 % Change
Homicide	1	0	0	2	2	1	0	-100.0
Rape	15	6	8	6	4	8	5	-66.7
Robbery	17	21	14	10	15	11	17	0.0
Aggravated Assault	37	27	19	29	31	20	27	-27.0
<b>Total Violent Crimes</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>-30.0</b>
<b>Violent Crime Rate per 1,000</b>	<b>4.4</b>	<b>3.3</b>	<b>2.4</b>	<b>2.7</b>	<b>3.0</b>	<b>2.3</b>	<b>2.6</b>	<b>-</b>

Source: State of California Department of Justice, California Criminal Justice Profile, 2008. State of California, Department of Finance, E-4 Population Estimates for Cities, Counties and the State, 2001-2007, with 2000 DRU Benchmark, Sacramento, California, 2008.



**Figure 252: Property Crime in Oakdale**

Property Crimes	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	01-07 % Change
Burglary	252	305	324	416	351	261	270	7.1
Larceny	642	724	709	689	729	611	665	3.6
Motor Vehicle Theft	87	95	134	169	143	84	106	21.8
Arson	4	10	6	4	4	1	8	100.0
<b>Total Property Crimes</b>	<b>985</b>	<b>1,134</b>	<b>1,173</b>	<b>1,278</b>	<b>1,227</b>	<b>957</b>	<b>1,049</b>	<b>6.5</b>
<b>Property Crime Rate per 1,000</b>	<b>62.5</b>	<b>69.7</b>	<b>69.9</b>	<b>74.4</b>	<b>70.6</b>	<b>53.9</b>	<b>56.6</b>	<b>-</b>

Source: State of California Department of Justice, California Criminal Justice Profile, 2008. State of California, Department of Finance, E-4 Population Estimates for Cities, Counties and the State, 2001-2007, with 2000 DRU Benchmark, Sacramento, California, 2008.

**Figure 253: Total Crime in Oakdale**

Total	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	01-07 % Change
Crimes	1,055	1,188	1,214	1,325	1,279	997	1,098	4.1
Population	15,757	16,280	16,771	17,173	17,388	17,769	18,538	17.6
<b>Oakdale Crime Rate per 1,000</b>	<b>67.0</b>	<b>73.0</b>	<b>72.4</b>	<b>77.2</b>	<b>73.6</b>	<b>56.1</b>	<b>59.2</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Stanislaus County Crime Rate per 1,000</b>	<b>55.8</b>	<b>60.1</b>	<b>63.1</b>	<b>67.9</b>	<b>60.9</b>	<b>55.9</b>	<b>55.8</b>	<b>-</b>
State Crime Rate per 1,000	39.1	39.7	40.0	39.6	38.1	36.7	35.0	-

Source: State of California Department of Justice, California Criminal Justice Profile, 2008. State of California, Department of Finance, E-4 Population Estimates for Cities, Counties and the State, 2001-2007, with 2000 DRU Benchmark, Sacramento, California, 2008. State Crime Rate: Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program, 2007.

**Figure 254: Violent Crime in Patterson**

Violent Crimes	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	01-07 % Change
Homicide	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	-
Rape	4	9	1	3	3	4	5	25.0
Robbery	5	5	4	4	6	8	12	140.0
Aggravated Assault	9	5	19	14	22	20	35	288.9
<b>Total Violent Crimes</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>188.9</b>
<b>Violent Crime Rate per 1,000</b>	<b>1.5</b>	<b>1.5</b>	<b>1.8</b>	<b>1.5</b>	<b>2.0</b>	<b>1.7</b>	<b>2.5</b>	<b>-</b>

Source: State of California Department of Justice, California Criminal Justice Profile, 2008. State of California, Department of Finance, E-4 Population Estimates for Cities, Counties and the State, 2001-2007, with 2000 DRU Benchmark, Sacramento, California, 2008.

**Figure 255: Property Crime in Patterson**

Property Crimes	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	01-07 % Change
Burglary	79	80	108	128	117	217	158	100.0
Larceny	194	259	273	318	306	356	350	80.4
Motor Vehicle Theft	45	31	56	76	88	107	102	126.7
Arson	1	0	10	4	1	10	6	500.0
<b>Total Property Crimes</b>	<b>319</b>	<b>370</b>	<b>447</b>	<b>526</b>	<b>512</b>	<b>690</b>	<b>616</b>	<b>93.1</b>
<b>Property Crime Rate per 1,000</b>	<b>26.1</b>	<b>28.3</b>	<b>32.6</b>	<b>37.0</b>	<b>31.8</b>	<b>36.0</b>	<b>29.7</b>	<b>-</b>

Source: State of California Department of Justice, California Criminal Justice Profile, 2008. State of California, Department of Finance, E-4 Population Estimates for Cities, Counties and the State, 2001-2007, with 2000 DRU Benchmark, Sacramento, California, 2008.

