The DNC is coming to Chicago, the nation's homicide capital 13 years running

A Wirepoints survey of America's 75 largest cities

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2023 Homicide Hot Spots

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# Chicago and St. Louis were the nation's murder capitals in 2023

When the DNC delegates come to Chicago, they'll be visiting the city that for more than a decade has experienced the most murders in the country. Chicago suffered 617 total homicides in 2023, marking the 12th year in a row it has led the country.

And it will be 13 years in a row if Chicago's 2024's homicide numbers continue at their current pace. The below chart shows how the top five cities nationally for total homicides may change from year to year, but what always remains true is Chicago's position at the very top – often the extreme outlier.

That's just one of the findings from Wirepoints' analysis of publicly-available 2023 crime data from the nation's 75 largest U.S. cities.

Chicago on track to lead nation in total homicides for the 13th straight year

Top five cities by total reported homicides
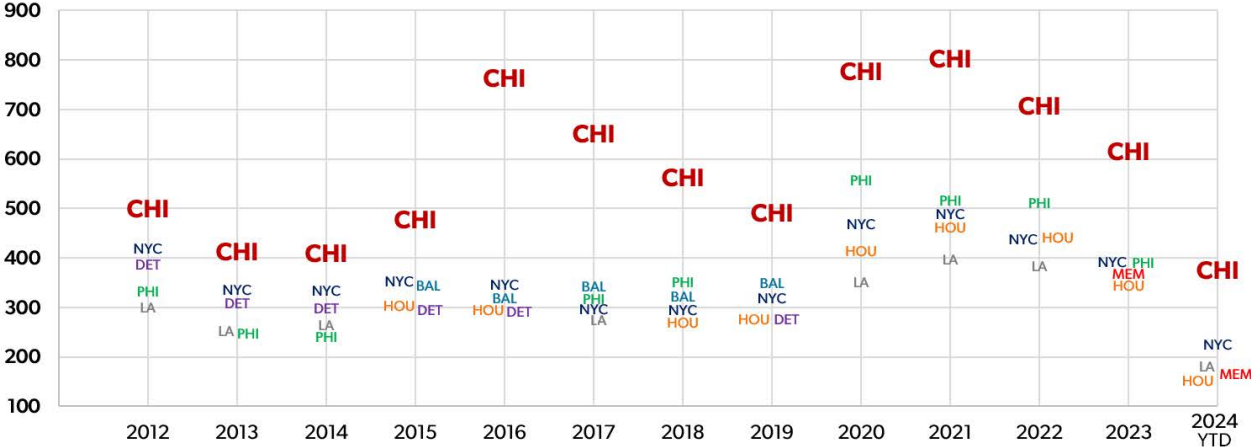
Source: FBI Crime Data Explorer (2012-2019); City Police Compstat Reports (2020-2024)
Note: When possible Wirepoints counted only criminal homicides, excluding accidental or justifiable self-defense.

St. Louis was the nation's other murder capital in 2023 when based on homicides per capita. The Gateway City suffered 60 homicides per 100,000 residents, taking the top spot away from 2022's capital, New Orleans.* The city was struggling even before George Floyd, with a homicide rate of 64.5 in 2019.

Looking at homicides on a per capita basis is the most logical way to measure the weight crime imposes on a given community. It also allows for an apples-to-apples comparison across cities. However, ranking cities by the number of homicides is also important due to the sheer number of murders that occur in big cities. St. Louis may have a homicide rate that's much higher than Chicago, but it suffered less than a third of the murders Chicago did. They both deserve to be crowned murder capitals.

Below we list the nation's top 20 cities by total homicides and per capita homicides and in Appendix A and B we list out all 75 cities.

Homicides have continued their year-on-year decline in most cities across the nation. That lessening bloodshed is good news, but it doesn't change the fact that homicide rates remain far above their 2019 pre-covid, pre-George-Floyd levels.

Chicago and St. Louis were the nation's murder capitals in 2023

Top 20 cities by total homicides and homicide rate of nation's 75 largest cities, 2023

City	Total homicides	Rank	City	Homicides per 100,000 population	Rank
Chicago, IL	617	1	St. Louis, MO	60.0	1
New York City, NY	391	2	Memphis, TN	59.3	2
Philadelphia, PA	389	3	New Orleans, LA	52.7	3
Memphis, TN	367	4	Baltimore, MD	46.5	4
Houston, TX	351	5	Cleveland, OH	42.5	5
Los Angeles, CA	327	6	Washington, DC	40.4	6
Washington, DC	274	7	Detroit, MI	39.8	7
Dallas, TX	268	8	Kansas City, MO	35.6	8
Baltimore, MD	263	9	Milwaukee, WI	30.6	9
Detroit, MI	252	10	Oakland, CA	28.9	10
Phoenix, AZ	198	11	Atlanta, GA	26.4	11
New Orleans, LA	192	12	Louisville, KY	25.8	12
Kansas City, MO	182	13	Philadelphia, PA	25.1	13
Milwaukee, WI	172	14	Greensboro, NC	24.5	14
Indianapolis, IN	171	15	Chicago, IL	23.2	15
St. Louis, MO	169	16	Cincinnati, OH	22.8	16
San Antonio, TX	165	17	Dallas, TX	20.6	17
Louisville, KY	161	18	Las Vegas, NV	20.1	18
Cleveland, OH	154	19	Minneapolis, MN	20.0	19
Columbus, OH	148	20	Indianapolis, IN	19.4	20

Source: Multiple sources including city police reports and news articles. See appendix for more info.
Note: When possible Wirepoints counted only criminal homicides, excluding accidental or justifiable self-defense.

Chicago, New York, led nation in number of homicides

Chicago led the nation in criminal homicides 617 murders in 2023. That was by far the most among the nation's top 75 cities. Not even New York, which is three times bigger than Chicago, or Philadelphia came close, with those two cities suffering 391 and 389 murders, respectively.

Rounding out the top ten were Memphis (367), Houston (351), Los Angeles (327), Washington D.C. (274), Dallas (268), Baltimore (263), and Detroit (252). See Appendix A for the complete 75-city ranking.

Chicago suffered the nation's most homicides in 2023
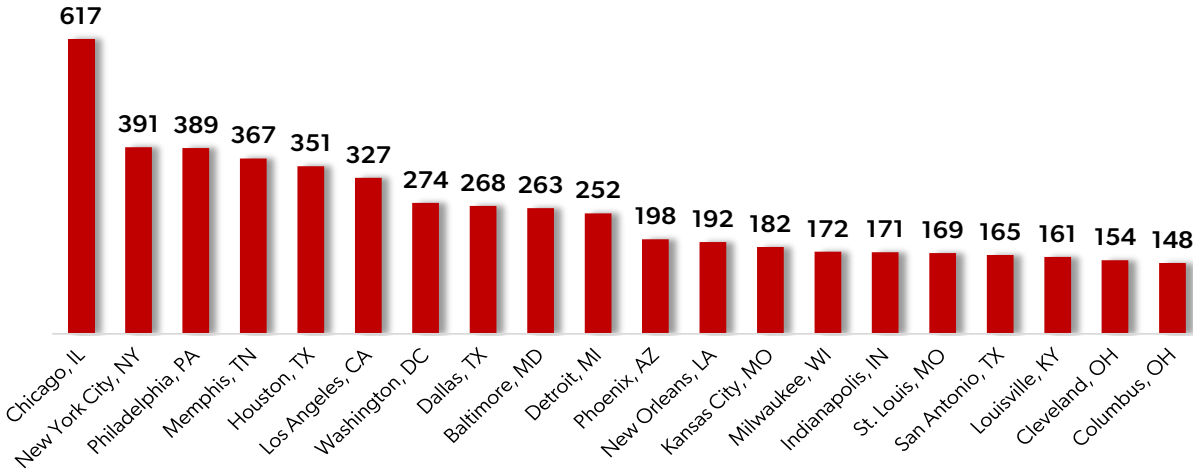
Top 20 cities by total homicides of nation's 75 largest cities, 2023

Source: Multiple sources including city police reports and news articles. See study appendix for more info.
Note: When possible Wirepoints counted only criminal homicides, excluding accidental or justifiable self-defense.

