

CALIFORNIA URBAN CRIME DECLINED IN 2020 AMID SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC UPHEAVAL



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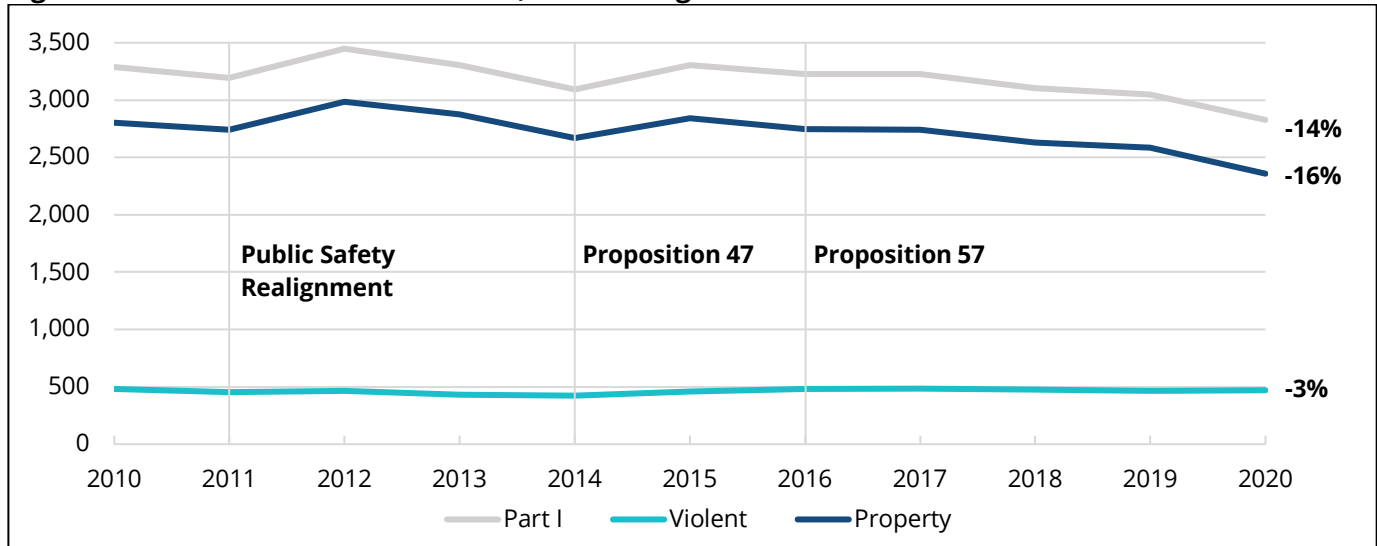
Research Report

Introduction

In 2020, a year defined by the COVID-19 pandemic, the crime rate in California’s 72 largest cities declined by an average of 7 percent, falling to a historic low level (FBI, 2021). From 2019 to 2020, 48 cities showed declines in Part I violent and property felonies, while 24 showed increases. The 2020 urban crime decline follows a decade of generally falling property and violent crime rates. These declines coincided with monumental criminal justice reforms that have lessened penalties for low-level offenses and reduced prison and jail populations (see Figure 1).

Though urban crime declined overall in 2020, some specific crime types increased while others fell. As in much of the country, California’s urban areas experienced a significant increase in homicide (+34 percent). They also saw a rise in aggravated assault (+10 percent) and motor vehicle theft (+10 percent) along with declines in robbery (-15 percent) and theft (-16 percent). Preliminary 2021 data point to a continued decline in overall crime, with increases continuing in homicide, assault, and motor vehicle theft. An examination of national crime data, local economic indicators, local COVID-19 infection rates, and select murder and domestic violence statistics suggests that the pandemic likely influenced crime.

Figure 1. California urban crime rates*, 2010 through 2020



Sources: FBI (2021); DOF (2021). *Total and violent offense rates exclude rape because the definition was broadened in 2014, hindering comparisons across this period.

The unusually wide variation across crime types seen in 2020 suggests that the pandemic may have exerted both upward and downward pressures on the crime landscape. For example, COVID-19 lockdowns, which kept millions home, may have reduced the opportunity for robberies and thefts. Conversely, people experienced substantial psychological and economic strain during the pandemic, which may have contributed to increased homicides and assaults, as well as business failures and related cases of arson. If COVID-19 has indeed played a role in driving some crimes higher and others lower, recent crime rate changes may be short lived.

Importantly, the pandemic also forced community-based service providers and social service agencies to dramatically shift the way they deliver treatment, aid, and supportive services. Many providers that previously focused on violence prevention, trauma recovery, or drug treatment were unable to offer in-person services. The

sudden and devastating economic crisis demanded that some turn their attention to meeting basic needs, such as food distribution. This profound disruption of services undoubtedly affected communities’ wellness and, by extension, their level of safety.

2020 Crime Trends

- **Crime rates fell by 14 percent from 2010 to 2020, including a 7 percent drop in 2020.**

Even before the pandemic, California was enjoying a period of record-low crime. From 2010¹ to 2020, crime rates in California’s largest cities fell by 14 percent overall, including a 3 percent decrease in violent crime and a 16 percent decline in property crime (Table 1). From 2019 to 2020, homicide, assault, and motor vehicle theft rose substantially, while robbery and larceny/theft fell substantially. During the same period, burglary rates remained stable, overall property crime fell 9 percent, and violent crime rates rose 1 percent. However, crime rates and trends varied widely from city to city in 2020 (see Appendix).

