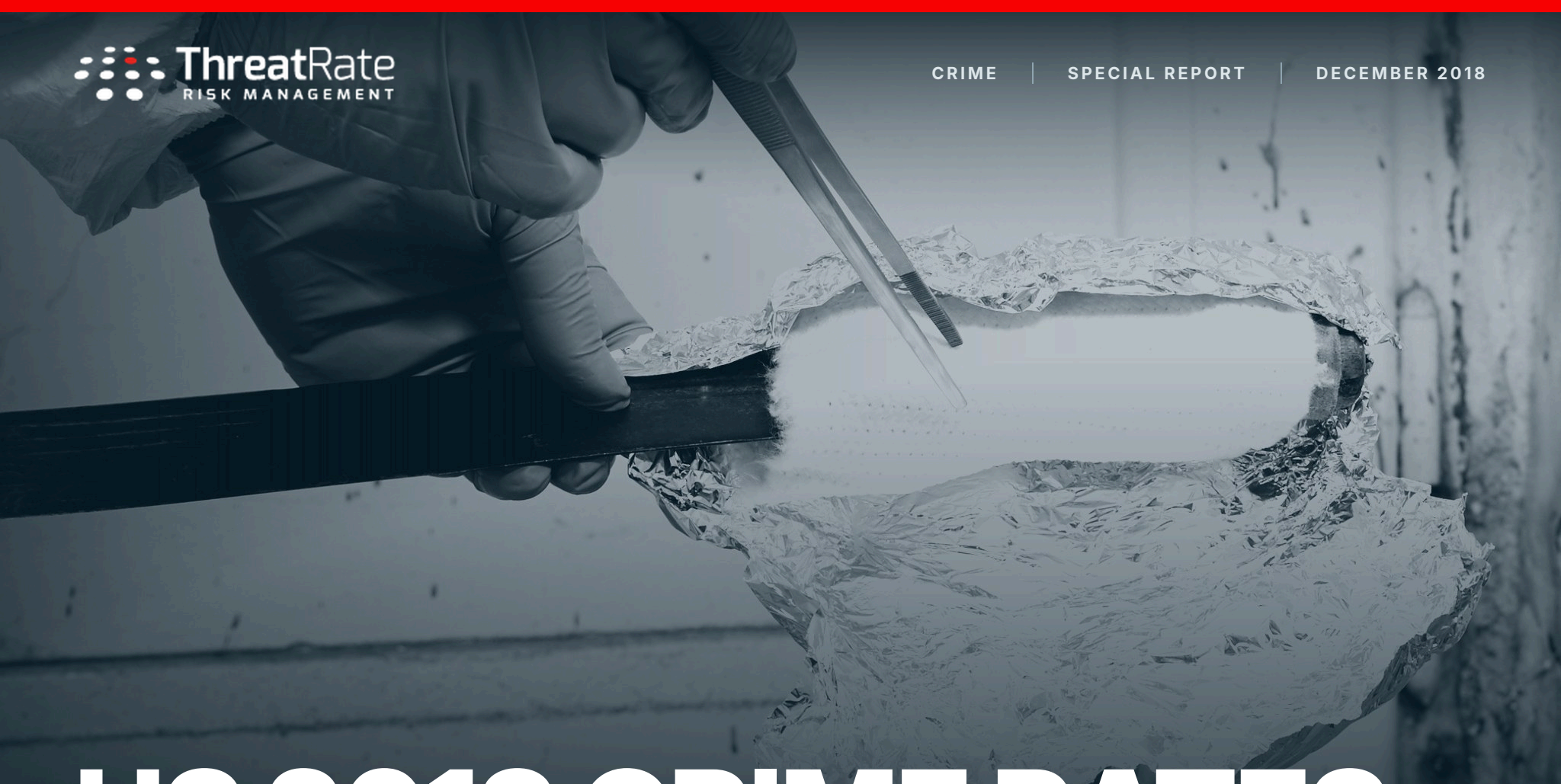


US 2018 CRIME RATES EXPECTED TO DROP

PUBLISHED
28 December 2018

CATEGORY
Crime

CRIME · DECEMBER 2018

US 2018 Crime Rates Expected to Drop

There has been much discussion in the United States about concerns around crime increasing. Indeed, unlike in previous election cycles, the 2016 general election featured one candidate – now President Trump – campaign on an anti-crime agenda that would have been more at home during the campaigns of Richard Nixon. Much of the concern is driven by the ability of 24-hour news cycles and social media to amplify coverage and to – through instant notifications to mobile devices – inundate individuals with content. Often this content that is pushed to consumers is the same or similar but simply from different sources syndicating from the same source(s). In the area of crime reporting this can, for many, create the impression that crime is out of control and that individuals are substantially less safe than they were years ago. This, however, is not true. Especially when compared to the late 1980s and 1990s the average American – especially those in large cities such as New York and Los Angeles – are substantially safer now than they were during those periods.

This is borne out by recent reports by crime researchers. The Brennan Center – a non-partisan law and policy institute associated with New York University's School of Law – has asserted – based on the data available to them – that crime is likely lower in 2018 than in previous years. Additionally, the Center's data showed that 2017's crime rate was lower than in 2016's as well; thus, it is likely that the increase in crime rates in 2015 and 2016 were not indicative of an inflection in the crime but, rather, a normal variance along a trend that has, as previously noted, been trending downward for nearly a generation.

