

# ANNUAL REPORT ON CRIME & CRIME CONTROL

Crime trends in metropolitan Washington and the regional initiatives by law enforcement to improve them

2017 Edition



Metropolitan Washington  
**Council of Governments**

## **ANNUAL REPORT ON CRIME AND CRIME CONTROL**

Prepared for the COG Board of Directors on behalf of the COG Police Chiefs Committee.

### **ABOUT COG**

The Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG) is an independent, nonprofit association that brings area leaders together to address major regional issues in the District of Columbia, suburban Maryland, and Northern Virginia. COG's membership is comprised of 300 elected officials from 24 local governments, the Maryland and Virginia state legislatures, and U.S. Congress.

### **CREDITS**

Contributing Editors: Tim Schaible, MWCOG

Photo Credit: Metropolitan Police Department Honor Guard, Police Week 2017

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## MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN



Ronald A. Pavlik  
COG Police Chiefs Committee Chairman

As the hub for regional partnership, the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG) brings area leaders together daily to address some of the area's most pressing challenges.

From combatting the rising epidemic of substance dependency, to undermining the threat of terrorist attacks, to maintaining the important relationship between police and the communities they serve, COG's Police Chiefs Committee and its specialized subcommittees are tackling some particularly tough issues. As you will read in this report, these efforts, coupled with the top-notch work of the region's nearly 19,000 law enforcement personnel, is making metropolitan Washington a safer place to live and work.

In the first section of this annual report, you will read that in our region, total crimes against people and property are on the decline—a trend that we have enjoyed for the last decade. However, a slight increase in the individual category of rape in 2017 indicates that there is still work to be done to deter as well as educate about this and other crimes.

The last section of the report recaps some of the ways we have worked throughout the year at a regional level to create safer communities for area residents and visitors—including laying the groundwork for critical conversations and trainings on substance dependency, civil disturbances, and disaster response.

I look forward to the ways we will work together in the coming year to make law enforcement even more efficient and effective, with the goal of creating an even safer and stronger metropolitan Washington.



(Alexandria Police Department)

# INTRODUCTION

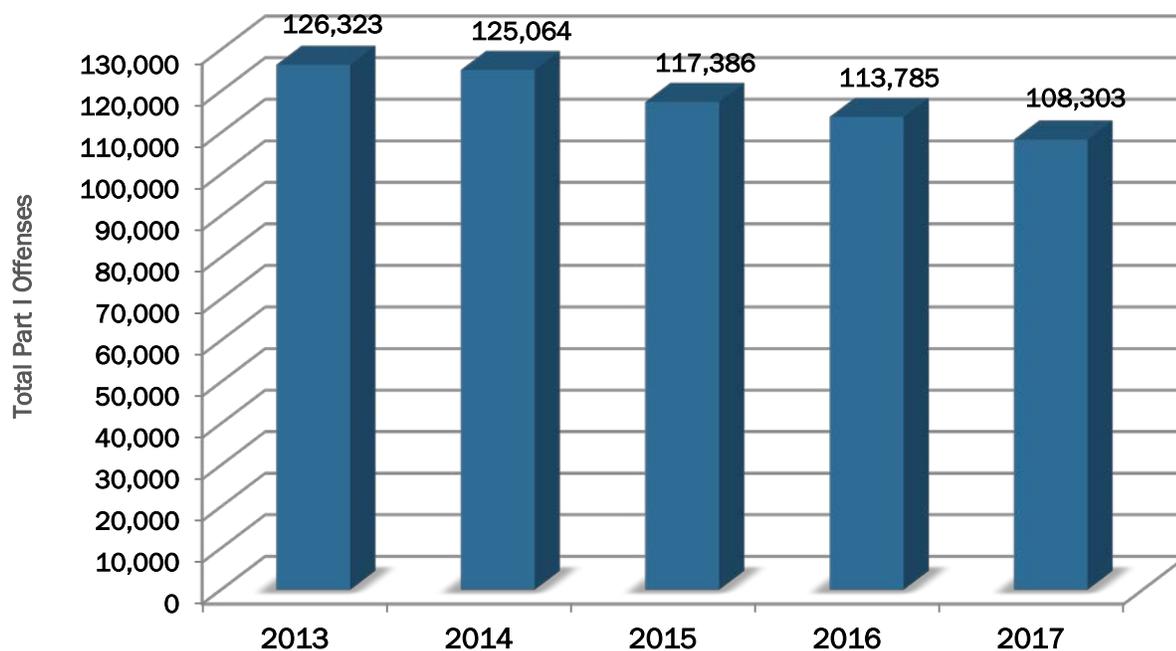
The Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments' (COG) *Annual Report on Crime and Crime Control* is based on crime incidents reported by member law enforcement agencies in metropolitan Washington. This annual report, compiled by COG's Police Chiefs Committee, focuses on Part I offenses as defined by the Federal Bureau of Investigation—including violent crimes against persons (homicide, rape, robbery and aggravated assault) and crimes against property (burglary, larceny, and motor vehicle theft).

To capture the clearest picture of crime in metropolitan Washington, it is important to look at crime trends over multiple years and view crime statistics in context with environmental influences. Factors such as demographics, the economy, legislative changes, reporting requirements, and/or changes in police policies and resources may influence the number of crimes reported in any jurisdiction.

## PART I OFFENSES ON THE DECLINE

In 2017, total Part I offenses continued to decline, despite a slight increase in the category of rape. Part I offenses in 2017 were 4.8 percent lower than those recorded in 2016, and overall, crime has dropped 30.3 percent in the last 10 years.

