

## Staff Memorandum 2024-07

### Crime Data for First Quarter 2024

This memorandum is to update the Committee on recent data about violent and property crime in California. The data in this memorandum comes from the FBI, which has recently resumed releasing estimated quarterly crime data.<sup>1</sup> The data reflects only those agencies that voluntarily report to the FBI. This data shows that for January to March 2024 compared to the same time in 2023:

- In California, violent crime declined by 1.36%. Property crime declined by 9%.<sup>2</sup> Offense-specific data is below.
- In the rest of the United States, violent crime declined by 13%. Property crime declined by 12%.

The California data includes 48 cities with approximately 10.2 million people. The non-California data includes 179 cities with approximately 58.5 million people. The data includes many of California's largest cities, including Sacramento, San Diego, Long Beach, and Fresno, but does not include other large cities such as Los Angeles, Oakland, or San Francisco.

#### Year-to-date crime statistics, January–March, 2024 vs. 2023

	Murder	Rape	Robbery	Agg. assault	Burglary	Theft	Car theft
California	-23.89%	-18.00%	+1.17%	-0.04%	-16.51%	-10.97%	+1.95%
Rest of US	-26.81%	-22.75%	-14.77%	-10.75%	-11.17%	-10.91%	-15.94%

These crime reports are preliminary and may differ from final numbers. And year-to-date comparisons this early in the year may not reflect final trends.<sup>3</sup>

Respectfully submitted,

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Legal Director

<sup>1</sup> FBI, Crime Data Explorer, Quarterly Uniform Crime Report. The data for Quarter 1, inclusive of January through March 2024, was released on June 10, 2024. Past staff updates on crime statistics used data compiled by the Major Cities Chiefs Association. The Major Cities Chiefs data considered a smaller group of cities and only reported on violent crime data. The FBI data reports on many more cities — though not all of the ones in the Major Cities Chiefs data — and includes property crime as well as violent crime. Because of the increased coverage provided by the FBI data, staff will use the FBI data when available for future updates.

<sup>2</sup> As defined by the FBI, violent crime is murder, rape, robbery, and aggravated assault and property crime is burglary, car theft, and all other theft.

<sup>3</sup> See, e.g., Jeff Asher, *The FBI's Data Shows A Massive Decline in Crime in Q1 2024, But Is It Accurate?*, Jeff-alytics, June 10, 2024.