

ANNUAL REPORT ON CRIME & CRIME CONTROL

Crime trends in metropolitan Washington and the regional initiatives by law enforcement to improve them

2016 Edition



Metropolitan Washington
Council of Governments

ANNUAL REPORT ON CRIME AND CRIME CONTROL

Prepared for the COG Board of Directors on behalf of the COG Police Chiefs Committee.

ABOUT COG

The Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG) is an independent, nonprofit association that brings area leaders together to address major regional issues in the District of Columbia, suburban Maryland, and Northern Virginia. COG's membership is comprised of 300 elected officials from 24 local governments, the Maryland and Virginia state legislatures, and U.S. Congress.

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN	1
INTRODUCTION	3
PART I OFFENSES ON THE DECLINE	3
CRIME TRENDS IN METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON	8
REGIONAL LAW ENFORCEMENT INITIATIVES	14
Officer Training, Safety, and Education	14
Community Policing	15
Crime Prevention and Technology	16
CONCLUSION	19
IN MEMORIAM	20
APPENDIX: PART I OFFENSES BY JURISDICTION	21
District of Columbia	21
Maryland	21
Virginia	23
COG POLICE CHIEFS COMMITTEE	25

FIGURES AND TABLES

Figure 1: Total Part I Offenses, Metropolitan Washington, 2012-2016	3
Figure 2: Historical Part I Property Crime Trends, Metropolitan Washington	8
Figure 3: Historical Violent Crime Trends	10
Figure 4: Crime Rate Per Capita, 2012-2016	11
Table 1: Part I Offenses, Metropolitan Washington, 2016	4
Table 2: Part I Arrests, Metropolitan Washington, 2016	6
Table 3: Calls for Service and Staffing	12

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN



Ronald A. Pavlik
COG Police Chiefs Committee Chairman

As the hub for regional partnership, the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG) brings area leaders together daily to address some of the area's most pressing challenges.

From combatting the rising opioid epidemic, to undermining the threat of terrorist attacks, to maintaining the important relationship between police and the communities they serve, COG's Police Chiefs Committee and its specialized subcommittees are tackling some particularly tough issues. And, as you will read in this report, these efforts, coupled with the top-notch work of the region's nearly 19,000 law enforcement personnel, is making metropolitan Washington a safer place to live and work.

In the first section of this annual report, you will read that in our region, total crimes against people and property are on the decline—a trend that we have enjoyed for the last decade. However, slight increases in the individual categories of homicide, rape, robbery, and motor vehicle theft in 2016 indicate that there is still work to be done to deter as well as educate about these crimes.

The last section of the report recaps some of the ways we have worked throughout the year at a regional level to create safer communities for area residents and visitors—including laying the groundwork for critical conversations and trainings on opioid addiction, civil disturbances, and disaster response.

I look forward to the ways we will work together in the coming year to make law enforcement even more efficient and effective, with the goal of creating an even safer and stronger metropolitan Washington.



Drug Take Back Day in the Del Ray neighborhood of Alexandria (City of Alexandria Police Department).

INTRODUCTION

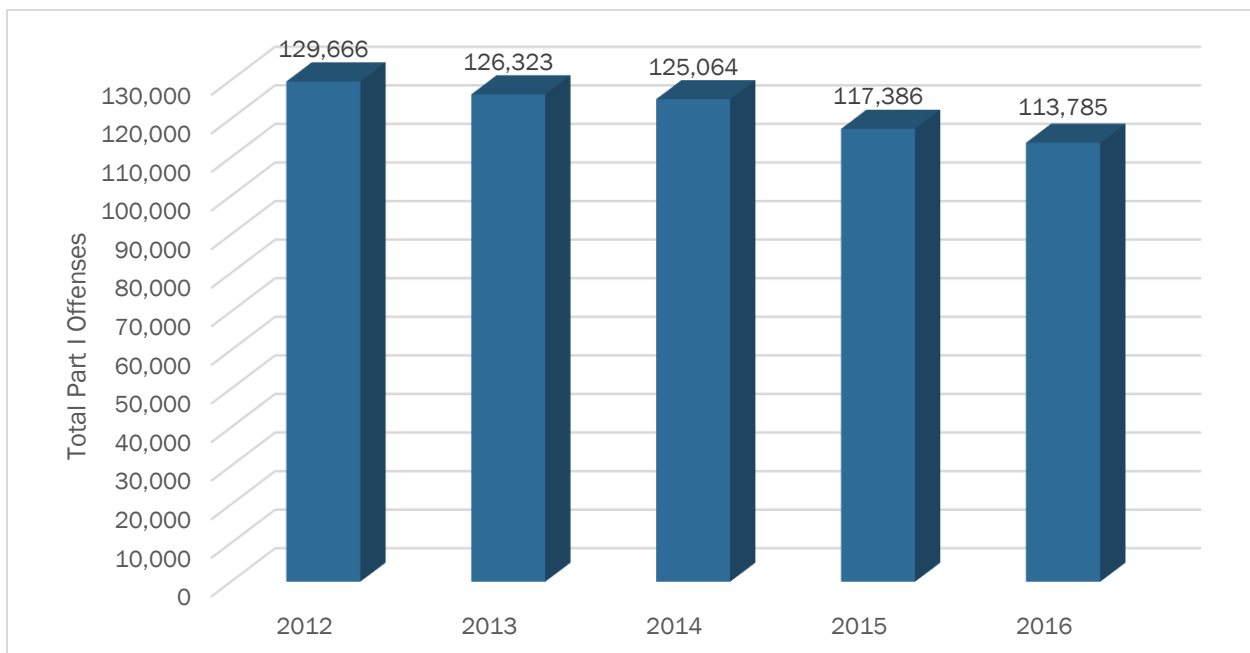
The Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments' (COG) *Annual Report on Crime and Crime Control* is based on crime incidents reported by member law enforcement agencies in metropolitan Washington. This annual report, compiled by COG's Police Chiefs Committee, focuses on Part I offenses as defined by the Federal Bureau of Investigation—including crimes against persons (homicide, rape, and aggravated assault) and crimes against property (robbery, burglary, larceny, and motor vehicle theft).

In order to capture the clearest picture of crime in metropolitan Washington, it is important to look at crime trends over multiple years and view crime statistics in context with environmental influences. Factors such as demographics, the economy, legislative changes, reporting requirements, and/or changes in police policies and resources may influence the number of crimes reported in any jurisdiction.

PART I OFFENSES ON THE DECLINE

In 2016, total Part I offenses continued to decline, despite slight increases in the categories of homicide, rape, robbery, and motor vehicle theft. Part I offenses in 2016 were 3.1 percent lower than 2015 offenses, and overall, crime has dropped 26.4 percent in the last 10 years.

