



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO  
**REPORT TO THE CITY COUNCIL**

DATE ISSUED: February 5, 2013 REPORT NO. 13-12

ATTENTION: Public Safety and Neighborhood Services Committee  
Agenda of:

SUBJECT: City of San Diego Crime Briefing  
January – December 2012 Index Crimes

SUMMARY

THIS IS AN INFORMATION ITEM ONLY. NO ACTION IS REQUIRED ON THE PART OF THE COMMITTEE OR THE CITY COUNCIL.

BACKGROUND

This report summarizes the January through December 2012 index crimes, as well as domestic violence cases, gang statistics, hate crimes, juvenile crimes and response times. Index crimes include murder, rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, larceny and motor vehicle theft. The Department of Justice Uniform Crime Reporting program collects information on these crime types from law enforcement agencies throughout the United States and uses the data to measure crime nationwide.

## DISCUSSION

The total number of index crimes in San Diego increased 6.9% in 2012 compared to 2011. This was the first increase in overall crime since 2005, when crime went up 1.1%.

	Jan-Dec	Jan-Dec	% Change	(Rates per 1,000)		Clearances	
	2011	2012		2011	2012	2011	2012
Murder	38	47	23.7%	0.03	0.04	100.0%	74.5%
Rape	293	304	3.8%	0.22	0.23	42.7%	52.3%
Robbery	1,456	1,517	4.2%	1.11	1.15	41.1%	42.7%
Aggravated Assault	3,317	3,661	10.4%	2.53	2.77	56.2%	58.0%
<b>Violent Crimes</b>	<b>5,104</b>	<b>5,529</b>	<b>8.3%</b>	<b>3.89</b>	<b>4.18</b>	<b>51.5%</b>	<b>53.7%</b>
Burglary	5,840	5,902	1.1%	4.45	4.47	14.5%	13.9%
Theft	17,610	19,188	9.0%	13.42	14.52	18.1%	16.6%
Vehicle Theft	6,259	6,610	5.6%	4.77	5.00	1.0%	1.7%
<b>Property Crimes</b>	<b>29,709</b>	<b>31,700</b>	<b>6.7%</b>	<b>22.65</b>	<b>23.99</b>	<b>13.8%</b>	<b>13.0%</b>
<b>TOTAL INDEX</b>	<b>34,813</b>	<b>37,229</b>	<b>6.9%</b>	<b>26.54</b>	<b>28.18</b>	<b>19.3%</b>	<b>19.0%</b>

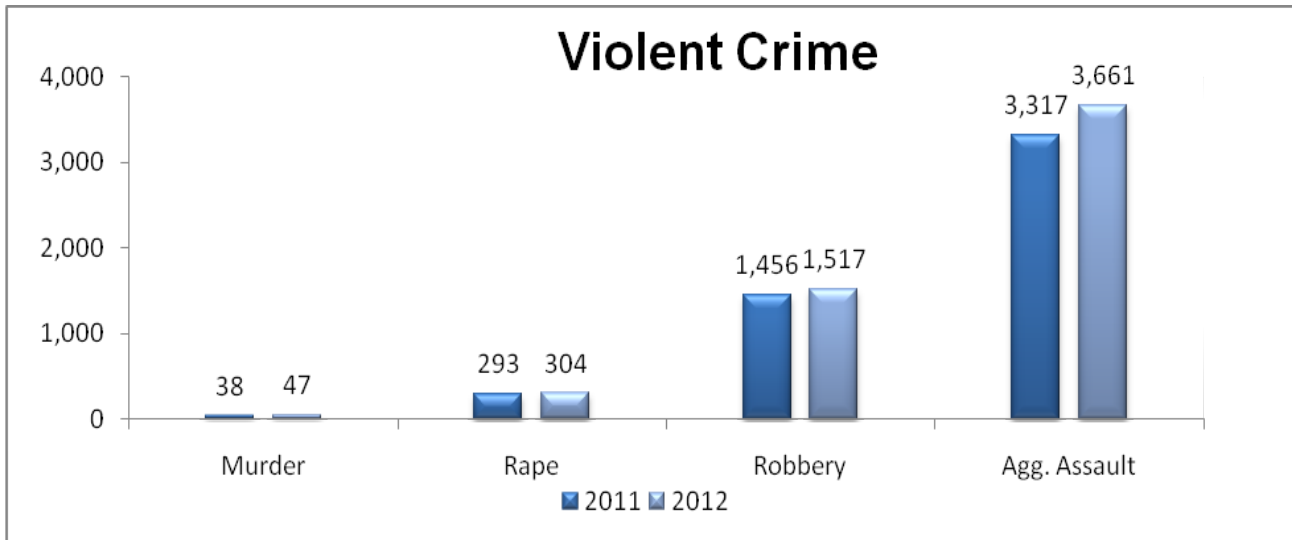
### Crime Rates

Despite an increase in the overall crime rate, the 2012 crime rate of 28.2 per thousand residents is comparable to rates experienced in the early 1960s.

