

This report summarizes the January through December 2023 National Incident Based Reporting System (NIBRS) crimes, as well as domestic violence cases, gang, and hate crimes statistics. NIBRS crimes include crimes against persons, property, and society. The United States Department of Justice collects information on these crime types from law enforcement agencies throughout the United States and uses the data to measure crime nationwide.

Crime Overview

The table below shows a decrease of 2.7% for overall crime in 2023 compared to 2022, with decreases in over half of the categories, with the exception of aggravated assaults, vehicle theft, and a slight increase in kidnapping and other sex offenses. Both crimes against persons and property have remained relatively consistent with 2022 overall. Finally, NIBRS' addition of the crimes against society category offers a well-rounded perspective on crime in San Diego. While an increase in overall crimes against society is shown, most categories, such as prostitution and weapon law violations, show a decrease compared to last year.

Crimes Against Persons	Jan-Dec 2022	Jan-Dec 2023	% Change	% Cleared by Arrest in 2023
Homicide	62	56	-9.7%	N/A
*Murder	52	45	-13.5%	84.4%
Kidnapping	213	215	0.9%	49.8%
Sexual Assault	868	727	-16.2%	14.4%
Aggravated Assault	4252	4490	5.6%	44.2%
Simple Assault	7210	6979	-3.2%	44.8%
Intimidation	791	912	15.3%	40.2%
Other Sex Offenses	13	16	23.1%	5.9%
Total	13,409	13,395	-0.1%	45.6%
Crimes Against Property				
Robbery	1282	1199	-6.5%	36.4%
Arson	183	144	-21.3%	41.1%
Burglary	3353	2816	-16.0%	12.8%
Larceny	9799	10309	5.2%	13.3%
Car Prowl	5776	5378	-6.9%	1.6%
Vehicle Theft	6442	6658	3.4%	5.4%
Stolen Property Offenses	992	873	-12.0%	64.2%
Vandalism	7236	6811	-5.9%	16.2%
Fraud / Counterfeiting	4370	3014	-31.0%	23.3%
Total	39,433	37,202	-5.7%	11.3%
Crimes Against Society				
Narcotic Violations	5317	5839	9.8%	98.8%
Pornography/Obscene Material	14	12	-14.3%	25.0%
Gambling	5	7	40.0%	85.7%
Prostitution	112	80	-28.6%	100.0%
Weapon Law Violations	1104	981	-11.1%	93.9%
Animal Cruelty	4	24	500.0%	37.5%
Curfew/Loitering/Vagrancy	181	200	10.5%	100.0%
Disorderly Conduct	80	741	*N/A	100.0%
Alcohol Violations	4099	3538	-13.7%	100.0%
Total	10,916	11,422	4.6%	98.8%
Grand Total	63,758	62,019	-2.7%	34.9%

Note: Based on FBI National Incident Based Reporting System (NIBRS) guidelines

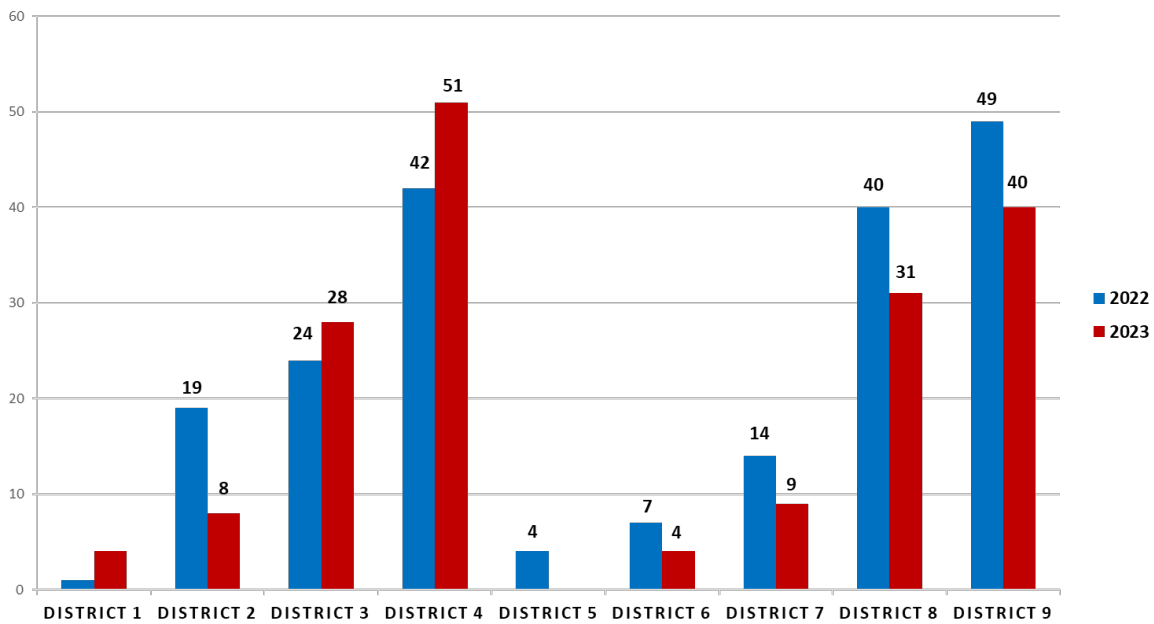
*Murder counts/clearances provided by the San Diego Police Department Homicide unit.

*Additional code section added to Disorderly Conduct category in September 2023, therefore the comparison with 2022 is not available.

Crimes Against Persons

Overall, crimes against persons slightly decreased by 0.10% in 2023 compared to 2022, although aggravated assaults have increased by 5.6%. Conversely, sexual assault cases decreased by 16.2%, and the number of murders in 2023 decreased by 7 cases. In 2023, 6 cases were associated with gang activity and 5 were associated with family or domestic violence. The number of non-fatal shootings decreased by 23, a difference of 12% compared to 2022.

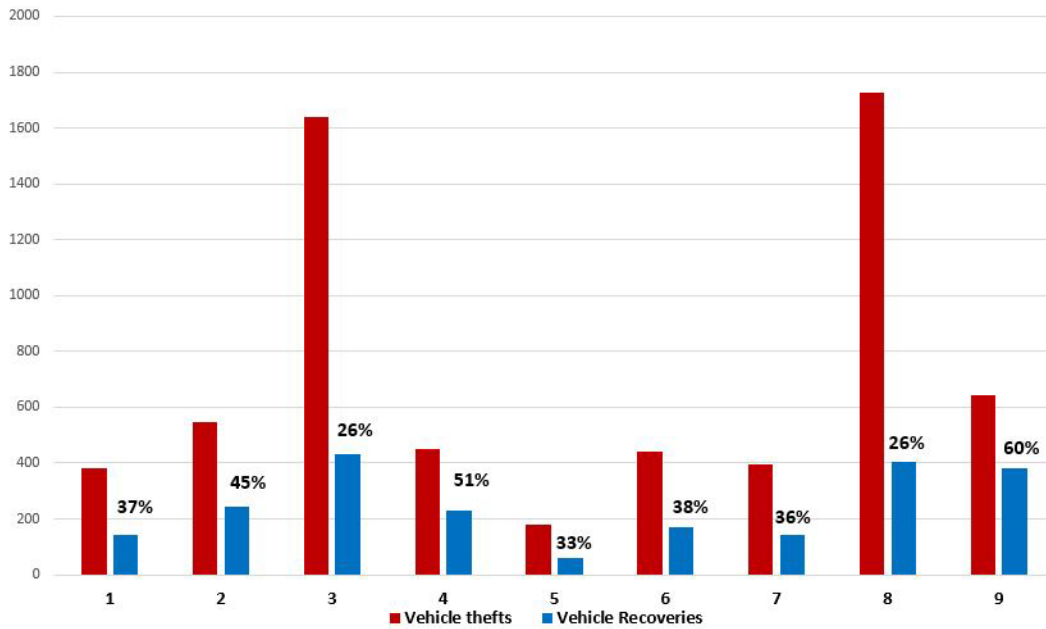
Non-Fatal Shootings by Council District 2022 vs 2023



Crimes Against Property

In 2023, property crime decreased by 5.7%. Burglary decreased by 16% with residential burglaries making up 44.7% of the total, while commercial burglaries accounted for 54.7% of the total. Robberies decreased by 83 cases or 6.5% compared to last year, and car-jackings made up approximately 5.9% of all robberies in 2023. Furthermore, the number of thefts decreased by 5.2%, and vehicle break-ins decreased by 6.95%. The number of vehicle thefts increased by 3.4% from 2022 to 2023, similar to the number of vehicle thefts reported in the mid-2010's.

Stolen Vehicles vs Recoveries by Council District - 2023



(%) Indicates comparison of vehicles recovered stolen from each district

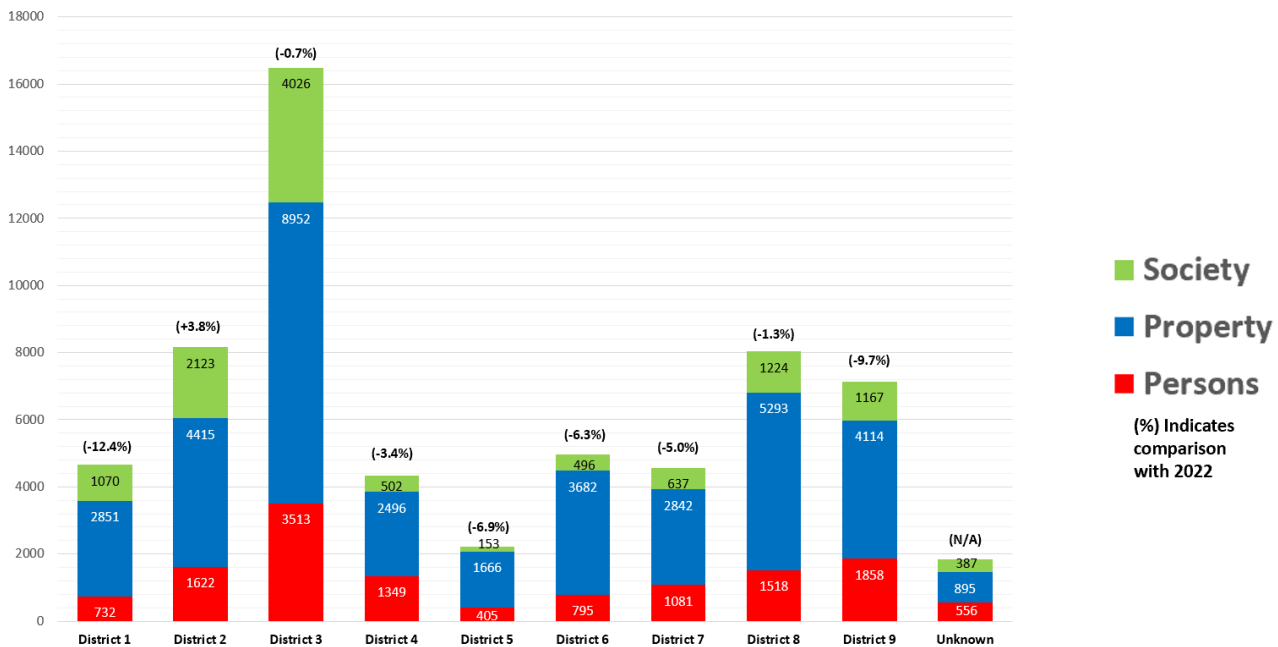
Average recovery rates of stolen vehicles across all Council districts increased slightly from last year, from 35% to 39%.

Crimes Against Society

Crimes against society are generally incidents in which a suspect is arrested at the scene of the offense. These offenses typically comprise events in which the crime was observed by an officer, such as drunk in public, possession of narcotics, and disorderly conduct.

Crimes against society violations are up slightly from 2022 by 4.6%. There has been a slight uptick in animal cruelty cases – a 20 case increase from last year. However, there have been decreases in other significant categories. Prostitution is down from last year by 28.6% and weapon law violations have decreased by 11.1%. Alcohol violations show a 13.7% decrease compared to 2022.

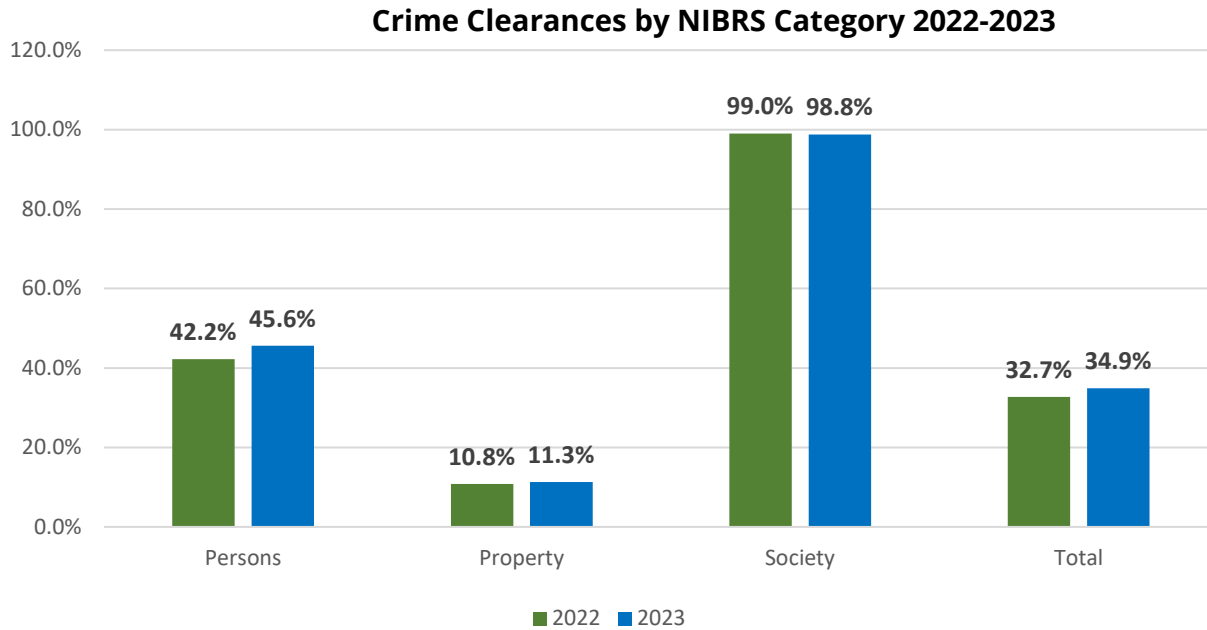
Crime Categories by Council District 2023



The above chart illustrates a breakdown of all three NIBRS categories per council district. All districts with the exception of district 2 show a decrease in overall crime in 2023.

Crime Clearances

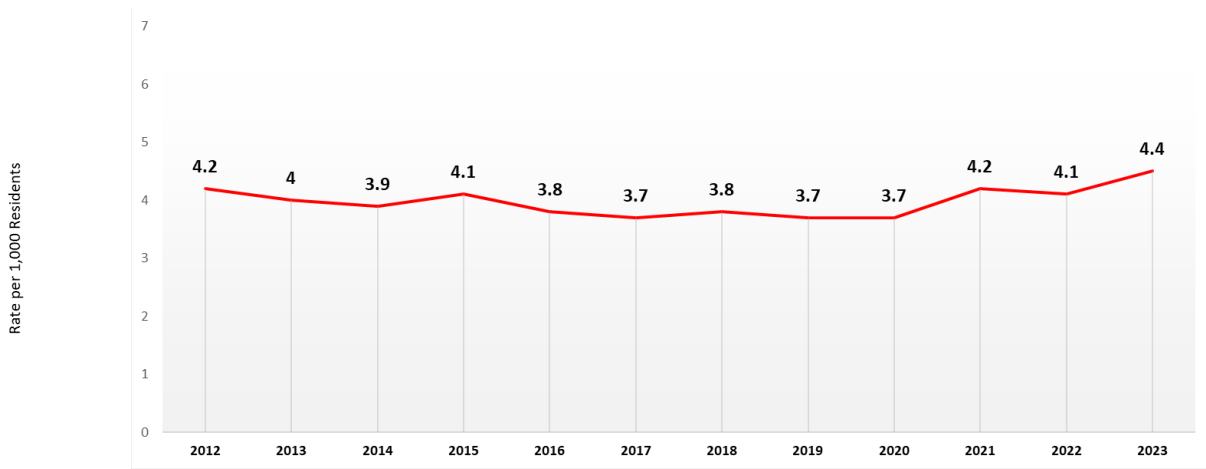
Overall crime clearance rates increased in 2023 compared to 2022. In 2023, 45.6% of crimes against persons and 11.3% of crimes against property crimes were cleared. Generally, crimes against society involve situations where a suspect is arrested at the scene and therefore result in high clearance rates. Across all categories, 34.9% of all NIBRS crimes were cleared in 2023.



UCR Summary Crime Rate and Major City Comparison

While NIBRS crimes do not offer a direct comparison with UCR Summary crimes, SDPD will continue to calculate the UCR Summary violent crime rate for historical comparison purposes. The violent crime rate of 4.4 per thousand residents in 2023 is comparable to rates in the mid-1970s and early 2000s.

