



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**FOR MORE INFORMATION**

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## **MURDERS, ROBBERIES, AND RAPES DECLINE**

Based on preliminary figures from the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation (TBI) released by the University of Memphis Public Safety Institute and the Memphis Shelby Crime Commission, murders in Memphis were down 17.6 percent during the first three quarters of 2018 (January-September) compared to the same time period in 2017.

Reported robberies were down 12.4 percent, and reported rapes declined 18.2 percent.

For all of Shelby County, the declines were not quite as great, with a 14.5 percent drop in murders, an 11.3 percent decline in reported robberies, and a 16.6 percent decline in reported rapes.

“One violent crime will always be one too many, but these numbers indicate the needle is moving in favor of increased public safety,” said Shelby County Dist. Atty. Gen. Amy Weirich. “My hope is that this momentum will continue and result in even better numbers by the end of the year.”

“The declines are significant, even though most citizens probably don’t yet feel or sense it. Violent crimes need to decline significantly more, but we are moving in the right direction so far this year,” said Bill Gibbons, executive director of the UofM Public Safety Institute and president of the Crime Commission.

Reported aggravated assaults increased slightly - by 1.9 percent in Memphis and 2.8 percent countywide. Because the overall major violent crime figure is calculated by the FBI and TBI as an aggregate number of all murders, robberies, rapes and aggravated assaults combined, the sheer volume of aggravated assaults drives the overall percentage of increase or decrease. Therefore, overall major violent crime declined by a lesser percentage - 3.0 percent in Memphis and 1.8 percent countywide - than that for murders, robberies and rapes.

A promising aspect of major property crime was the drop in reported burglaries compared to last year - a 10.1 percent decline in Memphis and an 8.1 percent drop throughout the county. Motor vehicle thefts continue to be a concern, with a 12.0 percent increase in Memphis and a 15.5 percent increase countywide.

In more encouraging news, reported domestic violence incidents continued to decline compared to last year, with a drop of 11.1 percent in Memphis and 9.8 percent in all of Shelby County.

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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 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.” Reported major violent crime 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](http://www.memphiscrime.org)):** The Memphis Shelby Crime Commission is an independent, non-profit 501(c) (3) organization that “quarterbacks” the work of the Operation: Safe Community (OSC) plan and its partners. It is funded through the generous contributions of many private sector donors. Ben Adams, CEO of Baker Donelson law firm, serves as chair of the board, and Bill Gibbons serves as president of the Commission.

**About Operation: Safe Community ([www.operationsafecommunity.org](http://www.operationsafecommunity.org)):** Launched in 2007, Operation: Safe Community (OSC), spearheaded by the Memphis Shelby Crime Commission, is a community-based crime reduction initiative. Operation: Safe Community is chaired by Shelby County District Attorney General Amy Weirich.

**About the Public Safety Institute ([www.memphis.edu/psi/](http://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.