Figure 1: Total Part I Offenses, Metropolitan Washington, 2012-2016



Source: COG

Table 1: Part I Offenses by Jurisdiction, 2016

COG POLICE DEPARTMENTS	REPORTING METHOD	HOMICIDE	RAPE	ROBBERY	AGG. ASSAULT	BURGLARY	LARCENY	M/V THEFTS	TOTAL OFFENSES	CRIMES PER 1000	POPULATION
Metropolitan (D.C.)	UCR/ OTHER*	135	346	3,000	2,278	2,122	26,749	2,700	37,330	54.803	681,170
Bladensburg	UCR	5	10	33	46	44	203	48	389	41.238	9,433
Bowie	UCR	1	4	25	25	120	575	61	811	13.983	58,000
Charles County	UCR	6	38	139	380	396	2,018	167	3,144	20.317	154,747
Frederick County	UCR	1	13	30	141	251	1,180	56	1,672	6.713	249,054
City of Frederick	UCR	1	23	70	249	141	1,223	48	1,755	25.678	68,347
Greenbelt	UCR	1	5	54	51	88	500	73	772	32.000	24,125
Montgomery County	UCR	14	331	659	748	1,855	12,374	837	16,818	16.111	1,043,863
<i>Gaithersburg **</i>	UCR	2	21	51	63	119	1,292	71	1,619	23.589	68,635
<i>Rockville**</i>	UCR	2	24	36	29	105	899	49	1,144	16.988	67,340
Prince George's County	UCR	98	110	1,237	1,420	2,041	9,828	2,822	17,556	19.302	909,535
Takoma Park	UCR	1	2	27	40	101	293	33	497	28.046	17,721
Alexandria	NIBRS	7	12	128	123	179	2,391	268	3,108	20.651	150,500
Arlington County	NIBRS	1	41	106	177	182	2,838	167	3,512	15.935	220,400
City of Fairfax	NIBRS	0	6	7	13	32	377	19	454	18.906	24,013
Fairfax County	NIBRS	19	84	465	401	831	13,000	812	15,612	13.793	1,131,886
Falls Church	NIBRS	0	5	14	9	5	203	16	252	18.000	14,000
Loudoun County	NIBRS	2	58	46	149	209	2,333	136	2,933	7.841	374,062
Manassas	NIBRS	1	21	29	56	92	702	47	948	22.780	41,616
Manassas Park	NIBRS	0	3	3	16	12	158	7	199	12.899	15,427
Prince William County	NIBRS	22	60	230	509	547	4,330	325	6,023	13.388	449,864
SUBTOTAL		315	1,172	6,302	6,831	9,248	81,275	8,642	113,785	20.183	5,637,763

Source: COG

Table 1 (Continued)

ASSOCIATE POLICE DEPARTMENTS	REPORTING METHOD	HOMICIDE	RAPE	ROBBERY	AGG. ASSAULT	BURGLARY	LARCENY	M/V THEFTS	TOTAL OFFENSES
Fauquier County	NIBRS	0	6	2	25	53	327	22	435
FBI	OTHER	0	0	0	2	0	1	0	3
Federal Protective Service	OTHER	2	2	10	45	52	837	25	973
MNCPPC (Montgomery County)	UCR	1	1	10	9	8	87	3	119
MNCPPC (Prince George's County)	UCR	4	0	30	31	5	143	4	217
Maryland State***	UCR	0	1	4	54	42	119	25	245
Metro Transit	NIBRS	1	6	336	146	2	1,008	76	1,575
Metro. Wash. Airports Authority	NIBRS	0	0	1	84	0	472	151	708
National Institutes of Health	UCR	0	0	0	0	0	67	0	67
Pentagon Force Protection Agency	OTHER	0	0	0	0	0	33	0	33
U.S. Capitol	OTHER	0	0	3	7	1	78	11	100
U.S. Park	UCR	0	15	42	48	9	221	17	352
Virginia Dept. of Alcoholic Beverage Control	OTHER	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	2
Virginia State (Div. 7)	NIBRS	0	0	2	22	0	28	13	65
SUBTOTAL		8	31	440	473	174	3,421	347	4,894
GRAND TOTAL		323	1,203	6,742	7,304	9,422	84,696	8,989	118,679

Source: COG

*UCR refers to the Uniform Crime Reporting Program; NIBRS is the National Incident Based Reporting System. The DC Metropolitan Police Department provides official crime statistics through the DC Crime Index; instances of rape, aggravated assault, and larceny are provided through the UCR.

**Data provided by Gaithersburg and Rockville is reported to the state by Montgomery County.

***This includes figures from the College Park, Frederick, Forestville, LaPlata, & Rockville Barracks.

Table 2: Part I Arrests by Jurisdiction, 2016

COG POLICE DEPARTMENTS	REPORTING METHOD	HOMICIDE	RAPE	ROBBERY	AGG ASSAULT	BURGLARY	LARCENY	M/V THEFTS	TOTAL ARRESTS
Metropolitan	UCR	111	119	1,068	1,623	350	2,589	76	5,936
Bladensburg	UCR	2	2	5	11	7	15	2	44
Bowie	UCR	0	0	9	17	19	70	3	118
Charles County	UCR	5	2	16	42	46	891	15	1,017
Frederick County	UCR	1	2	12	64	72	345	11	507
City of Frederick	UCR	3	14	45	148	37	258	14	519
Greenbelt	UCR	1	0	10	28	28	83	4	154
Montgomery County	UCR	16	90	350	307	564	2,900	198	4,425
<i>Gaithersburg*</i>	<i>UCR</i>	2	5	21	28	45	463	27	591
<i>Rockville*</i>	<i>UCR</i>	3	9	24	20	24	111	14	205
Prince George's County	UCR	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	0
City of Takoma Park	UCR	1	2	15	15	13	26	1	73
Alexandria	NIBRS	12	11	67	63	63	278	18	512
Arlington County	NIBRS	1	2	45	86	40	632	18	824
City of Fairfax	NIBRS	0	3	6	14	10	95	3	131
Fairfax County	NIBRS	18	14	224	453	263	5,408	215	6,595
Falls Church	NIBRS	0	1	10	3	2	23	0	39
Loudoun County	NIBRS	3	7	28	117	58	422	46	681
Manassas	NIBRS	2	2	15	75	21	96	0	211
Manassas Park	NIBRS	0	2	5	8	1	8	2	26
Prince William County	NIBRS	23	10	79	218	74	838	26	1,268
SUBTOTAL		199	283	2,009	3,292	1,668	14,977	652	23,080

Table 2 (Continued)