**Figure 256: Total Crime in Patterson**

Total	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	01-07 % Change
Crimes	337	389	471	547	545	722	668	98.2
Population	12,221	13,076	13,704	14,209	16,110	19,172	20,773	70.0
<b>Patterson Crime Rate per 1,000</b>	<b>27.6</b>	<b>29.7</b>	<b>34.4</b>	<b>38.5</b>	<b>33.8</b>	<b>37.7</b>	<b>32.2</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Stanislaus County Crime Rate per 1,000</b>	<b>55.8</b>	<b>60.1</b>	<b>63.1</b>	<b>67.9</b>	<b>60.9</b>	<b>55.9</b>	<b>55.8</b>	<b>-</b>
State Crime Rate per 1,000	39.1	39.7	40.0	39.6	38.1	36.7	35.0	-

Source: State of California Department of Justice, California Criminal Justice Profile, 2008. State of California, Department of Finance, E-4 Population Estimates for Cities, Counties and the State, 2001-2007, with 2000 DRU Benchmark, Sacramento, California, 2008. State Crime Rate: Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program, 2007.

**Figure 257: Violent Crime in Riverbank**

Violent Crimes	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	01-07 % Change
Homicide	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	-
Rape	1	1	4	2	0	4	2	100.0
Robbery	7	5	13	14	13	15	23	228.6
Aggravated Assault	32	20	37	22	34	21	38	18.8
<b>Total Violent Crimes</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>60.0</b>
<b>Violent Crime Rate per 1,000</b>	<b>2.5</b>	<b>1.5</b>	<b>3.1</b>	<b>2.1</b>	<b>2.4</b>	<b>1.9</b>	<b>3.0</b>	<b>-</b>

Source: State of California Department of Justice, California Criminal Justice Profile, 2008. State of California, Department of Finance, E-4 Population Estimates for Cities, Counties and the State, 2001-2007, with 2000 DRU Benchmark, Sacramento, California, 2008.

**Figure 258: Property Crime in Riverbank**

Property Crimes	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	01-07 % Change
Burglary	94	155	225	186	133	195	198	110.6
Larceny	323	528	438	656	539	505	500	54.8
Motor Vehicle Theft	67	104	137	144	138	118	139	107.5
Arson	10	5	14	11	14	1	3	-70.0
<b>Total Property Crimes</b>	<b>494</b>	<b>792</b>	<b>814</b>	<b>997</b>	<b>824</b>	<b>819</b>	<b>840</b>	<b>70.0</b>
<b>Property Crime Rate per 1,000</b>	<b>30.5</b>	<b>46.4</b>	<b>47.0</b>	<b>54.6</b>	<b>41.4</b>	<b>38.8</b>	<b>39.3</b>	<b>-</b>

Source: State of California Department of Justice, California Criminal Justice Profile, 2008. State of California, Department of Finance, E-4 Population Estimates for Cities, Counties and the State, 2001-2007, with 2000 DRU Benchmark, Sacramento, California, 2008.

**Figure 259: Total Crime in Riverbank**

Total	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	01-07 % Change
Crimes	534	818	868	1,036	871	859	904	69.3
Population	16,191	17,068	17,304	18,256	19,926	21,108	21,384	32.1
<b>Riverbank Crime Rate per 1,000</b>	<b>33.0</b>	<b>47.9</b>	<b>50.2</b>	<b>56.7</b>	<b>43.7</b>	<b>40.7</b>	<b>42.3</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Stanislaus County Crime Rate per 1,000</b>	<b>55.8</b>	<b>60.1</b>	<b>63.1</b>	<b>67.9</b>	<b>60.9</b>	<b>55.9</b>	<b>55.8</b>	<b>-</b>
State Crime Rate per 1,000	39.1	39.7	40.0	39.6	38.1	36.7	35.0	-

Source: State of California Department of Justice, California Criminal Justice Profile, 2008. State of California, Department of Finance, E-4 Population Estimates for Cities, Counties and the State, 2001-2007, with 2000 DRU Benchmark, Sacramento, California, 2008. State Crime Rate: Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program, 2007.

