

ANNUAL REPORT ON CRIME AND CRIME CONTROL

Evaluating crime trends in 2021 and regional law enforcement initiatives

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Metropolitan Washington
Council of Governments

Overview of the Crime Report

- Prepared annually by COG's Police Chiefs Committee
- This report focuses on offenses, compiled from jurisdictions in the National Capital Region (NCR), using various methods of reporting



What the Data Says (1 of 2)

- Part I/Part A Offenses include **violent crime** (homicide, robbery, rape) and **property crime** (motor vehicle theft, burglary, larceny)
- Overall, there was a **3.9% decrease** in total Part 1/Part A Offenses and a **15% decrease** in violent crime
 - The decrease in violent crime is largely driven by a **28% decrease** in aggravated assaults. Rape **decreased 0.3%**
 - Homicide and robbery **increased**
- Property crime overall **decreased 1.9%**
 - Motor vehicle theft **increased 9%**
 - Burglary and larceny **decreased**
- Arrests decreased 20%



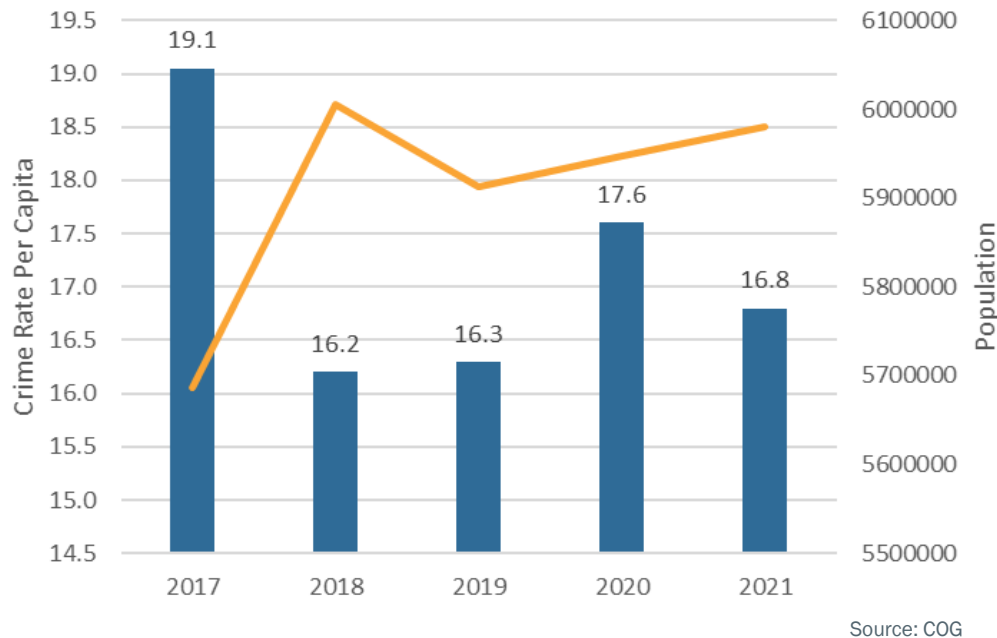
What the Data Says (2 of 2)

Law enforcement agencies in the NCR continue to address the types of crime where the NCR saw significant increases:

- Homicide **increased 17%**
 - 446 homicides in 2021 from 380 in 2020
 - Nationally, homicide in cities increased 5%
- Robbery **increased 5.3%**
 - 4,839 robberies in 2021 from 4,593 in 2020
- Motor vehicle theft **increased 9%**
 - 11,144 motor vehicle thefts in 2021 from 10,240 in 2020
 - This trend is expected to continue to increase in 2022



Crime Rate Per Capita

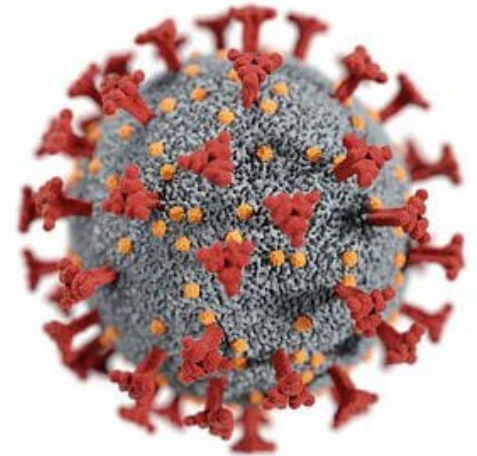


- Crime rate per capita **decreased 4.5%** in 2021, despite the region's population increasing to just under 6 million residents
- **Reverses the trend** from the 2020 increase in rate per capita, but remains slightly higher than 2018-2019
- At 16.8 per 1,000, the rate per capita remains at an overall **decline** since 2017



Contributing Factors to Crime Trend

- Significant challenges persist with law enforcement staffing levels in the region
- Ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and associated economic stressors, social stressors, and legislative/policy changes



Regional Initiatives

Safe Roads Task Force (SRTF)

- Regional law enforcement response to illegal car meets and exhibition driving
- 19 local/state law enforcement and intelligence agencies from the NCR, Baltimore Region, and Central Virginia Region



Source: Prince George's County Police Department / NBC4 Washington

COG Police Chief Committee Priorities

- Training and Exercise
- Operational Coordination
- Workforce
- Information Sharing and Collaboration



Source: National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund



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