ASSOCIATE POLICE DEPARTMENTS	REPORTING METHOD	HOMICIDE	RAPE	ROBBERY	AGG ASSAULT	BURGLARY	LARCENY	M/V THEFTS	TOTAL ARRESTS
Fauquier County	NIBRS	0	1	10	25	13	124	3	176
FBI Police	OTHER	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Federal Protective Service	OTHER	2	1	0	25	5	13	3	49
M-NCPPC (Montgomery County)	UCR	0	0	6	4	4	11	2	27
M-NCPP (Prince George's County)	UCR	1	0	5	4	4	8	1	23
Maryland**	UCR	0	0	15	45	12	42	4	118
Metro Transit	NIBRS	1	3	59	53	1	136	8	261
Metro. Wash. Airports Authority	NIBRS	0	0	0	21	0	45	42	108
National Institutes of Health	UCR	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pentagon Force Protection Agency	OTHER	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	2
U.S. Capitol	OTHER	0	0	1	5	1	11	12	30
U.S. Park	UCR	0	1	4	73	3	6	7	94
Virginia Dept. of Alcoholic Beverage Control	OTHER	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Virginia (Div. 7)	NIBRS	0	0	1	8	0	3	3	15
SUBTOTAL		4	6	101	263	43	401	85	903
GRAND TOTAL		203	289	2,110	3,555	1,711	15,378	737	23,983

Source: COG

*UCR refers to the Uniform Crime Reporting Program; NIBRS is the National Incident Based Reporting System. The DC Metropolitan Police Department provides official crime statistics through the DC Crime Index; instances of rape, aggravated assault, and larceny are provided through the UCR.

**Data provided by Gaithersburg and Rockville is reported to the state by Montgomery County.

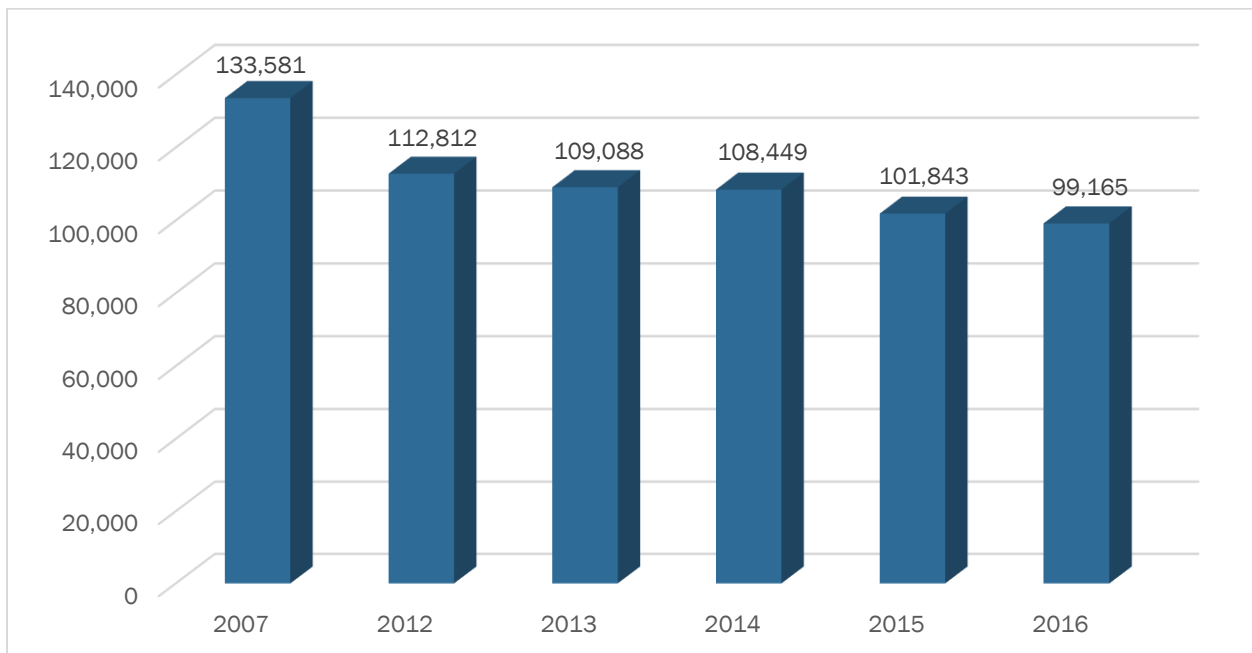
***This includes figures from the College Park, Frederick, Forestville, LaPlata, & Rockville Barracks.

CRIME TRENDS IN METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON

In 2016, there were nearly 2.9 million calls received and/or initiated by the primary agencies, a slight decline (8 percent) from the previous year.

For the fourth consecutive year, metropolitan Washington experienced an overall decline in Part I criminal offenses, with 3,600 fewer offenses in 2016 than 2015. This decrease is largely attributed to the continued decline in property crimes of burglary and larceny, while motor vehicle thefts had a slight increase of less than 1 percent. Since 2007, burglaries have declined 49.5 percent and motor vehicle thefts have declined nearly 65 percent.

Figure 2: Historical Property Crime Trends, Metropolitan Washington



Source: COG

The region experienced increases in several violent offense categories in 2016; homicides, rapes, and robberies increased by 2.6 percent, 5.4 percent, and 9.8 percent, respectively.

In 2016, there were 315 homicides in the region, a slight increase over the 307 homicides that occurred in 2015, but still considerably lower than the 387 that occurred in 2007 (a decrease of 18.6 percent over 10 years). The 2016 increase in this region is attributed to more homicides in Prince George’s County, Prince William County, and Fairfax County, yet there is not one specific factor that seemed to cause more homicides in 2016 in each of these jurisdictions.

Despite an overall decrease in Part I crimes compared to 2015, the region experienced increases in several violent offense categories in 2016—homicides, rapes, and robberies.

All the jurisdictions report that domestic violence, gangs, and drug activity are common factors in the incidents of homicide reported over the last few years.

According to the National Sexual Violence Resource Center, rape is the most under-reported crime: 63 percent of sexual assaults are not reported to the police, and only 12 percent of child sexual abuse is reported. Still, metropolitan Washington continues to see increases in the number of reported rapes—5.4 percent since 2015 and 30.7 percent over the last 10 years. There is a strong educational component to try to reduce victimization because so much of this type of crime is committed by someone who knows and has access to the victim. Moreover, the focus over the last year on untested kits, passing of new legislation broadening the definition of rape, and emergence of several high-profile cases nationwide has helped encourage more victims to come forward.