The good news in 2023 vs. 2022 was the 10% drop in homicides across the surveyed cities. Since the massive jump in 2021 after George-Floyd, homicides have fallen the last two years (see Appendix C for full data).

Notable in 2023 was Philadelphia's 24% decrease in homicides – a fall of 121 murders – which allowed the City of Brotherly Love to drop from the number 2 position in total homicides to number 3. New York City, which dropped 11% in homicides, went up to the second position.

Other key cities which had been battered by violence in 2020 and 2021 also saw drops. For example, New Orleans, Baltimore, St. Louis and Milwaukee all dropped by 20% to 24%.

Two cities were particularly notable for moving in the wrong direction in 2023. Memphis and Washington D.C. had increases in homicides of 37% and 35% respectively. Memphis' increase of 100 murders pushed the city into 4th-place nationally for total murders.

Many major cities experienced a decline in homicides in 2023

Top 20 cities by 2023 total homicides, 2023 vs. 2022

City	2023 Homicides	2022 Homicides	Change	Percent change
New Orleans, LA	192	257	-65	-25%
Philadelphia, PA	389	510	-121	-24%
Baltimore, MD	263	336	-73	-22%
St. Louis, MO	169	212	-43	-20%
Houston, TX	351	440	-89	-20%
Milwaukee, WI	172	215	-43	-20%
Indianapolis, IN	171	211	-40	-19%
Detroit, MI	252	309	-57	-18%
Los Angeles, CA	327	382	-55	-14%
Chicago, IL	617	709	-92	-13%
Phoenix, AZ	198	223	-25	-11%
New York City, NY	391	438	-47	-11%
San Antonio, TX	165	178	-13	-7%
Louisville, KY	161	165	-4	-2%
Cleveland, OH	154	155	-1	-1%
Kansas City, MO	182	170	12	7%
Dallas, TX	268	247	21	9%
Washington, DC	274	203	71	35%
Memphis, TN	367	267	100	37%

Source: Multiple sources including city police reports and news articles. See appendix for more info.
Note: When possible Wirepoints counted only criminal homicides, excluding accidental or justifiable self-defense.

St. Louis, Memphis led the nation in homicide rates

St. Louis' 20% drop in homicides in 2023 wasn't enough to help the "Gateway to the West" avoid suffering the nation's worst homicide rate – 60.0 homicides per every 100,000 in population. As mentioned above, Memphis finished second with a rate of 59.3. New Orleans, last year's top city for homicides per capita, came in third with 52.7 murders per 100,000.

Rounding out the top ten were Baltimore (46.5), Cleveland (42.5), Washington D.C. (40.4), Detroit (39.8), Kansas City (35.6), Milwaukee (30.6), and Oakland (28.9). Those homicide rates are all multiples higher than the 2020 national average of 6.5 per 100,000, the most recent reliable national calculation available.

The list of the cities with the top homicide ratios among America's 75 largest cities includes those with relatively smaller populations, like Greensboro, New Orleans and Cleveland. It's worth looking at, then, how their homicide ratios performed in 2023 vs 2022.

Greensboro, NC suffered the worst increase, with its homicide rate jumping 75% to 24.5 per 100,000 – a consequence of the city of 300,000 people experiencing 74 murders in 2023. Memphis also suffered a dramatic jump of nearly 40%.

St. Louis suffered the nation's highest homicide rate in 2023

Top 20 cities by total homicides of nation's 75 largest cities, 2023
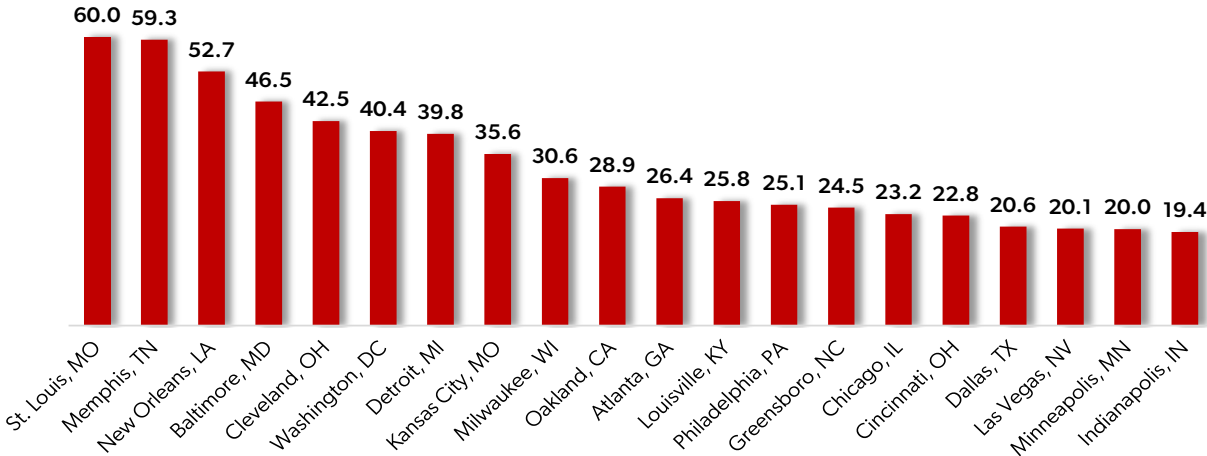
Source: Multiple sources including city police reports and news articles. See study appendix for more info.
Note: When possible Wirepoints counted only criminal homicides, excluding accidental or justifiable self-defense.

A majority of America's most murder-prone cities saw their homicide rates fall. Some declines were modest, such as Cincinnati's rate falling 9% over the year or Las Vegas' 12% decline. But a number of other cities experienced far larger drops. Cities like Detroit, Indianapolis, Milwaukee and Baltimore all had their homicide rates drop by nearly 20% or more. New Orleans experienced the biggest drop of 24%, though its 2023 rate was still a sky-high 52.7 per 100,000.

