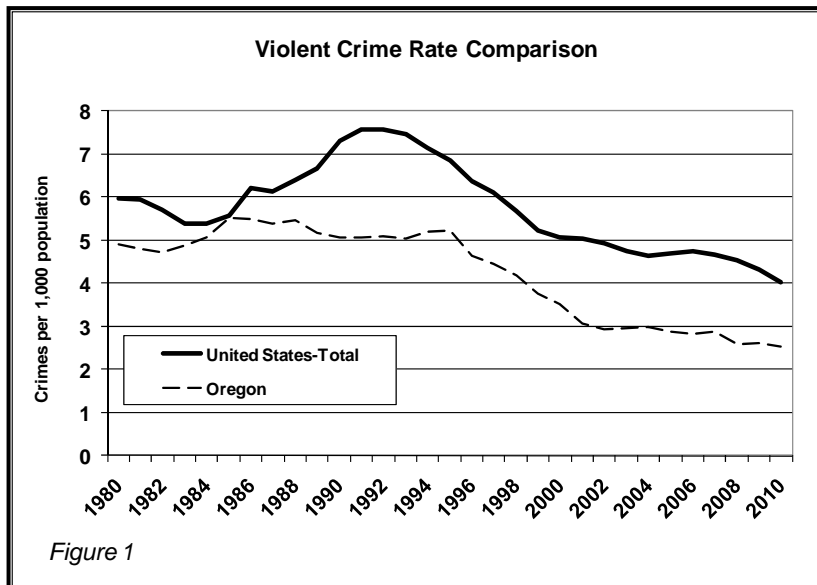


2010 Release of FBI Uniform Crime Reports for Oregon

September 19, 2011

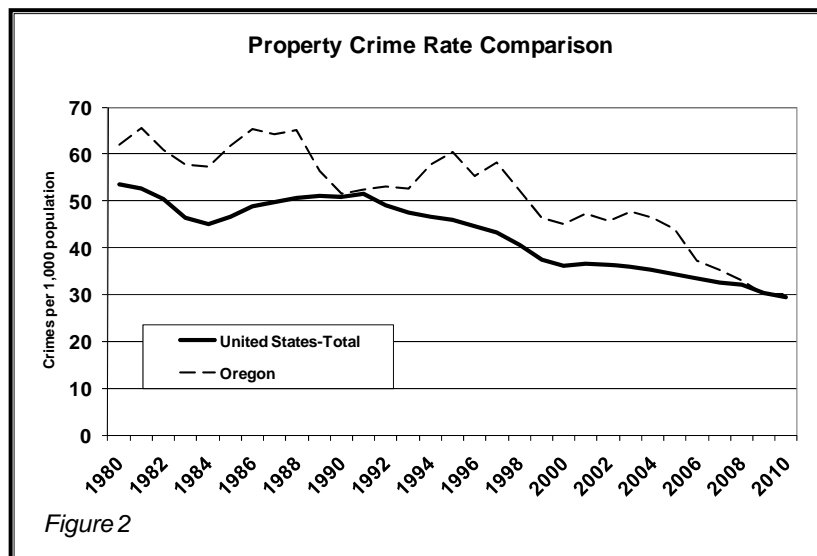
On Monday September 19, 2011 the FBI released the 2010 Uniform Crime Reports (UCR) for Oregon and all other states in the US. This report shows the number of property index and violent index crimes reported in 2010 in the state. According to the report:

- In 2010, Oregon ranked 21st in the nation for the property index crime rate and 39th in the nation for the violent index crime rate.
- Violent and property crime rates have been dropping in Oregon since the mid-1990s.
- Violent crime in Oregon dropped 52 percent from 1995 to 2010 and this was the 4th largest drop of all the states.
- Oregon's property crime rate dropped 51 percent from 1995 to 2010 and this was the 5th largest drop in the country.



Violent index crimes include murder, forcible rape, robbery, and aggravated assault. Of these, aggravated assault is the most common violent index crime and usually has the most effect on the violent index crime rate.

Property index crimes include burglary, motor vehicle theft, arson, and larceny-theft. The most common property index crime is larceny-theft and is crime usually has the largest effect on the index property crime rate.