**Figure 260: Violent Crime in Turlock**

Violent Crimes	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	01-07 % Change
Homicide	2	0	4	4	2	5	0	-100.0
Rape	19	18	26	21	18	18	14	-26.3
Robbery	64	78	83	71	97	114	132	106.3
Aggravated Assault	239	185	271	276	294	292	353	47.7
<b>Total Violent Crimes</b>	<b>324</b>	<b>281</b>	<b>384</b>	<b>372</b>	<b>411</b>	<b>429</b>	<b>499</b>	<b>54.0</b>
<b>Violent Crime Rate per 1,000</b>	<b>5.5</b>	<b>4.6</b>	<b>6.2</b>	<b>5.8</b>	<b>6.2</b>	<b>6.4</b>	<b>7.2</b>	<b>-</b>

Source: State of California Department of Justice, California Criminal Justice Profile, 2008. State of California, Department of Finance, E-4 Population Estimates for Cities, Counties and the State, 2001-2007, with 2000 DRU Benchmark, Sacramento, California, 2008.

**Figure 261: Property Crime in Turlock**

Property Crimes	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	01-07 % Change
Burglary	593	709	751	924	637	604	827	39.5
Larceny	1,880	1,985	2,358	2,481	2,014	1,778	1,964	4.5
Motor Vehicle Theft	591	794	943	1,247	1,054	722	792	34.0
Arson	51	33	21	33	22	21	36	-29.4
<b>Total Property Crimes</b>	<b>3,115</b>	<b>3,521</b>	<b>4,073</b>	<b>4,685</b>	<b>3,727</b>	<b>3,125</b>	<b>3,619</b>	<b>16.2</b>
<b>Property Crime Rate per 1,000</b>	<b>53.4</b>	<b>58.2</b>	<b>65.3</b>	<b>72.7</b>	<b>55.8</b>	<b>46.3</b>	<b>52.5</b>	<b>-</b>

Source: State of California Department of Justice, California Criminal Justice Profile, 2008. State of California, Department of Finance, E-4 Population Estimates for Cities, Counties and the State, 2001-2007, with 2000 DRU Benchmark, Sacramento, California, 2008.

**Figure 262: Total Crime in Turlock**

Total	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	01-07 % Change
Crimes	3,439	3,802	4,457	5,057	4,138	3,554	4,118	19.7
Population	58,386	60,474	62,347	64,417	66,815	67,547	68,984	18.2
<b>Turlock Crime Rate per 1,000</b>	<b>58.9</b>	<b>62.9</b>	<b>71.5</b>	<b>78.5</b>	<b>61.9</b>	<b>52.6</b>	<b>59.7</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Stanislaus County Crime Rate per 1,000</b>	<b>55.8</b>	<b>60.1</b>	<b>63.1</b>	<b>67.9</b>	<b>60.9</b>	<b>55.9</b>	<b>55.8</b>	<b>-</b>
State Crime Rate per 1,000	39.1	39.7	40.0	39.6	38.1	36.7	35.0	-

Source: State of California Department of Justice, California Criminal Justice Profile, 2008. State of California, Department of Finance, E-4 Population Estimates for Cities, Counties and the State, 2001-2007, with 2000 DRU Benchmark, Sacramento, California, 2008. State Crime Rate: Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program, 2007.

**Figure 263: Violent Crime in Waterford**

Violent Crimes	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	01-07 % Change
Homicide	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	-100.0
Rape	0	2	1	0	2	0	1	-
Robbery	0	0	1	2	2	0	3	-
Aggravated Assault	24	23	46	32	37	43	36	50.0
<b>Total Violent Crimes</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>60.0</b>
<b>Violent Crime Rate per 1,000</b>	<b>3.6</b>	<b>3.5</b>	<b>6.2</b>	<b>4.3</b>	<b>5.2</b>	<b>5.3</b>	<b>4.7</b>	<b>-</b>

Source: State of California Department of Justice, California Criminal Justice Profile, 2008. State of California, Department of Finance, E-4 Population Estimates for Cities, Counties and the State, 2001-2007, with 2000 DRU Benchmark, Sacramento, California, 2008.

**Figure 264: Property Crime in Waterford**

Property Crimes	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	01-07 % Change
Burglary	35	28	42	52	98	64	63	80.0
Larceny	151	163	228	203	172	242	177	17.2
Motor Vehicle Theft	30	43	37	49	47	44	32	6.7
Arson	2	1	2	7	0	3	1	-
<b>Total Property Crimes</b>	<b>218</b>	<b>235</b>	<b>309</b>	<b>311</b>	<b>317</b>	<b>353</b>	<b>273</b>	<b>25.2</b>
<b>Property Crime Rate per 1,000</b>	<b>30.8</b>	<b>32.7</b>	<b>40.2</b>	<b>39.5</b>	<b>40.3</b>	<b>43.2</b>	<b>31.9</b>	<b>-</b>

Source: State of California Department of Justice, California Criminal Justice Profile, 2008. State of California, Department of Finance, E-4 Population Estimates for Cities, Counties and the State, 2001-2007, with 2000 DRU Benchmark, Sacramento, California, 2008.