Homicide rates in nation's most murder-prone cities changed between 2022 and 2023

Top 20 cities by 2023 homicide rate, 2023 vs. 2022

City, St	2023 Per capita	2022 Per capita	Change	Percentage change
Greensboro, NC	24.5	14.0	10.5	75%
Memphis, TN	59.3	42.8	16.5	39%
Washington, DC	40.4	30.3	10.1	33%
Dallas, TX	20.6	19.0	1.5	8%
Kansas City, MO	35.6	33.4	2.2	7%
Oakland, CA	28.9	28.1	0.8	3%
Minneapolis, MN	20.0	19.9	0.1	0%
Cleveland, OH	42.5	42.7	-0.3	-1%
Louisville, KY	25.8	26.5	-0.6	-2%
Cincinnati, OH	22.8	25.2	-2.4	-9%
Las Vegas, NV	20.1	22.9	-2.7	-12%
Chicago, IL	23.2	26.5	-3.4	-13%
Detroit, MI	39.8	48.9	-9.1	-19%
Indianapolis, IN	19.4	24.0	-4.5	-19%
St. Louis, MO	60.0	74.1	-14.1	-19%
Milwaukee, WI	30.6	38.1	-7.5	-20%
Baltimore, MD	46.5	59.0	-12.5	-21%
Atlanta, GA	26.4	34.3	-7.9	-23%
Philadelphia, PA	25.1	32.5	-7.5	-23%
New Orleans, LA	52.7	69.5	-16.7	-24%

Source: Multiple sources including city police reports and news articles. See study appendix for more info.
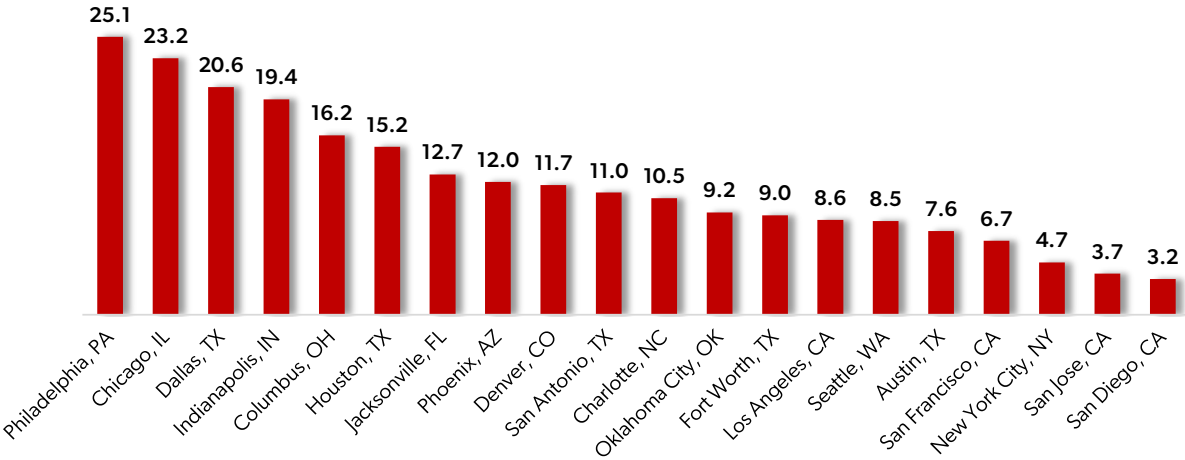Note: When possible Wirepoints counted only criminal homicides, excluding accidental or justifiable self-defense.

It's also important to compare homicide rates across the big cities because that's where most of the nation's murders occur. Among the nation's 20 biggest cities, Philadelphia suffered the highest homicide rate of 25.1 per 100,000 residents in 2023. Chicago was second with a rate of 23.2, followed by Dallas at 20.6, Indianapolis at 19.4 and Columbus at 16.2.

Notable is just how low the homicide rate is in many big cities, including Los Angeles, Austin and New York City.

Philadelphia suffered the highest homicide rate among nation's biggest cities

Homicide rates of top 20 cities by population, 2023

25.1 — Philadelphia, PA
23.2 — Chicago, IL
20.6 — Dallas, TX
19.4 — Indianapolis, IN
16.2 — Columbus, OH
15.2 — Houston, TX
12.7 — Jacksonville, FL
12.0 — Phoenix, AZ
11.7 — Denver, CO
11.0 — San Antonio, TX
10.5 — Charlotte, NC
9.2 — Oklahoma City, OK
9.0 — Fort Worth, TX
8.6 — Los Angeles, CA
8.5 — Seattle, WA
7.6 — Austin, TX
6.7 — San Francisco, CA
4.7 — New York City, NY
3.7 — San Jose, CA
3.2 — San Diego, CA

Source: Multiple sources including city police reports and news articles. See study appendix for more info.
Note: When possible Wirepoints counted only criminal homicides, excluding accidental or justifiable self-defense.

While homicides continue to fall, many city rates are still above 2019 levels

Despite the drop in homicides in most major cities in 2023, homicide rates still remained above those in 2019. Chicago, for example, saw murders drop by nearly 200 compared to its 2021 spike. Nevertheless, its homicide rate remained 25% above that in 2019 (23.2 vs. 18.5). Ditto for New York City's homicide rate, up 23% over 2019. And Houston's rate remained 27% higher.

Of the top 15 cities with the highest 2023 homicide rates, 12 were higher than they were in 2019. And eight of those cities had homicide rates that were 60% higher or more compared to 2019. For example, Milwaukee's 2023 homicide rate of 30.6 was 87% higher than its 2019 rate. And Memphis' homicide rate of 59.3 was 103% higher.

Looking at the nation's other murder capital, St. Louis' homicide rate was 7% lower than in 2019. But that was of little comfort to residents of St. Louis. The rate was dramatically high back then, with the recent drop making little difference.

2023 homicide rates remained much higher vs. 2019 in nation's most murder-prone cities

Top 15 cities by 2023 homicide rate: Difference in 2023 rate vs. 2019 rate

City	2023 homicides per 100K	2019 homicides per 100K	Change	Percentage change
Memphis, TN	59.3	29.2	30.1	103%
Milwaukee, WI	30.6	16.4	14.2	87%
Louisville, KY	25.8	13.9	11.9	86%
Cleveland, OH	42.5	24.1	18.4	76%
New Orleans, LA	52.7	30.6	22.1	72%
Washington, DC	40.4	23.5	16.9	72%
Greensboro, NC	24.5	14.4	10.0	70%
Oakland, CA	28.9	18.0	10.9	60%
Atlanta, GA	26.4	19.5	6.9	36%
Chicago, IL	23.2	18.5	4.7	25%
Kansas City, MO	35.6	30.7	5.0	16%
Philadelphia, PA	25.1	22.3	2.8	13%
Detroit, MI	39.8	41.4	-1.6	-4%
St. Louis, MO	60.0	64.5	-4.5	-7%
Baltimore, MD	46.5	58.2	-11.7	-20%

Source: Multiple sources including city police reports and news articles. See appendix for more info.
Note: When possible Wirepoints counted only criminal homicides, excluding accidental or justifiable self-defense.

The continued decline of homicides in 2024

Year-to-date data for 2024 show that homicides are continuing their downward trend this year, with many of the nation's biggest cities experiencing a drop in total murders of about 30% or more.

