

An Analysis of FBI Uniform Crime Report Statistics for the State of Georgia 2007 to 2010

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Executive Summary

In past four years, Georgia has decriminalized the carrying of firearms in more places within the state. House Bill 89, effective in July 2008, removed prohibitions from carrying firearms in restaurants that served alcohol, in parks, and on public transit. In July 2010, Senate Bill 308 continued the trend of increased Self-Defense rights by repealing the broad and ambiguous Public Gathering clause. Prohibited locations for Firearms Licensees was reduced to a defined list including places of worship, some government buildings, some bars, nuclear power plants, courthouses, and jails and prisons.

As the self-defense rights and abilities of Georgians increase, violent crime as measured by Aggravated Assault and Robbery rates has **DECREASED** by 11.7% and 29.7% (from 2007 to 2010).

Data Source

The Federal Bureau of Investigation is tasked with collecting, publishing, and archiving crime statistics from more than 18,000 city, university and college, county, state, tribal, and federal law enforcement agencies which voluntarily report data on crimes brought to their attention. These annually issued reports are known as the Uniform Crime Reports. The raw data and annual reports can be found at: <http://www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis/ucr/ucr>

This report utilized Table 5 – Crime in the United States by State of the FBI’s Uniform Crime Reports.

Percent Reduction in Crime Since Start of De-Criminalization of Self Defense ('07 to '10)

Using 2007 as a baseline measurement, we compared the crime rates (#/100K) from the following years to determine the impact of HB89 enacted in 2008 and SB398 enacted in 2010.

% Change From 2007						
Year	Comment	Violent crime	Murder and nonnegligent manslaughter	Forcible rape	Robbery	Aggravated assault
2007	Prior To Decriminalization	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
2008	July - HB89 Enacted	-2.9%	-12.0%	-0.4%	-1.4%	-3.8%
2009		-13.6%	-22.7%	2.6%	-18.2%	-11.7%
2010	July - SB308 Enacted	-18.2%	-22.7%	-5.3%	-29.7%	-11.7%

Since the decriminalization of self-defense starting in 2008 with HB89, Aggravated Assault and Robbery rates in Georgia have **DECREASED** by 11.7% and 29.7% (from 2007 to 2010).