San Diego Crime Rates per 1,000 Population 2002 to 2012			
Year	Violent Crime Rate	Property Crime Rate	Total Index Crime Rate
2002	5.7	34.2	39.9
2003	5.8	36.4	42.2
2004	5.2	35.1	40.4
2005	5.1	35.4	40.5
2006	4.9	34.5	39.4
2007	4.7	33.0	37.8
2008	4.5	30.1	34.6
2009	4.4	23.8	28.2
2010	4.1	22.4	26.4
2011	3.9	22.7	26.5
2012	4.2	24.0	28.2

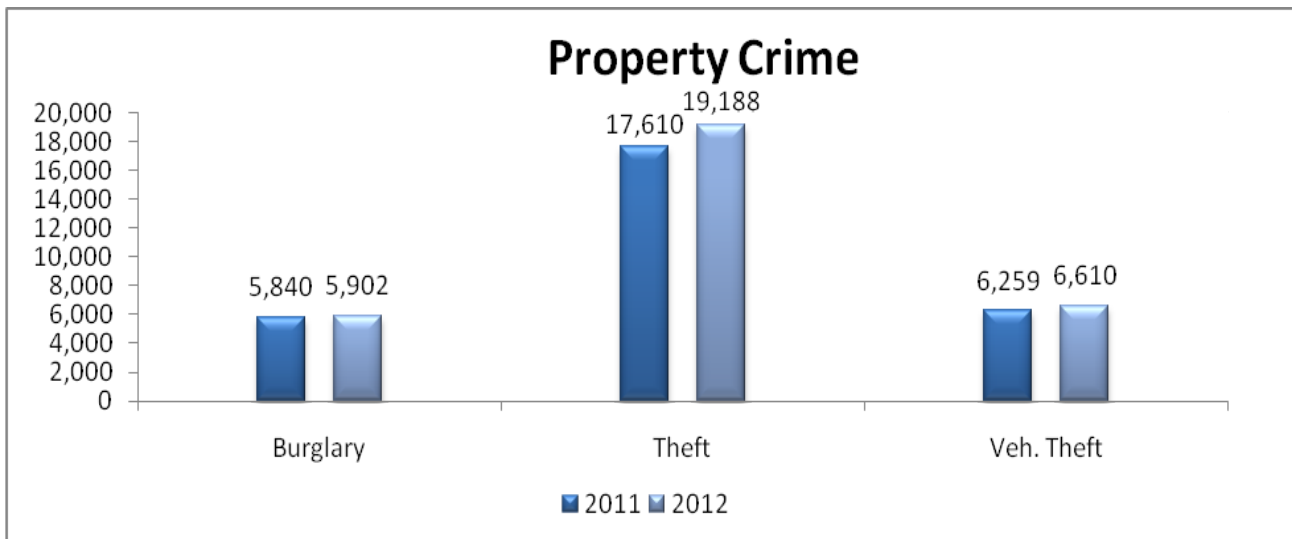
## Violent Crimes

Violent crimes increased 8.3% in 2012 compared to 2011. Murder increased for the second consecutive year, by 9 cases. Rape increased slightly, by 3.8% in 2012. Alcohol continues to be a contributing factor in many rape incidents. Robbery increased 4.2%. Approximately two-thirds of robberies are street robberies. Aggravated assaults increased 10.4% from 2011 to 2012. About 24% of aggravated assaults in 2012 were domestic violence related. Assaults involving guns increased the most (36.5%).