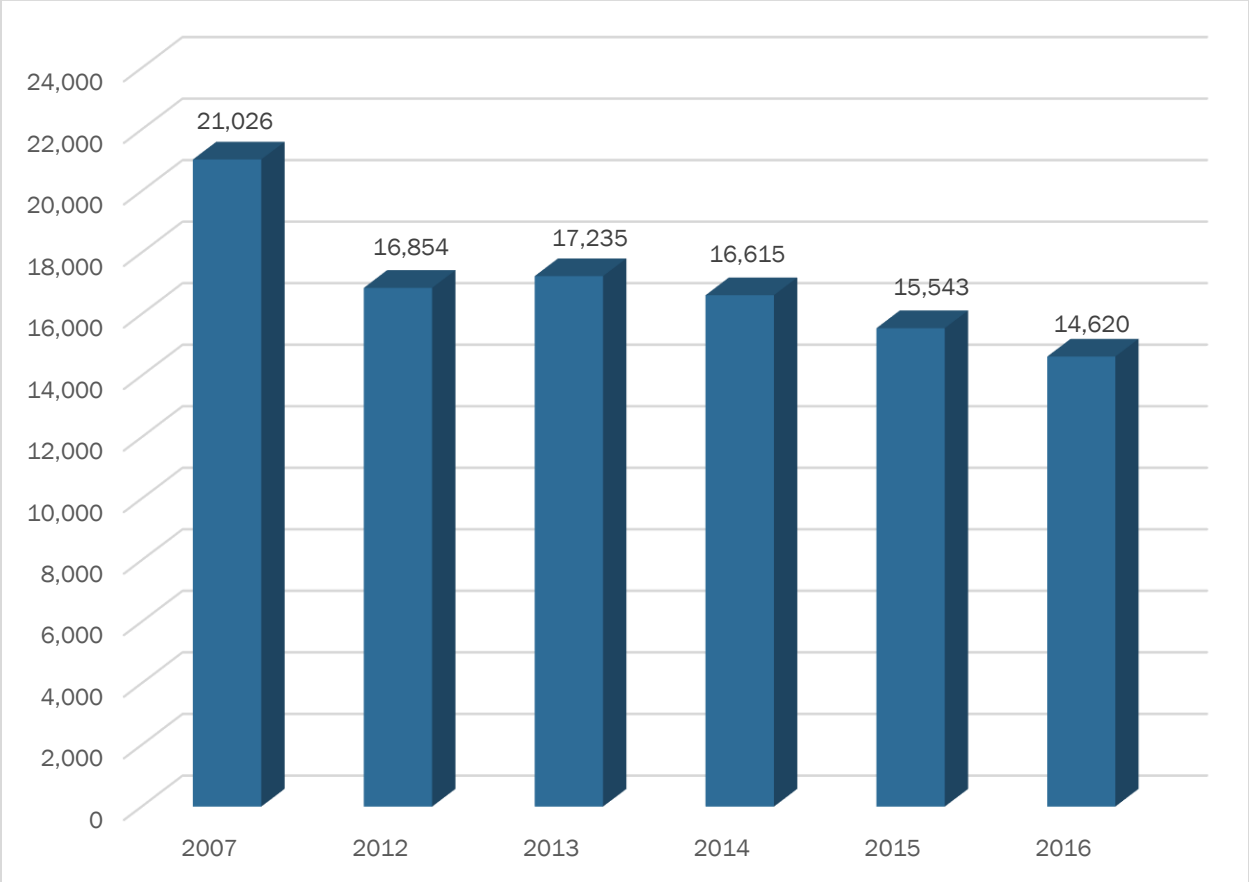
The increase in robberies over the last year in parts of the region may be attributed to thefts of personal electronic devices, gang activity, and incidents that occur during the course of online sales transactions, when people place items for sale through online marketplaces and the buyer(s) have dishonest motives. Several police departments have designated their district stations as "safe exchange" zones, where people may go for the exchange of goods bought online, with the intent of deterring thefts, robberies, and fraud.

Despite the increases in these three offense categories in 2016, violent crime in the region has declined overall by 30.5 percent in the last ten years. Most notable is the reduction in robberies, down 39.4 percent since 2007.



(Metropolitan Police Department)

Figure 3: Historical Violent Crime Trends, Metropolitan Washington



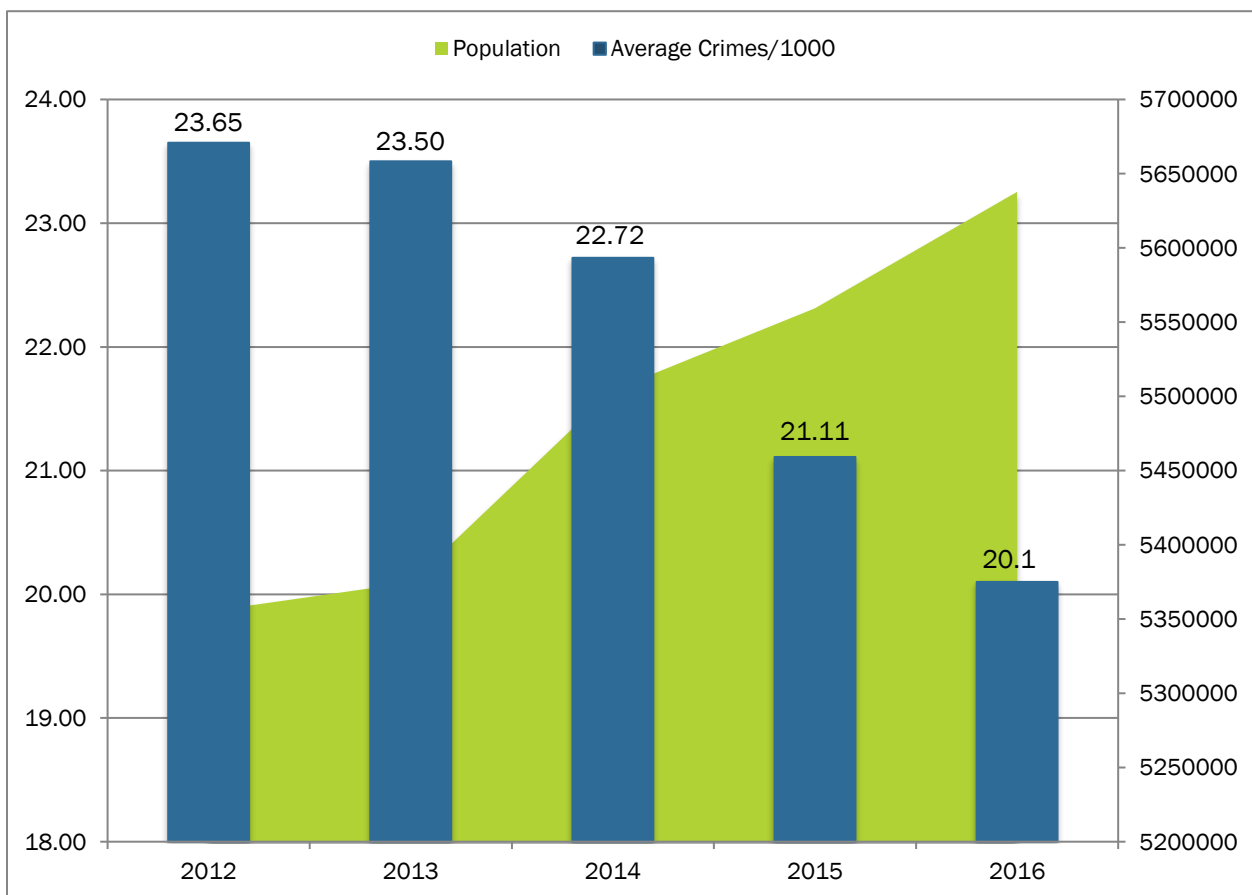
Source: COG

Crime Rate Per Capita

Overall, the metropolitan Washington region continues to be an extremely safe place to live, work, and visit. In the last five years, the population has grown by nearly 5.3 percent, and it is estimated that there are more than 5.6 million people in this area, yet the per capita crime rate is low: 20.1 crimes per 1,000 people. The crime rate per capita is a commonly accepted measure of crime and may serve as a basic indicator of overall criminal trends. Since 2012, the crime rate per capita has dropped from 23.65 crimes per 1,000 people to 20.1 crimes per 1,000 people. This is a positive sign.¹ Further, over the last decade, property crime has consistently accounted for 87 percent of reported crime in the region, while violent crime constituted only 13 percent.