**Figure 1: Total Part I Offenses, Metropolitan Washington, 2013-2017**



Source: COG

**Table 1: Part I Offenses by Jurisdiction, 2017**

COG Police Departments	Reporting Method	Homicide	Rape	Robbery	Agg. Assault	Burglary	Larceny	M/V Theft	Total Offenses	Crimes Per 1000	Population
Metropolitan (D.C.)	Other*	116	296	2,183	1,858	1,526	24,798	2,425	33,202	47.843	693,972
Bladensburg	UCR	1	3	30	38	38	212	71	393	39.3	10,000
Bowie	UCR	4	3	35	39	77	606	77	841	14.402	58,393
Charles County	UCR	8	39	126	367	408	2,092	181	3,221	21.830	147,551
Frederick County	UCR	3	20	30	104	216	1,071	46	1,490	5.848	254,794
City of Frederick	UCR	1	28	87	352	149	1,107	43	1,767	25.221	70,060
Greenbelt	UCR	4	9	78	54	98	610	67	920	39.882	23,068
Hyattsville**	UCR	1	2	60	26	79	863	78	1,109	63.166	17,557
Laurel**	UCR	1	9	55	92	84	789	57	1,087	41.808	26,000
Montgomery County	NIBRS	22	396	735	773	1,666	13,420	919	17,931	16.935	1,058,810
Gaithersburg***	NIBRS	1	47	50	73	121	1,175	52	1,519	21.897	69,369
Rockville***	NIBRS	1	36	37	46	124	960	53	1,257	18.666	67,340
Prince George's County	UCR	59	97	855	1,026	1,951	9,276	2,575	15,839	17.795	890,081
Takoma Park	UCR	0	3	29	19	55	359	30	495	27.864	17,765
Alexandria	NIBRS	6	9	103	137	167	2,094	178	2,694	17.290	155,810
Arlington County	NIBRS	4	39	75	184	160	2,621	143	3,226	14.325	225,200
City of Fairfax	NIBRS	0	4	24	4	11	361	20	424	17.596	24,097
Fairfax County	NIBRS	20	95	428	417	768	12,615	702	15,045	13.164	1,142,888
Falls Church	NIBRS	0	4	2	3	6	209	12	236	16.503	14,300
Loudoun County	NIBRS	2	64	48	113	147	2,590	142	3,106	8.065	385,114
Manassas	UCR	3	10	38	35	89	713	48	936	22.401	41,783
Manassas Park	UCR	0	6	4	7	12	134	10	173	10.717	16,142
Prince William County	NIBRS	4	112	241	576	506	4,529	396	6,364	13.952	456,126
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>		<b>257</b>	<b>1,237</b>	<b>5,151</b>	<b>6,106</b>	<b>8,050</b>	<b>79,417</b>	<b>8,085</b>	<b>108,303</b>	<b>19.047</b>	<b>5,685,954</b>

Source: COG

**Table 1 (Continued)**

Associate Police Departments	Reporting Method	Homicide	Rape	Robbery	Agg. Assault	Burglary	Larceny	M/V Theft	Total Offenses
Fauquier County	NIBRS	1	11	1	23	62	311	8	417
FBI	Other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Federal Protective Service	UCR	0	0	2	3	3	241	2	251
MNCPPC (Prince George's County)	UCR	2	2	27	44	8	122	7	212
Maryland State****	UCR	0	1	4	39	31	127	126	228
Metro Transit	NIBRS	0	2	275	108	0	853	43	1,281
Metro Washington Airports Authority	NIBRS	0	0	0	3	2	330	70	405
National Institute of Health	UCR	0	1	0	0	0	78	1	80
Pentagon Force Protection Agency	Other	0	2	0	7	0	45	0	54
U.S. Capitol	Other	0	0	3	4	0	77	3	87
U.S. Park	UCR	0	0	45	36	15	214	9	319
Virginia Dept. of Alcoholic Beverage Control	NIBRS	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Virginia State (Div. 7)	NIBRS	0	2	2	32	1	23	7	71
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>		<b>3</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>359</b>	<b>299</b>	<b>122</b>	<b>2,421</b>	<b>276</b>	<b>3,405</b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>		<b>260</b>	<b>1,258</b>	<b>5,510</b>	<b>6,405</b>	<b>8,172</b>	<b>81,838</b>	<b>8,361</b>	<b>111,708</b>

Source: COG

\*UCR refers to the Uniform Crime Reporting Program; NIBRS is the National Incident Based Reporting System. The DC Metropolitan Police Department provides official crime statistics through the DC Crime Index; instances of rape, aggravated assault, and larceny are provided through the UCR.

\*\*Hyattsville and Laurel were not included in the 2016 COG Crime Report and are not reflected in the subtotal & grand total data figures. Their data will be incorporated in future reports.

\*\*\*Data provided by Gaithersburg and Rockville is reported to the state by Montgomery County.

\*\*\*\*This includes figures from the College Park, Frederick, Forestville, LaPlata, & Rockville Barracks.

**Table 2: Part I Arrests by Jurisdiction, 2017**

COG Police Departments	Reporting Method	Homicide	Rape	Robbery	Agg. Assault	Burglary	Larceny	M/V Theft	Total Arrests
Metropolitan (D.C.)	Other*	93	95	724	1,035	297	3,752	61	5,060
Bladensburg	UCR	0	0	3	15	1	6	1	26
Bowie	UCR	2	0	18	12	5	75	4	116
Charles County	UCR	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Frederick County	UCR	6	5	23	47	65	259	7	412
City of Frederick	UCR	2	5	54	186	70	199	5	521
Greenbelt	UCR	2	1	22	19	6	45	3	98
Hyattsville**	UCR	0	0	6	6	7	321	2	342
Laurel**	UCR	2	4	5	53	14	134	2	214
Montgomery County	NIBRS	41	95	375	333	528	2,821	206	4,399
Gaithersburg***	NIBRS	4	13	25	34	22	336	15	449
Rockville***	NIBRS	1	8	18	18	29	121	10	205
Prince George's County	UCR	38	21	196	307	283	944	231	2,020
Takoma Park	UCR	0	2	23	11	13	36	3	88
Alexandria	NIBRS	3	10	54	106	29	252	18	980
Arlington County	NIBRS	3	3	28	118	26	414	13	605
City of Fairfax	NIBRS	0	6	14	8	4	54	7	93
Fairfax County	NIBRS	25	8	246	464	239	5,465	162	6,609
Falls Church	NIBRS	0	0	1	6	2	15	0	24
Loudoun County	NIBRS	2	22	22	66	55	390	25	582
Manassas	UCR	6	2	13	28	22	121	0	192
Manassas Park	UCR	0	7	0	7	3	18	1	36
Prince William County	NIBRS	15	19	132	317	90	982	44	1,599
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>		<b>238</b>	<b>301</b>	<b>1,948</b>	<b>3,085</b>	<b>1,738</b>	<b>15,848</b>	<b>791</b>	<b>23,460</b>

**Table 2 (Continued)**

Associate Police Departments	Reporting Method	Homicide	Rape	Robbery	Agg. Assault	Burglary	Larceny	M/V Theft	Total Arrests
Fauquier County	NIBRS	1	2	1	20	15	44	1	84
FBI	Other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Federal Protective Service	UCR	0	0	0	1	0	2	0	3
MNCPPC (Prince George's County)	UCR	0	0	3	6	0	2	1	12
Maryland State****	UCR	0	0	1	38	15	57	3	114
Metro Transit	NIBRS	0	0	61	51	0	102	8	222
Metro Washington Airports Authority	NIBRS	0	0	0	1	2	48	16	67
National Institute of Health	UCR	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	3
Pentagon Force Protection Agency	Other	0	2	0	5	0	11	0	18
U.S. Capitol	Other	0	0	3	2	0	4	4	13
U.S. Park	UCR	0	0	4	44	1	12	21	82
Virginia Dept. of Alcoholic Beverage Control	NIBRS	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Virginia State (Div. 7)	NIBRS	0	1	1	4	0	9	2	17
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>		<b>1</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>172</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>294</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>635</b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>		<b>239</b>	<b>306</b>	<b>2,022</b>	<b>3,257</b>	<b>1,771</b>	<b>16,142</b>	<b>847</b>	<b>24,095</b>

Source: COG

\*UCR refers to the Uniform Crime Reporting Program; NIBRS is the National Incident Based Reporting System. The DC Metropolitan Police Department provides official crime statistics through the DC Crime Index; instances of rape, aggravated assault, and larceny are provided through the UCR.

\*\*Hyattsville and Laurel were not included in the 2016 COG Crime Report and are not reflected in the subtotal & grand total data figures. Their data will be incorporated in future reports.

\*\*\*Data provided by Gaithersburg and Rockville is reported to the state by Montgomery County.

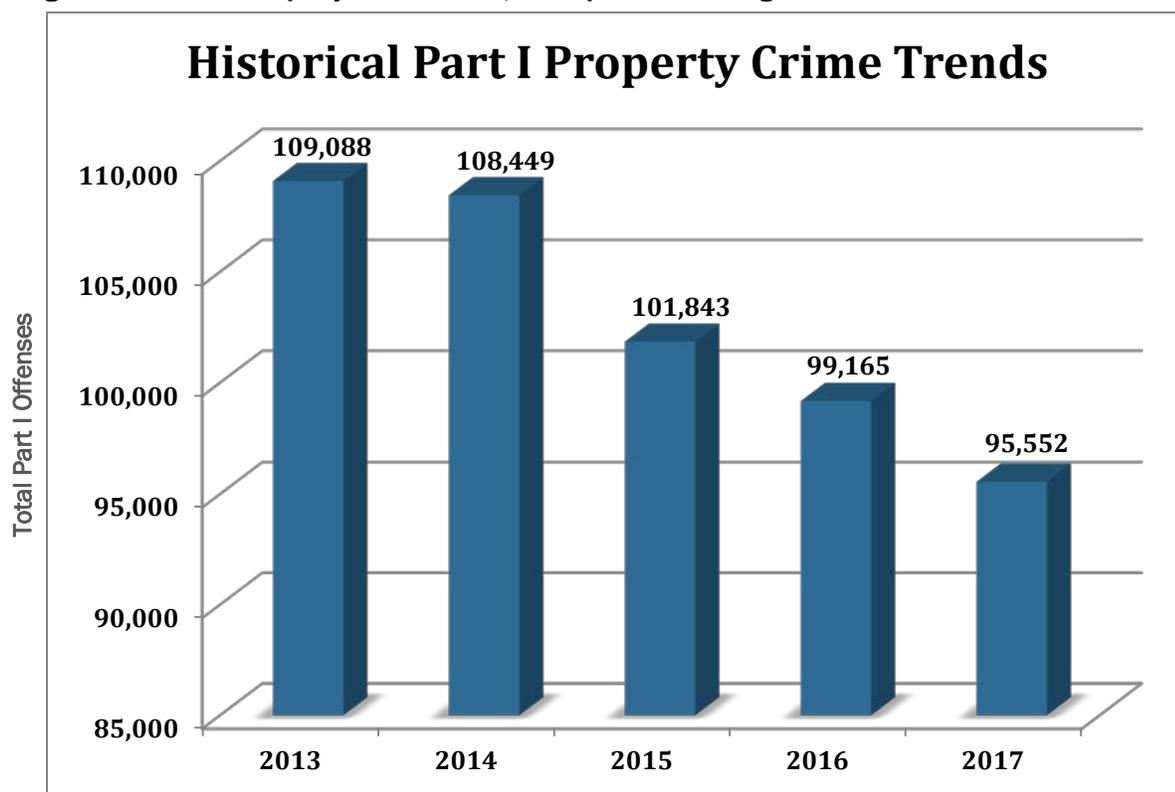
\*\*\*\*This includes figures from the College Park, Frederick, Forestville, LaPlata, & Rockville Barracks.

# CRIME TRENDS IN METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON

In 2017, there were over 3.1 million calls received and/or initiated by the primary agencies, an increase of 8 percent from 2016.

For the fifth consecutive year, metropolitan Washington experienced an overall decline in Part I criminal offenses, with 5,482 fewer offenses in 2017 than in 2016. Declines were observed in every category of property crime as well as most categories of violent crime.

**Figure 2: Historical Property Crime Trends, Metropolitan Washington**



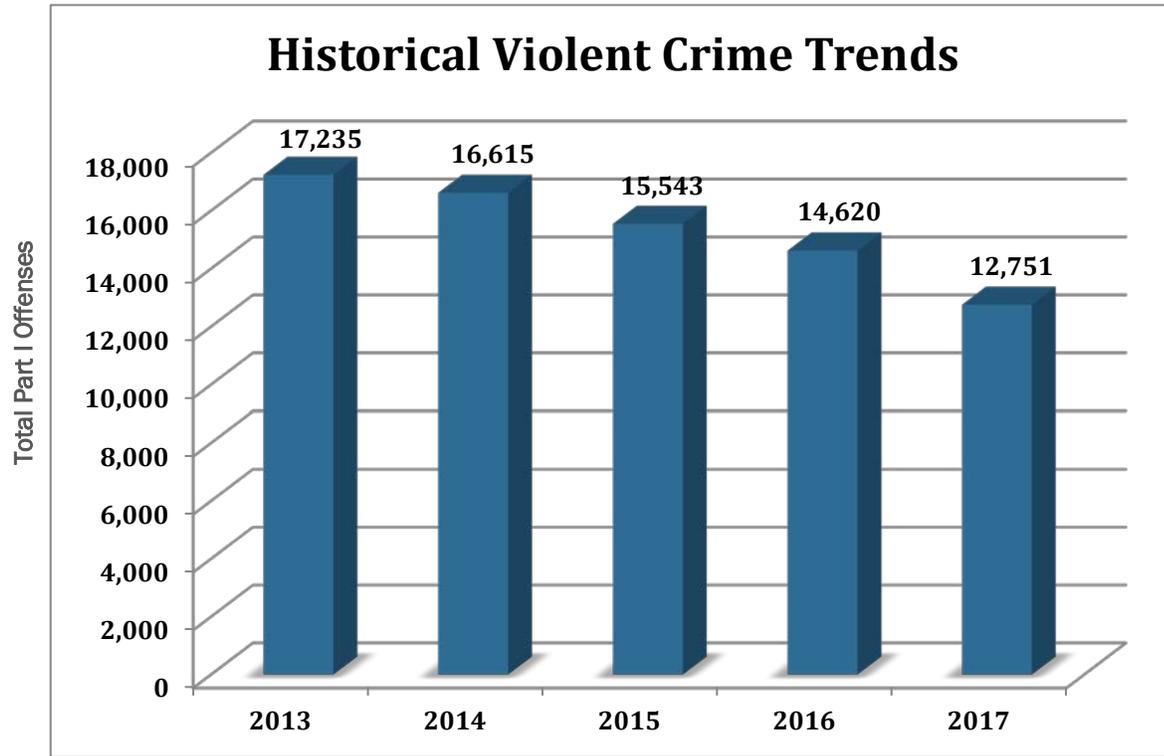
Source: COG

Crimes against property in 2017 were lower in every category than in 2016. Burglary decreased by 13 percent, larceny decreased by 2.3 percent, and motor vehicle theft decreased by 6.4 percent. Since 2008, crimes against property have decreased overall by 29.4 percent.