Preliminary data for 2018 indicates that the murder rate in U.S. cities is likely to be 7.6 percent lower than in 2017. Notably, there have been significant decreases in murder rates in San Francisco, Chicago, and Baltimore; an especial benefit for the latter two given the significantly negative coverage each has received for their crime problems. All the data, however, is not positive. The nation's capital, for example, is projected to have a 34.9 percent murder rate increase as well. It is expected that overall the crime rate will decrease by about 3 percent.

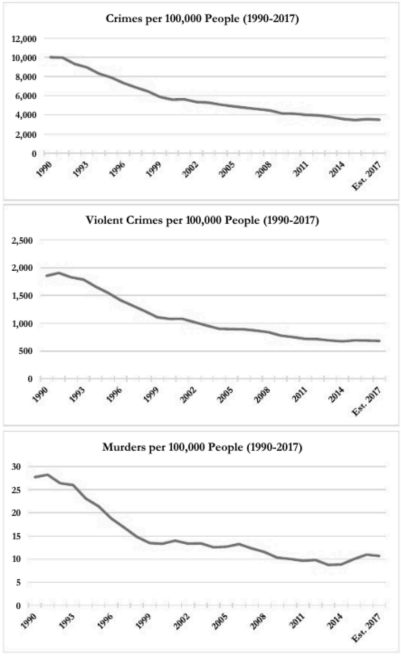
These overall decreases were built upon 2017's positive numbers which found that the murder rate in the largest 30 cities decreased by 3.4 percent and Chicago's rate alone decreased by 12.3 percent despite registering increased murders in 2015 and 2016. Baltimore – notable because of their decrease in 2018 – registered an increased murder rate of nearly 8 percent. Philadelphia's rate increased as well.

Overall, nationally, robberies also decreased by 4 percent. 2017 data – preliminary 2018 data is not yet available – also showed a decrease in property crime. For example, larceny/theft decreased by 2.2 percent and burglaries decreased by 7.6 percent.

The data shows that the crime rates are not in fact increasing. Looking at the major metropolitan areas – where a significant portion of the country's population resides – crime rates are, in fact, continuing to decline as they have more-or-less been for the past 20-30 years. Unless significant changes occur, it is likely – based on the data – for the trend to either stabilize or continue to decrease slowly over the coming years.

© 2018 ThreatRate Risk Management. All Rights Reserved

CRIME IN THE 30 LARGEST US CITIES 1990-2017



https://www.brennancenter.org/publication/crime-2017-preliminary-analysis

Crime and murder rates for the 30 largest US cities // 2016-17

TABLE 1: CRIME IN THE 30 LARGEST CITIES (2016-2017)

	2016 CRIME RATE (PER 100,000)	2017 CRIME RATE (PER 100,000)	PERCENT CHANGE IN CRIME RATE	2016 VIOLENT CRIME RATE (PER 100,000)	2017 VIOLENT CRIME RATE (PER 100,000)	PERCENT CHANGE IN VIOLENT CRIME RATE
New York	2,033	1,965	-3.3%	547	506	-7.4%
Los Angeles	3,092	3,035	-1.8%	658	676	2.8%
Chicago	4,172	4,313	3.4%	992	1,008	1.6%