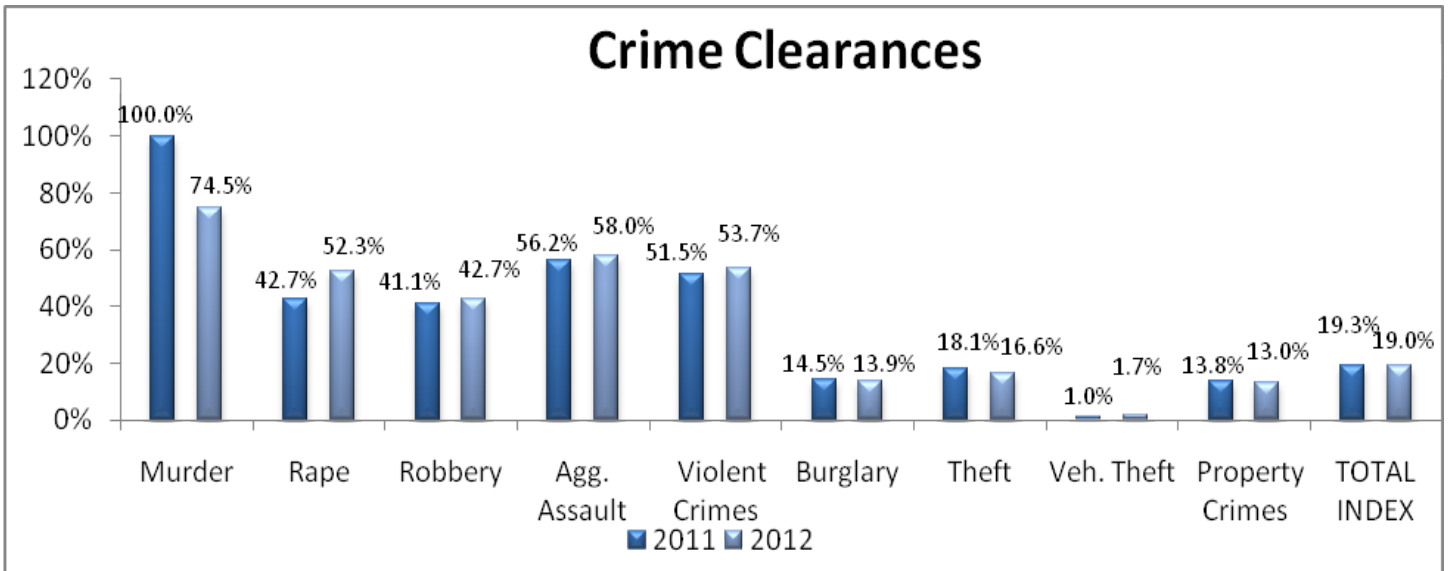
## Property Crimes

All categories of property crimes increased during 2012. Theft showed the largest increase of 9.0% and vehicle theft increased 5.6%. Burglary increased slightly, by 1.1%.



## Crime Clearances

Overall, clearance rates remained relatively constant, when comparing 2011 and 2012.



## Domestic Violence

The total number of domestic violence cases remained relatively constant in 2012. Incidents involving firearms and cutting instruments showed the largest increases, 6.3% and 8.3%, respectively.

San Diego Domestic Violence January to December			
Domestic Violence	2011	2012	11 to 12 % Change
<b>Criminal Cases:</b>			
Firearms	32	34	6.3%
Knife/Cutting Instrument	181	196	8.3%
Other Dangerous Weapon	877	861	-1.8%
Personal Weapon (hands, etc.)	4,983	5,062	1.6%
<b>Total Criminal Cases</b>	<b>6,073</b>	<b>6,153</b>	<b>1.3%</b>
<b>Non-Criminal Calls:</b>			
	1,064	1,035	-2.7%
<b>Total Cases</b>	<b>7,137</b>	<b>7,188</b>	<b>0.7%</b>

## Gang Crimes

The total number of crimes committed by gang members increased 13.4% in 2012. Overall, assaults and attempted homicides increased by 14.7%, primarily due to increases in assaults other than shootings and stabbings. Arrests of gang members also increased, by 7.8% in 2012.

Crimes Committed by Gang Members January to December			
Crime Type	2011	2012	11 to 12 % Change
<b>All Crimes:</b>			
Homicide	7	16	128.6%
Attempt Homicide	8	11	37.5%
Assault	176	200	13.6%
Robbery	106	125	17.9%
Auto Theft	25	63	152.0%
Other	568	594	4.6%
<b>Total</b>	<b>890</b>	<b>1,009</b>	<b>13.4%</b>
<b>Assaults &amp; Attempt Homicides:</b>			
Shooting	46	49	6.5%
Stabbing	46	29	-37.0%
Other	92	133	44.6%
<b>Total</b>	<b>184</b>	<b>211</b>	<b>14.7%</b>
Drive-By Shootings	9	8	-11.1%
Arrests of Gang Members	2,846	3,067	7.8%

## Hate Crimes

There were 35 hate crimes in 2012, a reduction of 16.7% from 2011. Hate crimes based on ethnicity accounted for the highest percentage of cases at 51.4%, followed by sexual orientation based crimes at 31.4%. Religious-based hate crimes showed the largest decrease (-45.5%).