# **REPORTED MURDERS** **JANUARY - SEPTEMBER** **Rates Per 100,000 Population** **(and Raw Numbers)<sup>1</sup>**

■ City of Memphis ● All of Shelby County

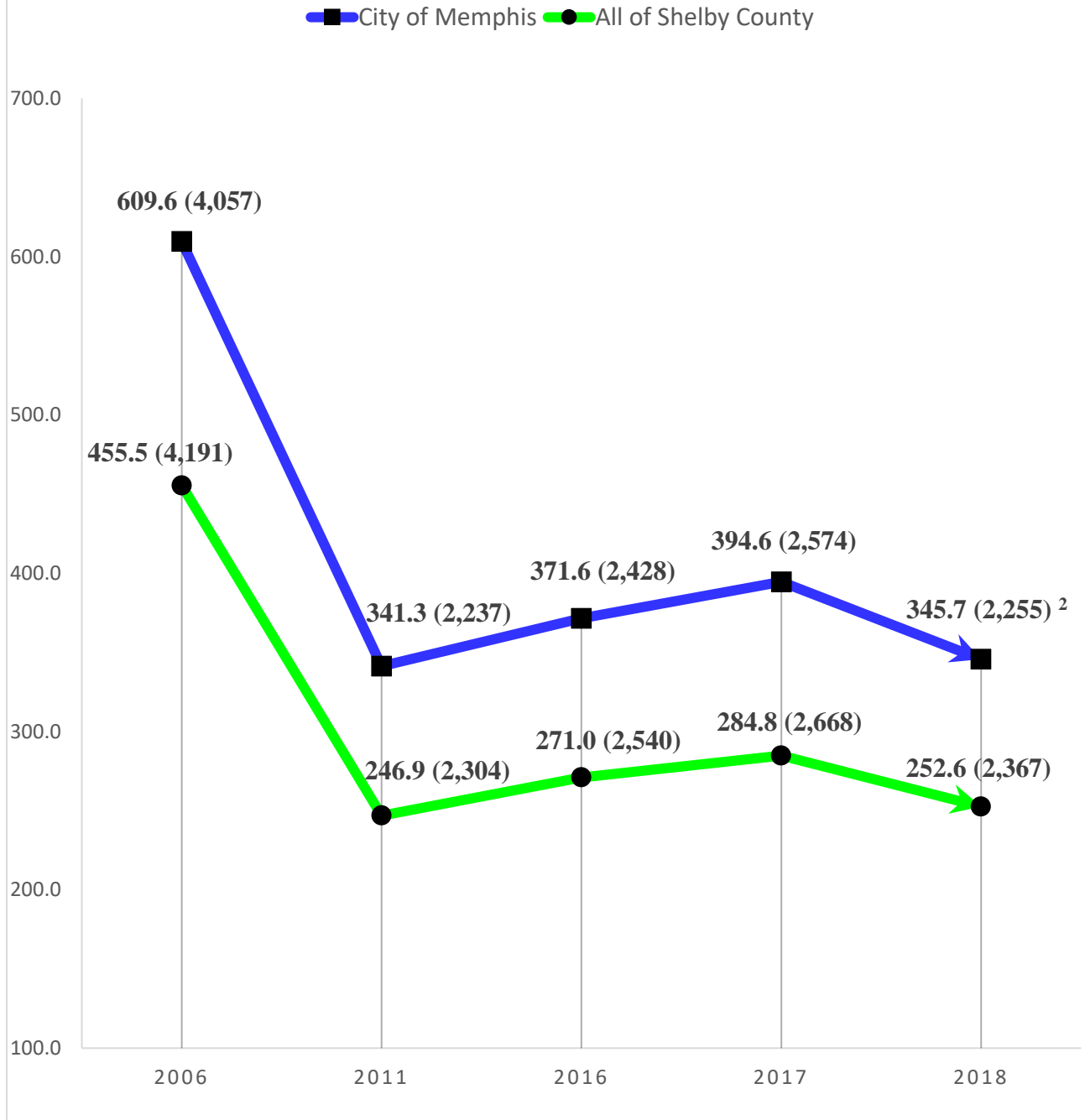


<sup>1</sup> Source: Tennessee Bureau of Investigation (TBI). The 2018 TBI figures are preliminary.

<sup>2</sup> The 2018 figure is a decrease of 5.6 percent from 2006 and a decrease of 17.6 percent from 2017 in the city of Memphis.

<sup>3</sup> The 2018 figure is a decrease of 5.0 percent from 2006 and a decrease of 14.5 percent from 2017 in all of Shelby County.

# **REPORTED ROBBERIES** **JANUARY - SEPTEMBER** **Rates per 100,000 Population** **(and Raw Numbers)<sup>1</sup>**



<sup>1</sup> Source: Tennessee Bureau of Investigation (TBI). The 2018 TBI figures are preliminary.

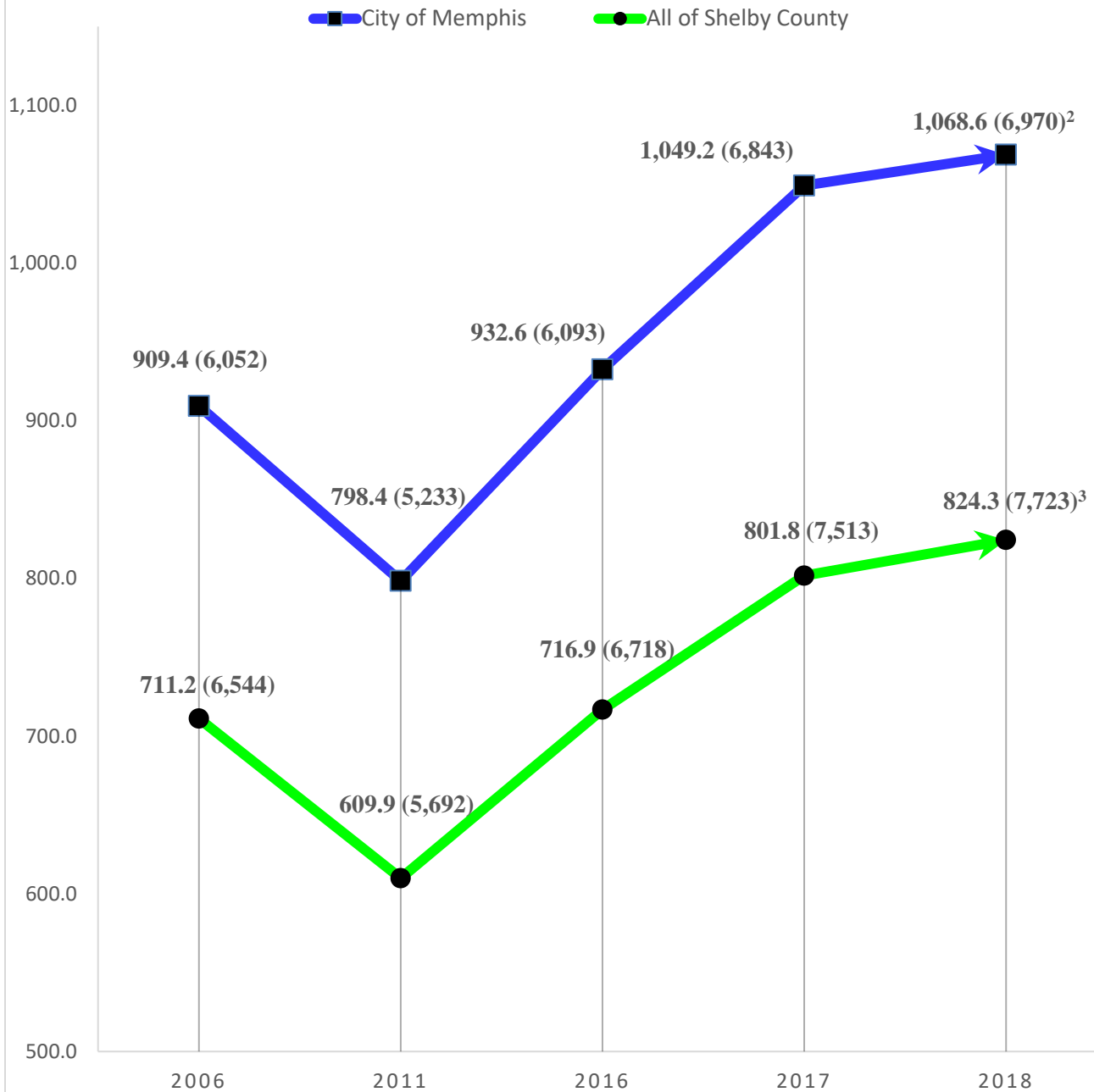
<sup>2</sup> The 2018 figure is a decrease of 43.3 percent from 2006 and a decrease of 12.4 percent from 2017 in the city of Memphis.

<sup>3</sup> The 2018 figure is a decrease of 44.5 percent from 2006 and a decrease of 11.3 percent from 2017 in all of Shelby County.

# REPORTED AGGRAVATED ASSAULTS

## JANUARY - SEPTEMBER

### Rates per 100,000 Population (and Raw Numbers)<sup>1</sup>



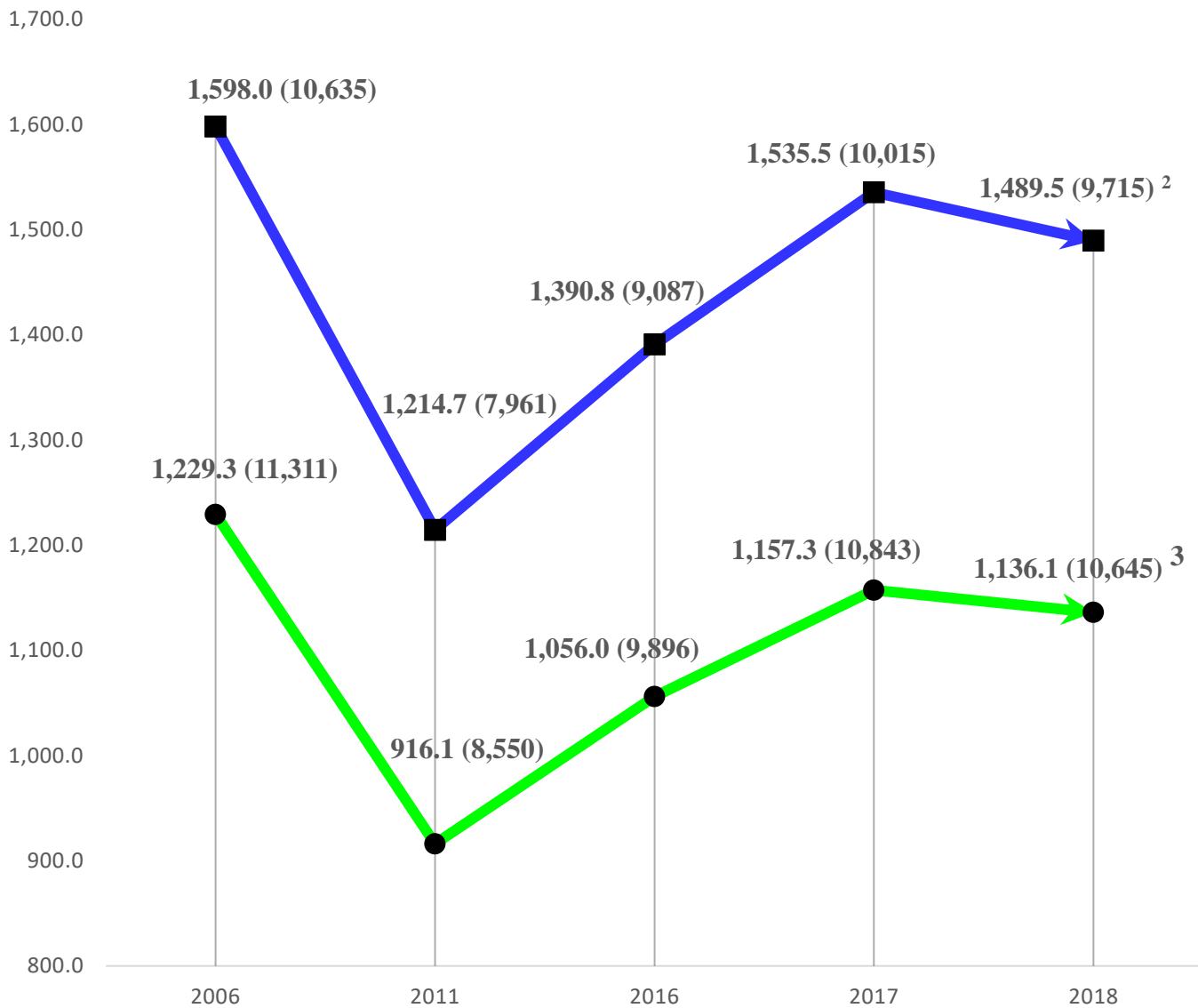
<sup>1</sup> Source: Tennessee Bureau of Investigation (TBI). The 2018 TBI figures are preliminary.