Figures 1 and 2 show the U.S. and Oregon violent and property crime rates since 1980. Oregon's violent and property crime rates follow a similar trend as the rest of the nation. However Oregon's violent crime rate has historically been lower than the national rate while

Oregon's property crime rate has been higher than the national rate. As these two graphs show, both property and violent crime rates in Oregon have been steadily dropping for nearly two decades.

Change in Violent Index Crime Rates from 2009 to 2010 for Oregon	
Murder	4.3%
Forcible Rape	1.0%
Robbery	-4.4%
Aggravated Assault	-3.7%
Index Violent Crime Total	-3.3%

Table 1

In 2010, Oregon's violent crime rate decreased three percent from the previous year and the property crime rate increased by less than a percent. Table 1 to the left shows the percent change from 2009 to 2010 for violent index crimes rates. Both robbery and aggravated assault crime rates decreased from the previous year, while murder and forcible rape crime rates increased. The total violent crime rate dropped 3.3% from

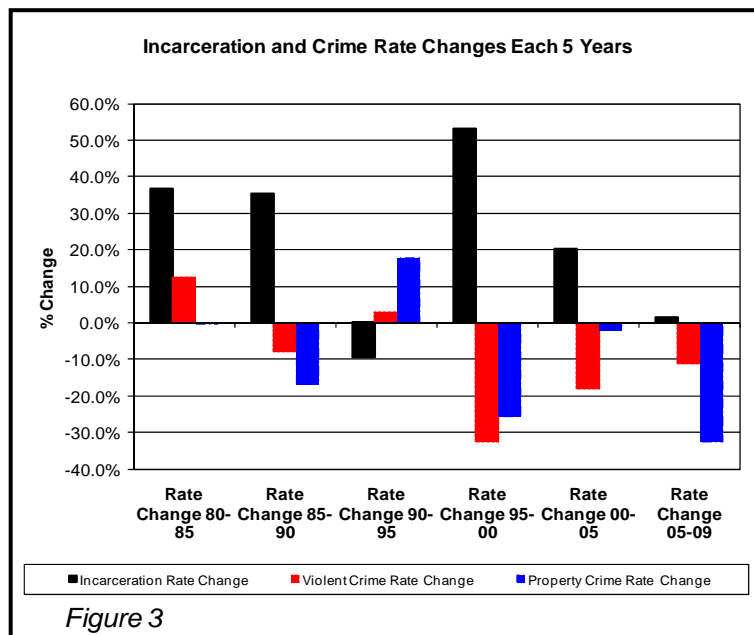
2009 to 2010.

The percent changes for the index property crime rates are shown in Table 2 to the right. The more serious felony property crime of motor vehicle theft shows an almost 11 percent drop, while burglary is nearly flat with a decrease of less than a percent. Larceny-theft, of which about 75 percent are misdemeanors, shows a two percent increase from 2009 to 2010. The total property index crime rate was nearly flat from 2009 to 2010 with a 0.4% increase.

Change in Property Index Crime Rates from 2009 to 2010 for Oregon	
Burglary	-0.7%
Larceny-Theft	2.0%
Motor Vehicle Theft	-10.8%
Index Property Crime Total	0.4%

Table 2

The tables above show crime trend changes from 2009 to 2010. However, Oregon has a long history of analyzing crime and incarceration trends and the consequent policy changes. One way Oregon has responded to crime in the last three decades is increased use of incarceration. The relationship between prison and crime has been studied across the country and in Oregon specifically¹. Figure 3 to the right shows the percentage change in the violent crime rate, property crime rate, and incarceration rate over five year