COG public safety personnel credit the decrease in crimes against property in part due to safety campaigns to enhance the awareness and reduce the vulnerability of individuals who arrange in-person sales transactions of personal property online. Law enforcement has also advertised the use of “safe zones” at which online sellers can carry out sales transactions with unknown buyers.

Use of GPS and other security technologies with newer generation vehicles and devices has also assisted law enforcement with tracking and recovering stolen items, serving as a deterrent for would-be property crime offenders.

**Figure 3: Historical Violent Crime Trends, Metropolitan Washington**



Source: COG

Violent crimes against persons in 2017 were lower in every category than in 2016 except for rape which increased by 5.5 percent. Homicides decreased by 18.4 percent, robbery decreased by 18.3 percent, and aggravated assault decreased by 10.6 percent.

According to the National Sexual Violence Resource Center, rape is the most under-reported crime: 63 percent of sexual assaults are not reported to the police, and only 12 percent of child sexual abuse is reported. Still, metropolitan Washington continues to see increases in the number of reported rapes—5.5 percent since 2016 and 46.7 percent over the last 10 years. There is a strong educational component to try to reduce victimization because so much of this type of crime is committed by someone who knows and has access to the victim. Moreover, the focus over the last year on untested kits, passing of new legislation broadening the definition of rape, and emergence of several high-profile cases nationwide has helped encourage more victims to come forward.

Despite the overall decreases in all property crimes and most violent crimes at the regional level, multiple jurisdictions did experience individual increases in some categories of property and violent crime. There is no one specific factor to attribute to individual jurisdictional increases in certain crime categories, but most jurisdictions report that domestic violence, gangs, and drug activity are common factors in the incidents of many violent and property crimes reported over the last few years.



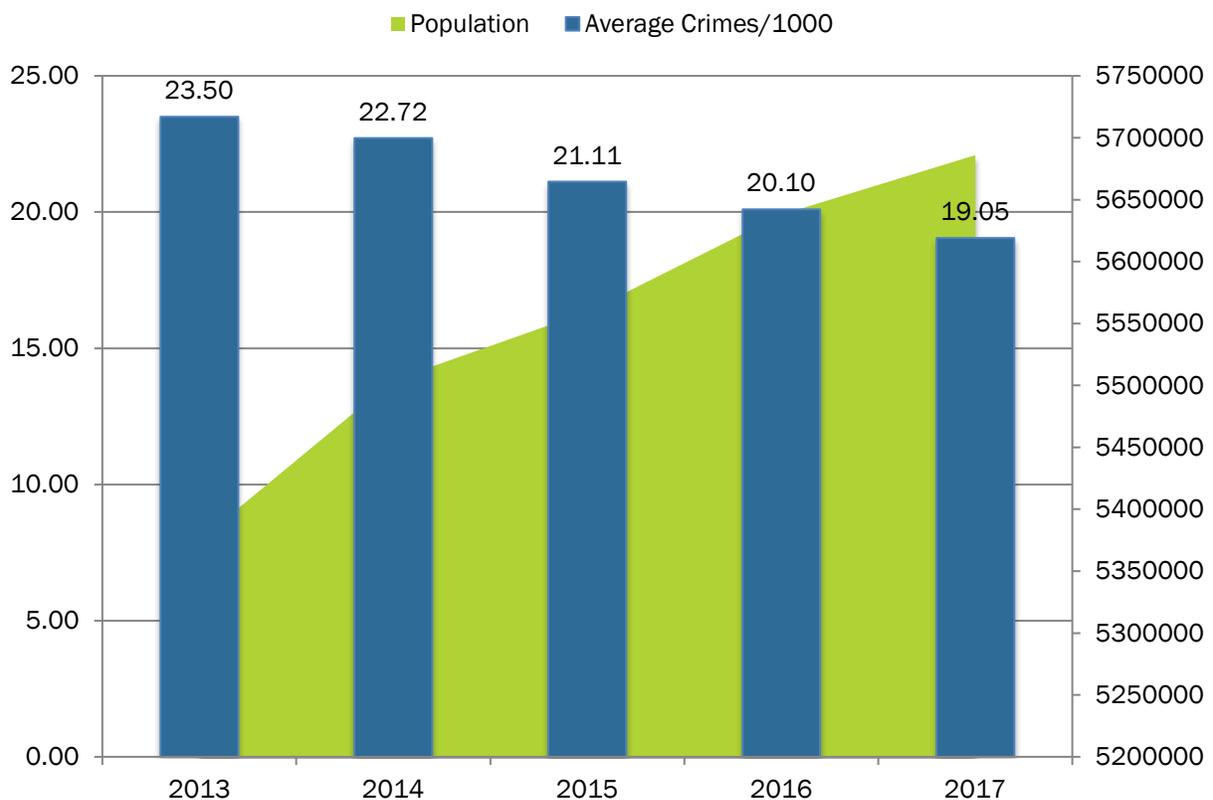
(Prince William County Police Department)

# Crime Rate Per Capita

Overall, the metropolitan Washington region continues to be an extremely safe place to live, work, and visit. In the last five years, the population has grown by nearly 5.8 percent, and it is estimated that there are more than 6 million people in this area, yet the per capita crime rate is low: 19.05 crimes per 1,000 people and declining. The crime rate per capita is a commonly accepted measure of crime and may serve as a basic indicator of overall criminal trends. Since 2013, the crime rate per capita has dropped from 23.50 crimes per 1,000 people to 19.05 crimes per 1,000 people. This is a positive sign.<sup>1</sup> Further, over the last decade, property crime has consistently accounted for 87 percent of reported crime in the region, while violent crime constituted only 13 percent.

