



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Police Department Releases Annual Crime Statistics for City of San Diego

DATA REVEALS 13% OVERALL CRIME INCREASE, COMPARABLE TO CRIME RATES IN LARGE U.S. CITIES

San Diego – Today the San Diego Police Department (SDPD) will present the 2021 crime statistics for the City of San Diego as an information item to the San Diego City Council. Police Chief David Nisleit will hold a media availability this afternoon following the meeting.

Overall crime citywide in San Diego increased 13% during 2021, a trend consistent with that of other major U.S. cities.

When compared to the previous year, data show increases in six of the seven categories that are tabulated. The categories are grouped by violent crimes including homicide, rape, robbery and aggravated assault and by property crimes including burglary, theft and vehicle theft.

“Police departments across the nation are combatting rises in crime, and although San Diego historically ranks as one of the safest big cities, our City is also seeing an increase in crime,” Chief Nisleit said. **“Despite the challenges facing our department this year as we address reductions in staffing, SDPD remains committed to responding to calls for service, using intelligence-led investigations to catch criminals, and doing proactive police work to prevent crime.**

BREAKDOWN BY CATEGORY

	Overall Crime Jan. - Dec.			% Change 2020-2021	(Rates per 1,000)			% Clearance		
	2019	2020	2021		2019	2020	2021	2019	2020	2021
Murder	50	55	57*	1.8%	0.04	0.04	0.04	66.0%	87.5%	75.4%
Rape	561	485	571	17.7%	0.39	0.34	0.40	20.5%	13.2%	10.5%
Robbery	1,346	1,207	1,091	-9.6%	0.95	0.84	0.77	34.6%	29.2%	31.8%
Aggravated Assault	3,258	3,556	4,156	16.9%	2.29	2.49	2.95	48.8%	42.8%	42.9%
Violent Crimes	5,215	5,303	5,875	10.8%	3.67	3.71	4.16	42.2%	37.4%	38.0%
Burglary	3,543	3,324	3,393	2.1%	2.49	2.32	2.40	11.1%	12.2%	11.4%
Theft	18,426	16,044	18,075	12.7%	12.97	11.22	12.81	6.8%	3.8%	3.8%
Vehicle Theft	5,172	4,953	6,165	24.5%	3.64	3.46	4.37	3.3%	8.4%	8.3%
Property Crimes	27,141	24,321	27,633	13.6%	19.11	17.00	19.58	6.7%	5.9%	5.7%
TOTAL	32,356	29,624	33,508	13.1%	22.78	20.71	23.75	12.5%	11.7%	11.5%

*Two additional homicides occurred in the City of San Diego in 2021, however, per UCR guidelines they were officially reported statistically by California Highway Patrol as the incidents occurred on freeways.

STATISTICS OF NOTE:

- **The overall crime rate of 23.8 and property crime rate of 19.6 per thousand residents** are comparable to rates in the late-1950s.
- **The violent crime rate of 4.2 per thousand residents** is comparable to rates in the mid-1970s.
- **Hate crime reports increased by 77%.** In 2021, the City and County of San Diego widely promoted the importance of reporting hate crimes and encouraged victims to report them. SDPD worked with LGBTQ and API businesses to establish the [Safe Place Program](#) for victims of hate crimes. More than 750 businesses currently display the Safe Place Program decal.
- **San Diego continues to maintain** one of the highest clearance rates and also one of the lowest homicide rates annually when compared to other large U.S. cities. In 2021, SDPD added a sixth homicide investigation team and a new ghost gun investigation team to increase the department's ability to locate criminals and get illegal firearms off San Diego streets.

SDPD is encouraging all community members to work with the police department to combat this rise in crime and violence in San Diego through reporting suspicious activity, assisting in investigations and helping create safer communities for all.

The San Diego Police Department compiles and submits the data to the Federal Bureau of Investigation as part of the Uniform Crime Reporting program that collects data from departments across the U.S. The Department is scheduled to present their annual crime data to the City Council as an information item Tuesday, March 8 at 2 p.m.

WHAT: Media Availability

WHO: Police Chief David Nisleit

WHEN: Tuesday, March 8, 2022, 4 p.m. (time will be dependent upon item at Council)

WHERE: San Diego Police Headquarters
1401 Broadway
San Diego, CA 92101

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