<sup>2</sup> The 2018 figure is an increase of 17.5 percent from 2006 and an increase of 1.9 percent from 2017 in the city of Memphis.

<sup>3</sup> The 2018 figure is an increase of 15.9 percent from 2006 and an increase of 2.8 percent from 2017 in all of Shelby County.

# **MAJOR VIOLENT CRIME** **JANUARY - SEPTEMBER** **Rates Per 100,000 Population (and Raw Numbers)<sup>1</sup>**

■ City of Memphis     ● All of Shelby County



<sup>1</sup> Includes murders, forcible rapes, robberies, and aggravated assaults.

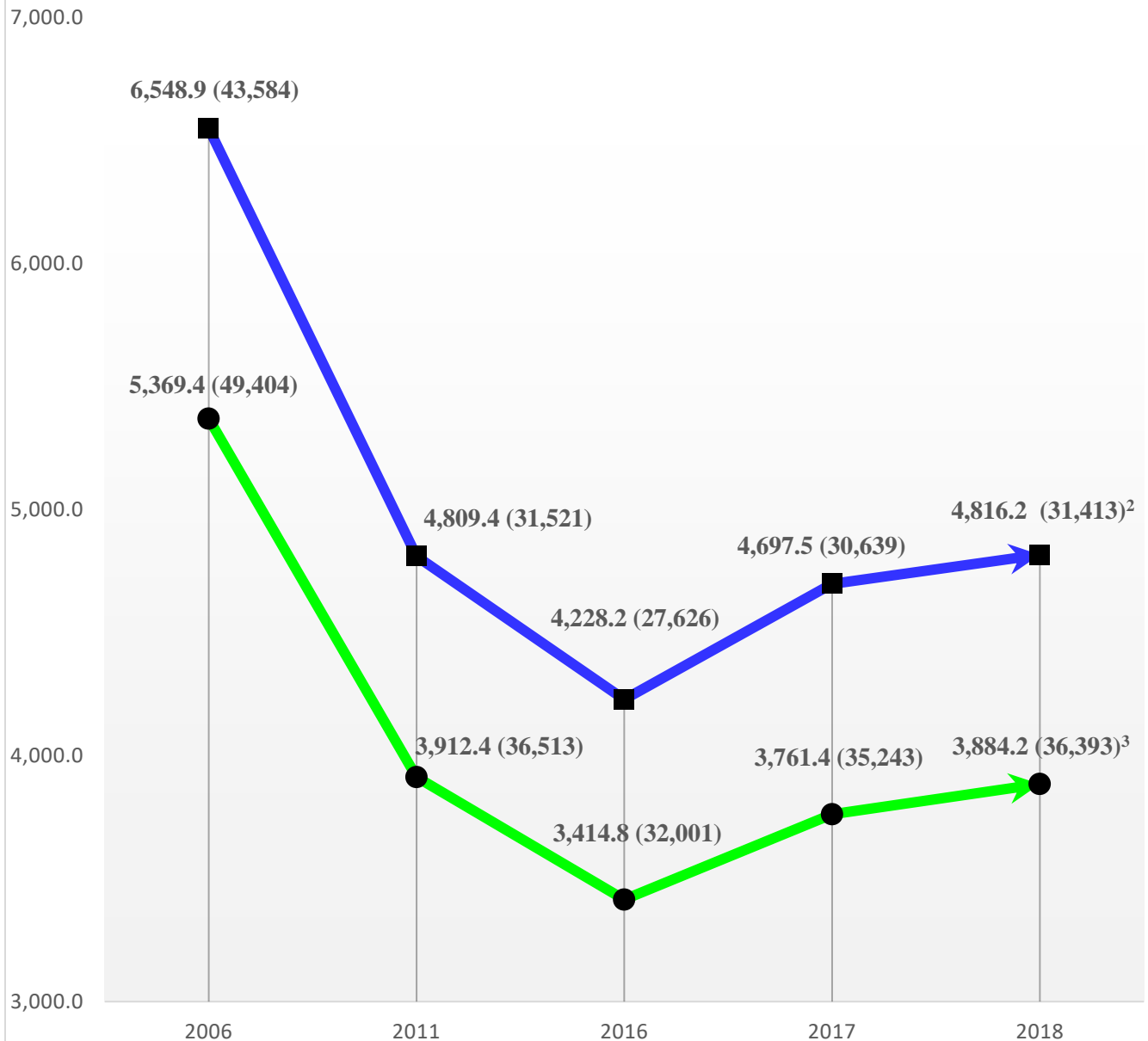
Source: Tennessee Bureau of Investigation (TBI). The 2018 TBI figures are preliminary.