Table 1. California urban crime rates* per 100,000 population, 2010-2020

Year	Total*	Violent*	Homicide	Robbery	Assault	Property	Burglary	Larceny /theft	Vehicle theft
2010	3,286.9	482.6	5.7	209.9	267	2,804.3	605.6	1,719.2	479.5
2011	3,196.1	454.1	5.7	196.8	251.6	2,742.0	598.6	1,684.8	458.6
2012	3,448.2	462.6	6.3	201.9	254.5	2,985.6	640.9	1,818.2	526.6
2013	3,306.8	430.0	5.5	191.8	232.8	2,876.7	598.6	1,773.9	504.3
2014	3,094.6	423.2	5.0	169.8	248.4	2,671.4	528.9	1,684.6	457.9
2015	3,302.9	458.6	5.5	180.7	272.4	2,844.3	508.3	1,841.2	494.8
2016	3,225.8	479.2	5.8	184.3	289.1	2,746.6	471.6	1,760.9	514.1
2017	3,225.0	484.5	5.4	189.4	289.6	2,740.5	447.4	1,805.7	487.4
2018	3,102.5	473.7	5.0	181.4	287.4	2,628.8	423.6	1,754.1	451.2
2019	3,049.8	465.2	4.9	172.5	287.9	2,584.5	387.4	1,743.2	454.0
2020	2,827.8	469.2	6.5	146.3	316.3	2,358.7	387.1	1,472.7	498.9
2020 vs. 2010	-14%	-3%	+15%	-30%	+18%	-16%	-36%	-14%	+4%
2020 vs. 2019	-7%	+1%	+34%	-15%	+10%	-9%	+0%	-16%	+10%

Sources: FBI (2021); DOF (2021). *Total and violent offense rates exclude rape because the definition was broadened in 2014, hindering comparisons across this period. Notably, from 2019 to 2020, rape rates declined by 10 percent.

- **80 percent of California’s cities showed declines in crime from 2010 through 2020.**

Most communities were safer in 2020 than at the start of the decade, despite claims that reform would erode public safety. Of the 71 cities reporting consistent crime figures to the FBI, 58 showed decreases in Part I offenses² from 2010 through 2020, and 13 showed increases. The variation that exists across California’s cities indicates that recent crime trends reflect local practices and conditions far more than state policies (CJ/CJ, 2016; 2017; 2018; 2019; 2020).

- **Large-scale criminal justice reforms are not driving increased crime.**

California’s “justice reform era” began in 2011 with legislative passage of Public Safety Realignment, which transferred responsibility for individuals with nonviolent, non-sexual, and non-serious convictions from state prisons to local custody and supervision (AB 109, 2011). In 2014, California voters passed Proposition 47, which reclassified several drug and property offenses from felonies to misdemeanors, resulting in the release and resentencing of thousands of individuals (Prop 47, 2014). In 2016, Proposition 57 offered early parole opportunities for people in state prison who participated in rehabilitative and education programs (Prop 57,

¹ 2010 was the last full year before Public Safety Realignment (AB 109) took effect, marking the start of California’s decade-long criminal justice reform era.

² Part I offenses include the following violent and property crimes: homicide, rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, larceny/theft, motor vehicle theft, and arson.

2016). The state decriminalized marijuana in 2011 and legalized it with regulations in 2016, reducing marijuana arrests by 93 percent between 2010 and 2019 (DOJ, 2020; Prop 64, 2016; SB 1449, 2010).

The uneven crime changes seen in 2020 suggest abnormal conditions that year. Moreover, the types of crimes that increased in 2020 are not the ones directly affected by California’s recent criminal justice reforms and are unlikely to reflect the lagging effects of law changes implemented four to 10 years earlier. Modest increases in violent crime reflect trends in felony assault, whose fluctuations tend to be driven by domestic violence incidents and policing (Holder et al., 2009). Local surges in motor vehicle thefts may be associated with more sophisticated theft operations given the changing age profile of those arrested (NCSL, 2008).³ Meanwhile, the offenses whose rates fell in 2020 (larceny/theft) or remained the same (burglary) are those directly targeted by reform efforts.

Another indicator of the unique nature of 2020’s crime trends is shown by a relatively rare offense, arson. While arson had remained stable from 2010 through 2016, it has risen since, registering a 46 percent increase in 2020 (7,179 arsons, compared to 5,023 in 2019). Arson is not a crime associated with the reform of drug or property offense laws.

- **Early 2021 crime data show inconsistent trends across seven major cities.**

Seven major cities provide figures for varying periods of 2021 compared to the same periods of 2020 (Table 2). The comparison periods in early 2020 partly preceded the pandemic lockdowns. As is always the case with California jurisdictions, trends are erratic and inconsistent. Five of the seven cities show increased homicide, six show increased violent crimes (four of the seven show increases in rape, one shows increased robbery, and all seven show increases in felony assault), and four of the seven show increased property crimes (three show increased burglaries, all seven show increased motor vehicle thefts, and one shows an increase in other thefts).

Table 2. Changes in reported crimes, seven major cities, 2021 vs. 2020

City	Total Part I	Homicide	All violent	All property	Time period
Long Beach	+10%	-9%	+15%	+9%	Jan 1 - April 30
Los Angeles	-6%	+24%	+5%	-9%	Jan 1 - May 29
Oakland	-17%	+135%	+13%	-23%	Jan 1 - May 31
Sacramento	+2%	+50%	+20%	-1%	Jan 1 - March 31
San Diego	+14%	-10%	+19%	+13%	Jan 1 - May 31
San Francisco	-9%	0%	-88%	-9%	Jan 1 - May 31
San Jose	+5%	+75%	+17%	+2%	Jan 1 - April 30
All seven cities	-3%	+33%	+9%	-9%	932 city-days

Sources: LAPD (2021); LBPD (2021); OPD (2021); SPD (2021); SDDP (2021); SFPD (2021); SJPD (2021).

Crime and the COVID-19 Pandemic

- **Recent research suggests a link between the pandemic and national crime trends.**

Recent studies have explored the relationship between the COVID-19 pandemic and crime. In one, researchers examined the early weeks of the pandemic (through April 18, 2020) in Los Angeles and Indianapolis (Mohler et al., 2020). They found significant increases in calls for police service related to vehicle theft (Los Angeles only) and domestic violence⁴ (both cities), as well as a significant decrease in calls related to burglary and robbery (Los Angeles only). Another study, which examined data reported through mid-May 2020 and compared crimes in public places to those in residences, found that crime changes varied substantially from city to city across the

³ According to the National Conference of State Legislatures, sophisticated operations play an increasing role in motor vehicle theft (NCSL, 2008). From 1979 to 2019 (the most recent arrest data available), California jurisdictions saw a notable shift in the age profile of those arrested for motor vehicle theft and its lesser counterpart, joyriding. In 1979, youth ages 19 and younger accounted for about six in 10 motor vehicle thefts; in 2019, they were arrested for just one in eight. Conversely, people over the age of 30 were arrested for just 10 percent of motor vehicle thefts in 1979, but account for over half today. In 1979, youth ages 19 and younger accounted for 92 percent of joyriding arrests; by 2019, their share had fallen to just 17 percent.

⁴ As discussed in the subsequent section on domestic violence, this increase in Los Angeles’s calls for service was temporary.

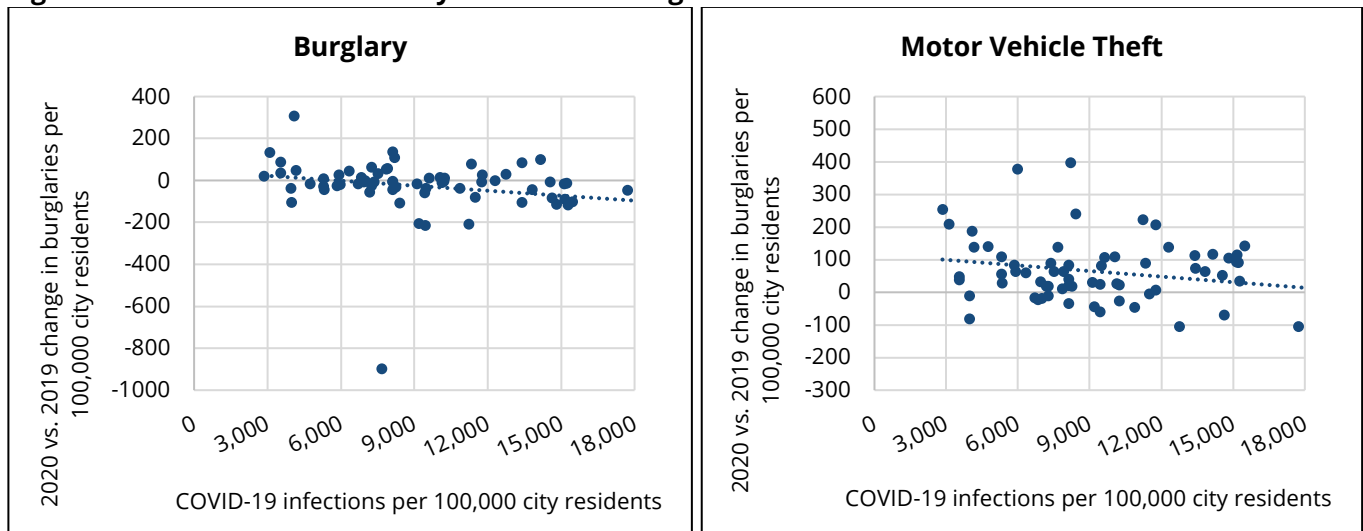
U.S. (Ashby, 2020). The researcher also found that, in several cities, residential burglaries fell below expected levels after the lockdown. For motor vehicle theft, two cities (including Los Angeles) saw significant increases after the lockdown, two saw significant decreases, and seven experienced theft rates within the expected range. Nearly all cities saw declines in the theft of items from cars that were greater than predicted.

Research published in early 2021 examined crime data from 25 U.S. cities (Abrams, 2021). The author found that crime rates fell most in the areas of drug crime, theft, residential burglary, and a number of violent crimes. However, he noted that there was no decline in homicides and shootings, and most cities experienced an increase in non-residential burglary and car theft. The author also discussed the limitations of using crime data to measure actual victimization. Official statistics only include offenses that have been reported to police. In the case of certain offenses, such as domestic violence, there may have been increases stemming from the pandemic that were not fully captured in the data.