Jurisdictions throughout the region monitor the spikes of crimes in their areas and address the patterns in a variety of ways, with outreach to communities, training, and selective enforcement. Advances in analytical software programs allow analysts and investigators to better predict patterns and connect criminal behavior to suspects.

**Figure 4: Crime Rate Per Capita, 2013-2017**



Source: COG

<sup>1</sup> The crime rate is based on Part I offenses and does not serve as a comprehensive tracking of all crimes. Further, departments in the region report offenses under different programs, which can cause discrepancies in data comparison and analysis.

**Table 3: Calls for Service and Staffing, Metropolitan Washington, 2017**

COG Police Departments	Calls	Sworn	Civilian
Metropolitan (D.C.)	636,653	3,800	660
Bladensburg	9,283	22	8
Bowie	22,564	65	21
Charles County	257,806	306	299
Frederick County	108,045	193	69
City of Frederick	106,235	146	53
Greenbelt	25,417	53	18.5
Hyattsville	9,486	44	13
Laurel	65,970	70	21
Montgomery County	233,065	1,301	802
Gaithersburg**	34,469	58	10
Rockville**	34,798	62	33.5
Prince George's County	569,331	1,786	313
Takoma Park	NA	39	17
Alexandria	99,060	307	118
Arlington County	78,330	371	102
City of Fairfax	12,974	66	22
Fairfax County	486,023	1,444	322
Falls Church	6,822	32	11
Loudoun County	171,472	582	125
Manassas	50,289	99	21
Manassas Park	19,445	34	9
Prince William County	228,639	673	198
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>3,121,453</b>	<b>10,040</b>	<b>2,783</b>

Associate Police Departments	Calls	Sworn	Civilian
Fauquier County	20,652	135	46.5
FBI	8,704	233	NA
Federal Protective Service	13,233	284	31
MNCPPC (Prince George's County)	102,654	115	26
Maryland State***	NA	NA	NA
Metro Transit	81,924	462	88
Metro Washington Airports Authority	117,120	230	51
National Institute of Health	15,504	84	21
Pentagon Force Protection Agency	82,841	813	75
U.S. Capitol	NA	NA	NA
U.S. Park	62,217	582	85
Virginia Dept. of Alcoholic Beverage Control	187	16	1
Virginia State (Div. 7)	NA	233	35
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>505,036</b>	<b>3,187</b>	<b>460</b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>3,626,489</b>	<b>13,227</b>	<b>3,243</b>

Source: COG

\* Number of calls for service should not be used as an indicator of crime; there is not a commonly accepted definition of calls for service.

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## On the Rise: Deaths and Overdoses from Substance Abuse

Law enforcement and state and local health agencies continue to track the troubling trend of opioid-induced deaths and overdoses in the region and nationwide.<sup>2</sup> In 2017, area jurisdictions worked to combat this trend by issuing Naloxone to first responders, ramping up public education, coordinating resources, and implementing new partner initiatives between first response agencies and health and human services departments. Though there have been some notable declines at the jurisdictional in reported overdoses, an overall increase in opioid-involved fatalities was observed in the region in 2017.

Opioid abuse—and the presence of potent synthetic opioids fentanyl and carfentanyl—is stretching communities and their resources nationwide. It will be up to everyone—law enforcement, government leaders and agencies, private organizations, the medical community, and private citizens—to combat this growing epidemic of opioid misuse through education, treatment, enforcement, and prescribing pain relief alternatives.

The use of synthetic cannabinoids (e.g. Spice, K2) continues to present health hazards for communities and challenges for law enforcement to detect and enforce laws against them.



Fairfax County Drug Take Back, October 2017

<sup>2</sup><https://www.cdc.gov/drugoverdose/data/index.html>

## REGIONAL LAW ENFORCEMENT INITIATIVES

At COG, public safety and homeland security personnel are continually working to create safer communities for area residents and visitors to the region. Throughout 2017, the COG Police Chiefs Committee and its subcommittees addressed current and emerging law enforcement issues and trends, and exchanged information, lessons, and ideas about the delivery of public safety services and other topics of mutual concern. This section of the report highlights prominent initiatives from the year.

### Officer Training, Safety, and Education

It is a priority of the region's law enforcement leadership to ensure that their personnel are prepared for any situation they are confronted with while serving metropolitan Washington. Throughout 2017, COG's law enforcement committees developed and conducted a variety of trainings, exercises, and events on topics such as complex coordinated attacks (CCAs), disaster response, the enhancement of SWAT, search operations, crisis negotiation, and responding to civil disturbances.

After the Baltimore riots in 2015 and the disturbances in Charlottesville in 2017, the COG Police Chiefs Committee underscored the priority of understanding and advancing best practices, standards, and more efficient methods for protecting civilians, officers, and property during events including potential civil unrest. The COG Civil Disturbance Unit (CDU) Subcommittee of the Police Chiefs continued its work on researching methods from around the world for responding to these types of incidents to affect the future development of a new U.S. model for CDU training and equipment. Members of the CDU Subcommittee continue to work closely with the National Institute of Justice to develop a new personal protective equipment (PPE) standards for law enforcement agencies in the United States.

Departments across the region also devoted more training in 2017 to de-escalation, and working with persons with disabilities and persons in mental crisis. These types of trainings help the street officer to better handle crisis situations.



Loudoun County Sheriff's Office

## Community Policing



City of Fairfax Police Department

Trust between law enforcement and the people they protect and serve is essential to the stability of communities and the effective delivery of policing services. To establish trust, area police departments are out in the community working diligently to foster these relationships. Outreach strategies are discussed and enhanced at COG, then tested and implemented by agencies in their respective neighborhoods.

For many years, the Annual National Night Out has brought law enforcement and the community together the first Tuesday in August. During the rest of the year, officers are in local schools educating young people on a variety of topics such as bullying, cyber safety, drug education, and personal safety. Kids are given the opportunity to sit in police vehicles, ask questions, and build trust in law enforcement.

In Takoma Park, government, law enforcement, and local businesses got together and planned a kickoff event for community engagement, Unity in the COMMUNITY. At this well-attended event in September, residents of all ages got to directly interact with officers and enjoy fun activities, live music, and games. Derived from conversations between Meaghan Murphy, co-owner of Capital City Cheesecake, Mayor Kate Stewart, and Captain Tyrone Collington of the Takoma Park Police Department, the initiative sought to unite local police departments and their communities into one collective voice. The initiative is a proactive and collaborative step to create and strengthen relationships between the Takoma Park Police Department, elected city officials, and community residents by expanding routine opportunities for people of diverse backgrounds to come together through community dialogue, relationship-building events, sustained partnerships, and fundraising campaigns.

In the District of Columbia, many residents have completed the Community Engagement

Academy. This six-week training program teaches community members from all seven police districts about different aspects of policing in their own neighborhood.