San Diego Reported Hate Crimes January to December				
Hate Crimes	2011	% of Total	2012	% of Total
Ethnicity	13	31.0%	18	51.4%
Sexual Orientation	18	42.9%	11	31.4%
Religion	11	26.2%	6	17.1%
Gender	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Disability	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
				<b>11 to 12 % Change</b>
<b>Total Hate Crime</b>	<b>42</b>		<b>35</b>	<b>-16.7%</b>

## Juvenile Crimes

The number of juvenile victims of violent crimes decreased 8.0% for 2012. There were fewer juvenile victims in each of the time categories, with the largest decrease during daytime hours.

Juvenile Statistics January to December			
Juvenile Victims of Violent Crimes:	2011	2012	11 to 12 % Change
<b>Daytime Hours (0830 to 1329)</b>			
Murder	0	2	N/A
Rape	9	6	-33.3%
Robbery	29	13	-55.2%
Aggravated Assault	38	37	-2.6%
<b>Daytime Total</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>-23.7%</b>
<b>After School Hours (1330 to 2159)</b>			
Murder	0	3	N/A
Rape	16	31	93.8%
Robbery	123	117	-4.9%
Aggravated Assault	224	195	-12.9%
<b>After School Total</b>	<b>363</b>	<b>346</b>	<b>-4.7%</b>
<b>Curfew Hours (2200 to 0829)</b>			
Murder	5	2	-60.0%
Rape	19	23	21.1%
Robbery	32	28	-12.5%
Aggravated Assault	83	75	-9.6%
<b>Curfew Total</b>	<b>139</b>	<b>128</b>	<b>-7.9%</b>
<b>ALL HOURS TOTAL</b>	<b>578</b>	<b>532</b>	<b>-8.0%</b>

## Juvenile Arrests

All time categories showed a decrease in juvenile arrests, with a total decrease of 29.1% for all hours. Much of the decrease is due to fewer arrests for curfew and daytime loitering.

Juvenile Statistics January to December			
Juvenile Arrests:	2011	2012	11 to 12 % Change
<b>Daytime Hours (0830 to 1329)</b>			
Felony	407	296	-27.3%
Misdemeanor	1,727	1,364	-21.0%
Other	20	16	-20.0%
<b>Daytime Total</b>	<b>2,154</b>	<b>1,676</b>	<b>-22.2%</b>
<b>After School Hours (1330 to 2159)</b>			
Felony	770	424	-44.9%
Misdemeanor	1,244	960	-22.8%
Other	15	10	-33.3%
<b>After School Total</b>	<b>2,029</b>	<b>1,394</b>	<b>-31.3%</b>
<b>Curfew Hours (2200 to 0829)</b>			
Felony	323	171	-47.1%
Misdemeanor	558	493	-11.6%
Other	1,910	1,210	-36.6%
<b>Curfew Total</b>	<b>2,791</b>	<b>1,874</b>	<b>-32.9%</b>
<b>ALL HOURS TOTAL</b>	<b>6,974</b>	<b>4,944</b>	<b>-29.1%</b>

## Response Times

San Diego Police Department dispatches incoming calls according to a hierarchy of call types as defined below.

Priority E: Imminent threat to life, dispatch immediately.

Priority 1: Threat to life, serious crime in progress, dispatch immediately.

Priority 2: Threat to life has passed or does not exist, minor crime in progress/serious crime where suspect has left scene, dispatch as quickly as possible.

Priority 3: Non-urgent requests for service such as noise only loud parties, report only calls, and crime scene follow-up, dispatch as soon as possible after higher priority calls.

Priority 4: Minor requests for service such as found property, most parking violations, etc., dispatch when there are no higher priority calls awaiting assignment in the beat.

Priority E, 3 and 4 calls showed slight decreases in response times while priority 1 and 2 calls increased. Priority 2 calls had the largest increase of 4.6%.

Average Response Times by Priority January to December			
Priority	2011	2012	% Change
E	6.4	6.3	-1.6%
1	11.6	11.8	1.7%
2	24.1	25.2	4.6%
3	63.9	61.9	-3.1%
4	68.1	67.4	-1.0%

The total number of dispatched calls decreased 4.1% for 2012. The number of Priority 4 calls showed the largest decrease of 11.6%, followed by Priority 1 calls with a decrease of 10.1%. The number of Priority E calls increased by 6.0% in 2012.