Jurisdictions throughout the region monitor the spikes of crimes in their areas and address the patterns in a variety of ways, including through community outreach, training, and selective enforcement. Advances in analytical software programs allow analysts and investigators to better predict patterns of criminal activity and connect criminal behavior to suspects.

Figure 4: Crime Rate Per Capita, 2012-2016



Source: COG

¹ The crime rate is based on Part I offenses, and does not serve as a comprehensive tracking of all crimes. Further, departments in the region report offenses under different programs, which can cause discrepancies in data comparison and analysis.

Table 3: Calls for Service and Staffing, 2016*

COG DEPARTMENT	CALLS	SWORN	CIVILIAN
Metropolitan	652,122	3,800	600
Bladensburg			
Bladensburg	7,291	20	7
Bowie	20,160	64	18
Charles County	256,221	301	196
Frederick County	93,621	1,879	37
Frederick	93,133	144	43
Greenbelt	24,720	53	18
Montgomery County	233,748	1,277	765
Gaithersburg	34,949	59	13
Rockville	30,947	59	33
Prince George's County	331,142	1,786	465
Takoma Park	8,576	42	20
Alexandria			
Alexandria	68,610	307	107
Arlington County	85,511	361	89
City of Fairfax	14,577	66	28
Fairfax County	460,245	1,361	430
Falls Church	31,757	32	10
Loudoun County	145,986	582	125
Manassas	54,462	95	26
Manassas Park	18,986	34	9
Prince William County	217,284	660	194
SUBTOTAL	2,884,048	12,982	3,233
ASSOCIATE DEPARTMENTS			
Fauquier County	113,163	127	39
FBI-Police	204	98	0
Federal Protective Service	16,427	0	0
M-NCPPC (Montgomery County)	103,794	95	22
M-NCPPC (Prince George's County)	203,779	125	30
Maryland State (NCR)	0	0	0
Metro Transit	73,528	463	163
Metro. Wash. Airports Authority	127,935	225	46
National Institutes of Health	14,375	77	28
Pentagon Force Protection Agency	79,371	813	75
U.S. Capitol	0	0	0
U.S. Park	0	0	0
Virginia Dept. of Alcoholic Beverage Control	116	13	2
Virginia State (Div. 7)	183,150	266	43
SUBTOTAL	712,063	2,302	448
GRAND TOTAL	3,596,111	15,284	3,681

* Number of calls for service should not be used as an indicator of crime; there is not a commonly accepted definition of calls for service.

Source: COG

On the Rise: Opioid-Induced Deaths and Overdoses

Law enforcement and state and local health agencies continue to track the troubling trend of opioid-induced deaths and overdoses in the region and nationwide.² In 2016, area jurisdictions worked to combat this trend by issuing Naloxone to first responders, in addition to ramping up public education, and coordinating resources. Despite these increased efforts to reduce opioid deaths, there were still more than 600 opioid-involved fatalities in the region in 2016.

Opioid abuse—and the presence of potent synthetic opioids fentanyl and carfentanyl—is stretching communities and their resources nationwide. It will be up to everyone—law enforcement, government leaders and agencies, private organizations, the medical community, and private citizens—to combat this growing epidemic of opioid misuse through education, treatment, enforcement, and prescribing pain relief alternatives.



Drug Take Back Day in Manassas (Manassas Police Department).

² <https://www.cdc.gov/drugoverdose/data/index.html>

REGIONAL LAW ENFORCEMENT INITIATIVES

At COG, public safety and homeland security personnel are continually working to create safer communities for area residents and visitors to the region. Throughout 2016, the COG Police Chiefs Committee and its subcommittees addressed current and emerging law enforcement issues and trends, and exchanged information, lessons, and ideas about the delivery of public safety services and other topics of mutual concern. This section of the report highlights prominent initiatives from the year.

Officer Training, Safety, and Education

It is a priority of the region's law enforcement leadership to ensure that their personnel are prepared for any situation they are confronted with while serving metropolitan Washington. Throughout 2016, COG's law enforcement committees developed and conducted a variety of trainings, exercises, and events on topics such as complex coordinated attacks (CCAs), disaster response, the enhancement of SWAT, and responding to civil disturbances.



(Metropolitan Police Department)

After the Baltimore riots in 2015—a reaction to the death of a person while in police custody, Freddie Gray—a regional Civil Disturbance Unit (CDU) Subcommittee was formed, to review the Baltimore City unrest and develop best practices, standards, and more efficient methods for protecting civilians and officers.

As a first order of business, the CDU Subcommittee and Police Executive Research Foundation (PERF) conducted an extensive after-action review of the violent unrest, examining the tactics used by both the crowd and the police. The group researched methods from around the world for responding to these types of incidents, and invited trainers to educate the CDU Subcommittee on their methods. The CDU Subcommittee put forward recommendations for standardized training and equipment based on European models, which were adopted by the COG Police Chiefs. The subcommittee also planned for a national CDU summit, to be held in 2017 in partnership with the Department of Justice, National Institute of Justice, Department of Homeland Security Safety and Training, and the National Institute of Standards and Technology.

In addition, the Public Safety Chaplains Subcommittee dedicated their fall conference to discussing the role of clergy in mitigating civil disturbances.

Departments across the region also devoted more training in 2016 to de-escalation tactics and techniques. This type of training prepares the patrol officer for response to crisis situations involving persons with disabilities or mental illness, or subjects under the influence of controlled dangerous substances.

Community Policing



Unity in the Community Event (Takoma Park).

Trust between law enforcement and the people they protect and serve is essential to the stability of communities and the effective delivery of policing services. To establish trust, area police departments are out in the community working diligently to foster these relationships. Outreach strategies are discussed and enhanced at COG, then tested and implemented by agencies in their respective neighborhoods.

For many years, the Annual National Night Out has brought law enforcement and the community together the first Tuesday in August. During the rest of the year, officers are in local schools educating young people on a variety of topics such as bullying, cyber safety, drug education, and personal safety. Kids are given the opportunity to sit in police vehicles, ask questions, and build trust in law enforcement.

