

ANNUAL REPORT ON CRIME AND CRIME CONTROL

Evaluating crime trends in 2020 and regional law enforcement initiatives

Chief Russell E. Hamill
COG Police Chiefs Committee Chair

COG Board of Directors
October 13, 2021

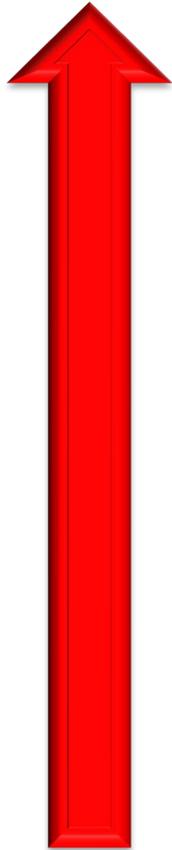
Overview of the Crime Report

- 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.



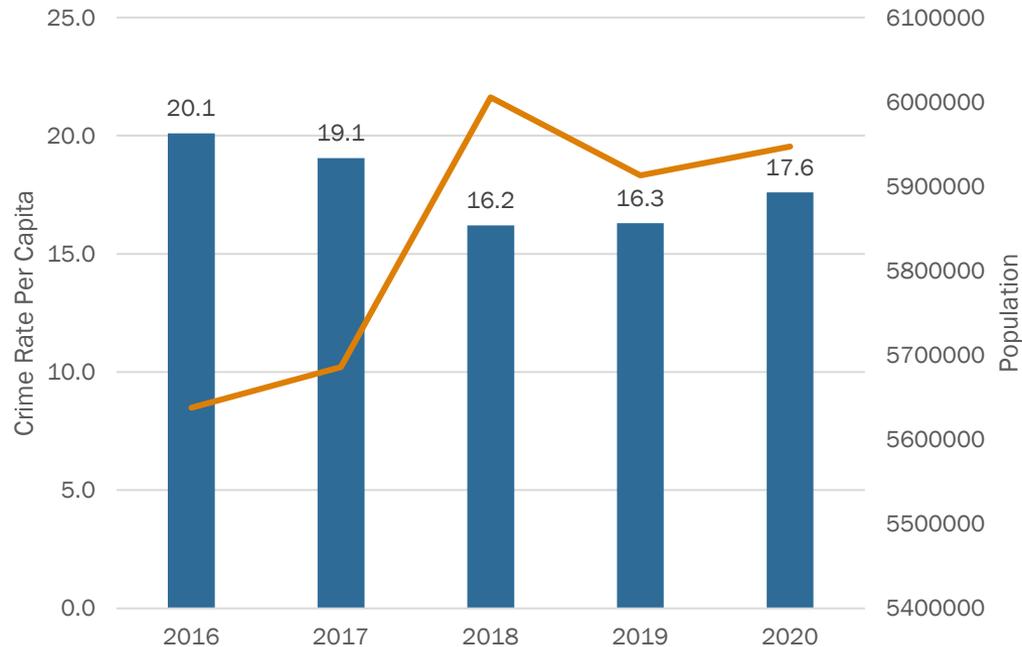
The Capitol 2021 (Angela N., Flickr)

Overall Increase in Offenses



- Offenses overall **increased 8.4 percent** in 2020
 - **8,140 more** offenses than 2019
- Violent crime **increased 28.6 percent** in 2020
- Property crime **increased 5.5 percent** in 2020
- The NCR experienced an increase in Part I/Part A offenses in 2020 consistent with a national increase in these crimes.

Crime Rate Per Capita



Source: COG

- Crime rate per capita had a 1.3 percentage point increase with the region's population increasing to just under 6 million residents.
- This is the second consecutive year of an **increase** in crime rate per capita.
- At 17.6 per 1,000, the rate per capita remains at an overall **decline** since 2016.



Contributing Factors to Crime Trend

- Contributing factors leading to increase in crime include:
 - COVID-19
 - Economic stressors
 - Social stressors
 - Legislative and policy changes
- Increase in crime consistent with national trends.

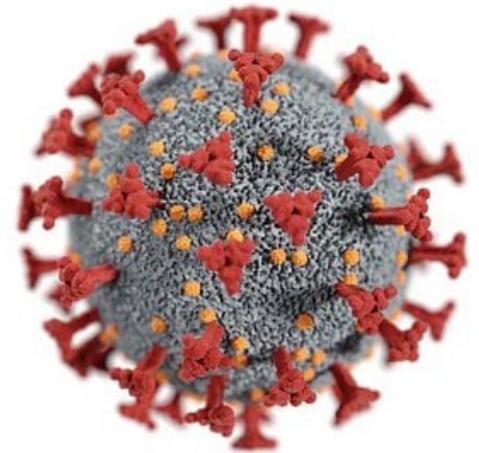


Illustration of SARS-CoV-2 2020 (Eckert & Higgins, CDC)

Regional Initiatives

Critical Incident Response Team (CIRT)

- Specially trained detectives to investigate critical incidents
- Chief of police from participating agency can request CIRT
- Designed to be impartial and foster trust and transparency in the community



Aerial View 2014 (Pickering, Flickr)



COG Police Chief Committee Priorities

- Intelligence, Information Sharing, and Situational Awareness
- Operational Coordination
- Mutual Aid Response Processes

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