Dispatched Calls by Priority January to December			
Priority	2011	2012	% Change
E	24,697	26,168	6.0%
1	243,406	218,748	-10.1%
2	238,826	238,592	-0.1%
3	74,509	75,805	1.7%
4	23,615	20,878	-11.6%
<b>Total</b>	<b>605,053</b>	<b>580,191</b>	<b>-4.1%</b>



## **Highlights for 2012**

In addition to the crime statistics presented in this report, the following information focuses on many of the highlights throughout the year from different units and divisions within the San Diego Police Department. These highlights include special projects and effective ways to combat crime within our City.

### **Public Safety Realignment (AB 109)**

The Public Safety Realignment plan resulting from AB 109 was implemented regionally in October 2011. This realignment shifted the sentences of some non-violent offenders from serving time in state prison to local jail, and created a new offender status called Post Release Offender (PRO), who are supervised by County Probation rather than State Parole. In response to these changes, the Department is proactively monitoring PROs released within the City. Many commands are providing additional training on probation and parole procedures, so officers understand the available tools and release conditions. Additionally, officers are expected to monitor PROs in their commands and conduct periodic compliance checks to ensure subjects are not reoffending.

### **Sex Crimes**

Many sexual assaults involve alcohol consumed in private residences, hotels and parked vehicles, in addition to bars. In response, Sex Crimes is providing ongoing presentations to a variety of audiences to provide education and information to prevent sexual assault by intoxication. The target audiences include retail entertainment employees, college staff/students and community associations.

### **Central Division**

Officers recently received a community policing award from the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP) for their successful project focused on a problem location downtown. The building was the source of many disturbances associated with large rave parties involving drug use, underage drinking, noise and other illegal activities. Officers gathered intelligence, and eventually SWAT executed a search warrant resulting in a quieter and safer neighborhood.

### **Mid-City Division**

In response to increasing gang and other violence, Mid-City began the Violence Reduction Project, which was a multifaceted approach using traditional policing methods in conjunction with intelligence-led policing and predictive analysis to more efficiently address hot spots and those most likely to offend. Targeted enforcement was conducted based on information developed regarding active gang members, probationers and parolees. Additionally, high visibility patrols were deployed in identified high crime areas, especially on active weekends.

Mid-City is working closely with families on 44<sup>th</sup> Street, following a triple shooting that resulted in two gang-related homicides last June. Division staff regularly meets and assists family

members who are becoming important community leaders as they mobilize their neighbors to reject violence.

On days with overlapping squads, officers have been tasked with spending at least a portion of their day out on foot. Business owners are contacted during business hours, while violence prone areas of Mid-City are canvassed after hours.

### **Northeastern Division**

Northeastern implemented an 80/20 program similar to a program previously established in Eastern Division. The principle is based on the idea that 80% of crimes are committed by 20% of the population. Since probationers and parolees are more likely to be part of the 20% offender group, each officer has been assigned responsibility to focus additional attention on the activities and compliance of several identified individuals.

In recent months, there has been a renewed increase in metal theft, mostly involving copper. Northeastern is participating on a county-wide task force that was initiated to address this type of theft. The task force consists of law enforcement agencies throughout the county, several large businesses such as AT&T and Cox Communications, and the Naval Criminal Investigative Service.

### **Northern Division**

Officers at Northern Division are implementing special details to combat identified crime problems. Recent successful details included saturation patrols and fourth waiver searches to reduce residential burglaries in Bay Park and directed traffic enforcement details in areas with high vehicle collision rates.

The "Stop and Lock" initiative is a walking education campaign designed to encourage people to safeguard their property while away from home. Retired Senior Volunteer Patrols (RSVPs) walk in high crime areas, leaving flyers reminding residents to lock doors and windows. Thus far, 1,200 flyers have been distributed.

### **Southern Division**

Southern Division has implemented a number of proactive crime fighting strategies to address increasing violence. The division has initiated several operations targeting gang activity, narcotics and violence in identified areas, such as transit stops and homeless camps. Many of these operations included collaborations with other police and security agencies. In order to more effectively engage the community in improving quality of life, Southern officers have renewed focus on re-establishing area Neighborhood and Business Watch programs.

A multi-faceted approach has been taken towards combating auto theft. Strategies include analysis of auto thefts, including reasons for theft, outcome of vehicle and identification of players; partnering with other agencies including Customs; conducting targeted operations; and, improving the reporting and investigation of vehicle incidents.

## **Western Division**

Western Division's Neighborhood Resource Team (NRT), which became operational in September 2011, addresses criminal activity within the homeless population. The team works with community members, public and private entities, local businesses and other City services, and has been recognized by citizens and businesses for the resulting environmental and quality of life improvements in the area.

William M. Lansdowne  
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