- **California data indicate that some crimes may be related to the pandemic and its economic effects.**

Data from 68 California cities show that locations with higher rates of COVID-19 infections tended to have larger declines or smaller increases in their rates of motor vehicle theft and burglary (Figure 2) (FBI, 2021; Health Departments, 2021). This could reflect a number of local factors, including, potentially, differences in lockdown orders that kept cars in garages and people in their homes.

Figure 2. 2019-2020 California city crime rate changes vs. COVID-19 infection rates



Sources: FBI (2021); Health Departments (2021).

Notably, we find that the cities with larger jumps in unemployment (percent increase) also saw larger increases in motor vehicle theft rates. Homicide rate shifts, which are derived from a small number of incidents in most cities, also appear to be positively correlated with unemployment rate increases, meaning that cities with greater increases in unemployment generally saw larger jumps in murder (EDD, 2021; FBI, 2021). These preliminary findings warrant additional study as a comparable analysis of cities nationwide failed to show a similar relationship between crime trends and unemployment rate changes (BLS, 2021; FBI, 2021).

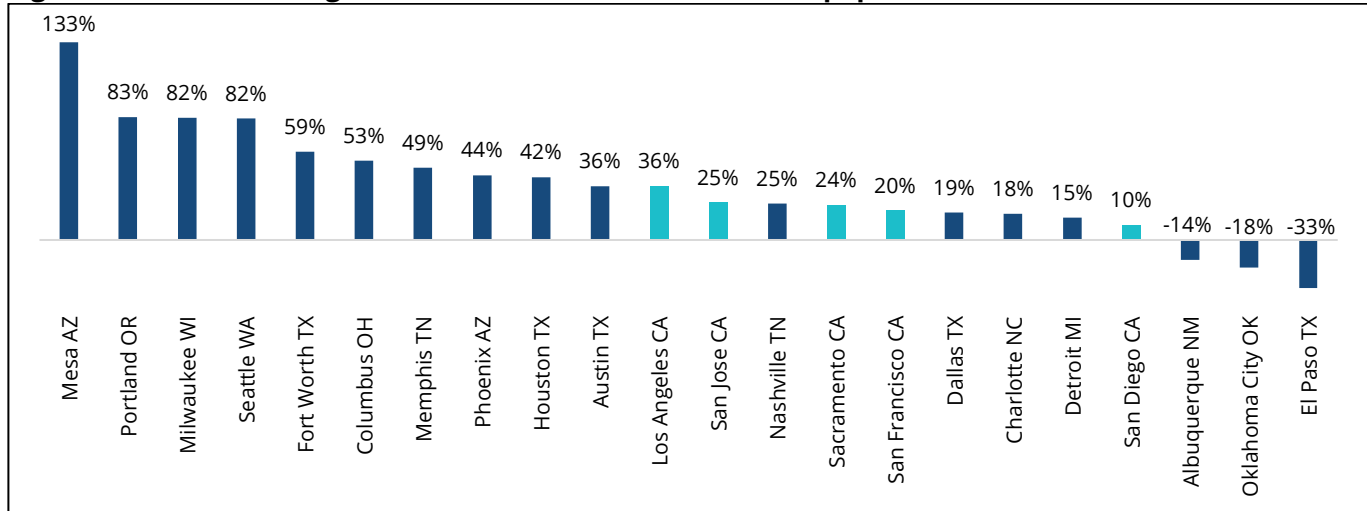
Homicide Analysis

- **California homicide trends mirror nationwide increases.**

California cities were hardly alone in registering homicide increases. Rises in reported homicides have occurred nationwide, sparking fear across U.S. cities. Of the 22 cities nationwide with populations of 500,000 or more reporting crime statistics to the FBI (total population of 23.5 million), 10 had increases in homicide in 2020 that were larger than Los Angeles's (+36 percent) (Figure 2). The cities with larger homicide increases included Houston (+42 percent), Phoenix (+44 percent), Memphis (+49 percent), Columbus (+53 percent), Fort Worth (+59 percent), Seattle (+82 percent), Milwaukee (+82 percent), and Portland (+83 percent). Further, these 22 largest cities had an aggregate homicide rate in 2020 (12.5 per 100,000 population) more than 40 percent higher

than the City of Los Angeles’s rate. For all of the 222 U.S cities with populations of 100,000 or more that reported data to the FBI (total population of 60.1 million), the aggregate homicide increase in 2020 was 40 percent, slightly exceeding Los Angeles’s 36 percent increase. The 29 states in which these cities are located had very different criminal justice policies and policy changes over the decade, which further suggests that the 2020 increase is a result of larger societal shifts, including those related to the pandemic.

Figure 3. Homicide change, 2020 vs. 2019, cities with 500,000+ population



Sources: FBI (2021).

