



## Division of Criminal Justice Services

ANDREW M. CUOMO  
Governor

MICHAEL C. GREEN  
Executive Deputy Commissioner

TO: All Crime Reporting Agencies  
FROM: Adam Dean, Chief, New York State Crime Reporting Program  
DATE: May 25, 2016  
SUBJECT: Expanded Rape and the Release of 2015 Preliminary Crime in New York State

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### **REPORTING ALERT: EXPANDED RAPE COUNTS INCLUDED IN 2015 PRELIMINARY CRIME REPORT**

The 2015 Preliminary Crime in New York State report has been released by DCJS, and is now available on the DCJS public website at:

<http://www.criminaljustice.ny.gov/crimnet/ojsa/NYSCrimeReport2015-prelim.pdf>

The 2015 crime report marks the first year that the expanded offense category of rape will be included in the State's reported Index crime totals. Over the past two years, reporting agencies across the state worked with DCJS to ensure that crimes which met the expanded definition of rape were being reported as such. Due to these efforts, the state is now in a position to accurately reflect the number of reported rapes as defined by the FBI. Thank you for making this important and significant change to the New York State Crime Reporting Program.

#### **How did this change impact New York State's rape counts?**

In 2015, there was a total of 6,078 reported crimes that met the expanded definition of rape. This number included the addition of 3,516 crimes that were previously classified and reported as "Part II" sex offenses, and 2,562 crimes that met the historical definition of rape. These two subtotals of the 2015 reported rape count, by reporting jurisdiction, can be found on the DCJS website at [http://www.criminaljustice.ny.gov/crimnet/ojsa/indexcrimes/county\\_totals.htm](http://www.criminaljustice.ny.gov/crimnet/ojsa/indexcrimes/county_totals.htm). We suggest that you review the data for your agency as this reporting change will impact your agency's crime trends when compared to previous years.

Due to the inclusion of expanded rape counts, 2015 rape statistics cannot be compared to previous years. Throughout the report, "NA" has been used in place of percent change comparisons between rape statistics in 2014 and 2015. Since rape counts are included in the Index Crime and Violent Crime Totals, caution should also be used when citing or interpreting percentage changes for those two categories between 2015 and any year prior.

Please call the Crime Reporting Unit at 518-485-7942 or email [Infonysucr@dcjs.state.ny.us](mailto:Infonysucr@dcjs.state.ny.us) if you have any questions or need additional information about these changes.