

• Law Enforcement Facts

- There are more than **900,000** sworn law enforcement officers now serving in the United States, which is the highest figure ever. About **12 percent** of those are female.
- In 2008, there were an estimated **4.9 million** violent crimes committed in the United States, as well as an estimated 16.3 million property crimes (according to the National Crime Victimization Survey conducted by the Bureau of Justice Statistics). Violent and property crime rates in 2008 remain at the lowest levels recorded since 1973, the first year that such data were collected. The rate of every major violent and property crime measured by BJS fell between 1999 and 2008. The overall violent crime rate fell 41 percent and the property crime rate declined by 32 percent during the last 10 years.
- Crime fighting has taken its toll. Since the first recorded police death in 1792, there have been nearly **19,000** law enforcement officers killed in the line of duty. Currently, there are **18,983** names engraved on the walls of the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial.
- A total of **1,626** law enforcement officers died in the line of duty during the past 10 years, an average of one death every **53** hours or **163** per year. There were **116** law enforcement officers killed in 2009, the lowest annual total since 1989.
- On average, more than **58,000** law enforcement officers are assaulted each year, resulting in approximately **16,000** injuries.
- The **1970s** were the deadliest decade in law enforcement history, when a total of **2,286** officers died, or an average of almost **229** each year. The deadliest year in law enforcement history was **1930**, when **285** officers were killed. That figure dropped dramatically in the **1990s**, to an average of **160** per year.
- The deadliest day in law enforcement history was September 11, 2001, when **72** officers were killed while responding to the terrorist attacks on America.
- New York City has lost more officers in the line of duty than any other department, with **693** deaths. Texas has lost **1,563** officers, more than any other state. The state with the fewest deaths is Vermont, with **21**.
- There are **1,002** federal officers listed on the Memorial, as well as **565** correctional officers and **29** military law enforcement officers.
- There are **237** female officers listed on the Memorial; just **one** female officer was killed in 2009, one of the lowest numbers in recent years.
- During the past ten years, more officers were killed feloniously on **Friday** than any other day of the week. The fewest number of felonious fatalities occurred on **Sunday**. Over the past decade, more officers were killed between 8:01 p.m. and 10:00 p.m. than during any other two-hour period.

Source: National Law Enforcement Memorial - <http://www.nleomf.com>