

MEDIA ADVISORY: UNH Criminologist Available To Discuss New FBI Report Detailing National And Regional Increase In Crime

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DURHAM, N.H. -- John T. Kirkpatrick, criminologist and director of Justiceworks at the University of New Hampshire, is available to discuss today's release of the FBI's Preliminary Annual Uniform Crime Report for 2005 that indicates the nation and the Northeast have experienced an increase in violent crime.

Kirkpatrick can be reached at 603-862-2062 and ted.kirkpatrick@unh.edu.

According to the report, violent crime nationwide increased 2.5 percent from 2004 to 2005, with the murder rate increasing 4.8 percent. The violent crime category includes murder, forcible rape, robbery, and aggravated assault. The Northeast experienced the smallest increase in violent crime of all regions, at 1.4 percent. However, the region's murder rate of 5.2 percent exceeded the national average.

The report includes a breakdown of crime statistics for cities with populations of 100,000 people or more. Boston experienced an 8.1 percent increase in violent crime from 2004 to 2005, while violent crime in Manchester, NH, dropped 16.1 percent, according to statistics provided by the FBI. The FBI's preliminary report is available at http://www.fbi.gov/ucr/2005preliminary/index.htm.