**Figure 265: Total Crime in Waterford**

Total	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	01-07 % Change
Crimes	243	260	357	345	358	396	313	28.8
Population	7,037	7,193	7,691	7,882	7,874	8,175	8,547	21.5
<b>Waterford Crime Rate per 1,000</b>	<b>34.4</b>	<b>36.1</b>	<b>46.4</b>	<b>43.8</b>	<b>45.5</b>	<b>48.4</b>	<b>36.6</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Stanislaus County Crime Rate per 1,000</b>	<b>55.8</b>	<b>60.1</b>	<b>63.1</b>	<b>67.9</b>	<b>60.9</b>	<b>55.9</b>	<b>55.8</b>	<b>-</b>
State Crime Rate per 1,000	39.1	39.7	40.0	39.6	38.1	36.7	35.0	-

Source: State of California Department of Justice, California Criminal Justice Profile, 2008. State of California, Department of Finance, E-4 Population Estimates for Cities, Counties and the State, 2001-2007, with 2000 DRU Benchmark, Sacramento, California, 2008. State Crime Rate: Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program, 2007.

**Figure 266: Violent Crime in Unincorporated Stanislaus**

Violent Crimes	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	01-07 % Change
Homicide	13	8	6	13	14	10	12	-7.7
Rape	59	59	41	49	27	30	36	-39.0
Robbery	122	129	181	168	99	98	120	-1.6
Aggravated Assault	875	672	697	652	840	709	611	-30.2
<b>Total Violent Crimes</b>	<b>1,069</b>	<b>868</b>	<b>925</b>	<b>882</b>	<b>980</b>	<b>847</b>	<b>779</b>	<b>-27.1</b>
<b>Violent Crime Rate per 1,000</b>	<b>9.8</b>	<b>7.8</b>	<b>8.2</b>	<b>7.8</b>	<b>8.6</b>	<b>7.4</b>	<b>6.8</b>	<b>-</b>

Source: State of California Department of Justice, California Criminal Justice Profile, 2008. State of California, Department of Finance, E-4 Population Estimates for Cities, Counties and the State, 2001-2007, with 2000 DRU Benchmark, Sacramento, California, 2008.

**Figure 267: Property Crime in Unincorporated Stanislaus**

Property Crimes	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	01-07 % Change
Burglary	1,027	1,217	1,157	1,277	1,337	1,463	1,738	69.2
Larceny	1,873	2,591	2,568	2,804	2,347	2,436	1,634	-12.8
Motor Vehicle Theft	492	834	837	528	559	517	454	-7.7
Arson	394	353	322	355	290	231	253	-35.8
<b>Total Property Crimes</b>	<b>3,786</b>	<b>4,995</b>	<b>4,884</b>	<b>4,964</b>	<b>4,533</b>	<b>4,647</b>	<b>4,079</b>	<b>7.7</b>
<b>Property Crime Rate per 1,000</b>	<b>34.9</b>	<b>45.0</b>	<b>43.3</b>	<b>43.7</b>	<b>39.7</b>	<b>40.7</b>	<b>35.6</b>	<b>-</b>

Source: State of California Department of Justice, California Criminal Justice Profile, 2008. State of California, Department of Finance, E-4 Population Estimates for Cities, Counties and the State, 2001-2007, with 2000 DRU Benchmark, Sacramento, California, 2008.

**Figure 268: Total Crime in Unincorporated Stanislaus**

Total	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	01-07 % Change
Crimes	4,855	5,863	5,809	5,846	5,513	5,494	4,858	0.1
Population	108,550	111,087	112,856	113,672	114,131	114,056	114,467	5.5
<b>Unincorporated Crime Rate per 1,000</b>	<b>44.7</b>	<b>52.8</b>	<b>51.5</b>	<b>51.4</b>	<b>48.3</b>	<b>48.2</b>	<b>42.4</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Stanislaus County Crime Rate per 1,000</b>	<b>55.8</b>	<b>60.1</b>	<b>63.1</b>	<b>67.9</b>	<b>60.9</b>	<b>55.9</b>	<b>55.8</b>	<b>-</b>
State Crime Rate per 1,000	39.1	39.7	40.0	39.6	38.1	36.7	35.0	-

Source: State of California Department of Justice, California Criminal Justice Profile, 2008. State of California, Department of Finance, E-4 Population Estimates for Cities, Counties and the State, 2001-2007, with 2000 DRU Benchmark, Sacramento, California, 2008. State Crime Rate: Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program, 2007.

## Data Summary

In 2007, in Stanislaus County, there were 3,207 violent crimes and 25,870 property crimes for a total of 29,077 crimes committed during the year. This was a 14% increase in crimes from 2001. In 2007, the Stanislaus County overall crime rate per 1,000 was 55.8, and the crime rate was 35.0 in California.