<sup>2</sup> The 2018 figure is a decrease of 6.8 percent from 2006 and a decrease of 3.0 percent from 2017 in the city of Memphis.

<sup>3</sup> The 2018 figure is a decrease of 7.6 percent from 2006 and a decrease of 1.8 percent from 2017 in all of Shelby County.

# **MAJOR PROPERTY CRIME** **JANUARY - SEPTEMBER** **Rates Per 100,000 Population** **(and Raw Numbers)<sup>1</sup>**

■ City of Memphis    ● All of Shelby County



<sup>1</sup> Includes burglaries, motor vehicle thefts, and other felony thefts.

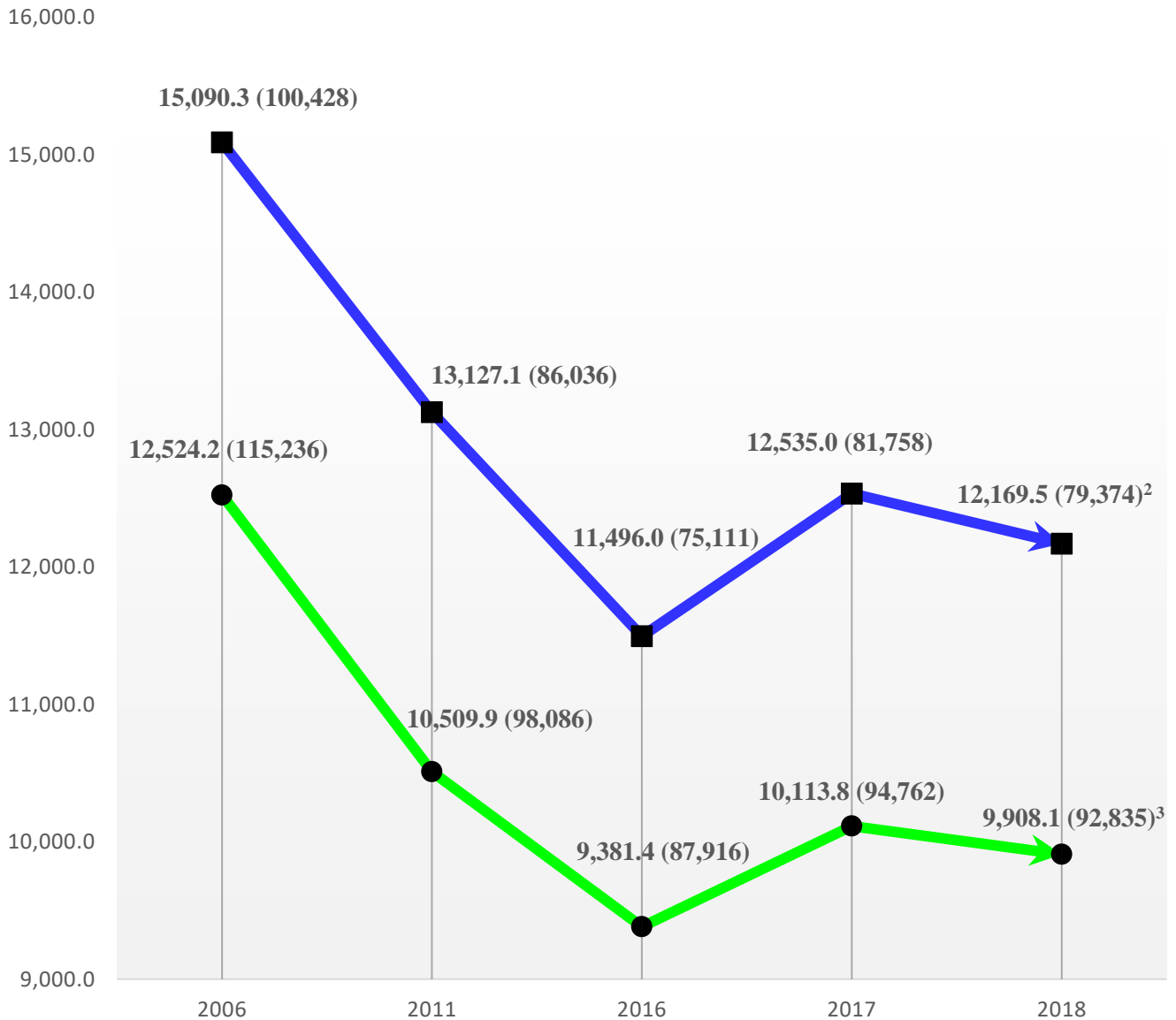
Source: Tennessee Bureau of Investigation (TBI). The 2018 TBI figures are preliminary.

<sup>2</sup> The 2018 figure is a 26.5 percent decrease from 2006 and a 2.5 percent increase from 2017 in the city of Memphis.

<sup>3</sup> The 2018 figure is a 27.7 percent decrease from 2006 and a 3.3 percent increase from 2017 in all of Shelby County.

# OVERALL CRIME JANUARY - SEPTEMBER Rates Per 100,000 Population (and Raw Numbers)<sup>1</sup>

■ City of Memphis    ● All of Shelby County



<sup>1</sup> The overall crime rate is measured by 54 separate categories of “Group A crimes” tracked by the T.B.I.  
Source: Tennessee Bureau of Investigation (TBI). The 2018 TBI figures are preliminary.

