Annual Crime Report

For 2017

****

**Table of Contents**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Topic** | **Page #** |
| **Executive Summary** | 3 |
| **Introduction** | 4 |
| Data Source | 4 |
| Group A Crimes | 5 |
| Factors Affecting Crime | 6 |
| Intended Use | 6 |
| **Violent Crime** | 7 |
| Murder and Non-negligent Homicide | 8 |
| Forcible Rape | 9 |
| Robbery | 10 |
| Aggravated Assault | 11 |
| Division of Assaults | 12 |
| **Property Crime** | 16 |
| Burglary | 18 |
| Larceny - Thefts | 19 |
| Motor Vehicle Thefts | 20 |
| **Gulfport Police Communications Center** | 21 |
| **Traffic Data** | 25 |
| **Citation** | 29 |
| **DUI Data** | 30 |
| **Alcohol related crashes** | 31 |
| **Ten Year Charts** | 32 |
|  |  |

**Executive Summary:**

The Gulfport Police Communications Center fielded **148,040** calls for service during 2017 compared to the **136,127** calls for service in 2016. This represents a **9%** increase in calls for service from the previous year.

Documented police reports increased slightly by **4%** in 2017 with **16,999** reportsbeing takenby officers compared to only **16,370** reports being documented in 2016.

Violent Crimes, *defined by the Federal Bureau of Investigation’s as Murder, Forcible Rape, Robbery, and Aggravated Assault*, increased **27%** in 2017. This is a **56%** increase compared to the previous five year average. More specifically, Homicides increased **10%** with eleven (**11**) being reported in 2017 compared to the ten (**10**) reported homicides reported in 2016. Homicides also increased **83%** percent when compared to the five year average.

Aggravated Assaults increased by **78%** compared to 2016 and increased **118%** compared to the previous five-year average. This increase is a result of drive by shootings involving multiple victims inside the dwelling at the time.

Robberies are down **17%** in 2017 compared to the same time period in 2016 and have decreased by **2%** overall compared to the previous five-year average. Reported Forcible Rapes increased **12%** when compared to 2016 and increased by **52%** compared to the previous five year average.

Property crimes, *of burglary, larceny, and auto theft*, decreased **3%** when compared to 2016 and increased by **1%** when compared to the previous five-year average. Auto Theft is showing a **21%** increase from the previous year and also increased by **40%** in comparison to the five year average. Larcenies decreased slightly by **3%** compared to 2016 but increased only by **4%** in the previous five year comparison. Burglaries indicated a **12%** decrease when compared to 2016 and a **19%** decrease when compared to the previous five-year average.



**Introduction**

**Data Source**

On a national level, statistical information about crime is collected and reported in two ways. The first way is through the **Uniform Crime Reporting Program**. The UCR program is a nationwide, cooperative statistical effort of more than 17,000 city, university and college, county, state, tribal, and federal law enforcement agencies voluntarily reporting data on crimes brought to their attention. Since 1930, the FBI has administered the UCR program and continued to assess and monitor the nature and type of crime in the nation. The program's primary objective is to generate reliable information for use in law enforcement administration, operation, and management; however, its data has over the years become one of the country's leading social indicators. Criminologists, sociologists, legislators, municipal planners, the media, and other students of criminal justice use the data for varied research and planning purposes.

*In 2010 the Gulfport Police Department became the first law enforcement agency in the state of Mississippi certified by the FBI to report crime statistics using the* ***National Incident Based Reporting System or NIBRS****.* This allows for a more timely reporting method that is software driven and reported directly to the FBI. Based on this, the Gulfport Police Department will be using NIBRS for all future crime reporting. The crime numbers represented in this report were sent to the FBI on **01/08/2018**. These are crimes reported in 2017 and, as investigations develop new information, are subject to change. *More information on NIBRS reporting can be found on the Gulfport Police Department website at* **www.gulfportpolice.net**

While we recognize that many crimes go unreported to law enforcement authorities, on a local level, we do not have the resources to collect that data. As a result, the information in this report is based solely on crimes that were reported to the NIBRS program.

Reports released by the Gulfport Police Department previously have been scored using the UCR program which is limited reporting information compared to NIBRS. For this report we will compare the two major crime categories of Violent Crimes and Property Crimes to previous periods. Murder, Forcible Rape, Robbery, and Aggravated assault will be considered as violent crimes. The category of Property crimes will contain Burglary, Larceny, and Auto theft.

In this report the reader will find the use of Group A Crimes. These have been defined by the FBI as: *Arson, Assault offenses, Bribery, Burglary/breaking and entering, Counterfeiting/forgery, Destruction/damage/vandalism of property, Drug/narcotic offenses, Embezzlement, Extortion/blackmail, Fraud offenses, Gambling offenses, Homicide offenses, Kidnapping/abduction, Larceny/theft offenses, Motor vehicle theft, Pornography/obscene material, Prostitution offenses, Robbery, Sex offenses (forcible and non-forcible), Stolen property offenses, and Weapon law violations*.

***Group A Crimes:***

For the calendar year of 2017, Group A crimes have increased **9%** from 2016 and also increased by **34%** when compared to the previous 5 year average.



**Factors Affecting Crime**

It is generally assumed the reader of this report understands that many factors affect crime in a community. Some factors which are known to affect the volume and type of crime are:

1. Population density
2. Variations in composition of the population
3. Stability of population with respect to resident’s mobility, commuting patterns, and transient factors.
4. Economic conditions, including median income, poverty level, and job availability.
5. Cultural factors and educational, recreational, and religious characteristics.
6. Family conditions with respect to divorce and family cohesiveness.
7. Effective strength of law enforcement agencies.
8. Policies of other components of the criminal justice system.
9. Citizens’ attitudes toward crime
10. Crime reporting practices of the citizenry.

With regard to the effective strength of law enforcement, the reader should consider that an agency that significantly increases its enforcement efforts might see an increase in reported crime instead of a decrease.

As a result of the numerous factors that affect reported crime, this report will be limited to presenting only the numbers of specific crimes reported. We will not try to draw a correlation between the volume of crimes reported and any other social factor. Furthermore, the reader should use great caution against comparing crime trends presented in this report and those of other jurisdictions. Finally, the differences in methodology for gathering data make it unwise to compare the Uniform Crime Report to the National Crime Victimization Survey.

**Intended Use**

The purpose of this report is to present the reader with a larger picture of crime as it is reported within the city limits of Gulfport, MS. ***We will look specifically at public safety issues during calendar year 2017 and compare them to past periods.***

***Violent Crimes:*** *(Homicide, Forcible Rape, Robbery, and Aggravated Assault****)***

Violent Crimes comprised only **3%** of all reported Group “A” crimes in 2017. Violent crimes increased **27%** from the previous year and **56%** compared to the previous five-year average



***Homicide:***

In 2017, there were eleven (11) homicides reported which was a 10% increase from the previous year. Homicides over the previous five years have increased by **83%**.



***Forcible Rape:***

Forcible Rapes in 2017 increased by **12%** from 2016 and increased by **52%** when comparing the same reported crimes to the previous five-year average.



***Robbery:***

During this reporting period, Robbery decreased by **17%** from 2016 and decreased by **2%** when compared to the previous five year average.



***Aggravated Assaults:***

Aggravated Assaults in 2017 increased by **78%** compared to the previous year and showed an increase of **118%** compared to the previous five year average.



***Division of Assaults:***

**Definitions**

Assaults in this section are comprised of three types:

1. Aggravated assault (*cumulative totals found in Violent Crimes*)
2. Domestic Violence
3. Simple Assault

***Total Physical Assaults:***

Total assaults, *which include Aggravated Assault, Simple Assault and Domestic Violence,* were up **4%** in 2017when compared to 2016. When compared to the previous five-year average, total assaults were down by **5%**.



***Simple Assaults:***

Simple Assaults increased **3%** in 2017 when compared to 2016 but decreased by **23%** when compared to the previous five-year average.



***Domestic Assaults:***

Domestic violence assaults decreased **4%** from 2016 but have increased by **11%** when compared to the previous five-year average.



***Property Crimes:***

**Definition**

Property crime includes the offenses of:

1. Burglary
2. Larceny-theft
3. Motor vehicle theft

The object of the theft-type offenses is the taking of money or property, but there is no force or threat of force against the victims. Although arson is a crime that involves the destruction of property, we will not include it in this section.

***Total Property Crimes:***

In 2017, property crimes decreased by **3**%. However; there was an increase of **1%** when compared to the previous five year average.



The trend line below shows an upward trend of property crimes in the past 24 months.

***Burglary:***

Burglaries decreased **12%** compared to 2016 and have continued to decrease by **18%** when compared to the previous five year average.



***Larceny:***

Larcenies decreased in 2017 by **3%** but increased by **4%** whencompared to the previous five year average.



***Auto Theft:***

Auto thefts showed an increase of **21%** this year and have also increased by **40%** when compared to the previous five year average.



***Gulfport Police Communications Center:***

**Definition**

911 phone calls - Any phone call coming into the Center on one of four designated E911 phone lines

Admin phone calls - Any phone call coming into the Center through one of seven standard seven digit local phone lines.

***Calls for Service***

During 2017, The Communications Center of the Gulfport Police Department fielded a total of **148,040** calls for service. That represents a **9%** increase when compared to 2016 and a **7%** increase when comparing to the previous five year average.



***Officer Initiated Calls for Service:***

Calls for Service that originated from a Police Officer increased by **18%** in 2017. On the five year comparison, these calls for service increased by **5%.**



***Citizen Initiated Calls for Service:***

Calls for Service at the request of the general public increased by **1%** when compared to 2016. On the five year comparison, these calls for service showed an increase of **10%**.



***Traffic Data:***

Total crashes for 2017 decreased by **2%** when compared to 2016 but increased by **9%** when compared to the previous five-year average.



***Property Damage Only Crashes:***

Property damage crashes decreased by **3%** this year when compared to the previous year. And property damage crashes increased by **11%** when compared to the previous five-year average.



***Crashes with Injuries:***

Crashes involving injuries decreased by **6%** during 2017 but increased by **4%** when comparing these crashes to the previous five-year average.



***Fatality Crashes:***

In 2017, fatal traffic crashes decreased by **38**%. The previous five year average reflected a **17%** decrease.



***Citations:***

Officer initiated traffic citations decreased by **19%** this year when compared to 2016 and decreased by **18%** compared to the five-year average.



***DUI Arrests:***

DUI arrests increased by **11%** this past year. Overall, DUI arrests showed a **4%** decrease when compared to the previous five-year average.



***Alcohol related crashes:***

Alcohol related crashes this year increased by **22%** when compared to last year. A decrease in alcohol related crashes also decreased by **19%** when compared to the previous five year average. Alcohol related crashes made up **2**% of all crashes in the City of Gulfport for 2017.

