



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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FOR MORE INFORMATION

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Memphis Sees Across-the-Board Declines In Reported Crime for First Quarter of 2024

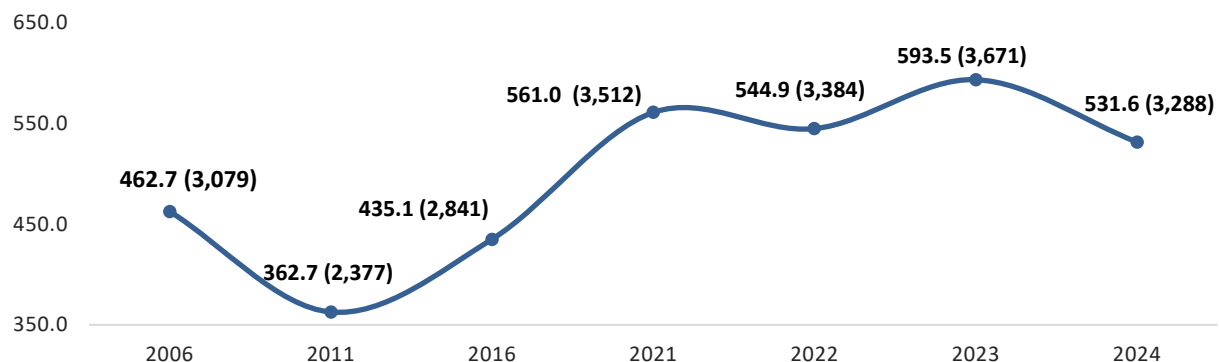
According to preliminary figures from the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation (TBI) and released by the University of Memphis Public Safety Institute and the Memphis Shelby Crime Commission, crime rates in all categories of reported major violent crime and major property crime dropped in the city of Memphis during the first quarter of this year compared to the first quarter of 2023 (January-March).

Major violent crime includes the categories of murder, forcible rape, robbery, and aggravated assault. Based on reported crimes, the major violent crime rate in Memphis dropped 10.4 percent during the first quarter of 2024. That includes declines of 5.7 percent in murders, 30.3 percent in rapes, 16.3 percent in robberies, and 8.4 percent in aggravated assaults.

Reported Major Violent Crime

January- March

Rate Per 100,000 Population (and Total Number of Offenses)¹
City of Memphis



14.9%



10.4%

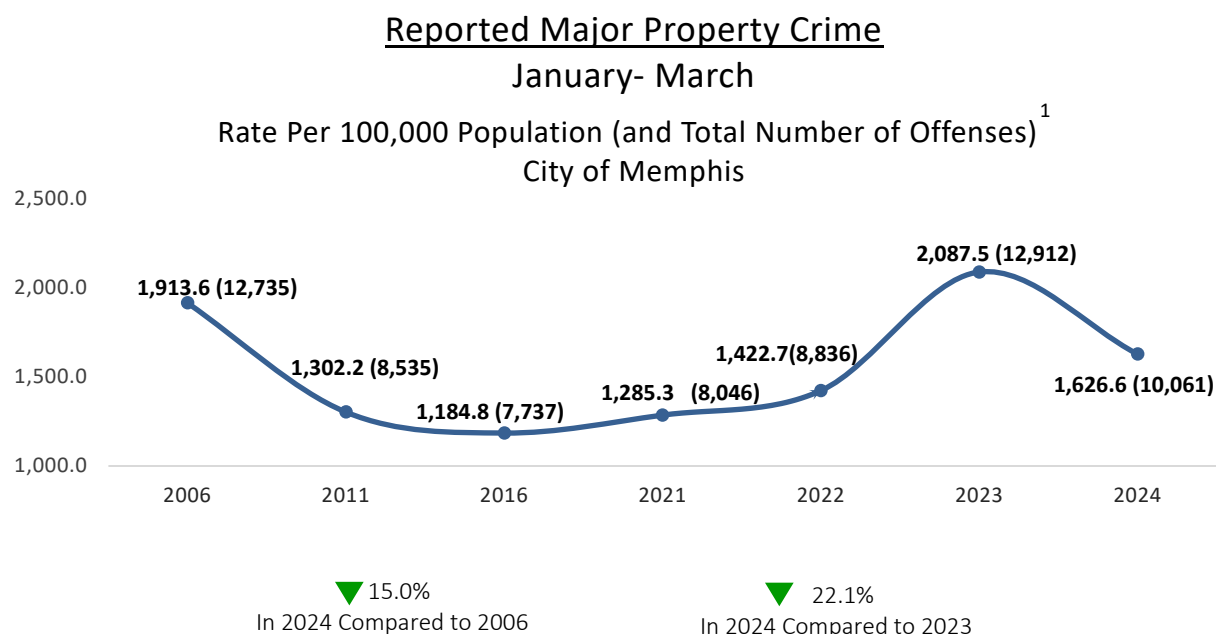
In 2024 Compared to 2006

In 2024 Compared to 2023

¹ Includes murders, forcible rapes, robberies, and aggravated assaults. Source: Tennessee Bureau of Investigation (TBI). The 2024 TBI figures are preliminary.

