



Gaithersburg Police Department



2017 ANNUAL CRIME ANALYSIS REPORT

CHANGE FROM UNIFORM CRIME REPORTING (UCR) SUMMARY TO NATIONAL INCIDENT-BASED REPORTING SYSTEM (NIBRS)

The Montgomery County Police Department (MCPD) has historically reported its crime data following the FBI's Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Summary guidelines, in which only total counts of specific incident classifications are reported. Beginning January 1, 2017, MCPD began reporting details about its individual crime incidents through the FBI's National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS). Under NIBRS, MCPD records all offenses associated with an incident, rather than only the most severe offense, which provides greater specificity in reporting (greater capability to break data into more categories). Since MCPD is the custodian of records for the Gaithersburg Police Department (GPD) we will be reporting under NIBRS as well. There were several technical challenges during this process and a period of quality assurance testing on the new format, which delayed reporting in 2017. Under the National Crime Statistics Exchange program, or NCS-X, the Montgomery County Police Department is the first law enforcement agency in Maryland to report under NIBRS. The FBI has ordered all law enforcement agencies across the country to report NIBRS data by 2021.

Under UCR, agencies only report the most serious index offense per incident of crime (the hierarchy rule). For example, if there was an incident where an individual broke into a house and assaulted the resident prior to stealing their car, this incident would have only been counted as an assault. Using NIBRS, this particular example would lead to three separate offenses being reported, one in each category of assault, burglary, and auto theft.

With the change in reporting, MCPD had to restructure its internal business analytics processes. Under NIBRS, the department collects and reports incident and arrest data on 52 Group A offenses and 10 Group B offenses. Within the Group A category, incidents are further categorized as crimes against person, property, and society. The County did not start NIBRS reporting until July of 2016; therefore, the first two quarters of 2016 only captured one offense based on the previous UCR hierarchy rule. Some crimes against property may have had secondary offenses which officers would not have captured during that time period on their reports. Under crimes against persons, there are several important points that should be made regarding the offenses in this category.

Intimidation, which is a type of assault and is defined as *unlawfully placing another person in reasonable fear of bodily harm through the use of threatening words and/or other conduct but without displaying a weapon or subjecting the victim to actual physical attack*, was not an offense recorded under UCR but is now captured under NIBRS.

Also, the numbers reported as rape under UCR included the offenses of sodomy and sexual assault with an object. Under NIBRS, these offenses are separate, so you will see an increase in the number of offenses for sodomy and sexual assault with an object.

Under crimes against property the offense of "identity theft", which would have been captured in previous years with a report type of "fraud", is now being reported separately.

For more information about NIBRS visit the FBI website at <https://ucr.fbi.gov/nibrs-overview>.

GPD ANNUAL GROUP A OFFENSES

Offense Category		NIBRS Description	2016	2017	% Diff
CRIMES AGAINST PERSON					
	Assault Offenses	Aggravated Assault	68	73	7.4%
		Simple Assault	450	432	-4.0%
		Intimidation	3	13	333.3%
<i>Total Assault Offenses</i>			521	518	-0.6%
	Homicide Offenses	Murder and Nonnegligent Manslaughter	2	1	-50.0%
	Human Trafficking	Human Trafficking, Commercial Sex Acts	0	3	N/C
	Kidnapping/Abduction	Kidnapping/Abduction	0	0	0.0%
	Sex Offenses	Forcible Rape	17	23	35.3%
		Forcible Sodomy	2	16	700.0%
		Sexual Assault With An Object	0	8	N/C
		Fondling	31	14	-54.8%
		Forcible Fondling	13	9	-30.8%
<i>Total Sex Offenses</i>			63	70	11.1%
Total Crimes Against Person			586	592	1.0%
CRIMES AGAINST PROPERTY					
	Arson	Arson	3	11	266.7%
	Bribery	Bribery	0	0	0.0%
	Burglary/Breaking & Entering	Burglary/Breaking and Entering	117	121	3.4%
	Counterfeiting/Forgery	Counterfeiting/Forgery	47	51	8.5%
	Destruction/Damage/ Vandalism of Property	Destruction/Damage/ Vandalism of Property	303	370	22.1%
	Embezzlement	Embezzlement	7	11	57.1%
	Extortion/Blackmail	Extortion/Blackmail	2	0	-100.0%
	Fraud Offenses	False Pretenses/Swindle/ Confidence Game	74	62	-16.2%
		Credit Card/Automatic Teller Machine Fraud	70	81	15.7%
		Impersonation	95	48	-49.5%
		Welfare Fraud	0	0	0.0%
		Wire Fraud	4	2	-50.0%
		Identity Theft	0	39	N/C
<i>Total Fraud Offenses</i>			243	232	-4.5%
	Larceny/Theft Offenses	Pocket/picking	9	11	22.2%
		Purse-snatching	6	4	-33.3%
		Shoplifting	418	365	-12.7%
		Theft from Building	272	235	-13.6%
		From Coin/ Operated Machine or Device	0	3	N/C
		Theft From Motor Vehicle	288	298	3.5%
		Theft of Motor Vehicle Parts or Accessories	80	66	-17.5%
		All Other Larceny	238	193	-18.9%
<i>Total Larceny/Theft Offenses</i>			1,311	1,175	-10.4%
	Motor Vehicle Theft	Motor Vehicle Theft	69	53	-23.2%
	Robbery	Robbery	51	50	-2.0%
	Stolen Property Offenses	Stolen Property Offenses	9	4	-55.6%
Total Crimes Against Property			2,162	2,078	-3.9%
CRIMES AGAINST SOCIETY					
	Drug/Narcotic Violations	Drug/Narcotic Violations	613	641	4.6%
		Drug Equipment Violations	58	59	1.7%
<i>Total Drug/Narcotic Violations</i>			671	700	4.3%
	Gambling Offenses	Betting/Wagering	0	0	0.0%
		Operating/Promoting/ Assisting Gambling	0	0	0.0%
<i>Total Gambling Offenses</i>			0	0	0.0%
	Pornography/Obscene Material	Pornography/Obscene Material	2	1	-50.0%
	Prostitution Offenses	Prostitution	9	9	0.0%
		Assisting or Promoting Prostitution	2	0	-100.0%
<i>Total Prostitution Offenses</i>			11	9	-18.2%
	Weapon Law Violations	Weapon Law Violations	40	34	-15.0%
Total Crimes Against Society			724	744	2.8%
TOTAL	Group A Offenses		3,472	3,414	-1.7%

Source: NIBRS data pulled from the MCPD dashboard on 01/30/2018

Crimes against persons, which includes offenses such as homicide, assaults and sex offenses, increased 1.0% from 586 offenses in 2016 to 592 offenses in 2017. Of the 73 reported aggravated assault offenses in 2017, 64 were by a known suspect. Of the 23 forcible rape offenses, 18 were by known suspects.

Crimes against property, which includes offenses such as burglary, robbery, thefts and vandalisms, decreased 3.9% from 2,162 offenses in 2016 to 2,078 offenses in 2017.

Crimes against society, which includes offenses such as drugs and weapons, increased 2.8% from 724 offenses in 2016 to 744 offenses in 2017. The primary reason for this increase is that there were 29 more drug/narcotic violations this year.

Overall, there was a 1.7% decrease in Group A offenses from 3,472 offenses in 2016 to 3,414 offenses in 2017.