- **Despite recent increases, Los Angeles’s homicide rate remains near historic lows.**

Los Angeles County accounts for around one-third of California’s total homicides. The *Los Angeles Times’s* tabulation of homicides shows dramatic shifts during the 2010-2020 era of criminal justice reforms (Los Angeles Times, 2021). In 2019, the county’s homicide rate had fallen to its lowest level since 1965. However, in 2020, Los Angeles County’s homicide rate rose by 34 percent over the 2019 rate (Table 3), the largest single-year increase in 55 years, and one that early 2021 figures indicate is continuing. Even with that increase, the City of Los Angeles’s and Los Angeles County’s homicide rates remain near historic lows. While anti-reform lobbies often blame selected violent crimes on criminal justice reforms, Los Angeles’s changing pattern of homicide suggests that other forces are responsible for the trend.

Table 3. Los Angeles County homicide rates and changes, 2010 through 2020

Year	Homicides per 100,000 population											Change, 2020 rate vs.	
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2010 rate	2019 rate
Total	6.8	6.3	6.1	5.9	5.7	6.3	6.5	6.2	6.2	5.3	7.1	+4%	+34%
Gun	5.3	4.6	4.3	4.5	4.1	4.5	5.0	4.7	4.4	3.9	5.3	+2%	+38%
Non-gun	1.5	1.6	1.8	1.4	1.6	1.8	1.5	1.5	1.8	1.4	1.7	+15%	+25%
L.A. city	8.9	8.8	8.1	6.9	6.8	7.6	7.8	7.8	6.9	6.4	8.5	-4%	+34%
Other cities*	6.2	5.6	6.3	6.9	5.3	6.0	6.5	5.5	5.9	4.8	6.0	-4%	+23%
Non-urban	5.0	4.1	3.9	4.3	4.7	5.0	5.0	4.9	5.7	4.4	6.3	+27%	+43%
Latino	7.0	6.9	6.3	5.7	5.5	6.5	6.6	7.1	6.6	5.6	7.6	+9%	+37%
Black	25.6	22.4	23.2	25.8	23.1	25.3	26.9	21.1	21.4	21.9	29.8	+16%	+36%
White	2.7	2.2	2.7	2.3	2.6	2.8	2.2	2.5	3.8	2.0	2.7	0%	+38%
Asian	1.8	1.5	1.6	1.1	1.1	1.9	2.3	1.8	1.4	0.7	1.9	+6%	+155%
Male	11.5	10.7	10.7	10.6	9.9	10.8	11.5	10.5	10.3	9.4	12.5	+8%	+33%
Female	2.2	1.9	1.6	1.4	1.5	1.8	1.5	2.0	2.2	1.3	1.8	-15%	+44%
Age <12	1.6	1.8	1.3	1.4	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.7	-56%	+45%
Age 12-24	13.0	10.6	10.0	9.9	7.6	8.5	10.1	8.6	8.7	7.2	8.1	-38%	+12%
Age 25-49	8.5	8.0	8.3	7.9	8.6	10.0	9.8	10.1	9.3	8.6	12.0	+41%	+40%
Age 50+	2.5	3.0	2.8	2.8	2.9	3.1	2.9	2.9	4.1	2.8	4.3	+71%	+54%

Sources: Los Angeles Times (2021); DOF (2021). **Other cities* include 14 Los Angeles County cities with 100,000+ population.

- **In 2020, Los Angeles homicide victims were more likely to be older adults.**

As Table 3 shows, Los Angeles has experienced a shift in homicides over the last decade from younger to older ages. The substantial increase in homicide in 2020, especially with regard to increases among ages 25-49 and 50 and older, do not fit traditional patterns. Through 2013, ages 12-24 were Los Angeles’s riskiest ages for homicide; today, the riskiest age is 25-49.

- **Black L.A. County residents are 12.5 times more likely to be homicide victims than white residents.**

There are stark racial and ethnic disparities among homicide victims in Los Angeles County. These disparities have persisted through the pandemic and the accompanying spike in homicides (Figure 4). As a result, Black and Latino residents and their families have borne the brunt of 2020’s rising rate of homicide. For Latino residents in 2020, the risk of being a homicide victim in Los Angeles County was 2.8 times higher than the risk to white residents. This disparity widened to 3.2 in the overlapping time period that runs from mid-April 2020 to mid-April 2021, a year fully encompassed by the pandemic. Likewise, Black residents were 11 times more likely than white residents to be homicide victims in 2020, and 12.5 times more likely in the mid-April 2020–mid-April 2021 period.

Figure 4. Disparity gap among homicide victims in Los Angeles County, 2010-2020, April 2020-21