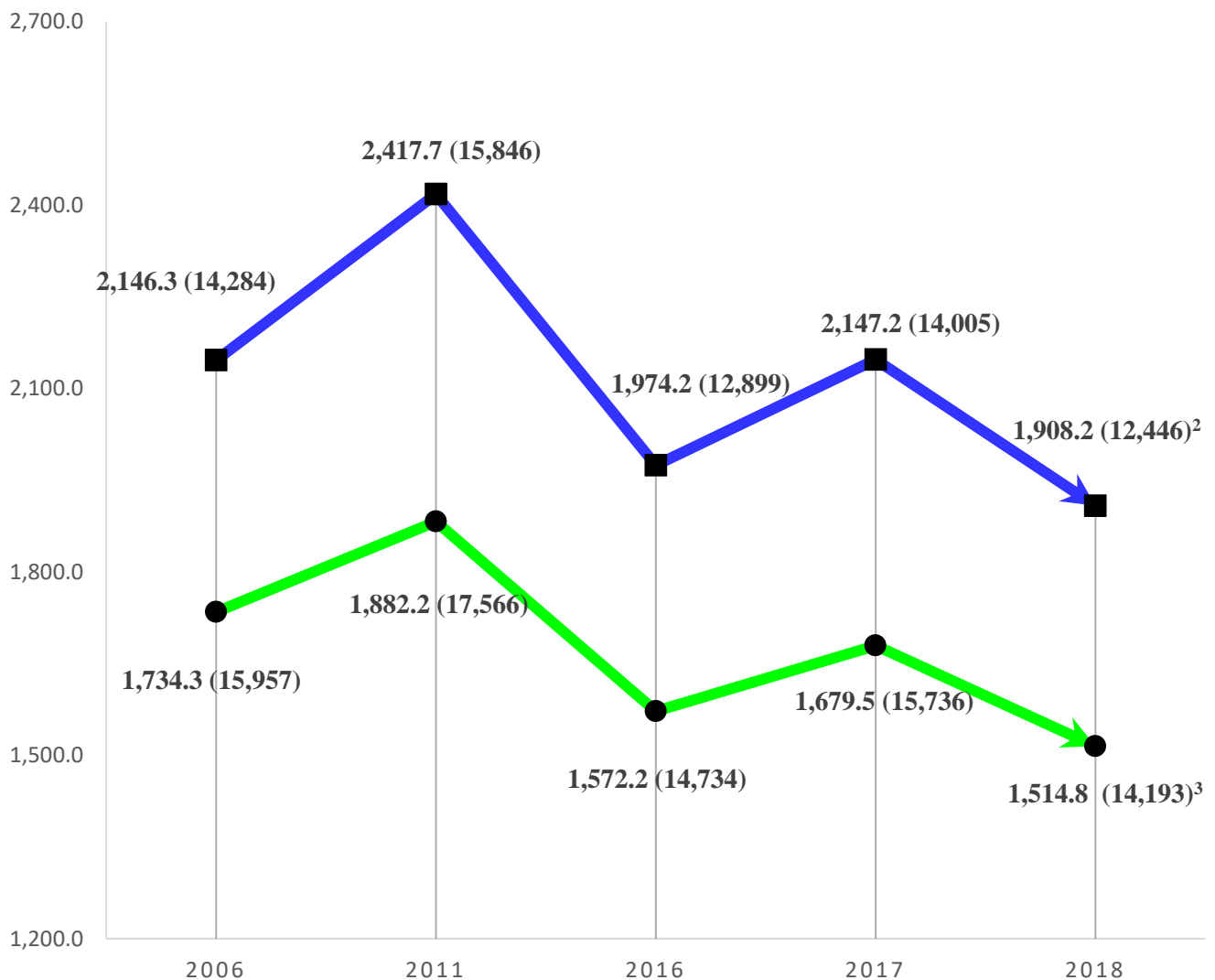
<sup>2</sup> The 2018 figure is a 19.4 percent decrease from 2006 and a 2.9 percent decrease from 2017 in the city of Memphis.

<sup>3</sup> The 2018 figure is a 20.9 percent decrease from 2006 and a 2.0 percent decrease from 2017 for all of Shelby County.



# REPORTED DOMESTIC VIOLENCE OFFENSES JANUARY - SEPTEMBER Rates per 100,000 Population (and Raw Numbers)<sup>1</sup>

■ City of Memphis      ● All of Shelby County



<sup>1</sup> Source: Tennessee Bureau of Investigation (TBI). The 2018 TBI figures are preliminary.

<sup>2</sup> The 2018 figure is a decrease of 11.1 percent from 2006 and a decrease of 11.1 percent from 2017 in the city of Memphis.

<sup>3</sup> The 2018 figure is a decrease of 12.7 percent from 2006 and a decrease of 9.8 percent from 2017 in all of Shelby County.