Participants get a firsthand look at Metropolitan Police Department's (MPD) specialized policing units (like K-9 or bomb squad), discuss use of force policies, get an overview of the recruit training program, and much more.

In Fairfax County, residents are encouraged to join their local Fairfax County Police Department Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC). The committees meet each month at police stations across the county. At the meetings, residents and their local police personnel raise questions and concerns and discuss safety matters affecting their neighborhoods.

In addition to fostering police-community respect, these events and initiatives encourage future cooperation, such as aiding the flow of information about crimes or suspects and allowing law enforcement to tap into valuable community resources to prevent and deter crime.

## **Crime Prevention and Technology**

New and improved tools and innovative technologies are making it easier for law enforcement to access, record, and analyze important data and information—all key to understanding and addressing criminal activity.

In metropolitan Washington, the local police chiefs explored opportunities for situational awareness and crime analysis tools to be used across the region, with the goal of creating a common operating picture of criminal activity and making it easier to deploy resources region-wide when needed.

### **BODY WORN CAMERAS**

On-officer, body worn camera (BWC) devices have been praised for their contribution to police accountability and transparency as well as their evidentiary value.

In 2017, the Police Body Worn Camera Working Group continued to monitor the rollout of BWC across metropolitan Washington. Through the completion of a semi-annual survey of the region's BWC status, the Working Group found that departments who were evaluating BWC have largely moved to implementation. Departments that have used the body worn cameras for over a year have found them useful in court prosecutions and resolving complaints against officers.

The advantages and benefits of BWC outweigh the limitations, but with more than 10,000 police officers in the region, the financial investment is significant. Therefore, the group continues to explore BWC best practices and share lessons learned. They have included prosecutors in their ongoing discussions about implementing BWC, as they are frequent users of the footage. They have also begun to explore technologies and techniques for protecting sensitive information and managing Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests as it relates to BWC.



(Metropolitan Police Department)

In the long term, the use of BWCs by police officers has the potential to be a valuable tool for both the agency and the community. However, it is one tool among many that can be used to promote and support public safety, help officers and prosecutors provide the highest level of service, and continue to protect and serve the residents of the region.

## COMMUNICATING AND SHARING INFORMATION REGIONALLY

Complex Coordinated Attacks (CCAs) remain a concern to the region's Police Chiefs. Because incidents and criminals can easily cross jurisdictional lines, it is crucial for law enforcement to be able to continually improve their ability to communicate and quickly share information across borders.

In addition to trainings and exercises on these topics in 2017, the region has continued its rollout of an Inter Radio Frequency Subsystem Interface—or ISSI. This technology allows public safety radio systems built by different manufacturers to be connected, enabling users on different networks to communicate with each other. It also ensures that first responders will have radio service (extended network) if they are assisting in other jurisdictions during an emergency. The interface was first tested and implemented in Fairfax County and Prince William County.

Several subcommittees have also worked to develop databases containing information about the capabilities of the region's canine, crisis negotiating, and crime scene units, among others. These databases are a valuable resource for members, providing information about capabilities so others know who they can call on when additional mutual aid resources are required. The databases also contain contact information for unit commanders and team leaders and other useful information used to benchmark key items (like equipment) across agencies.

Advances in technology have also made it easier for crime analysts to access data, crosscheck information, and identify patterns for use by law enforcement and investigators.

Analytical software allows agencies to easily download information for sharing on public sites, allowing residents to interact with the data and better understand what types of criminal activity may be occurring in their communities.

## UNMANNED AERIAL SYSTEM TECHNOLOGIES



(Loudoun County Sheriff's Office)

The region's police chiefs are also exploring ways that unmanned aerial vehicles—or drones—and associated technologies could be used by law enforcement for search and rescue, crime scene documentation, and situational awareness, while at the same time respecting the privacy of area citizens.

They are also working on counter measures for when unmanned aerial vehicles are used by others for illicit purposes, including breaches of “no fly zones”—such as

the Flight Restricted Zone that makes up a 15-mile radius from National Airport.

## INFRARED THERMAL IMAGERS

The thermal imager has become an invaluable tool in conducting law enforcement operations. The ability to quickly scan areas for hidden subjects or locate items of evidentiary value or potential hazardous materials increases the safety of law enforcement and the public. Hand-held thermal imagers are being rolled out and integrated in the region to assist K9 handlers and search managers with identifying potential hazardous devices. The imagers can also be used to assist with search operations as the result of a complex coordinated attack within the region.

## CONCLUSION

Crime continues to decline in metropolitan Washington, a trend that has been enjoyed by the region for the last ten years. There was a 4.8 percent decrease in total Part I crimes—which includes homicide, rape, aggravated assault, robbery, burglary, larceny, and motor vehicle theft—between 2016 and 2017. Over the last decade, total Part I crimes have decreased by 30.3 percent. Violent crimes, or those Part I crimes against persons, have decreased by 36.6 percent.

These improvements can be attributed in part to the region's emphasis on training, resource coordination and information sharing, community policing, and the use of innovative crime prevention technologies.

Despite the good news, there are still areas of concern for law enforcement when it comes to combatting crime in the region. Although the region experienced a decline in total Part I crimes in 2017, offenses increased in the category of rape. There were also instances of increased violent and property crime in various sub-regional/jurisdictional cases. Area law enforcement attribute much of this crime to gang and drug-related activity. The COG Police Chiefs Committee will focus on gang-related violence, weapons, homicide, and unaccompanied minors in the coming year.

In addition, because opioid-induced deaths continue to increase throughout the country and in metropolitan Washington, area law enforcement will continue to collaborate with other disciplines to better understand and combat the epidemic, including through public education and resource coordination efforts.

Furthermore, the committee will review standards, best practices, and equipment for responding to civil disturbances, including affecting the future establishment of a new U.S. CDU model for law enforcement agencies

Lastly, the COG Police Chiefs Committee is committed to work together to ensure that area law enforcement is always becoming more efficient and effective, with the goal of creating an even safer and stronger metropolitan Washington.

# IN MEMORIAM

Remembering those men and women who gave their lives in service to metropolitan Washington in 2017. Learn more about these heroes and others from [The National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund](#).