In Takoma Park, government, law enforcement, and local businesses got together and planned a kickoff event for community engagement, Unity in the Community. At this well-attended event in September, residents of all ages got to directly interact with officers and enjoy fun activities, live music, and games. Derived from conversations between Meaghan Murphy, co-owner of Capital City Cheesecake, Mayor Kate Stewart, and Captain Tyrone Collington of the Takoma Park Police Department, the initiative sought to unite local police departments and their communities into one collective voice.

The initiative is a proactive and collaborative step to create and strengthen relationships between the Takoma Park Police Department, elected city officials, and community residents by expanding routine opportunities for people of diverse backgrounds to come together through community dialogue, relationship-building events, sustained partnerships, and fundraising campaigns.

In the District, more than 140 residents have completed the Community Engagement Academy. This six-week training program teaches community members from all seven police districts about different aspects of policing in their own neighborhood. Participants get a firsthand look at Metropolitan Police Department's (MPD) specialized policing units (like K-9 or bomb squad), discuss use of force policies, get an overview of the recruit training program, and much more.

In Fairfax County, residents are encouraged to join their local Fairfax County Police Department Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC). The committees meet each month at police stations across the county. At the meetings, residents and their local police personnel raise questions and concerns, and discuss safety matters affecting their neighborhoods.

In addition to fostering police-community respect, these events and initiatives encourage future cooperation, such as aiding the flow of information about crimes or suspects, and allowing law enforcement to tap into valuable community resources to prevent and deter crime.

Crime Prevention and Technology

New and improved tools and innovative technologies are making it easier for law enforcement to access, record, and analyze important data and information—all key to understanding and addressing criminal activity.

In metropolitan Washington, the local police chiefs explored opportunities for situational awareness and crime analysis tools to be used across the region, with the goal of creating a common operating picture of criminal activity and making it easier to deploy resources region-wide when needed.

BODY WORN CAMERAS



(Metropolitan Police Department)

In 2016, the Police Body Worn Camera (BWC) Working Group continued to monitor the rollout of BWC across metropolitan Washington. The Working Group found that departments who were evaluating BWC have largely moved to implementation. Departments that have used the BWC for over a year have found them useful in court prosecutions and resolving complaints against officers.

The advantages and benefits of BWC outweigh the limitations, but with more than 10,000 police officers in the region, the financial investment is significant. Therefore, the group continues to explore BWC best practices and share lessons learned. They have included prosecutors in their ongoing discussions about implementing BWC, as they are frequent users of the footage. They have also begun to explore technologies and techniques for protecting sensitive information and managing Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests as it relates to BWC.

In the long term, the use of BWCs by police officers has the potential to be a valuable tool for both the agency and the community. However, it is one tool among many that can be used to promote and support public safety, help officers and prosecutors provide the highest level of service, and continue to protect and serve the residents of the region.

COMMUNICATING AND SHARING INFORMATION REGIONALLY

The Complex Coordinated Attacks (CCAs) that have happened recently in Europe (such as those in Brussels and Paris) and other terror-related incidents that have occurred in the U.S. are of great concern to the region's police chiefs. Because incidents and criminals can easily cross jurisdictional lines, it is crucial for law enforcement to be able to continually improve their ability to communicate and quickly share information across borders.

In addition to trainings and exercises on these topics in 2016, the region began to roll out an Inter-Radio Frequency Subsystem Interface—or ISSI. This technology connects public safety radio systems built by different manufacturers, enabling users on different networks to communicate with each other. It also ensures that first responders will have radio service (extended network) if they are assisting in other jurisdictions during an emergency. The interface was first tested in Fairfax County and Prince William County.

Throughout the year, several subcommittees also worked to develop databases containing information about the capabilities of the region's canine, crisis negotiating, and crime scene units, among others. These databases are a valuable resource for members, providing information about capabilities so others know who they can call on when additional mutual aid resources are required. The databases also contain contact information for unit commanders and team leaders and other useful information used to benchmark key items (like equipment) across agencies.

Advances in technology have also made it easier for crime analysts to access data, cross check information, and identify patterns for use by law enforcement and investigators.

Analytical software allows agencies to easily download information for sharing on public sites, allowing residents to interact with the data and better understand what types of criminal activity may be occurring in their communities.

UNMANNED AERIAL SYSTEM TECHNOLOGIES

The region's police chiefs are also exploring the ways that unmanned aerial vehicles—or drones—and associated technologies could be used by law enforcement for search and rescue, crime scene documentation, and situational awareness, while at the same time respecting the privacy of area citizens. They are also working on countermeasures for when unmanned aerial vehicles are used by others for illicit purposes, including breaches of “no fly zones”—such as the Flight Restricted Zone that makes up a 15 mile radius from National Airport.

INFRARED THERMAL IMAGERS

The thermal imager has become an invaluable tool in conducting law enforcement operations. The ability to quickly scan areas for hidden subjects or locate items of evidentiary value or potential hazardous materials increases the safety of law enforcement and the public. Hand-held thermal imagers are being rolled out and integrated in the region to locate missing or endangered persons and assist K9 handlers and search managers with identifying potential hazardous devices. The imagers can also be used to assist with search operations as the result of a complex coordinated attack within the region.

CONCLUSION

Crime continues to decline in metropolitan Washington, a trend that has been enjoyed by the region for the last ten years. There was a 3.1 percent decrease in total Part I crimes—which includes homicide, rape, aggravated assault, robbery, burglary, larceny, and motor vehicle theft—between 2015 and 2016. Over the last decade, total Part I crimes have decreased by 26.4 percent. Violent crimes, or those Part I crimes against persons, have decreased by 30.5 percent.

These improvements can be attributed in part to the region’s emphasis on training, resource coordination and information sharing, community policing, and the use of innovative crime prevention technologies.

Despite the good news, there are still areas of concern for law enforcement when it comes to combatting crime in the region. Although the region experienced a decline in total Part I crimes in 2016, homicides, rapes, and robberies increased. Area law enforcement attribute much of this violent crime to gang and drug-related activity. The COG Police Chiefs Committee will focus on gang-related violence, weapons, homicide, and unaccompanied minors in the coming year.

In addition, because opioid-induced deaths continue to increase throughout the country and in metropolitan Washington, area law enforcement will continue to collaborate with other disciplines to better understand and combat the epidemic, including through public education and resource coordination efforts.

Furthermore, the Committee will review standards, best practices, and equipment for responding to civil disturbances, including holding a national Civil Disturbance Unit summit in 2017.

Lastly, the COG Police Chiefs Committee is committed to continuing its work together to ensure that area law enforcement is always becoming more efficient and effective, with the goal of creating an even safer and stronger metropolitan Washington.

IN MEMORIAM

Remembering those men and women who gave their lives in service to metropolitan Washington in 2016. Learn more about these heroes and others from [The National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund](#).



