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Preliminary Analysis of 2016 FBI Uniform Crime Report

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This morning, the FBI released its final analysis of **“Crime in 2016,”** as part of the Uniform Crime Reporting program. Below are some quick facts, based on a preliminary review of the data:

- **Overall Crime:** The overall crime rate fell 1.4 percent in 2016, driven mostly by continued declines in property crime. It marks the 15th consecutive year in which crime has declined.
- **Property Crime:** The property crime rate fell by 2 percent, driven by drops in larcenies and burglaries. Rates of these offenses decreased by 2.2 and 5.2 percent, respectively.
- **Murder:** According to the FBI, murder rates rose by 7.9 percent nationally in 2016. This is consistent with [the Brennan Center’s April report](#), which used partial-year data to estimate that the murder rate would rise by 7.8 percent nationally. The Center’s [June report](#) found that murders in the 30 largest cities were estimated to increase by 14.5 percent in 2016. Those results are very similar to the FBI data, which show a 14.8 percent increase in these same cities.
 - Despite comprising less than 1 percent of the total population, Chicago alone accounted for more than 20 percent of the nationwide murder increase.
 - The 11 largest cities — those with populations over 1 million — saw a 20 percent murder increase and a 7.2 percent violent crime increase. Nonmetropolitan areas saw the number of murders decline, by 6.7 percent, and the number of violent crimes increase slightly, by 1.6 percent.
 - Gun violence accounted for almost all the increase in murder — 93 percent.
- **Violent Crime:** The violent crime rate rose by 3.3 percent, mostly attributable to rises in aggravated assault. The Center’s [April report](#) estimated a 6.3 percent increase.

Earlier this month, the Brennan Center released a [preliminary study](#) of 2017 crime data from the 30 largest cities. It found all measures of crime are estimated to decrease slightly this year: the crime rate down by 1.8 percent, violent crime rate down by 0.6 percent, and murder rate down by 2.5 percent.