**Deputy Chief Sander Cohen**  
Maryland Office of the State Fire Marshal



**Trooper Berke M. M. Bates**  
Virginia State Police



**Lieutenant Pilot H. Jay Cullen**  
Virginia State Police



**Special Agent Michael T. Walter**  
Virginia State Police

# APPENDIX: PART I OFFENSES BY JURISDICTION

## District of Columbia

	2016	2017	INC/DEC	%
HOMICIDE	135	116	-19	-14%
RAPE	346	296	-50	-14%
ROBBERY	3,000	2,183	-817	-27%
AGG ASSAULT	2,278	1,858	-420	-18%
BURGLARY	2,122	1,526	-596	-28%
LARCENY	26,749	24,798	-1,951	-7%
M/V THEFTS	2,700	2,425	-275	-10%
Total Part I	37,330	33,206	-4,124	-11%

## Maryland

BLADENSBURG				
	2016	2017	INC/DEC	%
HOMICIDE	5	1	-4	-80%
RAPE	10	3	2	200%
ROBBERY	33	30	-3	-9%
AGG ASSAULT	46	38	-8	-17%
BURGLARY	44	38	-6	-14%
LARCENY	203	212	9	4%
M/V THEFTS	48	71	23	48%
Total Part I	389	393	4	1%

CHARLES COUNTY				
	2016	2017	INC/DEC	%
HOMICIDE	6	8	2	33%
RAPE	38	39	1	3%
ROBBERY	139	126	-13	-9%
AGG ASSAULT	380	367	-13	-3%
BURGLARY	396	408	12	3%
LARCENY	2,018	2,092	74	4%
M/V THEFTS	167	181	14	-8%
Total Part I	3,144	3,221	77	2%

BOWIE				
	2016	2017	INC/DEC	%
HOMICIDE	1	4	3	-300%
RAPE	4	3	-1	-25%
ROBBERY	25	35	10	40%
AGG ASSAULT	25	39	14	56%
BURGLARY	120	77	-43	36%
LARCENY	575	606	31	5%
M/V THEFTS	61	77	16	26%
Total Part I	811	841	30	4%

FREDERICK COUNTY				
	2016	2017	INC/DEC	%
HOMICIDE	1	3	2	200%
RAPE	13	20	7	54%
ROBBERY	30	30	0	0%
AGG ASSAULT	141	104	-37	-26%
BURGLARY	251	216	-35	-14%
LARCENY	1,180	1,071	-109	-9%
M/V THEFTS	56	46	-10	-18%
Total Part I	1,672	1,490	-182	-11%

CITY OF FREDERICK				
	2016	2017	INC/DEC	%
HOMICIDE	1	1	0	0%
RAPE	23	28	5	22%
ROBBERY	70	87	17	24%
AGG ASSAULT	249	352	103	41%
BURGLARY	141	149	-8	-6%
LARCENY	1,223	1,107	-116	-9%
M/V THEFTS	48	43	-5	-10%
Total Part I	1,755	1,767	12	1%

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY				
	2016	2017	INC/DEC	%
HOMICIDE	98	59	39	-40%
RAPE	110	97	-138	-56%
ROBBERY	1,237	855	-122	-9%
AGG ASSAULT	1,420	1,026	-163	-10%
BURGLARY	2,041	1,951	-755	-27%
LARCENY	9,828	9,276	-944	-9%
M/V THEFTS	2,822	2,575	-34	-1%
Total Part I	17,556	15,839	-2,125	-11%

GAITHERSBURG				
	2016	2017	INC/DEC	%
HOMICIDE	2	1	-1	-50%
RAPE	21	47	26	124%
ROBBERY	51	50	-1	-2%
AGG ASSAULT	63	73	10	16%
BURGLARY	119	121	2	2%
LARCENY	1,292	1,175	-117	-9%
M/V THEFTS	71	52	-19	-27%
Total Part I	1,619	1,519	-100	-6%

ROCKVILLE				
	2016	2017	INC/DEC	%
HOMICIDE	2	1	-1	-50%
RAPE	24	36	12	50%
ROBBERY	36	37	1	3%
AGG ASSAULT	29	46	17	59%
BURGLARY	105	124	19	18%
LARCENY	899	960	61	7%
M/V THEFTS	49	53	4	8%
Total Part I	1,144	1,257	113	10%

GREENBELT				
	2016	2017	INC/DEC	%
HOMICIDE	1	4	3	300%
RAPE	5	9	4	80%
ROBBERY	54	78	24	44%
AGG ASSAULT	51	54	3	6%
BURGLARY	88	98	10	11%
LARCENY	500	610	110	22%
M/V THEFTS	73	67	-6	-8%
Total Part I	772	920	148	19%

TAKOMA PARK				
	2016	2017	INC/DEC	%
HOMICIDE	1	0	-1	-100%
RAPE	2	3	1	50%
ROBBERY	27	29	2	7%
AGG ASSAULT	40	19	-21	-53%
BURGLARY	101	55	-46	-46%
LARCENY	293	359	66	23%
M/V THEFTS	33	30	-3	-9%
Total Part I	497	495	-2	-0.5%

MONTGOMERY COUNTY				
	2016	2017	INC/DEC	%
HOMICIDE	14	22	8	57%
RAPE	331	396	65	20%
ROBBERY	659	735	76	12%
AGG ASSAULT	748	773	25	3%
BURGLARY	1,855	1,666	-189	-10%
LARCENY	12,374	13,420	1,046	8%
M/V THEFTS	837	919	82	10%
Total Part I	16,818	17,931	1,113	7%

# Virginia

ALEXANDRIA				
	2016	2017	INC/DEC	%
HOMICIDE	7	6	-1	-14%
RAPE	12	9	-3	-25%
ROBBERY	128	103	-25	-20%
AGG ASSAULT	123	137	14	11%
BURGLARY	179	167	-12	-7%
LARCENY	2,391	2,094	-297	-12%
M/V THEFTS	268	178	-90	-34%
Total Part I	3,108	2,694	-414	-13%

FALLS CHURCH				
	2016	2017	INC/DEC	%
HOMICIDE	0	0	0	0%
RAPE	5	4	-1	-20%
ROBBERY	14	2	-12	-86%
AGG ASSAULT	9	3	-6	-67%
BURGLARY	5	6	1	20%
LARCENY	203	209	6	3%
M/V THEFTS	16	12	-4	-25%
Total Part I	252	236	-16	-6%

ARLINGTON COUNTY				
	2016	2017	INC/DEC	%
HOMICIDE	1	4	3	300%
RAPE	41	39	-2	-5%
ROBBERY	106	75	-31	-29%
AGG ASSAULT	177	184	7	4%
BURGLARY	182	160	-22	-12%
LARCENY	2,838	2,621	-217	-8%
M/V THEFTS	167	143	-24	-14%
Total Part I	3,512	3,226	-286	-8%

LOUDOUN COUNTY				
	2016	2017	INC/DEC	%
HOMICIDE	2	2	0	0%
RAPE	58	64	6	10%
ROBBERY	46	48	2	4%
AGG ASSAULT	149	113	-36	-24%
BURGLARY	209	147	-62	-30%
LARCENY	2,333	2,590	257	11%
M/V THEFTS	136	142	6	4%
Total Part I	2,933	3,106	173	6%