© 2018 ThreatRate Risk Management. All Rights Reserved

TABLE 1: CRIME IN THE 30 LARGEST CITIES (2016-2017) (CONTINUED)

	2016 CRIME RATE (PER 100,000)	2017 CRIME RATE (PER 100,000)	PERCENT CHANGE IN CRIME RATE	2016 VIOLENT CRIME RATE (PER 100,000)	2017 VIOLENT CRIME RATE (PER 100,000)	PERCENT CHANGE IN VIOLENT CRIME RATE
Houston†	5,323	Unavailable	Unavailable	982	1,069	8.8%
Philadelphia	4,016	3,946	-1.8%	891	872	-2.1%
Las Vegas	4,117	3,928	-4.6%	588	577	-1.8%
Phoenix†	Unavailable	Unavailable	Unavailable	278	302	8.5%
San Antonio	5,852	5,907	0.9%	641	666	4.0%
San Diego	2,348	2,111	-10.1%	335	336	0.4%
Dallas	4,046	3,865	-4.5%	703	737	4.8%
San Jose	2,683	2,835	5.6%	327	310	-5.3%
Austin	3,849	3,479	-9.6%	352	325	-7.5%
Charlotte†	4,766	Unavailable	Unavailable	702	691	-1.7%
Jacksonville†	Unavailable	Unavailable	Unavailable	590	606	2.6%
San Francisco*	6,247	Unavailable	Unavailable	669	Unavailable	Unavailable
Indianapolis†	Unavailable	Unavailable	Unavailable	857	703	-17.9%
Columbus†	Unavailable	Unavailable	Unavailable	423	370	-12.4%
Fort Worth	3,873	3,729	-3.7%	468	492	5.0%
El Paso†	Unavailable	Unavailable	Unavailable	345	318	-7.8%
Seattle	6,003	5,634	-6.1%	581	599	3.0%
Denver	4,112	4,011	-2.5%	583	629	7.9%
Louisville	5,451	5,226	-4.1%	632	608	-3.7%
Detroit	5,531	5,121	-7.4%	1,617	1,463	-9.6%
Washington, D.C.	5,659	5,066	-10.5%	1,006	730	-27.5%
Boston	2,823	2,779	-1.6%	653	590	-9.7%
Nashville	4,875	4,978	2.1%	1,066	1,134	6.4%
Memphis†	Unavailable	Unavailable	Unavailable	1,803	2,019	12.0%
Oklahoma City†	4,608	Unavailable	Unavailable	713	662	-7.2%

© 2018 ThreatRate Risk Management. All Rights Reserved

TABLE 1: CRIME IN THE 30 LARGEST CITIES (2016-2017) (CONTINUED)

	2016 CRIME RATE (PER 100,000)	2017 CRIME RATE (PER 100,000)	PERCENT CHANGE IN CRIME RATE	2016 VIOLENT CRIME RATE (PER 100,000)	2017 VIOLENT CRIME RATE (PER 100,000)	PERCENT CHANGE IN VIOLENT CRIME RATE
Baltimore	6,338	6,690	5.5%	1,767	2,057	16.4%
Portland	5,876	6,784	15.4%	445	467	4.9%
AVERAGE	-	-	-1.8%	-	-	-0.6%

Source: Police department and city reports. See endnotes for specific sources. Cities are ordered by population size.

** The authors were unable to obtain reliable data from San Francisco.*

† For these cities, the authors were able to obtain data on violent crime only.

TABLE 2: MURDER IN THE 30 LARGEST CITIES (2016-2017)