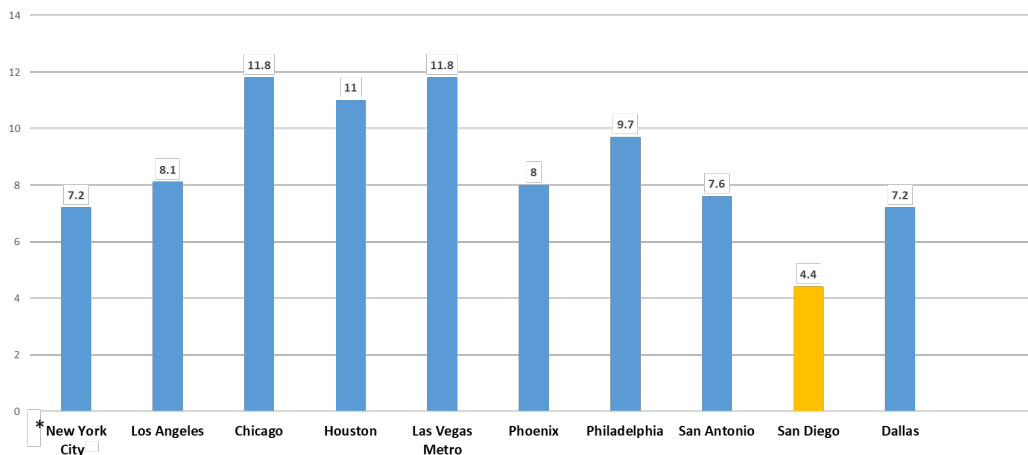
Violent Crime Rate per 1,000 Residents 2023



Sources:
 Based on FBI Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) guidelines
 Population data – FBI Crime Data Explorer (2022)

San Diego continues to maintain one of the lowest violent crime rates annually when compared to some of the largest US cities by population.

Major Cities - Violent Crime Rate per 1,000 residents



Sources:
 Population data – FBI Crime Data Explorer most recently available (2022).
 Violent Crimes – Major Cities Chiefs Association (MCCA) Survey (2023).
 *New York City most recent crime data from MCCA Survey (2022)

Hate Crimes

There were 66 hate crimes in 2023, an increase of 73%. Hate crimes based on ethnicity, sexual orientation, and religion increased. Ethnicity (race) accounted for 38% of the hate crimes, or 25 cases. Of these, anti-African American bias accounted for 56% of cases, followed by bias against multiple races, and anti-Hispanic cases at 16% and 12% respectively. Additionally, there was an uptick in hate crimes with a religious bias, with nearly half of those crimes having an anti-Semitic nexus.

San Diego Reported Hate Crimes January to December				
Hate Crimes	2022	% of Total	2023	% of Total
Ethnicity	20	53%	25	38%
Sexual Orientation	4	11%	21	32%
Religion	4	11%	18	27%
Gender	5	13%	2	3%
Disability	0	0%	0	0%
Multiple	5	13%	0	0%
				% Change
Total Hate Crimes	38		66	73.7%

Domestic Violence

The total number of domestic violence cases decreased by 3.1% in 2023 when compared to 2022. Domestic violence incidents involving firearms decreased 3.2%, however incidents involving knives/cutting instruments increased 15.9%.

San Diego Domestic Violence January - December 2023			
Crime Cases	2022	2023	% Change
Firearms	62	60	-3.20%
Knife/Cutting Instrument	113	131	15.90%
Other Weapon	140	144	2.80%
Personal Weapon (hands, etc.)	3639	3634	-0.01%
No Weapon Used	881	716	-18.70%
Total	4,835	4,685	-3.10%

Gang Crimes

Overall, the number of crimes committed by gang members decreased 12% in 2023. The number of documented gang members decreased by 20%. All categories of gang-related violent crime decreased when comparing 2023 with 2022.

San Diego Crimes Committed by Gang Members January to December			
Crime Type	2022	2023	% Change
All Crimes:			
Homicide	6	5	-17%
Attempt Homicide	7	6	-14%
Assault	122	105	-14%
Robbery	32	32	0%
Auto Theft	52	47	-10%
Total	219	195	-12%
Assaults & Attempt Homicides:			
Shooting	63	52	-17%
Stabbing	14	12	-14%
Other	52	40	-23%
Total	129	104	-19%
Drive-By shootings	14	9	-36%
Arrests of Gang Members	371	328	-11%
Documented Gang Members	1,755	1,398	-20%
Documented Gang Sets	59	55	-7%

Note: Gang statistics provided by the SDPD Special Operations Unit (SOU).

Conclusion

The statistics in this report reflect crime in the City of San Diego. Overall crime in 2023 decreased compared to 2022. San Diego continues to be one of the safest large cities in the United States with respect to violent crime.