Philadelphia has endured far less bloodshed so far in 2024, with homicides dropping 41% compared to the same period in 2023. Jacksonville homicides are down 38%. San Antonio has recorded 61 murders as of the end of July. That's 29% fewer than the same time last year. Dallas homicides have fallen by 21% YTD.

Chicago officials can also point to a decline in homicides in 2024, but the decrease is one of the smallest among cities with populations over 1 million. Windy City homicides are down just 10% compared to last year – the 2nd-lowest reduction behind only Los Angeles' 2% decline and just behind New York City's own 10% reduction.

It's important to note, however, that while Los Angeles and New York have small declines like Chicago, both those cities experience a far lower number of homicides to begin with.

Chicago has 2nd-worst reduction in homicides so far in 2024 vs. big city peers

Top 10 populated cities by change in homicides, 2024 vs. 2023 YTD

City	Homicides 2024	Homicides 2023	Change
Philadelphia (as of 8/4)	146	247	-41%
Jacksonville (as of 8/4)	37	60	-38%
San Antonio (as of 7/31)	61	86	-29%
San Diego (as of 7/28)	61	86	-29%
Phoenix (as of 8/3)	66	92	-28%
Dallas (as of 8/4)	123	156	-21%
Houston (as of 6/30)	151	173	-13%
New York City (as of 8/4)	224	250	-10%
Chicago (as of 8/3)	339	377	-10%
Los Angeles (as of 7/27)	173	177	-2%

Source: AH Datalytics; Multiple sources including city police reports and news articles.

The DNC in Chicago

Count on Chicago's leadership to tout the city's recent decline in homicides as an achievement of the city's commitment to equity and social justice. Chicago experienced a 12% decline in homicides in 2022, another 13% drop in 2023 and a further 10% reduction so far in 2024.

But that drop in homicides must be taken within the context of the massive surge in murders Chicago experienced post George Floyd. In 2021, they jumped to 804 from just 500 two years earlier, a 62% spike.

And even with the recent declines in homicides, Chicago is still on track in 2024 to exceed its 2019 murder levels, considering that YTD homicides are running 23% higher than they were in the same period in 2019.

Chicago 2024 homicides set to surpass 2019's total
Chicago homicides by year
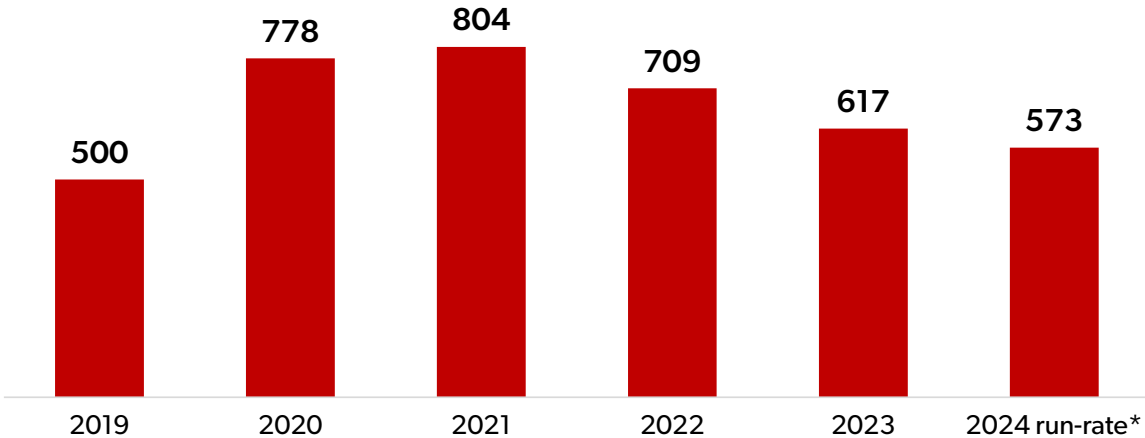
Source: CPD CompStat reports
*Run-rate based on 339 homicides as of 8/3/24

Chicago's murder record must also be compared to that of its two big-city peers: New York and Los Angeles. Chicago is the extreme outlier among the three, especially when viewed on a per capita basis over time.

All three cities had nearly identical homicide rates in the late 1980s before experiencing a decline in homicides during the 1990's. New York and Los Angeles' declines were far deeper and more sustained, however, leading to the disparity in homicide rates seen today: Chicago's 2023 homicide rate, at 23.3 per 100,000, is 5 times higher than New York's (4.7 per 100,000) and 2.7 times higher than LA's (8.6 per 100,000).

Chicago's 2023 homicide rate remains 5 times higher than NYC's, nearly 3 times higher than LA's

Annual homicides per 100,000 residents

Chicago 23.3
Los Angeles 8.6
New York 4.7
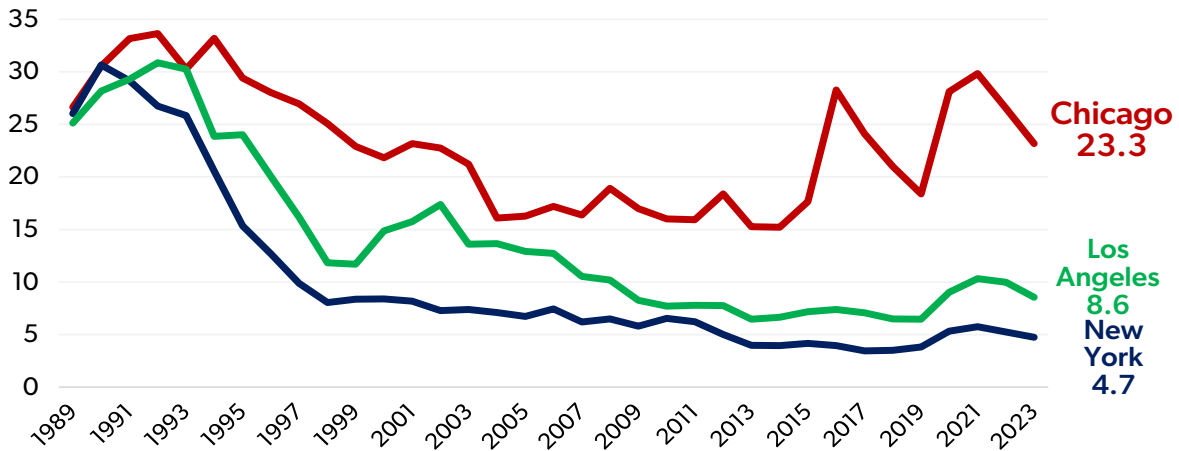
Source: FBI Crime Data Explorer (1985-2020); City Police Compstat data (2021-2023)

Even worse, Chicago's soft-on-crime policies continue to encourage more crime.

Banned police foot and car chases have emboldened criminals to go on robbery sprees. An increased felony-theft threshold has incentivized shoplifting and other crimes. The elimination of cash bail has resulted in a drop in the number of offenders held behind Cook County bars to the lowest level in 40 years. And the overall failure to prosecute crimes of all types has led to an ever-faster revolving door. Criminals are not deterred from committing crimes.

It's no surprise then, that violent crimes have hit a six-year high in 2024 despite the 10% drop in murders this year, and that the number of victims of violent crime is at a 13-year high.