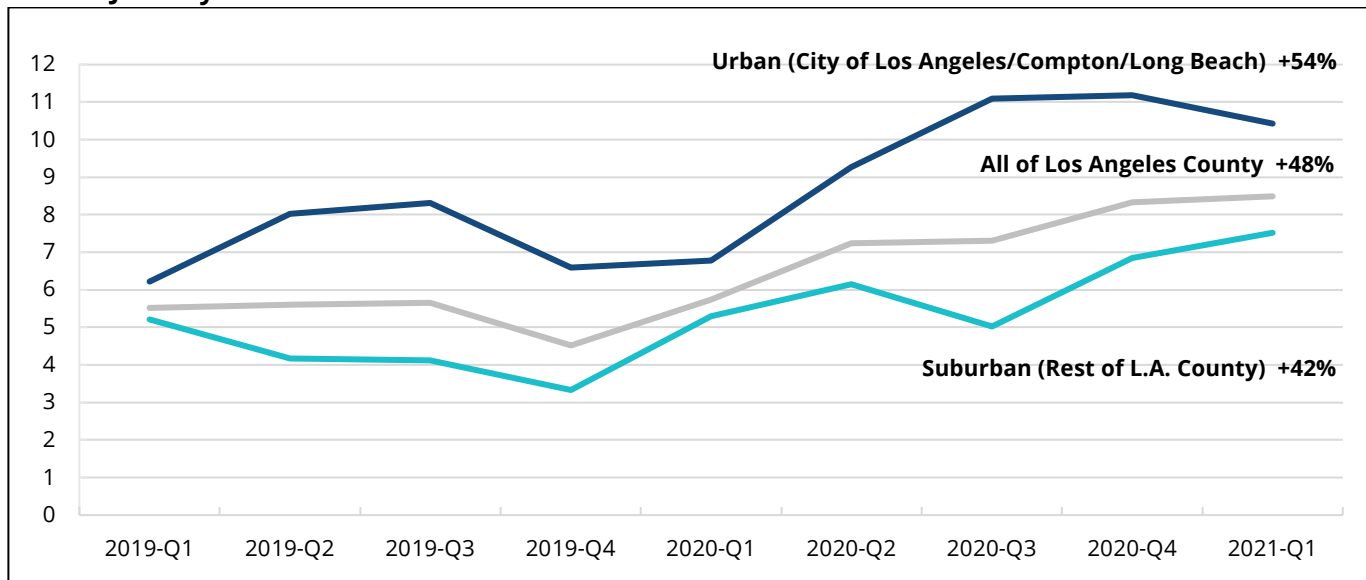


Sources: Los Angeles Times (2021); DOF (2021). * Last 12 months includes mid-April 2020 – mid-April 2021.

- **Both urban and suburban/rural areas of Los Angeles County saw a large increase in homicides.**

While California’s sharp increase in homicides during the COVID-19 pandemic has been depicted as an urban phenomenon, Los Angeles County’s pattern suggests the murder spike also affected suburban and rural areas and displayed some unusual features. Some of these patterns are continuing into 2021. In the first 140 days of 2021 (through May 20) compared to the first 140 days of 2020, homicides rose by 16 percent in L.A. County. The cities of Los Angeles and Long Beach showed only small increases (+4 percent and +8 percent, respectively). The biggest increases in early 2021 occurred in the rest of the county (+20 percent) with a greater number of victims who were male (+22 percent), Latino (+23 percent), Black (+22 percent), ages 18-34 (+45 percent) and 65 and older (+25 percent). A growing share of these homicides are categorized as gun killings (+33 percent). So far in 2021, homicide victims were less likely to be female (-22 percent), white (-4 percent), Asian (-57 percent), under age 18 (-38 percent) and 50-64 (-27 percent). Importantly, police-involved killings fell 18 percent compared to the same period of 2020.

Figure 5. Annualized homicide rate per 100,000 population, 2019-2021, and change, January-March 2019 to January-March 2021



Sources: Los Angeles Times (2021); DOJ (2021).

- **More data are needed to confirm a connection between 2020’s homicide increase and domestic violence.**

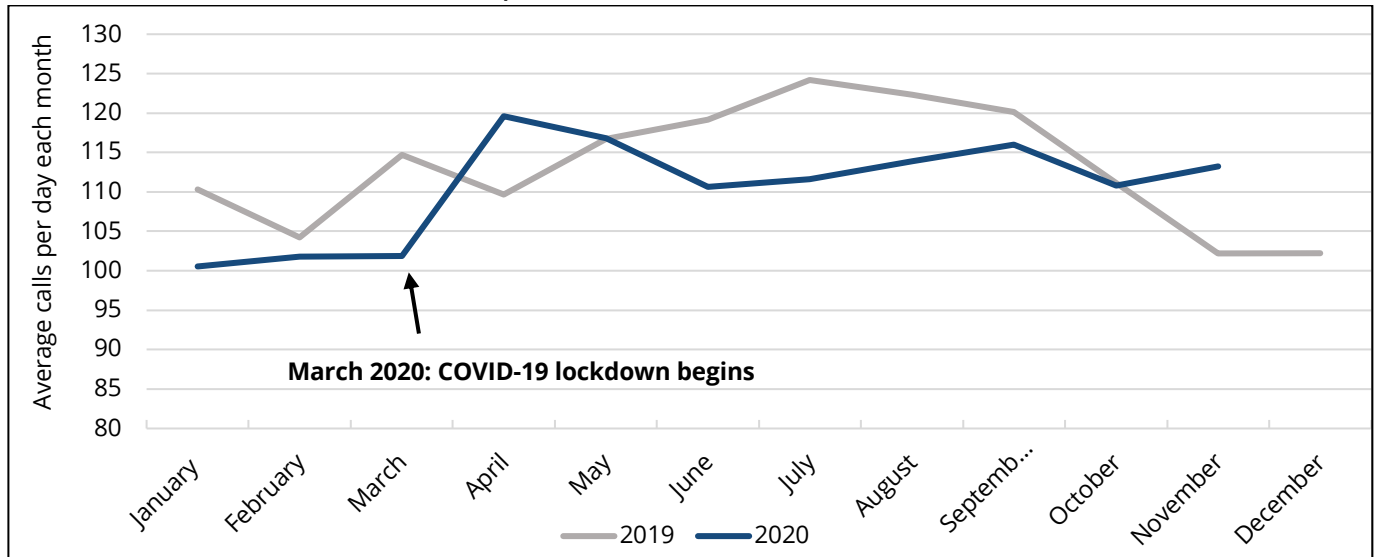
One frequently discussed explanation for the sharp rise in homicides in 2020 and early 2021 is that pandemic-related strain and sustained close contact resulted in more crimes against family members or domestic partners (Asher & Horwitz, 2020; Corley, 2021; Kaplan, 2020). For people already subject to intimate partner violence, the lockdowns placed them in round-the-clock proximity to their abusers, a situation that may have affected the frequency and severity of violence. Intimate partner violence is widespread in California. A survey conducted during the pandemic found that it affected a self-reported 23 percent of households with children (Kids Data, 2020). However, the absence of additional homicide and domestic violence data currently limits our ability to understand the effects of the pandemic on domestic violence and domestic homicides.⁵