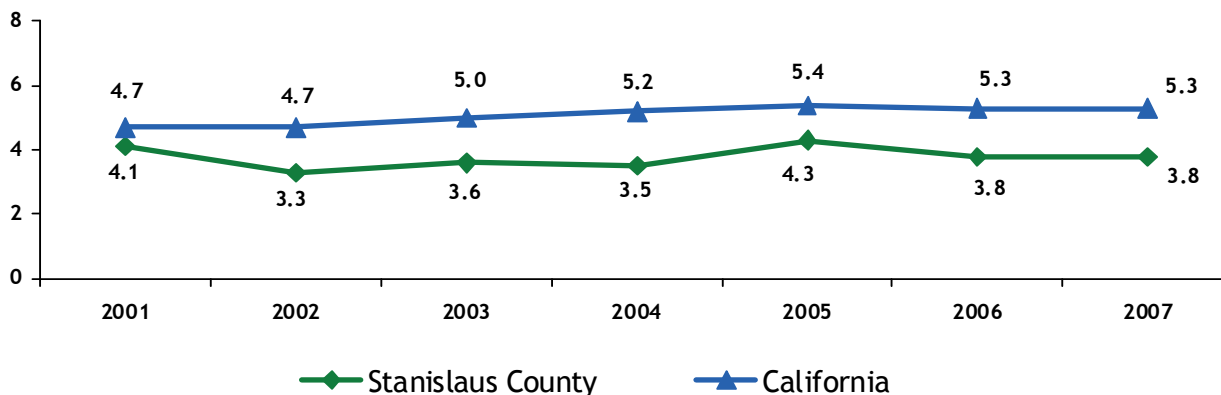
Looking at a larger city, such as Modesto, one can see that the rate of total crime per 1,000 residents has followed a similar trend to that of the County and the state. From 2001 to 2004, the rate of crime increased in Modesto and then gradually began to decline in 2005 although the rate of crime rose slightly from 2006 to 2007. However, while the trend of the rate of total crime has been similar in these three areas, the actual rate of crime for Modesto has been greater than that of the County and was approaching double the rate of the state. In 2007, the rate of total crime per 1,000 residents was 65.6 in Modesto, 55.8 in Stanislaus County, and 35.0 in California.

# Drug and Alcohol Related Arrests - Adults

## Why It Is Important

The drug and alcohol arrest rate is an indicator of alcohol and drug abuse and related illegal activities. Adults engaging in drinking and driving and illicit drug use put themselves and others at great risk. Illicit drug and alcohol use and abuse is associated with violence, motor vehicle accidents, increasing health care costs, and lower worker productivity.<sup>113</sup>

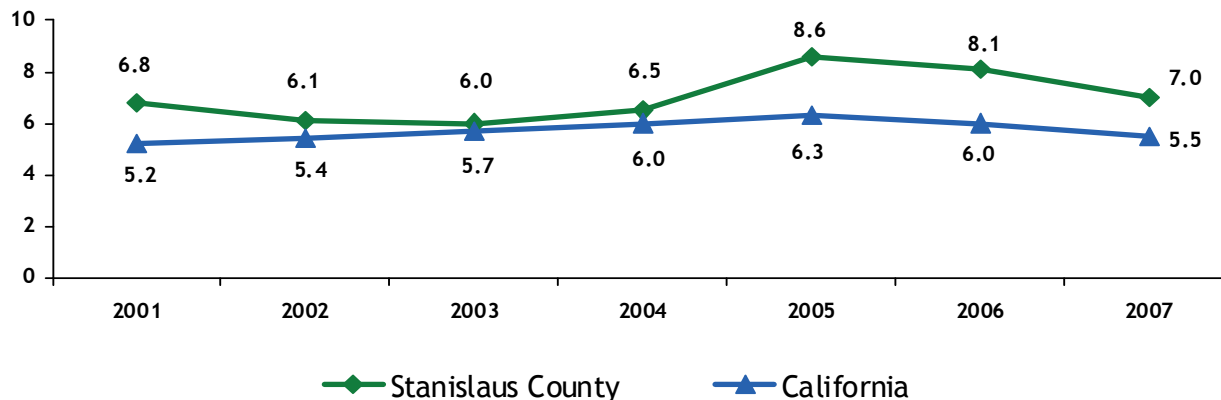
**Figure 269: Adult Misdemeanor Drug Arrest Rate per 1,000 Adults, Ages 18-69**



Source: State of California, Department of Justice, California Criminal Justice Profile, 2008.

Note: Misdemeanor drug arrests include misdemeanor-level arrests for marijuana and other drugs.