Number of violent crimes in Chicago as of Aug. 4th already at 11,000, highest level in six years

Chicago violent crimes: Homicide, Crim. Sexual Assault, Robbery, Agg. Battery, YTD as of 8/4

2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
9,199	9,577	9,322	9,793	10,797	10,967
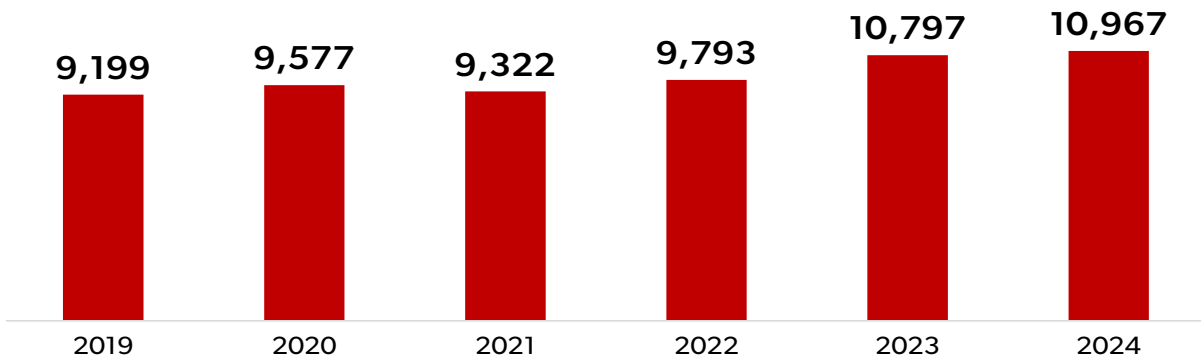
Source: Chicago CPD Compstat Report Week 31

While the DNC will do its level best to promote Chicago as a triumph of city management and progressive policy, the constant bloodshed is a reminder of the city's many failures – and an example of criminal justice policies that other cities would do well to ignore.

Appendix A: Total 2023 homicides

Nation's 75 largest cities ranked by total number of 2023 homicides

City	2023 Population	Total homicides	Rank	Homicides per 100,000 population	Rank
Chicago, IL	2,664,452	617	1	23.2	15
New York City, NY	8,258,035	391	2	4.7	65
Philadelphia, PA	1,550,542	389	3	25.1	13
Memphis, TN	618,639	367	4	59.3	2
Houston, TX	2,314,157	351	5	15.2	26
Los Angeles, CA	3,820,914	327	6	8.6	45
Washington, DC	678,972	274	7	40.4	6
Dallas, TX	1,302,868	268	8	20.6	17
Baltimore, MD	565,239	263	9	46.5	4
Detroit, MI	633,218	252	10	39.8	7
Phoenix, AZ	1,650,070	198	11	12.0	31
New Orleans, LA	364,136	192	12	52.7	3
Kansas City, MO	510,704	182	13	35.6	8
Milwaukee, WI	561,385	172	14	30.6	9
Indianapolis, IN	879,293	171	15	19.4	20
St. Louis, MO	281,754	169	16	60.0	1
San Antonio, TX	1,495,295	165	17	11.0	34
Louisville, KY	622,981	161	18	25.8	12
Cleveland, OH	362,656	154	19	42.5	5
Columbus, OH	913,175	148	20	16.2	24
Atlanta, GA	510,823	135	21	26.4	11
Las Vegas, NV	660,929	133	22	20.1	18
Oakland, CA	436,504	126	23	28.9	10
Jacksonville, FL	985,843	125	24	12.7	30
Albuquerque, NM	560,274	101	25	18.0	21
Nashville, TN	687,788	101	25	14.7	27
Charlotte, NC	911,311	96	27	10.5	35
Fort Worth, TX	978,468	88	28	9.0	43
Minneapolis, MN	425,115	85	29	20.0	19
Denver, CO	716,577	84	30	11.7	32
Portland, OR	630,498	83	31	13.2	29
Greensboro, NC	302,296	74	32	24.5	14
Austin, TX	979,882	74	32	7.6	48
Cincinnati, OH	311,097	71	34	22.8	16
Oklahoma City, OK	702,767	65	35	9.2	42
Seattle, WA	755,078	64	36	8.5	46
San Francisco, CA	808,988	54	37	6.7	58
Pittsburgh, PA	303,255	52	38	17.1	22
Durham, NC	296,186	49	39	16.5	23

Appendix A continued

Nation's 75 largest cities ranked by total number of 2023 homicides

City	2023 Population	Total homicides	Rank	Homicides per 100,000 population	Rank
Tulsa, OK	411,894	48	40	11.7	33
Newark, NJ	304,960	47	41	15.4	25
Stockton, CA	319,543	45	42	14.1	28
San Diego, CA	1,388,320	45	42	3.2	70
Tampa, FL	403,364	40	44	9.9	37
Aurora, CO	395,052	39	45	9.9	38
El Paso, TX	678,958	39	45	5.7	62
Sacramento, CA	526,384	38	47	7.2	52
Wichita, KS	396,119	37	48	9.3	41
Bakersfield, CA	413,381	37	48	9.0	44
Tucson, AZ	547,239	37	48	6.8	57
Boston, MA	653,833	37	48	5.7	63
San Jose, CA	969,655	36	52	3.7	67
Mesa, AZ	511,648	35	53	6.8	55
Fresno, CA	545,716	35	53	6.4	59
Colorado Springs, CO	488,664	34	55	7.0	53
Raleigh, NC	482,295	33	56	6.8	54
St. Paul, MN	303,820	32	57	10.5	36
Orlando, FL	320,742	31	58	9.7	39
Miami, FL	455,924	31	58	6.8	56
Omaha, NE	483,335	29	60	6.0	60
North Las Vegas, NV	284,771	27	61	9.5	40
Honolulu, HI	341,778	26	62	7.6	47
Long Beach, CA	449,468	26	62	5.8	61
Lexington, KY	320,154	24	62	7.5	49
Virginia Beach, VA	453,649	24	62	5.3	64
Corpus Christi, TX	316,595	23	66	7.3	51
Anchorage, AK	286,075	21	67	7.3	50
Arlington, TX	398,431	15	68	3.8	66
Henderson, NV	337,305	12	69	3.6	69
Madison, WI	280,305	10	70	3.6	68
Jersey City, NJ	291,657	9	71	3.1	71
Riverside, CA	318,858	9	71	2.8	72
Lincoln, NE	294,757	8	73	2.7	73
Santa Ana, CA	310,539	6	74	1.9	74
Plano, TX	290,190	4	75	1.4	75

Source: Multiple sources including city police reports and news articles. See appendix for more info.
Note: When possible Wirepoints counted only criminal homicides, excluding accidental or justifiable self-defense.

