

## 10 Things to Know About Crime in the San Diego Region

On an annual basis, the Criminal Justice Research Division of SANDAG compiles regional Part I<sup>1</sup> crime statistics from local law enforcement agencies. By doing so, historical analysis of crime rates and numbers for the entire region is possible in a more timely fashion, compared to the release of statewide and national data. This CJ Flash highlights 10 findings from the full report.

1. The 2016 **violent** (3.33) **and property** (18.66) **crime rates** for the San Diego region represented the **2<sup>nd</sup> lowest** in the past 37 years.
2. There were **10,960 violent and 61,360 property crimes** reported in the San Diego region in 2016. According to national victimization surveys, 47% of violent crimes and 35% of property crimes are reported to law enforcement.
3. There were **17 more homicides** in the region in 2016 (101), compared to 2015 (84). While this was considerably lower than the 278 reported in 1991, it was the **3<sup>rd</sup> consecutive increase** and the highest number reported since 2012. Fewer homicides in 2016 were related to gang violence and domestic violence, and "other" motives (including burglaries and robberies) went up from 2015.
4. While robberies were down overall in 2016, compared to 2015, **robberies with a firearm increased 30%** (from 388 to 504).
5. While **aggravated assaults** were up only slightly from 2015 (1%), those that involved a **firearm also increased** to a greater degree (14%), compared to those that did not involve a firearm (-1%).
6. **Violent crimes against seniors** (those 60 years of age and older) were **up 37%** over the past 5 years – an increase not solely attributable to an aging population (15% over 5 years).
7. **Burglaries** reached a 37-year low in 2016. However, those that involved a **forced entry were up 10%** (as opposed to entering an open door or window or being unsuccessful). About 2 in every 3 burglaries were from a residence, and those reported offenses were down 8%. Burglaries from non-residences, however, were up 6%.
8. **Larcenies** were down overall, but thefts **from motor vehicles were up** (4%).
9. For the first time in 8 years, there were **more motor vehicle thefts** (11,023) in the region than burglaries (10,382).
10. Even though property crime was down, the value of the property stolen was up, driven in part by the increase in vehicle thefts. On average, there was **\$468,080 worth of property stolen daily** in the region in 2016 (a leap year).

**2016, compared to 2015**  
Number of...  
*Homicides, Aggravated Assaults, and*  
**MV Thefts Up**  
Number of...  
*Rapes, Robberies, Burglaries, and*  
**Larcenies Down**

<sup>1</sup> Part I crimes include four violent crimes (homicide, rape, robbery, and aggravated assault) and three property crimes (burglary, larceny, and motor vehicle theft) that are tracked in a standardized way by law enforcement agencies across the country and reported to the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI).