

DC CITY CRIME

The Biden DOJ and Washington D.C. leaders have touted a drastic decrease in violent crime in the capital over the past several years. However, there have been multiple reports that the Metropolitan Police Department has been falsifying crime data.

Did you know?...

- D.C. Mayor Muriel Bowser recently claimed that [“we are not experiencing a spike in crime”](#) and “in fact, we’re watching our crime numbers go down.”
- The Trump White House has [stated](#) that Metro Police Department (MPD) leadership is allegedly “cooking the books” to make crime statistics appear more favorable than they are.
- [Carjackings](#) have increased by 547% between 2018 and 2023. Vehicle theft in D.C. is more than three times the national average.
- Washington Examiner reporter Anna Giaritelli, who was sexually assaulted in DC in 2020, explained in a recent op-ed how her case and potentially many other sexual assault cases were [deliberately left out](#) of the city’s crime statistics.



D.C. Homicide Rate Doubles in a Decade, Now Among Nation’s Highest

Washington, DC saw a homicide rate of 27.3 per 100,000 residents in 2024, which was the [fourth-highest homicide rate in the country](#), putting it above cities such as New York, Atlanta, and Chicago. In 2012, the homicide rate in Washington, D.C. was just 13.9 per 100,000 residents. If D.C. were a state, it would have the [highest homicide rate in the country](#).

DC City Crime

Executive Summary

The Biden DOJ and Washington D.C. leaders have touted a drastic decrease in violent crime in the capital over the past several years.

However, there have been multiple reports that The Metropolitan Police Department has been falsifying crime data by encouraging officers to either arrest for misdemeanors rather than felonies or to arrest for felonies that wouldn't be captured by D.C.'s daily crime statistics.

Biden's DOJ And D.C. Police Claim Crime Has Drastically Decreased In Recent Years

D.C. Mayor Muriel Bowser recently claimed that [“we are not experiencing a spike in crime”](#) and “in fact, we're watching our crime numbers go down.

- According to a press release from Biden's Department of Justice in early January 2025 prior to the inauguration of President Trump, overall violent crime in Washington DC reached a [30-year low](#) in 2024.
- The Metropolitan Police Department released data that showed criminal acts such as homicides, robberies, armed carjackings, and assaults with a dangerous weapon all saw [notable decreases](#) from 2023.
- Mayor Bowser has touted a [drastic reduction](#) in violent crime after a sharp spike upward in 2023. Local police data claimed violent crime is down 27% compared to this time last year.

The Justice Department Is Investigating Whether Washington D.C. Manipulated Crime Data

In August 2025, [The Washington Post](#) reported that the Justice Department was investigating whether The Metropolitan Police Department had manipulated data to make crime rates appear lower. There have been multiple reports of officers being told to downgrade crimes so they would be classified as misdemeanors rather than felonies

- The Trump White House has [stated](#) that Metro Police Department (MPD) leadership are allegedly “cooking the books” to make crime statistics appear more favorable than they are.
 - Washington DC saw a homicide rate of 27.3 per 100,000 residents in 2024, which was the [fourth-highest homicide rate in the country](#)- putting it above cities such as New York, Atlanta, and Chicago. In 2012, the homicide rate in Washington, D.C. was just 13.9 per 100,000 residents. If D.C. were a state, it would have the [highest homicide rate in the country](#).
 - The number of [juveniles arrested](#) in D.C. has gone up each year since 2020. Juveniles also accounted for 51.8%, of all robbery arrests in 2024, and about 60% of all carjacking arrests made to date in 2025 are juveniles, according to the police department.
 - [Carjackings](#) have increased 547% between 2018 and 2023. Vehicle theft in D.C. is more than three times the national average.

- In May 2025, MPD suspended Commander Michael Pulliam after the police union accused the department of [deliberately falsifying](#) crime data.
 - The [federal investigation](#) is expected to go beyond and look at the actions of other local officials.
- According to DC Police Union Chairman Gregg Pemberton, officers responding to a scene of a felony offense such as a shooting or a stabbing are “inevitably” instructed by a lieutenant or captain to [take a report for a lesser offense](#).
 - Pemberton noted that felony assaulted is not listed as part of D.C.’s daily crime stats. He explained that changing a criminal charge from armed with a dangerous weapon to felony assault would [make it appear crime is falling](#) according to D.C.
- In 2020, former MPD sergeant Charlotte Djossou sued the department, alleging that leadership punished her for speaking out against them [misclassifying offenses](#) to deflate crime statistics.
 - Djossou accused leadership of attempting to “distort crime statistics” by [downgrading a number of felonies to misdemeanors](#) so fewer felonies would be listed. According to MPD emails, depositions, and phone call transcripts reviewed by the Washington Free Beacon, police brass [repeatedly](#) told officers to downgrade theft cases, knife attacks, and violent assaults to lesser offenses.
- Washington Examiner reporter Anna Giaritelli, who was sexually assaulted in DC in 2020, explained in a recent op-ed how her case and potentially many other sexual assault cases were [deliberately left out](#) from the city’s crime statistics.
 - Giaritelli noticed that her incident was not included on MPD’s crime map, and was told by MPD in 2020 that only 1st degree felonies were included under its crime statistics. Notably, MPD stated that [only the most serious](#) sex abuse categories were included in the reports of DC Code Index Violent Crimes.
- In July 2025, DC residents from Shaw, Mount Vernon Square, and Mount Vernon Triangle [expressed skepticism](#) after Third District Police Commander Sean Connors told them crime was down.
 - According to Advisory Neighborhood Commissioner Steve McCarty, the area had just experienced three shootings over a span of four weeks. Residents emphasized [major disconnect](#) between what Commander Connors was trying to sell and they were actually experiencing.