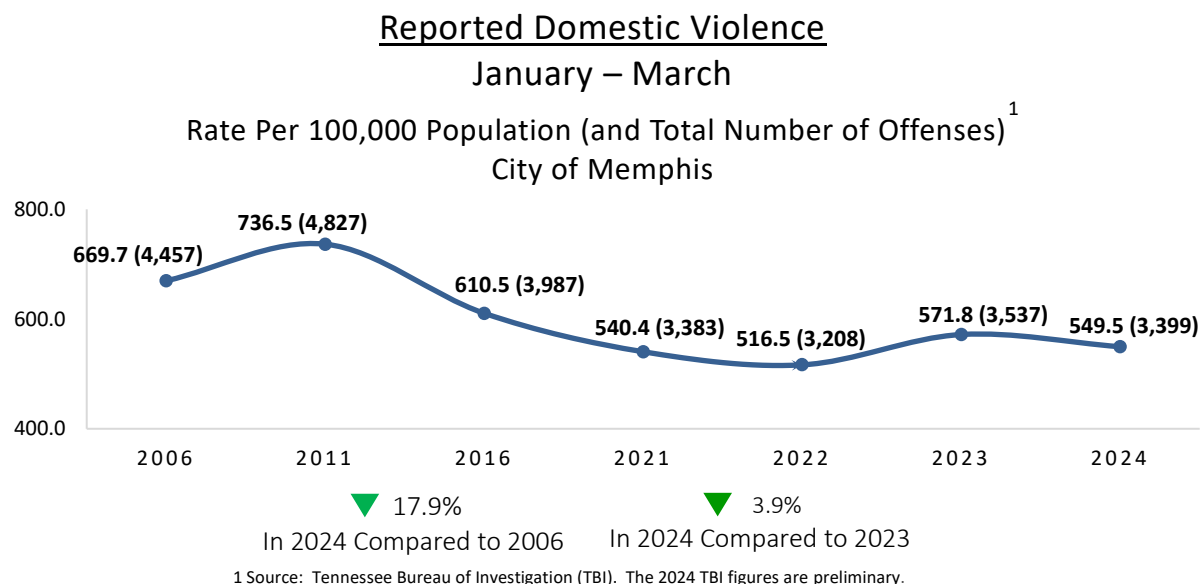
Major property crime includes the categories of burglary, vehicle theft, and other felony theft (such as theft from vehicles). The reported major property crime rate during the first quarter of 2024 was 22.1 percent less than in the first quarter of 2023,

including a 16.9 percent decline in burglaries, a 33.2 percent decline in vehicle thefts, and a 17.4 percent drop in other felony thefts.

