

Staff Memorandum 2025-03

Violent Crime Data for Yearend 2024

This memorandum is to update Committee members on recent data about violent crime in California.¹

Data compiled by the Major Cities Chiefs Association, an international association of police executives, show that violent crime declined across California in 2024 compared to 2023. The data does not include information on property crimes.²

The data, which consists of violent offenses known to law enforcement, cover the eight most populous California cities, as well as jurisdictions patrolled by the Los Angeles Sheriff's Department. For this group of cities in California, overall violent crime is down 8.30% in 2024 compared to 2023.³ This includes a 15.21% drop in homicides. The largest overall declines in violent crime were in Oakland (19.49%) and San Francisco (17.09%).

This 8.3% violent crime decline in California cities was larger than the 5.48% decline in cities outside of California. In particular, California saw a greater percentage drop in reported rapes (a 12.26% decrease in California compared to 4.41% outside of California) and aggravated assaults (a 8.60% decrease in California compared to 3.63% outside of California). Comparison of other offenses are shown in the below table.

Los Angeles County has three law enforcement agencies in the data, the Los Angeles Police Department, the Los Angeles Sheriff's Department, and the Long Beach Police Department. Taken as a group, overall violent crime declined by 6.14% in the Los Angeles County jurisdictions. Every category of violent crime saw a decline except robbery, with murders dropping 11.07%, reported rapes dropping 5.57%, and reported aggravated assaults dropping 9.18%. Reported robberies increased 1.18%.

¹ Though statewide crime data are generally not available from the California Department of Justice until the summer following the relevant calendar year, Committee staff regularly provides earlier updates on crime statistics. See, e.g., Staff Memorandum 2024-07.

² The FBI has also begun releasing extensive estimated crime data, and staff reports on that data when available. See Staff Memorandum 2024-18. But the FBI data has not been updated since the last staff memorandum on crime statistics, so the Major Cities Chiefs data is presented here.

³ Data in some non-California jurisdictions may be unreliable — for example, 4 jurisdictions reported a greater than 20% overall decrease in violent crime — but is included in the non-California sample.

Year-to-date violent crime statistics January–December, 2024 vs. 2023

Agency	All violent crime	Homicides	Homicide percent change	Rapes	Rape percent change	Robberies	Robbery percent change	Aggravated assaults	Aggravated assault percent change
Fresno PD	-3.93%	-5	-14.29%	-32	-17.39%	-15	-1.59%	-60	-3.55%
Long Beach PD	-0.24%	+12	+46.15%	+48	+10.00%	+175	+18.54%	-244	-10.53%
Los Angeles PD	-8.42%	-47	-14.20%	-97	-6.45%	-59	-0.68%	-2371	-11.83%
Los Angeles Sheriff	-3.06%	-28	-13.21%	-106	-13.30%	+46	+1.11%	-385	-3.73%
Oakland PD	-19.49%	-40	-31.75%	-32	-15.69%	-915	-24.13%	-554	-14.64%
Sacramento PD	-15.50%	+5	+12.50%	-28	-21.21%	-174	-14.62%	-456	-15.99%
San Diego PD	-3.62%	-10	-22.22%	-40	-10.28%	-128	-10.60%	-46	-1.01%
San Francisco PD	-17.09%	-16	-31.37%	-101	-34.12%	-644	-23.49%	-191	-7.70%
San Jose PD	-5.13%	-8	-22.86%	-182	-27.41%	+50	+3.86%	-162	-4.16%
CA cities combined	-8.30%	-137	-15.21%	-570	-12.26%	-1664	-6.67%	-4469	-8.60%
<i>LA County jurisdictions</i>	-6.14%	-63	-11.07%	-155	-5.57%	+162	+1.18%	-3000	-9.18%
<i>Non-CA Cities</i>	-5.48%	-1140	-16.53%	-1135	-4.41%	-8152	-10.04%	-8220	-3.63%

Notes: Author's calculation based on Major Cities Chiefs Association, *Violent Crime Survey – National Totals, Midyear Comparison, January 1 to December 31, 2024, and 2023*, February 4, 2025. LA County jurisdictions are Long Beach PD, Los Angeles PD, and Los Angeles Sheriff's Department. Non-CA cities are the 61 non-California U.S. cities included in the Major Cities Chiefs Association survey.

Note that these crime reports are preliminary and may differ from final numbers.

Respectfully submitted,

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