Officer Jacai David Colson
Prince George's County Police Department



Corporal Harvey Snook III
Arlington County Police Department



Officer Ashley Marie Guindon
Prince William County Police Department



Trooper Chad Phillip Dermeyer
Virginia State Police

APPENDIX: PART I OFFENSES BY JURISDICTION

District of Columbia

DC METROPOLITAN				
	2015	2016	INC/DEC	%
HOMICIDE	162	135	-27	-17%
RAPE	296	346	50	17%
ROBBERY	2,424	3,000	576	24%
AGG ASSAULT	3,447	2,278	-1,169	-34%
BURGLARY	2,544	2,122	-422	-17%
LARCENY	25,271	26,749	1,478	6%
M/V THEFTS	2,827	2,700	-127	-4%
Total Part I	36,971	37,330	359	1%

Maryland

BLADENSBURG				
	2015	2016	INC/DEC	%
HOMICIDE	1	5	4	400%
RAPE	2	10	8	400%
ROBBERY	27	33	6	22%
AGG ASSAULT	51	46	-5	-10%
BURGLARY	51	44	-7	-14%
LARCENY	220	203	-17	-8%
M/V THEFTS	62	48	-14	-23%
Total Part I	414	389	-25	-6%

CHARLES COUNTY				
	2015	2016	INC/DEC	%
HOMICIDE	4	6	2	50%
RAPE	23	38	15	65%
ROBBERY	114	139	25	22%
AGG ASSAULT	401	380	-21	-5%
BURGLARY	511	396	-115	-23%
LARCENY	1,926	2,018	92	5%
M/V THEFTS	194	167	-27	-14%
Total Part I	3,173	3,144	-29	-1%

BOWIE				
	2015	2016	INC/DEC	%
HOMICIDE	3	1	-2	-67%
RAPE	3	4	1	33%
ROBBERY	19	25	6	32%
AGG ASSAULT	41	25	-16	-39%
BURGLARY	140	120	-20	-14%
LARCENY	500	575	75	15%
M/V THEFTS	46	61	15	33%
Total Part I	752	811	59	8%

FREDERICK COUNTY				
	2015	2016	INC/DEC	%
HOMICIDE	2	1	-1	-50%
RAPE	6	13	7	117%
ROBBERY	29	30	1	3%
AGG ASSAULT	126	141	15	12%
BURGLARY	343	251	-92	-27%
LARCENY	1,318	1,180	-138	-10%
M/V THEFTS	48	56	8	17%
Total Part I	1,872	1,672	-200	-11%

CITY OF FREDERICK				
	2015	2016	INC/DEC	%
HOMICIDE	5	1	-4	-80%
RAPE	22	23	1	5%
ROBBERY	66	70	4	6%
AGG ASSAULT	250	249	-1	0%
BURGLARY	143	141	-2	-1%
LARCENY	1,211	1,223	12	1%
M/V THEFTS	52	48	-4	-8%
Total Part I	1,749	1,755	6	0%

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY				
	2015	2016	INC/DEC	%
HOMICIDE	67	98	31	46%
RAPE	248	110	-138	-56%
ROBBERY	1,359	1,237	-122	-9%
AGG ASSAULT	1,583	1,420	-163	-10%
BURGLARY	2,796	2,041	-755	-27%
LARCENY	10,772	9,828	-944	-9%
M/V THEFTS	2,856	2,822	-34	-1%
Total Part I	19,681	17,556	-2,125	-11%

GAITHERSBURG				
	2015	2016	INC/DEC	%
HOMICIDE	1	2	1	100%
RAPE	25	21	-4	-16%
ROBBERY	54	51	-3	-6%
AGG ASSAULT	101	63	-38	-38%
BURGLARY	163	119	-44	-27%
LARCENY	1,358	1,292	-66	-5%
M/V THEFTS	67	71	4	6%
Total Part I	1,769	1,619	-150	-8%

ROCKVILLE				
	2015	2016	INC/DEC	%
HOMICIDE	2	2	0	0%
RAPE	23	24	1	-16%
ROBBERY	43	36	-7	-17%
AGG ASSAULT	35	29	-6	-3%
BURGLARY	108	105	-3	-6%
LARCENY	957	899	-58	44%
M/V THEFTS	34	49	15	-5%
Total Part I	1,202	1,144	-58	-5%

GREENBELT				
	2015	2016	INC/DEC	%
HOMICIDE	1	1	0	0%
RAPE	6	5	-1	-17%
ROBBERY	50	54	4	8%
AGG ASSAULT	53	51	-2	-4%
BURGLARY	139	88	-51	-37%
LARCENY	550	500	-50	-9%
M/V THEFTS	66	73	7	11%
Total Part I	865	772	-93	-11%

TAKOMA PARK				
	2015	2016	INC/DEC	%
HOMICIDE	1	1	0	0%
RAPE	5	2	-3	-60%
ROBBERY	25	27	2	8%
AGG ASSAULT	23	40	17	74%
BURGLARY	126	101	-25	-20%
LARCENY	405	293	-112	-28%
M/V THEFTS	32	33	1	3%
Total Part I	617	497	-120	-19%

MONTGOMERY COUNTY				
	2015	2016	INC/DEC	%
HOMICIDE	30	14	-16	-53%
RAPE	269	331	62	23%
ROBBERY	605	659	54	9%
AGG ASSAULT	1,060	748	-312	-29%
BURGLARY	1,812	1,855	43	2%
LARCENY	13,217	12,374	-843	-6%
M/V THEFTS	732	837	105	14%
Total Part I	17,725	16,818	-907	-5%

Virginia

ALEXANDRIA				
	2015	2016	INC/DEC	%
HOMICIDE	4	7	3	75%
RAPE	19	12	-7	-37%
ROBBERY	139	128	-11	-8%
AGG ASSAULT	148	123	-25	-17%
BURGLARY	230	179	-51	-22%
LARCENY	2,443	2,391	-52	-2%
M/V THEFTS	254	268	14	6%
Total Part I	3,237	3,108	-129	-4%

FALLS CHURCH				
	2015	2016	INC/DEC	%
HOMICIDE	0	0	0	0%
RAPE	3	5	2	67%
ROBBERY	11	14	3	27%
AGG ASSAULT	7	9	2	29%
BURGLARY	8	5	-3	-38%
LARCENY	212	203	-9	-4%
M/V THEFTS	13	16	3	23%
Total Part I	254	252	-2	-1%

ARLINGTON COUNTY				
	2015	2016	INC/DEC	%
HOMICIDE	2	1	-1	-50%
RAPE	27	41	14	52%
ROBBERY	115	106	-9	-8%
AGG ASSAULT	144	177	33	23%
BURGLARY	178	182	4	2%
LARCENY	3,004	2,838	-166	-6%
M/V THEFTS	161	167	6	4%
Total Part I	3,631	3,512	-119	-3%