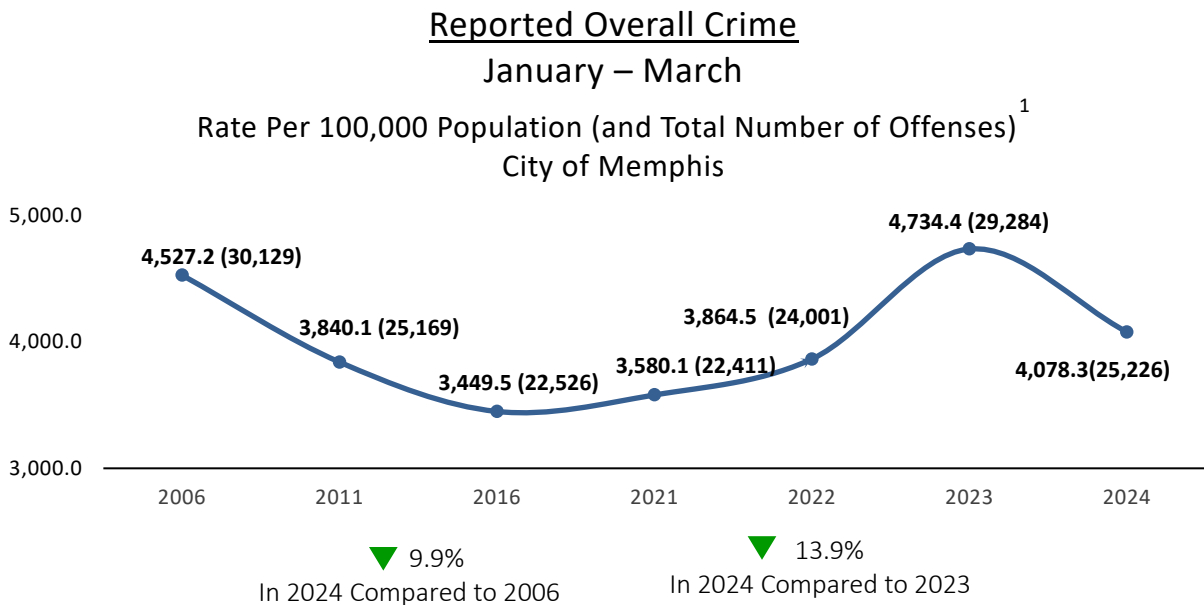


¹ Includes burglaries, motor vehicle thefts, and other felony thefts. Source: Tennessee Bureau of Investigation (TBI). The 2024 TBI figures are preliminary.

Reported domestic violence offenses dropped 3.9 percent when compared to the first quarter of 2023.



The TBI also measures the overall crime rate by looking at 54 specific categories of crime, including the major categories mentioned above making up major violent crime and major property crime. According to the TBI's preliminary figures, the overall crime rate was 13.9 percent less than the first quarter of 2023.



¹ The overall crime rate is measured by 54 separate types of “Group A crimes” tracked by the T.B.I. Source: Tennessee Bureau of Investigation (TBI).
The 2024 TBI figures are preliminary.

Countywide TBI preliminary figures are not yet available. However, they will not affect the overall trendlines reflected in the Memphis figures. (Both the Memphis and countywide figures will be posted on the Crime Commission website at <https://memphiscrime.org>.)

Memphis Chief of Police C. J. Davis stated, “The dedicated men and women of the Memphis Police Department have worked diligently to achieve reductions in Part One Crime in every precinct over the last several months. Our proactive policing strategies, data-driven approaches, community engagement initiatives, and partnerships with other criminal justice stakeholders have played a crucial role in improving public safety for our citizens. While we celebrate this milestone, we recognize that our work is far from over.”

“While we have a long way to go, this is very encouraging news. Best practices that have been implemented in Memphis and scaled up are having a positive impact. They include data-driven policing, special focus on deterring known repeat offenders, special investigative units such as MPD’s unit to investigate aggravated assaults involving the discharge of guns and the special task force to investigate vehicle thefts, and scaled up efforts to head off retaliatory acts of violence,” said Bill Gibbons, executive director of the Public Safety Institute and president of the Crime Commission.

“The community deserves a lot of credit as well for being more vigilant and reducing crimes of opportunity such as vehicle thefts and guns stolen from vehicles,” noted Gibbons.

“We have not yet returned to pre-pandemic levels in many categories of crime, but we seem to be moving in the right direction. Now is not the time to let up but rather to double down in our efforts,” said Ben Adams, Crime Commission Board chair.

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About the Crime Statistics: In measuring overall crime rates and trends, the Memphis Shelby Crime Commission and the Public Safety Institute use primarily preliminary data reported by local enforcement agencies to the Tennessee Incident Based Reporting System (TIBRS), which was developed and is maintained by the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation. An incident is defined in TIBRS as “one or more offenses committed by the same offender or group of offenders acting in concert, at the same time and place.” Certain types of violent crimes and domestic violence offenses, however, uniquely refer to a victim count versus an incident count. All rates are calculated based on per 100,000 population.

About the Memphis Shelby Crime Commission (www.memphiscrime.org): The Memphis Shelby Crime Commission is an independent, non-profit 501(c) (3) organization that “quarterbacks” the work of the Safe Community Action Plan and its partners. It is funded through the generous contributions of many private sector donors. Ben Adams, chairman emeritus of Baker Donelson law firm, serves as chair of the board, and Bill Gibbons serves as president of the Commission.

About the Safe Community Action Plan (www.memphiscrime.org): Launched initially in 2007, the Safe Community Action Plan, a plan spearheaded by the Memphis Shelby Crime Commission, is a community-based crime reduction and prevention initiative. The current Safe Community Action Plan (2022-2026) is in its third year. Implementation of the Safe Community Action Plan is chaired by Shelby County Sheriff Floyd Bonner.

About the Public Safety Institute (www.memphis.edu/psi/): The Public Safety Institute of the University of Memphis is an interdisciplinary part of the University community committed to identifying and advancing best practices in the field of public safety. It is housed in the School of Urban Affairs and Public Policy. Bill Gibbons serves as executive director.