Appendix B: 2023 homicides per 100,000 residents

Nation's 75 largest cities ranked by total 2023 homicides per 100,000 residents

City	2023 Population	Total homicides	Rank	Homicides per 100,000 population	Rank
St. Louis, MO	281,754	169	16	60.0	1
Memphis, TN	618,639	367	4	59.3	2
New Orleans, LA	364,136	192	12	52.7	3
Baltimore, MD	565,239	263	9	46.5	4
Cleveland, OH	362,656	154	19	42.5	5
Washington, DC	678,972	274	7	40.4	6
Detroit, MI	633,218	252	10	39.8	7
Kansas City, MO	510,704	182	13	35.6	8
Milwaukee, WI	561,385	172	14	30.6	9
Oakland, CA	436,504	126	23	28.9	10
Atlanta, GA	510,823	135	21	26.4	11
Louisville, KY	622,981	161	18	25.8	12
Philadelphia, PA	1,550,542	389	3	25.1	13
Greensboro, NC	302,296	74	32	24.5	14
Chicago, IL	2,664,452	617	1	23.2	15
Cincinnati, OH	311,097	71	34	22.8	16
Dallas, TX	1,302,868	268	8	20.6	17
Las Vegas, NV	660,929	133	22	20.1	18
Minneapolis, MN	425,115	85	29	20.0	19
Indianapolis, IN	879,293	171	15	19.4	20
Albuquerque, NM	560,274	101	25	18.0	21
Pittsburgh, PA	303,255	52	38	17.1	22
Durham, NC	296,186	49	39	16.5	23
Columbus, OH	913,175	148	20	16.2	24
Newark, NJ	304,960	47	41	15.4	25
Houston, TX	2,314,157	351	5	15.2	26
Nashville, TN	687,788	101	25	14.7	27
Stockton, CA	319,543	45	42	14.1	28
Portland, OR	630,498	83	31	13.2	29
Jacksonville, FL	985,843	125	24	12.7	30
Phoenix, AZ	1,650,070	198	11	12.0	31
Denver, CO	716,577	84	30	11.7	32
Tulsa, OK	411,894	48	40	11.7	33
San Antonio, TX	1,495,295	165	17	11.0	34
Charlotte, NC	911,311	96	27	10.5	35
St. Paul, MN	303,820	32	57	10.5	36
Tampa, FL	403,364	40	44	9.9	37

Appendix B continued

City	2023 Population	Total homicides	Rank	Homicides per 100,000 population	Rank
Aurora, CO	395,052	39	45	9.9	38
Orlando, FL	320,742	31	58	9.7	39
North Las Vegas, NV	284,771	27	61	9.5	40
Wichita, KS	396,119	37	48	9.3	41
Oklahoma City, OK	702,767	65	35	9.2	42
Fort Worth, TX	978,468	88	28	9.0	43
Bakersfield, CA	413,381	37	48	9.0	44
Los Angeles, CA	3,820,914	327	6	8.6	45
Seattle, WA	755,078	64	36	8.5	46
Honolulu, HI	341,778	26	62	7.6	47
Austin, TX	979,882	74	32	7.6	48
Lexington, KY	320,154	24	62	7.5	49
Anchorage, AK	286,075	21	67	7.3	50
Corpus Christi, TX	316,595	23	66	7.3	51
Sacramento, CA	526,384	38	47	7.2	52
Colorado Springs, CO	488,664	34	55	7.0	53
Raleigh, NC	482,295	33	56	6.8	54
Mesa, AZ	511,648	35	53	6.8	55
Miami, FL	455,924	31	58	6.8	56
Tucson, AZ	547,239	37	48	6.8	57
San Francisco, CA	808,988	54	37	6.7	58
Fresno, CA	545,716	35	53	6.4	59
Omaha, NE	483,335	29	60	6.0	60
Long Beach, CA	449,468	26	62	5.8	61
El Paso, TX	678,958	39	45	5.7	62
Boston, MA	653,833	37	48	5.7	63
Virginia Beach, VA	453,649	24	62	5.3	64
New York City, NY	8,258,035	391	2	4.7	65
Arlington, TX	398,431	15	68	3.8	66
San Jose, CA	969,655	36	52	3.7	67
Madison, WI	280,305	10	70	3.6	68
Henderson, NV	337,305	12	69	3.6	69
San Diego, CA	1,388,320	45	42	3.2	70
Jersey City, NJ	291,657	9	71	3.1	71
Riverside, CA	318,858	9	71	2.8	72
Lincoln, NE	294,757	8	73	2.7	73
Santa Ana, CA	310,539	6	74	1.9	74
Plano, TX	290,190	4	75	1.4	75

Source: Multiple sources including city police reports and news articles. See appendix for more info.
Note: When possible Wirepoints counted only criminal homicides, excluding accidental or justifiable self-defense.

Appendix C: Homicides 2023 vs. 2022

Homicides fell 10% across the nation's 75 largest cities in 2023

Total number of homicides in 2022 and 2023 among nation's 75 largest cities

City	2023 Homicides	2022 Homicides	Change	Percent change	City	2023 Homicides	2022 Homicides	Change	Percent change
Chicago, IL	617	709	-92	-13%	Durham, NC	49	45	4	9%
New York City, NY	391	438	-47	-11%	Tulsa, OK	48	67	-19	-28%
Philadelphia, PA	389	510	-121	-24%	Newark, NJ	47	50	-3	-6%
Memphis, TN	367	267	100	37%	Stockton, CA	45	48	-3	-6%
Houston, TX	351	440	-89	-20%	San Diego, CA	45	52	-7	-13%
Los Angeles, CA	327	382	-55	-14%	Tampa, FL	40	46	-6	-13%
Washington, DC	274	203	71	35%	Aurora, CO	39	43	-4	-9%
Dallas, TX	268	247	21	9%	El Paso, TX	39	27	12	44%
Baltimore, MD	263	336	-73	-22%	Sacramento, CA	38	54	-16	-30%
Detroit, MI	252	309	-57	-18%	Wichita, KS	37	31	6	19%
Phoenix, AZ	198	223	-25	-11%	Bakersfield, CA	37	60	-23	-38%
New Orleans, LA	192	257	-65	-25%	Tucson, AZ	37	42	-5	-12%
Kansas City, MO	182	170	12	7%	Boston, MA	37	40	-3	-8%
Milwaukee, WI	172	215	-43	-20%	San Jose, CA	36	35	1	3%
Indianapolis, IN	171	211	-40	-19%	Mesa, AZ	35	34	1	3%
St. Louis, MO	169	212	-43	-20%	Fresno, CA	35	50	-15	-30%
San Antonio, TX	165	178	-13	-7%	Colorado Springs, CO	34	57	-23	-40%
Louisville, KY	161	165	-4	-2%	Raleigh, NC	33	43	-10	-23%
Cleveland, OH	154	155	-1	-1%	St. Paul, MN	32	40	-8	-20%
Columbus, OH	148	140	8	6%	Orlando, FL	31	32	-1	-3%
Atlanta, GA	135	171	-36	-21%	Miami, FL	31	49	-18	-37%
Las Vegas, NV	133	150	-17	-11%	Omaha, NE	29	29	0	0%
Oakland, CA	126	122	4	3%	North Las Vegas, NV	27	20	7	35%
Jacksonville, FL	125	138	-13	-9%	Honolulu, HI	26	30	-4	-13%
Albuquerque, NM	101	114	-13	-11%	Long Beach, CA	26	36	-10	-28%
Nashville, TN	101	109	-8	-7%	Lexington, KY	24	44	-20	-45%
Charlotte, NC	96	107	-11	-10%	Virginia Beach, VA	24	23	1	4%
Fort Worth, TX	88	102	-14	-14%	Corpus Christi, TX	23	42	-19	-45%
Minneapolis, MN	85	84	1	1%	Anchorage, AK	21	28	-7	-25%
Denver, CO	84	88	-4	-5%	Arlington, TX	15	16	-1	-6%
Portland, OR	83	97	-14	-14%	Henderson, NV	12	4	8	200%
Greensboro, NC	74	42	32	76%	Madison, WI	10	6	4	67%
Austin, TX	74	77	-3	-4%	Jersey City, NJ	9	8	1	13%
Cincinnati, OH	71	78	-7	-9%	Riverside, CA	9	14	-5	-36%
Oklahoma City, OK	65	62	3	5%	Lincoln, NE	8	11	-3	-27%
Seattle, WA	64	54	10	19%	Santa Ana, CA	6	26	-20	-77%
San Francisco, CA	54	56	-2	-4%	Plano, TX	4	5	-1	-20%
Pittsburgh, PA	52	71	-19	-27%	**75 cities total**	**7,900**	**8,776**	**-876**	**-10%**

Source: Multiple sources including city police reports and news articles. See appendix for more info.
Note: When possible Wirepoints counted only criminal homicides, excluding accidental or justifiable self-defense.

Appendix D: Methodology and Notes

- In this report, "homicide" refers to "criminal homicides" and, where specified, non-negligent man-slaughter. When possible accidental homicides or those found to have been committed in justifiable self-defense were not counted toward criminal homicide totals. Wirepoints did its best to keep the definition of "homicide" consistent across the 75 cities. Unfortunately, this was not always possible due to the extreme number and variety of sources used.

- The 75 cities surveyed for this report are the largest by population in the United States for which 2023 homicide data were publicly available. Anaheim, CA and Irvine, CA, were not covered because there was no reliable 2023 homicide data available. The next most populous cities were added in their place.

- Homicide totals for 2023 were first sought from local police department data, and if that data was not available, from reputable media outlets. When no better data could be found, we referred in some instances to the 2023 Violent Crime Survey by the Major Chiefs Association.

- The most recent reliable national homicide rate is the FBI's 6.5 per 100,000 in 2020. National homicide and crime rates remain unreliable from 2021 onward due to thousands of local agencies and departments not submitting data to the FBI's new reporting system.

*Note: In our February 2023 report on 2022 homicides Wirepoints ranked New Orleans as the nation's homicide per capita capital with a rate of 74.3 per 100,000. St. Louis was ranked 2nd with a rate of 68.2 per 100,000. However, based on new source data used in this report, as well as updated population and crime data for both cities, St. Louis is the 2022 per capita capital with a rate of 74.1 per 100,000. It should be noted that because the 2022 homicide rate of both cities is so close, either one could be considered the nation's homicide per capita capital based on the source data used.

Appendix E: Source notes

City	Source
Albuquerque, NM	https://www.cabq.gov/police/documents/2023_citywide_nibrs_yearend.pdf
Anchorage, AK	https://www.alaskasnewssource.com/2024/01/13/anchorage-police-seek-information-2023-homicides/
Arlington, TX	https://www.arlingtontx.gov/city_hall/departments/police/crime/murder_non_negligent_manslaughter_by_year
Atlanta, GA	https://www.atlantapd.org/home/showpublisheddocument/5810/638435714687700000
Aurora, CO	https://apd-transparency-portal-auroraco.hub.arcgis.com/pages/crime-statistics
Austin, TX	https://app.powerbigov.us/view?r=eyJrIjoiYmYyNTQ4NjgtNjhlMC00YjNiLWE0MDAtZTUwNWU5ZGIwNTk4IiwidCI6IjVjNWUxOWY2L-WE2YWItNGI0NS1iMWQwLWJlNDYwOGE5YTY3ZiJ9
Bakersfield, CA	https://bakersfieldnow.com/news/local/homicide-rate-in-kern-county-drops-25-in-one-year-marking-lowest-in-six-years-kern-county-district-attorneys-office-bakersfield-wasco-arvin-buttonwillow-california-city
Baltimore, MD	https://app.powerbigov.us/view?r=eyJrIjoiZjcyZDY5NWYtNTBlZS00OTg0LTgyNDQtOWYwMDEyOGI5Y2M1IiwidCI6IjMxMmNiMTI2L-WM2YWUtNGZjMi04MDBkLTMxOGU2NzljZTZjNyJ9
Boston, MA	https://majorcitieschiefs.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/MCCA-Violent-Crime-Report-2023-and-2022-Year-End.pdf
Charlotte, NC	https://majorcitieschiefs.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/MCCA-Violent-Crime-Report-2023-and-2022-Year-End.pdf
Chicago, IL	https://home.chicagopolice.org/wp-content/uploads/CompStat-Public-2023-Year-End-1-1.pdf
Cincinnati, OH	https://majorcitieschiefs.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/MCCA-Violent-Crime-Report-2023-and-2022-Year-End.pdf
Cleveland, OH	https://clevelandoh.govqa.us/WEBAPP/_rs/(S(vlmqmnruehqygz1lbx00zfyq))/AnswerDetail.aspx?sSessionID=&aid=72823
Colorado Springs, CO	https://gazette.com/news/homicides/homicides-down-in-colorado-springs-but-no-solace-for-families-seeking-answers/article_9f-be0c8e-bbd3-11ee-b7a1-53030fad5261.html#:~:text=Most%20of%20the%20people%20who,data%20compiled%20by%20The%20Gazette.
Columbus, OH	https://www.10tv.com/article/news/crime/2023-marks-third-highest-year-homicides-in-columbus/530-ece47ea8-0704-4c8c-918e-2c0583222fac#:~
Corpus Christi, TX	https://txucr.nibrs.com/Report/SummaryIndexReport
Dallas, TX	https://dallaspolice.net/resources/CrimeReports/NIBRS%20Weekly%20Admin%20Council%20Report%20EOY.pdf
Denver, CO	https://majorcitieschiefs.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/MCCA-Violent-Crime-Report-2023-and-2022-Year-End.pdf
Detroit, MI	https://detroitmi.gov/news/detroit-ends-2023-fewest-homicides-57-years-double-digit-drops-shootings-and-carjackings-thanks-dpd
Durham, NC	https://www.durhamnc.gov/Archive.aspx?ADID=6766
El Paso, TX	https://txucr.nibrs.com/Report/UCRSummary
Fort Worth, TX	https://online.flippingbook.com/view/709992342/
Fresno, CA	https://www.fresnobee.com/news/local/crime/article283744638.html
Greensboro, NC	https://www.rhinotimes.com/news/with-74-homicides-2023-sets-all-time-record-for-greensboro/
Henderson, NV	https://www.reviewjournal.com/crime/homicides/homicides-in-2023-murders-down-12-percent-in-las-vegas-2993127/
Honolulu, HI	https://www.honolulupd.org/dashboard/crime-by-category/
Houston, TX	https://txucr.nibrs.com/PublishedReports/PublishReport
Indianapolis, IN	https://www.wishtv.com/news/crime-watch-8/indianapolis-ends-2023-with-a-nearly-19-decrease-in-criminal-homicides/
Jacksonville, FL	https://transparency.jaxsheriff.org/Homicide/Criminal
Jersey City, NJ	https://www.jerseycitynj.gov/cityhall/publicsafety/police
Kansas City, MO	https://www.kcpd.org/media/5316/final-daily-homicide-analysis-23.pdf
Las Vegas, NV	https://www.lvmpd.com/home/showpublisheddocument/5572/638481613045900000
Lexington, KY	https://www.lexingtonky.gov/homicide-investigations
Lincoln, NE	https://cjis.lincoln.ne.gov/~lpd/stats/public_stats.htm
Long Beach, CA	https://www.longbeach.gov/globalassets/police/media-library/images/how-do-i/2024-12_monthly_ibr
Los Angeles, CA	https://mayor.lacity.gov/news/lapd-releases-end-year-crime-statistics-city-los-angeles-2023
Louisville, KY	https://majorcitieschiefs.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/MCCA-Violent-Crime-Report-2023-and-2022-Year-End.pdf
Madison, WI	https://www.wortfm.org/madison-police-chief-barnes-touts-crime-reduction-in-2023/