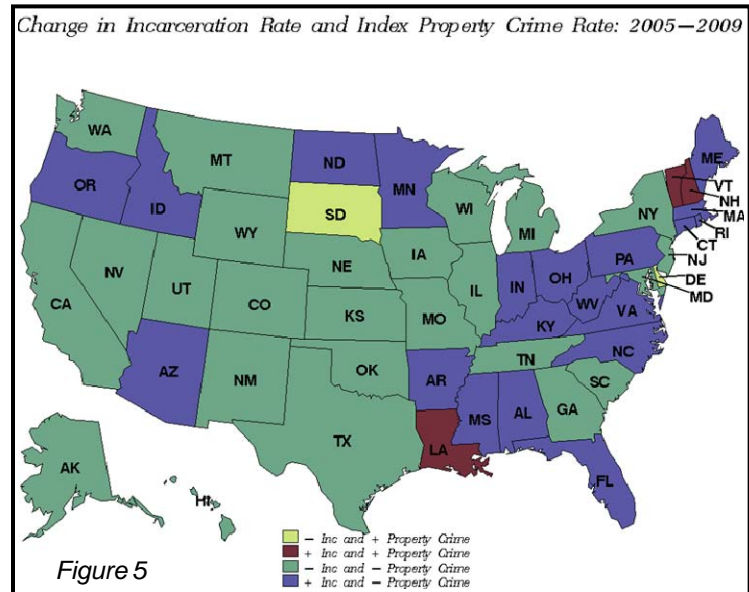
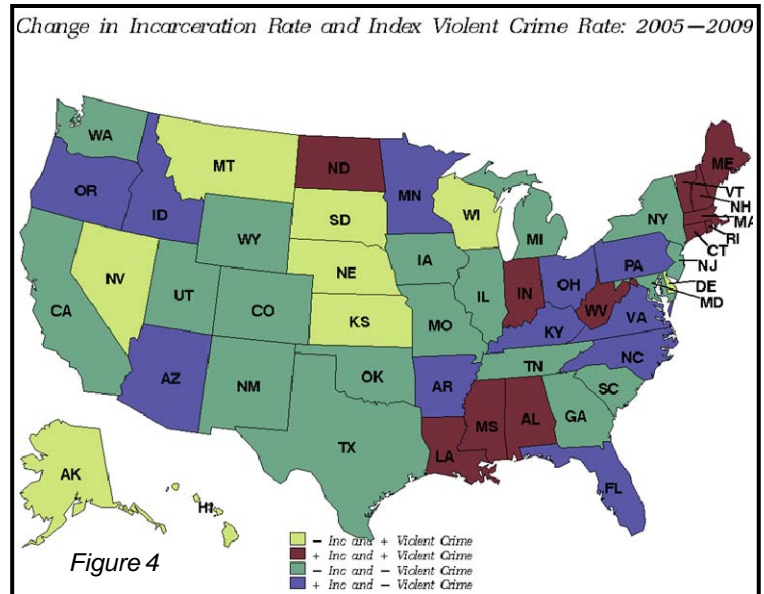


¹ See the June 2010 Crime in Oregon Report: http://www.ocjc.state.or.us/CJC/docs/Crime_Report_2010.pdf and the January 2007 Criminal Justice Commission Report to the Legislature: <http://www.ocjc.state.or.us/CJC/CJC2007Reporttolegislature.pdf>

periods. While it's true that from 1995 to 2000 Oregon's incarceration rate increased over 50 percent, while the violent crime rate dropped over 30 percent and property crime rate dropped 20 percent, the rates from 2005 to 2009 show a radically different relationship. During that time the incarceration rate was relatively flat, while the violent crime rate dropped more than 10 percent and the property crime rate dropped more than 30 percent.

- Oregon was able to experience substantial decreases in the violent and property crime rates without investing in an increase in incarceration.

Other states have also been able to experience decreases in violent and property crime rates, while the incarceration rate was relatively flat or dropped. Figure 4 to the right shows incarceration rate changes and violent crime rate changes from 2005 to 2009. The 18 states colored in green experienced a violent crime decrease and a drop in the incarceration rate. The 12 states colored in red experienced an increase in violent crime while increasing the incarceration rate. The nine states colored in yellow had an increase in the violent crime rate and a drop in the incarceration rate, while the 11 states colored in blue had a drop in the violent crime rate and an increase in the incarceration rate.



The relationship between crime rate changes and incarceration rates changes is more striking considering property crime. Figure 5 to the left shows incarceration rate changes and property crime rate changes from 2005 to 2009, with the same coloring scheme as above.

All states except South Dakota, Louisiana, Delaware, Vermont, and New Hampshire experienced drops in the property crime rate. The states colored in green also experienced drops in the incarceration rate, while the states colored in blue increased the incarceration rate.

Twenty-five states in the country saw a drop in

the property crime rate while also decreasing the incarceration rate. Oregon's decreasing crime rates over the past few years are significant because they were achieved during an economic recession and without a policy of increased use of expensive prison resources.