



Goal 2: Public Safety

Desired Community Condition: Residents are safe from crimes against persons and property.



Indicator: **Serious Crimes against Persons**

Progress Rating: **Local Trend: POSITIVE** **Regional Comparison: WORSE**

Indicator Description

In October of each year the FBI compiles the Uniform Crime Report (UCR), preceded in June by preliminary UCR data. In these reports the FBI tabulates selected crime statistics for jurisdictions across the United States. The selected crimes are considered the most serious and are divided into two categories, crimes against persons and crimes against property. Part 1 crimes against persons are: homicide, rape, robbery, and aggravated assault. The FBI uses the U.S. Census population estimate to calculate the crime rate, which is available through 2002. In the preliminary UCR, the FBI publishes data for cities that have reported, but the preliminary UCR does not include a population estimate for the jurisdictions. Therefore, the crime rate for 2003 was calculated using 2002 population estimates and is a preliminary rate. In 1995, assault was redefined. Simple assaults were excluded, leaving aggravated assaults as a Part I crime. In 1994, the Albuquerque Police Department only reported a partial year to the FBI; therefore, statistics for Albuquerque do not appear in the UCR for 1994.

Why is this indicator important?

Violent crime is an important indicator of community health and well-being. Violent crime is the type of crime the citizenry fears most and has a direct impact on the perceived “livability” of a city. From 1999 to 2002, approximately 50% of the assaults and batteries in Albuquerque involved household members. This indicator is linked with indicators of perceptions of safety, which are generally in line with the actual crime rates. That is, in those Community Planning Areas where larger percentages of survey respondents feel very safe is also where the crime rate is the lowest.

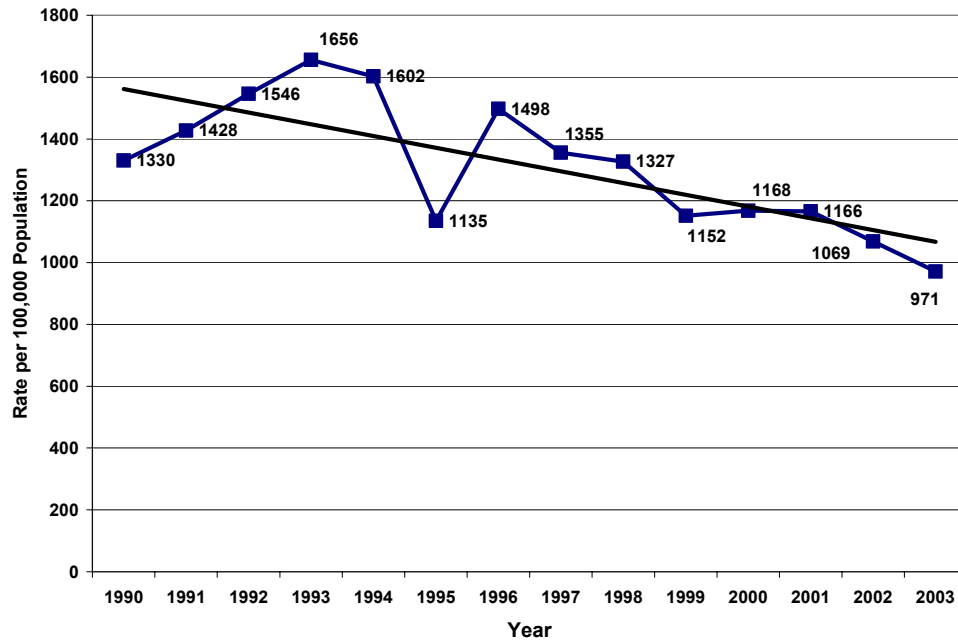
Data Sources

FBI Uniform Crime Report 1990-2002; FBI preliminary Uniform Crime Report 2003; Albuquerque Police Department

What can we tell from the data?

- There was a 9.2% decrease in the violent crime rate from 2002 to 2003.
- Since 1998, there has been a 26.9% decrease in the violent crime rate in Albuquerque. Nationwide, the violent crime rate has decreased 16.1% since 1998.
- While Albuquerque’s Crimes Against Persons Crime rate has decreased at a much greater rate than most regional cities, it is still more than double the national rate and higher than other cities in the region.

UCR Part 1 Crimes against Persons Crime Rate for Albuquerque 1990-2003**



Number of UCR Part 1 Crimes against Persons 1990-2003

Category	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
Homicide	34	51	42	50	48	53	70	49	37	48	33	34	51	51
Rape	222	261	294	259	288	296	375	270	219	220	239	219	293	263
Robbery	1030	1307	1460	1552	1434	1623	1998	1729	1693	1667	1547	1610	1295	1080
Aggravated Assault	3835	3972	4372	4835	4827	2759	3824	3629	3614	3320	3317	3396	3250	3045
Total Crimes Against Persons	5121	5591	6168	6696	6597	4731	6267	5677	5563	4839	5136	5259	4889	4439
Pop. (000s)	385	392	399	404	412	417	418	419	419	420	440	451	457	457
Crime Rate*	1330	1428	1546	1656	1602	1135	1498	1355	1327	1152	1168	1166	1069	970**

UCR Part 1 Crimes against Persons Crime Rate for Regional Cities

Jurisdiction	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003**
Albuquerque	1327	1152	1168	1166	1069	970
El Paso	700	686	690	761	661	594
Fort Worth	870	851	730	707	758	637
Oklahoma City	996	859	809	824	822	906
Tucson	1034	914	906	958	909	910

* Rate per 100,000 population

** Preliminary crime rate