**Figure 270: Adult Felony Drug Arrest Rate per 1,000 Adults, Ages 18-69**

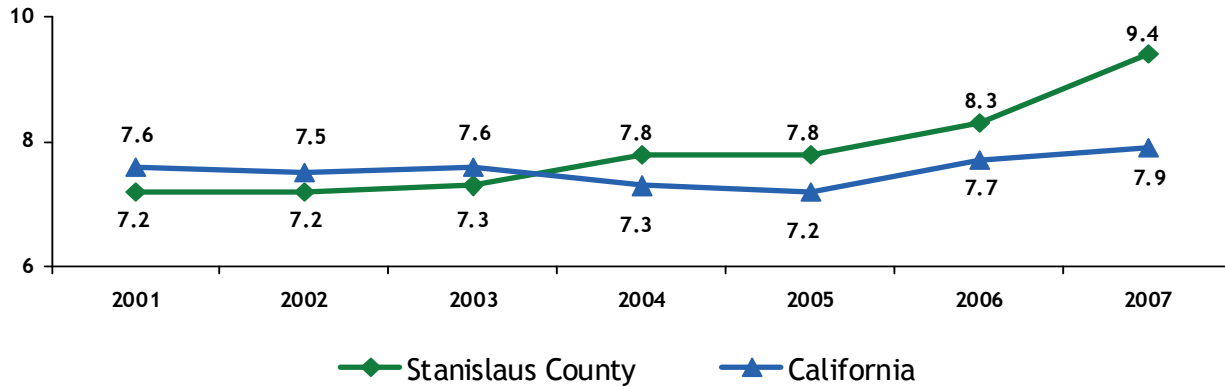


Source: State of California, Department of Justice, California Criminal Justice Profile, 2008.

Note: Felony drug arrests include felony-level arrests for narcotics, marijuana, dangerous drugs, and other drug-related arrests.

<sup>113</sup> Great Valley Center, *The State of the Great Central Valley of California: Supporting Economic, Social, and Environmental Well-being in California's Great Central Valley*, 2003.

**Figure 271: Adult Misdemeanor Driving Under the Influence Arrest Rate per 1,000 Adults, Ages 18-69**



Source: State of California, Department of Justice, California Criminal Justice Profile, 2008.

Note: a chart for Felony DUI arrest rates was not included due to low numbers. In 2007, 115 adults were arrested and 3 juveniles were arrested with a felony DUI in Stanislaus County.

### Alcohol Outlets

**Figure 272: Number of Retail Alcohol Outlets per 1,000 Residents**

	FY 2006/07	FY 2007/08
Ceres	73	74
Hughson	13	13
Modesto	429	428
Newman	19	19
Oakdale	61	60
Patterson	37	40
Riverbank	43	45
Turlock	127	130
Waterford	15	18
Unincorporated	165	165
<b>Stanislaus County</b>	<b>982</b>	<b>992</b>
<b>Retail Outlets per 1,000 People - Stanislaus</b>	<b>1.9</b>	<b>1.9</b>
Retail Outlets per 1,000 People - California	1.9	1.9

Source: California Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control, 2008. State of California, Department of Finance, E-1: City/County Population Estimates with Annual Percent Change, 2008.

\*Data not available for Crows Landing.



## Data Summary

From 2001 to 2007, adult misdemeanor and felony drug arrest rates per 1,000 adults (ages 18-69) were lower in Stanislaus County than in California. Adult misdemeanor drug arrest rates generally increased from 2001 to 2007 in Stanislaus County. Adult felony drug arrest rates peaked in 2005 at 8.6 arrests per 1,000 adults and decreased to 7.0 arrests per 1,000 adults in 2007. In 2001, the rate of adult misdemeanors driving under the influence was greater in California than in Stanislaus County. In 2004 however, the rate in the County surpassed that of the state and rose to 9.4 arrests per 1,000 adults in 2007.

In the 2007/08 fiscal year there were a total of 992 retail alcohol outlets in Stanislaus County. This equated to 1.9 outlets per 1,000 residents in the County.

# Domestic and Intimate Partner Violence

## Why It Is Important

Domestic violence can occur in both the form of physical and psychological abuse. Domestic violence often refers to violence inflicted upon a spouse but can also include violence inflicted upon a cohabitant or an unmarried intimate partner. Women are more likely to be victims of domestic violence than men, and women experience more chronic and injurious physical assaults as a result of the abuse. However, most domestic violence is not reported to the police.<sup>114</sup>