**Table 2.2 Memphis, TN: Crime Rates: 2006, 2011, 2016, 2017, & 2018**

Operation Safe Community - Monthly Crime Trend Report									
Memphis, TN - TIBRS <sup>1</sup> GROUP A OFFENSES									
CRIME RATES (Offenses per 100,000 Population*)									
January 1 - September 30, 2006, 2011, 2016, 2017, & 2018									
Selected Offenses of Interest									
Offense Type	2006	2011	2016	2017	2018	% Change 2006-18	% Change 2011-18	% Change 2016-18	% Change 2017-18
Murder	18.2	13.4	21.9	20.9	17.2	-5.6%	27.9%	-21.5%	-17.6%
Rape <sup>2</sup>	60.9	61.5	64.7	70.8	58.0	-4.8%	-5.7%	-10.5%	-18.2%
Aggravated Assault <sup>3</sup>	909.4	798.4	932.6	1049.2	1068.6	17.5%	33.8%	14.6%	1.9%
Robbery	609.6	341.3	371.6	394.6	345.7	-43.3%	1.3%	-7.0%	-12.4%
MAJOR VIOLENT CRIME <sup>2</sup>	1598.0	1214.7	1390.8	1535.5	1489.5	-6.8%	22.6%	7.1%	-3.0%
Burglary	1874.9	1432.5	1045.5	1064.0	957.0	-49.0%	-33.2%	-8.5%	-10.1%
Theft Offenses	3914.1	2985.3	2822.8	3178.8	3350.0	-14.4%	12.2%	18.7%	5.4%
Motor Vehicle Theft	759.9	391.5	360.0	454.7	509.2	-33.0%	30.1%	41.4%	12.0%
MAJOR PROPERTY CRIME	6548.9	4809.4	4228.2	4697.5	4816.2	-26.5%	0.1%	13.9%	2.5%
Simple Assault <sup>4</sup>	2514.2	2753.9	2073.1	2143.7	1991.2	-20.8%	-27.7%	-4.0%	-7.1%
Drug/Narcotic Violations <sup>5</sup>	563.9	603.9	416.6	396.9	395.1	-29.9%	-34.6%	-5.2%	-0.5%
Weapon Law Violations <sup>5</sup>	167.8	159.9	125.7	146.7	150.3	-10.5%	-6.0%	19.6%	2.4%
Domestic Violence	2146.3	2417.7	1974.2	2147.2	1908.2	-11.1%	-21.1%	-3.3%	-11.1%
Total Group A Offenses	15090.3	13127.1	11496.0	12535.0	12169.5	-19.4%	-7.3%	5.9%	-2.9%

\* Population figures are based on 2006, 2011, 2016, and 2017 Census Estimates. The latest estimates available, 2017 Estimates, are used to calculate rates for 2017 and 2018.

POPULATION	2006	2011	2016	2017	2018
	665,512	655,407	653,369	652,236	652,236

**Table 2.1 Memphis, TN: Number of Offenses: 2006, 2011, 2016, 2017, & 2018**

Operation Safe Community - Monthly Crime Trend Report									
Memphis, TN - TIBRS <sup>1</sup> GROUP A OFFENSES									
January 1 - September 30, 2006, 2011, 2016, 2017, & 2018									
Selected Offenses of Interest									
Offense Type	2006	2011	2016	2017	2018	% Change 2006-18	% Change 2011-18	% Change 2016-18	% Change 2017-18
Murder	121	88	143	136	112	-7.4%	27.3%	-21.7%	-17.6%
Rape <sup>2</sup>	405	403	423	462	378	-6.7%	-6.2%	-10.6%	-18.2%
Aggravated Assault <sup>3</sup>	6,052	5,233	6,093	6,843	6,970	15.2%	33.2%	14.4%	1.9%
Robbery	4,057	2,237	2,428	2,574	2,255	-44.4%	0.8%	-7.1%	-12.4%
MAJOR VIOLENT CRIME <sup>3</sup>	10,635	7,961	9,087	10,015	9,715	-8.7%	22.0%	6.9%	-3.0%
Burglary	12,478	9,389	6,831	6,940	6,242	-50.0%	-33.5%	-8.6%	-10.1%
Theft Offenses	26,049	19,566	18,443	20,733	21,850	-16.1%	11.7%	18.5%	5.4%
Motor Vehicle Theft	5,057	2,566	2,352	2,966	3,321	-34.3%	29.4%	41.2%	12.0%
MAJOR PROPERTY CRIME	43,584	31,521	27,626	30,639	31,413	-27.9%	-0.3%	13.7%	2.5%
Simple Assault <sup>4</sup>	16,732	18,049	13,545	13,982	12,987	-22.4%	-28.0%	-4.1%	-7.1%
Drug/Narcotic Violations <sup>5</sup>	3,753	3,958	2,722	2,589	2,577	-31.3%	-34.9%	-5.3%	-0.5%
Weapon Law Violations <sup>5</sup>	1,117	1,048	821	957	980	-12.3%	-6.5%	19.4%	2.4%
Domestic Violence	14,284	15,846	12,899	14,005	12,446	-12.9%	-21.5%	-3.5%	-11.1%
Total Group A Offenses	100,428	86,036	75,111	81,758	79,374	-21.0%	-7.7%	5.7%	-2.9%