Appendix E continued

City	Source
Memphis, TN	https://app.powerbigov.us/view?r=eyJrIjoiZjg3NmFjZGQtODdjNS00ODA0LWIyYzktY2U5ODY1ZTQwN2I0IiwidCI6IjQxNjQ3NTYx-LTY1MzctNDQyMy05NmE5LTg1OWU4OWY4OTE5ZiJ9
Mesa, AZ	https://azcrimestatistics.azdps.gov/public/View/dispview.aspx
Miami, FL	https://www.miami-police.org/docs/MPD_Annual_Report_2023.pdf
Milwaukee, WI	https://city.milwaukee.gov/police/Information-Services/Crime-Maps-and-Statistics
Minneapolis, MN	https://www.minneapolismn.gov/government/government-data/datasource/crime-dashboard/
Nashville, TN	https://www.nashville.gov/departments/police/data-dashboard/ucr-victim-suspect-demographics
New Orleans, LA	https://app.powerbi.com/view?r=eyJrIjoiNjIhMjVlYzUtYTI0ZS00MmQxLWI3MDgtM2JkNTQ4NjZiZGM2IiwidCI6IjFkYzNlZmNmLT-VlMTQtNGRkNS1iMjE3LWE3NTBjNWIxMzlyZCIsImMiOjN9
New York City, NY	https://www.nyc.gov/assets/nypd/downloads/pdf/analysis_and_planning/historical-crime-data/seven-major-felony-offens-es-2000-2023.pdf
Newark, NJ	https://www.nj.com/essex/2023/12/njs-largest-city-says-violent-crime-fell-10-in-2023.html
North Las Vegas, NV	https://www.reviewjournal.com/crime/homicides/homicides-in-2023-murders-down-12-percent-in-las-vegas-2993127/#:~:tex-t=In%20North%20Las%20Vegas%2C%20there,Adam%20Hyde%20in%20an%20interview.
Oakland, CA	https://majorcitieschiefs.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/MCCA-Violent-Crime-Report-2023-and-2022-Year-End.pdf
Oklahoma City, OK	https://majorcitieschiefs.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/MCCA-Violent-Crime-Report-2023-and-2022-Year-End.pdf
Omaha, NE	https://police.cityofomaha.org/images/crime-statistics-reports/2024/Web_IndexCrimes_202404.pdf
Orlando, FL	https://majorcitieschiefs.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/MCCA-Violent-Crime-Report-2023-and-2022-Year-End.pdf
Philadelphia, PA	https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1NnwLSzGtjKhtr3nF68fLMKEkyebyIIbN
Phoenix, AZ	https://www.phoenix.gov/police/resources-information/crime-stats-maps
Pittsburgh, PA	https://app.powerbigov.us/view?r=eyJrIjoiMDYzNWMyNGItNWNjMS00ODMwLWIxZDgtMTNkNzhIZDE2OWFjIiwidCI6ImY1ZjQ3O-TE3LWM5MDQtNDM2OC05MTIwLWQzMjdjZjE3NTU5MSJ9
Plano, TX	https://txucr.nibrs.com/Report/SummaryIndexReport
Portland, OR	https://public.tableau.com/app/profile/portlandpolicebureau/viz/New_Monthly_Neighborhood/MonthlyOffenseTotals
Raleigh, NC	https://majorcitieschiefs.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/MCCA-Violent-Crime-Report-2023-and-2022-Year-End.pdf
Riverside, CA	https://www.riversideca.gov/transparency/data/dataset/show/27
Sacramento, CA	https://www.sacbee.com/news/local/crime/article284036683.html
San Antonio, TX	https://www.sa.gov/files/assets/main/v/1/sapd/nibrs/crime-statistics-2022vs2023-jan-dec.pdf
San Diego, CA	https://www.sandiego.gov/sites/default/files/2024-03/2023-crime-report.pdf
San Francisco, CA	https://www.sanfranciscopolice.org/sites/default/files/2024-02/SFPDCrimeReport_Dec2023_20240201.pdf
San Jose, CA	https://www.nbcbayarea.com/news/local/south-bay/san-jose-homicide-trend/3410282/
Santa Ana, CA	https://www.santa-ana.org/documents/ucr-annual-statistical-report-2023/
Seattle, WA	https://www.seattle.gov/police/information-and-data/data/crime-dashboard
St. Louis, MO	https://slmpd.org/stats/
St. Paul, MN	https://www.axios.com/local/twin-cities/2024/01/02/violent-crime-homicide-declines-minneapolis-saint-paul-2023
Stockton, CA	https://cms3.revize.com/revize/stockton/Documents/Services/Police%20Department/Police%20News%20and%20Information/Sta-tistical%20Reports/PIO%20CRIME%20COMPARISON%20-%20DECEMBER%202022.pdf
Tampa, FL	https://majorcitieschiefs.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/MCCA-Violent-Crime-Report-2023-and-2022-Year-End.pdf
Tucson, AZ	https://app.powerbigov.us/view?r=eyJrIjoiY2ViZmNiYzAtMDQ5ZC00OTMwLTIiMTgtYjM1ZjAwYjJlMTkzIiwidCI6ImQyMWU1OWVjLW-MyMDgtNDNlYi1hYWYxLWNmMDZkOWExOTZlMCJ9&pageName=ReportSectionccd6be2a1a0db780dadd
Tulsa, OK	https://www.publicradiotulsa.org/local-regional/2024-01-04/homicides-significantly-down-in-tulsa-in-2023-police-still-warn-against-illegal-gun-possession
Virginia Beach, VA	https://majorcitieschiefs.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/MCCA-Violent-Crime-Report-2023-and-2022-Year-End.pdf
Washington, DC	https://mpdc.dc.gov/page/district-crime-data-glance
Wichita, KS	https://majorcitieschiefs.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/MCCA-Violent-Crime-Report-2023-and-2022-Year-End.pdf