**Figure 273: Domestic Violence Calls, Stanislaus County**

City	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	01-07 % Change
Ceres	257	229	238	241	298	266	270	5.1
Hughson	21	9	9	27	90	38	21	0.0
Modesto	1,094	1,088	1,114	992	981	989	839	-23.3
Newman	105	94	29	24	29	66	52	-50.5
Oakdale	92	93	141	135	122	115	98	6.5
Patterson	68	57	49	51	62	74	82	20.6
Riverbank	112	74	81	76	57	62	61	-45.5
Turlock	548	572	540	557	629	578	540	-1.5
Waterford	21	14	20	44	36	49	55	161.9
Unincorporated	1,367	1,042	834	709	738	950	1,047	-23.4
<b>Stanislaus County Total<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>3,685</b>	<b>3,273</b>	<b>3,056</b>	<b>2,857</b>	<b>3,042</b>	<b>3,187</b>	<b>3,068</b>	<b>-16.7</b>
Population	458,512	472,185	483,705	493,515	503,003	511,848	518,938	13.2
<b>Rate of Domestic Violence Calls per 1,000 Residents</b>	<b>8.0</b>	<b>6.9</b>	<b>6.3</b>	<b>5.8</b>	<b>6.0</b>	<b>6.2</b>	<b>5.9</b>	<b>-</b>

Source: State of California Department of Justice, California Criminal Justice Profile, 2008. State of California, Department of Finance, E-4 Population Estimates for Cities, Counties and the State, 2001-2007, with 2000 DRU Benchmark, Sacramento, California, 2008.

<sup>1</sup>The total of all cities may not equal County total. The County total includes the California Highway Patrol, CSU Stanislaus, and the Union Pacific Railroad.

**Figure 274: Domestic Violence Calls, California**

	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	01-07 % Change
Number of Calls	198,031	196,569	194,288	186,439	181,362	176,281	174,649	-11.8
Population (in thousands)	34,431	35,064	35,653	36,199	36,675	37,115	37,559	9.1
<b>Rate of Domestic Violence Calls per 1,000 residents</b>	<b>5.8</b>	<b>5.6</b>	<b>5.4</b>	<b>5.2</b>	<b>4.9</b>	<b>4.7</b>	<b>4.6</b>	<b>-</b>

Source: State of California Department of Justice, California Criminal Justice Profile, 2008. State of California, Department of Finance, E-4 Population Estimates for Cities, Counties and the State, 2001-2007, with 2000 DRU Benchmark, Sacramento, California, 2008.

<sup>114</sup> Tjaden, P., Thoennes, N., National Institute of Justice, *Extent, Nature and Consequences of Intimate Partner Violence, Findings from the National Violence Against Women Survey*, July 2000.

**Figure 275: Domestic Violence Calls with Weapons, Stanislaus County**

City	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	01-07 % Change
Ceres	82	65	77	39	46	33	22	-73.2
Hughson	8	9	4	27	22	4	0	-100.0
Modesto	876	1,061	1,100	246	273	287	368	-58.0
Newman	32	14	9	14	16	19	24	-25.0
Oakdale	87	33	20	14	22	7	15	-82.8
Patterson	68	57	46	51	12	1	36	-47.1
Riverbank	79	58	55	62	45	30	7	-91.1
Turlock	409	465	462	453	102	58	77	-81.2
Waterford	1	11	14	28	12	26	27	*
Unincorporated	348	135	90	92	572	623	531	52.6
<b>Stanislaus County Total<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>1,990</b>	<b>1,908</b>	<b>1,877</b>	<b>1,026</b>	<b>1,122</b>	<b>1,088</b>	<b>1,110</b>	<b>-44.2</b>
Population	458,512	472,185	483,705	493,515	503,003	511,848	518,938	13.2
<b>Rate of Domestic Violence Calls, with weapons, per 1,000 Residents</b>	<b>4.3</b>	<b>4.0</b>	<b>3.9</b>	<b>2.1</b>	<b>2.2</b>	<b>2.1</b>	<b>2.1</b>	<b>-</b>

Source: State of California Department of Justice, California Criminal Justice Profile, 2008. State of California, Department of Finance, E-4 Population Estimates for Cities, Counties and the State, 2001-2007, with 2000 DRU Benchmark, Sacramento, California, 2008.

<sup>1</sup>The total of all cities may not equal County total. The County total includes the California Highway Patrol, CSU Stanislaus, and the Union Pacific Railroad.

\*Cannot be calculated due to small number

**Figure 276: Domestic Violence Calls with Weapons, California**

	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	01-07 % Change
Number of Calls	136,366	119,859	106,731	97,736	93,027	80,942	69,422	-49.1
Population (in thousands)	34,431	35,064	35,653	36,199	36,675	37,115	37,559	9.1
<b>Rate of Domestic Violence Calls, with weapons, per 1,000 residents</b>	<b>4.0</b>	<b>3.4</b>	<b>3.0</b>	<b>2.7</b>	<b>2.5</b>	<b>2.2</b>	<b>1.8</b>	<b>-</b>

Source: State of California Department of Justice, California Criminal Justice Profile, 2008. State of California, Department of Finance, E-4 Population Estimates for Cities, Counties and the State, 2001-2007, with 2000 DRU Benchmark, Sacramento, California, 2008.