**Table 1.2 Shelby County, TN: Crime Rates: 2006, 2011, 2016, 2017, & 2018**

Operation Safe Community - Monthly Crime Trend Report									
Shelby County, TN - TIBRS <sup>1</sup> GROUP A OFFENSES									
CRIME RATES (Offenses per 100,000 Population*)									
January 1 - September 30, 2006, 2011, 2016, 2017, & 2018									
Selected Offenses of Interest									
Offense Type	2006	2011	2016	2017	2018	% Change 2006-18	% Change 2011-18	% Change 2016-18	% Change 2017-18
Murder	13.3	10.1	16.9	14.7	12.6	-5.0%	25.0%	-25.3%	-14.5%
Rape <sup>2</sup>	49.3	49.3	51.2	55.9	46.6	-5.5%	-5.4%	-8.9%	-16.6%
Aggravated Assault <sup>3</sup>	711.2	609.9	716.9	801.8	824.3	15.9%	35.1%	15.0%	2.8%
Robbery	455.5	246.9	271.0	284.8	252.6	-44.5%	2.3%	-6.8%	-11.3%
MAJOR VIOLENT CRIME <sup>3</sup>	1229.3	916.1	1056.0	1157.3	1136.1	-7.6%	24.0%	7.6%	-1.8%
Burglary	1518.2	1129.2	814.7	818.2	752.0	-50.5%	-33.4%	-7.7%	-8.1%
Theft Offenses	3254.2	2479.9	2314.8	2593.0	2727.6	-16.2%	10.0%	17.8%	5.2%
Motor Vehicle Theft	597.0	303.3	285.2	350.3	404.5	-32.2%	33.3%	41.8%	15.5%
MAJOR PROPERTY CRIME	5369.4	3912.4	3414.8	3761.4	3884.2	-27.7%	-0.7%	13.7%	3.3%
Simple Assault <sup>4</sup>	2070.7	2155.0	1694.2	1734.3	1634.5	-21.1%	-24.2%	-3.5%	-5.8%
Drug/Narcotic Violations <sup>5</sup>	555.0	524.0	406.7	389.0	410.9	-26.0%	-21.6%	1.0%	5.6%
Weapon Law Violations <sup>5</sup>	143.4	129.1	113.8	129.7	133.3	-7.0%	3.2%	17.2%	2.8%
Domestic Violence	1734.3	1882.2	1572.2	1679.5	1514.8	-12.7%	-19.5%	-3.7%	-9.8%
Total Group A Offenses	12524.2	10509.9	9381.4	10113.8	9908.1	-20.9%	-5.7%	5.6%	-2.0%

\* Population figures are based on 2006, 2011, 2016, and 2017 Census Estimates. The latest estimates available, 2017 Estimates, are used to calculate rates for 2017 and 2018.

POPULATION	2006	2011	2016	2017	2018
	920,106	933,268	937,130	936,961	936,961

**Table 1.1 Shelby County, TN: Number of Offenses: 2006, 2011, 2016, 2017, & 2018**

Operation Safe Community - Monthly Crime Trend Report									
Shelby County, TN - TIBRS <sup>1</sup> GROUP A OFFENSES									
January 1 - September 30, 2006, 2011, 2016, 2017, & 2018									
Selected Offenses of Interest									
Offense Type	2006	2011	2016	2017	2018	% Change 2006-18	% Change 2011-18	% Change 2016-18	% Change 2017-18
Murder	122	94	158	138	118	-3.3%	25.5%	-25.3%	-14.5%
Rape <sup>2</sup>	454	460	480	524	437	-3.7%	-5.0%	-9.0%	-16.6%
Aggravated Assault <sup>3</sup>	6,544	5,692	6,718	7,513	7,723	18.0%	35.7%	15.0%	2.8%
Robbery	4,191	2,304	2,540	2,668	2,367	-43.5%	2.7%	-6.8%	-11.3%
MAJOR VIOLENT CRIME <sup>2</sup>	11,311	8,550	9,896	10,843	10,645	-5.9%	24.5%	7.6%	-1.8%
Burglary	13,969	10,538	7,635	7,666	7,046	-49.6%	-33.1%	-7.7%	-8.1%
Theft Offenses	29,942	23,144	21,693	24,295	25,557	-14.6%	10.4%	17.8%	5.2%
Motor Vehicle Theft	5,493	2,831	2,673	3,282	3,790	-31.0%	33.9%	41.8%	15.5%
MAJOR PROPERTY CRIME	49,404	36,513	32,001	35,243	36,393	-26.3%	-0.3%	13.7%	3.3%
Simple Assault <sup>4</sup>	19,053	20,112	15,877	16,250	15,315	-19.6%	-23.9%	-3.5%	-5.8%
Drug/Narcotic Violations <sup>5</sup>	5,107	4,890	3,811	3,645	3,850	-24.6%	-21.3%	1.0%	5.6%
Weapon Law Violations <sup>5</sup>	1,319	1,205	1,066	1,215	1,249	-5.3%	3.7%	17.2%	2.8%
Domestic Violence	15,957	17,566	14,734	15,736	14,193	-11.1%	-19.2%	-3.7%	-9.8%
Total Group A Offenses	115,236	98,086	87,916	94,762	92,835	-19.4%	-5.4%	5.6%	-2.0%