However, the data that do exist for select California cities (Los Angeles, San Francisco, and San Jose) show that domestic violence calls for service and abuse reports did not increase substantially following the March 2020 lockdown (LAPD, 2021a; SFPD, 2021a; SJP, 2021a), though these are imperfect measures. For example, in the City of Los Angeles, the only notable increase in domestic violence calls for service occurred in April 2020 when calls were 10 percent higher than in April 2019. By May 2020, however, call levels were comparable to the previous May, and remained below 2019 levels for much of the summer and fall (Figure 5). Similarly, the LAPD

⁵ The California Department of Justice will release detailed homicide and domestic violence data later in 2021.

reported a decline in child/spouse abuse reports in the first 140 days of 2021 to 5,466 from 6,189 in the same period of 2020, prior to most of the lockdowns (LAPD, 2021a).

Figure 6. Average daily calls for service each month to the Los Angeles Police Department labeled “domestic violence” or a related code, 2019 vs. 2020



Sources: LAPD (2021a).

Other early analyses of the pandemic’s effects on home life have shown mixed results. A study of spring 2020 crime data compared actual crime rates in 16 U.S. cities (including San Francisco and Los Angeles) to a predicted trend. Researchers found no appreciable increase in serious assaults that occurred within the home (Ashby, 2020). In another study, researchers found that calls for service that were coded as a “domestic argument,” a category that generally does not result in arrest, more than doubled during the lockdown (Boman & Gallupe, 2020). The authors cautioned that there is little other empirical evidence of increased domestic violence during the pandemic because these incidents are vastly underreported⁶ to police. The study also found that offenses committed by an individual, such as domestic violence, battery, and homicide, all increased or remained flat during the early months of the pandemic, while offenses typically committed by groups declined. Understanding how the pandemic has affected domestic violence and its most tragic result, domestic homicide, will require further study of still unpublished data, including comprehensive victim surveys.

Conclusion

The COVID-19 pandemic transformed daily life in California, keeping millions home, putting hundreds of thousands out of work, and taking the lives of more than 60,000 people. Given the speed with which the pandemic shuttered schools, workplaces, and sites of community connection, 2020 offers a unique window into the effects of isolation, job loss, business failure, and collective grief on community safety. It is likely that the pandemic had complex effects, exerting both downward and upward pressures on crime statistics depending on the type of crime and its locale. While disruptions to businesses, travel, and social contact may have reduced certain crimes, the pandemic’s immense psychological and economic strain coupled with a depleted social service infrastructure may have driven other crime rates higher. To meet the current crisis, it is critical that California cities boost investment in community-based services, mental health treatment, and violence reduction programs.

The most concerning crime trend in 2020 and early 2021 is the nationwide rise in homicides. While the exact causes of this increase remain unknown, it may stem at least in part from the pandemic’s severe disruption of our social fabric. Thus, a return to post-pandemic normalcy along with community-led efforts to repair the harm of past violence could succeed in shrinking homicide rates this year and beyond.

⁶ Typically, just half of intimate partner violence incidents are reported to police (Reaves, 2017).