## Data Summary

There were 3,068 calls to law enforcement reporting domestic violence (a rate of 5.9 domestic violence calls per 1,000 residents) in Stanislaus County in 2007. This rate was higher than the California rate of 4.6 calls per 1,000 in 2007. In fact, between 2001 and 2007, the Stanislaus County rates of domestic violence calls were consistently higher than the state rates. Both the County and the state showed decreases in domestic violence call rates from 2001 to 2007; however, caution must be used when interpreting these data since domestic violence is typically underreported.

The rate of domestic violence calls with weapons in Stanislaus County in 2007 was 2.1 per 1,000, as compared to the state rate of 1.8 per 1,000.

## *How We're Making a Difference*

### **Differential Response**

Committed to child welfare improvement and the California Family to Family Initiative, the Child and Family Services Division of the Stanislaus County Community Services Agency (CSA) launched the Differential Response program in 2005 with funding by the Stanislaus County Children and Families Commission. The program uses neighborhood based Family Resource Centers and other community partners to provide services to children and families at the earliest signs of trouble. The Differential Response program successfully expanded countywide in 2007, ensuring that all local communities have access to child safety resources.

Differential Response is an alternative intake, assessment, and service delivery structure that allows a child welfare agency to respond in a more flexible manner (with three response paths) to referrals of child abuse or neglect. The path of response is based on the assessed safety and risk reported, as well as the needs, resources, and circumstances of the family. Essential to Stanislaus County's Differential Response program is its partnership with public and private community organizations to provide services in the prevention and intervention of child abuse and neglect. The primary partnership for Differential Response is with Family Resource Centers located throughout the County in the communities where families live.

Hundreds of families have been helped over the past three years by Family Resource Centers. One success story started about three years ago. A mother and her children moved to Stanislaus County from a neighboring county. A report came into the Child Abuse/Neglect Hotline saying the mother was not caring for her children; they did not have food, a safe place to live, and they had very bad lice. The investigating social worker responded to the home along with a member of the local Family Resource Center. The child neglect allegations were not true, but the mother needed support and help since she did not know anyone in the County nor did she know where she could get help. The Family Resource Center helped the mother get counseling since she was previously in an abusive relationship, sign up for public assistance, receive support while she completed job training, and provided a support system for the family in their new community. The mother is now in a positive relationship, has a job, and is taking care of her family. The children are doing well in school and she credits the Family Resource Center with her success; she does not know where she would be if they were not there to help and guide her in an unfamiliar community.

# Gangs

## Why It Is Important

No one is immune from the impact that gangs can have on a community. Gang violence is widespread, dangerous, and deadly in many California communities.

Gangs are not a big-city or an inner-city problem, any more than they are a problem of a particular race or culture. Gangs cross all racial, ethnic, socio-economic, and geographic boundaries. Gangs are not gender specific. They exist in urban, suburban, and rural communities.

While many who join gangs are unmarried, unemployed, and school dropouts, today's gang members can also be parents, students, employed, and educated. In fact, some gang members are honor students in high school, college students, and even active members of the U.S. military.

Belonging to a gang severely harms a young person's future. Gang members often socialize only with other gang members, which can reinforce a limited view of life; they frequently establish a lifelong pattern of involvement with the criminal justice system; they may commit serious and violent crimes that lead to lengthy incarcerations; they may be injured for life, or killed. Their gang membership may place an entire family household at risk. Gang members who do make it to adulthood sometimes become dependent on alcohol and drugs. For some, the gang lifestyle is passed down as a family tradition leading to generational gangs.<sup>115</sup>

## 2007 Gang Data

- The Stanislaus County Gang Intelligence Task Force documented about 4,000 gang members.<sup>116</sup> Of these gang members, 1,150 were youth between the ages of 12 and 17.<sup>117</sup>
- Eighty-seven percent (87%) of documented gang members were Latino.
- Twenty-four (24) of the 74 people (32%) in Stanislaus County awaiting trial on murder charges were believed to be gang related.<sup>118</sup>

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<sup>115</sup> California Attorney General's Office, Crime and Violence Prevention Center, *Gangs: A Community Response*, 2003.

<sup>116</sup> It is estimated that the total number of gang members is around 7,000-10,000.

<sup>117</sup> Stanislaus County Children's Council, *Condition of Children & Youth*, 2007.

<sup>118</sup> Herenden, Susan, "Gangs Thriving in Modesto," *The Modesto Bee*, September 2007.