	2016 TOTAL MURDERS	2017 TOTAL MURDERS	PERCENT CHANGE IN MURDER	2016 MURDER RATE (PER 100,000)	2017 MURDER RATE (PER 100,000)	PERCENT CHANGE IN MURDER RATE
New York	335	273	-18.4%	3.9	3.1	-19.1%
Los Angeles	294	306	4.0%	7.4	7.6	3.0%
Chicago	781	764	-2.2%	28.6	27.9	-2.4%
Houston	290	235	-19.0%	12.6	10.0	-20.5%
Philadelphia	271	291	7.5%	17.2	18.4	6.9%
Las Vegas	168	143	-14.9%	10.6	8.8	-16.5%
Phoenix	80	60	-25.0%	5.0	3.7	-26.3%
San Antonio	149	132	-11.6%	10.0	8.6	-13.5%
San Diego	50	42	-16.3%	3.5	2.9	-17.8%
Dallas	172	172	0.0%	13.0	12.8	-1.7%
San Jose	47	28	-41.4%	4.5	2.6	-42.5%
Austin	40	30	-23.8%	4.1	3.0	-27.0%
Charlotte	68	145	113.6%	7.5	15.7	108.4%
Jacksonville	103	116	12.3%	11.8	13.0	11.0%
San Francisco*	58	Unavailable	Unavailable	6.6	Unavailable	Unavailable

© 2018 ThreatRate Risk Management. All Rights Reserved

TABLE 2: MURDER IN THE 30 LARGEST CITIES (2016-2017) (CONTINUED)

	2016 TOTAL MURDERS	2017 TOTAL MURDERS	PERCENT CHANGE IN MURDER	2016 MURDER RATE (PER 100,000)	2017 MURDER RATE (PER 100,000)	PERCENT CHANGE IN MURDER RATE
Indianapolis	124	116	-6.5%	14.2	13.2	-7.2%
Columbus	82	118	43.5%	9.5	13.4	40.7%
Fort Worth	65	67	2.6%	7.6	7.6	0.1%
El Paso	20	26	30.0%	2.9	3.8	29.4%
Seattle	18	15	-14.3%	2.6	2.1	-16.8%
Denver	58	81	39.3%	8.3	11.2	35.7%
Louisville	118	141	19.7%	17.2	20.5	18.8%
Detroit	301	220	-26.9%	45.4	33.8	-25.6%
Washington, D.C.	135	118	-12.9%	19.7	16.8	-14.7%
Boston	46	58	26.1%	6.8	8.4	24.0%
Nashville	83	109	31.7%	12.6	16.4	30.2%
Memphis	190	170	-10.8%	28.9	25.8	-10.8%
Oklahoma City	71	62	-12.5%	11.0	9.5	-14.2%
Baltimore	318	375	17.9%	51.3	60.6	18.1%
Portland	17	29	71.4%	2.7	4.7	70.3%
AVERAGE	-	-	-	-	-	-2.5%

Source: Police department and city reports. See endnotes for specific sources. Cities are ordered by population size.

** The authors were unable to obtain reliable data from San Francisco.*

https://www.brennancenter.org/publication/crime-2017-preliminary-analysis

Soundbite analytics

- Overall violent crime from 2016-2017 decreased by 0.2 percent.
- From 2016-2017 motor vehicle thefts increased by 0.8 percent from 2016-2017.
- In 2017 Houston's murder rate fell by almost 17 percent.
- New York City's murder rate continued to decline. It stood at 3.4 murders per 100,000.
- Las Vegas's increase in 2017 was due to the mass shooting at the Mandalay Bay resort.

© 2018 ThreatRate Risk Management. All Rights Reserved

SOURCES

1 http://www.brennancenter.org/about

2 http://www.brennancenter.org/analysis/crime-murder-2018

3 https://www.brennancenter.org/analysis/crime-2017-final-analysis

4 https://www.securitymagazine.com/articles/89433-crime-rates-expected-to-drop

5 https://www.brennancenter.org/analysis/crime-2017-final-analysis

6 https://www.fbi.gov/news/stories/2017-crime-statistics-released-092418

7 https://www.brennancenter.org/publication/crime-2017-preliminary-analysis

© 2018 ThreatRate Risk Management. All Rights Reserved



Risk intelligence that keeps you safe

ABOUT THREATRATE

ThreatRate helps you benchmark your risk management strategy against rapidly evolving global and local trends, with real-time, actionable analytics and insights.

For more information contact us at

info@threatrate.com

MEMBERS HAVE ACCESS TO

100+
risk-focused reports published annually

API
customised access option

Dashboards
customised dashboards and infographics

Experts
ThreatRate analysts with cross-industry depth

© 2018 ThreatRate Risk Management. All Rights Reserved

ThreatRate RISK MANAGEMENT