LOUDOUN COUNTY				
	2015	2016	INC/DEC	%
HOMICIDE	3	2	-1	-33%
RAPE	38	58	20	53%
ROBBERY	42	46	4	10%
AGG ASSAULT	101	149	48	48%
BURGLARY	190	209	19	10%
LARCENY	2,227	2,333	106	5%
M/V THEFTS	128	136	8	6%
Total Part I	2,729	2,933	204	7%

CITY OF FAIRFAX				
	2015	2016	INC/DEC	%
HOMICIDE	0	0	0	0%
RAPE	7	6	-1	-14%
ROBBERY	15	7	-8	-53%
AGG ASSAULT	11	13	2	18%
BURGLARY	34	32	-2	-6%
LARCENY	402	377	-25	-6%
M/V THEFTS	20	19	-1	-5%
Total Part I	489	454	-35	-7%

MANASSAS				
	2015	2016	INC/DEC	%
HOMICIDE	0	1	1	100%
RAPE	14	21	7	50%
ROBBERY	31	29	-2	-6%
AGG ASSAULT	38	56	18	47%
BURGLARY	85	92	7	8%
LARCENY	666	702	36	5%
M/V THEFTS	34	47	13	38%
Total Part I	868	948	80	9%

FAIRFAX COUNTY				
	2015	2016	INC/DEC	%
HOMICIDE	13	19	6	46%
RAPE	67	84	17	25%
ROBBERY	448	465	17	4%
AGG ASSAULT	411	401	-10	-2%
BURGLARY	837	831	-6	-1%
LARCENY	13,320	13,000	-320	-2%
M/V THEFTS	792	812	20	3%
Total Part I	15,888	15,612	-276	-2%

MANASSAS PARK				
	2015	2016	INC/DEC	%
HOMICIDE	0	0	0	0%
RAPE	2	3	1	50%
ROBBERY	0	3	3	100%
AGG ASSAULT	10	16	6	60%
BURGLARY	13	12	-1	-8%
LARCENY	128	158	30	23%
M/V THEFTS	10	7	-3	-30%
Total Part I	163	199	36	22%

PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY				
	2015	2016	INC/DEC	%
HOMICIDE	9	22	13	144%
RAPE	55	60	5	9%
ROBBERY	216	230	14	6%
AGG ASSAULT	484	509	25	5%
BURGLARY	610	547	-63	-10%
LARCENY	4,627	4,330	-297	-6%
M/V THEFTS	307	325	18	6%
Total Part I	6,308	6,023	-285	-5%

COG POLICE CHIEFS COMMITTEE

**Air Force District
of Washington**
Timothy Gerald z

**Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco,
Firearms and Explosives -
Washington Field Division**
Michael Boxler

**City of Alexandria
Police Department**
Chief Michael L. Brown

**City of Alexandria
Sheriff's Office**
Sheriff Dana Lawhorne

Amtrak Police Department
Chief Neil Trugman

**Arlington County
Police Department**
Chief M. Jay Farr

**Bladensburg Police
Department**
Chief Charles L. Owens

**CIA - Security
Protective Service**
Chief Alton Jones

**Charles County
Sheriff's Office**
Sheriff Troy Berry

**City of Bowie
Police Department**
Chief John Nesky

**City of Fairfax
Police Department**
Chief Carl Pardini

**District of Columbia
Protective Services Division**
Chief Anthony Fortune

**Defense Intelligence
Agency Police**
Chief Andre Tibbs

**Fairfax County
Police Department**
Chief Edwin C. Roessler, Jr.

**Falls Church City
Police Department**
Chief Mary Gavin

**Fauquier County
Sheriff's Office**
Sheriff Robert Mosier

**Federal Bureau of
Investigations,
Washington Field Office**
Andrew Vale

**Federal Bureau of
Investigations,
Police Unit**
Acting Chief Scott Giroux

**Federal Protective Service
National Capital Region**
Ramon Sanchez

Federal Reserve Police
Chief Katherine Perez-
Grines

**Frederick Police
Department**
Chief Edward Hargis

**Frederick County
Sheriff's Office**
Sheriff Charles A. Jenkins

**Gaithersburg
Police Department**
Chief Mark P. Sroka

**Greenbelt
Police Department**
Acting Chief Thomas Kemp

**Homeland Security
Investigations
Baltimore Field Office**
Andre Watson

**Homeland Security
Investigations Washington
Field Office**
Patrick Lechleitner

**Leesburg Police
Department**
Chief Gregory Brown

**Loudoun County
Sheriff's Office**
Sheriff Michael L. Chapman

**City of Manassas
Police Department**
Chief Douglas W. Keen

**Manassas Park
Police Department**
Chief John C. Evans

**Maryland Department Of
Public Safety &
Correctional Services**
Stephen T. Moyer

Maryland Department of Natural Resources Police
Colonel Robert Zeigler, Jr.

**Superintendent
Maryland National Capital Park Police Montgomery County Division**
Chief Antonio Devaul

Maryland National Capital Park Police, Prince George's County Division
Chief Stanley Johnson

Maryland State Police Department
Colonel William M. Pallozzi
Superintendent

Metro Transit Police Department
Chief Ronald Pavlik

**Metropolitan Police Department
Washington, DC**
Chief Peter Newsham

Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority Police
Chief Scott Booth

Military District Of Washington/ Joint Forces Headquarters- NCR
Colonel William Wozniak
Provost Marshal

Montgomery County Department of Police
Chief J. Thomas Manger

National Institutes Of Health Police
Chief Alvin D. Hinton

National Geospatial Intelligence Agency Police
Chief Drew Stathis

**Naval Criminal Investigative Service
Washington Field Office**
Jeremy Gauthier,

Pentagon Force Protection Agency
Chief Woodrow Kusse

Prince George's County Police Department
Chief Henry Stawinski

Prince William County Police Department
Chief Barry Barnard

Prince William County Sheriff's Office
Sheriff Glendell Hill

Rockville City Police Department
Acting Chief Robert Rappoport

Smithsonian Office Of Protection Services
Jeanne O'toole

Takoma Park Police Department
Acting Chief Daniel Frishkorn

U.S. Capitol Police
Chief Matthew Verdosa

University of the District Of Columbia Police Department
Chief Marieo Foster

**U.S. Drug Enforcement Agency
Washington Field Division**
Karl Colder

U.S. Marshal for DC
Acting Marshal Robert Turner

U.S. Marshal for DC Superior Courts
Marshal Michael Hughes

U.S. Park Police
Chief Robert Maclean

U.S. Secret Service Uniformed Division
Chief Kevin Simpson

U.S. Secret Service Washington Field Office
Brian Ebert

Virginia State Police - Division 7, Bureau Of Criminal Investigations
Captain Greg Kincaid

Virginia State Police - Division 7, Bureau Of Field Operations
Captain James De Ford, Sr

Virginia Department Of Alcoholic Beverage Control - Region 4, Bureau Of Law Enforcement
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