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Appendix

Appendix. California city Part I crime rates* and changes, 2010, 2019, and 2020

California cities, 100,000+ population in 2020	2020 rate vs.		Offenses per 100,000 population		
	2019	2010	2020	2019	2010
Antioch	-14%	-24%	2,906.2	3,373.0	3,846.3
Bakersfield	-3%	-14%	4,458.7	4,577.1	5,178.2
Berkeley	-12%	-22%	4,915.2	5,557.5	6,283.3
Burbank	-6%	-11%	2,490.1	2,649.4	2,802.4
Carlsbad	-13%	-10%	1,783.1	2,054.8	1,985.8
Chico	-10%	-20%	2,353.9	2,610.1	2,952.9
Chula Vista	-12%	-40%	1,509.9	1,719.0	2,502.8
Clovis	1%	-45%	2,126.3	2,113.9	3,872.2
Concord	-17%	-10%	3,202.6	3,859.4	3,539.2
Corona	1%	-7%	2,266.9	2,237.2	2,426.4
Costa Mesa	0%	13%	3,489.3	3,488.5	3,079.0
Daly City	-21%	-26%	1,485.2	1,874.0	2,006.1
Downey	-13%	-47%	2,129.9	2,454.7	4,049.8
El Cajon	-9%	-29%	2,227.2	2,459.1	3,154.5
El Monte	1%	-31%	1,785.3	1,764.7	2,601.7
Elk Grove	-9%	-41%	1,548.6	1,695.4	2,612.9
Escondido	12%	-36%	2,101.2	1,875.4	3,265.3
Fairfield	-17%	-20%	2,968.9	3,590.1	3,722.6
Fontana	-18%	-36%	1,453.5	1,766.3	2,286.1
Fremont	24%	10%	2,604.8	2,093.8	2,366.2
Fresno	15%	-36%	3,644.2	3,172.4	5,657.5
Fullerton	7%	-18%	2,608.9	2,430.8	3,189.1
Garden Grove	1%	2%	2,520.6	2,490.7	2,469.8
Glendale	-4%	-18%	1,650.5	1,718.1	2,020.0
Hayward	8%	20%	3,631.1	3,360.9	3,015.0
Huntington Beach	-3%	-18%	2,162.2	2,220.7	2,629.9
Inglewood	7%	-10%	2,793.6	2,617.8	3,107.0
Irvine	14%	22%	1,619.8	1,426.9	1,332.5
Jurupa Valley	-7%	NA	2,451.4	2,642.4	NA

California cities, 100,000+ population in 2020	2020 rate vs.		Offenses per 100,000 population		
	2019	2010	2020	2019	2010
Lancaster	-17%	-18%	2,352.5	2,842.6	2,860.1
Long Beach	10%	2%	3,135.6	2,837.8	3,077.9
Los Angeles	-8%	-2%	2,813.3	3,060.7	2,870.2
Modesto	-23%	-42%	3,075.1	4,019.1	5,257.2
Moreno Valley	-8%	-5%	2,840.0	3,070.7	2,997.1
Murrieta	-20%	-23%	1,105.9	1,374.9	1,433.7
Norwalk	10%	-16%	2,067.8	1,871.9	2,452.5
Oakland	-16%	13%	6,436.8	7,664.7	5,680.4
Oceanside	-12%	-17%	2,156.4	2,454.8	2,594.6
Ontario	-7%	-21%	2,504.5	2,694.8	3,182.6
Oxnard	2%	-3%	2,415.8	2,378.0	2,480.8
Palmdale	0%	-36%	1,803.7	1,803.1	2,809.6
Pasadena	-2%	-27%	2,336.3	2,372.7	3,188.3
Pomona	8%	0%	3,516.4	3,263.0	3,500.3
Rancho Cucamonga	-4%	-6%	2,148.4	2,235.7	2,280.3
Rialto	-19%	-7%	2,851.2	3,526.2	3,055.3
Richmond	-9%	-24%	4,244.0	4,680.8	5,563.5
Riverside	-1%	-8%	3,449.3	3,473.1	3,754.4
Roseville	-11%	-38%	2,136.9	2,392.8	3,439.5
Sacramento	-10%	-32%	3,458.4	3,849.7	5,110.8
Salinas	1%	-34%	2,637.1	2,616.5	4,012.0
San Bernardino	-24%	-22%	4,110.2	5,421.3	5,283.3
San Diego	-8%	-26%	2,037.0	2,225.6	2,746.2
San Francisco	-21%	4%	4,826.8	6,104.1	4,639.5
San Jose	-5%	2%	2,635.9	2,772.5	2,581.1
San Mateo	5%	10%	2,463.0	2,354.0	2,237.5
Santa Ana	3%	4%	2,450.4	2,385.4	2,351.9
Santa Clara	-31%	-5%	2,686.2	3,867.3	2,826.0
Santa Clarita	-1%	-43%	1,019.2	1,031.6	1,774.0
Santa Maria	68%	-2%	3,002.6	1,788.4	3,071.7
Santa Rosa	2%	-31%	2,097.0	2,046.4	3,038.9
Simi Valley	11%	-39%	1,163.7	1,049.6	1,908.8
Stockton	-20%	-40%	4,152.0	5,221.4	6,883.5
Sunnyvale	-7%	22%	2,156.5	2,312.4	1,767.7
Temecula	-14%	-9%	2,141.6	2,488.4	2,363.5
Thousand Oaks	-5%	-38%	1,083.1	1,138.6	1,740.5
Torrance	2%	-3%	2,165.0	2,129.2	2,229.2
Vacaville	-28%	-13%	1,993.8	2,779.8	2,283.9
Vallejo	-12%	-16%	4,330.5	4,893.2	5,132.2
Ventura	1%	-10%	3,184.2	3,149.8	3,540.0
Visalia	-20%	-46%	2,543.1	3,177.3	4,707.4
Vista	-14%	-44%	1,475.8	1,718.0	2,657.9
West Covina	-8%	-27%	2,258.5	2,453.1	3,110.2
All cities	-7%	-14%	2,827.8	3,051.2	3,286.9

Sources: FBI (2021); DOF (2021). *Total and violent offense rates exclude rape because the definition was broadened in 2013, hindering comparisons across this period.

Please note: Jurisdictions submit their data to the official statewide or national databases maintained by appointed governmental bodies. While every effort is made to review data for accuracy and to correct information upon revision, CJCJ cannot be responsible for data reporting errors made at the county, state, or national level.

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