CITY OF FAIRFAX				
	2016	2017	INC/DEC	%
HOMICIDE	0	0	0	0%
RAPE	6	4	-2	-33%
ROBBERY	7	24	17	243%
AGG ASSAULT	13	4	-9	-69%
BURGLARY	32	11	-21	-66%
LARCENY	377	361	-16	-4%
M/V THEFTS	19	20	1	5%
Total Part I	454	424	-30	-7%

MANASSAS				
	2016	2017	INC/DEC	%
HOMICIDE	1	3	2	200%
RAPE	21	10	-11	-52%
ROBBERY	29	38	9	31%
AGG ASSAULT	56	35	-21	-38%
BURGLARY	92	89	-3	-3%
LARCENY	702	713	11	2%
M/V THEFTS	47	48	1	2%
Total Part I	948	936	-12	-1%

FAIRFAX COUNTY				
	2016	2017	INC/DEC	%
HOMICIDE	19	20	1	5%
RAPE	84	95	11	13%
ROBBERY	465	428	-37	-8%
AGG ASSAULT	401	417	16	4%
BURGLARY	831	768	-63	-8%
LARCENY	13,000	12,615	-385	-3%
M/V THEFTS	812	702	-110	-14%
Total Part I	15,612	15,045	-567	-4%

MANASSAS PARK				
	2016	2017	INC/DEC	%
HOMICIDE	0	0	0	0%
RAPE	3	6	3	100%
ROBBERY	3	4	1	33%
AGG ASSAULT	16	7	-9	-56%
BURGLARY	12	12	0	0%
LARCENY	158	134	-24	-15%
M/V THEFTS	7	10	3	43%
Total Part I	199	173	-26	-22%

PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY				
	2016	2017	INC/DEC	%
HOMICIDE	22	4	-18	-82%
RAPE	60	112	52	87%
ROBBERY	230	241	11	5%
AGG ASSAULT	509	576	67	13%
BURGLARY	547	506	-41	7%
LARCENY	4,330	4,529	199	5%
M/V THEFTS	325	396	71	22%
Total Part I	6,023	6,364	341	6%

## COG POLICE CHIEFS COMMITTEE

PRIMARY MEMBER AGENCIES	
AGENCY	CHIEF / EXECUTIVE IN CHARGE
City of Alexandria Police Department	Michael Brown, Chief
City of Alexandria Sheriff's Office	Dana Lawhorne, Sheriff
Arlington County Police Department	M. Jay Farr, Chief
Bladensburg Police Department	Tracey Stone, Chief
City of Bowie Police Department	John Nesky, Chief
Charles County Sheriff's Office	Troy Berry, Sheriff
City of Fairfax Police Department	Carl Pardiny, Chief
City of Falls Church Police Department	Mary Gavin, Chief
City of Gaithersburg Police Department	Mark Sroka, Chief
City of Greenbelt Police Department	Richard Bowers
Edmonston, MD PD	"Captain Sullivan"
Fairfax County Police Department	Edwin Roessler, Chief
Frederick County Sheriff's Office	Chuck Jenkins, Sheriff
Frederick Police Department	Edward Hargis, Chief
Laurel Police Department	Richard McLaughlin, Chief
Leesburg Police Department	Gregory Brown, Chief
Loudoun County Sheriff's Office	Michael Chapman, Sheriff
City of Manassas Police Department	Douglas Keen, Chief
Manassas Park Police Department	John Evans, Chief
Metropolitan Police Department	Peter Newsham, Chief
Montgomery County Police Department	J. Thomas Manger, Chief
Mount Rainier MD Police Department	P Simms, Interim POC
Prince George's County Police Department	Henry Stawinski, Chief
Prince George's County Sheriff's Office	Melvin C. High, Sheriff
Prince William County Police Department	Barry Bernard, Chief
Prince William County Sheriff's Office	Glendell Hill, Sheriff
City of Rockville Police Department	Bob Rappoport, Chief
Takoma Park Police Department	Tony DeVaul, Chief
ASSOCIATE MEMBER AGENCIES	
AGENCY	CHIEF / EXECUTIVE IN CHARGE
Air Force District of Washington	Gregory Jarmusz, Acting Director of Security Forces
Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives – Washington Field Division	Thomas Chittum, SAC
Amtrak Police Department	Neil Trugman, Chief
CIA – Security Protective Service	Alton Jones, Chief
District of Columbia Protective Services Division	Robert Carter, Associate Director
Fauquier County Sheriff's Office	Sheriff Robert Mosier

Federal Bureau of Investigations, Baltimore Field Office	Gordon Johnson, BFO
Federal Bureau of Investigations, Police Unit	David Sutton
Federal Bureau of Investigations, Washington Field Office	Nancy McNamara
Federal Protective Service National Capital Region	Maybelle Hallman
Federal Reserve Police	Katherine Perez-Grines, Assistant Chief
Homeland Security Investigations, Baltimore Field Office	Andre Watson, SAC
Homeland Security Investigations, Washington Field Office	Patrick Lechleitner, SAC
Maryland State Police Department	William Pallozzi, Colonel
Maryland Department of Natural Resources Police	Robert Ziegler Jr., Colonel
Maryland National Capital Park Police Montgomery County Division	Darryl McSwain, Chief
Maryland National Capital Park Police Prince George's County Division	Stanley Johnson, Chief
Military District of Washington / Joint Forces Headquarters	William Wozniak, Colonel, Provost Marshal
Metro Transit Police Department	Ronald Pavlik, Chief
Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority	David Huchler, Chief
National Geospatial Intelligence Agency Police	Drew Stathis, Chief
National Institutes of Health Police Department	Alvin Hinton, Chief
Naval Criminal Investigative Service, Washington Field Office	Jeremy Gauthier, SAC
Pentagon Force Protection Agency	Woodrow Kusse, Chief
Smithsonian Office of Protection Services	Jeanne O'Toole, Director
U.S. Capitol Police Department	Matthew Verderosa, Chief
U.S. Customs and Border Protection BFO	Casey Durst, Director
U.S. Park Police	Robert MacLean, Chief
U.S. Secret Service Uniformed Division	Thomas Sullivan, Chief
United States Secret Service, Washington Field Office	Brian Ebert, SAIC
University of the District of Columbia Police Department	Marieo Foster, Chief
U.S. Marshal for DC	Robert Turner, Acting Marshal
U.S. Marshal for DC Superior Courts	Michael Hughes, Marshal
Virginia Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control, Region 4, Bureau of Law Enforcement	Philip Disharoon, SAC
Virginia State Police, Division 7	James DeFord, Captain